

# Random Matrices and Free Probability

Talk 3 at IAS/TUM  
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# Talk 3: Free Probability

Friday, October 14, 2011

- I. **Asymptotically free random matrices**
- II. **Free Probability and free Central Limit Theorem**
- III. **Free additive convolution: Analytic approach**
- IV. **Free multiplicative convolution: Analytic approach**
- V. **Free infinite divisibility**
- VI. **From classical to free infinite divisibility via random matrices**

# I. Asymptotically free random matrices

## Some facts about classical independence

- Two real random variables  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are **independent** if and only if  $\forall$  bounded Borel functions  $f, g$  on  $\mathbb{R}$

$$\mathbb{E}(f(X_1)g(X_2)) = \mathbb{E}(f(X_1))\mathbb{E}(g(X_2))$$

$$\mathbb{E}([f(X_1) - \mathbb{E}(f(X_1))] [g(X_2) - \mathbb{E}(g(X_2))]) = 0$$

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- iff (when distributions of  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  have bounded support)  $\forall n, m \geq 1$

$$\mathbb{E}(X_1^n - \mathbb{E}X_1^n)(X_2^m - \mathbb{E}X_2^m) = 0.$$

$$\mathbb{E}X_1^n X_2^m = \mathbb{E}X_1^n \mathbb{E}X_2^m$$

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Voiculescu (1991)

- For an ensemble of Hermitian random matrices  $\mathbf{X} = (X_n)_{n \geq 1}$  define "expectation"  $\tau$  as the linear functional  $\tau$ , ( $\tau(\mathbf{I}) = 1$ )

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- Two Hermitian ensembles  $\mathbf{X}_1$  and  $\mathbf{X}_2$  are *asymptotically free* if for all integer  $r > 0$  and all polynomials  $p_i(\cdot)$  and  $q_i(\cdot)$  with  $1 \leq i \leq r$  and

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- It is not an extension of the concept of *classical independence* to non-commutative set up.
- *Asymptotic freeness is useful to compute joint moments from the moments of  $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2$*

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- The definition of  $\tau(\mathbf{X})$  and corresponding concept of asymptotic freeness need existence of all moments  $\mathbb{E} [\text{tr}(\mathbf{X}_n^k)]$ .
- We can drop the expected value in the definition of  $\tau$  and assume that the spectra of the matrices converges w.p.1. to a nonrandom limit. There is a correspondence concept of *a.s. asymptotic freeness*.

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For pairs

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- If  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are independent zero-mean real random variables with nonzero variance, then  $\mathbf{X}_1 = X_1\mathbf{I}$  and  $\mathbf{X}_2 = X_2\mathbf{I}$  are not asymptotically free.

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- If  $X_1$  and  $X_2$  are independent zero-mean real random variables with nonzero variance, then  $\mathbf{X}_1 = X_1\mathbf{I}$  and  $\mathbf{X}_2 = X_2\mathbf{I}$  are not asymptotically free.
- If two matrices are asymptotically free and they *commute*, then *one of them is deterministic*.



# I. Asymptotically free random matrices: Examples

## Theorem

Let  $\mathbf{X}_1 = (X_1^n / \sqrt{n})$ ,  $\mathbf{X}_2 = (X_2^n / \sqrt{n})$  be independent Wigner Ensembles such that  $X_n^i$  have entries with zero mean, variance 1 and finite moment of all orders. Then  $\mathbf{X}_1$  and  $\mathbf{X}_2$  are (almost surely) asymptotically free.

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Under appropriate assumptions

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- 4 If  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  *independent Wishart ensembles*, they are AF.
- 5 If  $\mathbf{U}$  and  $\mathbf{V}$  are *independent unitary ensembles*, then  $\{\mathbf{U}, \mathbf{U}^*\}$  and  $\{\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{V}^*\}$  are AF.

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- 6 If  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  are independent unitarily invariant ensembles, they are AF.

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- 6 If  $\mathbf{X}$  and  $\mathbf{Y}$  are independent unitarily invariant ensembles, they are AF.
- 7 If  $A, B$  are deterministic ensembles whose ASD have compact support and  $U$  is an unitary ensemble, then  $UAU^*$  and  $B$  are AF.



## II. Free probability: Algebraic approach

Freeness

### Definition

A non-commutative **probability space**  $(\mathcal{A}, \tau)$  is  **$W^*$ -probability space** if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a non-commutative von Neumann algebra and  $\tau$  is a normal faithful trace.

