

- Previous lecture
 - User-defined functions
 - Function header
 - Input parameters and return variables
- Today's lecture
 - User-defined functions
 - local memory space
 - Subfunction
 - 1-dimensional array and plot
- Announcement
 - Discussion this week in classrooms as listed in Student Center
 - Make use of consulting/office hours

General form of a user-defined function

```
function [out1, out2, ...]= functionName (in1, in2, ...)
```

% 1-line comment to describe the function

% Additional description of function

Executable code that at some point assigns
values to output parameters *out1*, *out2*, ...

- *in1*, *in2*, ... are defined when the function begins execution.
Variables *in1*, *in2*, ... are called function *parameters* and they hold the function *arguments* used when the function is invoked (called).
- *out1*, *out2*, ... are not defined until the executable code in the function assigns values to them.

Returning a value \neq printing a value

You have this function:

```
function [x, y] = polar2xy(r, theta)
% Convert polar coordinates (r,theta) to
% Cartesian coordinates (x,y). Theta in degrees.
...
...
```

Code to call the above function:

```
% Convert polar (rl,tl) to Cartesian (xl,yl)
rl= 1; tl= 30;
[xl,yl]= polar2xy(rl,tl);
plot(xl,yl,'b*')
...
...
```

Returning a value \neq printing a value

You have this function:

```
function [x, y] = polar2xy(r, theta)
% Convert polar coordinates (r,theta) to
% Cartesian coordinates (x,y). Theta in degrees.
... fprintf ('(%f , %f )\n', x, y)
```

Function prints instead
of returns values

Code to call the above function:

```
% Convert polar (rl,tl) to Cartesian (xl,yl)
```

```
rl = 1; tl = 30;
```

```
[xl,yl] = polar2xy(rl,tl);
```

```
plot(xl,yl,'b*')
```

Not possible
... to do

Now, although you can see the
coordinates, this script cannot
use them.

Given this function:

```
function m = convertLength(ft,in)
% Convert length from feet (ft) and inches (in)
% to meters (m).

    . . .
```

How many proper calls to convertLength are shown below?

```
% Given f and n
d= convertLength(f,n);
d= convertLength(f*12+n);
d= convertLength(f+n/12);
x= min(convertLength(f,n), 1);
y= convertLength(pi*(f+n/12)^2);
```

