

GoldDigger

So as always first let's check what file type it is.

We can see this is a ELF 64-bit binary, and it is stripped.

```
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF » ls
GoldDigger
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF » file GoldDigger
GoldDigger: ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV), dynamically linked, interpreter /lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2, Build ID[sha1]=1afa9b12b5e74f51a996913c6dee43fbccd71a22, for GNU/Linux 4.4.0, stripped
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF »
```

Before running the binary let's see if there is any juicy hard-coded strings.

There is no juicy information. But we see some readable strings.

```
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF » strings GoldDigger
/lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2
puts
printf
strlen
malloc
__cxa_finalize
__libc_start_main
libc.so.6
GLIBC_2.2.5
_ITM_deregisterTMCloneTable
__gmon_start__
_ITM_registerTMCloneTable
u3UH
[]A\A]A^A
Dig for Gold
Usage: %s SecretWord
I only need 28 chars dude.. No more, No less
Yeeyaww, Now go submit the flag, kind sir
Beep Boop Beep 1010100 1110010 1111001 100000 1001000 1100001 1110010 1100100 1100101 1110010 100001 100001 100001
;*3$"
GCC: (GNU) 11.1.0
.shstrtab
.interp
.note.gnu.property
.note.gnu.build-id
```

When executing the binary we see that it asks for a secret.

```

ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 » ./GoldDigger
Dig for Gold
Usage: ./GoldDigger SecretWord
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »

```

And we also see that the secret is 28 charters long.

```

ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 » ./GoldDigger test
I only need 28 chars dude.. No more, No less
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »

```

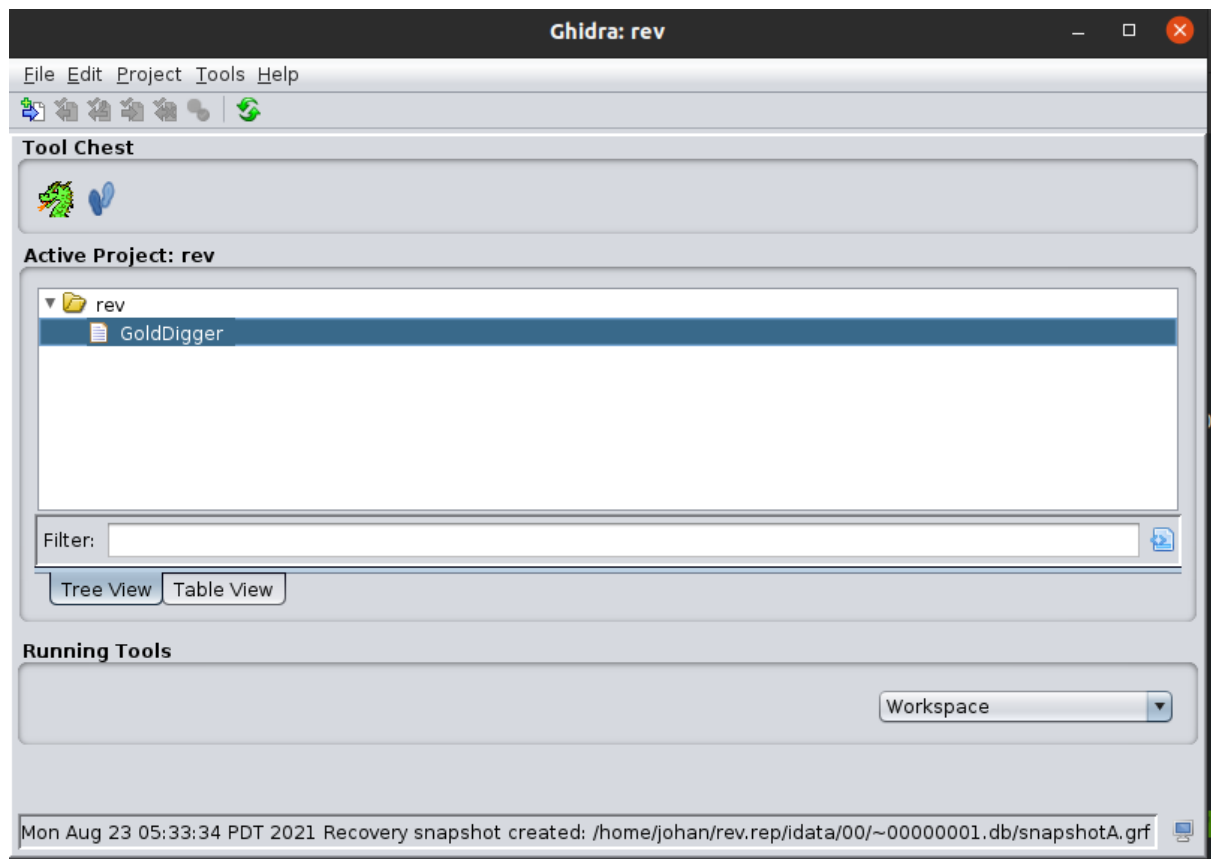
When giving the wrong secret it just gives a fail message. So let's decompile and take a look at the inside of the binary.

```

ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 » ./GoldDigger aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa
Beep Boop Beep 1010100 1110010 1111001 100000 1001000 1100001 1110010 1100100 1100101 1110010 100001 100001 100001
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF 255 »

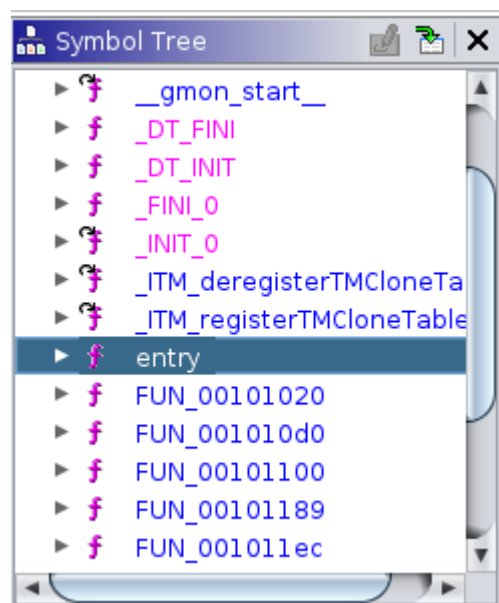
```

