

# Random partitions, tableaux and matrices : $\beta$ -deformations and local limits

Valentin Féray

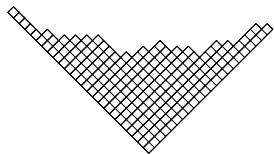
CNRS, Institut Élie Cartan de Lorraine

Workshop “Random matrices meet random permutations”,  
Lille, April 2022



## Introduction: two different models with similar behaviour

Plancherel measure on partitions



For a partition  $\lambda$ , we take

$$\mathbb{P}(\lambda) = \frac{\dim(\lambda)^2}{n!}$$

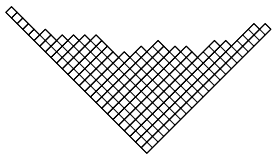
GUE model of random matrices

$$\begin{pmatrix} a_{1,1} & a_{1,2} & \cdots \\ \overline{a_{1,2}} & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \cdots & a_{n,n} \end{pmatrix}$$

Hermitian matrix with independent complex Gaussian entries above the diagonal and real Gaussian entries on the diagonal.

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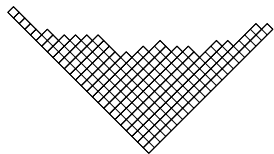
Hermitian matrix with independent complex Gaussian entries above the diagonal and real Gaussian entries on the diagonal.

Theorem (Borodin–Okounkov–Olshanski, Okounkov, Johansson, ~'00)

*Suitably renormalized, for all  $k$ , the first rows  $(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_k)$  of a random Plancherel Young diagram have the **same fluctuations as the largest eigenvalues of a GUE matrix**, i.e. they converge to the “Airy ensemble”.*

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**Goal of the talk:** discuss some other similarities and  $\beta$ -deformations.

## Fixed dimension (after Śniady, '06)

Fix an integer  $d \geq 1$  and consider a Plancherel random Young diagram **conditioned to have at most  $d$  rows**.

**Permutation interpretation:** we look at the RS shape of a uniform random permutation without decreasing subsequence of length  $d+1$  (i.e. avoiding the pattern  $d+1 \ d \ \dots \ 1$ )

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**Theorem (Śniady, '06)**

Let  $\lambda_n = (\lambda_{n,1}, \dots, \lambda_{n,d})$  be a Plancherel random Young diagram **conditioned to have at most  $d$  rows**. Then

$$\left( \sqrt{\frac{d}{n}} \left( \lambda_{n,i} - \frac{n}{d} \right) \right)_{1 \leq i \leq d}$$

*converges in distribution to the eigenvalues of a traceless GUE  $d \times d$  random matrix.*

## $\beta$ -deformation (matrix side)

The eigenvalue of GUE random matrices have the following **density** w.r.t. **Lebesgue measure** on  $\{x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_d\}$ :

$$\frac{1}{C_d} e^{-(x_1^2 + \dots + x_d^2)} \prod_{i < j} (x_i - x_j)^2.$$

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We define **G $\beta$ E ensemble** as having the following density w.r.t. Lebesgue measure on  $\{x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_d\}$ :

$$\frac{1}{C_d(\beta)} e^{-\frac{\beta}{2}(x_1^2 + \dots + x_d^2)} \prod_{i < j} (x_i - x_j)^\beta.$$

$\beta = 1, 4$ : these are eigenvalues of natural models of matrices with real/quaternionic entries.

→ huge literature on this model...



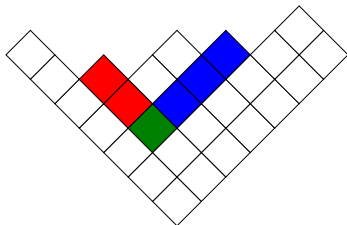
## $\beta$ -deformation (permutation side)

The usual Plancherel measure is defined by

$$\mathbb{P}(\lambda) = \frac{\dim(\lambda)^2}{n!} = \frac{n!}{h_\lambda^2},$$

where

$$h_\lambda = \prod_{(i,j) \in \lambda} ((\lambda_i - j) + (\lambda'_j - i) + 1)$$



