

# Sympy Introduction

November 29, 2023

```
[1]: # Notebook Preamble
import matplotlib.pyplot as plt
import numpy as np
import sympy as sp

plt.style.use('../maroon_ipynb.mplstyle')
```

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# 1 Introduction

- The **sympy** package is a Computer Algebra System (CAS), which has the capabilities of solving math problems symbolically.
- It essentially is an alternative to mathematica and is useful for showing mathematical procedures, especially in jupyter notebook.
- However, it is very slow in some applications; therefore, it is usually not good to use it for automation. Instead, use numerical methods from the **numpy** and **scipy** packages when doing math behind the scenes.

## 2 General Functionality

- **sympy** primarily works by defining symbols and functions of some variable, then doing some operation on them.

### 2.1 Defining Symbols

---

**Example:** Define the following symbols and functions:

- Symbols:  $x$ ,  $t$ ,  $s$ ,  $\dot{x}$
- Functions:  $x(t)$ ,  $x(t, s)$ ,  $X(s)$

```
[2]: # Use the sp.Symbol() to define a symbol one at a time.  
# Use sp.symbols() define multiple symbols at one time  
x, t, s, x_dot = sp.symbols(r'x t s \dot{x}')  
display(x, t, s, x_dot)
```

$x$

$t$

$s$

$\dot{x}$

```
[3]: # For functions, we create instances of the sp.Function() class  
x_t, x_ts, X = sp.Function('x')(t), sp.Function('x')(t, s), sp.Function('X')(s)  
display(x_t, x_ts, X)
```

$x(t)$

$x(t, s)$

$X(s)$

---

- You define the function, then determine what it is a function of by passing in the parameters in the function call.

## 2.2 Substitution

---

**Example:** Create an expression for  $x^2y + 5yx + 10$ , then substitute values  $x = 5$ ,  $y = 3$ .

```
[4]: x, y = sp.symbols('x y')
     expr = x**2*y + 5*x*y + 10
     expr
```

```
[4]:  $x^2y + 5xy + 10$ 
```

- You use the `.subs` method for substituting in parameters.

```
[5]: # If multiple arguments, it takes a list of tuples.
     expr.subs([
         (x, 5),
         (y, 3)
     ])
```

```
[5]: 160
```

```
[6]: # If you wanted to show substitutions without simplifying, this is what you
     ↪would do
     with sp.evaluate(False):
         # Everything within this context manager will not simplify
         expr_subs = expr.subs([
             (x, 5),
             (y, 3)
         ])
     display(expr_subs, expr_subs.simplify())
```

$10 + 3 \cdot 5^2 + 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 3$

160

```
[7]: # If you wanted to show it as an equation
     with sp.evaluate(False):
         expr_subs = expr.subs([
             (x, 5),
             (y, 3)
         ])

     # This is called the Equality class (think of it as an equation class too)
     # If sympy sees that there are no symbols, it will try to evaluate it as true
     ↪or false
     sp.Eq(expr_subs, expr_subs.simplify(), evaluate=False)
```

```
[7]:  $10 + 3 \cdot 5^2 + 5 \cdot 5 \cdot 3 = 160$ 
```

---

## 2.3 Converting from Sympy to Python Function

- The `.subs` method is good for showing basic substitutions, but if you needed to perform many different substitutions (like you would when you are plotting points), then you need to *lambdify* the expression.
- This just means that we need to convert it from a `sympy` object to python function for fast computation.

---

**Example:** Convert the `sympy` expression  $f(x) = x^2$  into a python function.

```
[8]: f = x**2 # the variable x was defined above
      f
```

```
[8]: x2
```

```
[9]: # Use sp.lambdify() to generate the new function
      f_lamb = sp.lambdify(x, f, modules='numpy') # modules='numpy' tells it to use_
      ↪ numpy functions if necessary
      f_lamb
```

```
[9]: <function _lambdifygenerated(x)>
```

```
[10]: # f_lamb is essentially equivalent to the following function
      # def f_lamb(x):
      #     return x**2

      # Now we can use it like a normal python function
      f_lamb(5)
```

```
[10]: 25
```

```
[11]: x_values = np.array([1, 2, 3, 4])
      f_lamb(x_values)
```

```
[11]: array([ 1,  4,  9, 16])
```

In addition, you can obtain the raw source code of a lambdified object by using the built in `inspect` module from python.

```
[12]: import inspect

      print(inspect.getsource(f_lamb))
```

```
def _lambdifygenerated(x):
    return x**2
```

This can be particularly useful for copying and if you want to perform some analysis in `sympy`, then use the result in a python script file.