A: 1

B: 2

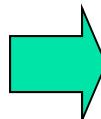
C: 3

D: 4

E: 5 or 0

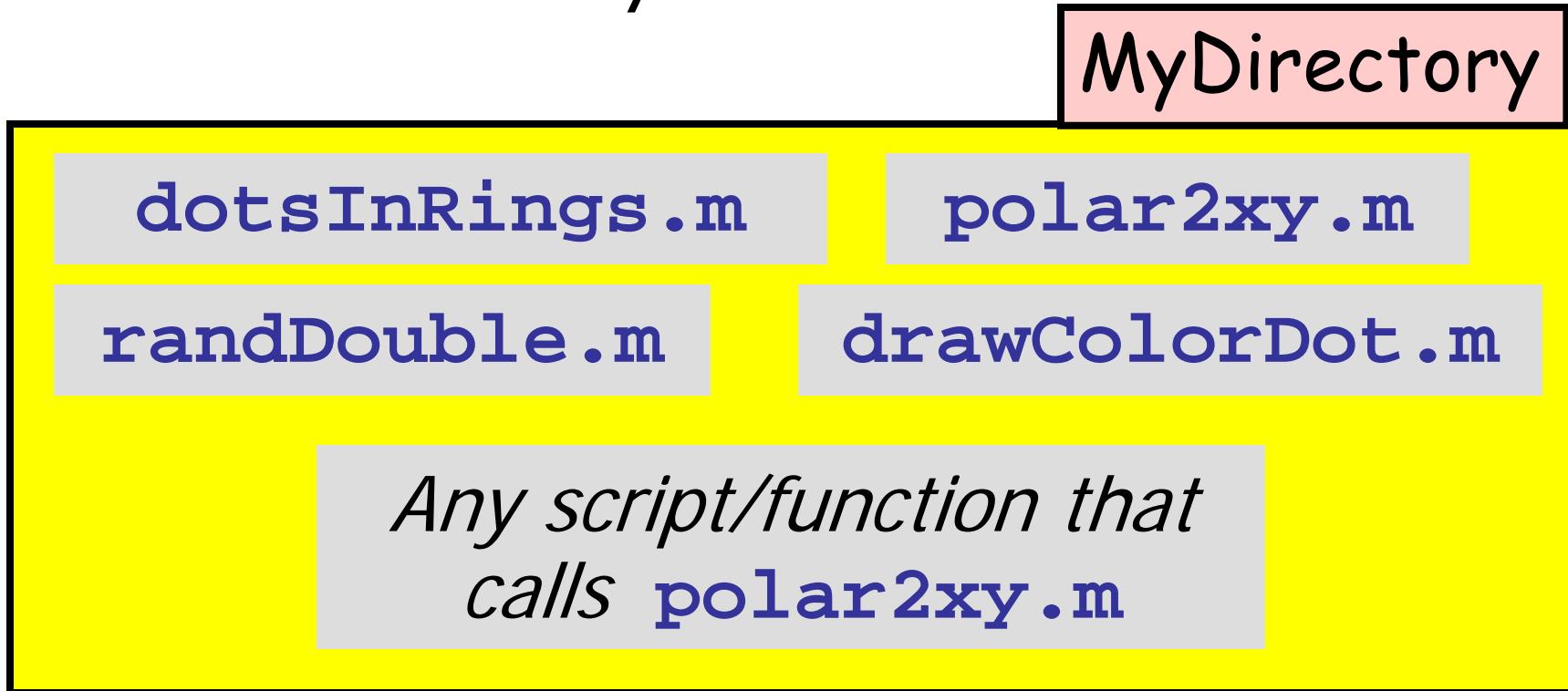
Comments in functions

- Block of **comments after the function header** is printed whenever a user types
`help <functionName>`
at the Command Window
- **1st line of this comment block** is searched whenever a user types
`lookfor <someWord>`
at the Command Window
- Every function should have a comment block after the function header that says **what the function does concisely**



Accessing your functions

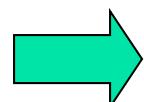
For now*, put your related functions and scripts in the same directory.



*The **path** function gives greater flexibility

Why write user-defined function?

- Easy code re-use—great for “common” tasks
- A function can be tested independently easily
- Keep a **driver** program clean by keeping detail code in **functions**—separate, non-interacting files

 Facilitate top-down design

```

c= input('How many concentric rings? ');
d= input('How many dots? ');

% Put dots btwn circles with radii rRing and (rRing-1)
for rRing= 1:c
    % Draw d dots
    for count= 1:d

        % Generate random dot location (polar coord.)
        theta= _____
        r= _____

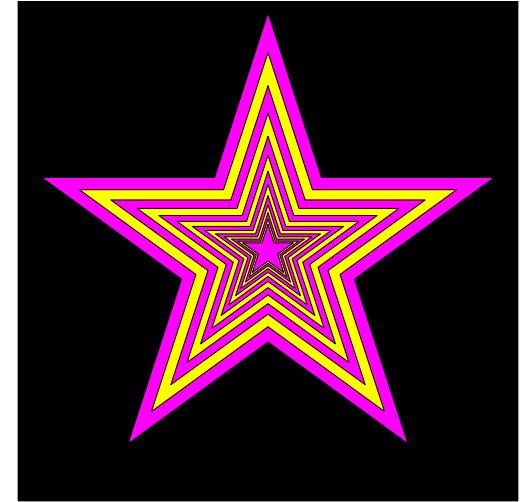
        % Convert from polar to Cartesian
        x= _____
        y= _____

        % Use plot to draw dot
    end
end

```

Each task becomes a function that can be implemented and tested independently

Facilitates top-down design



1. Focus on how to draw the figure given just a specification of what the function **DrawStar** does.
2. Figure out how to implement **DrawStar**.

To specify a function...

... you describe how to use it, e.g.,

```
function DrawStar(xc,yc,r,c)
% Adds a 5-pointed star to the
% figure window. Star has radius r,
% center(xc,yc) and color c where c
% is one of 'r', 'g', 'y', etc.
```

Given the specification, the user of the function doesn't need to know the detail of the function—they can just use it!

To implement a function...

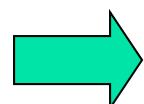
... you write the code so that the function “lives up to” the specification. E.g.,

```
r2 = r/(2*(1+sin(pi/10)));
for k=1:11
    theta = (2*k-1)*pi/10;
    if 2*floor(k/2)~=k
        x(k) = xc + r*cos(theta);
        y(k) = yc + r*sin(theta);
    else
        x(k) = xc + r2*cos(theta);
        y(k) = yc + r2*sin(theta);
    end
end
fill(x,y,c)
```

Don't worry—you'll learn
more about graphics
functions and vectors
soon.

Why write user-defined function?

