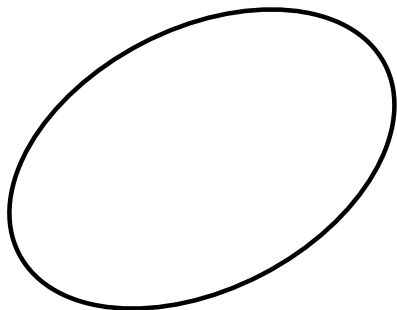
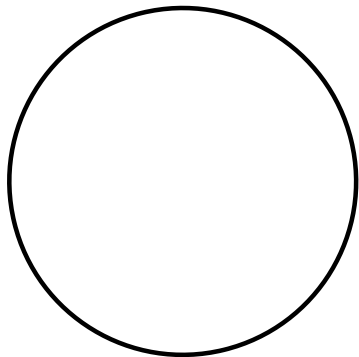


Mixtures of classical and free independence

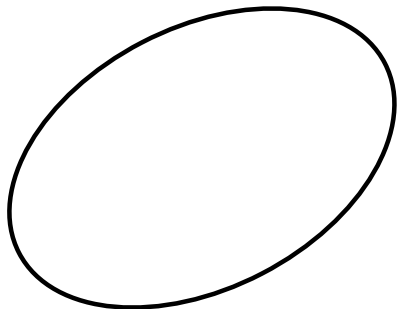
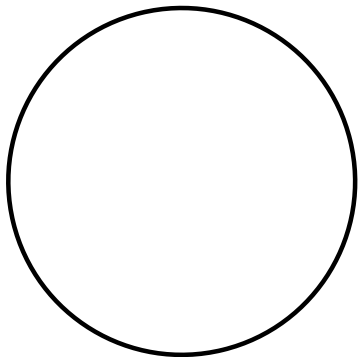
Ian Charlesworth

Prifysgol Caerdydd / Cardiff University

2026-06-25

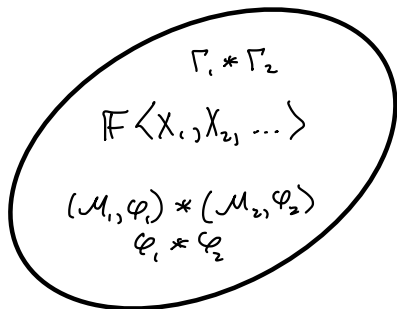
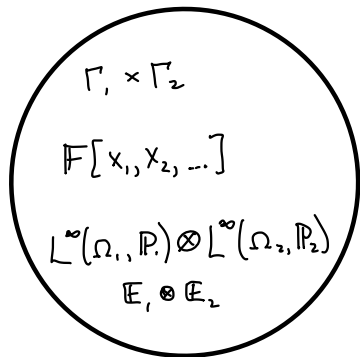


Commutative



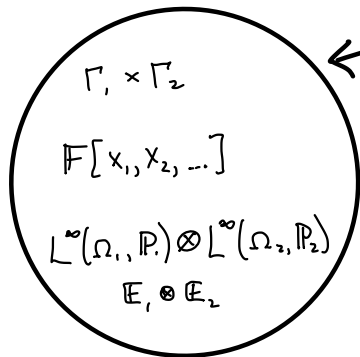
Non-Commutative

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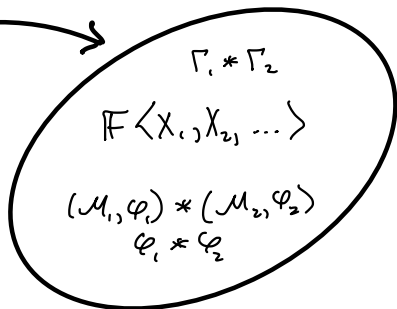


Non-Commutative

Commutative



?



