

## Description

**if** evaluates the expression, and if it is true (evaluates to a nonzero number), **if** executes the statement or statement block that immediately follows it; otherwise, **if** skips the statement or block.

**if ... else** evaluates the expression, and if it is true (evaluates to a nonzero number), **if** executes the statement or statement block that immediately follows it and skips the statement or statement block following the **else**; otherwise, it skips the statement or statement block immediately following it and executes the statement or statement block following the **else**.

## Syntax

```
if (exp) stmt1
```

```
if (exp) stmt1  
else stmt2
```

```
if (exp) {  
    stmts1  
}  
else {  
    stmts2  
}  
  
    if (exp1) ...  
    else if (exp2) ...  
    else if (exp3) ...  
    ...  
    else ...
```

where *exp*, *exp*<sub>1</sub>, *exp*<sub>2</sub>, *exp*<sub>3</sub>, ... must evaluate to real scalars.

## Remarks and examples

if followed by multiple `elses` is interpreted as being nested, that is,

```
if (exp1) ...
else if (exp2) ...
else if (exp3) ...
...
else ...
```

is equivalent to

```
if (exp1) ...
else {
    if (exp2) ...
    else {
        if (exp3) ...
        else {
            ...
        }
    }
}
```

## Also see

[\[M-2\] Intro](#) — Language definition

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