

# Beyond the Mouse

**MATLAB Input & Output**  
(Getting data into MATLAB and plotting it)

# The goal

Spend less time doing stuff computers are good at, and more time doing science (i.e. stuff you can publish).

OR

A program that generates all the figures you need for a paper (or a chapter of your thesis). **New dataset -> rerun program -> new paper.**

**EFFICIENCY / PRODUCTIVITY**

# Today's schedule

1. Plotting data with MATLAB
2. Annotating plots (xlabel, ylabel, legend, ...)
3. Multiple plots on a figure
4. Saving figures
5. Getting data into MATLAB
6. Miscellaneous
7. Examples
8. Exercises

# 1. Plotting data with MATLAB

# plot

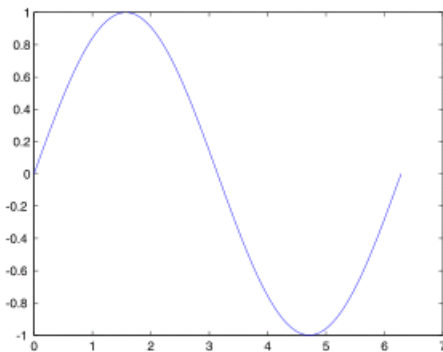
## Graphics

[edit]

Function `plot` can be used to produce a graph from two vectors  $x$  and  $y$ . The code:

```
x = 0:pi/100:2*pi;  
y = sin(x);  
plot(x,y)
```

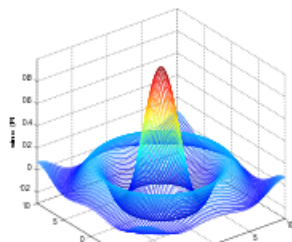
produces the following figure of the [sine function](#):



Three-dimensional graphics can be produced using the functions `surf`, `plot3` or `mesh`.

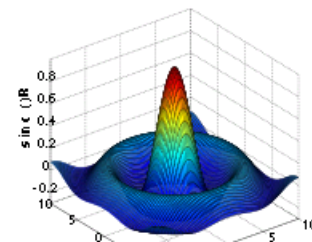
```
[X,Y] = meshgrid(-10:0.25:10,-10:0.25:10);  
f = sinc(sqrt((X/pi).^2+(Y/pi).^2));  
mesh(X,Y,f);  
axis([-10 10 -10 10 -0.3 1])  
xlabel('\bfx')  
ylabel('\bfy')  
zlabel('\bfsinc' '(\bfR)')  
hidden off
```

This code produces a **wireframe** 3D plot of the two-dimensional unnormalized [sinc function](#):



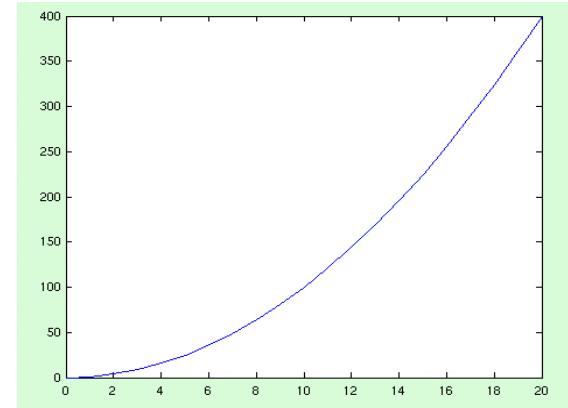
```
[X,Y] = meshgrid(-10:0.25:10,-10:0.25:10);  
f = sinc(sqrt((X/pi).^2+(Y/pi).^2));  
surf(X,Y,f);  
axis([-10 10 -10 10 -0.3 1])  
xlabel('\bfx')  
ylabel('\bfy')  
zlabel('\bfsinc' '(\bfR)')
```

This code produces a **surface** 3D plot of the two-dimensional unnormalized [sinc function](#):



# 2D plotting

1. Define x-vector `>> x = 1:20;`
2. Define y-vector `>> y = x^2;`
3. `plot(x,y)` `>> plot(x, y)`



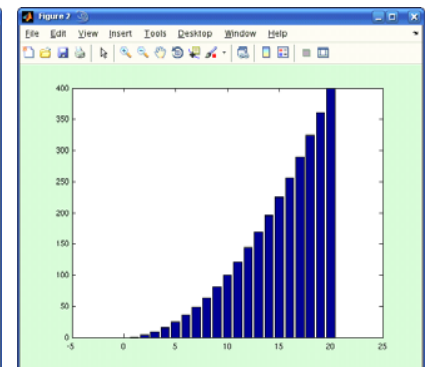
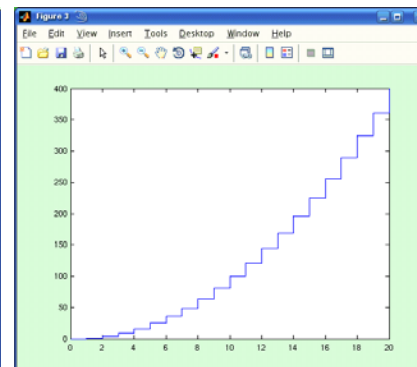
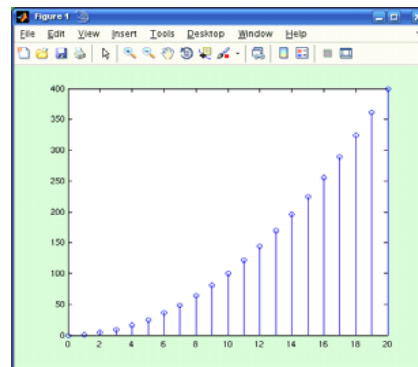
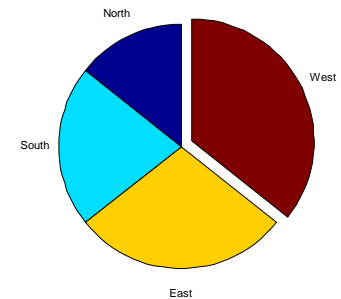
plot just gives a normal x-y graph with linear axes.

There are other 2D plotting commands, e.g:

semilogy, semilogx, loglog

stem, stairs, bar

pie, hist



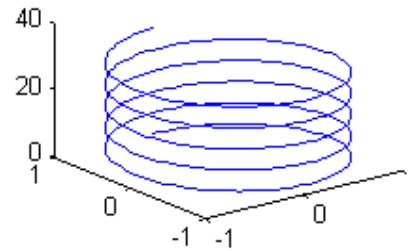
# 3D plotting

1. Define x-vector
2. Define y-vector
3. Define z-vector
4. `plot3(x,y,z)`

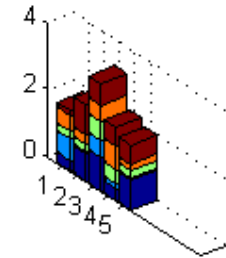
There are other 3D plotting commands, e.g:  
`surf`, `mesh`, `contour`  
`pie3`, `bar3`, `hist3`

## Examples of simple 3D plots

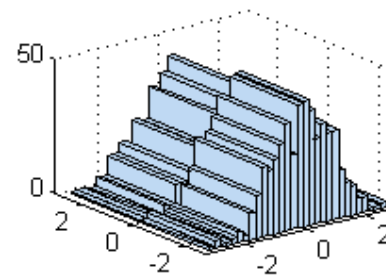
plot3



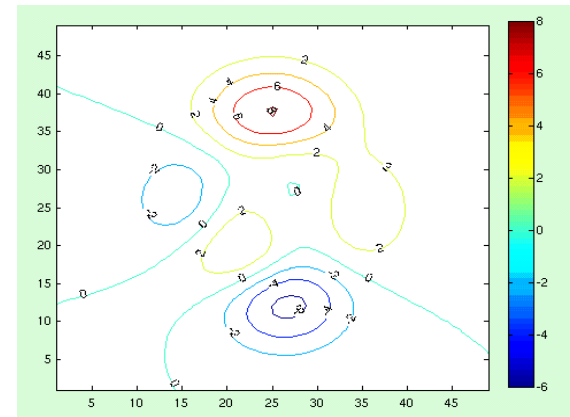
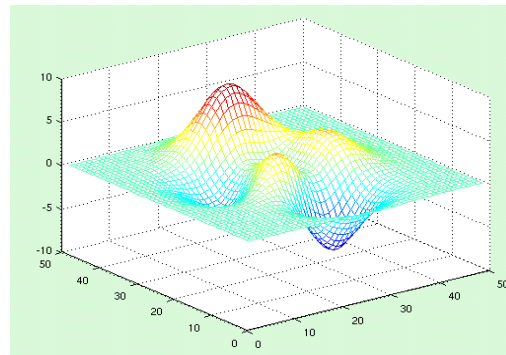
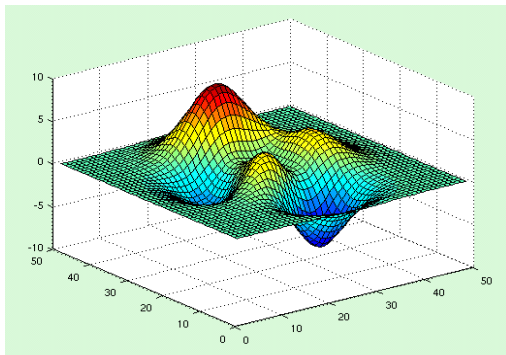
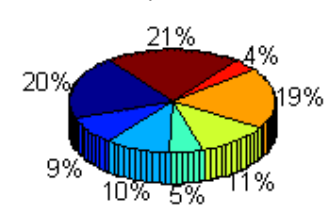
bar3



hist3



pie3

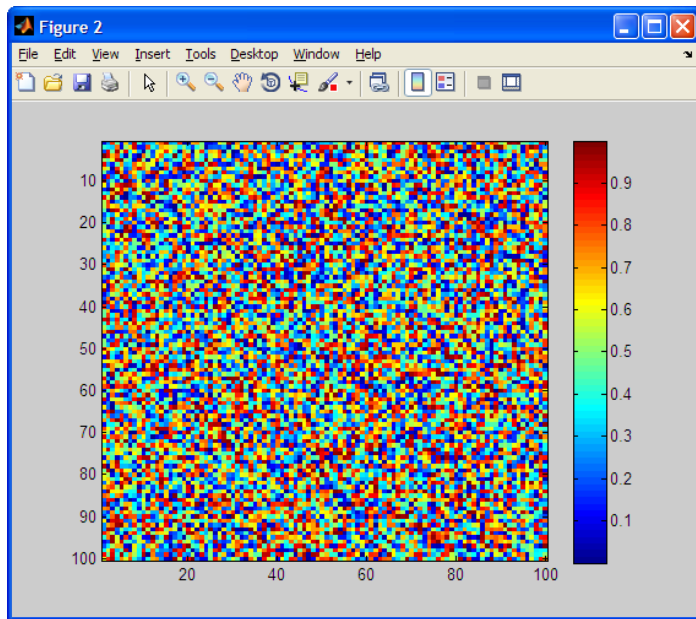


# 3D plotting – 3<sup>rd</sup> dimension as color

An array can be plotted, using different colours to represent different values.

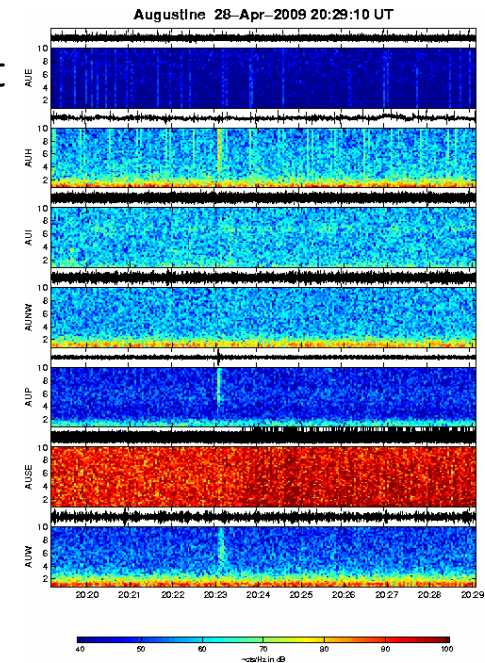
Example:

```
>> a = rand(100, 100); % 100 x 100 array of random numbers from 0 to 1  
>> imagesc(a);  
>> colorbar;
```



Spectrograms, on the AVO internal webpage, are created in this way, except the array is generated using the **specgram()** command.

(There are 15 different axes on this plot).



