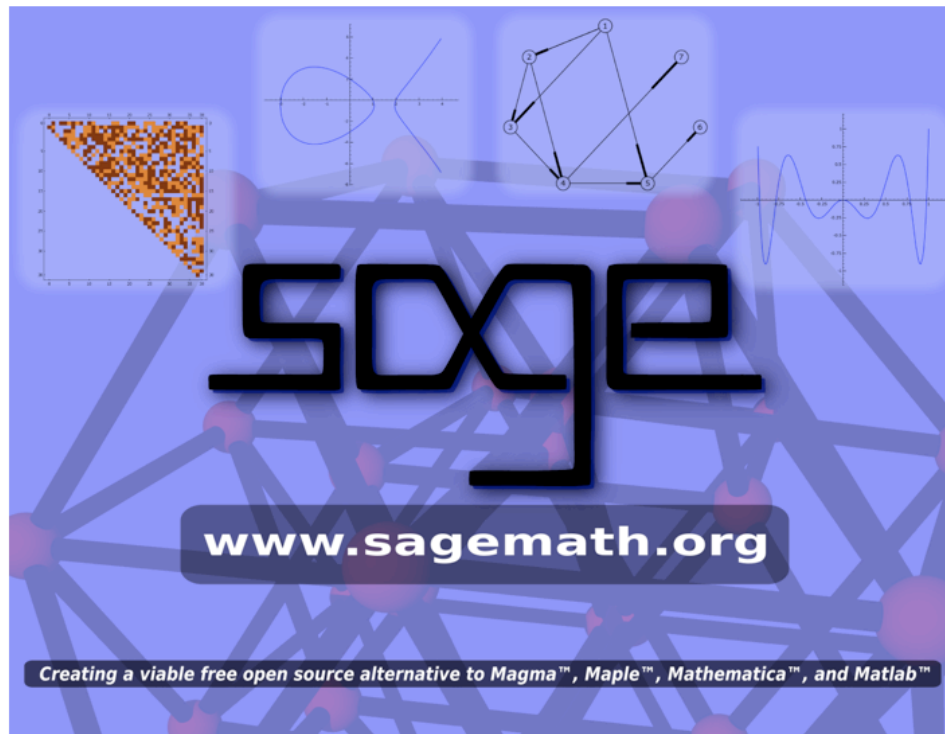


# Sage

## Creating a viable free open source alternative to Magma, Maple, Mathematica and Matlab

*William Stein, Associate Professor, University of Washington*



---

BTW: I really, REALLY like sage. I'm just surprised i haven't heard  
of it before 5 days ago.

-- Clinton Bowen on the sage-support mailing list Mon, Feb 9, 2009 at 11:03 PM.

# History

- *I started Sage at Harvard in January 2005.*
- No existing math software *good enough.*
- I got *very annoyed* that my students and colleagues had to pay a *ridiculous amount* to use the code I wrote in Ma\*'s.
- Sage-1.0 released *February 2006* at Sage Days 1 (San Diego).
- *Sage Days Workshops* 1, 2, ..., 12, at UCLA, UW, Cambridge, Bristol, Austin, France, San Diego, Seattle, etc.
- Sage *won first prize* in Trophees du Libre (November 2007)
- Funding from *Microsoft, UW, NSF, DoD, Google, Sun,* private donations, etc.



## Sun's Interest in Sage

1. Sage will *very* soon (weeks) fully support Solaris. This porting work was fully funded by the Department of Defense, and will continue.
2. Sage is the *only* project whose goal is to create a viable open source alternative to all of Mathematica, Maple, Matlab and Magma. It is the analogue of Star Office or Firefox, as alternatives to Microsoft Office or Internet Explorer.

# Sparc and x86 Solaris Port Nearly Done!

## 3.3.alpha6 on SOLARIS

Builds out of the box, but does not have the following fixes:

- RANDMAX setting (unclean patch, so not upstream yet)
- Singular pexepct (unclean patch, so not upstream yet)
- Sympow flag fixes (x86 only)

Open issues: There are less than ten issues left to fix and some of them already have fixes that need to be cleaned up. All but three issues are identical on both x86 and Sparc:

- Summetrica interface problem
- Nan vs. nan [has fix, needs to be cleaned up]
- inf vs. Infinity [has fix, needs to be cleaned up]
- coercion oddity - sparc specific
- various pexpect issues
- HeilbronnCremona() strangeness
- large allocation failure fails [change doctest?]
- pow()/axes.py problem
- numerical noise problems [trivial to fix]

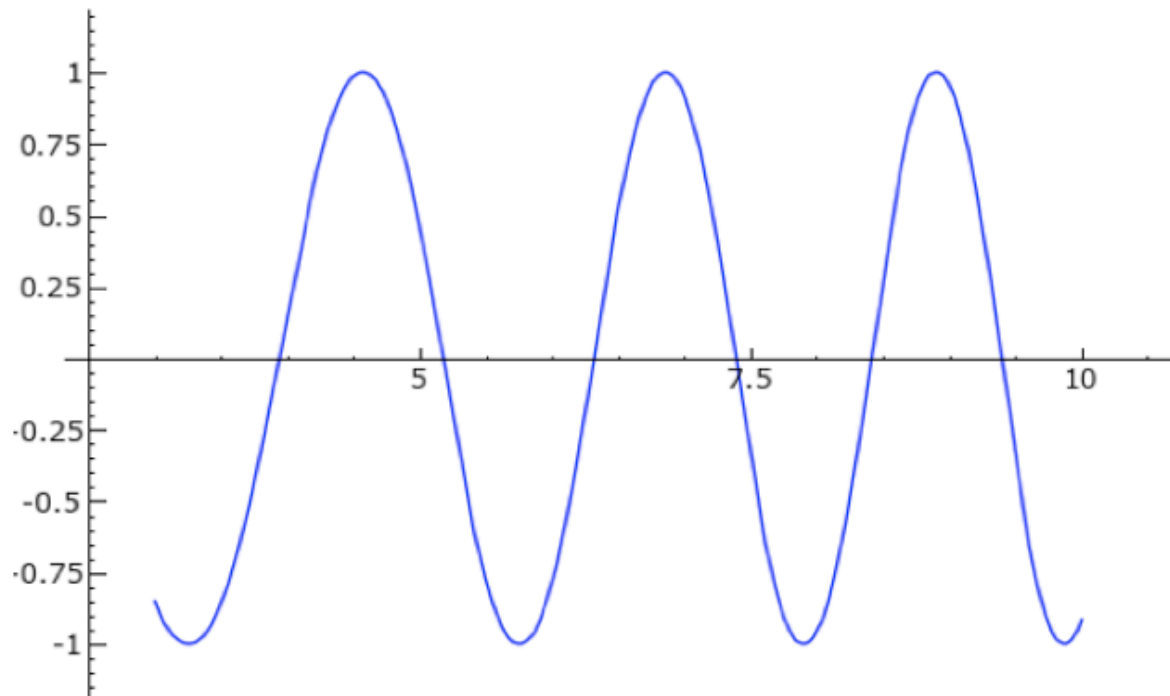
## Simple Test

last edited on February 10, 2009 10:48 AM by admin

[Save](#) [Save & quit](#) [Discard & quit](#)File... ▾ Action... ▾ Data... ▾ sage ▾  Typeset[Worksheet](#)[Edit](#)[Text](#)[Undo](#)[Share](#)[Publish](#) $2 + 3$ 

5

```
plot(sin(x*log(x+1)), (x,3,10))
```



# Sage is 100% Free and Open Source

Active user community; **964** members of the [sage-support mailing list](#).

