

PowerPoint to accompany

Introduction to MATLAB for Engineers, Third Edition

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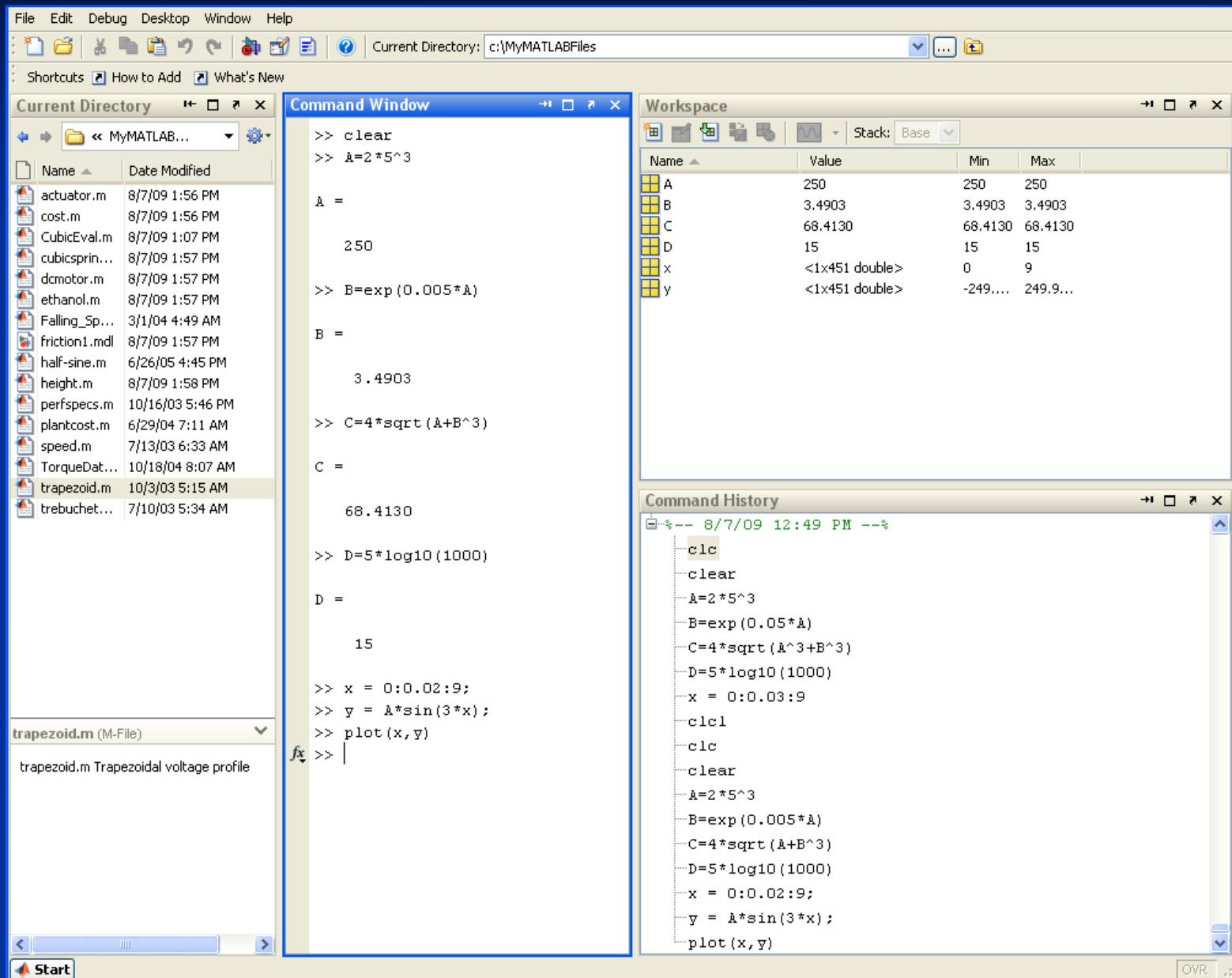
Chapter 1

An Overview of MATLAB®



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The Default MATLAB



Entering Commands and Expressions

- MATLAB retains your previous keystrokes.
- Use the up-arrow key to scroll back through the commands.
- Press the key once to see the previous entry, and so on.
- Use the down-arrow key to scroll forward. Edit a line using the left- and right-arrow keys the **Backspace** key, and the **Delete** key.
- Press the **Enter** key to execute the command.

Scalar arithmetic operations

Symbol	Operation	MATLAB form
$^$	exponentiation: a^b	a^b
$*$	multiplication: ab	$a*b$
$/$	right division: $a/b = \frac{a}{b}$	a/b
\backslash	left division: $a\backslash b = \frac{b}{a}$	$a\backslash b$
$+$	addition: $a + b$	$a+b$
$-$	subtraction: $a - b$	$a-b$

An Example Session

```
>> 8/10
ans =
    0.8000
>> 5*ans
ans =
    4
>> r=8/10
r =
    0.8000
>> r
r =
    0.8000
>> s=20*r
s =
    16
```

Order of precedence

Precedence	Operation
First	Parentheses, evaluated starting with the innermost pair.
Second	Exponentiation, evaluated from left to right.
Third	Multiplication and division with equal precedence, evaluated from left to right.
Fourth	Addition and subtraction with equal precedence, evaluated from left to right.

