

# Free Probability

## Aspects of Random Matrices

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# Large $N$ limits of random Multimatrix Models



von Neumann  
Algebras of  
type  $\text{II}_1$ ,

$$T_{j,N} = T_{j,N}^*, \quad 1 \leq j \leq n$$

$$\varphi_N(P) = \frac{1}{N} E(\text{Tr } P(T_{1,N}, \dots, T_{n,N}))$$

$$P \in \mathbb{C}\langle X_1, \dots, X_n \rangle = \mathbb{C}\langle \sum^n \mathbb{C} \rangle$$

$$\varphi_N \longrightarrow \varphi_\infty$$

$\mathcal{H}$  Hilbert space

$$\mathbb{C}\langle n \rangle, \langle P, Q \rangle = \varphi_\infty(Q^*P)$$

$$X_j = X_j^*, \quad \mathcal{H} \text{ left } \mathbb{C}\langle n \rangle \text{ module}$$

$$\mathbb{C}\langle n \rangle \hookrightarrow \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}), \quad \varphi_\infty(P) = \langle P1, 1 \rangle$$

(GNS-construction)

$M =$  weak closure in  $\mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H})$   $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$

$$\tau(\cdot) = \langle \cdot, 1, 1 \rangle$$

trace-state on  $M$

$$\tau(1) = 1, \quad \tau(ab) = \tau(ba)$$

$$\tau(a^*a) \geq 0$$

Large  $N$  limit:

$$X_1, \dots, X_n \text{ in } (M, \tau)$$

cf  $n=1$

$$M = L^\infty(\mathbb{R}, \sigma)$$

limit distr. of eigens.

$$\tau(f) = \int f d\sigma, \quad X(t) = t.$$

Typical  $(M, \mathcal{E})$  ( $n \geq 2$ ) (4)

II<sub>1</sub>-factors ( $Z(M) = \mathbb{C}I$   
 $\dim M = \infty$ )

projectors  $P = P^* = P^2 \in M$

$\infty$ -dim geometry of linear  
subspaces with dimension  
 $\mathcal{E}(P) \in [0, 1]$

$G$  discrete group  
with  $\infty$  conjugacy classes (i.c.c.)

$M = L(G) =$  left reg. repr.  
w-closed lin. span

$$\mathcal{E}\left(\sum c_g \lambda(g)\right) = c_e$$

$(M, \tau)$  Noncommutative probability space

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  Noncommutative random variables

Free Probability Th. =

= Noncommutative Prob. Th

+ Free Independence

$I \in A_c \subset (M, \tau)$   $I \in \bar{I}$   
subalgebras

freely independent

$\tau(a_{i_1} a_{i_2} \dots a_{i_p}) = 0$  whenever  
 $\tau(a_{i_j}) = 0, i_j \in I, a_{i_j} \in A_{i_j}, i_j \neq i_{j+1}$

Example 1<sup>o</sup>

$$G = G_1 * G_2 \quad \text{discrete groups}$$

$$L(G_1), L(G_2) \subset L(G)$$

freely indep.

Example 2<sup>o</sup> (V)

$\mu_N$  probs. meas. on  $(M_N^{\mathbb{R}^a})^{q_1 + \dots + q_p}$

joint distr.  $T_{1,N} \dots T_{n,N}$

$n = q_1 + \dots + q_p$ .  $\text{diam}_\infty(\text{supp } \mu_N) \leq R$

$(U(N))^{p-1}$  acting by conjugation

on  $(M_N^{\mathbb{R}^a})^{q_1 + \dots + q_p}$  (trivial on

last group of elt.)  $\mu_N$  invariant.

If  $\varphi_\infty$  limit exists then

$\{X_1, \dots, X_{q_1}\}, \{X_{q_1+1}, \dots, X_{q_1+q_2}\}, \dots$

freely indep. in  $(M, \otimes)$

Cor. Independent i.i.d.

Gaussian Hermitian random matrices and constant hermitian (norm bounded cond) asymptotically free.

In this case  $M$  for Gaussian matrices  $\cong L(F(n))$  free group

v. Neumann algebra applications of  $L(F(n))$  asymptotically generated by  $n$  independent i.i.d. hermitian.

