

Overview:

- Main goal: Understand BBuH 1 and 2.
- in BBuH, Lemma 2.4 uses Lehner '99,
and resolvents (more about them in WS)
- Lehner '99 talks about free probability theory.
So, here we are trying to first understand FPT.

Review: Last week, Robert described:

1. free cumulants K_n^a
2. additivity of free cumulants
 - if a, b free, $K_n^{a+b} = K_n^a + K_n^b$.
3. moment-cumulant formula (mcf)

$$\varphi(a^n) = \sum_{\pi \in NC(n)} \left(\prod_{V \in \pi} K_{|V|} \right)$$

if clear from context,
 $R_n := K_n^a$.
4. factoring the NC lattice.
 - if $\pi = \{V_1, \dots, V_k\} \in NC(n)$,
 - then $[0_n, \pi] = \{\sigma : 0_n \leq \sigma \leq \pi\}$
 - $\cong NC(1|V_1|) \times \dots \times NC(1|V_k|)$
5. Kreweras's complement.
 - if $|\pi| = k$, then $|K_n(\pi)| = n - k$, where $\pi \in NC(n)$.
 - $K_n^{2^n} = I_d$.
 - $K_n \circ K_n \equiv \begin{matrix} \text{left-shift} \\ \text{right} \end{matrix}$ permutation *: not mentioned previously

This time:

0. Cauchy-transform (Nica-Speicher §2.4 pg 40)
- I. R-transform. (NS chp. 12 + chp. 16)

WARNING: Two different notions of R-transform.
I will use a defⁿ consistent with chp 16.
- I'. sum of free r.v.
- II. multiplicative free convolution.

(III. applications!)

- 0'. Example for mcf. $\varphi(a^n) = \sum_{\pi \in NC(n)} \left(\prod_{V \in \pi} K_{|V|} \right)$
 - $\varphi(a) = R_1$
 - $\varphi(a^2) = R_1^2 + R_2 \Rightarrow R_2 = \varphi(a^2) - \varphi(a)$
 - $\varphi(a^3) = R_1^3 + 3R_1R_2 + R_3$

Additional note: When given $\varphi(a^n)$ $\forall n$,
mcf uniquely determines K_n .

0. Cauchy transform. Setup: for the rest of this session,
let $a \in A$ a self-adj.

with μ its distribution (compactly supp over \mathbb{R})

Defn. (Cauchy transform.)

$$G_a \equiv G_\mu : \mathbb{C}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_-$$

$$z \mapsto \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{z-t} d\mu(t)$$

Fact: G_μ is analytic, with power series expansion
on $\{z \mid |z| > r\}$ where $r := \sup \{ |t| : t \in \text{supp } \mu \}$

$$\text{Propn: } G_\mu(z) = \frac{1}{z} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi(a^n)}{n} = \frac{1}{z} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{m_n}{n}$$

Fact: G_μ is analytic, with power series expansion on $\{z \mid |z| > r\}$ where $r := \sup \{ |t| : t \in \text{supp } \mu \}$

$$\text{Prop: } G_\mu(z) = \frac{1}{z} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi(a^n)}{z^n} = \frac{1}{z} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{m_n}{z^n}$$

$$\text{Pf. Recall: } \frac{1}{z-t} = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{z^{n+1}} \text{ for all } t \in \text{supp } \mu.$$

and this series converges uniformly. \square

$$G_\mu(z) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{t^n}{z^{n+1}} d\mu$$

$$= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{z^{n+1}} \underbrace{\int_{\mathbb{R}} t^n d\mu}_{m_n} = \varphi(a^n)$$

Fact: Given G_μ , can recover μ too!

$$\text{Def: } \forall \varepsilon > 0, h_\varepsilon(t) := -\frac{1}{\pi} \Im \left[G_\mu(t+i\varepsilon) \right]$$

Thm: (Stieltjes inversion).

$$\frac{d\mu}{dt} \Big|_{t=t} = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} h_\varepsilon(t).$$

That's all for now!

$$\mu \leftrightarrow G_\mu$$

I. The R-transform.

Setup: Given $a, b \in A_{\mathbb{S}}$ with distributions μ, ν respectively. $\begin{cases} a \\ b \end{cases}$

We know $a+b \in A_{\mathbb{S}}$, so it also has a distribution that is compactly supported over \mathbb{R} .

