## SYMPY: SYMBOLIC COMPUTING IN PYTHON

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#### 1. Introduction.

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#### 2. Architecture.

**2.1.** The Core. The core of a computer algebra system (CAS) refers to the module that is in charge of resenting symbolic expressions and performing basic ma-8 nipulations with them. In SymPy, every symbolic expression is an instance of a Python class. Expressions are represented by expression trees. The operators are represented 10 by the type of an expression and the child nodes are stored in the args attribute. A 11 leaf node in the expression tree has an empty args. The args attribute is provided 12 by the class Basic, which is a superclass of all SymPy objects and provides common 13 methods to all SymPy tree-elements. For example, consider the expression xy + 2: 14 >>> from sympy import \* 15 >>> x, y = symbols('x y') 16 >>> expr = x\*y + 217 The expression expr is an addition, so it is of type Add. The child nodes of expr 18 are x\*y and 2. 19 >>> type(expr)

(2, x\*y)
We can dig further into the expression tree to see the full expression. For example, the first child node, given by expr.args[0] is 2. Its class is Integer, and it has empty args, indicating that it is a leaf node.

```
27 >>> expr.args[0]
28 2
29 >>> type(expr.args[0])
30 <class 'sympy.core.numbers.Integer'>
31 >>> expr.args[0].args
32 ()
```

<class 'sympy.core.add.Add'>

>>> expr.args

The function **srepr** gives a string representing a valid Python code, containing all the nested class constructor calls to create the given expression.

```
35 >>> srepr(expr)
36 "Add(Mul(Symbol('x'), Symbol('y')), Integer(2))"
```

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Every SymPy expression satisfies a key invariant, namely, expr.func(\*expr.args) == expr. This means that expressions are rebuildable from their args <sup>1</sup>. Here, we note that in SymPy, the == operator represents exact structural equality, not mathematical equality. This allows one to test if any two expressions are equal to one another as expression trees.

Python allows classes to overload operators. The Python interpreter translates the above x\*y + 2 to, roughly, (x.\_\_mul\_\_(y)).\_\_add\_\_(2). x and y, returned from the symbols function, are Symbol instances. The 2 in the expression is processed by Python as a literal, and is stored as Python's builtin int type. When 2 is called by the \_\_add\_\_ method, it is converted to the SymPy type Integer(2). In this way, SymPy expressions can be built in the natural way using Python operators and numeric literals.

One must be careful in one particular instance. Python does not have a builtin rational literal type. Given a fraction of integers such as 1/2, Python will perform floating point division and produce  $0.5^2$ . Python uses eager evaluation, so expressions like x + 1/2 will produce x + 0.5, and by the time any SymPy function sees the 1/2 it has already been converted to 0.5 by Python. However, for a CAS like SymPy, one typically wants to work with exact rational numbers whenever possible. Working around this is simple, however: one can wrap one of the integers with Integer, like x + Integer(1)/2, or using x + Rational(1, 2). SymPy provides a function S which can be used to convert objects to SymPy types with minimal typing, such as x + S(1)/2. This gotcha is a small downside to using Python directly instead of a custom domain specific language (DSL), and we consider it to be worth it for the advantages listed above.

**2.2.** Assumptions. An important feature of the SymPy core is the assumptions system. The assumptions system allows users to specify that symbols have certain common mathematical properties, such as being positive, imaginary, or integer. SymPy is careful to never perform simplifications on an expression unless the assumptions allow them. For instance, the identity  $\sqrt{x^2} = x$  holds if x is nonnegative  $(x \ge 0)$ . If x is real, the identity  $\sqrt{x^2} = |x|$  holds. However, for general complex x, no such identity holds.

By default, SymPy performs all calculations assuming that variables are complex valued. This assumption makes it easier to treat mathematical problems in full generality.

```
71 >>> x = Symbol('x')
72 >>> sqrt(x**2)
73 sqrt(x**2)
```

 By assuming symbols are complex by default, SymPy avoids performing mathematically invalid operations. However, in many cases users will wish to simplify expressions containing terms like  $\sqrt{x^2}$ .

Assumptions are set on Symbol objects when they are created. For instance Symbol('x', positive=True) will create a symbol named x that is assumed to be positive.

```
80 >>> x = Symbol('x', positive=True)
81 >>> sqrt(x**2)
```

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>expr.func is used instead of type(expr) to allow the function of an expression to be distinct from its actual Python class. In most cases the two are the same.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>This is the behavior in Python 3. In Python 2, 1/2 will perform integer division and produce 0, unless one uses from \_\_future\_\_ import division.

Some common assumptions that SymPy allows are positive, negative, real, nonpositive, nonnegative, real, integer, and commutative <sup>3</sup>. Assumptions on any object can be checked with the is\_assumption attributes, like x.is\_positive.

Assumptions are only needed to restrict a domain so that certain simplifications can be performed. It is not required to make the domain match the input of a function. For instance, one can create the object  $\sum_{n=0}^{m} f(n)$  as Sum(f(n), (n, 0, m)) without setting integer=True when creating the Symbol object n.

The assumptions system additionally has deductive capabilities. The assumptions use a three-valued logic using the Python builtin objects True, False, and None. None represents the "unknown" case. This could mean that the given assumption could be either true or false under the given information, for instance, Symbol('x', real=True).is\_positive will give None because a real symbol might be positive or it might not. It could also mean not enough is implemented to compute the given fact, for instance, (pi + E).is\_irrational gives None, because SymPy does not know how to determine if  $\pi + e$  is rational or irrational, indeed, it is an open problem in mathematics.

Basic implications between the facts are used to deduce assumptions. For instance, the assumptions system knows that being an integer implies being rational, so Symbol('x', integer=True).is\_rational returns True. Furthermore, expressions compute the assumptions on themselves based on the assumptions of their arguments. For instance, if x and y are both created with positive=True, then (x + y).is\_positive will be True.

SymPy also has an experimental assumptions system where facts are stored separate from objects, and deductions are made with a SAT solver. We will not discuss this system here.

**2.3. Extensibility.** Extensibility is an important feature for SymPy. Because the same language, Python, is used both for the internal implementation and the external usage by users, all the extensibility capabilities available to users are also used by functions that are part of SymPy.

The typical way to create a custom SymPy object is to subclass an existing SymPy class, generally either Basic, Expr, or Function. All SymPy classes used for expression trees <sup>4</sup> should be subclasses of the base class Basic, which defines some basic methods for symbolic expression trees. Expr is the subclass for mathematical expressions that can be added and multiplied together. Instances of Expr typically represent complex numbers, but may also include other "rings" like matrix expressions. Not all SymPy classes are subclasses of Expr. For instance, logic expressions, such as And(x, y) are subclasses of Basic but not of Expr.

The Function class is a subclass of Expr which makes it easier to define mathematical functions called with arguments. This includes named functions like  $\sin(x)$  and  $\log(x)$  as well as undefined functions like f(x). Subclasses of Function should define a class method eval, which returns values for which the function should be automatically evaluated, and None for arguments that shouldn't be automatically evaluated.

The behavior of classes in SymPy with various other SymPy functions is de-

 $<sup>^3 \</sup>text{If } A \text{ and } B \text{ are Symbols created with commutative=False then SymPy will keep } A \cdot B \text{ and } B \cdot A \text{ distinct.}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup>Some internal classes, such as those used in the polynomial module, do not follow this rule for efficiency reasons.

fined by defining a relevant \_eval\_\* method on the class. For instance, an object can tell SymPy's diff function how to take the derivative of itself by defining the \_eval\_derivative(self, x) method. The most common \_eval\_\* methods relate to the assumptions. \_eval\_is\_assumption defines the assumptions for assumption.

