

6

Downloading and Installing Scilab

To conclude this presentation of the Scilab software, here is additional information that you may find useful during the Scilab download and installation process.

6.1. Where to find Scilab?

Scilab's [official website](#) (see [Figure 6.1](#)) is without doubt the prime location to find all information on Scilab.

Figure 6.1 : Scilab's official website



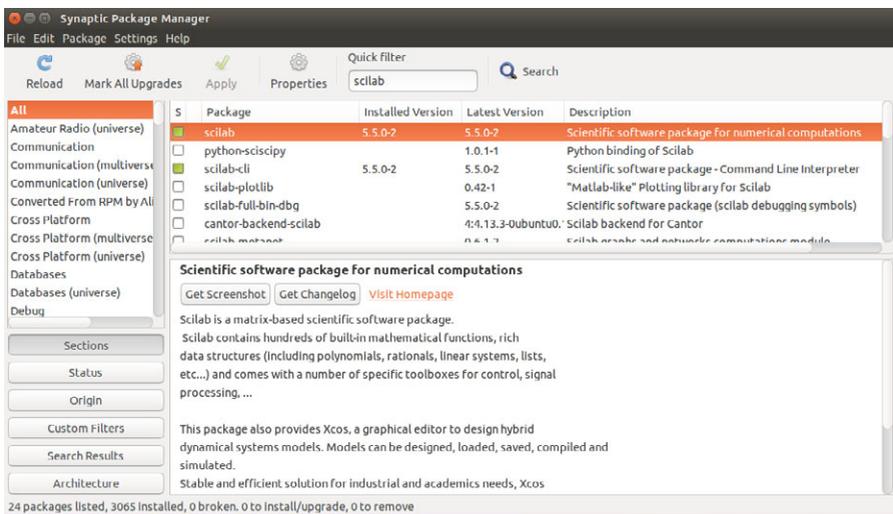
A link on the homepage redirects to the [download page](#) which provides access to the latest Scilab versions for the three main operating systems (Windows, Linux et Mac OS).

Caution › When downloading the Windows or Linux versions, you need to choose the version that best fits your processor's architecture:

- For a 32 bits Windows or Linux architecture, only the Scilab 32 bits version should be installed.
- For a Linux 64 bits architecture, install the Scilab 64 bits version.
- For Windows 64 bits, you can install either the 32 or 64 bits version. However, the Scilab 64 bits version is recommended to optimize the software performance.
- For MAC OS users, only one Scilab version is available.

In Linux, you can also download and install Scilab through a package manager such as Synaptic.

Figure 6.2 : Installing Scilab through Synaptic



Caution › Synaptic often does not offer the most up to date versions of Scilab (or of its associated packages). For this reason, it may be preferable to perform a manual installation.

In some cases, you may also need to install different versions of Scilab, for example to get around certain bugs. On the same site, you can find:

- older version of Scilab which can be requested via a [form](#) (the list of Scilab versions is available on the Scilab website)
- development versions, called *Nightly Builds* since they are compiled each night. They can be convenient to check if a recently reported bug was correctly fixed

Caution > The quality of these versions does not match the official version and should not be used in production!

- sporadic *alpha* or *beta* versions to test new developments prior to major updates

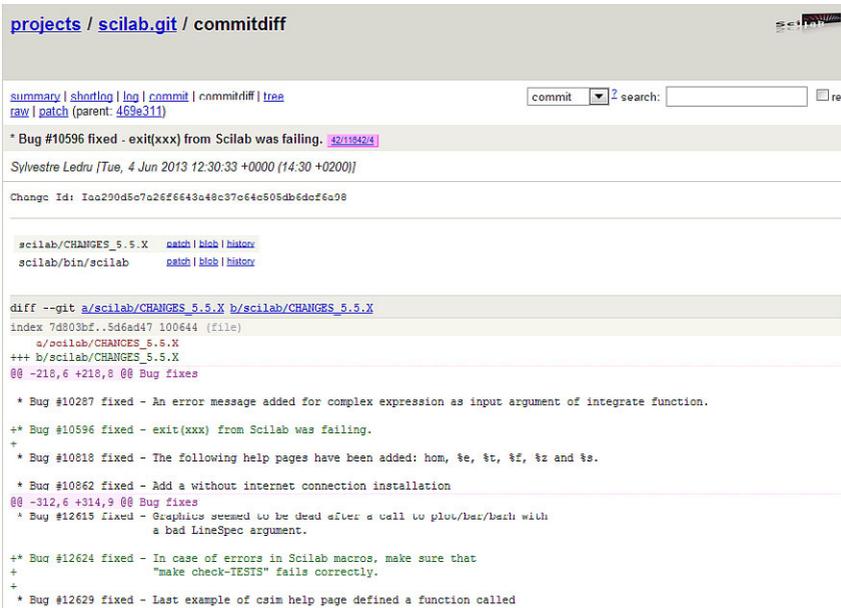
Since 2008, Scilab has been open source under a license issued by CEA (Atomic Energy and Alternative Energies Commission), CNRS (the French National Centre for Scientific Research) and INRIA (the French Institute for Research in Computer Science and Automation), called **CeCILL**, which is also compatible with the **GPL license**. In fact, Scilab's source code is accessible and modifiable! Scilab's development is managed through the **Git tool** that provides access to the source code which can be viewed by everyone and modified by contributors. The Scilab source code is accessible from <http://cgit.scilab.org> and <http://gitweb.scilab.org> (see **Figure 6.3**).

