

# Numerical Analysis of the Matrix Logarithm

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**Computational Methods with Applications**  
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# Outline

- 1 Definition of  $\log(A)$
- 2 Applications
- 3 Theory
- 4 Numerical methods

# Matrix Logarithm

A logarithm of  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  is any matrix  $X$  such that  $e^X = A$ .

- Existence.
- Representation, classification.
- Computation.
- Conditioning.

First, approach via **theory of matrix functions...**

# Multiplicity of Definitions

*There have been proposed in the literature since 1880*  
***eight distinct definitions*** of a matrix function,  
by Weyr, Sylvester and Buchheim,  
Giorgi, Cartan, Fantappiè, Cipolla,  
Schwerdtfeger and Richter.

— **R. F. Rinehart,**  
***The Equivalence of Definitions of a Matrix Function,***  
***Amer. Math. Monthly (1955)***

# Jordan Canonical Form

$$Z^{-1}AZ = J = \text{diag}(J_1, \dots, J_p), \quad \underbrace{J_k}_{m_k \times m_k} = \begin{bmatrix} \lambda_k & 1 & & \\ & \lambda_k & \ddots & \\ & & \ddots & 1 \\ & & & \lambda_k \end{bmatrix}$$

## Definition

$$f(A) = Zf(J)Z^{-1} = Z\text{diag}(f(J_k))Z^{-1},$$

$$f(J_k) = \begin{bmatrix} f(\lambda_k) & f'(\lambda_k) & \dots & \frac{f^{(m_k-1)}(\lambda_k)}{(m_k-1)!} \\ & f(\lambda_k) & \ddots & \vdots \\ & & \ddots & f'(\lambda_k) \\ & & & f(\lambda_k) \end{bmatrix}.$$

# Interpolation

## Definition (Sylvester, 1883; Buchheim, 1886)

Distinct e'vals  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_s$ ,  $n_i = \max$  size of Jordan blocks for  $\lambda_i$ . Then  $f(A) = p(A)$ , where  $p$  is unique Hermite interpolating poly of degree  $< \sum_{i=1}^s n_i$  satisfying

$$p^{(j)}(\lambda_i) = f^{(j)}(\lambda_i), \quad j = 0: n_i - 1, \quad i = 1: s.$$

# Cauchy Integral Theorem

## Definition

$$f(A) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_{\Gamma} f(z)(zI - A)^{-1} dz,$$

where  $f$  is analytic on and inside a closed contour  $\Gamma$  that encloses  $\lambda(A)$ .

# Equivalence of Definitions

## Theorem

*The three definitions are **equivalent**, modulo analyticity assumption for Cauchy.*



# Composite Functions

## Theorem

$f(t) = g(h(t)) \Rightarrow f(A) = g(h(A))$ , provided latter matrix defined.

## Corollary

$\exp(\log(A)) = A$  when  $\log(A)$  is defined.

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# Application: Markov Models

Time-homogeneous continuous-time Markov process with transition probability matrix  $P(t) \in \mathbb{R}^{n \times n}$ . Transition intensity matrix  $Q$  related to  $P$  by

$$P(t) = e^{Qt}.$$

Elements of  $Q$  satisfy

$$q_{ij} \geq 0, \quad i \neq j, \quad \sum_{j=1}^n q_{ij} = 0.$$

## Embeddability problem

When does a given **stochastic**  $P$  have a real logarithm  $Q$  that is an **intensity matrix**?

# The Average Eye

First order character of optical system characterized by transference matrix  $T = \begin{bmatrix} S & \delta \\ 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^{5 \times 5}$ , where  $S \in \mathbb{R}^{4 \times 4}$  is symplectic:  $S^T J S = J$ , where  $J = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & I_2 \\ -I_2 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$ .

Average  $m^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^m T_i$  is not a transference matrix.

Harris (2005) proposes the average  $\exp(m^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^m \log(T_i))$ .

