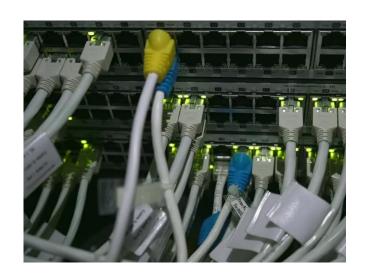


## Connecting with SSH

CÉCI HPC Training 2023 juan.cabrera@unamur.be olivier.mattelaer@uclouvain.be







What is SSH (protocol)

Create account (get private key)

Where is used in CÉCI (context)

How to install and use (practice)

#### What is SSH

- Secure Shell protocol
  - Client server model



- Public key authentication
- Encrypted communication
- Encrypted data transfer
- No password over the network

#### What is SSH

- Secure Shell protocol
  - Client server model

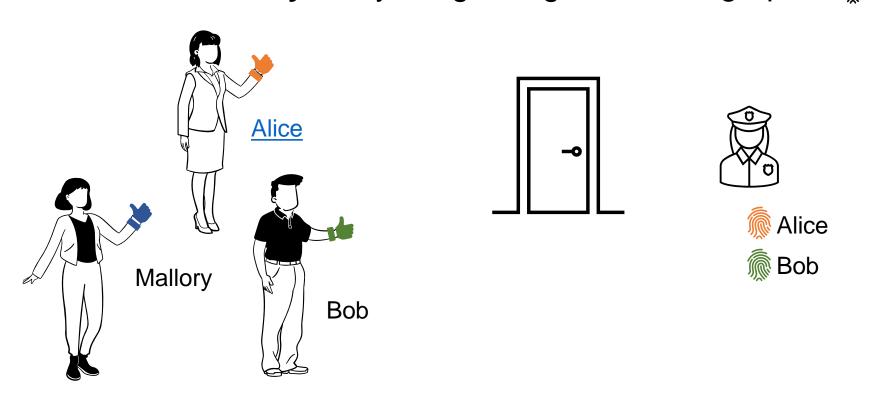


- Public key authentication
- Encrypted communication
- Encrypted data transfer
- No password over the network

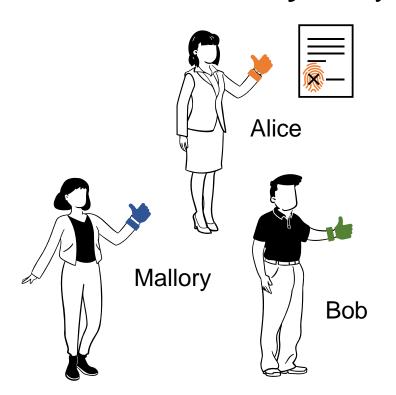
- Private key
  - Identity key
  - Keep in a safe place
  - Encrypted by a passphrase
  - File Id\_<algorithm>
- Public key
  - Linked to the private key
  - Set in the server you need access
  - Authenticates the user
  - File id\_<algorithm>.pub

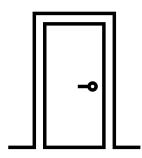
- Digital signature
  - Private key create a digital signature≈ Thump
  - Public key verify a digital signature ≈ fingerprint @

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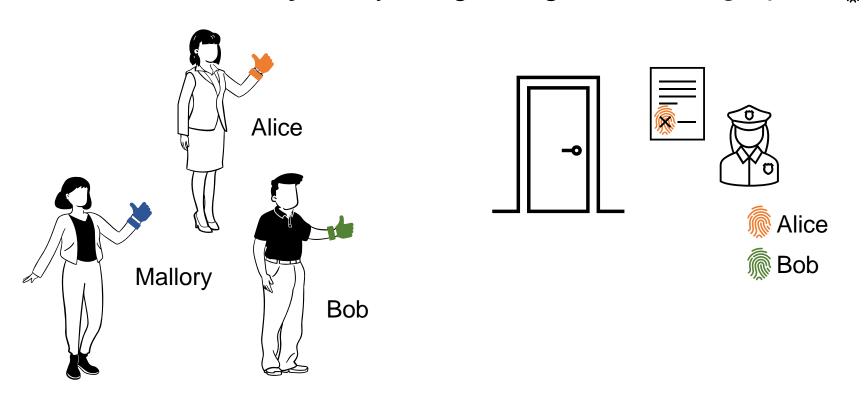
- Digital signature
  - Private key create a digital signature≈ Thumb
  - Public key verify a digital signature ≈ fingerprint @



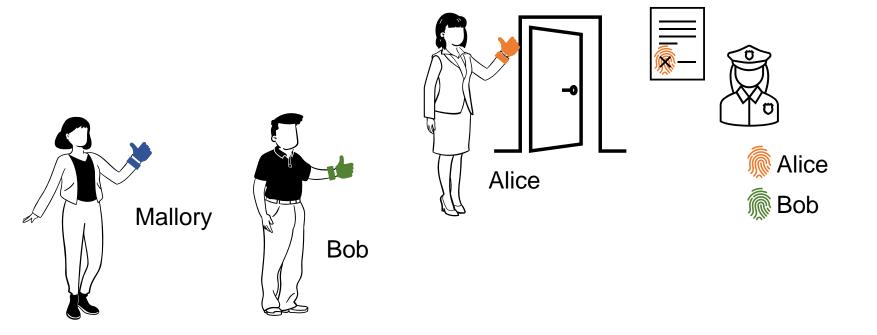




- Digital signature
  - Private key create a digital signature≈ Thumb
  - Public key verify a digital signature ≈ fingerprint @



- Digital signature
  - Private key create a digital signature≈ Thumb
  - Public key verify a digital signature ≈ fingerprint @



#### Encryption

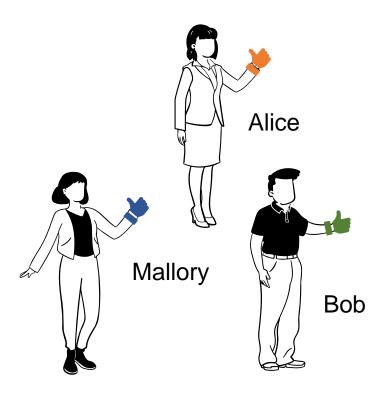
- Encrypt/Decrypt data
  - Private key Decrypt ≈ Thumb
  - Public key Encrypt ≈ Biometric Lock



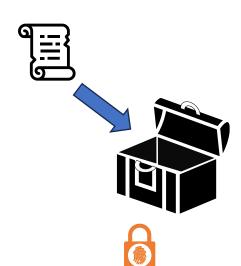
#### Encryption

- Encrypt/Decrypt data
  - Private key Decrypt ≈ Thumb
  - Public key Encrypt ≈ Biometric Lock









Private Key. Keep save

-----BEGIN RSA PRIVATE KEY----Proc-Type: 4, ENCRYPTED
DEK-Info: DES-EDE3-CBC,798194AFB2800B27

KnvjN+KM4NogUADgdVI7GawGEmxJtXI2NKbezDyl8aeUAYxHemgThofCeAJkTZ/B23uAWRppVvuPwJtp/AD3cvYxY5jBvSwVIAUdrfOJauegGc...
wT/yGuuRi9xfn6/yY7wTDxeaJg5WRd54oq0jbpTPUQmZWjJ1cuzBNiiolOJkZChE7fLD+C7kvYH0J6u4NiXUWqVheNerl0OnCZuM770gY5P0Q7-----END RSA PRIVATE KEY-----

