

# HOW TO INSTALL FLAGCALC

PETER GLENN

## 1. PREFACE

Please be sure you have the latest version of this document:

<https://github.com/corralledcode/flagcalc/blob/main/documentation/flagcalcinstallation.pdf>

## 2. INTRO

Flagcalc now runs natively on both Linux and Windows (tested on Ubuntu and Pop\_OS! 22.04 LTS, alongside very initial and minimal testing in Windows 11). Flagcalc allows you to “query” databases or “workspaces” of several or many millions of relatively small random graphs, for “first order” features such as connectedness, a slew of “measures”, criteria and extended notions using a first order language that begins with nestable **FORALL** and **EXISTS** operators, and proceeds to things like **SUM**, **COUNT**, etc. Flagcalc also has some strong features around graph isomorphism classes and automorphisms.

Flagcalc is a command-line tool, invoked such as:

```
./flagcalc -r 10 8 3 -v graphs
```

which chooses three random graphs on ten vertices and outputs their adjacency matrices and edge incidences; **-v** stands for “verbosity level”, and specifies that we are interested to see each graph listed out. As appropriate for a command-line tool, your development environment may be as simple as a Bash terminal window alongside the default Linux text editor (which include syntax highlighting, especially notably parenthesis matching for staying sane around deeply nested queries).

## 3. USING THE PRE-COMPILED BINARIES

The Github link to releases is

<https://github.com/corralledcode/flagcalc/releases>.

There, the most recent release of binaries (pre-compiled code) is at the bottom of the page. Unzip the appropriate file into a folder and if desired rename the folder (e.g. **flagcalc1.0-beta-linux-cuda**) just to **flagcalc**. By “appropriate file” is meant: choose between Windows and Linux, and choose between regular or “CUDA” (the latter only if you have a CUDA GPU, such as provided by NVIDIA). You will see four folders.

---

*Date:* December 14, 2025.

#### 4. AN IDE

Or you can literally compile yourself, and/or open the script files in the standard IDE: JetBrains CLion, available from JetBrains for free for non-commercial use here: <https://www.jetbrains.com/clion/promo>.

- (1) One creates a folder `CLionProjects` and downloads the project source code zip file from the Github website (at

<https://github.com/corralledcode/flagcalc/>

where you click the green “Code” button and choose to download zip), then unzips it in the `CLionProjects` folder, next renaming the unzipped folder `flagcalc-main` to `flagcalc`, or

- (2) (much preferred), one uses the “New project from a repository” option, with the git URL <https://github.com/corralledcode/flagcalc.git>. This creates the folder `<home>/CLionProjects/flagcalc/` and CLion asks for certain permissions for this folder, but the bulk of the setup is automatic.

There are two general ways to compile the code, either “CUDA-enabled” or “non-CUDA-enabled”, depending on whether your host machine has a CUDA GPU (typically from NVIDIA). If you are downloading a pre-compiled binary, please choose from these two options via the particular filename of the file you choose to download (there are four possible files, a grid of Linux vs. Windows, and CUDA vs. non-CUDA). If you want to compile `flagcalc` yourself, please open the project file `CMakeLists.txt` and choose to set the variable found therein called `INTERNALFLAGCALC_CUDA` either to `ON` or to `OFF`, then click **Tools** menu, **CMake**, then **Reset cache and reload project**, before clicking the “Build” or the “Run” button.

Whether using the CUDA-enabled option or not, if you are compiling yourself then the `nvcc.exe` compiler must be used (and one can install it even if the machine doesn’t have a GPU). Therefore, after installing the CUDA developer’s toolit (available at the link below, where for Linux a series of command-line `wget`s and `sudo`s are given),

