

# Classical and free limiting theorems

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# Plan

1. CLT, CCLT
2. PLT
3. CPLT
4. Cumulants, BP

# CLT

Theorem. Assuming that  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$  are self-adjoint, i.i.d., centered, with variance  $t > 0$ , we have, with  $n \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \sim g_t$$

where  $g_t = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi t}} e^{-x^2/2t} dx$  is the normal law of parameter  $t$ .

Proof. The Fourier transform of the variable in the statement is:

$$F(\xi) = \left[ F_x \left( \frac{\xi}{\sqrt{n}} \right) \right]^n = \left[ 1 - \frac{t\xi^2}{2n} + O(n^{-2}) \right]^n$$

Thus we obtain  $F(\xi) \simeq e^{-t\xi^2/2} = F_{g_t}(\xi)$ , as desired.

## Free CLT

Theorem. Assuming that  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$  are self-adjoint, f.i.d., centered, with variance  $t > 0$ , we have, with  $n \rightarrow \infty$ :

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \sim \gamma_t$$

where  $\gamma_t = \frac{1}{2\pi t} \sqrt{4t^2 - x^2} dx$  is the Wigner law of parameter  $t$ .

Proof. The  $R$ -transform of the variable in the statement is:

$$R(\xi) = n \times R_x \left( \frac{\xi}{n} \right) = n \left[ \frac{t\xi}{n} + O(n^{-2}) \right]$$

Thus we obtain  $R(\xi) \simeq t\xi = R_{\gamma_t}(\xi)$ , as desired.

# Wigner matrices

Theorem. Given a family of Wigner random matrices

$$M_i \in M_N(L^\infty(X))$$

which by definition have i.i.d. complex normal entries, up to the constraint  $M_i = M_i^*$ , the following happen:

- (1) Each  $M_i$  follows a semicircle law  $\gamma_t$ , with  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .
- (2) These matrices  $M_i$  become free, with  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

Proof. Here (1) is Wigner's theorem and (2) is Voiculescu's theorem. Both can be proved via the moment method.

# CCLT

Theorem. If  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$  have real and imaginary parts which are i.i.d., centered, with variance  $t > 0$ , we have, with  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \sim G_t$$

where  $G_t$  is the complex Gaussian law of parameter  $t$ ,

$$G_t \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(a + ib)$$

with  $a, b$  being self-adjoint and independent, each following  $g_t$ .

Proof. Follows from the CLT, by taking real and imaginary parts.

# Free CCLT

Theorem. If  $x_1, x_2, x_3, \dots$  have real and imaginary parts which are f.i.d., centered, with variance  $t > 0$ , we have, with  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \sim \Gamma_t$$

where  $\Gamma_t$  is the Voiculescu circular law of parameter  $t$ ,

$$\Gamma_t \sim \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}(a + ib)$$

with  $a, b$  being self-adjoint and free, each following  $\gamma_t$ .

Proof. Follows from the CLT, by taking real and imaginary parts.

# Gaussian matrices

Theorem. Given a family of Gaussian random matrices

$$M_i \in M_N(L^\infty(X))$$

which by definition have i.i.d. complex normal entries, the following happen:

- (1) Each  $M_i$  follows a circular law  $\Gamma_t$ , with  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .
- (2) These matrices  $M_i$  become free, with  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

Proof. This follows from the Wigner + Voiculescu theorem, by taking real and imaginary parts. Also, moment method.



Theorem. The following limit converges, for any  $t > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \left(1 - \frac{t}{n}\right) \delta_0 + \frac{t}{n} \delta_1 \right)^{*n}$$

in moments, the limiting measure being

$$p_t = \frac{1}{e^t} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^k \delta_k}{k!}$$

which is the Poisson law of parameter  $t$ .

## Proof

With  $\mu = (1 - \frac{t}{n}) \delta_0 + \frac{t}{n} \delta_1$ , we have the following computation:

$$\begin{aligned} F_{\delta_z}(x) = e^{izx} &\implies F_{\mu}(x) = \left(1 - \frac{t}{n}\right) + \frac{t}{n} e^{ix} \\ &\implies F_{\mu^{*n}}(x) = \left(\left(1 - \frac{t}{n}\right) + \frac{t}{n} e^{ix}\right)^n \\ &\implies F_{\mu^{*n}}(x) = \left(1 + \frac{(e^{ix} - 1)t}{n}\right)^n \\ &\implies F(x) = \exp((e^{ix} - 1)t) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, we obtain the Fourier transform of  $p_t$ , as desired.

# Free PLT

Theorem. The following limit converges, for any  $t > 0$ ,

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \left(1 - \frac{t}{n}\right) \delta_0 + \frac{t}{n} \delta_1 \right)^{\boxplus n}$$

and we obtain the Marchenko-Pastur law of parameter  $t$ ,

$$\pi_t = \max(1 - t, 0) \delta_0 + \frac{\sqrt{4t - (x - 1 - t)^2}}{2\pi x} dx$$

also called free Poisson law of parameter  $t$ .