---

### 3 Solving Systems of Equations

- Systems can be solved both symbolically and numerically if needed.

---

**Example:** Solve the following system for  $x$  and  $y$ :

$$\begin{cases} xy + 3y + a = 7 \\ y + 5x = 2 \end{cases}$$

```
[13]: x, y, a = sp.symbols('x y a')
eq1 = sp.Eq(x*y + 3*y + a, 7)
eq2 = sp.Eq(y + 5*x, 2)
display(eq1, eq2)
```

$$a + xy + 3y = 7$$

$$5x + y = 2$$

```
[14]: sol = sp.solve([eq1, eq2], (x, y), dict=True)
sol
```

```
[14]: [{x: -sqrt(20*a + 149)/10 - 13/10, y: sqrt(20*a + 149)/2 + 17/2},
      {x: sqrt(20*a + 149)/10 - 13/10, y: 17/2 - sqrt(20*a + 149)/2}]
```

- Specifying `dict=True` returns a list of dictionaries where the keys are the variable and the value is the solution.

```
[15]: for d in sol:
      for key, value in d.items():
          display(sp.Eq(key, value))
```

$$x = -\frac{\sqrt{20a + 149}}{10} - \frac{13}{10}$$

$$y = \frac{\sqrt{20a + 149}}{2} + \frac{17}{2}$$

$$x = \frac{\sqrt{20a + 149}}{10} - \frac{13}{10}$$

$$y = \frac{17}{2} - \frac{\sqrt{20a + 149}}{2}$$

- You can check the solution by substituting it, then simplifying the expression.

```
[16]: # The .lhs method returns the left hand side of the equation
check = eq1.lhs.subs([
    (x, sol[0][x]),
    (y, sol[0][y])
])
```

```
check
```

```
[16]: 
$$a + \frac{3\sqrt{20a+149}}{2} + \left(-\frac{\sqrt{20a+149}}{10} - \frac{13}{10}\right) \left(\frac{\sqrt{20a+149}}{2} + \frac{17}{2}\right) + \frac{51}{2}$$

```

```
[17]: check.simplify()
```

```
[17]: 7
```

---

**Example:** The following equation cannot be solved algebraically. Solve using numerical methods.

$$e^x + x = 3$$

```
[18]: eq = sp.Eq(sp.exp(x) + x, 3)
eq
```

```
[18]:  $x + e^x = 3$ 
```

```
[19]: sol = sp.nsolve(eq, x, 1) # equation, variable, guess
sol
```

```
[19]: 0.792059968430677
```

---

## 4 Calculus

### 4.1 Differentiation

---

**Example:** Find the first and second order derivative with respect to  $x$  of

$$f(x) = x^3 + 3xy + x^2$$

```
[20]: f = x**3 + 3*x*y + x**2
f
```

```
[20]:  $x^3 + x^2 + 3xy$ 
```

```
[21]: f.diff(x)
```

```
[21]:  $3x^2 + 2x + 3y$ 
```

```
[22]: # For second order derivative:
f.diff(x, 2)
```

```
[22]:  $2 \cdot (3x + 1)$ 
```

---

## 4.2 Integration

---

**Example:** Find  $\int \ln(x) dx$

```
[23]: integral = sp.Integral(sp.log(x), x)
      integral
```

```
[23]:  $\int \log(x) dx$ 
```

- Note that the  $\log(x)$  function is equivalent to the  $\ln(x)$  function in **sympy**.
- The above example shows the **Integral** class, but you can evaluate it by calling the `.doit()` method. This way of doing things may be desired for making sure that you set it up appropriately. The same concept can be done for other operations like the **Derivative** class.

```
[24]: integral.doit()
```

```
[24]:  $x \log(x) - x$ 
```

```
[25]: # Alternatively, you can use the integrate() method
      (sp.log(x)).integrate(x)
```

```
[25]:  $x \log(x) - x$ 
```

