How to prepare and turn in homework in physics 129L

Except for homework 1, all assignments in this class will require you to write some programs. You will be turning in your homework by emailing one of the TAs a gzipped tar file (tgz) <u>containing your programs and instructions</u> on how to run them. Put the instructor (claudio@physics.ucsb.edu) in CC to these emails. In each homework assignment there will be information on which TA should receive your email. This may vary from assignment to assignment, so pay attention.

Here are some instructions.

1. The subject of the email should be Physics 129L Homework X solutions where X is the homework number

2. The tgz file should be named `LastName-PERM-hwX.tgz`, where
   - LastName is your last name
   - PERM is your PERM number
   - X is the homework number

3. The tgz should unpack into a directory `LastName-PERM-hwX`

4. The text file with instructions should be named `AAA-README.txt`

5. Instructions should look something like this (for example)

   ```
   Problem 1
   ---------
   To run the program that solves this problem
   linux> ./mySolutionX.py

   Exit 2
   ----------
   blah blah blah
   ```

   To be clear: you do not need to name your program `mySolutionX`, use whatever name you like, but make sure that it is clearly specified in the instructions. The TAs should not waste their time guessing. Also, specify in the instruction anything else that the TA needs to know to use your code.

6. If you cannot quite complete one of the problems, include whatever code you managed to put together, and explain in the text file what you did and what you think is missing.

Here are some suggestions on how to manage this process efficiently (`linux>` is meant to represent the linux prompt)

- Make a subdirectory of your home directory where you will be developing your code as well as a subdirectory where you will keep all the completed solutions (of course you need to create the directories only once)

  ```
  linux> cd
  linux> mkdir work
  linix> mkdir solutions
  ```

- Develop your code in the work directory. You may want to do this in separate directories for each homework set, e.g. for homework number X:

  ```
  linux> cd
  linux> cd work
  linux> mkdir hwX
  linux> cd hwX
  ```

- Once you are ready to submit your work, make a subdirectory to hold the files that you will turn in

  ```
  linux> mkdir ~/solutions/LastName-PERM-hwX
  ```

- Copy your programs from your work subdirectory (eg ~/work/hwX) into ~/solutions/LastName-PERM-hwX   (use the cp command)

- Prepare the AAA-README.txt file in ~/solutions/LastName-PERM-hwX

- Go into that subdirectory (if you are not there already)

  ```
  linux> cd ~/solutions/LastName-PERM-hwX
  ```

  and make sure that you can follow/execute all the instructions in the AAA-README.txt file (this is to check that you have not forgotten to copy something over)

- The programs that you will be asked to write may make some output files (whose names you will have carefully documented in the AAA-README.txt file, of course!). If that is the case, either delete these files or rename them (use the mv command). This is because the TAs will run your programs and will want to check the output files that they generate as they run your programs themselves. If you have renamed (instead of deleted) the files, document the names in the AAA-README.txt file. Note: there may be exceptional cases when you will be asked to submit some output file with your code.

- Finally: make the tgz file

  ```
  linux> cd ~/solutions
  linux> tar cvfz LastName-PERM-hwX.tgz LastName-PERM-hwX/
  ```