

# Automatic Differentiation using MATLAB OOP

Richard D. Neidinger  
Davidson College

MOSAIC Kick-Off Workshop, IMA, MN  
Summer 2010

# Reconsider basic questions in Calculus and in Programming:

- How are derivatives calculated?
- What is object vs. procedure oriented programming?
- What is a function to a computer?

# Alternatives for computing derivatives:

- Slope for numerical approximation.
- Rules for symbolic expression.
- Rules for numerical values!

If  $h(x) = u(x) * v(x)$ , then

symbols  $h'(x) = u'(x) * v(x) + u(x) * v'(x)$

values  $h'(a) = u'(a) * v(a) + u(a) * v'(a)$

# Programming the product rule:

Combine  $[u(a), u'(a)]$  and  $[v(a), v'(a)]$

and a "times operation" to make

$$[h(a), h'(a)] = [u(a) * v(a), u'(a) * v(a) + u(a) * v'(a)].$$

- Procedural approach: make up procedure adtimes on native data type (array of two doubles).
- OOP approach: make up an object class and overload native operations as methods on such objects.

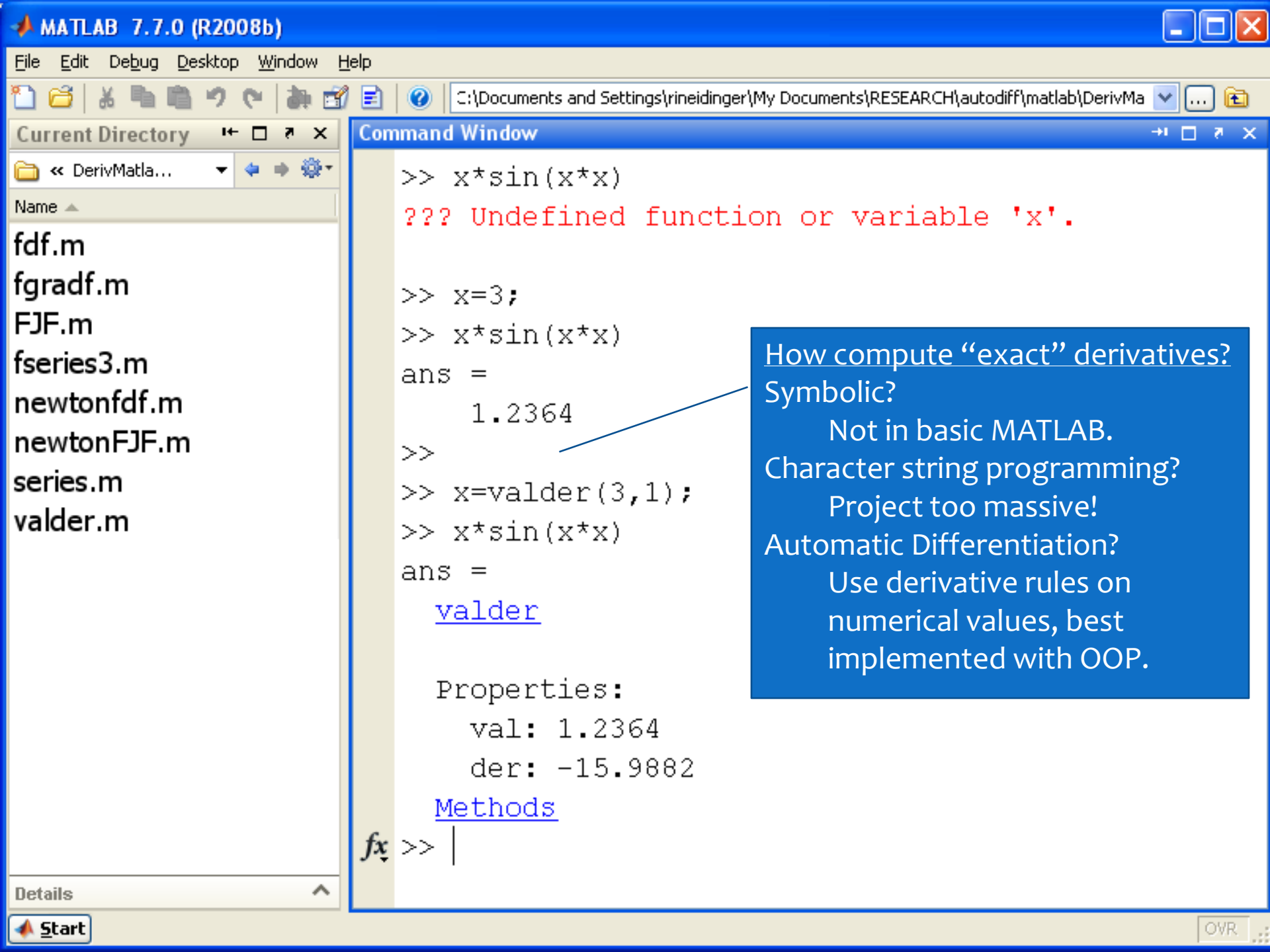
# Suggest AD in any course with computing environment:

