

MATLAB QUICK REFERENCE CARD

Frequently used MATLAB commands – Version v0.1 August 2014

Basic Commands and Functions

`clc`..... clears command window
`clear`..... clears workspace
`Diary`..... creates a copy of all commands and most results
`exit`..... terminates MATLAB
`help`..... invokes help utility
`helpwin`..... invokes windowed help utility
`length`..... length of a vector or maximum dimension of an array
`size`..... display dimensions of a particular array
`quit`..... terminates MATLAB
`save`..... saves variables in a file
`who`..... lists variables in memory
`whos`..... lists variable names, sizes, and types in memory

Special Variables/Constants

`ans`..... most recent temporary answer
`eps`..... accuracy of floating point precision
⇒ default: $2.2204e^{-16}$
`i`..... imaginary number
`flops`..... count of floating point operations
`Inf`..... infinity, ie. any number divided by 0
`NaN`..... Numerical result is not defined
`pi`..... the math pi (3.1415e)
`realmin`, `realmax`
smallest, largest real number MATLAB can represent
`intmin`, `intmax`
returns smallest, largest possible integer used in MATLAB

`clock`, `date`.. returns the time, date

File & Folder Operations

`cd`..... change direction
`copyfile`..... copy from *pathA* to *pathB*
`dir`..... output content of a folder
`exist`..... determines whether variable, function or folder exists
`open('workspace.mat')`, `load('workspace.mat')`
opens file to command line, additionally load it into workspace window
`csvwrite()` .. write to CSV format in current folder

Special Characters

<code>[]</code>	forms matrices
<code>()</code>	used in statements to group operations
<code>.</code>	decimal point
<code>,!</code>	separates subscripts or matrix elements
<code>;</code>	separates rows in a matrix definition or suppresses output
<code>:</code>	indicates all rows or all columns
<code>=</code>	assignment operator (not equality)
<code>%</code>	indicates a comment
<code>%%</code>	cell divider
<code>+</code>	addition
<code>-</code>	ubtraction
<code>*</code>	multiplication
<code>.*</code>	array multiplication
<code>/</code>	division
<code>./</code>	array division
<code>^</code>	exponential
<code>.^</code>	array exponential

Relational and Logical Operators

<code><</code>	less than
<code><==</code>	less than or equal to
<code>></code>	greater than
<code>>==</code>	greater than or equal to
<code>==</code>	equal to
<code>=</code>	not equal to
<code>&</code>	and
<code>!</code>	or
<code>~</code>	not

Conditional Statements

`if` expression
statements
`elseif` expression
statements
`else` expression
statements
`end`

`switch` switch_expression
statements
`case` case_expression
statements
`case` case_expression
statements
`otherwise`
statements
`end`

`for` k = vectorOrColumnList
statements
`end`

`while` logicalExpression
statements
`end`

`help` command Help on command

doc command. Detailed documentation on command (opens in help browser).

who..... displays a list of variables in the workspace

whos..... displays a detailed list of variables in the workspace

format sets the default format how *MATLAB* displays numbers.

format short 5 digit fixed point

format long 15 digit fixed point

format short e 5 digit floating point

format long e 15 digit floating point

clear x clears the variable *x*

clear erases all variables in the workspace

clc clears the command window

close n closes figure window no. *n*

close all closes all figure windows

x=[1,2,4,...] define a row vector *x*

x=[1 2 4 ...] same.

x=[1; 2; 5; ...] define a column vector *x*

a:c..... the range *a..c*; equivalent to $[a, a+1, \dots, c-1, c]$

a:b:c..... the range *a..c* with step size *b*; equivalent to $[a, a+b, a+2*b, \dots, c-b, c]$

linspace(a,b,n) row vector with *n* values linearly spaced from *a* to *b* (inclusive)

eye(n)..... the $n \times n$ identity matrix

zeros(n)..... a $n \times n$ zero matrix

zeros(m,n) .. a $m \times n$ zero matrix

ones(n)..... a $n \times n$ all-one matrix

ones(m,n) ... a $m \times n$ all-one matrix

diag(x)..... creates a diagonal matrix whose diagonal consists of the entries of the vector *x*

[X,Y]=meshgrid(x,y) transforms the domain specified by vectors *x* and *y* into matrices *X* and *Y* that can be used for the evaluation of functions of two variables.

length(a) ... the length of the vector *x*. For matrices length returns the number of rows or columns, whichever is larger.

