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IA – 1 Report

Ghidra

Ghidra is a powerful and free reverse engineering tool developed by the US National Security Agency (NSA). Reverse engineering is the process of dissecting software (in the form of executable files) to understand its underlying structure and functionality. Ghidra translates the machine code (binary) of software back into a human-readable format, allowing analysts to review, analyze, and understand the software's operations.

Installation:

Windows:

1. Prerequisite: Before installing Ghidra, ensure you have JDK 11 installed. If not, download and install it from the official Oracle website.
2. Visit the official Ghidra website and download the latest version.
3. Once downloaded, unpack the file.
4. Double-click on “runGhidra.bat” to launch Ghidra.
5. Upon the initial startup, you'll be presented with a user agreement. Proceed by accepting it.

MacOS:

1. Download and extract the launcher AppleScript template app below. Optionally modify Ghidra.app/Info.plist to your liking.
2. Download the latest [OpenJDK](#) and extract it to Ghidra.app/jdk. Make sure Ghidra.app/jdk/Contents/Home/bin/java exists.
3. Download the latest [Ghidra](#) and extract it to Ghidra.app/ghidra. Make sure Ghidra.app/ghidra/ghidraRun exists.
4. Copy Ghidra.app to your Applications directory.

Or

1. Use the prebuild to install Ghidra.

Objective

The goal of this report is to provide a clear and systematic tutorial on using Ghidra to analyze and reverse engineer the CrackMe0x00 executable, facilitating a deeper understanding of software behavior and security vulnerabilities.

CrackMe0x00: CrackMe0x00 is a type of challenge used in the cybersecurity field to test and hone reverse engineering skills. It's essentially a program that prompts users for a password. The objective is to determine the correct password without being explicitly told, typically by examining the software's code.

Mock Scenario

A corporate cybersecurity team detects a suspicious binary on their network. Preliminary analysis suggests that this binary may be associated with an Advanced Persistent Threat (APT) campaign. The binary's behavior and origin must be confirmed. The team chooses crackme0x00 as a representative sample for binary analysis due to its known behavior and structure, ensuring they can effectively navigate and interpret results in Ghidra.

Step-by-Step Guide

Step 1: Installing Ghidra from github

Ghidra.app launcher for OSX

Ghidra-OSX-Launcher-Script.scpt

Raw

[View raw](#)

Ghidra-OSX-Launcher-Template.tgz

Raw

[View raw](#)

Ghidra-OSX-Launcher.md

Raw

Installing Ghidra as a self-contained OSX .app (without contaminating your system with having to install Java):

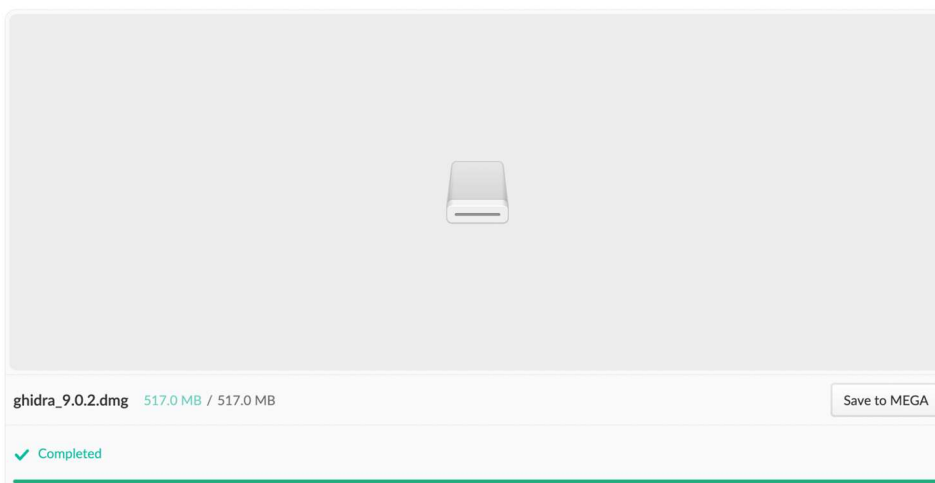
Prebuilt (9.0.2)

[Download](#)

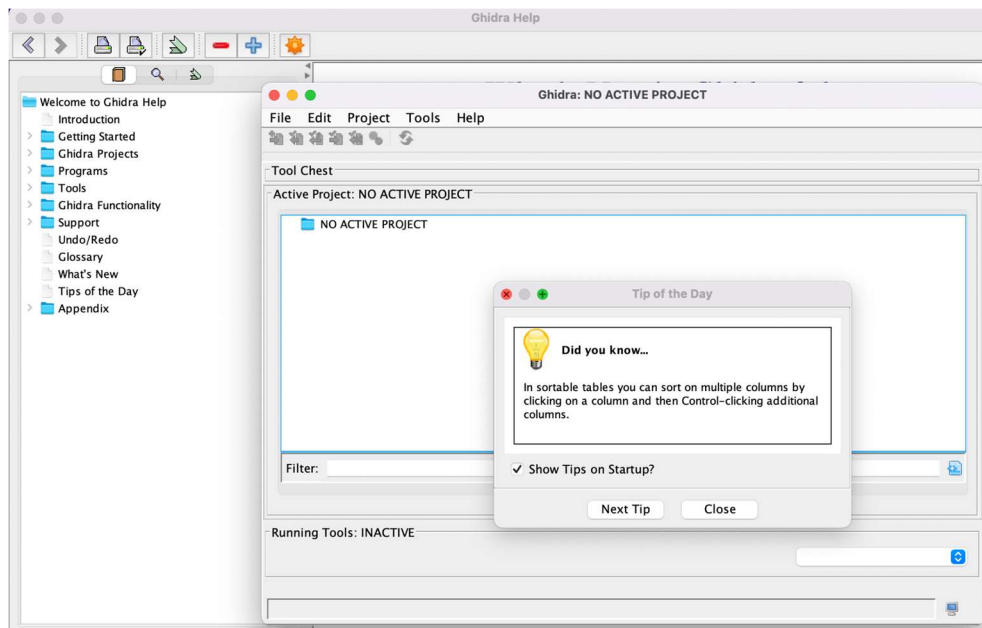
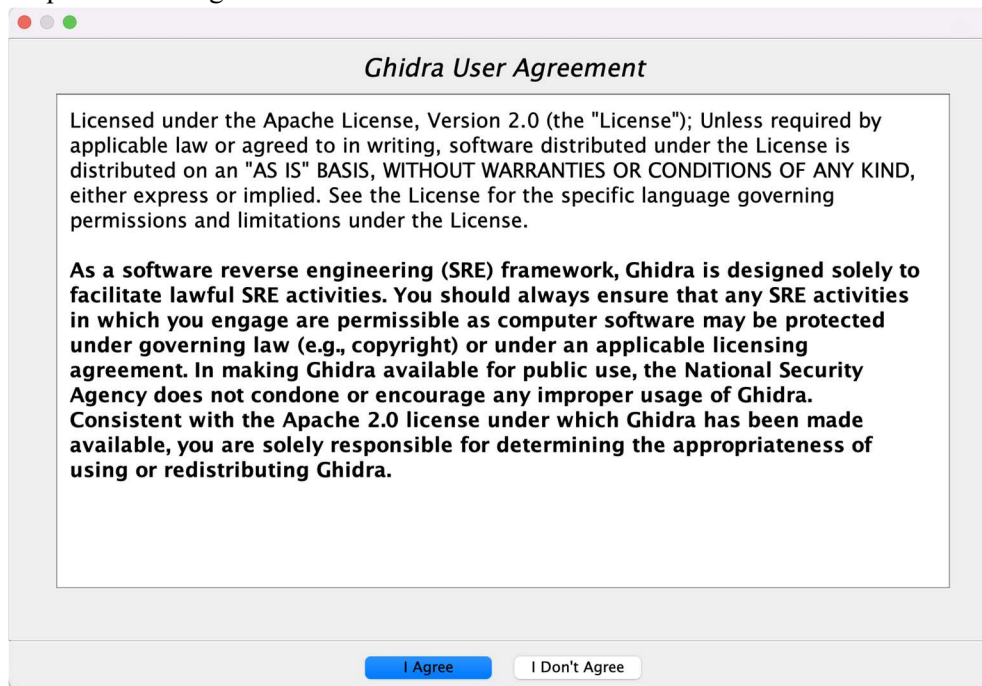
Build your own

