

Very Basic MATLAB

Peter J. Olver
October, 2003

Matrices: Type your matrix as follows:

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

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

or

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

or

```
EDU> A = [ 4 5 6 -9
           5 0 -3 6
           7 8 5 0
          -1 4 5 1 ]
```

The output will be:

```
A =
     4     5     6    -9
     5     0    -3     6
     7     8     5     0
    -1     4     5     1
```

You can identify an entry of a matrix by

```
EDU> A(2,3)
```

```
ans =
    -3
```

A colon `:` indicates all entries in a row or column

```
EDU> A(2,:)
```

```
ans =
     5     0    -3     6
```

```
EDU> A(:,3)
```

```
ans =
     6
    -3
     5
     5
```

You can use these to modify entries

```
EDU> 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

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

```
A =
```

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

or to delete them

```
EDU> A(:,2) = []
```

```
A =
```

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

Accessing Part of a Matrix:

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

```
A =
```

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

```
EDU> A([1 3],:)
```

```
ans =
```

```
 4     5     6    -9
 7     8     5     0
```

```
EDU> A(:,2:4)
```

```
ans =
```

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

```
EDU> A(2:3,1:3)
```

```
ans =
```

```
 5     0    -3
 7     8     5
```

Switching two rows in a matrix:

```
EDU> A([3 1],:) = A([1 3],:)
```

```
A =
```

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

The Zero matrix:

```
EDU> zeros(2,3)
```

```
ans =
```

```
    0    0    0
    0    0    0
```

```
EDU> zeros(3)
```

```
ans =
```

```
    0    0    0
    0    0    0
    0    0    0
```

Identity Matrix:

```
EDU> eye(3)
```

```
ans =
```

```
    1    0    0
    0    1    0
    0    0    1
```

Matrix of Ones:

```
EDU> ones(2,3)
```

```
ans =
```

```
    1    1    1
    1    1    1
```

Random Matrix:

```
EDU> A = rand(2,3)
```

```
A =
```

```
    0.9501    0.4860    0.4565
    0.2311    0.8913    0.0185
```

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

Transpose of a Matrix:

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

```
A =
```

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

```
EDU> transpose(A)
```

```
ans =
```

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

```
EDU> A'
```

```
ans =
```

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

Diagonal of a Matrix:

```
EDU> diag(A)
```

```
ans =
```

```
 4
 0
 5
 1
```

Row vector:

```
EDU> v = [1 2 3 4 5]
```

```
v =
```

```
 1     2     3     4     5
```

Column vector:

```
EDU> v = [1;2;3;4;5]
```

```
v =
```

```
 1
 2
 3
 4
 5
```

or use transpose operation ' ,

```
EDU> v = [1 2 3 4 5]'
```

```
v =
```

```
1
2
3
4
5
```

Forming Other Vectors:

```
EDU> v = 1:5
```

```
v =
```

```
1    2    3    4    5
```

```
EDU> v = 10:-2:0
```

```
v =
```

```
10    8    6    4    2    0
```

```
EDU> v = linspace(0,1,6)
```

```
v =
```

```
0    0.2000    0.4000    0.6000    0.8000    1.0000
```

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

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

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

Size of a Matrix:

```
EDU> A = [4 5 6 -9 7;5 0 -3 6 -2;7 8 5 0 5 ; -1 4 5 1 -9 ]
```

```
A =
```

```
4    5    6   -9    7
5    0   -3    6   -2
7    8    5    0    5
-1   4    5    1   -9
```

```
EDU> size(A)
```

```
ans =
```

```
4    5
```

```
EDU> [m,n] = size(A)
```

```
m =
```

```
4
```

```
n =
```

```
5
```

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.

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

```
A =
```

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

```
EDU> B = [9 2 4 -9;1 4 -2 -6;8 1 7 0; -3 -4 5 9 ]
```

```
B =
```

```
  9    2    4   -9
  1    4   -2   -6
  8    1    7    0
 -3   -4    5    9
```

```
EDU> A + B
```

```
ans =
```

```
 13    7   10  -18
  6    4   -5    0
 15    9   12    0
 -4    0   10   10
```

- Matrix subtraction.

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

```
EDU> A - B
```

```
ans =
```

```
 -5    3    2    0
  4   -4   -1   12
 -1    7   -2    0
  2    8    0   -8
```

* Scalar multiplication

```
EDU> 3*A - 4*B
```

```
ans =
```

```
 -24    7    2    9
  11  -16   -1   42
 -11   20  -13    0
  9   28   -5  -33
```

* 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 .

