

Configuration Manual

MSc Research Project
MScCyb

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MSc Project Submission Sheet
School of Computing



Student Name: Oisín O'Laighín

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Programme: MScCyb1_B

Year: 24/25

Module: Practium 2

Lecturer: Rohit Verma

Submission Due

Date: 11/08/25

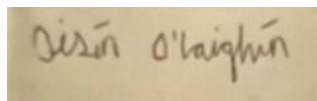
Project Title: Configuration Manual for Cryptally

Word Count: 227 **Page Count:** 2

I hereby certify that the information contained in this (my submission) is information pertaining to research I conducted for this project. All information other than my own contribution will be fully referenced and listed in the relevant bibliography section at the rear of the project.

ALL internet material must be referenced in the bibliography section. Students are required to use the Referencing Standard specified in the report template. To use other author's written or electronic work is illegal (plagiarism) and may result in disciplinary action.

Signature:



Date: 11/08/23

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Assignments that are submitted to the Programme Coordinator Office must be placed into the assignment box located outside the office.

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Configuration Manual for CrypTally

Oisín O’Laighín
Student ID: x19483314

1 System Requirements

Python: 3.10+

Dependencies:

Pip install flask python-dotenv pyjwt bcrypt cryptography

2 Environment Setup

.env file

Create .env in the project root with:

- JWT_SECRET_KEY=your_secure_jwt_secret_here (approx. 32 chars)
- FERNET_KEY=your_fernet_key_here (Generated with “Fernet.generate_key()”)

3 File Structure

/cryptally

App.py
.env

Data/

Test_voters.csv (voter credentials)
Votes.csv (encrypted votes)
Vote_chain.csv (ledger)
Voted_emails.txt (prevents double-voting)
Used_tokens.txt (JWT cache)

Templates/

Admin.html
User.html

4 Initial Setup

4.1 Voter Registration

Put voters in test_vote.csv

Example:

[voter1@example.com,\\$2b\\$12\\$hashed_password_here](#)

To generate hashed passwords:

```
import bcrypt
hashed = bcrypt.hashpw(b"plaintext_password", bcrypt.gensalt()).decode()
```

4.2 Run

python app.py (Starts Flask server at <http://localhost:5000>)

5 Key EndPoints

Endpoint	Method	Description
/login	POST	Authenticate voters (returns JWT)
/vote	POST	Submit encrypted vote
/tally	GET	Decrypt and count votes
/verify_blockchain	GET	Validate blockchain integrity
/admin	GET	Admin dashboard (requires JWT)

6 Security

6.1 JWT Settings

Expiration adjusted in app.py (default is 10mins)

Should look like this:

```
payload = {  
    "email": email,  
    "exp": datetime.utcnow() + timedelta(minutes=10),  
    "jti": str(uuid.uuid4())  
}
```

6.2 Fernet

Rotate the keys every so often.

To generate a new one:

```
from cryptography.fernet import Fernet  
Fernet.generate_key() # Update in .env
```

Re-encrypt existing votes if needed.

7 Maintenance

7.1 Backup important files

Regular get backups of:

- vote_chain.csv (blockchain integrity)
- voted_emails.txt (prevent revoting)

7.2 Logging

Performance metrics are logged to performance_log.csv (format: timestamp,endpoint,duration_seconds).

Appendix A: Sample test_voters.csv

email,password

admin@example.com,\$2b\$12\$E3ixOfnQV5/8TV8g1Qr0.9Xh5YJIX5xW3l6Dc6Dq9JkZ1JQa0n2mK

Appendix B: Generating Fernet Keys

```
from cryptography.fernet import Fernet  
print(Fernet.generate_key().decode()) # Add to .env
```

Appendix C: Versions

Versions

V1:function

```
PS C:\Users\o1701\Desktop\Masters_EVS\V1> & C:/Users/o1701/AppData/Local/Programs/Python/Python38-32/python.exe c:/Users/o1701/Desktop/Masters_EVS/V1/version_1_auth.py
* Serving Flask app 'version_1_auth'
* Debug mode: on
WARNING: This is a development server. Do not use it in a production deployment. Use a production WSGI server instead.
* Running on http://127.0.0.1:5000
Press CTRL+C to quit
* Restarting with stat
* Debugger is active!
* Debugger PIN: 106-843-281
127.0.0.1 - - [14/Jul/2025 18:00:08] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 404 -
127.0.0.1 - - [14/Jul/2025 18:00:09] "GET /favicon.ico HTTP/1.1" 404 -
```

Not Found

The requested URL was not found on the server. If you entered the URL manually please check your spelling and try again.

