OER Software

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- South Texas College
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OBJECTIVES

- Present a survey of OER softwares (OERS).
- Identify logistical advantages and disadvantages of using OERS.
- Identify pedagogical advantages and disadvantages of using OERS.

Disclaimers

- I am not an expert.
- I am only speaking from my experiences.
- The views and opinions expressed in the presention do not represent those of the host college, the presenter's college, nor TexMATYC or AMAYTC.

What is "Free"?

• The freedom to run the program as you wish, for any purpose (freedom 0).

• The freedom to study how the program works, and change it so it does your computing as you wish (freedom 1). Access to the source code is a precondition for this.

• The freedom to redistribute copies so you can help your neighbor (freedom 2).

• The freedom to distribute copies of your modified versions to others (freedom 3). By doing this you can give the whole community a chance to benefit from your changes. Access to the source code is a precondition for this.

(R. Stallman, 2002)

This is "Free"

Free software is software that gives you the user the freedom to share, study and modify it. We call this free software because the user is free.

- FSF

The GNU OS





- https://www.gnu.org
- https://www.fsf.org



- "GeoGebra is dynamic mathematics software for all levels of education that brings together geometry, algebra, spreadsheets, graphing, statistics and calculus in one easy-to-use package."
- True open source
- Runs online, as a download, or as a browser extension (online or offline.)
- https://dev.geogebra.org/trac/wiki/WikiStart



- Virtual Manipulative
- Many studies on the effects of learning
- Secondary geometry students were assessed as either having high or low visualization ability (HV or LV)
- "LV students in GeoGebra group performed significantly better than control group
- (Saha, Ayub, Tarmizi, 2002)



Examples

- Derivative of sine
- Area construction

• (Hohenwater, Fuchs, 2004)



• Maxima is a computer algebra system

- "Maxima is a system for the manipulation of symbolic and numerical expressions, including differentiation, integration, Taylor series, Laplace transforms, ordinary differential equations, systems of linear equations, polynomials, sets, lists, vectors, matrices and tensors. Maxima yields high precision numerical results by using exact fractions, arbitrary-precision integers and variable-precision floating-point numbers. Maxima can plot functions and data in two and three dimensions."
- GUI is available (<u>wxMaxima</u>)



· 3D Plot





· 3D Plot

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The KDE® Community is a free software community dedicated to creating an open and user-friendly computing experience, offering an advanced graphical desktop, a wide variety of applications for communication, work, education and entertainment and a platform to easily build new applications upon. We have a strong focus on finding innovative solutions to old and new problems, creating a vibrant atmosphere open for experimentation.

•Cantor is an application that lets you use your favorite mathematical applications from within a nice KDE-integrated Worksheet Interface. It offers assistant dialogs for common tasks and allows you to share your worksheets with others.



- Sage Math
 Qalculate
- Kalgebra
- Etc...





- SageMath is a free open-source mathematics software system licensed under the <u>GPL</u>. It builds on top of many existing open-source packages: NumPy, SciPy, matplotlib, Sympy, Maxima, GAP, FLINT, R and many more.
- Textbooks
- Language is Python-based
- Server, Cloud, Cantor, Terminal





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- GNU Octave is a high-level language, primarily intended for numerical computations. It provides a convenient command line interface for solving linear and nonlinear problems numerically, and for performing other numerical experiments using a language that is mostly compatible with Matlab.
- Most comparable to MatLab
- Terminal, or GUI





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- SymPy is a Python library for symbolic computation.
- Most like?
- Python, or <u>Web</u> as SymPyGamma.



- R is a language and environment for statistical computing and graphics. It is a GNU project which is similar to the S language and environment which was developed at Bell Laboratories (formerly AT&T, now Lucent Technologies) by John Chambers and colleagues. R can be considered as a different implementation of S. There are some important differences, but much code written for S runs unaltered under R.
- Terminal, or GUI (RStudio)



- R is well developed with 10,000 user-created packages
- Data mining
- In a study comparing two groups of students: traditional vs. Incorporating real-life data
- "in this course, we feel that we have learned something that we can use"
- "they had learned something which was not just 'for the exam"
- (Libman, 2010)



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- mean(x)
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- summary(x)
- OR import data from a spreadsheet



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- PSPP is a program for statistical analysis of sampled data. It is a free replacement for the proprietary program, SPSS.
- One goal of the PSPP project is compatibility with the SPSS language. It currently features:
- High-quality output formatting.
- An easy to use graphical user interface.
- A command line interface to allow seasoned users to rapidly perform analysis.
- A comprehensive selection of data preprocessing, analysis and visualisation commands.
- Portability: PSPP can be built on a very wide range of plotforms

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