



# Chapter 8: Input/Output Functions

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# Introduction to Input/Output Fun.

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- Data to be used in the future
- Communicate with other languages



# Save and load Commands

---

- **save**

save **all** data in the current workspace to a file named **matlab.mat** in the **current** directory

- **save** *filename* [list of variables] [options]

options

-**mat**            save data in MAT-file format

-**ascii**          save data in ASCII format

-**append**        add the specified variables to an existing MAT-file



## Save and load Commands (Cont.)

---

```
>> a=[1 2 3;4 5 6;7 8 9];
```

```
>> b=1;
```

```
>> save data_a_b a b
```

```
>> c=[10 11;12 13];
```

```
>> save data_a_b c -append
```



# Save and load Commands (Cont.)

---

- `load`

load all data in file `matlab.mat` into the current workspace

- `load filename`

`load data_a_b`



## Save and load Commands (Cont.)

---

```
>> save data_a_b -ascii
```

“save `-ascii`” command can **NOT** save `cell array` or `structure array` data, and it converts string data to numbers before saving it



## Save and load Commands (Cont.)

---

```
>> a=cell(2,1)
```

```
>> a{1,1}='string'
```

```
>> a{2,1}=[1 2]
```

```
>> celldisp(a)
```

```
a{1} =
```

```
    string
```

```
a{2} =
```

```
     1     2
```



# Save and load Commands (Cont.)

```
>> save cell_a a -ascii
```

Warning: Attempt to write an unsupported data type  
to an ASCII file.

a not written to file.

```
>> clear
>> load cell_a
>> whos
```

Name	Size	Bytes	Class
cell_a	0x0	0	double array

```
Grand total is 0 elements using 0 bytes
```

Other functions and commands are needed!





# textread Command

---

- read ASCII files into columns of data  
`[a b c...]=textread(filename, format, n)`

**filename:** name of the file to be opened

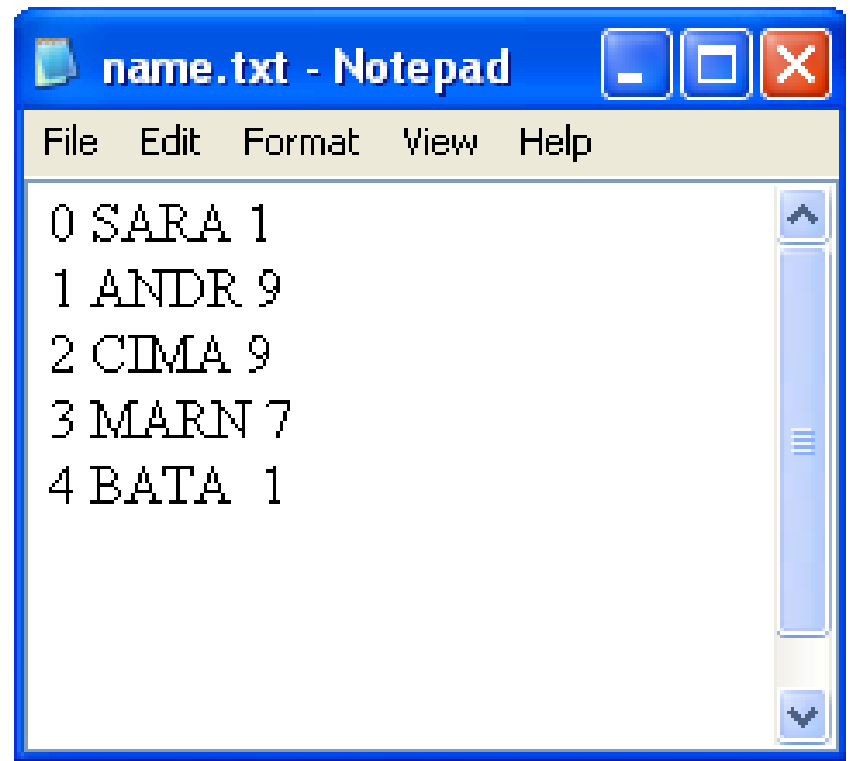
**format:** a string containing a description of the type of data in each column

**n:** number of lines to read (if n is missing, the command reads to the end of the file)

# textread Command (Cont.)

```
>> [a b c]=textread('name.txt','%d %s %d')
```

a =	b =	c =
0	'SARA'	1
1	'ANDR'	9
2	'CIMA'	9
3	'MARN'	7
4	'BATA'	1





# textread Command (Cont.)

---

Supported conversion specifications:

`%n` - read a **number** - float or integer (returns double array)

`%5n` reads up to 5 digits or until next **delimiter**

`%d` - read a **signed integer value** (returns double array)

`%5d` reads up to 5 digits or until next delimiter

`%u` - read an integer value (returns double array)

`%5u` reads up to 5 digits or until next delimiter

`%f` - read a **floating** point value (returns double array)

`%5f` reads up to 5 digits or until next delimiter

`%s` - read a **whitespace** separated **string** (returns **cellstr**)

`%5s` reads up to 5 characters or until whitespace

## textread Command (Cont.)

- **Skip** selected columns by adding an **asterisk** to the corresponding format descriptor

