

some *Ham* for hunting eggs...

Ham - 469

PoliCTF 2017

#Recon - pt. 1

- General

```
$ file ham.wav  
RIFF (little-endian) data, WAVE audio, Microsoft PCM,  
16 bit, stereo
```

- Looks like it's uncompressed at first glance...

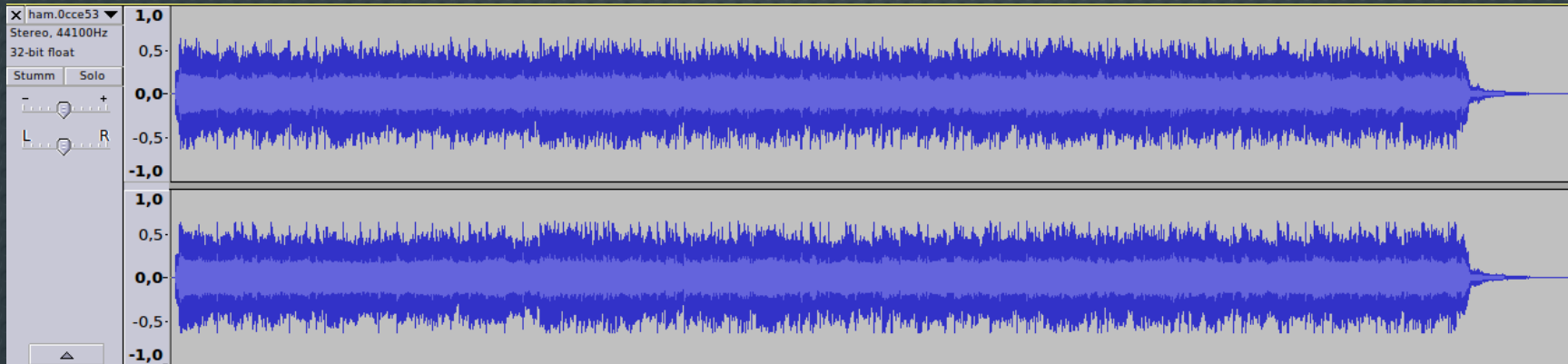
#Recon - pt. 2

- Anything in meta/tags ?

```
$ ffprobe ham.wav
Input #0, wav, from 'ham.wav':
  Metadata:
    title           : Free Software Song (CTF-edited)
    artist          : Bino
    date            : 2012
    genre           : FreeMusic
  Duration: 00:00:31.16, bitrate: 1411 kb/s
    Stream #0:0: Audio: pcm_s16le ([1][0][0][0] / 0x0001),
```

