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The SAT Operating System™
Version 1.00

Designed for the TI-Nspire CX CAS Graphing Calculator

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## Designed for the TI-Nspire CX CAS Graphing Calculator

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Introduction

The SAT Operating System

The SAT Operating System (SAT_OS) is a software package designed for Texas Instruments graphing calculators. This manual is intended for use with the TI-Nspire CX CAS version of SAT_OS. Due to the difficulty, the types of problems involved, and the large number of equations that might potentially be needed during the test, a calculator-based solution to help students improve their scores on the "New" SAT test was developed. The software is unique since it incorporates all of the equations and tools one might need for use *during* the actual test. The SAT Operating System helps students improve the accuracy of calculations and reduces the time used while making those calculations.

To achieve success on the SAT I Reasoning Math subsection, one must complete problems accurately and quickly. Even students who have memorized all the equations needed during the SAT will find SAT_OS useful since the rate at which any calculation made during the test is significantly increased. Users will also have peace of mind knowing that the calculations made with the software are accurate and complete. The software is based on tested, proven, logical algorithms that quickly produce answers. This allows students to move on to the next question without spending much time per problem. The key to the success of students who use the SAT Operating System is simple: as long as you know and understand how to approach a problem, the software handles all the calculations.

The functions and features of the SAT Operating System are accessible to the user in an easy-to-use, Graphical User Interface (GUI). By combining one's mathematical and logical reasoning skills with the power and capability of the SAT Operating System, our users will be able to achieve higher scores!

How to use this manual

We tried to design this manual to be as easy to use as possible. This manual was created as a searchable document. If at anytime you would like to find specific information quickly, just use the search box at the top of your PDF reader to find exactly what you are look for.

Please begin by reading the "Getting Started" section to learn how to install and navigate the software. Also included with your copy of the SAT Operating System is a video tutorial on how to complete the installation of the software on your TI-Nspire CX CAS graphing calculator.

If you need to consult the official TI-Nspire CX CAS manual for additional help on how to use some of the functions on your calculator, you may download it here.

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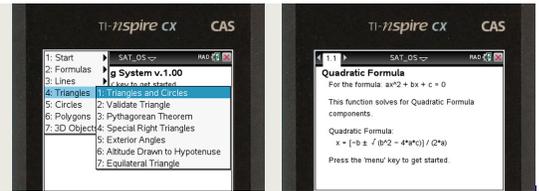
1   Getting Started

Requirements

To install and successfully run the SAT Operating System on your TI-Nspire CX CAS graphing calculator, you must have at least 10 KB (Kilobytes) of free memory on your device for the SAT_OS document.

To check your available memory, press the "home" button and then press the "5" key for "settings" and then "4" for "status."

Handheld Status

Batteries: 100%

Version: 4.2.0.532

Storage Capacity: 115.2 MB

Storage Available: 100.1 MB

Network: Wireless client is not attached.

About   OK

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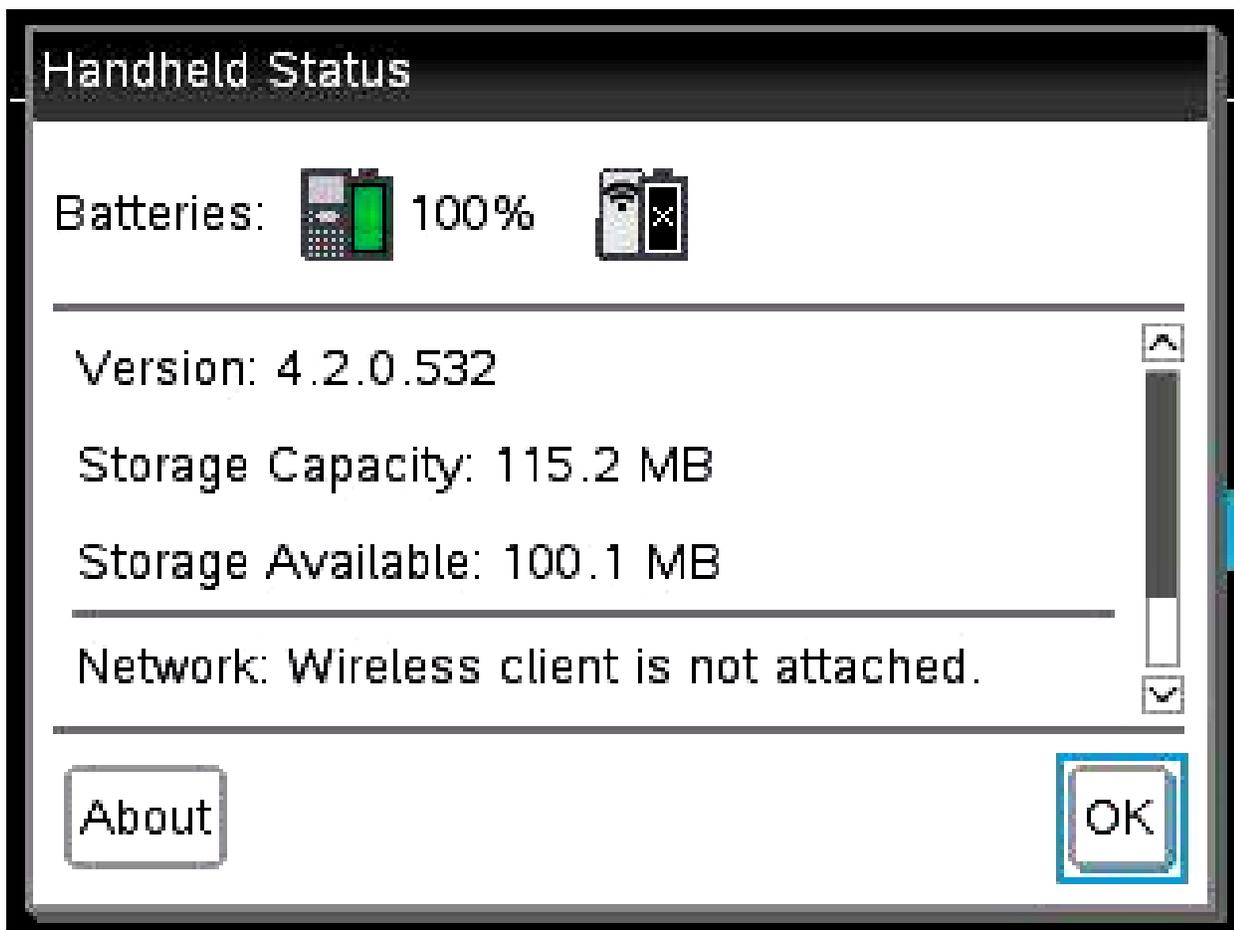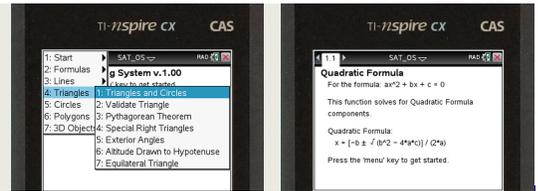
Installing the software

     The following instructions summarize all of the steps taken in the video installation guide for the TI-Nspire CX CAS. If at anytime you are confused about what you see here, please watch the installation video. If you are still having trouble, please contact Calc-Tech™ via email at support@calc-tech.com for free technical support. If you need more immediate assistance, you may call our Premium Technical Support center at +1 (814) 806-2688 after purchasing a premium support PIN number through website (http://www.calc-tech.com).

Installation (for Windows users):

1. Download the TI-Nspire Computer Link Software and install it on your computer.
2. Launch the TI-Nspire Computer Link Software. You should see something that looks like this:
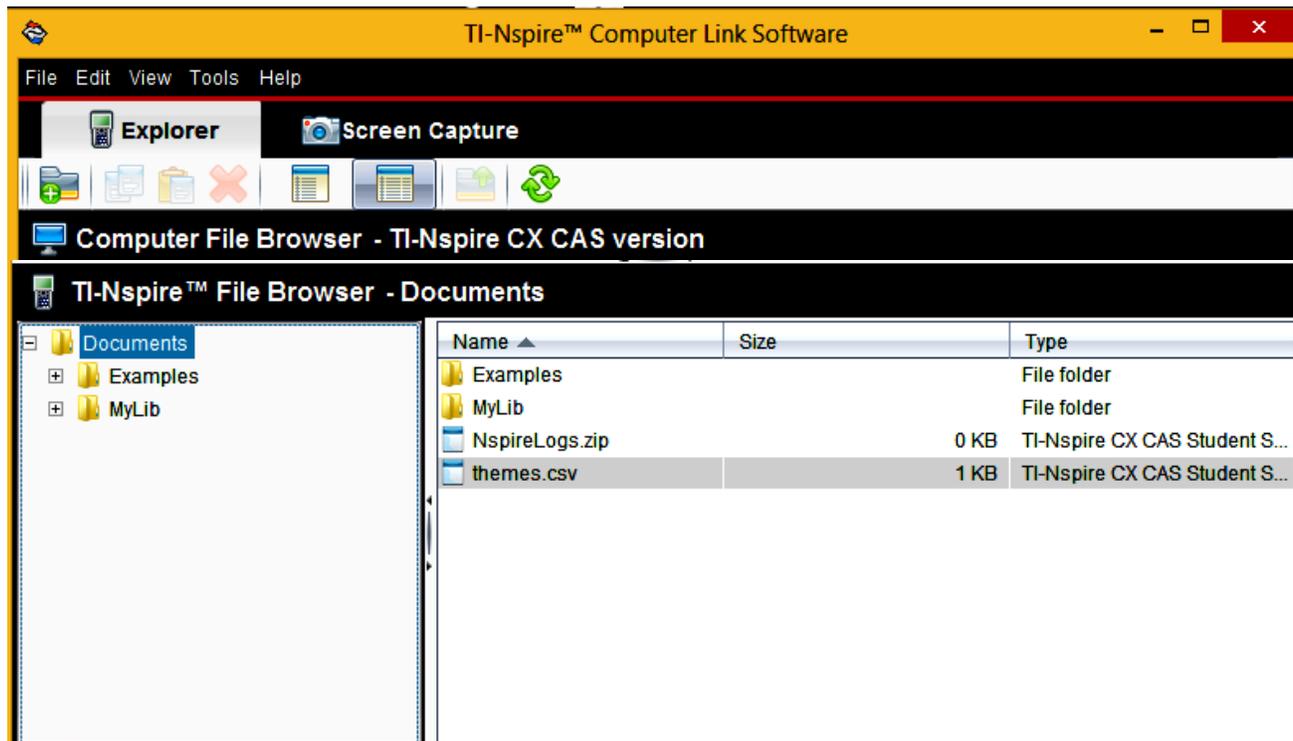
     3. Download the SAT_OS zip file from http://calc-tech.com and extract its contents to a folder on your computer. In that folder, you should see something like this:

Calc-Tech™
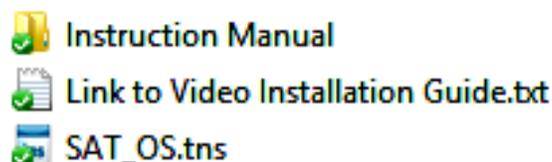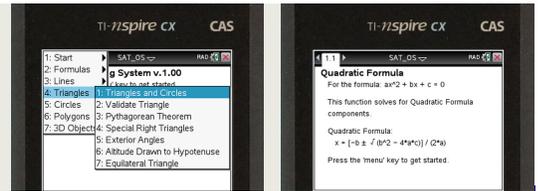
4. Locate the folder you extracted the contents of the SAT_OS zip file to in the "Computer File Browser" section of the TI-Nspire Computer Link Software.
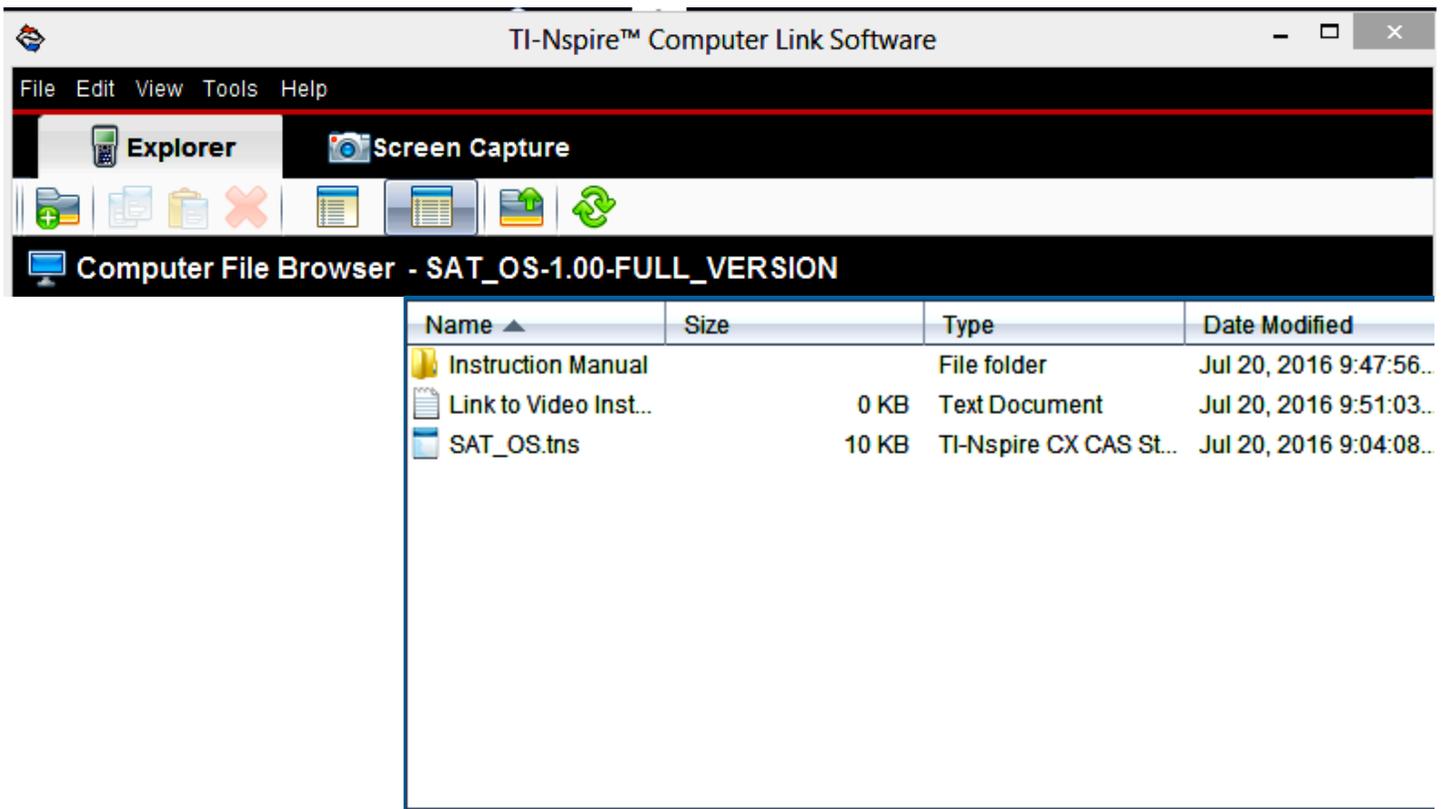

5. Highlight the **SAT_OS.tns** file by clicking it:

6. Click the **SAT_OS.tns** file again and hold down your mouse button. Drag the file into the window below entitled "TI-Nspire File Browser—Documents."

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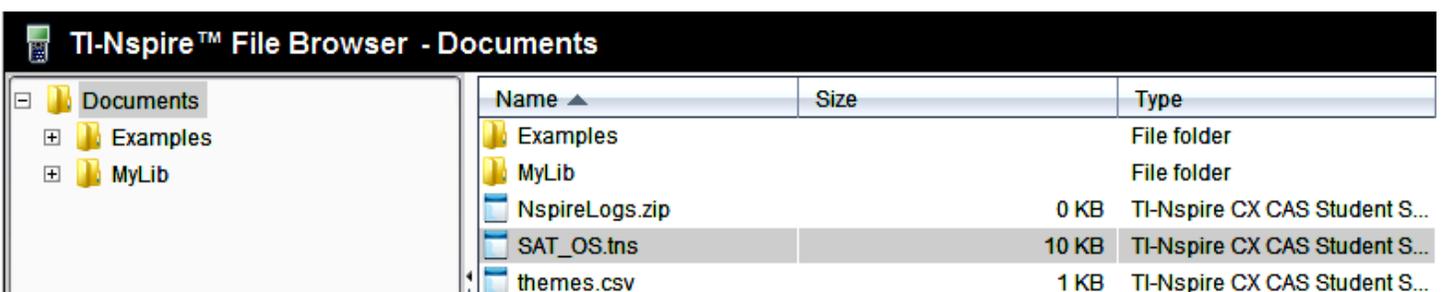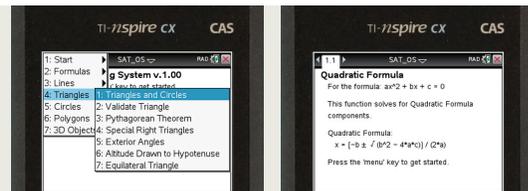
Congratulations!

You have now successfully installed the SAT Operating System on your graphing calculator. If you ran into trouble, consult the Video Installation Guide first and then contact us if you are still having trouble.

Quick Start Guide

1. Press the "Home/On" key. Your screen should look like this:
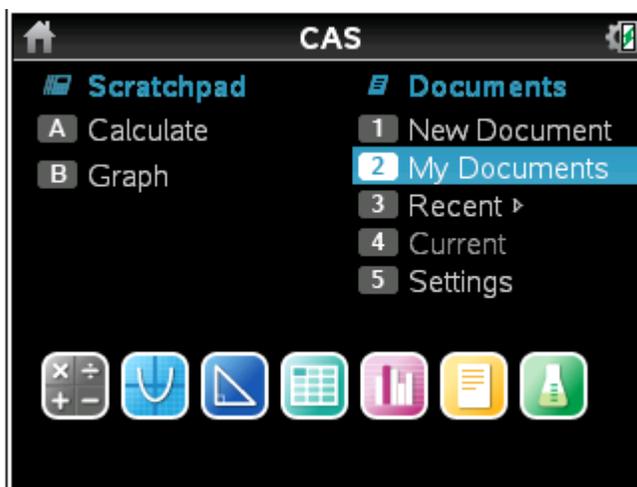
2. Press the "2" key or use the arrow keys to highlight the "My Documents" option and then press the "Enter" key or the button in the center of the touchpad.
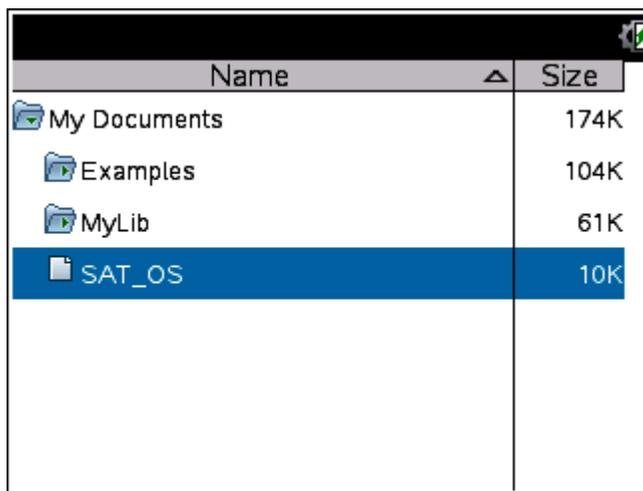

3. Highlight "SAT_OS" using the arrow keys and then press the "Enter" key or the button in the center of the touchpad to start the software.