Public key. Set in frontends and gateways

ssh-rsa

AAAAB3NzaC1yc2EAAAADAQABAAABgQCejTMdLq2r2c7rKGbRF1lae4Z7hUrASpLb5+..........+hQErnsEvWdpH+UFLaVFQ6b2GGXoTjh4+yoSX/++Ru4cgLT/+xbhBYRylaN1Ut1Ic=relog@ceci-relog.segi.ulg.ac.be

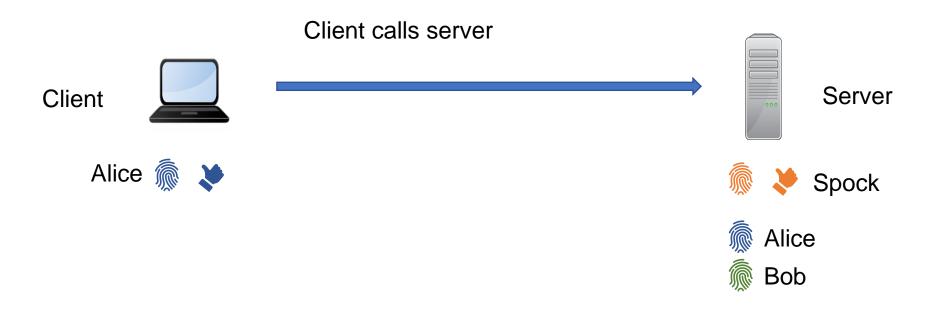


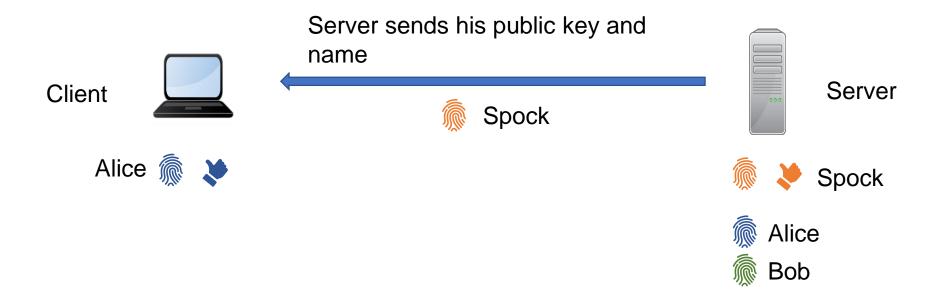
Alice 🎆

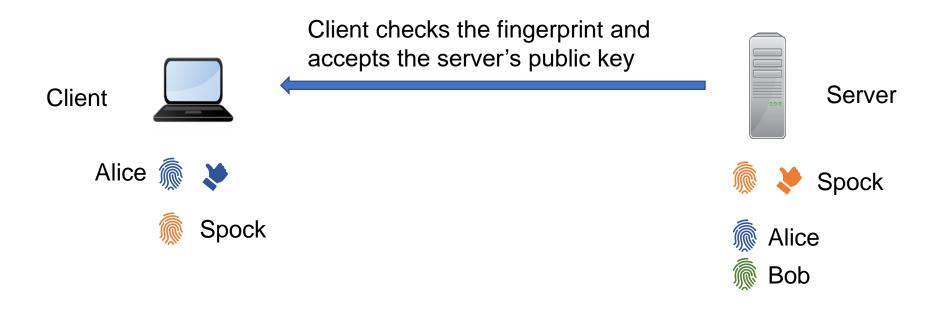
User Alice in client wants to connect to server Spock