Non-Commutative

Combinatorics of words

$A = \{1, 2, \dots, n\} = [n]$ finite set

A^* set of **words** (finite sequences) with letters in A

A^{\otimes} set of commutative words (monomials) with letters in A

E.g. $\varepsilon, 1, 1^2, 121, 21^2, \dots \in A^*$

$$A^{\otimes} = A^* / \{ij \sim ji\}$$

$$\sum_{w \in A^*} X_w = (1 - X_1 - X_2 - \dots - X_n)^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z} \langle\langle X_1, \dots, X_n \rangle\rangle$$

$$\sum_{[w] \in A^{\otimes}} X_w = (1 - X_1)^{-1} (1 - X_2)^{-1} \dots (1 - X_n)^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z} [[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$$

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Combinatorics of words

[Cartier — Foata 1969, Paraphrased]

Let $G = (A, E)$ be a (simple) graph

$$A^G = A^* / \{uv \sim vu \mid (u, v) \in E\}$$



$$12321 \sim 2^2131 \sim 132^21$$

$$1234 \sim 1324$$

$$\sum_{[w] \in A^G} X_w = \left(\sum_{\substack{K \subseteq A \\ \text{clique}}} \prod_{n \in K} (-X_n) \right)^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z}[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$$

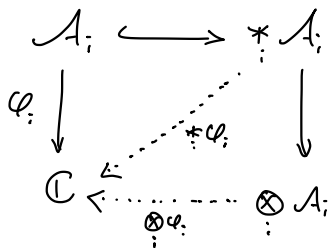
or

$$\mathbb{Z}\langle\langle X_1, \dots, X_n \rangle\rangle / \sim_G$$

Independences

Independence — a rule for specifying joint expectations
in terms of pure expectations

\Leftrightarrow a construction of product states



$$(\varphi_1 \otimes \varphi_2)(x_1^n, x_2^m) = \varphi_1(x_1^n) \varphi_2(x_2^m)$$

$$(\varphi_1 * \varphi_2)\left(\left(x_1^{a_1} - \varphi_1(x_1^{a_1})\right) \dots \left(x_2^{a_2 k} - \varphi_2(x_2^{a_2 k})\right)\right) = 0$$

Independences

Example:

$$\mathcal{H} = L^2([0, \infty), dx)$$

$$\mathcal{F}_0(\mathcal{H}) = \bigoplus_{k \geq 0} \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k} \quad \text{full free Fock space}$$

$$\mathcal{F}_s(\mathcal{H}) = \bigoplus_{k \geq 0} \mathcal{H}^{\otimes k} / \sim \quad \text{symmetric Fock space}$$

$$\varphi_i : \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \quad : \quad T \mapsto \langle \Omega, T\Omega \rangle$$

$$l_i(t) \in \mathcal{B}(\mathcal{F}_s(\mathcal{H})) \quad : \quad \xi_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \xi_k \mapsto \chi_{[0,t]} \otimes \xi_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \xi_k$$

$$g_i(t) = l_i(t) + l_i(t)^* \quad \text{under } \varphi_i \text{ is}$$

free/classical Brownian motion

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Independences

[Bożejko — Speicher 1991, ...]

q -deformed Fock space

$$\begin{aligned} & \langle \xi_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \xi_k, \eta_1 \otimes \dots \otimes \eta_k \rangle_q \\ &= \sum_{\sigma \in S_k} q^{i(\sigma)} \langle \xi_1, \eta_{\sigma(1)} \rangle \dots \langle \xi_k, \eta_{\sigma(k)} \rangle \end{aligned}$$

$l_q(t) + l_q(t)^*$ q -deformed Brownian motion

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Are these central limit distributions

for a q -deformed free independence?

Independences

[Bożejko — Speicher 1991, ...]

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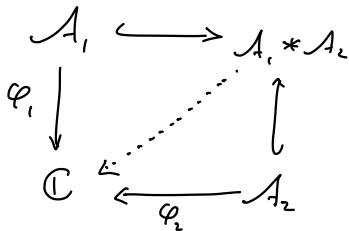
[Speicher; Muraki c. 2000s] No.

Independences

Are these central limit distributions
for a q -deformed free independence?

[Speicher; Muraki c. 2000s] No.

