

# Linear Operators Preserving Stability and the Lee-Yang Program

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## Main Theme:

Zero loci/non-vanishing properties of (multivariate) polynomials & their dynamics under linear operators

## Rota's Philosophy



**G.-C. Rota:** *"The one contribution of mine that I hope will be remembered has consisted in just pointing out that all sorts of problems of combinatorics [statistical mechanics, matrix theory...] can be viewed as problems on location of the zeros of certain polynomials and in giving these zeros a combinatorial interpretation."*

## Some Motivating Examples

1. Negative Correlations
2. Monomer-Dimer Systems
3. Phase Transitions

Two main tools in statistical mechanics

- Cluster expansions

Mayer expansions, Pirogov-Sinai theory...

- Correlation inequalities:

Positive correlations/dependence

Harris, FKG...

Negative correlations/dependence

?!...

### 1. Negative Correlations

$[n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_n = \{\text{prob. meas. on } 2^{[n]}\}$ ,  
 $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$ . The partition function

$$Z_\mu(\mathbf{z}) = \sum_{S \subseteq [n]} \mu(S) \mathbf{z}^S, \quad \mathbf{z}^S = \prod_{i \in S} z_i.$$

**Pairwise Negative Correlations** : for  $i \neq j$

$$\mu(\{S : i, j \in S\}) \leq \mu(\{S : i \in S\})\mu(\{S : j \in S\})$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$Z_\mu(\mathbf{1}) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z_i \partial z_j} Z_\mu(\mathbf{1}) \leq \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i} Z_\mu(\mathbf{1}) \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} Z_\mu(\mathbf{1}).$$

**Negative Association (NA)**: for up-sets  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$  with disjoint support

$$\mu(\mathcal{A} \cap \mathcal{B}) \leq \mu(\mathcal{A})\mu(\mathcal{B})$$

$\Leftrightarrow$

$$\int f g d\mu \leq \int f d\mu \int g d\mu$$

for all increasing  $f, g$  depending on disjoint sets of coordinates.

**Question**: When do we have NA(+)?

**Rayleigh (R)**:  $\forall \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}_+^n$

$$Z_\mu(\mathbf{z}) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z_i \partial z_j} Z_\mu(\mathbf{z}) \leq \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i} Z_\mu(\mathbf{z}) \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} Z_\mu(\mathbf{z}).$$

**Question**: Does R  $\Rightarrow$  NA?...

**Strongly Rayleigh (SR):**  $\forall \mathbf{z} \in \mathbb{R}^n$

$$Z_\mu(\mathbf{z}) \frac{\partial^2}{\partial z_i \partial z_j} Z_\mu(\mathbf{z}) \leq \frac{\partial}{\partial z_i} Z_\mu(\mathbf{z}) \frac{\partial}{\partial z_j} Z_\mu(\mathbf{z}).$$

Let  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{C}$  or  $\mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mathcal{H} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Im}(z) > 0\}$ .

**Definition.**  $f \in \mathbb{K}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  is **( $\mathcal{H}$ -)stable** if  $f(\mathbf{z}) \neq 0 \forall \mathbf{z} \in \mathcal{H}^n$ , **real stable (RS)** if in addition  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}$ .

**Theorem [Brändén].**  $\mu$  SR  $\Leftrightarrow Z_\mu$  RS.

This allows to use powerful methods from the theory of uni- & multivariate polynomials (Gårding hyperbolicity, Grace-Walsh-Szegő coincidence theorem).

**Theorem [B., Brändén, Liggett].**  $\mu$  SR  $\Rightarrow \mu$  CNA+.

**Theorem [B., Brändén, Liggett].** The *symmetric exclusion process* on  $2^E$ ,  $|E| \leq \aleph_0$ , preserves the SR property.

## 2. Monomer-Dimer Systems

A **matching**  $M$  in a graph  $G = (V, E)$  is a subset of  $E$  s.t. no two edges in  $M$  have a common vertex

**Theorem** [Heilmann-Lieb, 1972].

Suppose  $\lambda_{ij} \geq 0$  for all  $ij \in E$ . If  $\text{Re}(z_k) > 0$ ,  $k \in [n]$ , then

$$\sum_{\text{matchings } M} \prod_{ij \in M} \lambda_{ij} z_i z_j \neq 0$$

Applications of the univariate version: asymptotic normality for uniform matchings in simple graphs...