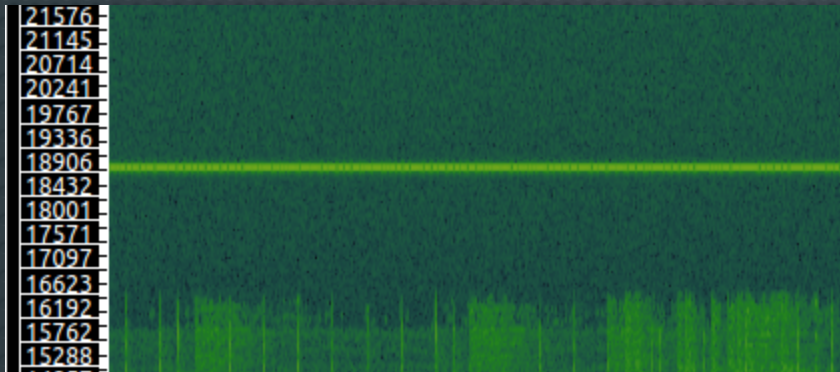
#Recon - pt. 3

waveform



#Recon - pt. 4

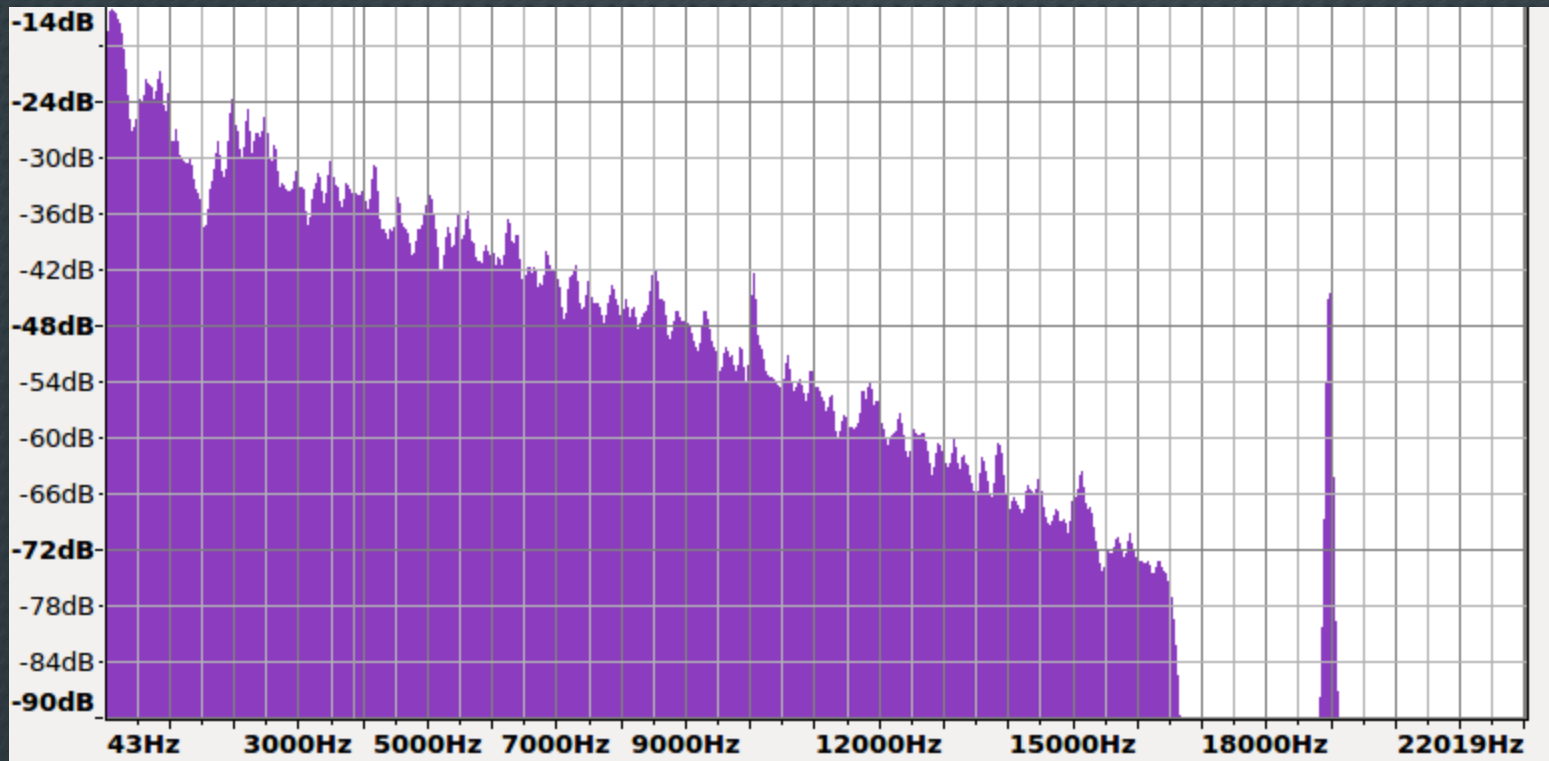
spectrogram



- Some small-band signal around 18 kHz constantly
- Signal-To-Noise Ratio ?

