

Installing **git** and cloning the class git repo

January 19, 2026

Given:

Ubuntu Desktop;
User account on Ubuntu Desktop.

The version of installed Ubuntu Desktop is: 24.04.03

In this how-to, we will go step-by-step over installing the git client, then using it to clone the git repo whose contents are used in *Introduction to Programming for Researchers*, both the book and the class.

The git repo for the book and the class *Introduction to Programming for Researchers* contains the code, notebooks, and datafiles used in both book and class. Additionally, the repo contains how-tos and scripts in the *system_administration* subdirectory for installing the apps used in Bash and the SciPy stack; as well as compiling and installing Python interpreters made available at <https://python.org>.

In this how-to, we will walk through first installing the git client, then cloning the repo for the book and class in a subdirectory off the home directory, which we'll name “repo”.

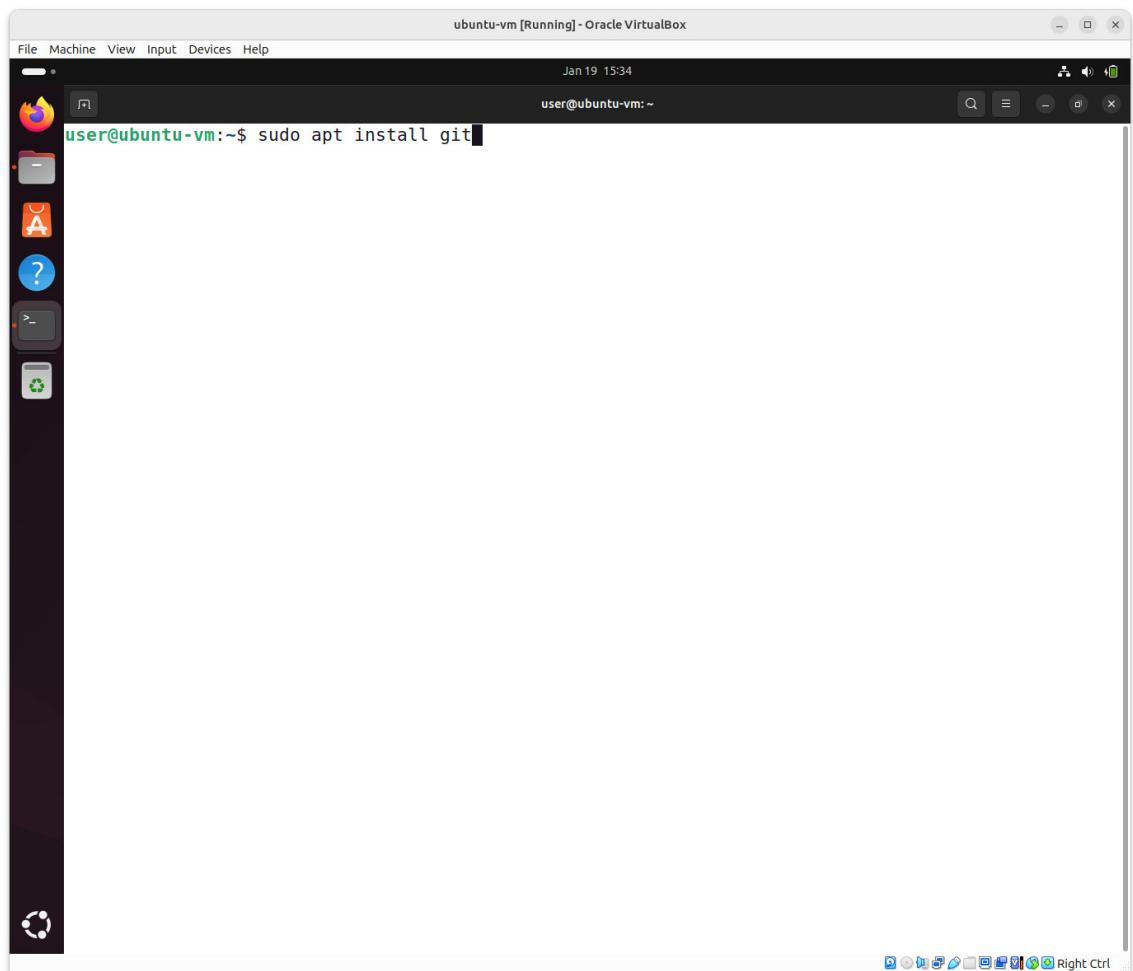


Figure 1: **Downloading and installing *git* in Ubuntu.**
We install git from Ubuntu repos using apt.

