

Rank-uniform local law and quantum unique ergodicity for Wigner matrices

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Joint with Giorgio Cipolloni, PCTS (Princeton University) *and* Dominik Schröder (ITS-ETH)

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Giorgio Cipolloni



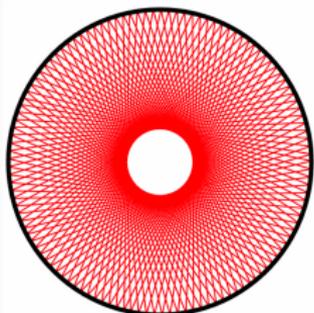
Dominik Schröder

Quantum Unique Ergodicity

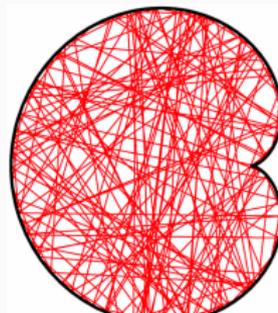
Quantization of classical systems: $p \rightarrow -i\hbar\nabla_x$

Motto:

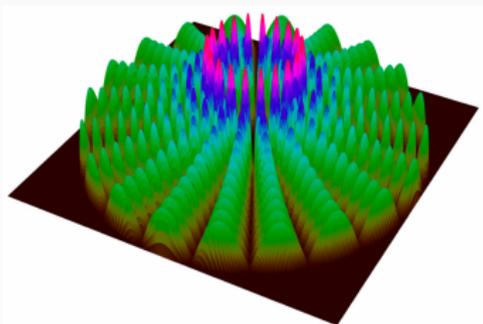
Eigenfunctions of the quantization of a chaotic classical dynamics are uniformly distributed.



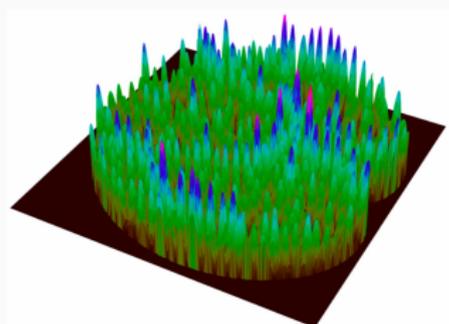
Regular (integrable) billiard



Chaotic billiard



Wavefunctions with symmetries



Chaotic wavefunctions

Most prominent example:

ψ_j : efn's of Laplace-Beltrami operator on a surface with ergodic geodesic flow, then

$$\langle \psi_i, A\psi_j \rangle \rightarrow \delta_{ij} \int_{S^*} \sigma(A), \quad i, j \rightarrow \infty$$

holds for any appropriate pseudo-differential operator A with symbol $\sigma(A)$ (defined on the unit tangent bundle).

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Analogous discrete version on large regular graphs (Anantharaman, Le Masson 2015)

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[Physics prediction](#) for generic systems (Feingold, Peres 1986), (Eckhardt et al. 1995)

$$\text{Var}[\langle \psi_i, A\psi_i \rangle] \sim (\text{local ev. spacing}) \cdot \int_{S^*} \sigma(|A|^2).$$

Wigner matrices

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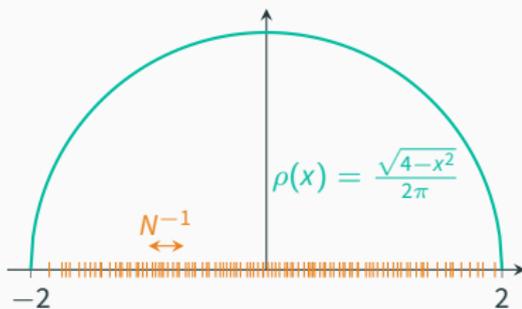
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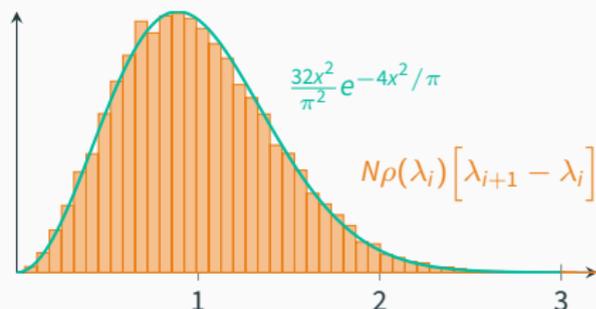
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semicircular density of states ρ ; Bulk level spacing $\sim N^{-1}$



