

# Geometric means of matrices: analysis and algorithms

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**Cor:  
Happy 60th**



# Outline

- 1 The problem and its motivations
- 2 Riemannian means
  - The ALM mean
  - A new definition
  - The cheap mean
  - The Karcher mean
- 3 Structured mean: definition and algorithms
- 4 Bibliography

## The Problem and its motivations

In certain applications we are given a set of  $k$  positive definite matrices  $A_1, \dots, A_k \in \mathcal{P}_n$  which represent measures of some physical object

### Problem:

To compute an average  $G = G(A_1, \dots, A_k) \in \mathcal{P}_n$  such that

$$G(A_1, \dots, A_k)^{-1} = G(A_1^{-1}, \dots, A_k^{-1})$$

Elasticity tensor analysis, image processing, radar detection, subdivision schemes, [Hearmon 1952, Moakher 2006, Barbaresco 2009, Barachant et al. 2010, Itai, Sharon 2012] ;

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**An additional request:** If  $A_1, \dots, A_k \in \mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{P}_n$  then it is required that  $G \in \mathcal{A}$ . In the design of certain radar systems [Farina, Fortunati 2011], [Barbaresco 2009]  $\mathcal{A}$  is the set of Toeplitz matrices.

## Means of two matrices: an “easy” case

Many authors analyzed the problem of extending the concept of geometric mean from scalars to matrices [Anderson, Trapp, Ando, Li, Mathias, Bhatia, Holbrook, Kosaki, Lawson, Lim, Moakher, Petz, Temesi,...]

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- $G(A, B) := (AB)^{1/2}$ : drawbacks  $G(A, B) \notin \mathcal{P}_n$ ,  $G(A, B) \neq G(B, A)$
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A good definition

$$G(A, B) = A(A^{-1}B)^{1/2} = A^{1/2}(A^{-1/2}BA^{-1/2})^{1/2}A^{1/2}$$

This mean is uniquely defined by the Ando-Li-Mathias (ALM) axioms: ten properties that a “good” mean should satisfy

- P1 Consistency with scalars. If  $A, B$  commute then  $G(A, B) = (AB)^{1/2}$
- P2 Joint homogeneity.  $G(\alpha A, \beta B) = (\alpha\beta)^{1/2}G(A, B)$ ,  $\alpha, \beta > 0$
- P3 Permutation invariance.  $G(A, B) = G(B, A)$

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- P4 Monotonicity. If  $A \succeq A'$ ,  $B \succeq B'$ , then  $G(A, B) \succeq G(A', B')$
- P5 Continuity from above. If  $A_j, B_j$  are monotonic decreasing sequences converging to  $A, B$ , respectively, then  $\lim_j G(A_j, B_j) = G(A, B)$
- P6 Joint concavity. If  $A = \lambda A_1 + (1 - \lambda)A_2$ ,  $B = \lambda B_1 + (1 - \lambda)B_2$ , then

$$G(A, B) \succeq \lambda G(A_1, B_1) + (1 - \lambda)G(A_2, B_2)$$

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P9 Determinant identity  $\det G(A, B) = (\det A \det B)^{1/2}$

P10 Arithmetic–geometric–harmonic mean inequality:

$$\left( \frac{A^{-1} + B^{-1}}{2} \right)^{-1} \preceq G(A, B) \preceq \frac{A + B}{2}.$$

## Motivation in terms of Riemannian geometry

Several authors [Bhatia, Holbrook, Lim, Moakher, Lawson] studied the geometry of positive definite matrices endowed with the Riemannian metric with the distance defined by

$$d(A, B) = \|\log(A^{-1/2}BA^{-1/2})\|_F$$

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It holds that

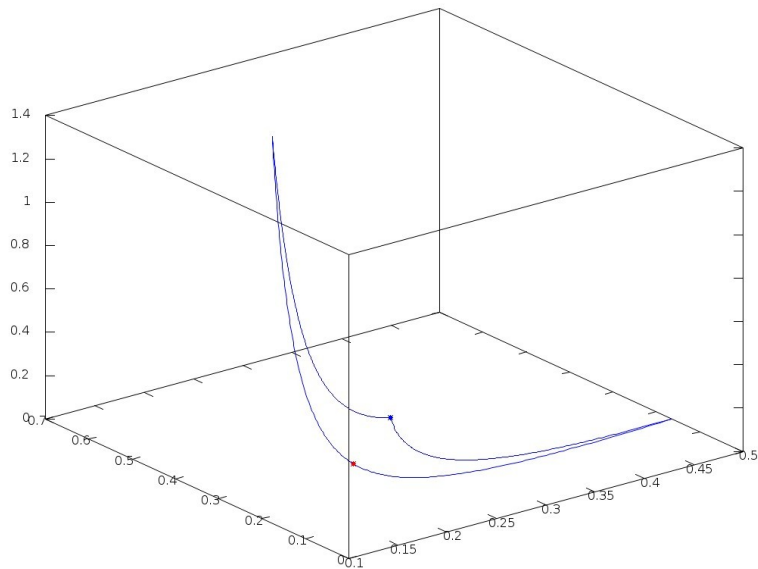
$$d(A, B) = d(A^{-1}, B^{-1})$$

moreover, the geodesic joining  $A$  and  $B$  has equation

$$\gamma(t) = A(A^{-1}B)^t, \quad t \in [0, 1],$$

thus  $G(A, B) = A(A^{-1}B)^{\frac{1}{2}}$  is the **midpoint** of the geodesic joining  $A$  and  $B$

