



LiveLink™  
for MATLAB®  
*User's Guide*



# LiveLink™ for MATLAB® User's Guide

© 2009–2012 COMSOL

Protected by U.S. Patents 7,519,518; 7,596,474; and 7,623,991. Patents pending.

This Documentation and the Programs described herein are furnished under the COMSOL Software License Agreement ([www.comsol.com/sla](http://www.comsol.com/sla)) and may be used or copied only under the terms of the license agreement.

COMSOL, COMSOL Desktop, COMSOL Multiphysics, and LiveLink are registered trademarks or trademarks of COMSOL AB. MATLAB is a registered trademark of The MathWorks, Inc.. Other product or brand names are trademarks or registered trademarks of their respective holders.

Version:

May 2012

COMSOL 4.3

## Contact Information

Visit [www.comsol.com/contact](http://www.comsol.com/contact) for a searchable list of all COMSOL offices and local representatives. From this web page, search the contacts and find a local sales representative, go to other COMSOL websites, request information and pricing, submit technical support queries, subscribe to the monthly eNews email newsletter, and much more.

If you need to contact Technical Support, an online request form is located at [www.comsol.com/support/contact](http://www.comsol.com/support/contact).

Other useful links include:

- Technical Support [www.comsol.com/support](http://www.comsol.com/support)
- Software updates: [www.comsol.com/support/updates](http://www.comsol.com/support/updates)
- Online community: [www.comsol.com/community](http://www.comsol.com/community)
- Events, conferences, and training: [www.comsol.com/events](http://www.comsol.com/events)
- Tutorials: [www.comsol.com/products/tutorials](http://www.comsol.com/products/tutorials)
- Knowledge Base: [www.comsol.com/support/knowledgebase](http://www.comsol.com/support/knowledgebase)

# C o n t e n t s

## Contents 3

### Chapter 1: Introduction

<b>About LiveLink for MATLAB</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Help and Documentation</b>	<b>10</b>
Getting Help . . . . .	10
Where Do I Access the Documentation and the Model Library? . . . . .	11
Typographical Conventions . . . . .	13

### Chapter 2: Getting Started

<b>The Client-Server Architecture</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>Running COMSOL with MATLAB</b>	<b>19</b>
Starting COMSOL with MATLAB on Windows / Mac OSX / Linux . . . . .	19
Connecting the COMSOL Server and MATLAB Manually . . . . .	20
Changing the MATLAB Version . . . . .	21
<b>Calling a MATLAB Function From the COMSOL Desktop</b>	<b>23</b>

### Chapter 3: Building Models

<b>The Model Object</b>	<b>26</b>
Important Notes About the Model Object . . . . .	26
The Model Object Methods . . . . .	26
The General Utility Functionality . . . . .	27
Loading and Saving a Model . . . . .	28
Exchanging Models Between MATLAB and the COMSOL Desktop . . . . .	29
<b>Working with Geometry</b>	<b>32</b>
The Geometry Sequence Syntax . . . . .	32
Displaying the Geometry . . . . .	33

Working with Geometry Sequences . . . . .	34
Exchanging Geometries with the COMSOL Desktop . . . . .	41
Importing and Exporting Geometries and CAD Models from File. . . . .	42
Retrieving Geometry Information . . . . .	42
Modeling with a Parameterized Geometry . . . . .	44
Images and Interpolation Data . . . . .	46
<b>Working with Meshes</b>	<b>52</b>
The Meshing Sequence Syntax . . . . .	52
Displaying the Mesh . . . . .	53
Mesh Creation Functions . . . . .	54
Importing External Meshes and Mesh Objects . . . . .	73
Measuring Mesh Quality . . . . .	75
Getting Mesh Statistics Information . . . . .	76
Getting and Setting Mesh Data . . . . .	77
<b>Modeling Physics</b>	<b>81</b>
The Physics Interface Syntax . . . . .	81
The Material Syntax . . . . .	84
Modifying the Equations . . . . .	85
Adding Global Equation . . . . .	87
Defining Model Settings Using External Data File . . . . .	88
<b>Creating Selections</b>	<b>91</b>
The Selection Node . . . . .	91
Coordinate-Based Selections . . . . .	92
Selection Using Adjacent Geometry . . . . .	95
Display Selection . . . . .	96
<b>The Study Node</b>	<b>98</b>
The Study Syntax . . . . .	98
The Solution Syntax . . . . .	99
Run, RunAll, RunFrom . . . . .	99
Adding a Parametric Sweep . . . . .	100
The Batch Node . . . . .	101
Plot While Solving. . . . .	101
<b>Analyzing the Results</b>	<b>103</b>
The Plot Group Syntax . . . . .	103
Displaying The Results . . . . .	104
The Data Set Syntax. . . . .	107
The Numerical Node Syntax. . . . .	108

Exporting Data . . . . .	108
--------------------------	-----

## Chapter 4: Working With Models

<b>Using MATLAB Variables in Model Settings</b>	<b>114</b>
The Set and SetIndex Methods . . . . .	114
Using MATLAB Function To Define Model Properties . . . . .	115
<b>Extracting Results</b>	<b>117</b>
Extracting Data From Tables . . . . .	117
Extracting Data at Node Points . . . . .	118
Extracting Data at Arbitrary Points . . . . .	122
Evaluating an Expression at Geometry Vertices . . . . .	125
Evaluating an Integral . . . . .	127
Evaluating a Global Expression . . . . .	129
Evaluating a Global Matrix . . . . .	131
Evaluating a Maximum of Expression . . . . .	131
Evaluating an Expression Average . . . . .	133
Evaluating a Minimum of Expression . . . . .	135
<b>Running Models in Loop</b>	<b>138</b>
The Parametric Sweep Node . . . . .	138
Running Model in a Loop Using the MATLAB Tools . . . . .	138
<b>Running Models in Batch Mode</b>	<b>141</b>
The Batch Node . . . . .	141
Running A COMSOL M-file In Batch Mode . . . . .	141
Running A COMSOL M-file In Batch Mode Without Display . . . . .	142
<b>Extracting System Matrices</b>	<b>143</b>
Extracting System Matrices . . . . .	143
Extracting State-Space Matrices . . . . .	146
<b>Extracting Solution Information and Solution Vector</b>	<b>151</b>
Obtaining Solution Information . . . . .	151
Extracting Solution Vector . . . . .	153
<b>Retrieving Xmesh Information</b>	<b>155</b>
The Extended Mesh (Xmesh) . . . . .	155
Extracting Xmesh Information . . . . .	155

<b>Navigating the Model</b>	<b>158</b>
Navigating The Model Object Using a GUI . . . . .	158
Navigating The Model Object At The Command Line . . . . .	162
Finding Model Expressions . . . . .	162
Getting Feature Model Properties. . . . .	163
Getting Model Expressions . . . . .	164
Getting Selection Information . . . . .	164
<b>Handling Errors And Warnings</b>	<b>165</b>
Errors and Warnings. . . . .	165
Using MATLAB Tools To Handle COMSOL Exception . . . . .	165
Displaying Warning and Error in the Model . . . . .	165
<b>Improving Performance for Large Models</b>	<b>167</b>
Setting Java Heap Size . . . . .	167
Disabling Model Feature Update . . . . .	168
Disabling The Model History . . . . .	168
<b>Creating Custom GUI</b>	<b>170</b>
<b>COMSOL 3.5a Compatibility</b>	<b>171</b>

## Chapter 5: Calling MATLAB Function

<b>The MATLAB Function Feature Node</b>	<b>174</b>
Defining MATLAB Function In The COMSOL Model . . . . .	174
Adding A MATLAB Function with the COMSOL API Java Syntax . . . . .	178
<b>Additional Information</b>	<b>179</b>
Function Input/Output Considerations . . . . .	179
Updating The Functions . . . . .	180
Defining Function Derivatives . . . . .	180
Using the MATLAB Debugger (Windows OS only) . . . . .	181

## Chapter 6: Command Reference

<b>Summary of Commands</b>	<b>184</b>
<b>Commands Grouped by Function</b>	<b>186</b>

# Introduction

This guide introduces you to LiveLink for MATLAB, which extends your COMSOL modeling environment with an interface between COMSOL Multiphysics and MATLAB. The *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide* provides additional documentation of the API.

# About LiveLink for MATLAB

LiveLink for MATLAB connects COMSOL Multiphysics to the MATLAB scripting environment. Using this functionality you can do the following.

## SET UP MODELS FROM A SCRIPT

LiveLink for MATLAB includes the COMSOL API Java, with all necessary functions and methods to implement models from scratch. For each operation you do in the *COMSOL Desktop* there is a corresponding command you can type at the MATLAB prompt. This is a simplified Java based syntax, which does not require any knowledge of Java. Available methods are listed in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*. The simplest way to learn this programming syntax is to save the model as a M-file directly from the COMSOL Desktop.

You can read more about building a model using the command line in the chapter [Building Models](#).

## USE MATLAB FUNCTIONS IN MODEL SETTINGS

Use LiveLink for MATLAB to set model properties with a MATLAB function. For instance define material property or boundary condition as a MATLAB routine that is evaluated while the model is solved.

How you can do this in the COMSOL Desktop is described in chapter [Calling MATLAB Function](#).

## LEVERAGE MATLAB FUNCTIONALITY FOR PROGRAM FLOW

Use the API syntax together with MATLAB functionality to control the flow of your programs. For instance implement nested loops using `for` or `while` commands, or implement conditional model settings with `if` or `switch` statements. You can also handle exceptions using `try` and `catch`. Some of these operations are described in the sections [Running Models in Loop](#) and [Handling Errors And Warnings](#), which you find in the chapter *Working With Models*.

## ANALYZE RESULTS IN MATLAB

API wrapper functions included with LiveLink for MATLAB make it easy to extract data at the command line. Functions are available to access results at node points or arbitrary location. You can also obtain low level information of the extended mesh, such as finite element mesh coordinates, or connection information between the

elements, and nodes. Extracted data is available as MATLAB variables, ready to be used with any MATLAB function. See the sections [Extracting Results](#) and [Retrieving Xmesh Information](#) from the chapter *Working With Models*.

#### **CREATE CUSTOM INTERFACES FOR MODELS**

Use the *MATLAB Guide* functionality to create a user defined graphical interface that is combined with a COMSOL model. Make your models available for others by creating graphical user interfaces tailored to expose settings and parameters of your choice.

# Help and Documentation

In this section:

- [Getting Help](#)
- [Where Do I Access the Documentation and the Model Library?](#)
- [Typographical Conventions](#)

## *Getting Help*

---

COMSOL and LiveLink for MATLAB contains several sources of help and information.

- To get started with LiveLink for MATLAB, it is recommended that you read the *Introduction to LiveLink for MATLAB*. It contains detailed examples about how to get you started with the product.
- Save models as an M-file.

Use the **COMSOL Desktop** to get your first model implemented using the COMSOL Java API.

Set-up the model using the graphical user interface, then save the model as a M-file. To proceed go to the **File** menu and select **Save as M-file**. This generates a M-function that you can run using **COMSOL with MATLAB**.

- Study the LiveLink for MATLAB Model Library

LiveLink for MATLAB includes a model library with detailed example models. Use the function `mphmodellibrary` at the command line to get a list of available models, which includes:

- In the model *domain\_activation\_llmatlab* you can see how to activate and deactivate domain alternatively during a transient analysis.
- The model *homogenization\_llmatlab* shows how to simulate a periodic homogenization process in a space-dependent chemical reactor model. This homogenization removes concentration gradients in the reactor at a set time interval.
- The model *pseudoperiodicity\_llmatlab* you can see how to simulate convective heat transfer in a channel filled with water. To reduce memory requirements, the model is solved repeatedly on a pseudo-periodic section of the channel. Each solution corresponds to a different section, and before each solution step the

temperature at the outlet boundary from the previous solution is mapped to the inlet boundary.

- The model *thermos\_llmatlab* shows how to use MATLAB function callback. This example solves for the temperature distribution inside a thermos holding hot coffee.
- Finally in the model *busbar\_llsw\_llmatlab* you can see perform geometry optimization using COMSOL, MATLAB, and SolidWorks.

Do not forget to check the ones listed below to get you up-to-speed with modeling:

- Access the on-line documentation with the function `mphdoc`.
- Read this user guide to get detailed information about the different parts of the model object and how these are accessed from MATLAB. The [Command Reference](#) chapter describes the function available for use with LiveLink for MATLAB.
- The *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide* contains reference documentation that describes the methods in the model object.

### *Where Do I Access the Documentation and the Model Library?*

---

A number of Internet resources provide more information about COMSOL Multiphysics, including licensing and technical information. The electronic documentation, Dynamic Help, and the Model Library are all accessed through the COMSOL Desktop.



If you are reading the documentation as a PDF file on your computer, the [blue links](#) do not work to open a model or content referenced in a different user's guide. However, if you are using the online help in COMSOL Multiphysics, these links work to other modules, model examples, and documentation sets.

## **THE DOCUMENTATION**

The *COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide* and *COMSOL Multiphysics Reference Guide* describe all interfaces and functionality included with the basic COMSOL Multiphysics license. These guides also have instructions about how to use COMSOL Multiphysics and how to access the documentation electronically through the COMSOL Multiphysics help desk.

To locate and search all the documentation, in COMSOL Multiphysics:

- Press F1 for Dynamic Help,
- Click the buttons on the toolbar, or
- Select **Help>Documentation** () or **Help>Dynamic Help** () from the main menu and then either enter a search term or look under a specific module in the documentation tree.

### THE MODEL LIBRARY

Each model comes with documentation that includes a theoretical background and step-by-step instructions to create the model. The models are available in COMSOL as MPH-files that you can open for further investigation. You can use the step-by-step instructions and the actual models as a template for your own modeling and applications.

SI units are used to describe the relevant properties, parameters, and dimensions in most examples, but other unit systems are available.

To open the Model Library, select **View>Model Library** () from the main menu, and then search by model name or browse under a module folder name. Click to highlight any model of interest, and select **Open Model and PDF** to open both the model and the documentation explaining how to build the model. Alternatively, click the **Dynamic Help** button () or select **Help>Documentation** in COMSOL to search by name or browse by module.

The model libraries are updated on a regular basis by COMSOL in order to add new models and to improve existing models. Choose **View>Model Library Update** () to update your model library to include the latest versions of the model examples.

If you have any feedback or suggestions for additional models for the library (including those developed by you), feel free to contact us at [info@comsol.com](mailto:info@comsol.com).

### CONTACTING COMSOL BY EMAIL

For general product information, contact COMSOL at [info@comsol.com](mailto:info@comsol.com).

To receive technical support from COMSOL for the COMSOL products, please contact your local COMSOL representative or send your questions to [support@comsol.com](mailto:support@comsol.com). An automatic notification and case number is sent to you by email.

## COMSOL WEB SITES

Main Corporate web site	<a href="http://www.comsol.com">www.comsol.com</a>
Worldwide contact information	<a href="http://www.comsol.com/contact">www.comsol.com/contact</a>
Technical Support main page	<a href="http://www.comsol.com/support">www.comsol.com/support</a>
Support Knowledge Base	<a href="http://www.comsol.com/support/knowledgebase">www.comsol.com/support/knowledgebase</a>
Product updates	<a href="http://www.comsol.com/support/updates">www.comsol.com/support/updates</a>
COMSOL User Community	<a href="http://www.comsol.com/community">www.comsol.com/community</a>

### *Typographical Conventions*

All COMSOL user's guides use a set of consistent typographical conventions that make it easier to follow the discussion, understand what you can expect to see on the graphical user interface (GUI), and know which data must be entered into various data-entry fields.

In particular, these conventions are used throughout the documentation:

CONVENTION	EXAMPLE
text highlighted in blue	Click text <b>highlighted in blue</b> to go to other information in the PDF. When you are using the online help desk in COMSOL Multiphysics, these links also work to other modules, model examples, and documentation sets.
<b>boldface font</b>	A <b>boldface</b> font indicates that the given word(s) appear exactly that way on the COMSOL Desktop (or, for toolbar buttons, in the corresponding tip). For example, the <b>Model Builder</b> window (  ) is often referred to and this is the window that contains the model tree. As another example, the instructions might say to click the <b>Zoom Extents</b> button (  ) and this means that when you hover over the button with your mouse, the same label displays on the COMSOL Desktop.
Forward arrow symbol >	The forward arrow symbol > is instructing you to select a series of menu items in a specific order. For example, <b>Options&gt;Preferences</b> is equivalent to: From the <b>Options</b> menu, choose <b>Preferences</b> .
Code (monospace) font	A Code (monospace) font indicates you are to make a keyboard entry in the user interface. You might see an instruction such as "Enter (or type) 1.25 in the <b>Current density</b> field." The monospace font also is an indication of programming code or a variable name.

CONVENTION	EXAMPLE
Italic <i>Code</i> (monospace) font	An italic <i>Code</i> (monospace) font indicates user inputs and parts of names that can vary or be defined by the user.
Arrow brackets <> following the Code (monospace) or <i>Code</i> (italic) fonts	<p>The arrow brackets included in round brackets after either a monospace Code or an italic <i>Code</i> font means that the content in the string can be freely chosen or entered by the user, such as feature tags. For example, <code>model.geom(&lt;tag&gt;)</code> where <code>&lt;tag&gt;</code> is the geometry's tag (an identifier of your choice).</p> <p>When the string is predefined by COMSOL, no bracket is used and this indicates that this is a finite set, such as a feature name.</p>

### KEY TO THE GRAPHICS

Throughout the documentation, additional icons are used to help navigate the information. These categories are used to draw your attention to the information based on the level of importance, although it is always recommended that you read these text boxes.

ICON	NAME	DESCRIPTION
	Caution	A Caution icon is used to indicate that the user should proceed carefully and consider the next steps. It might mean that an action is required, or if the instructions are not followed, that there will be problems with the model solution.
	Important	An Important icon is used to indicate that the information provided is key to the model building, design, or solution. The information is of higher importance than a note or tip, and the user should endeavor to follow the instructions.
	Note	A Note icon is used to indicate that the information may be of use to the user. It is recommended that the user read the text.
	Tip	A Tip icon is used to provide information, reminders, short cuts, suggestions of how to improve model design, and other information that may or may not be useful to the user.
	See Also	The See Also icon indicates that other useful information is located in the named section. If you are working on line, click the hyperlink to go to the information directly. When the link is outside of the current PDF document, the text indicates this, for example See <a href="#">The Laminar Flow Interface</a> in the <i>COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide</i> . Note that if you are in COMSOL Multiphysics' online help, the link will work.

ICON	NAME	DESCRIPTION
	Model	<p>The Model icon is used in the documentation as well as in COMSOL Multiphysics from the View&gt;Model Library menu. If you are working online, click the link to go to the PDF version of the step-by-step instructions. In some cases, a model is only available if you have a license for a specific module. These examples occur in the COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide. The Model Library path describes how to find the actual model in COMSOL Multiphysics, for example</p> <p>If you have the RF Module, see <a href="#">Radar Cross Section: Model Library path RF_Module/Tutorial_Models/radar_cross_section</a></p>
Space Dimension		<p>Another set of icons are also used in the Model Builder—the model space dimension is indicated by 0D , 1D , 1D axial symmetry , 2D , 2D axial symmetry , and 3D  icons. These icons are also used in the documentation to clearly list the differences to an interface, feature node, or theory section, which are based on space dimension.</p>



# Getting Started

This chapter has these sections:

- [The Client-Server Architecture](#)
- [Running COMSOL with MATLAB](#)
- [Calling a MATLAB Function From the COMSOL Desktop](#)

# The Client-Server Architecture

LiveLink for MATLAB uses the client-server mode to connect COMSOL Multiphysics and MATLAB. When starting COMSOL with MATLAB, two processes are started—a COMSOL server and the MATLAB desktop. The MATLAB process is a client connected to the COMSOL server using a TCP /IP communication protocol.



Note

The COMSOL Desktop is not involved.

The first time you start COMSOL with MATLAB, you are requested to provide login information. This information is stored in the user preferences file and is not requested for later use of COMSOL with MATLAB. The same login information may be used when exchanging the model object between the COMSOL server and a COMSOL Desktop.

The communication between the COMSOL server and MATLAB is established by default using port number 2036. If this port is in use, port number 2037 is used instead, and so on.



See Also

You can manually specify the port number. See [COMSOL Server Commands](#) in the *COMSOL Multiphysics Installation and Operations Guide* for more information on the COMSOL server start-up properties.



Important

The links to features described outside of this user guide do not work in the PDF, only from within the online help.



Tip

To locate and search all the documentation for this information, in COMSOL, select **Help>Documentation** from the main menu and either enter a search term or look under a specific module in the documentation tree.

# Running COMSOL with MATLAB

The command to run COMSOL with MATLAB automatically connect a COMSOL process with MATLAB. You can also connect the process manually. This section describe the procedures to start COMSOL with MATLAB both automatically and manually. You will also see how to change the MATLAB path in the COMSOL settings.

In this section:

- [Starting COMSOL with MATLAB on Windows / Mac OSX / Linux](#)
- [Connecting the COMSOL Server and MATLAB Manually](#)
- [Changing the MATLAB Version](#)

---

## *Starting COMSOL with MATLAB on Windows / Mac OSX / Linux*

---

To run a COMSOL model at the MATLAB prompt you need to start COMSOL with MATLAB.

- On Windows use the **COMSOL with MATLAB** shortcut icon that is created on the desktop after the automatic installation. In addition, you can find a link in the Windows start menu, under **All Programs > COMSOL 4.3 > COMSOL 4.3 with MATLAB**.
- On Mac OS X, use the **COMSOL with MATLAB** application available in the application folder.
- On Linux enter the command `comsol server matlab` at a terminal window.



See the *COMSOL Multiphysics Installation and Operations Guide* to get a complete description on how to start COMSOL with MATLAB on the different supported platforms.

---



Note

The first time **COMSOL with MATLAB** is started, you are asked for login and password information. This is necessary to establish the client/server connection. The information is then saved in the user preference file and is not requested again.

If you want to reset the login information, add the flag `-login force` to the icon target path on Windows or, for Mac OS X and Linux operating systems, enter the command `comsol server matlab -login force` at a system command prompt.

---

### *Connecting the COMSOL Server and MATLAB Manually*

---

You can also manually connect MATLAB to a COMSOL server. This can be useful if you need to start first MATLAB stand-alone and then connect to a COMSOL server, or if you need to connect MATLAB and a COMSOL server running on different computers.

To manually connect MATLAB to a COMSOL server you need first to start MATLAB and a COMSOL server.

*To start a COMSOL server:*

- On Windows go to the start menu **All Programs>COMSOL 4.3> Client Server>COMSOL Multiphysics 4.3 server**.
- On Mac OS X or Linux enter `comsol server` at a terminal window.

*To connect MATLAB to the COMSOL server:*

- 1 In MATLAB, add the path of the COMSOL43/mli directory.
- 2 Enter the command below at the MATLAB prompt:

```
mphstart(<portnumber>)
```

Where `<portnumber>` is the port used by the COMSOL server. If the COMSOL server is listening on the default port, 2036, you do not need to specify the port number.

#### **ADJUSTING THE MATLAB JAVA HEAP SIZE**

You may need to modify the MATLAB Java heap size to be able to manipulate the model object and extract data at the MATLAB prompt. See the section [Improving Performance for Large Models](#).

## CONNECTING MATLAB AND THE COMSOL SERVER ON DIFFERENT COMPUTERS



Note

This operation requires the specific license type called Floating Network License (FNL).

To connect MATLAB and a COMSOL server that are running on different computers, specify in the function `mphstart` the IP address of the computer where the COMSOL server is running:

```
mphstart(<ipaddress>, <portnumber>)
```

### IMPORTING THE COMSOL CLASS

Once you have manually connected MATLAB and the COMSOL server, the COMSOL class needs to be imported. Enter the following command at the MATLAB prompt:

```
import com.comsol.model.*  
import com.comsol.model.util.*
```

#### *Disconnecting MATLAB and the COMSOL Server*

To disconnect MATLAB and the COMSOL server, run the command below at the MATLAB prompt:

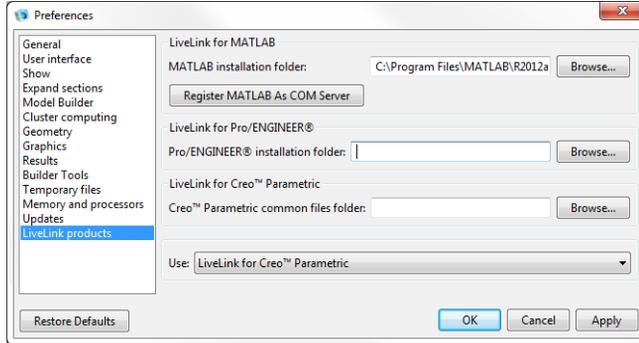
```
ModelUtil.disconnect;
```

#### *Changing the MATLAB Version*

The path of the MATLAB version connected to COMSOL is defined during the initial COMSOL installation. You can change the MATLAB root path using the preferences file:

- 1 In the COMSOL Desktop, go to the **Options** menu and select **Preferences**.
- 2 In the **Preferences** window, go to **LiveLink products**.
- 3 Set the MATLAB root directory path in the **MATLAB installation folder** field.
- 4 Windows OS users also need to click **Register MATLAB as COM Server** button, otherwise the specified MATLAB version may not start when calling external MATLAB function from the COMSOL model.

5 Click **OK**.



6 To update the preferences file, close the COMSOL Desktop.

# Calling a MATLAB Function From the COMSOL Desktop

Use LiveLink for MATLAB to call MATLAB functions from within the model when working in the COMSOL Desktop. The procedure is slightly different than implementing a model using a script as you do not need to run COMSOL with MATLAB.

Start COMSOL as a stand-alone. The external MATLAB function needs to be defined in the COMSOL model so that a MATLAB process can automatically start when the function needs to be evaluated. The result of the function evaluation in MATLAB is then sent back to the COMSOL environment.



See Also

[Calling MATLAB Function](#)

---



# Building Models

This chapter gives an overview of the model object and provides an introduction to building models using the LiveLink interface. In this chapter:

- [The Model Object](#)
- [Working with Geometry](#)
- [Working with Meshes](#)
- [Modeling Physics](#)
- [Creating Selections](#)
- [The Study Node](#)
- [Analyzing the Results](#)

# The Model Object

While working with the LiveLink interface in MATLAB you work with models through the *model object*. Use *methods* to create, modify, and access your model.

In this section:

- [Important Notes About the Model Object](#)
- [The Model Object Methods](#)
- [The General Utility Functionality](#)
- [Loading and Saving a Model](#)
- [Exchanging Models Between MATLAB and the COMSOL Desktop](#)

## *Important Notes About the Model Object*

---

The following information should be considered regarding the model object:

- All algorithms and data structures for the model are integrated in the model object.
- The model object is used by the COMSOL Desktop to represent your model. This means that the model object and the COMSOL Desktop behavior are virtually identical.
- The model object includes methods for setting up and running *sequences of operations* to create geometry, meshes, and for solving your model.

LiveLink for MATLAB includes the COMSOL Java API, which is a Java-based programming interface to COMSOL. In addition, the product includes a number of M-file utility functions, that wrap API functionality for greater ease of use.

## *The Model Object Methods*

---

The model object provides a large number of methods. The methods are structured in a tree-like way, very similar to the nodes in the model tree in the *Model Builder* window on the COMSOL Desktop. The top-level methods just return references that

support further methods. At a certain level the methods perform actions, such as adding data to the model object, performing computations, or returning data.



See Also

Detailed documentation about model object methods is in the [About General Commands](#) section in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.



Important

The links to features described outside of this user guide do not work in the PDF, only from within the online help.



Tip

To locate and search all the documentation for this information, in COMSOL, select **Help>Documentation** from the main menu and either enter a search term or look under a specific module in the documentation tree.

### *The General Utility Functionality*

The model object utility methods are available with the *ModelUtil* object. These methods can be used, for example, to create or remove a new model object, but also to enable the progress bar or list the model object available in the COMSOL server.

#### **MANAGING THE COMSOL MODEL OBJECT**

Use the method `ModelUtil.create` to create a new model object in the COMSOL server:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
```

This command creates a model object `Model` on the COMSOL server and a MATLAB object `model` that is linked to the model object.

It is possible to have several model objects on the COMSOL server, each with a different name. To access each model object you need to have different MATLAB variables linked to them, each MATLAB variable having a different name.

Create a MATLAB variable linked to an existing model object with the method `ModelUtil.model`. For example, to create a MATLAB variable `model` that is linked to the existing model object `Model` on the COMSOL server, enter the command:

```
model = ModelUtil.model('Model');
```

To remove a specific model object use the method `ModelUtil.remove`. For instance to remove the model object `Model` from the COMSOL server enter the command:

```
ModelUtil.remove('Model');
```

Alternatively remove all the COMSOL objects stored in the COMSOL server with the following command:

```
ModelUtil.clear
```

List the names of the model objects available on the COMSOL server with the command:

```
list = ModelUtil.tags
```

### ACTIVATING THE PROGRESS BAR

While running COMSOL with MATLAB, by default no progress information is displayed. You can manually enable a progress bar to visualize the progress of operations such as loading a model, creating a mesh, assembling matrices, or computing the solution. Enter the command:

```
ModelUtil.showProgress(true);
```

To deactivate the progress bar enter:

```
ModelUtil.showProgress(false);
```



The progress bar is not supported on Mac OS X.

---

## *Loading and Saving a Model*

---

### LOADING A MODEL AT THE MATLAB PROMPT

To load an existing model saved as an MPH-file use the function `mphload`. For example to load the Busbar model from the Model Library enter:

```
model = mphload('busbar.mph');
```

This creates a model object `Model` on the COMSOL server that is accessible using the MATLAB variable `model`.

If there is already a model object `Model` linked to a MATLAB variable `model`, you can load the model using a different name with the command:

```
model2 = mphload('busbar.mph', 'Model2');
```

When using the function `mphload`, the model history is automatically disabled, to prevent large history information when running a model in a loop. If you want to turn model history on you can use the function `mphload` as follows:

```
model = mphload('busbar.mph', '-history');
```

The history recording can be useful when working using the COMSOL Desktop. All the operations are then stored in the saved model M-file.

### SAVING A MODEL OBJECT

Use the function `mphsave` to save the model object linked to the MATLAB object `model`:

```
mphsave(model, 'filename')
```

If the filename specified `'filename'` does not provide a path the file is saved relatively to the local MATLAB path. The file extension determines which format to use (`*.mph`, `*.m` or `*.java`).

Alternatively you can use the save method:

```
model.save('filename');
```

If `'filename'` does not provide a path the file is saved relatively to the local COMSOL server path.

Any files saved in the MPH format can be loaded by the COMSOL Desktop. In addition you can save your model as a Model M-file:

```
model.save('model_name', 'm');
```



The models are not automatically saved between MATLAB sessions.

---

### *Exchanging Models Between MATLAB and the COMSOL Desktop*

---

It is possible to alternate between the MATLAB scripting interface and the COMSOL graphical user interface in order to edit and/or modify the model object. When

running COMSOL with MATLAB, the model object is stored on the COMSOL server. You can directly load the model object in the COMSOL Desktop from the COMSOL server or, conversely, export the model object available in the COMSOL Desktop to the COMSOL server.

### EXPORTING FROM THE COMSOL DESKTOP A MODEL TO MATLAB

In the COMSOL Desktop, use the option **Export to Server** from the **File** menu to send the model object to the COMSOL server that is connected with MATLAB. Once the model object is on the COMSOL server, create a link in the MATLAB prompt.

Follow the steps below to export a model from the COMSOL Desktop to MATLAB:

- 1 Open a model in the COMSOL Desktop.
- 2 From the **File** menu, choose **Client Server>Export Model to Server**.



- 3 Make sure that the **Server** and the **Port** fields are set with the correct information (default values are `localhost` and `2036`). To establish the connection between the COMSOL Desktop and the COMSOL server enter a **Username** and a **Password**; these are defined the first time you connect to the COMSOL server.
- 4 Enter the name of the model object to export (the default name is `Model`).
- 5 Click **OK**.
- 6 In MATLAB, create a link to the model object on the COMSOL server with the command:

```
model = ModelUtil.model('Model');
```

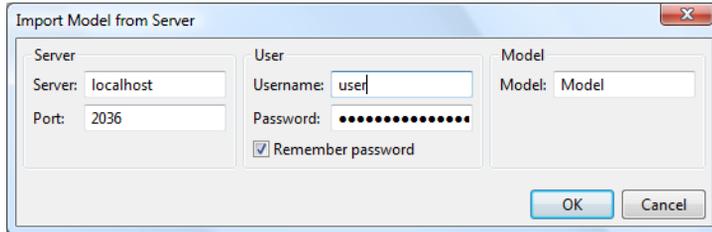


Note

If the model has been exported to the COMSOL server using a different name, replace `Model` with the correct name of the exported model. Use the command: `ModelName = ModelUtil.tags` to obtain the list of model objects available on the COMSOL server.

### IMPORTING A MODEL IN THE COMSOL DESKTOP FROM MATLAB

To import a model from a COMSOL server to the COMSOL Desktop, choose **Client Server>Import Model from Server** from the **File** menu. This dialog box is similar to the **Client Server>Export Model to Server** dialog box.



The COMSOL server may hold several models, this is why it is mandatory to enter the name of the model for the import procedure.

---

# Working with Geometry

This section describes how to set up and run a geometry sequence. In this section:

- [The Geometry Sequence Syntax](#)
- [Displaying the Geometry](#)
- [Working with Geometry Sequences](#)
- [Exchanging Geometries with the COMSOL Desktop](#)
- [Importing and Exporting Geometries and CAD Models from File](#)
- [Retrieving Geometry Information](#)
- [Modeling with a Parameterized Geometry](#)
- [Images and Interpolation Data](#)



See Also

- [Geometry Modeling and CAD Tools](#) in the *COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide*
- [Geometry](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*



Important

The links to features described outside of this user guide do not work in the PDF, only from within the online help.

---

## *The Geometry Sequence Syntax*

Create a geometry sequence by using the syntax

```
model.geom.create(<geomtag>, sdim);
```

where *<geomtag>* is a string that you use to refer to the geometry. The integer *sdim* specifies the space dimension of the geometry, it can be either 0, 1, 2 or 3.

To add an operation to a geometry sequence, use the syntax

```
model.geom(<geomtag>).feature.create(<ftag>, operation);
```

where *<geomtag>* is the string you defined when creating the geometry. The string *<ftag>* is a string that you use to refer to the operation.



For a list of geometry operations, see [About Geometry Commands](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

---

You may want to set feature property with different values than the default. Use the `set` method as in the command below:

```
model.geom(<geomtag>).feature(<ftag>).set(property, <value>);
```

where *<ftag>* is the string defined when creating the operation.



For a property list available for the geometry features see [Geometry](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

---

To build the geometry sequence, enter

```
model.geom(<geomtag>).run;
```

Alternatively you can also build the geometry sequence up to a given feature *ftag* with the command:

```
model.geom(<geomtag>).run(<ftag>);
```

### *Displaying the Geometry*

---

Use the function `mphgeom` to display the geometry in a MATLAB figure

```
mphgeom(model);
```

You can also specify the geometry to display with the command:

```
mphgeom(model, <geomtag>);
```

When running `mphgeom` the geometry node is automatically build. Set the `build` property to specify how the geometry node is supposed to be built before displaying it. Use this command:

```
mphgeom(model, <geomtag>, 'build', build);
```

where *build* is a string with the following value: 'off', 'current', or the geometry feature tag *<ftag>*, which, respectively, does not build the geometry, builds the geometry up to the current feature, or builds the geometry up to the specified geometry feature node.

Use the parent property to specify the axes handle where to display the plot:

```
mphgeom(model, <geomtag>, 'parent', <axes>);
```

The following property is also available to specify the vertex, edge, or face rendering: *edgecolor*, *edgelabels*, *edgelabelscolor*, *edgemode*, *facealpha*, *facelabels*, *facelabelscolor*, *facemode*, *vertexlabels*, *vertexlabelscolor*, *vertexmode*.

Use *mphgeom* to display a specified geometry entity. To set the geometry entity, enter the *entity* property and set the geometry entity index in the *selection* property to:

```
mphgeom(model, <geomtag>, 'entity', entity, 'selection', <idx>);
```

where *entity* can be either 'point', 'edge', 'boundary', or 'domain', and *<idx>* is a positive integer array that contains the list of the geometry entity indices.

### *Working with Geometry Sequences*

---

This section shows how to create geometry sequences using the syntax outlined in [The Geometry Sequence Syntax](#).

## **CREATING A 1D GEOMETRY**

---



See Also

For more information about 1D geometry modeling, see [Creating a 1D Geometry Model](#) in the *COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide*.

---

From the MATLAB command prompt, create a 1D geometry model by adding a geometry sequence and then add geometry features. The last step is to run the sequence using the run method.

Before starting, create a model object:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
```

Then continue with the commands

```
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1',1);
```

```
i1=geom1.feature.create('i1','Interval');
```

```
i1.set('intervals','many');  
i1.set('p','0,1,2');
```

```
geom1.run;
```

To create a geometry sequence with a 1D solid object consisting of vertices at  $x = 0$ , 1, and 2, and edges joining the vertices adjacent in the coordinate list.

Then enter

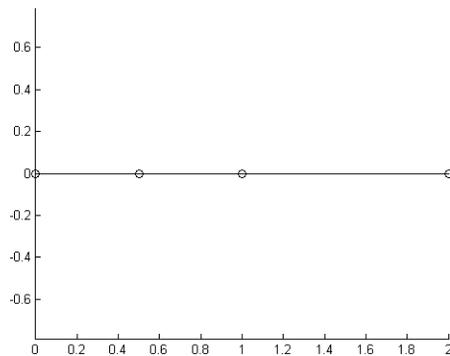
```
p1=geom1.feature.create('p1','Point');  
p1.set('p',0.5);
```

```
geom1.run;
```

to add a point object located at  $x = 0.5$  to the geometry.

To plot the result, enter

```
mphgeom(model,'geom1','vertexmode','on')
```



## CREATING A 2D GEOMETRY USING PRIMITIVE GEOMETRY OBJECT



See Also

For more information about 2D geometry modeling, see [Creating a 2D Geometry Model](#) in the *COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide*.

### *Creating Composite Objects*

Use a model object with a 2D geometry.

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
```

```
geom2 = model.geom.create('geom2',2);
```

Continue by creating a rectangle with side length of 2 and centered at the origin:

```
sq1 = geom2.feature.create('sq1', 'Square');  
sq1.set('size',2);  
sq1.set('base', 'center');
```

The property `size` describes the side lengths of the rectangle, and the property `pos` describes the positioning. The default is to position the rectangle about its lower left corner. Use the property `base` to control the positioning.

Create a circular hole with a radius of 0.5 centered at (0, 0):

```
c1 = geom2.feature.create('c1', 'Circle');  
c1.set('r',0.5);  
c1.set('pos',[0 0]);
```

The property `r` describes the radius of the circle, and the property `pos` describes the positioning. The property `pos` could have been excluded because the default position is the origin. The default is to position the circle about its center.

Drill a hole in the rectangle by subtracting the circle from it:

```
co1 = geom2.feature.create('co1', 'Compose');  
co1.selection('input').set({'c1' 'sq1'});  
co1.set('formula', 'sq1-c1');
```

A selection object is used to refer to the input object. The operators `+`, `*`, and `-` correspond to the set operations union, intersection, and difference, respectively.

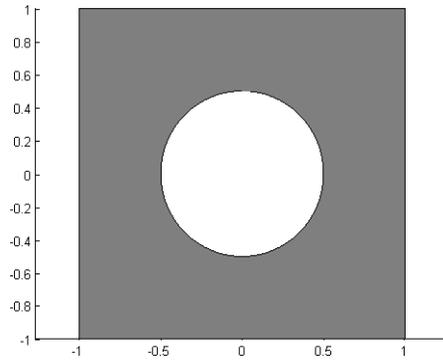
The `Compose` operation allows you to work with a formula. Alternatively use the `Difference` operation instead of `Compose`. The following sequence of commands starts with disabling the `Compose` operation.

