Name: Rustom C. Cariño	Date Performed:8/27/2023
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Instructor: Engr. Roman Richard	Semester and SY: 1st semester /2023-2024
Activity 2: SSH Key-Based Authentication and Setting up Git	

1. Objectives:

- 1.1 Configure remote and local machine to connect via SSH using a KEY instead of using a password
- 1.2 Create a public key and private key
- 1.3 Verify connectivity
- 1.4 Setup Git Repository using local and remote repositories
- 1.5 Configure and Run ad hoc commands from local machine to remote servers

Part 1: Discussion

It is assumed that you are already done with the last Activity (**Activity 1: Configure Network using Virtual Machines**). *Provide screenshots for each task*.

It is also assumed that you have VMs running that you can SSH but requires a password. Our goal is to remotely login through SSH using a key without using a password. In this activity, we create a public and a private key. The private key resides in the local machine while the public key will be pushed to remote machines. Thus, instead of using a password, the local machine can connect automatically using SSH through an authorized key.

What Is ssh-keygen?

Ssh-keygen is a tool for creating new authentication key pairs for SSH. Such key pairs are used for automating logins, single sign-on, and for authenticating hosts.

SSH Keys and Public Key Authentication

The SSH protocol uses public key cryptography for authenticating hosts and users. The authentication keys, called SSH keys, are created using the keygen program.

SSH introduced public key authentication as a more secure alternative to the older .rhosts authentication. It improved security by avoiding the need to have password stored in files and eliminated the possibility of a compromised server stealing the user's password.

However, SSH keys are authentication credentials just like passwords. Thus, they must be managed somewhat analogously to usernames and passwords. They should have a proper termination process so that keys are removed when no longer needed.

Task 1: Create an SSH Key Pair for User Authentication

1. The simplest way to generate a key pair is to run *ssh-keygen* without arguments. In this case, it will prompt for the file in which to store keys. First, the tool asked where to save the file. SSH keys for user authentication are usually stored in the users .ssh directory under the home directory. However, in enterprise environments, the location is often different. The default key file name depends on the algorithm, in this case *id_rsa* when using the default RSA algorithm. It could also be, for example, *id_dsa* or *id_ecdsa*.

2. Issue the command *ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 4096*. The algorithm is selected using the -t option and key size using the -b option.

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 4096
Generating public/private rsa key pair.
Enter file in which to save the key (/home/rustom/.ssh/id rsa):
/home/rustom/.ssh/id_rsa_already_exists.
Overwrite (y/n)? y
Enter passphrase (empty for no passphrase):
Enter same passphrase again:
Your identification has been saved in /home/rustom/.ssh/id_rsa
Your public key has been saved in /home/rustom/.ssh/id rsa.pub
The key fingerprint is:
SHA256:5KtdOIIVdPJ9KgocFUo1EgujEDm805cghWVvj00rPII rustom@LocalMachine
The key's randomart image is:
+---[RSA 4096]----+
|==0=+oB..
=*+* * = .
 .0+ = 0 0 . .
00.0 + +
        + 0
  ---[SHA256]----+
```

3. When asked for a passphrase, just press enter. The passphrase is used for encrypting the key, so that it cannot be used even if someone obtains the private key file. The passphrase should be cryptographically strong.

```
Enter passphrase (empty for no passphrase):
Enter same passphrase again:
Your identification has been saved in /home/rustom/.ssh/id_rsa
Your public key has been saved in /home/rustom/.ssh/id_rsa.pub
```

4. Verify that you have created the key by issuing the command *Is -la .ssh*. The command should show the .ssh directory containing a pair of keys. For example, id rsa.pub and id rsa.

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ ls -la .ssh

total 24

drwx----- 2 rustom rustom 4096 Aug 26 16:47 .

drwxr-x--- 16 rustom rustom 4096 Aug 25 17:34 ..

-rw------ 1 rustom rustom 3389 Aug 26 16:48 id_rsa

-rw-r---- 1 rustom rustom 745 Aug 26 16:48 id_rsa.pub

-rw------ 1 rustom rustom 2098 Aug 23 08:55 known_hosts

-rw------ 1 rustom rustom 1120 Aug 23 08:52 known_hosts.old
```

