

Macdonald processes and universal limits in discrete random matrix theory

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Leipzig integrable probability seminar

April 24, 2023

Based on <https://arxiv.org/abs/2310.12275>,
<https://arxiv.org/abs/2312.11702>, and work in preparation

Question 1: Let $A_1, \dots, A_\tau$ be iid uniform in $\text{Mat}_N(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$. What does the distribution of

$$\text{rank}(A_\tau \cdots A_2 A_1)$$

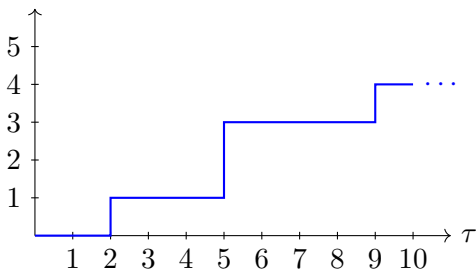
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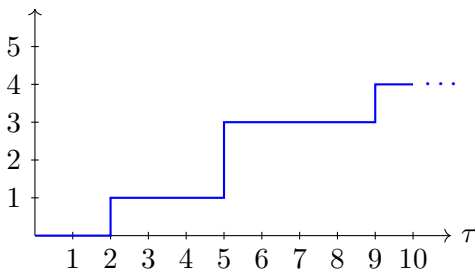


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Fact: $\text{corank}(A_\tau \cdots A_1) \approx \log_p \tau$, finite limit fluctuations.

An intriguing random integer

Theorem (VP '23, special case)

For each $N \geq 1$ take $A_1^{(N)}, A_2^{(N)}, \dots$ iid uniform in $\text{Mat}_N(\mathbb{Z}/p\mathbb{Z})$.
Then as $N \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\text{corank}(A_{\tau_N}^{(N)} \cdots A_1^{(N)}) - [\log_p \tau_N + \zeta] \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{1, p^{-1}, p^{-\zeta}/(p-1)}$$

(an *explicit* $\mathbb{Z}$ -valued random variable), for any sequence $\tau_N, N \geq 1$
s.t. $1 \ll \tau_N \ll p^N$ and $-\log_p \tau_N$ converges in $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ to some
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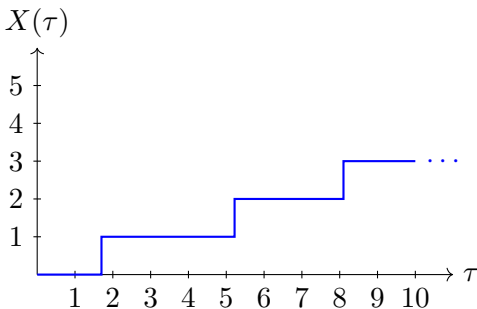
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Here for any $\chi \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}, t \in (0, 1)$, $\mathcal{L}_{1,t,\chi}$ is the $\mathbb{Z}$ -valued r.v. defined by

$$\Pr(\mathcal{L}_{1,t,\chi} = x) = \frac{1}{\prod_{i \geq 1} (1 - t^i)} \sum_{j \geq 0} e^{-\chi t^{x-j}} \frac{(-1)^j t^{\binom{j}{2}}}{\prod_{i=1}^j (1 - t^i)}$$

for any $x \in \mathbb{Z}$.

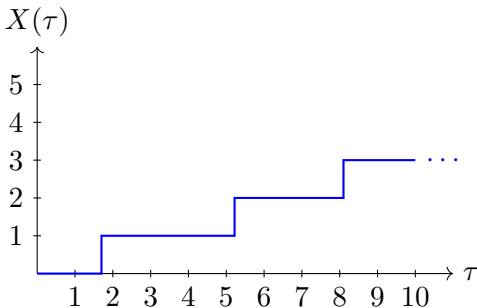
Let $X(\tau), \tau \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ be the $\mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ -valued process which jumps by 1, and waits at state $x \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ for an $\text{Exp}(t^x)$ -distributed time¹.



Question 2: What are the limiting fluctuations of $X(\tau)$?

¹i.e. $\Pr((\text{time spent at } x) > T) = e^{-t^{-x}T}$.

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Theorem (VP '23, special case)

$$X(\tau) - (\log_{t^{-1}} \tau + \zeta) \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{1,t,t^{-\zeta+1}/(1-t)}$$

in distribution as $\tau \rightarrow \infty$ along the sequence $\tau \in t^{-\mathbb{N}+\zeta}$.