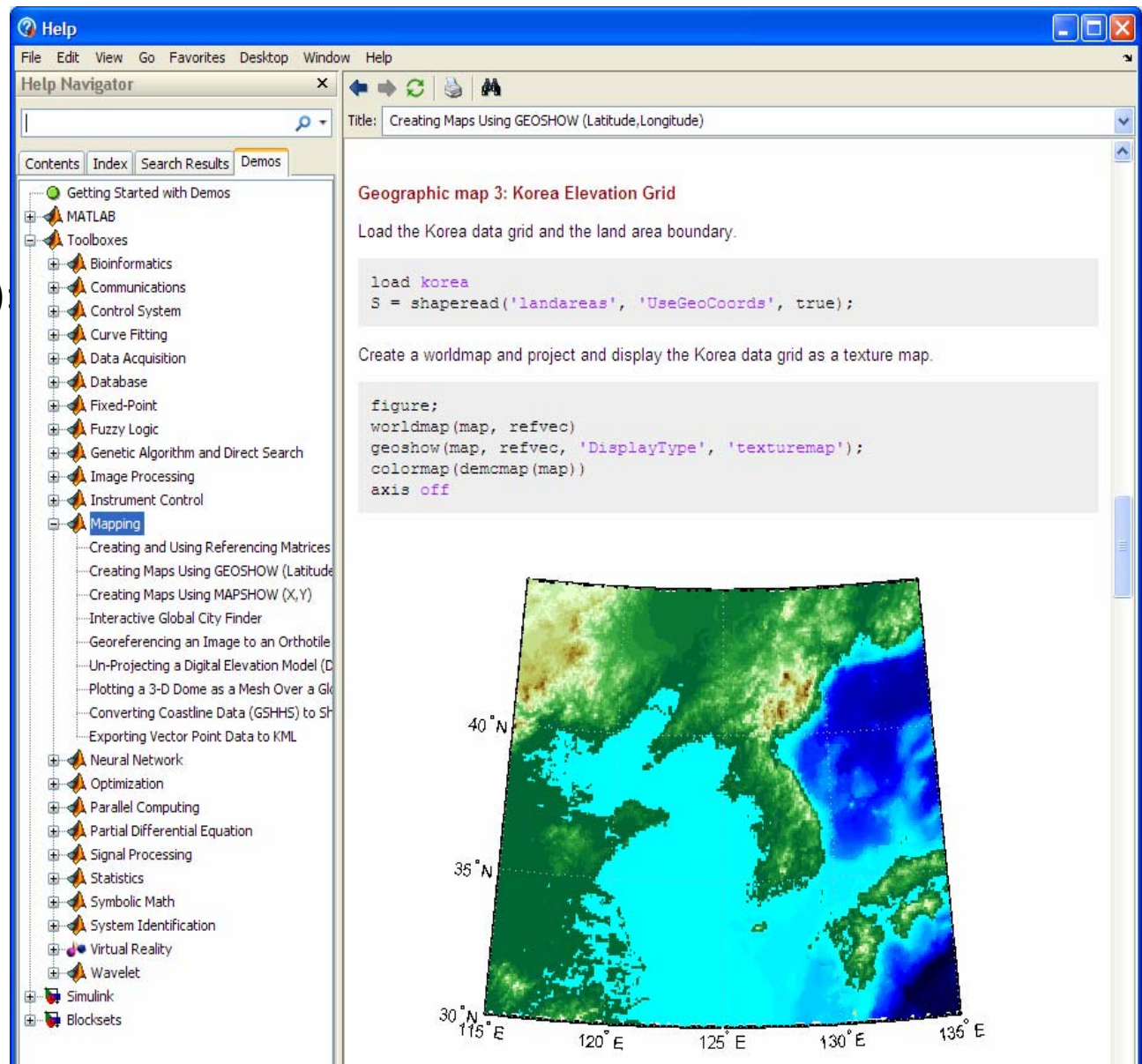


# Plotting maps: the Mapping Toolbox

>> help map  
>> mapdemos

Can write KML (GoogleEarth)  
>> help kmlwrite

Alternative to GMT



The screenshot shows the MATLAB Help Navigator window. The left pane displays the 'Mapping' toolbox content, including 'Creating Maps Using GEOSHOW (Latitude, Longitude)'. The right pane shows the title 'Creating Maps Using GEOSHOW (Latitude, Longitude)' and the heading 'Geographic map 3: Korea Elevation Grid'. Below the heading, it says 'Load the Korea data grid and the land area boundary.' and provides a code snippet:

```
load korea
S = shaperead('landareas', 'UseGeoCoords', true);
```

Below the code, it says 'Create a worldmap and project and display the Korea data grid as a texture map.' and provides another code snippet:

```
figure;
worldmap(map, refvec)
geoshow(map, refvec, 'DisplayType', 'texturemap');
colormap(demcmap(map))
axis off
```

At the bottom of the right pane, there is a 3D topographic map of Korea. The map is colored by elevation, with green representing lower elevations and brown/yellow representing higher elevations. The map is overlaid on a grid with latitude lines at 30°N, 35°N, and 40°N, and longitude lines at 115°E, 120°E, 125°E, 130°E, and 135°E.

## 2. Annotating plots

# Changing the line style: plot(x,y,s)

By default, plot(x,y) uses a blue line to connect data points

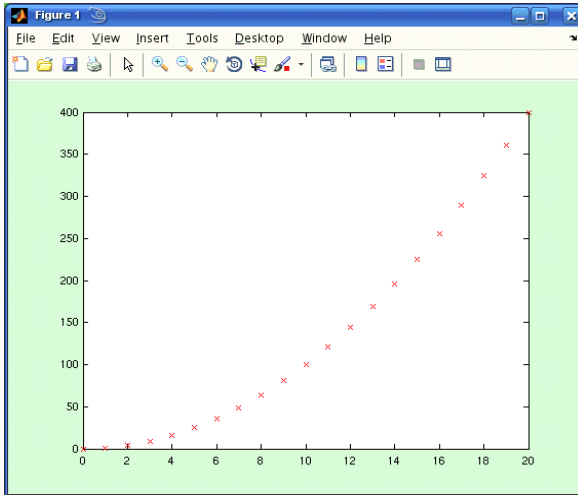
**>> help plot**

Various line types, plot symbols and colors may be obtained with PLOT(X,Y,S) where S is a character string made from one element from any or all the following 3 columns:

b	blue	.	point	-	solid
g	green	o	circle	:	dotted
r	red	x	x-mark	-.	dashdot
c	cyan	+	plus	--	dashed
m	magenta	*	star	(none)	no line
y	yellow	s	square		
k	black	d	diamond		
w	white	v	triangle (down)		
		^	triangle (up)		
		<	triangle (left)		
		>	triangle (right)		
		p	pentagram		
		h	hexagram		

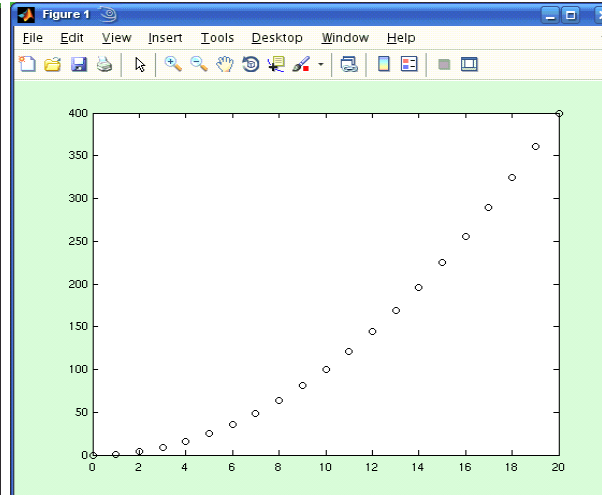
# plot(x,y,s)

plot(x,y,'rx')



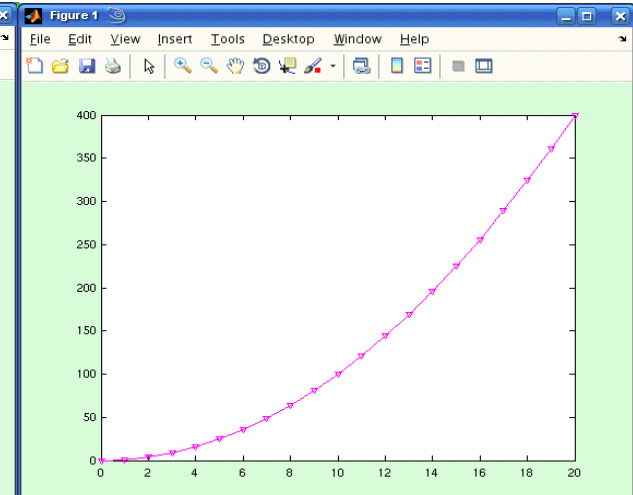
red crosses

plot(x,y,'bo')



black circles

plot(x, y, 'mv-')



magenta triangles + line

# Labelling axes

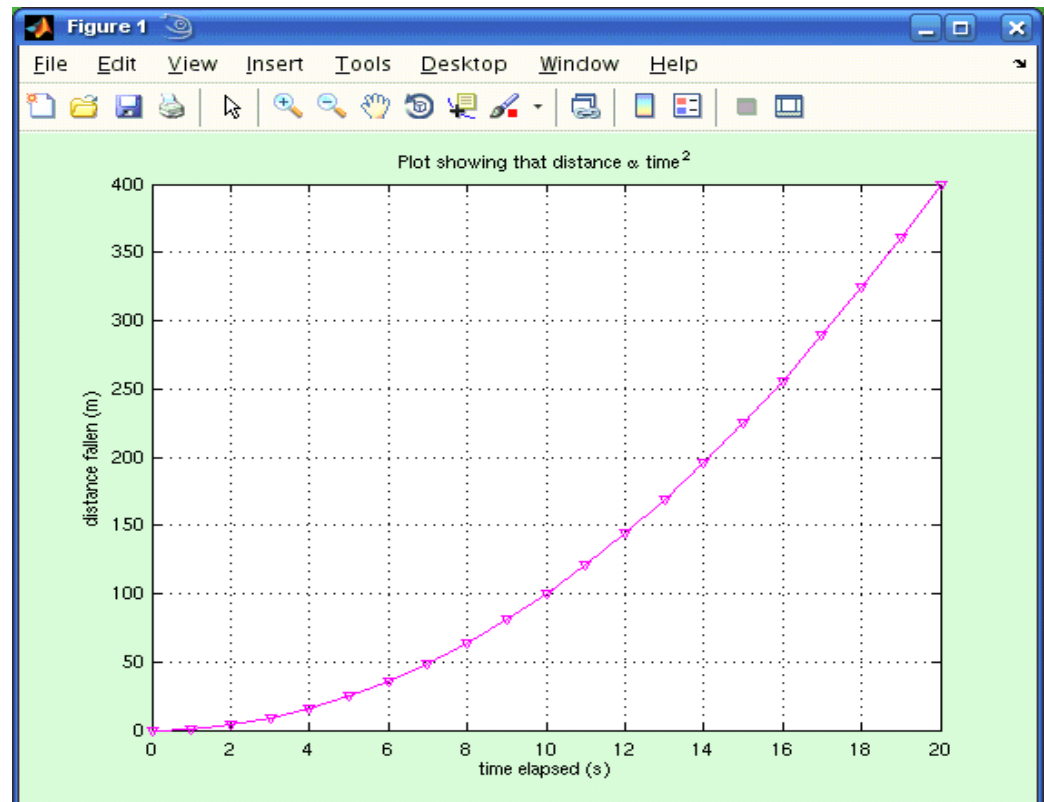
```
Command Window
New to MATLAB? Watch this Video, see Demos, or read Getting Started.
>> xlabel('time elapsed (s)');
>> ylabel('distance fallen (m)')
>> title('Plot showing that distance \alpha time^2')
>> grid on
fx >>
```

**xlabel**  
**ylabel**  
**title**  
**grid on**

Superscripts: 'time^2' => time<sup>2</sup>

Subscripts: 'SO\_2' => SO<sub>2</sub>

Greek characters: \alpha =>  $\alpha$



# Adding text

To add text at the position `xpos`, `ypos` to the current axes use:

```
>> text(xpos, ypos, 'some_string');
```

Remember you can use `sprintf`.

```
>> text(2.3, 5.1, sprintf('station %s',station{stationNum}) );
```

# Changing the data range shown

Default: show all the data.

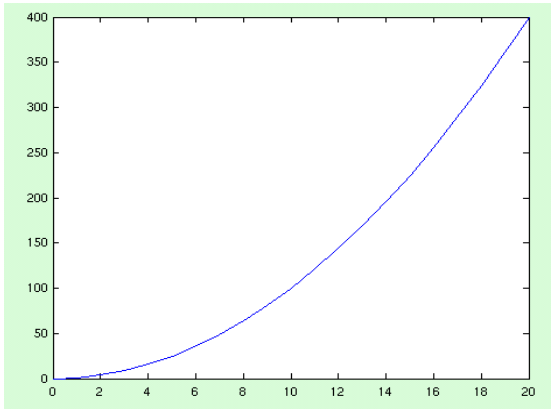
To override use:

```
>> set(gca, 'XLim', [xmin xmax]); % x-axis only
```

```
>> set(gca, 'YLim', [ymin ymax]); % y-axis only
```

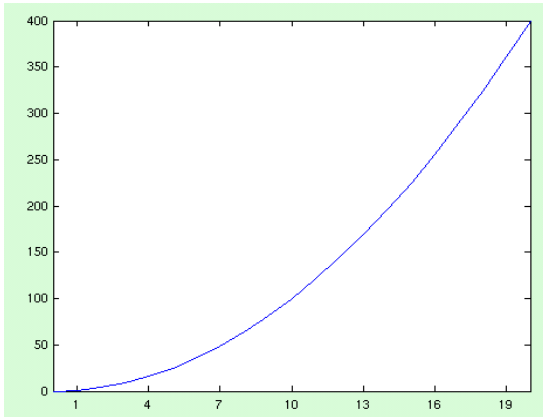
```
>> set(gca, 'XLim', [xmin xmax], 'YLim', [ymin ymax]); % both axes
```

# Changing the tick positions/labels

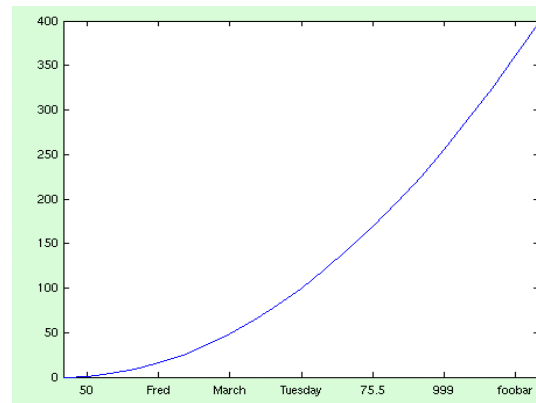


```
>> get(gca, 'XTick')  
ans =  
    0    2    4    6    8   10   12   14   16   18   20
```

`set(gca, 'XTick', 1:3:22)`



`set(gca, 'XTickLabel', {50, 'Fred', 'March', 'Tuesday', 75.5, 999, 'foobar'})`





# Plotting against date/time: datenum & datetick

**datenum()** returns the day number (and fractional day number) in the calendar starting 1st January in the year 0 AD.

Excel dates and times are similar except Excel uses the origin 1st January 1900. But you normally ask Excel to format those cells with a particular date/time format, so you don't see the raw numbers. In MATLAB, datenum gives those raw numbers.

