

- Previous lecture
 - User-defined functions
 - Function header
 - Input parameters and return variables
- Today's lecture
 - User-defined functions
 - local memory space
 - Subfunction
- 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 (r1,t1) to Cartesian (x1,y1)
r1 = 1; t1 = 30;
[x1, y1] = polar2xy(r1, t1);
plot(x1, y1, '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.
... x = ...      fprintf('%f, %f\n', x, y)
   y = ...
```

Function prints instead
of returns values

Code to call the above function:

```
% Convert polar (r1,t1) to Cartesian (x1,y1)
```

```
r1 = 1; t1 = 30;
```

```
[x1, y1] = polar2xy(r1, t1);
```

```
plot(x1, y1, '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

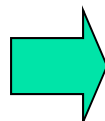
help <functionName>

at the Command Window

- **1st line of this comment block** is searched whenever a user types

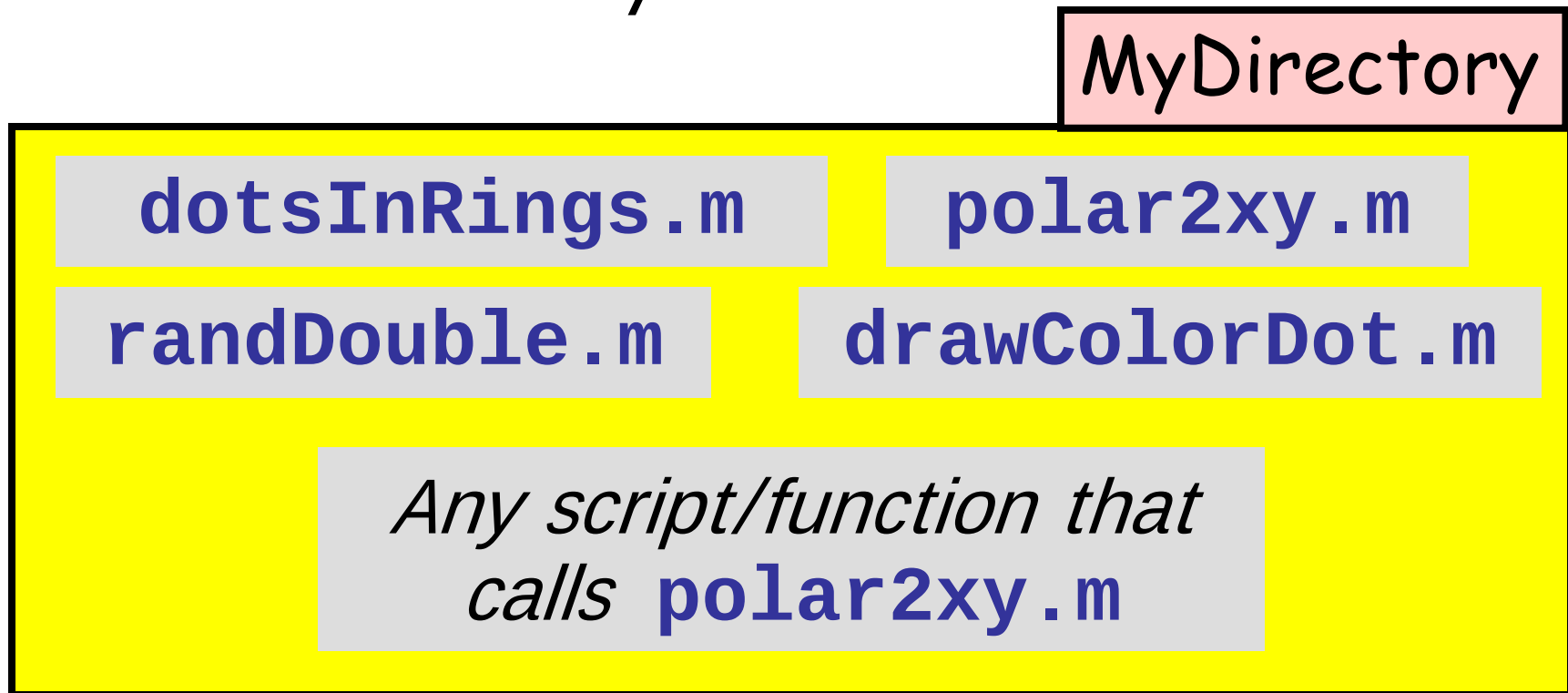
lookfor <someWord>

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

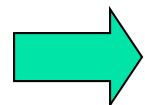
For now*, put your related functions and scripts in the same directory.