Figure 6.3 : Accessing the Scilab source code from gitweb

The screenshot shows the 'summary' page for the 'scilab.git' repository. At the top, there are navigation links: 'summary', 'shortlog', 'log', 'commit', 'commitdiff', and 'tree'. A search bar is located on the right. Below this, the repository's description and metadata are listed, including the owner 'git version control', the last change date 'Wed, 5 Jun 2013 11:28:29 +0000', and the URL 'git://git.scilab.org/scilab'. The 'shortlog' section displays a list of recent commits, each with a timestamp, the author's name, a brief description of the change, and several links for further details.

Time Ago	Author	Description	Commit	Diff	Tree	Snapshot
3 hours ago	Sylvestre Ledru	in some contexts (errors in the macros for example...	43115453	patch	commit	snapshot
7 hours ago	Sylvestre Ledru	* Bug #10596 fixed - exit(XXX) from Scilab was failing.	42115424	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
26 hours ago	Paul BIGNIER	Minor typo fixes	451154451	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
27 hours ago	Simon Marchetto	* Bug #8778 fixed - Call_ScilabOpen, TerminateScilab...	321153954	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
2 days ago	Rui Hirokawa	- added japanese translation of hdf5.	281152922	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
2 days ago	Paul BIGNIER	Sparse help: fix lvsolve calling sequence	331153323	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
5 days ago	Vincent COUVERT	* Bug #12615 fixed - Graphics seemed to be dead after...	211152422	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
5 days ago	Charlotte HEQUET	* Bug #12557 fixed - Valid function names were not...	271152722	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
5 days ago	Paul BIGNIER	* Bug #7486 fixed - Linear_algebra: DGLSY update and...	101151503	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
5 days ago	Paul BIGNIER	Linear_algebra: giving UGELSY and ZGELSY their own...	081150923	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
5 days ago	Adeline CARNIS	Fix Windows compilation	251152522	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
5 days ago	Charlotte HEQUET	* Bug #7826 fixed - chart tagged as obsolete.	251157923	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
5 days ago	Charlotte HEQUET	* Bug #12639 fixed - justify([], position) returned...	841155423	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
5 days ago	Simon GARESTIE	fixing bugs 12070 and 12413 - we can now remove modules...	731157922	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
5 days ago	Paul BIGNIER	Minor typos in statistics module	471154722	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot
5 days ago	Paul BIGNIER	* Bug #7296 fixed - Enabling %nan, %inf and %inf for...	491154322	commit	commitdiff	tree snapshot

Figure 6.4 : Comparing versions on gitweb



```

projects / scilab.git / commitdiff
summary | shortlog | log | commit | commitdiff | tree
raw | patch (parent: 469a311)
commit: 42118424 search: re
* Bug #10596 fixed - exit(xxx) from Scilab was failing. 42118424
Sylvestre Ledru [Tue, 4 Jun 2013 12:30:33 +0000 (14:30 +0200)]
Change-Id: Iaa290d5e7a26f6643a48c97e64e505db6dcf6a08

scilab/CHANGES_5.5.X patch | blob | history
scilab/bin/scilab patch | blob | history

diff --git a/scilab/CHANGES_5.5.X b/scilab/CHANGES_5.5.X
index 7d903bf..5d6ad47 100644 (file)
a/scilab/CHANGES_5.5.X
+++ b/scilab/CHANGES_5.5.X
@@ -218,6 +218,8 @@ Bug fixes
* Bug #10287 fixed - An error message added for complex expression as input argument of integrate function.
+
+* Bug #10596 fixed - exit(xxx) from Scilab was failing.
+
+* Bug #10818 fixed - The following help pages have been added: hom, %e, %t, %f, %z and %s.
+
+* Bug #10862 fixed - Add a without internet connection installation
@@ -312,6 +314,9 @@ Bug fixes
^ Bug #12615 fixed - Geophisus seemed to be dead after a call to plot/hex/bash with
a bad LineSpec argument.

+
+* Bug #12624 fixed - In case of errors in Scilab macros, make sure that
"make check-TESTS" fails correctly.
+
+
+* Bug #12629 fixed - Last example of csim help page defined a function called

```

6.2. Installation

Once the appropriate binary file is downloaded, the installation is very simple. In accordance with your operating system:

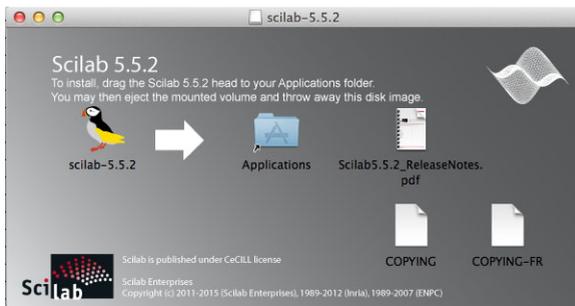
- For Windows, execute the `scilab-*.exe` file, for example by double-clicking on the file icon from the file explorer. Then follow the instructions in the different windows (see Figure 6.5).

