

# AppArmor crash course

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AppArmor (utils) developer

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# About me (from #apparmor)

<jjohansen> you are a devs walking nightmare :)

<sarnold> cboltz: step away from the computer

<sarnold> cboltz: you've created enough work for this week

\* jjohansen cries

<jjohansen> cboltz: can you please stop breaking things

<cboltz> jjohansen: I'm just looking at your updated patch for --jobs

<jjohansen> cboltz: what did I do now? :)

<sarnold> that in itself is actually interesting

<sarnold> cboltz touches something and it -doesn't- break



# What does AppArmor do?

The answer is simple ;-)

- allow applications to do only what they are supposed to do
- deny everything else

AppArmor profiles are a whitelist.



# Why AppArmor?

- Bug-free and secure software would be ideal...



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- Programmers can't perform magic...



# Why AppArmor?

- Bug-free and secure software would be ideal...
- Programmers can't perform magic...
- so better keep an eye on what they are doing!
  - AppArmor monitors applications at the kernel level



# Why AppArmor?

CVE-2017-7494 (“SambaCry”)

Remote code execution from a writable share.

All versions of Samba from 3.5.0 onwards are vulnerable to a remote code execution vulnerability, allowing a malicious client to upload a shared library to a writable share, and then cause the server to load and execute it.



# Why AppArmor?

[security-announce] Heads up: today's Samba update

From: Marcus Meissner <meissner@suse.de>

Date: 24.05.2017 16:49

We have released Samba updates for all supported Enterprise and openSUSE versions, fixing a remote code execution possibility for authenticated users.

...

There is a workaround in the configuration listed, also some **impact can be avoided** if the writeable share is "noexec" mounted and/or **protected using the generated AppArmor** share profiles on newer products.





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There is a workaround in the configuration listed, also some **impact can be avoided** if the writeable share is "noexec" mounted and/or **protected using the generated AppArmor** share profiles on newer products.



also in  
Debian Buster \*

\* it only took 8 years ;-)

# Hands up! ;-)

- Who is using AppArmor?
- Who already created or updated a profile with the aa-\* tools?
- Who already edited a profile with vi / \$EDITOR?
- Cross-check: Who did not use AppArmor yet?



# Hands up! ;-)

- Who is using AppArmor?
- Who already created or updated a profile with the aa-\* tools?
- Who already edited a profile with vi / \$EDITOR?
- Cross-check: Who did not use AppArmor yet?
- Who did disable AppArmor?



# Hello world!

- The unavoidable Hello World...

```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
echo "Hello World!" > /tmp/hello.txt
```

```
cat /tmp/hello.txt
```

```
rm /tmp/hello.txt
```

- now I'll create an AppArmor profile for it...



# Hello world!

- The unavoidable Hello World...

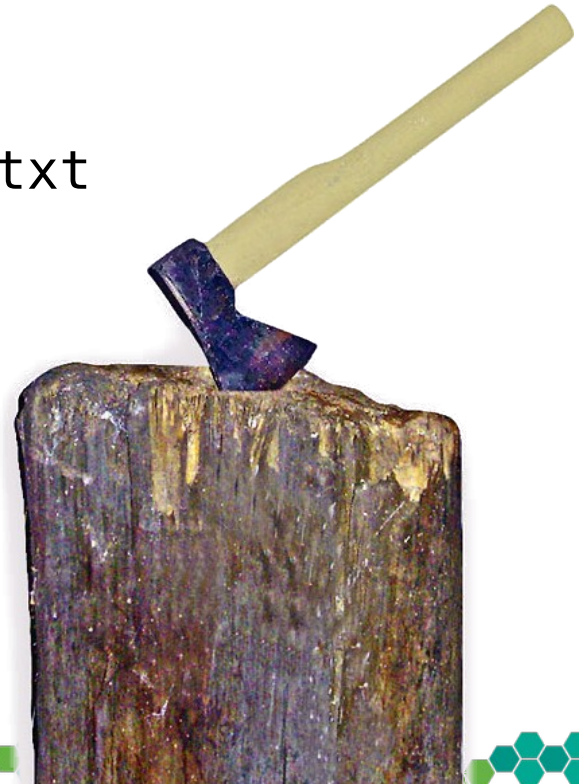
```
#!/bin/bash
```

```
echo "Hello World!" > /tmp/hello.txt
```

```
cat /tmp/hello.txt
```

```
rm /tmp/hello.txt
```

