

Isaac Newton Institute for Mathematical Sciences
RMAw02 - Recent Perspectives in Random Matrix Theory and Number Theory

Spacing distributions for random matrix ensembles I
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Spacing distributions

Motivation

A theoretical prediction from the late '50's

highly excited
energy levels of
complex nuclei

distr.
=

eigenvalues
of large
GOE matrices



Q. / How can this hypothesis be tested?

A. / Compare computable statistical quantities

e.g. Spacing distribution



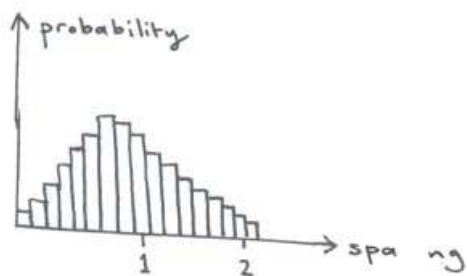
Least number

of spacings

i.e.

$$\left(\begin{array}{l} \text{find} \\ \text{sequence} \\ \text{that } \langle \text{spacing} \rangle = 1 \end{array} \right)$$

Construct histogram



$$\text{probability} = \frac{\# \text{ spacings in each range } (b)}{\text{total } \# \text{ spacings}}$$

Q For large GOE matrix can this be computed analytically?

Wigner surmise (approximate analytic form)

Strategy

- ① Start with joint eigenvalue p.d.f. of 2×2 GOE matrices

$$\frac{1}{C_2} (\lambda_2 - \lambda_1) e^{-(c\lambda_1^2 + c\lambda_2^2)/2}, \quad \lambda_2 > \lambda_1$$

variances
Chosen to 'unfold' spectrum

$\frac{2\sqrt{\pi}}{c^{3/2}}$

- ② Calculate the averaged spacing p.d.f.

$$P^W(s) \stackrel{\text{Wigner}}{=} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p(x, x+s) dx$$

distance between eigenvalues = s

$$= \frac{1}{C_2} s e^{-cs^2/4} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-cx^2 - csx} dx$$
$$= \left(\frac{\pi}{c}\right)^{1/2} \frac{1}{C_2} s e^{-cs^2/4} = \frac{c}{2} s e^{-cs^2/4}$$

③ Choose c so that

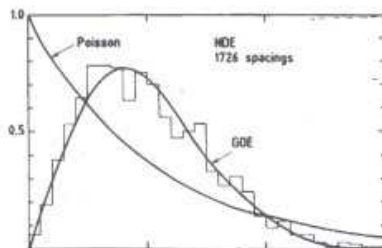
$$\int_0^{\infty} p(s) ds = 1$$

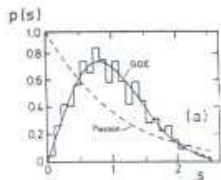
Find c

$$\Rightarrow p(s) = \frac{\pi s}{2} e^{-\pi s^2/4}$$

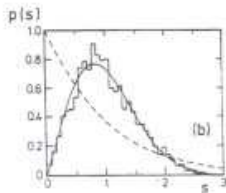
Compare with histogram
of data from GOE matrices ✓

Compare GOE prediction
(Wigner sur se.) against
clear spectrum data

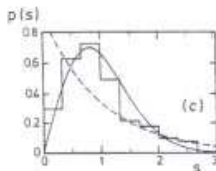




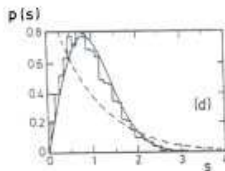
Sinai billiard



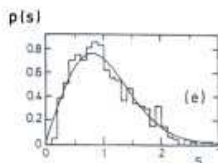
Hydrogen atom in a strong mag. field.



