

Introduction to the ICTP Computer System

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The PCs at the ICTP

Generally the PCs have two operating systems loaded, Windows 95 and Linux (Red Hat 7.3). At boot time the user can choose the OS to run. For the School on Radio Use, a third system is available. On the boot menu (press the Shift button to see it), these options are listed as **linux**, **ictp** (RH 7.3) and **DOS** (Windows 95).

Accounts

Every participant has got a temporary user account for the duration of the school. The username is usually made up of the family name plus the first letter of the first name, cut down to eight characters and written in lower case.

To set up a password, log in to Linux (RH 7.3), type in your supposed user name and you should be prompted for a "New password". Choose anything you want with 6–10 characters, avoiding capital letters which would give trouble with Windows 95. The system will ask you to retype the password, and should reply with "Password successfully changed. Login incorrect". Ignore the second sentence, wait a few seconds and retry to log in. It should work then, both in Linux (RH 7.3) and Windows. The workshop's Linux version on the other hand has only two local user accounts, "user" with password "webuser" and "root"

You have a home directory which is accessible also from Windows (double-click on the icon named "home" on the desktop), but not from Linux RH 8.0. It has 100 MB of space. It is stored on a file server using the Andrew File System which uses its own way of access control that has nothing to do with the UNIX standard permissions for user, group and others. If you need to share files with other users, see the section 5.6.7 *Sharing Files* in the User's Guide (http://www.ictp.trieste.it/~manuals/userguide/manual_toc.html).

E-mails

Your e-Mail address is username@ictp.trieste.it. To read and write e-mails you can use the UNIX program **pine** (in Linux RH 7.3, otherwise telnet to one of our Sun Sparcs, like sol2, sv15, sv16, sv17, sv18) or the web interface [**https://mailhost/**](https://mailhost/).

Web browsing

In order to access external (non-ICTP) web pages it is necessary to use a proxy. You can set it either

- manually as **proxy.ictp.trieste.it** with **port 3128** or
- use the automatic script [**http://www.ictp.trieste.it/ICTPproxy.pac**](http://www.ictp.trieste.it/ICTPproxy.pac).

Your ICTP account already is configured correctly, but sometimes this configuration can get overwritten. Hence, if you notice that you are unable to reach external web sites, have a look at the proxy settings.

Using your own laptop

You can connect your computer to the ICTP network and thus to the Internet. In the AGH there are a few dedicated desk spaces with spare network cables attached to a wall outlet in the area in front of the computer labs. Every room in our guest houses

also has a network socket, but without a cable. If you don't have one of your own you can buy one at our mail offices.

The computer must be configured for DHCP, i.e. dynamically obtaining IP addresses. The first test to see whether the set-up works is to open the Command Prompt window and run "ping 140.105.16.50". If this address is reachable then the basic connection is there. If also "ping www.ictp.trieste.it" works then the DNS settings are good as well. You only have to configure your web browser (see above) and your mail program (it should use mailhost.ictp.trieste.it as SMTP server).

CD recorders, scanners, digital cameras

A few PCs are equipped with CD recorders. If you don't stumble across one ask the computer consultant for the nearest one. In Linux the program `koncd` can be used to write CDs. Windows programs are not supported, but you might actually find some installed.

In front of the computer consultant's office (in the main building) there is a scanner. You can use it after verifying with us that the computer is not needed for other purposes.

If you have a digital camera with a USB cable you can try to transfer data using the program `gtkam` in Linux. Don't hesitate to ask us for help because we are also curious to see how the program copes with different camera models.

Asking for help

You can report problems or ask for help in several ways:

- You can go to the web page <http://scs/support/> and open a request. You have to choose from one of the categories (e.g. Printing, e-Mail, Consultancy, Network, etc.) and follow the instructions listed there. You can also send e-mail. Each problem category has an associated e-mail address listed in the User's Guide.
- During the office hours, namely Mon–Fri, 10:30–12:00 and 13:30–15:00, you can go directly to the Computer Consultant's Office in the main building, ground floor, Scientific Computer Section, room 2. The internal phone number is 353.

When you leave the ICTP...

Your account will be closed a few days after your departure. You should receive warning messages accordingly. You can reply asking for an extension by one week. You can also set up automatic forwarding so that every mail sent to you at the ICTP will be redirected to your home account. This can be done manually editing the file `.forward` (or rather `.DOTFILES/.forward`) or using the web interface

<http://www.ictp.trieste.it/comp/forward.html>.

There are several ways to reach your ICTP account from outside. Instructions are given in

<http://www.ictp.trieste.it/~manuals/userguide/remote.html>.