

# MATLAB PROGRAMMING TECHNIQUES

*Pony Lai*

*[support@terasoft.com.tw](mailto:support@terasoft.com.tw)*

# Course Outline

- Writing Functions
- Structuring Code

# Advanced MATLAB® Programming Techniques

## Writing Functions



# Section Outline

- Creating functions
- Calling functions
- Workspaces
- Path and precedence

# Increasing Automation

```
% Create the time base for the signal.
fs = 4000;
t = 0:(1/fs):1.5;

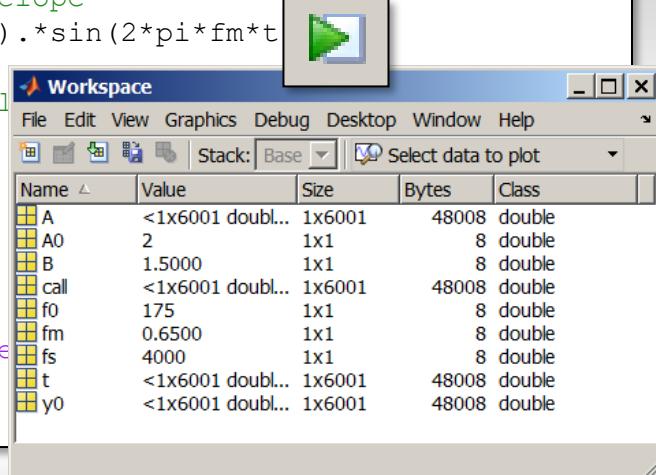
% Set the fundamental frequency of the call.
f0 = 175; 175

% Create the harmonics.
y0 = sin(2*pi*f0*t) + ...
    sin(2*pi*2*f0*t) + sin(2*pi*3*f0*t);

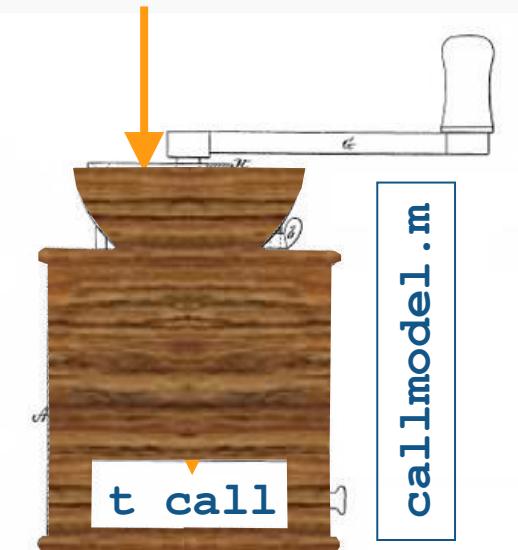
% Set the additional parameters in the model.
A0 = 2; % Initial amplitude.
B = 1.5; 1.5 % Amplitude decay rate.
fm = 0.65; % Frequency of the modulating envelope.
% Create the envelope
A = A0*exp(-B*t).*sin(2*pi*fm*t)

% Create the call
call = A.*y0;

% Plot the model
figure
plot(t,call)
xlabel('Time')
ylabel('Amplitude')
title('{\bf Blue')
soundsc(call,fs)
```



**f0 A0 B fm**



# Creating a Function

Function

declaration:

Keyword

Output

arguments

Function

name

Input

arguments

```
1 function [call,t] = callmodel_fun(N,f0,A0,B,fm)
2
3 % CALLMODEL_FUN Models a blue whale B call (func
4 %
5 % Uses a model of the form y = A.*y0
6 % where A0 = A*exp(-B*t).*sin(2*pi*f0*t)
7 % and y0 is a sum of harmonics
8 % y0 = sin(2*pi*n*f0*t)
```

