

# Introduction to Matlab

Helmut Harbrecht

University of Basel

SS 2024

# Overview

## Basics

- Using Matlab

## Matlab as a calculator

- Matrix operations
- Linear algebra operations

## Matlab as a programming language

- Example: Magic squares
- Scripts and functions
- Control system
- Example: Game of life

## Matlab programming

- Global and local variables
- Functions as parameters
- Memory management and vectorization

## Graphic output

- Visualization of data from vectors and matrices
- Functions plot

## Summary and additional information

# Basics

Launch Matlab:

1. Open console;
2. `matlab &` and enter return;
3. Keep the console permanently open.

or with Desktop/Menu-Icon

Exit Matlab:

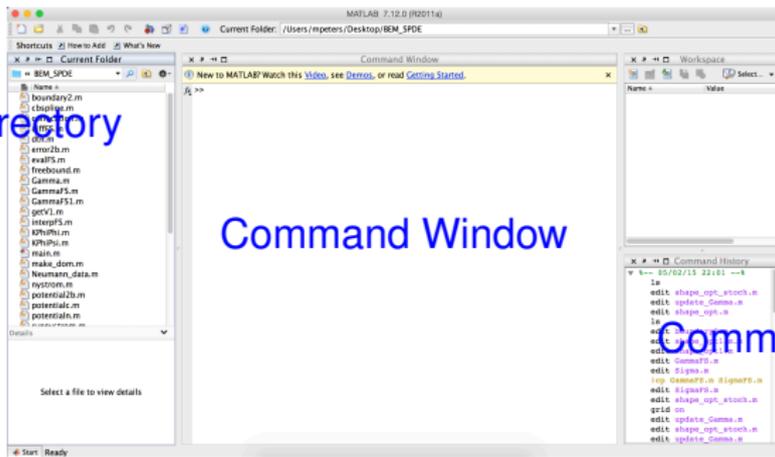
```
exit
```

# Basics

Current Directory

Command Window

Command History



## Matlab Features:

1. **Command Window** for direct execution of Matlab commands
2. **Command History** list of executed commands. Click to execute again
3. **Current Directory** search for self-programmed commands here.
4. **Editor** for writing your own commands

Always terminate commands with **Return**.

Abort: **ctrl+C**.

# Matlab as a calculator

## Matrix operations

Creating matrices:

`[1 2 3 ; 4 5 6]`      `zeros(2,3)`      `eye(5)`

Creation of special row vectors:

`1:3` gives the vector

`( 1    2    3 )`.

`1:0.2:2` gives

`( 1.0    1.2    1.4    1.6    1.8    2.0 )`.

Assignment (to store values in a variable):

`c1 = 6`      `A = [1 2 3 ; 4 5 6]`      `v = 1:10`

# Matlab as a calculator

## Matrix operations

Matrix concatenating:

`[A, zeros(2,2)]` gives

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 & 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

and `B = [A, zeros(2,2); eye(2), A]` stores the matrix

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 & 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 4 & 5 & 6 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 0 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 0 & 1 & 4 & 5 & 6 \end{pmatrix}.$$

in the variable  $B$ .

# Matlab as a calculator

## Matrix operations

Items selecting:

`A(1,2)` `A(1:2,2)` `A(1:2,1:3)` `A(:, [1 3])`

Element-wise *arithmetic* operations:

`+` `-` `.*` `./` `.^` `.'`

Element-wise functions:

`abs` `sin` `cos` `exp` `sqrt` `min` `max` ...

Element-wise *boolean* operations:

The result is 0 (`false`) or 1 (`true`).

