

3.1 Numeric Data Types

- ❑ When it comes to working with data we should choose the most appropriate data types.
- ❑ Standard numeric data types are either **fixed** or **floating point** (more on this next we). Floating point numbers are preferred for values over a large range and but rounding errors may occur more easily than fixed types.
- ❑ Floating points represent variable precision numbers (decimal point can shift) along with a certain number of decimal places depending on whether they are **single** or **double** precision data type. Double is default in Matlab.

single
7 d.p.

double
15 d.p.

3.1 Numeric Data Types

- ❑ Fixed data types are used to minimise error propagation caused by rounding errors (again, more next week).
- ❑ They are also useful in embedded systems that require more precise memory management of data.
- ❑ Matlab has 4 signed, and 4 unsigned **integer** data types.

Class	Range of Values	Conversion Function
Signed 8-bit integer	-2^7 to 2^7-1	int8
Signed 16-bit integer	-2^{15} to $2^{15}-1$	int16
Signed 32-bit integer	-2^{31} to $2^{31}-1$	int32
Signed 64-bit integer	-2^{63} to $2^{63}-1$	int64
Unsigned 8-bit integer	0 to 2^8-1	uint8
Unsigned 16-bit integer	0 to $2^{16}-1$	uint16
Unsigned 32-bit integer	0 to $2^{32}-1$	uint32
Unsigned 64-bit integer	0 to $2^{64}-1$	uint64

3.1 Numeric Data Types

- ❑ You can create **complex** numbers by combining floating point numbers with multiplication by the imaginary unit, i .

```
>> z = 2 + 3i
```

- ❑ The value of infinity is assigned to division by 0. This can be useful for improper integrals and infinite series. Also if a number is too large for memory it returns **Inf**.

```
>> 1 / 0  
ans  
Inf
```

```
>> exp(800)  
ans  
Inf
```

- ❑ **NaN** (Not a Number) is assigned to other undefined quantities such as indeterminate forms ($0 / 0$ etc).

3.2 Character Data Types

- ❑ Characters input between single quotes are of **char** type.
- ❑ These are useful for data that is represented as single characters (multiple choice answers, DNA sequences, any alphabetical categorisation).

'hello' is type char and has length 5

- ❑ Characters input between double quotes are of **string** type.
- ❑ They are useful for text analysis and come with many functions to manipulate them.

"hello you" is type string and has length 11

EXAMPLE 1

Double vs. Single

Command Window

```
>> format long
>> single(pi)
```

ans =

single

3.1415927

```
>> double(pi)
```

ans =

3.141592653589793

EXAMPLE 2

Char vs. String

Command Window

```
>> x = 'ADBBBCD';
>> length(x)
```

ans =

6

```
>> x(4)
```

ans =

'B'

Command Window

```
>> y = "Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet";
>> length(y)
```

ans =

1

```
>> strlen(y)
```

ans =

26

```
>> length(strsplit(y))
```

ans =

5

```
>> y(1)
```

ans =

"Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet"

```
>> y{1}
```

ans =

'Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet'

```
>> y{1}(2)
```

ans =

'o'

```
>> y(1)(2)
```

Error: Invalid array indexing.

3.3 Mixed Variable Data Types

EXAMPLE 3

- ❑ The **cell** data type stores values of different type by index.
- ❑ They use curly braces **{}** to access their values.

Command Window

```
>> cell_data = { 'Some words', [1,2,3], [1 3; 8 5] }  
  
cell_data =  
  
    1×3 cell array  
  
    {'Some words'}    {[1 2 3]}    {2×2 double}  
  
>> cell_data(2)  
  
ans =  
  
    1×1 cell array  
  
    {[1 2 3]}  
  
>> cell_data{2}  
  
ans =  
  
     1     2     3  
  
>> cell_data{2}(3)  
  
ans =  
  
     3
```

3.3 Mixed Variable Data Types

❑ The **structure**

type stores values of different type by field-value pairs.

❑ They use the dot operator (**.**) along with the index to access the value.

