

# Unleash the Power of Mathcad

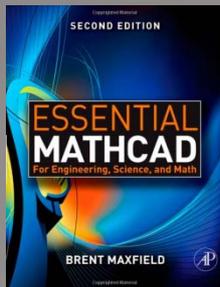
NASCC 2011

By Brent Maxfield, P.E.

Author of the books

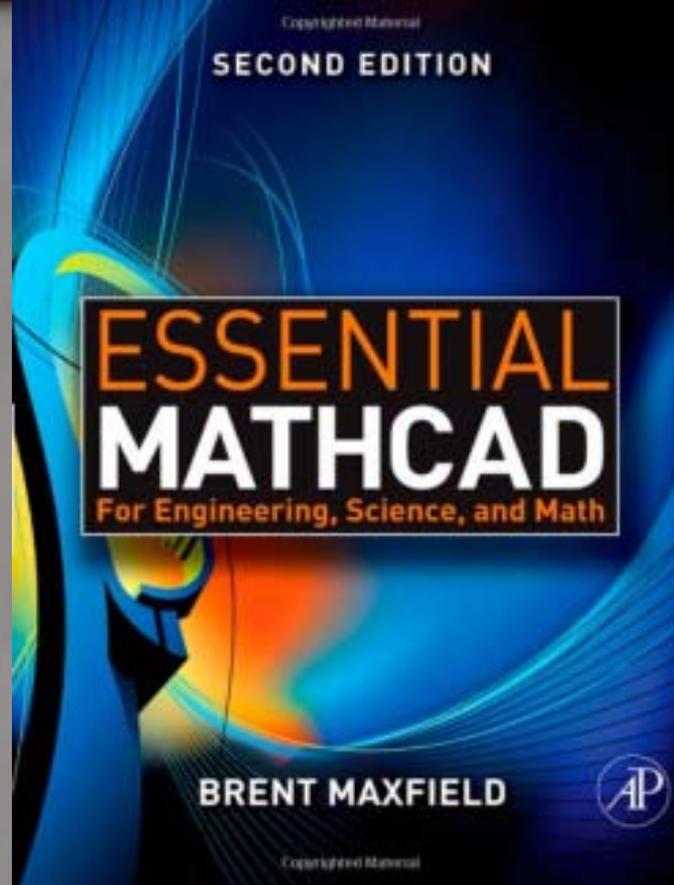
*Engineering with Mathcad* and

*Essential Mathcad*



Thursday 8:00 Session  
Unleash the Power of Mathcad

**258936**



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## Calculate Seismic Weight and Force (Transverse Direction)

$$\text{Length}_{\text{bldg}} = 188 \text{ ft} \quad \text{Width}_{\text{bldg}} = 89 \text{ ft} \quad \text{EaveHt} = 8 \text{ ft} \quad \text{EntRidgeElev} = 22.65 \text{ ft} \quad \text{Roof}_{\text{DL}} = 20 \text{ psf}$$

$$\text{EntBearingElev} = 10 \text{ ft} \quad \text{Mezz}_{\text{DL}} = 15 \text{ psf}$$

$$\text{BuildingArea} := \text{Length}_{\text{bldg}} \cdot \text{Width}_{\text{bldg}} + (15.0\text{ft} \cdot 48\text{ft}) \cdot 2 \quad \text{BuildingArea} = 18172 \text{ ft}^2$$

$$\text{W}_{\text{t1}} := \text{Roof}_{\text{DL}} \cdot (\text{BuildingArea}) \quad \text{W}_{\text{t1}} = 363440 \text{ lbf}$$

$$\text{W}_{\text{t2}} := \left( \text{ExtWall}_{\text{DL}} \cdot \frac{\text{EaveHt}}{2} \cdot \text{Length}_{\text{bldg}} \right) \cdot 2 \quad \text{W}_{\text{t2}} = 75200 \text{ lbf}$$

$$\text{W}_{\text{t3}} := (12 \text{ psf} \cdot 7.5 \text{ ft} \cdot 67 \text{ ft}) \cdot 4 \quad \text{W}_{\text{t3}} = 24120 \text{ lbf}$$

$$\text{W}_{\text{t4}} := (\text{Mezz}_{\text{DL}} \cdot 7 \text{ ft} \cdot \text{Length}_{\text{bldg}}) \cdot 2 \quad \text{W}_{\text{t4}} = 39480 \text{ lbf}$$