1. Download and extract the launcher AppleScript template app below. Optionally modify `Ghidra.app/Info.plist` to your liking.
2. Download the latest [OpenJDK](#) and extract it to `Ghidra.app/jdk`. Make sure `Ghidra.app/jdk/Contents/Home/bin/java` exists.
3. Download the latest [Ghidra](#) and extract it to `Ghidra.app/ghidra`. Make sure `Ghidra.app/ghidra/ghidraRun` exists.
4. Copy `Ghidra.app` to your Applications directory.

Note that the template .app is just a standard AppleScript generated .app. If you don't trust the binary, you can build your own with the provided AppleScript.

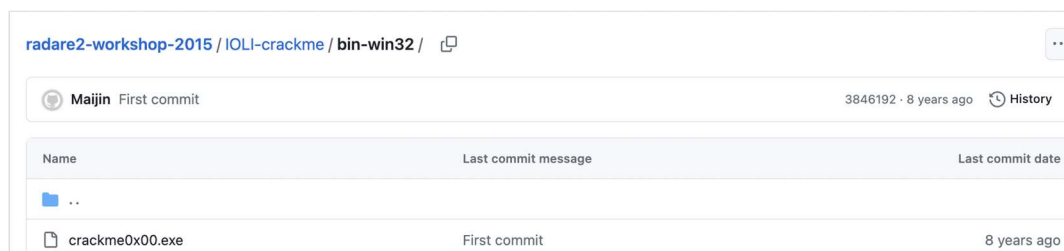


Step 2: Launching Ghidra





Step 3: Download the CrackMe0x00.exe file from the provided repository (<https://github.com/Maijin/Workshop2015/tree/master/IOLI-crackme/bin-win32>).



Step 4: Attempt to open and run the file.

