Getting access to Mathematica

Mathematica is a computer algebra system developed by the Wolfram Research company, which was founded by Stephen Wolfram in 1987. Today, it is one of the most powerful and widely used mathematical software in research and education. Thanks to its huge community of users, Mathematica's documentation is remarkably rich and thorough. You can find the answer to almost any question you have about Mathematica by a simple Google search.

There are two methods to get access to Mathematica. I recommend the first method. If you are technically proficient, you can try the second method.

Method 1: (obtain a license through BYU)
If you haven't had a Wolfram account associated with your BYUH email, go to

$$\text{https://account.wolfram.com/login/oauth2/sign-in}$$

and click on "Create one". Make sure to use your BYUH email (either @go.byuh.edu or @byuh.edu), not your personal email account. Once you have had a Wolfram account, go to

$$\text{https://www.wolfram.com/siteinfo}$$

Enter your WolframID (your BYUH email address). Then proceed as directed. You will be asked to choose between the following licenses:

- Get Mathematica Online

- Get Mathematica Desktop

The first license is to get a license for Mathematica Online (also called Wolfram Cloud). With this option, you don't need to install anything on your local computer. It takes only a few seconds to be licensed. Then you can start using Mathematica immediately by going to

$$\text{https://www.wolframcloud.com}$$

The second license is to get a license for Mathematica Desktop license so that you can install Mathematica on your local computer. It will take several gigabytes on your local disk. But the advantage is that you can work on Mathematica even without an Internet connection. You will receive an email from Wolfram Customer Support saying that you have been assigned a license. Then go to

$$\text{https://user.wolfram.com/portal/myProducts.html}$$

and click on "Mathematica for Sites" to download Mathematica installer to your computer.

A sample lab report is here: pdf format, nb format. I made this video to show you how to write a lab report on Mathematica Notebook.

Method 2: The Wolfram Research company releases the Mathematica kernel, but not the graphic interface, for free for the purpose of software development. On your computer, you can install this kernel and JupyterLab (also free), which acts as a user interface. This option requires quite a bit of work, but will allow you use Mathematica even after your graduation (as you will no longer be covered under BYU site license). The instruction is here:

$$\text{https://web.engr.oregonstate.edu/~phamt3/Resource/Wolfram-Mathematica-With-JupyterLab.pdf}$$

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