

Matlab Notes Part 1

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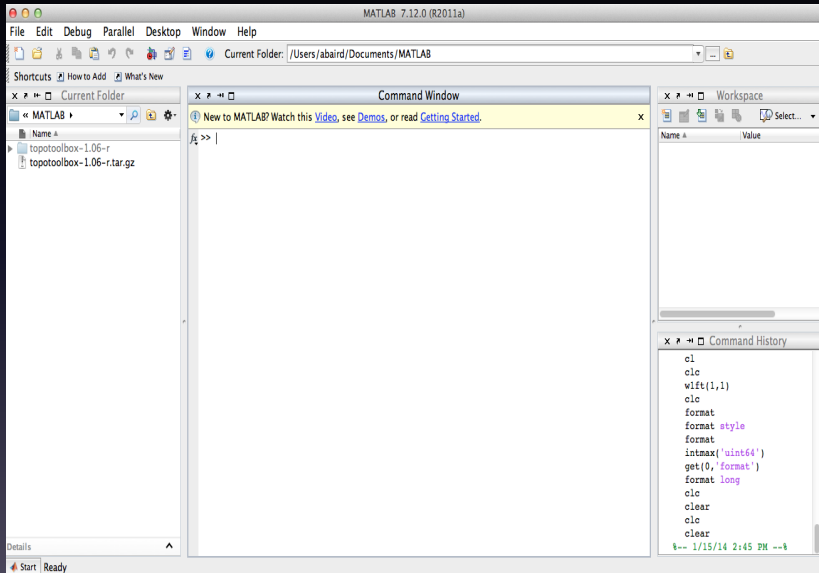
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Introduction

- Matlab is a lot like a calculator!
- we can compute things like $3 \cdot 2$
- Arithmetic is performed in order of operations (just like a calculator)
- Matrices and matrix operations are where Matlab excels
- Today we will:
 - Understand the basic Desktop environment
 - Perform basic arithmetic
 - use built in functions
 - Create matrices and write our first code

Desktop Basics



Desktop Basics

- **Current Folder:** This is where the files you are working with will be stored. Note: you can navigate from the folder you're in to any folder you desire by clicking the magnifying glass.
- **Command Window:** This is where you can calculate, receive error messages, or print output from your programs. Commands are input at the `>>` symbol.
 - try to calculate things right now!
- **Workspace:** This is where variables are stored and will tell you things about them (what they equal, how big a matrix is ect.)
- **Command History:** This is where the commands you've issued most recently will appear. `↑` on your keyboard will scroll through these commands.
- Refer to the text (Matlab intro) for more detailed instruction.

Troubleshooting

- Often times things won't work.
- One **Common** problem is that a variable you thought was free is actually associated with a value.
- Try the command `>> clear`. This will clear all the variables in the **Workspace**.

Try and do some computing and assign variables to values.

Arrays

- Matlab = Matrix Laboratory, so do things with matrices!
- Create your first matrix!
 - `>> a = [1234]`, Row Vector!
 - Indexing in matlab begins with 1 (**NOT** 0)
 - Add more rows: `>> a = [1234; 2345; 3456]`
 - **Note** This also works: `>> a = [1, 2, 3, 4; 2, 3, 4, 5; 3, 4, 5, 6]`
 - We can call values from this array:
 - `>> a(1,2)`
 - `>> 2`
 - Or assign a value to a particular position:
 - `>> a(1,2) = 10`
 - The notation is (row, column)

Array Creating Functions

- There are ways to automatically create an array(matrix) in matlab:
 - `>> a = zeros(3,2)`
 - Creates an array of all zeros (this is good for data management if you want a set size for your matrix)
 - `>> a = linspace(0,1,100)`
 - This creates a vector which has 100 points filled in between 0 and 1.
 - `>> a = 0 : 0.1 : 1`
 - this creates an array which has mesh width equal to 0.1
- How do we model functions in Matlab?

Array Operations

- Colon operator:
- `>> a = [123; 234; 456]`
- The colon denotes *start:end*. *Note:* if you just place a colon it will select everything.
- Select the first two rows of our matrix:
 - `>> a(1 : 2, :)`
 - What does `>> a(1, :)` do?
- We can also add to each element of the array:
 - `>> a - a`
 - `>> a - 10`
- We can do traditional and element wise multiplication of matrices:
 - traditional: `>> a * a`, element wise: `>> a .* a`
 - In a similar way you can do other things element wise to a matrix ex.: `>> a .^ 3`

Discrete Functions

- In math things are continuous, in Matlab (and in computational science in general) This is not the case.
- To compute and evaluate functions we need a *Domain* and their corresponding function values *Range*
- To get a Domain in Matlab we must “discretize” our continuous domain.
- We do this by creating a “mesh width” = size of our spacing in our discretization
 - ex: $\gg x = \text{ linspace}(0, 1, 10)$ what is our mesh width dx ($x(2)-x(1)$)? is it always equal? Must consider this!
 - ex: $\gg x = 0 : 0.1 : 1$ what is our mesh width dx ?