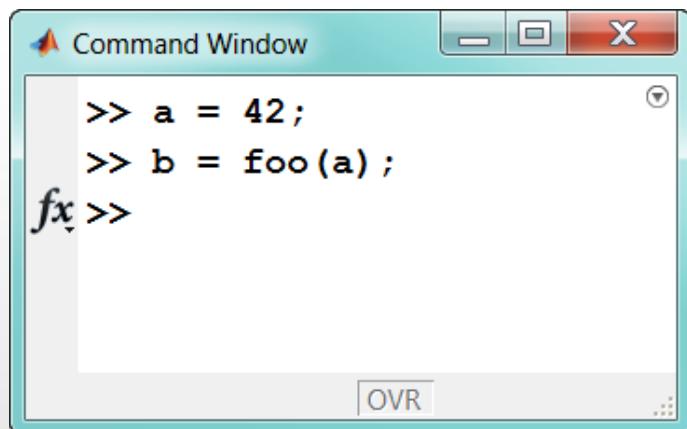
# Calling a Function

**callmodel\_fun.m**

The screenshot illustrates the process of calling a MATLAB function. In the Command Window, the line of code `>> [x,t] = callmodel_fun(3,175,2,1.5,0.65);` is displayed, with the arguments `(3,175,2,1.5,0.65)` circled in orange. In the callmodel\_fun.m editor, the function definition `function [call,t] = callmodel_fun(N,f0,A0,B,fm)` is shown, with the inputs `(N,f0,A0,B,fm)` circled in orange and an arrow pointing from the circled text in the editor to the circled arguments in the Command Window.

```
C:\class\coursefiles\mlbe\whale\callmodel_fun.m
1 function [call,t] = callmodel_fun(N,f0,A0,B,fm)
2 %
3 % CALLMODEL_FUN Models a blue whale B call (functional form).
4 %
5 % Uses a model of the form
6 % y = A.*y0
7 % where A = A0*exp(-B*t).*sin(2*pi*fm*t)
8 % and y0 is a sum of harmonics
9 % yn = sin(2*pi*n*f0*t)
10 %
11 % Inputs:
12 % N      The number of harmonics in the call.
13 % f0     Fundamental frequency of the call.
14 % A      Initial amplitude of the call.
15 % B      Amplitude decay rate.
16 % fm    Frequency of the modulating envelope.
17 %
18 % Outputs:
19 % call   The model call.
20 %
```

# Workspaces



**foo.m**

```
function y = foo(x)
    a = sin(x);
    x = x + 1;
    b = sin(x);
    y = a*b;
```

Workspace:

Name	Value	Size	Class
a	42	1x1	double
b	0.7623	1x1	double

Workspace:

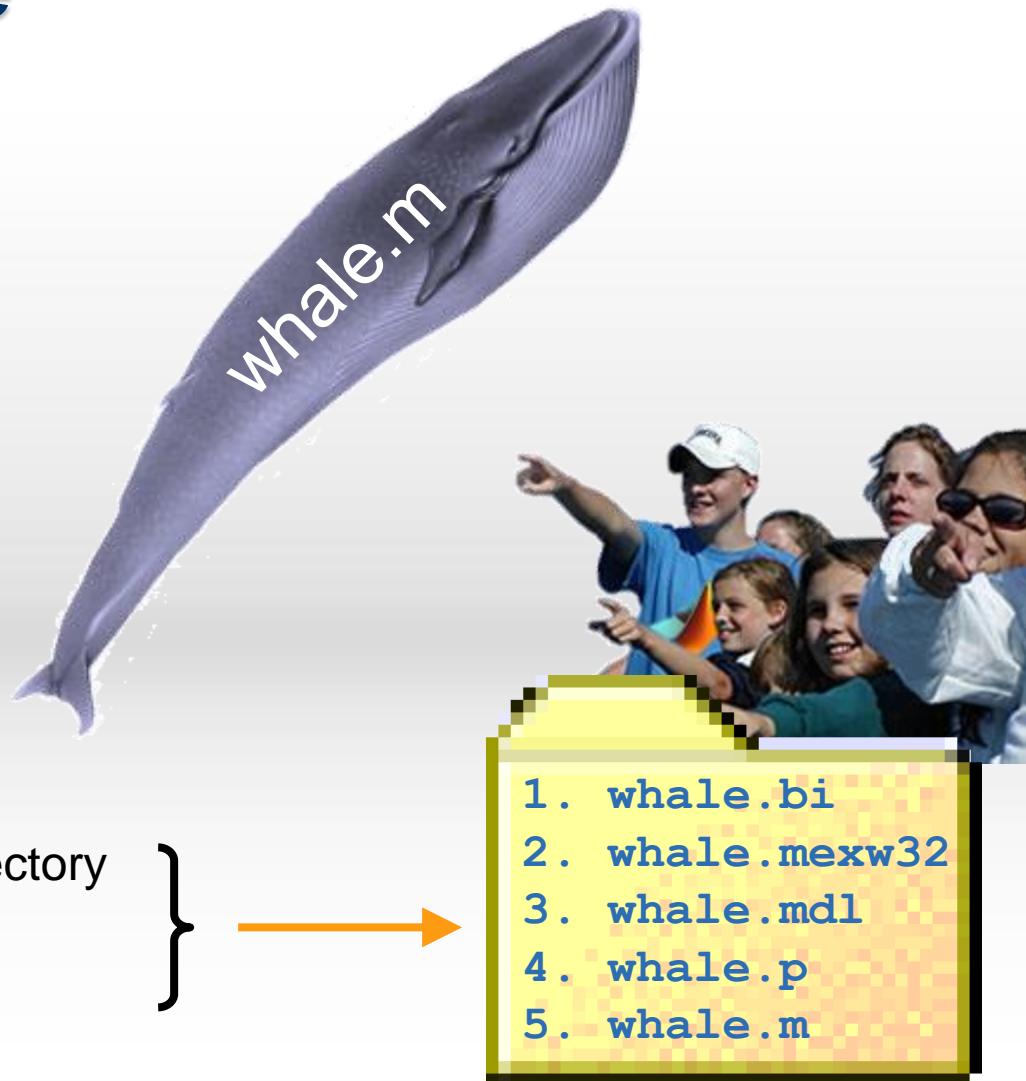
Name	Value	Size	Class
a	-0.9165	1x1	double
b	-0.8318	1x1	double
x	43	1x1	double
y	0.7623	1x1	double

