Free software in schools

SUMMARY

- Example of use
- Presentation of OFSET

Example of use (1)

Free Software at the Taipei French School

- Our public
  - students from:
    - primary school
    - high-school
  - teachers

Example of use (2)

TFS - OS & software Needs (1)

- user-oriented (~):
  - where are my bookmarks?
  - where did I save my file?
- software usable by students
- design our school news paper & our web page

Example of use (2)

TFS - OS & software Needs (2)

- customizable:
  - the choice of a window manager
  - multi-lingual ability
- easy to deploy:
  - network installation
  - automatic installation
- inter-operable with other OS

Example of use (3)

TFS - Which software (1)

- Dr Geo - interactive geometry
- Emacs - editor
- GNU Plot - function plotter
- Gnumeric - spreadsheet
- IceWM & Gnome

Example of use (3)

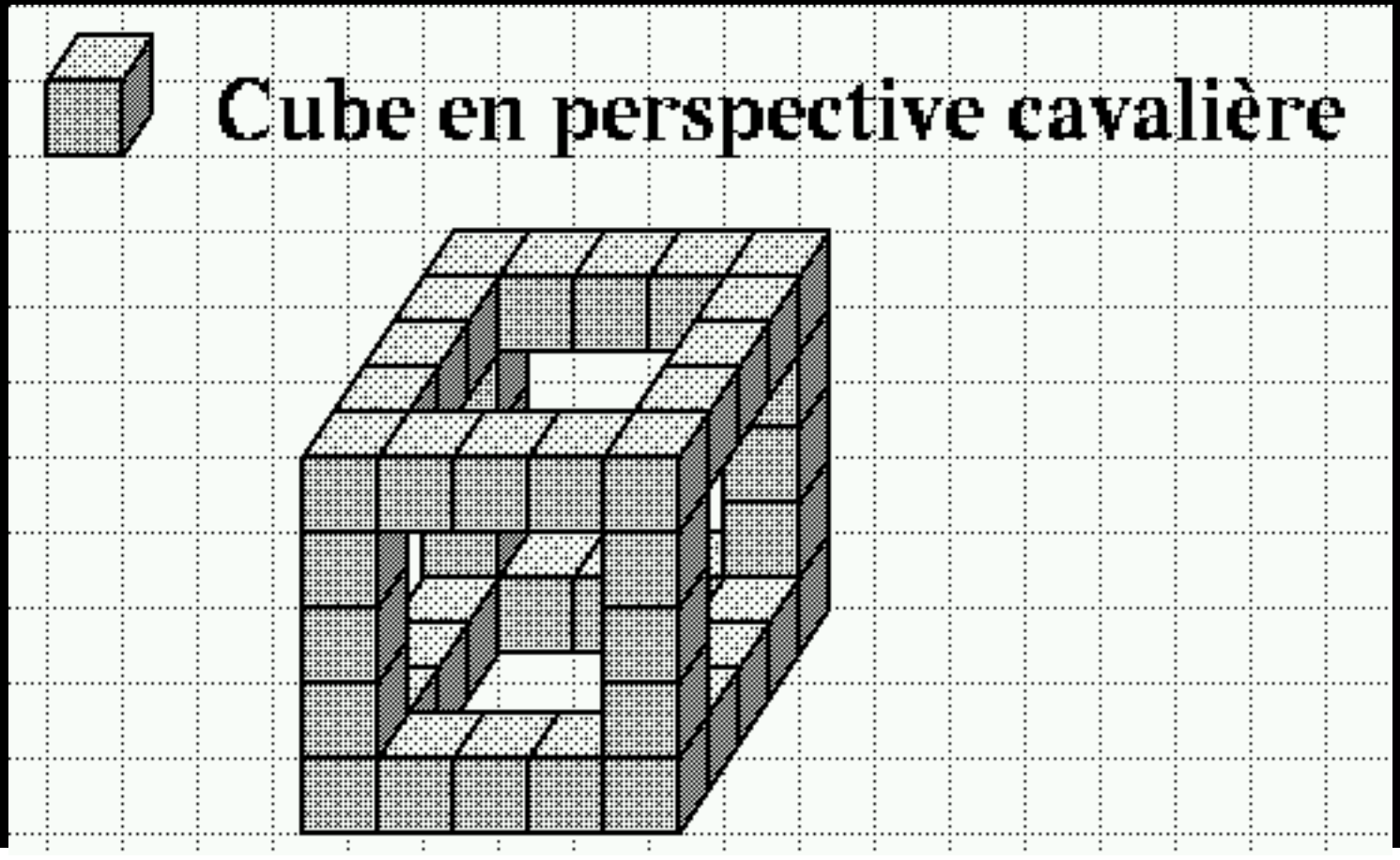
TFS - Which software (2)

