

# Markov Chains, Graph Spectra, and Some Static/Dynamic Scaling Limits

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- §1 Introduction — algebraic(-combinatoric) vs random structures
- §2 Cut-off Phenomenon and Asymptotic Spectral Analysis
- §3 Markov Chains on Young Diagrams

## §1 Introduction

Interplay between randomness and algebraic(-combinatoric) structure

Algebraic structure plays twofold essential roles:

- produce specific randomness
- give nice tools for analyzing random phenomena  
— frameworks of harmonic analysis

(Bose-Mesner algebra, symmetric functions, Kerov-Olshanski algebra, ...)

As probability model,

temporally homogeneous Markov chain on a finite set

(quite simple!)

- ▶ asymptotic behavior as time (step)  $\rightarrow \infty$   
recurrence, convergence to invariant distribution, ...
  - ▶ asymptotic behavior as **time**  $\rightarrow \infty$  and **size of state space**  $\rightarrow \infty$   
appropriate scaling in time/space
  - ▶ asymptotic behavior as size of state space  $\rightarrow \infty$
1. **Cut-off phenomenon** — critical phenomenon in highly symmetric Markov chain (on group)
  2. **Interface evolution** — Markov chain on Young diagrams (dual object of symmetric group)

Both probabilistic models show

- macroscopic deterministic aspect (**law of large numbers**)
- + fluctuation (**central limit theorem**)

## §2 Cut-off Phenomenon and Asymptotic Spectral Analysis

§2.1 Markov chain

§2.2 Cut-off phenomenon I: Hamming graph

§2.3 Random walk on association scheme

§2.4 Cut-off phenomenon II

§2.5 Asymptotic spectral analysis (static model) via  
quantum decomposition

## §3 Markov Chains on Young Diagrams

§3.1 Young graph

§3.2 Restriction-induction chain

§3.3 Irreducible characters of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$

§3.4 Kerov-Olshanski algebra

§3.5 Limit shape (static model)

§3.6 Interface evolution

## §2.1 Markov chain

For finite set  $S$ , given

- transition probability  $p(x, y)$  ( $x, y \in S$ ) :  $p(x, y) \geq 0$ ,  $\sum_{y \in S} p(x, y) = 1$
- initial distribution  $\nu(x) \geq 0$  ( $x \in S$ ) :  $\sum_{x \in S} \nu(x) = 1$

Then, there exist probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  and a sequence of random variables  $(X_n)_{n=0,1,2,\dots}$  ( $X_n : \Omega \rightarrow S$ ) s.t.

$$\mathbb{P}(X_{n+1} = y \mid X_n = x) = p(x, y), \quad \mathbb{P}(X_0 = x) = \nu(x), \quad x, y \in S$$

(temporally homogeneous Markov chain on  $S$ )

$P = (p(x, y))_{x, y \in S}$  : transition matrix,  $\nu = (\nu(x))_{x \in S}$  : initial row vector

$$p_n(x, y) = \mathbb{P}(X_n = y \mid X_0 = x) = (P^n)_{x, y}, \quad \mathbb{P}(X_n = x) = (\nu P^n)_x$$

Continuous time Markov chain  $(\tilde{X}_s)_{s \geq 0}$  on  $S$  :  $\tilde{X}_s = X_{N_s}$

$(N_s)_{s \geq 0}$ : Poisson process,  $N_0 = 0$  a.s.

$N_s : \Omega' \rightarrow \{0, 1, \dots\}$  for some probability space  $(\Omega', \mathcal{F}', \mathbb{P}')$   $(\tilde{\Omega}, \tilde{\mathcal{F}}, \tilde{\mathbb{P}}) =$

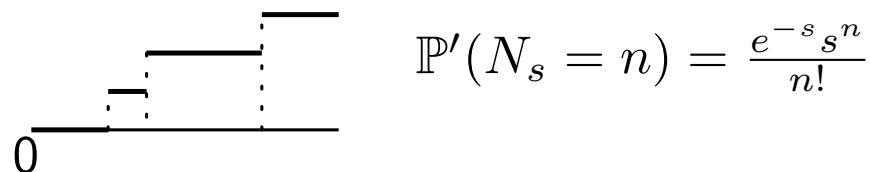


fig. 1 sample path of Poisson process

$(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}) \times (\Omega', \mathcal{F}', \mathbb{P}')$  so that  $(X_n)$  and  $(N_s)$  are independent

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{\mathbb{P}}(\tilde{X}_s = x) &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tilde{\mathbb{P}}(X_{N_s} = x, N_s = n) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \tilde{\mathbb{P}}(X_n = x \mid N_s = n) \tilde{\mathbb{P}}(N_s = n) \\ &= \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} (\nu P^n)_x \frac{e^{-s} s^n}{n!} = (\nu e^{s(P-I)})_x, \quad x \in S \end{aligned}$$

▷ Ehrenfests' urn (extended)

Imagine  $n$  urns and  $d$  balls put in them. At each step, pick up a ball among  $d$  at random and move it into another urn chosen at random.

$S = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}^d \ni x, y$  ( $x = (x_i)$  indicates  $i$ th ball is in  $x_i$ th urn)

$$p(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1/d(n-1) & \text{if } x \text{ and } y \text{ differ at just 1 entry} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

▷ Bernoulli-Laplace diffusion

Imagine two rooms separated by a partition, one containing  $d$  particles and the other  $v - d$ . At each step, pick up a particle at random from each room and interchange the two.

$S = \{d\text{-subset of } \{1, 2, \dots, v\}\} \ni x, y$

$$p(x, y) = \begin{cases} 1/d(v-d) & \text{if } x \text{ and } y \text{ have } d-1 \text{ common elements} \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

## §2.2 Cut-off phenomenon I: Hamming graph

Illustrate the **cut-off phenomenon** — certain critical phenomenon for Markov chain in which the process of convergence to stationarity is remarkable.

Ehrenfests' urn (simple random walk on Hamming graph) is a perfect model!

