

Selfdecomposable distributions in free probability

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Free independence

Recall that two random variables X and Y are independent, if

$$\mathbb{E}\{(f(X) - \mathbb{E}\{f(X)\})(g(Y) - \mathbb{E}\{f(Y)\})\} = 0,$$

for any bounded Borel functions $f, g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$.

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Two random variables a and b are called freely independent, if they satisfy the condition:

$$\mathbb{E}\{[f_1(a) - \mathbb{E}\{f_1(a)\}][f_2(b) - \mathbb{E}\{f_2(b)\}] \cdots [f_k(a) - \mathbb{E}\{f_k(a)\}]\} = 0,$$

for any bounded Borel-functions f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k .

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for any bounded Borel-functions f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k .

Except for trivial cases, free independence entails that

$$ab \neq ba.$$

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Moreover, there exists a unique probability measure μ_a on \mathbb{R} , such that

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The measure μ_a is called the (spectral) distribution of a .

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Let μ and ν be probability measures on \mathbb{R} , and consider *freely independent* Hermitian operators a and b , such that $a \sim \mu$ and $b \sim \nu$.

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Then the free convolution $\mu \boxplus \nu$ is defined by:

$$a + b \sim \mu \boxplus \nu.$$

Free infinite divisibility

By $\mathcal{ID}(\oplus)$ we denote the class of \oplus -infinitely divisible probability measures on \mathbb{R} , i.e.

$$\mu \in \mathcal{ID}(\oplus) \iff \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \exists \mu_n \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}): \mu = \underbrace{\mu_n \oplus \mu_n \oplus \cdots \oplus \mu_n}_{n \text{ terms}}.$$

The free cumulant transform

Let μ be a probability measure on \mathbb{R} , and consider its Cauchy (or Stieltjes) transform:

$$G_\mu(z) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{z - t} \mu(dt), \quad (z \in \mathbb{C}^+).$$

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The free analog of $\log \hat{\mu}$ is the free cumulant transform:

$$C_\mu(z) = zG_\mu^{\langle -1 \rangle}(z) - 1, \quad (z \in \mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathbb{C}^-).$$

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Theorem [Voiculescu, Maassen, Bercovici-Voiculescu]. For any probability measures μ_1, μ_2 on \mathbb{R} we have that

$$C_{\mu_1 \boxplus \mu_2}(z) = C_{\mu_1}(z) + C_{\mu_2}(z).$$

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Then μ is \boxplus -infinitely divisible, if and only if \mathcal{C}_μ has a representation in the form:

$$\mathcal{C}_\mu(z) = \eta z + az^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(\frac{1}{1-tz} - 1 - tz1_{[-1,1]}(t) \right) \rho(dt), \quad (z \in \mathbb{C}^-),$$

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where $\eta \in \mathbb{R}$, $a \geq 0$ and ρ is a Lévy measure on \mathbb{R} .

In that case, the *free characteristic triplet* (a, ρ, η) is uniquely determined.

The Bercovici-Pata bijection

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Key Properties:

- $\Lambda(\mu_1 \ast \mu_2) = \Lambda(\mu_1) \boxplus \Lambda(\mu_2)$ for any μ_1, μ_2 in $\mathcal{ID}(\ast)$.

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- $\Lambda(\mu_1 \ast \mu_2) = \Lambda(\mu_1) \boxplus \Lambda(\mu_2)$ for any μ_1, μ_2 in $\mathcal{ID}(\ast)$.
- $\Lambda(D_c \mu) = D_c \Lambda(\mu)$ for any μ in $\mathcal{ID}(\ast)$ and c in \mathbb{R} .

Free Selfdecomposability

A measure μ on \mathbb{R} is ⊞-selfdecomposable, if

$$\forall c \in (0, 1) \exists \mu_c \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}): \mu = D_c \mu \boxplus \mu_c.$$

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In this case μ and μ_c are necessarily \boxplus -infinitely divisible.

