Title

exit( ) — 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: 1×1 (optional)

Diagnostics

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

Also see

[M-5] **error( )** — Issue error message

[M-4] **Programming** — Programming functions