Matlab/Freemat/Octave/Scilab: Arithmetic Operators

The mathematical symbols that can be used in Matlab/FreeMat/Octave/Scilab and the corresponding mathematical symbol is given in the following table.

operation	**Mathematical symbol(s)**	**Matlab symbol**
addition	$5+4$	5+4
subtraction	$5-4$	5-4
multiplication	5×4	5*4
division	$5/4$ *or* $5\div 4$	5/4 *or* 4\5
power	5^4	5^4

If we type the above in Matlab/FreeMat/Octave we obtain the following:

```
--> 5+4
ans =
9
--> 5-4
ans =
1
--> 5*4
ans =
20
--> 5/4
ans =
1.2500
--> 4\5
ans =
1.2500
--> 5^4
ans =
625
```

The *BODMAS*[1] rules are used to evaluate more complicated expressions. See the referenced notes on *BODMAS* to see how each of the following expressions are evaluated.

```
--> 3+4*2
ans =
11
--> 5+6*3/9
ans =
7
--> 7*3^2
ans =
63
--> (3+4)*2
ans =
14
--> (7*3)^2
ans =
441
--> ((3+2)-4)*(2+1)
ans =
3
```

[1] BODMAS: The precedence of arithmetic operations.