---

## 5 Differential Equations

### 5.1 Solving ODE's

---

**Example:** Solve  $y'' + y = \tan(x)$

```
[26]: y = sp.Function('y')(x)
      eq = sp.Eq(y.diff(x, 2) + y, sp.tan(x))
      eq
```

```
[26]:  $y(x) + \frac{d^2}{dx^2}y(x) = \tan(x)$ 
```

```
[27]: sol = sp.dsolve(eq)
      sol
```

```
[27]:  $y(x) = C_2 \sin(x) + \left( C_1 + \frac{\log(\sin(x) - 1)}{2} - \frac{\log(\sin(x) + 1)}{2} \right) \cos(x)$ 
```

```
[28]: # Checking solution
      check = sol.rhs.diff(x, 2) + sol.rhs
      check.simplify()
```

```
[28]:  $\tan(x)$ 
```



---

**Example:** Solve the system of ODE's with  $x(0) = 0$  and  $y(0) = 1$ :

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = -x + y \\ \frac{dy}{dt} = 2x \end{cases}$$

```
[29]: t = sp.Symbol('t')
x, y = sp.Function('x')(t), sp.Function('y')(t)

eq1 = sp.Eq(x.diff(), -x + y)
eq2 = sp.Eq(y.diff(), 2*x)
display(eq1, eq2)
```

$$\frac{d}{dt}x(t) = -x(t) + y(t)$$

$$\frac{d}{dt}y(t) = 2x(t)$$

```
[30]: sol = sp.dsolve([eq1, eq2], ics={
    x.subs(t, 0): 0,
    y.subs(t, 0): 1
})
sol
```

```
[30]: [Eq(x(t), exp(t)/3 - exp(-2*t)/3), Eq(y(t), 2*exp(t)/3 + exp(-2*t)/3)]
```

```
[31]: display(*sol) # unpacking is the same as display(sol[0], sol[1])
```

$$x(t) = \frac{e^t}{3} - \frac{e^{-2t}}{3}$$

$$y(t) = \frac{2e^t}{3} + \frac{e^{-2t}}{3}$$

---

**Example:** Solve  $y'' - 10y' + 25y = 30x + 3$  with  $y(0) = 1$  and  $y'(0) = 3$  and plot the function by `lambdify`ing the solution.

```
[32]: x = sp.Symbol('x') # re-defining as symbol because it was previously defined
      ↪ as a function
y = sp.Function('y')(x)
eq = sp.Eq(y.diff(x, 2) - 10*y.diff() + 25*y, 30*x + 3)
eq
```

```
[32]: 25y(x) - 10\frac{d}{dx}y(x) + \frac{d^2}{dx^2}y(x) = 30x + 3
```

```
[33]: sol = sp.dsolve(eq, ics={
    y.subs(x, 0): 1,
```

```

    y.diff().subs(x, 0): 3
})
sol