Want: express this w.r.t. μ, ν .

denote it by $\mu \boxplus \nu$ "free additive convolution" "boxed plus".

Defn: Transforms.

(Notation: $\mathcal{C}_0[[z]] :=$ set of formal p.s. with zero constant term.)

1. Moment transform:

$$M_a(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi(a^n) z^n$$

2. R-transform:

$$R_a(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} R_n z^n \quad \begin{matrix} z R(z) = R(z) \\ \text{diag.} \\ \text{diag.} \end{matrix}$$

3. "Cumulant transform"

$$\rightarrow C_a(z) = 1 + R_a(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} k_n z^n \quad \text{where } k_0 = 1.$$

Aside: Voiculescu's first motivation for FPT.

$$\begin{cases} \mu \boxplus \mu \\ \mu \boxplus \nu \\ \text{!!} \\ (\mu_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}} \end{cases} \quad R_{\gamma, \nu}$$

Prop: (Cauchy and M_μ)

$$G_\mu(z) = \frac{1}{z} (1 + M_\mu(\frac{1}{z})). \quad (1)$$

Pf:

$$\begin{aligned} G_\mu(z) &= \frac{1}{z} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{\varphi(a^n)}{z^n} & \varphi(1_\mathbb{S}) &= 1 \\ &= \frac{1}{z} \left(1 + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \underbrace{\varphi(a^n) \cdot \left(\frac{1}{z}\right)^n}_{k_n} \right) \\ &= \frac{1}{z} (1 + M_\mu(\frac{1}{z})) \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

Thm: If a, b free, then $R_{a+b} = R_{\mu \boxplus \nu} = R_\mu + R_\nu = R_a + R_b$.

Proof:

$$\text{Recall } \kappa_{a+b}^a = \kappa_a^a + \kappa_b^b.$$

Additivity follows by definition.

$$R_{a+b}(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \kappa_{a+b}^n z^n = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} (\kappa_a^n + \kappa_b^n) z^n = R_a(z) + R_b(z).$$

2. Let $\alpha \in A_{\text{sa}}$. Then α is "Bernoulli" when $\varphi(\alpha) = \begin{cases} 0, & n \text{ odd} \\ 1, & n \text{ even.} \end{cases}$
 Fact: $\mu = \frac{1}{2}(\delta_{-1} + \delta_{+1})$.

$$\text{Then, } M_\mu(z) = \sum_{m=1}^{\infty} z^{2m} = \frac{z^2}{1-z^2}.$$

$$\text{Now, } z(1+M_\mu(z)) = \frac{z}{1-z^2}; \quad \xrightarrow{M_\mu(z)} R[z(1+M_\mu(z))] = M_\mu(z)$$

$$\text{by FER, } R\left(\frac{z}{1-z^2}\right) = \frac{z^2}{1-z^2}$$

$$\text{Change variables } w \leftarrow \frac{z}{1-z^2} \Rightarrow z = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{1+4w^2}}{2w}.$$

$$R(w) = zw \quad \text{so} \quad R(w) = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{1+4w^2}}{2}.$$

$$\text{So, } R(w) = \frac{zw}{2} = \frac{-1 + \sqrt{1+4w^2}}{2}. \quad \xrightarrow{R_{\mu \boxplus \mu}(z) = 2R_\mu(z)} \quad R[G] + 1 = zG$$

$$\Rightarrow R_{\mu \boxplus \mu}[G_{\mu \boxplus \mu}(z)] + 1 = \left(-1 + \sqrt{1+4G_{\mu \boxplus \mu}(z)^2} \right) + 1 \Rightarrow 1+4G^2 = z^2G^2$$

$$= zG_{\mu \boxplus \mu}(z) \quad (\text{by FER.})$$

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

ready for Stieltjes inversion!

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d\mu \boxplus \mu}{dt} \Big|_t &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \lim_{\epsilon \rightarrow 0} \left(\Im_m \frac{1}{\sqrt{(t+i\epsilon)^2 - 4}} \right) \\ &= -\frac{1}{\pi} \Im_m \frac{1}{\sqrt{t^2-4}} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0, & |t| > 2 \\ \frac{1}{\pi \sqrt{4-t^2}}, & |t| < 2 \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

i.e. $\mu \boxplus \mu$ is ...

the arcsine distribution.

