

Data Import and Export

Data access from Text files, spreadsheets, images;
File I/O functions – read, write, delete

https://in.mathworks.com/help/matlab/import_export/supported-file-formats-for-import-and-export.html

Text files

- Read and write numeric and non-numeric data in delimited and formatted text files like **.csv** and **.txt** files.
- **Text** files often contain a **mix** of **numeric** and **text** data as well as **variable** and **row** names.
- You can represent this data in MATLAB as **tables**, **timetables**, **matrices**, **cell arrays**, or **string arrays**.

Import Data as Tables

- If text file has tabular data, it can be imported as a table.
- A table consists of column-oriented variables containing rows of data of the same type.
- Each variable in a table can hold a different data type and size, however, each variable must have the same number of rows.
- `>> T = readtable('Student-List.csv');`
- `>> T(1:5,1:5) % Display the first five rows and columns of the table.`

AutoSave Off Student-List Search (Alt+Q)

File Home Insert Page Layout Formulas Data Review View Help

Undo Clipboard Font Alignment Number

L7

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G
1	RegNum	Name	Branch	Section	RollNo		
2	200902012	ISHEETA KETAN DHURV	902	E	1		
3	200902084	NAIMISHA KAZA	902	E	2		
4	200903024	PERUMALA VENKATA HANUKRUTHA	903	E	3		
5	200903026	ATHMIK S YENMOOR	903	E	4		
6	200903052	SIVA SUBRAMANI S	903	E	5		
7	200903054	VANADHI RAVI KUMAR	903	E	6		
8	200903064	LONDHE ATHARVA RAJANISH POORNIMA	903	E	7		
9	200904228	RASHINKAR AARYA	904	E	8		
10	200904268	KAZI FAUZAN HAFIZ	904	E	9		
11	200905006	SUNAG R KAMATH	905	E	10		
12	200905011	ADITYA RAJ	905	E	11		
13	200905013	CALVIN JOHN MACHADO	905	E	12		
14	200905038	KARTIKEYA ANGARA	905	E	13		
15	200905056	ANIRUDH KANAPARTHY	905	E	14		
16	200905071	UTKARSH TAWAKLEY	905	E	15		
17	200905072	GRANTH KOHLI	905	E	16		
18	200905153	ANSHIT GUPTA	905	E	17		
19	200905155	AYUSHMAN BAHADUR	905	E	18		
20	200905177	DEVANSH SOOD	905	E	19		
21	200905185	PARTH SOOD	905	E	20		
22	200905199	ASHMITA ROY	905	E	21		

Student-List

Ready Accessibility: Unavailable

Import Data Save Workspace New Variable Open Variable Clear Workspace Favorites Run and Time Analyze Code Clear Commands Simulink Lay

2022 Feb-May MATLAB_for_Engineers Lectures xtra

Command Window

New to MATLAB? See resources for [Getting Started](#).

```
>> T=readtable('Student-List.csv');
>> T(1:4,1:3)

ans =

4x3 table

    RegNum    Name    Branch
    _____    _____    _____
    2.009e+08    {'ISHEETA KETAN DHURV'}    902
    2.009e+08    {'NAIMISHA KAZA'}    902
    2.009e+08    {'PERUMALA VENKATA HANUKRUTHA'}    903
    2.009e+08    {'ATHMIK S YENMOOR'}    903

>> RegNum(1)
Unrecognized function or variable 'RegNum'.

>> T.RegNum(1)

ans =

200902012

fx >> |
```