BlackBox™

# Calling Precedence

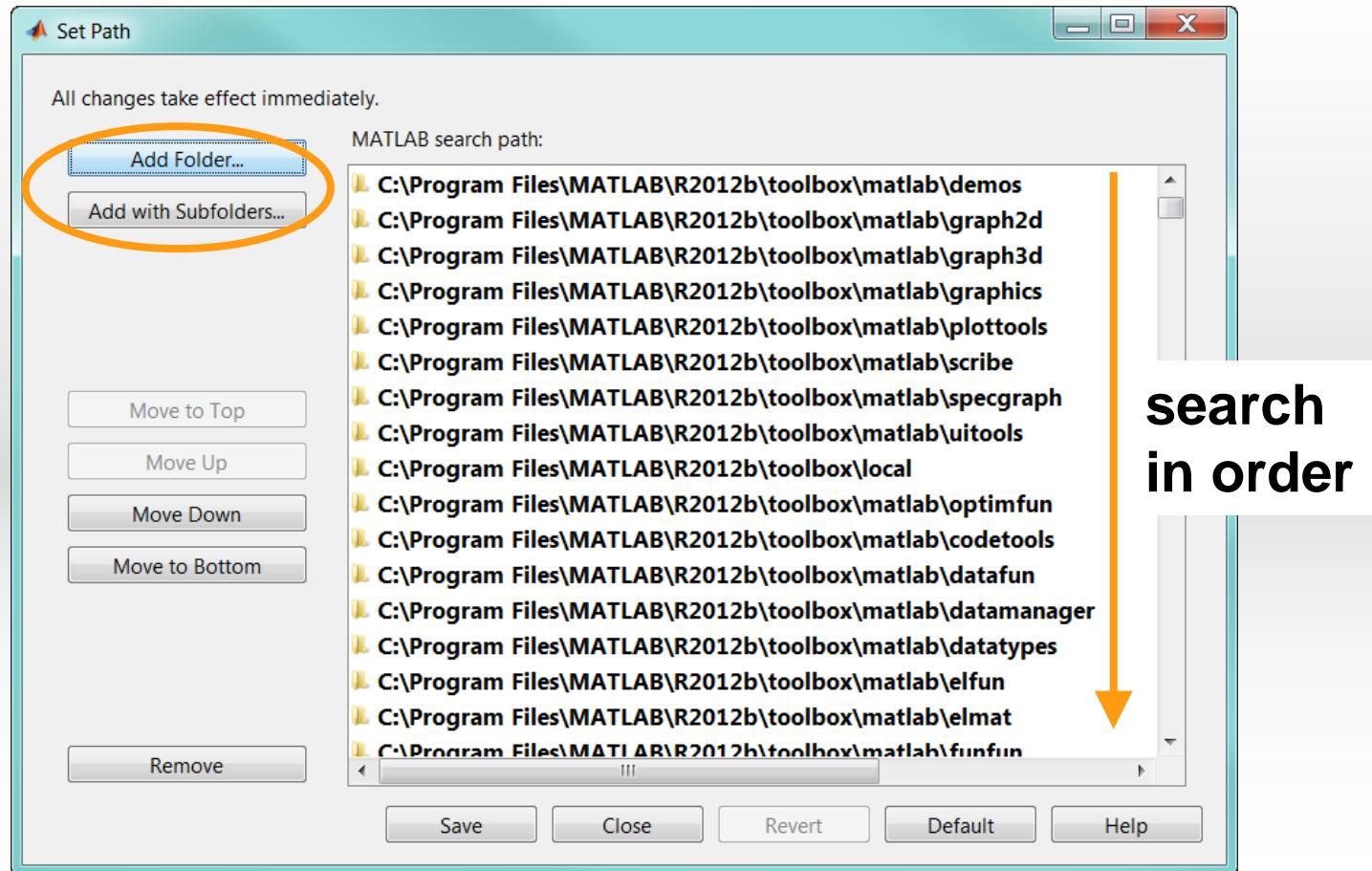
>> whale

1. Variable
2. Nested function
3. Subfunction
4. Private function
5. Class constructor
6. Overloaded method
7. File in the current directory
8. File on the path



