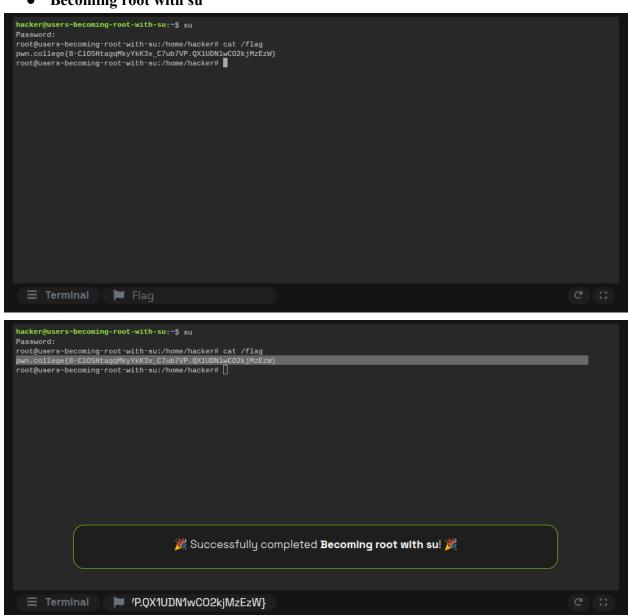Jaleel Williamson
jayw-713
CSCI 400 Lab 3
9/8/25
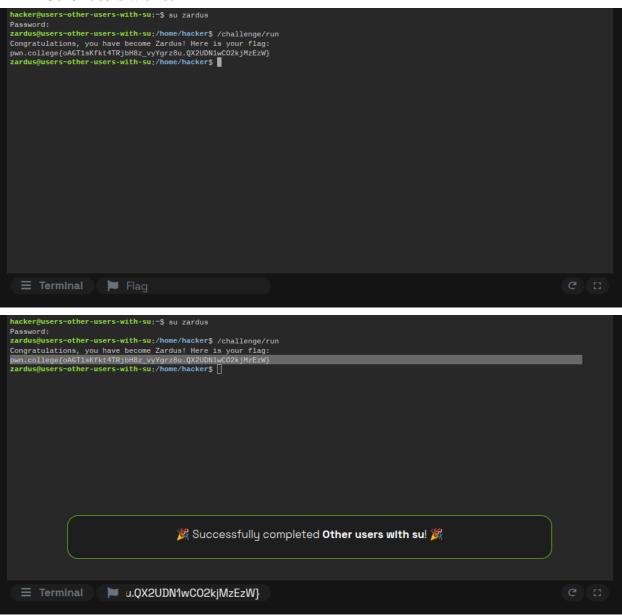
Untangling Users
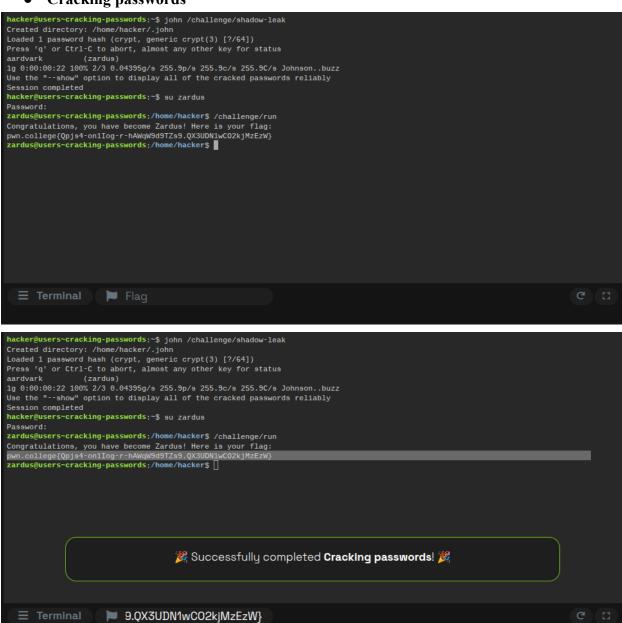
- **Becoming root with su**

To get the flag, I ran the su command in the terminal and entered the root password "hack-the-planet" when prompted. After gaining root access, I read the flag by executing cat /flag.

