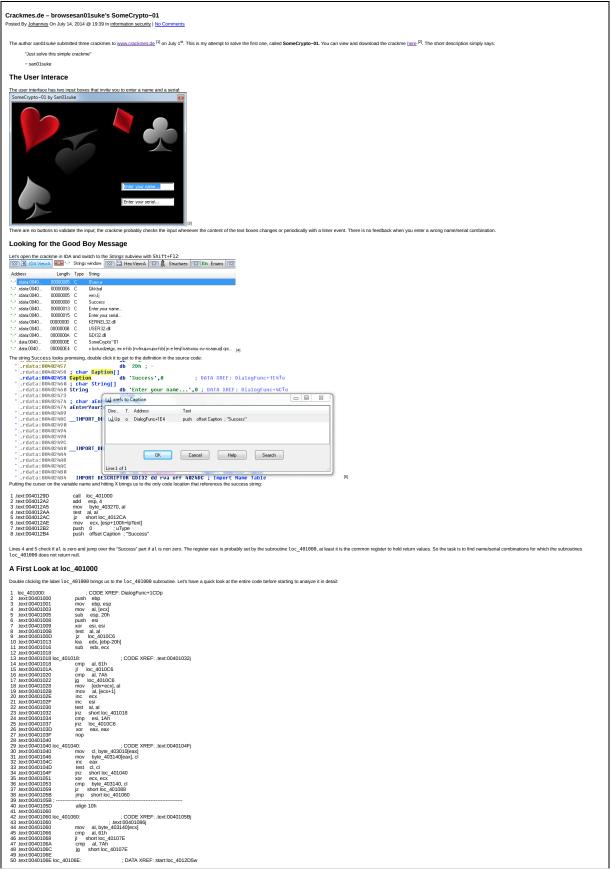
- Blog of Johannes Bader - http://www.johannesbader.ch -



```
57 JENTO401076 | dw 0FFFFH |

58 JENTO401078 | mov | byte_403140[ecx], dl |

59 JENTO401078 | mov | byte_403140[ecx], dl |

60 JENTO40107F | cc., 40107E | j. ext.00401086] |

51 JENTO40107F | cmp | byte_403140[ecx], dl |

61 JENTO40107F | cmp | byte_403140[ecx], dl |

62 JENTO401086 | cm | cm | cm | cm | cm |

63 JENTO401086 | cm | cm | cm | cm |

64 JENTO401086 | cm | cm | cm |

65 JENTO401086 | cm | cm | cm | cm |

65 JENTO401086 | cm | cm | cm |

65 JENTO401086 | cm | cm | cm |

65 JENTO401096 | cm | cm | cm |

60 JENTO401096 | cm | cm |

60 JENTO401096 | cm | cm |

61 JENTO401097 | cm | cm |

62 JENTO401097 | cm | cm |

63 JENTO401097 | cm |

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77 JENTO401097 | cm |

78 JENTO401098 | cm |

79 JENTO401098 | cm |

79 JENTO401098 | cm |

70 JENTO401
       57 .text:00401076
58 .text:00401078 ; ------
59 .text:00401078
    The code isn't overly long and looks reasonable. There's one exception though in lines 56 to 58:
                                                                        dw 0FFFFh
    IDA wasn't able to convert these two bytes to code and displays it as data. So either the snippet has a data section inside the code, or the code is self-modifying. We will come to this later
    The first nine lines of the function are:
                                                                                   ; CODE XREF: DialogFunc+1CDp
push ebp
mov ebp, esp
mov al, [ex-]
sub esp, 20h
push esi
xor esi, esi
lest al, al
pr (cc_4010C6
   1 loc_401000:
2 .text:00401000
3 .text:00401001
4 .text:00401003
5 .text:00401008
7 .text:00401008
7 .text:00401009
8 .text:0040100B
9 .text:0040100D
      After the standard function prologue we find a reference to register ecx. Since the register wasn't set within the subroutine, it must be a function argument. If we go back to the caller we see that ecx holds the address esp+104h+var_80. This address is also used as the \pString argument to the GetOlgItenTextA call (line 5):
                                                                                                lea edx, [esp+104h+var_80]
push edx [pString
push 3EAh :nIDDigltem
push esi [hDig
call edt]; Section TexA
lea eax, [esp+100h+jDText]
push eax
lea eax, [esp+104h+var_80]
call loc_401000
               ex points to either the name or serial. Which one it is can be determined with OllyDbg. Set a breakpoint at 804/8128F, then run the executable and inspect the ecx registers (FFI) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018) (1018
                   77806836 Usbrack tweetry team
00401005 SomeCryp. 00401005
ES 0028 32bit 0(FFFFFFF)
CS 0028 32bit 0(FFFFFFF)
SS 0028 32bit 0(FFFFFFF)
DS 0028 32bit 0(FFFFFFF)
DS 0028 32bit 0(FFFFFFF)
FS 0058 32bit 78FFFFFF)
    ETL 000002466 (100,106,1,66,1,66,1,66,1,66,1,66,1) [P]