# The Average Eye

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---

For Hermitian pos def  $A$  and  $B$ , Arsigny et al. (2007) define the log-Euclidean mean

$$E(A, B) = \exp\left(\frac{1}{2}(\log(A) + \log(B))\right).$$

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# Logs of $A = I_3$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2\pi - 1 & 1 \\ -2\pi & 0 & 0 \\ -2\pi & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2\pi & 1 \\ -2\pi & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$e^B = e^C = e^D = I_3.$$

$$\Lambda(C) = \Lambda(D) = \{0, 2\pi i, -2\pi i\}.$$

# Principal Log and $p$ th Root

Let  $A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  have no eigenvalues on  $\mathbb{R}^-$ .

## Principal log

$X = \log(A)$  denotes unique  $X$  such that

- $e^X = A$ .
- $-\pi < \text{Im}(\lambda(X)) < \pi$ .

For **next 2 slides only**, allow  $\text{Im}(\lambda(X)) = \pi$ .

## Principal $p$ th root

For integer  $p > 0$ ,  $X = A^{1/p}$  is unique  $X$  such that

- $X^p = A$ .
- $-\pi/p < \arg(\lambda(X)) < \pi/p$ .



# All Solutions of $e^X = A$

## Theorem (Gantmacher)

$A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  nonsing with Jordan canonical form

$Z^{-1}AZ = J = \text{diag}(J_1, J_2, \dots, J_p)$ . All solutions to  $e^X = A$  are given by

$$X = Z U \text{diag}(L_1^{(j_1)}, L_2^{(j_2)}, \dots, L_p^{(j_p)}) U^{-1} Z^{-1},$$

where

$$L_k^{(j_k)} = \log(J_k(\lambda_k)) + 2j_k \pi i I_{m_k},$$

$j_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  arbitrary, and  $U$  an arbitrary nonsing matrix that commutes with  $J$ .

# All Solutions of $e^X = A$ : Classified

## Theorem

$A \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  nonsing:  $p$  Jordan blocks,  $s$  distinct ei'vals.  
 $e^X = A$  has a countable infinity of solutions that are **primary functions** of  $A$ :

$$X_j = Z \text{diag}(L_1^{(j_1)}, L_2^{(j_2)}, \dots, L_p^{(j_p)}) Z^{-1},$$

where  $\lambda_i = \lambda_k$  implies  $j_i = j_k$ . If  $s < p$  then  $e^X = A$  has **non-primary solutions**

$$X_j(U) = Z U \text{diag}(L_1^{(j_1)}, L_2^{(j_2)}, \dots, L_p^{(j_p)}) U^{-1} Z^{-1},$$

where  $j_k \in \mathbb{Z}$  arbitrary,  $U$  arbitrary nonsing with  $UJ = JU$ ,  
 and for each  $j \exists i$  and  $k$  s.t.  $\lambda_i = \lambda_k$  while  $j_i \neq j_k$ .

# Logs of $A = I_3$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2\pi - 1 & 1 \\ -2\pi & 0 & 0 \\ -2\pi & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}, \quad D = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 2\pi & 1 \\ -2\pi & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix},$$

$$e^0 = e^C = e^D = I_3. \quad \Lambda(C) = \Lambda(D) = \{0, 2\pi i, -2\pi i\}.$$

$$U = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & \alpha & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & \alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}, \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{C},$$

$$X = U \operatorname{diag}(2\pi i, -2\pi i, 0) U^{-1} = 2\pi i \begin{bmatrix} 1 & -2\alpha & 2\alpha^2 \\ 0 & 1 & -\alpha \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

# Two Facts on Commuting Matrices

## Theorem

*If  $A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  commute then  $\exists$  a unitary  $U \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  such that  $U^*AU$  and  $U^*BU$  are both upper triangular.*

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## Theorem

*If  $A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  commute then  $\exists$  a unitary  $U \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  such that  $U^*AU$  and  $U^*BU$  are both upper triangular.*

## Theorem

*For  $A, B \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$ ,  $e^{(A+B)t} = e^{At}e^{Bt}$  for all  $t$  if and only if  $AB = BA$ .*

# When Does $\log(BC) = \log(B) + \log(C)$ ?

## Theorem

Let  $B, C \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  commute and have no ei'vals on  $\mathbb{R}^-$ . If for every ei'val  $\lambda_j$  of  $B$  and the corr. ei'val  $\mu_j$  of  $C$ ,  
 $|\arg \lambda_j + \arg \mu_j| < \pi$ , then  $\log(BC) = \log(B) + \log(C)$ .

