

SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING AND COMPUTER SCIENCE
Computer Science
ASSESSMENT DESCRIPTION 2020/21
(EXAM TESTS WORTH ≤15% AND COURSEWORK)

MODULE DETAILS:

Module Number:	600089	Trimester:	2
Module Title:	Distributed Systems Programming		
Lecturer:	John Dixon		

COURSEWORK DETAILS:

Assessment Number:	1	of	1
Title of Assessment:	Distributed Systems API		
Format:	Program	Report	
Method of Working:	Individual		
Workload Guidance:	Typically, you should expect to spend between	50	and 100 hours on this assessment
Length of Submission:	This assessment should be no more than: (over length submissions will be marked up to the word limit)		1500 words (excluding diagrams, appendices, references, code)

PUBLICATION:

Date of issue:	04/03/21
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SUBMISSION:

ONE copy of this assessment should be handed in via:	Canvas	If Other (state method)	
Time and date for submission:	Time	2pm	Date 22/04/21
If multiple hand-ins please provide details:			
Will submission be scanned via TurnitinUK?	No	If submission is via TurnitinUK, these should be one of the allowed types e.g. Word, RT, PDF, PPT, XLS etc. Specify any particular requirements in the submission details Students MUST NOT submit ZIP or other archive formats. Students are reminded they can ONLY submit ONE file and must ensure they upload the correct file.	

The assessment must be submitted **no later** than the time and date shown above, unless an extension has been authorised on a *Request for an Extension for an Assessment* form:

search 'student forms' on <https://share.hull.ac.uk>.

Canvas allows multiple submissions: only the **last** assessment submitted will be marked and if submitted after the coursework deadline late penalties will be applied.

MARKING:

Marking will be by:	Student Number
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ASSESSMENT:

The assessment is marked out of:	100	and is worth	60	% of the module marks
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N.B If multiple hand-ins please indicate the marks and % apportioned to each stage above (i.e. Stage 1 – 50, Stage 2 – 50). It is these marks that will be presented to the exam board.

ASSESSMENT STRATEGY AND LEARNING OUTCOMES:

The overall assessment strategy is designed to evaluate the student's achievement of the module learning outcomes, and is subdivided as follows:

LO	Learning Outcome	Method of Assessment <i>{e.g. report, demo}</i>
1	<i>Explain, with comprehension, the key concepts and principles of research, selection and assessment of distributed system architectures.</i>	Report
2	<i>Discuss and make judgements through critical analysis and evaluation in relation to the principal characteristics of distributed applications and their impact on design, implementation and deployment, justifying your arguments.</i>	Report / Program
3	<i>Critically evaluate a range of contemporary distributed computing technologies, integrating reference to literature effectively with own ideas.</i>	Report / Program
4	<i>Specify, design and implement a distributed software application, which is both appropriate and relevant for a suggested purpose.</i>	Report / Program

Assessment Criteria	Contributes to Learning Outcome	Mark
SERVER:		
TalkBack/Hello implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	1
TalkBack/Sort implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	2
User/New GET implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	3
Database implemented as per spec. and works safely and correctly	2,3,4	6
Logging implemented as per spec. and works safely and correctly	2,3,4	3

User/New POST implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	4
AuthorizationHandler used correctly	2,3,4	3
AuthenticationHandler used correctly	2,3,4	3
User/ChangeRole implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	4
User/RemoveUser implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	3
Protected/Hello implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	3
Protected/SHA1 implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	4
Protected/SHA256 implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	2
Protected/GetPublicKey implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	4
Protected/Sign implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	5
Protected/AddFifty implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	5
CLIENT:		
Client uses async programming	2,3,4	3
TalkBack Hello implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	1
TalkBack Sort implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	2
User Get <name> implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	2
User Post <name> implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	2
User Set <name> <apikey> implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	1
User Delete implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	2
User Role <username> <role> implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	3

Protected Hello implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	2
Protected SHA1 <message> implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	2
Protected SHA256 <message> implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	2
Protected Get PublicKey implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	3
Protected Sign <message> implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	5
Protected AddFifty implemented as per spec. and works correctly	2,3,4	5
Report	1,2,3,4	10

FEEDBACK

Feedback will be given via:	Mark Sheet	Feedback will be given via:	Canvas
Exemption (staff to explain why)			
Feedback will be provided no later than 4 'teaching weeks' after the submission date.			

This assessment is set in the context of the learning outcomes for the module and does not by itself constitute a definitive specification of the assessment. If you are in any doubt as to the relationship between what you have been asked to do and the module content you should take this matter up with the member of staff who set the assessment as soon as possible.

You are advised to read the **NOTES** regarding late penalties, over-length assignments, unfair means and quality assurance in your student handbook, which is available on Canvas.

In particular, please be aware that:

- Up to and including 24 hours after the deadline, a penalty of 10%
- More than 24 hours and up to and including 7 days after the deadline; either a penalty of 10% or the mark awarded is reduced to the pass mark, **whichever results in the lower mark**
- More than 7 days after the deadline, a mark of zero is awarded.
- If your written report is over the word limit (+10%) (which includes bullet points, and lists of text. It does not include contents page, graphs, data tables and appendices) any content over the word limit may not be marked.