Figure 6.5 : Installing Scilab on Windows



- In Linux, if you perform a manual installation, extract the `scilab-*.tar.gz` file in the specific directory where you wish to install Scilab. For example, execute the command `tar xvf scilab-5.5.2.tar.gz -C /usr/` from a terminal (you can also choose a directory other than `/usr/` and make sure you have administrative rights).
- On Mac OS, drag the `scilab-*.dmg` file icon (image of downloaded disk) to the Applications folder to launch the Mac OS applications installer (see Figure 6.6).

Figure 6.6 : Installing Scilab on Mac OS



During the Scilab installation, and depending on your operating system, a group of files and programs are installed in a given directory. To find their location, follow the path:

- `C:/Program*/Scilab-*.*/` if you use Windows
- `/usr/Scilab-*.*/` if you use Linux

- `/Applications/Scilab.app/Contents/MacOS/share/scilab/` if you use Mac OS

From now on, we will refer to Scilab's installation directory as `SCI`. It contains, among other things, two important directories:

- `SCI/bin/`, which contains Scilab's main executables
- `SCI/contrib/` which in the future will contain supplementary modules

6.3. Executables and launch options

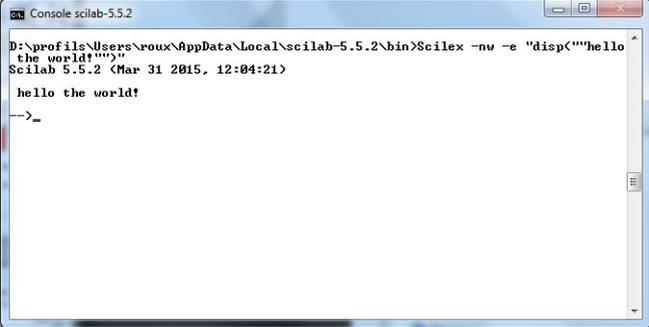
The executable file that is used to launch Scilab is located in the `SCI/bin/` directory. It is called:

- `scilab` in Linux or Mac OS
- `wScillex.exe` in Windows

If you wish to create shortcut to start Scilab, you need to point to one of these files. Once you launch the correct executable, Scilab's main window will appear as shown in [Figure 2.1](#). You can also launch Scilab straight from your operating system's command-line interpreter by calling the executable file above. In this case, several launch options are available:

- `scilab -nwni`: launches Scilab in the terminal to use through the command-line without loading the graphics features.
- `scilab -nw`: launches Scilab in the terminal to use through the command-line while loading advanced features such as graphics.
- `scilab -e 'command'`: launches Scilab and silently executes the `command` Scilab during startup.
- `scilab -f file.sce`: launches Scilab and silently executes the commands file `file.sce` (also see [Chapter Scripts](#)).

Figure 6.7 : Launching Scilab from a command prompt



```

D:\profiles\Users\roux\AppData\Local\scilab-5.5.2\bin>scilex -nw -e "disp('hello
the world!')"
Scilab 5.5.2 <Mar 31 2015, 12:04:21>
hello the world!
-->_

```

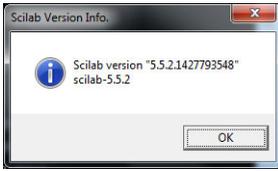
Tip > You can also find files located in the `SCI/bin/` directory that let you execute Scilab directly from a terminal:

- On Windows, `Scilex.exe` performs the equivalent of launching Scilab with the option `-nwni`.
- On Linux or Mac OS:
 - `scilab-cli` corresponds to launching Scilab with the `-nwni` option
 - `scilab-adv-cli` corresponds to launching Scilab with the option `-nw`.

There are also more advanced options:

- `scilab -ns` starts Scilab without the start file `scilab.start` (see Chapter [Scripts](#)).
- `scilab -nouserstartup` starts Scilab without loading the user start files `SCIHOME/.scilab` or `SCIHOME/scilab.ini` (see Chapter [Scripts](#)).
- `scilab -nb` starts Scilab without displaying the welcome banner.
- `scilab -l language` launches Scilab while configuring the user language, for example `"fr"` for french.
- `scilab -mem N` launches Scilab while setting the stack size `N` ([memory allocated](#) to Scilab).
- `scilab -version` displays a window with the Scilab version before returning control.

Caution > When launching Scilab from the command-line, the current directory is the one from which the command `scilab` (or `wsilex`) is called.

Figure 6.8 : Launching Scilab with the *-version* option

Tip > If Scilab's user interface language does not suit you, this parameter can be changed at any time from the preferences editor (see [Figure 2.3](#)). You can also retrieve and modify this data from the command-line with `getlanguage` and `setlanguage`.

```
-->// retrieve the Scilab interface language

-->getlanguage() // in English at first
ans =
en_US

-->// modify Scilab interface language

-->setlanguage('fr_FR') // change to French
ans =
T
```