

# GPG \*Gnu Privacy Guard or GnuPGP)

- GPG

- Free cryptographic software originally developed by Werner Koch.
- It supports important major cryptographic algorithms, which are known to be secure.
- Has been continuously updated.
- A crucial tool for **privacy protection** – Known to be used by Edward Snowden to prevent his communications from being eavesdropped.

# GPG

- Symmetric encryption

- To encrypt: `gpg -c test.txt`

- ✓ The ciphertext `test.txt.gpg` will be created.

- ✓ To save your ciphertext in ascii format use: `gpg -c --armor test.txt` (Note that without the armor option, the default format of the ciphertext (encrypted text) is binary, which cannot be displayed correctly. \*Try: `cat test.txt.gpg` and `cat test.txt.asc` and compare the result.

- ✓ Note that “AES” is a default symmetric encryption algorithm.

- To decrypt: `gpg test.txt.gpg`

# GPG

- Public key encryption

- To generate key: `gpg --gen-key`

- ✓ Default is RSA2048

- ✓ It may take some time depending on platforms

- ✓ Important to use correct uid (email address)

- To export a public key: `gpg --armor --export uid > mypubkey.gpg.asc`

- ✓ You can send your public key to your friend.

- To list the public keys you have in the current system: `gpg --list-keys`

- To import a public key: `gpg --armor --import pubkey.gpg.asc`

# GPG

- Public key encryption

- To encrypt: `gpg --encrypt -r <recipient_uid> --armor filename`
- To decrypt: `gpg filename`

# GPG

- Task: Assume that you are Alice on Kali VM. Your friend is Bob on Ubuntu VM.
  1. GPG is also installed on Ubuntu. On Ubuntu VM, generate a Bob's public key, export it as asc (ascii), and send it to Alice on Kali VM (via email). [\[See page 3\]](#)
  2. On Kali VM, import the received (Bob's) public key and encrypt any message using it (Bob's public key). Send the ciphertext to Bob the Ubuntu VM (via email). [\[See pages 3 and 4\]](#)
  3. Bob decrypt the received ciphertext with his private key. [\[See page 4\]](#)