

# On commuting matrices in max algebra and in classical nonnegative algebra

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joint with Ricardo Katz and Sergei Sergeev  
with input from Peter Butkovic

Chemnitz  
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commutechmn

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## Theorem

*If  $AB = BA$  then the eigenvalues  $\alpha^j, \beta^j$  of  $A, B$  can be ordered so that for any polynomial  $p(x, y)$  the eigenvalues of  $p(A, B)$  are  $p(\alpha^j, \beta^j)$ ,  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .*

Frobenius 1878

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Stephane Gaubert 1997:

The spectral theory in **MX** *"is extremely similar to the well-known Perron-Frobenius theory"* in **NN**

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Stephane Gaubert 1997:

The spectral theory in **MX** *"is extremely similar to the well-known Perron-Frobenius theory"* in **NN** with some important differences.



$$A \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n} = A \geq 0$$

### Definition

Eigenvalue  $\alpha$  of  $A$  is a *distinguished* eigenvalue if there is an associated *nonnegative* eigenvector.

\*eigenvalue = distinguished eigenvalue

\*eigenvector = nonnegative eigenvector

## Theorem

*Let  $A \geq 0$  be irreducible. Then  $A$  has a unique eigenvalue  $\rho(A)$  with an (ess) unique associated eigenvector, which is positive.*

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NO! In **NN** only nonnegative numbers exist!

$$a, b \geq 0$$

$$a + b = \max(a, b)$$

$$ab = ab$$

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$$C = A + B: \quad c_{ij} = a_{ij} + b_{ij}$$

$$C = AB: \quad c_{ij} = \bigoplus_k a_{ik} b_{kj}$$

### Theorem

*Let  $A \geq 0$  be irreducible. Then  $A$  has a unique eigenvalue  $\rho(A)$  with associated eigenvector  $S$ , which are positive.*

$\rho(A)$  is the Perron root  
max cycle geom mean

	matrix	evecs
<b>CM:</b>	$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$



	matrix	evecors
<b>CM :</b>	$\begin{pmatrix} 4 & 0 & 0 \\ 3 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$	$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 1 & -1 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$
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**NN, MX :** evalues 4, 2

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Not nec so in **NN** and **MX**.

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Similar remarks apply to to the eigenvalues of diag blocks  
in an FNF.

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**CM:** Complex matrices –  $X$  basis of espace for evalue  $\alpha$

## Proof.

$$AX = \alpha X$$

$$A(BX) = B(AX) = \alpha BX$$

$$BX = XC$$

$$Cz = \beta z, \quad z \neq 0$$

$$B(Xz) = X(Cz) = \beta Xz, \quad Xz \neq 0$$

$$A(Xz) = (AX)z = \alpha Xz \quad \square$$



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**NN:** classic nonneg –  $X$  extremals of convex econe for  
evalue  $\alpha$

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### Theorem

*Let  $A_1, \dots, A_r$  be pairwise commuting matrices. Then for each eigenvalue  $\alpha^i$  of  $A_i$  there exists an eigenvector  $x$  which is an eigenvector of all the  $A_j$ .*

## Theorem

If  $AX = XB$  and

**CM:** the cols of  $X$  are lin indep

**NN & MX:** no col of  $X$  is 0

then every eval of  $B$  is an eval of  $A$ .

## Proof.

$$Bz = \beta z, z \neq 0$$

$$AXz = XBz = \beta Xz, Xz \neq 0 \quad \square$$

## Theorem

**CM:** Suppose that  $A_1, \dots, A_r \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n}$  pairwise commute. For  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , let the eigenvalues of  $A_i$  be  $\alpha_i^j$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ . Let  $p(x_1, \dots, x_r)$  be a polynomial. Then, the eigenvalues  $\alpha_i^j$  can be ordered so that the eigenvalues of  $p(A_1, \dots, A_r)$  are  $p(\alpha_1^j, \dots, \alpha_r^j)$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .  
Frobenius 1896, Schur 1902

## Theorem

Let  $A_1, \dots, A_r \in \mathbb{C}_+^{n \times n}$ . Then TFAE:

- 1 The eigenvalues  $\alpha_i^j$  can be ordered so that for every polynomial  $p$  the eigenvalues of  $p(A_1, \dots, A_r)$  are  $p(\alpha_1^j, \dots, \alpha_r^j)$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ .
- 2 The matrices  $A_1, \dots, A_r \in \mathbb{C}_+^{n \times n}$  can be simultaneously triangulated by similarity,
- 3 Every polynomial of form  $p(A_1, \dots, A_r)(A_i A_j - A_j A_i)$  is nilpotent

## Theorem

**MX & NN** Let  $A_1, \dots, A_r \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n}$  commute in pairs and let  $p(x_1, \dots, x_r)$  be a polynomial

**NN:** such that  $p(A_1, \dots, A_r) \geq 0$

Then,

- (i) For each  $i \in \{1, \dots, r\}$  and evaluate  $\alpha_i$  of  $A_i$  there exist values  $\alpha_j$  of  $A_j$  for all  $j \neq i$  such that  $p(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r)$  is an evaluate of  $p(A_1, \dots, A_r)$ ;
- (ii) For each evaluate  $\lambda$  of  $p(A_1, \dots, A_r)$  there exist values  $\alpha_i$  of  $A_i$  for all  $i = 1, \dots, r$  such that  $\lambda = p(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_r)$ .

$$A \leftarrow P^{-1}AP = \begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & 0 & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ A_{21} & A_{22} & \cdots & 0 & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots & \vdots \\ A_{(k-1)1} & A_{(k-1)2} & \cdots & A_{(k-1)(k-1)} & 0 \\ A_{k1} & A_{k2} & \cdots & A_{k(k-1)} & A_{kk} \end{pmatrix}$$

