Re: Why I am unwilling to use Mathematica if I can help it

Source: http://sci.tech−archive.net/Archive/sci.math.num−analysis/2005−07/msg00110.html

- *From*: hrubin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (Herman Rubin)
- *Date*: 12 Jul 2005 16:12:15 −0500

In article <110720052305536542%bruck@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>,
Ronald Bruck <bruck@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:
>In article <dau4qu$4enq@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>, Herman Rubin
><hrubin@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx> wrote:

>> In article <eKgAe.98$Rv7.58@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>,
>> symbio <symbio@xxxxxxx> wrote:
>> >Evaluating (using //N) two exact same expressions, gives wrong answer unless
>> >fullsimplify is used first, I spent 2 days on a problem thinking my answer
>> >was wrong, but turned out Mathematica 5 was giving me buggy answers, I
>> >debugged it to this point, but WHY in the world is this happening? Please
>> >help!!!

>> >cut and paste below to see the test case:

>> >In[243]:=
>> >\!\(\(Cosh[\(43\ \[Pi]\)\/\@2] + \((1 − Cosh[43\ \@2\ \[Pi]])\)\ Csch[
>> > 43\ \@2\ \[Pi]]\ Sinh[\(43\ \[Pi]\)\/\@2] // FullSimplify\) //
>> > N\[IndentingNewLine]
>> > Cosh[\(43\ \[Pi]\)\/\@2] + \((1 − Cosh[43\ \@2\ \[Pi]])\)\ Csch[
>> > 43\ \@2\ \[Pi]]\ Sinh[\(43\ \[Pi]\)\/\@2] // N\)
>> >Out[243]=
>> >\!\(6.551787517854307`*^−42\)
>> >Out[244]=
>> >\!\(\(−1.9342813113834067`*^25\)\)

>> This weird collection of uses of \ and [], and other such
>> uses of unnatural mathematical notation, are what I have
>> against Mathematica.

>Well, but this is only an inexperienced user naively cutting and
>pasting. He SHOULD have sent us the "InputForm" of the expression.

>Or the TeXForm, since this is a math forum. But **I** hold
>Mathematica's TeXForm against them, since they use their own weird
>spacing.

I use TeX, but I dislike it. We need a multifont WYSIWYG
notation, and should be able to get it. And Mathematica
has far too many uses for [] for intelligibility. As I
recall, at one time Apple had such a capability.

Another beef is with the requirement for long expressions
such as "FullSimplify" and "IndentingNewLine". I can
program far faster than I can type the program.

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This address is for information only. I do not claim that these views
are those of the Statistics Department or of Purdue University.
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- ***Follow−Ups***:
  - ♦ ***Re: Why I am unwilling to use Mathematica if I can help it***
    - ◊ *From:* Jon Harrop
  - ♦ ***Re: Why I am unwilling to use Mathematica if I can help it***
    - ◊ *From:* Han de Bruijn
  - ♦ ***Re: Why I am unwilling to use Mathematica if I can help it***
    - ◊ *From:* Ronald Bruck

- ***References***:
  - ♦ ***terrible mathematica bug (//N) but WHY??***
    - ◊ *From:* symbio
  - ♦ ***Why I am unwilling to use Mathematica if I can help it***
    - ◊ *From:* Herman Rubin
  - ♦ ***Re: Why I am unwilling to use Mathematica if I can help it***
    - ◊ *From:* Ronald Bruck

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