

# Product matrix processes

E. Strahov  
Department of Mathematics,  
The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

Joint work with Alexei Borodin and Vadim Gorin

# 1. Discrete-time determinantal processes in RMT

# Example 1. Sums of independent $GUE(N)$ matrices

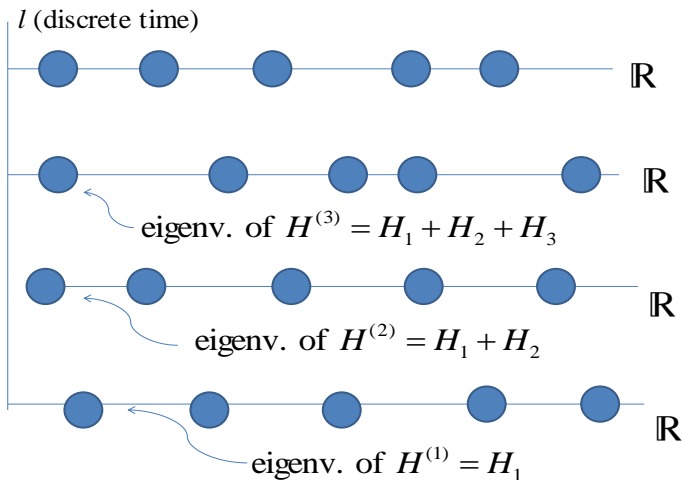
- $GUE(N)$ :

$$P(H)dH = \text{const} e^{-\frac{1}{2} \text{Tr}H^2} \prod_{i=1}^N dH_{i,i} \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq N} dH_{i,j}^R dH_{i,j}^I,$$

where  $H^* = H$ ,  $N \times N$ ,  $H_{i,j} = H_{i,j}^R + iH_{i,j}^I$ .

- Set  $H^{(l)} = H_1 + \dots + H_l$ ;  $H_1, \dots, H_l$ -independent  $GUE(N)$  matrices.
- $(x_1^{(l)}, \dots, x_N^{(l)})$ -eigenvalues of  $H^{(l)}$ .

# The sum matrix process



## Configurations

$$\left\{ \left( l, x_j^{(l)} \right) \mid l \geq 1, 1 \leq j \leq N \right\}$$

form a determinantal point process on  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R}$ . Its correlation kernel can be written as

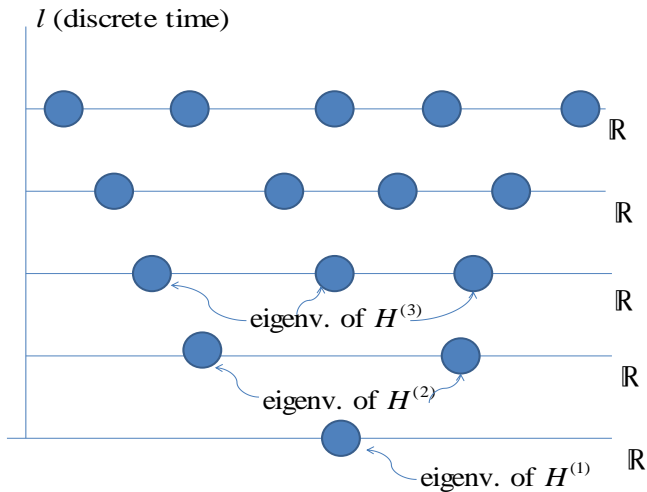
$$K_N(r, x; s, y) = -\frac{1}{2^{\frac{1}{2}}(s-r)^{\frac{1}{2}}\pi^{\frac{1}{2}}} e^{-\frac{(x-y)^2}{2(s-r)}} \mathbf{1}_{s>r} \\ + \frac{e^{-\frac{y^2}{2s}}}{(2\pi s)^{\frac{1}{2}}} \sum_{k=0}^{N-1} \frac{1}{k!} \left(\frac{r}{4s}\right)^{\frac{k}{2}} H_k\left(\frac{x}{2^{\frac{1}{2}}r^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right) H_k\left(\frac{y}{2^{\frac{1}{2}}s^{\frac{1}{2}}}\right),$$

where  $\{H_k(x)\}_{k=0}^{\infty}$  are the Hermite polynomials.