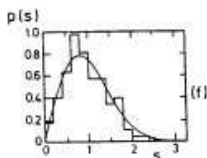
NO_2 molecule



Vibrating quartz block shaped like a 3d Sinai billiard



Microwave spectrum of 3d cavity



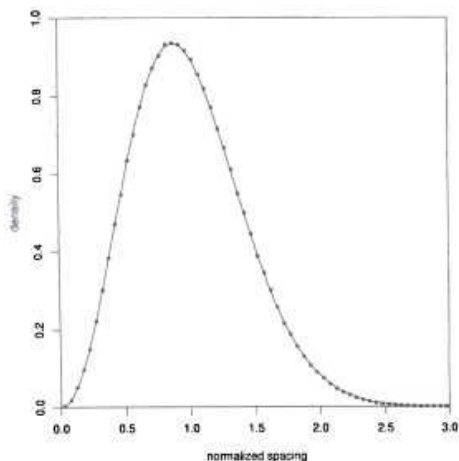
Vibrating elastic disk shaped like a quarter stadium.

A theoretical prediction from the
70's & 80's (Montgomery-Odlyzko "law")

large zeros of
Riemann zeta
on critical
line

distr. = eigenvalues
of large GUE
matrices

- To test, compare spacing distributions



over a million zeros near 2×10^{20}

- precise determination of $P_{sd}(s)$
for zeta $f^{\#}$ zeros requires
precise determination of $P_{sd}(s)$
for large GUE matrices
- Wigner surmise is not precise
and must be replaced by the "exact"
value of $P_{sd}(s)$.

Theory relating to $P_{sd}(s)$

In general (for a translationally invariant
state - bulk)

$$P_{sd}(s) = \frac{d^2}{ds^2} E^{\text{bulk}}(0, s)$$

prob. an interval
of length s contains
no eigenvalues
(gap probability)

$$E^{\text{bulk}}(0, s) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} \int_{\bar{I}} d\lambda_1 \cdots \int_{\bar{I}} d\lambda_N \underbrace{P(\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_N)}_{\substack{\text{(scaled) prob. density} \\ f^{\#} \text{ for the eigenvalues}}}$$

$(-\infty, \infty) \setminus (-s/2, s/2)$



Task compute $E^{bulk}(0, s)$ in the cases

$$f \begin{cases} \text{orthogonal} & \text{symmetry} \\ \text{unitary} \\ \text{symplectic} \end{cases}$$

Some general formulas

Consider the generating function

$$E_N(a_1, a_2, \mathbb{Z}) = \int_{\mathbb{Z}} \int_{a_1}^{a_2} dx_1 \dots dx_N p(x_1, \dots, x_N)$$

$$E_N(a_1, a_2, \mathbb{Z}) = \underbrace{E_N(0, a_1, a_2)}_{\text{prob. eigenvalues in } (a_1, a_2)}$$

$$\frac{(1)^n}{n} \frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbb{Z}^n} E_N(a_1, a_2, \mathbb{Z}) \Big|_{\mathbb{Z}=1} = \underbrace{E_N(n, a_1, a_2)}_{\text{prob. eigenvalue } (a_1, a_2)}$$

Introduce the k -point distribution $f^{(k)}$

$$P^{(k)}(x_1, \dots, x_k) := \frac{N!}{(N-k)!} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx_{k+1} \dots \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} dx_N p(x_1, \dots, x_N)$$

Expanding $E_N((a_1, a_2); \mathcal{I})$ in a power series in \mathcal{I} shows

$$E_N((a_1, a_2); \mathcal{I}) = 1 + \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{(-\mathcal{I})^k}{k!} \int_{a_1}^{a_2} dx_1 \dots \int_{a_1}^{a_2} dx_k P^{(k)}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$$

Technical point

We must unfold the spectrum

$$x_1 \mapsto x_N + p_N x_1 =: S_N(x_1)$$

↖ change of origin ↙ change of scale

The formal structure of the expansion remains

$$E^{\text{scaled}}((a_1, a_2); \mathcal{I}) := \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} E_N((S_N(a_1), S_N(a_2)); \mathcal{I})$$

$$= 1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-\mathcal{I})^k}{k!} \int_{a_1}^{a_2} dx_1 \dots \int_{a_1}^{a_2} dx_k P^{(k)}(x_1, \dots, x_k)$$