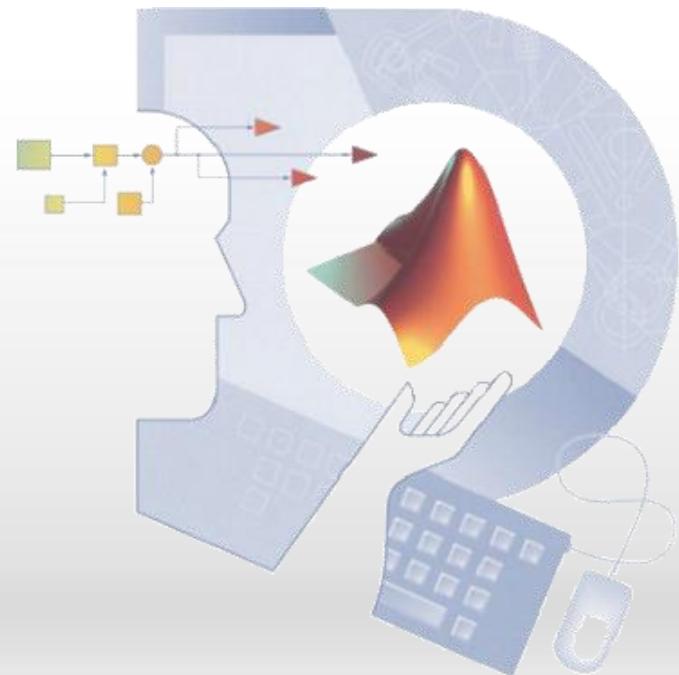
# The MATLAB® Path

`>> pathtool`



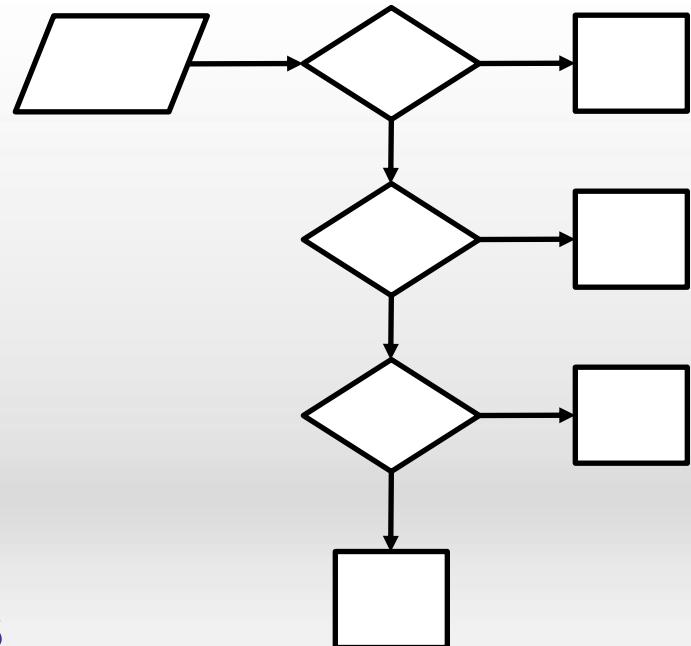
# Advanced MATLAB® Programming Techniques

