# A natural invariant measure for polynomial semigroups, and its properties 

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## ${ }_{1}$ Preliminaries

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Example: Let $f$ be a rational map on the Riemann sphere $\widehat{\mathbb{C}}$. Based on the behaviour of the points $x \in \widehat{\mathbb{C}}$, we have the dichotomy:

- The Fatou set of $f:=$ the set of normality (or equicontinuity) of $\left\{f^{n}: n \in \mathbb{Z}_{+}\right\}$.
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The dynamics on Fatou sets is tame and the structure of Fatou sets is well understood. On the other hand, the dynamics on Julia sets is chaotic and, in the generic case, Julia sets are fractals.

## ${ }_{2}$ Some pictures




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- There is considerable success in constructing analogues of the above-mentioned measures, even for multi-valued maps.

Mission statement of this talk: To study these measures from potential-theoretic points of view for the case of polynomial semigroups.

## ${ }_{4}$ What conceptual framework do we have?

We study measures that describe the limiting distribution of the iterated pre-images of any point excluding, perhaps, a small set of exceptional points. In short, such a measure is the weak* limit of the sequence $\left\{\mu_{n}\right\}$ (if limit exists), where:

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\mu_{n}:=\frac{1}{\sharp\left(f^{-n}\{a\}\right)} \sum_{f^{n}(z)=a} \delta_{z} .
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## What is an example of such a measure?

## ${ }_{5}$ Brolin's theorem

## Result (Brolin, 1965)

Let $g$ be a polynomial of degree $d \geq 2$ and $a$ be any point in the complex plane with (perhaps) one exception.

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- Roughly speaking, an equilibrium measure gives the distribution of a unit charge, in the absence of any external field, on a conductor that minimizes energy.
- (Lyubich, 1983) Let $g$ be a rational map of degree $d \geq 2$ and $a$ be any point in $\widehat{\mathbb{C}}$ with (perhaps) two exceptions. Then $\left\{\mu_{n}\right\}$ (as defined above) converges to a Borel probability measure $\mu_{g}$ with support $\mathbf{J}(g)$ [here $\mu_{g}$ has no potential-theoretic interpretation in general].


## ${ }_{6}$ Some terminology

A rational semigroup $S$ is a semigroup consisting of non-constant rational maps on the Riemann sphere $\widehat{\mathbb{C}}$ with the function-composition as the semigroup operation.
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Example: $S=\left\langle z^{2}, z^{2} / 2\right\rangle$. Then $\mathbf{J}(S)=\{z: 1 \leq|z| \leq 2\}$.
Consider a generating set $\mathcal{G}$ of $S$. For $g \in S$, the expression $l(g)=n$ is the shorthand for the following implication:

$$
l(g)=n \Longrightarrow \exists g_{i_{1}}, \ldots, g_{i_{n}} \in \mathcal{G} \text { such that } g=g_{i_{n}} \circ \cdots \circ g_{i_{1}}
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## ${ }_{7}$ Measures associated with semigroups

## Result (Boyd, 1999)

Let $S$ be a finitely generated rational semigroup. Assume that every element of $S$ is of degree at least 2. Let $\mathcal{G}=\left\{g_{1}, \ldots, g_{N}\right\}$ be a generating set and $D:=\sum_{i=1}^{N} \operatorname{deg}\left(g_{i}\right)$.

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\mu_{n}:=\frac{1}{D^{n}} \sum_{\substack{g(z)=a \\ l(g)=n}} \delta_{z} \xrightarrow{\text { weak }^{*}} \mu_{\mathcal{G}} \quad \text { as } n \rightarrow \infty .
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We use a result by Dinh-Sibony, stated for correspondences, for a version of the last result that allows degree 1 elements.

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& \text { - } F(x)=\cup_{i} \pi_{2}\left(\pi_{1}^{-1}\{x\} \cap \Gamma_{i}\right) .
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## ${ }_{9}$ Composing two holomorphic correspondences

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|\Gamma| \star\left|\Gamma^{\prime}\right|:=\left\{(x, z) \in X \times X: \exists y \text { s.t. }(x, y) \in\left|\Gamma^{\prime}\right|,(y, z) \in|\Gamma|\right\} .
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- One can figure out the weight of each irred. component of $|\Gamma| \star\left|\Gamma^{\prime}\right|$ from the following example...
${ }_{10}$ Composing two holomorphic correspondences, cont'd.
We now consider a case of our interest:


## Example. If

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\Gamma:=\sum_{1 \leq i \leq N} \operatorname{graph}\left(g_{i}\right) \quad \text { and } \quad \Gamma^{\prime}:=\sum_{1 \leq j \leq M} \operatorname{graph}\left(f_{j}\right),
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- Weights are essential in one more way: they result in the formula $d_{t o p}\left(\Gamma^{\circ n}\right)=d_{t o p}(\Gamma)^{n}$.


## ${ }_{10}$ Composing two holomorphic correspondences, cont'd.

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## Example. If

$$
\Gamma:=\sum_{1 \leq i \leq N} \operatorname{graph}\left(g_{i}\right) \quad \text { and } \quad \Gamma^{\prime}:=\sum_{1 \leq j \leq M} \operatorname{graph}\left(f_{j}\right)
$$

then we have

$$
\Gamma \circ \Gamma^{\prime}=\sum_{1 \leq i \leq N} \sum_{1 \leq j \leq M} \operatorname{graph}\left(g_{i} \circ f_{j}\right) .
$$

- If it turns out that for some $i \neq i^{*}$ and $j \neq j^{*}, g_{i} \circ f_{j} \equiv g_{i^{*}} \circ f_{j^{*}}$, then in the standard presentation of $\Gamma \circ \Gamma^{\prime}, \operatorname{graph}\left(g_{i} \circ f_{j}\right)$ will have a weight $\geq 2$.
- Weights are essential in one more way: they result in the formula $d_{t o p}\left(\Gamma^{\circ n}\right)=d_{t o p}(\Gamma)^{n}$.

