

# Matlab, Introduction

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## *Resources: intro*

1. Matlab Primer: short and clear introduction.
2. Matlab on Athena (MIT computer services web page).
3. [www.mathworks.com](http://www.mathworks.com), Matlab: detailed online documentation.

## *medium level*

4. Matlab Guide D.J.Higan,N.J.Higan, SIAM, 2000.  
Intro to Matlab 6.0.

## *more advanced*

5. Numerical Methods with Matlab, G. Recktenwald, Prentice Hall.
6. Mastering Matlab 6, D.Hanselman, B.Littlefield,  
Prentice Hall 2001, comprehensive tutorial & reference.

## *also*

7. Lecture notes: 10.001 web page.

# Main Features of Matlab

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- Matlab = matrix laboratory, matrix oriented programming language + desktop environment.
- Any variable is an array by default, thus almost no declarations. All variables are by default double.
- Translator - interpreter: line after line, no exe files.
- High level language:
  - (i) quick and easy coding
  - (ii) tools assembled into toolboxes (Spectral Analysis, Image Processing, Signal Processing, Symbolic Math etc.)
  - (iii) relatively slow.
- All Matlab functions are precompiled.
- One may add extra functions by creating M-files and modify the existing ones.

# Comparison with C.

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- Syntax is similar
- Language structure is similar to C:
  - MATLAB supports variables, arrays, structures, subroutines, files
  - MATLAB does NOT support pointers and does not require variable declarations
  - MATLAB has extra built-in tools to work with matrices/arrays

# Matlab, Getting Started

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1. Accessing Matlab on Athena:

```
add matlab
```

```
matlab &
```

2. Log out: `quit` or `exit`

MATLAB desktop (version 6):

1) Command window

2) Launch Pad / Workspace window

3) Command history / Current Directory window

# Useful Hints & Commands

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- `input: variable_name` → `output: variable_value`
- semicolon at the end will suppress the output
- command history: upper & lower arrows,  
also command name guess:
  - (i) type `abc`
  - (ii) hit “upper arrow” key → get the last command starting from `abc`
- `format compact` - no blank lines in the output  
`format loose` - back to default
- `help commandname` - info on `commandname`

# Workspace Maintenance

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- all the assigned variables “reside” in the workspace
- `clear all` - clears all the memory (workspace)  
`clear xyz` - removes xyz from the memory
- `who` - lists all the variables from the workspace
- `whos` - also gives the details

```
>> who
```

```
Your variables are:
```

```
ans          c1          c2
```

```
>> whos
```

Name	Size	Bytes	Class
ans	1x1	8	double array
c1	1x1	16	double array(complex)
c2	2x2	64	double array(complex)

# Workspace Maintenance

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- `save` saves all workspace variables on disk in file `matlab.mat`
- `save filename x y z` - `x`, `y`, `z` are saved in file `filename.mat`
- `load filename` - loads contents of the `filename.mat` to the workspace
- `load filename x y z` - loads only `x`, `y`, `z` from `filename.mat` to the workspace
- Each array requires a continuous chunk of memory; use `pack` for memory defragmentation.

# Built in Constants & Functions

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- `pi` –  $\pi$  number
- `i` & `j` stand for “imaginary one” ( $i = -1^{1/2}$ ),  
however may be redefined
- Trigonometric: `sin`, `cos`, `tan`, `sec`, `cot`
- Inverse trig.: `asin`, `acos`, `atan`, `asec`, `acot`
- Exponential: `log`, `log2`, `log10`, `exp`
- Complex: `abs` – abs. value, `angle` – phase angle,  
`conj` – conjugate transpose, `imag` – imaginary and  
`real` – real part



# Linear Algebra

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*Vector*: an ordered set of real or complex numbers arranged in a row or column.

$$x = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ \vdots \\ x_m \end{bmatrix} \quad \begin{array}{l} \text{m-element} \\ \text{column vector} \\ \text{(n x 1)} \end{array}$$

$$y = [y_1 \quad y_2 \quad \cdots \quad y_n]$$

n-element row-vector (1 x n)

# Vector Operations

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Addition/subtraction (element-wise, array operation:

$$c = a + b \quad \rightarrow \quad c_i = a_i + b_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

$$d = a - b \quad \rightarrow \quad c_i = a_i - b_i, \quad i = 1, \dots, n$$

Multiplication/division by a scalar:

$$b = \alpha a \quad \rightarrow \quad b_i = \alpha a_i$$

$$b = a/\alpha \quad \rightarrow \quad b_i = a_i/\alpha$$

Vector transpose, turns row into column and vice versa:

$$x = [1, 2, 3] \quad \rightarrow \quad x^T = \begin{bmatrix} x_1 \\ x_2 \\ x_3 \end{bmatrix} \quad (x^T)^T = x$$

---

# Vector Operations

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Vector inner (dot, scalar) product

(vector/matrix operation):

$$a = \mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y} \quad \rightarrow \quad a = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i y_i \quad a = \mathbf{y}^T \cdot \mathbf{x}^T$$

$\mathbf{x}$  is a row vector

$\mathbf{y}$  is a column vector

The dimensions of  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  must agree.