 **Discussions** 8 of 9817 messages [view all »](#)

[Wrong plot in optimisation problem - not tangent](#)

By Paolo Crosetto - 8:46am - 3 authors - 3 replies

[\[sage-support\] Re: ILLEGAL INSTRUCTION sse4\\_pni](#)

By William Stein - 7:16am - 2 authors - 3 replies

[Iterators in compiled code?](#)

By Alasdair - 3:23am - 3 authors - 6 replies

[\[sage-support\] How to compute half-weight coefficients?](#)

By William Stein - Jan 30 - 2 authors - 1 reply

[\[sage-support\] Notebook Plotting](#)

By William Stein - Jan 30 - 2 authors - 1 reply

[problem with GraphDatabase](#)


By Jason Grout - Jan 30 - 2 authors - 1 reply

[Factorization](#)

By Paul Zimmermann - Jan 30 - 1 author - 0 replies

[\[sage-support\] How can I make a topographic map with Sage?](#)


By Benjamin J. Racine - Jan 30 - 5 authors - 4 replies

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**Sage** is a free [open-source](#) mathematics software system licensed under the GPL. It combines the [power](#) of many existing [open-source packages](#) into a common Python-based interface.

Mission: *Creating a viable free open source alternative to Magma, Maple, Mathematica and Matlab.*

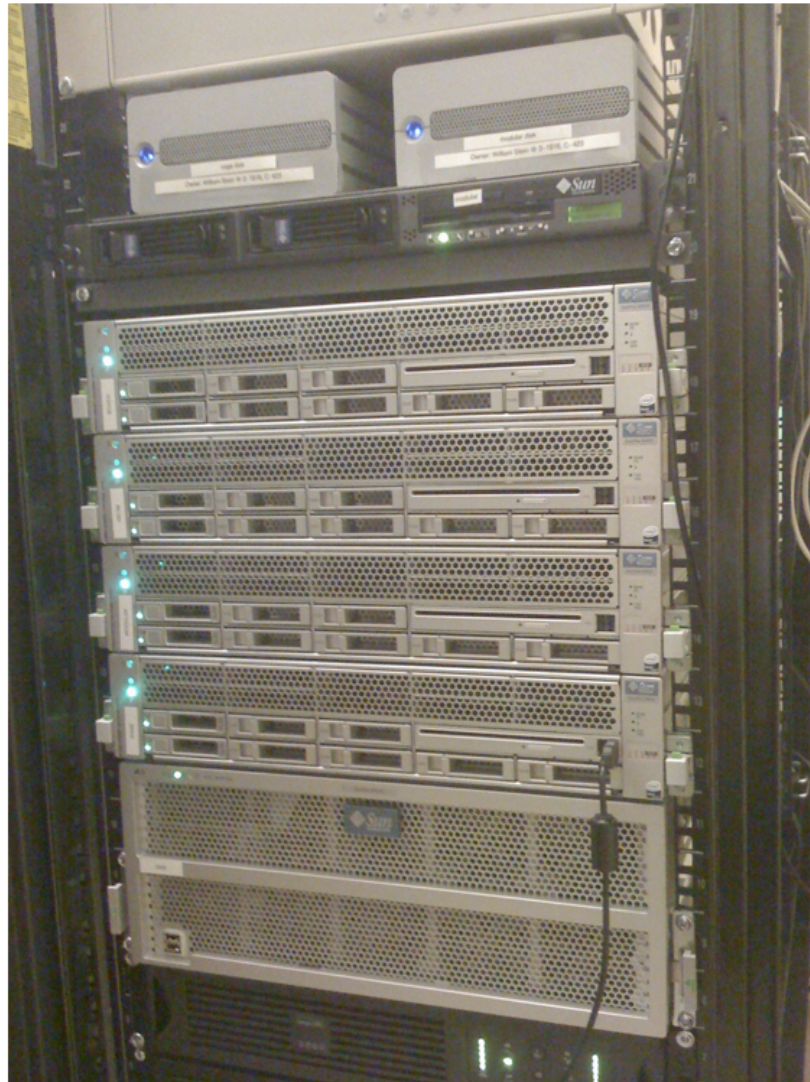
[Donate](#) · [Acknowledgments](#) · [Browse the Code](#) · [Questions?](#)

|   |   |   |  |
|---|---|---|--|
| <b>Download 3.2.3</b><br><a href="#">Binary</a> · <a href="#">Source</a> · <a href="#">Packages</a>   |    |    | <b>Sage Via the Web</b><br><a href="#">Milnix.org</a> · <a href="#">KAIST</a>                            |
| <b>Help</b><br><a href="#">Documentation</a> · <a href="#">Support</a> · <a href="#">Tutorial</a>     |   |   | <b>Feature Tour</b><br><a href="#">Quickstart</a> · <a href="#">Research</a> · <a href="#">Education</a> |
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*Random Link: [Quickstart into Sage](#)*

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***Sage Devel Headquarters:*** Four 24-core Sun X4450's with 128GB RAM each + 1 Sun X4540 with 24TB disk



**SAGE** Mathematics Software: Welcome!

**Sage** is a different approach to mathematics software.

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# Many Advantages of Sage over the Ma\*'s

1. Python-- *a general purpose* language at core of Sage; huge user base compared to Matlab, Mathematica, Maple and Magma
2. Cython -- *write blazingly fast* compiled code in Sage
3. Free and *Open source*
4. Excellent *Peer review* of Code: "*I do really and truly believe that the Sage refereeing model results in better code.*" -- John Cremona

# Sage Is...

- Over *300,000 lines* of new Python/Cython code
- *Distribution* of mathematical software; easy to build from source (over 5 million lines of code).
- About *150 developers*: [developer map](#)
- Exact and numerical *linear algebra*, optimization, *statistics* (numpy, scipy, R, and gsl all included)
- Group theory, *number theory*, combinatorics, crypto.
- *Calculus*
- 2d and 3d *plotting*
- *Range of functionality rivals* the Ma\*'s

# Examples

## Symbolic expressions:

```
x, y = var('x,y')  
type(x)
```

```
<class 'sage.calculus.calculus.SymbolicVariable'>
```

```
a = 1 + sqrt(2) + pi + 2/3 + x^y
```

```
show(a)
```

$$x^y + \pi + \sqrt{2} + \frac{5}{3}$$

```
show(expand(a^2))
```

$$x^{2y} + 2\pi x^y + 2\sqrt{2}x^y + \frac{10x^y}{3} + \pi^2 + 2\sqrt{2}\pi + \frac{10\pi}{3} + \frac{10\sqrt{2}}{3} + \frac{43}{9}$$

## Solve equations

```
var('a,b,c,x')
show(solve(x^2 + sqrt(17)*a*x + b == 0, x))
```

$$\left[ x = \frac{-\left(\sqrt{17a^2-4b}\right)-\sqrt{17}a}{2}, \right. \\ \left. x = \frac{\sqrt{17a^2-4b}-\sqrt{17}a}{2} \right]$$

```
var('a,b,c,x')
show(solve(a*x^3 + b*x + c == 0, x)[0])
```

$$x = \left( \frac{-\sqrt{3}i}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right) \left( \frac{\sqrt{\frac{27ac^2+4b^3}{a}}}{6\sqrt{3}a} - \frac{c}{2a} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}} - \frac{\left( \frac{\sqrt{3}i}{2} - \frac{1}{2} \right) b}{3a \left( \frac{\sqrt{\frac{27ac^2+4b^3}{a}}}{6\sqrt{3}a} - \frac{c}{2a} \right)^{\frac{1}{3}}}$$

```
A = random_matrix(QQ, 500); v = random_matrix(QQ, 500, 1)
time x = A \ v
```

