

[Home](#)
[Resume](#)
[Research](#)
[Publications](#)
[Viz](#)
[Writing](#)
[Pics](#)
[Zim](#)  
[News & Blogs](#)
[Funnies](#)
[Science Humor](#)
[Interesting](#)
[Techie](#)
[Misc.](#)

# PHONMAT

**Dinoj Surendran, [dinoj@cs.uchicago.edu](mailto:dinoj@cs.uchicago.edu)**

Download the following zip files: [phonmat.zip](#), [matutils.zip](#), [phonvec.zip](#), [labels.zip](#). Unzip them in the same directory, say blah. This causes the files in matutils.zip to appear in blah, and the directories @phonmat, @phonvec and @labels to appear in blah. You need to add blah to the Matlab search path.

PHONMAT is a Matlab class that I wrote and used in early 2003. It was never written with speed in mind, so even on a 1.5 GHz linux box with 1 Gb RAM it takes just over two seconds to display a 16x16 matrix.

This class helps you manipulate data of the following form: suppose you have a finite set of symbols  $S$  and for each pair  $s, t$  in  $S$  have an associated value  $M(s, t)$ . Pair - unordered pair or ordered pair? PHONMAT can deal with both, but assume the former for now. In other words  $M(s, t)$  and  $M(t, s)$  should be treated differently. Also, PHONMAT can deal with the case where diagonal entries  $M(s, s)$  aren't meaningful, but assume they are for now.

An example of such a matrix is a confusion matrix like that of [Miller and Nicely, 1955](#). This is a stimulus-response matrix with  $M(s, r)$  having the number of times subjects faced with stimulus  $s$  gave response  $r$ .

## Constructing a PHONMAT object

Suppose the file [toyexample.dat](#) (the extension can be anything you like, not just .dat; you don't even need one) looks like this:

```
% Toy example to illustrate use of PHONMAT class
% abcdefg
% a ay aa f F c see
341 43 431 85 95 31 5
90 531 53 91 38 24 21
71 38 493 12 102 43 89
31 49 11 643 32 13 95
93 14 58 10 488 120 41
23 49 59 28 82 710 12
83 23 58 39 20 43 501
```

The first line is the title of the matrix, and is required. The second line, also required, is a list of the symbols in  $S$ . All these symbols MUST be 1-character long, and are called 1-char labels as a result. The third line, which is optional, has a list of alternative labels (altlabels) for some of the 1-char labels. For example, a can be called ay or aa, c can be called see, and f can be called F.

To read this file, type

```
>> toy = phonmat ('toyexample.dat');
```

There are other ways of creating PHONMAT objects, such as copying

```
toy2 = toy;
```

Or by initializing from a file with the first line having the matrix's title (optional) and the rest having individual entries. For example, suppose this is the file [choochoo.dat](#).

```
% chitty chitty choo choo
xx 134
yy 155
xz 10
zx 214
yx 24
yz 120
zy 31
xy 43
zz 14
```

Then

```
>> choochoo = phonmat ('choochoo.dat')

choochoo (object of type PHONMAT) =

  title:
  Phones involved: 3, namely  x y z

      x      y      z
x 134    43    10      x
y  24   155   120      y
z 214    31    14      z
```

## Looking at a PHONMAT object

To view it, just type its name (or leave out the semicolons when you read it in the previous line).

```
>> toy

toy (object of type PHONMAT) =

  title: Toy example to illustrate use of PHONMAT class
  Phones involved: 7, namely  a (ay aa) b c (see) d e f (F) g

      a      b      c      d      e      f      g
a 341    43   431    85    95    31    5      a
b  90   531    53    91    38    24    21      b
c  71    38   493    12   102    43    89      c
d  31    49    11   643    32    13    95      d
e  93    14    58    10   488   120    41      e
f  23    49    59    28    82   710    12      f
g  83    23    58    39    20    43   501      g
```

To display toy with row totals, type

```
>> total (toy)

or

>> toy.total;

pm (object of type PHONMAT) =

  title: Toy example to illustrate use of PHONMAT class
  Phones involved: 7, namely a (ay aa) b c (see) d e f (F) g

      a      b      c      d      e      f      g      Total
a 341    43   431    85    95    31    5      a 1031
b  90   531    53    91    38    24    21      b 848
c  71    38   493    12   102    43    89      c 848
d  31    49    11   643    32    13    95      d 874
e  93    14    58    10   488   120    41      e 824
f  23    49    59    28    82   710    12      f 963
g  83    23    58    39    20    43   501      g 767
```

Don't worry about the fact that 'pm' appears when you use the second command; that's a display bug that I didn't consider worth fixing.

