

# Introduction to Matlab (Code)

## intro.m

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% Introduction to Matlab
% (adapted from http://www.stanford.edu/class/cs223b/matlabIntro.html)
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% (1) Basics

% The symbol "%" is used to indicate a comment (for the remainder of
% the line).

% When writing a long Matlab statement that becomes too long for a
% single line use "..." at the end of the line to continue on the next
% line. E.g.

A = [1, 2; ...
     3, 4];

% A semicolon at the end of a statement means that Matlab will not
% display the result of the evaluated statement. If the ";" is omitted

% then Matlab will display the result. This is also useful for
% printing the value of variables, e.g.

A

% Matlab's command line is a little like a standard shell:
% - Use the up arrow to recall commands without retyping them (and
%   down arrow to go forward in the command history).
% - C-a moves to beginning of line (C-e for end), C-f moves forward a
%   character and C-b moves back (equivalent to the left and right
%   arrow keys), C-d deletes a character, C-k deletes the rest of the
%   line to the right of the cursor, C-p goes back through the
%   command history and C-n goes forward (equivalent to up and down
%   arrows), Tab tries to complete a command.

% Simple debugging:
% If the command "dbstop if error" is issued before running a script
% or a function that causes a run-time error, the execution will stop
% at the point where the error occurred. Very useful for tracking down

% errors.

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% (2) Basic types in Matlab

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% (A) The basic types in Matlab are scalars (usually double-precision
% floating point), vectors, and matrices:

A = [1 2; 3 4];      % Creates a 2x2 matrix
B = [1,2; 3,4];      % The simplest way to create a matrix is
                     % to list its entries in square brackets.
                     % The ";" symbol separates rows;
                     % the (optional) "," separates columns.

N = 5                % A scalar
v = [1 0 0]          % A row vector
v = [1; 2; 3]         % A column vector
v = v'               % Transpose a vector (row to column or
                     % column to row)
v = 1:5:3             % A vector filled in a specified range:

v = pi*[-4:4]/4       % [start:stepsize:end]
                     % (brackets are optional)
v = []               % Empty vector

%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
% (B) Creating special matrices: 1ST parameter is ROWS,
% 2ND parameter is COLS

m = zeros(2, 3)       % Creates a 2x3 matrix of zeros
v = ones(1, 3)        % Creates a 1x3 matrix (row vector) of ones
m = eye(3)            % Identity matrix (3x3)
v = rand(3, 1)        % Randomly filled 3x1 matrix (column
                     % vector); see also randn

% But watch out:

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```
m = zeros(3)           % Creates a 3x3 matrix (!) of zeros
```

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%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
% (C) Indexing vectors and matrices.
% Warning: Indices always start at 1 and *NOT* at 0!
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```
v = [1 2 3];
v(3)           % Access a vector element
```

```
m = [1 2 3 4; 5 7 8 8; 9 10 11 12; 13 14 15 16]
m(1, 3)        % Access a matrix element
               % matrix(ROW #, COLUMN #)
m(2, :)        % Access a whole matrix row (2nd row)
m(:, 1)        % Access a whole matrix column (1st column)

m(1, 1:3)       % Access elements 1 through 3 of the 1st row

m(2:3, 2)       % Access elements 2 through 3 of the
               % 2nd column
m(2:end, 3)     % Keyword "end" accesses the remainder of a
               % column or row
```

```
m = [1 2 3; 4 5 6]
size(m)         % Returns the size of a matrix
size(m, 1)      % Number of rows
size(m, 2)      % Number of columns
```

```
m1 = zeros(size(m)) % Create a new matrix with the size of m
```

```
who             % List variables in workspace
```

```
whos           % List variables w/ info about size, type, etc.
```

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%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
% (3) Simple operations on vectors and matrices
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%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
% (A) Element-wise operations:
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% These operations are done "element by element". If two
```

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% vectors/matrices are to be added, subtracted, or element-wise
% multiplied or divided, they must have the same size.
```

```
a = [1 2 3 4]';      % A column vector
2 * a                % Scalar multiplication
a / 4                % Scalar division
b = [5 6 7 8]';      % Another column vector

a + b                % Vector addition
a - b                % Vector subtraction
a .^ 2               % Element-wise squaring (note the ".")
a .* b               % Element-wise multiplication (note the ".")
a ./ b               % Element-wise division (note the ".")
```

```
log([1 2 3 4])       % Element-wise logarithm
round([1.5 2; 2.2 3.1]) % Element-wise rounding to nearest integer
```

```
% Other element-wise arithmetic operations include e.g. :
% floor, ceil, ...
```

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%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
% (B) Vector Operations
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% Built-in Matlab functions that operate on vectors
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```
a = [1 4 6 3]        % A row vector
sum(a)               % Sum of vector elements
mean(a)              % Mean of vector elements
var(a)               % Variance of elements
std(a)               % Standard deviation
```

```
max(a)               % Maximum
min(a)               % Minimum
```

```
% If a matrix is given, then these functions will operate on each column
% of the matrix and return a row vector as result
```

