

Accessing Unix Compute Servers

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Setup

Unix: If you have Unix on your computer able to run graphical programs, you are already set up.

Windows: You need to install PuTTY for Secure Shell access and an X-server, such as Xming, for displaying remote graphical programs locally.

PuTTY is available at www.chiark.greenend.org.uk/~sgtatham/putty/download.html.

Xming is available at sourceforge.net/projects/xming.

Xming must be launched before PuTTY if you want to run GUI apps.

Shell Access

Telnet: Do not use Telnet. It transmits passwords in the clear.

Rlogin: Just as bad as Telnet, for the same reason.

Secure Shell: the right way.

From Linux/Unix:

```
ssh <username>@<domain-name>
```

From Windows:

```
<path-to-putty.exe>putty.exe -ssh -l <username> <domain-name>
```

where "-l" is "minus ell", not "minus one".

Put the command into a file called putty.bat, and then you can connect with just the command, "putty".

Obsidian is our Unix timesharing computer. It uses a Microsoft domain controller for authentication. You need to use both the MS domain name, *srunet* and your username to identify yourself. Enclose <domain>\<username> in apostrophes to take away the special meaning of "\" in Unix. So, for user abc1234,

Linux: `ssh 'srunet\abc1234'@obsidian.sru.edu`

Windows: `<path-to-putty>putty.exe -ssh -l srunet\abc1234 obsidian.sru.edu`
where "-l" is "minus ell", not "minus one".

GUI Access:

To run a graphical program, you must have an X-Server controlling your desktop.

- If you are using Unix on your own computer with a GUI installed, it's already up and running.
- If you are using Unix on your own computer with a GUI installed, and want to run a program on another Unix computer, use the command
`ssh -X <username>@<domain-name>`

or, for user abc1234 on Obsidian,

```
ssh -X 'srunet\abc1234'@obsidian.sru.edu
```

- If you are using Windows, with PuTTY and Xming installed, launch Xming first. Then, use the command

```
<path-to-putty>putty.exe -ssh -X -l <username> <domain-name>
```

or, for user abc1234 on Obsidian,

```
<path-to-putty>putty.exe -ssh -X -l srunet\abc1234 obsidian.sru.edu
```