The case of unitary symmetry

$$\rho_k^{\text{bulk}}(x_1, \dots, x_k) = \det \left[\frac{1}{\pi} \int_{a_1}^{a_2} K(x_j, x_k) dy \right]_{k=1, \dots, k}$$

$$K(x, y) = \frac{\sin \pi(x-y)}{\pi(x-y)}$$

But general

$$1 + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{(-1)^k}{k} \int_{a_1}^{a_2} dx_1 \dots \int_{a_1}^{a_2} dx_k \det \left[K(x_j, x_k) \right]_{k=1, \dots, k}$$

$$\det (1 - \mathbb{K})$$

integral operator
 (a_1, a_2) with kernel
 $K(x, y)$

$$\prod (1 - \lambda)$$

eigenvalues
of \mathbb{K}

$$\mathbb{K}[f] = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} K(x, y) f(y) dy$$

Exact evaluation of the spacing distribution:

Historical development

1950's — Wigner makes guess

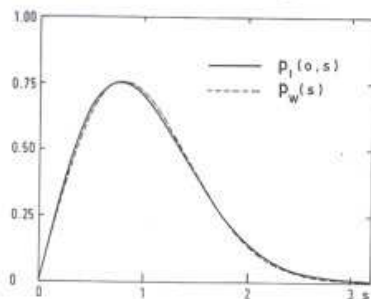
$$P_{sd}(s) \propto s^p e^{-cs^2}$$

1961 — Gaudin gives formula for $E_1(0; s)$
 in terms of Fredholm determinant:

$$E_1(0; s) = \det(1 - \kappa_1)$$

$$\kappa_1 f[x] := \int_{-s/2}^{s/2} \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{\sin \pi(\alpha - y)}{\pi(\alpha - y)} + \frac{\sin \pi(\alpha + y)}{\pi(\alpha + y)} \right) f(y) dy$$

Numerical evaluation shows (small)
 discrepancy with Wigner surmise



1961 — Mehta

$$E_1(0; (-t, t); e^{-x^2/2}; N) = E_2(0; (0, t^2); \underbrace{y^{-1/2} e^{-y}}_{y \geq 0}; N/2)$$

Dyson

1962

$$E_2(0, s) = \det(1 + K_2)$$

$$K_2 f(x) = \int_{-s/2}^{s/2} \frac{\sin \pi(x-y)}{\pi(x-y)} f(y) dy$$

1962

Interrelationship

$$E_2(0, s) = E_1(0, s) (E(0, s) + \underbrace{E_1(1, s)}_{\text{prob } f=1})$$

eigenvalue in interval of length s $p=1$

Th (Dyson Ginson)



$$\text{at } (COE_N \cup COE_N)$$

$$COE_N$$

integrate + every second eigenvalue

1963

Th (Dyson & Mehta)

$$\uparrow \text{at}(\text{COE}_{2N}) \quad \text{CSE}_N$$

integrate out every
second eigenvalue

$$\Rightarrow E_{4 \cdot N}(0, s) = E_{1, 2N}(0, s) + \frac{1}{2} E_{1, 2N}(1, s)$$

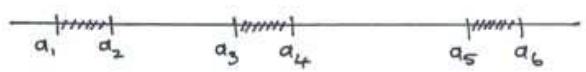
$$\Rightarrow E_4(0, s) = E_1(0, 2s) + \frac{1}{2} E_1(1, 2s)$$

1980

Jimbo, Miwa, Mori & Sato

Relate $E_2(0; \bigcup_{j=1}^P (a_{2j-1}, a_{2j}))$

to integrable system theory



Also, prove

$$E_2(0; s) = \exp \int_0^{\pi s} \frac{\sigma(u)}{u} du$$

where $\sigma(u)$ satisfies

$$(u\sigma'')^2 + 4(u\sigma' - \sigma + (\sigma')^2) = 0$$

$$\sigma(u) \underset{u \rightarrow 0}{\sim} -\frac{u}{\pi} \quad \text{Painlevé V eq}^2 \text{ (in } \sigma\text{-form)}$$

