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# TrustFLEX Step by Step Guide

## Secure Public key Rotation

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# 1 Introduction

This document helps in running Secure Public Key rotation use case example provided in TrustFLEX package. If familiar with Jupyter Notebook, can skip this section and move to Section 2.

## 1.1 Getting started with Jupyter Notebook Tutorials

Jupyter Notebook is open source web application which allows you to create documents that contain code that you can execute in place as well as narrative text. It provides GUI elements, ability to execute code in place, ability to add images and gives it the look and feel that normal code files lack.

Jupyter notebooks are mainly used to explain/evaluate code in an interactive way.

### 1.1.1 Starting Jupyter Notebook

Jupyter notebook can be launched from the Anaconda Navigator main window.



## 1.2 Jupyter Notebook Basics

It is recommended to become familiar with Jupyter basic concepts with the online documentation, <https://jupyter-notebook.readthedocs.io/en/stable/examples/Notebook/Notebook%20Basics.html>

Some of the content is duplicated here for convenience. The online documentation should always be used as a reference.

### 1.2.1 The Notebook dashboard

When you first start the notebook server, your browser will open to the notebook dashboard. The dashboard serves as a home page for the notebook. Its main purpose is to display the notebooks and files in the current directory.

For example, here is a screenshot of the Jupyter dashboard. The top of the notebook list displays clickable breadcrumbs of the current directory. By clicking on these breadcrumbs or on sub-directories in the notebook list, you can navigate your file system.

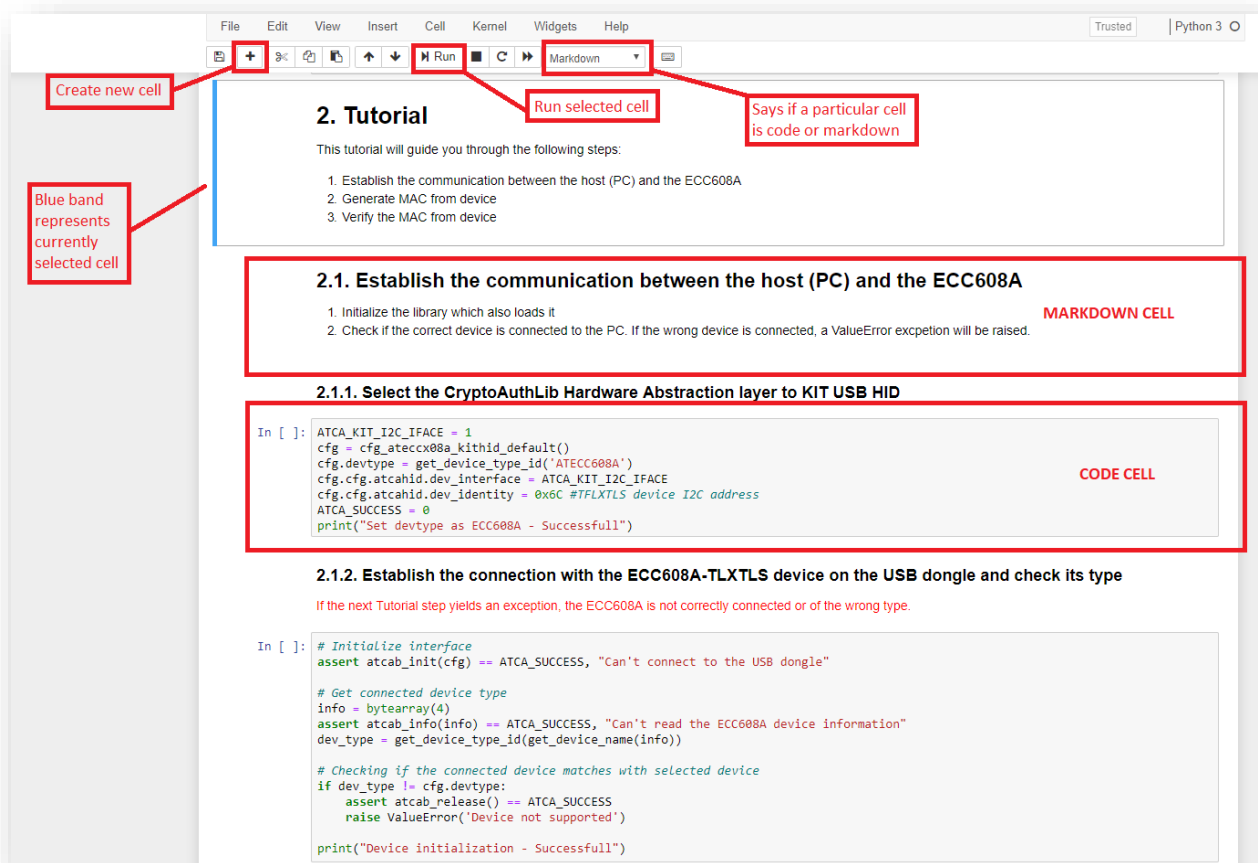


### 1.3 Introduction to Jupyter Notebook GUI.

Jupyter Notebooks contain cells where you can either write code or markdown text. Notebooks contain multiple cells, some set as code and others markdown. Code cells contain code that can be executed live, and markdown contains text and images to explain the code.

Below image shows some options in a typical Jupyter Notebook. Individual cells can be executed by pressing on the RUN button as shown in the below image.

All cells in the Notebook can be executed in order by **Kernel->Restart & Run All**.



To run all cells in sequence.



## 2 Jupyter Notebook Tutorials

The TrustPlatform Design Suite comes with a Notebook Tutorials to easily prototype popular use cases for TrustFLEX devices. Here is the Jupyter Notebook Tutorials.

<b>Jupyter Notebook Tutorials</b>	<b>Relative Path</b>	<b>Applicable devices</b>
Manifest Generation	TNGTLS_Manifest_Generation\notebooks\TNGTLS Manifest File Generation.ipynb	Trust&GO
Resource Generation	TFLXTLS_resource_generation\Crypto Resource Generator.ipynb	TrustFLEX
Accessory Authentication	TFLXTLS_Use_Cases\notebooks\ accessory-authentication\ Accessory Authentication.ipynb	TrustFLEX
AWS Custom PKI	TFLXTLS_Use_Cases\notebooks\aws-iot\ aws-iot with ECC608A-TLFXTLS.ipynb	TrustFLEX
Firmware Validation	TFLXTLS_Use_Cases\notebooks\secureboot\ Firmware Validation with ECC608A-TFLXTLS Tutorial.ipynb	TrustFLEX
IP Protection	TFLXTLS_Use_Cases\notebooks\ipprotection\ IP Protection with ECC608A-TFLXTLS Tutorial.ipynb	TrustFLEX
Secure Public Key Rotation	TFLXTLS_Use_Cases\notebooks\public-key-rotation\Public Key Rotation with ECC608A-TFLXTLS Tutorial.ipynb	TrustFLEX

### 3 Resource Generation Notebook

TFLXTLS device is one of the three devices available in the Trust Platform USB Dongle Board.

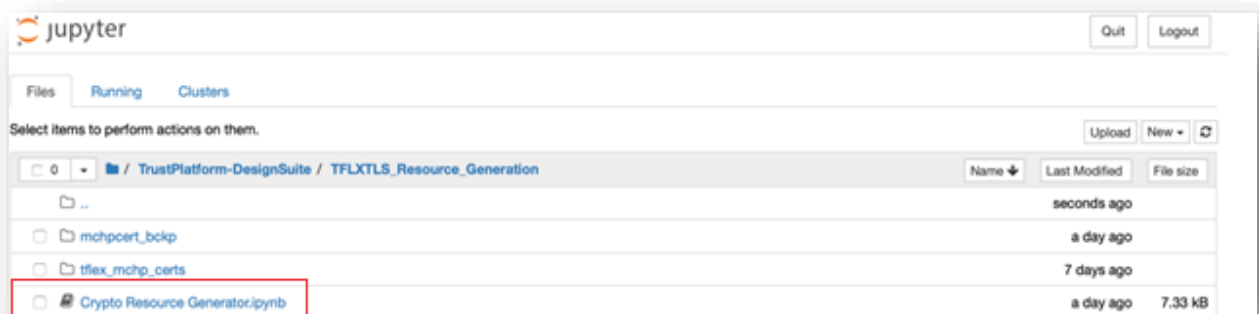
TrustFLEX devices come with pre-programmed certificates in slots 10, 11 and 12, also slots 0-4 have pre-generated private keys, other than the mentioned slots all the other slots have no data in them.