#Recon - pt. 5

spectrum



- Quite weak with attenuation of -48 dB

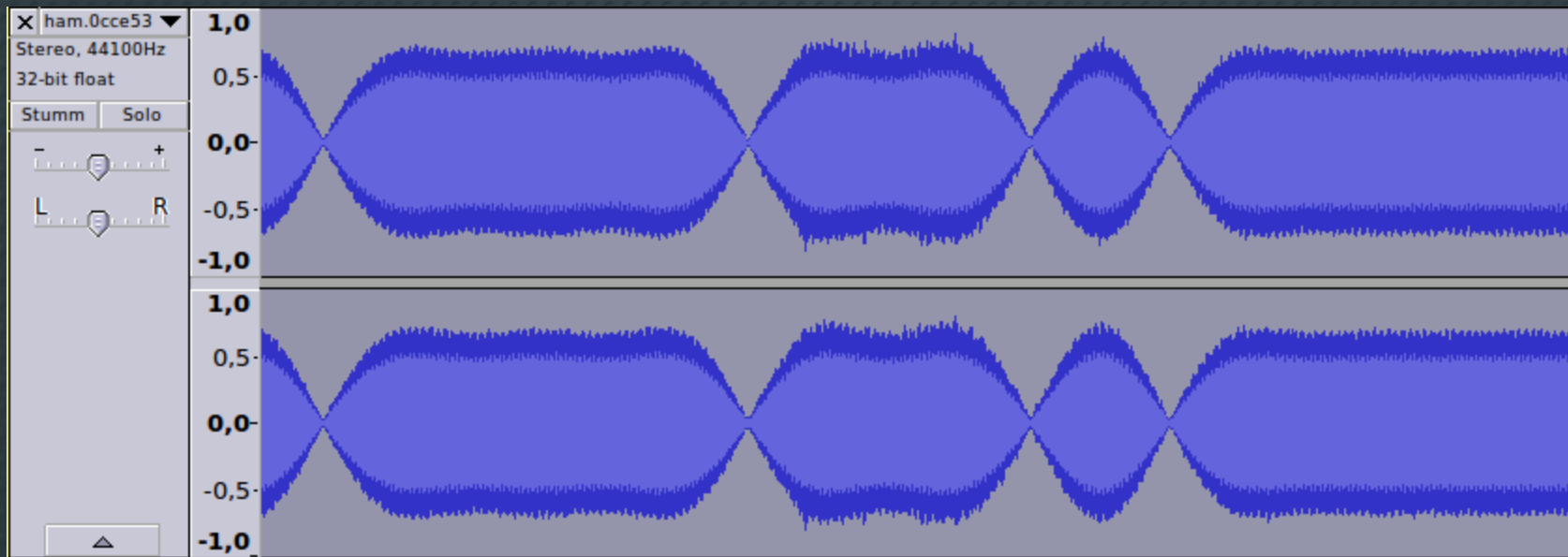
???



#Extracting

#Extracting - pt. 1

- Reject start and end of track
- Apply high-pass (cutoff = 18 kHz)
- Amplify ~ 45 dB