```
co1.active(false)  
  
dif1 = geom2.feature.create('dif1', 'Difference');  
dif1.selection('input').set({'sq1'});  
dif1.selection('input2').set({'c1'});
```

Run the geometry sequence to create the geometry and plot the result

```
geom2.run;
```

```
mphgeom(model, 'geom2');
```



### *Trimming Solids*

Continue with rounding the corners of the rectangle by the `Fillet` operation.

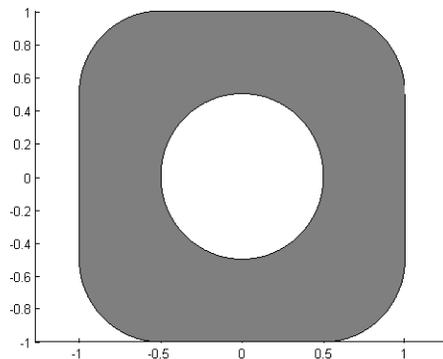
```
fil1 = geom2.feature.create('fil1', 'Fillet');  
fil1.selection('point').set('dif1', [1 2 7 8]);  
fil1.set('radius', '0.5');
```

Run the sequence again:

```
geom2.run;
```

The geometry sequence is updated with rounded corners. To view the result, enter

```
mphgeom(model, 'geom2');
```



## CREATING A 2D GEOMETRY USING BOUNDARY MODELING

Use the following commands to create six open curve segments that together form a closed curve.

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');

g1 = model.geom.create('g1',2);

w=1/sqrt(2);

c1 = g1.feature.create('c1','BezierPolygon');
c1.set('type','open');
c1.set('degree',2);
c1.set('p',[-0.5 -1 -1;-0.5 -0.5 0]);
c1.set('w',[1 w 1]);

c2 = g1.feature.create('c2','BezierPolygon');
c2.set('type','open');
c2.set('degree',2);
c2.set('p',[-1 -1 -0.5;0 0.5 0.5]);
c2.set('w',[1 w 1]);

c3 = g1.feature.create('c3','BezierPolygon');
c3.set('type','open');
c3.set('degree',1);
c3.set('p',[-0.5 0.5; 0.5 0.5]);

c4 = g1.feature.create('c4','BezierPolygon');
c4.set('type','open');
c4.set('degree',2);
c4.set('p',[0.5 1 1; 0.5 0.5 0]);
c4.set('w',[1 w 1]);

c5 = g1.feature.create('c5','BezierPolygon');
c5.set('type','open');
c5.set('degree',2);
c5.set('p',[1 1 0.5; 0 -0.5 -0.5]);
c5.set('w',[1 w 1]);

c6 = g1.feature.create('c6','BezierPolygon');
c6.set('type','open');
c6.set('degree',1);
c6.set('p',[0.5 -0.5; -0.5 -0.5]);
```

The objects c1, c2, c3, c4, c5, and c6 are all curve2 objects. The vector [1 w 1] specifies the weights for a rational Bézier curve that is equivalent to a quarter-circle arc. The weights can be adjusted to create elliptical or circular arcs.

Convert the curve segments to a solid by the following conversion command.

```

csol1 = g1.feature.create('csol1','ConvertToSolid');
csol1.selection('input').object('g1');
csol1.selection('input').set({'c1' 'c2' 'c3' 'c4' 'c5' 'c6'});

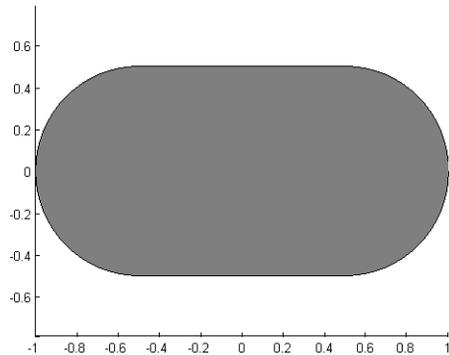
```

Then issue a final run command.

```

g1.run;
mphgeom(model, 'g1');

```



## CREATING 3D GEOMETRIES USING SOLID MODELING



See Also

For more information about 3D geometry modeling, see [Creating a 3D Geometry Model](#) in the *COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide*.

This section demonstrates how to create 3D solids using workplanes and Boolean operations.

Create a 3D geometry with an  $xy$  work plane at  $z = 0$ :

```

model = ModelUtil.create('Model');

geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 3);

wp1 = geom1.feature.create('wp1', 'WorkPlane');
wp1.set('planetype', 'quick');
wp1.set('quickplane', 'xy');

```

Add a rectangle to the work plane, then add fillet to its corners:

```

r1 = wp1.geom.feature.create('r1', 'Rectangle');
r1.set('size', [1 2]);

```

```
geom1.run
```

```
fil1 = wp1.geom.feature.create('fil1', 'Fillet');  
fil1.selection('point').set('r1', [1 2 3 4]);  
fil1.set('radius', '0.125');
```

```
geom1.runCurrent;
```

```
ext1 = geom1.feature.create('ext1', 'Extrude');  
ext1.set('distance', '0.1');
```

Add another yz work plane, at x = 0.5:

```
wp2 = geom1.feature.create('wp2', 'WorkPlane');  
wp2.set('planetype', 'quick');  
wp2.set('quickplane', 'yz');  
wp2.set('quickx', '0.5');
```

```
b1 = wp2.geom.feature.create('b1', 'BezierPolygon');  
b1.set('type', 'open');  
b1.set('degree', [1 1 1 1]);  
b1.set('p',  
{'0.75','1','1','0.8','0.75';'0.1','0.1','0.05','0.05','0.1'});  
b1.set('w', {'1','1','1','1','1','1','1','1'});
```

```
wp2.geom.feature.create('csol1', 'ConvertToSolid');  
wp2.geom.feature('csol1').selection('input').set({'b1'});
```

Revolve the triangle from the yz work plane:

```
rev1 = geom1.feature.create('rev1', 'Revolve');  
rev1.selection('input').set({'wp2'});  
rev1.setIndex('pos', '1', 0);
```

Add the difference operation that computes the final 3D geometry.

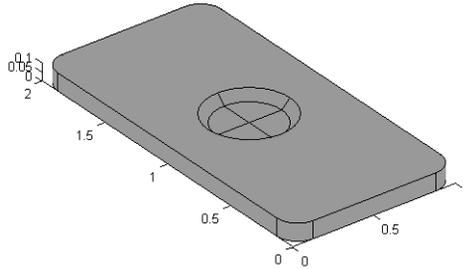
```
dif1 = geom1.feature.create('dif1', 'Difference');  
dif1.selection('input').set({'ext1'});  
dif1.selection('input2').set({'rev1'});
```

To run the sequence, enter

```
model.geom('geom1').run;
```

To view the geometry enter

```
mphgeom(model);
```



### *Exchanging Geometries with the COMSOL Desktop*

---

#### **EXCHANGING A GEOMETRY FROM COMSOL DESKTOP**

To transfer a geometry from the COMSOL Desktop to the LiveLink interface in MATLAB use one of these methods:

- Export the geometry as a COMSOL Multiphysics binary (.mphbin) file from the COMSOL Desktop. Right-click geometry node and select **Export to File**. Then create a geometry import feature from MATLAB

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');  
  
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 3);  
  
imp1 = geom1.feature.create('imp1', 'Import');  
imp1.set('filename', 'geometryfile.mphbin');  
imp1.importData;  
  
geom1.run;
```

- Save the model containing the geometry sequence from the COMSOL Desktop. Create a model object from MATLAB and load the file into it.
- Export the model containing the geometry sequence to the COMSOL server.

## *Importing and Exporting Geometries and CAD Models from File*

---

With COMSOL Multiphysics, you can import and export geometries in a variety of file formats. Below is a short summary of the various file formats.

### **COMSOL MULTIPHYSICS FILES**

A natural choice for storing geometries in 1D, 2D, and 3D is the native file format of COMSOL's geometry kernel (.mphant and .mphbin).



Note

The .mphant or .mphbin file formats are only used for geometry and mesh objects. It is not the same as a Model MPH-file (.mph).

---

### **2D CAD FORMATS**

COMSOL Multiphysics supports import and export for the *DXF*® file format, a data interchange format of the CAD system AutoCAD®. You can also import files in the neutral GDS format. ECAD geometry file format requires either the AC/DC Module or the RF Module.

### **3D CAD FORMATS**

It is possible to import surface meshes in the STL and VRML formats. With a license for the CAD Import Module, or one of the LiveLink for CAD products, you can import most 3D CAD file formats: Parasolid®, ACIS® (SAT®), STEP, IGES, Pro/ENGINEER®, Autodesk Inventor®, and SolidWorks®. See the individual user guides for detailed information.

## *Retrieving Geometry Information*

---



Note

To retrieve the detailed information about the geometry in a model, see [Geometry Object Information](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

---

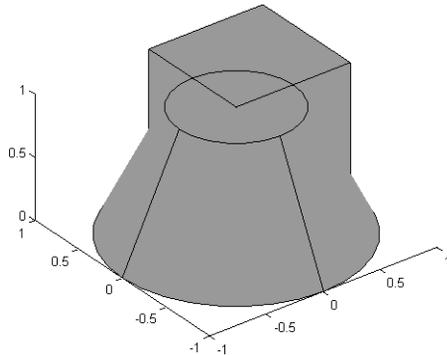
Start by creating a simple 3D geometry:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');  
  
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 3);  
geom1.feature.create('blk1', 'Block');
```

```
geom1.feature.create('con1','Cone');  
geom1.run;
```

To visualize the geometry in a MATLAB figure window enter:

```
mphgeom(model)
```



The model object contains general geometry information methods. For example to determine the space dimension of the geometry, enter:

```
geom1.getSDim
```

There are also methods for determining the number of geometrical entities; for example, to inquire about the number of domains, and the number of boundaries:

```
geom1.getNDomains  
geom1.getNBoundaries
```

Another group of geometry information methods concern adjacency properties of the geometric entities, for example, the number of up and down domain information on each boundary:

```
geom1.getUpDown
```

There are also methods for evaluating properties, like coordinate values and curvatures on faces and edges. The following example evaluates coordinates on face 1 for the face parameters (2, 0.005)

```
geom1.faceX(1,[2,0.005])
```

To get the parameters of a given face, use the method `faceParamRange(N)`, where N is the face number. For example:

```
geom1.faceParamRange(1)
```

returns the parameters for face 1.

To get the parameter range of an edge you can use the `edgeParamRange(N)` method. For instance to get the length of edge number 3 enter:

```
geom1.edgeParamRange(3)
```

To get the coordinate and the curvature data along a specified edge enter:

```
geom1.edgeX(2,0.5)
geom1.edgeCurvature(2,0.5)
```

There are also methods for getting information about the internal representation of the geometry, for example, the coordinates of the geometry vertices:

```
geom1.getVertexCoord
```

In addition, you can fetch geometry information from elements in the geometry sequence. To do this, you can, for example, enter

```
geom1.object('blk1').getNBoundaries
```

### *Modeling with a Parameterized Geometry*

---

COMSOL has built-in support for parameterized geometries. Parameters can be used in most geometry operations. To exemplify parameterizing a geometry, the following script studies the movement of a circular source through two adjacent rectangular domains:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
model.param.set('a', '0.2');

geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 2);

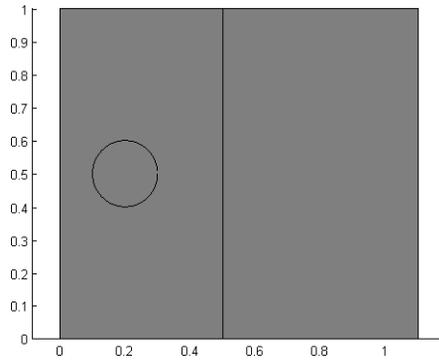
r1 = geom1.feature.create('r1', 'Rectangle');
r1.set('size', [0.5 1]);
r1.set('pos', [0 0]);

r2 = geom1.feature.create('r2', 'Rectangle');
r2.set('size', [0.6 1]);
r2.set('pos', [0.5 0]);

c1 = geom1.feature.create('c1', 'Circle');
c1.set('r', 0.1);
c1.set('pos', {'a', '0.5'});

geom1.run;
```

```
mphgeom(model);
```

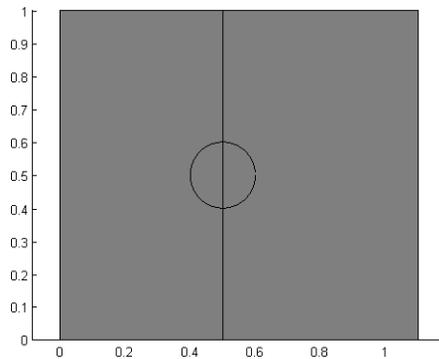


Change the position of the circle by changing the value of parameter a:

```
model.param.set('a', '0.5');
```

```
geom1.run;
```

```
mphgeom(model);
```



Create a loop that changes the position of the circle in increments:

```
for a=0.2:0.1:0.5  
    model.param.set('a', a);  
    geom1.run;  
end
```

Create a mesh:

```
model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');
```

Add a Weak Form PDE interface:

```
w = model.physics.create('w', 'WeakFormPDE', 'geom1');  
w.feature('wfeq1').set('weak', 1, '-test(ux)*ux-test(uy)*uy');  
  
dir1 = w.feature.create('dir1', 'DirichletBoundary', 1);  
dir1.selection.set([1 2 3 6 7]);  
  
src1 = w.feature.create('src1', 'SourceTerm', 2);  
src1.set('f', 1, '1');  
src1.selection.set([3]);
```

Then, create a stationary study step:

```
std1 = model.study.create('std1');  
  
stat1 = std1.feature.create('stat1', 'Stationary');
```

Create a parametric sweep feature:

```
p1 = model.batch.create('p1', 'Parametric');  
p1.set('pname', 'a');  
p1.set('plist', 'range(0.2,0.1,0.8)');  
p1.run;
```

Alternatively, you can run the parametric sweep using a MATLAB for loop:

```
for a=0.2:0.1:0.8  
    model.param.set('a',a);  
    std1.run;  
end
```

Notice that after updating a parameter that affects the geometry, COMSOL detects this change and automatically updates the geometry and mesh before starting the solver. The geometry is associative, which means that physics settings are preserved as the geometry changes.

### *Images and Interpolation Data*

---

This section describes how to generate geometry from a set of data points by using interpolation curves, and how to create geometry from image data.

#### **CREATING A GEOMETRY USING CURVE INTERPOLATION**

Use the interpolation spline feature to import a set of data points that describe a 2D geometry. To create an interpolation spline feature enter:

```
model.geom(<geomtag>).feature.create(<ftag>, 'InterpolationCurve')
```

Then specify data points in a table:

```
model.geom(<geomtag>).feature(<ftag>).set('table',<data>)
```

Where *<data>* can either be a 2xN cell array or a 2xN array.

Control the type of geometry generated by the operation with the command:

```
model.geom(<geomtag>).feature(<ftag>).set('type',type)
```

Where *type* can either be 'solid' to generate a solid object, 'closed' to generate a closed curve or 'open' to generate an open curve.

### Example

Create a set of data points in MATLAB, then use these to construct a 2D geometry.

- 1 Create data points that describe a circle, sorted by the angle, and remove some of the points:

```
phi = 0:0.2:2*pi;  
phi([1 3 6 7 10 20 21 25 28 32]) = [];  
p = [cos(phi);sin(phi)];
```

- 2 Add some noise to the data points.

```
randn('state',17)  
p = p+0.02*randn(size(p));
```

- 3 Create a 2D geometry with a square:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
```

- 4 Add a square geometry:

```
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 2);  
  
sq1 = geom1.feature.create('sq1', 'Square');  
sq1.set('base', 'center');  
sq1.set('size', '3');
```

- 5 Now add an interpolation curve feature:

```
ic1 = geom1.feature.create('ic1', 'InterpolationCurve');
```

- 6 Use the variable *p* for the data points:

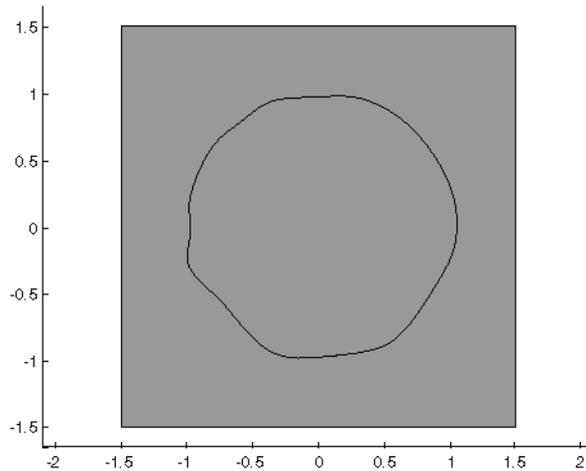
```
ic1.set('table', p);
```

- 7 Specify a closed curve:

```
ic1.set('type', 'closed');
```

- 8 Finally plot the geometry with the `mphgeom` command:

```
mphgeom(model);
```



### CREATING GEOMETRY FROM IMAGE DATA

Use the function `mphimage2geom` to create geometry from image data. The image data format can be  $M$ -by- $N$  array for a grayscale image or  $M$ -by- $N$ -by-3 array for a true color image.



Note

See the MATLAB function `imread` to convert an image file to image data.

---

If you specify the image data and the level value that represents the geometry contour you want to extract, the function `mphimage2geom` returns a model object with the desired geometry.

```
model = mphimage2geom(<imagedata>, <level>)
```

where *imagedata* is a C array containing the image data and *level* is the contour level value used to generate the geometry contour.

Specify the type of geometry object generated.

```
model = mphimage2geom(<imagedata>, <level>, 'type', type)
```

where *type* is 'solid' if you want to generate a solid object, 'closed' to generate a closed curve object, or 'open' to generate an open curve geometry object.

With the property *curvetype* you specify the type of curve to use to generate the geometry object.

```
model = mphimage2geom(<imagedata>, <level>, 'curvetype', curvetype)
```

where *curvetype* can be set to 'polygon' if you want to use polygon curve. The default curve type creates a geometry with the best suited geometrical primitives. For interior curves it uses Interpolation Curves, while for curves that are touching the perimeter of the image Polygon curve is used.

To scale the geometry use the *scale* property.

```
model = mphimage2geom(<imagedata>, <level>, 'scale', scale)
```

where *scale* is a double value.

Set the minimum distance between coordinates in curve with the *mindist* property.

```
model = mphimage2geom(<imagedata>, <level>, 'mindist', mindist)
```

where *mindist* is a double value.

Set the minimum area for interior curves.

```
model = mphimage2geom(<imagedata>, <level>, 'minarea', minarea)
```

where *minarea* is a double value.

In case of overlapping solids the function `mphimage2geom` automatically create a Compose node in the model object. If you do not want such a geometry feature, you can set the property *compose* to `off`:

```
model = mphimage2geom(<imagedata>, <level>, 'compose', 'off')
```

You can create a rectangle domain surrounding the object generated with the property *rectangle*:

```
model = mphimage2geom(<imagedata>, <level>, 'rectangle', 'on')
```

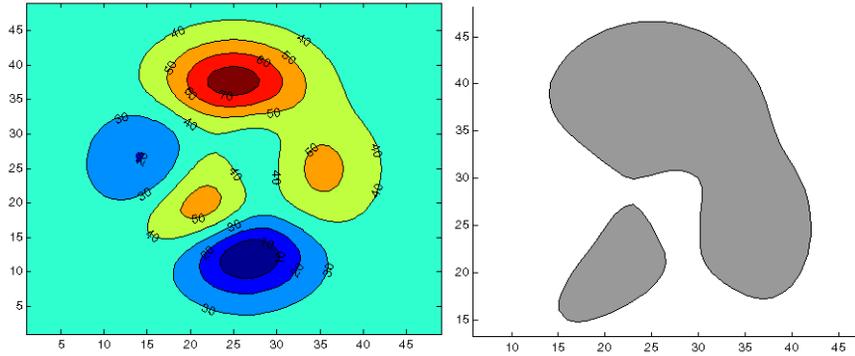
*Example: Convert Image Data to Geometry*

This example illustrates how to create geometry based on gray scale image data. First generate the image data in MATLAB and display the contour in a figure. Then, create a model object including the geometry represented by the contour value 40.

Enter the commands below at the MATLAB prompt:

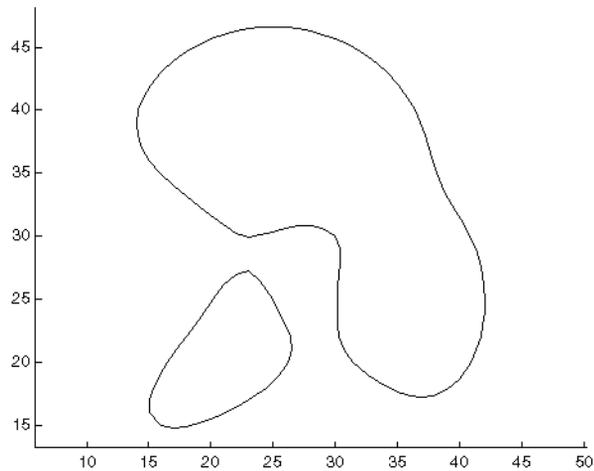
```
p = (peaks+7)*5;
```

```
[c,h] = contourf(p);
clabel(c, h);
model = mphimage2geom(p, 40);
figure(2)
mphgeom(model)
```



Use the property `type` to create closed or open curves. For example, to create a geometry following contour 40 with closed curves enter:

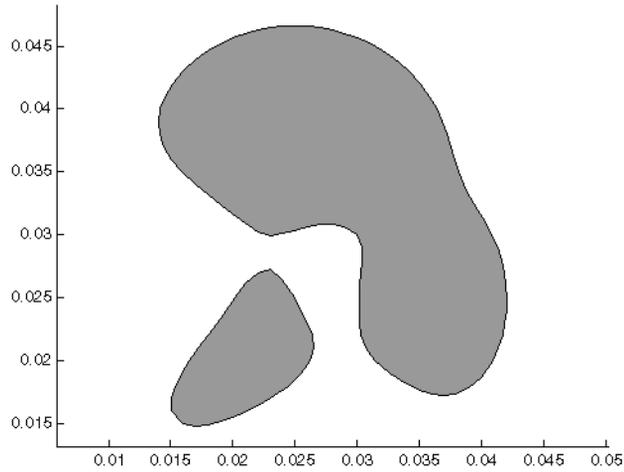
```
model = mphimage2geom(p, 40, 'type', 'closed');
mphgeom(model)
```



To scale the geometry, use the `scale` property. Using the current model scale the geometry with a factor of 0.001 (1e-3):

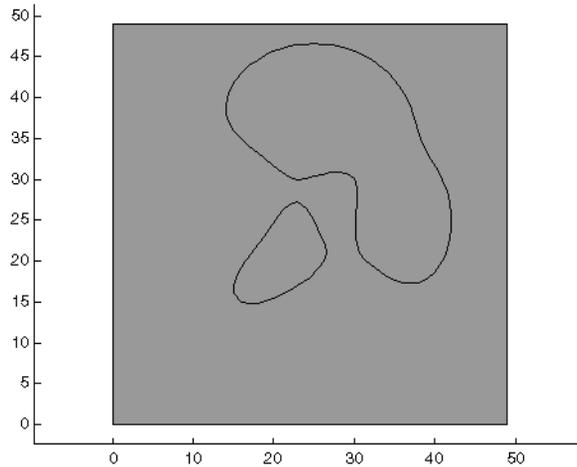
```
model = mphimage2geom(p, 40, 'scale', 1e-3);
```

```
mphgeom(model)
```



You can also insert a rectangle in the geometry to have an outer domain surrounding the created contour. Set the property `rectangle` to `on` as in the command below:

```
model = mphimage2geom(p, 40, 'rectangle', 'on');  
mphgeom(model)
```



# Working with Meshes

This section describes how to set up and run meshing sequences in a model.

- [The Meshing Sequence Syntax](#)
- [Displaying the Mesh](#)
- [Mesh Creation Functions](#)
- [Importing External Meshes and Mesh Objects](#)
- [Measuring Mesh Quality](#)
- [Getting Mesh Statistics Information](#)
- [Getting and Setting Mesh Data](#)



- [Creating Meshes](#) in the *COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide*
- [Mesh](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*



The links to features described outside of this user guide do not work in the PDF, only from within the online help.

---

## *The Meshing Sequence Syntax*

Create a meshing sequence by using the syntax

```
model.mesh.create(<meshtag>, <geomtag>);
```

where *<meshtag>* is a string that you use to refer to the sequence. The tag *geomtag* specifies the geometry to use for this mesh node.

To add an operation to a sequence, use the syntax

```
model.mesh(<meshtag>).feature.create(<ftag>, operation);
```

where the string *<ftag>* is a string that you use to refer to the operation.



See Also

See [About Mesh Commands](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

---

To set a property to a value in a operation, enter

```
model.mesh(<meshtag>).feature(<ftag>).set(property, <value>);
```

Finally to build the mesh sequence, enter

```
model.mesh(<meshtag>).run;
```

Alternatively you can run the mesh node up to a specified feature node *<ftag>*:

```
model.mesh(<meshtag>).run(ftag);
```



See Also

For more details on available operations and properties in the sequence, see [Mesh](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

---

### *Displaying the Mesh*

---

To display the mesh in a MATLAB figure, use the function `mphmesh`. Make sure that the mesh is built before calling the command below:

```
mphmesh(model);
```

If you have several meshes in your model specify the mesh to display as in the command below:

```
mphmesh(model, <meshtag>);
```

Use the parent property to specify the axes handle where to display the plot:

```
mphmesh(model, <meshtag>, 'parent', <axes>);
```

The following properties are also available to specify the vertex, edge or face rendering: `edgecolor`, `edgelabels`, `edgelabelscolor`, `edgemode`, `facealpha`, `facelabels`, `facelabelscolor`, `facemode`, `meshcolor`, `vertexlabels`, `vertexlabelscolor`, `vertexmode`.

### MESH SIZING PROPERTIES

The `Size` attribute provides a number of input properties that you can use to control the mesh element size such as:

- The maximum and minimum element size.
- The element growth rate.
- The resolution of curvature.
- The resolution of narrow regions

These properties are available both globally and locally.

There are nine predefined settings you can use to set a suitable combination of values for many properties. To select one of these settings, use the property `hauto` and pass an integer from 1 to 9 as its value to describe the mesh resolution:

- Extremely fine (1)
- Extra fine (2)
- Finer (3)
- Fine (4)
- Normal (5)
- Coarse (6)
- Coarser (7)
- Extra coarse (8)
- Extremely coarse (9)

The default value is 5, that is, the Normal mesh settings.



See Also

For details about predefined mesh size settings and mesh element size parameters, see [Size](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

---

#### Example—Creating a 2D Mesh with Triangular Elements

Generate a triangular mesh of a unit square:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
```

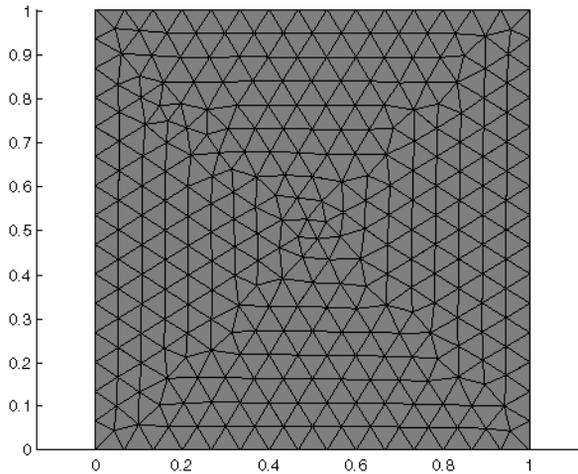
```

geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1',2);
geom1.feature.create('r1','Rectangle');

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1','geom1');
ftri1 = mesh1.feature.create('ftri1','FreeTri');
mesh1.run;

mphmesh(model);

```



*Figure 3-1: Default mesh on a unit square.*

The default size feature is generated with the property `hauto` set to 5, that is,

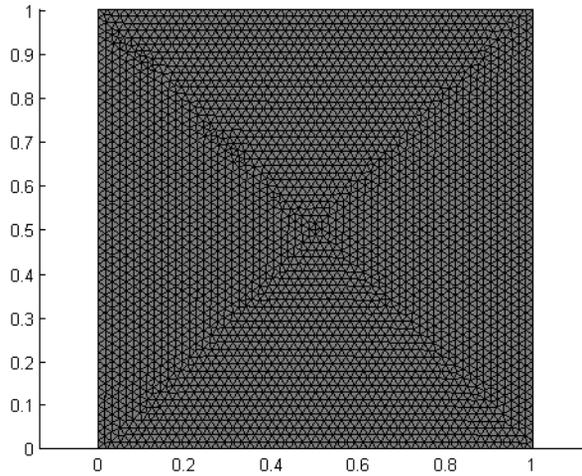
```
mesh1.feature('size').set('hauto','5');
```

To override this behavior, set `hauto` to another integer. You can also override by setting specific size properties, for example, making the mesh finer than the default by specifying a maximum element size of 0.02:

```
mesh1.feature('size').set('hmax','0.02');
mesh1.run;
```

```
mphmesh(model);
```

This value corresponds to  $1/50$  of the largest axis-parallel distance, whereas the default value is  $1/15$ .



*Figure 3-2: Fine mesh (maximum element size = 0.02).*

Sometimes a nonuniform mesh is desirable. Make a mesh that is denser on the left side by specifying a smaller maximum element size only on the edge segment to the left (edge number 1):

```

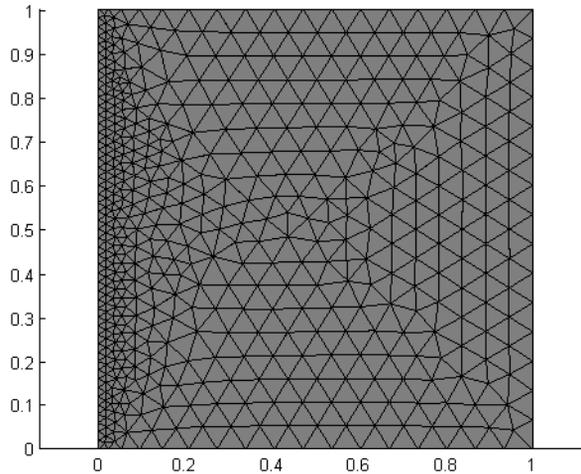
mesh1.feature('size').set('hauto','5');

size1 = ftri1.feature.create('size1','Size');
size1.set('hmax','0.02');
size1.selection.geom('geom1',1);
size1.selection.set(1);

mesh1.run

mphmesh(model);

```



*Figure 3-3: Nonuniform mesh.*

#### *The Free Meshing Method*

The default method for generating free triangle meshes in 2D is based on an advancing front algorithm. To switch to a Delaunay algorithm use the value `del` for the `method` property. Follow the example below, where you start by creating a geometry.

```

model = ModelUtil.create('Model');

geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1',2);

geom1.feature.create('r1','Rectangle');

c1 = geom1.feature.create('c1','Circle');
c1.set('r','0.5');

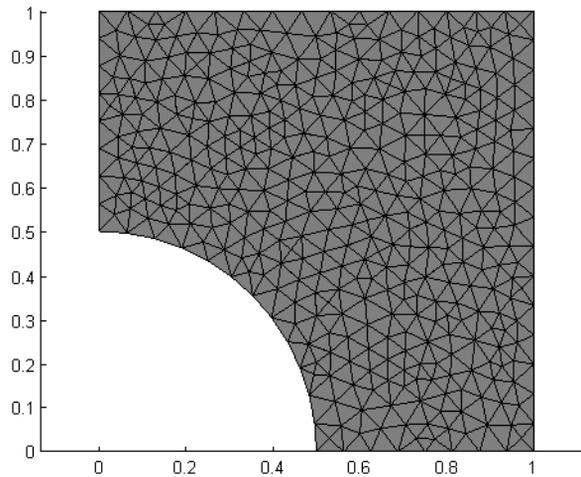
co1=geom1.feature.create('co1','Compose');
co1.selection('input').object('geom1');
co1.selection('input').set({'c1' 'r1'});
co1.set('formula','r1-c1');

geom1.runAll;

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1','geom1');

ftri1 = mesh1.feature.create('ftri1','FreeTri');
```

```
ftri1.set('method','del');  
mesh1.run;  
mphmesh(model,'mesh1')
```

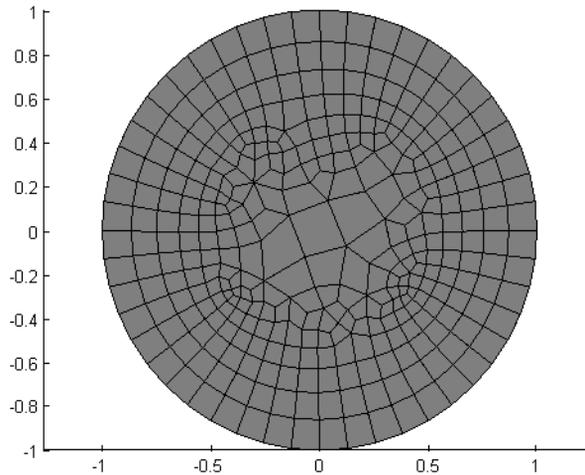


*Figure 3-4: Mesh created with the Delaunay method.*

*Example—Creating a 2D Mesh with Quadrilateral Elements*

To create an unstructured quadrilateral mesh on a unit circle enter:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');  
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1',2);  
geom1.feature.create('c1','Circle');  
mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1','geom1');  
mesh1.feature.create('ftri1','FreeQuad');  
mesh1.run;  
mphmesh(model)
```



*Figure 3-5: Free quad mesh.*

### CREATING STRUCTURED MESHES

To create a structured quadrilateral mesh in 2D, use the `Map` operation. This operation uses a mapping technique to create the quadrilateral mesh.



See Also

[Map](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*

Use the `EdgeGroup` attribute to group the edges (boundaries) into four edge groups, one for each edge of the logical mesh. Using the `Distribution` attribute you can also control the edge element distribution, which determines the overall mesh density.

#### *Example—Creating a Structured Quadrilateral Mesh*

Create a structured quadrilateral mesh on a geometry where the domains are bounded by more than four edges:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 2);
geom1.feature.create('r1', 'Rectangle');
r2 = geom1.feature.create('r2', 'Rectangle');
```

```

r2.set('pos',[1 0]);
c1 = geom1.feature.create('c1','Circle');
c1.set('r','0.5');
c1.set('pos',[1.1 -0.1]);
dif1 = geom1.feature.create('dif1', 'Difference');
dif1.selection('input').set({'r1' 'r2'});
dif1.selection('input2').set({'c1'});
geom1.run('dif1');

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1','geom1');

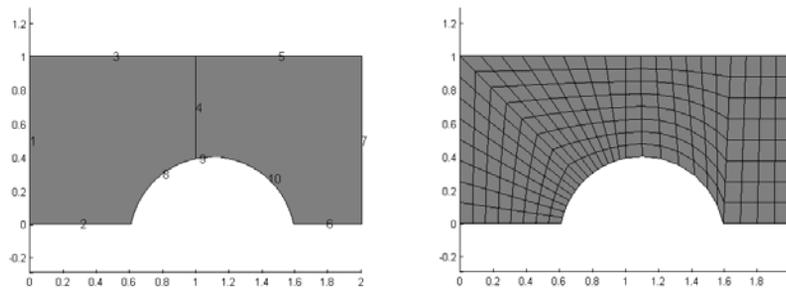
map1 = mesh1.feature.create('map1','Map');

eg1 = map1.feature.create('eg1', 'EdgeGroup');
eg1.selection.set(1);
eg1.selection('edge1').set([1 3]);
eg1.selection('edge2').set(2);
eg1.selection('edge3').set(8);
eg1.selection('edge4').set(4);

eg2 = map1.feature.create('eg2', 'EdgeGroup');
eg2.selection.set(2);
eg2.selection('edge1').set(4);
eg2.selection('edge2').set([6 9 10]);
eg2.selection('edge3').set(7);
eg2.selection('edge4').set(5);

mesh1.run;
mphmesh(model);

```



*Figure 3-6: Structured quadrilateral mesh (right) and its underlying geometry.*

The left-hand side plot in [Figure 3-6](#) is obtained with the following command:

```
mphgeom(model, 'geom1', 'edgelabels', 'on')
```

The EdgeGroup attributes specify that the four edges enclosing domain 1 are boundaries 1 and 3; boundary 2; boundary 8; and boundary 4. For domain 2 the four edges are boundary 4; boundary 5; boundary 7; and boundaries 9, 10, and 6.

### **BUILDING A MESH INCREMENTALLY**

You can create meshes in a step-by-step fashion by creating selections for the parts of the geometry that you want to mesh in each step. The following example illustrates this:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');

geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1',2);
geom1.feature.create('r1', 'Rectangle');
geom1.feature.create('c1', 'Circle');
uni1 = geom1.feature.create('uni1', 'Union');
uni1.selection('input').object('geom1');
uni1.selection('input').set({'c1' 'r1'});
geom1.runCurrent;
del1 = geom1.feature.create('del1', 'Delete');
del1.selection('input').object('geom1', 1);
del1.selection('input').set('uni1', 8);
geom1.run('del1');

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');

dis1 = mesh1.feature.create('dis1', 'Distribution');
dis1.selection.set([2 4]);
dis1.set('type', 'predefined');
dis1.set('method', 'geometric');
dis1.set('elemcount', '20');
dis1.set('reverse', 'on');
dis1.set('elemratio', '20');

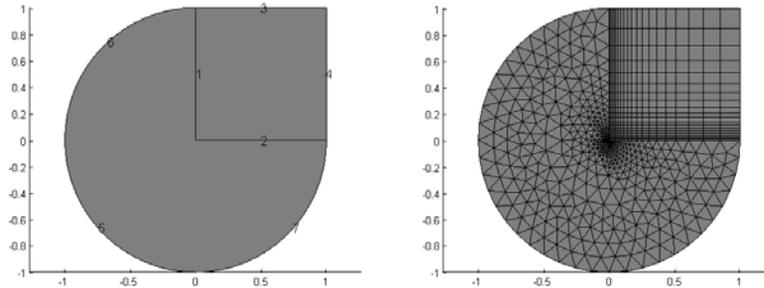
dis2 = mesh1.feature.create('dis2', 'Distribution');
dis2.selection.set([1 3]);
dis2.set('type', 'predefined');
dis2.set('method', 'geometric');
dis2.set('elemcount', '20');
dis2.set('elemratio', '20');

map1 = mesh1.feature.create('map1', 'Map');
map1.selection.geom('geom1', 2);
map1.selection.set(2);
mesh1.feature.create('frt1', 'FreeTri');

mesh1.run;

mphmesh(model);
```

The final mesh is in [Figure 3-7](#). Note the effect of the **Distribution** feature, with which the distribution of vertex elements along geometry edges can be controlled.



*Figure 3-7: Incrementally generated mesh (right).*

The left-hand side plot in [Figure 3-7](#) is obtained with the following command:

```
mphgeom(model, 'geom1', 'edgelabels', 'on')
```

To replace the structured quad mesh by an unstructured quad mesh, delete the **Map** feature and replace it by a **FreeQuad** feature.

```
mesh1.feature.remove('map1');
mesh1.run('dis1');
fq1 = mesh1.feature.create('fq1', 'FreeQuad');
fq1.selection.geom('geom1', 2).set(2);
mesh1.run;
```

Analogous to working with the meshing sequence in the Model Builder, inside the COMSOL Desktop, new features are always inserted after the current feature. Thus, to get the **FreeQuad** feature before the **FreeTri** feature you need to make the **dis1** feature the current feature by building it with the **run** method.

Alternatively, you can selectively remove parts of a mesh by using the **Delete** feature. For example, to remove the structured mesh from domain 2 along with the adjacent edge mesh on edges 3 and 4, and replace it with an unstructured quad mesh, enter these commands:

```
del1 = mesh1.feature.create('del1', 'Delete');
del1.selection.geom('geom1', 2).set(2);
del1.set('deladj', 'on');
frq1 = mesh1.feature.create('frq1', 'FreeQuad');
frq1.selection.geom('geom1', 2).set(2);
mesh1.run;
```



See Also

For further details on the various commands and their properties see the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

## REVOLVING A MESH BY SWEEPING

Using the `Sweep` feature you can create 3D volume meshes by extruding and revolving face meshes. Depending on the 2D mesh type, the 3D meshes can be hexahedral (brick) meshes or prism meshes.