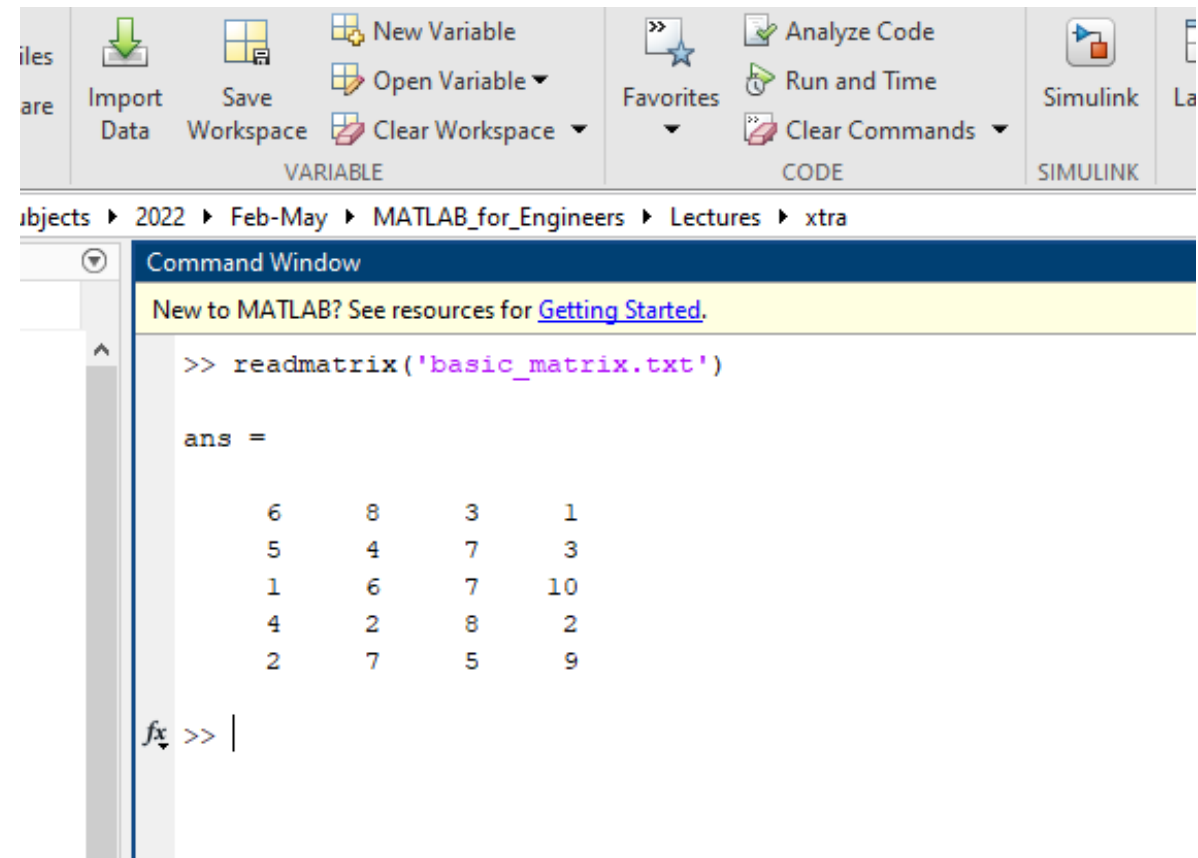
Import Data as Matrices

- If text file contains uniform data (all of the same type), it can be imported as a matrix. Importing data into a matrix allows to work with a minimally formatted array.

- `>> M = readmatrix('basic_matrix.txt')`

 basic_matrix - Notepad

File	Edit	Format	View	Help
6	8	3	1	
5	4	7	3	
1	6	7	10	
4	2	8	2	
2	7	5	9	



Import Data as Cell Arrays

- A cell array is a data type with **indexed data containers** called **cells**, where **each cell** can **contain any type of data**.

student-list - Notepad

File Edit Format View Help

200902012	ISHEETA KETAN DHRUV	902	E	1		
200902084	NAIMISHA KAZA	902	E	2		
200903024	PERUMALA VENKATA HANUKRUTHA	903	E	3		
200903026	ATHMIK S YENMOOR	903	E	4		
200903052	SIVA SUBRAMANI S	903	E	5		
200903054	VANADHI RAVI KUMAR	903	E	6		
200903064	LONDHE ATHARVA RAJANISH POORNIMA	903	E	7		
200904228	RASHINKAR AARYA	904	E	8		
200904268	KAZI FAUZAN HAFIZ	904	E	9		
200905006	SUNAG R KAMATH	905	E	10		
200905011	ADITYA RAJ	905	E	11		
200905013	CALVIN JOHN MACHADO	905	E	12		
200905038	KARTIKEYA ANGARA	905	E	13		
200905056	ANIRUDH KANAPARTHY	905	E	14		
200905071	UTKARSH TAWAKLEY	905	E	15		
200905072	GRANTH KOHLI	905	E	16		
200905153	ANSHIT GUPTA	905	E	17		
200905155	AYUSHMAN BAHADUR	905	E	18		
200905177	DEVANSH SOOD	905	E	19		
200905185	PARTH SOOD	905	E	20		
200905199	ASHMITA ROY	905	E	21		

