

Introduction to Programming with Mathematica, 3rd Edition

First printing

Errata last updated: 2 April 2006

1 Introduction

- **Page 11**, first text line starting with “Here is a short program...”, replace this text with:

“Here is a short program that creates a button containing the above two expressions. (We will explain the need to wrap `Symbol["..."]` around the expressions here in Chapter 10.)”

Then replace following code with:

```
ButtonBox["Spikey",  
  ButtonFunction->CompoundExpression[  
    Needs["Graphics`Polyhedra`"],  
  
    Show[Symbol["Stellate"][Symbol["Polyhedron"][Symbol["Icosahedron"]]  
      ]],  
    ButtonEvaluator->Automatic, Active->True] //DisplayForm
```

Delete paragraph beginning “The formatted version of the...”.

Change paragraph starting “Clicking the button...” to: “Clicking the button will cause the *Mathematica* code in the `ButtonFunction` to be evaluated and the graphic of the icosahedron will then be displayed in your notebook.”

3 Lists

- **Page 55**, 9 text lines from top: change "...and the *The Mathematica Book*..." to "...and *The Mathematica Book*..."

4 Functional programming

- **Page 95**, Exercise 4: change `interleave2` to `interleave`.

7 Recursion

- **Page 198**, Input `In[3]`: change to the following (switching `b` and `ra` in the third line of code:

```
In[3]:= merge[{a_, ra___}, {b_, rb___}] :=
  If[a ≤ b,
    Join[{a}, merge[{ra}, {b, rb}]],
    Join[{b}, merge[{a, ra}, {rb}]]
  ]
```

All of the remaining inputs that use `merge` and `MergeSort` will now be correct.

- **Page 205**, In the text paragraph immediately above Figure 7.1, change the parenthetical "(B)" to "(b)".

9 Graphics programming

- **Page 278**, Exercise 5: change "...appeared in Porta, Davis and Uhl, 1994." to "...appeared in the Calculus&*Mathematica* courseware (Porta, Davis and Uhl 1994)."
- **Page 298**, Exercise 13: change "...from Exercise 13..." to "... from Exercise 12..."

10 Front end programming

- **Page 336**, text paragraph beginning "You can use any *Mathematica*...": change `CompoundExpression[Get["Graphics`", LogPlot[Exp[x], {x, 1, 2}]]` to `CompoundExpression[Get["Graphics`", LogPlot[Exp[x], {x, 1, 2}]]`. That is, add closing bracket to `Get["Graphics`"`.

- **Page 337**, Replace the contents of this page starting with the text “Here is the button code...” with the following:

Here is the button code. Note that we have added an option to `ButtonBox` to set the background and also wrapped the `ButtonBox` text in `StyleBox` in order to add several font options there.

```
ButtonBox[StyleBox["Spikey",
  FontFamily->"Times", FontColor->White],
  ButtonFunction->CompoundExpression[
    Needs["Graphics`Polyhedra`"],

    Show[Graphics3D[Symbol["Stellate"][Symbol["Icosahedron"][]]]],
    ButtonEvaluator->Automatic,
    Background->GrayLevel[.5],
    Active->True] //DisplayForm
```

Spikey

Clicking the button will produce the stellated icosahedron as displayed above.

Note that we have wrapped each of the symbols `Stellate` and `Icosahedron` in `Symbol["..."]`. The reason this is necessary is a bit technical but is roughly as follows: Prior to evaluating any input, the kernel first parses that input and determines which context any symbols in that input live. So prior to evaluation, the symbols `Stellate` and `Icosahedron` are parsed and put in the current context (typically `Global``). Then, when the evaluation takes place and the package is loaded, shadowing of symbols occurs and a warning message will be issued. By using `Symbol["Stellate"]`, the string argument prevents the parser from putting a symbol in the wrong context. Actually, this code would be more robust if we used the full context name, `Symbol["Graphics`Polyhedra`Stellate"]`, as this would work even if shadowing had occurred elsewhere.

11 Examples and applications

- **Page 350**, Exercise 3: change “In addition, you function...” to “In addition, your function...”.

12 Writing packages

- **Page 413**, first line: change “A 100 step off-lattice...” to “A 1000 step off-lattice...”.

- **Page 415**, first line: change "...a package CollatzSequence.m..." to "...a package Collatz.m...".

References

- **Page 428**: add LAGARIAS, J., MILLER, V., and ODLYZKO, A. Computing $\pi(x)$: The Meissel-Lehmer Method. *Math Comp.*, **44** 537–560, 1985.
- **Page 429**: add PORTA, H., DAVIS, W., and UHL, J. *Calculus & Mathematica*. Reading, MA: Addison-Wesley, 1994.

Solutions to exercises

- **Page 441-2**, Solution 1: change pairSum to addPair (two occurrences).
- **Page 445**, Solution 3: change "...Times functions..." to "...Times function...".
- **Page 446**, Solution 4: change interLeave2 to interleave.
- **Page 463**, Solution 9: the bisect function, as given in the text, is only valid for functions that are monotonically increasing. The following code corrects for the more general cases.

```
In[31]:= bisect[f_, {a_, b_,  $\epsilon$ _}] := Module[
    {midpt = N[ $\frac{a+b}{2}$ ], low = a, high = b}, While[Abs[f[midpt]] >  $\epsilon$ ,
    If[Sign[f[low]] == Sign[f[midpt]], low = midpt, high = midpt];
    midpt = N[ $\frac{low+high}{2}$ ]];
    midpt]
```

```
In[32]:= f[x_] := Cos[x] - x
```

```
In[33]:= bisect[f, {0, 1, 10-12}
```

```
Out[33]= 0.739085
```

```
In[34]:= f[x_] := x2 - 2
```

```
In[35]:= bisect[f, {1, 2, 10-12}
```

```
Out[35]= 1.41421
```

```
In[36]:= f[x_] := 4 - x2
In[37]:= bisect[f, {0, 4, 10-12}]
Out[37]= 2.
```

- **Page 483**, last text sentence: delete “The second form simply calls the first.”
- **Page 508**, first line: add “(Note: Graphics`Polyhedra` calls Geometry`Polytopes` in which some of the functions such as Cube, Dodecahedron, and others are defined. So you might want to examine Names of that package as well.)” immediately following this first line.
- **Page 514**, Solution 9: change “Exercise 9” to “Exercise 8”.
- **Page 523–525**, Solution 1: add the following text to the end of the second text paragraph and then modify the ShowTable code as below:

“We also need to account for the situation when no headings are specified; this is done with the If statement inside the GridBox.”

```
In[7]:= Options[ShowTable] = {Headings -> {}};
In[8]:= ShowTable[data_, opts___?OptionQ] :=
Module[{headstyle, headings},
  headstyle[str_] := StyleBox[MakeBoxes[#, StandardForm] &@
    str, FontFamily -> "Helvetica",
    FontWeight -> "Bold", FontColor -> Blue, FontSize -> 10];
  headings = Headings /. Flatten[{opts}] /. Options[ShowTable];
  DisplayForm[StyleBox[
    GridBox[If[headings == {}, data,
      Prepend[data, Map[headstyle, headings]]],
    GridFrame -> 2, GridFrameMargins -> {{1, 1}, {1, 1}},
    RowLines -> 1, ColumnLines -> 1],
    FontFamily -> "Times",
    Background -> GrayLevel[.8], SingleLetterItalics -> True]]]
```

Index

- **Page 546** add index entry: Perl language, 162