So ecx points to the serial. The subroutine loc_401000 then creates a stack frame for local variables in line 5. After that it checks whether the first character of the serial number is 0, i.e., if the serial number is an empty string. If the serial is empty, the subroutine jumps to loc_40100 and returns 0 (which means we failed). Let's continue assuming the serial is a non empty string.
    Valid Serial Characters
    These are the next few lines of the subroutine:
    These are the next tew lines of the subroutine:

10. lext:00401013 | lea edx, [elbp-20h]

11. lext:00401018 | sub edx, ecx |

12. lext:00401018 | lext. |

13. lext:00401018 | lext. |

14. lext:00401018 | lext. |

15. lext:00401018 | lext. |

16. lext:00401020 | lext. |

17. lext:00401022 | joc. 4010C6 |

18. lext:00401028 | mov [edx+ecx], al |

19. lext:00401028 | lext. |

19. lext:00401028 | lext. |

20. lext:00401020 | lext. |

21. lext:00401020 | lext. |

22. lext:00401030 | lext. |

23. lext:00401032 | jnz short loc. 401018
    The code first loads the address of the beginning of the stack frame to edx, and then subtracts ecx. After that follow two comparisons of all with constants 61h and 7Ah. The register all was set in line 4 (nov al, [ecx]) and holds the first character of the serial. The two constants the ASCI codes for a and z respectively. So the two checks make sure that the character in all is one of the 26 lowercase letters. If not, the code jumps loc, 481866 which we already know returns 0 (flailure). After the two checks, the code copies the character in all to [edx-ecx] (iner 18). From lines 10 and 11 we know that this memory location is in fact [ebp-29h], Line 19 loads the next character from the serial, and line 20 sets the pointer ecx to this character. Line 21 increments esi which was set to 0 in line 7. Line 22 is a check to see if the character in the null-byte. If not, the code jumps back to loc, 401018 for a next iteration. The srippes implements the loop:
    1 char serial_copy[32] // in [ebp-20h]
2 esi = 0
    2 esis | 0
3 DO
4 c = serial[esi]
5 IF NOT 'a' <= c <= '2' THEN
6 RETURN 0 // failure
7 ENDIE
8 serial_copy[esi] = c
9 esi + 1
10 WHILE c != '10'
    To summarize: the snippet copies the serial to [ebp-20h]. It also makes sure that the serial only contains lower case characters
    Valid Serial Length
    The first line compares esi to 1Ah = 26. The register esi holds the index of the null byte into the serial string, which corresponds to the length of the string. So the snippet checks if the serial has exactly 26 letters. If it doesn't, the snippet jumps to the well known failure location loc_4010f6:
    1 IF len(serial) != 26 THEN
2 RETURN 0 // failure
3 ENDIF
    Copy String byte_403010 to byte_403140
   The next lines are easy to decompile:
```

```
26 text:0040103D xor eax, eax
27 text:0040103F nop
28 text:00401040 loc_401040
29 text:00401040 loc_401040
20 text:00401040 mov cl., byte_403310(eax), cl.
21 text:00401044 mov byte_4033140(eax), cl.
