

Symbolic Computation in Teacher Education

Simon Plangg

Technology in mathematics education

- Courses
 - University of Salzburg
 - College of Teacher Education Salzburg
- Prospective math teachers for secondary education
 \approx 60 to 100 per cohort
- Technology in math classes I + II
- CAS in math classes

KARL JOSEF FUCHS & SIMON PLANGG

COMPUTER ALGEBRA SYSTEME IN DER
LEHRER(INNEN)BILDUNG

5

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{Z}_0^+ &\stackrel{p_i}{\mid} d_o = a \cdot \sqrt{3} \\ M_{AB} &= \frac{A+B}{2} \\ (g(f))' &= g'(f) \cdot f' \\ &> \int \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} dx \\ ((a \Rightarrow b) \wedge a) &\Rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$

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scripta didactica mathematica

Content

1. Basic design of the courses
2. Methodological concepts for teaching considering CAS
 - Genetic principle as a fundament
 - Problem-oriented teaching
 - Application-oriented teaching
 - Alignment to fundamental ideas – modeling - programming
 - Illustrating
3. Résumé

Mathematics at school



Technology → Mathematical tasks ← Methods



Mathematics at university

Fundament: Genetic Principle

- Thoughts are integrated in major contexts in- and outside mathematics
 - Problem-oriented teaching
 - Application-oriented teaching
- Intuitive and heuristic approaches lead to more abstract considerations
 - Starting point: inherent understanding
 - Spiral principle

Problem-oriented teaching

- Starting point of knowledge acquisition: problem
 - Intellectual and emotional identification
 - Transfer of knowledge and linking knowledge
- Self-regulated learning
- Problem-based-learning
 - Externalization
 - Contemplation
 - Argumentation

Externalization

- Task: Find a formula to determine the expectancy value of a binomial distributed random variable
- Major context: dealing with uncertainty
- Design, describe the product of the problem-solving process
- CAS: Formulate

$$e(n) := \sum_{k=0}^n \left(k \cdot nCr(n,k) \cdot p^k \cdot (1-p)^{n-k} \right)$$

$e(n)$

$$\sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{k \cdot (p-1)^n \cdot e^{k \cdot (\ln(p) - \ln(p-1))}}{k! \cdot (n-k)!} \right) \cdot n!$$

|

Fertig

Externalisation - Contemplation

- Develop, examine possible solutions
- CAS: experimental, heuristic approach (create a great number of examples, outsourcing calculations)
 - Substitute
 - Functional thinking
 - Recognition of patterns
 - Abstract, formulate
 - Discovery learning

$e(n)$	$\sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{k \cdot (-p-1)^n \cdot e^{k \cdot (\ln(p) - \ln(-p-1))}}{k! \cdot (n-k)!} \right) \cdot n!$
$e(0)$	0
$e(1)$	p
$e(2)$	$2 \cdot p$
$e(3)$	$3 \cdot p$
$e(4)$	$4 \cdot p$
$e(5)$	$5 \cdot p$
$e(427)$	$427 \cdot p$

Contemplation - Evaluation

- Argue, reason a certain solution
- Transfer and link knowledge
 - Binomial theorem
 - Differentiation
- CAS: focus on problem-solving
 - Formulate
 - Manipulate (Substitute)
 - Interpret (Compare)

$$(a+b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n (\text{nCr}(n,k) \cdot a^k \cdot b^{n-k})$$

$$(a+b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{b^{n-k} \cdot a^k}{k! \cdot (n-k)!} \right) \cdot n!$$

⚠ $\frac{d}{da} \left((a+b)^n = \sum_{k=0}^n (\text{nCr}(n,k) \cdot a^k \cdot b^{n-k}) \right)$

$$(a+b)^{n-1} \cdot n = \frac{\sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{b^{n-k} \cdot a^k \cdot k}{k! \cdot (n-k)!} \right) \cdot n!}{a}$$

⚠ $a \cdot (a+b)^{n-1} \cdot n = \sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{b^{n-k} \cdot a^k \cdot k}{k! \cdot (n-k)!} \right) \cdot n!$

$$a \cdot (a+b)^{n-1} \cdot n = \sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{b^{n-k} \cdot a^k \cdot k}{k! \cdot (n-k)!} \right) \cdot n! | a=p \text{ and } b=1-p$$

$$n \cdot p = \sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{k \cdot (-p+1)^n \cdot e^{k \cdot (\ln(p)-\ln(-p+1))}}{k! \cdot (n-k)!} \right) \cdot n!$$

