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*Equidistribution speed for Fekete points
associated with an ample line bundle*

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EQUIDISTRIBUTION SPEED FOR FEKETE POINTS ASSOCIATED WITH AN AMPLE LINE BUNDLE

BY TIEN-CUONG DINH, XIAONAN MA AND VIỆT-ANH NGUYỄN

ABSTRACT. – Let K be the closure of a bounded open set with smooth boundary in $\mathbb{C}^n$. A Fekete configuration of order p for K is a finite subset of K maximizing the Vandermonde determinant associated with polynomials of degree $\leq p$. A recent theorem by Berman, Boucksom and Witt Nyström implies that Fekete configurations for K are asymptotically equidistributed with respect to a canonical equilibrium measure, as $p \rightarrow \infty$. We give here an explicit estimate for the speed of convergence. The result also holds in a general setting of Fekete points associated with an ample line bundle over a projective manifold. Our approach requires a new estimate on Bergman kernels for line bundles and quantitative results in pluripotential theory which are of independent interest.

RÉSUMÉ. – Soit K l'adhérence d'un ouvert borné à bord lisse dans $\mathbb{C}^n$. Une configuration de Fekete d'ordre p pour K est un sous-ensemble fini de K qui maximise le déterminant de Vandermonde associé aux polynômes de degré $\leq p$. Un théorème récent de Berman, Boucksom et Witt Nyström implique que les configurations de Fekete sont asymptotiquement équiréparties par rapport à une mesure d'équilibre canonique quand $p \rightarrow \infty$. Nous donnons ici une estimation précise de la vitesse de convergence. Le résultat est aussi valable dans un cadre général des points de Fekete associés à un fibré en droites ample au-dessus d'une variété projective. Notre approche nécessite une estimation nouvelle sur les noyaux de Bergman pour les fibrés en droites et des résultats quantitatifs de la théorie du pluripotentiel qui sont d'intérêt indépendant.

Notation. – Throughout the paper, L denotes an ample holomorphic line bundle over a projective manifold X of dimension n . Fix also a smooth Hermitian metric h_0 on L whose first Chern form, denoted by ω_0 , is a Kähler form. For simplicity, we use the Kähler metric on X induced by ω_0 . The induced distance is denoted by dist . Define $\mu^0 := \|\omega_0^n\|^{-1} \omega_0^n$ the probability measure associated with the volume form ω_0^n . The space of holomorphic sections of $L^p := L^{\otimes p}$, the p -th power of L , is denoted by $H^0(X, L^p)$. Its dimension is denoted by N_p . The metric h_0 induces, in a canonical way, metrics on the line bundle L^p over X , the

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vector bundle of the product $L^p \times \cdots \times L^p$ (N_p times) over X^{N_p} , and the determinant of the last one which is a line bundle over X^{N_p} and denoted by $(L^p)^{\boxtimes N_p}$. For simplicity, the norm, induced by h_0 , of a section of these vector bundles is denoted by $|\cdot|$.

A general singular metric on L has the form $h = e^{-2\psi} h_0$, where ψ is an integrable function on X with values in $\mathbb{R} \cup \{\pm\infty\}$. Such a function ψ is called a *weight*. It also induces singular metrics on the above vector bundles, and we denote by $|\cdot|_{p\psi}$ the corresponding norm of a section of L^p or the associated determinant line bundle over X^{N_p} . This is a function on X or X^{N_p} respectively. If K is a subset of X , the supremum on K or K^{N_p} of this function is denoted by $\|\cdot\|_{L^\infty(K, p\psi)}$ or $\|\cdot\|_{L^\infty(K^{N_p}, p\psi)}$. Its $L^2(\mu)$ or $L^2(\mu^{\otimes N_p})$ -norm is denoted by $\|\cdot\|_{L^2(\mu, p\psi)}$ or $\|\cdot\|_{L^2(\mu^{\otimes N_p}, p\psi)}$, where μ is a probability measure on X . We sometimes drop the power N_p for simplicity. In the same way, we often add the index “ ψ ” or “ $p\psi$,” if necessary, to inform the use of the weight ψ for L and hence $p\psi$ for L^p .

The notations $\rho_p(\mu, \phi)$, $\mathcal{B}_p(\mu, \phi)$ will be introduced in Subsection 2.3, $\mathcal{B}_p^\infty(K, \phi)$, $\mathcal{B}_p^2(\mu, \phi)$, $\mathcal{I}_p(K, \phi)$, $\mathcal{I}_p(\mu, \phi)$, $\mathcal{E}(\phi)$, $\mathcal{E}_{\text{eq}}(K, \phi)$ in Subsection 3.1, and $\mathcal{V}_p(\phi_1, \phi_2)$, $\mathcal{W}(\phi_1, \phi_2)$, ε_p , $\mathcal{D}_p(K, \phi)$ in Subsection 3.2. Let $\mathbb{B}(x, r)$ denote the ball of center x and radius r in X or in an Euclidean space. Similarly, $\mathbb{D}(x, r)$ is the disk of center x and radius r in $\mathbb{C}$, $\mathbb{D}_r := \mathbb{D}(0, r)$ and $\mathbb{D} := \mathbb{D}(0, 1)$. The Lebesgue measure on an Euclidean space is denoted by Leb . The operators d^c and dd^c are defined by

$$d^c := \frac{\sqrt{-1}}{2\pi}(\bar{\partial} - \partial) \quad \text{and} \quad dd^c := \frac{\sqrt{-1}}{\pi} \partial \bar{\partial}.$$

