

MatLab Intro



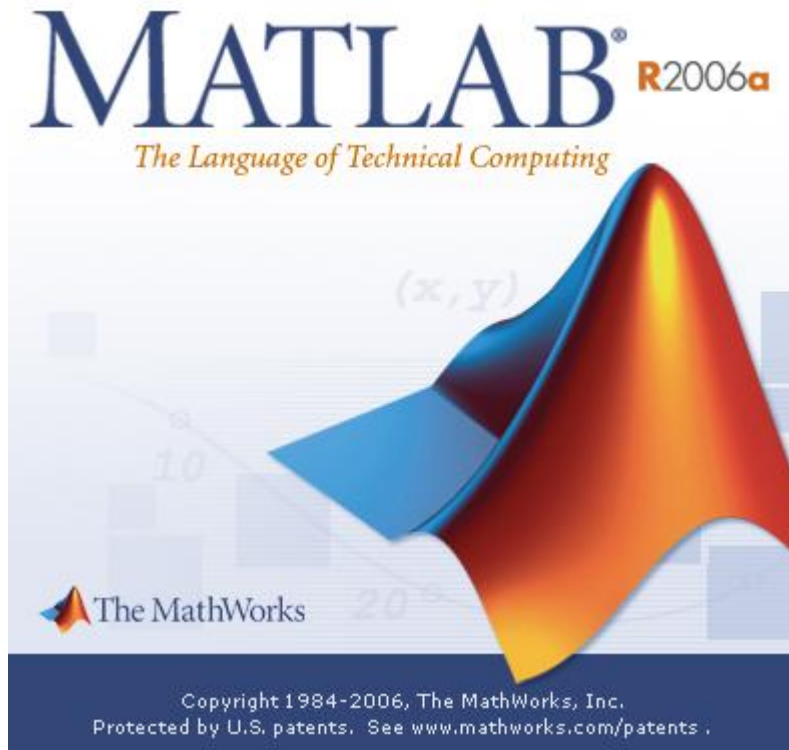
MIEET

1^o ano



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MatLab



MatLab = Matrix Laboratory

Functional programming language. Type of **declarative** programming: Tell computer **what** you want to know

Compare: **imperative** programming language: Tell computer **how** it should be calculated

MatLab example

Problem:

$$x + 2y + z = -1$$

$$2x - y - z = 3$$

$$3x - y + z = 4$$

$x, y, z?$

MatLab:

```
A = [  
    1, 2, 1;  
    2, -1, -1;  
    3, -1, 1  
];
```

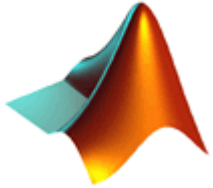
```
B = [  
    -1;  
    3;  
    4  
];
```

```
A\B
```

```
Ans =
```

```
    1.0000e+00  
   -1.0000e+00  
   -1.0598e-16
```

$x = 1, y = -1, z = 0$



Advantages:

Powerful
Engineering standard (MIEET)

Disadvantages:

Interpreted (slow vs. compiled)
Non intuitive syntax
Expensive

	Sale price			
Quantity	MATLAB	Simulink	Tier-1	Toolboxes
1	£495.00	£495.00	£495.00	£198.00

Octave



GNU Octave. Gratis!



Octave is very similar (but not equal) to MatLab. However

Open Source. Available for Linux (Ubuntu) and Windows. In lectures only support for Ubuntu and Octave will be given