`==` `~=` `<` `>` `<=` `>=` `&` `|` `~`

# Matlab as a calculator

## Arithmetical operations of linear algebra

Basic arithmetic operations of linear algebra:

+ - \* ^

Further operations:

$A/B$	$A \cdot B^{-1}$
$A \setminus B$	$A^{-1} \cdot B$
$A'$	$A^*$
$\det(A)$	$\det(A)$
$\text{inv}(A)$	$A^{-1}$
$\text{rank}(A)$	$\text{rang}(A)$

# Matlab as a calculator

## Solving linear equation systems

Input:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$b = \begin{bmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$A \setminus b$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 2 \\ 3 & 4 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$b = \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$A^{-1}b$$

The output is the solution of  $Ax = b$ :

ans =

-1

2

# Magic squares

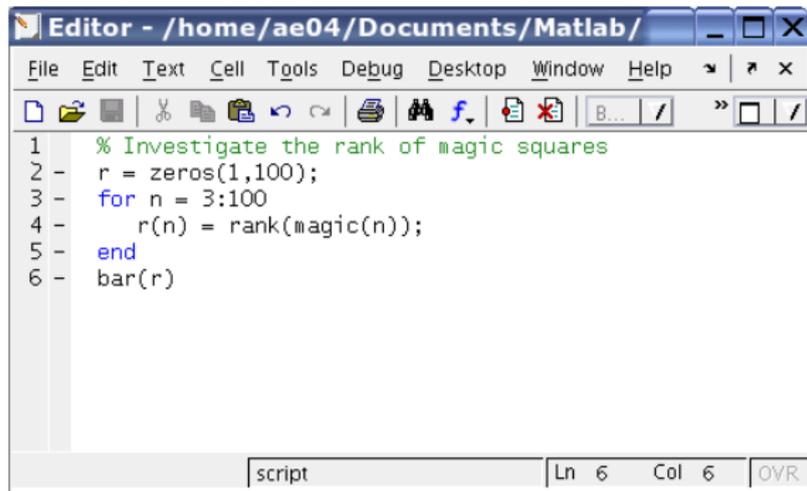
Matrix  $A$  ( $n \times n$ ) is a **magic square** if the row or column sums are constant, e.g.

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 8 & 1 & 6 \\ 3 & 5 & 7 \\ 4 & 9 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

`magic(n)` returns ( $n \times n$ ) magic square.

# Scripts

## Magic squares



The screenshot shows the MATLAB Editor window with the following code:

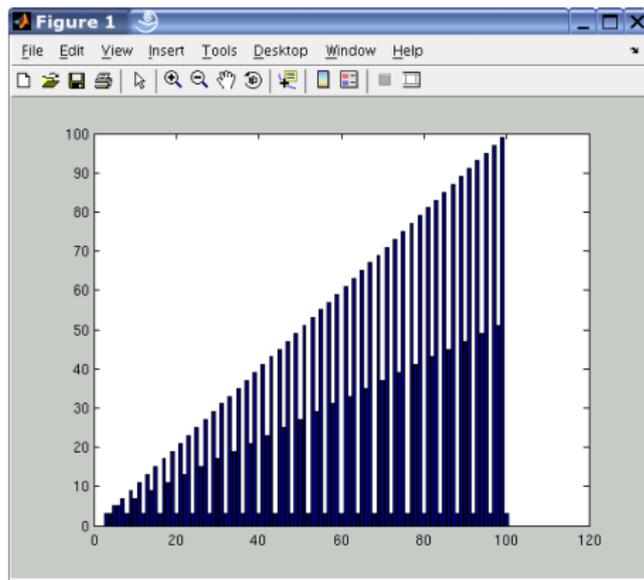
```
1 % Investigate the rank of magic squares
2 - r = zeros(1,100);
3 - for n = 3:100
4 -     r(n) = rank(magic(n));
5 - end
6 - bar(r)
```

The status bar at the bottom indicates the file is named 'script', the cursor is at line 6, column 6, and the current view is 'OVR'.

Entering `magicrank` executes `magicrank.m`.  
Make sure the directory is active!

# Scripts

## Magic squares: Output



# Scripts

## Remarks

- ▶ Any file containing a sequence of commands is called **script**.
- ▶ Any file extension must be `.m`.
- ▶ Calling the script (without file extension) executes the script sequentially.
- ▶ Semicolon blocks the output.
- ▶ Comments begin with a percent sign.

# Scripts

## Restrictions

### Restrictions for names of variables and files

- ▶ All names must be different.
- ▶ Upper and lower case letters are separated.
- ▶ Names must begin with a letter.
- ▶ Names must not contain any special characters.