# Explog mean and geometric mean





# Explog mean and geometric mean

The explog mean does not satisfy the following ALM properties

- P4 Monotonicity
- P7 Congruence invariance

## The ALM mean: The case of $k \geq 3$ matrices

### Remark

The ALM-properties *uniquely* define the geometric mean of *two* matrices  $A$  and  $B$

For  $k > 2$  matrices there exist *infinitely many* matrix means satisfying the ALM-properties

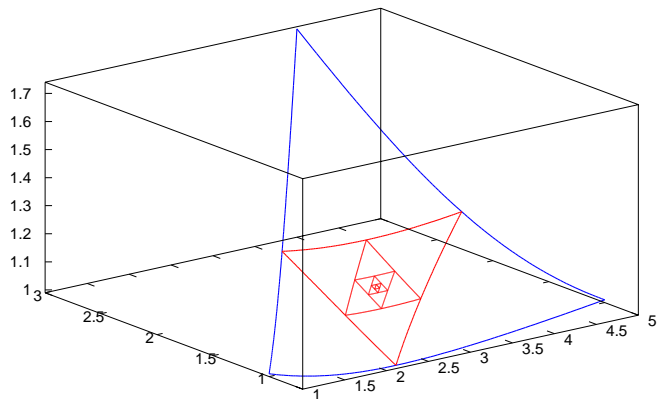
One of these means is the Ando–Li–Mathias (ALM) mean

The ALM mean [Ando–Li–Mathias, 2003]:

$$\begin{array}{lll} A_1 = G(B, C) & A_2 = G(B_1, C_1) & A_3 = G(B_2, C_2) \\ B_1 = G(C, A) & B_2 = G(C_1, A_1) & B_3 = G(C_2, A_2) \quad \dots \\ C_1 = G(A, B) & C_2 = G(A_1, B_1) & C_3 = G(A_2, B_2) \end{array}$$

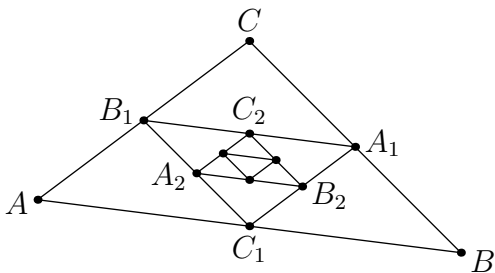
The three sequences have a common limit defined as the ALM mean  $G_{ALM}(A, B, C)$

# Computing the ALM mean



## Remark

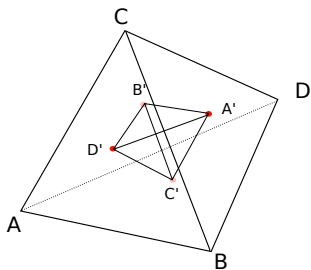
*The same construction in the Euclidean geometry converges to the centroid of the triangle  $ABC$ .*



# Properties of the ALM mean

Recursively generalizable to  $k \geq 4$  matrices  $A_1, \dots, A_k$

$$A_i^{(\nu+1)} = G(A_1^{(\nu)}, \dots, A_{i-1}^{(\nu)}, A_{i+1}^{(\nu)}, \dots, A_k^{(\nu)}), \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$



- it satisfies the 10 ALM properties
- **problem:** slow convergence (linear with rate  $1/2$ )
- **problem:** complexity  $O(k! p^k n^3)$ ,  $p$ : number of iterations

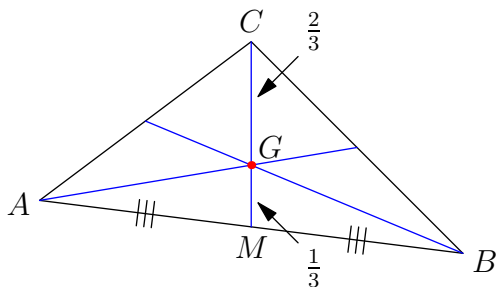
We may provide a different definition which leads to a substantial algorithmic improvement [B., Meini, Poloni, 2010], [Nakamura 2009]