### Example—Revolved Mesh

Create and visualize a revolved prism mesh as follows:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');

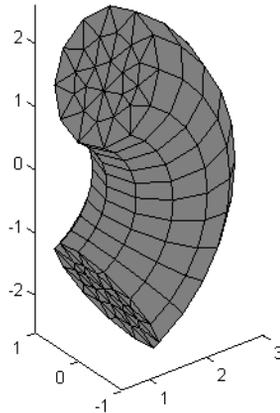
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 3);
wp1 = geom1.feature.create('wp1', 'WorkPlane');
wp1.set('planetype', 'quick');
wp1.set('quickplane', 'xy');
c1 = wp1.geom.feature.create('c1', 'Circle');
c1.set('pos', [2, 0]);
rev1 = geom1.feature.create('rev1', 'Revolve');
rev1.set('angle2', '60').set('angle1', '-60');
rev1.selection('input').set({'wp1'});
geom1.run('rev1');

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');
mesh1.feature.create('ftri1', 'FreeTri');
mesh1.feature('ftri1').selection.geom(2);
mesh1.feature('ftri1').selection.set(2);
mesh1.runCurrent();

swe1 = mesh1.feature.create('swe1', 'Sweep');
swe1.selection.geom(3);
swe1.selection.add(1);

mesh1.run;
mphmesh(model)
```

To obtain a torus, leave the angles property unspecified; the default value gives a complete revolution.



*Figure 3-8: 3D prism mesh created with the Sweep feature.*

#### **EXTRUDING A MESH BY SWEEPING**

To generate a 3D prism mesh from the same 2D mesh by extrusion and then to plot it, enter the following commands:

```

model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 3);
wp1 = geom1.feature.create('wp1', 'WorkPlane');
wp1.set('planetype', 'quick');
wp1.set('quickplane', 'xy');
c1 = wp1.geom.feature.create('c1', 'Circle');
c1.set('pos', [2, 0]);
ext1 = geom1.feature.create('ext1', 'Extrude');
ext1.selection('input').set({'wp1'});
geom1.runAll;

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');

ftri1 = mesh1.feature.create('ftri1', 'FreeTri');
ftri1.selection.geom('geom1', 2);
ftri1.selection.set(3);

dis1 = mesh1.feature.create('dis1', 'Distribution');
dis1.selection.set(1);
dis1.set('type', 'predefined');
```

```
dis1.set('elemcount', '20');
dis1.set('elemratio', '100');

swe1 = mesh1.feature.create('swe1', 'Sweep');
swe1.selection('sourceface').geom('geom1', 2);
swe1.selection('targetface').geom('geom1', 2);

mesh1.run;
mphmesh(model);
```

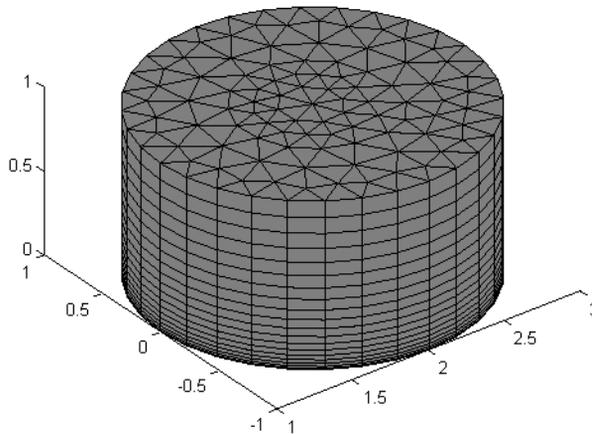
The result is shown in [Figure 3-9](#). With the properties `elemcount` and `elemratio` you control the number and distribution of mesh element layers in the extruded direction.



See Also

[Distribution](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*

---



*Figure 3-9: Extruded 3D prism mesh.*

## COMBINING UNSTRUCTURED AND STRUCTURED MESHES

Swept meshing can also be combined with free meshing by specifying selections for the meshing operations. In this case, start by free meshing domain 2, then sweep the resulting surface mesh through domain 1.

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 3);
cone1 = geom1.feature.create('cone1', 'Cone');
cone1.set('r', '0.3');
cone1.set('h', '1');
cone1.set('ang', '9');
cone1.set('pos', [ 0 0.5 0.5]);
cone1.set('axis', [-1 0 0]);
geom1.feature.create('blk1', 'Block');

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');

ftet1 = mesh1.feature.create('ftet1', 'FreeTet');
ftet1.selection.geom('geom1', 3);
ftet1.selection.set(2);

swe1 = mesh1.feature.create('swe1', 'Sweep');
swe1.selection('sourceface').geom('geom1', 2);
swe1.selection('targetface').geom('geom1', 2);

mesh1.run;
mphmesh(model);
```

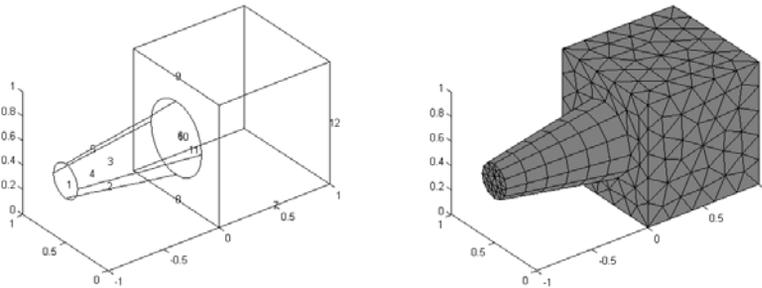


Figure 3-10: Combined structured/unstructured mesh.

The left-hand side plot in [Figure 3-10](#) is obtained with the following command:

```
mphgeom(model, 'geom1', 'facemode', 'off', 'facelabels', 'on')
```

## CREATING BOUNDARY LAYER MESHES

For 2D and 3D geometries it is also possible to create boundary layer meshes using the `BndLayer` feature. A boundary layer mesh is a mesh with dense element distribution in the normal direction along specific boundaries. This type of mesh is typically used for fluid flow problems to resolve the thin boundary layers along the no-slip boundaries. In 2D, a layered quadrilateral mesh is used along the specified no-slip boundaries. In 3D, a layered prism mesh or hexahedral mesh is used depending on whether the corresponding boundary layer boundaries contain a triangular or a quadrilateral mesh.

If you start with an empty mesh, the boundary-layer mesh uses free meshing to create the initial mesh before inserting boundary layers into the mesh. This generates a mesh with triangular and quadrilateral elements in 2D and tetrahedral and prism elements in 3D. The following example illustrates the procedure in 2D:

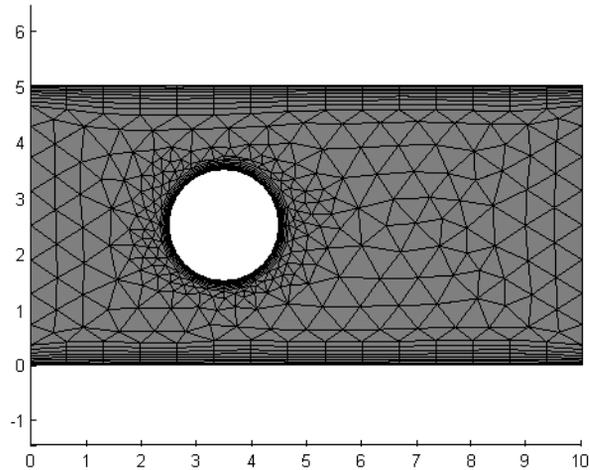
```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');

geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 2);
r1 = geom1.feature.create('r1', 'Rectangle');
r1.set('size', [10, 5]);
c1 = geom1.feature.create('c1', 'Circle');
c1.set('pos', [3.5 2.5]);
dif1 = geom1.feature.create('dif1', 'Difference');
dif1.selection('input2').object('geom1');
dif1.selection('input').object('geom1');
dif1.selection('input').set({'r1'});
dif1.selection('input2').set({'c1'});
geom1.runAll;

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');

bl1 = mesh1.feature.create('bl1', 'BndLayer');
bl1.feature.create('blp1', 'BndLayerProp');
bl1.feature('blp1').selection.set([2 3 5 6 7 8]);

mesh1.run;
mphmesh(model);
```



*Figure 3-11: Boundary layer mesh based on an unstructured triangular mesh.*

It is also possible to insert boundary layers in an existing mesh. Use the following meshing sequence with the geometry sequence of the previous example:

```

b11.active(false);

fq1 = mesh1.feature.create('fq1', 'FreeQuad');
fq1.selection.set([1]);

mphmesh(model)

b11 = mesh1.feature.create('b12', 'BndLayer');
b11.feature.create('blp2', 'BndLayerProp');
b11.feature('blp2').selection.set([2 3 5 6 7 8]);
mesh1.run;

```

```
mphmesh(model);
```

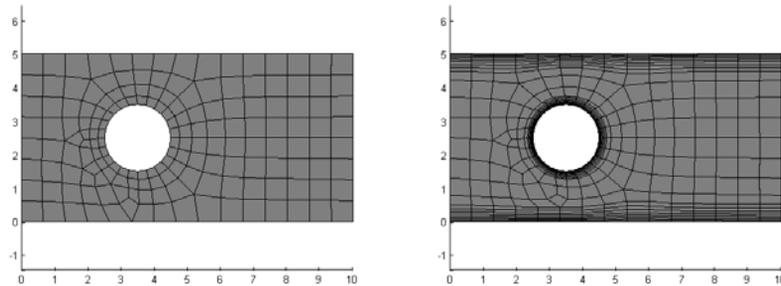


Figure 3-12: Initial unstructured quad mesh (left) and resulting boundary layer mesh (right).

### REFINING MESHES

Given a mesh consisting only of *simplex elements* (lines, triangles, and tetrahedra) you can create a finer mesh using the feature `Refine`. Thus

```
mesh1.feature.create('ref1', 'Refine');
```

refines the mesh.

By specifying the property `tri`, either as a row vector of element numbers or a 2-row matrix, you can control the elements to be refined. In the latter case, the second row of the matrix specifies the number of refinements for the corresponding element.

The refinement method is controlled by the property `rmethod`. In 2D its default value is `regular`, corresponding to regular refinement, in which each specified triangular element is divided into four triangles of the same shape. Setting `rmethod` to `longest` gives longest edge refinement, where the longest edge of a triangle is bisected. Some triangles outside the specified set might also be refined in order to preserve the triangulation and its quality.

In 3D the default refinement method is `longest`, while regular refinement is only implemented for uniform refinements. In 1D the function always uses `regular` refinement, where each element is divided into two elements of the same shape.



Note

For stationary or eigenvalue PDE problems you can use adaptive mesh refinement at the solver stage with the solver step `adaption`. See [Adaption](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

---

## COPYING BOUNDARY MESHES

Use the CopyEdge feature in 2D and the CopyFace feature in 3D to copy a mesh between boundaries. It is only possible to copy meshes between boundaries that have the same shape. However, a scaling factor between the boundaries is allowed. The following example demonstrates how to copy a mesh between two boundaries in 3D and then create a swept mesh on the domain.

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');

geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 3);
wp1 = geom1.feature.create('wp1', 'WorkPlane');
wp1.set('planetype', 'quick');
wp1.set('quickplane', 'xy');
c1 = wp1.geom.feature.create('c1', 'Circle');
c1.set('r', 0.5);
c1.set('pos', [1, 0]);
rev1 = geom1.feature.create('rev1', 'Revolve');
rev1.set('angle1', '0').set('angle2', '180');
rev1.selection('input').set({'wp1'});
geom1.run('wp1');

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');

size1 = mesh1.feature.create('size1', 'Size');
size1.selection.geom('geom1', 1);
size1.selection.set(18);
size1.set('hmax', '0.06');

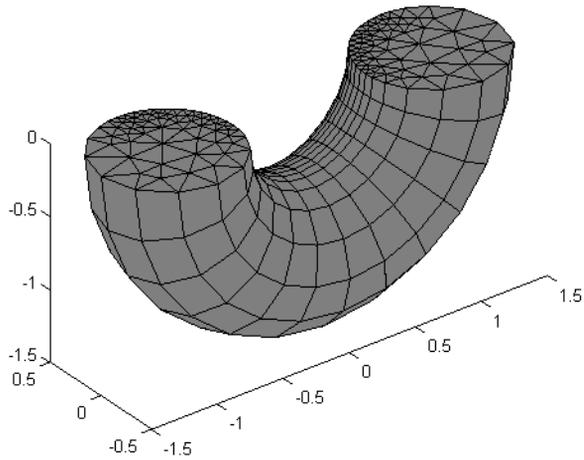
ftri1 = mesh1.feature.create('ftri1', 'FreeTri');
ftri1.selection.geom('geom1', 2);
ftri1.selection.set(10);

cpf1 = mesh1.feature.create('cpf1', 'CopyFace');
cpf1.selection('source').geom('geom1', 2);
cpf1.selection('destination').geom('geom1', 2);
cpf1.selection('source').set(10);
cpf1.selection('destination').set(1);

sw1 = mesh1.feature.create('sw1', 'Sweep');
sw1.selection('sourceface').geom('geom1', 2);
sw1.selection('targetface').geom('geom1', 2);

mesh1.run();
mphmesh(model);
```

The algorithm automatically determines how to orient the source mesh on the target boundary, and the result is shown in [Figure 3-13](#).



*Figure 3-13: Prism element obtained with the CopyFace and Sweep features.*

To explicitly control the orientation of the copied mesh, use the `EdgeMap` attribute.

The command sequence

```
em1 = cpf1.feature.create('em1', 'EdgeMap');
em1.selection('srcedge').set(18);
em1.selection('dstedge').set(2);
mesh1.feature.remove('sw1');
mesh1.feature.create('ftet1', 'FreeTet');

mesh1.run;
mphmesh(model);
```

copies the mesh between the same boundaries as in the previous example, but now the orientation of the source mesh on the target boundary is different. The domain is then meshed by the free mesh, resulting in the mesh shown [Figure 3-14](#). In this case it is not possible to create a swept mesh on the domain because the boundary meshes do not match in the sweeping direction.

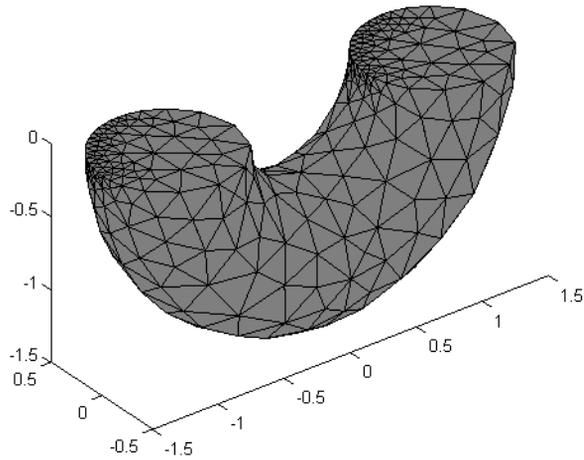


Figure 3-14: Free tetrahedral mesh after the use of the CopyFace feature.

### CONVERTING MESH ELEMENTS

Use the `Convert` feature to convert meshes containing quadrilateral, hexahedral, or prism elements into triangular meshes and tetrahedral meshes. In 2D, the function splits each quadrilateral element into either two or four triangles. In 3D, it converts each prism into three tetrahedral elements and each hexahedral element into five, six, or 28 tetrahedral elements. You can control the method used to convert the elements using the property `splitmethod`. The default value is `diagonal`, which results in two triangular elements in 2D and five or six tetrahedral elements in 3D.



See Also

For additional properties supported, see [Convert](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

The example below demonstrates how to convert a quad mesh into a triangle mesh:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 2);
geom1.feature.create('c1', 'Circle');
geom1.feature.create('r1', 'Rectangle');
int1 = geom1.feature.create('int1', 'Intersection');
```

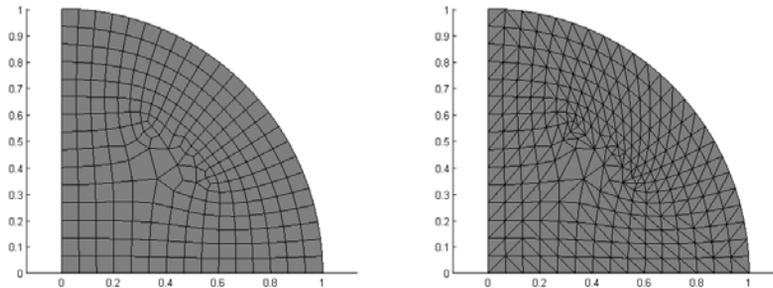
```

int1.selection('input').object('geom1');
int1.selection('input').set({'c1' 'r1'});

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');
mesh1.feature.create('fq1', 'FreeQuad');
mesh1.runCurrent;
mesh1.feature.create('conv1', 'Convert');
mesh1.run;
mphmesh(model);

```

The result is illustrated in the [Figure 3-15](#):



*Figure 3-15: Mesh using free quad elements (left) and converted mesh from quad to triangle (right).*

### *Importing External Meshes and Mesh Objects*

---

It is possible to import meshes to COMSOL Multiphysics using the following formats:

- COMSOL Multiphysics text files (extension `.mphtxt`)
- COMSOL Multiphysics binary files (extension `.mphbin`)
- NASTRAN files (extension `.nas` or `.bdf`)

For a description of the text file format see the *COMSOL Multiphysics Reference Guide*.

#### **IMPORTING MESHES TO THE COMMAND LINE**

To import a mesh stored in a supported format use the `Import` feature. The following commands import and plot a NASTRAN mesh for a crankshaft:

```

model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
model.geom.create('geom1', 3);

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');

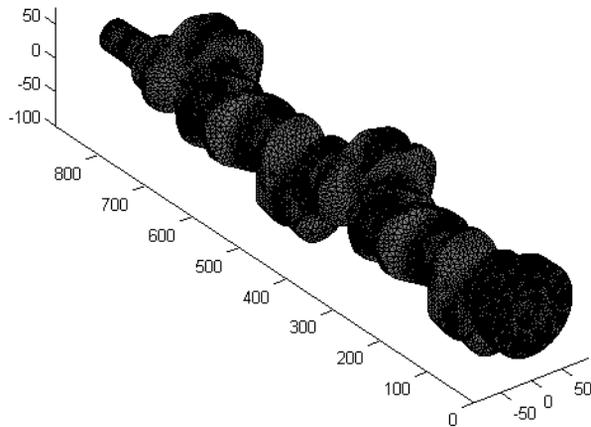
```

```
imp1 = mesh1.feature.create('imp1', 'Import');
model.modelPath('dir\COMSOL43\models\COMSOL_Multiphysics\
Structural_Mechanics')
imp1.set('filename','crankshaft.nas');
mesh1.feature('imp1').importData;

mesh1.run;
mphmesh(model);
```

Where *dir* is the path of root directory where COMSOL Multiphysics 4.3 is installed.

The above command sequence results in [Figure 3-16](#).



*Figure 3-16: Imported NASTRAN mesh.*



See Also

For additional properties supported, see [Import](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

---

## Measuring Mesh Quality

---

Use the `stat` method on the meshing sequence to get information on the mesh quality. The quality measure is a scalar quantity, defined for each mesh element, where 0 represents the lowest quality and 1 represents the highest quality.

The following commands illustrate how to visualize the mesh quality for a mesh on the unit circle:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 2);
geom1.feature.create('c1', 'Circle');
geom1.runAll;

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');
mesh1.feature.create('ftri1', 'FreeTri');
mesh1.run;

meshdset1 = model.result.dataset.create('mesh1', 'Mesh');
meshdset1.set('mesh', 'mesh1');

pg1 = model.result.create('pg1', 2);

meshplot1 = pg1.feature.create('mesh1', 'Mesh');
meshplot1.set('data', 'mesh1');
meshplot1.set('filteractive', 'on');
meshplot1.set('elemfilter', 'quality');
meshplot1.set('tetkeep', '0.25');
mphplot(model, 'pg1');
meshplot1.set('elemfilter', 'qualityrev');
meshplot1.run;
mphplot(model, 'pg1');
```

These commands display the worst 25% and the best 25% elements in terms of mesh element quality. See how in [Figure 3-17](#) the triangular mesh elements in the plot to the right are more regular than those in the left plot; this reflects the fact that a quality

measure of 1 corresponds to a uniform triangle, while 0 means that the triangle has degenerated into a line.

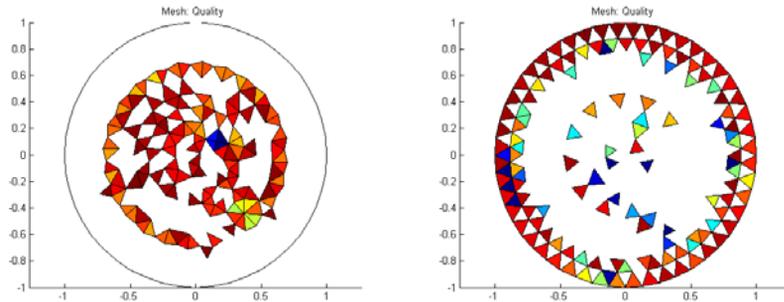


Figure 3-17: Visualizations of the mesh quality: worst 25% (left) and best 25% (right).

### Getting Mesh Statistics Information

---

Use the function `mphmeshstats` to get mesh statistics and mesh information.

```
stats = mphmeshstats(model);
```

where `stats` is a structure containing the mesh statistics information. The statistics structure contains the following fields:

- `meshtag`, the tag of the mesh feature.
- `isactive`, Boolean variable that indicates if the mesh feature is active (1) or not (0).
- `hasproblems`, Boolean variable that indicates if the mesh feature contains error or warning nodes (1) or not (0).
- `iscomplete`, Boolean variable that indicates if the mesh feature is built (1) or not(0).
- `sdim`, the space dimension of the mesh feature.
- `types`, the element types present in the mesh. The element type can be vertex (`vtx`), edge (`edg`), triangle (`tri`), quad (`quad`), tetrahedra (`tet`), pyramid (`pyr`), prism (`prism`), hexahedra (`hex`). The type can also be of all elements of maximal dimension in the selection (`all`).
- `numelem`, number of elements for each element type.
- `minquality`, minimum element quality.
- `meanquality`, mean element quality.
- `qualitydistr`, distribution of the element quality (20 values).
- `minvolume`, minimum element volume/area.

- `maxvolume`, maximum element volume/area.
- `volume`, total volume/area of the mesh.

In case of several mesh case are available in the model object, you can specify the mesh tag:

```
stats = mphmeshstats(model, <meshtag>);
```

### *Getting and Setting Mesh Data*

---

The function `mphmeshstats` also returns the mesh data, such as element coordinates. Use the function with two output variable to get the mesh data.

```
[meshstats,meshdata] = mphmeshstats(model);
```

In the above, `meshdata` is a MATLAB structure containing the following fields:

- `vertex`, which contains the mesh vertex coordinates.
- `elem`, which contains the element data information.
- `elementity`, which contains the element entity information for each element type.

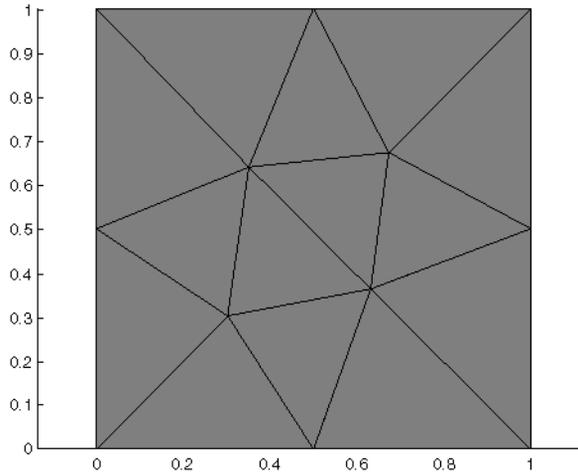
#### **EXAMPLE: EXTRACT AND CREATE MESH INFORMATION**

You can manually create a mesh based on a grid generated in MATLAB. In this example before inserting this mesh into the model, you generate a default coarse mesh and get the mesh information. With this information you can understand the requested mesh structure to use with the `createMesh` method. Finally construct a complete mesh and store it in the meshing sequence. If the geometry is not empty, the new mesh is checked to ensure that it matches the geometry. Thus, to create an arbitrary mesh you need to create an empty geometry sequence and a corresponding empty meshing sequence and construct the mesh on the empty meshing sequence.

Start by creating a 2D model containing a square, and mesh it with triangles.

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');
model.modelNode.create('mod1');
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 2);
geom1.feature.create('sq1', 'Square');
geom1.run;
mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');
mesh1.feature.create('ftri1', 'FreeTri');
mesh1.feature.feature('size').set('hmax', '0.5');
mesh1.run('ftri1');
```

```
mphmesh(model);
```



To get the mesh data information, enter:

```
[meshstats,meshdata] = mphmeshstats(model);
```

```
meshdata =  
    vertex: [2x12 double]  
           elem: {[2x8 int32] [3x14 int32] [0 5 7 11]}  
           elementivity: {[8x1 int32] [14x1 int32] [4x1 int32]}
```

The mesh node coordinates are stored in the `vertex` field:

```
vtx = meshdata.vertex  
  
vtx =  
Columns 1 through 7  
    0    0.5000    0.3024         0    0.6314    1.0000    0.3511  
    0         0    0.3023    0.5000    0.3632         0    0.6397  
Columns 8 through 12  
    0    0.6730    1.0000    0.5000    1.0000  
    1.0000    0.6728    0.5000    1.0000    1.0000
```

In the `elem` field you retrieve the element information, such as the node indices (using a 0 based) connected to the elements.

```
tri = meshdata.elem{2}  
tri =  
Columns 1 through 5  
    0         3         1         1         6
```

```

1         0         4         5         3
2         2         2         4         2
Columns 6 through 10
6         7         6         5         9
2         3         4         9         8
4         6         8         4         4
Columns 11 through 14
10        10        9         11
7         6         11        10
6         8         8         8

```

In the above command, you can see that element number 1 is connected with nodes 1, 2 and 3, element number 2 is connected with nodes 4,1 and 3.

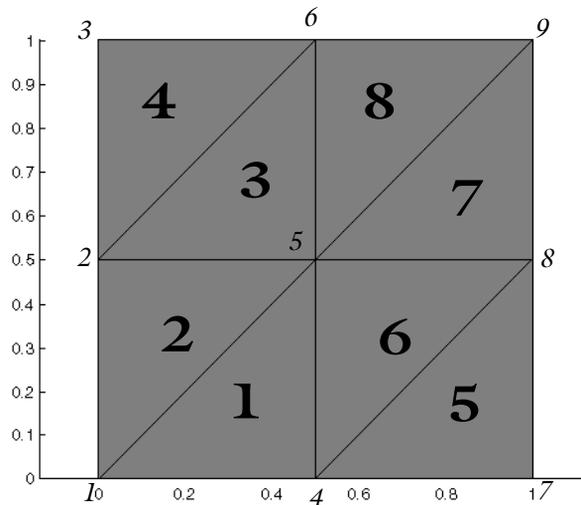
Now create manually a mesh using a data distribution generated in MATLAB by entering the command below:

```

[x,y] = meshgrid([0 0.5 1], [0 0.5 1]);
X = reshape(X,1,9);
Y = reshape(Y,1,9);
coord=[X;Y];

```

The node distribution obtain with the above command correspond to the mesh in the figure [Figure 3-18](#).



*Figure 3-18: Mesh with elements (bold) and nodes (italic) indices*

In [Table 3-1](#), you can see the nodes and element connectivity in the mesh:

TABLE 3-1: ELEMENT AND NODES CONNECTIVITY

ELEMENT	NODES
1	1, 4, 5
2	1, 2, 5
3	2, 5, 6
4	2, 3, 6
5	4, 7, 8
6	4, 5, 8
7	5, 8, 9
8	5, 6, 9

Now create the elements and nodes connectivity information with the command below:

```
new_tri(:,1)=[0;3;4];
new_tri(:,2)=[0;1;4];
new_tri(:,3)=[1;4;5];
new_tri(:,4)=[1;2;5];
new_tri(:,5)=[3;6;7];
new_tri(:,6)=[3;4;7];
new_tri(:,7)=[4;7;8];
new_tri(:,8)=[4;5;8];
```

Assign the element information, node coordinates and elements connectivity information, into a new mesh. Use the method `createMesh` to create the new mesh.

```
geom2 = model.geom.create('geom2',2);
mesh2 = model.mesh.create('mesh2','geom2');
mesh2.data.setElem('tri',new_tri)
mesh2.data.setVertex(coord)
mesh2.data.createMesh
```

# Modeling Physics

This section describes how to set up physics interfaces in a model. The physics interface defines the equations that COMSOL solves.

- [The Physics Interface Syntax](#)
- [The Material Syntax](#)
- [Modifying the Equations](#)
- [Adding Global Equation](#)
- [Defining Model Settings Using External Data File](#)



See Also

[Overview of the Physics Interfaces](#) in the *COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide*

---



Important

The links to features described outside of this user guide do not work in the PDF, only from within the online help.

---

## *The Physics Interface Syntax*

---

Create a physics interface instance using the syntax

```
model.physics.create(<phystag>, physint, <geomtag>);
```

where *<phystag>* is a string that you choose to identify the physics interface. Once defined, you can always refer to a physics interface, or any other feature, by its tag. The string *physint* is the *constructor name* of the physics interface. To get the *constructor name*, the best is to create a model using the desired physics interface in the GUI and save the model as a M-file. The string *<geomtag>* refers the geometry where you want to specify the interface.

To add a feature to a physics interface, use the syntax

```
model.physics(<phystag>).feature.create(<ftag>, operation);
```

where *the <phystag>* string refers to a physics interface. *<ftag>* is a string that you use to refer to the operation. To set a property to a value in a operation, enter:

```
model.physics(<phystag>).feature(<ftag>).set(property, <value>);
```

where *<ftag>* is the string that identifies the feature.

There are alternate syntaxes available.



`model.physics()` in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*

---

To disable or remove a feature node, use the methods `active` or `remove`, respectively.

The command

```
model.physics(<phystag>).feature(<ftag>).active(false);
```

disables the feature *<ftag>*.

To activate the feature node you can set the `active` method to true:

```
model.physics(<phystag>).feature(<ftag>).active(true);
```

You can also remove a feature from the model. Use the method `remove` as below:

```
model.physics(<phystag>).feature.remove(<ftag>);
```

#### **EXAMPLE: IMPLEMENT AND SOLVE A HEAT TRANSFER PROBLEM**

This example details how to add a physics interface and set boundary conditions in the model object.

Start to create a model object, including a 3D geometry. The geometry consists in a block with default settings. Enter the following commands at the MATLAB prompt:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');  
  
geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 3);  
geom1.feature.create('blk1', 'Block');  
geom1.run;
```

Proceed with adding a Heat Transfer in Solids interface to the model:

```
phys = model.physics.create('ht', 'HeatTransfer', 'geom1');
```

The tag of the interface is `ht`. The physics interface constructor is `HeatTransfer`. The physics is defined on geometry `geom1`.

The physics interface automatically creates a number of default features. Examine these by entering:

```
>> model.physics('ht')
ans =
Type: Heat Transfer in Solids
Tag: ht
Identifier: ht
Operation: HeatTransfer
Child nodes: solid1, ins1, cib1, init1, os1
```

The physics method has the following child nodes: `solid1`, `ins1`, `cib1`, `init1`, and `os1`. These are the default features that come with the Heat Transfer in Solids interface. The first feature, `solid1`, consists of the heat balance equation. Confirm this by entering:

```
>> solid = phys.feature('solid1')
ans =
Type: Heat Transfer in Solids
Tag: solid1
```

You can modify the settings of the `solid1` feature node, for instance to manually set the material property. To change the thermal conductivity to 400 W/(m\*K) enter:

```
solid.set('k_mat', 1, 'userdef');
solid.set('k', '400');
```

The Heat Transfer in Solids interface contains features you can use to specify domain or boundary settings. For example, to add a  $1e5$  W/m<sup>3</sup> heat source in the study domain, enter the commands:

```
hs = phys.feature.create('hs1', 'HeatSource', 3);
hs.selection.set([1]);
hs.set('Q', 1, '1e5');
```

To create a temperature boundary condition on boundaries 3, 5, and 6, enter:

```
temp = phys.feature.create('temp1', 'TemperatureBoundary', 2);
temp.selection.set([3 5 6]);
temp.set('T0', 1, '300[K]');
```

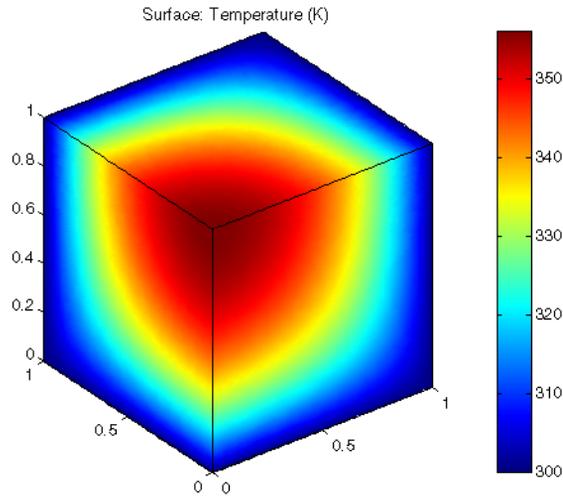
Then add a mesh and a study feature and compute the solution:

```
model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');
std = model.study.create('std1');
std.feature.create('stat', 'Stationary');
std.run
```

To visualize the solution, first create a 3D surface plot group, which is displayed in a MATLAB figure with the function `mphplot`:

```
pg = model.result.create('pg1', 'PlotGroup3D');
pg.feature.create('surf1', 'Surface');
```

```
mphplot(model, 'pg1', 'rangenum', 1)
```



### *The Material Syntax*

---

In addition to changing material properties directly inside the physics interfaces you can create materials available in the entire model. Such a material can be used by all physics interfaces in the model.

Create a material using the syntax

```
model.material.create(<mattag>);
```

where <mattag> is a string that you use to refer to a material definition.

A Material is a collection of material models, where each material model defines a set of material properties, material functions, and model inputs. To add a material model, use the syntax:

```
model.material(<mattag>).materialmodel.create(<mtag>);
```

where <mattag> is the string identifying the material you defined when creating the material. The string <mtag> refers to the material model.

Now you can define material properties for the model by setting property value pairs by the following operations:

```
model.material(<mattag>).materialmodel(<mtag>).set(property,
<value>);
```



See Also

[model.material\(\)](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*

#### EXAMPLE: CREATE A MATERIAL NODE

While the section, [Example: Implement and Solve a Heat Transfer Problem](#), showed how to change a material property inside a physics interface, here you can define a material available globally in the model. The steps below assume that you have completed the steps of the example above.

```
mat = model.material.create('mat1');
```

The material automatically creates a material model, `def`, which you can use to set up basic properties. Use it to define the density and the heat capacity:

```
mat.materialmodel('def').set('density', {'400'});
mat.materialmodel('def').set('heatcapacity', {'2e3'});
```

To use the defined material in your model, you must set the `solid1` feature to use the material node.

```
solid.set('k_mat', 1, 'from_mat');
```

#### *Modifying the Equations*

The equation defining the physics node can be edited with the method `featureInfo('info')` applied to a feature of the physics node `physics(<phystag>).feature(<ftag>)`, where `<phystag>` and `<ftag>` identify the physics interface and the feature, respectively.

```
info =
model.physics(<phystag>).feature(<ftag>).featureInfo('info');
```

Use the method `getInfoTable(type)` to return the tables available in the Equation view node:

```
infoTable = info.getInfoTable(type);
```

where `type` defines the type of table to return. It can have the value `'Weak'` to return the weak form equations, `'Constraint'` to return the constraint types table, `'Expression'` to return the variable expressions table.

### EXAMPLE: ACCESS AND MODIFY THE EQUATION WEAK FORM

Continue with the section, [Example: Implement and Solve a Heat Transfer Problem](#), to modify the model equation.

To retrieve information about the physics interface create an info object:

```
info = model.physics('ht').feature('solid1').featureInfo('info');
```

From the info object you can now access the weak form equation:

```
infoTable = info.getInfoTable('Weak');
```

This returns a string variable that contains both the name of the weak equation variable and the equation of the physics implemented in the weak form. Enter the command:

```
list = infoTable(:)
```

which result in the following output:

```
list =  
java.lang.String[]:  
 [1x159 char]  
 'root.mod1.ht.solid1.weak$1'  
 'Material'  
 'Domain 1'
```

The output provided above shows that the physics is defined with the weak expression available in the variable list(1), enter:

```
list(1)
```

To get the weak equation as a string variable. The result of the above command is displayed below:

```
ans =  
-(ht.k_effxx*Tx+ht.k_effxy*Ty+ht.k_effxz*Tz)*test(Tx)-(ht.k_effyx  
*Tx+ht.k_effyy*Ty+ht.k_effyz*Tz)*test(Ty)-(ht.k_effzx*Tx+ht.k_eff  
zy*Ty+ht.k_effzz*Tz)*test(Tz)
```

You can access the equation in the node `root.mod1.ht.solid1.weak$1`; for instance, to modify the equation and lock the expression run the commands:

```
equExpr = '400[W/(m*K)]*(-Tx*test(Tx)-Ty*test(Ty)-Tz*test(Tz))';  
info.lock(list(2), {equExpr});
```

The above command set the heat conductivity to a constant value directly within the heat balance equation.

## Adding Global Equation

---

To add a global equation in the model use the command:

```
model.physics.create(<odetag>, 'GlobalEquations');
```

To define the name of the variable to be solved by the global equation, enter

```
model.physics(<odetag>).set('name', <idx>, <name>);
```

where <idx> is the index of the global equation, and <name> a string with the name of the variable.

Set the expression <expr> of the global equation with

```
model.physics(<odetag>).set('equation', <idx>, <expr>);
```

where <expr> is defined as a string variable.

Initial value and initial velocity can be set with the commands

```
model.physics(<odetag>).set('initialValueU', <idx>, <init>);  
model.physics(<odetag>).set('initialValueUt', <idx>, <init_t>);
```

where <init> and <init\_t> are the initial value expression for the variable and its time derivative respectively.

### EXAMPLE: SOLVE AN ODE PROBLEM

This example illustrates how to solve the following ODE in a COMSOL model:

$$\ddot{u} + \frac{\dot{u}}{2} + 1 = 0$$

$$u0 = 0$$

$$\dot{u}0 = 20$$

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');  
  
ge = model.physics.create('ge', 'GlobalEquations');  
ge1 = ge.feature('ge1');  
ge1.set('name', 1, 1, 'u');  
ge1.set('equation', 1, 1, 'utt+0.5*ut+1');  
ge1.set('initialValueU', 1, 1, 'u0');  
ge1.set('initialValueUt', 1, 1, 'u0t');  
  
model.param.set('u0', '0');  
model.param.set('u0t', '20');  
  
std1 = model.study.create('std1');
```

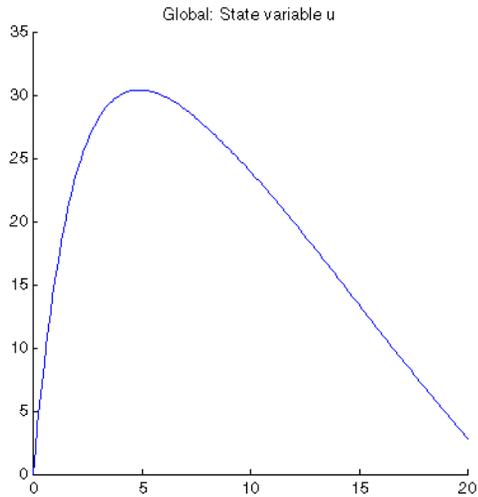
```

std1.feature.create('time', 'Transient');
std1.feature('time').set('tlist', 'range(0,0.1,20)');
std1.run;

model.result.create('pg1', 1);
model.result('pg1').set('data', 'dset1');
model.result('pg1').feature.create('glob1', 'Global');
model.result('pg1').feature('glob1').set('expr', {'mod1.u'});

mphplot(model, 'pg1')

```



### *Defining Model Settings Using External Data File*

---

To use tabulated data from files in a model, you can use the interpolation function available under the Global Definitions node or the Definitions node of the model.

To add an interpolation function to the manual use the command:

```
model.func.create(<functag>, 'Interpolation');
```

The interpolation function is initially defined globally, in the Model Builder from the COMSOL Desktop you can see it under the Global Definitions node. In case you have several model node in your model and you would like to attached it to the specified model node <model>, enter:

```
model.func(<functag>).model(<model>);
```

where `<model>` is the tag of the model node to attach the interpolation function.

You then have the possibility to interpolate data specified by a table inside the function (default), or specified in an external file.

When using an interpolation table, set the interpolation data for each row of the table with the commands:

```
model.func(<functag>).setIndex('table', <t_value>, <i>, 1);
model.func(<functag>).setIndex('table', <ft_value>, <i>, 2);
```

where `<t_value>` is the interpolation parameter value and `<ft_value>` is the function value. `<i>` is the index (0-based) in the interpolation table.

To use an external file change the source for the interpolation and specify the file:

```
model.func(<functag>).set('source', 'file');
model.func(<functag>).set('filename', <filename>);
```

In the above `filename` is the name, with path, of the data file.

Several interpolation methods are available. Choose which one to use by the command:

```
model.func(<functag>).set('interp', method);
```

The string `method` can be set as one of the following alternatives:

- 'neighbor', for interpolation according to the nearest neighbor method.
- 'linear', for linear interpolation method.
- 'cubicspline', for cubic spline interpolation method.
- 'piecewisecubic', piecewise cubic interpolation method.

You can also decide how to handle parameter values outside the range of the input data by selecting an extrapolation method:

```
model.func(<functag>).set('extrap', method);
```

The string `method` can be one of these following value:

- 'const', to use a constant value outside the interpolation data.
- 'linear', for linear extrapolation method.
- 'nearestfunction', to use the nearest function as extrapolation method.
- 'value', to use a specific value outside the interpolation data.



`model.func()` in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*

---

# Creating Selections

In this section:

- [The Selection Node](#)
- [Coordinate-Based Selections](#)
- [Selection Using Adjacent Geometry](#)
- [Display Selection](#)



See Also

[User-Defined Selections](#) in the *COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide*

---



Important

The links to features described outside of this user guide do not work in the PDF, only from within the online help.

---

## *The Selection Node*

---

Use a selection node to define a collection of geometry entities in a central location in the model. The selection can easily be accessed in physics or mesh features or during postprocessing. For example, you can refer collectively to a set of boundaries that have the same boundary conditions, and also have the same mesh size settings.