$$e$$

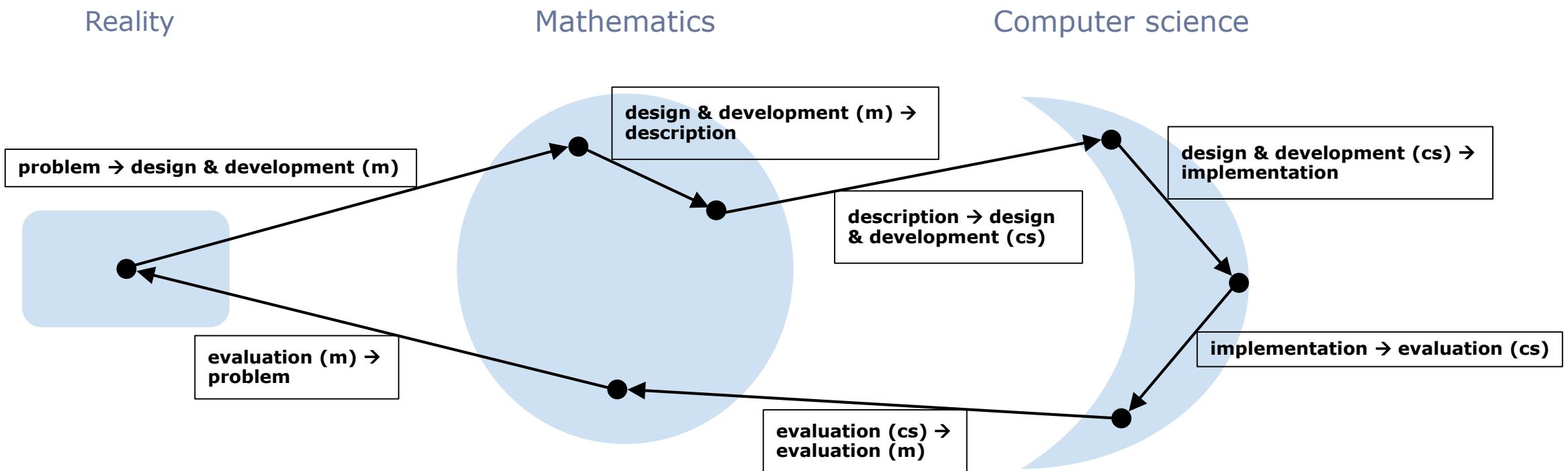
$$\sum_{k=0}^n \left(\frac{k \cdot (-p+1)^n \cdot e^{k \cdot (\ln(p)-\ln(-p+1))}}{k! \cdot (n-k)!} \right) \cdot n!$$

Fundamental ideas

Bundle of actions, strategies and techniques that

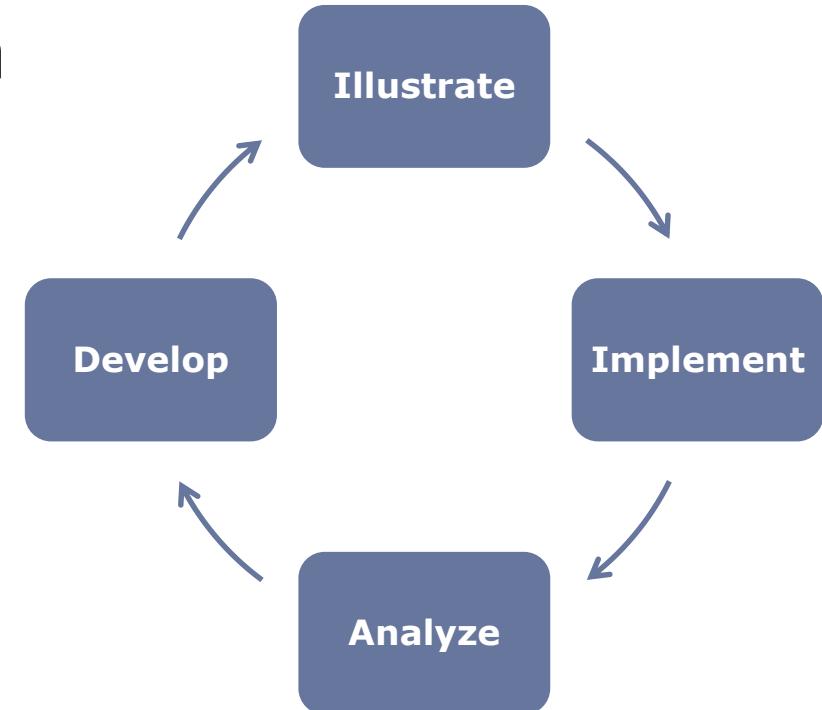
- can be identified within the historical development of mathematics
- appears viable structuring curricula vertically
- allows to get an idea what mathematics is about
- helps making instructions both more flexible and more transparent
- is anchored in everyday language and activities

Modeling



Programming with TI-Nspire CX CAS

- Teaching goal: executable program
- Prototypical approach
 - Authentic problem
 - Choice of programming paradigm
 - Steps of algorithmic thinking



Prototypical approach

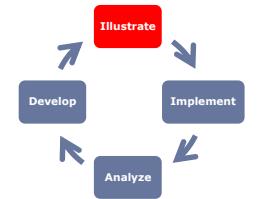
- Problem: How can we (does the Calculator) find approximate values for roots?
- Program editor of the TI-Nspire CX CAS
- Choice of programming paradigm
 - Procedural programming paradigm
 - Sequence of statements
 - Control structures: sequence, conditional branch, repetition
 - TI-Nspire: executable in calculator
 - Functional programming paradigm
 - Language elements: functions
 - Composition of functions
 - TI-Nspire: executable in calculator, graphs, lists and spreadsheet

Nested intervals: „guess and test“

- Task: Estimate $\sqrt{5}$ providing lower and upper bounds with at least three decimals
- What is behind the symbol $\sqrt{5}$?