In fact we overcome the first drawback about the slow convergence

It is based on the following

### Remark

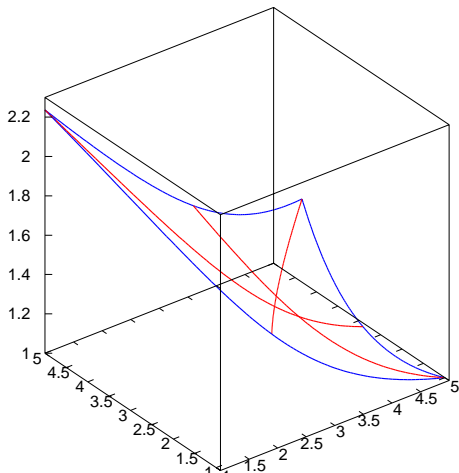
*The three medians of a triangle meet at a single point, the centroid, at  $\frac{2}{3}$  of their length.*



# What happens with matrices?

## Problem

In the Riemannian geometry the medians (geodesics) generally **do not intersect**



## A new definition

Define  $A_1, B_1, C_1$  the points in the medians at distance  $2/3$  from the vertices  $A, B, C$ , respectively.

Generally,  $A_1, B_1$  and  $C_1$  are pairwise different

Similarly, define  $A_2, B_2, C_2$  from  $A_1B_1C_1$  and so forth

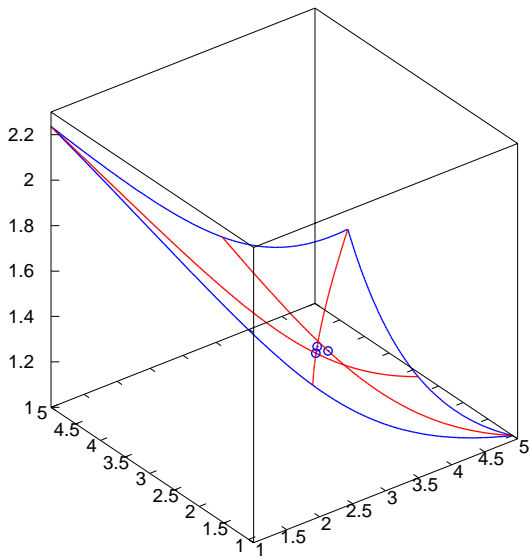
$$A_{\nu+1} = A_{\nu} \#_{\frac{2}{3}} (B_{\nu} \#_{\frac{1}{2}} C_{\nu})$$

$$B_{\nu+1} = B_{\nu} \#_{\frac{2}{3}} (C_{\nu} \#_{\frac{1}{2}} A_{\nu})$$

$$C_{\nu+1} = C_{\nu} \#_{\frac{2}{3}} (A_{\nu} \#_{\frac{1}{2}} B_{\nu})$$

where  $A \#_t B := \gamma(t) = A^{-1}(AB)^t$  is the matrix in the geodesic joining  $A$  and  $B$  at distance  $t$  from  $A$





## Properties and remarks

### Theorem (A new mean)

*For any positive definite matrices  $A, B, C$ , the sequences  $A_\nu, B_\nu, C_\nu$  obtained this way converge to the same limit. We define this limit  $G(A, B, C)$  as the geometric mean of  $A, B, C$*

### Theorem (Convergence with order 3)

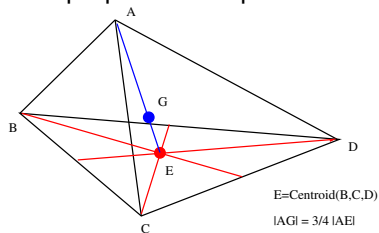
*The convergence speed is of **order three**, that is the error is  $O(\lambda^{3\nu})$ , for  $0 < \lambda < 1$ , while for the ALM mean the error is  $O(2^{-\nu})$ .*

### Theorem (ALM properties)

*In general  $G(A, B, C)$  is **different** from  $G_{ALM}(A, B, C)$ , but fulfills the 10 ALM properties*

## Properties and remarks

The mean can be generalized to  $k \geq 4$  matrices; for  $k = 4$  the barycenter of a tetrahedron is in the segment joining each vertex with the centroid of the triangle (facet) formed by the remaining points, at distance  $3/4$ ; the nice properties are preserved.



In general one has:

$$A_i^{(\nu+1)} = A_i^{(\nu)} \#_{\frac{k-1}{k}} G(A_1^{(\nu)}, \dots, A_{i-1}^{(\nu)}, A_{i+1}^{(\nu)}, \dots, A_k^{(\nu)}),$$

complexity  $O(k! p^k n^3)$ ,  $p$ : number of iterations

# Some numbers

5  
1.92542947898189  
2.90969918536362  
2.35774114351751  
2.61639158463414  
2.48316587472793  
2.54876054375880  
2.51571460655576  
2.53217471946628  
2.52392903948587  
2.52804796243998  
2.52598752310721  
2.52701749813482  
2.52650244948321  
2.52675995852183  
2.52663120018107  
2.52669557839604  
2.52666338904971  
2.52667948366316  
2.52667143634151