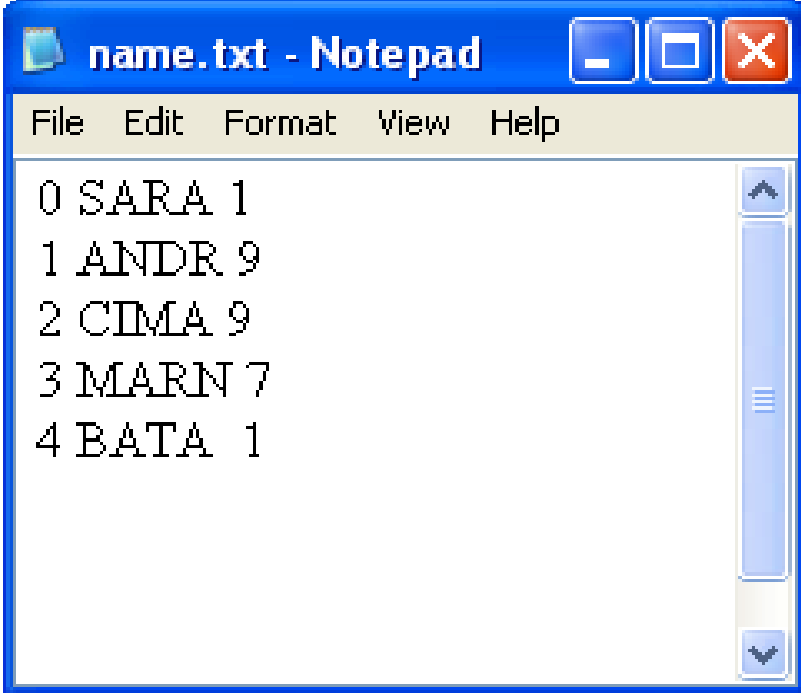
```
>> [a c]=textread('name.txt','%d %*s %d')
```

a =

0  
1  
2  
3  
4

c =

1  
9  
9  
7  
1



A Notepad window titled 'name.txt - Notepad' is shown. The window has a menu bar with 'File', 'Edit', 'Format', 'View', and 'Help'. The text content of the file is as follows:

```
0 SARA 1
1 ANDR 9
2 CIMLA 9
3 MARN 7
4 BATA 1
```



# textread Command (Cont.)

---

- format

%c single **c**haracter

%s **s**tring of characters

%d signed **d**integer

%f **f**loating-point

%n - a **n**umber - float or integer (returns double array)



# MATLAB File Processing

---

- `fopen()`
- read from/write to file:  
binary/formatted character
- `fclose()`



# File Opening

---

- `fid=fopen(filename, permission)`
- `[fid message]=fopen(filename, permission)`

‘fid’ is a scalar MATLAB integer, called a file identifier. You use the fid as the first argument to other file input/output routines. If ‘fopen’ can not open the file, it returns -1.



## File Opening (Cont.)

---

- **filename**: files stored on disk, magnetic tape, or some other storage devices
- **message**:  
If the specified file is opened successfully, the message will be an empty string  
If the file fails to be opened, the message will be a string explaining the error





# File Opening (Cont.)

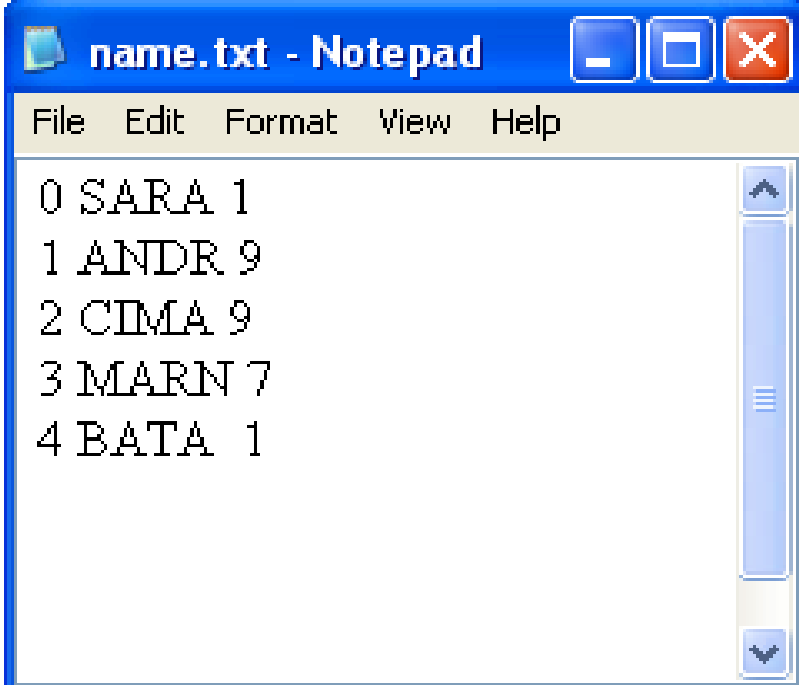
---

- permission:

- 'r' open an existing file for reading only
- 'r+' open an existing file for reading and writing
- 'w' open an existing file for writing only
- 'a' append data to the end of the opened file

# File Opening (Cont.)

- `fid=fopen('name.txt','r')`
- `[fid message]=fopen('name.txt','r')`



A screenshot of a Notepad window titled "name.txt - Notepad". The window has a menu bar with "File", "Edit", "Format", "View", and "Help". The text area contains five lines of text, each with a line number on the left:

```
0 SARA 1  
1 ANDR 9  
2 CIMA 9  
3 MARN 7  
4 BATA 1
```



# fread and fscanf functions

---

- **fread**: Read **binary** data in a specified format  
array=**fread**(fid, size, **precision**)
- 

--

**size**: specify the amount of data to be read, =

**n**: read exactly n values. array will be a  
column vector containing n values

**Inf**: read until the end of the file

**[n m]**: read exactly  $n*m$  values, and format  
the data as an  $n*m$  array



# fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

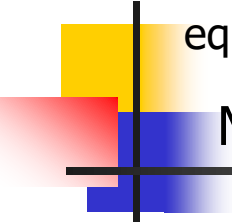
---

- precision:

'char'	8-bit characters
'int8'	8-bit integer
'int16'	16-bit integer
'int32'	32-bit integer
'float32'	32-bit floating point
'float64'	64-bit floating point

C, Fortran, and/or JAVA equivalent?

