

Math 355/655: Introduction to Numerical Methods  
MATLAB Worksheet

1. Launch MATLAB on your ThinkPad (it's part of the standard load for ThinkPads). You need to be connected to Wake's network. If you are on another network, run `vpn` (Cisco) to connect to Wake.

- (a) At the command prompt, type the following and hit return: `diary on`
- (b) MATLAB can do basic arithmetic. At the command prompt, type the following and hit return: `2+3*4`
- (c) It can store vectors. Type the following: `v=[1;2;3;4]`
- (d) Create a vector  $w$  by typing the following: `w=[0;3;4;9]`
- (e) Now add  $v$  and  $w$  by typing: `v+w`
- (f) Create a vector  $x$  that has only three components `[2,3,4]` and add it to  $v$ . What happens when you do this?
- (g) Try typing `x(1) + x(2) + x(3)`. What does MATLAB compute for you?
- (h) Try the following using a *for* loop:  

```
>> sumx = 0;  
>> for i=1:3, sumx= sumx+x(i); end;
```

Now type “sumx” and see what value you get. (If you have never used a *for* loop before, Google it and see if you can understand what it does.)
- (i) At the command prompt, type: `help sum` (In general, you can get help by typing “help” and then the command you want to learn about). Use the “sum” command to compute what you did in part (g).
- (j) At the command prompt, type the following and hit return:

$$A = [1 \ 2 \ 3; 4 \ 5 \ 6; 7 \ 8 \ 0].$$

Then, type  $b = [0; 1; 2]$  at the command prompt. To solve the linear system  $Ax = b$ , type the following at the command prompt: `x = A\b`. Determine how good the solve is by typing: `b - A * x`.

For more accuracy, type the following: `format long`

Now type the following at the command prompt(it will reprint the last answer): `ans`

Comment on the accuracy of the solve.

- (k) Type the following at the command prompt: `diary off`
2. MATLAB stored a file named “diary” on your computer. Find the file and print it out. Answer any questions that were asked above by writing the answers on the printout by the problem or output.