Please be reminded that you are responsible for reading the University Code of Practice on Academic Misconduct through the Assessment section of the Quality Handbook. This governs all forms of illegitimate academic conduct which may be described as cheating, including plagiarism. The term 'academic misconduct' is used in the regulations to indicate that a very wide range of behaviour is punishable. You may be asked to demonstrate your assignment to show your personal understanding of the code you have submitted. Plagiarism or cheating may result in a mark of 0 or a substantially reduced mark. In case of any subsequent dispute, query, or appeal regarding your coursework, you are reminded that it is your responsibility to produce the assignment in question.

DISTRIBUTED SYSTEMS API

Distributed Systems ACW

2020/21

You have been hired as a distributed systems expert by after Gribbald, their previous expert disappeared one foggy night. You've been promised that your first job for them won't be very hard and, thankfully, it's really not. The task is to develop a client/server based on the .NET Web API, which provides a number of *extra secret* security and encryption services... sort of.

You're lucky though. Gribbald was working on this project before you and has already created an outline solution with some 'TODO' regions, based on the original specification. He has also broken down the specification into tasks for you, which should make your life even easier!

On your first day you were handed this specification:

- The server *must* be able to handle multiple client requests simultaneously.
- The server *must* use Entity Framework, Code First, to create and manage a local database of Users (that will, in the future be moved over to a production database).
- The client must be able to get a **TalkBack/Hello** message from the server. The server will respond with "Hello World".
- The client must be able to send a **TalkBack/Sort** message as a get request to the server with an array of integers as parameters. The server will sort the integers into ascending order and return the sorted array to the client, because – well, sorting data is tedious.
- The client must be able to send a **User/New** get request to the server which has a username string as a parameter. The server must return a string identifying if the username already exists in the database.
- The client must be able to send a **User/New** post request to the server which has a username string in the request body. The server must create a new user, generate a new GUID as an API Key, save the user to the database and return the API Key to the user. If this is the first user they should be saved as Admin role, otherwise just with User role.
- The client must be able to send a **User/RemoveUser** delete request to the server with an API Key in the header and a string username in the URI. If the server receives this request, it must check to see if the API Key is in the database and, if it is, it must check that the username and API Key are the same user and if they are, it must delete this user from the database.
- The client must be able to send a **User/ChangeRole** Post request to the server with an API Key in the header which links to an Admin role user, a string username in the body and a string role in the body. If the server receives this request, it must check to see if the API Key is in the database and whether the role is Admin, if it is, it must update the role for the given username to the role provided (User or Admin)
- The client must be able to send a **Protected/Hello** get request to the server with an API Key in the header. If the server receives this request, it must check to see if the API Key is in the database and, if it is, it must get the username associated with the API Key and send back "Hello <username>" (e.g. "Hello UserOne").
- The client must be able to send a **Protected/SHA1** get request to the server with an API Key in the header and a string message as a parameter. If the server receives this request, it must check to see if the API Key is in the database and, if it is, it must compute the SHA1 hash of the message and return it in hexadecimal form to the client.
- Somebody told the boss that SHA256 is more secure than SHA1 so the client must be able to send a **Protected/SHA256** get request to the server with an API Key in the header and a string message as a parameter. If the server receives this request, it must check to see if the API Key is in the database and, if it is, it must compute the SHA256 hash of the message and return it in hexadecimal form to the client.
- The client must be able to send a **Protected/GetPublicKey** get request to the server with an API Key in the header. If the server receives this request, it must check to see if the API Key is in the database and, if it is, it must send back its RSA public key.

- The client must be able to send a **Protected/Sign** request with an API Key in the header and a string message as a parameter. If the server receives this request, it must check to see if the API Key is in the database and, if it is, it must digitally sign the message with its private RSA key and send the signed message back to the client. The client must then be able to verify that the server signed the message by using the server's public RSA key.
- Finally, the client must be able to send a **Protected/AddFifty** get request to the server with an API Key in the header which links to an Admin role user, and three parameters comprising:
 - An integer, encrypted using the server's public RSA key
 - A symmetric key (using AES encryption), encrypted using the server's public RSA key
 - An IV (initialization vector) for the symmetric key, also encrypted using the server's public RSA key

If the server receives this request, it must check to see if the API Key is in the database and whether the role is Admin, if it is, it must decrypt all three parameters using its private RSA key. It must then add 50 to the integer it was given, encrypt this integer using the client's symmetric (AES) key and IV, and finally, it must send the newly encrypted integer back to the client. The client must then be able to decrypt the integer using its symmetric (AES) key and IV, and finally output the new integer to the console. That'll stop those pesky integer thieves!

Your task is to follow the next instructions carefully and develop a **console-based client** and **Web API-Based server** with a **Code First Entity Framework Database**. You should use the skeleton solution as your starting point and you must ensure that you carefully follow instructions on request types and names, parameter naming, responses and response types – if you do not conform to these instructions, some of the marking tools will not be able to find your code.

Instructions

Download the skeleton solution from Canvas and unzip it. You may delete or modify any of the code that has already been written if you want, but for the most part you will only need to add to it. Note how there are a number of regions and comments that identify tasks by number – use these as a guide to identify where you should be adding your code.

The Server

The server that you have been given in the skeleton solution is a .NET Core 3.1 Web API. You may find it useful to refer to the Microsoft documentation on Web API. You should also recognise it from labs and lecture material. You may upgrade to a .NET 5 Web API if you wish but this version of .NET is not yet available on the University computers.

