We are given a warm up binary.

Since this is an easy challenge, I will make the writeup much more descriptive. Initially when we run the binary, we get

```
) ./cold
Brrr, me a lil' bit cold from ye wellington weathe'
Help me warm up, will ye?
Lets try and light me a fire
```

To take the simplest route, let's just run strings on the binary and see what we get

```
strings cold
/lib64/ld-linux-x86-64.so.2
mgUa
libc.so.6
getc
 isoc99 scanf
puts
stdin
printf
memset
malloc
sleep
  cxa finalize
strcmp
  libc start main
GLIBC_2.7
GLIBC_2.2.5
ITM deregisterTMCloneTable
  gmon start
 ITM registerTMCloneTable
u/UH
[]A\A]A^A
Flag: %s
Brrr, me a lil' bit cold from ye wellington weathe'
Help me warm up, will ye?
Lets try and light me a fire
%22c
Blast me, me fingers have frozen off!
The fire be burning well, add me some logs will ye?
%23c
Siver me timbers, how'd ye loose the logs?
All o' this here fire, make me feel sleeby
I will give ye the flag when I get up on deck
;*3$"
AHOY{g3tt1ng_warm33rr}
-u11118
FA (
```

We can see the flag in the output.

Flag1: AHOY{g3tt1ng\_warm33rr}

Trying this flag in the binary, we can see that it works

```
> ./cold
Brrr, me a lil' bit cold from ye wellington weathe'
Help me warm up, will ye?
Lets try and light me a fire AHOY{g3tt1ng_warm33rr}
The fire be burning well, add me some logs will ye? ■
```

Now that we have the first flag, let's move onto the second. Let's open up the file in ghidra and see what we get

```
👍 Decompile: main - (cold)
   undefined8 main(void)
3
   {
4
5
     int iVarl;
 6
     undefined8 uVar2;
 7
     int local_c;
 8
9
     puts("Brrr, me a lil\' bit cold from ye wellington weathe\'\nHelp me warm up, will ye?");
     printf("Lets try and light me a fire ");
111
      __isoc99_scanf(&DAT_00102084,user_input);
     getc(stdin);
13
     iVarl = strcmp(user_input,first_flag);
14
     if (iVarl == 0) {
15
       printf("The fire be burning well, add me some logs will ye? ");
         isoc99 scanf(&DAT 001020ed,user input);
16
       for (local_c = 0; local_c < 0x16; local_c = local_c + 1) {</pre>
17
         if (((uint)(byte)xor_string[local_c] ^ (int)(char)user_input[local_c]) != 0x45) {
18
19
           printf("Siver me timbers, how\'d ye loose the logs?");
20
            return Oxffffffff;
21
         }
22
23
       puts("All o\' this here fire, make me feel sleeby");
24
       puts("I will give ye the flag when I get up on deck");
25
       sleep(Oxfffffffff);
       give_flag();
27
       uVar2 = 0;
28
     }
29
30
       puts("Blast me, me fingers have frozen off!");
31
       uVar2 = 0xffffffff;
     }
32
33
     return uVar2;
34 }
35
```

We can identify three items of interest.

- The scanf
- The strcmp
- The for loop

Let's look at the scanf first.

Looking into the first argument, for the format of the input, we get

```
/2 /9 20 ...
                     DAT 00102084
                                                                         XREF[1]:
                          ??
                                              %
                                      25h
00102084 25
                                              2
00102085 32
                          ??
                                       32h
00102086 32
                          ??
                                      32h
                                              2
00102087 63
                          ??
                                      63h
                                              С
                          ??
00102088 00
                                      00h
00102089 00
                          ??
                                      00h
0010208a 00
                          ??
                                      00h
0010208b 00
                          ??
                                      00h
0010208c 00
                          ??
                                      00h
0010208d 00
                          ??
                                      00h
0010208e 00
                          ??
                                      00h
```

Which is %22c.

Researching a bit, we can see that it is getting 22 characters.