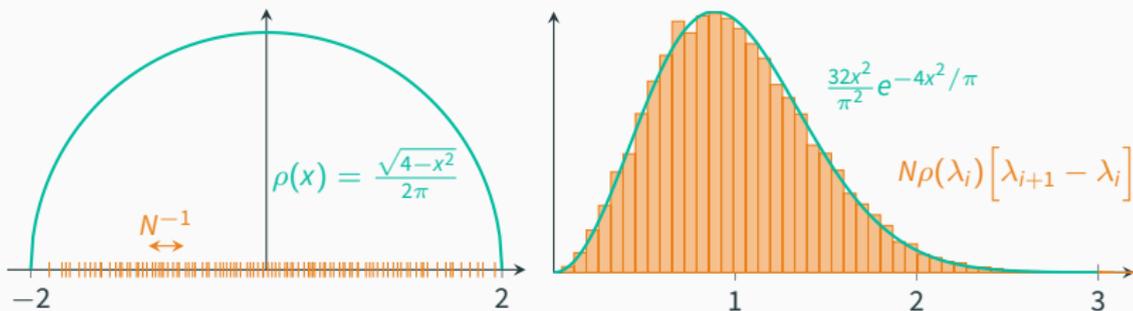
Histogram of rescaled gaps and Wigner surmise

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Histogram of rescaled gaps and Wigner surmise

Wigner's revolutionary observation: the gap statistics is very robust, it depends only on the symmetry class (hermitian or symmetric), independent of the distribution.

Formulated as the **Wigner-Dyson-Mehta conjecture** in 60's, ground-breaking step by Johansson in 1998 (add Gaussian component); finally proven by DBM around 2010.

Eigenstate Thermalisation Hypothesis for Wigner matrices

Extension of Wigner's vision to Quantum Chaos: Random matrices model chaotic quantum systems, hence QUE is expected to hold for Wigner matrices with **optimal speed**.

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Theorem [Cipolloni, E., Schröder 2022]

For the orthonormal eigenvectors \mathbf{u}_i of an $N \times N$ Wigner matrix W and for any **deterministic** observable (matrix) A

$$\max_{i,j \in \text{bulk}} \left| \langle \mathbf{u}_i, A \mathbf{u}_j \rangle - \delta_{ij} \langle A \rangle \right| \lesssim \frac{N^\epsilon \langle |\mathring{A}|^2 \rangle^{1/2}}{\sqrt{N}}$$

with very high probability, where $\langle A \rangle := \frac{1}{N} \text{Tr} A$ and $\mathring{A} := A - \langle A \rangle$ is the traceless part of A .

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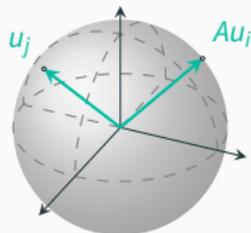
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Eigenbasis $\{\mathbf{u}_i\}$ is **asymptotically orthogonal** to $\{A \mathbf{u}_j\}$ for $\langle A \rangle = 0$.

As if \mathbf{u}_i and $A \mathbf{u}_j$ were independently distributed ℓ^2 -bounded N -vectors.

Two basic methods:

Resolvent method and **Dyson Brownian Motion (DBM)**



Comparison with previous results

$$\max_{i,j \in \text{bulk}} |\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathring{A} \mathbf{u}_j \rangle| \leq \frac{N^\epsilon \langle |\mathring{A}|^2 \rangle^{1/2}}{\sqrt{N}}, \quad \mathring{A} := A - \langle A \rangle, \quad \text{with high prob.}$$

Previous results:

- $A = |\mathbf{q}\rangle\langle \mathbf{q}|$ **rank-1** observable = delocalization of e vectors, $|\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{q} \rangle| \lesssim N^{-1/2+\epsilon}$ [E. et al. (2009), Knowles-Yin (2011)] [\[Resolvent method\]](#)
- $\langle \mathbf{u}_i, A \mathbf{u}_i \rangle \rightarrow \langle A \rangle$ **in probability** for each \mathbf{u}_i [Bourgade-Yau (2013)] [\[DBM\]](#)
- Simultaneously in i and j [in the bulk] — proven only for Wigner matrices with **large** (almost $\mathcal{O}(1)$) **Gaussian component** [Bourgade-Yau-Yin (2018)] [\[DBM\]](#)
- **Uniformly in the spectrum** if $\langle |\mathring{A}|^2 \rangle^{1/2}$ replaced by $\|\mathring{A}\|$ [Cipolloni, E, Schröder (2020)] [\[Resolvent method\]](#).

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Novelties of our results: [Resolvent method]

- Optimal $N^{-1/2}$ speed of convergence. In physics: Eigenstate Thermalisation Hypothesis
- Limit is controlled in very high probability, and thus simultaneous in i, j .
- Optimal dependence of the error on A (HS is the correct norm – our newest result).

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These are LLN-type results. Next: What about CLT for $[\langle \mathbf{u}_i, A \mathbf{u}_i \rangle - \langle A \rangle]$?

Averaged CLT for overlaps

CLT (central limit theorem) for $[\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_i \rangle - \langle A \rangle]$ can be asked in **two senses**.

First, we proved CLT after **averaging in the index i** :

Theorem (Cipolloni, E., Schröder 2020)

For any bounded **deterministic** matrix A , $i_0 \in [\delta N, (1 - \delta)N]$ (i.e. **bulk**) and for any $K \geq N^\epsilon$

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{2K}} \sum_{|i-i_0| \leq K} \sqrt{N} [\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_i \rangle - \langle A \rangle] \stackrel{m}{=} \mathcal{N}\left(0, \langle |\mathring{A}|^2 \rangle\right) + \mathcal{O}(N^{-\epsilon'} \|\mathring{A}\|)$$

in the sense of moments, where $\mathring{A} := A - \langle A \rangle$ is the traceless part of A .

Similar result holds at the **edge** with a variance $\frac{\sqrt{2}}{3} \langle |\mathring{A}|^2 \rangle$.

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\implies Indication that $\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathring{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{u}_i \rangle, \langle \mathbf{u}_j, \mathring{\mathbf{A}} \mathbf{u}_j \rangle$ are **asymptotically independent** for $i \neq j$.

This CLT is a special case of our **general functional CLT**: $\langle f(W)A \rangle \approx \mathcal{N}$ for any fn. of the Wigner matrix W ; unlike usual tracial CLT in random matrices, this involves eigenvectors as well!

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Second, CLT for each $\langle \mathbf{u}_j, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_j \rangle - \langle A \rangle$ without averaging?

Theorem (Cipolloni, E, Schröder (2022))

For the bulk eigenvectors \mathbf{u}_i of an $N \times N$ Wigner matrix W and for any deterministic hermitian observable (matrix) A with $1 \gtrsim \langle \mathring{A}^2 \rangle \geq N^{-1+\delta} \|\mathring{A}\|^2$ it holds:

$$\sqrt{\frac{N}{2 \langle \mathring{A}^2 \rangle}} [\langle \mathbf{u}_i, A \mathbf{u}_i \rangle - \langle A \rangle] \rightarrow \mathcal{N}(0, 1) \quad (1)$$

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Remark: $\langle \mathring{A}^2 \rangle \geq N^{-1+\delta} \|\mathring{A}\|^2$ implies A not finite rank.

(1) is not true for finite rank: for $A = \mathring{A} = |\mathbf{e}_x\rangle\langle \mathbf{e}_x| - |\mathbf{e}_y\rangle\langle \mathbf{e}_y|$ we have $\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathring{A} \mathbf{u}_i \rangle = |u_i(x)|^2 - |u_i(y)|^2$ (difference of independent χ^2) [Bourgade-Yau (2017)].

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To prove this theorem we need **DBM method** on top of the resolvent method.

