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OpenDreamKit: an introduction

Nicolas M. Thiéry

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Some fundamental trends





Long standing and booming role of computers in pure mathematics

- Computer exploration to discover and check conjectures
- Assisted, certified, mechanized proofs: CoQ, Isabelle, ...
- Collaborative work: Wikipedia, Polymath, ...
- Mathematical Knowledge Management
- Education



"Open science is the movement to make scientific research, data and dissemination accessible to all levels of an inquiring society, amateur or professional"

- Open Knowledge (Access, Educational Resources)
- Open Source or, better, Free Software
- Open Data
- Open Peer Review, Methodology, ...
- At the heart of the scientific method for centuries no reproducibility without it



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- At the heart of the scientific method for centuries no reproducibility without it
- Finally getting recognition as viable and necessary, even by funding agencies!



Emergence of a vibrant ecosystem of free software for pure mathematics

- Specialized systems: LinBox, PARI/GP, MPIR, Singular, .
- General purpose systems: GAP, SageMath, ...
- Online databases: OEIS, LMFDB, ...
- Interactive computing environments: Jupyter, SageMathCloud, ...
- Together with the wider Scientific Python ecosystem



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Viable alternatives to Maple, Mathematica, Matlab,... For research and education (and the industry?)



Virtual Research Environments (VRE): the next frontier?

H2020 European Research Infrastructures Work Programme

"Groups of researchers, typically widely dispersed who are working together through ubiquitous, trusted and easy access to services for scientific data, computing, and networking, in a collaborative virtual environment "

A useful VRE for mathematics?



Mathematicians are already immersed in many VREs



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A workflow based VRE?



The Virtual Observatory: a VRE for astronomy



A workflow based VRE?



The Virtual Observatory: a VRE for astronomy

Could cover only a fragment of mathematics

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Support a large area of pure mathematics



- Support a large area of pure mathematics
- Support a large range of users



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- Support best practices for scientific computations



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- Support a large range of scales:
 - A single person installation on a laptop
 - ► A collaborative VRE between three researchers, running on their lab's server
 - A university wide VRE for teaching
 - A service provided by a grid infrastructure



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Just a dream?



OpenDreamKit's proposal



- Deliver a VRE Toolkit for Mathematics
- From the ecosystem of open source software for mathematics
- And the Jupyter interactive computing environment



The Jupyter interactive computing environment



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Proof of concepts VREs built from the same ecosystem

${\sf SageMathCloud}$

- A web service launched in 2013
- Widely adopted
- ► For teaching, for research





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Prove that

- The ecosystem is mature
- This kind of VRE fulfills a strong need







Modular



Modular

Joining forces with the wider scientific computing community



Modular

- Joining forces with the wider scientific computing community
- Sustainable



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- Sustainable
- Lowers the software barrier between pure and applied maths



- Modular
- Joining forces with the wider scientific computing community
- Sustainable
- Lowers the software barrier between pure and applied maths
- Impact way beyond pure maths



Open Digital Research Environment Toolkit for the Advancement of Mathematics

- OpenDreamKit.org
- H2020 European Research Infrastructures Work Programme Call: Virtual Research Environments
- ► Budget: 7.6M€
- 18 sites, 50 participants
- In close collaboration with the international community!



A user-driven consortium

European **power users** and **core developers** of the ecosystem of open source software for Mathematics:

- GAP (St Andrews, Oxford)
- Linbox (Grenoble)
- PARI/GP (Bordeaux, Versailles)
- SageMath (Bordeaux, Grenoble, Paris Sud, Oxford, Versailles)
- Singular (Kaiserslautern)
- LMFDB (Warwick, Zürich)
- MathHub, MMT/OpenMath (Bremen)
- Jupyter (Simula)
- Scientific Python (SouthHampton, Sheffield, Silesia)



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Supported by:

- Research Software Engineers
- An open source based company (Logilab)





Open from the ground up



- Free software
- Open data
- Open source publications



Open from the ground up



- Free software
- Open data
- Open source publications
- Open proposal!



- Improve the productivity of researchers in pure mathematics and applications by further promoting collaborations on Data, Knowledge, and Software
- Make it easy for teams of researchers of any size to set up custom, collaborative Virtual Research Environments tailored to their specific needs, resources and workflows
- Support the entire life-cycle of computational work in mathematical research, from initial exploration to publication, teaching, and outreach



How to get there?

