Forum

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Symbolic Computations

Simplifying an Expression

Maple knows many functions for symbolic expression computations. Here, the most commonly used ones.

The simplify command tries to find a simpler equivalent for a given expression. The rules for the simplification steps follow some heuristics (but of course, the chosen simplification steps themselves are correct).

```
> x := 25;
```

$$x := 25 \quad \textbf{(1)}$$

```
> simplify(sin(x)^2*x^4 + cos(x)^2*x^4);
```

$$390625 \quad \textbf{(2)}$$

```
> restart;
> simplify(sin(x)^2*x^4 + cos(x)^2*x^4);
```

$$x^4 \quad \textbf{(3)}$$

Expanding an Expression

The *expand* command produces a sum of products for polynomials.
A polynomial is a mathematical expression consisting of a sum of terms each of which is a product of a constant and one or more variables with non-negative integral powers. If there is only a single variable, x,
the general form is given by $a_0x^n + a_1x^{n-1} + a_2x^{n-2} + \ldots + a_{n-1}x + a_n$, where the a_i are constants (called coefficients).

Examples:

```
> p := (x^2 + 3)*(x^4 + 3*x^2 - 7);
```

$$p := (x^2 + 3)\,(x^4 + 3\,x^2 - 7) \quad \textbf{(4)}$$

```
> expand(p);
```

$$p \quad \textbf{(5)}$$

> $q := (x+3)\cdot(x-7)\cdot(x+7); r := (x+25)\cdot(x-7)\cdot(x+9); expand\left(\frac{q}{r}\right);$

$$q := (x+3)\ (x-7)\ (x+7)$$
$$r := (x+25)\ (x-7)\ (x+9)$$
$$\frac{x^2}{(x+25)\ (x+9)} + \frac{10\,x}{(x+25)\ (x+9)} + \frac{21}{(x+25)\ (x+9)} \quad (6)$$

Factorize an Expression

The command *factor* is the opposite of the *expand* command. It factorizes polynomial exprressions.

> $factor(x^2-1);$

$$(x-1)\ (x+1) \quad (7)$$

> $factor(\%\%);$

$$\frac{(x+3)\ (x+7)}{(x+25)\ (x+9)} \quad (8)$$

Normalize fractions

Restructures rational expressions. If possible, an expression is converted to factored normal form. This is the form numerator/denominator, where the numerator and denominator are relatively prime polynomials with integer coefficients.
I.e., common factors are canceled.

> $normal\left(\frac{x^5}{x+1} + \frac{x^4}{x+1}\right);$

$$x^4 \quad (9)$$

> $normal\left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{x}{x+1}\right);$

$$\frac{x^2+x+1}{x\ (x+1)} \quad (10)$$

> $normal\left(\frac{1}{x} + \frac{x}{x+1}, expanded\right);$

$$\frac{x^2+x+1}{x^2+x} \quad (11)$$

> $simplify\left(\frac{x^5}{x+1} + \frac{x^4}{x+1}\right);$

$$x^4 \quad (12)$$

> $normal\left(\frac{q}{r}\right);$ *#in the output are nominator and denominator relatively prime.*

$$\frac{(x+3)\ (x+7)}{(x+25)\ (x+9)} \quad (13)$$

> $expand((1-x)^{10});$

$$1 - 10\,x + 45\,x^2 - 120\,x^3 + 210\,x^4 - 252\,x^5 + 210\,x^6 - 120\,x^7 + 45\,x^8 - 10\,x^9 + x^{10} \quad (14)$$

```
> normal(q/r, expanded);
>
```

Programming with Maple

Simple commands

e.g. all direct commands we saw so far.

Comparison Operators (<, >, >, <=, >=)

```
> a := 0; b := 1;
```

$$a := 0$$
$$b := 1 \quad (15)$$

```
> evalb(a = 0); #evalb prints boolean results to screen
```

$$true \quad (16)$$

```
> evalb(b > 2);
```

$$false \quad (17)$$

```
> evalb(b + a <= 0);
```

$$false \quad (18)$$

```
> a = 0;
```

$$0 = 0 \quad (19)$$

Flow Control (if, for, while, ...)