# Scripts and functions

## Restrictionsn

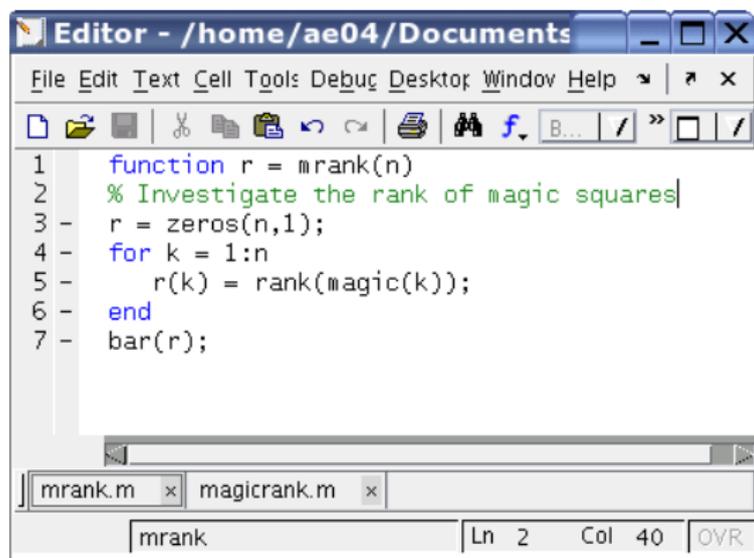
Scripts do not provide:

- ▶ Transfer of parameters.
- ▶ Return of values and results.

Solution: **functions**.

Additional distinction: *all* parameters *must* be transferred!

# Functions



The screenshot shows the MATLAB Editor window with the following code:

```
1 function r = mrank(n)
2 % Investigate the rank of magic squares
3 - r = zeros(n,1);
4 - for k = 1:n
5 -     r(k) = rank(magic(k));
6 - end
7 - bar(r);
```

The window title is "Editor - /home/ae04/Documents". The status bar at the bottom indicates "mrank" is open at "Ln 2 Col 40" with "OVR" (Overwrite) mode.

Entering `mrnk(100)` returns the same result.

# Functions

## Remarks

- ▶ **File name and function name must match!**
- ▶ The file extension must be `.m`.
- ▶ All variables in a function are **local**.
- ▶ The function `function` `r = mrank(n)` requires an input parameter and returns a variable as the result.
- ▶ Return of several variables:

```
function [r,k] = mrank(n)
```

```
Call: [z,m] = mrank(100);
```

# Functions

## Call:

1. `mrank(100)` executes the function and returns the return value.
2. `mrank(100);` executes the function and does not return the return value.
3. `z = mrank(100);` executes the function and saves the return value in `z`.
4. `z = mrank(100)` executes the function, saves the return value in `z` and displays it.

# The for-loop

```
for k = 4:n  
    Commands  
end
```

1. Initially,  $k = 4$  and all commands between `for` and `end` are executed with the value  $k = 4$ .
2. Afterwards,  $k = 5$  is set and all commands between `for` and `end` are executed with the value  $k = 5$ , etc.
3. All values from  $k$  are run through, up to and including  $k = n$ .

More precisely: `for k = vector`  
 $k$  runs through the *vector* from start to finish.

# The while-loop

```
while t > 0  
    Commands  
end
```

1. If  $t > 0$  applies, all commands between `while` and `end` are executed.
2. It is checked again whether  $t > 0$  applies. If this is the case, all commands between `while` and `end` are executed again.
3. This is repeated until  $t > 0$  is not failed.

# The while-loop

## Remarks:

- ▶ If  $t > 0$  does not apply at the beginning, all commands are skipped.
- ▶ You must set a value to  $t$  before `while t > 0`.
- ▶ If  $t > 0$  always applies, the program sequence never aborts. Therefore, the value of  $t$  is normally changed within the loop.
- ▶ Also permitted e.g. `while (t>0) & (t<1)`.
- ▶ More precisely:  $t > 0$  returns either 0 (`false`) or 1 (`true`). The loop is run through until the value is 0 (`false`).

