Tricks

- 1. Use == to test for equality. In effect, A==B is equivalent to simplify(A-B)==0.
- 2. In a script, line breaking is allowed where the scanner needs something to complete an expression. For example, the scanner will automatically go to the next line after an operator.
- 3. Setting trace=1 in a script causes each line to be printed just before it is evaluated. Useful for debugging.
- 4. The last result is stored in symbol last.
- 5. Use contract(A) to get the mathematical trace of matrix A.
- 6. Use binding(s) to get the unevaluated binding of symbol s.
- 7. Use s=quote(s) to clear symbol s.
- 8. Use float(pi) to get the floating point value of π . Set pi=float(pi) to evaluate expressions with a numerical value for π . Set pi=quote(pi) to make π symbolic again.
- 9. Assign strings to unit names so they are printed normally. For example, setting meter="meter" causes the symbol meter to be printed as meter instead of m_{eter} .
- 10. Use expsin and expcos instead of sin and cos. Trigonometric simplifications occur automatically when exponentials are used.