

MATLAB for Beginners

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- To access the updated lecture notes, please click on the following link:
<https://yasirbhutta.github.io/matlab/docs/graphics.html>

Functions

A function is a self-contained block of code that performs a specific task and can be called upon multiple times within your program. In MATLAB, functions can be defined using the function keyword followed by the function name, input arguments (optional), output arguments (optional), and the function body. Here's the basic structure:

```
function [output_arguments] = function_name(input_arguments)
    % Function body
    % Your code here...
    % ...
    % Perform calculations, data manipulation, etc.
    % ...
end
```

Description:

- **function keyword:** This tells MATLAB that you are defining a function.
- **output_arguments:** This is an optional comma-separated list of variables that will store the results of the function's calculations. These variables will be accessible outside the function.
- **function_name:** This is the name of your function. Choose a descriptive name that reflects what the function does.
- **input_arguments:** This is an optional comma-separated list of variables that will be passed to the function when it is called. These variables will be accessible inside the function.
- **% Function body:** This is the main part of your function, where you write the code that performs the desired task. You can use any MATLAB commands and functions within the function body.
- **end:** This marks the end of your function definition.

Important: This declaration statement must be the first executable line of the function. Valid function names begin with an alphabetic character, and can contain letters, numbers, or underscores.

Example - Simple function to square a number:

```
function square(x)
    result = x * x;
end
```

This function takes a number as input and returns its square. You can call the function like this:

```
y = square(5);
```

The variable `y` will now contain the value 25.

Example - Function to calculate the area of a rectangle:

```
function area = rectangleArea(width, height)
    area = width * height;
end
```

This function takes the width and height of a rectangle as inputs and returns its area. You can call the function like this:

```
area = rectangleArea(3, 4);
```

The variable `area` will now contain the value 12.

Example - Function to convert Celsius to Fahrenheit:

```
function fahrenheit = celsiusToFahrenheit(celsius)
    fahrenheit = (celsius * 9/5) + 32;
end
```

This function takes a temperature in Celsius as input and returns the equivalent temperature in Fahrenheit. You can call the function like this:

```
fahrenheit = celsiusToFahrenheit(20);
```

The variable `fahrenheit` will now contain the value 68.

Example - Calculates the area of a circle:

```
function area = circle_area(radius)
    % Calculate the area of a circle
    area = pi * radius^2;
end
```

You can call the function like this:

```
% Example usage
radius = 5;
my_area = circle_area(radius);
disp(['The area of the circle is:', num2str(my_area)]);
```

4. Function to find the minimum value in a list:

```
function minValue = findMin(data)
    minValue = data(1);
    for i = 2:length(data)
        if data(i) < minValue
            minValue = data(i);
        end
    end
end
```

This function takes a list of numbers as input and returns the smallest number in the list. You can call the function like this:

```
data = [5, 1, 8, 3];
minVal = findMin(data);
```

The variable `minVal` will now contain the value 1.

True/False (Mark T for True and F for False)

Multiple Choice (Select the best answer)

Exercises

Review Questions

References and Bibliography

- [Declare function name, inputs, and outputs - MathWorks Help Center](#)