Task 2: Copying the Public Key to the remote servers

 To use public key authentication, the public key must be copied to a server and installed in an <u>authorized_keys</u> file. This can be conveniently done using the <u>ssh-copy-id</u>

2. Issue the command similar to this: ssh-copy-id -i ~/.ssh/id_rsa user@host

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ ssh-copy-id -i ~/.ssh/id_rsa rustom@LocalMachine
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: Source of key(s) to be installed: "/home/rustom/.ssh/id_rsa.pub"
The authenticity of host 'localmachine (10.0.2.15)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:6Ej+i1aPoYamKeIqMDndarnn380fMooTiW4PLe4gD8c.
This key is not known by any other names
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: attempting to log in with the new key(s), to filter out any that are already installed
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: 1 key(s) remain to be installed -- if you are prompted now it is to install the new keys
rustom@localmachine's password:

Number of key(s) added: 1

Now try logging into the machine, with: "ssh 'rustom@LOcalMachine'"
and check to make sure that only the key(s) you wanted were added.
```

3. Once the public key has been configured on the server, the server will allow any connecting user that has the private key to log in. During the login process, the client proves possession of the private key by digitally signing the key exchange.

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ ssh-copy-id -i ~/.ssh/id_rsa rustom@server1
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: Source of key(s) to be installed: "/home/rustom/.ssh/id_rsa.pub"
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: attempting to log in with the new key(s), to filter out any that are already installed
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: 1 key(s) remain to be installed -- if you are prompted now it is to install the new keys
rustom@server1's password:

Number of key(s) added: 1

Now try logging into the machine, with: "ssh 'rustom@server1'"
and check to make sure that only the key(s) you wanted were added.
```

4. On the local machine, verify that you can SSH with Server 1 and Server 2. What did you notice? Did the connection ask for a password? If not, why?

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ ssh rustom@server1
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-79-generic x86_64)
 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
                   https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Management:
 * Support:
                   https://ubuntu.com/advantage
  System information as of Sat Aug 26 09:03:36 AM UTC 2023
  System load: 0.142578125
                                                           140
                                  Processes:
  Usage of /: 48.0% of 9.75GB
                                 Users logged in:
                                                           1
  Memory usage: 11%
                                  IPv4 address for enp0s3: 192.168.56.102
  Swap usage:
                0%
Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.
O updates can be applied immediately.
Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status
Failed to connect to https://changelogs.ubuntu.com/meta-release-lts. Check your Internet c
ion or proxy settings
Last login: Sat Aug 26 08:58:59 2023
```

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ ssh rustom@server2
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.3 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-79-generic x86_64)
 * Documentation: https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:
                  https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:
                  https://ubuntu.com/advantage
 System information as of Sat Aug 26 09:05:40 AM UTC 2023
  System load: 0.01708984375
                                 Processes:
                                                          140
  Usage of /: 47.8% of 9.75GB Users logged in:
                                IPv4 address for enp0s3: 192.168.56.104
  Memory usage: 12%
 Swap usage:
Expanded Security Maintenance for Applications is not enabled.
12 updates can be applied immediately.
To see these additional updates run: apt list --upgradable
Enable ESM Apps to receive additional future security updates.
See https://ubuntu.com/esm or run: sudo pro status
Failed to connect to https://changelogs.ubuntu.com/meta-release-lts. Check your Internet c
ion or proxy settings
Last login: Sat Aug 26 09:01:18 2023
```

Reflections:

Answer the following:

- 1. How will you describe the ssh-program? What does it do?
 - The SSH program is remotely logging in over SSH using a key and no password. Such key pairs are used to automate logins, enable single sign-on, and authenticate hosts.
- 2. How do you know that you already installed the public key to the remote servers?
 - After issuing the command ssh-copy-id -i ~/.ssh/id_rsa user@host and it will display Number of key(s) added. You can also verify it if you can SSH with the server without needing a password.

Part 2: Discussion

Provide screenshots for each task.

