How to SFTP Files to nice.fas.harvard.edu from Windows

Recall that nice.fas.harvard.edu refers to a cluster of computers running Linux on which you have an account (your so-called FAS account). On this cluster you have several megabytes of storage space (your so-called home directory). To SFTP files to your account means to upload files to your home directory via an SFTP client, a program that “speaks” SFTP.

Distinct from nice.fas.harvard.edu is fas.harvard.edu, which refers to a separate cluster of computers intended for non-instructional purposes. You shouldn’t SSH to fas.harvard.edu for CSCI E-259, but you may SFTP files to it, as your same home directory is accessible on both nice.fas.harvard.edu and fas.harvard.edu. For simplicity, this document explains how to SFTP files to fas.harvard.edu, as most SFTP clients on campus are already configured for fas.harvard.edu but not nice.fas.harvard.edu. However, you may certainly SFTP files to nice.fas.harvard.edu instead.

You’re welcome to use any SFTP client for CS 50. This document explains how to install and use SecureFX, commercial software for Windows for which Harvard has a site license; it’s installed on most PCs around campus and can also be installed on yours.

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Installing SecureFX

If SecureFX is not already installed on your computer, download the installer for SecureFX to your desktop via the course’s website under Software. Double-click the installer’s icon and follow the on-screen directions. It’s fine to breeze through them, leaving all defaults selected.
Launching SecureFX

Launch SecureFX via its icon. You should then see a window like the below appear. If not, make it appear by going to **File → Connect...**

![SecureFX Window](image)

The window you see may or may not list these same sessions. If `fas.harvard.edu` does not appear in the list, proceed to **Creating a Session**, below. If `fas.harvard.edu` does appear in the list, skip to **Using SecureFX**.
Creating a Session

The PCs in Harvard’s labs should already have a session configured for fas.harvard.edu. If you’re using SecureFX on your own computer, you should need to create a session for fas.harvard.edu only once, if at all.

In the Connect window (pictured above), click the third icon over from the top-left that looks like the below.

Make the window that appears look exactly like the below.
Click **Next** and make the window that appears look exactly like the below.

![New Session Wizard](image1)

Click **Next** yet again and make the window that appears look exactly like the below.

![New Session Wizard](image2)
Finally, click **Finish**. You should see a window like the below appear. Again, the window you see may or may not list as many sessions, but it should now at least include `fas.harvard.edu`. 
Using SecureFX

Launch SecureFX. Assuming you (or somebody) has already created and configured a session for fas.harvard.edu, you should see a window like the below.

Highlight fas.harvard.edu by clicking it, then click Connect. If you see a window like the below, click Accept & Save.
Provide your username and password if prompted. A window containing at least two smaller windows should then appear, much like the below. Even if your own smaller windows are arranged differently, you should find that one provides you with access to the contents of your local computer, while another provides you with access to the contents of your home directory.
Navigate your way to the file(s) that you would like to upload by double-clicking the appropriate icons within the window representing your local computer. Then, navigate your way to the directory to which you would like to upload one or more files by double-clicking the appropriate icons in your home directory’s window. Click the file(s) that you would like to upload and drag the file(s) to their destination within your home directory. You may see, toward the bottom of SecureFX’s window, the upload’s progression. Once the upload is complete, your window should resemble the below.¹

May that you never have to read all of these directions again!

¹ Perhaps needless to say, this screenshot suggests that username uploaded Oscartime.sb from his or her desktop to his or her ~/cs50/ps0/ directory.