To convert from Excel day-numbers to MATLAB datenum format:

```
mtime = etime + datenum(1900, 1, 1);
```

## Call it like:

```
datenum(YYYY, MM, DD)
```

```
datenum(YYYY, MM, DD, hh, mi, ss)
```

```
datenum('2009/04/29 18:27:00')
```

## Remember to use vectorisation:

```
redoubtEventTimes = {'2009/03/22 22:38'; '2009/03/23 04:11'; '2009/03/23 06:23'}
```

```
dnum = datenum(redoubtEventTimes); % result is a 3 x 1 vector of datenums.
```

```
datetick('x'); % can give unexpected results, ask for help.
```

# datestr

I often use dates in plot labels, or in file paths/names.

**datestr(array, dateform)** is used to generate a human-readable string from an array of dates/times in datenum format.

```
>> lectureTime = datenum(2009, 4, 29, 12, 30, 0)
733890.5208
>> datestr(lectureTime, 30)
20090427T123000
>> datestr(lectureTime, 31)
2009-04-29 12:30:00
>> datestr(lectureTime, 'mm/dd/yyyy')
04/29/2009
>> xlabel( sprintf('This plot was generated at %s', datestr(now, 31) ) );
```

An aside – making dates work for you:

YYYYMMDD, not MMY YDD (U.S.) or DDMMYY (Europe).

### 3. Multiple plots on a figure

# MATLAB Graphics Object Hierarchy

Screen

Figure1

Axis1 (xlabel, ylabel, title, tick marks, tick labels)

Graph1 (linestyle, legendlabel)

Graph2

...

Axis2

Graph1

...

Figure2

Axis1

Graph1

Graph2

Axis2

Graph1

...

figure

axes

plot

# figure

To create a new figure with no axes:

```
>> figure;
```

To highlight a figure that is already displayed (if it doesn't already exist, it will be created):

```
>> figure(2)
```

To get all the properties associated with a figure:

```
>> get(figure(2))
```

To get a particular property associated with a figure:

```
>> get(figure(1), 'Position')
```

```
[420 528 560 420]
```

To modify a particular property associated with a figure:

```
>> set(figure(1), 'Position', [100 100 560 420])
```

This particular example will just move where figure(1) is plotted on the screen.

To get a 'handle' for the current active figure window use **gcf**.

```
>> get(gcf, 'Position')
```

Will return the screen position of the current active figure window.

# axes

New figures are created without a set of axes.

To get a 'handle' for the current active set of axes use **gca** (get current axes).

Example: get a list of all properties associated with current axes

```
>> get(gca)
```

```
>> get(gca, 'position')
```

This will return the screen position of the current active figure window, which by default is:

```
[0.13 0.11 0.775 0.815]
```

Format here is [xorigin yorigin xwidth yheight] in fractions of the figure window width.

To modify the position of the current axes within a figure:

```
>> set(gca, 'position', [0.2 0.3 0.6 0.4])
```

The axes would start 20% of the way across the screen, 30% of the way up, and be 60% the screen width, and 40% the screen height.

An alternative syntax is just to call the axes command:

```
>> axes('position', [0.2 0.3 0.6 0.4]);
```

Either will create a figure if none already exists. Or modify the current set of axes on the current figure.

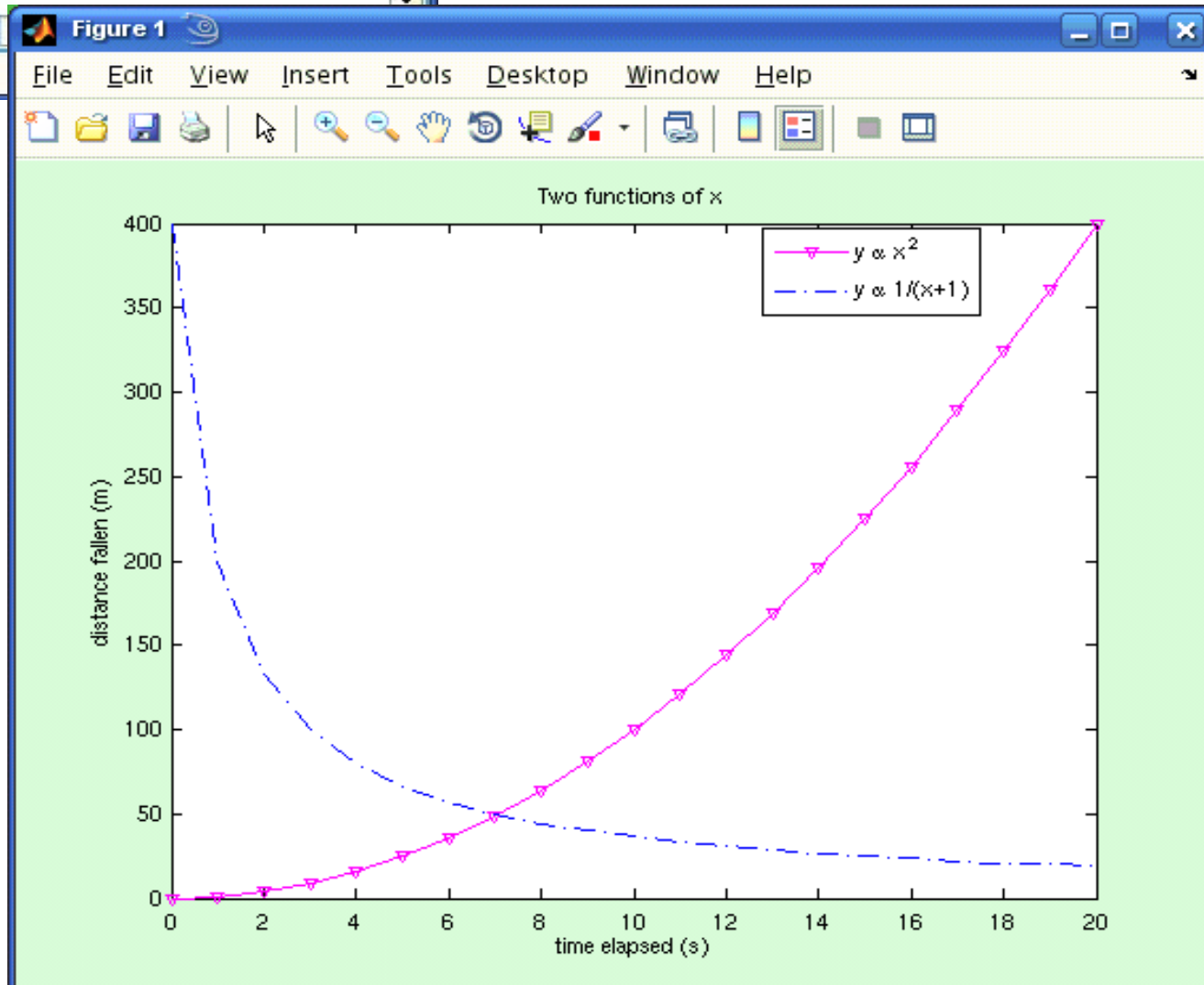
# Multiple plots on a figure 1: hold on

```
>> grid off
>> y2 = 400./(x+1);
>> hold on
>> plot(x,y2,'b-.-')
>> title('Two functions of x')
>> legend('y \alpha x^2', 'y \alpha 1/(x+1)')
fx >>
```

**hold on** “holds on” to graphs already in the current axes.  
Normally they would be erased

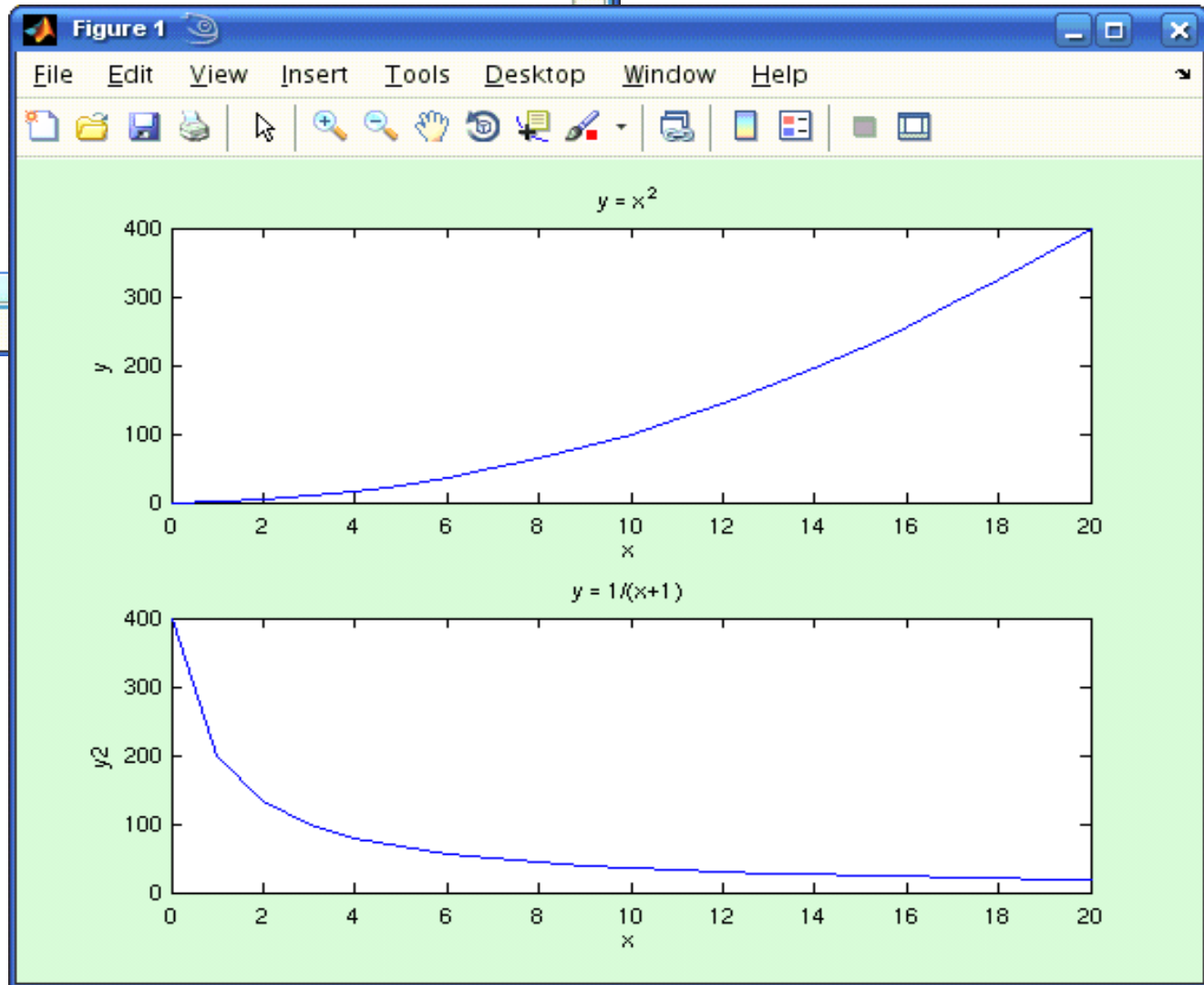
**hold on**  
**plot(x,y,'-')**  
**title**  
**legend**  
**hold off**