Hamming graph  $H(d, n)$  :

vertex sets  $S = \{1, 2, \dots, n\}^d$

For  $x = (x_i), y = (y_i) \in S$ ,  $\partial(x, y) = \#$  of ( $i$ 's s.t.  $x_i \neq y_i$ ).

adjacency matrix  $A_{x,y} = \begin{cases} 1, & \partial(x, y) = 1 \\ 0, & \partial(x, y) \neq 1 \end{cases}$ ,

valency  $\kappa = d(n - 1)$



transition matrix  $P = \frac{1}{\kappa}A$

$\implies$  simple random walk on  $S$  with uniform invariant distribution

For continuous time simple random walk on  $H(d, n)$ ,

$(e^{s(P-I)})_{x, \cdot}$  : distribution at time  $s$  starting from  $x$

total variation distance between distributions at time  $s$  and  $\infty$

$$\begin{aligned} D^{(d,n)}(s) &= \frac{1}{2} \left\| (e^{s(P-I)})_{x, \cdot} - (\text{uniform distribution}) \right\|_{\text{tot}} \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \sum_{y \in S} \left| (e^{s(P-I)})_{x,y} - \frac{1}{n^d} \right| \end{aligned}$$

(independent of starting vertex  $x$ )

$$D(0) = 1 - \frac{1}{n^d} \approx 1, \quad D(\infty) = 0$$

**Theorem** (Diaconis-Graham-Morrison 1990)

For simple random walk on  $H(d, 2)$

$$D^{(d,2)}\left(\frac{1}{4}d(\log d + \tau)\right) \xrightarrow{d \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}e^{-\tau/2}} e^{-x^2/2} dx = c(\tau), \quad \tau \in \mathbb{R}$$

holds. ■

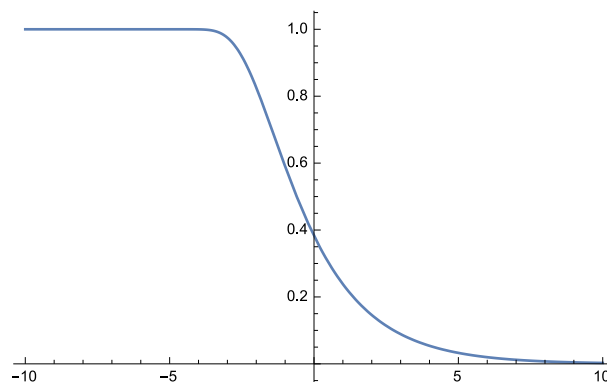


fig. 2 graph of  $c(\tau)$

For  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists \tau_\epsilon$  s.t.  $c(\tau) \begin{cases} > 1 - \epsilon, & \tau < -\tau_\epsilon \\ < \epsilon, & \tau_\epsilon < \tau \end{cases}$  since  $c(\mp\infty) = \begin{cases} 1 \\ 0 \end{cases}$

Therefore

$$D^{(d,2)} \left( \frac{1}{2} \frac{d}{2} \log d + \frac{\tau}{2} \frac{d}{2} \right) \begin{cases} > 1 - \epsilon & \text{if } \tau < -\tau_\epsilon \\ < \epsilon & \text{if } \tau_\epsilon < \tau \end{cases}$$

where **inverse of spectral gap** and **multiplicity of 2nd eigenvalue** of  $\frac{1}{\kappa} A$

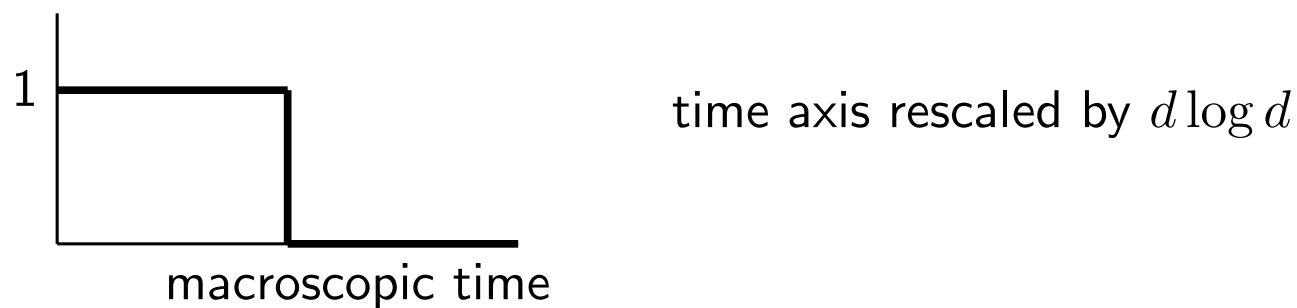


fig. 3 graph of  $D$  in macroscopic time scale

- ▶ macro time  $\ll$  fluctuation  $d \ll$  micro time  $d \log d$   
 $\ll$  mean recurrence time  $2^d$

## §2.3 Random walk on association scheme

large multiplicity (degeneration) of 2nd eigenvalue of transition matrix

$\iff$  high symmetry for Markov chain  $\iff$  “random walk”

Let group  $G$  act on  $S$  transitively,  $S \cong G/K$ , and

$$p(gx, gy) = p(x, y), \quad x, y \in S, \quad g \in G.$$

Then  $\exists \mu \in \mathcal{P}(K \backslash G / K)$  s.t.  $P = \mu * \cdot$  (convolution operator), i.e.

the Markov chain is product of independent  $G$ -valued random variables with  $K$ -bi-invariant distribution

“random walk  $\iff$  spatially symmetric Markov chain”

Natural and fruitful extension is

“random walk  $\iff$  transition matrix belongs to Bose-Mesner algebra of association scheme”

finite set  $S$ ,  $S \times S \supset R_i$  ( $i = 0, 1, \dots, d$ )

$$i\text{th adjacency matrix } (A_i)_{x,y} = \begin{cases} 1, & (x,y) \in R_i \\ 0, & (x,y) \notin R_i \end{cases}$$

$(S, \{R_i\}_{i=0}^d)$  is called an **association scheme** if

(i)  $A_0 = I$  (identity matrix),  $A_1 + \dots + A_d = J$  (all entries 1)

(ii)  $\forall i, \exists i'$  s.t.  ${}^t A_i = A_{i'}$

(iii)  $A_i A_j = \sum_{k=0}^d p_{ij}^k A_k$ ,  $p_{ij}^k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$  : intersection number

$p_{ii'}^0 = \#\{y \in S \mid (x, y) \in R_i\} = \kappa_i$  :  $i$ th valency (independent of  $x$ )

Furthermore

(iv)  $A_i A_j = A_j A_i$  : commutative      (v)  ${}^t A_i = A_i$  : symmetric

$\mathcal{A} = \{\text{linear combination of } A_0, \dots, A_d\}$  : **Bose-Mesner algebra**

Markov chain on  $S$  is called **random walk** if transition matrix  $P \in \mathcal{A}$

$(S, E)$ : finite graph with graph distance  $\partial$ , diameter  $d = \max_{x,y \in S} \partial(x, y)$

$$R_i = \{(x, y) \in S \times S \mid \partial(x, y) = i\}$$

$(S, E)$  is called **distance-regular graph** if  $(S, \{R_i\}_{i=0}^d)$  is an association scheme. Then  $A_i$  is expressed as polynomial of  $A_1$  ( $P$ -polynomial).