Examples of Precedence

```
>> 8 + 3*5
```

```
ans =
```

```
23
```

```
>> 8 + (3*5)
```

```
ans =
```

```
23
```

```
>>(8 + 3)*5
```

```
ans =
```

```
55
```

```
>>4^2128/4*2
```

```
ans =
```

```
0
```

```
>>4^212 8/ (4*2)
```

```
ans =
```

```
3
```

Examples of Precedence,

```
>> 3*4^2 + 5
```

```
ans =
```

```
53
```

```
>>(3*4)^2 + 5
```

```
ans =
```

```
149
```

```
>>27^(1/3) + 32^(0.2)
```

```
ans =
```

```
5
```

```
>>27^(1/3) + 32^0.2
```

```
ans =
```

```
5
```

```
>>27^1/3 + 32^0.2
```

```
ans =
```

```
11
```

Commands for managing the work session

Table

Command	Description
clc	Clears the Command window.
clear	Removes all variables from memory.
clear var1 var2	Removes the variables var1 and var2 from memory.
exist('name')	Determines if a file or variable exists having the name 'name'.
quit	Stops MATLAB.
who	Lists the variables currently in memory.
whos	Lists the current variables and sizes, and indicates if they have imaginary parts.
:	Colon; generates an array having regularly spaced elements.
,	Comma; separates elements of an array.
;	Semicolon; suppresses screen printing; also denotes a new row in an array.
...	Ellipsis; continues a line.

Special variables and constants

Table

Command	Description
ans	Temporary variable containing the most recent answer.
eps	Specifies the accuracy of floating point precision.
i,j	The imaginary unit $\sqrt{-1}$.
Inf	Infinity.
NaN	Indicates an undefined numerical result.
pi	The number π .

Complex Number Operations,

- The number $c_1 = 1 - 2i$ is entered as follows:
 $c1 = 12i$.
- An asterisk is not needed between i or j and a number, although it is required with a variable, such as $c2 = 5 i*c1$.
- Be careful. The expressions

$$y = 7/2*i$$

and

$$x = 7/2i$$

give two different results:

$$y = (7/2)i = 3.5i$$

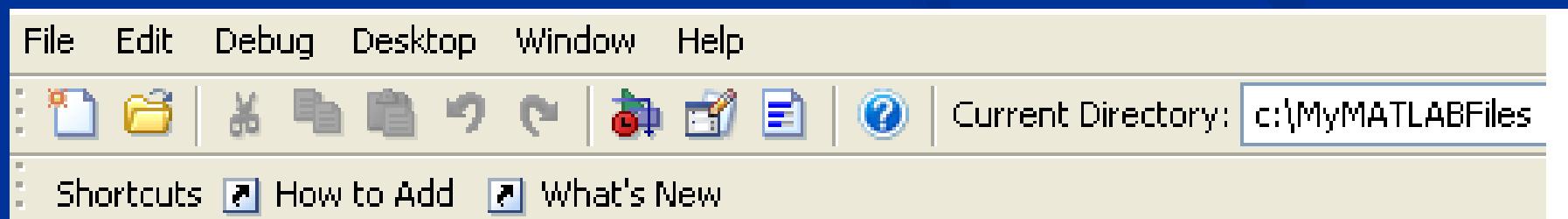
and

$$x = 7/(2i) = -3.5i.$$

Numeric display formats. Table

Command	Description and example
format short	Four decimal digits (the default); 13.6745.
format long	16 digits; 17.27484029463547.
format short e	Five digits (four decimals) plus exponent; 6.3792e+03.
format long e	16 digits (15 decimals) plus exponent; 6.379243784781294e-04.

The Desktop Menus and Toolbar. Figure



Arrays

- The numbers 0, 0.1, 0.2, ..., 10 can be assigned to the variable u by typing $u = 0:0.1:10$.
- To compute $w = 5 \sin u$ for $u = 0, 0.1, 0.2, \dots, 10$, the session is;

```
>>u = 0:0.1:10;  
>>w = 5*sin(u);
```

- The single line, $w = 5 \sin(u)$, computed the formula $w = 5 \sin u$ 101 times.

Array Index

```
>>u(7)  
ans =  
    0.6000  
>>w(7)  
ans =  
    2.8232
```

- Use the `length` function to determine how many values are in an array.

```
>>m = length(w)  
m =  
    101
```

Polynomial Roots

To find the roots of $x^3 - 7x^2 + 40x - 34 = 0$, the session is

```
>>a = [1, -7, 40, -34];  
>>roots(a)  
ans =  
    3.0000 + 5.000i  
    3.0000 - 5.000i  
    1.0000
```

The roots are $x = 1$ and $x = 3 \pm 5i$.