- Easy code re-use—great for “common” tasks
- A function can be tested independently easily
- Keep a **driver** program clean by keeping detail code in **functions**—separate, non-interacting files
- Facilitate top-down design

 Software management

Software Management

Today:

I write a function

EPerimeter(a,b)

that computes the perimeter of the ellipse

$$\left(\frac{x}{a}\right)^2 + \left(\frac{y}{b}\right)^2 = 1$$

Software Management

During this year :

You write software that makes extensive use of

EPerimeter(a,b)

Imagine hundreds of programs each with several lines that reference **EPerimeter**

Software Management

Next year:

I discover a more efficient way to approximate ellipse perimeters. I change the implementation of

EPerimeter(a,b)

You do **not** have to change your software at all.

Script vs. Function

- A script is executed line-by-line just as if you are typing it into the Command Window
 - The value of a variable in a script is stored in the Command Window Workspace

- A function has its own private (**local**) function workspace that does **not** interact with the workspace of other functions or the Command Window workspace
 - Variables are **not** shared between workspaces even if they have the **same name**

What will be printed?

A: -3

B: 3

C: error

```
% Script file  
p= -3;  
q= absolute(p);  
disp(p)
```

```
function q = absolute(p)  
% q is absolute value of p  
if (p<0)  
    p= -p;  
end  
q= p;
```

What will be printed?

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What will be printed?

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```

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```

Command Window Workspace

```
p -3
```

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Command Window Workspace

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end  
q= p;
```

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
---	----

Function absolute's Workspace

p	
---	--

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---	----

Function absolute's Workspace

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► q= p;
```

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
---	----

Function absolute's Workspace

p	3
q	3

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```
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if (p<0)  
    p= -p;  
end  
q= p;
```

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
---	----

Function absolute's Workspace

p	3
q	3

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q= p;
```

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
q	3

Function absolute's Workspace

p	3
q	3

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Command Window Workspace

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```

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
q	3

REVIEW!!!

```
% Script file  
p= -3;  
q= absolute(p);  
disp(p)
```

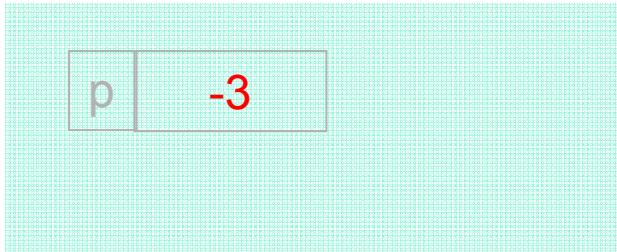
function q = absolute(p)

% q is the absolute value of p

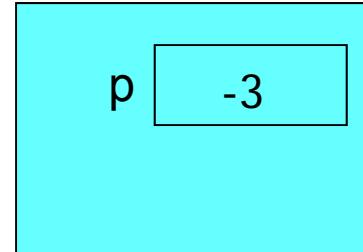
```
if (p<0)  
    p= -p;  
end  
q= p;
```

A value is passed to the function parameter when the function is called.

Command Window Workspace



Function



The two variables, both called p, live in different memory space and do not interfere.

REVIEW!!!!

```
% Script file  
p= -3;  
q= absolute(p);  
disp(p)
```

```
function q = absolute(p)  
% q is the absolute value of p  
if (p<0)  
    p= -p;  
end  
q= p;
```

When a function reaches the end of execution (and returns the output argument), the function space—local space—is deleted.

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
q	3

Function absolute's Workspace

p	3
q	3

What is the output?

```
x = 1;  
x = f(x+1);  
y = x+1;  
disp(y)
```

```
function y = f(x)  
x = x+1;  
y = x+1;
```

A: 1

B: 2

C: 3

D: 4

E: 5

What is the output?

```
x = 1;  
x = f(x+1);  
y = x+1;  
disp(y)
```

```
function y = f(x)  
x = x+1;  
y = x+1;
```

A: 1

B: 2

~~x~~ $\boxed{x_4}$
~~y~~ $\boxed{5}$

C: 3

D: 4

~~x~~ $\boxed{23}$
~~y~~ $\boxed{4}$

E: 5

Execute the statement `y= foo(x)`

- Matlab looks for a function called `foo` (m-file called `foo.m`)
- Argument (value of `x`) is copied into function `foo`'s **local parameter**
 - called “pass-by-value,” one of several argument passing schemes used by programming languages
- Function code executes **within its own workspace**
- At the end, the function's **output argument** (value) is sent from the function to the place that calls the function. E.g., the value is assigned to `y`.
- Function's **workspace is deleted**
 - If `foo` is called again, it starts with a new, empty workspace

Subfunction

- There can be more than one function in an M-file
- **top** function is the main function and has the name of the file
- remaining functions are **subfunctions, accessible only by the functions in the same m-file**
- Each (sub)function in the file begins with a **function header**
- Keyword **end** is not necessary at the end of a (sub)function