

Hyperbolic Geometry on Noncommutative Polyballs

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Papers

- **G. Popescu**, Free Pluriharmonic Functions on Noncommutative Polyballs, *Analysis & PDE*, **9** (2016).
- **G. Popescu**, Hyperbolic Geometry on Noncommutative Polyballs, [submitted](#).

Noncommutative polyballs

- $B(\mathcal{H})^{n_1} \times_c \cdots \times_c B(\mathcal{H})^{n_k}$ denotes the set of all tuples $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k)$ with the property that the entries of $X_s := (X_{s,1}, \dots, X_{s,n_s})$ are commuting with the entries of $X_t := (X_{t,1}, \dots, X_{t,n_t})$ for any $s, t \in \{1, \dots, k\}$, $s \neq t$.

- The open *polyball* :

$$\mathbf{P}_n(\mathcal{H}) := [B(\mathcal{H})^{n_1}]_1 \times_c \cdots \times_c [B(\mathcal{H})^{n_k}]_1,$$

where $[B(\mathcal{H})^{n_i}]_1$ is the open unit ball

$$\{(X_{i,1}, \dots, X_{i,n_i}) \in B(\mathcal{H})^{n_i} : \|X_{i,1}X_{i,1}^* + \cdots + X_{i,n_i}X_{i,n_i}^*\| < 1\}.$$

Noncommutative regular polyballs

- The *regular polyball* on the Hilbert space \mathcal{H} is defined by

$$\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) := \{\mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{P}_n(\mathcal{H}) : \Delta_{\mathbf{X}}(I) > 0\},$$

where the *defect mapping* $\Delta_{\mathbf{X}} : B(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ is given by

$$\Delta_{\mathbf{X}} := (id - \Phi_{X_1}) \circ \cdots \circ (id - \Phi_{X_k}),$$

and $\Phi_{X_i} : B(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ is the completely positive linear map defined by

$$\Phi_{X_i}(Y) := \sum_{j=1}^{n_i} X_{i,j} Y X_{i,j}^*, \quad Y \in B(\mathcal{H}).$$

- (*Abstract*) *regular polyball* $\mathbf{B}_n := \coprod_{\mathcal{H}} \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$.

Universal models

- Let H_{n_i} be an n_i -dimensional complex Hilbert space with orthonormal basis $e_1^i, \dots, e_{n_i}^i$. The **full Fock space** of H_{n_i} is defined by

$$F^2(H_{n_i}) := \mathbb{C}1 \oplus \bigoplus_{s \geq 1} H_{n_i}^{\otimes s}.$$

- Let $\mathbb{F}_{n_i}^+$ be the unital free semigroup on n_i generators $g_1^i, \dots, g_{n_i}^i$ and the identity g_0^i . Set $e_\alpha^i := e_{j_1}^i \otimes \dots \otimes e_{j_p}^i$ if $\alpha = g_{j_1}^i \dots g_{j_p}^i \in \mathbb{F}_{n_i}^+$ and $e_{g_0^i}^i := 1 \in \mathbb{C}$.
- For each $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ and $j \in \{1, \dots, n_i\}$, the **left creation operator** $S_{i,j}$ on $F^2(H_{n_i})$ is defined by setting

$$S_{i,j} e_\alpha^i := e_j^i \otimes e_\alpha^i, \quad \alpha \in \mathbb{F}_{n_i}^+.$$

Universal models

Definition

The operator $\mathbf{S}_{i,j}$ acting on $F^2(H_{n_1}) \otimes \cdots \otimes F^2(H_{n_k})$ is defined by

$$\mathbf{S}_{i,j} := \underbrace{I \otimes \cdots \otimes I}_{i-1 \text{ times}} \otimes S_{i,j} \otimes \underbrace{I \otimes \cdots \otimes I}_{k-i \text{ times}}.$$

- Similarly, we define the *right creation operator* $R_{i,j} : F^2(H_{n_i}) \rightarrow F^2(H_{n_i})$ by setting $R_{i,j}e_\alpha^i := e_\alpha^i \otimes e_j^i$ and the corresponding $\mathbf{R}_{i,j}$.
- The *noncommutative polyball algebra* \mathcal{A}_n (resp \mathcal{R}_n) is the norm closed non-selfadjoint algebra generated by $\{\mathbf{S}_{i,j}\}$ (resp. $\{\mathbf{R}_{i,j}\}$) and the identity.

Universal models

- The k -tuple $\mathbf{S} := (\mathbf{S}_1, \dots, \mathbf{S}_k)$, where $\mathbf{S}_i := (\mathbf{S}_{i,1}, \dots, \mathbf{S}_{i,n_i})$, is a pure element in the regular polyball $\mathbf{B}_n(\otimes_{i=1}^k F^2(H_{n_i}))^-$ and plays the role of *universal model* for the abstract regular polyball.
- Let $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k) \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$ with $X_i := (X_{i,1}, \dots, X_{i,n_i})$.
- Set $X_{i,\alpha_i} := X_{i,j_1} \cdots X_{i,j_p}$ if $\alpha_i = g_{j_1}^i \cdots g_{j_p}^i \in \mathbb{F}_{n_i}^+$ and $X_{i,g_0^i} := I$.
- If $\alpha := (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k) \in \mathbb{F}_{n_1}^+ \times \cdots \times \mathbb{F}_{n_k}^+$, denote $\mathbf{X}_\alpha := \mathbf{X}_{1,\alpha_1} \cdots \mathbf{X}_{k,\alpha_k}$.

Main results on free pluriharmonic functions

- Introduce and characterize the class of **k -multi-Toeplitz operators** on $F^2(H_{n_1}) \otimes \cdots \otimes F^2(H_{n_k})$.
- Characterize the bounded free **k -pluriharmonic functions** and solve the Dirichlet extension problem on regular polyballs.
- Give necessary and sufficient conditions for a function to be the Poisson transform of a completely bounded (resp. completely positive) map on $C^*(\mathbf{S})$, the C^* -algebra generated by the universal model of the polyball.
- Obtain Herglotz-Riesz representation theorems for free holomorphic functions with positive real parts on regular polyballs.

k-multi-Toeplitz operators

- **Brown and Halmos** (Crelle, 1963) proved :

Theorem

A bounded linear operator T on the Hardy space $H^2(\mathbb{D})$ is a Toeplitz operator if and only if $S^*TS = T$, where S is the unilateral shift.

