

Modeling Mathematics ENG4xxx

# Notes on MatLab

*example-driven*

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# Chapter 1

## Quick tour MatLab

The objective of these tutorial are to illustrate the ENG 4XXX courses as well at to help you to learn quickly how to numerically solve problems. It will hence give you the first concepts behind **MatLab**, coding and problem solving. The emphasis here is learning by doing. Therefore, try not to read these documents without a computer close-by.

### Legal stuff

MatLab is a registered trademark of MathWorks, Inc.

## I About MatLab

### I a) What is the use of MatLab?

**MatLab** (for MATrix LABoratory) aims at delivering quickly some *relatively* inexpensive computations. It shines, as expected from the name, when it involves linear algebra, i.e., operations on matrices.

The main advantage of **MatLab** compared to language like C/C++ or Fortran are:

- No compilation
- The prompt
- Simplicity
- portability
- Built-in functions:
  - integration
  - visualization
  - tool-box

The negative points are mostly:

- sub performance
- not open source
- **price**

## I b) Equivalent of MatLab

Octave and SciLab are almost identical to MatLab. A MatLab script would work on these two others open-source and free softwares.

Most of the tips can also be applied to python, especially when the packages scipy and numpy (for scientific and engineering computations) are used.

## II Hello World

Let's print in the console the "hello world".

### II a) Starting with MatLab

#### II a) i Launch MatLab

Click on the icon, duh!

[[TODO \*\* image icon matlab \*\* ]]

#### II a) ii Organization of the typical MatLab window

You can find a few important sections:

- the command windows  
This is the command prompt
- current folder  
It lists the files
- the Workspace  
It gives details on the objects present in memory
- the editor  
this is where you can write a script
- the ribbon  
It gives access to properties, functions, etc. Similar in spirit to Words and Excel.

[[TODO \*\* image opening windows of matlab \*\* ]]

### II b) How to print "hello world"

Click on the Command Window, and type "hello world". You will see:

[[TODO \*\* image hello world \*\* ]]

In the following, instead of print screen, we will show the results and the commands as:

```
1 >> 'Hello World'
2 ans =
3 Hello World
```

MatLab printed the 'Hello World', congratulations !

You can see also that the 'Hello World' has been assigned to a variable named `ans`.

## Definition

**VARIABLE:** A variable is essentially a name that is associated with a value. Values can be of several types:

- results, such as string, numbers or matrices: `x = 3`.
- functions, for instance `sin` is a built-in function
- complex objects, for instance, a plot

They are usually assigned with the sign `"="`

## Pro Tip

`ans` is short for answer.

The results of the command is always stored in the variable `ans`, except if it is assigned to a given variable. Consequently, the command `1+1` will affect the variable `ans`, but `x=1+1` will not, and 2 will be assign to `x`.

`ans` can be re-used in the prompt: `x = ans+1`! However, a good practice is to assign the result to a user-defined variable.

Now, try without the quotes, and you will see:

```
1 >> Hello World
2 Undefined function or variable 'Hello'.
```

plus some help.

Hello World is understood by **MatLab** as a function/variable and then an option for this function. **MatLab** hence thinks that Hello is something that already exists, and it is not the case here. An error follow.

The main reason behind that is that we want to print a string.

## Definition

**STRING:** A string is a chain of characters. It is *not* a number.

It has to be between quotes: 'some text' or double quotes: "some text". For example, 'Lorem ipsum dolor sit amet' is a chain of characters.

But it is not that easy. `s = '45'` is the chain of characters '4' and '5'. But `n = 45` is the number 45. `s` and `n` are different.

## Pro Tip

How to put a quote in a string ? For instance,

Having `s = 'nah, can't do'` is not obvious, as **MatLab** will interpret the quote in "can't" as the end of the string.

To solve the issue, double it ! `s = 'nah, can''t do'` will work perfectly.

Try now to add a semi colon at the end of the line:

```
1 >> 'Hello World';
2 >>
```

Nothing is printed in the command prompt.

## Pro Tip

Do not forget the semi-colon ";" at the end of lines !

It is not a big deal when dealing with small matrices and small vectors. But when an image is being manipulated, it means that **MatLab** is manipulating a matrix with dimension around  $1000 \times 1000$ . Forgetting the ";" sign means that **MatLab** will show around a *million* numbers every line of your script!

## Definition

**COMMAND PROMPT:** The command prompt is the `>>` sign. Command Prompt is a command line interpreter. It is used to execute entered commands. Once enter is hit, MatLab will interpret the command, and send back any results.

One of the most important tip to remember: MatLab will always print the result of a line if it does not have a `”;` at the end of the line.

### III MatLab as a calculator

You can use MatLab as a calculator.

#### III a) Algebra

Click on the prompt:

```
1 >> 4+3
2 ans =
3 7
4 >> 4*3
5 ans =
6 12
```

As expected, MatLab respects the BODMAS (Brackets, Order, Division/Multiplication, Addition/Subtraction).

## Definition

**BODMAS:** It stands for Brackets, Order, Division/Multiplication, Addition/Subtraction.

1. You should start with resolving inside of the brackets:  
 $3 \times (4 + 2) \times 4^2 + 1 = 3 \times 6 \times 4^2 + 1$
2. You should then resolve orders (powers, roots) :  
 $3 \times 6 \times 4^2 + 1 = 3 \times 6 \times 16 + 1.$
3. You should then resolve division/multiplication :  
 $3 \times 6 \times 16 + 1 = 288$
4. Then finish with addition/substraction:  
 $288 + 1 = 289$

Try a few different operations !

```
1 >> (4+3)*2
2 ans =
3 14
4 >> 4+3*2
5 ans =
6 10
```

#### III b) Details on variables

##### III b) i ans

As seen before, `ans` can be used to store a result, but it will be overwritten every time a command is executed:

```

1 >> 2+2
2 ans =
3 4
4 >> ans+2
5 ans =
6 6
7 >> ans+2
8 ans =
9 8

```

### III b) ii Creation and re-assignment

Variable can be easily created and assigned with the sign "=".

```

1 >> x = 2+2
2 x =
3 4
4 >> x+2
5 ans =
6 6
7 >> x*5
8 ans =
9 10

```

### III b) iii Naming convention

A variable name can be anything, such as `goodnameforavvariable` or `GoodNameForAVariable`, or `good_name_for_a_variable`. However:

- it cannot start with `_`
- it cannot start with a number
- a few names are protected

#### Pro Tip

Try to use clever name for variables, it will help to understand the code. If all the results are named `result_1,result_2,result_3`, it is hard to know what they should contain. On the contrary, if you have the variable `name_city`, you expect it to be a string and having a proper name. In a similar way, if you have the variable `motor_freq`, you expect it to be a number. Also, if you have the variable `price_pond`, the variable `price_dollar` and the variable `rate_dollar2pond`, the line `price_pond = rate_dollar2pond * price_dollar` is pretty explicit. If the variables were instead named `x,y,z`, then the line `x = y*z` is much more cryptic.