Clear the terminal window of clutter by typing on the command line: **clear** Then hit **ENTER**.

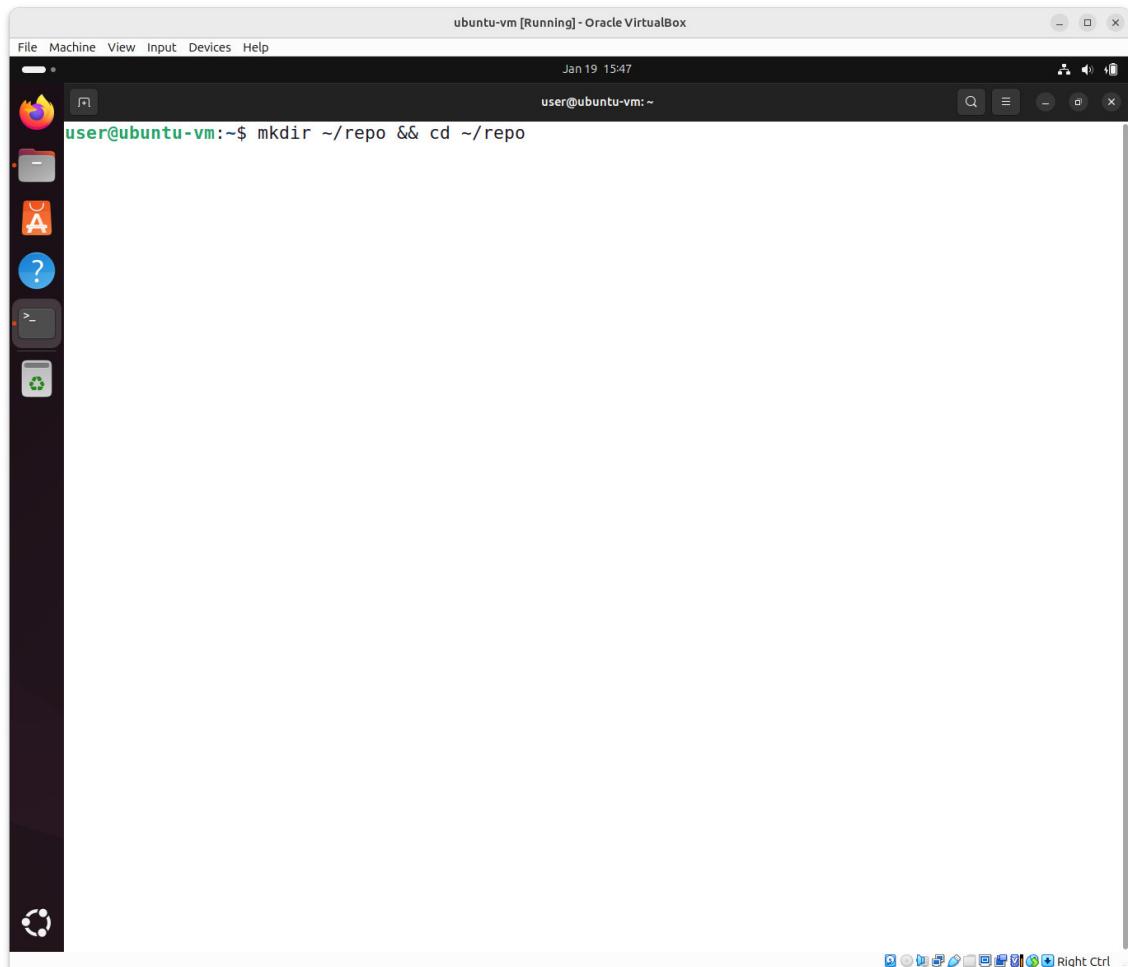


Figure 2: Making directory “repo” and navigating into it.

We wish to keep our home directory as organized as possible. To this end, we’ll create a subdirectory named “datafile” in which we’ll keep all datafiles, a subdirectory named “notebook” in which we’ll keep all Jupyter notebooks, etc.

Likewise, we’ll create a subdirectory named “repo” in which we’ll keep all repos.

On the command line, type: **mkdir ~/repo && cd ~/repo**

Then hit **ENTER**.