Time: CPU 1.69 s, Wall: 2.20 s

```
len(str(x[0]))
```

1486

## Example: A Huge Integer Determinant

```
a = random_matrix(ZZ, 200, x=-2^127, y=2^127)
time d = a.determinant()
len(str(d))
```

```
Time: CPU 3.14 s, Wall: 4.25 s
7786
```

We can also *copy this matrix* over to Maple and compute the same determinant there...

```
a[0,0]
```

```
-10495856349494057617178227541504239545
```

```
maple.with_package('LinearAlgebra')
B = maple(a)
t = maple.cputime()
time c = B.Determinant()
maple.cputime(t)
```

[evaluate](#)

```
21.969999999999999
```

```
c == d
```

```
True
```

This ability to easily move objects between math software is *unique to Sage*.

## Example: A Symbolic Expression

```
x = var('x')
f(x) = sin(3*x)*x+log(x) + 1/(x+1)^2
show(f)
```

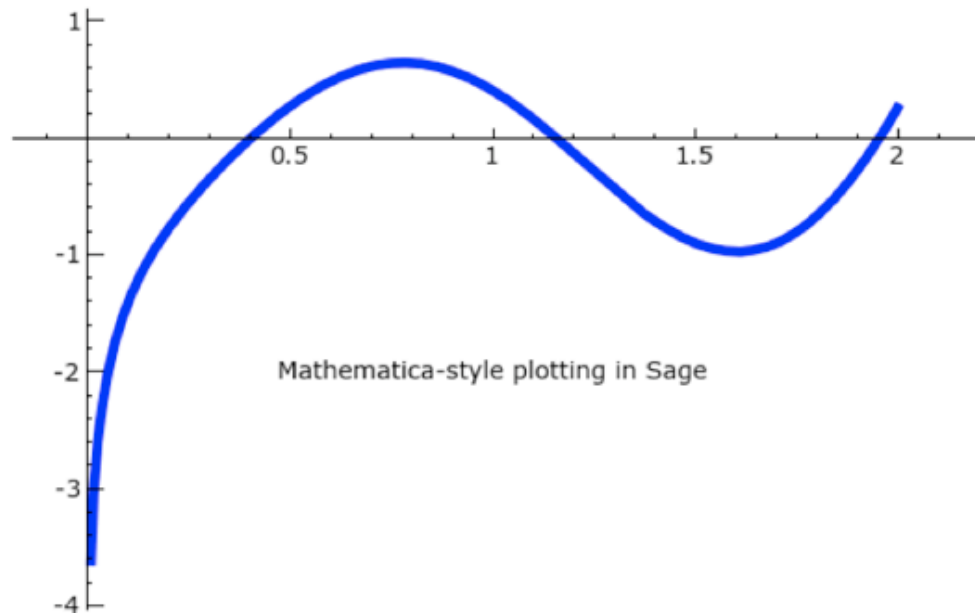
$$x \mapsto x \sin(3x) + \log(x) + \frac{1}{(x+1)^2}$$

Plotting functions has similar syntax to Mathematica:

```
show(f.integrate(x))
```

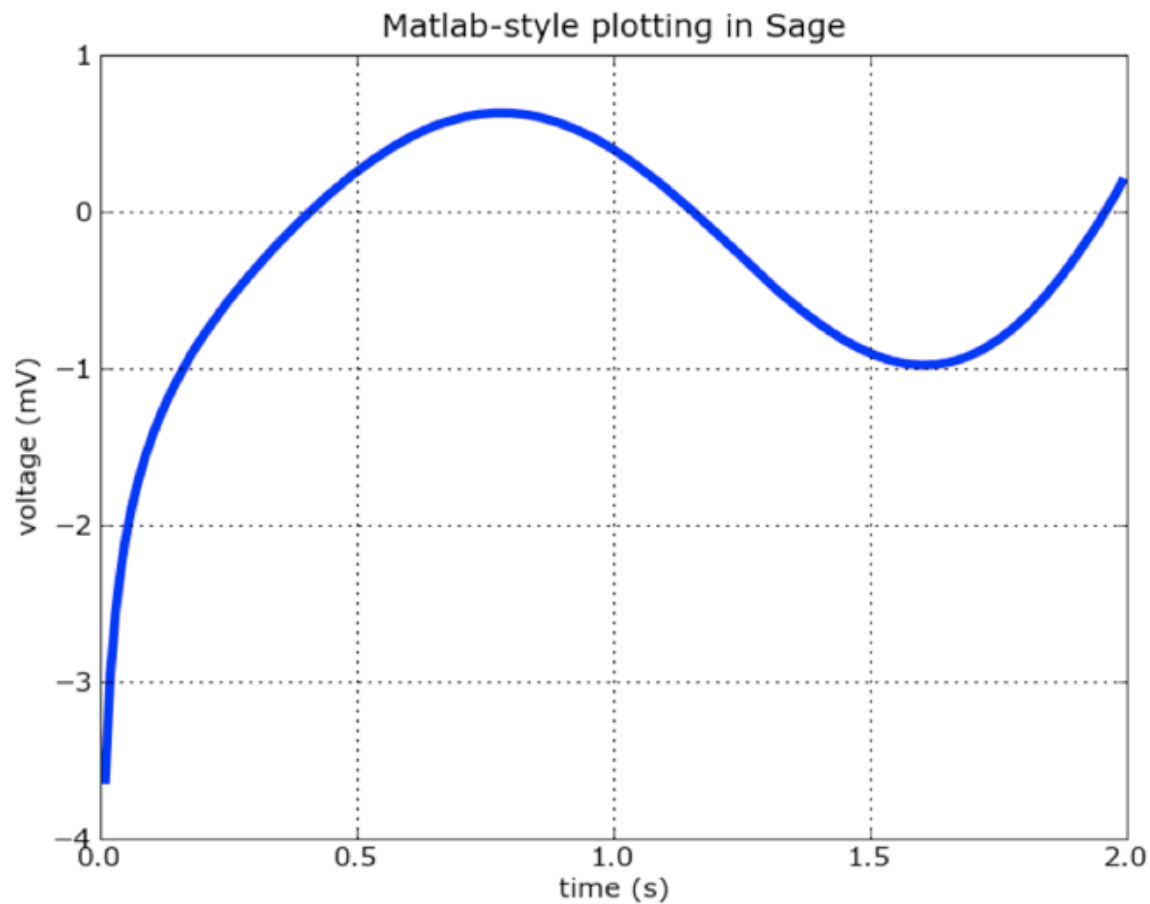
$$x \mapsto \frac{\sin(3x) - 3x \cos(3x)}{9} + x \log(x) - \frac{1}{x+1} - x$$

```
plot(f, (0.01, 2), thickness=4) + text("Mathematica-style plotting in Sage", (1, -2), rgbcolor='black')
```



