
Laboratory Assignment

IEMS 5710 Crypto., Info. Security and Privacy
(2nd Trimester, 2024-25)
Full Mark: 100

Deadline: 23:59 HKT
28 December 2024

Objectives

This assignment covers some key topics we will cover in the lectures. Upon completion, you will be able to:

- Establish a secure communication channel using public-key encryption
- Change the access level of a file in a Linux machine
- Write some simple SQL queries for querying a database
- Write an HTML webpage file to interact with a “web application” written in PHP

(This “laboratory assignment” is designed to provide you with first-hand experiences in security-related computing environments. You are advised to complete at least the first three parts of the question early to have some hands-on experience before you commit to taking this course.)

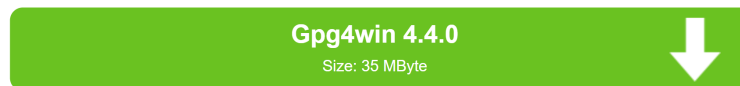
1 Encryption and Decryption using GPG4WIN (25%)

1.1 Installation

1. Download GPG4WIN from the following URL: <https://www.gpg4win.org/download.html>.
2. Click the download button.

Gpg4win 4.4.0 (Released: 2024-11-27)

You can download the full version (including the Gpg4win compendium) of Gpg4win 4.4.0 here:



OpenPGP signature (for gpg4win-4.4.0.exe)

SHA256: 765673854c1503602b09c97bfa6c72b534e2414185fb2f23a0ce19cf8cecd891

3. Select “\$0” and start to download. // Well, you can always choose to donate :)

A donation form with a yellow background. At the top, it says "Please donate for Gpg4win to support maintenance and development!" and "Pay what you want! – Thank you!". Under "Donate with", there are radio buttons for "PayPal" (selected), "Bitcoin", and "Bank transfer". To the right, the PayPal logo is shown. Below it are buttons for "\$0", "\$10", "\$15", "\$25", and "\$ ____". Underneath these are buttons for "USD", "EUR", "onetime", and "monthly". At the bottom is a blue "Download" button with a white arrow icon.

4. Double-click the file to start the installation process.
5. Select the default option.



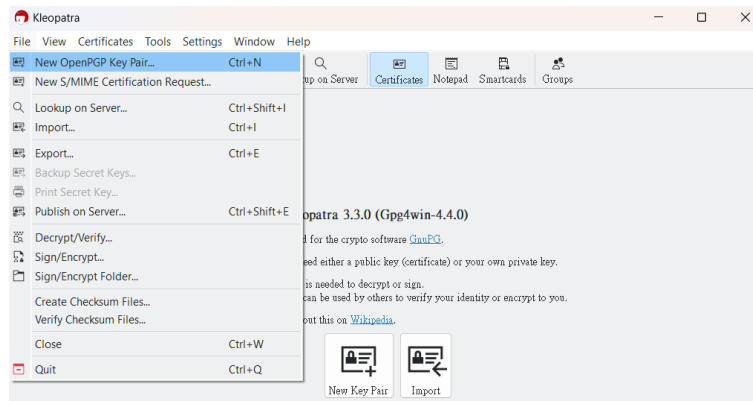
6. Finally, select “Run Kleopatra” and press **Finish**.



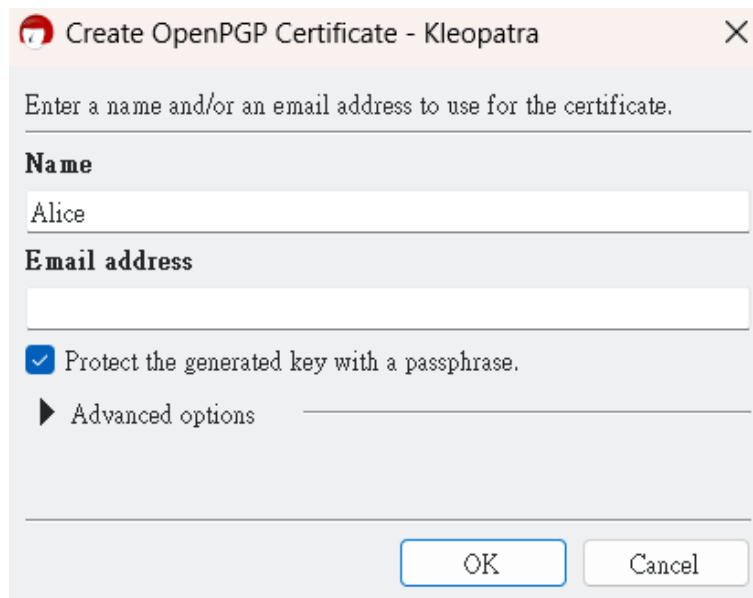
1.2 Generate a public and private key pair

This section demonstrates the steps to generate a public and private key pair in the system.

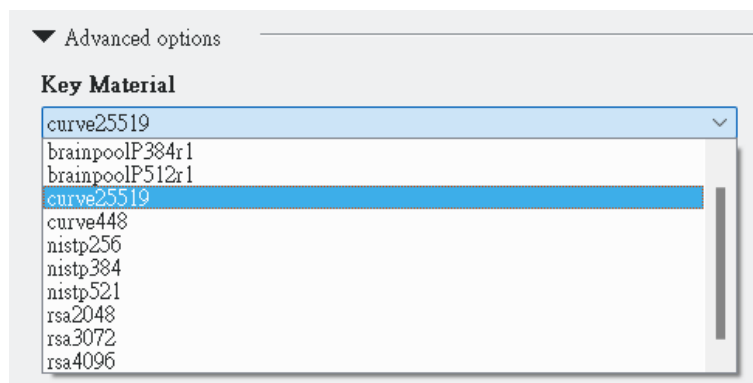
1. After the software has started, select **New OpenPGP Key Pair**.
(Question you should ask yourself: What does “PGP” stand for? Google is your friend.)



