

# Matlab cheat sheet

## Numbers and variables

```
Multiple instructions can go in a .m file (script).  
a = 5e7 %means 5·107  
b = 2; %semicolons suppress output  
c = 3.5+2i %complex numbers  
a = b * c  
format('long') %displays more digits  
a = 2*sqrt(pi) + exp(1)  
help('length') %shows docs
```

## Flow control

```
if a == 5 && b <= 6  
    y = true  
else  
    y = false  
end  
  
|| is 'or'; ~ is 'not'; a ~= b is 'not equal'
```

```
while x < 10  
    x = x + 1  
end
```

```
for x = 1:10  
    disp(x)  
end  
for x = 10:-1:1 %loop backwards  
    disp(x)  
end  
v = [2, 3, 5, 7, 11];  
for x = v %RHS can be any vector  
    fprintf('%d is prime\n', x)  
end
```

## Functions

One function per file (usually), named as the function + .m

```
function y = sum_two_numbers(a, b)  
% the first comment is a docstring  
y = a + b; %value of y at end of evaluation returned
```

```
function [x, y] = returns_multiple_values(a, b)  
x = a + b;  
y = a - b;
```

```
f = @(a, b) a + b; %lambda expression  
f(1, 2)  
some_function(@f) %to pass a function as an argument
```

## Vectors and matrices

```
M = [1 2 3; 4 5 6]  
M = [M N; P Q] %concatenate matrices with same syntax  
M = zeros(2, 3) %2x3 zero matrix  
M = zeros(4) %square 4x4  
M = ones(2, 3)  
rand(2, 3) %uniform random in [0, 1]  
randn(2, 3) %normal distribution N(0, 1)  
size(M), length(v), sum(v), max(v)  
2:5 %range [2, 3, 4, 5]  
1:2:10 %range [1, 3, 5, 7, 9]  
5:-1:1 %range [5, 4, 3, 2, 1]  
Indexes start with 1 (boo).  
v(1), M(1:5, 1:2), v(2:end), M(end:-1:1, end:-1:1)  
Writing out of range resizes the matrix (wtf?!):  
M(7, 9) = 2.5 %now M is at least 7x9, padded with zeros  
v + w, v .* w, v ./ w, v.^ w %elementwise  
sin(v), abs(M), sqrt(v) %elementwise
```

## Linear algebra

```
A * B %linear algebra row-by-column product  
det(A), inv(A) %usually avoided in numerics  
A \ b %same as inv(A)*b, but more efficient  
rowvector / A %same as rowvector * inv(A)  
eig(A)  
norm(v, 1), norm(v, inf), norm(M, 'fro')  
norm(v) %same as norm(v, 2)  
M' %transpose conjugate
```

## Matrix decompositions

```
[P, L, U] = lu(A)  
[Q, R] = qr(A)  
[Q, T] = schur(A)  
[V, D] = eig(A) %eigvecs=columns of V, eigvals=diag(D)  
[U, S, V] = svd(A)  
[Q, R] = qr(A, 0), [U, S, V] = svd(A, 0) %economy-sized
```

## Sparse matrices

```
M = sparse(7, 9) %7x9 all zeros  
M(2,3) = 5 %work like dense matrices in most cases  
nnz(M) %number of nonzeros  
[V, D] = eigs(A, 10) %top 10 eigenvalues  
[U, S, V] = svds(A, 10) %singular values  
spy(A) %plot sparsity pattern
```

## Plots

```
plot(x, y) %line joining (x(1),y(1)) -- (x(2),y(2)) -- ...  
plot(x, y1, x2, y2) %multiple plots  
hold('on'), hold('off') %keeps previous plot  
semilogx(x, y), semilogy(x, y), loglog(x, y) %log scales  
plot(x, y, 'rx') %set plot options  
Colors: ymcrgbwk, markers: o*.*xsd, styles: - - - : - - .
```

## Debugging

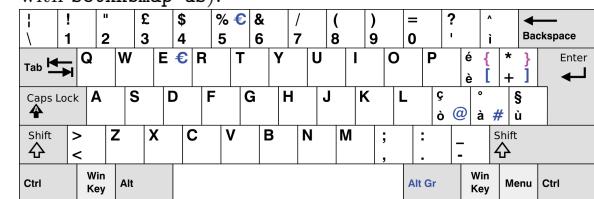
To toggle breakpoints: click on the left of a line in the IDE.  
The debugger has prompt K>>. dbstop if error %starts debugger on error dbquit %quits debugger

## Optimization toolbox

```
linprog(c, A, b, Aeq, beq, lb, ub)  
%solve the linear optimization problem  
%min c'*x  
%A*x <= b  
%Aeq*x = beq  
%lb <= x <= ub  
quadprog(Q, c, A, b, Aeq, beq, lb, ub)  
%solve the quadratic optimization problem  
%min 0.5*x'*Q*x + c'*x  
%A*x <= b  
%Aeq*x = beq  
%lb <= x <= ub  
fminunc('f', x0, options)  
%solve the unconstrained optimization problem  
%min f(x)  
%x in domain(f)  
%with starting point x0 and possible options
```

## Keyboard issues

To set the Italian keyboard on Linux: setxkbmap it (undo with setxkbmap us).



To set MATLAB keyboard shortcuts to the Windows default (e.g. copy with CTRL+C): Preferences (top-right in the ribbon) → Matlab → Keyboard → Shortcuts → Active set → Windows default set.