Homework 2: Configuring and Using GPG

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Overview

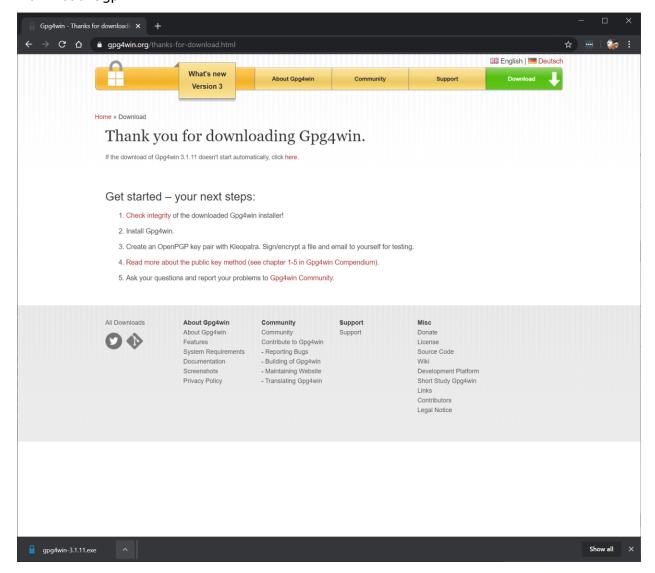
This lab report presents observations and explanations for the tasks described in the Configuration and Using GPG Lab Exercise (weisman_gpg_2_2_2_2.pdf).

Step 1

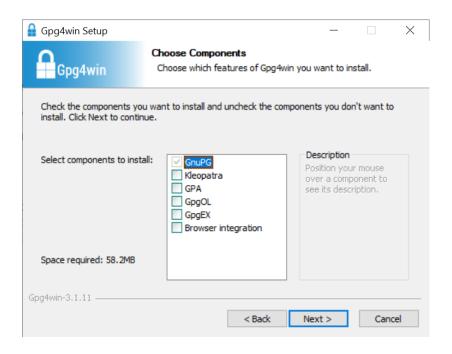
This section describes / shows each step performed per the exercise in Step 1.

Step 1a

Download Ggp4Win.

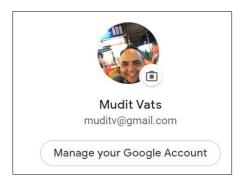


Uncheck all options except GPG.



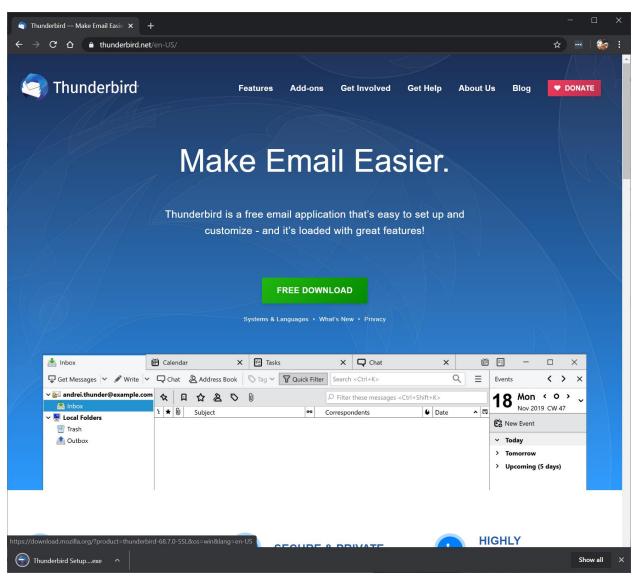
Step 1b

Create Gmail account. I use this email as my primary personal email. Already created.

