Session – 0 : Getting access to a machine

You need to have regular access to a computer preferably with Ubuntu 18.04 LTS (bionic) operating system installed on it. Here are different possibilities.

1. If you have a laptop with Ubuntu or anyother flavor of Linux on it, you are ready to go.
2. If you have a Macbook, you don't have to make any change. Most of the linux commands have their equivalents in MacOS too. Obtain a mapping of the commands with help of internet and the teaching assistants and keep that handy. Make yourself comfortable with the terminal application in MacOS.
3. If you have a laptop of your own, seek help from the teaching assistants or volunteers in ICME Lab (NAC 220/221) to get Ubuntu installed in dual boot configuration. Take back up of files before modifying partitions – just in case.
4. If your laptop has adequate RAM and CPU performance, you can install a hypervisor (such as Oracle VirtualBox) and install Ubuntu as a virtual machine.
5. If installation of dual boot is not possible, and your machine is Windows 10, you can get the Ubuntu shell enabled. Most of the work should be possible within this shell. As you might know, Ubuntu Shell is now an officially supported feature on Windows 10.
6. If you have a laptop but are unable to get a Linux/Unix like environment on it working, at least get OpenSSH or PuTTY installed on it. Obtain a login to any of the Linux machines in the ICME lab with help from the teaching assistants. Login using OpenSSH/PuTTY to that machine and try your stuff.
7. If you do not possess a laptop and are also unable to borrow it from a friend for this course, please consider taking one for hire. Laptops are available for hire from most of the computer repair shops. There are few on LB road itself.
8. If you do not have any access to a laptop and your finances do not permit renting either, please reach me discretely. I will try and get you help.

Hands on experience is a must to learn the course contents. Please invest your time and efforts to get the practical experience. It will make a big difference to the way you approach a technical problem for the rest of your career.