

# Symmetries and independence in noncommutative probability

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# Motivation

*Though many probabilistic symmetries are conceivable [...], four of them - **stationarity, contractability, exchangeability** [and **rotatability**] - stand out as especially interesting and important in several ways: Their study leads to some **deep structural theorems** of great beauty and significance [...].*

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## Remark

Noncommutative probability = classical & quantum probability

# Foundational result on distributional symmetries and invariance principles in classical probability

The random variables  $(X_n)_{n \geq 0}$  are said to be **exchangeable** if

$$\mathbb{E}(X_{\mathbf{i}(1)} \cdots X_{\mathbf{i}(n)}) = \mathbb{E}(X_{\sigma(\mathbf{i}(1))} \cdots X_{\sigma(\mathbf{i}(n))}) \quad (\sigma \in \mathbb{S}_\infty)$$

for all  $n$ -tuples  $\mathbf{i}: \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

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**Theorem (De Finetti 1931, ...)**

The law of an exchangeable sequence  $(X_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is given by a unique convex combination of infinite product measures.

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*"Any exchangeable process is an average of i.i.d. processes."*

# Foundational result on distributional symmetries and invariance principles in free probability

Replacing permutation groups by Wang's quantum permutation groups ...

Theorem (K. & Speicher 2008)

The following are equivalent for an infinite sequence of random variables  $x_1, x_2, \dots$  in a  $W^*$ -algebraic probability space  $(\mathcal{A}, \varphi)$ :

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- (a) the sequence is **quantum exchangeable**
- (b) the sequence is identically distributed and **freely independent with amalgamation over  $\mathcal{T}$**

Here  $\mathcal{T}$  denotes the **tail algebra**  $\mathcal{T} = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} vN(x_k | k \geq n)$ .

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See talks of Curran and Speicher for more recent developments.

# Foundational result on the representation theory of the infinite symmetric group $\mathbb{S}_\infty$

$\mathbb{S}_\infty$  is the inductive limit of the symmetric group  $\mathbb{S}_n$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , acting on  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ . A function  $\chi: \mathbb{S}_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  is a **character** if it is constant on conjugacy classes, positive definite and normalized at the unity.

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## Elementary observation

Let  $\gamma_i := (0, i)$ . Then the sequence  $(\gamma_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is **exchangeable**, i.e.

$$\chi(\gamma_{\mathbf{i}(1)} \gamma_{\mathbf{i}(2)} \cdots \gamma_{\mathbf{i}(n)}) = \chi(\gamma_{\sigma(\mathbf{i}(1))} \gamma_{\sigma(\mathbf{i}(2))} \cdots \gamma_{\sigma(\mathbf{i}(n))})$$

for  $\sigma \in \mathbb{S}_\infty$  with  $\sigma(0) = 0$ ,  $n$ -tuples  $\mathbf{i}: \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

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## Task

Identify the convex combination of extremal characters of  $\mathbb{S}_\infty$ . In other words: **prove a noncommutative de Finetti theorem!**

# Thoma's theorem as a noncommutative de Finetti theorem

## Theorem (Thoma 1964)

An extremal character of the group  $\mathbb{S}_\infty$  is of the form

$$\chi(\sigma) = \prod_{k=2}^{\infty} \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i^k + (-1)^{k-1} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} b_j^k \right)^{m_k(\sigma)}.$$

Here  $m_k(\sigma)$  is the number of  $k$ -cycles in the permutation  $\sigma$  and the two sequences  $(a_i)_{i=1}^{\infty}, (b_j)_{j=1}^{\infty}$  satisfy

$$a_1 \geq a_2 \geq \dots \geq 0, \quad b_1 \geq b_2 \geq \dots \geq 0, \quad \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} a_i + \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} b_j \leq 1.$$

## Alternative proofs

Vershik & Kerov 1981: asymptotic representation theory

Okounkov 1997: Olshanski semigroups and spectral theory

Gohm & K. 2010: operator algebraic proof (see next talk)



# Towards a braided version of Thoma's theorem

The Hecke algebra  $H_q(\infty)$  over  $\mathbb{C}$  with parameter  $q \in \mathbb{C}$  is the unital algebra with generators  $g_0, g_1, \dots$  and relations

$$\begin{aligned}g_n^2 &= (q - 1)g_n + q; \\g_m g_n &= g_n g_m \quad \text{if } |n - m| \geq 2; \\g_n g_{n+1} g_n &= g_{n+1} g_n g_{n+1}.\end{aligned}$$

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If  $q$  is a **root of unity** there exists an involution and a trace on  $H_q(\infty)$  such that the  $g_n$  are unitary.

