

**Introduction to Matlab**

Patrice Koehl  
*Department of Biological Sciences  
National University of Singapore*

<http://www.cs.ucdavis.edu/~koehl/>  
[dbskoeh@nus.edu.sg](mailto:dbskoeh@nus.edu.sg)  
[koehl@cs.ucdavis.edu](mailto:koehl@cs.ucdavis.edu)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**What is MATLAB?**

- > A high-performance language for technical computing (Mathworks, 1998)
- > The name is derived from **MAT**rix **L**aboratory
- > Typical uses of MATLAB
  - Mathematical computations
  - Algorithmic development
  - Model prototyping
  - Data analysis and exploration of data (visualization)
  - Scientific and engineering graphics for presentation

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

**Why Matlab?**

- > Because it simplifies the analysis of mathematical models
- > It frees you from coding in high-level languages (saves a lot of time - with some computational speed penalties)
- > Provides an extensible programming/ visualization environment
- > Provides professional looking graphs

---

---

---

---

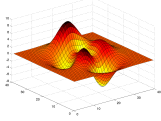
---

---

---

---

Matlab



- The Matlab Environment
- Variables; operations on variables
- Programming
- Visualization

---

---

---

---

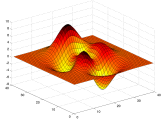
---

---

---

---

Matlab



- The Matlab Environment
- Variables; operations on variables
- Programming
- Visualization

---

---

---

---

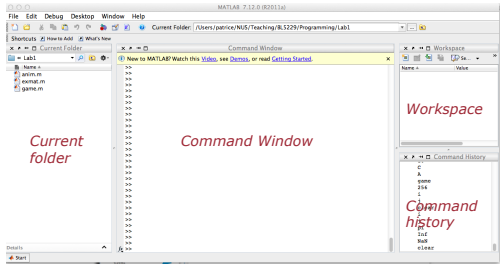
---

---

---

---

The Matlab Environment



Current folder

Command Window

Workspace

Command history

---

---

---

---

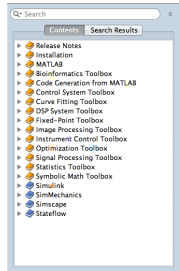
---

---

---

---

### Help in Matlab



**Help Browser**  
-> Product Help

**Command line:**  
>> help <command>

**Example:**  
>> help sqrt

---

---

---

---

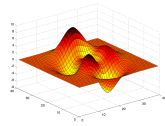
---

---

---

---

### Matlab



- > The Matlab Environment
- > Variables; operations on variables
- > Programming
- > Visualization

---

---

---

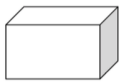
---

---

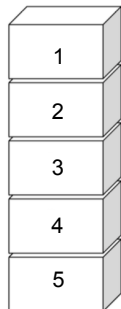
---

---

---



*Scalar variable:*  
*One storage box*



*Array:*  
*"chest of drawers"*

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Variables in Matlab

- > Begin with an alphabetic character: a
- > Case sensitive: a, A
- > No data typing: a=10; a='OK'; a=2.5
- > Default output variable: ans
- > Built-in constants: **pi i j Inf**
- > **clear** removes variables
- > **who** lists variables
- > **whos** list variables and gives size
- > Special characters : **[] () {} ; % : = . ... @**

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Vectors in Matlab

- > Row vectors
  - >> R1 = [1 6 3 8 5]
  - >> R2 = [1 : 5]
  - >> R3 = [-pi : pi/3 : pi]
- > Column vectors
  - >> C1 = [1; 2; 3; 4; 5]
  - >> C2 = R2'

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Matrices in Matlab

- > **Creating a matrix**
  - >> A = [1 2.5 5 0; 1 1.3 pi 4]
  - >> A = [R1; R2]
  - >> A = zeros(10,5)
  - >> A = ones(10,5)
  - >> A = eye(10)
- > **Accessing elements**
  - >> A(1,1)
  - >> A(1:2, 2:4)
  - >> A(:,2)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

## Matrix Operations

### > Operators + and -

```
>> X = [1 2 3]
>> Y = [4 5 6]
>> A = X + Y
A = 5 7 9
```

### > Operators \*, /, and ^

```
>> Ainv = A^-1 Matrix math is default!
```

---



---



---



---



---



---



---

## Element wise operations

### Operators .\*, ./, and .^

```
>> Z = [2 3 4]'
>> B = [Z.^2 Z Z.^0]

B = 4 2 1
    9 3 1
   16 4 1
```

---



---



---



---



---

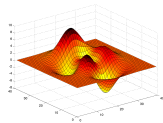


---



---

## Matlab



- > The Matlab Environment
- > Variables; operations on variables
- > Programming
- > Visualization

---



---



---



---



---

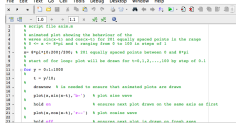


---



---

### M-file programming



**➤ Script M-Files**

- Automate a series of steps.
- Share workspace with other scripts and the command line interface.

