

Introduction to Matlab (Code)

intro.m

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% Introduction to Matlab
% (adapted from http://www.stanford.edu/class/cs223b/matlabIntro.html)
%
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%
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% Last modified: 01/30/2010
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% (1) Basics

% The symbol "%" is used to indicate a comment (for the remainder of
% the line).

% When writing a long Matlab statement that becomes too long for a
% single line use "..." at the end of the line to continue on the next
% line.  E.g.

A = [1, 2; ...
     3, 4];

% A semicolon at the end of a statement means that Matlab will not
% display the result of the evaluated statement. If the ";" is omitted
% then Matlab will display the result. This is also useful for
% printing the value of variables, e.g.

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% Matlab's command line is a little like a standard shell:
% - Use the up arrow to recall commands without retyping them (and
%   down arrow to go forward in the command history).
% - C-a moves to beginning of line (C-e for end), C-f moves forward a
%   character and C-b moves back (equivalent to the left and right
%   arrow keys), C-d deletes a character, C-k deletes the rest of the
%   line to the right of the cursor, C-p goes back through the
%   command history and C-n goes forward (equivalent to up and down
%   arrows), Tab tries to complete a command.

% Simple debugging:
% If the command "dbstop if error" is issued before running a script
% or a function that causes a run-time error, the execution will stop
% at the point where the error occurred. Very useful for tracking down
% errors.
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m(:, 1)                % Access a whole matrix column (1st column)

m(1, 1:3)              % Access elements 1 through 3 of the 1st row

m(2:3, 2)              % Access elements 2 through 3 of the
                        % 2nd column
m(2:end, 3)            % Keyword "end" accesses the remainder of a
                        % column or row

m = [1 2 3; 4 5 6]
size(m)                % Returns the size of a matrix
size(m, 1)              % Number of rows
size(m, 2)              % Number of columns

m1 = zeros(size(m))    % Create a new matrix with the size of m

who                    % List variables in workspace

whos                   % List variables w/ info about size, type, etc.

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% (3) Simple operations on vectors and matrices

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% (A) Element-wise operations:

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% These operations are done "element by element". If two
% vectors/matrices are to be added, subtracted, or element-wise
% multiplied or divided, they must have the same size.

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a = [1 2 3 4]';        % A column vector
2 * a                  % Scalar multiplication
a / 4                  % Scalar division
b = [5 6 7 8]';        % Another column vector

a + b                  % Vector addition
a - b                  % Vector subtraction
a .^ 2                 % Element-wise squaring (note the ".")
a .* b                 % Element-wise multiplication (note the ".")
a ./ b                 % Element-wise division (note the ".")

log([1 2 3 4])         % Element-wise logarithm
round([1.5 2; 2.2 3.1]) % Element-wise rounding to nearest integer

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% Other element-wise arithmetic operations include e.g. :
% floor, ceil, ...

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% (B) Vector Operations

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% Built-in Matlab functions that operate on vectors

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a = [1 4 6 3]          % A row vector

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sum(a)                % Sum of vector elements
mean(a)               % Mean of vector elements
var(a)                % Variance of elements
std(a)                % Standard deviation

max(a)                % Maximum
min(a)                % Minimum

% If a matrix is given, then these functions will operate on each column
%   of the matrix and return a row vector as result
a = [1 2 3; 4 5 6]    % A matrix
mean(a)               % Mean of each column

max(a)                % Max of each column
max(max(a))           % Obtaining the max of a matrix
mean(a, 2)            % Mean of each row (second argument specifies
                      %   dimension along which operation is taken)

[1 2 3] * [4 5 6]'    % 1x3 row vector times a 3x1 column vector

                      %   results in a scalar. Known as dot product
                      %   or inner product. Note the absence of "."

[1 2 3]' * [4 5 6]    % 3x1 column vector times a 1x3 row vector
                      %   results in a 3x3 matrix. Known as outer
                      %   product. Note the absence of "."