(Note: in classical case
 $\mu * \mu$ gives Binomial distⁿ)

So arcsine distⁿ
 = "free Binomial distⁿ"

3. Let μ be Bernoulli as before.

$$\text{Want: } \mu^{\boxplus n} = \underbrace{\mu \boxplus \dots \boxplus \mu}_{n \text{ times.}}$$

$$R_{\mu^{\boxplus n}}(z) = nR_\mu(z) = \frac{n}{2} \left(-1 + \sqrt{1+4z^2} \right)$$

$$\rightarrow R[G] + 1 = zG \Rightarrow G_{\mu^{\boxplus n}}(z) = \frac{-(n-2)z + \sqrt{z^2 - n^2}}{z(z^2 - n^2)}$$

$$\rightarrow R[G] + 1 = z^G \Rightarrow G_{\mu \boxplus \nu}(z) = \frac{-(n-2)z + \sqrt{z^2 - \dots}}{2(z^2 - n^2)}$$

General process. (given μ, ν) (or a, b) $\rightarrow P(z)/Q(z)$.

1. Find G_μ, G_ν (or M_μ, M_ν)

2. Use (FER) to calculate R_μ, R_ν

3. $R_{\mu \boxplus \nu} = R_\mu + R_\nu$

analytically, if possible

4. Calculate $G_{\mu \boxplus \nu}$

5. Use Stieltjes inversion to recover $\mu \boxplus \nu$.

Proof of (FER.) Recall $R_a(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} k_n z^n$. WTS: $[z^n] R_a[z(1 + M_a(z))] = M_a(z)$
 and $\varphi(a^n) = \sum_{\pi \in NC_n} \prod_{v \in \pi} k_{|v|}$

Then, parametrise $\pi \in NC(n)$ by its left-most block.

i.e. by $V_\pi = \{i_1, \dots, i_m : 1 = i_1 < i_2 < \dots < i_m \leq n\}$

Picture: $\pi = \begin{matrix} & i_1 & & i_2 & & i_{m-1} & i_m & \\ & \text{---} & & \text{---} & & \text{---} & \text{---} & \\ & \text{O} & | & \text{O} & | & \text{O} & | & \text{O} \\ & \text{---} & & \text{---} & & \text{---} & & \text{---} \\ & i_1 & & i_2 & & \dots & i_{m-1} & i_m \end{matrix}$

So, $\pi \leftrightarrow (m; j_1, \dots, j_m; \pi_1, \dots, \pi_m)$

size of leftmost block $m = |\pi|$
 $1 \leq m \leq n$

size of pockets $j_m = i_{m+1} - i_m > 0$
 $j_1 + \dots + j_m = n - m$

$\pi_\lambda \in NC(j_\lambda)$

$|NC(\circ)| = 1$

Then, substitute into $\varphi(a^n)$ formula.

$$\varphi(a^n) = \sum_{m=1}^n \left[? \right]$$

$$= \sum_{m=1}^n k_m \sum_{\substack{j_1, \dots, j_m \geq 0 \\ j_1 + \dots + j_m = n - m}} \left[? \right]$$

$$= \sum_{m=1}^n k_m \sum_{\substack{j_1, \dots, j_m \geq 0 \\ j_1 + \dots + j_m = n - m}} \sum_{\substack{\pi \in NC(j_1) \\ \vdots \\ \pi_m \in NC(j_m)}} \left[\prod_{v \in \pi_1} k_{|v|} \right] \dots \left[\prod_{v \in \pi_m} k_{|v|} \right]$$

$$= \sum_{m=1}^n k_m \sum_{\pi} \underbrace{\left(\sum_{\pi \in \text{NC}(j_1)} \prod_{V \in \pi} k_{|V|} \right)}_{\varphi(a^{j_1})} \cdots \underbrace{\left(\sum_{\pi \in \text{NC}(j_m)} \prod_{V \in \pi} k_{|V|} \right)}_{\varphi(a^{j_m})}$$

$$\varphi(a^n) = \sum_{m=1}^n \sum_{\substack{j_1, \dots, j_m \geq 0 \\ \sum j_i = n-m}} k_m \prod_{i=1}^m \varphi(a^{j_i})$$

Then, multiply both sides by z^n , and sum over $n \in \mathbb{N}_+$.