## Example 2. The minor process (Johansson, Nordenstam)

- $H^{(1)} = H_{1,1}$ ;  $H^{(2)} = \begin{pmatrix} H_{1,1} & H_{1,2} \\ H_{2,1} & H_{2,2} \end{pmatrix}$ ;  
 $H^{(3)} = \begin{pmatrix} H_{1,1} & H_{1,2} & H_{1,3} \\ H_{2,1} & H_{2,2} & H_{2,3} \\ H_{3,1} & H_{3,2} & H_{3,3} \end{pmatrix}$ ; ...
- $H^{(l)} \in GUE(l)$ ;
- $(x_1^{(1)}, \dots, x_l^{(l)})$ -eigenvalues of  $H^{(l)}$ .

# The minor process



# Theorem (Johansson, Nordenstam)

- Point configurations

$$\left\{ \left( l, x_j^{(l)} \right) \mid l \geq 1, 1 \leq j \leq l \right\}$$

form a determinantal point process on  $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{R}$ .

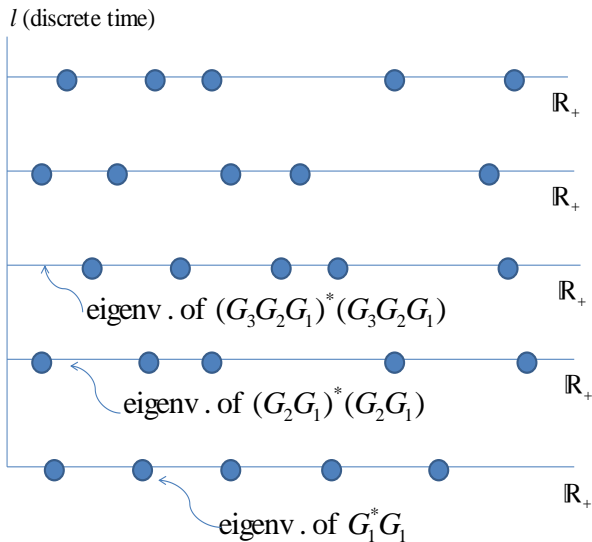
- Its correlation kernel can be written in terms of the Hermite polynomials.



## 2. Product matrix processes

- $G_l = \left( g_{i,j}^{(l)} \right)_{\substack{1 \leq i \leq n + \nu_l \\ 1 \leq j \leq n + \nu_{l-1}}}$ ;  $l \in \{1, 2, \dots\}$ ;  
 $g_{i,j}^{(l)}$ -complex random variables;  $\nu_0 = 0$ ;  $\nu_l \geq 0$ .
- $Y_l = (G_l \cdot \dots \cdot G_1)^* (G_l \dots G_1)$ - $n \times n$  matrix;  
 $(y_1^l, \dots, y_n^l)$ -eigenvalues of  $Y_l$ .
- Configurations  $\{(l, y_j^l) \mid l \geq 1, 1 \leq j \leq n\}$  form  
 a **product matrix process**.

# The product matrix process



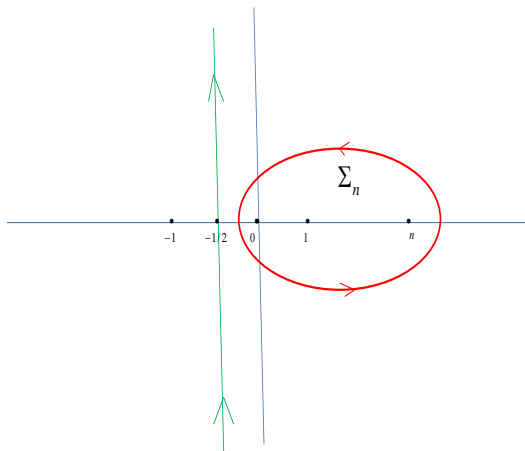
# Theorem

Assume that  $g_{i,j}^{(l)}$  are i.i.d standard complex Gaussian variables. Then the product matrix process is determinantal. Its correlation kernel can be written as

$$K_n(r, x; s, y) = -\frac{1}{x} G_{0, s-r}^{s-r, 0} \left( \begin{matrix} - \\ \nu_{s+1}, \dots, \nu_r \end{matrix} \middle| \frac{y}{x} \right) + \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^2} \int_{-\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{-\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} du \oint_{\Sigma_n} dt \frac{\prod_{j=0}^s \Gamma(u + \nu_j + 1) \Gamma(t - n + 1)}{\prod_{j=0}^r \Gamma(t + \nu_j + 1) \Gamma(u - n + 1)} \frac{x^t y^{-u-1}}{u-t},$$

where  $G_{0,m}^{m,0} \left( \begin{matrix} - \\ \nu_1, \dots, \nu_m \end{matrix} \middle| x \right)$  denotes the  $G$ -Meijer function.