Command Window

New to MATLAB? See resources for [Getting Started](#).

```
>> C = readcell('student-list.txt')
```

```
C =
```

```
21x5 cell array
```

```
{[200902012]} {'ISHEETA KETAN D...'} {[902]} {'E'} {[ 1]}
{[200902084]} {'NAIMISHA KAZA' } {[902]} {'E'} {[ 2]}
{[200903024]} {'PERUMALA VENKAT...'} {[903]} {'E'} {[ 3]}
{[200903026]} {'ATHMIK S YENMOOR' } {[903]} {'E'} {[ 4]}
{[200903052]} {'SIVA SUBRAMANI S' } {[903]} {'E'} {[ 5]}
{[200903054]} {'VANADHI RAVI KU...'} {[903]} {'E'} {[ 6]}
{[200903064]} {'LONDHE ATHARVA ...'} {[903]} {'E'} {[ 7]}
{[200904228]} {'RASHINKAR AARYA' } {[904]} {'E'} {[ 8]}
{[200904268]} {'KAZI FAUZAN HAFIZ'} {[904]} {'E'} {[ 9]}
{[200905006]} {'SUNAG R KAMATH' } {[905]} {'E'} {[10]}
{[200905011]} {'ADITYA RAJ' } {[905]} {'E'} {[11]}
{[200905013]} {'CALVIN JOHN MAC...'} {[905]} {'E'} {[12]}
{[200905038]} {'KARTIKEYA ANGARA' } {[905]} {'E'} {[13]}
{[200905056]} {'ANIRUDH KANAPAR...'} {[905]} {'E'} {[14]}
{[200905071]} {'UTKARSH TAWAKLEY' } {[905]} {'E'} {[15]}
{[200905072]} {'GRANTH KOHLI' } {[905]} {'E'} {[16]}
{[200905153]} {'ANSHIT GUPTA' } {[905]} {'E'} {[17]}
{[200905155]} {'AYUSHMAN BAHADUR' } {[905]} {'E'} {[18]}
{[200905177]} {'DEVANSH SOOD' } {[905]} {'E'} {[19]}
{[200905185]} {'PARTH SOOD' } {[905]} {'E'} {[20]}
{[200905199]} {'ASHMITA ROY' } {[905]} {'E'} {[21]}
```

textscan

- Read formatted data from text file or string
- **fileID** = **fopen**('student-list.txt','r');
- C = textscan(**fileID**, '%s %s %s %s %s', 'Delimiter', ' ');
- fclose(fileID);
- Format Specifiers :
- <https://in.mathworks.com/help/matlab/ref/textscan.html>

HOME PLOTS APPS EDITOR PUBLISH VIEW

FILE NAVIGATE EDIT BREAKPOINTS RUN

New Open Save Find Files Compare Print Go To Find Insert Comment Indent Breakpoints Run Run and Advance Run Section Advance Run and Time

Search Documentation Shailesh

E:\office\subjects\2022\Feb-May\MATLAB_for_Engineers\Lectures\extra

Editor - E:\office\subjects\2022\Feb-May\MATLAB_for_Engineers\Lectures\extra\read4mbtxtfile.m

```
read4mbtxtfile.m
1 - clear all;clc;
2 - fileID = fopen('student-list.txt','r');
3 - C = textscan(fileID,'%s %s %s %s %s','Delimiter',' ');
4 - fclose(fileID);
5
```

Current Folder

Name

- tutorial_01.mlx
- Tut_03_while.m
- Tut_03_binary_search.m
- Tut_03_arr_rev_itr.m
- Tut_03_03.m
- Tut_03_02.m
- Tut_03_01.m
- Tut_02_06.m
- Tut_02_03.mlx
- tut_02_03.m
- tut_02_02.m
- tut_02_01.m
- test_live.mlx
- test.m
- T02-Live_script.mlx
- Student-List.csv
- student-list.txt
- recArrayRev.m