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% (C) Matrix Operations:

a = rand(3,2)          % A 3x2 matrix
b = rand(2,4)          % A 2x4 matrix
c = a * b              % Matrix product results in a 3x4 matrix

a = [1 2; 3 4; 5 6];  % A 3x2 matrix
b = [5 6 7];          % A 1x3 row vector
b * a                  % Vector-matrix product results in
                      %   a 1x2 row vector
c = [8; 9];            % A 2x1 column vector
a * c                  % Matrix-vector product results in
                      %   a 3x1 column vector

a = [1 3 2; 6 5 4; 7 8 9]; % A 3x3 matrix
inv(a)                 % Matrix inverse of a
eig(a)                 % Vector of eigenvalues of a
[V, D] = eig(a)        % D matrix with eigenvalues on diagonal;
                      %   V matrix of eigenvectors

[U, S, V] = svd(a)     % Example for multiple return values!
                      % Singular value decomposition of a.
                      %   a = U * S * V', singular values are
                      %   stored in S

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% Other matrix operations: det, norm, rank, ...
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% (D) Reshaping and assembling matrices:
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a = [1 2; 3 4; 5 6];          % A 3x2 matrix
b = a(:)                      % Make 6x1 column vector by stacking
                              % up columns of a
sum(a(:))                     % Useful: sum of all elements

a = reshape(b, 2, 3)          % Make 2x3 matrix out of vector
                              % elements (column-wise)

a = [1 2]; b = [3 4];         % Two row vectors
c = [a b]                     % Horizontal concatenation (see horzcat)

a = [1; 2; 3];                % Column vector
c = [a; 4]                     % Vertical concatenation (see vertcat)

a = [eye(3) rand(3)]           % Concatenation for matrices
b = [eye(3); ones(1, 3)]

b = repmat(5, 3, 2)           % Create a 3x2 matrix of fives
b = repmat([1 2; 3 4], 1, 2) % Replicate the 2x2 matrix twice in
                              % column direction; makes 2x4 matrix
b = diag([1 2 3])             % Create 3x3 diagonal matrix with given
                              % diagonal elements
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% (4) Control statements & vectorization
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% Syntax of control flow statements:
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% for VARIABLE = EXPR
%     STATEMENT
%     ...
%     STATEMENT
% end
%
% EXPR is a vector here, e.g. 1:10 or -1:0.5:1 or [1 4 7]
%
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% while EXPRESSION
%     STATEMENTS
% end
%
% if EXPRESSION
%     STATEMENTS
% elseif EXPRESSION
%     STATEMENTS
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% else

%     STATEMENTS
% end
%
%     (elseif and else clauses are optional, the "end" is required)
%
%     EXPRESSIONs are usually made of relational clauses, e.g. a < b
%
%     The operators are <, >, <=, >=, ==, ~= (almost like in C(++))

% Warning:
%     Loops run very slowly in Matlab, because of interpretation overhead.
%     This has gotten somewhat better in version 6.5, but you should
%     nevertheless try to avoid them by "vectorizing" the computation,
%
%     i.e. by rewriting the code in form of matrix operations. This is
%     illustrated in some examples below.

% Examples:
for i=1:2:7                % Loop from 1 to 7 in steps of 2
    i                      % Print i
end

for i=[5 13 -1]            % Loop over given vector
    if (i > 10)             % Sample if statement
        disp('Larger than 10') % Print given string

    elseif i < 0            % Parentheses are optional
        disp('Negative value')
    else
        disp('Something else')
    end
end

end

% Here is another example: given an mxn matrix A and a 1xn
% vector v, we want to subtract v from every row of A.

m = 50; n = 10; A = ones(m, n); v = 2 * rand(1, n);
%
% Implementation using loops:
for i=1:m
    A(i,:) = A(i,:) - v;
end

% We can compute the same thing using only matrix operations
A = ones(m, n) - repmat(v, m, 1); % This version of the code runs
% much faster!!!

% We can vectorize the computation even when loops contain
% conditional statements.

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% Example: given an mxn matrix A, create a matrix B of the same size
% containing all zeros, and then copy into B the elements of A that
% are greater than zero.

% Implementation using loops:
B = zeros(m,n);
for i=1:m
    for j=1:n
        if A(i,j)>0
            B(i,j) = A(i,j);
        end
    end
end

% All this can be computed w/o any loop!
B = zeros(m,n);
ind = find(A > 0);           % Find indices of positive elements of A
                             % (see "help find" for more info)

B(ind) = A(ind);            % Copies into B only the elements of A
                             % that are > 0

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%(5) Saving your work

save myfile                  % Saves all workspace variables into
                             % file myfile.mat
save myfile a b              % Saves only variables a and b

clear a b                    % Removes variables a and b from the
                             % workspace
clear                        % Clears the entire workspace

load myfile                  % Loads variable(s) from myfile.mat

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%(6) Creating scripts or functions using m-files:
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% Matlab scripts are files with ".m" extension containing Matlab
% commands. Variables in a script file are global and will change the
% value of variables of the same name in the environment of the current
% Matlab session. A script with name "script1.m" can be invoked by
% typing "script1" in the command window.