2. Select **Create a personal OpenPGP key pair**, fill in your name and email address if you want, and tick the box “Protect the generated key with a passphrase” (Why?).

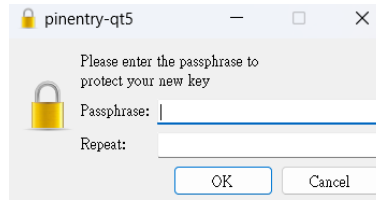


You can click “Advanced options” for other available options. For example, you can increase the key length in the advanced setting dialog box. We will use the default options in this lab assignment. (Question to yourself: What are curve25519, nistp256, rsa2048?)



3. Click **OK** to create the key pair.

4. Enter a password to protect your new (private) key.



5. Your new key pair has been created.

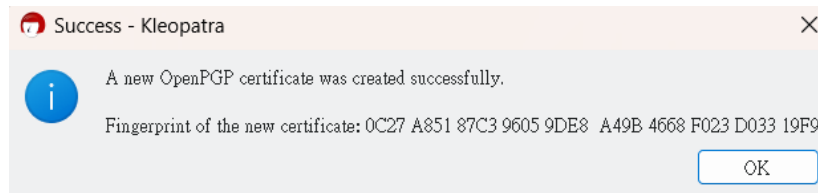
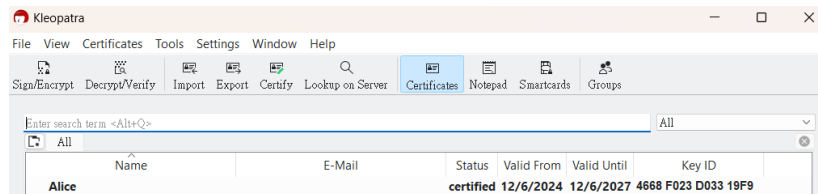


Figure 1: Generate a public and private key pair

1.3 Export your own public key

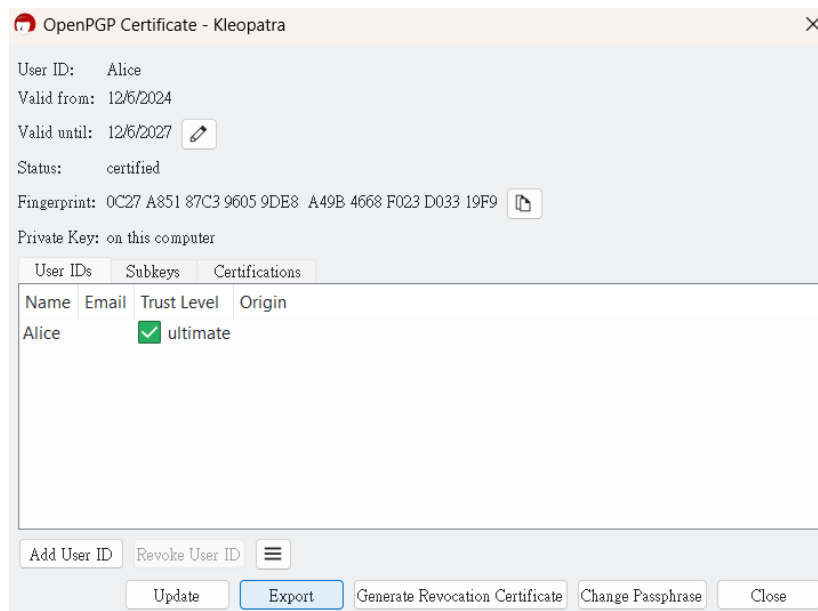
To establish a secure communication channel, you have to give your public key to others. This section details the steps to export your public key to a file so you can send it out.

1. After you press **OK** in the previous step, you will see the following box.



2. Move your mouse cursor and double-click your name.

3. The certificate details will be shown.



- Click the **Export** button to view your public key.

```

-----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
Comment: User ID: Alice
Comment: Valid from:      12/6/2024 14:41
Comment: Valid until:    12/6/2027 12:00
Comment: Type:          255-bit EdDSA (secret key available)
Comment: Usage:        Signing, Encryption, Certifying User IDs
Comment: Fingerprint:
0C27A85187C396059DE8A49B4668F023D03319F9

mDMEZlKcqRYJKwYBBAHaRw8BAQdA3ZuAQeNbWyJ8x/
rWE0OohPYbdbEEYXXyFce
df4Kjeu0BUFSaWNliJkEEExYKAEEWIQQMJ6hRh8OWBZ3opJtGaPAj0DMZ+QUCZ1Kc
Kc
qQIbAwUJBaN0lwULCQgHAgIiAgYVCgkICwIEFgIDAQIeBwIXgAAKCRBGaPAj0DMZ
MZ
+dwZAQDdas2Zk3zW/
a8Q9RG3CjAf7mapVLTua8x7Pidk014JYwEAKrjw0LLVjdVk
uiAjKZOTlKMi9GNrJA7iKQv6yHQSSA64OARnUypEgorBgEEAZdVAQUBAQdAHs2+
4sq+eDsCGLhSH4AE8f8wGrw85uaolsSiP0uCki8DAQgHiH4EGBYKACYWIQQMJ6hR
h8OWBZ3opJtGaPAj0DMZ+QUCZ1KcqQIbDAUJBaN0lwAKCRBGaPAj0DMZ+eiSAQCw
XhxoxVlIKw8XTgw5Rrj6NP+3j2pJ42CxAywNnDfpbQD+O9u+ZcmOBEGpzhj06R7H
0vW//ci2zKXgXKby7qlUig0=
=V7cv
-----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----