It is assumed that you are done with the last activity (Activity 2: SSH Key-Based Authentication).

Set up Git

At the heart of GitHub is an open-source version control system (VCS) called Git. Git is responsible for everything GitHub-related that happens locally on your computer. To use Git on the command line, you'll need to download, install, and configure Git on your computer. You can also install GitHub CLI to use GitHub from the command line. If you don't need to work with files locally, GitHub lets you complete many Git-related actions directly in the browser, including:

- Creating a repository
- Forking a repository
- Managing files
- Being social

Task 3: Set up the Git Repository

On the local machine, verify the version of your git using the command which git. If a
directory of git is displayed, then you don't need to install git. Otherwise, to install git, use
the following command: sudo apt install git

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ sudo apt install git
[sudo] password for rustom:
Reading package lists... Done
Building dependency tree... Done
Reading state information... Done
The following additional packages will be installed:
  git-man liberror-perl
Suggested packages:
  git-daemon-run | git-daemon-sysvinit git-doc git-email git-gui gitk gitweb
  git-cvs git-mediawiki git-svn
The following NEW packages will be installed:
  git git-man liberror-perl
0 upgraded, 3 newly installed, 0 to remove and 2 not upgraded.
Need to get 4,147 kB of archives.
After this operation, 21.0 MB of additional disk space will be used.
Do you want to continue? [Y/n] y
Get:1 http://ph.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy/main amd64 liberror-perl all 0.1
7029-1 [26.5 kB]
Get:2 http://ph.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates/main amd64 git-man all 1
:2.34.1-1ubuntu1.10 [954 kB]
Get:3 http://ph.archive.ubuntu.com/ubuntu jammy-updates/main amd64 git amd64 1:2
.34.1-1ubuntu1.10 [3,166 kB]
Fetched 4,147 kB in 0s (9,865 kB/s)
```

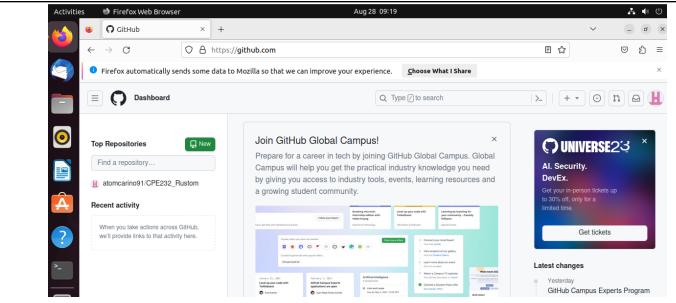
2. After the installation, issue the command *which git* again. The directory of git is usually installed in this location: *user/bin/git*.

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ which git
/usr/bin/git
```

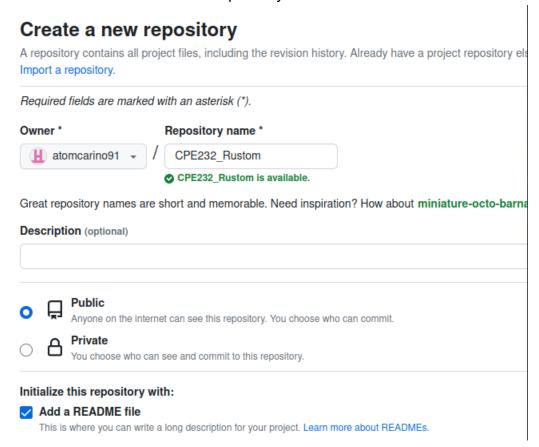
3. The version of git installed in your device is the latest. Try issuing the command *git --version* to know the version installed.