```
EDU> A * B
ans =
    116    70     3  -147
     3   -17    29     9
    111    51    47  -111
     32    15    28    -6
```

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

The order of multiplication is important!

```
EDU> v = [1 2 3 4]
v =
     1     2     3     4
EDU> w = [1;2;3;4]
w =
     1
     2
     3
     4
```

```
EDU> v * w
ans =
    30
EDU> w * v
ans =
     1     2     3     4
     2     4     6     8
     3     6     9    12
     4     8    12    16
```

.* 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.

```
EDU> a = [3 4 5 6 7 8 9]
a =
     3     4     5     6     7     8     9
EDU> b = [8 6 2 4 5 6 -1]
b =
     8     6     2     4     5     6    -1
```

```
EDU> a .* b
ans =
    24    24    10    24    35    48    -9
```

^ Matrix power.

$C = A \wedge n$ 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.

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

```
A =
     4     5     6    -9
     5     0    -3     6
     7     8     5     0
    -1     4     5     1
```

```
EDU> A ^ 3
```

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

.^ Array power.

$C = A.^ B$ 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.

```
EDU> A = [8 6 2 4 5 6 -1 ]
```

```
A =
     8     6     2     4     5     6    -1
```

```
EDU> A.^ 3
```

```
ans =
   512   216     8    64   125   216    -1
```

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

```
EDU> u = [8 -7 6 5 4 -3 2 1 9]
```

```
u =
     8    -7     6     5     4    -3     2     1     9
```

```
EDU> length(u)
```

```
ans =
     9
```



```

EDU> norm(u)
ans =
    16.8819
EDU> v = [9 -8 7 6 -4 5 0 2 -4]
v =
     9     -8     7     6    -4     5     0     2    -4
EDU> dot(u,v)
ans =
    135
EDU> u'*v
ans =
    135

```

Complex vectors:

```

EDU> u = [2-3i, 4+6i, -3,+2i]
u =
    2.0000- 3.0000i    4.0000+ 6.0000i    -3.0000    0+ 2.0000i
EDU> conj(u)
ans =
    2.0000+ 3.0000i    4.0000- 6.0000i    -3.0000    0- 2.0000i

```

Hermitian transpose:

```

EDU> u'
ans =
    2.0000+ 3.0000i
    4.0000- 6.0000i
   -3.0000
    0- 2.0000i
EDU> norm(u)
ans =
    8.8318
EDU> dot(u,u)
ans =
    78
EDU> sqrt(ans)
ans =
    8.8318
EDU> 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)

```
EDU> A = [1 2 3;-1 0 2;1 3 1]
```

```
A =
```

```
    1    2    3
   -1    0    2
    1    3    1
```

```
EDU> b = [1; 0; 0]
```

```
b =
```

```
    1
    0
    0
```

```
EDU> x = A \ b
```

```
x =
```

```
    0.6667
   -0.3333
    0.3333
```

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

```
EDU> B = inv(A)
```

```
B =
```

```
    0.6667   -0.7778   -0.4444
   -0.3333    0.2222    0.5556
    0.3333    0.1111   -0.2222
```

or

```
EDU> B = A ^ (-1)
```

```
B =
```

```
    0.6667   -0.7778   -0.4444
   -0.3333    0.2222    0.5556
    0.3333    0.1111   -0.2222
```

```
EDU> 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:

$$\begin{aligned}x_1 + 4x_2 - 2x_3 + x_4 &= 2 \\2x_1 + 9x_2 - 3x_3 - 2x_4 &= 5 \\x_1 + 5x_2 - x_4 &= 3 \\3x_1 + 14x_2 + 7x_3 - 2x_4 &= 6\end{aligned}$$

we form the augmented matrix:

```
EDU> A = [1,4,-2,3,2; 2,9,-3,-2,5; 1,5,0,-1,3; 3,14,7,-2,6]
```

```
A =
```

```
 1     4    -2     3     2
 2     9    -3    -2     5
 1     5     0    -1     3
 3    14     7    -2     6
```

```
EDU> rref(A)
```

```
ans =
```

```
 1.0000         0         0         0   -5.0256
         0    1.0000         0         0    1.6154
         0         0    1.0000         0   -0.2051
         0         0         0    1.0000    0.0513
```

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

Case 1: Infinitely many solutions:

```
EDU> A = [-2 2 -2;1 -1 1; 2 -2 2]
```

```
A =
```

```
 -2     2    -2
  1    -1     1
  2    -2     2
```

```
EDU> b = [-8; 4; 8]
```

```
b =
```

```
 -8
  4
  8
```

```
EDU> A \ b
```

```
Warning: Matrix is singular to working precision.
```

```
ans =
```

```
  ∞
  ∞
  ∞
```

MATLAB is unable to find the solutions;

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

```
EDU> C = [A b]
```

```
C =
```

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

```
EDU> 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.

```
EDU> rrefmovie(C)
```

```
Original matrix
```

```
C =
```

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

```
Press any key to continue. . .
```

```
  pivot = C(1,1)
```

```
C =
```

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

```
Press any key to continue. . .
```

```
  eliminate in column 1
```

```
C =
```

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

```
Press any key to continue. . .
```

```
C =
```

```
    1        -1         1         4
    0         0         0         0
    2        -2         2         8
```

```
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
```

```

C =
    1     -1     1     4
    0      0     0     0
    0      0     0     0

```

Press any key to continue. . .

column 3 is negligible

```

C =
    1     -1     1     4
    0      0     0     0
    0      0     0     0

```

Press any key to continue. . .

column 4 is negligible

```

C =
    1     -1     1     4
    0      0     0     0
    0      0     0     0

```

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

Case 2: No solutions:

```
EDU> A = [-2 1; 4 -2]
```

```

A =
   -2     1
    4    -2

```

```
EDU> b = [5; -1]
```

```

b =
    5
   -1

```

```
EDU> A\b
```

Warning: Matrix is singular to working precision.

```
ans =
```

```

    ∞
    ∞

```

```
EDU> C = [A b]
```

```

C =
   -2     1     5     4    -2    -1

```

```
EDU> rref(C)
```

```
ans =
```

```

    1.0000   -0.5000     0
         0         0    1.0000

```

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

Important: If the coefficient matrix A is rectangular (not square) then $A \backslash \mathbf{b}$ 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.

```
EDU> A = [1 1;2 1;-5, -1]
```

```
A =
```

```
    1    1
    2    1
   -5   -1
```

```
EDU> b = [1;1;1]
```

```
b =
```

```
    1
    1
    1
```

```
EDU> 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:

```
EDU> A = [-2 2 -2;1 -1 1; 2 -2 2]
```

```
A =
```

```
   -2    2   -2
    1   -1    1
    2   -2    2
```

```
EDU> b=[-8; 4; 8]
```

```
b =
```

```
   -8
    4
    8
```

```
EDU> A \ b
```

```
Warning: Matrix is singular to working precision.
```

```
ans =
```

```
    ∞
    ∞
    ∞
```

```
EDU> A(4,:) = 0
```

```
A =
```

```
   -2    2   -2
    1   -1    1
    2   -2    2
    0    0    0
```

```
EDU> b(4) = 0
```

```
b =
```

```
-8
```

```
4
```

```
8
```

```
0
```

```
EDU> A \ b
```

```
Warning: Rank deficient, rank = 1 tol = 2.6645e-15.
```

```
ans =
```

```
4.0000
```

```
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:

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

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

```
EDU> 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`.

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

`hold off` will stop simultaneous plotting. Alternatively, use

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

Surface Plots

Here \mathbf{x} and \mathbf{y} must give a rectangular array, and \mathbf{z} is a matrix whose entries are the values of the function at the array points.

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

Typing the command

```
EDU> rotate3d
```

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