21 text:00401040 loc_401040 loc_401040
23 text:00401040 ptz short bc_401040 loc_401040
34 text:0040104F jrz short bc_401040
36 text:00401053 cr. phyte_4033140, cl.
37 text:00401059 jz short bc_401088
    The snippet simply copies the null-terminated string in byte_483110 to byte_483110 byte_483110 lines 36 and 37 also check if the first character in byte_403110 is a null byte, i.e., if the string is empty. If it is, then the code jumps to loc_401088. Since byte_403140 is hard coded and is not a null byte, we can assume the jump is not taken. This is the pseudo-code for the snippet.
  1 STRCPY(byte_403140, byte_403010) // copy string byte_403010 to byte_403140 21 IF byte_403140[0] == "0" THEN 3 GOTO loc_401088 \\ should never happen 4 ENDIF
  Check Character(s) in byte_403140
  This snippet comes next:
  This simple comes next.

38 text0040105B jmp
39 text0040105B align 1
41 text0040105D align 41 text00401060
42 text00401060 to_401060
43 text00401060 cmp
44 text00401066 cmp
46 text00401066 jm st
47 text00401066 jm st
48 text00401066 jm st
                                                                                                                                                                    ; CODE XREF: .text:0040105Bj
                                                                   loc_401060: ; .text:004010

mov al, byte_403140[ecx]

cmp al, 61h

jl short loc_40107E

cmp al, 7Ah

jg short loc_40107E
  Register ecx was set to 0 in line 35. So al is the first character in byte_403140. Lines 45 to 48 check if it is a lower case character and jump to loc_40107E if not
  1 IF NOT 'a' <= byte_403140[ecx] <= 'z' THEN
2 GOTO loc_40107E
3 ENDIF
  Substitution Cipher (Very Gently Obfuscated)
  If the jump is not take, we continue with these very interesting lines
  .text:00401076 dw 0FFFFh .text:00401078 ;
                                                                                 mov byte_403140[ecx], dl
  As noted before, the disassembly looks very odd:

    push cs doesn't make sense at this point
    The constant in mov esi, 5948AC6N looks very arbitrary
    The jump in jg short near ptr loc, 401074+1 has an invalid target
    The data section dw 0FFFFh is unexpected
     So probably this part is modified during runtime to something more meaningful. A quick way to verify this is to set a breakpoint at .text:0840106E in OllyObg and check how the code looks at runtime. Make sure you enter a valid serial (26 lower case characters), otherwise you won't
So probably this part is modified during rurfime to something more meaningful. A quick way to verify this is to set a even arrive at the breakpoint.

| Compared to the property of the proper
    So bytes 6 F BE C0 are changed to 9E BE C0 during nuttime. Let's set a breakpoint at 8949196E with "Memory, on write" to see which part of the code modifies the code. This is the location were the memory is modified to 10 
                                                                                                                  tt instruction to modify one byte inside our subroutine. Newer versions of IDA Pro allow you to patch the code to get the correct code:
     49 .text:0040106E
50 .text:0040106E loc_40106E:
                                                                                                                                                             ; DATA XREF: start:loc_4012D5w
  The memory location [ebp+eax-81h] looks strange at first. But we know that at [ebp-20h] there is a copy of our serial. So we can rewrite the location as serial_copy[eax - 61h]. Furthermore, 61h = 97 is the ASCII code of letter "a", which leads to the following pseudo code
  So dI holds the nth character of the serial, where n is 0 for eax = 'a', 1 for 'b', ...., 26 for 'z'. This also shows why the serial needs to have 26 characters; it serves as the key for a substitution cipher
  Wrapping up the Encryption Loop
    The next couple of lines finish the encryption loop. The lines simply increase the index in ecx and loop back to loc_491869 if the next character in byte_483149 is not the null byte
  60 .text0040107E
61 .text0040107E loc_40107E:
62 .text0040107E ; (CODE XREF: .text:00401068)
7 .text:0040106C ; (Lext:0040106C)

        .lextC0040107E loc_autu/te:
        ; Outue

        .lextC0040107E
        : cext_0

        .lextC0040107E
        inc
        ecx

        .lextC0040107F
        cmp
        byte_403140[ecx], 0

        .lextC00401086
        jnz
        short loc_401060

1 FOR i = 0 TO LEN(byte_403140) DO
2 ch = byte_403140[i]
3 IF 'a' <= ch <= 2'' THEN
4 byte_403140[i] = serial_copy[ch - 'a']
5 ENDIF
6 END FOR
  All characters in byte_403140 that are not lowercase letters are left alone. All lower case letters are replaced with the character from the serial at index n, where n is zero if the character is 'a', is 1 if the character is 'b', etc.
