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# Matlab Basics

CS 111

Introduction to Computing in Engineering and Science

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Slides are taken from Selim Aksoy and Ozlem Ozgu

# MATLAB: MATrix LABoratory

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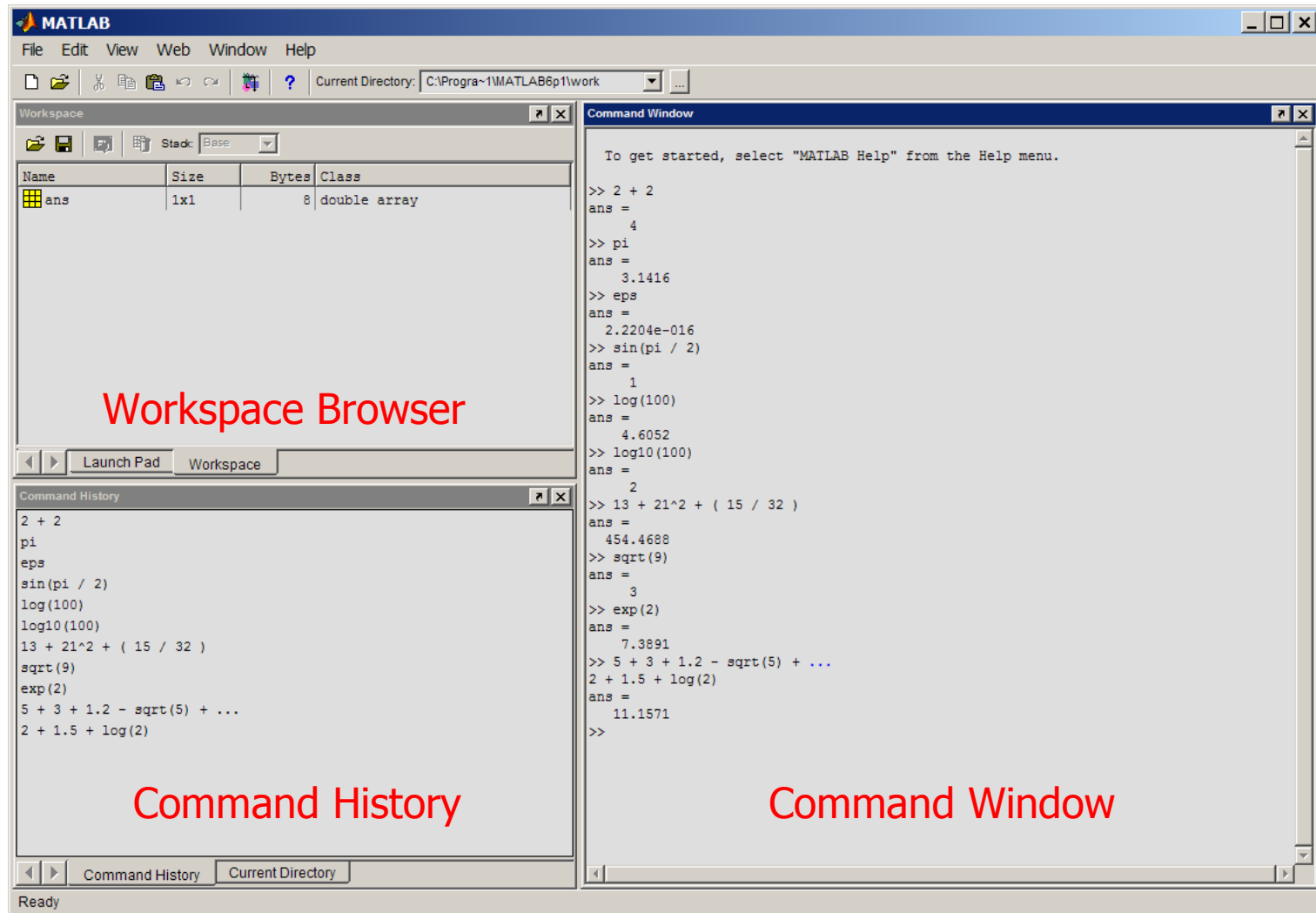
- [www.mathworks.com](http://www.mathworks.com)
- References:
- Mathworks' Getting Started with Matlab
  - [http://www.mathworks.com/access/helpdesk/help/techdoc/learn\\_matlab/](http://www.mathworks.com/access/helpdesk/help/techdoc/learn_matlab/)
- Matlab Primer by Kermit Sigmon
  - <http://ise.stanford.edu/Matlab/matlab-primer.pdf>

