

# Introduction to MATLAB bootcamp

## Week 1 Lecture 2

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# Rules for naming a variable

- A valid variable name starts with a letter, followed by letters, digits, or underscores. e.g. `variable_name`, `var1`,
- MATLAB<sup>®</sup> is case sensitive. So `Var_1` and `var_1` are different variables
- Variable name cannot start with a number
- Variable name cannot have special characters (like `!`, `$`, `&`, `^`, `%`)
- Cannot use spaces
- The maximum length of a variable name is the value that the `"namelengthmax"` command returns. Test this command and find what is the maximum number of characters which you can have in variable name
- Cannot use keywords (try `iskeyword` in command window)

Classify which of these is an acceptable  
MATLAB variable name

variablename

variable\_name

variable\_name\$

variable name

variableName

variable\_name\_1

for

1\_variable\_name

# MATLAB variable naming guidelines

## 1) Name should be descriptive

- Bad e.g. : a, var, x, y
- Good e.g. : length\_vector, stimulus\_threshold

## 2) By convention, start with lowercase

- Bad e.g. : Length\_vector, Stimulusthreshold
- Good e.g. : length\_vector

## 2) Use capitalization or underscores for readability

- Bad: stimulusabovethreshold
- Good: stimulus\_above\_threshold, or stimulusAboveThreshold

# Variable types

- Great thing about MATLAB is that we do not need to initialize variables
- Variable types:
  - Numbers e.g. `number_example=5;`
  - Characters e.g. `character_example='Hello world';`
  - Collection of numbers e.g. `array_example=[1, 2, 3];`
  - Collection of numbers and strings

# Variable types




week\_1\_lecture\_2.m × week\_1\_lecture\_1.m × +

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9

%%% week\_1\_lecture\_1 code  
%%% This code will calculate the volume of a cube  
clear  
clc  
  
character\_example='Hello world';  
number\_example\_1=5;  
number\_example\_2=2.718;

