How to use eceubuntu

The easiest way to connect to the ECE Linux servers is by using a secure shell client (SSH client), many of which are available from the Internet. For example, many people use Putty (just do a Google search for Putty and it will be the first link). Alternatively, if you’re on a Mac, you can open a terminal window and give the command ssh eceubuntu or ssh ecelinux4.uwaterloo.ca (as described below).

# On campus connection

If you are connected to any of the UW networks, you just need to open your ssh application and connect to hostname eceubuntu using your Nexus/WatIAM user name and password.

# Off campus connection

If you are off campus, use the same procedure as if you are on campus (indicated above) except for the host name which should be ecelinux4.uwaterloo.ca. After entering your password, you’ll be connected to ecelinux4 (which is the only one of our Linux machines that can be accessed from off-campus due to the firewall). Once you’re on ecelinux4, use the command ssh eceubuntu to connect to our main Linux system. You will again be prompted to enter your UW userid and password. Note that nothing will appear while you type your password, to prevent “shoulder surfing”.

# Using Linux

If you have never used Linux before, here are some useful links:

<http://linuxcommand.org/lc3_learning_the_shell.php>

<https://ryanstutorials.net/linuxtutorial/commandline.php>

# Editing files

Linux has a number of text editors. Vim is more powerful, Pico is easier to learn.

Tutorial on Vim: <https://www.linux.com/learn/vim-101-beginners-guide-vim>

Tutorial on Pico: <https://www.cs.colostate.edu/helpdocs/pico.html>

# Compiling and running your C/C++ code

The gcc and g++ commands can be used to compile your code:

gcc *yourfile*.cpp –o *yourfile*

g++ *yourfile*.cpp –o *yourfile*

Use gcc for C, g++ for C++.

Obviously, replace *yourfile* with the name of your source file. The result will be an executable file called *yourfile* which you can run as ./*yourfile* (possibly redirecting the input and or/or output). For example:

/.yourfile <*somedata*

./yourfile >*youroutput*

./yourfile <*somedata* >*youroutput*

The first example has your program read from the text file *somedata*, the second has your program write its output to *youroutput*, the third example does both of those things.

# Using Python

On eceubuntu, we have both Python 2.7 and Python 3.4 installed. You run them like this:

python *yourfile*.py

python3 *yourfile*.py

Again, you obviously replace *yourfile* with the name of your python source file. You can also redirect the input and output, just as you did in the C/C++ example above.

# Uploading files

If you prefer, you can edit and test your code on your own computer. However, your code **must** run on eceubuntu since that is where the TAs will be testing it.

If you’re using the SSH Secure Shell on Nexus, there’s button in the toolbar called “New File Transfer Window” which will allow you to drag-and-drop files between your computer and eceubuntu.

If you’re using Putty, you can open up a CMD window and use the pscp command. For example:

pscp *yourfile*.cpp *youruserid*@ecelinux4.uwaterloo.ca:*yourfile*.cpp

Be sure to run your code on eceubuntu before submitting it to Learn!