

Alife Mutants Hackingsession on Systems and Organisms, Bielefeld 2004

Introduction to Mathematica

In this workshop you learn how to use Mathematica 5.0 and its various Packages

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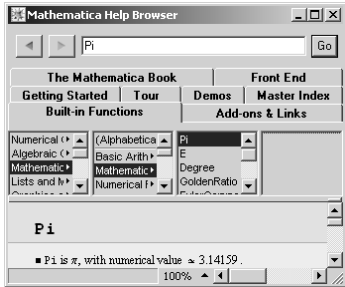
getting started

- the **notebook window**
 - to enter input start typing...
 - example: 1 + 1
 - then press [shift] [enter] to obtain the result
- the **cells**
 - every input and output goes into a separate cell
 - you can open and close cells
 - doubleclick the cell bracket to open and close it
 - cells can also be nested

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getting help

- to get help open the **Help Browser**
 - the Help Browser contains
 - the complete Mathematica Book
 - Build-In Functions + Examples
 - Tours & Demos
 - start it via
 - the help menu
 - pressing [shift] [f1]
 - context help: select some text, then press [f1]
 - use the Master index to search all entries



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shortcuts I

- get online help on a function
 - type ? before the function name in the Notebook
 - example: type ?CellularAutomaton
- complete a partial function name
 - press [ctrl] k , then select from the popup window
- get a function template
 - press [shift][ctrl] k

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{ shortcuts II }

- copy **input** from the previous cell
 - press [ctrl] L
- copy **output** from the previous cell
 - press [shift][ctrl] L
- expand selection (select enclosing block)
 - doubleclick or press [ctrl] . (dot)
- to get a complete list of shortcuts
 - see: helpbrowser – ,keyboard shortcuts‘

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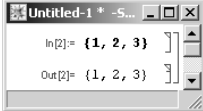
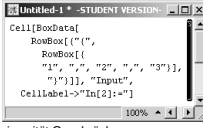
{ expressions I }

- in Mathematica everything is an expression
- **functions**
 - expressions that are immediately evaluated
 - example: Expand[(x+1)^8]
 - note:
 - Mathematica functions always start with capital letters
 - arguments in square brackets

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{ expressions II }

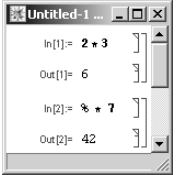
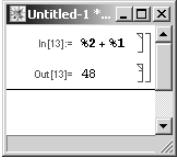
- Other Expressions
 - unknown expressions and lists will simply be returned unprocessed
 - example: expand[(x-1)^8]
 - example: {1,2,3}
 - Note:
 - list use curly braces
- even notebooks and cells are expressions
 - to see the cell expression select it and press [shift] [ctrl] e
 - press [shift][ctrl] e again to get the original cell back

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{ special variables }

- you can refer to the previous result using %
- older results can be accessed via Out[n] or simply ,%n‘

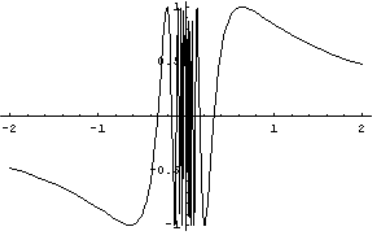
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{ *graphic plots* }

- 2D plot

- plotting functions
 - one independent variable
- 1st argument
 - function
- 2nd argument
 - range list
 - {var,min,max}

```
In[1]:= Plot[Sin[1/x], {x, -2, 2}]
```



```
Out[1]:= - Graphics -
```

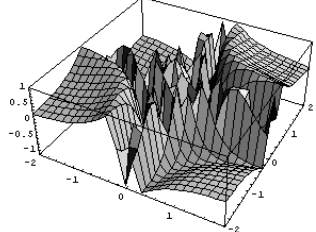
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{ *graphic plots* }

- 3D plot

- plotting functions
 - 2 independent variables
- 1st argument
 - function
- 2nd argument
 - range list for var1
- 3rd argument
 - range list for var2

```
In[2]:= Plot3D[Sin[1/(xy)], {x, -2, 2}, {y, -2, 2}]
```



```
Out[2]:= - SurfaceGraphics -
```

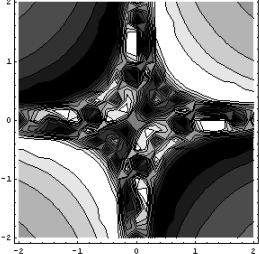
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{ *graphic plots* }