## Branch: if-elseif-else-end

```
if n == 1
    Commands 1
elseif n == 2
    Commands 2
elseif n == 3
    Commands 3
    ⋮
elseif n == N
    Commands N
else
    CommandsAlt
end
```

`elseif` and `else` with the following commands are optional.

## Branch: if-elseif-else-end

```
if n == 1
    Commands
end
```

If  $n = 1$  applies, *Commands* is executed, otherwise none.

```
if n == 1
    Commands
else
    CommandsAlt
end
```

If  $n = 1$ , *Commands* is executed, otherwise *CommandsAlt*.

## Branch: if-elseif-else-end

```
if n == 1
    Commands
1
elseif n == 2
    Commands
2
elseif n == N
    Commands N
else
    CommandsAlt
end
```

- ▶ If  $n = 1$ , *Commands 1* is executed.
- ▶ If  $n = 1$  is false and  $n = 2$  applies, *Commands 2* is executed.
- ▶ If both  $n = 1$  and  $n = 2$  are false and  $n = N$  applies, *Commands N* is executed.
- ▶ In all other cases, *CommandsAlt* is executed.

# Game of life

Given: Area of size  $N \times N$  consisting of  $1 \times 1$  cells.

- ▶ Every cell is in the state *alive* or *dead*.
- ▶ At time  $T = 0$  there is an initial state, e.g. a living  $4 \times 4$  block in the middle.
- ▶ Generation transfer at time  $T = t$  to a new generation at time  $T = t + 1$ ::
  1. Too many or too few living neighbors: cell is dead.  
e.g. 0, 1, 7, 8 neighbors.
  2. Optimal number of neighbors: Cell lives.  
e.g. 3, 4, 5 neighbors.
  3. Otherwise: no change  
e.g. 2, 6 neighbors.

# Main program as script

main.m

```
% Main program
parameter;                               % Set parameters
M = init(N);                              % Initialization
for t = 1:Tmax
    display(['Schritt ', num2str(t)]);
    spy(M);                                % Visualization
    pause;
    M = neue_generation(M,tot,gleich,leben);
end
spy(M);                                    % Visualization
```

# Parameter setting as script

parameter.m

```
% Parameter

N      = 50;           % Dimension
Tmax   = 100;         % Number of time steps

tot    = [0 1 7 8];   % #Neighbors -> die
gleich = [2 6];       % #Neighbors -> unchanged
leben  = [3 4 5];     % #Neighbors -> live
```

# Initialization as a function

init.m

```
function A = init(N)

% Generate population matrix
% with initial population

A = zeros(N,N);
k = floor(N/2);
A(k-1:k+2,k-1:k+2) = ones(4,4);
```

# Calculation of the next generation as a function

```
function A = neue_generation(A,tot,gleich,leben);  
% calculate the new generation  
B = A; % Create a copy of A  
[M,N] = size(A);  
for j = 1:N  
    for k = 1:N  
        anz_nachbarn = nachbarzahl(B,j,k);  
        if length(find(tot == anz_nachbarn))  
            A(j,k) = 0;  
        elseif length(find(leben == anz_nachbarn))  
            A(j,k) = 1;  
        end % otherwise: nothing changes  
    end  
end
```

# Calculation of the neighboring number as a function

```
function n = nachbarzahl(A,j,k);  
% calculate the number of neighbors of cell (j,k)  
[M,N] = size(A);  
if (j == 1) & (k == 1)  
    n = A(1,2) + A(2,2) + A(2,1);  
elseif (j == N) & (k == 1)  
    n = A(N,2) + A(N-1,1) + A(N-1,2);  
elseif (j == 1) & (k == N)  
    n = A(2,N) + A(1,N-1) + A(2,N-1);  
elseif (j == N) & (k == N)  
    n = A(N,N-1) + A(N-1,N) + A(N-1,N-1);
```