As an example of the notions presented in this section, we present below a stripped down version of the gamma function  $\Gamma(x)$  from SymPy, which evaluates itself on positive integer arguments, has the positive and real assumptions defined, can be rewritten in terms of factorial with  $\mathtt{gamma(x).rewrite(factorial)}$ , and can be differentiated.  $\mathtt{fdiff}$  is a convenience method for subclasses of Function.  $\mathtt{fdiff}$  returns the derivative of the function without worrying about the chain rule.  $\mathtt{self.func}$  is used throughout instead of referencing  $\mathtt{gamma}$  explicitly so that potential subclasses of  $\mathtt{gamma}$  can reuse the methods.

```
from sympy import Integer, Function, floor, factorial, polygamma
```

```
140
    class gamma(Function)
141
        @classmethod
142
143
        def eval(cls, arg):
144
             if isinstance(arg, Integer) and arg.is_positive:
                 return factorial(arg - 1)
145
146
        def _eval_is_real(self):
147
             x = self.args[0]
148
149
             # noninteger means real and not integer
             if x.is_positive or x.is_noninteger:
150
                 return True
151
152
        def _eval_is_positive(self):
153
             x = self.args[0]
154
155
             if x.is_positive:
                 return True
156
             elif x.is_noninteger:
157
                 return floor(x).is_even
158
159
        def _eval_rewrite_as_factorial(self, z):
160
             return factorial(z - 1)
161
162
        def fdiff(self, argindex=1):
163
             from sympy.core.function import ArgumentIndexError
164
165
             if argindex == 1:
                 return self.func(self.args[0])*polygamma(0, self.args[0])
166
             else:
167
                 raise ArgumentIndexError(self, argindex)
168
```

The actual gamma function defined in SymPy has many more capabilities, such as evaluation at rational points and series expansion.

## 3. Algorithms.

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**3.1.** Numerics. The Float class holds an arbitrary-precision binary floating-point value and a precision in bits. An operation between two Float inputs is rounded to the larger of the two precisions. Since Python floating-point literals automatically evaluate to double (53-bit) precision, strings should be used to input precise decimal

The preferred way to evaluate an expression numerically is with the evalf method, which internally estimates the number of accurate bits of the floating-point approximation for each sub-expression, and adaptively increases the working precision until the estimated accuracy of the final result matches the sought number of decimal digits.

The internal error tracking does not provide rigorous error bounds (in the sense of interval arithmetic) and cannot be used to track uncertainty in measurement data in any meaningful way; the sole purpose is to mitigate loss of accuracy that typically occurs when converting symbolic expressions to numerical values, for example due to catastrophic cancellation. This is illustrated by the following example (the input 25 specifies that 25 digits are sought):

```
193 >>> cos(exp(-100)).evalf(25) - 1
194 0
195 >>> (cos(exp(-100)) - 1).evalf(25)
196 -6.919482633683687653243407e-88
```

The evalf method works with complex numbers and supports more complicated expressions, such as special functions, infinite series and integrals.

SymPy does not track the accuracy of approximate numbers outside of evalf. The familiar dangers of floating-point arithmetic apply [11], and symbolic expressions containing floating-point numbers should be treated with some caution. This approach is similar to Maple and Maxima.

By contrast, Mathematica uses a form of significance arithmetic [21] for approximate numbers. This offers further protection against numerical errors, but leads to non-obvious semantics while still not being mathematically rigorous (for a critique of significance arithmetic, see Fateman [8]). SymPy's evalf internals are non-rigorous in the same sense, but have no bearing on the semantics of floating-point numbers in the rest of the system.

3.1.1. Code generation. SymPy's lambdify can be used to convert a symbolic expression to a callable Python function for faster numerical evaluation. Various back ends are supported. The following example demonstrates creating a NumPy-based function from a SymPy expression, which automatically supports vectorized array evaluation [24]:

```
214 >>> f = lambdify((x, y), sin(x*y)**2, modules='numpy')
215 >>> from numpy import array
216 >>> f(array([1,2,3]), array([4,5,6]))
217 array([ 0.57275002,  0.29595897,  0.56398184])
```

SymPy can also generate C, C++, Fortran77, Fortran90 and Octave/Matlab source code, via the codegen function. [document this?]

**3.1.2.** The mpmath library. The implementation of arbitrary-precision floating-point arithmetic is supplied by the mpmath library, which originally was developed as a SymPy module but subsequently has been moved to a standalone Python package. The basic datatypes in mpmath are mpf and mpc, which respectively act as multiprecision substitutes for Python's float and complex. The floating-point precision

225 is controlled by a global context:
226 >>> import mpmath
227 >>> mpmath.mp.dps = 30 # 30 digits of precision
228 >>> mpmath.mpf("0.1") + mpmath.exp(-50)
229 mpf('0.10000000000000000000192874984794')
230 >>> print(\_) # pretty-printed
231 0.1000000000000000000192874985

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For pure numerical computing, it is convenient to use mpmath directly with from mpmath import \* (it is best to avoid such an import statement when using SymPy simultaneously, since numerical functions such as exp will shadow the symbolic counterparts in SymPy).

Like SymPy, mpmath is a pure Python library. Internally, mpmath represents a floating-point number  $(-1)^s x \cdot 2^y$  by a tuple (s, x, y, b) where x and y are arbitrary-size Python integers and the redundant integer b stores the bit length of x for quick access. If GMPY [14] is installed, mpmath automatically switches to using the gmpy.mpz type for x and using GMPY helper methods to perform rounding-related operations, improving performance.

The mpmath library includes support for special functions, root-finding, linear algebra, polynomial approximation, and numerical computation of limits, derivatives, integrals, infinite series, and ODE solutions. All features work in arbitrary precision and use algorithms that support computing hundreds of digits rapidly, except in degenerate cases.

The double exponential (tanh-sinh) quadrature is used for numerical integration by default. For smooth integrands, this algorithm usually converges extremely rapidly, even when the integration interval is infinite or singularities are present at the endpoints [22, 4]. However, for good performance, singularities in the middle of the interval must be specified by the user. To evaluate slowly converging limits and infinite series, mpmath automatically attempts to apply Richardson extrapolation and the Shanks transformation (Euler-Maclaurin summation can also be used) [5]. A function to evaluate oscillatory integrals by means of convergence acceleration is also available.

A wide array of higher mathematical functions are implemented with full support for complex values of all parameters and arguments, including complete and incomplete gamma functions, Bessel functions, orthogonal polynomials, elliptic functions and integrals, zeta and polylogarithm functions, the generalized hypergeometric function, and the Meijer G-function.

Most special functions are implemented as linear combinations of the generalized hypergeometric function  ${}_pF_q$ , which is computed by a combination of direct summation, argument transformations (for  ${}_2F_1$ ,  ${}_3F_2$ , ...) and asymptotic expansions (for  ${}_0F_1$ ,  ${}_1F_1$ ,  ${}_1F_2$ ,  ${}_2F_2$ ,  ${}_2F_3$ ) to cover the whole complex domain. Numerical integration and generic convergence acceleration are also used in a few special cases.