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$$\gamma_1 := g_1, \quad \gamma_n := g_1 g_2 \cdots g_{n-1} g_n g_{n-1}^{-1} \cdots g_2^{-1} g_1^{-1}$$

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Replacing the role of  $\mathbb{S}_\infty$  by the braid group  $\mathbb{B}_\infty$  turns exchangeability into **braidability**....

**Theorem (Gohm & K.)**

*The sequence  $(\gamma_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is **braided**.*

This will become more clear later ... see talk of Gohm

# Noncommutative random variables

A (noncommutative) **probability space**  $(\mathcal{A}, \varphi)$  is a von Neumann algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  (with separable predual) equipped with a faithful normal state  $\varphi$ .

A **random variable**  $\iota: (\mathcal{A}_0, \varphi_0) \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}, \varphi)$  is an injective  $*$ -homomorphism from  $\mathcal{A}_0$  into  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\varphi_0 = \varphi \circ \iota$  and the  $\varphi$ -preserving conditional expectation from  $\mathcal{A}$  onto  $\iota(\mathcal{A}_0)$  exists.

Given the sequence of random variables

$$(\iota_n)_{n \geq 0}: (\mathcal{A}_0, \varphi_0) \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}, \varphi),$$

fix some  $a \in \mathcal{A}_0$ . Then  $x_n := \iota_n(a)$  defines the operators  $x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots$  (now random variables in the operator sense).

# Noncommutative distributions

Two sequences of random variables  $(\iota_n)_{n \geq 0}$  and  $(\tilde{\iota}_n)_{n \geq 0}: (\mathcal{A}_0, \varphi_0) \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}, \varphi)$  have the same **distribution** if

$$\varphi(\iota_{\mathbf{i}(1)}(a_1)\iota_{\mathbf{i}(2)}(a_2)\cdots\iota_{\mathbf{i}(n)}(a_n)) = \varphi(\tilde{\iota}_{\mathbf{i}(1)}(a_1)\tilde{\iota}_{\mathbf{i}(2)}(a_2)\cdots\tilde{\iota}_{\mathbf{i}(n)}(a_n))$$

for all  $n$ -tuples  $\mathbf{i}: \{1, 2, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ ,  $(a_1, \dots, a_n) \in \mathcal{A}_0^n$  and  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

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**Notation**

$$(\iota_0, \iota_1, \iota_2, \dots) \stackrel{\text{distr}}{=} (\tilde{\iota}_0, \tilde{\iota}_1, \tilde{\iota}_2, \dots)$$

# Noncommutative distributional symmetries

Just as in the classical case we can now talk about distributional symmetries. A sequence  $(x_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is

- **exchangeable** if  $(l_0, l_1, l_2, \dots) \stackrel{\text{distr}}{=} (l_{\pi(0)}, l_{\pi(1)}, l_{\pi(2)}, \dots)$  for any (finite) permutation  $\pi \in \mathbb{S}_\infty$  of  $\mathbb{N}_0$ .

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- **spreadable** if  $(l_0, l_1, l_2, \dots) \stackrel{\text{distr}}{=} (l_{n_0}, l_{n_1}, l_{n_2}, \dots)$  for any subsequence  $(n_0, n_1, n_2, \dots)$  of  $(0, 1, 2, \dots)$ .

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- **stationary** if  $(l_0, l_1, l_2, \dots) \stackrel{\text{distr}}{=} (l_k, l_{k+1}, l_{k+2}, \dots)$  for all  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

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## Lemma (Hierarchy of distributional symmetries)

exchangeability  $\Rightarrow$  spreadability  $\Rightarrow$  stationarity  $\Rightarrow$  identical distr.