- **Caution - hacker!**



# What does AppArmor do?

Monitor and restrict

- file access
- network access
- capabilities (chown, mknod, setuid, ...)
  - man 7 capabilities
- rlimit (aka ulimit)
- ...
- in general: restrict permissions







Daniel Stori {turnoff.us}

# What DOESN'T AppArmor do?

- replace traditional file permissions
  - “chmod -R 777 /” is not a good idea
- replace user permissions
  - run as little as possible as root

for webservers:

- restrict MySQL database permissions
  - one MySQL user per hosting and task
- validate and/or escape user input



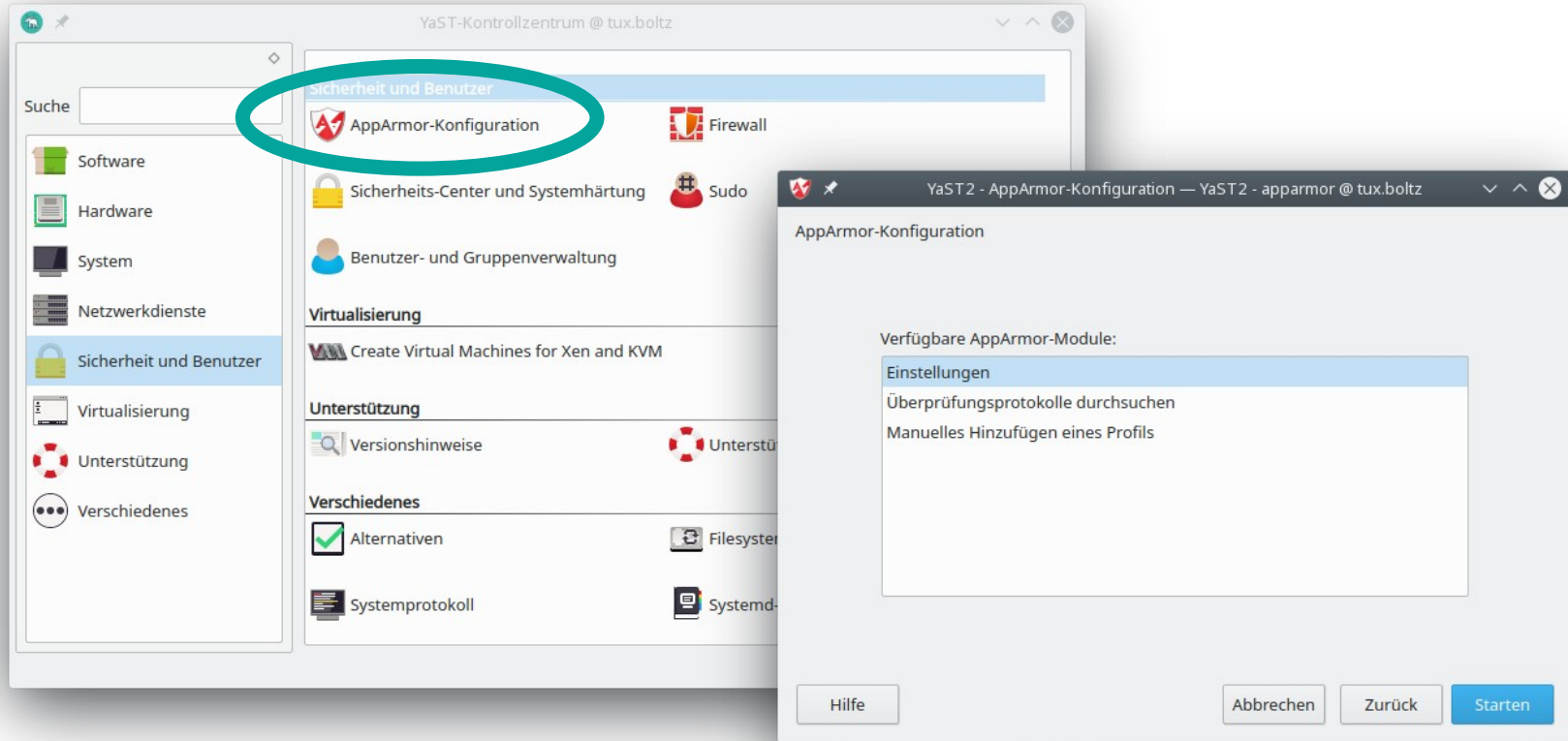


# Is my server secure now?

- Security consists of lots of small parts
- AppArmor protects you from lots of (but not all) exploits
- The server is definitely more secure than without AppArmor ;-)