For $m \in \mathbb{N}$ and $0 < \alpha \leq 1$, $\mathcal{C}^{m, \alpha}$ is the class of $\mathcal{C}^m$ functions/differential forms whose partial derivatives of order m are Hölder continuous with Hölder exponent α . We have $\mathcal{C}^{m, \alpha} = \mathcal{C}^{m+\alpha}$ except for $\alpha = 1$. We use the natural norms on these spaces and for simplicity, define $\|\cdot\|_m := 1 + \|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{C}^m}$ and $\|\cdot\|_{m, \alpha} := 1 + \|\cdot\|_{\mathcal{C}^{m, \alpha}}$. Denote by Lip the space of Lipschitz functions which is also equal to $\mathcal{C}^{0,1}$ and by $\widetilde{\text{Lip}}$ the space of functions v such that $|v(x) - v(y)| \lesssim -\text{dist}(x, y) \log \text{dist}(x, y)$ for x, y close enough. We endow the last space with the norm

$$\|v\|_{\widetilde{\text{Lip}}} := \|v\|_\infty + \inf \{A \geq 0 : |v(x) - v(y)| \leq -A \text{dist}(x, y) \log \text{dist}(x, y) \text{ if } \text{dist}(x, y) \leq 1/2\}.$$

A function $\phi : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \cup \{-\infty\}$ is called *quasi-plurisubharmonic* (quasi-p.s.h. for short) if it is locally the sum of a plurisubharmonic (p.s.h. for short) and a smooth function. A quasi-p.s.h. function ϕ is called ω_0 -p.s.h. if $dd^c \phi + \omega_0 \geq 0$ in the sense of currents. Denote by $\text{PSH}(X, \omega_0)$ the set of such functions. If ϕ is a bounded function in $\text{PSH}(X, \omega_0)$, define the associated Monge-Ampère measure and normalized Monge-Ampère measure by

$$\text{MA}(\phi) := (dd^c \phi + \omega_0)^n \quad \text{and} \quad \text{NMA}(\phi) := \|\text{MA}(\phi)\|^{-1} \text{MA}(\phi).$$

So $\text{MA}(\phi)$ is a positive measure and $\text{NMA}(\phi)$ is a probability measure on X . A quasi-p.s.h. function ϕ is called *strictly* ω_0 -p.s.h. if $dd^c \phi + \omega_0$ is larger than a Kähler form in the sense of currents, see [11, 14] for the basic notions and results of pluripotential theory.

Some remarks. – The constants involved in our computations below may depend on X, L, h_0 and hence on ω_0 and μ^0 . However, they do not depend on the other weights used for the line bundle L but only on the upper bounds of suitable norms ($\mathcal{C}^\alpha, \widetilde{\text{Lip}}, \dots$) of these weights. This property can be directly seen in our arguments. For simplicity, we will not repeat it in

each step of the proofs. The notations $\gtrsim$ and $\lesssim$ mean inequalities up to a positive multiple constant.

1. Introduction

Let K be a non-pluripolar compact subset of $\mathbb{C}^n$. The pluricomplex Green function of K , denoted by $V_K^*(z)$, is the upper-semicontinuous regularization of the Siciak-Zahariuta extremal function

$$V_K(z) := \sup \{u(z) : u \text{ p.s.h. on } \mathbb{C}^n, u|_K \leq 0, u(w) - \log \|w\| = O(1) \text{ as } w \rightarrow \infty\}.$$

This function V_K^* is locally bounded, p.s.h. and $(dd^c V_K^*)^n$ defines a probability measure with support in K . It is called the equilibrium measure of K and denoted by $\mu_{\text{eq}}(K)$, see [29, 32].

Let $\mathcal{P}_p$ be the set of holomorphic polynomials of degree $\leq p$ on $\mathbb{C}^n$. This is a complex vector space of dimension

$$N_p := \binom{p+n}{n} = \frac{1}{n!} p^n + O(p^{n-1}).$$

Let $(e_1, \dots, e_{N_p})$ be a basis of $\mathcal{P}_p$. Define for $P = (x_1, \dots, x_{N_p}) \in (\mathbb{C}^n)^{N_p}$ the Vandermonde determinant $W(P)$ by

$$W(P) := \det \begin{pmatrix} e_1(x_1) & \dots & e_1(x_{N_p}) \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ e_{N_p}(x_1) & \dots & e_{N_p}(x_{N_p}) \end{pmatrix}.$$

A point $P \in K^{N_p}$ is called a Fekete configuration for K if the function $|W(\cdot)|$, restricted to K^{N_p} , achieves its maximal value at P . It is not difficult to check that this definition does not depend on the choice of the basis $(e_1, \dots, e_{N_p})$, see [28].

Recently, Berman, Boucksom and Witt Nyström have proved that Fekete points $x_1, \dots, x_{N_p}$ are asymptotically equidistributed with respect to the equilibrium measure $\mu_{\text{eq}}(K)$ as p tends to infinity [3]. This property had been conjectured for quite some time, probably going back to the pioneering work of Leja in [19, 20], where the dimension 1 case was obtained. See also [22, 28] for more recent references on this topic. More precisely, let

$$\mu_p := \frac{1}{N_p} \sum_{j=1}^{N_p} \delta_{x_j}$$

denote the probability measure equidistributed on $x_1, \dots, x_{N_p}$. We call it a Fekete measure of order p . The above equidistribution result says that in the weak-* topology

$$\lim_{p \rightarrow \infty} \mu_p = \mu_{\text{eq}}(K).$$

In fact, this theorem by Berman, Boucksom and Witt Nyström holds in a more general context of Fekete points associated with a line bundle. We will discuss this case later together with an interesting new approach by Ameur, Lev and Ortega-Cerdà [1, 21].

Fekete points are well known to be useful in several problems in mathematics and mathematical physics. It is therefore important to study the speed of the above convergence. For