Integrable particle systems
and Macdonald processes

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Lecture 2

- Introduction to Schur polynomials
- Definition of Schur measure and process
- Dynamics which preserve class of Schur measure / process
- Connections to TASEP and LPP
- Schur measure determinantal point process kernel
- Limit theorem for TASEP
Partitions

Partition: \( \lambda = (\lambda_1 \geq \lambda_2 \geq \cdots \geq 0) \) weakly decreasing with \( \lambda_i \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0} \)

length \( l(\lambda) = |\{ i : \lambda_i > 0 \}| \) and size \( |\lambda| = \sum \lambda_i \).

(e.g. \( \lambda = (4, 2, 1, 1) \), \( l(\lambda) = 4 \), \( |\lambda| = 8 \))

Interlacing: \( \lambda \succeq \mu \) if \( \lambda_i \geq \mu_i \geq \lambda_{i+1} \) for all \( i \geq 1 \).

Gelfand–Tsetlin schemes: \( \lambda^{(N)} \succeq \lambda^{(N-1)} \succeq \cdots \succeq \lambda^{(1)} \) with \( l(\lambda^{(i)}) \leq i \).

(e.g. \( \begin{matrix} 1 & 2 & 4 \\ 2 & 3 \end{matrix} \implies \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 2 & 3 \\ 2 & 2 & 3 \end{bmatrix} \))

Ex: Show GT schemes are same as semi-standard Young tableaux.
Schur polynomials

Schur symmetric polynomial (Issai Schur, 1900)

\[
S_\lambda(x_1, \ldots, x_N) := \frac{\det \left[ x_i^{N+j-i} \right]_{i,j=1}^N}{\det \left[ x_i^{N-j} \right]_{i,j=1}^N}
\]

**Ex:** Prove that these are symmetric polynomials. Compute \( S_{(3, 1)}(x_1, x_2, x_3) \).

Multivariate symmetric polynomials which form linear basis of space of symmetric polynomials. Important role in representation theory. Have many nice properties (some of which we will use).
Branching rule

\[ S_{\lambda}(x_1, \ldots, x_N) = \sum_{\mu \leq \lambda} S_{\mu}(x_1, \ldots, x_{N-1}) \ x_N^{|\lambda| - |\mu|} \]

Iterating the branching rule gives the combinatorial formula

\[ S_{\lambda}(x_1, \ldots, x_N) = \sum_{\lambda^{(1)} \leq \ldots \leq \lambda^{(N-1)} \leq \lambda^{(N)} = \lambda} x_N^{|\lambda^{(N)}| - |\lambda^{(N-1)}|} x_{N-1}^{|\lambda^{(N-1)}| - |\lambda^{(N-2)}|} \ldots x_1^{\lambda^{(1)}} \]

Thus, for \( x_1, \ldots, x_N \geq 0 \) we have \( S_{\lambda}(x_1, \ldots, x_N) \geq 0 \) (positivity)

**Ex:** Prove branching rule. Compute the number of GT-schemes with top row \( \lambda \).

Use this to rederive yesterday's result on the volume of interlacing triangular arrays.
Schur measure [Okounkov, 2001]

A probability measure on partitions $\lambda = (\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_N)$ given by

$$\mathcal{SM}_{X,Y}(\lambda) = \frac{S_\lambda(X) S_\lambda(Y)}{\prod(X; Y)}$$

where $X = \{x_1, \ldots, x_N\}$ and $Y = \{y_1, \ldots, y_M\}$ are positive parameters. Cauchy-Littlewood identity evaluates partition function as

$$\prod(X; Y) = \sum_{\lambda} S_\lambda(X) S_\lambda(Y) = \prod_{i,j} \frac{1}{1-x_i y_j}$$

**Ex:** Prove above identity using the Cauchy determinant identity.

Discrete $(X,Y)$-parameter generalization of GUE eigenvalue measure
A probability measure on $GT$-schemes $\lambda^{(N)} \geq \ldots \geq \lambda^{(1)}$ given by

$$S_{X,Y}(\lambda^{(N)}, \ldots, \lambda^{(1)}) = \frac{S_{\lambda^{(N)}(N)}(Y) \cdot S_{\lambda^{(N-1)}(N-1)}(X_N) \cdot S_{\lambda^{(N-2)}(N-2)}(X_{N-1}) \cdot \ldots \cdot S_{\lambda^{(1)}(1)}(X_1)}{\prod(X;Y)}$$

Fact: Level $k$ marginal distributed as $\prod_{\lambda \geq \mu} M_{\{x_k, \ldots, x_N\}; Y}$.

Discrete $(X,Y)$-parameter generalization of GUE corner process
**Gibbs property**

If all \( X_i = 1 \) then levels \( N-1, \ldots, 1 \) are marginally distributed uniformly over GT-schemes with top level \( \lambda^{(N)} \).

