

ENG 101 Matlab Getting Started & The Basics

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First Language: MATLAB

- ▶ Uses
 - ▶ for math computations
(i.e. a calculator albeit a very powerful one)
 - ▶ for modeling and simulations
 - ▶ for data analysis and processing
 - ▶ for graphics and visualization
 - ▶ for algorithm development
- ▶ Analysis of scalars or arrays (1, 2, or multi-dimensional)
- ▶ MATLAB toolboxes provide extra functionality
- ▶ Many functions in MATLAB are similar to other programming languages
 - ▶ naming a variable, IF function

Where to Get MATLAB

- ▶ **Student License**
 - ▶ A free student license for MATLAB is available for both Windows and Mac machines
 - ▶ Go to my.uah.edu; under OIT Services click on [Chargerware](#)
 - ▶ A MATLAB icon should appear on the main page; if not click on [Analysis and Modeling](#) on the left menu list and then choose [MATLAB](#)
 - ▶ Follow the instructions; go to the OIT Helpdesk if you have any issues
 - ▶ Some older versions of MATLAB may be fine to use; check with me to be sure

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Getting Started in MATLAB

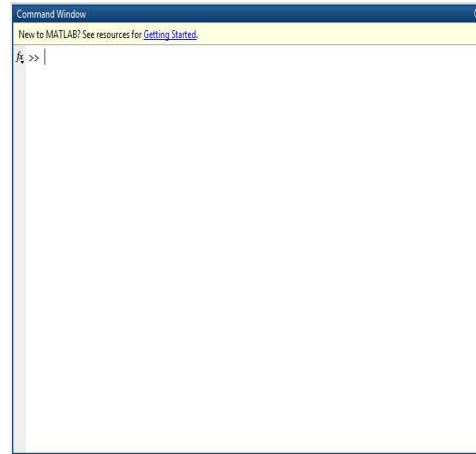
- ▶ There are several MATLAB windows for which you must become familiar. Let's open MATLAB and take a look at them.
 - Command Window
 - Figure Window
 - Editor Window
 - Help Window
 - Command History Window
 - Workspace Window
 - Current Folder Window

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Command Window

- Used for executing commands, running scripts, and opening other windows.
- Command prompt: `>>`
- Getting started – using the command window as a calculator.
- 3 important items
 - Semicolon – ends a command
 - Percent – add a comment
 - `clc` – clears Command Window



[Go To MATLAB](#)

MATLAB as a Calculator

- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--------|--|
| ▶ Operation | Symbol | ▶ Order of Operations |
| ▶ Addition | + | ▶ 1 st Parentheses (innermost first) |
| ▶ Subtraction | - | ▶ 2 nd Exponentiation |
| ▶ Multiplication | * | ▶ 3 rd Multiplication/Division (equal) |
| ▶ Division | / | ▶ 4 th Addition/Subtraction (equal) |
| ▶ Exponentiation [†] | ^ | ▶ Higher order operations are executed first. For equal order operations, the expression is executed from left to right. Parentheses are used to change the order of calculations. |

[†] Exponentiation is used to raise variables/numbers to a power and is not the same as the exponential function.

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Matlab desktop



Figure 1-1: The default view of MATLAB desktop.

Command Window

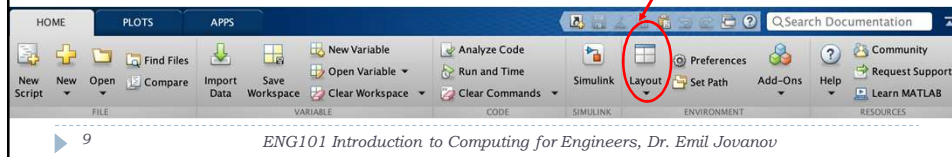
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Command History

Often easier to just show Command History Window. To close all other windows:

- ▶ Click on down-arrow button in top right of windows, select Close
- or
- ▶ From tool strip, select Layout, then Command Window Only



Matlab windows

| Window | Purpose |
|------------------------|---|
| Command Window | Main window, enters variables, runs programs. |
| Figure Window | Contains output from graphic commands. |
| Editor Window | Creates and debugs script and function files. |
| Help Window | Provides help information. |
| Command History Window | Logs commands entered in the Command Window. |
| Workspace Window | Provides information about the variables that are stored. |
| Current Folder Window | Shows the files in the current folder. |