5  
2.59890269690271  
2.53027293208879  
2.53025171828977  
2.53025171828977

## Example

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 5 & 2 \\ 2 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \quad B = \begin{bmatrix} 4 & 3 \\ 3 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \quad C = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 5 \end{bmatrix}$$

*The entry  $a_{11}$  is displayed at step  $i$*

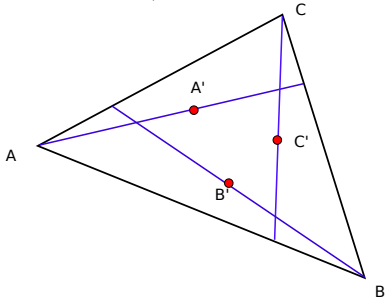
*Left: ALM mean*

*Right: New mean*

**Physical applications:** speedup by a factor of 200  
(mean of  $k = 6$  matrices)

## A general class of means

Given  $0 < s, t \leq 1$  define the sequences



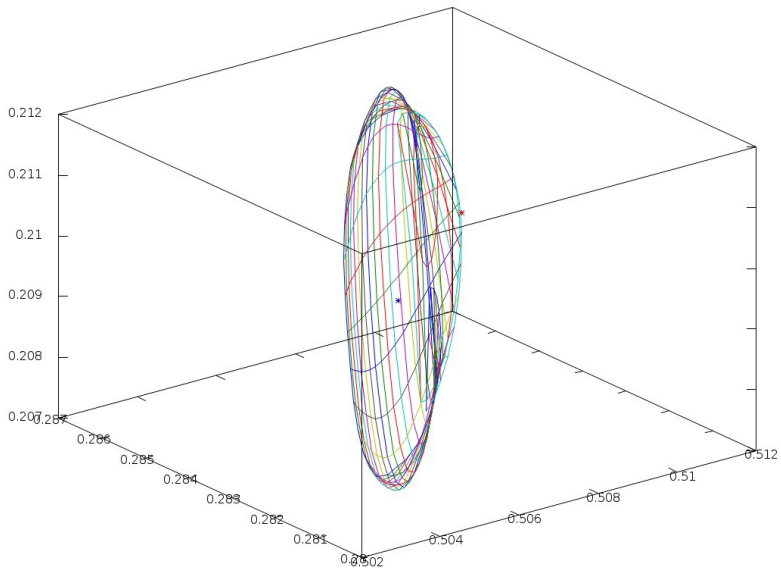
$$A' = A \#_s (B \#_t C)$$

$$B' = B \#_s (C \#_t A)$$

$$C' = C \#_s (A \#_t B)$$

- observe that for  $s = 1, t = 1/2$  this gives the ALM mean.  
For  $s = 2/3, t = 1/2$  this gives the mean based on medians
- the three sequences converge to the same limit  $G(s, t)$  for  $s, t \in [0, 1]$  unless  $s = 0$ , or  $s = 1$  and  $t = 0, 1$
- this limit  $G(s, t)$  satisfies the 10 ALM properties for any  $s, t$
- the set formed by  $G(s, t)$  has a “small” diameter

# Some experiments



## Important question

Is there a way to overcome the exponential complexity?

Two solutions:

- the cheap mean
- the Karcher mean

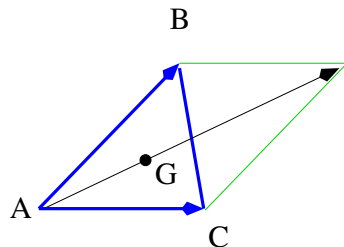
# The cheap mean (overcoming the exponential complexity)

## Remark

*In the Euclidean geometry, given the triangle of vertices  $A, B, C$ , the centroid can be viewed as*

$$G = A + \frac{1}{3}((B - A) + (C - A) + (A - A))$$

*that is, **the arithmetic mean of the tangent vectors** of the geodesics joining  $A$  with  $B, C$  and  $A$ , respectively*



That is,  $G$  lies in the geodesic passing through  $A$  and tangent to the **arithmetic** mean of the tangent vectors in  $A$  to the geodesics from  $A$  to  $B$ , from  $A$  to  $C$  and from  $A$  to  $A$



We can repeat the construction in the Riemannian geometry.

In the Riemannian geometry the nonzero tangent vectors are **easily computable**. In fact differentiating the equation of the two geodesics  $\gamma_{AB}(t) = A(A^{-1}B)^t$ ,  $\gamma_{AC}(t) = A(A^{-1}C)^t$  at  $t = 0$  we get the tangent vectors

$$V_B = A \log(A^{-1}B), \quad V_C = A \log(A^{-1}C)$$

The geodesic passing through  $A$  tangent to  $V = \frac{1}{3}(V_B + V_C)$  is

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For  $t = 1$  we get the value

$$A' = A \exp\left(\frac{1}{3}(\log(A^{-1}B) + \log(A^{-1}C))\right)$$

From the equation of the geodesic one deduces the iteration

$$A_{\nu+1} = A_{\nu} \exp\left[\frac{1}{3}(\log((A_{\nu})^{-1}B_{\nu}) + \log((A_{\nu})^{-1}C_{\nu}))\right]$$

$$B_{\nu+1} = B_{\nu} \exp\left[\frac{1}{3}(\log((B_{\nu})^{-1}C_{\nu}) + \log((B_{\nu})^{-1}A_{\nu}))\right]$$

$$C_{\nu+1} = C_{\nu} \exp\left[\frac{1}{3}(\log((C_{\nu})^{-1}A_{\nu}) + \log((C_{\nu})^{-1}B_{\nu}))\right]$$