# The integration contours



(a) If  $r = s = 1$ , we obtain the correlation kernel for the **Laguerre ensemble**

$$\text{const} \cdot \left( \prod_{i=1}^n x_i^{\nu_1} e^{-x_i} \right) \Delta^2(x_1, \dots, x_n) dx_1 \dots dx_n,$$

where  $\Delta(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \prod_{1 \leq i < j \leq n} (x_j - x_i)$ .

(b) If  $r = s = m$ , we obtain the correlation kernel for the (squared) singular values of  $G_m \cdot \dots \cdot G_1$ , where  $G_1, \dots, G_m$  are independent matrices with i.i.d standard complex Gaussian entries (**Akemann, Ipsen, Kieburg; Kuijlaars, Zhang**).

# Product matrix processes with truncated unitary matrices

- $U_1, U_2, \dots, U_p$ -independent Haar distributed unitary matrices;
- Size  $(U_k) = m_k \times m_k, 1 \leq k \leq p$ .
- Truncation of unitary matrices:

$$U_k = \begin{pmatrix} U_{1,1}^{(k)} & \cdots & U_{1,n+\nu_{k-1}}^{(k)} & U_{1,n+\nu_{k-1}+1}^{(k)} & \cdots & U_{1,m_k}^{(k)} \\ \vdots & & & & & \\ U_{n+\nu_k,1}^{(k)} & \cdots & U_{n+\nu_k,n+\nu_{k-1}}^{(k)} & U_{n+\nu_k,n+\nu_{k-1}+1}^{(k)} & \cdots & U_{n+\nu_k,m_k}^{(k)} \\ U_{n+\nu_k+1,1}^{(k)} & \cdots & U_{n+\nu_k+1,n+\nu_{k-1}}^{(k)} & U_{n+\nu_k+1,n+\nu_{k-1}+1}^{(k)} & \cdots & U_{n+\nu_k+1,m_k}^{(k)} \\ \vdots & & & & & \\ U_{m_k,1}^{(k)} & \cdots & U_{m_k,n+\nu_{k-1}}^{(k)} & U_{m_k,n+\nu_{k-1}+1}^{(k)} & \cdots & U_{m_k,m_k}^{(k)} \end{pmatrix}$$

$$\rightarrow T_k = \begin{pmatrix} U_{1,1}^{(k)} & \cdots & U_{1,n+\nu_{k-1}}^{(k)} \\ \vdots & & \\ U_{n+\nu_k,1}^{(k)} & \cdots & U_{n+\nu_k,n+\nu_{k-1}}^{(k)} \end{pmatrix}.$$

# Theorem

- $Y_l = (T_l \dots T_1)^* (T_l \dots T_1)$  -  $n \times n$  matrix;  
 $(y_1^l, \dots, y_n^l)$ -eigenvalues of  $Y_l$ .
- Configurations  $\left\{ (l, y_j^l) \mid l \geq 1, 1 \leq j \leq n \right\}$  form a **product matrix process with truncated unitary matrices**.
- **Claim.** The product matrix process with truncated unitary matrices is determinantal. Its correlation kernel can be written as

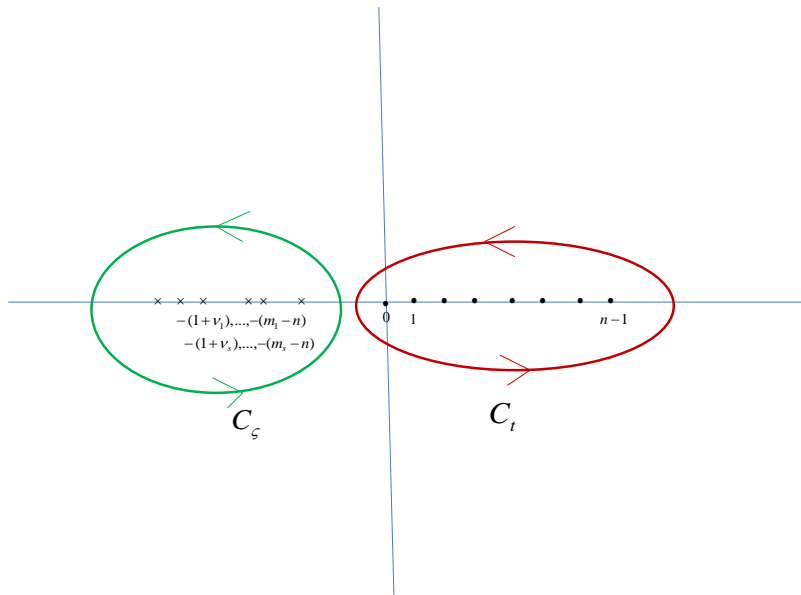
$$K_n(r, x; s, y) = -\frac{1}{x} G_{s-r, s-r}^{s-r, 0} \left( \begin{matrix} m_{r+1} - n, & \dots, & m_s - n \\ \nu_{r+1}, & \dots, & \nu_s \end{matrix} \middle| \frac{y}{x} \right) 1_{s > r}$$