Matlab windows: Plot

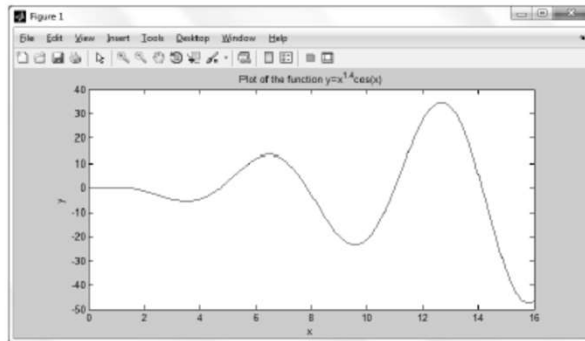


Figure Window opens automatically after any command that draws a graph

Figure 1-2: Example of a Figure Window.



If you don't see a figure window open up, look on the task bar for a black, program bar and click it

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Matlab windows: Editor

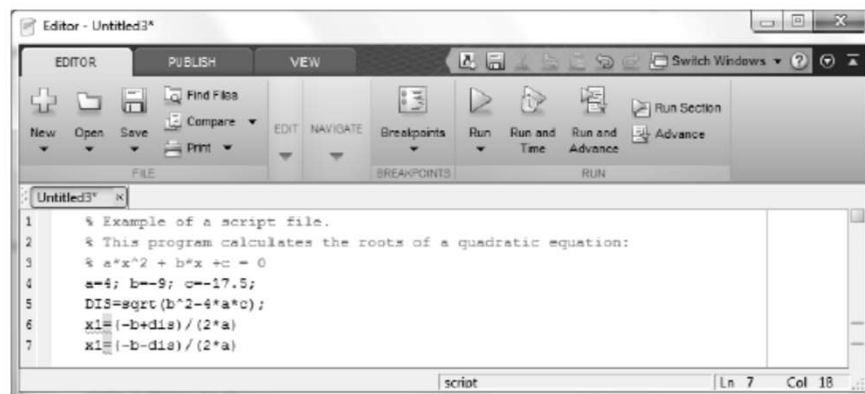


Figure 1-3: Example of an Editor Window.

Use Editor Window to write and debug MATLAB scripts. Open with `edit` command

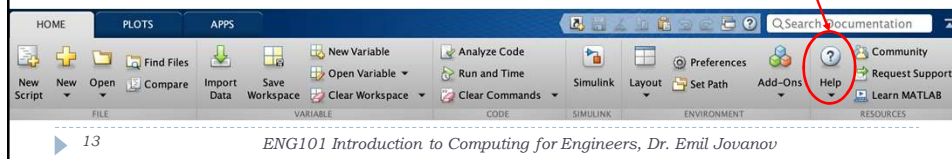
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Matlab windows: Help



Get Help Window
by clicking on
Help icon
(question mark)
in tool strip



More Fun with Windows

- ▶ To reopen a window, click the Layout icon and then click on the window name
- ▶ To get the default window layout (shown before) click the Layout icon, then click Default
- ▶ Undocking a window means removing it from the main MATLAB window and then being able to move it independently. To undock a window:
 - ▶ Drag the window's title bar until the cursor is outside the MATLAB window, then release the cursor
 - or
 - ▶ Click on the Window Action icon, then click on Undock

More Fun with Windows

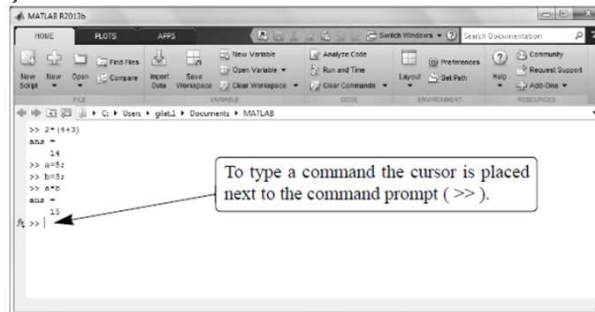
- ▶ Undocking a window means removing it from the main MATLAB window and then being able to move it independently. To undock a window:
 - ▶ Drag the window's title bar until the cursor is outside the MATLAB window, then release the cursor
 - or
 - ▶ Click on the Window Action icon, then click on Undock
- ▶ To dock a window:
 - ▶ Click on the Window Action icon, then click on Dock