Definition

A bounded linear operator T on $F^2(H_{n_1}) \otimes \dots \otimes F^2(H_{n_k})$ is called ***k*-multi-Toeplitz operator** with respect to the right universal model $\mathbf{R} = \{\mathbf{R}_{i,j}\}$ if, for each $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$,

$$\mathbf{R}_{i,s}^* T \mathbf{R}_{i,t} = \delta_{st} T, \quad s, t \in \{1, \dots, n_i\}.$$

k -multi-Toeplitz operators

- Each k -multi-Toeplitz operator T has a uniquely determined formal power series in several variables.
- One can recapture T from its “Fourier series”.
- We characterize the noncommutative formal power series which are Fourier series of k -multi-Toeplitz operators.

Theorem

The set of all **k -multi-Toeplitz operators** on $\bigotimes_{i=1}^k F^2(H_{n_i})$ coincides with

$$\mathcal{T}_n := \text{span}\{\mathcal{A}_n^* \mathcal{A}_n\}^{-\text{SOT}} = \text{span}\{\mathcal{A}_n^* \mathcal{A}_n\}^{-\text{WOT}},$$

where \mathcal{A}_n is the noncommutative polyball algebra.

Noncommutative Berezin kernels

- If $\mathbf{X} = \{X_{i,j}\} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$, define the **noncommutative Berezin kernel**

$$\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{X}} : \mathcal{H} \rightarrow \left(\otimes_{i=1}^k F^2(H_{n_i})\right) \otimes \overline{\Delta_{\mathbf{X}}(I)^{1/2}(\mathcal{H})}$$

by setting

$$\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{X}} h := \sum_{\beta_i \in \mathbb{F}_{n_i}^+} \mathbf{e}_{\beta_1}^1 \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathbf{e}_{\beta_k}^k \otimes \Delta_{\mathbf{X}}(I)^{1/2} X_{1,\beta_1}^* \cdots X_{k,\beta_k}^* h,$$

where the defect operator is given by

$$\Delta_{\mathbf{X}}(I) := (id - \Phi_{X_1}) \circ \cdots \circ (id - \Phi_{X_k})(I).$$

Noncommutative Berezin transforms

- The **Berezin transform** at $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$ is the map $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{X}} : B(\otimes_{i=1}^k F^2(H_{n_i})) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ defined by

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{X}}[g] := \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{X}}^*(g \otimes I_{\mathcal{H}})\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{X}}, \quad g \in B(\otimes_{i=1}^k F^2(H_{n_i})).$$

- If $g \in C^*(\mathbf{S})$, the C^* -algebra generated by $\mathbf{S}_{i,1}, \dots, \mathbf{S}_{i,n_i}$, we define the Berezin transform at $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$ by

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{X}}[g] := \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} \mathbf{K}_{r\mathbf{X}}^*(g \otimes I_{\mathcal{H}})\mathbf{K}_{r\mathbf{X}},$$

where the limit is in the operator norm topology.

- $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{X}}$ is a unital completely positive linear map such that

$$\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{S}_{\alpha}\mathbf{S}_{\beta}^*) = \mathbf{X}_{\alpha}\mathbf{X}_{\beta}^*, \quad \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}_{n_1}^+ \times \dots \times \mathbb{F}_{n_k}^+,$$

where $\mathbf{S}_{\alpha} := \mathbf{S}_{1,\alpha_1} \cdots \mathbf{S}_{k,\alpha_k}$ if $\alpha := (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$.

Free k -pluriharmonic functions

Definition

A function F is called **free k -pluriharmonic** on the polyball \mathbf{B}_n if it has the form

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{m_1 \in \mathbb{Z}} \cdots \sum_{m_k \in \mathbb{Z}} \sum_{(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda} a_{\alpha, \beta} X_{1, \alpha_1} \cdots X_{k, \alpha_k} X_{1, \beta_1}^* \cdots X_{k, \beta_k}^*,$$

where $(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda$ iff $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ and $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k)$, with $\alpha_i, \beta_i \in \mathbb{F}_{n_i}^+$, $|\alpha_i| = m_i^-$, $|\beta_i| = m_i^+$, and the series converge in the operator norm topology for any $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k) \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$ and any Hilbert space \mathcal{H} .

- F is bounded if $\|F\| := \sup_{\mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})} \|F(\mathbf{X})\| < \infty$.

Free k -pluriharmonic functions

- Let $\mathbf{PH}^\infty(\mathbf{B}_n)$ be the vector space of all **bounded free k -pluriharmonic functions** on \mathbf{B}_n .

- For each $m = 1, 2, \dots$, define the norm $\|\cdot\|_m : M_m(\mathbf{PH}^\infty(\mathbf{B}_n)) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ by setting

$$\|[F_{ij}]_m\|_m := \sup \| [F_{ij}(\mathbf{X})]_m \|,$$

where sup is taken over all $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$ and any \mathcal{H} .

- The norms $\|\cdot\|_m$ determine an operator space structure on $\mathbf{PH}^\infty(\mathbf{B}_n)$, in the sense of **Ruan**.

Bounded free k -pluriharmonic functions

Theorem

If $F : \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ is a free k -pluriharmonic function, then the F is bounded if and only if there exists $A \in \mathcal{T}_n$ such that

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = \mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{X}}[A] := \mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{X}}^*(A \otimes I_{\mathcal{H}})\mathbf{K}_{\mathbf{X}}, \quad \mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}).$$

In this case, $A = \text{SOT-} \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} F(r\mathbf{S})$.

Moreover, the map

$$\Phi : \mathbf{PH}^{\infty}(\mathbf{B}_n) \rightarrow \mathcal{T}_n \quad \text{defined by} \quad \Phi(F) := A$$

is a completely isometric isomorphism of operator spaces.

Dirichlet extension problem for regular polyballs

- Let $\mathbf{PH}^c(\mathbf{B}_n)$ be the set of all free k -pluriharmonic functions on \mathbf{B}_n which have continuous extensions to $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$ (in norm topology), for any Hilbert space \mathcal{H} .
- Assume that \mathcal{H} is an infinite dimensional Hilbert space.

