

Login and Data Storage with Research Lab Computers

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The use of research computers often involves staying logged in for a long period of time – perhaps several days – while the computer controls an instrument and collects data. If the user logs in with their personal user id two problems arise: 1) the user's account is exposed to everyone who walks up to the unattended computer (personal information on the user's U: drive can be read, modified, etc.), and 2) where does the user store data so that it can be accessed by lab partners, research group members, faculty, etc.

If only that one user needs to access the computer while the run is active, the screen could be locked. However, if a lab partner, faculty, TA or lab manager needed to check on the progress of the run, they could not unlock the screen without knowing the original user's password. Also, while the user could save data to his/her personal U: drive, it would then not be available for group use.

Each research computer now has a generic local account; in this case the account name is "amsec" with a password that will be given to you by the lab manager or TA. The computer default is to log you in to only the local computer with no network resources (no U: drive, K: drive or network Start Menu Physics or Math Applications).

To login to the generic research account:

1. Enter the Username: **amsec**

Enter the amsec password (ask your TA for this)

Click on <OK>

2. For the amsec account, **the only network drive available is R: (AMSEC Research on ion)** "My Documents" is set to "R:\Data. You can create subfolders here to organize your personal, research group or class data.

It may take ~30 seconds to initially read the R: drive but subsequent use should be faster.

3. **Printing** may cause an iPrint login box to pop up because the amsec user has not authenticated to connect to network resources. Just click on <Cancel>, and the normal Print window will open with the lab local printer automatically set as the default.

At times you may want to log in to this workstation as yourself so that you can have access to all of your network data drives: U, K and R.

To login to your personal account:

1. (uncheck) “Workstation Only”
2. Click on the <Advanced> button and click on the “Windows” tab
In the “From:” field, use the pick box to select “WWU”
3. Enter your own Username and Password and click on <OK>
4. My Documents is now restored to your personal U: drive.
You can browse to the R: drive (AMSEC Research on ion)

It is also possible to access the “AMSEC Research on ion” data from computers not associated with Physics/Astronomy or AMSEC (such as the General University computer labs), but you must manually make the connection.

To access the amsec R drive from outside CF11:

1. Log in to the computer as you normally do with your personal username and password.
2. Using My Computer, browse to **K:\Physics\AMSEC** and double-click on the shortcut:

R: Drive – AMSEC Research Data

Now you have the same R: drive you had on an AMSEC research computer.