## 2. The MATLAB Editor/Debugger

To start the MATLAB text editor simply type, edit, at the command prompt. Another way to invoke the editor is to select **File->New->M-file** from the MATLAB desktop menu bar.

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Close Current Directory Ctrl+W Class M-File				
Import Data Figure				

You should see the editor open with a new, empty documents. The way you use the MATLAB text editor is essentially the same as how you would use Windows Notepad, or other simple text editors. When opened the MATLAB Editor/Debugger window looks like this:



If you want to start the editor up with an existing file (e.g., a script file you have partially completed), then you can either type at the command prompt, edit, followed by the name of the file, or select **File->Open...** from the MATLAB Desktop, and then choose the file you want to open from the **Open** dialogue box.

Right now, you should practice using the MATLAB Editor/Debugger. Go ahead and start the MATLAB text editor. Below is an example that you can type in to get you started.



## 2.1 Saving Your Work in a File and Running

After you type the text in, save it in your current working directory (we will talk about directories and paths later). Then go back to the MATLAB command window and type the name of your script without the ".m" suffix at the command prompt (for example, practice1) and you should get the output:



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Save in:	MATLAB			
My Recent Documents Desktop	math 421 Math 423 New Folder New Folder (2) ex53f ex82			
My Documents				
My Computer				
My Network	File name:	exampl1	Save	
Places	Save as type:	M-files (*.m)	Cancel	
Editor - C:\Documents and Settings\F\My Documents\MATLAB\Example1.m File Edit Text Go Cell Tools Debug Desktop Window Help				
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4	Go Cell 1001	s       Debug       Desktop       Window       Help         ✓       Open       M-Files       when       Debugging         Step       Step       Step       Step       Out         Run       Example1.m       Run Configuration for Example1.m       Go Until Cursor	F10 F11 Shift+F11 F5	
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Also you can save your file in another directory you choose.

Below is a lest of some useful function when working with paths:

pwd	- present working directory		
dir, or ls	- List directory		
what	- List MATLAB-specific files in directory		
cd	- Change current working directory		
nath or m	natlabnath - List the MATLAB search nath		

path, or matlabpath	- List the MATLAB search path
addpath	- Add directory to search path
pathtool	- Invoke the path tool interface
help general	- List of general MATLAB commands