Very Basic MATLAB

Peter J. Olver October, 2005

Matrices: Type your matrix as follows:

Use, or space to separate entries, and; or return after each row.

$$\Rightarrow$$
 A = [4 5 6 -9;5 0 -3 6;7 8 5 0; -1 4 5 1]

or

$$>> A = [4,5,6,-9;5,0,-3,6;7,8,5,0;-1,4,5,1]$$

or

The output will be:

You can identify an entry of a matrix by

ans =

-3

A colon: indicates all entries in a row or column

ans =

ans =

6

-3

5 5

You can use these to modify entries

$$>> A(2,3) = 10$$

A =

4	5	6	-9
5	0	10	6
7	8	5	0
-1	4	5	1

or to add in rows or columns

$$>> A(5,:) = [0 1 0 -1]$$

4	5	6	-9
5	0	10	6
7	8	5	0
-1	4	5	1
0	1	0	-1

or to delete them

4	6	-9
5	10	6
7	5	0
-1	5	1
0	0	-1

Accessing Part of a Matrix:

$$>> A = [4,5,6,-9;5,0,-3,6;7,8,5,0;-1,4,5,1]$$

A =

Switching two rows in a matrix:

The Zero matrix:

Identity Matrix:

=		
1	0	0
0	1	0
0	0	1

Matrix of Ones:

Random Matrix:

$$>> A = rand(2,3)$$

Note that the random entries all lie between 0 and 1.

Transpose of a Matrix:

$$>> A = [4,5,6,-9;5,0,-3,6;7,8,5,0;-1,4,5,1]$$

>> transpose(A)

4	5	7	-1
5	0	8	4
6	-3	5	5
-9	6	0	1

4	5	7	-1
5	0	8	4
6	-3	5	5
-9	6	0	1

Diagonal of a Matrix:

Row vector:

Column vector:

or use transpose operation,

Forming Other Vectors:

Important: to avoid output, particularly of large matrices, use a semicolon ; at the end of the line:

```
>> v = linspace(0,1,100);
```

gives a row vector whose entries are 100 equally spaced points from 0 to 1.

Size of a Matrix:

Output Formats

The command format is used to change output format. The default is

```
>> format short
>> pi
ans =
        3.1416
>> format long
>> pi
ans =
        3.14159265358979
>> format rat
>> pi
ans =
        355/113
```

This allows you to work in rational arithmetic and gives the "best" rational approximation to the answer. Let's return to the default.

```
>> format short
>> pi
ans =
    3.1416
```

Arithmetic operators

+ Matrix addition.

A + B adds matrices A and B. The matrices A and B must have the same dimensions unless one is a scalar (1×1 matrix). A scalar can be added to anything.

- Matrix subtraction.

A - B subtracts matrix A from B. Note that A and B must have the same dimensions unless one is a scalar.

* Scalar multiplication

* Matrix multiplication.

A*B is the matrix product of A and B. A scalar (a 1-by-1 matrix) may multiply anything. Otherwise, the number of columns of A must equal the number of rows of B.

Note that two matrices must be compatible before we can multiply them.

The order of multiplication is important!

.* Array multiplication

A.*B denotes element-by-element multiplication. A and B must have the same dimensions unless one is a scalar.

A scalar can be multiplied into anything.

^ Matrix power.

 $C = A \land n$ is A to the n-th power if n is a scalar and A is square. If n is an integer greater than one, the power is computed by repeated multiplication.

_				
	501	352	351	-651
	451	169	-87	174
	1103	799	533	-492
	445	482	413	-182

.^ Array power.

 $C = A \cdot B$ denotes element-by-element powers. A and B must have the same dimensions unless one is a scalar. A scalar can go in either position.

Length of a Vector, Norm of a Vector, Dot Product

```
>> norm(u)
ans =
   16.8819
>> v = [9 -8 7 6 -4 5 0 2 -4]
     9
          -8
                7 6 -4 5 0 2 -4
>> dot(u,v)
ans =
   135
>> u'*v
ans =
   135
Complex vectors:
>> u = [2-3i, 4+6i, -3, +2i]
u =
   2.0000- 3.0000i 4.0000+ 6.0000i -3.0000 0+ 2.0000i
>> conj(u)
ans =
   2.0000+ 3.0000i 4.0000- 6.0000i -3.0000
                                             0- 2.0000i
   Hermitian transpose:
>> u'
ans =
   2.0000+ 3.0000i
   4.0000- 6.0000i
  -3.0000
        0- 2.0000i
>> norm(u)
ans =
    8.8318
>> dot(u,u)
ans =
    78
>> sqrt(ans)
ans =
    8.8318
>> u'*u
ans =
    78
```

