

## Matlab/Freemat/Octave/Scilab: Identifiers

Identifiers allow us to *name* constants and variables. For example the examples considered in *Matlab/Freemat/Octave/Scilab : Arithmetic Operators*<sup>1</sup> could be written in the following way

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

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<sup>1</sup> [Matlab/Freemat/Octave/Scilab: Arithmetic Operators](#)

More examples are given by reviewing complex arithmetic<sup>2</sup> using identifiers.

```
c=2+5i
c =
2.0000 + 5.0000i
--> d=1-i
d =
1.0000 - 1.0000i
--> c+d
ans =
3.0000 + 4.0000i
--> c-d
ans =
1.0000 + 6.0000i
--> c*d
ans =
7.0000 + 3.0000i
--> c/d
ans =
-1.5000 + 3.5000i
```

When appropriate, it is good practice with variables to give them an identifier that reflects their meaning. Matrices may also be identified in a similar way.

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<sup>2</sup> [Matlab/Freemat/Octave/Scilab: Complex Arithmetic](#)