Subject: computing environments

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Looks like this it is predominantly in Python.

Yes, this is true.

Is there any specific computer/programming environment your recommend? Would you recommend working in Linux over Windows?

Most of the machine learning world works on Linux clusters and uses GPUs for heavy-duty computing. I teach a course ECE 4822/8110 that teaches students about GPUs (a shameless plug). Most software development is done in Python, either on Linux, Mac or Windows.

JMP only supports Windows and Mac.

So I would say this semester you should use a Windows or Mac laptop with Anaconda (a specific flavor of Python) installed. If you have trouble installing Anaconda, ask the College IT team for help.

If you want to get some practice using Linux, which we teach in ECE 1111, we can give you access to ece-000, which is an Amazon AWS node. Just be a bit careful not to do incredibly heavy computing on that node since we pay for it.

In terms of the data sets and assignments in this class, everything can be done on a laptop. We don't process huge sets for most of the class.

Therefore, I would say a Windows or Mac laptop will be sufficient for JMP. You can also use the same for Python, or you can supplement that with work on ece-000.

-Joe