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Question 3: Let M_n be a uniformly random strictly upper-triangular matrix over $\mathbb{F}_q$. What are the limiting fluctuations of $\text{corank}(M_n)$?

$$M_n \in \begin{pmatrix} 0 & * & * & \cdots & * \\ 0 & 0 & * & \ddots & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \ddots & * \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & * \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \end{pmatrix} \subset \text{Mat}_n(\mathbb{F}_q)$$

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Theorem (VP '24+, special case)

Let $n_j, j = 1, 2, \dots$ be an increasing sequence with $-\log_q \tau_N$ converging in $\mathbb{R}/\mathbb{Z}$ to some $\zeta \in [0, 1)$. Then as $j \rightarrow \infty$,

$$\text{corank}(M_{n_j}) - [\log_q n_j + \zeta] \rightarrow \mathcal{L}_{1, q^{-1}, q^{-\zeta}}.$$

p -adic random matrices

Fix a prime p . $\mathbb{Z}_p := \varprojlim \mathbb{Z}/p^k\mathbb{Z}$, concretely

$$\mathbb{Z}_p = \{a_0 + a_1p + a_2p^2 + \dots : a_i \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}\}.$$

Have ring maps $\mathbb{Z}_p \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p^d\mathbb{Z}$.

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Have ring maps $\mathbb{Z}_p \twoheadrightarrow \mathbb{Z}/p^d\mathbb{Z}$.

$(\mathbb{Z}_p, +)$ has Haar probability measure $\mu_{\text{Haar}}^{\mathbb{Z}_p}$, explicitly given by taking $a_i \in \{0, \dots, p-1\}$ iid uniformly random, projects to uniform on $\mathbb{Z}/p^k\mathbb{Z}$ for any k .

Proposition (Smith normal form)

For nonsingular $A \in \text{Mat}_N(\mathbb{Q}_p)$, there are $U, V \in \text{GL}_N(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ for which

$$UAV = \text{diag}(p^{\lambda_1}, \dots, p^{\lambda_N})$$

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We study $\text{SN}(A) = (\text{SN}(A)_1, \dots, \text{SN}(A)_N) := (\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N)$ above (a *random integer signature* of length N).

Two worlds: RMT over $\mathbb{C}$ and $\mathbb{Q}_p$

	RMT over $\mathbb{C}$	RMT over $\mathbb{Q}_p$
Group	$\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{C})$	$\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Q}_p)$
Maximal compact subgroup	$U(n)$	$\mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)$
Structure theorem	SVD: $UAV = \mathrm{diag}(e^{-r_1}, \dots, e^{-r_n})$ for $U, V \in U(n)$	Smith normal form: $UAV = \mathrm{diag}(p^{\lambda_1}, \dots, p^{\lambda_n})$ for $U, V \in \mathrm{GL}_n(\mathbb{Z}_p)$
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$$\text{cok}(A) := \mathbb{Z}_p^N / A\mathbb{Z}_p^N.$$

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For $\lambda = \text{SN}(A)$, get finite abelian p -group

$$\text{cok}(A) \cong \bigoplus_{i=1}^N \mathbb{Z}/p^{\lambda_i}\mathbb{Z}.$$

Motivation: random groups

In many contexts such as

- ▶ Arithmetic statistics—distributions of class groups of number fields, Tate-Shafarevich groups—(Bhargava, Cohen, Ellenberg, Kane, Lenstra Jr., Nguyen, Poonen, Rains, Sawin, Venkatesh, Westerland, Wood... '83-present),
- ▶ Sandpile groups of random graphs—(Clancy, Fulman, Kaplan, Koplewitz, Leake, Nguyen, Payne, Wood... '14-present),
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$$G = \bigoplus_{p \text{ prime}} G_p$$
$$G_p = \bigoplus_i \mathbb{Z}/p^{\lambda_i^{(p)}} \mathbb{Z} \rightsquigarrow \text{random partition } \lambda.$$

Random matrices produce random groups

The first such distribution (1983) was the *Cohen-Lenstra distribution* on abelian p -groups $G = \bigoplus_i \mathbb{Z}/p^{\lambda_i}\mathbb{Z}$ given by

$$\Pr(G) = \frac{\prod_{i \geq 1} (1 - 1/p^i)}{|\mathrm{Aut}(G)|},$$

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Theorem (Friedman-Washington 1987)

Let $A^{(N)} \in \operatorname{Mat}_N(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ have iid additive Haar entries. Then as $N \rightarrow \infty$, $\operatorname{cok}(A^{(N)})$ limits to the Cohen-Lenstra distribution $\Pr(G) = \prod_{i \geq 1} (1 - p^{-i}) / |\operatorname{Aut}(G)|$.

