

**sizeof()** — Number of bytes consumed by object

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## Description

`sizeof(A)` returns the number of bytes consumed by  $A$ .

## Syntax

*real scalar*    `sizeof(transmorphic matrix A)`

## Remarks and examples

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`sizeof(A)` returns the same number as shown by `mata describe`; see [M-3] [mata describe](#).

A  $500 \times 5$  real matrix consumes 20,000 bytes:

```
: sizeof(mymatrix)
20000
```

A  $500 \times 5$  view matrix, however, consumes only 24 bytes:

```
: sizeof(myview)
24
```

To obtain the number of bytes consumed by a function, pass a dereferenced function pointer:

```
: sizeof(&myfcn())
320
```

## Conformability

`sizeof(A)`:

```
  A:     r × c
result:  1 × 1
```

## Diagnostics

The number returned by `sizeof(A)` does not include any overhead, which usually amounts to 64 bytes, but can be less (as small as zero in the case of recently used scalars).

If  $A$  is a pointer matrix, the number returned reflects the amount of memory required to store  $A$  itself and does not include the memory consumed by its siblings.

## Also see

[M-4] [programming](#) — Programming functions