The screenshot shows a web browser's developer tools interface. At the top, the address bar shows the URL `http://127.0.0.1:5000/login`. Below the address bar, the request method is set to `GET` and the URL is `http://127.0.0.1:5000/login`. The response body is displayed in raw format as a JSON object: `{ "email": "alice@example.com", "password": "1234" }`. At the bottom, the response status is `405 METHOD NOT ALLOWED` with a response time of `9 ms` and a size of `364 B`. The HTML response body is shown as: `<!doctype html>`, `<html lang=en>`, `<title>405 Method Not Allowed</title>`, `<h1>Method Not Allowed</h1>`, and `<p>The method is not allowed for the requested URL.</p>`

HTTP <http://127.0.0.1:5000/login> Save Share

POST <http://127.0.0.1:5000/login> Send

Params Authorization Headers (8) **Body** Scripts Settings Cookies

none form-data x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary GraphQL **JSON** Beautify

```
1 {
2   "email": "alice@example.com",
3   "password": "1234"
4 }
5
```

Body Cookies Headers (5) Test Results **200 OK** 26 ms 285 B

{ } JSON Preview Visualize

```
1 {
2   "message": "Login successful",
3   "vote_token": "2dd2d7ca2e53cae8b2688ad065985ded450eee75ba90c73ee60f9a7f9ff5ad35"
4 }
```


Getting started | POST http://127.0.0.1 | POST http://127.0.0.1 | POST http://127.0.0.1 | GET http://127.0.0.1:5000/votes | No environment

HTTP http://127.0.0.1:5000/votes Save Share

GET http://127.0.0.1:5000/votes Send

Params Authorization Headers (8) Body Scripts Settings Cookies

none form-data x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary GraphQL JSON Beautify

```
1 {
2   "total_votes": 2,
3   "zkp_votes": [
4     "a0b3c9e72...",
5     "f39ad8f45..."
6   ]
7 }
8
```

Body Cookies Headers (5) Test Results 200 OK 6 ms 281 B

{ } JSON Preview Visualize

```
1 {
2   "total_votes": 1,
3   "zkp_votes": [
4     "e82d41fa979ebe44fba1b0e568ccd63469c92350c78946f69d8c1a35d7fcc9"
5   ]
6 }
```

Version 4

The screenshot shows a REST client interface with the following details:

- Request Method: GET
- Request URL: http://127.0.0.1:5000/tally
- Request Body:

```
1 {
2   "total_votes": 4,
3   "encrypted_sum": 3,
4   "decrypted_results": {
5     "Alice": 3,
6     "Bob": 1
7   }
8 }
```
- Status: 200 OK
- Response Body (JSON):

```
1 {
2   "decrypted_results": {
3     "Alice": 1,
4     "Bob": 0
5   },
6   "encrypted_sum": 1,
7   "total_votes": 1
8 }
```

Version 5

POST Login POST Old_Verify_Tc POST Vote_w/_Tok GET Old_Votes GET http://127.0.0.1

HTTP EVS / Vote_w/_Token Save Share

POST http://127.0.0.1:5000/vote Send

Params Authorization Headers (8) Body Scripts Settings Cookies

none form-data x-www-form-urlencoded raw binary GraphQL JSON Beautify

```

1 {
2   "token": "eyJhbGciOiJIUzI1NiIsInR5cCI6IkpXVCJ9.eyJ1bWVudCI6ImFsaWN1QGV4YW1wbGUuY29tIiwiaXNjaXkiOiJoxNzUyNTQwNjU1fQ.RoVMJqGeIOxxkDo0BijwjtqzDCngxJ6eHjkaqzBfjHE",
3   "candidate": "Alice"
4 }
5

```

Body Cookies Headers (5) Test Results 403 FORBIDDEN 8 ms 218 B Save Response

{ JSON Preview Visualize

```

1 {
2   "message": "Token has already been used"
3 }

