Week 2 MATLAB Activities

Contents

Week 2 MATLAB Activities	1
Reading	
MATLAB Assignment Script	
Tutorial 1: fprintf	2
Tutorial 2: Scalar, Vector, and Matrix	6
Assignment 1: Average Speed Calculator	9
Assignment 2: Volume of a Sphere	10
Assignment 3: Constant Acceleration and Distance1	
Assignment Submission	11



Time required: 90 minutes

How to Create Screenshots: Please use the Snipping Tool. Paste a screenshot of just the program you are working on. If you are snipping a virtual machine, make sure your focus is outside the virtual machine before you snip.

- 1. Press and hold down the **Windows key** & **Shift**, then type **S.** This brings up the onscreen snipping tool.
- 2. Click and Drag your mouse around whatever you want to snip.
- 3. Release the mouse button. This places the snip into the Windows Clipboard.

Go into a blank Word document or wherever you want to paste the snip. Hold down CTRL, then type V to paste the snip.

Reading

Matlab A Practical Introduction to Programming and Problem Solving (Stormy Attaway)

Sections 1.5, 1.6, 1.7, 1.8

MATLAB Assignment Script

- 1. Create a MATLAB script named Wk02Lastname.m
- 2. Save all programs in this script.
- 3. Include your name and date at the top of the script file as comments.
- 4. Put a Section Break between each program.

Tutorial 1: fprintf

The MATLAB fprintf function allows for much more precise formatting of numbers.

```
% fprintf example with string and float
firstName = "Bob";
age = 45;
fprintf("%s is %.0f years old.\n", firstName, age)
```

Example run:

```
Bob is 45 years old.
```

There is more involved in the function **fprintf** in order to produce the output we want. Let's look at the individual pieces of this example.

- % signs are NOT for comments this time (note: they aren't green), they are now used as place holders for the data.
- **%s** indicates that a string is expected as input.
- **%f** indicates that a double is expected.
- %d indicates that an integer is expected.
- %.2f indicates that we expect a floating point numeric input and display 2 decimal points.
- \n is an "\escape character" that creates a New Line.
- **firstName** and **age** are listed after this, separated by commas.
- When the command is run, Matlab places the first data value, firstName (i.e. Bob), in the %s position and the second data value, age (i.e. 25), in the %.0f position.
 Got it?

Page 2 of 12 Revised: 2/1/2025

Hello World with the **fprintf** function. **fprintf** needs a \n new line character to move to the next line.

```
% Display a simple message
fprintf("Hello, MATLAB!\n");
fprintf("Time to code.\n");
```

Example run:

```
Hello, MATLAB!
Time to code.
```

An example of formatting integer numbers.

```
% Display integer values
x = 5;
y = 10;
fprintf("The values are x = %d and y = %d.\n", x, y);
```

Example run:

```
The values are x = 5 and y = 10.
```

- 1. The code defines two numeric variables, x and y, with values 5 and 10, respectively.
- 2. **fprintf** displays a message containing these numeric values.
- 3. % is the placeholder for the variable.
- 4. **d** formats integers.
- 5. The format specifier **%d** is used to indicate that the corresponding variables (x and y) should be treated as integers in the formatted output.

An example using floating point (decimal) numbers.

```
% Default floating-point
fprintf("Default: %f\n", pi);

% Scientific notation
fprintf("Scientific: %e\n", pi);

% Fixed-point with 2 decimal places
fprintf("Fixed-point: %.2f\n", pi);
```

Page 3 of 12 Revised: 2/1/2025

```
Default: 3.141593
Scientific: 3.141593e+00
Fixed-point: 3.14
```

- **%f** specifier is used to represent a floating-point number.
- **%e** specifier is used to display the value of pi in scientific notation.
- .2f is fixed-point notation and limits it to two decimal places.