- contour plot

- topographic map of a function
 - contourlines
 - shading value intervals

```
In[3]:= ContourPlot[Sin[1/(xy)], {x, -2, 2}, {y, -2, 2}]
```



```
Out[3]:= - ContourGraphics -
```

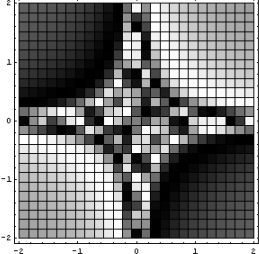
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{ *graphic plots* }

- density plot

- discrete sampling of the function
 - shading corresponds to function value
 - black: lowest
 - white: highest

```
In[4]:= DensityPlot[Sin[1/(xy)], {x, -2, 2}, {y, -2, 2}]
```



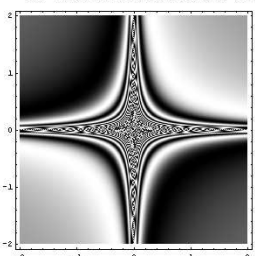
```
Out[4]:= - DensityGraphics -
```

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{ options I }

- passing options
 - many functions take optional arguments (Options) written as Option → Value pairs in no particular order.
 - to get a list of all Options use Options[Function]

```
In[5]:= DensityPlot[Sin[1/(x y)], {x, -2, 2},
{y, -2, 2}, PlotPoints -> 1000, Mesh -> False]
```



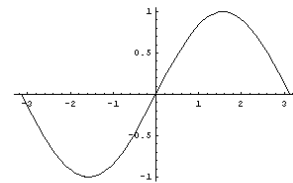
Out[5]= -DensityGraphics -

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{ options II }

- Automatic Value
 - if an option has the Value 'Automatic' Mathematica will figure out the optimal setting automatically
 - If you want to see the current value used in a Graphics Object use AbsoluteOptions
 - to set Options permanently use SetOption
 - example:
 - SetOptions[Plot, Frame → True]

```
In[1]:= Plot[Sin[x], {x, -Pi, Pi}]
```



```
Out[1]= -Graphics -
In[2]:= Options[%1, PlotRange]
Out[2]= {PlotRange -> Automatic}
In[3]:= AbsoluteOptions[%1, PlotRange]
Out[3]= {PlotRange -> {{-3.29867, 3.29867},
{-1.05, 1.05}}}
```

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{ definitions }

- immediate assignment
 - lhs = rhs
 - righthand side is evaluated before assigning it

```
In[1]:= r1 = Random[Integer, 10]
Out[1]= 6
In[2]:= r1 ^ 2
Out[2]= 36
In[3]:= ?r1
Global`r1
r1 = 6
```

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{ functions }

- delayed assignment
 - lhs := rhs
 - righthand side is evaluated when the function is used

```
In[4]:= r2 := Random[Integer, 10]
In[5]:= {r2, r2, r2, r2, r2}
Out[5]= {10, 5, 1, 8, 6}
In[6]:= ?r2
Global`r2
r2 := Random[Integer, 10]
```

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{ how to combine functions }

■ there are basically four ways to do it

- use previous results, employing variables and ,%'
 - you can built up your results step by step
 - you can reuse previous results
- nest functions $g[f[x]]$
 - the expression stands on its own
 - you can include it in a package
- prefix ,g @ f'
 - saves you a bracket
 - precedence may become unclear
- postfix ,f // g'
 - nice for adding afterthoughts quickly

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{ how to input functions }

■ there are basically four ways to do it

- 1d notation
 - alphanumeric characters only (shell mode)
- 2d notation using palettes
 - menu: file – palettes
- 2d notation using special keys
 - helpbrowser: frontend – ,entering 2d expressions'
- fullform notation
 - every function operator has a fullform equivalent

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{ how to output functions I }

■ there are four basic forms of display

- **OutputForm**
 - this form is used for output by default (2d notation)
- **InputForm**
 - shows the function using 1d notation
- **TraditionalForm**
 - shows the Function as you would find it in a Math Textbook
- **StandardForm**
 - shows the Function in an unambiguous form (using squarebrackets for functions instead of round brackets)

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{ how to output functions II }

■ other useful forms:

- **FullForm**
 - shows the function using 1d notation with full function names for all operators
- **Short**
 - print only the beginning and the end of an expression –useful for very large lists.
- **HoldForm**
 - displays the output without evaluating it first, you may combine this with FullForm

```
In[1]:= 1/2 // FullForm
Out[1]//FullForm=
Rational[1, 2]

In[2]:= $ContextPath // Short
Out[2]//Short= {DiscreteMath`Combinatorica`, (
Utilities`Package`,
<<9>, System`)}

In[3]:= 1/2 // FullForm // HoldForm
Out[3]= Times[1, Power[2, -1]]
```