A selection feature can be one of the following type:

- Explicit, to include entities explicitly defined by their definitions indices.
- Ball, to include entities that fall within a set sphere.
- Box, to include entities that fall within a set box.

You can also combine selection by Boolean operations, such as Union, Intersection, Difference.

### **SETTING AN EXPLICIT SELECTION**

Create an explicit selection with the command:

```
model.selection.create(<seltag>, 'Explicit');
```

You can specify the domain entity dimension to use in the selection node.

```
model.selection(<seltag>).geom(sd<dim>);
```

With *sdim* the space dimension that represent the different geometry entity, 3 for domain, 2 for boundary/domain, 1 for edge/boundary, 0 for point.

Set the domain entity indices in the selection node with the command:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set(<idx>);
```

Where *<idx>* is an array of integers that lists the geometry entity indices to add in the selection.

### *Coordinate-Based Selections*

---

#### **DEFINING A BALL SELECTION NODE**

The Ball selection node is defined by a center point and a radius. The selection can include geometric entities that are completely or partially inside the ball. You can set up the selection by using either the COMSOL API directly or the `mphselectcoords` function.

##### *Ball Selection Using the COMSOL API*

To add a ball selection to model object enter:

```
model.selection.create(<seltag>, 'Ball');
```

To set the coordinates (*<x0>*, *<y0>*, *<z0>*) of the selection center point, enter:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set('posx', <x0>);  
model.selection(<seltag>).set('posy', <y0>);  
model.selection(<seltag>).set('posz', <z0>);
```

where *<x0>*, *<y0>*, *<z0>* are double values.

Specify the ball radius *<r0>* with the command:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set('r', <r0>);
```

where *<r0>* is double value.

You can specify the geometric entity level with the command:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set('entitydim', edim);
```

where *edim* is an integer defining the space dimension value (3 for domains, 2 for boundaries/domains, 1 for edges/boundaries and 0 for point).

The selection also specifies the condition for geometric entities to be selected:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set('condition', condition);
```

where *condition* can be:

- 'inside', to select all geometric entities completely inside the ball.
- 'intersects', to select all geometric entities that intersect the ball (default).
- 'somevertex', to select all geometric entities where at least some vertex is inside the ball.
- 'allvertices', to select all geometric entities where all vertices are inside the ball.

#### Ball Selection Using MPHSELECTCOORDS

The function `mphselectcoords` retrieves geometric entities enclosed by a ball.

To get the geometric entities enclosed by a ball of radius *r0*, with its center positioned at (*x0*,*y0*,*z0*) enter the command:

```
idx = mphselectcoords(model, <geomtag>, [<x0>,<y0>,<z0>], ...  
entitytype, 'radius', <r0>);
```

where *<geomtag>* is the tag of geometry where the selection, and *entitytype* can be one of 'point', 'edge', 'boundary' or 'domain'.

The above function returns the entity indices list. Use it to specify a feature selection or to create an explicit selection as described in [Setting an Explicit Selection](#).

By default the function searches for the geometric entity vertices near these coordinates using the tolerance radius. It returns only the geometric entities that have all vertices inside the search ball. To include in the selection any geometric entities that have at least one vertex inside the search ball set the property `include` to 'any':

```
idx = mphselectcoords(model, <geomtag>, [<x0>,<y0>,<z0>], ...  
entitytype, 'radius', <r0>, 'include', 'any');
```

In case the model geometry is finalized as an assembly, you have distinct geometric entities for each part of the assembly. Specify the adjacent domain index to avoid selection of overlapping geometric entities. Set the `adjnumber` property with the domain index:

```
idx = mphselectcoords(model, <geomtag>, [<x0>,<y0>,<z0>], ...  
entitytype, 'radius', <r0>, 'adjnumber', <idx>);
```

where *<idx>* is the domain index adjacent to the desired geometric entities.

#### DEFINING A BOX SELECTION NODE

The Box selection node is defined by two diagonally opposite points of a box (3D) or rectangle (2D).

### Box Selection Using the COMSOL API

The command below adds a box selection to the model object:

```
model.selection.create(<seltag>, 'Box');
```

Specify the points (<x0>, <y0>, <z0>) and (<x1>, <y1>, <z1>):

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set('xmin', <x0> );
model.selection(<seltag>).set('ymin', <y0> );
model.selection(<seltag>).set('zmin', <z0> );
model.selection(<seltag>).set('xmax', <x1> );
model.selection(<seltag>).set('ymax', <y1> );
model.selection(<seltag>).set('zmax', <z1> );
```

where <x0>, <y0>, <z0>, <x1>, <y1>, <z1> are double values.

You can specify the geometric entities level with the command:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set('entitydim', edim);
```

where *edim* is an integer defining the space dimension value (3 for domains, 2 for boundaries/domains, 1 for edges/boundaries and 0 for point).

The selection also specifies the condition for geometric entities to be selected:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set('condition', condition);
```

where *condition* can be:

- 'inside', to select all geometric entities completely inside the ball.
- 'intersects', to select all geometric entities that intersect the ball (default).
- 'somevertex', to select all geometric entities where at least some vertex is inside the ball.
- 'allvertices', to select all geometric entities where all vertices are inside the ball.

### Box Selection Using MPHSELECTBOX

The function `mphselectbox` retrieves geometric entities enclosed by a box (3D) or rectangle (2D).

To get the geometric entities of type *entitytype* enclosed by the box defined by the points (x0,y0,z0) and (x1,y1,z1), enter the command:

```
idx = mphselectbox(model,<geomtag>,[<x0> <x1>,<y0> <y1>,<z0> <z1>],
entitytype);
```

where <geomtag> is the tag of geometry where the selection is applied, and *entitytype* can be one of 'point', 'edge', 'boundary' or 'domain'.

The above function returns the entity indices list. Use it to specify a feature selection or to create an explicit selection as described in [Setting an Explicit Selection](#).

By default the function searches for the geometric entity vertices near these coordinates using the tolerance radius. It returns only the geometric entities that have all vertices inside the box/rectangle. To include in the selection any geometric entities that have at least one vertex inside the search ball set the property `include` to 'any':

```
idx = mphselectbox(model, <geomtag>, [<x0> <x1>, <y0> <y1>, <z0> <z1>],  
entitytype, 'include', 'any');
```

In case the model geometry is finalized as an assembly, you have distinct geometric entities for each part of the assembly. Specify the adjacent domain index to avoid selection of overlapping geometric entities. Set the `adjnumber` property with the domain index:

```
idx = mphselectbox(model, <geomtag>, [<x0> <x1>, <y0> <y1>, <z0> <z1>],  
entitytype, 'adjnumber', <idx>);
```

where `<idx>` is the domain index adjacent to the desired geometric entities.

### *Selection Using Adjacent Geometry*

---

An other approach to select geometry entity is to define their adjacent object. For instance select the edges that are adjacent to a specific domain, or the boundaries that are adjacent to a specific point.

#### *Adjacent Selection Using the COMSOL API*

The command below create a selection node using adjacent geometric entities:

```
model.selection.create(<seltag>, 'Adjacent');
```

You need to specify the geometric entity level with the command:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set(edim);
```

where `edim` is an integer defining the space dimension value (3 for domains, 2 for boundaries/domains, 1 for edges/boundaries and 0 for point).

The Adjacent selection node only support Selection node as input:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set('Adjacent');
```

as Specify the ball radius `<r0>` with the command:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set('input', <seltag>);
```

where `<seltag>` is the tag of an existing Selection node.

Select the level of geometric entities to add in the selection with the command:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set('outputdim', edim);
```

where *edim* is an integer defining the space dimension value (3 for domains, 2 for boundaries/domains, 1 for edges/boundaries and 0 for point).

In case you have multiple domains in the geometry to include the interior and exterior selected geometric entities enter:

```
model.selection(<seltag>).set('interior', 'on');  
model.selection(<seltag>).set('exterior', 'on');
```

To exclude the interior/exterior select geometric entities you can set the respective property to 'off'.

### *Adjacent Selection Using MPHGETADJ*

An alternative to the COMSOL API is to use the function `mphgetadj` to select geometric entities using adjacent domain.

To get a list of entities of type *entitytype* adjacent to the entity with the index *<adjnumber>* of type *adjtype* enter:

```
idx = mphselectbox(model, <geomtag>, entitytype, ...  
adjtype, <adjnumber>);
```

where *<geomtag>* is the tag of geometry where the selection applies. The string variables *entitytype* and *adjtype* can be one of 'point', 'edge', 'boundary' or 'domain'.

You can use the list returned by the function to specify the selection for a model feature or to create an explicit selection as described in [Setting an Explicit Selection](#).

### *Display Selection*

---

Use the function `mphviewselection` to display the selected geometric entities in a MATLAB figure.

You can either specify the geometry entity index and its entity type or specify the tag of a selection node available in the model.

To display the entity of type *entitytype* with the index *<idx>* enter:

```
mphviewselection(model, <geomtag>, <idx>, 'entity', entitytype)
```

where *<geomtag>* is the tag of geometry node. *<idx>* is a positive integer array that contains the entity indices. The string *entitytype* can be one of 'point', 'edge', 'boundary' or 'domain'.

If your model contains a selection node with the tag *<seltag>*, you can display it with the command:

```
mphviewselection(model, <geomtag>, <seltag>)
```

If the selection node is a Ball or Box selection, you can also display the ball or box used in the selection:

```
mphviewselection(model, <geomtag>, <seltag>, 'showselector', 'on')
```

# The Study Node

This section describes how to set up and run a study. The study contains basic solver settings. COMSOL uses the physics interfaces and the study to automatically determine solver settings.

- [The Solution Syntax](#)
- [Run, RunAll, RunFrom](#)
- [Adding a Parametric Sweep](#)
- [The Batch Node](#)
- [Plot While Solving](#)



See Also

- [Solvers and Study Types](#) in the *COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide*
  - [Solver](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*
- 



Important

The links to features described outside of this user guide do not work in the PDF, only from within the online help.

---

## *The Study Syntax*

---

Create a study by using the syntax

```
model.study.create(<studytag>);
```

where *studytag* is a string that you use define to the study sequence.

To add a study step to a study, use the syntax

```
model.study(<studytag>).feature.create(<ftag>, operation);
```

where *<studytag>* is the string identifying the study node. The string *<ftag>* is a string that you define to refer to the study step. The string *operation* defines the operation to add to the study node, it can be one of the Study step node available with the Physics interface or adding a type of study step to add to the study.

To specify a property value pair for a study step, enter

```
model.study(<studytag>).feature(<ftag>).set(property, <value>);
```

where <ftag> is the string identifying the study step.

To run the study, enter

```
model.study(<studytag>).run
```

which generates the default solver configuration associated with the physics solved in the model.



See Also

[model.study\(\)](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*

---

### *The Solution Syntax*

---

To add a solution to the model start with typing:

```
model.sol.create(<soltag>);
```

where <soltag> is a string that you use to refer to the solution object.

To add a solution operation feature, enter:

```
model.sol(<soltag>).feature.create(<ftag>, operation);
```

where <soltag> is the string you defined when creating the solution object. The string <ftag> is a string that you define to refer to the feature, for instance a study step.



See Also

For a list of the operations available for the solver feature node, see [Features Producing and Manipulating Solutions](#) and [Solver](#), in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

---

To specify a property value pair for a solution object feature, enter

```
model.sol(<soltag>).feature(<ftag>).set(property, <value>);
```

where <ftag> is a string referring to the solution object.

### *Run, RunAll, RunFrom*

---

There are several ways to run the solver configuration node.

Use the methods `run` or `runAll` to run the entire solver configuration node.

```
model.sol(<soltag>).run;  
model.sol(<soltag>).runAll;
```

Use the method `run(<ftag>)` to run the solver configuration up to the solver feature with the tag `<ftag>`:

```
model.sol(<soltag>).run(<ftag>);
```

Use the method `runFrom(<ftag>)` to run the solver configuration from the solver feature with the tag `<ftag>`:

```
model.sol(<soltag>).runFrom(<ftag>)
```

### *Adding a Parametric Sweep*

---

The parametric sweep is a study step that does not generate equations and can only be used in combination with other study steps. You can formulate the sequence of problems that arise when you vary some parameters in the model.

To add a parametric sweep to the study node, enter:

```
model.study(<studytag>).feature.create(<ftag>, 'Parametric');
```

You can add one or several parameters to the sweep with the command:

```
model.study(<studytag>).feature(<ftag>).setIndex('pname',  
<pname>, <idx>);
```

where `<pname>` is the name of the parameter to use in the parametric sweep, and `<idx>` the index number of the parameter. Set the `<idx>` to 0 to define the first parameter, 1 to define the second parameter and so on.

Set the list of the parameter value with the command:

```
model.study(<studytag>).feature(<ftag>).setIndex('plistarr',  
<pvalue>, <idx>);
```

where `<pvalue>` contains the list of parameter values defined with either a string or with a double array. `<idx>` the index number of the parameter, use the same value as for the parameter name.

If you have several parameters listed in the parametric sweep node, you can select the type of the sweep: all combinations or specified combinations, of parameter values. Do this with the command:

```
model.study(<studytag>).feature(<ftag>).set('sweepertype', type);
```

where the sweep type, *type*, can be either 'filled' or 'sparse' respectively.

### *The Batch Node*

---

Create a batch node to run automatically several jobs in a sequence:

```
model.batch.create(<batchtag>, type);
```

where *type* is the type of job to define. It can be either Parametric, Batch or Cluster.

Attach the batch mode to an existing study node defined in the model:

```
model.batch(<batchtag>).attached(<studytag>);
```

where *<studytag>* is the tag of the study node.

Set property to the batch job with the command:

```
model.batch(<batchtag>).set(property, <value>);
```



See Also

You can get the list of the properties in [model.batch\(\)](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

---

Run the batch job using the run method:

```
model.batch(<batchtag>).run;
```

### *Plot While Solving*

---

With the plot while solving functionality you can monitor the development of the computation by updating predefined plots during computation. Since the plots are displayed on the COMSOL server, you need to start COMSOL with MATLAB using the graphics mode.



See Also

See the *COMSOL Multiphysics Operations and Installation Guide* to start COMSOL with MATLAB with the graphics mode.

---

To activate plot while solving, enter the command

```
model.study(<studytag>).feature(<studysteptag>).set('plot',  
'on');
```

where *<studytag>* is the tag of the study and *<studysteptag>* refers to the study step.

Specify which plot group to plot by setting the plot group tag:

```
model.study(<studytag>).feature(<studysteptag>).set('plotgroup',  
<ptag>);
```

Only one plot group can be plotted during a computation. If you need to monitor several variables you can use probes instead.

To activate plot while solving for a probe plot, enter the command:

```
model.study(<studytag>).feature(<studysteptag>).set('probesel',  
type);
```

where *type* is the type of probe to use. It can be 'probesel', 'probesel' or a cell array containing the tag of the probe to use.

# Analyzing the Results

This section describes how to do results analysis and visualization.

- [The Plot Group Syntax](#)
- [Displaying The Results](#)
- [The Data Set Syntax](#)
- [The Numerical Node Syntax](#)
- [Exporting Data](#)



See Also

- [Results Evaluation and Visualization](#) in the *COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide*
- [Results](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*



Important

The links to features described outside of this user guide do not work in the PDF, only from within the online help.

---

## *The Plot Group Syntax*

First create a plot group using the syntax

```
model.result.create(<pgtag>, <sdim>);
```

where *<pgtag>* is a string that you use to refer to the plot group, and *<sdim>* is the space dimension of the plot group (1, 2 or 3).

To add a plot feature to a plot group, use the syntax

```
model.result(<pgtag>).feature.create(<ftag>, <plottype>);
```

where *<plottype>* is the string to that define the type of plots to be used with the feature *<ftag>*.

For each plot type you can add an attribute to the feature node, you can do it with the command:

```
model.result(<pgtag>).feature(<ftag>).feature.create(<attrtag>, <attrtype>);
```

where *attrtype* is the string to that define the type of attribute to be used with the feature *<ftag>*.



See Also

For a list of the syntax of the plots type and attribute types available, see [Results](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*. Also see [model.result\(\)](#) in this guide.

---

### *Displaying The Results*

---

Use the command `mphp1ot` to display the plot group available in the model object.

To display the plot group *<phtag>* enter the command:

```
mphp1ot(model, <phtag>);
```

This renders the graphics in a MATLAB figure window using Handle Graphics.

To plot the plot group in a COMSOL graphics window, make sure you have started COMSOL with MATLAB using the `-graphics` option and enter:

```
mphp1ot(model, <phtag>, 'server', 'on');
```

An alternative to plot the results on server is use the run method at a specific plot group:

```
model.result(<phtag>).run;
```



Note

The plot on server option is not supported on Mac OS.

---

The default plot settings displayed in a MATLAB figure do not include a color range bar. If you want to include the color range bar in your figure use the property `rangenum`:

```
mphp1ot(model, <phtag>, 'rangenum', <idx>);
```

where *<idx>* is the index number of the feature node you would like to display the color range bar.

You can extract the data plot directly at the MATLAB prompt by adding an output argument to `mphpplot`, see:

```
dat = mphpplot(model, <pgtag>);
```

This returns a cell array `dat` that contains the data for each plot feature available in the plot group.

Alternatively, you can display the solution directly using data value instead of a plot group. The function `mphpplot` supports data format such as the structure provided by the function `mpheval`. This allow you to extract expressions at the MATLAB prompt, do some operations with the exported data and plot the results in the model geometry.

To display data from `mpheval`, run the command:

```
mphpplot(<data>);
```

If the data structure contains the value of several expression you can set the expression to display with the index property:

```
mphpplot(<data>, 'index', <idx>);
```

where `<idx>` is a positive integer that corresponds to the expression to plot.

You can also set the color table to use when displaying the data value. See the command:

```
mphpplot(<data>, 'colortable', colorname);
```

where `colorname` is the name of the color table to use. See the on-line help associated to the command `colortable` to get a list of the predefined color table.



Only plots involving points, lines, and surfaces data are supported in `<data>`.

---

#### **EXAMPLE: PLOT MPHEVAL DATA**

In this example you will see how to extract COMSOL data at the MATLAB, modify them and plot the data in a MATLAB figure.

Start to load the model busbar from the COMSOL model library, enter the command:

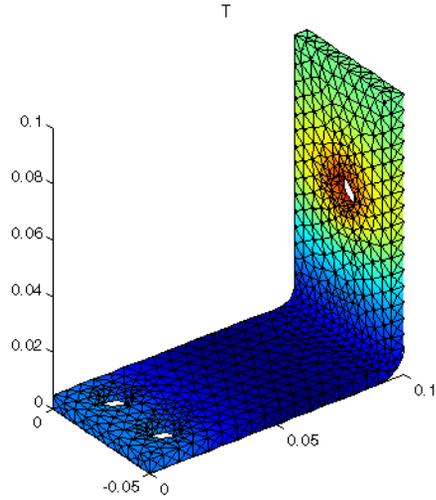
```
model = mphload('busbar');
```

To extract the temperature and the electric potential field, use the command `mpheval` as below:

```
dat = mpheval(model, {'T' 'V'}, 'selection', 1);
```

To display the temperature field enter:

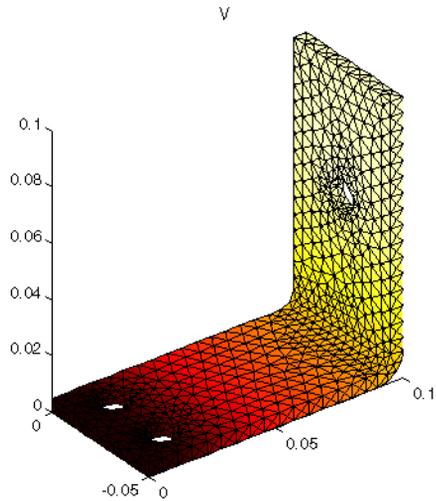
```
mphplot(dat, 'index', 1);
```



You can also edit and modify the data available in the data structure returned by `mpheval`. Then change the color table to display the modified data, see the command:

```
dat.d2 = dat.d2*1e-3;
```

```
mplot(dat, 'index', 2, 'colortable', 'thermal');
```



### *The Data Set Syntax*

---

Data sets contain or refer to the source of data for creating Plots and Reports. It can be a Solution, a Mesh, or some transformation or cut plane applied to other data sets—that is, create new data sets from other data sets. Add data sets to the Data Sets branch under Results.

All plots refer to data sets; the solutions are always available as the default data set.

To create a data at the MATLAB prompt, use the command:

```
model.result.dataset.create(<dsettag>, dsettype);
```

where *dsettype* is a data set type.



See Also

- [Defining Data Sets](#) in the *COMSOL Multiphysics User's Guide*
  - [Use of Data Sets](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*
-

## The Numerical Node Syntax

---

Use the numerical node to do numerical operation such as computing average, integration, maximum or minimum of a given expressions. You can also perform point and global evaluation.

To create a numerical node use the command:

```
model.result.numerical.create(<numtag>, numtype);
```

where *numtype* is the numerical type.



See Also

For a list of the syntax of the numerical results type available, see [About Results Commands](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*.

---

## Exporting Data

---

The `export` method allows the user to generate an animation or to export data to an external file (ASCII format).

### ANIMATION EXPORT

You can define an animation as two different types: a movie or an image sequence. The movie generates file formats such as GIF (.gif), AVI (.avi), or flash (.swf); the image sequence generates a sequence of images.

To generate an animation, add an Animation node to the `export` method:

```
model.result.export.create(<animtag>, 'Animation');
```

To change the animation type use the 'type' property:

```
model.result.export(<animtag>).set('type', type);
```

where *type* is either 'imageseq' or 'movie'.

To set the filename and run the animation use the following commands:

```
model.result.export(<animtag>).set(typefilename, <filename>);  
model.result.export(<animtag>).run;
```

With *typefilename* depending on the type of animation export: 'imagefilename' for an image sequence, 'giffilename' for a gif animation, 'flashfilename' for a flash animation, and 'avifilename' for an avi animation.

For a movie type it is possible to change the number of frames per second with the command:

```
model.result.export(<animtag>).set('fps', <fps_number>);
```

where *<fps\_number>* is a positive integer that correspond to the number of frame per second to use.

For all animation type you can modify the width and the height of the plot:

```
model.result.export(<animtag>).set('width', <width_px>);  
model.result.export(<animtag>).set('height', <height_px>);
```

where *<width\_px>* and *<height\_px>* are the width and height size (in pixels) respectively to use for the animation.

## DATA EXPORT

In order to extract data value to an ASCII file, create a Data node to the export method:

```
model.result.export.create(<datatag>, 'Data');
```

Set the expression *expr* and the file name *filename*, and run the export:

```
model.result.export(<datatag>).setIndex('expr', <expr>, 0);  
model.result.export(<datatag>).set('filename', <filename>);  
model.result.export(<datatag>).run;
```

Set the export data format with the struct property:

```
model.result.export(<datatag>).set('struct', datastruct);
```

where *datastruct* can be set to 'spreadsheet' or 'sectionwise':

The default data structure is the spreadsheet format defined as below:

```
% Model:                filename.mph  
% Version:              COMSOL 4.3.0.133  
% Date:                 May 1 2012, 11:17  
% Dimension:            2  
% Nodes:                1272  
% Expressions:          20  
% Description:  
% x      y      data  
x1      y1      data1  
x2      y2      data2
```

In case of multiple solution fields (as for a parametric, transient, or eigenvalue analysis) extra columns are added corresponding to solution data at each parameter, time step, or eigenvalue.

The section wise e format is as below:

```
% Model:                filename.mph
% Version:               COMSOL 4.3.0.133
% Date:                  May 1 2012, 11:28
% Dimension:             2
% Nodes:                 1272
% Elements:              424
% Expressions:           20
% Description:
% Coordinates
x1      y1
x2      y2
...
% Elements (triangles)
node11  node12  node13
node21  node22  node23
...
% Data
data1
data2
...
```

where  $node_{ij}$  is the  $j$ th node of the  $i$ th element.

### ANIMATION PLAYER

For transient and parametric study you can generate animation player to create interactive animations. The player display the figure on a server window. Make sure that you have started COMSOL with MATLAB with the graphics mode to enable plot on server.



To learn how to start COMSOL with MATLAB with the graphics mode, see the *COMSOL Multiphysics Installation and Operations Guide*.

---

To create a player feature node to the model enter the command:

```
model.result.export.create(<playtag>, 'Player');
```

You need then to associated the player with an existing plot group, this is done with the command:

```
model.result.export(<playtag>).set('plotgroup', <pgtag>);
```

with  $\langle pgtag \rangle$  the tag of the plot group to be used in the player.

Set the frame number you want to visualize with the

```
command:model.result.export(<playtag>).set('showframe', <framenum>);
```

where *<frameum>* is a positive integer value that corresponds to the frame number.

You can also specify the maximum number of frame to generate the player with the command:

```
model.result.export(<playtag>).set('maxframe', <maxnum>);
```

where *<maxnum>* is a positive integer value that corresponds to the maximum number of frame to generate the player.

You can display the frame with the command:

```
model.result.export(<playtag>).run;
```



## Working With Models

This section introduces you to the functionality available for LiveLink for MATLAB such as the wrapper functions or the MATLAB tools that can be used combined with a COMSOL model object. In this chapter:

- [Using MATLAB Variables in Model Settings](#)
- [Extracting Results](#)
- [Running Models in Loop](#)
- [Running Models in Batch Mode](#)
- [Extracting System Matrices](#)
- [Extracting Solution Information and Solution Vector](#)
- [Retrieving Xmesh Information](#)
- [Navigating the Model](#)
- [Handling Errors And Warnings](#)
- [Improving Performance for Large Models](#)
- [Creating Custom GUI](#)
- [COMSOL 3.5a Compatibility](#)

# Using MATLAB Variables in Model Settings

LiveLink for MATLAB allows you to define the model properties with MATLAB variables or MATLAB M-function.

In this section:

- [The Set and SetIndex Methods](#)
- [Using MATLAB Function To Define Model Properties](#)

## *The Set and SetIndex Methods*

---

You can use MATLAB variable to set properties of your COMSOL model. Use the `set` or `setIndex` methods to pass the variable value from MATLAB to the COMSOL model.

### **THE SET METHODS**

Use the `set` method to assign parameter/properties value. All assignments return the parameter object, which means that assignment methods can be appended to each other.

The basic method for assignments is:

```
something.set(property, <value>);
```

The *name* argument is a string with the name of the parameter/property. The <value> argument can be of different types, from which ones MATLAB integer/double array variable.

When using a MATLAB variable make sure that the value correspond to the model unit system. You can also let COMSOL to take care of the unit conversation, in this case convert the MATLAB integer/double variable to a string variable and use the `set` method as:

```
something.set(property, [num2str(<value>)'[unit]']);
```

where is the *unit* you want to set the value property.

## THE SETINDEX METHODS

Use the `setIndex` methods to assign values to specific indices (0-based) in array or matrix property. All assignment methods return the parameter object, which means that assignment methods can be appended to each other.

```
something.setIndex(property, <value>, <index>);
```

The *name* argument is a string with the name of the property. <value> is the value to set the property, which can be a MATLAB variable value. <index> is the index in the property table.

When using a MATLAB variable make sure that the value correspond to the model unit system. You can also let COMSOL to take care of the unit conversation, in this case convert the MATLAB integer/double variable to a string variable and use the set method as:

```
something.setIndex(property, [num2str(<value>)'[unit]'], <index>);
```

where is the *unit* you want to set the value property.

### *Using MATLAB Function To Define Model Properties*

---

Use MATLAB function to define the model property. The function can either be declared within the model object or called at the MATLAB prompt.

## CALLING MATLAB FUNCTION WITHIN THE COMSOL MODEL OBJECT

LiveLink for MATLAB offers to the user the possibility to declare a MATLAB M-function directly from within the COMSOL model object. This is typically the case if you want to call MATLAB M-function from the COMSOL Desktop. The function being declared within the model object it accepts as arguments any parameters, variable or expressions defined in the COMSOL model object. However if you want to use variable defined at the MATLAB prompt you will have to transfer them first in the COMSOL model, as a parameter for instance (see how to set MATLAB variable in the COMSOL model in [The Set and SetIndex Methods](#)).

The function is evaluated at anytime the model needs to be updated.

The model object cannot be called as input argument of the M-function.



[Calling MATLAB Function](#)

### CALLING MATLAB FUNCTION AT THE MATLAB PROMPT

Use MATLAB function to a define model property with the `set` method:

```
something.set(property, myfun(<arg>));
```

where `myfun()` is a M-function defined in MATLAB.

The function is called only when the command is executed at the MATLAB prompt. The argument of the function `<arg>` call be MATLAB variables. To include an expression value from the model object, you first need to extract it at the MATLAB prompt, as it is described in [Extracting Results](#).

The function `myfun()` accepts the model object `model` as input argument as any MATLAB variables.

# Extracting Results

Use LiveLink for MATLAB to extract at the MATLAB prompt the data computed in the COMSOL model. A suite of wrapper function is available to perform evaluation operations at the MATLAB prompt.

In this section:

- [Extracting Data From Tables](#)
- [Extracting Data at Node Points](#)
- [Extracting Data at Arbitrary Points](#)
- [Evaluating an Expression at Geometry Vertices](#)
- [Evaluating an Integral](#)
- [Evaluating a Global Expression](#)
- [Evaluating a Global Matrix](#)
- [Evaluating a Maximum of Expression](#)
- [Evaluating an Expression Average](#)
- [Evaluating a Minimum of Expression](#)

## *Extracting Data From Tables*

---

In the table node you can store the data evaluated with the COMSOL built-in evaluation method, see [The Numerical Node Syntax](#).

You can extract the data stored in the table with the tag `tbltag` with the command:

```
tabl = model.result.table(<tbltag>).getTableData(fullprecision);
```

This create a `java.lang.string` array `tabl` that contains the data of the table `tbltag`. The size of the array `table` is  $N \times 1$  where  $N$  is the number of the table line. `fullprecision` is a Boolean expression to get the data with full precision.

To get the value of a specific row of the table, enter:

```
tablline = tabl(<i>);
```

where `<i>` is the number of the desired row. The variable `tablline` is a  $M \times 1$  `java.lang.string` array where  $M$  is the number of row in the table.

You can obtain the table header with the command:

```
header = model.result.table(<tbltag>).getColumnHeaders;
```

Where header is a `Mx1 java.lang.string` array, with  $M$  the number of the table row.

To get the table as a double array, use the methods `getReal` and `getImag` as described below:

```
tblReal = model.result.table(<tbltag>).getReal;  
tblImag = model.result.table(<tbltag>).getImag;
```

`tblReal` and `tblImag` are available at the MATLAB workspace as  $N \times M$  arrays where  $N$  is the number of line and  $M$  the number of row of the table.

To get the table data at a specific row use the commands:

```
tblRealRow = model.result.table(<tbltag>).getRealRow(<i>);  
tblImagRow = model.result.table(<tbltag>).getImagRow(<i>);
```

`tblRealRow` and `tblImagRow` are available at the MATLAB workspace as  $N \times 1$  array where  $N$  is the number of row of the table.



See Also

[Table](#) in the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*

---



Important

The links to features described outside of this user guide do not work in the PDF, only from within the online help.

---



Tip

To locate and search all the documentation for this information, in COMSOL, select **Help>Documentation** from the main menu and either enter a search term or look under a specific module in the documentation tree.

---

### *Extracting Data at Node Points*

---

The function `mpheval` lets you evaluate expressions on nodes points. The function output is available as a structure in the MATLAB workspace.

Call the function `mpheval` as in the command below:

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>);
```

where *<expr>* is a cell array of string that list the COMSOL expression to evaluate. The expression has to be defined in COMSOL model object to be evaluated.

pd is a structure with the following fields:

- *expr* contains the list of names of the expressions evaluated with *mpheval*.
- *d1* contains the value of the expression evaluated. The columns in the data value fields correspond to node point coordinates in columns in the field *p*. In case of several expressions are evaluated in *mpheval*, additional field *d2*, *d3*,... are available.
- *p* contains the node point coordinates information. The number of rows in *p* is the number of space dimensions.
- *t* contains the indices to columns in *pd.p* of a simplex mesh; each column in *pd.t* represents a simplex.
- *ve* contains the indices to mesh elements for each node points.
- *unit* contains the list of the unit for each evaluated expressions.

#### **SPECIFY THE EVALUATION DATA**

The function *mpheval* supports the following properties to set the data of the evaluation to perform:

- *dataset*, specify the solution data set to use in the evaluation.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'dataset', <dsettag>);
```

*<dsettag>* is the tag of a solution data set. The default value consist in the current solution data set of the model. Selection data set such as Cut point, Cut line, Edge, Surface, etc... are not supported.

- *selection*, specify the domain selection for evaluation.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'selection', <seltag>);
```

where *<seltag>* is the tag of a selection node to use for the data evaluation.

*<seltag>* can also be a positive integer array that corresponds to the domain index list. The default selection consists in all domains where the expression is defined. If the evaluation point does not belong to the specified domain selection the output value is NaN.

- *edim*, specify the element dimension for evaluation.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'edim', edim);
```

where *edim* is either a string or a positive integer such as: 'point' (0), 'edge' (1), 'boundary' (2) or 'domain' (3). The default settings correspond to the model

geometry space dimension. When using a lower space dimension value, make sure that the evaluation point coordinates dimension has the same size.



Note

Use the function `mphevalpoint` to evaluate expressions at geometric points (see [Evaluating an Expression at Geometry Vertices](#)).

- `solnum`, specify the inner solution number for data evaluation. Inner solutions are generated for the following analysis type: time domain, frequency domain, eigenvalue or stationary with continuation parameters.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'solnum', <solnum>);
```

where `<solnum>` is an integer array corresponding to the inner solution index. `<solnum>` can also be 'end' to evaluate the expression for the last inner solution. By default the evaluation is done using the last inner solution.

- `outersolnum`, specify the outer solution number for data evaluation. Outer solutions are generated with parametric sweep.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'outersolnum', <outersolnum>);
```

where `<outersolnum>` is a positive integer corresponding to the outer solution index. The default settings uses the first outer solution for the data evaluation.

- To evaluate the expression data at a specific time use the property `t`:

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 't', <time>);
```

where `<time>` is a double array. The default value correspond to all the stored time step.

- `phase`, specify the phase in degrees.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'phase', <phase>);
```

where `<phase>` is a double value.

- `pattern`, use Gauss point evaluation.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'pattern', 'gauss');
```

The default evaluation is performed on the Lagrange points.

#### OUTPUT FORMAT

The function `mpheval` returns in the MATLAB workspace a structure. You can specify other output data format.

To obtain only the data evaluation as a double array, you can set the property `dataonly` to `on`.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'dataonly', 'on');
```

Include the imaginary part in the data evaluation with the property `complexout`.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'complexout', 'on');
```

### **SPECIFY THE EVALUATION QUALITY**

Define function settings to specify the evaluation quality.

- `refine`, specify the element refinement for evaluation.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'refine', <refine>);
```

where `<refine>` is a positive integer. The default value is 1 which set the simplex mesh identical to the geometric mesh.

- `smooth`, specify the smoothing method to enforce continuity on discontinuous data evaluation.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'smooth', <smooth>);
```

where `<smooth>` is either `'none'`, `'everywhere'` or `'internal'` (default). Set the property to `none` to evaluate the data on elements independently, set the property to `everywhere` to apply the smoothing to the entire geometry and set the property to `internal` to smooth the quantity inside the geometry but no smoothing takes place across borders between domains with different settings. The output with same data and same coordinates are automatically merge, this means that the output size may differ depending on the smoothing method.

- `recover`, specify the accurate derivative recovery.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'recover', <recover>);
```

where `<recover>` is either `'ppr'`, `'pprint'` or `'off'` (default). Set the property to `ppr` to perform recovery inside domains, set the property to `pprint` to perform recovery inside domains. Because the accurate derivative processing takes processing time, the property is disabled by default.

### **OTHERS EVALUATION PROPERTY**

Use the property `complexfun` to not use complex-value functions with real inputs.

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'complexfun', 'off');
```

The default value use complex-value functions with real inputs.

Use the property `matherr` to return an error for undefined operations or expressions:

```
pd = mpheval(model, <expr>, 'matherr','on');
```

#### DISPLAY THE EXPRESSION IN FIGURE

You can display an expression evaluated with `mpheval` in an external figure with the function `mphplot`, see [Displaying The Results](#). The function `mphplot` only supports a MATLAB structure provided by `mpheval` as input.

### *Extracting Data at Arbitrary Points*

---

The function `mphinterp` evaluates at the MATLAB prompt the result at arbitrary points.

To evaluate an expression at specific point coordinates call the function `mphinterp` as in the command below:

```
[d1, ..., dn] = mphinterp(model,{'e1', ..., 'en'},'coord',<coord>);
```

where  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  are the COMSOL expressions to evaluate.  $\langle coord \rangle$  is a  $N \times M$  double array, with  $N$  the space dimension of the evaluation domain and  $M$  the number of evaluation point. The output  $d_1, \dots, d_n$  are a  $P \times M$  double array, where  $P$  is the length of the inner solution.

Alternatively you can specify the evaluation coordinates using a selection data set:

```
data = mphinterp(model, <expr>, 'dataset', <dsettag>);
```

where  $\langle dsettag \rangle$  is a selection data set tag defined in the model, for example, Cut point, Cut Plane, Revolve, and so forth.

#### SPECIFY THE EVALUATION DATA

The function `mphinterp` supports the following properties to set the data of the evaluation to perform:

- `dataset`, specify the solution data set to use in the evaluation.

```
data =  
mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'dataset',<dsettag>);
```

$\langle dsettag \rangle$  is the tag of a solution data set. The default value consist in the current solution data set of the model.

- `selection`, specify the domain selection for evaluation.

```
data =  
mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'selection',<seltag>);
```

where *<seltag>* is the tag of a selection node to use for the data evaluation.

*<seltag>* can also be a positive integer array that corresponds to the domain index list. The default selection consists in all domains where the expression is defined. If the evaluation point does not belong to the specified domain selection the output value is NaN.

- *edim*, specify the element dimension for evaluation.

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'edim',edim);
```

where *edim* is either a string or a positive integer such as: 'point' (0), 'edge' (1), 'boundary' (2) or 'domain' (3). The default settings correspond to the model geometry space dimension. When using a lower space dimension value, make sure that the evaluation point coordinates dimension has the same size.

- *ext*, specify extrapolation control value. This ensure you to return data for points that are outside the geometry.

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'ext',<ext>);
```

where *<ext>* is a double value. The default value is 0.1.

- *solnum*, specify the inner solution number for data evaluation. Inner solutions are generated for the following analysis type: time domain, frequency domain, eigenvalue or stationary with continuation parameters.

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'solnum',<solnum>);
```

where *<solnum>* is an integer array corresponding to the inner solution index.

*<solnum>* can also be 'end' to evaluate the expression for the last inner solution.

By default the evaluation is performed using the last inner solution.

- *outersolnum*, specify the outer solution number for data evaluation. Outer solutions are generated with parametric sweep.

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,...  
'outersolnum',<outersolnum>);
```

where *<outersolnum>* is a positive integer corresponding to the outer solution index. The default settings uses the first outer solution for the data evaluation.

- To evaluate the expression data at a specific time use the property *t*:

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'t',<time>);
```

where *<time>* is a double array. The default value correspond to all the stored time step.

- `phase`, specify the phase in degrees.

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'phase',<phase>);
```

where `<phase>` is a double value.

### OUTPUT FORMAT

The function `mphinterp` returns in the MATLAB workspace a double array. It also supports other output format.

To evaluate several expressions at once, make sure that you have defined as many output variables as there are expressions specified:

```
[d1, ..., dn] = mphinterp(model,{'e1', ..., 'en'},'coord',<coord>);
```

To extract the unit of the evaluated expression, you need to defined an extra output variable.

```
[data, unit] = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>);
```

with `unit` is a 1xN cell array where N is the number of expression to evaluate.

Include the imaginary part in the data evaluation with the property `complexout`.

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'complexout','on');
```

To return an error if the all evaluation points are outside the geometry, set the property `coorderr` to on:

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'coorderr','on');
```

By default the function return the value NaN.

### SPECIFY THE EVALUATION QUALITY

With the property `recover`, you can specify the accurate derivative recovery.

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'recover',<recover>);
```

where `recover` is either `'ppr'`, `'pprint'` or `'off'` (default). Set the property to `ppr` to perform recovery inside domains, set the property to `pprint` to perform recovery inside domains. Because the accurate derivative processing takes processing time, the property is disabled by default.

### OTHERS EVALUATION PROPERTY

Set the `unit` property to specify the unit of the evaluation.

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'unit',<unit>);
```

where `unit` is a cell array with the same size as `expr`.

Use the property `complexfun` to not use complex-value functions with real inputs.

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'complexfun','off');
```

The default value use complex-value functions with real inputs.

