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0.2.5 Programming and LAFF

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0.2.5 Programming and LAFF

Reading Assignment

0 points possible (ungraded)
Read Unit 0.2.5 of the notes. [\[LINK\]](#)

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Discussion

Topic: Week 0 / 0.2.5

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Reading

Nice and clear

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In this course, we invite you to learn the theory of linear algebra hand-in-hand with translating algorithms into code.

Programming is about abstracting. It will help us extend our concrete knowledge of how matrix operations work with small sized matrices to any size matrices. We encourage you, as you engage in LAFF, to take an active part in the abstraction process by extending what you know and thinking in general terms to construct algorithms and think about their costs.

We will be using the MATLAB interactive environment. In Week 0 we include instructions on how to set up your environment to use these tools. You do not need any previous programming knowledge or experience. You do not need to know how to program with MATLAB nor is the purpose of this course to teach you MATLAB. We will use this language in a very targeted way so that you master just enough of it to be able to use it for our purposes. In the beginning, we will completely talk you through the package construction. Later we will provide program skeletons and you will be asked to use your knowledge about the slicing and dicing of matrices for performing the linear algebra operations to fill in commands. We hope that you will come to appreciate, understand, and, PRODUCE components of a layered library.

We will share our own implementation of this library so you can build implementations of more complex operations. Please get into the habit of trying on your own before peeking at our solutions. If you encounter any implementation issues try conferring with others on the discussion boards.

In no time, you will be experiencing the frontier of linear algebra library development. Our FLAME research group prides itself on writing the most beautiful and among the highest performing code for many linear algebra operations. We will share this brilliance with you. If you don't agree you can laugh at us. Otherwise, LAFF with us!



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