## 3. Phase Transitions

occur when an observable quantity (magnetization, resistivity...) depends **non-analytically** on some control parameter (temperature, magnetic field...)

**Ising model:** Let  $G = (V, E)$ ,  $\Omega = \{-1, 1\}^V$ ,  $\omega = (\sigma_i)_{i \in V} \in \Omega$ ,  $\mathcal{H}_\omega = -\sum_{ij \in E} J_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j - h \sum_{i \in V} \sigma_i$  and  $\beta = T^{-1}$ . The **partition function**

$$Z(h) = \sum_{\omega \in \Omega} e^{-\beta \mathcal{H}_\omega}$$

**Theorem** [Lee-Yang, 1952].

All zeros of  $Z(h)$  are on the imaginary axis.

Thus a phase transition occurs only at  $h = 0$ .



asked around



...



**Multivariate versions:**  $n = |V|$ ,  $[n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$

$$\mathcal{H}_\omega = - \sum_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} J_{ij} \sigma_i \sigma_j - \sum_{i=1}^n h_i \sigma_i$$

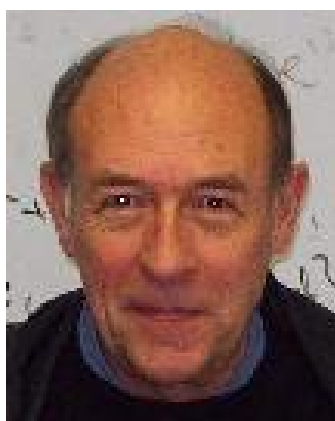
**Theorem** [Lee-Yang, 1952].

If  $\text{Re}(h_k) > 0$ ,  $k \in [n]$ , then  $Z(h_1, \dots, h_n) \neq 0$ .

**“Circle Theorem”**. If  $(a_{ij})$  is a Hermitian  $n \times n$  matrix with  $|a_{ij}| \leq 1$  and  $|z_k| < 1$ ,  $k \in [n]$ , then

$$\sum_{S \subseteq [n]} \prod_{k \in S} z_k \prod_{i \in S} \prod_{j \notin S} a_{ij} \neq 0.$$

## The Lee-Yang theorem: a failure?...



*I have called this beautiful result a failure because, while it has important applications in physics, it remains at this time isolated in mathematics.*

*One might think of a connection with zeta functions. But the miracle has not happened [yet]. One still does not know what to do with the circle theorem.*

D. Ruelle, Gibbs lecture 1988

### Update

- Hinkkanen... (complex analysis)
- Ruelle, Sokal, Scott, Choe, Oxley, Wagner, Bollobás, Riordan... (combinatorics)
- Newman, Conrey, Farmer, Cardon... (analytic number theory)
- Dobrushin, Biskup, Borgs, Chayes, Kleinwaks, Kotecky... (statistical mechanics)
- Cardy, Kesten, Grimmett, Schramm, Smirnov, Werner, Kenyon, Okounkov... (percolation theory)



## The Problem(s)

- Many known generalizations of the Lee-Yang theorem: Asano, Fisher, Newman, Ruelle, Lieb-Sokal...
- Common theme: the key step is to show that certain **linear operators on multivariate polynomials preserve the property of being non-vanishing whenever all variables are in a prescribed set  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$**

### Definition

A polynomial  $f \in \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  is  **$\Omega$ -stable** if

$$z := (z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \Omega^n \implies f(z) \neq 0$$

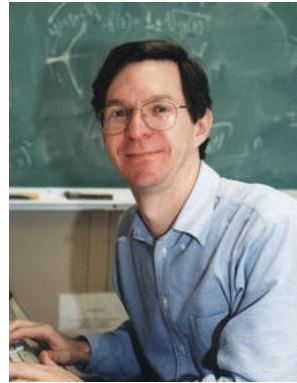
Yet more general:  $\Omega_1 \times \dots \times \Omega_n$ -stability