## Proof

The Cauchy transform of  $\mu = (1 - \frac{t}{n}) \delta_0 + \frac{t}{n} \delta_1$  is:

$$G_\mu(\xi) = \left(1 - \frac{t}{n}\right) \frac{1}{\xi} + \frac{t}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{\xi - 1}$$

Thus the equation for  $R = R_{\mu \boxplus n}(y) = nR_\mu(y)$  is:

$$\left(1 - \frac{t}{n}\right) \frac{1}{y^{-1} + R/n} + \frac{t}{n} \cdot \frac{1}{y^{-1} + R/n - 1} = y$$

By multiplying by  $n/y$ , this equation can be written as:

$$\frac{t + yR}{1 + yR/n} = \frac{t}{1 + yR/n - y}$$

With  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we obtain  $t + yR = \frac{t}{1-y}$ , so  $R = \frac{t}{1-y} = R_{\pi_t}$ .

# Wishart matrices

Theorem. The complex Wishart random matrices,

$$W = GG^*$$

with  $G$  being rectangular Gaussian, follow in the  $N \rightarrow \infty$  limit

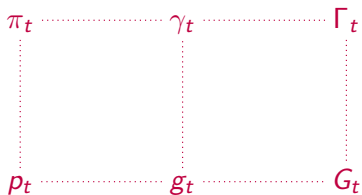
$$\pi_t = \max(1 - t, 0)\delta_0 + \frac{\sqrt{4t - (x - 1 - t)^2}}{2\pi x} dx$$

which is the Marchenko-Pastur law of parameter  $t$ .

Proof. This follows via the moment method, with  $t$  depending on the precise size of  $G$ , and on the variance of its entries.

# Summary

We have so far 6 main limiting laws, as follows:



1. The relations  $g_t \leftrightarrow G_t$  and  $\gamma_t \leftrightarrow \Gamma_t$  are via  $z = a + ib$ .
2. Also,  $G_t = U \times g_t$ , via random matrices, or  $l^2(\mathbb{N} * \mathbb{Z})$ .
3. Also,  $a \sim \gamma_t$  implies  $a^2 \sim \pi_t$ , via moments/transforms.
4. And  $\rho_t \leftrightarrow \pi_t$ ,  $g_t \leftrightarrow \gamma_t$ ,  $G_t \leftrightarrow \Gamma_t$  are via  $\log F \leftrightarrow R$ .

# CPLT

Theorem. Given a compactly supported positive measure  $\nu$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ , having mass  $t = \text{mass}(\nu)$ , the following limit converges,

$$p_\nu = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \left(1 - \frac{t}{n}\right) \delta_0 + \frac{1}{n} \nu \right)^{*n}$$

and the measure  $p_\nu$  is called compound Poisson law. For

$$\nu = \sum_{i=1}^s t_i \delta_{z_i}$$

with  $t_i > 0$  and  $z_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have the formula

$$p_\nu = \text{law} \left( \sum_{i=1}^s z_i \alpha_i \right)$$

whenever the variables  $\alpha_i$  are Poisson  $(t_i)$ , independent.

## Free CPLT

Theorem. Given a compactly supported positive measure  $\nu$  on  $\mathbb{R}$ , having mass  $t = \text{mass}(\nu)$ , the following limit converges,

$$\pi_\nu = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left( \left(1 - \frac{t}{n}\right) \delta_0 + \frac{1}{n} \nu \right)^{\boxplus n}$$

and the measure  $\pi_\nu$  is called compound free Poisson law. For

$$\nu = \sum_{i=1}^s t_i \delta_{z_i}$$

with  $t_i > 0$  and  $z_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , we have the formula

$$\pi_\nu = \text{law} \left( \sum_{i=1}^s z_i \alpha_i \right)$$

whenever the variables  $\alpha_i$  are free Poisson ( $t_i$ ), free.



# Proofs

(1) In the classical case, with  $\nu = t\delta_1$  we obtain the PLT. In general the proof is similar, the Fourier transform being:

$$F_{\rho_\nu}(y) = \exp \left( \sum_{i=1}^s t_i (e^{iyz_i} - 1) \right)$$

(2) In the free case, with  $\nu = t\delta_1$  we obtain the free PLT. In general the proof is similar, the  $R$ -transform being:

$$R_{\pi_\nu}(y) = \sum_{i=1}^s \frac{t_i z_i}{1 - yz_i}$$

## Examples

Definition. The Bessel laws  $b_t^s$  and free Bessel laws  $\beta_t^s$  with  $s \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$  and  $t > 0$  are the compound Poisson laws

$$b_t^s = p_{t\varepsilon_s} \quad , \quad \beta_t^s = \pi_{t\varepsilon_s}$$

with  $\varepsilon_s$  being the uniform measure on the  $s$ -roots of unity.

