

## Context and Objectives

### Shape Matrix:

- **normalized version** of the covariance matrix
- plays a central role in adaptive signal processing
- often exhibits a particular structure (e.g., Toeplitz for ULAs or AR processes)

### Robust framework:

- impulsive noise, heterogeneous environment, high resolution systems
- **non-Gaussian** distributions  $\rightsquigarrow$  outliers rejection

### Structured estimation:

- improves the estimation accuracy
- robust framework: RCOMET [1], COCA [2], ...

Purposes: \* introduce a recursive version of RCOMET and conduct asymptotic performance analysis  
\* analyze the recursion convergence for the Hermitian persymmetric structure

## Statistical framework and data model

Complex Elliptical Symmetric distribution [3]:  $\mathbf{x} \stackrel{d}{=} \sqrt{Q} \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u} \sim \mathcal{CES}_m(\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{M} \triangleq \mathbf{A} \mathbf{A}^H, g)$   
 $\mathbf{u} \sim \mathcal{U}_q(\mathbb{C}\mathcal{S}^q)$ , random variable  $Q \geq 0$  such that  $\mathbf{u} \perp\!\!\!\perp Q$   $\downarrow$  **unknown in practice**  $\downarrow$

Complex Angular Elliptical distribution [2]:  $\mathbf{y} = \frac{\mathbf{x}}{\|\mathbf{x}\|} \sim \mathcal{U}_m(\mathbf{M}), \mathbf{x} \neq \mathbf{0}$

- free from density generator function
- probability density function:  $p_{\mathbf{Y}}(\mathbf{y}; \mathbf{M}) \propto |\mathbf{M}|^{-1} (\mathbf{y}^H \mathbf{M}^{-1} \mathbf{y})^{-m}$
- shape matrix  $\mathbf{M}$  defined up to a scale factor  $\rightsquigarrow$  needed constraint, e.g.,  $\text{Tr}(\mathbf{M}) = m$

Tyler's M-estimator [4]:  $\widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}} = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{n=1}^N \frac{\mathbf{y}_n \mathbf{y}_n^H}{\mathbf{y}_n^H \widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}}^{-1} \mathbf{y}_n} \triangleq \mathcal{H}(\widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}})$  with  $\mathbf{y}_n \sim \mathcal{U}_m(\mathbf{M})$  i.i.d.

- existence for  $N > m$ , uniqueness up to a scale factor  $\rightsquigarrow$  no ambiguity with  $\text{Tr}(\widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}}) = m$
- **Maximum Likelihood estimator** of the shape matrix
- convergence of the iterative algorithm  $\mathbf{M}_{k+1} = \mathcal{H}(\mathbf{M}_k)$  towards  $\widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}}$  for any  $\mathbf{M}_0$
- statistical performance: consistency, unbiasedness, asymptotic Gaussian distribution [5]

## Problem setup and RCOMET algorithm

Let be  $\mathbf{y}_n \sim \mathcal{U}_m(\mathbf{M}_e \triangleq \mathcal{M}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_e)), n = 1, \dots, N$ , i.i.d. such that  $N > m$ .

We assume:

- $\mathbf{M}_e \in \mathcal{S}$  **convex subset** of Hermitian positive-definite matrices
- there exists a **one-to-one differentiable mapping**  $\boldsymbol{\mu} \mapsto \mathcal{M}(\boldsymbol{\mu})$  from  $\mathbb{R}^P$  to  $\mathcal{S}$

Unknown parameter:  $\boldsymbol{\mu} \in \mathbb{R}^P$  giving a structured estimate  $\mathcal{M}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}})$  and with exact value  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_e$

RCOMET algorithm [1]: 2-step procedure

- $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_0 = \arg \min_{\alpha > 0, \boldsymbol{\mu}} \text{Tr} \left[ \left\{ (\widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}} - \alpha \mathcal{M}(\boldsymbol{\mu})) \widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}}^{-1} \right\}^2 \right]$  such that  $\text{Tr}[\mathcal{M}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_0)] = m$ .
- Asymptotic performance:  $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_0 \xrightarrow{P} \boldsymbol{\mu}_e$  and  $\sqrt{N}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_0 - \boldsymbol{\mu}_e) \xrightarrow{L} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, [\mathbf{F}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_e)]^{-1})$   
Fisher Information matrix  $\downarrow$
- **Substantial sample support** to reach its asymptotic regime
- $\widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}}$  plays both the **role of a target** together with a **metric specification** through  $\widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}}^{-1} \rightsquigarrow$  **splitting** these roles leads to a **recursive formulation**