$$\text{W}_{\text{t5}} := \left[ \text{ExtWall}_{\text{DL}} \cdot \left[ (48 \text{ ft} - 14.33 \text{ ft}) \cdot \frac{\text{EaveHt}}{2} \right] + 15 \text{ psf} \cdot \left[ \frac{1}{2} \cdot 48 \text{ ft} \cdot (\text{EntRidgeElev} - \text{EaveHt}) \right] \right] \cdot 2$$

$$\text{W}_{\text{tTrans}} := \sum \text{Wt} \quad \text{W}_{\text{tTrans}} = 526256 \text{ lbf} \quad \text{W}_{\text{t5}} = 24016 \text{ lbf}$$

### Calculate Tributary Mass to Shear Walls

Distance between  
Shear Walls

Tributary Lengths to Shear Walls

Tributary Building Weight to each Shear Wall

$$\text{Dist}_1 := 9.0 \text{ ft}$$

$$L_1 := \frac{\text{Dist}_1}{2} \quad L_1 = 4.5 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{WallWt}_1 := \text{W}_{\text{tTrans}} \cdot \frac{L_1}{\text{Length}_{\text{bldg}}} \quad \text{WallWt}_1 = 12597 \text{ lbf}$$

$$\text{Dist}_2 := 41.33 \text{ ft}$$

$$L_2 := \frac{\text{Dist}_1 + \text{Dist}_2}{2} \quad L_2 = 25.165 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{WallWt}_2 := \text{W}_{\text{tTrans}} \cdot \frac{L_2}{\text{Length}_{\text{bldg}}} \quad \text{WallWt}_2 = 70443 \text{ lbf}$$

$$\text{Dist}_3 := 43.58 \text{ ft}$$

$$L_3 := \frac{\text{Dist}_2 + \text{Dist}_3}{2} \quad L_3 = 42.455 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{WallWt}_3 := \text{W}_{\text{tTrans}} \cdot \frac{L_3}{\text{Length}_{\text{bldg}}} \quad \text{WallWt}_3 = 118841 \text{ lbf}$$

$$\text{Dist}_4 := 40 \text{ ft}$$

$$L_4 := \frac{\text{Dist}_3 + \text{Dist}_4}{2} \quad L_4 = 41.79 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{WallWt}_4 := \text{W}_{\text{tTrans}} \cdot \frac{L_4}{\text{Length}_{\text{bldg}}} \quad \text{WallWt}_4 = 116980 \text{ lbf}$$

$$\text{Dist}_5 := 30 \text{ ft}$$

$$L_5 := \frac{\text{Dist}_4 + \text{Dist}_5}{2} \quad L_5 = 35 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{WallWt}_5 := \text{W}_{\text{tTrans}} \cdot \frac{L_5}{\text{Length}_{\text{bldg}}} \quad \text{WallWt}_5 = 97973 \text{ lbf}$$

$$\text{Dist}_6 := 24.1667 \text{ ft}$$

$$L_6 := \frac{\text{Dist}_5 + \text{Dist}_6}{2} \quad L_6 = 27.083 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{WallWt}_6 := \text{W}_{\text{tTrans}} \cdot \frac{L_6}{\text{Length}_{\text{bldg}}} \quad \text{WallWt}_6 = 75813 \text{ lbf}$$

$$L_7 := \frac{\text{Dist}_6}{2} \quad L_7 = 12.083 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{WallWt}_7 := \text{W}_{\text{tTrans}} \cdot \frac{L_7}{\text{Length}_{\text{bldg}}} \quad \text{WallWt}_7 = 33824 \text{ lbf}$$

$$\sum L = 188.077 \text{ ft}$$

$$\text{SumWallWt} := \sum \text{WallWt} \quad \text{SumWallWt} = 526470.701 \text{ lbf}$$

# Agenda

- Introduction to Mathcad
- Units!
- Functions
- Plotting
- Arrays
- Objects
- Excel
- Templates
- Mathcad Prime
- Questions

# Introduction

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# Introduction



# Demonstration

The Mathcad logo features the word "Mathcad" in a white, sans-serif font. The text is set against a dark orange rectangular background that has a subtle, repeating pattern of mathematical symbols like pi, infinity, and hash. A small registered trademark symbol (®) is located at the top right of the word.

