

Conferences and Workshops in Linear Algebra and Matrix Theory

The Ninth ILAS Conference and the Twelfth Haifa Matrix Theory Conference

Haifa, Israel: 25–29 June 2001

The Ninth Conference of the International Linear Algebra Society (ILAS) was held at the Technion on June 25–29, 2001 (a group photo is on pp. 18–19). This conference also constituted the Twelfth Haifa Matrix Theory Conference. It was organized by the Institute of Advanced Studies in Mathematics at the Technion, which was the main sponsor of the conference.

The number of people who attended the meeting was 109, representing twenty-five countries. The conference was characterized by many interesting talks that covered a wide range of topics in linear algebra. There were 25 invited talks and over 50 contributed talks. In addition, there were minisymposia on the following topics: (i) Linear Algebra in Statistics; (ii) Matrix functions, and (iii) Education in Linear Algebra.

The LAA Lecturer was Lloyd N. Trefethen, who talked on Stability of Gaussian elimination. The Taussky-Todd Lecturer was Stephen Kirkland, who talked on Extremizing algebraic properties of tournament matrices.

An ILAS Business Meeting was held during the afternoon of June 26. A reception was held at the end of the first day of the conference and an excursion, on the afternoon of Wednesday, June 27. It consisted of a tour of Haifa, including the magnificent Bahai Gardens which had opened just a few weeks earlier. The conference banquet was held on the evening of Thursday, June 28, at the Forcheimer Faculty Center and was attended by over 90 participants. The banquet speaker was Mr. Carl Alpert who is considered to be the Historian of the Technion. He talked about various events in the history of the Technion.

Proceedings of the conference will appear as special issues of *Linear Algebra and its Applications* (LAA) and *The Electronic Journal of Linear Algebra* (ELA); each paper can be submitted either to LAA or to ELA.

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Bill Watkins, Jochen Werner, Jerzy Baksalary, Ingram Olkin and Adi Ben-Israel at the Haifa Conference: June 2001.

The Tenth International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics

Voorburg, The Netherlands: 2–3 August 2001

The 10th International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics was held at Statistics Netherlands (CBS) in Voorburg, The Netherlands, on August 2–3, 2001. This Workshop was organized by the Data Theory Group from Leiden University and was a Satellite Meeting of the 53rd Biennial Session of the International Statistical Institute; this Workshop was also endorsed by the International Linear Algebra Society (ILAS). The Workshop was financially supported by CANdiensten. The Permanent Office of the International Statistical Institute was very kind to support the Workshop and to mediate in hosting the workshop at the CBS.

The International Organizing Committee for the workshop consisted of R. William Farebrother, Simo Puntanen, George P. H. Styan (chair), and Hans Joachim Werner. The National Program Committee included Jos ten Berge, Daniel Berze, Patrick J. F. Groenen (chair), Henk A. L. Kiers, Jan R. Magnus, Jacqueline J. Meulman, and Willem R. van Zwet. A group photo of most the participants taken in front of the CBS appears below.



The Tenth International Workshop on Matrices and Statistics: Voorburg, The Netherlands: 2–3 August 2001.

The purpose of the workshop was to stimulate research and, in an informal setting, to foster the interaction of researchers in the interface between matrix theory and statistics. A total of 54 participants from 14 countries joined the workshop.

The Workshop was opened by Marcel P. R. Van den Broecke, Director of the Permanent Office of the International Statistical Institute. This was followed by sessions of invited and contributed papers. Participants can submit their papers for publication, after a refereeing process, in a Special Issue on Linear Algebra and Statistics of *Linear Algebra and its Applications* (LAA). The keynote speakers were E. Kontoghiorghes and T. W. Anderson. There were nine invited speakers: J. K. Baksalary, H. Bozdogan, N. R. Chaganty, S. Ghosh, J. C. Gower, J. Groß, T. Mueller, A. C. Vandal, and F. Zhang. Another 28 contributed papers were presented in 9 sessions.