Comparison with previous results

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Previous results:

- Joint (squared) Gaussianity for finitely many $N |\mathbf{u}_{\alpha_l}(i_k)|^2$ under the **additional four moment matching assumption** for bulk eigenvectors (only two moments at the edge). [Knowles-Yin (2011)] [Resolvent method]
- **Rank 1**: $N |\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{q} \rangle|^2$ is asymptotically (squared) Gaussian [Bourgade-Yau (2013)] [DBM]
- **Finite rank**: Joint (squared) Gaussianity for finitely many \mathbf{u} 's and \mathbf{q} 's [Marcinek-Yau (2020)] [DBM]
- **(Almost) full rank**: Gaussianity for $\mathbf{1} \gtrsim \langle \mathring{A}^2 \rangle \geq \delta \|\mathring{A}\|^2$ [Cipolloni, E, Schröder (2021)] [DBM]

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Related independent result:

Gaussianity of $\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathring{A} \mathbf{u}_i \rangle$ for the special case $A = \sum_{j \in I} |\mathbf{e}_j \rangle \langle \mathbf{e}_j|$ with $N^\epsilon \leq |I| \leq N^{1-\epsilon}$, i.e. low rank (also at the edge) [Benigni-Lopatto (2021)] [DBM]

Proof of Gaussian fluctuation (via DBM)

GOAL: Let \mathbf{u}_i be the eigenvectors of a Wigner matrix W , then

$$\mathbf{E} \left[\sqrt{\frac{N}{2 \langle \dot{A}^2 \rangle}} \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \dot{A} \mathbf{u}_i \rangle \right]^n \rightarrow (n-1)!! \mathbf{1}(n \text{ even}), \quad \dot{A} = A - \langle A \rangle.$$

DBM for eigenvectors

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We do it **dynamically**:

$$dW_t = \frac{d\hat{B}_t}{\sqrt{N}}, \quad W_0 = W. \quad (2)$$

The flow (2) adds a Gaussian component of size \sqrt{t} to W_0 .

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The flow (2) induces the **Dyson Brownian Motion (DBM)** for eigenvalues and eigenvectors:

$$\begin{aligned} d\lambda_i(t) &= \frac{dB_{ii}(t)}{\sqrt{N}} + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{1}{\lambda_i(t) - \lambda_j(t)} dt \\ d\mathbf{u}_i(t) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{dB_{ij}(t)}{\lambda_i(t) - \lambda_j(t)} \mathbf{u}_j(t) - \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\mathbf{u}_i(t)}{(\lambda_i(t) - \lambda_j(t))^2} dt. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

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Need only $t \sim N^{-1+\epsilon}$. This Gaussian component can later be removed by simple perturbation theory known as Green function comparison theorem (**GFT**).

The flow (2) induces the **Dyson Brownian Motion (DBM)** for eigenvalues and eigenvectors:

$$\begin{aligned} d\lambda_i(t) &= \frac{dB_{ii}(t)}{\sqrt{N}} + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{1}{\lambda_i(t) - \lambda_j(t)} dt \\ d\mathbf{u}_i(t) &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{N}} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{dB_{ij}(t)}{\lambda_i(t) - \lambda_j(t)} \mathbf{u}_j(t) - \frac{1}{2N} \sum_{j \neq i} \frac{\mathbf{u}_i(t)}{(\lambda_i(t) - \lambda_j(t))^2} dt. \end{aligned} \quad (3)$$

Remark: The BMs $B_{ij}(t)$, for $i \neq j$, and $B_{ii}(t)$ are independent!

Example for $n = 2$

By Ito's formula (from now on $\langle A \rangle = 0$, i.e. $A = \mathring{A}$):

$$d \mathbf{E} [|\langle \mathbf{u}_i, A \mathbf{u}_i \rangle|^2 | \boldsymbol{\lambda}] = \sum_{k \neq i} \frac{\mathbf{E} [|\langle \mathbf{u}_k, A \mathbf{u}_i \rangle|^2 | \boldsymbol{\lambda}] - \mathbf{E} [|\langle \mathbf{u}_i, A \mathbf{u}_i \rangle|^2 | \boldsymbol{\lambda}]}{N(\lambda_k - \lambda_i)^2} + \dots$$

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However, for a special combination

$$f_t(i, j) = \mathbf{E} \left[2|\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_j \rangle|^2 + \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_i \rangle \langle \mathbf{u}_j, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_j \rangle \mid \boldsymbol{\lambda} \right]$$

we have

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For general n : Closed equation for a certain lin. combination of overlaps f_t [Bourgade-Yau-Yin (2018)]

$$\partial_t f_t = \mathcal{L}(t) f_t, \quad (4)$$

for a certain operator $\mathcal{L}(t)$.