```

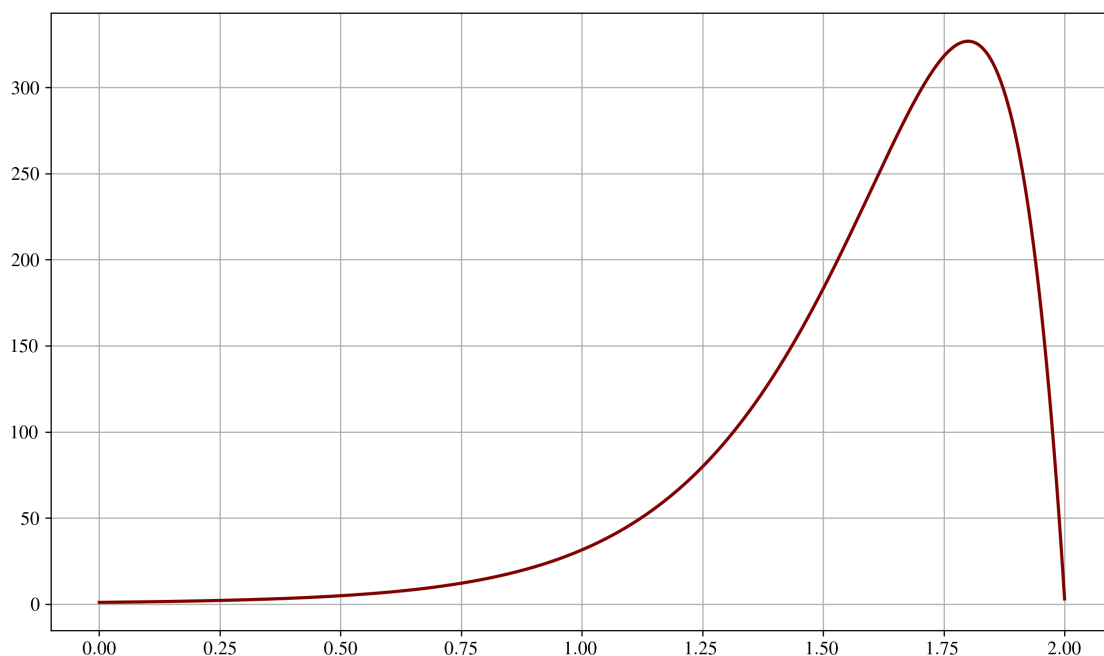
[33]: 
$$y(x) = \frac{6x}{5} + \left(\frac{2}{5} - \frac{x}{5}\right)e^{5x} + \frac{3}{5}$$

```

[34]: y_lamb = sp.lambdify(x, sol.rhs, modules='numpy')
      t_ = np.linspace(0, 2, 500) # array from 0 to 2 with a size of 500

      plt.plot(t_, y_lamb(t_))
      plt.show()

```




---

## 5.2 Laplace Transforms

- Laplace transforms in `sympy` as of version 1.12 are lacking. A re-design of this part of the package is coming in a later version as seen [here](#).
- 

**Example:** Find the laplace transform of  $f(t) = 2 \cos(5t)$ .

```

[35]: s, t = sp.symbols('s t')
      sp.laplace_transform(2*sp.cos(5*t), t, s)[0]

```

[35]: 
$$\frac{2s}{s^2 + 25}$$

---

**Example:** Solve the following ODE using laplace transforms:

$$\ddot{x} + 20\dot{x} + 1000 = \begin{cases} t & 0 \leq t < 1 \\ 1 & t \geq 1 \end{cases}$$

The initial conditions are zero.

```
[36]: # sympy cannot do laplace transforms of piecewise functions yet, but that is in
      ↪ the works
      # Instead, use the answer that was found by hand in class
      X = sp.Function('X')(s)
      eq = sp.Eq(s**2*X + 20*s*X + 1000*X, 1/s**2 - 1/s**2*sp.exp(-s))
      eq
```

```
[36]:
```

$$s^2 X(s) + 20sX(s) + 1000X(s) = \frac{1}{s^2} - \frac{e^{-s}}{s^2}$$

```
[37]: sol = sp.solve(eq, X)[0]
      sol
```

```
[37]:
```