```

Figure 2: Export your public key to a file

- Right-click and select all content. Copy the content to the clipboard. Open a text editor (e.g., notepad) and paste the content. Remove lines 2 to 9 from the content. You should have the following screen.

```

1 -----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
2 mDMEZlKcqRYJKwYBBAHaRw8BAQdA3ZuAQeNbWyJ8x/rWE0OohPYbdbEEYXXyFce
3 df4Kjeu0BUFSaWNliJkEEExYKAEEWIQQMJ6hRh8OWBZ3opJtGaPAj0DMZ+QUCZ1Kc
4 qQIbAwUJBaN0lwULCQgHAgIiAgYVCgkICwIEFgIDAQIeBwIXgAAKCRBGaPAj0DMZ
5 +dwZAQDdas2Zk3zW/a8Q9RG3CjAf7mapVLTua8x7Pidk014JYwEAKrjw0LLVjdVk
6 uiAjKZOTlKMi9GNrJA7iKQv6yHQSSA64OARnUypEgorBgEEAZdVAQUBAQdAHs2+
7 4sq+eDsCGLhSH4AE8f8wGrw85uaolsSiP0uCki8DAQgHiH4EGBYKACYWIQQMJ6hR
8 h8OWBZ3opJtGaPAj0DMZ+QUCZ1KcqQIbDAUJBaN0lwAKCRBGaPAj0DMZ+eiSAQCw
9 XhxoxVlIKw8XTgw5Rrj6NP+3j2pJ42CxAywNnDfpbQD+O9u+ZcmOBEGpzhj06R7H
10 0vW//ci2zKXgXKby7qlUig0=
11 =V7cv
12 -----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----

```

- Save the file and name it **[your name]_public_key.txt**.
- You can send this file to your partner for the following step.

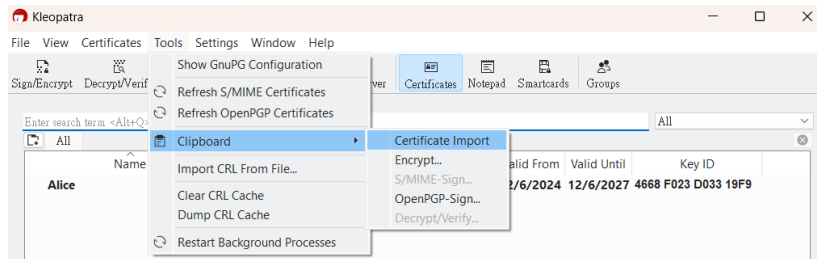
1.4 Import others' public keys

You need other's public key to encrypt messages for secure communication. This section demonstrates the steps to import others' public keys into the system.

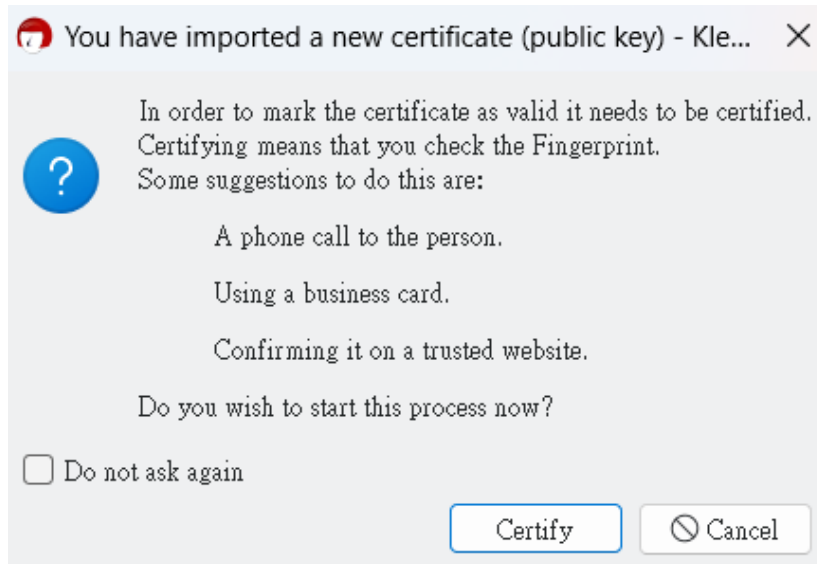
1. When you get the public key from others, open it with a text editor and copy the content to the clipboard.

```
Bob_public_key.txt
1 -----BEGIN PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
2 mDMEZ1KuihYJKwYBBAHARw8BAQdAFYxmmcxza2p4+4HfcAEwE6zXV+x+Jpkj8GW+
3 yjabJbC0A0JvYoiZBBMWcGBBFiEE9Y/MXGt48pvIAuZr6YTZAk2ItVwFamdSrooC
4 GwMFCQWjYrYFCwkIBwICIGIGFQoJCAasCBBYCAwECHgcCF4AACgkQ6YTZAk2ItVyK
5 DgEAukF0uXWlf8zNBuqOV/uz6ovoGUJI1gg1K895p6wrKsMA/0qL/tDobB5B19DH
6 mQ8I7keQ1/GIqg7hPLwrAuZwNwEuDgEZ1KuihIKKwYBBAGXVQEFAQEHDts6PQ2
7 4nle8Yrhy2kZ1+GgygiucPQtKZ8hyqINmgAaAwEIB4h+BBgWCgAmFiEE9Y/MXGt4
8 8pvIAuZr6YTZAk2ItVwFamdSrooCGwwFCQWjYrYACgkQ6YTZAk2ItVzqNwD/RaW5
9 G6WpDLo2nJ9acwNyRbyTEKBPLd71q5OV9znfqjgBAPICkOlaT6xIVoNZMkKos2ZQ
10 eYGkAYHGz/N3kyB9cqAK
11 =P4jc
12 -----END PGP PUBLIC KEY BLOCK-----
```