Any of the following strings, either the MATLAB version, or their C or Fortran equivalent, may be used. If not specified, the default is 'uchar'.



MATLAB	C or Fortran	Description
'uchar'	'unsigned char'	unsigned character, 8 bits.
'schar'	'signed char'	signed character, 8 bits.
'int8'	'integer*1'	integer, 8 bits.
'int16'	'integer*2'	integer, 16 bits.
'int32'	'integer*4'	integer, 32 bits.
'int64'	'integer*8'	integer, 64 bits.
'uint8'	'integer*1'	unsigned integer, 8 bits.
'uint16'	'integer*2'	unsigned integer, 16 bits.
'uint32'	'integer*4'	unsigned integer, 32 bits.
'uint64'	'integer*8'	unsigned integer, 64 bits.
'single'	'real*4'	floating point, 32 bits.
'float32'	'real*4'	floating point, 32 bits.
'double'	'real*8'	floating point, 64 bits.
'float64'	'real*8'	floating point, 64 bits.



# Platform-dependent formats

The following platform-dependent formats are also supported by Matlab but they are not guaranteed to be the same on all platforms.

MATLAB	C or Fortran	Description
'char'	'char*1'	character, 8 bits (signed/unsigned)
'short'	'short'	integer, 16 bits.
'int'	'int'	integer, 32 bits.
'long'	'long'	integer, 32 or 64 bits.
'ushort'	'unsigned short'	unsigned integer, 16 bits.
'uint'	'unsigned int'	unsigned integer, 32 bits.
'ulong'	'unsigned long'	unsigned integer, 32 bits or 64 bits
'float'	'float'	floating point, 32 bits.



## fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

---

- `array=fread(fid,[100 50],'float64');`



## fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

---

- fscanf: read formatted data in a specified format from a file

```
array=fscanf(fid,format)
```

```
array=fscanf(fid,format,size)
```





## fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

---

- **size**: specify the amount of data to be read
  - n**: read exactly n values. array will be a column vector containing n values
  - Inf**: read until the end of the file
  - [n m]**: read exactly  $n*m$  values, and format the data as an  $n*m$  array

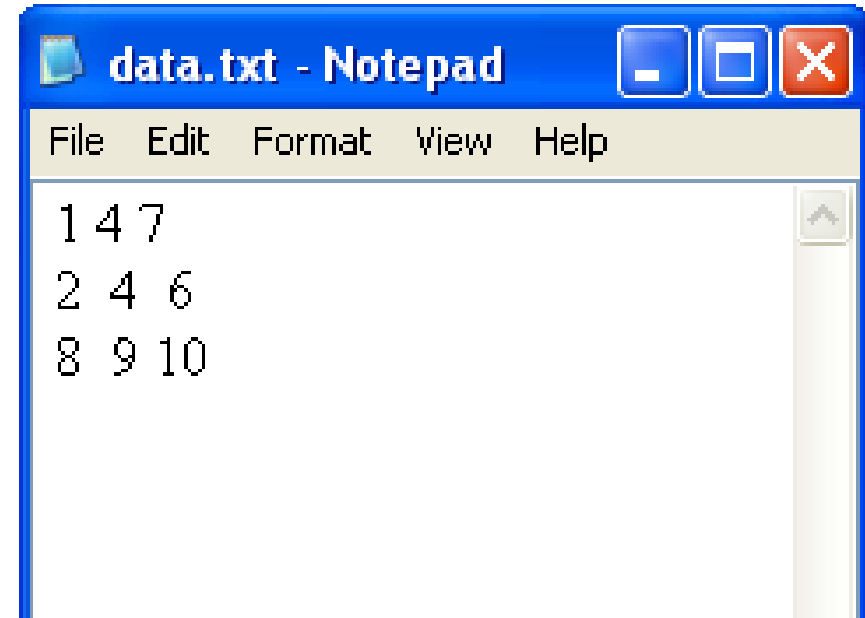


# fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

```
>> a=fscanf(fid,'%d')
```

```
a =
```

```
1  
4  
7  
2  
4  
6  
8  
9  
10
```



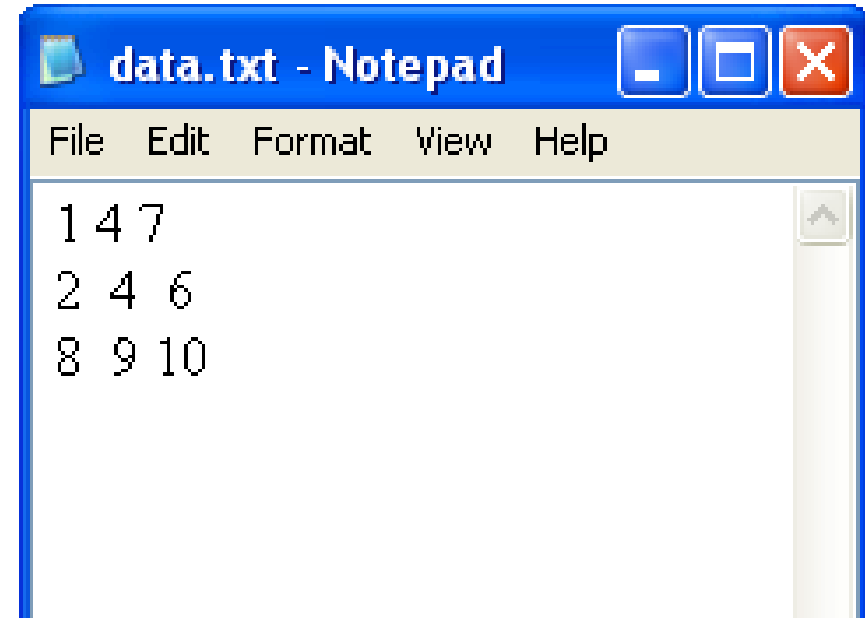


# fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

```
>> a=fscanf(fid,'%d', [1 9])
```

```
a =
```

```
1    4    7    2    4    6    8    9   10
```