Markov chain on  $S$  is called **simple** random walk if transition matrix  $P = A/\kappa$

$$A = A_1: \text{adjacency matrix}, \quad \kappa = \kappa_1: \text{valency (degree)}.$$

- Hamming graph  $H(d, n)$  see §2.2
- Johnson graph  $J(v, d)$ :  $S = \{d\text{-subset of a } v\text{-set}\} \ni x, y$

$$\partial(x, y) = d - \#(x \cap y)$$

In commutative association scheme, simultaneously diagonalize  $A_i$ 's by

family of projections  $\{E_0, E_1, \dots, E_d\}$ ,  $E_0 = J/|S|$

$$(A_0 \cdots A_d) = (E_0 \cdots E_d)P, \quad P = (p_i(j))_{j,i} : \text{character table}$$

## §2.4 Cut-off phenomenon II

Consider continuous time simple random walk on distance-regular graph  $S$ , more precisely, directed family of simple random walks on growing distance-regular graphs

$$D(s) = \frac{1}{2} \left\| (e^{s(P-I)})_{x, \cdot} - (\text{uniform}) \right\|_{\text{tot}} = \frac{1}{2|S|} \sum_{x,y \in S} \left| (e^{s(P-I)} - \frac{1}{|S|} J)_{x,y} \right|$$

►  $e^{s(P-I)} = I$  at  $s = 0 \longrightarrow = J/|S|$  at  $s = +\infty$

From the argument following Theorem of Diaconis-Graham-Morrison,

Cut-off phenomenon with (macroscopic) critical time  $s_c$

- $s_c \rightarrow \infty$  and  $s_c/|S| \rightarrow 0$
- $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists h_\epsilon$  s.t.  $h_\epsilon/s_c \rightarrow 0$

$$\inf_{0 \leq s \leq s_c - h_\epsilon} D(s) \geq 1 - \epsilon, \quad \sup_{s \geq s_c + h_\epsilon} D(s) \leq \epsilon$$

**Theorem** (2000, formerly DFG-JSPS Proc. 1996)

If a growing family of  $Q$ -polynomial distance-regular graphs satisfies **certain spectral conditions**, simple random walks on them yield cut-off phenomenon with

$$s_c = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 - \frac{\theta}{\kappa}\right)^{-1} \log m, \quad h_\epsilon \asymp \left(1 - \frac{\theta}{\kappa}\right)^{-1}.$$

where  $\theta$ : 2nd eigenvalue and  $m$ : its multiplicity of adjacency matrix  $A$ . ■

The conditions are far from elegant, however, can be verified for

- $H(d, n)$  under  $d \rightarrow \infty$  and  $n \leq \text{const} \cdot d$
- $J(v, d)$  under  $d \rightarrow \infty$  and  $2d \leq v \leq \text{const} \cdot d^2$
- $q$ -analogue of them, and many other listed in **Bannai-Ito's book**



## Role of symmetry

- give rise to degeneration of eigenvalues

(eigenspace invariant w.r.t. actions)

- put transition matrix into Bose-Mesner algebra  $\implies$  functional calculus  
(characters, spherical functions,  $\dots$  help diagonalizing transition matrix)

## Other models of cut-off phenomenon

- ★ card shuffling : random walk on symmetric group with various generators  
(= various Cayley graphs)
- ★ framework of hypergroup (finite Gelfand pair, spherical dual) etc.

## Theorem (1997)

For simple random walk on  $H(d, n)$

► if  $n/d \rightarrow 0$ ,

$$D^{(d,n)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)d(\log(n-1)d + \tau)\right) \xrightarrow{d \rightarrow \infty} \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \int_0^{\frac{1}{2}e^{-\tau/2}} e^{-x^2/2} dx$$

► if  $n/d \rightarrow \alpha \in (0, \infty)$ ,

$$D^{(d,n)}\left(\frac{1}{2}\left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)d(\log(n-1)d + \tau)\right) \xrightarrow{d \rightarrow \infty} \left\| \text{Poi}\left(\frac{1}{\alpha}\right) - \text{Poi}\left(\frac{1}{\alpha} + \frac{e^{-\tau/2}}{\sqrt{\alpha}}\right) \right\|_{\text{tot}}$$

$(\tau \in \mathbb{R})$  hold. ■

**Remark**  $H(d, n) : \kappa = (n-1)d, \theta = (n-1)d - n, m = (n-1)d$

**Algebraic Combinatorics I**  
**Association Schemes**

**Eiichi Bannai**  
**and**  
**Tatsuro Ito**



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## §2.5 Asymptotic spectral analysis via quantum decomposition

spectrum of transition matrix  $P = \frac{1}{\kappa}A$  on distance-regular graph

$$\begin{pmatrix} \theta_0(=\kappa) & \theta_1 & \cdots & \theta_d \\ m_0(=1) & m_1 & \cdots & m_d \end{pmatrix}, \quad \sum_{j=0}^d m_j = |S|$$

$r$ th moment of [spectral distribution](#)

$$\sum_{j=0}^d \theta_j^r \frac{m_j}{|S|} = \frac{1}{|S|} \text{tr} A^r = (A^r)_{x,x} = \phi_0(A^r) \quad (\text{independent of } x)$$

in particular  $\phi_0(A) = 0$ ,  $\phi_0(A^2) = \phi_0(\sum_k p_{11}^k A_k) = \kappa$

asymptotic spectral distribution as central limit theorem

$$\phi_0\left(\left(\frac{1}{\sqrt{\kappa}}A\right)^r\right) \xrightarrow{d \rightarrow \infty} ? = \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^r \mu(dx) = M_r(\mu)$$

Then, for any  $r \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\phi_0(A^r) \sim M_r(\mu) \kappa^{r/2} \quad \text{as } d \rightarrow \infty$$

However, for cut-off phenomenon, one estimates  $D(s)$  containing

$$e^{s(P-I)} \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{e^{-s} s^n}{n!} P^n \quad (\text{Poisson distribution with mean and variance } s)$$

i.e.  $\phi_0(A^s)$  as  $d \rightarrow \infty$  and  $s = s(d) \rightarrow \infty$

Central limit theorem for adjacency matrix (static scaling limit) has different nature from cut-off phenomenon (dynamic scaling limit), however,

- applicable ?
- interesting asymptotics itself

## Viewpoint of quantum probability

- quantum decomposition  $A = A^+ + A^- (+A^o)$   
with certain commutation relation
- limit picture drawn by creation/annihilation operators on appropriate Fock space
- other state than (vacuum)  $\phi_0$

Hashimoto-Obata-Tabei (2001) : for Hamming graph by using Hermite polynomial, Gauss measure, Boson Fock space

Collaboration with Obata school ...

