

1. Option 3: dedicated OpenSUSE Tumbleweed machine
2. gcc 10.2.1 comes stock
3.
 1. I've programmed extensively in C in coursework contexts
 2. Very limited C++: parallel computing class, and a little minor debugging work.
 3. Yep. Last semester.
 4. Extensively, as a user but not as an admin.
4. Interested in comparing shared-memory vs. distributed-memory computing, and getting familiar with the basics of distributed-memory parallelism. It's useful in a lot of places, and particularly in scientific computing. Plus, your classes are great!