

Lecture 3

Lecture 3: MATLAB Programming

➤ MATLAB Scripts

- A script is a sequence of MATLAB instructions (statements) that is stored in a file
- To create a script, click **New Script**. A new window will appear called the **Editor**. By default, scripts will be saved in the work directory.
- To edit an existing file, there are several methods to open it. The easiest are:
 - ✓ Click File, then Open, then click the name of the file
 - ✓ Click the Current Directory tab, then double-click the name of the file

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➤ MATLAB Scripts

- The contents of a script can be displayed in the Command Window with *type* command.
- The script can be executed or run, by simply entering the name of the file (without the .m extension). The script file can also be viewed by opening the Editor Window
- Example: write a script to calculate the area of a circle with a radius of 5.

script1.m

```
radius = 5
```

```
area = pi * (radius^2)
```

```
>> type script1
```

```
radius = 5
```

```
area = pi * (radius^2)
```

```
>> script1
```

```
radius =
```

```
5
```

```
area =
```

```
78.5398
```

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➤ Documentation

- One way of documenting a script is to put comments in it. In MATLAB, a comment is anything from a “%” to the end of that line.
- When typing `help scriptname` in command window, the first block (contiguous lines) of comments will be displayed.

script1b.m

```
% This program calculates the area of a circle

% First the radius is assigned
radius = 5
% The area is calculated based on the radius
area = pi * (radius^2)
```

`>> help script1b`

This program calculates the area of a circle

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➤ Input and Output

- **Input** function is used to initialize variables with the keyboard.
- The syntax is **variablename = input('prompt string')**

Example: `>> rad = input('Enter the radius: ')`

Enter the radius: 5

rad =

5

How to enter a
vector or a matrix?

When writing a script, we generally use the input function to read values from the keyboard.

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➤ Input and Output

- If we want to enter a character or a string, 's' should be added after the prompt,

Example: `>> letter = input('Enter a char: ', 's')`

Enter a char: g

letter =

'g'

Both 's' and 'S' are ok.

- It is also possible for the user to type quotation marks around the string rather than including the second argument 's' in the call to the input function.

Example: `>> name = input('Enter yourname: ')`

Enter your name: 'Stormy'

name =

'Stormy'

What if we do not use the quotation marks here?

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➤ Output Statements: **disp** and **fprintf**

- Output statements display strings and the results of expressions in command window, and can allow for formatting, or customizing how they are displayed.

- disp** does not allow formatting

Example: `>> disp('Hello')`

Hello

`>> disp(4^3)`

64

What if we do
not use the
quotation
marks here?

`>> radius = 5`

`>> display(radius)`

radius =

5

- Formatted output can be printed to the screen using the **fprintf** function,

Example: `>> fprintf('The value is %d, for sure!\n', 4^3)`

The value is 64, for sure!

- The **%d** is called a placeholder. **\n** is the newline character. Without the newline character, it would print in a row but the next prompt `>>` would appear on the same line.

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➤ Output Statements: **disp** and **fprintf** (Cont)

- Some simple placeholders.

%d integers

%f float numbers

%e exponential notation

%g values are either floating point or scientific notation depending on which is shorter.

%c single character

%s strings

What will we get when typing **>> fprintf(' %c \n','abcd')**

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➤ Output Statements: **disp** and **fprintf** (Cont)

- A field width can be included in the placeholder in fprintf.
- For example, **%5d** indicates a field width of 5 for printing an integer. **%6.2f** means a field width of 6 (including the decimal point and the decimal places) with 2 decimal places

Example (multiple place holders and variables):

```
>> fprintf('The int is %3d and the float is %6.2f\n', 5, 4.9)
```

```
The int is  5 and the float is  4.90
```

What will we get when typing

```
>> fprintf('The int is %3d and the float is %6.2f\n', 4.9,5)
```

- The value being printed can be left-justified within the field width using a minus sign.

```
>> fprintf('The integer is xx%5dxx and xx%-5dxx\n', 3, 3)
```

```
The integer is xx  3xx and xx3  xx
```

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➤ Output Statements: **disp** and **fprintf** (Cont)

■ Printing **Vectors and Matrices**

- ✓ For a vector, if a place holder and the newline character are in the format string, it will print in a column regardless of whether the vector itself is a row vector or a column vector:

Example: **>> vec = 2:5;**
 >> fprintf('%d\n', vec)
 2
 3
 4
 5

- ✓ Without the newline character, it would print in a row but the next prompt would appear on the same line:

Example: **>> fprintf('%d', vec)**
 2345>>

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➤ Output Statements: **disp** and **fprintf** (Cont)

- Printing Vectors and Matrices (Cont)
 - ✓ If the number of elements in a vector is known, that the place holder can be specified and then the newline:

Example: **>> fprintf('%d %d %d %d\n', vec)**
 2 3 4 5

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➤ Output Statements: **disp** and **fprintf** (Cont)

- ✓ For matrices, MATLAB unwinds the matrix column by column:

Example: `>> mat = randi([1,10],2, 3)`

`mat =`

`5 9 8`

`4 1 10`

`>> fprintf('%d\n', mat)`

`5`

`4`

`9`

`1`

`8`

`10`

`>> fprintf('%d %d %d\n', mat)`

`5 4 9`

`1 8 10`

How to print the matrices as they appear when created?

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➤ Output Statements: **disp** and **fprintf** (Cont)

- Printing Vectors and Matrices (Cont)
 - ✓ For vectors and matrices, even though formatting cannot be specified, the disp function may be easier to use in general than fprintf because it displays the result in a straightforward manner.

Example: **>> mat = randi([5,15],2, 3)**

mat =

15 11 14

7 10 13

>> disp(mat)

15 11 14

7 10 13

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➤ Summary

- MATLAB scripts
- Input statements
- Output statements: disp and fprintf

➤ Homework (on Canvas)

- Due next Tuesday