A. Hora, N. Obata: Quantum Probability and Spectral Analysis of Graphs,  
Theoretical and Mathematical Physics, Springer, 2007

## Scheme of quantum decomposition approach

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A^+, A^-, A^o, \phi & \longleftarrow & A (= A^+ + A^- + A^o), \phi & \xrightarrow[\text{(\#)}]{} & \phi(A^r) \\
 \downarrow \text{limit} & & & & \downarrow \text{limit} \\
 B^+, B^-, B^o, \Phi & \longrightarrow & B = B^+ + B^- + B^o, \Phi & \xrightarrow[\text{(\natural)}]{} & \Phi(B^r) = M_r(\mu)
 \end{array}$$

- **limit + (\natural)** is much transparent than **(\#) + limit**
- **(\natural)** doesn't need full spectral data of  $A$  while **(\#)** does
- **(\natural)** is often controlled by well-known orthogonal polynomials and **one-mode interacting Fock space**

Quantum decomposition of adjacency matrix  $A$  on graph  $(S, \partial)$

$S \ni o, \quad S_n = \{x \in S \mid \partial(o, x) = n\}$ :  $n$ th stratum

$$S = \bigsqcup_{n=0}^d S_n \quad (d: \text{diameter})$$

$$A^+ \delta_x = \sum_{y: x \uparrow y} \delta_y, \quad A^- \delta_x = \sum_{y: x \downarrow y} \delta_y, \quad A^o \delta_x = \sum_{y: x \rightarrow y} \delta_y$$

$\uparrow$  : to upper stratum,     $\downarrow$  : to lower stratum,     $\rightarrow$  : to the same stratum

For distance-regular graph

$$\Gamma = \text{linear hull of } \{\Phi_0, \dots, \Phi_d\} \subset \ell^2(S), \quad \Phi_n = \frac{1}{\sqrt{|S_n|}} \sum_{x \in S_n} \delta_x$$

is invariant w.r.t.  $A^+, A^-, A^o$ , by using intersection numbers  $p_{ij}^k$ ,

$$A^+ \Phi_n = \sqrt{p_{1,n}^{n+1} p_{1,n+1}^n} \Phi_{n+1}, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

$$A^- \Phi_0 = 0, \quad A^- \Phi_n = \sqrt{p_{1,n-1}^n p_{1,n}^{n-1}} \Phi_{n-1}, \quad n = 1, 2, \dots$$

$$A^o \Phi_n = p_{1,n}^n \Phi_n, \quad n = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$



## “ Theorem ”

Convergence of matrix element of any mixed product of  $A^+$ ,  $A^-$ ,  $A^o$

$$\left\langle \Phi_n, \frac{A^{\epsilon_1}}{\sqrt{\kappa}} \cdots \frac{A^{\epsilon_p}}{\sqrt{\kappa}} \Phi_m \right\rangle \longrightarrow \left\langle \Psi_n, B^{\epsilon_1} \cdots B^{\epsilon_p} \Psi_m \right\rangle$$

$B^+$ ,  $B^-$ ,  $B^o$  on one-mode interacting Fock space  $\bigoplus_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{C}\Psi_n$

**Example** (Hashimoto-Hora-Obata 2003; 2003, 2004)

simple random walk on Johnson graph  $J(v, d)$  ( $2d \leq v$ )

$$S = \{d\text{-subset of a } v\text{-set}\} \ni x, y, \quad \partial(x, y) = d - \#(x \cap y)$$

$$\kappa = d(v - d)$$

Limit of data of previous page gives Jacobi coefficients of [Laguerre](#) and [Meixner](#) polynomials, so as corollary,

$$\phi_0 \left( \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{d(v-d)}} A^{(v,d)} \right)^r \right) \xrightarrow[d \rightarrow \infty]{2d/v \rightarrow p} M_r(\mu)$$

where

$$\mu = \begin{cases} e^{-(x+1)} 1_{[-1, \infty)}(x) dx, & p = 1 \\ \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} \frac{2(1-p)}{2-p} \left( \frac{p}{2-p} \right)^j \delta_{\frac{2(1-p)}{\sqrt{p(2-p)}} \left( j - \frac{p}{2(1-p)} \right)}, & 0 < p < 1 \end{cases}$$

Furthermore

Gibbs state with energy depending on distance from origin  $o$

$$\xrightarrow[\substack{\beta \rightarrow \infty \text{ (zero temperature)} \\ d \rightarrow \infty \text{ (infinite volume)}}]{}$$

deformed vacuum state on one-mode interacting Fock space

### §3.1 Young graph

vertex set :  $\mathbb{Y} = \bigsqcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbb{Y}_n, \quad \mathbb{Y}_0 = \{\emptyset\}, \quad \text{edge : } \lambda \nearrow \mu$

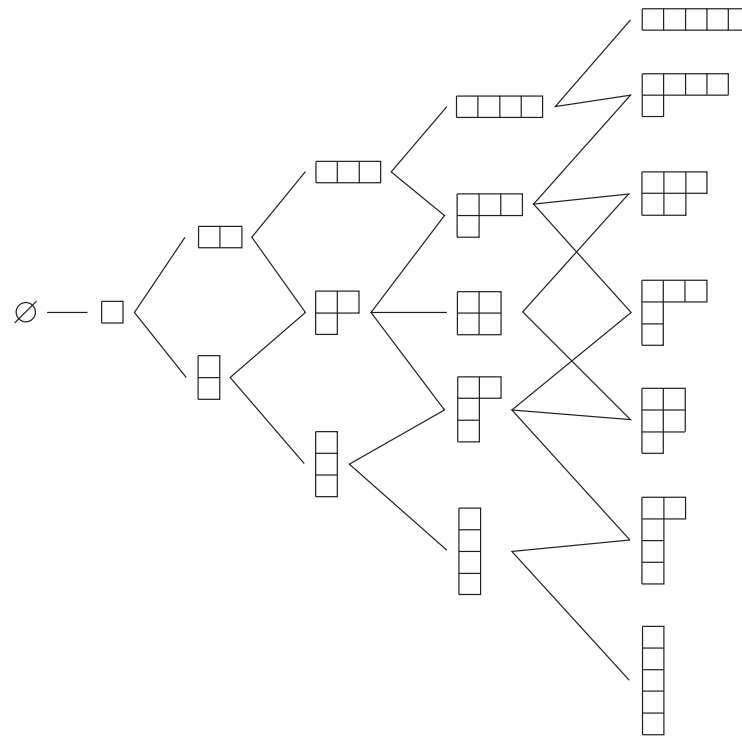


fig. 4 Young graph: dimension in 5th stratum — 1, 4, 5, 6, 5, 4, 1 :  
 $1^2 + 4^2 + 5^2 + 6^2 + 5^2 + 4^2 + 1^2 = 5!$

