18.06 Linear Algebra, Fall 2010

Lecturer: Alan Edelman (office 2-343, http://math.mit.edu/~edelman/)
Lecture hour: MWF at 10am in room 54–100
Course coordinator: Vera Vértesi (office: 2–489, email: vertesi@math.mit.edu)

** Course Web Page: http://web.mit.edu/18.06/ (handouts, announcements, etc.).


Recitations: You must enroll in a specific section (they are listed on web.mit.edu/18.06/).
Your homework and exams will go to that section. Changes are made through the Stellar
Course Management Website:

http://stellar.mit.edu/S/course/18/fa10/18.06/.

A link to the course management website is also available on the 18.06 web page.

** Your recitation instructor (not your lecturer!) is the person to ask all questions about
homework and grades.

Homework: Assignments will be due on Thursdays by 4PM. Please put them in the box
for your section in 2–106, next to the Undergraduate Mathematics Office. Please staple them
(you may use the UMO stapler). They are due every week and are returned in recitation.
Late homework will not be accepted and no extensions are granted.

The homeworks are essential in learning linear algebra. They are not a test and you are
encouraged to talk to other students about difficult problems—after you have found them
difficult. Talking about linear algebra is healthy. But you must write your own solutions.

Exams: There will be three one-hour exams at class times on Monday October 4 (Walker),
Wednesday November 3 (see class web page), and Wednesday December 1 (Walker). There is
a final exam which the registrar will schedule within December 13–17. The use of calculators
or notes is not permitted during the exams.

Grading: Problem sets 15%, three one-hour exams 45% (15% each), final exam 40%.

SOFTWARE: Some homework problems will require you to use your choice among the
important tools for numerical linear algebra, e.g. Maple, Mathematica, MATLAB, Octave,
Python, R, Scilab which are available at MIT on Athena and other systems.


This web page has more information on one popular system, MATLAB, including a tutorial.
(No previous MATLAB experience is required in 18.06.)

Videos: Videos of Professor Strang’s lectures in an earlier year are available on the course
web page and also at ocw.mit.edu.