The choice of a name is important, for you a, `x` is good for an unknown, `s` if you expect its value to be a string, `v` if it is a vector... More complex names can be used, such as `x_problem.1`.

Try to be consistent thorough the piece of code !

A few tips:

- Use different names for different results
- Use a name that is meaningful (e.g. `str_name` if the variable is assigned with a chain of character that is a name)

- Consequently, avoid unnecessary use of index (e.g. `result_1`, `result_2` etc.)

## Pro Tip

Many naming convention exist.  
However, you can use the following name convention:

- UpperCamelCase for functions: `MyFunction`
- CAPITALIZED\_WITH\_UNDERSCORES for constants `Pi=3.14`
- lowercase\_separated\_by\_underscores for other variables `name_of_univ = 'BCU'`.

### III b) iv Reassignment

Updating a variable is handy: you might want to change the variable `year` from 2017 to 2018.

You can easily update a variable, by reassigning a new value to it. It hence uses the sign `=`.  
For instance:

```
1 >> x = 2+2
2 x =
3 4
4 >> x = x + 5
5 x =
6 9
7 >> x = 0
8 x =
9 0
```

### III c) Workspace

When you have created a variable, it is available in the *workspace*. It is the area (usually) on the right. It allows to:

- show what variables are currently known to MatLab
- know what is present in the memory
- indicate what there is in the variables
- eventually modify the content of a variable

[[TODO \*\* image workspace \*\* ]]

### III d) Entering multiple commands per line

It is possible to enter multiple commands per line. Use commas `,` or semicolons `;` for that ; the commas will *not* suppress the outputs.

## Pro Tip

Try to avoid multiple commands per line.  
Most of the time, it makes the code harder to read, especially if there is not a good reason to do so.  
Nevertheless, it can make sense write a few commands per line when assigning a variables that are related.

```

1 >> x = 2 ; y = 3 ; z = 4 ;
2 >> x = 2 ; y = 3 , z = 4 ;
3 y =
4 3
5 >> x = 2 , y = 3 , z = 4 ,
6 x =
7 2
8 y =
9 3
10 z =
11 5

```

### III e) Basic arithmetic

Basic arithmetic operators are pretty classic, and be found in Tab. 1.1:

Table 1.1: Arithmetic operators

operation	command	exemple
addition	+	3+4
soustraction	-	3-4
multiplication	*	3*4
division	/	3/4
power	^	2 ^ 4

### III f) Built-in functions

One of the strengths of MatLab is that many functions are already available. One can think of common functions like sine or exponential, but MatLab also provides more complex functions like `imread`, that will import pictures, or `svd`, that will do some modal decomposition of a table of data.

#### III f) i How to find a function or a command ?

If you look for something, hit the help button. For instance, if you want to look for the sine function:

[[TODO \*\* image help sine \*\* ]]

Pro Tip

Use the help! It is *very* useful and you will mostly find any function/tool/infos that you need.

Usually, the help contains a few examples. Do not hesitate to read them carefully, and to try them. They will help understanding how to use the functions and properties of MatLab.

There is also a "See Also" section that can be useful when looking for a particular topic.

#### III f) ii Using a function

Calling a function is relatively easy and intuitive. Let's take the sine function as an illustration.



```

1 >> sin(3.14)
2 ans =
3 0.0016

```

Help

Go and look for **SIN** in the help for details

You ask **MatLab** to evaluate the function **sin** in  $3.14 \approx \pi$ . For that, you just put the argument in parenthesis.

Pro Tip

Trigonometric functions in **MatLab** are in radiant. **sin(360)** is hence different from 0 but rather close to 0.96.  
In a similar spirit, **log** in **MatLab** is the natural logarithm, and not the log in base 10.

Typical functions are available with somewhat explicit names, see Tab. 1.2. Similarly, many useful constants for the engineer are implemented in **MatLab**, see Tab. 1.3.

Table 1.2: A few function names in **MatLab**. Many others are already implemented in **MatLab**.

Trigonometry	name	Stats	name	Misc.	name
sine	sin	mean	mean	square root	sqrt
cosine	cos	maximum	max	absolute value	abs
exponential	exp	minimum	min	round up	ceil
natural logarithm	log	standard dev.	std	conjugate	conj

Table 1.3: A few useful constant names in **MatLab**.

$\pi \approx 3.14$	<b>pi</b>
$i = \sqrt{-1}$	<b>i</b>
$j = \sqrt{-1}$	<b>j</b>
$\infty$	<b>Inf</b>
Not a Number	<b>NaN</b>

## IV Let's solve a real problem

**Problem** Julie's car's odometer reading was 35201km when she last filled the fuel tank. Yesterday she checked it again and it read 35403km. Checking the tank, the car used 11 liters of gas to do so. If her car's gas tank holds 35 liters, how long can she drive before running out of gas?

**Solution using MatLab as a calculator** How much has she driven ?

```

1 >> 35403 - 35201
2 ans =
3 202

```

How much distance per liter of gas ?

```

1 >> 202/11
2 ans =
3 18.3636

```

How much gas is left in the tank ?

```

1 >> 35 - 11
2 ans =
3 24

```

Distance she can drive:

```

1 >> 24 * 18.3636
2 ans =
3 440.7264

```

**Solution with variables** We can script the same code. It means that we would just have to replace the value in the first three lines to update the whole code.

```

1 >> odormeter_before = 35201 ;
2 >> odormeter_after = 35403 ;
3 >> used_gas = 11 ;
4 >> distance = odormeter_after - odormeter_before ;
5 >> distance_per_liter = distance/used_gas ;
6 >> tank_capacity = 35;
7 >> estimated_distance = (tank_capacity - used_gas) *
    distance_per_liter
8 440.7264

```

## V What to remember

MatLab is basically a powerful calculator.