Use the property `matherr` to return an error for undefined operations or expressions:

```
data = mphinterp(model,<expr>,'coord',<coord>,'matherr','on');
```

### *Evaluating an Expression at Geometry Vertices*

---

The function `mphevalpoint` returns the result of a given expression evaluated at the geometry vertices.

```
[d1,...,dn] = mphevalpoint(model,{ 'e1',..., 'en' });
```

where  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  are the COMSOL expressions to evaluate. The output  $d_1, \dots, d_n$  is a  $N \times P$  double array, where  $N$  is the number of evaluation point and  $P$  the length of the inner solution.

#### **SPECIFY THE EVALUATION DATA**

The function `mphevalpoint` supports the following properties to set the data of the evaluation to perform:

- `dataset`, specify the solution data set to use in the evaluation.

```
data = mphevalpoint(model,<expr>,'dataset',<dsettag>);
```

`<dsettag>` is the tag of a solution data set. The default value consist in the current solution data set of the model.

- `selection`, specify the domain selection for evaluation.

```
data = mphevalpoint(model,<expr>,'selection',<seltag>);
```

where `<seltag>` is the tag of a selection node to use for the data evaluation.

`<seltag>` can also be a positive integer array that corresponds to the domain index list. The default selection consists in all domains where the expression is defined. If the evaluation point does not belong to the specified domain selection the output value is NaN.

- `solnum`, specify the inner solution number for data evaluation. Inner solutions are generated for the following analysis type: time domain, frequency domain, eigenvalue or stationary with continuation parameters.

```
data = mphevalpoint(model,<expr>,'solnum',<solnum>);
```

where *<solnum>* is an integer array corresponding to the inner solution index. *<solnum>* can also be 'end' to evaluate the expression for the last inner solution. By default the evaluation is done using the last inner solution.

- *outersolnum*, specify the outer solution number for data evaluation. Outer solutions are generated with parametric sweep.

```
data = mphevalpoint(model,<expr>,'outersolnum',<outersolnum>);
```

where *<outersolnum>* is a positive integer corresponding to the outer solution index. The default settings uses the first outer solution for the data evaluation.

- To evaluate the expression data at a specific time use the property *t*:

```
data = mphevalpoint(model,<expr>,'t', <time>);
```

where *<time>* is a double array. The default value correspond to all the stored time step.

Perform data series operation with the *dataserie*s property.

```
data = mphevalpoint(model,<expr>,'dataserie', dataserie);
```

where *dataserie* is either 'mean', 'int', 'max', 'min', 'rms', 'std' or 'var'. Depending on the property value *mphevalpoint* performs the following operations: mean, integral, maximum, minimum, root mean square, standard deviation or variance respectively.

When performing a minimum or maximum operation on the data series, you can specify to perform the operation using the real or the absolute value. Set the property *minmaxobj* to 'real' or 'abs' respectively.

```
data = mphevalpoint(model,<expr>,'dataserie', dataserie,...  
'minmaxobj', valuetype);
```

By default *valuetype* is 'real'.

## OUTPUT FORMAT

The function *mphevalpoint* supports other output formats.

To extract the unit of the evaluated expression, you need to define an extra output variable.

```
[data,unit] = mphevalpoint(model,<expr>);
```

with *unit* is a 1xN cell array where N is the number of expression to evaluate.

By default `mphevalpoint` returns the result `s` as a squeezed singleton. To get the full singleton set the `squeeze` property to `off`:

```
data = mphevalpoint(model,<expr>,'squeeze','off');
```

Set the property `matrix` to `off` to returns the data as a cell array instead of a double array.

```
data = mphevalpoint(model,<expr>,'matrix','off');
```

## *Evaluating an Integral*

---

Evaluate an integral of expression with the function `mphint2`.



The function `mphint` is now obsolete and will be removed in a future version of the software. If you are using this function in your code, you can now replace it by `mphint2`.

To evaluate the integral of the expression over the domain with the highest space domain dimension call the function `mphint2` as in the command below:

```
[d1,...,dn] = mphint2(model,'e1',...,'en'},edim);
```

where `e1, ..., en` are the COMSOL expression to integrate. The values `d1, ..., dn` are returned as a `1xP` double array, with `P` the length of inner parameters. `edim` is the integration dimension, it can be either `'line'`, `'surface'` or `'volume'` or integer value that specify the space dimension (1,2, or 3).

### **SPECIFY THE INTEGRATION DATA**

The function `mphint2` supports the following properties to set the data of the evaluation to perform:

- `dataset`, specify the solution data set to use in the integration.

```
data = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim,'dataset',<dsettag>);
```

`<dsettag>` is the tag of a solution data set. The default value consist in the current solution data set of the model.

- `selection`, specify the integration domain.

```
data = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim,'selection',<seltag>);
```

where `<seltag>` is the tag of a selection node to use for the data evaluation.

`<seltag>` can also be a positive integer array that corresponds to the domain index

list. The default selection consists in all domains where the expression is defined. If the evaluation point does not belong to the specified domain selection the output value is NaN.

- `solnum`, specify the inner solution number for data evaluation. Inner solutions are generated for the following analysis type: time domain, frequency domain, eigenvalue or stationary with continuation parameters.

```
data = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim,'solnum',<solnum>);
```

where `<solnum>` is an integer array corresponding to the inner solution index. *You can also set the property `solnum` to 'end' to evaluate the expression for the last inner solution. By default the evaluation is done using the last inner solution.*

- `outersolnum`, specify the outer solution number for data evaluation. Outer solutions are generated with parametric sweep.

```
data = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim,'outersolnum',<outersolnum>);
```

where `<outersolnum>` is a positive integer corresponding to the outer solution index. The default settings uses the first outer solution for the data evaluation.

- To evaluate the expression data at a specific time use the property `t`:

```
data = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim,'t',<time>);
```

where `<time>` is a double array. The default value correspond to all the stored time step.

## OUTPUT FORMAT

The function `mphint2` also supports other output format.

To extract the unit of the evaluated expression, you need to define an extra output variable.

```
[data,unit] = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim);
```

with `unit` is a 1xN cell array where N is the number of expression to evaluate.

By default `mphint2` returns the result `s` as a squeezed singleton. To get the full singleton set the `squeeze` property to `off`:

```
data = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim,'squeeze','off');
```

Set the property `matrix` to `off` to returns the data as a cell array instead of a double array.

```
data = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim,'matrix','off');
```

## SPECIFY THE INTEGRATION SETTINGS

You can specify integration settings such as integration method, integration order or axisymmetry assumption with the following property:

- `method`, specify the integration method, which can be either integration or summation.

```
data = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim,'method',method);
```

where `method` can be 'integration' or 'summation'. The default uses the appropriate method for the given expression.

- `intorder`, specify the integration order.

```
data = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim,'intorder',<order>);
```

where `order` is a positive integer. The default value is 4.

- `intsurface` or `intvolume`, compute surface or volume integral for axisymmetry model.

```
data = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim,'intsurface','on');
```

```
data = mphint2(model,<expr>,edim,'intvolume','on');
```

## *Evaluating a Global Expression*

---

Evaluate a global expression with the function `mphglobal`.

To evaluate a global expression at the MATLAB prompt call the function `mphglobal` as in the command below:

```
[d1,...,dn] = mphglobal(model,{'e1',...,'en'});
```

where `e1, ..., en` are the COMSOL global expressions to evaluate. The output values `d1, ..., dn` are returned as a Px1 double array, with P the length of inner parameters.

## SPECIFY THE EVALUATION DATA

The function `mphglobal` supports the following properties to set the data of the evaluation to perform:

- `dataset`, specify the solution data set to use in the evaluation.

```
data = mphglobal(model,<expr>,'dataset',<dsettag>);
```

`<dsettag>` is the tag of a solution data set. The default value consist in the current solution data set of the model.

- `solnum`, specify the inner solution number for data evaluation. Inner solutions are generated for the following analysis type: time domain, frequency domain, eigenvalue or stationary with continuation parameters.

```
data = mphglobal(model,<expr>,'solnum',<solnum>);
```

where `<solnum>` is an integer array corresponding to the inner solution index. You can also set the property `solnum` to 'end' to evaluate the expression for the last inner solution. By default the evaluation is done using the last inner solution.

- `outersolnum`, specify the outer solution number for data evaluation. Outer solutions are generated with parametric sweep.

```
data = mphglobal(model,<expr>,'outersolnum',<outersolnum>);
```

where `<outersolnum>` is a positive integer corresponding to the outer solution index. The default settings uses the first outer solution for the data evaluation.

- To evaluate the expression data at a specific time use the property `t`:

```
data = mphglobal(model,<expr>,'t',<time>);
```

where `<time>` is a double array. The default value correspond to all the stored time step.

- `phase`, specify the phase in degrees.

```
data = mphglobal(model,<expr>,'phase',<phase>);
```

where `<phase>` is a double value.

### OUTPUT FORMAT

The function `mphglobal` also supports other output format.

To extract the unit of the evaluated expression, you need to define an extra output variable.

```
[data,unit] = mphglobal(model,<expr>);
```

with `unit` is a 1xN cell array where N is the number of expression to evaluate.

Include the imaginary part in the data evaluation with the property `complexout`.

```
data = mphglobal(model,<expr>,'complexout','on');
```

### OTHERS EVALUATION PROPERTY

Set the `unit` property to specify the unit of the evaluation.

```
data = mphglobal(model,<expr>,'unit',<unit>);
```

where `<unit>` is a cell array with the same length as `<expr>`.

Use the property `complexfun` to not use complex-value functions with real inputs.

```
data = mphglobal(model,<expr>,'complexfun','off');
```

The default value use complex-value functions with real inputs.

Use the property `matherr` to return an error for undefined operations or expressions:

```
data = mphglobal(model,<expr>,'matherr','on');
```

### *Evaluating a Global Matrix*

---

`mphevalglobalmatrix` evaluates the matrix variable such as S-parameters in a model with several ports activated as a parametric sweep and a frequency-domain study.

To evaluate the global matrix associated to the expression `<expr>`, execute the command below:

```
M = mphevalglobalmatrix(model,<expr>);
```

The output data `M` is a `NxN` double array, where `N` is the number of port boundary condition set in the model.

#### **SPECIFY THE EVALUATION DATA**

Set the solution data set for evaluation with the property `dataset`:

```
data = mphevalglobalmatrix(model,<expr>,'dataset',<dsettag>);
```

where `<dsettag>` is the tag of a solution data.

### *Evaluating a Maximum of Expression*

---

Use the function `mphmax` to evaluate the maximum of a given expression over inner solution list.

To evaluate the maximum of the COMSOL expressions `e1, . . . , en` you can use the command `mphmax` as below:

```
[d1, . . . , dn] = mphmax(model,{'e1', . . . , 'en'},edim);
```

where `edim` is a string to define the element entity dimension: `'volume'`, `'surface'` or `'line'`. `edim` can also be set as positive integer value (3, 2 or 1 respectively). The output variables `d1, . . . , dn` are `NxP` array where `N` is the number of inner solution and `P` the number of outer solution.

## SPECIFY THE EVALUATION DATA

The function `mphmax` supports the following properties to set the data of the evaluation to perform:

- `dataset`, specify the solution data set to use in the evaluation.  

```
data = mphmax(model, <expr>, edim, 'dataset', <dsettag>);
```

`<dsettag>` is the tag of a solution data set. The default value consist in the current solution data set of the model.
- `selection`, specify the domain selection for evaluation.  

```
data = mphmax(model, <expr>, edim, 'selection', <seltag>);
```

where `<seltag>` is the tag of a selection node to use for the data evaluation.  
`<seltag>` can also be a positive integer array that corresponds to the domain index list. The default selection consists in all domains where the expression is defined. If the evaluation point does not belong to the specified domain selection the output value is NaN.
- `solnum`, specify the inner solution number for data evaluation. Inner solutions are generated for the following analysis type: time domain, frequency domain, eigenvalue or stationary with continuation parameters.  

```
data = mphmax(model, <expr>, edim, 'solnum', <solnum>);
```

where `<solnum>` is an integer array corresponding to the inner solution index. You can also set the property `solnum` to 'end' to evaluate the expression for the last inner solution. By default the evaluation is done using the last inner solution.
- `outersolnum`, specify the outer solution number for data evaluation. Outer solutions are generated with parametric sweep.  

```
data = mphmax(model, <expr>, edim, 'outersolnum', <outersolnum>);
```

where `<outersolnum>` is a positive integer array corresponding to the outer solution index. The default settings uses the first outer solution for the data evaluation.
- To evaluate the expression data at a specific time use the property `t`:  

```
data = mphmax(model, <expr>, edim, 't', <time>);
```

where `<time>` is a double array. The default value correspond to all the stored time step.

## OUTPUT FORMAT

The function `mphmax` also supports other output format.

To extract the unit of the evaluated expression, you need to define an extra output variable.

```
[data,unit] = mphmax(model,<expr>,edim);
```

with `unit` is a 1xN cell array where N is the number of expression to evaluate.

By default `mphmax` returns the results as a squeezed singleton. To get the full singleton set the `squeeze` property to `off`:

```
data = mphmax(model,<expr>,edim,'squeeze','off');
```

Set the property `matrix` to `off` to returns the data as a cell array instead of a double array.

```
data = mphmax(model,<expr>,edim,'matrix','off');
```

### *Evaluating an Expression Average*

---

Use the function `mphmean` to evaluate the average of a given expression over inner solution list.

To evaluate the mean of the COMSOL expressions  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  you can use the command `mphmean` as below:

```
[d1,...,dn] = mphmean(model,{'e1',...,'en'},edim);
```

where `edim` is a string to define the element entity dimension: 'volume', 'surface' or 'line'. `edim` can also be set as positive integer value (3, 2 or 1 respectively). The output variables `d1, \dots, dn` are NxP array where N is the number of inner solution and P the number of outer solution.

#### **SPECIFY THE EVALUATION DATA**

The function `mphmean` supports the following properties to set the data of the evaluation to perform:

- **dataset**, specify the solution data set to use in the evaluation.

```
data = mphmean(model,<expr>,edim,'dataset',<dsettag>);
```

`<dsettag>` is the tag of a solution data set. The default value consist in the current solution data set of the model.

- **selection**, specify the domain selection for evaluation.

```
data = mphmean(model,<expr>,edim,'selection',<seltag>);
```

where *<seltag>* is the tag of a selection node to use for the data evaluation.

*<seltag>* can also be a positive integer array that corresponds to the domain index list. The default selection consists in all domains where the expression is defined. If the evaluation point does not belong to the specified domain selection the output value is NaN.

- *solnum*, specify the inner solution number for data evaluation. Inner solutions are generated for the following analysis type: time domain, frequency domain, eigenvalue or stationary with continuation parameters.

```
data = mphmean(model,<expr>,edim,'solnum',<solnum>);
```

where *<solnum>* is an integer array corresponding to the inner solution index. You can also set the property *solnum* to 'end' to evaluate the expression for the last inner solution. By default the evaluation is done using the last inner solution.

- *outersolnum*, specify the outer solution number for data evaluation. Outer solutions are generated with parametric sweep.

```
data = mphmean(model,<expr>,edim,'outersolnum',<outersolnum>);
```

where *<outersolnum>* is a positive integer array corresponding to the outer solution index. The default settings uses the first outer solution for the data evaluation.

- To evaluate the expression data at a specific time use the property *t*:

```
data = mphmean(model,<expr>,edim,'t',<time>);
```

where *<time>* is a double array. The default value correspond to all the stored time step.

## OUTPUT FORMAT

The function `mphmean` also supports other output format.

To extract the unit of the evaluated expression, you need to define an extra output variable.

```
[data,unit] = mphmean(model,<expr>,edim);
```

with *unit* is a 1xN cell array where N is the number of expression to evaluate.

By default `mphmean` returns the result *s* as a squeezed singleton. To get the full singleton set the `squeeze` property to `off`:

```
data = mphmean(model,<expr>,edim,'squeeze','off');
```

Set the property `matrix` to `off` to return the data as a cell array instead of a double array.

```
data = mphmean(model,<expr>,edim,'matrix','off');
```

### **SPECIFY THE INTEGRATION SETTINGS**

You can specify integration settings such as integration method or integration order to perform the mean operation. The available integration properties are:

- `method`, specify the integration method, which can be either integration or summation.

```
data = mphmean(model,<expr>,edim,'method',method);
```

where `method` can be 'integration' or 'summation'. The default uses the appropriate method for the given expression.

- `intorder`, specify the integration order.

```
data = mphmean(model,<expr>,edim,'intorder',<order>);
```

where `<order>` is a positive integer. The default value is 4.

### *Evaluating a Minimum of Expression*

---

Use the function `mphmin` to evaluate the minimum of a given expression over an inner solution list.

To evaluate the minimum of the COMSOL expressions  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  you can use the command `mphmin` as below:

```
[d1,...,dn] = mphmin(model,{'e1',...,'en'},edim);
```

where `edim` is a string to define the element entity dimension: 'volume', 'surface' or 'line'. `edim` can also be set as positive integer value (3, 2, or 1 respectively). The output variables `d1, \dots, dn` are  $N \times P$  arrays where  $N$  is the number of inner solutions and  $P$  the number of outer solutions.

### **SPECIFY THE EVALUATION DATA**

The function `mphmin` supports the following properties to set the data of the evaluation to perform:

- `dataset`, specify the solution data set to use in the evaluation.

```
data = mphmin(model,<expr>,edim,'dataset',<dsettag>);
```

*<dsettag>* is the tag of a solution data set. The default value consist in the current solution data set of the model.

- *selection*, specify the domain selection for evaluation.

```
data = mphmin(model,<expr>,edim,'selection',<seltag>);
```

where *<seltag>* is the tag of a selection node to use for the data evaluation.

*<seltag>* can also be a positive integer array that corresponds to the domain index list. The default selection consists in all domains where the expression is defined. If the evaluation point does not belong to the specified domain selection the output value is NaN.

- *solnum*, specify the inner solution number for data evaluation. Inner solutions are generated for the following analysis type: time domain, frequency domain, eigenvalue or stationary with continuation parameters.

```
data = mphmin(model,<expr>,edim,'solnum',<solnum>);
```

where *<solnum>* is an integer array corresponding to the inner solution index. You can also set the property *solnum* to 'end' to evaluate the expression for the last inner solution. By default the evaluation is done using the last inner solution.

- *outersolnum*, specify the outer solution number for data evaluation. Outer solutions are generated with parametric sweep.

```
data = mphmin(model,<expr>,edim,'outersolnum',<outersolnum>);
```

where *<outersolnum>* is a positive integer array corresponding to the outer solution index. The default settings uses the first outer solution for the data evaluation.

- To evaluate the expression data at a specific time use the property *t*:

```
data = mphmin(model,<expr>,edim,'t',<time>);
```

where *<time>* is a double array. The default value correspond to all the stored time step.

## OUTPUT FORMAT

The function `mphmin` also supports other output format.

To extract the unit of the evaluated expression, you need to define an extra output variable.

```
[data,unit] = mphmin(model,<expr>,edim);
```

with *unit* is a 1xN cell array where N is the number of expression to evaluate.

By default `mphmin` returns the results as a squeezed singleton. To get the full singleton set the `squeeze` property to `off`:

```
data = mphmin(model,<expr>,edim,'squeeze','off');
```

Set the property `matrix` to `off` to return the data as a cell array instead of a double array.

```
data = mphmin(model,<expr>,edim,'matrix','off');
```

# Running Models in Loop

A common use of LiveLink for MATLAB is to run models in a loop. As MATLAB offers several functionalities to run loops including conditional statements and error handling, you will see how all these functionality can be used together with the COMSOL Java API syntax to run COMSOL model in loop.

In this section:

- [The Parametric Sweep Node](#)
- [Running Model in a Loop Using the MATLAB Tools](#)

## *The Parametric Sweep Node*

---

Using the COMSOL Java API you can run model in loop. See the section [Adding a Parametric Sweep](#) in the section *Building Models*.

Note that using the COMSOL built-in function to run models in loop, you can ensure the model to be saved automatically at each iteration. COMSOL also offers tool to take advantage of clusters architecture.

## *Running Model in a Loop Using the MATLAB Tools*

---

Use MATLAB tools such as **for** or **while** statements to run your model in a loop. The COMSOL API Java commands can be included in scripts using MATLAB commands. To evaluate such a script you need to have MATLAB connected to a COMSOL server.

To run a model in a loop you do not need to run the entire model M-file commands from scratch. It is recommended to load a COMSOL model in MATLAB and run the loop only over the desired operations. The COMSOL model is automatically updated when running the study node.

You can run a model M-file from scratch if you need, for instance, to generate the geometry in loop.



Note

The model run inside a MATLAB loop is not automatically saved. Make sure to save the model at each iteration. Use the command `mphsave` to save your model object. If you are not interested in saving the entire model object at each iteration, you can extract data and store it in the MATLAB workspace. See [Extracting Results](#) to find the most suitable function to your model.

When running loops in MATLAB, the iteration progress is entirely taking care by MATLAB, only the COMSOL commands are executed in the COMSOL server. You can generate as many nested loops your modeling requires and combine the loop with other MATLAB conditional statement such as `if` and `switch` or error handling statement such as `try/catch`.

Break the loop with `break` or jump to the next loop iteration with `continue`.

Refer to MATLAB help to get more information about the MATLAB commands `for`, `while`, `if`, `switch`, `try/catch`, `break`, and `continue`.

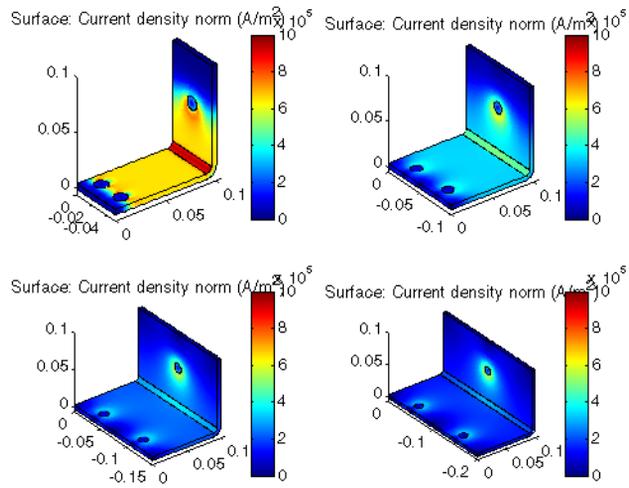
#### EXAMPLE: GEOMETRY PARAMETRIZATION

In this example you will see how to proceed to geometry parametrization using a MATLAB `for` loop. The model consists in the busbar example available in the COMSOL Multiphysics model, see the *Introduction to COMSOL Multiphysics*.

In this example the loop iterate over the busbar width `wbb`. The solution for each parameter value is displayed using the second plot group defined in the COMSOL model. All the results are plotted in the same figure.

```
model = mphload('busbar');
w = [5e-2 10e-2 15e-2 20e-2];
for i = 1:4
    model.param.set('wbb',w(i));
    model.study('std1').run;
    subplot(2,2,i)
    mphplot(model,'pg2','rangenum',1)
end
```

The resulting figure is shown below:



# Running Models in Batch Mode

Use LiveLink for MATLAB to models in batch mode. At the MATLAB prompt you can execute commands to set-up the batch job using the COMSOL built-in method or run custom scripts directly from a command line. In this section:

- [The Batch Node](#)
- [Running A COMSOL M-file In Batch Mode](#)
- [Running A COMSOL M-file In Batch Mode Without Display](#)

## *The Batch Node*

---

Using the COMSOL Java API you can run model in loop. See [The Batch Node](#).

## *Running A COMSOL M-file In Batch Mode*

---

To run in batch a M-script that runs COMSOL Model, start COMSOL with MATLAB at a terminal window with the following command:

```
comsol server matlab myscript
```

where `myscript` is the M-script, saved as `myscript.m`, that contains the operation to run at the MATLAB prompt.

The COMSOL does not automatically save the model. You need to make sure that the model is saved before the end of the execution of the script. See [Loading and Saving a Model](#).

You can also run the script in batch without the MATLAB desktop and the MATLAB splash. Enter the command below:

```
comsol server matlab myscript -nodesktop -mInosplash
```

Running COMSOL with MATLAB in batch mode as described in this chapter requires that you have xterm installed on your machine. If this is not the case see [Running A COMSOL M-file In Batch Mode Without Display](#).

## *Running A COMSOL M-file In Batch Mode Without Display*

---

COMSOL with MATLAB requires that xterm is installed on the machine. If this is not the case as it be for computation server, a workaround is to connect manually MATLAB to a COMSOL server with the function `mphstart`.

The steps below describe how to follow to run a M-script that run COMSOL model

- 1 In a system terminal prompt start a comsol server with the command:

```
comsol server &
```

- 2 In the same terminal window change the path to the COMSOL installation directory:

```
cd COMSOL_path/mli
```

- 3 From that location, start MATLAB without display and run the `mphstart` function in order to connect MATLAB to COMSOL:

```
matlab -nodesktop -mInosplash -r "mphstart; myscript"
```

You can get more information about how to connect MATLAB to a COMSOL server in [Starting COMSOL with MATLAB on Windows / Mac OSX / Linux](#).

# Extracting System Matrices

In this section:

- [Extracting System Matrices](#)
- [Extracting State-Space Matrices](#)

## *Extracting System Matrices*

---

Extract the matrices of the COMSOL linearized system with the function `mphmatrix`. To call the function `mphmatrix` you need to specify solver node and the list of the system matrices to extract:

```
str = mphmatrix(model, <soltag>, 'out', out);
```

where `<soltag>` is the tag of the solver node used to assemble the system matrices and `out` a cell array containing the list of the matrices to evaluate. The output data `str` returned by `mphmatrix` is a MATLAB structure whose fields correspond to the assembled system matrices.

The system matrices that can be extracted with `mphmatrix` is listed in the table below:

EXPRESSION	DESCRIPTION
K	Stiffness matrix
L	Load vector
M	Constraint vector
N	Constraint Jacobian
D	Damping matrix
E	Mass matrix
NF	Constraint force Jacobian
NP	Optimization constraint Jacobian (*)
MP	Optimization constraint vector (*)
MLB	Lower bound constraint vector (*)
MUB	Upper bound constraint vector (*)
Kc	Eliminated stiffness matrix
Lc	Eliminated load vector
Dc	Eliminated damping matrix

EXPRESSION	DESCRIPTION
Ec	Eliminated mass matrix
Null	Constraint null-space basis
Nullf	Constraint force null-space matrix
ud	Particular solution ud
uscale	Scale vector

(\*) Requires the Optimization Module.

### SELECTING LINEARIZATION POINT

The default selection of linearization point for the system matrix assembly consists in the current solution of the solver node associated to the assembly.

If you do not specify the linearization point when calling `mphmatrix`, COMSOL automatically runs the entire solver configuration before assembling and extracting the matrices.

You can save time during the evaluation by setting manually the linearization point. Use the `initmethod` property as in the command below:

```
str = mphmatrix(model, <soltag>, 'out', out, 'initmethod', method);
```

where `method` corresponds to the type of linearization point: the initial value expression ('init') or a solution ('sol').

You can set which solution to use for the linearization point with the property `initsol`:

```
str = mphmatrix(model, <soltag>, 'out', out, 'initsol', <initsoltag>);
```

where `<initsoltag>` is the solver tag to use for linearization point. You can also set the `initsol` property to 'zero', which correspond to use a null solution vector as linearization point. The default consists in the current solver node where the assemble node is associated.

For continuation, time-dependent or eigenvalue analysis you can set which solution number to use as linearization point. Use the `solnum` property as indicated below:

```
str = mphmatrix(model, <soltag>, 'out', out, 'solnum', <solnum>);
```

where `<solnum>` is an integer value corresponding to the solution number. The default value consist in the last solution number available with the current solver configuration.

## EXAMPLE

The following example illustrates how to use the `mphmatrix` command to extract eliminated system matrices of a stationary analysis and linear matrix system at the MATLAB prompt.

The model consists in a linear heat transfer problem solved on a unit square with a  $1e5$  W/m<sup>2</sup> surface heat source and temperature constraint. Only one quarter of the geometry is represented in the model. For simplification reason, the mesh is made of 4 quad elements.

The commands below set the COMSOL model object:

```
model = ModelUtil.create('Model');

geom1 = model.geom.create('geom1', 2);
geom1.feature.create('sq1', 'Square');
geom1.run;

mat1 = model.material.create('mat1');
def = mat1.materialModel('def');
def.set('thermalconductivity', {'4e2'});

ht = model.physics.create('ht', 'HeatTransfer', 'geom1');
hs1 = ht.feature.create('hs1', 'HeatSource', 2);
hs1.selection.set(1);
hs1.set('Q', 1, '1e5');

temp1 = ht.feature.create('temp1', 'TemperatureBoundary', 1);
temp1.selection.set([1 2]);

mesh1 = model.mesh.create('mesh1', 'geom1');
dis1 = mesh1.feature.create('dis1', 'Distribution');
dis1.selection.set([1 2]);
dis1.set('numelem', '2');
mesh1.feature.create('map1', 'Map');

std1 = model.study.create('std1');
std1.feature.create('stat', 'Stationary');
std1.run;
```

To extract the solution vector of the computed solution, run the function `mphgetu` as in the command below:

```
U = mphgetu(model);
```

To assemble and extract the eliminated stiffness matrix and the eliminated load vector, you need to set the linearization point to the initial value expression, type:

```
MA = mphmatrix(model, 'sol1', ...
```

```
'Out', {'Kc','Lc','Null','ud','uscale'},...
'initmethod','init');
```

Solve for the eliminated solution vector using the extracted eliminated system:

```
Uc = MA.Null*(MA.Kc\MA.Lc);
```

Combine the eliminated solution vector and the particular vector:

```
U0 = Uc+MA.ud;
```

Scale back the solution vector:

```
U1 = (1+U0).*MA.uscale;
```

Now compare both solution vector  $U$  and  $U1$  computed by COMSOL and by the matrix operation respectively.

### *Extracting State-Space Matrices*

---

Use state-space export to create a linearized state-space model corresponding to a COMSOL Multiphysics model. You can export the matrices of the state-space form directly to the MATLAB workspace with the command `mphstate`.

#### **THE STATE-SPACE SYSTEM**

A state-space system is the mathematical representation of a physical model. The system consistent in an ODE linking input, output and state-space variables. A dynamic system can be represented with the following system:

$$\begin{cases} \frac{dx}{dt} = Ax + Bu \\ y = Cx + Du \end{cases}$$

An alternative representation of the dynamic system is:

$$\begin{aligned} Mc\dot{x} &= McAx + McBu \\ y &= Cx + Du \end{aligned}$$

This form is more suitable for large systems because the matrices  $M_C$  and  $M_A$  usually become much more sparse than  $A$ .

If the mass matrix  $M_C$  is small, it is possible to approximate the dynamic state-space model with a static model, where  $M_C=0$ :

$$y = (D-C(McA)^{-1}McB)u$$

Let *Null* be the PDE constraint null-space matrix and *ud* a particular solution fulfilling the constraints. The solution vector *U* for the PDE problem can then be written

$$U = \text{Null}x + ud + u0$$

where *u0* is the linearization point, which is the solution stored in the sequence once the state-space export feature is run.

### EXTRACT STATE-SPACE MATRICES

The function `mphstate` requires that you define the input and output variables and the list of the matrices you want to extract in the MATLAB workspace:

```
str = mphstate(model, <soltag>, 'input', <input>, ...
    'output', <output>, 'out', out);
```

where `<soltag>` is the tag of the solver node to use to assemble the system matrices listed in the cell array `out`. `<input>` and `<output>` are cell arrays containing the list of the input and output variables respectively.

The output data `str` returned by `mphstate` is a MATLAB structure whose fields correspond to the assembled system matrices.

The input variables need to be defined as parameters in the COMSOL model. The output variables are defined as domain point probes or global probes in the COMSOL model.

The system matrices that can be extracted with `mphstate` is listed in the table below:

EXPRESSION	DESCRIPTION
MA	McA matrix
MB	McB matrix
A	A matrix
B	B matrix
C	C matrix
D	D matrix
Mc	Mc matrix
Null	Null matrix
ud	ud vector
x0	x0 vector

To extract sparse matrices set the property `sparse` to on:

```
str = mphstate(model, <soltag>, 'input', <input>, ...  
             'output', <output>, 'out', out, 'sparse', 'on');
```

To keep the state-space feature node set the property `keepfeature` to on:

```
str = mphstate(model, <soltag>, 'input', <input>, ...  
             'output', <output>, 'out', out, 'keepfeature', 'on');
```

### SET LINEARIZATION POINT

`mphstate` uses linearization point to assemble the state-space matrices. The default linearization point consists in the current solution provided by the solver node which the state-space feature node is associated. If there is no solver associated to the solver configuration, a null solution vector is used as linearization point.



The linearization point needs to be a steady-state solution.

---

You can however manually select which linearization point to use. Use the `initmethod` property to select a linearization point:

```
str = mphstate(model, <soltag>, 'input', <input>, ...  
             'output', <output>, 'out', out, 'initmethod', method);
```

where `method` corresponds to the type of linearization point: the initial value expression ('`init`') or a solution ('`sol`').

You can set which solution to use for the linearization point with the property `initsol`:

```
str = mphstate(model, <soltag>, 'input', <input>, ...  
             'output', <output>, 'out', out, 'initsol', <initsoltag>);
```

where `<initsoltag>` is the solver tag to use for linearization point. You can also set the `initsol` property to '`zero`', which correspond to use a null solution vector as linearization point. The default consists in the current solver node where the assemble node is associated.

For continuation, time-dependent or eigenvalue analysis you can set which solution number to use as linearization point. Use the `solnum` property as indicated below:

```
str = mphstate(model, <soltag>, 'input', <input>, ...  
             'output', <output>, 'out', out, 'solnum', <solnum>);
```

where `<solnum>` is an integer value corresponding to the solution number. The default value consist in the last solution number available with the current solver configuration.

#### EXAMPLE

To illustrate how to use the `mphstate` function to extract the state-space matrices of the model `heat_transient_axi` from the *COMSOL Multiphysics Model Library*. To be able to extract the state-space matrices you will need to do some modification of existing model. First of all create a parameter `T0` that is set as external temperature.

```
model = mphload('heat_transient_axi');
model.param.set('Tinput','1000[degC]');
model.physics('ht').feature('temp1').set('T0', 1, 'Tinput');
```

Then you need to create a domain point probe:

```
pdom1 = model.probe.create('pdom1', 'DomainPoint');
pdom1.model('mod1');
pdom1.setIndex('coords2', '0.28',0,0);
pdom1.setIndex('coords2', '0.38',0,1);
```

You can now extract the matrices of the state-space system using `Tinput` as input variables and the probe `mod1.ppb1` as output variable:

```
M = mphstate(model,'sol1','out',{ 'Mc' 'MA' 'MB' 'C' 'D'},...
            'input','T0','output','mod1.ppb1');
```

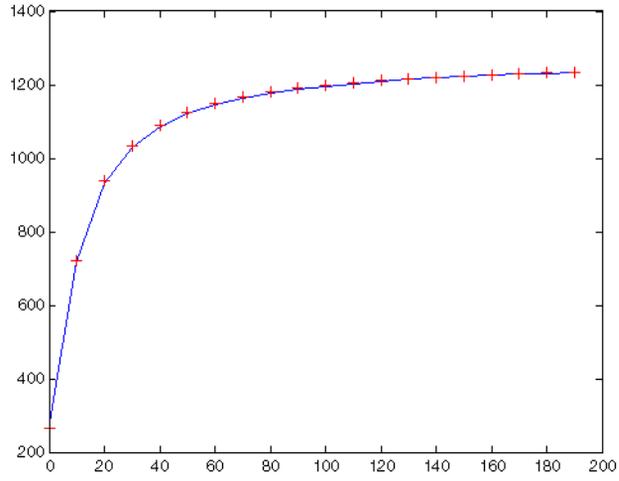
You can now compute the state-space system with the extracted matrices:

```
T0 = 273.15;
Tinput = 1273.15-T0;

opt = odeset('mass', M.Mc);
func = @(t,x) M.MA*x + M.MB*Tinput;
[t,x] = ode23s(func, [0:10:190], zeros(size(M.MA,1),1), opt);
y = M.C*x';
y = y+T0;
```

Compare the solution computed with the state-space system and the one computed with COMSOL:

```
plot(t,y)
hold on
Tnum = mphinterp(model,'T','coord',[0.28;0.38],'t',t);
plot(t,Tnum,'r+')
```



*Figure 4-1: Temperature distribution computed with the state-space system (blue line) and COMSOL Multiphysics (red marker)*

# Extracting Solution Information and Solution Vector

In this section:

- [Obtaining Solution Information](#)
- [Extracting Solution Vector](#)

## *Obtaining Solution Information*

---

Get the solution object information with the function `mphsolinfo`. Specify only the model object to obtain the information of the default solution object:

```
info = mphsolinfo(model)
```



The function `mphsolinfo` replaces the function `mphgetp`.

---

### **SPECIFYING THE SOLUTION OBJECT**

To retrieve the information of a specific solution object, you can set the `solname` property with the solver tag `soltag` associated to the solution object:

```
info = mphsolinfo(model, 'soltag', <soltag>);
```

If you have several solution data set attached to the solver, for instance solution data sets with different selection, you can specify which data set to use to get the solution object information with the `dataset` property:

```
info = mphsolinfo(model, 'dataset', <dsettag>);
```

where `dsettag` the tag of the solution data set to use.

## OUTPUT FORMAT

The output `info` is a MATLAB structure. The default fields available in the structure are listed in the table below:

FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
<code>soltag</code>	Tag of the solver associated to the solution object
<code>study</code>	Tag of the study associated to the solution object
<code>size</code>	Size of the solution vector
<code>nummesh</code>	Number of mesh in the solution (for automatic remeshing)
<code>sizes</code>	Size of solution vector and inner parameters for each mesh
<code>soltype</code>	Solver type
<code>solpar</code>	Parameter name
<code>sizesolvals</code>	Length of parameter list
<code>solvals</code>	Inner parameter value
<code>paramsweepnames</code>	Outer parameter name
<code>paramsweepvals</code>	Outer parameter value
<code>batch</code>	Batch information
<code>dataset</code>	Tag of the solution data set associated to the solution object

To get the information about the number of solutions, set the property `nu` to on:

```
info = mphsolinfo(model, 'nu', 'on');
```

The `info` structure is added with the following fields:

FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
<code>NUsol</code>	Number of solutions vectors stored
<code>NUreactf</code>	Number of reaction forces vectors stored
<code>NUadj</code>	Number of adjacency vectors stored
<code>NUfsens</code>	Number of functional sensitivity vectors stored
<code>NUsens</code>	Number of forward sensitivity vectors stored

The `batch` field is a structure including the following fields:

BATCH FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
<code>type</code>	The type of batch
<code>psol</code>	Tag of the associated solver node

BATCH FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
sol	Tag of the stored solution associated to psol
seq	Tag of the solver sequence associated to psol

### *Extracting Solution Vector*

Extracts the solution vector with the function `mphgetu`:

```
U = mphgetu(model);
```

where `U` is  $N \times 1$  double array, where  $N$  is the number of degrees of freedom of the COMSOL model.

You can refer to the function `mphxmeshinfo` to receive the dof name or the node coordinates in the solution vector, see the section [Retrieving Xmesh Information](#).

#### **SPECIFYING THE SOLUTION**

Change the solver node to extract the solution vector with the property `solname`:

```
U = mphgetu(model, 'soltag', <soltag>);
```

where `<soltag>` is the tag of the solver node.

For solver settings that compute for several inner solution, you can select which inner solution to use with the `solnum` property:

```
U = mphgetu(model, 'solnum', <solnum>);
```

where `<solnum>` a positive integer vector that correspond to the solution number to use to extract the solution vector. For time-dependent and continuation analysis the default value for the `solnum` property consists in the last solution number. For an eigenvalue analysis it consists in the first solution number.

A model can contains different type of solution vector, the solution of the problem but also the reaction forces vector, the adjoint solution vector, the functional sensitivity vector or the forward sensitivity. In `mphgetu`, you can specify which type of solution vector to extract with the `type` property:

```
U = mphgetu(model, 'type', type);
```

where `type` is one of the following string `'sol'`, `'react'`, `'adj'` or `'sens'` to extract the solution vector, the reaction forces, the functional sensitivity or the forward sensitivity respectively.

## OUTPUT FORMAT

`mphgetu` returns by the default the solution vector. Get the time derivative of the solution vector `Udot` by adding a second output variable:

```
[U, Udot] = mphgetu(model);
```

In case the property `solnum` is set as a  $1 \times M$  array and the solver node only use one mesh to create the solution, the default output consists in a  $N \times M$  array, where  $N$  is the number of degrees of freedom of the model. Else the output `U` is a cell array that contains each solution vector. If you prefer to have the output in a cell array format, set the property `matrix` to `off`:

```
U = mphgetu(model, 'solnum', <solnum>, 'matrix', 'off');
```

# Retrieving Xmesh Information

Use LiveLink for MATLAB to retrieve at the MATLAB workspace low level information of the COMSOL finite element model.