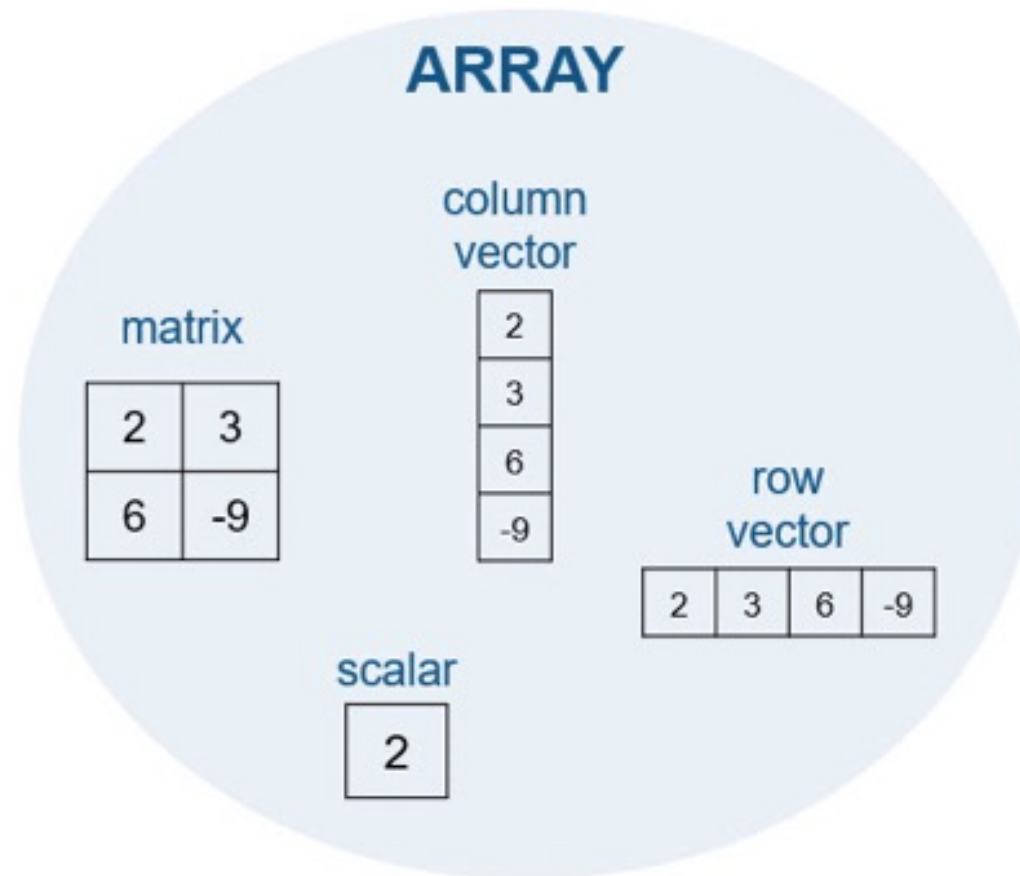
Workspace

✓

Name	Value	Size	Class
 character_example	'Hello world'	1×11	char
 number_example_1	5	1×1	double
 number_example_2	2.7180	1×1	double

# Arrays

- Very very very helpful and powerful!



# Selecting an element by index in a row/column vector

```
row_vector=[11 12 13 14 15 16];
```

```
>> row_vector(2)
```

```
ans =
```

```
12
```

```
>> row_vector(1:4)
```

```
ans =
```

```
11 12 13 14
```

```
>> row_vector(1:2:6)
```

```
ans =
```

```
11 13 15
```



# Selecting an element by index in a row/column vector

```
row_vector=[11 12 13 14 15 16];
```

```
>> row_vector(6:-2:1)    >> row_vector(1:2:end)    >> row_vector(1:1:end-1)
```

```
ans =
```

```
16 14 12
```

```
ans =
```

```
11 13 15
```

```
ans =
```

```
11 12 13 14 15
```

# Matrices

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Row 1	1	2	3	4
Row 2	5	6	7	8
Row 3	9	10	11	12

```
big_mat_eg=[1 2 3 4; 5 6 7 8; 9 10 11 12];
```

# Length and size of the matrix

```
big_mat_eg=[1 2 3 4; 5 6 7 8; 9 10 11 12];
```

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3	Column 4
Row 1	1	2	3	4
Row 2	5	6	7	8
Row 3	9	10	11	12

```
>> length(big_mat_eg)
```

```
ans =
```

```
4
```

```
>> size(big_mat_eg)
```

```
ans =
```

```
3 4
```

# Selecting an element by index in a 2D matrix

```
big_mat_eg=[1 2 3 4; 5 6 7 8; 9 10 11 12];
```

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Row 1	1 <sub>1</sub>	2 <sub>4</sub>	3 <sub>7</sub>
Row 2	5 <sub>2</sub>	6 <sub>5</sub>	7 <sub>8</sub>
	9 <sub>3</sub>	10 <sub>6</sub>	11 <sub>9</sub>

```
>> big_mat_eg(:,1)
```

ans =

1  
5  
9

```
>> big_mat_eg(2,:)
```

ans =

5 6 7 8

```
>> big_mat_eg(:,3:end)
```

ans =

3 4  
7 8  
11 12

# Selecting an element by index in a 2D matrix

```
matrix_example=[31 32 33; 34 35 36];
```

	Column 1	Column 2	Column 3
Row 1	31 <sub>1</sub>	32 <sub>3</sub>	33 <sub>5</sub>
Row 2	34 <sub>2</sub>	35 <sub>4</sub>	36 <sub>6</sub>

```
>> matrix_example(1:3)
```

ans =

31 34 32

```
>> matrix_example(1:2:end)
```

ans =

31 32 33

```
>> matrix_example(end:-1:1)
```

ans =

36 33 35 32 34 31

# 3 Dim matrix (can then be generalized to N Dim)

What will be a good example of a 3 dim matrix?

```
three_dim_mat(:,:,1)=[1 2 3; 4 5 6];  
three_dim_mat(:,:,2)=[11 12 13; 14 15 16];  
three_dim_mat(:,:,3)=[21 22 23; 24 25 26];
```

