

Establishing a VNC session on JLAB L1 (Mac instructions)

Create a VNC session:

Starting from your home computer's terminal:

1. home machine\$ ssh <username>@login.jlab.org
 2. login.jlab.org\$ ssh jlabl1
 3. vncserver -depth 24 -geometry 1800x1000 (or whatever dimensions you would like on your display)
 - This will create a VNC session for you on some port.
 - Read the output to see what port (for example :23)
 4. vncpasswd
 - This is where you set your vnc password.
 - You only need to do this once
 - Anytime you try to connect to your vnc session you'll need to enter this password
- You now have a VNC server running.

Forward the ports:

1. From your home computer's terminal, edit your ~/.bash_profile file (assuming you're running bash)
2. Add a line:
alias jlabl1="ssh -t -L59XX:localhost:55443 <username>@login.jlab.org ssh -t -L55443:localhost:59XX jlabl1"
 - XX corresponds to the port number of your vnc session. If it's less than 10 you'll need to include a 0, i.e. 03. It will look like -L5903.
 - The long port number, 55443, is a random port that no one else is likely to be using so that you can connect all the way through. If that's taken try changing it by a number or two.
3. Save the file
4. source ~/.bash_profile
5. Try typing "jlabl1" in your command line to verify that the alias works.
 - You should be prompted to enter your jlab password twice and land on jlabl1.
 - You will not have to deal with ports again unless you remake your VNC and it gives you a different port number.

You have now successfully forwarded the port.

Connect to the port:

1. From your home computer's terminal, type: open vnc://localhost:59XX
2. Enter your VNC password
3. You'll likely need to enter your jlab password once you wake the screen up

Connecting in the future

1. From your home computer's terminal, type: jlabl1
 - You will be prompted to enter your jlab password twice.
2. From a different terminal in your home computer type: open <vnc://localhost:59XX>
 - You will be prompted for your VNC password
 - You may need to enter the jlab password once you wake the screen up.

Troubleshooting

If you are having trouble with your alias, check to see if your port is still active.

1. home machine\$ ssh <username>@login.jlab.org
2. login.jlab.org\$ ssh jlabl1
3. enter the following command ps -ef |grep vnc
 - Look for your username in the list.
 - Your port number is indicated as :# on the line with your username.
 - If your username is not there, you must recreate the VNC session and follow the instructions again.