CNBC Matlab Mini-Course

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Day 3: The Really Cool Stuff

Multidimensional Arrays

Matlab supports arrays with more than 2 dimensions.

m = rand(4, 3, 2)

whos m

size(m)

Matrix multiplication does not apply to higher dimensional arrays.

Array Concatenation

Array concatenation can't be done with [ ] for higher dimensional arrays, so use **cat**(dim, A, B) instead.

d1 = cat(1, m, m)

d2 = cat(2, m, m)

d3 = cat(3, m, m)

Sparse Matrices

Sparse matrices provide an efficient means to store matrices that are mostly empty.

s = sparse(1000, 1000)

s(2, 11) = 2

s(992, 875) = 3

s(875, 992) = 4.7

whos s

Math on Sparse Matrices

All arithmetic operations work on sparse as well as full matrices.

s * 10

s' * s

s * s'

Why is s+10 *a bad idea?*

Cell Arrays

A “cell” is a container that holds both data and type information. Arrays of cells (“cell arrays”) can contain objects of heterogeneous types:

b = 5
c = num2cell(5)
whos

b(3) = 3.5
c(3) = 3.5 ← *Error: 3.5 is not a cell*
c(3) = num2cell(3.5)
whos

c(4) = cellstr('rutabaga')

{ } Constructor Makes Cell Arrays

```
d = { 10 20 ; 30 40 }

c(2,1) = {3}
c(2, 2:4) = {  'parsnip'   -5.1   2+sqrt(-9) }
```

Transpose works:

```
 { 1  rand(5,3)  sqrt(-2) } '
```

Arithmetic doesn't:

```
{ 1 2 3 } + { 4 5 6 }
```


Displaying and Concatenating Cells

Individual cells are always displayed enclosed either in brackets [ ] or quotes ' '.

```
foo = { 3.4  'green'  -9 }
bar = { 2 rand(5) 3 }
[foo bar]
[foo ; bar]

{ 'a'  'bcd'  'ef' }
[ 'a'  'bcd'  'ef' ]
```

Concatenating arrays of cells

An array of cells

Strings are arrays of chars

{ } And Assignment

When { } indexing is used on the left hand side of an assignment, the content of the cell is modified.

```
foo(4) = { 7 }

foo{5} = 11
```


Cell Arrays Require More Storage

```
ra = [ 1 2 3 4 ]
ca = { 1 2 'three' 4 }
whos ra ca
```

Each cell in the array requires separate type and and shape information.

{ } Indexing Gives Cell Contents

```
a = { 10 20 'thirty' 40i }
a(2)
a{2}
```

parens

braces

Slicing returns an array:

```
a(2:3)
```

Slicing with { } returns multiple values:

```
a{2:3}
```


Extracting Cell Contents

```
ca = { 1 2 3 }
5 + ca
5 + ca{ : }
plus(5, 1, 2, 3)
5 + [ ca{ : } ]
lookfor cell
5 + cell2mat(ca)

[cx, cy] = ca{2 : 3}
```

Error: can't do arithmetic on cells.

Error: too many arguments.

Property Arguments

The **plot** function and many other graphics functions accept property/value pairs as extra arguments.

```
props = {'Color', [0  0.5  0.8], 'LineWidth', 8, …
            'LineStyle', '-.' }

plot(rand(5,3), props{ : } )
```


Structure Arrays

Matlab provides “structure arrays” with named fields.

```
clear a
a.name = 'John Smith'
a.age = 35
a.department = 'Accounting'
whos a
```

The array a is a scalar (1x1) structure array.

```
f = fieldnames(a)
f{1}
```


Returning Structure Arrays

The **what** and **get** functions return structure arrays.

```
w = what          Value is a structure array
mfiles = w.m      Value is a cell array
whos

p = get(gcf)
```


Multi-Element Structure Arrays

All elements have the same set of field names. Some fields may be empty.

```
a(2).name = 'Mary Brown'
a(2).seniority = 8
whos a
a(1)
a(2)
a.age
{ a.age }
```


Call-by-Value Semantics

MATLAB uses call-by-value semantics, making it impossible for functions to modify their arguments.

In C, integers and floats are passed by value, but arrays and strings are passed by reference, making them modifiable.

Call-by-Value (cont.)

The following doesn't work. Put this in birthday.m:

```
function birthday(employee)
  employee.age = employee.age + 1
end
```

Try it and see. Type the following in the console:

```
birthday(a(1))
a(1)
```

Returning Modified Structures

Modified arrays or structures must be returned, and assigned back to the original variable.

Otherwise the modifications are lost.

```
function employee = birthday(employee)
   employee.age = employee.age + 1
end
```

```
a(1)
a(1) = birthday(a(1)) ;
a(1)
```


Efficiency Considerations

When an array or structure is passed as an argument, MATLAB doesn't necessarily copy it.

Objects are passed to functions by reference, but are copied if the function modifies the argument.