- TCL - programming language
- The Gimp - photo retouch
- Xfig - vector drawing
- Lyx - math editor
- Proprietary softwares - office & communication

Example of use (4)

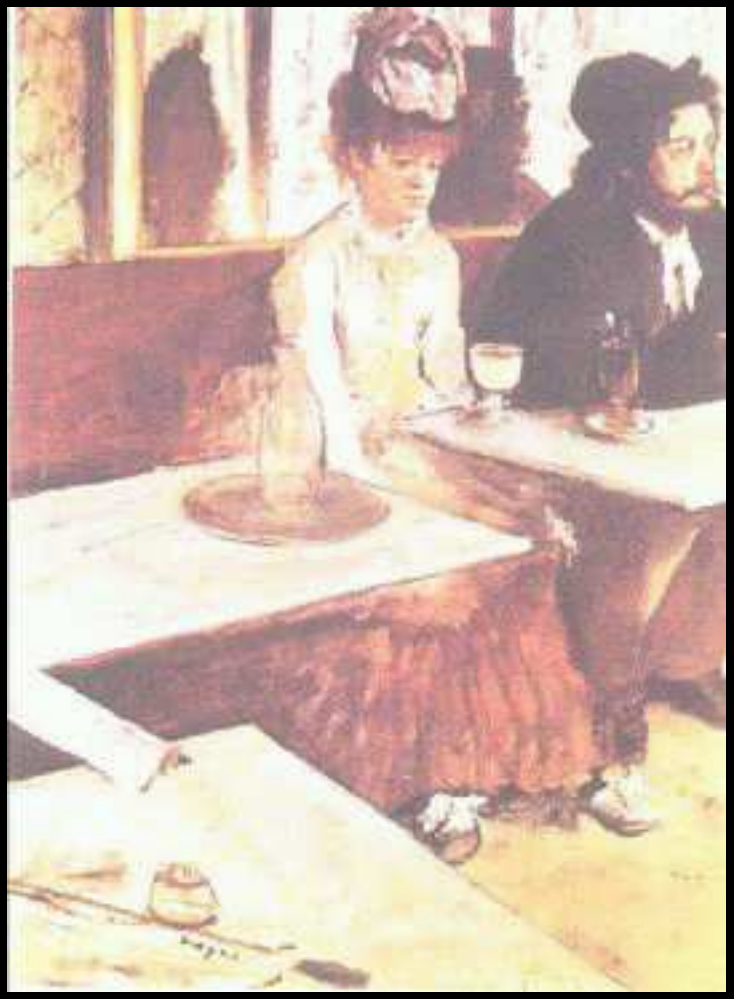
Xfig

- geometric construction game:



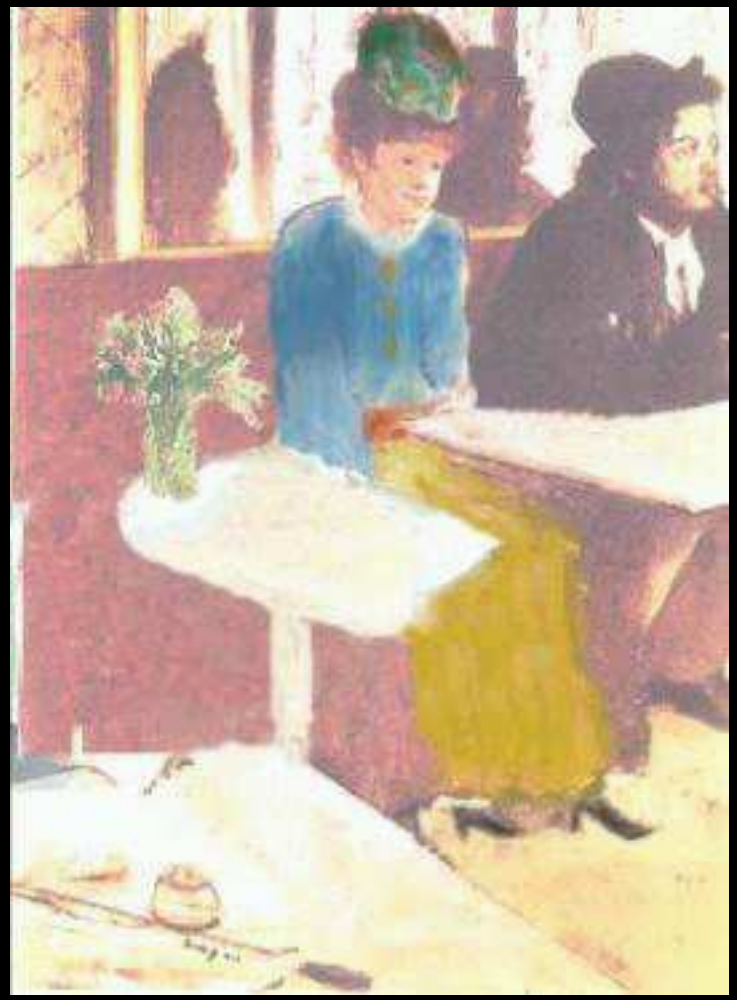
Example of use (5)