- Designed for numerical computation.
- Allows operator overloading, preferably in OOP.
- Computing derivatives is desirable.

**MATLAB\* is ideal!**

**AD topic in my Numerical Analysis.**

\*Release 2008a or later



```
>> x*sin(x*x)
??? Undefined function or variable 'x'.
```

```
>> x=3;
>> x*sin(x*x)
ans =
    1.2364

>>
>> x=valder(3,1);
>> x*sin(x*x)
ans =
    valder
```

```
Properties:
    val: 1.2364
    der: -15.9882
```

```
Methods
```

```
fx >> |
```

How compute "exact" derivatives?  
Symbolic?  
Not in basic MATLAB.  
Character string programming?  
Project too massive!  
Automatic Differentiation?  
Use derivative rules on  
numerical values, best  
implemented with OOP.

```
1  classdef valder
2      % VALDER class implements Automatic Differentiation by operator overloading
7      properties
8          val %function value
9          der %derivative value or gradient vector
10     end
11     methods
12         function obj = valder(a,b) ...
25         function vec = double(obj) ...
29         function h = plus(u,v) ...
39         function h = uminus(u) ...
43         function h = minus(u,v) ...
53         function h = mtimes(u,v) ...
63         function h = mrdivide(u,v) ...
73         function h = mpower(u,v) ...
83         function h = exp(u) ...
87         function h = log(u) ...
91         function h = sqrt(u) ...
95         function h = sin(u) ...
99         function h = cos(u) ...
103        function h = tan(u) ...
107        function h = asin(u) ...
111        function h = atan(u) ...
115     end
116 end
```

```
function obj = valder(a,b)
    %VALDER class constructor; only the bottom case is needed.
    if nargin == 0 %never intended for use.
        obj.val = [];
        obj.der = [];
    elseif nargin == 1 %c=valder(a) for constant w/ derivative 0.
        obj.val = a;
        obj.der = 0;
    else
        obj.val = a; %given function value
        obj.der = b; %given derivative value or gradient vector
    end
end
```

---

```
function vec = double(obj)
    %VALDER/DOUBLE Convert valder object to vector of doubles.
    vec = [ obj.val, obj.der ];
end
```



```
function h = sin(u)
    %VALDER/SIN overloads sine with a valder object argument
    h = valder(sin(u.val), cos(u.val)*u.der);
end
```

```
function h = mtimes(u,v)
    %VALDER/MTIMES overloads * for at least one valder object argument
    if ~isa(u,'valder') %u is a scalar
        h = valder(u*v.val, u*v.der);
    elseif ~isa(v,'valder') %v is a scalar
        h = valder(v*u.val, v*u.der);
    else
        h = valder(u.val*v.val, u.der*v.val + u.val*v.der);
    end
end
```

Current Directory

<< DerivMatla...

Name

- fdf.m
- fgradf.m
- FJF.m
- fseries3.m
- newtonfdf.m
- newtonFJF.m
- series.m
- valder.m