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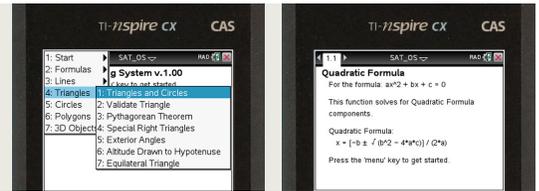
Navigation

To access the various features in the SAT Operating System, you need to use the "Menu" key.

SAT Operating System v.1.00
Press the 'menu' key to get started.

WARNING: Be sure to press the DOWN arrow key after your results are displayed or you WILL get unexpected results in the next calculation.

1: Start
2: Formulas
3: Lines
4: Triangles
5: Circles
6: Polygons
7: 3D Objects
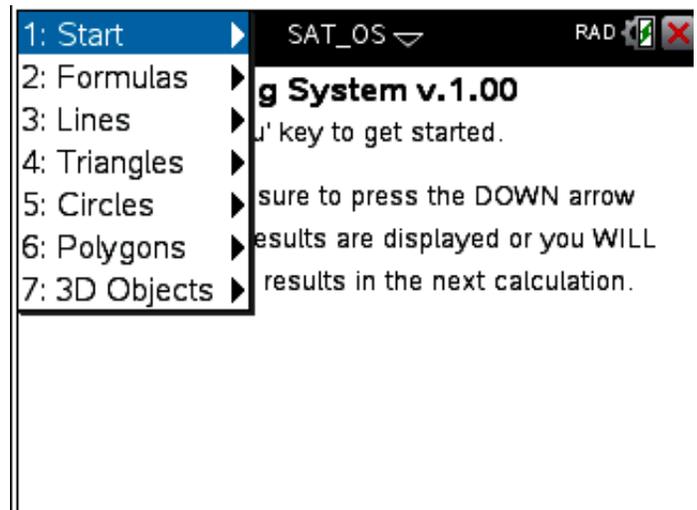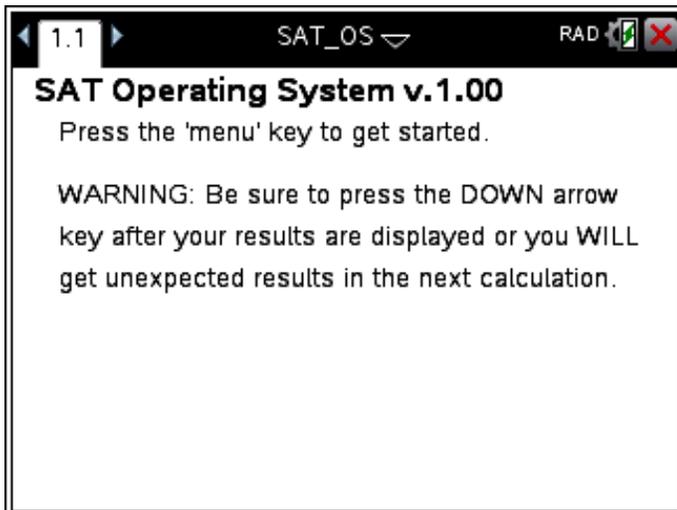
To select an option, use the number key that corresponds to the desired menu option. You also can use the arrow keys to navigate to the desired menu option and then press the "Enter" key or the button in the center of the touchpad. Be sure to follow the in-app instructions to submit the required input for each function.

1: Start
2: Formulas
3: Lines
4: Triangles
5: Circles
6: Polygons
7: 3D Objects

1: Prime Numbers
2: Find x'th Root
3: Quadratic Formula
4: Arithmetic Seq.
5: Weighted Average
6: Motion
7: Revenue/Cost

Input Variable to Solve For
Type the variable you designated as the unknown to solve for (ex: x).

Press 'enter' when finished.

Input:

Results
Press the right arrow key to see each result.

Results
No valid results were found.

Press the DOWN arrow key to clear all variables and return to the main menu.

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Important Features

    1. **Results are copied to the clipboard**. Whenever you are given the option to navigate through the results that are produced by the software, the software copies the result that you are currently viewing to the calculator's clipboard.
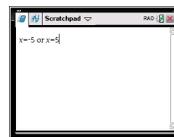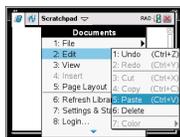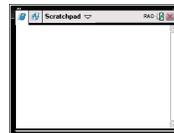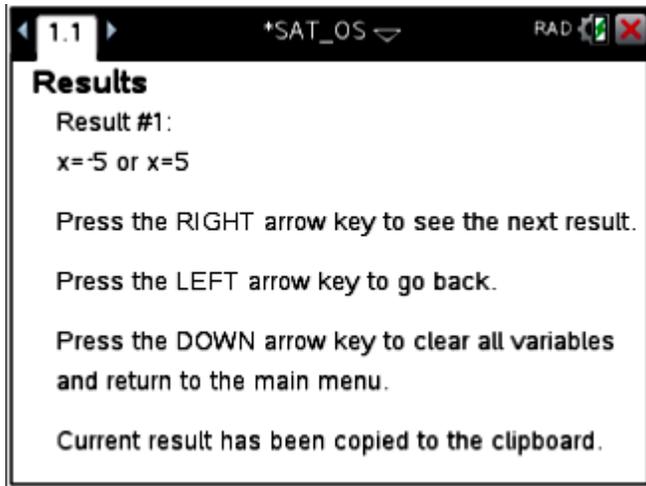
    2. **Use the "Down" arrow key to quickly reset variables used during calculations**. This should be done after every calculation and doing so returns you to the launch screen with the top level menu. If you do not reset after each calculation, you may see incorrect or invalid results. This is especially true if you want to use the same function a second time and provide values to variables that you did _**not**_ provide values for in the previous calculation. However, if you are simply *changing* the value you supplied for a particular variable, then you do not need to use the "Down" arrow key to reset the variables.
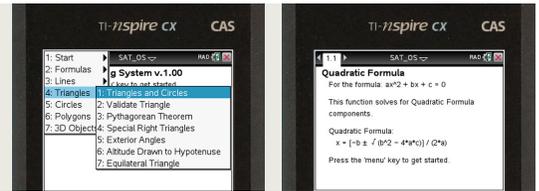
3. **The CAS is used to solve for variables**. The built-in Computer Algebra System is used to calculate the solution to the variables you designate. Be sure to assign a variable name to each value you wish to solve for.
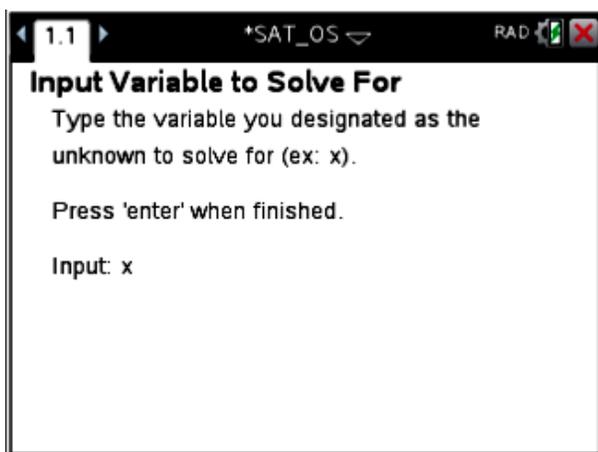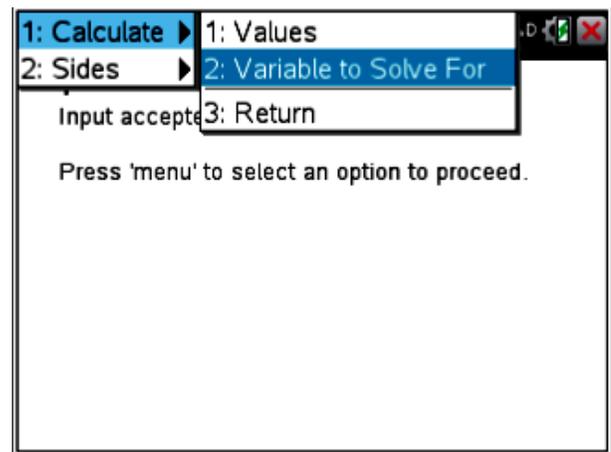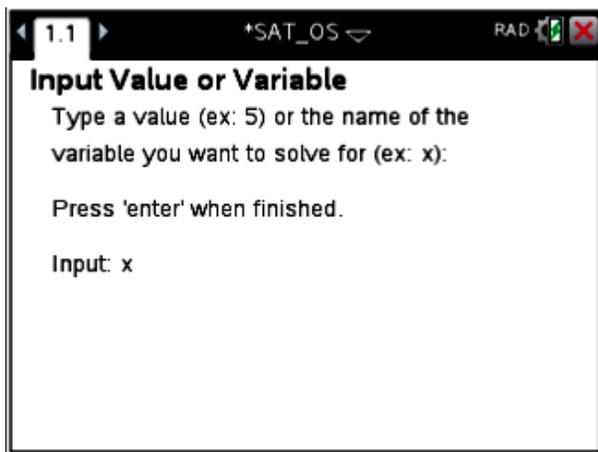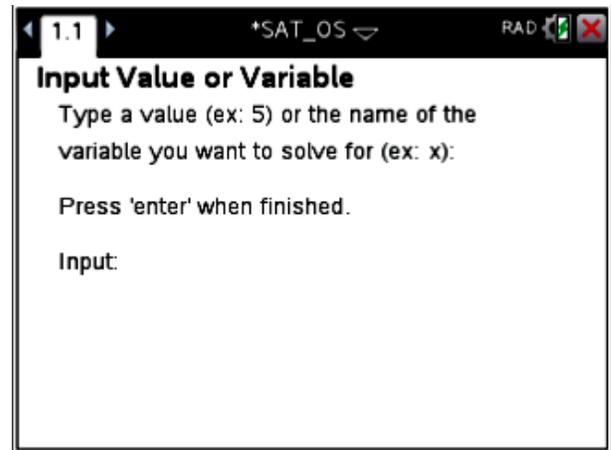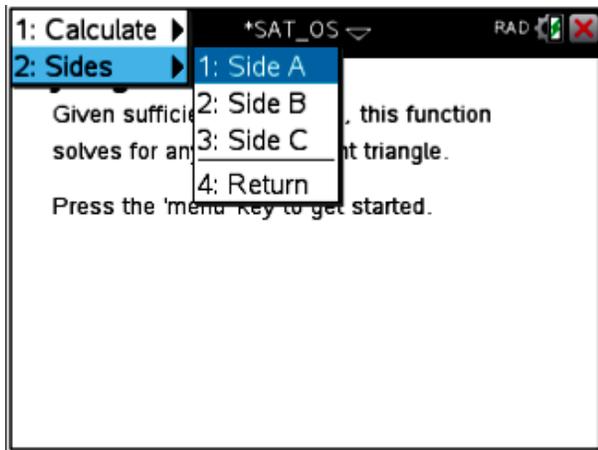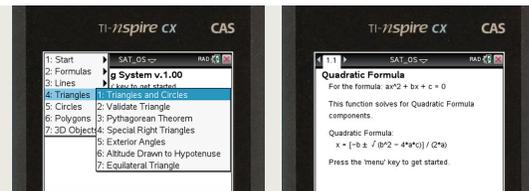
That's all there is to it! You now know how to enter data and calculate values using the component programs of the SAT Operating System. Now the only thing left to do is to become familiar with all of the components and their properties and learn how to apply their capability to solving problems during the SAT test.