**Sage also has 2d plotting that is almost *identical to MATLAB*:**

```
import pylab as p
p.figure()
t = p.arange(0.01, 2.0, 0.01)
s = p.sin(2 * p.pi * t)
s = p.array([float(f(x)) for x in t])
P = p.plot(t, s, linewidth=4)
p.xlabel('time (s)'); p.ylabel('voltage (mV)')
p.title('Matlab-style plotting in Sage')
p.grid(True)
p.savefig('sage.png')
```





**`_fast_float_` yields super-fast evaluation of Sage symbolic expressions -- e.g., here it is *10 times faster* than native Python!**

```
f(x,y,z) = x^3 * sin(x^2) + cos(x*y) - 1/(x+y+z)
```

```
g = f._fast_float_(x,y,z)
timeit('g(4.5r,3.2r,5.7r)')
```

625 loops, best of 3: 709 ns per loop

```
%python
import math
def g(x): return math.sin(3*x)*x + log(x) + 1/(1+x)**2
```

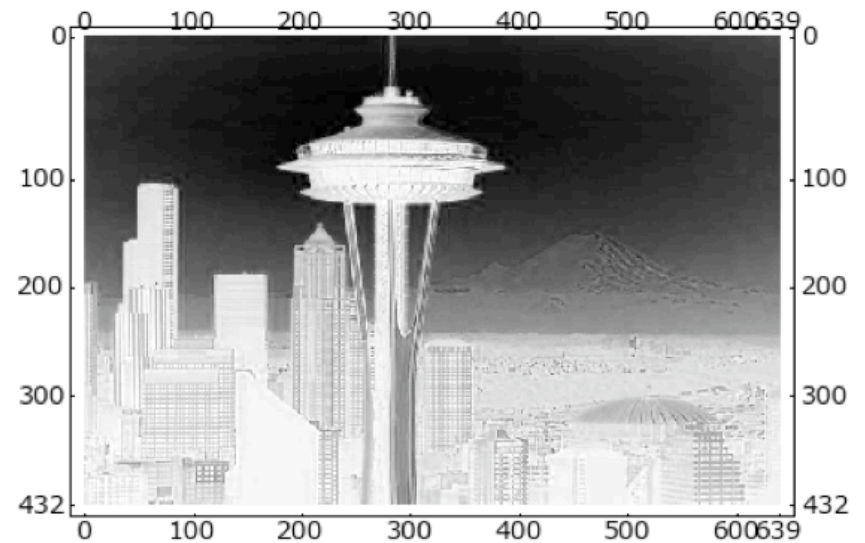
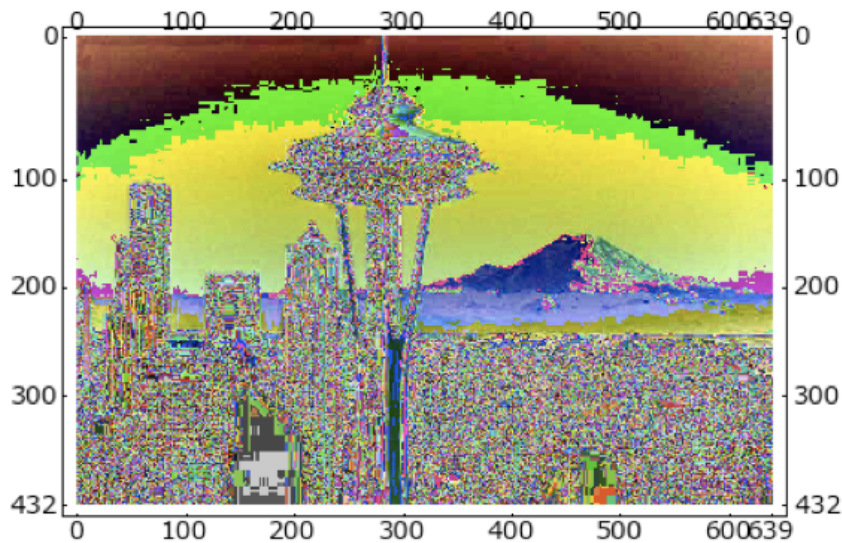
```
timeit('g(4.5r)')
```

625 loops, best of 3: 6.89  $\mu$ s per loop

# Example: Interactive Image Compression

This illustrates pylab (matplotlib + numpy), Sage plotting, html output, and @interact.


```
# first just play
import pylab
A = pylab.imread(DATA + 'seattle.png')
graphics_array([matrix_plot(A^(-1)), matrix_plot(1-A[0:,0:,2])]).show(figsize=[10,4])
```



```

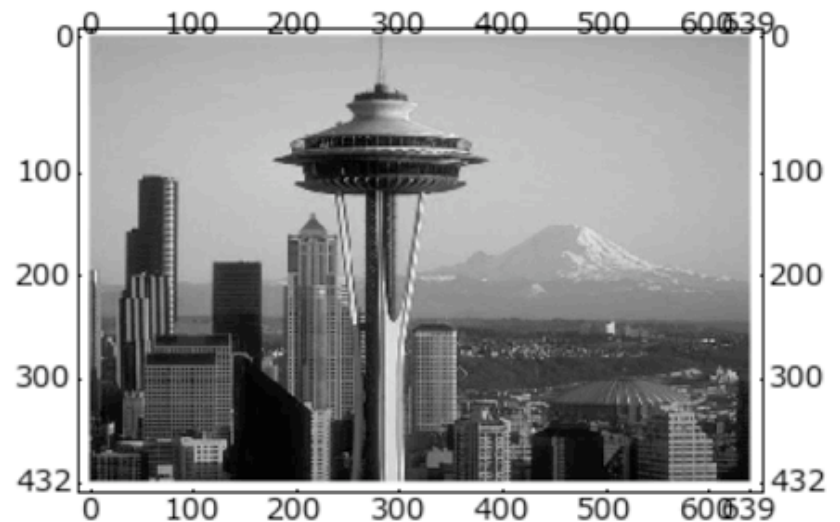
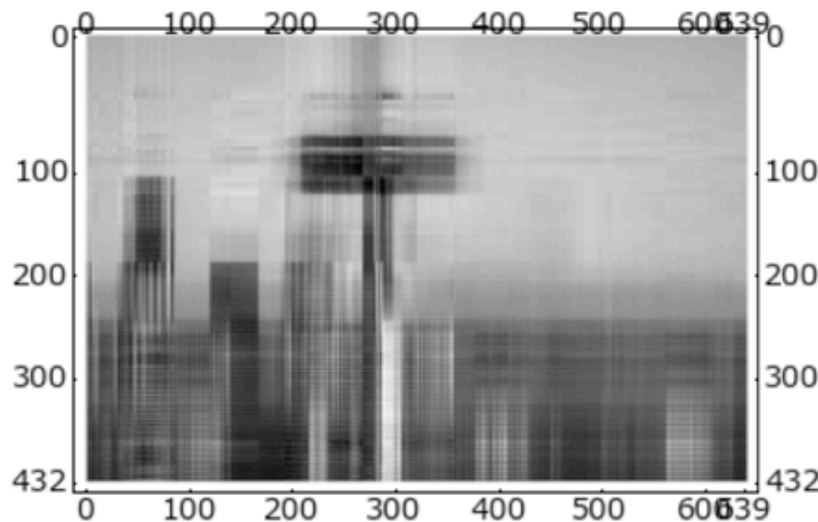
import pylab
A_image = pylab.mean(pylab.imread(DATA + 'seattle.png'), 2)
@interact
def svd_image(i=(20,(1..100)), display_axes=True):
    u,s,v = pylab.linalg.svd(A_image)
    A      = sum(s[j]*pylab.outer(u[0:,j], v[j,0:]) for j in range(i))
    g = graphics_array([matrix_plot(A),matrix_plot(A_image)])
    show(g, axes=display_axes, figsize=(8,3))
    html('<h2>Compressed using %s eigenvalues</h2>%i' % i)