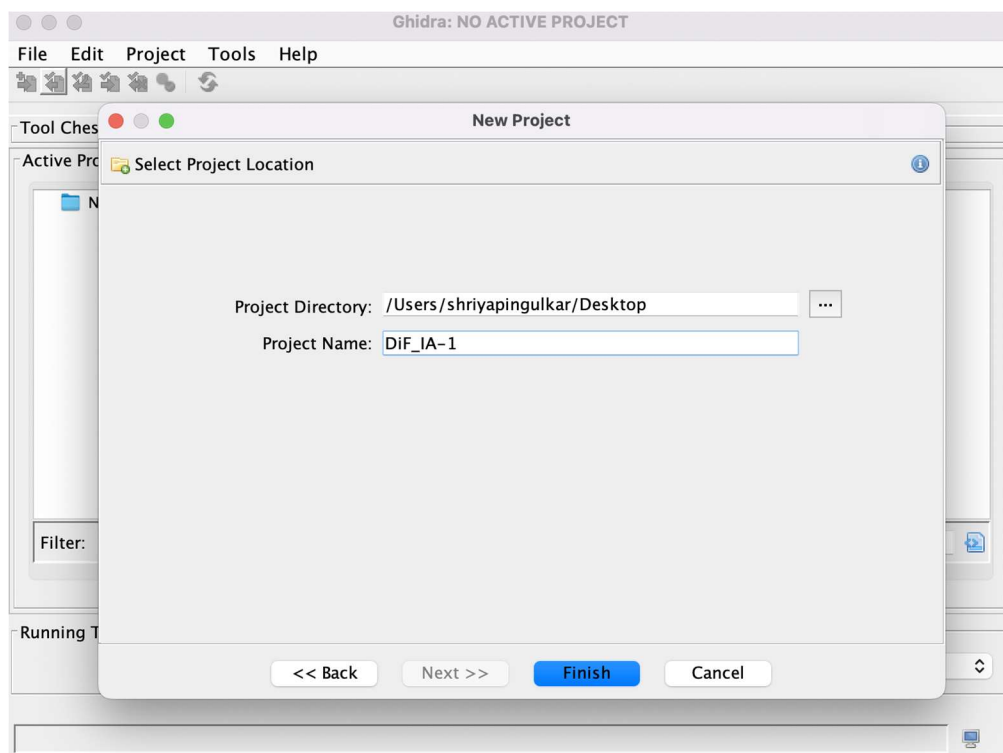
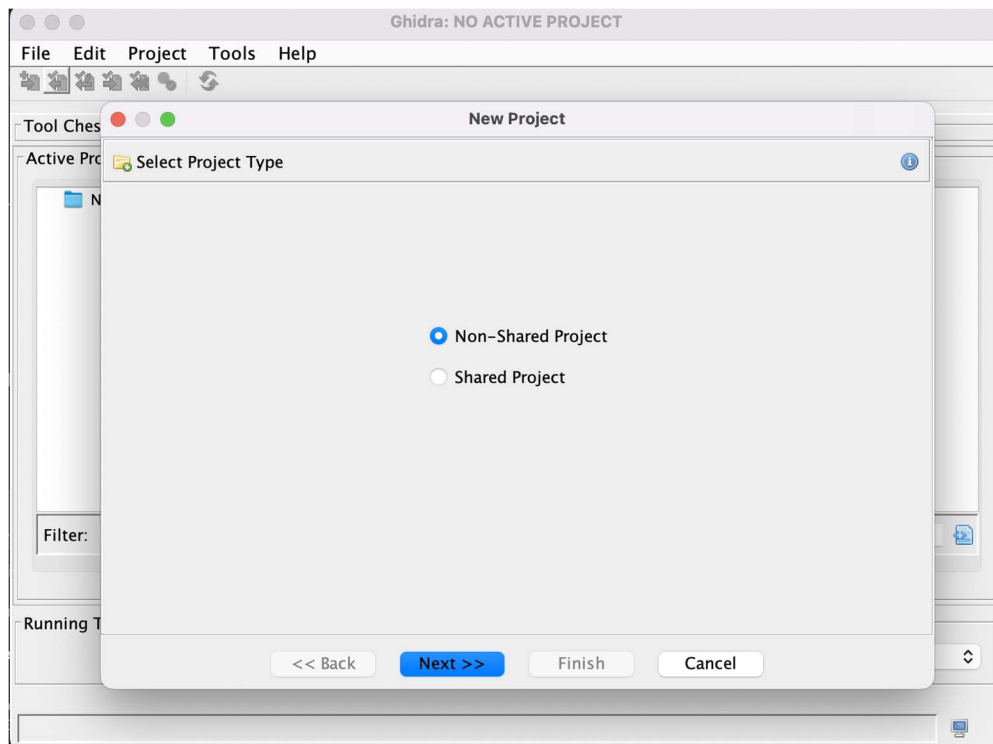
```

Downloads — wine64-preloader start.exe /exec — 80x24
[shriyapingulkar@Shriyas-MacBook-Air ~ % cd downloads
shriyapingulkar@Shriyas-MacBook-Air downloads % wine64 crackme0x00.exe

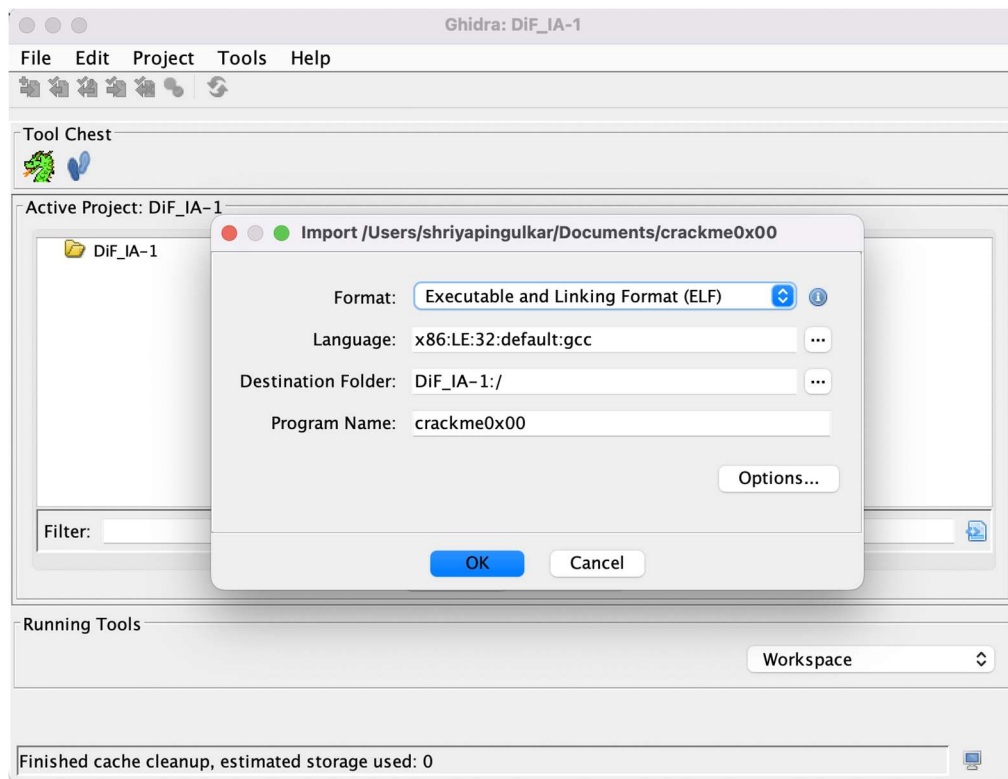
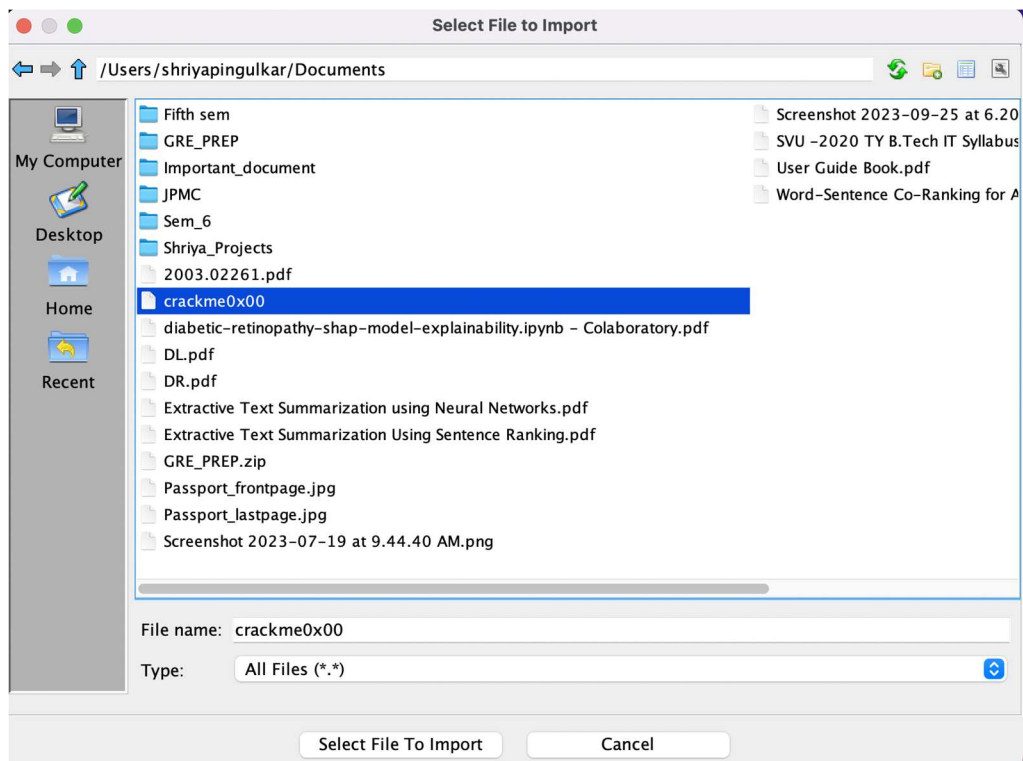
007c:fixme:hid:handle_IRP_MN_QUERY_ID Unhandled type 00000005
007c:fixme:hid:handle_IRP_MN_QUERY_ID Unhandled type 00000005
007c:fixme:hid:handle_IRP_MN_QUERY_ID Unhandled type 00000005
007c:fixme:hid:handle_IRP_MN_QUERY_ID Unhandled type 00000005
00d0:err:environ:init_peb starting L"Z:\\Users\\shriyapingulkar\\downloads\\crackme0x00.exe" in experimental wow64 mode
IOLI Crackme Level 0x00
Password: 