The Gimp - Art photo retouch (1)



Example of use (5)

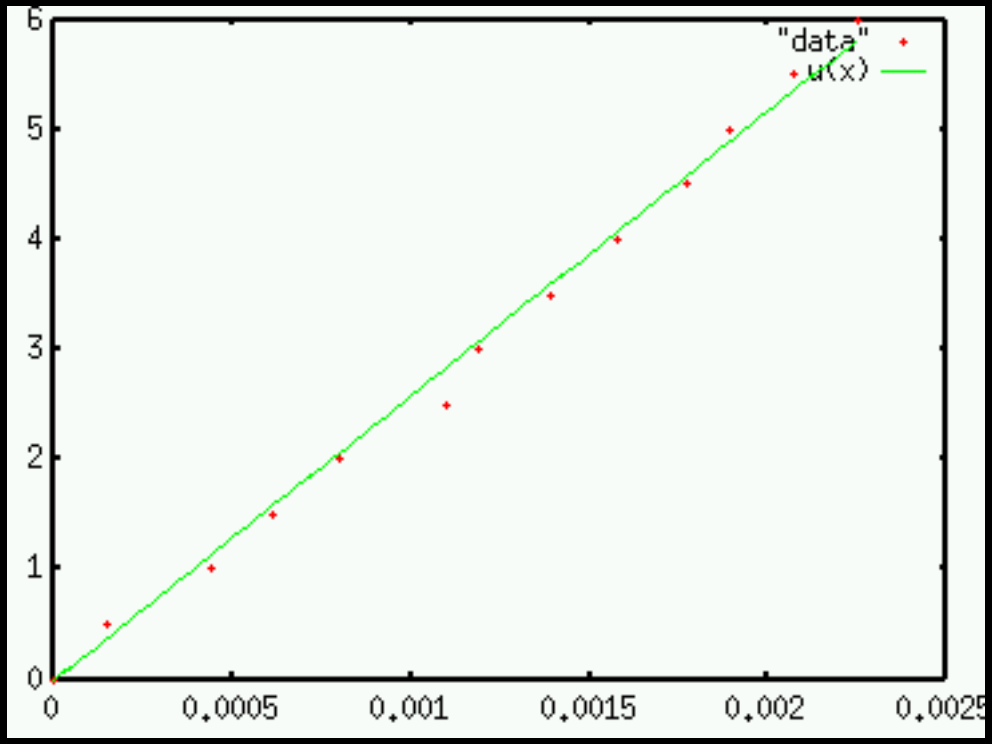
The Gimp - Art photo retouch (2)



Example of use (6)