Some commonly used mathematical functions

Table

Function	MATLAB syntax ¹
e^x	<code>exp(x)</code>
\sqrt{x}	<code>sqrt(x)</code>
$\ln x$	<code>log(x)</code>
$\log_{10} x$	<code>log10(x)</code>
$\cos x$	<code>cos(x)</code>
$\sin x$	<code>sin(x)</code>
$\tan x$	<code>tan(x)</code>
$\cos^{-1} x$	<code>acos(x)</code>
$\sin^{-1} x$	<code>asin(x)</code>
$\tan^{-1} x$	<code>atan(x)</code>

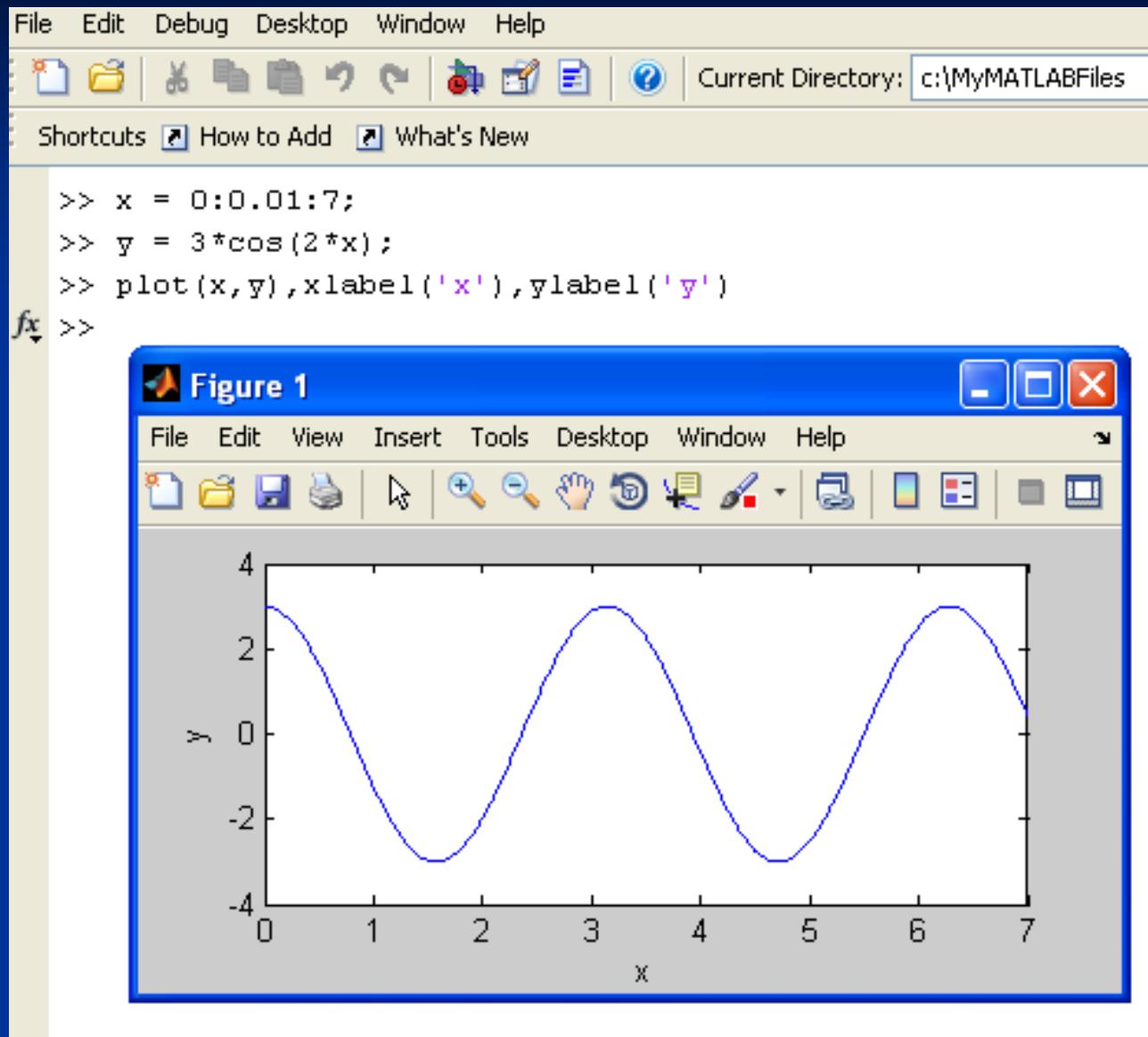
¹The MATLAB trigonometric functions use radian measure.

System, directory, and file commands

Table

Command	Description
addpath dirname	Adds the directory dirname to the search path.
cd dirname	Changes the current directory to dirname.
dir	Lists all files in the current directory.
dir dirname	Lists all the files in the directory dirname.
path	Displays the MATLAB search path.
pathtool	Starts the Set Path tool.
pwd	Displays the current directory.
rmpath dirname	Removes the directory dirname from the search path.
what	Lists the MATLAB-specific files found in the current working directory. Most data files and other non-MATLAB files are not listed. Use <code>dir</code> to get a list of all files.
what dirname	Lists the MATLAB-specific files in directory dirname.