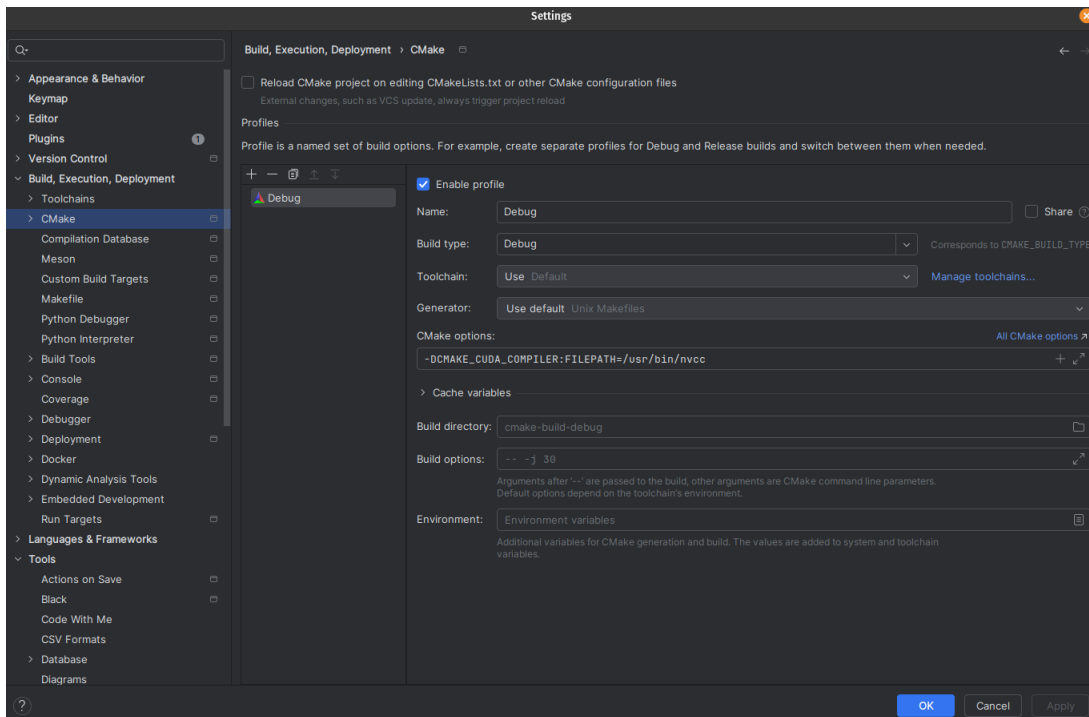
<https://developer.nvidia.com/cuda-downloads>

it is important to edit “settings” under the “File” menu of CLion: please see

<https://www.jetbrains.com/help/clion/cuda-projects.html>

for instructions about adding all-caps `CMAKE` options to the “CMake options” pointing the CMake tool to the location of `nvcc`:

The goal of those two steps is to point to “`nvcc`” as the compiler as a wrapper for “`gcc`” or “`clang`”:



Now, if using MS Windows, please jump ahead to the later section, “Specific to Microsoft Windows” for guidelines to this platform.

## 5. IF COMPILING YOURSELF: A FIRST BUILD

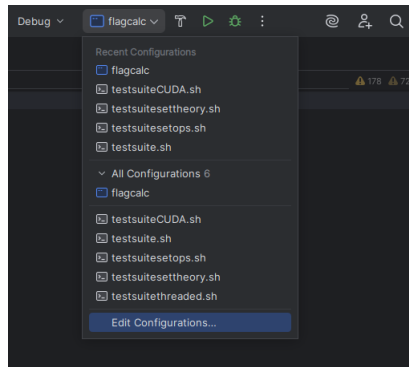
One opens up the project by selecting the “flagcalc” folder just created, and clicks the “build” button (the hammer) in the top right of CLion.



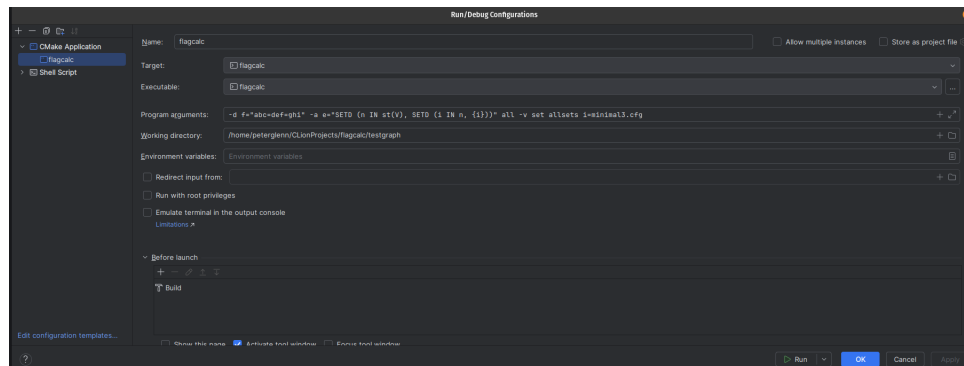
Ignore the copious number of warnings in the output, and if it doesn’t come back “Build finished” after a few minutes of work, then search the output in the bottom window portion for the text “Error”. This will likely point you to the bug. Insofar as this is tested source code, any build difficulty should relate to your settings rather than to the code itself.