Theorem (Wood 2015)

Let $A^{(N)} \in \operatorname{Mat}_N(\mathbb{Z})$ have iid entries from any distribution which is nonconstant modulo p . Then $\operatorname{cok}(A^{(N)})_p$ converges to the Cohen-Lenstra distribution.

At a probabilistic level things look quite different

The real/complex product process

Can study singular values of $A_\tau A_{\tau-1} \cdots A_1$ for A_i $N \times N$ random real/complex matrices, $\tau = 1, 2, \dots$ [Bellman 1954].

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When $N, \tau \rightarrow \infty, N/\tau \rightarrow c \in (0, \infty)$, the bulk (resp. soft edge) statistics are c -parametrized deformations of sine (resp. Airy) kernel ([Akemann-Burda-Kieburg 2018], [Liu-Wang-Wang 2018]).

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How do singular numbers of p -adic matrix products behave?

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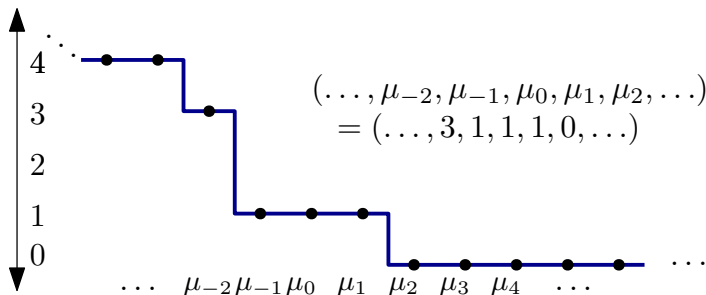
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[VP 2020]: For A_i 'nice' $N \times N$ p -adic random matrices, each $\text{SN}(A_\tau \cdots A_1)_i$ has Gaussian fluctuations as $\tau \rightarrow \infty$.

Dynamical local limits?



Question

For $1 \ll r_N \ll N$, does joint evolution of bulk singular numbers $\text{SN}(A_\tau \cdots A_1)_{r_N+i}, i \in \{\dots, -1, 0, 1, \dots\}$ converge as matrix size $N \rightarrow \infty$ to some Markov process on

$$\text{Sig}_{2\infty}^{\geq 0} := \{\mu = (\dots, \mu_{-1}, \mu_0, \mu_1, \dots) \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{\mathbb{Z}} : \mu_{i+1} \leq \mu_i\}?$$

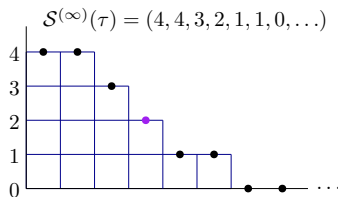
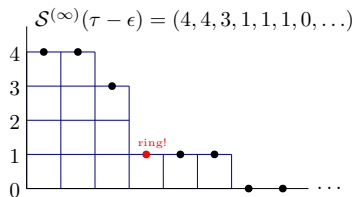
The reflecting Poisson sea and limit theorems

Extending $X(\tau)$ to a growth process on integer partitions

$$\mathcal{S}^{(\infty)}(\tau) = (\mathcal{S}^{(\infty)}(\tau)_1, \mathcal{S}^{(\infty)}(\tau)_2, \dots), \tau \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}.$$

Starts at $\mathcal{S}^{(\infty)}(0) = (0, 0, \dots)$.

Indep. exp. clocks at $1, 2, \dots$ of rates $t, t^2, \dots$ control jumps.

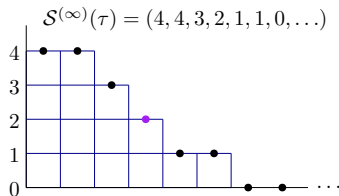
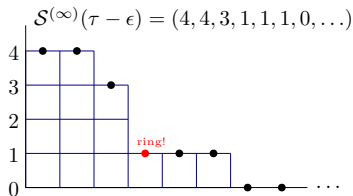