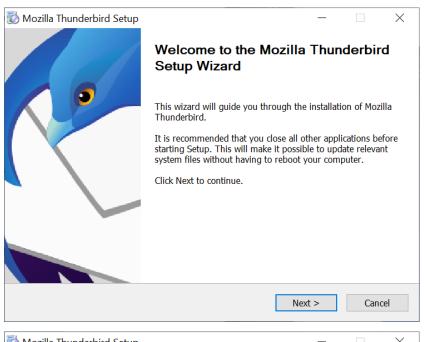


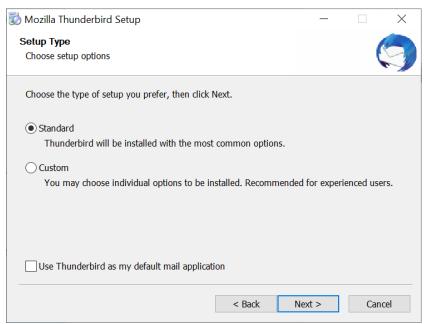
Step 1c

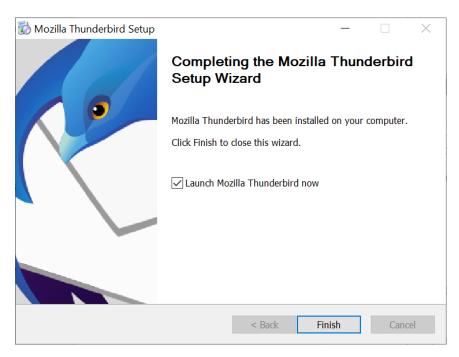
Download Thunderbird.



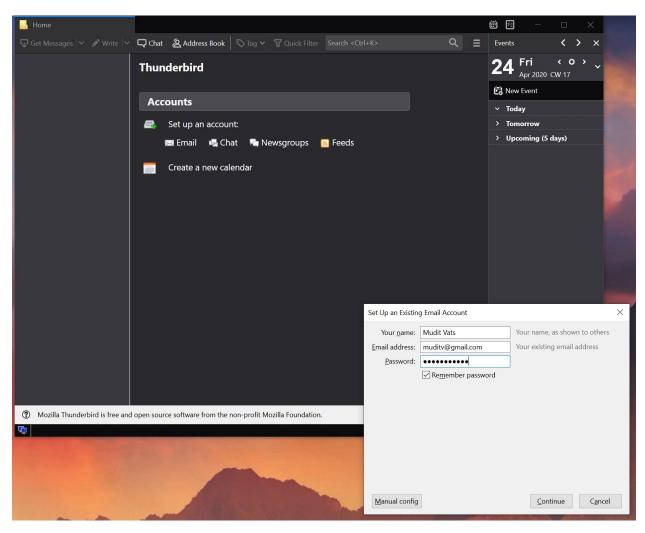
Install Thunderbird.



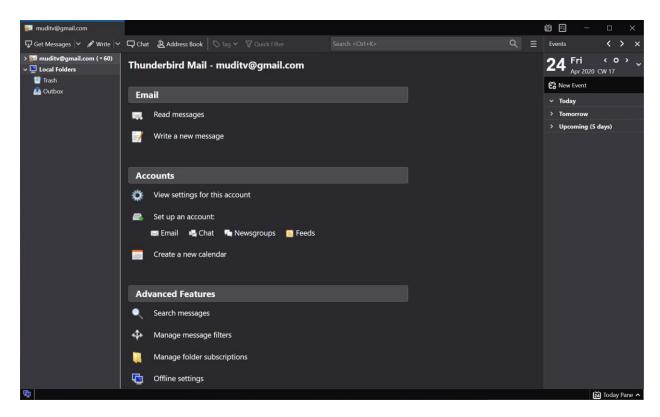




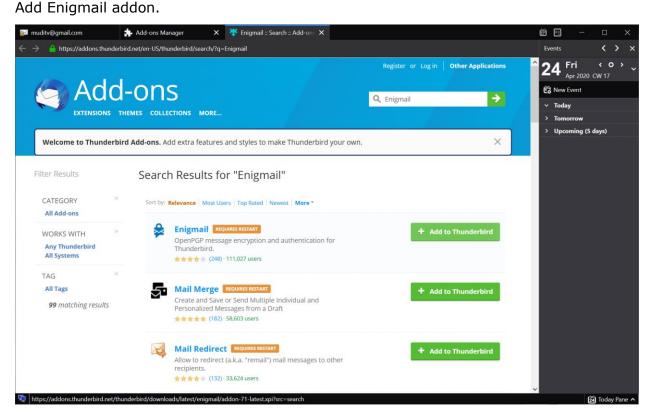
Step 1d Setup Existing Email Account.