## 6. IF USING CLION FOR YOUR IDE: EDIT RUN CONFIGURATIONS

One can click the drop-down to the left of the hammer, choose “Edit Configurations”,



and alter “Program arguments” to consist of what you’d like to pass to the executable by way of a command line argument: this is a heavily-used feature of CLion or probably of your favorite IDE. Note the “working directory” argument as well needs to be updated to match with where the given package has placed test graph files, if you are using the `-d <filename>` option or are using the `-v i=minimal.cfg` verbosity option (of course you can also choose to move files elsewhere). Finally note that if you’ve added additional line items to this menu, then you’ll want manually to select the “flagcalc” item for this invocation, if it’s not already selected<sup>1</sup>; and you’ll want to be sure to save your edits to the shell script before clicking “Run”.



## 7. IF NOT USING CLION FOR YOUR IDE: IF USING BASIC TOOLS

If instead of the CLion IDE you are using a terminal (`powershell.exe` in Windows) combined optionally with a text editor for the batch/shell script, then simply use the command

```
./flagcalc <arguments> or .\flagcalc <arguments>
```

Or invoke your batch/script file through the terminal:

```
./<your filename.sh> or .\<your filename.bat>
```

<sup>1</sup>If you are a C++ coder: it is also important to note that altered code will not automatically recompile when you click a shell script’s “Run” button; if you are changing flagcalc C++ code then please choose “flagcalc” and click “Build” before going back to the shell script you wish to run.

## 8. A FIRST FLAGCALC INVOCATION

For example, to compute a graph's chromatic number one first chooses where to get the graph from, either a file (`-d <filename>`), the standard input (`-d std::cin`) or a random graph on  $n$  vertices and, say,  $k := 0.5\binom{n}{2}$  average edge count (`-r n k 1`).

Next, invoke `-a a=Chit` to get the chromatic number(s) of the graph(s) input.

Lastly, choose a “verbosity level” via `-v allsets graphs crit`: we want each set result printed out (this is a general point, not technically needed for this query), we want each graph's adjacency matrix printed out, and we want criteria/measures/tuples/etc. printed out generally. Altogether,

```
-r 10 22.5 1 -a a=Chit -v allsets graphs crit
```

```

/home/peterglenn/GitProjects/flagcalc/ctest-build-debug/flagcalc -r 10 22.5 1 -a a=Chit -v allsets graphs crit
GRAPHS GRAPH:
a 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1
a 0 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0
b 1 0 0 0 0 1 1 0 1 1
c 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 0 1 1
d 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0
e 0 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 1 1
f 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 0 1
g 1 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 1
h 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 1
i 1 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 1
j 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 1 0
[a,b], [a,c], [a,d], [a,i]
[b,c], [b,d], [b,i], [b,j]
[c,e], [c,f], [c,g], [c,h], [c,j]
[d,e], [d,h]
[e,f], [e,g], [e,i], [e,j]
[f,h], [f,j]
[g,i], [g,j]
[h,i], [h,j]
[i,j]
na.degree[a] == 4: b, g, h, i
na.degree[b] == 5: a, f, g, i, j
na.degree[c] == 5: e, f, g, h, j
na.degree[d] == 2: a, h
na.degree[e] == 6: c, d, f, g, i, j
na.degree[f] == 5: b, c, a, h, j
na.degree[g] == 6: a, b, c, e, d, j
na.degree[h] == 6: a, c, d, f, i, j
na.degree[i] == 6: a, b, e, g, h, j
na.degree[j] == 7: c, d, e, f, g, h, i
APPLYITERATION APPLYITERATION2:
Average, min, max of measure formula Chit: 4, 4, 4
Process finished with exit code 0

```

One can also query for the tuple of colors for each vertex:

```
-r 10 22.5 1 -a p=Chip -v allsets graphs crit
```

```

/home/peterglenn/GitProjects/flagcalc/ctest-build-debug/flagcalc -r 10 22.5 1 -a p=Chip -v allsets graphs crit
GRAPHS GRAPH:
a 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1
a 0 1 1 0 1 0 0 1 1 0
b 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0
c 1 1 0 1 1 1 0 0 0
d 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 0
e 1 1 0 0 0 1 1 0 1
f 0 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 0 0
g 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0
h 1 0 0 1 1 0 0 0 0 1
i 1 1 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 0
j 0 0 0 1 0 0 1 0 0
[a,b], [a,c], [a,d], [a,h], [a,i]
[b,c], [b,d], [b,i]
[c,d], [c,e], [c,f], [c,g]
[d,g], [d,h], [d,i]
[e,h], [e,i], [e,j]
[f,i]
[h,j]
na.degree[a] == 5: b, c, e, h, i
na.degree[b] == 4: a, c, e, i
na.degree[c] == 6: a, b, d, a, f, g
na.degree[d] == 4: c, g, h, i
na.degree[e] == 6: a, b, c, g, h, j
na.degree[f] == 2: a, g
na.degree[g] == 4: c, d, a, f
na.degree[h] == 4: a, d, e, j
na.degree[i] == 3: a, b, d
na.degree[j] == 2: a, h
APPLYTUPLEITERATION APPLYTUPLEITERATION2:
Tuple type output, size == 10
<i> 2, 3, 1, 4, 1, 2, 2, 3, 1>
Count, average, min, max of tuple size Tuple-valued formula Chip: 1, 10, 10, 10
Process finished with exit code 0