Looking now onto the strcmp,

We can see that there is a strcmp onto the *user\_input* and the *first\_flag* 

```
printt("Lets try and light me a fire ");
__isoc99_scanf(&char_format,user_input);
getc(stdin);
iVarl = strcmp(user_input,first_flag);
if (iVarl == 0) {
```

Looking into the first flag argument, we can see

```
first_flag
                                                                                XREF[
00104070 41 48 4f
                                  undefine...
                 59 7b 67
                 33 74 74 ...
                                                                         [0]
           00104070 41
                                     undefined141h
           00104071 48
                                     undefined148h
                                                                         [1]
           00104072 4f
                                     undefined14Fh
                                                                         [2]
                                     undefined159h
           00104073 59
                                                                         [3]
                                     undefined17Bh
           00104074 7b
                                                                         [4]
                                     undefined167h
           00104075 67
                                                                         [5]
           00104076 33
                                     undefined133h
                                                                         [6]
           00104077 74
                                     undefined174h
                                                                         [7]
           00104078 74
                                     undefined174h
                                                                         [8]
                                     undefined131h
           00104079 31
                                                                         [9]
                                     undefined16Eh
           0010407a 6e
                                                                         [10]
           0010407b 67
                                     undefined167h
                                                                         [11]
           0010407c 5f
                                     undefined15Fh
                                                                         [12]
           0010407d 77
                                     undefined177h
                                                                         [13]
                                     undefined161h
           0010407e 61
                                                                         [14]
           0010407f 72
                                     undefined172h
                                                                         [15]
           00104080 6d
                                     undefined16Dh
                                                                         [16]
           00104081 33
                                     undefined133h
                                                                         [17]
           00104082 33
                                     undefined133h
                                                                         [18]
           00104083 72
                                     undefined172h
                                                                         [19]
           00104084 72
                                     undefined172h
                                                                         [20]
           00104085 7d
                                     undefined17Dh
                                                                         [21]
           00104086 00
                                     undefined100h
                                                                         [22]
        00104087 00
                                  ??
```

Which isn't particularly useful, however changing the format to a char[22] we get

```
first flag
le
          00104070 41 48 4f
                                                      "AHOY{g3ttlng_warm33rr}"
                                       char[22]
                    59 7b 67
                     33 74 74 ...
                                           'A', 'H', 'O', 'Y'
             00104070 [0]
                                          '{', 'g', '3', 't'
't', 'l', 'n', 'g'
'_', 'w', 'a', 'r'
             00104074 [4]
             00104078 [8]
             0010407c [12]
             00104080 [16]
                                           'm', '3', '3', 'r'
             00104084 [20]
                                          'r', '}'
                                                    ooh
          00104096 00
```

Which was that same flag that we found earlier using strings.

If we look at the output of the strcmp, we can that it is checking for a return value of zero

```
iVarl = strcmp(user_input, first_flag);
if (iVarl == 0) {
    printf("The fire be burning well, add me some logs will ye? ");
    __isoc99_scanf(&DAT_001020ed, user_input);
    for (local_c = 0; local_c < 0x16; local_c = local_c + 1) {
        if (((uint)(byte)xor_string[local_c] ^ (int)(char)user_input[local_c]) != 0x45) {
            printf("Siver me timbers, how\'d ye loose the logs?");
            return 0xffffffff;
        }
}</pre>
```

If we now look into the for loop, we can see an if statement checking if an xor is not equal to 0x45, and exiting if they are not equal.

