



Politecnico di Torino

Collegio ETF - ICM

VLSI Laboratory - Server Connection Setup PC/Notebook

Electronics Engineering and Computer Engineering

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CHAPTER 1

Instructions for setting up the connection to the VLSI Servers

1.1 Before starting... VERY VERY VERY IMPORTANT things to know

Password The first time that you login remember to **CHANGE YOUR PASSWORD**.

Suspend/Terminate Suppose that you are logged in and that you want to go away or that your batteries are failing, you can just click on the top-left corner and “suspend” the session. As soon as you are back, or if your teammate has x2go installed, you or your teammate can login and the session will be restored exactly as it was when you left but...

VERY IMPORTANT!!!!

Terminate when you finish. Remember that when you leave a session it occupies resources; it is then extremely important that you terminate the session unless it is vital to leave it going. To terminate the session click on the top bar on *System* → *Shut Down*

Crash This also happens when for some reason the wireless connection drops. As soon as you can connect again, the session is restored.

Transferring files In case you want to transfer files from this system to your system or viceversa three are the possibilities:

1. E-mail: you can launch Mozilla web-browser (search in Applications/Internet menu) or Gecko (default in the bottom bar) and send receive data to/from your email account (notice that you can only reach the Politecnico website)
2. Portale della didattica: again using the web browser you can use the Virtual Disk (Disco virtuale) in your Student account.
3. SCP (secure copy): Imagine you want to copy a file from your account name.surname in the server, for example a file “filename” in path “pathtofile”, to your local machine in the “destination-path”. Then from your machine (eg. linux), from a terminal you can type: `scp -P 10033 name.surname@vlsiwall.polito.it:pathtofile/filename destination-path`. This may happen in the opposite direction as well: `scp -P 10033 filetobecopied name.surname@vlsiwall.polito.it:pathtofiletobecopied` (note the port number changes from course to course as specified at the beginning of this document)

4. **Windows users.** There are free programs running on Microsoft Windows that emulate the scp linux command, like WinSCP or FileZilla. Use one of them (FileZilla is recommended) to transfer files between your PC and the server.

Control your home directory size. It is important that you don't occupy too much space with useless files. Keep your file system clean; check whether in your home directory due to some crash maybe a file named "core" or similarly is present and remove it. Transfer your files frequently to your personal PC so that on the server you only keep the essential.

THIS IS VERY IMPORTANT Start again this section and check whether you understood everything.....!!!!!!!!!!!!!!

1.2 VLSI20, VLSI21, VLSI22

The client that we will use is called x2go (<http://wiki.x2go.org/doku.php/download:start>).

IMPORTANT NOTE!!!!

Every time you login on a specific PC with a specific username a desktop environment will be created. This desktop environment is linked to the username used to login on the PC and is created on the PC locally. What does it mean? It means that if you login on a specific PC, and then you configure x2go or save some data on the PC locally, the next time that you will login on the same PC, you will have x2go already configured and you will be able to retrieve your stored data. But, if you login on a different PC you will have to reconfigure x2go and you will not find the data previously stored. This problem is valid only if you use the PC available at the VLSI laboratories, but not if you use your PC inside the VLSI laboratory.

1.2.1 PC Login

- Power on the PC.
- Insert your username, *sMATRICOLA@studenti.polito.it*
- Insert your password

1.2.2 x2go configuration

- Create a connection
 - Look for the *x2go* client among the installed programs.
 - The first time that you open x2go the *New Connection Window* should open automatically, if not, open it by clicking on the *New Session* icon in the top bar.
- Insert connection parameters

Session name Choose the name that you prefer, something easy to remember

Host vlsiwall.polito.it

Login Insert your username **name.surname**

SSH port 10032 (for VLSI20), 10033 (for VLSI21), 10034 (for VLSI22)

Session Type MATE

Click *OK*
- Launch x2go
 - Select the connection on the right part of the window
 - Insert your **password**.

After the connection, if you see very big fonts do this.

- Select *System* → *Preferences* → *Look and Feel* → *Appearance*.
- Under the *Fonts* tab click on *Details*.
- Set the *Resolution* to 100.