

## Matlab-quick reference sheet (Pekka Alestalo/Heikki Apiola)

1. `help`, `doc`
2. Use semicolon (;) to prevent display, WATCH OUT for extensive outputs. (CTR-C in the command window may help.) Write the name of your variable (without semicolon) to see its contents.  
If the variable is large, choose a smaller part like: `A(1:10,1:10)`  
Or use the **variable editor**. For that, click the “variable” icon in the “workspace-window”.
3. The result of the previous unassigned command is in the variable `ans`. It will be overwritten by the next command. **Recommendation:** Usually assign results to named variables: `name = ...;`
4. The uparrow key (↑) let’s you scroll and edit the previous commands.
5. `format long`: Display max nr. of decimal digits ( 16). Doesn’t affect accuracy of computation.  
`format rational`  
`format short`: Back to default  
`format compact`: Less empty lines in output display.
6. Create matrix: `A=[2 4 3;0 1 -1;3 5 7]`.  
Create row vector: `v=[1 2 3]` or column vector: `v=[1;2;3]`
7. Matrix product: `C=A*B`,  $A$  is  $m \times p$ ,  $B$  is  $p \times n$ ,  $C$  is  $m \times n$   
Array product `C=A.*B`, generally: `A .op B`, same sizes or one is scalar.
8. Matrix operations dominate in general (Matrix laboratory). `A*B`, `A^p`.  
Array operations (pointwise) are `(.*)`, `(.^)`, `(./)`  
`u=[1 2 3]`, `v=[-2 -2 -2]`, `u.*v` `u.^3` (long form: `u.(3*ones(size(u)))`)
9. Transpose: `A'` (Conjugates also if complex entries).
10. Creating vectors (other than listing): `1:10`, `1:2:20`, `1:-0.1:-1`  
`linspace(a,b,N)`, default `N=100`.  
Column vector by transpose.
11. Indexing:  
`A(i,j)` Entry (i,j).  
`A(2,:)` Second row.  
`A(:,3)` Third column.  
`A(1:4,1:4)` rows 1:4, columns 1:4  
Update part of matrix:  
`A(1:4,1:4)=ones(4,4)` or for instance:  
`A(2,:)=A(2,:)-2*A(:,1)` (Gauss’s row operation).
12. Concatenation of matrices: If  $A$  and  $B$  have equal nr. of rows, you can catenate side by side  
`[A B]` (or `[A, B]`).  
If equal nr.of columns, then on top of each other: `[A;B]`
13. `plot`:  
Create  $x$ -vector as discretized  $x$ -axis, compute  $y = f(x)$  for function  $f$ ,  
`plot(x,y)`;  
Example: `x=linspace(-1,1,60)`; `y=x.^2`; `plot(x,y)`
14. 3d-plot: on a grid of  $xy$ -plane, obtained by `meshgrid`-command.  
Example:  $f(x,y) = \sin x \cos y$  on the square:  $[-\pi, \pi] \times [-2\pi, 2\pi]$ .  

```
>> x=linspace(-pi,pi,25);
>> y=linspace(-2*pi,2*pi,50);
>> [X,Y]=meshgrid(x,y);
>> Z=cos(X).*sin(Y);
>> mesh(x,y,Z) % Wireframe
>> surf(x,y,Z) % Surface (also surf1, surfc, colorbar,...)
>> contour(x,y,Z) % Contours (also contourf, ...)
```
15. **Function handle** Let  $f = (x,y) \rightarrow \cos(x) \sin(y)$   
Define “function handle”:  
`f=@(x,y) cos(x).*sin(y)`,  $x$  and  $y$  have to be same size. In the previous one can do: `Z=f(X,Y)`  
 $f$  gets “at (x,y) the value  $\cos(x)\sin(y)$ ”