University of Applied Sciences



Mathematical Modelling Functions in Matlab & Numerical integration Ronald Tangelder, Jan de Wilde

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Outline today

- Functions in MATLAB
- Numerical Integration
- Execution time
 - Matrix style versus standard programming style
 - Measuring execution time with tic and toc
 - Measuring execution time with by using the profiler





Matlab functions

 If you want to make a function in Matlab, you should make a separate Matlab file with the <u>same name</u> as the function (unless we use an inline function (see later))

 This separate Matlab file should be (placed) in the working directory to be able to be used (or in a directory, which is included in the search path).





Matlab functions: search order

 1st: function defined in same m-file or mlxfile (at the end of the file, be careful: can overrule a built-in function)

• 2nd: built-in function

• 3rd: function in the same directory

4th: function somewhere else in the path





A simple function (1)

```
function result=doubleIt(a)
% This comment line gives help info
% This comment line gives help info too
  result = 2*a;
```

end

- Unlike C++ and Java, there is no declaration of variables.
- Variable names should match.
- The scope (of result and a) is limited to the body of the function, i.e. outside the function result and a are unknown.





A simple function (2)

```
function result=doubleIt(a)
% This comment line gives help info
% This comment line gives help info too
  result = 2*a;
```

end

- Choose a function name which does not exist yet as built-in function.
- Help text (starting with a %) should be placed directly after the header; The help text will be returned, if you call help followed by the corresponding function name



A simple function (3)

```
function result=doubleIt(a)
% This comment line gives help info
% This comment line gives help info too
  result = 2*a;
end
 >> help doubleIt
   This comment line gives help info
   This comment line gives help info too
 >> b=doubleIt([1 2])
 b =
```





Another simple function (1)

```
function [result2, result3] = doubleAndTripleIt(a)
% This comment line gives help info
% This comment line gives help info too
  % result2 is twice times a
  result2 = 2*a;
  % result3 is triple times a
  result3 = 3*a;
end
```

Multiple return values are possible



Another simple function (2)

```
>> [d,t]=doubleAndTripleIt([1 2])
```

2 /

t =

36





function end

In the current version of Matlab, a function will always finish with an end statement.

In previous versions, it was not needed (Matlab knew that the function ended at the end of the m-file).

To support backwards compatibility, it is not strictly necessary (unless you have multiple functions at the end of a file, i.s.o. in one separate file per function). However, it is highly recommended to do so.





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If integration doesn't succeed

- There are (mathematical) functions of which the primitive (function) can not be found, or at least, not easily be found.
- Example: $f(x) = e^{-x^2}$
- How can we nevertheless calculate an area
- -2.5 -2 -1.5 -1 -0.5 0 0.5 1 1.5 2
 - e. g. between x = -1 and x = 1?
- This can be done by numerical integration: approximation of the definite integral:
 - Divide the interval in little pieces Δx
 - Make rectangles with width Δx and height f(x)
 - Add the areas of the rectangles.



Approximation in Matlab

> dx=0.1; % width of each rectangle
> x=[-1:dx:1-dx]; % top left corners
> f=exp(-x.^2);
> rectangles=f.*dx;
> area=sum(rectangles)



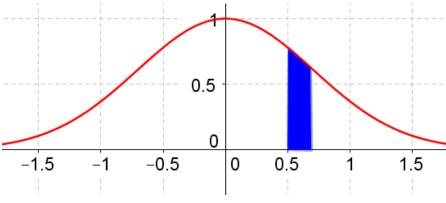
Better approximation in Matlab

```
> dx=0.01; % width of each rectangle
x=[-1:dx:1-dx]; % top left corners
\rightarrow f=exp(-x.^2);
 rectangles=f.*dx;
> area=sum(rectangles)
area = 1.4936
(which is more precise than 1.4924)
```



Trapezium

- A trapezium (trapezoid in American English) is a quadrangle of which two sides are parallel.
- Instead of placing rectangles under the graph, we can better use 'slant cut off rectangles':
- So that will be a trapezium (trapezoid)
- The area of a trapezium (trapezoid) is composed of the area of a rectangle and a triangle
- Matlab provides us with a standard command:
- trapz(x,y)





Example with trapz

```
> dx=0.01;
> x=-1:dx:1; % all top corners
> f=exp(-x.^2);
> area=trapz(x,f)
area = 1.4936
```





Integration with integral (1)

If we use an *inline function* (also called anonymous function) in Matlab, integration can be done very easily and very precisely by using the built-in integral command.

Example: the inline function of $f(x) = e^{-x^2}$

$$f = 0(x) \exp(-x.^2)$$





Integration with integral (2)

We would like to approximate the following integral numerically:

```
\int_{-1}^{1} e^{-x^{2}} dx
>> f = @(x) exp(-x.^2);

>> area = integral(f,-1,1)

area = 1.4936
```





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sumpos using matrices

```
function y = sumpos(x)
% This function calculates the sum of
% all positive elements of an input vector
  help1 = x>0;
  help2 = x.*help1;
  y = sum(help2);
end
```



sumpos using for-loop

```
function y = sumpos2(x)
% This function calculates the sum of
% all positive elements of an input vector
  auxSum=0;
  for i = 1: length(x)
    if x(i) > 0
        auxSum=auxSum+x(i);
    end
  end
  y = auxSum;
```

end

2024–2025 Functions in Matlab & Numerical integration





A script with tic and toc

```
%% tic toc script
clc
v=randi([-255 255],[1 1e6]);
tic
sumpos(v)
toc
tic
sumpos2(v)
toc
```





Output from toc

```
ans = 63860606
```

Elapsed time is 0.011974 seconds.

```
ans = 63860606
```

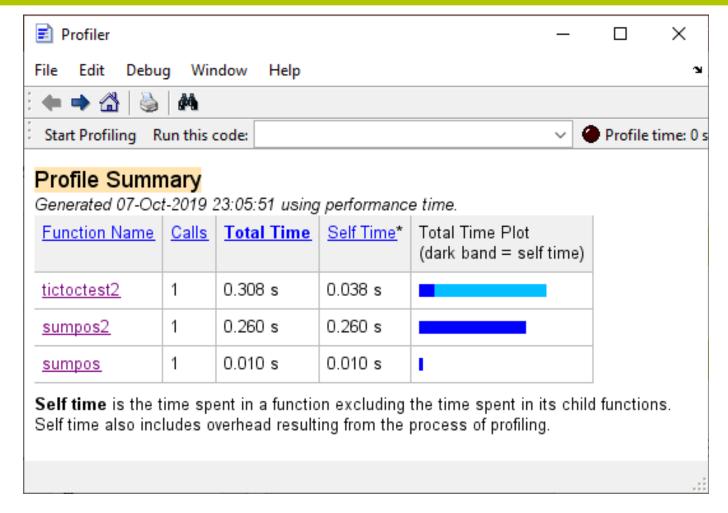
Elapsed time is 0.261144 seconds.





Output from the profiler





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Questions