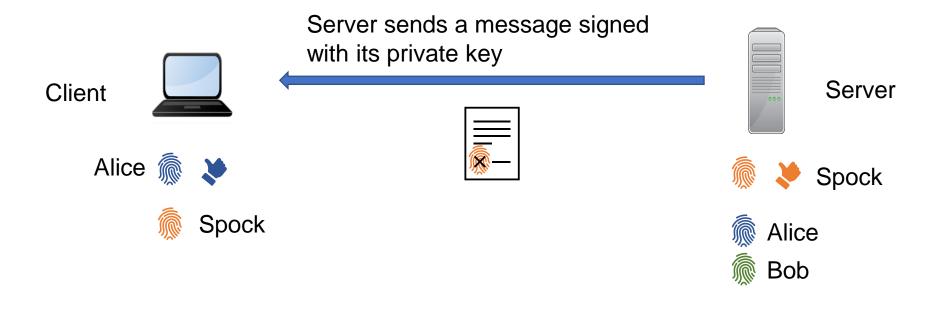


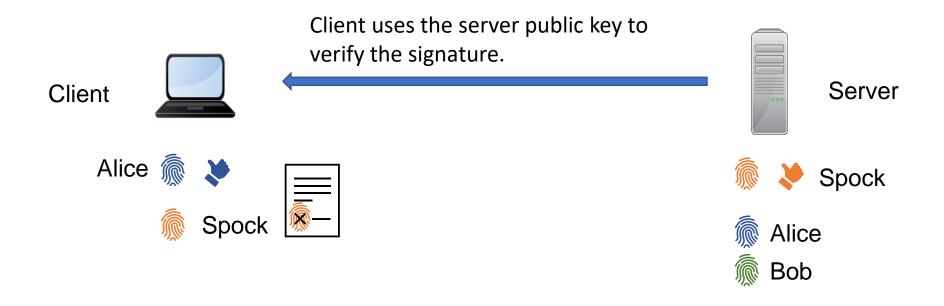


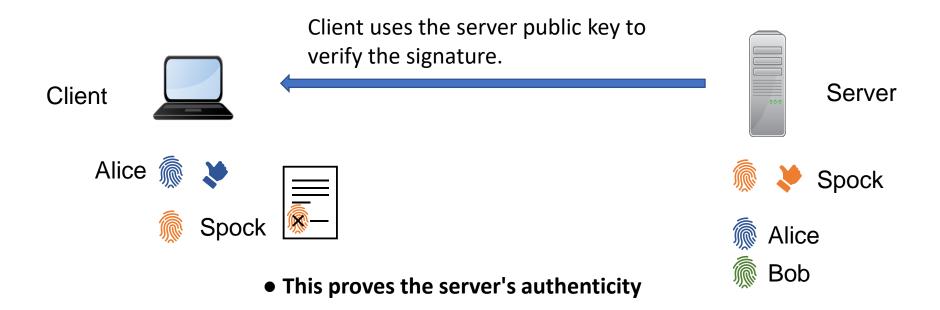


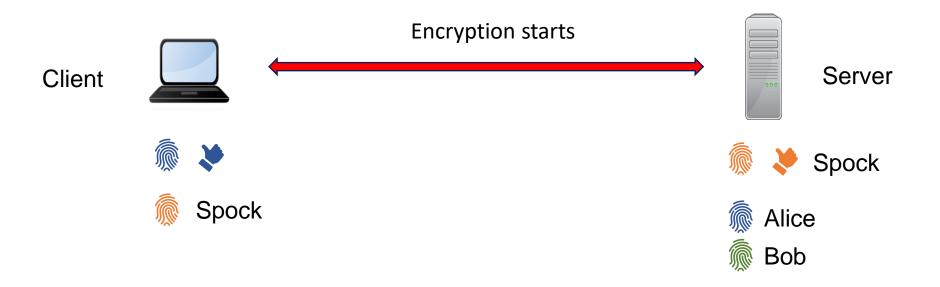


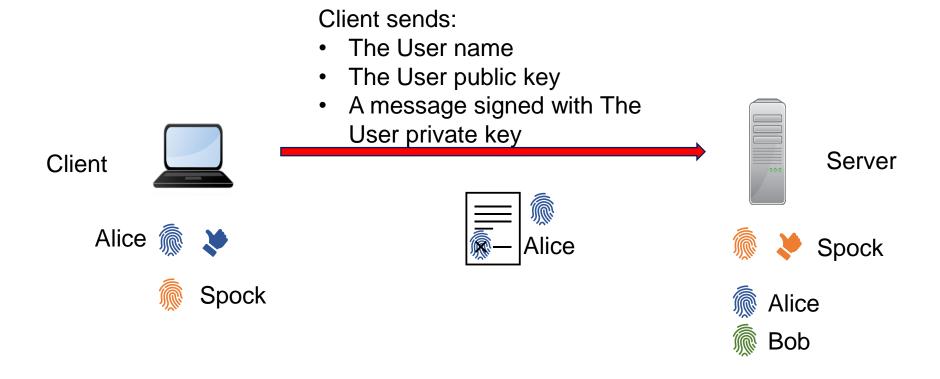


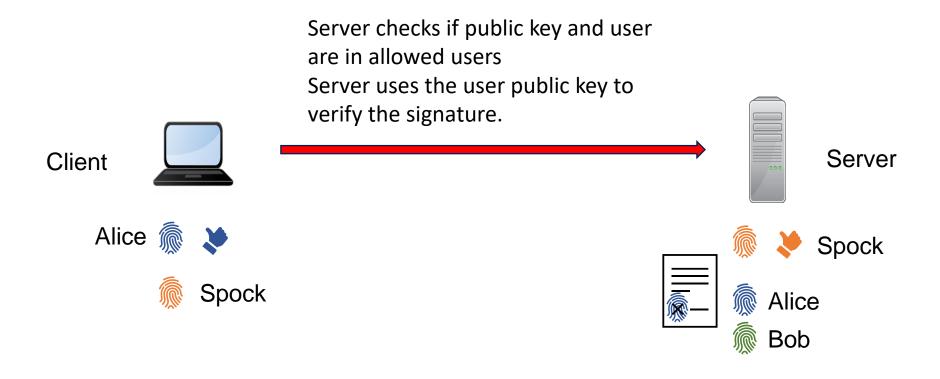


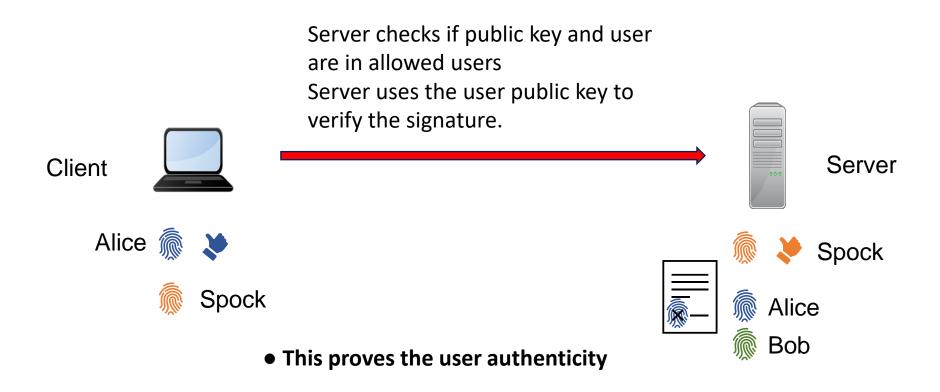




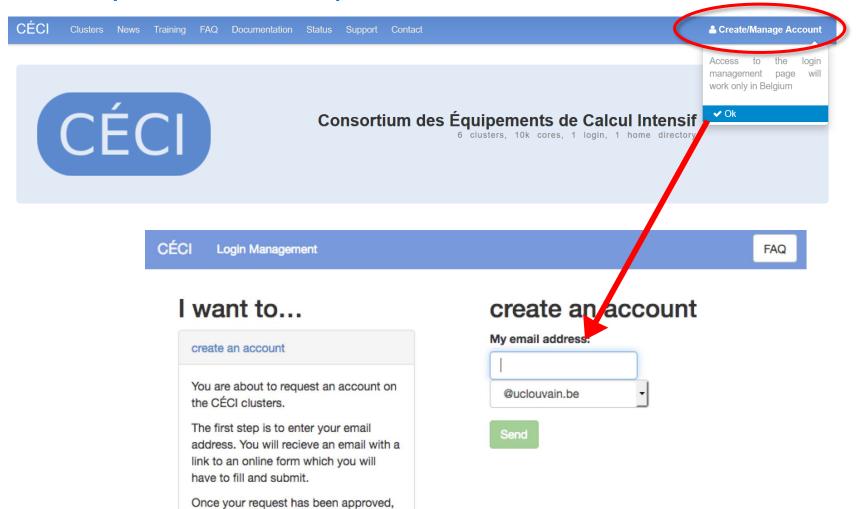








https://www.ceci-hpc.be



#### Click on the link sent to you by email and fill-in the form.

# 1. Enter your information First Name Last Name Email of Supervising Professor @unamur.be You are not allowed to give your own email address. We need a secondary contact. If you are the supervisor, please provide the email address of a trusted colleague.

#### 2. Choose a credential

Login
The login must be between 4 and 8 characters long, can only contain lowercase letters, and must reflect your last name.
Passphrase
Passphrase
The passphrase must be at least 8 characters long and contain at least one figure, one uppercase letter and one special character
Please repeat Passphrase
Repeat Passphrase

#### 3. Pick your affiliation

You need to choose your primary affiliation as recorded in the official directory of your university, down to the third level. Should an option be missing, please **contact us**.







Click on the link sent to you by email and fill-in the form.

#### 1. Enter your information Choose a credential UNamur users **First Name** Login Use your UNamur eid The login must be between 4 and 8 characters long, can **Last Name** only contain lowercase letters, and must reflect your last **Passphrase Email of Supervising Professor** @unamur.be The passphrase must be at least 8 characters long and You are not allowed to give your own email address. We need a contain at least one figure, one uppercase letter and one secondary contact. If you are the supervisor, please provide the email special character address of a trusted colleague. Please repeat Passphrase

#### 3. Pick your affiliation

You need to choose your primary affiliation as recorded in the official directory of your university, down to the third level. Should an option be missing, please **contact us**.





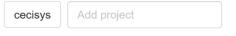


#### Agree to the terms and conditions and submit



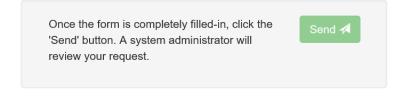
#### 4. Projects

Projects allow access to supplementary resources, a. o. the Tier-1 cluster. Please make sure you have the authorization from the project owner before choosing one. You will need to know the acronym of the project.



I have read and agree to the terms and conditions.

#### 5. Submit!



If you want to save the current data and submit it later, click the 'Save' button.



Wait ...

A sysadmin is reviewing your information



Sysadmin confirms the account.

Sysadmin confirms the account.

Private and public key are generated

Sysadmin confirms the account.

Private and public key are generated

The private key is encrypted using the passphrase

Sysadmin confirms the account.

Private and public key are generated

The private key is encrypted using the passphrase and sent to you by email

Sysadmin confirms the account.

Private and public key are generated

The private key is encrypted using the passphrase and sent to you by email

**WARNING** For security reasons

CÉCI does not keep a copy of your private key.