Most general notion:  $\Omega$ -stability,  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$

### Problem(s)

Given  $V \subseteq \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  with  $\dim V \leq \infty$   
characterize all linear  $T : V \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$   
that preserve  $\Omega$ -stability, i.e., s.t.  $T(f)$  is  $\Omega$ -  
stable or  $\equiv 0$  whenever  $f \in V$  is  $\Omega$ -stable

## “Soft” and “hard” theorems



(Very) roughly: “soft” theorems are constraint-free while “hard” theorems involve constraints of various kinds, e.g. the max-degree of a graph ([Sokal et al...](#))

### Notations

$$\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_n), \mathbf{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n$$

$$\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{w} = z_1 w_1 + \dots + z_n w_n,$$

$$\mathbf{z}\mathbf{w} = (z_1 w_1, \dots, z_n w_n),$$

$$\mathbf{z}^\alpha = z_1^{\alpha_1} \dots z_n^{\alpha_n}, \quad \alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n,$$

$$\binom{\beta}{\alpha} := \binom{\beta_1}{\alpha_1} \dots \binom{\beta_n}{\alpha_n}, \quad \alpha \leq \beta \in \mathbb{N}^n,$$

$$\alpha! = \alpha_1! \dots \alpha_n!, \quad (1^n) = (1, \dots, 1) \in \mathbb{N}^n.$$

$$\mathcal{H} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Im}(z) > 0\}, \quad \mathcal{R} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : \text{Re}(z) > 0\}, \quad \mathbb{D} = \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$$

For  $\mathbb{K} = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{C}$  and  $\kappa = (\kappa_1, \dots, \kappa_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n$  let  $\mathbb{K}_\kappa[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  be the  $\mathbb{K}$ -space of polynomials of degree at most  $\kappa_i$  in  $z_i$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

The **Laguerre-Pólya class**  $LP_n$  of entire functions in  $n$  variables consists of uniform limits on compacts in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  of real  $\mathcal{H}$ -stable  $n$ -variate polynomials.

The **Hermite-Biehler class**  $HB_n$  of entire functions in  $n$  variables consists of uniform limits of (complex)  $\mathcal{H}$ -stable polynomials in  $n$  variables.

Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}$  ( $\Omega = \mathcal{H}$ ,  $\mathcal{R}$  or  $\mathbb{D}$  are main interest). Characterize all linear operators

(1)  $T : \mathbb{C}_\kappa[z_1, \dots, z_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  that preserve  $\Omega$ -stability for fixed  $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}^n$   
(“hard-core”/algebraic characterization)

(2)  $T : \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  that preserve  $\Omega$ -stability  
(“soft-core”/transcendental characterization)

### Definition

If  $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}^n$  and  $T : \mathbb{C}_\kappa[z_1, \dots, z_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  then its algebraic symbol w.r.t.  $\mathcal{R}$  or  $\mathbb{D}$  is the  $2n$ -variate polynomial

$$T[(1 + \mathbf{z}\mathbf{w})^\kappa] = \sum_{\alpha \leq \kappa} \binom{\kappa}{\alpha} T(\mathbf{z}^\alpha) \mathbf{w}^\alpha.$$

The algebraic symbol w.r.t.  $\mathcal{H}$  is

$$T[(\mathbf{z} + \mathbf{w})^\kappa] = \sum_{\alpha \leq \kappa} \binom{\kappa}{\alpha} T(\mathbf{z}^\alpha) \mathbf{w}^{\kappa - \alpha}.$$

### “Hard-core”/algebraic characterizations

**Theorem** [B., Brändén, 2008].

Let  $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}^n$  and  $T : \mathbb{C}_\kappa[z_1, \dots, z_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  be a linear operator. If  $\Omega = \mathcal{R}, \mathbb{D}$  or  $\mathcal{H}$  then  $T$  preserves  $\Omega$ -stability iff either

- $T(f) = \alpha(f)P$ , where  $\alpha$  is a linear functional and  $P$  is a fixed  $\Omega$ -stable polynomial, or
- The algebraic symbol of  $T$  w.r.t.  $\Omega$  is  $\Omega$ -stable in  $2n$  variables.