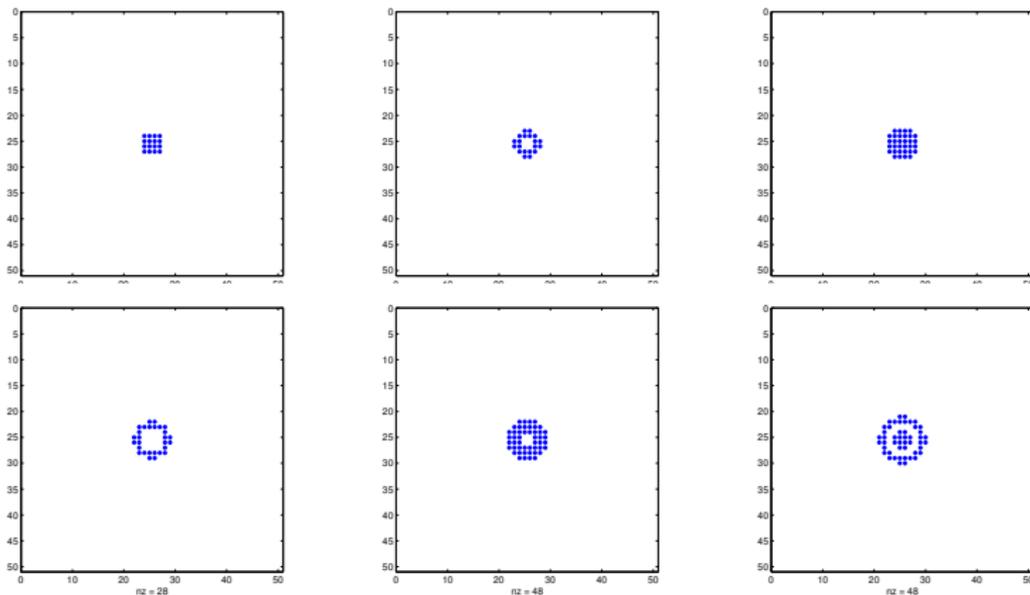
# Calculation of the neighboring number as a function

```
elseif j == 1
    n = A(2,k-1) + A(2,k) + A(2,k+1) + ...
        A(1,k-1) + A(1,k+1);
elseif j == N
    n = A(N-1,k-1) + A(N-1,k) + A(N-1,k+1) + ...
        A(N,k-1) + A(N,k+1);
elseif k == 1
    n = A(j-1,2) + A(j,2) + A(j+1,2) + ...
        A(j-1,1) + A(j+1,1);
elseif k == N
    n = A(j-1,N-1) + A(j,N-1) + A(j+1,N-1) + ...
        A(j-1,N) + A(j+1,N);
```

# Calculation of the neighboring number as a function

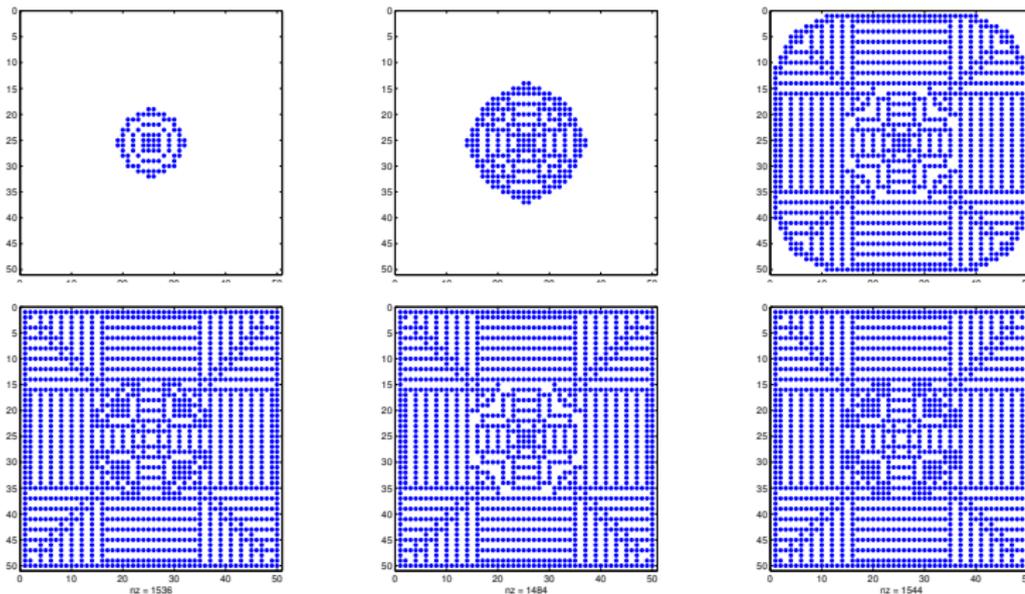
```
else
    n = sum(A(j-1:j+1,k-1)) + ...
          sum(A(j-1:j+1,k+1)) + A(j-1,k) + A(j+1,k);
end
```

