ClassPad II (new, black body) Tips and Tricks
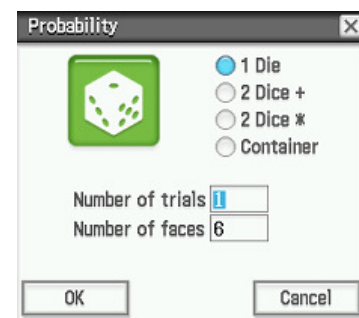
Main

- Settings, Basic Format, Number Format best as **Normal 2** to avoid scientific notation until last resort

- Quick ways to **solve**, **diff,** etc - remember assumptions/defaults

- Shift keys can speed up function entry - assign shortcuts in System (*Helpsheet on website*)
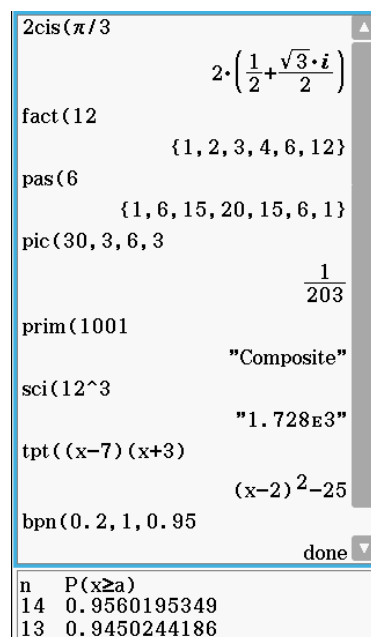
Other tips

- Use solve to rearrange equations for a variable

- Substitute using | from the OPTN menu

- Graph functions using split screen, especially those implicitly defined

- Use 'ans' for previous result/equation/expression/etc

- Use ⬢% from ⤋▼ for quick simulations (*see right*)

- Over-ride radians with degrees when using trig functions

- Store values and long equations/expressions as variables using ➡

- Define f(x) and use for function transformation

- Solve inequalities with setup as Real not Cplx

- Use [a,b] or [x,y,z] format for quick 2D or 3D vector entry

User created Library functions - accessible in all applications and in eActivities.

- bpn(<prob of success>, <min. no. of successes>, <min. prob.>

- cis(<angle>

- fact(<whole number>

- pas(<row number>

- pic(<N objects>, <a have attribute>, <n chosen>, <x have attribute>

- prim(<whole number>

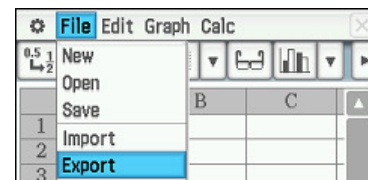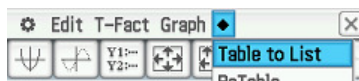- sci(<number>

- tpt(<quadratic expression> (Quadratic in any form)

- fib(<whole number> (Decimal rather than Standard mode)

eActivities

- Split screen with Main when in a NumSolve to avoid closing strip

- Normal problems (mean/sd) using P=normCDF(L,U,S,M) in NumSolve

- Checkout 2AB, 2CD, 3AB, 3CD & 3ABS Help eActivities, and also 3AB & 3CD Specialist collections from website - eActivity and WACE pages.
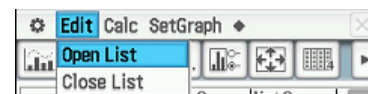
Statistics

- Predictions from trend lines using trace

- Binomial, normal and other distributions can be viewed graphically

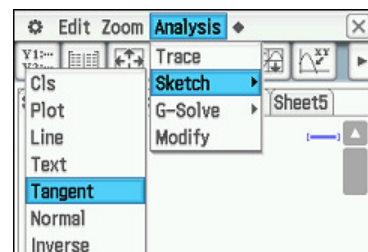- Open lists exported from Main, Table, Sequence and Spreadsheet

Spreadsheet

- Two types of selection before dragging - white or black cell border

- Drag and drop between spreadsheets and Office applications. Copy formulas from Excel by using Ctrl+~ to display cell contents as formulas rather than values.
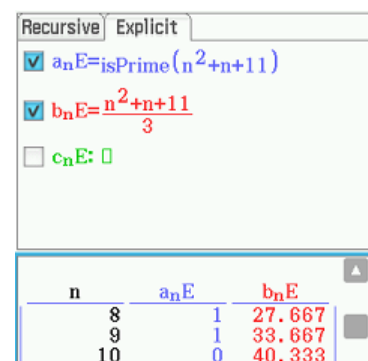
- Create time series by dragging data points

Graph and Table

- Use auto-scale sensibly by setting x-min and x-max first

- Jump to any x-value on a graph by using the keyboard

- Use Sketch, Tangent to draw tangent or Inverse to draw inverse

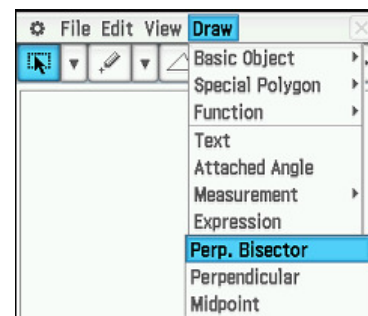- Create tables for any function, eg y=nCr(n,r), y=BinomialPDf(x,N,p)

Sequence

- Explicit tab useful - eg isPrime(n^2+n+11)

- Use difference and quotient tools

- Sequence RUN useful for quick calculations

- rSolve converts recursive formulas to explicit form

Geometry

- Draw a triangle to scale and find all sides, angles and area

- Solve coordinate geometry problems

- Learn basic constructions from Draw, Construct menu

Financial

- Set PV as -ve amount, with +ve value for PMT for loan repayments and -ve value for PMT for savings accrual. *(Or vice-versa!)*

System

- Customise ClassPad Name and Ending Screens *(see website)*

- Shift Keys - download 'how-to' sheet from website

- Display - lower backlight brightness to save batteries

- Power Properties - Auto Off: 10 min and Backlight Duration: 30 sec

- Reset and Initialise - use to sort out unsolvable ClassPad issues! Initialise means back to factory settings *(won't roll-back OS update though)*