There are 5 "reasonable" ways of defining a
product state.



(Only 3 of them are symmetric. Only $*$ and \otimes
are symmetric and unital.)

Independences

But on the other hand... [Mkotkowski 2004]

$A = [n]$ $G = (A, E)$ simple graph

$(\mathcal{A}_v, \varphi_v)_{v \in A}$ tracial $*$ -algebras

$$(\mathcal{A}, \varphi) = \bigotimes_G (\mathcal{A}_v, \varphi_v)$$

- generated by (copies of) $\mathcal{A}_1, \dots, \mathcal{A}_n$
- if $K \subseteq A$ is a clique, $(\mathcal{A}_v)_{v \in K}$ pairwise commute and are \otimes -independent
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The q -deformed Gaussians are the output of a "G-central limit theorem".

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$\bigotimes_{v \in G} A_v$ faithfully represented on

$$\bigoplus_{[w] \in A^G} \dot{A}_{w_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \dot{A}_{w_k} \quad \text{where } \dot{A}_w = \ker \phi_w$$

G-reduced

$[w]$ is *G-reduced* if it has no representative with adjacent matching letters.

E.g.  2342 ✓ 2312 ✗

Main idea: if $A_v^G = \{[w] \in A^G \mid w_i = v\}$ then

$$\bigoplus_{[w] \in A^G} \dot{A}_{w_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \dot{A}_{w_k} \cong A_v \otimes \left(\bigoplus_{[w] \in A^G \setminus A_v^G} \dot{A}_{w_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \dot{A}_{w_k} \right)$$

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Independences

[Cébron — Oliveira Santos — Youssef]

G_i sequence of graphs converging to a graphon \mathbb{H}

$(x_{v,i})_{v \in V(G_i)}$ G_i -independent and all identically distributed
with mean 0, variance 1.

Then

$$\frac{1}{\sqrt{|V(G_i)|}} \sum_{v \in V(G_i)} x_v \xrightarrow{\text{dist}} x_{\mathbb{H}} \text{ depending only on } \mathbb{H}$$

Products of Groups

[Green 1990]

$G = (A, E)$ $(\Gamma_r)_{r \in A}$ groups

$$\bigotimes_{v \in G} \Gamma_v = \ast_{v \in V(G)} \Gamma_v / \langle [\Gamma_u, \Gamma_r] \mid (u, r) \in E \rangle$$

Eg. Right-angled Artin groups $\bigotimes_G \mathbb{Z}$

[Caspers — Fima 2017]

Graph product defined for C^* , W^* -algebras

$$\bigotimes_r L(\Gamma_r) = L\left(\bigotimes_r \Gamma_v\right)$$

Preservation of Haagerup property, ...

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Matrix models

x_1, x_2 random variables

$X_{i,N}$ $N \times N$ matrices

$$X_{i,N} \xrightarrow{\text{dist}} x_i \\ \left(\frac{1}{N} \text{Tr}(X_{i,N}^k) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}[x_i^k] \right)$$

$U_{i,N}$ independent uniformly random $N \times N$ unitaries

$$Y_{i,N} = U_{i,N} X_{i,N} U_{i,N}^*$$

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Matrix models

[C - Collins; C - de Santiago - Hayes - Jekel - Kunnawalkam Elayavalli; Morampudi - Laumann]

Using more tensor factors and unitaries uniform in well-chosen subgroups leads to G -independence.

This can be adapted to random permutation matrices (with care over the diagonal) which tells us graph products of type I factors with vanishing first L^2 Betti number are strongly 1-bounded (and in particular, not free group factors).

(c.f. [Davis - Okun])

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When can we have type I summands in $\bigotimes_{v \in G} A_v$?

Subcases:

• If $G = K_n$, $\bigotimes_{v \in G} A_v = \bigotimes_{v \in V(G)} A_v$ so the type I summands are tensor products of those in the A_v .

• [Dykema 1993; Ueda 2011]

If $G = \mathcal{X}_n$, $\bigotimes_{v \in G} A_v = \ast_{v \in V(G)} A_v$.

