

# Equilibrium Measures

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- What I am going to talk about is slightly unrelated to those stuff though?
- I am going to derive semicircle law for GUE, starting from the joint eigenvalue density, then briefly talk about numerics.
- The materials are mainly based on several notes by Sheehan Olver (2009).

# Joint Density of GUE

$$\begin{aligned} p_A(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_n) &\propto \prod_{i < j} |\lambda_i - \lambda_j|^2 \exp \left( - \sum_i \frac{\lambda_i^2}{2} \right) \\ &= \exp \left( - \left( \sum_{i \neq j} \ln |\lambda_i - \lambda_j|^{-1} + \sum_i V(\lambda_i) \right) \right) \end{aligned}$$

Where  $V(x) = x^2/2$ .

Relation with the potential of a gas of  $n$  electrons at (fixed) position  $x_1, \dots, x_n$ :

$$\sum_{i \neq j} \underbrace{\ln |x_i - x_j|^{-1}}_{\text{potential from repulsion}} + \sum_i \underbrace{V(x_i)}_{\text{exterior potential}}$$

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This is Dyson's interpretation of GUE. In a fancy way this term can be written as  $I^V(\mu_n)$ , where  $I^V(\mu)$  is a functional of measures (with density) defined in  $\mathbb{R}$ :

$$I^V(\mu) \propto \int \left( \left( \int \ln |x - z|^{-1} d\mu \right) + V(z) \right) d\mu \quad (1)$$

and  $\mu_n(x)$  has density  $w_n(x) = n^{-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{x_i}(x)$ , the empirical density of the eigenvalues. Assume  $\mu$  has density  $\psi(x)$ .



**Fact:** When  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $w_n(x) dx$  converges weakly to  $\mu = w(x) dx$ , where  $\mu$  is the minimiser of the functional  $I^V(\mu)$ .  
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**Aside:** How can we experimentally determine  $w_n(x)$  (or the (possibly rescaled) positions of 'equilibrium' points  $x_i$ ? Note that  $x_i$  satisfies the following system of equations ('balancing force' or 'Euler-Lagrange')

$$\forall i, \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{x_i - x_j} - V'(x_i) = 0 \quad (2)$$

We can solve this system of non-linear equation to obtain  $x_i$ . We visualise  $\mu_N$  by plotting a histogram. You will see as  $n$  becomes large a semicircle approximates the histogram. (Reminder for myself: Expt. 1)

Notice that:

$$\phi_n(z) := \int \frac{w_n(x)}{z - x} dx = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n \frac{1}{z - x_j}$$

So we have established, at  $x = x_i$

$$\phi_n^+(x_i) + \phi_n^-(x_i) = V'$$

Sending  $n \rightarrow \infty$  we established

$$\phi^+(z) + \phi^-(z) = V', \quad \phi(z) := \int \frac{w(x)}{z - x} \sim O(z^{-1}) \quad (3)$$

**Remark:** We hope  $w(x)$  to have support a single interval  $(a, b)$ .  
This makes life much easier!

# Cauchy Transform and Hilbert Transform

Without further specification we write  $f$  a function from  $\mathbb{C}$  to  $\mathbb{C}$  and a piecewise- $C^1$  curve in  $\mathbb{C}$  as  $\gamma$ . We define the following

## Definition 1 (Cauchy Transform – Unofficial)

Let  $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a function. Define the Cauchy transform

$$\mathcal{C}_\gamma[f](z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_\gamma \frac{f(x)}{x - z} dz \quad (4)$$

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In this project  $\gamma$  is a (1) closed curve (e.g. circle); and (2) an interval  $[a, b]$ .

We also consider the Hilbert Transform

### Definition 2 (Hilbert Transform)

Let  $f : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  be a function. Define the Hilbert Transform

$$\mathcal{H}_\gamma[f](x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \text{PV} \int \frac{f(t)}{t - x} dt \quad (5)$$

*Reminder for myself:* They are probably the same... We often consider  $z \in \tilde{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \gamma$  for Cauchy transform and  $z \in \gamma$  for Hilbert transform...

$$\mathcal{C}_\gamma[f](z) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \int_\gamma \frac{f(x)}{x-z} dz$$
$$\mathcal{H}_\gamma[f](x) = \frac{1}{\pi} \text{PV} \int_\gamma \frac{f(t)}{t-x} dt$$

Properties when  $f$  is 'nice' (e.g. Holder continuous) and  $z$  is not an endpoint/discontinuity of  $\Gamma$ . (The Plemelj's Lemma)