In general, linear combinations and argument transformations give rise to singularities that have to be removed for certain combinations of parameters. A typical example is the modified Bessel function of the second kind

$$K_{\nu}(z) = \frac{1}{2} \left[ \left( \frac{z}{2} \right)^{-\nu} \Gamma(\nu)_{0} F_{1} \left( 1 - \nu, \frac{z^{2}}{4} \right) - \left( \frac{z}{2} \right)^{\nu} \frac{\pi}{\nu \sin(\pi \nu) \Gamma(\nu)} {}_{0} F_{1} \left( \nu + 1, \frac{z^{2}}{4} \right) \right]$$

where the limiting value  $\lim_{\varepsilon\to 0} K_{n+\varepsilon}(z)$  has to be computed when  $\nu=n$  is an integer. A generic algorithm is used to evaluate hypergeometric-type linear combinations of the above type. This algorithm automatically detects cancellation problems, and

computes limits numerically by perturbing parameters whenever internal singularities occur (the perturbation size is automatically decreased until the result is detected to converge numerically).

Due to this generic approach, particular combinations of hypergeometric functions can be specified easily. The implementation of the Meijer G-function takes only a few dozen lines of code, yet covers the whole input domain in a robust way. The Meijer G-function instance  $G_{1,3}^{3,0}\left(0;\frac{1}{2},-1,-\frac{3}{2}|x\right)$  is a good test case [23]; past versions of both Maple and Mathematica produced incorrect numerical values for large x > 0. Here, mpmath automatically removes the internal singularity and compensates for cancellations (amounting to 656 bits of precision when x = 10000), giving correct values:

```
280
    >>> mpmath.mp.dps = 15
    >>> mpmath.meijerg([[],[0]],[[-0.5,-1,-1.5],[]],10000)
281
    mpf('2.4392576907199564e-94')
282
```

Equivalently, with SymPy's interface this function can be evaluated as:

```
>>> meijerg([[],[0]],[[-S(1)/2,-1,-S(3)/2],[]],10000).evalf()
284
285
```

2.43925769071996e-94

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We highlight the generalized hypergeometric functions and the Meijer G-function, due to those functions' frequent appearance in closed forms for integrals and sums [todo: crossref symbolic integration]. Via mpmath, SymPy has relatively good support for evaluating sums and integrals numerically, using two complementary approaches: direct numerical evaluation, or first computing a symbolic closed form involving special functions. [example?]

**3.1.3.** Numerical simplification. The nsimplify function in SymPy (a wrapper of identify in mpmath) attempts to find a simple symbolic expression that evaluates to the same numerical value as the given input. It works by applying a few simple transformations (including square roots, reciprocals, logarithms and exponentials) to the input and, for each transformed value, using the PSLQ algorithm [9] to search for a matching algebraic number or optionally a linear combination of user-provided base constants (such as  $\pi$ ).

```
>>> x = 1 / (\sin(pi/5) + \sin(2*pi/5) + \sin(3*pi/5) + \sin(4*pi/5)) **2
299
300
    >>> nsimplify(x)
    -2*sqrt(5)/5 + 1
301
    >>> nsimplify(pi, tolerance=0.01)
302
303
    >>> nsimplify(1.783919626661888, [pi], tolerance=1e-12)
304
305
    pi/(-1/3 + 2*pi/3)
```

3.2. Polynomials.

3.3. The Risch Algorithm.

**3.4.** The Gruntz Algorithm. The limit module implements the Gruntz algo-308 rithm [12]. 309

Examples: 310

```
In [1]: limit(sin(x)/x, x, 0)
311
    Out[1]: 1
312
```

313 In [2]:  $\lim_{x \to \infty} (2*E**((1-\cos(x))/\sin(x))-1)**(\sinh(x)/\arctan(x)**2), x, 0)$ 314 Out[2]: E 315

# **3.4.1. Details.** We first define comparability classes by calculating L:

317 (1) 
$$L \equiv \lim_{x \to \infty} \frac{\log |f(x)|}{\log |g(x)|}$$

318 And then we define the <, > and  $\sim$  operations as follows: f > g when  $L = \pm \infty$  (f

is more rapidly varying than g, i.e., f goes to  $\infty$  or 0 faster than g, f is greater than

any power of g), f < g when L = 0 (f is less rapidly varying than g) and  $f \sim g$  when

321  $L \neq 0, \pm \infty$  (both f and g are bounded from above and below by suitable integral

322 powers of the other).

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Examples:

$$2 < x < e^x < e^{x^2} < e^{e^x}$$

$$2 \sim 3 \sim -5$$

$$x \sim x^2 \sim x^3 \sim \frac{1}{x} \sim x^m \sim -x$$

$$e^x \sim e^{-x} \sim e^{2x} \sim e^{x+e^{-x}}$$

$$f(x) \sim \frac{1}{f(x)}$$

The Gruntz algorithm, on an example:

$$f(x) = e^{x+2e^{-x}} - e^x + \frac{1}{x}$$
$$\lim_{x \to \infty} f(x) = ?$$

Strategy: mrv set: the set of most rapidly varying subexpressions  $\{e^x, e^{-x}, e^{x+2e^{-x}}\}$ ,

324 the same comparability class Take an item  $\omega$  from mrv, converging to 0 at infinity.

Here  $\omega = e^{-x}$ . If not present in the mrv set, use the relation  $f(x) \sim \frac{1}{f(x)}$ .

Rewrite the mrv set using  $\omega$ :  $\{\frac{1}{\omega}, \omega, \frac{1}{\omega}e^{2\omega}\}$ , substitute back into f(x) and expand in  $\omega$ :

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{\omega} + \frac{1}{\omega}e^{2\omega} = 2 + \frac{1}{x} + 2\omega + O(\omega^2)$$

The core idea of the algorithm:  $\omega$  is from the mrv set, so in the limit  $\omega \to 0$ :

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{x} - \frac{1}{\omega} + \frac{1}{\omega}e^{2\omega} = 2 + \frac{1}{x} + 2\omega + O(\omega^2) \to 2 + \frac{1}{x}$$

We iterate until we get just a number, the final limit. Gruntz proved this algorithm always works and converges in his Ph.D. thesis [12].

Generally:

$$f(x) = \underbrace{O\left(\frac{1}{\omega^3}\right)}_{\infty} + \underbrace{\frac{C_{-2}(x)}{\omega^2}}_{\infty} + \underbrace{\frac{C_{-1}(x)}{\omega}}_{\infty} + C_0(x) + \underbrace{C_1(x)\omega}_{0} + \underbrace{O(\omega^2)}_{0}$$

we look at the lowest power of  $\omega$ . The limit is one of: 0,  $\lim_{x\to\infty} C_0(x)$ ,  $\infty$ .

329 **3.5.** Logic.

**3.6. Other.** 

**4. Features.** SymPy has an extensive feature set that encompasses too much to cover in-depth here. Bedrock areas, such a Calculus, receive their own sub-sections below. Additionally, Table 1 describes other capabilities present in the SymPy code base. This gives a sampling from the breadth of topics and application domains that SymPy services.