A graphics window showing a plot. Figure



```
>> plot(x,y,'o')
```

```
>> xlabel('x ')
```

```
>> ylabel('y')
```

```
>> title('Plot of x and y')
```

Some MATLAB plotting commands

Table

Command	Description
<code>[x, y] = ginput (n)</code>	Enables the mouse to get n points from a plot, and returns the x and y coordinates in the vectors x and y , which have a length n .
<code>grid</code>	Puts grid lines on the plot.
<code>gtext ('text')</code>	Enables placement of text with the mouse.
<code>plot (x, y)</code>	Generates a plot of the array y versus the array x on rectilinear axes.
<code>title ('text')</code>	Puts text in a title at the top of the plot.
<code>xlabel ('text')</code>	Adds a text label to the horizontal axis (the abscissa).
<code>ylabel ('text')</code>	Adds a text label to the vertical axis (the ordinate).

Linear Algebraic Equations

$$6x + 12y + 4z = 70$$

$$7x - 2y + 3z = 5$$

$$2x + 8y - 9z = 64$$

```
>>A = [6,12,4;7,-2,3;2,8,-9];
```

```
>>B = [70;5;64];
```

```
>>Solution = A\B
```

Solution =

3

5

-2

The solution is $x = 3$, $y = 5$, and $z = -2$.

You can perform operations in MATLAB in two ways:

1. In the **interactive mode**, in which all commands are entered directly in the Command window, or
2. By running a MATLAB program stored in ***script file***. This type of file contains MATLAB commands, so running it is equivalent to typing all the commands—one at a time—at the Command window prompt. You can run the file by typing its name at the Command window prompt.

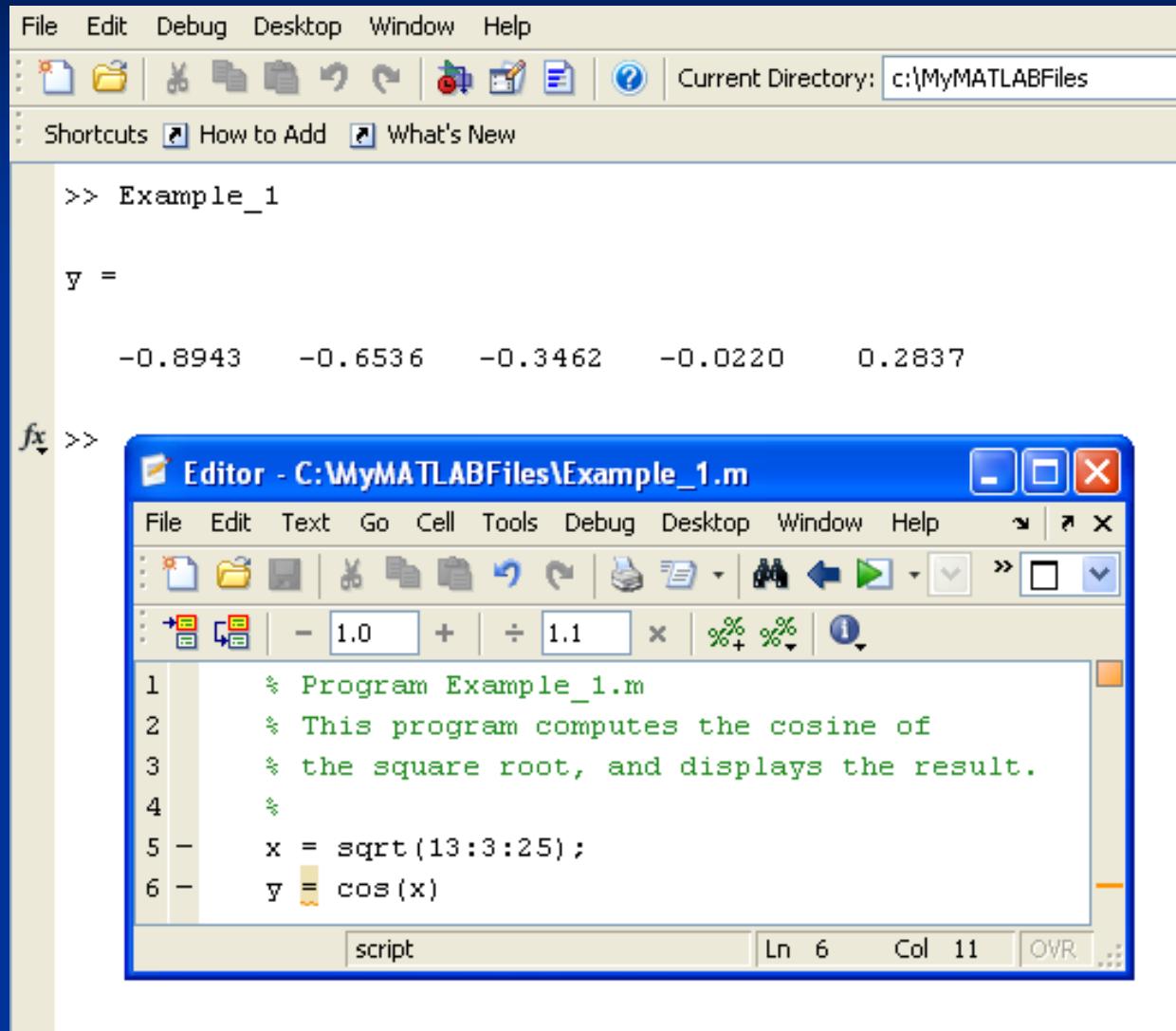
COMMENTS

The comment symbol may be put anywhere in the line. MATLAB ignores everything to the right of the % symbol. For example,

```
>>% This is a comment.  
>>x = 2+3 % So is this.  
x =  
5
```

