



MATLAB Programming

Basic File Input and Output



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Scientists use (a lot of) data

Images (matrix)

Sound files (array or matrix)

Video (3 dimension matrix)

Instrument output (time series)

Spreadsheets (set of matrices)

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MATLAB can read all of these• and more.

Data import and output:

Input and convert to data structure

Print output to the screen

Write arrays in a suitable file format.

Two ways to import data:

Using the graphical interface

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Easiest to learn

MATLAB figures out what kind of file you have

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Using the command line

Two ways to import data:

Using the graphical interface

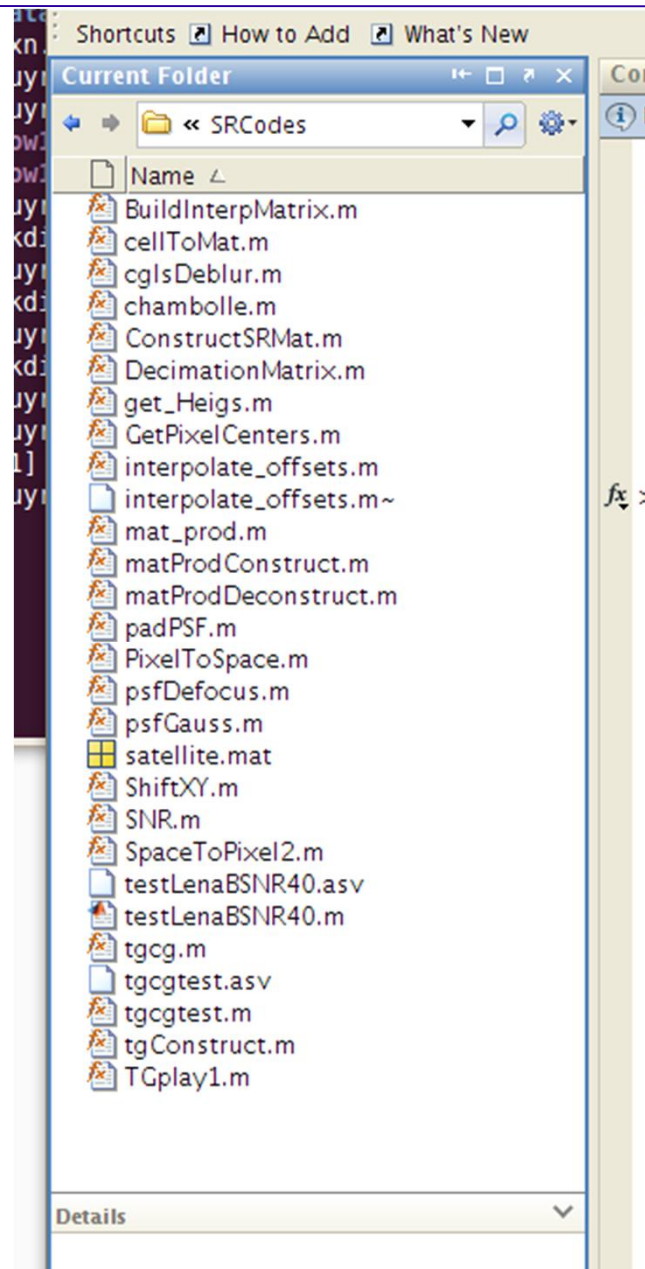
- Easiest to learn

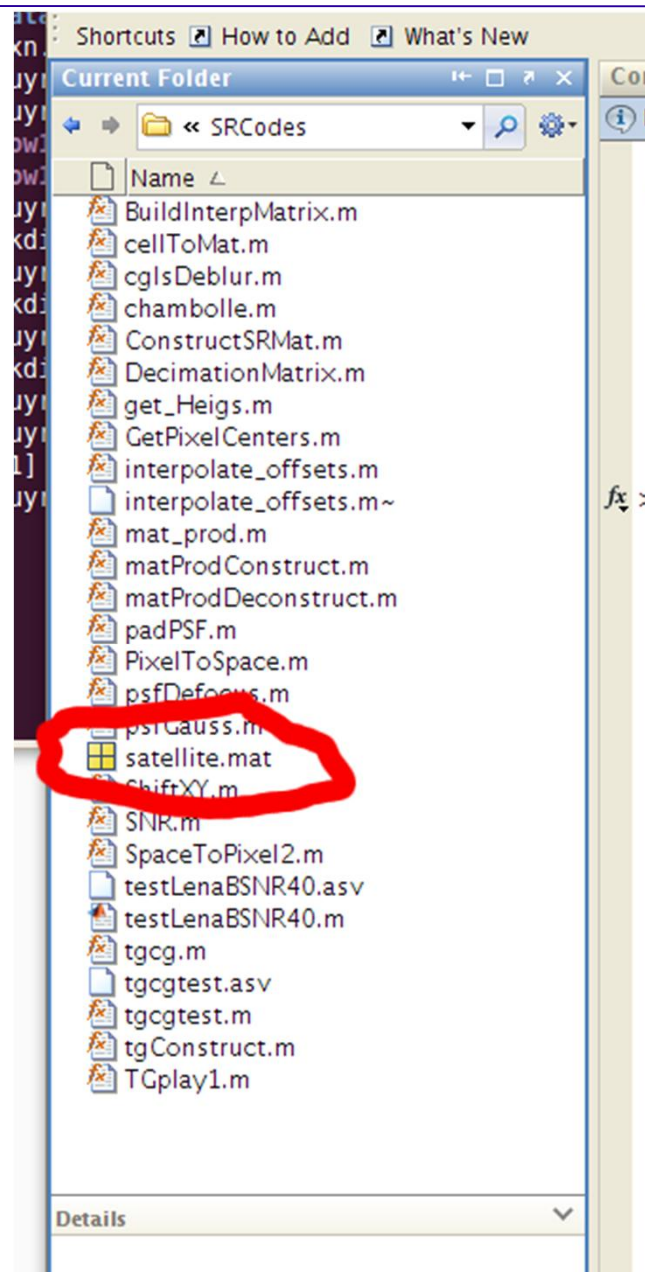
- MATLAB figures out what kind of file you have