If you lose your key or passphrase or think it is compromised, you must **renew your CÉCI account** at <a href="https://login.ceci-hpc.be">https://login.ceci-hpc.be</a>

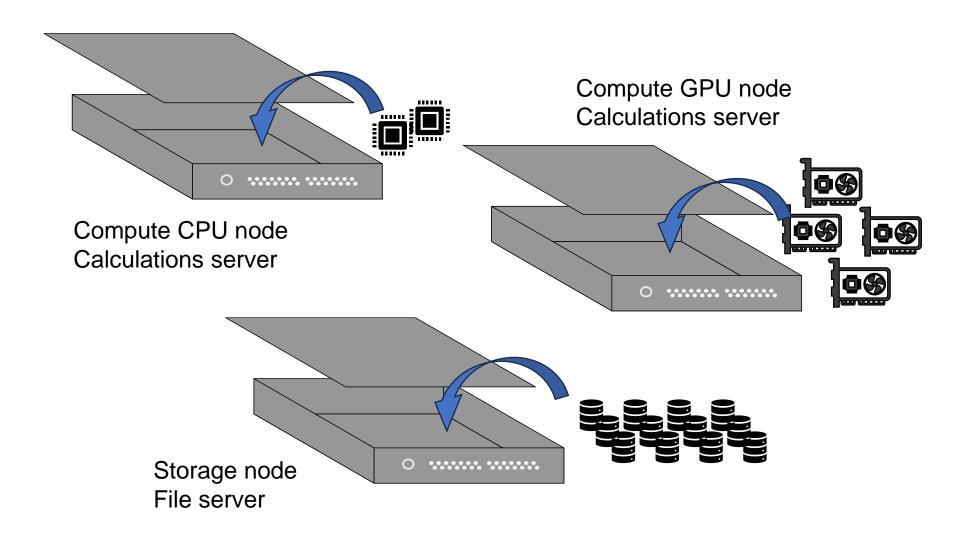
Sysadmin confirms the account.

Private and public key are generated

The private key is encrypted using the passphrase and sent to you by email

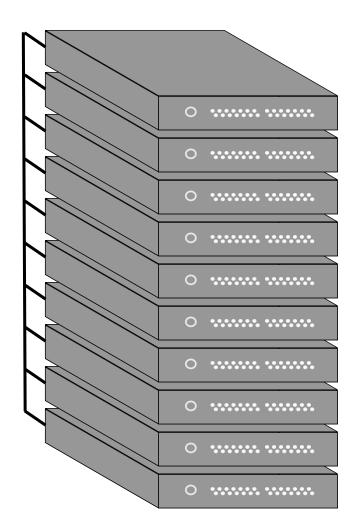
Your public key is sent to each CÉCI server for authentication

#### Exercise: Get your private key



Cluster: stack of nodes

Private network





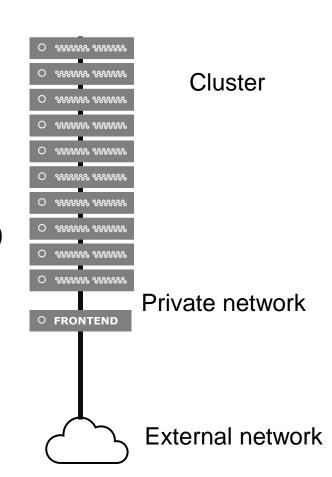


## Frontend

You need to connect with SSH to the **frontend** to:

- **submit jobs** to the compute nodes (**SLURM**)
- access your results
- edit your files
- compile (use debug partition)
- **transfer** your data

Do not run heavy jobs on the frontend



#### CÉCI Tier 2 Tier 1 Lemaitre 3 Dragon 2 Nic5 Hercules 2 Lucia O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O ‱ ‱ O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O 9888888 8888888 O ‱‱ ‱‰ O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* Lyra O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O ..... O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O FRONTEND O FRONTEND O FRONTEND O FRONTEND 5 CÉCI clusters









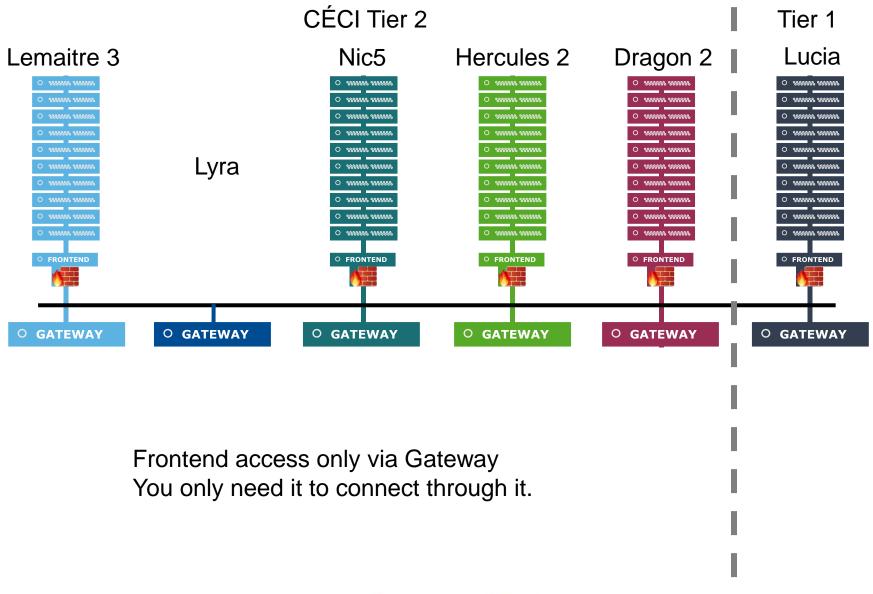




#### CÉCI Tier 2 Tier 1 Lemaitre 3 Dragon 2 Nic5 Hercules 2 Lucia O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O ‱ ‱ O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O 9888888 8888888 O \*\*\*\*\*\* O ‱‱ ‱‰ O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O ‱‱ ‱‱ O \*\*\*\*\*\* Lyra O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O \*\*\*\*\*\* O ..... O \*\*\*\*\*\*\* O FRONTEND O FRONTEND O FRONTEND O FRONTEND 5 CÉCI clusters Cenaero Cluster UCLouvain **UMONS ULB**