A **family of unital von Neumann subalgebras**  $\{\mathcal{A}_i\}_{i \in I} \subset \mathcal{A}$  in a  $W^*$ -probability space is **free** if

$$\tau(a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n) = 0$$

whenever

$$\tau(a_j) = 0$$

$a_j \in \mathcal{A}_{i_j}$ , and  $i_1 \neq i_2, i_2 \neq i_3, \dots, i_{n-1} \neq i_n$ .

## II. Free Random Variables

### General set up

#### Definition

A self-adjoint operator  $\mathbf{X}$  is affiliated with  $\mathcal{A}$  if  $f(\mathbf{X}) \in \mathcal{A} \forall$  bounded Borel  $f$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .  $\mathbf{X}$  is a **non-commutative random variable**. The *distribution* of  $\mathbf{X}$  is the unique measure  $\mu_{\mathbf{X}}$  satisfying

$$\tau(f(\mathbf{X})) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} f(x) \mu_{\mathbf{X}}(dx)$$

$\forall$  bounded Borel  $f$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

If  $\{\mathcal{A}_i\}_{i \in I}$  is a family of free unital von Neumann subalgebras and  $\mathbf{X}_i$  is a random variable affiliated with  $\mathcal{A}_i$  for each  $i \in I$ , the random variables  $\{\mathbf{X}_i\}_{i \in I}$  are said to be *freely independent*.

- **From now on all our non-commutative random variables are self-adjoint, unless it is explicitly mentioned.**

## II. Free Central Limit Theorem

- Simplest case

### Theorem

Let  $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2, \dots$  be a sequence of independent free random variables with the same distribution with all moments. Assume that  $\tau(\mathbf{X}_1) = 0$  and  $\tau(\mathbf{X}_1^2) = 1$ . Then the distribution of

$$\mathbf{Z}_m = \frac{1}{\sqrt{m}}(\mathbf{X}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{X}_m)$$

converges to the semicircle distribution.

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converges to the semicircle distribution.

- *Idea of proof:* Show that  $\tau(\mathbf{Z}_m^k)$  converges to the moments of the semicircle distribution  $m_{2k+1} = 0$  and

$$m_{2k} = \frac{1}{k+1} \binom{2k}{k}$$

using combinatorics of noncrossing partitions.

- For  $k$  fixed.

$$\tau((\mathbf{X}_1 + \dots + \mathbf{X}_m)^k) = \sum_{r(i) \in \{1, \dots, k\}} \tau(\mathbf{X}_{r(1)} \dots \mathbf{X}_{r(k)}).$$

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- Because free independence and same distribution

$$\tau(\mathbf{X}_{r(1)} \dots \mathbf{X}_{r(k)}) = \tau(\mathbf{X}_{p(1)} \dots \mathbf{X}_{p(k)})$$

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$$r(i) = r(j) \iff p(i) = p(j) \quad \forall i, j$$

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- Only noncrossing partitions of  $\{1, \dots, 2k\}$  will contribute to the limit. The number of noncrossing partitions are the Catalan numbers.



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- Only noncrossing partitions of  $\{1, \dots, 2k\}$  will contribute to the limit. The number of noncrossing partitions are the Catalan numbers.
- In the classical case all the partitions will contribute. The number of all partitions of  $\{1, \dots, 2k\}$  is  $\frac{(2k)!}{2^n k!}$ ; the moments of the Gaussian distribution.

## II. Additive and Multiplicative Convolution

### Definition

Let  $\mathbf{X}_1, \mathbf{X}_2$  be free random variables such that  $\mu_{\mathbf{X}_i} = \mu_i$ . The distribution of  $\mathbf{X}_1 + \mathbf{X}_2$  is the *free additive convolution* of  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  and it is denoted by

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### Definition

Let  $\mu_1$  have positive support. Then  $\mathbf{X}_1$  is a positive self-adjoint operator and  $\mu_{\mathbf{X}_1^{1/2}}$  is uniquely determined by  $\mu_1$ . The distribution of the self-adjoint operator  $\mathbf{X}_1^{1/2} \mathbf{X}_2 \mathbf{X}_1^{1/2}$  is determined by  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$ . This measure is the *free multiplicative convolution* of  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  and it is denoted by

$$\mu_1 \boxtimes \mu_2$$

# III. Free additive convolutions: Analytic approach

## Cauchy transform

- *Cauchy transform of a p.d.  $\mu$ ,  $G_\mu(z) : \mathbb{C}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^-$*

$$G_\mu(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1}{z-x} \mu(dx).$$

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- Reciprocal Cauchy transform  $\underline{G}_\mu(z) : \mathbb{C}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^+$ ,

$$\underline{G}_\mu(z) = 1/G_\mu(z).$$

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# III. Free additive convolutions: Analytic approach

