

Supercomputing

Weekly Report 3/5/18 to 3/18/18

This past week was spring break for the students of Frisco ISD, and although I went on a trip for a portion of the week, I believe I made significant progress on my final product. With the weeks prior, I had much to make up on my classes due to my participation in various competitions, but I utilized this time to catch back up.

By far, the most important task I accomplished was linking my home laptop to SMU's supercomputer, ManeFrame II, via a terminal. Once connected, I started to familiarize myself with the Linux Operating System the computer uses so that I could navigate through commands and directories more easily. My mentor helped me a lot in this area as he has been using the supercomputer for many years now, and during my mentor visit over break, my mentor taught me many shortcuts and key commands to make my use of the supercomputer more efficient.

Another important aspect about general science I learned while on my mentor visit was the component of sharing ideas. During my mentor visit, my mentor and I discussed what I have done for my final product and what my next goals were. While we did so, we ran into Dr. Scalise, another professor at SMU, and he brought up various factors and processes we had not considered. This event showed me that although scientists do stare at a whiteboard for hours, they also interact with other colleagues frequently to produce a better model.

Overall, this week was very beneficial as I made many strides on my final product and learning more about the occupation of a scientist. In this next week, I hope to start creating code for the supercomputer to use and create my very own model for the universe so that I can accurately predict the possibilities for life.