The Resource Generator Notebook will create development keys and certificates for all slots that can be further customized. Keys and Certificate chains are stored in the PC filesystem. These keys should never be used for production purposes as their generation is not handled in a secure environment. These development keys will be later used by the other notebooks to implement the various pre-defined use cases.

By default, Jupyter starts in Users directory (\$HOME for MacOS or Linux systems). For the remainder of this document, it will be assumed that the TrustPlatform-DesignSuite folder is contained in the Documents folder. If this is not the case, please move the TrustPlatform-DesignSuite folder to your Documents folder...

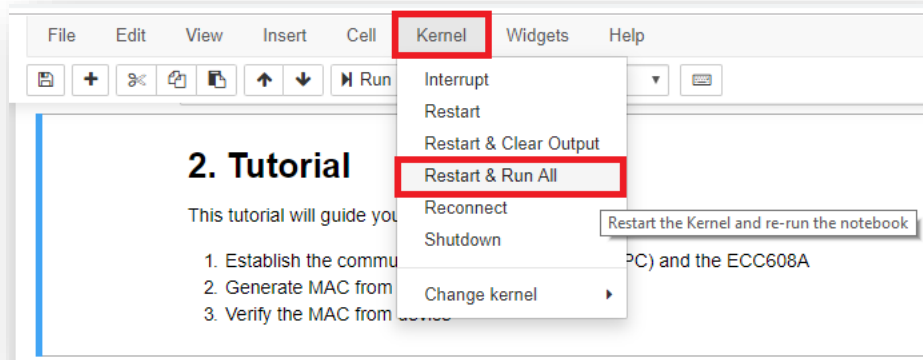
Within the Jupyter Dashboard, navigate to Documents/TrustPlatform-DesignSuite/TFLXTLS\_Resource\_Generation folder

Select the Crypto Resource Generator.ipynb notebook



Run all cells of the Crypto Resource Generator Notebook: Kernel->Restart & Run All

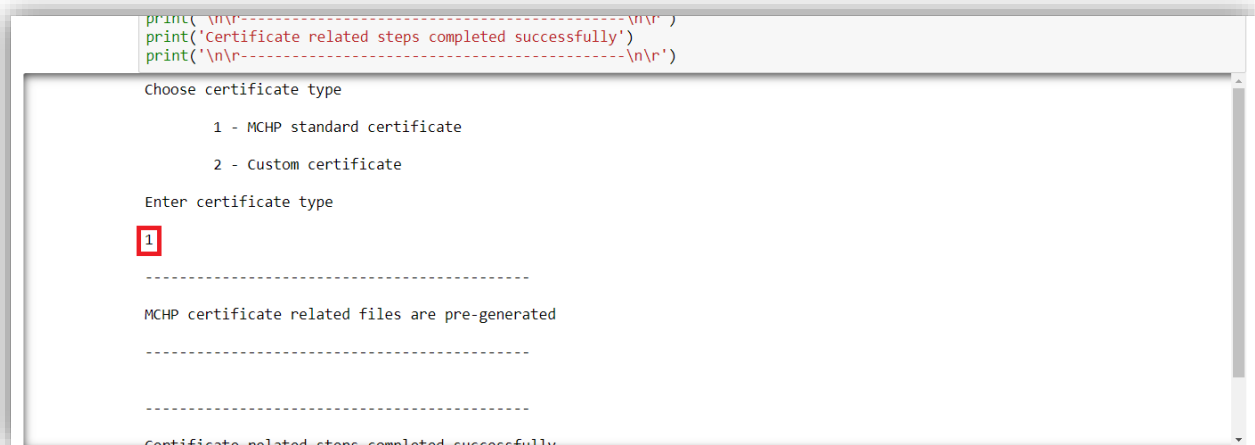
**Note:** Before executing the cells on Crypto Trust Platform, its required to have factory default program running on SAMD21 of Trust Platform. Refer to [4.3 CryptoAuth TrustPlatform Factory reset](#) section for reloading default program.



Crypto Resource Generator notebook is common for all the use case which comes with option to load the signer certificate and device certificate.

So, it will execute and prompt you to choose between MCHP certificate and a custom certificate chain, enter '1' (for MCHP certificate) and press Enter key for this use case.

The Notebook will generate several keys and certificates. Make sure you have an error free output before continuing to the next steps of the training.





The output log should look like this.

```
Choose certificate type

    1 - MCHP standard certificate
    2 - Custom certificate

Enter certificate type

1
-----

MCHP certificate related files are pre-generated
-----

-----

Certificate related steps completed successfully
-----
```

The Notebook will also generate a manifest file to be uploaded into the public cloud of your choice (Google GCP, AWS IoT and soon to be supported Microsoft Azure).

After running this Notebook, it generates the required resources and program data zone with required secrets, keys and certificates.

For this use case, Validation Authority public key and a public key are loaded into TrustFLEX device in slot 13 and 14 respectively.

## 4 Use Case Prototyping

This hands-on lab is intended to demonstrate how to securely rotate public key in the TrustFLEX device. This uses the PubInvalid feature of the Slot configuration.

Secure Public Key Rotation is sequence of steps for host to update the public key in the TrustFLEX device securely. The basic flow to update the rotating public key is as follows:

1. Invalidate existing public key
2. Update (write) New rotating public key
3. Validate new rotating public key

To perform a validation/invalidation process, its required to have a validation authority. Typically, Validation Authority public key will be loaded to secure element and locked permanently.

This validation/invalidation process includes the authority signing the public key's digest and generating the signature. Authority's public key will be used for verifying the signature with second slot public key's digest.

To update a new rotating public key in the TrustFLEX device, first we need to invalidate the existing public key. By invalidating it, the slot becomes available for write operation and a new public key can be written to it. However, the slot cannot be used for cryptographic operations until its validated.

TrustFLEX device two slots being used for key rotation sequence,

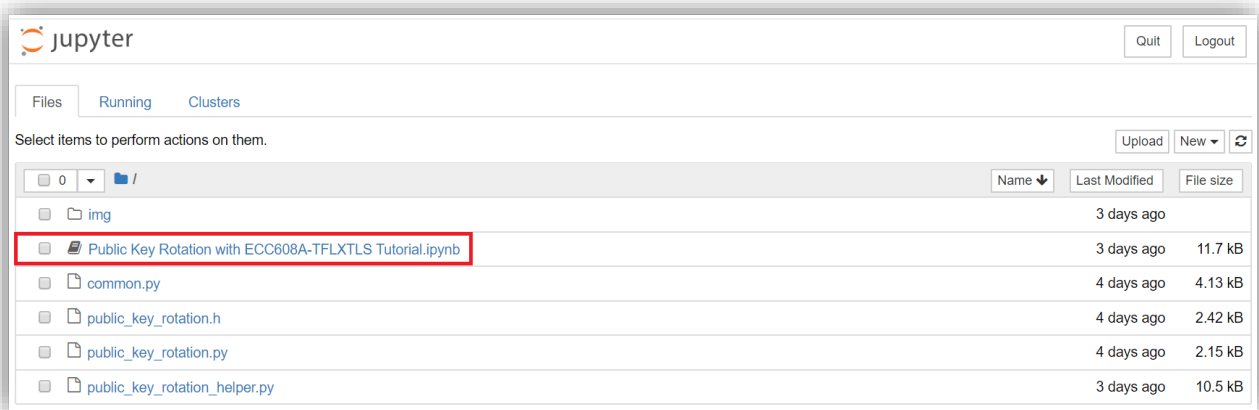
- Validation Authority public key – slot 13
- Rotating public key – slot 14

The resource generation for TrustFLEX device will generate and load prototyping validation authority and required public keys to TrustFLEX device.

