

**UNIVERSITY OF BOLOGNA – FACULTY OF ENGINEERING**  
**INTERNATIONAL MASTER CORSE IN CIVIL ENGINEERING 2011/2012**  
**INTRODUCTION TO NUMERICAL METHODS**

## LAB1a: MATLAB BASICS

**a)**

Working directly in the Matlab Command Window, create the two matrices  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -6 \\ 6 & 18 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $B = \begin{bmatrix} -1 & -21 \\ 10 & 6 \end{bmatrix}$ , the column vector  $v = [1 \ 2]^T$  and the scalar  $k = 2$ , check the existence (and the value, size, bytes and class) of the four created variables in the Matlab Workspace, then compute:

(ADDITION)	$A + k$	$A + v$	$A + B$	$k + A$	$v + A$	$B + A$
(SUBTRACTION)	$A - k$	$A - v$	$A - B$	$k - A$	$v - A$	$B - A$
(MULTIPLICATION)	$A * k$	$A * v$	$A * B$	$k * A$	$v * A$	$B * A$
	$A .* k$	$A .* v$	$A .* B$	$k .* A$	$v .* A$	$B .* A$
(RIGHT and LEFT DIVISION)	$A / k$	$A / v$	$A / B$	$A \setminus k$	$A \setminus v$	$A \setminus B$
	$A ./ k$	$A ./ v$	$A ./ B$	$A .\setminus k$	$A .\setminus v$	$A .\setminus B$
(EXPONENTIATION)	$v ^ k$	$A ^ k$				
	$v .^ k$	$A .^ k$				
(CONCATENATION)	$A    k$	$A    v$	$A    B$	$\begin{matrix} A \\ = \\ k \end{matrix}$	$\begin{matrix} A \\ = \\ v \end{matrix}$	$\begin{matrix} A \\ = \\ B \end{matrix}$
(TRANSPOSITION)	$k^T$	$v^T$	$A^T$			

PAY ATTENTION!!! Not all the operations are computable: why?

**b)**

Working directly in the Matlab Command Window, create the following matrix and perform the subsequent exercises:

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 6 & -4 & 12 \\ -5 & -9 & 10 & 2 \\ -6 & 12 & 8 & 16 \\ 15 & -3 & 12 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$$

- a) Create a vector  $v$  formed with the elements of the second row of  $A$ ;
- b) Compute the sum of the elements of  $v$ , after these have been divided (element by element) by the elements of the first column of  $A$ ;
- c) Create a matrix  $B$  4x3 formed with all the elements between the second and the fourth column of  $A$ ;

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- d) Create a matrix  $C$   $2 \times 3$  formed with all the elements of the first two rows and the last three columns of  $A$ ;
- e) Create  $A^t$  ;
- f) Create a vector  $v$  formed with the minimums of the elements in each column of  $A^t$
- g) Create a vector  $v$  formed with the maximums of the elements in each row of  $A^t$
- h) Create a vector  $v$  formed with the sums of the elements in each row of  $A^t$
- i) Compute the sum of all the elements of  $A$ .

**c)**

Compute the sum of the first  $n$  natural numbers  $\sum_{k=1}^n k = \frac{n(n+1)}{2}$  by creating and then using:

- 1) a Matlab **script**
- 2) a Matlab **function**

Which is the difference between **script** and **function**?

**d)**

An object is thrown vertically upwards with an initial velocity  $v_0$  and reaches a height  $h$  in a time  $t$ , where  $h = v_0 t - \frac{gt^2}{2}$ . Write a Matlab function that calculates the time  $t$  required for reaching a given height  $h$ , for a given value of  $v_0$ . The function inputs are  $h$ ,  $v_0$  and  $g$ .

Test the function in the cases: a)  $h = 170$  m,  $v_0 = 60$  m/sec e  $g = 9.81$  m/s<sup>2</sup>  
 b)  $h = 200$  m,  $v_0 = 60$  m/sec e  $g = 9.81$  m/s<sup>2</sup> : What can you conclude?

[case a) 4.4580 - 7.7744 ; case b) complex result ]

**e)**

After exploring (by the Matlab help) the following commands for the creation of special matrices:

▪ <b>zeros</b>	zero matrix
▪ <b>ones</b>	matrix of ones
▪ <b>eye</b>	identity matrix
▪ <b>diag</b>	diagonal matrix
▪ <b>tril</b>	lower triangular matrix
▪ <b>triu</b>	upper triangular matrix
▪ <b>hilb</b>	Hilbert matrix
▪ <b>vander</b>	Vandermonde matrix
▪ <b>rand</b>	matrix of random numbers
▪ <b>magic</b>	matrix with equal row, column and diagonal sums

write a Matlab function for the creation of a tridiagonal  $n \times n$  matrix  $A = \{a_{ij}\}_{i,j=1,\dots,n}$  with:

$$a_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } |i-j| > 1 \\ 2|i-j| + 1 & \text{if } |i-j| \leq 1 \end{cases}$$

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**f)**

After exploring (by the Matlab help) the potentialities of the command **plot** (in particular, how to plot with given **color**, **style** and **marker**), write a Matlab script that plots in the same graph the following two functions:

$$y = \cosh(x) , \quad y = 0.5e^x \quad \text{for } x \in [-2, 2]$$

using different types of line and a legend in order to distinguish the curves.

**g)**

Write a Matlab script that plots the following functions in three different figures:

- $y = x^3 - 4x$   $x \in [-3, 3]$
- $y = 3\cos(2x) - 2\cos(x)$   $x \in [0, 2\pi]$
- $y = \frac{\sin(2x)}{x}$   $x \in [-6\pi, 6\pi]$  (PAY ATTENTION TO THE DOMAIN!)

**h)**

After exploring (by the Matlab help) the command **plot3**, write a Matlab script that plots the curve  $f(t)$  defined by the following parametric equations:

$$f(t) : \begin{cases} x = a \cdot t \cdot \cos(t) \\ y = a \cdot t \cdot \sin(t) \\ z = b \cdot t \end{cases}$$

where  $a$  and  $b$  are real constants.

Create a plot of the curve  $f(t)$  for each of the following four cases:

- a)  $b = 0.1$
  - b)  $b = 0.5$
  - c)  $b = -0.1$
  - d)  $b = -5$
- set  $a = 1$  and  $-10\pi \leq t \leq 10\pi$

Compare the four obtained plots by means of the command *subplot*.