## Definition

If  $T : \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  its **transcendental symbol w.r.t.  $\mathcal{R}$  or  $\mathbb{D}$**  is the formal power series in  $2n$  variables

$$T[e^{\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{w}}] := \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n} T(\mathbf{z}^\alpha) \mathbf{w}^\alpha / \alpha!$$

The **transcendental symbol w.r.t.  $\mathcal{H}$**  is

$$T[e^{-\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{w}}] := \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n} (-1)^\alpha T(\mathbf{z}^\alpha) \mathbf{w}^\alpha / \alpha!$$

## “Soft-core”/transcendental characterization

**Theorem**[B., Brändén, 2008].

Let  $T : \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  be a linear operator. Then  $T$  preserves  $\mathcal{H}$ -stability iff either

- $T(f) = \alpha(f)P$ , where  $\alpha$  is a linear functional and  $P$  is a fixed  $\mathcal{H}$ -stable polynomial, or
- $T[e^{-\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{w}}] \in HB_{2n}$ .

**Remark.** Note that

$$e^{-\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{w}} = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \left(1 - \frac{z_1 w_1}{k}\right)^k \cdots \left(1 - \frac{z_n w_n}{k}\right)^k.$$

**Corollary** [B-B, 2008].

If  $T : \mathbb{R}[z_1, \dots, z_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  is a linear operator then  $T$  preserves **real stability** ( $= \mathcal{H}$ -stability) iff either

- $T(f) = \alpha(f)P + \beta(f)Q$ , where  $\alpha, \beta$  are linear functionals and  $P, Q$  are real stable polynomials such that either  $P + iQ$  or  $Q + iP$  is real stable, or
- $T[e^{-z \cdot w}] \in LP_{2n}$ , or
- $T[e^{z \cdot w}] \in LP_{2n}$ .

**Note:** If  $n = 1$  and  $f \in \mathbb{R}[z]$  then  $f$  is real stable iff  $f^{-1}(0) \in \mathbb{R}$  so one gets a characterization of **all** linear preservers of real-rootedness:

**Corollary** [B-B, 2006].

If  $T : \mathbb{R}[z] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}[z]$  is a linear operator then  $T$  preserves **real-rootedness** iff either

- $T(f) = \alpha(f)P + \beta(f)Q$ , where  $\alpha, \beta$  are linear functionals and  $P, Q$  are real-rooted polynomials whose zeros interlace, or
- $T[e^{-z \cdot w}] \in LP_2$ , or
- $T[e^{z \cdot w}] \in LP_2$ .

This solves a long-standing problem going back to Pólya-Schur (Hermite, Laguerre...)

## Examples

**Soft-core:** Fix  $f$ , define  $T(g) = f\left(\frac{\partial}{\partial \mathbf{z}}\right)g$ . Then  $T[e^{\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{w}}] = f(\mathbf{w})e^{\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{w}} \implies$  Lieb-Sokal's  $\mathcal{R}$ -stability theorem/extension of Hermite-Poulain-Jensen thm ("soft" Lieb-Sokal lemma: " $z_1 \rightarrow \frac{\partial}{\partial z_2}$ ")

**Hard-core:** The algebraic symbol of

$$T_d := \frac{1}{d!} \sum_{k=0}^d \frac{\partial^d}{\partial z_1^k \partial z_2^{d-k}}$$

viewed as  $T_d : \mathbb{C}_{(d,d)}[z_1, z_2] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_{(d,d)}[z_1, z_2]$  is

$$T_d[(1 + z_1 w_1)^d (1 + z_2 w_2)^d] =$$

$$\frac{1}{d!} \sum_{k=0}^d \frac{d!}{(d-k)!} \frac{d!}{k!} w_1^k w_2^{d-k} (1 + z_1 w_1)^{d-k} (1 + z_2 w_2)^k$$

$$= (w_1 w_2)^d (w_1^{-1} + w_2^{-1} + z_1 + z_2)^d$$

$$\implies \text{"hard" Lieb-Sokal lemma: } "z_1^k \rightarrow (d-k)! \left(\frac{\partial}{\partial z_2}\right)^k"$$