- 1  $\mathcal{C}_\gamma[f](z)$  is analytic in  $\bar{\mathbb{C}} \setminus \gamma$
- 2  $\mathcal{C}_\gamma[f](\infty) = 0$
- 3  $\mathcal{C}_\gamma[f]^+(\mathbf{z}) - \mathcal{C}_\gamma[f]^-(\mathbf{z}) = \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{z})$
- 4  $\mathcal{C}_\gamma[f]^+(\mathbf{z}) + \mathcal{C}_\gamma[f]^-(\mathbf{z}) = -i\mathcal{H}_\gamma[\mathbf{f}](\mathbf{z})$

**Remark:** For the case when  $\gamma = [a, b]$ ,  $\mathcal{C}_\gamma[f](z)$  has weaker-than-pole singularity at  $a$  and  $b$ .

Recall our problem of finding a density of equilibrium measure.

$$\phi^+(z) + \phi^-(z) = V' \quad (6a)$$

$$\phi(z) := \int \frac{w(x)}{z - x} = \frac{2\pi}{i} \mathcal{C}_\gamma[w](z) \sim O(z^{-1}) \quad (6b)$$



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If we have found  $\phi(x)$  satisfying (6a), then we may utilise property (3) to obtain

$$w(x) = \frac{i}{2\pi} (\phi^+ - \phi^-) \quad (7)$$

The only task left is to find  $\phi$  itself.

Recall that the following Chebyshev (Joukowski) map which maps both upper half and lower half of circle to unit interval:

$$J(z) = \frac{z + z^{-1}}{2} \quad (8)$$

(Reminder for myself: Visualisation)

**Idea (?)**: If  $\phi(z)$  has jump on  $(-1, 1)$  and for all  $z \in (-1, 1)$ ,

$$\phi^+(z) + \phi^-(z) = V' \quad (9)$$

Then  $\phi(J(z))$  has jump on unit circle  $\mathbb{T}$ , and for all  $z$  on  $\mathbb{T}$ ,

$$\phi^+(J(z)) + \phi^-(J(z)) = V'(J(z)) := g(z) \quad (10)$$

We know how to obtain  $\phi(J(z))$ .

How can we transform back to  $\phi(z)$ ?

# A Canonical Example

$V(x) = x^2/2, \gamma = \text{supp } \mu = (-b, b)$ ; We are solving the equation

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If I write  $\tilde{\phi}(x) = \phi(bx)$ , then

$$\tilde{\phi}^+(x) + \tilde{\phi}^-(x) = bx, \quad x \in (-1, 1) \quad (12)$$

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Again

$$\tilde{\phi}^+(J(z)) + \tilde{\phi}^-(J(z)) = \frac{b}{2} \left( z + \frac{1}{z} \right), \quad z \in \mathbb{T}$$

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It has solution

$$\psi(z) = \tilde{\phi}(J(z)) = \begin{cases} bz/2 & |z| < 1 \\ b/2z & |z| > 1 \end{cases}$$

# How can we invert back?

The Chebyshev map has two inverses

$$J_+^{-1}(x) = x - \sqrt{x-1}\sqrt{x+1}, \quad (\text{inside circle})$$

$$J_-^{-1}(x) = x + \sqrt{x-1}\sqrt{x+1}, \quad (\text{outside circle})$$

(these are defined when  $x \notin [-1, 1]$ ) One can also define inverses on  $[-1, 1]$

$$J_U^{-1}(x) = x + i\sqrt{1-x}\sqrt{x+1}, \quad (\text{upper circle})$$

$$J_D^{-1}(x) = x - i\sqrt{1-x}\sqrt{x+1}, \quad (\text{lower circle})$$

(Reminder to myself: Visualisation)

I propose a solution:

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\phi}(x) &= \frac{\psi(J_+^{-1}(x)) + \psi(J_-^{-1}(x))}{2} \\ &= \frac{b}{4} \left( J_+^{-1}(x) + (J_-^{-1}(x))^{-1} \right) \\ &= \frac{b}{2} (J_+^{-1}(x)) \\ &= \frac{b}{2} \left( x - \sqrt{x-1} \sqrt{x+1} \right)\end{aligned}$$