We explain the basic construction from [Bourgade-Yau-Yin (2018)]

Particle representation 1

Representation: We can think of $f_t = f_t(i_1, \dots, i_n)$ as a function of "n-particle configurations" on \mathbf{N} .

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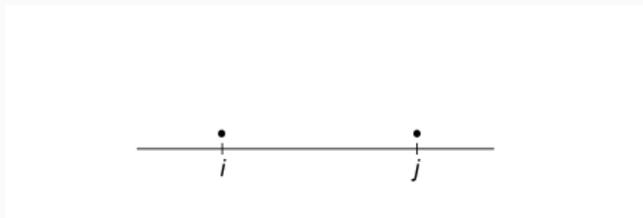


Figure 3: Particle configuration for $n = 2$, $f_t = f_t(i, j)$.

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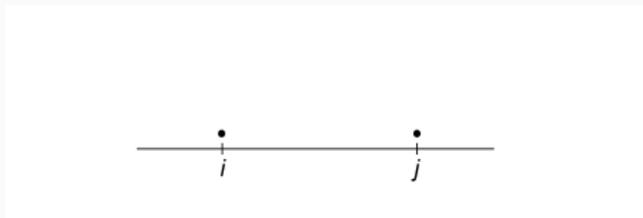


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$f_t(i, j) = 2|\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_j \rangle|^2 + \langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_i \rangle \langle \mathbf{u}_j, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_j \rangle$ takes value in the "doubled space":

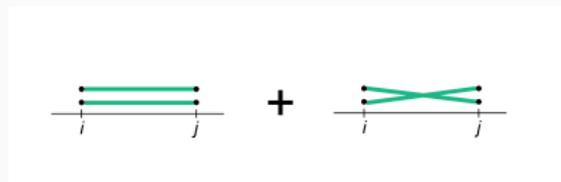


Figure 4: $|\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_j \rangle|^2 + |\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_j \rangle|^2$

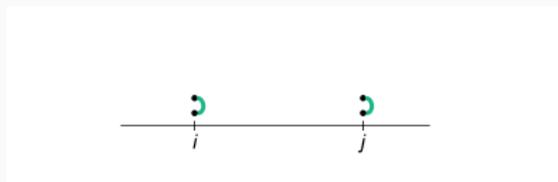


Figure 5: $\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_i \rangle \langle \mathbf{u}_j, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_j \rangle$

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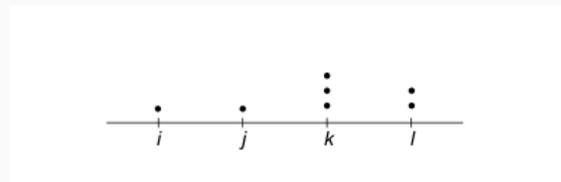


Figure 6: Argument of $f(i, j, k, k, k, l, l)$

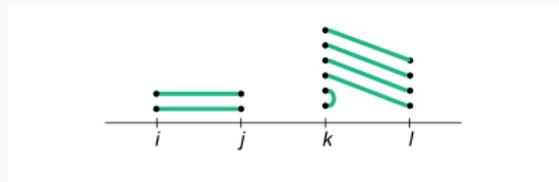


Figure 7: $\mathbf{E} \left[|\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_j \rangle|^2 |\langle \mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_k \rangle| |\langle \mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_l \rangle|^4 \lambda \right]$

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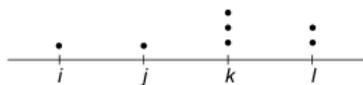