## $\beta$ -deformation (permutation side)

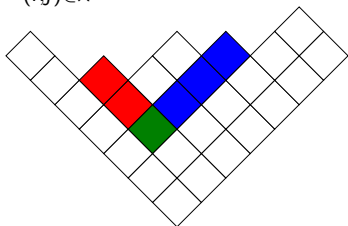
The Jack-Plancherel measure is defined by

$$\mathbb{P}(\lambda) = \frac{\alpha^n n!}{h_\lambda^{(\alpha)} h_\lambda'^{(\alpha)}},$$

where

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Remark:  $\mathbb{P}(\lambda) = [J_\lambda^{(\alpha)}] p_1^n$ , where  $J_\lambda^{(\alpha)}$  is the (integral) Jack polynomial indexed by  $\lambda$ .

## A $\beta$ version of Śniady's result (after Matsumoto, '08)

Theorem (Matsumoto, '08)

Let  $\lambda_n^{(\alpha)} = (\lambda_{n,1}^{(\alpha)}, \dots, \lambda_{n,d}^{(\alpha)})$  be a *Jack-Plancherel* random Young diagram conditioned to have at most  $d$  rows. Then

$$\left( \sqrt{\frac{\alpha d}{n}} \left( \lambda_{n,i}^{(\alpha)} - \frac{n}{d} \right) \right)_{1 \leq i \leq d}$$

converges in distribution to the eigenvalues of a  $d$ -dimensional traceless  $G\beta E$  ensemble, where  $\beta = 2/\alpha$ .

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**Permutation interpretation:** for  $\alpha = 2$ ,  $\lambda_{n,1}^{(\alpha)}$  has the same distribution as the LIS of a uniform random fixed-point free involution conditioned to have no decreasing subsequence of length  $> 2d$ .

# Transition

The Jack-Plancherel measure seems to be a nice analogue of  $G\beta E$  models, at least in the fixed dimension setting.

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The Jack-Plancherel measure seems to be a nice analogue of  $G\beta E$  models, at least in the fixed dimension setting.

→ But what about the unconditioned version? We will see some results for [fluctuations of linear statistics](#) and [edge fluctuations](#).

## Fluctuations of linear statistics

Let  $M$  be a **GUE random matrix**, with eigenvalues  $x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots \geq x_n$ . We let

$$\mu_M = \frac{1}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n \delta_{x_i}$$

be its **empirical eigenvalue distribution**. Then (Wigner, '58), for all  $k$

$$\frac{1}{n} \operatorname{Tr}(M^k) = \int_{-2}^2 x^k \mu_M(dx) \rightarrow_P \int_{-2}^2 x^k \mu_{s-c}(dx),$$

where  $\mu_{s-c}(dx) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sqrt{4 - x^2} dx$ .



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**Theorem (Johansson, '98)**

Let  $T_k$  be a **Chebyshev polynomial** of degree  $k$ . Then, jointly for all  $k$

$$\text{Tr}(T_k(M)) - n \int_{-2}^2 T_k(x) \mu_{s-c}(dx) \rightarrow_d \frac{\sqrt{k}}{2} \xi_k,$$

where  $\xi_k$  are **independent Gaussian variables**.

# Fluctuations of linear statistics (reformulated)

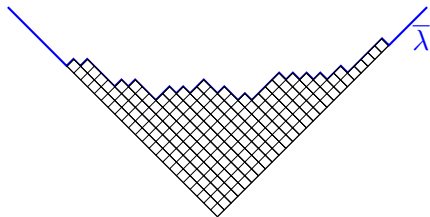
Another formulation of Johansson's theorem (Ivanov, Olshanski, '03):

$$\mu_M \equiv \mu_{s-c} + \frac{1}{n} \tilde{\Delta}(x) + o(n^{-1}),$$

where  $\equiv$  means that equality holds **when integrated over any polynomial function of  $x$**  and

$$\tilde{\Delta}(2 \cos \theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{\sqrt{k} \xi_k \cos(k\theta)}{\sin(\theta)}.$$