```

i  6

display\_axes


## Compressed using 6 eigenvalues



```

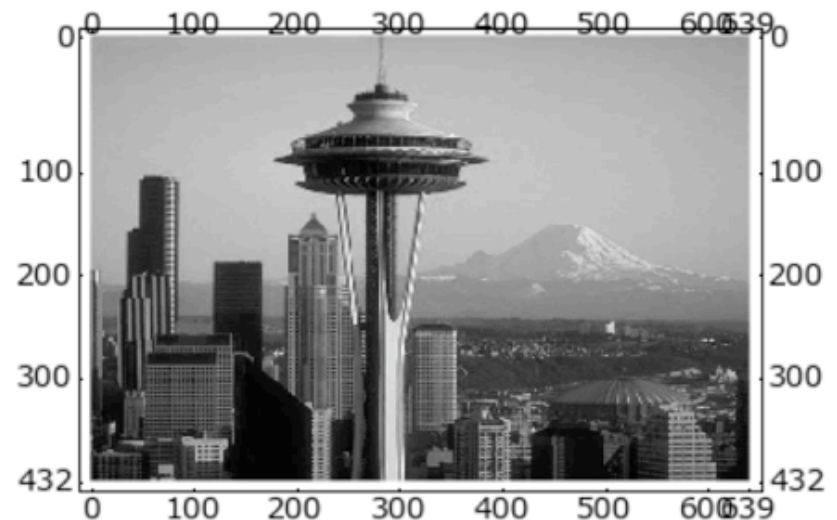
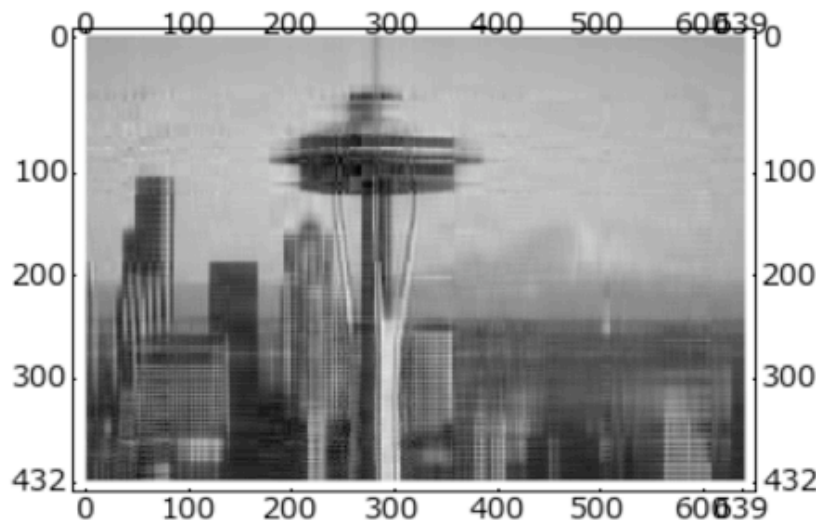
import pylab
A_image = pylab.mean(pylab.imread(DATA + 'seattle.png'), 2)
@interact
def svd_image(i=(20,(1..100)), display_axes=True):
    u,s,v = pylab.linalg.svd(A_image)
    A      = sum(s[j]*pylab.outer(u[0:,j], v[j,0:]) for j in range(i))
    g = graphics_array([matrix_plot(A),matrix_plot(A_image)])
    show(g, axes=display_axes, figsize=(8,3))
    html('<h2>Compressed using %s eigenvalues</h2>%i)

```

i  16

display\_axes

## Compressed using 16 eigenvalues



```

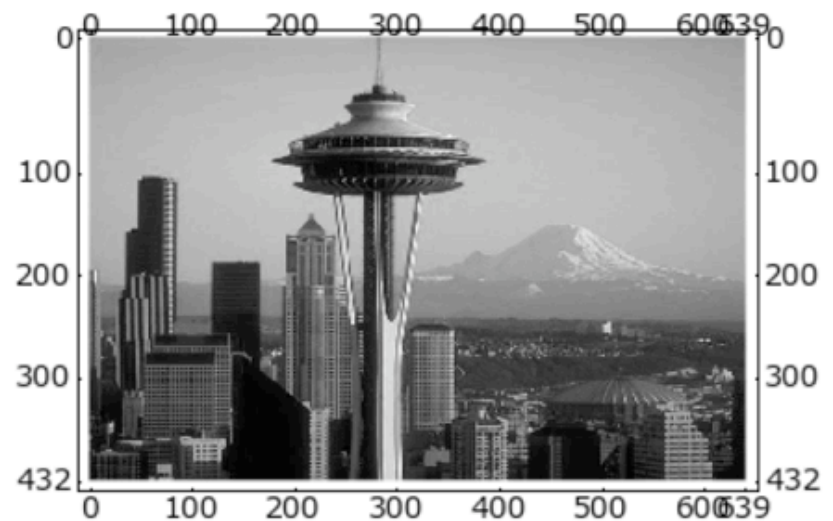
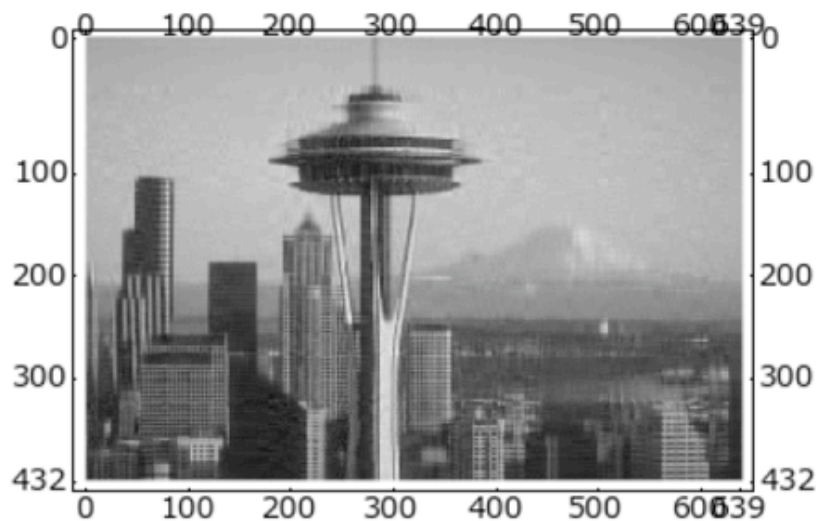
import pylab
A_image = pylab.mean(pylab.imread(DATA + 'seattle.png'), 2)
@interact
def svd_image(i=(20,(1..100)), display_axes=True):
    u,s,v = pylab.linalg.svd(A_image)
    A      = sum(s[j]*pylab.outer(u[0:,j], v[j,0:]) for j in range(i))
    g = graphics_array([matrix_plot(A),matrix_plot(A_image)])
    show(g, axes=display_axes, figsize=(8,3))
    html('<h2>Compressed using %s eigenvalues</h2>%i)