# YaST2 AppArmor module



# aa-<tab><tab>: The AppArmor tools

aa-status

overview of loaded profiles and their usage

aa-unconfined

overview of protected/confined applications

aa-notify

- desktop notifications
- log summaries



# aa-<tab><tab>: The AppArmor tools

aa-complain

switch profile to complain (learning) mode  
(allow everything, log what would be denied)

aa-enforce

switch profile to enforce mode (deny everything  
not explicitly allowed and log denials)

aa-disable

disable and unload profile



# aa-<tab><tab>: The AppArmor tools

aa-audit

set or remove audit flag for a profile (log everything)

aa-exec

execute a binary with the specified profile

aa-decode

translate log entries for filenames with special chars to human-readable



# aa-<tab><tab>: The AppArmor tools

aa-logprof

update existing profiles based on logfile

aa-genprof

create a new profile

aa-autodep

create a very basic new profile

(better use aa-genprof!)



# aa-<tab><tab>: The AppArmor tools

aa-mergeprof

merge two profiles into one

aa-cleanprof

cleanup profile, sort rules, remove superfluous rules



# aa-<tab><tab>: The AppArmor tools

aa-remove-unknown

- unload profiles that don't exist in /etc/apparmor.d
- also unloads autogenerated docker/lxc/... profiles

aa-teardown

- unload all profiles
- <insert rant about “systemctl restart” here>

Both will remove confinement from running processes!





# aa-unconfined: check the status

```
# aa-unconfined
```

```
1552 /usr/lib/postfix/smtpd confined by  
'/usr/lib/postfix/smtpd (enforce)'
```

```
2955 /usr/sbin/clamd confined by  
'/usr/sbin/clamd (enforce)'
```

```
3541 /usr/bin/perl (amavisd (master))  
confined by '/usr/sbin/amavisd (complain)'
```

```
3839 /usr/sbin/vsftpd not confined
```



# aa-unconfined: check the status

General rule of thumb: all daemons that are accessible from the internet should be protected

```
3839 /usr/sbin/vsftpd not confined
```

It's time to fix this!



# aa-genprof: create a profile

Use two xterms:

- first xterm: aa-genprof /usr/sbin/vsftpd
- second xterm: use the application

Tactics for creating the profile:

- rcvsftpd start / stop
  - gets the basics and keeps the log small
- use the application
- when finished, you might want to run the profile in complain mode for some time
  - especially when it comes to complex applications
  - use aa-logprof to update the profile



# File permissions

r – read

w – write

a – append

l - link

k - lock

m – mmap (for libraries), typically also requires r

ix, Px, Cx, Ux, ... - execute

```
/etc/vsftpd.conf r,  
/srv/www/** rwk,
```



# Execute options: ix

inherit (ix)

- run program with the same profile
- for helper applications and shells (cat, grep, rm, bash)
- also useful for rbac style confinement



# Execute options: Cx

child (Cx)

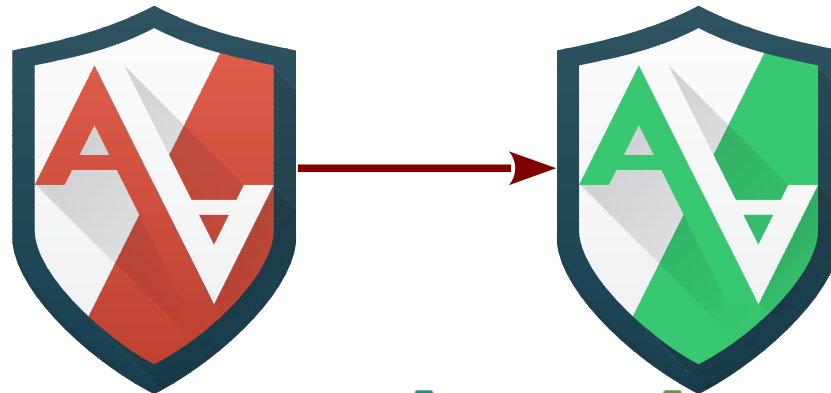
- used for “foo called by bar”
- doesn't confine standalone calls of foo
- for helpers that need more or less permissions than the main application



# Execute options: Px

profile (Px)

- separate profile for helpers
- also used if the helper is called standalone
- not a good idea for /bin/bash ;-)



# Execute options: Ux

unconfined (Ux)

- execute helper applications without AppArmor protection
- example: protect sshd, unrestricted shell after login





# Execute options

Fallback rules if a profile doesn't exist

- Pix
- PUx
- Cix
- Cux



/usr/bin/mail PUx,



# Execute options

- Cx -> ...
- Px -> ...
  