The lunch buffets at the CBS provided a good atmosphere to stimulate contacts and exchange ideas. The social program included a welcome reception on August 2, 2001, at the Howijck mansion in Voorburg, where Christiaan Huygens (1629–1695) had his residence for 16 years. The workshop dinner was held on August 3 in the Kurhaus Hotel in Scheveningen. An excellent Indonesian rice table was served. The exceptionally good weather made it possible to enjoy great beach views on the Kurhaus terrace. On August 3, the gourmet dinner was enjoyed by thirteen participants at the one Michelin star Savelberg Restaurant in Voorburg. About 16 participants joined the Delft excursion on Saturday, August 4. Without any doubt, the visit to the working windmill Molen de Roos and the explanations by the miller were the highlights of this excursion. Please visit <http://matrix.fsw.leidenuniv.nl> for several photographs taken during this Workshop.

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International Conference on Combinatorial Matrix Theory

Pohang, Korea: 14–17 January 2002

This International Conference on Combinatorial Matrix Theory will be held at Pohang University of Science and Technology (Postech) in Pohang, Korea, 14–17 January 2002. The conference will be on Combinatorics, Combinatorial Matrix Theory and related areas of Computational and Core Matrix Theory.

The Combinatorial and Computational Mathematics Center at Pohang University of Science and Technology, a science research center funded by the Korean Science and Engineering Foundation (KOSEF), is organizing the conference to bring together researchers with interests in the interactions between combinatorics and matrix theory. It is anticipated that the conference will provide a forum for interaction between a broad

group of scientists and engineers with diverse interests in combinatorics and matrix theory.

The conference chairs are: Richard A. Brualdi and Suk-Geun Hwang. The international advisory committee comprises Arnold Kräuter, Bryan Shader, and Jia-Yu Shao. The local coordinator at Postech is Hyun Kwang Kim: hkkim@postech.ac.kr

Invited plenary speakers are Steve Kirkland: "An Approach to Algebraic Connectivity Via Nonnegative Matrices" and Jian Shen: "Some problems on digraphs". Other invited speakers include: Kazuyoshi Okubo, Jason Zhongshan Li, Miroslav Fiedler, Bolian Liu, Qiao Li, Willem Haemers, Ian Wanless, Richard Brualdi, Arnold Kräuter, Bryan Shader, Charles Johnson, Jennifer Seberry, and Jia-yu Shao.

Participants presenting papers are invited to submit them for possible publication in a special issue of the international journal, *Linear Algebra and Its Applications* (LAA), to one of the special editors: Suk-Geun Hwang, Arnold Kräuter, Bryan Shader, and Jia-yu Shao. Papers will be refereed in accordance with the normal high standards of LAA. April 30, 2002 is the deadline for papers to be submitted to one of the special editors.

An excursion to Kyongju will take place on Wednesday afternoon. Kyungju was the capital of the Shilla Kingdom (57 BC - 935 AD) and is Korea's tourist highlight. The cost for the excursion including transportation, entrance fees, and dinner is US\$50.

The Web site of the conference contains up-to-date information including electronic forms for submission of individual presentations. Please visit

<http://matrix.skku.ac.kr/sglee/postech/postech.htm>

Iterative Solvers for Large Linear Systems: Latsis-Symposium 2002

Zürich, Switzerland: 18–21 February 2002

This Conference, to be held at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology / Eidgenössische Technische Hochschule (ETH) in Zürich, Switzerland, from 18 through 21 February 2002 will commemorate 50 years of conjugate gradients and will also host a celebration of the 70th birthday of Gene Howard Golub (b. 29 February 1932).

In 1952, M. Hestenes and E. Stiefel published their seminal paper "Methods of conjugate gradients for solving linear systems" [*J. Research Nat. Bur. Standards* 49 (1952), 409–436]. This conference has the purpose to commemorate this event, review the early and later developments, survey the tremendous impact of this paper, and discuss current research in the area of Krylov space methods and their preconditioning. There will also be a series of talks on large-scale applications that make heavy usage of iterative methods.

The following invited speakers are expected: Bernd Beckermann, Howard Elman, Roland Freund, Anne Greenbaum, Tim