# MATLAB

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- Advantages of MATLAB
  - Ease of use
  - Platform independence
  - Predefined functions
  - Plotting
- Disadvantages of MATLAB
  - Can be slow
  - Expensive

# MATLAB Desktop



# MATLAB Basics

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- A program can be input
  - command by command using the command line (lines starting with “»” on the MATLAB desktop)
  - as a series of commands using a file (a special file called **M-file**)
- If a command is followed by a semicolon (;), result of the computation is not shown on the command window

# MATLAB Basics: Getting Help

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- **help**
  - help *toolbox* → e.g., help elfun
  - help *command* → e.g., help sin
- **helpdesk, helpwin, “?”** button
- **lookfor**
  - lookfor *keyword* → e.g., lookfor cotangent
- **which**
  - which *name* → e.g., which log
- **demo**

# MATLAB Basics: Variables

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- **Variable** is a name given to a reserved location in memory
  - `class_code = 111;`
  - `number_of_students = 65;`
  - `name = 'Bilkent University';`
  - `radius = 5;`
  - `area = pi * radius^2;`

# MATLAB Basics: Variables

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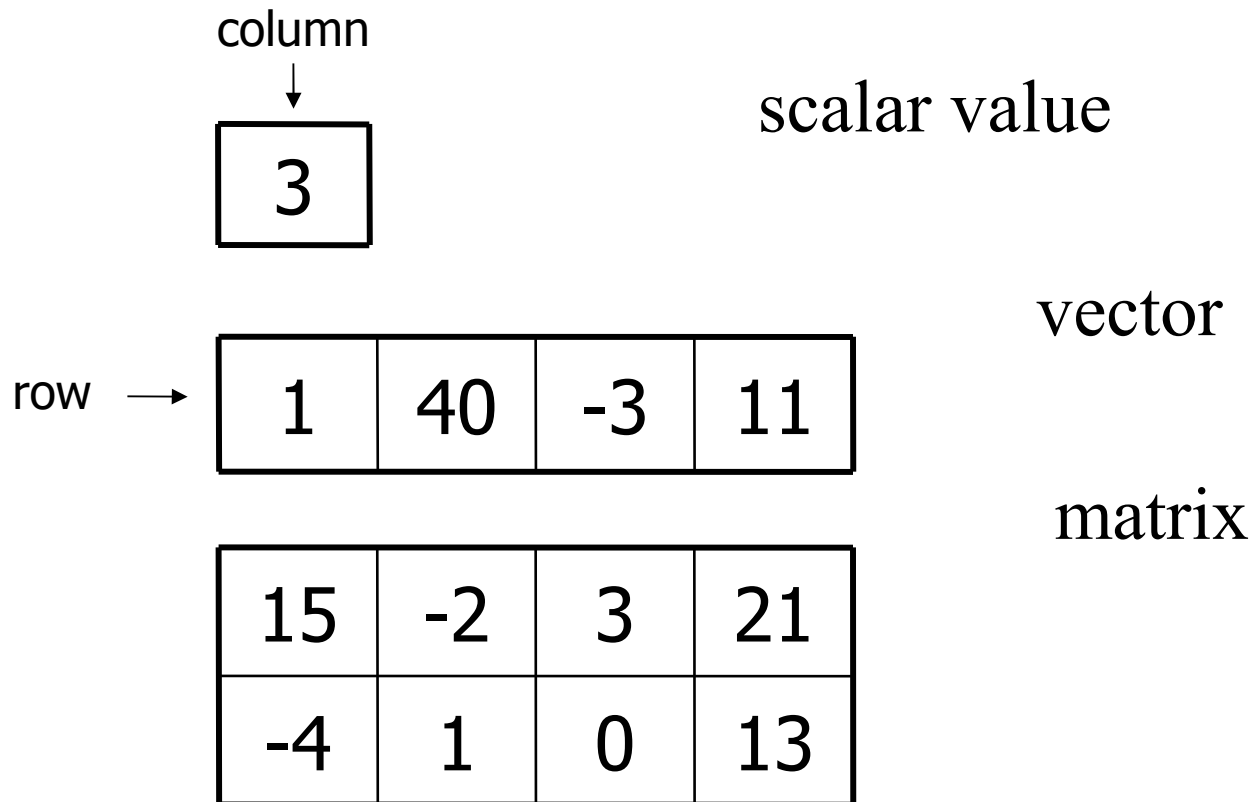
- Use meaningful names for variables
- MATLAB variable names
  - must begin with a letter
  - can contain any combination of letters, numbers and underscore ( \_ )
  - must be unique in the first 31 characters
- MATLAB is case sensitive: “name”, “Name” and “NAME” are considered different variables
- Never use a variable with the same name as a MATLAB command
- Naming convention: use lowercase letters



