

NITP Tech PSA: Day 1

Or how to get your computer ready to work for the PsychToolbox Lab (and just about every other lab for the next twelve days)

Computing Options

- **Use our laptops or boot drives**
 - simple, easy, should work 99.9% of the time
 - you can't take this with you when you leave though
- **Use our Virtual Machine**
 - simple, easy, should work 99.9% of the time
 - and you CAN take it with you (it is already around your neck)
- **Set up all the tools on your own computer**
 - not simple or easy all the time, may not work every so often
 - I will support your DIY enthusiasm (literally if you ask nicely)

Feel free to grab a snack instead if...

you have your own MATLAB license AND
installed PsychToolbox already.

OR

you are using one of our course issued laptops
or hard drives.

But if you don't...

or you didn't...

or you aren't...

please follow along.

If you have MATLAB...

but no PsychToolbox installed, and **really** want to install Psychtoolbox on your own computer right now, please

- download the "DownloadPTB.m" file from the NITP website
- launch your MATLAB
- run the command
`DownloadPsychtoolbox`
- and restart MATLAB when the install finishes

Uh-oh

There are a couple reasons this could fail to install properly, but I can't troubleshoot those right now for everyone just yet so please wait patiently.

Likely problems and solutions:

- no "svn" => install a tool called "subversion" either from Apple Developer Tools or other methods
- insufficient permissions?

WiFi

If you DO NOT have your own MATLAB license (or just want to use ours), you need to be on one of two networks:

- *eduroam*
 - UCLA and affiliated eduroam members only
- *UCLA_WIFI*
 - any visitor with those usernames and passwords I emailed you last week

If you aren't on these, you won't be able to run our MATLAB.

Virtual Machine

Now that you are connected to the Internet properly

- please navigate to this URL (<https://www.virtualbox.org/wiki/Downloads>) or

- search for "Virtual Box Download"

and download and install Oracle's VirtualBox program.

Virtual Machine II

For those too impatient to download the program...

There are a bunch of hard drives floating out there with VirtualBox and they have Windows and Mac versions of VirtualBox you can use:

[/Volumes/NITP*DATA/VirtualBox*](#)

- sorry, Linux folks, I know you can find this on your own though

Virtual Machine III

Once you have installed VirtualBox, start it up. If you are ahead of me, you can follow along with the basic NeuroDebian import instructions at

<http://neuro.debian.net/vm.html>

Everyone else can follow along while I show you up here how to use those strange *.ova files on your NITP thumb drives.

Please hold

I'm going to return the floor to Agatha and Cameron while your computer crunches away to setup the virtual machine.

MATLAB

Go to the Application Menu at the top left and find MATLAB in one of the submenus (I think under Education or Development).

Once MATLAB starts up, execute this command:

```
Screen('Preference', 'SkipSyncTests', 1);
```

And now back to the presentation.