## **OpenDreamKit**

Open Digital Research Environment Toolkit for the Advancement of Mathematics

A personal perspective

Nicolas M. Thiéry

September 9, 2015

OpenDreamKit.org

## For me, it all started there



## For me, it all started there

A question of Bruce Westbury 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

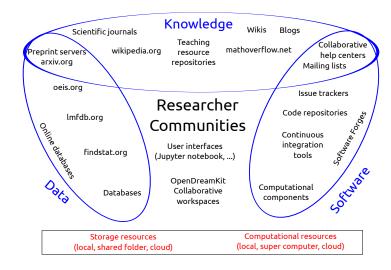
#### Virtual Research Environments

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