# Noncommutative conditional independence

Let  $\mathcal{A}_0, \mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$  be three von Neumann subalgebras of  $\mathcal{A}$  with  $\varphi$ -preserving conditional expectations  $E_i: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}_i$  ( $i = 0, 1, 2$ ).

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## Definition

$\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  are  $\mathcal{A}_0$ -**independent** if

$$E_0(xy) = E_0(x)E_0(y) \quad (x \in \mathcal{A}_0 \vee \mathcal{A}_1, y \in \mathcal{A}_0 \vee \mathcal{A}_2)$$

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## Remarks

- $\mathcal{A}_0 \subset \mathcal{A}_0 \vee \mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_0 \vee \mathcal{A}_2 \subset \mathcal{A}$  is a **commuting square**
- $\mathcal{A}_0 \simeq \mathbb{C}$ : Kümmerner's notion of n.c. independence
- $\mathcal{A} = L^\infty(\Omega, \Sigma, \mu)$ : cond. independence w.r.t. sub- $\sigma$ -algebra

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- Many different forms of noncommutative independence!
- $\mathbb{C}$ -independence & Speicher's universality rules  
     $\rightsquigarrow$  tensor independence or free independence

# Conditional independence of sequences

A sequence of random variables  $(\iota_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}_0} : (\mathcal{A}_0, \varphi_0) \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}, \varphi)$  is **(full)  $\mathcal{B}$ -independent** if

$$\bigvee \{\iota_i(\mathcal{A}_0) \mid i \in I\} \vee \mathcal{B} \quad \text{and} \quad \bigvee \{\iota_j(\mathcal{A}_0) \mid j \in J\} \vee \mathcal{B}$$

are  $\mathcal{B}$ -independent whenever  $I \cap J = \emptyset$  with  $I, J \subset \mathbb{N}_0$ .

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## Remark

Many interesting notions are possible for sequences:

1. conditional top-order independence
2. conditional order independence
3. **conditional full independence**
4. discrete noncommutative random measure factorizations

# Noncommutative extended De Finetti theorem

Let  $(\iota_n)_{n \geq 0}$  be random variables as before with tail algebra

$$\mathcal{A}^{\text{tail}} := \bigcap_{n \geq 0} \bigvee_{k \geq n} \{\iota_k(\mathcal{A}_0)\},$$

and consider:

- (a)  $(\iota_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is exchangeable
- (c)  $(\iota_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is spreadable
- (d)  $(\iota_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is stationary and  $\mathcal{A}^{\text{tail}}$ -independent
- (e)  $(\iota_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is identically distributed and  $\mathcal{A}^{\text{tail}}$ -independent

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- (e)  $(\iota_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is identically distributed and  $\mathcal{A}^{\text{tail}}$ -independent

Theorem (K. '07-'08 )

(a)  $\Rightarrow$  (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (d)  $\Rightarrow$  (e),

# Noncommutative extended De Finetti theorem

Let  $(\iota_n)_{n \geq 0}$  be random variables as before with tail algebra

$$\mathcal{A}^{\text{tail}} := \bigcap_{n \geq 0} \bigvee_{k \geq n} \{\iota_k(\mathcal{A}_0)\},$$

and consider:

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Remark

(a) to (e) are equivalent if the operators  $x_n$  mutually commute.  
[De Finetti '31, Ryll-Nardzewski '57, ..., Størmer '69, ... Hudson '76, ... Petz '89, ..., Accardi&Lu '93, ...]

# An ingredient for proving full cond. independence

## Localization Preserving Mean Ergodic Theorem (K '08)

Let  $(\mathcal{M}, \psi)$  be a probability space and suppose  $\{\alpha_N\}_{N \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  is a family of  $\psi$ -preserving completely positive linear maps of  $\mathcal{M}$  satisfying

1.  $\mathcal{M}^{\alpha_N} \subset \mathcal{M}^{\alpha_{N+1}}$  for all  $N \in \mathbb{N}_0$ ;
2.  $\mathcal{M} = \bigvee_{N \in \mathbb{N}_0} \mathcal{M}^{\alpha_N}$ .

