

- Previous Lecture:
 - Working with images

- Today's Lecture:
 - Characters and strings

- Announcements:
 - Section will be in the classrooms this week
 - Project 5 posted. Due Thurs Nov 5 at 11pm
 - Prelim 2 on Nov 10. Email Randy Hess (rbhess@cs.cornell.edu) if you have a conflict.

Characters & strings

- We have used strings already:
 - `n= input('Next number: ')`
 - `sprintf('Answer is %d', ans)`
- A string is made up of individual characters, so a string is a **1-d array of characters**
- **'CS1112 rocks!'** is a character array of length 13; it has 7 letters, 4 digits, 1 space, and 1 symbol.

C	S	1	1	1	2		r	o	c	k	s	!
---	---	---	---	---	---	--	---	---	---	---	---	---

Single quotes enclose strings in Matlab

Anything enclosed in single quotes is a string (even if it looks like something else)

- `'100'` is a character array (string) of length 3
- `100` is a numeric value
- `'pi'` is a character array of length 2
- `pi` is the built-in constant 3.1416...
- `'x'` is a character (vector of length 1)
- `x` may be a variable name in your program

Strings are important in computation

Numerical data is often encoded in strings. E.g., a file containing Ithaca weather data begins with the string

W07629N4226

meaning

Longitude: **76° 29' West**

Latitude: **42° 26' North**

We may need to grab hold of the substring **W07629**, convert **076** and **29** to the numeric values 76 and 29, and do some computation

Comparison of genomic sequences is another example of string computation

- E.g., looking for a pattern:

Given the sequence **ATTCTGACCTCGATC...**

Look for the pattern **ACCT**

- E.g., quantifying the difference between sequences:

ATTCTGACCTCGATC

ATTCGTGACCTCGAT

What if this nucleotide is removed?

Strings as vectors

Vectors

- Assignment
`v = [7 0 5];`
- Indexing
`x = v(3);` % x is 5
`v(1) = 1;` % v is [1 0 5]
`w = v(2:3);` % w is [0 5]
- : notation
`v = 2:5;` % v is [2 3 4 5]
- Appending
`v = [7 0 5];`
`v(4) = 2;` % v is [7 0 5 2]
- Concatenation
`v = [v [4 6]];`
 % v is [7 0 5 2 4 6]

Strings

- Assignment
`s = 'hello';`
- Indexing
`c = s(2);` % c is 'e'
`s(1) = 'J';` % s is 'Jello'
`t = s(2:4);` % t is 'ell'
- : notation
`s = 'a':'g';` % s is 'abcdefg'
- Appending
`s = 'duck';`
`s(5) = 's';` % s is 'ducks'
- Concatenation
`s = [s ' quack'];`
 % s is 'ducks quack'

Some useful string functions

```
str= 'Cs 1112';
```

```
length(str)      % 7  
isletter(str)    % [1 1 0 0 0 0 0]  
isspace(str)     % [0 0 1 0 0 0 0]  
lower(str)       % 'cs 1112'  
upper(str)       % 'CS 1112'
```

```
ischar(str)  
    % Is str a char array? True (1)  
strcmp(str(1:2), 'cs')  
    % Compare strings str(1:2) & 'cs'. False (0)  
strcmp(str(1:3), 'CS')  
    % False (0)
```

Example: capitalize 1st letter

Write a function to capitalize the first letter of each word in a string. Assume that the string has lower case letters and blanks only. (OK to use built-in function **upper**)

```
function [str, nCaps] = caps(str)
```

```
% Post: Capitalize first letter of each word.
```

```
% str = partially capitalized string
```

```
% nCaps = no. of capital letters
```

```
% Pre: str = string with lower case letters & blanks only
```

look for the spaces



Look For The Spaces

ASCII characters

(American Standard Code for Information Interchange)

<i>ascii code</i>	<i>Character</i>	<i>ascii code</i>	<i>Character</i>
:	:	:	:
:	:	:	:
65	'A'	48	'0'
66	'B'	49	'1'
67	'C'	50	'2'
:	:	:	:
90	'Z'	57	'9'
:	:	:	:

Character vs ASCII code

```
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
```

Arithmetic and relational ops on characters

- `'c' - 'a'` gives 2
- `'6' - '5'` gives 1
- `letter1='e'; letter2='f';`
- `letter1-letter2` gives -1

- `'c' > 'a'` gives true
- `letter1==letter2` gives false

- `'A' + 2` gives 67
- `char('A'+2)` gives 'C'

What is in variable `g` (if it gets created)?

```
d1= 'Mar 3';  d2= 'Mar 9';  
x1= d1(5);   x2= d2(5);  
g= x2-x1;
```

A: the character '6'

B: the numeric value 6

C: Error in the subtraction operation

D: Error in assigning variables `x1`, `x2`

E: Some other value or error

What is in variable `g` (if it gets created)?

```
d1= 'Mar 13';   d2= 'Mar 29';  
x1= d1(5:6);   x2= d2(5:6);  
g= x2-x1;
```

A: the string '16'

B: the numeric value 16

C: Error in the subtraction operation

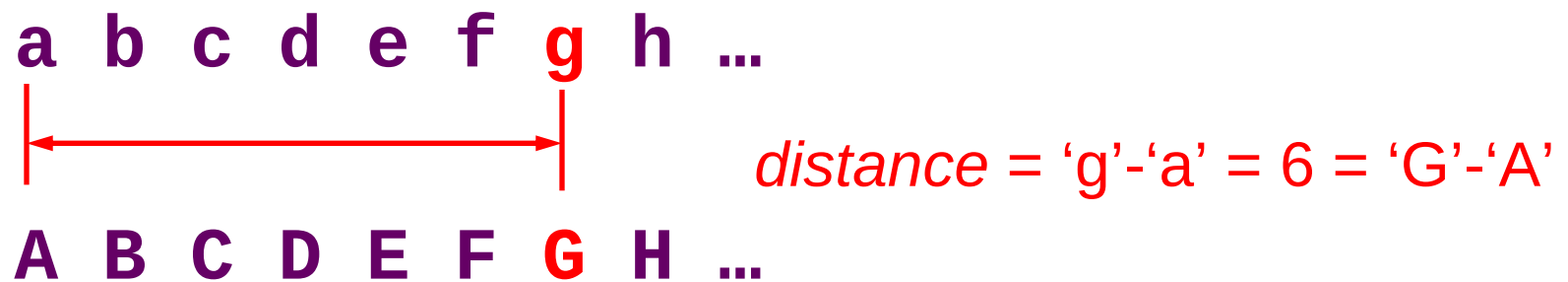
D: Error in assigning variables `x1`, `x2`

E: Some other value or error

Example: toUpper

Write a function `toUpper(char)` to convert character `char` to upper case if `char` is a lower case letter. Return the converted letter. If `char` is not a lower case letter, simply return the character `char`.

Hint: Think about the **distance** between a letter and the base letter 'a' (or 'A'). E.g.,



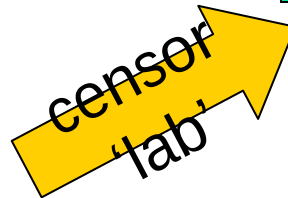
Of course, do not use Matlab function `upper`!

Example: censoring words

```
function C = censor(str, A)
% Replace all occurrences of string str in
% character matrix A with X's, regardless of
% case.
% Assume str is never split across two lines.
% C is A with X's replacing str.
```

A

U	s	e		M	A	T	L	A	B			
i	n			t	h	a	t		l	a	b	.



C

U	s	e		M	A	T	X	X	X			
i	n			t	h	a	t		X	X	X	.