Solving Systems of Linear Equations

The best way of solving a system of linear equations

$$A\mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$$

in Matlab is to use the backslash operation \ (backwards division)

The backslash is implemented by using Gaussian elimination with partial pivoting. An alternative, but less accurate, method is to compute inverses:

```
>> B = inv(A)
B =
     0.6667
                -0.7778
                            -0.4444
    -0.3333
                 0.2222
                             0.5556
     0.3333
                 0.1111
                            -0.2222
or
>> B = A \wedge (-1)
B =
                -0.7778
                            -0.4444
     0.6667
    -0.3333
                 0.2222
                             0.5556
     0.3333
                 0.1111
                            -0.2222
>> x = B * b
x =
     0.6667
    -0.3333
     0.3333
```

Another method is to use the command rref:

To solve the following system of linear equations:

$$x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 + x_4 = 2$$

$$2x_1 + 9x_2 - 3x_3 - 2x_4 = 5$$

$$x_1 + 5x_2 - x_4 = 3$$

$$3x_1 + 14x_2 + 7x_3 - 2x_4 = 6$$

we form the augmented matrix:

The solution is : $x_1 = -5.0256$, $x_2 = 1.6154$, $x_3 = -0.2051$, $x_4 = 0.0513$.

Case 1: Infinitely many solutions:

MATLABIS unable to find the solutions;

In this case, we can apply **rref** to the augmented matrix.

$$>> C = [A b]$$

C =

-2	2	-2	-8
1	-1	1	4
2	-2	2	8

>> rref(C)

ans =

1	-1	1	4
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

You can use rrefmovie to see each step of Gaussian elimination.

>> rrefmovie(C)

Original matrix

Press any key to continue. . .

pivot = C(1,1)

Press any key to continue. . .

eliminate in column 1

Press any key to continue. . .

Press any key to continue. . .

C =

1	-1	1	4
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

Press any key to continue. . .

column 2 is negligible

Conclusion: There are infinitely many solutions since row 2 and row 3 are all zeros.

Case 2: No solutions:

Conclusion: Row 2 is not all zeros, and the system is incompatible.

Important: If the coefficient matrix A is rectangular (not square) then $A \setminus b$ gives the least squares solution (relative to the Euclidean norm) to the system $A \mathbf{x} = \mathbf{b}$. If the solution is not unique, it gives the least squares solution \mathbf{x} with minimal Euclidean norm.

```
>> A = [1 1;2 1;-5, -1]
A =
      1
            1
     2
            1
    -5
           -1
>> b = [1;1;1]
b =
       1
       1
       1
>> A \ b
ans =
   -0.5385
    1.7692
```

If you want the least squares solution in the square case, one trick is to add an extra equation 0 = 0 to make the coefficient matrix rectangular:

```
\Rightarrow A = [-2 2 -2;1 -1 1; 2 -2 2]
A =
     -2
             2
                   -2
      1
            -1
                     1
      2
            -2
                     2
>> b=[-8; 4; 8]
b =
     -8
      4
      8
>> A \ b
Warning:
            Matrix is singular to working precision.
ans =
      \infty
      \infty
      \infty
>> A(4,:)
A =
                       2
      -2
                                      -2
       1
                      -1
                                       1
       2
                      -2
                                       2
       0
                       0
                                       0
```

Functions

Functions are vectors! Namely, a vector \mathbf{x} and a vector \mathbf{y} of the same length correspond to the sampled function values (x_i, y_i) .

To plot the function $y = x^2 - .5x$ first enter an array of independent variables:

```
>> x = linspace(0,1,25)
>> y = x.^2 - .5 *x;
>> plot(x,y)
```

The plot shows up in a new window. To plot in a different color, use

```
>> plot(x,y,'r')
```

where the character string 'r' means red. Use the helpwindow to see other options.

To plot graphs on top of each other, use hold on.

```
>> hold on
>> z = exp(x);
>> plot(x,z)
>> plot(x,z,'g')
```

hold off will stop simultaneous plotting. Alternatively, use

```
>> plot(x,y,'r',x,z,'g')
```

Surface Plots

Here x and y must give a regtangular array, and z is a matrix whose entries are the values of the function at the array points.

```
>> x =linspace(-1,1,40); y = x;
>> z = x' * (y.^2);
>> surf(x,y,z)
```

Typing the command

>> rotate3d

will allow you to use the mouse interactively to rotate the graph to view it from other angles.