```

Version 6

Home Workspaces API Network Search Postman Ctrl K Invite Upgrade

Oisín O'L's Workspace New Import EVS v6- POST Login POST Vote GET Tally VotingApp

GET http://127.0.0.1:5000/tally Send

Scripts Cookies

Pre-req 1 Use JavaScript to write tests, visualize response, and more. Ctrl+Alt+P for Postbot

Post-res

Body JSON 200 Download Refresh Save Response

```

1 {
2   "decrypted_results": {
3     "Alice": 2,
4     "Bob": 0
5   },
6   "encrypted_sum": 2,
7   "total_votes": 2
8 }

```

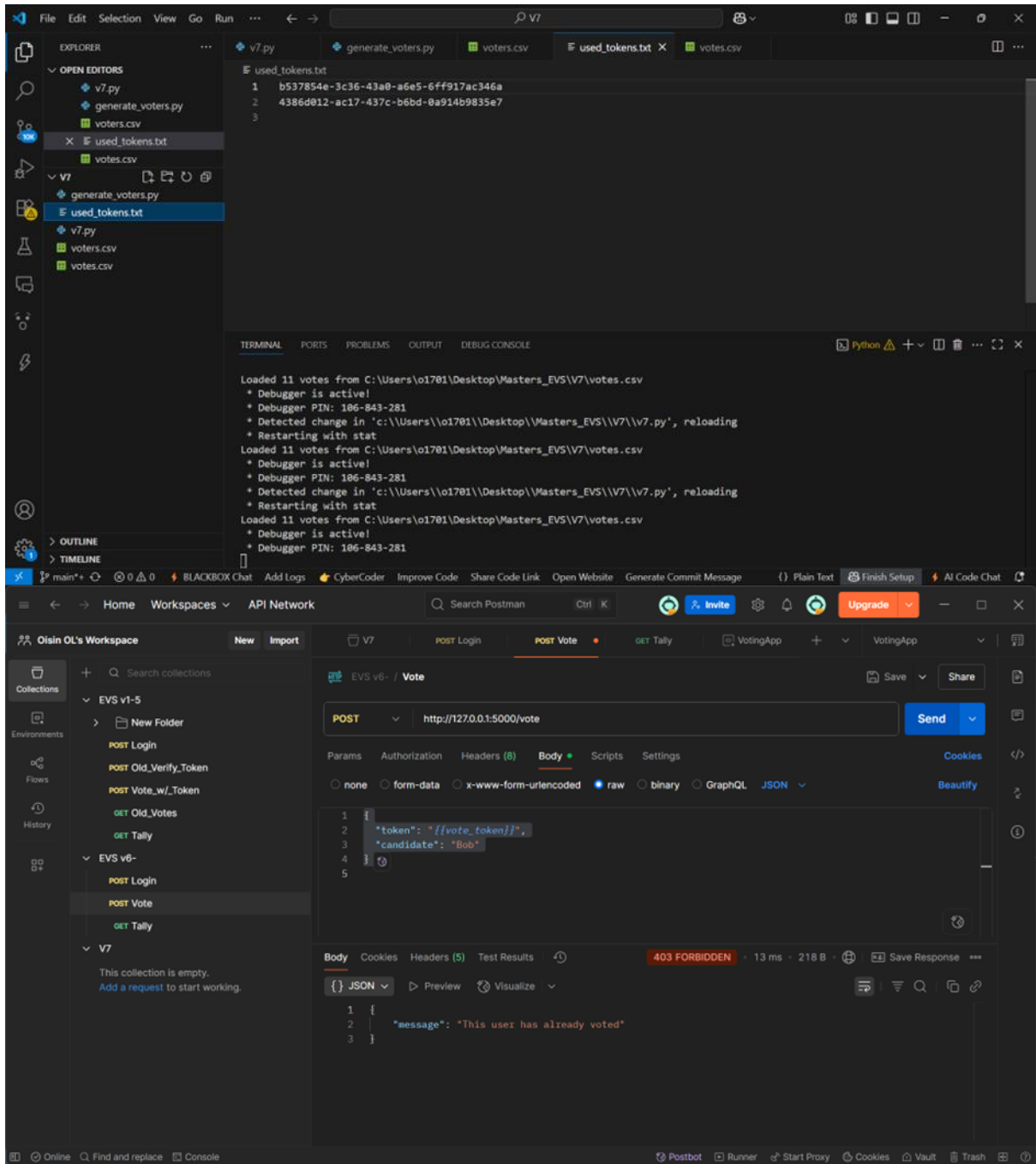