*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
```

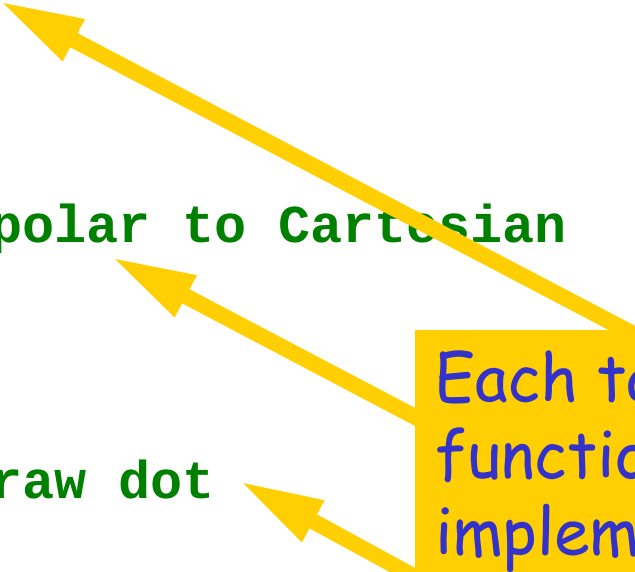
```
        x=_____
```

```
        y=_____
```

```
        % Use plot to draw dot
```

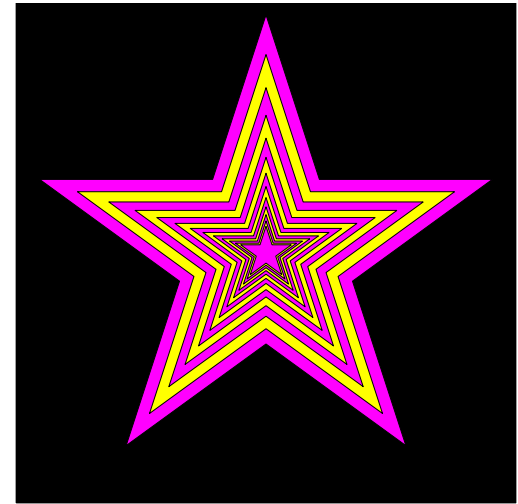
```
    end
```

```
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...

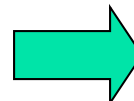
... you write the code so that the function “lives up to” the specification. E.g.,

```
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?

```
% 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;
```

What will be printed?

```
% 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;
```

Command Window Workspace

p -3

What will be printed?

```
% 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;
```

Command Window Workspace

p -3

What will be printed?

```
% 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;
```

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
---	----

Function absolute's Workspace

p	
---	--

What will be printed?