$$+ \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^2} \oint_{C_t} dt \oint_{C_\zeta} d\zeta \frac{\prod_{a=0}^s \Gamma(\nu_a + \zeta + 1) \prod_{a=0}^r \Gamma(m_a - n + t + 1)}{\prod_{a=0}^r \Gamma(\nu_a + t + 1) \prod_{a=0}^s \Gamma(m_a - n + \zeta + 1)} \frac{x^t y^{-\zeta-1}}{\zeta - t}.$$

- $r = s$  - Kieburg, Kuijlaars and Stivigny formula.



# The integration contours



### 3. Product matrix processes as continuous limits of the Schur processes

# Symmetric functions

- $\Lambda$ -algebra of symmetric functions.
- The quotient

$$s_\lambda = s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \frac{\det \left( x_i^{\lambda_j + n - j} \right)_{i,j=1}^n}{\det \left( x_i^{n-j} \right)_{i,j=1}^n}$$

is called the **Schur function** in variables  $x_1, \dots, x_n$  corresponding to the Young diagram  $\lambda$ , and  $\{s_\lambda\}$  is a basis in  $\Lambda$ .

- A **specialization**  $\varrho$  of  $\Lambda$  is an algebra homomorphism of  $\Lambda$  to  $\mathbb{C}$ . A specialization  $\varrho$  of  $\Lambda$  is called **nonnegative** if the Schur functions get nonnegative values.

Let  $p$  be a natural number, and let  $\varrho_0^+, \dots, \varrho_{p-1}^+, \varrho_1^-, \dots, \varrho_p^-$  be nonnegative specializations of  $\Lambda$ . The probability measure

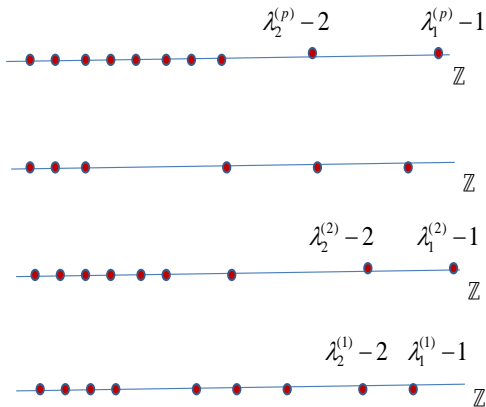
$$\begin{aligned} & \text{Prob}(\lambda^{(1)}, \mu^{(1)}, \dots, \lambda^{(p-1)}, \mu^{(p-1)}, \lambda^{(p)}) \\ &= \frac{1}{Z_{\text{Schur}}} s_{\lambda^{(1)}}(\varrho_0^+) s_{\lambda^{(1)}/\mu^{(1)}}(\varrho_1^-) s_{\lambda^{(2)}/\mu^{(1)}}(\varrho_1^+) \\ & \dots s_{\lambda^{(p-1)}/\mu^{(p-1)}}(\varrho_{p-1}^-) s_{\lambda^{(p)}/\mu^{(p-1)}}(\varrho_{p-1}^+) s_{\lambda^{(p)}}(\varrho_p^-) \end{aligned}$$

is called the **Schur process** (of rank  $p$ ). Here  $Z_{\text{Schur}}$  is a normalization constant.

