

## mata which — Identify function

[Description](#)[Syntax](#)[Remarks and examples](#)[Also see](#)

## Description

`mata which fcnname` looks for `fcnname()` and reports whether it is built in, stored in a `.mlib` library, or stored in a `.mo` file.

## Syntax

```
: mata which fcnname()
```

This command is for use in Mata mode following Mata's colon prompt. To use this command from Stata's dot prompt, type

```
. mata: mata which ...
```

## Remarks and examples

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`mata which fcnname()` looks for `fcnname()` and reports where it is found:

```
: mata which I()
I(): built-in
: mata which assert()
assert(): lmatbase
: mata which myfcn()
userfunction(): .\myfcn.mo
: mata which nosuchfunction()
function nosuchfunction() not found
r(111);
```

Function `I()` is built in; it was written in C and is a part of Mata itself.

Function `assert()` is a library function and, as a matter of fact, its executable object code is located in the official function library `lmatbase.mlib`.

Function `myfcn()` exists and has its executable object code stored in file `myfcn.mo`, located in the current directory.

Function `nosuchfunction()` does not exist.

Going back to `mata which assert()`, which was found in `lmatbase.mlib`, if you wanted to know where `lmatbase.mlib` was stored, you could type `findfile lmatbase.mlib` at the Stata prompt; see [P] [findfile](#).

## Also see

[M-3] **Intro** — Commands for controlling Mata

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