In general, for  $k$  matrices  $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_k$  we may define the **non recursive iteration** [B., Iannazzo 2011]

$$A_i^{(\nu+1)} = A_i^{(\nu)} \exp\left[\frac{1}{k} \sum_{j=1}^k \log((A_i^{(\nu)})^{-1}A_j^{(\nu)})\right], \quad i = 1, 2, \dots, k$$

**Polynomial cost:**  $O(pk^2n^3)$ , where  $p$  is the number of iterations

# What we can prove

## Theorem (Local convergence)

*If the three sequences converge then they converge to the **same** limit  $G$  and **convergence is cubic***

## Theorem

*The matrix  $G$  satisfies the ALM properties  $P1, P2, P3, P7, P8, P9$*

## Remark

*We have a counterexample where **monotonicity**  $P4$  is not satisfied if the matrices are **very far from each other***

*Properties  $P5, P7$  and  $P10$  are usually proved relying on monotonicity. It is not clear if they are satisfied*

For simplicity, we refer to  $G$  as the **cheap mean**

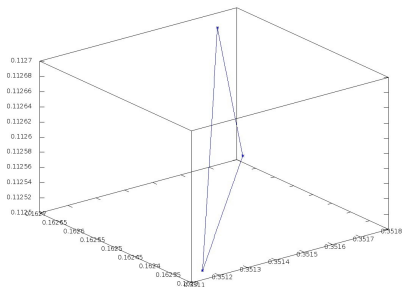
# Numerical experiments

$k$	cnd= 1.e2			cnd= 1.e4			cnd= 1.e8		
	Cheap	NBMP	Dist.	Cheap	NBMP	Dist.	Cheap	NBMP	Dist.
3	1.e-2	1.e-2	5.e-3	1.e-2	1.e-2	3.e-2	1.e-2	1.e-2	3.e-2
4	2.e-2	2.e-1	6.e-3	2.e-2	2.e-1	2.e-2	2.e-2	2.e-2	8.e-2
5	2.e-2	1.e0	7.e-3	3.e-2	2.e0	4.e-2	3.e-1	2.e0	5.e-2
6	3.e-2	1.e+1	5.e-2	4.e-2	3.e+1	2.e-2	4.e-2	3.e+1	5.e-2
7	3.e-2	2.e+2	8.e-3	5.e-3	4.e+2	2.e-2	5.e-2	4.e+2	1.e-2
8	4.e-2	2.e+3	1.e-2	6.e-2	5.e+3	2.e-2	7.e-2	5.e+3	3.e-2
9	4.e-2	*	–	7.e-2	*	–	7.e-2	*	–
10	5.e-2	*	–	9.e-2	*	–	1.e-1	*	–

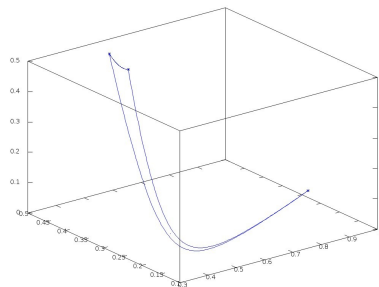
**Table:** CPU times in seconds, rounded to one digit, required to compute the NBMP mean  $G_1$  and the Cheap mean  $G_2$ , together with the distances  $\|G_1 - G_2\|_2 / \|G_1\|_2$ . A “\*” denotes a CPU time larger than  $10^4$  seconds.

# Numerical experiments: plotting the means

Three means



Original matrices



## Numerical experiments: distances of the means

Riemannian distances of the three matrices  $A, B, C$

	$A$	$B$	$C$
$A$		0.084	0.57
$B$			0.65

Distances between the means

	$ALM$	$NBMP$	$Cheap$
$ALM$		$3.1e-4$	$5.2e-4$
$NBMP$			$8.1e-4$

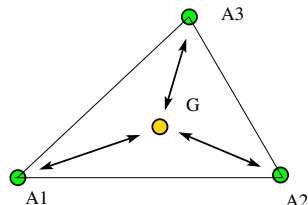


# The Karcher mean

**Definition:** The Karcher mean  $G = G(A_1, \dots, A_k)$  is the matrix  $G$  where the following function takes its minimum.