Note that the portion of the line before the % sign is executed to compute x.

The MATLAB Command window with the Editor/Debugger open.



Keep in mind when using script files:

1. The name of a script file must begin with a letter, and may include digits and the underscore character, up to 63 characters.
2. Do not give a script file the same name as a variable.
3. Do not give a script file the same name as a MATLAB command or function. You can check to see if a command, function or file name already exists by using the `exist` command.

Debugging Script Files

Program errors usually fall into one of the following categories.

1. Syntax errors such as omitting a parenthesis or comma, or spelling a command name incorrectly. MATLAB usually detects the more obvious errors and displays a message describing the error and its location.
2. Errors due to an incorrect mathematical procedure, called *runtime errors*. Their occurrence often depends on the particular input data. A common example is division by zero.

To locate program errors, try the following:

1. Test your program with a simple version of the problem which can be checked by hand.
2. Display any intermediate calculations by removing semicolons at the end of statements.
3. Use the debugging features of the **Editor/Debugger**.

Programming Style

1. *Comments section*

- a. The name of the program and any key words in the first line.
- b. The date created, and the creators' names in the second line.
- c. The definitions of the variable names for every input and output variable. Include definitions of variables used in the calculations and *units of measurement for all input and all output variables!*
- d. The name of every user-defined function called by the program.

Programming Style (continued)

2. *Input section* Include input data and/or the input functions and comments for documentation.
3. *Calculation section*
4. *Output section* This section might contain functions for displaying the output on the screen.

Some Input/output commands

From

Command	Description
<code>disp(A)</code>	Displays the contents, but not the name, of the array A.
<code>disp('text')</code>	Displays the text string enclosed within single quotes.
<code>x = input('text')</code>	Displays the text in quotes, waits for user input from the keyboard, and stores the value in x.
<code>x = input('text','s')</code>	Displays the text in quotes, waits for user input from the keyboard, and stores the input as a string in x.

Example of a Script File

Problem:

The speed v of a falling object dropped with no initial velocity is given as a function of time t by $v = gt$.

Plot v as a function of t for $0 < t < t_{final}$, where t_{final} is the final time entered by the user.

Example of a Script File (continued)

```
% Program falling_speed.m:  
% Plots speed of a falling object.  
% Created on March 1, 2009 by W. Palm  
%  
% Input Variable:  
% tfinal = final time (in seconds)  
%  
% Output Variables:  
% t = array of times at which speed is  
% computed (in seconds)  
% v = array of speeds (meters/second)  
%
```

