

LARSON—MATH 255—CLASSROOM WORKSHEET 10
Scatterplot & Recursion

1. (a) Start the Chrome browser.
(b) Go to `http://cocalc.com`
(c) You should see an existing Project for our class. Click on that.
(d) Click “New”, then “Sage Worksheet”, then call it **c10**.
(e) For each problem number, label it in the SAGE cell where the work is. So for Problem 1, the first line of the cell should be `#Problem 1`.

Follow-up

2. Write a function `to_polar(x,y)` that takes any pair (x,y) in Cartesian coordinates and converts it to polar coordinates (r,θ) .
3. Write a function `to_cartesian(r,θ)` that takes any pair (r,θ) in polar coordinates and converts it to Cartesian coordinates (x,y) .

Step Functions and Scatter Plots

Given a list L of pairs (x,y) you can plot the *step function* that holds y constant from one x to the next with `plot_step_function(L)`.

4. Try `plot_step_function([(x,x) for x in [3..9]])`
5. Try `plot_step_function([(i,sin(i)) for i in [5..20]])`
6. Try `plot_step_function([(i*.2,sin(i*.2)) for i in [5..100]])`

Given a list L of pairs (x,y) you can plot the *scatter plot* that consists just of those points with `scatter_plot(L)`.

7. Try `scatter_plot([(0,1),(2,4),(3.2,6)])`
8. Try `scatter_plot([(x,x) for x in [5..20]])`
9. Try `scatter_plot([(x,x**2) for x in [-5..5]])`
10. Try `scatter_plot([(i*.2,sin(i*.2)) for i in [5..100]])`
11. Define a function `points(x)` that plots all the points $(1,2), (2,3), \dots (x,x+1)$. Use `scatter_plot()`.

Recursion

A **recursive** function is a function that calls itself. It must always have a *base case* so that the recursion eventually stops.

12. Here is an example of a recursive definition of the *factorial* function. The base case here is the case where the input is 0 or 1.

```
def facto1(n):
    if n==0 or n==1:
        return 1
    else:
        return n*facto1(n-1)
```

Now try `facto1(0)`, `facto1(1)`, `facto1(2)`, `facto1(3)`, and `facto1(10)`.

13. It is often intuitive to define a function recursively, but usually the same function can be defined without recursion. Here is a function `facto2(n)` that does the same thing as `factorial(x)` but is **not** recursive. Test it to make sure it gives the same results.

```
def facto2(n):
    result=1
    if n==0:
        return result
    for i in [1..n]:
        result=result*i
    return result
```

Try `facto2(0)`, `facto2(1)`, `facto2(2)`, `facto2(3)`, and `facto2(10)`.

14. Write a function `facto3(x)` that prints `x`, and returns 1 if `x=1` else returns `x*facto3(x-1)`. Test it!
15. The *gcd* of 2 non-negative integers is their *greatest common divisor*. The following recursive function calculates the gcd of integers *a* and *b* using the fact (which can be proved) that, if $a \geq b$ then $\text{gcd}(a, b) = \text{gcd}(a - b, b)$. It uses the fact that $\text{gcd}(0, a) = \text{gcd}(a, 0) = a$, for any non-negative integer *a*, as the base case.

```
def gcd(a,b):
    if a==0 or b==0:
        return max(a,b)
    else:
        return gcd(max(a,b)-min(a,b),min(a,b))
```

Try $\gcd(0, 5)$, $\gcd(2, 5)$, $\gcd(5, 5)$, $\gcd(10, 5)$, $\gcd(50, 51)$, $\gcd(50, 55)$,
and $\gcd(1234, 5678)$.

16. The `gcd()` function does not actually test that the input numbers are non-negative. Add a test to your code, so that if either a or b is negative, the program prints an error message.
17. Write a non-recursive (iterative) `gcd` function.

Getting your classwork recorded

When you are done, before you leave class...

- (a) Click the “Make pdf” (Adobe symbol) icon and make a pdf of this worksheet. (If CoCalc hangs, click the printer icon, then “Open”, then print or make a pdf using your browser).
- (b) Send me an email with an informative header like “Math 255 - c10 worksheet attached” (so that it will be properly recorded).
- (c) Remember to attach today’s classroom worksheet!