You can also have multiple values. The order of values corresponds to the % symbol.

```
% Multiple values can be arranged in any order
started = 3;
gallons = 4;
miles = 5.02;
fprintf("Values: gallons=%d, started=%d, miles=%.2f\n", gallons, started, miles);
```

Example run:

```
Values: gallons=4, started=3, miles=5.02
```

Formatted Output

```
% fprintf Width and precision example
num1 = 123.456789;
num2 = 32123.456789;

% Minimum width of 10, 2 decimal places
fprintf("num1: %f\n", num1);
fprintf("num2: %f\n", num2);
fprintf("Width 10: %10.2f\n", num1);
fprintf("Width 10: %10.2f\n", num2);
```

- **fprintf('Width 10: %10.2f\n', num);** This line uses the **fprintf()** function to display the value of num in a formatted way.
- The format specifier **%10.2f** is used:
 - %10 specifies a minimum width of 10 characters for the entire output. If the number is less than 10 characters wide, spaces will be added to the left to meet the width requirement.

Page 4 of 12 Revised: 2/1/2025

- .2 specifies that the number should be displayed with two digits after the decimal point.
- f indicates that the variable being formatted (num in this case) is a floatingpoint number.

```
num1: 123.456789
num2: 32123.456789
Width 10: 123.46
Width 10: 32123.46
```

String formatting

```
name = "Alice";

% Normal string printing
fprintf("String: %s\n", name);

% String with specified width
fprintf("String (width 8): %8s\n", name);
```

Example run:

```
String: Alice
String (width 8): Alice
```

Common placeholders for fprintf()

Placeholder	Useage
% f	Fixed point output (Most commonly used placeholder)
% s	Outputs a series of characters or a string
% i	Outputs an integer
%e or %E	Scientific notation with "e" displayed as a lowercase or uppercase, respectively
%g	Fixed point output (like %f) without trailing zeros

Please use **fprintf** for the rest of the assignments and the class.

Page 5 of 12 Revised: 2/1/2025

Tutorial 2: Scalar, Vector, and Matrix

Vector and Matrix operations in MATLAB are much faster than in a traditional programming language. A traditional programming language would operate on each element one at a time. MATLAB operates on the entire vector or matrix all at once.

Add and run each example to your script.

Scalar

- Definition: A single numerical value.
- Declaration: scalar = 5;
- Example: **result = scalar * 10**; (Scalar multiplication)

```
% Scalar Declaration
scalarValue = 5;

% Scalar Operation
result = scalarValue * 10;

% Display Result
disp("Original value: " + scalarValue);
disp("Scalar multiplication: " + result);
```

Example run:

```
Original value: 5
Scalar multiplaction: 50
```

Vector

- Definition: An ordered array or set of numerical values.
- Declaration:
 - O Using Colons: myVector = 1:5;
 - Using linspace: myVector = linspace(0, 1, 4);
 - o Combining: myVector = [2, 4, 6];
- Example: resultVector = myVector + 3; (Element-wise addition)

Page 6 of 12 Revised: 2/1/2025

```
% Vector Declaration with square brackets
myVector = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5];
disp("Vector Declaration:")
disp(myVector)

% Vector Operation (Element-wise Addition)
% Add 3 to each element of the vector
resultVector = myVector + 3;

% Display Result of calculation
disp("Vector Addition:")
disp(resultVector);
```

```
      Vector Declaration:
      1
      2
      3
      4
      5

      Vector Addition:
      4
      5
      6
      7
      8
```

```
% Vector Declaration using the : (colon) operator
% Define the range of values from 1 to 10 with default increments of 1
% x = startValue:step:endValue;
% x = 0:10;
myVector = 1:10;
disp("Vector: ")
disp(myVector)

% Vector Operation (Element-wise multiplication)
resultVector = myVector * 3;

% Display Result
disp(resultVector);
```

Example run:

Page 7 of 12 Revised: 2/1/2025

```
% Vector Declaration using the : (colon) operator
% Define the range of values from 1 to 10 with default increments of 1
% x = startValue:step:endValue;
% x = 0:10;
myVector = 1:10;
disp("Vector: ")
disp(myVector)

% Vector Operation (Element-wise multiplication)
resultVector = myVector * 3;

% Display Result
disp("Vector multiplication: ");
disp(resultVector);
```

Matrix

- Definition: A two-dimensional array of numerical values.
- Declaration:
 - Using square brackets: myMatrix = [1, 2; 3, 4];
 - Using zeros or ones functions: myMatrix = zeros(2, 3);
- Example: **resultMatrix = myMatrix * 2**; (Scalar multiplication for each element)