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- Voiculescu transform

$$\phi_\mu(z) = \underline{G}_\mu^{-1}(z) - z, \quad z \in \Gamma_{\alpha,\beta}^\mu.$$



# III. Free additive convolutions: Analytic approach

## Cauchy transform

- $(\mu_n)_{n \geq 1}$  converges in distribution to  $\mu$  if and only if there exist  $\alpha, \beta$  such that  $\phi_{\mu_n}(z) \rightarrow \phi_{\mu}(z)$  in compact sets of  $\Gamma_{\alpha, \beta}$ .

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- *R-transform*

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The role of the cumulant transforms

- $\mu$  p.d. with moments  $m_n(\mu)$ ,  $n \geq 1$ .

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$$C_{\mu}^*(t) = c_1 t + c_2 \frac{t^2}{2!} + \dots + \frac{c_n}{n!} t^n + \dots = \log\left(1 + m_1 t + \dots + \frac{m_n}{n!} t^n + \dots\right)$$

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- Relation between free cumulants  $(\kappa_n)_{n \geq 1}$  and moments  $m_n(\mu)$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , is similar to relation between classical cumulants and moments, but using noncrossing partitions  $NC(n)$ .



# III. Free additive convolutions & Random Matrices

## Relation with asymptotically free random matrices

- *Analytic definition of free additive convolution  $\mu_1 \boxplus \mu_2$ : For  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  p.d. on  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mu_1 \boxplus \mu_2$  is the unique p.d. with*

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- **If  $(X_n^1)_{n \geq 1}, (X_n^2)_{n \geq 1}$  are asymptotically free random matrices with ASD  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$ , then  $(X_n^1 + X_n^2)_{n \geq 1}$  has ASD  $\mu_1 \boxplus \mu_2$ .**

### III. Free additive convolutions: Examples

Wigner or semicircle distribution

- Semicircle distribution  $w_{m,\sigma^2}$  on  $(-2\sigma, 2\sigma)$  centered at  $m$

$$w_{m,\sigma^2}(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma^2} \sqrt{4\sigma^2 - (x - m)^2} \mathbf{1}_{[m-2\sigma, m+2\sigma]}(x).$$

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- $\boxplus$ -convolution of Wigner distributions is a Wigner distribution:

$$w_{m_1,\sigma_1^2} \boxplus w_{m_2,\sigma_2^2} = w_{m_1+m_2,\sigma_1^2+\sigma_2^2}.$$

# III. Free additive convolutions: Examples

Marchenko-Pastur distribution

- $c > 0$

$$m_c(dx) = (1 - c)_+ \delta_0 + \frac{c}{2\pi x} \sqrt{(x - a)(b - x)} \mathbf{1}_{[a,b]}(x) dx.$$

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- $\boxplus$ -convolution of M-P distributions is a MP distribution:

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- $\boxplus$ -convolution of Cauchy distributions is a Cauchy distribution

$$c_{\lambda_1} \boxplus c_{\lambda_2} = c_{\lambda_1 + \lambda_2}.$$

### III. Free additive convolutions: Examples

Pathological example

What is  $b \boxplus b$  if  $b$  is the symmetric Bernoulli distribution

$$b(dx) = \frac{1}{2} (\delta_{\{-1\}}(dx) + \delta_{\{1\}}(dx))?$$

Cauchy transform:

$$G_b(z) = \frac{z}{z^2 - 1}.$$

Free cumulant transform:

$$C_b(z) = \frac{1}{2}(\sqrt{1 + 4z^2} - 1)$$

Then

$$C_{b \boxplus b}(z) = \sqrt{1 + 4z^2} - 1$$

Solving for

$$G_{b \boxplus b}\left(\frac{1}{z}(C_\mu(z) + 1)\right) = z$$

### III. Free additive convolutions: Examples

#### Pathological example

- Solving for

$$G_{b \boxplus b}\left(\frac{1}{z}(\sqrt{1+4z^2})\right) = z$$

- 

$$G_{b \boxplus b}(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{z^2 - 4}},$$

which is the Cauchy transform of the arcsine distribution

$$a(dx) = \frac{1}{\pi\sqrt{1-x^2}}1_{(-1,1)}(x)dx.$$

- Then

$$b \boxplus b = a.$$



# IV. Free multiplicative convolution

Classical multiplicative convolution of random variables

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- Given independent classical r.v.  $X > 0, Y > 0$ , with distribution  $\mu_X, \mu_Y$ , what is the distribution  $\mu_{XY}$  of  $XY$ ?