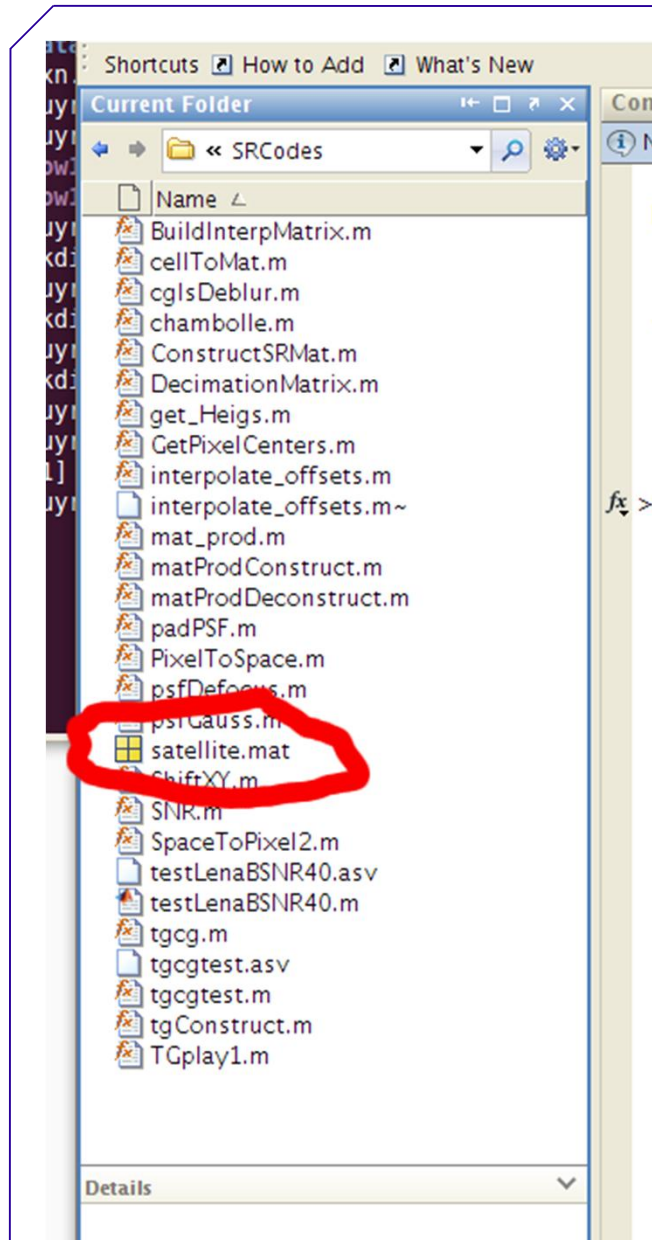
Using the command line

- Can be automated

- Supports many more formats







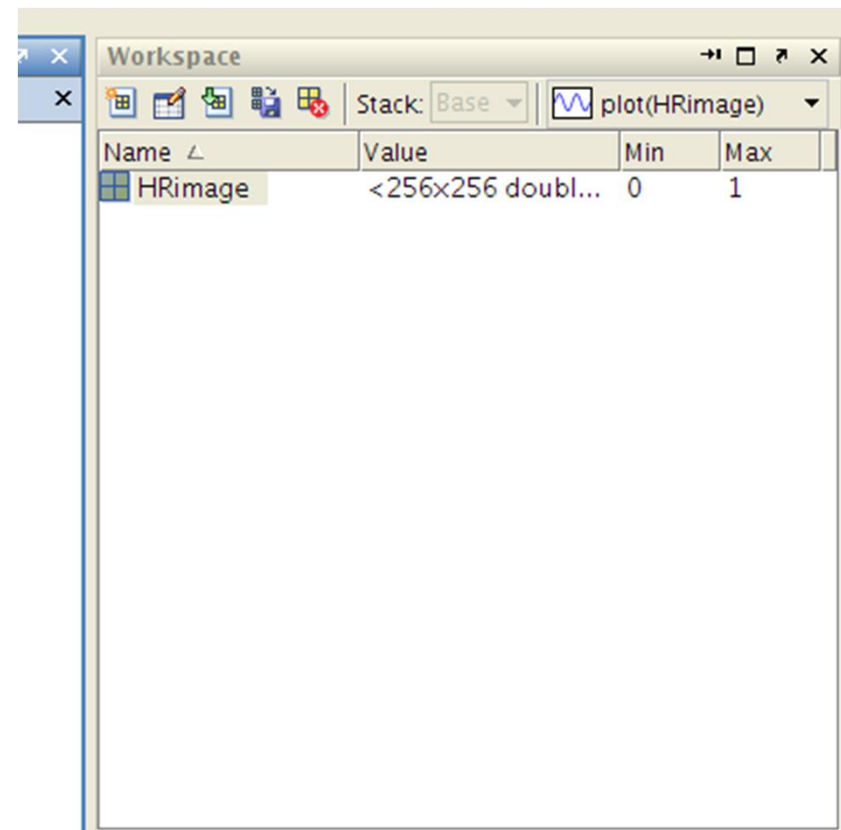