### V a) Key example

Let's summarize in a few examples everything we have seen.

```

1 >> year = 2018;
2 >> next_year = year + 1
3 next_year =
4 2019
5 >> angle = pi ;
6 >> ( 2.*cos(angle) + 1.) ^2
7 ans =
8 9.0

```

## VI Exercices

### VI a) On Variables

1. Create the variables **x,y,z** assigned with 1, 2 and 3.
2. Create the variable **sum\_xyz** that is the sum of **x,y** and **z**.
3. Propose a name for a variable that is assigned as a value 'Birmingham'
4. Propose a name for a variable that is assigned as a value 'BCU'
5. Try to assign to the variable **year** the value 2017, and then to 2018!

6. Try to assign to the variable `girlfriend_name` the value `'Adilah'` (using the sign equal, pun totally intended), and to the variable `ex_girlfriend_name` the value `'Marie'`. Then, reassign to the variable `girlfriend_name` the value `'Kiara'`, and to the variable `ex_girlfriend_name` the value `'Adilah'`.

## Chapter 2

# Fundamentals on Matrices and Vectors

Linear algebra is the foundations of **MatLab**, and what makes it popular. **MatLab** is *designed* to work with matrices.

In particular, **MatLab** makes the manipulation of matrices and vectors very easy. This section will show how to do:

- operations involving vectors
- operations involving matrices
- operations involving both arrays and matrices

### I Basics with matrices and vectors

#### Definition

**MATRIX:** The most basic variable in **MatLab** is the matrix.

It is a two-dimensional, rectangularly shaped table. It means it has dimensions, for instance  $n \times m$ , meaning that it is a table of  $n$  rows and  $m$  columns. This table will store mostly numbers, but can store other types of data.

Even a number, like 8.1, is store in **MatLab** under a matrix form, as a  $1 \times 1$  matrix. A vector is a matrix where one of the dimension is 1.

#### Help

Go and look for **MATRICES AND ARRAYS** in the help for details

#### I a) Creation

Follow the procedure:

- start with a bracket [
- write each element of a column, separated with space or commas
- separate rows with a semi-colon
- end with the bracket ]

For creating a vector:

```

1 >> v = [1,2,3]
2 v =
3 1 2 3
4 >> w = [0;1]
5 w =
6 0
7 1

```

$v$  is a row vector and  $w$  is a column vector. For creating a matrix, the following lines are equivalent:

```

1 >> M = [1,0 ; 0,1];
2 M =
3 1 0
4 0 1
5 >> m = [1,0 ; 0 1];
6 M =
7 1 0
8 0 1
9 >> m = [ [1,0] ; [0 1] ];
10 M =
11 1 0
12 0 1

```

The last line shows that a matrix is virtually stacked vectors.

## I b) Manipulation

You can

- add, subtract, multiply matrices if their sizes are compatible
- access to the  $i$ th element of matrix  $M$  using  $M(i)$
- access to the  $(i$ th, $j$ th) element of matrix  $M$  using  $M(i,j)$

To add a constant to a vector, a vector to another vector (it works identically for matrices) :

```

1 >> v = [1 3];
2 >> v + 4
3 ans =
4 5 7
5 >> v*2.
6 ans =
7 2 6
8 >> w = [2,8];
9 >> v+w
10 ans =
11 3 11
12 >> w/2.
13 ans =
14 1 4

```

To access to an element of a vector (it works identically for matrices) :

```

1 >> v = [1 3 4 -2.5 8] ;
2 >> v(1)
3 ans =
4 1

```

```

5 >> v(3)
6 ans =
7 4
8 >> M = [[5,2];[9,-1]] ;
9 >> M(1,1)
10 ans =
11 5
12 >> M(2,1)
13 ans =
14 9

```

To delete or *remove* the *ith* element, use the operator "`[]`"

```

1 >> v = [1 3 4 -2.5 8] ;
2 >> v(1) = []
3 v =
4 3 4 -2.5 8

```

It hence reduces the dimension of the vector. It works similarly for a matrix:

```

1 >> A = [ [1 3 4] ; [-2.5 8 9]] ;
2 >> A(:,1) = []
3 A =
4 3 4
5 8 9

```

The first column has been deleted.

## II More details on vectors

### II a) Creation of a vector

#### II a) i Row vector

Creating a vector *v* is easy. You just put all the components between brackets.

```

1 >> v = [1,2,3]
2 v =
3 1 2 3

```

It is also possible to replace the commas with space:

```

1 >> v = [1 2 3]
2 v =
3 1 2 3

```

It works fine but makes the code harder to read.

Let's create Cartesian vectors in dimension two.  $e_x = (1,0)$  and  $e_y = (0,1)$ :

```

1 >> ex = [1 0]
2 ex =
3 1 0
4 >> ey = [0,1]
5 ey =
6 0 1

```

**II a) ii Column vector**

Creating a column vector is similar to creating a row vector, except that the element are separated with a semi-colon ";".

```

1 >> v = [1;0;4]
2 v =
3 1
4 0
5 4
6 >> w = [0;1]
7 w =
8 0
9 1

```

**II a) iii Transpose operator**

It is possible to change a column vector to a row vector, and reciprocally, by using the transpose operator "'".

```

1 >> ex = [1;0]
2 ex =
3 1
4 0
5 >> ex'
6 ans =
7 1 0
8 >> ey = [0,1]
9 ey =
10 0 1
11 >> ey'
12 ans =
13 0
14 1

```

**Definition**

**TRANSPOSE:** The transpose  $M'$  has the same elements as  $M$ , but the rows of  $M'$  are the columns of  $M$  and the columns of  $M'$  are the rows of  $M$ . As a consequence, if  $M$  is a  $n \times m$  matrix,  $M'$  is an  $m \times n$  matrix.

With complex elements, **MatLab** actually send back the conjugate transpose.