LHS becomes $M_a(z)$.

$$\text{And } [z^n] M_a(z) \stackrel{\text{rhs}}{=} z^n \sum_{m=1}^n \sum_{\substack{j_1, \dots, j_m \geq 0 \\ j_1 + \dots + j_m = n-m}} k_m \varphi(a^{j_1}) \cdots \varphi(a^{j_m})$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } R_a[z(1 + M_a(z))] & \xrightarrow{\text{expand } M_a} \\ &= R_a[z(1 + \sum_{k \geq 1} \varphi(a^k) z^k)] \xrightarrow{\text{expand } R_a} \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} k_n z^n (1 + \sum_{k \geq 1} \varphi(a^k) z^k)^n \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} z^n \cdot [?] \\ &\stackrel{n=1}{=} \left(\text{idea: } k_m z^m \cdot \text{something } z^{n-m} \right) \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[\sum_{m=1}^n k_m z^m \cdot \left(\sum_{\substack{j_1, \dots, j_m \geq 0 \\ j_1 + \dots + j_m = n-m}} \prod_{i=1}^m \varphi(a^{j_i}) z^{j_i} \right) \right] \\ &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \star ! \end{aligned}$$

□
proof done.

III. Products of r.v.s & free mult. convolution.

Recall the Kremeras complement. (denoted K_α or K).

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Def. (Free mult. convolution)} \quad & \text{Given } f, g \in \mathcal{C}_0([z]) \\ \text{s.t. } f(z) &= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \alpha_n z^n, \quad g(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \beta_n z^n, \\ f \boxtimes g(z) &:= \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \gamma_n z^n, \quad \text{where } \gamma_n = \sum_{\pi \in \text{NC}(n)} \left(\prod_{V \in \pi} \alpha_{|V|} \right) \left(\prod_{V \in K_\pi} \beta_{|V|} \right) \end{aligned}$$

(1960s):
→ posets.

Examples: (small n).

$$\begin{aligned} \cdot \quad \gamma_1 &= \sum_{\pi \in \text{NC}(1)} (\cdots) = \alpha_1 \beta_1 \\ \cdot \quad \gamma_2 &= \sum_{\pi} (\cdots) = \alpha_1 \beta_1 + \alpha_1 \beta_2 \end{aligned}$$

Properties: 1. \boxtimes is associative \rightsquigarrow fact.

2. \boxtimes is commutative

3. Let $\text{Id}(z) = z$. Then Id is multi-unit wrt. \boxtimes

Corollary: $(\mathbb{C}, [\boxtimes], \boxtimes)$ is monoid. $f \boxtimes \text{Id}$

$$\begin{aligned} &= f \\ &= \text{Id} \boxtimes f. \end{aligned}$$

proof: "by computation."

\hookrightarrow (not hard to show 2., 3.)

Def: Let $\mathcal{Z}(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} z^n$ (actually ζ , but I can't write well.)
related to ζ from Wk 3.

Observe: 1. $M_a = R_a \boxtimes \mathcal{Z} \rightarrow (!!)$

"Fact" 2. \mathcal{Z} is invertible wrt. \boxtimes , $\mathcal{Z} \boxtimes \text{Möb} = \text{Id}$.

$$\mathcal{Z}^{-1} = \text{Möb} := \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \underbrace{(-1)^{n-1} C_n}_{\text{Möbius.}} z^n.$$

\hookrightarrow Möbius inversion!

$f \boxtimes g$
ab free

Remarks: 1. if $a, b \in A_{sa}$, then $ab \notin A_{sa}$
not necessarily. $\begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ 1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & -1 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 \\ -1 & 0 \end{bmatrix} \notin A_{sa}$

So, we restrict to $a, b \in A_+ \Rightarrow ab \in A_+$ s.t. $a, b \in A_+$

Rank: (actually, just one suffices.
but symmetry makes it simpler).