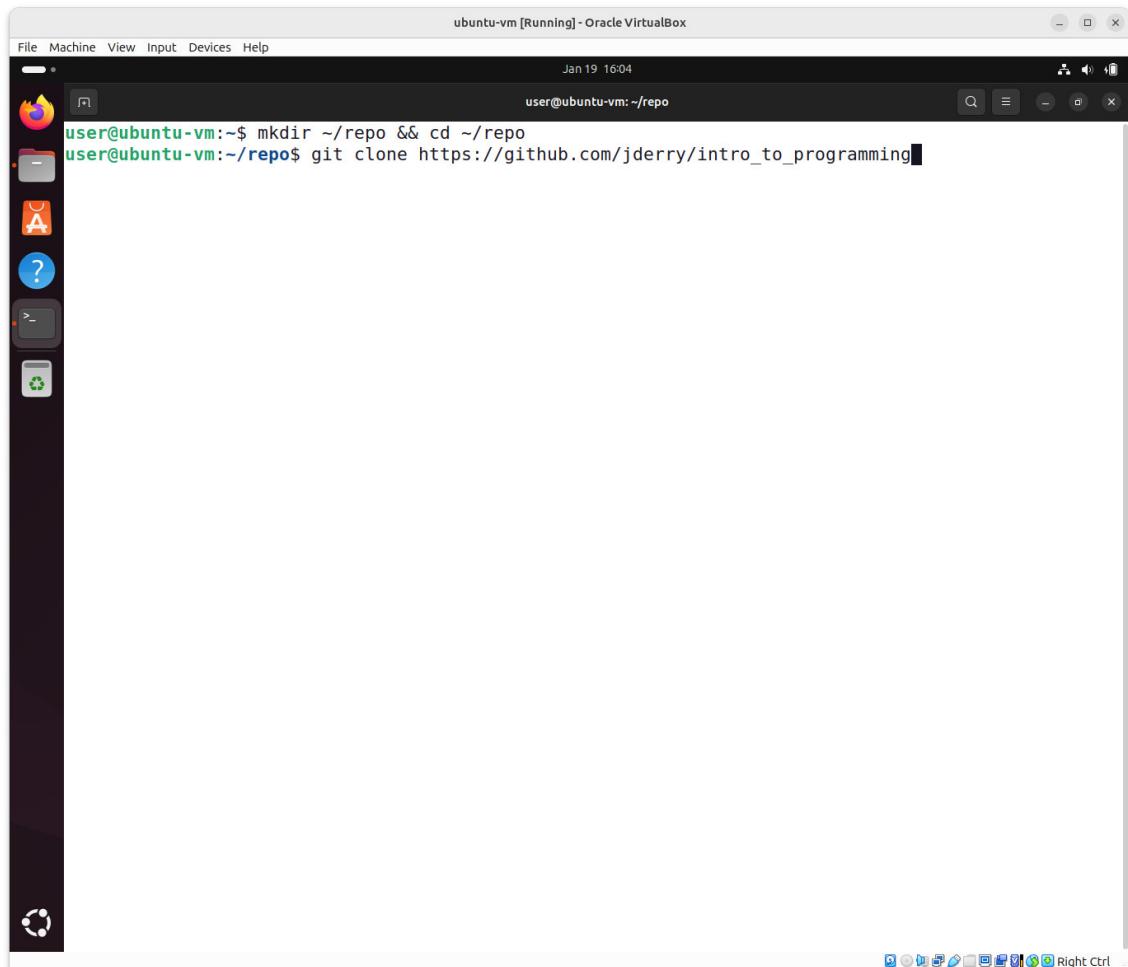
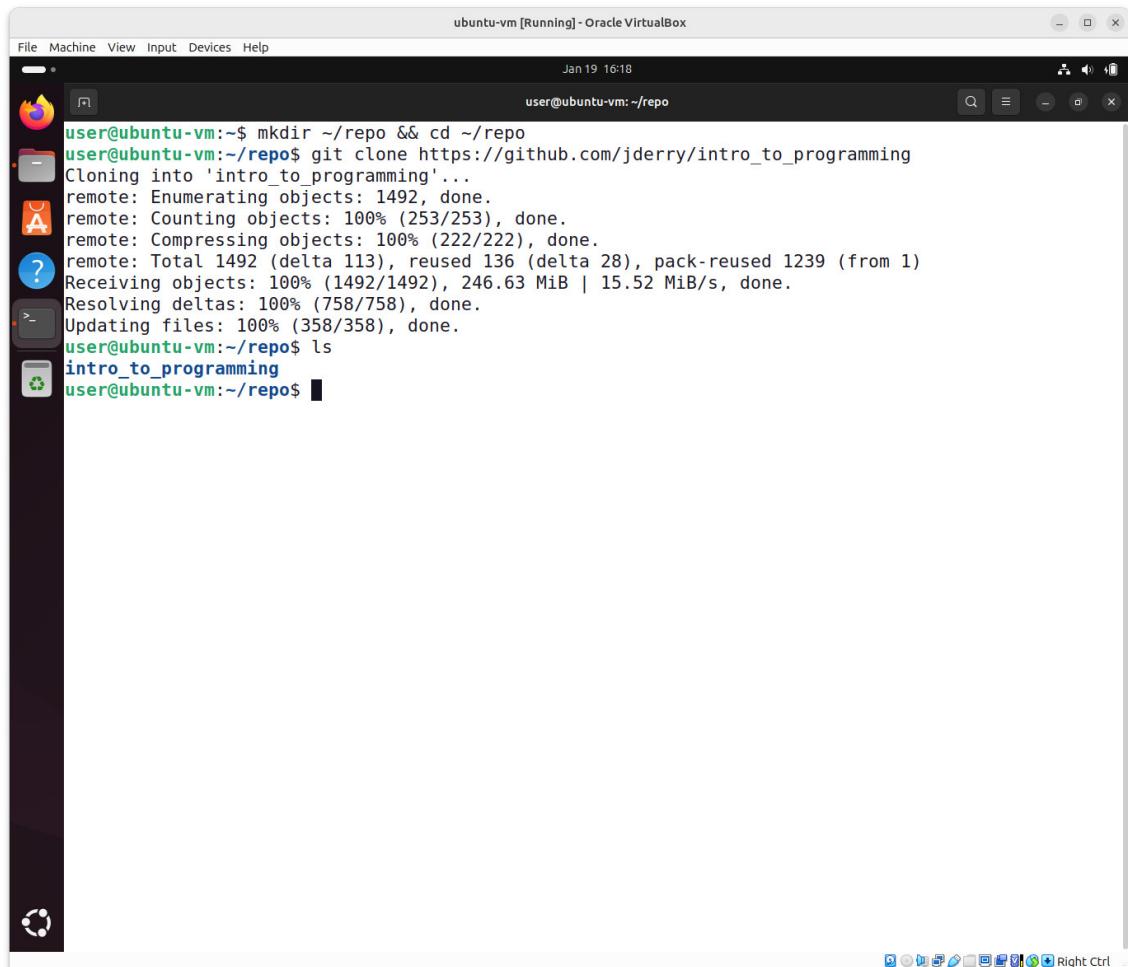