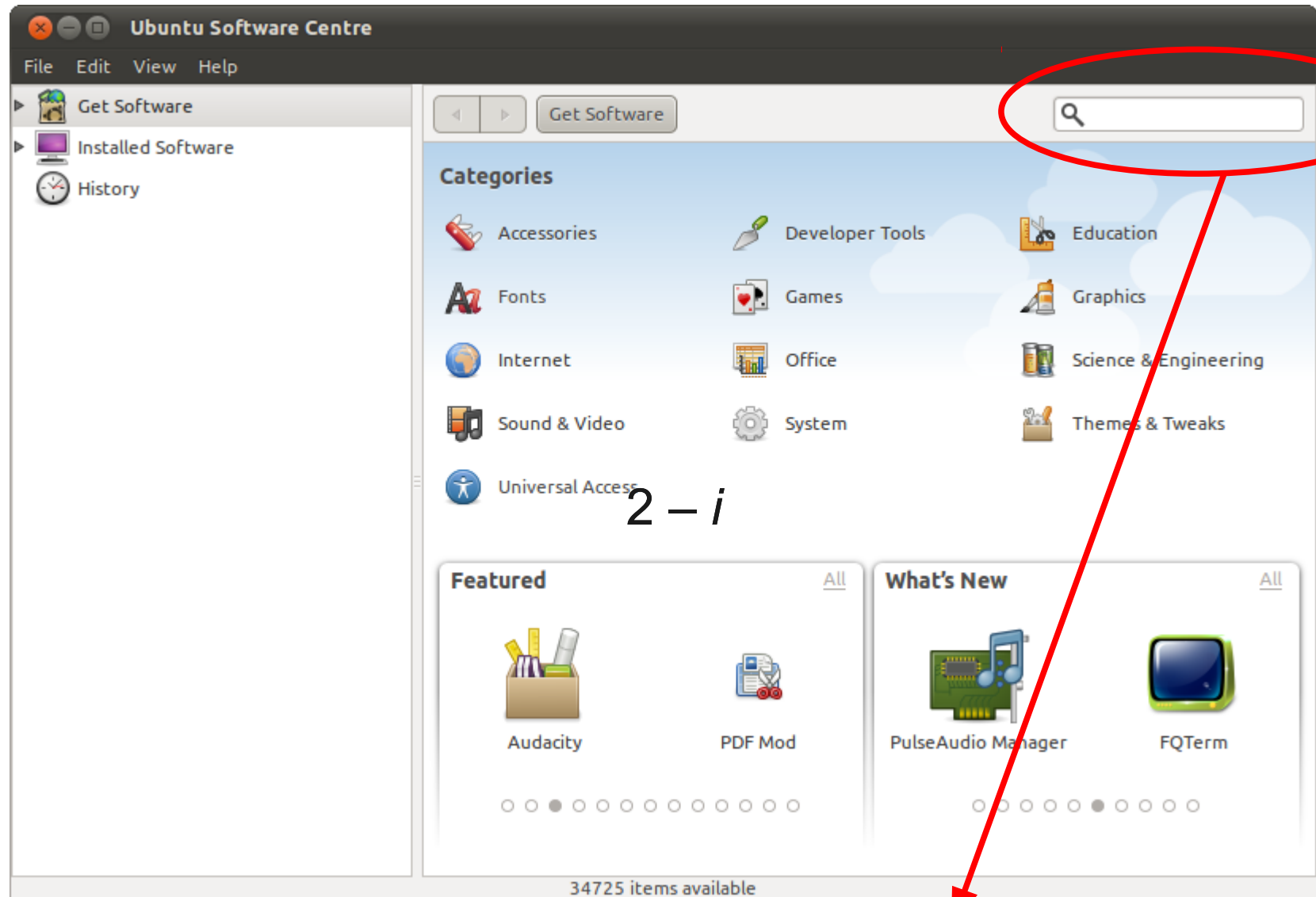
Gratis. For free. Zero cost. Including manuals updates and everything.



Get an installation CD (or USB disk) here:
<http://www.ubuntu.com/>

(It is advised to use 'classic desktop' to make it more Windows-like)

Octave in Ubuntu



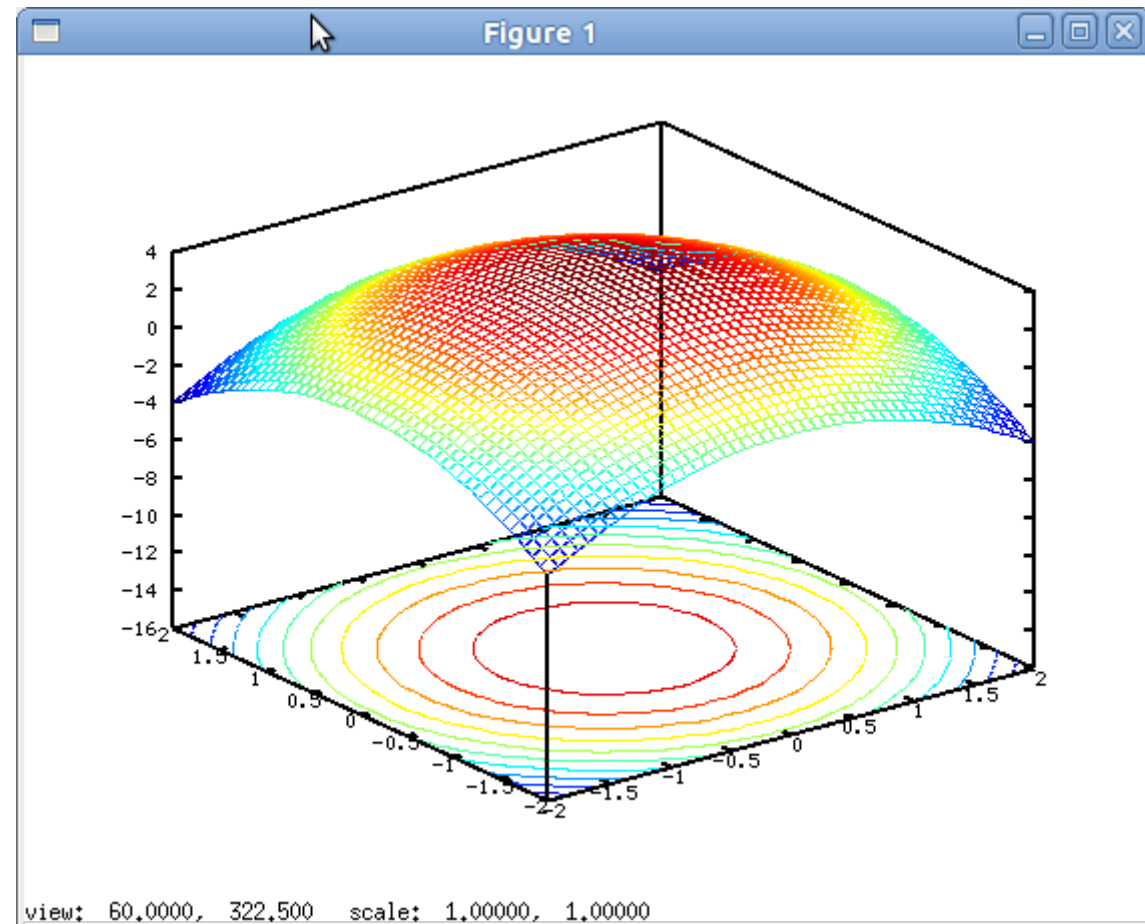
Go to Ubuntu Software Centre and type “QtOctave”

