

WHAT IS NewMDSX?

- NewMDSX is.....
 - A **library** of self-contained computer programs and utilities for **multidimensional scaling** with:
 - a common simple command language for running;
 - extensive user-documentation both technical and user-oriented;
 - test input and output data to ensure correct running.

NewMDSX

- Why Library and not a Package (e.g. SPSS, SAS etc)?
 - specific algorithms & programs are more robust when fine-tuned to particular data;
 - in this post-modernist age, allows User to pick and choose what she wants and minimize cost;
 - allows specific programs to be modified, inserted, deleted.

NewMDSX

- NewMDSX is available in 2 forms: either
 - (1) original MS-DOS format (as .exe. Files), documentation etc., organised by program

<http://www.newmdsx.com/>

- or **(2) NewMDSX for Windows**
 - An entirely new development, with clean and simple Windows front-end and interface, extensive graphics, context-based help files.

NewMDSX

- **ORIGINAL DEVELOPMENT:**

- by Tony Coxon, Charles Jones and David Muxworthy (all of the University of Edinburgh) under SSRC funding, distributed by U of E.
- Consisted of a collection of commonly used programs from Bell Laboratories (Shepard, Kruskal, Wish), University of Michigan (Guttman & Lingoes), University of Nijmegen (Roskam) and some specially written utilities and programs,
- given simple SPSS-like command language to replace (“6 in col. 18 is non-metric”)
- numerical algorithms replaced by more reliable up-to-date versions
- FORTRAN programming brought up to 1977 specification.
- Funding ceased in 1977, and MDS(X) charged and distributed via Program Library Unit (and later Manchester RCC) to Universities &c. until 2000.

NewMDSX

NewMDS(X) Project Team:

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URLs: <http://www.newmdsx.com>

To download latest 90-day beta-test version:

<http://www.soton.ac.uk/~apb/mds.html>

NewMDSX

- 2000: Re-formation of group as NewMDSX :
formed to:
 - re-think structure and purpose of MDSX, and review future developments
 - co-opt interested collaborators, associated projects (e.g. Ron Heady, PERMAP)
 - “mothball” unused programs; include new programs
 - develop Windows implementation
 - modularise and rewrite documentation and contextual help.

NewMDSX

- IMPROVEMENTS VIA NEWMDSX FOR WINDOWS:
 - Clean simple opening page
 - Choose program to run (e.g. MINISSA)
 - DATA INPUT: “Behind” the run is a MDSX RunScript (with free-format, avoiding the dreaded INPUT FORMAT specification!)
 - Most instructions are default; Easy to modify test-input to own needs.
 - new development: INPUT WIZARD, which also allows for file input , or collection at screen.