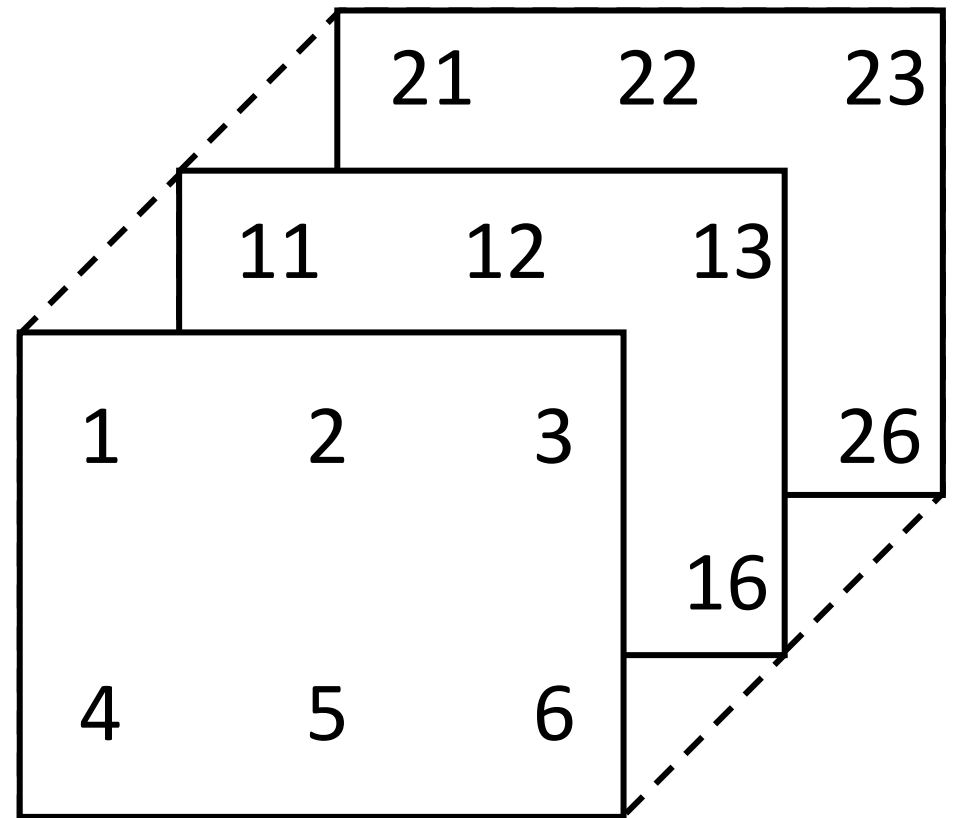
```
>> three_dim_mat(4)    >> three_dim_mat(9)
```

ans =

5

ans =

12

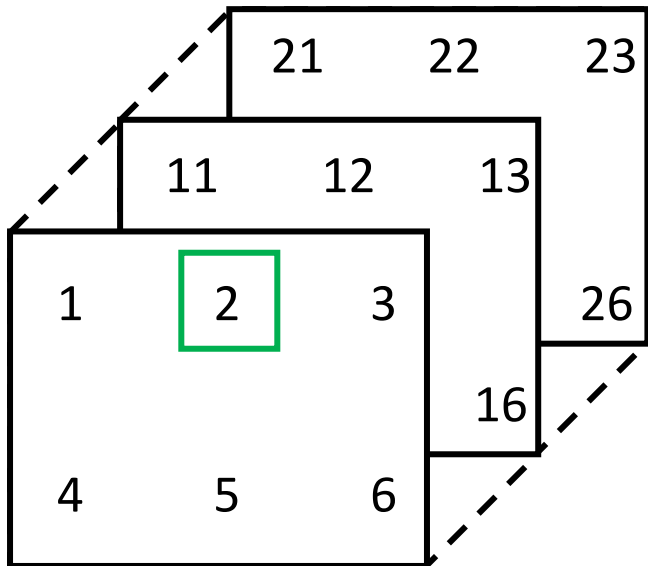


# 3 Dim matrix (can then be generalized to N Dim)

>>three\_dim\_mat(1,2,1)    >> three\_dim\_mat(1,:,3)    >> three\_dim\_mat(:,3,2)

