

Computing set-up

The majority of the course will use Virtual Machines (VMs), which we will create for you within a Microsoft Azure Lab services environment. These are cloud-hosted, and can be accessed from Windows or Mac computers. To use the VMs, please make sure you have successfully set up the following three requirements. If you have problems with any, you should check with your local IT department as soon as possible.

1 - Eduroam access: You will need to connect to Wifi while you are at the CBU. It is likely you can already access the global Eduroam network using credentials from your own institution. How you connect will depend on your institution, so please contact [your local IT support](#) for guidance in setting up Eduroam on your computer ahead of the course. We do also have a guest network which we can provide to users who are unable to use Eduroam, but we strongly advise you to set up Eduroam in advance if at all possible for the best experience.

2 - Microsoft account: this is to authenticate to the Azure Lab Services environment to run the VM. It is possible that your institutional account is already a Microsoft account, in which case there will be no need to create a new one. You should contact [your local IT support](#) in advance to check. As long as it is, you will be able to use it to authenticate to our Azure Lab Services environment, even if your own institution does not use Azure Lab Services itself. If this account differs from the email address you have already provided to us, please email cognestic@mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk, so we can send the VM Lab invite to the correct institutional address associated with a Microsoft account.

If you do not already have a Microsoft account, you will be able to create one when we send you the details of the VM Lab. This account will be free of charge, and can be associated with your existing email address (i.e, you will not need to create a new email address).

3 - Microsoft Remote Desktop client: You will use this to connect to the VM. Notwithstanding the fact that the VM will be running Linux, and that your own computer may be a Mac, this is a free of charge cross-platform solution. Windows computers should already have it installed (if not please check with [your local IT support](#) for guidance on installation). Mac users should install it from the App Store: <https://itunes.apple.com/app/microsoft-remote-desktop/id1295203466?mt=12>.

Pre-course preparations

Please refer to the following Wiki page for essential viewing materials that cover the theoretical background of our workshops. Since the workshops will focus on demos and interactive exercises, watching these in advance is necessary to understand some of the concepts and terminology, and will greatly enhance your COGNESTIC experience.

<https://imaging.mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk/methods/COGNESTIC2024>

Please use the email address cognestic@mrc-cbu.cam.ac.uk for any queries.