# How SAT_OS should be used

Introduction

The SAT Operating System was launched four years ago in time for the "New" SAT test (March 12, 2005). Over this period of time, we have received many questions and comments from users related to how one should use the SAT Operating System. There are in fact many ways the software can be used to help you improve your score. But, the best way to ensure your success on the SAT I Reasoning math subsection is to work practice problems *and use the SAT Operating System when you practice*.

How to improve your score by using the SAT Operating System

The number one question on every user's mind is: "how can I use this thing to improve my score?" To answer this question, you first must understand that the software was never designed to be substitute for logical reasoning or knowledge of mathematics. In other words, it was never intended to be used as a "crutch." This is not to mean that many users who are not as comfortable with mathematics will not find SAT_OS be useful. Quite the contrary, the SAT Operating System does in fact have all of the equations and tools built-in for you with an easy-to-use interface that simplifies and accelerates computations during the test. But, there is no substitute for mathematical skill or dedicated practice in preparing to take the SAT test. The short answer is that as a user, it is your responsibility to make sure that you are very familiar with the capability and functions the SAT Operating System has to offer. Once you become familiar with the aspects of the software, and you begin to apply its capability to solve actual SAT problems, you will be well on your way to earning a higher score on the SAT test. This is the only way to fully maximize your benefit from using the SAT Operating System. SAT_OS is a tool, much like a hammer, to assist you in crushing SAT math problems! If you intend to use SAT_OS as a crutch, please be aware that Calc-Tech LLC. cannot be responsible for any detriments to your score. Responsible use and practice are the keys to a higher score.

Applying the software for use on actual SAT problems

This is the important part. The best way to learn *how* to apply the software for use on actual SAT problems is to collect actual practice problems, either by purchasing test preparation books, past SAT tests, or downloading or purchasing practice problems from third parties. Look at your practice problems. If you can identify the correct approach to solving each SAT math problem, you have essentially solved the problem. Now is where the SAT Operating System comes in; you know the approach, now all you have to do is make the calculations! If you are working with a triangle, and you have already determined the approach or strategy to solving the problem, your immediate thought should be "F4" (the "Triangles" menu). There you will find all of the tools you might need to make calculations for the triangle problem you're working on. Select the appropriate function (which you will have learned from practicing on similar problems and using SAT_OS to make calculations), enter the values for the variables you're working with, and then simply allow the software to calculate values and generate the correct answer. This general procedure is outlined on the next page.

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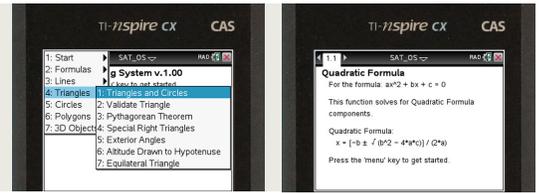
SAT Math Problem Procedure:

1. Identify the strategy (the approach) needed to solve the problem.
2. Select the corresponding function in the SAT Operating System to make the necessary calculations.
3. Enter numerical values for the variables.
4. Identify the variable to be designated as the unknown. Enter "x" or some other variable as the value for the unknown.
5. Select "Calculate" from the drop down menu within the component program you are working with.
6. Select the "Values" option to calculate solutions for the variables you designated.
7. Correct values/answers will be automatically generated and shown on the "Results" screen.
8. Circle the correct answer on your answer sheet or run the program again with the new values you just calculated after pressing the "Down" arrow key to reset the variables used by the software.

Premium Technical Support

Calc-Tech LLC. offers premium technical support and tutoring for users who would like personalized, one-on-one assistance in learning how to use the SAT Operating System on actual SAT math problems. When you practicing SAT math problems and you encounter a problem you are unsure of how to solve using the SAT Operating System, you can call our technical support center using a landline telephone, call us using Skype, or send us an email (free). For more information on how to reach us, please refer to the "Premium Support and Technical Assistance" section.

Legality of Use

The key to solving problems on the SAT I Reasoning math subsection is identifying the approach. Once you know the strategy, the calculations are just peripheral. This is why the CollegeBoard permits and allows students to use calculators and software on their calculators; they are interested in whether or not you know how to approach the problems, not if you can memorize equations or make computations. If you want further confirmation, it is explicitly stated in the official SAT Calculator Policy that "you are not required to clear the memory on your calculator." In other words, you do NOT have to delete any applications, software, or programs on your calculator prior to taking the SAT I Reasoning math subsection; their use is permitted. If you have any questions or concerns about program usage during the SAT test, please feel free to contact the CollegeBoard or Calc-Tech LLC. at support@calc-tech.com.

Summary

- You must practice on real SAT math problems and learn how to apply the functions and tools SAT_OS has to offer to maximize your benefit from using the software (and your SAT I math score!).
- SAT_OS can help users of all mathematical backgrounds. Even if you are very comfortable with the mathematics section of the SAT and/or math in general, you will still find SAT_OS useful as it reduces the amount of time needed to solve each problem while maximizing accuracy.
- We offer premium support to all of our users if they need help applying SAT_OS to SAT problems.
- The SAT Operating System is completely legal and authorized for use during the SAT I Reasoning math section. If you have any questions, please send us an email at support@calc-tech.com.

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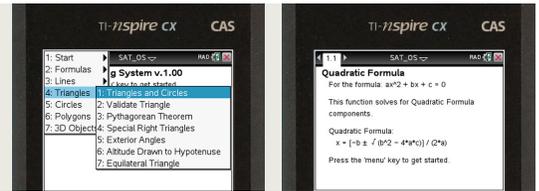
# 2   The Software

Function Descriptions

Now we will now go over each of the component functions and describe their purpose, location within SAT_OS, and the variables used for each program.

PRIME NUMBERS

Description: The prime numbers program will determine whether or not the number you enter is prime. If it is, the program will determine the prime factorization of that number. When the calculation is complete, the program will allow you to start over or return to the main menu.

Location: "Formulas" menu, item number 1.
Instructions: Enter an integer value.
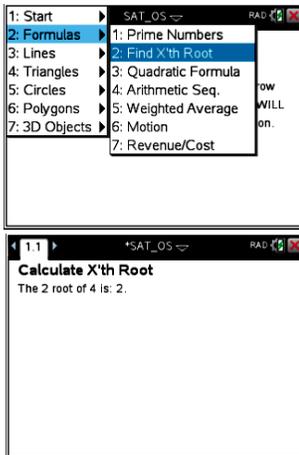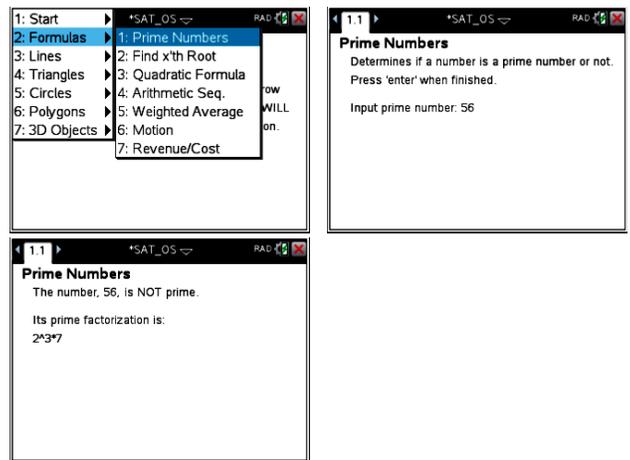
FIND X'TH ROOT

Description: This program will allow you to calculate the "x" root of any number. This is helpful if you need to use a root value other than 2 or 3 (for square root and third root, respectively) of a number. In this program "x" represents any positive integer value greater than 1 (2, 3, 4, 5, 6, etc.).

*Location*: "Formulas" menu, item number 2.
Instructions: Enter a value for "x" to define what kind of root you will be taking of another number. Then enter a value for the number for which you need an "x" root value.

QUADRATIC FORMULA

Description: This program will allow you to calculate values for variables used in arithmetic sequences. Variables include: Last Term (1), Sum of Terms (2), First Term (3), Number of Terms (4), and the Common Difference (5). Variables 1-4 relate directly to characteristics of the arithmetic sequence and the common difference is the difference between the individual terms in the arithmetic sequence.

