After looking through the binary, I noticed a lot of python in it, so I decided to run a **strace** on the executable to take a close look. There, I saw references to a **_MEI**xxxxx folder (xxxxx is replaced by random stuff), so while the execution was paused I took the time to look inside it. What attracted my attention was **base_library.zip** which containted a lot of .pyc files, indicating the executable has something to do with python.

Here, I was stuck as I couldn't find much in the folder, so I turned to google for some answers. A quick lookup returned a writeup, https://blog.attify.com/flare-on-6-ctf-writeup-part7/, which mentions that **MEI** is a folder name used by **PyInstaller**

Using this information, I found https://github.com/extremecoders-re/pyinstxtractor/blob/master/pyinstxtractor.py which allows me to basically unzip the binary.

In the newly created folder I discovered **1.pyc**, which is probably either the source code or an important file in any case. Decompiling it reveals the source code. Important note, uncompyle6 and pycdc both failed me, and pylingual.io seem to be the only viable option.

However, there is an issue. For me, pylingual.io incorrectly did the md5 step on the password, so I had to do that manually. Pretty bothersome, but at least we solved the chall!

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