

Layers of silence:

1. They gave a file named [banner.png.gz](#)
2. Gunzip it to banner.png

Using

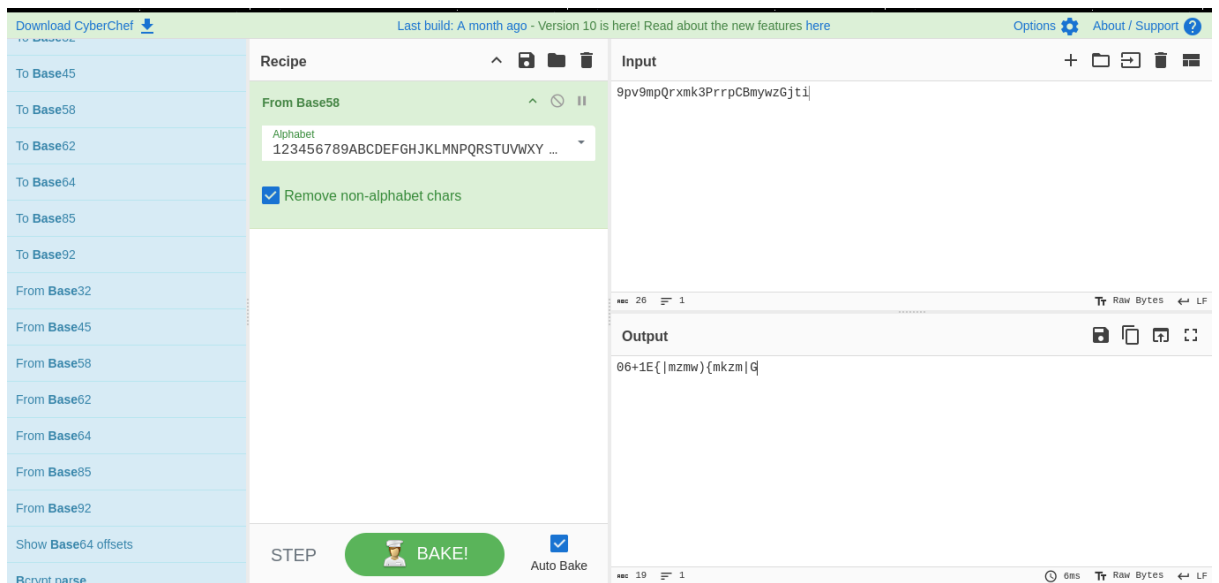
`zsteg -a banner.png`

to get some encoded data.