Table 1: SymPy Features and Descriptions

Feature	Description	
Discrete Math	Summations, products, binomial coefficients, prime number	
	tools, integer factorization, Diophantine equation solving,	
	and boolean logic representation, equivalence testing, and	
	inference.	
Concrete Math	Tools for determining whether summation and product ex-	
	pressions are convergent, absolutely convergent, hypergeo-	
	metric, and other properties. May also compute Gosper's	
	normal form [20] for two univariate polynomials.	
Plotting	Hooks for visualizing expressions via matplotlib [?] or as	
~	text drawings when lacking a graphical back-end.	
Geometry	Allows the creation of 2D geometrical entities, such as lines	
	and circles. Enables queries on these entities, including ask-	
	ing the area of an ellipse, checking for collinearity of a set	
G. at at	of points, or finding the intersection between two lines.	
Statistics	Support for a random variable type as well as the ability	
	to declare this variable from prebuilt distribution functions	
	such as Normal, Exponential, Coin, Die, and other custom	
D. I. I. I.	distributions.	
Polynomials	Computes polynomial algebras over various coefficient do-	
	mains ranging from the simple (e.g., polynomial division)	
	to the advanced (e.g., Gröbner bases [3] and multivariate	
C-4-	factorization over algebraic number domains).	
Sets	Representations of empty, finite, and infinite sets. This in-	
	cludes special sets such as for all natural, integer, and complex numbers.	
Series	Implements series expansion, sequences, and limit of se-	
Series	quences. This includes special series, such as Fourier and	
	power series.	
Vectors	Provides basic vector math and differential calculus with	
VCCUOIS	respect to 3D Cartesian coordinate systems.	
Matrices	Tools for creating matrices of symbols and expressions. This	
Witterfeed	is capable of both sparse and dense representations and per-	
	forming symbolic linear algebraic operations (e.g., inversion	
	and factorization).	
Combinatorics & Group Theory	Implements permutations, combinations, partitions, sub-	
, and the second second	sets, various permutation groups (such as polyhedral, Ru-	
	bik, symmetric, and others), Gray codes [18], and Prufer	
	sequences [6].	
Code Generation	Enables generation of compilable and executable code in	
	a variety of different programming languages directly from	
	expressions. Target languages include C, Fortran, Julia,	
	JavaScript, Mathematica, Matlab and Octave, Python, and	
	Theano.	
Tensors	Symbolic manipulation of indexed objects.	
Lie Algebras	Represents Lie algebras and root systems.	

Cryptography	Represents block and stream ciphers, including shift, Affine, substitution, Vigenere's, Hill's, bifid, RSA, Kid RSA, linear-	
	feedback shift registers, and Elgamal encryption	
Special Functions	Implements a number of well known special functions, in-	
	cluding Dirac delta, Gamma, Beta, Gauss error functions,	
	Fresnel integrals, Exponential integrals, Logarithmic in-	
	tegrals, Trigonometric integrals, Bessel, Hankel, Airy, B-	
	spline, Riemann Zeta, Dirichlet eta, polylogarithm, Lerch	
	transcendent, hypergeometric, elliptic integrals, Mathieu,	
	Jacobi polynomials, Gegenbauer polynomial, Chebyshev	
	polynomial, Legendre polynomial, Hermite polynomial, La-	
	guerre polynomial, and spherical harmonic functions.	

## 4.1. Basic Operations.

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 **4.1.1. Expression manipulation.** Symbols are instances of the class Symbol. They may be declared by invoking the class constructor with the symbol string representation, or through the faster symbols and var functions.

Common functions for polynomial expression manipulations are listed in the fol-

The generic way to simplify an expression is by calling the simplify function, or equivalently, calling it as a method expr.simplify(). It must be emphasized that simplification is not an unambigously defined mathematica operation, nevertheless full simplification may require a huge amount of computational power.

There are specific algorithms for special simplification cases, such as fu, which calls a powerful simplification algorithm for trigonometric expressions [10]. For trigonometric expressions there is furthermore a trigsimp method, acting as a wrapper for specific algorithms. sqrtdenest may help by denesting square roots inside other square roots.

Substitutions are performed through the .subs method, which accepts wildcards and is sensible to some mathematical properties while matching, such as associativity, commutativity, additive and multiplicative inverses, and matching of powers.

- .replace provides more basic matching algorithm, though it allows for costum matching functions to be passed to it.
- .xreplace is an expression tree structural replacement routing, unaware of any mathematical property.

Expression constructors accept in most cases the boolean parameter evaluate, setting it to false will prevent automatic evaluation of the expression. The global\_evaluate variable may be employed to globally block any kind of evaluation.

**4.1.2. Assumptions system.** SymPy has two assumptions systems, referred to as new-style and old-style assumptions.

In the old-style assumptions system propositions are assigned to symbols upon class construction, for example, to declare the symbol i as positive integer, one would call

```
i = Symbol("i", integer=True, positive=True)
  querying the assumptions is handled through attributes
```

```
i.is_positive
368
369
     i.is_integer
370
         These methods return either a boolean, indicating whether the preposition is true
     or false, or a None, when it is impossible to determine the truth value of the queried
371
     preposition.
372
         Despite the fact that assumptions can only be declared on symbols, querying can
373
     happen on every expression.
374
     In [1]: x,y = symbols('x y', positive=True)
375
376
     In [2]: (x*y).is_positive
377
     Out[2]: True
378
379
     In [3]: z = symbols('z')
380
381
     In [4]: (x*z).is_positive
382
383
     In [5]: w = symbols('w', positive=False)
384
385
    In [6]: (x*w).is_positive
386
     Out[6]: False
387
         The output 2 is true because SymPy's algorithms can deduce that the product of
388
     two positive numbers is positive, while there is no output for input 4, as the symbol
389
     z doesn't have any information about its sign, and the product x \cdot z may be positive
     as well as negative. Finally, output 6 is false as the product of positive and negative
391
     numbers is negative.
392
         The new-style assumptions are an assumptions system that exists alongside with
393
     the old-style, but is significantly different in the way predicates are used. Predicates
     in the new-style assumptions system are located under the Q namespace, they appear
395
396
     as Q.positive, Q.integer and so on.
         Querying is provided through the ask functions. The previous example in the
397
     new-style assumptions can be written as
398
     In [1]: ask(Q.positive(x*y), Q.positive(x) & Q.positive(y))
399
     Out[1]: True
400
401
402
     In [2]: ask(Q.positive(x*y), Q.positive(x))
403
     In [3]: ask(Q.positive(x*y), Q.positive(x) & Q.negative(y))
404
     Out[3]: False
405
     That is, ask returns the truth value of its first parameter assuming that its latter
406
407
     argument is true.
         Expressions like Q.positive are instances of the class Predicate, while the same
408
     expression with a parameter, such as Q.positive(x) is an instance of AppliedPredicate.
409
         Logical connectors can be expressed through operator overloading, such as in
410
     Q.positive(x) & Q.positive(y), or by directly constructing the identical expres-
411
     sion through the logical connector class, in this case And(Q.positive(x), Q.positive(y)).
412
         4.1.3. Calculus. Derivations can be computed with the diff function, or using
413
     the method with the same name on the expressions:
414
    In [1]: diff(\sin(x), x)
    Out[1]: cos(x)
```

```
417
     In [2]: sin(x).diff(x)
418
419
     Out[2]: cos(x)
         The class Derivative is a container for unevaluated derivatives
420
     In [3]: expr = Derivative(sin(x), x)
421
422
     In [4]: expr
423
     Out[4]:
424
425
    d
     --(\sin(x))
426
427
    dх
428
         To evaluate such a held expression, simply call the doit method:
     In [5]: expr.doit()
429
     Out[5]: cos(x)
430
         Integrals can be analogously calculated either with the integrate function or
431
     with the method with the same name on expressions:
432
    >>> integrate(sin(x), x)
433
434
    -\cos(x)
    This expression returns an expression whose derivative is the original expression. No-
435
     tice that integrals are defined up to an integration constant, for the sake of simplicity
436
     SymPy will not display the full generic expression.
437
         Definite integration can be calculated with the same method, by specifying a
438
439
     range of the integration variable:
     >>> integrate(sin(x), (x, 0, 1))
440
     -\cos(1) + 1
441
         To express unevaluated integrals, the class Integral may help
442
     Integral(sin(x), x)
     as in the case of derivatives, the method doit will cause such an expression to be
444
445
     evaluated.
         Limits:
446
     In [9]: limit(\sin(x)/x, x, 0)
447
    Out[9]: 1
448
     for unevaluated expressions, Limit.
449
         TODO: right and left limits.
450
         Sums and products are handled by the Sum and Product classes, respectively.
451
     Analogously with Integral, the first argument is the expression to be summed over,
452
     whereas the following arguments represent the summation and multiplication indices,
453
     respectively, provided with integer ranges.
454
         It may be noted the existence of the IndexedBase class, which provides the con-
455
     struction of indexed symbols, that is symbols that are treated as different if their
457
```

indices are different.