[x,y]=size(a) the number of rows (*x*) and columns (*y*) of the matrix *a*

size(a,1) ... the number of rows of *a*

size(a,2) ... the number of columns of *a*

numel(a)..... the number of elements in *a*

nnz(a)..... the number of non-zero elements in *a*

x(1) 1st element

x(n) *n*th element

x(end) last element

x(1:n) first *n* elements

x(end-n:end) last *n* + 1 elements

x([1 2 4]) specific elements (use any row or column vector as index)

x(x>3) all elements greater than 3

x(x>3 & x<5) all elements between 3 and 5

x(:) transformed to column vector

x(i,j) element at row *i*, column *j*

x(i,:) row *i*

x(:,j) column *j*

x(1:m,:) first *n* rows

x(:,1:n) first *n* columns

x(end,end) The last element in the last row

x(:) transformed to column vector (column by column)

x'..... the complex conjugate transpose of *x*

x.'..... the non-conjugate transpose of *x*

max(x)..... the greatest element of *x*

min(x)..... the smallest element of *x*

fliplr(x) ... reverses the elements of *x* from left to right

flipud(x) ... reverses the elements of *x* from top to bottom

[a,i]=max(x) returns in addition the position *i* of the

greatest element $[a,i]=\min(x)$ returns in addition the position *i* of the smallest element

sort(x)..... sorts the elements in ascending order

sortrows(x) . sorts the rows of *x* in ascending order as a group, according to the first column.

sortrows(x,c) as above, but sorted according to column *c*. If *c* is negative, the rows are sorted by descending order. If *c* is a vector, the rows are sorted first by column *c*(1), then by column *c*(2), etc.

find(x)..... returns the indices corresponding to the nonzero entries of *x*

find(x==a) .. returns the indices of the positions *j* such that $x[j] == a[j]$

unique(x) ... returns the same values as in *a* but with no repetitions; the values will also be sorted.

reshape(x,m,n) returns the $m \times n$ matrix whose elements are taken columnwise from *x*.

a+b If *a* and *b* are $m \times n$ matrices, this is the standard matrix addition. If *a* is a matrix and *b* is a scalar, or vice-versa, the scalar is added to every entry of the matrix.

a-b If *a* and *b* are $m \times n$ matrices, this is the standard matrix subtraction. If *a* is a matrix and *b* is a scalar, or vice-versa, the scalar is subtracted from every entry of the matrix.

a*b If *a* is an $k \times m$ matrix and *b* is an $m \times n$ matrix, this is the standard matrix multiplication, i.e., yielding an $k \times n$ matrix. If *a* is a matrix and *b* is a scalar, or vice-versa, every element of the matrix is multiplied by the scalar.

a.*b If *a* and *b* are $m \times n$ matrices, this is their pointwise multiplication. If either element is a scalar, this is the same as $a * b$.

a/b	If a and b are matrices of appropriate dimensions, this is roughly $a \cdot \text{inv}(b)$. If b is a scalar, this divides every entry of a by b .	diff(x) difference (and sample-wise derivative) of the vector x	fftshift(x) . swaps the left and right halves of x to shift the zerofrequency component to the center of the spectrum.
a./b	If a and b are $m \times n$ matrices, this is their pointwise division. If a is a scalar, then this divides a by every entry of b . If b is a scalar, then this divides every entry of a by b .	cumsum(x) ... cumulative sum of the elements of x (and sample-wise integral)	filter(b,a,x) filters the data in vector x with the filter described by vectors a and b .
a\b	If a is an $n \times n$ matrix and b is an $n \times 1$ column vector, or a matrix with several such columns, then $x = a \backslash b$ is the solution to the equation $a * x = b$. If a is a scalar, then this divides every entry of b by a .	cumprod(x) .. same, for the product	[b,a]=butter(n,Wn) designs an n th order lowpass digital Butterworth filter and returns the filter coefficients in the vectors b (numerator) and a (denominator). The cutoff frequency must be $0.0 < Wn < 1.0$, with 1.0 corresponding to half the sample rate. downsample(x,n) downsamples every n th sample.
a.\b	If a and b are $m \times n$ matrices, this is their left pointwise division. If a is a scalar, then this divides every entry of b by a . If b is a scalar, then this divides b by every entry of a .	mean(x) mean of the elements of x	upsample(x,n) upsamples the signal x by inserting $n-1$ zeros between input samples.
a' * b	If a and b are $n \times 1$ column vectors, this is their inner product (or scalar product or dot product). (This is not another operator, just a combination of ' (conjugate transpose) and *).	median(x) ... median of the elements of x	resample(x,p,q) resamples the signal x at p/q times the original sample rate.
inv(a)	The inverse of the $n \times n$ matrix a .	log(x, base) computes the logarithm of x with base $base$	randint(m,n) generates an $m \times n$ matrix of random binary numbers.
eig(a)	is a vector containing the eigenvalues of the $n \times n$ matrix a . [v,d]=eig(a) produces a diagonal matrix d of eigenvalues and a full matrix v whose columns are the corresponding eigenvectors such that $a*v = v*d$.	real(x) real part of a complex number	randint(m,n,p) generates an $m \times n$ matrix of random integers between 0 and $p - 1$.
rank(a)	is the rank, or number of linearly independent rows or columns, of the matrix a .	imag(x) imaginary part of a complex number	pskmod,pskdemod phase shift keying modulation/demodulation
sin,cos,tan,asin,acos,atan,tan2,log,log10,exp,exp2,expn ...	These are the standard mathematical functions; they always operate pointwise on their arguments.	abs(x) absolute value of x , or complex magnitude if x is a complex number	qammod,qamdemod quadrature amplitude modulation/demodulation
sum(x) sum of the elements of x		angle(x) angle in radians of the complex number	rcosine designs a raised or root raised cosine filter
prod(x) product of the elements of x		conj(x) the complex conjugate of x	rcosflt filters a signal using raised or root raised cosine filter
		i Imaginary unit $\sqrt{-1}$	awgn add white Gaussian noise to a signal
		j same.	biterr computes the bit error rate
		pi $\pi = 3.1415926535897 \dots$	symerr computes the symbol error rate
		Inf Infinity; results e.g. when dividing a non-zero value by zero.	sparse(x) ... converts a sparse or full matrix to sparse
		NaN Not a number; results e.g. when computing 0/0.	sparse(m,n) . creates an $m \times n$ all-zero sparse matrix
		realmax Largest positive floating point number in <i>MATLAB</i> .	speye(n) creates an $n \times n$ sparse identity matrix
		realmin Smallest positive floating point number in <i>MATLAB</i> .	spones(x) ... creates a matrix with the same sparsity structure as x , but with ones in the nonzero positions.
		intmax Largest positive integer value in <i>MATLAB</i> .	plot(x) plot of the values of x (on the y-axis) versus $0 : \text{length}(x) - 1$
		intmin Smallest integer value in <i>MATLAB</i> .	plot(x,y) ... bivariate plot of x (on the x-axis) and y (on the y-axis)
		eps Spacing of floating point numbers. Use it to prevent unwanted behavior due to rounding errors. (See help for details.)	plot(x,y,...) allows you to specify formatting options (cf. help plot)
		exp(1) The base of the natural logarithm.	
		c=conv(a,b) . Convolution; e.g., $c(1) = a(1) * b(1)$	
		c=xcorr(a,b) Cross-correlation estimates.	
		fft(x) Fast Fourier Transform of the vector x	
		ifft(x) Inverse Fast Fourier Transform	