Command Window is MATLAB's main window. Use it to:

- ▶ Execute commands
- ▶ Open other windows
- ▶ Run programs that you've written
- ▶ Manage the MATLAB software

Basic procedure

1. At prompt (`>>`), type in MATLAB command
2. Press ENTER key
3. MATLAB displays result in Command Window, followed by a prompt
4. Repeat from step 1



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Figure 1-5. The Command Window.

Notes on Command Window

- ▶ To start a command, make sure cursor is next to prompt
- ▶ MATLAB won't respond until you press ENTER
 - ▶ It then executes only last command
 - ▶ Commands before last one may still be visible, but MATLAB doesn't execute them
- ▶ Can type several commands in same line by putting a comma between commands
 - ▶ Hard to read, so don't do this often
- ▶ If command too long to fit on line, can continue to next line by typing ellipsis (3 periods, i.e., ...) and then pressing ENTER

When cursor is in bottom command line:

- ▶ ← key moves cursor one character to left
- ▶ → key moves cursor one character to right
- ▶ ↑ key recalls preceding command
- ▶ ↓ key recalls command that follows one being displayed, i.e., undoes ↑

- ▶ PAGE-UP key moves up to previous commands in a window-size at a time
- ▶ PAGE-DOWN key moves down to previous commands in a window-size at a time
- ▶ BACKSPACE key deletes character to left of cursor
- ▶ DELETE key deletes character to right of cursor



To quickly execute a previous command but with minor changes

1. Recall command with up- and down-arrow keys
2. Use left- and right-arrow keys to move to characters to be altered
3. Use BACKSPACE or DELETE to remove old character, then type new character
4. Press ENTER to execute modified command

Semicolon (;)

- ▶ When typed at end of command, suppresses output. (Only prompt displayed at next line)
 - ▶ Useful for preventing display of large outputs
 - ▶ Used much more in scripts (see Section 1.8)

Percent sign(%)

- ▶ When typed at beginning of line, MATLAB treats line as a *comment* and doesn't execute line
 - ▶ Used much more in scripts (see Section 1.8)

`clc` command

- ▶ Clears Command Window display
- ▶ Up and down arrows still bring back previous commands

Command History Window

- ▶ Shows previous commands, including ones from previous MATLAB sessions
- ▶ Double-clicking on command puts it in Command Window and executes it
- ▶ Can drag command to Command Window, make changes in command, then execute it
- ▶ To clear one or more commands, select the lines to delete, right click, choose Delete Selection
- ▶ To clear entire history, right click, select Clear Command History

In this chapter will only discuss arithmetic with *scalars* (single numbers)

- ▶ Can do arithmetic directly on numbers (like a calculator)
- ▶ Can store numbers in variables

I.3 Arithmetic Operations with Scalars

Symbols for arithmetic are:

| Operation | Symbol | Example |
|----------------|--------|-----------------------------------|
| Addition | + | $5 + 3$ |
| Subtraction | − | $5 - 3$ |
| Multiplication | * | $5 * 3$ |
| Right division | / | $5 / 3$ |
| Left division | \ | $5 \setminus 3 = 3 / 5$ |
| Exponentiation | ^ | $5 \wedge 3$ (means $5^3 = 125$) |

Left division rarely used with scalars

Order in which MATLAB does arithmetic

| Precedence | Mathematical Operation |
|------------|--|
| First | Parentheses. For nested parentheses, the innermost are executed first. |
| Second | Exponentiation. |
| Third | Multiplication, division (equal precedence). |
| Fourth | Addition and subtraction. |

Precedence order

- ▶ Same as most calculators
- ▶ Same as doing arithmetic by hand
- ▶ For multiple operations of same precedence, MATLAB goes left to right
- ▶ Can change order by using parentheses

Can use MATLAB as a (very expensive!) calculator

1. Type in mathematical expression
2. Press **Enter** key
3. MATLAB displays answer in Command Window as
`ans =` followed by the result