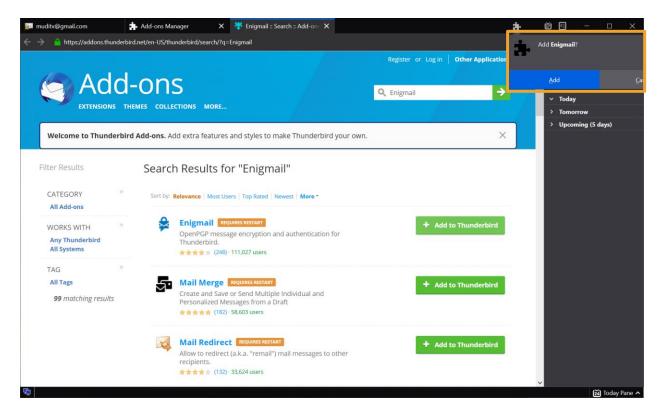
Thunderbird showing Gmail (muditv@gmail.com) successfully setup.



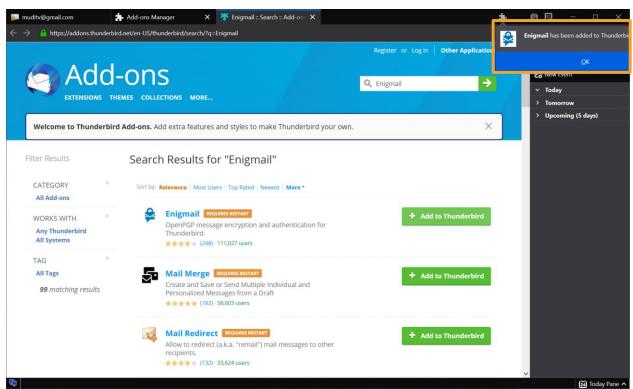
Step 1e



Adding Enigmail.

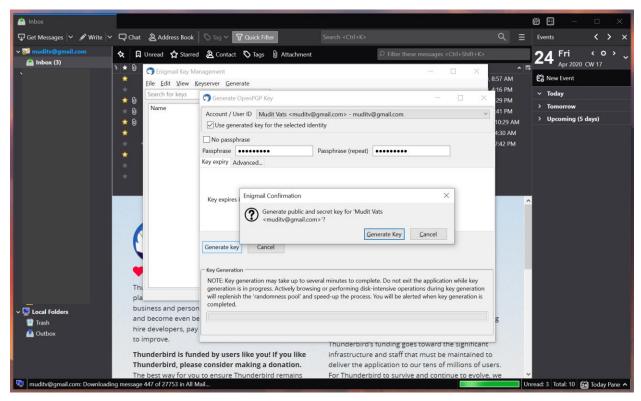


Enigmail successfully added.