**Heilmann-Lieb:** define a linear operator

$$\text{MAP} \left( \sum_{\alpha} a(\alpha) \mathbf{z}^{\alpha} \right) = \sum_{\alpha: \alpha_i \leq 1 \forall i} a(\alpha) \mathbf{z}^{\alpha}.$$

Then  $\text{MAP}[e^{\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{w}}] = (1 + z_1 w_1) \cdots (1 + z_n w_n)$   
so MAP preserves  $\mathcal{R}$ -stability [**Choe-Oxley-Sokal-Wagner, 2004**] $\implies$  Heilmann-Lieb theorem

**Lee-Yang (1st proof):** define a linear operator

$$\text{MOD} \left( \sum_{\alpha} a(\alpha) \mathbf{z}^{\alpha} \right) = \sum_{\alpha} a(\alpha) \mathbf{z}^{\alpha \bmod 2}.$$

Then  $\text{MOD}[(1 + \mathbf{z}\mathbf{w})^{\kappa}] =$

$$2^{-n} (1 + \mathbf{w})^{\kappa} (1 + \mathbf{z})^{[n]} \prod_{i=1}^n \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{1 - w_i}{1 + w_i} \right)^{\kappa_i} \frac{1 - z_i}{1 + z_i} \right]$$

so MOD preserves  $\mathcal{R}$ -stability [[Choe-Oxley-Sokal-Wagner, 2004](#)]  $\implies$  Lee-Yang theorem.

**Schur-Hadamard product:** Set  $\kappa = (1^n)$ , fix a  $\mathbb{D}$ -stable multi-affine  $g(\mathbf{z}) = \sum_{S \subseteq [n]} b(S) \mathbf{z}^S$  and define a linear operator  $T$  on  $\mathbb{C}_{(1^n)}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  by

$$T \left( \sum_S a(S) \mathbf{z}^S \right) = \sum_S a(S) b(S) \mathbf{z}^S.$$

Then  $T[(1 + \mathbf{z}\mathbf{w})^{\kappa}] = \sum_S w^S b(S) \mathbf{z}^S = g(\mathbf{z}\mathbf{w})$  is  $\mathbb{D}$ -stable  $\implies$  Hinkkanen's composition theorem  $\implies$

**Lee-Yang (2nd proof):** if  $a \in \mathbb{D}$  then  $1 + az + \bar{a}w + zw$  is  $\mathbb{D}$ -stable. Let

$$f_{ij}(z) = (1 + a_{ij}z_i + \bar{a}_{ij}z_j + z_i z_j) \prod_{k \in [n] \setminus \{i, j\}} (1 + z_k)$$

and take the Schur-Hadamard product  $\diamond$  of all  $f_{ij}$ 's,  $1 \leq i < j \leq n$ , to get the  $\mathbb{D}$ -stability of

$$f_{12} \diamond \cdots \diamond f_{(n-1)n} = \sum_{S \subseteq [n]} \mathbf{z}^S \prod_{i \in S} \prod_{j \notin S} a_{ij}.$$



**Multivariate (Grace) apolarity theory** (quest by Rota, Hinkkanen, cf. also Ruelle's Dyson-type lemmas)

**Master composition theorem(s)** [B-B, 2008]

Suppose that  $f, g \in \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, w_n]$  are of the form

$$f(z, w) = \sum_{\alpha} \binom{\kappa}{\alpha} P_{\alpha}(w) z^{\alpha},$$

$$g(z, w) = \sum_{\alpha} \binom{\kappa}{\alpha} Q_{\alpha}(z) w^{\alpha}.$$

If  $f, g$  are  $\Omega$ -stable, where  $\Omega = \mathcal{R}$  or  $\mathbb{D}$ , then so is

$$(f \star g)(z, w) := \sum_{\alpha} \binom{\kappa}{\alpha} P_{\alpha}(w) Q_{\alpha}(z)$$

unless it is  $\equiv 0$ .

