

MATLAB stands for MATrix LABoratory. It is a powerful numerical computing language commonly used in engineering and mathematics.

If you have any feedback please feel free to reach me at [[@the_ozzinator](https://twitter.com/the_ozzinator)](https://twitter.com/the_ozzinator), or osvaldo.t.mendoza@gmail.com.

%% Code sections start with two percent signs. Section titles go on the same line.

% Comments start with a percent sign.

%{

Multi line comments look

something

like

this

%}

% commands can span multiple lines, using '...':

a = 1 + 2 + ...

+ 4

% commands can be passed to the operating system

!ping google.com

who % Displays all variables in memory

whos % Displays all variables in memory, with their types

clear % Erases all your variables from memory

clear('A') % Erases a particular variable

openvar('A') % Open variable in variable editor

clc % Erases the writing on your Command Window

diary % Toggle writing Command Window text to file

ctrl-c % Abort current computation

edit('myfunction.m') % Open function/script in editor

type('myfunction.m') % Print the source of function/script to Command Window

profile on % turns on the code profiler

profile off % turns off the code profiler

profile viewer % Open profiler

help command % Displays documentation for command in Command Window

doc command % Displays documentation for command in Help Window

lookfor command % Searches for command in the first commented line of all functions

lookfor command -all % searches for command in all functions

% Output formatting

format short % 4 decimals in a floating number

format long % 15 decimals

format bank % only two digits after decimal point - for financial calculations

fprintf('text') % print "text" to the screen

disp('text') % print "text" to the screen

% Variables & Expressions

myVariable = 4 % Notice Workspace pane shows newly created variable

```

myVariable = 4; % Semi colon suppresses output to the Command Window
4 + 6          % ans = 10
8 * myVariable % ans = 32
2 ^ 3          % ans = 8
a = 2; b = 3;
c = exp(a)*sin(pi/2) % c = 7.3891

% Calling functions can be done in either of two ways:
% Standard function syntax:
load('myFile.mat', 'y') % arguments within parentheses, separated by commas
% Command syntax:
load myFile.mat y      % no parentheses, and spaces instead of commas
% Note the lack of quote marks in command form: inputs are always passed as
% literal text - cannot pass variable values. Also, can't receive output:
[V,D] = eig(A); % this has no equivalent in command form
[~,D] = eig(A); % if you only want D and not V

% Logicals
1 > 5 % ans = 0
10 >= 10 % ans = 1
3 ~= 4 % Not equal to -> ans = 1
3 == 3 % equal to -> ans = 1
3 > 1 && 4 > 1 % AND -> ans = 1
3 > 1 || 4 > 1 % OR -> ans = 1
~1 % NOT -> ans = 0

% Logicals can be applied to matrices:
A > 5
% for each element, if condition is true, that element is 1 in returned matrix
A( A > 5 )
% returns a vector containing the elements in A for which condition is true

% Strings
a = 'MyString'
length(a) % ans = 8
a(2) % ans = y
[a,a] % ans = MyStringMyString

% Cells
a = {'one', 'two', 'three'}
a(1) % ans = 'one' - returns a cell
char(a(1)) % ans = one - returns a string

% Structures
A.b = {'one', 'two'};
A.c = [1 2];
A.d.e = false;

% Vectors
x = [4 32 53 7 1]
x(2) % ans = 32, indices in Matlab start 1, not 0

```

```

x(2:3) % ans = 32 53
x(2:end) % ans = 32 53 7 1

x = [4; 32; 53; 7; 1] % Column vector

x = [1:10] % x = 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10
x = [1:2:10] % Increment by 2, i.e. x = 1 3 5 7 9

% Matrices
A = [1 2 3; 4 5 6; 7 8 9]
% Rows are separated by a semicolon; elements are separated with space or comma
% A =

%      1      2      3
%      4      5      6
%      7      8      9

A(2,3) % ans = 6, A(row, column)
A(6) % ans = 8
% (implicitly concatenates columns into vector, then indexes into that)

A(2,3) = 42 % Update row 2 col 3 with 42
% A =

%      1      2      3
%      4      5     42
%      7      8      9

A(2:3,2:3) % Creates a new matrix from the old one
%ans =

%      5     42
%      8      9

A(:,1) % All rows in column 1
%ans =

%      1
%      4
%      7

A(1,:) % All columns in row 1
%ans =

%      1      2      3

[A ; A] % Concatenation of matrices (vertically)
%ans =

%      1      2      3
%      4      5     42
%      7      8      9
%      1      2      3