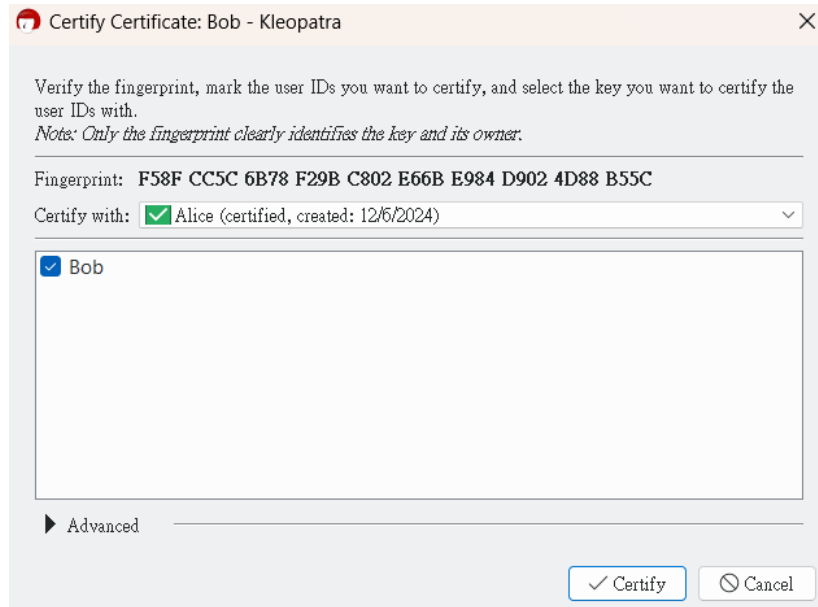
2. Go to Kleopatra and select **Certificate Import** (the button is grey if nothing is copied).



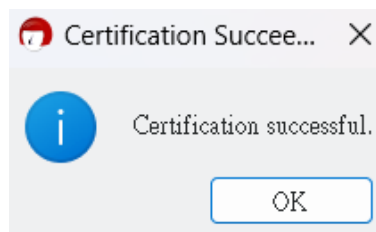
3. In this dialog box, click **Certify**.



4. Click **Certify**.



5. Click **OK**. You may need to input the password that you have set in Section 1.2.



6. The public key of your partner has been imported successfully.

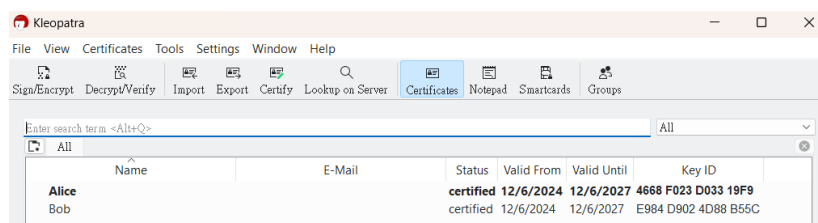
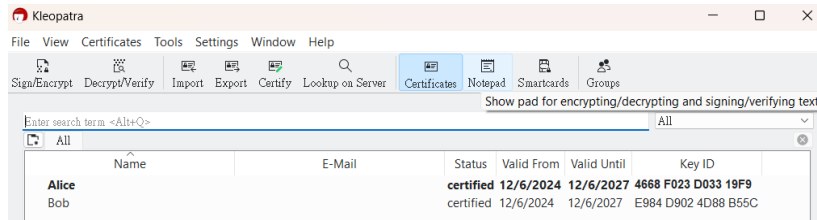


Figure 3: Import your partner's public key to the system

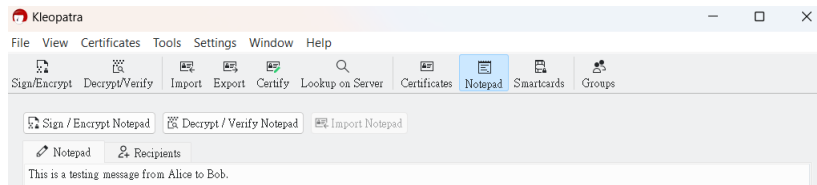
1.5 Encrypt messages by using the public key and sign by using your private key

After you have imported other's public key to the system, you can use his/her public key to encrypt a message and use your own private key to sign the message. This section demonstrates the steps to do so.

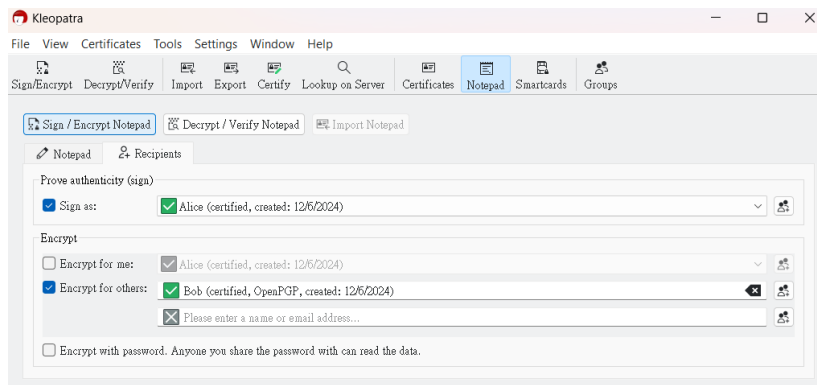
1. Open Kleopatra and select **Notepad** in the toolbar.