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ git --version
git version 2.34.1
```

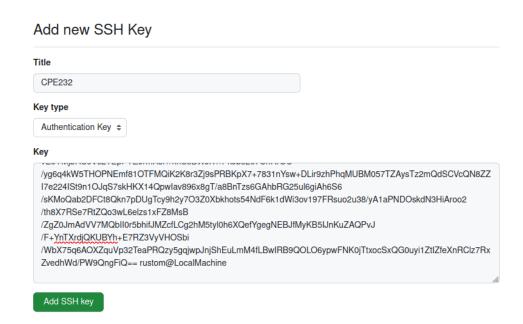
4. Using the browser in the local machine, go to www.github.com.



- 5. Sign up in case you don't have an account yet. Otherwise, login to your GitHub account.
 - a. Create a new repository and name it as CPE232_yourname. Check Add a README file and click Create repository.



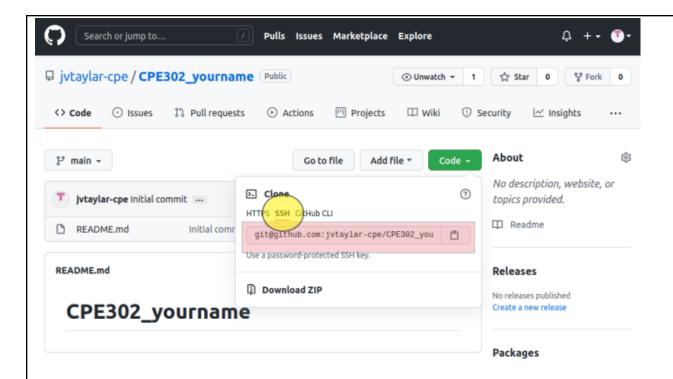
b. Create a new SSH key on GitHub. Go your profile's setting and click SSH and GPG keys. If there is an existing key, make sure to delete it. To create a new SSH keys, click New SSH Key. Write CPE232 key as the title of the key.



c. On the local machine's terminal, issue the command cat .ssh/id_rsa.pub and copy the public key. Paste it on the GitHub key and press Add SSH key.

rustom@LocalMachine:-\$ cat .ssh/id rsa.pub
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAACAQDpxystAYNSCptG81wZlUg3bcJ2qQRBu+HLM3dhlxlH
ge8N8q2V+EPlywiGINAOGl3kRU9IX4BAGExWoYlDaf1HhALM7UN5JFeAV1QHS9e1t0OYhM1ryLbg6lgM
MLTxh3HiDqijhOSlzdaUuSEqxcEmvEeYMjbHS6Vs2TEpPYEormKsl+/khS5BWJK+/PkJb3267CnRrOU/
yg6q4kW5THOPNEmf810TFMQiK2K8r3Zj9sPRBKpX7+7831nYsw+DLir9zhPhqMUBM057TZAysTz2mQdS
CVcQN8ZZI7e224ISt9n10JqS7skHKX14QpwIav896x8gT/a8BnTzs6GAhbRG25ul6giAh6S6/sKMoQab
2DFCt8Qkn7pDUgTcy9h2y703Z0Xbkhots54NdF6k1dWi3ov197FRsuo2u38/yA1aPNDOskdN3HiAroo2
/th8X7RSe7RtZQo3wL6elzs1xFZ8MsB/ZgZ0JmAdVV7MQbII0r5bhifJMZcfLCg2hM5tyl0h6XQefYge
gNEBJfMyKB5IJnKuZAQPvJ/F+YnTXrdjQKUBYh+E7RZ3VyVHOSbi/WbX75q6AOXZquVp32TeaPRQzy5g
qjwpJnjShEuLmM4fLBwIRB9QOLO6ypwFNK0jTtxocSxQG0uyi1ZtIZfeXnRClz7RxZvedhWd/PW9QngF
iQ== rustom@LocalMachine

d. Clone the repository that you created. In doing this, you need to get the link from GitHub. Browse to your repository as shown below. Click on the Code drop down menu. Select SSH and copy the link.



e. Issue the command git clone followed by the copied link. For example, *git clone* git@github.com:jvtaylar-cpe/CPE232_yourname.git. When prompted to continue connecting, type yes and press enter.

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ git clone git@github.com:atomcarino91/CPE232_Rustom.git Cloning into 'CPE232_Rustom'...
The authenticity of host 'github.com (20.205.243.166)' can't be established. ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:+DiY3wvvV6TuJJhbpZisF/zLDA0zPMSvHdkr4UvCOqU. This key is not known by any other names
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no/[fingerprint])? yes Warning: Permanently added 'github.com' (ED25519) to the list of known hosts. remote: Enumerating objects: 3, done.
remote: Counting objects: 100% (3/3), done.
remote: Total 3 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0), pack-reused 0
Receiving objects: 100%_(3/3), done.
```

f. To verify that you have cloned the GitHub repository, issue the command <code>/s.</code> Observe that you have the CPE232_yourname in the list of your directories. Use CD command to go to that directory and LS command to see the file README.md.