**II b) Access to the elements of a vector****II b) i Access to one element**

The first element of a vector  $v$  is  $v(1)$ . The second element is  $v(2)$ , and so forth.

Accessing the element of a vector is just calling the vector with specifying the desired element:

```

1 >> x = [1 3 4 -2.5 8]
2 x =
3 1 3 4 -2.5 8
4 >> x(1)
5 ans =
6 1
7 >> x(3)

```

```

8  ans =
9  4
10 >> x(4)
11  ans =
12 -2.5

```

The last element of a vector can be called using the argument **end**: You can also call the *i*th item from the end using **end-i**.

```

1  >> x = [1 3 4 -2.5 8]
2  x =
3  1.000 3.000 4.000 -2.5 8.000
4  >> x(end)
5  ans =
6  8
7  >> x(end-1)
8  ans =
9  -2.5
10 >> x(end-2)
11  ans =
12 4

```

### Definition

**END:** **end** is a very powerful operator in MatLab. It mostly serves two purposes.

- **end** gives access the last element of a matrix or vector. If  $v=[1,4,2]$ ,  $v(\text{end})$  send back 2.
- That will be detailed later, but **end** also terminates statements that have a scope (for instance, **for**, **while**, **switch**, **try**, **if** and functions).

### II b) ii Access to several elements

The operator ":" gives access to all the elements between the first and the last element (included), in a column vector:

```

1  >> v = [1 3 4 -2.5 8];
2  >> v(:)
3  ans =
4  1
5  3
6  4
7  -2.5
8  8

```

Accessing to all the elements between the second and fifth element of  $v$  is  $v(2:5)$ :

```

1  >> v = [1 3 4 -2.5 8 12];
2  >> v(2:5)
3  ans =
4  3
5  4
6  -2.5
7  8

```



To access to *all* the elements between the first and the last element (included), in a column vector, simply use the colon operator:

```

1 >> x = [1 3 4 -2.5 8];
2 >> x(:)
3 ans =
4 1
5 3
6 4
7 -2.5
8 8

```

## Definition

**:-COLON OPERATOR:** The colon operator is pivotal in MatLab. It is noticeably useful to

- generate lists: `x= 1:20`
- controlling loops (more details in Chap. 4): `for i=1:20`
- transform a matrix in a column vector `M(:)`
- extract sub-parts of vectors/matrices `M(2:4,1:2:8)`

It will be seen in more details in Sec. IV b) i.

### II b) iii Deleting elements

In MatLab, using `[]` empty a variable. It is named the *empty vector operator*.

When used on a part of a vector or a matrix, it simply *deletes* this part. It is *gone*. As a consequence, it reduces the dimensions of the matrix.

```

1 >> v = [1 3 4 -2.5 8] ;
2 >> v(1) = []
3 v =
4 3 4 -2.5 8

```

### II b) iv Adding elements (concatenation)

For creating a matrix, we have seen that one can write:

```

1 >> M = [ 1,0] ; [0 1] ;
2 M =
3 1 0
4 0 1

```

It means that vectors can be used to construct a matrix:

```

1 >> v_1 = [1,0] ; v_2 = [0 1] ;
2 >> M = [v1;v2]
3 M =
4 1 0
5 0 1

```

This operation is called concatenation.

## Definition

**CONCATENATION:** Matrix concatenation is the process of joining one or more matrices to make a new matrix.

The brackets `[]` operator is also used as the concatenation operator.

It works in a similar fashion of the creation of a matrix:

- $C = [A \ B]$  horizontally concatenates matrices A and B.
- $C = [A; B]$  vertically concatenate matrices A and B.

It can also be done to extend a vector:

```
1 >> v_1 = [1,0] ; v_2 = [0 1];
2 >> v = [v1,v2]
3 v =
4 1 0 0 1
```

## II c) Basic operations on vectors

### II c) i Addition/subtraction

It is easy to add or subtract a given value to *all* the components of a vector, using the signs "+" and "-".

```
1 >> x = [1 3]
2 x =
3 1 3
4 >> x + 4
5 ans =
6 5 7
7 >> y = x - 2
8 y =
9 -1 1
10 >> z = [5 10 -1 8] + 3
11 z =
12 8 13 2 11
```

Vectors can be added, as long as their dimensions correspond:

```
1 >> ex = [1 0]; ey = [0,1] ;
2 >> ex + ey
3 ans =
4 1 1
5 >> ex - ey
6 ans =
7 1 -1
```

Of course, if their dimensions do not correspond, **MatLab** will send back an error:

```
1 >> x = [1,0] ; y = [1,0,0];
2 >> x+y
3 Matrix dimensions must agree.
```

## Pro Tip

MatLab considers vectors as 1D matrices.

It is important when dealing with multiplication.

If  $v=[1,2,3]$ :

- $v*v'$  is 14  
it is multiplying a  $1 \times 3$  matrix with a  $3 \times 1$  matrix.
- $v'*v$  is  $[[1,2,3]; [2,4,6]; [3,6,9]]$   
it is multiplying a  $3 \times 1$  matrix with a  $1 \times 3$  matrix.
- $v*v$  will not work  
it is multiplying a  $1 \times 1$  matrix with a  $1 \times 3$  matrix; dimensions are not compatible.

## II c) ii Multiplication

**II c) ii 1 Multiplication by a scalar** It is easy to multiply or divide by a given value to *all* the components of a vector, using the signs `"*"` and `"/"`

```

1 >> x = [1 3]
2 x =
3 1 3
4 >> x * 4
5 ans =
6 4 12
7 >> y = x / 2.
8 y =
9 0.5 1.5
10 >> z = 3 * [5 10 -1 8]
11 z =
12 15 30 -3 24

```

**II c) ii 2 dot product** It can be done using the function `dot`.

```

1 >> x=[1,0] ; y = [1,0];
2 >> dot(x,y)
3 ans =
4 1
5 >> x(1) * y(1) + x(2) * y(2)
6 ans =
7 1
8 >> a =[0,0.5,2] ; b = [2,0,4];
9 >> dot(a,b)
10 ans =
11 8
12 >> a(1) * b(1) + a(2) * b(2) + a(3) * b(3)
13 and =
14 8

