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Course/Section: CPE31S23	Date Submitted: August 25, 2022
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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.
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.

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~  
$ cd .ssh  
  
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~/.ssh  
$ ssh-keygen  
Generating public/private rsa key pair.  
Enter file in which to save the key (/c/Users/AJAJAM/.ssh/id_rsa):  
/c/Users/AJAJAM/.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 /c/Users/AJAJAM/.ssh/id_rsa  
Your public key has been saved in /c/Users/AJAJAM/.ssh/id_rsa.pub  
The key fingerprint is:  
SHA256:vV40IP7KDeaUk1EIp19qVk5fTPVd0B0Jq1T1STtzWr4 AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI  
The key's randomart image is:  
+---[RSA 3072]-----+  
| . . .o+**|  
| + .. .oo.o|  
| . o.*. o*=|  
| o.X.o . ++|  
| S.o + . .|  
| o = o . .|
```

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

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~/.ssh  
$ ls  
id_rsa id_rsa.pub known_hosts known_hosts.old
```

Task 2: Copying the Public Key to the remote servers

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

```

AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~/.ssh
$ ssh-copy-id jozshua@192.168.56.102
/usr/bin/ssh-copy-id: INFO: Source of key(s) to be installed: "/c/Users/AJAJAM/.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
jozshua@192.168.56.102's password:

Number of key(s) added: 1

Now try logging into the machine, with:  "ssh 'jozshua@192.168.56.102'"
and check to make sure that only the key(s) you wanted were added.

```

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

```

AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~/.ssh
$ ssh jozshua@192.168.56.102
Welcome to Ubuntu 22.04.1 LTS (GNU/Linux 5.15.0-46-generic x86_64)

 * Documentation:  https://help.ubuntu.com
 * Management:    https://landscape.canonical.com
 * Support:       https://ubuntu.com/advantage

0 updates can be applied immediately.

*** System restart required ***
Last login: Sat Aug 20 16:38:18 2022 from 192.168.56.102

```

It didn't ask for password because of the ssh-copy-id host@ip add command.

Reflections:

Answer the following:

1. How will you describe the ssh-program? What does it do? - For me ssh program is that enables the two computers to be able to communicate to each other.
2. How do you know that you already installed the public key to the remote servers? - I think it is when you can already to logged into the machine with the ssh host@ip add command that is connected to the remote server.

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

1. On the local machine, verify the version of your git using the command *which git*.

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~/.ssh
$ which git
/mingw64/bin/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*

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

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~/.ssh
$ git --version
git version 2.37.2.windows.2
```

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.



Welcome to GitHub, @jozshua!

- 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.

SSH keys

This is a list of SSH keys associated with your account. Remove any keys that you do not recognize.

Authentication Keys



CPE232

SHA256: vV40IP7KDeaUk1EIp19qVvK5fTPVd0B0Jq1T15TtzW4

Added on Aug 25, 2022

Last used within the last week — Read/write

- 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.

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~/.ssh
$ cat id_rsa.pub
ssh-rsa AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAQgQC5H0kIoECGuwbjqIuq6QcQG8pjSCY5KC7PP/q3BUn/
/9fYYnuuMACw++c8iK6FmiY1tu+Ob7AFFsD0RDXEGGEH1jmQ/dk3xWTzfnUrVKY8w3AEwXM3TakNj4cI
0w2RN1vvJgeynKBC4Dq43nD60K0hz27cpNythCVWt/UNnuEPb1sy9M/iPCNP9aocsR2wrvQyq/dPWGjH
9IztKpvmT8PvrCrc3Ia6JfNTA1DGpGDFy12CyFm7/wfXiInpSBVAdDt7Y0QdWJ35Qfxwc0PWNg15x8
m42dgVg/OFiWsnFFeomZChk7/GUo4a//ye680FxJtKteiq+w10P9x1oQcCzREzBoScPCC9cFQR93F07F
u16c4R6b8xDL5r97C81vLwWPTsck1VafDDqeuxjZRpLVqnmhVDFW/bPbhtPX6cVW4YEP0W72SkE52B1g
v5Dg1V8p2td2Kw2406HD35FnzHUBiRH0TeG0trVLswTCAOLqkq4c2N80zEgdohQ3th0iPZk= AJAJAM@
DESKTOP-NL08FVI
```

- 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.

