THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

Magma

11th September, 2026

Magma Computational Algebra System

Terms and Conditions

The Magma subscription scheme. The subscription system employed for the distribution of Magma is intended to provide the subscribing organisation with regular updates for the duration of the subscription. The subscription provides access to major releases containing new facilities and other upgrades on a regular basis and patch releases containing recent bug fixes on a frequent basis. Subscriptions are organised for 3 years except under extenuating circumstances.

Obtaining a subscription. A quote can be requested under the Subscriptions link on our webpage or by sending an email to:

`magma.admin@sydney.edu.au`

In order to prepare a quote we need the following information:

(1) Contact details: Name, email address, institution, institutional address, link to webpage listing departmental personnel
(2) Platform details: We offer some bundles
   - for a single researcher expecting to use at most 15 cores in total
   - for a small group of researchers expecting 4 researchers to use at most 63 cores in total
   - for a group of researchers expecting 16 researchers to use at most 255 cores in total
   - for a department

   If these bundles do not suit your usage of Magma, please advise the number of the machines on which you wish to run Magma, including the number of cores the machines have.
   These machines can be either owned or leased
   - by the institution or
   - by staff or students of the institution.
(3) Usage details: Is your institution an educational institution? Will Magma be used in a student laboratory or in a taught course? Do you wish to distribute the coursework version of Magma?
(4) Any other information you think will be useful.

Please note: We ask that one or two staff members handle the downloading and local distribution of Magma. Access to the Magma download site is to be restricted to these designated institutional contacts.

Platforms supported. The subscription provides access to versions of Magma for x86-64-based processors running one of the following operating systems:

(1) 64-bit Linux
(2) 64-bit OS X 10.8 or later

Specialised versions of Magma for more specific processor types are available in some cases, allowing Magma to take advantage of features of newer processors (e.g., AVX on the 64-bit Linux version). There is also a 64-bit Linux version of Magma that has CUDA support where suitable graphics cards are available.

Software files.

(1) The core distribution consists of the Magma binary together with a large number of package files. Source code is provided for the packages.
(2) Included in the Magma distribution are around 50 databases and a large collection of test files.

Upgrades and bug fixes.

(1) Major releases of Magma with significant new facilities and other upgrades are made on a regular basis, and so we recommend that major releases be installed regularly, at least yearly.
(2) Patch releases are made available frequently so that users can get the benefits of bug fixes quickly.
(3) If a fix for a serious problem is needed urgently, it may sometimes be possible to provide a special release outside the normal cycle for a particular site.

MAC addresses.

(1) The subscribing site must send us the MAC address for each platform on which Magma is to run, and then we supply a passfile for the registered platforms.
(2) During the currency of the subscription, the subscribing site is permitted to change the processors licensed to run Magma at any time without charge provided that
    - Magma is available on the new processor, and
    - the new machines are in the same general performance category.
(3) If a subscription is not renewed, Magma should continue to run on the designated machines provided there are no changes to MAC addresses. However, if Magma needs to be reinstalled this will need to be done from locally saved installation files as they will no longer be available for download.
(4) There is no limit on the number of Magma users or processes permitted on any designated machine at the same time.

Terms and conditions. The supply of Magma does not require the completion of formal licence documents, but industry practice is followed in matters of licence, acknowledgment, and copyright. The conditions are:

(1) Magma may not be used on processors other than those designated without written permission.
(2) It is the responsibility of the subscriber to take reasonable steps to prevent copying (either manually or electronically) of the binary by unauthorised persons.
(3) The software is supplied on an "as is" basis. There is no warranty expressed or implied for this software product. The University of Sydney is not liable for failure of the software to perform in the manner specified or for losses resulting from failure of the software to perform as required.
(4) Use of the Magma system will be regarded as agreement to comply with these conditions.
(5) Please cite use of Magma in publications Magma has contributed to.

Support.

(1) Extensive documentation is provided in the form of the Magma Handbook. This forms the basis of a web-based help system and a text-based help system.
(2) Magma staff are available to help with any installation problems that might arise, but please check the instructions and FAQ page first.
(3) While the Magma group does not tutor new users, advice may be provided on how to tackle unusual or particularly difficult computational problems.
(4) Bug reports are typically reviewed and addressed in a quick and timely manner, but resolution times may vary depending significantly on complexity.

Feedback.

(1) The reporting of bugs is strongly encouraged whenever possible. Over time, this leads to a much more reliable system.
(2) Users are encouraged to suggest extensions and feature requests. We are also interested in high-quality code contributed by users for possible inclusion into Magma.

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