

# Operator-valued Herglotz kernels and functions of positive real part on the ball

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### Theorem (Riesz-Herglotz)

Let  $f \in \text{Hol}(\mathbb{D})$ . Then  $\Re f \geq 0$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  iff  $\exists$  a positive measure  $\mu$  on  $\partial\mathbb{D}$  such that

$$f(z) = \int_{\partial\mathbb{D}} \frac{1 + z\bar{\zeta}}{1 - z\bar{\zeta}} d\mu(\zeta) + i\Im f(0)$$

for all  $z \in \mathbb{D}$ .

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- $O = \text{Hol}(\mathbb{B}^d), \quad O^+ = \{f \in O : \Re f \geq 0\}$
- $H_d^2$ : the RKHS on  $\mathbb{B}^d$  with kernel

$$k(z, w) = \frac{1}{1 - \langle z, w \rangle}$$

$(H_d^2 \subsetneq H^2(\mathbb{B}^d) \text{ when } d > 1)$



## Definition

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We are interested in certain positive classes admitting a “noncommutative Herglotz representation.”

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- $S^+$ : the set of  $f \in \text{Hol}(\mathbb{B}^d)$  such that

$$\frac{f(z) + \overline{f(w)}}{1 - \langle z, w \rangle}$$

is a positive semidefinite kernel.

Write  $H(z, \zeta)$  for the Herglotz kernel on  $\mathbb{B}^d$ :

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When  $d = 1$ , all inclusions are equalities (Herglotz formula); when  $d > 1$  all inclusions are strict [McCarthy-Putinar '05].

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Motivation: the series defining  $Q_r$  converges for all  $r < 1$ , and if  $g$  is a Herglotz integral

$$g(z) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\partial \mathbb{B}^d} \frac{1 + \langle z, \zeta \rangle}{1 - \langle z, \zeta \rangle} d\mu(\zeta)$$

then

$$Q_r(f, g) = \int_{\partial \mathbb{B}^d} f_r d\mu$$

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For  $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{O}$  define

$$\mathcal{C}^* = \{g \in \mathcal{O} \mid \Re Q_r(f, g) \geq 0 \text{ for all } f \in \mathcal{C} \text{ and all } r \in [0, 1)\}$$

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Main theorem on duality & positive classes:

## Theorem (J. '07)

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- $\mathcal{P}^*$  is a positive class.
- $\mathcal{P}^{**} = \mathcal{P}$ .
- If  $\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{P}^*$  then  $\exists$  a positive class  $\mathcal{W}$  with

$$\mathcal{P} \subset \mathcal{W} \subset \mathcal{P}^* \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{W} = \mathcal{W}^*.$$

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It turns out the answer is “No,” but we can identify  $S^{+*}$  explicitly...

## Row contractions and operator-valued Herglotz kernels:

### Definition

A *row contraction* is a  $d$ -tuple of bounded operators  $T = (T_1, \dots, T_d)$  on a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  such that

$$I - T_1 T_1^* - \dots - T_d T_d^* \geq 0$$



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If  $T$  is a row contraction, then for all  $|z| < 1$  the operator

$$\langle z, T \rangle := z_1 T_1^* + \dots + z_d T_d^*$$

is a strict contraction. Define

$$H(z, T) = (I + \langle z, T \rangle)(I - \langle z, T \rangle)^{-1}$$

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### Lemma

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*has positive real part on  $\mathbb{B}^d$ .*

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For many choices of  $T$ , the set

$$\mathcal{P}_T := \{\rho(H(z, T)) + i\lambda : \rho \text{ positive}, \lambda \in \mathbb{R}\}$$

is a positive class [Sufficient condition:  $T$  dilates  $rT$  for all  $r < 1$ ]

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- *Spherical contractions*:  $Z = (Z_1, \dots, Z_d)$

$$Z_j = \pi(\zeta_j), \quad j = 1, \dots, d$$

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$$V_i^* V_j = \delta_{ij} I; \quad \sum_{j=1}^d V_j V_j^* = I$$



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- *Coordinate multipliers on  $H_d^2$* :  $S = (S_1, \dots, S_d)$

$$S_j = M_{z_j}$$

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- $\mathcal{P}_S := R^+ = S^{+*}$  [J. '07]

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### Theorem (J. '07)

$$M^+ \subset R^+ \subset S^+ \subset O^+$$

and each inclusion is proper.

For a  $d$ -tuple  $T = (T_1, \dots, T_d)$  and a monomial  $z^\alpha$ , define

$$(z^\alpha)^{\text{sym}}(T) := \frac{\alpha!}{|\alpha|!} \sum T_{i_1} T_{i_2} \cdots T_{i_{|\alpha|}}$$



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### Corollary

*Let  $p$  be a  $d$ -variable polynomial. Then*

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*for all row contractions  $T$  if and only if  $p \in R^+$ .*

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Compare:  $p \in S^+$  iff

$$\Re p(T) \geq 0$$

for all *commuting* row contractions  $T$ .

Questions:

1. Given a positive class  $\mathcal{P}$ , let  $\mathcal{P}_0$  denote the subclass of  $\mathcal{P}$  for which  $f(0) = 1$ ; this set is compact and convex. It is not hard to show that the Herglotz kernels

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are extreme in  $S_0^+$ ; but by Krein-Milman there must be others when  $d > 1$ . (The Herglotz kernels are *not* extreme in  $O^+$  when  $d > 1$  [Rudin].)

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**PROBLEM:** find all extreme points of  $R_0^+$ ,  $S_0^+$ .

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**PROBLEM:** Find it!