Your display may appear on more than one line and have blank lines between text

Can control display of numbers with `format` command

- ▶ Once enter command, format stays the same until another `format` command
- ▶ Default format is fixed point with four digits to right of decimal point
 - ▶ *fixed-point* means decimal point always between one's-digit and one-tenth's digit
- ▶ Format only affects display of numbers. MATLAB always computes and saves numbers in full precision

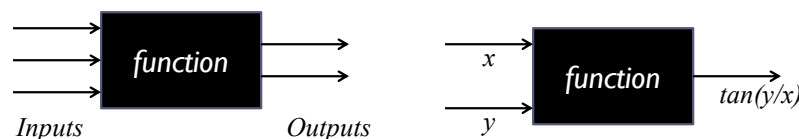
Some types of formatting

Table 1-2: Display formats

| Command | Description | Example |
|----------------|---|---|
| format short | Fixed-point with 4 decimal digits for: $0.001 \leq \text{number} \leq 1000$ Otherwise display format short e. | >> 290/7 ans = 41.4286 |
| format long | Fixed-point with 15 decimal digits for: $0.001 \leq \text{number} \leq 100$ Otherwise display format long e. | >> 290/7 ans = 41.428571428571431 |
| format short e | Scientific notation with 4 decimal digits. | >> 290/7 ans = 4.1429e+001 |
| format long e | Scientific notation with 15 decimal digits. | >> 290/7 ans = 4.142857142857143e+001 |
| format short g | Best of 5-digit fixed or floating point. | >> 290/7 ans = 41.429 |
| format long g | Best of 15-digit fixed or floating point. | >> 290/7 ans = 41.4285714285714 |
| format bank | Two decimal digits. | >> 290/7 ans = 41.43 |
| format compact | Eliminates empty lines to allow more lines with information displayed on the screen. | |
| format loose | Adds empty lines (opposite of compact). | |

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MATLAB expressions can include functions. You can think of a *function* as a black box that, in general, takes inputs, does some computations with them, and produces outputs.



A function

- ▶ Has a name
- ▶ Can have zero or more *arguments* (inputs)
- ▶ Can produce zero or more outputs

$$y = \text{sqrt}(x)$$

output name argument

A function's arguments can be

- ▶ Numbers
- ▶ Variables (explained in next section)
- ▶ Expressions involving numbers, variables, or functions

`sqrt(64)` *Argument is a number*

`sqrt(a)` *Argument is the variable "a"*

`atan(y/sqrt(3^2+y^2))`

Argument to arctan function is an expression that has a number (3), a variable (y), and a function (sqrt)

Elementary math functions

- ▶ `sqrt(x)` – square root
- ▶ `nthroot(x,n)` – nth real root
- ▶ `exp(x)` – e^x
- ▶ `abs(x)` – absolute value
- ▶ `log(x)` – natural log (base e)
- ▶ `log10(x)` – log base 10
- ▶ `factorial(x)` – $x!$

Trigonometric functions

- ▶ `sin(x)` – sine (x in radians)
- ▶ `sind(x)` – sine (x in degrees)
- ▶ `cos(x)` – cosine (x in radians)
- ▶ `cosd(x)` – cosine (x in degrees)
- ▶ `tan(x)` – tangent (x in radians)
- ▶ `tand(x)` – tangent (x in degrees)
- ▶ `cot(x)` – cotangent (x in radians)
- ▶ `cotd(x)` – cotangent (x in degrees)

Inverse trigonometric functions

- ▶ `asin(x)`, `acos(x)`, `atan(x)`, `acot(x)`
(x in radians)
- ▶ `asind(x)`, `acosd(x)`, `atand(x)`, `acotd(x)`
(x in degrees)

Hyperbolic trigonometric functions

- ▶ `cosh(x)` –
- ▶ `sinh(x)` –
- ▶ `tanh(x)` –
- ▶ `coth(x)` –

Rounding functions

- ▶ `round(x)` – round to nearest integer
- ▶ `fix(x)` – round toward zero
- ▶ `ceil(x)` – round toward infinity
- ▶ `floor(x)` – round toward minus infinity
- ▶ `rem(x, y)` – remainder after x is divided by y (also called modulus)
- ▶ `sign(x)` – returns 1 if x is positive,
-1 if x is negative, zero if x is zero