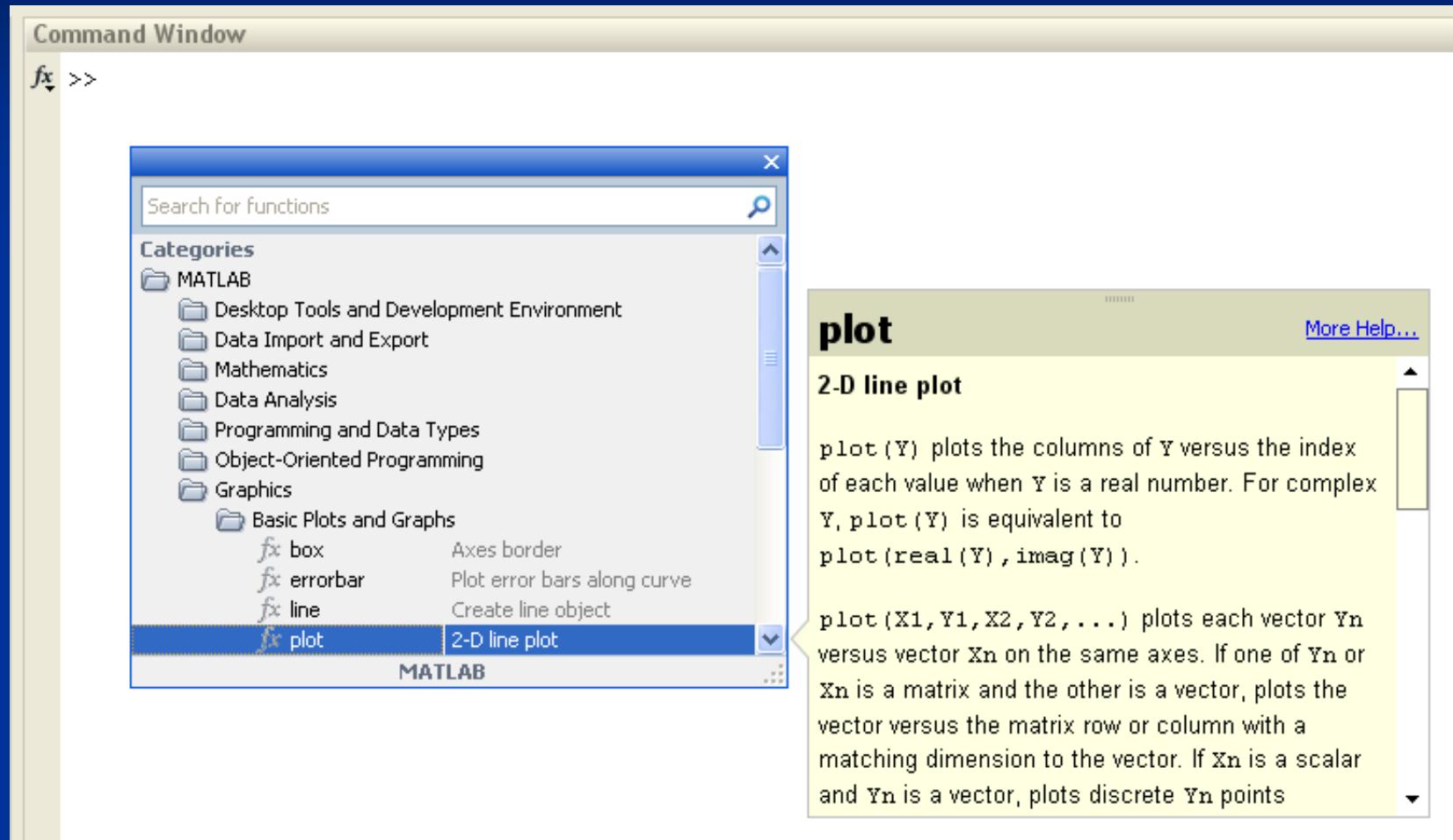
Example of a Script File (continued)

```
% Parameter Value:  
g = 9.81; % Acceleration in SI units  
%  
% Input section:  
tfinal = input('Enter final time in  
seconds:');  
%
```

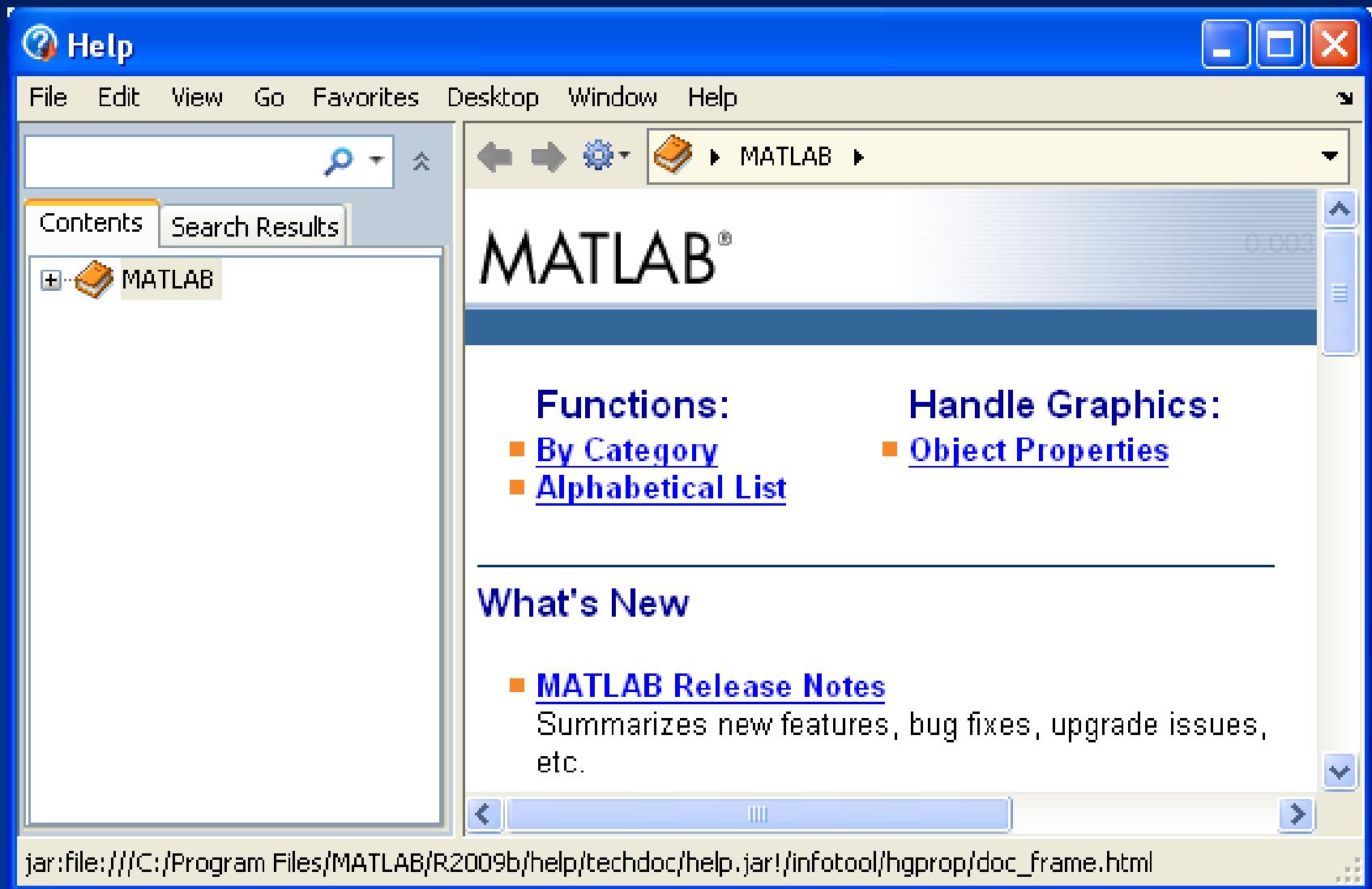
Example of a Script File (continued)

```
% Calculation section:  
dt = tfinal/500;  
% Create an array of 501 time values.  
t = 0:dt:tfinal;  
% Compute speed values.  
v = g*t;  
%  
% Output section:  
Plot(t,v), xlabel('t (s)'), ylabel('v m/s')
```

