

LARSON—MATH 255—HOMEWORK WORKSHEET h09
Data and Simulations

1. Create a Cocalc/Sage Cloud account.
 - (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 **h09**.
 - (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**.
2. (**Working with Data**) There is a file *sample_data.txt* in your CoCalc project Hand-outs folder. Write a program (script, code, list of commands) to:
 - (a) Open that file,
 - (b) Read the number-string on each line and convert/cast it to an integer (type),
 - (c) Then put it in a list of integers called *my_numbers*.
3. You have a *list* of numbers. You can use built-in Sage functions to find out statistics about this list.
 - (a) How many numbers are there?
 - (b) What is the biggest number?
 - (c) What is the sum of these numbers?
 - (d) What is the average of these numbers?
 - (e) What is their median?

Another Matchbook Problem: A pipe smoker has **three** booklets of matches in his pocket, each containing 40 matches initially. Whenever a match is required he picks one of the booklets at random, removing one match.

- (a) Write code to simulate one experiment (keep taking matches randomly until one of the three matchbooks is empty). Keep track of how many matches you took.
- (b) Repeat this experiment **lots** of times and find the average number of matches you can take before one matchbox is empty.

Getting your homework recorded

When you are done,...

- (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 - h09 worksheet attached” (so that it will be properly recorded).