## *The Extended Mesh (Xmesh)*

---

The extended mesh (xmesh) is the finite element mesh that is used to compute the solution. This contains the information about elements, nodes and degrees of freedom such as dof names, position of the nodes in the assembled matrix system or how element and nodes are connected.

## *Extracting Xmesh Information*

---

The function `mphxmeshinfo` returns the extended mesh information. To get the xmesh information of the current solver and mesh node type the command:

```
info = mphxmeshinfo(model);
```

where `info` is a MATLAB structure that contains the fields listed in the following table:

<b>FIELDS</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<code>soltag</code>	Tag of the solver node
<code>ndofs</code>	Number of degrees of freedom
<code>fieldnames</code>	List of field variables names
<code>fieldndofs</code>	Number of degrees of freedom for each field variables
<code>meshtypes</code>	List of the mesh type
<code>geoms</code>	Tag of the geometry node used in the model
<code>dofs</code>	Structure containing the dofs information
<code>nodes</code>	Structure containing the nodes information
<code>elements</code>	Structure containing the elements information

The `dofs` substructure contains the fields listed in the following table:

<b>FIELDS</b>	<b>DESCRIPTION</b>
<code>geomnums</code>	Index of the geometry tag for each dofs
<code>coords</code>	Coordinates of the dofs
<code>nodes</code>	Nodes index of the dofs

FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
dofnames	Variable names
nameinds	Variable names index of the dofs

The nodes substructure contains the fields listed in the following table:

FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
coords	Nodes coordinates
dofnames	Variable names
dofs	NxM array containing the index (0-based) of the dofs for each node. N being the length of dofnames and M the number of nodes

The element substructure contains the fields listed in the following table:

FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
meshtypes	List of the type of mesh available
<i>type</i>	Substructure containing the information of element of type <i>type</i>

The *type* substructure list the information for each element. The possible mesh types are vtx, edg, quad, tri, quad, tet, hex, prism and pyr. The substructure *type* contains the fields listed in the following table:

FIELDS	DESCRIPTION
localcoords	Local nodes coordinates
localdofcoords	Local dofs coordinates
localdofnames	Names of the local dofs
nodes	Nodes index for each element
dofs	Dofs index for each element

#### SPECIFY THE INFORMATION TO RETRIEVE

You can specify the solver node to use to retrieve the xmesh information, set the property solname as in the command below:

```
info = mphxmeshinfo(model, 'soltag', <soltag>);
```

where <soltag> is the tag of the solver use to extract the xmesh information.

You can also retrieve the xmesh information for a specific study step node which is specified with the property studysteptag:

```
info = mphxmeshinfo(model, 'studysteptag', <studysteptag>);
```

where <studysteptag> is the tag of either a compile equation node or a variable node.

In case several mesh case have been used by a specific solver, for instance with an automatic remeshing procedure, you can specify which mesh case to use to get the discretization information.

```
info = mphxmeshinfo(model, 'meshcase', <meshcase>);
```

where <meshcase> is the mesh case number or the tag of the mesh case.

# Navigating the Model

The model object contains all the finite element model settings. To retrieve the model information you can navigate in the model object by the mean of a graphical user interface or directly at the MATLAB prompt. See how to get the list of predefined expressions available for a given model and how to extract the value of these expressions and also the properties of the method used in the model.

In this section:

- [Navigating The Model Object Using a GUI](#)
- [Navigating The Model Object At The Command Line](#)
- [Finding Model Expressions](#)
- [Getting Feature Model Properties](#)
- [Getting Model Expressions](#)
- [Getting Selection Information](#)

## *Navigating The Model Object Using a GUI*

---

The usual approach to navigate through the model object in a graphical user interface is simply to load the model object at the COMSOL Desktop. You can directly transfer the model object form the COMSOL server to the COMSOL Desktop as indicated in the section [Exchanging Models Between MATLAB and the COMSOL Desktop](#) of the chapter [Building Models](#).

An alternative approach is to call the function `mphnavigator` that displays the model object information in a MATLAB graphical user interface. To run the function type at the MATLAB prompt the command:

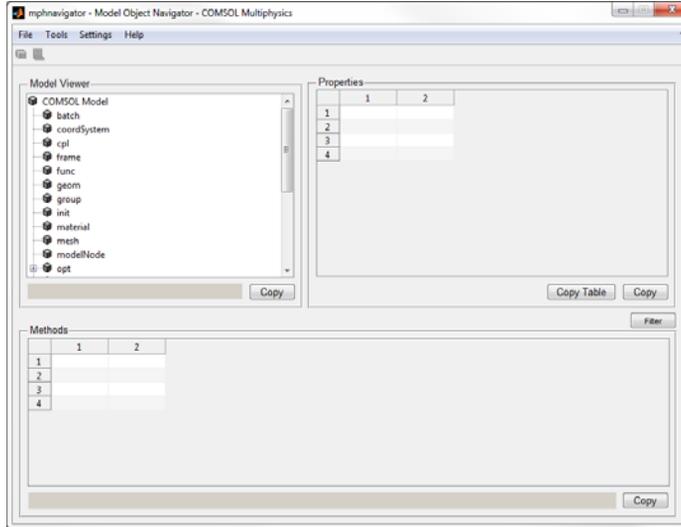
```
mphnavigator
```



Prior to call `mphnavigator`, make sure that the MATLAB object linked the COMSOL model object as the name `model`. No other name is currently supported.

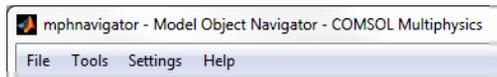
---

This command pops-up a MATLAB GUI as in the figure below:



If you create new model object with the MATLAB object name `model`, you need to restart **mphnavigator** in order to have the updated model information.

### THE MENU BAR ITEMS

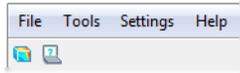


The **mphnavigator** GUI menu bar consist in the following menu:

- the **File** menu, where you can save the current model object in the MPH-format, you can also open a new model object and close the **mphnavigator** window.
- the **Tools** menu lists the navigating tools available for the model object. **Search** is a shortcut to the command **mphsearch** that start a GUI for searching expressions or tags in the model object, see also the section [Finding Model Expressions](#) for more information. **Solutions** starts a GUI to display the solution object available in the COMSOL model object. **Show Errors** lists the error or warning node available in the model object, see the section [Handling Errors And Warnings](#) for more information.
- the **Settings** menu only contains the **Advanced** options. Click on it to select or deselect the advanced model object methods that are displayed in the **Model Viewer** tree.
- the **Help** menu.

## THE SHORTCUT ICON

Just under the menu bar you will find two shortcut icon: the **Plot** icon and the **Help** icon.

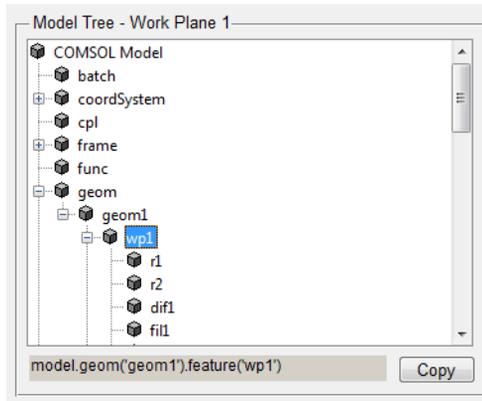


These icon are grayed if you have not selected any method in the **Model Tree** section.

The **Plot** icon displays the geometry, the mesh or a plot group in a MATLAB figure.

The **Help** icon displays the page of the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide* of the corresponding method in your default web browser.

## THE MODEL TREE SECTION

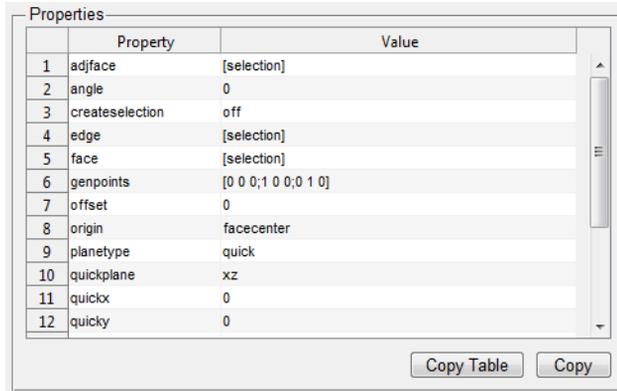


In the **Model Tree** section you will find the list of the nodes of the model object. Use the scroll bar at the right side to scroll down the list and click on the + icon to expand the model object feature nodes.

When a feature node is selected, its associated command is listed just beneath the model tree. Click the **Copy** button to copy syntax in the clip board, you can then paste it in your script.

You can notice that the **Model Tree** list slightly differs to the **Model Builder** list available in the COMSOL Desktop. This is because **mphnavigator** display all feature nodes and do not use the same filter as in the COMSOL Desktop to order the available feature node.

## THE PROPERTIES SECTION



The Properties section displays a table with 12 rows and 3 columns: Index, Property, and Value. The table is scrollable and includes 'Copy Table' and 'Copy' buttons at the bottom.

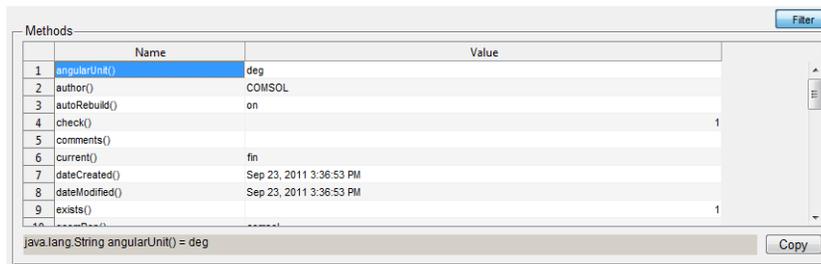
	Property	Value
1	adjface	[selection]
2	angle	0
3	createselection	off
4	edge	[selection]
5	face	[selection]
6	genpoints	[0 0 0;1 0 0;0 1 0]
7	offset	0
8	origin	facecenter
9	planetype	quick
10	quickplane	xz
11	quickcx	0
12	quicky	0

In the Properties section you will find all the properties of a selected feature node and their associated value.

Click **Copy Table** button to copy the entire properties table in the clip board which can be paste in text or spreadsheet editor.

Click **Copy** button to copy a selected cell in the properties table.

## THE METHODS SECTION



The Methods section displays a table with 9 rows and 3 columns: Index, Name, and Value. The table is scrollable and includes a 'Filter' button at the top right and a 'Copy' button at the bottom right. The first row is highlighted in blue.

	Name	Value
1	angularUnit()	deg
2	author()	COMSOL
3	autoRebuild()	on
4	check()	1
5	comments()	
6	current()	fin
7	dateCreated()	Sep 23, 2011 3:36:53 PM
8	dateModified()	Sep 23, 2011 3:36:53 PM
9	exists()	1

java.lang.String angularUnit() = deg

In the **Methods** section you will find the list of all the methods associated to the feature node selected in the Model Tree section.

Click **Filter** button to filter the reduce the methods list to the one that returns simple information.

Select a method in the list to get its associated syntax at the button of the **Methods** section. Use the **Copy** button to copy the syntax in the clipboard.

## *Navigating The Model Object At The Command Line*

---

Retrieve model object information such as tags for nodes and subnodes of a COMSOL model object at the MATLAB prompt with the command `mphmodel`.

To get the list of the main feature node and their tags of the model object `model`, type the command:

```
mphmodel(model)
```

To list the subfeature of the node type `model.feature` enter the command:

```
mphmodel(model.feature)
```

To list the subfeature node of the feature node `model.feature(<ftag>)`, type:

```
mphmodel(model.feature(<ftag>))
```

Use the flag `-struct` to returns the model object information to MATLAB structure:

```
str = mphmodel(model.feature, '-struct')
```

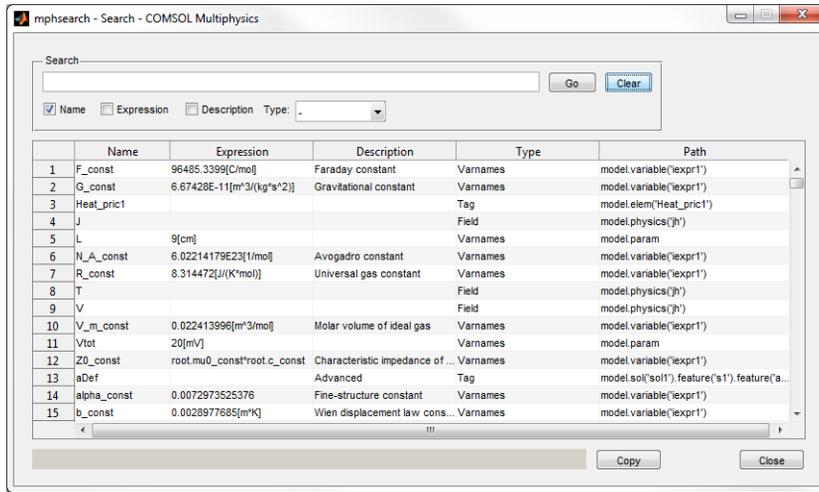
`str` is a MATLAB structure which fields consist in each feature node associated to the node `model.feature`.

## *Finding Model Expressions*

---

Each model object contains predefined expressions that depends on the physics interface used in the model.

The function `mphsearch` starts a MATLAB GUI that display the list all the expressions, constant, solution variables or parameters available in the model object.



The table contains the following information for each entry: the **name** of the expression, the **expression** as it is set in the property value, the **description** if there is one set for the expression, the **type** of the expression and the **path** in the model object.

In the **Search** section you will find a searching tool to filter the list among all the possibilities. Enter any string in the edit field and select where to search this string: in the name, the expression or the description of the table entry. You can also select the type you want to list. The expression type can be any of **Equation**, **Field**, **Tag**, **VarNames** or **Weak**.

Click **Go** button to display the result of the search. Click **Clear** button to clear the search settings.

Use the **Copy** button to copy in the clip board any entry of the table.

Click **Close** button to close the **mphsearch** window.

### *Getting Feature Model Properties*

Use the command `mphgetproperties` to extract at the MATLAB prompt the properties of a specified node of the model object. Use the command as:

```
prop = mphgetproperties(model.feature)
```

where `expr` is a MATLAB structure that list all the properties and their value of the feature node `model.feature`.

### *Getting Model Expressions*

---

Use the command `mphgetexpressions` to get at the MATLAB prompt the expressions and the descriptions of a specified node of the model object. Use the command as:

```
expr = mphgetexpressions(model.feature)
```

where `model.feature` is the node to get the expressions from and `expr` is a `Nx3` cell array where `N` is the number of expressions for this node.

### *Getting Selection Information*

---

Use the function `mphgetselection` to retrieve the model selection information.

```
str = mphgetselection(model.selection(<seltag>))
```

where `seltag` is the tag a selection node define in the model object. The output `str` is a MATLAB structure containing the following fields:

- **dimension**, the space dimension of the geometry entity selected.
- **geom**, the tag of the geometry node used in the selection.
- **entities**, the list of the entity indexes listed in the selection.
- **isGlobal**, Boolean value to indicate if the selection is global or not.

# Handling Errors And Warnings

In this section:

- [Errors and Warnings](#)
- [Using MATLAB Tools To Handle COMSOL Exception](#)
- [Displaying Warning and Error in the Model](#)

## *Errors and Warnings*

---

COMSOL Multiphysics reports problems of two types:

- Errors, which prevent the program from completing a task
- Warnings, which are problems that do not prevent the completion of a task but that might affect the accuracy or other aspects of the model.

For both errors and warnings a messages is stored in a separate node located just below the problematic model feature node.

In case of errors a Java Exception is thrown to MATLAB, which also break the execution of the script.

## *Using MATLAB Tools To Handle COMSOL Exception*

---

Where running a model that returns an error in MATLAB, the execution of the script is automatically stopped. You have however the possibility to use MATLAB tools to handle exception and prevent the script to break. Use the **try** and **catch** MATLAB statement to offers alternative to a failed model.

In a loop, for instance, use the **try** and **catch** statement to continue to the next iteration. For automatic geometry or mesh generation you can use it to set the model properties with alternative value that circumvent the problem.

## *Displaying Warning and Error in the Model*

---

Use the command `mphshowerrors` to search in a given model object for the warnings or the errors nodes.

To display the error and warning messages and their location in the model object type the command:

```
mphshowerrors(model)
```

Alternatively `mphshowerrors` can also return the errors and warning information in a MATLAB variable:

```
str = mphshowerrors(model)
```

where `str` is a `Nx2` cell array, with `N` the number of error and warning nodes that contains the model object. `str{i,1}` contains the location in the model of the `i`th error/warning message and `str{i,2}` contains the message of the `i`th error/warning message.

# Improving Performance for Large Models

Memory management is a key of successful modeling. In COMSOL Multiphysics the finite element model can store a large amount of data depending on the complexity of the model. Exchanging such a large amount of data between MATLAB and the COMSOL server can be problematic in term of memory or computational time. In this section you will find a discussion for model settings in the case you are experiencing memory problem or slowness of command execution. The section consists in the following paragraph:

- [Setting Java Heap Size](#)
- [Disabling Model Feature Update](#)
- [Disabling The Model History](#)

## *Setting Java Heap Size*

---

COMSOL store the data in Java. If you are experiencing memory problem during meshing, postprocessing operation or when exchanging data between the COMSOL server and MATLAB this may indicate that the Java Heap size is set with too low value.



Note

Increasing the memory allocated for the Java process, necessarily decrease the memory available for the solver.

---

### **THE COMSOL SERVER JAVA HEAP SIZE**

You can access the Java Heap size settings for the COMSOL server process in the `comsolserver.ini` file that can be found in the `COMSOL43/bin/<arch>` directory. `<arch>` correspond to the architecture of the machine where the COMSOL server is running. Edit the file with a text editor, you will find the Java heap settings set as:

```
-Xss4m  
-Xms40m  
-Xmx1024m  
-XX:MaxPermSize=256m
```

The values are given in Mb, modify these value to satisfy your model requirements.

## THE MATLAB JAVA HEAP SIZE

To modify the Java heap size you need to edit the `java.opts` file available under the COMSOL with MATLAB start-up directory. The `java.opts` file is stored by default with the following settings:

```
-Xss4m  
-Xmx768m  
-XX:MaxPermSize=256m
```

The values are given in Mb, modify these value to satisfy your model requirements.

To modify the MATLAB Java Heap size the `java.opts` file has to be stored at the MATLAB start-up directory. This is the case when starting COMSOL with MATLAB.

In case you are connecting manually MATLAB with a COMSOL server, make sure you have the `java.opts` at the MATLAB start-up directory.

## *Disabling Model Feature Update*

---

For models that contains a large amount of physics feature nodes, it may help to deactivate the model feature update while implementing the model object. By default COMSOL update the expressions value for every feature node in the model, which can take some time.

To disable the feature model update enter:

```
model.disableUpdates(true);
```

You need to enable the feature update prior to compute the solution unless the model expressions would not be updated accordingly to the model settings. This is also necessary if you are building a geometry or a mesh that depends on expressions.

To enable the feature model update enter:

```
model.disableUpdates(false);
```

## *Disabling The Model History*

---

If you are experiencing slow down of the operation run in loop as the number iteration increase. A possible reason is that the model history use significant amount memory that can no longer be accessible by the COMSOL operation. You can disable the history recording to keep the model history information low.

To disable the model history type the command:

```
model.hist.enable
```

When the model history is disabled you will no longer see the commands use to set up the model when saving it as a M-file.

If you load the model object with the function `mphload`, it automatically disable the model history.

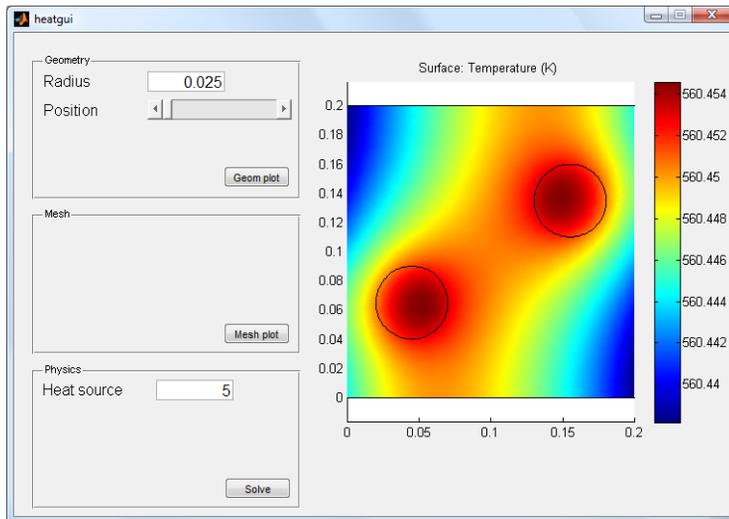
To activate the model history enter the command:

```
model.hist.disable
```

# Creating Custom GUI

You can use the MATLAB **guide** functionality to create a GUI and connect the interface to a COMSOL model object. Each operation at the GUI set the value of a MATLAB variable or call a MATLAB command. As described in this manual you can call command at the MATLAB prompt to set up a COMSOL model object or set MATLAB variable in the COMSOL model object.

The figure below illustrates a GUI made in MATLAB linked to a COMSOL model object.



The simplified GUI only allow the user to compute a heat transfer problem on a given geometry. The user can only change the radius and the position of the bottom circle geometry. The heat source applied to the bottom circle is also defined by the user.

The button execute the building operation of the geometry and mesh. Another button execute the computation of the solution.

# COMSOL 3.5a Compatibility

COMSOL makes a effort to be backward compatible: you can load model MPH-files created in COMSOL Multiphysics 3.5a and later versions in COMSOL Multiphysics 4.3.

When going from version 3.5a to version 4, a major revision was made to the MATLAB interface. This revision was made to reflect changes made to the new user interface and to support parameterized geometry operations. As a result, a new MATLAB interface syntax is used in today's version 4 of COMSOL Multiphysics and its add-on product LiveLink for MATLAB.

In order to assist in the conversion process, a special compatibility mode was created to facilitate the new syntax. This compatibility mode, together with LiveLink for MATLAB function **mphv4**, is no longer supported in COMSOL Multiphysics 4.3.

If you wish to convert a model defined with an M-file created with version 3.5a to the version 4.3 format, we recommend the following procedure:

- 1 Run the M-file using COMSOL Multiphysics 3.5a and save the model, using **flsave**, as an MPH-file.
- 2 Load the model into COMSOL Multiphysics 4.3 and verify that the model settings have been translated correctly. In addition, verify that the model can be meshed and solved.
- 3 Select **File>Reset history**.
- 4 Select **File>Save as Model M-file**.

The saved M-file can now be tested if you start COMSOL Multiphysics 4.3 with MATLAB.

If you have any problems with this conversion process, please contact COMSOL's technical support team at [support@comsol.com](mailto:support@comsol.com), or your local COMSOL representative.



## Calling MATLAB Function

This section introduces you to the MATLAB function callback from the COMSOL Desktop and COMSOL model object.

# The MATLAB Function Feature Node

Use MATLAB M-function in the COMSOL model to define model settings such as parameters, material properties, and boundary conditions.

When running the model COMSOL automatically starts a MATLAB process that evaluates the function and return the value to the COMSOL model.



Note

To call a MATLAB function from within the model object you do not need to start COMSOL with MATLAB—starting the COMSOL Desktop is sufficient. The MATLAB process starts automatically to evaluate the function.

---

- [Defining MATLAB Function In The COMSOL Model](#)
- [Adding A MATLAB Function with the COMSOL API Java Syntax](#)

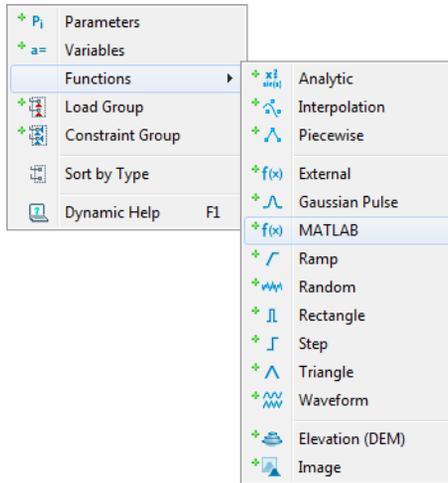
## *Defining MATLAB Function In The COMSOL Model*

---

### **ADDING THE MATLAB FUNCTION NODE**

To evaluate a MATLAB M-function from within the COMSOL model you need to add a MATLAB node in the model object where you define the function name, the list of the arguments, and, if required, the function derivatives.

To a MATLAB function node, right-click the **Global Definitions** node and select **Functions>MATLAB**.

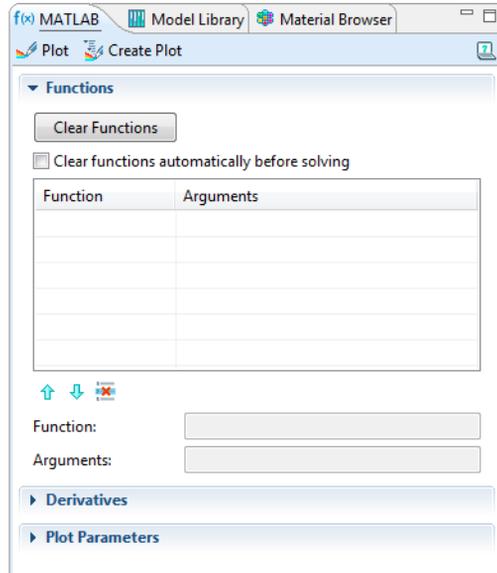


The settings window of the **MATLAB** node contains the following section:

- **Functions** where you declare the name of the MATLAB functions and their arguments.
- **Derivatives**, where you define the derivative of the MATLAB functions with respect to all function arguments.
- **Plot Parameters** where you can define the limit of the arguments value in order to display the function in the COMSOL Desktop main-axis.

## DEFINING THE MATLAB FUNCTION

The figure below illustrate the **MATLAB** settings page



Under the **Functions** section you can define the function name and the list of the function arguments.

In the table enter the function name under the **Function** column and the function argument in the **Arguments** column.

The table support multiple function definition. Define several functions in the same table or add several **MATLAB** node at your convenience.

## PLOTTING THE FUNCTION

Use the **Plot** button to display the function in the COMSOL Desktop main axis.

Use the **Create Plot** button to create a plot group under the **Results** node.

To plot the function you need to first define the argument limit. Expand the **Plot Parameters** section and enter the desired value in the **Lower limit** and **Upper limit** column. In the Plot Parameters table the number of row correspond to the number of input arguments of the function. The first input arguments correspond to the top row.

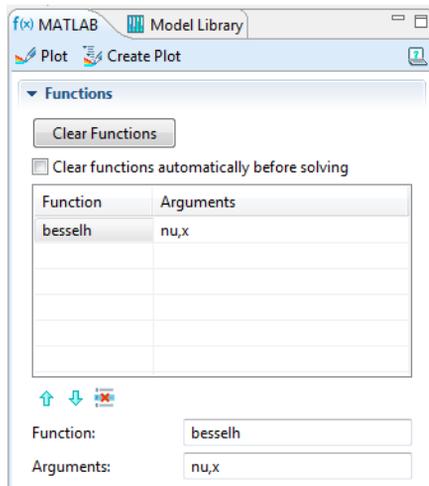
In case of you have several functions declare in the Functions table, only the function that have the same number of input arguments as plot parameters row is plotted. If you

have several functions with same number of input arguments, the first function in the table (from top to bottom) is then plotted. Use the **Move Up** and **Move Down** button to change the order of the function.

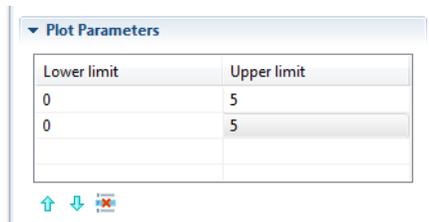
**EXAMPLE: DEFINE THE HANKEL FUNCTION IN THE COMSOL DESKTOP**

Assume that you want to use MATLAB's Bessel function of the third kind (Hankel function) in COMSOL Multiphysics define the following settings:

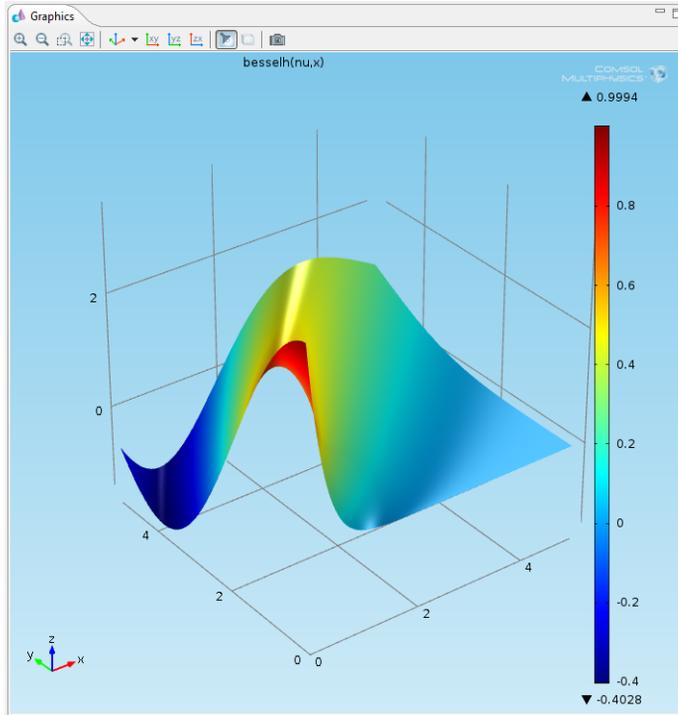
FUNCTION	ARGUMENTS
besselh	nu, x



To plot the function you need to define first the lower and upper limit for both nu and x. In the **Plot Parameters** table set the two first row of the **Lower limit** column to 0 and the **Upper limit** column to 5:



Click **Plot** button to get the same plot as below:



### *Adding A MATLAB Function with the COMSOL API Java Syntax*

To add a MATLAB feature node to the COMSOL model using the COMSOL API Java, enter the command:

```
model.func.create(<ftag>, 'MATLAB');
```

Define the function name and function arguments with the command:

```
model.func(<ftag>).setIndex('funcs', <function_name>, 0, 0);  
model.func(<ftag>).setIndex('funcs', <arglist>, 0, 1);
```

where *<function\_name>* is a string set with the function name and *<arglist>* is a string that define the list of the input arguments.

# Additional Information

In this section:

- [Function Input/Output Considerations](#)
- [Updating The Functions](#)
- [Defining Function Derivatives](#)
- [Using the MATLAB Debugger \(Windows OS only\)](#)

## *Function Input/Output Considerations*

---

The functions called from COMSOL must support vector arguments of any length. COMSOL calls your MATLAB function using vector arguments because the number of expensive calls from COMSOL to MATLAB can be reduced this way. All common MATLAB functions such as `sin`, `abs`, and other mathematical functions support vector arguments.

When you write your own functions for specifying inhomogeneous materials, logical expressions, time-dependent sources, or other model properties, remember that the input arguments are vectors. The output must have the same size as the input. All arguments and results must be double-precision vectors. Values can be real or complex.

Consider the following example function where the coefficient  $c$  depends on the  $x$  coordinate:

```
function c = func1(x)
if x > 0.6
    c = x/1.6;
else
    c = x^2+0.3;
end
```

This function looks good at first but it does not work in COMSOL Multiphysics because the input  $x$  is a matrix.

- You must use element-by-element multiplication, division, and power—that is, the operators `.*`, `./`, and `.^`. Replace expressions such as  $x/1.6$  and  $x^2+0.3$  with `x./1.6` and `x.^2+0.3`, respectively.
- The comparison  $x > 0.6$  returns a matrix with ones (true) for the entries where the expression holds true and zeros (false) where it is false. The function evaluates the conditional statement if and only if all the entries are true (1).

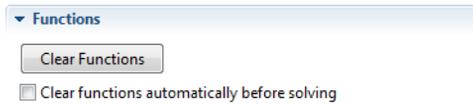
You can replace the `if` statement with a single assignment to the indices retrieved from the  $x > 0.6$  operation and another assignment to the indices where  $x \leq 0.6$ . All in all, the function could look like this:

```
function c = func2(x)
c = (x./1.6).*(x>0.6) + (x.^2+0.3).*(x<=0.6);
```

### *Updating The Functions*

---

If you have modified the function M-file using a text editor, click **Clear Functions** button to ensure the functions modifications to be updated in the COMSOL model.



An alternative is to select **Clear functions automatically before solving**.

### *Defining Function Derivatives*

---

Automatic differentiation cannot be operated with MATLAB function. In case the MATLAB function has Jacobian contribution you need to define its derivative with respect to the function input arguments. By default COMSOL assumes the derivatives to be null.

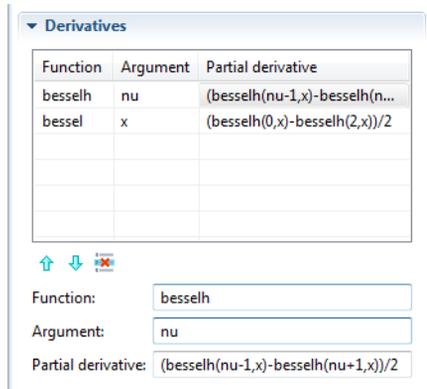
You can expand the **Derivatives** section to define the derivatives of the function with respect to the function arguments.

In the table define the derivative for each of the function arguments. In the **Function** column enter the function name, in the **Argument** column enter the argument with respect to which you will define the function derivatives. Finally in the **Function derivative** column enter the function derivative expression.

Note that the function derivative expression can also be defined by another external MATLAB function.

For example, using the Hankel function describe in the previous section (see [page 177](#)) you can define the function derivative by setting the table as described below:

FUNCTION	ARGUMENT	FUNCTION DERIVATIVE
besselh	nu	$(\text{besselh}(\text{nu}-1, x) - \text{besselh}(\text{nu}+1, x)) / 2$
besselh	x	$(\text{besselh}(0, x) - \text{besselh}(2, x)) / 2$



### *Using the MATLAB Debugger (Windows OS only)*

If you are running on Windows OS, you can benefit of the MATLAB debugger when running MATLAB function in the COMSOL Model.

To activate the MATLAB debugger, you need first to start the MATLAB Desktop from the MATLAB process that is started when evaluating the function in COMSOL. At the MATLAB prompt type the command `desktop`.

In the COMSOL Desktop edit the function M-file and add breakpoint at the desired line. Now when you run the COMSOL model, the MATLAB debugger automatically stops at the breakpoint. You can then verify the intermediate value of the function variables.



## Command Reference

The main reference for the syntax of the commands available with LiveLink for MATLAB is the *COMSOL Java API Reference Guide*. This section documents additional interface functions that come with the product.

# Summary of Commands

colortable  
mphdoc  
mpheval  
mphevalglobalmatrix  
mphevalpoint  
mphgeom  
mphgetadj  
mphgetcoords  
mphgetexpressions  
mphgetproperties  
mphgetselection  
mphgetu  
mphglobal  
mphimage2geom  
mphint2  
mphinterp  
mphload  
mphmatrix  
mphmax  
mphmean  
mphmesh  
mphmeshstats  
mphmin  
mphmodel  
mphmodellibrary  
mphnavigator  
mphplot  
mphsave  
mphsearch  
mphselectbox  
mphselectcoords  
mphshowerrors  
mphsolinfo  
mphstart  
mphstate

mphversion  
mphviewselection  
mphxmeshinfo

# Commands Grouped by Function

## *Interface Functions*

<b>FUNCTION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
<a href="#">mphcd</a>	Change directory to the directory of the model.
<a href="#">mphdoc</a>	Return HTML help of a specified function.
<a href="#">mphload</a>	Load a COMSOL model MPH-file.
<a href="#">mphsave</a>	Save a COMSOL model.
<a href="#">mphstart</a>	Connect MATLAB to a COMSOL server.
<a href="#">mphversion</a>	Return the version number of COMSOL Multiphysics.

## *Geometry Functions*

<b>FUNCTION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
<a href="#">mphgeom</a>	Plot a geometry in a MATLAB figure.
<a href="#">mphimage2geom</a>	Convert image data to geometry.
<a href="#">mphviewselection</a>	Display a geometric entity selection in a MATLAB figure.

## *Mesh Functions*

<b>FUNCTION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
<a href="#">mphmesh</a>	Plot a mesh in a MATLAB figure.
<a href="#">mphmeshstats</a>	Return mesh statistics and mesh data information.

## *Utility Functions*

<b>FUNCTION</b>	<b>PURPOSE</b>
<a href="#">mphgetadj</a>	Return geometric entity indices that are adjacent to other.
<a href="#">mphgetcoords</a>	Return point coordinates of geometry entities
<a href="#">mphgetu</a>	Return solution vector.
<a href="#">mphmatrix</a>	Get model matrices.
<a href="#">mphselectbox</a>	Select geometric entity using a rubberband/box.
<a href="#">mphselectcoords</a>	Select geometric entity using point coordinates.

FUNCTION	PURPOSE
<a href="#">mphsolinfo</a>	Get information about a solution object.
<a href="#">mphstate</a>	Get state-space matrices for dynamic system.
<a href="#">mphxmeshinfo</a>	Extract information about the extended mesh.

### *Postprocessing Functions*

FUNCTION	PURPOSE
<a href="#">mpheval</a>	Evaluate expressions on node points.
<a href="#">mphevalglobalmatrix</a>	Evaluate global matrix variables.
<a href="#">mphevalpoint</a>	Evaluate expressions at geometry vertices.
<a href="#">mphglobal</a>	Evaluate global quantities.
<a href="#">mphint2</a>	Perform integration of expressions.
<a href="#">mphinterp</a>	Evaluate expressions in arbitrary points or data sets.
<a href="#">mphmax</a>	Perform maximum of expressions.
<a href="#">mphmean</a>	Perform mean of expressions.
<a href="#">mphmin</a>	Perform minimum of expressions.
<a href="#">mphplot</a>	Render a plot group in a figure window.

### *Model information and navigation*

FUNCTION	PURPOSE
<a href="#">mphgetproperties</a>	Get properties from a model node.
<a href="#">mphgetexpressions</a>	Get the model variables and parameters.
<a href="#">mphgetselection</a>	Get information about a selection node.
<a href="#">mphmodel</a>	Return tags for the nodes and subnodes in the COMSOL model object.
<a href="#">mphmodellibrary</a>	GUI for viewing the Model Library.
<a href="#">mphnavigator</a>	GUI for viewing the COMSOL model object.
<a href="#">mphsearch</a>	GUI for searching expressions in the COMSOL model object.
<a href="#">mphshowerrors</a>	Show messages in error and warning nodes in the COMSOL model object.

<b>Purpose</b>	Return a MATLAB colormap for a COMSOL color table.
<b>Syntax</b>	<code>map = colortable(name)</code>
<b>Description</b>	<p><code>map = colortable(name)</code> returns the color table (of 1024 colors) for <code>name</code>, where <code>name</code> can be one of the following strings:</p> <p><b>Cyclic</b> - A color table that varies the hue component of the hue-saturation-value color model, keeping the saturation and value constant (equal to 1). The colors begin with red, pass through yellow, green, cyan, blue, magenta, and finally return to red. This table is particularly useful for displaying periodic functions and has a sharp color gradient.</p> <p><b>Disco</b> - This color table spans from red through magenta and cyan to blue.</p> <p><b>Discolight</b> - Similar to Disco but uses lighter colors.</p> <p><b>Grayscale</b> - A color table that uses no color, only the gray scale varying linearly from black to white.</p> <p><b>Grayprint</b> - Varies linearly from dark gray (0.95, 0.95, 0.95) to light gray (0.05, 0.05, 0.05). This color table overcomes two disadvantages that the GrayScale color table has when used for printouts on paper, namely that it gives the impression of being dominated by dark colors, and that white cannot be distinguished from the background.</p> <p><b>Rainbow</b> - The color ordering in this table corresponds to the wavelengths of the visible part of the electromagnetic spectrum: beginning at the small-wavelength end with dark blue, the colors range through shades of blue, cyan, green, yellow, and red.</p> <p><b>Rainbowlight</b> - Similar to Rainbow, this color table uses lighter colors.</p> <p><b>Thermal</b> - Ranges from black through red and yellow to white, which corresponds to the colors iron takes as it heats up.</p> <p><b>Thermalequidistant</b> - Similar to Thermal but uses equal distances from black to red, yellow, and white, which means that the black and red regions become larger.</p> <p><b>Traffic</b> - Spans from green through yellow to red.</p> <p><b>Trafficlight</b> - Similar to Traffic but uses lighter colors.</p> <p><b>Wave</b> - Ranges linearly from blue to light gray, and then linearly from white to red. When the range of the visualized quantity is symmetric around zero, the color red</p>

or blue indicates whether the value is positive or negative, and the saturation indicates the magnitude.

`Wavelength` - Similar to `Wave` and ranges linearly from a lighter blue to white (instead of light gray) and then linearly from white to a lighter red.