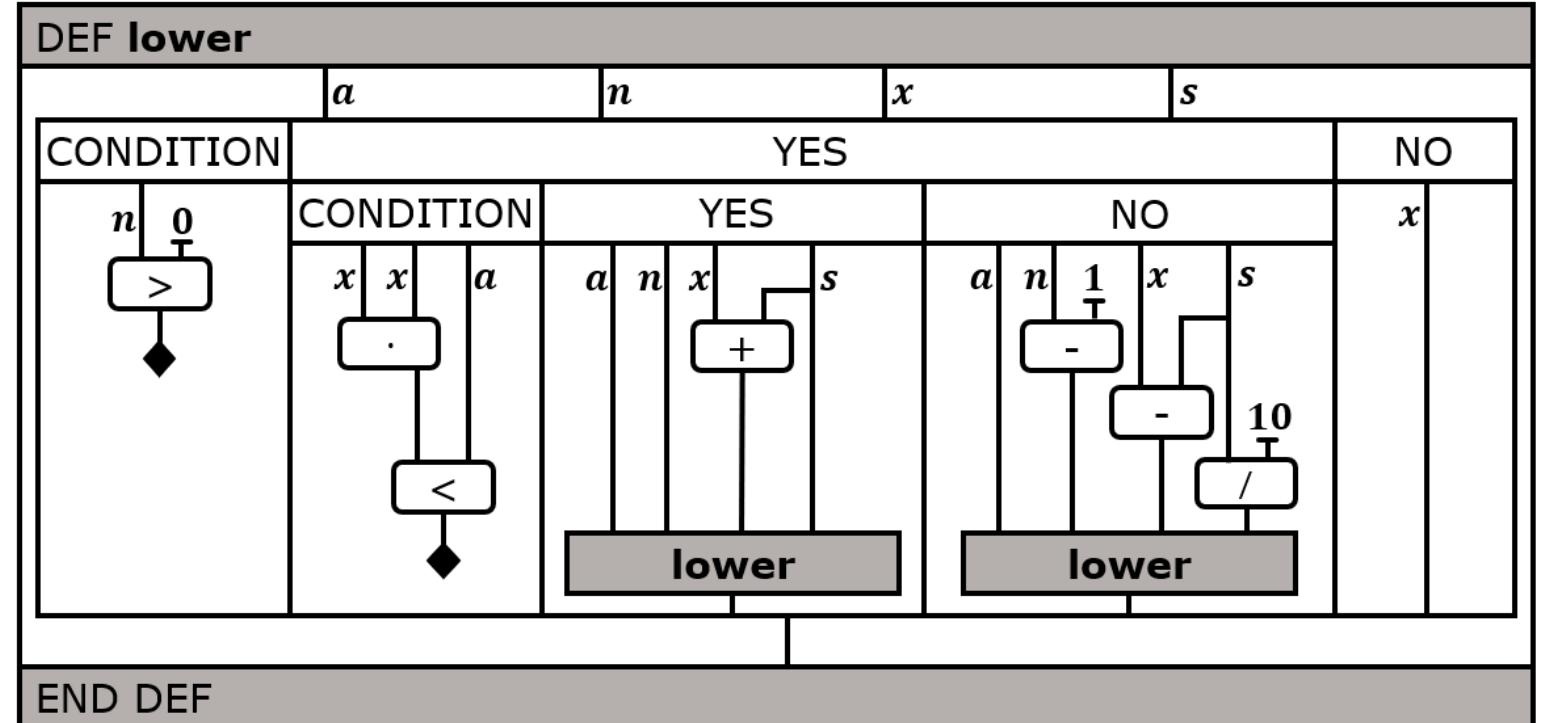
Lower bound	Upper bound
2	3
2.2	2.3
2.23	2.24
2.236	2.237
...	...

- What is $\sqrt{5} + \pi$ or $2^{\sqrt{5}}$?



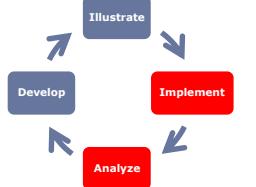
PROGRAPH-diagram

- Further possibilities
 - Verbal description
 - Flow chart
 - Structure chart
 - Pseudo code



Nested intervals

- Analyze: Possibilities and limitations of algorithms
- Efficiency



The diagram illustrates the 'Analyze' phase of a software development process, which includes 'Illustrate', 'Develop', 'Implement', and 'Analyze' stages.

lower (9/9)

```
Define lower(a,n,x,s)=  
Func  
If n>0 Then  
  If x^2 < a Then  
    lower(a,n,x+s,s)  
  Else  
    lower(a,n-1,x-s, s/10)  
  EndIf  
Else  
  x  
EndIf  
EndFunc
```