There are a few things you should look at before you start working on the server:

1. Open *TalkBackController.cs* – Gribbald started writing this controller before he mysteriously disappeared. It contains two get request actions for `/API/TalkBack/Hello` and `/API/Talkback/Sort`. Task1 will be to complete these methods, but they should also be a guide to help you get started – you may change any of the code you feel needs to be changed.
2. Open *Auth->CustomAuthenticationHandler.cs* – this is custom authentication middleware that is added inside the *ConfigureServices* method inside *Startup.cs*. This means that *whenever* an HTTP request is made, this method will run *before* the request gets to your controller. You will need to modify this method in TASK5 to verify that the API Key in the header is correct and authenticate the user. There is a similar *CustomAuthorizationHandler* – middleware that runs immediately after authentication if the authentication succeeds. You will need to make changes to this code in TASK6. The use of these handlers is directly linked to the *Authorize* attribute.
3. Open *BaseController.cs* – you should note four things:
 - a. This is an abstract class. You cannot make an instance of this controller.
 - b. It inherits from *ControllerBase* and has the attribute *ApiController* – all Controllers need to descend from *ControllerBase* and have the attribute *ApiController*.
 - c. It stores a protected instance of the Database Context that you'll need to use for your data access.
 - d. The route mapping has been changed to *api/{controller}/{action}* which will allow you to call actions inside your controller (e.g. `/API/TalkBack/Hello`, where *TalkBack* is the controller and *Hello* is the action).

BaseController is an abstract base class you should inherit from to retain the above functionality in your controllers. If you open *TalkbackController.cs* you can see that it inherits from *BaseController*. To make your life easier use this as a template for any new controllers you create.

Before you start working on your server, you may find it useful to use a tool which allows you to craft requests (with control over the header/body/URI/etc.) send them to your server for debugging purposes and receive RESTful responses. This means you won't need to have a working client to test your server out. A suitable (and free) tool is PostMan: <https://www.getpostman.com/apps>

Finally, I strongly suggest you use the **test server (prototype)**. This server responds as per this coursework specification. If your server responds in the same way as the test then you are likely to get a good mark for the server elements of this coursework and if your client works properly with the test server then you can be confident it is working properly too. You may use Postman to analyse the responses from the test server before you start producing your server. **There's more info at the end of TASK10** but the test server can be accessed by connecting to the University's VPN and pointing your client to:

`http://distsysacwserver.net.dcs.hull.ac.uk/myUniqueCode>/`

e.g. `http://distsysacwserver.net.dcs.hull.ac.uk/1234567/Api/TalkBack/Hello`

Your unique 7 digit code should have been distributed to you via email already but if you have not received this then email me: john.dixon@hull.ac.uk

Tasks

The following tasks are designed to help you identify exactly what to do to meet the specification and they give a logical order for doing it too. You must ensure that your server and client respond exactly as specified to get the marks for that section, so read this specification very carefully. Most tasks also have a section dedicated to testing so that you can test your solution against expected results. If your server and client do not respond exactly as specified you will not receive marks for the corresponding marking criteria.

Task1:

When the client makes a get request for `api/TalkBack/Hello` or `api/TalkBack/Sort`, the talkback controller must handle the responses.

Complete these methods so that they offer the responses detailed in the specification.

Once you have created these methods, right-click the WebAPI project, select Debug and click Start New Instance. This should fire up IIS, open your browser and take you to a web page with an address similar to `localhost:24702` where 24702 is your portnumber. Identify what this port number is as it will be required in your client and for testing.

For testing you can identify if your server is working by sending a get request with the URI (replace <portnumber> with your port number) of:

For **Hello**: `localhost:<portnumber>/api/talkback/hello`
Should return "Hello World" in the body of the result with a status code of OK (200)

For **Sort**: `localhost:<portnumber>/api/talkback/sort?integers=8&integers=2&integers=5`
Should return `[2,5,8]` in the body of the result with a status code of OK (200)

If there are no integers submitted, the result should be `[]` with a status code of OK (200)

If the submitted integers are invalid (e.g. a char is submitted) the server should return with a status code of BAD REQUEST (400)

Task2:

In order to work with databases, you have been asked to use Entity Framework Core.

Gribbald has already put all of the references, etc. that you will need into the project. You just need to define a User class.

Open `User.cs`, where you will find the Task2 region. Complete the User class with:

- An empty constructor
- A public string `ApiKey` property (which is the unique database key and is the API Key for the user)
- A public string `UserName` property (which is the username of the user)
- A public string or enum `Role` property (which saves the role of the user)

`UserContext.cs` has been created for you already, but to create the database correctly you'll need to generate a migration*.

*You may first need to set the project directory by typing `cd DistSysAcw` into the Package Manager Console

Task3:

In order to manipulate the database you must create methods which do this work in the `UserDatabaseAccess` class inside `User.cs`. You will need to pass a `HttpContext` when you want to access/manipulate the database.

For the next tasks, you will need methods such as:

1. Create a new user, using a username given as a parameter and creating a new GUID which is saved as a string to the database as the ApiKey. This must return the ApiKey or the User object so that the server can pass the Key back to the client.
2. Check if a user with a given ApiKey string exists in the database, returning true or false.
3. Check if a user with a given ApiKey and UserName exists in the database, returning true or false.
4. Check if a user with a given ApiKey string exists in the database, returning the User object.
5. Delete a user with a given ApiKey from the database.
6. Etc...