```

**II c) ii 3 Element-wise multiplication** Element-wise multiplication means that each element of a vector is multiply by the corresponding element of the other vector. It is similar to the dot product *except* for the sum. The operator for that is `".*"` (it is read "dot product", which is pretty stupid when you think about it!).

```

1 >> x =[1,0] ; y = [1,0];
2 >> x.*y
3 ans =
4 1 0
5 >> [x(1) * y(1) , x(2) * y(2)]
6 ans =
7 1 0
8 >> a =[0,0.5,2] ; b = [2,0,4];
9 >> a.*b
10 ans =
11 0 0 8
12 >> [a(1) * b(1) , a(2) * b(2) , a(3) * b(3)]
13 and =
14 0 0 8

```

## Pro Tip

In MatLab, using “.” in front of an operator means that this operator will be applied element-wise (to each element of the vector/matrix). For instance,  $v.^2$  means that *all* the elements of  $v$  will be squared. If  $v$  is  $[2, 4, 3]$ , then  $v.^2$  is  $[2^2, 4^2, 3^2]$ , or  $[4, 16, 9]$ .

[[TODO exercices ]]

### III More details on matrices

MatLab sees vectors a line matrices. Building a matrix is the equivalent of stacking lines. For that, MatLab uses the semi-colon sign “;”. The following lines are equivalent:

```

1 >> M =[1,0 ; 0,1];
2 M =
3 1 0
4 0 1
5 >> m =[1,0 ; 0 1];
6 M =
7 1 0
8 0 1
9 >> m =[ [1,0] ; [0 1]];
10 M =
11 1 0
12 0 1

```

The last line shows that a matrix is virtually stacked vectors.

#### III a) Addition/subtraction

It is easy to add or subtract a given value to *all* the components of a matrix, using the signs “+” and “-”.

```

1 >> M = [[1 3];[2,4]];
2 >> M + 4
3 ans =
4 5 7
5 6 8

```

```

6 >> A = M - 2
7 A =
8 3 5
9 4 6

```

Matrices can be added, as long as their dimensions correspond:

```

1 >> M = [[1 0];[2,3]; A = [[2, -1];[1,1]];
2 >> M + A
3 ans =
4 3 -1
5 3 4
6 >> M - A
7 ans =
8 1 1
9 1 2

```

Of course, if their dimensions do not correspond, **MatLab** will send back an error:

```

1 >> M = [[1,0];[1,0];[1,0] ; A = [[2, -1];[1,1]];
2 >> x+y
3 Matrix dimensions must agree.

```

### III b) Multiplication

It is easy to multiply or divide by a given value to *all* the components of a vector, using the signs `.*` and `./`

```

1 >> x = [1 3]
2 x =
3 1 3
4 >> x * 4
5 ans =
6 4 12
7 >> y = x ./ 2.
8 y =
9 0.5 1.5
10 >> z = 3 * [5 10 -1 8]
11 z =
12 15 30 -3 24

```

How **MatLab** deals with multiplication for vectors ? Two options can be proposed.

#### III b) i dot product

The first option is the dot product between two vectors.

**Definition**

**DOT PRODUCT:** The dot product (or inner product) of two vectors is the sum of the multiplication of their components. If  $u = (u_i), v = (v_i)$  are  $n$ -dimensional vectors,

$$\langle u, v \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n u_i \times v_i.$$

It can be done using the function `dot`.

```

1 >> x = [1,0] ; y = [1,0];
2 >> dot(x,y)
3 ans =

```

```

4 1
5 >> x(1) * y(1) + x(2) * y(2)
6 ans =
7 1
8 >> a = [0,0.5,2] ; b = [2,0,4];
9 >> dot(a,b)
10 ans =
11 8
12 >> a(1) * b(1) + a(2) * b(2) + a(3) * b(3)
13 and =
14 8

```

Help

 Go and look for **DOT** in the help for details

### III b) ii Element-wise multiplication

Another option could be the element wise multiplication. It means that each element of a vector is multiply by the corresponding element of the other vector. It is somehow similar to the dot product *except* for the sum. The operator for element-wise multiplication is `.*` (it is read "dot product", which is pretty stupid when you think about it!).

```

1 >> x = [1,0] ; y = [1,0];
2 >> x.*y
3 ans =
4 1 0
5 >> [x(1) * y(1) , x(2) * y(2)]
6 ans =
7 1 0
8 >> a = [0,0.5,2] ; b = [2,0,4];
9 >> a.*b
10 ans =
11 0 0 8
12 >> [a(1) * b(1) , a(2) * b(2) , a(3) * b(3)]
13 and =
14 0 0 8

```

[[TODO exercises ]]

Try to create the vector  $x = (1, 2, 3, 4)$ .

### III b) iii Accessing and deleting elements

**III b) iii 1 Accessing elements** It works in a similar way as for vectors, except that the dimensions are separated with a comma. Let's work with M:

```

1 >> M = [ [1,2,3]; [4,5,6]; [7,8,9] ]
2 M =
3 1 2 3
4 4 5 6
5 7 8 9

```

To extract the third column of M:

```

1 >> c = M(:,3)
2 c =
3 3
4 6
5 9

```

To extract the second row of M:

```

1 >> l = M(2,:)
2 l =
3 4 5 6

```

To extract the first *and* the second row of M:

```

1 >> A = M([1,2],:)
2 A =
3 1 2 3
4 4 5 6

```

Following this notation, we can exchange the first rows of M:

```

1 >> A = M([2,1],:)
2 A =
3 4 5 6
4 1 2 3

```

### Pro Tip

Using lists (for instance `indices = [1,3,4]`) as arguments of matrices is a very powerful methods for altering a matrix or for creating a new one.

- `M(indices,:)` will select the rows of M in the order of the elements of `indices`. They can be copied, if there is repetition in `indices`, as `indices = [1,2,2]`. They can be rearranged, if the elements in `indices` are not ranked, as `indices = [3,1,2]`
- `M(:,indices)` will select the rows of M in the order of the elements of `indices`
- `M(indices_row,indices_col)` will extract a sub-matrix of M

**III b) iii 2 Deleting elements** In MatLab, using "[]" empty a variable. It is named the *empty vector operator*.

When used on a part of a vector or a matrix, it simply *deletes* this part. It is *gone*. As a consequence, it reduces the dimensions of the matrix.