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ ls
CPE232_Rustom Music 'ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 4096'
Desktop Pictures 'ssh-keygen -t rsa -b 4096.pub'
Documents Public Templates
Downloads snap Videos
rustom@LocalMachine:~$ cd CPE232_Rustom
rustom@LocalMachine:~/CPE232_Rustom$ ls
README.md
rustom@LocalMachine:~/CPE232_Rustom$
```

- g. Use the following commands to personalize your git.
 - git config --global user.name "Your Name"
 - git config --global user.email yourname@email.com
 - Verify that you have personalized the config file using the command cat ~/.gitconfig

h. Edit the README.md file using nano command. Provide any information on the markdown file pertaining to the repository you created. Make sure to write out or sudo save the file and exit.

```
rustom@LocalMachine: ~/CPE232_Rustom Q =
GNU nano 6.2 README.md
# CPE KNIGHTS
```

i. Use the *git status* command to display the state of the working directory and the staging area. This command shows which changes have been staged, which haven't, and which files aren't being tracked by Git. Status output does not show any information regarding the committed project history. What is the result of issuing this command?

j. Use the command *git add README.md* to add the file into the staging area.

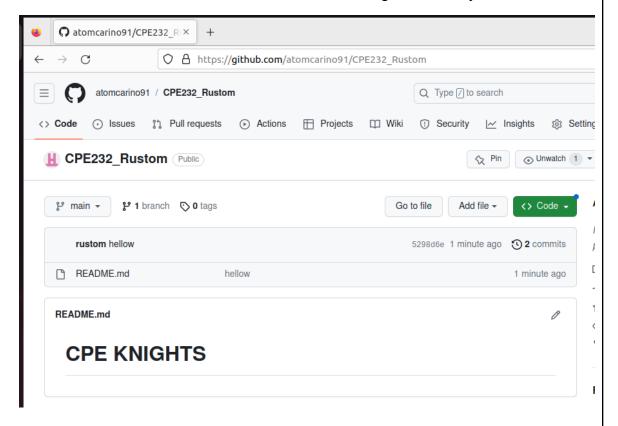
```
rustom@LocalMachine:~/CPE232_Rustom$ git add README.md
```

k. Use the *git commit -m "your message"* to create a snapshot of the staged changes along the timeline of the Git projects history. The use of this command is required to select the changes that will be staged for the next commit.

```
rustom@LocalMachine:~/CPE232_Rustom$ git commit -m "hellow"
[main 5298d6e] hellow
  1 file changed, 1 insertion(+), 1 deletion(-)
```

I. Use the command *git push <remote><branch>* to upload the local repository content to GitHub repository. Pushing means to transfer commits from the local repository to the remote repository. As an example, you may issue *git push origin main*.

m. On the GitHub repository, verify that the changes have been made to README.md by refreshing the page. Describe the README.md file. You can notice the how long was the last commit. It should be some minutes ago and the message you typed on the git commit command should be there. Also, the README.md file should have been edited according to the text you wrote.



Reflections:

Answer the following:

- 3. What sort of things have we so far done to the remote servers using ansible commands?
 - I create a public key and a private key to configure the local machine and the server to connect via SSH using a key instead of a password.

- 4. How important is the inventory file?
 - The inventory file instructs the ansible commands on which machines to connect to and conduct tasks on. It is where all commands are saved so that they may be used again when the command is enabled.

Conclusions/Learnings:

- After this hands-on activity, I will be able to configure remote and local machines to connect via SSH using a key instead of using a password. I will also be able to create a public key and private key then verify the connectivity between the local machines and the servers. I also create my own github account since I don't have one then using local machine and remote repositories I simply setup the git repository.