

Dividing Secrets.

The code running on the server provides you with a prime p of length 512 bits, g , a random value within $0 \dots p$ exclusive.

The flag secret is encoded as x , a ~~secret~~ value we presume must be $< p$.

Given: $p, g, \text{enc} = g^x \bmod p$.

Now, ~~given~~ we can query the server by asking a value h , and getting back:

$g^{x // h} \bmod p$, where

$$x // h = \left\lfloor \frac{x}{h} \right\rfloor.$$

First notice that if we send a small h ,

we get back $g^{x // h}$. We can calculate $(g^{x // h})^h = g^{(x // h)h} = g^{x - (x \bmod h)}$.

By iteratively multiplying $g^{x - (x \bmod h)}$ with g , till we get g^x , we can work out what $x \bmod h$ is.

This process can be repeated 64 times with 64 primes starting from 499.

This is large enough as we will see later.

We get a system of modular ~~cor~~relations:

$$x \equiv h_1 \pmod{p_1}$$

$$x \equiv h_2 \pmod{p_2}$$

\vdots

$$x \equiv h_{64} \pmod{p_{64}}$$

for $p_1 \dots p_{64}$ primes, consecutive primes starting at $p_1 = 499$.

The Chinese Remainder Theorem gives us a unique value ~~for~~
 $x \bmod N$, where $N = \prod_{i=1}^{64} p_i$

The choice of p_i gives that N is more than 512 bits long, hence $x \bmod N \equiv x \in \mathbb{Z}$ (no wrap-around).

This gives us x , the flag.