## Structuring Code

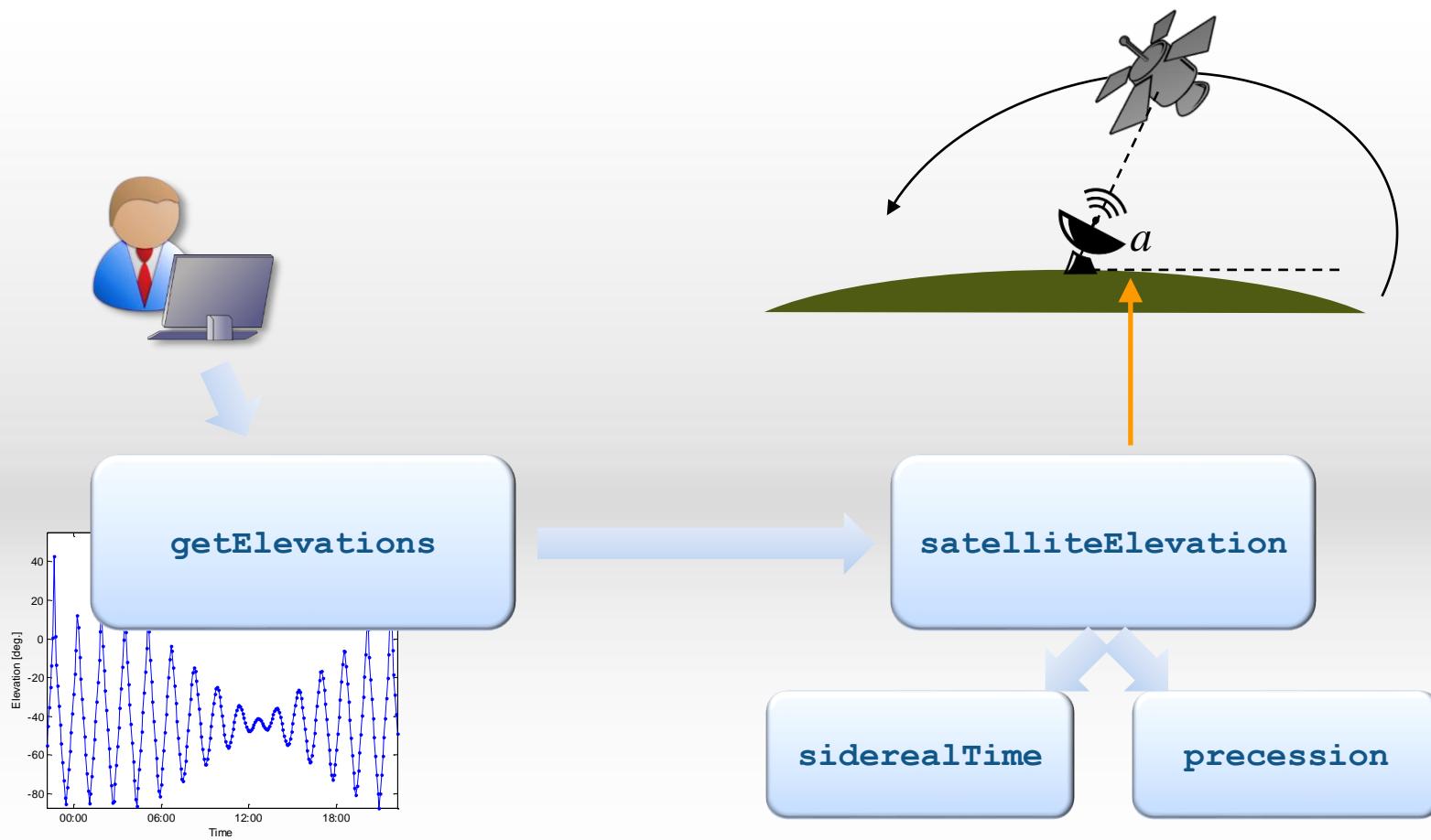


# Section Outline

- Private functions
- Subfunctions
- Nested functions
- Function handles
- Anonymous functions
- Precedence rules
- Comparison of function types