2. Type in the message that you are going to encrypt.



3. In **Recipients**, tick "Sign as" and input the recipient in "Encrypt for others"; click **Sign/Encrypt Notepad**.



4. The encryption is done successfully. Select the **Notepad** tab to view the encrypted message.

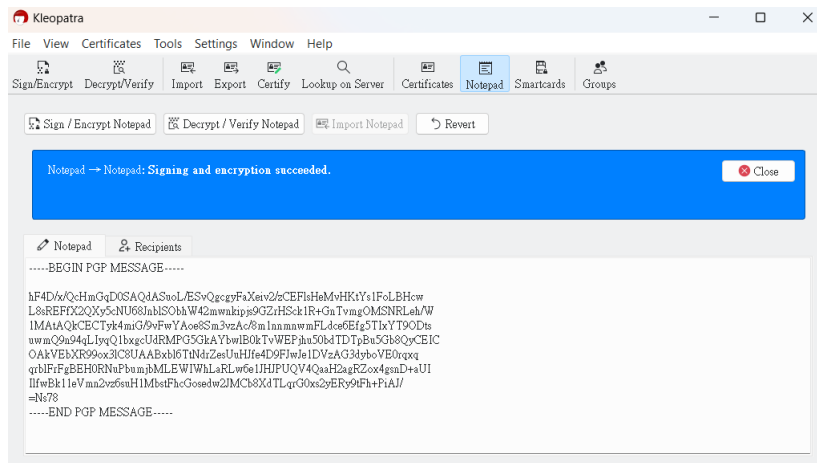


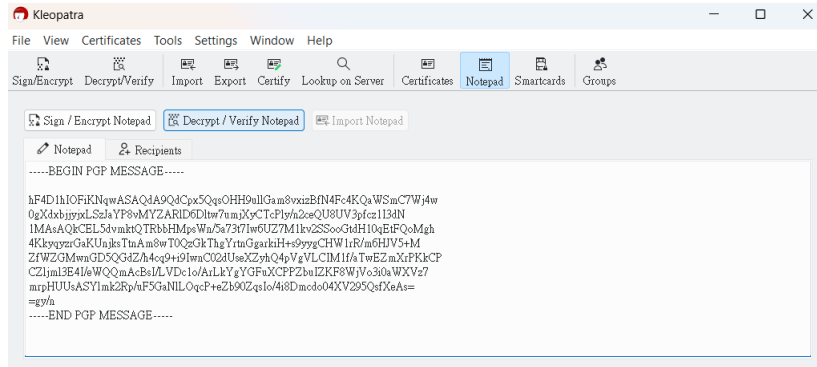
Figure 4: Encrypt a message to your partner

5. You can copy and send the content as a file or by email.

1.6 Decrypt message by using the private key and verify using other's public key

After receiving the encrypted message from the sender, you can use your private key to decrypt the message and use the sender's public key to verify the sender's identity.

1. On the recipient's side, open Kleopatra and click the **Notepad** tab.
2. Paste the encrypted message to the box and click **Decrypt/Verify Notepad**.



3. Kleopatra will verify the sender's identity and start decrypting the content.

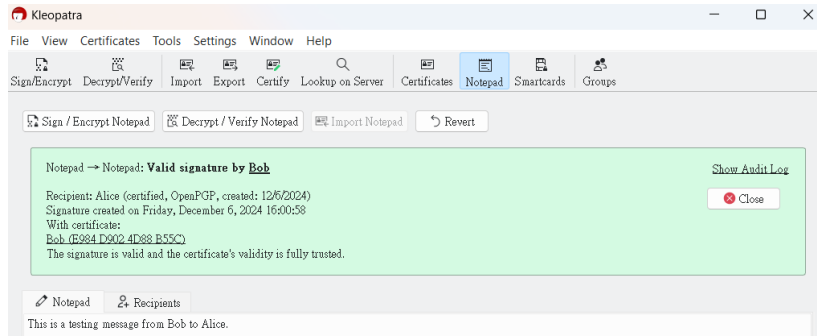


Figure 5: Decrypt an encrypted message from your partner

Your Tasks

In this question, you need to submit the following:

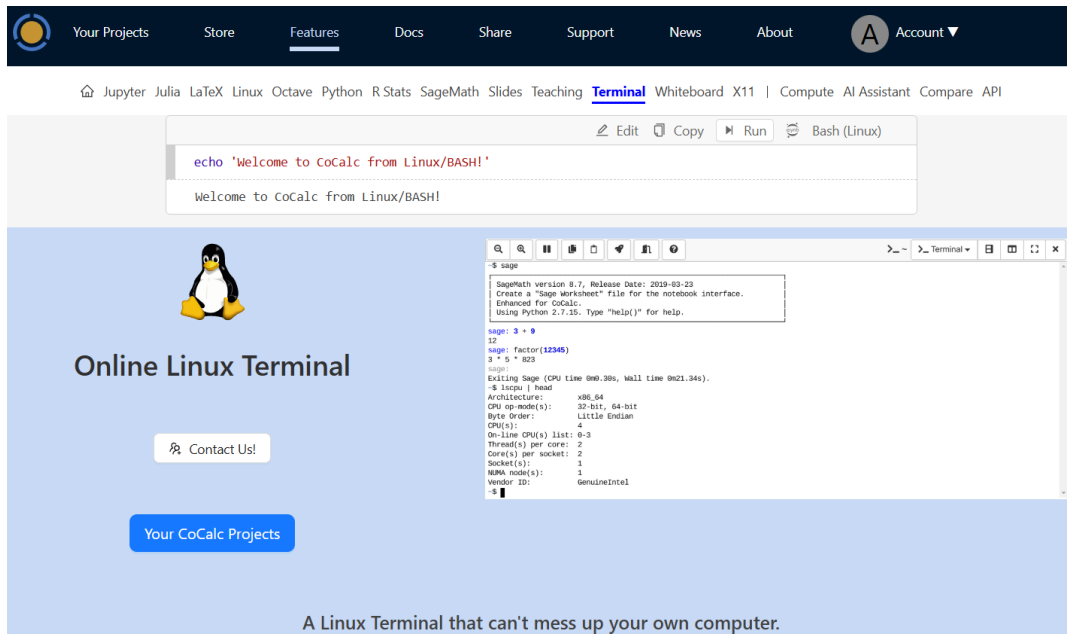
- Generate a public and private key pair (Figure 1).
- Export your public key to a file (Figure 2).
- Import your partner's public key to the system (Figure 3).
- Encrypt a message to your partner (Figure 4).
- Decrypt an encrypted message from your partner (Figure 5).

