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# Inkscape Basics

Coral Featherstone (CSIR & University of KwaZulu-Natal)

Fri, 30 August 2024 | 12h00-12h30 SAST

Attend online OR in the Physics Seminar Room, Stellenbosch University

## ABSTRACT

There are three types of graphic design packages, vector-based design, raster based design, and desktop publishing software. The talk will start with a description on how these packages differ. The discussion will then briefly turn to vector-based design, and in particular bezier curves and splines in general. Inkscape is a vector based graphics application and is therefore concerned with outlines (as opposed to pixels), and therefore every object in Inkscape is a spline or a generalised version of a spline. Working with Inkscape is a lot easier after the user understands how to work with splines. This will be a 101 talk so how to navigate the program and work with basic shapes will be covered, as well as how to work with text. Emphasis will be placed on how the program provides feedback on how to use the application. The lecture will end with a brief example of some more advanced features, intending just to give the trainee insight into how powerful the program can actually get.

## BIOGRAPHY

Featherstone matriculated from the Johannesburg School of Art, Ballet, Drama and Music with a distinction for art, she completed her National Diploma in Music (Jazz) in 1994 at the Tshwane University of Technology. She went on to complete a Bachelor of Science (Computing and Applied Mathematics) in 2007, a Bachelor of Science Honours (Computing) in 2014 and her Master of Science (Computing) in 2019, all from the University of South Africa. She joined the CSIR in 2012 and is the leader of the teams focusing on research and development surveys, Television White Spaces, and the National Indigenous Knowledge Management System projects. She is also team leader for the unit's quantum computing group. Featherstone's research interests lie in computational creativity and the application of artificial intelligence techniques to music and art. She also has an interest in quantum computing and quantum information systems, and is currently a PhD student at the Centre for Quantum Technology Research Group, hosted within the School of Chemistry and Physics at the University of KwaZulu-Natal. Featherstone worked as a professional graphic designer from 1995 to 1999 and a professional web designer and software engineer from 1999 until 2010. She has more than 15 years of graphic design experience and more than 25 years of software engineering experience.



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