Mathcad<sup>®</sup>

Calculate load and reaction on a 20 foot long beam:

Dead Load: 60 psf  
Live Load: 80 psf  
Tributary area: 10 ft

### Good

Dead Load  $60 \cdot 10 = 600.000$

Live Load  $80 \cdot 10 = 800.000$

Total Load  $600 + 800 = 1400.000$

Reaction  $1400 \cdot \frac{20}{2} = 14000.000$

### Better (Assign Variables)

**DeadLoad** :=  $60 \cdot 10 = 600.000$

**LiveLoad** :=  $80 \cdot 10 = 800.000$

**TotalLoad** := **DeadLoad** + **LiveLoad** = 1400.000

+

**Span** := 20

**Reaction** := **TotalLoad** ·  $\frac{\text{Span}}{2} = 14000.000$

### Best (Assign Units)

**DL** := 60psf · 10ft

**LL** := 80psf · 10ft

**TL** := **DL** + **LL** = 1400.000 · plf +

**Span** := 20ft

**Reaction** := **TL** ·  $\frac{\text{Span}}{2} = 14000.000 \text{ lbf}$

Units!



# Mathcad

# Excel



# Mathcad<sup>®</sup>

## Best (Assign Units)

$$\text{DeadLoad} := 2.87\text{kPa} \cdot 10\text{ft} = 599.412 \text{ plf}$$

//////////

$$60\text{psf} = 2.873 \cdot \text{kPa}$$

$$\text{LiveLoad} := 100\text{psf} \cdot 10\text{ft} = 1000.000 \text{ plf}$$

//////////

$$\text{TotalLoad} := \text{DeadLoad} + \text{LiveLoad} = 1599.412 \text{ plf}$$

//////////

$$\text{Span} := 20\text{ft}$$

//////////

$$\text{Reaction} := \text{TotalLoad} \cdot \frac{\text{Span}}{2} = 15994.120 \text{ lbf}$$

//////////



When performing engineering calculations, **ALWAYS** attach units to your variables.

Mathcad<sup>®</sup>

Understand the difference between lbf (pound force) and lbm (pounds mass).

Mathcad<sup>®</sup>

When your formula expects a unitless number, divide the Mathcad value, by the units expected by the formula.

Use the “accent” key (below the ~) for the prime.

Do not use the single quote key because it will give you parenthesis.

Mathcad<sup>®</sup>

# Create Custom Units



Length of Golden Gate Bridge including approaches is 8981 ft.

**Jesse := 5ft + 10in = 5.833 ft**

**GoldenGateBridge := 8981ft**

**GoldenGateBridge = 1539.600 Jesse**

**Mathcad<sup>®</sup>**

Customize the Unit System in your worksheet to meet your specific needs.