```

Step 5: initiate a new project

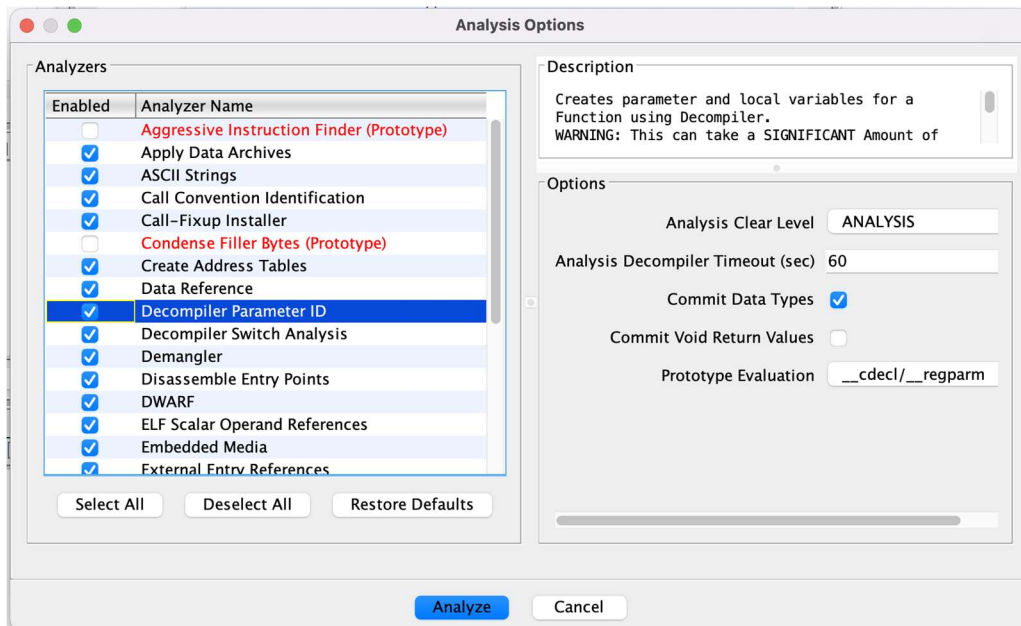


Step 6: Import the CrackMe0x00.exe file into your Ghidra project. This can be achieved by either dragging & dropping the file into Ghidra or using the "File -> Import File" option.

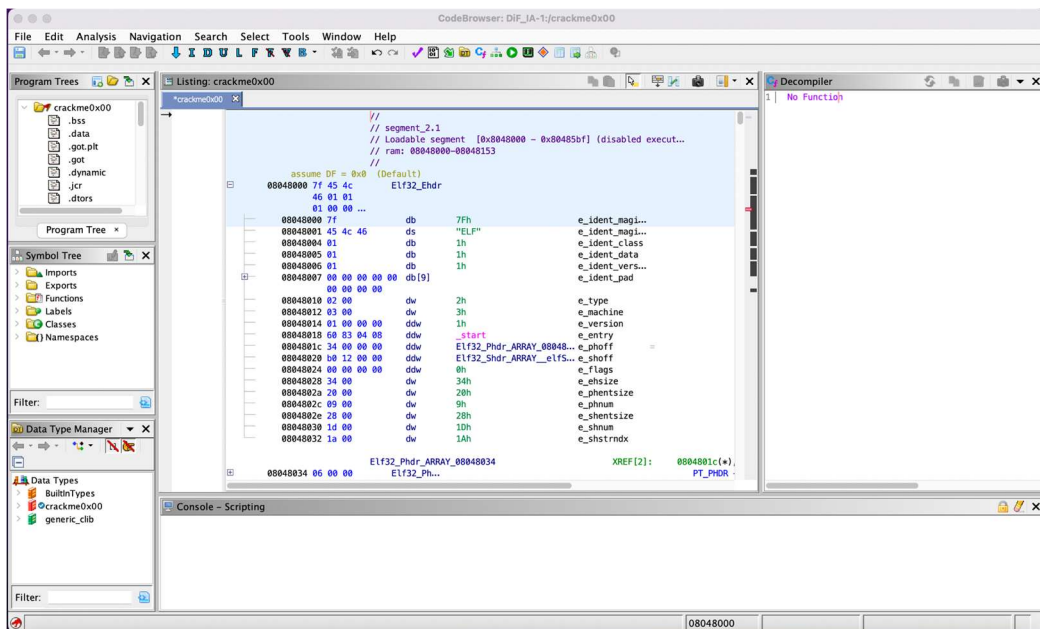


Step 7: Import result summary is displayed

Step 9: Ghidra will then display different analysis types available. Default settings are recommended for this project with the addition of 'Decompiler Parameter ID'

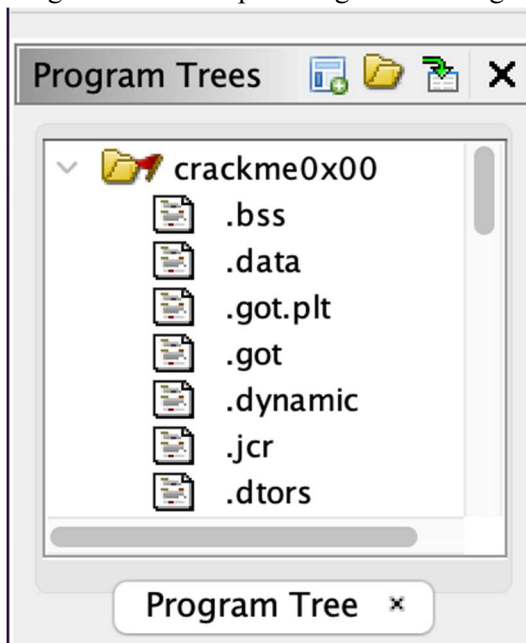


Step 10: After Ghidra completes the analysis, the main code browser window will emerge.