More generally, define stochastic links \( \Lambda_{k-1}^k (\lambda, \mu), \ 1 \leq k \leq N \)

\[
\Lambda_{k-1}^k (\lambda, \mu) := \frac{S_{\mu}(x_i, \ldots, x_{k-1})}{S_{\lambda}(x_i, \ldots, x_{k-1}, x_k)} S_{\lambda^\mu}(x_k).
\]

Schur process is distributed as the trajectory a Markov chain with these transition matrices, initially distributed as Schur measure

\[
S_{X_i, Y_i}(\lambda^{(N)}, \ldots, \lambda^{(1)}) = S_{M_{X_i, Y_i}}(\lambda^{(N)}) \Lambda_{N-1}^N (\lambda^{(N)}, \lambda^{(N-1)}) \cdots \Lambda_0^1 (\lambda^{(1)}, \emptyset).
\]
Discrete time/space DBM type dynamics

Markov chain on level $N$ which preserves class of Schur measure:

$$u \geq 0 \quad P^{(N)}_u (\lambda^{(N)}, \mu^{(N)}) := \frac{S_{\mu^{(N)}}(X)}{S_{\lambda^{(N)}}(X)} \cdot \frac{S_{\mu^{(N)}}/\lambda^{(N)}(u)}{\Pi(u;X)}$$

$$\frac{S_{\mu^{(N)}}/\lambda^{(N)}(u)}{\Pi(u;X)} \to \text{Geometric random walks killed outside Weyl chamber}$$

$$\frac{S_{\lambda^{(N)}}(X)}{S_{\lambda^{(N)}}(X)} \to \text{Conditioned to survive (via Doob h-transform)}$$

**Fact:** The push-forward of $\mathcal{S}M_{X;Y}$ under $P^{(N)}_u$ is $\mathcal{S}M_{X;Y,u}$
Intertwining Markov dynamics

\[
\begin{align*}
SM_{x_1, \ldots, x_{N-1}}; Y & \sim \chi^{(N)} & P_{u}^{(N)} & \sim SM_{x_1, \ldots, x_N}; Y, u \\
\Lambda_{N-1}^{N} \downarrow & \chi^{(N-1)} & P_{u}^{(N-1)} & \sim SM_{x_1, \ldots, x_{N-2}}; Y, u \\
SM_{x_1, \ldots, x_{N-1}}; Y & \sim \chi^{(N-1)} & P_{u}^{(N-1)} & \sim SM_{x_1, \ldots, x_{N-1}}; Y, u
\end{align*}
\]
Building multivariate Markov dynamics

Due to [Diaconis-Fill, 1990, Borodin-Ferrari, 2008]

Sequentially update from bottom to top via

\[
P^{(N)}_u(\lambda, \mu) := P^{(1)}_u(\lambda^{(1)}, \mu^{(1)}) \prod_{k=2}^{N} \frac{P^{(k)}_u(\lambda^{(k)}, \mu^{(k)}) \Lambda^{k}_{k-1}(\mu^{(k)}, \mu^{(k-1)})}{(P^{(k)}_u \Lambda^{k}_{k-1})(\lambda^{(k)}, \mu^{(k-1)})}
\]

Markov chain preserves class of Schur processes

\[S_{X,Y}(\lambda) \text{ pushes-forward via } P_u \text{ to } S_{X,Y,u}(\mu).\]

\textbf{Ex:} Prove this fact.
Block-push \((2+1)d\) dynamic [Borodin-Ferrari, 2008]

Here is a continuous time dynamic corresponding to \(X = \{1, \ldots, 1\}\) and the limit \(\varepsilon \downarrow 0\), \(U = \varepsilon\) and taking \(\varepsilon^{-1}t\) steps of the chain. GT-scheme Schur process distributed as \(\mathbb{S}_X;\text{Plancherel}(t)\) \(\lim_{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} \varepsilon, \ldots, \varepsilon? \varepsilon^{-1}t\) times

\[\chi^{(k)}_j = \lambda^{(k)}_j - j + 1\]
\(\leftarrow\) Packed initial data corresponds with \(Y = \{0\}\)

Each particle jumps right at rate 1. Particles are blocked by those on the lower level, and push those on the higher level.
Initial data (e.g. step) corresponds to marginals of Schur processes.

A further limit (taking time large and rescaling diffusively) leads to Warren's dynamics and the GUE corner process.
Ex: Prove that the right-edge (push-TASEP) marginal matches the following process in $t$:

This is part of the RS(K) correspondence which involves maximizing over multiple non-intersecting paths. Under RS(K) above last passage percolation model leads same Schur process. BUT: as time changes, the (2+1)d RS(K) dynamics are different!
Determinantal point processes

Both Schur measure and process have the structure of determinantal point processes with explicit correlation kernels.

