

11 General form of a user-defined function

```
function [out1, out2, ...] = fname(in1, in2, ...)
% H1 comment line
% Other comment lines

executable code—the function body
```

- Upon invocation, each function has its own memory space that is *inaccessible by other functions or the command window space*—variables in a function are *local* to the function and can be “seen” only inside the function
- Values stored in local variables are not preserved between function calls
- The keyword **function** indicates that an M-file contains a user-defined function
- **fname** above is the name of the function and is also the name of the file (without the extension **.m**)
- The input parameter list is enclosed in parentheses and the parameters are separated by commas
- MATLAB functions can return *multiple* values (output arguments). If a MATLAB function does not return any value, then omit from the function header the output parameter list, along with the square brackets, and the equal sign.
- The H1 comment line is *searchable* by MATLAB’s **lookfor** command. Put a *short* description of the function in the H1 comment line.
- The other comment lines will be displayed by MATLAB’s **help** command.
- *Calling a function:*

Suppose the function header is

```
function [out1, out2]= foo(in1, in2, in3)
```

Then to call the function, write the statement

```
[x, y]= foo(10, rand(1,1), 2)
```

Above, we assume all the input parameters are numeric, scalar variables. After the function executes, the value of **out1** in the function **foo** is stored in variable **x**, and the value of **out2** in the function **foo** is stored in variable **y**. Note that any arguments may be matrices.

Subfunctions

- There can be more than one function in an M-file
- The top function is normal, and it has the name of the M-file
- The remaining functions are *subfunctions*, and are accessible only by the top function

12 Reminder about random number generator rand

MATLAB’s pre-defined function **rand** generates a number in the range of 0 to 1 randomly. In other words, function **rand** generates a number from the standard *uniform* distribution: any number in the range of 0 to 1 is *equally likely to occur*. Note that the range is the open interval (0,1).

13 2-Dimensional Array: Matrix

In MATLAB, two dimensional arrays are called *matrices*. Matrices are *rectangular*! Use *square brackets* to delimit arrays. Using a space or a comma as the separator means to put something *to the right* of the previous unit; using a semicolon as the separator means to put something *below* the previous unit.

MATLAB **array index starts at 1**, not zero. To access a value in a matrix, specify the row and column index values, separated by a comma, inside parentheses. For example, `x(2,4)` is the value in the 2nd row and the fourth column of matrix `x`.

```
m = [1 2 3 4; 5 6 7 8] % 2-by-4 matrix m
[nr,nc] = size(m)      % nr stores the no. of rows; nc stores the no. of columns
m = [m; zeros(1,nc)]   % new matrix m: stack a row of zeros below the current m
m = [m m]              % new matrix m: put 2 m's side-by-side
m = [m; m]
v = 1:6
newm = [m v']
newm = newm'
m1 = rand(4,3) % 4-by-3 matrix with random values (uniform dist.)
tmp = m1(3,2)   % cell in 3rd row, 2nd column
tmp = m1(3:4,:) % submatrix of m1: rows 3 to 4, all columns
tmp = m1(:,2)   % submatrix of m1: all rows, column 2
tmp = m1([1 4],:) % submatrix of m1: rows 1 and 4, all columns
tmp = m1(:, [1 3])
tmp = m1([1 4],[1 3])
```

14 Logical arrays and operations

Logical arrays, i.e., arrays containing logical values, are the results of *relational* or *logical* operations. In MATLAB, logical values are zero for false and one (or any non-zero value) for true. Logical values are not just numbers—they have the *logical property* attached to the data, see the workspace window under “class” when you have a logical value in the MATLAB workspace.

You can write vectorized code for relational or logical operations when you need cell-by-cell comparisons. The result will be a logical vector. For example, let `x` be the vector `[2 3 5 2]`. Then the expression `x==2` will give the logical array `[1 0 0 1]`. Did you notice that `x==2` is vectorized code? It is vectorized because the relational operation (`==`) is performed on all cells in vector `x` in one step.

The use of function `find` and the extraction of subvectors based on relational operations are included below for your reference should you use MATLAB in the future. You are *not* responsible for this material in CS100J. You should, however, learn how to write *vectorized* code involving relational or logical operations (as discussed in the lab section).

```
elev = 8*rand(4,3) + 10 % example, elevations on a map
elev > 16               % returns a logical array

% 1-d examples
vec = elev(1,:)         % 1st row of matrix elev

L = vec>16              % logical array indicating result from vec>16
vecHigh = vec(L)        % extract just the cells with values > 16

vecHigh = vec(vec>16)   % combine last two statements in one
                        % this shortcut works for VECTORS only, not matrices

ind = find(vec>16)      % get the indices where vec>16
vecHigh = vec(ind)      % extract just the cells with values > 16
```

```
% Create a vector same as vec above except that all the values below 16 are "zeroed out".
% (There's a simpler solution that uses vectorized multiplication. See lab exercise.)
```

```
L = (vec>16)           % a LOGICAL vector
vecHigh = zeros(1,length(vec))
vecHigh(L) = vec(L)    % assign only to the cells with logical value 1

ind = find(vec>16)     % a vector of INDICES
vecHigh = zeros(1,length(vec))
vecHigh(ind) = vec(ind) % assign only to the cell numbers stored in ind
```

```
% 2-d examples
```

```
L = elev>16           % logical array (matrix)
elevHigh = elev(elev>16) % a VECTOR!!!
```

```
[ri,ci] = find(elev>16) % ri is vector that stores row index where elev>16
                        % ci is vector that stores col index where elev>16
```

15 String creation and manipulation

This topic is included for your reference should you use MATLAB in the future. You are *not* responsible for this topic in CS100J.

```
str = 'Age 19'         % a 1-d array of characters
code = double(str)     % convert chars to ASCII values
str1 = char(code)      % convert ASCII values to chars

% 2-d array of characters
block = ['one row'; 'two rows'] % Error! Rows must have same length
block = ['one row '; 'two rows']
blk = char('one row', 'two rows')
line1 = blk(1,:)       % length 8
line1trim = deblank(blk(1,:)) % length 7, trailing blank removed

% string functions
str = 'Age 19'
ischar(str)           % is the variable a char array? Return ONE value
isletter(str)         % is the cell content a letter? Return one value for each cell
isspace(str)
caps = upper(str)
small = lower(str)

% char arithmetic, relation
base = 'a'
nextcode = base + 1
nextletter = char(nextcode)
letter18 = char(base+18-1)
ans1 = 'a' > 'b'
ans2 = base=='a'
ans3 = base==letter18
blk = char('one row', 'two rows')
ans4 = blk=='o'        % character-by-character comparison
ans5 = blk(1,:)==blk(2,:) % character-by-character comparison
```