

Video: “SETTING UP A PROJECT” (4:47)

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This short video takes you through the process of setting up a MATLAB project. We will illustrate by setting up a project with Lab 1. We start MATLAB by clicking on the MATLAB desktop icon. And we will set the current MATLAB folder, so MATLAB can find out data. Each project lab or lesson should be in its own folder to keep things organized so we will create a folder for it then we will download the data into the project folder and finally we will create a script to hold the commands needed to hold the lab. We use the same process for every lab lesson or project.

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We begin by starting MATLAB simply double click on the MATLAB desktop icon and MATLAB will start. Now we want to make our current folder Z working MATLAB. We see the MATLAB application we need to set the MATLAB current folder so that MATLAB will be able to find our work. The current folder is shown at the top, we use to navigation button to navigate to the directory we want. We go to computer, Z, working and we see that we do not have a MATLAB under “working” so we make one. We go to the current folder panel, right click and bring up the menu we select “New Folder” and then name that folder “MATLAB.” When we click again on the panel and choose MATLAB, we now have the current directory “Z working MATLAB.” All of our labs and projects will be under subdirectory under this directory.

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Now we are going to make a folder for the project, our folder will be “Z working MATLAB lab 1.” Again, we go to the current folder panel and right click, we select new folder and for the new folder we give the name “lab 1.” When we click on lab 1 it creates the folder and when we double click on it, we now have made “Z working MATLAB lab1” our current directory. All of our data, scripts, and other information for lab 1 should go in this subdirectory.

(2:29)

Now we are going to download the data for lab 1. We start by going to the class website www.cs.utsa.edu – cs 1173 and navigate to the lab1 handout. Looking in the file we see that there is a data file “diabetics.mat” available for download through the website. We right click on it and choose “save link as” to save the file on our local machine. We are going to save it in Z, working, MATLAB, Lab1Folder and now when we go back to the MATLAB workspace we see “diabetics.mat” displayed in the current folder panel and being part of the lab1 current folder or directory.

(3:29)

I am now ready to start the final step of the process- creating a script to fold lab1 commands. In the MATLAB application go to the file menu, select new, script and a new script is created in the editor window of MATLAB ready to accept my commands. I am going to create a new cell then type the command load and the name of the file closed in parentheses and single quotes. To

execute this cell, I am going hit the evaluate cell icon on the left. When I do that the command is executed and the data is loaded onto the command workspace. I am going to save the script using the file menu and save as. I am going to save the script lab 1 script with no spaces and no dot m. I save it, I see that the lab1 script has been saved in the current folder. If I click on it, it will be brought up on the MATLAB editor ready to be executed again. Notice that here I clicked on the green arrow to execute the entire script.