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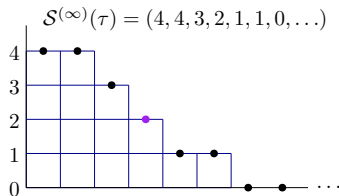
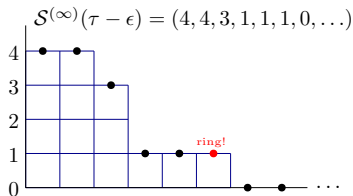
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When particle is blocked, donates jump:



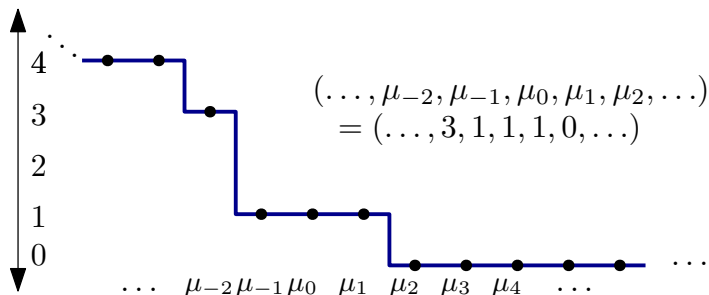
Have $\mathbb{Z}^d$ -valued random variables $\mathcal{L}_{d,p^{-\zeta}/(p-1)}$ such that:

Theorem (VP '23)

Let $\tau_N = p^{N-\zeta}$. Then

$$(\mathcal{S}^{(\infty)}(\tau_N)'_i - \log_p(\tau_N) - \zeta)_{1 \leq i \leq d} \xrightarrow{N \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{L}_{d,p^{-\zeta}/(p-1)}.$$

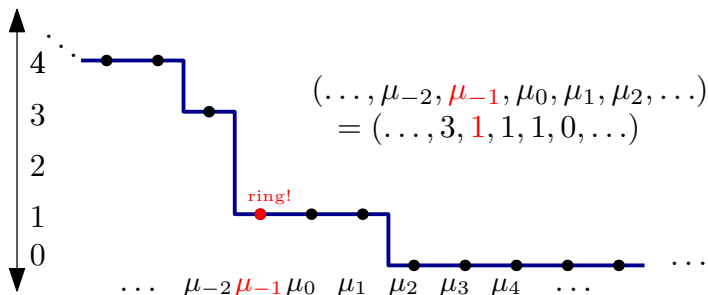
The reflecting Poisson sea



Definition (VP 2023)

The reflecting Poisson sea $\mu(T) = (\dots, \mu_{-1}(T), \mu_0(T), \mu_1(T), \dots)$, $T \geq 0$ is the continuous-time stochastic process with each $\mu_i(T)$ increasing by 1 according to rate- t^i exponential clock (independent of each other), donating move if blocked.

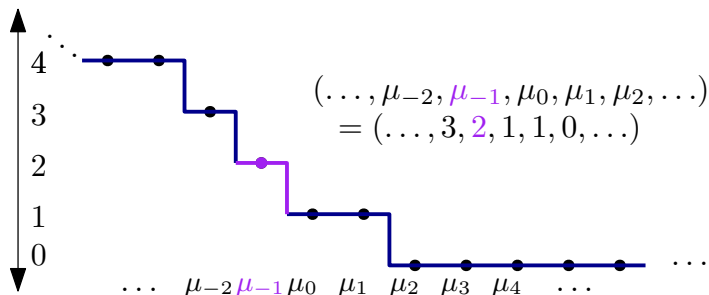
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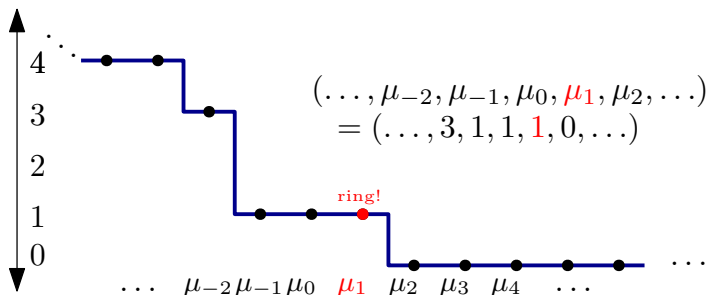
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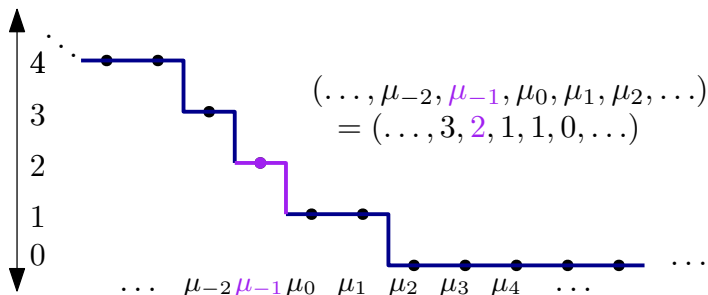
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Local limit picture