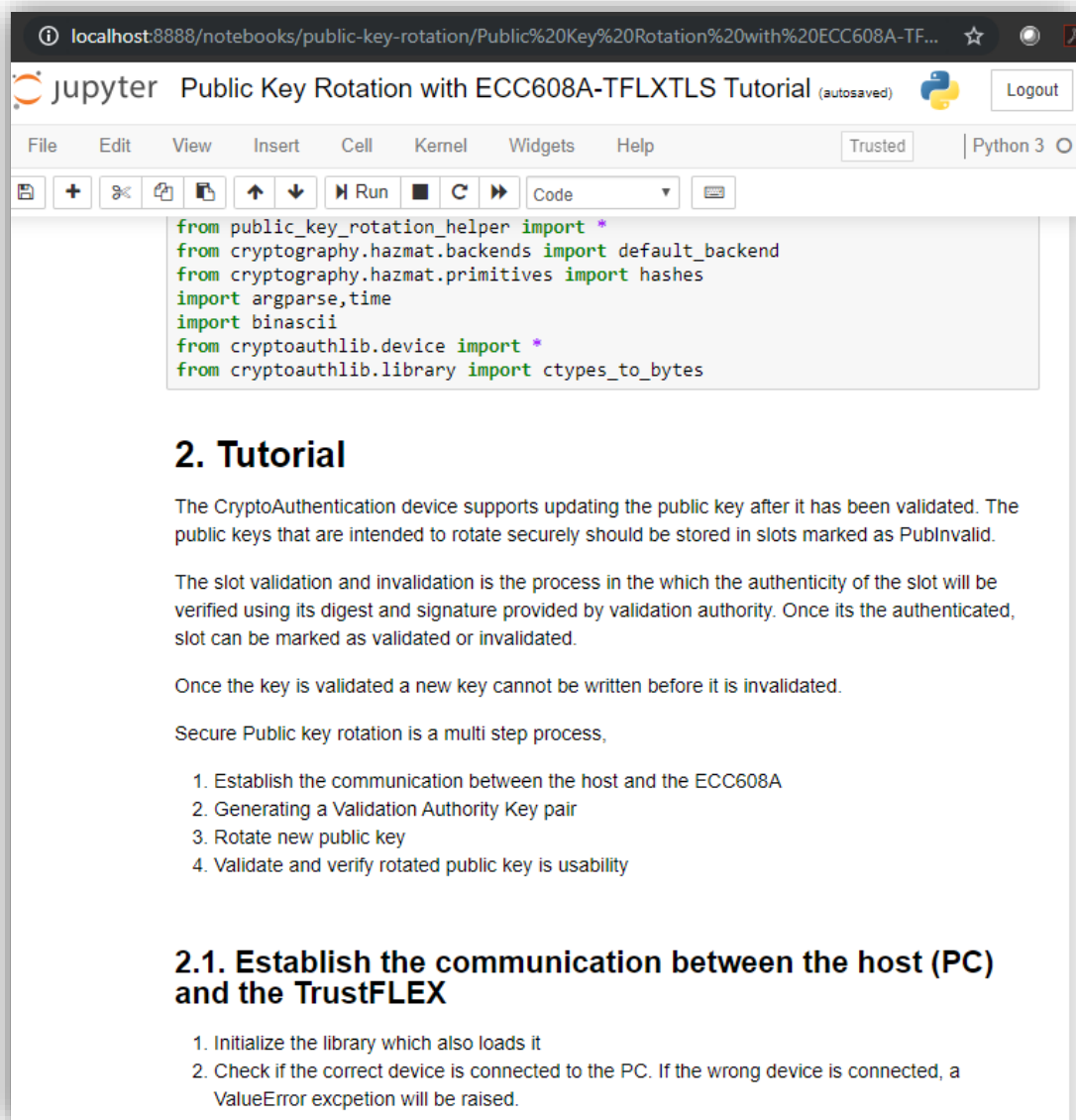
Following sections provide detail steps to execute the usecase both on Jupyter Notebook and on Embedded project.

### 4.1 Running Public Key Rotation example on Jupyter Notebook:

1. From the Jupyter Home page, navigate to **TFLXTLS\_Use\_Cases\notebooks\public-key-rotation\Public Key Rotation with ECC608A-TFLXTLS Tutorial.ipynb** notebook file and open it.



Opening the notebook from Jupyter home page should load the following on the browser,



localhost:8888/notebooks/public-key-rotation/Public%20Key%20Rotation%20with%20ECC608A-TF... ☆

**jupyter** Public Key Rotation with ECC608A-TFLXTLS Tutorial (autosaved) Python 3

File Edit View Insert Cell Kernel Widgets Help Trusted

```
from public_key_rotation_helper import *
from cryptography.hazmat.backends import default_backend
from cryptography.hazmat.primitives import hashes
import argparse, time
import binascii
from cryptoauthlib.device import *
from cryptoauthlib.library import ctypes_to_bytes
```

## 2. Tutorial

The CryptoAuthentication device supports updating the public key after it has been validated. The public keys that are intended to rotate securely should be stored in slots marked as PubInvalid.

The slot validation and invalidation is the process in the which the authenticity of the slot will be verified using its digest and signature provided by validation authority. Once its the authenticated, slot can be marked as validated or invalidated.

Once the key is validated a new key cannot be written before it is invalidated.

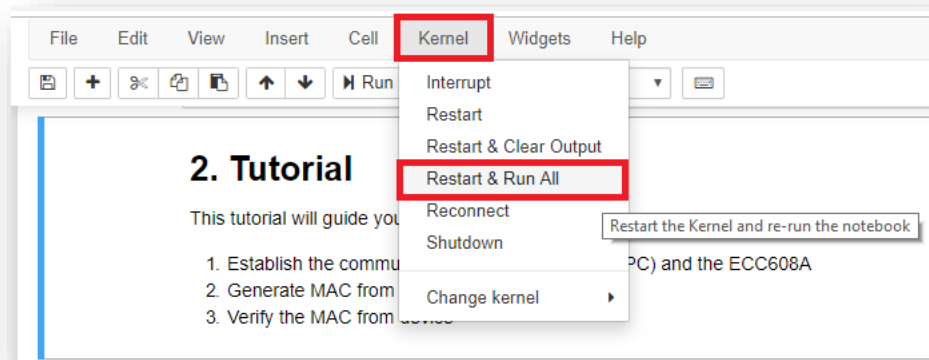
Secure Public key rotation is a multi step process,

1. Establish the communication between the host and the ECC608A
2. Generating a Validation Authority Key pair
3. Rotate new public key
4. Validate and verify rotated public key is usability

### 2.1. Establish the communication between the host (PC) and the TrustFLEX

1. Initialize the library which also loads it
2. Check if the correct device is connected to the PC. If the wrong device is connected, a ValueError exception will be raised.