```

Finally, one can increase from 1 random graph to  $l$  random graphs, and add “allmeas” to verbosity so it outputs the chromatic number of each of the  $l$  graphs:

```
-r 8 14 10 -a a=Chit all -v graphs allmeas crit
```

```
ns.degrees[g] == 3: c, d, e
ns.degrees[h] == 4: a, b, c, d
APPLYCRITERION APPLYCRITERION11:
Measure Formula Chit results graph-by-graph:
GRAPH0: 3
GRAPH1: 3
GRAPH2: 4
GRAPH3: 3
GRAPH4: 3
GRAPH5: 4
GRAPH6: 3
GRAPH7: 4
GRAPH8: 4
GRAPH9: 3
Average, min, max of measure Formula Chit: 3.4, 3, 4
Process finished with exit code 0
```

This is by no means the sum of what flagcalc can do; the best user’s manual for now is the README.md file (slightly out of date), and simply inspecting visually all the shell scripts in the “scripts” folder, alongside the sample graphs and “stored procedures” in the “testgraph” folder. Also, by now there are several PDFs posted on the author’s LinkedIn page, with exercises and instructional material; the most recent of these are in the Github folder:

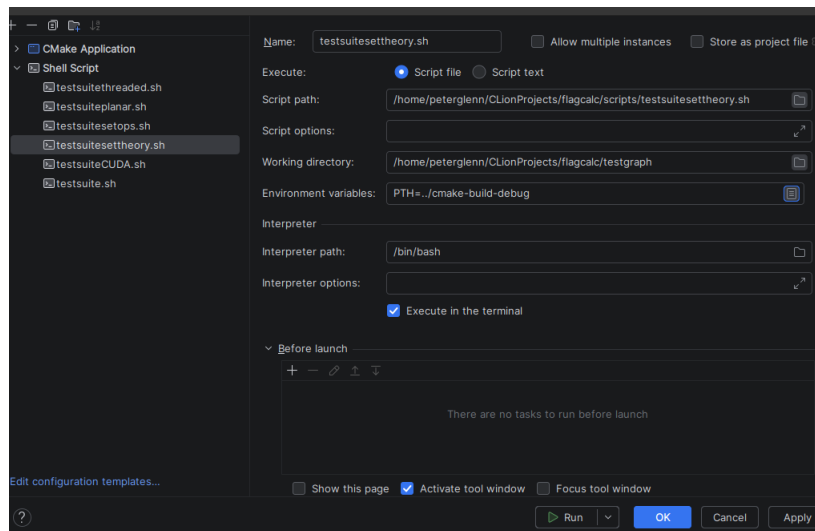
<https://github.com/corralledcode/flagcalc/tree/main/documentation>

## 9. SHELL SCRIPTS IF USING CLION FOR IDE

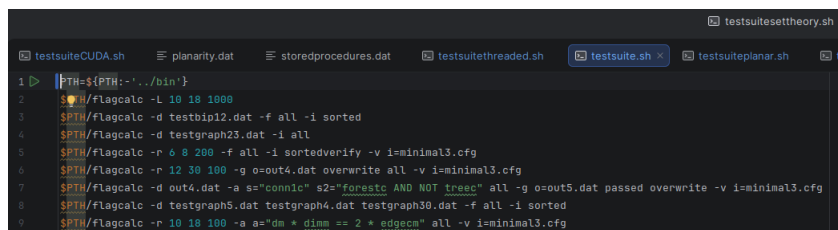
One “track” of using flagcalc is the ability to run a long list of queries in batch mode. To do this, go back to “edit configurations” and click the “shell script” drop-down on the left, followed by “Add new run configuration”. Modify:

- (1) The “Name”: use e.g. the script’s name without its path
- (2) The “Script path”: point to your `.sh` file
- (3) The “Working directory”: point to `testgraph`
- (4) The “Environment variables”: add `PTH=../cmake-build-debug` (note the script automatically defaults to `../bin` if this environment variable is not set)

Altogether it should look something like the following screenshot:



A shell script looks like this:



where the pound symbol is a comment indicator, for giving the script a full name or comment at the beginning; it can be omitted. Scripts should be placed in the “scripts” folder, as indicated in the image above. Note the `PTH=` line that begins each shell script: this is Bash notation to use the given value `./bin` *only* if `PTH` isn’t already defined; we’ve just defined it to be something else already in the CLion settings for the script.

