

# Logging into Hydra

- Access to the Hydra cluster is through a remote terminal connection:
  - If you are using a Mac you will use the built-in [Terminal App](#),
  - for Windows, use the program [Putty](#),
  - for Linux use [ssh](#).
- When you received your email from the Hydra sysadmins with your user account information it will list your `username` and how to reset your initial `password`.
  - You will need your username to reset your initial password,
  - and enable VPN or use a "trusted" computer to connect to the self-serve password change/reset page.
- There are two computers (known as login nodes) that you can log into for Hydra access:
  - [hydra-login01.si.edu](#), and
  - [hydra-login02.si.edu](#)
  - You can use either one.
- ⚠️ You must use a "trusted" computer on the Smithsonian network or enable VPN to connect to Hydra.

## Requesting Access

- SAO users should follow the instruction posted on the [CF: Services: High Performance Computing web page](#),
- Non-SAO users should contact [si-hpc@si.edu](mailto:si-hpc@si.edu).

## Logging in

### Mac

1. Open the Terminal application by going to /Applications/Utilities and finding Terminal. 
  - a. You can get to the Utilities folder by going to the Go menu in the Finder and choosing Utilities
2. At the command prompt (that usually ends with `$`) type in this command, replacing `username` with your hydra username (all lower case) from you welcome email:

```
$ ssh username@hydra-login01.si.edu
```

⚠️ The first time you login you will see this message, type `yes` to continue:

```
The authenticity of host 'hydra-login01.si.edu' can't be established.  
RSA key fingerprint is d8:8d:....  
Are you sure you want to continue connecting (yes/no)? yes
```

You will get a password prompt where you should enter the password you selected when using self-serve password reset page (check [here how to change or reset your password](#)).

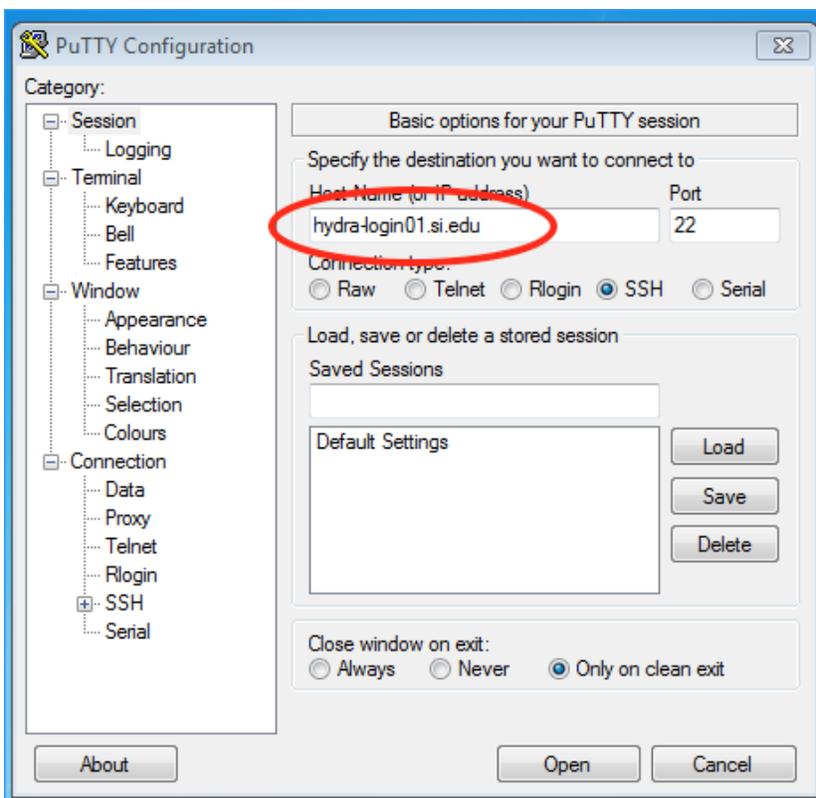
⚠️ Note: no text, stars or bullets will appear when you type in your password.

```
Warning: Permanently added 'hydra-login01.si.edu' (RSA) to the list of known hosts.  
Password:  
[username@hydra-login01 ~]$
```

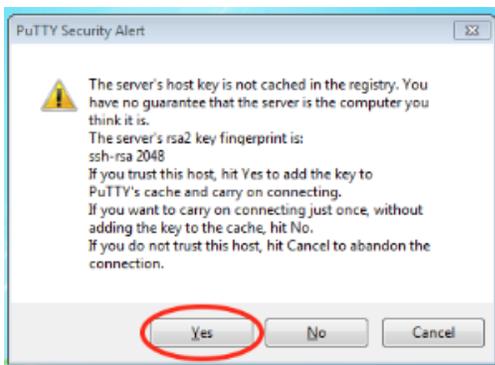
You are now logged into Hydra!

### Windows

1. The preferred program to use on Windows to log into Hydra is the free program [PuTTY](#). The program to download is [putty.exe](#).
  - a. The downloaded `putty.exe` can be run without running a Windows installer program. 
2. Start PuTTY and in the Configuration screen that opens enter `hydra-login01.si.edu` or `hydra-login02.si.edu` in the Host Name text box, then press Open



⚠ The first time you connect you will get a warning about the Server's host key, choose the "Yes" option



3. A terminal window will open.

At the **login as:** prompt, enter your hydra username (all lower case) from your welcome email and at the **Password:** prompt the password you selected when using self-serve password reset page (check [here how to change or reset your password](#)).

⚠ Note: no text, stars or bullets will appear when you type in your password.

```
login as: username
Using keyboard-interactive authentication.
Password:
[username@hydra-login-01 ~]$
```

You are now logged into Hydra!

## Linux

- From a trusted computer (most CF- or HEA-managed machines), use `ssh` to connect to one of the two login nodes (`hydra-login01.si.edu` or `hydra-login02.si.edu`);
- otherwise (and only for SAO users), log on one of these two hosts:

- `login.cfa.harvard.edu` (for CF users) or
- `pogoN.cfa.harvard.edu` (for HEA users), where N is 1, 2, ..., 6, and use `ssh` from that host.

🔑 Linux (and Mac) users can enable password-less login into Hydra using the Public key authentication.

- Follow the instructions [here](#) or Google "passwordless ssh mac" or "passwordless ssh mac" and follow the instructions.

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Last updated 13 Nov 2019 MK/SGK.