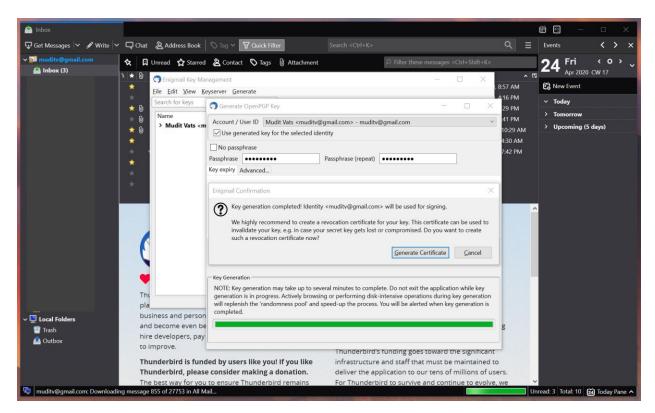


Step 1f

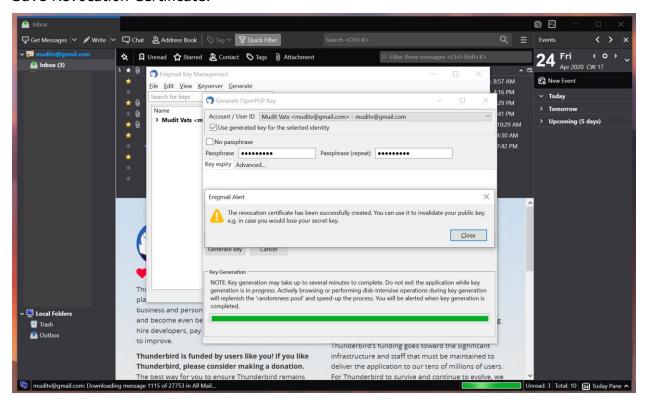
Generate Public / Private keys. The Setup Wizard did not work for me. It was able to find GPG, but it stalled on "Checking Your Existing Setup". I also double-checked the fix recommended in "enigmail_fix_2.pdf" and my setting were setup the same way. I therefore resorted to manually generating the public / private keys.



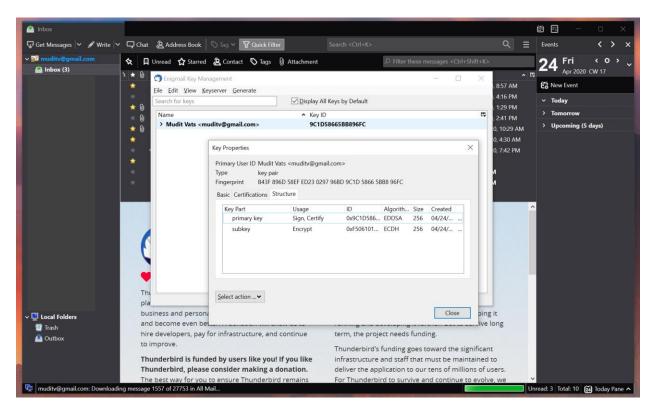
Generate Certificates.



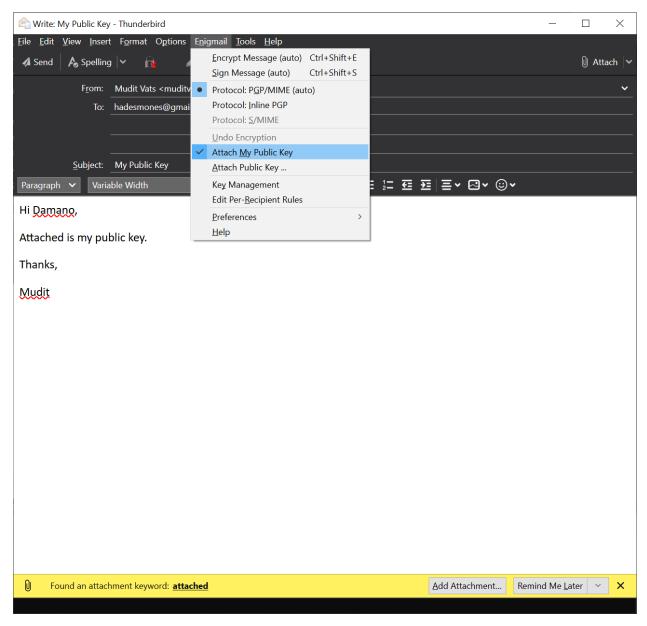
Save Revocation Certificate.