Details

Command Window

```
>> x=valder(3,1);
>> x*sin(x*x)
ans =
    valder

Properties:
    val: 1.2364
    der: -15.9882

Methods

>>
>> [ 3*3, 1*3+3*1 ]
ans =
     9     6

>> [ sin(9), cos(9)*6 ]
ans =
    0.4121   -5.4668

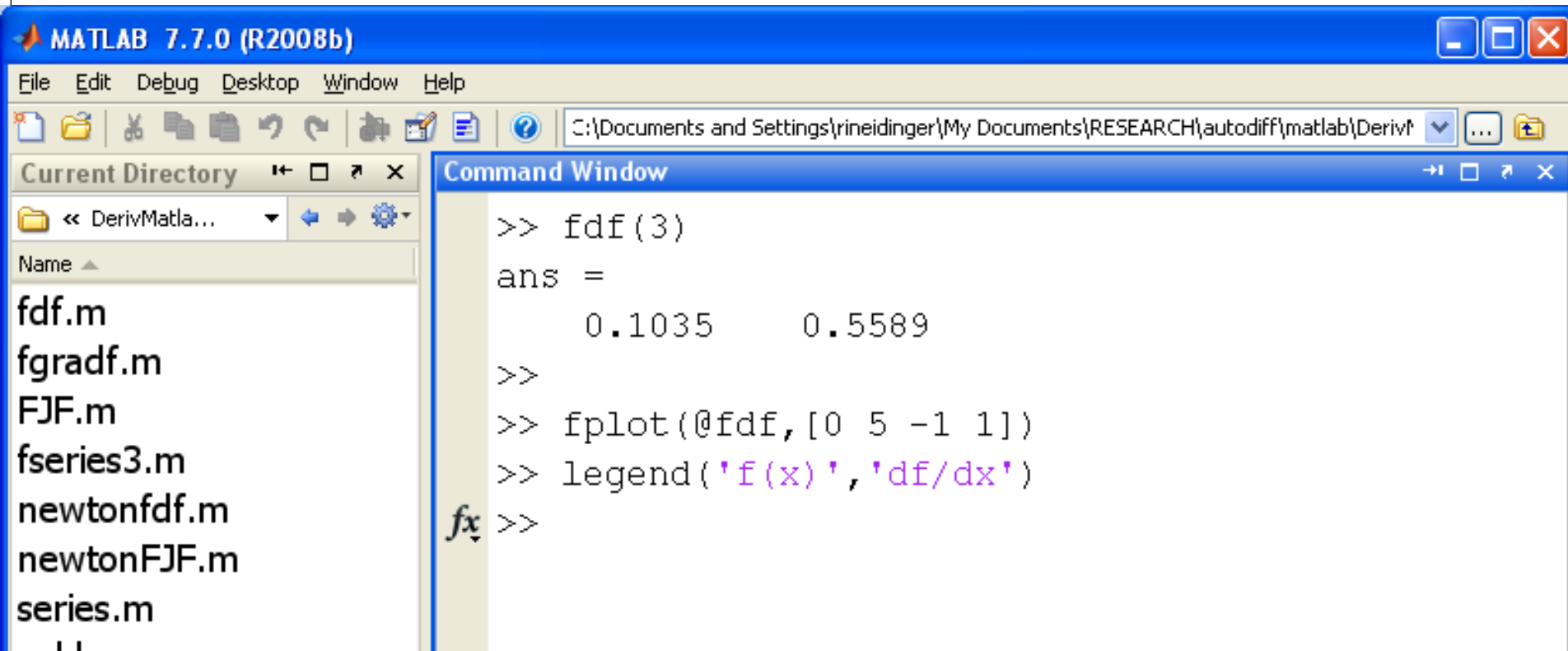
>> [ 3*0.4121, 1*0.4121+3*-5.4668 ]
ans =
    1.2363  -15.9883
```

# Application to One-variable Functions and Newton's Method

- Just returns the derivative value at one point?
- But that is exactly what a function does!