\mathbb{C} occurs as direct summand with weight $\alpha \in (0, 1]$

if each A_v has \mathbb{C} as a direct summand with weight α_v , and $1 - \alpha = (1 - \alpha_1) + \dots + (1 - \alpha_n)$

(Ueda characterizes types of all summands, but this margin is too small)

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Central summands

When can we have type I summands in $\bigotimes_{v \in G} A_v$?

Subcases:

• If $G = K_n$, $\bigotimes_{v \in G} A_v = \bigotimes_{v \in V(G)} A_v$ so the type I summands are tensor products of those in the A_v .

• [Dykema 1993; Ueda 2011]

If $G = X_n$, $\bigotimes_{v \in G} A_v = \ast_{v \in V(G)} A_v$.

\mathbb{C} occurs as direct summand with weight $\alpha \in (0, 1]$

if each A_v has \mathbb{C} as a direct summand with weight α_v , and $1 - \alpha = (1 - \alpha_1) + \dots + (1 - \alpha_n)$

(Ueda characterizes types of all summands, but this margin is too small)

Central summands

Aside:

x_1, x_2 projections of trace $\frac{1}{2} \leq \alpha_1 \leq \alpha_2 < 1$

Then:

$$W^*(x_1) * W^*(x_2) \cong \begin{cases} \text{something diffuse} & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} = \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 \\ \mathbb{C} \oplus \text{something diffuse} & \text{if } \frac{1}{2} < \alpha_1 = \alpha_2 \\ \mathbb{C} \oplus \mathbb{C} \oplus \text{something diffuse} & \text{if } \alpha_1 < \alpha_2 \end{cases}$$

\downarrow
 $x_1 + x_2$ has corresponding atoms in its spectral measure

$W^*(x_1) \otimes W^*(x_2) \cong \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$ has 4 summands

\downarrow
 $x_1 + x_2$ has 3 atoms

Central summands

Simpler question: $p_v \in \mathcal{A}_v$ for each $v \in A$.

When is $p = \bigwedge_{v \in A} p_v \neq 0$ in $\bigotimes_{v \in G} \mathcal{A}_v$?

For a graph H with $V(H) = \{1, \dots, h\}$ let

$$\mathbb{R}_H(X_1, \dots, X_h) = \sum_{\substack{K \subseteq H \\ \text{clique}}} \prod_{v \in K} -X_v \in \mathbb{C}[[X_1, \dots, X_h]]$$

Theorem [G - Jekel]

$p \neq 0 \iff \forall A' \subseteq A$, writing $G' \leq G$ for the corresponding induced subgraph,
 $\mathbb{R}_{G'}\left(\prod_{v \in A'} (1 - \varphi(p_v))\right) > 0$.

In this case, this is equal to $\varphi(p)$.

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(Note: A red arrow points from the text "mathfrak{K}" to the sum over cliques.)

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Combinatorics of words

[Cartier — Foata 1969, Paraphrased]

Let $G = (A, E)$ be a (simple) graph

$$A^G = A^* / \{uv \sim vu \mid (u, v) \in E\}$$



$$12321 \sim 2^2131 \sim 132^21$$

$$1234 \sim 1324$$

$$\sum_{[w] \in A^G} X_w = \left(\prod_{\substack{K \subseteq A \\ \text{clique}}} \prod_{N \in K} (-X_N) \right)^{-1} \in \mathbb{Z}[[X_1, \dots, X_n]]$$

or

$$\mathbb{Z}\langle\langle X_1, \dots, X_n \rangle\rangle / \sim_G$$

Free etymology

$$\mathcal{H} = \overline{\bigoplus_{[w] \in A^G} \dot{A}_{w_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \dot{A}_{w_k}} \quad \text{where } \dot{A}_w = \ker \varphi_w$$

G-reduced

Assume $A_v = \mathbb{C}p_v \oplus \mathbb{C}(1-p_v)$; write $\dot{p}_v = \frac{p_v - \varphi(p_v)}{\|p_v - \varphi(p_v)\|}$ so $\dot{A}_v = \mathbb{C}\dot{p}_v$