Cleaning up the for loop a little bit

```
for (counter = 0; counter < 0x16; counter = counter + 1) {
  if (((uint)(byte)xor_string[counter] ^ (int)(char)user_input[counter]) != 0x45) {
    printf("Siver me timbers, how\'d ye loose the logs?");
    return 0xffffffff;
  }
}</pre>
```

We can see the binary checking for

```
xor_string[i] ^ user_input[i] == 0x45
```

And looking for 22 characters

One thing about xor, is that it can undo itself so we can have user\_input[i] = 0x45 ^ xor\_string[i]

If we dump xor\_string, which currently looks like

```
XF
                              xor_string
lı
        00104090 04 0d 0a
                                  undefine...
                  1c 3e 1d
                  75 37 37 ...
           00104090 04
                                     undefined104h
                                                                          [0]
           00104091 Od
                                     undefined10Dh
                                                                          [1]
           00104092 0a
                                     undefined10Ah
                                                                          [2]
           00104093 1c
                                     undefined11Ch
                                                                          [3]
           00104094 3e
                                     undefined13Eh
                                                                          [4]
           00104095 1d
                                     undefined11Dh
                                                                          [5]
           00104096 75
                                     undefined175h
                                                                          [6]
           00104097 37
                                     undefined137h
                                                                          [7]
           00104098 37
                                     undefined137h
                                                                          [8]
           00104099 la
                                     undefinedl1Ah
                                                                          [9]
           0010409a 27
                                     undefined127h
                                                                          [10]
           0010409b 00
                                     undefined100h
                                                                          [11]
           0010409c 00
                                     undefined100h
                                                                          [12]
           0010409d 20
                                     undefined120h
                                                                          [13]
           0010409e la
                                     undefined11Ah
                                                                          [14]
           0010409f 2d
                                     undefined12Dh
                                                                          [15]
           001040a0 75
                                     undefined175h
                                                                          [16]
           001040a1 31
                                     undefined131h
                                                                          [17]
           001040a2 31
                                     undefined131h
                                                                          [18]
           001040a3 31
                                     undefined131h
                                                                          [19]
           001040a4 31
                                     undefined131h
                                                                          [20]
           001040a5 38
                                     undefined138h
                                                                          [21]
         001040a6 00
                                              00h
        001040a7 00
                                  ??
                                              00h
                                  22
        001040a8 00
                                              00h
```

```
> python3
Python 3.7.3 (default, Jan 22 2021, 20:04:44)
[GCC 8.3.0] on linux
Type "help", "copyright", "credits" or "license" for more information.
>>> xor_string = [ '\x04','\r','\n', '\x1C','>', '\x1D', 'u', '7','7', '\x1A','\'','\0','\0', ' ', '\x1A', '-', 'u', '1', '1', '1', '1', '8']
>>> user_input = [chr(ord(i) ^ 0x45) for i in xor_string]
>>> '.join(user_input)
'AHOY{X0rr_bEEe_h0ttt}'
>>> ■
```

We can see that we get a flag of AHOY{X0rr\_bEEe\_h0tttt}

Putting these two flags into the binary and we get

```
> ./cold
Brrr, me a lil' bit cold from ye wellington weathe'
Help me warm up, will ye?
Lets try and light me a fire AHOY{g3tt1ng_warm33rr}
The fire be burning well, add me some logs will ye? AHOY{X0rr_bEEe_h0ttt}
All o' this here fire, make me feel sleeby
I will give ye the flag when I get up on deck
```

For the third flag, looking into the binary we get

```
puts("All o\' this here fire, make me feel sleeby");
puts("I will give ye the flag when I get up on deck");
sleep(0xffffffff);
give_flag();
uVar2 = 0.
```

Two puts a sleep for 0xffffffff and then the give flag function, looking at the sleep function with man 3 sleep

```
NAME
sleep - sleep for a specified number of seconds

SYNOPSIS
#include <unistd.h>

unsigned int sleep(unsigned int seconds);

DESCRIPTION
sleep() causes the calling thread to sleep either until
```

We can see that this program would sleep for an extremely long time before giving us the flag.