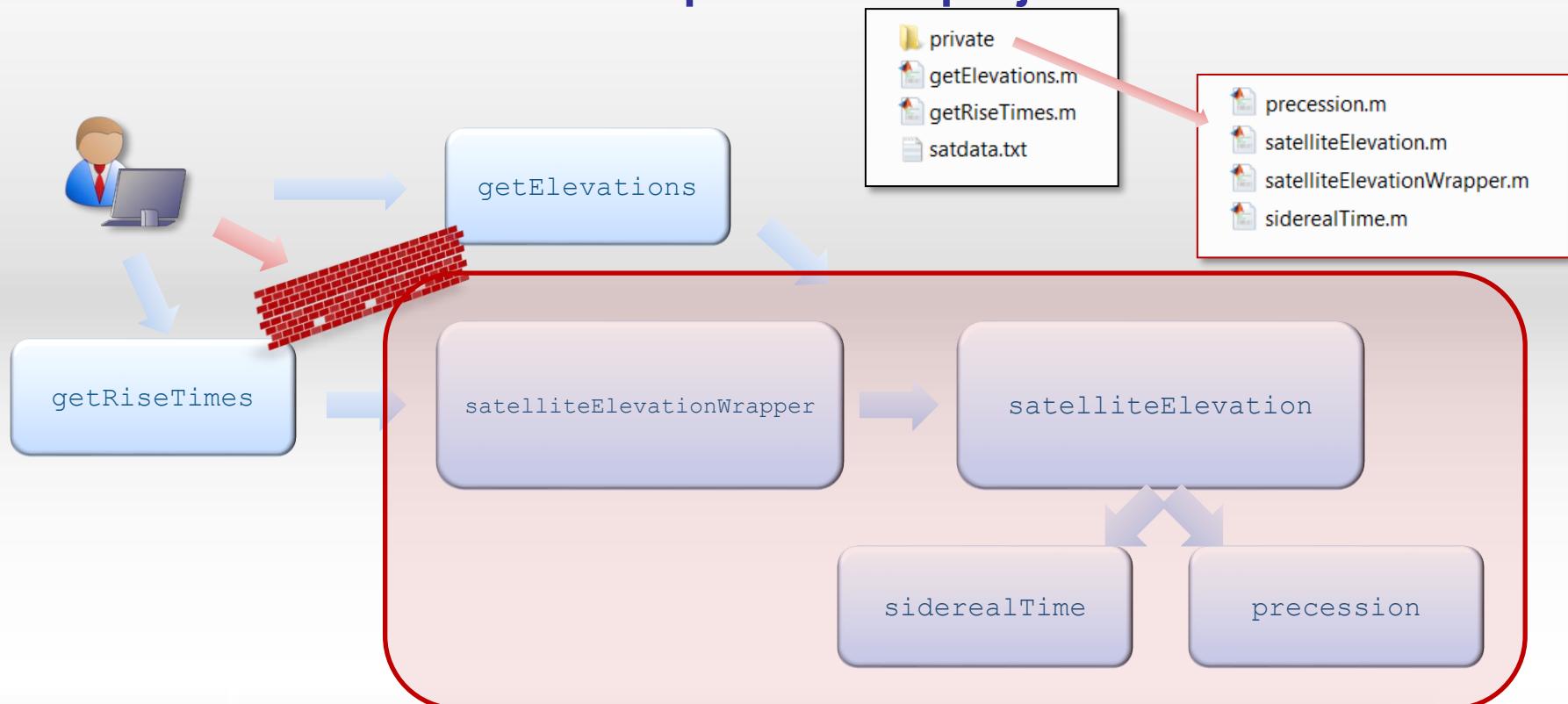


# Course Example: Satellite Tracking

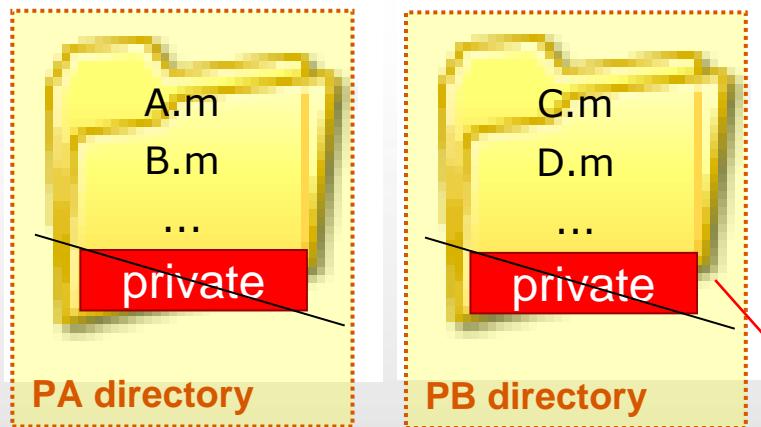


# Private Functions

- Function files in a folder named **private**
- Accessible only from within this and the parent folder
- Use case: make function specific to a project



# Private Functions



MATLAB search path:

- D:\MATLAB71\work\examples\PA
- D:\MATLAB71\work\examples\PB
- D:\MATLAB71\toolbox\matlab\general
- D:\MATLAB71\toolbox\matlab\ops

```
>> cd([matlabroot '/work/examples'])
```

```
>> edit AA.m
```

```
function AA(x)
C(x);
```