If your graphs have very different scales, and you have just two, try **plotyy**



# Multiple plots on a figure 2: subplot

```
New to MATLAB? Watch this Video, see Demos, or read Getting Started.  
  
>> close all  
>> figure  
>> subplot(2,1,1), plot(x,y)  
>> title('y = x^2')  
>> xlabel('x')  
>> ylabel('y')  
>> subplot(2,1,2), plot(x,y2)  
>> title('y = 1/(x+1)')  
>> xlabel('x')  
>> ylabel('y2')  
>>  
fx >> |  
Start
```



close all  
figure

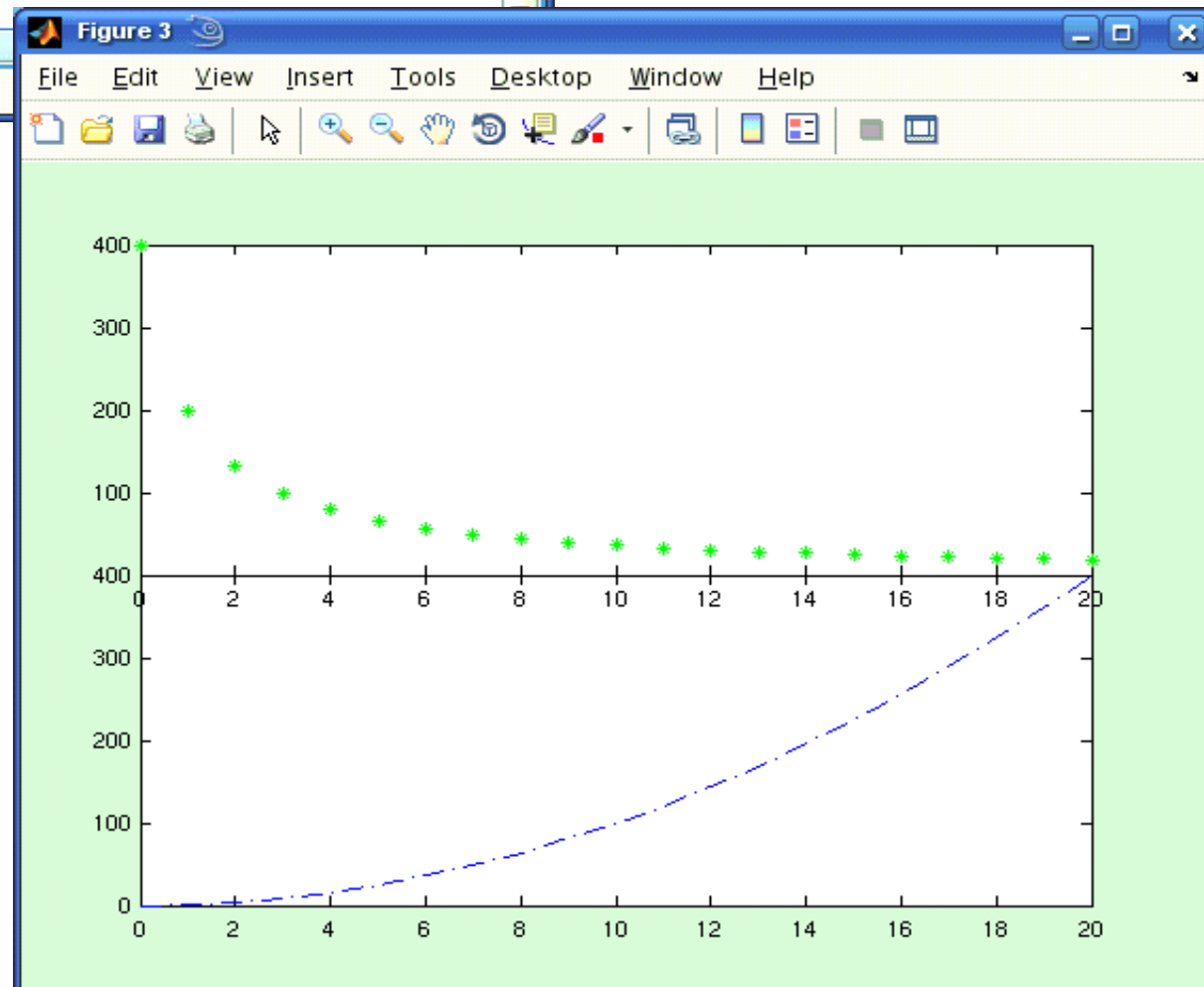
subplot(M, N, plotnum)

- an M x N array of plot axes



# Multiple plots on a figure 3: axes('position', [ ...])

```
Command Window
New to MATLAB? Watch this Video, see Demos, or read Getting Started.
>> figure
>> axes('position', [0.1 0.1 0.8 0.4])
>> plot(x,y,'b-.')
>> axes('position', [0.1 0.5 0.8 0.4])
>> plot(x,y2,'g*')
fx
>>
```



**axes('position', [xorigin  
yorigin xwidth yheight]);**  
– for finer control than  
subplot

**set(gca, 'XTickLabel', {})**  
- remove x tick labels

# Multiple plots on a figure 4: long form of plot command

**plot(x1, y1, x2, y2, ..., xn, yn)**

% a way of plotting multiple graphs  
without using **hold on**

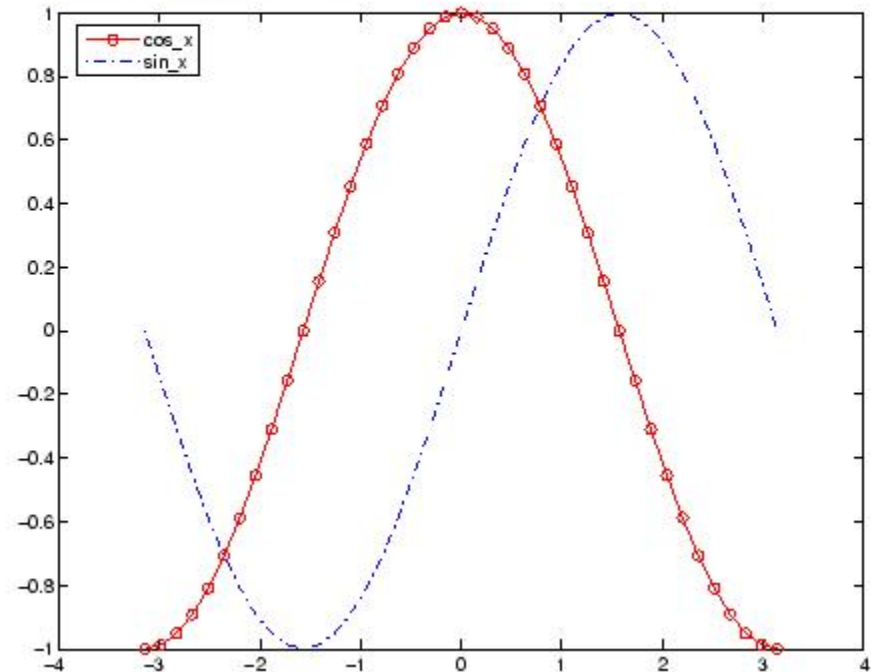
**plot(x1, y1, s1, x2, y2, s2, ..., xn, yn, sn)**

% as above, but override the default lin  
styles.

You can then use **legend** to create a key  
for the different graphs in your figure.

Add a legend to a graph showing a sine and cosine function:

```
x = -pi:pi/20:pi;  
plot(x, cos(x), '-ro', x, sin(x), '-.b')  
h = legend('cos_x', 'sin_x', 2);  
set(h, 'Interpreter', 'none')
```



## 4. Savings figures to image files

# Writing an image file - print

`print -f1 -dpng myplotfilename.png`

- script form

`print('-f1', '-dpng', '-r200', 'myplotfilename.png')`

- functional form

-r200 means print with resolution 200 dots per inch (use lower number for small plot)

-f2 means print figure 2

## Devices include:

ps, psc, ps2, psc2

- Postscript (c = colour, 2 = level 2)

eps, epsc, eps2, eps2

- Encapsulated Postscript (c = colour, 2 =

level 2)

ill

- Adobe Illustrator format

jpeg90

- JPEG with quality 90 (can be 01 to 99)

tiff

- TIFF

png

- PNG

Can also capture a figure window with:

`>> print -dmeta`

on a Windows system, and paste it into your document. It does the same thing as ALT-PRT SC.

# Writing an image file - print

## Example:

You have (numberOfPlots) figures and you want to save all of them as level-2 color encapsulated postscript files with names like myplot1.eps, myplot2.eps:

```
for plotNum = 1 : numberOfPlots  
    print('-depsc2', sprintf('-f%d',plotNum), '-r70',  
sprintf('myplot%d.eps',plotNum) );  
end
```

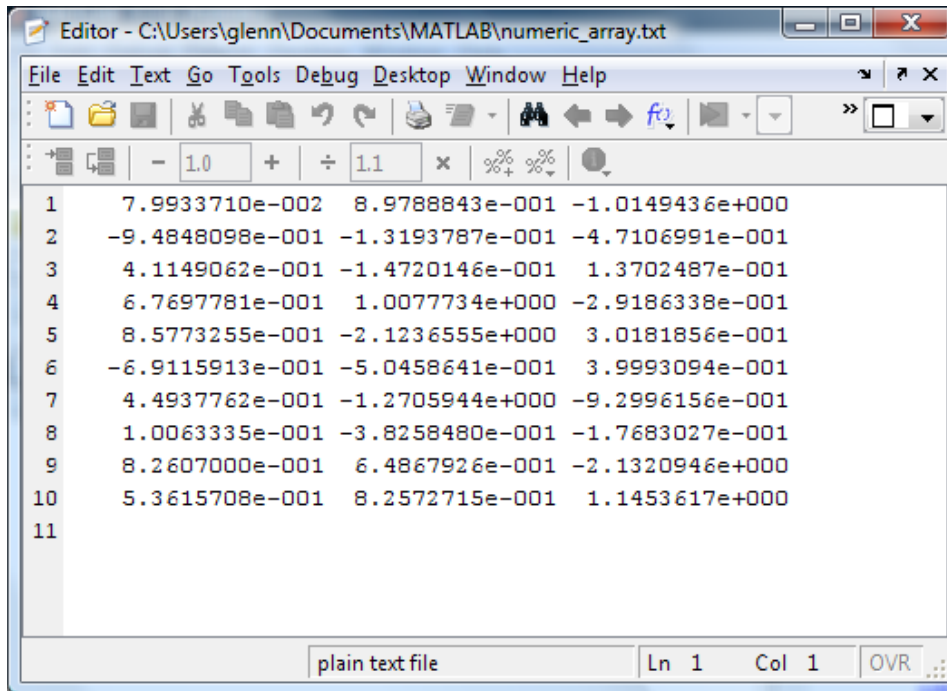
For plotNum = 2, the print line would evaluate to:

```
print('-depsc2', '-f2', '-r70', 'myplot2.eps')
```

## 5. Reading (and writing) data from files

# load

- Load data from an ASCII file into an array (must look like an array)



```
Editor - C:\Users\glenn\Documents\MATLAB\numeric_array.txt
File Edit Text Go Tools Debug Desktop Window Help
7.9933710e-002 8.9788843e-001 -1.0149436e+000
-9.4848098e-001 -1.3193787e-001 -4.7106991e-001
4.1149062e-001 -1.4720146e-001 1.3702487e-001
6.7697781e-001 1.0077734e+000 -2.9186338e-001
8.5773255e-001 -2.1236555e+000 3.0181856e-001
-6.9115913e-001 -5.0458641e-001 3.9993094e-001
4.4937762e-001 -1.2705944e+000 -9.2996156e-001
1.0063335e-001 -3.8258480e-001 -1.7683027e-001
8.2607000e-001 6.4867926e-001 -2.1320946e+000
5.3615708e-001 8.2572715e-001 1.1453617e+000
11
```

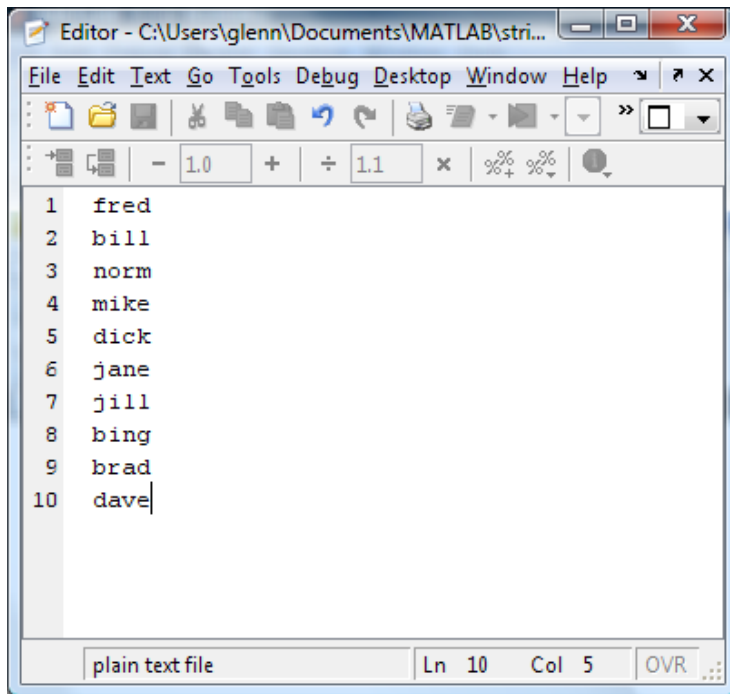
```
>> a=load('numeric_array.txt')
```

```
a =
    0.0799    0.8979   -1.0149
   -0.9485   -0.1319   -0.4711
    0.4115   -0.1472    0.1370
    0.6770    1.0078   -0.2919
    0.8577   -2.1237    0.3018
   -0.6912   -0.5046    0.3999
    0.4494   -1.2706   -0.9300
    0.1006   -0.3826   -0.1768
    0.8261    0.6487   -2.1321
    0.5362    0.8257    1.1454
```

??? Error using ==> load  
Number of columns on line 5 of ASCII file numeric\_array.txt  
must be the same as previous lines.

- Load variables from a MATLAB binary file (\*.mat)

load() wont work at all with alphabetic characters



```
s=load('string_array.txt')
```

??? Error using ==> load

Unknown text on line number 1 of ASCII file string\_array.txt  
"free".