Dirichlet extension problem for regular polyballs

Theorem

If $F : \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ is a free k -pluriharmonic function, then F has a continuous extension to the closed polyball $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$ (in the operator norm) if and only if there exists $A \in \mathcal{P} := \text{span}\{f^*g : f, g \in \mathcal{A}_n\}^{-\|\cdot\|}$ such that

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = \mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{X}}[A], \quad \mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}).$$

In this case, $A = \lim_{r \rightarrow 1} F(r\mathbf{S})$, where the convergence is in the operator norm. Moreover, the map

$$\Phi : \mathbf{PH}^c(\mathbf{B}_n) \rightarrow \mathcal{P} \quad \text{defined by} \quad \Phi(F) := A$$

is a completely isometric isomorphism of operator spaces.

Noncommutative Poisson transforms of c.b. maps

- Consider the operator system

$$\mathcal{R}_n^* \mathcal{R}_n := \text{span}\{\mathbf{R}_\alpha^* \mathbf{R}_\beta : \alpha, \beta \in \mathbb{F}_{n_1}^+ \times \cdots \times \mathbb{F}_{n_k}^+\},$$

where $\mathbf{R} := (\mathbf{R}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}_k)$ and $\mathbf{R}_i := (\mathbf{R}_{i,1}, \dots, \mathbf{R}_{i,n_i})$.

- If $\mu : \mathcal{R}_n^* \mathcal{R}_n \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ is a completely bounded linear map, then there exists a unique completely bounded linear map

$$\hat{\mu} := \mu \otimes id : \overline{\mathcal{R}_n^* \mathcal{R}_n}^{\|\cdot\|} \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$$

such that

$$\hat{\mu}(A \otimes Y) = \mu(A) \otimes Y, \quad A \in \mathcal{R}_n^* \mathcal{R}_n, Y \in B(\mathcal{H}).$$

Moreover, $\|\hat{\mu}\|_{cb} = \|\mu\|_{cb}$ and, if μ is completely positive, then so is $\hat{\mu}$.

Noncommutative Poisson transforms of c.b. maps

- Define the *free pluriharmonic Poisson kernel* by setting

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{X}) := \sum_{(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda} \mathbf{R}_{\tilde{\alpha}}^* \mathbf{R}_{\tilde{\beta}} \otimes \mathbf{X}_{\alpha} \mathbf{X}_{\beta}^*, \quad \mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}),$$

where the convergence is in the operator norm topology, and $(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda$ iff $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$ and $\beta = (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k)$, with $\alpha_i, \beta_i \in \mathbb{F}_{n_i}^+$, $|\alpha_i| = m_i^-$, $|\beta_i| = m_i^+$.

- We introduce the *noncommutative Poisson transform of a c. b. map* $\mu : \mathcal{R}_n^* \mathcal{R}_n \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ on the regular polyball to be the map $\mathcal{P}\mu : \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$ defined by

$$(\mathcal{P}\mu)(\mathbf{X}) := \widehat{\mu}[\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{X})], \quad \mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}).$$

Noncommutative Poisson transforms of c.b. maps

Theorem

Let $\mu : \mathcal{R}_n^* \mathcal{R}_n \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ be a completely bounded linear map. The following statements hold.

- (i) The map $\mathbf{X} \mapsto \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{X})$ is a positive k -pluriharmonic function on the polyball \mathbf{B}_n , with coefficients in $B(\otimes_{i=1}^k F^2(H_{n_i}))$, and has the factorization $\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{X}) = C_{\mathbf{X}}^* C_{\mathbf{X}}$, where

$$C_{\mathbf{X}} := (I \otimes \Delta_{\mathbf{X}}(I)^{1/2}) \prod_{i=1}^k (I - \mathbf{R}_{i,1} \otimes X_{i,1}^* - \cdots - \mathbf{R}_{i,n_i} \otimes X_{i,n_i}^*)^{-1}.$$

- (ii) The noncommutative Poisson transform \mathcal{P}_{μ} is a free k -pluriharmonic function on the regular polyball \mathbf{B}_n .

Noncommutative Poisson transforms of c.b. maps

(iii) If μ is a completely positive linear map, then $\mathcal{P}\mu$ is a positive free k -pluriharmonic function on \mathbf{B}_n .

- Let F be a free k -pluriharmonic function on the polyball \mathbf{B}_n , with operator-valued coefficients in $B(\mathcal{E})$, and with representation

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{m_1 \in \mathbb{Z}} \cdots \sum_{m_k \in \mathbb{Z}} \sum_{(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda} A_{\alpha, \beta} \otimes \mathbf{X}_\alpha \mathbf{X}_\beta^*.$$

- We associate with F and each $r \in [0, 1)$ the linear map $\nu_{F_r} : \mathcal{R}_n^* \mathcal{R}_n \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ by setting

$$\nu_{F_r}(\mathbf{R}_\alpha^* \tilde{\mathbf{R}}_\beta) := r^{|\alpha|+|\beta|} A_{\alpha, \beta}, \quad (\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda.$$

Noncommutative Poisson transforms of c.b. maps

Theorem

Let $F : \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$ be a free k -pluriharmonic function. Then the following statements are equivalent :

- (i) there exists a completely bounded linear map $\mu : C^*(\mathbf{R}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ such that $F = \mathcal{P}\mu$;
- (ii) the linear maps $\{\nu_{F_r}\}_{r \in [0,1]}$ associate with F are completely bounded and $\sup_{0 \leq r < 1} \|\nu_{F_r}\|_{cb} < \infty$;

Noncommutative Poisson transforms of c.b. maps

- (iii) there exists a k -tuple $\mathbf{V} = (V_1, \dots, V_k)$ of doubly commuting row isometries acting on \mathcal{K} and bounded linear operators $W_1, W_2 : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ such that

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = (W_1^* \otimes I) [C_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{V})^* C_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{V})] (W_2 \otimes I),$$

where

$$C_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{V}) := (I \otimes \Delta_{\mathbf{X}}(I)^{1/2}) \prod_{i=1}^k (I - V_{i,1} \otimes X_{i,1}^* - \dots - V_{i,n_i} \otimes X_{i,n_i}^*)^{-1}.$$

Moreover, in this case we can choose μ such that

$$\|\mu\|_{cb} = \sup_{0 \leq r < 1} \|\nu_{F_r}\|_{cb}.$$

Noncommutative Poisson transforms of c.p. maps

Corollary

Let $F : \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$ be a free k -pluriharmonic function. Then the following statements are equivalent :