$\mathbb{Y}_n \cong \widehat{\mathfrak{S}}_n \ni \lambda \ni (\pi^\lambda, V^\lambda)$ : irreducible representation of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$

Irreducible decomposition of **restriction/induction** of each irreducible representations (branching rule)

$$\text{Res}_{\mathfrak{S}_{n-1}}^{\mathfrak{S}_n} \pi^\lambda \cong \bigoplus_{\nu \in \mathbb{Y}_{n-1}: \nu \nearrow \lambda} \pi^\nu, \quad \text{Ind}_{\mathfrak{S}_{n-1}}^{\mathfrak{S}_n} \pi^\nu \cong \bigoplus_{\mu \in \mathbb{Y}_n: \nu \nearrow \mu} \pi^\mu$$

multiplicity free decomposition  $\implies$  canonical Young basis of  $V^\lambda$   
 $\cong \{\text{paths from } \emptyset \text{ to } \lambda\}$

**Theorem!?** Irreducible decomposition of representations of a group is a rich source of interesting Markov chains on the dual object of the group.

**Proof** . . . . .



## §3.2 Restriction-induction chain

Counting the dimensions of the above irreducible decompositions

(in some sense, putting equal rate for each vector of the Young basis)

$$p^\downarrow(\lambda, \nu) = \begin{cases} \frac{\dim \nu}{\dim \lambda}, & \nu \nearrow \lambda, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}, \quad p^\uparrow(\nu, \mu) = \begin{cases} \frac{\dim \mu}{(|\nu|+1) \dim \nu}, & \nu \nearrow \mu, \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

$$P^\downarrow = (p^\downarrow(\lambda, \nu))_{\lambda, \nu}, \quad P^\uparrow = (p^\uparrow(\nu, \mu))_{\nu, \mu}$$

**Res-Ind chain**  $(X_m^{(n)})_{m=0,1,2,\dots}$  on  $\mathbb{Y}_n$  has transition matrix

$$P^{(n)} = (p^{(n)}(\lambda, \mu))_{\lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{Y}_n} (= P^\downarrow P^\uparrow \text{ restricted on } \mathbb{Y}_n),$$

$$p^{(n)}(\lambda, \mu) = \sum_{\nu \in \mathbb{Y}_{n-1}: \nu \nearrow \lambda, \nu \nearrow \mu} p^\downarrow(\lambda, \nu) p^\uparrow(\nu, \mu), \quad \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{Y}_n$$

restriction  $\leftrightarrow$  removing a box, induction  $\leftrightarrow$  adding a box  
restriction-induction  $\leftrightarrow$  (non-locally) moving a corner box

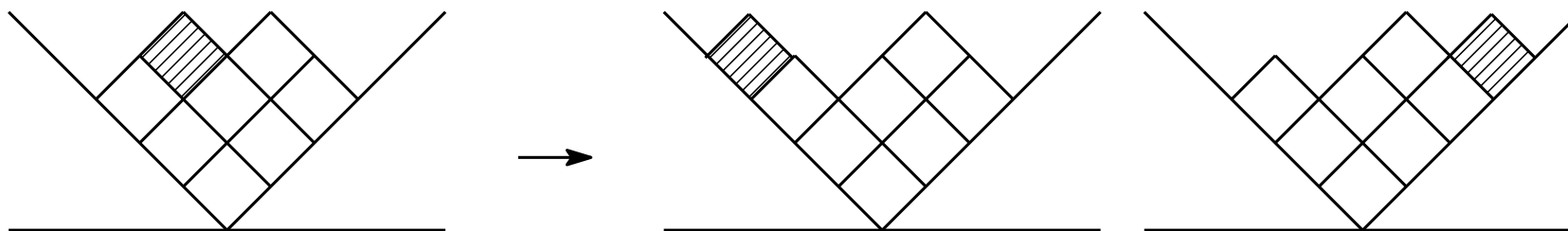


fig. 5 Res-Ind chain: transition from  $\lambda = (3, 3, 2)$

**Lemma** Res-Ind chain is symmetric w.r.t. the [Plancherel measure](#):

$$\mathbb{M}_{\text{Pl}}^{(n)}(\lambda) p^{(n)}(\lambda, \mu) = \mathbb{M}_{\text{Pl}}^{(n)}(\mu) p^{(n)}(\mu, \lambda), \quad \lambda, \mu \in \mathbb{Y}_n,$$

hence the Plancherel measure is invariant distribution for Res-Ind chain ■

▷ Plancherel measure on  $\mathbb{Y}_n$  is

$$\mathbb{M}_{\text{Pl}}^{(n)}(\lambda) = \frac{(\dim \lambda)^2}{n!}$$

(← Plancherel formula for Fourier transform on  $\mathfrak{S}_n$ )

▷ Markov chain  $(Z_n)$  on the Young graph with initial distribution  $\delta_\emptyset$  and transition matrix  $P^\uparrow$  is called the **Plancherel growth process**.

The distribution after  $n$  step is  $\mathbb{P}(Z_n = \lambda) = \frac{(\dim \lambda)^2}{n!} = \mathbb{M}_{\text{Pl}}^{(n)}(\lambda)$

**Continuous time Res-Ind chain**  $\tilde{X}_s^{(n)} = X_{N_s}^{(n)}$  on  $\mathbb{Y}_n$  ( $N_s$ : Poisson process)

- transition matrix  $e^{s(P^{(n)} - I)}$
- invariant distribution  $\mathbb{M}_{\text{Pl}}^{(n)}$

### §3.3 Irreducible characters of symmetric group

$P^{(n)} = (P^\downarrow P^\uparrow)|_{\mathbb{Y}_n}$ : transition matrix of Res-Ind chain on  $\mathbb{Y}_n$

Diagonalize  $P^{(n)}$  by using irreducible characters of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$

(generally available for non-multiplicity-free branching rule also)

For representation  $(\pi, V)$ ,  $\chi(x) = \text{tr}\pi(x)$      $\tilde{\chi} = \chi / \dim V$