2. Run All Cells by using Kernel -> Restart & Run All



File Edit View Insert Cell **Kernel** Widgets Help

Interrupt  
Restart  
Restart & Clear Output  
**Restart & Run All**  
Reconnect  
Shutdown  
Change kernel

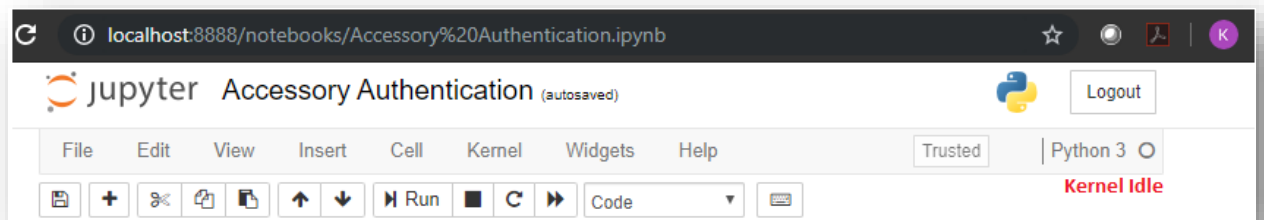
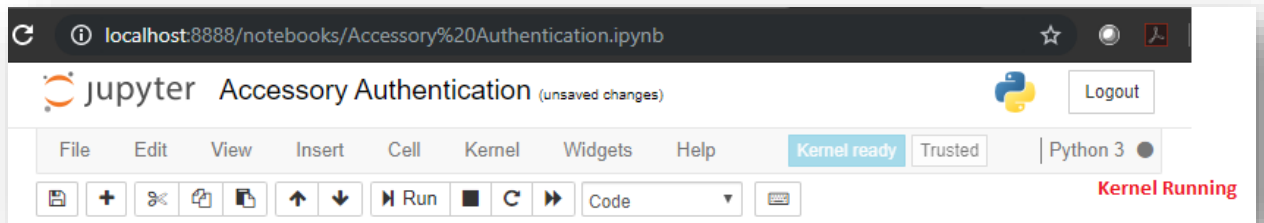
Restart the Kernel and re-run the notebook

## 2. Tutorial

This tutorial will guide you

1. Establish the commu
2. Generate MAC from
3. Verify the MAC from

- It may take a while to complete, wait for the kernel to complete all processing i.e. from Kernel Running to Kernel Idle state (Check circle above **RED** text)



- Navigate through different cells output for the description of the step and result from the execution.
- There are 6 major steps in this lab  
This lab is setup to generate multiple button at the end of the example. These buttons perform the tasks listed below.

#### Generating a Validation Authority key pair

This step setups a temporary validation authority to perform slot validation and validation process. This is already taken care part of resource generation

#### Generating a new public key

This step generates a new key pair to rotate the existing public key in the slot. This will be the new public key attempted to load in to PubInvalid slot i.e. for secure public key rotation.

Click on "Generate Key Pair" button at the bottom of the Notebook. This generates new key to update the existing slot. The button turns **RED** if there is any error in the execution.

```
def verify_rotate_public_key(b):
    is_verified_status = AtcaReference(False)

    message = os.urandom(32)
    print ('Signing with the Rotating Private Key\n')
    rotating_private_key = get_rotating_key()
    signature = sign_host(message, rotating_private_key)
    status = atcab_verify_stored(message, signature, rotating_key_slot, is_verif

    if(is_verified_status == True):
        print("Verified the Rotating Public key\n")
        verify.button_style = 'success'

    else:
        print("Verify failed")
        verify.button_style = 'danger'
        public_key_invalidate()

verify = widgets.Button(description = "Verify key", tooltip = 'Verify key')
verify.on_click(verify_rotate_public_key)
display(widgets.HBox((rotating_key_pair_generate, Authorise, write_and_validate_k

<
Gen Rotating key pair Authorise key Validate key Verify key

Generated new rotating public key pair
```

### Authorize public key

Before the new key to be used for writing into the slot, this should be validated by validation authority. In this step, validation authority calculates the Pubkey's digest and signs using its private key.

Click on "Authorize key" button at the bottom of the Notebook. This authorizes the new public key using validation authority. The button turns **RED** if there is any error in the execution.

```
message = os.urandom(32)
print ('Signing with the Rotating Private Key\n')
rotating_private_key = get_rotating_key()
signature = sign_host(message, rotating_private_key)
status = atcab_verify_stored(message, signature, rotating_key_slot, is_verif

if(is_verified_status == True):
    print("Verified the Rotating Public key\n")
    verify.button_style = 'success'

else:
    print("Verify failed")
    verify.button_style = 'danger'
    public_key_invalidate()

verify = widgets.Button(description = "Verify key", tooltip = 'Verify key')
verify.on_click(verify_rotate_public_key)
display(widgets.HBox((rotating_key_pair_generate, Authorise, write_and_validate_

<
Gen Rotating key pair Authorise key Validate key Verify key

Generated new rotating public key pair

Signing the rotating key digest with the Authority Private Key
```

### Update public key

This is the step where actual slot update happens. Before updating the existing slot should be invalidated using existing public key digest and signature provided by the validation authority. This signature should be of existing (old) public key, but not new public key.

Once the slot is invalidated, new public key can be overwritten to this slot. After writing it successfully, the slot remains in invalidated state and doesn't allow any cryptographic operations.

### Validate the rotating public key

This step does the slot validation after writing the new public key into PubInvalid slot i.e. slot14. Unless the slot is validated this cannot be used for cryptographic operations like Verify.

The process of validation involves the Public Key digest, Signature provided by validation authority. During this process, TrustFLEX device initiates internal Public key digest calculation on Slot14. Once the Digest is generated atcab\_verify\_validate will be issued with Slot number and Signature as parameters. On the successful match of digest and signature, the slot will be marked as PubInvalid. This restricts further writes to slot, but enables cryptographic operations using this slot.

Click on "Validate Key" button at the bottom of the Notebook to perform Public key authorization, updating to slot and validating the new public key. The button turns **RED** if there is any error in the execution.

```
signature = sign_host(message,rotating_private_key)
status = atcab_verify_stored(message, signature, rotating_key_slot, is_verif

if(is_verified_status == True):
    print("Verified the Rotating Public key\n")
    verify.button_style = 'success'

else:
    print("Verify failed")
    verify.button_style = 'danger'
    public_key_invalidate()

verify = widgets.Button(description = "Verify key", tooltip = 'Verify key')
verify.on_click(verify_rotate_public_key)
display(widgets.HBox((rotating_key_pair_generate, Authorise, write_and_validate_
```



Gen Rotating key pair   Authorise key   **Validate key**   Verify key

Generated new rotating public key pair

Signing the rotating key digest with the Authority Private Key

Rotating Public Key is written to device

Rotating Public Key is validated with authority signed signature

### Verify the rotating public key

Once rotating public key is validated, then the rotating public key can be used for ECC operations. To verify that rotating public key availability for ECC operations, here we perform a sign and verify ECC operation.

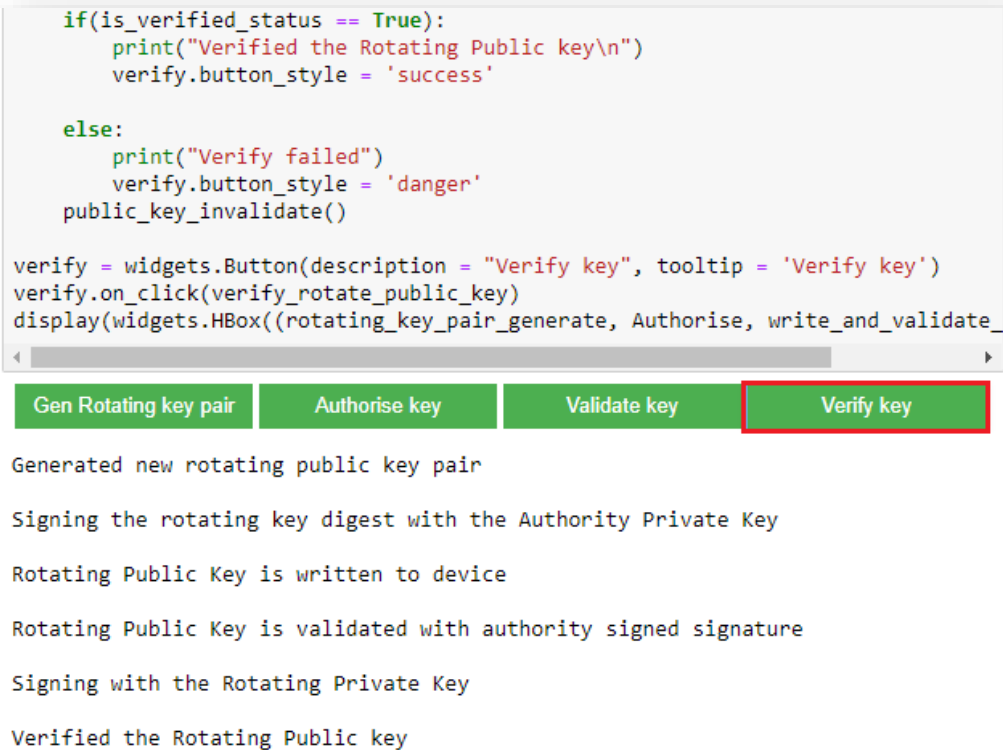
First generate a temporary message digest and sign by private key corresponding to new/rotated public key. Then the signature is verified by using rotating public key. If it is verified, then the rotating public key is available for ECC operations or else not.