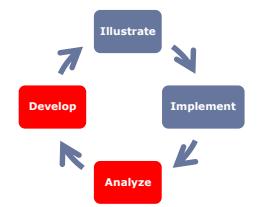
Table A

A	n	B lbound	C ubound
1	1	2.2	2.3
2	2	2.23	2.24
3	3	2.236	2.237
4	4	2.236	2.2361
5	5	2.23606	2.23607
6	6	2.236067	2.236068
7	7	2.2360679	2.236068
8	8	2.23606797	2.23606798
9	9	2.236067977	2.236067978
10	10	2.2360679774	2.2360679775

B1 =lower(5.,a1,1.,10^-1)

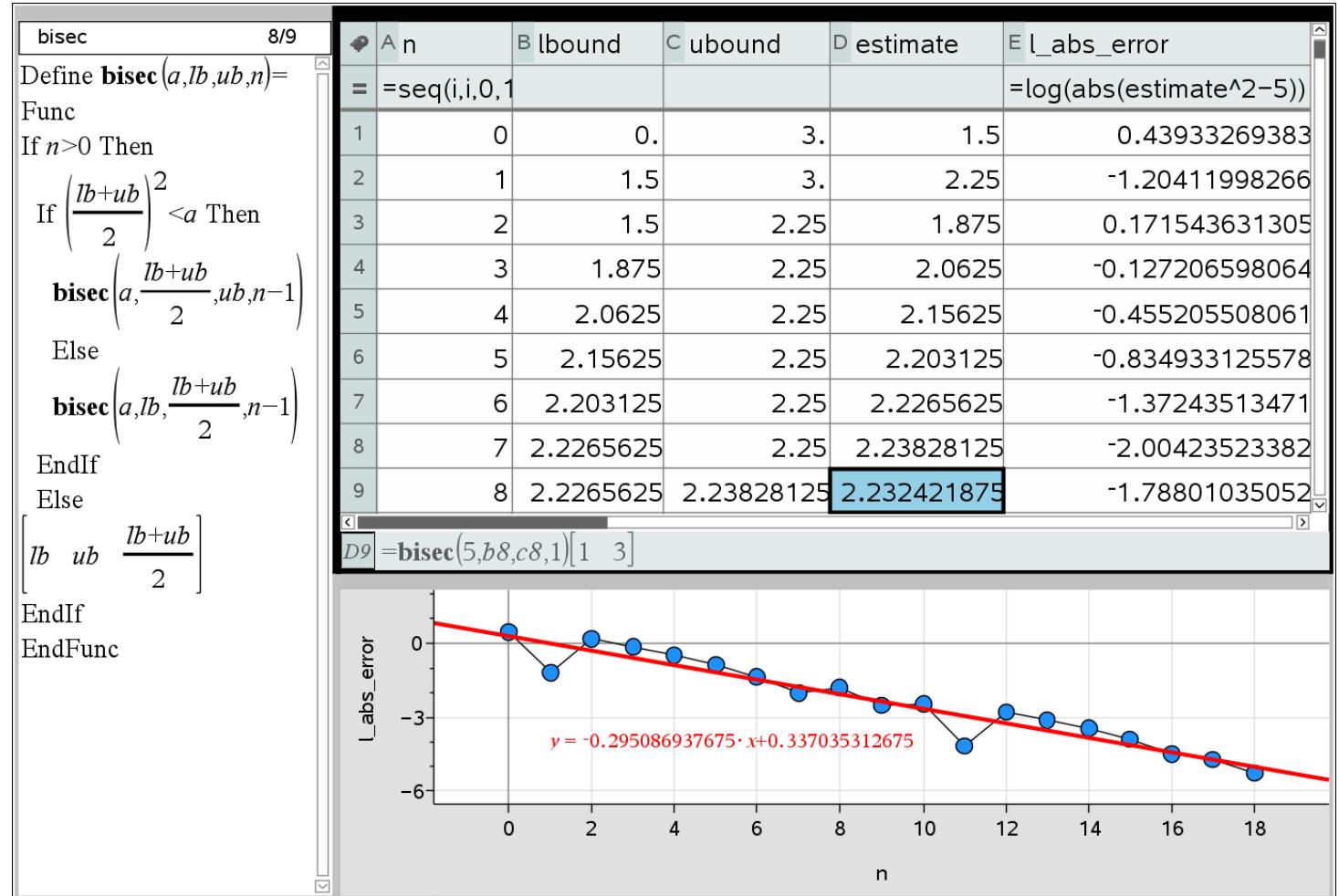
Table C

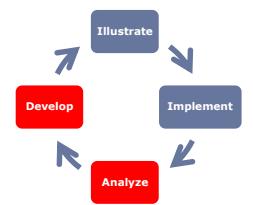
lower(1234,10,1.,1)	35.12833614	$\sqrt{5}$	2.2360679775
$\sqrt{1234}$	35.1283361405	2.2360679774998	2.2360679775
lower(1234567890,10,1.,1000)	35136.418286	lower(1234,3,1.,10^-1)	"Fehler: Rekursion zu tief"
$\sqrt{1234567890}$	35136.4182864	lower(1234,3,30.,10^-1)	35.128
...			



