

# Linux Kernel fun with the Eudyptula Challenge



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# The Eudryptula Challenge

## What is it?

The Eudryptula Challenge is a series of programming exercises for the Linux kernel, that start from a very basic "Hello world" kernel module, moving on up in complexity to getting patches accepted into the main Linux kernel source tree.

## How do I do it?

Email `little` at `eudryptula-challenge.org` and say that you want to join in. You will receive an email with your first exercise and details on how the challenge is run. All communication goes through email, just like the Linux kernel is developed.

Please note, all HTML-formatted email will be merrily rejected, please fix your email client to not send HTML email if you wish to do this challenge. Linux kernel mailing lists reject HTML email and so do we.

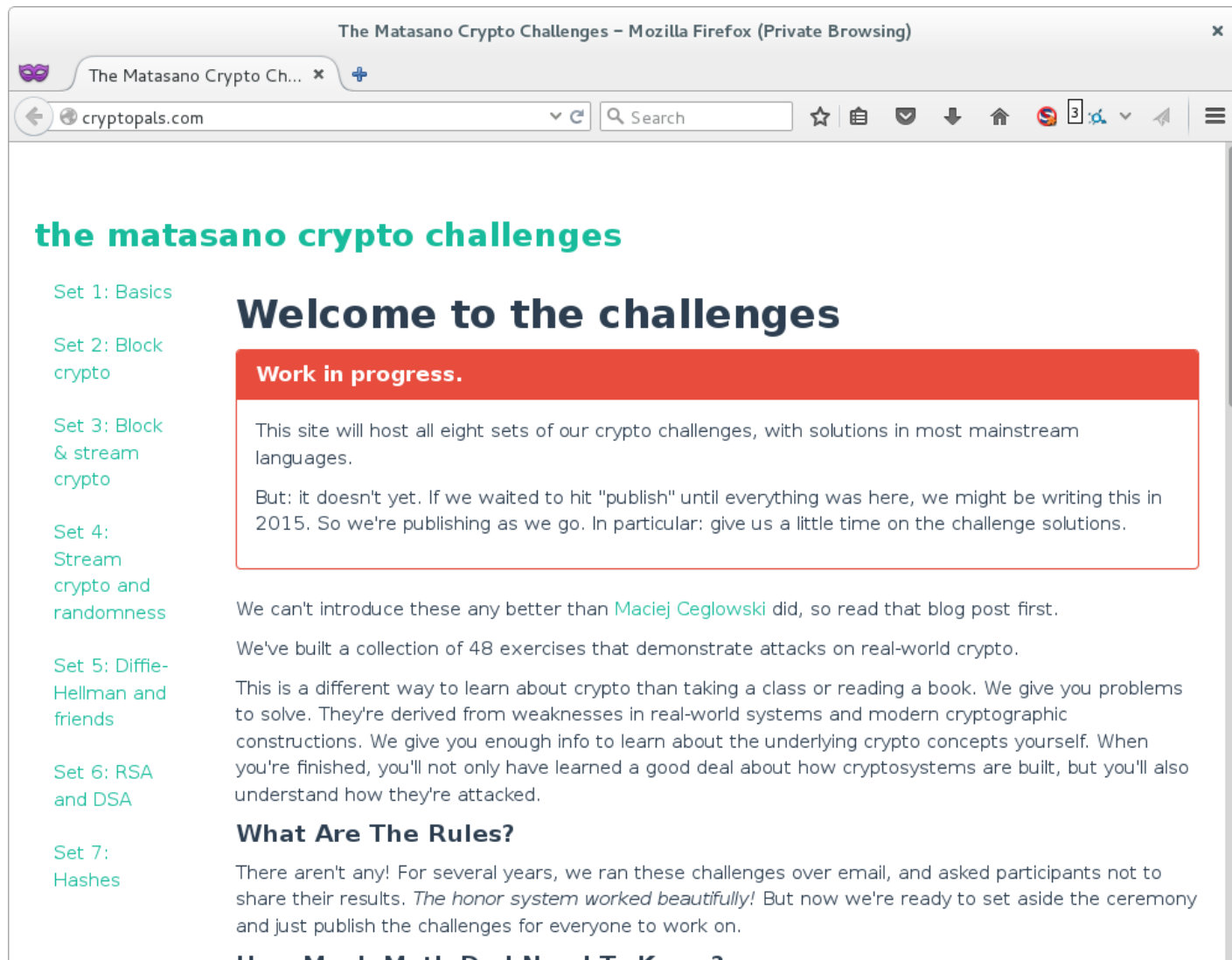
## What are the rules?

# What?

- “The Eudryptula Challenge is a series of **programming exercises for the Linux kernel**, that start from a very basic "Hello world" kernel module, moving on up in complexity to getting patches accepted into the main Linux kernel source tree.”

# Chicago Connection!

- “This Challenge is also modeled after the wonderful **Matasano Crypto Challenge**, which, if you haven't taken it already, you really should do so, it's smashing fun.”



# 20 tasks

- “Hello World” kernel module
- Built custom kernel from git
- Coding style fixes
- Submit patch to mainline
- *and beyond!*

# Skills?

- “A basic understanding of the C programming language is required.”
- “No previous Linux kernel coding experience is needed, but that of course will help.”
- Follow the rules!
- Most important skill... **patience!**
  - *important when participating a large Open Source project*

# Results

- “172 people have a patch accepted into the kernel tree.” (*LinuxCon August 2014 talk*)
- 1 person even got a job as a result!
  - “I, just now, got a job as an embedded software engineer because of this challenge. The interview was focused around it :) It's one of the best things I've done during my free time. true story.”

# October 2015

## Stats

**Active:**                      **4,822**

*Duplicates:*                      3

*Removed:*                      8,022

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*Total:*                      12,844

<u>Task Number</u>	<u>People</u>	<u>Queue</u>
<i>Finished</i>	111	--
20	36	12
19	15	0
18	34	22
17	8	0
16	37	0
15	19	11
14	17	5
13	3	0
12	7	0
11	52	1
10	75	0
09	61	14
08	211	173
07	51	0
06	296	50
05	899	13
04	555	37
03	303	4
02	793	2
01	1239	23



# Links

- [Linux.com: “Learn How to Contribute to the Linux Kernel, Take the Eudryptula Challenge”](#)
- [LWN.net: Taking the Eudryptula Challenge](#)
- [LinuxCon Chicago 2014 talk](#)

# Kernel Newbies

- A great resource!
- <http://kernelnewbies.org/FirstKernelPatch>
- <http://kernelnewbies.org/OutreachyApply>