Click on "Verify Key" button at the bottom of the Notebook to perform verify operation using rotated key. The button turns green if rotated public key can be used for ECC operations or it will turn **RED**.

```
if(is_verified_status == True):
    print("Verified the Rotating Public key\n")
    verify.button_style = 'success'

else:
    print("Verify failed")
    verify.button_style = 'danger'
    public_key_invalidate()

verify = widgets.Button(description = "Verify key", tooltip = 'Verify key')
verify.on_click(verify_rotate_public_key)
display(widgets.HBox((rotating_key_pair_generate, Authorise, write_and_validate_
```



Generated new rotating public key pair

Signing the rotating key digest with the Authority Private Key

Rotating Public Key is written to device

Rotating Public Key is validated with authority signed signature

Signing with the Rotating Private Key

Verified the Rotating Public key



## 4.2 Running Public Key Rotation on Embedded platform

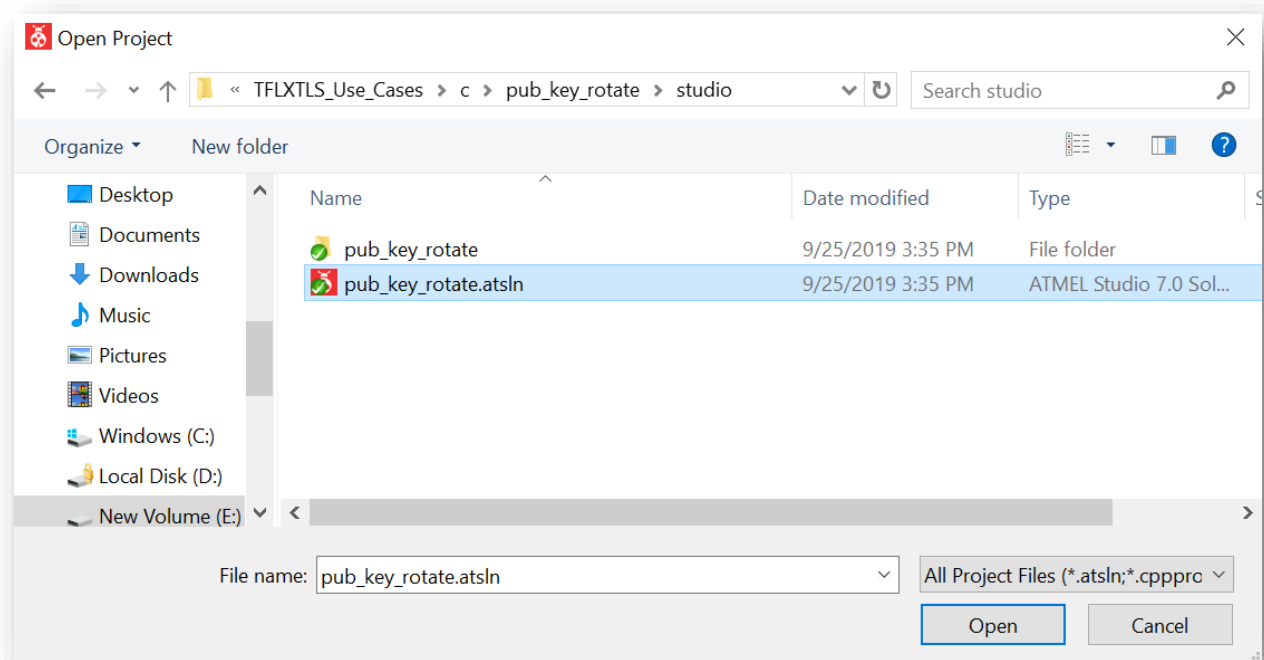
This usecase can also be executed on Embedded platform. Once the resources are generated, both Atmel Studio and MPLAB projects provided can be used to run the application on CryptoAuth Trust Platform.

This project can only perform Public key rotation steps, but not key generations for validation authority and new public key. It is **required** to use Public Key Rotation Notebook to generate new public key and get it authorized by validation authority. This notebook generates supporting data files like public keys, signatures and nonces for C projects.

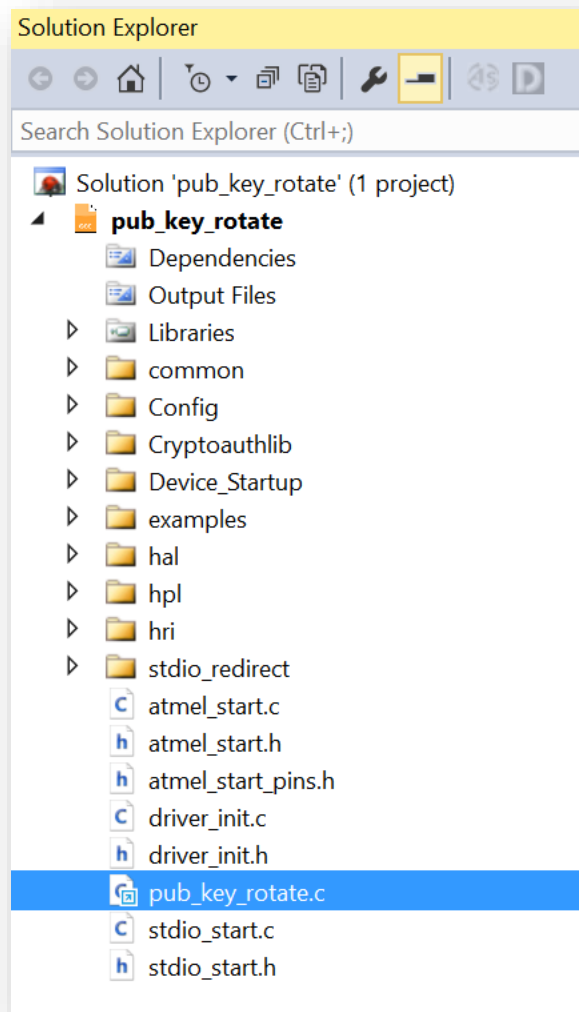
Once the new public key is generated and authorized, these embedded projects can be used to rotate the current public key to the new one.

