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Student Name: James Scheppegrell

E-mail: jschepp@ufl.edu

Tas: Devin Hughes

Josh Weaver

Andy Gray

Instructors: Dr. A. Antonio Arroyo

Dr. Eric M. Schwartz

University of Florida

Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering

EEL 4665/5666

Intelligent Machines Design Laboratory

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I ordered my board (a BeagleBone Black), along with a USB-TTL cable and an HDMI adapter. I researched different methods of controlling my board, which include plugging a keyboard and monitor directly into it and using it as a stand alone system, using the debugging port and USB-TTL cable to access the terminal, and using SSH to access the terminal via the ethernet jack. I located a microSD card I owned, in the event I wish to use it to transfer data between the board and my computer, or add storage to the board.