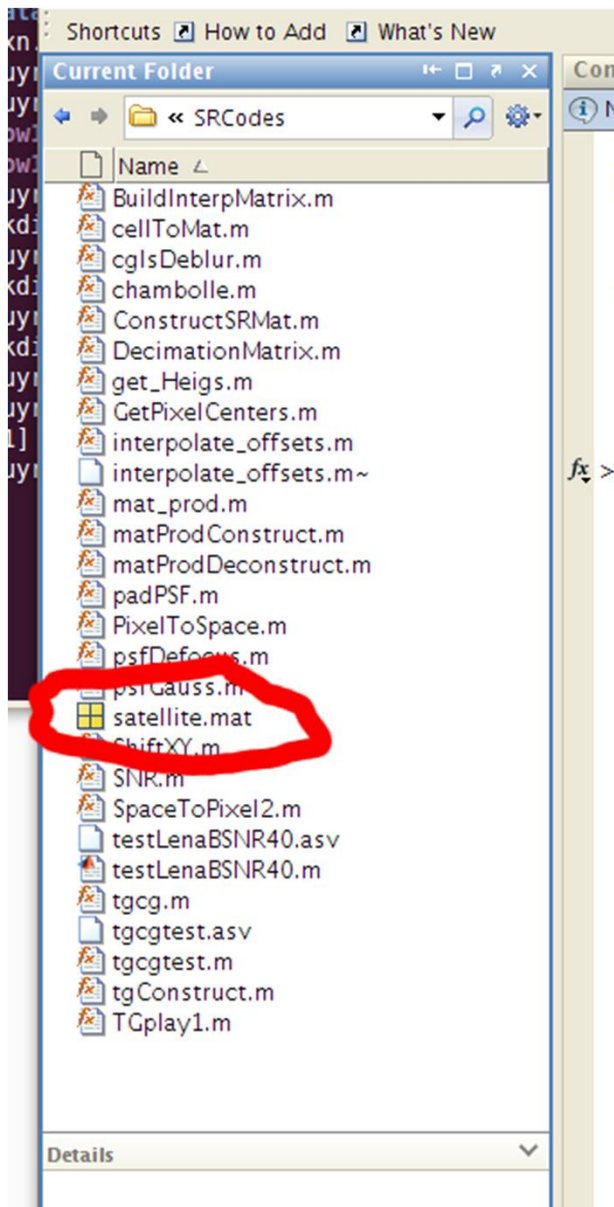
.mat file:

MATLAB's preferred format.

Binary, which saves space.

Designed to store multiple variables.