Details

Command Window

New to MATLAB? See resources for [Getting Started](#).

```
>> celldisp(C)

C{1}{1} =

200902012    ISHEETA KETAN DHRUV 902 E    1

C{1}{2} =

200902084    NAIMISHA KAZA    902 E    2

C{1}{3} =

200903024    PERUMALA VENKATA HANUKRUTHA 903 E    3

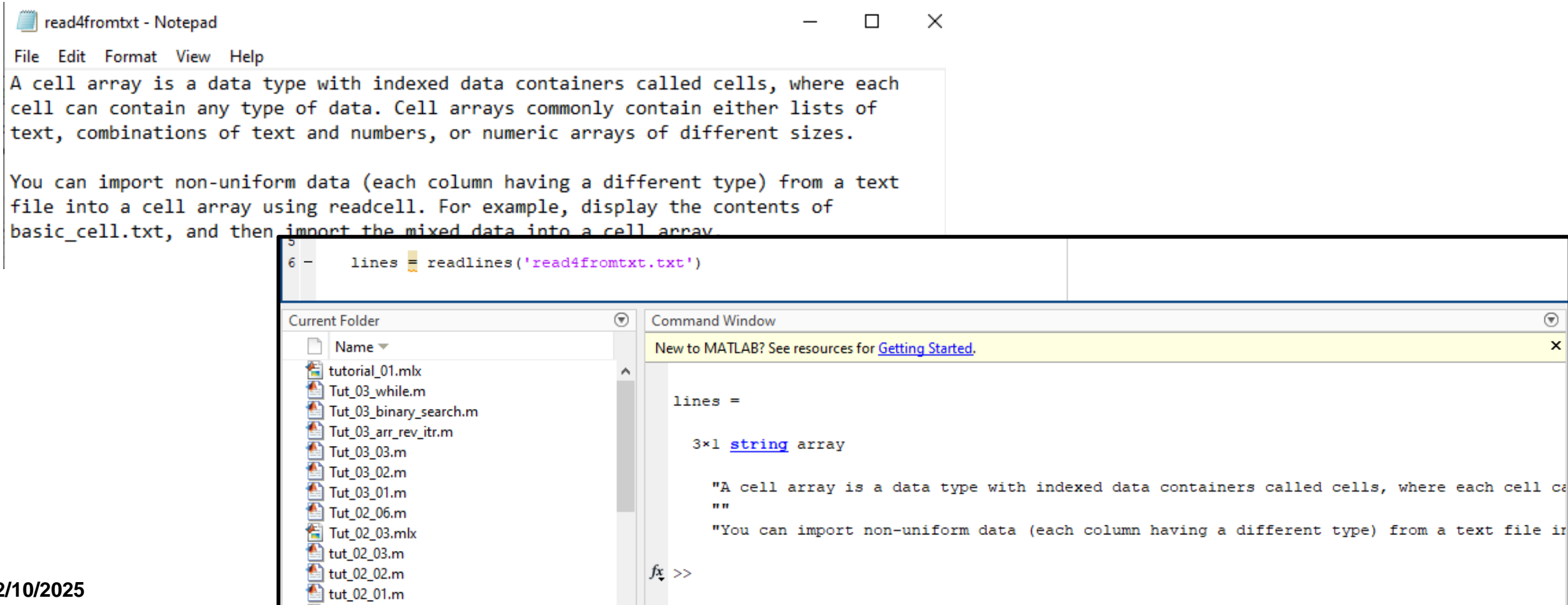
C{1}{4} =
```

