

# A family of schemes for multiplying $3 \times 3$ matrices with 23 coefficient multiplications



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Let  $R$  be a ring and  $S$  be a subring of the centralizer of  $R$ . Let  $x_1, \dots, x_{17} \in S$  be arbitrary, set  $x_{i,j} = x_i x_j + 1$  for  $i, j = 1, \dots, 17$  and

$$\begin{aligned} p_1 &= x_{2,3} + x_3 & p_2 &= x_7 x_{5,6} + x_5 & p_3 &= x_4 x_{2,3} + x_2 \\ p_4 &= x_{14} x_{12,13} + x_{12} & p_5 &= x_{16} x_{10,15} + x_{10} & p_6 &= x_4 x_{2,3} + x_{3,4} + x_2 \\ p_7 &= x_8 x_{11} x_{5,6} + x_8 x_9 x_{5,6} - x_6 x_{11} & p_8 &= x_7 x_8 x_9 x_{5,6} + x_7 x_8 x_{11} x_{5,6} - x_{11} x_{6,7} + x_5 x_8 x_9 + x_5 x_8 x_{11}. \end{aligned}$$

Let

$$A = \begin{pmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{pmatrix} \in R^{3 \times 3}, \quad B = \begin{pmatrix} b_{11} & b_{12} & b_{13} \\ b_{21} & b_{22} & b_{23} \\ b_{31} & b_{32} & b_{33} \end{pmatrix} \in R^{3 \times 3}, \quad \text{and} \quad C = \begin{pmatrix} c_{11} & c_{12} & c_{13} \\ c_{21} & c_{22} & c_{23} \\ c_{31} & c_{32} & c_{33} \end{pmatrix} = AB.$$

Then the entries of  $C$  can be computed from the entries of  $A$  and  $B$  as follows:

$m_1 = (a_{11} + x_1 a_{12} + a_{13}) \times (b_{33})$	$m_2 = (a_{11} + a_{21} - a_{22}) \times (b_{21} - b_{23})$
$m_3 = (a_{11} + a_{21} + a_{31} + a_{33}) \times (b_{11} + b_{12} - b_{13})$	$m_4 = (a_{11} + a_{21} + a_{32}) \times (b_{12} - b_{21} + b_{23})$
$m_5 = (a_{11} + a_{21}) \times (b_{11} - b_{13} + b_{21} - b_{23})$	$m_6 = (a_{11} - a_{23}) \times (b_{11} - b_{33})$
$m_7 = (a_{11} - a_{31} + a_{32}) \times (b_{12} - b_{13})$	$m_8 = (a_{11} + a_{33}) \times (b_{12} - b_{13} + b_{33})$
$m_9 = (a_{11}) \times (b_{13} - b_{33})$	$m_{10} = (a_{12} + a_{13} + a_{22} + a_{23} + a_{32}) \times (b_{21} + b_{22} - b_{23})$
$m_{11} = (a_{12} + a_{13} + a_{23}) \times (b_{21} + b_{22} - b_{23} - b_{32})$	$m_{12} = (a_{12} + a_{13} - a_{33}) \times (b_{32})$
$m_{13} = (a_{12}) \times (x_{3,4} b_{22} - p_6 b_{23} - x_{3,4} b_{32} + p_6 x_1 b_{33})$	$m_{14} = (a_{12}) \times (x_3 b_{22} - p_1 b_{23} - x_3 b_{32} + p_1 x_1 b_{33})$
$m_{15} = (a_{13} + a_{23}) \times (-b_{21} - b_{22} + b_{23} + b_{31} + b_{32} - b_{33})$	$m_{16} = (-p_2 a_{21} + p_2 x_9 a_{22} - p_2 a_{23} - x_{6,7} a_{31} + p_8 a_{32} - x_{6,7} a_{33}) \times (b_{11})$
$m_{17} = (x_{5,6} a_{21} - x_9 x_{5,6} a_{22} + x_{5,6} a_{23} + x_6 a_{31} - p_7 a_{32} + x_6 a_{33}) \times (b_{11})$	$m_{18} = (a_{22} + x_8 a_{32}) \times (x_9 b_{11} + b_{21})$
$m_{19} = (x_{15,16} a_{23} + p_5 a_{33}) \times (b_{11} - b_{31})$	$m_{20} = (a_{32}) \times (x_{11} x_{13,14} b_{11} + p_4 b_{12} - x_{13,14} b_{21} + p_4 b_{22})$
$m_{21} = (-a_{32}) \times (x_{11} x_{13} b_{11} + x_{12,13} b_{12} - x_{13} b_{21} + x_{12,13} b_{22})$	$m_{22} = (x_{15} a_{23} + x_{10,15} a_{33}) \times (-b_{11} + b_{31})$
$m_{23} = (a_{33}) \times (x_{17} b_{11} - b_{12} + b_{13} - x_{17} b_{31} + b_{32} - b_{33})$	