**Proof.** Take two linear operators  $T, S$  with symbols  $f, g$  respectively. If  $T, S$  preserve  $\Omega$ -stability then so does  $S \circ T$ . Its symbol is precisely  $f \star g$ .  $\square$

This generalizes all (univariate) Schur-Maló-Szegő composition/convolution theorems and the multivariate ones in [B-B, 2006] based on the Weyl product. It leads to a multivariate Grace apolarity theorem.

## Summary

### The gist of it

- Given  $T(n\text{-variate})$  let  $T(z^\alpha w^\beta) = T(z^\alpha)w^\beta$  for  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{N}^n$  and extend  $T$  linearly to  $T(2n\text{-variate})$
- Define appropriate  $2n\text{-variate symbols}$  for  $T$
- **Conclusion 1.** Stable/Lee-Yang polynomials are “self-generating”: linear preservers of  $n\text{-variate stable polynomials}$  are induced by  $2n\text{-variate stable polynomials}$  via symbol maps
- **Conclusion 2.** Multivariate ideology (“Sokalization”) = right framework (also for  $n = 1$ : special case of  $n \geq 1$ )

## Proof ideas: sufficiency (algebraic/“hard-core”)

### 1. The multi-affine case: $\kappa = (1^n)$ .

Suppose  $T[(1+zw)^\kappa]$  and  $f(\mathbf{z})$  are  $\mathcal{R}$ -stable. Then

$$\sum_{S \subseteq [n]} T[\mathbf{z}^S] \mathbf{w}^S f(\mathbf{v}) \text{ is } \mathcal{R}\text{-stable}$$

Apply the **Lieb-Sokal lemma** with  $w_i \rightarrow \partial/\partial v_i \implies$

$$\sum_{S \subseteq [n]} T[\mathbf{z}^S] f^{(S)}(\mathbf{v}) \text{ is } \mathcal{R}\text{-stable or } \equiv 0$$

Apply **Hurwitz' theorem** with  $v_i \rightarrow 0^+ \implies$

$$T(f)(\mathbf{z}) = \sum_{S \subseteq [n]} T[\mathbf{z}^S] f^{(S)}(\mathbf{0}) \text{ is } \mathcal{R}\text{-stable or } \equiv 0.$$

### 2. The general case: $\kappa \in \mathbb{N}^n$ .

**Step 1.** Let  $\mathbb{C}_\kappa^{\text{MA}}$  be the space of multi-affine polynomials in the variables  $\{z_{ij} : 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq \kappa_i\}$ . Define a **projection** and a **polarization operator**

$$\Pi_\kappa^\downarrow : \mathbb{C}_\kappa^{\text{MA}} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\kappa[z_1, \dots, z_n]$$

$$\Pi_\kappa^\uparrow : \mathbb{C}_\kappa[z_1, \dots, z_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_\kappa^{\text{MA}}$$

as follows: let  $e_k(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be the  $k$ th elementary symmetric polynomial, set

$$\Pi_{\kappa}^{\downarrow}(z_{ij}) = z_i, \quad \Pi_{\kappa}^{\uparrow}(z_i^{\alpha_i}) = \binom{\kappa_i}{\alpha_i}^{-1} e_{\alpha_i}(z_{i1}, \dots, z_{i\kappa_i})$$

and extend linearly. Clearly,  $\Pi_{\kappa}^{\downarrow} \circ \Pi_{\kappa}^{\uparrow} = \text{Id}$ .

**Step 2: reduction to the multi-affine case.** Let  $\gamma \in \mathbb{N}^n$  and  $T : \mathbb{C}_{\kappa}[z_1, \dots, z_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_{\gamma}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$  be a linear operator. Define the **polarization** of  $T$  to be the linear operator  $\Pi(T) : \mathbb{C}_{\kappa}^{\text{MA}} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}_{\gamma}^{\text{MA}}$  given by

$$\Pi(T) = \Pi_{\gamma}^{\uparrow} \circ T \circ \Pi_{\kappa}^{\downarrow}.$$

Conversely,  $T = \Pi_{\gamma}^{\downarrow} \circ \Pi(T) \circ \Pi_{\kappa}^{\uparrow}$ . Now  $\Pi_{\gamma}^{\downarrow}$  preserves  $\mathcal{R}$ -stability. By the **Grace-Walsh-Szegő coincidence theorem**,  $\Pi_{\gamma}^{\uparrow}$  and  $\Pi_{\kappa}^{\uparrow}$  preserve  $\mathcal{R}$ -stability. Thus  $T$  and  $\Pi(T)$  preserve  $\mathcal{R}$ -stability simultaneously.