Workspace

Name	Value
ans	0
C	1x5 cell
fileID	3

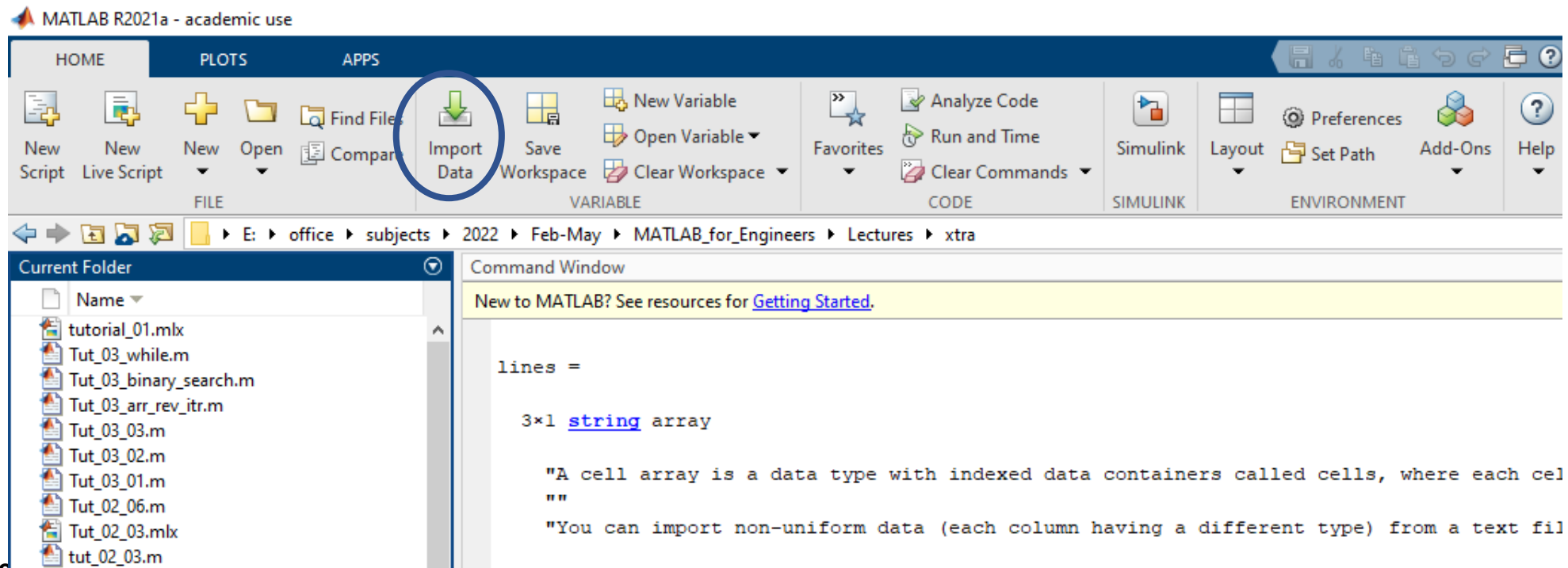
Import Data as String Arrays

- If text file contains lines of plain text, it can be represented as plain text in MATLAB as a string array.



Import Tool (Homework / Self study)

- The Import Tool lets you preview and import data from spreadsheet files, delimited text files, and fixed-width text files.
- You can interactively select the data to import and reuse the script or function that the tool generates to import other similar files.

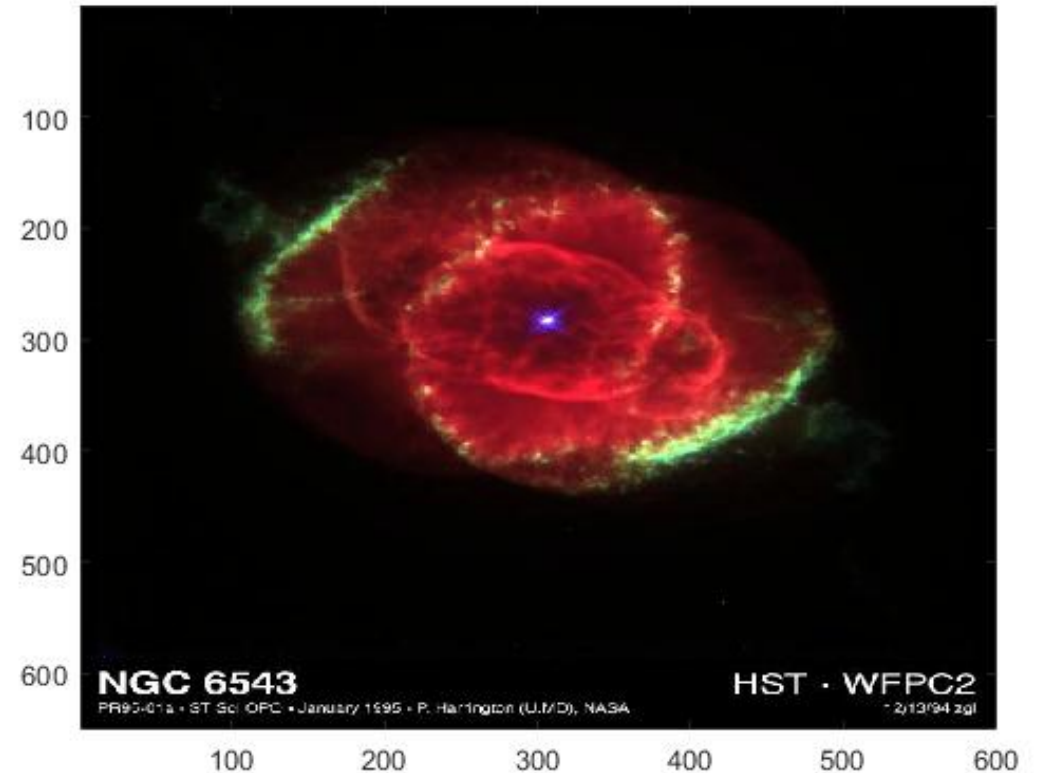


Importing Spreadsheets (Excel files)

