Contents

1.	Intro	oduction	1
2.	Elastic Full Procrustes Means for Planar Curves		3
	2.1.	Equivalence Classes and Shape Invariance	3
	2.2.	The Square-Root-Velocity Framework	6
	2.3.	The Elastic Full Procrustes Distance for Planar Curves	8
	2.4.	The Elastic Full Procrustes Mean for Planar Curves	9
3.	Estimation Strategy for Sparse and Irregular Observations		11
	3.1.	Efficient Estimation using Hermitian Covariance Smoothing	11
	3.2.	Estimating the Full Procrustes Mean in a Fixed Basis	11
	3.3.	Numerical Integration of the Procrustes Fits	13
4.	Empirical Applications		14
	4.1.	Mean Estimation for Simulated Spirals	14
	4.2.	Classification of Hand-written Digits	14
	4.3.	Mean Differences of Tounge Shapes in a Phonetics Study	14
5.	Sum	nmary	15
Bil	oliog	raphy	16
Α.	Appendix		18
	A.1.	Additional Proofs and Derivations	18
		Discussion of Possible Extensions to Closed Curves	19
	А.3.	Shape-Smoothing Using the Estimated Covariance-Surface	19
B.	Supplementary Materials		20
	B.1.	Dataset Replication Guide	20
	B.2.	Implementation Notes	20