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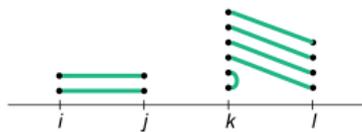


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Action of $\mathcal{L}(t)$:

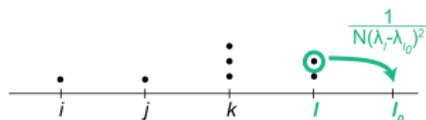


Figure 8: Argument of $\mathcal{L}f_t$:
 $f(i, j, k, k, k, l, l) \rightarrow f(i, j, k, k, k, l, l_0)$

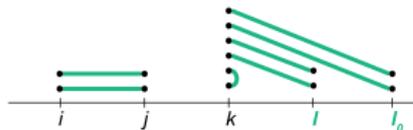


Figure 9:
 $\mathbb{E} \left[|\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_j \rangle|^2 \langle \mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_k \rangle |\langle \mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_l \rangle|^2 |\langle \mathbf{u}_k, \mathbf{A} \mathbf{u}_{l_0} \rangle|^2 |\lambda| \right]$

Sketch of the proof II

Recall: We have $\partial_t f_t = \mathcal{L}(t)f_t$. For $n = 2$:

$$\partial_t f_t(i, j) = \sum_{k \neq i} \frac{f_t(k, j) - f_t(i, j)}{N(\lambda_k - \lambda_i)^2} + \sum_{k \neq j} \frac{f_t(i, k) - f_t(i, j)}{N(\lambda_k - \lambda_j)^2}.$$

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Note that this is the discretisation of the $\sqrt{-\Delta} = |\rho|$ operator in 1d
 $\implies \partial_t f_t = \mathcal{L}(t)f_t$ is a (discrete) **heat equation with fractional Laplacian**

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- For $\partial_t f_t = \mathcal{L}(t)f_t$, want: heat kernel "e^{- $\mathcal{L}(t)$ " averages in all directions.}

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with $\eta \sim N^{-1}$ and $G(z) := (W - z)^{-1}$.

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$$\implies Av_{ij} [N |\langle \mathbf{u}_i, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_j \rangle|^2] \approx \langle \Im G(E + i\eta) A \Im G(E' + i\eta') A \rangle.$$

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Gain: $\langle \Im G A \Im G' A \rangle$ much easier to understand than $\langle \mathbf{u}_j, A \Im G(\lambda_i) \mathbf{A}\mathbf{u}_j \rangle$!

Sketch of the proof IV

Recall: We consider $\partial_t f_t = \mathcal{L}(t)f_t$ (discrete heat equation with fraction Laplacian on \mathbf{N}).

Want heat kernel " $e^{-\mathcal{L}(t)}$ " averages in all directions.

Why averages? Because only they can be understood by local laws!

- Heuristically:

$$\mathcal{L}(t) = \sum_{r=1}^n \mathcal{L}_r(t), \quad \mathcal{L}_r(t) \approx |p_r| := \sqrt{-\Delta_r},$$

i.e. $\mathcal{L}(t)$ (=infinitesimally the heat kernel) averages only in one coordinate direction.
One direction is not enough, local laws require averaging in ALL directions.

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- **To get more averaging:** Replace $\mathcal{L}(t) = \sum_r |\rho_r|$ by the regularised product

$$\mathcal{A}(t) := \frac{1}{\eta} \prod_{r=1}^n \left(1 - e^{-\eta|\rho_r|}\right) \quad \left(\sim \eta^{n-1} \prod_{r=1}^n |\rho_r| \quad \text{morally} \right)$$

with $\eta \sim N^{-1} \implies$ **Average in any direction.**

The replacement is possible on the level of Dirichlet form, $D(f) := \langle f, \mathcal{L}f \rangle$.

Sketch of the proof V

Replace $\mathcal{L}(t) \approx \sum_r |p_r|$ (average in one direction) by the regularised product

$$\mathcal{A}(t) := \frac{1}{\eta} \prod_{r=1}^n \left(1 - e^{-\eta|p_r|}\right) \quad \left(\sim \eta^{n-1} \prod_{r=1}^n |p_r| \text{ morally} \right)$$

with $\eta \sim N^{-1} \implies$ Average in any direction.

