

- Previous Lecture:
 - Working with images
 - Working with type `uint8`
- Today's Lecture:
 - Characters and strings
- Announcement:
 - Project 4 due Mon 10/24 at 11pm

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' '!'
```

- Can have 2-d array of characters as well

```
'C' 'S' '1' '1' '1' '2'
'r' 'o' 'c' 'k' 's' '!'  2x6 matrix
```

Matlab types: `char`, `double`, `uint8`, `logical`

There is not a type "string"! What we call a "string" is a 1-d array of chars

```
a = 'C' 'S' '1'
```

a is a 1-d array with type `char` components. We call **a** a "string" or "char array"

```
b = [3 9]
```

b is a 1-d array with type `double` components. `double` is the default type for numbers in Matlab. We call **b** a "numeric array"

```
c = uint8(b)
```

c is a 1-d array with type `uint8` components. We call **c** a "uint8 array"

```
d = rand > .5
```

d is a scalar of the type `logical`. We call **d** a "boolean value"

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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

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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

ATTCGTACCTCGAT

What if this nucleotide is removed?

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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

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Strings are 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 'ello'
- : notation
s = 'a':'g'; % s is 'abcdefg'
- Appending
s = 'duck';
s(5) = 's'; % s is 'ducks'
- Concatenation
s = [s 'quack']; % s is 'ducks quack'

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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)
```

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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

See caps.m

The ASCII Table

Char	Dec	Oct	Hex	Char	Dec	Oct	Hex	Char	Dec	Oct	Hex	Char	Dec	Oct	Hex
(nul)	0	0000	0x00	(sp)	32	0040	0x20	@	64	0100	0x40	[	91	0140	0x5B
(soh)	1	0001	0x01	!	33	0041	0x21	A	65	0101	0x41	\	92	0141	0x5C
(stx)	2	0002	0x02	"	34	0042	0x22	B	66	0102	0x42	]	93	0142	0x5D
(etx)	3	0003	0x03	#	35	0043	0x23	C	67	0103	0x43	c	99	0143	0x63
(exh)	4	0004	0x04	\$	36	0044	0x24	D	68	0104	0x44	d	100	0144	0x64
(eng)	5	0005	0x05	%	37	0045	0x25	E	69	0105	0x45	e	101	0145	0x65
(ack)	6	0006	0x06	&	38	0046	0x26	F	70	0106	0x46	f	102	0146	0x66
(bel)	7	0007	0x07	'	39	0047	0x27	G	71	0107	0x47	g	103	0147	0x67
(bs)	8	0010	0x08	(	40	0050	0x28	H	72	0110	0x48	h	104	0150	0x68
(ht)	9	0011	0x09	)	41	0051	0x29	I	73	0111	0x49	i	105	0151	0x69
(nl)	10	0012	0x0A	*	42	0052	0x2A	J	74	0112	0x4A	j	106	0152	0x6A
(vt)	11	0013	0x0B	+	43	0053	0x2B	K	75	0113	0x4B	k	107	0153	0x6B
(np)	12	0014	0x0C	,	44	0054	0x2C	L	76	0114	0x4C	l	108	0154	0x6C
(cr)	13	0015	0x0D	-	45	0055	0x2D	M	77	0115	0x4D	m	109	0155	0x6D
(so)	14	0016	0x0E	=	46	0056	0x2E	N	78	0116	0x4E	n	110	0156	0x6E
(si)	15	0017	0x0F	_	47	0057	0x2F	O	79	0117	0x4F	o	111	0157	0x6F
(dle)	16	0020	0x10	0	48	0060	0x30	P	80	0120	0x50	p	112	0160	0x70
(dc1)	17	0021	0x11	1	49	0061	0x31	Q	81	0121	0x51	q	113	0161	0x71
(dc2)	18	0022	0x12	2	50	0062	0x32	R	82	0122	0x52	r	114	0162	0x72
(dc3)	19	0023	0x13	3	51	0063	0x33	S	83	0123	0x53	s	115	0163	0x73
(dc4)	20	0024	0x14	4	52	0064	0x34	T	84	0124	0x54	t	116	0164	0x74
(nak)	21	0025	0x15	5	53	0065	0x35	U	85	0125	0x55	u	117	0165	0x75
(syn)	22	0026	0x16	6	54	0066	0x36	V	86	0126	0x56	v	118	0166	0x76
(etb)	23	0027	0x17	7	55	0067	0x37	W	87	0127	0x57	w	119	0167	0x77
(can)	24	0030	0x18	8	56	0070	0x38	X	88	0130	0x58	x	120	0170	0x78
(em)	25	0031	0x19	9	57	0071	0x39	Y	89	0131	0x59	y	121	0171	0x79
(sub)	26	0032	0x1A	:	58	0072	0x3A	Z	90	0132	0x5A	z	122	0172	0x7A
(esc)	27	0033	0x1B	;	59	0073	0x3B	[	91	0133	0x5B	{	123	0173	0x7B
(fs)	28	0034	0x1C	<	60	0074	0x3C	\	92	0134	0x5C		124	0174	0x7C
(gs)	29	0035	0x1D	=	61	0075	0x3D	]	93	0135	0x5D	}	125	0175	0x7D
(rs)	30	0036	0x1E	>	62	0076	0x3E	^	94	0136	0x5E	~	126	0176	0x7E
(us)	31	0037	0x1F	?	63	0077	0x3F	_	95	0137	0x5F	(del)	127	0177	0x7F