The modify-and-return approach is not an efficient way to maintain large objects, due to excessive copying.

Alternative solution: store values in a global variable and let the functions modify that variable directly instead of passing values as arguments.

GUI Facility

UIControl objects include pushbuttons, sliders, pop-up menus, and radio buttons.

```
clf
hb = uicontrol('Style', 'pushbutton')
set(hb, 'String', 'Foo')
set(hb, 'BackgroundColor', [0.2 0.6 1])
```


GUI Facility (cont.)

```
c = 0;
set(hb, 'Callback', 'c=c+1, datestr(now)')
```

click the button several times

```
set(hb, 'Style', 'checkbox')
```


Units Property

The Units property controls whether certain subsequent properties are interpreted as pixels, points, or percentage of screen or window size (“normalized” units):

```
set(hb, 'Units', 'pixels', 'Position', [100 100 80 25])
```

```
set(hb, 'Units', 'normalized', ...
     'Position', [0.5  0.5  0.25  0.25])
```


Pop-Up Menus and List Boxes

Put this in a script:

```
clf
hp = uicontrol('Style', 'popup', ...
    'String', {'eeny', 'meeny', 'miney', 'moe'}, ...
    'Units', 'normalized', ...
    'Position', [0.2  0.2  0.3  0.1], ...
    'BackgroundColor', [0.8  0.8  0.5], ...
    'ForegroundColor', [0.1  0  0.95])
set(hp, 'Callback', 'get(gcbo, ''Value'')' )
```

The **gcbo** function returns the object whose callback function is currently executing.

Sliders

```
hs = uicontrol('Style', 'slider', ...
    'Position', [200 200 150 20], ...
    'Callback', 'get(gcbo, ' 'Value' ')')
```

After trying the above, try this:

```
set(hs, 'Callback', ...
  'set(gcf, ' 'Color' ', [0 0 get(gcbo, ' 'Value' ')])' )
```

In practice, the callback string is usually a call to some user-written function with gcbo as the argument. All the work is done inside the function.

HHsim's GUI Interface

```
cd /afs/andrew/usr/dst/matlab/hhsim
hhsim
```

Click on the stim1 button.

```
cd ~
```


GUIDE

GUIDE is the GUI Design Environment

Tool that allows interactive layout of a GUI window, including menus, graphics, text boxes, etc., using “drag and drop” techniques.

```
doc guide
guide
```

Creates a .fig file to store layout information

Creates an editable .m file to load the .fig file and hold associated callback routines.

Image Data

```
clf reset, clear all
load durer
whos
image(X)
colormap(map)
axis image
axis off
set(gca, 'Position', [0 0 1 1])
colormap(hot), brighten(0.7)
```


Reading Image Files

```
cd ~
!wget www.cs.cmu.edu/~dst/Tutorials/Matlab/brain.jpg
brain = imread('brain.jpg') ;
whos brain
```

The uint8 datatype holds unsigned bytes.

```
image(brain)
colormap(bone)
axis image
colormap(bone(256))
zoom on
```


Mouse Input

```
getline('closed')
```

Click the left button to enter points. Click the right button to end. Return value is a matrix of points defining the polygon.

```
p1 = getptr(gcf)
setptr(gcf, 'hand')
p2 = getptr(gcf)
set(gcf, p1{:})
```

The p1{:} notation expands the contents of the cell array p1 into multiple arguments to set.

Image Manipulation

```
function bmap(im)
  clf
  colormap([bone(256); autumn(256)])
  d = double(im) ;
  image(d), axis image, axis off
  coords = getline('closed');
  [x,y] = meshgrid(1:size(im,2), 1:size(im,1));
  z = inpolygon(x, y, coords(:,1), coords(:,2));
  d(z) = d(z) + 256;
  image(d), axis image, axis off
end
```

Call it like this:
bmap(brain)
or bmap(X)

Search Path

You can control the search path Matlab uses to search for functions and data files.

```
path
!mkdir mystuff
!mv bmap.m mystuff
bmap(brain)     Matlab can't find it anymore
addpath('mystuff')
what mystuff
bmap(brain)
```


Toolboxes

Toolboxes contain collections of related functions that extend the basic Matlab language.

The **matlab** toolbox contains a variety of libraries that implement Matlab features such as graphing and matrix functions

```
doc graph2d
doc stats
```

The **images** and **stats** toolboxes contain routines for image processing and statistical calculations.

Where Do You Go From Here?

- Pick a dataset of interest and explore various ways to plot it.
- Try some data analysis examples in next week's class.
- Try out some of the built-in demos.
- Spend some time browsing the documentation to learn more about the statistics toolbox or the handle graphics system.
- Purchase a Matlab book and work through the examples.

Version Info

The **ver** command displays version information for Matlab and all the toolboxes currently installed.

This is especially useful when reporting a bug in Matlab or checking whether the version you are running is the latest one.

```
ver

a = ver('stats')
```