Hint: The `BaseController` already contains an instance of `HttpContext`

Consider: What happens in your solution if two admin users simultaneously try to change a user's role?

Task4:

When the client makes a `api/User/New` get request or `api/User/New` post request, the server must be able to handle them and provide a response.

Create a new controller called `UserController`. The easiest way to do this is by right-clicking on Controllers and adding a new, Empty API Controller. You may want to inspect the existing `TalkBack Controller` to help set up your new controller – note it's base type, constructor and routing.

Both of these actions have the name 'New' but one is a GET request that takes its parameter from the URI and the other is a POST request that takes a JSON string parameter from the body. The POST request must use a content-type of `application/json`. Note the difference between a JSON string and a JSON Object with a string.

For testing you can identify if your server is working by sending a get request with the URI (replace `<portnumber>` with your port number) of:

For **GET**: `localhost:<portnumber>/api/user/new?username=UserOne`
If a user with the username 'UserOne' exists in the database, the server should return **"True - User Does Exist! Did you mean to do a POST to create a new user?"** in the body of the result with a status code of OK (200)

If a user with the username 'UserOne' does not exist in the database, the server should return **"False - User Does Not Exist! Did you mean to do a POST to create a new user?"** in the body of the result with a status code of OK (200).

If there is no string submitted, the server should return **"False - User Does Not Exist! Did you mean to do a POST to create a new user?"** in the body of the result with a status code of OK (200).

For **POST**: `localhost:<portnumber>/api/user/new` with "UserOne" in the body of the request
Should create a new User with the username 'UserOne', generate a new GUID as the user's API Key, and then add the new user to the database. Finally, the server should return the API Key as a string to the client with a status code of OK (200). If this is the first user they should be saved as Admin role, otherwise just with User role.

If there is no string submitted in the body, the result should be **"Oops. Make sure your body contains a string with your username and your Content-Type is Content-Type:application/json"** with a status code of BAD REQUEST (400)

If the username is already taken, the result should be **"Oops. This username is already in use. Please try again with a new username."** with a status code of FORBIDDEN (403)

Task5:

The client now has the ability to ask for an API Key, so our server will now need to be able to determine if a request has a valid API Key in its header. A useful way to do this is to use an Authentication Scheme. Ours is a custom Authentication Scheme so we can investigate its functionality. Return to *CustomAuthenticationHandler.cs*. You must add code to *HandleAuthenticateAsync* which tries to get the header 'ApiKey', and if it does exist, checks the database to determine if the given API Key is valid. You should use your *UserDatabaseAccess* class that you created in TASK3 to do the database access to loosen your coupling.

If the API Key is valid, you must get the relevant User from your database and set up a:

- Claim of type *ClaimTypes.Name*, using the user's *UserName* as the string value
- Claim of type *ClaimTypes.Role*, using the user's *Role* as the string value
- *ClaimsIdentity* with an authentication type of "ApiKey", using an array containing both of your Claims as claims
- *ClaimsPrincipal*, using the *ClaimsIdentity* above.

Finally, you must create an *AuthenticationTicket* using the *ClaimsPrincipal* and the scheme name (you can get this using the property: *this.Scheme.Name*). You can now use the ticket to create a *Success AuthenticateResult* and return as a Task.

If this is working, you should be able to use attributes such as `[Authorize(Roles = "Admin")]` or `[Authorize(Roles = "Admin, User")]` to authorise requests which require a valid API key to be present.

If a user is not found, return a *Fail AuthenticateResult* and pass a 401 error with the JSON string `"Unauthorized. Check ApiKey in Header is correct."` back to the user (see *HandleChallengeAsync*).

Task6:

So far we haven't used any of our Roles. Before we can do this we'll need to check that our users have the roles they are supposed to. We are already looking at whether or not they have a valid API key (Task5), and we're using that easily by applying an attribute, so we'll use a filter to modify the response.

Most of the filter has already been written. Open *CustomAuthorizationHandler.cs* and modify the code so that, when the action requires a user to be in Admin role ONLY (e.g. `[Authorize(Roles = "Admin")]`) and the user does not have the Admin role, you return a Forbidden status (403) with the message: `"Forbidden. Admin access only."`. You will need the injected *IHttpContextAccessor* for this.

Task7:

Add to your *UserController* a method to handle an `api/User/RemoveUser` DELETE request.

A user with role *User* or *Admin* should be able to use this request.

The client must send its API Key in the header and a string username in the URI.

If the server receives this request, it must extract the *ApiKey* string from the header to see if the API Key is in the database and, if it is, it must check that the username and API Key are the same user and if they are, it must delete this user from the database. You should probably use your *UserDatabaseAccess* class that you created in TASK3 to do the database access.

This method must return a Boolean value only. If a user has been deleted, the server must return `true`, otherwise, the server must return `false`. In both cases, the server must return a status code of OK (200).

For testing you can identify if your server is working by sending a delete request with the URI (replace `<portnumber>` with your port number and `<username>` with a username) of:

RemoveUser: localhost:<portnumber>/api/user/removeuser?username=<username> with an ApiKey in the header of the request
Should return `true` if the ApiKey and username match, are valid, and a user has been deleted or `false` if not.