```

```
%      4      5      42
%      7      8      9
```

```
% this is the same as
vertcat(A,A);
```

```
[A , A] % Concatenation of matrices (horizontally)
```

```
%ans =
```

```
%      1      2      3      1      2      3
%      4      5      42     4      5      42
%      7      8      9      7      8      9
```

```
% this is the same as
horzcat(A,A);
```

```
A(:, [3 1 2]) % Rearrange the columns of original matrix
```

```
%ans =
```

```
%      3      1      2
%     42      4      5
%      9      7      8
```

```
size(A) % ans = 3 3
```

```
A(1, :) = [] % Delete the first row of the matrix
```

```
A(:, 1) = [] % Delete the first column of the matrix
```

```
transpose(A) % Transpose the matrix, which is the same as:
```

```
A one
```

```
ctranspose(A) % Hermitian transpose the matrix
```

```
% (the transpose, followed by taking complex conjugate of each element)
```

```
A' % Concise version of complex transpose
```

```
A.' % Concise version of transpose (without taking complex conjugate)
```

```
% Element by Element Arithmetic vs. Matrix Arithmetic
```

```
% On their own, the arithmetic operators act on whole matrices. When preceded
% by a period, they act on each element instead. For example:
```

```
A * B % Matrix multiplication
```

```
A .* B % Multiple each element in A by its corresponding element in B
```

```
% There are several pairs of functions, where one acts on each element, and
% the other (whose name ends in m) acts on the whole matrix.
```

```
exp(A) % exponentiate each element
```

```
expm(A) % calculate the matrix exponential
```

```
sqrt(A) % take the square root of each element
```

```
sqrtm(A) % find the matrix whose square is A
```

```

% Plotting
x = 0:.10:2*pi; % Creates a vector that starts at 0 and ends at 2*pi with increments of .1
y = sin(x);
plot(x,y)
xlabel('x axis')
ylabel('y axis')
title('Plot of y = sin(x)')
axis([0 2*pi -1 1]) % x range from 0 to 2*pi, y range from -1 to 1

plot(x,y1,'-',x,y2,'--',x,y3,':') % For multiple functions on one plot
legend('Line 1 label', 'Line 2 label') % Label curves with a legend

% Alternative method to plot multiple functions in one plot.
% while 'hold' is on, commands add to existing graph rather than replacing it
plot(x, y)
hold on
plot(x, z)
hold off

loglog(x, y) % A log-log plot
semilogx(x, y) % A plot with logarithmic x-axis
semilogy(x, y) % A plot with logarithmic y-axis

fplot (@(x) x^2, [2,5]) % plot the function x^2 from x=2 to x=5

grid on % Show grid; turn off with 'grid off'
axis square % Makes the current axes region square
axis equal % Set aspect ratio so data units are the same in every direction

scatter(x, y); % Scatter-plot
hist(x); % Histogram
stem(x); % Plot values as stems, useful for displaying discrete data
bar(x); % Plot bar graph

z = sin(x);
plot3(x,y,z); % 3D line plot

pcolor(A) % Heat-map of matrix: plot as grid of rectangles, coloured by value
contour(A) % Contour plot of matrix
mesh(A) % Plot as a mesh surface

h = figure % Create new figure object, with handle h
figure(h) % Makes the figure corresponding to handle h the current figure
close(h) % close figure with handle h
close all % close all open figure windows
close % close current figure window

shg % bring an existing graphics window forward, or create new one if needed
clf clear % clear current figure window, and reset most figure properties

% Properties can be set and changed through a figure handle.
% You can save a handle to a figure when you create it.
% The function get returns a handle to the current figure

```

```

h = plot(x, y); % you can save a handle to a figure when you create it
set(h, 'Color', 'r')
% 'y' yellow; 'm' magenta, 'c' cyan, 'r' red, 'g' green, 'b' blue, 'w' white, 'k' black
set(h, 'LineStyle', '--')
% '--' is solid line, '---' dashed, ':' dotted, '-.' dash-dot, 'none' is no line
get(h, 'LineStyle')