The screenshot shows the GitHub interface for a repository named 'CPE302_yourname' by user 'jvtaylor-cpe'. The 'Code' dropdown menu is open, and the 'SSH' option is highlighted with a yellow circle. The corresponding SSH URL, 'git@github.com:jvtaylor-cpe/CPE302_you', is displayed in a pink box. Below the repository name, the text 'CPE302_yourname' is visible.

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

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~
$ git clone git@github.com:jozshua/CPE232_Jozshua.git
Cloning into 'CPE232_Jozshua'...
The authenticity of host 'github.com (20.205.243.166)' can't be established.
ED25519 key fingerprint is SHA256:+DiY3wvV6TuJJhbpZisF/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 `ls`. 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.

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~
$ ls
'1st meet.txt'
'3D Objects'/
ATM.py
Accounts.py
Alonzo/
AppData/
'Application Data'@
CPE232_Jozshua/
```

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~
$ cd CPE232_Jozshua

AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~/CPE232_Jozshua (main)
$ ls
README.md
```

- 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`

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~/CPE232_Jozshua (main)
$ git config --global user.name "Jozshua"

AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~/CPE232_Jozshua (main)
$ git config --global user.email qjaaalonzo@tip.edu.ph

AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NL08FVI MINGW64 ~/CPE232_Jozshua (main)
$ cat ~/.gitconfig
[user]
    name = Jozshua
    email = qjaaalonzo@tip.edu.ph
```

- 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 save the file and exit.

```
MINGW64:/c/Users/AJAJAM/CPE232_Jozshua
GNU nano 6.4 README.md
# CPE232_Jozshua
Activity 2
```

- 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? it is modified.

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NLO8FVI MINGW64 ~/CPE232_Jozshua (main)
$ git status
On branch main
Your branch is up to date with 'origin/main'.

Changes not staged for commit:
  (use "git add <file>..." to update what will be committed)
  (use "git restore <file>..." to discard changes in working directory)
        modified:   README.md

no changes added to commit (use "git add" and/or "git commit -a")
```

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

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NLO8FVI MINGW64 ~/CPE232_Jozshua (main)
$ git add README.md
warning: in the working copy of 'README.md', LF will be replaced by CRLF the next time Git touches it
```

- 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.

```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NLO8FVI MINGW64 ~/CPE232_Jozshua (main)
$ git commit -m "Activity 2"
[main 9d9e66d] Activity 2
1 file changed, 2 insertions(+), 1 deletion(-)
```

- l. 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*.


```
AJAJAM@DESKTOP-NLO8FVI MINGW64 ~/CPE232_Jozshua (main)
$ git push origin main
Enumerating objects: 5, done.
Counting objects: 100% (5/5), done.
Writing objects: 100% (3/3), 272 bytes | 45.00 KiB/s, done.
Total 3 (delta 0), reused 0 (delta 0), pack-reused 0
To github.com:jozshua/CPE232_Jozshua.git
8c3caf1..9d9e66d main -> 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.

The screenshot shows the GitHub interface for the repository 'jozshua / CPE232_Jozshua'. The repository is public. The navigation bar includes links for Code, Issues, Pull requests, Actions, Projects, Wiki, Security, Insights, and Settings. Below the navigation bar, there are buttons for 'Go to file', 'Add file', and 'Code'. The main content area shows a commit history for 'jozshua Activity 2' with a commit hash '9d9e66d' from '3 minutes ago' and '2 commits'. Below this, there is a file named 'README.md' with a commit message 'Activity 2' from '3 minutes ago'. The README content is displayed below the file name, showing the title 'CPE232_Jozshua' and the commit message 'Activity 2'.

Reflections:

Answer the following:

3. What sort of things have we so far done to the remote servers using ansible commands? - In ansible commands we used public and private keys to access the remote keys.
4. How important is the inventory file? - it is important because this inventory file is to check your file through the github.

Conclusions/Learnings:

I learned in this activity using git bash and communicate It to the remote server. In the git bash I created id_rsa to have the public and private keys in order to connect to my git hub account from the web server. After that I learned to create repository and modify it through the git bash by linking it with the link from the created repository and in the code tab to copy and paste the link to the git bash.