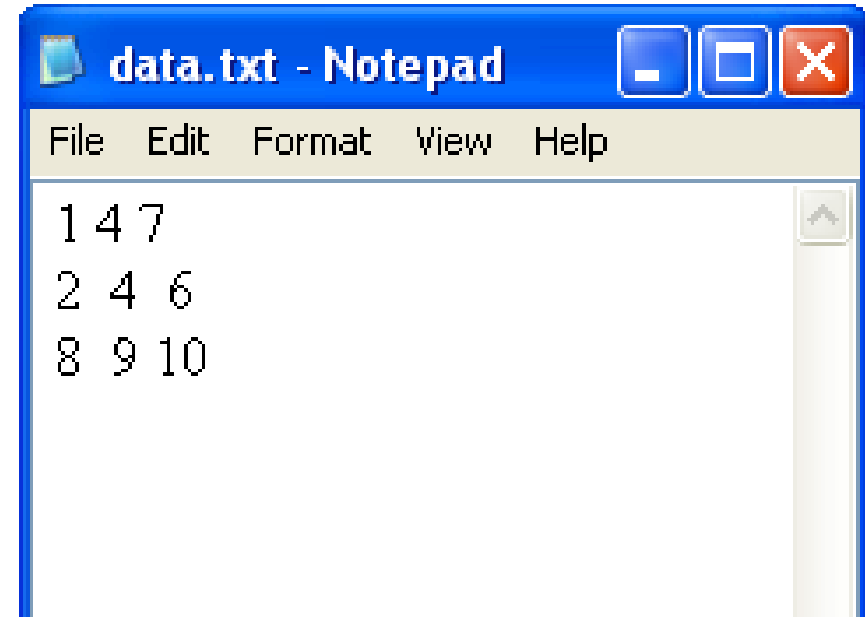


# fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

```
>> a=fscanf(fid,'%d',[3 3])
```

a =

1	2	8
4	4	9
7	6	10



# fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

```
a=fscanf(fid,'%f');
```

```
a=
```

```
1.21
```

```
4.32
```

```
7.38
```

```
2.56
```

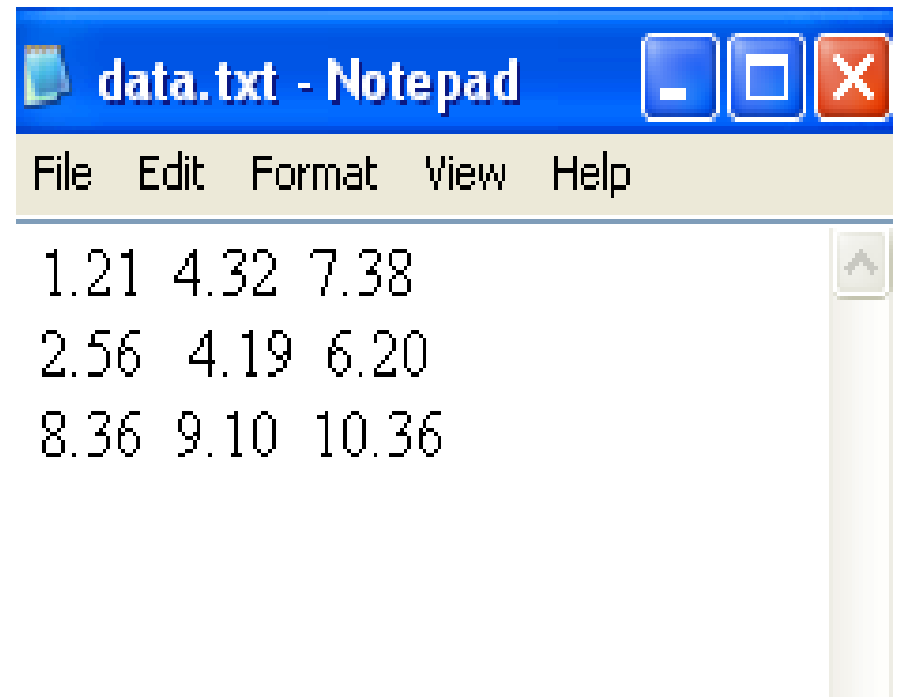
```
4.19
```

```
6.2
```

```
8.36
```

```
9.1
```

```
10.36
```