Theorem (VP '23)

For each $N \geq 1$ let $A_i^{(N)} \in \text{Mat}_N(\mathbb{Z}_p)$, $i \geq 1$ be iid additive Haar matrices and $\Pi^{(N)}(\tau) := \text{SN}(A_\tau^{(N)} \cdots A_1^{(N)})$.

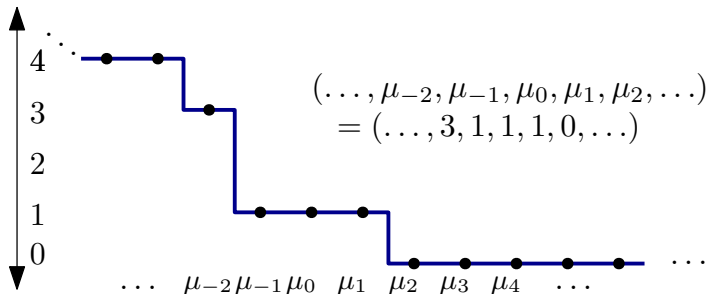
Let $(r_N)_{N \geq 1}$ be such that (1) $r_N \rightarrow \infty$ and (2) $N - r_N \rightarrow \infty$. Then $(\dots, \Pi^{(N)}(\lfloor p^{r_N} T \rfloor)_{r_N-1}, \Pi^{(N)}(\lfloor p^{r_N} T \rfloor)_{r_N}, \Pi^{(N)}(\lfloor p^{r_N} T \rfloor)_{r_N+1}, \dots)$ converges to $\mu(T)$ (with $t = 1/p$).

Comparison to dynamical local limits over $\mathbb{C}$

Fixed-time limits: analogues of deformed sine/Airy process

Let $\mu'_i(T) := \max(\{j : \mu_j(T) \geq i\})$.

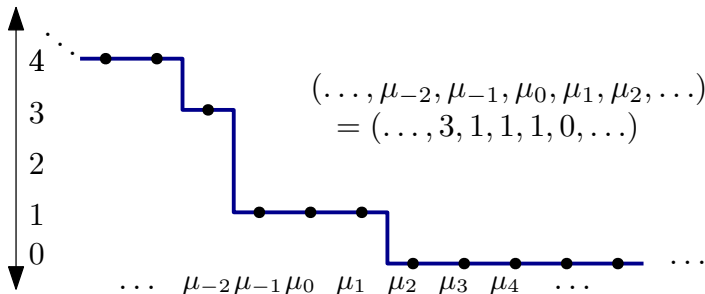
Here $(\mu'_1, \mu'_2, \mu'_3, \mu'_4, \dots) = (1, -2, -2, -3, \dots)$.



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Theorem (VP '23)

The joint distribution of $(\mu'_1(T), \mu'_2(T), \dots, \mu'_k(T))$ is an explicit random variable $\mathcal{L}_{k,t,tT/(1-t)}$.

What is $\mathcal{L}_{k,t,\chi}$?

Example

When $k = 2$ (taking $t = 1/p$), $\chi \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}$, $(L+x, L) \in \text{Sig}_2$,

$$\begin{aligned} \Pr(\mathcal{L}_{2,t,\chi} = (L+x, L)) &= \frac{t^{\binom{x}{2}}}{(t; t)_{\infty}} \sum_{m \geq 0} e^{-t^{L-m}\chi} \\ &\times (-1)^m t^{m^2 + (x-1)m} \sum_{i=0}^x \frac{(-1)^{x-i}}{(t; t)_{x-i}} \begin{bmatrix} m+i \\ i \end{bmatrix}_t \\ &\times \left(\frac{(t^{L-m}\chi)^{i+m}}{(i+m)!} + \frac{(t^{L-m}\chi)^{i+m-1} \mathbb{1}(i+m \geq 1)}{(i+m-1)!} \right) \end{aligned}$$

where

$$(a; t)_n := (1-a)(1-ta) \cdots (1-t^{n-1}a) \text{ and } \begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}_t := \frac{(t; t)_a}{(t; t)_b (t; t)_{a-b}}.$$

A word on proofs

Given convergence of fixed-time marginals, explicit linear-algebraic arguments show multi-time convergence to $\mu(T)$ (robust, universal for generic $\mathrm{GL}_N(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ -invariant distributions).

