

Re: A question for Maxima users. More motion madness

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"Peter Nachtwey" <pnachtwey@xxxxxxxxxxxxx> writes:

I have a program that calculates a point to point motion profile using seven third order motion segments. This part is not hard. Maxima easily finds the solution. This is just a warm up for more difficult problems that Mathcad can't solve.

The problem I am having is getting the plot to work. I think there is something wrong with my `pos(t)` routine that keeps it from being plotted. I can `plot2d(sin(t),[t,0,0.6])` but `plot2s(x(t),[t,0,0.6])` doesn't work. It took me all morning to get this far. I have got the `pos(t)` function to work from the command line but not when running the whole program.

I also have found wxMaxima to be unstable. To keep from losing my program I edit it in another editor and then cut and paste the program into the multiline edit box in wxMaxima. Are there any that just run Maxima from the editor and compile the code from within the editor?

The problem with your program (well, the reason it won't run) is that you need a `;` after the last bracket of `pos(t)`'s definition.

About the other question, I can think of 2 possibilities:

- 1) There's a batch command (hit `?? batch` in maxima to see the doc) which will load your code, so you could always use that.
- 2) If you're using emacs (yay!) then try out the maxima mode bundled with the program. The directory layout changed in CVS over the last few months so I don't know where this will be in your distribution, but somewhere there should be a `maxima.el` and a `maxima-font-lock.el` library. Somehow put them in your `load-path` (I was lame and copied them) and `require` or `autoload` or whatever, and you can run a slave maxima, sending bits of the buffer you're working on to it with keyboard shortcuts.

In general, you'll get more help for this sort of question from the

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maxima mailing list [1] : about half of the posts are dev-related and the other half about using it.

And about wxMaxima being unstable, I'm sure they'd be interested to hear of any reproducible crashes – this is free software: it's got no excuse for having bugs! :)

Rupert

[1] <http://maxima.sourceforge.net/maximalist.html>