Cenaero

Université





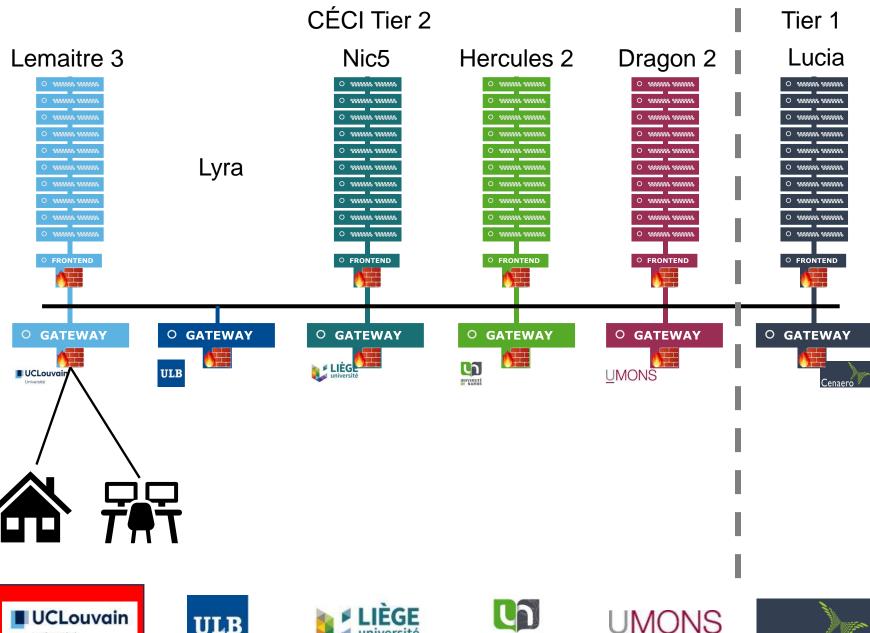














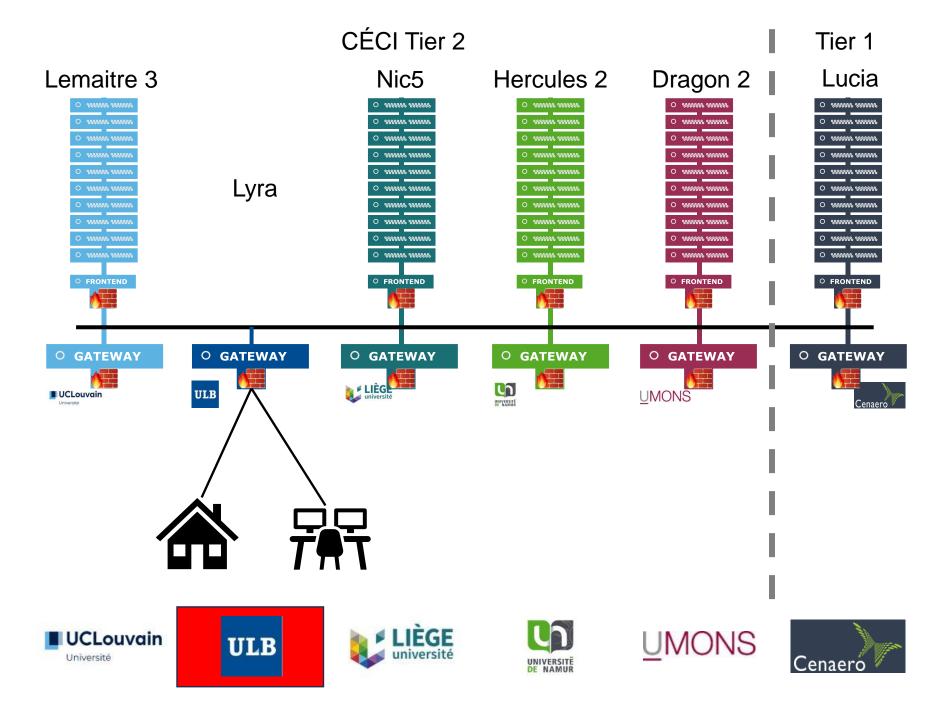


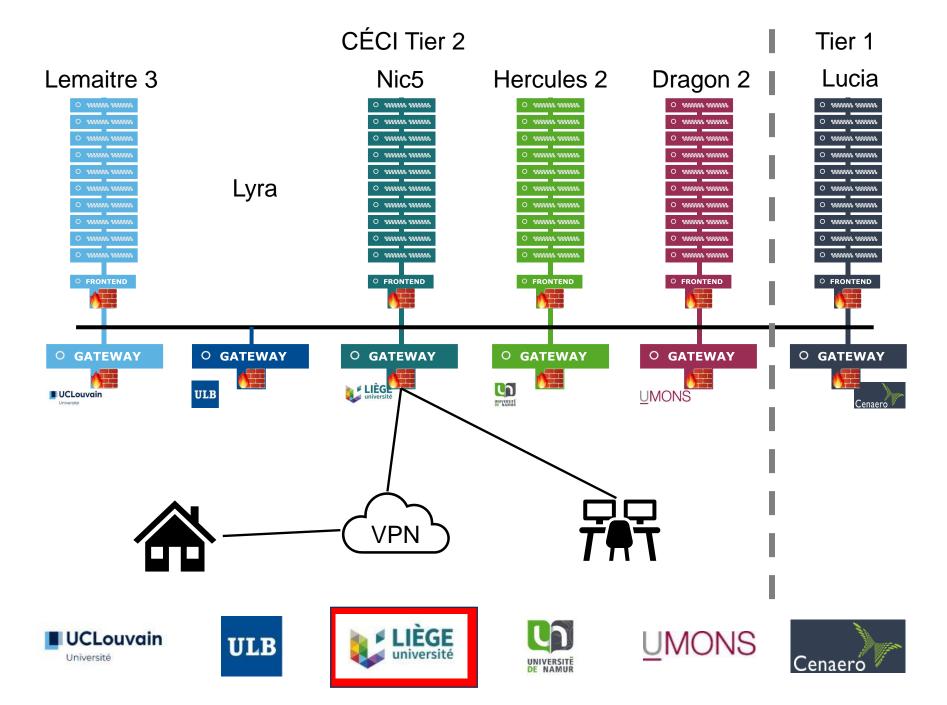


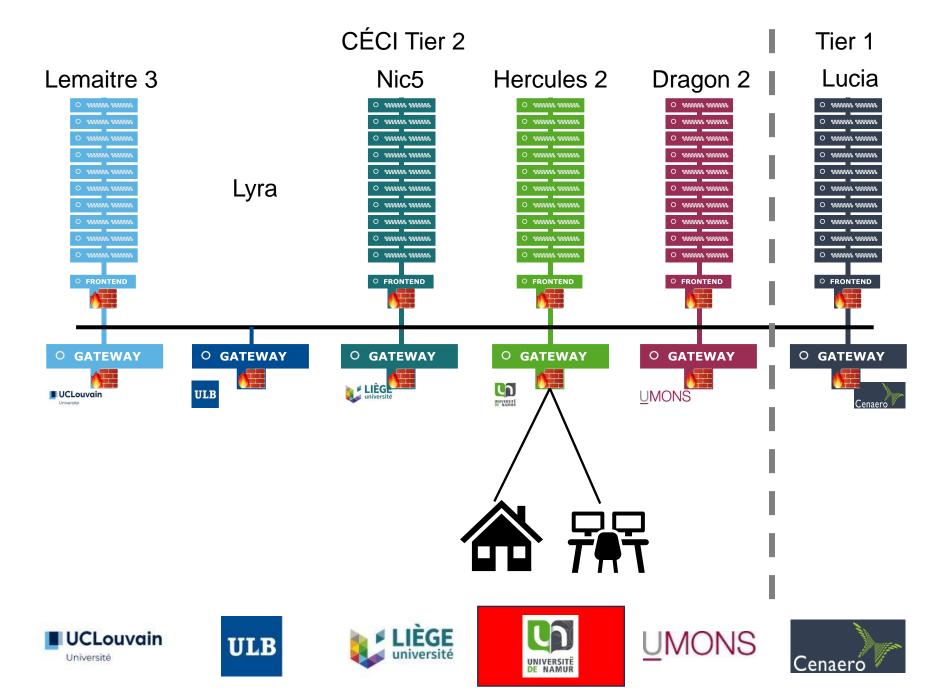


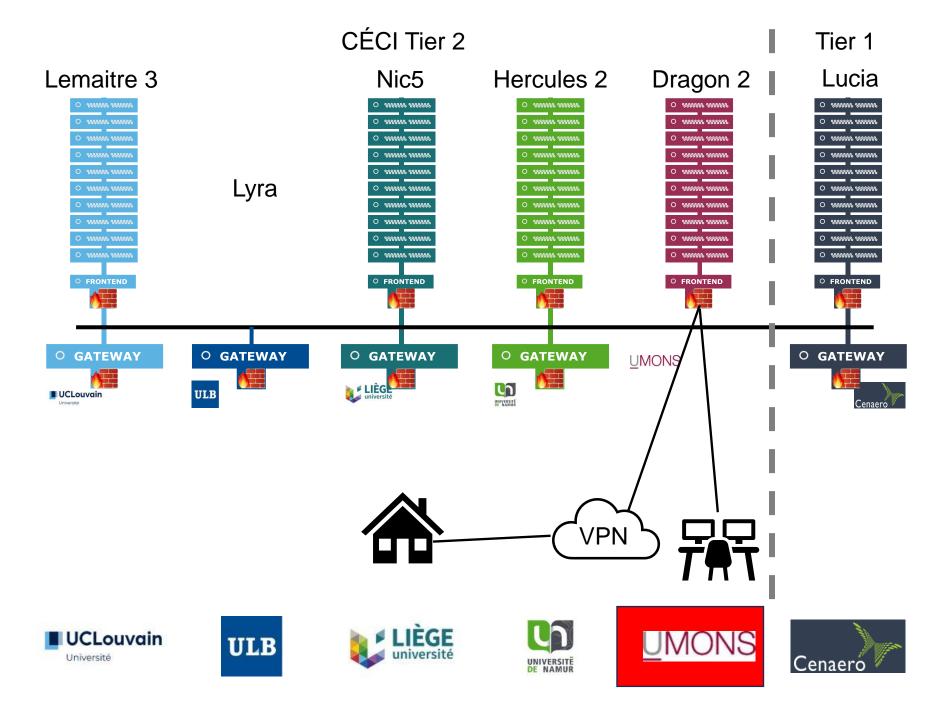












- Clusters Frontend address:
  - lemaitre3.cism.ucl.ac.be
  - nic5.uliege.be
  - hercules.ptci.unamur.be
  - dragon2.umons.ac.be
- Gateways addresses
  - gwceci.cism.ucl.ac.be
  - gwceci.ulb.ac.be
  - gwceci.uliege.be
  - gwceci.unamur.be
  - dragon2.umons.ac.be

## SSH Tools on Windows

- MobaXterm (only windows)
  - Very easy
  - Connection and file transfer
  - Graphical server
- OpenSSH (also Mac+Linux)
  - Linux like experience/setup
- VSCode (also Mac+Linux)
  - Text editor, connection and file transfer
  - No Graphical server
  - Use OpenSSH
- Putty
  - No file transfer
  - Not easy to support for ssh key

## SSH tools on Linux

- OpenSSH
- VScode

# Put your private key on your laptop (MacOs/Linux/WSL)

- Save your key id\_rsa.ceci file from your e-mail to your home directory
- Open a terminal
- Create the .ssh directory if it does not exist and set permissions

```
mkdir ~/.ssh
chmod 700 ~/.ssh
```

Move your key to this directory

```
mv id_rsa.ceci ~/.ssh/.
```

# Put your private key on your laptop (MacOs/Lunix/WSL)

 Change the permissions of the identity file so that only you can read it