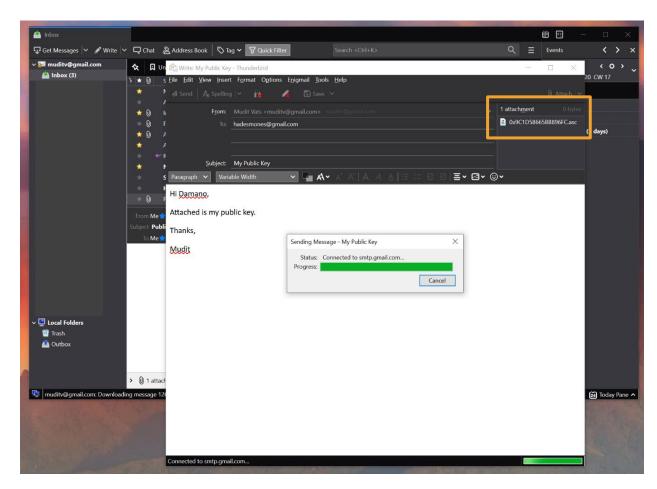
Final keys created.



Step 1g Send public key.

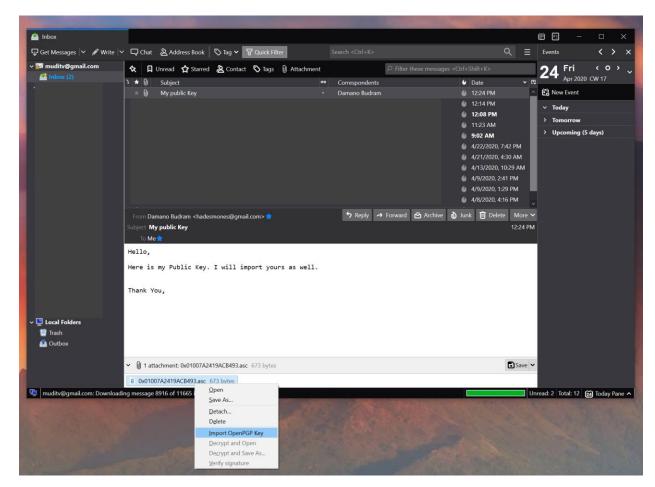


Send email to partner with attached Public Key. Attachment can be seen in the upperright hand corner of the email. This is the file with the asc extension; i.e. my public key.

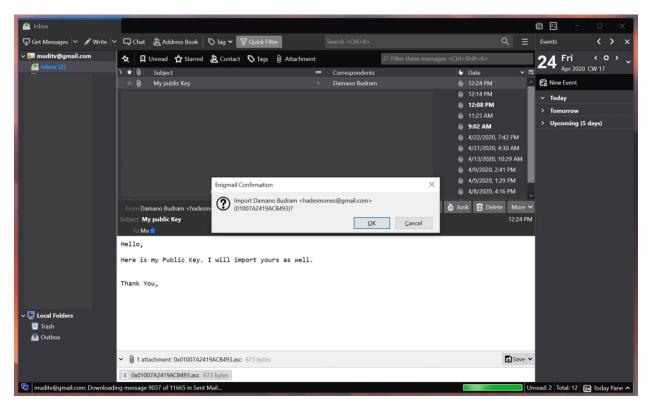


Step 1h

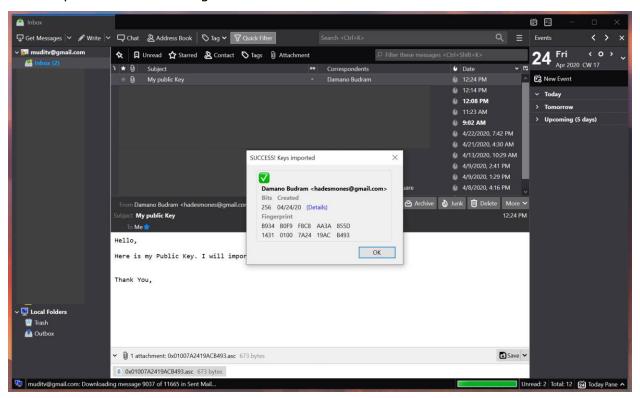
Import partners public key. In the screenshot below, you can see the received message from my partner and me choosing the option to Import OpenPGP Key.



