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Frank Nielsen · Frédéric Barbaresco (Eds.)

Geometric Science of Information

4th International Conference, GSI 2019
Toulouse, France, August 27–29, 2019
Proceedings



Springer

Editors

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Tokyo, Japan

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Thales
Limours, France

ISSN 0302-9743

ISSN 1611-3349 (electronic)

Lecture Notes in Computer Science

ISBN 978-3-030-26979-1

ISBN 978-3-030-26980-7 (eBook)

<https://doi.org/10.1007/978-3-030-26980-7>

LNCS Sublibrary: SL6 – Image Processing, Computer Vision, Pattern Recognition, and Graphics

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The registered company address is: Gewerbestrasse 11, 6330 Cham, Switzerland

Foreword

On behalf of both the Organizing and the Scientific Committees, it is our great pleasure to welcome you to the proceedings of the 4th International SEE Conference on Geometric Science of Information (GSI 2019), hosted at ENAC in Toulouse, during August 27–29, 2019.

GSI 2019 benefited from the following scientific and financial sponsors: SMF, SMAI, GDR CNRS ISIS & MIA, ENAC, THALES, Ecole Polytechnique, Mines ParisTech, Sony Computer Science Laboratories Inc (Sony CSL). GSI 2019 was the opening event of the CIMI labex trimester on “Statistics with Geometry and Topology”: <https://perso.math.univ-toulouse.fr/statistics-geometry-and-topology/>.

The three-day conference was also organized in the framework of the relations set up between SEE and scientific institutions or academic laboratories: ENAC, Institut Mathématique de Bordeaux, Ecole Polytechnique, Ecole des Mines ParisTech, Inria, CentraleSupélec, Institut Mathématique de Bordeaux, Sony Computer Science Laboratories.

We would like to express all our thanks to the local organizers (ENAC, IMT and CIMI Labex) for hosting this event at the interface between geometry, probability, and information geometry.

The GSI conference cycle was initiated by the [Brillouin Seminar Team](#) as early as 2009. The GSI 2019 event was motivated in the continuity of the first initiatives launched in 2013 (<https://www.see.asso.fr/gsi2013>) at Mines ParisTech, consolidated in 2015 (<https://www.see.asso.fr/gsi2015>) at Ecole Polytechnique, and opened up to new communities in 2017 (<https://www.see.asso.fr/gsi2017>) at Mines ParisTech. We mention that in 2011, we organized an Indo-French workshop on “Matrix Information Geometry” that yielded an [edited book in 2013](#), and in 2017, we collaborated with the CIRM seminar in Luminy TGSI 2017 “Topological and Geometrical Structures of Information” (<http://forum.cs-dc.org/category/94/tgsi2017>). The last GSI 2017 proceedings were published by Springer in their *Lecture Notes in Computer Science* series (<https://www.springer.com/fr/book/9783319684444>) and the most important contributions to the GSI 2017 conference are collected in the Springer volume *Geometric Structures of Information* (<https://www.springer.com/us/book/9783030025199>).

The technical program of GSI 2019 covered all the main topics and highlights in the domain of “geometric science of information” including information geometry manifolds of structured data/information and their advanced applications. These proceedings consist solely of original research papers that were carefully peer-reviewed by two or three experts and revised before acceptance.

The GSI 2019 program included a renowned honorary speaker, one guest honorary speaker, and three keynote distinguished speakers, as well as a history session with a talk on “Fermat, Pascal, and the Geometry of Chance” and a “Tribute to Jean-Louis Koszul” (who passed away in January 2018).

As with GSI 2013, GSI 2015, and GSI 2017, GSI 2019 addressed inter-relations between different mathematical domains like shape spaces (geometric statistics on manifolds and Lie groups, deformations in shape space, etc.), probability/optimization and algorithms on manifolds (structured matrix manifold, structured data/Information etc.), relational and discrete metric spaces (graph metrics, distance geometry, relational analysis, etc.), computational and Hessian information geometry, geometric structures in thermodynamics and statistical physics, algebraic/infinite dimensional/Banach information manifolds, divergence geometry, tensor-valued morphology, optimal transport theory, manifold and topology learning, and applications such as geometries of audio-processing, inverse problems, and signal/image processing. The GSI 2019 topics were enriched with contributions on Lie group machine learning, harmonic analysis on Lie groups, geometric deep learning, geometry of Hamiltonian Monte Carlo, geometric and (poly)symplectic integrators, contact geometry and Hamiltonian control, geometric and structure preserving discretizations, probability density estimation and sampling in high dimension, geometry of graphs and networks and geometry in neuroscience and cognitive sciences.

At the turn of the century, new and fruitful interactions were discovered between several branches of science: information science (information theory, digital communications, statistical signal processing), mathematics (group theory, geometry and topology, probability, statistics, sheaves theory) and physics (geometric mechanics, thermodynamics, statistical physics, quantum mechanics). The GSI conference cycle is an attempt to discover joint mathematical structures to all these disciplines by elaboration of a “general theory of information” embracing physics, information science, and cognitive science in a global scheme.

GSI 2019 addressed the following sessions with associated chairs:

- Probability on Riemannian Manifolds – Marc Arnaudon, Ana Bela Cruzeiro
- Optimization on Manifold – Salem Said, Rodolphe Sepulchre
- Shape Space – Nicolas Charon, Pietro Gori
- Statistics on Non-linear Data – Xavier Pennec, Stefan Sommer
- Lie Group Machine Learning – Elena Celledoni, Frédéric Barbaresco
- Statistical Manifold and Hessian Information Geometry – Michel Nguiffo Boyom, Hiroshi Matsuzoe
- Monotone Embedding and Affine Immersion of Probability Models – Jun Zhang, Atsumi Ohara
- Non-parametric Information Geometry – Lorenz Schwachhöfer, John Armstrong
- Divergence Geometry – Frank Nielsen, Wolfgang Stummer
- Computational Information Geometry – Frank Nielsen, Olivier Schwander
- Wasserstein Information Geometry/Optimal Transport – Guido Montufar, Wuchen Li
- Geometric Structures in Thermodynamics and Statistical Physics – Goffredo Chirco, François Gay-Balmaz
- Geometric and Structure-Preserving Discretizations – François Gay-Balmaz, Joël Bensoam
- Geometry of Quantum States – Florio Maria Ciaglia, Giuseppe Marmo
- Geometry of Tensor-Valued Data – Jesús Angulo, Geert Verdoolaege

- Geometric Mechanics – Géry de Saxcé, Jean Lerbet
- Geometric Science of Information Libraries – Nina Miolane, Alice Le Brigant
- Poster Session – Pierre Baudot

We were also honored to have the following keynote talks:

- Invited Honorary Speaker
 - Alain Chenciner (Université Paris 7, Observatoire de Paris), “N-body Relative Equilibria in Higher Dimensions”
- Guest Honorary Speaker
 - Karl Friston (Wellcome Trust Centre for Neuroimaging), “Markov Blankets and Bayesian Mechanics”
- Keynote Speakers
 - Elena Celledoni (Norwegian University of Science and Technology), “Structure preserving algorithms for geometric numerical integration”
 - Gabriel Peyré (CNRS, Ecole Normale Supérieure), “Optimal Transport for Machine Learning”
 - Jean-Baptiste Hiriart-Urruty (Université de Toulouse), “Fermat, Pascal: Geometry and Chance”

August 2019

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