

value to a variable without a semicolon at the end), the output is displayed in the Command Window.

- Using a script file is convenient because it can be edited (corrected or otherwise changed) and executed many times.
- Script files can be typed and edited in any text editor and then pasted into the MATLAB editor.
- Script files are also called M-files because the extension .m is used when they are saved.

1.8.2 Creating and Saving a Script File

In MATLAB script files are created and edited in the Editor/Debugger Window. This window is opened from the Command Window by clicking on the **New Script** icon in the Toolstrip, or by clicking **New** in the Toolstrip and then selecting **Script** from the menu that open. An open Editor/Debugger Window is shown in Figure 1-6.

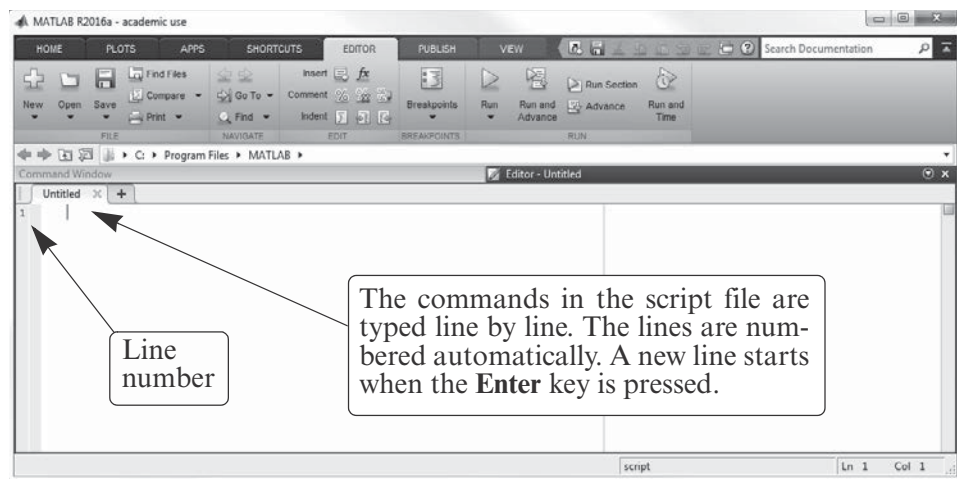


Figure 1-6: The Editor/Debugger Window.

The Editor/Debugger Window has a Toolstrip at the top and three tabs EDITOR, PUBLISH, and VIEW above it. Clicking on the tabs changes the icons in the Toolstrip. Commonly, MATLAB is used with the HOME tab selected. The associated icons are used for executing various commands, as explained later in the Chapter. Once the window is open, the commands of the script file are typed line by line. MATLAB automatically numbers a new line every time the **Enter** key is pressed. The commands can also be typed in any text editor or word processor program and then copied and pasted in the Editor/Debugger Window. An example of a short program typed in the Editor/Debugger Window is shown in Figure 1-7. The first few lines in a script file are typically comments (which are not executed, since the first character in the line is %)