$$f(x) = e^{-\sqrt{x}} \sin(x \ln(1 + x^2))$$

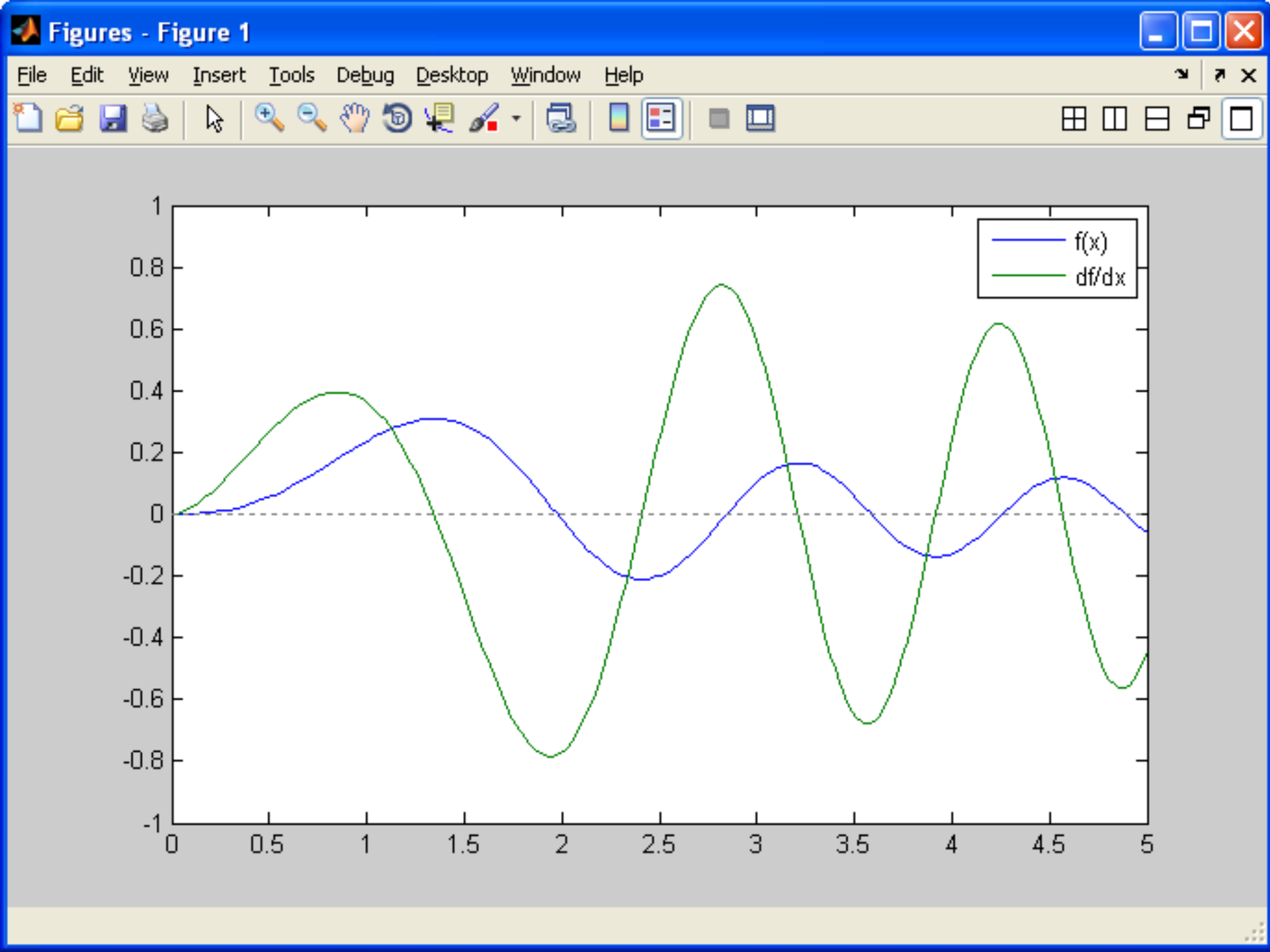
```
function vec = fdf(a)
%FDF takes a scalar and returns the double vector [ f(a), f'(a) ]
% where f is defined in normal syntax below.
x = valder(a,1);
y = exp(-sqrt(x))*sin(x*log(1+x^2));
vec = double(y);
```



The image shows a screenshot of the MATLAB 7.7.0 (R2008b) software interface. The window title is "MATLAB 7.7.0 (R2008b)". The menu bar includes "File", "Edit", "Debug", "Desktop", "Window", and "Help". The current directory is "C:\Documents and Settings\rineidinger\My Documents\RESEARCH\autodiff\matlab\Deriv". The Command Window shows the following code and output:

```
>> fdf(3)
ans =
    0.1035    0.5589
>>
>> fplot(@fdf,[0 5 -1 1])
>> legend('f(x)', 'df/dx')
```