**4.1.4.** Expression outputs. Alongside with its parsers, SymPy has a rich collection of expression printers.

Expressions may be readily transformed into a LaTeX form with the latex() function.

Pretty printer outputs the expression in traditional form with characters, outputs can be visualized in monospace fonts.

# 4.2. Calculus.

458 459

**4.3. Sets.** SymPy supports representation of a wide variety of sets, this is achieved by first defining abstract representation for a smaller number of atomic set classes and then combining and transforming them using various set operations.

Each of the set classes inherits from the base set class and defines rules to check membership of a SymPy object in that set, to calculate union, intersection and set difference. In cases we are not able to evaluate these operations to atomic set classes they are represented as abstract unevaluated objects.

We have the following atomic set classes in SymPy.

• EmptySet: represents the empty set  $\emptyset$ .

- UniversalSet: Everything is a member of Universal Set. Union of Universal Set with any set gives Universal Set and intersection leads to the other set itself.
- FiniteSet is functionally equivalent to python's set object. Its members can be any SymPy object including other sets themselves.
- Integers represents set of Integers  $\mathbb{Z}$ .
- Naturals represents set of Natural numbers N i.e., set of positive integers.
- NaturalsO represents the whole numbers which are all the non-negative integers, inclusive of zero.
- Range represents a range of integers and is defined by specifying a start value, an end value and a step size. Range is functionally equivalent to python's range except the fact that it accepts infinity at end points allowing us to represent infinite ranges.
- RealInterval is specified by giving the start and end point and specifying if it is open or closed in the respective ends. The set of real numbers is represented as a special case of a real interval where the start point is negative infinite and the end point is positive infinite.

Other than unevaluated classes of Union, Intersection and Set Difference operations, we have following set classes.

- ProductSet abstractly defines the Cartesian product of two or more sets. Product Set is useful when representing higher dimensional spaces. For example to represent a three dimensional space we simply take the Cartesian product of three Real sets.
- ImageSet represents the image of a function when applied to a particular set. In notation Image Set of a function F w.r.t a set S is  $\{F(x)|x\in S\}$  In particular we use Image Set to represent the set of infinite solutions from trigonometric equations.
- ConditionSet represents subset of a set who's members satisfies a particular condition. In notation Condition Set of set S w.r.t to a condition H is  $\{x|H(x), x \in S\}$ . We use Condition Set to represent the set of solutions of an equation or an inequality where the equation or the inequality is the condition and the set is the domain in which we aim to find the solution.

A few other classes are implemented as special cases of the classes described above. The real number Reals is implemented as a special case of real interval where the start point is negative infinity and the end point is positive infinity. ComplexRegion is implemented as a special case of ImageSet, ComplexRegion supports both polar and rectangular representation of region on the complex plane.

**4.4.** Solvers. SymPy has module of equation solvers for symbolic equations. There are two submodules to solve algebraic equations in SymPy, referred to as old solve function, solve, and new solve function, solveset. Solveset is introduced with

```
several design changes with respect to old solve function to resolve the issues with
    old solve function, for example old solve function's input API has many flags which
    are not needed and they make it hard for the user and the developers to work on
516
    solvers. In contrast to old solve function, the solveset has a clean input API, It
    only asks for the much needed information from the user, following are the function
518
    signatures of old and new solve function:
    solve(f, *symbols, **flags)
                                     # old solve function
520
    solveset(f, symbol, domain) # new solve function
521
         The old solve function has an inconsistent output API for various types of inputs,
    whereas the solveset has a canonical output API which is achieved using sets. It
    can consistently return various types of solutions.
524
          • Single solution
525
    >>> solveset(x - 1)
526
    >>> {1}
527
          • Finite set of solution, quadratic equation
528
    >>> solveset(x**2 - pi**2, x)
529
530
    {-pi, pi}
          • No Solution
531
    >>> solveset(1, x)
532
    EmptySet()
533
          • Interval of solution
534
    >>> solveset(x**2 - 3 > 0, x, domain=S.Reals)
536
     (-oo, -sqrt(3)) U (sqrt(3), oo)
          • Infinitely many solutions
537
    >>> solveset(sin(x) - 1, x, domain=S.Reals)
538
    ImageSet(Lambda(_n, 2*_n*pi + pi/2), Integers())
539
    >>> solveset(x - x, x, domain=S.Reals)
541
    (-00, 00)
542
    >>> solveset(x - x, x, domain=S.Complexes)
    S.Complexes
543
          • Linear system: finite and infinite solution for determined, under determined
544
            and over determined problems.
545
    >>> A = Matrix([[1, 2, 3], [4, 5, 6], [7, 8, 10]])
546
    >>> b = Matrix([3, 6, 9])
    >>> linsolve((A, b), x, y, z)
548
    \{(-1,2,0)\}
549
    >>> linsolve(Matrix(([1, 1, 1, 1], [1, 1, 2, 3])), (x, y, z))
550
    \{(-y - 1, y, 2)\}
551
         The new solve i.e. solveset is under active development and is a planned replace-
552
    ment for solve, Hence there are some features which are implemented in solve and is
    not yet implemented in solveset. The table below show the current state of old and
554
```

new solve functions.

Solveset vs Solve				
Feature	solve	solveset		
Consistent Output API	No	Yes		
Consistent Input API	No	Yes		
Univariate	Yes	Yes		
Linear System	Yes	Yes (linsolve)		
Non Linear System	Yes	Not yet		
Transcendental	Yes	Not yet		

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557

Below are some of the examples of old **solve** function:

• Non Linear (multivariate) System of Equation: Intersection of a circle and a parabola.

```
>>> solve([x**2 + y**2 - 16, 4*x - y**2 + 6], x, y)
563
    [(-2 + sqrt(14), -sqrt(-2 + 4*sqrt(14))),
564
     (-2 + sqrt(14), sqrt(-2 + 4*sqrt(14))),
565
     (-sqrt(14) - 2, -I*sqrt(2 + 4*sqrt(14))),
566
     (-sqrt(14) - 2, I*sqrt(2 + 4*sqrt(14)))]
567
568
         • Transcendental Equation
    >>> solve(x + log(x))**2 - 5*(x + log(x)) + 6, x)
569
    [LambertW(exp(2)), LambertW(exp(3))]
    >>> solve(x**3 + exp(x))
571
572
    [-3*LambertW((-1)**(2/3)/3)]
```

Diophantine equations play a central and an important role in number theory. A Diophantine equation has the form,  $f(x_1, x_2, \dots x_n) = 0$  where  $n \ge 2$  and  $x_1, x_2, \dots x_n$  are integer variables. If we can find n integers  $a_1, a_2, \dots a_n$  such that  $x_1 = a_1, x_2 = a_2, \dots x_n = a_n$  satisfies the above equation, we say that the equation is solvable.