- **Other users with su**

```
hacker@users-other-users-with-su:~$ su zardus
Password:
zardus@users-other-users-with-su:/home/hacker$ /challenge/run
Congratulations, you have become Zardus! Here is your flag:
pwn.college{oA6T1sKfkt4TRjbH8z_vyYgrz8u.QX2UDN1wCO2kjMzEzW}
zardus@users-other-users-with-su:/home/hacker$
```

Terminal   Flag

```
hacker@users-other-users-with-su:~$ su zardus
Password:
zardus@users-other-users-with-su:/home/hacker$ /challenge/run
Congratulations, you have become Zardus! Here is your flag:
pwn.college{oA6T1sKfkt4TRjbH8z_vyYgrz8u.QX2UDN1wCO2kjMzEzW}
zardus@users-other-users-with-su:/home/hacker$
```

🎉 Successfully completed **Other users with su!** 🎉

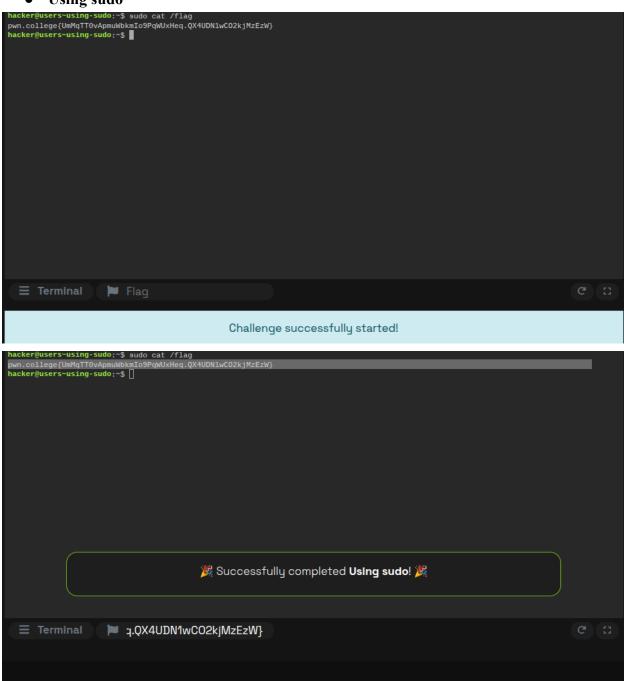Terminal   u.QX2UDN1wCO2kjMzEzW}

To get the flag, I used the su zardus command and entered the password "dont-hack-me" when prompted. After switching to the zardus user, I executed /challenge/run to retrieve the flag.

- **Cracking passwords**


```
hacker@users~cracking-passwords:~$ john /challenge/shadow-leak
Created directory: /home/hacker/.john
Loaded 1 password hash (crypt, generic crypt(3) [?/64])
Press 'q' or Ctrl-C to abort, almost any other key for status
aardvark         (zardus)
1g 0:00:00:22 100% 2/3 0.04395g/s 255.9p/s 255.9c/s 255.9C/s Johnson..buzz
Use the "--show" option to display all of the cracked passwords reliably
Session completed
hacker@users~cracking-passwords:~$ su zardus
Password:
zardus@users~cracking-passwords:/home/hacker$ /challenge/run
Congratulations, you have become Zardus! Here is your flag:
pwn.college{Qpjs4-on1Iog-r-hAWqW9d9TZs9.QX3UDN1wCO2kjMzEzW}
zardus@users~cracking-passwords:/home/hacker$
```

Terminal | Flag


```
hacker@users~cracking-passwords:~$ john /challenge/shadow-leak
Created directory: /home/hacker/.john
Loaded 1 password hash (crypt, generic crypt(3) [?/64])
Press 'q' or Ctrl-C to abort, almost any other key for status
aardvark         (zardus)
1g 0:00:00:22 100% 2/3 0.04395g/s 255.9p/s 255.9c/s 255.9C/s Johnson..buzz
Use the "--show" option to display all of the cracked passwords reliably
Session completed
hacker@users~cracking-passwords:~$ su zardus
Password:
zardus@users~cracking-passwords:/home/hacker$ /challenge/run
Congratulations, you have become Zardus! Here is your flag:
pwn.college{Qpjs4-on1Iog-r-hAWqW9d9TZs9.QX3UDN1wCO2kjMzEzW}
zardus@users~cracking-passwords:/home/hacker$
```

🎉 Successfully completed **Cracking passwords!** 🎉

Terminal | 9.QX3UDN1wCO2kjMzEzW}

To retrieve the flag, I cracked the password for the user zardus from the leaked shadow file using John the Ripper, which revealed the password aardvark. I then used su zardus to switch to that user, entered the password, and ran /challenge/run to obtain the flag.

- **Using sudo**

Challenge successfully started!

🎉 Successfully completed **Using sudo**! 🎉

To retrieve the flag, I used the sudo command to run cat /flag with root privileges. This allowed me to read the flag file directly without needing a password, as the sudo policy was configured to grant access. The command looked like the following: sudo cat/flag.