

Matlab Basics: Day 1
EDGE 2019

You should have the “Command Window” open in front of you.

1. How to declare and manipulate vectors and matrices.

To declare a variable to equal a number just set it equal to that number.
So to set the variable “ x ” equal to 47 type:

```
x = 47
```

followed by “enter”. You should see:

```
x =
```

```
47
```

which means that Matlab thinks that x is now equal to 47. (From now on, it is implied that you type “enter” after a given command.) If you type a semi-colon after the command before typing “enter”, you won’t see any output, but x will still equal 47. Try it:

```
x=4747;
```

Now see what Matlab thinks x is:

```
x
```

and you should see

```
x =
```

```
4747
```

To declare a matrix, put the numbers in square brackets, and separate rows by semi-colons. You may separate entries by commas for legibility, but that isn’t necessary.

```
A = [1 2 3; 4 5 6; 7 8 9];
```

You should see that A is a 3×3 matrix. Type

A

to get

A =

1	2	3
4	5	6
7	8	9

Multiplication is with an asterisk:

47 * 47

ans =

2209

or to multiply matrices:

A * A

ans =

30	36	42
66	81	96
102	126	150

Suppose you have two vectors:

x = [1 2 3];

y = [4 5 6];

and you want to multiply each element of x by the corresponding element in y . You can do “component-by-component” multiplication using the ‘.*’ command:

x.*y

ans =

4	10	18
---	----	----

The same goes for division or exponentiation, which is done with a carat $^$:

```
y.^x
```

```
ans =
```

```
4      25      216
```

You can also invert matrices, find their determinants and eigenvalues:

```
>> A = [4 2; 1 3]
```

```
A =
```

```
4      2
1      3
```

```
>> inv(A)
```

```
ans =
```

```
0.3000    -0.2000
-0.1000     0.4000
```

```
>> det(A)
```

```
ans =
```

```
10
```

```
>> eig(A)
```

```
ans =
```

```
5
2
```

To get the $n \times n$ identity matrix, use `eye(n)`:

```
>>eye(3)
```

```
ans =
```

```
1    0    0
0    1    0
0    0    1
```

Similarly, `zeroes(n)` and `ones(n)` will give you, respectively, an $n \times n$ matrix of zeroes and ones.