To show your work, you need to capture your computer screen in these steps (i.e., Figures 1-5) and include them in your report. Optionally, you can include the long form of the acronyms you encountered.

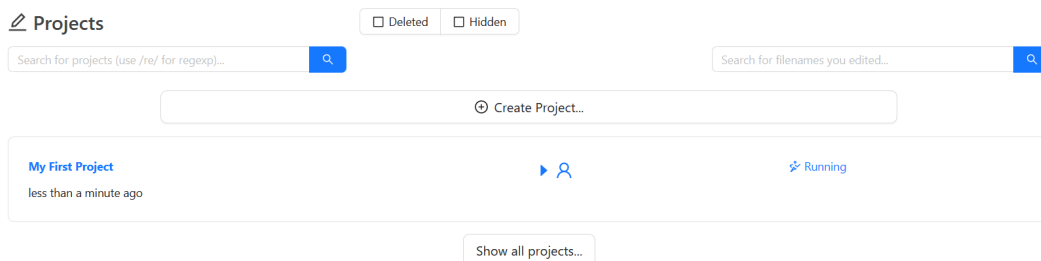
2 Access Control in Linux Machine (25%)

2.1 Connect to a Linux VM

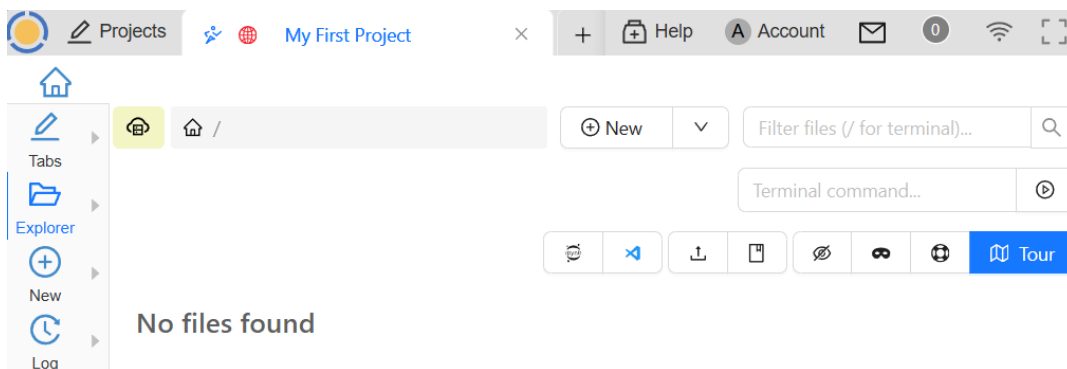
1. Go to the following URL: <https://cocalc.com/doc/terminal.html>.
2. Sign up for an account and click **Your CoCalc Projects** to start an Online Linux Terminal.



3. Click My First Project.



4. After entering the project, you can type commands in “Terminal command...”.



2.2 Create a sample file

1. Type the following command in the shell and press enter to execute it:

```
echo "This is a test file" > test_1.txt
```

- echo is a command for displaying something on the console display.
- > is a symbol for redirecting from the console display.
- test_1.txt will be the destination for the above redirection.

Simply put, the effect is it will create a file called test_1.txt with one line.

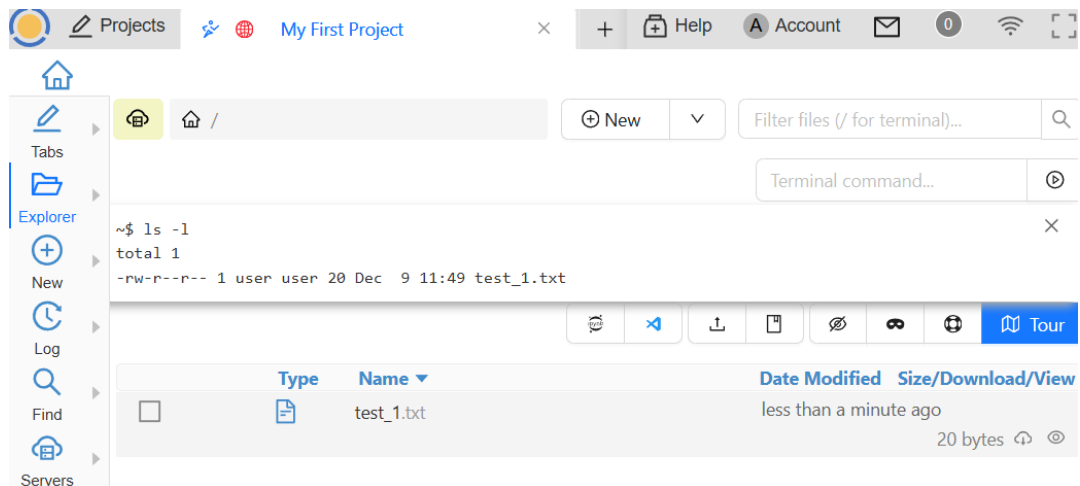
Warning: it *overwrites* the file if the file exists.

2. Execute the following command to list the file in the current directory:

```
ls -l
```

- ls is a command for listing directory (folder in Windows terminology) contents.
- ls -l means “using a long listing format.”
- You can try ls --help or man ls to know more about ls.