## Individual element access

Suppose you want to know the entry corresponding to 'a' and 'f' in toy.

```
>> toy('af')

ans =

    31
```

However, having 1-char labels isn't always convenient. This is why alternative labels can be useful; they prevent you from having to remember 1-char labels. Recall that 'ay' and 'aa' are altlabels for 'a' and 'F' for 'f'. Any of the following commands are equivalent to toy ('af') :

```
toy ('a', 'f')
toy ('aa', 'f')
toy ('ay', 'f')
toy ('a', 'F')
toy ('aa', 'F')
toy ('ay', 'F')
```

There is no limit on how long altlabels can be.

Using curly brackets (Americans call them braces, oui?) for access in any of the above commands returns a 2x2 matrix involving the two symbols involved e.g.

```
>> toy('af')
ans =
    31
>> toy('fa')
ans =
    23
>> toy{'fa'} % <--- note that {} used instead of ()
ans =
    710    23
    31    341
```

## Reordering and taking submatrices

Now suppose you want to reorder the matrix so that the order isn't abcdefg but fadgceb.

```
>> reorder (toy,'fadgceb')
ans (object of type PHONMAT) =
    title: Toy example to illustrate use of PHONMAT class
    Phones involved: 7, namely f a d g c e b
    f    a    d    g    c    e    b
f 710    23    28    12    59    82    49    f
a 31    341    85    5    431    95    43    a
d 13    31    643    95    11    32    49    d
g 43    83    39    501    58    20    23    g
c 43    71    12    89    493    102    38    c
e 120    93    10    41    58    488    14    e
b 24    90    91    21    53    38    531    b
```

Suppose you wanted to just have a look at how c,g and b compared. You could say

```
>> reorder (toy,'cdg')
ans (object of type PHONMAT) =
    title: Toy example to illustrate use of PHONMAT class
    Phones involved: 7, namely c d g a b e f
    c    d    g    a    b    e    f
c 493    12    89    71    38    102    43    c
d 11    643    95    31    49    32    13    d
g 58    39    501    83    23    20    43    g
a 431    85    5    341    43    95    31    a
b 53    91    21    90    531    38    24    b
e 58    10    41    93    14    488    120    e
f 59    28    12    23    49    82    710    f
```

Which places 'cdg' at the start of the matrix and places the other labels at the end in the original order. Or you could say

```
>> sub (toy,'cdg')
ans (object of type PHONMAT) =
    title: Toy example to illustrate use of PHONMAT class (EXTRACTED FROM MATRIX INVOLVING abcdefg)
    Phones involved: 3, namely c d g
    c    d    g
c 493    12    89    c
d 11    643    95    d
g 58    39    501    g
```

Both the 'sub' and 'reorder' functions return PHONMAT objects. For example:

```
>> babytoy = sub (toy,'cdg');
>> babytoy
babytoy (object of type PHONMAT) =
    title: Toy example to illustrate use of PHONMAT class (EXTRACTED FROM MATRIX INVOLVING abcdefg)
```

Phones involved: 3, namely c d g

	c	d	g	
c	493	12	89	c
d	11	643	95	d
g	58	39	501	g

You can convert the entries of 'toy' to a vector:

```
>> toy.list
```

```
ans =
```

```
Columns 1 through 27
```

341	43	431	85	95	31	5	90	531	53	91
38	24	21	71	38	493	12	102	43	89	31
49	11	643	32	13						

```
Columns 28 through 49
```

95	93	14	58	10	488	120	41	23	49	59
28	82	710	12	83	23	58	39	20	43	501

This is useful in comparing matrices. For example, suppose you have a second PHONMAT toy2 (intentionally created as perturbation of toy).

