

# Lecture on Random Matrices.

①

I did not have time to talk about section 4).

## 1) Introduction

$M$  :  $N \times N$  matrix w. random entries  $M_{jk}$

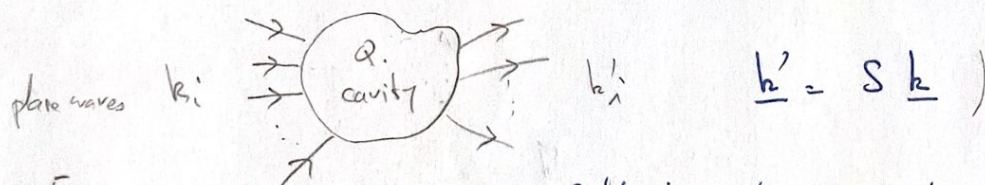
→  $Q$  : stat. of eigenvectors & eigenvalues? (real or complex)

. In physics, initially introduced in the context  
(orig. of nuclear physics by Wigner ('50) to model  
the energy levels of big complex nuclei (Wigner's  
surmise of the HW)

. Since then, a lot of applications (Oxford handbook

\* Quantum particle in a random pot. ... of RMT)

( \* mesoscopic physics (quantum scattering)



[ \* disordered systems : manifold in random media ]

\* random graph,  $G = (V, E)$

↳ adjacency matrix  $A_{ij} = \mathbb{1}(\{i,j\} \in E)$

random graph → random adjacency matrix

\* Riemann theory (Riemann  $\zeta$  function)

\* combinatorics  
→ NPT, directed polymers



1) First applications actually appeared in stat. w.  
J. Wishart in 1928 Correlation in time series

$\vec{X}_t = \begin{pmatrix} X_{1,t} \\ \vdots \\ X_{N,t} \end{pmatrix}$ 
pile of stock 'i'  
daily temperature in city 'i'  
random

$\hat{C}_{jk} = \frac{1}{T} \sum_{t=1}^T X_{jt} X_{kt}$

$1 \leq t \leq T$ 
random correlation matrix

→ many applications in (financial) data analysis

## 2) Ensemble of random matrices.

→ Following the initial motivation of Wigner, we consider matrices with real spectrum, either sym. (real) Hermitian (comp.)

→ Two main categories of random matrices:


a) Ens. with independent entries: "Wigner" matrices

$$M_{jk} = x_{jk} + i y_{jk}$$

Joint ~~Prob.~~ <sup>Density</sup> ~~Distribution~~ Function (PDF)

$$P(M) = P(\{M_{jk}\}) = \prod_{i=1}^N f_i(x_{ii}) \prod_{j < k} f_{jk}^{(R)}(x_{jk}) f_{jk}^{(I)}(y_{jk})$$

imposed by sym.





Note that for real sym., the number of independent (3)  
degrees of freedom is  $N_{\text{free}} = 1 + 2 + \dots + N = \frac{N(N+1)}{2}$ .

## b) Rotationally invariant ensembles

Suppose that  $M$  is real & symmetric

$$\Rightarrow \exists (O, \Lambda) \text{ with } O O^T = 1$$

$$\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \lambda_2 & \\ 0 & & \ddots \\ & & & \lambda_N \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\text{such that } M = O \Lambda O^{-1}$$

Rotationally inv. ensemble: matrices related via similarity  
transformations occur with the same prob.

$$P(M) = P(O M O^{-1}) \quad \forall O \mid O O^T = 1.$$

invariance per rotation

$\hookrightarrow$  in such models the eigenvectors do not play  
an important role ( $\rightarrow$  uniformly distributed  
on the sphere)

Porter-Rosenzweig '60 then: the only ensembles that

satisfy 1) & 2) are the Gaussian ensembles:

explain why this is Wigner's ansatz.  $\rightarrow$  
$$P(M) = \frac{1}{Z_N} e^{-a \text{Tr}(M^2) - b \text{Tr}(M)}$$



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In the following: focus on these ensembles with  $b=0$ .