Calling `colortable` is equivalent to calling the corresponding `colormap` function directly.

**Example**

Create a rainbow color map

```
map = colortable('Rainbow');  
map = rainbow;
```

## mphcd

---

<b>Purpose</b>	Change directory to the directory of the model
<b>Syntax</b>	<code>mphcd(model)</code>
<b>Description</b>	<code>mphcd(model)</code> changes the current directory in MATLAB to the directory where the <code>model</code> was last saved.
<b>See also</b>	<a href="#">mphload</a> , <a href="#">mphsave</a>

<b>Purpose</b>	Return HTML help of a specified function.
<b>Syntax</b>	<code>mphdoc arg1</code> <code>mphdoc arg1 arg2</code>
<b>Description</b>	<code>mphdoc arg1</code> returns the HTML documentation associated to the function <code>arg1</code> . <code>mphdoc arg1 arg2</code> returns the HTML documentation associated to the feature <code>arg2</code> of the method <code>arg1</code> . <code>mphdoc arg1 -web</code> returns the HTML documentation in the default web browser.
<b>Example</b>	Create a model object <code>model = ModelUtil.creat('Model')</code> Get the documentation for the mesh node <code>mphdoc model.mesh</code> Get the documentation of the rectangle geometry feature <code>mphdoc model.geom Rectangle</code> Display the documentation in the default web browser <code>mphdoc model.sol -web</code>

- Purpose** Evaluate expressions on node points.
- Syntax** `pd = mpheval(model, {e1, ..., en}, ...)`
- Description** `pd = mpheval(model, {e1, ..., en}, ...)` returns the post data `pd` for the expressions `e1, ..., en`.
- The output value `pd` is a structure with fields `expr`, `p`, `t`, `ve`, `unit` and fields for data values.
- The field `expr` contains the expression name evaluated.
  - For each expression `e1, ..., en` a field with the name `d1, ..., dn` is added with the numerical values. The columns in the data value fields correspond to node point coordinates in columns in `p`. The data contains only the real part of complex-valued expressions.
  - The field `p` contains node point coordinate information. The number of rows in `p` is the number of space dimensions.
  - The field `t` contains the indices to columns in `p` of a simplex mesh, each column in `t` representing a simplex.
  - The field `ve` contains indices to mesh elements for each node point.
  - The field `unit` contains the list of the unit for each expression.

The function `mpheval` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-1: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHEVAL COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Complexfun	off   on	on	Use complex-valued functions with real input
Complexout	off   on	off	Return complex values
Dataonly	off   on	off	Only return expressions value
Dataset	String		Data set tag
Edim	point   edge   boundary   domain   0   1   2   3	Geometry space dimension	Evaluate on elements with this space dimension
Matherr	off   on	off	Error for undefined operations or expressions
Outersolnum	Positive integer	1	Solution number for parametric sweep

TABLE 6-1: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHEVAL COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Pattern	lagrange   gauss	lagrange	Specifies if evaluation takes place in Lagrange points or in Gauss points
Phase	Scalar	0	Phase angle in degrees
Recover	off   ppr   pprint	off	Accurate derivative recovery
Refine	Integer	1	Refinement of elements for evaluation points
Selection	Integer vector   string   all	All domains	Set selection tag or entity number
Smooth	Internal   none   everywhere	internal	Smoothing setting
Solnum	Integer vector   all   end	all	Solutions for evaluation
t	Double array		Times for evaluation

The property `Dataset` controls which data set is used for the evaluation. Data Sets contain or refer to the source of data for postprocessing purposes. Evaluation is supported only on Solution Data Sets.

The property `Edim` decides which elements to evaluate on. Evaluation takes place only on elements with space dimension `Edim`. If not specified, `Edim` equal to the space dimension of the geometry is used. The setting is specified as one of the following strings 'point', 'edge', 'boundary' or 'domain'. In previous versions it was only possible to specify `Edim` as a number. For example, in a 3D model, if evaluation is done on edges (1D elements), `Edim` is 1. Similarly, for boundary evaluation (2D elements), `Edim` is 2, and for domain evaluation (3D elements), `Edim` is 3 (default in 3D).

Use `Recover` to recover fields using polynomial-preserving recovery. This techniques recover fields with derivatives such as stresses or fluxes with a higher theoretical convergence than smoothing. Recovery is expensive so it is turned off by default. The value `pprint` means that recovery is performed inside domains. The value `ppr` means that recovery is also applied on all domain boundaries.

The property `Refine` constructs evaluation points by making a regular refinements of each element. Each mesh edge is divided into `Refine` equal parts.

The property `Smooth` controls if the post data is forced to be continuous on element edges. When `Smooth` is set to `internal`, only elements not on interior boundaries are made continuous.

The property `Solnum` is used to select the solution to plot when a parametric, eigenvalue or time dependent solver has been used to solve the problem.

The property `Outersolnum` is used to select the solution to plot when a parametric sweep has been used in the study.

When the property `Phase` is used, the solution vector is multiplied with `exp(i*phase)` before evaluating the expression.

The expressions `e1, . . . , en` are evaluated for one or several solutions. Each solution generates an additional row in the data fields of the post data output structure. The property `Solnum` and `t` control which solutions are used for the evaluations. The `Solnum` property is available when the data set has multiple solutions, for example in the case of parametric, eigenfrequency, or time-dependent solutions. The `t` property is available only for time-dependent problems. If `Solnum` is provided, the solutions indicated by the indices provided with the `Solnum` property are used. If `t` is provided solutions are interpolated. If neither `Solnum` nor `t` is provided, all solutions are evaluated.

For time-dependent problems, the variable `t` can be used in the expressions `ei`. The value of `t` is the interpolation time when the property `t` is provided, and the time for the solution, when `Solnum` is used. Similarly, `lambda` and the parameter are available as eigenvalues for eigenvalue problems and as parameter values for parametric problems, respectively.

**Example**

Load `micromixer.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('micromixer.mph');
```

Evaluate the pressure `p` at all node points:

```
dat = mpheval(model, 'p');
```

Evaluate the concentration `c` at the outlet boundary:

```
dat = mpheval(model, 'c', 'edim', 'boundary', 'selection', 136);
```

Evaluate the pressure on all geometric vertices:

```
dat = mpheval(model,'p','edim','point');
```

Evaluate the pressure on vertex number 1 and return only the pressure value:

```
dat = mpheval(model,'p','edim','point',...  
'selection',1,'dataonly','on');
```

**See also**

[mphevalpoint](#), [mphglobal](#), [mphint2](#), [mphinterp](#)

- Purpose** Evaluate global matrix variables.
- Syntax** `M = mphevalglobalmatrix(model,expr,...)`
- Description** `M = mphevalglobalmatrix(model,expr,...)` evaluates the global matrix of the variable `expr` and returns the full matrix `M`.
- The function `mphevalglobalmatrix` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-2: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHEVAL COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Dataset	String		Data set tag

---

**Note:** S-parameters evaluation requires the RF module.

---

- Example** Load `lossy_circulator_3d.mph` from the RF Module's Model Library:
- ```
model = mphload('lossy_circulator_3d.mph');
```
- Evaluate the S-parameters matrix using the solution data set `dset4`:
- ```
M = mphevalglobalmatrix(model,'emw.SdB','dataset','dset4');
```
- See also** [mpheval](#), [mphinterp](#), [mphglobal](#)

- Purpose** Evaluate expressions at geometry vertices.
- Syntax** `[v1,...,vn] = mphevalpoint(model,{e1,...,en},...)`  
`[v1,...,vn,unit] = mphevalpoint(model,{e1,...,en},...)`
- Description** `[v1,...,vn] = mphevalpoint(model,{e1,...,en},...)` returns the results from evaluating the expressions `e1,...,en` at the geometry vertices. The values `v1,...,vn` can either be a cell array or a matrix depending on the options.
- `[v1,...,vn,unit] = mphevalpoint(model,{e1,...,en},...)` also returns the unit of all expressions `e1,...,en` in the `1xN` cell array `unit`.

The function `mphevalpoint` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-3: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHEVAL COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Dataset	String		Data set tag
Dataserries	none   mean   int   max   min   rms   std   var	none	The operation that is applied to the data series formed by the evaluation
Matrix	off   on	on	Return a matrix if possible
Minmaxobj	Real   abs	real	The value being treated if <code>Dataserries</code> is set to max or min
Outersolnum	Positive integer	1	Solution number for parametric sweep
Selection	Integer vector   string   all	All domains	Set selection tag or entity number
Smooth	Internal   none   everywhere	internal	Smoothing setting
Solnum	Integer vector   all   end	all	Solutions for evaluation
Squeeze	on   off	on	Squeeze singleton dimension
t	Double array		Times for evaluation

The property `Dataset` controls which data set is used for the evaluation. Data Sets contain or refer to the source of data for postprocessing purposes. Evaluation is supported only on Solution Data Sets.

The `Datseries` property is used to control any filtering of the data series. The supported operations are: average (`mean`), integral (`int`), maximum (`max`), minimum (`min`), root mean square (`rms`), standard deviation (`std`) and variance (`var`).

Set the property `Matrix` to `off` to get the results in a cell array format.

In case the property `Datseries` is either `min` or `max`, you can specify the how the value are treated using the property `Minmaxobj`. Use either the real data or the absolute data.

The property `Solnum` is used to select the solution to plot when a parametric, eigenvalue or time dependent solver has been used to solve the problem.

The expressions `e1`, `...`, `en` are evaluated for one or several solutions. Each solution generates an additional row in the data fields of the post data output structure. The property `Solnum` and `t` control which solutions are used for the evaluations. The `Solnum` property is available when the data set has multiple solutions, for example in the case of parametric, eigenfrequency, or time-dependent solutions. The `t` property is available only for time-dependent problems. If `Solnum` is provided, the solutions indicated by the indices provided with the `Solnum` property are used. If `t` is provided solutions are interpolated. If neither `Solnum` nor `t` is provided, all solutions are evaluated.

For time-dependent problems, the variable `t` can be used in the expressions `ei`. The value of `t` is the interpolation time when the property `t` is provided, and the time for the solution, when `Solnum` is used. Similarly, `lambda` and the parameter are available as eigenvalues for eigenvalue problems and as parameter values for parametric problems, respectively.

**Example**

Load `shallow_water_equations.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('shallow_water_equations.mph');
```

Evaluate the elevation `Z` at point number 2:

```
dat = mphevalpoint(model, 'Z', 'selection', 2);
```

Evaluate the maximum value of the elevation with respect to the time at point 2:

```
dat = mphevalpoint(model, 'Z', 'selection', 2, 'datseries', 'max');
```

Evaluate the maximum value of the elevation with respect to the time at point 2:

```
dat = mphevalpoint(model, 'Z', 'selection', 2, 'datseries', 'rms');
```

**See also**

[mpheval1](#), [mphglobal1](#), [mphint2](#), [mphinterp](#)

**Purpose** Plot a geometry in a MATLAB figure.

**Syntax** `mphgeom(model)`  
`mphgeom(model,geomtag,...)`

**Description** `mphgeom(model)` plots the model geometry in a MATLAB figure.  
`mphgeom(model,geomtag,...)` plots the model geometry with the tag `geomtag` in a MATLAB figure.

The function `mphgeom` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-4: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHGEOM COMMAND

PROPERTY	VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Parent	Double		Parent axes
Selection	Positive integer array		Selection
Entity	point   edge   boundary   domain		Geometric entity to select
Build	on   off   current   string	on	Build the geometry before plotting
Edgecolor	Char	k	Edge color
Edgelabels	on   off	off	Show edge labels
Edgelabelscolor	Char	k	Color for edge labels
Edgemode	on   off	on	Show edges
Facealpha	Double	1	Set transparency value
Facelabels	on   off	off	Show face labels
Facelabelscolor	Char	k	Color for face labels
Facemode	on   off	on	Show faces
Vertexlabels	on   off	off	Show vertex labels
Vertexlabelscolor	Char	k	Color for vertex labels
Vertexmode	on   off	off	Show vertices

The `Build` property determines if `mphgeom` build the geometry prior to display it. If the `Build` property is set with a geometric object tag, the geometry is built up to that object. `mphgeom` only displays built geometry objects.

**Example**

Load `shell_diffusion.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('shell_diffusion.mph');
```

Plot the geometry:

```
mphgeom(model)
```

Plot the geometry and boundaries 2,4,6,8,10,16,17,18,29 and 20 in subplot:

```
ax = subplot(1,2,1);  
mphgeom(model, 'geom1', ...  
    'parent', ax, ...  
    'edgecolor', 'k', ...  
    'edgelabels', 'on', ...  
    'alpha', 0.5, ...  
    'edgelabelscolor', 'b', ...  
    'vertexmode', 'on', ...  
    'edgemode', 'on');  
ax = subplot(1,2,2);  
mphgeom(model, 'geom1', ...  
    'parent', ax, ...  
    'entity', 'boundary', ...  
    'selection', [2:2:10, 16:20]);
```

**See also**

[mphmesh](#), [mphviewselection](#)

<b>Purpose</b>	Return geometry entity indices that are adjacent to other.
<b>Syntax</b>	<code>n = mphgetadj(model, geomtag, returntype, adjtype, adjnumber)</code>
<b>Description</b>	<p><code>n = mphgetadj(model, geomtag, returntype, adjtype, adjnumber)</code> returns the indices of the adjacent geometry entities.</p> <p><code>returntype</code> is the type of the geometry entities whose index are returned.</p> <p><code>adjtype</code> is the type of the input geometry entity.</p> <p>The entity type can be one of 'point', 'edge', 'boundary' or 'domain' following the entity space dimension defined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 'domain': maximum geometry space dimension</li><li>• 'boundary': maximum geometry space dimension -1</li><li>• 'edges': 1 (only for 3D geometry)</li><li>• 'point': 0</li></ul>
<b>Example</b>	<p>Load <code>busbar.mph</code> from the Model Library:</p> <pre>model = mphload('busbar.mph');</pre> <p>Returns the indices of the domains adjacent to point 2:</p> <pre>n = mphgetadj(model, 'geom1', 'domain', 'point', 2);</pre> <p>Returns the indices of the points adjacent to domains 2 and 3:</p> <pre>n = mphgetadj(model, 'geom1', 'point', 'domain', [2 3]);</pre>
<b>See also</b>	<a href="#">mphgetcoords</a> , <a href="#">mphselectbox</a> , <a href="#">mphselectcoords</a>

<b>Purpose</b>	Return point coordinates of geometry entities.
<b>Syntax</b>	<code>c = mphgetcoords(model,geomtag,entitytype,entitynumber)</code>
<b>Description</b>	<p><code>c = mphgetcoords(model,geomtag,entitytype,entitynumber)</code> returns the coordinates of the points that belong to the entity object with the type <code>entitytype</code> and the index <code>entitynumber</code>.</p> <p>The <code>entitytype</code> property can be one of 'point', 'edge', 'boundary' or 'domain' following the entity space dimension defined below:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 'domain': maximum geometry space dimension</li><li>• 'boundary': maximum geometry space dimension -1</li><li>• 'edge': 1 (only for 3D geometry)</li><li>• 'point': 0</li></ul>
<b>Example</b>	<p>Load <code>busbar.mph</code> from the Model Library:</p> <pre>model = mphload('busbar.mph');</pre> <p>Return the coordinates of points that belong to domain 1:</p> <pre>c = mphgetcoords(model,'geom1','domain',1);</pre> <p>Return the coordinates of points that belong to boundary 5:</p> <pre>c = mphgeomcoords(model,'geom1','boundary',5);</pre> <p>Return the coordinates of point number 10:</p> <pre>c = mphgeomcoords(model,'geom1','point',10);</pre>
<b>See also</b>	<a href="#">mphgetadj</a> , <a href="#">mphselectbox</a> , <a href="#">mphselectcoords</a>

<b>Purpose</b>	Get the model variables and model parameters expressions.
<b>Syntax</b>	<code>expr = mphgetexpressions(modelnode)</code>
<b>Description</b>	<code>expr = mphgetexpressions(modelnode)</code> returns expressions from the node <code>modelnode</code> as a cell array. <code>expr</code> contains the list of the variable names, the variable expressions and the variable descriptions.  Note that not all nodes have expressions defined.
<b>Example</b>	Load example model <code>busbar.mph</code> from the Model Library:  <code>model = mphload('stresses_in_pulley.mph');</code> Get the expressions defined in the parameters node:  <code>expr = mphgetexpressions(model.param)</code>
<b>See also</b>	<a href="#">mphnavigator</a> , <a href="#">mphmodel</a>

<b>Purpose</b>	Get the properties from a model node
<b>Syntax</b>	<code>mphproperties(modelnode)</code>
<b>Description</b>	<code>mphproperties(modelnode)</code> returns properties that are defined for the node <code>modelnode</code> .
<b>Example</b>	Load busbar.mph from the Model Library: <pre>model = mphload('busbar');</pre> Get the properties of the node <code>model.result('pg1')</code> : <pre>prop = mphgetproperties(model.result('pg1'))</pre>
<b>See also</b>	<a href="#">mphnavigator</a>

## mphgetselection

---

<b>Purpose</b>	Get information about a selection node.
<b>Syntax</b>	<code>info = mphgetselection(selnode)</code>
<b>Description</b>	<p><code>info = mphgetselection(selnode)</code> returns the selection data of the selection node <code>selnode</code>.</p> <p>The output <code>info</code> is a MATLAB structure defined with the following fields:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <code>dimension</code>, the space dimension of the geometry entity selected.</li><li>• <code>geom</code>, the geometry tag.</li><li>• <code>entities</code>, the indexes of the selected entities.</li><li>• <code>isGlobal</code>, a Boolean expression that indicates if the selection is global.</li></ul>
<b>Example</b>	<p>Load <code>busbar.mph</code> from the Model Library:</p> <pre>model = mphload('busbar.mph');</pre> <p>Get the information of the selection node <code>model.selection('sel1')</code>:</p> <pre>info = mphgetselection(model.selection('sel1'))</pre>
<b>See also</b>	<a href="#">mphnavigator</a>

- Purpose** Return solution vector.
- Syntax** `U = mphgetu(model,...)`  
`[U,Udot] = mphgetu(model,...)`
- Description** `U = mphgetu(model)` returns the solution vector `U` for the default solution data set.
- `[U,Udot] = mphgetu(model,...)` returns in addition `Udot`, which is the time derivative of the solution vector. This syntax is available for a time-dependent solution only.
- For a time-dependent and parametric analysis type, the last solution is returned by default. For an eigenvalue analysis type the first solution number is returned by default.

The function `mphgetu` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-5: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHGETU COMMAND

PROPERTY	VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
<code>Solname</code>	String	Auto	Solver node tag
<code>Solnum</code>	Positive integer vector	Auto	Solution for evaluation
<code>Type</code>	String	Sol	Solution type
<code>Matrix</code>	off   on	on	Store as matrix if possible

The `Solname` property set the solution data set to use associated with the defined solver node.

`Type` is used to select the solution type. This is 'Sol' by default. The valid types are: 'Sol' (main solution), 'Reacf' (reaction force), 'Adj' (adjoint solution), 'Fsens' (functional sensitivity) and 'Sens' (forward sensitivity).

If `Solnum` is a vector and the result has been obtained with the same mesh then the solution will be stored in a matrix if the `Matrix` option is set to 'on'

**Example** Load `falling_sand.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('falling_sand.mph');
```

Get the solution vector for the last time step (default solution number):

```
u = mphgetu(model);
```

Get the solution vector and its derivative for solution number 9 and 10:

```
[u,ut] = mphgetu(model,'solnum',[9 10]);
```

**See also**

[mphsolinfo](#)

mphglobal

**Purpose** Evaluate global quantities.

**Syntax**  $[d1, \dots, dn] = \text{mphglobal}(\text{model}, \{e1, \dots, en\}, \dots)$   
 $[d1, \dots, dn, \text{unit}] = \text{mphglobal}(\text{model}, \{e1, \dots, en\}, \dots)$

**Description**  $[d1, \dots, dn] = \text{mphglobal}(\text{model}, \{e1, \dots, en\}, \dots)$  returns the results from evaluating the global quantities specified in the string expression  $e1, \dots, en$ .

$[d1, \dots, dn, \text{unit}] = \text{mphglobal}(\text{model}, \{e1, \dots, en\}, \dots)$  also returns the unit of the expressions  $e1, \dots, en$ . `unit` is a  $n \times 1$  cell array.

The function `mphglobal` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-6: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHGLOBAL COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Complexfun	off   on	on	Use complex-valued functions with real input
Complexout	off   on	off	Return complex values
Dataset	String	Active solution data set	Data set tag
Matherr	off   on	off	Error for undefined operations or expressions
Outersolnum	Positive integer	1	Solution number for parametric sweep
Phase	Scalar	0	Phase angle in degrees
Solnum	Integer vector   all   end	all	Solution for evaluation
T	Double array		Time for evaluation
Unit	String   cell array		Unit to use for the evaluation

The property `Dataset` controls which data set is used for the evaluation. Data Sets contain or refer to the source of data for postprocessing purposes. Evaluation is supported only on solution data sets.

When the property `Phase` is used, the solution vector is multiplied with  $\exp(i \cdot \text{phase})$  before evaluating the expression.

The expressions  $e_i$  are evaluated for one or several solutions. Each solution generates an additional row in the output data array  $d_i$ . The property `Solnum` and `t` control which solutions are used for the evaluations. The `Solnum` property is

available when the data set has multiple solutions, for example in the case of parametric, eigenfrequency, or time-dependent solutions. The `t` property is available only for time-dependent problems. If `Solnum` is provided, the solutions indicated by the indices provided with the `Solnum` property are used. If `t` is provided solutions are interpolated. If neither `Solnum` nor `t` is provided, all solutions are evaluated.

For time-dependent problems, the variable `t` can be used in the expressions `e.i`. The value of `t` is the interpolation time when the property `t` is provided, and the time for the solution, when `Solnum` is used. Similarly, `lambda` and the parameter are available as eigenvalues for eigenvalue problems and as parameter values for parametric problems, respectively.

In case of multiple expression if the `unit` property is defined with a string, the same unit is used for both expressions. To use different units, set the property with a cell array. In case of inconsistent unit definition, the default unit is used instead.

`Solnum` is used to select the solution number when a parametric, eigenvalue or time-dependent solver has been used.

`Outersolnum` is used to select the outer solution number when a parametric sweep has been used in the study step node.

**Example**

Load `fluid_valve.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('fluid_valve.mph');
```

Evaluate the global expression `u_up` for each time step:

```
u_up = mphglobal(model, 'u_up')
```

Evaluate the global expression `u_up` at  $t = 0.8$  sec:

```
u_up = mphglobal(model, 'u_up', 't', 0.8)
```

Evaluate the expressions `u_up` and `u_down` at the last solution number:

```
[u_up, u_down] =  
mphglobal(model, {'u_up', 'u_down'}, 'solnum', 'end')
```

Evaluate the expressions `u_up` in  $\text{mm}^2/\text{s}$  and `u_down` in  $\text{cm}^2/\text{s}$ :

```
[u_up, u_down] =  
mphglobal(model, {'u_up', 'u_down'}, 'unit', {'mm^2/s', 'cm^2/s'});
```

**See also**

[mpheval](#), [mphevalpoint](#), [mphint2](#), [mphinterp](#)

**Purpose** Convert image data to geometry.

**Syntax** `model = mphimage2geom(imagedata,level,...)`

**Description** `model = mphimage2geom(imagedata,level,...)` converts the image contained in `imagedata` into a geometry which is returned in the `model` object `model`.

The contour of the image is defined by the value `level`. `imagedata` must be a 2D matrix.

The function `mphimage2geom` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-7: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHIMAGE2GEOM COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Rtol	Value	1e-3	Relative tolerance for interpolation curves
Type	Solid   closed   open	solid	Type of geometry object
Curvetype	Auto   polygon	auto	Type of curve to create the geometry object
Scale	Value	1	Scale factor from pixels to geometry scale
Mindist	Value	1	Minimum distance between coordinates in curves (in pixels)
Compose	on   off	on	Create compose nodes for overlapping solids
Rectangle	on   off	off	Insert rectangle in the geometry

The default curve types creates a geometry with the best suited geometrical primitives. For interior curves this is Interpolation Curves and for curves that are touching the perimeter of the image, Polygons is used.

**Example** Create the geometry following the contour level 50 of an image data array provided by the function `peaks`:

```
p = (peaks+7)*5;
figure(1)
[c,h] = contourf(p)
clabel(c,h);
colorbar
model = mphimage2geom(p, 50);
```

```
figure(2);  
mphgeom(model)
```

**Purpose** Perform integration of expressions.

**Syntax** `[v1,...,v2] = mphint2(model,{e1,...,en},edim,...)`  
`[v1,...,v2,unit] = mphint2(model,{e1,...,en},edim,...)`

**Description** `[v1,...,vn] = mphint2(model,{e1,...,en},...)` evaluates the integrals of the string expressions `e1,...,en` and returns the result in `N` matrices `v1,...,vn` with `M` rows and `P` columns. `M` is the number of inner solution and `P` the number of outer solution used for the evaluation. `edim` defines the element dimension, as a string: `line`, `surface`, `volume` or as an integer value.

`[v1,...,vn] = mphint2(model,{e1,...,en},...)` also returns the units of the integral in a `1xN` cell array.

The function `mphint2` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-8: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHINT2 COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Dataset	String	active solution data set	Data set tag
Intorder	Positive integer	4	Integration order
Intsurface	on   off	off	Compute surface integral
Intvolume	on   off	off	Compute volume integral
Matrix	off   on	on	Returns data as a matrix or as a cell
Method	auto   integration   summation	auto	Integration method
Outersolnum	Positive integer	1	Solution number for parametric sweep
Selection	Integer vector   string   all	all	Selection list or named selection
Solnum	Integer vector   end   all	all	Solution for evaluation
Squeeze	on   off	on	Squeeze singleton dimensions
T	Double array		Time for evaluation

The property `Dataset` controls which data set is used for the evaluation. Data Sets contain or refer to the source of data for postprocessing purposes. Evaluation is supported only on Solution Data Sets.

The expressions  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  are integrated for one or several solutions. Each solution generates an additional column in the returned matrix. The property `Solnum` and `t` control which solutions are used for the integrations. The `Solnum` property is available when the data set has multiple solutions, for example in the case of parametric, eigenfrequency, or time-dependent solutions. The `t` property is available only for time-dependent problems. If `Solnum` is provided, the solutions indicated by the indices provided with the `Solnum` property are used. If `t` is provided solutions are interpolated. If neither `Solnum` nor `t` is provided, all solutions are evaluated.

For time-dependent problems, the variable `t` can be used in the expressions  $e_i$ . The value of `t` is the interpolation time when the property `t` is provided, and the time for the solution, when `Solnum` is used. Similarly, `lambda` and the parameter are available as eigenvalues for eigenvalue problems and as parameter values for parametric problems, respectively.

The `unit` property defines the unit of the integral, if a inconsistent unit is entered, the default unit is used. In case of multiple expression, if the `unit` property is defined with a string, the same unit is used for both expressions. To use different units, set the property with a cell array. In case of inconsistent unit definition, the default unit is used instead.

`Solnum` is used to select the solution number when a parametric, eigenvalue or time-dependent solver has been used.

`Outersolnum` is used to select the outer solution number when a parametric sweep has been used in the study step node.

### Example

Load `micromixer.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('micromixer.mph');
```

Integrate the  $x$ -velocity  $u$  at the outlet boundary and get its unit:

```
[flow unit]= mphint2(model,'u','surface','selection',136)
```

Load `heat_transfer_axi.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('heat_transient_axi.mph');
```

Integrate the normal heat flux along the external boundaries using surface integration:

```
Q = mphint(model,'ht.ndflux',1,'intsurface','on',...
```

```
'selection',[2,3,4]);
```

**See also**

[mpheval](#), [mphevalpoint](#), [mphglobal](#), [mphinterp](#)

**Purpose** Evaluate expressions in arbitrary points or data sets.

**Syntax** `[v1,...,vn] = mphinterp(model,{e1,...,en},'coord',coord,...)`  
`[v1,...,vn] = mphinterp(model,{e1,...,en},'dataset',dsettag,...)`  
`[v1,...,vn,unit] = mphinterp(model,{e1,...,en},...)`

**Description** `[v1,...,vn] = mphinterp(model,{e1,...,en},'coord',coord,...)` evaluates expressions `e1,...,en` at the coordinates specified in the double matrix `coord`. Evaluation is supported only on Solution Data Sets.

`[v1,...,vn] = mphinterp(model,{e1,...,en},'dataset',dsettag,...)` evaluates expressions `e1,...,en` on the specified data set `dsettag`. In this case the data set needs to be of a type that defines an interpolation in itself, such as cut planes, revolve, and so forth.

`[v1,...,vn,unit] = mphinterp(model,{e1,...,en},...)` returns in addition the unit of the expressions.

The function `mphinterp` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-9: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHINTERP COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Complexfun	off   on	on	Use complex-valued functions with real input
Complexout	off   on	off	Return complex values
Coord	Double array		Coordinates for evaluation
Coorderr	off   on	off	Give an error message if all coordinates are outside the geometry
Dataset	String	Auto	Data set tag
Edim	'point'   'edge'   'boundary'   'domain'   0   1   2   3	Geometry space dimension	Element dimension for evaluation
Ext	Value	0.1	Extrapolation control
Matherr	off   on	off	Error for undefined operations or expressions
Outersolnum	Positive integer	1	Solution number for parametric sweep

TABLE 6-9: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHINTERP COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Phase	Scalar	0	Phase angle in degrees
Recover	off   ppr   pprint	off	Accurate derivative recovery
Selection	Positive Integer array   all	all	Selection list
Solnum	Positive integer array   all   end	all	Inner solutions for evaluation
T	Double array		Time for evaluation
Unit	String   Cell array		Unit to use for the evaluation

The columns of the matrix `coord` are the coordinates for the evaluation points. If the number of rows in `coord` equals the space dimension, then `coord` are global coordinates, and the property `Edim` determines the dimension in which the expressions are evaluated. For instance, `Edim='boundary'` means that the expressions are evaluated on boundaries in a 3D model. If `Edim` is less than the space dimension, then the points in `coord` are projected onto the closest point on a domain of dimension `Edim`. If, in addition, the property `Selection` is given, then the closest point on domain number `Selection` in dimension `Edim` is used.

If the number of rows in `coord` is less than the space dimension, then these coordinates are parameter values on a geometry face or edge. In that case, the domain number for that face or edge must be specified with the property `Selection`.

The expressions that are evaluated can be expressions involving variables, in particular physics interface variables.

The matrices  $v_1, \dots, v_n$  are of the size  $k$ -by- $\text{size}(\text{coord}, 2)$ , where  $k$  is the number of solutions for which the evaluation is carried out, see below. The value of expression  $e_i$  for solution number  $j$  in evaluation point  $\text{coord}(:, m)$  is  $v_i(j, m)$ .

The vector `pe` contains the indices `m` for the evaluation points `code(:, m)` that are outside the mesh, or, if a domain is specified, are outside that domain.

The property `Data` controls which data set is used for the evaluation. Data Sets contain or refer to the source of data for postprocessing purposes. Evaluation is supported only on Solution Data Sets. The active solution data set is used by default.

The property `Edim` decides which elements to evaluate on. Evaluation takes place only on elements with space dimension `Edim`. If not specified, `Edim` equal to the space dimension of the geometry is used. The setting is specified as one of the following strings 'point', 'edge', 'boundary' or 'domain'. In previous versions it was only possible to specify `Edim` as a number. For example, in a 3D model, if evaluation is done on edges (1D elements), `Edim` is 1. Similarly, for boundary evaluation (2D elements), `Edim` is 2, and for domain evaluation (3D elements), `Edim` is 3 (default in 3D).

Use `Recover` to recover fields using polynomial-preserving recovery. This techniques recover fields with derivatives such as stresses or fluxes with a higher theoretical convergence than smoothing. Recovery is expensive so it is turned off by default. The value `pprint` means that recovery is performed inside domains. The value `ppr` means that recovery is also applied on all domain boundaries.

The property `Refine` constructs evaluation points by making a regular refinements of each element. Each mesh edge is divided into `Refine` equal parts.

The property `Smooth` controls if the post data is forced to be continuous on element edges. When `Smooth` is set to internal, only elements not on interior boundaries are made continuous.

When the property `Phase` is used, the solution vector is multiplied with  $\exp(i \cdot \text{phase})$  before evaluating the expression.

The expressions  $e_1, \dots, e_n$  are evaluated for one or several solutions. Each solution generates an additional row in the data fields of the post data output structure. The property `Solnum` and `t` control which solutions are used for the evaluations. The `Solnum` property is available when the data set has multiple solutions, for example, in the case of parametric, eigenfrequency, or time-dependent solutions. The `t` property is available only for time-dependent problems. If `Solnum` is provided, the solutions indicated by the indices provided with the `Solnum` property are used. If `t` is provided solutions are interpolated. If neither `Solnum` nor `t` is provided, all solutions are evaluated.

For time-dependent problems, the variable `t` can be used in the expressions  $e_i$ . The value of `t` is the interpolation time when the property `t` is provided, and the time for the solution, when `Solnum` is used. Similarly, `lambda` and the parameter are

available as eigenvalues for eigenvalue problems and as parameter values for parametric problems, respectively.

In case of multiple expression, if the `unit` property is defined with a string, the same unit is used for both expressions. To use different units, set the property with a cell array. In case of inconsistent unit definition, the default unit is used instead.

`Solnum` is used to select the solution number when a parametric, eigenvalue or time-dependent solver has been used.

`Outersolnum` is used to select the outer solution number when a parametric sweep has been used in the study step node.

### Example

Load `heat_convection_2d.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('heat_convection_2d.mph');
```

Compute the temperature `T` at the center of the domain:

```
T = mphinterp(model, 'T', 'coord', [0.3;0.5])
```

Load `transport_and_adsorption.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('transport_and_asorption.mph');
```

Evaluate the concentration along boundary 5 at  $t = 2$  s:

```
list = [0:1e-3:0.1 0.2:0.1:0.9 0.9:1e-3:1];
[c,y] = mphinterp(model, {'c', 'y'}, 'coord', list, 'edim', 1, ...
    'selection', 5, 't', 2);
```

Load `stresses_in_pulley.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('stresses_in_pulley.mph');
```

Evaluate the von Mises effective stress at the cut point data set `cpt1`:

```
[mises,n]= mphinterp(model, {'solid.mises', 'n'}, ...
    'dataset', 'cpt1');
```

### See also

[mpheval](#), [mphevalpoint](#), [mphglobal](#), [mphint2](#)

<b>Purpose</b>	Load a COMSOL model MPH-file.
<b>Syntax</b>	<pre>model = mphload(filename) model = mphload(filename, ModelObjectName) model = mphload(filename, ModelObjectName, '-history') [model, filename] = mphload(filename, ModelObjectName)</pre>
<b>Description</b>	<p><code>model = mphload(filename)</code> loads a COMSOL model object saved with the name <code>filename</code> and assigns the default name <code>Model</code> in the COMSOL server.</p> <p><code>model = mphload(filename, ModelObjectName)</code> loads a COMSOL model object and assigns the name <code>ModelObjectName</code> in the COMSOL server.</p> <p><code>model = mphload(filename, ModelObjectName, '-history')</code> turns on history recording.</p> <p><code>[model, filenameloaded] = mphload(filename, ModelObjectName)</code> also returns the full file name <code>filenameloaded</code> of the file that was loaded.</p> <p>If the model name is the same as a model that is currently in the COMSOL server the loaded model overwrites the existing one.</p> <p>Note that MATLAB searches for the model on the MATLAB path if an absolute path is not supplied.</p> <p><code>mphload</code> turns off the model history recording by default, unless the property <code>'-history'</code> is used.</p> <p>The extension <code>mph</code> can be omitted.</p>
<b>Example</b>	<p>Load <code>transport_and_adsorption.mph</code> from the Model Library:</p> <pre>model = mphload('transport_and_asorption.mph');</pre> <p>Load <code>stresses_in_pulley.mph</code> without specifying the <code>mph</code> extension:</p> <pre>model = mphload('stresses_in_pulley');</pre> <p>Load the model from <code>MyModel.mph</code> with the path specified:</p> <pre>model = mphload('PATH\MyModel.mph');</pre> <p>Load <code>effective_diffusivity.mph</code> from the Model Library and return the file name:</p> <pre>[model, filename] = mphload('effective_diffusivity.mph');</pre>
<b>See also</b>	<a href="#">mphsave</a>

**Purpose** Get model matrices.

**Syntax** `str = mphmatrix(model,soltag,'Out',...)`

**Description** `str = mphmatrix(model,soltag,'Out',{'A'},...)` returns a MATLAB structure `str` containing the matrix `A` assembled using the solver node `soltag` and accessible as `str.A`. `A` being taken from the `Out` property list.

`str = mphmatrix(model,soltag,fname,'Out',{'A','B'},...)` returns a MATLAB structure `str` containing the matrices `A`, `B`, ... assembled using the solver node `solname` and accessible as `str.A` and `str.B`. `A` and `B` being taken from the `Out` property list.

The function `mphmatrix` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-10: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHMATRIX COMMAND

PROPERTY	EXPRESSION	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
<code>out</code>	Cell array of strings		List of matrices to assemble
<code>Initmethod</code>	<code>init</code>   <code>sol</code>		Use linearization point
<code>Initsol</code>	string   <code>zero</code>	Active solver tag	Solution to use for linearization
<code>Solnum</code>	Positive integer   <code>auto</code>	<code>auto</code>	Solution number

The following values are valid for the `out` property:

Property/Value Pairs for the property `out`.

PROPERTY	EXPRESSION	DESCRIPTION
<code>out</code>	<code>K</code>	Stiffness matrix
	<code>L</code>	Load vector
	<code>M</code>	Constraint vector
	<code>N</code>	Constraint Jacobian
	<code>D</code>	Damping matrix
	<code>E</code>	Mass matrix
	<code>NF</code>	Constraint force Jacobian
	<code>NP</code>	Optimization constraint Jacobian (*)
	<code>MP</code>	Optimization constraint vector (*)
	<code>MLB</code>	Lower bound constraint vector (*)
	<code>MUB</code>	Upper bound constraint vector (*)

Property/Value Pairs for the property out.

PROPERTY	EXPRESSION	DESCRIPTION
	Kc	Eliminated stiffness matrix
	Lc	Eliminated load vector
	Dc	Eliminated damping matrix
	Ec	Eliminated mass matrix
	Null	Constraint null-space basis
	Nullf	Constraint force null-space matrix
	ud	Particular solution ud
	uscale	Scale vector

(\*) Requires the Optimization Module.

Note that the assembly of the eliminated matrices uses the current solution vector as scaling method. To get the unscaled eliminated system matrices, it is required to set the scaling method to 'none' in the variables step of the solver configuration node.

The load vector is assembled using the current solution available as linearization point unless the `initmethod` property is provided. In case of the presence of a solver step node in the solver sequence, the load vector correspond then to the residual of the problem.

