exit(rc) — Terminate execution

Description

exit(rc) terminates execution and sets the overall return code to rc.

exit() with no argument specified is equivalent to exit(0).

Syntax

exit(real scalar rc)

exit()

Remarks and examples

Do not confuse exit() and return. return stops execution of the current function and returns to the caller, whereupon execution continues. exit() terminates execution. For instance, consider

function first()
{
    "begin execution"
    second()
    "this message will never be seen"
}

function second()
{
    "hello from second()"
    exit(0)
}

The result of running this would be

: first()
  begin execution
  hello from second()

If we changed the exit(0) to be exit(198) in second(), the result would be

: first()
  begin execution
  hello from second()
  r(198);
No error message is presented. If you want to present an error message and exit, you should code `exit(error(198));` see [M-5] error().

**Conformability**

\[
exit(rc):
\]

\[
rc: 1 \times 1 \quad \text{(optional)}
\]

**Diagnostics**

`exit(rc)` and `exit()` do not return.

**Also see**

[M-5] error() — Issue error message

[M-4] Programming — Programming functions