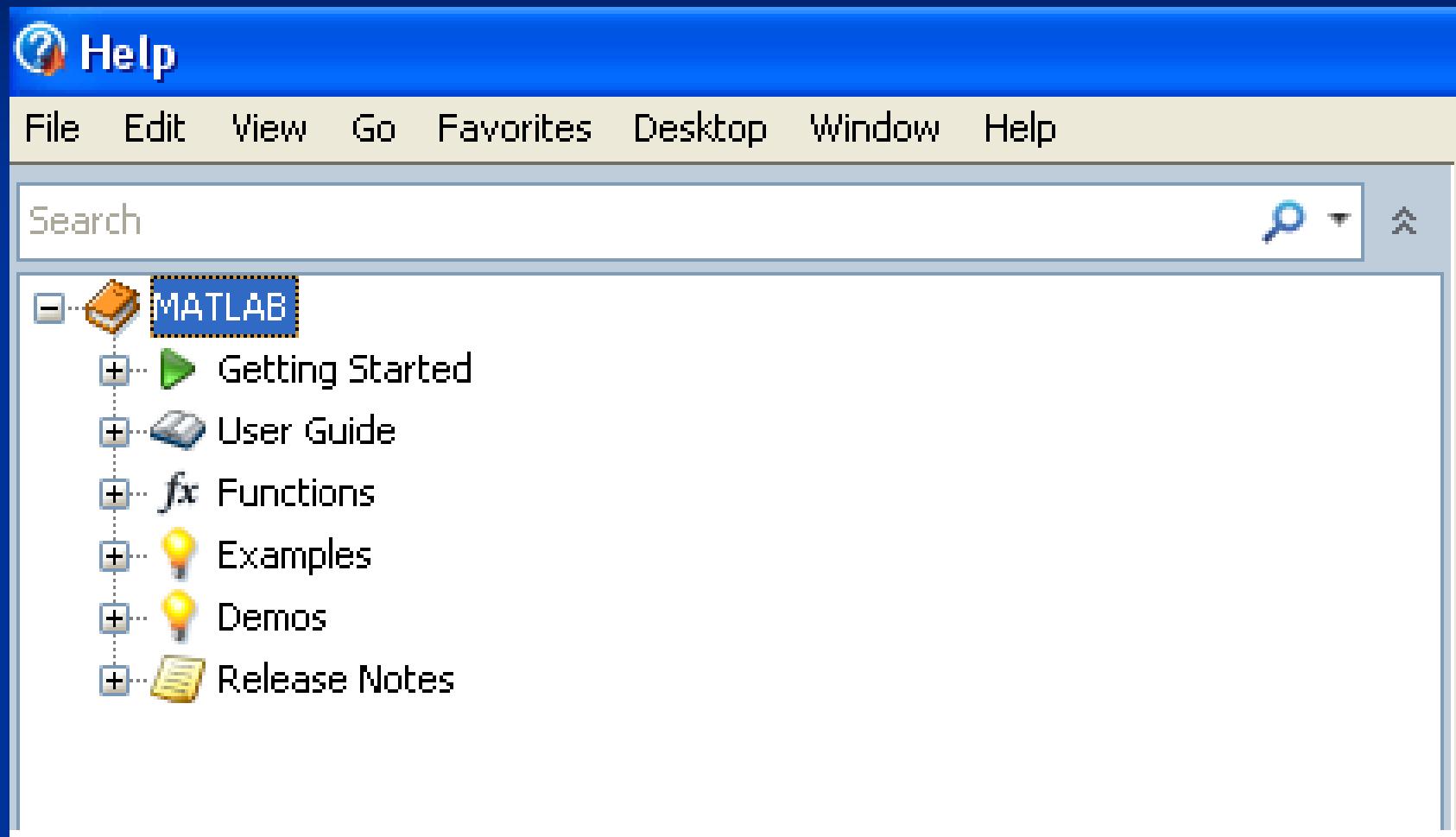
Getting Help From MATLAB: The Function Browser after `plot` has been selected