### 4.2.1 Atmel Studio:

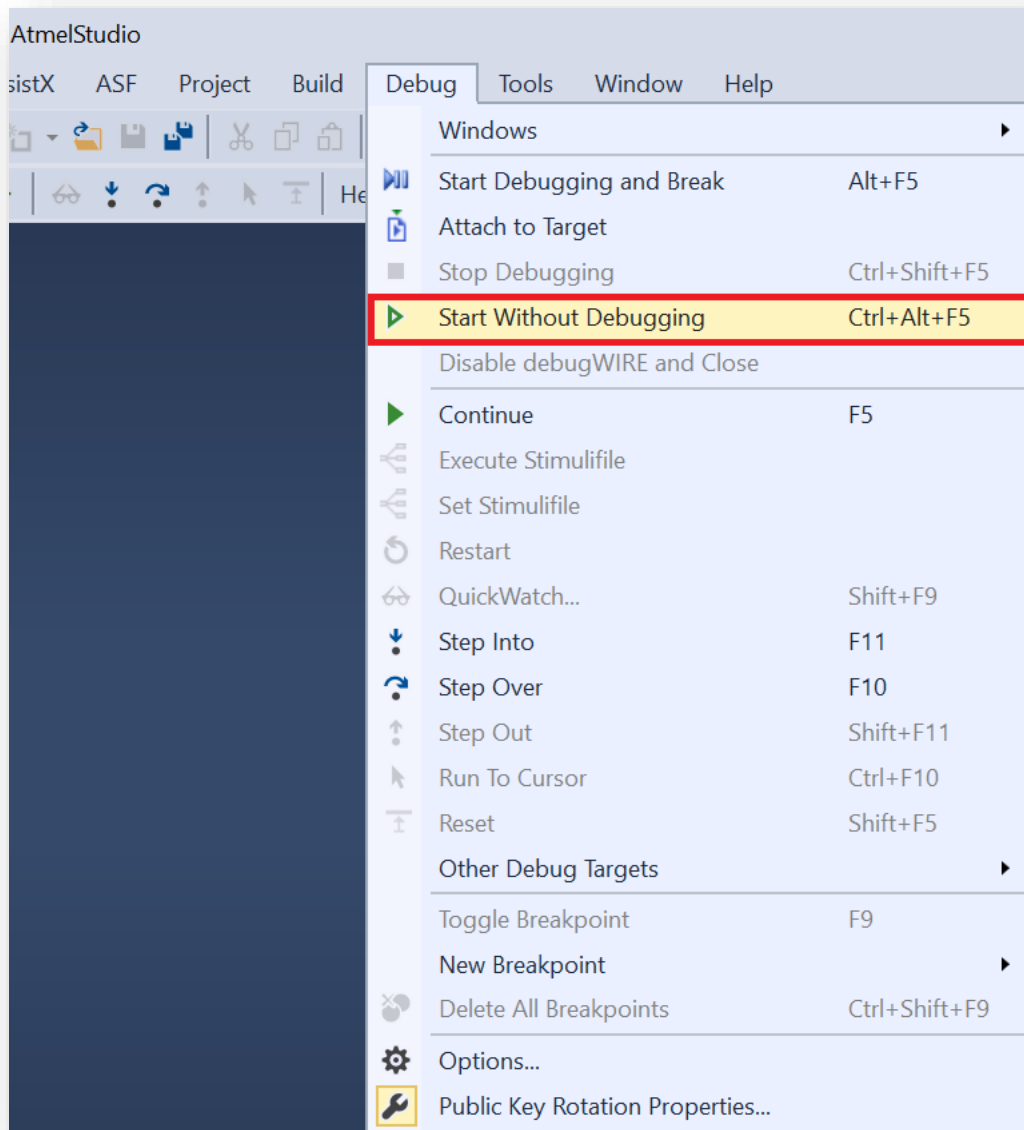
1. Open **pub\_key\_rotate.atsln** project by navigating to Atmel Studio -> File -> open-> **TFLXTLS\_Use\_Cases\c\pub\_key\_rotate\studio\pub\_key\_rotate.atsln**



2. The application source code **pub\_key\_rotate.c** is available at **TFLXTLS\_Use\_Cases\c\pub\_key\_rotate\pub\_key\_rotate.c**. Other supporting files can be found under **TFLXTLS\_Use\_Cases\c\ dependencies**



3. Program the Crypto Trust platform by navigating to **Debug -> Start Without Debugging**

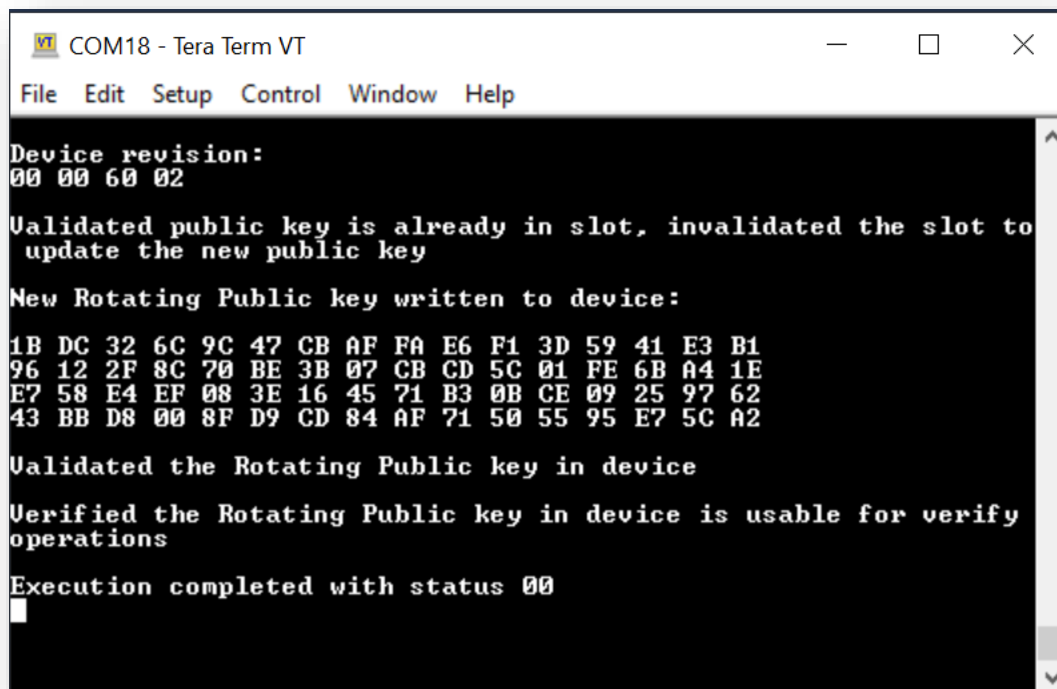


This step may take some time, wait for Atmel Studio to compile and program the device.

Once the programming is done, the firmware will do public key rotation operation. Depending on the public key rotation operation's output, the Cryptoauth Trust Platform board's Status LED will blink at different rates.

If public key rotation operation **succeeds**, LED blinks once every second.  
If public key rotation operation **fails**, LED blinks five times every second.

It is also possible to view the console messages by using applications like TeraTerm. Open the application with the COM related to CryptoAuth TrustPlatform with 115200-8-N-1 settings.



COM18 - Tera Term VT

File Edit Setup Control Window Help

```
Device revision:
00 00 60 02

Validated public key is already in slot, invalidated the slot to
update the new public key

New Rotating Public key written to device:
1B DC 32 6C 9C 47 CB AF FA E6 F1 3D 59 41 E3 B1
96 12 2F 8C 70 BE 3B 07 CB CD 5C 01 FE 6B A4 1E
E7 58 E4 EF 08 3E 16 45 71 B3 0B CE 09 25 97 62
43 BB D8 00 8F D9 CD 84 AF 71 50 55 95 E7 5C A2

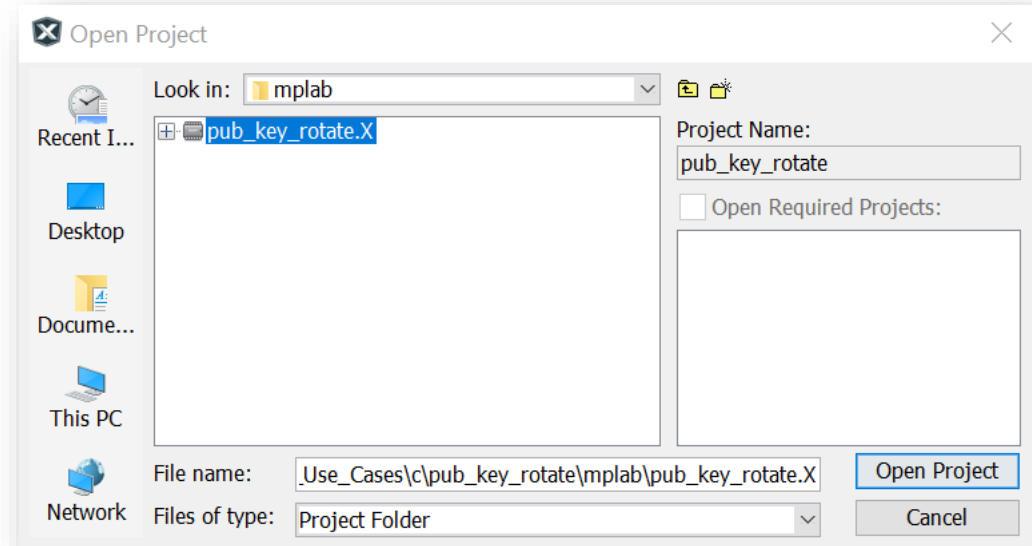
Validated the Rotating Public key in device

Verified the Rotating Public key in device is usable for verify
operations

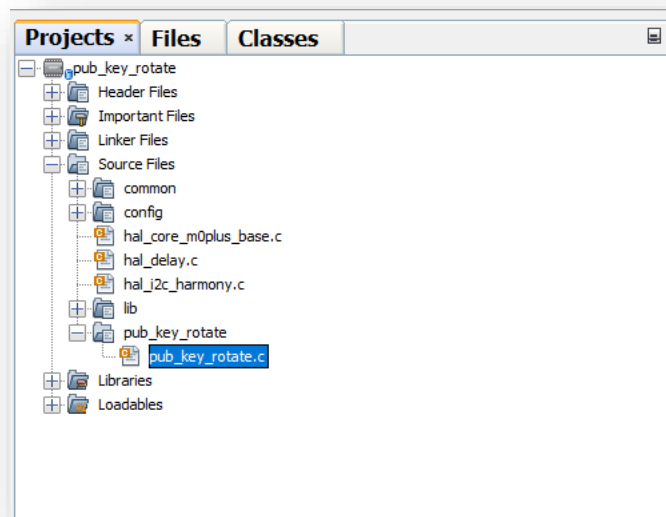
Execution completed with status 00
```