# MATLAB binary files

Only MATLAB can read/write them. Useful for storing (workspace) variables, so you can reload them later. Use **save** and **load**. Support numeric arrays, strings, cell arrays and structs.

```
>> save foobar.mat
```

```
% saves all workspace variables to the file foobar.mat (.mat extension is optional)
```

```
>> save foobar.mat x y
```

```
% saves only the workspace variables x and y to the file foobar2.mat
```

```
>> save foobar.mat sta*
```

```
% saves all workspace variables that begin with the letters 'sta' (* is a wildcard)
```

```
>> load foobar.mat
```

```
% loads the file foobar.mat
```

```
>> load foobar x
```

```
% loads only the variable x from foobar.mat
```

MATLAB 7.7.0 (R2008b)

File Edit Debug Parallel Desktop Window Help

/home/glenn

Shortcuts How to Add What's New

### Command Window

New to MATLAB? Watch this [Video](#), see [Demos](#), or read [Getting Started](#).

```
>> str.name = 'Joe Sixpack';
>> str.age = 52;
>> str.children = 2;
>> c = {'RS0'; 'RDWB'; 'REF'}
c =
    'RS0'
    'RDWB'
    'REF'
>> str
str =
    name: 'Joe Sixpack'
    age: 52
    children: 2
>> save foobar
>> clear all
>> load foobar
>> who

Your variables are:

a    c    s    str

>> whos
```

Name	Size	Bytes	Class	Attributes
a	9x3	216	double	
c	3x1	200	cell	
s	3x3	18	char	
str	1x1	410	struct	

fx >> |

Start OVR

# importdata

load wont work with strings. A more versatile function is:

**A = importdata('filename.txt', 'delimiter')**

**>> a=importdata('numeric\_array3.txt')**

It works without any difficulty for any of the ASCII files we've seen so far:

```
a =  
1 2 3 4  
5 6 7 NaN  
8 9 10 11
```

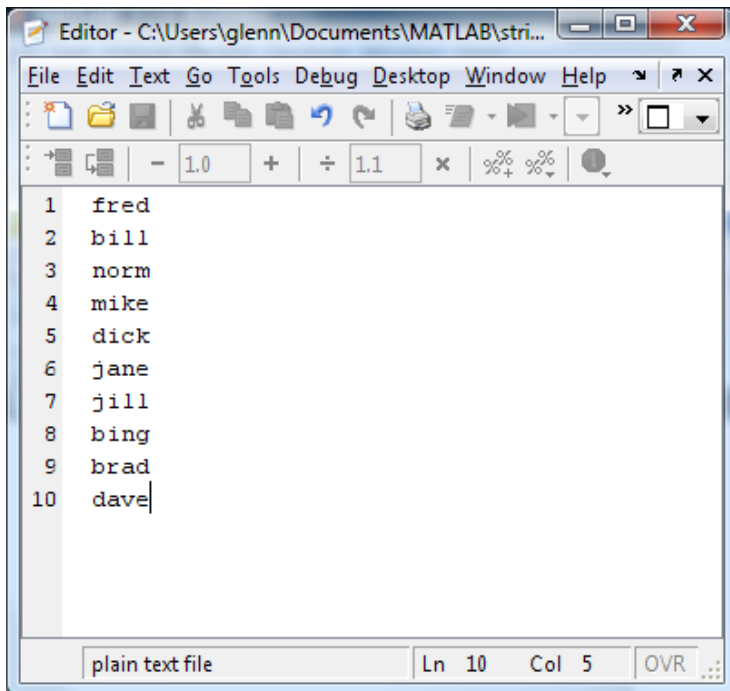
**>> s=importdata('string\_array.txt')**

s =

```
'fred'  
'bill'  
'norm'  
'mike'  
'dick'  
'jane'  
'jill'  
'bing'  
'brad'  
'dave'
```

Loads string\_array.txt into a cell array

>>



More ambitious – each row is a string followed of length 1 to 11 followed by 0 to 4 numbers (reals and integers).

The image shows a MATLAB 7.7.0 (R2008b) environment. On the left, a text editor window displays the contents of 'mixed\_array.txt':

```
1 frederick 1 2 3 4
2 bob 5 6 7
3 M 8 9
4 michael 10 11 12
5 dick 13.1 14.2 15
6 jane 16 17.5 18
7 jill 19 20
8 bing 21
9 brad
10 christopher 22 23
```

On the right, the MATLAB Command Window shows the execution of the following code:

```
>> s2 = importdata('mixed_array.txt')

s2 =

    data: [10x4 double]
  txtdata: (10x1 cell)
rowheaders: (10x1 cell)

>> s2.data

ans =

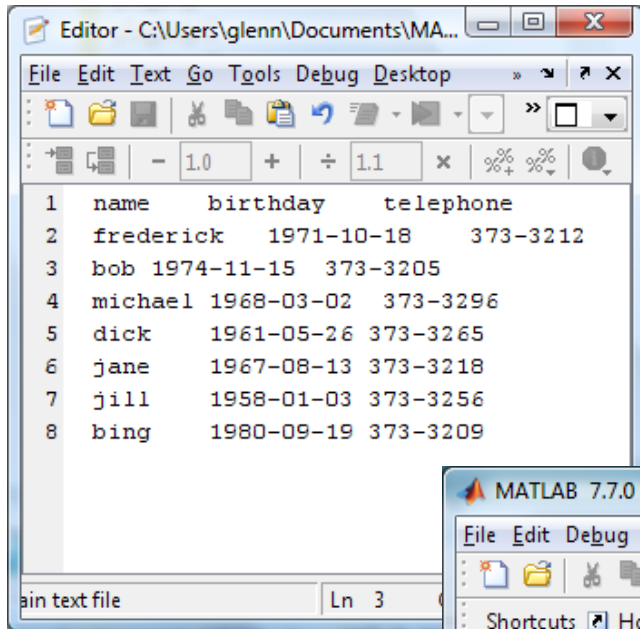
    1.0000    2.0000    3.0000    4.0000
    5.0000    6.0000    7.0000    NaN
    8.0000    9.0000    NaN      NaN
   10.0000   11.0000   12.0000   NaN
   13.1000   14.2000   15.0000   NaN
   16.0000   17.5000   18.0000   NaN
   19.0000   20.0000    NaN      NaN
   21.0000    NaN      NaN      NaN
    NaN      NaN      NaN      NaN
   22.0000   23.0000    NaN      NaN
```

Below the Command Window, the file 'mixed\_array.txt' is selected in the file browser, and its contents are displayed:

```
'frederick'
'bob'
'M'
'michael'
'dick'
'jane'
'jill'
'bing'
'brad'
'christopher'
```

Annotations on the left side of the image explain the output:

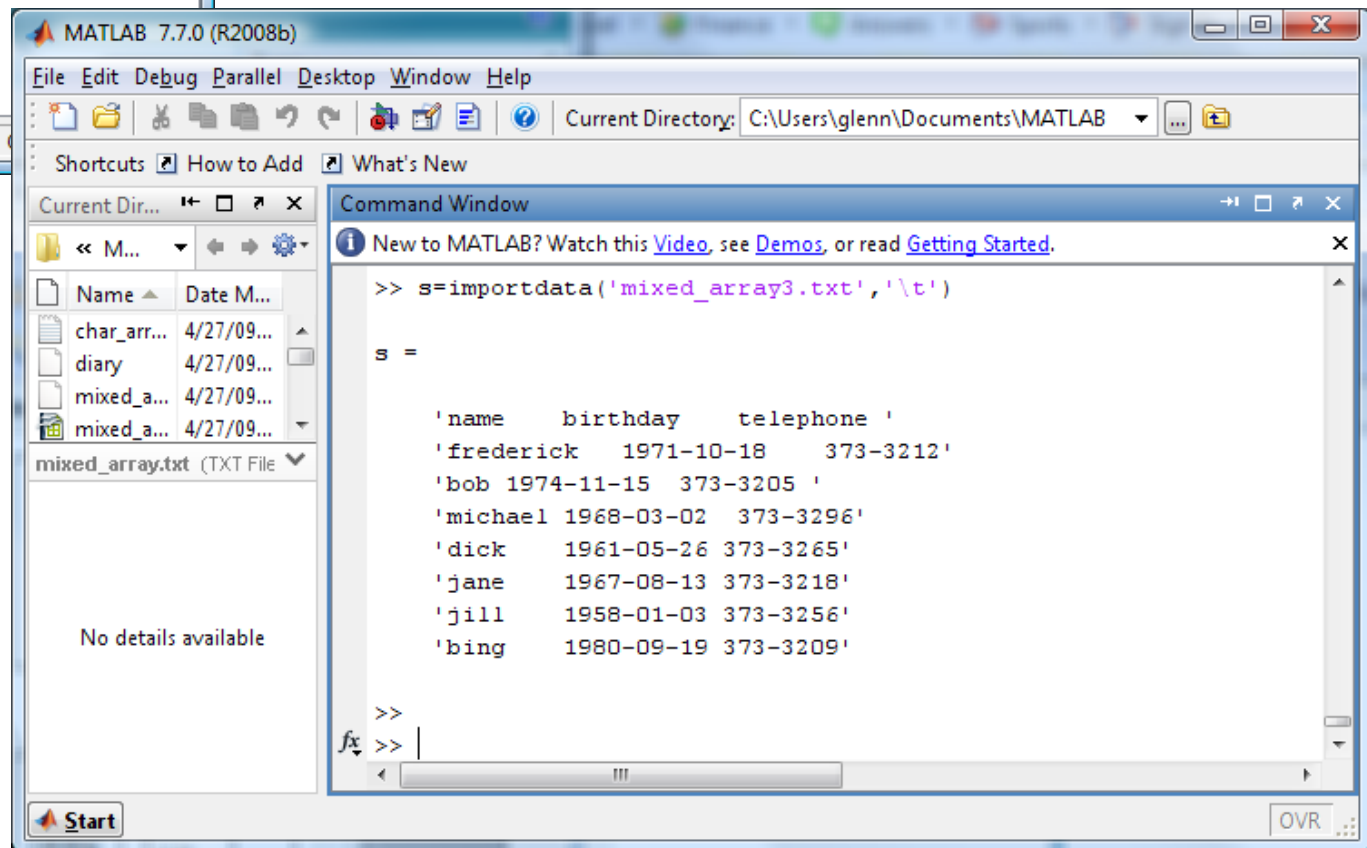
- It has created a struct, s2.data holds the numeric array,
- s2.txtdata holds the string data in a cell array
- Non-existent values replaced with NaN in numeric array



```
1 name birthday telephone
2 frederick 1971-10-18 373-3212
3 bob 1974-11-15 373-3205
4 michael 1968-03-02 373-3296
5 dick 1961-05-26 373-3265
6 jane 1967-08-13 373-3218
7 jill 1958-01-03 373-3256
8 bing 1980-09-19 373-3209
```

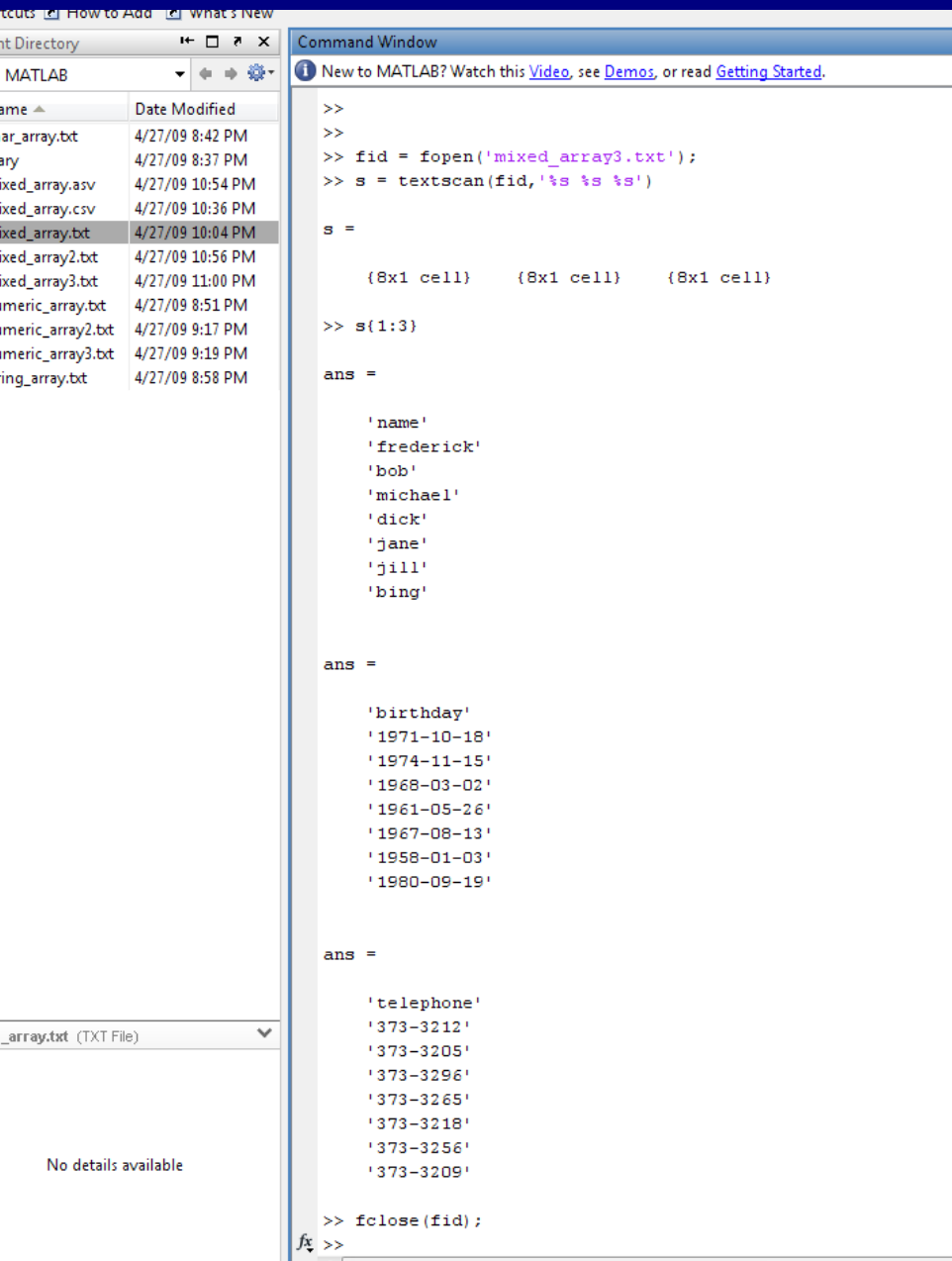
But importdata finally fails to work as desired when we are reading in a simple file made of 3 strings per row.