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## Theorem

Let  $B, C \in \mathbb{C}^{n \times n}$  commute and have no ei'vals on  $\mathbb{R}^-$ . If for every ei'val  $\lambda_j$  of  $B$  and the corr. ei'val  $\mu_j$  of  $C$ ,  $|\arg \lambda_j + \arg \mu_j| < \pi$ , then  $\log(BC) = \log(B) + \log(C)$ .

**Proof.**  $\log(B)$  and  $\log(C)$  commute, since  $B$  and  $C$  do. Therefore

$$e^{\log(B)+\log(C)} = e^{\log(B)} e^{\log(C)} = BC.$$

Thus  $\log(B) + \log(C)$  is *some* logarithm of  $BC$ . Then

$$\operatorname{Im}(\log \lambda_j + \log \mu_j) = \arg \lambda_j + \arg \mu_j \in (-\pi, \pi),$$

so  $\log(B) + \log(C)$  is the *principal* logarithm of  $BC$ .  $\square$

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# Henry Briggs (1561–1630)

- **Arithmetica Logarithmica** (1624)
- Logarithms to base 10 of 1–20,000 and 90,000–100,000 to **14 decimal places**.

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- Logarithms to base 10 of 1–20,000 and 90,000–100,000 to **14 decimal places**.

*Briggs must be viewed as one of the great figures in numerical analysis.*

**—Herman H. Goldstine,  
A History of Numerical Analysis (1977)**

ARITHMETICA

# LOGARITHMICA

SIVE

## LOGARITHMORVM CHILIADES TRIGINTA, PRO

numeris naturali serie crescentibus ab unitate ad  
20,000 : et a 90,000 ad 100,000. Quorum ope multa  
perficiuntur Arithmetica problemata  
et Geometrica.

HOS NUMEROS PRIMVS  
INVENIT CLARISSIMVS VIR IOHANNES

NEPERVS Baro Merchistonij ; eos autem ex eiusdem sententia  
mutavit, eorumque ortum et usum illustravit HENRICVS BRIGGIUS,  
in celeberrima Academia Oxoniensi Geometrix  
professor SAVILIANVS.

DEVS NOBIS VSVRAM VITÆ DEDIT  
ET INGENII, TANQVAM PECVNIE,  
NULLA PRÆSTITVTA DIE.



LONDINI  
Excudebat GVLIELMVS  
IONES. 1624.

Numeri continue Medij inter Denarium &amp; Unitatem.

Logarithmi Rationales.