**Example**

Load `heat_convection_2d.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('heat_convection_2d.mph');
```

Extract the stiffness matrix and the load vector:

```
str =
mphmatrix(model, 'sol1', 'out', {'K', 'L'}, 'initmethod', 'init');
```

Plot the sparsity of the matrix:

```
spy(str.K)
```

Extract the eliminated system:

```
str =
mphmatrix(model, 'sol1', 'out', {'Kc', 'Lc'}, 'initmethod', 'init');
```

Compare the sparsity of both system matrices (non-eliminated (b) and eliminated one (r)):

```
hold on
spy(str.Kc, 'r')
```

Load heat\_radiation\_1d.mph from the model library:

```
model = mphload('heat_radiation_1d.mph');
```

Extract the eliminated residual:

```
str = mphmatrix(model,'sol1','out',{'Lc'});
```

**See also**

[mphstate](#), [mphxmeshinfo](#)

**Purpose** Perform maximum of expressions.

**Syntax** `[v1,...,vn] = mphmax(model,{e1,...,en},edim,...)`  
`[v1,...,vn,unit] = mphmax(model,{e1,...,en},edim,...)`

**Description** `[v1,...,vn] = mphmax(model,{e1,...,en},edim,...)` evaluates the maximum of the string expressions `e1,...,en` and returns the result in `N` matrices `v1,...,vn` with `M` rows and `P` columns. `M` is the number of inner solution and `P` the number of outer solution used for the evaluation. `edim` defines the element dimension: `line`, `surface`, `volume` or as an integer value.

`[v1,...,vn] = mphmax(model,{e1,...,en},edim,...)` also returns the units of the maximum in a `1xN` cell array.

The function `mphmax` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-11: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHMAX COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Dataset	String	active solution data set	Data set tag
Matrix	off   on	on	Returns data as a matrix or as a cell
Outersolnum	Positive integer array	1	Solution number for parametric sweep
Selection	Integer vector   string   all	all	Selection list or named selection
Solnum	Integer vector   end   all	all	Solution for evaluation
Squeeze	on   off	on	Squeeze singleton dimensions
T	Double array		Time for evaluation

The property `Dataset` controls which data set is used for the evaluation. Data Sets contain or refer to the source of data for postprocessing purposes. Evaluation is supported only on Solution Data Sets.

The maximum expressions `e1,...,en` is evaluated for one or several solutions. Each solution generates an additional column in the returned matrix. The property `Solnum` and `t` control which solutions are used for the evaluation. The `Solnum` property is available when the data set has multiple solutions, for example in the case of parametric, eigenfrequency, or time-dependent solutions. The `t` property is

available only for time-dependent problems. If `Solnum` is provided, the solutions indicated by the indices provided with the `Solnum` property are used. If `t` is provided solutions are interpolated. If neither `Solnum` nor `t` is provided, all solutions are evaluated.

`Solnum` is used to select the solution number when a parametric, eigenvalue or time-dependent solver has been used.

`Outersolnum` is used to select the outer solution number when a parametric sweep has been used in the study step node.

If the `Matrix` property is set to `off` the output will be cell arrays of length `P` containing cell arrays of length `M`.

#### Example

Load `micromixer.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('micromixer.mph');
```

Find the maximum  $x$ -velocity  $u$  at the outlet boundary and get its unit:

```
[flow unit]= mphmax(model,'u','surface','selection',136)
```

Load `heat_transfer_axi.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('heat_transient_axi.mph');
```

Find the max normal heat flux along the external boundaries:

```
Q = mphmax(model,'ht.ndflux','line','selection',[2,3,4]);
```

#### See also

[mphmean](#), [mphmin](#)

**Purpose** Perform mean of expressions.

**Syntax**  $[v1, \dots, vn] = \text{mphmean}(\text{model}, \{e1, \dots, en\}, \text{edim}, \dots)$   
 $[v1, \dots, vn, \text{unit}] = \text{mphmean}(\text{model}, \{e1, \dots, en\}, \text{edim}, \dots)$

**Description**  $[v1, \dots, vn] = \text{mphmean}(\text{model}, \{e1, \dots, en\}, \text{edim}, \dots)$  evaluates the means of the string expressions  $e1, \dots, en$  and returns the result in  $N$  matrices  $v1, \dots, vn$  with  $M$  rows and  $P$  columns.  $M$  is the number of inner solution and  $P$  the number of outer solution used for the evaluation.  $\text{edim}$  defines the element dimension: *line*, *surface*, *volume* or as an integer value.

$[v1, \dots, vn] = \text{mphmean}(\text{model}, \{e1, \dots, en\}, \text{edim}, \dots)$  also returns the units of the maximum in a  $1 \times N$  cell array.

The function `mphmean` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-12: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHMEAN COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Dataset	String	active solution data set	Data set tag
Intorder	Positive integer	4	Integration order
Matrix	off   on	on	Returns data as a matrix or as a cell
Method	auto   integration   summation	auto	Integration method
Outersolnum	Positive integer array	1	Solution number for parametric sweep
Selection	Integer vector   string   all	all	Selection list or named selection
Solnum	Integer vector   end   all	all	Solution for evaluation
Squeeze	on   off	on	Squeeze singleton dimensions
T	Double array		Time for evaluation

The property `Dataset` controls which data set is used for the evaluation. Data Sets contain or refer to the source of data for postprocessing purposes. Evaluation is supported only on Solution Data Sets.

The mean of expressions  $e1, \dots, en$  is evaluated for one or several solutions. Each solution generates an additional column in the returned matrix. The property

`Solnum` and `t` control which solutions are used for the evaluation. The `Solnum` property is available when the data set has multiple solutions, for example in the case of parametric, eigenfrequency, or time-dependent solutions. The `t` property is available only for time-dependent problems. If `Solnum` is provided, the solutions indicated by the indices provided with the `Solnum` property are used. If `t` is provided solutions are interpolated. If neither `Solnum` nor `t` is provided, all solutions are evaluated.

`Solnum` is used to select the solution number when a parametric, eigenvalue or time-dependent solver has been used.

`Outersolnum` is used to select the outer solution number when a parametric sweep has been used in the study step node.

If the `Matrix` property is set to `off` the output will be cell arrays of length `P` containing cell arrays of length `M`.

#### Example

Load `micromixer.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('micromixer.mph');
```

Find the mean  $x$ -velocity  $u$  at the outlet boundary and get its unit:

```
[flow unit]= mphmean(model,'u','surface','selection',136)
```

Load `heat_transfer_axi.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('heat_transient_axi.mph');
```

Find the mean normal heat flux along the external boundaries:

```
Q = mphmean(model,'ht.ndflux','line','selection',[2,3,4]);
```

#### See also

[mphmax](#), [mphmin](#)

**Purpose** Plot a mesh in a MATLAB figure window.

**Syntax** `mphmesh(model)`  
`mphmesh(model,meshtag,...)`

**Description** `mphmesh(model)` plots the mesh case in a MATLAB figure.  
`mphmesh(model,meshtag,...)` plots the mesh case `meshtag` in a MATLAB figure.  
The function `mphmesh` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-13: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHESH COMMAND

PROPERTY	VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Parent	Double		Parent axis
Edgecolor	Char	k	Edge color
Edgelabels	on   off	off	Show edge labels
Edgelabelscolor	Char	k	Color for edge labels
Edgemode	on   off	on	Show edges
Facealpha	Double	1	Set transparency value
Facelabels	on   off	off	Show face labels
Facelabelscolor	Char	k	Color for face labels
Facemode	on   off	on	Show faces
Meshcolor	Char	flat	Color for face element
Vertexlabels	on   off	off	Show vertex labels
Vertexlabelscolor	Char	k	Color for vertex labels
Vertexmode	on   off	off	Show vertices

**Example** Load the example model `shell_diffusion.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model=mphload('shell_diffusion.mph');
```

Plot the model mesh:

```
mphmesh(model,)
```

Plot the mesh with a colored element and transparency set to 0.5:

```
mphmesh(model, 'mesh1', ...
    'edgecolor','b', ...
    'facealpha',0.5,...
    'meshcolor','r');
```

**See also** [mphgeom](#), [mphmeshstats](#), [mphplot](#)

**Purpose** Return mesh statistics and mesh data information

**Syntax** `stats = mphmeshstats(model)`  
`stats = mphmeshstats(model, meshtag)`  
`[stats,data] = mphmeshstats(model, meshtag)`

**Description** `stats = mphmeshstats(model)` returns mesh statistics of the model mesh case in the structure `str`.

`stats = mphmeshstats(model, meshtag)` returns mesh statistics of a mesh case `meshtag` in the structure `str`.

`[stats,data] = mphmeshstats(model, meshtag)` returns in addition the mesh data information such as vertex coordinates and definitions of elements in the structure `data`.

The output structure `stats` contains the following fields:

TABLE 6-14: FIELDS IN THE STATS STRUCTURE

FIELD	DESCRIPTION
Meshtag	Mesh case tag
Isactive	Is the mesh node active
Hasproblems	Does the mesh have problems?
Iscomplete	Is the mesh built to completion?
Sdim	Space dimension
Types	Cell array with type names
Numelem	Vector with the number of elements for each type
Minquality	Minimum quality
Meanquality	Mean quality
Qualitydistr	Quality distribution (vector)
Minvolume	Volume/area of the smallest element
Maxvolume	Volume/area of the largest element
Volume	Volume/area of the mesh

The output structure `data` contains the following fields:

TABLE 6-15: FIELDS IN THE DATA STRUCTURE

FIELD	DESCRIPTOIN
Vertex	Coordinates of mesh vertices

TABLE 6-15: FIELDS IN THE DATA STRUCTURE

FIELD	DESCRIPTOIN
Elem	Cell array of definition of each element type
Elementity	Entity information for each element type

**Example**

Load busbar.mph from the Model Library

```
model = mphload('busbar');
```

Show the mesh distribution in a figure

```
stats = mphmeshstats(model);
bar(linspace(0,1,20), stats.qualitydistr)
```

Show the element vertices in a plot

```
[stats,data] = mphmeshstats(model);
plot3(data.vertex(1,:), data.vertex(2,:), ...
data.vertex(3,:), '.')
axis equal
view(3)
```

Get the element types information

```
stats.types
```

Get the number of edge element, note that the edge type is the first type in the list

```
numedgeelem = stats.numelem(1)
```

**See also**

[mphmesh](#)

**Purpose** Perform minimum of expressions.

**Syntax** `[v1,...,vn] = mphmin(model,{e1,...,en},edim,...)`  
`[v1,...,vn,unit] = mphmin(model,{e1,...,en},edim,...)`

**Description** `[v1,...,vn] = mphmin(model,{e1,...,en},edim,...)` evaluates the minimum of the string expressions `e1, ..., en` and returns the result in `N` matrices `v1, ..., vn` with `M` rows and `P` columns. `M` is the number of inner solution and `P` the number of outer solution used for the evaluation. `edim` defines the element dimension: `line`, `surface`, `volume` or as an integer value.

`[v1,...,vn] = mphmin(model,{e1,...,en},edim,...)` also returns the units in a `1xN` cell array.

The function `mphmin` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-16: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHMIN COMMAND.

PROPERTY	PROPERTY VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Dataset	String	active solution data set	Data set tag
Matrix	off   on	on	Returns data as a matrix or as a cell
Outersolnum	Positive integer array	1	Solution number for parametric sweep
Selection	Integer vector   string   all	all	Selection list or named selection
Solnum	Integer vector   end   all	all	Solution for evaluation
Squeeze	on   off	on	Squeeze singleton dimensions
T	Double array		Time for evaluation

The property `Dataset` controls which data set is used for the evaluation. Data Sets contain or refer to the source of data for postprocessing purposes. Evaluation is supported only on Solution Data Sets.

The mean of expressions `e1, ..., en` is evaluated for one or several solutions. Each solution generates an additional column in the returned matrix. The property `Solnum` and `t` control which solutions are used for the evaluation. The `Solnum` property is available when the data set has multiple solutions, for example in the case of parametric, eigenfrequency, or time-dependent solutions. The `t` property is

available only for time-dependent problems. If `Solnum` is provided, the solutions indicated by the indices provided with the `Solnum` property are used. If `t` is provided solutions are interpolated. If neither `Solnum` nor `t` is provided, all solutions are evaluated.

`Solnum` is used to select the solution number when a parametric, eigenvalue or time-dependent solver has been used.

`Outersolnum` is used to select the outer solution number when a parametric sweep has been used in the study step node.

If the `Matrix` property is set to `off` the output will be cell arrays of length `P` containing cell arrays of length `M`.

**Example**

Load `micromixer.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('micromixer.mph');
```

Find the minimum  $x$ -velocity  $u$  at the outlet boundary and get its unit:

```
[flow unit]= mphmin(model,'u','surface','selection',136)
```

Load `heat_transfer_axi.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('heat_transient_axi.mph');
```

Find the minimum normal heat flux along the external boundaries:

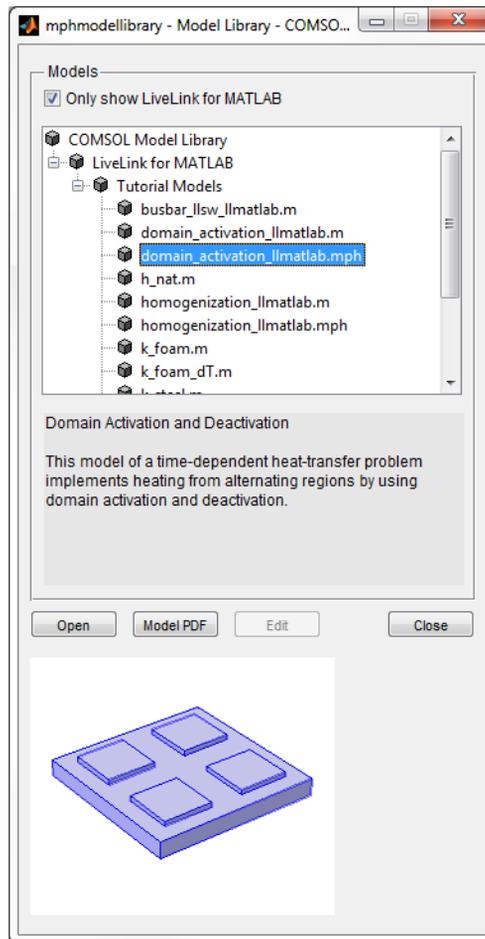
```
Q = mphmin(model,'ht.ndflux','line','selection',[2,3,4]);
```

**See also**

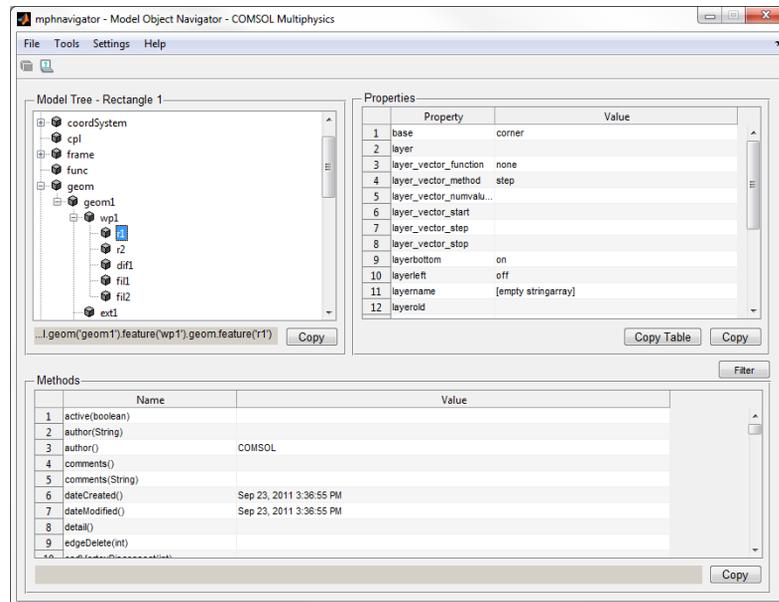
[mphmax](#), [mphmean](#)

<b>Purpose</b>	Return tags for the nodes and subnodes in the COMSOL model object.
<b>Syntax</b>	<pre>mphmodel(model) str = mphmodel(model, '-struct')</pre>
<b>Description</b>	<p><code>mphmodel(model)</code> returns the tags for the nodes and subnodes of the object <code>model</code>.</p> <p><code>str = mphmodel(model, '-struct')</code> returns the tags for the nodes and subnodes of the object <code>model</code> as a MATLAB structure <code>str</code>.</p> <p>The function <code>mphmodel</code> can be used when navigating the model object and learning about its structure. The <code>mphmodel</code> function is mainly designed for usage when working on the command line and one needs to learn what nodes are placed under a particular node.</p>
<b>Example</b>	<p>Load <code>transport_and_adsorption.mph</code> from the Model Library:</p> <pre>model = mphload('transport_and_adsorption')</pre> <p>See what nodes are available under the model object:</p> <pre>mphmodel(model)</pre> <p>See what nodes are available under the geometry node:</p> <pre>mphmodel(model.geom)</pre> <p>Get the model information as a structure:</p> <pre>res = mphmodel(model, '-struct')</pre>
<b>See also</b>	<a href="#">mphnavigator</a> , <a href="#">mphsearch</a>

<b>Purpose</b>	Graphical User Interface for viewing the Model Library.
<b>Syntax</b>	mphmodellibrary
<b>Description</b>	mphmodellibrary starts a GUI to visualize and access the example model available in the COMSOL Model Library. The model MPH-file can be loaded in MATLAB and the model documentation PDF-file is accessible directly. Models that are specific to LiveLink for MATLAB also contains the script M-file.



- Purpose** Graphical User Interface for viewing the COMSOL model object
- Syntax** `mphnavigator`  
`mphnavigator(modelvariable)`
- Description** `mphnavigator` opens the Model Object Navigator which is a graphical user interface that can be used to navigate the model object and to view the properties and methods of the nodes in the model tree.
- The GUI requires that the COMSOL object is stored in a variable in the base workspace (at the MATLAB command prompt) with the name `model`.
- `mphnavigator(modelvariable)` opens the model object defined with the name `modelvariable` in Model Object Navigator.



- Example** Load busbar .mph from the Model Library:
- ```
model = mphload('busbar')
```
- Navigate the model object that is accessible with the variable `model`
- ```
mphnavigator
```

Load `effective_diffusivity.mph` from the Model Library and set the model object with the variable `eff_diff`:

```
eff_diff = mphload('effective_diffusivity');
```

Navigate the model object that is accessible with the variable `eff_diff`

```
mphnavigator(eff_diff)
```

**See also**

[mphgetexpressions](#), [mphgetproperties](#), [mphgetselection](#), [mphmodel](#), [mphsearch](#)

**Purpose** Render a plot group in a figure window.

**Syntax**  
`mphplot(model,pgtag,...)`  
`pd = mphplot(model,pgtag,...)`  
`mphplot(pd,...)`

**Description** `mphplot(model,pgtag,...)` renders the plot group tagged `pgtag` from the model object `model` in a figure window in MATLAB.

`pd = mphplot(model,pgtag,...)` also returns the plot data used in the MATLAB figure in a cell array `pd`.

`mphplot(pd,...)` makes a plot using the post data structure `pd` that is generated using the function `mpheval`. Plots involving points, lines and surfaces are supported.

The function `mphplot` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-17: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHLOT COMMAND

PROPERTY	VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Colortable	String	Rainbow	Color table used for plotting post data structure
Index	Positive integer	1	Index of variable to use plotting post data structure
Rangenum	Positive Integer	none	Color range bar (or legend) to display
Server	on   off	off	Plot on server
Parent	Double		Set the parent axes

**Note:** The plot on server option requires that you start COMSOL with MATLAB in graphics mode.

Only one color range bar and one legend bar is supported in a MATLAB figure. When the option plot on server is active, all active color range bar are displayed.

**Example** Load `feeder_clamp.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('feeder_clamp.mph');
```

Plot the first plot group

```
mphplot(model, 'pg1')
```

Plot the first plot group with the color range bar:

```
mphplot(model, 'pg1', 'rangenum', 1)
```

Load `fluid_valve.mph` and plot on server (requires that you start COMSOL with MATLAB in graphics mode):

```
model = mphload('fluid_valve.mph');
```

Plot the second plot group on server:

```
mphplot(model, 'pg2', 'server', 'on')
```

Load `busbar.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('busbar.mph')
```

Extract temperature and electric potential data in the busbar domain:

```
pd = mpheval(model, {'T', 'V'}, 'selection', 1);
```

Plot the electric potential data using the disco color table

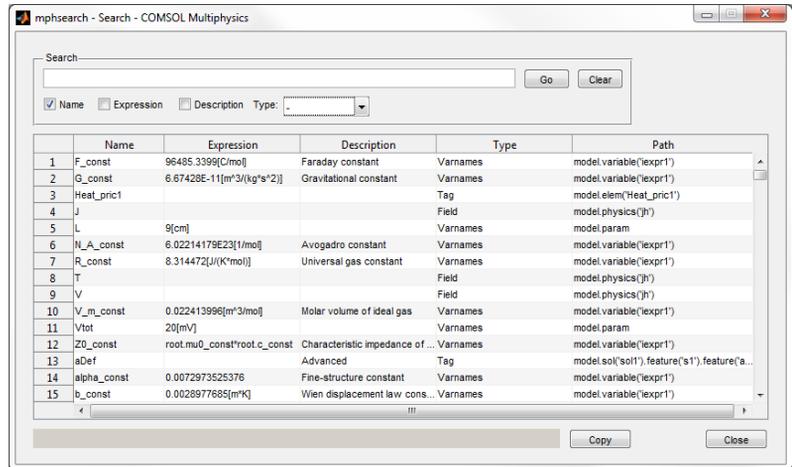
```
mphplot(pd, 'index', 2, 'colortable', 'disco')
```

**See also**

[colortable](#), [mpheval](#)

<b>Purpose</b>	Save a COMSOL model
<b>Syntax</b>	<code>mphsave(model)</code> <code>mphsave(model, filename)</code>
<b>Description</b>	<p><code>mphsave(model)</code> saves the COMSOL model object <code>model</code>.</p> <p><code>mphsave(model, filename)</code> saves the COMSOL model object <code>model</code> to the file named <code>filename</code>.</p> <p>If the file name is not provided, the model has to be saved previously on disk.</p> <p>If the file name does not provide a path, the file is saved relatively to the current path in MATLAB.</p> <p>The model can be saved as an mph-file, java-file or as an m-file. The file extension determines which format that is saved.</p>
<b>See also</b>	<a href="#">mphload</a>

- Purpose** GUI for searching expressions in the COMSOL model object
- Syntax** `mphsearch(model)`
- Description** `mphsearch(model)` opens a graphical user interface that can be used to search expressions in the model object `model`. Search using a text available in the name, expression or description of the variable.



**See also** [mphgetexpressions](#), [mphnavigator](#)

- Purpose** Select geometric entity using a rubberband/box.
- Syntax** `n = mphselectbox(model, geomtag, boxcoord, entity, ...)`
- Description** `n = mphselectbox(model, geomtag, boxcoord, entity, ...)` returns the indices of the geometry entities that are inside a selection domain (rectangle or box). This method looks only on the vertex coordinates and does not observe all points on curves and surfaces.
- `boxcoord` set the coordinates of the selection domain, specified as a Nx2 array, where N is the geometry space dimension.
- `entity` can be one of 'point', 'edge', 'boundary' or 'domain' following the entity space dimension defined below:
- 'domain': maximum geometry space dimension
  - 'boundary': maximum geometry space dimension -1
  - 'edges': 1 (only for 3D geometry)

The function `mphselectbox` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-18: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHSELECTBOX COMMAND

PROPERTY	VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Adjnumber	Scalar	none	Adjacent entity number

When a model uses *form an assembly* more than one vertex may have the same coordinate if the coordinate is shared by separate geometric objects. In that case one can use the `adjnumber` property in order to identify the domain that the vertices should be adjacent to.

**Example** Load `busbar.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('busbar.mph')
```

Find domains that are inside the selection box defined by `[0,0.05;0,-0.05;-0.05,0.05]`:

```
n = mphselectbox(model, 'geom1', ...
[0 0.05;0 -0.05;-0.05 0.05], 'domain');
```

Find boundaries inside the selection box that are adjacent to domain number 1:

```
n = mphselectbox(model, 'geom1', ...
[0,0.05;0,-0.05;-0.05,0.05], 'boundary', 'adjnumber', 1);
```

Load `effective_diffusivity.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('effective_diffusivity.mph');
```

Find the boundaries that are inside the selection rectangle defined by `[3e-4,4e-4;4.5e-4,5.5e-4]`:

```
n = mphselectbox(model, 'geom1', ...  
[3e-4,4e-4;4.5e-4,5.5e-4], 'boundary');
```

Find the boundaries that are inside the same selection rectangle:

```
n = mphselectbox(model, 'geom1', ...  
[3e-4,4e-4;4.5e-4,5.5e-4], 'point');
```

**See also**

[mphgetadj](#), [mphgetcoords](#), [mphselectcoords](#)

- Purpose** Select geometric entity using point coordinates
- Syntax** `n = mphselectcoords(model, geomtag, coord, entity, ...)`
- Description** `n = mphselectcoords(model, geomtag, coord, entity, ...)` finds geometry entity numbers based on their vertex coordinates.
- One or more coordinate may be provided. The function searches for vertices near these coordinates using a tolerance radius. The list of the entities that are adjacent to such vertices is returned.
- `Coord` is a NxM array where N correspond of the number of point to use and M the space dimension of the geometry.
- `Entity` can be one of 'point', 'edge', 'boundary' or 'domain' following the entity space dimension defined below:
- 'domain': maximum geometry space dimension
  - 'boundary': maximum geometry space dimension -1
  - 'edges': 1(only for 3D geometry)

The function `mphselectcoords` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-19: PROPERTY/VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPHSELECTCOORDS COMMAND

PROPERTY	VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Adjnumber	Scalar	none	Adjacent entity number
Radius	Scalar	auto	Search radius
Include	all   any	all	Include all or any vertices

When a model uses *form an assembly* more than one vertex may have the same coordinate if the coordinate is shared by separate geometric objects. In that case one can use the `adjnumber` property in order to identify the domain that the vertices should be adjacent to.

The `radius` property is used to specify the radius of the sphere/circle that the search should be within. A small positive radius (based on the geometry size) is used by default in order to compensate for rounding errors.

If the `include` property is 'all' then all vertices must belong to the entity in to be considered a match. If the `Include` property is 'any' then an entity is considered a match as long as any of the vertices are adjacent to the entity.

**Example** Load `busbar.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('busbar.mph');
```

Select the vertex near [0.095,0,0.1]:

```
n = mphselectcoords(model, 'geom1', ... [0.095,0,0.1], 'point');
```

Select the edge from [0.095,0,0.1] to [0.095,0,0.01]:

```
n = mphselectcoords(model, 'geom1', ...  
[0.095,0,0.1;0.095,0,0.01]', 'edge');
```

Select edges that are adjacent to the points [0.095,0,0.1] and [0.095,0,0.01]:

```
n = mphselectcoords(model, 'geom1', ...  
[0.095,0,0.1;0.095,0,0.01]', 'edge', ... 'include', 'any');
```

Select boundaries that are adjacent to the points [0.09,0,0.1] and [0.09,0,0.015] with a search radius of 0.01:

```
n = mphselectcoords(model, 'geom1', ...  
[0.09,0,0.1;0.09,0,0.015]', 'boundary', ... 'radius', 0.01);
```

**See also**

[mphgetadj](#), [mphgetcoords](#), [mphselectbox](#)

<b>Purpose</b>	Show messages in error nodes in the COMSOL model
<b>Syntax</b>	<code>mphshowerrors(model)</code> <code>list = mphshowerrors(model)</code>
<b>Description</b>	<p><code>mphshowerrors(model)</code> shows the error and warning messages stored in the model and where they are located. The output is displayed in the command window.</p> <p><code>list = mphshowerrors(model)</code> returns the error and warning messages stored in the model and where they are located in the Nx2 cell array list. N corresponding to the number of errors or warning found in the model object. The first column contains the node of the error and the second column contain the error message.</p>
<b>See also</b>	<a href="#">mphnavigator</a>

- Purpose** Get information about a solution object
- Syntax** `info = mphsolinfo(model,...)`  
`info = mphsolinfo(model,'solname',soltag,...)`
- Description** `info = mphsolinfo(model,...)` returns information about the default solution object.  
`info = mphsolinfo(model,'solname',soltag,...)` returns information about the solution object `soltag`.

The function `mphsolinfo` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-20: PROPERTY VALUE PAIRS FOR THE MPH SOLINFO COMMAND

PROPERTY	VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Solname	String	Active solution object	Solution object tag
Dataset	String	Active solution data set	Data set tag
NU	on   off	off	Get info about number of solutions

The returned value `info` is a structure with the following content

TABLE 6-21: FIELDS IN THE INFO STRUCT

FIELD	CONTENT
Solname	Solution name
Size	Size of the solution vector
Nummesh	Number of meshes in the solution (for automatic remeshing)
Sizes	Size of the solution vector for each mesh and number of timesteps/parameters for each mesh
Soltype	Solver type (Stationary, Parametric, Time or Eigenvalue)
Solpar	Name of the parameter
Sizesolvals	Length of the parameter list
Solvals	Values of the parameters, eigenvalues or timesteps
Paramsweepnames	Parametric sweep parameter names
Paramsweepvals	Parametric sweep parameter values
NUsol	Number of solution vectors stored
NUreactf	Number of reaction forces vectors stored

TABLE 6-21: FIELDS IN THE INFO STRUCT

FIELD	CONTENT
NUadj	Number of adjacency vectors stored
NUfsens	Number of functional sensitivity vectors stored
NUsens	Number of forward sensitivity vectors stored

You can use the function `mphgetu` to obtain the actual values of the solution vector. Note that these functions are low level functions and you most often would use functions such as `mphinterp` and `mpheval` to extract numerical data from a model.

**Example**

Load `stress_in_pulley.mph` from the Model Library

```
model = mphload('stress_in_pulley.mph');
```

Get the information of the active solution object

```
info = mphysolinfo(model);
```

Get the information of the second solution object

```
info = mphysolinfo(model,'solname',sol2);
```

**See also**

[mphgetu](#), [mphxmeshinfo](#)

<b>Purpose</b>	Connect MATLAB to a COMSOL server.
<b>Syntax</b>	<pre>mphstart mphstart(port) mphstart(ipaddress, port) mphstart(ipaddress, port, comsolpath)</pre>
<b>Description</b>	<p>mphstart creates a connection with a COMSOL server using the default port number (which is 2036).</p> <p>mphstart(port) creates a connection with a COMSOL server using the specified port number port.</p> <p>mphstart(ipaddress, port) creates a connection with a COMSOL server using the specified IP address ipaddress and the port number port.</p> <p>mphstart(ipaddress, port, comsolpath) creates a connection with a COMSOL server using the specified IP address and port number using the comsolpath that is specified. This is useful if mphstart cannot find the location of the COMSOL Multiphysics installation.</p> <p>mphstart can be used to create a connection from within MATLAB when this is started without using the <i>COMSOL with MATLAB</i> option. mphstart then sets up the necessary environment and connect to COMSOL.</p> <p>Prior to calling mphstart it is necessary to set the path of mphstart.m in the MATLAB path or to change the current directory in MATLAB (for example, using the cd command) to the location of the mphstart.m file.</p> <p>A COMSOL server must be started prior to running mphstart.</p>

**Purpose** Get state-space matrices for dynamic system.

**Syntax** `str = mphstate(model,soltag,'Out',{ 'SP' })`  
`str = mphstate(model,soltag,'Out',{'SP1','SP2',...})`

**Description** `str = mphstate(model,soltag,'out',{ 'SP' })` returns a MATLAB structure `str` containing the state space matrix `SP` assembled using the solver node `soltag` and accessible as `str.SP`. `SP` being taken from the `Out` property list.

`str = mphstate(model,soltag,'Out',{'SP1','SP2',...})` returns a MATLAB structure `str` containing the state space matrices `SP1`, `SP2`,... assembled using the solver node `soltag` and accessible as `str.SP1` and `str.SP2`. `SP1` and `SP2` being taken from the `Out` property list.

The function `mphstate` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-22: PROPERTY VALUE FOR THE MPHSTATE COMMAND

PROPERTY	VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Out	MA   MB   A   B   C   D  Mc  Null   ud   x0		Output matrix
Keepfeature	off   on	off	Keep the state-space feature in the model
Input	String		Input variables
Output	String		Output variables
Sparse	off   on	off	Return sparse matrices
Initmethod	init   sol		Use linearization point
Initcsol	solname   zero	solname	Solution to use for linearization
Solnum	Positive integer	auto	Solution number

The property `Sparse` controls whether the matrices `A`, `B`, `C`, `D`, `M`, `MA`, `MB`, and `Null` are stored in the sparse format.

The equations correspond to the system below:

$$\begin{cases} Mc\dot{x} = McAx + McBu \\ y = Cx + Du \end{cases}$$

where  $x$  are the state variables,  $u$  are the input variables, and  $y$  are the output variables.

A static linearized model of the system can be described by:

$$y = (D - C(McA)^{-1}McB)u$$

The full solution vector  $U$  can be then obtained from

$$U = \text{Null}x + ud + u0$$

where  $\text{Null}$  is the null space matrix,  $ud$  the constraint contribution and  $u0$  is the linearization point, which is the solution stored in the sequence once the state space export feature is run.

The matrices  $Mc$  and  $MA$  are produced by the same algorithms that do the finite-element assembly and constraint elimination in COMSOL Multiphysics.  $Mc$  and  $MA$  are the same as the matrices  $D_c$  (eliminated mass matrix) and  $-K_c$  ( $K_c$  is the eliminated stiffness matrix). The matrices are produced from an exact residual vector Jacobian calculation (that is, differentiation of the residual vector with respect to the degrees of freedoms  $x$ ) plus an algebraic elimination of the constraints. The matrix  $C$  is produced in a similar way; that is, the exact output vector Jacobian matrix plus constraint elimination.

The matrices  $MB$  and  $D$  are produced by a numerical differentiation of the residual and output vectors, respectively, with respect to the input parameters (the algorithm systematically perturbs the input parameters by multiplying them by a factor  $(1+10^{-8})$ ).

The input cannot be a variable constraint in the model.

### Example

Load `heat_transient_axi.mph` from the Model Library

```
model = mphload('heat_transient_axi.mph');
```

Set the temperature condition using a parameter

```
model.param.set('Tinput', '1000[degC]');  
temp1 = model.physics('ht').feature('temp1');  
temp1.set('T0', 1, 'Tinput');
```

Add a domain point probe at (0.28; 0.38)

```
pdom1 = model.probe.create('pdom1', 'DomainPoint');  
pdom1.model('mod1');  
pdom1.setIndex('coords2', '0.28', 0, 0);  
pdom1.setIndex('coords2', '0.38', 0, 1);
```

Extract the state-space matrix:

```
str = mphstate(model,'sol1','out',...  
{'MA','MB','C','D'},'input','T0',... 'output','mod1.ppb1');
```

## mphversion

---

<b>Purpose</b>	Return the version number of COMSOL Multiphysics
<b>Syntax</b>	<pre>v = mphversion [v,vm] = mphversion(model)</pre>
<b>Description</b>	<p><code>v = mphversion</code> returns the COMSOL Multiphysics version number that MATLAB is connected to as a string.</p> <p><code>[v,vm] = mphversion(model)</code> returns the COMSOL Multiphysics version number that MATLAB is connected to as a string in the variable <code>v</code> and the version number of the model in the variable <code>vm</code>.</p>
<b>See also</b>	<a href="#">mphload</a> , <a href="#">mphsave</a>

<b>Purpose</b>	Display a geometric entity selection in a MATLAB figure.
<b>Syntax</b>	<code>mphviewselection(model,geomtag,number,'entity',entity,...)</code> <code>mphviewselection(model,seltag,...)</code>
<b>Description</b>	<code>mphviewselection(model,geomtag,number,'entity',entity,...)</code> displays the geometric entity number of type <code>entity</code> in MATLAB figure including the representation of the geometry <code>geomtag</code> .  <code>mphviewselection(model,seltag,...)</code> displays the geometric entity selection <code>seltag</code> in a MATLAB figure including the representation of the geometry.  The function <code>mphviewselection</code> accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-23: PROPERTY VALUE/PAIRS FOR THE MPHVIEWSELECTION FUNCTION

PROPERTY	VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Edgecolor	Char   RGB array	k	Color for edges
Edgecolorselected	RGB array	[1,0,0]	Color for selected edges
Edgelabels	on   off	off	Show edge labels
Edgelabelscolor	Char   RGB array	g	Color for edge labels
Edgemode	on   off	on	Show edges
Entity	Domain   boundary   edge   point		Set the selected entity type
Facealpha	Double	1	Set transparency value
Facecolor	RGB array	[0.6,0.6,0.6]	Color for face
Facecolorselected	RGB array	[1,0,0]	Color for selected face
Facelabels	on   off	off	Show face labels
Facelabelscolor	Char   RGB array	b	Color for face labels
Facemode	on   off	on	Show faces
Geommode	on   off	on	Show entire geometry
Marker		.	Vertex marker
Markercolor	Char   RGB array	b	Color for vertex marker
Markercolorselected	Char   RGB array	r	Color for selected vertex marker

TABLE 6-23: PROPERTY VALUE/PAIRS FOR THE MPHVIEWSELECTION FUNCTION

PROPERTY	VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Markersize	Int	12	Font size of marker
Parent	Double		Parent axis
Renderer	Opengl   zbuffer	opengl	Set the rendering method
Selection	String   Positive integer array		Set selection name or entity number
Selectoralpha	Double	0.25	Set selector transparency value
Selectorcolor	RGB array	[0,0,1]	Color for selected marker
Showselector	on   off	on	Show Selector
Vertexlabels	on   off	off	Show vertex labels
Vertexlabelscolor	Char   RGB array	r	Color for vertex labels
Vertexmode	on   off	off	Show vertices

**Example**

Load busbar.mph from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('busbar')
```

Plot boundary number 3 using a yellow color

```
mphviewselection(model,'geom1',3,'entity',...
'boundary','facecolorselected',[1 1 0],... 'facealpha', 0.5)
```

Plot edge 1 to 9 in green color

```
hold on
mphviewselection(model,'geom1',1:8,...
'geommode','off','entity','edge',... 'edgecolorselected', [0 1
0.5])
```

Plot the titanium blot domains in green color

```
mphviewselection(model,'sel1',... 'facecolorselected',[0 1 0])
```

**See also**

[mphgeom](#), [mphselectbox](#), [mphselectcoords](#)

**Purpose** Extract information about the extended mesh.

**Syntax** `info = mphxmeshinfo(model)`

**Description** The Xmesh information provide information about the numbering of elements, nodes, and degrees of freedom (DOFs) in the extended mesh and in the matrices returned by `mphmatrix` and `mphgetu`

Information is only available on StudyStep and Variables features.

The function `mphxmeshinfo` accepts the following property/value pairs:

TABLE 6-24: PROPERTY VALUE/PAIRS FOR THE MPHVIEWSELECTION FUNCTION

PROPERTY	VALUE	DEFAULT	DESCRIPTION
Solname	String	Active solution object	Solution object tag
Studysteptag	String		Study step node tag
Meshcase	Positive integer   String	First mesh	Mesh case tag

The function `xmeshinfo` returns a structure with the fields shown in the table below

TABLE 6-25: FIELD IN THE RETURNED STRUCTURE FROM MPHXMESHINFO

FIELD	DESCRIPTION
Solname	Tag of the solution object
Ndofs	Number of DOFs
Fieldnames	Names of the field variables
Fieldndofs	Number of DOFs per field name
Meshtypes	Types of mesh element
Dofs	Structure with information about the degrees of freedom
Nodes	Struct with information about the nodes
Elements	Struct with information about each element type

**Example** Load `busbar.mph` from the Model Library:

```
model = mphload('busbar.mph')
```

Extract `xmesh` information for the active Solver feature:

```
info = mphxmeshinfo(model)
```

Extract `xmesh` information from the Study Step node `st1`

```
info = mphxmeshinfo(model,'solname','sol1','studysteptag','st1')
```

**See also:**

[mphgetu](#), [mphmatrix](#), [mphsolinfo](#)





# I n d e x

- A**
  - access methods 237
  - adaptive solver 221
  - advancing front method 57
  - animations 108
  - ASCII file 109
- B**
  - Boolean operations 39
  - boundary layer meshes 67
- C**
  - CAD formats 42
  - circle 36
  - Compose operation 36
  - COMSOL API 26
  - COMSOL Desktop 26
    - exchanging geometries with 41
  - COMSOL Multiphysics binary files 73
  - COMSOL Multiphysics text files 73
  - constructor name 81
  - converting meshes 72
  - copying boundary meshes 70
- D**
  - data sets
    - syntax for 107
  - Delaunay method 57
  - Difference operation 36
  - documentation, finding 11
  - DXF files 42
- E**
  - emailing COMSOL 12
  - equations
    - global 87
    - modifying 85
  - evaluating data 108
  - exporting data for file 108
  - extruding, meshes by sweeping 64
- F**
  - file formats
    - .mphbin files 42
    - .mphtxt files 42
  - fluid flow 67
  - free quad mesh 58
  - function inputs/outputs 179
- G**
  - GDS format 42
  - geometries
    - 1D 34
    - 2D 35
    - 3D 39
    - exchanging with the COMSOL Desktop 41
    - parameterized 44
  - geometry sequences 32
  - getType() methods 237
- I**
  - importing meshes 73
  - Internet resources 11
- J**
  - Java 26
- K**
  - knowledge base, COMSOL 13
- M**
  - mass matrix 146
  - materials 84
  - mesh
    - advancing front 57
    - converting 72
    - copying 70
    - creating a quad mesh 58
    - creating boundary layers 67
    - Delaunay 57
    - getting information about 76
    - importing 73
    - refining 69
  - mesh resolution 54
  - meshing sequences 52
  - Model Builder 26
  - Model Library 12
  - model object 26

- modifying equations 85
  - MPH-files 12
- N**
  - NASTRAN files 73
  - NASTRAN mesh 73
  - native file formats 42
  - node point coordinates 119
  - no-slip boundary condition 67
- P**
  - parameterized geometries 44
  - physics interfaces 81
  - plot groups
    - syntax for 103
- R**
  - rectangle 36
  - refining meshes 69
  - reports 108
  - results analysis 103
  - results evaluation 108
- S**
  - sequences of operations 26
  - set operations 36
  - simplex elements 69
  - solver configurations
    - syntax for 99
  - sparsity, of matrix 222
  - state-space matrices
    - example of extracting 149
  - structured meshes 59
  - study, syntax for 98
  - summary of commands 184
  - sweeping, to revolve meshes 63
  - syntax
    - for materials 84
    - for physics interfaces 81
- T**
  - technical support, COMSOL 12
  - trimming solids 37
  - typographical conventions 13
- U**
  - user community, COMSOL 13
- V**
  - visualization 103
- W**
  - web sites, COMSOL 13
  - weights, of control polygon 38