```

```

% The function gca returns a handle to the axes for the current figure
set(gca, 'XDir', 'reverse'); % reverse the direction of the x-axis

```

```

% To create a figure that contains several axes in tiled positions, use subplot
subplot(2,3,1); % select the first position in a 2-by-3 grid of subplots
plot(x1); title('First Plot') % plot something in this position
subplot(2,3,2); % select second position in the grid
plot(x2); title('Second Plot') % plot something there

```

```

% To use functions or scripts, they must be on your path or current directory
path % display current path
addpath /path/to/dir % add to path
rmpath /path/to/dir % remove from path
cd /path/to/move/into % change directory

```

```

% Variables can be saved to .mat files
save('myFileName.mat') % Save the variables in your Workspace
load('myFileName.mat') % Load saved variables into Workspace

```

```

% M-file Scripts
% A script file is an external file that contains a sequence of statements.
% They let you avoid repeatedly typing the same code in the Command Window
% Have .m extensions

```

```

% M-file Functions
% Like scripts, and have the same .m extension
% But can accept input arguments and return an output
% Also, they have their own workspace (ie. different variable scope).
% Function name should match file name (so save this example as double_input.m).
% 'help double_input.m' returns the comments under line beginning function
function output = double_input(x)
    %double_input(x) returns twice the value of x
    output = 2*x;
end
double_input(6) % ans = 12

```

```

% You can also have subfunctions and nested functions.
% Subfunctions are in the same file as the primary function, and can only be
% called by functions in the file. Nested functions are defined within another
% functions, and have access to both its workspace and their own workspace.

```

```

% If you want to create a function without creating a new file you can use an
% anonymous function. Useful when quickly defining a function to pass to

```

```

% another function (eg. plot with fplot, evaluate an indefinite integral
% with quad, find roots with fzero, or find minimum with fminsearch).
% Example that returns the square of it's input, assigned to the handle sqr:
sqr = @(x) x.^2;
sqr(10) % ans = 100
doc function_handle % find out more

% User input
a = input('Enter the value: ')

% Stops execution of file and gives control to the keyboard: user can examine
% or change variables. Type 'return' to continue execution, or 'dbquit' to exit
keyboard

% Reading in data (also xlsread/importdata/imread for excel/CSV/image files)
fopen(filename)

% Output
disp(a) % Print out the value of variable a
disp('Hello World') % Print out a string
fprintf % Print to Command Window with more control

% Conditional statements (the parentheses are optional, but good style)
if (a > 15)
    disp('Greater than 15')
elseif (a == 23)
    disp('a is 23')
else
    disp('neither condition met')
end

% Looping
% NB. looping over elements of a vector/matrix is slow!
% Where possible, use functions that act on whole vector/matrix at once
for k = 1:5
    disp(k)
end

k = 0;
while (k < 5)
    k = k + 1;
end

% Timing code execution: 'toc' prints the time since 'tic' was called
tic
A = rand(1000);
A*A*A*A*A*A*A;
toc

% Connecting to a MySQL Database
dbname = 'database_name';
username = 'root';
password = 'root';
driver = 'com.mysql.jdbc.Driver';

```

```

dburl = ['jdbc:mysql://localhost:8889/' dbname];
javaclasspath('mysql-connector-java-5.1.xx-bin.jar'); %xx depends on version, download available at http
conn = database(dbname, username, password, driver, dburl);
sql = ['SELECT * from table_name where id = 22'] % Example sql statement
a = fetch(conn, sql) %a will contain your data

```

% Common math functions

```

sin(x)
cos(x)
tan(x)
asin(x)
acos(x)
atan(x)
exp(x)
sqrt(x)
log(x)
log10(x)
abs(x) %If x is complex, returns magnitude
min(x)
max(x)
ceil(x)
floor(x)
round(x)
rem(x)
rand % Uniformly distributed pseudorandom numbers
randi % Uniformly distributed pseudorandom integers
randn % Normally distributed pseudorandom numbers

```

%Complex math operations

```

abs(x) % Magnitude of complex variable x
phase(x) % Phase (or angle) of complex variable x
real(x) % Returns the real part of x (i.e returns a if  $x = a + jb$ )
imag(x) % Returns the imaginary part of x (i.e returns b if  $x = a + jb$ )
conj(x) % Returns the complex conjugate