Code snippet Python - http.client

```

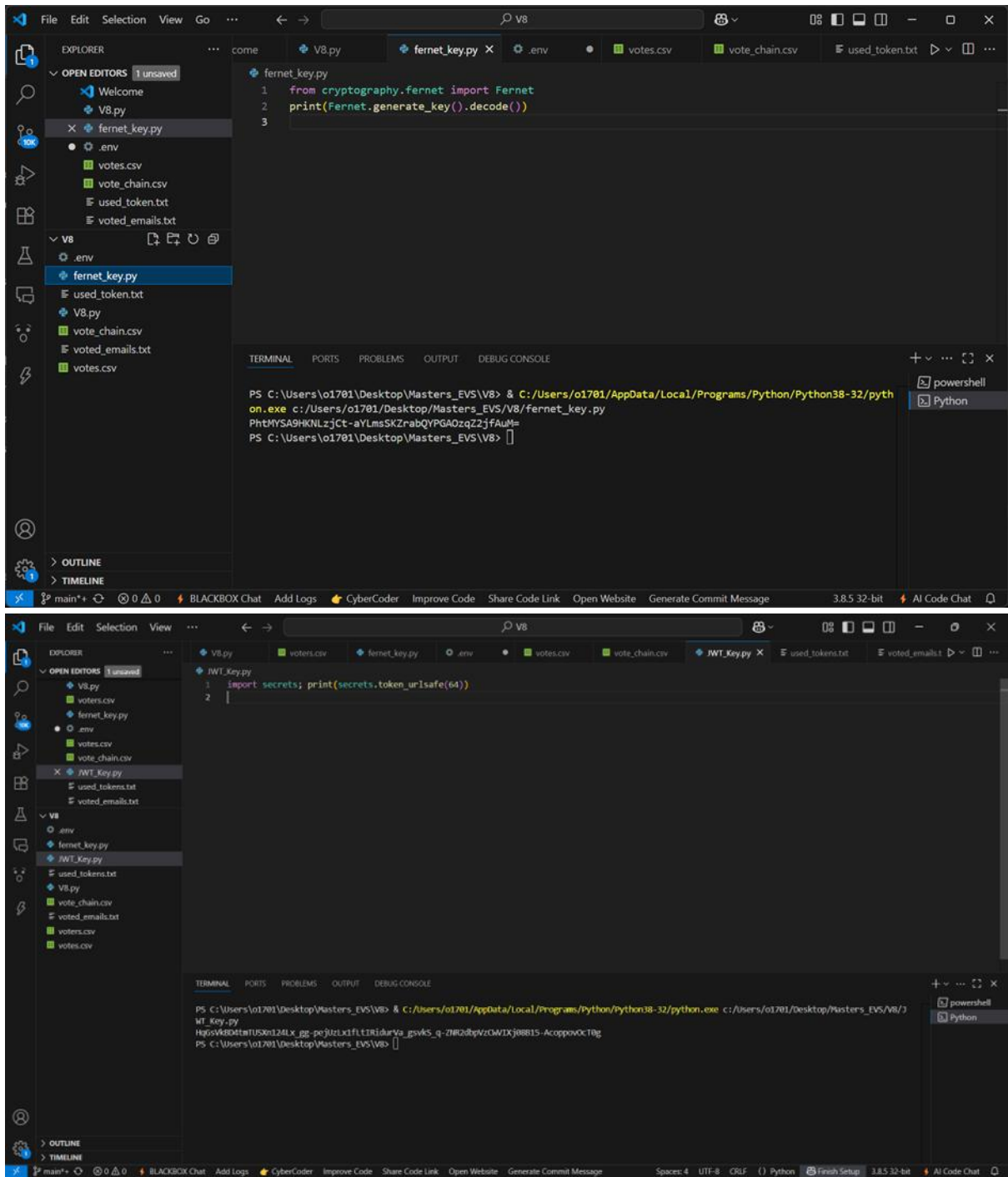
1 import http.client
2 import json
3
4 conn = http.client.HTTPConnection("127.0.0.1", 5000)
5 payload = json.dumps({
6   "total_votes": 3,
7   "encrypted_sum": 2,
8   "decrypted_results": {
9     "Alice": 2,
10    "Bob": 1
11  }
12 })
13 headers = {
14   'Content-Type': 'application/json'
15 }
16 conn.request("GET", "/tally", payload, headers)
17 res = conn.getresponse()
18 data = res.read()
19 print(data.decode("utf-8"))

