

## More on Vectors & Strings

Lecture 12 (Feb 28)  
CS100M - Spring 2008

## Topics for Today

- Vector-related functions
  - length, zeros, ones, std
  - Revisit: rand, randn, max
- String related functions
  - isletter, isspace, lower, upper, ischar
- Row and column vectors
- Strings

## Special Functions for Creating Vectors

- Some vectors are used so often that there are special functions for creating them

`zeros(1, 5)` % A vector of length 5 holding all zeros  
0 0 0 0 0

`ones(1, 3)` % A vector of length 3 holding all ones  
1 1 1

`rand(1, 4)` % A vector of length 4 holding random numbers  
0.9501 0.2311 0.6068 0.4860

## Why the extra arguments?

- Matlab (= Matrix Laboratory) uses matrices (2D arrays) as its default

- Thus, `zeros(3, 4)` produces a 3-by-4 matrix of zeros
 

```
0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0
0 0 0 0
```
- `zeros(1, 5)` produces a 1-by-5 matrix (i.e., a single row of a matrix; also called a *row vector*)
 

```
0 0 0 0 0
```
- `zeros(5, 1)` produces a 5-by-1 matrix (i.e., a single column of a matrix; also called a *column vector*)
 

```
0
0
0
0
0
```

## Row and Column Vectors

```
>> v = [1 2 3]
```

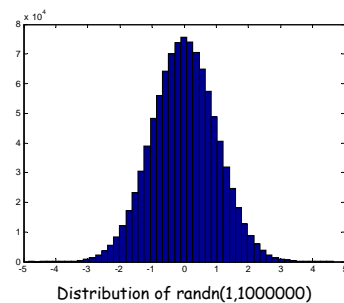
```
v =
    1    2    3
```

```
>> v = [1; 2; 3]
```

```
v =
    1
    2
    3
```

Note the semicolons

## Normal Distribution with Zero Mean and Unit STD



## Sanity Check

```
>> n = 1000000;
>> x = randn(1,n);

>> ave = sum(x)/n
ave =
-0.0017

>> standDev = std(x)
standDev =
0.9989
```

Most of the Matlab built-in functions can work on vectors

## Length

```
>> v = randn(1, 5);
>> n = length(v)

n =
5

>> u = randn(5, 1);
>> n = length(u)

n =
5
```

The length function doesn't care about row or column orientation

## Appending to a Vector

- Appending to a row vector
- Appending to a column vector

```
>> x = [11, 22];
x =
11 22

>> x = [x 33];
x =
11 22 33
```

```
>> x = [11; 22];
x =
11
22

>> x = [x; 33];
x =
11
22
33
```

Note the semicolons

## Concatenating Vectors

- Concatenating row vectors
- Concatenating column vectors

```
>> x = [11 22];
x =
11 22

>> y = [33 44 55];
y =
33 44 55

>> z = [x y];
z =
11 22 33 44 55
```

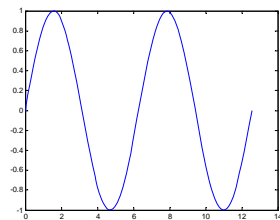
```
>> x = [11;22;33];
>> y = [44; 55];
>> z = [x; y];
z =
11
22
33
44
55
```

Note the semicolons

## An Application

- Plot sine across  $[0, 4\pi]$  and use the fact that it has period  $2\pi$

```
x = linspace(0, 2*pi, 100);
y = sin(x);
x = [x x+2*pi];
y = [y y];
plot(x,y)
```



## The Empty Vector

```
x = [ ];
for k=1:50
    if floor(sqrt(k)) == sqrt(k)
        x = [x; k];
    end
end
x
```

```
x =
1
4
9
16
25
36
49
```

## Vector Mistakes

## Mistake: Dimension Mismatch

```
>> x = [1 2]
```

```
x =  
    1    2
```

```
>> y = [3; 4]
```

```
y =  
     3  
     4
```

Can't add a row-vector to a column-vector!

```
>> z = x + y
```

??? Error using ==> plus  
Matrix dimensions must agree.

## Mistake: Wanted Vector, Got Matrix

```
>> x = randn(3)
```

```
x =
```

```
-0.1867  2.1832  1.0668  
 0.7258 -0.1364  0.0593  
-0.5883  0.1139 -0.0956
```

Probably meant  
randn(1,3) or  
randn(3,1)

## Mistake: Subscript Out of Range

```
>> x = [11 22 33]
```

```
x =
```

```
    11    22    33
```

```
>> b = x(4)
```

??? Index exceeds matrix dimensions.

## But This is OK...

```
>> x = [11 22 33]
```

```
x =  
    11    22    33
```

```
>> x(4) = 44
```

```
x =  
    11    22    33    44
```

```
>> x(7) = 77
```

```
x =  
    11    22    33    44     0     0    77
```

This is  
OK, too!

## Mistake: Forgot the Semicolon

```
x = randn(1000000, 1)
```

Remember!: ctrl-C

## Will this cause a subscript out of bounds error?

```
x = zeros(1,1);
for k=1:3
    x = [x x];
end
y = x(7)
```

No!