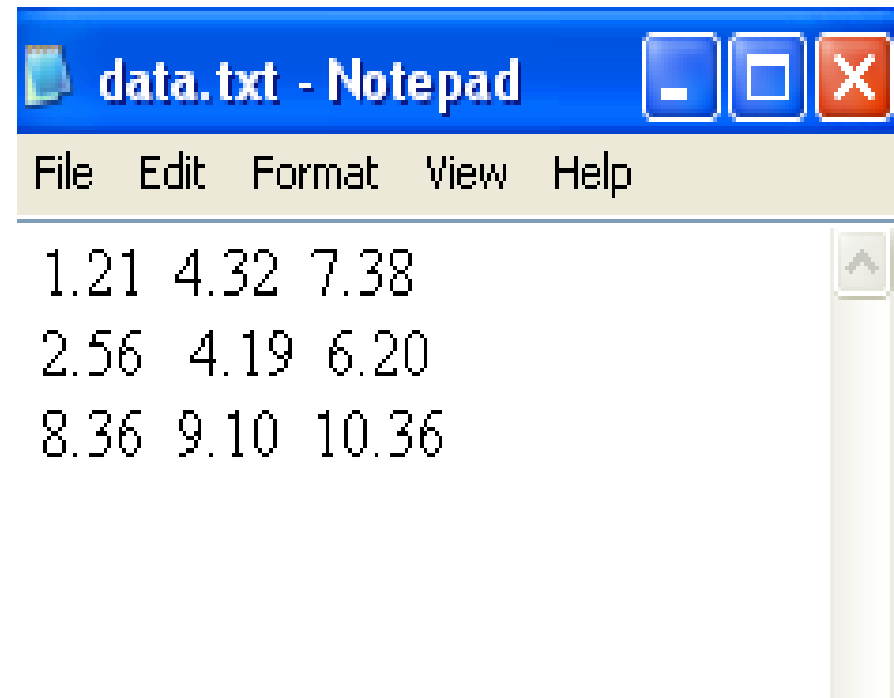


# fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

```
a=fscanf(fid,'%f',[3 3]);
```

```
a =
```

```
1.21    2.56    8.36  
4.32    4.19    9.1  
7.38    6.2     10.36
```



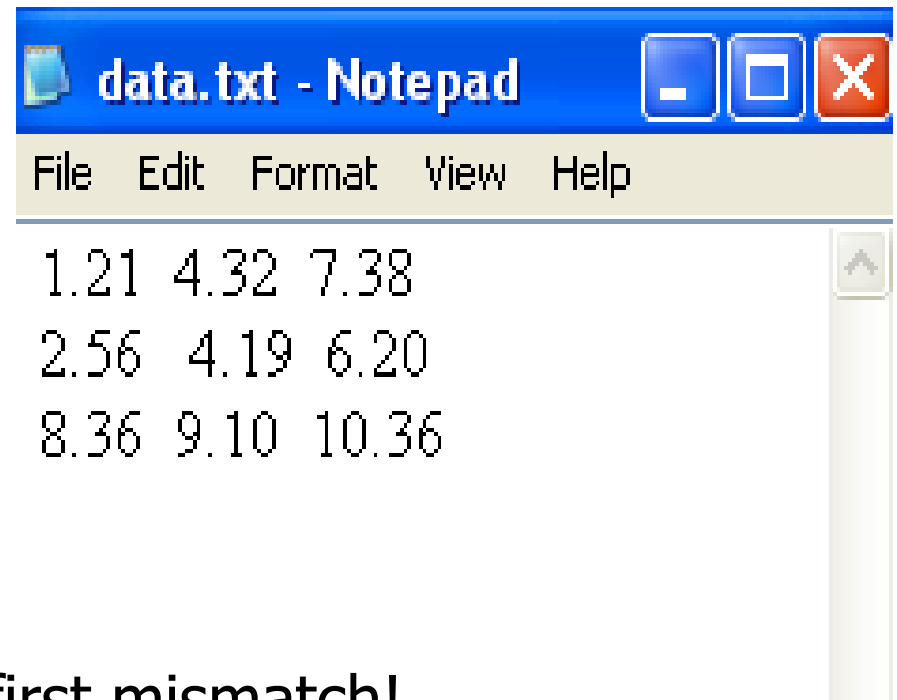
Read: column-by-column (行读列放)

# fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

```
a=fscanf(fid,'%d');
```

a =

1

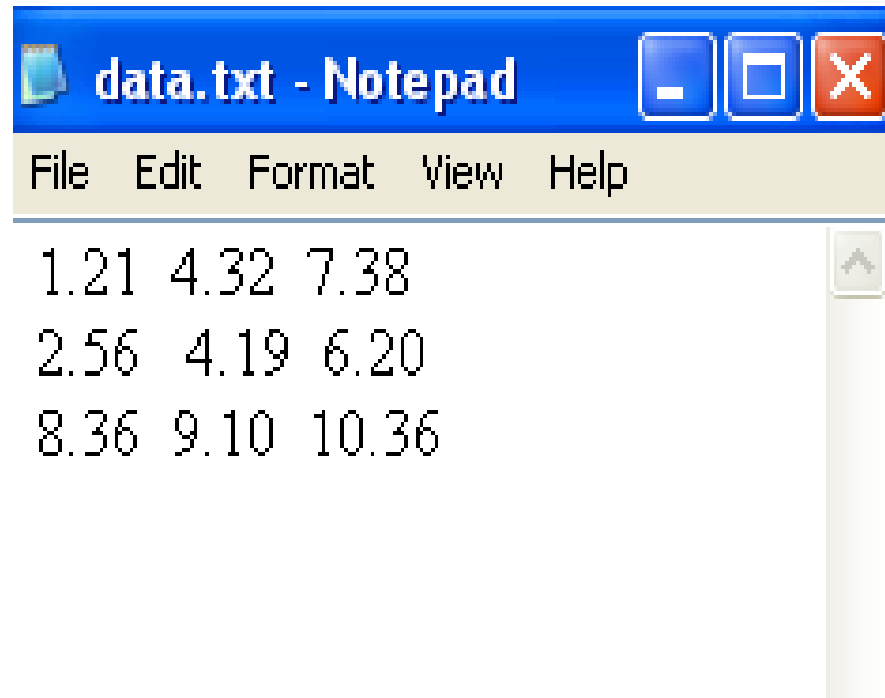


Because fscanf stops at the first mismatch!

# fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

```
a = fscanf(fid,'%d.%d');
```

1  
21  
4  
32  
7  
38  
2  
56  
4  
19  
6  
20  
8  
36  
9  
10  
10  
36



Delimiter [计] 定界符, 分隔符

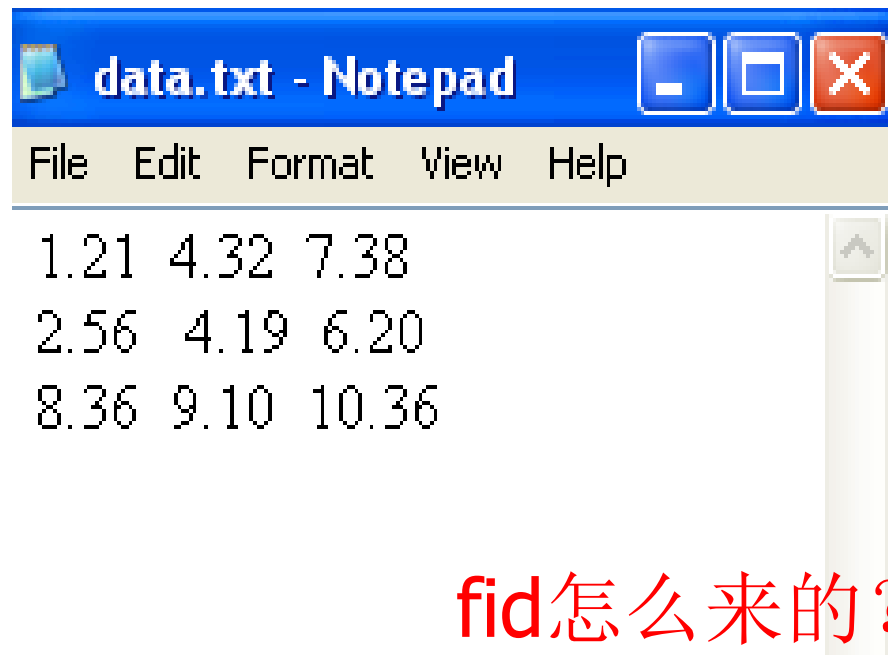


# fread and fscanf functions (Cont.)

```
a=fscanf(fid,'%s');
```

```
1.214.327.382.564.196.208.369.1010.36
```

The string specifier  
ignores **white-space**.



**fid怎么来的?**

```
fid=fopen('data.txt','r')
```



# fwrite and fprintf functions

---

- fwrite: writes **binary** data to a file

`fwrite(fid, array, precision);`

array: array values to be written out;

Matlab writes out data in **column order**, which means that the entire first column is written out, followed by the entire second column, and so forth.



## `fwrite` and `fprintf` functions (Cont.)

---

- for example, `array=[1 2 3;4 5 6]`
- data will be written out in the order:  
1 4 2 5 3 6

`fread`行读列放。 `fwrite`列读行放。 See back Page 30:  
column-by-column read-and-write!



## fwrite and fprintf functions (Cont.)

---

- fprintf function: writes **f**ormatted data in a user-specified format to a **f**ile

`fprintf(format,var1,var2,...)`



## fwrite and fprintf functions (Cont.)

---

```
var=10;
```

```
fprintf(fid,'%d',var);
```

```
var=10.256;
```

```
fprintf(fid,'%0.2f',var);
```

10.26

```
fprintf(fid,'%f',var);
```

10.256000

display 6 digits after the decimal place



## fwrite and fprintf functions (Cont.)

---

```
var='matlab';  
fprintf(fid,'%s',var)
```

```
var=10.256;  
fprintf(fid,'%d',var);
```

The specifier will be ignored and the number will be displayed in exponential format

```
1.025600e+001
```