```
chmod 600 ~/.ssh/id_rsa.ceci
```

Check the permissions. The follow command:

```
ls -l ~/.ssh/id_rsa.ceci
-rw----- 1 user user 1743 oct 18 06:48 .ssh/id_rsa.ceci
ls -ld .ssh
drwx----- 2 user user 4096 oct 18 06:45 .ssh
```

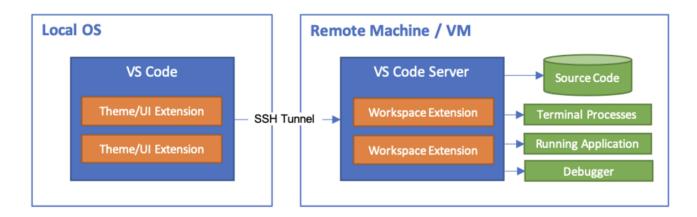
Must output -rw---- and drwx---- permissions

Create the public key

```
ssh-keygen -y -f ~/.ssh/id_rsa.ceci > ~/.ssh/id_rsa.ceci.pub
```

## Visual Studio Code

- Install VSC
  - → https://code.visualstudio.com/download
- add ssh extension:
  - → https://code.visualstudio.com/docs/remote/ssh
- See step by step pdf on indico page



# Creating your configuration file

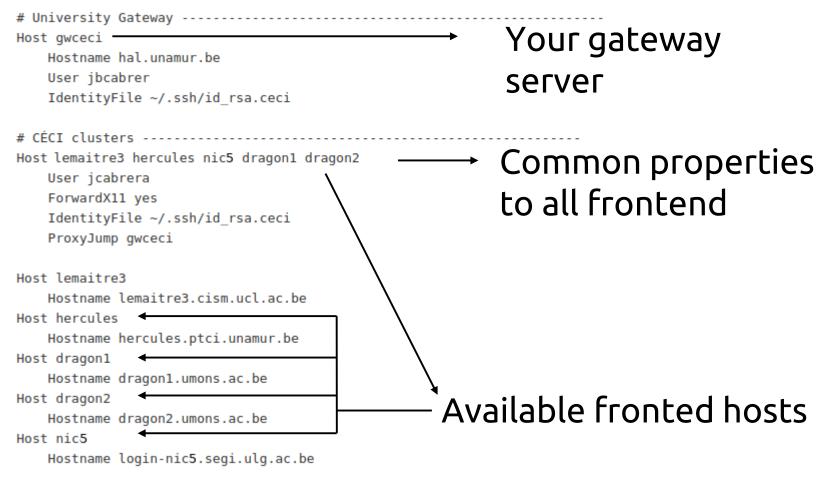
- Go to the CÉCI wizard <u>http://www.ceci-hpc.be/sshconfig.html</u>
- Chose your university.
- Set your CÉCI and gateway login name.
- Depending on your university, the number of inputs fields will change.
- Tick the field "tier 1" if you have access to Lucia.
   If you are not sure, leave it unchecked.

This page will help you create a valid and complete configuration file for your SSH client on Linux or MacOS. Just fill in the form below and copy paste the result in your ~/.ssh/config file.

Dropdown to choo	ose University: UNamur	
Your CÉCI login:	jcabrera	
Your UNamur eID	login: jbcabrer	
Do you have acce	ess to : Tier1	