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- *An important problem in classical probability is the infinite divisibility of the "mixture"  $XY$ .*
- Analogous in free probability?

# IV. Free multiplicative convolution: The S-transform

For distributions with nonnegative support: Bercovici & Voiculescu (93)

- The  $\Psi_\mu$  transform of a general probability distribution  $\mu$

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- Multiplicative convolution of  $\mu_1, \mu_2$  in  $\mathcal{M}^+(\neq \delta_0)$ :  $\mu_1 \boxtimes \mu_2$  in  $\mathcal{M}^+$

$$S_{\mu_1 \boxtimes \mu_2}(z) = S_{\mu_1}(z) S_{\mu_2}(z).$$

# IV. Free multiplicative convolution: The S-transform

Relation with asymptotically free random matrices

- **If  $(X_n)_{n \geq 1}, (Y_n)_{n \geq 1}$  are asymptotically free nonnegative definite random matrices with ASD  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$ , then the product  $(X_n^{1/2} Y_n X_n^{1/2})_{n \geq 1}$  has ASD  $\mu_1 \boxtimes \mu_2$ .**

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- Arizmendi and PA (2008): *Analytic approach*,  $\mu_1, \mu_2$  with unbounded support,  $\mu_1 \in \mathcal{M}^+$ ,  $\mu_2$  symmetric.

# IV. Free multiplicative convolution: The S-transform

For symmetric distributions: Arizmendi-PA (2009).

- $\mu$  in  $\mathcal{M}_s$  symmetric p.d.,  $Q(\mu) = \mu^2$  p-d. in  $\mathcal{M}^+$  induced by  $t \rightarrow t^2$ ,

$$G_\mu(z) = zG_{\mu^2}(z^2), z \in \mathbf{C} \setminus \mathbb{R}_+$$

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- If  $\mu \neq \delta_0$ ,  $\Psi_\mu$ , there are disjoint sets  $H, \tilde{H}$ ,  $\Psi_\mu$  has unique inverse  $\chi_\mu : \Psi_\mu(H) \rightarrow H$  and unique inverse  $\tilde{\chi}_\mu : \Psi_\mu(\tilde{H}) \rightarrow \tilde{H}$ .

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- If  $\mu \neq \delta_0$ ,  $\Psi_\mu$ , there are disjoint sets  $H, \tilde{H}$ ,  $\Psi_\mu$  has unique inverse  $\chi_\mu : \Psi_\mu(H) \rightarrow H$  and unique inverse  $\tilde{\chi}_\mu : \Psi_\mu(\tilde{H}) \rightarrow \tilde{H}$ .
- There are two S-transforms

$$S_\mu(z) = \chi_\mu(z) \frac{1+z}{z} \text{ and } \tilde{S}_\mu(z) = \tilde{\chi}_\mu(z) \frac{1+z}{z}$$

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# IV. Free multiplicative convolution: The S-transform

For symmetric distributions: Arizmendi-PA (2009).

- $\mu$  in  $\mathcal{M}_s$  symmetric p.d.,  $Q(\mu) = \mu^2$  p-d. in  $\mathcal{M}^+$  induced by  $t \rightarrow t^2$ ,

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$$S_{\mu_1 \boxtimes \mu_2}(z) = S_{\mu_1}(z) S_{\mu_2}(z) = S_{\mu_1}(z) \tilde{S}_{\mu_2}(z).$$

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- Notice that  $bs = m_c \otimes a$ . This shows that if  $W$  and  $U$  are independent Wishart and Univariate ensembles, respectively, then bs is the asymptotic spectral distribution of  $W^{1/2}(U \oplus U^*)W^{1/2}$ .