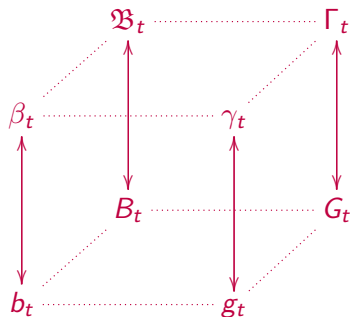
Remark. At  $s = 1$  we obtain the Poisson laws  $p_t, \pi_t$ .

Definition. We use the following conventions, at  $s = 2, \infty$ :

- (1)  $b_t = b_t^2$  and  $\beta_t = \beta_t^2$  are called real Bessel laws.
- (2)  $B_t = b_t^\infty$  and  $\mathfrak{B}_t = \beta_t^\infty$  are called complex Bessel laws.

# Summary

Forgetting about Poisson, we have 8 main limiting laws,



with the vertical arrows being given by  $\log F \leftrightarrow R$ .

# Wishart matrices

Recall the Marchenko-Pastur theorem, stating that for a Wishart matrix,  $W = GG^*$  with  $G$  rectangular Gaussian, we have

$$W \sim \pi_t$$

in the  $N \rightarrow \infty$  limit. By performing suitable block modifications of  $W$ , or product manipulations, we obtain results of type

$$W' \sim \pi_{\nu}$$

and in particular free Bessel laws, in the  $N \rightarrow \infty$  limit. All this is a bit technical, and will be discussed in detail later on.

# Bercovici-Pata

Definition. A convolution semigroup of measures

$$\{m_t\}_{t>0} \quad : \quad m_s * m_t = m_{s+t}$$

is in BP bijection with a free convolution semigroup of measures

$$\{\mu_t\}_{t>0} \quad : \quad \mu_s \boxplus \mu_t = \mu_{s+t}$$

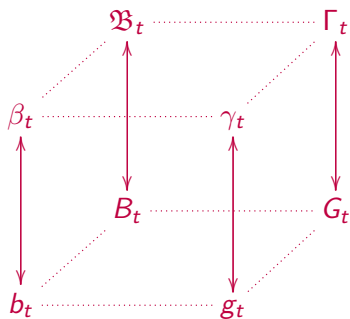
when the corresponding linearization transforms coincide:

$$\log F_{m_t} = R_{\mu_t}$$

Comment. The semigroup framework is quite natural.

# Examples

Theorem. The main 4 + 4 classical and free limiting laws,



form convolution semigroups, in Bercovici-Pata bijection.

Remark. In what regards the "discrete" case,  $\{b_t^s\}_{t>0}$  and  $\{\beta_t^s\}_{t>0}$  are in Bercovici-Pata bijection, for any  $s \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ .

# Cumulants

Definition. Given a random variable  $a$ , we write

$$\log F_a(\xi) = \sum_n k_n(a) \xi^n$$

$$R_a(\xi) = \sum_n \kappa_n(a) \xi^n$$

and call  $k_n(a), \kappa_n(a)$  the classical and free cumulants of  $a$ .

Theorem. The BP bijection  $m \leftrightarrow \mu$  is given by the fact that "the classical cumulants of  $m$  must equal the free cumulants of  $\mu$ ".

# MC formula

Definition. The classical and free cumulants of  $a$ ,

$$k_n(a) \quad , \quad \kappa_n(a) \quad : \quad n \in \mathbb{N}$$

can be extended into cumulants depending on partitions,

$$k_\pi(a) \quad , \quad \kappa_\pi(a) \quad : \quad \pi \in P$$

by multiplicativity over the blocks of the partitions.

Theorem. We have the classical/free moment-cumulant formulae

$$M_k(a) = \sum_{\pi \in P(k)} k_\pi(a) \quad , \quad M_k(a) = \sum_{\pi \in NC(k)} \kappa_\pi(a)$$

where  $k_\pi(a), \kappa_\pi(a)$  are the classical/free cumulants of  $a$ .

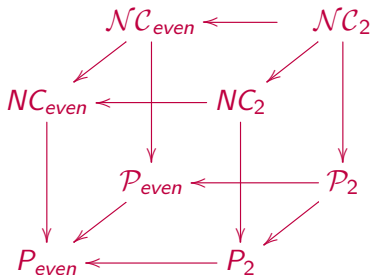


# Moments

Theorem. The moments of the 8 main limiting laws are

$$M_k(\mu) = \sum_{\pi \in D(k)} t^{|\pi|}$$

where  $|\cdot|$  is the number of blocks, and  $D$  are as follows:



Remark. In the "discrete" case, we have results at  $s \in \mathbb{N} \cup \{\infty\}$ .

## Further results

Theorem. We have the Meixner/free Meixner bijection.

Question. How to unify it with Bercovici-Pata?

Theorem. The normal law  $g_1$  is infinitely  $\boxplus$ -divisible.

Question. What is the "classical analogue" of  $g_1$ ?

# Summary

We have seen that:

- (1) Classical and free probability are twin sisters.
- (2) Evidence: limiting theorems, BP bijection.
- (3) Beyond this: quantum algebra, random matrices.

Thanks

Next lecture: quantum algebra.