if <conditional expression> **then** <statement sequence>
| **elif** <conditional expression> **then** <statement sequence> |
| **else** <statement sequence> |
end if
(Note: Phrases located between | | are optional.)

```
> if (a > 0) then f := x^2 fi;
> if (a = 0) then f := x^2 fi;
```

$$f := x^2 \quad (20)$$

```
>
> if (a < 9) then
    f := x^2 + 1; #  ";" is necessary, because: several statements without structure
    g := x^2      # ";" not necessary
  else
    g := x^2 + 1;
    f := x^2;
  end if;
```

$$f := x^2 + 1 \quad (21)$$

$$g := x^2 \quad \textbf{(21)}$$

The **for ...while ... do** loop

>
>

1) Print even numbers from 6 to 10.

```
> for i from 6 by 2 to 10 do print(i) end do;
```

$$6$$
$$8$$
$$10 \quad \textbf{(22)}$$

2) Find the sum of all two-digit odd numbers from 11 to 99.

```
> mysum := 0;
  for i from 11 by 2 while i < 100 do
    mysum := mysum + i
  end do:
  mysum;
```

$$mysum := 0$$
$$2475 \quad \textbf{(23)}$$

3) Multiply the entries of an expression sequence.

```
> restart;
  total := 1 :
  for z in 1, x, y, q^2, 3 do
    total := total·z
  end do:
  total;
  x := 2 :
  q := 3 :
  total;
```

$$3\,x\,y\,q^2$$
$$54\,y \quad \textbf{(24)}$$

3) Add together the contents of a list.

```
> ?cat
> restart;
  y := 3;
  myconstruction := "";
  for z in [1, "+", y, "·", "q^2", "·", 3] do
    myconstruction := cat(myconstruction, z)
  end do;
  myconstruction;
```

$$y := 3$$
$$myconstruction := ""$$
$$myconstruction := "1"$$
$$myconstruction := "1+"$$
$$myconstruction := "1+3"$$
$$myconstruction := "1+3*"$$

```
myconstruction := "1+3*q^2"
myconstruction := "1+3*q^2*"
myconstruction := "1+3*q^2*3"
"1+3*q^2*3"                                                    (25)
```

```
> ?parse
```

```
> q := 4;
                                  q := 4                       (26)
> qq := parse(myconstruction);
                                qq := 1 + 9 q^2                (27)
> qq;
                                  145                          (28)
```

Procedures

Flow control constructions, simple commands and comparison operators can be bound together; in a so called
procedure. The simplest possible procedure looks as follow.

```
proc(parameter sequence)
  statements;
end proc:
```

```
> restart;
  myfactorial := proc(n)
      local r, i;
      r := 1;
      for i from 1 by 1 to n do
        r := r · i;
        print(r);
      od;
      return r;
    end proc;
myfactorial := proc(n)                                         (29)
    local r, i; r := 1; for i to n do r := r * i; print(r) end do; return r
end proc
> myfactorial(4);
                                  1
                                  2
                                  6
                                  24
                                  24                           (30)
```

Maple allows recursive procedure calls:

```
> restart;
  myfactorial2 := proc(n)
```

```
    if (n < 2) then return 1
    else return n·myfactorial2(n − 1);
    fi;
  end proc;
```

```
> myfactorial2(4);
```

$$myfactorial2(4) \quad \textbf{(31)}$$

Functional-Operators

Maple allows the definition of so called functional operators.

- A functional operator in Maple is a special form of a procedure. Functional operators are written using arrow notation.

  vars -> result

  Here, vars is a sequence of variable names (or a single variable) and result is the result of the procedure acting on vars.
- For example, the following

  x -> x^2

  represents the function that squares its argument.
- Multivariate and vector functions are also allowed. You must put parentheses around vars or result whenever they are expression sequences. For example, the following functions have the correct syntax.

  (x,y) -> x^2 + y^2
  x -> (2*x, 3*x^4)
  (x,y,z) -> (x*y, y*z)

```
> restart;
> f := x → x^4 − 3 ·x + 21;
```

$$f := x \rightarrow x^4 - 3\,x + 21 \quad \textbf{(32)}$$

```
> f(3);
```

$$93 \quad \textbf{(33)}$$

```
> g := x^4 − 3 ·x + 21;
```

$$g := x^4 - 3\,x + 21 \quad \textbf{(34)}$$

```
> g(4);
```

$$x(4)^4 - 3\,x(4) + 21 \quad \textbf{(35)}$$

```
> eval(g, x = 3);
```

$$93 \quad \textbf{(36)}$$

```
> h1 := 2·f;
```

$$h1 := 2\,f \quad \textbf{(37)}$$

```
> h1(2);
```

$$62 \quad \textbf{(38)}$$

```
>
> h2 := 2·g;
```

(39)

$$h2 := 2x^4 - 6x + 42 \quad (39)$$

```
> h2(2);
```

$$2x(2)^4 - 6x(2) + 42 \quad (40)$$

```
> eval(h2, x=2);
```

$$62 \quad (41)$$

```
>
> x := 5; simplify(h2);
```

$$x := 5$$

$$1262 \quad (42)$$

```
> h2;
```

$$1262 \quad (43)$$

```
>
>
>
```

The Maple Library

The Maple library consists of for parts:

- the standard library
- the update library
- packages
- share library (user-contributed)

Until now, we only used commands and operations from the standard andthe update library.