"Scaling" of  $L(F(\infty))$

(v. Neumann fundamental group  $= \mathbb{R}_{>0}$ )

$$L(F(\infty)) \cong P L(F(\infty)) P$$

$$P = P^2 \neq 0, (V \otimes (P) \in \mathbb{Q}, \text{Radulescu} \in \mathbb{R})$$



# Open Problems:

Connes Problem: every separable  $\text{II}_1$  factor asymptotically generated by some random matrices in above sense

For many models  $\Psi_N \rightarrow \Psi_\infty$  limit

for instance if

$$d\sigma_N = c_N e^{-N \text{Tr} P(A_1, \dots, A_M)} d(A_1, \dots, A_M)$$

[ in this case, is  $M \simeq L(F(n))$  ?? ]

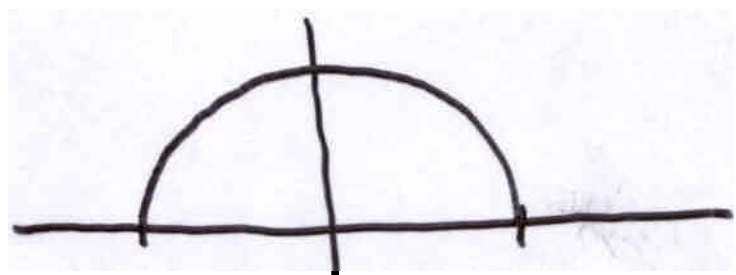
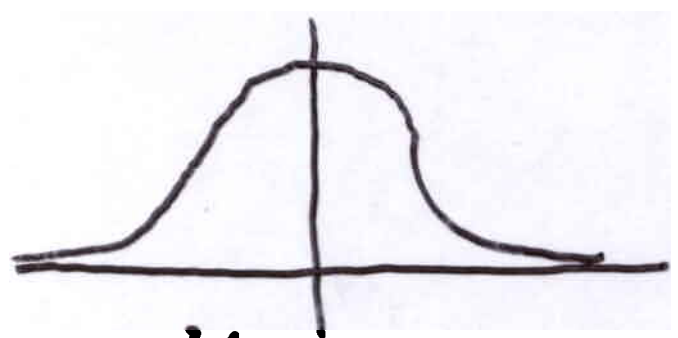
# Basic Laws

Classical

Free

Gauss law

Semicircle law



$$c e^{-x^2/2} dx$$

$$c \sqrt{4 - x^2} dx$$

$$-2 \leq x \leq 2$$

Poisson

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} e^{-a} \frac{a^n}{n!} \delta_n$$

$a > 0$

Free Poisson

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} (1-a)\delta_0 + \nu \text{ if } 0 \leq a \leq 1 \\ \nu \text{ if } a > 1 \end{array} \right.$$

$$\nu \cdot (2\pi t)^{-1} \sqrt{4a - (t - (1+a))^2}$$

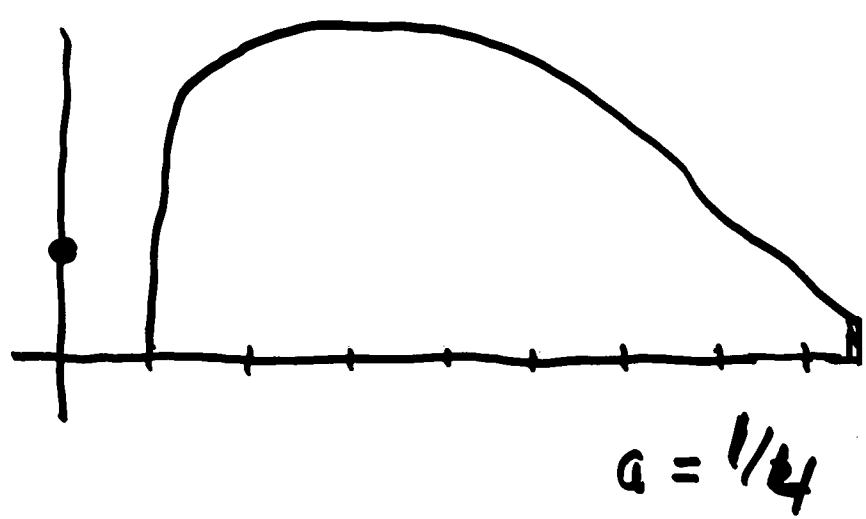
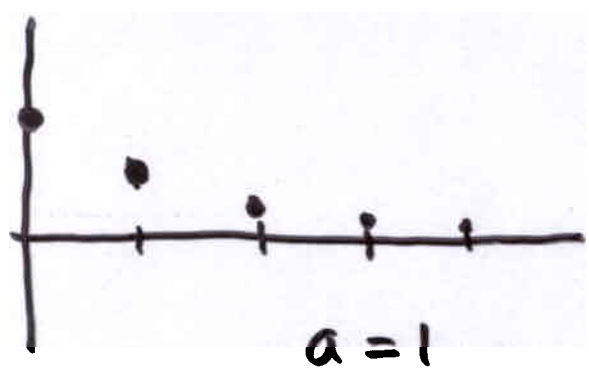
$$(1-\sqrt{a})^2 \leq t \leq (1+\sqrt{a})^2$$