Looking into the function itself

```
😋 Decompile: give_flag - (cold)
    void give_flag(void)
 3
   {
 4
     void * s;
 5
     int local_c;
 7
 8
       s = malloc(0x17);
 9
     memset( s,0,0x17);
     for (local_c = 0; local_c < 0x16; local_c = local_c + 1) {
10
       *(undefined1 *)((long)_s + (long)local_c) = user_input[local_c] ^ final_flag[local_c];
11
12
13
     printf("Flag: %s\n", s);
14
     return;
15 }
16
```

We can see that it performs an xor with a loop and prints out the flag and the key thing is that it doesn't seem to take any arguments.

However to improving the decompilation we can recognise the counter and the fact that the malloc call should be a char \*, we get

```
😋 Decompile: give_flag - (cold)
 1
   void give flag(void)
 3
 4 | {
 5
     char *flag;
 6
     int counter;
 7
 8
     flag = (char *)malloc(0x17);
 9
     memset(flag,0,0x17);
10
     for (counter = 0; counter < 0x16; counter = counter + 1) {</pre>
11
        flag[counter] = user_input[counter] ^ final_flag[counter];
      }
12
13
      printf("Flag: %s\n",flag);
14
      return;
15 }
16
```

Currently now, we have two possible options of getting the flag

- We could patch out the sleep instruction, allowing the binary to print the flag for us
- Or while debugging, jump over the call to sleep

I will show both options, starting with the debugging option

Running the cold binary in gdb we have

Also to note, I use the gdb "plugin" which is at <a href="https://github.com/pwndbg/pwndbg">https://github.com/pwndbg/pwndbg</a>, which I feel makes the debugging experience much nicer than standard gdb

```
For help, type "help".
Type "apropos word" to search for commands related to "word"...
Reading symbols from ./cold...(no debugging symbols found)...done.
Breakpoint 1 at 0x1236
Starting program: /home/ava/Projects/vec_ctf_2/warmup_rev/cold
Breakpoint 1, 0x0000555555555236 in main ()
LEGEND: STACK | HEAP | CODE | DATA | RWX | RODATA
                                            ) ← push rbp
  RBX
RCX
         0x0
0x7fffffffa6718 (_exit_funcs) → 0x7fffffffa7d80 (initial) ← 0x0
0x7fffffffe038 → 0x7fffffffe3c5 ← 'BROWSER=firefox'
0x1
0x7fffffffe028 → 0x7fffffffe398 ← '/home/ava/Projects/vec_ctf_2/warmup_rev/cold'
0x7ffffffa7d80 (initial) ← 0x0
0x7ffffffa7d80 (initial) ← 0x0
  RDI
  RSI
R8
  R9
R10
R11
R12
R13
R14
R15
         0x3
         0x2
0x5555555550c0 (_start) ← xor ebp, ebp
0x7fffffffe020 ← 0x1
        0x0

0x0

0x7ffffffffdf40 → 0x555555555370 (_libc_csu_init) ← push r15

0x7ffffffffdf40 → 0x555555555370 (_libc_csu_init) ← push r15

0x5555555555555236 (main+4) ← sub rsp, 0x20
  RBP
     0x555555555236 <main+4>
0x5555555555523a <main+8>
0x5555555555523d <main+11>
0x555555555555241 <main+15>

        sub
        rsp, 0x20

        mov
        dword ptr [rbp - 0x14], edi

        mov
        qword ptr [rbp - 0x20], rsi

        lea
        rdi, [rip + 0xdd0]

        call
        puts@plt

     0x5555555555248 <main+22>
     0x555555555524d <main+27>
     0x55555555555254 <main+34>
0x55555555555259 <main+39>
                                                   mov eax, 0 call printf@plt
                                                   0x5555555555525e <main+44>
0x555555555555565 <main+51>
     0x555555555526c <main+58>
► f 0 0x555555555536 main+4
f 1 0x7ffff7e1009b libc
               0x7ffff7e1009b __libc_start_main+235
             П
```

