



# Introduction to Linux

Dr Dean Brand (Stellenbosch University)

Friday, 29 May 2026 | 12h00-12h30 SAST

Attend online

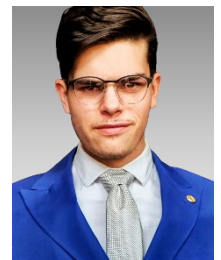
## ABSTRACT

During this Micro-school, we will explore Linux, a powerful and widely used operating system environment that underpins most of modern scientific, academic, and industrial computing. We will begin by explaining what Linux actually is, including the Linux kernel, distributions, and accessible ways to use it such as WSL, virtual machines, and remote servers. I will provide an overview of why Linux is especially important for STEM students, from research computing and data analysis to cloud infrastructure, software development, and high-performance computing. Through a live demonstration, I'll introduce the Linux terminal and walk through essential commands for navigating files, creating folders, editing text, installing software, and running simple workflows. By the end of this session, you'll understand why Linux is such a valuable skill and be ready to start using it confidently in your own studies or projects.

## BIOGRAPHY

Dean is a postdoctoral researcher at Stellenbosch University (SU) in the Quantum Research Group under the supervision of Prof Francesco Petruccione. His research is on merging quantum and neuromorphic computing principles and paradigms for novel algorithms and architectures. His research has historically evolved through astrophysics, theoretical physics, and open quantum systems.

Dean received his Bachelor of Science and Honours degrees from the University of the Witwatersrand, his Master's from the University of KwaZulu-Natal, and his Doctorate from SU.



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