- (i) there exists a completely positive linear map $\mu : C^*(\mathbf{R}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ such that $F = \mathcal{P}\mu$;
- (ii) the linear maps $\{\nu_{F_r}\}_{r \in [0,1]}$ associate with F are completely positive ;
- (iii) there exists a k -tuple $\mathbf{V} = (V_1, \dots, V_k)$ of doubly commuting row isometries acting on a Hilbert space $\mathcal{K} \supset \mathcal{E}$ and a bounded operator $W : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ such that

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = (W^* \otimes I) [C_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{V})^* C_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{V})] (W \otimes I).$$

Noncommutative Poisson transforms of c.p. maps

- **Classical result** : A map $u : \mathbb{D}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is a positive k -harmonic function if and only if there is a finite positive Borel measure on \mathbb{T}^k such that

$$u(z) = \int_{\mathbb{T}^k} P(z, \zeta) d\mu(\zeta), \quad z \in \mathbb{D}^k,$$

where $P(z, \zeta)$ is the Poisson kernel for the polydisk.

- **Open question** : Is any positive free k -pluriharmonic function on the regular polyball \mathbf{B}_n the noncommutative Poisson transform of a completely positive linear map $\mu : C^*(\mathbf{R}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$?

Noncommutative Poisson transforms of c.p. maps

- The answer is positive for the unit ball $[B(\mathcal{H})^n]_1$ (when $k = 1$) (P., Adv. Math., 2009) and for the regular polydisk $\mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})$ (when $n_1 = \dots = n_k = 1$).

Theorem

A map $f : \mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$ is a positive free k -pluriharmonic function on the *regular polydisk* if and only if there exists a completely positive linear map $\mu : C^*(M_{Z_1}, \dots, M_{Z_k}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ such that $F = \mathcal{P}\mu$, where M_{Z_1}, \dots, M_{Z_k} are the multiplication operators on $H^2(\mathbb{D}^k)$.

Poincaré distance on the open unit disc

- The **hyperbolic (Poincaré) distance** on the open unit disc $\mathbb{D} := \{z \in \mathbb{C} : |z| < 1\}$ is defined by

$$\delta_P(z, w) := \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1 + |\varphi_z(w)|}{1 - |\varphi_z(w)|}, \quad z, w \in \mathbb{D},$$

where φ_z is the automorphism of \mathbb{D} given by $\varphi_z(w) = \frac{w-z}{1-\bar{z}w}$.

Poincaré distance on the open unit disc

- **Basic properties of the Poincaré distance :**

- 1 the Poincaré distance is invariant under the conformal automorphisms of \mathbb{D} , i.e.,

$$\delta_P(\varphi(z), \varphi(w)) = \delta_P(z, w), \quad z, w \in \mathbb{D},$$

for all $\varphi \in \text{Aut}(\mathbb{D})$;

- 2 the δ_P -topology induced on the open disc is the usual planar topology;
- 3 (\mathbb{D}, δ_P) is a complete metric space;
- 4 any analytic function $f : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$ is distance-decreasing, i.e.,

$$\delta_P(f(z), f(w)) \leq \delta_P(z, w), \quad z, w \in \mathbb{D}.$$

Extensions of Poincaré distance

- **Bergman** introduced an analogue of the Poincaré distance for the open unit ball of \mathbb{C}^n ,

$$\mathbb{B}_n := \{z = (z_1, \dots, z_n) \in \mathbb{C}^n : \|z\|_2 < 1\},$$

defined by

$$\beta_n(z, w) = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1 + \|\psi_z(w)\|_2}{1 - \|\psi_z(w)\|_2}, \quad z, w \in \mathbb{B}_n,$$

where ψ_z is the involutive automorphism of \mathbb{B}_n that interchanges 0 and z . The **Poincaré-Bergman distance** has properties similar to those of δ_P .

Extensions of Poincaré distance

- There are several extensions of the Poincaré-Bergman distance to more general domains.
 - 1 The work of R.S. Phillips and L. Harris on infinite-dimensional Cartan domains.
 - 2 The work of Suciu, Foiaş, and Andô-Suciu-Timotin on Harnack type distances between two contractions.
 - 3 The work of P. on hyperbolic geometry on $[B(\mathcal{H})^n]_1$.

Harnack domination

- Preorder relation $\overset{H}{\prec}$ on the closed ball $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$.

Definition

If \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are in $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$, we say that \mathbf{A} is *Harnack dominated* by \mathbf{B} , and denote $\mathbf{A} \overset{H}{\prec} \mathbf{B}$, if there exists $c > 0$ such that

$$F(r\mathbf{A}) \leq c^2 F(r\mathbf{B})$$

for any positive free k -pluriharmonic function F with operator valued coefficients and any $r \in [0, 1)$. When we want to emphasize the constant c , we write $\mathbf{A} \overset{H}{\prec}_c \mathbf{B}$.

Harnack equivalence

Definition

If $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$, we say that \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are *Harnack equivalent* (and denote $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{H}{\sim} \mathbf{B}$) if there exists $c > 1$ such that

$$\frac{1}{c^2}F(r\mathbf{B}) \leq F(r\mathbf{A}) \leq c^2F(r\mathbf{B}), \quad r \in [0, 1),$$

for any positive free k -pluriharmonic function

$F : \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$, where \mathcal{E} is a separable Hilbert space. In this case, we write $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{H}{\sim}_c \mathbf{B}$.

- The equivalence classes with respect to the equivalence relation $\stackrel{H}{\sim}$ are called **Harnack parts** of $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$.

Poisson domination

- Recall the *free pluriharmonic Poisson kernel* :

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}, \mathbf{X}) := \sum_{(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda} \mathbf{R}_{\tilde{\alpha}}^* \mathbf{R}_{\tilde{\beta}} \otimes \mathbf{X}_{\alpha} \mathbf{X}_{\beta}^*$$

for any $\mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$, where the convergence is in the operator norm topology.

- If \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are in $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$, we say that \mathbf{A} is *Poisson dominated* by \mathbf{B} , and denote $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{P}{\prec} \mathbf{B}$, if there exists $c > 0$ such that

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}, r\mathbf{A}) \leq c^2 \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}, r\mathbf{B})$$

for any $r \in [0, 1)$. When we want to emphasize the constant c , we write $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{P}{\prec}_c \mathbf{B}$.