$\mathbb{Y}_n$  parametrizes both the equivalence classes of **irreducible representations** and the **conjugacy classes** of  $\mathfrak{S}_n$

Character table  $(\chi_\rho^\lambda)_{\rho, \lambda \in \mathbb{Y}_n}$

Dual approach in asymptotic theory — fix  $\rho$ , then  $|\lambda| \rightarrow \infty$  i.e. consider

$$\tilde{\chi}_{(\rho, 1^{n-k})}^\lambda, \quad \rho \in \mathbb{Y}_k, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{Y}_n, \quad k \leq n$$

where  $(\rho, 1^{n-k}) = \rho \sqcup (1^{n-k}) \in \mathbb{Y}_n$  so that one can let  $n \rightarrow \infty$



**Lemma** For  $|\rho| \leq n$  s.t.  $\rho = (1^{m_1(\rho)} 2^{m_2(\rho)} \dots)$ ,

$$P^{(n)} \left( \tilde{\chi}_{(\rho, 1^{n-|\rho|})}^\lambda \right)_{\lambda \in \mathbb{Y}_n} = \left( 1 - \frac{|\rho| - m_1(\rho)}{n} \right) \left( \tilde{\chi}_{(\rho, 1^{n-|\rho|})}^\lambda \right)_{\lambda \in \mathbb{Y}_n}$$

where  $(\cdot)_{\lambda \in \mathbb{Y}_n}$  is a column vector ■

For transition matrix of continuous time Res-Ind chain,

$$e^{s(P^{(n)} - I)} \left( \tilde{\chi}_{(\rho, 1^{n-|\rho|})}^\lambda \right)_{\lambda \in \mathbb{Y}_n} = e^{-(|\rho| - m_1(\rho))s/n} \left( \tilde{\chi}_{(\rho, 1^{n-|\rho|})}^\lambda \right)_{\lambda \in \mathbb{Y}_n}$$

Letting  $\nu$  be an initial distribution on  $\mathbb{Y}_n$ ,

$$\tilde{\mathbb{P}}(\tilde{X}_s^{(n)} = \lambda) = \tilde{\mathbb{P}}^{\tilde{X}_s^{(n)}}(\lambda) = \left( \nu e^{s(P^{(n)} - I)} \right)_\lambda, \quad \lambda \in \mathbb{Y}_n$$

► Expectation of irreducible character w.r.t. initial distribution

⇒ w.r.t. the distribution at time  $s$

### §3.4 Kerov-Olshanski algebra

Irreducible characters are (one of) the most important random variables to analyze group-theoretical ensemble of Young diagrams.

For  $k = |\rho| \leq |\lambda| = n$ , set a function on  $\mathbb{Y}$

$$\Sigma_{\rho}(\lambda) = n(n-1)\cdots(n-k+1)\tilde{\chi}_{(\rho, 1^{n-k})}^{\lambda} \quad (= 0 \text{ if } k > n)$$

For one row diagram  $\rho = (k)$ ,  $\Sigma_k = \Sigma_{(k)}$

▷  $\mathbb{A} = \{\text{linear combination of } \Sigma_{\rho} \mid \rho \in \mathbb{Y}\}$  : Kerov-Olshanski algebra

Considering  $\mathbb{A}$  as an algebra of random variables, one can compute many things about random Young diagrams.

Coordinates for a Young diagram  $\longrightarrow$  element of  $\mathbb{A}$  as a polynomial function

Peak-valley coordinates of  $\lambda \in \mathbb{Y} : (x_1 < y_1 < x_2 < \cdots < y_{r-1} < x_r)$

$$G_\lambda(z) = \frac{(z - y_1) \cdots (z - y_{r-1})}{(z - x_1) \cdots (z - x_r)} = \frac{\mu_1}{z - x_1} + \cdots + \frac{\mu_r}{z - x_r}$$

Then,  $\mu_i > 0$  and  $\sum_{i=1}^r \mu_i = 1$ , so  $\mathfrak{m}_\lambda = \sum_{i=1}^r \mu_i \delta_{x_i} \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$

$\mathfrak{m}_\lambda$  : Kerov's transition measure of  $\lambda$

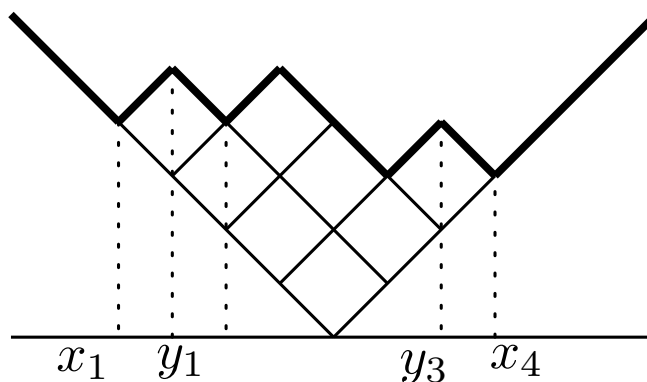


fig. 6 peak-valley coordinates of a Young diagram

$$G_\lambda(z) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{z-x} \mathfrak{m}_\lambda(dx) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} \frac{1}{z^{n+1}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^n \mathfrak{m}_\lambda(dx), \quad z \in \mathbb{C}^+$$

Young diagram  $\iff$  peak-valley coordinates

$\iff$  **moment** sequence of  $\mathfrak{m}_\lambda$  :  $\{M_n(\mathfrak{m}_\lambda)\}$

$\iff$  **cumulant** sequence of  $\mathfrak{m}_\lambda$  : ordinary  $\{C_j(\mathfrak{m}_\lambda)\}$ , **free**  $\{R_j(\mathfrak{m}_\lambda)\}$

(polynomial relations by cumulant-moment formula)

$\triangleright \mathcal{P}(n) = \{\text{partition into subsets of } \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\}$

$$\mathcal{P}(n) \ni \pi = \{v_1, \dots, v_l\} \quad (v_i: \text{block in } \pi), \quad l = b(\pi), \quad \sum_{i=1}^{b(\pi)} |v_i| = n$$

$|v_i|$ : cardinality of  $v_i$

$\triangleright \mathcal{NC}(n) = \{\text{non-crossing partition into subsets of } \{1, 2, \dots, n\}\}$

For partition  $\pi = \{u_1, \dots, u_{b(\pi)}\}$  of  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$

$$M_{|u_1|} \cdots M_{|u_{b(\pi)}|} = \sum_{\rho = \{v_1, \dots, v_{b(\rho)}\} \in \mathcal{P}(n): \rho \leq \pi} C_{|v_1|} \cdots C_{|v_{b(\rho)}|}, \quad \pi \in \mathcal{P}(n)$$

$$M_{|u_1|} \cdots M_{|u_{b(\pi)}|} = \sum_{\rho = \{v_1, \dots, v_{b(\rho)}\} \in \mathcal{NC}(n): \rho \leq \pi} R_{|v_1|} \cdots R_{|v_{b(\rho)}|}, \quad \pi \in \mathcal{NC}(n)$$

Moebius function of each poset yields inversion respectively, each cumulant expressed by (different) polynomial of moments.

