Many undergraduate linear algebra courses have a scientific computing component, and MATLAB is a popular choice of language. In a traditional lecture-based linear algebra course, students can find it difficult to see MATLAB work as significant or meaningful. Last spring, I designed and ran a project-based course in applied linear algebra in which assignments and student work were presented entirely through MATLAB .m files. I’ll describe the technical and social challenges that I and my students faced over the course of the semester, a selection of the prompts that I developed with my students, and what I learned about the importance of a robust feedback cycle.

To me, creativity in the classroom is about legitimizing student voices. As such, I asked an aspiring mathematics educator who was a student in the course if he would present his perspective. I hope that my talk will be one half of a pair in this session: I can tell you about what I hoped students would find inspiring, and he’ll tell you a specific story of inspiration. (Received September 25, 2018)