Idea of proof: Think about the jumps of  $\tilde{\phi}(x)$  when  $x \in (-1, 1)$ :

$$\psi^+(J_+^{-1}(x)) = \psi^+(J_D^{-1}(x)), \text{ lower, inside}$$

$$\psi^-(J_+^{-1}(x)) = \psi^-(J_U^{-1}(x)), \text{ upper, inside}$$

$$\psi^+(J_-^{-1}(x)) = \psi^+(J_U^{-1}(x)), \text{ upper, outside}$$

$$\psi^-(J_-^{-1}(x)) = \psi^-(J_D^{-1}(x)), \text{ lower, outside}$$

(Ok again picture proof :/) Moreover,

$$\psi^+(J_U^{-1}(x)) + \psi^-(J_U^{-1}(x)) = bx$$

$$\psi^+(J_D^{-1}(x)) + \psi^-(J_D^{-1}(x)) = bx$$

So

$$\phi^+ + \phi^- = bx$$

Moreover

$$\tilde{\phi}(x) = \frac{bx}{2} \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{1}{x^2}} \right) = \frac{b}{4} \frac{1}{x} + \dots \quad (13)$$

So  $\tilde{\phi}$  is our solution to equation (13):

$$\tilde{\phi}^+(x) + \tilde{\phi}^-(x) = bx, \quad x \in (-1, 1) \quad (14)$$

Rescaling yields

$$\phi(x) = \frac{x}{2} \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{b^2}{x^2}} \right) = \frac{b^2}{4} \frac{1}{x} + \dots \quad (15)$$

$$\phi(z) := \int \frac{w(x)}{z - x} = \frac{2\pi}{i} \mathcal{C}_\gamma[w](z) \sim O(z^{-1}) \quad (16)$$

For it to be a Cauchy transform of density we need  $b^2/4 = 1$ , so  $b = 2$ .

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$$\phi(x) = \frac{x}{2} \left( 1 - \sqrt{1 - \frac{4}{x^2}} \right) = \frac{1}{2}(x - \sqrt{x^2 - 4}) \quad (17)$$

This is the Cauchy Transform of semicircle law!

Not convinced?

Not convinced? Think about the jumps of  $\sqrt{x^2 - 4}$  on  $(-2, 2)$ :

$$\begin{aligned}\left(\sqrt{x^2 - 4}\right)_+ - \left(\sqrt{x^2 - 4}\right)_- &= \sqrt{x+2} \left( \left(\sqrt{x+2}\right)_+ - \left(\sqrt{x+2}\right)_- \right) \\ &= 2i\sqrt{4 - x^2}\end{aligned}$$

So  $\phi(x)$  has jump  $-i\sqrt{4 - x^2}$ . Using property (3) yields

$$w(x) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{4 - x^2} \tag{18}$$

# Numerics

How about this?

$$\phi^+(z) + \phi^-(z) = V' := f, \quad z \in [a, b]$$

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Simplification: there is a bijective map from  $(a, b)$  to  $(-1, 1)$ :

$$M_{(a,b)}(x) = \frac{2x - a - b}{b - a} \quad (20)$$



Write  $\tilde{\phi}(x) = \phi(M_{(a,b)}^{-1}(x))$  and  $\tilde{f}(x) = f(M_{(a,b)}^{-1}(x))$ , we have

$$\tilde{\phi}^+(x) + \tilde{\phi}^-(x) = \tilde{f}(x), \quad z \in [-1, 1]$$

$$\tilde{\phi}^+(J(z)) + \tilde{\phi}^-(J(z)) = \tilde{f}(J(z)), \quad z \in \mathbb{T}$$

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Recall in the case when  $\tilde{f}(x) = z$ , we have  $\tilde{f}(J(z)) = z/2 + 1/2z$ . You can easily split the function into two halves and obtain  $\tilde{\phi}(J(z))$ . Can we generalise this?

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**Hint:** The Chebyshev map is  $\cos \theta$  when you plug in  $z = e^{i\theta}$ .

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**Hint:** The Chebyshev map is  $\cos \theta$  when you plug in  $z = e^{i\theta}$ .