Location: "Formulas" menu, item number 3.
Instructions: Enter values for the variables and define one variable as the unknown.

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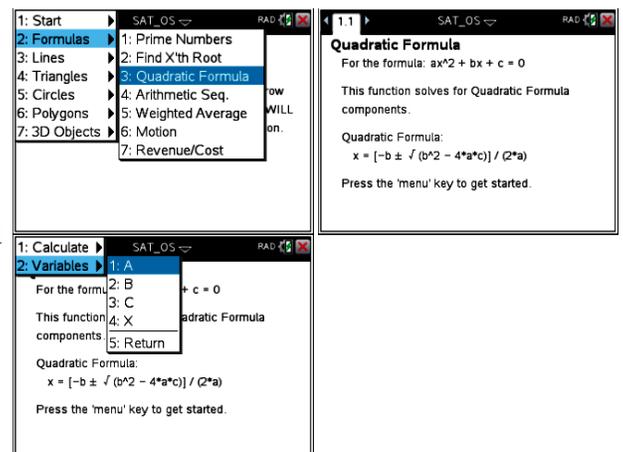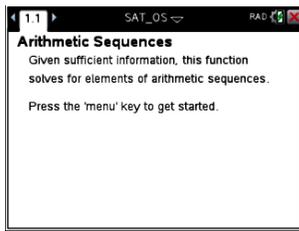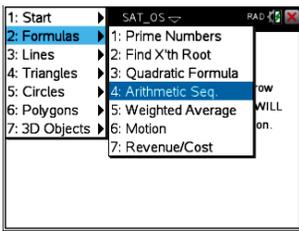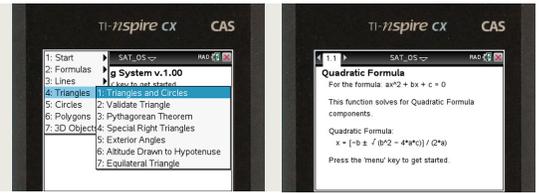
ARITHMETIC SEQUENCES

Description: This program will allow you to calculate values for variables used in arithmetic sequences. Variables include: Last Term (1), Sum of Terms (2), First Term (3), Number of Terms (4), and the Common Difference (5). Variables 1-4 relate directly to characteristics of the arithmetic sequence and the common difference is the difference between the individual terms in the arithmetic sequence.

Location: "Formulas" menu, item number 4.
*Instructions*: Enter values for the variables and define one variable as the unknown.
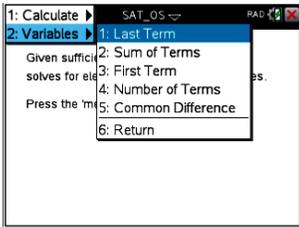
WEIGHTED AVERAGES

Description: This program allows you to calculate the weighted average for 2 sets of numbers, and also values for the variables used in calculating the weighted average.

Location: "Formulas" menu, item number 5.
Instructions: Enter values for: the weighted average (abbreviated "avg."), average for number set 1, the number of values in set 1, average for number set 2, and the number of values in set 2.
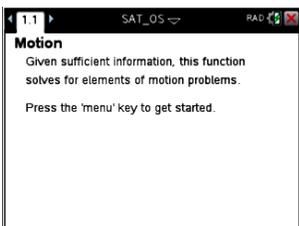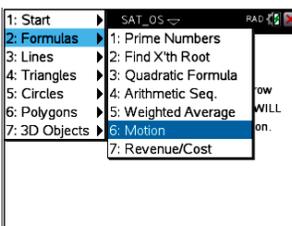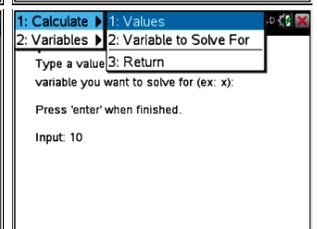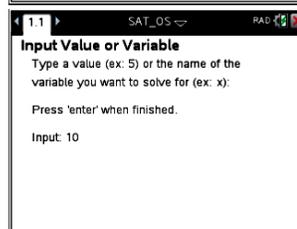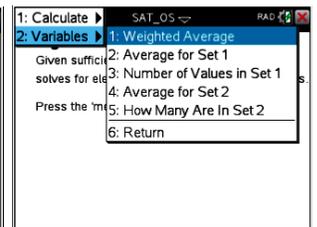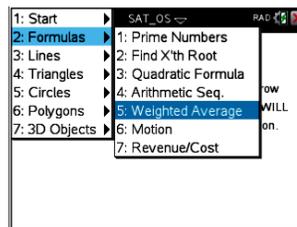
MOTION

Description: This program allows the user to calculate the distance, rate, and/or time variables used in typical SAT motion or rate problems.

Location: "Formulas" menu, item number 6.
Instructions: Enter values for at least two variables and designate one variable as the unknown (typically by using "x").
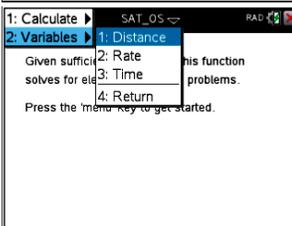

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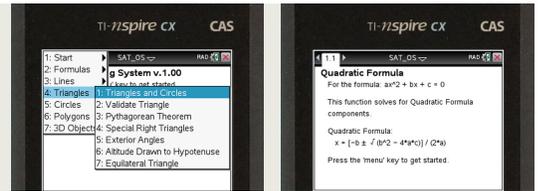
REVENUE

Description: This program helps the user to calculate values used in revenue and cost SAT problems. Variables include: Markup, Cost, and Revenue.

Location: "Formulas" menu, item number 7.
Instructions: Enter values for at least two variables and designate one variable as the unknown (typically by using "x").
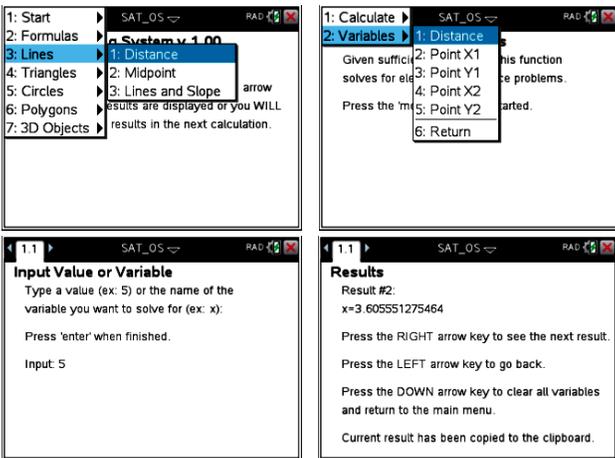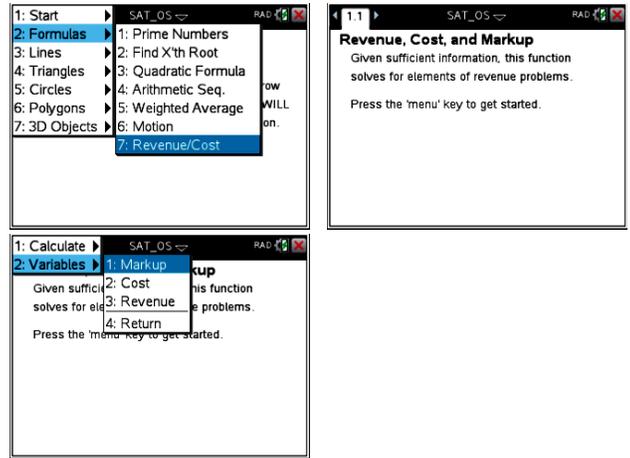
DISTANCE

Description: This program allows the user to calculate the distance between two (X,Y) coordinate points in a Cartesian plane (coordinate system).

Location: "Lines" menu, item number 1.
Instructions: You need numerical values for all four variables (X1, Y1, X2, and Y2) in order to calculate the distance between the two coordinate points. Designate Distance as the variable by inputting "x" or whatever variable name you want for Distance.

MIDPOINT

Description: This program allows the user to calculate the midpoint between two (X,Y) coordinate points in a Cartesian plane (coordinate system).

*Location*: "Lines" menu, item number 2.
Instructions: You need numerical values for all four variables (X1, Y1, X2, and Y2) in order to calculate the midpoint between the two coordinate points.
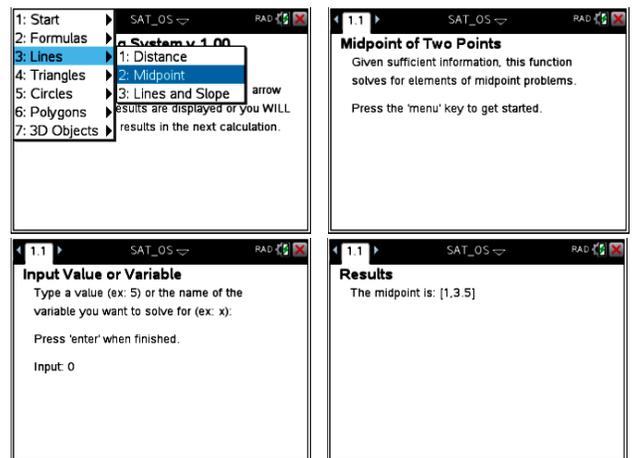
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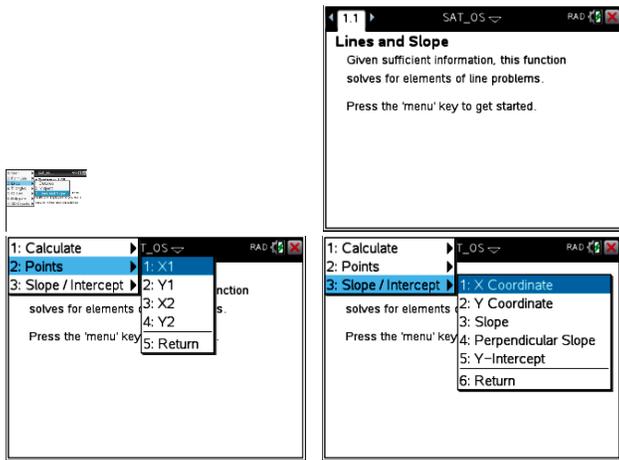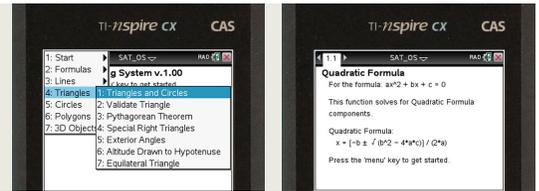
LINES AND SLOPE

Description: This program allows you calculate the following values: the slope of a line, X-coordinate, Y-coordinate, Y-intercept, and the slope of a line drawn perpendicular to the original line. Both the "Slope/Coordinates" and "Y-intercept" menu items can be used to calculate the slope if you designate the slope as the unknown ("x").