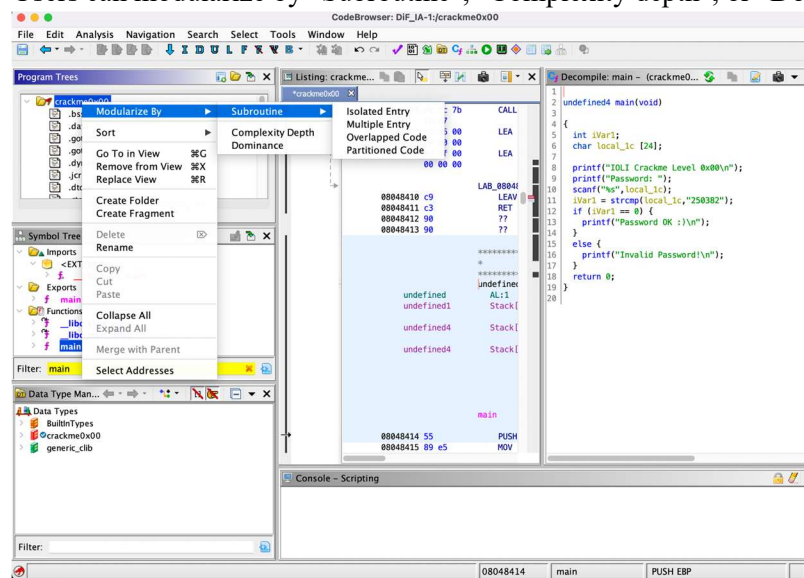


Step 11: Exploring Ghidra's Main Windows:

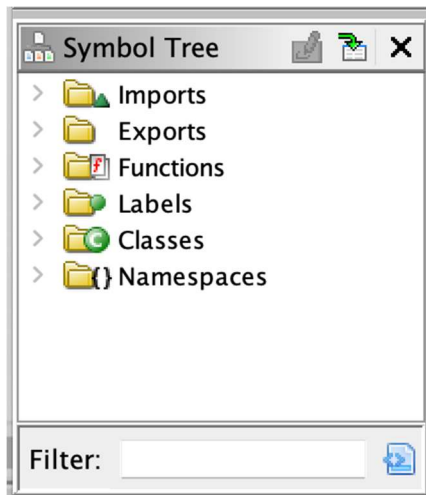
1. Program Trees: Helps manage reverse engineering code sections.



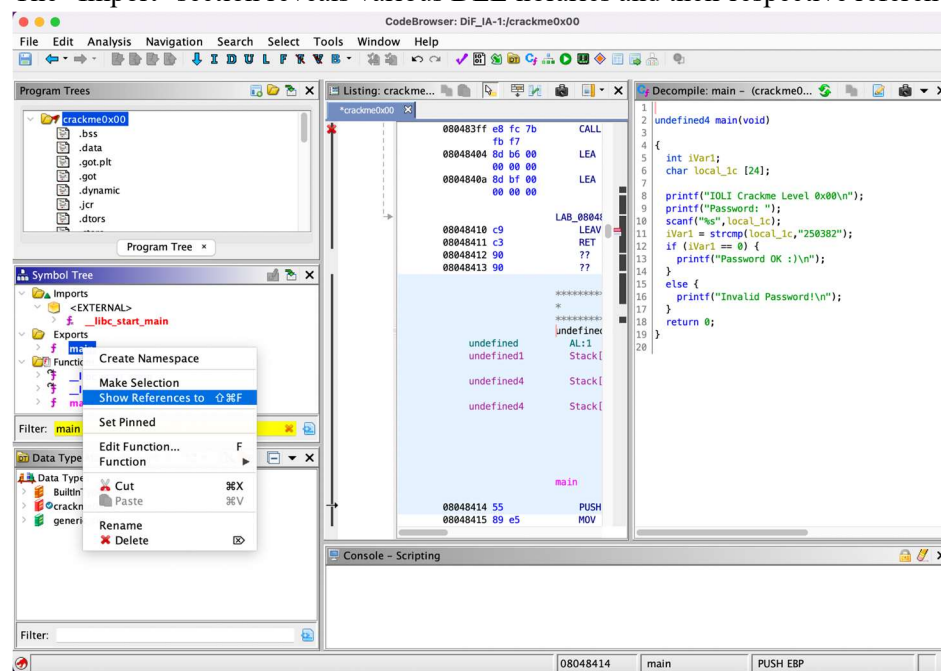
- a. Users can modularize by "Subroutine", "Complexity depth", or "Dominance".



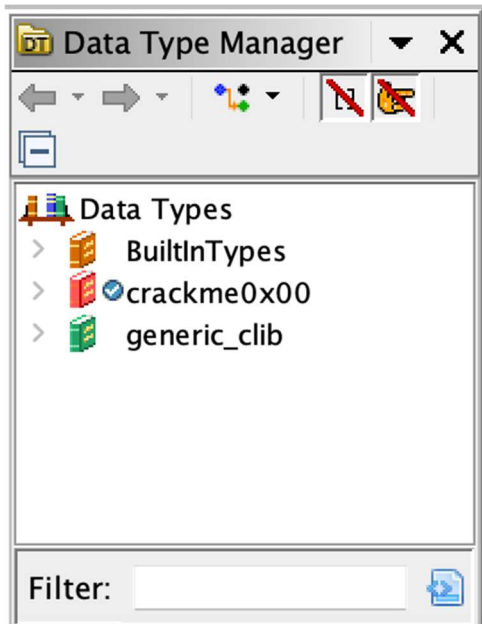
2. Symbol Tree: Useful for viewing different aspects of a binary file, including import, export, functions, labels, classes, and namespaces.



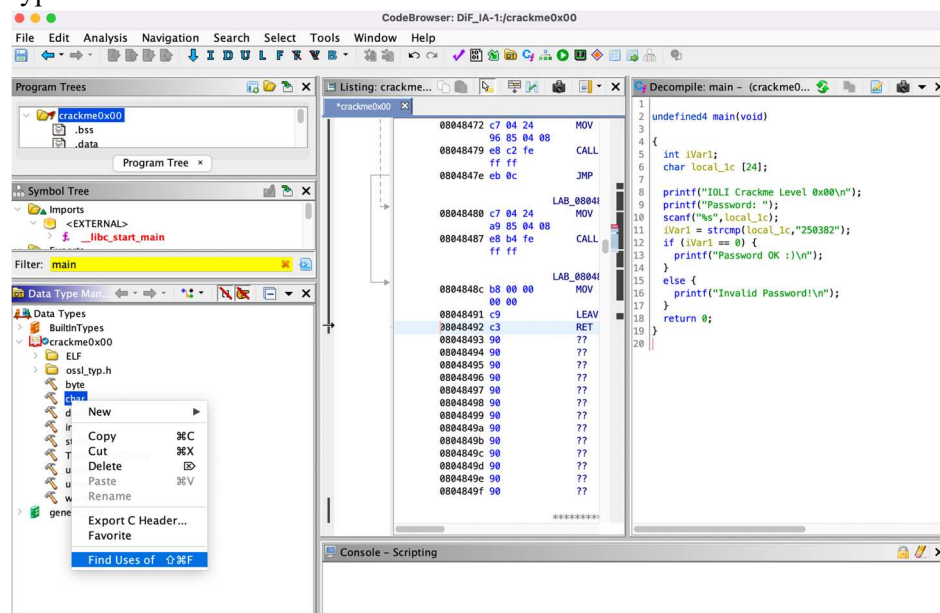
- a. The "Import" section reveals various DLL libraries and their respective references.

