OpenDreamKit

Open Digital Research Environment Toolkit for the Advancement of Mathematics

A personal perspective

Nicolas M. Thiéry

September 2, 2015

OpenDreamKit.org

For me, it all started there



For me, it all started there

A question of Bruce Westburry at FPSAC 2013 Given unlimited funding, what would you do with it for Sage?

Context

Emergence in the last decade(s) of a vibrant ecosystem of open source software for pure mathematics

- Specialized libraries: GAP, Linbox, Pari/GP, MPIR, Singular, ...
- General purpose systems: Sage, ...
- Online databases: LMFDB, ...
- Interactive computing environments:
 IPython/Jupyter, SageMathCloud, ...
- Together with the wider Scientific Python ecosystem

Context

Emergence in the last decade(s) of a vibrant ecosystem of open source software for pure mathematics

- Specialized libraries: GAP, Linbox, Pari/GP, MPIR, Singular, ...
- General purpose systems: Sage, ...
- Online databases: LMFDB, ...
- Interactive computing environments:
 IPython/Jupyter, SageMathCloud, ...
- Together with the wider Scientific Python ecosystem

Viable open source alternatives to Maple, Mathematica, Matlab, Magma, ...

- Research
- Education
- Industry?

A successful development model ...

- By users, for users
- Indirect funding via research grants
- Large international developer communities (300 for Sage)

A successful development model ...

- By users, for users
- Indirect funding via research grants
- Large international developer communities (300 for Sage)

... with some limitations

- Some highly technical tasks are lagging behind:
 - Hard to justify work on them for a researcher
 - Hard to justify work on them on a research grant
- Impeding the wide adoption of those systems
- Impeding collaborations between systems

A successful development model ...

- By users, for users
- Indirect funding via research grants
- Large international developer communities (300 for Sage)

... with some limitations

- Some highly technical tasks are lagging behind:
 - Hard to justify work on them for a researcher
 - Hard to justify work on them on a research grant
- Impeding the wide adoption of those systems
- Impeding collaborations between systems

A need for funding for:

- A couple full time developers
- Community building

An opportunity suggested by Eugenia, January 2014

Virtual Research Environments

A call of the H2020 European Research Infrastructures Work Programme

An opportunity suggested by Eugenia, January 2014

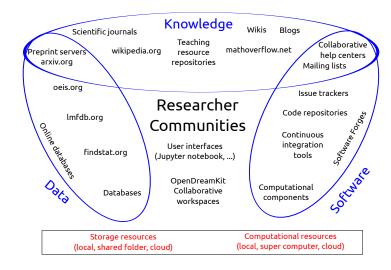
Virtual Research Environments

A call of the H2020 European Research Infrastructures Work Programme

Definition

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*.

Virtual Research Environments in Math



OpenDreamKit (2015-2019)

Open Digital Research Environment Toolkit for the Advancement of Mathematics

- H2020 European Research Infrastructures Work Programme Call: Virtual Research Environments
- Budget: 7.6 million euros
- 15 sites
- 50 participants

OpenDreamKit (2015-2019)

Aims

 Deliver a flexible Virtual Research Environment toolkit supporting collaborative work on soft, data, and knowledge

OpenDreamKit (2015-2019)

Aims

- Deliver a flexible Virtual Research Environment toolkit supporting collaborative work on soft, data, and knowledge
- Foster the ecosystem of open source software for pure mathematics and beyond

We have signed a contract which we need to fulfill

We have signed a contract which we need to fulfill

But more importantly

- The European taxpayers are entrusting us
- Our communities are entrusting us
- Our fellow scientists are starving

We have signed a contract which we need to fulfill

But more importantly

- The European taxpayers are entrusting us
- Our communities are entrusting us
- Our fellow scientists are starving

Please, please

Make the most of each euro spent on this project

- For the aims of this project
- For Science

We have signed a contract which we need to fulfill

But more importantly

- The European taxpayers are entrusting us
- Our communities are entrusting us
- Our fellow scientists are starving

Please, please

Make the most of each euro spent on this project

- For the aims of this project
- For Science

Listen to your heart and do what's right