\Rightarrow (Claudin formula)

$$E_1(0; s) = (E_2(0; s))^{1/2} \exp \left(\frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi s} \left(-\frac{d}{dx} \frac{\sigma(x)}{x} \right)^{1/2} dx \right)$$

Knowledge of E_1 & $E_2 \Rightarrow E_4$:

$$E_4(0; s/2) = \frac{1}{2} \left(E_1(0; s) + \frac{E_2(0; s)}{E_1(0; s)} \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow E_4(0; s/2) = (E_2(0; s))^{1/2} \cosh \left(\frac{1}{2} \int_0^{\pi s} \left(-\frac{d}{dx} \frac{\sigma(x)}{x} \right)^{1/2} dx \right)$$

1989 — Korepin, Its & Izergin identify $\det(1-K)$,
for K with kernel

$$K(x, y) = \frac{\phi(x)\psi(y) - \phi(y)\psi(x)}{x-y}, \quad (*)$$

with integrable system theory

1991 — Mehta, then Dyson, simplify JMMS
derivation of Painlevé evaluation of $E_2(0; s)$

1992 — Tracy and Widom

1994

- Give formalism to evaluate $\det(1+K)$ in terms of Painlevé transcendents for other K of the form $(*)$ and

$$m(x)\phi'(x) = A(x)\phi(x) + B(x)\psi(x)$$

$$m(x)\psi'(x) = -C(x)\phi(x) - A(x)\psi(x)$$

m, A, B, C polys

- Apply formalism for various K of interest in random matrix theory

1995

Adler & van Moerbeke

introduce methods based on
Virasoro operators

$$= \sum_{k=0}^p \frac{\partial}{\partial t_k} \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{p-k}} + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} k t_k \frac{\partial}{\partial t_{p+k}}, \quad \frac{\partial}{\partial t_0} = N$$

$$[L_p, L_q] = (p-q)L_{p+q}$$

and the KP eqⁿ

$$\left(\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t_1} \right)^4 + 3 \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial t_1} \right)^2 \frac{\partial^2}{\partial t_1 \partial t_3} \right) \circ Z_N \leftarrow \text{-generating } f^N$$

$$+ 6 \left(\frac{\partial^2}{\partial t_1^2} \log Z_N \right)^2 = 0$$

2000

F. & Witte use Okamoto τ - f^2

theory of Hamiltonian formulation
of the Painlevé equations

$$\dot{q} = \frac{\partial H}{\partial p}, \quad \dot{p} = -\frac{\partial H}{\partial q}$$

$$H = \frac{d}{dt} \log \tau$$

2001

Borodin & Deift make use of
Riemann-Hilbert approach to
Schlesinger eq^{ns}

Tracy-Widom theory

Objective To characterize

$$E^{\text{soft}}(s, \infty; \beta) = \det(1 - \beta K_{(s, \infty)}^{\text{soft}})$$

where $K_{(s, \infty)}^{\text{soft}}$ is the integral operator on (s, ∞) with kernel

$$K^{\text{soft}}(x, y) = \frac{\text{Ai}(x)\text{Ai}'(y) - \text{Ai}(y)\text{Ai}'(x)}{x - y}$$

as the solution of a differential eqⁿ

Result

$$E^{\text{soft}}(s, \infty; \beta) = \exp\left(-\int_s^{\infty} (t-s) q^2(t; \beta) dt\right)$$

where q satisfies the particular

Painlevé II eqⁿ

$$q'' = tq + 2q^3$$

$$q(t; \beta) \underset{t \rightarrow \infty}{\sim} \beta \text{Ai}(\beta)$$

Ingredients

$R(x, y)$ - kernel of the resolvent operator
$$\mathfrak{K}_J (1 - \mathfrak{K}_J)^{-1} =: R_J$$

$p(x, y)$ - kernel of $(1 - \mathfrak{K}_J)^{-1}$

Introduce structured form of the kernel

$$\mathfrak{K}(x, y) = \frac{\phi(x)\psi(y) - \phi(y)\psi(x)}{x - y} \begin{cases} \phi(x) = \int_a^b A_i(x) \\ \psi(y) = \int_a^b A_i'(y) \end{cases}$$