# File Closing

---

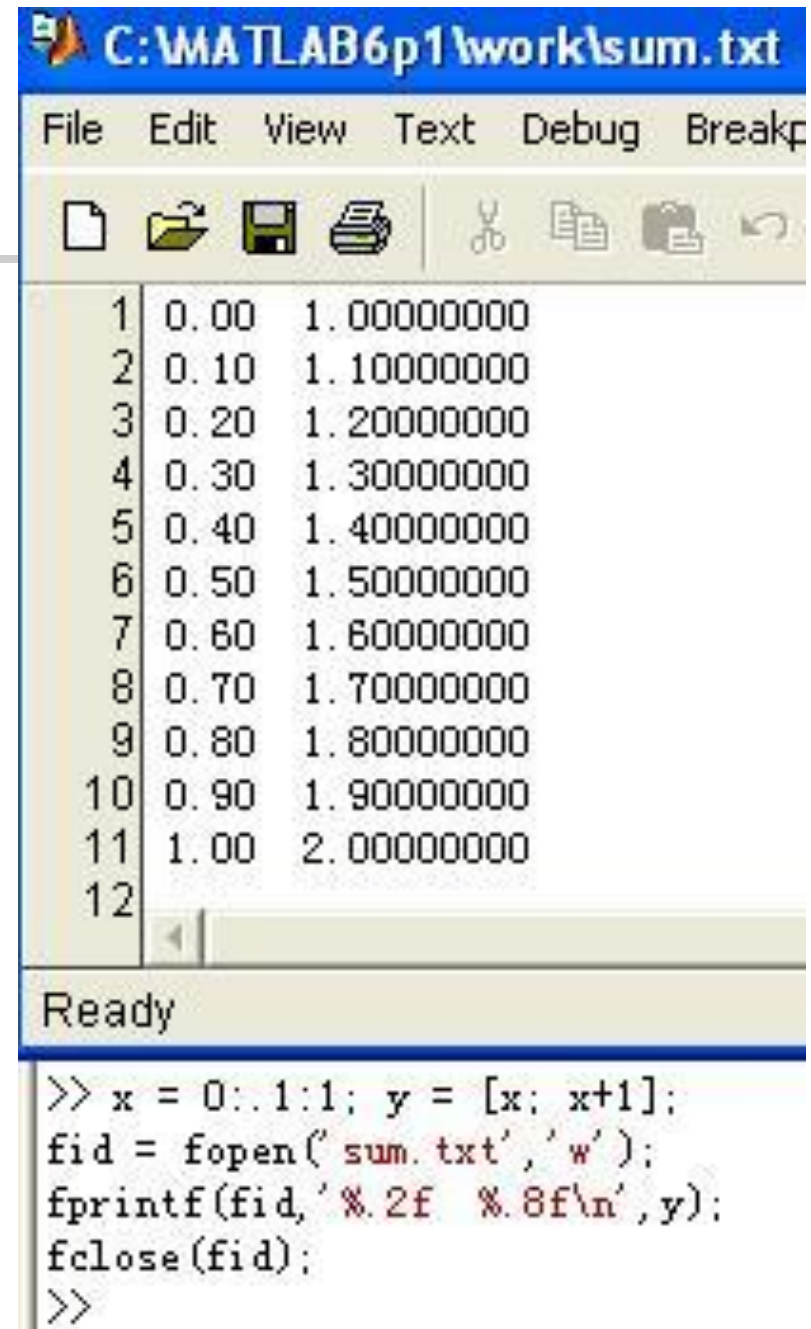
- `fclose(fid)`

**fid怎么来的？**

```
fid=fopen('data.txt','r')
```

# Example 1

```
x = 0:.1:1; y = [x; x+1];  
fid = fopen( 'sum.txt','w');  
fprintf(fid,'%.2f  %.8f\n',y);  
fclose(fid);
```



The image shows a MATLAB Editor window titled 'C:\MATLAB6p1\work\sum.txt'. The window displays the contents of the file 'sum.txt', which is a table with two columns and 11 rows of data. The first column contains values from 0.00 to 1.00 in increments of 0.10, and the second column contains values from 1.00000000 to 2.00000000 in increments of 0.10000000. The status bar at the bottom of the editor window shows 'Ready'.

1	0.00	1.00000000
2	0.10	1.10000000
3	0.20	1.20000000
4	0.30	1.30000000
5	0.40	1.40000000
6	0.50	1.50000000
7	0.60	1.60000000
8	0.70	1.70000000
9	0.80	1.80000000
10	0.90	1.90000000
11	1.00	2.00000000

The MATLAB Command Window at the bottom shows the following code being executed:

```
>> x = 0:.1:1; y = [x; x+1];  
fid = fopen('sum.txt','w');  
fprintf(fid,'%.2f  %.8f\n',y);  
fclose(fid);  
>>
```





## Example 1 (Cont.)

---

x: 1\*11

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 ... 1

y: 2\*11

0 0.1 0.2 0.3 ... 1

1 1.1 1.2 1.3 ... 2

sum.txt

0.00 1.00000000

0.10 1.10000000

0.20 1.20000000

0.30 1.30000000

0.40 1.40000000

0.50 1.50000000

0.60 1.60000000

0.70 1.70000000

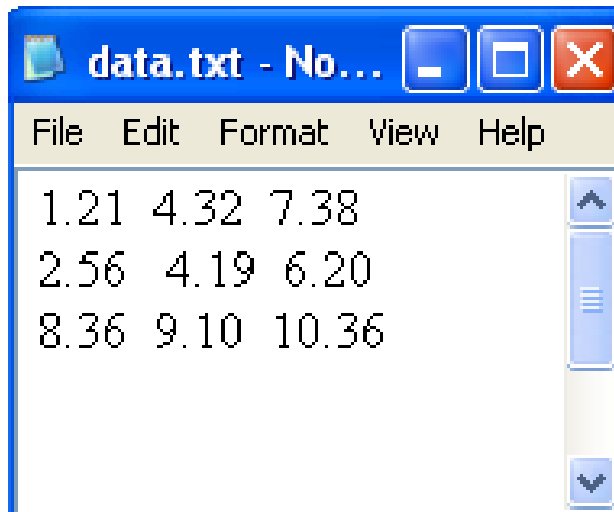
0.80 1.80000000

0.90 1.90000000

1.00 2.00000000

## Example 2

```
fid = fopen('data.txt','r');  
A=fscanf(fid,'%f',[3 3]);  
fclose(fid);
```



1.21	2.56	8.36
4.32	4.19	9.1
7.38	6.2	10.36

See back Pages 30 & 35: column-by-column read-&-write!

## Example 3

```
fid = fopen('data.txt','r');  
A=fscanf(fid,'%f');  
fclose(fid);
```

```
A=A+1;
```

```
fid = fopen('new_data.txt','w');  
fprintf(fid,'%0.6f\n',A);  
fclose(fid);
```

data.txt

1.21 4.32 7.38

A =

1.21

4.32

7.38

A =

2.21

5.32

8.38

new\_data.txt

2.210000

5.320000

8.380000

fscanf行读列放。fprintf列读行放



# Comparing formatted and binary I/O

---

	Formatted file	Binary file
■ display data on output devices	Y	N
Easily transport data between different computers	Y	N



# Comparing formatted and binary I/O (Cont.)

---

	Formatted file	Binary file
■ Require a relatively large amount of disk space	Y	N
Require a lot of computer time	Y slow	N fast
Truncation or rounding errors	Y large	N small



# Comparing formatted and binary I/O (Cont.)

---

- **Formatted file**: data that must be readable by humans or that must be transferable between programs
- **Binary file**: data that do not have to be directly examined and will remain only on one type of computer



# Comparing formatted and binary I/O (Cont.)

---

```
clear;  
array=randn(1,1000000);  
tic;  
  
fid=fopen('binary.dat','w');  
fwrite(fid,array,'float64');  
fclose(fid);  
  
time=toc;  
  
fprintf('Write time for binary file=%.10f\n',time);
```



