



Computer Application (MATLAB)

تطبيقات الحاسبة (ماتلاب)
2025-2024

Week 2

by
Dr Murtada Dohan





Learning Objectives

- Get familiar with basic MATLAB operations and expressions.
- Learn how to create matrices.
- Understand variable assignments.
- Use matrix generators to create common matrices with zeros, ones, random numbers, or identity matrices.
- Apply comments to improve code clarity and use `clc` and `clear` commands to manage the workspace efficiently.





First Steps with MATLAB (1)

- To get MATLAB to work out basic operations, simply type at the command prompt:

$1 + 1$

- MATLAB responds with: $\text{ans} = 2$

```
Command Window
>> 1 + 1

ans =

     2

fx>> |
```



First Steps with MATLAB (2)

- MATLAB stores the result in the variable `ans`, which you can reuse.
- Ex: `ans * ans`
- MATLAB responds with: `ans = 4`

```
Command Window
>> 1 + 1

ans =

     2

>> ans * ans

ans =

     4

fx>> |
```



Spacing in MATLAB Expression

- The spacing of operators doesn't affect the result.

$$1 + 3 * 2 - 1 / 2 * 4$$

- Gives the same answer as:

$$1+3*2-1/2*4$$

- Clearer formatting improves **readability**. Use parentheses for clarity:

$$1 + 3*2 - (1/2)*4$$





Variables in MATLAB

- Definition: A variable is a named location in memory that stores data.
- Rules for Variable Names:
 - Must start with a letter.
 - Can include letters, numbers, and underscores (_).
 - MATLAB is case-sensitive (e.g., myVar and myvar are **different**).





Variables in MATLAB

- Examples of valid variables:

`x = 5;`

`speed_of_light = 3e8;`

`temperature1 = 298;`

- Invalid variables:

- Numbers or special characters at the start (e.g., `1stVar` or `@value`).





Variable Assignment

- Assignment Statement Format:
`variable_name = expression;`
- Examples:
`a = 10;`
`b = 25 + 7;`
`c = sqrt(a)`
- Reassigning Values:
- You can update the value of a variable at any time:
`a = 10;`
`a = a + 5;`





Variables and Assignment in MATLAB

- Variables are memory locations used to store data.
- Variable names can include letters and digits but must start with a letter.
- MATLAB does not require variable declarations, but this can sometimes lead to errors.

- Assignment Example:

`a = 6;`

`name = 'Mark';`





Basic Arithmetic Operators

- MATLAB supports basic arithmetic operators:
 - + : Addition
 - : Subtraction
 - * : Multiplication
 - / : Division
 - ^ : Power
- Examples:
 - $x = 3 + 5;$
 - $y = 10 - 2;$
 - $z = 4 * 7;$
 - $w = 8 / 2;$
 - $p = 3^2;$





Operator Precedence in MATLAB

- Order of Operations:
 - MATLAB follows the PEMDAS rule:
 - Parentheses
 - Exponents (Power ^)
 - Multiplication and Division (*, /)
 - Addition and Subtraction (+, -)
- Examples:
 - `result1 = 3 + 5 * 2;`
 - `result2 = (3 + 5) * 2;`
 - `result3 = 5^2 - 2 * 3;`





Displaying Variables

- Use the `disp` function to display variable contents.
- Example:
`disp(a);`
`disp(name);`
- Alternatively, typing the variable name at the command prompt will display its value.

Entering Matrices in MATLAB

- Steps to type a matrix into MATLAB:
 - Begin with a square bracket **[**.
 - Separate elements in a row with **spaces** or **commas**.
 - Use a semicolon **;** to separate rows.
 - End with a square bracket **]**.
- Example: **$a = [1\ 2\ 3; 4\ 5\ 6; 7\ 8\ 9]$**

```
Command Window

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

a =

     1     2     3
     4     5     6
     7     8     9

fx >> |
```



Generating Matrices with MATLAB

- MATLAB offers functions for generating specific types of matrices:
 - **zeros**(m, n): Generates a matrix filled with zeros.
 - **ones**(m, n): Generates a matrix filled with ones.
 - **randi**(max_val, [m, n]): Generates a matrix with random integers.
 - **eye**(n): Generates an identity matrix.



Generating Matrices with MATLAB

- Examples:

`u = randi(10, [2 2])`

`u =`

7	2
9	4

Command Window

```
>> u = randi(10, [3 3])
```

`u =`

9	8	7
10	8	2
7	4	8



Try on your machine

- `Z = zeros(3, 3);`
- `O = ones(2, 4);`
- `U = randi(5, [3, 3]);`
- `I = eye(4);`





The clear all Command

- Definition: `clear all` removes all variables, functions, and MEX files from the workspace.
- Purpose:
 - To completely reset the workspace.
 - Useful when starting a fresh session or avoiding conflicts.
- Usage:
`clear all;`
- Note: It's more comprehensive than `clear` since it also clears functions and variables.





The clc Command

- Definition: clc clears the Command Window, removing all previous output.
- Purpose:
 - To clean up the Command Window when starting a new calculation or experiment.
- Usage:
`clc`
- Example:
`x = 10;`
`disp(x);`
- After:
`clc`





Commands Review

- `clc`:
 - Clears the Command Window.
 - Does not affect variables or the workspace.
- `clear`:
 - Removes specific variables or all variables if no argument is given.
 - Does not affect functions or the Command Window.
- `clear all`:
 - Clears everything (variables, functions, MEX files).
 - Resets the entire workspace.





Review of Key Concepts

- Recap:
 - How to enter expressions and work with the `ans` variable.
 - Properly `spacing` operations for readability.
 - Creating matrices manually and using matrix generators (zeros, ones, randi, eye).
 - Variable assignment and displaying results using `disp`





Practice Exercise 1

- Create a 5x5 matrix of random integers between 1 and 10.
- Create a 3x3 identity matrix and a 4x4 matrix filled with ones.





Practice Exercise 2



- Assign values to two variables and compute their sum, product, and difference.
- Display the result using disp.





Practice Exercise 3



- Task: Define variables $x=22$, $y=3$, $z=5$.
- Apply the following equations:
 - $\text{Results1} = x + 4 * y + 10$
 - $\text{Results2} = (x * 2) + z / 3$
 - $\text{Results3} = y^z + (x * 2) / 3$





Exercises Submission

- All exercises need to be submitted by Monday 21st Oct 23:59.
- Submit your answers via: <https://forms.gle/VTybujzDdq1r9gULA>





Let's try MATLAB

Launch MATLAB and work towards the exercises