Now define (with $J = (a_1, a_2) = (s, \infty)$)

$$Q(x) := (1 - \mathfrak{K}_J)^{-1} \phi = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} p(x, y) \phi(y) dy$$

$$q_j = Q(a_j) := \lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow a_j \\ x \in (a_1, a_2)}} Q(x)$$

$$P(x) := (1 - \mathfrak{K}_J)^{-1} \psi = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} p(x, y) \psi(y) dy$$

$$p_j = P(a_j) := \lim_{\substack{x \rightarrow a_j \\ x \in (a_1, a_2)}} P(x)$$

$$u = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} \phi(y) Q(y) dy$$

$$v = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} \psi(y) P(y) dy = \int_{a_1}^{a_2} \psi(y) Q(y) dy$$

Now derive universal eq

$$(i) R(a_j, a_k) = \frac{q_j p_k - p_j q_k}{a_j - a_k} \quad (j \neq k)$$

$$(ii) \frac{\partial}{\partial a_j} \log \det(1 - \mathfrak{I} K_{\mathfrak{I}}) = (-1)^{j-1} R(a_j, a_j)$$

$$(iii) \frac{\partial q_j}{\partial a_k} = (-1)^k R(a_j, a_k) q_k \quad (j \neq k)$$

$$(iv) \frac{\partial p_j}{\partial a_k} = (-1)^k R(a_j, a_k) p_k \quad (j \neq k)$$

$$(v) \frac{\partial u}{\partial a_k} = (-1)^k q_k^2$$

$$(vi) \frac{\partial v}{\partial a_k} = (-1)^k p_k q_k$$

e.g. (ii)

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{\partial}{\partial a_j} \log \det(1 - \mathfrak{I} K_{\mathfrak{I}}) &= \frac{\partial}{\partial a_j} \text{Tr} \log(1 - \mathfrak{I} K_{\mathfrak{I}}) \\ &= \text{Tr} \left(-\mathfrak{I} (1 - \mathfrak{I} K_{\mathfrak{I}})^{-1} \frac{\partial}{\partial a_j} K_{\mathfrak{I}} \right) \\ &\quad \uparrow (-1)^j K_{\mathfrak{I}} \delta(a_j - y) \\ &= (-1)^{j-1} \text{Tr} (R_{\mathfrak{I}} \delta(a_j - j)) \\ &= (-1)^{j-1} R(a_j, a_j) \end{aligned}$$

Next derive case specific eq^{ns}

Here make use of the linear eq^{ns}

$$m(x)\phi'(x) = A(x)\phi(x) + B(x)\psi(x)$$

$$m(x)\psi'(x) = -C(x)\phi(x) - A(x)\psi(x)$$

$$\phi(x) = \sqrt{3} Ai(x), \quad \psi(x) = \sqrt{3} Ai'(x)$$

$$m(x) = 1, \quad A(x) = 0, \quad B(x) = 1, \quad C(x) = -x$$

One finds

$$q' = p - qu$$

$$= sq + pu - 2qu$$

$$= pq' - qp'$$

$$= -q^2$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} a_1 = s \\ a_2 = \infty \\ p = p_1 \\ q = q_1 \\ R = R(s, s) \end{array} \right.$$

Supplement by the universal eq^{ns}

$$u' = -q^2$$

$$v' = -pq$$

$$R = \frac{d}{ds} \log E((s, \infty); 3)$$

From the final eqⁿ in each list

$$E(s, 0) = \exp\left(\int_s^{\infty} R(t, z) dt\right) \\ \exp\left(-\int_s^{\infty} (t-s) R(t, z) dt\right) \\ \exp\left(\int_t^{\infty} (t-s) q^2(t, z) dt\right)$$

Also by eliminating variables
a) get the other eq^s find

$$(R')^2 + 4R'(R')^2 - 2R + R = 0$$

$$q'' = 5q + 2q^3$$