

3. NOTES ON MATLAB

3.1 Opening MATLAB

- (a) To open MATLAB use the menu sequence

Programs → Mathematics → Matlab

- (b) Wait until the symbol “>>” appears in the **Command Window**. Then Matlab is fully functional.

- (c) To set the path to the Class Directory:

(1) Click on the **Browse for Folder** icon (to the right of the **Current Directory** box on the Main Menu). Then set the path to **courses...(T:)\sys502\matlab**.

(2) The **Current Directory** window should now read **T:\sys502\matlab**.

3.2 Additional Helpful Hints

- (a) For additional information click **Help → MATLAB Help**. In the Table of Contents look at **MATLAB → Getting Started → Development Environment**.

- (b) To obtain a reasonable screen format for numbers, use the menu sequence **File → Preferences → Command Window**, and under **Text Display** set **Numerical Format** = “short g”. (You may also want to increase the number of lines saved in the **Command Window Scroll Buffer**, say to 10,000.)

- (c) To abort a long operation in midstream use **Ctrl + C**. It usually works.

- (d) If you do not want to display the result of a given command, be sure to add a semicolon (;) to the end of your command. *Example:* To make a vector of 100 random numbers, try typing

```
>> x = rand(100,1);
```

and then typing,

```
>> x = rand(100,1)
```

You will see the difference.