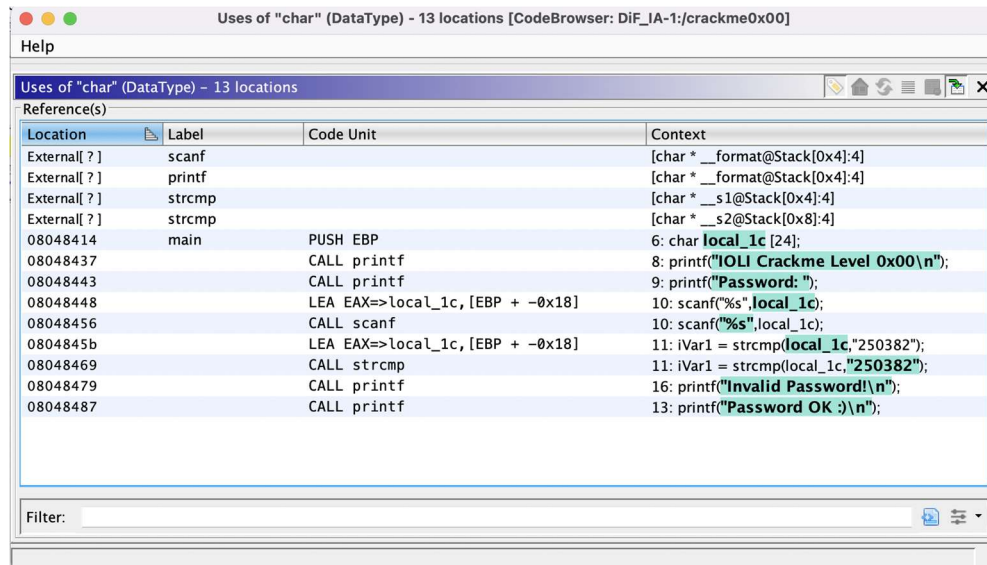


3. Data Type Manager:

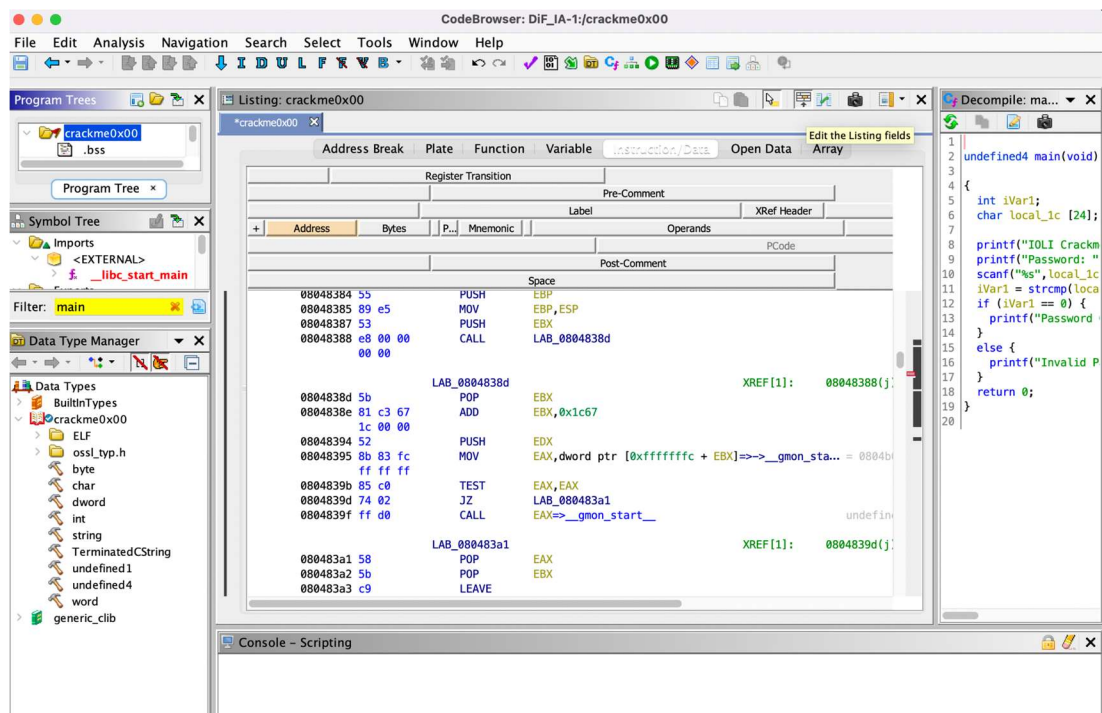


- a. Navigate to the “Defined Data Types” window to inspect and manage different data types.