The MATLAB Help Browser



The Help Navigator



MATLAB Help Functions,

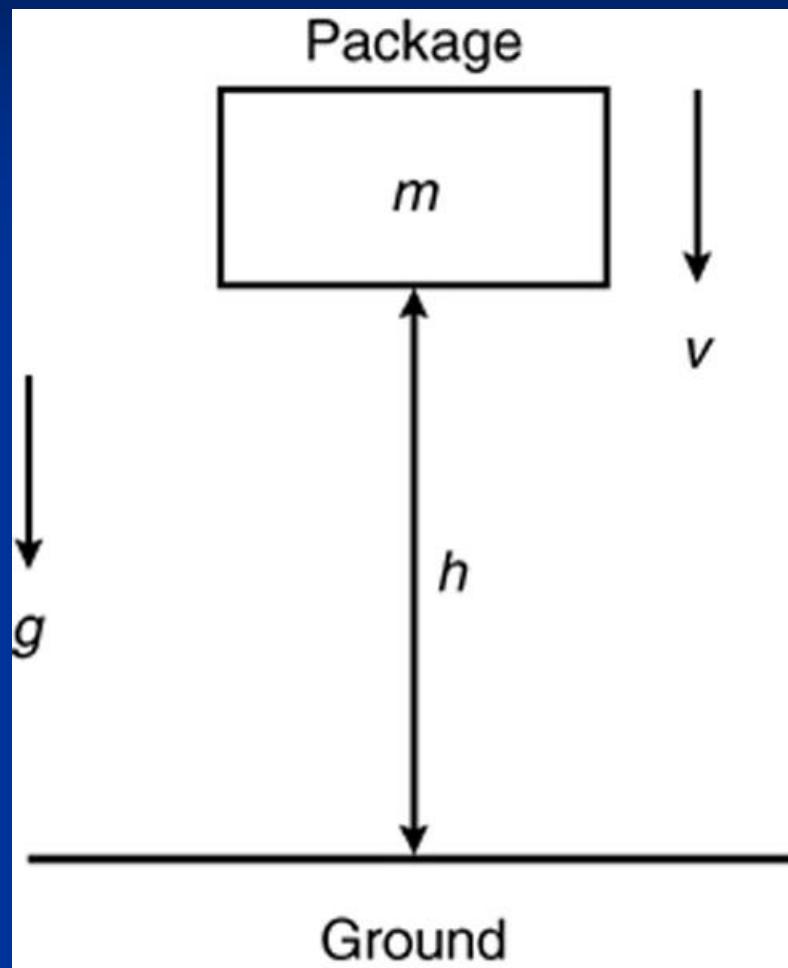
- `help funcname`: Displays in the Command window a description of the specified function *funcname*.
- `lookfor topic`: Looks for the string *topic* in the first comment line (the H1 line) of the HELP text of all M-files found on MATLABPATH (including private directories), and displays the H1 line for all files in which a match occurs.
- `doc funcname`: Opens the Help Browser to the reference page for the specified function *funcname*, providing a description, additional remarks, and examples.

Steps in engineering problem solving

1. Understand the purpose of the problem.
2. Collect the known information. Realize that some of it might later be found unnecessary.
3. Determine what information you must find.
4. Simplify the problem only enough to obtain the required information. State any assumptions you make.
5. Draw a sketch and label any necessary variables.
6. Determine which fundamental principles are applicable.
7. Think generally about your proposed solution approach and consider other approaches before proceeding with the details.
8. Label each step in the solution process.
9. If you solve the problem with a program, hand check the results using a simple version of the problem. Checking the dimensions and units and printing the results of intermediate steps in the calculation sequence can uncover mistakes.
10. Perform a “reality check” on your answer. Does it make sense? Estimate the range of the expected result and compare it with your answer. Do not state the answer with greater precision than is justified by any of the following:
 - (a) The precision of the given information.
 - (b) The simplifying assumptions.
 - (c) The requirements of the problem.

Interpret the mathematics. If the mathematics produces multiple answers, do not discard some of them without considering what they mean. The mathematics might be trying to tell you something, and you might miss an opportunity to discover more about the problem.

Sketch of the dropped-package problem.



Steps for developing a computer solution

1. State the problem concisely.
2. Specify the data to be used by the program. This is the “input.”
3. Specify the information to be generated by the program. This is the “output.”
4. Work through the solution steps by hand or with a calculator; use a simpler set of data if necessary.
5. Write and run the program.
6. Check the output of the program with your hand solution.
7. Run the program with your input data and perform a reality check on the output.
8. If you will use the program as a general tool in the future, test it by running it for a range of reasonable data values; perform a reality check on the results.