Suppose $\xi = \sum_{[w] \in A^G} \xi([w]) \dot{p}_{w_1} \otimes \cdots \otimes \dot{p}_{w_k} \in p_v \mathcal{H}$

G-reduced

$$p_v(1) = p_v - \varphi(p_v) + \varphi(p_v) = \|p_v - \varphi(p_v)\| (\dot{p}_v + \varphi(p_v)1)$$

$$p_v(\dot{p}_v) = (1 - \varphi(p_v))\dot{p}_v + \|p_v - \varphi(p_v)\| 1$$

$$\Rightarrow \xi([vw]) = \sqrt{\frac{1 - \varphi(p_v)}{\varphi(p_v)}} \xi([w])$$

Similarly if $[w] \in A^G \setminus A_v^G$ $\xi([vw]) = \sqrt{\frac{1 - \varphi(p_v)}{\varphi(p_v)}} \xi([w])$

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Free etymology

$$\xi = \sum_{\substack{[w] \in A^G \\ G\text{-reduced}}} \xi([w]) \dot{p}_{w_1} \otimes \dots \otimes \dot{p}_{w_k} \in P_V^{\text{free}} \Rightarrow \xi([vw]) = \sqrt{\frac{1 - \varphi(p_v)}{\varphi(p_v)}} \xi([w])$$

If we normalize $\xi([\])=1$ then

$$\xi([w]) = \prod_i \sqrt{\frac{1 - \varphi(p_{w_i})}{\varphi(p_{w_i})}}$$

We need

$$\|\xi\|^2 = \sum_{\substack{[w] \in A^G \\ G\text{-reduced}}} |\xi([w])|^2 = \sum_{\substack{[w] \in A^G \\ G\text{-reduced}}} \prod_i \frac{1 - \varphi(p_{w_i})}{\varphi(p_{w_i})} < \infty$$

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$$F(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \sum_{[w] \in A^G} X_w \quad F_r(X_1, \dots, X_n) = \sum_{\substack{[w] \in A^G \\ G\text{-reduced}}} X_w$$

$$\Rightarrow F(X_1, \dots, X_n) = F_r\left(\frac{X_1}{1-X_1}, \dots, \frac{X_n}{1-X_n}\right)$$

Free etymology

$$\begin{aligned}\|\xi\|^2 &= \sum_{\substack{[w] \in A^G \\ G\text{-reduced}}} |\xi([w])|^2 = \sum_{\substack{[w] \in A^G \\ G\text{-reduced}}} \prod_i \frac{1 - \varphi(p_{w_i})}{\varphi(p_{w_i})} \\ &= \sum_{\substack{[w] \in A^G \\ G\text{-reduced}}} \prod_i \frac{1 - \varphi(p_{w_i})}{1 - (1 - \varphi(p_{w_i}))} \\ &= F_r \left(\frac{1 - \varphi(p_1)}{1 - (1 - \varphi(p_1))}, \dots, \frac{1 - \varphi(p_n)}{1 - (1 - \varphi(p_n))} \right) \\ &= F \left(1 - \varphi(p_1), \dots, 1 - \varphi(p_n) \right) \\ &\stackrel{(*)}{=} \mathbb{F}_G \left(1 - \varphi(p_1), \dots, 1 - \varphi(p_n) \right)^{-1}\end{aligned}$$

Central summands

Theorem [C-Jekel]

Let $G = (A, E)$ be a finite simple graph,

$(\mathcal{A}_v, \varphi_v)_{v \in A}$ (faithful normal) statial vNas

The type I summands of $(\mathcal{A}, \varphi) = \bigotimes_{v \in G} (\mathcal{A}_v, \varphi_v)$ can be

explicitly described based on polynomial conditions

$\mathbb{R}_{G'} > 0$ at points depending on the summands of \mathcal{A}_v
and the restriction of φ_v to those summands.