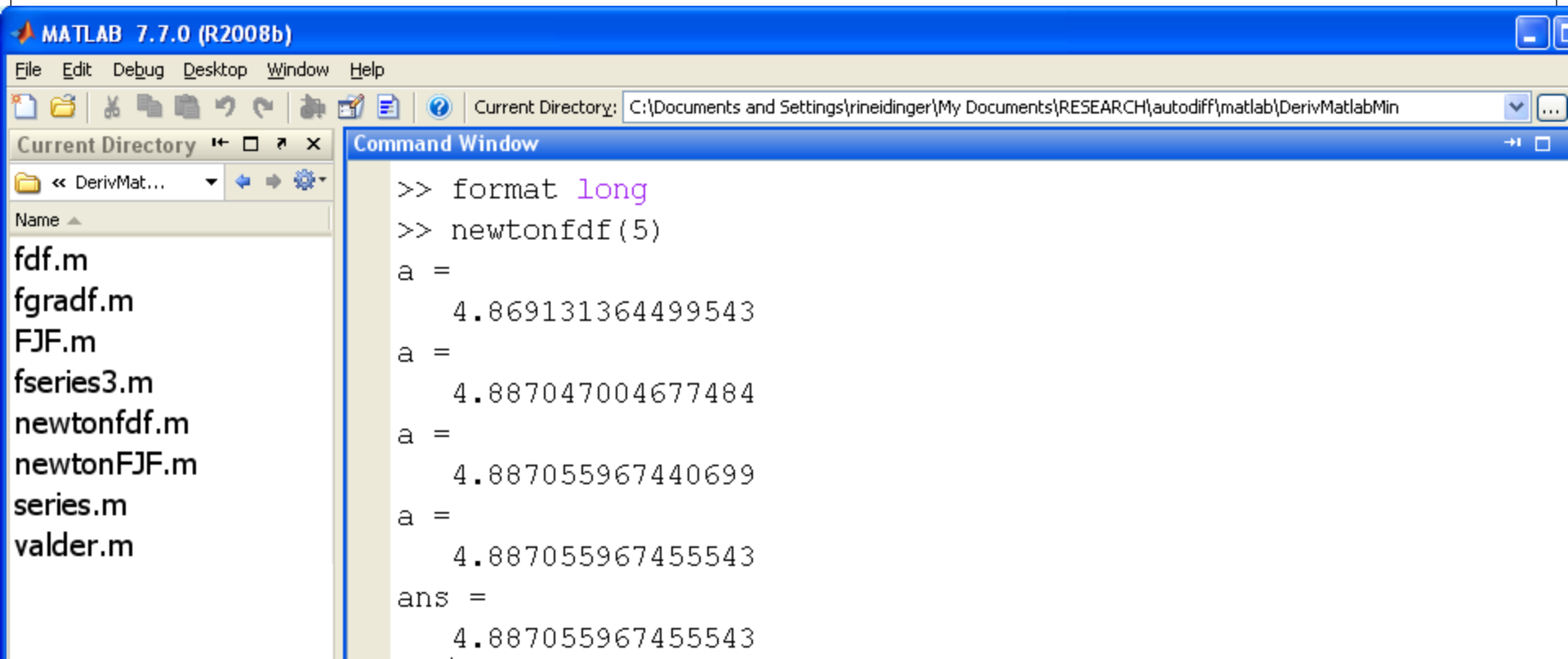
The Command Window also shows a cursor at the prompt `>>` with the label `fx` next to it.



```

function root = newtonfdf(a)
%NEWTON seeks a zero of the function defined in fdf using the initial a
% root estimate and Newton's method (with no exception protections).
% fdf uses @valder to return a vector of function and derivative values.
delta = 1;
while abs(delta) > .000001
    fvec = fdf(a);
    delta = fvec(1)/fvec(2); %value/derivative
    a = a - delta
end
root = a;

```



# Application to Multivariable Gradients

- All derivative rules generalize with gradient in place of derivative!
- If  $h(x,y,z) = \sin(u(x,y,z))$   
then  $[h_x, h_y, h_z] = \cos(u(x,y,z)) * [u_x, u_y, u_z]$
- If  $h(x,y) = u(x,y) * v(x,y)$   
then  $[h_x, h_y] = [u_x, u_y] * v + u * [v_x, v_y]$
- Thus, the valder class works with gradients as the der property!

Current Directory

<< DerivMatla...

