

Department of Statistics Research Computing

The Statistics Department and the Statistics Laboratory were founded in 1934 and housed in Snedecor Hall on the campus of Iowa State University. In December of 2007 the department moved out of Snedecor Hall so the building could be completely renovated. The department moved back during in May 2009 to a completely redesigned and modern facility.

Snedecor Hall is home to over thirty full time faculty, one hundred graduate students, and eight staff. To help fulfill its teaching mission the building has one classroom and three computer labs. The labs are available to students when they are not being used for instruction.

Computer labs are equipped with thin clients that connect to several Microsoft Terminal Servers run by the department. The Terminal Servers are housed in the campus computation center, Durham Hall, and available remotely for student use. The Linux machines are described below and are also housed in the computation center.

The server room in Durham Hall is located in the basement is locked at all times with access controlled by full time staff. The server room is climate controlled and has UPS backups to its electric supply with a diesel backup generator for long outages.

Research computing is typically performed on Linux machines for R, C, and user compiled programs. Microsoft Windows specific software is run on one of five Terminal Servers. Network storage is provided for all students and faculty with files backed up to disk and tape. The main Linux machines feature an online backup system that versions user files for up to 6 months.

A complete listing of resources.

- (40) Node Linux Cluster (3.16 GHz Intel(R) X5460 Quad Core)
- Single headnode Linux machine (1.1 TB of user space with online versioning file backups)
- (3) Linux workstations
- (5) Windows Terminal Servers
- Server licenses for SAS
- SPSS, JMP
- Open Source Packages (R, GGobi, etc).