Basic Maple Commands

Command	Description	
1. General Commands and Conventions		
f(a)	evaluating a function f at a ; e.g. $sin(Pi)$	
;	command end/result displayed	
:	" " /result not displayed	
% (previously: ")	output of previous line	
cursor on $name$, click on $help$	help for <i>name</i>	
settime := time(); expression; time() - settime;	to get elapsed time for computing an expression	
a := expression;	assignment	
a \hat{n} ;	n-th power of a	
sqrt(a);	the (exact) square root of a	
evalf(expression, n);	numerical value of $expression$ to n -digit accuracy	
evalb(a = b);	logical comparison (gives $true$ or $false$)	
a[n];	n-th element of list a	
plot(expression, x = ab);	2-dim plot of $expression$ for x between a and b	
plot3d(expr, x = ab, y = cd);	3-dim plot of $expr$ for x between a and b and y between c and d	
f := x -> expr	definition of a one-variable function $f(x)$	
$f := [x, y, \ldots] -> expr$	definition of multi-variable function $f(x, y, \ldots)$	
a := proc(x, y) local z, w;; end;	definition of subroutine a	
2. Elementary Number Theory		
iquo(a,b); or $floor(a/b)$;	integral part of the quotient a/b	
irem(a,b); or $modp(a,b)$;	remainder of division of a by b	
frac(x);	the fractional part of x	
igcd(a,b);	the gcd of a and b	
igcdex(a, b, 'x', 'y');	the extended gcd	
x; y;	to extract the values of the above extended gcd	
ith prime(n);	the n -th prime number	
isprime(n);	test whether or not n is prime (gives <i>true</i> or <i>false</i>)	
ifactor(n);	factor n into its prime factors	
$a\&^{\wedge}n \mod m$; or $Power(a, n) \mod m$;	compute $a^n \mod m$ efficiently	

Command	Description	
3. Sets and Lists: Basic Structure		
$s := \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\};$	defines a set s : an unordered sequence of elements	
a := [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];	defines a list a : an ordered sequence of elements	
$s := \{seq(f, i = 15)\};$	create the set s consisting of the elements $f(1), \ldots, f(5)$; here f is an expression (depending on i)	
a := [seq(f, i = 15)];	create the list a consisting of the elements $f(1), \ldots, f(5)$; here f is an expression (depending on i)	
nops(a);	the number of elements in list a	
a[i]	the ith element of the list a	
[a[ij]] or $[op(ij, a)]$	the list consisting of elements i through j (inclusive)	
$select(k \rightarrow k < m \text{ or } k > n, a);$	list a with elements m through n dropped	
member(e, a);	test whether e occurs in list a (true or false)	
member(e, a, p'); p;	the position(s) at which e occurs in a	
type(s, set);	check whether s is a set (has type "set"); gives $true$ or $false$	
type(a, list);	check whether s is a list (has type "list"); gives $true$ or $false$	
4. Opera	tions on Sets and Lists	
s := convert(a, set);	convert a list to a set	
a := convert(s, list);	convert a set to a list	
s union t; or 'union' $(s, t,)$	combine sets s, t, \ldots , removing repeated elements	
s intersect t ;	intersection of sets s and t	
s minus t	the set of elements which are in s but not in t	
$[op(a), op(b), \ldots]$	concatenate (join) the lists a, b, \ldots	
a := [e, op(a)];	add element e at the beginning of list a	
a := [op(a), e];	add element e at the end of list a	
a := subsop(i = e, a);	replace the i th element of the list a by e	
a := subsop(i = NULL, a);	delete i th element from list a	
[a[1n-1], e, a[nnops(a)];	insert e at position n in list a	
sort(a);	sort the elements of list a (into a standard order)	
[select(bool, a)];	list consisting of the elements of a for which the boolean-valued function $bool$ is true	
map(f,a);	apply the function f to each element of the list a	

