

Math Graphics README

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Contents

| | | |
|--------|--|---|
| 1 | Introduction | 1 |
| 2 | Installation | 2 |
| 3 | Starting the Program | 2 |
| 4 | How To..... | 2 |
| 4.1 | Initial Startup | 2 |
| 4.2 | Basic 2D Cartesian Navigation | 3 |
| 4.2.1 | Draw Button | 3 |
| 4.2.2 | Zoom In Function | 3 |
| 4.2.3 | Zoom Out Function | 4 |
| 4.2.4 | Position Labels | 4 |
| 4.2.5 | View the Graph of the Derivative | 4 |
| 4.2.6 | Integral Calculations | 4 |
| 4.2.7 | Range Changes | 5 |
| 4.2.8 | Menu Bar | 5 |
| 4.2.9 | Displayed Function | 5 |
| 4.2.10 | Graph Viewing Window | 6 |
| 4.2.11 | Arrow Usage | 6 |
| 4.3 | Polar 2D Mode..... | 6 |
| 4.3.1 | Entering Polar Mode | 7 |
| 4.4 | Cartesian 3D Mode | 8 |

1 Introduction

Math Graphics is the final project for Group 12. The program is a fairly robust graphing calculator capable of displaying visual representations of mathematical functions on 2D Cartesian, 2D Polar, and 3D Cartesian graphs. Aside from displaying input functions, the calculator can also display derivatives and calculate definite integrals of single-variable functions in Cartesian 2D mode. Other

features of the program include the ability to output the image of the graph to a file, as well as writing the independent and dependent variable data to a data format separated by any series of ASCII characters. Other features include the ability to customize the interface through the use of color changing palettes.

2 Installation

No specific installation instructions are required. All that is required to run the program should be an updated version of Java and the executable file named MathGraphics.jar. For the latest version of Java, please check the [Java home-page](#).

3 Starting the Program

Math Graphics has an easy to run interface. All that is required is to double click the MathGraphics.jar executable file.

4 How To

4.1 Initial Startup

When the program initially starts, the grapher is in Cartesian 2D mode and the function $\sin(x)$ is displayed.:

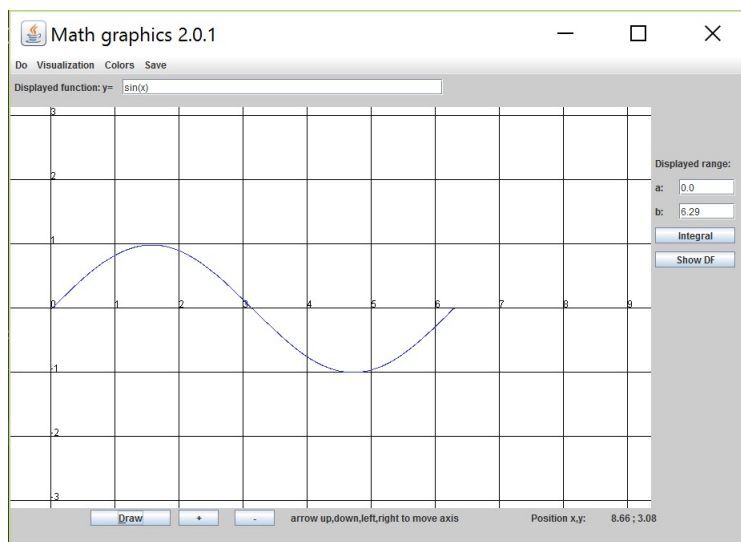


Figure 1: The startup screen: $\sin(x)$ is displayed

4.2 Basic 2D Cartesian Navigation

User interactions with the Math Grapher application take place by clicking on the appropriate buttons and menu bar items. The items in the 2D Cartesian window are shown in Figure 2. Though Polar 2D is not shown, the layout is almost identical.