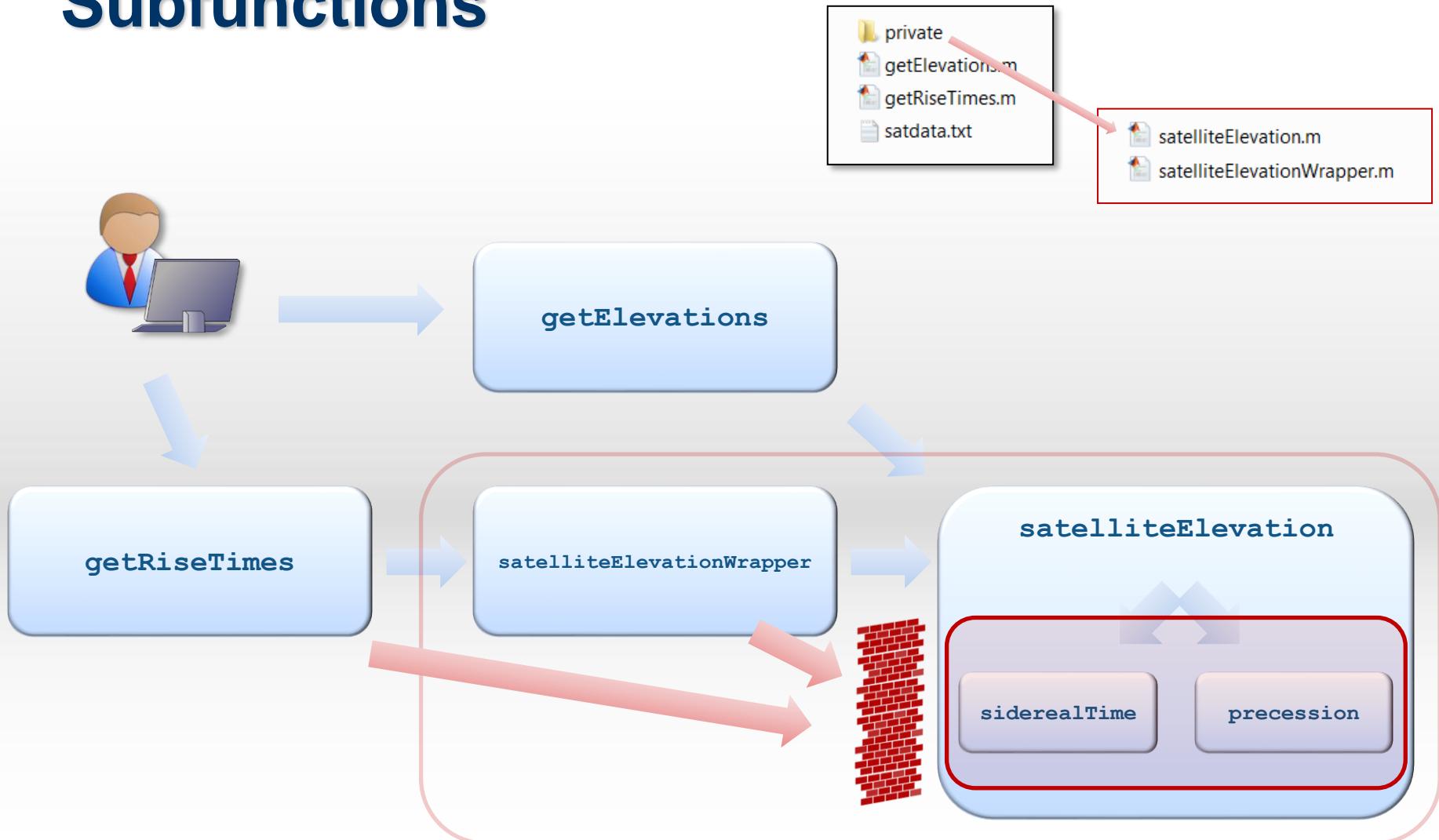
# Subfunctions

- Several functions in one file
- Keyword `function` used as delimiter
- First function accessible from outside world
- Others accessible only from within the same file
- Use case: hide internal utility functions

Optional when  
using only  
subfunctions

```
function y = primaryFct(x)
...
end
function y = subFct1(x)
...
end
function y = subFct2(x)
...
end
```

# Subfunctions



# Nested Functions

- Functions nested inside other functions
- Mark their extent using `function` and `end`
- Can be called
  - ◆ From level immediately above
  - ◆ From function at same level within same parent function
  - ◆ From a nested function at any lower level
- Access to superior function workspaces
- Have their own workspace

```
function y = outerFct(x)
...
    function y = innerFct(x)
        ...
    end
end
```

# Nested Functions

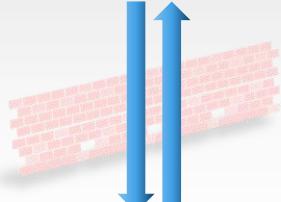
satelliteElevation



siderealTime

precession

main function data



nested function

mainFunction

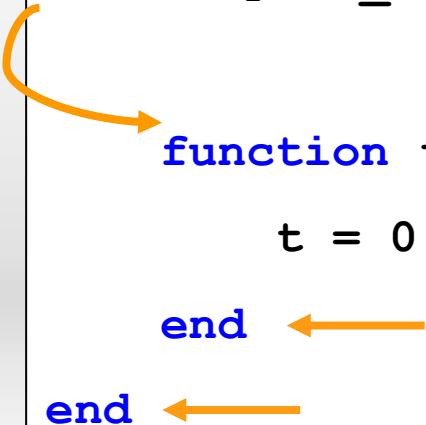
nested1

nested2

doublenested

# Example: Nested Functions

```
function T = tax(income)
    adjusted_income = max(income - 6000, 0);
    T = compute_tax;
    function t = compute_tax
        t = 0.28*adjusted_income;
    end
end
```