It hence reduces the dimension of the vector. It works similarly for a matrix:

```

1 >> A = [ [1 3 4] ; [-2.5 8 9] ] ;
2 >> A(:,1) = []
3 A =
4 3 4
5 8 9

```

The first column has been deleted.

It is possible to delete one element from a vector

```

1 >> v = [1 3 4 -2.5 8] ;
2 >> v(1) = []
3 v =
4 3 4 -2.5 8

```

But trying to do it for a matrix will lead to an error message.

```
1 >> A = [ [1 3 4] ; [-2.5 8 9]] ;
2 >> A(1,1) = []
3 A null assignment can have only one non-colon index.
```

You can remove a block, a column or a row from a matrix. But you can not remove a single element, if not, there would be a "hole".

## IV Useful built-in functions for vectors and matrices

### IV a) Dimensions of a matrix

The command `size` send back the dimensions of a matrix.

```
1 >> A = [ [1 3 4] ; [-2.5 8 9]] ; v = [1 2 3 4];
2 >> size(A)
3 ans =
4 2 3
5 >> size(A(:))
6 ans =
7 6 1
8 >> size(A(1,:))
9 ans =
10 1 3
11 >> size(v)
12 ans =
13 1 4
14 >> size(v')
15 ans =
16 4 1
```

To reuse the size, you can store it in variables:

```
1 >> A = [ [1 3 4] ; [-2.5 8 9]] ;
2 >> size_a = size(A);
3 >> size_a(1)
4 ans =
5 3
6 >> [n_x, n_y] = size(A);
7 >> n_x
8 ans =
9 3
10 >> n_y
11 ans =
12 2
```

### IV b) Generating a vector

#### IV b) i The colon operator

One of the most powerful operator in **MatLab** is the colon operator `:`. It allows in particular to generate lists.

We have seen already that `v(2:5)` gives the elements of `v` between the 2nd and 5th position. What it does is actually ask **MatLab** to send back elements of `v` in position 2, 3, 4, 5. These positions are *generated* by the command `2:5`.



```
1 >> 2:5
2 ans =
3 2 3 4 5
```

The command `a:b` hence generates a vector, starting in `a`, each element being incremented by 1, until it would be greater than `b`.

```
1 >> 4:8
2 ans =
3 4 5 6 7 8
4 >> 4.5:8
5 ans =
6 4.5 5.5 6.5 7.5
```

In the second example, the last item is 7.5. 8.5 would be larger than 8 and is hence omitted.

It is possible to force the increment. The command `a:da:b` generates a vector, starting in `a`, each element being incremented by `da`, until it would be greater than `b`.

```
1 >> 0:.1:1
2 ans =
3 0 0.1 0.2 0.3 0.4 0.5 0.6 0.7 0.8 0.9 1.
```

#### IV b) ii Knowing well your matrix

**MatLab** is mainly good at manipulation matrices. It means that knowing the properties a the matrix-at-hand is fundamental.

**MatLab** hence provides many ad hoc functions to know and control the properties of matrices, see Tab. 2.1.

Table 2.1: A few functions that gives infos on a matrix.

name	description	illustration
<code>length</code>	largest dimension	<code>length([[6,9,8];[7,12,-1]])</code>
<code>size</code>	gives the dimensions	<code>size([[6,9,8];[7,12,-1]])</code>
<code>ndims</code>	gives the number of dimensions	<code>ndims([[6,9,8];[7,12,-1]])</code>
<code>numel</code>	number of elements	<code>numel([[6,9,8];[7,12,-1]])</code>

#### IV c) Generating a vector

Table 2.2: A few functions that generate vectors.

name	description	illustration
colon operator :	see Sec IV b) i	<code>0:10:5</code>
<code>linspace(a,b,n)</code>	linearly spaced n-dimensional vector between a and b	<code>linspace(0,1,11)</code>
<code>diag(A)</code>	diagonal of matrix (A) between a and b	<code>diag([[1,2];[3,4]])</code>

Table 2.3: A few functions that generate matrices.

name	description	illustration
<code>zeros(m,n)</code>	$m, n$ -dimensional matrix filled with 0	<code>zeros(2,4)</code>
<code>ones(m,n)</code>	$m, n$ -dimensional matrix filled with 1	<code>ones(2,4)</code>
<code>rand(m,n)</code>	$m, n$ -dimensional matrix filled with random numbers taken between 0 and 1	<code>rand(2,4)</code>
<code>eye(n)</code>	$n$ -dimensional identify matrix	<code>eye(10)</code>
<code>diag(v)</code>	matrix filled with 0 with $v$ as diagonal	<code>diag([1,2,3])</code>

Table 2.4: A few functions that are useful.

name	description	illustration
<code>size(M)</code>	number of elements in $M$	<code>size([1,2,3])</code>
<code>shape(M)</code>	number of elements in each direction of $M$	<code>shape([2,3,5]; [1,2,3])</code>

#### IV d) Generating a matrix

### V Arithmetic in MatLab

### VI What to remember

#### VI a) Creating a matrix

Follow the procedure:

- start with a bracket [
- write each element of a column, separated with space or commas
- separate rows with a semi-colon
- end with the bracket ]

#### VI b) Manipulating matrices

You can

- add (with "+"), subtract (with "-"), multiply (with "\*") matrices if their sizes are compatible
- access to the  $i$ th element of matrix  $M$  using `M(i)`
- access to the  $(i,j)$ th element of matrix  $M$  using `M(i,j)`

#### VI c) Key example

Let's summarize in a few examples everything we have seen.

```

1 >> M = [[1,2];[3,4]]
2 M =
3 1 2
4 3 4

```

## Chapter 3

# Plotting data

One of the usefulness of **MatLab** is being able to easily plot, manipulate and modify data. With only a few commands, you can have publication-ready figures.

### I Creating the first plot

First one needs data.

```
1 >> x = [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10];  
2 >> y = [1 4 9 16 25 36 64 81 100];
```

To plot the data, the main command in **MatLab** is **plot**:

```
1 >> plot(x,y)
```

[[TODO \*\* image plot 1 \*\* ]]

#### Definition

**PLOT**: The **plot** function allows to plot the graph of a function or to plot data.

- **plot(y)** creates a line plot of the data in **y**.
- **plot(x,y)** creates a line plot of the data in **y** versus the corresponding values in **x**.