- Import Spreadsheet Data Using **readtable**
 - `T = readtable('patients.xls');`
 - `T = readtable('patients.xls','Range','A1:E5')`
 - Specify the range in Excel notation as 'A1:E5' to read the first five rows and columns of the spreadsheet.
- Read Spreadsheet Data into Matrix
 - `M = readmatrix('basic_matrix.xls')`
 - `M = readmatrix('basic_matrix.xls','Sheet','Sheet1','Range','B1:D3')`

Importing Images

- To import data into the MATLAB workspace from a graphics file, use the **imread** function.
- `>> A = imread('ngc6543a.jpg');`
- `>> image(A); % Display image file`
- `>> info = imfinfo(filename) –`
- Information about graphics file



HOME PLOTS APPS

New Script New Live Script New Open Find Files Import Data Save Workspace New Variable Open Variable Clear Workspace Favorites Run and Time Analyze Code Clear Commands

FILE VARIABLE CODE

Current Folder: E:\office\subjects\2022\Feb-May\MATLAB_for_Engineers\Lectures\extra

Command Window

```
New to MATLAB? See resources for Getting Started.

>> A = imread('ngc6543a.jpg');
>> image(A)
>> iminfo('ngc6543a.jpg')

ans =

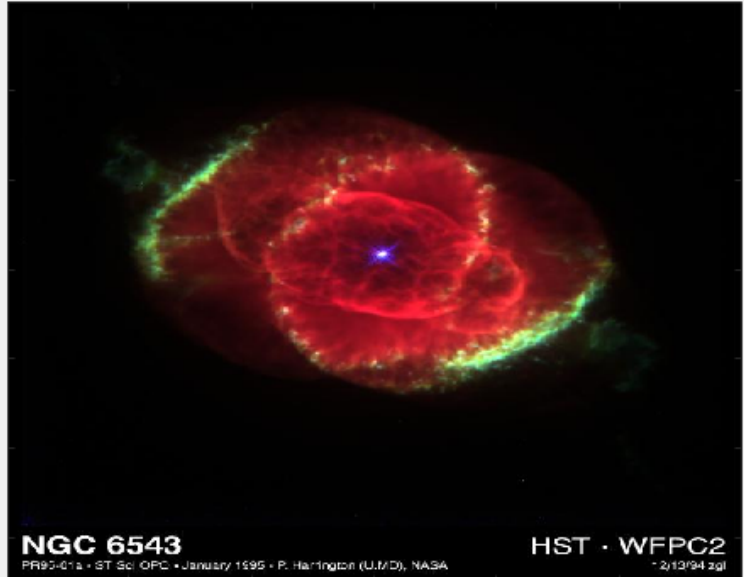
    struct with fields:

        Filename: 'E:\MATLAB\toolbox\matlab\demos...
        FileModDate: '02-Oct-1996 01:49:44'
        FileSize: 27387
        Format: 'jpg'
        FormatVersion: ''
        Width: 600
        Height: 650
        BitDepth: 24
        ColorType: 'truecolor'
        FormatSignature: ''
        NumberOfSamples: 3
        CodingMethod: 'Huffman'
        CodingProcess: 'Sequential'
        Comment: {'CREATOR: XV Version 3.00b Rev: 6/15/94 Quality = 75, Smoothing = 0.

>> image(A)
fx >>
```

Figure 1

File Edit View Insert Tools Desktop Window Help



NGC 6543 HST - WFPC2

PR92-01a - ST ScI OPC - January 1995 - P. Harrington (UMD), NASA

2/10/2025

Type here to search

28°C Mostly cloudy 09:47 AM 26-Mar-22

Low-Level File I/O

- **fscanf** - Read data from text file

Create a sample text file that contains floating-point numbers.

```
x = 100*rand(8,1);  
fileID = fopen('nums1.txt','w');  
fprintf(fileID, '%4.4f\n', x);  
fclose(fileID);
```