*Location*: "Lines" menu, item number 3.
Instructions: Designate one variable as the unknown and solve by selecting menu item 1 under "Calculate."

TRIANGLES AND CIRCLES

Description: The function is the centerpiece of SAT Operating System due to its capability of solving for any variable on, within, or about a triangle.
The triangl() program can solve for any of the following variables:

Sides	Angles	Area and Height	Circles
A	D	Area of the Triangle	Radius of an Inscribed Circle (r)
B	E	Height of the Triangle	Radius of an Circumscribed Circle (R)
C	F		
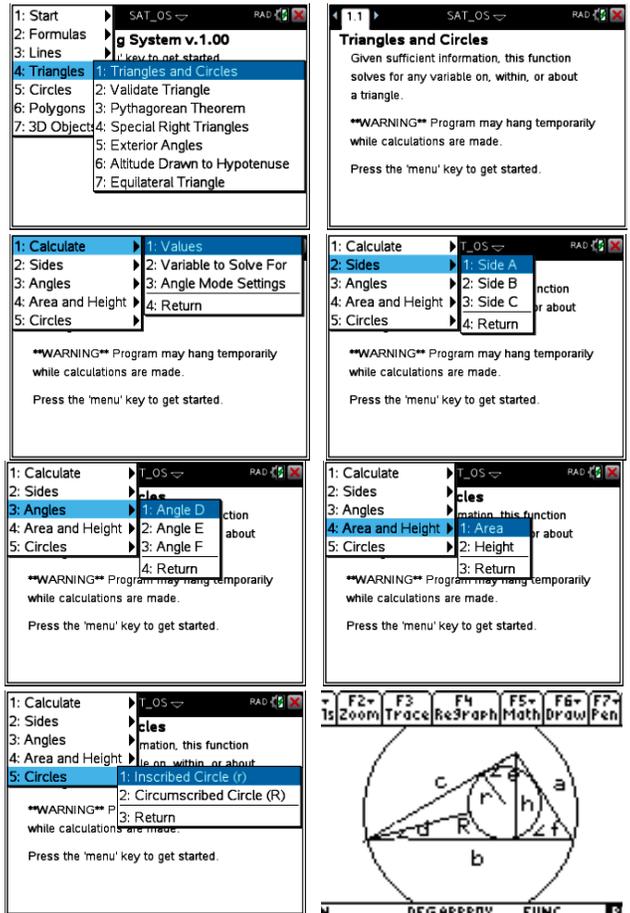
Making Calculations:

Before you make any calculation, a dialog box will appear asking you if you would like to use "Degree" or "Radian" mode. The default is "Degree" mode (just hit "ENTER" to proceed with this mode), but if you would like to use "Radian" mode, press "ESC." The software will automatically restore your stored preferences so you do not have to change all of your settings back each time you use this program. A reminder to run the program again to find new values will appear at the end each time calculations are made. If you find that no answers were displayed, then the final dialog box will remind you that "...the program had insufficient data to calculate the desired values." In that case, the software requires additional information in order to produce an answer. You should then save the program values and enter values for one or more of the other program variables.

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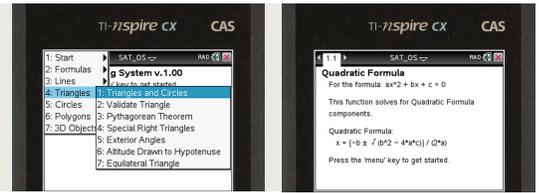
TRIANGLES AND CIRCLES (continued)

Location: "Triangles" menu. item number 1.
Instructions: Navigate the variable menus and enter values for as many variables as you can. Designate only one variable to be the unknown at a time (you will need to run the program again if you would like to find additional values). The easiest way to designate the unknown is to use "x."

VALIDATE TRIANGLE

Description: This program determines if there is any combination of the given values that will yield a valid triangle. If the word "YES" appears, then the triangle side combination of A, B, and C (displayed at the top of the screen) is valid. *Now this is key*: the letters at the top of the screen represent the sides of the triangle in the following order: left leg, bottom leg, and hypotenuse. The picture shows the default arrangement of A-B-C, but the values of A-B-C are arranged so that the first letter is the left leg, the second letter is the bottom leg, and the third letter is the hypotenuse.

Location: "Triangles" menu, item number 2.
Instructions: There are no unknowns for this program; you must enter numerical values for sides A, B, and C.
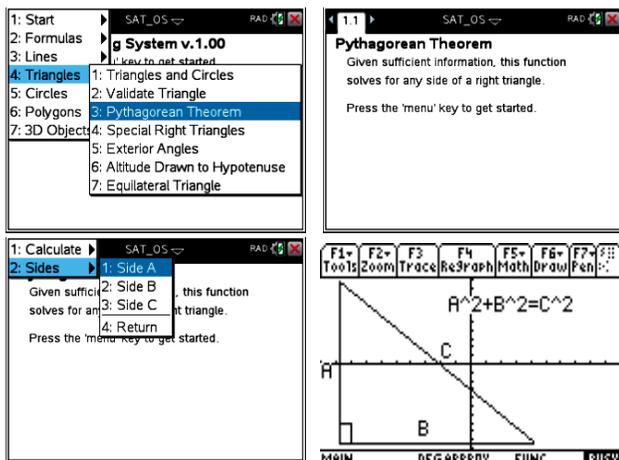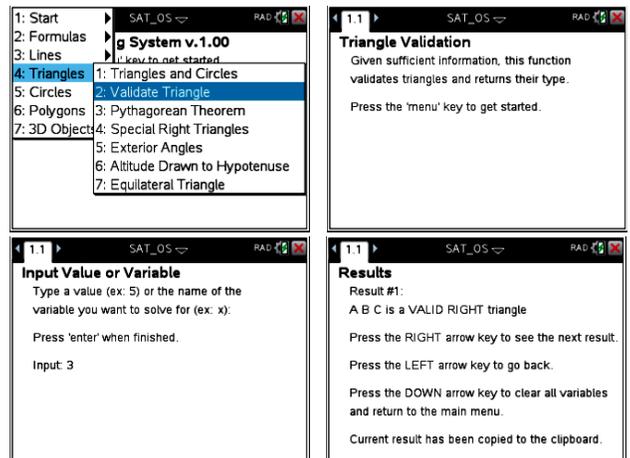
PYTHAGOREAN THEOREM

Description: The TRIANGLES AND CIRCLES function is fully capable of solving for all parts of a triangle, but if you know exactly which equation needed to solve a problem, you might want a highly specialized function instead. This program is designed to calculate sides of a triangle using the Pythagorean Theorem. While it may be simpler and faster than the TRIANGLES AND CIRCLES function, it is limited to only using sides to calculate values for sides.

Location: "Triangles" menu , item number 3.
Instructions: Enter values using the "Sides" menu, specify your unknown, and calculate a value for one of the sides.

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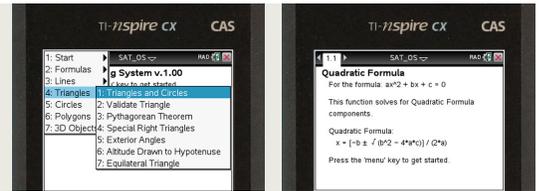
SPECIAL RIGHT TRIANGLES

Description: This program is designed to calculate the sides of the two special right triangles commonly found on the SAT test.

Location: "Triangles" menu, item number 4.
*Instructions*: Enter values using the "Sides" menu and select either the "45-45-90" triangle variant or the "30-60-90" variant under the "Calculate" menu. Be sure to let at least one variable be the unknown (by using "x" or other equivalent).
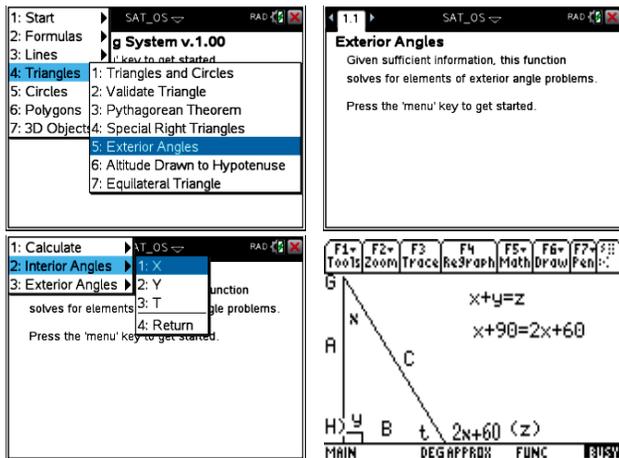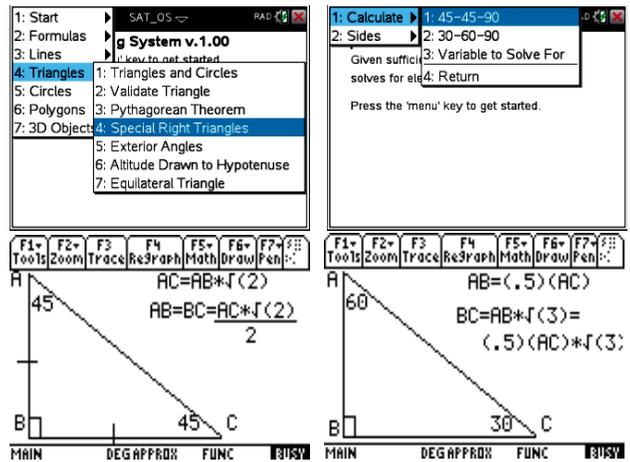
EXTERIOR ANGLES

Description: This program is designed to calculate the exterior angles of a triangle using values for interior angles (and vice versa).