```
a = [1 2 3; 4 5 6]   % A matrix
mean(a)               % Mean of each column
```

```
max(a)               % Max of each column
max(max(a))          % Obtaining the max of a matrix
mean(a, 2)            % Mean of each row (second argument specifies
% dimension along which operation is taken)
```

```
[1 2 3] * [4 5 6]'    % 1x3 row vector times a 3x1 column vector

% results in a scalar. Known as dot product
% or inner product. Note the absence of "."
```

```
[1 2 3]' * [4 5 6]      % 3x1 column vector times a 1x3 row vector
                        % results in a 3x3 matrix. Known as outer
                        % product. Note the absence of "."
```

```
%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
% (C) Matrix Operations:
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```
a = rand(3,2)           % A 3x2 matrix
b = rand(2,4)           % A 2x4 matrix
c = a * b               % Matrix product results in a 3x4 matrix
```

```
a = [1 2; 3 4; 5 6];    % A 3x2 matrix
b = [5 6 7];            % A 1x3 row vector
b * a                   % Vector-matrix product results in
                        % a 1x2 row vector
c = [8; 9];             % A 2x1 column vector
a * c                   % Matrix-vector product results in
                        % a 3x1 column vector
```

```
a = [1 3 2; 6 5 4; 7 8 9]; % A 3x3 matrix
inv(a)                  % Matrix inverse of a
eig(a)                  % Vector of eigenvalues of a
[V, D] = eig(a)         % D matrix with eigenvalues on diagonal;
                        % V matrix of eigenvectors
```

```
% Example for multiple return values!
[U, S, V] = svd(a)      % Singular value decomposition of a.
                        % a = U * S * V', singular values are
                        % stored in S
```

```
% Other matrix operations: det, norm, rank, ...
```

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% (D) Reshaping and assembling matrices:
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```
a = [1 2; 3 4; 5 6];    % A 3x2 matrix
b = a(:)                 % Make 6x1 column vector by stacking
                        % up columns of a
sum(a(:))                % Useful: sum of all elements
```

```
a = reshape(b, 2, 3)     % Make 2x3 matrix out of vector
                        % elements (column-wise)
```

```
a = [1 2]; b = [3 4];    % Two row vectors
c = [a b]                % Horizontal concatenation (see horzcat)
```

```
a = [1; 2; 3];           % Column vector
c = [a; 4]               % Vertical concatenation (see vertcat)
```

```
a = [eye(3) rand(3)]      % Concatenation for matrices
b = [eye(3); ones(1, 3)]
```

```
b = repmat(5, 3, 2)       % Create a 3x2 matrix of fives
b = repmat([1 2; 3 4], 1, 2) % Replicate the 2x2 matrix twice in
                        % column direction; makes 2x4 matrix
b = diag([1 2 3])         % Create 3x3 diagonal matrix with given
                        % diagonal elements
```

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%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
% (4) Control statements & vectorization
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% Syntax of control flow statements:
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```
% for VARIABLE = EXPR
%   STATEMENT
%   ...
%   STATEMENT
% end
%
% EXPR is a vector here, e.g. 1:10 or -1:0.5:1 or [1 4 7]
%
```

```
% while EXPRESSION
%   STATEMENTS
% end
%
% if EXPRESSION
%   STATEMENTS
% elseif EXPRESSION
%   STATEMENTS
% else
```

```
%   STATEMENTS
% end
%
```

```

% (elseif and else clauses are optional, the "end" is required)
%
% EXPRESSIONs are usually made of relational clauses, e.g. a < b

% The operators are <, >, <=, >=, ==, ~= (almost like in C(++))

% Warning:
% Loops run very slowly in Matlab, because of interpretation overhead.
% This has gotten somewhat better in version 6.5, but you should
% nevertheless try to avoid them by "vectorizing" the computation,

% i.e. by rewriting the code in form of matrix operations. This is
% illustrated in some examples below.

% Examples:
for i=1:2:7          % Loop from 1 to 7 in steps of 2
    i                % Print i
end

for i=[5 13 -1]      % Loop over given vector
    if (i > 10)       % Sample if statement
        disp('Larger than 10') % Print given string

    elseif i < 0      % Parentheses are optional
        disp('Negative value')
    else
        disp('Something else')
    end
end

end

% Here is another example: given an mxn matrix A and a 1xn
% vector v, we want to subtract v from every row of A.

m = 50; n = 10; A = ones(m, n); v = 2 * rand(1, n);
%
% Implementation using loops:
for i=1:m
    A(i,:) = A(i,:) - v;
end

% We can compute the same thing using only matrix operations
A = ones(m, n) - repmat(v, m, 1); % This version of the code runs
                                   % much faster!!!

% We can vectorize the computation even when loops contain
% conditional statements.

%
% Example: given an mxn matrix A, create a matrix B of the same size
% containing all zeros, and then copy into B the elements of A that
% are greater than zero.