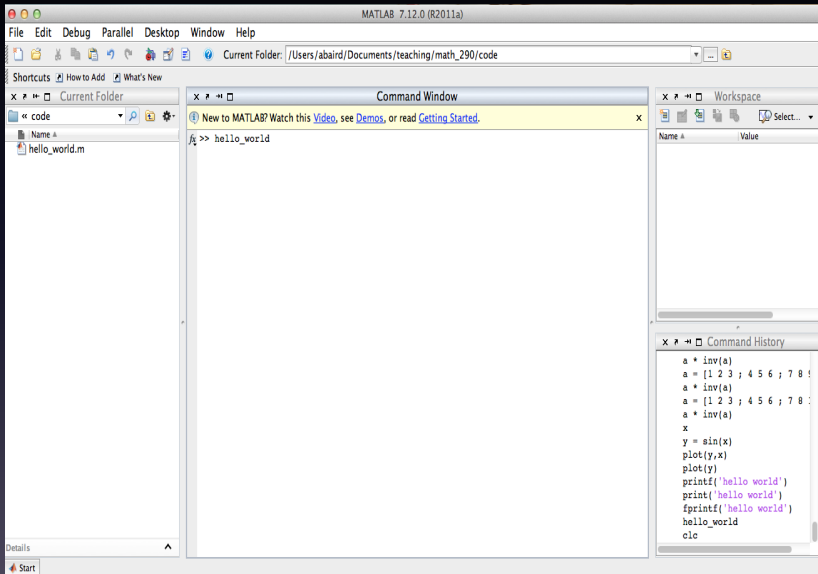
Evaluating Functions

- Now that we have a discretized version of the x-axis we can now evaluate a function!
- Matlab has many built in functions (sin, cos, tan, exp...)
- $\gg y = \sin(x)$
- We now have a set of range values, how do we know that this is right? Graph?
- plot this function: $\gg \text{plot}(y)$
- In general the resolution of our function is dependent upon our mesh width
- How small is enough, how big is too big? Does any mesh width work?
- A quick and dirty estimate of the error between two arrays: $\max(a - b)$ will select the max error between the arrays (infinity norm).
- Plot sin over one period and experiment with different mesh widths and their effects

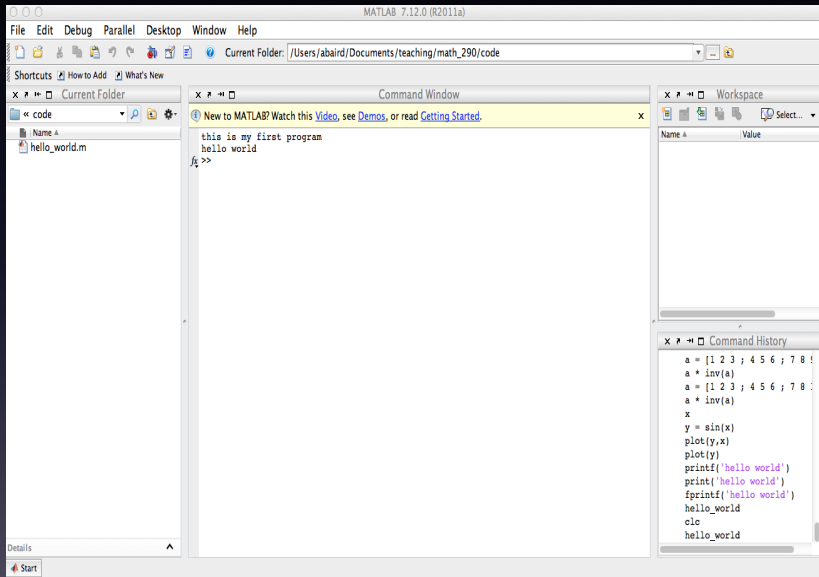
Our First Program

- Matlab files are denoted by a .m at the end of the name.
- Documentation is very very important! % is how you comment lines (these will not be read by the computer)
- Notice that to run the code Matlab asks you whether to add folder to path or to change to directory, both work.
- Just type the name of the code in the command line to get the program to run.

How to Run



Output



Homework

- Read sections 1-17 to 1-23
- Email me by Tuesday at 12:01am a onyen.m file which when run does the following (and is commented at the top of the file with your full name and who you worked with, if anyone):
 - Generates a figure which plots $y = \sin(x) + c$ for *ten* values of c (all on the same figure).
 - Generates the figure in section 1-23.