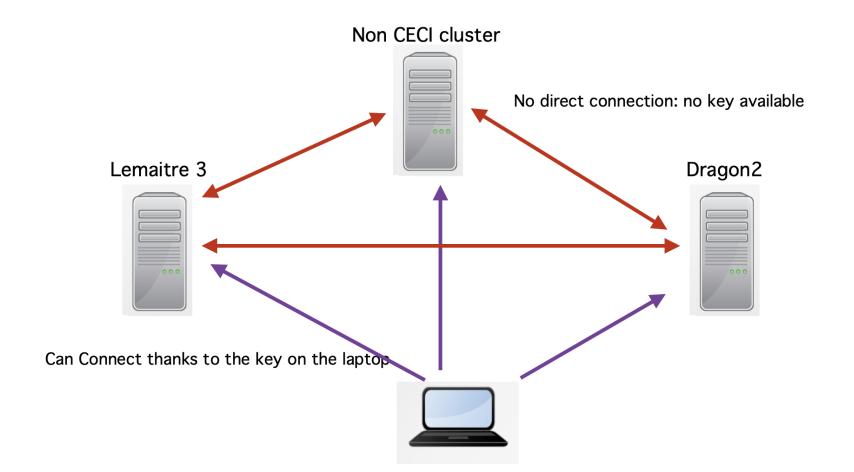
# Creating your configuration file

Copy and paste the result in the .ssh/config file



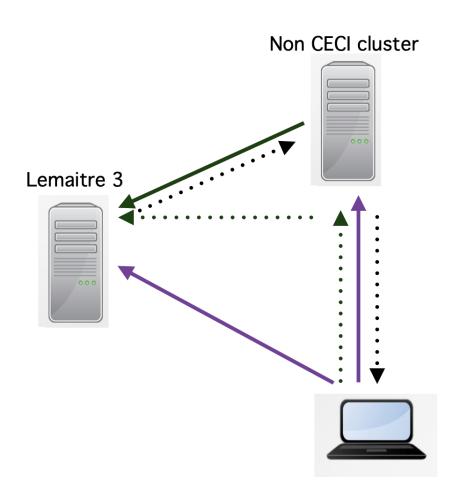
# Avoid to propagate your private keys

Less keys means more security



## Avoid to propagate your private keys

 Forward agent send back the ssh request for a key to your laptop



Try to connect

Host ask for a key

Message forward to laptop

Key provided

Connection granted

## Agent and Passphrase managers

Use an SSH agent which will remember the passphrase so you do not have to type it in each time you issue the SSH command. Most of the time an ssh-agent starts automatically at login if a password managing software is installed:

Mac OS Keychain, KDE KWallet, Gnome Keyring (Seahorse), etc.

Gnome Keyring loads all private keys in ~/.ssh which have the corresponding public key.

In MacOS add in ~/.ssh/config

Host \*
UseKeychain yes
AddKeysToAgent yes

## Agent and Passphrase managers

#### Make sure you have an agent running

ssh-add -l

Could not open a connection to your authentication agent.

ssh-add -l

The agent has no identities.

If you get "Could not open a connection to your authentication agent." start an agent with

eval \$(ssh-agent)

If you get "The agent has no identities." The agent is already running. Add your key. Your key is decrypted and stored in memory

ssh-add ~/.ssh/id\_rsa.ceci

Enter passphrase for /home/user/.ssh/id\_rsa.ceci:

Identity added: /home/user/.ssh/id\_rsa.ceci (/home/user/.ssh/id\_rsa.ceci)

#### check the loaded key

ssh-add -l

2048 20:6c:8c:cd:e8:e6:9b:4f:8c:9c:d6:8a:eb:37:6d:17 /home/user/.ssh/id\_rsa.ceci (RSA)

## How to connect on mobaxterm

- For windows user only
- Live demo
- Dedicated set of PDF on indico for you to follow step by step
- Demo also available on YouTube:
  - https://youtu.be/o41r0mFaURU

# Frequent mistakes

## The permissions on your key file are not correct

• **Error**: bad permissions

It is recommended that your private key files are NOT accessible by others.

This private key will be ignored.

bad permissions: ignore key: /home/user/.ssh/id\_rsa.ceci

user@frontend's password:

it means that Permissions 0644 for '/home/user/.ssh/id rsa.ceci' are too open.

Change them to 600 as explained in the first section of this document.

- Problem: Permissions 0644 for '/home/user/.ssh/id\_rsa.ceci' are too open.
- **Solution**: Change them to 600 as explained previously

chmod 600 ~/.ssh/id\_rsa.ceci

## You did not specify the correct path to your SSH key

• **Error**: you are being asked for a password directly

```
ssh frontend
user@frontend's password:
```

- Problem: your SSH client did not use the SSH key.
- **Solution**: Make sure that your .ssh/config is properly configured and the key is present.

```
# University Gateway -----
Host gwceci
    Hostname hal.unamur.be
    User jbcabrer
    IdentityFile ~/.ssh/id_rsa.ceci

# CÉCI clusters ------
Host vega lemaitre3 hercules nic4 dragon1 dragon2
    User jcabrera
    ForwardX11 yes
    IdentityFile ~/.ssh/id_rsa.ceci
    ProxyJump gwceci
```

# You used a wrong username or tried to connect before your keys are synchronized

• **Error**: you are being asked for a passphrase, then a password

```
ssh frontend
Enter passphrase for key '/home/user/.ssh/id_rsa.ceci':
user@frontend's password:
```

- **Problem**: the username you are using is not the correct one or you are trying to connect with the new private key while it has not been synchronized to the cluster yet.
- Solution: Verify your username or wait ~30 min

```
# University Gateway

Host gwceci

Hostname hal.unamur.be

User jbcabrer

IdentityFile ~/.ssh/id_rsa.ceci

# CÉCI clusters -----

Nost vega lemaitre3 hercules nic4 dragon1 dragon2

User jcabrera

ForwardX11 yes

IdentityFile ~/.ssh/id_rsa.ceci

ProxyJump gwceci
```

# Troubleshooting

## You can use -v, -vv or -vvv to troubleshooting a session

```
ssh frontend -v
OpenSSH 7.6p1 Ubuntu-4ubuntu0.5, OpenSSL 1.0.2n 7 Dec 2017
debug1: Reading configuration data /home/user/.ssh/config
debug1: /home/user/.ssh/config line 4: Applying options for *
debug1: /home/user/.ssh/config line 126: Applying options for hercules
debug1: SSH2 MSG KEXINIT sent
debug1: SSH2 MSG KEXINIT received
debug1: Server host key: ssh-rsa SHA256:GfUSNZEFZg28WRCaxJvDNSCCIhrX1IujNlky29ui7IY
debug1: Host 'gwceci' is known and matches the RSA host key.
debug1: Found key in /home/user/.ssh/known hosts:33
debug1: Offering public key: RSA SHA256:IMDnFOL/9DI4otUnSUJBMxLc0v3jXSHkGUsM4ogi5Us /home/user/.ssh/id rsa.ceci
debug1: Server accepts key: pkalg rsa-sha2-512 blen 277
debug1: Authentication succeeded (publickey).
Authenticated to gwceci ([YYY.YYY.YYY.YYY]:22).
debug1: Server host key: ecdsa-sha2-nistp256 SHA256:SyLaaBe7CuO7Dpa6vJa0vbAUxnYSpl30xaJo5yBF//c
debug1: Host 'frontend' is known and matches the ECDSA host key.
debug1: Found key in /home/user/.ssh/known hosts:217
debug1: Offering public key: RSA SHA256:IMDnFOL/9DI4otUnSUJBMxLc0v3jXSHkGUsM4ogi5Us /home/user/.ssh/id rsa.ceci
debug1: Server accepts key: pkalg rsa-sha2-512 blen 277
debug1: Authentication succeeded (publickey).
Authenticated to frontend (via proxy).
```

## Exercise: First connexion

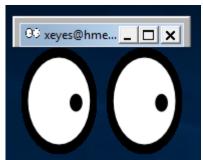
Connect to a cluster with the command

ssh frontend

where **frontend** is one of the frontend names defined in the configuration file.

The option **ForwarX11** in your configuration file allows you to open a remote window. For this, on **MacOs > 10.7** users need to install <u>xquartz</u> (needs reboot)

Try in **lemaitre3** the command xeyes



## Exercise: First connexion

### Example

#### ssh user@frontend

The authenticity of host frontend (XXX.XXX.X.XXX)' can't be established.

