

Downloading and Installing QGIS

Introduction

Quantum GIS (QGIS) is an Open Source Geographic Information System. QGIS is available at no cost to users and provides an alternative to costly GIS software. The QGIS software package currently runs on most versions of Unix, Windows and Mac OS X and supports a number of common raster and vector data formats. QGIS is available under the GNU General Public License (GPL).

Objective

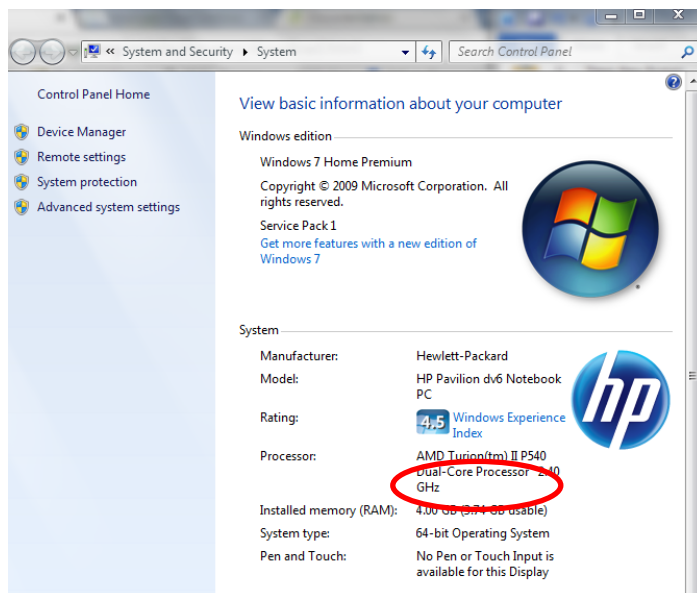
Provide step-by-step instructions to download, install, and configure QGIS. This exercise contains two parts:

1. Downloading and Installing QGIS
2. QGIS Plugins

Part 1: Downloading and Installing QGIS

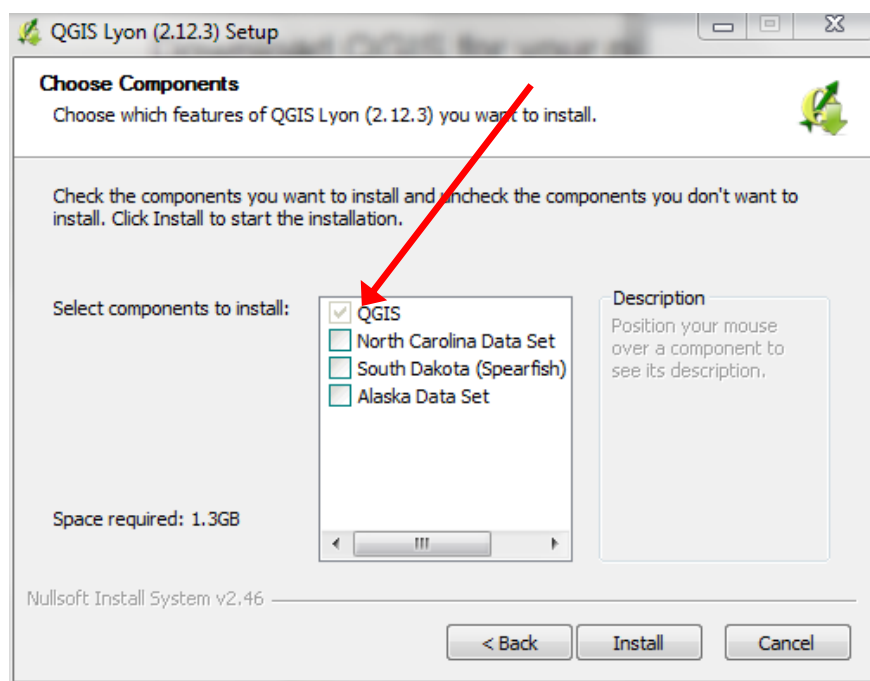
- A. In your preferred web browser, navigate to the QGIS download page:
<http://www.qgis.org/en/site/forusers/download.html>
- B. Based on your operating system (Mac OSX, Windows, UNIX), locate the “latest release” and download the “QGIS Standalone Installer.” The examples below outline the download for Windows and Mac OSX (Version 2.12 or higher).

*If you are a Windows user, be sure to check your machine and download the correct file based on system type (32 bit vs. 64 bit). This can be done by right clicking on **Computer** in the start menu and selecting **Properties**.



1. After the file download has completed (about 2-5 minutes depending on your connection), run the '.exe' program. The file name will be similar to **QGIS-OSGeo4W-2.12.3-1-Setup-x86_64.exe** and can be located in your default downloads folder.
2. After running the file and accepting the terms of agreement, select where you would like the program saved under **Destination Folder** (default is recommended).
3. Select the components to install. Make sure the QGIS box is selected. The data sets are optional and go along with the QGIS tutorial:

http://docs.qgis.org/2.8/en/docs/training_manual/



4. Click **Install**
5. After the installation, shortcuts will be placed to the desktop and the start menu. To open QGIS, click on the **QGIS Desktop 2.12.3** or **QGIS Desktop 2.12.3 with GRASS 6.4.3** icon

*If you are a Mac user, you will first have to download and install GDAL and Matplotlib Python routines. From the QGIS download page go to the following link.



