

Project Black CTFs Challenge 2

<https://projectblack.io/ctf/challenge2.txt>

FLAGS:

PROJECTBLACK{Flag_1of4:_U_R_0fF_2_A_Gr3aT_\$T@RT}

PROJECTBLACK{Flag_2of4:_1f_pYTh0N3_1\$_s0_g00D,_WH3r3_Iz_PyTH0n4?}

PROJECTBLACK{Flag_3of4:_G0tT@_c@tch_Th3m_@1!_0n3_M0rE_2_G0!}

PROJECTBLACK{Flag_4of4:_C0nGr@t\$_U_R_@n_3l1t3_h@ck3r!!!}

- Noticed = at the end of the text so likely base64 encoding.

PROJECTBLACK{Flag_1of4:_U_R_0fF_2_A_Gr3aT_\$T@RT}

- Decode base64 first portion of text.

- Noticed PK in the decoded text. ZIP files.

- Wrote this script to write a CTFchallenge.zip to then later unzip.

```
import base64
```

```
import requests
```

```
content = requests.get("https://projectblack.io/ctf/challenge2.txt").text
```

```
with open("CTFchallenge.zip", "wb") as file:
```

```
    file.write(base64.b64decode(content))
```

- Unzipped files:

```
(myenv) localCompSciMinge/python $ unzip CTFchallenge.zip
```

```
Archive:  CTFchallenge.zip
```

```
  creating: unencrypted-files/
```

```
    inflating: unencrypted-files/stage1.py
```

```
  extracting: unencrypted-files/flag1.txt
```

```
    creating: encrypted-files/
```

- [CTFchallenge.zip] encrypted-files/stage4-secret-deploy-key password: []

- Looked through and found in stage1.py: ENCRYPTED_PASSWORD = [

- 0b01010100,
- 0b01101000,
- 0b00110001,
- 0b00100100,
- 0b01011111,
- 0b00110001,
- 0b00100100,
- 0b01011111,
- 0b01101101,
- 0b01011001,
- 0b01011111,
- 0b00100100,
- 0b00110011,
- 0b01100011,

- 0b01010010,
- 0b01000101,
- 0b01110100,
- 0b01011111,
- 0b01110000,
- 0b01000000,
- 0b00100100,
- 0b00100100,
- 0b01110111,
- 0b00110000,
- 0b01110010,
- 0b01000100,
-]

which is binary. Also found: `expected_password = ''.join(map(chr, ENCRYPTED_PASSWORD))`. So realised that its converted from binary to int and then to char.

– Created script to decode that:

```
ENCRYPTED_PASSWORD_BINARY = [
    0b01010100,
    0b01101000,
    0b00110001,
    0b00100100,
    0b01011111,
    0b00110001,
    0b00100100,
    0b01011111,
    0b01101101,
    0b01011001,
    0b01011111,
    0b00100100,
    0b00110011,
    0b01100011,
    0b01010010,
    0b01000101,
    0b01110100,
    0b01011111,
    0b01110000,
    0b01000000,
    0b00100100,
    0b00100100,
    0b01110111,
    0b00110000,
    0b01110010,
    0b01000100,
]
```

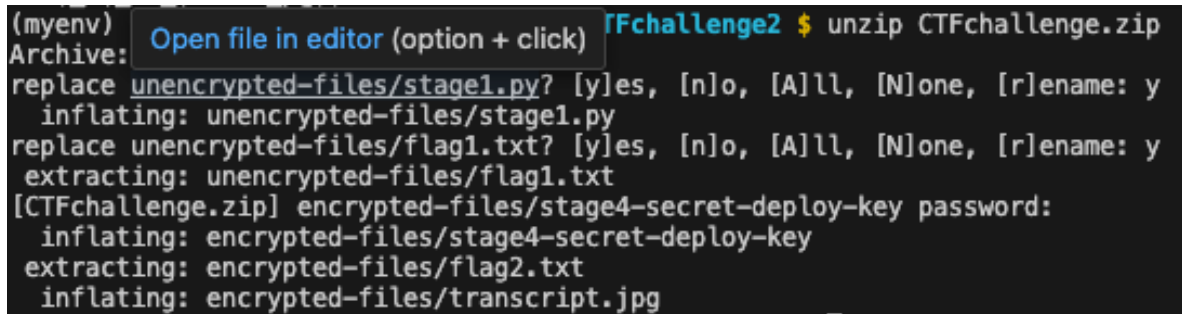
```

ENCRYPTED_PASSWORD = []
for b in ENCRYPTED_PASSWORD_BINARY:
    ENCRYPTED_PASSWORD.append(chr((int(b))))

encrypted_password = ''.join(ENCRYPTED_PASSWORD)
print(encrypted_password)

```

- Decoding that gave me the password: Th1\$_1\$_mY_\$3cREt_p@\$ \$w0rD



```

(myenv) [CTFchallenge2] $ unzip CTFchallenge.zip
Archive:  CTFchallenge2.zip
  replace unencrypted-files/stage1.py? [y]es, [n]o, [A]ll, [N]one, [r]ename: y
  inflating: unencrypted-files/stage1.py
  replace unencrypted-files/flag1.txt? [y]es, [n]o, [A]ll, [N]one, [r]ename: y
  extracting: unencrypted-files/flag1.txt
[CTFchallenge2.zip] encrypted-files/stage4-secret-deploy-key password:
  inflating: encrypted-files/stage4-secret-deploy-key
  extracting: encrypted-files/flag2.txt
  inflating: encrypted-files/transcript.jpg

```

- Got the second flag by looking at flag2.txt
- Now need to ssh to remote system with private key
- Followed steps in the transcript.jpg and got the third flag.
- Followed this link also in the README: <https://stage4-pb.github.io/>
- Found the page with rows of dots and two buttons: correct and wrong.
 - Clicked buttons but nothing shows up on burp suite so no types of requests are sent out.
- Created an autoclicker to click "correct" button 5344 (number of dots) times to see if anything would happen but only empty.
- Assuming have to answer questions correctly to proceed.
- Tried getting html to create script to answer questions and click button simultaneously but body of the html from script does not have questions or rows of dots for some reason.
- Realised page likely using client-side rendering and html content is populated when JS executed.
- Used selenium to execute JS.
- Automated process of adding questions everytime new question is rendered to text file.
- Created autoclicker that would manually click the "correct" button when question is correct or "wrong" when question is wrong.
- Finished clicking but no flag.
- Realised the rows could be a binary message so wrote script to decode the binary message and got this:

- Looked like a strange base64 encoding given away by the padding = at the end.
- Decoded it and got the fourth flag:

[illegible]