A point process \( X \subseteq \{0,1\}^\mathbb{Z} \) is determinantal if for all \( k \), and \( x_1, \ldots, x_k \):

\[
P_k(x_1, \ldots, x_k) := \mathbb{P}(x_1, \ldots, x_k \in X) = \det \left[ \mathbf{K}(x_i, x_j) \right]_{i,j=1}^k
\]

Ex: Show that correlation functions characterize a point process.

Show that for any set \( A \subseteq \mathbb{Z} \) the following holds:

\[
\mathbb{P}(X \cap A = \emptyset) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k!} \sum \mathbb{P}_k(x_1, \ldots, x_k) =: \det(\text{Fredholm det}(I + K))_{L^2(A)}
\]
Schur measures determinantal kernel

**Theorem** [Okounkov, 2001] For $\lambda=(\lambda_1, \ldots, \lambda_n)$ distributed as $\mathcal{M}_{X,Y}$, the point process $\{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \ldots, \lambda_n\}$ is determinantal with kernel

$$K(i, j) = \frac{1}{4\pi^2} \int dw \int dz \frac{\prod(z^{-1}; Y) \prod(w; X)}{\prod(w^{-1}; Y) \prod(z; X)} \frac{w^i z^{-(j+1)}}{z-w}$$

Other proofs in [Johansson, 2001, Borodin-Rains, 2005].

We will sketch an approach suggested in [Borodin-Corwin, 2011].
Eigenrelations for \(q\)-difference operators

For any \(q\), define \(q\)-shift operator \( (T_q f)(x_i, \ldots, x_N) = f(x_i, \ldots, qx_i, \ldots, x_N) \)

Notice that \(x^m\) is an eigenfunction of \(T_q x\) with eigenvalue \(q^m\).

\(k\)th \(q\)-difference operator:

\[
D_k = V^{-1} E_k (T_q x_1, \ldots, T_q x_N) V
\]

Schur polynomials eigenfunctions:

\[
(D_k S_{\lambda})(x_i, \ldots, x_N) = E_k (q^{N-1+\lambda_1}, q^{N-2+\lambda_2}, \ldots, q^{\lambda_N}) S_{\lambda}(x_i, \ldots, x_N)
\]

Ex: Prove this relation.
Computing expectations

Let's focus on first $q$-difference operator. It can be written as

$$D_1 = \sum_{i=1}^{N} \prod_{j \neq i}^{N} \frac{q^{x_i - x_j}}{x_i - x_j} T_{q_i, x_i}$$

Recalling $D_1 s_\lambda(X) = \left( \sum_{j=1}^{N} q^N \lambda_j \right) s_\lambda(X)$, the following recipe allows us to compute certain expectations

$$E \left[ \sum_{j=1}^{N} q^{N-j+\lambda_j} \right] = \frac{D_1^{\infty} \prod(X, Y)}{\prod(X: Y)}$$
Integral formulas for expectations

We can encode application of first $q$-difference operator on multiplicative functions $F(u_1, \ldots, u_n) = f(u_1) \cdots f(u_n)$ as contour integrals

$$
\frac{(D_i F)(X)}{F(X)} = \sum_{i=1}^n \prod_{j \neq i} \frac{q^{x_i - x_j}}{X_i - X_j} f(q^{x_i}) = \frac{1}{2\pi i} \oint_{\Gamma} \prod_{j=1}^N \frac{q^{w-x_j}}{w-x_j} \frac{1}{q^{w} - w} \frac{f(q^w)}{f(w)}
$$

But $q$ was arbitrary. Can extract one-point correlation function

$$
P(\eta \in \xi \lambda_j - j \sum_{j=1}^N) = \oint_{\Gamma} \frac{dz}{2\pi i} q^{-N-n-1} \mathbb{E} \left[ \sum_{j=1}^N q^{\xi_j} \lambda_j - j \right]
$$

Can appeal to higher $q$-difference operators to prove theorem.
One proof follows by taking steepest descent asymptotics of Fredholm determinant provided by connection to Schur measure. Naturally leads to Fredholm determinant formula for \( F_{\text{GUE}}(s) \):
Lecture 2 summary

- Schur measure and process generalize GUE corners process
- Diaconis-Fill type dynamics provide link to TASEP (like Warren's)
- Determinantal structure leads to explicit formulas / asymptotics

Lecture 3 preview

- Macdonald measure and process generalizes Schur process
- Structure of Macdonald polynomials leads to integrable particle systems (e.g. $q$-TASEP, stochastic heat and KPZ equations...)
- Eigenrelations satisfied by Macdonald polynomials leads to explicit formulas for expectations of observables and certain asymptotics