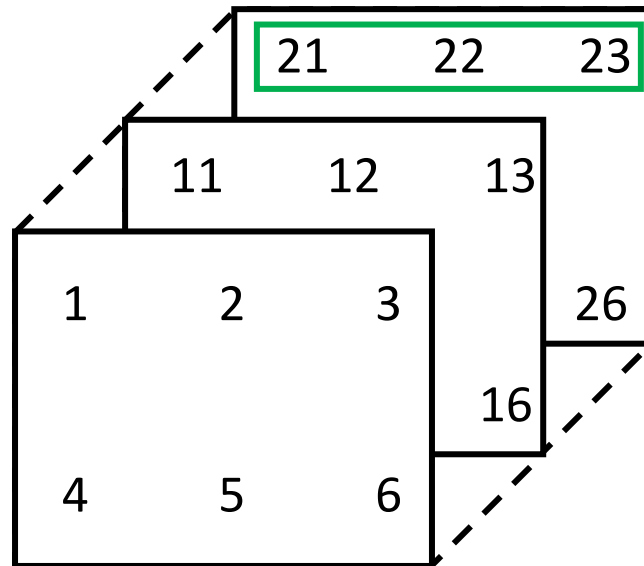
ans =

5



ans =

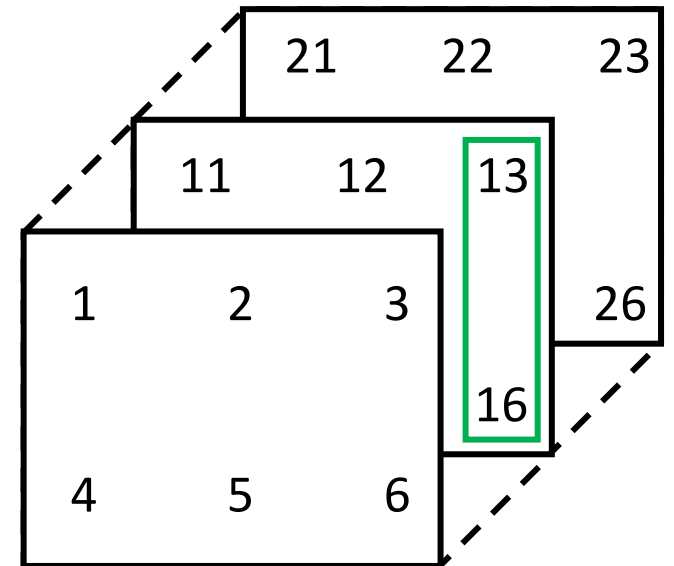
21 22 23



ans =

13

16



# Defining matrices in MATLAB

To define a matrix:

`matrix_name=[start_value : step_value : end_value];`

```
>> vector_1=[2:7]
```

```
vector_1 =
```

```
     2     3     4     5     6     7
```

```
>> only_odd_numbers=[1:2:13]
```

```
only_odd_numbers =
```

```
     1     3     5     7     9    11    13
```

```
>> descending_even_numbers=[14:-2:2]
```

```
descending_even_numbers =
```

```
    14    12    10     8     6     4     2
```



# Defining matrices in MATLAB

Another way to define a matrix is to use the function linspace/linearly spaced vector

(<https://www.mathworks.com/help/matlab/ref/linspace.html>)

```
matrix_name=linspace(start_num, end_num, num_elements)
```

Here is an example to generate an array with 7 elements between -3 and 3 (including both of them).

```
>> test=linspace(-3,3,7)
```

```
test =
```

```
-3 -2 -1 0 1 2 3
```

# Defining matrices in MATLAB

You can use built-in functions to define matrices. For e.g.