# MATLAB Basics: Arrays

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- The fundamental unit of data is **array**



# MATLAB Basics: Arrays

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## Initializing Variables in Assignment Statements

An assignment statement has the general form

$$var = expression$$

### Examples:

```
>> var = 40 * i;
```

```
>> a2 = [0 1+8];
```

```
>> var2 = var / 5;
```

```
>> b2 = [a2(2) 7 a];
```

```
>> array = [1 2 3 4];
```

```
>> c2(2,3) = 5;
```

```
>> x = 1; y = 2;
```

```
>> d2 = [1 2];
```

```
>> a = [3.4];
```

```
>> d2(4) = 4;
```

```
>> b = [1.0 2.0 3.0 4.0];
```

```
>> c = [1.0; 2.0; 3.0];
```

```
>> d = [1, 2, 3; 4, 5, 6];
```

‘;’ semicolon suppresses the

```
>> e = [1, 2, 3  
4, 5, 6];
```

automatic echoing of values but  
it slows down the execution.

# MATLAB Basics: Variables

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–  $x = 5$

$x =$   
5

–  $y = x + 1$

$y =$   
6

–  $\text{vector} = [ 1 2 3 4 ]$

$\text{vector} =$   
1 2 3 4

# MATLAB Basics: Variables

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– `matrix = [ 1 2 3; 4 5 6 ]`

`matrix =`

```
    1    2    3
    4    5    6
```

– `matrix = [ 1 2 3; 4 5 ]`

**??? Error**

– `a = [ 5 (2+4) ]`

`a =`

```
    5    6
```

# MATLAB Basics: Variables

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- Initialization using shortcut statements
  - colon operator → **first:increment:last**
    - $x = 1:2:10$   
x =  
1 3 5 7 9
    - $y = 0:0.1:0.5$   
y =  
0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5

# MATLAB Basics: Variables

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– transpose operator  $\rightarrow$   $'$

- $u = [ 1:3 ]'$

$u =$

1

2

3

- $v = [ u \ u ]$

$v =$

1 1

2 2

3 3

- $v = [ u'; u' ]$

$v =$

1 2 3

1 2 3

# MATLAB Basics: Variables

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- Initialization using built-in functions

- **zeros()**

- `x = zeros(2)`

```
x =
    0    0
    0    0
```

- `z = zeros(2,3)`

```
z =
    0    0    0
    0    0    0
```

- **ones(), size(), length()**

- `y = zeros(1,4)`

```
y =
    0    0    0    0
```

- `t = zeros( size(z) )`

```
t =
    0    0    0
    0    0    0
```

# MATLAB Basics: Variables

---

## Initializing with Built-in Functions

- `zeros(n)`
- `zeros(n,m)`
- `zeros(size(arr))`
- `ones(n)`
- `ones(n,m)`
- `ones(size(arr))`
- `eye(n)`
- `eye(n,m)`
  
- `length(arr)`
- `size(arr)`



# MATLAB Basics: Variables

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- Initialization using keyboard input
- The **input** function displays a prompt string in the Command Window and then waits for the user to respond.
  - **input()**
    - `value = input( 'Enter an input value: ' )`  
Enter an input value: 1.25  
value =  
1.2500
    - `name = input( 'What is your name: ', 's' )`  
What is your name: Pinar  
name =  
Pinar

# MATLAB Basics: Subarrays

## Multidimensional Arrays

- A two dimensional array with  $m$  rows and  $n$  columns will occupy  $m \times n$  successive locations in the computer's memory. MATLAB always allocates array elements in **column major order**.

```
a = [1 2 3; 4 5 6; 7 8 9; 10 11 12];
```

```
a(5) = a(1,2) = 2
```

- A  $2 \times 3 \times 2$  array of three dimensions

```
c(:, :, 1) = [1 2 3; 4 5 6];
```

```
c(:, :, 2) = [7 8 9; 10 11 12];
```

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9
10	11	12

1
4
7
10
2
5
8
11

# MATLAB Basics: Subarrays

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## Subarrays

- It is possible to select and use subsets of MATLAB arrays.