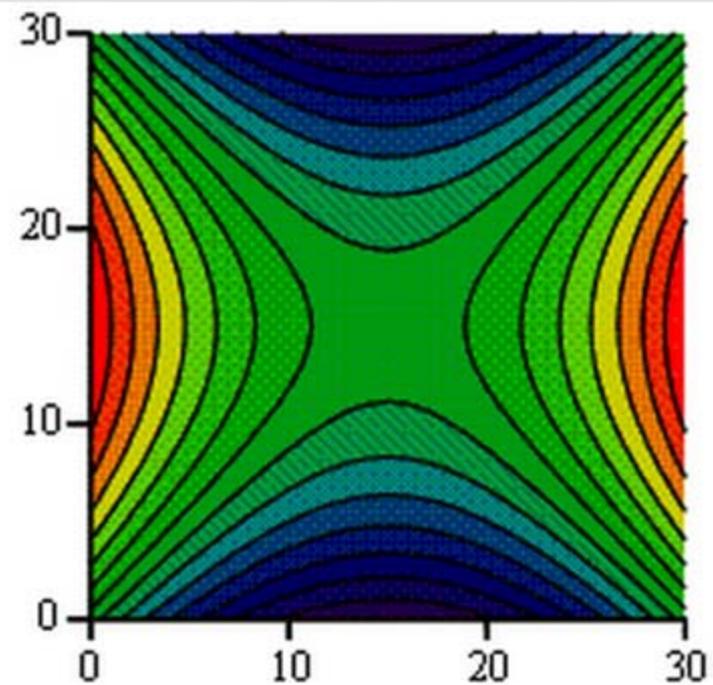
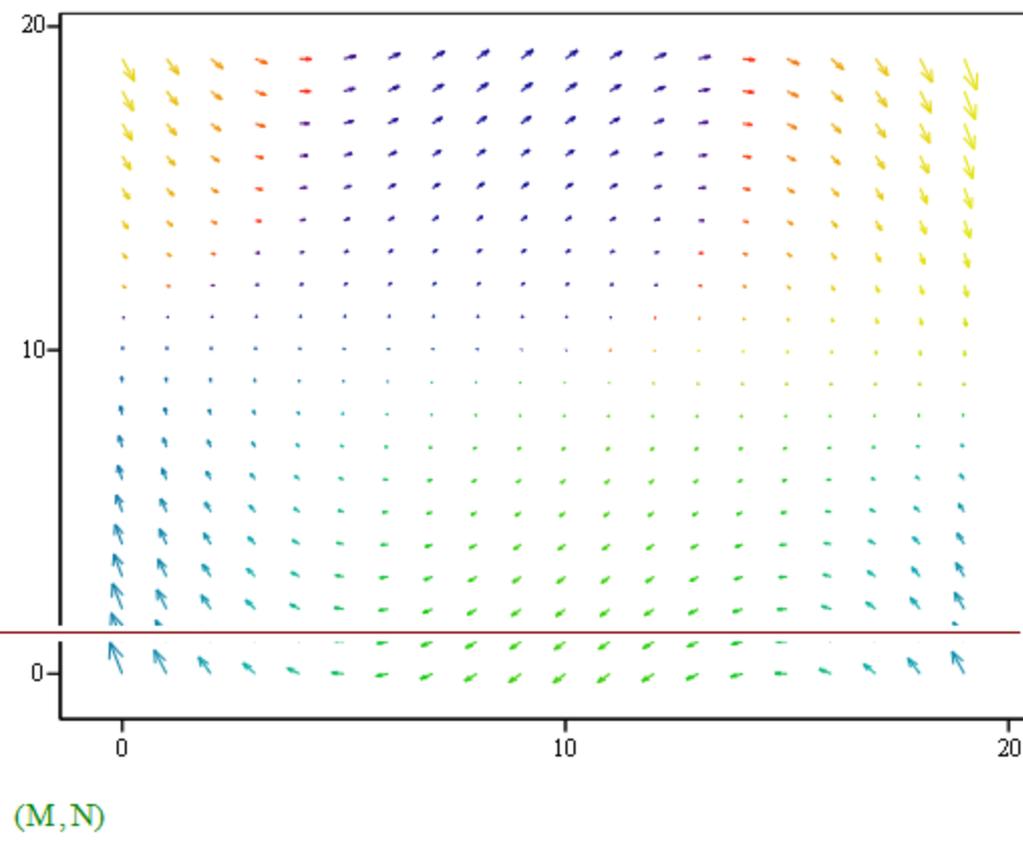
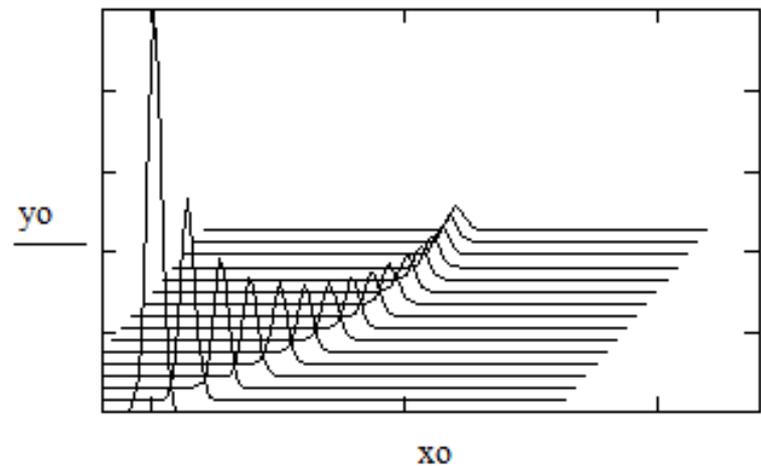
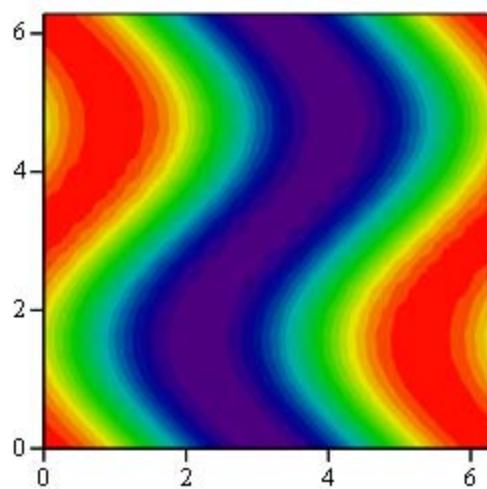
Do not just rely on the Mathcad default units.