- allows specifying the target profile
- multiple helper applications can use a shared profile



/bin/ping Px -> ping,  
/usr/bin/\* Cx -> helpers,



# Execute options

Cleanup the environment?

- In general: yes  
Rules: Cx, Px, Ux (uppercase)
- In exceptional cases keep all environment variables  
Rules: cx, px, ux (lowercase)



# Other rules

- link (see also: “l” in file rules)
- set rlimit
- capability – see capabilities(7)  
upstream in Kernel
- ptrace 4.13
- mount 4.14
- signal 4.14
- pivot\_root 4.14
- network 4.17 + 3.0 userspace
- dbus 5.4 (?) + 3.0 userspace
- unix 5.4 (?) + 3.0 userspace

Ubuntu includes all kernel patches since years.  
openSUSE supports network rules since years  
(even with 2.x userspace).

Details: apparmor.d(5)



# ptrace

- Allows a process to trace or being traced by another process
- Must be allowed from both sides

`ptrace trace peer=libvirt-*,`



# signal

- Allows a process to send or receive signals (“kill”)
- Must be allowed from both sides

signal send set=(term, kill) peer=/bin/foo,



# Named profiles

```
{usr/,}bin/ping {
```

vs.

```
profile ping {usr/,}bin/ping {
```

- named profiles make ps Zaux, audit.log, ... easier to read
- allows additional attachments without changing peer profiles



# audit.log

```
type=AVC msg=audit(1438886688.987:169160):  
apparmor="DENIED" [...]
```

- add `/var/log/audit/audit.log` to `logdigest` (or let cron mail you the `aa-notify` summary)
- “translate” the timestamp: `date -d @1438886688.987`
- DENIED – (blocked) violations of profiles in enforce mode
- AUDIT – logging of audit rules
- ALLOWED – profiles in complain mode





# audit.log

```
type=AVC msg=audit(1438886688.987:169160):  
apparmor="ALLOWED" operation="mknod"  
profile="/home/cb/apparmor/scripts/hello"  
name="/tmp/hello.txt" pid=13940 comm="hello"  
requested_mask="c" denied_mask="c" fsuid=1000 ouid=1000
```

- One of the events from the “hello world” script
- mknod → create file
- denied\_mask=”c” (create) → “w” permission needed
- fsuid == ouid → owner restriction can be used for additional security



# systemd

```
[Service]  
AppArmorProfile=something
```

Instantiated Services + Apparmor

```
$ systemctl edit whatever@.service  
[Service]  
AppArmorProfile=whatever.%i
```

```
profile whatever.instancename {
```



# Apache mod\_apparmor

- global configuration:  
    `AADefaultHatName default_vhost`  
- otherwise AppArmor proposes a hat per file (!)
- per VirtualHost:  
    `<VirtualHost 1.2.3.4>`  
        `AADefaultHatName vhost_someone`  
- restricts each virtual host to itself
- for specific directories:  
    `<Directory /some/where>`  
        `AAHatName something`  
- recommended when using different software (CMS, Forum, ...) in a virtual host



# Hats?

- Hats are similar to subprofiles
- An application can switch between them (change\_hat)
- My typical usecase: Apache with a hat per virtual host
- Syntax inside a profile:

```
^hatname {  
  . . .  
}
```



# mod\_apparmor base configuration

/etc/apparmor.d/abstractions/vhost\_cboltz:

```
#include <abstractions/apache2-common>

/home/www/cboltz.de/conf/htpasswd r,
/home/www/cboltz.de/httpdocs/** r,
/home/www/cboltz.de/statistics/logs/access_log w,
/home/www/cboltz.de/statistics/logs/access_log-20?????? w,
/home/www/cboltz.de/statistics/logs/error_log w,
/home/www/cboltz.de/statistics/logs/error_log-20?????? w,
/home/www/cboltz.de/statistics/zugriffe/* r,
/home/www/cboltz.de/tmp/ r,
/home/www/cboltz.de/tmp/** rwk,
/usr/share/zoneinfo/ r,
```



# mod\_apparmor specialities

- Generate abstractions/vhost\_somevhost automatically
  - saves lots of time compared with manually creating a profile/hat per virtual host
- ^HANDLING\_UNTRUSTED\_INPUT tends to do more than planned
  - this hat wants write access to the access\_logs and error\_logs of all virtual hosts
- “Tightness” of the profile is relevant
  - real world example: a forum allowed to upload avatar photos – including \*.php...
- “deny owner /\*\*.php rw” can protect against freshly uploaded exploits, but also blocks valid scripts if owned by wwwrun, and self-updating web applications