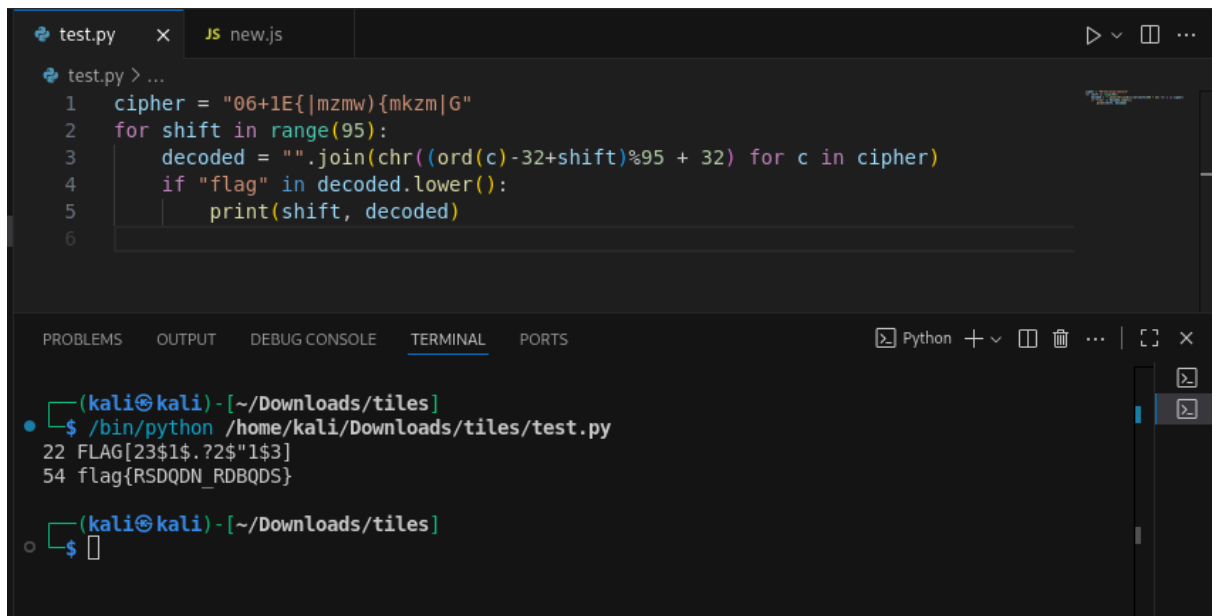
```
(kali㉿kali)-[~/Downloads]
$ zsteg banner.png
imagedata      .. file: Windows boot log, header size 0x1000000, 0x100 valid
bytes
b1,r,lsb,xy    .. text: "9pv9mpQrxmk3PrpCBmywzGjti"
b1,bgr,lsb,xy  .. /var/lib/gems/3.3.0/gems/zsteg-0.2.13/lib/zsteg/checker/wb
stego.rb:41:in `to_s': stack level too deep (SystemStackError)
    from /var/lib/gems/3.3.0/gems/iostruct-0.5.0/lib/iostruct.rb:180:in `insp
ect'
    from /var/lib/gems/3.3.0/gems/zsteg-0.2.13/lib/zsteg/checker/wbstego.rb:4
1:in `to_s'
    from /var/lib/gems/3.3.0/gems/iostruct-0.5.0/lib/iostruct.rb:180:in `insp
ect'
    from /var/lib/gems/3.3.0/gems/zsteg-0.2.13/lib/zsteg/checker/wbstego.rb:4
1:in `to_s'
    from /var/lib/gems/3.3.0/gems/iostruct-0.5.0/lib/iostruct.rb:180:in `insp
ect'
    from /var/lib/gems/3.3.0/gems/zsteg-0.2.13/lib/zsteg/checker/wbstego.rb:4
1:in `to_s'
    from /var/lib/gems/3.3.0/gems/iostruct-0.5.0/lib/iostruct.rb:180:in `insp
ect'
    from /var/lib/gems/3.3.0/gems/zsteg-0.2.13/lib/zsteg/checker/wbstego.rb:4
1:in `to_s'
    ... 10906 levels ...
    from /var/lib/gems/3.3.0/gems/zsteg-0.2.13/lib/zsteg.rb:26:in `run'
    from /var/lib/gems/3.3.0/gems/zsteg-0.2.13/bin/zsteg:8:in `<top (required
)>'
    from /usr/local/bin/zsteg:25:in `load'
    from /usr/local/bin/zsteg:25:in `<main>'
```

"9pv9mpQrxmk3PrpCBmywzGjti"