EXAMPLE 4

```
Command Window
>> structure_data = struct( 'age',23, 'height', 180, 'sex', 'M')
structure_data =
    struct with fields:
        age: 23
        height: 180
        sex: 'M'
>> structure_data.age
ans =
    23
>> structure_data(2).age = 27; structure_data(2).height = 173; structure_data(2).sex = 'F'
structure_data =
    1x2 struct array with fields:
        age
        height
        sex
>> structure_data(2).age
ans =
    27
```

3.3 Mixed Variable Data Types

- ❑ The **map container**

type stores values of different type by **key-value** pairs.

- ❑ They use key-indexes to access the values.

EXAMPLE 5

Command Window

```
>> cmap_data = containers.Map({'Jerry', 'Jenny'}, {78, 86})  
  
cmap_data =  
  
    Map with properties:  
  
        Count: 2  
        KeyType: char  
        ValueType: double  
  
>> cmap_data('Jenny')  
  
ans =  
  
      86
```

Note: The keys can be any data type

3.4 Categorical Data Type

EXAMPLE 6

- ❑ Used for finite categories of data.
- ❑ Useful when you need to search for elements of an array which have a certain category value.

```
Command Window
>> A = {'small' 'medium'; 'medium' 'medium'; 'large' 'small'}
A =
    3x2 cell array
    {'small' }    {'medium'}
    {'medium'}    {'medium'}
    {'large' }    {'small' }
>> valueset = {'medium', 'small', 'large'}
valueset =
    1x3 cell array
    {'medium'}    {'small'}    {'large'}
>> B = categorical(A,valueset)
B =
    3x2 categorical array
    small    medium
    medium    medium
    large    small
>> categories(B)
ans =
    3x1 cell array
    {'medium'}
    {'small' }
    {'large' }
>> B(1,2)
ans =
    categorical
    medium
>> B=='small'
ans =
    3x2 logical array
    1    0
    0    0
    0    1
```

3.4 Categorical Data Type

EXAMPLE 7

- They can be ordinal (with a specific ordering)
- For this you must consider the mapping between the ordering values and the data, then input the data as the ordering values.

