

Practice 4.2

Practice sheets are not assessed. The intention is to use material from lectures in preparation for Competence tests and Assignments. You are encouraged to use `thing`, `[TAB]` and `thing?` in IPython.

Notes

See *Material 4*

```
import sympy as sp
x,y,z = sp.symbols('x y z')
```

If you would prefer the display to look a little more like written mathematics, use the following:
`sp.init_printing(use_unicode=True)`

When defining a symbol, we can specify things about it:

```
x = sp.symbols('x', real=True) # tells Python that x is a real value i.e. not complex
x = sp.symbols('x', positive=True) # tells Python that x > 0
```

In sympy infinity is represented by two letter "o" s i.e. `sp.oo`.

The sympy function `sp.N` can be used to convert an expression into a numeric value, e.g.

```
a = sp.sqrt(sp.pi)
a, sp.N(a)
```

```
(sqrt(pi), 1.77245385090552)
```

Symbolic computing

Find the analytical value of the integral $\int_0^1 \cos(-x^2) dx$.

Convert this to a number using `sp.N`, and compare with the numerical value obtained by using `quad`.

Find the maximum of

$$y = x \exp[-x^2].$$

Hint: Make an expression for y ; differentiate with respect to x ; solve for x for this equal to zero.

Find the normalisation constant for

$$\psi(x) \propto \exp\left[-\frac{m\omega}{2\hbar}x^2\right].$$

Hint: Tell Python that m , \hbar , and ω are positive quantities. Integrate from $-\infty$ to $+\infty$.

Now do all of the above in Mathematica.