```

Online Find and replace Console Postbot Runner Start Proxy Cookies Vault Trash



Version 8



The image shows two screenshots related to a web application. The top screenshot is a Visual Studio Code editor window with a Flask application running. The bottom screenshot is a Postman REST client showing a successful POST request to a voting endpoint.

VS Code Terminal Output:

```

* Serving Flask app 'V8'
* Debug mode: on
WARNING: This is a development server. Do not use it in a production deployment. Use a production WSGI se
rver instead.
* Running on http://127.0.0.1:5000
Press CTRL+C to quit
* Restarting with stat
* Debugger is active!
* Debugger PIN: 106-843-281
127.0.0.1 - - [20/Jul/2025 02:42:25] "GET / HTTP/1.1" 200 -
127.0.0.1 - - [20/Jul/2025 02:42:52] "POST /login HTTP/1.1" 200 -
127.0.0.1 - - [20/Jul/2025 02:42:59] "POST /vote HTTP/1.1" 200 -
127.0.0.1 - - [20/Jul/2025 02:43:05] "GET /tally HTTP/1.1" 200 -

```

Postman Request Details:

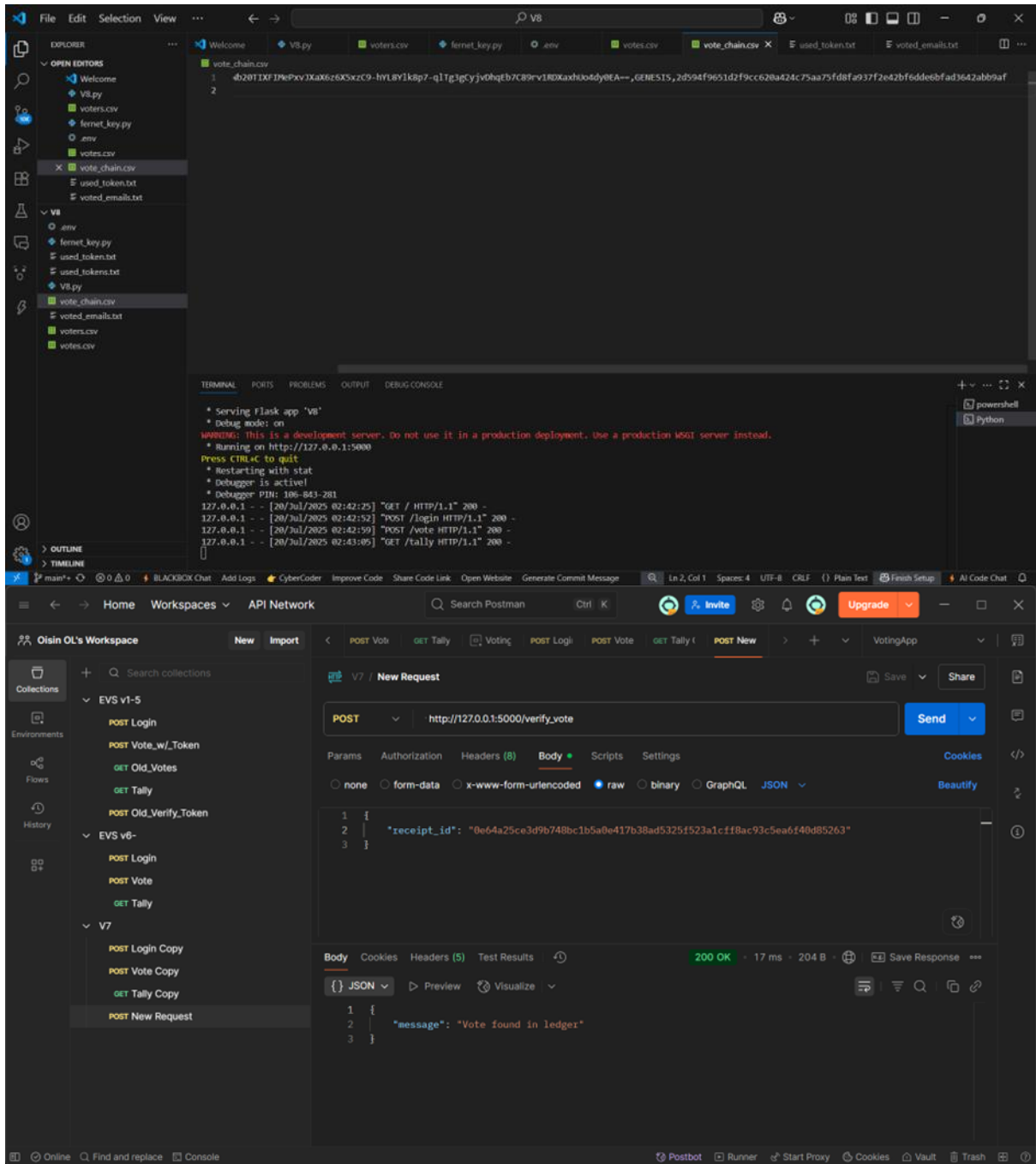
- Method: POST
- URL: `http://127.0.0.1:5000/vote`
- Status: 200 OK
- Response Time: 60 ms
- Response Size: 306 B