Let's open the binary in Ghidra. And open the code browser.

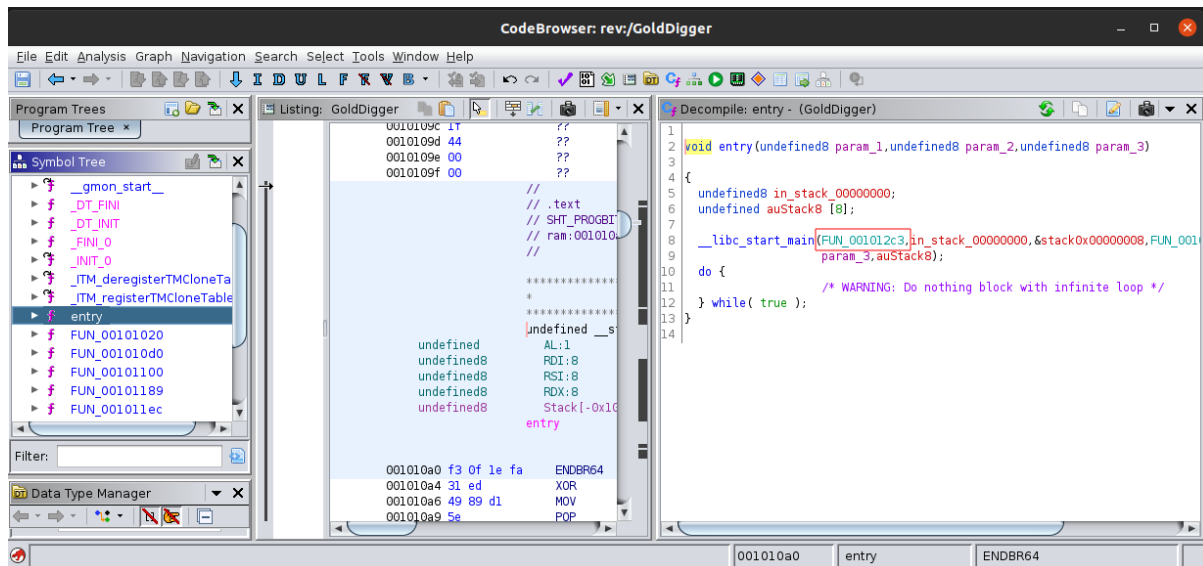


We some functions in the binary. So let's find the main function.