Mathcad<sup>®</sup>

Try User-Defined functions to  
avoid repeating the same  
expression

Mathcad<sup>®</sup>

# Plotting



When plotting, divide the function or data by the units you want plotted.

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Arrays (for multiple inputs and results)

The Mathcad logo consists of the word "Mathcad" in a white, sans-serif font, positioned on a dark orange rectangular background. Above the letter "M", there are small, faint mathematical symbols including a summation symbol ( $\Sigma$ ), a multiplication symbol ( $\times$ ), and a division symbol ( $\div$ ).

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$$\mathbf{Matrix} := \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 3 & 4 \\ 4 & 5 & 5 \\ 5 & 5 & 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{Matrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1.000 & 3.000 & 4.000 \\ 4.000 & 5.000 & 5.000 \\ 5.000 & 5.000 & 5.000 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{Vector} := \begin{pmatrix} 3 \\ 4 \\ 5 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{Vector}_1 = 3.000$$

Note that ORIGIN has been changed to 1 in this worksheet.

$$\mathbf{ORIGIN} = 1.000$$

Understand the difference  
between “literal” subscript and  
“array” subscript.

Mathcad<sup>®</sup>

$$\mathbf{KLrValues} := \begin{pmatrix} 25 \\ 50 \\ 75 \\ 125 \\ 150 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\mathbf{F_e(KLrValues, E)} = \begin{pmatrix} 457949.644 \\ 114487.411 \\ 50883.294 \\ 18317.986 \\ 12720.823 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \text{psi}$$

$$F_e\left(\left[\frac{\mathbf{KL}}{\mathbf{r}}\right], \mathbf{E}\right) := \frac{\pi^2 \cdot \mathbf{E}}{\left(\left[\frac{\mathbf{KL}}{\mathbf{r}}\right]\right)^2}$$

$$F_{cr}\left(F_y, \left[\frac{\mathbf{KL}}{\mathbf{r}}\right], \mathbf{E}\right) := \begin{cases} F_e \leftarrow \frac{\pi^2 \cdot \mathbf{E}}{\left(\left[\frac{\mathbf{KL}}{\mathbf{r}}\right]\right)^2} \\ 0.658 \frac{F_y}{F_e} \cdot F_y \text{ if } \left[\frac{\mathbf{KL}}{\mathbf{r}}\right] \leq 4.71 \cdot \sqrt{\frac{\mathbf{E}}{F_y}} \\ 0.877 F_e \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Range Values will display only. You cannot assign values

$$\mathbf{F_{cr}(50ksi, KLrValues, E)} = \begin{pmatrix} 47766.507 \\ 41647.021 \\ 33139.912 \\ 16064.874 \\ 11156.162 \end{pmatrix} \text{psi}$$

Use range variables for plotting.  
Use vectors for multiple variable  
input.

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To do element by element multiplication, use the “Vectorize” operator.  
(CTRL + MINUS)