Figure 3: **Cloning the book and class repo in the repo subdirectory.**

Please note that after executing the last command, the working directory has changed to the repo subdirectory. We can tell this by the change in the Bash prompt, which shows: `~/repo`. While we're in the repo subdirectory, we'll clone the book and class repo.

On the command line, type: `git clone https://github.com/jderry/intro_to_programming` Then hit **ENTER**.

It will take a little time to clone the repo; but once git finishes, you will have a clone of the class and book repo just off the home directory of your Ubuntu box.



The screenshot shows a terminal window titled "ubuntu-vm [Running] - Oracle VirtualBox". The terminal session starts with the command "mkdir ~/repo && cd ~/repo", followed by "git clone https://github.com/jderry/intro_to_programming". The output of the git clone command is displayed, showing the progress of cloning the repository. The final command shown is "ls", which lists the contents of the working directory, showing a single folder named "intro_to_programming".

```
ubuntu-vm [Running] - Oracle VirtualBox
File Machine View Input Devices Help
Jan 19 16:18
user@ubuntu-vm:~/repo
user@ubuntu-vm:~/repo$ mkdir ~/repo && cd ~/repo
user@ubuntu-vm:~/repo$ git clone https://github.com/jderry/intro_to_programming
Cloning into 'intro_to_programming'...
remote: Enumerating objects: 1492, done.
remote: Counting objects: 100% (253/253), done.
remote: Compressing objects: 100% (222/222), done.
remote: Total 1492 (delta 113), reused 136 (delta 28), pack-reused 1239 (from 1)
Receiving objects: 100% (1492/1492), 246.63 MiB | 15.52 MiB/s, done.
Resolving deltas: 100% (758/758), done.
Updating files: 100% (358/358), done.
user@ubuntu-vm:~/repo$ ls
intro_to_programming
user@ubuntu-vm:~/repo$
```

Figure 4: **Verifying the cloned repo.**

The `ls` command, invoked without arguments, lists the working directory's contents.

This ends this how-to on installing git and cloning the class and book repo.