Task8:

Inside UserController Add the api/**User/ChangeRole** method.

This method must only be accessible to users who are authorised by API key *and* have the role of Admin.

Update the role for the given username to the role provided (User or Admin).

The body should contain a JSON object in the form (where <username> is the given username string and <role> is the given role string):

```
{ "username":<username>, "role":<role> }
```

For testing you can identify if your server is working by sending a post request with the URI (replace <portnumber> with your port number) of:

ChangeRole: localhost:<portnumber>/api/user/changerole with an ApiKey in the header of the request, a string username in the body and a string role in the body

If success: Should return **"DONE"** in the body of the result, with a status code of OK (200)

If username does not exist: Should return **"NOT DONE: Username does not exist"** in the body of the result, with a status code of BAD REQUEST (400)

If role is not User or Admin: Should return **"NOT DONE: Role does not exist"** in the body of the result, with a status code of BAD REQUEST (400)

In all other error cases: Should return **"NOT DONE: An error occurred"** in the body of the result, with a status code of BAD REQUEST (400)

Task9:

Create a new ProtectedController. Add the api/**Protected/Hello** method, api/**Protected/SHA1** method and api/**Protected/SHA256** method.

All of these requests must be authorised (User or Admin role) and all three must return strings to the client.

You may use the .NET [SHA1CryptoServiceProvider](#) and [SHA256CryptoServiceProvider](#) for SHA1 and SHA256 hashing respectively.

Both SHA1 and SHA256 methods must take a string message from the URI and both must return the hexadecimal hash as a string with no additional characters (e.g. no delimiters like -)

For testing you can identify if your server is working by sending a get request with the URI (replace <portnumber> with your port number) of:

For **Hello:** localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/hello with an ApiKey in the header of the request
Should return "Hello <UserName>" in the body of the result, where UserName is the User's UserName from the database, with a status code of OK (200). E.g. "Hello UserOne".

For **SHA1:** localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/sha1?message=hello
Should return "AAF4C61DDCC5E8A2DABEDEF3B482CD9AEA9434D" in the body of the result with a status code of OK (200)

If there is no message string submitted, the result should be **"Bad Request"** with a status code of BAD REQUEST (400)

For **SHA256:** localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/sha256?message=hello
Should return "2CF24DBA5FB0A30E26E83B2AC5B9E29E1B161E5C1FA7425E73043362938B9824" in the body of the result with a status code of OK (200)

If there is no message string submitted, the result should be **"Bad Request"** with a status code of BAD REQUEST (400)

Task10:

If you have not already started, begin to write the client (in project *DistSysAcwClient*) now as the next server tasks are the most difficult and you should get the basic functionality of your client working before you attempt them.

The client must be a console application. It would make sense to use `System.Net.Http.HttpClient`. You don't need to use `HttpClient` but your client must be able to perform all of the same functions. Your client must request and expect a JSON response type.

When your client is opened it should show: "Hello. What would you like to do?" and wait for user input.

Below is what the client must be able to do...

Input String from Console Window	Example	Request	Response	Client Function	Output to Console Window
TalkBack Hello	TalkBack Hello	localhost:<portnumber>/api/talkback/hello	string	None	Response string
TalkBack Sort <integer array>	TalkBack Sort [6,1,8,4,3]	localhost:<portnumber>/api/talkback/sort?integers=6&integers=1&integers=8&integers=4&integers=3	int[]	None	Response as a string
User Get <name>	User Get UserOne	localhost:<portnumber>/api/user/new?username=UserOne	string	None	Response string
User Post <name>	User Post UserOne	localhost:<portnumber>/api/user/new with "UserOne" in the request body	string	Check status of response. Store API Key and username as variables if response: OK	"Got API Key" if OK, else print response string.
User Set <name> <apikey>	User Set UserOne 004b620d-a523-4b1b-8bdc-857d8a5541b9	None - this function is only in the client	n/a	Store given API Key and username as variables	"Stored"
User Delete	User Delete	Client must get the locally stored username and ApiKey. If they don't yet exist the console must print "You need to do a User Post or User Set first". localhost:<portnumber>/api/user/removeuser?username=<username> (with <username> in the URI) with ApiKey:<apikey> in the header	Boolean	None	"True" if delete succeeded, otherwise "False"
User Role <username> <role>	User Role UserOne Admin	Client must get the locally stored ApiKey. If it doesn't yet exist the console must print "You need to do a User Post or User Set first" localhost:<portnumber>/api/user/change role with ApiKey:<apikey> in the header and with the JSON object: <pre>{ "username": "UserOne", "role": "Admin" }</pre> in the request body	string	None	Response as a string
Protected Hello	Protected Hello	Client must get the locally stored ApiKey. If it doesn't yet exist the console must print "You need to do a User Post or User Set first". localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/hello with ApiKey:<apikey> in the header	string	None	Response string

Protected SHA1 <message>	Protected SHA1 Hello	Client must get the locally stored ApiKey. If it doesn't yet exist the console must print "You need to do a User Post or User Set first" localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/sha1?message=Hello with ApiKey:<apikey> in the header	string	None	Response String
Protected SHA256 <message>	Protected SHA256 Hello	Client must get the locally stored ApiKey. If it doesn't yet exist the console must print "You need to do a User Post or User Set first". localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/sha256?message=Hello with ApiKey:<apikey> in the header	string	None	Response String

If an error is returned, from your server, you must write out the error to the console or write out the given error string if one is specified in the Output to Console Window column. The Console **must output error messages** and **never crash**.

