

A novel algorithm to compute the joint spectral radius – Feta flavoured Ipa

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The problem of computing the joint spectral radius (JSR) [1] of several matrices plays an exceptional role e.g. in the theory of refinable surfaces, subdivision schemes and wavelets. In particular, the JSR characterizes the smoothness of refinable curves and surfaces and the convergence of subdivision schemes. However, the problem of the JSR's computation is notoriously hard. Currently there exist only two algorithms which can compute the joint spectral radius exactly, the invariant polytope algorithm [2, 3, 4, 5] and the finite expressible tree algorithm [6]. The former tries to construct an invariant norm for all matrices, the latter constructs an infinite tree of matrices whose branches are all multiplicatively bounded.

In this talk we compare these two algorithms, show that they can handle different classes of examples and construct a new algorithm combining both ideas which converges in all cases when one of aforementioned algorithms does. The efficiency of the new algorithm is illustrated with various examples. In particular, we prove the finiteness conjecture [7, 8] for all pairs of binary 3×3 matrices, and are able to compute the joint spectral radius of random matrices of dimension 25 in reasonable time.

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