#### 4.2.2 MPLAB:

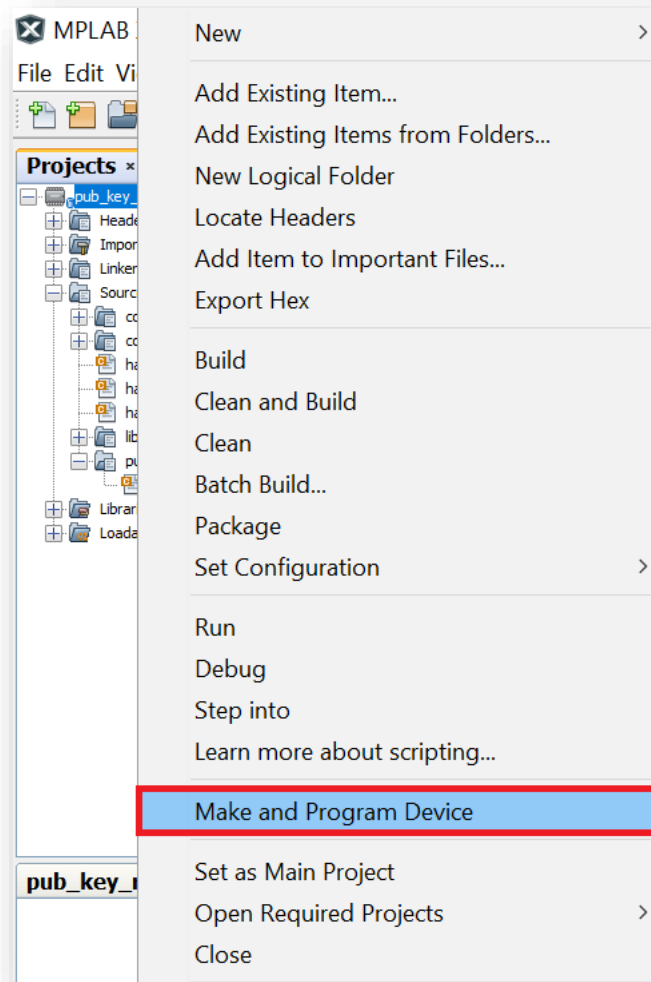
1. Open **pub\_key\_rotate.X** project by navigating to MPLAB -> File -> Open Project -> **TFLXTLS\_Use\_Cases\c\pub\_key\_rotate\mplab\pub\_key\_rotate.X**



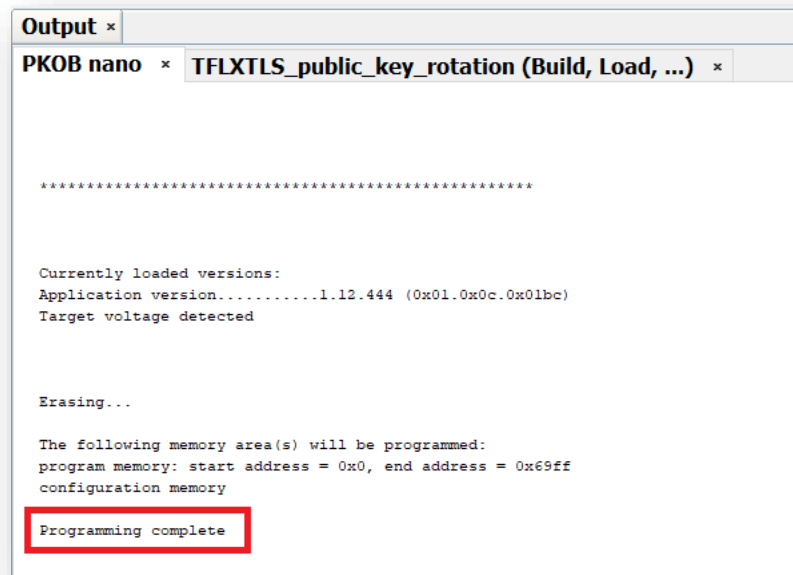
2. The application source code **pub\_key\_rotate.c** is available at **TFLXTLS\_Use\_Cases\c\pub\_key\_rotate\pub\_key\_rotate.c**. Other supporting files can be found under **TFLXTLS\_Use\_Cases\c\ dependencies**.



3. Program the Crypto Trust platform by navigating to **pub\_key\_rotate** -> **Make and Program Device**



This step may take some time, wait for MPLAB to program the device. Once it is done programming you will see "**Programming complete**" message in Output Window.



```
*****

Currently loaded versions:
Application version.....1.12.444 (0x01.0x0c.0x01bc)
Target voltage detected

Erasing...

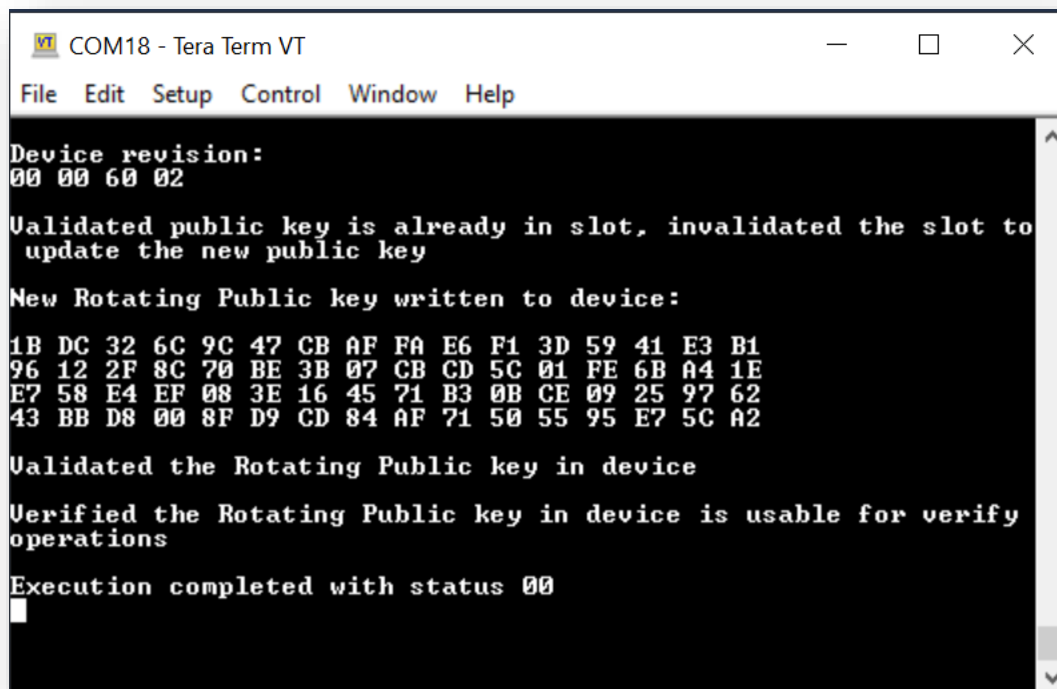
The following memory area(s) will be programmed:
program memory: start address = 0x0, end address = 0x69ff
configuration memory

Programming complete
```

Once the programming is done, the firmware will do public key rotation operation. Depending on the public key rotation operation's output, the Cryptoauth Trust Platform board's Status LED will blink at different rates.

