# **MATLAB MODULE 1**

### **MATLAB Window Environment and the Base Program**

## **Script files (M-files)**

Type **edit** on MATLAB prompt and hit enter (or follow **File**  $\rightarrow$  **New**  $\rightarrow$  **M-File** option from the main menu bar or click on icon in main toolbar). An **Editor/Debugger** window will open. This is where you write, edit, create, can run from, and save your own programs (user created script files with sequences of MATLAB commands) in files called M - files. An example M-file is shown in Fig. M1.19.

Create the same file in your MATLAB editor and then use the option  $File \rightarrow Save$  or  $File \rightarrow Save$  As to save the file with the name  $decayed\_sin.m$  in current working directory. You can save all files into your personalized directory. If your personal directory is immediately below the directory in which the MATLAB application program is installed ( e.g., c:\MATLAB7p0), then all user written files are automatically accessible to MATLAB. If you want to store files somewhere else, then you need to specify the path to the files using the path or addpath command, or change the current working directory to the desired directory before you run the program. For example, your script file is in the directory  $my\_dir$ , which is not the current working directory of the MATLAB. If the location of  $my\_dir$  is 'c:\docume~1\control\  $my\_dir$ ', it can be included in the MATLAB search path by:

```
>> path(path, 'c:\docume~1\control\my_dir'); \( \tilde{-} \)
or
>> addpath 'c:\docume~1\control\my_dir'; \( \tilde{-} \)
```

To remove specified directory from the MATLAB search path, use the command **rmpath**. Learn more about MATLAB search path through online help.

Type simply the name of the file decayed\_sin to execute it from the command window. Script can also be saved and

executed simultaneously by clicking the 📋 icon in the main toolbar.

To open the existing *M-file* from the MATLAB command window, type **edit** *filename* (or follow **File**  $\rightarrow$  **Open** option from the main menu bar or click on  $\stackrel{\longrightarrow}{}$  icon in the main toolbar).

All variables created during the runtime of the script file are left in the workspace. Using **who** or **whos**, you can get information about them, and also access them by workspace window.

#### Exercise M1.10

Modify the script file written in Fig. M1.20 in the following way:

- 1. An error message should prompt, if final time is less than initial time
- 2. In addition to initial and final time, and time constant, the program should prompt the user to enter the amplitude of the sine wave.
- 3. It should plot the **Yt** curve; however, wherever **Yt** crosses the zero-axes, an indication through **x** -mark should appear.
- 4. Display current date and time at the end. (Hint: Learn commands date and clock using online help).
- 5. Calculate the total execution time of the program. (Hint: Learn tic and toc commands).

### Exercise M1.11

Learn more about 1) For loops, 2) While Loops, and 3) If-Else-End constructions using online help.

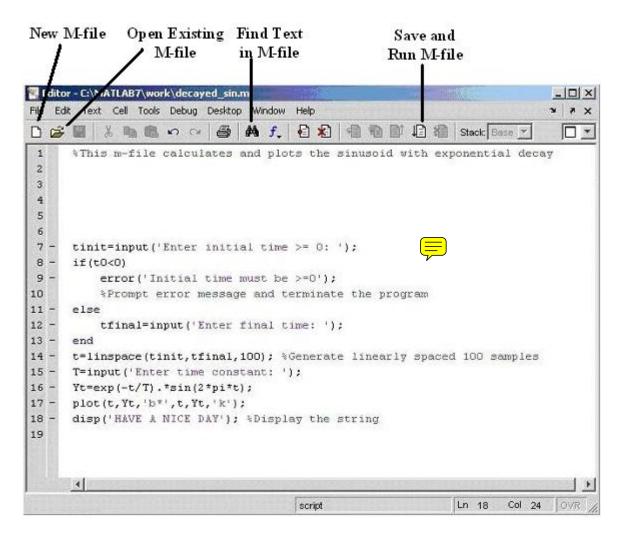


Fig. M1.19 Example M-file