The point configurations

$$\mathcal{L}(\lambda) = \left\{ \left( 1, \lambda_i^{(1)} - i \right) \right\}_{i=1}^{\infty} \cup \dots \cup \left\{ \left( p, \lambda_i^{(p)} - i \right) \right\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$$

define a point process on  $\{1, \dots, p\} \times \mathbb{Z}$ .



## Theorem

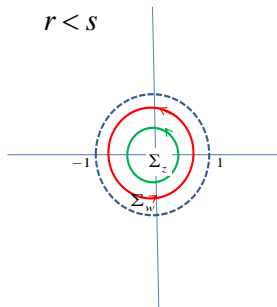
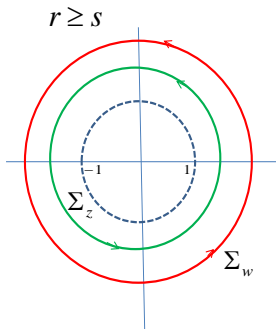
The point process is determinantal. Its correlation kernel can be written as

$$K_{Schur}(r, x; s, y)$$

$$= \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^2} \oint_{\Sigma_z} \frac{dz}{z^{x+1}} \oint_{\Sigma_w} \frac{dw}{w^{y+1}} \frac{1}{zw-1} \frac{\prod_{i=r}^p H(\varrho_i^-; z) \prod_{j=0}^{s-1} H(\varrho_j^+; w)}{\prod_{j=0}^{r-1} H(\varrho_j^+; z^{-1}) \prod_{i=s}^p H(\varrho_i^-; w^{-1})},$$

where  $H(\varrho; z) := \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} h_k(\varrho) z^k$ ,  $h_k(\varrho) := s_{(k)}(\varrho)$ .

The choice of integration contours depends on the time parameters  $r, s$ :



- Assume that the specializations of the Schur process are defined by

$$\varrho_{j-1}^+ = \left( e^{-(1+\nu_j)\epsilon}, \dots, e^{-(m_j-n)\epsilon} \right), \quad 1 \leq j \leq p,$$

$$\varrho_p^- = \left( 1, e^{-\epsilon}, \dots, e^{-(n-1)\epsilon} \right),$$

and all specializations  $\varrho_1^-, \dots, \varrho_{p-1}^-$  are trivial.

- Then the Schur process lives on Young diagrams with less than  $n$  rows.
- Set

$$x_j^{(l)}(\epsilon) = e^{-\epsilon \lambda_j^{(l)}}; \quad 1 \leq j \leq n; \quad 1 \leq l \leq p.$$





$$x_1^p(\varepsilon) = e^{-\varepsilon\lambda_1^{(p)}} \quad x_2^p(\varepsilon) = e^{-\varepsilon\lambda_2^{(p)}} \quad x_n^p(\varepsilon) = e^{-\varepsilon\lambda_n^{(p)}}$$



$$x_1^2(\varepsilon) = e^{-\varepsilon\lambda_1^{(2)}} \quad x_2^2(\varepsilon) = e^{-\varepsilon\lambda_2^{(2)}} \quad x_n^2(\varepsilon) = e^{-\varepsilon\lambda_n^{(2)}}$$



$$x_1^1(\varepsilon) = e^{-\varepsilon\lambda_1^{(1)}} \quad x_2^1(\varepsilon) = e^{-\varepsilon\lambda_2^{(1)}} \quad x_n^1(\varepsilon) = e^{-\varepsilon\lambda_n^{(1)}}$$

# Theorem

As  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , the point process formed by

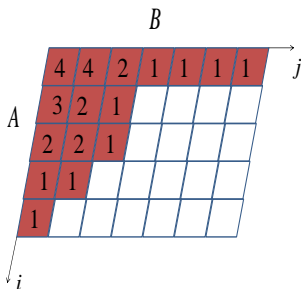
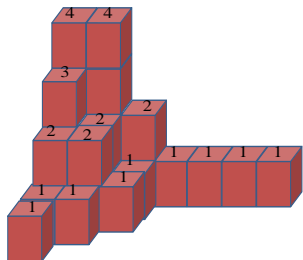
$$\left\{ \left( j, x_i^j(\epsilon) \right) \mid j = 1, \dots, p; i = 1, \dots, n \right\}$$