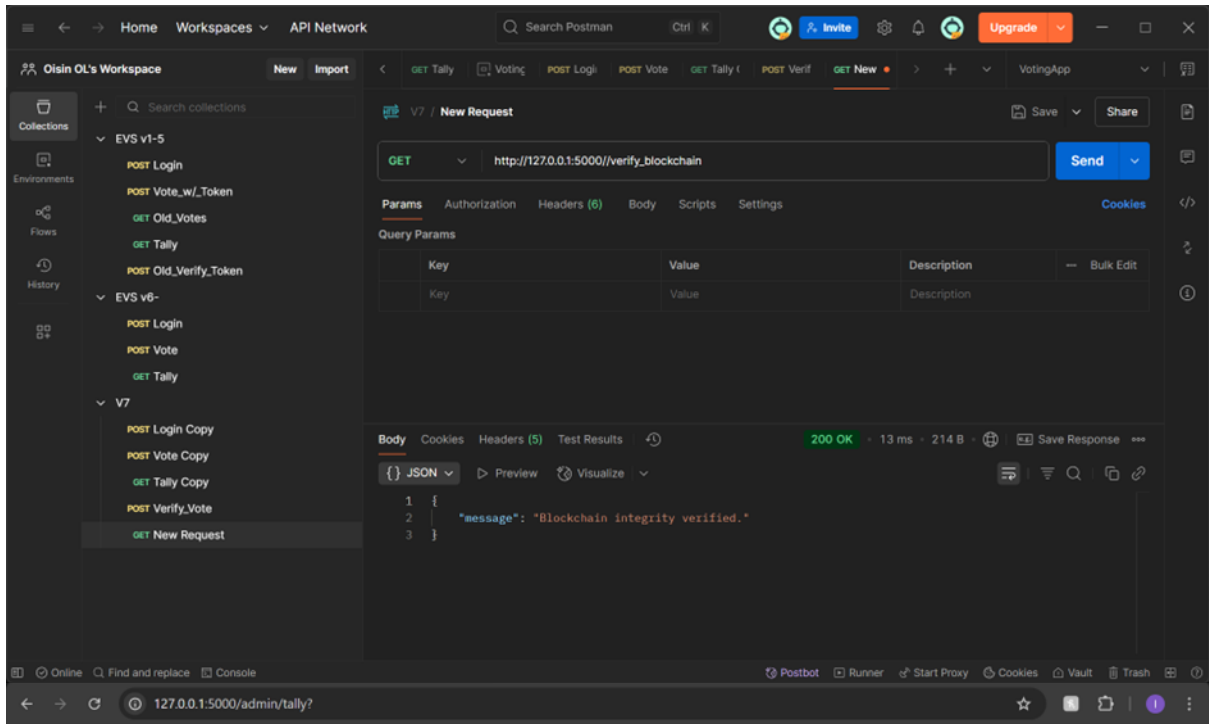
Postman Response Body (JSON):

```

1 {
2   "message": "Vote for Bob recorded successfully.",
3   "vote_receipt": "0e64a25ce3d9b748bc1b5a0e417b38ad5325f523a1cff8ac93c5ea6f40d85263"
4 }