**Answer:** Chebyshev expansion!

If  $\tilde{f}$  can be written as a Chebyshev expansion, say

$$\tilde{f}(x) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}_k T_k(x) \quad (21)$$

Then

$$\tilde{f}(J(e^{i\theta})) = \hat{f}_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{\infty} \hat{f}_{|k|} e^{ik\theta} \quad (22)$$

In other words, for all  $z \in \mathbb{T}$ , we have

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**Remark:**  $\hat{f}_{|k|}$  is the Fourier coefficients of  $\tilde{f}(J(e^{i\theta}))$ , and you can estimate those by (Fast) Fourier Transform.

$$\tilde{f}(J(z)) = \hat{f}_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}_{|k|} z^k + \sum_{k=-\infty}^{-1} \hat{f}_{|k|} z^k$$

Define

$$F^+(z) = \hat{f}_0 + \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}_{|k|} z^k, \quad F^-(z) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=-\infty}^{-1} \hat{f}_{|k|} z^k$$

Then the function

$$\psi(z) = \tilde{\phi}(J(z)) = \begin{cases} F^+(z) & |z| < 1 \\ F^-(z) & |z| > 1 \end{cases}$$

satisfies  $\psi^+(J(z)) + \psi^-(J(z)) = \tilde{f}(J(z))$

Using previous argument, the following function

$$\begin{aligned}\tilde{\phi}'(x) &= \frac{\psi(J_+^{-1}(x)) + \psi(J_-^{-1}(x))}{2} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}_k(J_+^{-1}(z))^k\end{aligned}$$

satisfies

$$\tilde{\phi}'^{+}(x) + \tilde{\phi}'^{-}(x) = \tilde{f}(x), \quad z \in [-1, 1]$$



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satisfies

$$\tilde{\phi}'^+(x) + \tilde{\phi}'^-(x) = \tilde{f}(x), \quad z \in [-1, 1]$$

BUT  $\tilde{\phi}'^+(\infty) = \hat{f}_0/2$  so  $\tilde{\phi}'^+(\infty) = \hat{f}_0/2$  does not decay?! What can we do?

We introduce a correction term:

$$\kappa(z) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{z+1}\sqrt{z-1}}$$

which does not have jump over  $[-1, 1]$  and is in  $O(z^{-1})$ .  
Therefore the function

$$\tilde{\phi}(x) = \tilde{\phi}'(x) - \frac{z\hat{f}_0 + C}{2}\kappa(x) \quad (24)$$

has same jump as  $\tilde{\phi}'$  but decay like  $O(z^{-1})$  (here  $C$  is a free parameter). :) We therefore have  $\phi(x) = \tilde{\phi}(M_{(a,b)}(x))$ , and we can look at its jump and find  $w(x)$ ...

# Technical Problem

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} \hat{f}_k(J_+^{-1}(M_{(a,b)}(x)))^k - \frac{M_{(a,b)}(x)\hat{f}_0 + C}{2} \kappa(M_{(a,b)}(x))$$

There is a free parameter  $C$ .

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There is a free parameter  $C$ . **We don't even know what is  $a$  and  $b$ !!!!!!!!!!**

We should bear in mind that  $\phi(x)$  is a Cauchy transform of our density in some sense... We do want  $\phi(x)$  to be bounded AND  $\phi(x) = 1/x + \dots$

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There is a free parameter  $C$ . **We don't even know what is  $a$  and  $b$ !!!!!!**

We should bear in mind that  $\phi(x)$  is a Cauchy transform of our density in some sense... We do want  $\phi(x)$  to be bounded AND  $\phi(x) = 1/x + \dots$ . We therefore choose  $a$  and  $b$  such that  $\hat{f}_0 = C = 0$ .

In addition, notice that

$$J_+^{-1}(x) = \frac{1}{2x} + \dots, \quad M_{(a,b)}(x) = \frac{2x}{b-a} + \dots$$

Therefore

$$\phi(x) = \frac{1}{2} \hat{f}_1 \left( \frac{1}{2 \left( \frac{2x}{b-a} \right)} \right) + \dots = \frac{b-a}{8} \hat{f}_1 \frac{1}{x} + \dots$$

We want to choose  $a$  and  $b$  such that

$$\frac{b-a}{8} \hat{f}_1 = 1$$

$$\hat{f}_0 = 0, \quad \frac{b-a}{8} \hat{f}_1 = 1$$

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From this we obtain  $a$ ,  $b$  and  $\phi(x)$ . We may then use property (3) to obtain  $w(x)$ . The final formula is stated without proof

$$w(x) = \frac{\sqrt{1 - M_{(a,b)}}}{\pi} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \hat{f}_k U_{k-1}(M_{(a,b)}(x)) \quad (25)$$

# Felina

With this equilibrium measure, you can:

- obtain a set of orthonormal polynomials (w.r.t.  $V(x)$ ) using a Riemann Hilbert approach.
- compute gap value statistics (e.g. Airy Kernel)
- predict the distribution of Unitary Ensemble with density  $V(x)$  and think about universality.

Thank you!