  Hashing the Plaintext Message
  The next lines look quite complicated:
 The next lines look quite complicated:

67 (00.011.08) (0.0.01.08):

68 (sec.10.040.1008):

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70 (sex.10.040.1008):

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70 (sex.10.040.1009):

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87 (sex.10.040.1009):

88 (sex.10.040.1009):

88 (sex.10.040.1009):

89 (sex.10.040.1009):

80 (sex.10.040.1009):

                                                                   movzx esi, byte ptr [edx]
xor esi, eax
and esi, OFFh
shr eax, 8
xor eax, ds:dword_402058[esi*4]
inc edx
dec ecx
jnz short loc_401094
                    text:004010AD loc_4010AD: text:004010AD loc_4010AD: ; COI text:004010AD not eax text:004010AF cmp eax, 0F891B218h
                                                                                                                                                    : CODE XREF: .text:00401092i
```

```
jnz short loc_4010C6
mov eax, lebp+8]
mov dword pr [eax], offset byte_403140
mov al, 1
pop esi
mov esp, ebp
pop ebb
      What the lines basically do is to calculate a hash of the string in byte_403140 (the plaintext message). If the hash is equal to 0F8918218h (see line 85), then we get the success message, otherwise we get the failure code at loc_4010C6. We can only assume that the hash 9F8918218h is produced when the decryption leads to the correct plaintext.
      Finding the Plaintext Message
      It's time to have a look at the string in byte_403010. The string is hardcoded and has the following value
      We know that all lowercase character in this strings stem from a simple substitution cipher. Entering the correct key as the serial should produce a meaningful plaintext and hopefully lead to the success message. Breaking substitution ciphers is pretty easy. I'm using the Python script break_simple sub from the <u>Practical Cryptography webpage</u> [10]. The code uses a random optimization algorithm and the output varies each time you run the code. Here's my output:
                 $ python break_simplesub.py
Substitution Cipher solver, you may have to wait several iterations
for the correct result. Press ctrl+c to exit program.
                best score so fair -1001.47696195 on iteration 1
best key: RATQNHWGEDMLCZJBKFXUSIPOVY
plaintext:
VSLNMCTUJNICHMISERUPEYRETOTYTOUSRUPOEIRIEOLLUBCUSASTUGEMBBATNOLDAMIFJUNOTHBEWHOLHCANGUNBEEYRETOTYTOUSVSRFULDLOCHANETHAMINATMCOLIFFMYEAKTUURELYNATHANAFITOUSEHOCRATWAASTHADAMISK HALOCHANT
      best score so far. 996.55579631 on iteration 3
best key: UAESNQPXZIBFDJLVYGCRTWMKHO
plaintex:
11 JHOISUADMICURSCHELDKEPLEANAPANDHLDKNECLCENOODBUDHTHADVESBBTAINOFTSCYMDINARBEGRNORUTIVDIBEEPLEANAPANDHJHLYDOFONURTIEARTSCITASUNOCYYSPETWADDLEOPITARTITYCANDHERNULTAGTTHARTFTSCHWARTONURTIATK/
12 JHOISUADMICURSCHELDKEPLEANAPANDHLDKNECLCENOODBUDHTHADVESBBTAINOFTSCYMDINARBEGRNORUTIVDIBEEPLEANAPANDHJHLYDOFONURTIEARTSCITASUNOCYYSPETWADDLEOPITARTITYCANDHERNULTAGTTHARTFTSCHWARTONURTIATK/
12 JHOISUADMICURSCHELDKEPLEANAPANDHLDKNECLCENOODBUDHTHADVESBBTAINOFTSCYMDINARBEGRNORUTIVDIBEEPLEANAPANDHJHLYDOFONURTIEARTSCITASUNOCYYSPETWADDLEOPITARTITYCANDHERNULTAGTTHARTFTSCHWARTONURTIATK/
12 JHOISUADMICURSCHELDKEPLEANAPANDHLDKNECLCENOODBUDHTHADVESBBTAINOFTSCYMDINARBEGRNORUTIVDIBEEPLEANAPANDHJHLYDOFONURTIEARTSCITASUNOCYYSPETWADDLEOPITARTITYCANDHERNULTAGTTHARTFTSCHWARTONURTIATK/