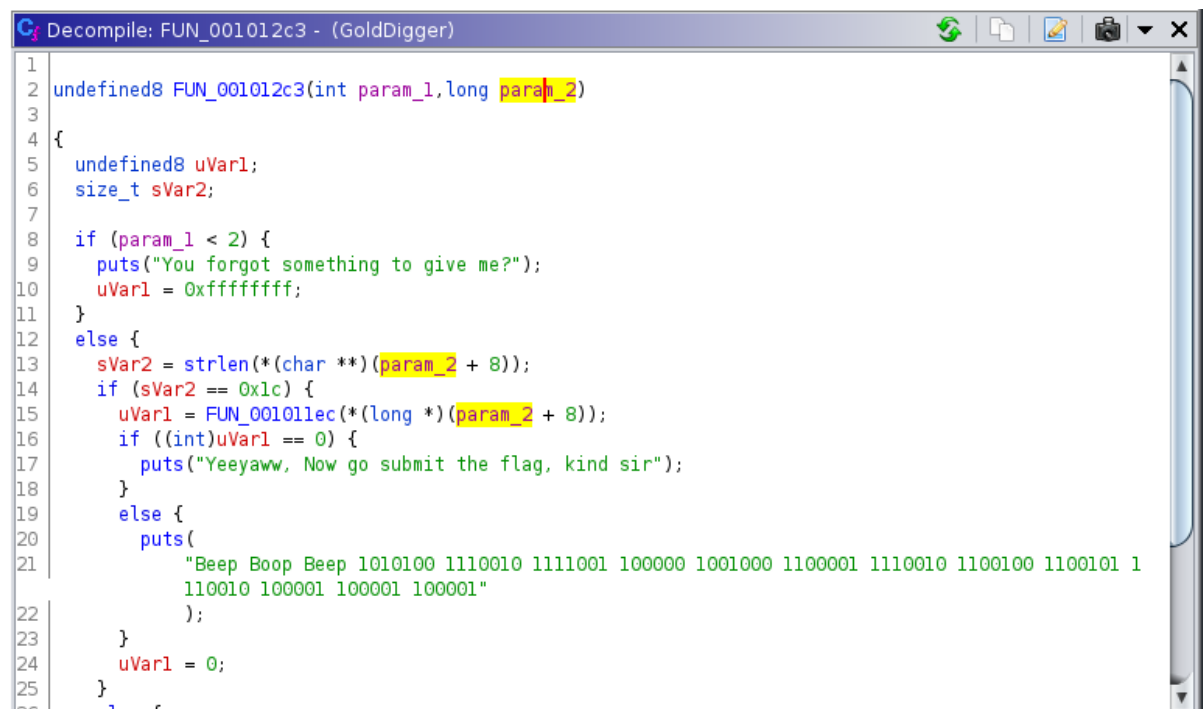
Usually the entry functions will call the next function it wants to load(main). So let's see what's in entry.



We see `__libc_start_main` takes one function(`FUN_001012c3()`) as it's argument . And that is our main function.



The main function takes one argument which is our input. When the length of our input is `0x1c(28)` characters long, the input goes into another function (`FUN_001011e()`). The return state of that function is saved. And based on the return state if it is 0 (no errors) then it'll give us the success message.



The function `FUN_001011e()` calls another function called `FUN_00101189()` inside it.

```
Decompile: FUN_001011ec - (GoldDigger)

1
2 undefined8 FUN_001011ec(long param_1)
3
4 {
5     void *pvVar1;
6     void *pvVar2;
7     int local_20;
8
9     pvVar1 = malloc(0x10);
10    pvVar2 = FUN_00101189();
11    for (local_20 = 0; local_20 < 0x1c; local_20 = local_20 + 1) {
12        *(int *)((long)pvVar1 + (long)local_20 * 4) =
13            *(char *)(param_1 + *(int *)((long)pvVar2 + (long)local_20 * 4)) + 4;
14    }
15    local_20 = 0;
16    while( true ) {
17        if (0x1b < local_20) {
18            return 0;
19        }
20        if (*(int *)((long)pvVar1 + (long)local_20 * 4) != *(int *)&DAT_001020a0 + (long)local_20 * 4))
21            break;
22        local_20 = local_20 + 1;
23    }
24    return 0xffffffff;
25 }
26
```