1. Click to download the QGIS package

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QGIS

Mac OS X installers for QGIS. For OS X Mt Lion and newer. Install the Current version to stay up to date on features. Install the Long Term Support version for feature stability for a year.

Install Note: OS X security may block installation, as I'm not an "identified developer" (ie not paying Apple to develop software). There a simple way to force it to install - right-click the installer file and select **Open**, this will trigger an extra option in the security warning to install it anyways. You only have to do this once, the system will remember the QGIS installer for any future installs (new major versions *may* reset this).

Current

All required items are included on the disk image.

WARNING: QGIS *will* crash if Qt4 developer components are installed in the standard /Developer location. Either rename /Developer/Applications/Qt/Plugins or uninstall Qt before running QGIS.

Optional:

- other Python Modules for plugins

Download:

- QGIS 2.18.2-1 [286.4 MiB].

See the QGIS website for more information about, and help with, QGIS.

QGIS includes its own internal copies of GRASS, Orfeo Toolbox, SAGA and TauDEM.

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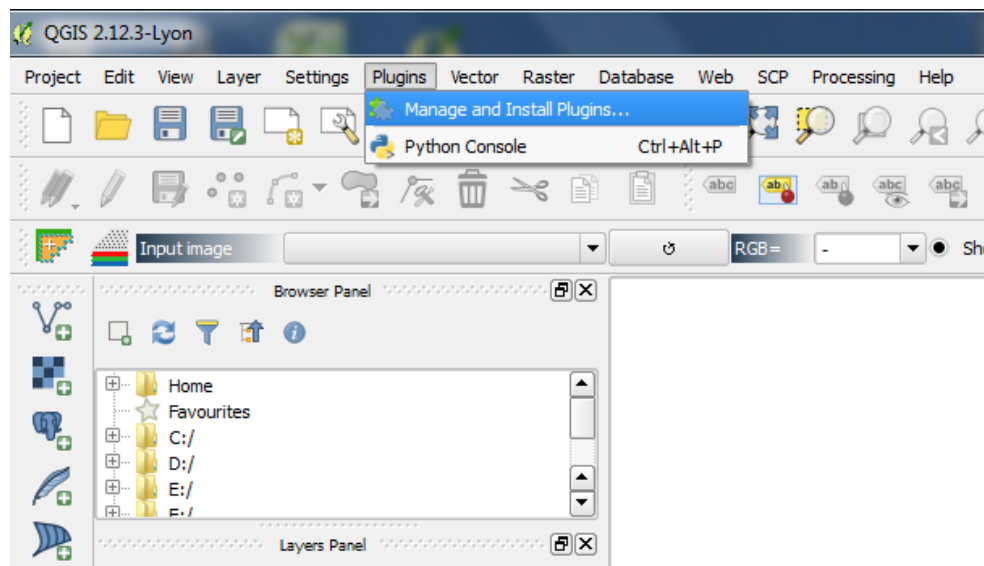
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2. After the download is complete on your computer, open the .dmg file. Open **0 READ ME BEFORE INTSALLING**
3. Once you confirm that you do not have a previous installation of QGIS, follow the instructions. Download the components in order of the numbered files.
4. Click on **1 GDAL Complete.pkg** to install
5. Click on **2 NumPy.pkg** to install
6. Click on **3 matplotlib.pkg** to install
7. Click on **4 Install QGIS.pkg** to install
8. Once everything is complete, you will find QGIS in your Applications folder
9. Click on the QGIS icon to start the program