Double click



Text data: comma or space separated

My file: tweets.txt

```
Latitude longitude tweet_density
43.650332      -79.389013    0.000739
43.669778      -79.38267     0.00273
43.648943      -79.391319    0.003818
```

Load data into MATLAB:

```
>> data = importdata('tweets.txt');
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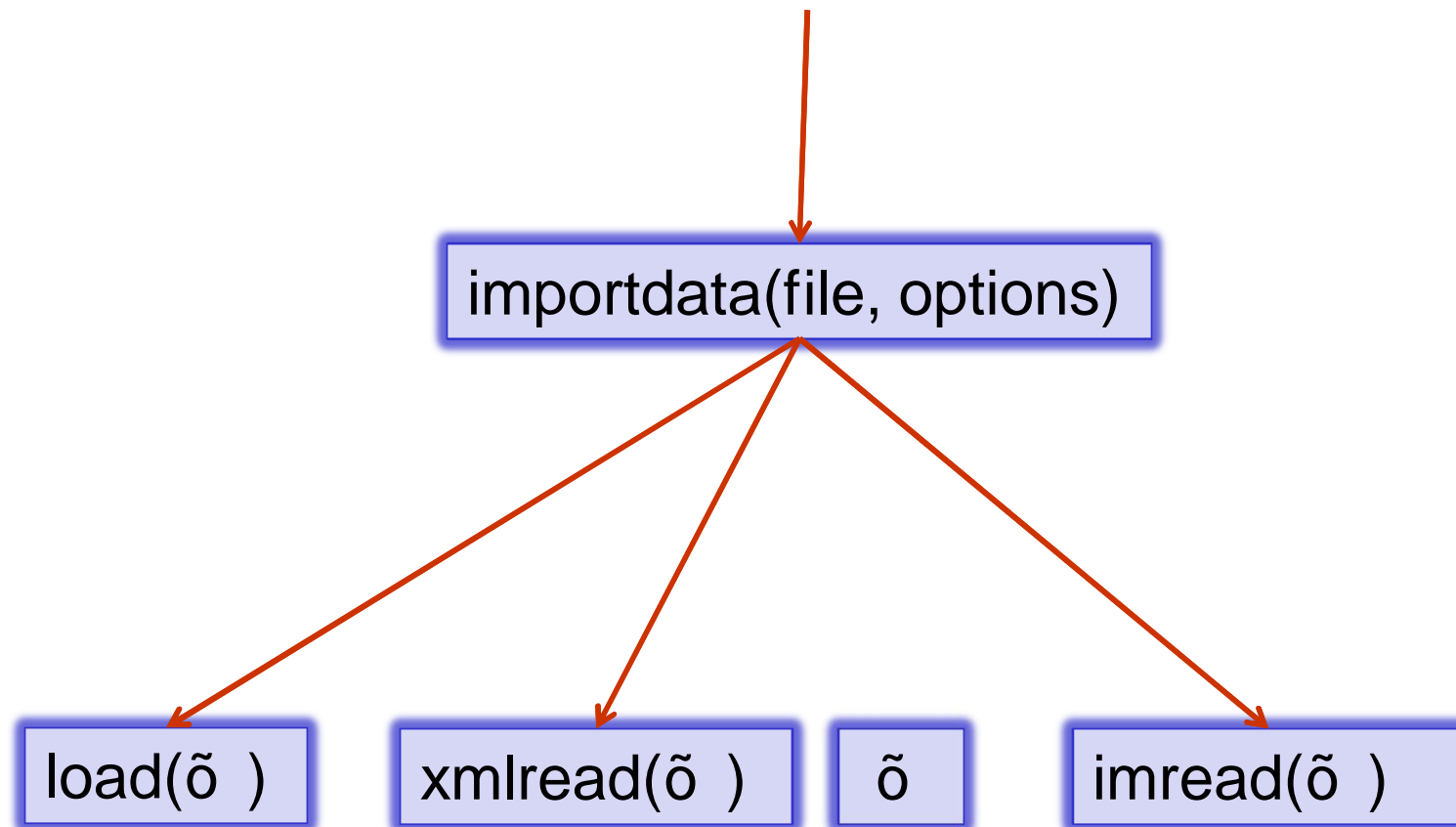
importdata is a ~~u~~ wrapper function.

Identifies the format of the file

Is it text, image, MAT file format, spreadsheet,
sound, XML, \tilde{o} ?

Find the correct function to load the file.

Optional arguments can help figure this out.



```
>> in = importdata('tweets.txt');
>> in
in =
    data: [40000x3 double]
    textdata: {'Lat'    ' Lng'    ' Weight'}
    colheaders: {'Lat'    ' Lng'    ' Weight'}
```



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```

MATLAB can also read things like
spreadsheets:

```
>> in = importdata('mydata.xls');
```

```
>> in
```

```
in =
```

```
    Sheet1 = [6 x 2 double]
```

```
    Sheet2 = [13 x 1 double]
```

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spreadsheets:

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>> in = importdata('mydata.xls');
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```
>> in
```

```
in =
```

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```

```
    Sheet2 = [13 x 1 double]
```

Each sheet is a member of the
structure

Exporting results:

Visualization

Printing to screen

Exporting to a file

Exporting results:

Visualization

Special episode on
graphing and images



Printing to screen

Exporting to a file



software carpentry

created by

Richard T. Guy

February 2011



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