(Windows addicts can get GUI Octave at <http://www.download.com>)

Example

Open a terminal. Type 'octave' and then

```
x=linspace(-2,2,50);  
y=linspace(-2,2,50);  
[xx,yy]=meshgrid(x,y);  
meshc(xx,yy,4-(xx.^2+yy.^2))
```



Example 2

To get next weeks Euromillions numbers and stars type*:

```
1+floor(49*rand(5,1))  
1+floor(9*rand(2,1))
```

```
octave:17> 1+floor(49*rand(5,1))  
ans =  
  
    14  
    39  
     8  
    33  
    30  
  
octave:18> 1+floor(9*rand(2,1))  
ans =  
  
     7  
     1  
  
octave:19>
```

*: Don't forget to give 50% of your winnings to the professor who taught you this :-)

Variables

We have changed the state of the computer. Stored **information** (values)

Note: computing consists of information processing (or better to say information **destruction!**, ex. $3+6 = 9$; two pieces of information before, one after)

To see what variables (boxes with information we have)

```
octave:19> who
```

```
Variables in the current scope:
```

```
ans  x      xx     y      yy
```

```
octave:20> whos
```

```
Variables in the current scope:
```

Attr	Name	Size	Bytes	Class
====	====	====	=====	=====
	ans	2x1	16	double
	x	1x50	400	double
	xx	50x50	20000	double
	y	1x50	400	double
	yy	50x50	20000	double

```
Total is 5102 elements using 40816 bytes
```

*: Don't forget to give 50% of your winnings to the professor who taught you this :-)

Variables

To reset the memory we can use 'clear'

```
octave:23> clear
```

```
octave:24> whos
```

```
octave:25> a = 1
```

```
a = 1
```

```
octave:26> b = 2
```

```
b = 2
```

```
octave:27> c = a+b
```

```
c = 3
```

```
octave:28> whos
```

```
Variables in the current scope:
```

Attr	Name	Size	Bytes	Class
====	====	====	=====	=====
	a	1x1	8	double
	b	1x1	8	double
	c	1x1	8	double

```
Total is 3 elements using 24 bytes
```

This is **not** a mathematical equation!



Variables

Rules for names of variables (and filenames and functions!)

- Starts with a letter
- Letters, digits and underscore _
- No spaces!
- Use meaningful names (Write programs for your colleagues, not for yourself!)



What is '='?

```
octave:27> c = a+b ←
```

This is **not** a mathematical equation!