This function isn't doing much.

```
Decompile: FUN_00101189 - (GoldDigger)

1
2 void * FUN_00101189(void)
3
4 {
5     void *pvVar1;
6     int local_14;
7
8     pvVar1 = malloc(0x1c0);
9     for (local_14 = 0; local_14 < 0x1c; local_14 = local_14 + 1) {
10        *(uint *)((long)pvVar1 + (long)local_14 * 4) =
11            *(uint *)&DAT_00102020 + (long)local_14 * 4 ^ 0x12;
12    }
13    return pvVar1;
14 }
15
```

Code explanation

```
void * FUN_00101189(void)

{
    void *pvVar1;
    int local_14;
```

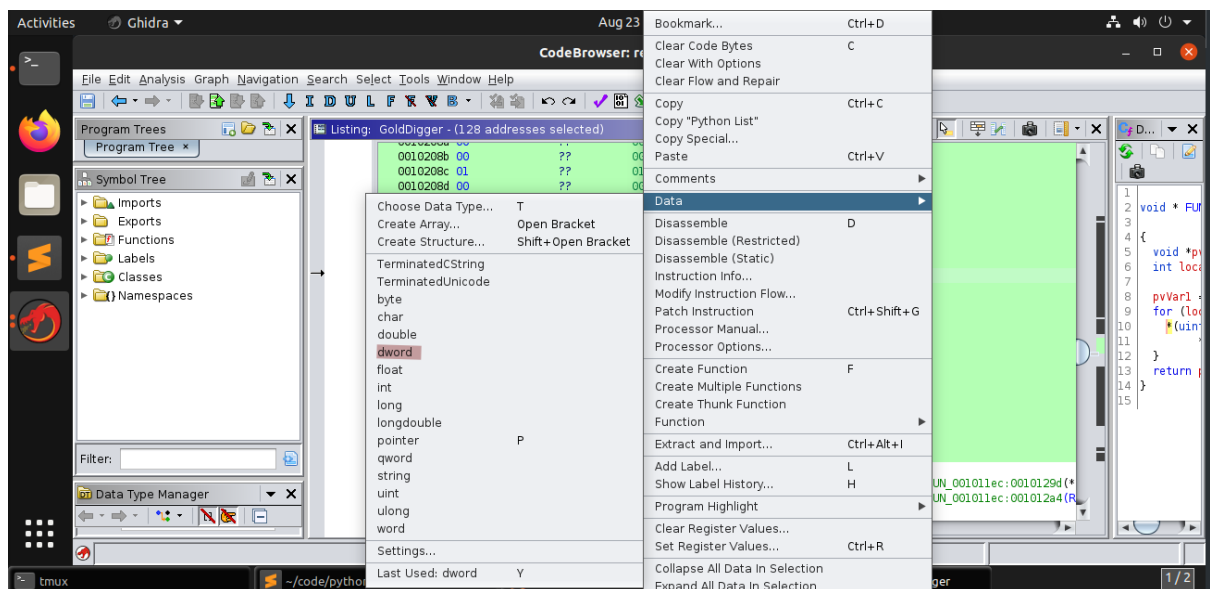
```

pvVar1 = malloc(0x1c0); //allocating some memory block

for (local_14 = 0; local_14 < 0x1c; local_14 = local_14 + 1) { //doing a 0x1c long loop
//getting the data from the location DAT_00102020 and xors each object with 0x12.
//and saves the result on the allocated memory pvVar1.
    *(uint *)((long)pvVar1 + (long)local_14 * 4) = *(uint *)&DAT_00102020 + (long)local_14 * 4) ^ 0x12;
}
return pvVar1; // returns the result.
}

```

Inside the location `&DAT_00102020` we find some data which looks like array. Let's convert the data type into Dword. The reason for this is, usually we'll copy the bytes and try to filter the `\x00` padding. But if there is any zeros value in the array it'll make us miss that zero value while filtering out. So let's convert the data type and see if there is any zero values.