## Recursive RCOMET Procedure

Algorithm: let be  $1 \leq K < \infty$  and  $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_0$  the RCOMET estimate

$$\text{For } k \in [1, K] \quad \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_k = \arg \min_{\alpha > 0, \boldsymbol{\mu}} \text{Tr} \left[ \left\{ (\widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}} - \alpha \mathcal{M}(\boldsymbol{\mu})) \widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}}^{-1} \right\}^2 \right] \quad (1)$$

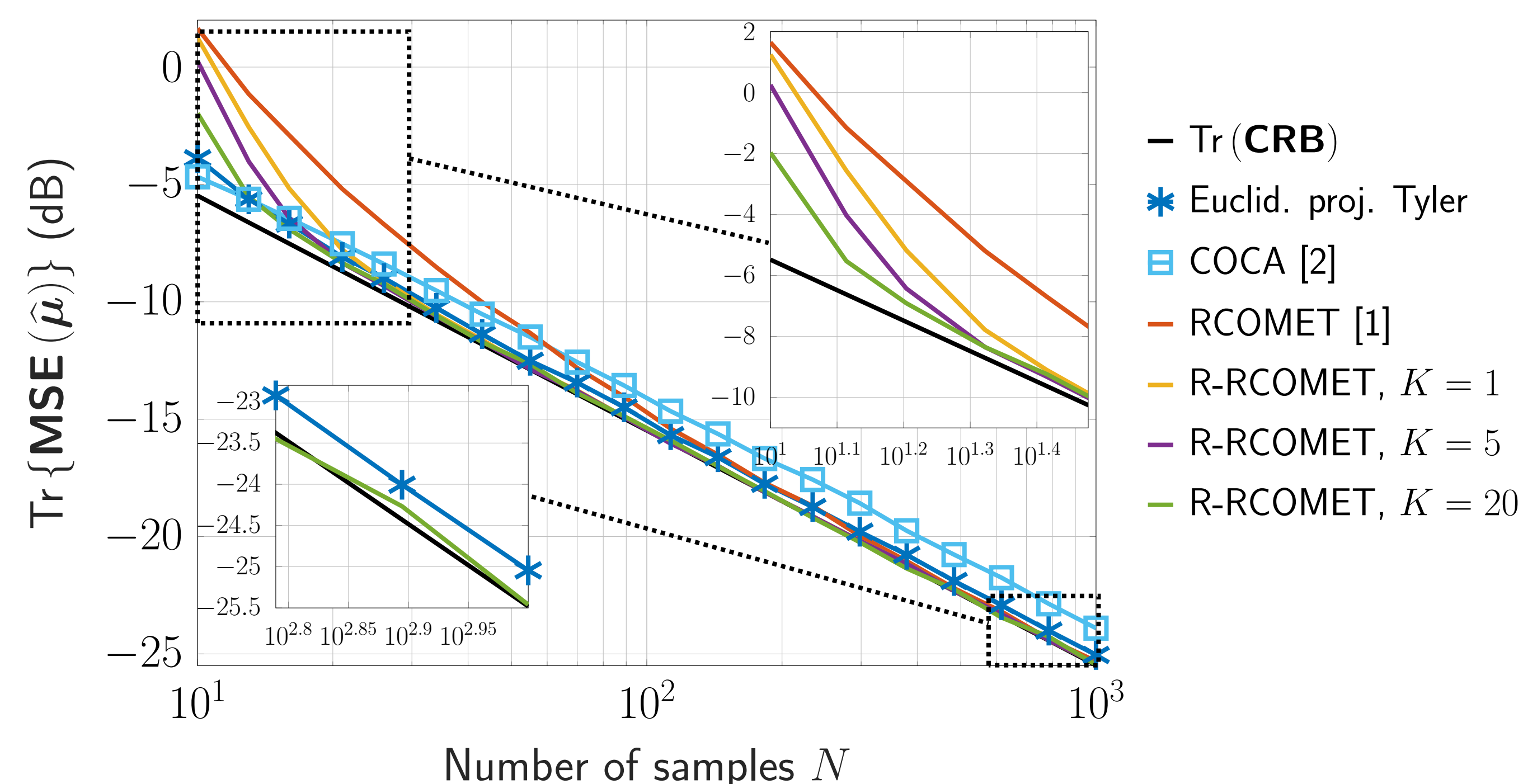
R-RCOMET estimate:  $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_K$  such that  $\text{Tr}[\mathcal{M}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_K)] = m$