`hist(x)` histogram of the frequencies of x

`stem(...)` ... is the same as `plot(...)`, but the data sequence is plotted as discrete "stems" from the x-axis with circles for the data values.

`semilogy(...)` is the same as `plot(...)`, except a logarithmic (base 10) scale is used for the y-axis.

`scatterplot(x)` generates a scatter plot of x . x can be a real or complex vector, or a two-column matrix with real signal in the first column and imaginary signal in the second column.

`h=figure` creates a new figure and returns its handle.

`figure(h)` ... makes h the current figure, forces it to become visible, and raises it above all other figures on the screen.

`figure('name')` creates a new figure window with the specified window title

`subplot(m,n,k)` divides the current figure window into $m \times n$ subfigures and selects the k th for the current plot.

`xlabel('...')` sets the text for the x-axis. `xlabel`, as well as `ylabel`, title etc. accept basic LATEX-like strings such as a^2 for a^2 or α for α .

`ylabel('...')` sets the text for the y-axis.

`title('...')` sets a title for the current plot.

`print -depsc2 fig.eps`
saves the current figure into the file `fig.eps`.

`input('prompt')` shows prompt for user input

⇒ assigns 'string' to variable x (quotation marks matters): `x=input('foo bar:')`

⇒ option 's' interprets all input as character string, eg. numbers.: `x=input('foo bar: ', s)`

`disp(x)` displays the contents of variable x

`fprintf(fmt, vals)` the C function `printf`

`isnumeric()`, `ischar()` tests whether content of x is numeric or a character textstring (boolean logic).

`sprintf(fmt, vals)` like `printf`, but returns the string instead of printing it to the screen.

`error('...')` displays an error message and halts execution. The message can also be a formatting string as for `fprintf`, followed by the corresponding variables, e.g. `error('Warning %d\n', val)`.

`warning('...')` Like error, but execution of the function/script is continued.

`waitbar` displays progress information.

`load foo` loads the variables saved in the file `foo.mat` into the current workspace.

`load('foo')` . returns the variables saved in the file `foo.mat` as a structure;

`save foo a b` ... saves the variables a, b , etc. in the file `foo.mat`.

`save('foo', 'a','b')`

`func2str` Constructs a function name string from a function handle

`str2func` Constructs a function handle from a function name string

`int2str` Integer to string conversion

`mat2str` Convert a matrix into a string

`num2str` Number to string conversion

`sprintf` Write formatted data to a string

`sscanf` Read string under format control

`str2double` Convert string to double-precision value

`str2mat` String to matrix conversion

`str2num` String to number conversion

`bin2dec` Binary to decimal number conversion

`dec2bin` Nonnegative integer decimal to binary number conversion

`dec2hex` Decimal to hexadecimal number conversion

`hex2dec` Hexadecimal to decimal number conversion

`hex2num` Hexadecimal to double number conversion

github.com/emzap79/QRCs

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This TeXfile is based on Gabriel B. Burcas © git-qrc.tex and has then been modified to my own requirements, with permission!