As expected there is a zero value. This means we should add a zero value in the array after filtering the padding.


```

0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x14, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x1d, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x07, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x11, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x17, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x13, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x15, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x1c, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x12, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x02, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x06, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x04, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x19, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x05, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x1a, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x01, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 ]

# we do have lot's of 0x00 padding. So remove them all and xor with the value 0x12.
data_loc = [i for i in data_loc if i != 0] # [22, 10, 31, 16, 24, 27, 9, 11, 30, 3, 8, 20, 29, 7, 17, 23, 19, 21, 28, 18, 2, 6, 4, 25, 5, 26, 1]

# 0 is added after the value 0x1d(29)
data_loc = [22, 10, 31, 16, 24, 27, 9, 11, 30, 3, 8, 20, 29, 0, 7, 17, 23, 19, 21, 28, 18, 2, 6, 4, 25, 5, 26, 1]

data_loc = [i^0x12 for i in data_loc] #[4, 24, 13, 2, 10, 9, 27, 25, 12, 17, 26, 6, 15, 18, 21, 3, 5, 1, 7, 14, 0, 16, 20, 22, 11, 23, 8, 19]

```

We got a result whose length is 28 chars long just as the secret we expected. But it isn't giving any meaningful data.

```

4
5 # we do have lot's of 0x00 padding. So remove them all and xor with the value 0x12.
6 data_loc = [i for i in data_loc if i != 0] # [22, 10, 31, 16, 24, 27, 9, 11, 30, 3, 8, 20, 29, 7, 17, 23, 19, 21, 28, 18, 2, 6, 4, 25, 5, 26, 1]
7
8 # 0 is added after the value 0x1d(29)
9 data_loc = [22, 10, 31, 16, 24, 27, 9, 11, 30, 3, 8, 20, 29, 0, 7, 17, 23, 19, 21, 28, 18, 2, 6, 4, 25, 5, 26, 1]
10
11 data_loc = [i^0x12 for i in data_loc] #[4, 24, 13, 2, 10, 9, 27, 25, 12, 17, 26, 6, 15, 18, 21, 3, 5, 1, 7, 14, 0, 16, 20, 22, 11, 23, 8, 19]
12 print ([chr(i) for i in data_loc])
13
14
15
16 Ghidra
17
18
19
["\x04", "\x18", "\r", "\x02", "\n", "\t", "\x1b", "\x19", "\x0c", "\x11", "\x1a", "\x06", "\x0f", "\x12", "\x15", "\x03", "\x05", "\x01", "\x07", "\x0e", "\x00", "\x10", "\x14", "\x16", "\x0b", "\x17", "\x08", "\x13"]
[112, 83, 106, 113, 52, 125, 129, 80, 99, 72, 104, 88, 89, 99, 73, 109, 71, 101, 74, 115, 88, 114, 76, 99, 121, 75, 127, 120]
[Finished in 105ms]

```

Let's go back to the main function.

The Xor'ed result is getting stored in `pvVar2` variable here. And there is another loop.

This Loop gets our input and increase the ascii value of every character by 4 and save it in `pvVar1` based on the location it gets from `FUN_001011c8()`. To put it simple, It just get our input increase the ascii value of each char by 4 and shuffles the array.

if the first value `FUN_001011c8()` returns is 12, then the logic will look something like this

`pvVar1[0] = param_1[12] (input) + 4 (increase the ascii value of that character)`

```
Decompile: FUN_001011c8 - (GoldDigger)
1
2 undefined8 FUN_001011c8(long param_1)
3
4 {
5     void *pvVar1;
6     void *pvVar2;
7     int local_20;
8
9     pvVar1 = malloc(0x10);
10    pvVar2 = FUN_00101169();
11    for (local_20 = 0; local_20 < 0x1c; local_20 = local_20 + 1) {
12        *(int *)((long)pvVar1 + (long)local_20 * 4) =
13            *(char *)(param_1 + *(int *)((long)pvVar2 + (long)local_20 * 4)) + 4;
14    }
15    local_20 = 0;
16    while( true ) {
17        if (0x1b < local_20) {
18            return 0;
19        }
20        if (*(int *)((long)pvVar1 + (long)local_20 * 4) != *(int *)(&DAT_001020a0 + (long)local_20 * 4))
21            break;
22        local_20 = local_20 + 1;
23    }
24    return 0xffffffff;
25 }
26
```

Just to be clear:

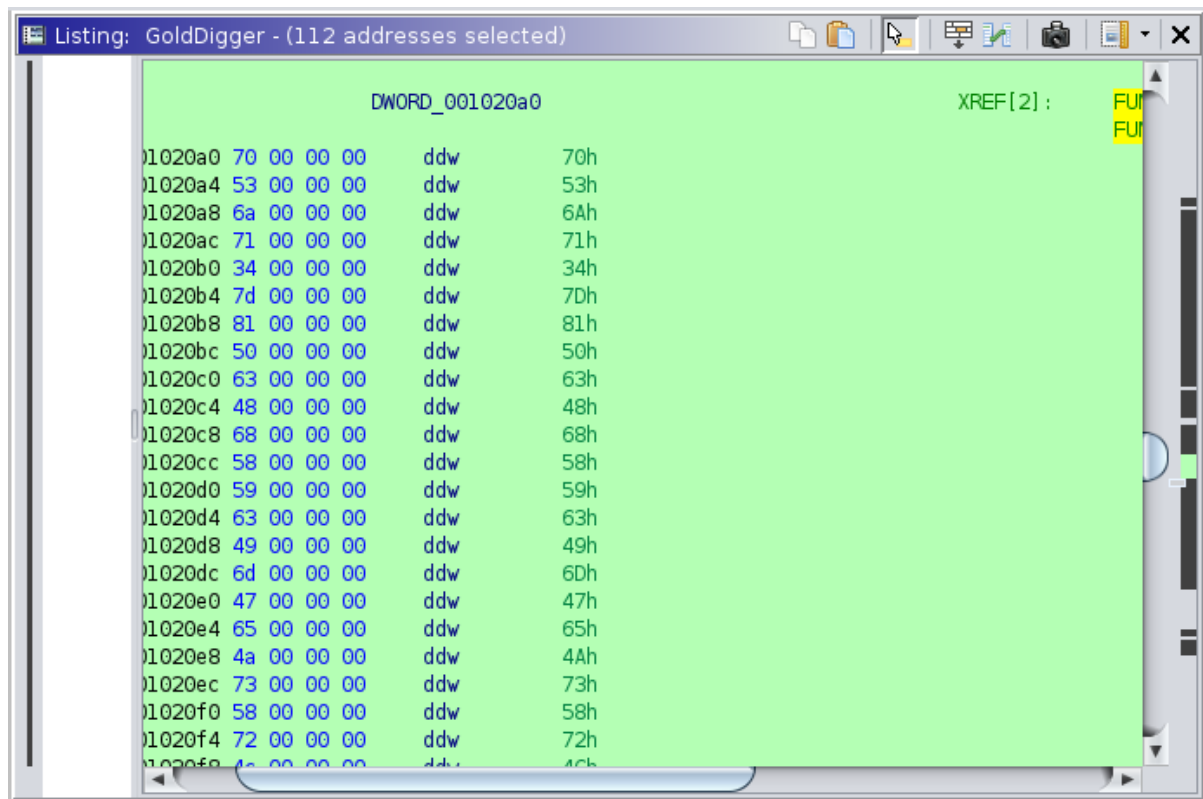
```
*(int *)((long)pvVar1 + (long)local_20 * 4) = *(char *)(param_1 + *(int *)((long)pvVar2 + (long)local_20 * 4)) + 4;
```

`pvVar1` is the location of array. And by adding `local_20` it gradually jumps to next location. `local_20` is multiplied by 4 here cuz the data in the memory will be padded with `0x00` so that it will represent a valid address. So `0xa` will look like `0x0000000a` something like this in the memory.

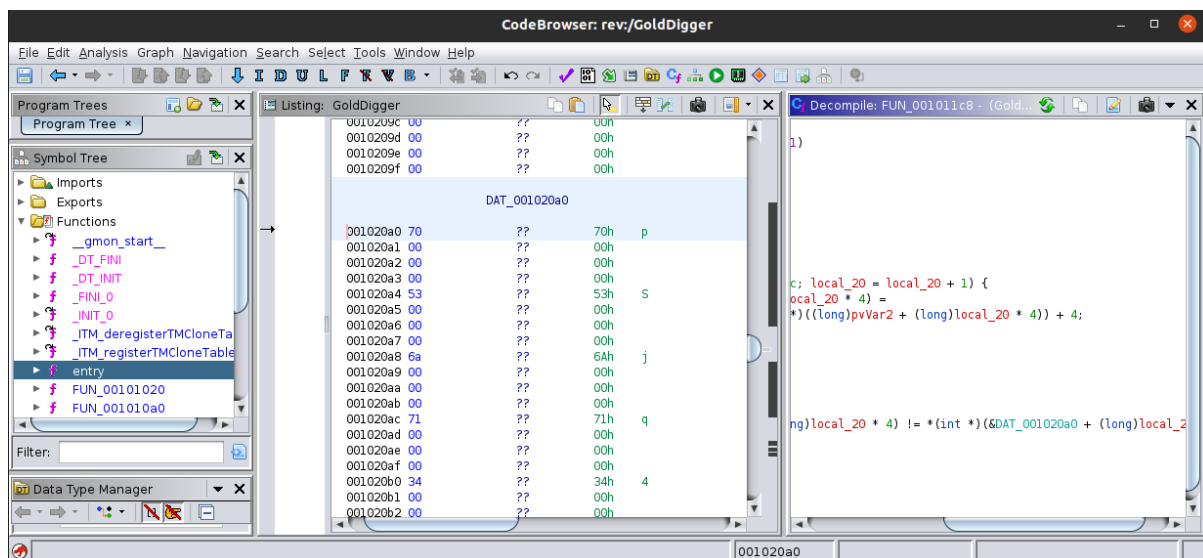
Lastly it compares the resulted data with another location (`&DAT_001020a0`) of arrays. If they're same then we got our secret.