- Indeed heuristically:

$$\mathcal{L}(t)f_t = \sum_{r=1}^n \sum_{k \neq i_r} \frac{f(i_r \rightarrow k) - f_t(i_1, \dots, i_n)}{N(\lambda_k - \lambda_{i_r})^2},$$
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The replacement is possible on the level of Dirichlet form, $D(f) := \langle f, \mathcal{L}f \rangle$.

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- Main technical steps:
 - (i) the energy method for DBM [Marcinek-Yau (2020)] analysing

$$\partial_t \|f_t\|_2^2 = -2D_t(f_t) \leq 0.$$

- (ii) local laws for $\langle GAGA \dots \rangle$ with $\langle A \rangle = 0$ and $\langle A^2 \rangle$ errors [Cipolloni, E, Schröder (2022)].

Theorem (Cipolloni, E, Schröder 2022)

For any deterministic observable A , with $\langle A \rangle = 0$, it holds:

$$\left| \langle G(z_1)AG(z_2)A \rangle - m(z_1)m(z_2) \langle A^2 \rangle \right| \leq \frac{\langle A^2 \rangle}{\sqrt{N\eta}} \ll \langle A^2 \rangle \quad (5)$$

for any $z_1, z_2 \in \mathbf{C} \setminus \mathbf{R}$ such that $\eta := \Im z_1 \sim \Im z_2 \geq N^{-1+\epsilon}$.

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Remark: (6) is a special case of a general multi-resolvents local laws for $G_1A_1 \dots G_kA_k$ with optimal dependence on A – we call it **rank uniformity**.

Rank uniform local law

Previous local laws for the resolvent $G(z)$ of Wigner matrices

$$\langle (G(z) - m(z))A \rangle \lesssim \frac{\|A\|}{N\eta}, \quad \eta := \Im z \quad (\text{averaged})$$

$$\langle \mathbf{x}, (G(z) - m(z))\mathbf{y} \rangle \lesssim \sqrt{\frac{\rho}{N\eta}} \|\mathbf{x}\| \|\mathbf{y}\|, \quad \rho := \Im m \quad (\text{isotropic})$$

Note: $A = |\mathbf{y}\rangle\langle\mathbf{x}|$ for the averaged law gives an isotropic estimate off by a huge factor $\sqrt{N/\rho\eta}$ because $\|A\|$ is far from optimal for lower rank observables.

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Theorem [Rank-uniform local law (single resolvent)] (Cipolloni, E, Schröder 2022)

For any deterministic observable A and for any $N\eta\rho \gg 1$.

$$|\langle (G(z) - m(z))A \rangle| \lesssim \frac{|\langle A \rangle|}{N\eta} + \frac{\sqrt{\rho} \langle |\mathring{A}|^2 \rangle^{1/2}}{N\sqrt{\eta}}, \quad \mathring{A} = A - \langle A \rangle. \quad (6)$$

Unifies and extends the isotropic and averaged local laws. Multi-resolvent versions also hold.

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Method: A nonlinear hierarchy of *master inequalities* for the quantities

$$\psi_k := \max \frac{N^{(3-k)/2} \sqrt{\eta}}{\sqrt{\rho}} \frac{1}{\prod_i \langle |A_i|^2 \rangle^{1/2}} \left| \langle G(z_1)A_1G(z_2) \dots A_k - \prod_i m(z_i)A_i \rangle \right|,$$

where \max runs over all z_i , $\Im z_i = \eta$ and deterministic A_i 's with $\langle A_i \rangle = 0$, AND a *reduction inequality* stating roughly $\psi_{2k} \ll (\psi_k)^2$ to close the hierarchy.

Summary

We proved:

- **Eigenstate Thermalisation Hypothesis for Wigner matrices:** eigenvector overlaps with deterministic A are $\lesssim N^{-1/2}$.
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Main technical steps:

- Energy estimates for multi indexed DBM.
- Dramatically improved local law for traceless observables.
- New hierarchy of master inequalities and its closure for ψ_k .

THANK YOU VERY MUCH FOR YOUR ATTENTION!