# Output



The first 6 generations

# Output



The generations 10, 20, 60, 75, 76, 77.

# Matlab demo for the game of life

The command

```
life
```

opens a game of life app.

# Global variables

- ▶ Variables that are defined directly in the „Command Window“ or by a command sequence in a script are **global**.

These variables can be accessed by the „Command Window“ and by any script.

The variables and their values exist until they are deleted or changed.

# Local variables

- ▶ Variables in functions are **local**.

They are only recognized inside this function.

As soon as the function call ends, the variables and their values are deleted.

- ▶ Functions do not know global variables, therefore:
  - ▶ functions cannot modify global variables,
  - ▶ all required values must be passed as **parameter**,
  - ▶ all values still required after the end of the function call must be returned as **return values**.

# Functions as parameters

A method often depends on a function  $f$  that varies, e.g.

- ▶ Method for determining a zero  $x^*$  with  $f(x^*) = 0$
- ▶ Method for calculating an integral

$$\int_a^b f(x) dx$$

- ▶ Special graphical methods for the visualization of  $f$

**Problem:** Only variables can be passed to functions, not functions themselves!

# Functions as parameters

**Solution:** turn the function into a variable:

If  $f$  is a Matlab function,  $@f$  is the „numerical value“ of the function. It is called **handle** of the function  $f$

This handle can be stored in a variable and/or passed as a value to another function.

# Functions as parameters

```
function y=g(x)
y = 1./(x.^2);
```

```
function S = p_summe(f,n,N)
S=0;
for i = n:N
    S = S + f(i);
end
```

The call `p_sum(@g,1,100)` calculates

$$\sum_{i=1}^{100} \frac{1}{i^2}.$$

# Functions as parameters

- ▶ Handles can be stored in variables:

```
s = @sin    oder    handle_g = @g
```

- ▶ Handles can also be defined and saved directly:

```
s = @(x) 2*x+1;
```

saves the function  $x \mapsto 2x + 1$  in the variable `s`. The call `s(3)` results in 7.

# Memory management

- ▶ If you want to access a matrix entry, for example by `A(2,3:6)`, the matrix must have at least size  $2 \times 6$  and be defined accordingly **previously**, for example as

```
A = zeros(2,10).
```

**Remark.** If you access `A(2,3:6)` without defining the matrix beforehand or if it is too small, it is automatically created as a zero matrix of the required size or resized accordingly.

Nevertheless, you should define the matrix yourself beforehand because:

- ▶ the size adjustment costs a lot of running time
  - ▶ defining the matrix sizes at the beginning is good programming style
- ▶ The memory of variables that are no longer required clears by `clear` or `clear+Variablename`

# Vectorization

There are (at least) two ways to calculate the vector:

$$v = ( 1 \quad -2 \quad 3 \quad -4 \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad 999 \quad -1000 ).$$

```
v = 1:1000;
for i = 1:500
    v(2*i) = -v(2*i);
end
```

```
v = 1:1000;
v(2:2:1000) = -v(2:2:1000);
```

The second option uses **vector calculation** instead of **loops**. That's much faster!

**As a rule, the use of `for` loops should be avoided**

# Visualization of vector data

1. `bar`: bar chart
2. `pie`: pie chart
3. `plot`: polygon curve
4. `area`: curve or surface colored in below

# Visualization of matrix data

1. `spy`: graphic of non-zero elements
2. `contour`: isolines of matrix
3. `pcolor`: pseudocolor plot using the values of matrix

**Achtung:** With `pcolor` the last row and column are not displayed!

# Functions plot

Matlab does not plot functions, but tables of values as curves!