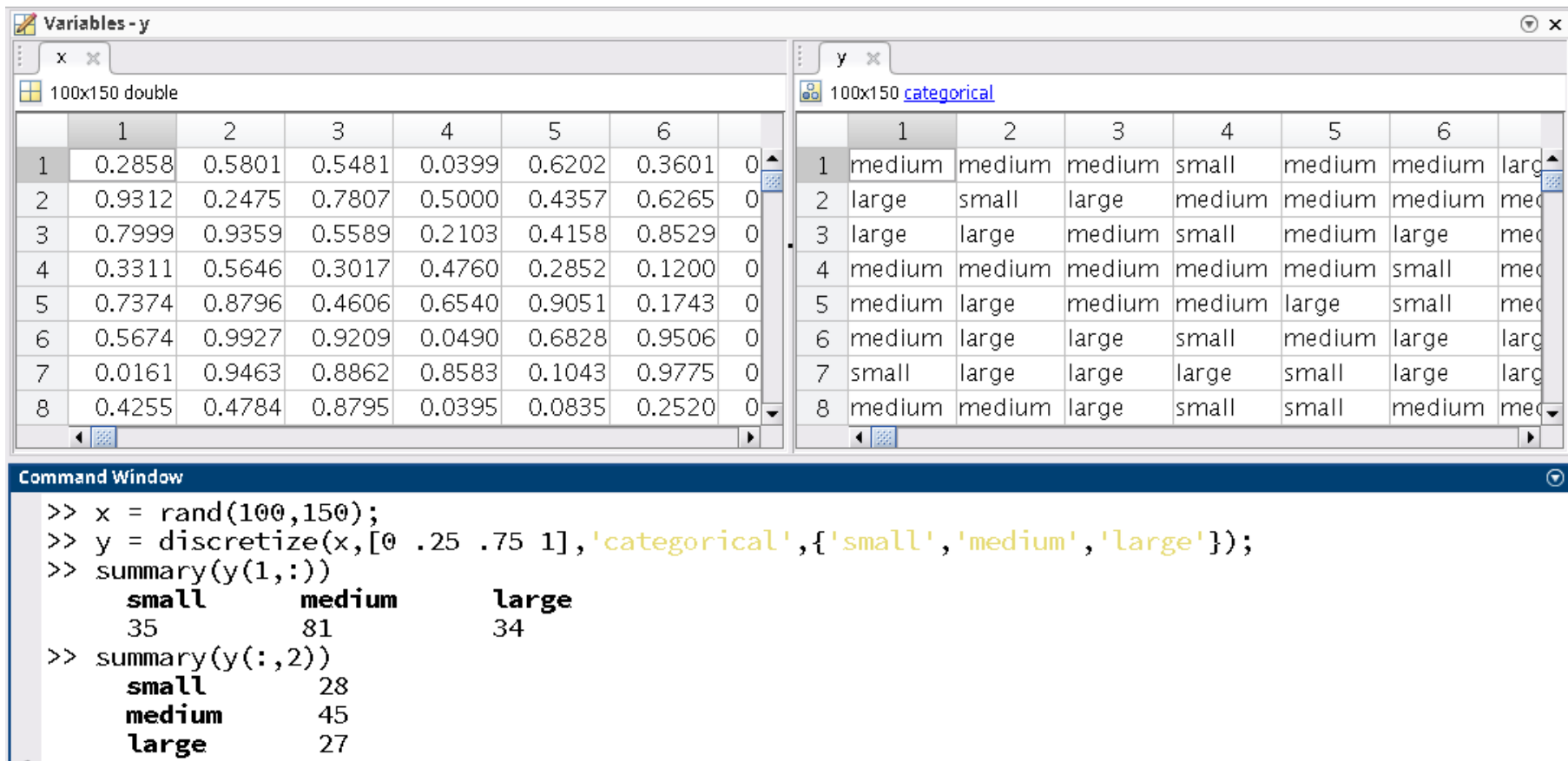
Command Window

```
>> valueset = 1:3
valueset =
     1     2     3
>> cats = {'small' 'medium' 'large'}
cats =
    1x3 cell array
    {'small'}    {'medium'}    {'large'}
>> A = [1 2; 2 2; 3 1]
A =
     1     2
     2     2
     3     1
>> B = categorical(A,valueset,cats, 'Ordinal', 1)
B =
    3x2 categorical array
    small    medium
    medium    medium
    large    small
>> B(1,:) < B(2,:)
ans =
    1x2 logical array
     1     0
```

3.4 Categorical Data Type

- Along with the **discretize()** function they can be useful for easily categorising numeric data.

EXAMPLE 8



The image displays the MATLAB interface with three windows: 'Variables - y', 'y', and 'Command Window'.

Variables - y window: Shows a 100x150 double array 'x' and a 100x150 categorical array 'y'.

y window: Displays the first 8 rows of the categorical array 'y'.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1	medium	medium	medium	small	medium	medium	large
2	large	small	large	medium	medium	medium	medium
3	large	large	medium	small	medium	large	medium
4	medium	medium	medium	medium	medium	small	medium
5	medium	large	medium	medium	large	small	medium
6	medium	large	large	small	medium	large	large
7	small	large	large	large	small	large	large
8	medium	medium	large	small	small	medium	medium

Command Window: Shows the MATLAB commands and their output.

```
>> x = rand(100,150);
>> y = discretize(x,[0 .25 .75 1], 'categorical',{'small','medium','large'});
>> summary(y(1,:))
    small    medium    large
     35      81      34
>> summary(y(:,2))
    small    28
    medium   45
    large    27
```

3.5 Table Data Type

- ❑ Used for data that is stored as rows and columns (relational databases).
- ❑ Spreadsheets and SQL-databases are examples of relational databases.
- ❑ We can access the values by indexing (see right and next slide) or by the names (see slide 14).