```

i  34

display\_axes

## Compressed using 34 eigenvalues



```

import pylab
A_image = pylab.mean(pylab.imread(DATA + 'seattle.png'), 2)
@interact
def svd_image(i=(20,(1..100)), display_axes=True):
    u,s,v = pylab.linalg.svd(A_image)
    A      = sum(s[j]*pylab.outer(u[0:,j], v[j,0:]) for j in range(i))
    g = graphics_array([matrix_plot(A),matrix_plot(A_image)])
    show(g, axes=display_axes, figsize=(8,3))
    html('<h2>Compressed using %s eigenvalues</h2>%i' % i)

```

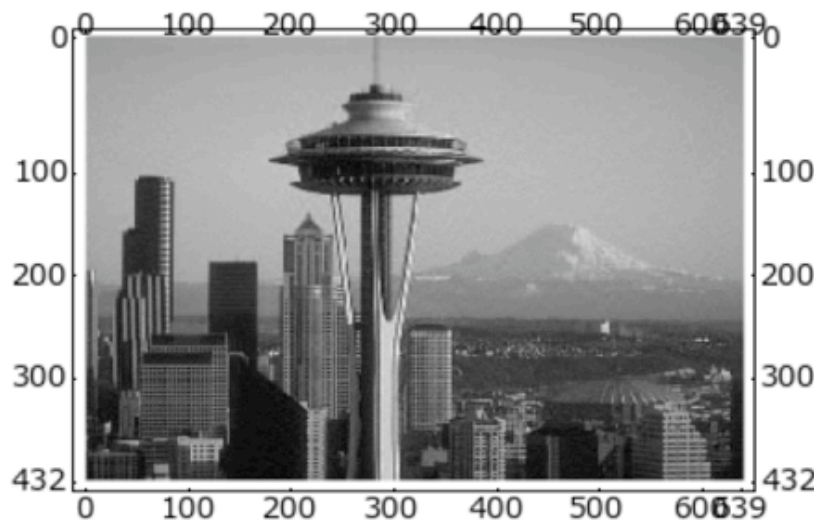
i



83

display\_axes

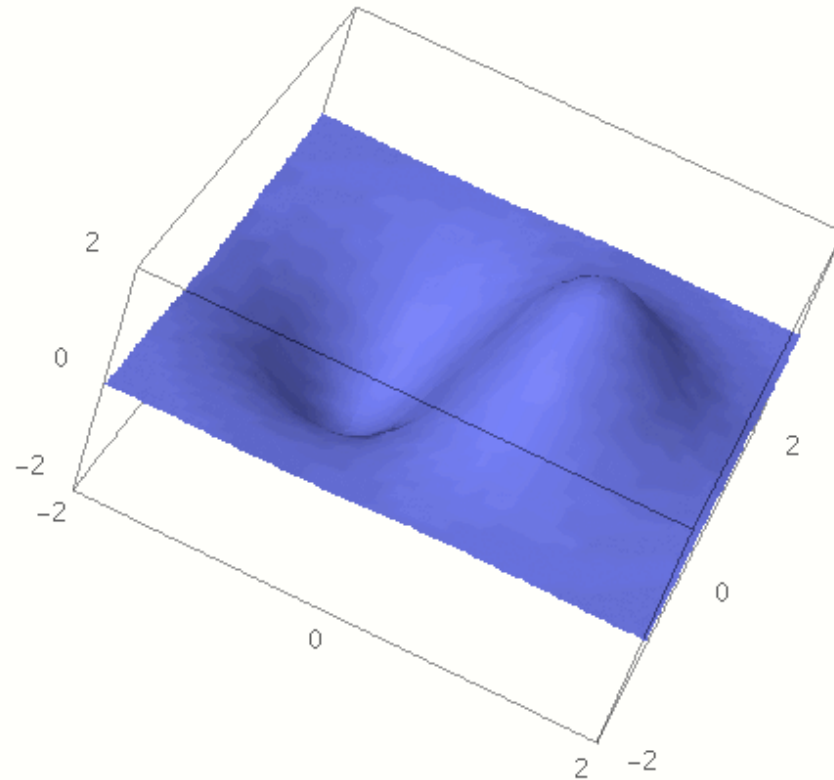
## Compressed using 83 eigenvalues



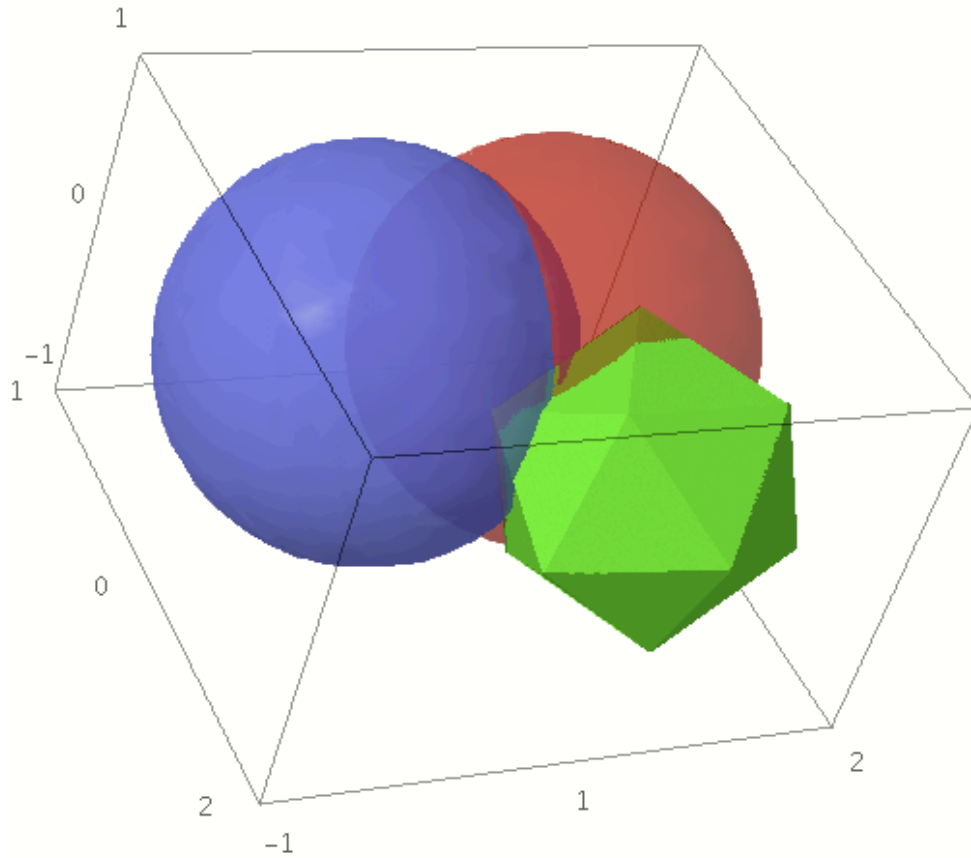
# 3d Plots

```
var('x y')  
plot3d( 4*x*exp(-x^2-y^2), (x,-2,2), (y,-2,2) )
```

