

MATLAB Tidbits for Mids

1. Common midshipman errors when using MATLAB:
 - a. Multiplying matrices (vectors) with improper dimensions.
 - b. Trying to run a function or program when its m-file is NOT in the MATLAB path.
 - c. Naming a function or program to be the same name as an existing MATLAB function.
 - d. Trying to access the 0th element of a matrix or vector.
 - e. Trying to access a value of a matrix or vector that is out of bounds, e.g., trying to access the 5th element of a 1×4 vector.
 - f. Dividing by 0 in a program or function. Sometimes it causes an error, sometimes not. Just be aware of it.

2. Important recommendations:
 - a. Use script files (m-files) to write your assignments in, instead of writing separate commands on the command line. It will pay off greatly in the amount of time you spend writing code and correcting errors.
 - b. Every day, when using an ECE department computer, email yourself your m-files (or other documents you've created) or put them on an external hard drive...this is the best way to back up your work. Also, bring all of your files with you when you need to use the computers.
 - c. Don't name your m-files the same name as MATLAB built-in functions; you can check if it already exists by using the **which** command. This command will give you the path to that function, if it exists. For example, type **which plot**.