# Getting familiar with Maple (and its limitations)

- Play with the various commands for importing and exporting files from the **File** pulldown menu at the top of the xmaple window. Make sure that you know how to save your work in the mws (Maple work sheet) format and how to load an mws file into Maple.

- We saw in class that Maple can do indefinite integrals. Type

  `?integration`

  at the prompt and figure out how to ask Maple to do a definite integral.

- Without using Maple, figure out the integral of the function $\sqrt{1-\cos^2(x)}$ between the limits -1 and +1.

- Ask Maple to compute the integral which you just calculated. [WARNING: be careful when you are entering the function $\cos^2(x)$].

- When you get bored of waiting for an answer, stop the calculation (using the red **Stop** button) and ask Maple what it thinks the indefinite integral of $\sqrt{1-\cos^2(x)}$ is.

- Speculate about the reasons that Maple may have got stuck doing this easy integral. Which ranges of integration do you expect to be problematic? Try some other ranges and see what happens.