Location: "Triangles" menu, item number 5.
Instructions: Enter values using the "Interior Angles" and "Exterior Angles" drop down menus. Assign one angle to be the unknown (usually "x") and calculate its value using the "Calculate" menu.

ALTITUDE DRAWN TO HYPOTENUSE

Description: This program is designed to calculate the length of the altitude of a triangle drawn to the hypotenuse and the related line segments of the triangle. The items in the "Line Segments" menu (tab "F2") are assigned an asterisk (*) or a dash (-) for purposes of clarity and ease of use only. They do not have any special significance. Normally it would be difficult to read "AB," "BC," etc. when placed directly next to the menu item numbers (1-6).

Location: "Triangles" menu, item number 6.
Instructions: Enter values using the "Line Segments" drop down menu. Assign one line segment to be the unknown ("x") and calculate its value using the "Calculate" menu.
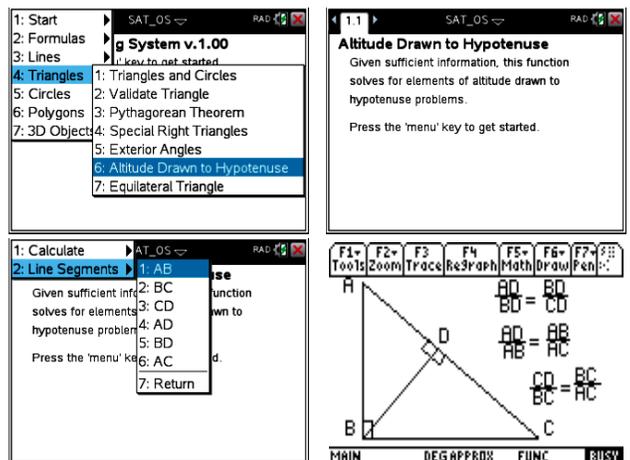
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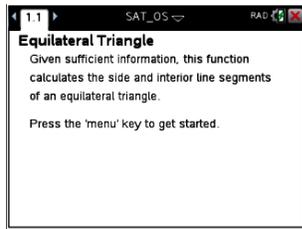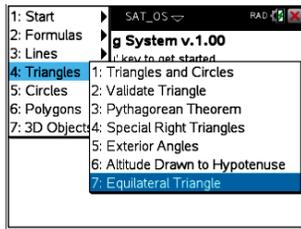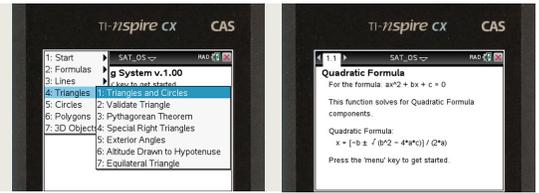
EQUILATERAL TRIANGLE

Description: This program is designed to calculate the side (they are all equal) and interior line segments of a regular triangle.

Location: "Triangles" menu, item number 7.
Instructions: Enter values using the "Line Segments" drop down menu. Assign one variable to be the unknown ("x") and calculate its value using the "Calculate" menu.

$$r= \frac{x*\sqrt{(3)}}{3}$$

$$a= \frac{x*\sqrt{(3)}}{6}$$
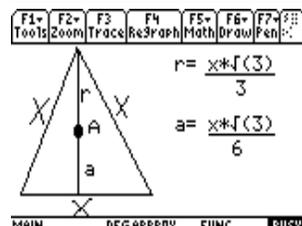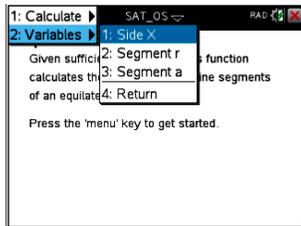
FORMULA OF A CIRCLE

Description: This program is designed to use the definition of a circle to calculate the radius, center of a circle (H,K), and the (X,Y) coordinate values of a point on the circle.

Location: "Circles" menu, item number 1.
Instructions: Enter "x" or "y" for the unknown value. To find the Y-intercept, enter 0 for the X-coordinate (item number "1" under the "Variables" menu). To find the X-intercept, enter 0 for the Y-coordinate (item number "2" under the "Variables" menu).
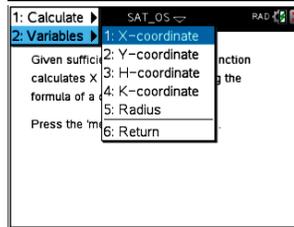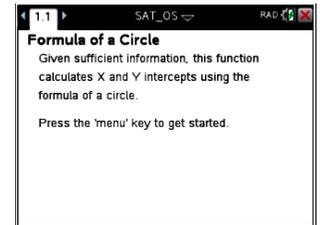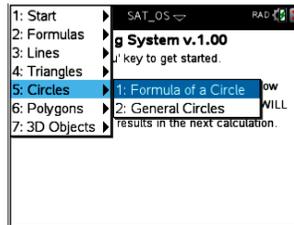
GENERAL CIRCLES

Description: This program is designed to calculate values for the parts of a circle (radius, circumference, and area).

Location: "Circles" menu, item number 2.
Instructions: Enter values for the parts of a circle using the menu items in the "Variables" menu and use a variable to specify the unknown ("x"). To calculate the parts of a circle, use item number 1 in the "Calculate" menu.

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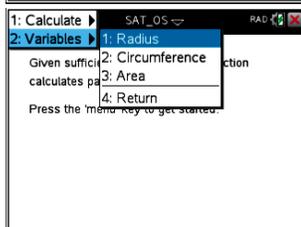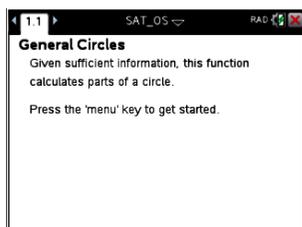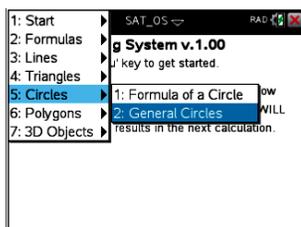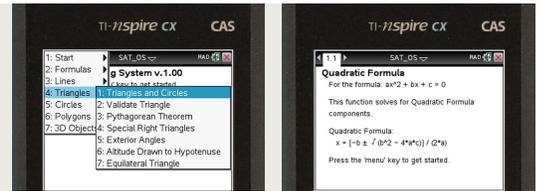
GENERAL POLYGONS

Description: This program is designed to provide information on any polygon, given the number of sides. Available data includes: the name of the polygon, number of diagonals per vertex, number of triangles formed, sum of interior angles, total number of diagonals, and the sum of exterior angles 1 per vertex.

Location: "Polygons" menu, item number 1.
Instructions: Input the number of sides using the "Variables" menu and then open the "Calculate" menu and select menu item number 1 ("Go!") to calculate information about the polygon.

REGULAR SQUARE

Description: This program is designed to calculate values for the parts of a regular square. Variables include: side of the square (all sides are equal) and sides of an inscribed triangle.

Location: "Polygons" menu, item number 3.
*Instructions*: Enter values for the variables for which you have information and define the unknown using a variable ("x"). Calculate values using menu item 1 under the "Calculate" menu.

2-D QUADRILATERAL

Description: This program is designed to calculate values for the parts of a 2-dimensional quadrilateral. Variables include: area, length, and width.

Location: "Polygons" menu, item number 2.
Instructions: Enter values for the variables for which you have information and define the unknown using a variable ("x"). Calculate values using menu item 1 under the "Calculate" menu.

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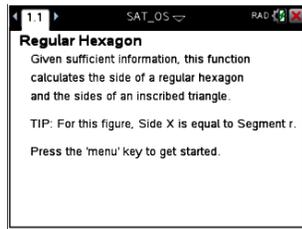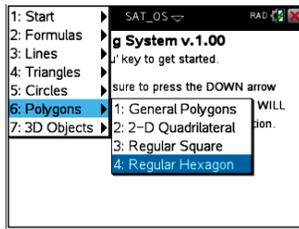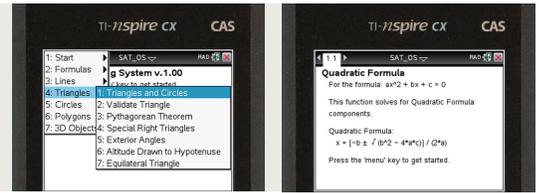
REGULAR HEXAGON

Description: This program is designed to calculate values for the parts of a regular hexagon. Variables include: the side of the hexagon (all sides are equal) and sides of an inscribed triangle.

Location: "Polygons" menu, item number 4.
Instructions: Enter values for the variables for which you have information and define the unknown using a variable ("x"). Calculate values using menu item 1 under the "Calculate" menu .
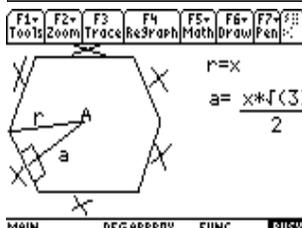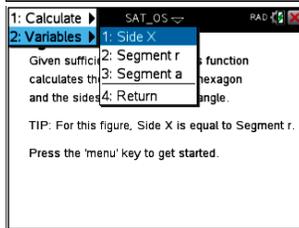
CUBE

Description: This program is designed to calculate the side and surface area of a cube. Variables include: the side (all sides are equal) and the surface area.