If public key rotation operation **succeeds**, LED blinks once every second.  
If public key rotation operation **fails**, LED blinks five times every second.

It is also possible to view the Console messages by using applications like TeraTerm. Open the application with the COM related to CryptoAuth TrustPlatform with 115200-8-N-1 settings



COM18 - Tera Term VT

File Edit Setup Control Window Help

```
Device revision:
00 00 60 02

Validated public key is already in slot, invalidated the slot to
update the new public key

New Rotating Public key written to device:
1B DC 32 6C 9C 47 CB AF FA E6 F1 3D 59 41 E3 B1
96 12 2F 8C 70 BE 3B 07 CB CD 5C 01 FE 6B A4 1E
E7 58 E4 EF 08 3E 16 45 71 B3 0B CE 09 25 97 62
43 BB D8 00 8F D9 CD 84 AF 71 50 55 95 E7 5C A2

Validated the Rotating Public key in device

Verified the Rotating Public key in device is usable for verify
operations

Execution completed with status 00
```



### 4.3 CryptoAuth TrustPlatform Factory reset

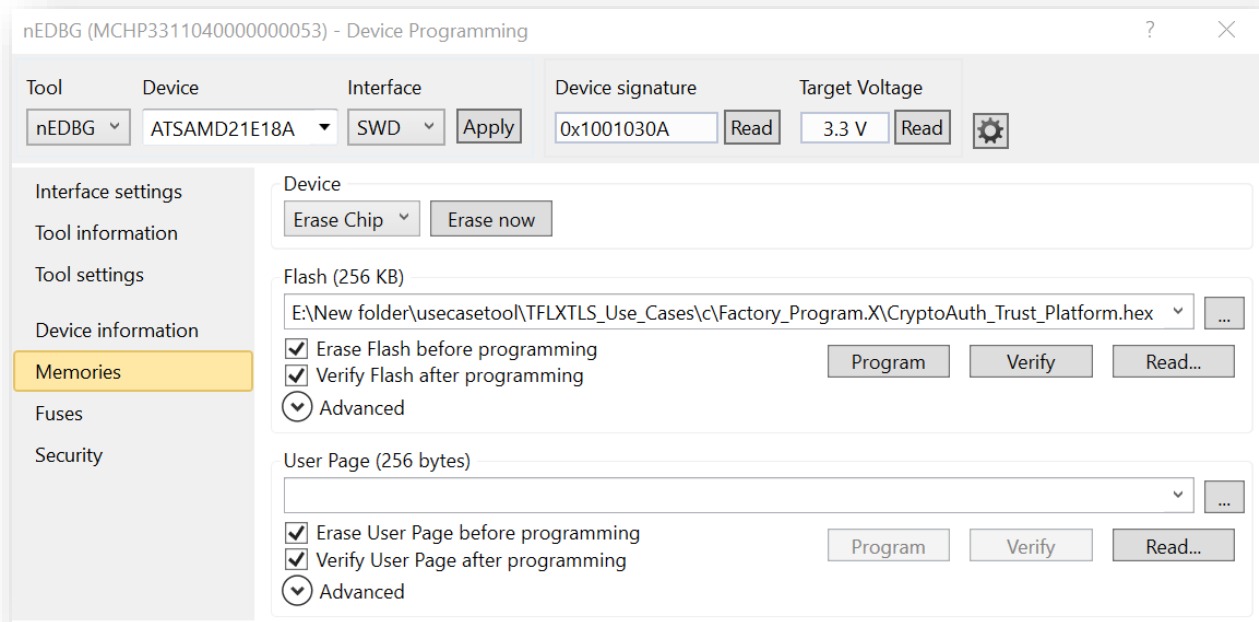
Once any of the embedded project is loaded to CryptoAuth TrustPlatform, the default program that enables interaction with TrustPlatform tools will be erased.

Before using the Platform with any other notebook or tools on PC, its required to reprogram the default .hex file. Default hex file is available at

**TFLXTLS\_Use\_Cases\c\Factory\_Program.X\CryptoAuth\_Trust\_Platform.hex**

To reprogram using Atmel Studio:

1. Navigate to AtmelStudio -> Tools -> Device Programming
2. Select Tool as nEDBG and Apply
3. Go to Memories and navigate to above path under Flash dropdown
4. Check both Erase Flash and Verify Flash
5. Click on Program



To reprogram using MPLAB:

1. Open **TFLXTLS\_Use\_Cases\c\Factory\_Program.X** project in MPLAB IDE
2. Program the Crypto Trust platform by navigating to  
**CryptoAuth\_Trust\_Platform\_Factory\_Program -> Make and Program Device**

Now, Crypto Trust Platform contains factory programmed application that enables interactions with Notebooks and/or PC tools.

---

## 5 FAQ

### 1. What are the reasons for “**AssertionError: Can't connect to the USB dongle**” error?

There are many possibilities like,

1. Crypto Trust Platform is having different application than factory reset firmware. Refer to “CryptoAuth TrustPlatform Factory reset” section any usecase TrustFLEX Guide for reloading it
2. Check the switch positions on Crypto Trust Platform and/or ATECC608A Trust board
  - a. Correct Trust device should be connected and only one device of that type is allowed on the I2C bus. Multiple devices with same address results in error
3. Check USB connections to Crypto Trust Platform

### 2. How to reload factory default application to Crypto Trust Platform?

Refer to “CryptoAuth TrustPlatform Factory reset” section any usecase TrustFLEX Guide for reloading it.

### 3. Why does my C projects generates No such file or directory with ../../../../TFLXTLS\_resource\_generation/?

C project generates this error when the resources are not generated prior to using embedded projects. Running the resource generation notebook ensures these files and secrets are generated.

### 4. Before running any use case notebook and/or C project, why is it mandate to execute resource generation?

When resource generation notebook is executed, it generates and programs the required resources like secrets, keys and certificates. These are only prototyping keys and cannot be used for production. These keys will be used part of Usecase notebooks and C projects

### 5. How to know the resources being used in a use case?

Refer to individual Usecase description html for details on transaction diagrams, resources being used and other details. The resources required for given use case is mentioned in INFER CRYPTOGRAPHIC ASSETS section.

### 6. When should I select Custom certificates while doing resource generation?

Custom certificates are required when user wants to have their own root, signer instead of MCHP provided. The difference would be organization name, common name and validity are configurable

### 7. How to know whether C project is executing on Trust Platform or not after programming?

Once the programming is done, the firmware will do use case operation. Depending on the use case operation's output, the Crypto Trust Platform board's status LED will blink at different rates.

If use case operation succeeds, LED blinks once every second. If it fails, LED blinks five times every second.

It is also possible to view the Console messages by using applications like TeraTerm. Open the application with the COM related to Crypto Trust Platform with 115200-8-N-1 settings

**8. Why is public key rotation project fails with error “Rotating Public key verification failed”?**

There are many possibilities like,

- a. Signer registration is not done to the right account
- b. aws client region is select incorrectly
- c. WiFi credentials are not populated or in correct in C project
- d. aws-iot endpoint is not populated or in-correct in C project

## The Microchip Web Site

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- Microchip is willing to work with the customer who is concerned about the integrity of their code.

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