**Proposition**  $\mathbb{A} = \langle \Sigma_k(\lambda) \rangle = \langle M_n(\mathbf{m}_\lambda) \rangle = \langle C_j(\mathbf{m}_\lambda) \rangle = \langle R_j(\mathbf{m}_\lambda) \rangle$  ■

$$\text{e.g. } \Sigma_1(\lambda) = M_2(\mathbf{m}_\lambda) = C_2(\mathbf{m}_\lambda) = R_2(\mathbf{m}_\lambda) = \frac{1}{2} \left( \sum_{i=1}^r x_i^2 - \sum_{i=1}^{r-1} y_i^2 \right)$$

Especially,  $\{\Sigma_k\}$  vs  $\{R_j\}$  is given by [Kerov polynomials](#).

**Freeness** is a notion for describing relation between random variables.

Free structure often appears in **large** random matrices/permutations.

In several mathematical contexts,

**independence** vs **freeness** for random variables

results in/from interesting contrasts such as

- direct product vs free product (as group or algebra structure)
- lattice vs tree (as Laplacian)
- Gauss vs Wigner (as central limit theorem)
- Boson Fock vs full Fock (as creation and annihilation) etc.

Let  $a, b$  be real random variables (typically, self-adjoint elements in function or operator algebra) with distributions  $\mu, \nu$  respectively

$$\mathbb{E}[a^n] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^n \mu(dx), \quad \mathbb{E}[b^n] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^n \nu(dx) \implies \mathbb{E}[(a+b)^n] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^n ?(dx)$$

$$\begin{array}{lll} a + b \longrightarrow \mu * \nu & \text{convolution} & \text{if } a, b \text{ are independent} \\ \longrightarrow \mu \boxplus \nu & \text{free convolution} & \text{if } a, b \text{ are free} \end{array}$$

$p$  : projection free to  $a \longrightarrow pap$  : free compression

$c$  = expectation of  $p \in (0, 1)$  i.e.  $\mathbb{E}[p] = \mathbb{E}[p^2] = c$

$\mu_c$  : distribution of  $pap$  (no commutative analogue)

$$\mathbb{E}[(pap)^n] = \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^n \mu_c(dx)$$

### §3.5 Limit shape (static model)

Putting information on Young diagrams into Kerov-Olshanski algebra, one can compute (scaling limit of) profiles of random Young diagrams.

– macroscopic profile :  $1/\sqrt{n}$  both horizontally and vertically

$$\lambda \in \mathbb{Y}_n \quad \longrightarrow \quad \lambda^{\sqrt{n}}(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \lambda(\sqrt{n}x) \quad \in \mathbb{D}_0 \subset \mathbb{D}$$

▷ rectangular diagram

$\mathbb{D}_0 = \{ \lambda : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid \text{continuous, piecewise linear,}$

$$\lambda'(x) = \pm 1, \quad \lambda(x) = |x| \quad (|x| \text{ large enough}) \}$$

transition measure  $\mathfrak{m}_\lambda$  for  $\lambda \in \mathbb{D}_0$

▷ continuous diagram

$$\mathbb{D} = \{ \omega : \mathbb{R} \longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \mid |\omega(x) - \omega(y)| \leq |x - y|, \quad \omega(x) = |x| \quad (|x| \text{ large enough}) \}$$



► Transition measure  $\mathfrak{m}_\omega$  for  $\omega \in \mathbb{D}$  is defined by approximating  $\omega$  by elements of  $\mathbb{D}_0$

$$\Omega(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2}{\pi} \left( x \arcsin \frac{x}{2} + \sqrt{4 - x^2} \right), & |x| \leq 2 \\ |x|, & |x| > 2 \end{cases} \quad \text{limit shape}$$

$$\mathfrak{m}_\Omega(dx) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{4 - x^2} 1_{[-2,2]}(x) dx \quad \text{semi-circle distribution}$$

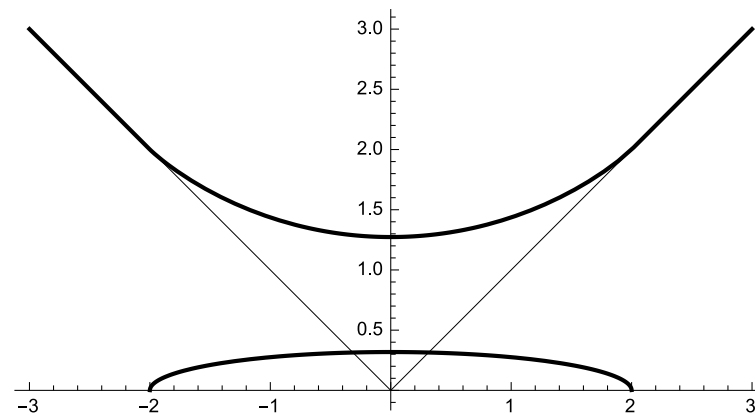


fig. 7 limit shape  $\Omega$  and its transition measure

The following law of large numbers holds  
(static scaling limit for the Plancherel measure)

**Theorem** ([Vershik-Kerov, Logan-Shepp 1977](#))

$$\mathbb{M}_{\text{Pl}}^{(n)} \left( \left\{ \lambda \in \mathbb{Y}_n \mid \sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |\lambda^{\sqrt{n}}(x) - \Omega(x)| \geq \epsilon \right\} \right) = \mathbb{P}(\|Z_n^{\sqrt{n}} - \Omega\|_{\text{sup}} \geq \epsilon)$$
$$\xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} 0 \quad (\forall \epsilon > 0)$$

Namely, distribution of  $Z_n^{\sqrt{n}}$  converges to  $\delta_\Omega$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ . ■

Strong law of large numbers also holds by considering the Plancherel measure on the path space of the Young graph.

