



Computer Application (MATLAB)

تطبيقات الحاسبة (ماتلاب)
2025-2024

Lecture 3

by

Dr Murtada Dohan

murtada.dohan@uomus.edu.iq





Learning Objectives

- Understand how to write and execute basic MATLAB expressions.
- Learn how to create and manipulate matrices in MATLAB.
- Work with variables and apply assignment statements.
- Familiarize yourself with MATLAB syntax and the use of operators.
- Use comments effectively to document your code.
- Learn commands to manage the workspace, including `clc`, `clear`, and `clear all`





Comments in MATLAB

- Comments are lines of text in your code that MATLAB ignores during execution.
- They are used to explain code, make it more readable, and provide context for yourself and others.
- In MATLAB, comments are written using the percent sign %
- Example:
 - % This is a comment
 - x = 5; % This is another comment





Understanding MATLAB Syntax

- MATLAB Syntax refers to the set of rules that define the structure of valid MATLAB commands.
- Key Components of MATLAB Syntax:
 - Commands and functions.
 - Variables and operators.
 - MATLAB is case-sensitive (e.g., A is different from a)





Basic Structure of MATLAB Expressions

- A MATLAB expression typically consists of variables, operators, and functions.
- General Structure:

`result = expression;`

- Examples:

`x = 5 + 3;`
`y = sqrt(16);`

- The equals sign (=) is used for assignment, where the result of the expression on the right is stored in the variable on the left.





Common Operators in MATLAB

- Arithmetic Operators.
 - + Addition, - Subtraction, * Multiplication, / Division, ^ power.
- Relational Operators.
 - == Equal to, ~= Not equal to, > Greater than, < Less than.
- Logical Operators.
 - && Logical AND, || Logical OR, ~ Logical NOT.





Common Operators in MATLAB

- Example:

$x = 3 + 4;$ % Arithmetic

$y = x > 5;$ % Relational (True/False)

$z = x \&\& y;$ % Logical (True/False)





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;`





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;`





Evaluating Expressions in MATLAB

- Examples:

```
a = 5;
```

```
b = 3;
```

```
result = a + b * 2;
```

- Combining Variables and Functions:

```
result = sqrt(a^2 + b^2);
```

- Note: MATLAB evaluates from left to right, adhering to the order of precedence.





Using Parentheses in MATLAB Expressions

- Purpose of Parentheses:
 - To control the order of operations in complex expressions.
 - Example:
`result = (5 + 3) * (10 - 2);` % Forces addition and subtraction first
- Without Parentheses:
`result = 5 + 3 * 10 - 2;` % MATLAB uses its default precedence rules





Common Syntax Errors and How to Avoid Them

- Missing or Extra Parentheses:
`result = (5 + 3 * 2;` % Missing closing parentheses
- Incorrect Use of Operators:
`result = 5 + * 3;` % Multiplication operator misplaced
- Case Sensitivity::
`a = 5;`
`A = 10;` % 'a' and 'A' are different variables



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);`



Try on your machine

- `Z = zeros(3, 3);`

```
>> Z = zeros(3, 3)
```

```
Z =
```

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

```
>> Z = zeros(1,4)
```

```
Z =
```

```
0 0 0 0
```

```
>> Z = zeros(4,1)
```

```
Z =
```

```
0
0
0
0
```

Try on your machine

- `O = ones(2, 4);`

```
>> O = ones(2, 4)
```

O =

1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1

```
>> O = ones( 4,2)
```

O =

1	1
1	1
1	1
1	1

```
>> O = ones(5)
```

O =

1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1
1	1	1	1	1

Try on your machine

- `U = randi(5, [3, 3]);`

```
>> U = randi(5, [3, 3])
```

U =

5	5	1
1	3	3
5	5	5

```
>> U = randi(1000, [3, 3])
```

U =

793	36	679
960	850	758
656	934	744

```
>> U = randi(15, [4])
```

U =

10	15	12	14
3	6	4	15
2	9	8	9
8	4	11	3

Try on your machine

- `I = eye(4);`

```
>> I = eye(4)
```

```
I =
```

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

```
>> I = eye(5,3)
```

```
I =
```

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

```
>> I = eye(5,1)
```

```
I =
```

```
1
0
0
0
0
```



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

- Basic MATLAB Expressions.
- Matrix Creation.
- Variables and Assignment.
- MATLAB Syntax & Operators.
- Comments %.
- `clc`, `clear` and `clear all`.





Practice Exercise 1

- Assign the variable x a value of 15 and y a value of 5.
- Calculate the result of $(x^2 + y^2)$ and store it in a variable called result.
- Use the disp function to display the value of result.





Practice Exercise 2

- Assign values to variables a, b, and c.
- Compute the quadratic equation $a*x^2 + b*x + c = 0$ for $x = 3$.
- Use the disp function to show the result.
- Add comments to explain each step.





Practice Exercise 3

- Create a 3x3 matrix with random integers between 1 and 20.
- Create a 3x3 matrix with values from 1 to 9.
- Use addition operation to sum the arrays.
- Clear all variables and use `clc` to clear the Command Window.





Exercises Submission

- All exercises need to be submitted by Monday 28 Oct 23:59.
- Submit your answers via: <https://forms.gle/XFW53HAUiEtKuHRK9>





Let's try MATLAB

Launch MATLAB and work towards the exercises