$$\frac{(e^s - 1)e^{-s}}{s^2(s^2 + 20s + 1000)}$$

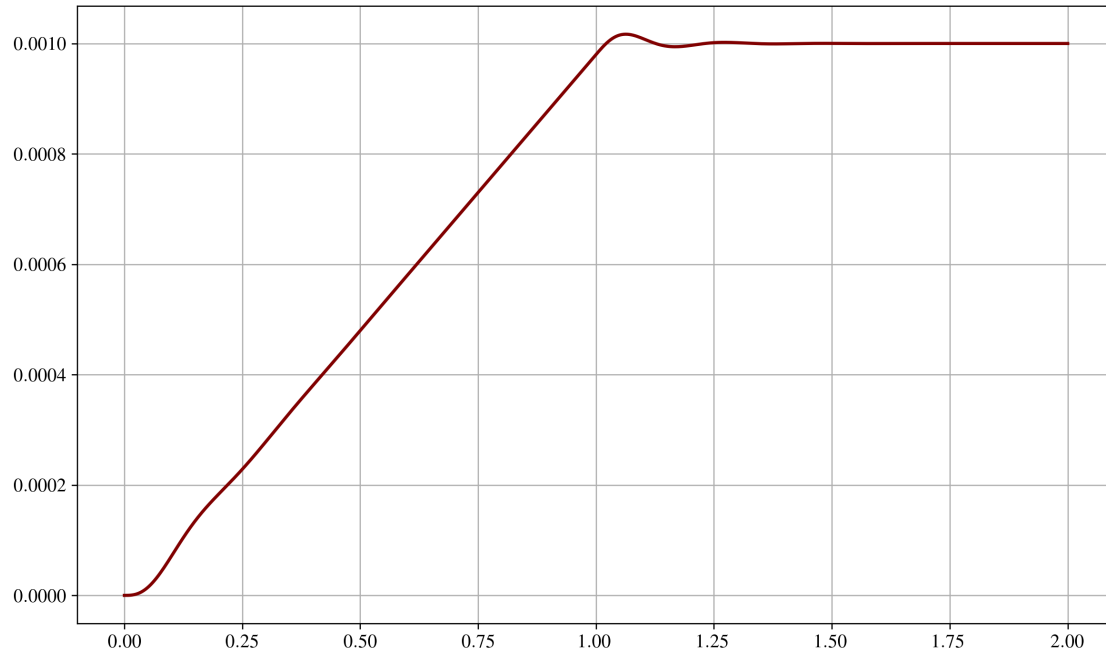
```
[38]: x_t = sp.inverse_laplace_transform(sol, s, t).simplify()
      x_t
```

```
[38]:
```

$$\frac{\theta(t)}{50000} + \left( -\frac{e^{-10t} \sin(30t)}{37500} + \frac{e^{-10t} \cos(30t)}{50000} \right) \theta(t) - \frac{((150t - 153)e^{10t-10} - 4\sin(30t - 30) + 3\cos(30t - 30))e^{10-10t}}{150000}$$

- Note that the  $\theta(t)$  is the heaviside function (or unit step function).

```
[39]: x_lamb = sp.lambdify(t, x_t, modules='numpy')
      t_ = np.linspace(0, 2, 500)
      plt.plot(t_, x_lamb(t_))
      plt.show()
```




---

## 6 Linear Algebra

- `sympy` is wonderful for visualizing matrices as it is able to output  $\text{L}^{\text{A}}\text{T}_{\text{E}}\text{X}$  matrices through jupyter notebook.

---

**Example:** Solve the following system by converting it to the matrix form, then augment the solution vector and put the matrix in the reduced row echelon form.

$$\begin{cases} x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 = 4 \\ x_2 - 3x_3 = 2 \end{cases}$$

```
[40]: x1, x2, x3 = sp.symbols('x1:4') # defines sequence of symbols from 1 to 3
eq1 = sp.Eq(x1 - x2 + 2*x3, 4)
eq2 = sp.Eq(x2 - 3*x3, 2)
eq3 = sp.Eq(2*x1 + x2 - 4*x3, 2)
display(eq1, eq2, eq3)
```

$$x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 = 4$$

$$x_2 - 3x_3 = 2$$

$$2x_1 + x_2 - 4x_3 = 2$$

```
[41]: # Convert it to the matrix form
A, b = sp.linear_eq_to_matrix([eq1, eq2, eq3], (x1, x2, x3))
sp.Eq(A*sp.Matrix([x1, x2, x3]), b)
```

[41]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} x_1 - x_2 + 2x_3 \\ x_2 - 3x_3 \\ 2x_1 + x_2 - 4x_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 4 \\ 2 \\ 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
[42]: augmented = A.col_insert(3, b)
augmented
```

[42]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & -1 & 2 & 4 \\ 0 & 1 & -3 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 & -4 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

```
[43]: augmented.rref()[0]
```

[43]: 
$$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 & -6 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 & -34 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & -12 \end{bmatrix}$$