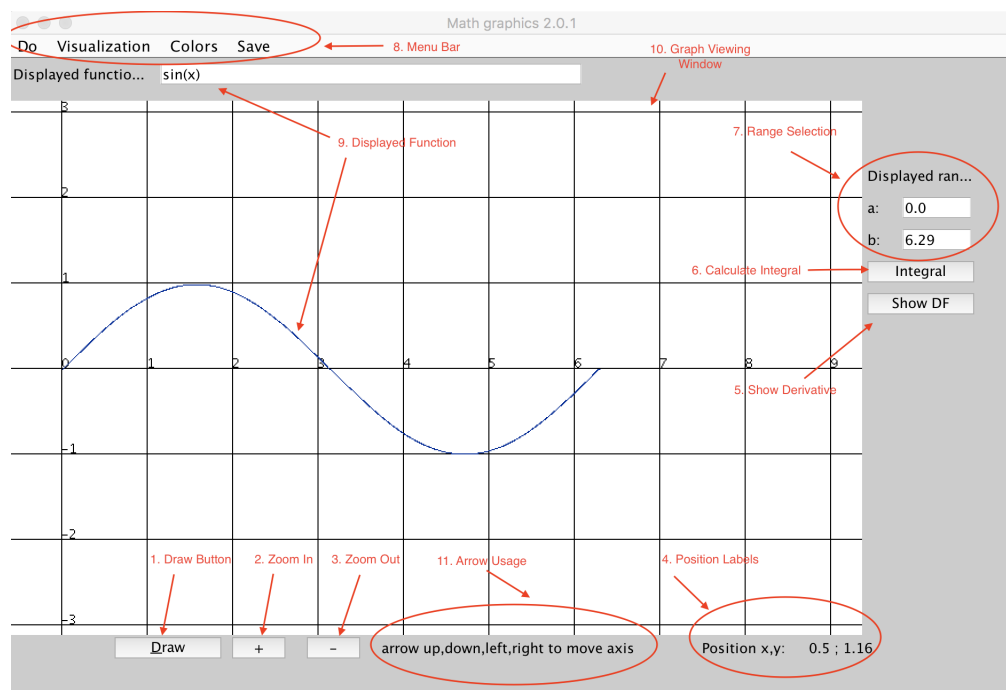


Figure 2: Navigation items are labeled in red

4.2.1 Draw Button

The draw button (1) is used to paint the displayed function (9) into the graph viewing window (10). Any time the displayed function is changed, the draw button should be clicked. This will both validate the input and, if valid, draw the function. Alternatively, the menu bar (8) can be used by pressing “Do” and then “Draw” from the drop down menu.

4.2.2 Zoom In Function

The graph can be zoomed in to specific points by clicking the “+” button (2) located at the bottom of the screen. The graph will zoom in to the current center of the viewable graph.

4.2.3 Zoom Out Function

The graph can be zoomed out of specific points by clicking the “-” button (3) located at the bottom of the screen. The graph will zoom out from the center of the graph viewing window.

4.2.4 Position Labels

The position labels (4) serve as a reference point to the location on the graph viewing window (10) that the mouse pointer is currently hovering over. This can serve as an approximation to determining the input and output values of various functions.

4.2.5 View the Graph of the Derivative

The derivative can be displayed by pressing the “Show DF” button (5). Alternatively, the derivative can be displayed from the drop down menu (8) by clicking “Do” and “Show DF.” To hide the derivative simply press the “No” DF button (not shown). Or, from the drop down menu, select “Do” and “No DF”.