12 JHOISUADMICURSCHELDKEPLEANAPANDHLDKNECLCENOODBUDHTHADVESBBTAINOFTSCYMDINARBEGRNORUTIVDIBEEPLEANAPANDHJHLYDOFONURTIEARTSCITASUNOCYYSPETWADDLEOPITARTITYCANDHERNULTAGTTHARTFTSCHWARTONURTIATK/
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18 best sort so 
        The plained is not very readable because the sorty does not tackle special characters like spaces. However, you can clearly recognize meaningful text. The key to encrypt the message therefore EFLMRYOGJYQHAXSTOZNUVIPBCK. To decrypt it, we must enter the reverse of the key as the senial. The following-python sorty generates the decryption key, and also shows the resulting plaintext.
                 crypt = ""Ix Izatusdzetgc, ex n-fsb (nvfnujuvujsx-fsb) jn e fenji Isatsoxu sw
ncaaruzij qrc ehdszjugan pgjig trzwszan nvfnujuvujsx. ix fhsiq ijigzzn, ugrc
ezr uctjelnic virmu sishlozr ugr zrheujsxngji fruprix ugr qrc exm ugr
ligrazuhu."-replace("n,")
                   \label{eq:key} $$ key = 'EFLMRWDGJIQHAXSTOZNUVYPBCK'.lower() $$ mapping = {} for k, c in zip(key, string.lowercase): $$ mapping[k] = c $$
         12
13 msg = ""
14 for c in crypt:
15 msg += mapping.get(c, c)
         To print("the key is: {}".format(".join([mapping[x] for x in string.lowercase])))
18 print("the plaintext is: {}".format(msg))
      It produces the following output:
      1 $ python decrypt.py
2 the key is: msygabhljizcdsqwkeoptufnvr
3 the plaintext is: in cryptography, an s-box (substitution-box) is a basic component of symmetric key algorithms which performs substitution. In block ciphers, they are typically used to obscure the relationship between the key and the ciphertext
        If you enter the serial mxygabhljizcdsqwkeoptufnvr to the crackme you should see the good boy message Success
                   In cryptography, an s-box (substitution-box) is a basic component of symmetric
key algorithms which performs substitution. In block ciphers, they are typically
used to obscure the relationship between the key and the ciphertext.
                                                                                                                                                                                                                   OK
    URL to article: http://www.johannesbader.ch/2014/07/crackmes-de-brows
UNLS in this post:

[] www.crackmes.de: http://www.crackmes.de
[2] here: http://www.crackmes.de/users/isan01suke/somecrypto01/

[3] Image: http://www.johanesbader.ch/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/isa_strings.png

[4] Image: http://www.johanesbader.ch/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/ida_strings.png

[5] Image: http://www.johanesbader.ch/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/ida_strings.png

[6] Image: http://www.johanesbader.ch/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/ida_success_declaration.png

[7] Image: http://www.johanesbader.ch/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/isdf_modifying_part.png

[8] Image: http://www.johanesbader.ch/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/isdf_modifying_part.png

[9] Image: http://www.johanesbader.ch/wp-content
  [10] Practical Cryptography webpage: http://practicalcryptography.com/cryptanalysis/stochastic [11] Image: http://www.johannesbader.ch/wp-content/uploads/2014/07/success_message.png
```

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