# Creative usage of AppArmor

- AppArmor as inventory list:
  - which vHost uses which scripts in the server-wide shared directory?
  - which vHost sends mails? (by calling sendmail)
- AppArmor as debugging tool:
  - which files does application foo read?
  - just let aa-genprof create a summary ;-)
- AppArmor as load monitor
  - “ps Zaux” shows which vHost is using/blocking an apache process
- read-only root access for backups



# Backup: read-only for root

Two component solution:

- SSH key in `/root/.ssh/authorized_keys`:  
    `command="/root/bin/rsync-shell" ssh-dss 7j1ntgRx...`
- `/root/bin/rsync-shell`:

```
#!/bin/bash
echo "cmd=$SSH_ORIGINAL_COMMAND" | logger -t rsync-backup
echo "$SSH_ORIGINAL_COMMAND" |
    grep "^rsync --server --sender" >/dev/null \
    && exec $SSH_ORIGINAL_COMMAND
```





# Backup: read-only for root

- The corresponding AppArmor profile (slightly shortened):

```
/root/bin/rsync-shell {  
  #include <abstractions/base>  
  #include <abstractions/bash>  
  #include <abstractions/consoles>  
  #include <abstractions/nameservice>  
  capability dac_override,  
  capability dac_read_search,  
  /bin/bash rix,  
  /bin/grep rix,  
  /bin/logger Px,  
  /root/bin/rsync-shell mr,  
  /usr/bin/rsync rix,  
}
```

```
/etc/ r,  
/etc/** r,  
/home/ r,  
/home/** r,
```



**Any relation between Debian and openSUSE?**



**Depends on how you turn it ;-)** \*



\* does not comply with the logo guidelines ;-)



Depends on how you turn it ;-)

\*



\* does not comply with the logo guidelines ;-)



# How to make things interesting[tm]

file,

```
deny @{{PROC}}/* w,
```

```
deny @{{PROC}}/{[1-9],[1-9][0-9],[1-9s][0-9y][0-9s],[1-9][0-9][0-9][0-9]*}/** w,
```

```
deny @{{PROC}}/sys/[k]** w,
```

```
deny @{{PROC}}/sys/kernel/{?,?,[s][h][m]**} w,
```



# How to make things interesting[tm]

# allow access to all files (mrwlkix mode)

file, # <---- bad idea!

# deny write for all files directly in /proc/ (not in a subdir)

deny @{{PROC}}/\* w,

# deny write to files not in /proc/<number>/\*\* or /proc/sys/\*\*

# (/proc/sys/kernel/shm\* is what would really be needed, but that

# would be a monster regex)

deny @{{PROC}}/{[<sup>1-9</sup>],[<sup>1-9</sup>][<sup>0-9</sup>],[<sup>1-9s</sup>][<sup>0-9y</sup>][<sup>0-9s</sup>],[<sup>1-9</sup>][<sup>0-9</sup>][<sup>0-9</sup>][<sup>0-9</sup>]\*}/\*\* w,

# deny /proc/sys/ except /proc/sys/k\* (effectively /proc/sys/kernel)

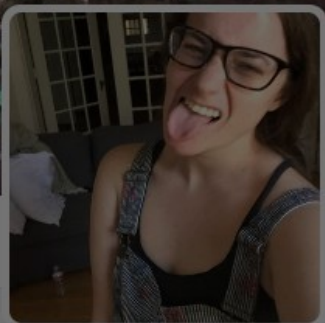
deny @{{PROC}}/sys/[<sup>k</sup>]\*\* w,

# deny everything except shm\* in /proc/sys/kernel/

deny @{{PROC}}/sys/kernel/{<sup>?,??,[<sup>s</sup>][<sup>h</sup>][<sup>m</sup>]\*\*}</sup>

(unfortunately a real-world example!)