Name

- fdf.m
- fgradf.m
- FJF.m
- fseries3.m
- newtonfdf.m
- newtonFJF.m
- series.m
- valder.m

Details

```
>> x=valder(3,[1 0]);
>> y=valder(5,[0 1]);
>> x*y
ans =
    valder

Properties:
    val: 15
    der: [5 3]
    Methods

>> sin(x*y)
ans =
    valder

Properties:
    val: 0.6503
    der: [-3.7984 -2.2791]
    Methods

fx >>
```



```

function vec = fgradf(a0,v0,h0)
%FGRADF computes tennis serve range and sensitivities to parameters
%   input is angle a, velocity v, and height h of serve
%   output is horizontal range f, df/da, df/dv, df/dh
a = valder(a0,[1 0 0]); %angle in degrees
v = valder(v0,[0 1 0]); %velocity in ft/sec
h = valder(h0,[0 0 1]); %height in ft
rad = a*pi/180;
tana = tan(rad);
vhor = (v*cos(rad))^2;
f = (vhor/32)*(tana + sqrt(tana^2+64*h/vhor)); %horizontal range
vec = double(f);

```

The screenshot shows the MATLAB 7.7.0 (R2008b) environment. The Command Window displays the following execution:

```

>> fgradf(20,44,9)
ans =
    56.0461    1.0717    1.9505    1.4596
fx >>

```

The Current Directory window shows the following files:

- fdf.m
- fgradf.m
- FJF.m
- fseries3.m
- newtonfdf.m

```

function root = newtonFJF(A)
%NEWTONFJF seeks a zero of the function defined in FJF using the initial A
% root estimate and Newton's method (with no exception protections).
% FJF returns the value and Jacobian of a function F:R^n->R^n where
% A is a nx1 matrix input, F is nx1 matrix output and J is nxn Jacobian.
delta = 1;
while max(abs(delta)) > .000001
    [F,J] = FJF(A);
    delta = J\F;    % solves the linear system JX=F for X
    A = A - delta;
end
root = A;

```

The screenshot shows the MATLAB 7.7.0 (R2008b) environment. The Command Window displays the following session:

```

>> newtonFJF([1;1;-1])
ans =
    0.5000000000000000
   -0.0000000000000000
   -0.523598775598299
fx >>

```

The Current Directory window shows the file list:

- fdf.m
- fgradf.m
- FJF.m
- fseries3.m
- newtonfdf.m
- newtonFJF.m

```

function [F, J] = FJF(A)
%FJF returns the value and Jacobian of a function F:R^3->R^3.
% A is a 3x1 matrix input, F is 3x1 matrix output and J is 3x3 Jacobian.
x = valder(A(1),[1 0 0]);
y = valder(A(2),[0 1 0]);
z = valder(A(3),[0 0 1]);
f1 = 3*x-cos(y*z)-1/2;
f2 = x^2 -81*(y+0.1)^2+sin(z)+1.06;
f3 = exp(-x*y)+20*z+(10*pi-3)/3;
values = [double(f1); double(f2); double(f3)];
F = values(:,1);
J = values(:,2:4);

```

The screenshot shows the MATLAB 7.7.0 (R2008b) environment. The Command Window displays the following output:

```

>> newtonFJF([.1;.1;-.1])
ans =
    0.5000000000000000
    0.0000000000000000
   -0.523598775598299
fx >>

```

The Current Directory window shows the file 'FJF.m' is selected. The Command Window title bar indicates the current directory is 'ments and Settings\rineidinger\My Documents\RESEARCH\autodiff\matlab\DerivMatlabMin'.

# Higher-Order AD and Taylor Series

- Instead of carrying just the first derivative, carry a vector of Taylor series coefficients.
- Algorithms for operations on series are the methods for “derivative rules.”
- For  $u(x) = u_0 + u_1(x-a) + u_2(x-a)^2 + \dots$   
series object  $u$  will have properties:

val:  $u_0$

coef:  $[u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n]$

```
C:\Documents and Settings\trineidinger\My Documents\RESEARCH\autodiff\matlab\DerivMatlabMin\series.m
File Edit Text Go Cell Tools Debug Desktop Window Help
Stack: Base fx
1 classdef series
2     % SERIES class implementing AD to compute series coefficients. %...%
7     properties
8         val %function value (constant term)
9         coef %vector of Taylor coefficients, linear to highest term
10    end
11    methods
12        function obj = series(a,der,order) ...
34        function vector = double(obj) ...
39        function h = plus(u,v) ...
50        function h = uminus(u) ...
54        function h = minus(u,v) ...
65        function h = mtimes(u,v) ...
82        function h = mrdivide(u,v) ...
00        function h = sqrt(u) ...
09        function h = exp(u) ...
19        function h = log(u) ...
28        function h = mpower(u,r) ...
52        function [s, c] = sincos(u) ...
65        function h = sin(u) ...
69        function g = cos(u) ...
73        function h = tan(u) ...
87        function h = asin(u) ...
00        function h = atan(u) ...
14    end
15 end
```