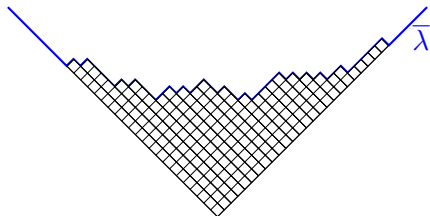
## Fluctuations of linear statistics – the partition case



**Limit shape result** for Plancherel Young diagrams:  
(Kerov–Vershik/Logan–Shepp '77)

$$\sup_{x \in \mathbb{R}} |\bar{\lambda}_n(x) - \Omega(x)| \xrightarrow{P} 0.$$

## Fluctuations of linear statistics – the partition case



Theorem (Ivanov–Olshanski '03, based on unpublished notes by Kerov)

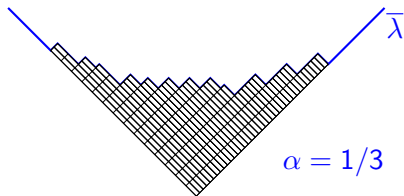
Let  $\lambda_n$  be a Plancherel random Young diagram of size  $n$  and  $\bar{\lambda}_n$  its renormalized upper boundary. Then

$$\bar{\lambda}_n \equiv \Omega(x) + \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}} \Delta(x) + o\left(n^{-1/2}\right),$$

where

$$\Delta(2 \cos \theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{\xi_k \sin(k\theta)}{\sqrt{k}}.$$

## Fluctuations of linear statistics – the $\beta$ -partition case



Theorem (F. – Dołęga, '16)

Let  $\lambda_n$  be a *Jack-Plancherel* random Young diagram of size  $n$  and  $\bar{\lambda}_n^\alpha$  its renormalized upper boundary (with rows scaled by  $\sqrt{\frac{\alpha}{n}}$  and columns by  $\frac{1}{\sqrt{\alpha n}}$ ). Then

$$\bar{\lambda}_n^\alpha \equiv \Omega(x) + \frac{2}{\sqrt{n}} \Delta^{(\alpha)}(x) + o\left(n^{-1/2}\right),$$

where

$$\Delta^{(\alpha)}(2 \cos \theta) = \frac{1}{2\pi} \sum_{k \geq 1} \frac{\xi_k \sin(k\theta)}{\sqrt{k}} + (\sqrt{\alpha}^{-1} - \sqrt{\alpha}) \left( \frac{\theta}{2\pi} - \frac{1}{4} \right).$$

## Comparison with $\beta$ -ensemble

Our result is reminiscent of fluctuations of linear statistics of  $\beta$ -ensembles

Theorem (Dimitriu – Edelman, '06)

Let  $\mu_\beta$  be the (random) empirical measure of a  $G\beta E$  ensemble of  $n$  particles. Then

$$\mu_\beta \equiv \mu_{s-c} + \frac{\sqrt{\alpha}}{n} \tilde{\Delta}(x) + \frac{\alpha - 1}{n} \mu_H(dx) + o(n^{-1}),$$

where  $\tilde{\Delta}$  is the same generalized Gaussian process as before, and  $\mu_H$  is the following *deterministic signed measure*:

$$\mu_H(dx) = \frac{1}{4} \delta_{-2} + \frac{1}{4} \delta_2 - \frac{1}{2\pi} \frac{dx}{\sqrt{4 - x^2}}.$$

→ For both partitions and matrices, the  $\beta$ -deformation adds a deterministic term. . .

## Some proof ideas (only on the partition side, here $\alpha = 1$ )

**Character values:** fix a permutation  $\sigma$  in  $S_k$  of cycle-type  $\mu$ , and consider the function on Young diagrams

$$\text{Ch}_\mu : \lambda \mapsto |\lambda| \dots (|\lambda| - k + 1) \frac{\chi^\lambda(\sigma)}{\dim(\lambda)}.$$

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### Lemma

Fix  $\mu \neq (1^r)$ . If  $\lambda$  is taken at random with Plancherel measure of size  $n$ , then

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What about higher (joint) moments of  $\text{Ch}_\mu$ ? Can we compute  $\text{Ch}_\mu \cdot \text{Ch}_\nu$ ?