Define the format of the data to read.
Use '%f' to specify floating-point numbers.

```
>> writeandread  
>> type 'nums1.txt'  
  
81.4724  
90.5792  
12.6987  
91.3376  
63.2359  
9.7540  
27.8498  
54.6882  
fx >> |
```

Reading from the txt file

```
fileID = fopen('nums1.txt','r');  
formatSpec = '%f';  
A = fscanf(fileID, formatSpec);  
fclose(fileID);
```

Export functions

Writing as TXT, XLS and IMAGES

writematrix

- **writematrix**(A,**filename**) - writes to a file with the name and extension specified by **filename**.
- writematrix determines the file format based on the specified extension.
- The extension must be one of the following:
 - **.txt, .dat, or .csv** for delimited text files
 - **.xls, .xlsb, or .xlsx** for Excel spreadsheet files
 - **.xlsb** for Excel spreadsheet files supported on systems with Excel for Windows

writematrix

- `M = magic(5);`

`M = 5x5`

17	24	1	8	15
23	5	7	14	16
4	6	13	20	22
10	12	19	21	3
11	18	25	2	9

Write the matrix to a comma delimited text file and display the file contents. The **writematrix** function outputs a text file named **M.txt**.

```
>> writematrix(M)
>> type 'M.txt'
```

To write the same matrix to a text file with a different delimiter character, use the 'Delimiter' name-value pair.

```
>> writematrix(M, 'M_tab.txt', 'Delimiter','tab')
>> type 'M_tab.txt'
```

Write the matrix to a spreadsheet file.

```
>> writematrix(M,'M.xls')
```

Read and display the matrix from M.xls.

```
>> readmatrix('M.xls')
```

Write the matrix to M.xls, to the second worksheet in the file, starting at the third row.

```
>> writematrix(M,'M.xls','Sheet',2,'Range','A3:E8')
```

Read and display the matrix.

```
>> readmatrix('M.xls','Sheet',2,'Range','A3:E8')
```

Append Data to Spreadsheet

- Append an array of data below existing data in a spreadsheet.

```
>> M1 = magic(5) % First Matrix  
>> writematrix(M1,'M.xls');  
>> M2 = [5 10 15 20 25; 30 35 40 45 50] % second matrix  
>> writematrix(M2,'M.xls','WriteMode','append');  
>> readmatrix('M.xls')
```

Append Matrix Data to Text File

- Append an array of data below existing data in a text file.

```
>> writematrix(M1,'M.txt')  
>> writematrix(M2,'M.txt','WriteMode','append')  
>> readmatrix('fibonacci.txt')
```

writetable

- Write table to file
- `>> T = table(['M';'F';'M'],[45 45;41 32;40 34],{'NY';'CA';'MA'},[true; false; false])`

`T=3x4 table`

Var1	Var2		Var3	Var4
——	——		——	——
M	45	45	{'NY'}	true
F	41	32	{'CA'}	false
M	40	34	{'MA'}	false

Write the table to a **comma delimited text** file and display the file contents.

```
>>writetable(T)
```

writetable outputs a text file named T.txt.

```
>>type 'T.txt'
```

Write the table to a **space-delimited text** file named myData.txt and display the file contents.

```
>>writetable(T,'myData.txt','Delimiter',' ')
```

```
>>type 'myData.txt'
```

writetable

- Write the table to a **comma-separated text file** named **myData.csv** and view the file contents. Use the **'QuoteStrings'** name-value pair argument to **ensure** that the **commas** in the **third column are not treated as delimiters**.
- `>> writetable(T,'myData.csv','Delimiter',' ','QuoteStrings',true)`
- `>> type 'myData.csv'`

writetable

- Write Table to Specific Sheet and Range in Spreadsheet
- Write the table to a spreadsheet named myData.xls. Include the data on the first sheet in the 5-by-5 region with corners at B2 and F6. You can change the worksheet to write to by specifying the index corresponding to the worksheet.
- >> **writetable**(T,'myData.xls','Sheet',1,'Range','B2:F6')