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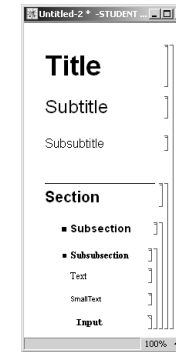
{ *how to save your work* }

- creating a notebook (beginners)
 - use the various styles for creating a document where the actual code is interwoven with documentation
 - use the OptionInspector to define InitializationCells which will be executed when the Notebook is opened.
- creating a package (advanced)
 - put all your code in a single .m -file
 - provide function documentation
- creating a complete application (professional)
 - program packages
 - create documentation for the HelpBrowser
 - create notebooks to demonstrate your application
 - create palettes for quick and easy access
 - define OutputForms for your functions if needed

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{ *creating a notebook* }

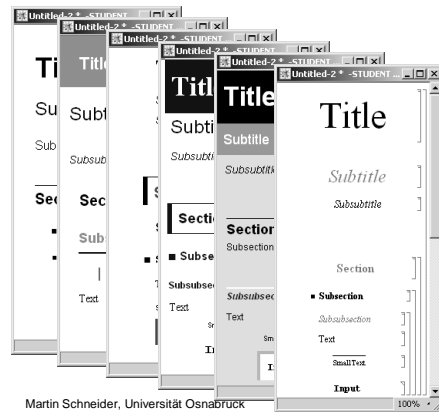
- a notebook can contain
 - input cells
 - output cells
 - normal text cells
- to change cell style
 - select the cell
 - select format-style from the main menu or press Alt-1 through Alt-9 to select the most common styles



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{ *style templates* }

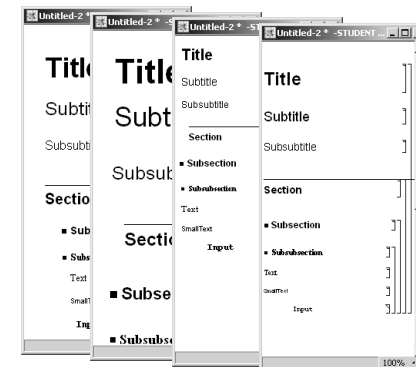
- change notebook stylesheets
 - there are several predefined stylesheets
 - main menu: format – style sheets
 - you can easily modify style sheets
 - main menu: format – edit style sheet



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{ *style templates* }

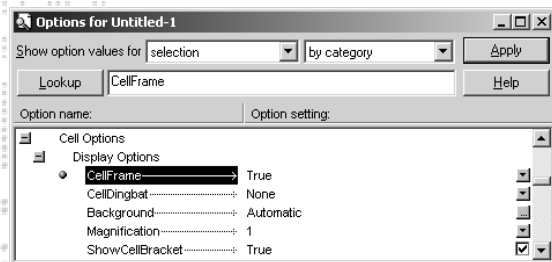
- change appearance for screen and print
 - working
 - presentation
 - condensed
 - printout style



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{ option inspector }

- the **Option Inspector** lets you change every property of your notebooks / cells.
 - try to change the CellFrame option for a cell



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{ using packages }

- packages are arranged in a hierarchy
 - the hierarchy corresponds to the package directory structure but Mathematica use backticks rather than slashes or backslashes
- to load a package use the `<<` operator
 - example:
 - `<<DiscreteMath`Combinatorica``
 - make sure you use backticks correctly!
- to list all Functions of the package use `?`
 - example
 - `?DiscreteMath`Combinatorica`*`
 - note the usage of the asterisk wildcard `*!`

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{ using packages II }

- the package `Utilities`Package`` provides some useful procedures to analyse packages

```
In[1]:= << Utilities`Package`; << DiscreteMath`Combinatorica`
In[2]:= Annotation["DiscreteMath`Combinatorica`", "Summary"]
Out[2]= {(* :Summary:
This package contains all the programs from the book, "Computational
Discrete Mathematics: Combinatorics and Graph Theory in Mathematica",
by Sriam V. Pemmaraju and Steven S. Skiena, Cambridge University Press,
2003.
*)}
In[3]:= FindPackages[$Path, "Combinatorica", FullPath -> True]
Out[3]= {{}, {}, {}, {}, {}, {}, {}, {}, {},
(C:\Programme\Wolfram Research\Mathematica\5.0\AddOns\StandardPackages\
DiscreteMath\Combinatorica.m), {}, {}, {}, {}, {}}
```