2. We can generalise to all of $a, b \in A_{sa}$
but: i. it's not worth it

ii. it's not of use to us.

3. Fact: $\text{Möb}(\pm(1+z)) = z$

(End
of remarks)

Recall: factorisation of NC Lattice.

If $\pi = \{v_1, \dots, v_k\} \in NC(n)$,
then $[0_n, \pi] = \{\sigma \in NC(n) : 0_n \leq \sigma \leq \pi\}$
 $\cong NC(N, 1) \times \dots \times NC(N_k, 1)$

Thm. (Multiplicative convolutions of R-transform).

a,b free: 1. $M_{ab} = R_a \boxtimes M_b \rightarrow (M_{ab} = M_a \boxtimes R_b)$

2. $R_{ab} = R_a \boxtimes R_b$

$$\begin{aligned} 1. \quad M_{ab} &= R_a \otimes M_b \quad \xrightarrow{\text{?}} (M_{ab})^{(ab)} = R_a^{(ab)} \otimes M_b^{(ab)} \\ 2. \quad R_{ab} &= R_a \otimes R_b \end{aligned}$$

$$\left(\text{Note: If 1., then } \underbrace{M_{ab} \otimes M_{ab}}_{R_{ab}} = R_a \otimes \underbrace{M_b \otimes M_b}_{R_b} \Rightarrow 2. \right)$$

$$\left(\text{Note: If 2., then } \underbrace{R_a \otimes R_{ab}}_{M_{ab}} = \underbrace{R_a \otimes R_a \otimes R_b}_{M_a} \Rightarrow 1. \right)$$

$$1. \Leftrightarrow 2.$$

$$\text{Proof: We prove 1. } \Rightarrow M_{ab} = R_a \otimes M_b \quad M_{ab}(z) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \varphi((ab)^n) z^n$$

$$\varphi((ab)^n) = \sum_{\sigma \in NC(n)} \prod_{u \in \sigma} K_u((a, b, a, \dots, b) \uparrow_u) \\ = 0 \text{ unless } \begin{cases} u \subseteq \text{odd} \\ u \subseteq \text{even} \end{cases}$$

$$\sigma \in NC(2n) \quad \begin{cases} \text{even} \\ \text{odd} \end{cases}$$

$$\varphi(abab \dots ab)$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi(abab) &= \varphi(a^2) \varphi(b^2) \\ &+ \varphi(a^2) \varphi(b)^2 \\ &- \varphi(a)^2 \varphi(b)^2. \end{aligned}$$

$NC_{\text{odd}}(2n)$:= noncrossing partitions of the form

$$\text{Given } \pi \in NC(n), \quad \pi^{\text{odd}} := \{2V-1 : V \in \pi\}$$

$$\pi^{\text{even}} := \{2V : V \in \pi\}.$$

$$\varphi((ab)^n) = \sum_{\sigma \in NC_{\text{odd}}(2n)} \left(\prod_{v \in \pi^{\text{odd}}} K_{|v|}((a, \dots, a)) \right) \left(\prod_{w \in \pi^{\text{even}}} K_{|w|}((b, \dots, b)) \right)$$

$$\text{if } \sigma = \pi^{\text{odd}} \sqcup \pi^{\text{even}} \quad \text{Claim: } \pi^{\text{even}} \leq K(\pi^{\text{odd}})$$

$$\sum_{\pi \in NC(n)} \sum_{\sigma \leq K(\pi)} \left(\prod_{v \in \pi^{\text{odd}}} K_{|v|}^a \right) \left(\prod_{w \in \sigma^{\text{even}}} K_{|w|}^b \right)$$

$$= \sum_{\pi \in NC(n)} \left(\prod_{v \in \pi^{\text{odd}}} K_{|v|}^a \right) \cdot \left[\sum_{\sigma \leq K(\pi)} \prod_{w \in \sigma^{\text{even}}} K_{|w|}^b \right]$$

$$M_{ab} = R_a \otimes M_b$$

fix $\pi \in NC(n)$. Let $K(\pi) = \{Y_1, \dots, Y_q\}$.

