Hello Dr. Ekmekci

Regarding the delivery of the Lab session I think it’s important for the students to do the analysis of the results themselves so that they can gain important insight on different parameters and their effects. So I offer the following solution:

The TA will record himself doing the experiments explaining the system and how it works. He will also provide the students with the raw data collected from the experiments. From there the students analyze the results and complete a report for marking.

One of the following options can be used to provide the students with the flowex software:

1. A copy of the software is provided to each student that they can install and use on their own computer.
2. We install one single copy of the software on a single computer (server). The student will connect to this server to do the analysis.

Given the high number of the students for this course (around 200) one of these two options will be more cost efficient. So we need to know two specific things:

* How much is the cost for 200 “single licenses” of the software in bulk purchase (first option)?
* How much is the cost for a “server license” of the software (second option)? And is there any limits on the number of users that can simultaneously use the “server license” on a server installation?

Once we know these particulars we can decide which option works the best in our current situation.

All The Best,

Pouya Mohtat

TA for the AER210 course

Hello Dr. Ekmekci,

As we discussed, we are considering purchasing a “server license” of the flowex software (required for the flow visualization lab). So that we can install this software on a server to which the students can easily connect and have access to the software.

For the server, we can rent a server from Google (cloud.google.com). The renting cost would be somewhere around 0.80 to 1.20 CAD per hour of use depending on the processing power required. Assuming we have 200 students the whole cost of the server would sum up to around 150-250 CAD. I’m attaching the cost calculation sheet from google that has specific cost break down (also available for further calculations at: <https://cloud.google.com/products/calculator/#id=9264d51f-db99-4833-a04d-b477586aa212> ).

With the right configuration of this cloud server, at each given time a group of students (5 to 10) can connect to the server simultaneously and have concurrent, completely separate sessions on the cloud.

We have around 200 students on the course so each group of students should be allocated with a time slot to connect to the server and have access to the required software. Given that I’m not an IT specialist, configuring a cloud server and enforcing the time slots for each student group takes some learning. Is there a person from the department that can assist me in setting up the server? Or can the time slots be managed by the university administration? Of course, I can provide more detail on the required server configuration and time slots whenever necessary…

All the Best,

Pouya