

# Scilab

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# Introduction

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A free alternative to MATLAB

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A free alternative to MATLAB

## What can it do?

- ① Advanced calculator
- ② Programming
- ③ Plotting, visualisation

# Simple calculations

Try out these and see if they give expected results

```
1 2+3-4
2 4^2
3 4**4
4 6/4
5 2+(2^2-(1/2))
6 1e-3 + 1d-2
```

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5 2+(2^2-(1/2))
6 1e-3 + 1d-2
```

See what happens when you add a semicolon

```
6/4;
```

# Variables

All calculations are stored by default in `ans`

```
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ans
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# Variables

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```
6/4;  
ans
```

You can specify a variable to store the value instead

```
pi_approx = 22/7;
```

And see its value later

```
pi_approx  
disp(pi_approx)
```

# More on variables

Some useful pre-defined variables

```
1 %pi
2 %e
3 %i
4 %t
5 %f
6 %inf
7 %nan
8 %eps
```



# Pre-defined functions

See if the outputs of these lines are as expected

```
1 abs(-2)
2 min(3,4,5)
3 max(-2,-3,-4)
4 sin(%pi/2)
5 cos(%pi)
6 tan(%pi/4)
7 asin(1)/(%pi/2)
8 exp(2)/%e^2
9 log10(100)
10 log(%e)
```

Auto-completion: hit **TAB**

## Other Scilab windows

- ▶ Variable Browser
  - Only lists user-defined variables
  - To list all variables:

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whos
```

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- Execute an old command by double clicking
- Can also navigate using ↑ and ↓ keys
- Clear screen using `clc`

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## ► File Browser

- Useful when working with multiple files



# Basic matrix creation

Wrap inside `[]`, use `,` and `;` to separate columns and rows

```
x = [1,2,3]
y = [4;5;6;7]
A = [1,0;0,1]
```



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Scilab will warn you if the dimensions are inconsistent

```
B = [1,2,3;4,5]
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Adding `'` will transpose the matrix

```
B = [1,2,3;4,5,6];
B'
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Adding `'` will transpose the matrix

```
B = [1,2,3;4,5,6];
B'
```

You can fill matrices with pre-existing matrices

```
row1 = [1,2,3,4];
row2 = [5,6,7,8];
M = [row1;row2]
```



# Special functions for matrix creation

## Creating ranges

```
i = 1:10  
j = 1:2:10  
x = 0:0.1:1  
y = linspace(0,1,25)
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Some useful commands for creating dummy matrices of required size

```
A = zeros(2,2)  
B = ones(3,2)  
M = eye(3,3)
```

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Some useful commands for creating dummy matrices of required size

```
A = zeros(2,2)  
B = ones(3,2)  
M = eye(3,3)
```

Can you make sense of this result?

```
M = [[zeros(1,2); ones(1,2); eye(2,2)], ones(4,1)]
```



# Matrix operations

Scalar operations affect all elements  
of matrices

```
A = eye(3,3);
```

```
A*2
```

```
A/4
```

```
A+5
```



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A = eye(3,3);  
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Scilab automatically figures out matrix operations too

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B = 2*ones(3,3)  
A+B  
A*B  
B^2
```



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B = 2*ones(3,3)  
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```

Special element wise operations

```
A.+B  
A.*B  
A.^B  
A./B  
A.^2
```

How is `A^2` different from `A.^2` ?



# Matrix functions

Most Scilab functions can operate element-wise on matrices

```
A = %pi/2*[0,1;2,3];  
sin(A)
```





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Some special functions for matrices

```
length(A)  
size(A)  
sum(A)  
det(A)  
inv(A)  
trace(A)
```



# Matrix indexing

Access elements using `(row, col)`

```
A = eye(3,3);
```

```
A(1,2) = 2;
```

```
A
```

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A single index can also be used:  
increments column-wise

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Extract rows and columns using :

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A(:,2)  
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Special symbol \$

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A($,3)
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Arrays can also be used to access  
and modify

```
A([1,2],2)  
A(4,:) = [10,20,30]
```

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Access elements using (row, col)

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Arrays can also be used to access  
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```
A([1,2],2)  
A(4,:) = [10,20,30]
```

See if this makes sense

```
A = eye(4,4);  
j = [2,4];  
A(1,j) = j  
A([7,8]) = 50  
A($,$) = -1  
B = [9,10;j];  
A(B) = 100
```

# Strings

Wrap in `" "` or `' '`