`arr1 = [1.1 -2.2 3.3 -4.4 5.5];`

`arr1(3)` is 3.3

`arr1([1 4])` is the array [1.1 -4.4]

`arr1(1 : 2 : 5)` is the array [1.1 3.3 5.5]

- For two-dimensional arrays, a colon can be used in a subscript to select all of the values of that subscript.

`arr2 = [1 2 3; -2 -3 -4; 3 4 5];`

`arr2(1, :)`

`arr2(:, 1:2:3)`

# MATLAB Basics: Subarrays

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## Subarrays

- The **end** function: When used in an array subscript, it returns the highest value taken on by that subscript.

```
arr3 = [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8];
```

```
arr3(5:end) is the array [5 6 7 8]
```

```
arr4 = [1 2 3 4; 5 6 7 8; 9 10 11 12];
```

```
arr4(2:end, 2:end)
```

- Using subarrays on the left hand-side of an assignment statement:

```
arr4(1:2, [1 4]) = [20 21; 22 23];
```

```
(1,1) (1,4) (2,1) and (2,4) are updated.
```

```
arr4 = [20 21; 22 23]; all of the array is changed.
```

# MATLAB Basics: Subarrays

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## Subarrays

- Assigning a Scalar to a Subarray: A scalar value on the right-hand side of an assignment statement is copied into every element specified on the left-hand side.

```
>> arr4 = [1 2 3 4; 5 6 7 8; 9 10 11 12];
```

```
>> arr4(1:2, 1:2) = 1
```

```
arr4 =
```

```
1 1 3 4
```

```
1 1 7 8
```

```
9 10 11 12
```

# MATLAB Basics: Subarrays

---

- Array indices start from 1

- $x = [-2 \ 0 \ 9 \ 1 \ 4];$

–  $x(2)$

ans =

0

–  $x(4)$

ans =

1

■  $x(8)$

??? Error

■  $x(-1)$

??? Error

# MATLAB Basics: Subarrays

---

- $y = [ 1 \ 2 \ 3; 4 \ 5 \ 6 ];$ 
  - $y(1,2)$   
ans =  
2
  - $y(2,1)$   
ans =  
4
  - $y(2)$   
ans =  
4 (column major order)

# MATLAB Basics: Subarrays

---

- $y = [ 1 \ 2 \ 3; 4 \ 5 \ 6 ];$

- $y(1,:)$

- ans =

- 1    2    3

- $y(:,2)$

- ans =

- 2

- 5

- $y(2,1:2)$

- ans =

- 4    5

- $y(1,2:end)$

- ans =

- 2    3

- $y(:,2:end)$

- ans =

- 2    3

- 5    6



# MATLAB Basics: Subarrays

---

- $x = [-2 \ 0 \ 9 \ 1 \ 4];$

- $x(2) = 5$

- $x =$

- $-2 \ 5 \ 9 \ 1 \ 4$

- $x(4) = x(1)$

- $x =$

- $-2 \ 5 \ 9 \ -2 \ 4$

- $x(8) = -1$

- $x =$

- $-2 \ 5 \ 9 \ -2 \ 4 \ 0 \ 0 \ -1$

# MATLAB Basics: Subarrays

---

- $y = [ 1 \ 2 \ 3; 4 \ 5 \ 6 ];$

- $y(1,2) = -5$

$y =$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & -5 & 3 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 \end{array}$$

- $y(2,1) = 0$

$y =$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & -5 & 3 \\ 0 & 5 & 6 \end{array}$$

- $y(1,2:end) = [ -1 \ 9 ]$

$y =$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & -1 & 9 \\ 0 & 5 & 6 \end{array}$$

# MATLAB Basics: Subarrays

---

- $y = [ 1 \ 2 \ 3; 4 \ 5 \ 6; 7 \ 8 \ 9 ];$

- $y(2:end,2:end) = 0$

$y =$

1	2	3
4	0	0
7	0	0

- $y(2:end,2:end) = [ -1 \ 5 ]$

??? Error

- $y(2,[1 \ 3]) = -2$

$y =$

1	2	3
-2	0	-2
7	0	0

# MATLAB Basics: Special values

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## Special Values

- MATLAB includes a number of predefined special values. These values can be used at any time without initializing them.
- These predefined values are stored in ordinary variables. They can be overwritten or modified by a user.
- If a new value is assigned to one of these variables, then that new value will replace the default one in all later calculations.

```
>> circ1 = 2 * pi * 10;
```

```
>> pi = 3;
```

```
>> circ2 = 2 * pi * 10;
```