Asymptotic performance:  $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_K \xrightarrow{P} \boldsymbol{\mu}_e$  and  $\sqrt{N}(\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_K - \boldsymbol{\mu}_e) \xrightarrow{L} \mathcal{N}(\mathbf{0}, [\mathbf{F}(\boldsymbol{\mu}_e)]^{-1})$

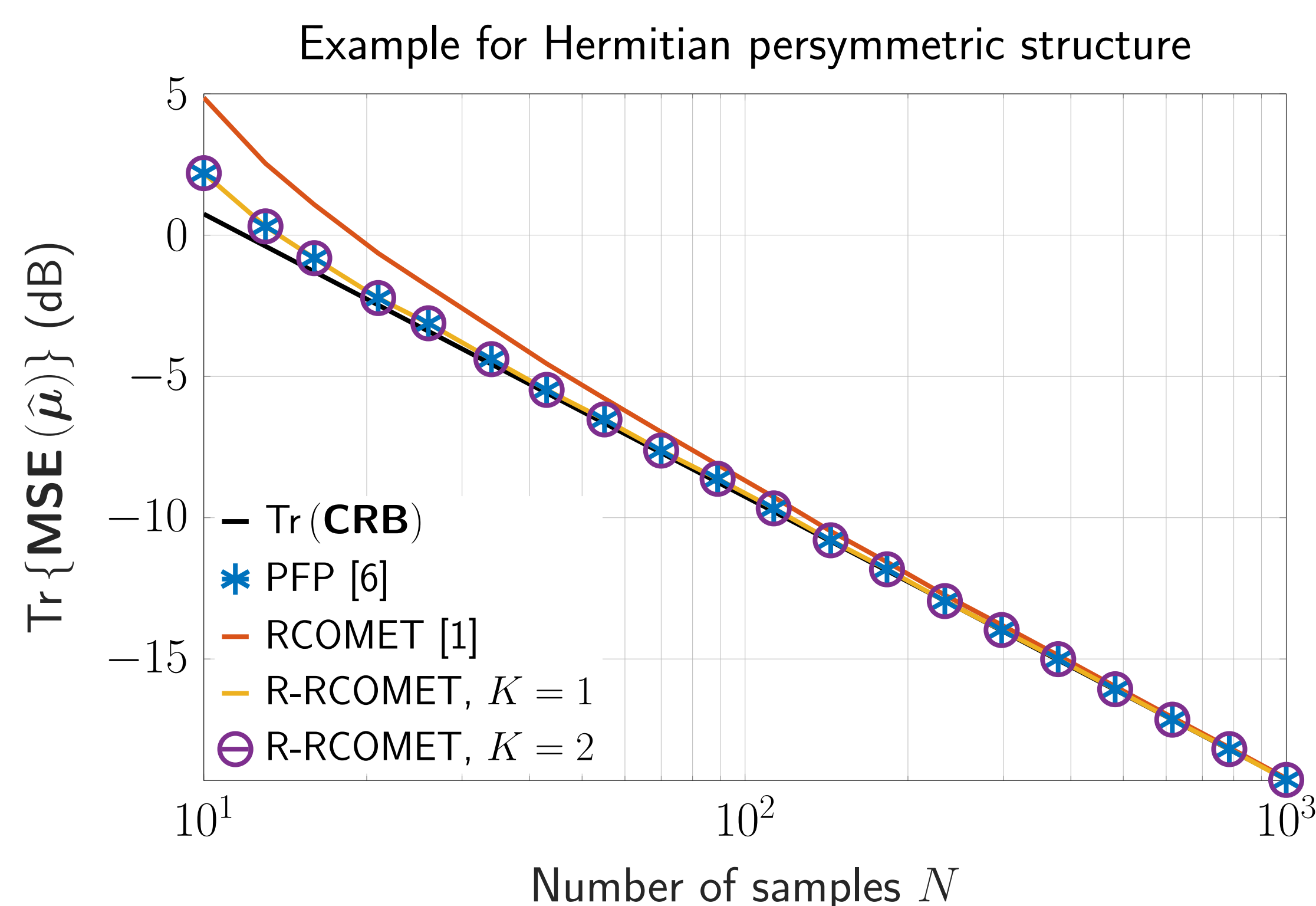
Comments:  $\checkmark$  same asymptotic performance as RCOMET  
 $\checkmark$  empirical improvement of low sample support performance in most cases  
 $\times$  convergence for  $K \rightarrow \infty$  difficult to conduct in general  $\rightsquigarrow$  case by case study