EXAMPLE 9

Command Window

```
>> T1 = table([1:3]', [1:3; 4:6; 7:9], {'M'; 'F'; 'F'})
T1 =
3x3 table
    Var1    Var2    Var3
    ----    -
    1        1      2      3    {'M'}
    2        4      5      6    {'F'}
    3        7      8      9    {'F'}

>> T1(2,2)
ans =
table
    Var2
    ----
    4    5    6

>> T1{2,2}
ans =
    4    5    6

>> T1{2,2}(2)
ans =
    5
```

3.5 Table Data Type

EXAMPLE 10

Command Window

```
>> load patients
>> T2 = table(Age, Gender, Weight, Height);
>> T2(1:4,:)
ans =
4x4 table
    Age    Gender    Weight    Height
    ---    -
    38    {'Male' }    176      71
    43    {'Male' }    163      69
    38    {'Female'}    131      64
    40    {'Female'}    133      67
>> T2.BMI = (T2.Weight*0.453592)./(T2.Height*0.0254).^2;
>> T2(1:4,:)
ans =
4x5 table
    Age    Gender    Weight    Height    BMI
    ---    -
    38    {'Male' }    176      71    24.547
    43    {'Male' }    163      69    24.071
    38    {'Female'}    131      64    22.486
    40    {'Female'}    133      67    20.831
>> T2.Properties.VariableNames{'BMI'} = 'Body Mass Index';
>> T2(1:4,:)
ans =
4x5 table
    Age    Gender    Weight    Height    Body Mass Index
    ---    -
    38    {'Male' }    176      71    24.547
    43    {'Male' }    163      69    24.071
    38    {'Female'}    131      64    22.486
    40    {'Female'}    133      67    20.831
```

Workspace

Name	Value	Class
Age	100x1 double	double
ans	4x5 table	table
Diastolic	100x1 double	double
Gender	100x1 cell	cell
Height	100x1 double	double
LastName	100x1 cell	cell
Location	100x1 cell	cell
SelfAssesse...	100x1 cell	cell
Smoker	100x1 logical	logical
Systolic	100x1 double	double
T2	100x5 table	table
Weight	100x1 double	double

3.5 Table Data Type

EXAMPLE 11

```
Command Window
>> T2(1:4,:)
ans =
4x5 table
    Age    Gender    Weight    Height    Body Mass Index
    ---    -
    38     {'Male' }    176      71      24.547
    43     {'Male' }    163      69      24.071
    38     {'Female'}    131      64      22.486
    40     {'Female'}    133      67      20.831
>> T2(2:4,{'Gender', 'Body Mass Index'})
ans =
3x2 table
    Gender    Body Mass Index
    ---
    {'Male' }    24.071
    {'Female'}    22.486
    {'Female'}    20.831
>> T2.Properties.RowNames = LastName;
>> T2(1:4,:)
ans =
4x5 table
    Smith    Age    Gender    Weight    Height    Body Mass Index
    ---
    Johnson  43     {'Male' }    163      69      24.071
    Williams 38     {'Female'}    131      64      22.486
    Jones    40     {'Female'}    133      67      20.831
>> T2({'Johnson', 'Jones'},{'Gender', 'Body Mass Index'})
ans =
2x2 table
    Johnson    Gender    Body Mass Index
    ---
    Johnson    {'Male' }    24.071
    Jones      {'Female'}    20.831
```

3.6 Checking Data Types

EXAMPLE 12

- ❑ Since each data type has unique properties and operators it is important to be able to check them when writing code that does calculations with them.
- ❑ Here are some common cases of checking. For a full list see the documentation.