After running the command, you should be able to see the following:



2.3 Set the access level of a file in a Linux machine

1. In Linux, we use the `chmod` command with the following syntax to set/change the access level of a file:

```
chmod [option] permissions file_name
```

- There are three kind of users: u = owner, g = the group where the file belongs to, o = others.
- Also, there are three kinds of access restrictions: r = 4 = read, w = 2 = write, x = 1 = execute.
- Here, option is not necessary to set.

2. To **add** the **executing** permission of `test_1.txt` to the **owner**, we execute the following:

```
chmod u+x test_1.txt
```

3. To **remove** the **reading** permission of `test_1.txt` to the **group of users** and **others**:

```
chmod g-r,o-r test_1.txt
```

4. To add the **reading**, **writing**, and **executing** permission to the **owner**, **group of users**, and **others**:

```
chmod u+wrx,g+rwx,o+rwx test_1.txt
```

The above command is equivalent to the following **numerical** representations:

```
chmod 777 test_1.txt
```

Here 7 equals `+wrx` ($4 + 2 + 1$).

Your Tasks

In this question, you need to submit the **command** to do the following:

1. Create a file named [the last 4 digits of your SID].txt with "Submission to Q2" as content.
2. Set the following access restriction of the above file using **numerical** representations:
 - (a) Give the **reading**, **writing**, and **executing** permission to the **owner**.
 - (b) Give the **reading** permission to the **group of users**.
 - (c) Give the **executing** permission to **others**.
3. Set the following access restriction of the above file using **alphabetical** representations:
 - (a) Remove the **executing** permission to the **owner** and **others**.
 - (b) Give the **writing** permission to the **group of users**.

3 Basic SQL (25%)

3.1 Connect to the SQL Online IDE

- Go to the following URL: <https://sqliteonline.com>.
- To run a query, just click **Run** or press **Shift + Enter**.

3.2 Learn SQL

Structured Query Language (SQL) is a database query language that allows the management of data in a relational database. In this part, we provide some basic SQL query examples to give you a taste of how they work, which helps you better understand SQL injection, to be covered in the lecture later.

1. **CREATE** a table named `users_info` with three columns: `ID` (`unique int`), `username` (`varchar(225)`), `password` (`varchar(225)`): (Question to yourself: What are NOT NULL, UNIQUE, VARCHAR?)

```
CREATE TABLE users_info (  
  ID INT NOT NULL UNIQUE,  
  username VARCHAR(225) NOT NULL,  
  password VARCHAR(225) NOT NULL  
);
```

Once a table is created, it cannot be created again; hence, the above query can be run only once.

To DELETE the table, we use DROP:

```
DROP TABLE users_info;
```

A query ends with “;”.

2. **INSERT** the following rows into `user_info`:

```
INSERT INTO users_info (ID, username, password)  
VALUES (1, 'Alice', 'Alice2004'),  
(2, 'Bob', '123456'),  
(3, 'Carol', 'password'),  
(4, 'Dave', 'dddd'),  
(5, 'Eve', 'qwerty'),  
(6, 'Alice', 'AlicE2004');
```

(Question to yourself: Are the above passwords strong enough? If no, what makes a stronger password?)

3. **SELECT** all columns of `users_info`:

```
SELECT * FROM users_info;
```

You should see the following output:

ID	username	password
1	Alice	Alice2004
2	Bob	123456
3	Carol	password
4	Dave	dddd
5	Eve	qwerty
6	Alice	AlicE2004

Figure 6: Select the table `users_info` after creation and insertion

4. **SELECT** specific columns from users_info:

```
SELECT ID, username FROM users_info;
```

ID	username
1	Alice
2	Bob
3	Carol
4	Dave
5	Eve
6	Alice

5. Use the **WHERE** clause to filter some of the records:

```
SELECT * FROM users_info WHERE username='Alice';
```

ID	username	password
1	Alice	Alice2004
6	Alice	AlicE2004

6. Use the **LIKE** operator to search for records containing a specific pattern:

Username starts with “a”:

```
SELECT * FROM users_info WHERE username LIKE 'a%';
```

ID	username	password
1	Alice	Alice2004
6	Alice	AlicE2004

Username contains with “a”:

```
SELECT * FROM users_info WHERE username LIKE '%a%';
```

ID	username	password
1	Alice	Alice2004
3	Carol	password
4	Dave	dddd
6	Alice	AlicE2004

Username ends with “e”:

```
SELECT * FROM users_info WHERE username LIKE '%e';
```

ID	username	password
1	Alice	Alice2004
4	Dave	dddd
5	Eve	qwerty
6	Alice	AlicE2004

7. Use the **BETWEEN** operator to select records given a range:

```
SELECT * FROM users_info WHERE ID BETWEEN 1 AND 3;
```

ID	username	password
1	Alice	Alice2004
2	Bob	123456
3	Carol	password

8. Use **comparison** operators to select records given a condition. They can be:

Operator	Description
=	Equal to
>	Greater than
<	Less than
>=	Greater than or equal to
<=	Less than or equal to
<>	Not equal to

Table 1: A list of comparison operators

```
SELECT * FROM users_info WHERE ID > 3;
```

ID	username	password
4	Dave	dddd
5	Eve	qwerty
6	Alice	AlicE2004

9. Use **AND**, **OR** operator to select records based on more than one condition:

```
SELECT * FROM users_info WHERE ID BETWEEN 1 AND 2 OR username LIKE '%e';
```

ID	username	password
1	Alice	Alice2004
2	Bob	123456
4	Dave	dddd
5	Eve	qwerty
6	Alice	AlicE2004

10. Use **NOT** operator to select records that are not true for the given condition:

```
SELECT * FROM users_info WHERE ID NOT BETWEEN 1 AND 3;
```

ID	username	password
4	Dave	dddd
5	Eve	qwerty
6	Alice	AlicE2004

11. **CREATE** another table named `purchase_record` with three columns: `ID` (`int`), `item` (`varchar(225)`), `date_of_purchase` (`date`). **INSERT** the following records into `purchase_record`:

ID	item	date_of_purchase
1	cola	2024-11-01
1	shrimps	2024-11-02
3	orange juice	2023-03-10
4	chips	2022-04-10
5	chips	2023-12-02
5	apple	2023-12-02
5	lemon	2023-12-04

Figure 7: Select the table `purchase_record` after creation and insertion

Try to write the query by yourself.