```
% 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;
```

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
---	----

Function absolute's Workspace

p	-3
---	----

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

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
---	----

Function absolute's Workspace

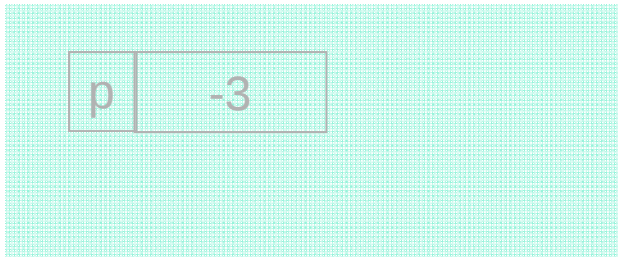
p	-3
---	----

What will be printed?

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

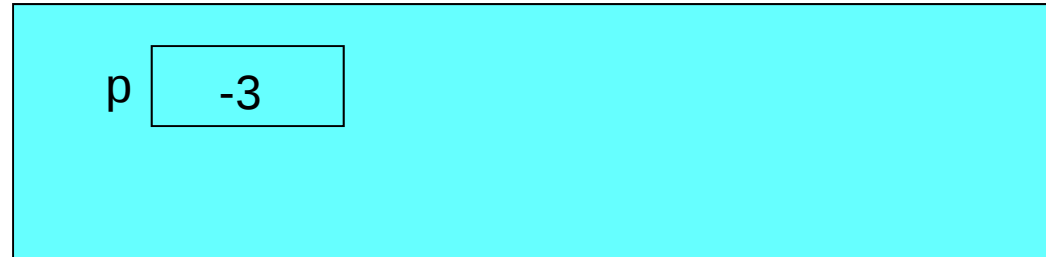
```
function q = absolute(p)  
% q is the absolute value of p  
▶ if (p<0)  
    p= -p;  
end  
q= p;
```

Command Window Workspace



p	-3
---	----

Function absolute's Workspace



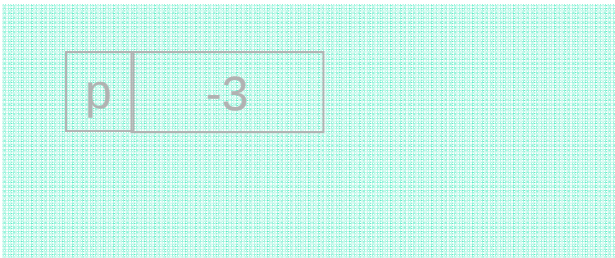
p	-3
---	----

What will be printed?

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

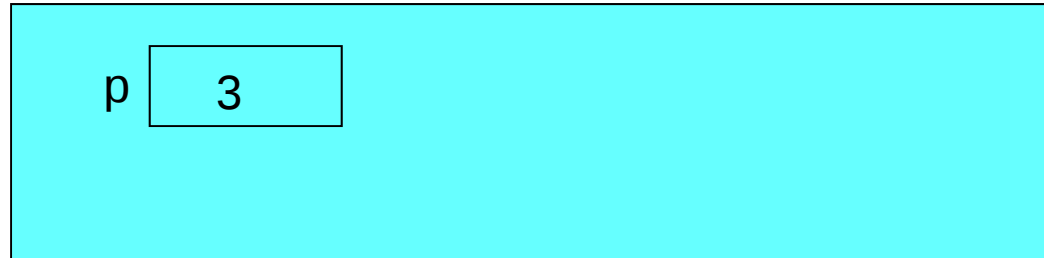
```
function q = absolute(p)  
% q is the absolute value of p  
if (p<0)  
    p= -p;  
end  
q= p;
```

Command Window Workspace



p	-3
---	----

Function absolute's Workspace



p	3
---	---

What will be printed?

```
% 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;
```

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
---	----

Function absolute's Workspace

p	3
q	3

What will be printed?

% 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;

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
---	----

Function absolute's Workspace

p	3
q	3

What will be printed?

% 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;

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
q	3

Function absolute's Workspace

p	3
q	3

What will be printed?

% 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;

Command Window Workspace

p

-3

q

3

What will be printed?

```
% 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;
```

Command Window Workspace

p	-3
q	3

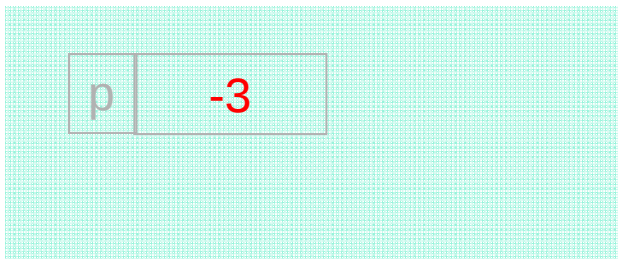
REVIEW!!!

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

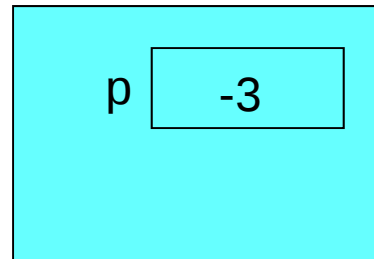
```
function q = absolute(p)  
% q is the absolute value of p  
if (p < 0)  
    p = -p;  
end  
q = p;
```

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

% q is the absolute

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

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