Currently, following five types of Diophantine equations can be solved using SymPy's Diophantine module.

- Linear Diophantine equations:  $a_1x_1 + a_2x_2 + \cdots + a_nx_n = b$
- General binary quadratic equation:  $ax^2 + bxy + cy^2 + dx + ey + f = 0$
- Homogeneous ternary quadratic equation:  $ax^2+by^2+cz^2+dxy+eyz+fzx=0$
- Extended Pythagorean equation:  $a_1x_1^2 + a_2x_2^2 + \cdots + a_nx_n^2 = a_{n+1}x_{n+1}^2$
- General sum of squares:  $x_1^2 + x_2^2 + \dots + x_n^2 = k$

When an equation is fed into Diophantine module, it factors the equation (if possible) and solves each factor separately. Then all the results are combined to create the final solution set. Following examples illustrate some of the basic functionalities of the Diophantine module.

```
>>> from sympy import symbols
588
    >>> x, y, z = symbols("x, y, z", integer=True)
589
590
    \Rightarrow diophantine(2*x + 3*y - 5)
    set([(3*t_0 - 5, -2*t_0 + 5)])
592
593
    >>> diophantine(2*x + 4*y - 3)
594
595
    set()
596
    >>> diophantine(x**2 - 4*x*y + 8*y**2 - 3*x + 7*y - 5)
597
    set([(2, 1), (5, 1)])
598
```

```
>>> diophantine(x**2 - 4*x*y + 4*y**2 - 3*x + 7*y - 5)
600
         set([(-2*t**2 - 7*t + 10, -t**2 - 3*t + 5)])
601
602
         >>> diophantine(3*x**2 + 4*y**2 - 5*z**2 + 4*x*y - 7*y*z + 7*z*x)
603
         set([(-16*p**2 + 28*p*q + 20*q**2, 3*p**2 + 38*p*q - 25*q**2, 4*p**2 - 24*p*q + 68*q**2)])
604
605
606
         >>> from sympy.abc import a, b, c, d, e, f
         >>> diophantine(9*a**2 + 16*b**2 + c**2 + 49*d**2 + 4*e**2 - 25*f**2)
607
         set([(70*t1**2 + 70*t2**2 + 70*t3**2 + 70*t4**2 - 70*t5**2, 105*t1*t5, 420*t2*t5, 60*t3*t5, 210*t4*t5, 420*t2*t5, 4
608
609
         >>> diophantine(a**2 + b**2 + c**2 + d**2 + e**2 + f**2 - 112)
610
611
         set([(8, 4, 4, 4, 0, 0)])
                4.5. Matrices. SymPy supports matrices with symbolic expressions as elements.
612
        There are two types of matrices, Mutable and Immutable. Mutable classes are the
613
         default in SymPy as mutability is important for performance, but it means that stan-
614
         dard matrices can not interact well with the rest of SymPy. This is because the Basic
615
616
         object, from which most SymPy classes inherit, is immutable.
                Immutable matrix classes inherit from Basic and can thus interact more naturally
617
         with the rest of SymPy.
618
         In [1]: from sympy import Matrix, symbols, MatrixSymbol
619
620
621
         In [2]: x, y = symbols('x y', positive=True)
622
         In [3]: t = Matrix(2, 2, [x, x + y, y, x])
623
624
         In [4]: t
625
626
627
         Out [4]:
        Matrix([
628
629
        x, x + y],
                                  x]])
630
                    у,
631
        In [5]: t[0, 1] = y
632
633
        In [6]: t
634
        Out[6]:
635
        Matrix([
636
637
         [x, y],
638
         [y, x]
                All SymPy matrix types can do linear algebra including matrix addition, multipli-
639
         cation, exponentiation, computing determinant, solving linear systems and comput-
640
         ing inverses using LU decomposition, LDL decomposition, Gauss-Jordan elimination,
641
642
         Cholesky decomposition, Moore-Penrose pseudoinverse, adjugate matrix.
                Eigenvalues are computed symbolically as well. Eigenvalues are computed by gen-
643
644
         erating the characteristic polynomial using the Berkowitz algorithm and then solving
         it using polynomial routines. Diagonalizable matrices can be diagonalized first to
645
         compute the eigenvalues.
646
         In [10]: t.eigenvals()
647
        Out[10]: \{x - y: 1, x + y: 1\}
```

Internally these matrices store the elements as a list making it a dense representation. For storing sparse matrices, SparseMatrix and ImmutableSparseMatrix classes can be used. Sparse matrix classes store the elements in Dictionary of Keys (DoK) format.

SymPy also supports matrices with unknown dimension values. MatrixSymbol represents a matrix with dimensions m, n where m and n can be symbols or integers. Matrix addition and multiplication, scalar operations, matrix inverse and transpose are stored symbolically as matrix expressions. Mutable matrices are converted to corresponding immutable types before interacting with matrix expressions

```
In [11]: m, n, p = symbols("m, n, p", integer=True)
658
659
    In [12]: r, s = MatrixSymbol("r", m, n), MatrixSymbol("s", n, p)
660
661
    In [13]: u = r * s + 2*MatrixSymbol("t", m, p)
662
663
    In [14]: u.shape
664
    Out[14]: (m, p)
665
666
    In [15]: u[0, 1]
667
    Out[15]: 2*t[0, 1] + Sum(r[0, _k]*s[_k, 1], (_k, 0, n - 1))
668
        Block matrices are also supported in SymPy. BlockMatrix elements can be any
669
    matrix expression which includes immutable matrices, matrix symbols and block ma-
670
    trices. All functionalities of matrix expressions are also present in BlockMatrix.
672
    >>> from sympy import (MatrixSymbol, BlockMatrix, symbols,
             Identity, ZeroMatrix, block_collapse)
673
    >>> n, m, 1 = symbols('n m 1')
674
    >>> X = MatrixSymbol('X', n, n)
    >>> Y = MatrixSymbol('Y', m ,m)
677
    >>> Z = MatrixSymbol('Z', n, m)
    >>> B = BlockMatrix([[X, Z], [ZeroMatrix(m,n), Y]])
    >>> print(B)
679
680 Matrix([
    [X, Z],
681
    [0, Y]
682
683
    >>> print(B[0, 0])
    X[0, 0]
684
685
```

4.6. Physics.

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## 4.7. Series.

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**4.7.1.** Series Expansion. SymPy is able to calculate the symbolic series expansion of an arbitrary series or expression involving elementary and special functions and multiple variables. For this it has two different implementations- the series method and Ring Series.

The first approach stores a series as an object of the Basic class. Each function 691 692 has its specific implementation of its expansion which is able to evaluate the Puiseux series expansion about a specified point. For example, consider a Taylor expansion 693 694

```
>>> from sympy import symbols, series
695
    >>> x, y = symbols('x, y')
```

```
>>> series(sin(x+y) + cos(x*y), x, 0, 2)
697
698
    1 + \sin(y) + x*\cos(y) + O(x**2)
```

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707 708

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718 719

720

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The newer and much faster[1] approach called Ring Series makes use of the observation that a truncated Taylor series, is in fact a polynomial. Ring Series uses the efficient representation and operations of sparse polynomials. The choice of sparse polynomials is deliberate as it performs well in a wider range of cases than a dense representation. Ring Series gives the user the freedom to choose the type of coefficients he wants to have in his series, allowing the use of faster operations on certain types.