```
fname = "Vachan";  
lname = 'Potluri';  
fname + lname
```



# Strings

Wrap in `" "` or `' '`

```
fname = "Vachan";  
lname = 'Potluri';  
fname + lname
```

Function `string` converts variables to strings

```
A = eye(2,2)  
string(A)
```

# Saving and loading data

Scilab has a working directory

```
| pwd
```

Working directory can be changed from File Browser (and also using `cd` or `chdir`)

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Function `save` saves user-defined variables to a file in working directory

```
| x = 1.5;  
| A = [1,2;3,4]  
| save("data.dat")
```

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```

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Function `save` saves user-defined variables to a file in working directory

```
| x = 1.5;  
| A = [1,2;3,4]  
| save("data.dat")
```

These variables can be loaded for use later

```
| listvarinfile("data.dat")  
| load("data.dat")
```

# Accessing help

Scilab's built-in help functionality is very useful

```
help
```

```
help save
```

# Exercises<sup>1</sup>

## Exercise 1

The pressure drop  $\Delta p$  required for a flow rate  $Q$  in a pipe of diameter  $D$  is

$$\Delta p = 4.52 \frac{Q^{1.85}}{C^{1.7} D^{4.87}}$$

Find  $\Delta p$  for these combinations of flow rates and diameters:

- ▶  $Q = 50, 100, 200, 400$  and  $1000$
- ▶  $D = 0.5, 1, 1, 2$  and  $4$

---

<sup>1</sup>Amos Gilat. *MATLAB: An Introduction with Applications*. 6th ed. Wiley, 2017.

# Exercises<sup>1</sup>

## Exercise 3

The pressure drop  $\Delta p$  required for a flow rate  $Q$  in a pipe of diameter  $D$  is

$$\Delta p = 4.52 \frac{Q^{1.85}}{C^{1.7} D^{4.87}}$$

Find  $\Delta p$  for these combinations of flow rates and diameters:

- $Q = 50, 100, 200, 400$  and  $1000$
- $D = 0.5, 1, 1, 2$  and  $4$

## Exercise 4

A magic square is a matrix in which all rows, columns and diagonals sum to same number.

- ① Generate a magic square of size 10
- ② Verify its properties

Hint: search Scilab help for the function `testmatrix`

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## SciNotes: built-in editor

- ▶ Console is only useful for short calculations
- ▶ A single file containing all commands is useful for large calculations





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- ▶ A single file containing all commands is useful for large calculations
- ▶ Scilab can do this through “scripts” or “executables”
- ▶ SciNotes is Scilab’s builtin-in GUI for handling scripts
- ▶ Customary to save such files with `.sce` extension

# Conditional statements

Can you make sense of this?

```
x=6;  
remainder = modulo(x,3);  
  
if remainder==0 then  
    disp("3 divides x")  
elseif remainder==1 then  
    disp("x leaves reminder 1 when divided by 3")  
else  
    disp("x leaves reminder 2 when divided by 3")  
end
```

Hint: look at help for function `modulo`

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end
```

Hint: look at help for function `modulo`

Logical expressions generally use

`==`, `~=`, `<`, `<=`, `>`, `>=`, `&&`, `||`, `%t`, `%f`

# Loops

```
1 array = 1:10;  
2 value = 5;  
3  
4 for a=array  
5     if value==a then  
6         disp("Value  
↪exists in array");  
7         break;  
8     end  
9 end
```

What does `break` statement do?

# Loops

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Scilab always loops over columns

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```

What does `break` statement do?

Scilab always loops over columns

```
1 array=[1;2;3]  
2 i=1;  
3 for a=array  
4     disp("Element " +  
↪string(i) + ":")  
5     disp(a)  
6     i = i+1;  
7 end
```



# Functions

```
function [Tf,Tk] = centigradeToFarenhietKelvin(Tc)
    Tf = Tc*9/5 + 32;
    Tk = Tc + 273;
endfunction

[Tf,Tk] = centigradeToFarenhietKelvin(37);
disp(Tf)
disp(Tk)
```

Here `Tf` and `Tk` are the “return” values; `Tc` is the parameter

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disp(Tf)
disp(Tk)
```

Here `Tf` and `Tk` are the “return” values; `Tc` is the parameter

Can also have multiple parameters

```
function s = sum(a,b)
    s = a+b;
endfunction
disp(sum(1,2));
```