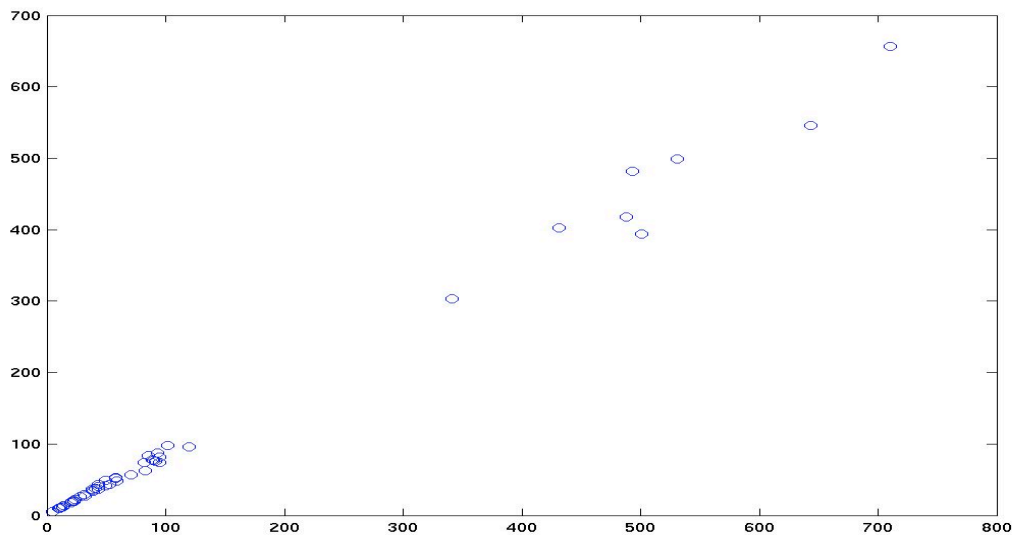
```
toy2 (object of type PHONMAT) =
```

```
title: Another toy example to illustrate use of PHONMAT class
Phones involved: 7, namely a (ay aa) b c (see) d e f (F) g
```

	a	b	c	d	e	f	g	
a	303	37	403	84	82	29	5	a
b	77	499	43	76	35	22	20	b
c	57	37	482	11	98	41	78	c
d	29	49	10	546	27	12	74	d
e	87	14	53	10	418	96	38	e
f	20	42	48	26	74	657	11	f
g	63	21	52	34	18	43	394	g

Now you want to compare corresponding entries of both matrices. You could do that by saying

```
>> figure; plot (toy.list, toy2.list, 'bo');
```



## Making diagonal entries invisible

Let's suppose now that you wanted to only compare, for whatever reason, off-diagonal entries. To do this, use the 'removediag' command, which prevents you from accessing the diagonal entries.

```
>> removediag(toy)
```

```
>> toy

toy (object of type PHONMAT) =

title: Toy example to illustrate use of PHONMAT class
Phones involved: 7, namely a (ay aa) b c (see) d e f (F) g

      a      b      c      d      e      f      g
a .... 43   431   85   95   31   5      a
b 90   .... 53   91   38   24   21      b
c 71   38   .... 12  102  43   89      c
d 31   49   11   .... 32   13   95      d
e 93   14   58   10   .... 120  41      e
f 23   49   59   28   82   .... 12      f
g 83   23   58   39   20   43   ....   g
```

Note that the diagonal entries have not been removed, they are just invisible for now. To get them back, type 'removediag (toy,1)'. Let's assume we don't do that now however. The 'list' command only returns visible ('meaningful') matrix elements, in this case only offdiagonal ones.

```
>> toy.list

ans =

Columns 1 through 27

    43    431    85    95    31     5    90    53    91    38    24
    21    71    38    12   102    43    89    31    49    11    32
    13     95    93    14     58

Columns 28 through 42

    10   120    41    23    49    59    28    82    12    83    23
    58     39    20    43
```

Where were we? Oh right, we wanted to compare offdiagonal elements of toy and toy2.

```
>> removediag(toy2)
>> figure; plot (toy.list, toy2.list, 'bo');
```

We won't bother showing the picture, for lack-of-insight reasons. Let's put back the diagonal entries though.

```
>> removediag (toy,1)
>> removediag (toy2,1)
>> toy

toy (object of type PHONMAT) =

title: Toy example to illustrate use of PHONMAT class
Phones involved: 7, namely a (ay aa) b c (see) d e f (F) g

      a      b      c      d      e      f      g
a 341   43   431   85   95   31   5      a
b 90   531   53   91   38   24   21      b
c 71   38   493   12  102  43   89      c
d 31   49   11   643  32   13   95      d
e 93   14   58   10  488  120  41      e
f 23   49   59   28   82  710  12      f
g 83   23   58   39   20   43  501      g
```

## The innards of a PHONMAT object

There are (at last count) 8 fields of any PHONMAT object, say pm.

- pm.mat has the underlying matrix.
- pm.labels has the labels of the symbols involved.
- pm.title has the name of this matrix
- pm.symmetric specified whether the matrix is symmetric
- pm.hasdiag specified whether the matrix has meaningful diagonal entries
- pm.default -- don't worry about it.
- pm.smallest. Any value below smallest in magnitude is assumed to be 0.
- pm.dp is the number of decimal places to be used in displaying this object.

