

Last name \_\_\_\_\_

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**LARSON—MATH 356—CLASSROOM WORKSHEET 01**  
**Sage/CoCalc Introduction.**

1. Log in to your Sage/CoCalc account.
  - (a) Start the Chrome browser.
  - (b) Go to `http://cocalc.com` and sign in.
  - (c) You should see an existing Project for our class. Click on that.
  - (d) Click “New”, call it **s01**, then click “Sage Worksheet”.
  - (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**.
  - (f) When you are finished with the worksheet, click “make pdf”, email me the pdf (at `clarson@vcu.edu`, with a header that says **Math 356 s01 worksheet attached**).

**Basics. Getting Started.**

2. Evaluate `900*(1+.06*(90/365))` to find  $900(1 + .06(90/365))$ . Click “Run” or SHIFT-ENTER to evaluate.
3. Evaluate `2**25` to find  $25^2$ .
4. Find  $550 \frac{[1 + (1.05)^{-30}]}{0.05}$
5. Evaluate `sqrt(8)` to get an *exact* expression for  $\sqrt{8}$ .
6. Evaluate `numerical_approx(sqrt(8))`, or simply `n(sqrt(8))` to get an *approximate* expression for  $\sqrt{8}$ .
7. Evaluate “pi”. Find a decimal approximation for  $\pi$ . Find a decimal approximation for  $2\pi$ . Remember to type `2*pi`.
8. Evaluate “e”. Then use `n(e,digits=7)` to find a 7-digit approximation for  $e$ .
9. Find a 6-digit approximation for  $e^3$ .
10. Find `log 10`. What did Sage compute? Did Sage compute the base-10 log?

11. Evaluate `plot(x**3,-2,2)` to sketch the graph of  $x^3$  on the interval  $(-2, 2)$ .
12. Use Sage to sketch  $\cos x$  on the interval  $(-2\pi, 2\pi)$ .
13. For any variable other than “x” you must tell Sage that you will use it as a variable. Evaluate `var("y")` to define “y” as a variable. Now evaluate `plot3d(x**2+y**2-2, (-1,1), (-1,1))` to sketch  $g(x) = x^2 + y^2 - 2$  for  $-1 \leq x \leq 1$  and  $-1 \leq y \leq 1$ .
14. Sage is written in Python. Type in the following program and evaluate.

```
def write_string(string_name):
    print(string_name)
```

Now type `write_string("hello world!")` and evaluate.

In order to do sophisticated calculations, or to allow for multiple inputs, you will need to define *procedures* (also called *functions*). Our “hello world!” program was the first example. It included a `print` statement. Other program features, in almost any language, include *conditional statements* (if..then..) and *loops*.

15. Type in the following procedure definition and evaluate.

```
# This function returns the absolute value of a number x
def absolute(x):
    if x>=0:
        return x
    else:
        return -x
```

16. Now test it. Evaluate `absolute(4)`, `absolute(-4)`. “#” is the *comment* symbol. Everything after “#” is ignored—and not evaluated.

```
def abs_plus_five(x):
    return absolute(x)+5
```

17. You don’t have to add five, you can add *any* number by adding a *parameter*.

```
def abs_plus(x,y):
    return absolute(x)+y
```

18. Now test it. Evaluate `abs_plus(4,5)`, `abs_plus(-4,5)`, `abs_plus(-4,23)`, etc.

## Boolean Expressions in Sage

A *boolean expression* is one that evaluates to True or False.

19. Evaluate `3==4`.

20. Evaluate `3==3`.
21. Evaluate `3>3`.
22. Evaluate `3>=-3`.
23. A very useful arithmetic operator in Sage is the *modulo* operator (represented by `%`). `a%n` gives the remainder of dividing  $a$  by  $n$ . Evaluate `5%2`. Now evaluate `6%2`. Try `99%5`.
24. Evaluate `13%2==1`.
25. Evaluate `13%2==0`.

While “`==`” is used as a claim of equality of expressions (the left-hand-side and the right-hand-sides of the “`==`”) the symbol “`!=`” is used to express does-not-equal.

26. Evaluate `5!=7`.
27. Evaluate `5!=5`.
28. We will *assign* a value to a variable “`a`”. Then we will use that variable in a boolean expression. (These two lines can be typed in one cell, or each in its own cell). Type and evaluate:

```
a=5
a>2
```

Boolean expressions can be combined with *boolean operators* like “`and`” and “`or`”.

29. Evaluate `3==3 and 3==4`.
30. Evaluate `3==3 or 3==4`.

### **Lists in Sage**

A *list* is a basic *data structure* in Python and Sage. They are represented by square brackets with comma separated numbers, strings, etc., between them (like `[2, 5, 9]` or `["red", "blue"]`).

31. Lists can be given names. Evaluate `L=[2,5,9]`. Then evaluate `L`.

32. Lists are indexed starting with 0. Evaluate each of `L[0]`, `L[1]`, `L[2]`, and `L[3]`.
33. Lists can be combined with "+". Evaluate `[2,5,9]+[3,4,5]`.
34. Let `M=[3,4,5]`. Evaluate `L+M`.
35. If you want all the integers from  $x$  to  $y$  you can use the shorthand notation `[x..y]`. Evaluate `[3..7]`.
36. You can have a list of lists. Evaluate `L=[[0,1],[2,3],[4,5]]`. Now evaluate `L[1]`. Then evaluate `L[1][0]`. What do you think the value of `L[0][1]` is?
37. You can also use *list comprehension* to get the same behavior as `map()`. Evaluate `[abs(x) for x in [-1,2,-3]]`.