RSA key fingerprint is 06:54:39:a0:5c:b5:56:b3:29:9e:96:67:a0:4a:c1:ff.

Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes

Warning: Permanently added 'hmem.cism.ucl.ac.be' (RSA) to the list of known hosts.

The FIRST TIME you connect to a frontend, you will be asked to accept the Public Key Check the key fingerprint from CÉCI web site <a href="http://www.ceci-hpc.be/clusters.html">http://www.ceci-hpc.be/clusters.html</a>

SUPPORT: egs-cism@listes.uclouvan.be

Server SSH key fingerprint: (What's this?)

MD5: 06:54:39:a0:5c:b5:56:b3:29:9e:96:67:a0:4a:c1:ff

SHA256:

Xi4r0aNViNgg9KjnENiUFkEWPwnJGAjbknlX+m7Clm0

## Exercise: First connexion

### Example

#### ssh user@frontend

The authenticity of host frontend (XXX.XXX.X.XXX)' can't be established.

RSA key fingerprint is 06:54:39:a0:5c:b5:56:b3:29:9e:96:67:a0:4a:c1:ff.

Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes

Warning: Permanently added 'hmem.cism.ucl.ac.be' (RSA) to the list of known hosts.

Enter passphrase for key '/home/user/.ssh/id\_rsa.ceci':

Now, the frontend public key is stored in your **know\_host** file

Enter the **passphrase** you set when you create the account

This will decrypt your private key

## **Text Editor Option**

- Text editor on the cluster
  - → Non graphical: Emacs, vi
    - ◆ Tutorial on vi, next week
    - ◆ Graphical one: gedit , ...
    - Nano (this afternoon)
- Graphical interface running on your laptop
  - → Visual Studio Code
  - → Mount the file-system

# SSH-based file transfer (SCP, rsync, SSHFS)

## scp

You can copy files/directories back and forth between computers

Create a temporary directory with dummy files on your computer

```
mkdir -p cours_ssh/scp_test; touch cours_ssh/scp_test/file{1..4}.txt ssh frontend 'mkdir cours_ssh'
```

Copy the directory to your home directory in one of the frontends and check

```
scp -r cours_ssh/scp_test host:cours_ssh/.
ssh frontend 'ls cours_ssh/scp_test/'
```

Copy it back

```
scp -r frontend:cours_ssh/scp_test cours_ssh/scp_test2
```

Copy between frontends is not permitted. Use **\$CECITRSF** partition

For a copy throw your computer use -3 option

```
scp -r -3 frontend1:cours_ssh/scp_test frontend2:cours_ssh/.
```

## rsync

rsync is widely used for backups and mirroring and as an improved copy command for everyday use

Most common usage is to synchronize files with archive option 'a', and compress option 'z'. If you want to get a copy of your hard work you did in the frontend to your laptop:

ssh frontend 'mkdir cours\_ssh/rsync\_test; touch cours\_ssh/rsync\_test/file{1..4}.txt' rsync -avz --progress frontend:cours\_ssh/rsync\_test cours\_ssh/.

#### Modify a file at the frontend and synchronize

ssh frontend 'echo "Adding hello1 word in \$(hostname)" >> coursssh/rsynctest/file4.txt' rsync -avz --progress frontend:coursssh/rsynctest coursssh/.

### Modify a file in your computer and prevent Overwrite when synchronize-u

echo 'Adding hello in client' > cours\_ssh/rsync\_test/file3.txt rsync -avzu --progress frontend:cours\_ssh/rsync\_test cours\_ssh/.

#### Delete a file at the frontend and force delete it in your computer.

ssh host rm cours\_ssh/rsync\_test/file1.txt rsync -avz --del --progress frontend:cours\_ssh/rsync\_test cours\_ssh/.

## sshfs

Use SSHFS to mount a remote file system - accessible via SSH

Linux install:

Debian, Ubuntu

sudo apt-get install sshfs

Fedora/CentOs

sudo yum install sshfs

### MacOS Install:

Install FUSE and SSHFS from <a href="https://osxfuse.github.io/">https://osxfuse.github.io/</a>

## sshfs

Example: Mount your **CECIHOME** 

Create on your computer a repository to mount the CÉCI home

mkdir ceci\_home

Mount the remote CÉCI Home on your computer

cluster=frontend sshfs -o uid=`id -u` -o gid=`id -g` \$cluster:\$(ssh \$cluster 'echo \$CECIHOME')/ ceci\_home

Create a file in the mounted directory

echo 'file content' > ceci\_home/file\_fuse.txt

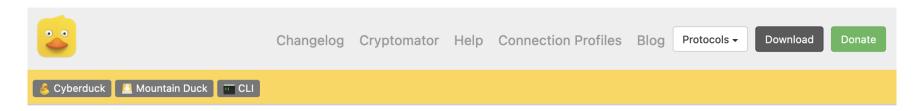
Check the file content in the frontend

ssh frontend 'cat \$CECIHOME/file\_fuse.txt'

disconnect

fusermount -u ceci\_home

## Cyberduck (graphical filesystem)



Cyberduck is free software, but it still costs money to write, support, and distribute it. As a contributor you receive a registration key that disables the donation prompt. Or buy Cyberduck from the Mac App Store or Windows Store.

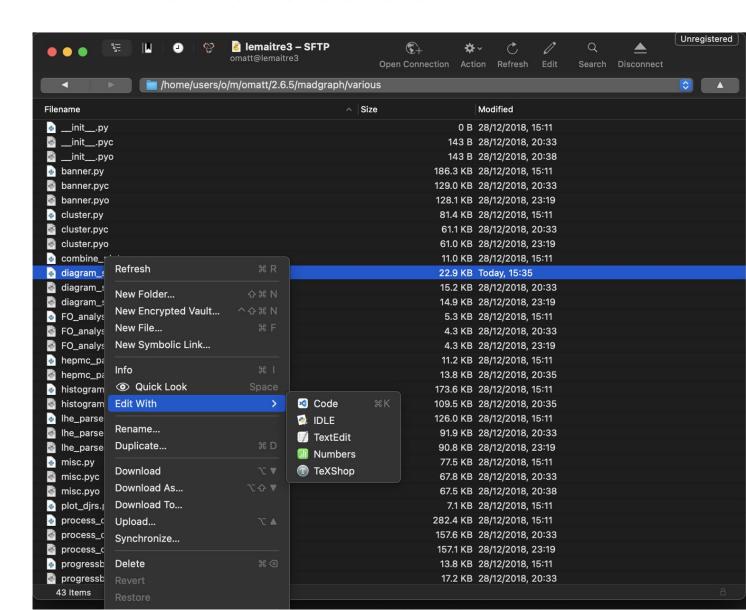
**Free Software.** Free software is a matter of the users freedom to run, copy, distribute, study, change and improve the software. The continued donations of users is what allows Cyberduck to be available for free today. If you find this program useful, please consider making a donation or buy the version from the Mac App Store or Windows Store. It will help to make Cyberduck even better!

#### **Download** Changelog



## FTP and text edition

Drag and Drop are working Rename/ remove/... as well



## Conclusion

- The most Important point is to be able to connect
- The frontend is not a place to run production
- Simplify your live with an agent to avoid to type your password all the time
- Keep your private key in safe place a do not share it
- With great power comes great responsibility

## References

- OpenSSH Manual Pages
- RSA Cryptography Specifications Version 2.2
- The Secure Shell (SSH) Transport Layer Protocol