(where  $x_i^j(\epsilon) = e^{-\epsilon \lambda_i^{(j)}}$ ) converges to the product matrix process with truncated unitary matrices  $T_1, \dots, T_p$ . The product matrix process is formed by the eigenvalues of  $(T_l \cdot \dots \cdot T_1)^* \cdot (T_l \cdot \dots \cdot T_1)$ , where  $1 \leq l \leq p$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{c} m_1 \\ \boxed{U_1} \\ m_1 \end{array} & \longrightarrow & \begin{array}{c} n \\ \boxed{T_1} \\ n+v_1 \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} m_2 \\ \boxed{U_2} \\ m_2 \end{array} & \longrightarrow & \begin{array}{c} n+v_1 \\ \boxed{T_2} \\ n+v_2 \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ \boxed{U_p} \\ m_p \end{array} & \longrightarrow & \begin{array}{c} n+v_{p-1} \\ \boxed{T_p} \\ n+v_p \end{array} \end{array}$$

## 4. Product matrix processes as limits of plane partitions

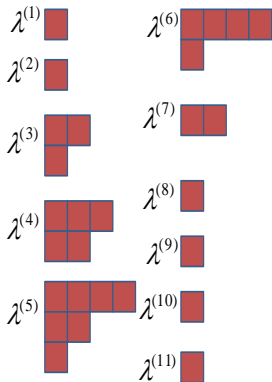
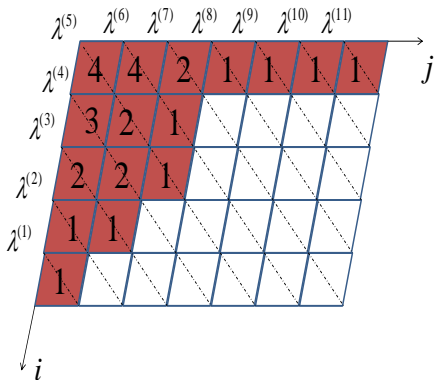
# Plane partitions



## Definition

A plane partition  $\Pi$  with support  $A \times B$  is a filling of all boxes of  $A \times B$  by positive integers such that  $\Pi_{i,j} \geq \Pi_{i+1,j}$  and  $\Pi_{i,j} \geq \Pi_{i,j+1}$ .

# A plane partition as a sequence of Young diagrams



# Product matrix processes as limits of plane partitions

- Assume that  $\Pi$  is a random plane partition with support  $A \times B$ ,

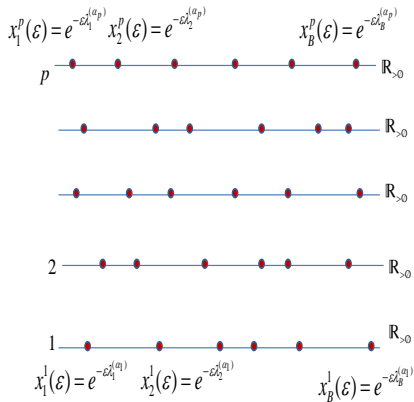
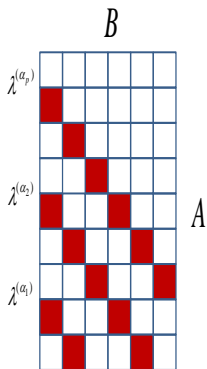
$$\text{Prob} \{ \Pi \} = \frac{q^{\text{Volume}(\Pi)}}{\sum_{\Pi} q^{\text{Volume}(\Pi)}}, \quad 0 < q < 1.$$

(Here the sum is over all plane partitions with support  $A \times B$ .)

- $(\lambda^{(1)}, \lambda^{(2)}, \dots)$ -sequence of Young diagrams associated with  $\Pi$ .
- $1 \leq \alpha_1 < \dots < \alpha_p \leq A$ ,  $q(\epsilon) = e^{-\epsilon}$ ,  $\epsilon > 0$ .
- Set

$$x_j^i(\epsilon) = e^{-\epsilon \lambda_j^{(\alpha_i)}}, \quad 1 \leq j \leq B, 1 \leq i \leq p.$$

# The particle configuration associated with a random plane partition



# Theorem

As  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ , the point process formed by

$$\left\{ \left( i, x_j^i(\epsilon) = e^{-\epsilon \lambda_j^{(\alpha_i)}} \right) \middle| i = 1, \dots, p; j = 1, \dots, B \right\}$$