NB General rule for vector/matrix multiplication:

“row times column” – take  $i$ -th row of the left multiplier and multiply by the  $j$ -th column of the right multiplier

# Vector Operations

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Outer (tensor) product:

$$M = yx = \begin{bmatrix} y_1 \\ y_2 \\ y_3 \\ y_4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} x_1 & x_2 & x_3 & x_4 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} y_1x_1 & y_1x_2 & y_1x_3 & y_1x_4 \\ y_2x_1 & y_2x_2 & y_2x_3 & y_2x_4 \\ y_3x_1 & y_3x_2 & y_3x_3 & y_3x_4 \\ y_4x_1 & y_4x_2 & y_4x_3 & y_4x_4 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$M_{ij} = x_i y_j$$

# Vector Norms

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To compare two vectors a vector norm (analogous to length, size) is introduced:

$\|x\| > \|y\| \rightarrow$  “norm of  $x$  is greater than norm of  $y$ ”

Euclidian norm, length in  $nD$  (also called  $L_2$  norm):

$$\|x\|_2 = (x_1^2 + x_2^2 + x_3^2 + \dots + x_n^2)^{1/2}$$

$$\|x\|_1 = |x_1| + |x_2| + |x_3| + \dots + |x_n| \quad (L_1)$$

$$\|x\|_{\text{inf.}} = \max(|x_1|, |x_2|, |x_3|, \dots |x_n|)$$

$$\|x\|_p = (x_1^p + x_2^p + x_3^p + \dots + x_n^p)^{1/p} \quad (L_p)$$

# Dealing with Vectors/Matrices

---

Entering matrices by explicit list of elements:

A = [ 1 2 3 ]

A=

1 2 3

A = [ 1 ; 2 ; 3 ]

A=

1

2

3

A = [ 1 2 3 ; 4 5 6 ; 7 8 9 ]

OR

A= [ 1 2 3

4 5 6

7 8 9 ]

Spaces separate the elements,  
semicolons and “new line”  
symbols separate the rows.

# Dealing with Matrices

---

Complex matrices:

either  $A=[1\ 2;\ 3\ 4]+i*[5\ 6;\ 7\ 8]$

or  $A=[1+5i\ 2+6i;\ 3+7i\ 4+8i]$

No blank spaces, i or j stands for “imaginary one”.

## *Matrix and array operations, classification.*

+ } element-wise (array operations)  
- }

\* } array or matrix operations  
^ }

` conjugate transpose }  
\ left division } only matrix operations  
/ right division }

# Matrix Multiplication

---

Product of the two matrices  $A(n \times m)$  and  $B(m \times l)$  is matrix  $C(n \times l)$ :

$$C_{ij} = A_{i1}B_{1j} + A_{i2}B_{2j} + \dots + A_{im}B_{mj}$$

The dimensions of A and B must agree.

$C_{ij}$  – is a dot product of i-th row of A and j-th column of B.  
Again “row (on the left) times column (on the right)”.

If A or B is a vector, we will have either  
“row vector times matrix = column vector” or  
“matrix times column vector = row vector”



# Dealing with Matrices

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In Matlab *left* and *right division* are inverse to multiplication by column and row vectors correspondingly:

$A * x = b \rightarrow x = A \setminus b$  (left)  $A$ -matrix  $m \times n$ ,  $b$  -row vector  $1 \times n$   
 $x * A = b \rightarrow x = b / A$  (right)  $b$  - column vector  $m \times 1$

*Conjugate transpose*: swaps the indices and changes the sign of imaginary part of each element.

$$C = A'$$

$$C(i,j) = \text{real}( A(j,i) ) - i * \text{imag}( A(j,i) )$$

# Dealing with Matrices, Examples

---

```
>> C = A + B;
```

```
C(k,l) = A(k,l) + B(k,l)
```

```
>> C = A*B;
```

```
C(k,l) = A(k,m) * B(m,l)
```

Matrix multiplication,  
summation over the repeating  
index is implied.

```
>> C = A.*B
```

```
C(k,l) = A(k,l)*B(k,l)
```