$$\begin{aligned} c_{11} &= m_1 + m_6 + m_{11} - x_{2,3} m_{13} + p_3 m_{14} + m_{15} + x_{10,15} m_{19} + p_5 m_{22} \\ c_{12} &= m_8 + m_9 + m_{12} + p_1 m_{13} - p_6 m_{14} + x_{15} x_{17} m_{19} + x_{17} x_{15,16} m_{22} + m_{23} \\ c_{13} &= m_1 + m_9 + x_3 m_{13} - x_{3,4} m_{14} \\ c_{21} &= x_6 m_{16} + x_{6,7} m_{17} + m_{18} - x_{10,15} m_{19} + x_8 x_{12,13} m_{20} + p_4 x_8 m_{21} - p_5 m_{22} \\ c_{22} &= m_2 + m_4 - m_8 - m_9 + m_{10} - m_{11} - m_{12} - x_{15} x_{17} m_{19} + x_{13} m_{20} + x_{13,14} m_{21} - x_{17} x_{15,16} m_{22} - m_{23} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} c_{23} &= m_2 - m_5 + m_6 - m_9 + x_6 m_{16} + x_{6,7} m_{17} + m_{18} + x_8 x_{12,13} m_{20} + p_4 x_8 m_{21} \\ c_{31} &= -x_{5,6} m_{16} - p_2 m_{17} + x_{15} m_{19} - x_{12,13} m_{20} - p_4 m_{21} + x_{15,16} m_{22} \\ c_{32} &= m_7 + m_8 + m_9 + x_{15} x_{17} m_{19} - x_{13} m_{20} - x_{13,14} m_{21} + x_{17} x_{15,16} m_{22} + m_{23} \\ c_{33} &= -m_3 + m_4 + m_5 + m_7 + m_8 + m_9 - x_{5,6} m_{16} - p_2 m_{17} - x_{12,13} m_{20} - p_4 m_{21} \end{aligned}$$

It is easy (but tedious) to confirm the correctness of the above scheme by expanding all definitions and observing that we have  $c_{i,j} = \sum_k a_{i,k} b_{k,j}$  for all  $i, j$ .

The scheme performs only 23 multiplications of two elements of  $R$ , one for each  $m_k$  (plus some additions and some multiplications of elements of  $S$  with elements of  $R$ ).

Other schemes with 23 multiplications are known since 1976 [5], but no scheme with only 22 multiplications is known. To beat Strassen [8], we would need a scheme with 21.

There is no way to instantiate the parameters  $x_1, \dots, x_{17}$  such that the scheme can be simplified to a scheme with only 22 multiplications in  $R$ .

The polynomials in  $x_1, \dots, x_{17}$  appearing in the scheme describe variety of dimension 17. In this sense, there is no redundancy among the parameters.

Compared to the families of Johnson and McLoughlin [4], our scheme has more parameters, and it requires no assumption on the coefficient ring  $R$ .

Our family is unrelated to the family of [4] and to other known schemes [5, 1, 6, 7] for multiplying  $3 \times 3$  matrices with 23 coefficient multiplications.

Our scheme was found by a combination of SAT solving, described in more detail in [2], and computer algebra methods, described in more detail in [3].

Some more schemes with 17 parameters, dozens with fewer parameters, and thousands of new isolated solutions are available here:



## References

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