$$(\rho_{\pi})[0_n, K(\pi)] \cong NC(1|Y_1) \times \dots \times NC(1|Y_q).$$

$$\rho \mapsto (\rho_1, \dots, \rho_q)$$

$$\sum_{\sigma \leq K(\pi)} \prod_{w \in \sigma} K_{|w|}^b = \sum_{\sigma \in NC(1|Y_1)} \left(\prod_{w \in \sigma} K_{|w|}^b \right) \dots \left(\prod_{w \in \sigma} K_{|w|}^b \right)$$

$$\sum_{\sigma \in NC(1|Y_1)} \left[\sum_{\rho_1 \in NC(Y_1)} \prod_{w \in \sigma} K_{|w|}^b \right] \dots \left[\sum_{\rho_q \in NC(Y_q)} \prod_{w \in \sigma} K_{|w|}^b \right]$$

Examples:

$$1. \quad \varphi(ab) = \varphi(a) \varphi(b).$$

$$2. \quad \varphi(abab) = \varphi((ab)^2) \xrightarrow{\text{?}} \gamma_2$$

$$\gamma_2 := \sum_{\pi \in NC(4)} \left(\prod_{v \in \pi^{\text{odd}}} K_{|v|}^a \right) \left(\prod_{w \in \pi^{\text{even}}} K_{|w|}^b \right)$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{Def: } \gamma_2 &= \sum_{\substack{\text{TEENCCs} \\ \text{in } \mathbb{F}}} \left(\prod_{i \in \mathbb{F}} \kappa_i^a \right) \left(\prod_{w \in \mathbb{F} \setminus \{a\}} \varphi(b^w) \right) \\
 &= \kappa_2^a \varphi(b^2) + (\kappa_1^a)^2 \varphi(b^2) \\
 &= [\varphi(a^2) - \varphi(a)^2] \varphi(b^2) + \varphi(a)^2 \varphi(b^2) \\
 &= \varphi(a^2) \varphi(b^2) + \varphi(a)^2 \varphi(b^2) - \varphi(a)^2 \varphi(b^2).
 \end{aligned}$$

IV. ACTUAL USE CASES. !!

→ Alternate proof of free central limit thm.

Thm. Let $\{a_i\}_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be free, identically distrib.
s.t. $\varphi(a_i) = 0$, $\varphi(a_i^2) = \sigma^2$

Then:

$$\frac{a_1 + \dots + a_N}{\sqrt{N}} \xrightarrow[N \rightarrow \infty]{\text{dist.}} \underbrace{s}_{\text{semicircular}}$$

Prof. $\frac{1}{z} R(\text{LHS}) = \frac{1}{z} R(s) \cdot \left[R_{\lambda}(z) = \lambda R_{\lambda}(\lambda z) \right]$

$$\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

Moral of the tale: Can we now "freely" discuss polynomials
of free l.v.s x_1, \dots, x_n ?

→ used in
- Chen, Jorge-Vargas, Trapp, van Handel
- Bordenave - Collins

Example:

1. Let $\{a_1, a_2\}, \{b_1, b_2\}$ free where
 a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2 are all self-adj.

Consider $p = a_1 b_1 a_1 + a_2 b_2 a_2$ polynomial. role of
then. p self-adjoint also. matrices
in FPT.

Q: What is its distribution?

rick: Note that the distribution of

$$\begin{bmatrix} p & 0 \\ 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix} =: M(p)$$

$$\text{is } \mu_{M(p)} = \frac{1}{2} \mu_p + \frac{1}{2} \delta_0$$

Where the \star -probability space is
 $(M_2(A), \frac{1}{2} \text{Tr} \otimes \varphi)$.

$$\text{Now, } M(p) = \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b_1 & 0 \\ 0 & b_2 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} a_1 & 0 \\ a_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

So by tracial property:

$$\mu_{M(p)} = \mu_{AB} \text{ where } AB := \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & 0 \\ a_2 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_A \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} a_1 & a_2 \\ 0 & 0 \end{pmatrix}}_{AB} \underbrace{\begin{pmatrix} b_1 & 0 \\ 0 & b_2 \end{pmatrix}}_B$$

Are we done? Are A, B free?

No! It turns out we need to develop a theory for operator-valued cumulants to address this problem.

It is exactly this theory which leads us directly to Lehner '99.

— thanks
for your time!