Poisson equivalence

Definition

If $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$, we say that \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are **Poisson equivalent** (we denote $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{P}{\sim} \mathbf{B}$) if and only if there exists $c \geq 1$ such that

$$\frac{1}{c^2} \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}, r\mathbf{B}) \leq \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}, r\mathbf{A}) \leq c^2 \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}, r\mathbf{B})$$

for any $r \in [0, 1)$.

We also use the notation $\mathbf{A} \underset{c}{\stackrel{P}{\sim}} \mathbf{B}$ if $\mathbf{A} \underset{c}{\prec} \mathbf{B}$ and $\mathbf{B} \underset{c}{\prec} \mathbf{A}$.

Harnack inequality

Theorem

Let F be a positive free k -pluriharmonic function on the regular polyball \mathbf{B}_n , with operator coefficients in $B(\mathcal{E})$ and let $0 \leq r < 1$. Then

$$F(0) \left(\frac{1-r}{1+r} \right)^k \leq F(\mathbf{X}) \leq F(0) \left(\frac{1+r}{1-r} \right)^k$$

for any $\mathbf{X} \in r\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$.

Harnack and Poisson equivalence class containing 0

Theorem

Let $\mathbf{A} = (A_1, \dots, A_k) \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$. Then the following statements are equivalent.

- 1 $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{H}{\sim} 0$;
- 2 $r(A_i) < 1$ for any $i \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ and there exists $a > 0$ such that

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{R}, r\mathbf{A}) \geq aI, \quad r \in [0, 1);$$

- 3 $\mathbf{A} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$;
- 4 $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{P}{\sim} 0$.

Hyperbolic metric on Harnack parts

- Given $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$ in the same Harnack part, i.e. $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{H}{\sim} \mathbf{B}$, we introduce

$$\omega_H(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) := \inf \left\{ c > 1 : \mathbf{A} \stackrel{H}{\sim}_c \mathbf{B} \right\}.$$

Theorem

Let Δ be a Harnack part of $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$ and define $\delta_H : \Delta \times \Delta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ by setting

$$\delta_H(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) := \ln \omega_H(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}), \quad \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \Delta.$$

Then δ_H is a metric on Δ .

Hyperbolic metric on Harnack parts

- **Schwarz-Pick lemma** for free holomorphic functions on the regular polyball \mathbf{B}_n with operator-valued coefficients, with respect to the hyperbolic metric.

Theorem

Let $\Phi = (\Phi_1, \dots, \Phi_m) : \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow [B(\mathcal{H})^m]_1^-$ be a free holomorphic function on the regular polyball. If $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$, then $\Phi(\mathbf{X}) \stackrel{H}{\sim} \Phi(\mathbf{Y})$ and

$$\delta_H(\Phi(\mathbf{X}), \Phi(\mathbf{Y})) \leq \delta_H(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}),$$

where δ_H is the hyperbolic metric defined on the Harnack parts of $[B(\mathcal{H})^m]_1^-$ and on the polyball $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$, respectively.

Hyperbolic metric on Harnack parts

- The hyperbolic metric is invariant under the group $Aut(\mathbf{B}_n)$ of all free holomorphic automorphisms of \mathbf{B}_n .

Theorem

Let \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} be in $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$ such that $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{H}{\sim} \mathbf{B}$. Then

$$\delta_H(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) = \delta_H(\Psi(\mathbf{A}), \Psi(\mathbf{B})), \quad \Psi \in Aut(\mathbf{B}_n).$$

Metric on Poisson parts of the polyball

- Given $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$ in the same Poisson part, i.e. $\mathbf{A} \overset{P}{\sim} \mathbf{B}$, we introduce

$$\omega_{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) := \inf \left\{ c > 1 : \mathbf{A} \overset{P}{\sim}_c \mathbf{B} \right\}.$$

Theorem

Let Δ be a Poisson part of $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^-$ and define the function $\delta_{\mathcal{P}} : \Delta \times \Delta \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ by setting

$$\delta_{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) := \ln \omega_{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}), \quad \mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \Delta.$$

Then $\delta_{\mathcal{P}}$ is a metric on Δ .

Metric on Poisson parts of the polyball

Theorem

If \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are in the open ball $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$, then

$$\delta_{\mathcal{P}}(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) = \ln \max \left\{ \left\| C_{\mathbf{A}}(\mathbf{R}) C_{\mathbf{B}}(\mathbf{R})^{-1} \right\|, \left\| C_{\mathbf{B}}(\mathbf{R}) C_{\mathbf{A}}(\mathbf{R})^{-1} \right\| \right\},$$

where

$$C_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{R}) := (I \otimes \Delta_{\mathbf{X}}(I)^{1/2}) \prod_{i=1}^k (I - \mathbf{R}_{i,1} \otimes X_{i,1}^* - \cdots - \mathbf{R}_{i,n_i} \otimes X_{i,n_i}^*)^{-1}$$

for any $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k) \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$ with $X_i = (X_{i,1}, \dots, X_{i,n_i})$.

Metric on Poisson parts of the polyball

- Set

$$\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})_0^- := \left\{ \mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})^- : \mathbf{X} \stackrel{P}{\prec} 0 \right\}$$

and recall that $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) \subset \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})_0^-$.

Theorem

Let Δ be a Poisson part of $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})_0^-$. Then the following properties hold :

- (i) $\delta_{\mathcal{P}}$ is a complete metric on Δ .*
- (ii) the $\delta_{\mathcal{P}}$ -topology and the operator norm topology coincide on the open polyball $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$.*
- (iii) the δ_H -topology is stronger than the $\delta_{\mathcal{P}}$ -topology on $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$.*

Positive k -harmonic functions on the regular polydisk

Theorem

Let $F : \mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$ be a free k -pluriharmonic function. Then the following statements are equivalent :

- (i) F is positive ;
- (ii) there exists a completely positive linear map $\mu : C^*(\mathbf{R}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ such that $F = \mathcal{P}\mu$;
- (iii) there exists a k -tuple $\mathbf{U} = (U_1, \dots, U_k)$ of commuting unitaries acting on a Hilbert space $\mathcal{K} \supset \mathcal{E}$ and a bounded operator $W : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$ such that

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = (W^* \otimes I) [C_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{U})^* C_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{U})] (W \otimes I),$$

Positive k -harmonic functions on the regular polydisk

where

$$C_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{U}) := (I \otimes \Delta_{\mathbf{X}}(I)^{1/2}) \prod_{i=1}^k (I - U_i \otimes X_i^*)$$

for any $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k) \in \mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})$.