[evaluate](#)



```
( sphere((0,0,0), opacity=0.7) + sphere((0,1,0), color='red', opacity=0.5)  
  + icosahedron((1,1,0), color='green') )
```





```
L = []

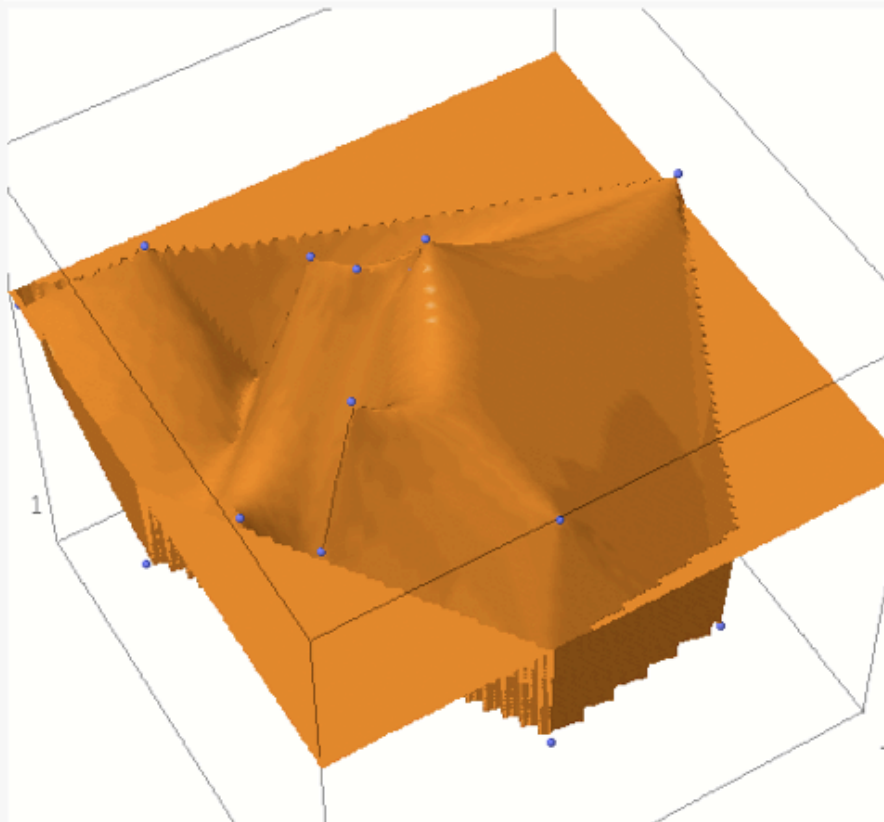
@interact
def random_list(number_of_points=(10..50), dots=True):
    n = normalvariate
    global L
    if len(L) != number_of_points:
        L = [(n(0,1), n(0,1), n(0,1)) for i in range(number_of_points)]
    G = list_plot3d(L, interpolation_type='nn', texture=Color('#ff7500'), num_points=120)
    if dots: G += point3d(L)
    G.show()
```

number\_of\_points



17

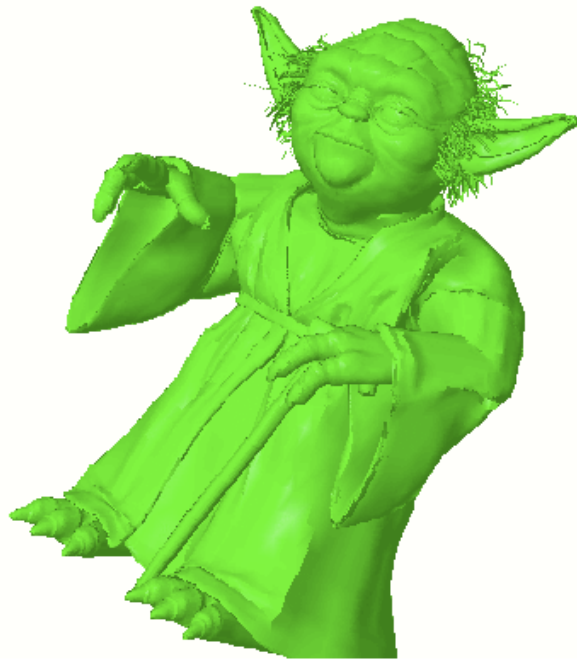
dots



3d plotting (using [jmol](#)) is fast even though it does **not** use Java3d or OpenGL or require any special signed code or drivers.

```
# Yoda! -- over 50,000 triangles.  
from scipy import io  
X = io.loadmat(DATA + 'yodapose.mat')  
from sage.plot.plot3d.index\_face\_set import IndexFaceSet  
V = X['V']; F3=X['F3']-1; F4=X['F4']-1  
Y = IndexFaceSet(F3,V,color='green') + IndexFaceSet(F4,V,color='green')  
Y = Y.rotateX(-1)  
Y.show(aspect\_ratio=[1,1,1], frame=False, figsize=4)  
html('"Use the source, Luke..."')
```

"Use the source, Luke..."



# Cython: Sage's Compiler

```
to      sage-support
date    Sat, Jan 31, 2009 at 11:15 AM
Hi,
```

I received first a `MemoryError`, and later on Sage reported:

```
uitkomst1=[]
uitkomst2=[]
eind=int((10^9+2)/(2*sqrt(3)))
print eind
for y in xrange(1,eind):
    test1=is_square(3*y^2+1,True)
    test2=is_square(48*y^2+1,True)
    if test1[0] and test1[1]%3==2: uitkomst1.append((y,(2*test1[1]-1)/3))
    if test2[0] and test2[1]%3==1: uitkomst2.append((y,(2*test2[1]+1)/3))
print uitkomst1
een=sum([3*x-1 for (y,x) in uitkomst1 if 3*x-1<10^9])
print uitkomst2
twee=sum([3*x+1 for (y,x) in uitkomst2 if 3*x+1<10^9])
print een+twee
```

If you replace  $10^9$  with  $10^6$ , the above listing works properly.

Maybe I made a mistake?

Rolandb

```

def f_python(n):
    uitkomst1=[]
    uitkomst2=[]
    eind=int((n+2)/(2*sqrt(3)))
    print eind
    for y in (1..eind):
        test1=is_square(3*y^2+1,True)
        test2=is_square(48*y^2+1,True)
        if test1[0] and test1[1]%3==2:
            uitkomst1.append((y,(2*test1[1]-1)/3))
        if test2[0] and test2[1]%3==1:
            uitkomst2.append((y,(2*test2[1]+1)/3))
    print uitkomst1
    een=sum(3*x-1 for (y,x) in uitkomst1 if 3*x-1<10^9)
    print uitkomst2
    twee=sum(3*x+1 for (y,x) in uitkomst2 if 3*x+1<10^9)
    print een+twee

```

```
time f_python(10^5)
```

```

28868
[(1, 1), (15, 17), (209, 241), (2911, 3361)]
[(1, 5), (14, 65), (195, 901), (2716, 12545)]
51408
Time: CPU 0.72 s, Wall: 0.77 s

```

```
time f_python(10^6)
```

[evaluate](#)

```

288675
[(1, 1), (15, 17), (209, 241), (2911, 3361), (40545, 46817)]
[(1, 5), (14, 65), (195, 901), (2716, 12545), (37829, 174725)]
716034
Time: CPU 7.14 s, Wall: 7.65 s