Command Window

```
>> isfloat( 44 )
ans =
    logical
     1
>> isfloat( int8(44) )
ans =
    logical
     0
>> ischar( 'a' )
ans =
    logical
     1
>> isstring( 'a' )
ans =
    logical
     0
>> iscell( {'a' 'b' 'c'} )
ans =
    logical
     1
>> isstruct(struct('Pim', 91, 'Gun', 88))
ans =
    logical
     1
>> istable(struct('Pim', 91, 'Gun', 88))
ans =
    logical
     0
>> isinf(exp(800))
ans =
    logical
     1
```

3.7 Converting Data Types EXAMPLE 13

- ❑ It's possible to convert between any data types using appropriate functions and syntax.
- ❑ Certain conversions may be invalid depending on size constraints of the converted vs. unconverted data.

```
Command Window
>> x = single(pi)
x =
    single
    3.1415927
>> double(x)
ans =
    3.141592741012573
>> pi_char = '3.1415927'
pi_char =
    '3.1415927'
>> str2double(pi_char)
ans =
    3.1415927000000000
>> dec2bin(37)
ans =
    '100101'
>> cellstr( ["Lorem", "ipsum", "dolor"] )
ans =
    1x3 cell array
    {'Lorem'}    {'ipsum'}    {'dolor'}
>> mycell = {[1], [2 3 4]; [5:7; 8:10], ones(3)}
mycell =
    2x2 cell array
    {[    1]}    {[    2 3 4]}
    {[2x3 double]}    {[3x3 double]}
>> cell2mat(mycell(1,:))
ans =
     1     2     3     4
>> cell2table(mycell)
ans =
    2x2 table
        mycell1        mycell2
    -----
    {[    1]}    {[    2 3 4]}
    {[2x3 double]}    {[3x3 double]}
```


What's the output?

```
x = {2:2:10, [1 2;3 4], 'label'}
```

```
>> x{2}
```

2

4

2 4 6 8 10



[1 x 5 double]

[2 x 2 double]



To 0

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What's the output?

```
x = {2:2:10, [1 2;3 4], 'label'};
```

```
>> x(1)
```

1

2

2 4 6 8 10



[1 x 5 double]

[2 x 2 double]



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How to get Dog?

```
x = struct('Species',{'Bird','Dog','Cat'},'Sex',{'F','F','M'});
```

`x.Species(2)`

`x(2).Species`

`x{2}(2)`

`x(2){2}`



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How to add a female mongoose?

```
x = struct('Species',{'Bird','Dog','Cat'},'Sex',{'F','F','M'});
```

```
x.Species(4)='Mongoose'; x.Sex(4)='F'
```

```
x(4).Species='Mongoose'; x(4).Sex='F'
```

```
x(1,4)='Mongoose'; x(2,4).Sex='F'
```

```
x(4,1)='Mongoose'; x(4,2).Sex='F'
```



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3.8 Getting User Input

EXAMPLE 14

Command Window

```
>> x = input('What is your name?')  
fx What is your name?|
```



Command Window

```
>> x = input('What is your name?')  
What is your name? 'Jon'  
x =  
    'Jon'
```

Workspace

Name	Value
x	'Jon'

3.9 Formatting String Output

- Use the **sprintf** or **fprintf** function to format strings.

`sprintf('format',x,...)`

EXAMPLE 15

Command Window

>> v = 50.6175;
>> fprintf('The velocity is %8.4f m/s\n', v)
The velocity is 50.6175 m/s

Workspace

Name	Value
v	50.6175

Format Code

Description

%d	Integer format
%e	Scientific format with lowercase e
%E	Scientific format with uppercase E
%f	Decimal format
%g	The more compact of %e or %f

Control Code

Description

\n	Start new line
\t	Tab

Whole part of input
value has 3 digits

123.45678

Fractional part of input
value has 5 digits

Format operator

→ %09.3f →

field width: $w = 9$
precision: $p = 3$

Result has w digits,
extending to the
left with zeros

00123.457

Fractional part of the
result has p digits
and is rounded

EXAMPLE 16

Command Window

```
>> fprintf('%5d %10.3f %8.5e\n',100,2*pi,pi);  
100      6.283  3.14159e+00
```

EXAMPLE 17

```
fprintfdemo.m x +  
1 function fprintfdemo  
2 x = [1 2 3 4 5];  
3 y = [20.4 12.6 17.8 88.7 120.4];  
4 z = [x;y];  
5 fprintf('      x      y\n');  
6 fprintf('%5d %10.3f\n',z);
```

Command Window

```
>> fprintfdemo  
      x      y  
1      20.400  
2      12.600  
3      17.800  
4      88.700  
5     120.400
```


What the output of `sprintf('pi to 7 d.p. is: %012.7f',pi)`?