1. Define **column vector**  $x$  of  $x$ -values, e.g.

```
x = (0 : pi/100 : pi)';
```

2. Define **column vector**  $y$  of  $y$ -values of a function, e.g.

```
y = sin(x);
```

3. Plot value table

```
plot(x,y);
```

4. Alternative:

```
plot(x,sin(x));
```

Remark: The function to be plotted must be applicable **elementwise** to  $x$ !

# Functions plot

To plot multiple functions, the  $y$  values **column by column** must be placed in a matrix  $y$ :

1. Define **column vector**  $x$  of  $x$ -values, e.g.

```
x = (0 : pi/100 : pi)';
```

2. Define **column vector**  $y$  of  $y$ -values of functions, e.g.

```
y = [sin(x), cos(x)];
```

3. Plot value table

```
plot(x,y);
```

4. Alternative:

```
plot(x, [sin(x), cos(x)]);
```

# Plot parameterized curves

A (continuous) function  $[a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2, t \mapsto (u(t), v(t))$  is called **plane curve in parameter form** and

$$K = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x = u(t), y = v(t), t \in [a, b]\}$$

is the graph of the curve. For example

$$K = \{(x, y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 \mid x = \sin t, y = \cos t, t \in [0, 2\pi]\}$$

a circle with radius 1.

# Plot parameterized curves

Plot  $K$ :

1. Define **column vector**  $t$  of  $t$  values, e.g.  
$$t = 2*(0 : pi/100 : pi)';$$
2. Define **column vector**  $x$  of  $x$ -values, e.g.  
$$x = \sin(t);$$
3. Define **column vector**  $y$  of  $y$  values, e.g.  
$$y = \cos(t);$$
4. Plot value table  
$$\text{plot}(x,y);$$
5. Alternative:  
$$\text{plot}(\sin(t), \cos(t));$$

# Mathematical functions definition

To plot a function  $f$ , you have to apply the Matlab implementation  $\mathfrak{f}$  to the vector  $\mathbf{x}$  of the  $x$ -values to get the  $y$ -values!

For curves in parameter form,  $u$  and  $v$  must be implemented as above.

So  $\mathfrak{f}$  (or  $u$  and  $v$ ) must be implemented in such a way that  $\mathbf{x}$  (or  $\mathbf{t}$ ) can also be used!

# Mathematical functions definition

Example: The function

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + 5x^2}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

is to be implemented as the Matlab function `f`:

`f.m`

# Mathematical functions definition

Example: The function

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + 5x^2}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

is to be implemented as the Matlab function `f`:

`f.m`

```
function y = f(x)
eins = ones(size(x));
y = eins ./ (eins + 5 * x.^2);
```

# Mathematical functions definition

Example: The function

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{1 + 5x^2}, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}$$

is to be implemented as the Matlab function `f`:

`f.m`

Alternative:

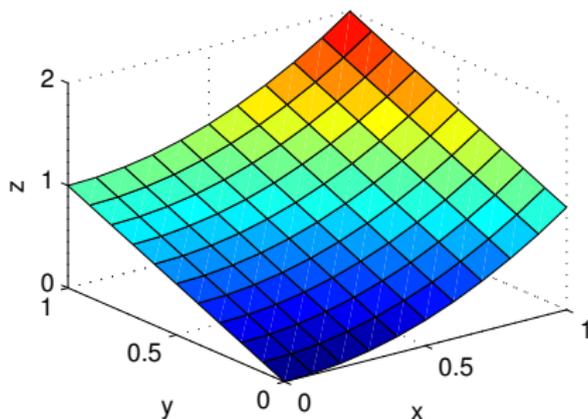
```
function y = f(x)
y = 1 ./ (1 + 5 * x.^2);
```

# Plot functions of two variables

## Basics

Example: Plot

$$z = f(x, y) = x^2 + y, \quad x \in [0, 1], \quad y \in [0, 1].$$



# Plot functions of two variables

## Basics

Matrices  $X$  and  $Y$  are required so that the element-by-element evaluation of  $X$  and  $Y$  provides a matrix  $Z$  with the function values, e.g.