- How x changes:  
After 1st pass: [0 0]  
After 2nd pass: [0 0 0 0]  
After 3rd pass: [0 0 0 0 0 0 0]  
So y = x(7) makes sense.

## Another Shortcut for Creating Vectors

- We were already creating vectors when we were using for-loops

```
• ":" notation
vec = 1:7;      % [1 2 3 4 5 6 7]
vec = 10:-2:0  % [10 8 6 4 2 0]
```

- FYI

- The for-loop actually converts the ":" notation into a vector before it executes
- A for-loop will work with *any* vector!  
(e.g., `for k = [2 3 5 7 11 13 17 19]`)

## Matlab Strings

- You've been using strings

```
▪ n = input('Next number: ');
▪ fprintf('The answer is %d.', answer);
▪ title('The Sine Function')
```

- 'Next number: ' and  
'The answer is %d.' and  
'The Sine Function' are all *strings*

## Single Quotes

- Anything enclosed in single quotes is a string

- '100' is a string (i.e., a character vector) of length 3
- 100 is a numeric value
- 'pi' is a string of length 2
- pi is a predefined constant (= 3.14159...)
- 'x' is a character (also a string of length 1)
- x is a variable name

## A String is a Vector of Characters

- A string is made up of individual characters
  - The string 'CS100M rules' consists of 12 characters (8 letters, 3 digits, and 1 space)
- In Matlab, a string is a *vector* of characters
  - Since a string is a vector, it uses the same indexing scheme as any other vector

## Strings as Vectors

- | Vectors  | Strings  |
|--|--|
| • Indexing<br>v = [7 0 5];<br>x = v(3);    % x is 5<br>v(1) = 1;    % v is [1 0 5] | • Indexing<br>s = 'hello';<br>c = s(2);    % c is 'e'<br>s(1) = 'J';  % s is 'Jello' |
| • ":" notation<br>v = 2:5;     % v is [2 3 4 5]                                    | • ":" notation<br>s = 'a': 'g'; % s is 'abcdefg'                                     |
| • Appending<br>v = [7 0 5];<br>v(4) = 2;    % v is [7 0 5 2]                       | • Appending<br>s = 'duck';<br>s(5) = 's';  % s is 'ducks'                            |
| • Concatenation<br>v = [v [4 6]]<br>% v is [7 0 5 2 4 6]                           | • Concatenation<br>s = [s 'quack']<br>% s is 'ducks quack'                           |

## Some Useful String Functions

```
str = 'CS100M rules';

isletter(str)    % [ 1 1 0 0 0 1 0 1 1 1 1 1 ]
isspace(str)    % [ 0 0 0 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 0 0 ]

s = lower(str);  % s is 'cs100m rules'
s = upper(str);  % s is 'CS100M RULES'

ischar(str);    % Is str a char array? 1 (= true)
```

## ASCII

(American Standard Code for Information Interchange)

ASCII Code	Character	ASCII Code	Character
48	'0'	97	'a'
49	'1'	98	'b'
50	'2'	99	'c'
51	'3'	...	...
...	...	122	'z'
65	'A'	...	...
66	'B'	127	DEL
67	'C'	...	...
...	...	...	...
90	'Z'	...	...
...	...	...	...

## Characters ↔ ASCII Code

```
str = 'CS100M';    % Vector (1D array) of characters

code = double(str); % Converts each character to a number;
                    % code is a standard Matlab vector

s = char(code);    % Converts a vector of numbers into
                    % a string (i.e., a vector of characters)
```

## Character Arithmetic

- You can do "math" with characters

```
'd' - 'a'    % Produces 3
'9' - '8'    % Produces 1
'a' < 'd'    % Produces 1 (= true)
'd' < 'b'    % Produces 0 (= false)
'Z' < 'b'    % Produces 1 (= true)
              % Because 90, the ASCII code for 'Z',
              % is less than 98, the ASCII code for 'b'

'a' + 2      % Produces 99
char('a'+2)  % Produces 'c'
```

## Example: toUpper

- Goal: Write `toUpper()`, our own version of Matlab's `upper()`, a function to convert a string to all uppercase
  - We want to do this without using Matlab's function `upper()`
- Function header

```
function str = toUpper(str)
% Post: Convert string so all letters are upper case
% Pre: Input is a string
```
- Idea: Note that 'a' - 'A' has the same value as 'b' - 'B' which has the same value as 'c' - 'C', etc.
  - All we have to do is subtract the right number from a lowercase letter and we'll have the equivalent uppercase letter

## Example: Capitalize First Letters

- Goal:
  - Write a function to capitalize just the first letter of each word in a string
  - Assume the string consists entirely of letters and spaces
- Function header

```
function result = capitalize(str)
% Post: Convert string so each word has just first letter capitalized
% Pre: Input string consists entirely of letters & spaces
```

Post = What is supposed to have happened when function is done (i.e., what the function does)  
Pre = What assumptions are being made when function starts