Scientific software useful for the Undergraduate Physics Laboratory

Windows

Microcal Origin

Origin is quite well distributed within the scientific community and is used in some of the research groups in the Faculty of Physics and Geosciences in Leipzig.

There is a license available for students. Origin 8 and 7.5 might be downloaded from http://research.uni-leipzig.de/zno/Software/ . This website is accessible from your computer at home via a VPN connection (see https://www.urz.uni-leipzig.de/hilfe/anleitungen-a-z/vpn/). Running Origin requires a connection to the license server; this is unproblematic, if you computer is logged in into the University network; from home, it should sufficient to run the VPN client on your computer. Alternatively, you might bring your notebook to the University, connect to the wireless, start Origin and borrow the license for a maximum of 150 days. Please note that the license is automatically returned the next time you open Origin, when connected to the University network. For other options see Mac and Linux.

Mac

IGOR

This is software from Wavemetrics; IGOR runs also under Windows. License for students? No idea. For other options see Linux.

Linux

Qtiplot

Qtiplot is free software (in principle) and quite similar to Origin. It runs under Linux, Windows and Mac. The official site is (http://soft.proindependent.com/qtiplot.html). Qtiplot is provided in some GNU/Linux distributions (e.g., in the official repositories of Debian and Ubuntu). Windows binaries might be legally downloaded from http://www.cells.es/Members/cpascual/docs/unofficial-qtiplot-packages-for-windows. See also http://www.staff.science.uu.nl/~zeven101/qtiplot.html.

SciDavis

SciDavis is a spin-off from Qtiplot. It runs under Windows, Mac and Linux and can be freely obtained from http://scidavis.sourceforge.net/.

Labplot

Labplot (http://labplot.sourceforge.net/) was built on the KDE platform and is available from Linux repositories.