**➤ Function M-Files**

- Extend the MATLAB language.
- Can accept input arguments and return output arguments.
- Store variables in internal workspace.

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### M-file programming

- **Always has one script M-File**
- **Uses built-in and user-defined functions**
- **Created in MATLAB Editor**  
>> edit model.m
- **Run from Command Line Window**  
>> model

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Example of script

Example: `model.m`

```

% Define input
T = [ 0 : 0.01 : 30]
% Compute model
Y = exp(-T);
% Plot model
plot (T, Y);
    
```

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Example of function

Example: `amodel.m`

```
function Y = amodel(t, A, B, a, w, p)
% H1 line: AMODEL computes step response.
% Help text: appears when you type
% "help amodel" in command line window.

% Comment: function body is below.
Y = A * exp(-b.*t) .* cos(w.*t + p) + B;
```

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Input / Output

➤ Get input from command window:

```
>> num = input('What is the altitude :')
>> str = input('Enter name of the planet','s')
```

➤ Display output in command window:

```
String
>> disp('The answer is:')
String + number:
>> disp(['The value of x is: ' num2str(x)])
```

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Operators

■ **Arithmetic:** `x+y`; `A*B`; `X.*Y`; etc.

■ **Logical**

- Element-wise AND: `a & b`
- Element-wise OR: `a | b`

■ **Relational**

```
a == 5; a >= b; b ~= 6;
```

■ **Operator precedence**

```
() {} [] -> Arithmetic -> Relational -> Logical
```

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Program flow control: For

*Simple program that sums the squares of all the elements of a matrix A:*

```
N = 10;
M = 20;

A = rand(10,20)

Sum = 0;
for i = 1:N
    for j = 1:M
        Sum = Sum + A(i,j)^2;
    end
end
```

Note that this can be done in one line:  
Sum2 = sum(sum(A.\*A));

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Program flow control: if

*Simple program that compares two numbers a and b: set j to 1 if a>b, -1 if a<b, and 0 if a = b:*

```
if a > b
    j = 1;
else if a < b
    j = -1;
else
    j = 0;
end
```

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

---

### Other useful commands

#### >Workspace

```
>> clear
>> who
>> whos
>> close
```

#### >File operations

```
>> ls
>> dir
>> cd
>> pwd
>> mkdir
```

---

---

---

---

---

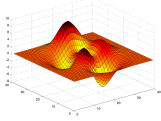
---

---

---



Matlab



- The Matlab Environment
- Variables; operations on variables
- Programming
- Visualization

---



---



---



---



---



---

- Linear plots
  - >> `plot (X, Y)`
  - Plotting commands open the [Figure editor](#).
- Multiple datasets on a plot
  - >> `plot(xcurve, ycurve)`
  - >> `hold on`
  - >> `plot(Xpoints, Ypoints)`
  - >> `hold off`
- Subplots on a figure
  - >> `subplot(1, 2, 1)`
  - >> `plot(time, velocity)`
  - >> `subplot(1, 2, 2)`
  - >> `plot(time, acceleration)`

---



---



---




---



---



---

- 2D linear plots: `plot`
  - >> `plot (X, Y, 'r-')`
  - Colors: `b, r, g, y, m, c, k, w`
  - Markers: `o, *, ., +, x, d`
  - Line styles: `-, --, -., :`
- Annotating graphs
  - >> `plot (X, Y, 'ro')`
  - >> `legend ('Points')`
  - >> `title ('Coordinates')`
  - >> `xlabel ('X')`
  - >> `ylabel ('Y')`
- Plot Edit mode: icon  in Figure Editor

---



---



---



---



---



---

### References

Violeta Ivanova, MIT

<http://web.mit.edu/acmath/matlab/IAP2007/>

Experiment with Matlab (Steve Moler):

<http://www.mathworks.com/moler/exm/chapters.html>

Matlab: learning by examples

[http://www.mathworks.com/help/techdoc/matlab\\_prog/exampleindex.html](http://www.mathworks.com/help/techdoc/matlab_prog/exampleindex.html)

---

---

---

---

---

---

---