To get access to any object use the 'get' and 'set' commands. For example:

```
>> choochoo

choochoo (object of type PHONMAT) =
```

```

title:
Phones involved: 3, namely  x y z

      x      y      z
x 134    43    10      x
y 24    155   120      y
z 214    31    14      z

>> M = get (choochoo, 'mat')

M =

    134    43    10
    24    155   120
    214    31    14

>> M(2,2) = 130

M =

    134    43    10
    24    130   120
    214    31    14

>> set (choochoo, 'mat', M)
>> choochoo

choochoo (object of type PHONMAT) =

title:
Phones involved: 3, namely  x y z

      x      y      z
x 134    43    10      x
y 24    130   120      y
z 214    31    14      z

```

Now to explain each of these fields in more detail.

- pm.mat is a nxn array of numbers. The pm.mat(i,j) corresponds to the entry for the i-th and j-th label.

One can read, but not directly change, individual elements of pm. The only way to change the matrix elements is to get (, change) and set the whole 'mat' field.

- pm.labels is of type LABELS and has the n labels involved here

The LABELS class is explained in the next section.

- pm.title is a string with the name of this matrix
- pm.symmetric is 1 if the matrix is symmetric and 0 (default) otherwise.
- pm.hasdiag is 1 (default) matrix has meaningful diagonal entries, else 0.

When you called 'removeddiag (toy)' earlier, what you actually did was set toy.hasdiag to 0. Calling 'removeddiag (toy,1)' set toy.hasdiag to 1 again.

- pm.default is 0 (default)

This is the value returned if you ask for a diagonal entry when such entries have been marked as meaningless, e.g. saying "toy('aa')" just after you say "removeddiag (toy)".

The way the class handles default values should be redone, since I wanted pm.default to always be returned for underspecified entries of pm. By underspecified I mean this -- a matrix can be underspecified during construction. For example, if 'choochoo\_part.dat' was the file

```

% chitty chitty choo choo
xx 134
yy 155
xz 10
zx 214

```

Then these entries are placed in the matrix and all others are set to 0. This is fine if 0 is your default value, but can be problematic at other times.

```

>> choochoo2 = phonmat ('choochoo_part.dat');
>> choochoo2

choochoo2 (object of type PHONMAT) =

title: chitty chitty choo choo
Phones involved: 3, namely  x y z

```

	x	y	z	
x	134	0	10	x
y	0	155	0	y
z	214	0	0	z

- pm.smallest = 1e-10 (default). Any value below smallest is assumed to be 0.
- pm.dp is the number of decimal places to be used in displaying this object.

```
>> choochoo

choochoo (object of type PHONMAT) =

title:
Phones involved: 3, namely  x y z

      x      y      z
x 134   43   10      x
y  24   130  120     y
z 214   31   14      z

>> set (choochoo, 'dp', 2)
>> choochoo

choochoo (object of type PHONMAT) =

title:
Phones involved: 3, namely  x y z

      x      y      z

All entries seen should be multiplied by 1e2

x 1.34  0.43  0.10    x
y 0.24  1.30  1.20    y
z 2.14  0.31  0.14    z

>> set (choochoo, 'dp', -1)
>> choochoo

choochoo (object of type PHONMAT) =

title:
Phones involved: 3, namely  x y z

      x      y      z

All entries seen should be multiplied by 1e-1

x 1340   430   100     x
y 240   1300  1200     y
z 2140   310   140     z
```

## The LABELS class

```
>> help labels
```

```
--- help for labels/labels.m ---
```

```
LABELS  user-defined class to deal with labels for phone manipulation,
        especially in the context of classes PHONMAT and CONFMAT.
```

Their use is best explained by example. Supposed you have an experiment with the English phones /t/, /d/, /th/ and /dh/. For convenience, define 1-character labels (called ONELABELS) for each, say t,d,T and D. This is the approach followed by the DISC format in CELEX for example. You would still like to remember that T stands for /th/ of course.

```
blah = labels ('tdTD','T th D dh');
blah{'th'} --> 'T'
blah{'th'} --> 3      (position in original string definition)
blah{'D'} --> 'D'
blah{'D'} --> 4
blah{'dh'} --> 'D'
blah{'zh'} --> ''
blah{'zh'} --> 0
blah.phones --> 'tdTD'
blah.allphones --> 't d T (th) D (dh)'
```

The second argument in the initialization is optional. If you have no labels other than your onelabels, "blah = labels('tdTD')" is ok.

At the moment there is no functionality to modify or delete labels as I have not needed it. Feel free to add and even freer to email me and tell me about your improved version.

It is your responsibility to make sure that labels don't contradict each other. Saying addlabels (blah, 'T th D th') is definitely a

6/7/07 18:10

"Bad command! Go sit in the corner" kind of thing.