

Function handles and additional parameters

Function handle example:

```
clear
f=@(x) p*x
```

```
f =
    @(x)p*x
```

```
%{
Undefined function or variable 'p'.
Error in @(x)p*x
%}
```

```
p=1;f=@(x) p*x
```

```
f =
    @(x)p*x
```

```
f(1)    % ans = 1
```

```
ans = 1
```

Change parameter p

```
p=2;
f(1)    % ans = 1
```

```
ans = 1
```

```
% No affect on f.
```

Change p, redefine f

```
p=2;f=@(x) p*x
```

```
f =
    @(x)p*x
```

```
f(1)    % ans = 2
```

```
ans = 2
```

```
% Conclusion:
```

```
% Function f uses the value p had on definition time of f.
```

Computer algebra example: Maple has two modes of definitions:

```
%{  
> p:=1, f:=x -> p*x;          (Matlab: f=@(x) p*x)  
                               x->p*x  
> p:=2; f(x)  
                               2*x  
%}  
% Maple's x-> value_at(x) definition works "run-time, calling time", Matlab's doesn't.  
%
```

The second Maple-mode, unapply, works in the Matlab-way.

```
%{  
p:=2  
g := unapply(p*x, x)  
                               x-> 2*x  
%}  
% Works at definition time, puts the value of p into the code.  
%  
% Matlab doesn't write the value of p into the code, but uses the  
% value p had when g was defined, just like Maple's unapply.  
%
```

Example: Finite difference derivative

```
type fd\_deriv
```

```
function y = fd_deriv(f,x,h)  
% Finite difference derivative of f  
if nargin < 3, h=sqrt(eps); end;  
y=(f(x+h)-f(x))/h;  
end
```

Let f be Newton iteration function for sqrt:

```
type sqrtiter
```

```
function [x,niter] = sqrtiter(a,tol)  
%  
if nargin < 2, tol=eps, end;  
x=a;  
niter=0;  
xreldiff=inf;  
  
while xreldiff > tol  
    niter=niter+1;  
    xold=x;  
    x=(x+a/x)/2;  
    xreldiff=abs(x-xold)/abs(x);  
    if niter > 50  
        error('Did not converge after 50 iterations')  
    end
```

```
end
```

```
%  
% sqrtiter has a tol-argument, but fd_deriv takes a function with only 1  
% input argument.  
%  
% The most elegant way is to use an anonymous function, i.e. include  
% the function definition on the command line:  
%
```

```
fder=fd_deriv(@(x) sqrtiter(x,0.0001),2)
```

```
fder = 0.3536
```

Check with symbolic:

```
syms x  
dsqrt=diff(sqrt(x),x)
```

```
dsqrt =
```

$$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

```
pretty(dsqrt)
```

$$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

```
latex(dsqrt)
```

```
ans = \frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}
```

$$\frac{1}{2\sqrt{x}}$$

```
d_at_2=subs(dsqrt,x,2.0)
```

```
d_at_2 =
```

$$\frac{\sqrt{2}}{4}$$

```
eval(d_at_2)
```

```
ans = 0.3536
```

fder

fder = 0.3536

Example: ode45