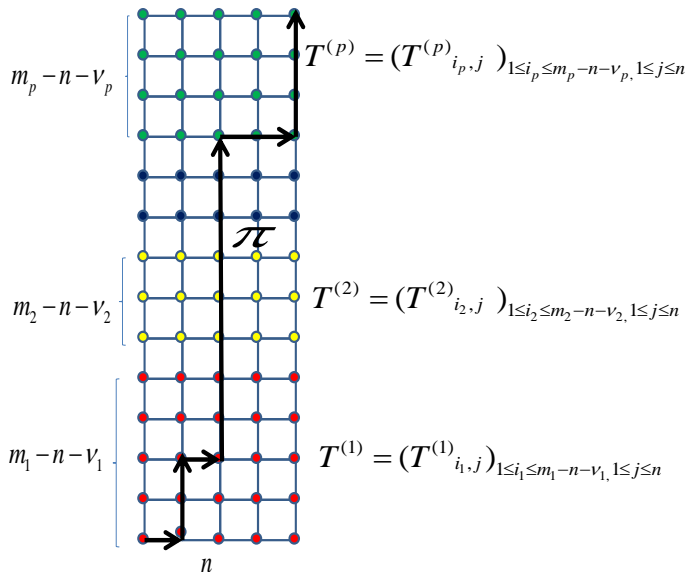
converges to the product matrix process formed by eigenvalues of  $(T_1 \dots T_p)^* (T_1 \dots T_p)$ , where  $1 \leq l \leq p$ , and  $T_1, \dots, T_p$  are truncated unitary matrices.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{c} A+B \\ \boxed{U_1} \\ A+B \end{array} & \longrightarrow & \begin{array}{c} B \\ \boxed{T_1} \\ A+B+1-\alpha_1 \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} A+B+1-\alpha_1 \\ \boxed{U_2} \\ A+B+1-\alpha_1 \end{array} & \longrightarrow & \begin{array}{c} A+B+1-\alpha_1 \\ \boxed{T_2} \\ A+B+1-\alpha_2 \end{array} \\ \vdots & & \\ \begin{array}{c} A+B+1-\alpha_{p-1} \\ \boxed{U_p} \\ A+B+1-\alpha_{p-1} \end{array} & \longrightarrow & \begin{array}{c} \boxed{T_p} \\ A+B+1-\alpha_p \end{array} \end{array}$$



# 5. Product matrix processes and last passage percolation problems

# Up/right paths through arrays of random variables



# The last passage time

- $T^{(1)}, T^{(2)}, \dots, T^{(p)}$ - $p$  arrays of independent random variables;  $\text{size}(T^{(1)}) = (m_1 - n - \nu_1) \times n, \dots, \text{size}(T^{(p)}) = (m_p - n - \nu_p) \times n.$
- $\Pi$ -set of up/right paths from  $(1, 1)$  to  $(n, K)$ ,  
 $K = m_1 - n - \nu_1 + \dots + m_p - n - \nu_p.$
- **The last passage time**  $\tau_{K,n}$  from  $(1, 1)$  to  $(n, K)$  is defined by

$$\tau_{K,n} = \max_{\pi \in \Pi} \left( \sum_{l=1}^p \sum_{(i_l, j) \in \pi} T_{i_l, j}^{(l)} \right)$$

- $T_{i_l, j}^{(l)}$  is the exponential random variable with the parameter  $(\nu_l + i_l + j - 1)$ , where  $1 \leq l \leq p, 1 \leq i_l \leq m_l - n - \nu_l$ , and  $1 \leq j \leq n.$

# Theorem

Assume that as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ ,  $m_j - n \rightarrow \infty$ , for  $j = 1, \dots, p$ . Then

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \left\{ \text{Prob} \left\{ \tau_{K,n} \leq \log n + \sum_{j=1}^p \log(m_j - n) - \log s \right\} \right\} \\ = \det \left( 1 - \mathbb{K} \Big|_{L^2(0,s)} \right),$$

where the kernel  $\mathbb{K}(x, y)$  of  $\mathbb{K}$  is **the Kuijlaars-Zhang hard edge scaling limit for the product of  $p$  independent Gaussian matrices**,

$$\mathbb{K}(x, y) = \frac{1}{(2\pi i)^2} \int_{-\frac{1}{2}-i\infty}^{-\frac{1}{2}+i\infty} ds \int_{\Sigma} dt \prod_{j=0}^p \frac{\Gamma(s + \nu_j + 1)}{\Gamma(t + \nu_j + 1)} \frac{\sin \pi s}{\sin \pi t} \frac{x^t y^{-s-1}}{s-t}.$$