**Lemma** [B-B, 2008].

The symbol of the polarization  $\Pi(T)$  is the polarization of the symbol of  $T$ .

It follows that the symbols of  $T$  and  $\Pi(T)$  are  $\mathcal{R}$ -stable simultaneously.  $\square$

## Sufficiency: transcendental/”soft-core” case

From the algebraic characterization we deduce that if  $\mathbf{m} = (m, \dots, m) \in \mathbb{N}^n$  then

$$F_m(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w}) := \sum_{\alpha \leq \mathbf{m}} \binom{\mathbf{m}}{\alpha} T(\mathbf{z}^\alpha) \mathbf{w}^\alpha$$

is  $\mathcal{R}$ -stable hence (replace  $w_i$  with  $w_i/m$ ) so is

$$G_m(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w}) = \sum_{\alpha \leq \mathbf{m}} \mathbf{m}^{-\alpha} \binom{\mathbf{m}}{\alpha} T(\mathbf{z}^\alpha) \mathbf{w}^\alpha.$$

Now

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} \mathbf{m}^{-\alpha} \binom{\mathbf{m}}{\alpha} = 1/\alpha!$$

Thus, as **formal power series** we have

$$\lim_{m \rightarrow \infty} G_m(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w}) = T[e^{\mathbf{z} \cdot \mathbf{w}}] = \sum_{\alpha} T(\mathbf{z}^\alpha) \mathbf{w}^\alpha / \alpha!$$

**Theorem** [B-B, 2008].

$\{G_m(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w})\}_{m=0}^{\infty}$  is **uniformly bounded** on any compact subset of  $\mathbb{C}^{2n}$ .

## Multivariate Szász principles

**Lemma** [O. Szász, 1943].

Let  $f(z) = 1 + a_1z + \cdots + a_dz^d \in \mathbb{C}[z]$  be  $\mathcal{R}$ -stable.

If  $r \geq 0$  and  $|z| \leq r$  then

$$|f(z)| \leq \exp \left( |a_1|r + 3|a_1|^2r^2 + 3|a_2|r^2 \right).$$

**Theorem** [B-B, 2008].

As before  $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_n)$ . Suppose

$$f(\mathbf{z}) = 1 + \sum_{|\beta|>0} a(\beta)\mathbf{z}^\beta \in \mathbb{C}[z_1, \dots, z_n]$$

is  $\mathcal{R}$ -stable and let

$$B = 2^{n-1} \frac{\sqrt{2e^2 - e}}{e - 1}$$

$$C = 6e^2 \left( \sum_{|\alpha|=1} |a(\alpha)| \right)^2 + 4e^2 \sum_{|\alpha|=2} |a(\alpha)|.$$

If  $r \geq 0$  and  $|z_i| \leq r$ ,  $1 \leq i \leq n$ , then

$$|f(\mathbf{z})| \leq Be^{Cr^2}.$$

## Open problems and further directions

For  $n = 1$  the problem of characterizing all linear operators preserving the property of having all zeros in  $\Omega$  (i.e.,  $\mathbb{C} \setminus \Omega$ -stability) is still open for:

- Open circular domains
- Half-lines, e.g.  $\mathbb{R}_{\leq 0}$ ; intervals, e.g.  $[0, 1]$  (work by e.g. Brenti, Wagner, Saff...)
- Sectors (work by e.g. Weisner, Marden...)
- Strips (work by e.g. de Bruijn-Springer, Pólya...)

In progress: generalizations to entire functions and Fischer-Fock spaces...