

COLUMN MAJOR V/s ROW MAJOR

These terms define 2 ways in which matrix can be stored as an array of values.

Column Major means that for $N \times M$ matrix first N values in the array are first column.

In row major, first M values in the array are first row. So, array of 12 floating point numbers would amount to following 4×3 matrices

In column major :

$a[0]$	$a[4]$	$a[8]$
$a[1]$	$a[5]$	$a[9]$
$a[2]$	$a[6]$	$a[10]$
$a[3]$	$a[7]$	$a[11]$

In row major :

$a[0]$	$a[1]$	$a[2]$
$a[3]$	$a[4]$	$a[5]$
$a[6]$	$a[7]$	$a[8]$
$a[9]$	$a[10]$	$a[11]$

Note that in GLSL and GLM matrix library, matrices are stored as column major.