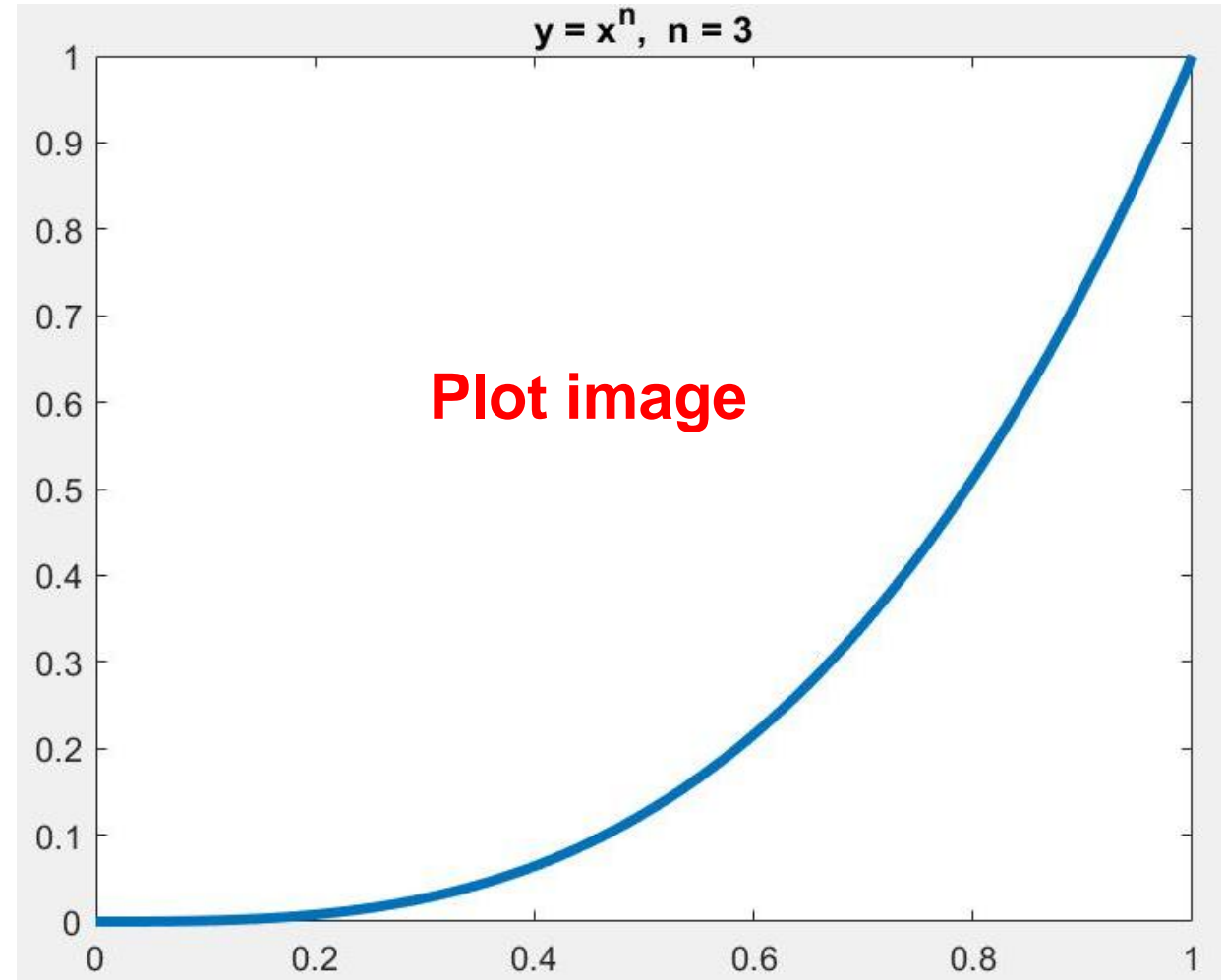
writelines

- Write text to file
- Write the text "Example String" to a new file within the current directory.
- `>>writelines("Example String","temp.txt")`
- Display the contents of the new file.
- `>>type temp.txt`
- Append a string to an existing file.
- `lines = "New Content 456";`
- `filename = "temp.txt";`
- `writelines(lines,filename,WriteMode="append")`

imwrite

- Write image to graphics file

```
x = 0:0.01:1;  
n = 3;  
y = x.^n;  
plot(x,y,'LineWidth',3);  
title(['y = x^n, n = ' num2str(n) ]);  
  
H = getframe(gcf);  
  
% save the image:  
imwrite(H.cdata, 'testimage.jpg');
```



Delete file

- Delete files from CURRENT directory
- `>>delete filename1 ... Filenamen`
- To delete all files in the current folder with a `.mat` extension.
- `>> delete *.mat`