It loads each row into a single element of a cell array.



```
MATLAB 7.7.0 (R2008b)
File Edit Debug Parallel Desktop Window Help
Current Directory: C:\Users\glenn\Documents\MATLAB
Shortcuts How to Add What's New
Command Window
New to MATLAB? Watch this Video, see Demos, or read Getting Started.
>> s=importdata('mixed_array3.txt','\t')
s =
    'name birthday telephone '
    'frederick 1971-10-18 373-3212'
    'bob 1974-11-15 373-3205 '
    'michael 1968-03-02 373-3296'
    'dick 1961-05-26 373-3265'
    'jane 1967-08-13 373-3218'
    'jill 1958-01-03 373-3256'
    'bing 1980-09-19 373-3209'
```

# textscan



The screenshot shows the MATLAB Command Window with the following code and output:

```
>>
>>
>> fid = fopen('mixed_array3.txt');
>> s = textscan(fid, '%s %s %s')

s =

    (8x1 cell)    (8x1 cell)    (8x1 cell)

>> s(1:3)

ans =

    'name'
    'frederick'
    'bob'
    'michael'
    'dick'
    'jane'
    'jill'
    'bing'

ans =

    'birthday'
    '1971-10-18'
    '1974-11-15'
    '1968-03-02'
    '1961-05-26'
    '1967-08-13'
    '1958-01-03'
    '1980-09-19'

ans =

    'telephone'
    '373-3212'
    '373-3205'
    '373-3296'
    '373-3265'
    '373-3218'
    '373-3256'
    '373-3209'

>> fclose(fid);
fx >>
```

**cols = textscan(fid, format)** works. Each column goes into a separate element of a cell array.

You are responsible for opening and closing the file though.

**fid = fopen(filename, mode)**

Is used to open a file.

Mode is:

'r' read (default)

'w' write (overwrite if file already exists)

'a' append (append to existing file if it already exists)

The latter are only used for writing data out to file.

**fclose(fid)** is used to close the file, after you've read (or written) it.

```
Editor - C:\Users\glenn\Documents\MATLAB\mixed_array3.txt
File Edit Text Go Tools Debug Desktop Window Help
1 frederick 37 1971-10-18 373-3212
2 bob 34 1974-11-15 373-3205
3 michael 40 1968-03-02 373-3296
4 dick 47 1961-05-26 373-3265
5 jane 41 1967-08-13 373-3218
6 jill 50 1958-01-03 373-3256
7 bing 28 1980-09-19 373-3209
```

Example to plot birthdays

against name using:

fopen/textscan/fclose

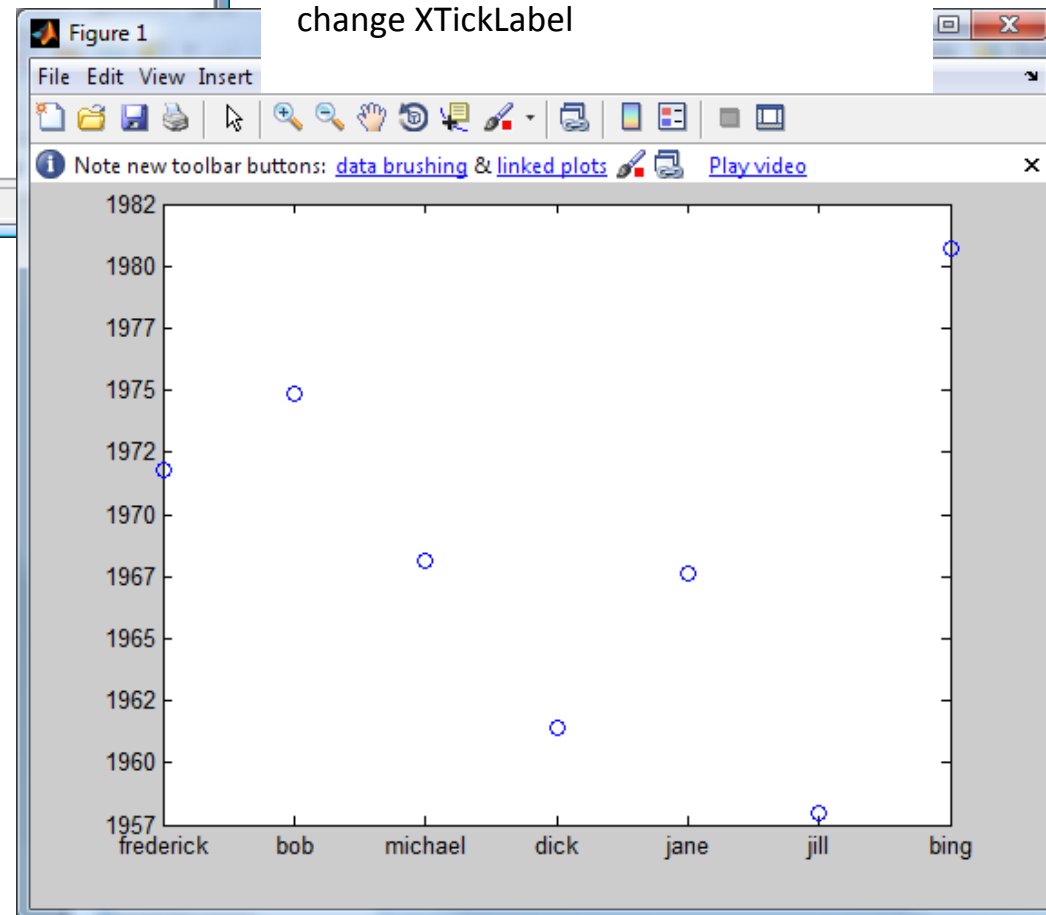
struct

datenum

plot(y)

datetick

change XTickLabel



Script:

```
% read the file
```

```
fid = fopen('mixed_array3.txt');
```

```
A = textscan(fid, '%s %d %s %s');
```

```
fclose(fid);
```

```
% convert data into a struct
```

```
person.name = A{1};
```

```
person.age = A{2};
```

```
person.bday = datenum(A{3}); % convert to a datenum
```

```
person.phoneNum = A{4};
```

```
% plot the data
```

```
figure;
```

```
plot(person.bday);
```

```
datetick('y'); % let Matlab figure out how to label the y-axis
```

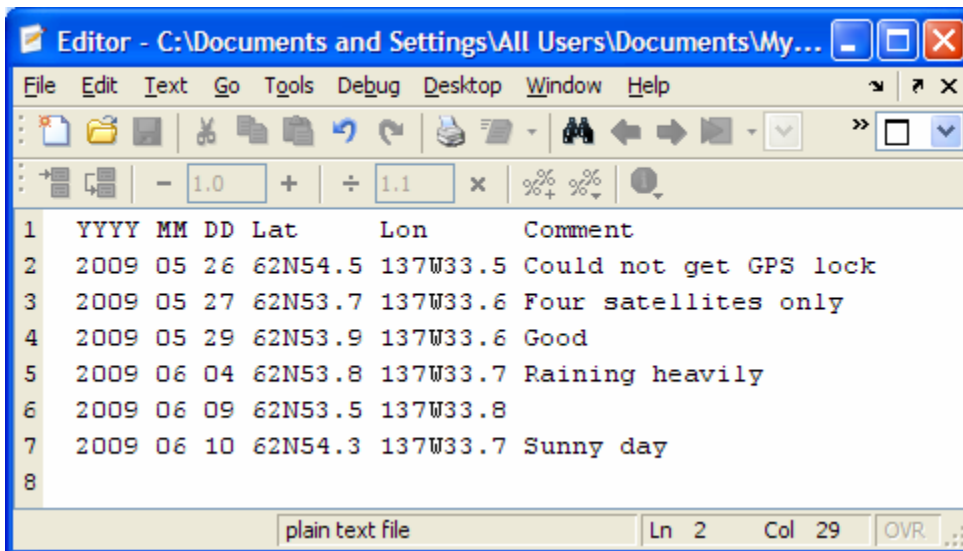
```
set(gca, 'XTickLabel', person.name); % change the XtickLabels from 1:7 to names
```

# Read a line - fgetl

Line can be any length, any format.

```
Example
fid=fopen('fgetl.m');
while 1
    tline = fgetl(fid);
    if ~ischar(tline), break, end
    disp(tline)
end
fclose(fid);
```

Useful when each line has fields which appear in fixed positions.



The screenshot shows a text editor window titled "Editor - C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Documents\My...". The window contains a table of data with 8 rows and 6 columns. The columns are labeled "YYYY", "MM", "DD", "Lat", "Lon", and "Comment". The data rows are as follows:

	YYYY	MM	DD	Lat	Lon	Comment
1						
2	2009	05	26	62N54.5	137W33.5	Could not get GPS lock
3	2009	05	27	62N53.7	137W33.6	Four satellites only
4	2009	05	29	62N53.9	137W33.6	Good
5	2009	06	04	62N53.8	137W33.7	Raining heavily
6	2009	06	09	62N53.5	137W33.8	
7	2009	06	10	62N54.3	137W33.7	Sunny day
8						

The status bar at the bottom of the window indicates "plain text file", "Ln 2", "Col 29", and "OVR".



2008b)

File Desktop Window Help

C:\Documents and Settings\All User

What's New

Command Window

New to MATLAB? Watch this [Video](#), see [Demos](#), or read [Getting Started](#)

```
>>
>> row = readlatlon('latlon.txt')

row =

1x6 struct array with fields:
    time
    lat
    lon
    comment

>> row(2)

ans =

    time: 733920
    lat: 62.8950
    lon: 137.5600
    comment: 'Four satellites only'
```

Editor - C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Documents\My Pictures\Sample Pictures\readlatlon.m

File Edit Text Go Cell Tools Debug Desktop Window Help

Stack: Base

1.0 + ÷ 1.1 x

```
1 function row = readlatlon(filename)
2 %READLATLON read a latlon file
3
4 % initialise variables
5 linenum = 0;
6
7 if(exist(filename, 'file')) % check if the file exists before trying to open it
8     fid = fopen(filename); % try to open the file, creating a pointer to it called
9     while 1, % loop over all rows in the file
10         myline = fgetl(fid); % read the next line
11         if ~ischar(myline), break, end % end loop when hit a blank line (end of file)
12
13         % break up the line into components
14
15         if strcmp(myline(1:2), '20') % if line starts with 20, it's probably a data row
16             linenum = linenum + 1;
17
18             % time
19             yyyy = str2num(myline(1:4));
20             mm = str2num(myline(6:7));
21             dd = str2num(myline(9:10));
22             row(linenum).time = datenum(yyyy, mm, dd);
23
24             % lat
25             row(linenum).lat = str2num(myline(12:13)) + str2num(myline(15:18))/60;
26
27             % lon
28             row(linenum).lon = str2num(myline(20:22)) + str2num(myline(24:27))/60;
29
30             % comment
31             if length(myline)>28
32                 row(linenum).comment = myline(29:end);
33             end
34
35         end
36
37     end % end of while loop
38
39     fclose(fid); % close the file
40 end
41
```

latlon.txt x readlatlon.m x

readlatlon

# Read a data type - fscanf

Examples:

`S = fscanf(fid, '%s')` reads (and returns) a character string.

`A = fscanf(fid, '%5d')` reads 5-digit decimal integers.