Yes, using [Plancherel's isomorphism](#), it is equivalent to multiply conjugacy classes in the symmetric group algebra!

**Example:**  $\text{Ch}_{(2)} \cdot \text{Ch}_{(2)} = \text{Ch}_{(2,2)} + 4 \text{Ch}_{(3)} + 2 \text{Ch}_{(1,1)}$

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Using this and the method of moments, one can prove

Theorem (Kerov, '93, Hora, '98)

$\frac{Ch_{(k)}}{\sqrt{k}n^{k/2}}$  *converge jointly to independent Gaussian random variables.*

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What about the fluctuations of the rescaled diagram  $\bar{\lambda}$ ? The connection goes through the following fact.

Proposition (Kerov–Olshanski, '94, stated informally)

*The functions  $(\text{Ch}_{(k)})_{k \geq 2}$  and  $\lambda \mapsto \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^k (\bar{\lambda}(x) - |x|) dx$  generate the **same algebra of functions on Young diagrams.***

*(+ some formulas to go from one set of generators to the other one.)*

## Some proof ideas (only on the partition side, general $\alpha$ )

For general  $\alpha$ , there is no representation theory behind the scene!

But we can define a nice deformation of  $\text{Ch}_\mu$ :

$$\text{Ch}_\mu^{(\alpha)} : \lambda \mapsto \alpha^{-\frac{|\mu| - \ell(\mu)}{2}} z_\mu [p_{\rho 1^{|\lambda| - k}}] J_\lambda^{(\alpha)}.$$

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- We have  $\mathbb{E}_{(\alpha)}(\text{Ch}_\mu^{(\alpha)}) = 0$ ;
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- There exist coefficients  $g_{\mu,\nu;\pi}^{(\alpha)}$ , such that

$$\text{Ch}_\mu^{(\alpha)} \cdot \text{Ch}_\nu^{(\alpha)} = \sum_{\substack{\pi \text{ partition} \\ \text{of any size}}} g_{\mu,\nu;\pi}^{(\alpha)} \text{Ch}_\pi^{(\alpha)},$$

but we have no Plancherel isomorphism and thus no combinatorial description of these coefficients. :(



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- Using polynomial interpolation, we prove that the **first four moments** of  $\frac{\text{Ch}_{(k)}^{(\alpha)}}{n^{k/2} \sqrt{k}}$  coincide asymptotically with that of a Gaussian.
- We use **Stein's method** to prove the asymptotic normality (based on a work on Fulman for  $\text{Ch}_{(2)}^{(\alpha)}$ , '04).

## And edge fluctuations?

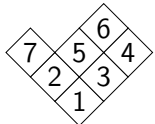
Theorem (Guionnet, Huang, '19)

Let  $\lambda^n$  be a *Jack-Plancherel random Young diagram* of size  $n$  and fix  $k \geq 1$ . Then the lengths of the  $k$  first row  $(\lambda_1^n, \dots, \lambda_k^n)$  of  $\lambda^n$  has asymptotically the *same fluctuations as the  $k$  first particles of a  $G\beta E$  ensemble*, where  $\beta = 2/\alpha$ .

Note: the combinatorially relevant cases  $\alpha \in \{1/2, 2\}$  were proven earlier by Baik and Rains, '01.

# Transition

We now add the time dimension on the partition side, and look at **random tableaux**.


$$\equiv \begin{aligned} \emptyset &\mapsto (1) \mapsto (1, 1) \mapsto (2, 1) \mapsto (3, 1) \\ &\mapsto (3, 2) \mapsto (3, 3) \mapsto (3, 3, 1) \end{aligned}$$

Model of random tableaux: **fix the shape  $\lambda$**  and take a **uniform random tableau  $T$**  of shape  $\lambda$ .