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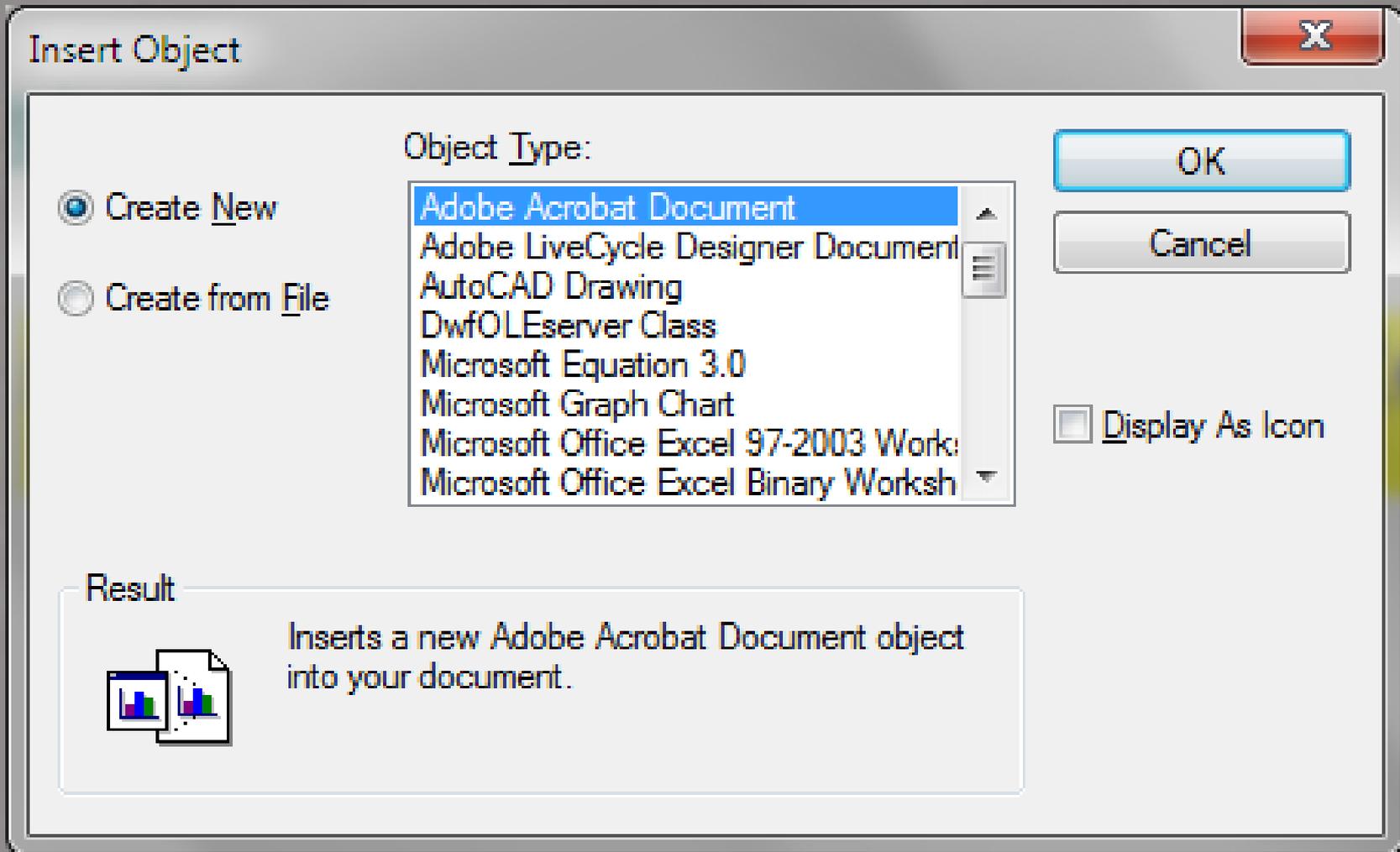
Use vectors to give multiple inputs to functions and expressions.

Mathcad<sup>®</sup>

Solve blocks provide powerful tools to solve simple or complex engineering problems.

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# Objects



Use objects to insert graphics that can be edited within Mathcad.

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When exchanging data with the Excel component, divide the Mathcad input data by the units expected by Excel.

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# Summary

1. When performing engineering calculations, always attach units to your variables.
2. Understand the difference between “lbf” and “lbm”.
3. In empirical equations, divide by the units expected by the equation.
4. Use the “accent” key for the prime.
5. Customize the worksheet Unit System to meet your specific needs.
6. Try User-Defined functions to avoid repeating the same expression.
7. When plotting, divide the function or data by the units you want plotted.
8. Understand the difference between “literal” and “array” subscripts.
9. Use range variables for plotting and vectors for multiple variable input.
10. Use “Vectorize” (CTRL + MINUS) for element-by-element multiplication.
11. Use vectors to give multiple inputs to functions and expressions.
12. Solve blocks provide powerful tools to solve simple or complex engineering problems.
13. Use Objects to insert graphics that can be edited within Mathcad.
14. Use the Excel component for existing Excel files or to take advantage of the strengths of Excel.
15. Create a Standard Template and use it as you “Normal.xmct” template.