$A_{ii}$  irreducible



Reduced graph  $\mathcal{R}(A)$

$$V = \{1, \dots, k\}$$

$$i \rightarrow j \in E : A_{ij} \neq 0$$

Path from  $i$  to  $j$

$$i_0 \rightarrow i_1 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow i_{p-1} \rightarrow i_m$$

Transitive closure  $\mathcal{R}^*(A)$

$$i \xrightarrow{*} j : \text{exists path from } i \text{ to } j$$

Skeleton  $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{R}_*(A)$

$$(i, j) \in \mathcal{S} : i \xrightarrow{*} k \xrightarrow{*} j \text{ implies } k = i \text{ or } k = j$$

## Definition

A class  $A_{ij}$  of  $A$  is called *spectral* if  $\rho(A_{ij})$  is an eigenvalue of  $A$  and there is a evector  $x$  such that  $x_i \neq 0$  if and only if  $i \xrightarrow{*} j$  in  $\mathcal{R}^*(A)$

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**NN:**  $A_{ij}$  is spectral if and only if  $i \xrightarrow{*} j$  in  $\mathcal{R}^*(A)$  implies that  $\alpha_i < \alpha_j$ .

(Frobenius 1912, Victory 1985)

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**MX:**  $A_{ij}$  is spectral if and only if  $i \xrightarrow{*} j$  in  $\mathcal{R}^*(A)$  implies that  $\alpha_i \leq \alpha_j$ .

Gaubert 1992, Butkovic (book) 2010

## Theorem

**NN : & (MX: + is MAX !)**

*Suppose that  $A_1, \dots, A_r \in \mathbb{R}_+^{n \times n}$  pairwise commute and that distinct classes of  $A_i$ , for  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , have distinct Perron roots. Then,*

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- 1. The classes of  $A_1, \dots, A_r$  and  $A_1 + \dots + A_r$  coincide.*

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- 1. The classes of  $A_1, \dots, A_r$  and  $A_1 + \dots + A_r$  coincide.*
- 2. The transitive closures of the reduced graphs of all matrices  $A_1, \dots, A_r$  and  $A_1 + \dots + A_r$  coincide.*



## Theorem

3. *The spectral classes of the matrices  $A_1, \dots, A_r$  coincide*

**MX:** *and also coincide with the spectral classes of  $A_1 + \dots + A_r$ .*

*In particular,  $A_1, \dots, A_r$  have the same number of distinct eigenvalues, which we denote by  $m$ .*

## Theorem

4. For  $i = 1, \dots, r$ , let the (distinct) eigenvalues of  $A_{ij}$  be  $\alpha_i^j$  for  $j = 1, \dots, m$ .

**MX:** Let  $p(x_1, \dots, x_r)$  be a non-constant max-polynomial.

**NN:** Let  $p(x_1, \dots, x_r)$  be a non-constant polynomial such that  $p(A_1, \dots, A_r) \geq 0$ .

Then, the eigenvalues  $\alpha_i^j$  can be ordered so that the eigenvalues of  $p(A_1, \dots, A_r)$  are precisely  $p(\alpha_1^j, \dots, \alpha_r^j)$  for  $j = 1, \dots, m$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} A_{11} & 0 \\ A_{21} & A_{22} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} B_{11} & 0 \\ B_{21} & B_{22} \end{pmatrix}$$

Assume in Frobenius form,  $B_{11}$  and  $B_{22}$  no common  
evalue.

Compare  $(AB)_{21}$  and  $(BA)_{21}$

Assume  $B_{21} = 0$

$$(AB)_{21} = A_{21}B_{11}$$

$$(BA)_{21} = B_{22}A_{21}$$

$$A_{21} = 0$$

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} 10 & 0 & 0 \\ 5 & 0 & 0 \\ 2 & 3 & 3 \end{pmatrix} \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} 3 & 0 & 0 \\ 1 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 2 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Skeleton \*Spectral

$$(*1) \leftarrow (2) \leftarrow (*3)$$

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Skeleton \*Spectral

$$(*1) \leftarrow (2) \leftarrow (*3)$$

$$AB = BA = \begin{pmatrix} 30 & 0 & 0 \\ 15 & 0 & 0 \\ 9 & 6 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

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Skeleton, \*Spectral

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Skeleton, \*Spectral

$$(1^*) \leftarrow (2) \leftarrow (3^*)$$

\*Eigenvectors of  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $AB$ .

$$\begin{pmatrix} 2 & . & 0 \\ 1 & . & 0 \\ 1 & . & 1 \end{pmatrix}$$



If you're interested, see

R. Katz, H. Schneider, S. Sergeev

On commuting matrices in max algebra  
and in classical nonnegative algebra

<http://www.math.wisc.edu/hans/>

My Papers

Paper 160

LAA (to appear)

**THANKS  
FOR LISTENING**

BUT please allow me one more frame

17.10.50

## LINEAR OPERATIONS IN PROBABILITY.

Prof. A.C. AITKEN

Fundamental laws. in prob.:

(I) "Addition theorem" for mutually exclusive events:

If  $E_1, E_2, \dots, E_n$  are  $n$  events, mutually exclusive, respect. prob.,  $p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n$ ,  
 then the prob. in a single trial, of
$$E_1 + E_2 + \dots + E_n \text{ happen. is}$$

$$p_1 + p_2 + \dots + p_n.$$
(II) Multiplication law, for indep. events  
 If  $E_1, E_2, E_3, \dots, E_n$  are indep. events, or events belonging to indep. systems, [the  $p_i$  are not nec. sum to 1] the prob. that all events occur together is  $p_1 p_2 \dots p_n$ .(III) Multiplication for dep. events is prescribed