'pi to 7 d.p. is: 3.1415927'

'pi to 7 d.p. is: 03.1415927'

'pi to 7 d.p. is: 003.1415927'

'pi to 7 d.p. is: 0003.1415927'

'pi to 7 d.p. is: 00003.1415927'

'pi to 7 d.p. is: 000003.1415927'



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3.10 Creating & Accessing Data Files

- ❑ You can **save** variables you have calculated and **load** them at a later date.

EXAMPLE 18

The figure illustrates the process of saving and loading variables in MATLAB through three sequential screenshots of the Command Window and Workspace.

Top Screenshot: The Command Window shows the calculation of variables `g`, `m`, `t`, `cd`, and `v`, followed by saving them to a file named `veldrag.mat`.

```
>> g = 9.81;m = 80;t = 5;  
>> cd = [.25 .267 .245 .28 .273]';  
>> v = sqrt(g*m ./cd) .*tanh(sqrt(g*cd/m) *t);  
>> save veldrag v cd  
fx>>
```

The Workspace window on the right lists the variables `cd`, `g`, `m`, `t`, and `v` with their respective values.

Name	Value
cd	[0.2500;0....
g	9.8100
m	80
t	5
v	[39.4514;...

Middle Screenshot: The Command Window shows the `clear` command being entered, clearing the workspace.

```
>> clear  
fx>> |
```

Bottom Screenshot: The Command Window shows the `load` command being used to load the variables from the saved file `veldrag.mat`.

```
>> clear  
>> load veldrag.mat  
fx>> |
```

The Workspace window on the right now only contains the variables `cd` and `v`, which were loaded from the file.

Name	Value
cd	[0.2500;0....
v	[39.4514;...

3.11 Vectorisation of Code

- If possible, avoid loops and use **vectorised code** instead.

EXAMPLE 19

```
i = 0;  
for t = 0:0.02:50  
    i = i + 1;  
    y(i) = cos(t);  
end
```



```
t = 0:0.02:50;  
y = cos(t);
```

3.12 Preallocation of Memory

- Since MATLAB increases the size of an array on every iteration of a loop it is computationally faster to **preallocate** the size of the vector/matrix if known.

EXAMPLE 20

```
t = 0:.01:5;
for i = 1:length(t)
    if t(i)>1
        y(i) = 1/t(i);
    else
        y(i) = 1;
    end
end
```



```
t = 0:.01:5;
y = ones(size(t));
for i = 1:length(t)
    if t(i)>1
        y(i) = 1/t(i);
    end
end
```

Which code gives the same output?

```
A=1;  
for i=2:4  
    A(i)=2*A(i-1);  
end
```

```
A=1; A(end)=[2 4 8]
```

```
A=1; A(2:2:4)=[2 4 8]
```

```
A=[1 1 1 1]; A(2:end)=[2 4 8]
```

```
A=[1 1 1 1]; A(2:2:4)=[2 4 8]
```



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3.13 Anonymous Functions

- We can create functions in the workspace instead of as a file. These are known as **anonymous functions**.

EXAMPLE 21

```
>> function_name = @(inputs) expression
```

 **Creates anonymous function**

```
>> f1=@(x,y) x^2 + y^2;
```

```
>> f1(3,4)
```

```
ans =  
    25
```

3.14 Function of a Function

- ❑ Instead of using a number or variable as input to a function, we can also pass anonymous functions.