Classical

Free

Poisson

Free Poisson

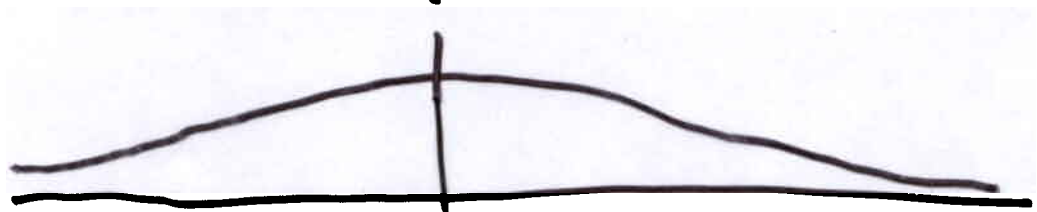


Cauchy

Free Cauchy = Cauchy

$$c \frac{1}{x^2 + a^2} dx$$

$$c \frac{1}{x^2 + a^2} dx$$



# Free Prob. Th.

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## Counterparts of Classical:

- addition and multiplication of independent variables
- additive and multiplicative convolution operations
- Gaussian processes
- Stochastic Integration (Biane, Speicher)
- Infinitely divisible and stable laws (Bercovici + V)
- Combinatorics of cumulants (Speicher)

# Combinatorial Approach to Free Probs.

(Speicher):

all partitions of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  replaced by non-crossing

(No:  $a < b < c < d$ )

Planar diagram.

Applications of asymptotic random matrix model to v. Neumann algebras:

V. , Dykema, Radulescu,

Shlyakhtenko

(to other operator algebras: Haagerup)

In one-random-matr. th. logarithmic energy :

$$\iint d\mu(s) d\mu(t) \log |s-t|$$

limit distr of eigenw.

In Free Probs. this is

$\chi(X)$  free entropy

of  $X$  in  $(M, \tau)$ .

Analogue of Shannon differential entropy ..

$\chi(X_1, \dots, X_n)$

(2 approaches  $\chi, \chi^*$  and unification problems)



$$\mathcal{X}(X_1, \dots, X_n), X_j = X_j^* \in M \quad (12)$$

$$1 \leq j \leq n$$

Matricial Microstates  
 (  $S = k \log V$  / idea )

$$\Gamma_R (X_1, \dots, X_n : m, k, \varepsilon)$$

$$(A_1, \dots, A_m) \in (M_k^{\text{sa}})^m$$

$$\|A_j\| < R$$

$$|k^{-1} \text{Tr}_k(A_{i_1} \dots A_{i_p}) - \tau(X_{i_1} \dots X_{i_p})| < \varepsilon$$

$$1 \leq p \leq m$$

$$\limsup_{k \rightarrow \infty} (k^{-2} \log \text{vol } \Gamma + \frac{n}{2} \log k)$$

$$\sup_{R > 0} \inf_{\varepsilon > 0} \inf_{m \in \mathbb{N}}$$

$$\text{get } \mathcal{X}(X_1, \dots, X_n)$$

Many nice properties similar to Shannon differential entropy

$$H(X_1, \dots, X_n) = - \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} p \log p \, d\lambda$$

indep  $\rightarrow$  free indep  
Gauss law  $\rightarrow$  semicircle

$X_1, \dots, X_n$  free  
 $\Rightarrow \chi(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \chi(X_1) + \dots + \chi(X_n)$

Gaussian bound

$$\chi(F_1(X_1, \dots, X_n), \dots, F_n(X_1, \dots, X_n)) = \log |\det J(F)| + \chi(X_1, \dots, X_n)$$

Kadison - Fuglede det of Jacobian involving "free difference quotient deriv."