Operations

- Scalar Operations:
 - Addition: scalarResult = scalar1 + scalar2;
 - Multiplication: scalarResult = scalar1 * scalar2;`
- Vector Operations:
 - Element-wise Addition: resultVector = vector1 + vector2;
 - Scalar Multiplication: resultVector = scalar * vector;
- Matrix Operations:
 - Element-wise Addition: resultMatrix = matrix1 + matrix2;
 - Scalar Multiplication: resultMatrix = scalar * matrix;
 - Matrix Multiplication: resultMatrix = matrix1 * matrix2;

Page 8 of 12 Revised: 2/1/2025

```
% Matrix Declaration using Square Brackets
myMatrix = [1, 2; 3, 4];

% Matrix Operation (Element-wise multiplication)
resultMatrix = myMatrix * 2;

% Original matrix
disp("Original matrix: ");
disp(myMatrix);

% Display Result
disp("Result matrix: ")
disp(resultMatrix);
```

Indexing

- Scalar: No indexing required.
- Vector: Access elements by index, e.g., element = myVector(3);
- Matrix: Access elements by row and column indices, e.g.,
 element = myMatrix(2, 1);

Assignment 1: Average Speed Calculator

Include comments in your code to explain each step.

Average Speed (S) = Distance/Time

- 1. Create variables distance and time
- 2. Get input from the user.
- 3. Calculate average speed. Assign to variable.
- 4. Use the **fprintf()** function to display average speed to 2 decimal places.

Page 9 of 12 Revised: 2/1/2025

```
---- Average Speed Calculation ----
Enter the distance (in meters): 2.365
Enter the time (in seconds): 10
The average speed is: 0.24 meters per second
>> Wk02AverageSpeed
---- Average Speed Calculation ----
Enter the distance (in meters): 1.254
Enter the time (in seconds): 10.56
The average speed is: 0.12 meters per second
```

Assignment 2: Volume of a Sphere

Write a script that will calculate the volume of a sphere with user input.

$$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi r^3$$

Example run:

```
--- Calculate Volume of a Sphere ---
Please enter the radius: 2.5
The volume of the sphere with radius 2.50 units is 65.45 cubic units.
--- Calculate Volume of a Sphere ---
Please enter the radius: 3.254
The volume of the sphere with radius 3.25 units is 144.32 cubic units.
```

Assignment 3: Constant Acceleration and Distance

Include comments in your code to explain each step.

The distance formula is from kinematics, a branch of physics that deals with the motion of objects. The distance formula can be used to calculate the distance traveled by an object under constant acceleration over a certain period of time.

Assuming the initial velocity is 0 gives us this simpler distance formula. Here's a breakdown of the equation:

$$d=0.5at^2$$
 where $d=$ distance, $a=$ acceleration, $t=$ time

Page 10 of 12 Revised: 2/1/2025

- **distance:** This represents the total distance traveled by the object in a given time interval.
- **0.5:** This constant factor, also represented as 1221, is a result of the integration process when dealing with constant acceleration in physics.
- **acceleration:** This is the rate at which the object's velocity changes per unit of time. It is a crucial parameter influencing the object's motion.
- **time:** This term accounts for the squared time duration during which the object experiences the specified acceleration. Squaring the time is necessary when dealing with constant acceleration scenarios.

Unit Conversions

$$1 ft/s^2 = 0.3048 m/s^2 \text{ or } 1 m/s^2 = 3.28084 ft/s^2$$

- 1. Convert the above formula into MATLAB.
- 2. Get **acceleration** in ft per second squared and **time** in seconds from the user.
- 3. Convert from imperial to metric. Assign to variable.
- 4. Calculate distance. Assign to a variable.
- 5. Display the final distance using fprintf(). Display to 2 decimal places.

Example runs:

```
Enter acceleration (ft/s^): 2.5
Enter the time (seconds): 12.3
Acceleration (m/s^) is 0.76
Time (seconds) is 12.30
Distance (m) is 57.64
```

```
Enter acceleration (ft/s^): 120.1
Enter the time (seconds): 32.6
Acceleration (m/s^) is 36.61
Time (seconds) is 32.60
Distance (m) is 19451.95
```

Assignment Submission

1. Submit properly named and commented script file.

Page 11 of 12 Revised: 2/1/2025

2.	Attach a text file showing the successful execution of each script.
3.	Attach all to the assignment in Blackboard.

Page 12 of 12 Revised: 2/1/2025