Element-wise (array)  
operation, imposed by “.”

```
>> C = A^alpha;
```

Matrix A to the power alpha

```
>> C = A.^alpha;
```

Each element of A to the power alpha

```
C(k,l) = A(k,l)^alpha
```

# Dealing with Matrices

---

*Standard math. functions of matrices* operate in array sense:

$\exp(A)$ ,  $\sin(A)$ ,  $\sqrt{A} = A.^{0.5}$

$\gg B = \exp(A) \quad \rightarrow \quad B(i,j) = \exp(A(i,j))$

*Colon notation* is used:

(i) to construct vectors of equally spaced elements:

$\gg a = 1:6 \quad \rightarrow \quad a = 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \ 6$

$\gg b = 1:2:7 \quad \rightarrow \quad b = 1 \ 3 \ 5 \ 7$

(ii) to access submatrices:

$A(1:4, 3)$  - column vector, first 4 elements of the 3-d column of A.

$A(:, 3)$  - the 3-d column of A

$A(:, [2 \ 4])$  - 2 columns of A: 2-d & 4-th.

(iii) in “for” loops

# Relational & Logical Operators & Functions

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- R&L operations are needed for computer to make decisions and take actions once some conditions are satisfied.

Example – while loops

- Argument of R&L operations is true if it is non-zero and false if it is zero; output is 1 for true and zero for false.

- Relational: <, <=, >, >=, ==, ~=.

Operate on matrices in elementwise fashion.

```
>> A = 1:9, B = 9 - A
A = 1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9
B = 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1 0
>> tf = A > 4
tf = 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1
>> tf = (A==B)
0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0
```

# Relational & Logical Operators & Functions

---

- Logical: & AND; | OR; ~ NOT.

```
>> tf = ~(A>4)
```

```
tf = 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0
```

```
>> tf = (A>2) & (A<6)
```

```
tf = 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 0
```

- Functions: `xor(x,y)` - exclusive OR, true if either x or y is non-zero, false if both are true or false.

`isempty` - true for empty matrix

`isreal`, `isequal`, `isfinite`, ...

# Flow of Control

---

*For loops.* Syntax:

```
for x = array
    (commands)
end
```

Example:

```
>> for n = 1:10
        x(n) = sin(n*pi/10);
    end
```

# Flow of Control

---

Nested loops, decrement loop.

```
>> for n = 1:5
    for m = 5:-1:1
        A(n,m) = n^2 + m^2;
    end
end
```

Alternative: *vectorized* solution, much faster: assigns memory for x only once.

```
>> n = 1:10;
>> x = sin(n*pi/10)
```

# Flow of Control

---

*While loops.* Syntax:

```
while expression  
    ( commands )  
end
```

( commands ) will be executed as long as all the elements of expression are true.

Example: search for the smallest number EPS which if added to 1 will give the result greater than 1.



# Flow of Control

---

```
>> num = 0; EPS = 1;
```

```
>> while (1+EPS)>1
```

```
    EPS = EPS/2;
```

```
    num = num+1;
```

```
end
```

```
>> num
```

```
num = 53
```

```
>> EPS = 2*EPS
```

```
EPS = 2.2204e-16
```

---

# Flow of Control

---

*If-Else-End constructions. Syntax:*

```
if expression1
    (commands1: if expr-n1 is true)
elseif expression2
    (commands2: if expr-n2 is true)
elseif expression3
    (commands3: if expr-n3 is true)
    . . . . .
else
    (commands: if 1,2,..,n are false)
end
```

---

# Flow of Control

---

*Breaking out of the loop:*

```
>> EPS = 1;
>> for num = 1:1000
    EPS = EPS/2;
    if (1+EPS)<=1
        EPS = EPS*2
        break
    end
end
EPS = 2.2204e-16
```

# M-files

---

## Script files & Function files

***Script files:*** contain a set of Matlab commands - programs.

To execute the file: enter the file name.

```
% script M-file example.m           ←comment line
erasers = 4; pads = 6; tapes = 2;
items = erasers + pads + tapes
cost = erasers*25 + pads*52 + tapes*99
average_cost = cost/items
```

```
>>example
items = 12
cost = 610
average_cost = 50.833
```

# M-files

---

Interpreter actions while processing `example` statement:

1. Is `example` a current Matlab variable?
2. Is `example` a built-in Matlab command?
3. Is `example` an M-file?
4. Opens the file and evaluates commands as if they were entered from the command line.

(i) all workspace variables are accessible to the commands from the M-file.