GNU Plot - Ohm law

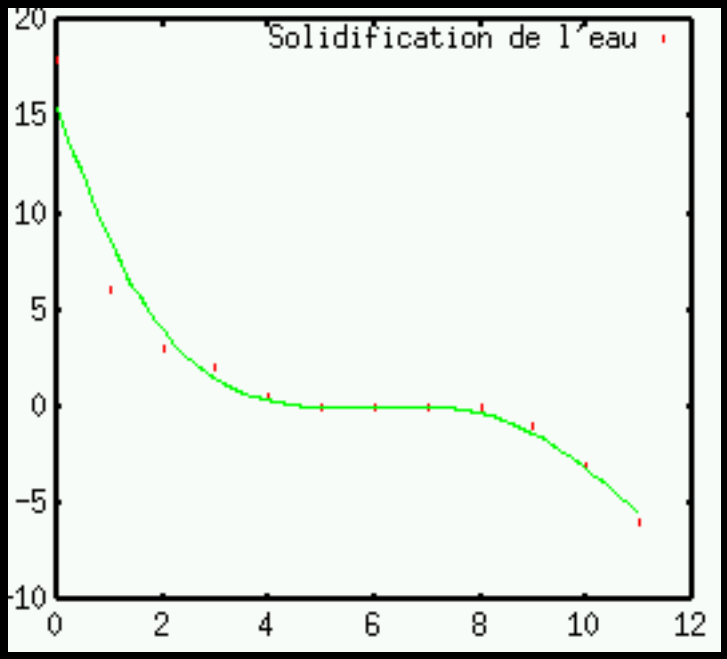
In physic, fitting collected data



Example of use (7)