For this, several low level methods for expansion of trigonometric, hyperbolic and other elementary functions like inverse of a series, calculating nth root, etc, are implemented using variants of the Newton [7] Method. All these support Puiseux series expansion. The following example demonstrates the use of an elementary function that calculates the Taylor expansion of the sine of a series.

```
>>> from sympy import ring
711
    >>> from sympy.polys.ring_series import rs_sin
712
    >>> R, x = ring('x', QQ)
713
714
    >>> rs_sin(x**2 + x, x, 5)
    -1/2*x**4 - 1/6*x**3 + x**2 + x
715
```

The function sympy.polys.rs\_series makes use of these elementary functions to expand an arbitrary SymPy expression. It does so by following a recursive strategy of expanding the lower most functions first and then composing them recursively to calculate the desired expansion. Currently it only supports expansion about 0 and is under active development. Ring Series is several times faster than the default implementation with the speed difference increasing with the size of the series. The sympy.polys.rs\_series takes as input any SymPy expression and hence there is no need to explicitly create a polynomial ring. An example:

```
>>> from sympy.polys.ring_series import rs_series
724
725
    >>> from sympy.abc import a, b
    >>> from sympy import sin, cos
726
    >>> rs_series(sin(a + b), a, 4)
727
    -1/2*(\sin(b))*a**2 + (\sin(b)) - 1/6*(\cos(b))*a**3 + (\cos(b))*a
728
```

**4.7.2. Formal Power Series.** SymPy can be used for computing the Formal 729 Power Series of a function. The implementation is based on the algorithm described in the paper on Formal Power Series [13]. The advantage of this approach is that an explicit formula for the coefficients of the series expansion is generated rather than just computing a few terms. 733

The following example shows how to use fps:

```
>>> f = fps(sin(x), x, x0=0)
735
736
    >>> f.truncate(6)
    x - x**3/6 + x**5/120 + 0(x**6)
737
    >>> f[15]
738
    -x**15/1307674368000
739
```

**4.7.3.** Fourier Series. SymPy provides functionality to compute Fourier Series 740 741 of a function using the fourier\_series function. Under the hood it just computes a0, an, bn using standard integration formulas. 742

Here's an example on how to compute Fourier Series in SymPy: 743

```
>>> L = symbols('L')
744
    >>> f = fourier_series(2 * (Heaviside(x/L) - Heaviside(x/L - 1)) - 1, (x, 0, 2*L))
```

```
746 >>> f.truncate(3)
747 4*sin(pi*x/L)/pi + 4*sin(3*pi*x/L)/(3*pi) + 4*sin(5*pi*x/L)/(5*pi)
```

- **4.8.** Logic. SymPy supports construction and manipulation of boolean expressions through the logic module. SymPy symbols can be used as propositional variables and also be substituted as True or False. A good number of manipulation features for boolean expressions have been implemented in the logic module.
- 4.8.1. Constructing boolean expressions. A boolean variable can be declared as a SymPy symbol. Python operators &, | and ~ are overloaded for logical And, Or and negate. Several others like Xor, Implies can be constructed with ^, >> respectively. The above are just a shorthand, expressions can also be constructed by directly calling And(), Or(), Not(), Xor(), Nand(), Nor(), etc. >>> from sympy import \*

```
757 >>> from sympy import *
758 >>> x, y, z = symbols('x y z')
759 >>> e = (x & y) | z
760 >>> e.subs({x: True, y: True, z: False})
761 True
```

4.8.2. CNF and DNF. Any boolean expression can be converted to conjunctive normal form, disjunctive normal form and negation normal form. The API also permits to check if a boolean expression is in any of the above mentioned forms.

```
>>> from sympy import *
765
    >>> x, y, z = symbols('x y z')
766
    >>> to_cnf((x & y) | z)
767
   And (Or(x, z), Or(y, z))
    >>> to_dnf(x & (y | z))
769
770
    Or(And(x, y), And(x, z))
    >>> is_cnf((x | y) & z)
771
772
    >>> is_dnf((x & y) | z)
773
774
    True
```

748

749

750

751

4.8.3. Simplification and Equivalence. The module supports simplification of given boolean expression by making deductions on it. Equivalence of two expressions can also be checked. If so, it is possible to return the mapping of variables of two expressions so as to represent the same logical behaviour.

```
>>> from sympy import *
779
    >>> a, b, c, x, y, z = symbols('a b c x y z')
780
    >>> e = a & (~a | ~b) & (a | c)
    >>> simplify(e)
782
    And(Not(b), a)
783
    >>> e1 = a & (b | c)
784
    >>> e2 = (x \& y) | (x \& z)
785
    >>> bool_map(e1, e2)
786
    (And(Or(b, c), a), \{b: y, a: x, c: z\})
787
```

4.8.4. SAT solving. The module also supports satisfiability checking of a given boolean expression. If satisfiable, it is possible to return a model for which the expression is satisfiable. The API also supports returning all possible models. The SAT solver has a clause learning DPLL algorithm implemented with watch literal scheme and VSIDS heuristic[17].

```
793 >>> from sympy import *
794 >>> a, b, c = symbols('a b c')
795 >>> satisfiable(a & (~a | b) & (~b | c) & ~c)
796 False
797 >>> satisfiable(a & (~a | b) & (~b | c) & c)
798 {b: True, a: True, c: True}
```

 SymPy includes several packages that allow users to solve domain specific problems. For example, a comprehensive physics package is included that is useful for solving problems in classical mechanics, optics, and quantum mechanics along with support for manipuating physical quantities with units.

**4.9. Vector Algebra.** The sympy.physics.vector package provides reference frame, time, and space aware vector and dyadic objects that allow for three dimensional operations such as addition, subtraction, scalar multiplication, inner and outer products, cross products, etc. Both of these objects can be written in very compact notation that make it easy to express the vectors and dyadics in terms of multiple reference frames with arbitrarily defined relative orientations. The vectors are used to specify the positions, velocities, and accelerations of points, orientations, angular velocities, and angular accelerations of reference frames, and force and torques. The dyadics are essentially reference frame aware  $3 \times 3$  tensors. The vector and dyadic objects can be used for any one-, two-, or three-dimensional vector algebra and they provide a strong framework for building physics and engineering tools.