Practical stopping rule: combination of  $k \leq K_{\text{max}}$  and  $\|\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_{k+1} - \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_k\| \leq \varepsilon_{\text{tol}} \|\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_k\|$ .

## Example for Hermitian Toeplitz structure



R-RCOMET allows for an interesting performance-computational cost trade-off



## Case: Hermitian persymmetric structure

Hermitian persymmetric matrices set:

$$\mathcal{HP}_m = \left\{ \mathbf{A} \in \mathbb{C}^{m \times m} \mid \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{A}^H \text{ and } \mathbf{A} = \mathbf{J}_m \mathbf{A}^T \mathbf{J}_m \right\}$$

exchange matrix  $\downarrow$

Natural parameterization:

$$\begin{aligned} &\leftrightarrow \text{real and imaginary parts} \\ &\text{of } M_{r,s} \text{ satisfying } s \geq r \text{ and } \\ &s \leq m + 1 - r \end{aligned} \quad \left( \begin{array}{cccc} a_1 & a_2 & a_3 & a_4 \\ a_2^* & a_5 & a_6 & a_3 \\ a_3^* & a_6^* & a_5 & a_2 \\ a_4^* & a_3^* & a_2^* & a_1 \end{array} \right) \rightsquigarrow \boldsymbol{\mu} = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 \\ \vdots \end{pmatrix} \in \mathbb{R}^P$$

with  $P = m(m+1)/2$

$\exists \mathcal{J} \in \mathbb{R}^{m^2 \times P}$  full-rank column, such that  $\boldsymbol{\eta}(\boldsymbol{\mu}) \triangleq \text{vec}(\mathcal{M}(\boldsymbol{\mu})) = \mathcal{J} \boldsymbol{\mu}$

## Surprising results for this particular case

Let  $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_K$  be the R-RCOMET estimate of  $\boldsymbol{\mu}_e$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_K &= \mathcal{J}^\dagger \widehat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_{\text{FP}} (\neq \widehat{\boldsymbol{\mu}}_0) \quad \forall K \geq 1 && \rightsquigarrow \text{R-RCOMET converges in only one step} \\ &= \arg \min_{\alpha > 0, \boldsymbol{\mu}} \|\widehat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_{\text{FP}} - \alpha \mathcal{J} \boldsymbol{\mu}\|_2^2 \text{ s.t. } \text{Tr}[\mathcal{M}(\boldsymbol{\mu})] = m && \rightsquigarrow \text{Euclidean projection of } \widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}} \text{ onto } \mathcal{HP}_m \\ &= \mathcal{J}^\dagger (\mathbf{T}^T \otimes \mathbf{T}^H) \text{vec} \left( \frac{1}{2} [\mathbf{T} \widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}} \mathbf{T}^H + \mathbf{T}^* \widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}}^T \mathbf{T}^T] \right) && \rightsquigarrow \text{Persymmetric Fixed-Point estimate from [6]} \end{aligned}$$

with  $\mathcal{J}^\dagger$  left inverse of  $\mathcal{J}$ ,  $\widehat{\boldsymbol{\eta}}_{\text{FP}} = \text{vec}(\widehat{\mathbf{M}}_{\text{FP}})$  and  $\mathbf{T}$  unitary matrix, defined in [6, Proposition 1]

## Perspectives

- Justification of the low sample support performance improvement
- R-RCOMET convergence study for other structures
- Investigate links with estimators on Riemannian manifolds

## References

- [1] B. Mériaux, C. Ren, M. N. El Korso, A. Breloy, and P. Forster, "Robust-COMET for covariance estimation in convex structures: algorithm and statistical properties," in *Proc. of IEEE CAMSAP*, 2017.
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