Putting the commands *b main r* 

Puts a breakpoint at main and starts the binary

Now you might be thinking to yourself,
"Ava, can't we just go the function first"
Well the problem with that is looking back at the decompilation, it requires

```
G Decompile: give_flag - (cold)
 2
   void give_flag(void)
 3
   |{
 4
 5
     char *flag;
 6
    int counter;
 7
 8
    flag = (char *)malloc(0x17);
 9
     memset(flag, 0, 0x17);
     for (counter = 0; counter < 0x16; counter = counter + 1) {
10
11
      flag[counter] = user_input[counter] ^ final_flag[counter];
12
13
     printf("Flag: %s\n",flag);
14
     return:
15 }
16
```

User input to be set, so we will have to break just before the sleep, skip over and continue

Going back to gdb, we can disassemble with the command near pc 33

Which is very similar to the disassemble command, except that it has nicer output.

Pwndbg has a nice feature that disables ASLR, which for this case doesn't really mean anything, except means that the memory layout should normally be the same. Looking at this disassembly, we can see the

Which calls put, sleeps and then calls give\_flag What we can do is but a breakpoint on

```
0x5555555534b <main+281> mov edi, 0xffffffff
```

And then once we hit it, we can jump over to

```
0x555555555555 <main+291> mov eax, 0
```

Which is right after the sleep call

So putting a breakpoint in gdb with b \*0x555555555554b

And then continuing with

С

We will need to put in both flags to get up to that point, once we hit it, we get

To set the instruction pointer, a register that is used to tell the cpu what instruction to execute, we can use the command (after googling )

## how to set rip gdb

How can i set the variable rip in "info registers" in GDB console? [duplicate



We can see that the command is set \$pc = value

Looking back onto the disassembly, we can see that we want

We can see that we jumped over the sleep call, continuing with the command

## We get

```
pwndbg> c
Continuing.
Flag: AH0Y{0v3Rwr1T3__s133p}
[Inferior 1 (process 3102) exited normally]
pwndbg>
```

Which is the final flag

Now for the alternative way, we can do the patching method Going back to ghidra

If we right click and then go to patch instruction

```
ff ff
0010134b bf ff ff
                          MOV
                                       EDI, 0xfffffffff
         ff ff
                                                       Bookmark...
                                                                                 Ctrl+D
00101350 e8 3b fd
                           CALL
                                       <EXTERNAL>::s
                                                       Clear Code Bytes
                                                                                 С
         ff ff
                                                       Clear With Options
00101355 b8 00 00
                          MOV
                                       EAX, 0x0
         00 00
                                                       Clear Flow and Repair
                                                                                                fi
0010135a e8 46 fe
                           CALL
                                       give_flag
                                                                                 Ctrl+C
         ff ff
                                                       Copy Special...
0010135f b8 00 00
                           MOV
                                       EAX, 0x0
                                                       Paste
                                                                                 Ctrl+V
         00 00
                                                       Comments
                                                                                                d (
                      LAB 00101364
                                                       Instruction Info...
00101364 c9
                          LEAVE
00101365 c3
                          RET
                                                       Patch Instruction
                                                                                  Ctrl+Shift+G
00101366 66
                           ??
                                       66h
                                                       Processor Manual...
00101367 2e
                           ??
                                       2Eh
                                                       Processor Options...
00101368 Of
                           ??
                                       0Fh
```

We can then change the value that is being passed to zero



Which will cause the program to sleep for zero seconds.

You could also change it so that the mov + call was completely noped out (NOP is an No OPeration instruction which basically does nothing), but I think this is a cool a simple way

We haven't actually changed the binary on disk instead we have changed the ghidra one, so we will need to export the binary back to disk so we can run it.



Running the modified cold with the flags given, we have

```
> ./cold_elf.mod
Brrr, me a lil' bit cold from ye wellington weathe'
Help me warm up, will ye?
Lets try and light me a fire AHOY{g3ttlng_warm33rr}
The fire be burning well, add me some logs will ye? AHOY{X0rr_bEEe_h0tttt}
All o' this here fire, make me feel sleeby
I will give ye the flag when I get up on deck
Flag: AHOY{0v3Rwr1T3_s133p}
```

Which gives us the flag