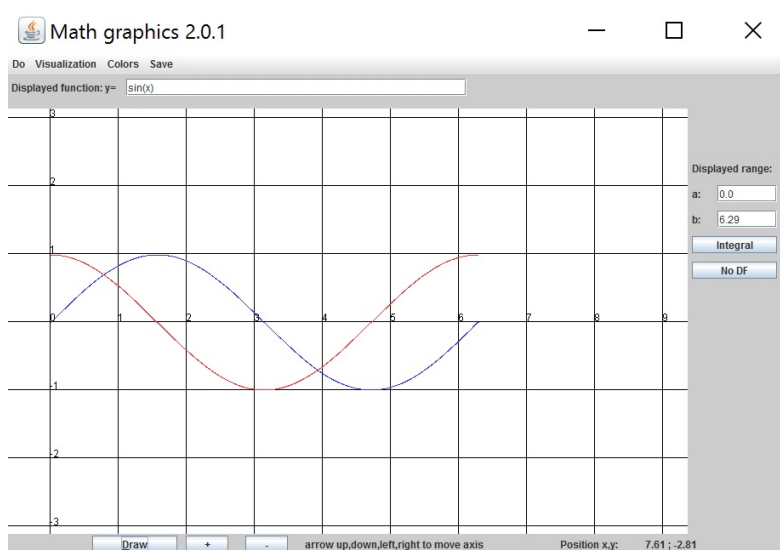


Figure 3: The derivative drawn after “Show DF” selected

4.2.6 Integral Calculations

Definite integral calculations can be performed by pressing the “Integral” button (6). After pressing the integral button, a new window will appear. Once the integral window appears, the default range will be whatever range

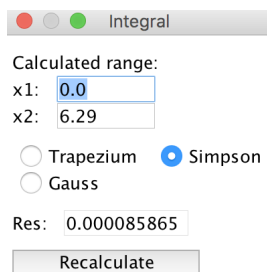


Figure 4: Integral pop-up window

a and b were set to on the main display. The user has three integral calculations they can choose from: Simpson, Trapezium, and Gauss. Due to the way calculations are performed, there may be slight differences between the three - but usually no more than several thousandths. After a range is entered, and a selection made, the user will hit the recalculate button. In the result field, the newest calculation will appear.

4.2.7 Range Changes

Range changes can be made to the displayed function. In order to do this, simply change the values of fields a and b (7). Only valid numeric values can be input to these fields. It is not a requirement that $a < b$ as both the function and derivative can be drawn with $a \leq b$ or $a \geq b$. After any changes are made, it is necessary to hit the “Draw” button (1) or from the drop-down menu bar, select “Do” and then “Draw.”

4.2.8 Menu Bar

The Menu Bar (8) provides the user with the ability to perform some of the same functions as the clickable buttons. The “Do” Menu allows the user to redraw the function, bring up the integral window, and show or hide the derivative of the displayed function. The “Visualization” menu allows the user to view the graph in Cartesian 2D, Polar 2D or Cartesian 3D modes. The “Colors” menu gives the option for the user to change the color of the interface, and the “Save” menu offers the opportunity to save the displayed image or export the data to a file.

4.2.9 Displayed Function

The Displayed Function (9) is perhaps one of the most important parts of the entire program. It is here where the user will enter functions to be calculated, and displayed in the graph viewing window (10). The engine behind the displayed functions can take in most single-variable functions including trigonomet-

ric functions. However, multiplication is not implicitly understood. For example, common mathematical notation will use the form ax to represent “a times x.” Math Grapher requires that all multiplication is explicitly stated. Thus, ax should be represented as “a*x”.

Another error some may make is not wrapping the variable of trigonometric functions in parentheses. Math Grapher requires that the variable be wrapped in parentheses such as: $\sin(x)$ instead of $\sin x$. If the displayed function is incorrectly entered, the user will receive a warning that there was an error parsing the function, and they are subsequently referred to this readme file.

4.2.10 Graph Viewing Window

The Graph Viewing Window (10) displays the input function entered in the “Displayed Function” field (9). In 2D mode, it houses an x and y axis in increments of 1. When the viewing windows is zoomed in, the increments are divided in half with each “zoom in click” and doubled with each “zoom out click.”

4.2.11 Arrow Usage

The arrow keys can be used to scroll the graph viewing window (10) in the corresponding direction of the key value.

4.3 Polar 2D Mode

One of the features of Math Grapher is the ability to view displayed functions in Cartesian 2D, Polar 2D, or Cartesian 3D modes. Despite the difference in modes, the basic use and interface remains the same as in Cartesian 2D mode. Thus, only the differences will be covered.

In order to enter Polar Mode, go to the drop down menu and select “Visualizations.” Then select “Polar 2D.”



Math graphics 2.0.1

Do Visualization Colors Save

Displayed function: $r(\theta) = \sin(x)$

Displayed range:

$\theta_1: 0.0$

$\theta_2: 0.29$

Draw + - arrow up,down,left,right to move axis Position x,y: 3.61 ; 2.25

Figure 6: Changes in Polar 2D Mode circled in red. Notice that $\sin(x)$ is graphed as a polar function

4.4 Cartesian 3D Mode

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