EXAMPLE 22

```
>> f1 = @(x) x.^2;  
>> f2 = @(f,a,b) f(b) - f(a);  
>> f2(f1,2,3)  
ans =  
      5
```



First function is used as input to another function

Which command returns the value 18?

```
a = @(s,t) s*t  
b = @(j,k) k(j(1),j(2))+k(j(2),j(3))
```

a([2 3 4],b)

b([2 3 4],a)

a([2 9],b)

b([2 9],a)



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3.15 Variable Input Argument

- Sometimes we want the flexibility for a function to accept a different number of inputs depending on the user. We use **varargin**.

EXAMPLE 23

```
function y = f_varin(a,b,varargin)
if isempty(varargin)
    y = a+b;
elseif length(varargin) == 1
    y = a+b+varargin{1};
elseif length(varargin) == 2
    y = a+b+varargin{1}-varargin{2};
else
    disp('Too many input arguments.')
end
```

Tells MATLAB to expect a variable number of inputs (cell array)

Checks if variable is empty or not

```
>> f_varin(1,2)
ans =
    3
```

```
>> f_varin(1,2,3)
ans =
    6
```

```
>> f_varin(1,2,3,4)
ans =
    2
```

```
>> f_varin(1,2,3,4,5)
Too many input
arguments.
```

3.16 Variable Output Functions

- We can also output a variable number of arguments from functions.

```
function [y,varargout] = f_varout(a,b)
y = a+b;
if b > a
    varargout{1} = a*b;
    varargout{2} = a^b;
elseif a == b
    varargout{1} = a/b;
end
```

```
>> [y,t] = f_varout(2,3)
```

```
y =
```

```
5
```

```
t =
```

```
6
```

```
>> [y,t1,t2] = f_varout(2,3)
```

```
y =
```

```
5
```

```
t1 =
```

```
6
```

```
t2 =
```

```
8
```

Too many outputs requested

```
>> [y,t1,t2,t3] = f_varout(2,3)
```

Output argument "varargout{3}" (and maybe others)
not assigned during call to "f_varout".

```
>> [y,t] = f_varout(2,2)
```

```
y =
```

```
4
```

Too many outputs requested

```
t =
```

```
1
```

```
>> [y,t1,t2] = f_varout(2,2)
```

Output argument "varargout{2}" (and maybe others) not assigned during call to "f_varout".

Too many outputs requested

```
>> [y,t] = f_varout(3,2)
```

One or more output arguments not assigned during call to "varargout".

- We can check that the user requests enough output arguments using **nargoutchk**.

```
function [y,varargout] = f_varout(a,b)
y = a+b;
if b > a
    disp('For these inputs we have 2 outputs.')
    nargoutchk(2,2) ← The 2 numbers represent
    varargout{1} = a*b;           minimum & maximum
    varargout{2} = a^b;           number of arguments
elseif a == b
    disp('For these inputs we have 1 output.')
    nargoutchk(1,1)
    varargout{1} = a/b;
end
```

Command Window

```
>> y=f_varout(1,2)
For these inputs we have 2 outputs.
Error using f_varout (line 5)
Not enough output arguments.
```

Command Window

```
>> [y,z]=f_varout(1,2)
For these inputs we have 2 outputs.
y =
    3
z =
    2
```

Command Window

```
>> [y,z]=f_varout(1,1)
For these inputs we have 1 output.
Error using f_varout (line 10)
Too many output arguments.
```

Command Window

```
>> y=f_varout(1,1)
For these inputs we have 1 output.
y =
    2
```

Output of f1([2,3,4])

```
function y = f1(x,varargin)
z=cell2mat(varargin);
if isempty(z)
    y = x;
elseif length(z)==1
    y = x + 1;
else
    y = x*sum(z);
end
```

2

3

4

14

2 3 4

3 4 5



To 0

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Output of f1(2,3,4)

```
function y = f1(x,varargin)
z=cell2mat(varargin);
if isempty(z)
    y = x;
elseif length(z)==1
    y = x + 1;
else
    y = x*sum(z);
end
```

2

3

4

14

2 3 4

3 4 5



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