Applications to v. Neumann algebras

(V, Ge, Stefan, Shlyakhtenko, Dykema, Jung)

Example (Ge)

$L(F(n))$  is prime

i.e. not isomorphic  $M_1 \otimes M_2$   
 $\infty$ -dim v. Neuman

[Key  $\chi(S_1, \dots, S_n) > -\infty$   
 large lim of Gaussian RBs

while  $\chi(\text{generator } M_1 \otimes M_2) = -\infty$ ]

Connections to large deviations  
 for random matrices

(Ben Arous, Cabanal-Duvillard,  
 Guionnet, Pety)

"Microstates - free" approach (15)

$$\underline{\chi^*(X_1, \dots, X_n)}$$

In infinitesimal approach:

Free Fisher Information

Classically: distr.  $p dt$

$$\text{Score function: } \frac{p'}{p} = -\left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)^* \perp$$

Fisher information in  $L^2(\mathbb{R}, p dt)$

$$\left\| \frac{p'}{p} \right\|_{L^2(p dt)}^2 = \int \frac{(p')^2}{p} dt =$$

$$= \left\| \left(\frac{d}{dt}\right)^* \perp \right\|^2$$

Also derivative of entropy

along Brownian motion

$$= 2 \lim_{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} \varepsilon^{-1} (H(X + \varepsilon^{1/2} G) - H(X))$$

Free analogue

$$\frac{d}{dt} \rightsquigarrow \partial_X$$

free difference quotient

$$\partial_X: B : B\langle X \rangle \rightarrow B\langle X \rangle \otimes B\langle X \rangle$$

$B \subset (M, \varepsilon)$  v. Neumann subalgebra

$$X = X^* \in M$$

$B$  and  $X$  algebraically free (i.e. no alg. relation)

$$\begin{aligned} \partial_X: B \quad b_0 X b_1 X \dots b_m &= \\ = \sum_{1 \leq j \leq m} b_0 X \dots b_{j-1} \otimes b_j X \dots b_m \end{aligned}$$

$$J(X: B) = \partial_{X: B}^* 1 \otimes 1$$



$$\partial_X^* \mathcal{B} \text{ in } L^2(M, \mathcal{G})$$

$$\langle a, b \rangle = \mathcal{G}(b^* a).$$

$$\mathcal{B} = \mathbb{C} \mathbb{1}$$

$$\partial_X : \mathbb{C} \mathcal{P} \cong \frac{P(X) - P(Y)}{X - Y}$$

In general

$$\bar{\mathcal{I}}^*(X_1, \dots, X_n) :=$$

$$= \sum_{1 \leq k \leq n} \mathcal{G}(J_k^2)$$

$$J_k = \mathcal{J}(X_k : \mathcal{W}^*(X_1, \dots, \widehat{X}_k, \dots, X_n))$$

$$\chi^*(X_1, \dots, X_n) :=$$

$$= \frac{n}{2} \log 2\pi e + \int_0^{\infty} \left( \frac{n}{1+t} - \bar{\mathcal{I}}^*(X_1 + t\mathcal{I}, \dots) \right) \frac{1}{dt}$$

$S_1, \dots, S_n$  large  $N$  limit  
of Gaussian i.i.d.  $n$ -tuple  
of random matrices and  
freely indep of  $X_1, \dots, X_n$ .

Theory of  $\chi$  and  $\chi^*$   
incomplete (i.e. would  
like complete list of free  
analogues of properties of  
differential entropy to be  
proved) in addition  
unification problem  
(show  $\chi = \chi^*$ ).

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Complete theory of  $\chi$  or  $\chi^*$   
would have important consequences  
in von Neumann algebra theory.