Command	Description	
5. Character Strings		
str := "This is a string";	defining a character string	
length(str);	the number of characters in a string	
substring(str, mn);	extract a substring from string str starting with the m th and ending with the n th character	
$[seq(substring(str,kk), k = 1 \\ length(str)]$	give the list of characters in a string	
searchtext(st, str)	find the place where st occurs in string str	
s1.s2 or $cat(s1, s2,)$	join the strings $s1, s2, \ldots$ together	
convert(expr, string);	convert an expression to a string (textual form)	
type(str, string)	check whether str is a string (true or false)	
6. Boolean expressions		
b := true; b := false;	assigning true/false to the variable b	
=, <>, <, <=, >, >=	relation operators (equal, not equal, less than, etc.); can be used to form boolean expressions	
and, or, not	logical operators (\rightarrow boolean expressions)	
evalb(bool)	evaluate the boolean expression $bool$ (gives $true$ or $false$)	
type(b, boolean)	check whether b is a boolean expression (true or $false$)	
7. Looping control		
for i to m do; expr; od;	evaluate $expr$ repeatedly with i varying from 1 to m in steps of 1	
for i from n to m by s do; expr; od;	evaluate $expr$ repeatedly with i varying from n to m in steps of s	
while test do; expr; od;	evaluate $expr$ until $test$ becomes false	
for i from n to m by s while test do; expr; od;	evaluate $expr$ repeatedly with i varying from n to m in steps of s as long as $test$ is true	
RETURN(expr)	(explicit) return from a subroutine, assigning the value $expr$ to the subroutine	
8. Conditionals		
if test then statmt $fi;$	execute the statement (sequence) $statmt$ only if $test$ is true	
if test then $statmt_1$ else $statmt_2$ fi;	execute the statement (sequence) $statmt_1$ if $test$ is true, otherwise execute $statmt_2$	

Command	Description	
9. (Complex Numbers	
z := x + y * I;	defining a complex number	
abs(expr);	the absolute value of $expr$	
argument(expr)	the argument of <i>expr</i>	
Re(expr); Im(expr);	the real and imaginary part of $expr$	
conjugate(expr);	the complex conjugate of <i>expr</i>	
evalc(expr)	evaluating an expression (as a complex number)	
convert(expr, polar)	convert $expr$ to its polar form	
type(expr, complex)	check that $expr$ has type "complex"	
10. Polynomials		
$f := x^{\wedge}n + a_1 * x^{\wedge}(n-1) + \dots;$	defining a polynomial $f = f(x)$ (assuming that x has no value)	
type(f, polynom(integer, x))	check that f is an integer polynomial in x	
degree(f, x)	degree of f in x	
coeff(f, x, n)	extract the coefficient of x^n in f	
coeffs(f,x)	list of coefficients of $f(x)$	
lcoeff(f, x)	the leading (highest) coefficient of $f(x)$	
tcoeff(f, x)	the constant (trailing) coefficient of $f(x)$	
collect(f, x)	collect all coefficients of f which have the same powers in x	
expand(expr)	distribute products over sums	
sort(f)	sort into decreasing order	
subs(x = a, f)	evaluate $f(x)$ at $x = a$	
$Eval(f, x = a) \mod p;$	evaluate $f(x) \pmod{p}$ at $x = a$	
$f \mod n;$	reduce the coefficients of f modulo n	
$quo(f,g,x); \ rem(f,g,x);$	the quotient and remainder of division of f by g (viewed as polynomials in x)	
gcd(f,g,x)	the greatest common divisor of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$	
gcd(f,g,x,'s','t')	the extended Euclidean algorithm of $f(x)$ and $g(x)$; i.e. s, t satisfy $f * s + g * t = g := gcd(f,g)$	
factor(f)	factor f into its irreducible factors	
$Factor(f) \mod p$	factor f modulo p	
roots(f)	find the rational roots of f	
interp(x, y, t)	The Lagrange Interpolation polynomial	