Below is the screenshot to confirm import.

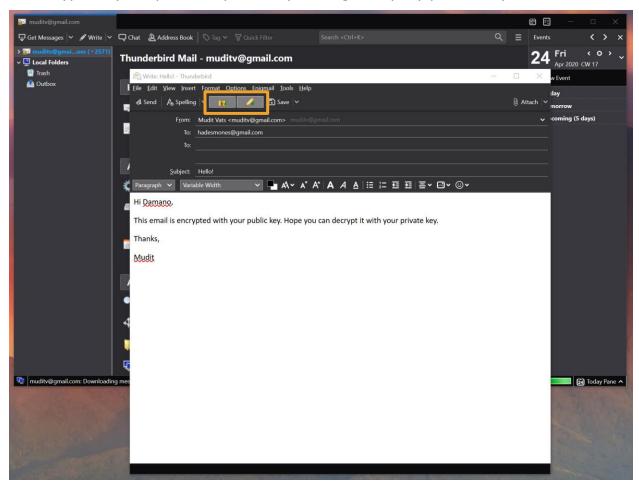


Final import success message.

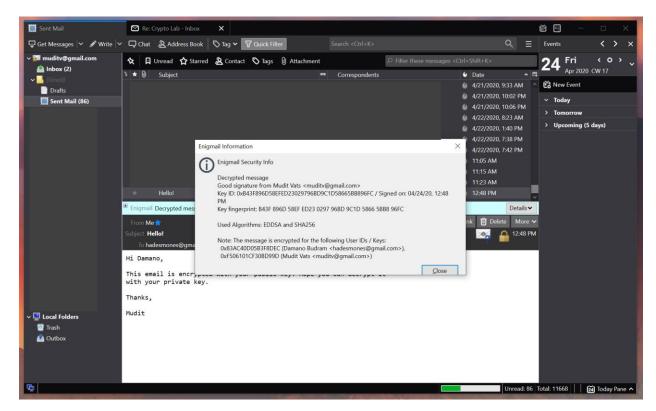


Step 1i

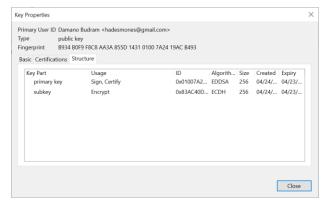
Send email to partner using their public key. The screenshot below shows me typing an email to my partner. The Encrypt and Sign icons are selected so the email message will be encrypted by the partner's public key and signed by my private key.



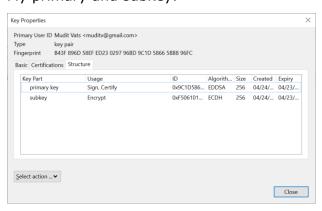
Looking at the details of the sent message below, we can see that the message signature is from Mudit (me, the sender) and it's encrypted for Damano (using his public key; 0x83AC... this is the subkey of Damano) and the sender (me using public key 0xF506... this is the subkey for Mudit).



Primary and subkey of partner, Damano.

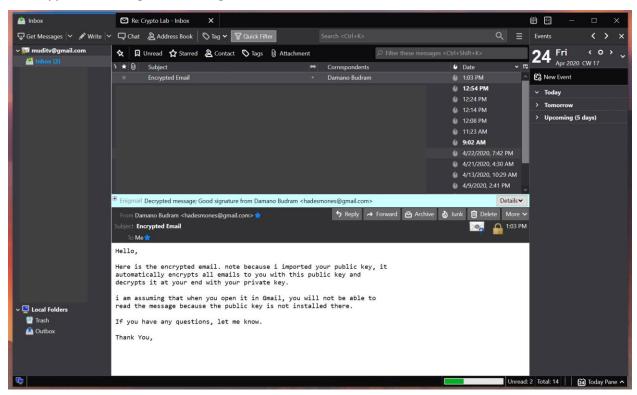


My primary and subkey.