Listing 1 Python interpreter session showing how a vector is created using the orthogonal unit vectors of three reference frames that are oriented with respect to each other and the result of expressing the vector in the A frame. The B frame is oriented with respect to the A frame using Z-X-Z Euler Angles of magnitude  $\pi$ ,  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ , and  $\frac{\pi}{3}$  rad, respectively whereas the C frame is oriented with respect to the B frame through a simple rotation about the B frame's X unit vector through  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  rad.

```
>>> from sympy import pi
>>> from sympy.physics.vector import ReferenceFrame
>>> A = ReferenceFrame('A')
>>> B = ReferenceFrame('B')
>>> C = ReferenceFrame('C')
>>> B.orient(A, 'body', (pi, pi / 3, pi / 4), 'zxz')
>>> C.orient(B, 'axis', (pi / 2, B.x))
>>> v = 1 * A.x + 2 * B.z + 3 * C.y
>>> v
A.x + 2*B.z + 3*C.y
>>> v.express(A)
A.x + 5*sqrt(3)/2*A.y + 5/2*A.z
```

4.10. Classical Mechanics. The physics.mechanics package utilizes the physics.vector package to populate time aware particle and rigid body objects to fully describe the kinematics and kinetics of a rigid multi-body system. These objects store all of the information needed to derive the ordinary differential or differential algebraic equations that govern the motion of the system, i.e., the equations of motion. These equations of motion abide by Newton's laws of motion and can handle any arbitrary kinematical constraints or complex loads. The package offers two automated methods for formulating the equations of motion based on Lagrangian Dynamics [16] and

- Kane's Method [15]. Lastly, there are automated linearization routines for constrained dynamical systems based on [19].
  - **4.11. Quantum Mechanics.** The sympy.physics.quantum package provides quantum functions, states, operators, and computation of standard quantum models.
    - 4.12. Optics. The physics.optics package provides Gaussian optics functions.
  - 4.13. Units. The physics.units module provides around two hundred predefined prefixes and SI units that are commonly used in the sciences. Additionally, it provides the Unit class which allows the user to define their own units. These prefixes and units are multiplied by standard SymPy objects to make expressions unit aware, allowing for algebraic and calculus manipulations to be applied to the expressions while the units are tracked in the manipulations. The units of the expressions can be easily converted to other desired units. There is also a new units system in sympy.physics.unitsystems that allows the user to work in specified unit systems.
  - 5. Other Projects that use SymPy. There are several projects that use SymPy as a library for implementing a part of their project, or even as a part of back-end for their application as well.

Some of them are listed below:

- Cadabra: Cadabra is a symbolic computer algebra system (CAS) designed specifically for the solution of problems encountered in field theory.
- Octave Symbolic: The Octave-Forge Symbolic package adds symbolic calculation features to GNU Octave. These include common Computer Algebra System tools such as algebraic operations, calculus, equation solving, Fourier and Laplace transforms, variable precision arithmetic and other features.
- SymPy.jl: Provides a Julia interface to SymPy using PyCall.
- Mathics: Mathics is a free, general-purpose online CAS featuring Mathematica compatible syntax and functions. It is backed by highly extensible Python code, relying on SymPy for most mathematical tasks.
- Mathpix: An iOS App, that uses Artificial Intelligence to detect handwritten math as input, and uses SymPy Gamma, to evaluate the math input and generate the relevant steps to solve the problem.
- Sage: A CAS, visioned to be a viable free open source alternative to Magma, Maple, Mathematica and Matlab.
- SageMathCloud: SageMathCloud is a web-based cloud computing and course management platform for computational mathematics.
- PyDy: Multibody Dynamics with Python.
- galgebra: Geometric algebra (previously sympy.galgebra).
- yt: Python package for analyzing and visualizing volumetric data (yt.units uses SymPy).
- SfePy: Simple finite elements in Python.
- Quameon: Quantum Monte Carlo in Python.
- Lcapy: Experimental Python package for teaching linear circuit analysis.
- Quantum Programming in Python: Quantum 1D Simple Harmonic Oscillator and Quantum Mapping Gate.
- LaTeX Expression project: Easy LaTeX typesetting of algebraic expressions in symbolic form with automatic substitution and result computation.
- Symbolic statistical modeling: Adding statistical operations to complex physical models.

**5.1. SymPy Gamma.** SymPy Gamma is a simple web application that runs on Google App Engine. It executes and displays the results of SymPy expressions as well as additional related computations, in a fashion similar to that of Wolfram|Alpha. For instance, entering an integer will display its prime factors, digits in the base-10 expansion, and a factorization diagram. Entering a function will display its docstring; in general, entering an arbitrary expression will display its derivative, integral, series expansion, plot, and roots.

 SymPy Gamma also has several additional features than just computing the results using SymPy.

• It displays integration steps, differentiation steps in detail, which can be viewed in Figure 1:

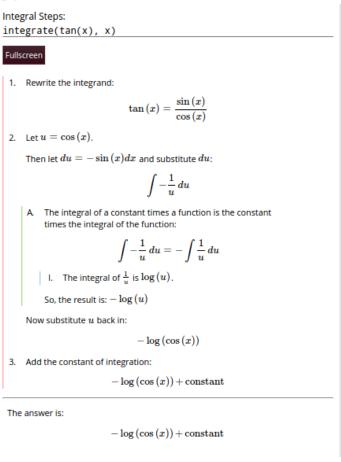


Fig. 1: Integral steps of tan(x)

- It also displays the factor tree diagrams for different numbers.
- SymPy Gamma also saves user search queries, and offers many such similar features for free, which Wolfram|Alpha only offers to its paid users.

Every input query from the user on SymPy Gamma is first, parsed by its own parser, which handles several different forms of function names, which SymPy as a library doesn't support. For instance, SymPy Gamma supports queries like sin x, whereas SymPy doesn't support this, and supports only sin(x).

This parser converts the input query to the equivalent SymPy readable code,

which is then eventually processed by SymPy and the result is finally formatted in LaTeX and displayed on the SymPy Gamma web-application.

**5.2.** SymPy Live. SymPy Live is an online Python shell, which runs on Google App Engine, that executes SymPy code. It is integrated in the SymPy documentation examples, located at this link.

This is accomplished by providing a HTML/JavaScript GUI for entering source code and visualization of output, and a server part which evaluates the requested source code. It's an interactive AJAX shell, that runs SymPy code using Python on the server.

Certain Features of SymPy Live:

- It supports the exact same syntax as SymPy, hence it can be used easily, to test for outputs of various SymPy expressions.
- It can be run as a standalone app or in an existing app as an admin-only handler, and can also be used for system administration tasks, as an interactive way to try out APIs, or as a debugging aid during development.
- It can also be used to plot figures (link), and execute all kinds of expressions that SymPy can evaluate.
- SymPy Live also formats the output in LaTeX for pretty-printing the output.

# 6. Comparison with other CAS.

**6.1. Mathematica.** Wolfram Mathematica is a popular proprietary CAS. It features highly advanced algorithms. Mathematica has a core implemented in C++ [2] which interprets its own programming language (know as Wolfram language).

Analogously to Lisp's S-expressions, Mathematica uses its own style of M-expressions, which are arrays of either atoms or other M-expression. The first element of the expression identifies the type of the expression and is indexed by zero, whereas the first argument is indexed by one. Notice that SymPy expression arguments are stored in a Python tuple (that is, an immutable array), while the expression type is identified by the type of the object storing the expression.

Mathematica can associate attributes to its atoms.

Unlike SymPy, Mathematica's expressions are mutable, that is one can change parts of the expression tree without the need of creating a new object. The reactivity of Mathematica allows for a lazy updating of any references to that data structure.

Products in Mathematica are determined by some builtin node types, such as Times, Dot, and others. Times is overloaded by the \* operator, and is always meant to represent a commutative operator. The other notable product is Dot, overloaded by the . operator. This product represents matrix multiplication, it is not commutative. SymPy uses the same node for both scalar and matrix multiplication, the only exception being with abstract matrix symbols. Unlike Mathematica, SymPy determines commutativity with respect to multiplication from the factor's expression type. Mathematica puts the Orderless attribute on the expression type.

Regarding associative expressions, SymPy handles associativity by making associative expressions inherit the class AssocOp, while Mathematica specifies the Flat attribute on the expression type.

## 7. Conclusion and future work.

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