$$f(X) = \sum_{i=1}^k d(X, A_i)^2$$

$$d(A, B) = \|\log(A^{-1/2}BA^{-1/2})\|_F$$

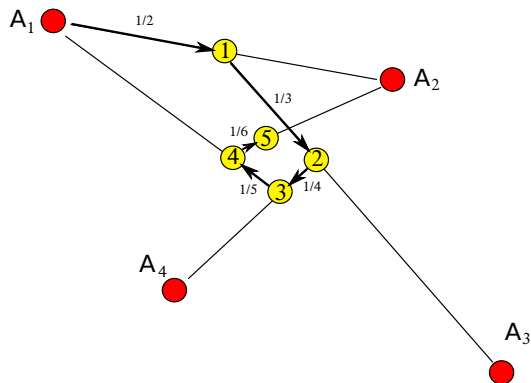


**Property:** The Karcher mean is unique and satisfies the 10 ALM axioms.

It is also called least squares mean, or Riemannian mean [Moakher], [Bhatia], [Holbrook], [Jeuris, Vandebril, Vandereycken].

# The Karcher mean: a simple algorithm

Inductive mean (Spiral descent) [Holbrook 2012]



$$S_\nu = S_{\nu-1} \#_{\frac{1}{\nu}} A_{1+(\nu \bmod k)},$$
$$S_1 = A_1$$

Theorem (good and bad news)

$\lim_{\nu} S_\nu = G$ , convergence is sublinear

## The Karcher mean: a more efficient algorithm

The gradient of  $f(X)$  is

$$\nabla_X f = 2X^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^k \log(XA_i^{-1}) = 2 \sum_{i=1}^k \log(A_i^{-1}X)X^{-1}$$

This way, the Karcher mean can be viewed as the unique positive solution of the **matrix equation**  $\nabla_X f = 0$ , that is

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \log(A_i^{-1}X) = 0$$

There exist algorithms for computing  $G$ ,

[Matrix means toolbox: [bezout.dm.unipi.it/software/mmttoolbox](http://bezout.dm.unipi.it/software/mmttoolbox) ]

[B., Iannazzo, LAA 2012]

# The Karcher mean: a more efficient algorithm

Fixed-point iteration

$$X_{\nu+1} = X_{\nu} - \theta X_{\nu} \sum_{i=1}^k \log(A_i^{-1} X_i), \quad \theta > 0$$

## Remarks

- In the case of scalars, choosing  $\theta = 1/k$  provides a quadratically convergent iteration
- If  $A_i$  commute with each other, i.e.,  $A_i A_j = A_j A_i$ , then the convergence is quadratic if  $\theta = 1/k$  as well

# Convergence analysis

## Theorem

Let  $G$  be the positive definite solution of the matrix equation. Define the *relative error*  $E_\nu = G^{-1/2}(X_\nu - G)G^{-1/2}$ ,  $e_\nu = \text{vec}(E_\nu)$ . Then

$$e_{\nu+1} = (I - \theta H)e_\nu + O(\|e_\nu\|^2) \quad H = \sum_{i=1}^k H_i$$

$$H_i = \beta(W_i), \quad \beta(x) = x/(e^x - 1)$$

$$W_i = \log(M_i) \otimes I - I \otimes \log(M_i)$$

$$M_i = G^{1/2}A_i^{-1}G^{1/2}$$

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## Remark

$M_i$  are positive definite as well as  $H_i$  and  $H$ . Therefore, for  $\theta > 0$  small enough,  $\rho(I - \theta H) < 1$  and local convergence occurs.

The Courant-Fischer theorem enables to find the optimal value for  $\theta$  in function of the condition numbers  $c_i$  of  $M_i$

# Convergence analysis

## Corollary

Let  $c_i$  be the spectral condition number of  $M_i$ . Then for the spectral radius  $\rho(I - \theta H)$  one has

$$\rho(I - \theta H) \leq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k \log c_i}{\sum_{i=1}^k \frac{c_i+1}{c_i-1} \log c_i} < 1, \quad \theta = \frac{2}{\sum_{i=1}^k \frac{c_i+1}{c_i-1} \log c_i}$$

## Remarks

- If matrices  $A_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , are “close” to each other and to  $G$ , then  $M_i \approx I$  so that  $c_i \approx 1$  and  $\rho(I - \theta H) \approx 0$  independently of  $\text{cond}(G)$ . In practice, the convergence is fast;
- If matrices  $A_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , commute then  $\rho(I - \theta H) = 0$  with  $\theta = 1/k$
- If matrices  $A_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, k$ , almost commute but are “far” from each other, the choice  $\theta = 1/k$  leads to convergence failure

## Some numerical experiments

Number of iterations for  $k$  random matrices with condition number  $10^2$  and  $10^4$ , respectively

$k$	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
cond= $10^2$	17	17	16	16	15	15	14	14
cond= $10^4$	41	37	35	31	29	29	29	28

Number of iterations for 10 random matrices with condition number 20 and  $10^5$ , respectively, lying in a neighborhood of radius  $\epsilon$ .

