MFCF Grad Orientation
Agenda

• Introduction
• Help Centre and Requests
• Mac mini and accessing the different environments
  • precautions
• Software & Remote Apps
• Printing & Network (Campus Firewall)
• Compute Canada
• Technical question and answer period
MFCF Help Centre

- MFCF Help Centre
  - setting passwords
  - reboot first/make sure it's turned on
  - bring machine name
  - online chat
- Request Tracker
Accounts

• Research
  • mfcfads (active directory) - (windows.math, mac mini) - see MC3017 for password with ID
  • linux.math - WatIAM/nexus password

• Teaching - course related
  • windows terminal servers and linux accounts in the labs
  • ssh to linux.student.math.uwaterloo.ca, remote desktop to windows.student.math.uwaterloo.ca
  • quest available when officially teaching a course (Learn when TA-ing)
Mac mini

- Default computer on the desktop - 16 GB ram
- Files stored automatically on the fileserver
- Scratch space - local storage and not backed up
- Pre-installed software
- Admin permissions (all grad machines except those in a shared environment - SAS/CM)
  - you provide your own support
  - will be reimaged if not working
Computing Environments

- Accessing different environments from the Mac mini
- 10.9 OS three icons on the desktop
  - all share the same file space on files.math
- Remote Desktop Connection - windows.math, or another windows machine
- XQuartz or Terminal - ssh to linux.math, big linux and fast linux which have far more memory and computing power
- simply accessing your files through smb://files.math.uwaterloo.ca
Mac mini precautions

- We do not recommend upgrading above 10.9.1
  - does not work with our network accounts
  - those that are at 10.6 or standalone will not have enough memory
- Long term processes - no battery backup
  - use windows.math or batch queues on linux.math
- MFCF cannot connect if machine is shut down, loses network connection if in sleep mode
- Make sure screen saver enabled (Apple Menu > System preferences > Security & Privacy)
• Software
  • per platform - pre installed
  • some are licensed per user - Matlab (purchased by your supervisor)
  • can install your own on the Mac mini with admin access
Remote Apps

- Windows applications from server class machines
  - more memory, faster cpu
- Install MS Remote Desktop
- remoteapp.math.uwaterloo.ca
- Access from your mobile device
Printing

- For thesis work - what not to print (books violate copyright laws)
- Automatically have an account, sponsored by the Faculty
- Departmental printers are pre-installed on all environments
- Instructions online to set up printing on your own device
- Problems with printing - contact Help Centre
Network

- Use wireless - eduroam e.g. userid@uwaterloo.ca
- UW un-secured is being turned off Jan 2015
- Use VPN (virtual private network) before connecting from off campus
  - ssh to math servers & Remote Desktop Connection
  - smb mount to files.math.uwaterloo.ca
Campus firewall

- Math Faculty will move behind firewall Nov 12
- End users should see no change
- Restrict access on all systems to https, ssh and sendmail in Dec, tbd
- ssh timeouts (might time out if left idle) IST web page will be posted on our site
External resources

- Compute Canada
  - SHARCNET
  - SciNet
- Research group machines, contact your supervisor - request tracker
- Policy 8
Happy Halloween

http://math.uwaterloo.ca/mfcf/resources/graduate-students