- The **Kobayashi distance** for the polydisc \mathbb{D}^k is given by

$$K_{\mathbb{D}^k}(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{1 + \|\psi_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{w})\|_{\infty}}{1 - \|\psi_{\mathbf{z}}(\mathbf{w})\|_{\infty}},$$

where $\psi_{\mathbf{z}}$ is the involutive automorphisms of \mathbb{D}^k given by

$$\psi_{\mathbf{z}} = \left(\frac{w_1 - z_1}{1 - \bar{z}_1 w_1}, \dots, \frac{w_k - z_k}{1 - \bar{z}_k w_k} \right)$$

for any $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_k)$ and $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_k)$ in \mathbb{D}^k .

Hyperbolic metric on the regular polydisk

Theorem

Let $\mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})$ be the regular polydisk. The following statements hold.

- (i) If $\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B} \in \mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})^-$, then $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{H}{\sim} \mathbf{B}$ if and only if $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{P}{\sim} \mathbf{B}$.
- (ii) The metrics δ_H and δ_P coincide on the Harnack parts of $\mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})^-$.
- (iii) If \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are in $\mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})^-$ and $\mathbf{A} \stackrel{H}{\sim} \mathbf{B}$, then

$$\delta_H(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) = \delta_H(\Psi(\mathbf{A}), \Psi(\mathbf{B})), \quad \Psi \in \text{Aut}(\mathbf{D}^k).$$

Hyperbolic metric on the regular polydisk

(iv) If \mathbf{A} and \mathbf{B} are in $\mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})$, then

$$\delta_H(\mathbf{A}, \mathbf{B}) = \ln \max \left\{ \left\| C_{\mathbf{A}}(\mathbf{R}) C_{\mathbf{B}}(\mathbf{R})^{-1} \right\|, \left\| C_{\mathbf{B}}(\mathbf{R}) C_{\mathbf{A}}(\mathbf{R})^{-1} \right\| \right\},$$

where

$$C_{\mathbf{X}}(\mathbf{R}) := (I \otimes \Delta_{\mathbf{X}}(I)^{1/2}) \prod_{i=1}^k (I - R_i \otimes X_i^*)$$

for any $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k) \in \mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})$.

Hyperbolic metric on the regular polydisk

- (v) $\delta_H|_{\mathbb{D}^k \times \mathbb{D}^k}$ is equivalent to the Kobayashi distance on the polydisk \mathbb{D}^k and

$$\delta_H(\mathbf{z}, \mathbf{w}) = \frac{1}{2} \ln \frac{\prod_{i=1}^k (1 + |\psi_{z_i}(\mathbf{w}_i)|)}{\prod_{i=1}^k (1 - |\psi_{z_i}(\mathbf{w}_i)|)}$$

for any $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_k)$ and $\mathbf{w} = (w_1, \dots, w_k)$ in \mathbb{D}^k , where $\psi_{\mathbf{z}} := (\psi_{z_1}, \dots, \psi_{z_n})$ is the involutive automorphisms of \mathbb{D}^k such that $\psi_{z_i}(0) = z_i$ and $\psi_{z_i}(z_i) = 0$.

- (vi) The hyperbolic metric δ_H is complete on the Harnack parts of $\mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})_0^-$.
- (vii) The δ_H -topology coincides with the operator norm topology on the regular polydisk $\mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})$.

Hyperbolic metric on the regular polydisk

Corollary

Let $f = (f_1, \dots, f_m) : \mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow [B(\mathcal{H})^m]_1$ be a free holomorphic function on the regular polydisk. If $\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y} \in \mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})$, then

$$\delta_H(f(\mathbf{X}), f(\mathbf{Y})) \leq \delta_H(\mathbf{X}, \mathbf{Y}),$$

where δ_H is the hyperbolic metric. In particular, if $f(0) = 0$, then

$$\frac{1 + \|f(\mathbf{z})\|_2}{1 - \|f(\mathbf{z})\|_2} \leq \prod_{i=1}^k \frac{1 + |z_i|}{1 - |z_i|}$$

for any $\mathbf{z} = (z_1, \dots, z_k)$ in \mathbb{D}^k .

Herglotz-Riesz representations

- Define the space

$$\mathbf{RH}(\mathbf{B}_n) := \text{span} \{ \mathfrak{R}f : f \in \text{Hol}_{\mathcal{E}}(\mathbf{B}_n) \},$$

where $\text{Hol}_{\mathcal{E}}(\mathbf{B}_n)$ is the set of all free holomorphic functions in the polyball \mathbf{B}_n , with coefficients in $B(\mathcal{E})$.

- If $\varphi \in \mathbf{RH}(\mathbf{B}_n)$, we consider the family $\{\nu_{\varphi_r}\}_{r \in [0,1]}$ of linear maps $\nu_{\varphi_r} : \mathcal{R}_n^* \mathcal{R}_n \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$. Note that $\nu_{\varphi_r}(\mathbf{R}_{\alpha}^* \mathbf{R}_{\beta}) = 0$ if $\mathbf{R}_{\alpha}^* \mathbf{R}_{\beta}$ is different from \mathbf{R}_{γ} or \mathbf{R}_{γ}^* for some $\gamma \in \mathbf{F}_n^+$.

Herglotz-Riesz representations

- Let $\mu : \mathcal{R}_n^* \mathcal{R}_n \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ be a completely positive linear map. The *noncommutative Herglotz-Riesz transform* of μ on the regular polyball is the map $\mathbf{H}\mu : \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$ defined by

$$(\mathbf{H}\mu)(\mathbf{X}) := \widehat{\mu} \left[2 \prod_{i=1}^k (I - \mathbf{R}_{i,1}^* \otimes X_{i,1} - \cdots - \mathbf{R}_{i,n_i}^* \otimes X_{i,n_i})^{-1} - I \right]$$

for $\mathbf{X} := (X_1, \dots, X_k) \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$.

Herglotz-Riesz representations

Theorem

Let f be a free holomorphic function from the polyball $\mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$ to $B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$. Then the following statements are equivalent.

