

Matlab: A Matrix Laboratory

- Developed in the early 1980's by Cleve Moler.
- Originally only for matrix computations.

MATLAB is an integrated technical computing environment that combines numeric computation, advanced graphics and visualization, and a high-level programming language. MATLAB includes hundreds of functions for:

- Data analysis and visualization
- Numeric and symbolic computation
- Engineering and scientific graphics
- Modeling, simulation, and prototyping
- Programming, application development, and GUI design.

Some features of MATLAB:

- An interactive interface: allows rapid experimentation and easy debugging.
- High-quality graphics and visualization facilities.
- Quick and easy coding.
- No need of declaration for arrays.
- Portable MATLAB M-files.
- Toolboxes

How to access MATLAB (linux)

On a terminal window, type `matlab`.

How to exit MATLAB (linux)

type `quit` or `exit`.

For Windows XP and Mac, click the MATLAB icon.

Some points you should keep in mind when you use MATLAB:

- MATLAB is case sensitive.
- Typing the name of a variable will cause MATLAB to display its current value.
- A semicolon at the end of a command suppresses the screen output.
- MATLAB uses () and [], and they are not interchangeable.
- ↑ and ↓ on the keyboard can be used to scroll through the previous commands.
- Type `help topic` to access online help on the command or function.