1. To generate matrix with all 1s: `ones(num_row, num_column)`
2. To generate matrix with all 0s: `zeros(num_row, num_column)`
3. To generate matrix with all NaNs: `nan(num_row, num_column)`

```
>> ones(2,3)
```

```
ans =
```

```
1 1 1  
1 1 1
```

```
>> zeros(2,4)
```

```
ans =
```

```
0 0 0 0  
0 0 0 0
```

```
>> nan(2,2)
```

```
ans =
```

```
NaN NaN  
NaN NaN
```

# Defining matrices in MATLAB

- To generate matrix with random numbers: `rand(num_row, num_col)`

```
>> rand(2,3)
```

```
ans =
```

```
0.0782 0.1067 0.0046  
0.4427 0.9619 0.7749
```

```
>> rand(2)
```

```
ans =
```

```
0.8173 0.0844  
0.8687 0.3998
```

- To generate matrix with random integers: `randi(max_integer,num_row, num_col)`

```
>> randi(9,2,3)
```

```
ans =
```

```
3 4 2  
8 9 3
```

How will you get random  
positive and negative integers?

# Matrix operations: Addition and subtraction

```
>> mat_1=[6:2:10;20:-2:16]
```

```
>> mat_2=[3:5;-5:-3]
```

```
mat_1 =
```

```
6 8 10  
20 18 16
```

```
mat_2 =
```

```
3 4 5  
-5 -4 -3
```

```
>> mat_add=mat_1+mat_2
```

```
mat_add =
```

```
9 12 15  
15 14 13
```

```
>> mat_add=mat_1-mat_2
```

```
mat_add =
```

```
3 4 5  
25 22 19
```

# Matrix operations: Scalar multiplication

```
>> mat_3=[1:2:5; 5:-2:1]
>> scalar_3=5
>> scalar_mult=mat_3*scalar_3
```

```
>> mat_3=[1:2:5; 5:-2:1]
scalar_3=5
scalar_mult=mat_3*scalar_3
```

mat\_3 =

1	3	5
5	3	1

scalar\_3 =

5

scalar\_mult =

5	15	25
25	15	5

# Matrix operations: Matrix (or vector) multiplication

Keep in mind the dimension of the two matrices for vector multiplication

$$[A]_{m \times n} \times [B]_{n \times m} = [C]_{m \times m}$$

For example:

	>> mat_4 =	>> mat_5 =	>> vector_mult =
>> mat_4=[3:5; 5:7]	3 4 5	2 3	52 64
>> mat_5=[2:3; 4:5; 6:7]	5 6 7	4 5	76 94
>> vector_mult=mat_4*mat_5		6 7	

# Matrix operations: Element by element multiplication

Both the matrices should be of the same size.

For example:

```
>> mat_6=[3:5; 5:7]
```

```
>> mat_7=[2:4; 4:6]
```

```
>> element_by_element_mult=mat_6.*mat_7
```

```
>> mat_6 =
```

```
3  4  5  
5  6  7
```

```
>> mat_7 =
```

```
2  3  4  
4  5  6
```

```
>> element_by_element_mult =
```

```
6  12  20  
20  30  42
```

# Matrix operations: Transpose of a matrix

Flips the dimensions of the matrix

$$[A]_{m \times n} \rightarrow [B]_{n \times m}$$

```
>> mat_8=[3:5; -7:-5]  
>> mat_9=mat_8'
```

```
>> mat_8 =
```

```
3    4    5  
-7   -6   -5
```

```
>> mat_9 =
```

```
3    -7  
4    -6  
5    -5
```