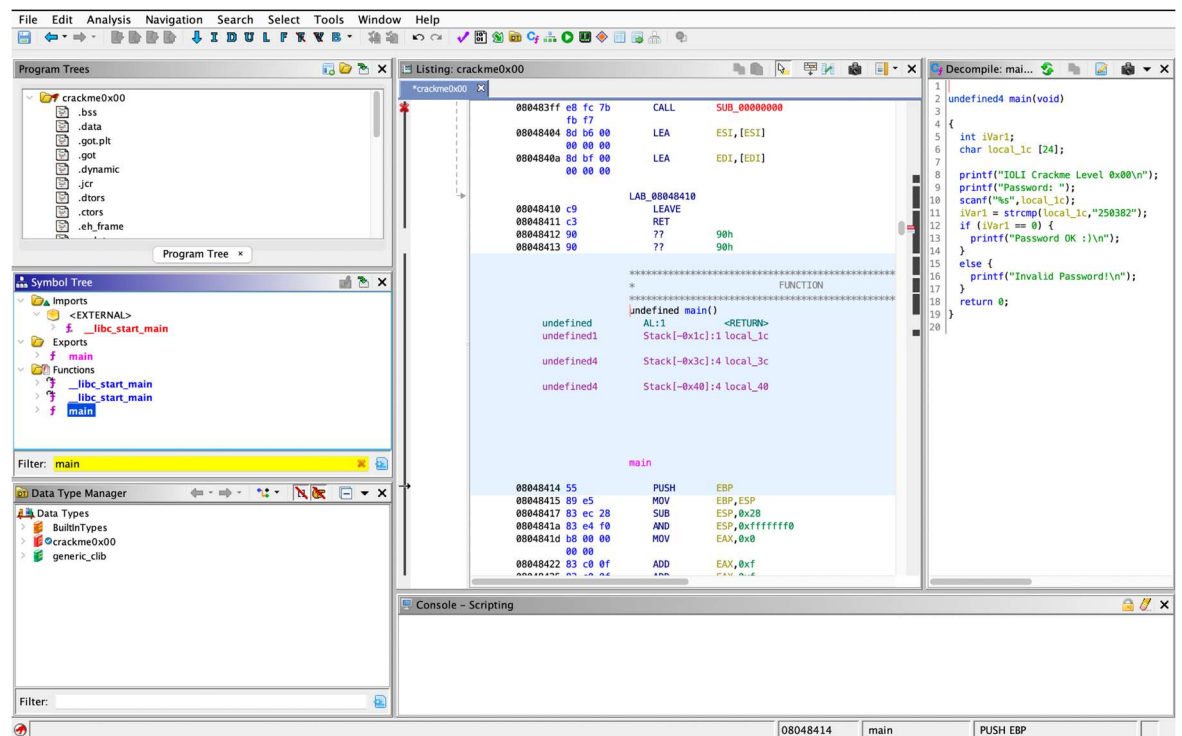
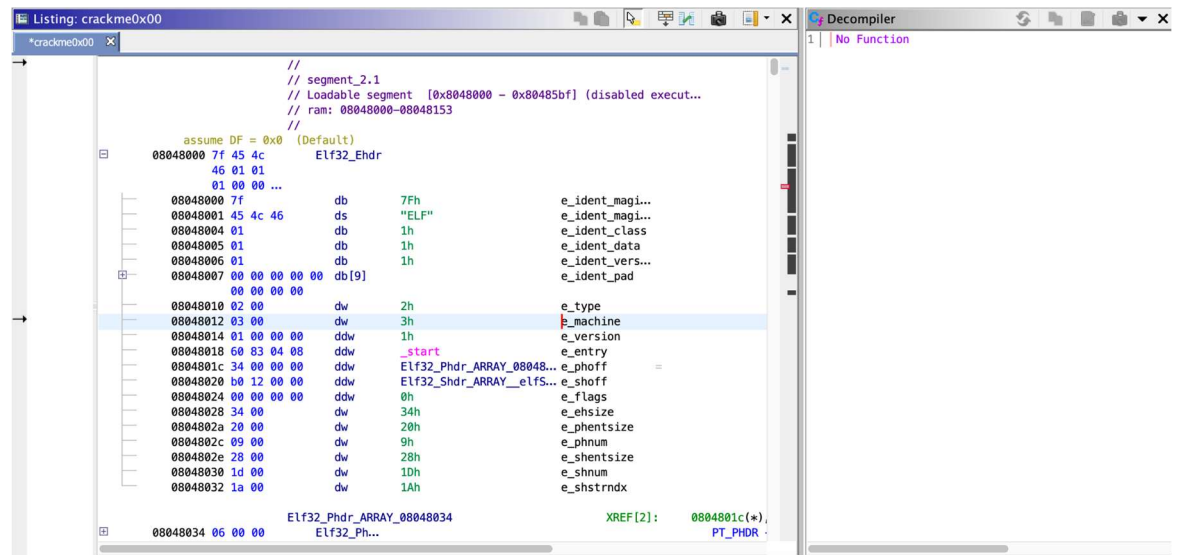




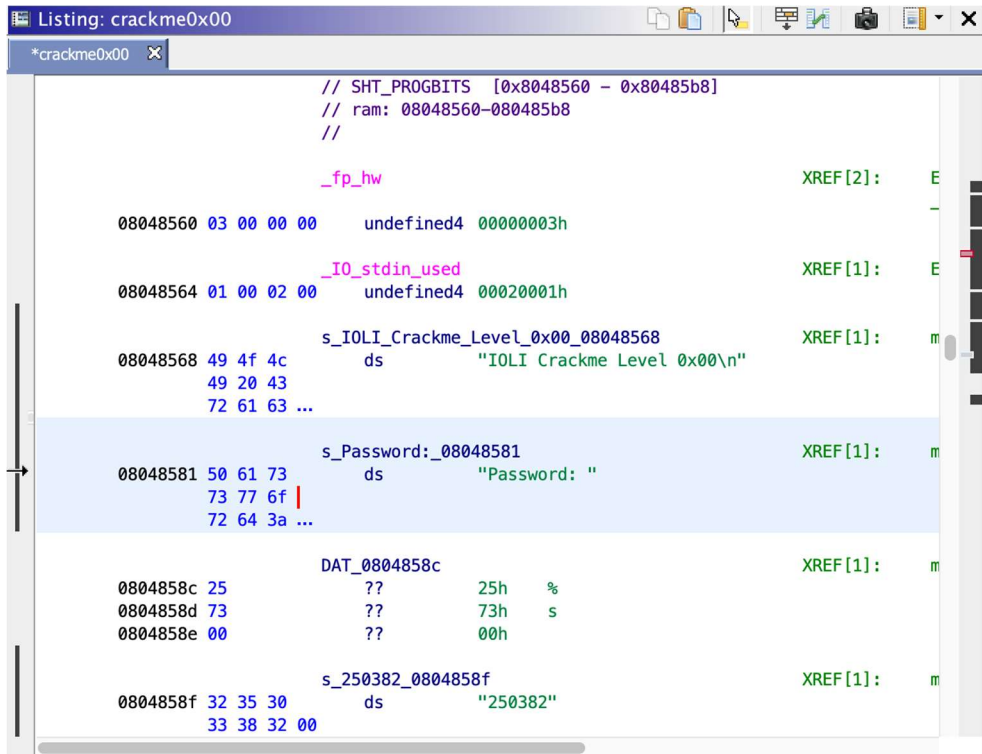
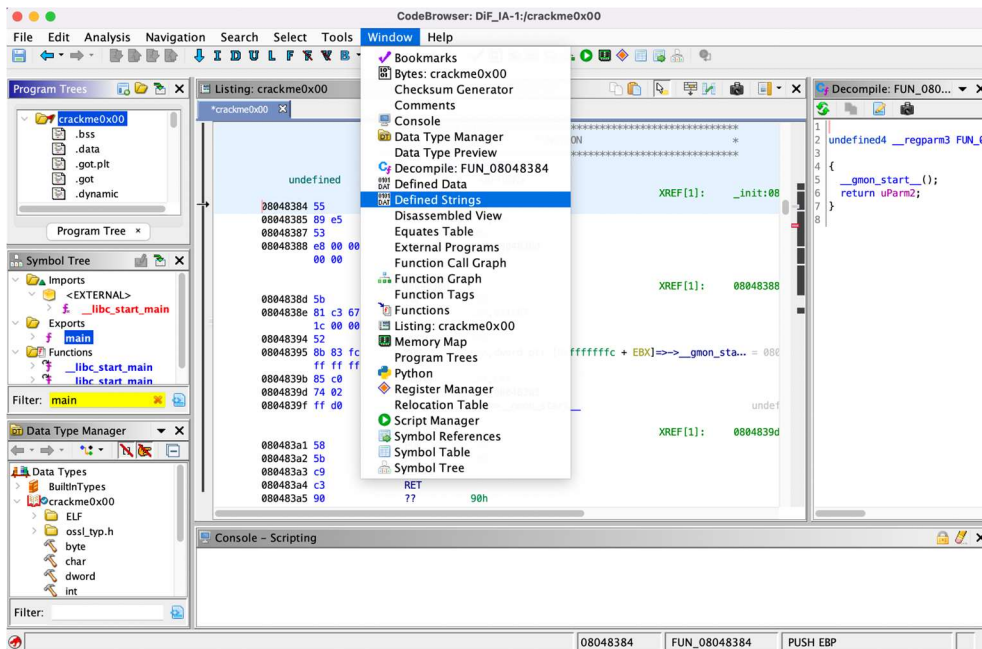
4. Listing Window: Displays the reverse-engineered code.
 - a. Provides customization options by clicking "Edit the listing fields" in the upper right corner.



