

5.12 PLOTTING USING THE PLOTS TOOLSTRIP

Plots can also be constructed interactively by using the PLOTS Toolstrip in the Command Window. The PLOTS Toolstrip, as shown in Fig. 5-13, is displayed when the PLOTS tab is selected. To make a two-dimensional plot, the vectors with the data points that will be used for the plot have to be already assigned and displayed in the Workspace Window (see Section 4.1). To make a plot, select a variable in the Workspace Window and then, holding the CTRL key, select any additional variables needed. Once a selection of variables has been made, the Toolstrip shows icons with images of plot types that can be created with the selected variables (e.g. line graph, scatter plot, bar graph, pie chart, etc.). Clicking on an icon opens a Figure Window with the corresponding figure displayed. In addition, the MATLAB command that created the plot is displayed in the Command Window. The user can then copy the command and paste it into a script file such that in the future the same figure will be created when the script file is executed. On the right side of the Toolstrip the user can choose to view different plot types in the same Figure Window (Reuse Figure), or to view a new figure type in a new Figure Window (New Figure), such that figure types can be compared side by side.

Using the Plots Toolstrip is useful when the user wants to examine different plot options for given data. For example, Figure 5-13 shows the default layout of MATLAB with the PLOTS Toolstrip displayed. In the Command Window, the sales data from Section 5.1.1 are assigned to two vectors `yr` and `sle`. The vectors are also displayed (and selected) in the Workspace Window. Icons with images of various type of plots that can be created are displayed in the PLOTS Toolstrip at the top. Additional types of plots can be displayed by clicking on the down-arrow on the right.

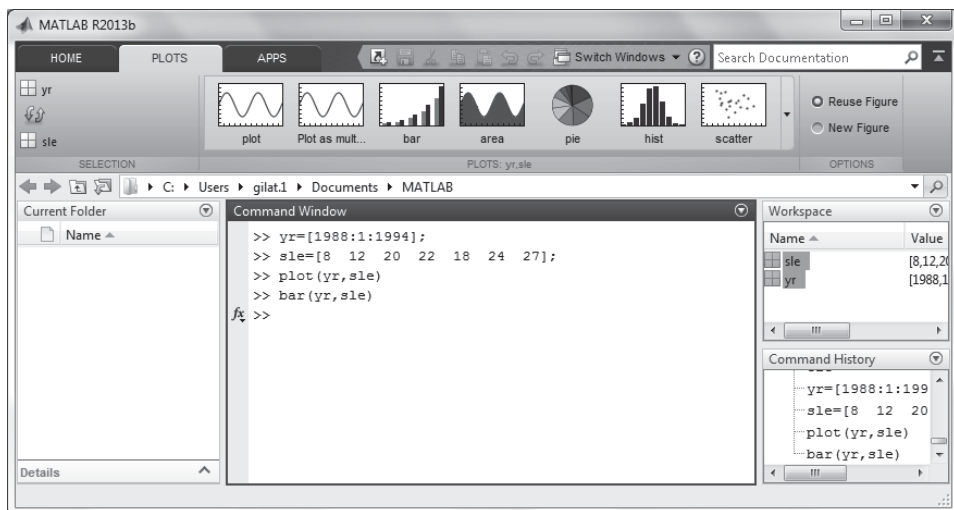


Figure 5-13: Using the PLOTS Toolstrip.