Further let

$$M_N^{(n)} := \frac{1}{n} \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} \alpha_N^k \quad \text{and} \quad T_N := \prod_{l=0}^{\rightarrow N} \alpha_l^{lN} M_l^{(N)}.$$

Then we have

$$\text{SOT-} \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} T_N(x) = E_{\mathcal{M}^{\alpha_0}}(x)$$

for any  $x \in \mathcal{M}$ .

# Discussion

- Noncommutative conditional independence emerges from distributional symmetries in terms of commuting squares

For further details see:

C. Köstler. *A noncommutative extended de Finetti theorem*. *J. Funct. Anal.* **258**, 1073-1120 (2010)

# Discussion

- Noncommutative conditional independence emerges from distributional symmetries in terms of commuting squares
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- All reverse implications in the noncommutative extended de Finetti theorem fail due to deep structural reasons!

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# Discussion

- Noncommutative conditional independence emerges from distributional symmetries in terms of commuting squares
- Exchangeability is too weak to identify the structure of the underlying noncommutative probability space
- All reverse implications in the noncommutative extended de Finetti theorem fail due to deep structural reasons!
- This will become clear from braidability...

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R. Gohm & C. Köstler. *Noncommutative independence from the braid group  $\mathbb{B}_\infty$* . Commun. Math. Phys. **289**, 435-482 (2009)

# Artin braid groups $\mathbb{B}_n$

## Algebraic Definition (Artin 1925)

$\mathbb{B}_n$  is presented by  $n - 1$  generators  $\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_{n-1}$  satisfying

$$\sigma_i \sigma_j \sigma_i = \sigma_j \sigma_i \sigma_j \quad \text{if } |i - j| = 1 \quad (\text{B1})$$

$$\sigma_i \sigma_j = \sigma_j \sigma_i \quad \text{if } |i - j| > 1 \quad (\text{B2})$$



Figure: Artin generators  $\sigma_i$  (left) and  $\sigma_i^{-1}$  (right)

$\mathbb{B}_1 \subset \mathbb{B}_2 \subset \mathbb{B}_3 \subset \dots \subset \mathbb{B}_\infty$  (inductive limit)

# Braidability

## Definition (Gohm & K. '08)

A sequence  $(\iota_n)_{n \geq 0} : (\mathcal{A}_0, \varphi_0) \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}, \varphi)$  is **braidable** if there exists a representation  $\rho : \mathbb{B}_\infty \rightarrow \text{Aut}(\mathcal{A}, \varphi)$  satisfying:

$$\begin{aligned} \iota_n &= \rho(\sigma_n \sigma_{n-1} \cdots \sigma_1) \iota_0 && \text{for all } n \geq 1; \\ \iota_0 &= \rho(\sigma_n) \iota_0 && \text{if } n \geq 2. \end{aligned}$$

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## Braidability extends exchangeability

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## Braidability extends exchangeability

- If  $\rho(\sigma_n^2) = \text{id}$  for all  $n$ , one has a representation of  $\mathbb{S}_\infty$ .
- $(\iota_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is exchangeable  $\Leftrightarrow \begin{cases} (\iota_n)_{n \geq 0} \text{ is braidable and} \\ \rho(\sigma_n^2) = \text{id for all } n. \end{cases}$

# Braidability implies spreadability

Consider the conditions:

- (a)  $(x_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is exchangeable
- (b)  $(x_n)_{n \geq 0}$  is **braidable**
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## Observation

Large and interesting class of spreadable sequences is obtained from braidability.

# Remarks

There are many examples of braidability!

- subfactor inclusion with small Jones index ('Jones-Temperley-Lieb algebras and Hecke algebras')
- left regular representation of  $\mathbb{B}_\infty$
- vertex models in quantum statistical physics ('Yang-Baxter equations')
- ...
- representations of the symmetric group  $\mathbb{S}_\infty$

For further details see next talk by Gohm and:

R. Gohm & C. Köstler. *Noncommutative independence from the braid group*  $\mathbb{B}_\infty$ . Commun. Math. Phys. **289**, 435–482 (2009)

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