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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

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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 assigning variables `x1, x2`
- D: Error in the subtraction operation
- E: Some other value or error

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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 assigning variables `x1, x2`
- D: Error in the subtraction operation
- E: Some other value or error

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Example: `toUpper`

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

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

```
a b c d e f g h ...
|-----|
A B C D E F G H ...
```

distance = 'g'-'a' = 6 = 'G'-'A'

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

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```
function up = toUpper(cha)
% up is the upper case of character cha.
% If cha is not a letter then up is just cha.
```

```
up= cha;
```

cha is lower case if it is between 'a' and 'z'

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Example: removing all occurrences of a character

- From a genome bank we get a sequence
ATTG CCG TA GCTA CGTACGC AACTGG
AAATGGC CGTAT...
- First step is to “clean it up” by removing all the blanks. Write this function:

```
function s = removeChar(c, s)
% Return string s with all occurrences
% of character c removed
```

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Example: removing all occurrences of a character

Can solve this problem using iteration—check one character (one component of the vector) at a time

```
function s = removeChar_loop(c, s)
% Return string s with all occurrences of
% character c removed.

t= '';
for k= 1:length(s)

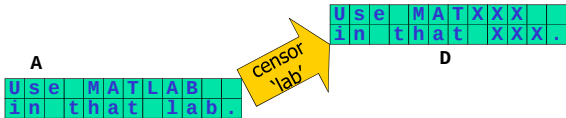
end
s= t;
```

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Example: censoring words

```
function D = 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.
% D is A with X's replacing str.
```



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

D= A;
B= lower(A);
s= lower(str);
ns= length(str);
[nr,nc]= size(A);

% Build a string of X's of the right length

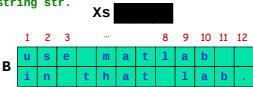
% Traverse the matrix to censor string str
```

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

D= A;
B= lower(A);
s= lower(str);
ns= length(str);
[nr,nc]= size(A);

% Build a string of X's of the right length
Xs= char( zeros(1,ns));
for k= 1:ns
    Xs(k)= 'X';
end

% Traverse the matrix to censor string str
for r= 1:nr
    for c= 1:nc-ns+1
        if strcmp( s , B(r, c:c+ns-1) )==1
            D(r, c:c+ns-1)= Xs;
        end
    end
end
```



Returns an array of type double
Changes the type to char