10	1,000
1	31622,77660,16837,93319,98893,54
2	17782,79410,05892,28011,97304,13
3	13335,21432,16332,40256,65389,308
4	11547,81984,68945,81796,61918,213
5	10746,07828,32131,74972,13817,6538
6	10366,32928,43269,79972,90627,3131
7	10181,51721,71818,18414,7323,8144
8	10090,35044,84144,74377,59005,1391
9	10045,07364,25466,25156,64670,6113
10	10022,51148,29295,29154,65611,7367
11	10011,24941,39987,98757,85395,51805
12	10005,62312,60220,86366,18495,91839
13	10002,81116,78778,01323,99249,64325
14	10001,40548,51694,72581,62767,32715
15	10000,70217,28941,14355,38811,70845
16	10000,35135,27746,18565,08581,37077
17	10000,17567,48442,26738,33846,78274
18	10000,08783,70363,46121,46574,07431
19	10000,04391,84217,31672,36281,88083
20	10000,02195,91867,55542,03317,07719
21	10000,01097,95873,50204,09754,72940
22	10000,00548,97921,68211,14626,60250,4
23	10000,00274,48977,07382,95091,25449,9
24	10000,00137,24477,59510,83282,69572,5
25	10000,00068,62238,62100,25737,18748,2
26	10000,00034,31119,22218,83912,75020,8
27	10000,00017,15559,59637,84719,93879,1
28	10000,00008,77779,79451,03051,17588,8
29	10000,00004,28889,89633,54198,42901,3
30	10000,00002,14444,94793,77767,42970,4
31	10000,00001,07222,47391,14050,76926,8
32	10000,00000,53611,23594,13357,14831,4
33	10000,00000,26595,61846,70731,51508,7
34	10000,00000,13402,30923,26383,99277,7
35	10000,00000,06701,40461,60946,55519,6
36	10000,00000,03350,70203,07911,91730,0
37	10000,00000,01675,35151,39815,61857,6
38	10000,00000,00837,67557,69872,72426,9
39	10000,00000,00418,33778,84927,59082,5
40	10000,00000,00209,41889,42461,60262,5
41	10000,00000,00104,70944,71230,23311,0
1,000	0,50
0,50	0,25
0,25	0,125
0,125	0,0625
0,0625	0,03125
0,03125	0,015625
0,015625	0,0078125
0,0078125	0,00390625
0,00390625	0,001953125
0,001953125	0,0009765625
0,0009765625	0,00048828125
0,00048828125	0,000244140625
0,000244140625	0,0001220703125
0,0001220703125	0,00006103515625
0,00006103515625	0,000030517578125
0,000030517578125	0,0000152587890625
0,0000152587890625	0,00000762939453125
0,00000762939453125	0,000003814697265625
0,000003814697265625	0,0000019073486328125
0,0000019073486328125	0,00000095367431640625
0,00000095367431640625	0,000000476837158203125
0,000000476837158203125	0,0000002384185791015625
0,0000002384185791015625	0,00000011920928955078125
0,00000011920928955078125	0,000000059604644773390625
0,000000059604644773390625	0,0000000298023223876953125
0,0000000298023223876953125	0,00000001490116119384765625
0,00000001490116119384765625	0,000000007450580596923828125
0,000000007450580596923828125	0,0000000037252902984619140625
0,0000000037252902984619140625	0,00000000186264514923095703125
0,00000000186264514923095703125	0,000000000931322574615487515625
0,000000000931322574615487515625	0,0000000004656612873077392578125
0,0000000004656612873077392578125	0,00000000023283063465386962890625
0,00000000023283063465386962890625	0,00000000011641532182693481443125
0,00000000011641532182693481443125	0,0000000000582076609134674072265625
0,0000000000582076609134674072265625	0,00000000002910383045673370361328125
0,00000000002910383045673370361328125	0,000000000014551915228366851806640625
0,000000000014551915228366851806640625	0,0000000000072759576141834259033203125
0,0000000000072759576141834259033203125	0,00000000000363797880709171295166015625
0,00000000000363797880709171295166015625	0,000000000001818984903548556475830078125
0,000000000001818984903548556475830078125	0,000000000000909494701772928237915030625
0,000000000000909494701772928237915030625	0,00000000000045474735088646411807710112

# Briggs' Log Method (1617)

$$\log(ab) = \log a + \log b \quad \Rightarrow \quad \log a = 2 \log a^{1/2}.$$

Use repeatedly:

$$\log a = 2^k \log a^{1/2^k}.$$

Write  $a^{1/2^k} = 1 + x$  and note  $\log(1 + x) \approx x$ . Briggs worked to base 10 and used

$$\log_{10} a \approx 2^k \cdot \log_{10} e \cdot (a^{1/2^k} - 1).$$

# Matrix Logarithm

Take  $B = C$  in previous theorem:

$$\log A = \log(A^{1/2} \cdot A^{1/2}) = 2 \log A^{1/2},$$

since  $\arg \lambda(A^{1/2}) \in (-\pi/2, \pi/2)$ .

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Use Briggs' idea:  $\log A = 2^k \log(A^{1/2^k})$ .

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Use Briggs' idea:  $\log A = 2^k \log(A^{1/2^k})$ .

Kenney & Laub's (1989) **inverse scaling and squaring** method:

- Bring  $A$  close to  $I$  by repeated square roots.
- Approximate  $\log A^{1/2^k}$  using an  $[m/m]$  Padé approximant  $r_m(x) \approx \log(1 + x)$ .
- Rescale to find  $\log(A)$ .



# Options

## Apply ISS

- To original  $A$ : Cheng, H, Kenney & Laub (2001).  
Requires square roots of full matrices.
- To triangular Schur factor.
- To diagonal blocks within the Schur–Parlett method.

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- ★ Use fixed Padé degree  $m$ .
- ★ Let  $m$  vary optimally with  $\|A\|$ .

