

## nullhat 2025: warmup

@elesquina

The task gives one RSA modulus  $N = pq$ , two public exponents  $e_1, e_2$ , and two ciphertexts  $c_1, c_2$ . The code shows that the same plaintext  $m$  was encrypted twice under the same  $N$ , once with  $e_1$  and once with  $e_2$ , so  $c_1 \equiv m^{e_1} \pmod{N}$  and  $c_2 \equiv m^{e_2} \pmod{N}$ . The important detail is that  $e_1$  and  $e_2$  are random primes, so  $\gcd(e_1, e_2) = 1$  with overwhelming probability.

Because  $\gcd(e_1, e_2) = 1$ , there exist integers  $a, b$  such that  $ae_1 + be_2 = 1$ . Extended Euclid gives such  $(a, b)$ . Then

$$m \equiv m^{ae_1 + be_2} \equiv (m^{e_1})^a (m^{e_2})^b \equiv c_1^a c_2^b \pmod{N}.$$

If  $a < 0$  (or  $b < 0$ ), we replace  $c_1^a$  by  $(c_1^{-1})^{-a}$  modulo  $N$  using a modular inverse. This yields  $m$  as an integer modulo  $N$ , which can be converted back to bytes and stripped from leading zero bytes to recover the plaintext.

The recovered plaintext contains the flag: `EliteSec{an_easy_rsa_warmup_challenge_ftw3214124124}`.