```

While waiting to see if `f_python(109)` would finish, I decided to try the ***Cython compiler***. I declared a few data types, put `%cython` at the top of the cell, and wham, it got *over 200 times faster*.

```
%cython
from sage.all import is_square
cdef extern from "math.h":
    long double sqrtl(long double)

def f(n):
    uitkomst1=[]
    uitkomst2=[]
    cdef long long eind=int((n+2)/(2*sqrt(3)))
    cdef long long y, t
    print eind
    for y in range(1,eind):
        t = <long long>sqrtl(<long long> (3*y*y + 1))
        if t * t == 3*y*y + 1:
            uitkomst1.append((y, (2*t-1)/3))
        t = <long long>sqrtl(<long long> (48*y*y + 1))
        if t * t == 48*y*y + 1:
            uitkomst2.append((y, (2*t+1)/3))
    print uitkomst1
    een=sum([3*x-1 for (y,x) in uitkomst1 if 3*x-1<10^9])
    print uitkomst2
    twee=sum([3*x+1 for (y,x) in uitkomst2 if 3*x+1<10^9])
    print een+twee
```

```
time f(10^5)
```

```
28868
[(1L, 1L), (4L, 4L), (15L, 17L), (56L, 64L), (209L, 241L), (780L, 900L),
(2911L, 3361L), (10864L, 12544L)]
[(1L, 5L), (14L, 65L), (195L, 901L), (2716L, 12545L)]
2
Time: CPU 0.00 s, Wall: 0.00 s
```

```
time f(10^6)
```

```
288675
[(1L, 1L), (4L, 4L), (15L, 17L), (56L, 64L), (209L, 241L), (780L, 900L),
(2911L, 3361L), (10864L, 12544L), (40545L, 46817L), (151316L, 174724L)]
[(1L, 5L), (14L, 65L), (195L, 901L), (2716L, 12545L), (37829L, 174725L)]
2
Time: CPU 0.03 s, Wall: 0.03 s
```

```
time f(10^9)
```

```
288675135
[(1L, 1L), (4L, 4L), (15L, 17L), (56L, 64L), (209L, 241L), (780L, 900L),
(2911L, 3361L), (10864L, 12544L), (40545L, 46817L), (151316L, 174724L),
(564719L, 652081L), (2107560L, 2433600L), (7865521L, 9082321L),
(29354524L, 33895684L), (109552575L, 126500417L)]
[(1L, 5L), (14L, 65L), (195L, 901L), (2716L, 12545L), (37829L, 174725L),
(526890L, 2433601L), (7338631L, 33895685L), (102213944L, 472105985L)]
2
Time: CPU 25.60 s, Wall: 26.50 s
```

```
7.14/0.03
```

```
238.000000000000
```

This is *not* a contrived example. This is a **real world example** that came up last weekend. For C-style computations, *Sage (via Cython) is as fast as C*.

# Numerical Matrix Algebra

```
a = random_matrix(RDF, 3); show(a)
```

$$\begin{pmatrix} -0.898388350554 & -0.245114654439 & 0.630541996552 \\ 0.654081247919 & 0.696119569249 & -0.957945963168 \\ 0.00662634420862 & -0.704817828713 & -0.517608714138 \end{pmatrix}$$

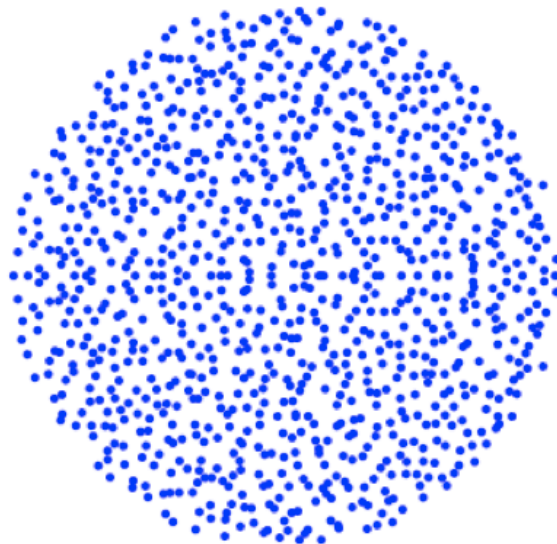
```
show(a.eigenvalues())
```

```
[0.961673429437, -0.4808854176, -1.20066550728]
```

```
a = random_matrix(RDF, 1000)  
time v = a.eigenvalues()
```

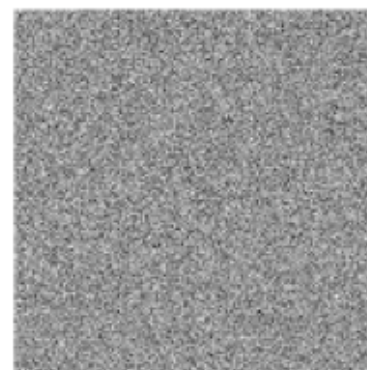
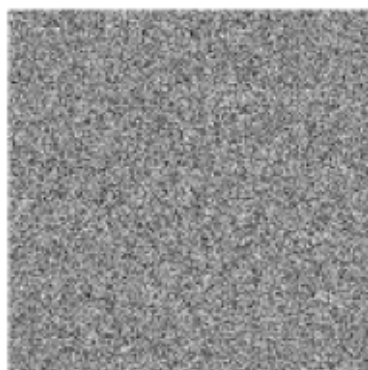
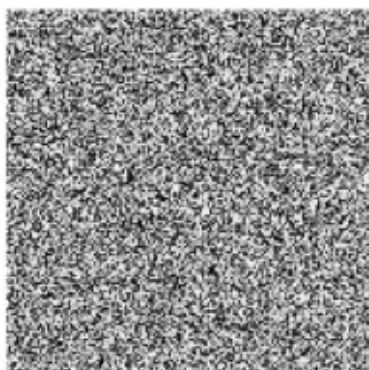
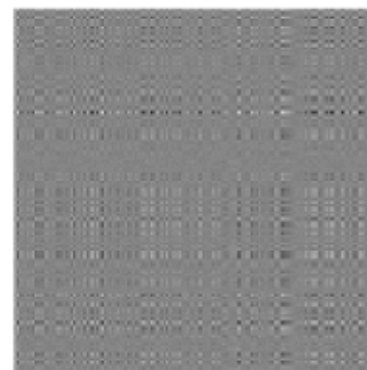
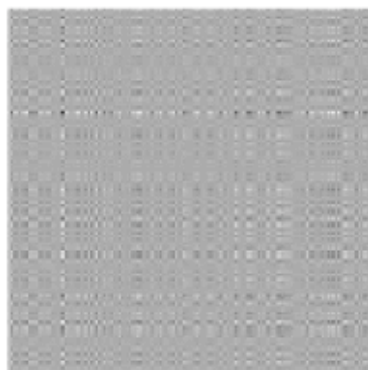
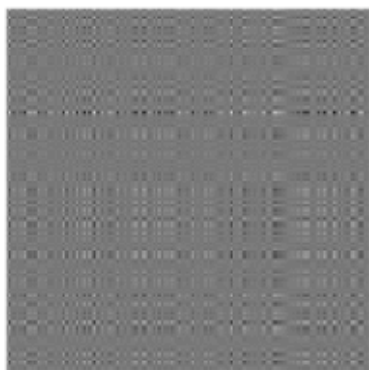
```
Time: CPU 5.63 s, Wall: 7.68 s
```

```
show(points(v), axes=False, aspect_ratio=1, figsize=4)
```



```
a = random_matrix(RDF, 200) # read doubles in [-1,1]
G = graphics_array([matrix_plot(a^i) for i in [-3,-2,-1,1,2,3]], 2, 3)
show(G, axes=False)
```

[evaluate](#)





**Questions?**