Bisection method

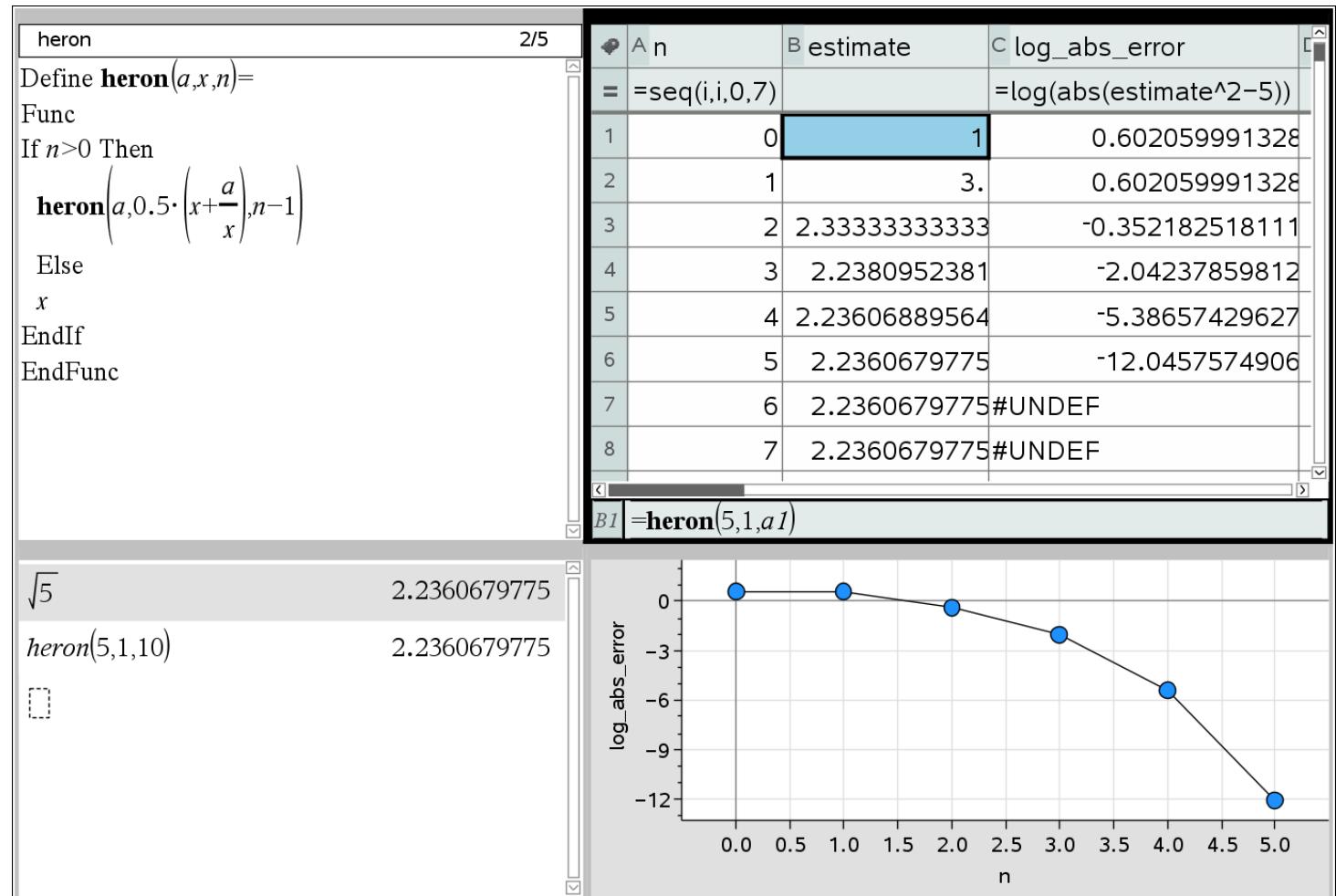
- Possible next step:
Heron's method



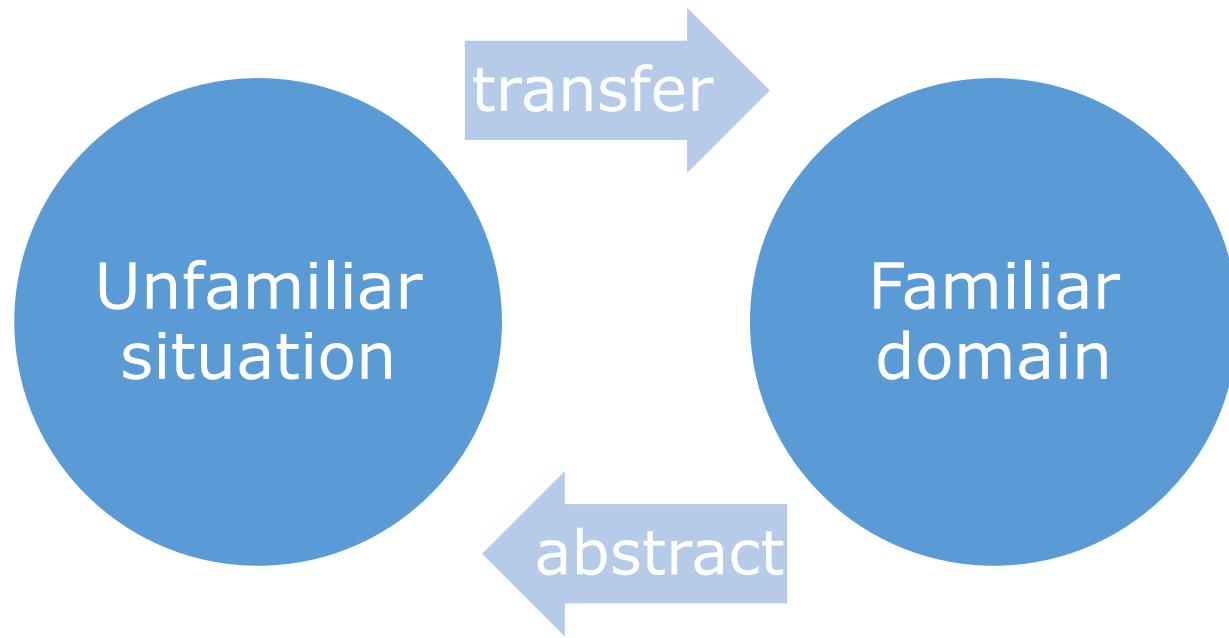


Heron's method

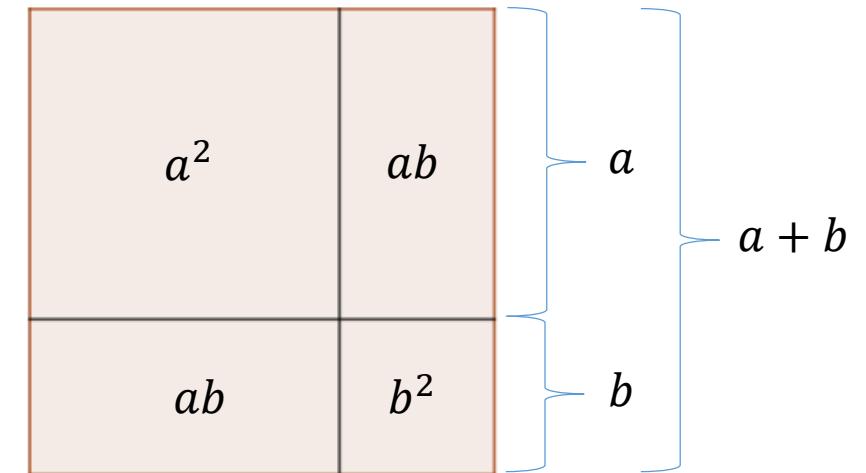
- Possible next steps:
Cubic root, $\sqrt[n]{}$



Illustrating with CAS



$$(a + b)^2 = a^2 + 2ab + b^2$$



- Provide insight in mathematical concepts
- Illustrating is not just visualisation: through geometry, everyday experience, examples, analogy, prove

Logics with TI-Nspire CX CAS

- Task: Prove that $\sqrt{2}$ is irrational!
Illustrate applied inference rules with the TI-Nspire CX CAS!
- Inference rule: proof by contradiction

	A a	B b	C aib	D ainb	E	F na	G reductio_aa
=			$='a \Rightarrow 'b$	$='a \Rightarrow \text{not } 'b$	$=\text{aib and ainb}$	$=(\text{not } 'a)$	$=\text{aib and ainb} \Rightarrow \text{na}$
1	true	true	true	false	false	false	true
2	true	false	false	true	false	false	true
3	false	true	true	true	true	true	true
4	false	false	true	true	true	true	true
5							
6							
7							
8							
9							
10							
11							
12							
13							

$\sqrt{2} = \frac{p}{q}$

$\sqrt{2} = \frac{p}{q}$

$\left(\sqrt{2} = \frac{p}{q}\right)^2$

$2 = \frac{p^2}{q^2}$

$\left(2 = \frac{p^2}{q^2}\right) \cdot q^2$

$2 \cdot q^2 = p^2$

$2 \cdot q^2 = p^2 \mid p = 2 \cdot k$

$2 \cdot q^2 = 4 \cdot k^2$

$\frac{2 \cdot q^2 = 4 \cdot k^2}{2}$

$q^2 = 2 \cdot k^2$

□

a: $\sqrt{2}$ is rational

b: $\sqrt{2} = \frac{p}{q}$ (fraction entirely canceled)

Logics with TI-Nspire CX CAS

- Modus tollens

$$(A \Rightarrow B) \wedge \neg B \Rightarrow \neg A$$

$$(\neg d \Rightarrow \neg c) \wedge c \Rightarrow d$$

The TI-Nspire CX CAS software interface displays a logic proof for modus tollens. The proof is structured as follows:

- Left Column (Top):** $\sqrt{2} \frac{p}{q}$
- Left Column (Middle):** $\text{A} \left(\sqrt{2} \frac{p}{q} \right)^2$
- Left Column (Bottom):** $2 \cdot \frac{p^2}{q^2} = p^2$
- Right Column (Top):** $\sqrt{2} \frac{p}{q}$
- Right Column (Middle):** $2 \cdot \frac{p^2}{q^2} = p^2$
- Right Column (Bottom):** $2 \cdot q^2 = p^2$

Below these, two equations are shown:

- $2 \cdot q^2 = p^2 \mid p = 2 \cdot k$
- $2 \cdot q^2 = 4 \cdot k^2$

Further down, the following steps are shown:

- $2 \cdot q^2 = 4 \cdot k^2$
- $q^2 = 2 \cdot k^2$
- $(2 \cdot m)^2$
- $4 \cdot m^2$
- $\text{expand}((2 \cdot m + 1)^2)$
- $4 \cdot m^2 + 4 \cdot m + 1$

A truth table is displayed in the top right, with columns labeled A, c, B, d, C, nd, D, nc, E, ndinc, F, ndincac, and G, titled "modus_tollens". The rows show the following values:

	A	c	B	d	C	nd	D	nc	E	ndinc	F	ndincac	G
1	true	true			=	=not 'd	=not 'c	=nd	=nc	=ndinc	=ndinc and 'c	= (nd ⇒ nc) and 'c ⇒ 'd	modus_tollens
2	true	false				true		false		false		true	
3	false	true				false		true		false		true	
4	false	false				true		true		true		false	

In the bottom right, the results are summarized:

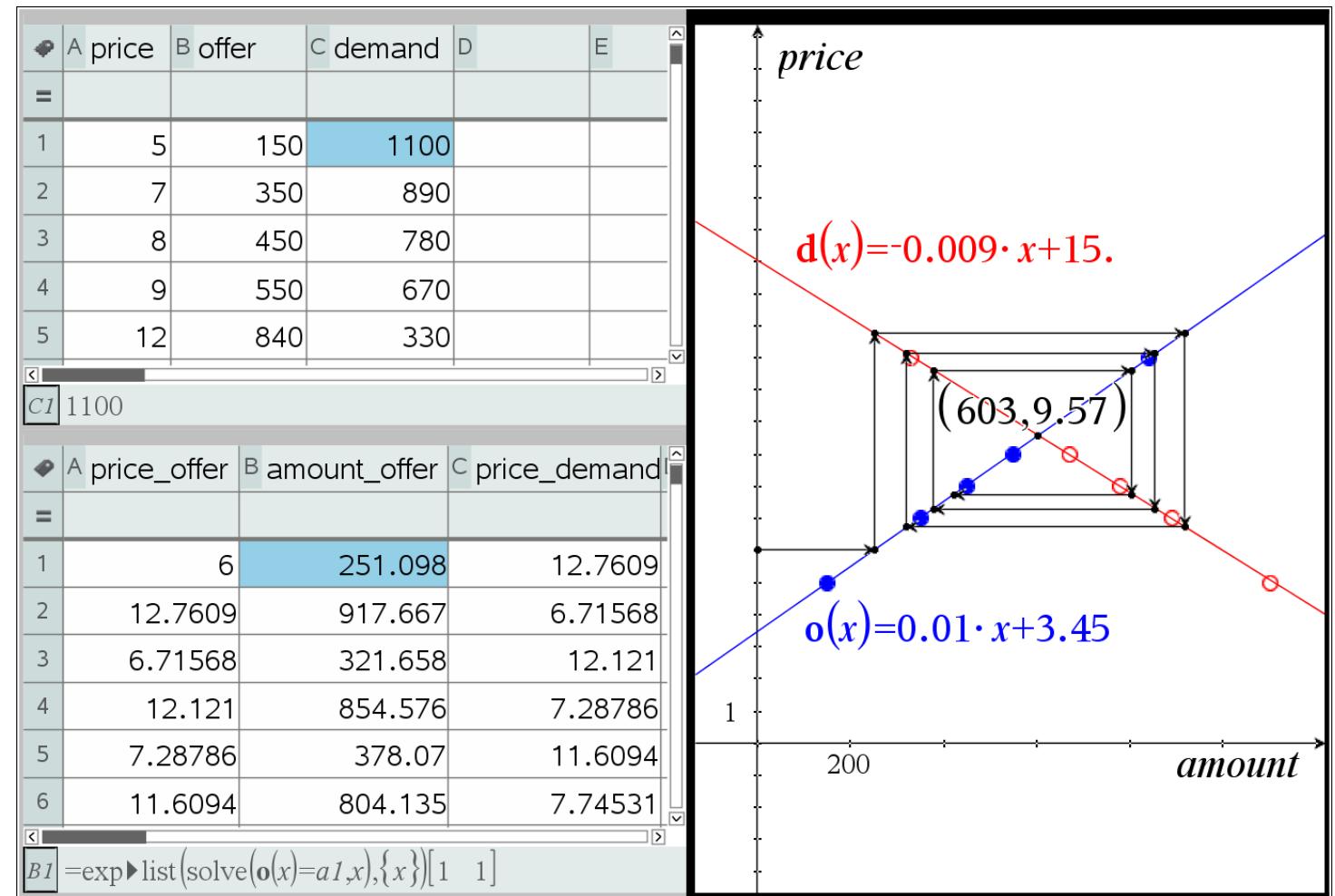
- c: p^2 is even
- d: p is even

Application-oriented teaching

- Understanding relevant aspects of our environment
- Method of interdisciplinary teaching: content of other subjects is integrated in (math) classes
- Subject combination: mathematics with geography and economics
 - Geography and economics: demand function, supply function, market equilibrium, equilibrium quantity, Cobweb Theory
 - Functional dependence, monotonicity, equations, linear regression, iterative processes, sequences, geometric series, limits

Market equilibrium

- Task: Determine the market price and the equilibrium quantity for the given relation between offer and demand of a single good!



Algebraization

- Find criteria for the parameters m_o, b_o, m_d, b_d in order to determine when the process of price development converges or not!
- Symbolic computation
 - Solve equations with parameters
 - Substitute
 - Find implicit and explicit representation of a sequence (seq, expand)

```

o(x):=m_o·x+b_o
Done

d(x):=m_d·x+b_d
Done

solve(p_1=o(x),x)
x=-(b_o-p_1)/m_o
Done

p_2:=d(x)|x=-(b_o-p_1)/m_o
b_d-(b_o-p_1)·m_d
Done

p(n):=when(n=1,p_1,b_d-(b_o-p(n-1))·m_d/m_o)
Done

seq(p(n),n,1,3)
p_1,b_d-(b_o-p_1)·m_d, b_d·(m_d+m_o)·m_o-(b_o·(m_d+m_o)-m_d·p_1)·m_d/m_o^2
Done

p(5)
b_d·(m_d^3+m_d^2·m_o+m_d·m_o^2+m_o^3)·m_o-(b_o·(m_d^3+m_d^2·m_o+m_d·m_o^2+m_o^3)-m_d^3·p_1)·m_d/m_o^4
Done

expand(m_d^3+m_d^2·m_o+m_d·m_o^2+m_o^3/m_o^3)
n_d^3/m_o^3 + m_d^2/m_o^2 + m_d/m_o + 1
Done

```

Algebraization

- Calculation of series
 - $|m_o| < |m_d|$
process converges
market is stable
 - $|m_o| \geq |m_d|$
process diverges
market is instable
- price- amount-
fluctuations do not lead
to a market equilibrium
(Cobweb Theory)

Done

$$a(n) := a_1 \cdot \left(\frac{m_o}{m_d}\right)^{n-1} - \frac{b_d - b_o}{m_d} \cdot \sum_{i=0}^{n-2} \left(\left(\frac{m_o}{m_d}\right)^i\right)$$

$$\sum_{i=0}^{n-2} \left(\left(\frac{m_o}{m_d}\right)^i\right)$$

$$\frac{m_d}{m_d - m_o} - \frac{\left(\frac{m_o}{m_d}\right)^n \cdot m_d^2}{(m_d - m_o) \cdot m_o}$$

Done

$$a(n) := a_1 \cdot \left(\frac{m_o}{m_d}\right)^{n-1} - \frac{b_d - b_o}{m_d} \cdot \left(\frac{m_d}{m_d - m_o} - \frac{\left(\frac{m_o}{m_d}\right)^n \cdot m_d^2}{(m_d - m_o) \cdot m_o} \right)$$

⚠ $0 = \frac{b_d - b_o}{m_d} \cdot \frac{m_d}{m_d - m_o}$

$$\frac{-(b_d - b_o)}{m_d - m_o} | b_o = 3.45316 \text{ and } b_d = 15.0381 \text{ and } m_o = 0.010143 \text{ and } m_d = -0.009069$$

603.005

solve($o(x) = d(x), x$)

$$x = \frac{-(b_d - b_o)}{m_d - m_o}$$

Résumé

CAS can help to...

...draw attention to the process of problem-solving

- Formulate, Manipulate, Interpret

...develop strategic knowledge

- Substitute, equivalence of mathematical expressions

...support the process of algorithmic thinking

...illustrate abstract concepts (inference rules)

...describe aspects of our world (algebraization)

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COMPUTER ALGEBRA SYSTEME IN DER
LEHRER(INNEN)BILDUNG

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$$\begin{aligned} Z_0^+ & \xrightarrow{p_i} d_o = a \cdot \sqrt{3} \\ M_{AB} &= \frac{A+B}{2} \\ (g(f))' &= g'(f) \cdot f' \\ ((a \Rightarrow b) \wedge a) &\Rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$
$$\int \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)} dx$$

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