Don't say “c equals a plus b”

Instead say “c takes the value of a plus b”

```
octave:30> a = 2
```

```
a = 2
```

```
octave:31> b = a^3
```

```
b = 8
```

```
octave:32> a^2 = 1
```

```
error: invalid lvalue function called in expression
```

```
octave:32> a^2-1 = 0
```

```
error: invalid lvalue function called in expression
```

```
octave:32> b^2 = a^2
```

```
error: invalid lvalue function called in expression
```

variable_name = expression

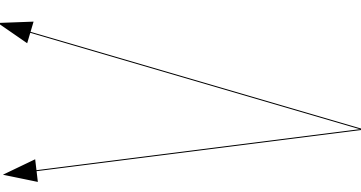
“The variable takes the value of the result of the expression”

Output

The magic disappearing act of the semicolon

```
octave:32> a=2
a = 2
octave:33> a=3;
octave 34> 2*a
ans = 6
octave 35> 2*a;
octave 36>
```

; → no output to screen




; is used to suppress output

Quit

Say goodbye

```
octave:32> quit
```

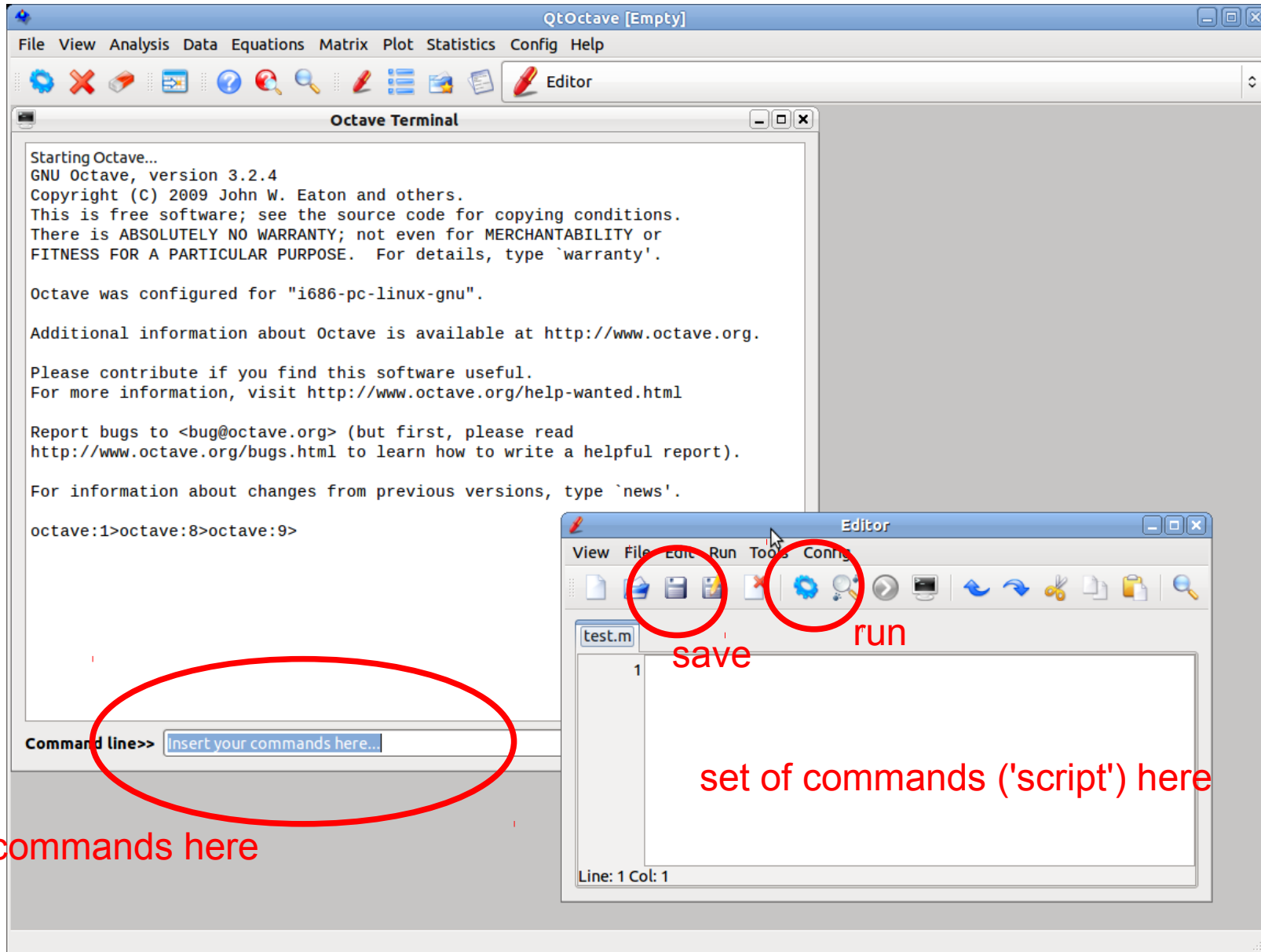


quit

Command line?

Command line is sooooo 20th century!!!!

Applications: Science: QtOctave



Direct commands here