$\epsilon$	0.5	$10^{-1}$	$10^{-2}$	$10^{-3}$	$10^{-4}$
cond= 20	5	4	2	1	1
cond= $10^5$	22	19	14	12	6



## Structured mean: definition and algorithms

**Fact:** Unfortunately, the Riemannian mean does not preserve structure.

$$A_1, \dots, A_k \in \mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{P}_n \not\Rightarrow G(A_1, \dots, A_k) \in \mathcal{A}$$

**Example:**  $A = \begin{bmatrix} 2 & 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 2 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 & 1 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & 2 \end{bmatrix}$ ,  $B = I$ ,  $G = \begin{bmatrix} 1.3590 & 0.3860 & -0.0611 & 0.0173 \\ 0.3860 & 1.2978 & 0.4034 & -0.0611 \\ -0.0611 & 0.4034 & 1.2978 & 0.3860 \\ 0.0173 & -0.0611 & 0.3860 & 1.3590 \end{bmatrix}$

A different definition is needed [B., Iannazzo, Jeuris, Vandebril 2013]:

Let  $\sigma(t) : \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  be a differentiable map and define  $\mathcal{A} = \sigma(\mathbb{R}^q) \cap \mathcal{P}_n$ , where  $\mathcal{P}_n$  is the set of positive definite matrices.

### Definition (Structured mean)

The **structured mean with respect to  $\mathcal{A}$**  of the matrices

$$A_i = \sigma(a_i) \in \mathcal{A}, \quad a_i \in \mathbb{R}^q, \quad i = 1, \dots, k$$

is the set

$$G_{\mathcal{A}} = \{X = \sigma(t) \in \mathcal{A} : f(X) = \inf_{Y \in \mathcal{A}} f(Y)\}$$

## Properties that we can prove

- $G_{\mathcal{A}}$  is not empty if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a linear space

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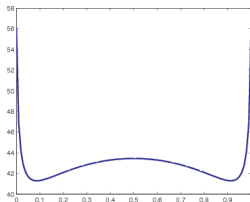
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### Example of non uniqueness

Let  $A = I$ ,  $B = \text{diag}(\alpha, \alpha^{-1})$ ,  $\sigma(t) = A + t(B - A)$ ,  $0 \leq t \leq 1$ .

the function  $f(t) = \delta^2(\sigma(t), A) + \delta^2(\sigma(t), B)$

is symmetric w.r.t.  $t = 1/2$  and for  $\alpha = 100$  is such that



## Properties that we can prove

[P8] Self duality  $G(A_1, \dots, A_k)^{-1} = G(A_1^{-1}, \dots, A_k^{-1})$  is satisfied in the following form

$$G_{\mathcal{A}}(A_1, \dots, A_k)^{-1} = G_{\mathcal{A}^{-1}}(A_1^{-1}, \dots, A_k^{-1}), \quad \mathcal{A}^{-1} = \{A^{-1} : A \in \mathcal{A}\}$$

The inverse of the structured mean w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}$  coincides with the structured mean of the inverses w.r.t.  $\mathcal{A}^{-1}$

[P7] congruence invariance  $G(S^T A_1 S, \dots, S^T A_k S) = S^T G(A_1, \dots, A_k) S$  is satisfied in the following form

$$G_{S^T \mathcal{A} S}(S^T A_1 S, \dots, S^T A_k S) = G_{\mathcal{A}}(A_1, \dots, A_k)$$

## Properties that we can prove

[P2] joint homogeneity  $G_{\mathcal{A}}(\alpha_1 A_1, \dots, \alpha_k A_k) = (\prod_i \alpha_i)^{1/k} G(A_1, \dots, A_k)$   
holds if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a linear space

[P3] permutation invariance

[P11] repetition invariance:  $G(A_1, \dots, A_k, A_1, \dots, A_k) = G(A_1, \dots, A_k)$



## Computing the structured mean: A vector equation

The set of structured means  $G = \sigma(g)$  is a subset of the set of stationary points for  $f(\sigma(t))$ , i.e.,  $\nabla_t f(\sigma(t)) = 0$

The vectors  $g$  are the solutions of the vector equation  $\nabla_t f(t; a_1, \dots, a_k) = 0$  such that  $\sigma(g)$  is positive definite

From the chain rule of derivatives, this leads to a vector equation which, for  $\mathcal{A}$  linear space, takes the form

$$U^T \text{vec}(\sigma(t)^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^k \log(\sigma(t)A_i^{-1})) = 0$$

where  $\sigma(t) : \mathbb{R}^q \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$  is linear and  $\text{vec}(\sigma(t)) = Ut$  for  $U \in \mathbb{R}^{q \times n^2}$

# Algorithms for solving the matrix/vector equation

In the **structured case** we consider iterations of the kind

$$t^{(\nu+1)} = \varphi(t^{(\nu)}), \quad \varphi(t) = t - \theta V(t)^{-1} \nabla_t f(t)$$

where  $V(t)$  is a suitable invertible matrix.