Location: "3-D Objects" menu, item number 1.
Instructions: Enter values for the variables for which you have information and define the unknown using a variable ("x"). Calculate values using menu item 1 under the "Calculate" menu.
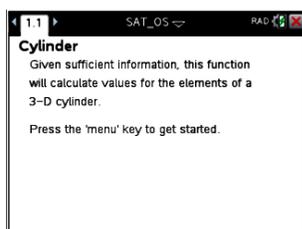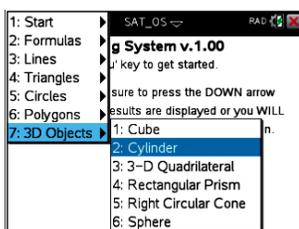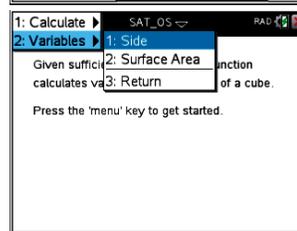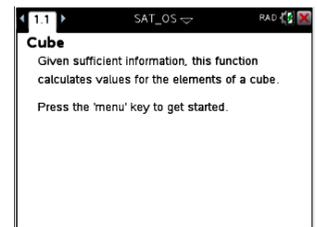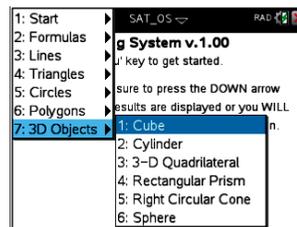
CYLINDER

Description: This program is designed to calculate values for the parts of a cylinder. Variables include: height, radius, volume, and surface area.

*Location*: "3-D Objects" menu, item number 2.
Instructions: Enter values for the variables for which you have information and define the unknown using a variable ("x"). Calculate values using menu item 1 under the "Calculate" menu.

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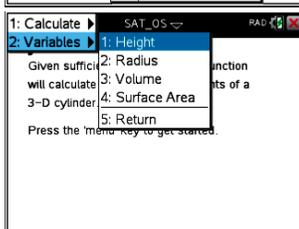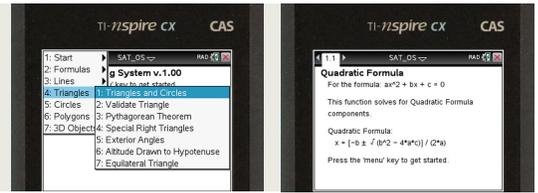
3-D QUADRILATERAL

Description: This program is designed to calculate values for the parts of a 3-dimensional quadrilateral. Variables include: volume, length, width, and height.

Location: "3-D Objects" menu, item number 3.
Instructions: Enter values for the variables for which you have information and define the unknown using a variable ("x"). Calculate values using menu item 1 under the "Calculate" menu.
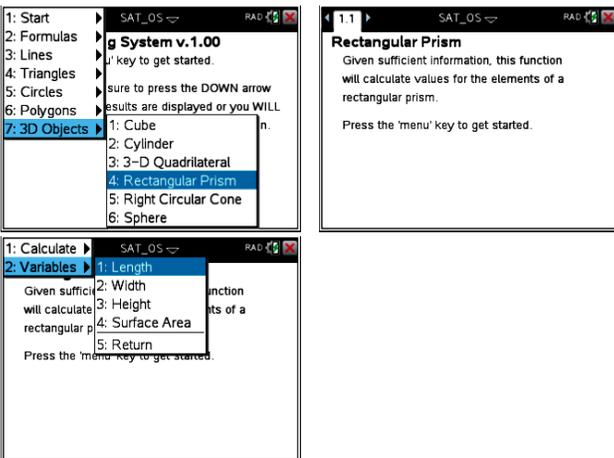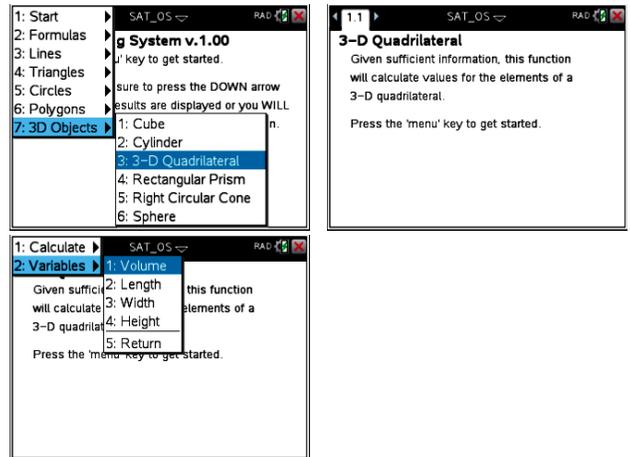
RECTANGULAR PRISM

Description: This program is designed to calculate values for the parts of a rectangular prism. Variables include: length, width, height, and surface area.

*Location*: "3-D Objects" menu, item number 4.
Instructions: Enter values for the variables for which you have information and define the unknown using a variable ("x"). Calculate values using menu item 1 under the "Calculate" menu.

RIGHT CIRCULAR CONE

Description: This program is designed to calculate values for the parts of a right circular cone. Variables include: height, radius, and volume.

*Location*: "3-D Objects" menu, item number 5.
Instructions: Enter values for the variables for which you have information and define the unknown using a variable ("x"). Calculate values using menu item 1 under the "Calculate" menu.
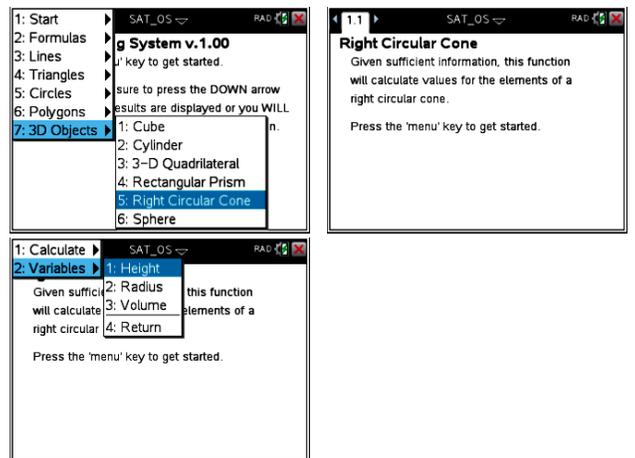
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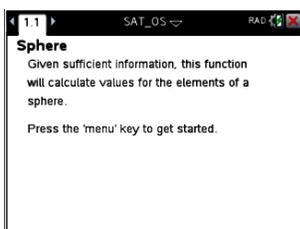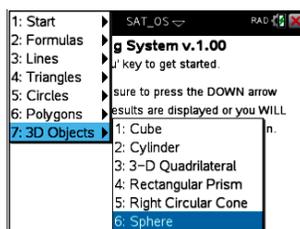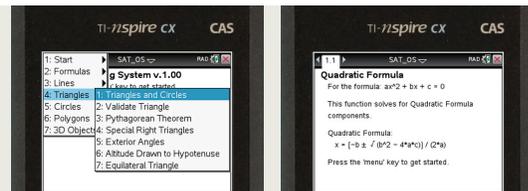
SPHERE

Description: This program is designed to calculate values for the parts of a sphere. Variables include: radius, volume, and surface area.

Location: "3-D Objects" menu, item number 6.
Instructions: Enter values for the variables for which you have information and define the unknown using a variable ("x"). Calculate values using menu item 1 under the "Calculate" menu.
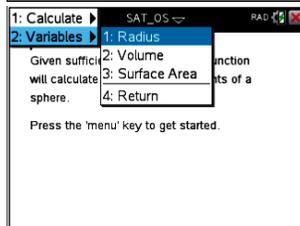
THE END
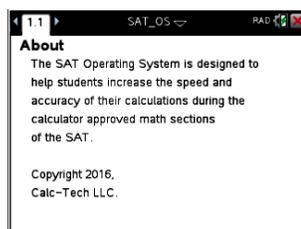
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Thank you for being a Calc-Tech™ customer!

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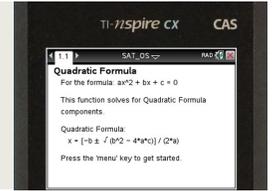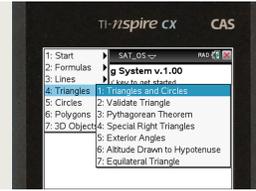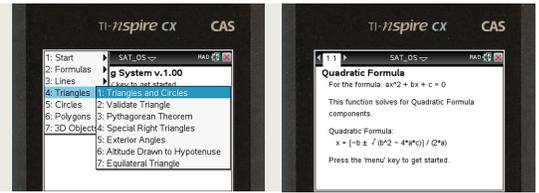
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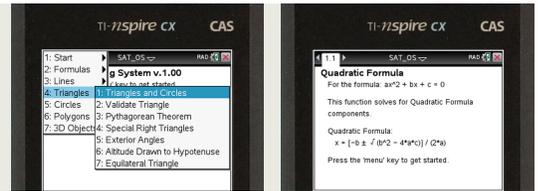
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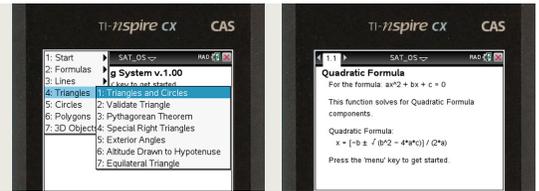
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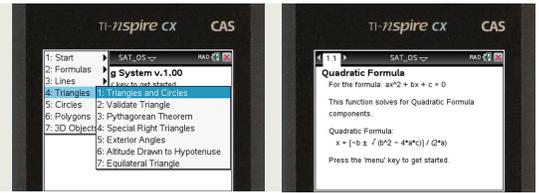
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5   Contact Information and Credits

Contact Information

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