## 10. SPECIFIC TO MICROSOFT WINDOWS

Please follow these steps.

- (1) Install the JetBrains CLion product on your Windows machine
- (2) Install the (free for open-source use) Microsoft Visual Studio C++ tools. Please note the built-in `nvcc` compiler only works with MSVS 2019-2022; therefore there is a line in the `CMakeLists.txt` instructing `nvcc` to use the new (2025) unsupported compiler.
- (3) As in the general instructions above, install the CUDA developer’s toolkit available from NVIDIA’s website
- (4) Ensure both the path to `nvcc.exe` and the path to `cl.exe` are in the system’s environment variables (click the start menu, then search for “Environment variables”).

Both of these paths are long... here they are duplicated as a sample; yours might be different:

- C:\Program Files\Microsoft Visual Studio\18\Community\VC\Tools\MSVC\14.50.35717\bin\Hostx64\x64
- C:\Program Files\NVIDIA GPU Computing Toolkit\CUDA\v13.1\bin

Note also the path line item %CLion%.

- (5) Use the Github link <https://github.com/corralledcode/flagcalc.git> in the CLion “New...File from version control” menu. This is now the most up-to-date branch (earlier versions of this document noted the main branch was deprecated by the “CUDA-enabled” branch; this is no longer the case)
- (6) In CLion “Settings/Build,Execution,Deployment/Toolchains” add a Toolchain, click the up arrow to make it the default, and point its CMake to “MS Visual Studio”. Note that in a few moments time it automatically should update all the text boxes with the checked-off compilers, etc.
- (7) Click build or add a command line to settings and click Run (one simple command line is just `-h`, which per custom will list all the command-line options)

At this time the Windows implementation has only been tested in a Ubuntu (Pop\_OS!) virtual machine through QEMU/KVM, and there it is seen to be running several magnitudes more slowly on the basic shell scripts. Whether it runs comparably fast on a native Windows install remains to be seen, however:

If you want to run a shell script (in the project’s “Scripts” folder there are six standard ones, or five if you exclude the `testsuiteCUDA.sh`) then follow these steps:

- (1) Copy the shell script and rename the copy to have the extension `.bat` rather than `.sh`
- (2) find-and-replace all comment delimiters (`#`) with `REM` followed by at least one space.
- (3) replace the script’s first line, being typically `PTH='../cmake-build-debug'`, with `SET PTH=..\cmake-build-debug`
- (4) find-and-replace all occurrences of `$PTH/flagcalc` with `%PTH%\flagcalc`
- (5) if there are any multiple-line invocations (continued when the line ends with a backslash), then replace the backslash with a space followed by a caret.

Then, to run the script, be sure to be in the `testgraph` folder (located at `..\testgraph` if one is in the `scripts` folder). Otherwise the script will not find, e.g., `minimal3.cfg` (which specifies some standard “verbosity” levels, i.e. how much info to share to standard output), etc.

## 11. FURTHER READING

On page 13 of the document “Intro to Isomorphisms and Automorphisms in Flagcalc” are instructions on “Inputting graphs generally”, that describe the language for inputting graphs. For example, you can use

```
./flagcalc -d std::cin -v graphs
```



and when the prompt appears, type in say `abc de END END` for a graph consisting of a  $K_3$  (complete graph on three vertices) alongside a disconnected pair of connected vertices ( $K_2$ ).

The document “Chromatic Number in Flagcalc” has some simple exercises around algorithms for chromatic number (coloring number).

Another document is “Intro to the First-Order Querying Language in Flagcalc”. All of these are found at the author’s LinkedIn page,

<https://www.linkedin.com/in/peterdglennseminarian>,

and on the Github page, “main” branch,

<https://github.com/corralledcode/flagcalc/tree/main/documentation>.<sup>2</sup>

---

<sup>2</sup>The author’s email address is  
<mailto:peter@corralledcode.com>