12. Use **ORDER BY** to sort the records based on some column(s); the default setting is in ascending order (**ASC** or **DSEC** to specify outputting in descending order):

```
SELECT * FROM purchase_record ORDER BY date_of_purchase;
```

ID	item	date_of_purchase
4	chips	2022-04-10
3	orange juice	2023-03-10
5	chips	2023-12-02
5	apple	2023-12-02
5	lemon	2023-12-04
1	cola	2024-11-01
1	shrimps	2024-11-02

13. Use a **JOIN** clause to combine the ID rows from `users_info` and `purchase_record`:

```
SELECT users_info.ID, users_info.username, purchase_record.item,  
purchase_record.date_of_purchase  
FROM users_info  
JOIN purchase_record ON users_info.ID = purchase_record.ID;
```

ID	username	item	date_of_purchase
1	Alice	cola	2024-11-01
1	Alice	shrimps	2024-11-02
3	Carol	orange juice	2023-03-10
4	Dave	chips	2022-04-10
5	Eve	chips	2023-12-02
5	Eve	apple	2023-12-02
5	Eve	lemon	2023-12-04

14. Use the **UNION** operator to combine the result of two or more **SELECT** statements:

```
SELECT ID FROM users_info
UNION
SELECT item FROM purchase_record;
```

ID
1
2
3
4
5
6
apple
chips
cola
lemon
orange juice
shrimps

Your Tasks

In this question, you need to submit the **queries** and the **screenshot of the output** to do the following:

1. **Create** the table `users_info` (Figure 6) and **insert** the records, which includes an **additional row**:
 - ID: [the last 4 digits of your SID]
 - username: [your nickname]
 - password: [any password you like]
2. **Create** the table `purchase_record` (Figure 7) and **insert** the records, which include an **additional row**:
 - SID: [the last 4 digits of your SID]
 - item: [anything you like]
 - date_of_purchase: [the date you conduct this task]
3. **Join** `users_info` and `purchase_record` on their ID; **select** the `users_info.ID`, `users_info.username`, `purchase_record.item`, `purchase_record.date_of_purchase` with date of purchase **after** “2023-12-03” and **order** the records by date of purchase in **descending** order.

4 Basic HTML (25%)

HTML stands for Hypertext Markup Language. It is the standard markup language for web documents. In this part, we will write simple HTML to interact with a PHP file using an online editor.

4.1 Start Coding with an Online Editor

1. Go to the following URL: <https://html.onlineviewer.net>

The left part of this website is a coding platform that allows you to write your code, and the right part is a preview pane showing your code's result.



4.2 HTML

1. We are going to write two HTML webpages, which submit your name and the last 4 digits of your SID to a “web file” written in PHP hosted at <http://iems5710.42web.io>.

In HTML, a tag (e.g., ``) is used to tell the browser what the type of content is, and an element (e.g., `12345`) is used to tell the browser what to display. In this part, we use `<form>` element to collect the inputs and submit them to the hosted PHP file via the GET or POST method.

2. Copy and paste the following code on the coding platform:

```
<html>
<head>
  <style>
    header {
      font-family: Verdana;
      font-size: 20pt;
      font-weight: bold;
      margin-bottom: 20px;
    }
    body {
      font-family: Verdana;
      font-size: 14pt;
      margin: 40px;
    }
  </style>
</head>
<body>
<header>
  Please input the following information and click Submit
</header>
<form action="http://iems5710.42web.io" method="get">
Name: <input type="text" name="name"><br>
Last 4 digits of your SID: <input type="text" name="sid"><br>
<input type="submit">
</form>
</body>
</html>
```

Then, the webpage is shown on the right part:

Please input the following information and click Submit

Name:
Last 4 digits of your SID:

3. Click **Preview (Full Page)** on the top-left to view the website in the full-page mode.
4. Input your **name** and **last 4 digits of your SID** on the boxes, then click the **Submit** button:

Your request method is GET
Hi andes
Your last 4 digits of your SID: 5710

You may see the warning “The information you’re about to submit is not secure” before submitting the form. Click **Send anyway** for this task. (Question to yourself: Why does this warning appear, and what is the potential risk for submitting a form in this way?)

5. The above example uses the **GET** method to submit the request to the host. Now, let’s modify the code to submit the request to the host via the **POST** method:

Change the following code in Step 1:

```
<form action="http://iems5710.42web.io" method="get">
```

to

```
<form action="http://iems5710.42web.io" method="post">
```

Your Tasks

In this question, you need to do the following:

1. Do Steps 1-3 for submitting **GET** and **POST** requests.
2. Take the screenshots of Step 3 and include them in your report.
3. From the response pages of both HTML files, what are the differences between the **GET** and **POST** methods? (Hints: look at the URL of the response pages.)

Assignment Submission

Put all screenshots, queries, and answers required in **Your Tasks** of each question into a PDF file.

Please name the file in the following format: **1155001234 Chan Tai Man.pdf**

Deadline: **Dec 28th, 2024, 11:59 pm Hong Kong Time.**

- End -