# Writing to a file - fprintf

```
fout = fopen(filename, 'w') % write to new file filename (replacing file if already exists)
for (r=1:numRows )        % loop over all rows

    fprintf(fout, '%s\t%12.7f\n', datestr(dnum(r),31), data(r));

end
fclose(fout)
```

\t = <tab>

\n = <return>

datestr(dnum(r), 31) = print dnum(r) as a datestr using dateform 31

%12.7f= print this real variable as 12 characters with 7 after the decimal point

Output file might be like:

20090423T180000	1234.1234567
20090423T180100	1357.1357911
20090423T180200	1470.1470369

## Related functions:

dlmwrite – for delimited fields

(csvwrite for comma delimited fields)

# Read an Excel file - xlsread

```
[numeric, txt, raw] = xlsread('myfile.xls');           % will attempt to read all  
sheets
```

```
[numeric, txt, raw] = xlsread('myfile.xls', 'sheet1');      % read sheet1 only
```

numeric – a matrix that contains all the numeric columns

txt – a cell array contain all text columns

raw – a cell array contain any columns xlsread could not interpret

Related functions are **csvread** and **dlmread**

# Writing an Excel file - xlswrite

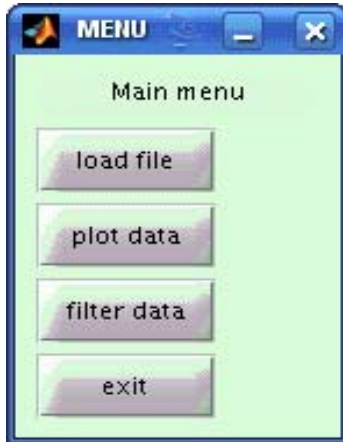
```
xlswrite('myfile.xls', myarray, 'sheet2');
```

myarray - a numeric array or a cell array

Related functions are **csvwrite**, **dlmwrite**

## 6. Miscellaneous I/O

# Graphical input



## **% A simple menu**

```
choice = 0;
while (choice ~= 4)
    choice = menu('Main menu', 'load file', 'plot data', 'filter data',
'exit')
    switch choice
        case 1, loadFile();
        case 2, plotData();
        case 3, filterData();
    end
end
```

## **% Get filename dialog**

```
[filename, dirname] = uigetfile();
```

## **% Save filename dialog**

```
[filename, dirname] = uinputfile();
```

## **% Getting input coordinates from the mouse**

```
[x, y] = ginput(2);    % input 2 data points
```

- useful for picking P and S arrival times
- or start and end of tremor or swarm episodes
- or start and end of episodes of increased degassing

## **% Designing GUIs**

```
guide;
```

# 7. Summary

## **Plotting commands:**

- plot, semilogx, semilogy, loglog, bar, barh, stem, stairs, hist, pie
- plot3, bar3, pie3, hist3, contour, surf, mesh, quiver, (mapping toolbox)
- image, imagesc
- datetick (datenum, datestr), subplot, hold on, axes

## **Graphical files:**

- imread, print

## **MAT(LAB binary) files:**

- load, save

## **Numerical ASCII files:**

- load, importdata, save

## **Text files:**

- importdata, textscan, fgetl, fscanf, fprintf (fopen/fclose)

## **Excel files:**

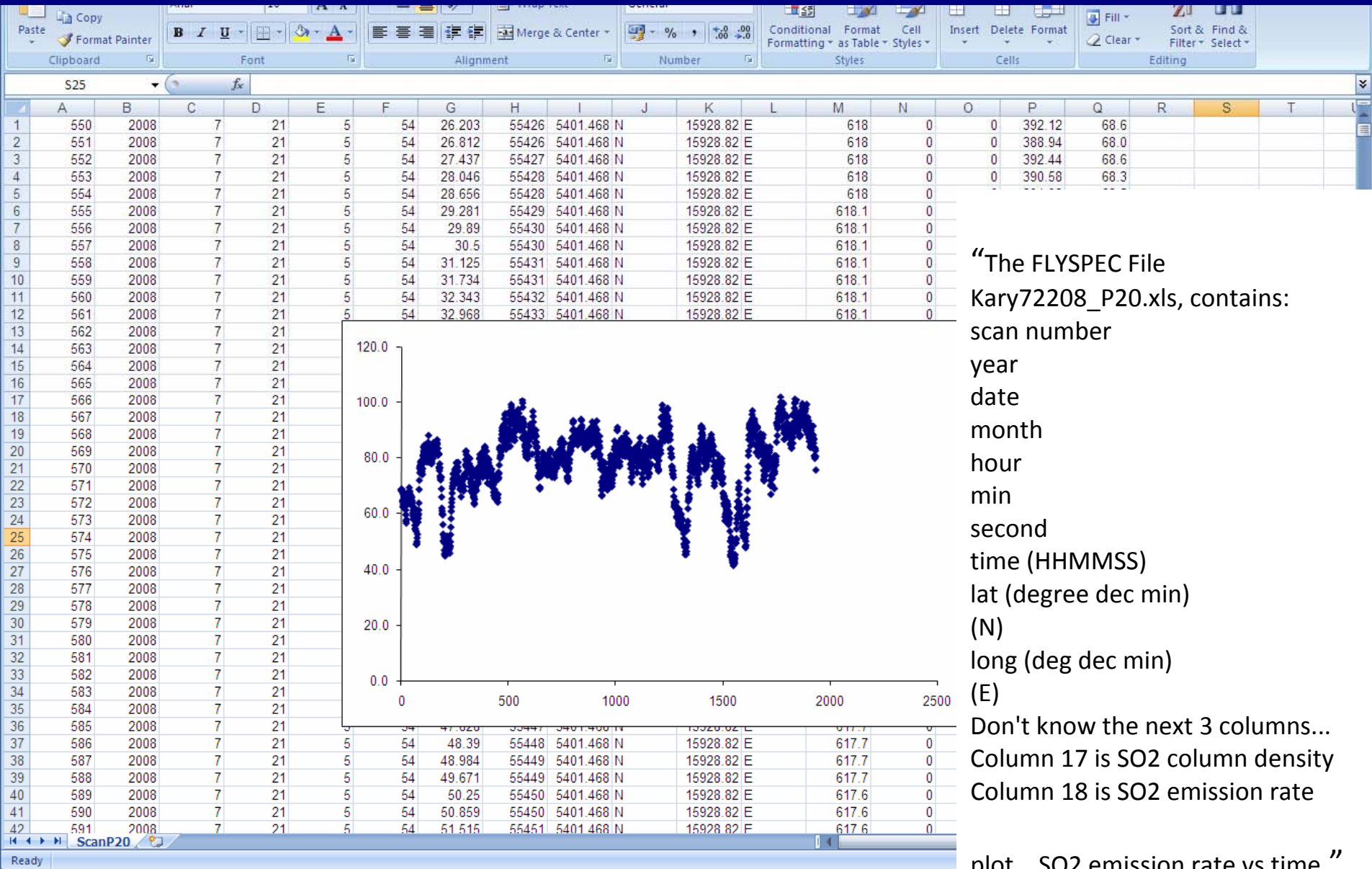
- xlsread, xlswrite

Not covered: reading and writing generic binary files with: fopen, fread, fwrite, fseek, fclose



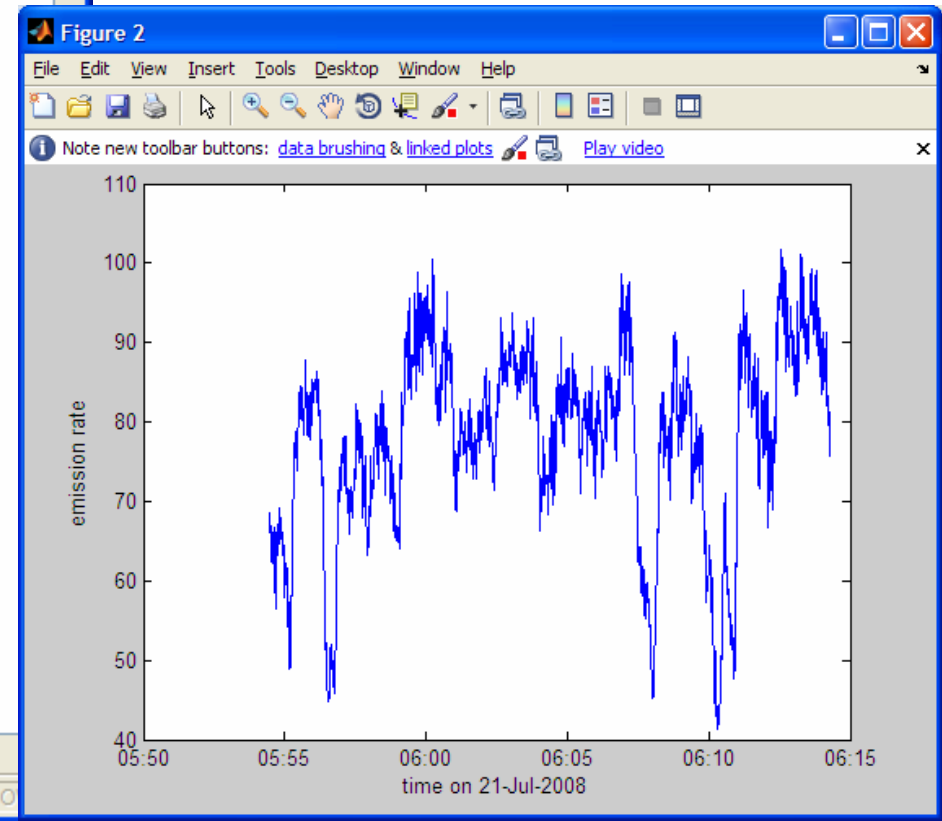
## 8. Examples

# Flyspec data, courtesy of Taryn Lopez



“The FLYSPEC File Kary72208\_P20.xls, contains:  
 scan number  
 year  
 date  
 month  
 hour  
 min  
 second  
 time (HHMMSS)  
 lat (degree dec min)  
 (N)  
 long (deg dec min)  
 (E)  
 Don't know the next 3 columns...  
 Column 17 is SO2 column density  
 Column 18 is SO2 emission rate  
 plot... SO2 emission rate vs time.”

```
Editor - C:\Documents and Settings\GLENN\Desktop\matlab_lecture\...
File Edit Text Go Cell Tools Debug Desktop Window Help
- 1.0 + ÷ 1.1 x % % %
1 function so2emissionrate()
2 %SO2EMISSIONRATE reads an Excel file and plots
3 %emission rate against time
4
5 % xls filename
6 filename = 'Kary72208_P20.xls';
7
8 % read data into a struct
9 s = readdata(filename);
10
11 % plot emission rate vs. time
12 figure;
13 plot(s.time, s.emissionrate);
14
15 % label the axes
16 xlabel(sprintf('time on %s',datestr(s.time(1),1)))
17 ylabel('emission rate')
18 datetick('x');
19
20 % print to file
21 print -dpng emissionrate.png
22
23 function st = readdata(fname)
24 [a, t] = xlsread(fname);
25 st.time = datenum(a(:,2:7));
26 st.scannum = a(:,1);
27 st.lat = a(:,9);
28 st.lon = a(:,11);
29 st.columndensity = a(:,16);
30 st.emissionrate = a(:,17);
31
32
latlon.txt x so2emissionrate.m x
so2emissionrate / readdata Ln 24 Col 25
```