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- ▶ MATLAB's `logm` ( $m = 8$ ).

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- To triangular Schur factor.
- To diagonal blocks within the Schur–Parlett method.
- ★ Use fixed Padé degree  $m$ .
- ★ Let  $m$  vary optimally with  $\|A\|$ .
- ▶ MATLAB's `logm` ( $m = 8$ ).
- ▶ Improved `logm`.

# Padé Approximants

$r_{km} = p_{km}/q_{km}$  is a  $[k/m]$  Padé approximant of  $f$  if  $p_{km}$  and  $q_{km}$  are polys of degree at most  $k$  and  $m$  and

$$f(x) - r_{km}(x) = O(x^{k+m+1}).$$

For  $f(x) = \log(1 + x)$ ,

$$r_{11}(x) = \frac{2x}{2+x},$$

$$r_{22}(x) = \frac{6x + 3x^2}{6 + 6x + x^2},$$

$$r_{33}(x) = \frac{60x + 60x^2 + 11x^3}{60 + 90x + 36x^2 + 3x^3}.$$

# Padé Approximants

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$$f(x) - r_{km}(x) = O(x^{k+m+1}).$$

## Theorem (Kenney & Laub, 1989)

For  $\|X\| < 1$ ,

$$\|r_{mm}(X) - \log(I + X)\| \leq |r_{mm}(-\|X\|) - \log(1 - \|X\|)|.$$

# Algorithmic Ingredients

$$\log A = 2^k \log(A^{1/2^k}) \approx 2^k r_m(A^{1/2^k} - I).$$

- For given  $A^{1/2^k}$ , error bound determines min  $m$  s.t.  $r_m$  suff. accurate.
- Choose  $k$  and  $m = m(k)$  to minimize overall cost.
- Since  $(I - A^{1/2^{k+1}})(I + A^{1/2^{k+1}}) = I - A^{1/2^k}$ ,

$$\|I - A^{1/2^{k+1}}\| \approx \frac{1}{2} \|I - A^{1/2^k}\|.$$

- Evaluate the **partial fraction** form

$$r_m(x) = \sum_{j=1}^m \frac{\alpha_j^{(m)} x}{1 + \beta_j^{(m)} x},$$

where  $\alpha_j^{(m)}$  weights and  $\beta_j^{(m)}$  Gauss–Legendre nodes.

# Schur–Parlett Algorithm

H & Davies (2003), **funm**:

- Compute **Schur decomposition**  $A = QTQ^*$ .
- Re-order  $T$  to block triangular form in which eigenvalues within a block are “**close**” and those of separate blocks are “**well separated**”.
- Evaluate  $F_{ii} = f(T_{ii})$ .
- Solve the **Sylvester equations**

$$T_{ii} F_{ij} - F_{ij} T_{jj} = F_{ii} T_{ij} - T_{ij} F_{jj} + \sum_{k=i+1}^{j-1} (F_{ik} T_{kj} - T_{ik} F_{kj}).$$

- Undo the unitary transformations.



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- Evaluate  $F_{ii} = \log(T_{ii})$ .
- Solve the **Sylvester equations**

$$T_{ii} F_{ij} - F_{ij} T_{jj} = F_{ii} T_{ij} - T_{ij} F_{jj} + \sum_{k=i+1}^{j-1} (F_{ik} T_{kj} - T_{ik} F_{kj}).$$

- Undo the unitary transformations.

# Function of $2 \times 2$ Block

$$f\left(\begin{bmatrix} \lambda_1 & t_{12} \\ 0 & \lambda_2 \end{bmatrix}\right) = \begin{bmatrix} f(\lambda_1) & t_{12} \frac{f(\lambda_2) - f(\lambda_1)}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1} \\ 0 & f(\lambda_2) \end{bmatrix}.$$

- **Inaccurate** if  $\lambda_1 \approx \lambda_2$ .
- Need a better way to compute the divided difference  $f[\lambda_2, \lambda_1]$ .