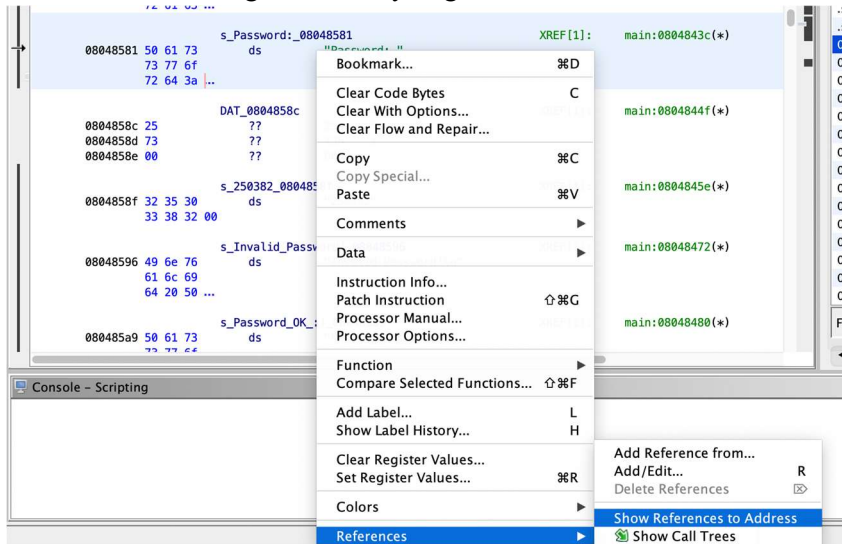
5. Decompiler: This window offers a high-level code representation.
 - a. It correlates assembler instructions in the “Listing” window with high-level instructions. Highlighting a section in the Decompiler will also highlight the corresponding assembly section.



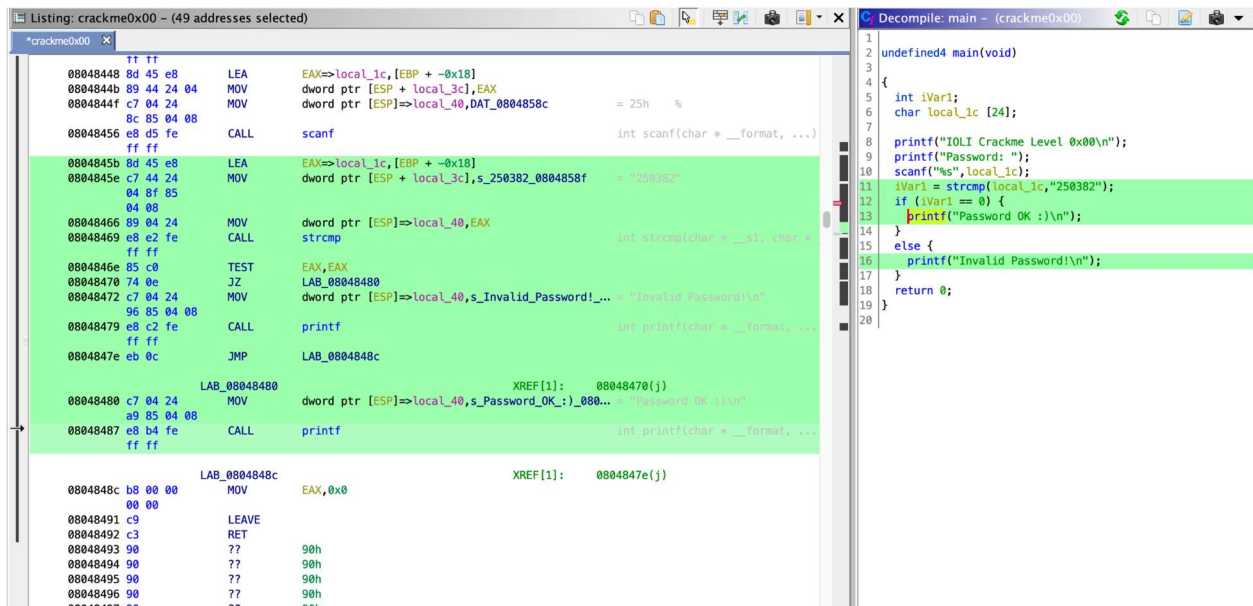
Step 12: Use Ghidra's “Window -> Defined Strings” for initial sorting of the binary file and to view program strings and identify potential clues or relevant parts of the code. Locate sections of the binary where user input (like a password) is processed.



Step 13: Left-click the address and select “References -> Show References to Address”. Another alternative is clicking on the entry to go to the code section with “Password” reference.



Step 14: Upon encountering a reference to "Password" in the binary's code, a user input is captured via the `scanf` function. This input is stored in the EAX register and subsequently saved in the local variable “local_40”. A hardcoded password "250382" is also saved in another local variable “local_3c”. Both strings (user input and hardcoded password) are compared using the `strcmp` function. If they match (i.e., `strcmp` returns zero), the program outputs "Password OK :)", otherwise it displays "Invalid Password!".



Step 15: Run “crackme0x00.exe” again, assign it the password “250382”.

```
Downloads — -zsh — 80x24
shriyapingulkar@Shriyas-MacBook-Air ~ % cd downloads
shriyapingulkar@Shriyas-MacBook-Air downloads % wine64 crackme0x00.exe

007c:fixme:hid:handle_IRP_MN_QUERY_ID Unhandled type 00000005
007c:fixme:hid:handle_IRP_MN_QUERY_ID Unhandled type 00000005
007c:fixme:hid:handle_IRP_MN_QUERY_ID Unhandled type 00000005
007c:fixme:hid:handle_IRP_MN_QUERY_ID Unhandled type 00000005
00d0:err:environ:init_peb starting L"Z:\\Users\\shriyapingulkar\\downloads\\crackme0x00.exe" in experimental wow64 mode
IOLI Crackme Level 0x00
Password: 250382
Password OK :)
```