**jessie frazelle**  
@frazelledazzell

docker core maintainer, pretty much the LD flag champion of the world, I RTFM



**jessie frazelle**  
@frazelledazzell

Folgen

when an apparmor maintainer even says "Aspirin might be needed"

Übersetzung anzeigen



RETWEETS  
3

GEFÄLLT  
6



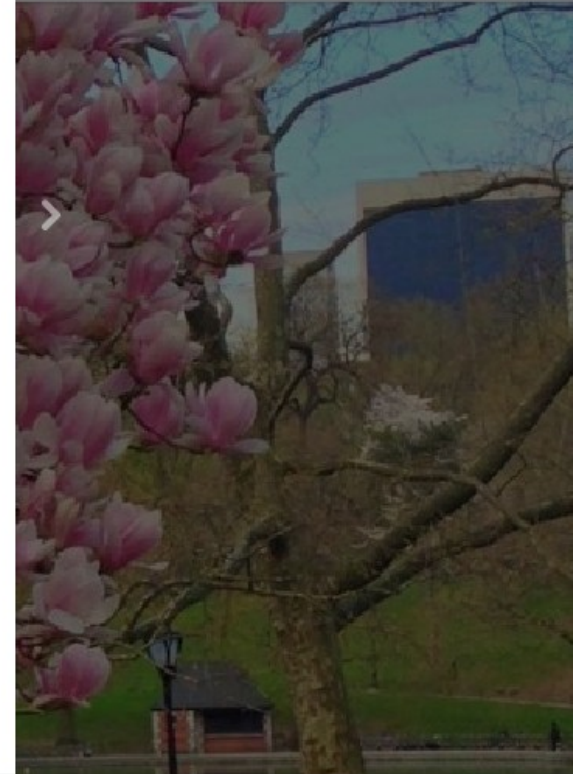
14:14 - 5. Jan. 2016



**ewindisch** @ewindisch · 16 Min.  
@frazelledazzell "an apparmor maintainer" is probably a bit modest. It's like calling Linus "a Linux maintainer".



**jessie frazelle** @frazelledazzell · 15 Min.  
@ewindisch trying to keep identity private ;)

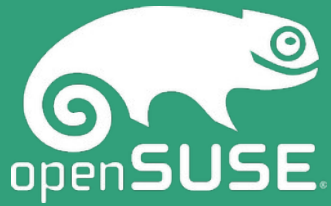


# More information...

- Profile syntax: `apparmor.d(5)`
- <http://apparmor.net/>
- <https://en.opensuse.org/SDB:AppArmor>
- <https://wiki.debian.org/AppArmor>
- <https://wiki.ubuntu.com/AppArmor>
- <http://doc.opensuse.org/> → Security Guide → AppArmor
- #apparmor on OFTC
- upstream: `apparmor@lists.ubuntu.com`
- Debian: `pkg-apparmor-team@lists.alioth.debian.org`

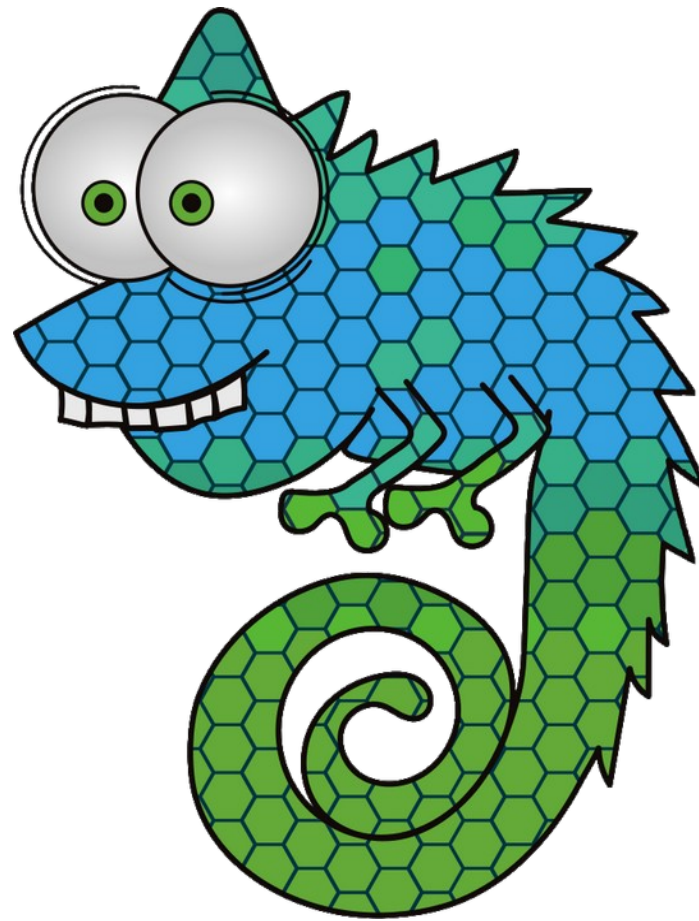






# Questions?

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