% Implementation using loops:
B = zeros(m,n);
for i=1:m
    for j=1:n
        if A(i,j)>0
            B(i,j) = A(i,j);
        end
    end
end

end

% All this can be computed w/o any loop!
B = zeros(m,n);
ind = find(A > 0); % Find indices of positive elements of A
                  % (see "help find" for more info)

B(ind) = A(ind); % Copies into B only the elements of A
                 % that are > 0

%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
%(5) Saving your work

save myfile          % Saves all workspace variables into

                    % file myfile.mat
save myfile a b      % Saves only variables a and b

clear a b            % Removes variables a and b from the
                    % workspace
clear                % Clears the entire workspace

load myfile          % Loads variable(s) from myfile.mat

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%(6) Creating scripts or functions using m-files:
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```
% Matlab scripts are files with ".m" extension containing Matlab
% commands. Variables in a script file are global and will change the
```

```
% value of variables of the same name in the environment of the current
% Matlab session. A script with name "script1.m" can be invoked by
% typing "script1" in the command window.
```

```
% Functions are also m-files. The first line in a function file must be
% of this form:
```

```
% function [outarg_1, ..., outarg_m] = myfunction(inarg_1, ..., inarg_n)
%
% The function name should be the same as that of the file
% (i.e. function "myfunction" should be saved in file "myfunction.m").
% Have a look at myfunction.m and myotherfunction.m for examples.
%
```

```
% Functions are executed using local workspaces: there is no risk of
% conflicts with the variables in the main workspace. At the end of a
% function execution only the output arguments will be visible in the
% main workspace.
```

```
a = [1 2 3 4];          % Global variable a
b = myfunction(2 * a)    % Call myfunction which has local
                        % variable a
```

```
a          % Global variable a is unchanged
```

```
[c, d] = ...
myotherfunction(a, b)    % Call myotherfunction with two return
                        % values
```

```
%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
```

#### %(7) Plotting

```
x = [0 1 2 3 4];        % Basic plotting
plot(x);                 % Plot x versus its index values
pause                   % Wait for key press
plot(x, 2*x);            % Plot 2*x versus x
axis([0 8 0 8]);         % Adjust visible rectangle
```

```
figure;                 % Open new figure
x = pi*[-24:24]/24;
plot(x, sin(x));
xlabel('radians');      % Assign label for x-axis
ylabel('sin value');    % Assign label for y-axis
title('dummy');         % Assign plot title
```

```
figure;
subplot(1, 2, 1);       % Multiple functions in separate graphs
plot(x, sin(x));        % (see "help subplot")
axis square;            % Make visible area square
subplot(1, 2, 2);
plot(x, 2*cos(x));
axis square;
```

```
figure;
plot(x, sin(x));
hold on;                % Multiple functions in single graph
plot(x, 2*cos(x), '--'); % '--' chooses different line pattern
```

```
legend('sin', 'cos');   % Assigns names to each plot
hold off;               % Stop putting multiple figures in current
                        % graph
```

```
figure;                 % Matrices vs. images
```

```
m = rand(64,64);
imagesc(m)              % Plot matrix as image
colormap gray;          % Choose gray level colormap
axis image;             % Show pixel coordinates as axes
axis off;               % Remove axes
```

```
%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%
```

#### %(8) Working with (gray level) images

```
I = imread('cit.png');  % Read a PNG image
```

```
figure
imagesc(I)              % Display it as gray level image
colormap gray;
```

```
colorbar                % Turn on color bar on the side
pixval                  % Display pixel values interactively
```

```
trueSize                % Display at resolution of one screen
                        % pixel per image pixel
trueSize(2*size(I))     % Display at resolution of two screen
                        % pixels per image pixel
```

```
I2 = imresize(I, 0.5, 'bil'); % Resize to 50% using bilinear
```

```

% interpolation
I3 = imrotate(I2, 45, ... % Rotate 45 degrees and crop to
    'bil', 'crop'); % original size

I3 = double(I2); % Convert from uint8 to double, to allow

% math operations
imagesc(I3.^2) % Display squared image (pixel-wise)
imagesc(log(I3)) % Display log of image (pixel-wise)
I3 = uint8(I3); % Convert back to uint8 for writing
imwrite(I3, 'test.png') % Save image as PNG

figure;
g = [1 2 1]' * [1 2 1] / 16; % 3x3 Gaussian filter mask
I2 = double(I); % Convert image to floating point
I3 = conv2(I2, g); % Convolve image with filter mask
I3 = conv2(I2, g, 'same'); % Convolve image, but keep original size
subplot(1, 2, 1) % Display original and filtered image

imagesc(I); % side-by-side
axis square;
colormap gray;
subplot(1, 2, 2)
imagesc(I3);
axis square;
colormap gray;

%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%%

```

## myfunction.m

```

function y = myfunction(x)
% Function of one argument with one return value

a = [-2 -1 0 1]; % Have a global variable of the same name
y = a + x;

```

## myotherfunction.m

```

function [y, z] = myotherfunction(a, b)
% Function of two arguments with two return values

y = a + b;
z = a - b;

```

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Created by [Stefan Roth](#)