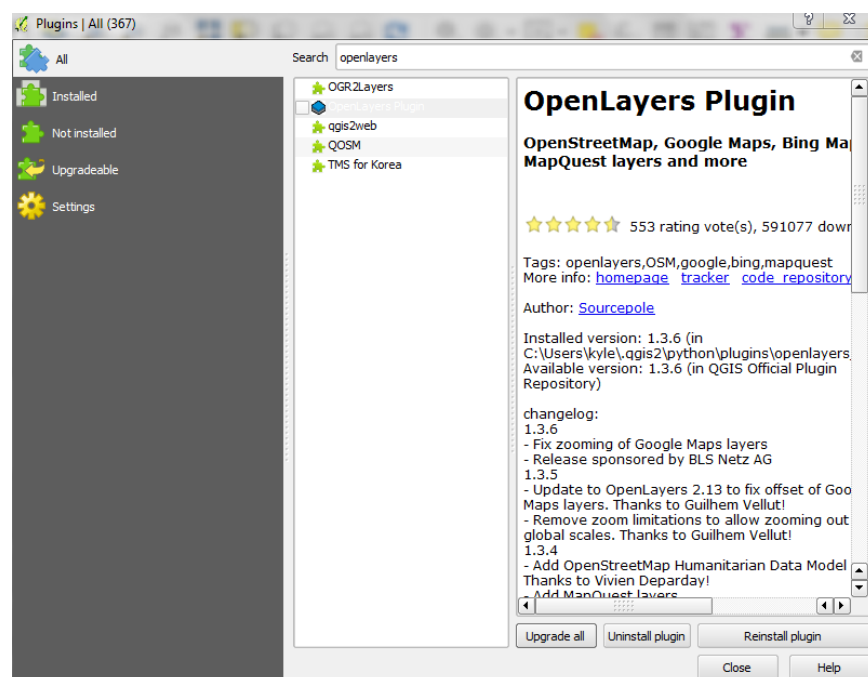
Part 2: Configuring QGIS Plugins

Plugins are optional tools that you can download and import into your QGIS for additional functionality.

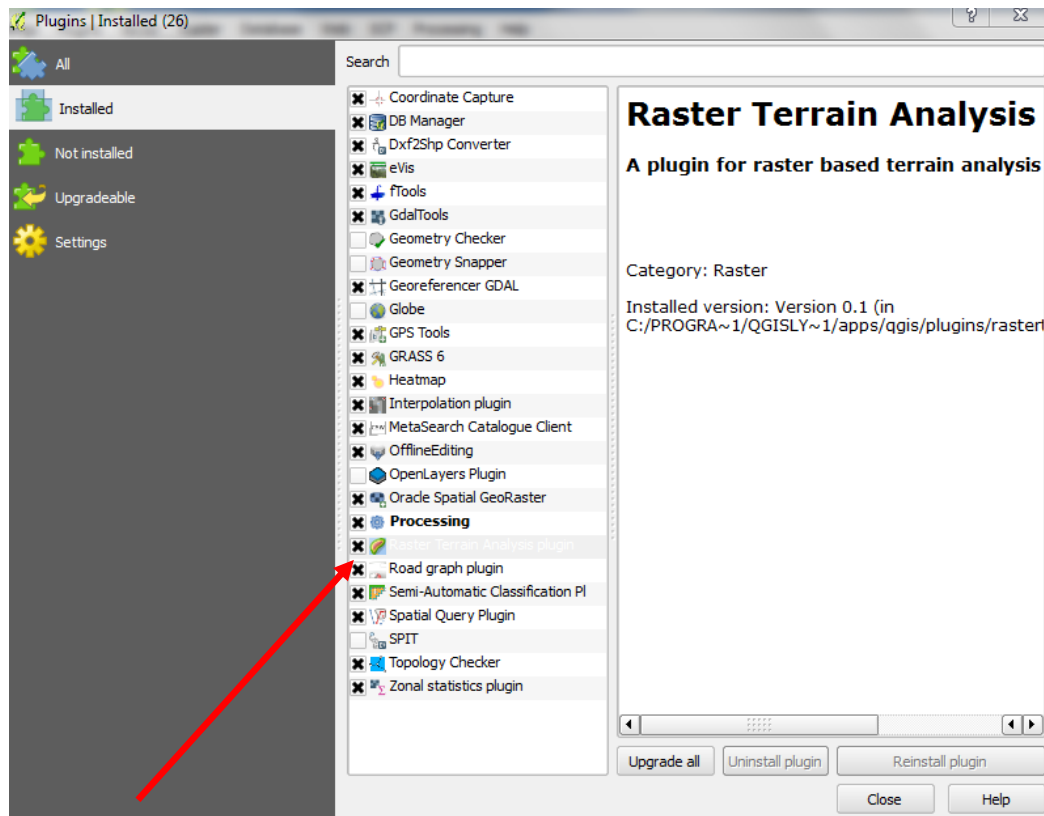
1. After opening the QGIS Desktop application, navigate to the Plugins dropdown and select **Manage and Install Plugins**.



2. A useful plugin for QGIS is OpenLayers and includes Google Maps, OpenStreetmap and Yahoo Map. Type “Openlayers” in the search field and select OpenLayers Plugin from the list.
3. Click the **Install Plugin** button. This will download the plugin from the repository, install it, and load it into QGIS.



4. After the desired plugins have been downloaded and installed, navigate to the



Installed tab.

Note: In order to use the plugins, you must check the box next to the name to enable their functions.

Additional Resources

- QGIS Users Guide: http://docs.qgis.org/2.8/en/docs/user_manual/index.html
- Introduction to GIS: http://docs.qgis.org/2.8/en/docs/gentle_gis_introduction/index.html
- QGIS Training Manual: http://docs.qgis.org/2.8/en/docs/training_manual/index.html
- QGIS User Groups: <http://www.qgis.org/en/site/forusers/usergroups.html>
- QGIS Plugin Repository: <http://plugins.qgis.org/plugins/>