```

% Common constants

```

pi
NaN
inf

```

```

% Solving matrix equations (if no solution, returns a least squares solution)
% The \ and / operators are equivalent to the functions mldivide and mrdivide
x=A\b % Solves  $Ax=b$ . Faster and more numerically accurate than using  $inv(A)*b$ .
x=b/A % Solves  $xA=b$ 

```

```

inv(A) % calculate the inverse matrix
pinv(A) % calculate the pseudo-inverse

```

% Common matrix functions

```

zeros(m,n) % m x n matrix of 0's
ones(m,n) % m x n matrix of 1's
diag(A) % Extracts the diagonal elements of a matrix A

```



```

diag(x) % Construct a matrix with diagonal elements listed in x, and zeroes elsewhere
eye(m,n) % Identity matrix
linspace(x1, x2, n) % Return n equally spaced points, with min x1 and max x2
inv(A) % Inverse of matrix A
det(A) % Determinant of A
eig(A) % Eigenvalues and eigenvectors of A
trace(A) % Trace of matrix - equivalent to sum(diag(A))
isempty(A) % Tests if array is empty
all(A) % Tests if all elements are nonzero or true
any(A) % Tests if any elements are nonzero or true
isequal(A, B) % Tests equality of two arrays
numel(A) % Number of elements in matrix
triu(x) % Returns the upper triangular part of x
tril(x) % Returns the lower triangular part of x
cross(A,B) % Returns the cross product of the vectors A and B
dot(A,B) % Returns scalar product of two vectors (must have the same length)
transpose(A) % Returns the transpose of A
fliplr(A) % Flip matrix left to right
flipud(A) % Flip matrix up to down

% Matrix Factorisations
[L, U, P] = lu(A) % LU decomposition: PA = LU, L is lower triangular, U is upper triangular, P is permut
[P, D] = eig(A) % eigen-decomposition: AP = PD, P's columns are eigenvectors and D's diagonals are eigen
[U,S,V] = svd(X) % SVD: XV = US, U and V are unitary matrices, S has non-negative diagonal elements in

% Common vector functions
max      % largest component
min      % smallest component
length   % length of a vector
sort     % sort in ascending order
sum      % sum of elements
prod     % product of elements
mode     % modal value
median   % median value
mean     % mean value
std      % standard deviation
perms(x) % list all permutations of elements of x
find(x)  % Finds all non-zero elements of x and returns their indexes, can use comparison operators,
          % i.e. find( x == 3 ) returns indexes of elements that are equal to 3
          % i.e. find( x >= 3 ) returns indexes of elements greater than or equal to 3

% Classes
% Matlab can support object-oriented programming.
% Classes must be put in a file of the class name with a .m extension.
% To begin, we create a simple class to store GPS waypoints.
% Begin WaypointClass.m
classdef WaypointClass % The class name.
    properties % The properties of the class behave like Structures
        latitude
        longitude
    end
    methods
        % This method that has the same name of the class is the constructor.

```

```

function obj = WaypointClass(lat, lon)
    obj.latitude = lat;
    obj.longitude = lon;
end

% Other functions that use the Waypoint object
function r = multiplyLatBy(obj, n)
    r = n*[obj.latitude];
end

% If we want to add two Waypoint objects together without calling
% a special function we can overload Matlab's arithmetic like so:
function r = plus(o1,o2)
    r = WaypointClass([o1.latitude] +[o2.latitude], ...
                      [o1.longitude]+[o2.longitude]);
end
end
end
% End WaypointClass.m

% We can create an object of the class using the constructor
a = WaypointClass(45.0, 45.0)

% Class properties behave exactly like Matlab Structures.
a.latitude = 70.0
a.longitude = 25.0

% Methods can be called in the same way as functions
ans = multiplyLatBy(a,3)

% The method can also be called using dot notation. In this case, the object
% does not need to be passed to the method.
ans = a.multiplyLatBy(a,1/3)

% Matlab functions can be overloaded to handle objects.
% In the method above, we have overloaded how Matlab handles
% the addition of two Waypoint objects.
b = WaypointClass(15.0, 32.0)
c = a + b

```

More on Matlab

- The official website <http://www.mathworks.com/products/matlab/>
- The official MATLAB Answers forum: <http://www.mathworks.com/matlabcentral/answers/>