A word on proofs

Given convergence of fixed-time marginals, explicit linear-algebraic arguments show multi-time convergence to $\mu(T)$ (**robust, universal for generic $\mathrm{GL}_N(\mathbb{Z}_p)$ -invariant distributions**).

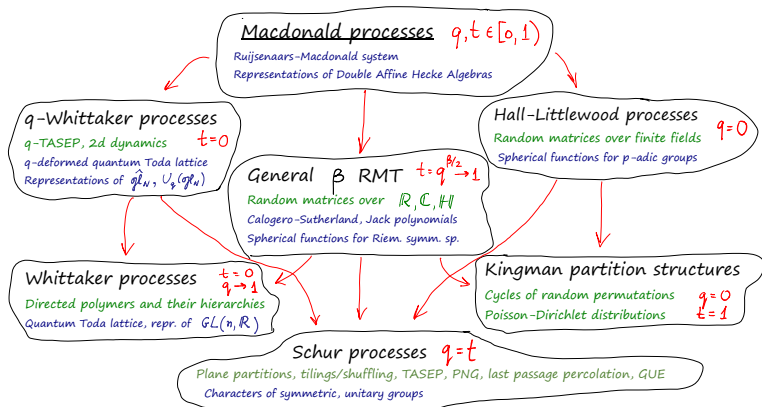
Convergence of fixed-time marginals to $\mu(T)$ uses symmetric function theory.

Macdonald processes [Borodin-Corwin '11]

Macdonald polynomials $P_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n; q, t)$ indexed by *integer partitions* $\lambda = (\lambda_1 \geq \dots \geq \lambda_n \geq 0)$ are symmetric polynomials in $x_1, \dots, x_n$ with two parameters q, t .

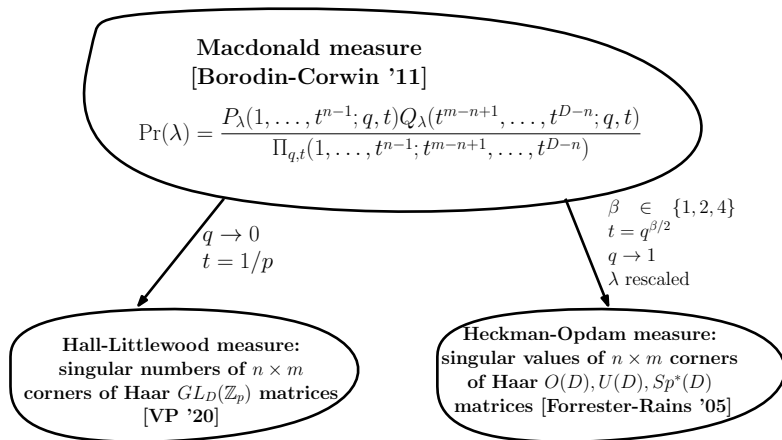
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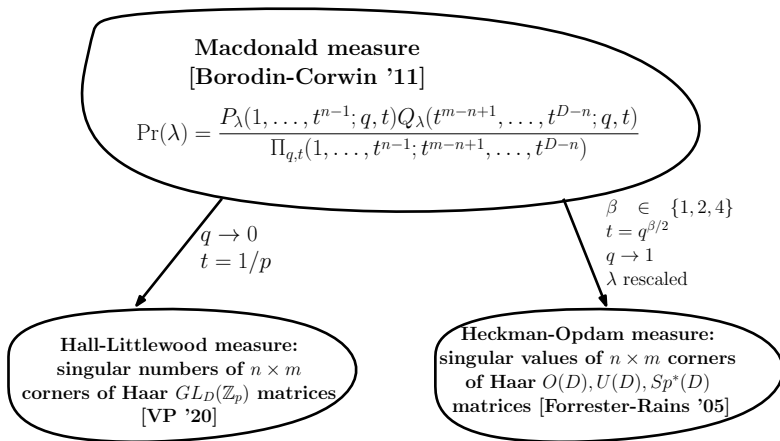


(Figure credits: A. Borodin, ICM 2014 slides)

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Macdonald processes used for real/complex matrix products (Ahn, Borodin, Gorin, Strahov, Sun 2015+), are also a key tool for us.