Let's convert the data type and check for zero values, then get the values from that location.

As seen below there is no zero values.



Again we can copy this data as python list and manually. We already have the shuffle order that we got from `FUN_00101169()`. Now we have everything we need to reverse this function.



So with the following script we can get the flag.

```

# &DAT_00102020
data_loc = [ 0x16, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x0a, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x1f, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0
x10, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x18, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x1b, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x09, 0x00, 0x0
0, 0x00, 0x0b, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x1e, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x03, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x08,
0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x14, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x1d, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x
00, 0x07, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x11, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x17, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x13, 0x0
0, 0x00, 0x00, 0x15, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x1c, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x12, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00,
0x02, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x06, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x04, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x19, 0x00, 0x
00, 0x00, 0x05, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x1a, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x01, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x0
0, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00,
0x00 ]

# we do have lot's of 0x00 padding. So remove them all and xor with the value 0x12.
data_loc = [i for i in data_loc if i != 0] # [22, 10, 31, 16, 24, 27, 9, 11, 30, 3, 8,
20, 29, 7, 17, 23, 19, 21, 28, 18, 2, 6, 4, 25, 5, 26, 1]

# 0 is added after the value 0x1d(29)
data_loc = [22, 10, 31, 16, 24, 27, 9, 11, 30, 3, 8, 20, 29, 0, 7, 17, 23, 19, 21, 28,
18, 2, 6, 4, 25, 5, 26, 1]

data_loc = [i^0x12 for i in data_loc] #[4, 24, 13, 2, 10, 9, 27, 25, 12, 17, 26, 6, 1
5, 18, 21, 3, 5, 1, 7, 14, 0, 16, 20, 22, 11, 23, 8, 19]
# print ([chr(i) for i in data_loc])

# &DAT_001020a0
data_loc2 = [ 0x70, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x53, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x6a, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00,
0x71, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x34, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x7d, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x81, 0x00, 0
x00, 0x00, 0x50, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x63, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x48, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x6
8, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x58, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x59, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x63, 0x00, 0x00,
0x00, 0x49, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x6d, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x47, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x65, 0x
00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x4a, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x73, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x58, 0x00, 0x00, 0x0
0, 0x72, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x4c, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x63, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x79, 0x00,
0x00, 0x00, 0x4b, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x7f, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x78, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00 ]

#remove the padding
data_loc2 = [i for i in data_loc2 if i!=0]
print (data_loc2)

flag = []

for i in range(len(data_loc)):
    # get the index of shuffler and add it to the list and decrease the ascii value by 4
    'flag[]'
    flag.append(data_loc2[data_loc.index(i)]-4)

print ("".join([chr(i) for i in flag]))

```

```
koko.py
13
14 # 6DAT 001020a0
15 data_loc2 = [ 0x70, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x53, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x6a, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x71, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00, 0x34, 0x00, 0x00, 0x00]
16
17 #remove the padding
18 data_loc2 = [i for i in data_loc2 if i!=0]
19
20 flag = []
21
22 for i in range(len(data_loc)):
23     # get the index of Shuffler and add it to the list and decrease the ascii value by 4 'flag[]'
24     flag.append(data_loc[data_loc.index(i)]-4)
25
26 print ("".join([chr(i) for i in flag]))

TamilCTF{y0u foUnD tHE_GoLd}
[Finished in 111ms]
```

We can verify the flag with the binary

```
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF » ./GoldDigger TamilCTF{y0u foUnD tHE_GoLd}
Yeeyaww, Now go submit the flag, kind sir
ubuntu :: ~/Chall_CTF »
```