```





Admin Dashboard

[View Tally](#)

Vote Tally

```
{
  "results": {
    "Alice": 0,
    "Bob": 1
  },
  "total_votes": 1
}
```

[Verify Blockchain](#)

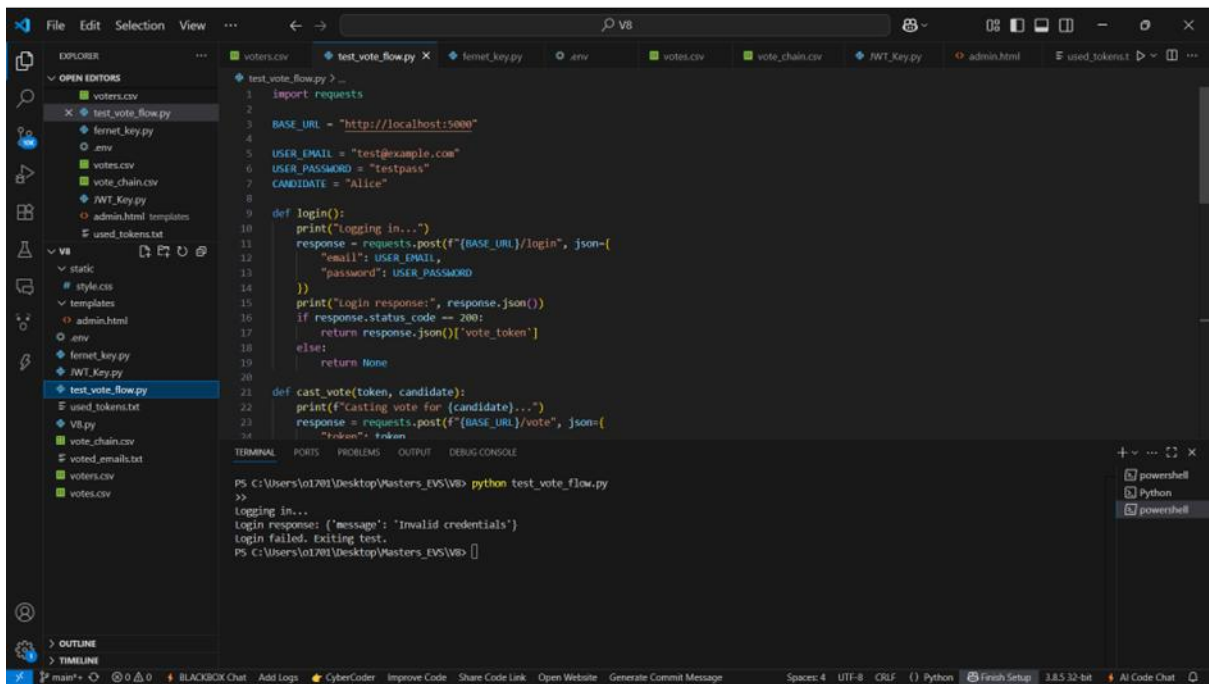
Admin Dashboard

View Tally

Verify Blockchain

Blockchain Status

Blockchain integrity verified.



CrypTally: E-Voting System

Login

Email address

Password

Login

Verify Your Vote

Receipt ID

Verify Vote

```
def simulate_voting_from_csv(file_path="test_voters.csv"):
    fail += 1
    time.sleep(0.05) # optional delay to simulate realism
    print(f"🗳️ Voting Simulation Complete - Success: {success}, Fail: {fail}")
simulate_voting_from_csv()
```

Terminal Output:

```
[95] ✅ Vote cast for testuser95@example.com
[96] ✅ Vote cast for testuser96@example.com
[97] ✅ Vote cast for testuser97@example.com
[98] ✅ Vote cast for testuser98@example.com
[99] ✅ Vote cast for testuser99@example.com
🗳️ Voting Simulation Complete - Success: 100, Fail: 0
PS C:\Users\ol1701\Desktop\Masters_EVS\V9>
```

Results