**Never change the values of predefined variables.**

# MATLAB Basics: Special Values

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- **pi**:  $\pi$  value up to 15 significant digits
- **i, j**:  $\sqrt{-1}$
- **Inf**: infinity (such as division by 0)
- **NaN**: Not-a-Number (such as division of zero by zero)
- **clock**: current date and time as a vector
- **date**: current date as a string (e.g. 16-Feb-2004)
- **eps**: epsilon
- **ans**: default variable for answers

# MATLAB Basics: Displaying Data

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- Changing the data format
  - value = 12.345678901234567
  - format short → 12.3457
  - format long → 12.34567890123457
  - format short e → 1.2346e+001
  - format long e → 1.234567890123457e+001
  - format short g → 12.346
  - format long g → 12.3456789012346
  - format rat → 1000/81

# MATLAB Basics: Displaying Data

---

- The `disp( array )` function
  - `disp( 'Hello' );`  
Hello
  - `disp(5);`  
5
  - `disp( [ 'Bilkent ' 'University' ] );`  
Bilkent University
  - `name = 'Pinar'; disp( [ 'Hello ' name ] );`  
Hello Pinar

# MATLAB Basics: Displaying Data

---

- The `num2str()` and `int2str()` functions
  - `d = [ num2str(16) '-Feb-' num2str(2004) ];`
  - `disp(d);`  
16-Feb-2004
  - `x = 23.11;`
  - `disp( [ 'answer = ' num2str(x) ] );`  
answer = 23.11
  - `disp( [ 'answer = ' int2str(x) ] );`  
answer = 23



# MATLAB Basics: Displaying Data

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- The `fprintf(format, data)` function
  - `%d` integer
  - `%f` floating point format
  - `%e` exponential format
  - `\n` new line character
  - `\t` tab character

# MATLAB Basics: Displaying Data

---

- `fprintf( 'Result is %d', 3 );`  
Result is 3
- `fprintf( 'Area of a circle with radius %d is %f', 3, pi*3^2 );`  
Area of a circle with radius 3 is 28.274334
- `x = 5;`
- `fprintf( 'x = %3d', x );`  
x = 5
- `x = pi;`
- `fprintf( 'x = %0.2f', x );`  
x = 3.14
- `fprintf( 'x = %6.2f', x );`  
x = 3.14
- `fprintf( 'x = %d\ny = %d\n', 3, 13 );`  
x = 3  
y = 13

# MATLAB Basics: Data Files

---

- **save** *filename var1 var2 ...*
  - save homework.mat x y → binary
  - save x.dat x –ascii → ascii
- **load** *filename*
  - load filename.mat → binary
  - load x.dat –ascii → ascii

# MATLAB Basics: Scalar Operations

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- *variable\_name = expression;*
  - addition       $a + b$        $\rightarrow a + b$
  - subtraction       $a - b$        $\rightarrow a - b$
  - multiplication       $a \times b$        $\rightarrow a * b$
  - division       $a / b$        $\rightarrow a / b$
  - exponent       $a^b$        $\rightarrow a ^ b$

# MATLAB Basics: Scalar Operations

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- $x = 3 * 2 + 6 / 2$ 
  - $x = ?$
- Processing order of operations is important
  - parenthesis (starting from the innermost)
  - exponentials (left to right)
  - multiplications and divisions (left to right)
  - additions and subtractions (left to right)
- $x = 3 * 2 + 6 / 2$ 
  - $x = 9$

# MATLAB Basics: Built-in Functions

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- $result = function\_name(input);$ 
  - abs, sign
  - log, log10, log2
  - exp
  - sqrt
  - sin, cos, tan
  - asin, acos, atan
  - max, min
  - round, floor, ceil, fix
  - mod, rem
- help elfun

# MATLAB Basics: Debugging

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- Syntax errors
  - Check spelling and punctuation
- Run-time errors
  - Check input data
  - Can remove “;” or add “disp” statements
- Logical errors
  - Use shorter statements
  - Check typos
  - Check units
  - Ask your friends, TAs, instructor, parents, ...

# MATLAB Basics: Useful Commands

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- `help command` → Online help
- `lookfor keyword` → Lists related commands
- `which` → Version and location info
- `clear` → Clears the workspace
- `clc` → Clears the command window
- `diary filename` → Sends output to file
- `diary on/off` → Turns diary on/off
- `who, whos` → Lists content of the workspace
- `more on/off` → Enables/disables paged output
- `Ctrl+c` → Aborts operation
- `...` → Continuation
- `%` → Comments