# Grasshopper diet data, courtesy of Ellen Trainor

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M
1	RESPIRATIONS 26 treatments (ml/hr)											
2	Started 14 November 2008											
3	Day	1	3	5	7	10	15	19	21	24	26	28
4	Mebo Diet 1 Frass	0.029941	0.036760	0.021387	0.019372	0.028300	0.021002	0.026037	0.030734	0.028647	0.023603	0.015337
5	Mebo Diet 1 Frass	0.039347	0.029427	0.024627	0.025411	0.040357	0.021274	0.025504	0.025297	0.026141	0.026750	0.000358
6	Mebo Diet 1 Frass	0.045361	0.027650	0.020553	0.025200	0.041636	0.019422	0.026459	0.028628	0.027973	0.017469	0.018583
7	Mebo Diet 1 Frass	<b>0.038216</b>	<b>0.031279</b>	<b>0.022189</b>	<b>0.023328</b>	<b>0.036764</b>	<b>0.020566</b>	<b>0.026000</b>	<b>0.028220</b>	<b>0.027587</b>	<b>0.022607</b>	<b>0.011426</b>
8	Mebo Diet 2 Frass	0.046629	0.027252	0.026722	0.028802	0.051745	0.028179	0.017258	0.023576	0.012284	0.002670	0.000438
9	Mebo Diet 2 Frass	0.052348	0.044640	0.028961	0.028229	0.046364	0.000717	0.033413	0.026310	0.014336	0.005969	0.001064
10	Mebo Diet 2 Frass	0.065282	0.049284	0.036490	0.042543	0.050284	0.026643	0.032548	0.026985	0.024932	0.021134	0.000823
11	Mebo Diet 2 Frass	<b>0.054753</b>	<b>0.040392</b>	<b>0.030724</b>	<b>0.033191</b>	<b>0.049464</b>	<b>0.018513</b>	<b>0.027740</b>	<b>0.025623</b>	<b>0.017184</b>	<b>0.009924</b>	<b>0.000775</b>
12	Mebo Diet 3 Frass	0.028408	0.084356	0.035052	0.038212	0.044131	0.044650	0.036323	0.031559	0.034029	0.017198	0.020243
13	Mebo Diet 3 Frass	0.045540	0.073274	0.039020	0.030590	0.046562	0.034594	0.022943	0.018259	0.013884	0.006151	0.012501
14	Mebo Diet 3 Frass	0.044400	0.100208	0.045564	0.039532	0.051762	0.035126	0.028559	0.023222	0.016908	0.009144	0.018806
15	Mebo Diet 3 Frass	<b>0.039449</b>	<b>0.085946</b>	<b>0.039879</b>	<b>0.036111</b>	<b>0.047485</b>	<b>0.038123</b>	<b>0.029275</b>	<b>0.024347</b>	<b>0.021607</b>	<b>0.010831</b>	<b>0.017183</b>
16	Mebo Diet 5 Frass	0.032053	0.034795	0.023463	0.020572	0.034882	0.020807	0.029548	0.030751	0.034542	0.020581	0.028493
17	Mebo Diet 5 Frass	0.038439	0.036586	0.029273	0.029888	0.032920	0.011903	0.027028	0.025383	0.018278	0.016180	0.019512
18	Mebo Diet 5 Frass	0.038591	0.037185	0.026900	0.031409	0.039472	0.025069	0.018573	0.014363	0.013441	0.009275	0.020603
19	Mebo Diet 5 Frass	<b>0.036361</b>	<b>0.036189</b>	<b>0.026545</b>	<b>0.027290</b>	<b>0.035758</b>	<b>0.019260</b>	<b>0.025050</b>	<b>0.023499</b>	<b>0.022087</b>	<b>0.015346</b>	<b>0.022869</b>
20	Mebo Diet 6 Frass	0.056179	0.062881	0.046108	0.027046	0.036725	0.029483	0.032193	0.016735	0.012754	0.009385	0.013267
21	Mebo Diet 6 Frass	0.060971	0.065381	0.039273	0.022965	0.037150	0.025007	0.021698	0.014975	0.015897	0.008545	0.022554
22	Mebo Diet 6 Frass	0.066800	0.109385	0.053944	0.028759	0.038487	0.027658	0.017694	0.022291	0.009256	0.013926	0.007995
23	Mebo Diet 6 Frass	<b>0.061317</b>	<b>0.079216</b>	<b>0.046442</b>	<b>0.026257</b>	<b>0.037454</b>	<b>0.027383</b>	<b>0.023862</b>	<b>0.018000</b>	<b>0.012636</b>	<b>0.010619</b>	<b>0.014605</b>
24	Mebo frass Crepis 6/21-6/24	0.025109	0.099019	0.050810	0.034375	0.025598	0.015682	0.011532	0.007736	0.007352	0.011333	0.018858
25	Mebo frass Crepis 6/21-6/24	0.044300	0.107612	0.055580	0.034786	0.026763	0.015381	0.014651	0.005530	0.013135	0.011605	0.010397
26	Mebo frass Crepis 6/21-6/24	0.031514	0.105090	0.081898	0.043379	0.027444	0.007587	0.013728	0.010326	0.014696	0.008791	0.019155
27	Mebo frass Crepis 6/21-6/24	<b>0.033641</b>	<b>0.103907</b>	<b>0.062763</b>	<b>0.037514</b>	<b>0.026601</b>	<b>0.012884</b>	<b>0.013304</b>	<b>0.007864</b>	<b>0.011727</b>	<b>0.010577</b>	<b>0.016137</b>
28	Mebo frass Dandelion 6/21-6/24	0.026125	0.237728	0.125275	0.072588	0.081534	0.017118	0.050571	0.052207	0.038441	0.026424	0.024487
29	Mebo frass Dandelion 6/21-6/24	0.020139	0.244282	0.091423	0.058880	0.052801	0.022627	0.025395	0.027898	0.017817	0.022933	0.027727
30	Mebo frass Dandelion 6/21-6/24	0.039729	0.207743	0.103861	0.072641	0.052413	0.018400	0.030701	0.033240	0.033577	0.016489	0.021253
31	Mebo frass Dandelion 6/21-6/24	<b>0.028665</b>	<b>0.229918</b>	<b>0.106853</b>	<b>0.067036</b>	<b>0.062250</b>	<b>0.019381</b>	<b>0.035556</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
32	Mebo frass Willow 6/21-6/26	0.054596	0.207699	0.079345	0.054584	0.036836	0.015952	0.006870	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
33	Mebo frass Willow 6/21-6/26	0.052565	0.229171	0.120664	0.056337	0.037465	0.012946	0.025919	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
34	Mebo frass Willow 6/21-6/26	0.050980	0.143724	0.146130	0.056944	0.035093	0.015005	0.027627	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
35	Mebo frass Willow 6/21-6/26	<b>0.052713</b>	<b>0.193531</b>	<b>0.115380</b>	<b>0.055955</b>	<b>0.036465</b>	<b>0.014634</b>	<b>0.020138</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
36	Mebo frass Run 2 Brome 7/18-	0.017822	0.082620	0.112102	0.071902	0.039908	0.024361	0.029167	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
37	Mebo frass Run 2 Brome 7/18-	0.027884	0.095826	0.086322	0.044031	0.050002	0.011080	0.029279	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
38	Mebo frass Run 2 Brome 7/18-	0.035452	0.125128	0.092414	0.047351	0.043226	0.012924	0.012425	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
39	Mebo frass Run 2 Brome 7/18-	<b>0.027052</b>	<b>0.101191</b>	<b>0.096946</b>	<b>0.054428</b>	<b>0.044379</b>	<b>0.016122</b>	<b>0.023624</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
40	Mebo frass Run 2 Crepis 7/18-	0.032164	0.156388	0.070297	0.048499	0.039589	0.009032	0.028215	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
41	Mebo frass Run 2 Crepis 7/18-	0.022936	0.153139	0.078992	0.046844	0.050070	0.028356	0.012309	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
42	Mebo frass Run 2 Crepis 7/18-	0.031340	0.161858	0.091402	0.058211	0.054596	0.022125	0.032035	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
43	Mebo frass Run 2 Crepis 7/18-	<b>0.028813</b>	<b>0.157128</b>	<b>0.080230</b>	<b>0.051185</b>	<b>0.048085</b>	<b>0.019838</b>	<b>0.024187</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
44	Mebo frass Run 2 Dandelion 7/18-	0.017573	0.061471	0.142079	0.111889	0.054791	0.035716	0.028574	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
45	Mebo frass Run 2 Dandelion 7/18-	0.020690	0.159492	0.090359	0.070210	0.041087	0.027204	0.027992	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
46	Mebo frass Run 2 Dandelion 7/18-	<b>0.01913</b>	<b>0.11048</b>	<b>0.11622</b>	<b>0.09105</b>	<b>0.04794</b>	<b>0.03146</b>	<b>0.02828</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
47	Chcu frass Brome 7/12-7/18	0.043432	0.144770	0.092225	0.063379	0.039101	0.016253	0.013069	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
48	Chcu frass Brome 7/12-7/18	0.041389	0.136011	0.088028	0.060811	0.046290	0.025027	0.026615	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
49	Chcu frass Brome 7/12-7/18	0.040902	0.177715	0.086546	0.068967	0.057643	0.034951	0.037111	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

apply a conversion factor to all measurements

plot the first six rows in bold as 6 lines on a plot

compute the area under each line

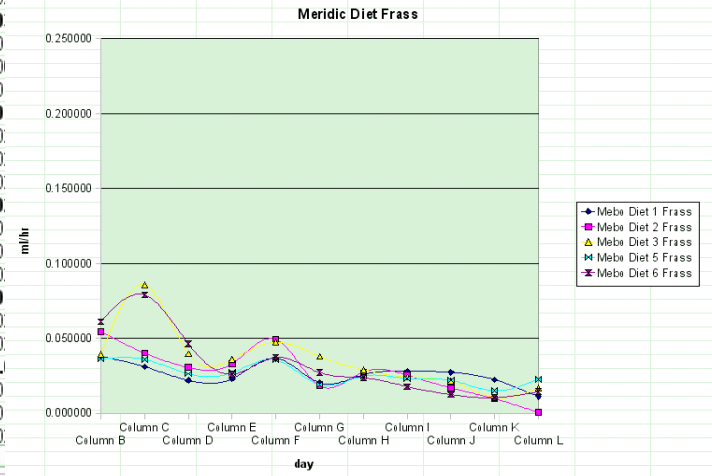
do the same for the next 6 bold rows

then the next 5

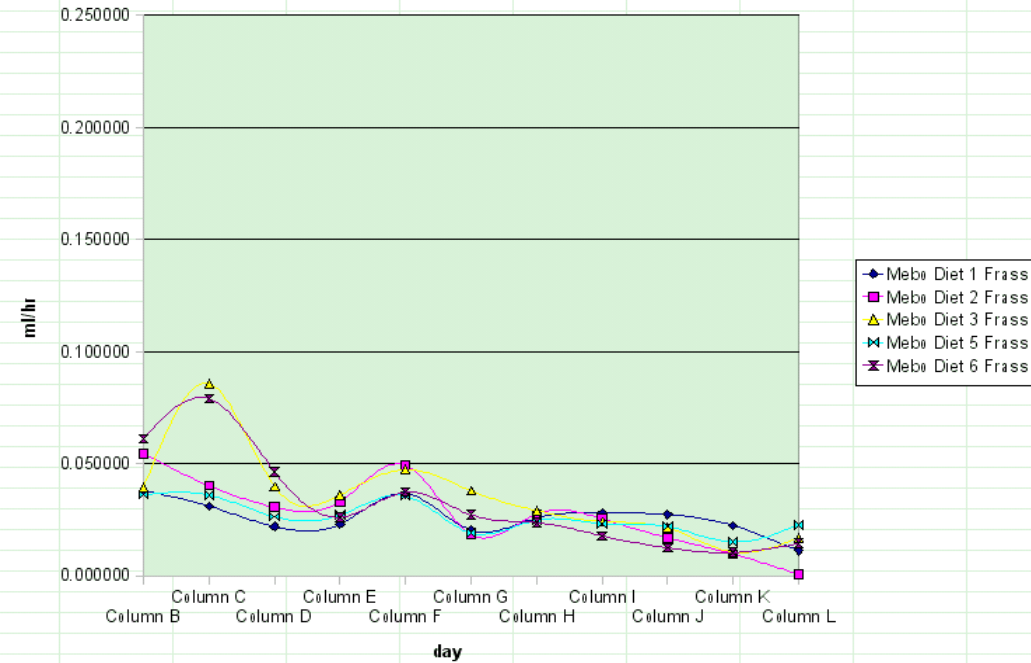
then the next 5

then the next 7

then the next 4



### Meridic Diet Frass



```
function grasshopperDiets()
```

```
% define conversion factor
conversionFactor = 1.98 * 12 / (12 + 2 * 16);
```

```
% load the data
```

```
[a, t] = xlsread('grasshopperDiets.xls');
day = a(3, :); % day is in row 3
```

```
% apply conversion factor
```

```
a[4:109, :] = a[4:109, :] * conversionFactor;
```

```
% set colours to match Excel
```

```
color = 'bmycrgk';
```

```
% define a vectors in a cell array which have row numbers for each plot
```

```
i{1} = 7:4:23;
```

```
...
```

```
i{5} = 82:4:102;
```

```
% loop over each set of rows defined in an element of i{ }
```

```
for count = 1:length(i)
```

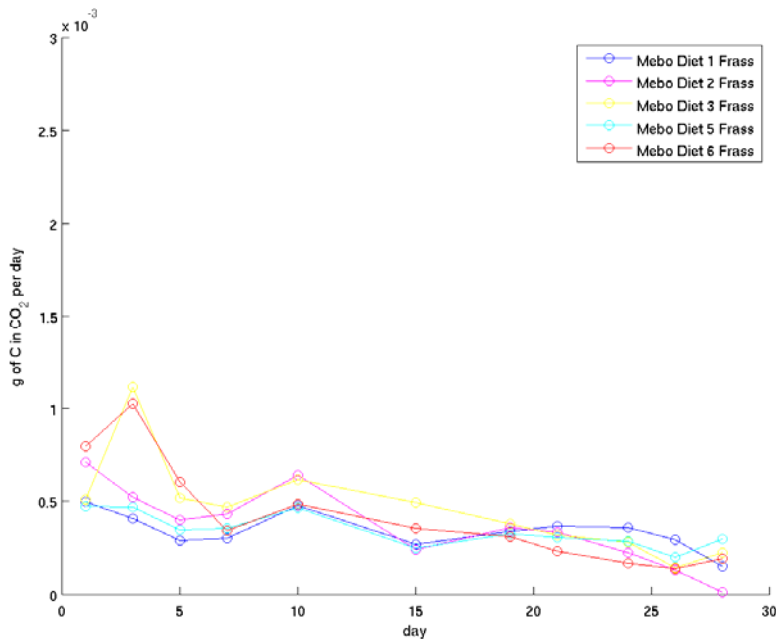
```
    % plot these rows & compute area under graph
```

```
    [area{count}, legendStr] = areas(day, a, i{count}, color, t);
```

```
    % plot a bar graph of the area
```

```
    plotarea(area{count}, color, legendStr)
```

```
end
```



# Exercises (optional)

Write scripts (or functions) to do the following:

## Exercise 1:

- **(Download the image file [http://www.avo.alaska.edu/images/logos/logo\\_avo\\_transparent\\_new.jpg](http://www.avo.alaska.edu/images/logos/logo_avo_transparent_new.jpg)).**
- Load the image into MATLAB (into an array A) with **imread**
- Plot it with **imagesc**
- Find the **size** of the array
- Find the **minimum** and **maximum** values
- Add a **colorbar**
- Add a **title**, **xlabel**, **ylabel**
- Move the figure on the screen with **set(gcf, 'Position', ...)**
- Move the axes with **set(gca, 'position', ...)**

## Exercise 2:

- Store rows 5, 10 and 20 of the array A in new vectors
- In a new **figure, plot** (in 2D) each of those 3 vectors in a different **subplot**
- In a new **figure, plot** (in 2D) each of those 3 vectors on same axes using **hold on**
- **set** the range of data shown (zoom in)
- **set** tick position
- Add **xlabel**, **ylabel**, **title** and **legend**.
- **print** to an EPS file

## Exercise 3:

- Load an Excel worksheet containing data (**xlsread**)
- **plot** some of the data in MATLAB.
- **print** to a PNG file.
- View the PNG file in your web browser.
- Modify the data in MATLAB.
- Write to new data back to a worksheet in Excel (**xlswrite**)

Send your scripts to [gthompson@alaska.edu](mailto:gthompson@alaska.edu) if you want feedback.