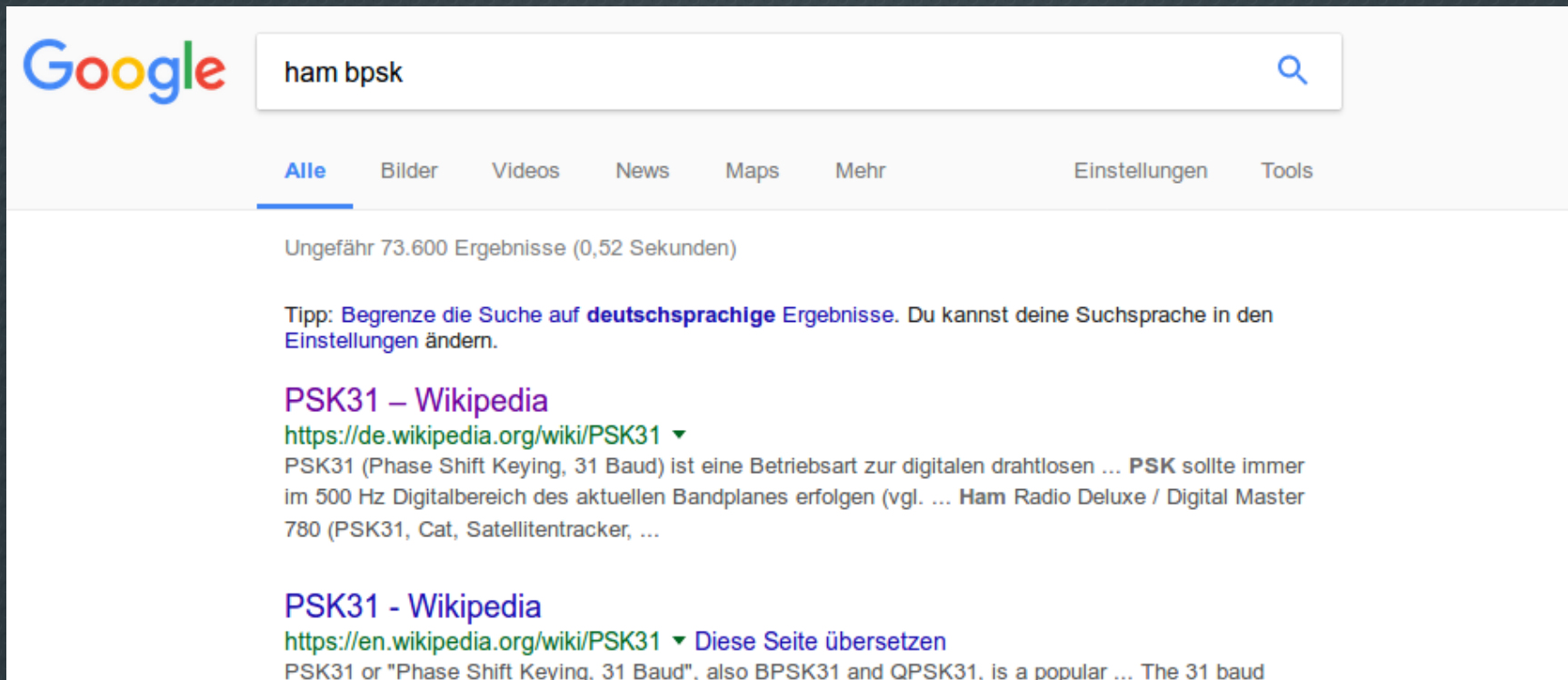


#Extracting - pt. 2

- Some 2-symbol binary encoding: $a \in \{0, 1\}$
- Binary Phase Shift Keying (BPSK)
- Duration of 32 ms per symbol

#Extracting - pt. 2

- Maybe chall#s title tells us something



#Extracting - pt. 3

- Formerly called "Varicode", now PSK31
- Fano-Code
- No symbol is proper prefix of another one
- So it can be decoded quite easily...

#Flag

#Flag - pt. 1

```
from scipy.io import wavfile
import numpy as np

rate, data = wavfile.read("filtered.wav")

# select the second channel

data = data[:,1]
samples_per_symbol = int(rate / 1000.0 * 32)
data = data[:-(data.size % samples_per_symbol)]
symbols = np.mean(np.abs(data.reshape(-1, samples_per_symbol)), axis=1)
symbols = symbols[symbols > (symbols[0] / 2)]
cutoff = np.mean([max(symbols), symbols[0]])

print ''.join(["1" if x else "0" for x in symbols > cutoff])
```


#Flag - pt. 2

- Extracting "varicode" binary information from audio track

```
python -W ignore decode.py
```

[illegible]

- Thanks to github, there's a decoding table for varicode already as python dictionary

#Flag - pt. 3

```
decode = {  
    '1010101011' : '\x00',    '1011011011' : '\x01',  
    '1011101101' : '\x02',    '1101110111' : '\x03',  
    '1011101011' : '\x04',    '1101011111' : '\x05',  
    [...snip...]  
    '11011111'   : 'x',       '1011101'      : 'y',  
    '111010101'  : 'z',       '1010110111'   : '{',  
    '110111011'  : '|',       '1010110101'   : '}',  
    '1011010111' : '~',       '1110110101'   : '\x7F' }
```


#Flag - pt. 4

- Turning audio to flag gold

```
[...snip...]
data = data.lstrip("0").rstrip("1")
chars = data.split("00")
print ''.join([varicode[c] if c in varicode else "?" for c
```

“ Ham radio amateurs are gradually in extinction nowadays :(-> flag{LookingForRainbowsInTheSpectrumMadeMeBlind}? ”

#Questions ???