

# ENGR1510J — Accelerated Introduction to Computers and Programming

## MATLAB Midterm Review

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# 1 Computers and Programming Languages[2]

- Number base conversion
- Algorithm and Program
- Source Code and Pseudocode

## 2 Basic Usage of MATLAB

## 3 Functions & Recursion

## 4 Reference

# Number base conversion

Check Slides p33

- Decimal:  $\{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}$  human language
- Binary:  $\{0,1\}$  computer language
- Hexadecimal:  $\{0, 1, \dots, 9, A, B, C, D, E, F\}$  compromise between both

From base  $b$  into decimal: evaluate the polynomial:

$$(11111101)_2 = 1 \cdot 2^7 + 1 \cdot 2^6 + 1 \cdot 2^5 + 1 \cdot 2^4 + 1 \cdot 2^3 + 1 \cdot 2^2 + 0 \cdot 2^1 + 1 \cdot 2^0 = 253$$

$$(FD)_{16} = F \cdot 16^1 + D \cdot 16^0 = 15 \cdot 16^1 + 13 \cdot 16^0 = 253$$

From decimal into base  $b$ : repeatedly divide  $n$  by  $b$  until the quotient is 0.

The remainders are the numbers from right to left:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{rem}(253,2)=1, \text{rem}(126,2)=0, \text{rem}(63,2)=1, \text{rem}(31,2)=1, \text{rem}(15,2)=1, \\ \text{rem}(7,2)=1, \text{rem}(3,2)=1, \text{rem}(1,2)=1 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{rem}(253,16)=13=D, \text{rem}(15,16)=15=F$$

# Algorithm and Program

Algorithm  $\longrightarrow$  Programming Language  $\longrightarrow$  Interpreter / Compiler  $\longrightarrow$  Machine Code

Example: Recursion Algorithm  $\longrightarrow$  Matlab  $\longrightarrow$  Matlab Interpreter  $\longrightarrow$  Machine Code

**Algorithm:** recipe telling the computer how to solve a problem.

**Programming Language:** a formal language that specifies a set of instructions that can be used to produce various kinds of output.

**Interpreter:** a computer program that directly executes a programming or scripting language.

**Compiler:** computer software that transforms computer code written in one programming language (the source language) into another programming language (the target language).

**Program:** a technical setting stored in the memory of a machine or piece of hardware to be executed, including computers.

**Machine code:** a set of instructions executed directly by a computer's central processing unit (CPU).

# Source Code and Pseudocode

**Source Code:** a sequence of statements and/or declarations written in some human-readable (usually as a text) computer programming language

```

1  function M = density_sun(r, c, G, T)
2      V = 4 / 3 * pi * (c / (2 * pi)) ^ 3
3      M = 4 * pi ^ 2 * r ^ 3 / (G * T ^ 2)
4  end

```

**Pseudocode:** an informal high-level description of the operating principle of a computer program or other algorithm.

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**Input:**  $r, c, G, T$

**Output:** Density of the Sun

```

1:  function DENSITY SUN( $r, c, G, T$ )
2:       $V \leftarrow \frac{4}{3}\pi \left(\frac{c}{2\pi}\right)^3$ 
3:       $M \leftarrow \frac{4\pi^2 r^3}{GT^2}$ 
4:      return  $M$ 
5:  end function

```

- 1 Computers and Programming Languages[2]
- 2 Basic Usage of MATLAB**
  - Basic operators
  - Arrays and Matrices
  - Conditional Statements & Loops
- 3 Functions & Recursion
- 4 Reference

# Calculation Operators

Check whether you use correct division operator!

- (Right) division:  $a / b = \frac{a}{b}$
- Left division:  $a \backslash b = \frac{b}{a}$

For matrix, pay attention to the difference between the operators with `.` and without `.`

Element by element operator: (applicable to array or matrices?)