## §3.6 Interface evolution

### Dynamic scaling limit

$s$ : microscopic time,  $t$ : macroscopic time  $s = tn$

– spectral gap of transition matrix of Res-Ind chain is  $2/n$  (§3.3 Lemma)

Given any initial macroscopic profile  $\omega_0 \in \mathbb{D}$  s.t.  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} (\omega_0(x) - |x|) dx = 2$ ,

Take a sequence  $\{\lambda^{(n)}\}_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  s.t.  $\lambda^{(n)} \in \mathbb{Y}_n$ ,  $\lambda^{(n)} \sqrt{n} \rightarrow \omega_0$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  i.e.

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \|\lambda^{(n)} \sqrt{n} - \omega_0\|_{\text{sup}} = 0.$$

Continuous time Res-Ind chain  $\tilde{X}_s^{(n)}$  with initial distribution on  $\mathbb{Y}_n$ :

$$\tilde{\mathbb{P}}(\tilde{X}_0^{(n)} = \cdot) = \delta_{\lambda^{(n)}}$$

►  $\tilde{X}_{tn}^{(n)} \sqrt{n} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} ?$  (deterministic macroscopic profile depending on  $t$ )

**Theorem** (2015, SpringerBriefs Math-Phys. 2016)

For  $\forall t > 0$ , there exists macroscopic profile  $\omega_t \in \mathbb{D}$  s.t.

$$\tilde{\mathbb{P}}\left(\|\tilde{X}_{tn}^{(n)} \sqrt{n} - \omega_t\|_{\text{sup}} \geq \epsilon\right) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} 0 \quad (\forall \epsilon > 0)$$

holds (law of large numbers). Here  $\omega_t$  is determined by

$$\mathbf{m}_{\omega_t} = (\mathbf{m}_{\omega_0})_{e^{-t}} \boxplus (\mathbf{m}_{\Omega})_{1-e^{-t}}$$

(free convolution of free compressions of transition measures).

Furthermore time evolution is described through the Stieltjes transform of transition measures  $G(t, z) = \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{1}{z-x} \mathbf{m}_{\omega_t}(dx)$ :

$$\frac{\partial G}{\partial t} = -G \frac{\partial G}{\partial z} + \frac{1}{G} \frac{\partial G}{\partial z} + G, \quad t > 0, z \in \mathbb{C}^+$$



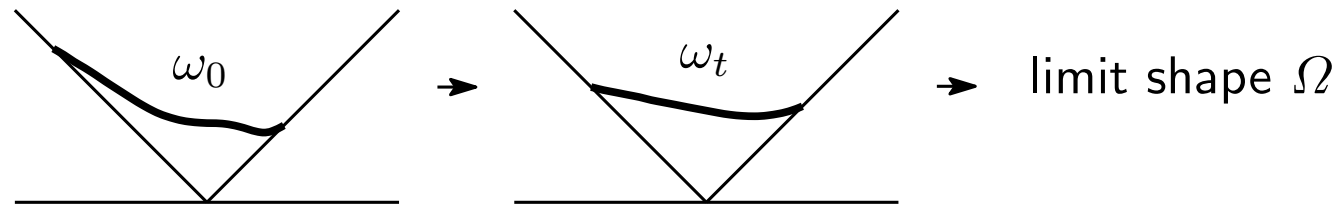
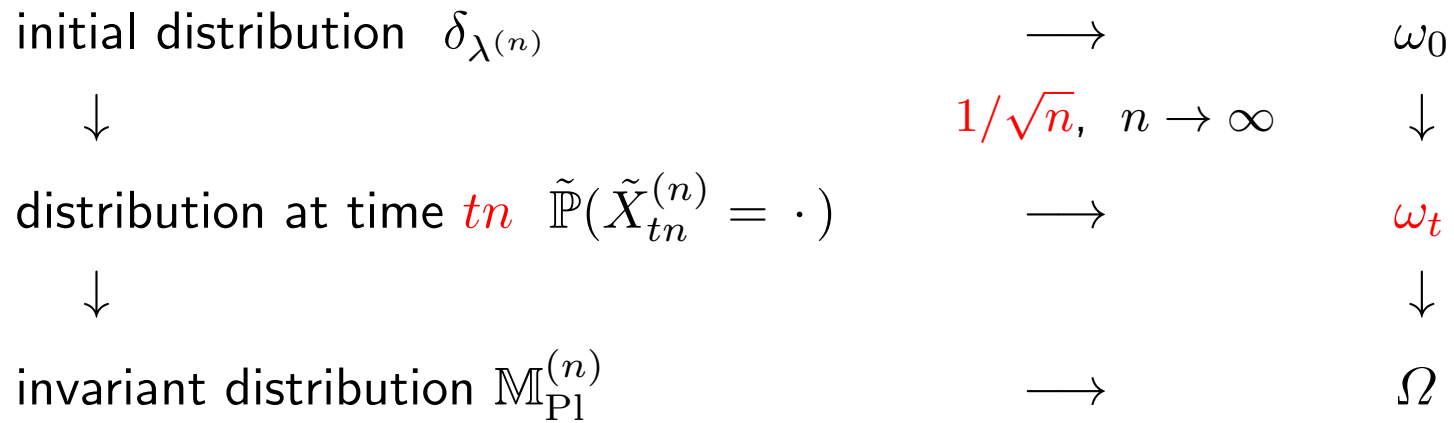
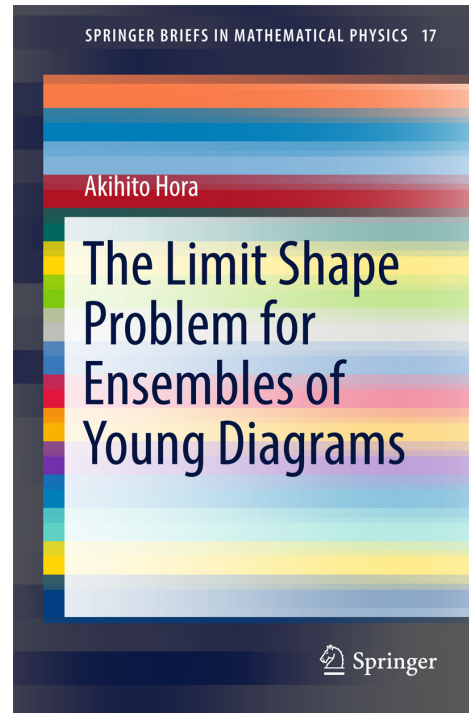


fig. 8 evolution of macroscopic profile: the area kept invariant  $\int_{\mathbb{R}} (\omega_t(x) - |x|) dx = 2$  for  $\forall t$

## Reference for §3



A. Hora: *The Limit Shape Problem for Ensembles of Young Diagrams*, Springer Briefs in Mathematical Physics 17, Springer, 2016

END