$N$  real sym: Gaussian Orthogonal Ensemble (GOE)

$N$  complex Hermitian: Gaussian Unitary Ensemble (GUE).

↳ already announce universality

### c) Joint law of eigenvalues for GOE/GUE

GOE:  $N = N^t$

Diagonal form:  $M = O \Lambda O^{-1}$ ,  $\Lambda = \begin{pmatrix} \lambda_1 & & 0 \\ & \lambda_2 & \\ 0 & & \ddots \\ & & & \lambda_N \end{pmatrix}$

$\uparrow$  eigenvectors  
 $\uparrow$  eigenvalues

$$O O^t = 1$$

independent entries

$$M = \begin{pmatrix} x & & \\ & x & \\ & & x \end{pmatrix}$$

fixed by symmetry

$$\# \text{ independent variables} = \cancel{N} 1 + 2 + \dots + N = \frac{N(N+1)}{2}$$

$$= \underbrace{N}_{\text{eigenvalues}} + \underbrace{\frac{N(N-1)}{2}}_{\text{eigenvectors}}$$

Change of variables

$$M = \{M_{ij}\} \longrightarrow \Lambda, 0$$

$$P(M) \longrightarrow P(\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N\}, 0)$$

$$\Rightarrow P(\{\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N\}, 0) = P(M) |\det J|$$



Where  $J$  is the Jacobian of the transformation: indices) (5)  
 this one is not a bijection (permutation of the indices)

$$M \longleftrightarrow \{ \lambda, 0 \}$$

$$J = \left\{ \frac{\partial M_{ij}}{\partial \lambda_h}, \frac{\partial M_{ij}}{\partial o_{kl}} \right\}$$

a tedious computation leads to:

$$|\det J| = \prod_{j < k} |\lambda_j - \lambda_k| \quad \text{independently of } 0$$

True also for non-invariant ensembles.

For GOE:

$$P(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N, 0) = \frac{1}{Z_N} e^{-a \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i^2} \prod_{j < k} |\lambda_j - \lambda_k|$$

$\Rightarrow$  eigenvalues and eigenvectors are independent.  
 $\hookrightarrow$  uniformly distributed

Marginal PDF probab. density function of  $(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N)$  are

$$P(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) = \frac{1}{Z_N} \prod_{i < j} |\lambda_i - \lambda_j| e^{-a \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i^2}$$

For GUE:

$\uparrow$  level repulsion

A similar computation yields:

$$P(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) = \frac{1}{Z_N} \prod_{i < j} |\lambda_i - \lambda_j|^2 e^{-a' \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i^2}$$



Here we choose:

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$$P(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) = \frac{B_N}{\text{const}} e^{-\beta \frac{N}{4} \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i^2} \prod_{i < j} |\lambda_i - \lambda_j|^\beta$$

with  $\beta = 1$  GOE  $\rightarrow$  corresponds to  $E[\lambda_{ii}^2] = \frac{2}{N}$   
 $\beta = 2$  GUE.  $E[\prod_{i < j} \lambda_{ii}^2] = \frac{1}{N}$

3.) Coulomb gas approach. (Dyson '62)

$$\prod_{i < j} |\lambda_i - \lambda_j|^\beta = e^{\frac{\beta}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \ln |\lambda_i - \lambda_j|}$$

$$\Rightarrow P(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) = B_N \exp(-\beta E(\{\lambda_i\}_{1 \leq i \leq N}))$$

$$E(\{\lambda_i\}) = \frac{N}{4} \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i^2 - \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \ln |\lambda_i - \lambda_j|$$

$\uparrow$  repulsive

Interpretation in terms of a

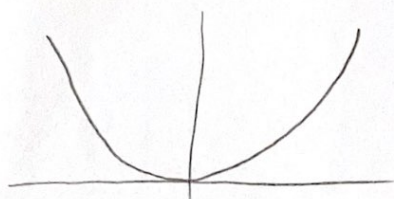
"log-gas" of particles:

Coulomb interaction  
in 2d, confined on  
a line

long-range

$\lambda_i$  = positions of charged particles interacting via  
the 2d Coulomb interaction and confined  
on a line within a quadratic well





→ competition between  
confinement and repulsive interaction

• Typical scale of  $\lambda_i$ 's,  $\lambda_{typ}$ :

$$\text{Potential energy: } \frac{N}{2} \sum_{i=1}^N \lambda_i^2 \sim N \times N \times \lambda_{typ}^2 = N^2 \lambda_{typ}^2$$

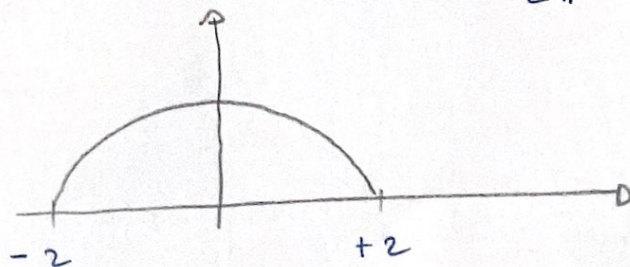
$$\text{Interactions: } \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i \neq j} \ln |\lambda_i - \lambda_j| \sim N^2$$

Balancing the two  $\Rightarrow \lambda_{typ} = O(1)$  when  $N \rightarrow \infty$ .

• Empirical eigenvalue distribution

$$\mu_N = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta_{\lambda_i}, \quad \mu_N(\lambda) = \frac{1}{N} \sum_{i=1}^N \delta(\lambda - \lambda_i)$$

$$\mathbb{E}(\mu_N(\lambda)) \longrightarrow \mu_{sc}(\lambda) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{4 - \lambda^2}, \quad -2 \leq \lambda \leq 2$$





In the bulk,  $\mu_N(\lambda)$  is self-averaging (concentrates around its mean)

$$\mu_N(\lambda) \xrightarrow[N \rightarrow \infty]{} \mathbb{E}(\mu_N(\lambda)).$$

### Universality of the Wigner semi-circle

for Wigner matrices

Wigner semi-circle law holds  $\forall$  provided the proba. density

of the matrix elements ~~have a sub-exponential tail~~ recheck

i.e.  ~~$\mathbb{P}(M_{jk} \geq x) \leq C \exp(-x^2)$~~

~~$\exists C, \theta$~~  provided:  $\mathbb{E}(x_{ii}^2) = \sigma_i^2 > 0, \forall i$   $\mathbb{E}[x_{ii}^2] = \frac{\sigma_i^2}{N}$   
 ~~$\mathbb{E}(x_{ij}^2) = \sigma^2 \forall i \neq j$~~   $\mathbb{E}[x_{ij}^2] = \frac{1}{N}$

still holds provided the  $M_{jk}$ 's are not "too correlated."  $\downarrow$   
 or  $[-\sqrt{2\sigma}, \sqrt{2\sigma}]$

See e.g. L. Erdős arXiv:1004.0861 for a review

$\mathbb{E}(M_{jk}^2) = \sigma_{jk}^2$  and  $\sum_j \sigma_{jk}^2 = 1 \forall k$   
 then  $\rightarrow$  Wigner law with support  $[-2, 2]$ .

For invariant ensemble:

$$P(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N) = \tilde{B}_N \prod_{i < j} |\lambda_i - \lambda_j|^\beta e^{-\sum_{i=1}^N V(\lambda_i)}$$

$\hookrightarrow P(M) \propto e^{-N \text{Tr}(V(M))}$

If  $V(M) = M^2 \Rightarrow$  Wigner semi-circular law

But for  $V(M) \neq M^2$ , ~~In this case~~  $\mathbb{E}(\mu_N(\lambda))$  is different from Wigner semi-circular