- `.*`
- `./`
- `.\`
- `.^`

# Arrays and Matrices

Generation of Matrices slide p59:

- Obtain a sequence of numbers: `a:b` or `a:b:c`
- Concatenate (join) elements: `[ ]`
- Define a 1-dimensional array: `[a:b]` or `[a:b:c]`
- Define a 2-dimensional array: `[a b c; d e f;]`
- Get  $n$  equidistant elements in `[a, b]`: `linspace(a, b, n)`
- Get an  $n \times m$  array of 0: `zeros(a,b)`
- Get an  $n \times m$  array of 1: `ones(a,b)`



## Accessing elements in a matrix[2]

- Coordinates: using their (row, column) position
- Use “:” to refer to the whole row / column
- “1” is the top / left index
- “end” is the bottom / right index
- Use `size(A)` to get the number of rows and columns in A
- use `length(A)` to get `max(size(A))`
- use an expression of A (i.e., `A==x`) to generate a logical array depending on some condition
- let B be the generated logical array above, then use `A(B)` to generate a new array with elements in A that satisfy this condition

# Expressions

## Comparative operators:

- $<$  /  $\leq$  less than / less than or equal to
- $>$  /  $\geq$  greater than / greater than or equal to
- $==$  /  $\sim$  equal to / not equal to (Don't confuse with C's not equal to)

## Logical operators:

- And:  $\&$  ,  $\&\&$
- Or:  $|$  ,  $||$
- Not:  $\sim$
- Xor: `xor(.,.)` exclusive or of A and B

What are short-circuit operators? Why do we need to use them?

# If Statements & Switch Statements

if-elseif-if statement:

```
1  if expression1
2      statements1
3  elseif expression2
4      statements2
5  else
6      statements
7  end
```

switch statement:

```
1  switch variable
2      case value1
3          statements1
4      case value2
5          statements2
6      otherwise
7          statements
8  end
```

Pay attention to the position of end and keywords `elseif`!

## Loop Statements[2]

The while loop:

```
1 while expression
2     statements
3 end
```

The for loop:

```
1 for i=start:increment:end
2     statements
3 end
```

The continue and break commands:

- continue: skip the remaining statements in the loop to go to the next iteration.
- break: exit the loop and execute the next statements outside the loop.

Efficiency in multilevel loops: MATLAB uses the “column-major order”, so column should be in the outer loop.

When to use which? Slide p69.

- 1 Computers and Programming Languages[2]
- 2 Basic Usage of MATLAB
- 3 Functions & Recursion**
  - Script vs Function
  - Functions & Variable Scope
  - Common Matlab Functions
  - Recursion
- 4 Reference

# Script vs Function

Check slides p83. Script:

- Sequence of MATLAB statements
- No input/output arguments
- Operates on data on the workspace

Function:

- Sequence of MATLAB statements
- Accepts input/output arguments
- Variable are not created on the workspace

## Functions and Sub-functions[2][3]

- Function saved in a .m file
- The .m file must be in the Path
- The function name must be the same as the filename
- `function [output1, output2,...] = Functionname(input1,input2,...)`
- The function can be called from another .m file or from the workspace

A .m file can contain:

- A “main function”
- Several sub-functions, only visible to other functions in the same file

For a function in the form:

`function [output1, output2] = Functionname(input1,input2)` We call it by  
`Functionname(input1,input2)`

# Variable Scope

Consider the code below:

```
1      function output=out_func
2      input=1;
3      funct(input);
4      fprintf("outside the funct: %d\n",input);
5      output=input;
6      end
7
8      function funct(input)
9      input=input+1;
10     fprintf("inside the funct: %d\n",input);
11     end
```

We call it by `output=out_func`, and then .....

- What will be the printed information in the terminal?
- What will be the value of `output`?
- Why?



# Useful Matlab Functions

## Mathematical functions:

- Defining an anonymous function: `f=@(x) x^2-1`
- Rounding: `mod(a, b)`, `floor(a)`, `ceil(a)`, `round(x, n)`

## Random-related functions:

- $n \times m$  matrix of random numbers: `rand(n,m)`
- An  $n \times n$  matrix of random integers between  $m$  and  $M$ : `randi([m M],n)`
- A random permutation: `randperm(n)`

Print functions: Search for their documents for more information about format.