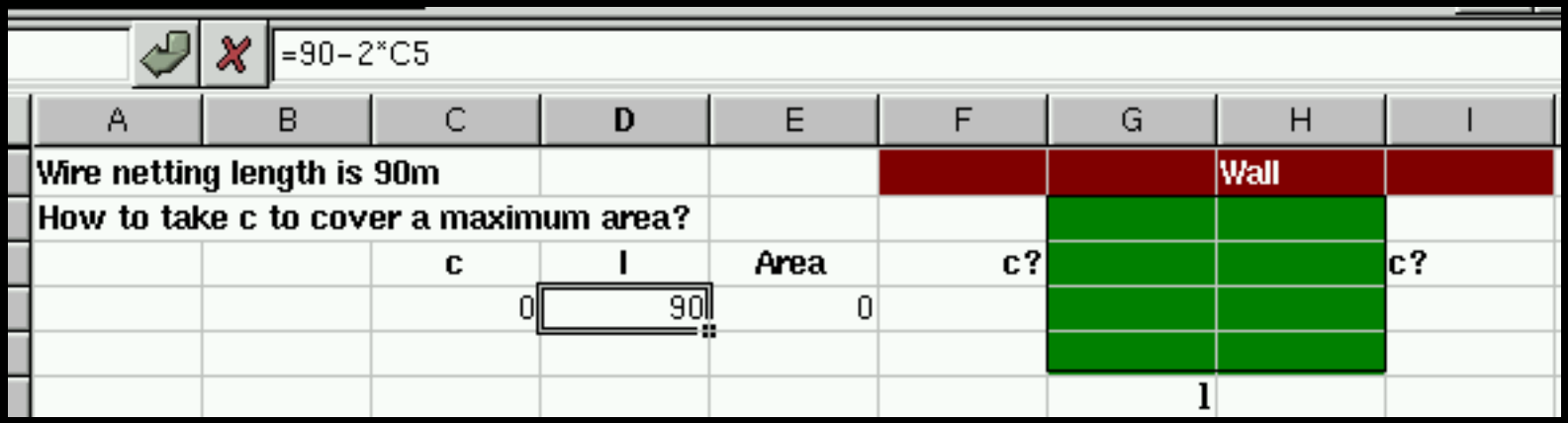
GNU Plot - Temperature

Temperature of changing state of the water



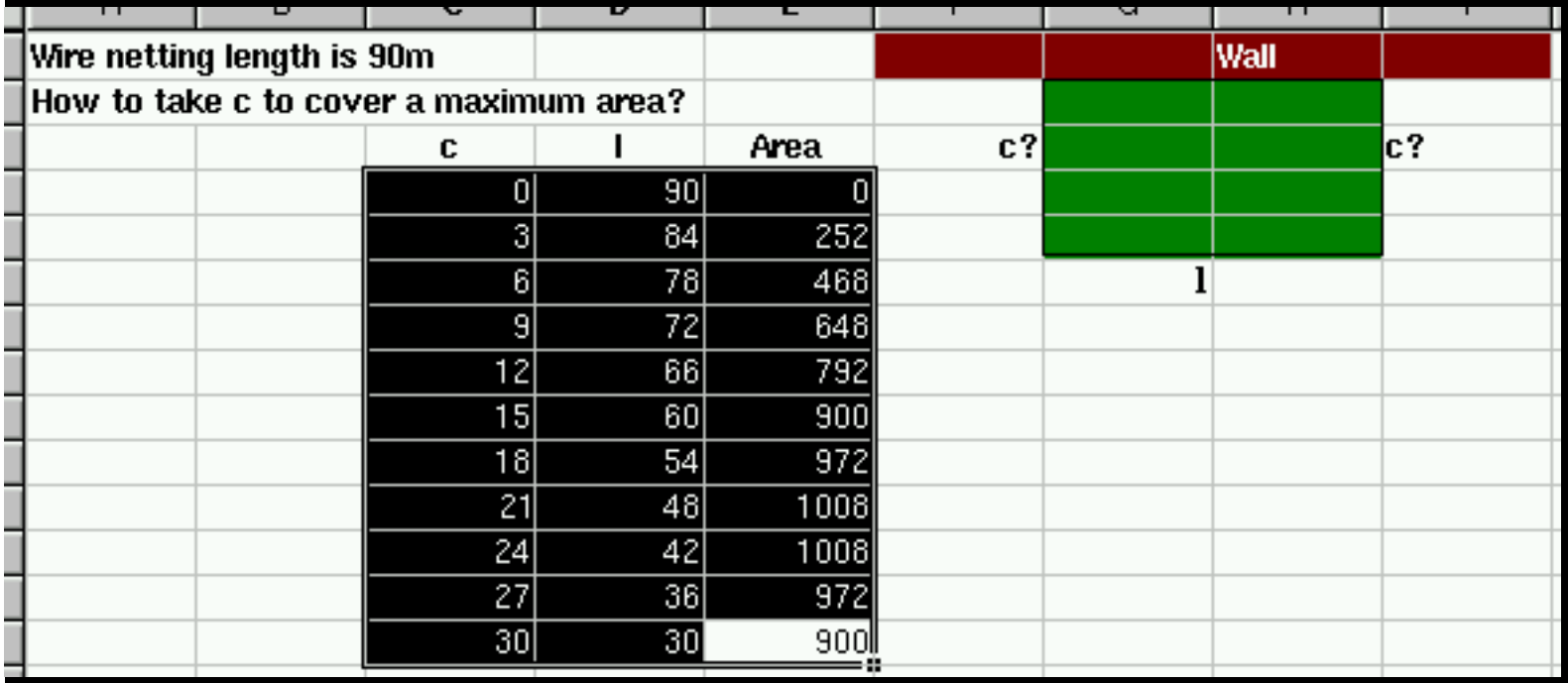
Example of use (8)

Gnumeric - Experimenting equation (1)



Example of use (8)

Gnumeric - Experimenting equation (2)



Wire netting length is 90m

How to take c to cover a maximum area?

c	l	Area
0	90	0
3	84	252
6	78	468
9	72	648
12	66	792
15	60	900
18	54	972
21	48	1008
24	42	1008
27	36	972
30	30	900

c?

Wall

c?

l

Example of use (9) - Conclusions

The advantages

- sharing the software
- user oriented system
- great flexibility
- no license problem when deploying

Example of use (9) - Conclusions

The drawbacks

- lack of consistency in the software interface
- not yet free office quality software
- few educational software
- not fully internationalized

Future plan to resolve this drawbacks

- The Gnome project - more consistency
- Gnome Office - free office package
- Gtk pango - international input method
- OFSET - Organization for free edu soft

OFSET - www.ofset.org

Organization for Free Software in Education & Teaching

What is it?

- a not for profit french organization to promote the development of free edu soft

OFSET - www.ofset.org

Organization for Free Software in Education & Teaching

Who is it?

- George Lebl, president - Gnome hacker & Dr. Genius developer
- Hilaire Fernandes, vice-president & secretary - Dr. Geo & Dr. Genius developer
- Georges Ko, treasurer - developer
- Laurent Gauthier, co-secretary - Dr. Genius developer

OFSET - Objectives (1)

Promoting

- development & port of free educational software under the Gnome desktop
- i18n & l10n
- free documentation for educational software

OFSET - Objectives (2)

Compiling free edu soft

- package to ease deployment in Gnome
- a community service

OFSET - Objectives (3)

Documenting Gnome RAD tools as Python + Glade + Libglade

- to ease development under Gnome
- to empower teacher

OFSET - The Charter

- to follow the GNU philosophy
- to use only free development tools
- to push Gnome as a desktop choice for schools to be coherent and consistent
- to use RAD tool when possible

OFSET - Joining & helping

- becoming an active or adherent member
  - government
  - school institution
  - individual
- developing free educational software for Gnome
- fund to help free educational software project

OFSET - Development

Development by founding members

- Gnome
- Dr. Genius
- Dr. Geo
- Gnome developer tutorial