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{ namespaces }

- each package has its own namespace
 - `$Packages` returns a list of loaded packages
 - `$Context` returns the current namespace context
 - the namespaces on `$ContextPath` are searched from left to right if a symbol is not found in the current context
 - note that packages may automatically load other packages they use

```
In[1]:= << DiscreteMath`Combinatorica`
In[2]:= $Packages // Short
Out[2]= {DiscreteMath`Combinatorica`,
Statistics`Common`DistributionsCommon`,
DiscreteMath`Tree`,
<<6>>, Global`, System`}
In[3]:= $Context
Out[3]= Global`
In[4]:= $ContextPath // Short
Out[4]= {DiscreteMath`Combinatorica`,
Statistics`DiscreteDistributions`,
<<7>>, Global`, System`}
```

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{ creating a package }

■ the package skeleton

- use standard tags in your comments to make your documentation more accessible
- myFunction::usage will be shown when you type ?myFunction'
- Private Namespace for Implementation!
- Protect your Functions at the end. Unprotect them in the beginning to allow your package to be loaded more than once

```
(* :anyTag: any Documentation*)  
  
BeginPackage["myPackageName`"]  
Unprotect[myFunction]  
  
BlablaFunction::usage =  
  "BlablaFunction[x_] is returning a lot of bla"  
  
Begin["`Private`"]  
  BlablaFunction[x_] := Table[bla, Random[x]]  
End[]  
  
Protect[myFunction]  
EndPackage[]
```

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{ creating an application }

■ Directory Structure

- myApplicationName
 - { notebooks.nb }
 - { packages.m }
 - Documentation
 - English
 - BrowserCategories.m
 - { Documentation Notebooks }
 - FrontEnd
 - Palettes
 - { Palette Notebooks }
 - StyleSheets
 - { StyleSheet Notebooks }
 - Kernel
 - init.m
 - Look at Mathematica Add-Ons / Applications to find out how to do it
 - check library.wolfram.com for developer documentation

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{ functional programming I }

■ design principles

- functions as objects
- declarative, often recursive definitions
- many small functions (easy to reuse and debug)

■ creating functions

- Nest
 - Nest[f,x,3] = f[f[f[x]]]
- Fold
 - Fold[f,x,{1,2,3}] = f[f[f[x,1],2],3]
- Table
 - Table[f[x],{x,1,3}] = {f[1],f[2],f[3]}

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{ functional programming II }

■ manipulating functions

- list functions
 - can be applied to any kind of expression
 - Position, MapAt, MapAll ...

■ transforming functions

- Map
 - f @ g[x,y] = g[f[x],f[y]]
 - applies a function to each argument of a function.
- Apply
 - f @@ g[x,y] = f[x,y]
 - replaces the head of a function

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{ functional programming }

III

■ analyzing functions

- Head
 - Head[f[x,y] = f
- Part
 - Part[f[x,y],2] = y

■ pure functions

- fn[#1,#2,##3]&
 - create a function using the ,&' postfix
 - use # to create anonymous slots

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{ procedural programming }

■ design principles

- flow of control
- procedures are stated explicitly
- assigning intermediate results to variables

■ flow control

- If[cond,t,f]
 - evaluate either t or f depending on the truth value of cond.
- Which[test1,value1,test2,value2,...]
 - returns the value corresponding to the first test resulting in ,True'
- Switch[expr,form1,value1,form2,value2...]
- returns the value according to the first match between expr and form

■ iteration

- Do, While, For, Goto / Label ...

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{ variables and scope }

■ Global Variables

- SystemVariables
 - starting with \$
- Listing Variables
 - ?\$* : system vars
 - ?@ : all user vars

■ Scope

- Module
 - lexical scoping
- Block
 - dynamic scoping
- With
 - lexical scoping
 - replacement, ,local constants'
 - resolving multi-level

■ Local Variables

- Module[var-list,body]
 - take only effect in the local Module/Block
 - Mathematica creates for every local variable ,var', a unique instance ,var\$num'

```

In[1]:= m = i^2
Out[1]= i^2

In[2]:= Block[{i = a}, i + m]
Out[2]= a + a^2

In[3]:= Module[{i = a}, i + m]
Out[3]= a + i^2

```

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{ errors and debugging }

■ simple output

- use Print to output variables to the current Notebook
- you may also define your own output function to write to a special output window (notebook), a file etc...

■ tracing

- TracePrint shows every evaluated Expression that matches a certain pattern
- TraceDialog
 - stop whenever the pattern occurs
 - you can then analyze variables etc.
 - type Return[] to keep tracing or Exit[] when done.
- there are visual debugger tools at library.wolfram.com !