## Some links with random matrices

### Theorem (Marchal, '07)

Let  $T$  be a random Young diagram of square shape  $n \times n$ . Then, there exists a function  $r(t)$  for  $t \in (0, 1)$ , we have

$$\frac{r(t) \left( T(1, \lfloor nt \rfloor) - \mathbb{E} T(1, \lfloor nt \rfloor) \right)}{N^{4/3}} \rightarrow_d TW,$$

where  $TW$  is the *GUE Tracy–Widom distribution*.

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### Theorem (Gorin–Rahman, '19)

Let  $T$  be a random Young diagram of staircase shape  $(n-1, n-2, \dots, 1)$ . Then, for  $\alpha \in (-1; 1)$ , the entry  $T \left( \lfloor \frac{(1+\alpha)n}{2} \rfloor, \lceil \frac{(1-\alpha)n}{2} \rceil \right)$  on the outer border has the same fluctuations as the *smallest positive eigenvalue  $\Lambda_+$  of a GOE matrix*.



## Local limits of Young tableaux

(work in progress with J. Borga, C. Boutillier, P.-L. Méliot)

One can encode tableaux as particles (or beads) on vertical lines (threads), with an **interlacing** condition.

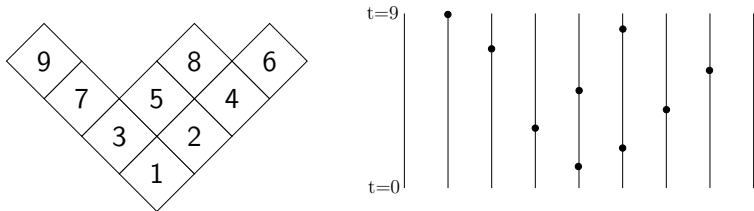


Figure: A Young tableau  $T$  and the associated set  $M_T$ .

We look at  $M_T$  around a point  $(x_0\sqrt{n}, t_0 n)$  in a window of size  $O(1) \times O(\sqrt{n})$ , i.e. we set

$$\widetilde{M}_\lambda = \left\{ (y, \varepsilon) \in \mathbb{Z} \times \mathbb{R} : (x_0\sqrt{N} + y, t_0 n + \varepsilon \sqrt{n}) \in M_{\lambda_N} \right\}.$$

# Local limits of Young tableaux

(work in progress with J. Borga, C. Boutillier, P.-L. Méliot)

## What are we trying to prove?

When the size of  $\lambda$  goes to infinity with some limit shape, for  $(x_0, t_0)$  in the bulk, the renormalized process  $\widetilde{M}_\lambda$  converges to [Boutillier's bead model](#).

## What is the limit object?

- Boutillier's bead models form a natural family of models of random interlacing bead configurations;
- They are [local limits in the bulk of GUE corner processes](#) (Adler, Nordenstam, Van Moerbeke, '14).

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We can [prove the statement when](#)

- for Poissonized tableaux instead of standard ones;
- when  $\lambda$  is obtained by substituting each box by a  $c \times c$  square in a base diagram  $\lambda_0$  (making  $c$  tend to  $\infty$ );
- under a technical condition on  $(x_0, t_0)$ .

# Local limits of Young tableaux

(work in progress with J. Borga, C. Boutillier, P.-L. Méliot)

What are we trying to prove?

When the size of  $\lambda$  goes to infinity with some limit shape, for  $(x_0, t_0)$  in the bulk, the renormalized process  $\widetilde{M}_\lambda$  converges to [Boutillier's bead model](#).

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[Main tool](#): The particle representation of Poissonized tableau is a determinantal point process! (Gorin–Rahman, '19)

## $\beta$ -deformation

**Fact:** the Jack-Plancherel measure is Markovian (i.e. one can sample a diagram of size  $n$  easily starting from one of size  $n - 1$ ).

→ one can define  $\beta$ -random tableaux (Plancherel distributed, or of a given shape if one conditioned to the final shape).

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### Future work?

- Do fluctuations of a Plancherel random  $\beta$ -tableau conditioned on having at most  $d$  rows converge to a  $\beta$ -Dyson Brownian motion?
- Is the local limit of  $\beta$ -tableaux in the bulk the  $\beta$ -bead model (Najnudel, Virag, '21)?

Thank you for  
your attention!