$$X = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0.5 & 1 \\ 0 & 0.5 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \quad Y = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0.5 & 0.5 & 0.5 \\ 1 & 1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$

results for  $z = f(x, y) = x^2 + y$

$$Z = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0.25 & 1 \\ 0.5 & 0.75 & 1.5 \\ 1 & 1.25 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

# Plot functions of two variables

## Procedure

1. Create matrices  $X$  and  $Y$ , e.g.

```
[X,Y] = meshgrid(0:0.1:1, 0:0.1:1);
```

More precisely: if  $x$  and  $y$  **vectors** of the  $x$  and  $y$  values at which the function  $f$  is to be evaluated, the required matrices  $X$  and  $Y$  are generated by:

```
[X,Y] = meshgrid(x,y);
```

2. Create matrices  $Z$  of the function values, e.g.

```
Z = X.^2+Y;
```

3. Plot function

```
surf(X,Y,Z);
```

# Plot options and modification of graphs

## 1. Modification of the shade:

```
shading faceted
```

```
shading flat
```

```
shading interp
```

## 2. Modification of the axes:

```
axis([xmin xmax ymin ymax])
```

```
axis equal    und viele mehr
```

## 3. Labeling:

```
title('Überschrift')
```

```
xlabel('x-Achse')
```

## 4. Further modifications possible directly on the graph!

# Plot options and modification of graphs

Further possibilities:

1. Surface without grid:

```
surf(X,Y,Z, 'EdgeColor', 'none');
```

2. „illuminated“ surface:

```
surf1(X,Y,Z);
```

3. Grid only:

```
mesh(X,Y,Z);
```

4. Vertical lines:

```
contour(X,Y,Z);
```

5. Color map:

```
pcolor(X,Y,Z);
```

# Plot options and modification of graphs

Further possibilities:

1. Plot (parameterized) curves in 3d-space

```
plot3(X,Y,Z);
```

2. Plot 2D vector fields, i.e.

of functions  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  with  $(x, y) \mapsto (u, v)$

```
quiver(x,y,u,v)
```

3. Plot 3D vector fields, i.e.

of functions  $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^3$  with  $(x, y, z) \mapsto (u, v, w)$

```
quiver3(x,y,z,u,v,w)
```

# Mathematical operators and functions

+	-	.*	./	.^	*	/	\	^
:	[]	,	;	()				
==	~=	<	>	<=	>=	&		~

# Mathematical operators and functions

zeros	ones	eye	size	length		
det	inv	rank	trace			
sum	find					
exp	log	sqrt	power			
abs	floor	ceil	min	max		
sin	cos	tan	cot	sec	csc	
asin	acos	atan	acot	asec	acsc	
sinh	cosh	tanh	coth	sech	csch	
asinh	acosh	atanh	acoth	asech	acsch	

# Featured commands

```
%
```

```
function
```

```
if elseif else end
```

```
for end
```

```
while end
```

```
pause ...
```

```
display ' '
```

```
bar spy
```

```
magic life
```

# Matlab use

Due to the large number of commands and even more options, it is impossible to memorize the full functionality and syntax. That is why there is help:

1. `help` + shows the help
2. matlab help menu: Extensive search options
3. character sequence + tabulator: automatic command extension
4. up arrow: command history

# Help and demo programs

- ▶ Extensive Matlab help files can be called up with F1. These include:
  - ▶ information on the individual commands;
  - ▶ Demo programs.
- ▶ Literature about Matlab:
  - ▶ Good introduction in German:  
[www.hs-ulm.de/users/gramlich/EinfMATLAB.pdf](http://www.hs-ulm.de/users/gramlich/EinfMATLAB.pdf)
  - ▶ Good overview: Matlab primer  
[www.math.toronto.edu/mpugh/primer.pdf](http://www.math.toronto.edu/mpugh/primer.pdf)  
is a free, old edition. New edition at [books.google.com](http://books.google.com)