Current Directory

<< DerivMatlabMin

Name ▲

- fdf.m
- fgradf.m
- FJF.m
- fseries3.m
- newtonfdf.m
- newtonFJF.m
- series.m
- valder.m

series.m (M-File)

```
>> x=series(3,1,4);  
>> x*sin(x*x)  
ans =  
    series  
  
Properties:  
    val: 1.2364  
    coef: [-15.9882 -30.4546 82.6547 145.6740]  
  
Methods  
>> ans.coef(4)*factorial(4)  
ans =  
    3.4962e+003  
fx >>
```

```

function vec = fseries3(a)
%FSERIES returns a vector of Taylor coefficients about a to order 3.
%  f is defined in normal syntax below.
x = series(a,1,3);
y = cos(x)*sqrt(exp(-x*atan(x/2)+log(1+x^2)/(1+x^4)));
vec = double(y);

```

The screenshot shows the MATLAB 7.7.0 (R2008b) environment. The Command Window displays the following execution:

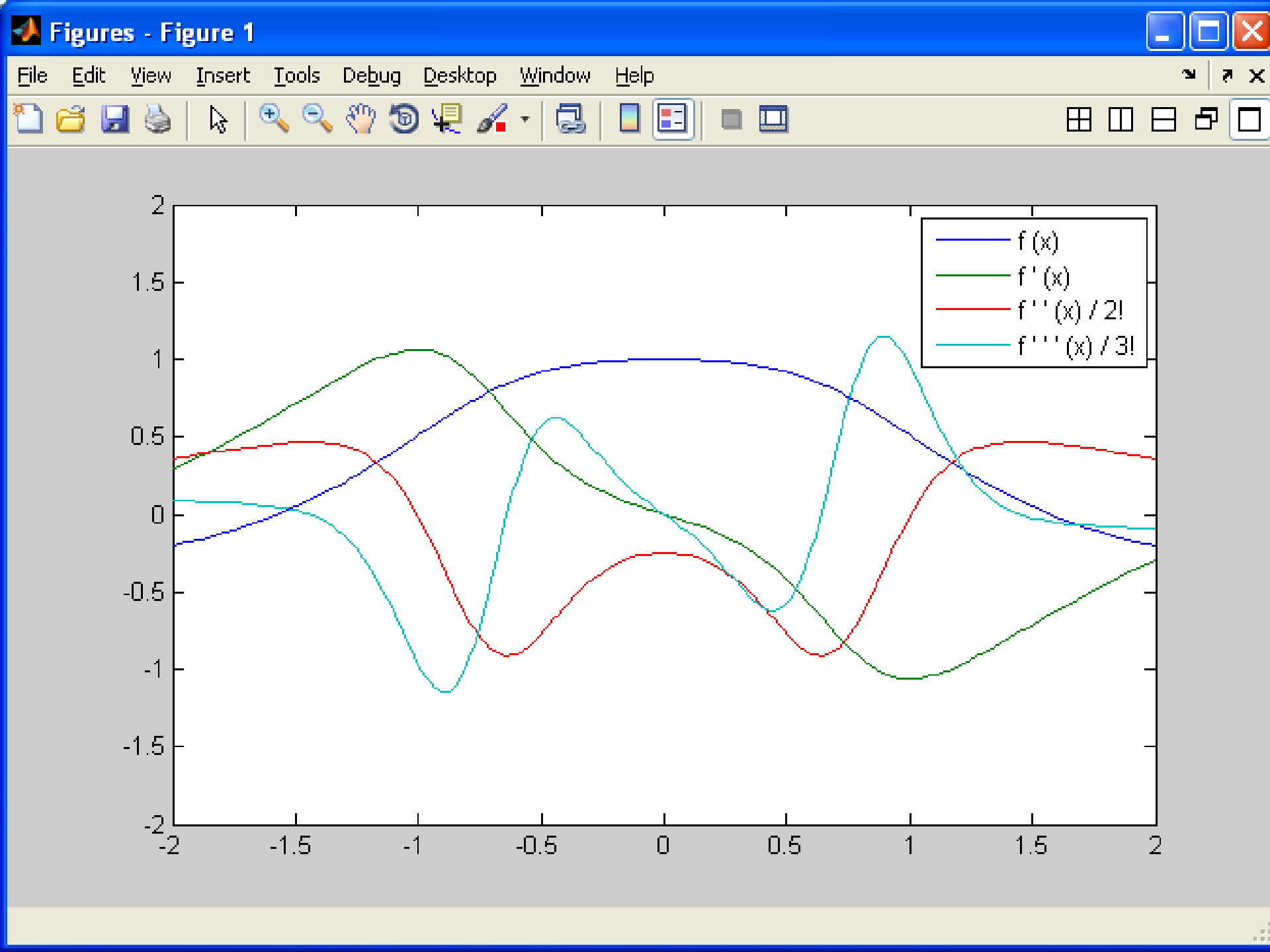
```

>> fseries3(1.5)
ans =
    0.0481   -0.7122    0.4634   -0.0259
>> fplot(@fseries3, [-2 2 -2 2])
fx >>