■ throw and catch

- you can throw and catch exceptions based on patterns
- you can selectively mute certain exceptions messages

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{ programming by the rule }

- rule
 - pattern -> replacement (immediately)
 - pattern :-> replacement (delayed)
- rules
 - List of Rules: {p1->r1,p2->r2, ... }
- ReplaceAll
 - expr /. rule(s)
 - apply the transformation rule(s) to every sub-expression
- ReplaceRepeated
 - p->x //. expr
 - apply transformation rule(s) until no more change occurs

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{ pattern matching I }

- similar to regular expressions
 - but matches can be referred to by name
- `.`
 - any single expression (.)
- `__`
 - sequence of one or more expressions (+)
- `__*`
 - sequence of zero or more expressions (*)
- name placeholders by prepending a variable name
 - name_name__, name__
- match only expressions with the given head
 - _head, __head, ___head
- type checking
 - for atomic expressions the head is either Integer,Real or Symbol
 - for compounds the Head is also often used to identify the datatype (List, Complex, Graph...)

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{ pattern matching II }

- `,expr..`
 - pattern repeated one or more times
- `,expr...`
 - pattern repeated zero or more times
- `pattern1 | pattern2 | ...`
 - match any of the alternatives
- `pattern ? test`
 - apply constraint on currently matched pattern
 - `x_?Positive`
- `pattern /; test`
 - general constraint
 - `{x_,y_} /; Positive[x]`

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{ function interfaces }

- function overloading
 - different versions of the function for different data types or argument numbers
 - default values for optional arguments
 - `fn[arg1, arg2 : default] := ...`
 - colon operator is overloaded too
- parsing options
 - `fn[arg1,arg2,..., opts___]`
 - filter Options using rules
 - `val = key /. { default-opts , opts }`
 - use filter utilities
 - `<< Utilities`FilterOptions``

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{ import - export }

- Import[„filename“,format] or Import[„filename“]
 - Mathematica tries to guess file format from the ending
- text
 - CSV, Lines, List, Table, Text, TSV, UnicodeText, Words
- XML
 - ExpressionML, MathML, NotebookML, SymbolicML, XML
- numerical
 - FITS, HarwellBoeing, HDF, MAT, MTX, SDTS

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{ import - export }

- vector graphics
 - EPS, EPSI, EPSTIFF, MPS
- raster graphics
 - BMP, DICOM, GIF, JPEG, MGF, PBM, PGM, PNG, PNM, PPM, TIFF, XBitmap
- 3d graphics
 - DXF, STL
- sound
 - AIFF, au, snd, wav

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{ graphic objects }

- Graphic Objects
 - Graphics
 - Graphics3D
 - SurfaceGraphics
 - ContourGraphics
 - DensityGraphics
 - GraphicsArray
- Graphic Primitives
 - Point, Line, Circle, Rectangle, Polygon, Text ...
- Graphics[p]
 - p can either be a Primitive or a list of Primitives
- GraphicsDirectives
 - OpenGL-like (state-machine)
 - a directive applies to all successive primitives
 - push and pop state using sublists
 - Colour, Thickness AbsoluteThickness, PointSize, AbsolutePointSize

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{ creating graphics }

- GraphicsArray
 - a Table of Graphic Objects
- FullGraphics
 - turns special Elements (Axis, Marks ...) of Plots into a Graphic Primitives, so you can manipulate them
- ImplicitGraphics, InequalityPlot, InequalityPlot3D
 - create implicit Graphics using the computational Power of Mathematica !
- Animations
 - Create a List of Graphics objects
 - doubleclick to animate
- Interactive Graphics
 - <<RealTime3D
 - interactively rotate the object in space to look at it from all angles

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{ *connecting and networking* }

- **MathLink**
 - alternative frontend
 - external program
 - other kernels
- **JLink**
 - interface to Sun's java
- **.Net/Link**
 - interface to Microsofts .Net

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{ *sound and music* }

- **Sound Primitives**
 - SampledSoundFunction
 - SampledSoundList
- **Play and ListPlay**
 - completely analogous to Plot and ListPlot
 - output Sound to arbitrary Number of Channels
- **The Sound of Cellular Automata**
 - listen to rule110 {01} 🔊
 - listen to rule110 {10} 🔊

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{ *fun with mathematica* }

- **dynamic nodebooks and selfreplicating code**
 - rule110 loves you
- **physical, biological and social simulations**
 - various Books and Packages by Richard Gayman
- **network simulations**
 - Combinatorica Package
- **evolutionary algorithms**
 - Principica Evolvica

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