The client application should be asynchronous. The console must write **"...please wait..."** to the console window as the request is sent and then write the output once the asynchronous Task has been completed. After the output has been written, the console must write (on a new line) **"What would you like to do next?"**. When a new input is entered, **the Console Window must be cleared**.

If the user enters **"Exit"** (without quotes), the console must close.

Whilst you do not have to, you may wish to have the console read/write to a file to save a valid Username and ApiKey, so that you don't have to do a User Post or User Set every time you restart your application to test any of the requests that require a username or ApiKey. If you do this, you should ensure that the software will run on another computer.

Hint: you may find some of the information on this page useful: <https://docs.microsoft.com/en-us/dotnet/csharp/tutorials/console-webapiclient>

****TEST SERVER****

As specified previously in this document, there is a test server from which to test your client and check that your server responds in the same way. This test server acts as the 'gold standard'. If your server responds in the same way you can be certain that you will get the associated mark(s). You are very *much* encouraged to use the test server as you will receive no marks for client functionality which does not work against the test server (even if it works against *your* server).

To use this service outside of the University you will need to connect to the University's VPN. Follow the instructions here to download the VPN client and connect:

<https://support.hull.ac.uk/tas/public/ssp/content/detail/knowledgeitem?unid=3092637d-e12b-41e6-9683-0e57acec3891>

You must be connected to the VPN to use the test server – be aware that the VPN will automatically disconnect you after a period of inactivity.

I would very much advise you to create a single place in your client-side code (e.g. a const) which stores the first part of your URL and then allows you to revert to using your server by changing only one line or config file.

The test domain is: <http://distsysacwserver.net.dcs.hull.ac.uk/myUniqueCode>/>

e.g. <http://distsysacwserver.net.dcs.hull.ac.uk/1234567/Api/TalkBack/Hello>

Your unique 7 digit code should have been distributed via email but if you have not received this or you find a bug in the test server prototype then please email me: john.dixon@hull.ac.uk. I would recommend you don't share your code as it provides data isolation - someone else editing your data may interfere with your testing.

You should ensure that when you hand in your solution it is configured to access and use your local server, not the test server.

- There is an additional useful command on the test server. You can run this command from any browser or from Postman so you don't need to implement it into your Client:

<http://distsysacwserver.net.dcs.hull.ac.uk/myUniqueCode>/Api/Other/Clear>

This command clears all users and logs from your account on the test server, refreshing it back to empty. This may help during testing. You do not need to replicate this command on your server/client unless you want to; there are no marks for other/clear.

Task11:

First, set up an [RSACryptoServiceProvider](#) which is configured once and the same across all threads. You **must not** make a new key pair for each client but you may generate a new key pair each time the server starts. The private RSA key must be stored securely (it would be a good idea to use the machine key store).

Now, returning the public key should be as simple as returning the `XmlString` created by your [RSACryptoServiceProvider](#), containing the public RSA key for your server.

Remember not to send over the private key!!

On receiving an `api/Protected/GetPublicKey` get request, the server must check to see if the API Key is in the database and, if it is, it must send back its RSA public key.

For testing you can identify if your server is working by sending a get request with the URI (replace `<portnumber>` with your port number) of:

GetPublicKey: `localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/getpublickey` with an `ApiKey` in the header of the request
Should return the `XmlString` containing the public key, which should look something like this:

```
"<RSAKeyValue><Modulus>rSJEEeLC4H452XFL+taho/473M50KdfSC/PKNFk55x0x/M5HbDxG9ihoENpazG70HsGit  
b0aXfn2qEVzhaaTtUJUKy0+sV2nQ6aaE0rwFUKOXxttFX1ann/d3qNTrIVxWdzygGq8ODn7qzvijcXjR/S2iyEguSN0uwhU  
O/M98sk=</Modulus><Exponent>AQAB</Exponent></RSAKeyValue>"
```

Now add the functionality to your client which will allow it to store the public key. You can store the key however you like, but it must be usable when you need to encrypt something to send it to the server.

Input String from Console Window	Example	Request	Response	Client Function	Output to Console Window
Protected Get PublicKey	Protected Get PublicKey	Client must get the locally stored <code>ApiKey</code> . If it doesn't yet exist the console must print "You need to do a User Post or User Set first". <code>localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/getpublickey</code> with <code>ApiKey:<apikey></code> in the header	string	Store the public key <code>Xml</code> (however you like – can be as a variable or to file)	"Got Public Key" if a key was returned or "Couldn't Get the Public Key" if an error occurs

Task12:

If the server receives an api/**Protected/Sign** request with an API Key in the header and a string message as a parameter it must check to see if the API Key is in the database and, if it is, it must digitally sign the message with its private RSA key (using SHA1 hash in the signing), and send the signed message back to the client in a hexadecimal format. The string to sign must be sent as it is given by the user, should be ASCII encoded and should not be modified prior to signing/verification.

The hex string must include dashes as delimiters (-) between each hex value.