# Splitting matrices

- Sometimes you might want to split the matrix and work on a subset of the matrix (for e.g. just a row or column)

```
>> original_mat=[1:7; 21:27; 51:57]
>> split_row=original_mat(2,:)
>> split_column=original_mat(:,4)
```

```
>> split_row =
```

```
21  22  23  24  25  26  27
```

```
>> split_column =
```

```
4
24
54
```

# Concatenating matrices: Horizontal

- Combine two matrices horizontally
- If you have 2 matrices A and B then to horizontally concatenate them:
- $C=[A \ B]$  or  $C=\text{horzcat}(A, B)$

```
>> mat_10=ones(3,2)*4  
>> mat_11=randi(7,3,2)  
>> horz_cat_1=[mat_10 mat_11]  
>> horz_cat_2=horzcat(mat_10,mat_11)
```

```
>> mat_10 =
```

```
4  4  
4  4  
4  4
```

```
>> mat_11 =
```

```
6  7  
7  5  
1  1
```

```
>> horz_cat_1 =
```

```
4  4  6  7  
4  4  7  5  
4  4  1  1
```

```
>> horz_cat_2 =
```

```
4  4  6  7  
4  4  7  5  
4  4  1  1
```

# Concatenating matrices: Vertical

- Combine two matrices vertically
- If you have 2 matrices A and B then to horizontally concatenate them:
- $C=[A; B]$  or  $C=\text{vertcat}(A, B)$

```
>> mat_12=ones(2,3)*4
```

```
>> mat_13=randi(7,2,3)
```

```
>> vert_cat_1=[mat_12; mat_13]
```

```
>> vert_cat_2=vertcat(mat_12,mat_13)
```

```
>> mat_12 =
```

```
4 4 4
```

```
4 4 4
```

```
>> mat_13 =
```

```
7 6 3
```

```
4 1 7
```

```
>>vert_cat_1 =
```

```
4 4 4
```

```
4 4 4
```

```
7 6 3
```

```
4 1 7
```

```
>>vert_cat_2 =
```

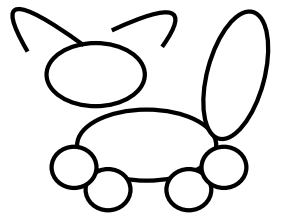
```
4 4 4
```

```
4 4 4
```

```
7 6 3
```

```
4 1 7
```

`cat(DIM, A,B)`



# mean of an array

```
>> new_matrix=[2:2:16; 10:-2:-5; 3:3:24];
```

```
>> new_matrix =
```

2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16
10	8	6	4	2	0	-2	-4
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24

By default, MATLAB takes  
mean across each column

2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16
10	8	6	4	2	0	-2	-4
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24

```
mean(new_matrix)
```

```
ans =
```

```
5 6 7 8 9 10 11 12
```

What if you want to find the  
mean across each row?

```
mean(new_matrix,2)
```

```
ans =
```

```
9
```

```
3
```

```
13.5
```

2=across each row

1=across each column

2	4	6	8	10	12	14	16
10	8	6	4	2	0	-2	-4
3	6	9	12	15	18	21	24

# sort

- To sort an array, you can use the inbuilt MATLAB function sort

- `mat_14=[10 5 2 3 6 7 0 -1 -12 7 6]`

- `sort(mat_14)`

- 

`ans =`

`-12 -1 0 2 3 5 6 6 7 7 10`

# unique

- Sometimes your goal is to find the unique elements in an array
- For e.g. in the previous example 6 and 7 appeared twice.
- To find the unique elements, use the function 'unique'.
- `mat_14=[10 5 2 3 6 7 0 -1 -12 7 6]`
- `unique(mat_14)`
- `ans =`

-12   -1   0   2   3   5   6   7   10

Note that the 'unique' function also sorts the output

# reshape

- Using reshape function, we can reshape a matrix to another size
- `to_reshape_array=[1:1:10]`
- `reshape(to_reshape_array)`

- `ans =`

1	6
2	7
3	8
4	9
5	10