**plot** plots solid lines. To see the data points, one must specify a marker symbol, for example, **plot(x,y,'o')**.

#### Help

Go and look for **PLOT** in the help for details

#### Pro Tip

When only one data is provided, **MatLab** assumes that the abscisse are the indexes of the elements of the data.

What will be plotted is hence the coordinates  $(1, y(1)), (2, y(2)), \dots, (n, y(n))$ .

Compare **plot(x,y)** and **plot(y)**!

When trying to understand some results, never hesitate to plot some data **y** by typing **plot(y)** in the command prompt. Quick and dirty, but useful.

## Pro Tip

The command `figure` can be used for opening a new *empty* figure window. MatLab draw any new plot in the last active figure window, erasing the old figure. Creating a new window *before plotting* ensures that your previous plot will not be lost: `figure ; plot(x,y)`

## II A beautiful plot

### II a) What a figure should be

A good figure has **always**:

- labels on the x-axis and y-axis
  - different colors or patterns for different curves
- If possible, these differences should persist when printing the figure in black and white.

If the figure is in a report :

- instead of a title, the figure can be explained in the text under the figure.
- instead of a legend, the difference between curves can be explained in the text under the figure.

[[TODO \*\* image beautiful plots. two images? \*\* ]]

### II b) axis

It is *really important* to always have labels for the axis.

```
1 >> x = [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10];
2 >> y = [1 4 9 16 25 36 64 81 100];
3 >> plot(x,y)
4 >> xlabel('data along x')
5 >> ylabel('data along y')
```

`xlabel` and `ylabel` are the MatLab functions that handle the labels.

You can see that the argument for these functions are between quotes `''`. A label is some text: it means that MatLab will need a string.

```
1 >> x = 0:pi/10:2.*pi;
2 >> y = cos(x);
3 >> plot(x,y)
4 >> str_xlabel = 'x';
5 >> xlabel(str_xlabel)
6 >> str_ylabel = 'cos(x)';
7 >> ylabel(str_ylabel)
```

#### II b) i Colours and line styles

The default plot color in MatLab is blue, and the line default style is plain. To change the style, an extra argument has to be sent to MatLab.

For instance,

- `plot(x,y,'r')` will change the color of the plot to red.

Table 3.1: A few colours in MatLab.

colours	code	illustration
black	k	<code>plot(x,y,'k')</code>
green	g	<code>plot(x,y,'g')</code>
red	r	<code>plot(x,y,'r')</code>
blue	b	<code>plot(x,y,'b')</code>
yellow	y	<code>plot(x,y,'y')</code>

Table 3.2: A few line styles in MatLab.

style	code	illustration
solid	-	<code>plot(x,y,'-')</code>
dashed	--	<code>plot(x,y,'--')</code>
dotted	:	<code>plot(x,y,':')</code>
dash-dot	-.	<code>plot(x,y,'-.')</code>

Table 3.3: A few marker styles in MatLab.

marker	code	illustration
plus	+	<code>plot(x,y,'+')</code>
cross	x	<code>plot(x,y,'x')</code>
circle	o	<code>plot(x,y,'o')</code>
triangle up	^	<code>plot(x,y,'^')</code>
triangle down	v	<code>plot(x,y,'v')</code>
triangle left	<	<code>plot(x,y,'&lt;')</code>
triangle right	>	<code>plot(x,y,'&gt;')</code>

- `plot(x,y,'--')` will change the line style of the plot to dashed.

Note that the argument is between quotes. Arguments are generally passed as a string

Pro Tip

A good way of not messing with the style is to follow this order:

1. open the quotes: '
2. add the color, e.g. k: '`k`
3. add the style of the line, e.g. --: '`k--`
4. add the style of the markers, e.g. x: '`k--x`
5. end the quotes: '`k--x`'

you can now plot with the options:

```
plot(x,y,'k--x')
```

## II c) Title

Adding the title is simple. In the same spirit of the labels, just pass your title to the function `title`.

```
1 >> x = [1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10];
```

```

2 >> y = [1 4 9 16 25 36 64 81 100];
3 >> plot(x,y)
4 >> xlabel('data along x')
5 >> ylabel('data along y')
6 >> title('example of a title')

```

[[TODO \*\* image same picture with a title \*\* ]]

### III Edit a plot in the window

A way to edit the plot properties is to click on the arrow - Edit Plot - on the plot window.

[[TODO \*\* image fig plot with arrow \*\* ]]

Then, double clicking on the curve will open an extra window where you can play with the properties.

In particular there is two interesting properties:

1. **Line**, where you can edit the style of line (plain, dashed, etc.), the width of the line, and its color
2. **Marker**, where you can edit the type of markers (indication where each data is plotted, for instance with circles), the size of the markers, the color of the inside of the marker as well as the color of their edges

### IV Multiple plots

#### IV a) Multiple plot in one figure

##### IV a) i In one call

One call to the function `plot` is enough to plot multiple graphs on the same figure. For that, couple of arguments need to be provided to the `plot` function.

```

1 >> x = 0:0.1:2.*pi
2 >> y_1 = cos(x); y_2 = cos(x+0.2); y_3 = cos(x+0.4);
3 >> plot(x,y_1,x,y_2,x,y_3)
4 >> xlabel('x')
5 >> ylabel('f(x)')
6 >> title('several cos')

```

To add some control on the plot, the style can be provided just after the data:

```

1 >> plot(x,y_1,'-',x,y_2,':',x,y_3,'—')
2 >> legend('cos(x)', 'cos(x+0.2)', 'cos(x+0.4)')

```

[[TODO \*\* image plot \*\* ]]

##### IV a) ii In multiple call

When calling `plot`, the active figure gets erased before `MatLab` draw the new plot.

But calling `hold on` (and later on `hold off`) `MatLab` knows that it should not erase the figure.

```
1 >> x = 0:0.1:2.*pi
2 >> y_1 = cos(x); y_2 = cos(x+0.2); y_3 = cos(x+0.4);
3 >> plot(x,y_1)
4 >> hold on
5 >> plot(x,y_2)
6 >> plot(x,y_3)
7 >> hold off
```

`hold off` tell MatLab that the figure is no longer protected.