For testing you can identify if your server is working by sending a get request with the URI (replace <portnumber> with your port number) of:

Sign: localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/sign?message=Hello with an ApiKey in the header of the request Should return the signed message, e.g.

"98-4B-61-F0-77-3F-93-81-27-B0-E3-02-C2-38-56-FD-77-57-BC-E5-6E-43-D7-1E-59-EA-F6-E7-9C-8E-F5-F1-1C-06-C1-8B-E4-C8-E0-E5-7D-DE-BE-99-A8-15-C3-8F-F6-2B-1D-43-2D-C2-33-90-17-FB-D4-D7-B9-15-44-77-5C-C0-01-D8-40-76-15-DC-5B-E8-CF-CA-F6-33-1E-C1-DC-4B-CE-D4-38-71-46-6E-97-C0-C4-E8-0A-B0-90-32-55-18-7C-06-1C-AE-0A-06-3F-3D-3B-B5-FE-B4-C7-FA-91-9A-23-1D-04-6A-35-0D-29-78-FA-4C-D1-C8-6A-D5"

Now add the functionality to your client to allow it to make a Sign request. On receipt of the response, the client must verify that the server signed the message by using the server's public RSA key.

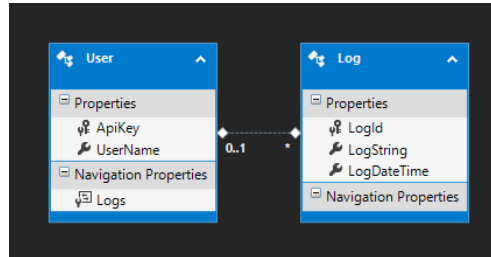
Input String from Console Window	Example	Request	Response	Client Function	Output to Console Window
Protected Sign <message>	Protected Sign Hello	Client must get the locally stored ApiKey. If it doesn't yet exist the console must print "You need to do a User Post or User Set first". localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/sign?message=Hello with ApiKey:<apikey> in the header	string	Use the server's public key to verify that the message was signed by the server.	"Message was successfully signed" if signed response was valid, "Message was not successfully signed" if signed response was invalid, "Client doesn't yet have the public key" if the client doesn't know the server public key yet.

TEST YOUR CLIENT AGAINST THE TEST SERVER – IF THIS ELEMENT DOES NOT FUNCTION WHEN TESTED AGAINST THE TEST SERVER YOU WILL BE UNLIKELY TO GET MARKS FOR YOUR CLIENT OR SERVER IMPLEMENTATION!

Task13:

The boss has been in, and is really impressed with your work so far, but he's worried that he won't know who is doing what on his server. He's asked you to add a new table to the database that stores logs.

Each User must have a collection of Log entries which must be accessible through `User.Logs` but all logs must be saved in the same table on the database. A log must comprise `LogID` (unique primary key for the log), `LogString` (the text describing what happened) and `LogDateTime` (the date and time of the log). Although you should note that your database should be created using Code-First, the model for this is simply :



You will need to create a new Class (`Log`), create a virtual `ICollection` of `Logs` in your `User` class and add a `Logs DbSet` to the context you already have.

You must then go back to all request handlers which require an API key to be passed in the header and add a log to the relevant `User` identifying what request they made (e.g. "User requested /Protected/Hello") and giving the current `DateTime.Now`. You can leave the database to automatically generate the `LogId`.

You may find it useful to create another public constructor for `Log` that takes a string and creates a new `Log` object with the passed-in string and `DateTime.Now`. Remember that you'll have to add the log to a `User`'s collection of logs and save the database. It would be good practice to do this work in the `UserDatabaseAccess` class you created earlier.

Next, you'll need to create a new database migration and update your database so that you can begin logging.

- Be aware that if a user is deleted, the logs should remain. The logs should still be linked to a user API key (even if the user is deleted) for security reasons. You may decide how to do this but a good option would be to create a new table: `Log_Archives`.

Finally, you should check everything you've coded so far still works as expected and make any changes if it does not.

Task14:

You should start writing your report (see TASK15) before attempting this advanced task.

Add a final method to your ProtectedController that handles an api/**Protected/AddFifty** get request. The request must be authenticated with an API Key in the header, may only be used by users with an Admin role and must contain three parameters comprising:

- An integer, encrypted using the server's public RSA key, in hexadecimal format
- A symmetric key (using AES encryption), encrypted using the server's public RSA key, in hexadecimal format
- An IV (initialization vector) for the symmetric key, also encrypted using the server's public RSA key, in hexadecimal format

These three hex strings must include dashes as delimiters (-) between each hex value.

You should add logging for this request (but you must not compromise any encrypted data in your log).

When the server receives this request, it must: check to see if the API Key is in the database and, if it is, it must:

- Decrypt all three parameters using its private RSA key.
- Then add 50 to the integer it was given
- Then encrypt this integer using the client's symmetric (AES) key and IV.

Finally, it must send the newly encrypted integer back to the client as a hexadecimal string.

This hex string must also include dashes as delimiters (-) between each hex value.

For testing, I very much recommend that you first write the client side in the server so that you can easily insert breakpoints and test it before you need to start sending 'stuff' over the network. Otherwise, you will likely only be able to identify if your server is working by using your client to send a get request. Here is an example, although it won't work for you as it uses a different RSA key pair.