Howver: There are so called packeges for more specialized purposes in Maple,
e.g. the LinearAlgebra package for matrx-vector computations or the numtheory-package.
Functions from those packages can be used with the following syntax:

PackageName[FunctionName](FunctionParameters)

Here two examples:

```
> restart;
> A := Matrix([[1, 2], [3, 4]]);
```

$$A := \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad (44)$$

```
> Transpose(A);
```

$$Transpose\left(\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}\right) \quad (45)$$

```
> LinearAlgebra[Transpose](A); # transposes the matrix A
```

$$(46)$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \textbf{(46)}$$

```
> numtheory[divisors](68); # prints the divisors of 68 to the screen
```

$$\{1, 2, 4, 17, 34, 68\} \quad \textbf{(47)}$$

Often, you want to use a package more intensively. Then you can abbriviate the package-commands with the with()-command:

```
> with(LinearAlgebra);
```

[*&x*, *Add*, *Adjoint*, *BackwardSubstitute*, *BandMatrix*, *Basis*, *BezoutMatrix*, *BidiagonalForm*, *BilinearForm*, *CharacteristicMatrix*, *CharacteristicPolynomial*, *Column*, *ColumnDimension*, *ColumnOperation*, *ColumnSpace*, *CompanionMatrix*, *ConditionNumber*, *ConstantMatrix*, *ConstantVector*, *Copy*, *CreatePermutation*, *CrossProduct*, *DeleteColumn*, *DeleteRow*, *Determinant*, *Diagonal*, *DiagonalMatrix*, *Dimension*, *Dimensions*, *DotProduct*, *EigenConditionNumbers*, *Eigenvalues*, *Eigenvectors*, *Equal*, *ForwardSubstitute*, *FrobeniusForm*, *GaussianElimination*, *GenerateEquations*, *GenerateMatrix*, *Generic*, *GetResultDataType*, *GetResultShape*, *GivensRotationMatrix*, *GramSchmidt*, *HankelMatrix*, *HermiteForm*, *HermitianTranspose*, *HessenbergForm*, *HilbertMatrix*, *HouseholderMatrix*, *IdentityMatrix*, *IntersectionBasis*, *IsDefinite*, *IsOrthogonal*, *IsSimilar*, *IsUnitary*, *JordanBlockMatrix*, *JordanForm*, *LA_Main*, *LUDecomposition*, *LeastSquares*, *LinearSolve*, *Map*, *Map2*, *MatrixAdd*, *MatrixExponential*, *MatrixFunction*, *MatrixInverse*, *MatrixMatrixMultiply*, *MatrixNorm*, *MatrixPower*, *MatrixScalarMultiply*, *MatrixVectorMultiply*, *MinimalPolynomial*, *Minor*, *Modular*, *Multiply*, *NoUserValue*, *Norm*, *Normalize*, *NullSpace*, *OuterProductMatrix*, *Permanent*, *Pivot*, *PopovForm*, *QRDecomposition*, *RandomMatrix*, *RandomVector*, *Rank*, *RationalCanonicalForm*, *ReducedRowEchelonForm*, *Row*, *RowDimension*, *RowOperation*, *RowSpace*, *ScalarMatrix*, *ScalarMultiply*, *ScalarVector*, *SchurForm*, *SingularValues*, *SmithForm*, *StronglyConnectedBlocks*, *SubMatrix*, *SubVector*, *SumBasis*, *SylvesterMatrix*, *ToeplitzMatrix*, *Trace*, *Transpose*, *TridiagonalForm*, *UnitVector*, *VandermondeMatrix*, *VectorAdd*, *VectorAngle*, *VectorMatrixMultiply*, *VectorNorm*, *VectorScalarMultiply*, *ZeroMatrix*, *ZeroVector*, *Zip*] **(48)**

```
> with(numtheory);
```

[*GIgcd*, *bigomega*, *cfrac*, *cfracpol*, *cyclotomic*, *divisors*, *factorEQ*, *factorset*, *fermat*, *imagunit*, *index*, *integral_basis*, *invcfrac*, *invphi*, *issqrfree*, *jacobi*, *kronecker*, λ, *legendre*, *mcombine*, *mersenne*, *migcdex*, *minkowski*, *mipolys*, *mlog*, *mobius*, *mroot*, *msqrt*, *nearestp*, *nthconver*, *nthdenom*, *nthnumer*, *nthpow*, *order*, *pdexpand*, ϕ, π, *pprimroot*, *primroot*, *quadres*, *rootsunity*, *safeprime*, σ, *sq2factor*, *sum2sqr*, τ, *thue*] **(49)**

```
> Transpose(A);
```

$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 3 \\ 2 & 4 \end{bmatrix} \quad \textbf{(50)}$$

```
> factorset(96);
```

$$\{2, 3\} \tag{51}$$

```
> divisors(96);
```

$$\{1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 8, 12, 16, 24, 32, 48, 96\} \tag{52}$$