# Comparing formatted and binary I/O (Cont.)

---

```
clear;  
array=randn(1,100000);  
tic;  
fid=fopen('formatted.dat','wt');  
fprintf(fid,'%0.15f\n',array);  
fclose(fid);  
time=toc;  
  
fprintf('Write time for formatted file=%0.10f\n',time);
```





# Comparing formatted and binary I/O (Cont.)

---

- Write time for binary file=0.0200000000
- Write time for formatted file=0.4910000000

$$0.491/0.02=24.55$$



# Comparing formatted and binary I/O (Cont.)

---

```
clear;
```

```
tic;
```

```
fid=fopen('binary.dat','r');
```

```
in_array=fread(fid,Inf,'float64');
```

```
fclose(fid);
```

```
time=toc;
```

```
fprintf('Read time for binary file=%.10f\n',time);
```



# Comparing formatted and binary I/O (Cont.)

---

```
clear;
```

```
tic;
```

```
fid=fopen('formatted.dat','r');
```

```
in_array=fscanf(fid,'%f',Inf);
```

```
fclose(fid);
```

```
time=toc;
```

```
fprintf('Read time for formatted file=%.10f\n',time);
```



# Comparing formatted and binary I/O (Cont.)

---

Read time for binary file=0.0000000000

Read time for formatted file=0.5710000000

读写之时间&内存的优化 vs 人类可理解程度



# The existing Function

---

- exist: Check for the existence of *a variable in workspace, a built-in function, or a file in the Matlab **search** path*

```
ident=exist('item');
```

```
ident=exist('item','type');
```

```
id=exist('formatted.dat');
```

```
id=exist('formatted.dat','file');
```

in search of 寻找



# The exist Function (Cont.)

---

- type:

'var' , 'builtin' , 'file' , 'dir'

- ident:

value

meaning

0	item not found
1	item is a variable in the current workspace
2	item is an m-file or a file of unknown type
3	item is a MEX file
4	item is a MDL file
5	item is a built-in function
6	item is a pcode file
7	item is a directory



# The feof Function

---

- feof: test to see if the current file position is at the end of the file

```
state=feof(fid);
```

1: the current file position is at the end of file

0: otherwise

F-E-o-F



# The fgetl Function

---

- `fgetl`: reads the next line **excluding** the end-of-line characters from a file as a character string.

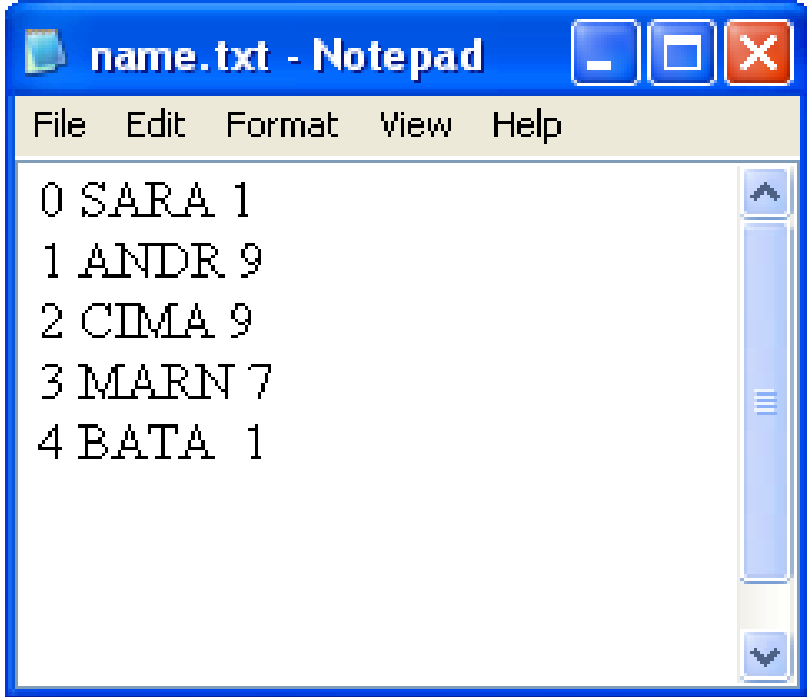
```
line=fgetl(fid);
```

If `fgetl` encounters the end of file,  
then the value of `line` is -1.



# The fgetl Function (Cont.)

```
fid=fopen('name.txt');  
while (~feof(fid))  
    tline = fgetl(fid);  
    disp(tline);  
end  
fclose(fid);
```



A screenshot of a Notepad window titled "name.txt - Notepad". The window has a menu bar with "File", "Edit", "Format", "View", and "Help". The text area contains five lines of data, each with an index number followed by a name and a value:

```
0 SARA 1  
1 ANDR 9  
2 CIMA 9  
3 MARN 7  
4 BATA 1
```

# The frewind Function

- **frewind**: reset a file's position to the beginning of the file

**frewind**(fid);

rewind  
[ri:'waɪnd]

vt.

(1) 重绕

n.

(2) 重绕

现代英汉词典

rewind  
[ri:'waɪnd]

vt.

(1) rewound

(2) 倒卷 (影片、磁带)



# Sincere Thanks!

---

- Using this group of PPTs, please read
- [1] Yunong Zhang, Weimu Ma, Xiao-Dong Li, Hong-Zhou Tan, Ke Chen, MATLAB Simulink modeling and simulation of LVI-based primal-dual neural network for solving linear and quadratic programs, Neurocomputing 72 (2009) 1679-1687
- [2] Yunong Zhang, Chenfu Yi, Weimu Ma, Simulation and verification of Zhang neural network for online time-varying matrix inversion, Simulation Modelling Practice and Theory 17 (2009) 1603-1617