- (i) f is a free holomorphic function with $\Re f \geq 0$ and the linear maps $\{\nu_{\Re f_r}\}_{r \in [0,1]}$ associated with $\Re f$ are completely positive.
- (ii) The function f admits a **Herglotz-Riesz representation**

$$f(\mathbf{X}) = (\mathbf{H}\mu)(\mathbf{X}) + i\Im f(0),$$

where $\mu : C^*(\mathbf{R}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ is a completely positive linear map with the property that $\mu(\mathbf{R}_\alpha^* \mathbf{R}_\beta) = 0$ if $\mathbf{R}_\alpha^* \mathbf{R}_\beta$ is not equal to \mathbf{R}_γ or \mathbf{R}_γ^* for some $\gamma \in \mathbf{F}_n^+$.

Herglotz-Riesz representations

- (iii) There exist a k -tuple $\mathbf{V} = (V_1, \dots, V_k)$ of doubly commuting row isometries on a Hilbert space \mathcal{K} , and a bounded linear operator $W : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{K}$, such that

$$f(\mathbf{X}) = (W^* \otimes I) \left[2 \prod_{i=1}^k (I - V_{i,1}^* \otimes X_{i,1} - \dots - V_{i,n_i}^* \otimes X_{i,n_i})^{-1} - I \right] \times (W \otimes I) + i\Im f(0)$$

and $W^* \mathbf{V}_\alpha^* \mathbf{V}_\beta W = 0$ if $\mathbf{R}_\alpha^* \mathbf{R}_\beta$ is not equal to \mathbf{R}_γ or \mathbf{R}_γ^* for some $\gamma \in \mathbf{F}_n^+$.

Herglotz-Riesz representations

- When $n_1 = \dots = n_k = 1$, we obtain an operator-valued extension of **Korányi-Pukánszky** integral representation.

Theorem

If $n_1 = \dots = n_k = 1$, then the statements in the theorem above are equivalent to

- (iv) *The map $f : \mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$ is a free holomorphic function on the regular polydisk and $\Re f \geq 0$.*

Herglotz-Riesz representations

- **Korányi-Pukánzky result :**

Theorem

A function $f : \mathbb{D}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$ is holomorphic and $\Re f \geq 0$ if and only if it admits a representation

$$f(z) = i\Im f(0) + \int_{\mathbb{T}^k} \left[2 \prod_{j=1}^k \frac{1}{1 - z_j \bar{\zeta}_j} - 1 \right] d\mu(\zeta)$$

where μ is a positive measure on \mathbb{T}^k such that, unless $m_j \geq 0$ for any $j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ or $m_k \leq 0$ for any $j \in \{1, \dots, k\}$,

$$\int_{\mathbb{T}^k} \zeta_1^{m_1} \cdots \zeta_k^{m_k} d\mu(\zeta) = 0.$$

THANK YOU

Naimark dilations

- We provide a **Naimark type dilation** theorem for direct products $\mathbb{F}_{n_1}^+ \times \cdots \times \mathbb{F}_{n_k}^+$ of unital free semigroups and characterize the positive free k -pluriharmonic functions.
- Let $\mathbf{F}_n^+ := \mathbb{F}_{n_1}^+ \times \cdots \times \mathbb{F}_{n_k}^+$ be the unital semigroup with neutral element $\mathbf{g} := (g_0^1, \dots, g_0^k)$.
- Let $\omega = (\omega_1, \dots, \omega_k)$, $\gamma = (\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k)$, $\alpha := (\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)$, and $\beta := (\beta_1, \dots, \beta_k)$ be in \mathbf{F}_n^+ .

Definition

We say that $K : \mathbf{F}_n^+ \times \mathbf{F}_n^+ \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ is a **left k -multi-Toeplitz kernel** if $K(\mathbf{g}, \mathbf{g}) = I_{\mathcal{E}}$ and

$$K(\sigma, \omega) = \begin{cases} K(\alpha, \beta) & \text{if } \mathbf{S}_{\sigma}^* \mathbf{S}_{\omega} = \mathbf{S}_{\alpha}^* \mathbf{S}_{\beta} \\ 0 & \text{if } \mathbf{S}_{\sigma}^* \mathbf{S}_{\omega} = 0. \end{cases}$$

Naimark dilations

- We say that $\Gamma : \mathbf{F}_n^+ \times \mathbf{F}_n^+ \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ is a **right k -multi-Toeplitz kernel** if $\Gamma(\tilde{\sigma}, \tilde{\omega}) = K(\sigma, \omega)$, where $\tilde{\sigma} = (\tilde{\sigma}_1, \dots, \tilde{\sigma}_k)$ and $\tilde{\sigma}_i := g_{j_m}^i \cdots g_{j_1}^i$ is the reverse of $\sigma_i := g_{j_1}^i \cdots g_{j_m}^i$.

Definition

A map $K : \mathbf{F}_n^+ \times \mathbf{F}_n^+ \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E})$ has a **Naimark dilation** if there exists a k -tuple of commuting row isometries $\mathbf{V} = (V_1, \dots, V_k)$, $V_i = (V_{i,1}, \dots, V_{i,n_i})$, on a Hilbert space $\mathcal{K} \supset \mathcal{E}$, i.e. the non-selfadjoint algebra $Alg(V_i)$ commutes with $Alg(V_s)$ for any $i, s \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ with $i \neq s$, such that

$$K(\sigma, \omega) = P_{\mathcal{E}} \mathbf{V}_{\sigma}^* \mathbf{V}_{\omega} |_{\mathcal{E}}, \quad \sigma, \omega \in \mathbf{F}_n^+.$$

The dilation is called **minimal** if $\mathcal{K} = \bigvee_{\omega \in \mathbf{F}_n^+} \mathbf{V}_{\omega} \mathcal{E}$.

Naimark dilations

Theorem

A map $K : \mathbf{F}_n^+ \times \mathbf{F}_n^+ \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ is a positive semi-definite left k -multi-Toeplitz kernel on \mathbf{F}_n^+ if and only if it admits a Naimark dilation. In this case, there is a minimal dilation which is uniquely determined up to an isomorphism.