AddFifty: localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/addfifty?**encryptedInteger**=81-B3-3B-F5-FA-A9-10-4D-F8-4E-44-0E-85-74-A0-81-B1-C8-1B-FB-B3-D3-E6-F3-59-EA-D5-3F-2D-EB-84-2D-B1-CC-0C-00-7D-2B-BA-A0-21-2E-54-0B-C4-BE-1D-E4-42-04-64-02-12-77-33-31-DD-09-02-2A-11-E7-3F-39-EF-F1-7F-46-60-55-17-D6-4C-DE-D2-71-8A-22-8F-EE-53-AC-B2-1E-28-21-AA-9C-63-78-41-62-7F-A3-7C-11-27-0F-D9-22-E6-BD-CB-5D-B8-68-97-0A-EC-11-7C-EE-0E-F7-DE-83-54-39-1C-8D-21-0C-10-ED-C9-DB-A0-D6&**encryptedSymKey**=96-53-58-6E-DD-92-5F-D5-BD-6D-F0-E1-80-B4-06-8A-BE-54-FA-7B-27-0A-F0-FA-61-B3-10-09-1D-50-8F-38-E7-F1-EB-7C-B0-7D-78-49-04-F9-5F-F4-14-2B-A0-6C-76-EC-04-49-04-60-34-17-C3-43-67-8F-EE-34-D4-CB-C0-54-D1-2A-86-9F-11-9D-E3-2F-83-E0-AC-9F-E7-A0-CD-34-29-33-9D-E4-97-59-30-B4-D7-54-D9-F8-5B-3C-22-CD-EE-4F-E3-13-69-84-45-F3-FC-9E-6C-DE-65-D3-EC-DE-40-FB-BB-80-88-78-E8-39-D9-46-3E-21-73-DA&**encryptedIV**=0B-75-67-31-B9-4A-44-E9-10-8D-F7-55-3C-F4-08-9F-AB-36-32-9A-44-9D-7E-60-9A-D0-DB-BE-8C-47-14-5A-3F-4C-6F-E8-81-CA-2D-1A-48-98-CE-15-A3-80-D8-BD-1D-1D-D1-D4-ED-69-2F-55-3C-F3-FD-D4-CF-CE-28-41-20-74-9F-70-52-D1-60-63-B1-DD-B5-2B-26-2C-87-FA-B9-58-99-76-12-64-43-C4-F1-97-3F-C1-D5-E1-71-13-D7-CB-23-52-C9-4F-BF-18-C8-2F-12-1F-91-2F-05-C0-42-55-E1-61-C4-63-AB-F1-F4-08-56-38-AE-9E-03-B3
with an ApiKey in the header of the request

Should return the given integer + 50, encrypted with the given AES key, as a hexadecimal string e.g.

"0E-94-10-D7-44-A1-1C-D6-86-21-A2-47-0A-4A-AA-73"

If an error occurs, the result should be "**Bad Request**" with a status code of BAD REQUEST (400)

The client must then be able to decrypt the integer using its symmetric (AES) key and IV, and finally output the new integer to the console.

Input String from Console Window	Example	Request	Response	Client Function	Output to Console Window
Protected AddFifty <integer>	Protected AddFifty 5	<p>Client must get the locally stored ApiKey. If it doesn't yet exist the console must print "You need to do a User Post or User Set first". Client must then generate and store a new AES key and IV. It must now encrypt <integer>, the AES key and the AES IV, using the public key, which must have already been requested from the server</p> <p>"Client doesn't yet have the public key" must be written to the console if the client doesn't know the server public key yet.</p> <p>If the given integer is not an integer the client must give the error: "A valid integer must be given!".</p> <p>localhost:<portnumber>/api/protected/addfifty?encryptedInteger=<encryptedint>&encryptedsymkey=<encryptedAESkey>&encryptedIV=<encryptedAESiv></p> <p>with ApiKey:<apikey> in the header</p>	string	Decrypt the returned hex using the AES key and IV that was previously generated	<p>Decrypted integer which should be "55" in this example.</p> <p>"An error occurred!" if the returned hex is not a valid integer</p>

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Task15 (Report) – 10%

You will need to write and submit up to 1,500 words in a report addressing these points:

1. Outline what an API is and does, how it manages requests and discuss why this API is stateless and describe the difference between a stateless and stateful server.
2. Briefly explain what route mapping is, how WebAPI uses the manages parameters and what actions are.
3. Briefly outline what GET, POST and DELETE requests are and provide screenshots of where you have used these requests in your server project to illustrate your written work.
4. Briefly describe how your Server and Client use the API key. Ensure you discuss the Authentication, Authorization and middleware in your description. Identify if you think an API key is a good or bad option for identifying users, giving your reasons. Is the API key safe in this project? How would you ensure this API key was kept safe if you were developing this Server/Client in the 'real world'?
5. Outline the steps in the RSA algorithm.
6. Outline the steps in the AES algorithm.
7. Briefly describe what the Entity Framework is and what it does. Compare code first, model first and database first techniques and describe what a migration is/does.
8. Finally, write a short reflective statement about which tasks you completed and to what level, any problems you had with any of the functionality and how you overcame these problems (if you managed to).

Submission:

This coursework is to be submitted via Canvas. To submit your coursework, you must place your Visual Studio solution files in a single folder and add this to an electronic copy of your report in a single ZIP file. This ZIP file must then be submitted via Canvas.

E.g.