% Functions are also m-files. The first line in a function file must be
% of this form:

% function [outarg_1, ..., outarg_m] = myfunction(inarg_1, ..., inarg_n)
%
% The function name should be the same as that of the file

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% (i.e. function "myfunction" should be saved in file "myfunction.m").
% Have a look at myfunction.m and myotherfunction.m for examples.
%

% Functions are executed using local workspaces: there is no risk of
% conflicts with the variables in the main workspace. At the end of a
% function execution only the output arguments will be visible in the
% main workspace.

a = [1 2 3 4];          % Global variable a
b = myfunction(2 * a)   % Call myfunction which has local
                        %   variable a

a                        % Global variable a is unchanged

[c, d] = ...
    myotherfunction(a, b) % Call myotherfunction with two return
                        % values

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%(7) Plotting

x = [0 1 2 3 4];        % Basic plotting
plot(x);                % Plot x versus its index values
pause                  % Wait for key press
plot(x, 2*x);           % Plot 2*x versus x
axis([0 8 0 8]);        % Adjust visible rectangle

figure;                 % Open new figure
x = pi*[-24:24]/24;
plot(x, sin(x));
xlabel('radians');      % Assign label for x-axis
ylabel('sin value');    % Assign label for y-axis
title('dummy');         % Assign plot title

figure;
subplot(1, 2, 1);       % Multiple functions in separate graphs
plot(x, sin(x));        %   (see "help subplot")
axis square;           % Make visible area square
subplot(1, 2, 2);
plot(x, 2*cos(x));
axis square;

figure;
plot(x, sin(x));
hold on;               % Multiple functions in single graph
plot(x, 2*cos(x), '--'); % '--' chooses different line pattern

legend('sin', 'cos');  % Assigns names to each plot
hold off;              % Stop putting multiple figures in current
                        %   graph

figure;                % Matrices vs. images

m = rand(64,64);

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%imagesc(m) % Plot matrix as image
colormap gray; % Choose gray level colormap
axis image; % Show pixel coordinates as axes
axis off; % Remove axes

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%(8) Working with (gray level) images

I = imread('cit.png'); % Read a PNG image

figure
imagesc(I) % Display it as gray level image
colormap gray;

colorbar % Turn on color bar on the side
pixval % Display pixel values interactively

trueimage % Display at resolution of one screen
% pixel per image pixel
trueimage(2*size(I)) % Display at resolution of two screen
% pixels per image pixel

I2 = imresize(I, 0.5, 'bil'); % Resize to 50% using bilinear
% interpolation
I3 = imrotate(I2, 45, ... % Rotate 45 degrees and crop to
'bil', 'crop'); % original size

I3 = double(I2); % Convert from uint8 to double, to allow
% math operations
imagesc(I3.^2) % Display squared image (pixel-wise)
imagesc(log(I3)) % Display log of image (pixel-wise)
I3 = uint8(I3); % Convert back to uint8 for writing
imwrite(I3, 'test.png') % Save image as PNG

figure;
g = [1 2 1]' * [1 2 1] / 16; % 3x3 Gaussian filter mask
I2 = double(I); % Convert image to floating point
I3 = conv2(I2, g); % Convolve image with filter mask
I3 = conv2(I2, g, 'same'); % Convolve image, but keep original size
subplot(1, 2, 1) % Display original and filtered image

imagesc(I); % side-by-side
axis square;
colormap gray;
subplot(1, 2, 2)
imagesc(I3);
axis square;
colormap gray;
```

myfunction.m

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function y = myfunction(x)
% Function of one argument with one return value

a = [-2 -1 0 1];           % Have a global variable of the same name
y = a + x;
```

myotherfunction.m

```
function [y, z] = myotherfunction(a, b)
% Function of two arguments with two return values

y = a + b;
z = a - b;
```

Created by [Stefan Roth](#)