Theorem

A map $\Gamma : \mathbf{F}_n^+ \times \mathbf{F}_n^+ \rightarrow B(\mathcal{H})$ is a positive semi-definite right k -multi-Toeplitz kernel on \mathbf{F}_n^+ if and only if it admits a Naimark dilation. In this case, there is a minimal dilation which is uniquely determined up to an isomorphism.

Schur type results

- If F is a free k -pluriharmonic function on the polyball \mathbf{B}_n with operator-valued coefficients in $B(\mathcal{E})$, one can associate a right k -multi-Toeplitz kernel Γ_F on \mathbf{F}_n^+ in terms of the coefficients of F .
- **Schur type result** for positive k -pluriharmonic functions in polyballs.

Theorem

Let F be a k -pluriharmonic function on the regular polyball \mathbf{B}_n , with coefficients in $B(\mathcal{E})$. Then F is positive on \mathbf{B}_n if and only if the kernel Γ_{F_r} is positive semi-definite for any $r \in [0, 1)$, where F_r stands for the mapping $\mathbf{X} \mapsto F(r\mathbf{X})$.

Schur type results

Definition

A free holomorphic function on the polyball \mathbf{B}_n and with operator-valued coefficients in $B(\mathcal{E})$ has the form

$$f(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{m_1 \in \mathbb{N}} \cdots \sum_{m_k \in \mathbb{N}} \sum_{\substack{\alpha_j \in \mathbb{F}_{n_j}^+, i \in \{1, \dots, k\} \\ |\alpha_j| = m_j}} A_{(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_k)} \otimes X_{1, \alpha_1} \cdots X_{k, \alpha_k},$$

where $\mathbf{X} = (X_1, \dots, X_k) \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$ and the series converge in the operator norm topology.

Schur type results

Corollary

Let $f : \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$ be a free holomorphic function. Then the following statements are equivalent.

- (i) $\Re f \geq 0$ on the polyball \mathbf{B}_n ;
- (ii) $\Re f(r\mathbf{S}) \geq 0$ for any $r \in [0, 1)$;
- (iii) the right k -multi Toeplitz kernel $\Gamma_{\Re f_r}$ is positive semidefinite for any $r \in [0, 1)$.

Positive k -pluriharmonic functions

Theorem

A map $F : \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$, with $F(0) = I$, is a positive free k -pluriharmonic function on the regular polyball if and only if it has the form

$$F(\mathbf{X}) = \sum_{(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda} P_{\mathcal{E}} \mathbf{V}_{\tilde{\alpha}}^* \mathbf{V}_{\tilde{\beta}}|_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes \mathbf{X}_{\alpha} \mathbf{X}_{\beta}^*,$$

where $\mathbf{V} = (V_1, \dots, V_k)$ is a k -tuple of commuting row isometries on a space $\mathcal{K} \supset \mathcal{E}$ such that

$$\sum_{(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda} P_{\mathcal{E}} \mathbf{V}_{\tilde{\alpha}}^* \mathbf{V}_{\tilde{\beta}}|_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes r^{|\alpha|+|\beta|} \mathbf{S}_{\alpha} \mathbf{S}_{\beta}^* \geq 0, \quad r \in [0, 1),$$

and the series is convergent in the operator topology.

Positive k -pluriharmonic functions

Definition

A k -tuple $\mathbf{V} = (V_1, \dots, V_k)$ of commuting row isometries $V_i = (V_{i,1}, \dots, V_{i,n_i})$ is called *pluriharmonic* if the free k -pluriharmonic Poisson kernel

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbf{V}, r\mathbf{S}) := \sum_{(\alpha, \beta) \in \Lambda} \mathbf{V}_{\tilde{\alpha}}^* \mathbf{V}_{\tilde{\beta}} \otimes r^{|\alpha|+|\beta|} \mathbf{S}_{\alpha} \mathbf{S}_{\beta}^*$$

is a positive operator for any $r \in [0, 1)$.

- Example : $\mathbf{V} := \mathbf{R} = (\mathbf{R}_1, \dots, \mathbf{R}_k)$.

Positive k -pluriharmonic functions

Proposition

Let $\mathbf{V} = (V_1, \dots, V_k)$, $V_i = (V_{i,1}, \dots, V_{i,n_i})$, be a k -tuple of commuting row isometries. Then \mathbf{V} is pluriharmonic in each of the following particular cases :

- (i) if $k = 1$ and $n_1 \in \mathbb{N}$;*
- (ii) if \mathbf{V} is doubly commuting, i.e. the C^* -algebra $C^*(V_i)$ commutes with $C^*(V_s)$ if $i, s \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ with $i \neq s$;*
- (iii) if $n_1 = \dots = n_k = 1$.*

Positive k -pluriharmonic functions

Proposition

Let $\mathbf{V} = (V_1, \dots, V_k)$ be a pluriharmonic tuple of commuting row isometries on a Hilbert space \mathcal{K} and let $\mathcal{E} \subset \mathcal{K}$ be a subspace. Then the map

$$F(\mathbf{X}) := (P_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes I) \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{X})|_{\mathcal{E} \otimes \mathcal{H}}, \quad \mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H})$$

is a positive free k -pluriharmonic function on the polyball \mathbf{B}_n with operator-valued coefficients in $B(\mathcal{E})$, and $F(0) = I$.

Moreover, in the particular cases when $k = 1$ (P., [Adv. Math., 2009](#)), or when $n_1 = \dots = n_k = 1$, each positive free k -pluriharmonic function F with $F(0) = I$ has the form above.

Positive k -pluriharmonic functions

- In particular, we obtain a structure theorem for the positive k -harmonic functions on the regular polydisk $\mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H})$, which extends the corresponding classical result on scalar polydisks.

Corollary

A map $F : \mathbf{D}^k(\mathcal{H}) \rightarrow B(\mathcal{E}) \otimes_{\min} B(\mathcal{H})$ is positive free k -pluriharmonic function with $F(0) = I$ if and only if there is a k -tuple of doubly commuting isometries $\mathbf{V} = (V_1, \dots, V_k)$ on a Hilbert space $\mathcal{K} \supset \mathcal{E}$ such that

$$F(\mathbf{X}) := (P_{\mathcal{E}} \otimes I) \mathcal{P}(\mathbf{V}, \mathbf{X})|_{\mathcal{E} \otimes \mathcal{H}}, \quad \mathbf{X} \in \mathbf{B}_n(\mathcal{H}).$$