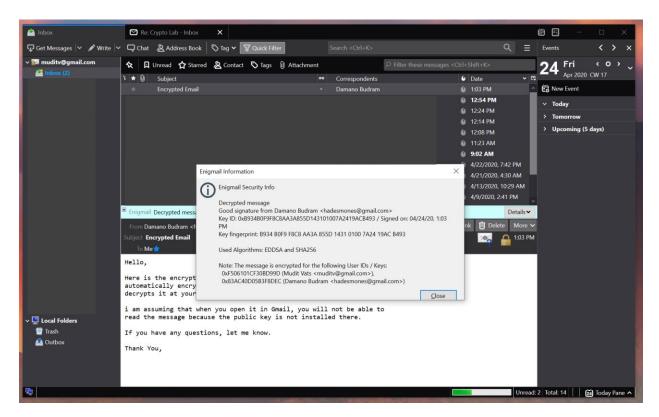


Step 1j

Open partners mail below. Upon selecting the email, it is decrypted. We can see the "Decrypted message; Good signature from Damano Budram".

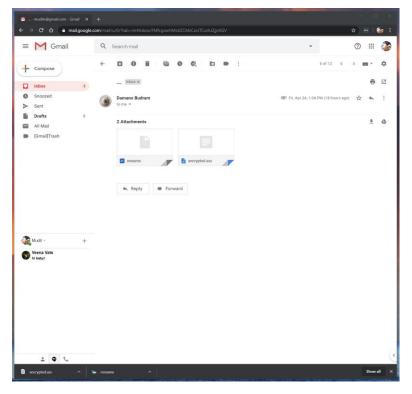


Getting more details on the message, we can see that the signature was from my partner, Damano. We can also see that the message was encrypted using the public keys for Damano and Mudit below. In the previous section, these were identified as the subkey's for Damano and Mudit respectively.



Step 1k

View email from Google Gmail. The messages are actually attachments, including the encrypted message.



Step 2

This section describes / shows each step performed per the exercise in Step 2.

Step 2a

Q: How does the e-mail look in the Web browser compared to how it looks in Thunderbird? Why is this the case?

The email looks like an empty email message with attachments. The attachments include the "encrypted.asc" which is encrypted message and a "noname" file which contains version info.

If we look at "encrypted.asc" file we see the content to be an ascii encrypted message.



Step 2b

Q: When encrypting the e-mail to your partner, which key did you use?

When encrypting the message to my partner, GPG used my partner's public key which was previously imported per my partner sending me his public key.

Step 2c

Q: When your partner decrypted that e-mail, which key did he or she use?

My partner used his private key to decrypt the message that was encrypted with the public key that was sent to me.

Step 2d

Q: When signing your e-mail to your partner, which key did you use?

When signing my email to my partner, GPG used my private key.

Step 2e

Q: When your partner verified your signature, which key did he or she use?

When verifying the signature at my partner's end, GPG used my (sender) public key to verify the signature.

Step 2f

Q: How was confidentiality accomplished?

Confidentiality is accomplished by encrypting the message sent to the partner. Since the public key of the partner is used, but only his private key can be used to decrypt it. As such, the data is confidential (protected) and can only be seen by the one holding the private key; i.e. the partner.

Step 2g

Q: How was integrity accomplished?

Integrity is accomplished by signing (hashing and encrypting) the email with the sender's private key. Since the hash is included as part of the signature, the computed hash, by the partner, is compared to the decrypted hash from the sender. If they are equal, then the message has not been tampered with.

Additionally, by decrypting the signature with the public key of the sender, it can be verified that the sender "did" send the message and it was not re-hashed and re-signed by someone else.

So, two things – integrity verified by double-checking the hash. Recipient / partner can trust the hash since it was encrypted by the party who sent it.

Step 2h

Q: How was nonrepudiation accomplished?

Nonrepudiation is accomplished by verifying the signature of the email. As mentioned in the previous question, by decrypting using the sender's public key, it can be verified that only the sender could have sent it since only the sender's public key can decrypt something encrypted by the sender's private key.