- Format data into string or character vector:  
`sprintf(formatSpec,A1,...)`
- Formats data and displays the results on the screen:  
`fprintf(formatSpec,A1,...)`

# File I/O Functions

- `fid = fopen('filename', 'permission')`
- `fgetl(fid)`: read one line from the file
- `fscanf(fileID,formatSpec)`: read data from text file
- `fprintf(fileID,formatSpec,A1,...)`: write data to text file
- `fclose(fid)`: **Double check this!**

# Recursion

**Recursion:** repeating items in a self-similar way (from difficult to relatively easy)

**Implementation:** a function calling itself

**Key Steps:**

- Find the repeated steps
- Find the terminate situation

## Example 1: Calculate Factorial

```
1 function f = fact(n)
2     if n == 0 || n == 1 % terminate situation
3         f = 1;
4     else
5         f = n * fact(n - 1); %repeated steps
6     end
7 end
```

- Repeated steps:  $\text{fact}(n) = n * \text{fact}(n-1)$
- Terminate situation:  $n = 0 \parallel n = 1$

## Example 2: Smallest Element in a Non-Empty array[4]

Find the smallest element in a non-empty array V.

Two recursive methods:

- Method1:

We have:  $F(V(1), V(2), V(3), \dots) = \min(V(1), F(V(2), V(3), \dots)) = \dots$

Initial:  $\text{src}=1, \text{des}=\text{array.size}$ ; (applicable to Matlab only!)

Repeated steps:  $F(\text{array}, \text{src}, \text{des}) = \min(\text{array}(\text{src}), F(\text{array}, \text{src}+1, \text{des}))$

Terminate situation:  $\text{src} == \text{des}$

- Method2:

Divide into left and right part

Repeated step: divided the array into left part and right part. Find the min respectively.

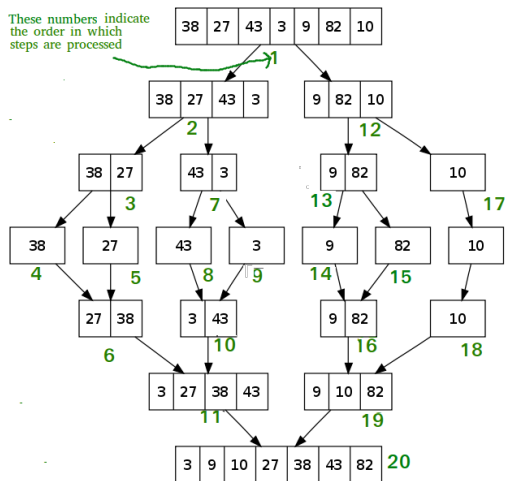
Terminate step: current subarray has size 1.

## Example 3: Binary Search

Find the location of a certain integer(existed)  $i$  in an sorted ascending array  $V$ .

- Repeated Steps:
  - get the middle location of current array. Compare  $V(\text{middle})$  with  $i$ .
  - If  $V(\text{middle}) > i$ , we search in the left sub-array. If  $V(\text{middle}) < i$ , we search in the right sub-array.
- Terminate situation: We find the location of  $i$ .

# Example 4: Merge Sort



Picture from [5].

## Example 4: Merge Sort

- Repeated Steps:
  - Split the array into two sub-arrays with roughly equal length.
  - Merge sort the sub-arrays respectively.
  - Merge the sorted sub-arrays.
- Terminate situation: The split arrays are of size 1 or 0.



# Good Luck and Enjoy Programming!

# Reference

-  [1] Manuel,Charlemagne. ENGR1510J 21FA slides.
-  [2] Yihao,Liu. VG101 MATLAB Midterm Review. 2018 SU
-  [3] Bowen,Wang. VG101 MATLAB Midterm Review. 2019 FA
-  [4] Shixin,Song. VG101 Midterm Review Chapter 3. 2020 FA
-  [5] Merge Sort <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/merge-sort/>