```

The left pane shows the Current Directory for 'DerivMatlabMin' with the following files listed:

- fdf.m
- fgradf.m
- FJF.m
- fseries3.m
- newtonfdf.m
- newtonFJF.m
- series.m
- valder.m





# Materials available:

- “Introduction to Automatic Differentiation and MATLAB Object-Oriented Programming” to appear in *SIAM Review*, 52(3), Sept. 2010.
- MATLAB M-files and preprint available at:  
[www.davidson.edu/math/neidinger/publicat.html](http://www.davidson.edu/math/neidinger/publicat.html)

# Overloading Other Operations

## MATLAB Operators and Associated Functions

The following table lists the function names for common MATLAB operators.

Operation	Method to Define	Description
$a + b$	<code>plus(a,b)</code>	Binary addition
$a - b$	<code>minus(a,b)</code>	Binary subtraction
$-a$	<code>uminus(a)</code>	Unary minus
$+a$	<code>uplus(a)</code>	Unary plus
$a .* b$	<code>times(a,b)</code>	Element-wise multiplication
$a * b$	<code>mtimes(a,b)</code>	Matrix multiplication
$a ./ b$	<code>rdivide(a,b)</code>	Right element-wise division
$a .\ b$	<code>ldivide(a,b)</code>	Left element-wise division
$a / b$	<code>mrdivide(a,b)</code>	Matrix right division
$a \ b$	<code>mldivide(a,b)</code>	Matrix left division
$a .^ b$	<code>power(a,b)</code>	Element-wise power
$a ^ b$	<code>mpower(a,b)</code>	Matrix power

```
C:\Documents and Settings\irineidinger\My Documents\RESEARCH\autodiff\matlab\Deriv&MatlabMAASE\valder.m*
File Edit Text Go Cell Tools Debug Desktop Window Help
[Icons] Stack: Base fx
1  classdef valder
2      % VALDER class implements Automatic Differentiation by operator overloading
7      properties
8          val %function value
9          der %derivative value or gradient vector
10     end
11     methods
12         function obj = valder(a,b) ...
25         function vec = double(obj) ...
29         function h = plus(u,v) ...
39         function h = uminus(u) ...
43         function h = minus(u,v) ...
53         function h = mtimes(u,v) ...
63         function h = mrdivide(u,v) ...
73         function h = mpower(u,v) ...
83         function h = exp(u) ...
87         function h = log(u) ...
91         function h = sqrt(u) ...
95         function h = sin(u) ...
99         function h = cos(u) ...
103        function h = tan(u) ...
107        function h = asin(u) ...
111        function h = atan(u) ...
115     end
116 end
```

```
function h = exp(u)
    %VALDER/EXP overloads exp of a valder object argument
    h = valder(exp(u.val), exp(u.val)*u.der);
end
function h = log(u)
    %VALDER/LOG overloads natural logarithm of a valder object argument
    h = valder(log(u.val), (1/u.val)*u.der);
end

function h = mpower(u,v)
    %VALDER/MPOWER overloads ^ with at least one valder object argument
    if ~isa(u,'valder') %u is a scalar
        h = valder(u^v.val, u^v.val*log(u)*v.der);
    elseif ~isa(v,'valder') %v is a scalar
        h = valder(u.val^v, v*u.val^(v-1)*u.der);
    else
        h = exp(v*log(u)); %call overloaded log, * and exp
    end
end
```