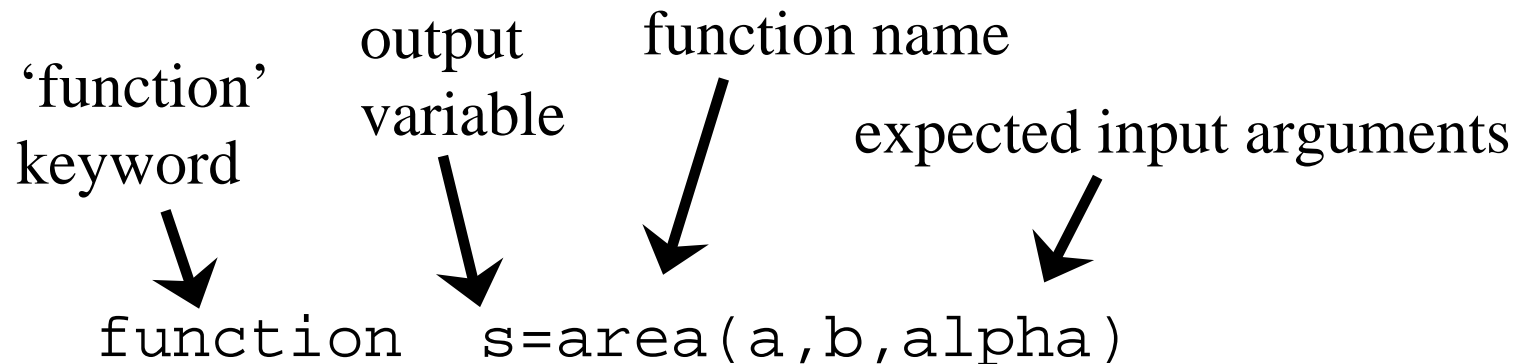
(ii) all variables created by M-file will become a part of the workspace *if declared global*.

# M-files

---

## *Function files*

- Analogous to functions in C.
- Communicate with the workspace only through variables passed to it and the output variables it creates. All internal variables are invisible to the main workspace.
- M-file's name = function's name.
- The first line - *function-declaration line*



# Function M-files

---

```
function s=area(a,b,alpha)
```

```
% AREA calculates triangle's area given 2 sides & angle between them
```

```
% AREA reads in two sides of the triangle and the angle between them
```

```
% (in radians) and returns the area of the triangle.
```

```
if a < 0 | b < 0
```

```
    error('a and b can not be negative.')
```

```
end
```

```
s = a*b*sin(alpha)/2;
```

*searched and displayed  
by the lookfor command*

*searched and displayed  
by the help command*

*Terminates execution of the M-file*

# Function M-files

---

- Function M-files may call script files or other (sub)functions, the script file/subfunction being evaluated in the function's workspace.
- Function M-files may have zero input and output arguments.
- Functions may share variables. The variable must be declared as `global` in each desired workspace.



# Some Helpful Commands

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`[n,m]=size(A)` – dimensions of matrix A

`n=length(B)` - the length of vector B

`zeros(m,n)` – creates m x n matrix of zeros

`ones(m,n)` – creates m x n matrix of ones

`eye(n)` – n x n matrix, ones on the diagonal,

zeroes elsewhere

`x = linspace(s,f,n)` - x-vector of n equally spaced elements from s up (down) to f, similar to

`x = s : ((f-s)/(n-1)) : f`

---

# Graphics

---

- Each graph is created in a figure window
- By default only one figure window can be opened, thus the second graph will replace the first one

*To create a graph you run:*

- Management functions (arranging the figure window(s))
- Graph generation functions
- Annotation functions (formatting the graphs, optional)

# Graphics

---

## Plotting functions: 3 categories

### Management

figure  
subplot  
zoom  
hold  
view  
rotated

### Generation

#### 2-D

plot  
polar  
fill  
plotyy

#### 3-D

plot3  
surf, surf3  
mesh, meshz  
contour, contour3

### Annotation &

#### characteristics

xlabel, ylabel, zlabel  
text  
title  
legend  
box  
set  
grid

# Graphics management

---

- `figure(n)` – opens figure window number `n`, also makes window `n` default window; the new `plot()` command will replace the plot in the default window
- `hold on` – holds the current window active, you may add curves using `plot()` command
- `hold off` – “releases” the current window
- `subplot(i, j, k)` – divides figure window into `i x j` array of sectors for plots; `k` – number of the sector to put the plot in

# Graphics

---

## Two-Dimensional Graphics:

- “join-the-dots” x-y plot

```
>> x = [1.2 2.3 3.7 4.1 5.0 7.3];  
>> y = [2.6 2.8 3.7 4.0 4.3 5.6];  
>> plot(x,y)
```

Syntax: `plot(x,y,string)`.

