

AST 337 Computing Requirements and Resources Spring 2009

The majority of the assignments for this class must be carried out with the aid of a computer. Software that you *must* have access to outside of class includes:

Software	Operating system
Internet browser (Firefox, Internet Explorer)	Any
IDL	Any
ds9 image display	Unix/Linux or MacOS
IRAF	Unix/Linux or MacOS

Additional software that we will use *in class* includes

Starry Night	MacOS or XP
Maxim DL	XP

Optional software that you might choose to use includes:

Supermongo	Unix/Linux
Fortran or C	Any
MS Excel	XP, MacOS

In addition to these packages, you will also need

- familiarity with Unix/Linux operating system commands and a text editor such as *Nedit*, *Emacs*, or *vi*
- familiarity with MacOS and linux operating systems
- a USB flash memory stick with at least 1GB of capacity

Computing Resources

There are computers available for the use of this class on the Smith and UMass campuses. If you are in residence at Amherst, Mount Holyoke or Hampshire, you may want to find machines on your own campus that support the software we will use.

Smith iMacs: We will use the Astronomy Department iMacs in the classroom, McConnell 406, for Unix-based computing, including most image processing and analysis with IDL as well as IRAF.

UMass Linux Cluster: There are 16 Debian Linux workstations in the Lederle Research Tower in Room 637. You must have the lock combination to enter the room. All machines will have an AST337 class account for which you must know the account name and password. The UM cluster machines are on the internet, but can be accessed only through the Linux protocol *ssh* through the conduit machine **loon.astro.umass.edu**.