Unification would solve  
Connes problem in particular.  
Also important connections  
to large deviations for  
random matrices (can be  
viewed as refinement of unification  
—  $\chi^*$  rate function).

Recent large deviation important  
progress:  $\chi \leq \chi^*$   
(Biane - Capitaine - Guionnet)  
Stochastic analysis techniques.



Progress on free entropy  
also necessary for dealing  
with variational problem

$$\chi(X_1, \dots, X_n) - \mathbb{E}(\mathbb{P}(X_1, \dots, X_n))$$

which is related to  
multimatrix model with  
distribution density

$$c_N e^{-N \text{Tr} P(A_1, \dots, A_n)}$$

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# Free Probability Angle on "Largest Eigenvalues" of Random Matrices

Large -  $N$  - limit for  
 $n$  i.i.d. Gaussian Hermitian  
matrices are  $S_1, \dots, S_n$   
in  $(M, \tau)$  freely indep. and  
with  $\tau$  (spectral meas.) =  $\underline{\Omega}$   
i.e. "semicircular". So

$$\begin{aligned} \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} E \left( \frac{1}{N} \text{Tr} (P(T_{1,N}, \dots, T_{n,N})) \right) &= \\ &= \tau (P(S_1, \dots, S_n)) \end{aligned}$$



Recent result of  
Haagerup - Thorbjørnsen

$$\lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \|P(T_{1N}, \dots, T_{nN})\|$$

almost surely

$$= \|P(S_1, \dots, S_n)\|$$

(Pf. is combination of free prob. techniques with concentration of measure).

For  $n=1$  this contains largest eigenvalue results.

Connects with  
"Topological free entropy" (V)

$A = C^*$ -algebra with unit  
 (norm-closed selfadjoint  
 alg. of bdd. operators in  
 $B(\mathcal{H})$  — "noncommutative  
 $C(X)$  " i.e. topological sp.)  
 [v. Neumann alg. weakly  
 closed — "noncommutative  
 $L^\infty(X, d\mu)$  " i.e. measure  
 space]

$a_1, \dots, a_n$  selfadj. generator  
 of  $A$ .

$\Pi_{\text{top}}(a_1, \dots, a_n; N, \epsilon, P_1, \dots, P_n)$

$$A_1, \dots, A_n \in (M_N^{\text{sa}})^n$$

$$\left| \|P_j(A_1, \dots, A_n)\| - \|P_j(a_1, \dots, a_n)\| \right| < \epsilon$$

$$1 \leq j \leq n, P_j \in \mathbb{C}\langle X_1, \dots, X_n \rangle.$$

$$\limsup_{N \rightarrow \infty} (N^{-2} \log \text{vol } \Gamma_{\text{top}} + \frac{n}{2} \log N)$$

inf  $\epsilon > 0$  inf  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  inf  $P_1, \dots, P_n \in \mathcal{C}_{\leq n}$   
gives  $\chi_{\text{top}}(a_1, \dots, a_n)$

Competing quantity:

free capacity

$$K(a_1, \dots, a_n) = \sup_{\mathcal{C} \in \text{TTS}(A)} \chi(a_1, \dots, a_n; \mathcal{C})$$

$$(\chi(a_1, \dots, a_n; \mathcal{C}) = \chi(a_1, \dots, a_n \mid \text{in } (A, \mathcal{C})).$$

Fact:  $\chi_{\text{top}}(a_1, \dots, a_n) \leq K(a_1, \dots, a_n)$

Problem  $\chi_{\text{top}} = K$  ?

[ Maybe always ??? ]

$n = 1$   $\sigma(a)$  spectrum of  $a$

$$e^{K(a) - \theta} = \text{cap}(\sigma(a))$$

$\text{cap}(\cdot)$  logarithmic capacity.

$\chi_{\text{top}} = K$  for  $S_1, \dots, S_n$   
(free semicircular  $n$ -tuple)

$\chi_{\text{top}} = K$  for universal  $n$ -tuple  $C_1, \dots, C_n$   
of self-adjoint contractions

Maximizing trace-states

- for  $S_1, \dots, S_n$  trace-state which makes them free semicircular
- for  $C_1, \dots, C_n$  freely indep with arcsine distributions.



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