## Remark:

If  $V(t)$  is the Jacobian matrix of  $\nabla_t f(t)$  then the algorithm is Newton's iteration

Newton's iteration is very expensive: the Jacobian depends on all the matrices  $A_1, \dots, A_k$

Cheaper iterations can be obtained by looking for a matrix  $V$  which depends only on the current approximation.

Here are some possibilities:

- ①  $V(t) = D, \quad D = U^T U$
- ②  $V(t) = [U^T (\sigma(t)^{-1} \otimes \sigma(t)^{-1}) U]$
- ③  $V^{-1}(t) = D^{-1} U^T (\sigma(t) \otimes \sigma(t)) U D^{-1}$

### Motivation:

- ① projected gradient descent method w.r.t. the Euclidean inner product  $\langle A, B \rangle = \text{trace}(AB)$
- ② projected gradient descent method w.r.t. the “natural” scalar product  $\langle A, B \rangle_X = \text{trace}(AX^{-1}BX^{-1})$
- ③ “projected version” of the transformation performed in the unstructured case:  $\nabla_X f \rightarrow X(\nabla_X f)X$

## Convergence analysis

Convergence analysis can be performed by computing the Jacobian of  $\varphi(\sigma(t))$  through the Fréchet derivative

By performing a convergence analysis similar to that of the unstructured case one finds that the Jacobian of  $\varphi(t)$  in  $G$  is

$$J = I - \theta V^{-1} U (I \otimes G) H (I \otimes G^{-1}) U$$

where  $H$  is the same as in the unstructured case, that is

$$H = \sum_{i=1}^k H_i \quad H_i = \beta(\log(M_i) \otimes I - I \otimes \log(M_i))$$
$$\beta(t) = t/(e^t - 1) \quad M_i = G^{1/2} A_i^{-1} G^{1/2}$$

In the case of the second algorithm we find exactly the same bounds of the unstructured case:

$$\rho(J) \leq \frac{\sum_{i=1}^k \log c_i}{\sum_{i=1}^k \frac{c_i+1}{c_i-1} \log c_i}, \quad \text{for } \theta = \frac{2}{\sum_{i=1}^k \frac{c_i+1}{c_i-1} \log c_i}$$

where

$$c_i = \frac{\lambda_{\max}(M_i)}{\lambda_{\min}(M_i)}, \quad M_i = G^{\frac{1}{2}} A_i^{-1} G^{\frac{1}{2}}$$

## Some experiments

**Case 1:**  $n = 10$ ,  $k = 5$ ,  $\epsilon = 10^{-3}$

$$A_i = H + \epsilon \text{Toep}(\text{rand}(n, 1)), \quad i = 1, \dots, p, \quad H = \text{Toep}([5 \ 1 \ \dots \ 1])$$

$$\text{cond}(H) = 2.5$$

**Case 2:**  $n = 10$ ,  $k = 5$ ,  $\epsilon = 10^{-3}$

$$A_i = H + \epsilon \text{Toep}(\text{rand}(n, 1)), \quad i = 1, \dots, p, \quad H = \text{Toep}([n : -1 : 1])$$

$$\text{cond}(H) = 132.36$$

**Case 3:**  $n = 10$ ,  $k = 5$ ,  $\epsilon = 10^{-3}$   $A_i = \text{Toep}(t)$ ,

$$t = \text{rand}(n, 1); \quad t(1) = t(1) - \min(\text{eig}(\text{Toep}(t))) + 1.e-3;$$

Number of iterations

Case	Iter. 1	Iter 2.	Iter. 3
1	33	3	11
2	> 1000	3	47
3	> 1000	32	183

# Conclusion

- Matrix geometric means (MGM) are needed in the applications
- For two positive definite matrices there is a unique definition of MGM
- For  $k > 2$  matrices there are many MGMs
- The NBMP can be computed faster than the ALM mean, however, the cost grows exponentially with  $k$
- The cheap mean has a polynomial cost but does not satisfy the monotonicity property
- The Karcher mean has the good properties: it requires the solution of a matrix equation.
- Effective algorithms exist for solving this matrix equation
- A structured mean has been introduced with the property of preserving structures
- An effective algorithm for its computation has been provided

# Open problems and things to do

- Global convergence of the Cheap mean
- Monotonicity of the Cheap mean for close input matrices
- Global convergence of the Richardson iteration for the Karcher mean
- Analysis of the distances of the different geometric means
- Conditions for the uniqueness of the structured mean
- Structured means through positive parametrizations



Thank you for your attention  
and  
Happy birthday to Cor!



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# Matrix Function

Given  $A = SDS^{-1}$ ,  $D = \text{diag}(d_1, \dots, d_n)$ , and a function  $F$  defined on  $\{d_1, \dots, d_n\}$ , define

$$F(A) = SF(D)S^{-1}, \quad F(D) = \text{diag}(F(d_1), \dots, F(d_n))$$

▶ back