

ssh to UA HPC

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Abstract

This describes setting up ssh keys and configuration to avoid having to use your NetID+ 2-factor authentication every time you log into the HPC. Windows users are encouraged to install Cygwin (<http://www.cygwin.com>), a free Unix-like environment that provides a terminal so as to avoid using an ssh client like Putty. Cygwin users must be sure to install the "ssh" tools which are not installed by default.

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Protocol

Step 1.

Sign up for NetID+ <https://webauth.arizona.edu/netid-plus/>

Step 2.

Initial login

Open a terminal and type 'ssh <NetID>@hpc.arizona.edu'. Enter your NetID password and then follow the instructions for 2-factor authentication.

Step 3.

Copy public key to speed up login

Open a second terminal on your *local* machine and 'cd /.ssh'. If that directory does not exist, execute 'ssh-keygen' to create local keys; accept all defaults by pressing <Enter>. Then copy your *public* key:

```
$ cat /.ssh/id_rsa.pub
```

Copy and paste that text. On MacOS, you can use the 'pbcopy' (pasteboard copy) command:

```
$ pbcopy < /.ssh/id_rsa.pub
```

In the HPC terminal, open `/.ssh/authorized_keys` and add the line of text from the `'id_rsa.pub.'` If the file does not exist, create it. Ensure that the permissions on the file are 600 (`'chmod 600'`).

Step 4.

Test no-password login

Back in your *local* terminal, test that you can login without 2-factor auth by executing `'ssh <NetID>@hpc.arizona.edu'`. If you were logged in automatically, you are all set.

Step 5.

Create login alias

In your *local* terminal, open `/.ssh/config` and add the following lines:

Host hpc

Hostname hpc.arizona.edu

User <NetID>

Now on your local machine, you can `"ssh hpc"` to get a terminal on the HPC.