Λ preserves selfdecomposability

Theorem [Barndorff-Nielsen+T]. For a $*$ -infinitely divisible probability measure μ , we have that

$$\mu \text{ is } *\text{-sd} \iff \Lambda(\mu) \text{ is } \boxplus\text{-sd.}$$

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Corollary. A probability measure ν on \mathbb{R} is \boxplus -s.d., if and only if $\nu \in \mathcal{ID}(\boxplus)$ and has free characteristic triplet in the form:

$$(a, \frac{k(t)}{|t|} dt, \eta),$$

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$$\left(a, \frac{k(t)}{|t|} dt, \eta\right),$$

where $k: \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ is increasing on $(-\infty, 0)$ and decreasing on $(0, \infty)$.

Unimodality

A finite measure μ on \mathbb{R} is called *unimodal*, if, for some a in \mathbb{R} , it has the form

$$\mu(dx) = \mu(\{a\})\delta_a(dx) + f(x) dx,$$

where f is increasing on $(-\infty, a)$ and decreasing on (a, ∞) .

Unimodality vs. selfdecomposability – overview

Theorem [Yamasato '78]. All $*$ -selfdecomposable probability measures are unimodal.

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Sketch of proof of unimodality

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We conclude that

$$\frac{1}{z} = G_\nu(H_k(z)) \quad \text{for alle } z \text{ in } \mathbb{C}^+ \text{ such that } H_k(z) \in \mathbb{C}^+.$$

Sketch of proof of unimodality (continued)

By Stieltjes Inversion the density f_ν is given by

$$f_\nu(H_k(z)) = -\frac{1}{\pi} \operatorname{Im} \left(\frac{1}{z} \right), \quad \text{whenever } H_k(z) \in \mathbb{R}.$$

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Here

$$\{z \in \mathbb{C}^+ \mid H_k(z) \in \mathbb{R}\} = \{x + iv_k(x) \mid x \in \mathbb{R}\}.$$

for a continuous function $v_k: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$.

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It follows that that ν is absolutely continuous with density given by

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From this expression one may argue that the equation:

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has at most 2 solutions in ξ for any $\gamma > 0$.

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- (i) $\mu \in \mathcal{ID}(\boxplus)$.
- (ii) \mathcal{C}_μ may be extended to an analytic function $\mathcal{C}_\mu: \mathbb{C}^- \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$.
- (iii) There exist a in $[0, \infty)$, η in \mathbb{R} and a Lévy measure ρ on \mathbb{R} , such that

$$\mathcal{C}_\mu(z) = \eta z + az^2 + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \left(\frac{1}{1-tz} - 1 - tz1_{[-1,1]}(t) \right) \rho(dt), \quad (z \in \mathbb{C}^-).$$

An analogous characterization of $\mathcal{L}(\boxplus)$

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- (iii) There exist ξ in \mathbb{R} and a measure ρ on \mathbb{R} , such that $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \ln(2 + |x|) \rho(dx) < \infty$, and

$$\mathcal{C}'_\mu(z) = \xi + \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{x+z}{1-xz} \rho(dx), \quad (z \in \mathbb{C}^-).$$

Sketch of proof of (ii) \Rightarrow (iii)

Assume that $\mathcal{C}_\mu: \mathbb{C}^- \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is analytic such that $\text{Im}(\mathcal{C}'_\mu(z)) \leq 0$ for all z in \mathbb{C}^- .

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one may argue that $a = 0$, and $\int_{\mathbb{R}} \ln(2 + |x|) \rho(dx) < \infty$.

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Sketch of proof of (iii) \Rightarrow (i) (continued)

Now put

$$k(x) = \begin{cases} \int_x^\infty \frac{1+t^2}{t^2} \rho(dt), & \text{if } x > 0, \\ \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{1+t^2}{t^2} \rho(dt), & \text{if } x < 0. \end{cases}$$

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Since $C_\mu(-iy) \rightarrow 0$, as $y \downarrow 0$, we must have that $A = 0$.

Sketch of proof of: $\mu := N(0, 1) \in \mathcal{L}(\boxplus)$

From the work of Belinschi, Bozejko, Lehner and Speicher we have

- (a) $F_\mu = \frac{1}{G_\mu}: \mathbb{C}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^+$, may be extended to an analytic bijection $F_\mu: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^+$, where Ω is an open connected set, and $\mathbb{C}^+ \subsetneq \Omega$.

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So it remains to argue that

$$\operatorname{Im} \left(\omega - \frac{1}{\omega - F_\mu(\omega)} \right) \leq 0, \quad (\omega \in \Omega).$$