# Log of $2 \times 2$ Block

$$\begin{aligned} \log \lambda_2 - \log \lambda_1 &= \log \left( \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \right) + 2\pi i U (\log \lambda_2 - \log \lambda_1) \\ &= \log \left( \frac{1+z}{1-z} \right) + 2\pi i U (\log \lambda_2 - \log \lambda_1), \end{aligned}$$

where  $U =$  unwinding number,  $z = (\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)/(\lambda_2 + \lambda_1)$ .

$$\operatorname{atanh}(z) := \frac{1}{2} \log \left( \frac{1+z}{1-z} \right),$$

# Log of $2 \times 2$ Block

$$\begin{aligned}\log \lambda_2 - \log \lambda_1 &= \log \left( \frac{\lambda_2}{\lambda_1} \right) + 2\pi iU(\log \lambda_2 - \log \lambda_1) \\ &= \log \left( \frac{1+z}{1-z} \right) + 2\pi iU(\log \lambda_2 - \log \lambda_1),\end{aligned}$$

where  $U =$  unwinding number,  $z = (\lambda_2 - \lambda_1)/(\lambda_2 + \lambda_1)$ .

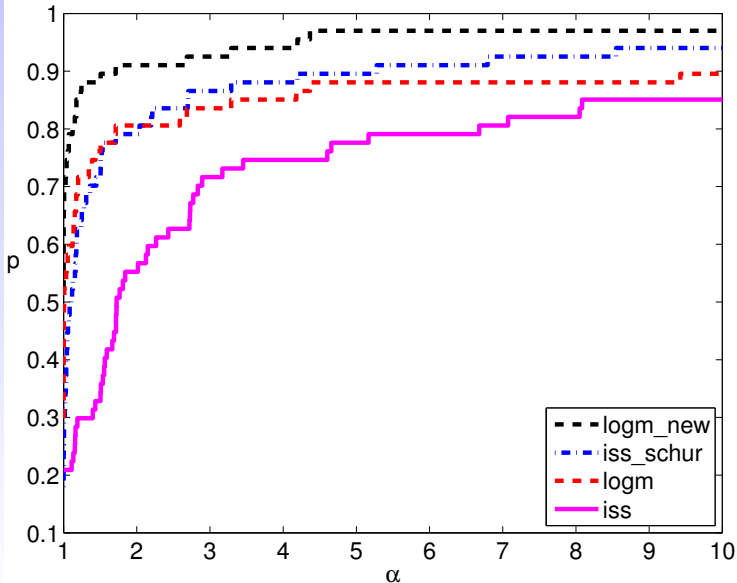
$$\operatorname{atanh}(z) := \frac{1}{2} \log \left( \frac{1+z}{1-z} \right),$$

$$f_{12} = t_{12} \frac{2 \operatorname{atanh}(z) + 2\pi iU(\log \lambda_2 - \log \lambda_1)}{\lambda_2 - \lambda_1}.$$

# Numerical Experiment

- ▶ 67 test matrices, dimension 2–10.
- ▶ Evaluated  $\|\hat{X} - \log(A)\|_F / \|\log(A)\|_F$ .
- ▶ Notation:
  - ▶ **logm**: MATLAB 7.4 (R2007a).
  - ▶ **logm\_new**: New version of **logm**.
  - ▶ **iss\_schur**: Schur decomp then ISS.
  - ▶ **iss**: ISS on full  $A$ .
- ▶  $\text{cond}(A) = \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \max_{\|E\|_2 \leq \epsilon \|A\|_2} \frac{\|\log(A + E) - \log(A)\|_2}{\epsilon \|\log(A)\|_2}$ .

# Performance Profile



# $\log(A)b$

Hale, H & Trefethen, **Computing  $A^\alpha$ ,  $\log(A)$  and Related Matrix Functions by Contour Integrals, 2007.**

- New methods for  $f(A)b$  where  $f$  has singularities in  $(-\infty, 0]$  and  $A$  is a matrix with ei'vals on or near  $(0, \infty)$ .
- Contour integrals + conformal map + repeated trapezium rule  $\Rightarrow$  **geometric convergence.**

# In Conclusion

- Matrix logarithm and square root are archetypal examples of multivalued matrix functions (**LambertW: Corless, Ding, H & Jeffrey, 2007**).
- Able to **classify** all logs.
- Non-primary logs of interest, but little is known.
- Improvements to inverse scaling and squaring alg and to **logm**.
- Exploiting structure?



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