# Scope of a Variable

## Using Subfunction

```
function [A,B] = sub_scope(x,y)
A = subfun1(x);
B = subfun2(y);

function v = subfun1(u)
v = rand(u,1);

function v = subfun2(u)
v = randn(u,1);
```

separate  
workspaces

## Using Nested Function

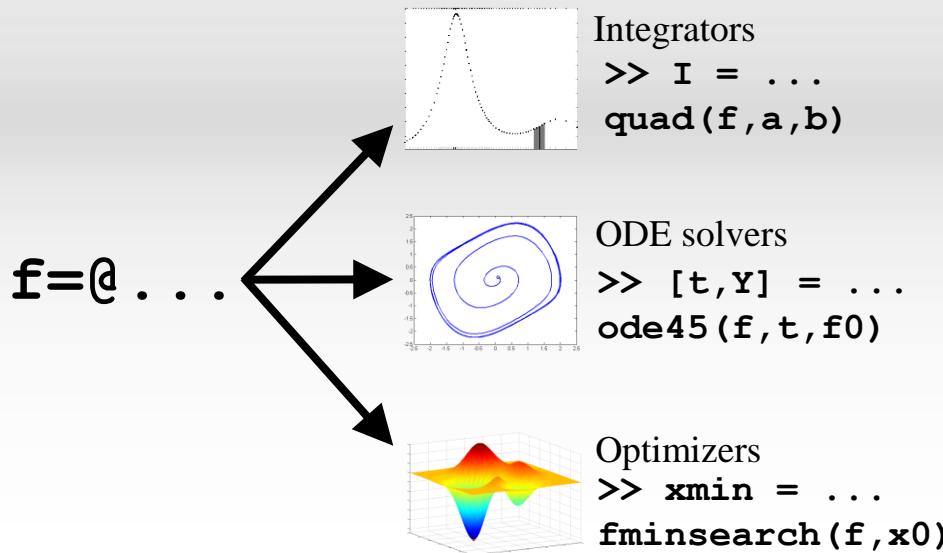
```
function T = tax(income)
adj_income = ...
max(income - 6000, 0);
T = compute_tax;

function t = compute_tax
t = 0.28*adj_income;
end
end
```

shared  
workspaces

# Function Handles

- Special MATLAB data type
- Create a variable for calling a function.
- Use case 1: Flexible/dynamic function calls
- Use case 2: Extending the visibility of a function
- Use case 3: Changing the function interface



# Creating and Using Function Handles

- Syntax

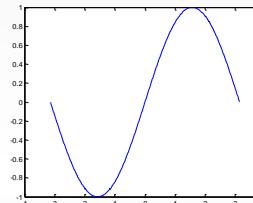
```
fhandle = @functionname
```

- Example

create → fhandle = @sin;  
use     → fhandle(arg1, arg2, ...);

```
function plot_fhandle(fhandle, data)
plot(data, fhandle(data));
```

```
>> plot_fhandle(@sin, -pi:0.01:pi)
```



# Example:

## access to subfunction using function handle

main  
function {

```
function myFhandle = myFunction(myInput)
SomeOtherValue = 7;
myFhandle = @mySubFunction;

disp(['7 times ' num2str(myInput) ' is ' ...
    num2str(myFhandle(myInput, SomeOtherValue))]);
```

sub-  
function {

```
function myReturnValue = mySubFunction(x, y)
myReturnValue = x.*y;
```

```
>> myTimes = myFunction(7)
>> myTimes(8,2)
```

# Anonymous Functions

- Wrapper to slightly change the function (interface)
- Write @ followed by list of arguments and function call
- No function name
- No file necessary

```
>> f = @myfun;
```



```
function y = myfun(a,b,c)  
y = a*(b-sin(c));
```

```
>> f = @(a,b,c) a*(b-sin(c));
```



# Comparison of Function Types

Aspect	Private	Sub	Nested	Anonymous
File	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Workspace	Separate	Separate	Shared	Depends
Access	Files in <b>private</b> and parent folder	Within file	See page 2-6	Via function handle variable
Typical use	Project specific functionality	Hide utilities	Share application data	Change of function interface

# Q & A