String (optional) stands for color, marker and plot style.

Example: `'r*--'` -red, asterisk at each data point,

dashed line. Colors: `r`, `g`, `b`, `c`, `m`, `y`, `k`, `w`.

Line styles: `-` solid, `--` dashed, `:` dotted, `-.` dash-dot.

---

# Graphics

---

Plotting many curves:

```
plot(x,y,'r-',a,b,'g--',...)
```

Some other control strings:

```
'LineWidth',2,'MarkerSize',7,  
'MarkerFaceColor','r',...
```

```
plot( ) -> loglog( )
```

changes lin-lin plot to log-log one.

# Graphics

---

Labels and title:

```
xlabel('concentration')
```

```
ylabel('viscosity')
```

```
title('C( $\eta$ ) plot, PEO - H2O solution.')
```

Axes:

```
axis([xmin xmax ymin ymax]),
```

```
xlim([xmin xmax]), axis tight, grid on,
```

```
axis square, .....
```

Also go to “edit” option of the plot window.

# Graphics

---

Adding text box at the position (x,y):

```
text(x,y,'here is the text');
```

Multiple plots in a Figure:

```
subplot(k,m,1), plot(.....)
```

```
subplot(k,m,2), plot(.....)
```

.....

```
subplot(k,m,k*m), plot(.....)
```

k, m - number of lines and columns in the array  
of plots, 1,2,...k\*m - number of the plots in the  
array.



# Graphics

---

`plot([x1 x2], [y1 y2])` – plots a straight line from  $(x_1, y_1)$  to  $(x_2, y_2)$

Let's plot a set of straight lines: connecting  $(x_{1j}, y_{1j})$  and  $(x_{2j}, y_{2j})$  for  $j=1, \dots, n$ . The plot instruction will be:

`plot([x1;x2], [y1;y2])`.

Say,  $x1=[1\ 3\ 5]$ ;  $x2=x1$ ;  $y1=[0\ 0\ 0]$ ;  $y2=[3\ 6\ 2]$ ; - 3 vertical lines will be plotted.

# Three-dimensional Graphics

---

The 3D version of `plot` is:

```
plot3(x1,y1,z1,S1,x2,y2,z2,S2,...)
```

3 coordinates, control string, 3 coordinates...

Example: `sin(x)`, `cos(x)`, `x`. Plots function of a function.

```
plot3([x1;x2],[y1;y2],[z1;z2])
```

Arguments – vectors of  $n$  elements each. `x1`, `x2` store  $x$ -coordinates of the points, where lines  $1, \dots, n$  begin and end correspondingly,

`y1`, `y2` and `z1`, `z2` do the same for  $y$  and  $z$  coordinates.

# Three-dimensional Graphics

---

3D, scalar functions of 2 variables, mesh plots:

$$z = f(x,y)$$

Plot of  $f(x,y)$  - surface in 3-d.

1. Create a mesh in x-y plane:

```
>> x = x0:x1, y = y0:y1
```

```
>> [X, Y] = meshgrid(x,y)
```

x has m and y has n elements, X & Y - matrices nxm,

X consists of n row vectors x, Y of m column vectors y.

Each pair  $X(i,j)$  &  $Y(i,j)$  gives coordinates in x-y space.

# Three-dimensional Graphics

---

X & Y may be treated as matrices or arrays.

If  $z = f(x,y) = 3(x^2+y)^3$ :

```
>>Z=3*(X.^2+Y).^3 % Matrix Z is created
```

```
>>mesh(X,Y,Z)% Draws mesh plot of f(x,y)
```

meshc - draws the underlying contour plot

meshz - meshplot with zero plane

surf(X,Y,Z) - surface plot: surface between

the mesh points is filled in; surf(x,y,Z) and surf(Z) also work, same is true for “mesh” command.

```
>>Z=X.^4+3*X.^2-2*X+6-2*Y.*X.^2+X.^2-2*Y;
```

---

# Contour Plots etc.

---

Contour plots:

```
>> contour(X, Y, Z, 20) %Draws
```

contour plot of  $f(x,y)$  with 20 contour lines.

```
>> contourf(X, Y, Z, 10) %Filled contour
```

plot with 10 contour lines.

```
>> [X, Y, Z] = cylinder(y, N) % y(x) sets the shape  
of the cylinder along the x-axis, N – number of points  
around the cylinder surface.
```

```
>> mesh(X, Y, Z) will plot the cylinder surface in 3D
```

```
>> [X, Y, Z] = cylinder(1.2 + sin(linspace(0, 2*pi, 100)), 20)
```