#### IV b) figure and multiple plots

[[TODO \*\* image plot \*\* ]]

[[TODO this section ]]

#### IV c) legends

Adding the legend is simple. In the same spirit of the title, just pass your legends, one after the other, to the function `legend`:

```
1 >> plot(x,y_1, '-', x,y_2, ':', x,y_3, '—')
2 >> legend('cos(x)', 'cos(x+0.2)', 'cos(x+0.4)')
```

# Chapter 4

## Programming

### I Script

Scripts are the simplest kind of program file because they have no input or output arguments.

They are useful for automating series of **MatLab** commands, such as computations that you have to perform repeatedly from the command line or series of commands you have to reference.

When execution of the script completes, the variables remain in the **MatLab** workspace.

#### Definition

**SCRIPT:** A script is basically a text file, with the ".m" extension, for instance, `my_script.m`.

This file contains series of instructions that **MatLab** can and/or will execute.

A script does not take inputs (they hence have to be provided). It does not provide outputs, though the variables will be stored in the workspace.

[[TODO \*\* image tikz illustration of a script? \*\* ]]

#### I a) Create a script

You can create a new script in the many ways.

##### I a) i Creating a script with the prompt

The `edit` command allows either to create a script, or to edit an existing script. To create a blank script, named "untitled.m", type:

```
1 >> edit
```

**MatLab** will then create and open the script. The script is created in the current folder that **MatLab** is using. To change the folder, you can use the "current directory" windows on the left.

To create a script named "my\_script.m", type:

```
1 >> edit my_script
```

Note that specifying the extension is unnecessary. Also, when the script "my\_script.m" exists already, typing `edit my_script` will open the preexisting script.

##### I a) ii Through **MatLab** interface

Another way is through the IDE. Click on the "EDITOR" tab, then on "+ New", and select script. You can then save it with the desired name.



**I a) iii Create a text file**

Just create a text file (file with the ".txt" extension) in windows, and change the extension to ".m".

Et voil.

**I b) Save a script**

Save your script and run the code using either of these methods:

- Type the script name on the command line and press Enter.
- Click the Run button on the Editor tab.
- Click on the save icon.

**I c) Comments**

On of the most important thing is to always try write as much comments as possible in a code.

**Definition**

**COMMENT:** A comment is a part of the file that will *not* be executed by **MatLab**. It allows to give explanations on the script. When you will come later, or if someone else is reading the code, it gives invaluable informations on what the code is actually doing. Any line starting with the percentage symbol "%" will be ignored. Any part between "%{" and "%}" will be ignored as well.

**Pro Tip**

A good piece of code needs:

- well-named variables
- indentation
- comments

**I d) execute the script**

There is several way for running a script, from the editor, from the prompt and thanks to convenient shortcuts.

**I d) i From the editor**

**I d) i 1 Run button** The easiest is to be in the editor and to click on the triangle button ">".

**[[TODO \*\* image run button \*\* ]]**

It will run the whole script (and will save it).

**I d) i 2 Shortcut** There is two extremely handy shortcuts, from the editor:

1. F5 will run the whole script
2. ctrl+enter will run the active cell

The last one is really convenient as well. The active cell is highlighted in light yellow.

**I d) ii From the prompt**

Another easy way is to type the name of the script:

```
1 >> my_script
```

Alternatively, the function `run` can be used:

```
1 >> run my_script
```

**I e) reading the script**

MatLab has a set of colors for helping the reader to understand the code:

- green: comments
- blue: functions (to be verified)
- yellow background: section with focus

**II Conditions****III Loops**

With loop control statements, you can repeatedly execute a block of code. There are two types of loops:

- **for** statements loop a specific number of times, and keep track of each iteration with an incrementing index variable.
- **while** statements loop as long as a condition remains true.

**Definition**

**LOOP:** A loop will repeat instructions a certain number of times. It is really useful when something can be done almost exactly similarly from one time to the other. For instance, if one wants to compute the distance that Julie (see Sec. IV) can drive if the tank is 20 liters, 25 liters ? or maybe if it is 55 liters ? One can loop on the variable `tank_capacity` and not have to rewrite the code several times or to execute it several times.

[[TODO \*\* image tikz illustration of a loop \*\* ]]

**III a) Loops based on For****III a) i Basics**

**for** loops are based on a finite number of iterations.

Executing this script:

```
1 for i=1:5,
2     i
3 end
```

will lead in print `i` at every step of the loop. `i` will hence be 1 then 2 etc. up to 5.

### Definition

**FOR:** For making a `for` loop, you need:

- a list `my_array`
- a variable `var_i`
- some code `do stuff`

and to write:

1. `for var_i=my_array,`
2. `do stuff`
3. `end`

First, `var_i` will, one after the other, be assigned to every value that exists in `my_array`. If `my_array=[1,2,3]`, then `var_i` will be 1, then 2, then 3.

Once `var_i` has been assigned to a new value, **MatLab** will execute the code `do stuff`. If `do stuff` is  $i^2$ , then **MatLab** will print 1, then 4, and finally 9.

`end` says to **MatLab** that the part `do stuff` is finished and that he can loop.

`do stuff` can be very complex instructions, and `my_array` can be a very long list, for instance `1:10000`.

A useful example is construction of vectors. Let's for instance construct the Fibonacci sequence up to 100:

```
1 fibo = ones(100);
2 for i=3:100,
3     fibo(i) = fibo(i-2) + fibo(i-1);
4 end
```

It is possible to nest loops, i.e., to have a loop in a loop. Let's construct a Vandermonde matrix.

```
1 v = 1:4;
2 M = ones(4,4);
3 for i=1:4,
4     for j=1:4,
5         M(i,j) = v(i)^j;
6     end
7 end
```

### Pro Tip

Indent the loops for readability!  
For each loops, indent by using tab or a few spaces.  
Without indentation, it is really hard to see when loops start and end.

You can programmatically exit a loop using a `break` statement, or skip to the next iteration of a loop using a `continue` statement.

# Bibliography