## V. Free Infinite Divisibility

- A d. f.  $\mu$  is **infinitely divisible** with respect to free convolution  $\boxplus$  iff  $\forall n \geq 1, \exists$  p.m.  $\mu_{1/n}$  and

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$$C_\mu(z) = \eta z + a z^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \frac{1}{1 - xz} - 1 - xz 1_{[-1,1]}(x) \right) \rho(dx), \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^-$$

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- Notation:  $I^{\boxplus}$  ( $I^*$ ) class of all free (classical) infinitely divisible distributions on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

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- But also  $a = b \boxplus b$  with

$$b(dx) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \delta_{\{-1\}}(dx) + \delta_{\{1\}}(dx) \right).$$

and  $b$  is not free infinitely divisible.

## V. Relation between classical and free infinite divisibility

- Classical Lévy-Khintchine representation  $\mu \in I^*$

$$C_{\mu}^*(t) = \log \mathcal{F}_{\mu}(t) = \eta t - \frac{1}{2} a t^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( e^{itx} - 1 - tx \mathbf{1}_{[-1,1]}(x) \right) \rho(dx), \quad t \in \mathbb{R}$$

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- *Bercovici-Pata bijection*:  $\Lambda : I^* \rightarrow I^\boxplus$ ,  $\Lambda(\mu) = \nu$

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- $\Lambda$  preserves convolutions (and weak convergence)

$$\Lambda(\mu_1 * \mu_2) = \Lambda(\mu_1) \boxplus \Lambda(\mu_2)$$

# IV. Examples of free infinitely divisible distributions

Images of classical i.d. distributions under Bercovici-Pata bijection

- *Free Gaussian*: For classical Gaussian distribution  $\gamma_{m,\sigma^2}$ ,

$$w_{m,\sigma^2} = \Lambda(\gamma_{m,\sigma^2})$$

is Wigner distribution on  $(m - 2\sigma, m + 2\sigma)$  with free cumulant transform

$$C_{w_{\eta,\sigma^2}}(z) = mz + \sigma^2 z^2.$$

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- *Free Poisson*: For classical Poisson distribution  $p_c$ ,  $c > 0$ ,

$$m_c = \Lambda(p_c)$$

is the M-P distribution with free cumulant transform

$$C_{m_c}(z) = \frac{cz}{1-z}.$$

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- *Free Cauchy*:  $\Lambda(c_\lambda) = c_\lambda$  for the Cauchy distribution

$$c_\lambda(dx) = \frac{1}{\pi} \frac{\lambda}{\lambda^2 + x^2} dx$$

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- *Free Generalized Gamma Convolutions (GGC)*

$$GGC^\boxplus = \{\Lambda(\mu); \mu \text{ is classical GGC}\}$$

# V. Multiplicative convolutions with free Poisson

PA & Sakuma (2011)

Let  $m_1$  be Marchenko-Pastur distribution and  $\tau \in \mathcal{M}_+$  or  $\tau \in \mathcal{M}_s$ . Then  $\mu = m_1 \boxtimes \tau$  is always  $\boxplus$ -infinitely divisible. Moreover,  $m_1 \boxtimes \tau$  is the free compound Poisson distribution with free cumulant transform

$$\mathcal{C}_\mu(z) = c \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left( \frac{1}{1-zx} - 1 \right) \tau(dx) \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^-, c > 0.$$

Under the Bercovici-Pata bijection  $\Lambda$ , it corresponds to the distribution which is randomization of  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{L}(X) = \tau$ :

$$\Lambda^{-1}(m_1 \boxtimes \tau) = \mathcal{L}\left(\sum_{i=1}^N X_i\right)$$

where  $N, X_1, X_2, \dots$  are independent classical r.v.  $\mathcal{L}(X_i) = \tau$  and  $N$  has Poisson distribution of mean one.

# V. Multiplicative convolutions with Wigner distribution

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- Let  $w$  be the Wigner distribution on  $(-2, 2)$  and  $\bar{\tau} \in \mathcal{M}_+$ . Then

$$\mu = \bar{\tau} \boxtimes w$$

is  $\boxplus$ -infinitely divisible iff

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# VI. Random Matrix Approach to Bercovici-Pata Bijection

Benachy-Georges (2005)

## Theorem

*For  $\mu \in I^*$  there is an ensemble of unitary invariant random matrices  $(M_d)_{d \geq 1}$ , and w.p.1. its ESD converges in distribution to  $\Lambda(\mu) \in I^{\boxplus}$ .*

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- The Lévy measure of  $M_d$  is concentrated in matrices of rank one.

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