

PHYSICS DEPARTMENT COMPUTING LAB – MINI GUIDE

(Updated 1/8/2008)

For a full manual, and an introduction to Linux, go to:

<http://www.physics.nmt.edu/~rsonnenf/computerlab/computers.html>

- 1) All computers in the lab are on the net – all the time – and if you disconnect the network cable you can't even log-on properly.
- 2) All computers can print. The printer is called **carlson**.
- 3) For a log-in ID, send an e-mail to dcc@kestrel.nmt.edu – include your full name, your desired username, an initial password (change it!), AND your contact information (your most often used e-mail address)
- 4) There are many programs that are not visible in the menus. For example, to run Firefox, open a terminal window and type
Firefox &
- 5) Other programs you might want to use are **matlab, oowriter, oocalc, ooimpress, latex, python, and octave (a Matlab clone)**. All are accessed by typing the name at the command line.
- 6) If you want to use software running on another server. Try **ssh -X** it lets you do remote GUIs w/o having the software yourself. (Ask someone about it – or RTFM).
- 7) For more info, go to the web-site and read the manual.
- 8) Feel free to e-mail (dcc@kestrel.nmt.edu) additional questions that you think belong in the manual or FAQ. Feel free to write it yourself. Any user who writes anything coherent will become instantly famous and the material WILL be posted on the Physics Computing Lab web-site.

Happy computing. (Physics Department Computing Committee -- DCC)