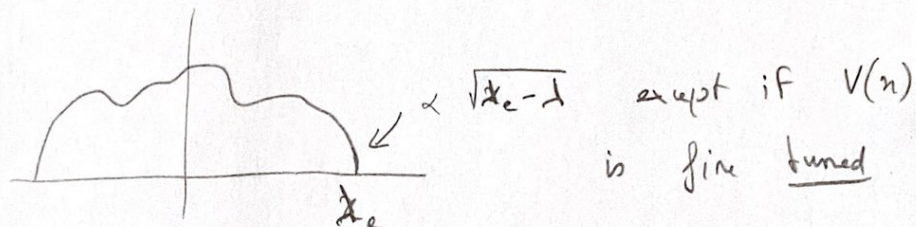
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In this case, if  $V(n) \gg \ln n$ ,  $n \rightarrow \infty$

$$\frac{V(n)}{\ln n} \rightarrow +\infty \quad n \rightarrow \infty$$

then  $E(\mu_N(d))$  has a finite support in the limit  $N \rightarrow \infty$

and

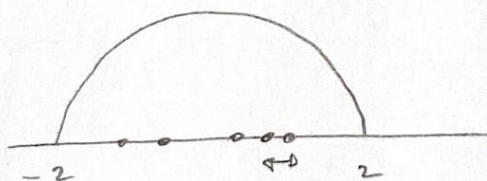


#### 4.) Local statistics

Discuss bulk & edge on the Figure.

a) Bulk

Interparticle spacing  $\xi$  in the bulk



GOE/GUE

$$\lambda_1 < \lambda_2 < \dots < \lambda_N: \quad s = \lambda_{i+1} - \lambda_i = O\left(\frac{1}{N}\right)$$

(Not too close from the edge)

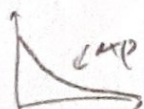
For large  $N$ , PDF of  $s$   $P_N(s) \sim \frac{1}{\langle s \rangle_N} P_\beta\left(\frac{s}{\langle s \rangle_N}\right)$

Compare to  
Poisson for  
independent  
random points

where  $P_\beta(n)$  is well approximated by the

Wigner ~~matrix~~ ~~result~~ (result for  $N=2$ ):

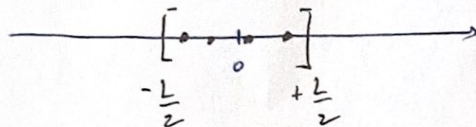
$$P_\beta(n) \simeq P_{W, \beta}(n) = q_\beta s^\beta e^{-b_\beta s^2} \Rightarrow \text{level repulsion}$$





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Nbr Variance



$$N_L = \# \text{ eigenvalues in } \left[-\frac{L}{2}, \frac{L}{2}\right]$$

If the eigenv. are independent, Poisson process:

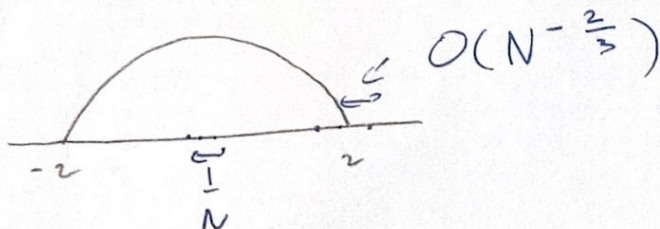
$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[N_L] &= \text{Var}[N_L] : \mathbb{E}[N_L^2] - (\mathbb{E}[N_L])^2 \\ &\approx L \end{aligned}$$

For eigenvalues:  $\text{Var}[N_L] \underset{NL \gg 1}{\sim} \frac{2}{\beta \pi^2} \ln(NL)$

( $L < 2$ ).

$\Rightarrow$  more "rigid" than Poisson process.

b) Edge



In particular:  $\lambda_{\max} = 2 + N^{-\frac{2}{3}} \chi_{\beta}$

$\hookrightarrow$  Tracy-Widom

$\rightarrow$  appeared in many problems like KPZ, LIS, ...  $\beta$