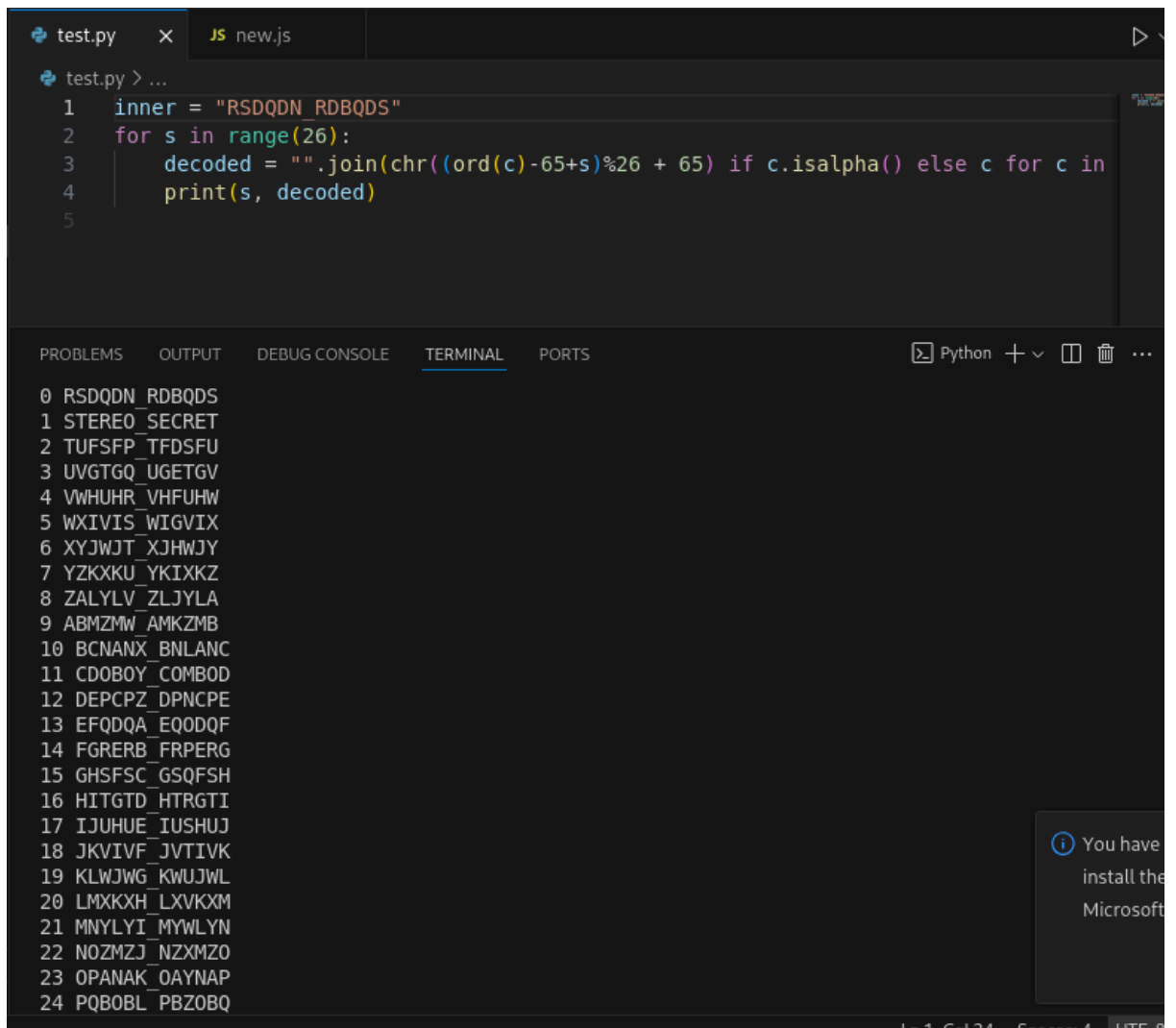
3. Using CyberChef, i checked multiple encoding, and it finally gave some string output on base58.



4. Script used for further conversions:



Next:



The image shows a VS Code editor window with two tabs: 'test.py' and 'new.js'. The 'test.py' tab is active, displaying a Python script. The script defines a variable 'inner' with the value 'RSDQDN_RDBQDS' and then iterates over a range of 26 values. For each value 's', it calculates a 'decoded' string by shifting each character in 'inner' by 's' positions. The script prints the decoded string for each 's'.

```
test.py > ...
1 inner = "RSDQDN_RDBQDS"
2 for s in range(26):
3     decoded = "".join(chr((ord(c)-65+s)%26 + 65) if c.isalpha() else c for c in
4     print(s, decoded)
5
```

The bottom panel of the editor shows the 'TERMINAL' tab, which displays the output of the script. The output consists of 26 lines, each showing a number from 0 to 24 followed by a decoded string. Line 1 (index 1) contains the string 'STEREO_SECRET', which is the flag.

```
0 RSDQDN_RDBQDS
1 STEREO_SECRET
2 TUFSPF_TFDSFU
3 UVGTGQ_UGETGV
4 VWHUHR_VHFUHW
5 WXIVIS_WIGVIX
6 XYJWJT_XJHWJY
7 YZKXKU_YKIXKZ
8 ZALYLV_ZLJYLA
9 ABMZMW_AMKZMB
10 BCNANX_BNLANC
11 CDOBOY_COMBOD
12 DEPCPZ_DPNCPE
13 EFQDQA_EOODQF
14 FGRERB_FRPERG
15 GHSFSC_GSQFSH
16 HITGTD_HTRGTI
17 IJUHEU_IUSHUJ
18 JKVIVF_JVTIVK
19 KLWJWG_KWUJWL
20 LMXKXH_LXVKXM
21 MNLYLI_MYWLYN
22 NOZMZJ_NZXMZO
23 OPANAK_OAYNAP
24 PQBOBL_PBZOBQ
```

A notification bubble in the bottom right corner of the terminal area says: 'You have install the Microsoft...'

Found something! Check string 1, it says 1 STEREO_SECRET.
flag{STEREO_SECRET}