Note. $d_{\text {top }}(\Gamma)=\sum_{i=1}^{N} \operatorname{deg}\left(g_{i}\right)$ and $d_{t o p}\left({ }^{\dagger} \Gamma\right)=N$.

## ${ }_{11}$ Measures associated with correspondences

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\frac{1}{d_{t o p}(\Gamma)^{n}}\left(\Gamma^{\circ n}\right)^{*}\left(\delta_{y}\right) \xrightarrow{\text { weak }^{*}} \mu_{\Gamma} \text { as measures, as } n \rightarrow \infty .
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$\mu_{\Gamma}$ places no mass on pluripolar sets, and satisfies $\Gamma^{*}\left(\mu_{\Gamma}\right)=d_{t o p}(\Gamma) \mu_{\Gamma}$. [When $k=1$, it turns out that $d_{k-1}(\Gamma)=d_{0}(\Gamma)=d_{\text {top }}\left({ }^{\dagger} \Gamma\right)$.]

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\left\langle\Gamma^{*}\left(\delta_{y}\right), \varphi\right\rangle:=\sum_{1 \leq j \leq N} m_{j} \sum_{x:(x, y) \in \Gamma_{j}}^{\bullet} \varphi(x) .
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- comes from dualising $\left(\pi_{1}\right)_{*}$,
- is the interpretation of " $\left(\pi_{2}^{*}(\Omega) \wedge[\Gamma]\right)$ " in this case.


## ${ }_{12} \mathrm{~A}$ question

Let $S$ be a finitely generated rational semigroup with a generating set $\mathcal{G}=\left\{g_{1}, \ldots, g_{N}\right\}$ be a generating set. Consider $\Gamma_{\mathcal{G}}:=\sum_{1 \leq i \leq N} \operatorname{graph}\left(g_{i}\right)$.

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Then there exists a Borel probability measure $\mu_{\mathcal{G}}$ such that for every $a$ outside some polar set

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| ---: | :--- |
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Question: If each element of $S$ is a polynomial, then is $\mu_{\mathcal{G}}$ the equilibrium measure of $\mathbf{J}(S)$ ?

## ${ }_{13}$ Polynomial semigroups

Answer: No!

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Consider $S=\left\langle z^{2}, z^{2} / 2\right\rangle$.

## ${ }_{13} \mathrm{Polynomial}$ semigroups

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We call a rational semigroup $S$ a polynomial semigroup if

- every element of $S$ is a polynomial;
- every degree 1 element in $S$ have $\infty$ as an attracting fixed point.


## ${ }_{14}$ Logarithmic potentials

Let $\sigma$ be a Borel probability measure on $\mathbb{C}$ with compact support. Its logarithmic potential is the function $U^{\sigma}: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow(-\infty, \infty]$ defined by

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## Key Proposition (L., 2020)

Let $S$ be a finitely generated polynomial semigroup with a finite set of generators $\mathcal{G}$. Let $C(\mathcal{G}):=\left\{c \in \mathbb{C}: g^{\prime}(c)=0\right.$ for some $\left.g \in \mathcal{G}\right\}$.

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- $\mathcal{E}(S):=\left\{z \in \widehat{\mathbb{C}}: \cup_{g \in S} g^{-1}\{z\}\right.$ is a finite set $\}$.


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- $\mathcal{E}(S):=\left\{z \in \widehat{\mathbb{C}}: \cup_{g \in S} g^{-1}\{z\}\right.$ is a finite set $\}$.
- (Arsove, 1960) $U^{\sigma}$ is finite and continuous at $z_{0}$ if $\sigma$ satisfies

$$
\sigma(D(z, r)) \leq C r^{\alpha} \quad \forall r \in\left(0, r_{0}\right)
$$

where $\left|z-z_{0}\right|<\delta$ and $C, \alpha, r_{0}, \delta$ are positive constants depending only on $\sigma$ and $z_{0}$.

## ${ }_{15}$ External fields and our first theorem

Let $\Sigma$ be a compact subset of $\mathbb{C}$ and $Q: \Sigma \rightarrow(-\infty, \infty]$ be lower semi-continuous and $Q(z)<\infty$ on a set of positive capacity. The function $Q$ is called an external field.

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Remark: Hypothesis can be made "generator independent"; no time to discuss it.

## SKETCHES OF A FEW PROOFS...

## ${ }_{16} \mathrm{~A}$ counting lemma

Let $g_{1}, \ldots, g_{N}$ (not nec. distinct) be in $S$ s.t. $S=\left\langle g_{1}, \ldots, g_{N}\right\rangle$.

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$$
\begin{gathered}
M:=\max \left\{\left|g_{i}^{\prime}(z)\right|: z \in \mathbf{J}(S), i \in\{1, \ldots, N\}\right\}, \\
R:=\frac{D}{N} \quad \text { and } \quad \lambda:=\frac{\log R}{\log M},
\end{gathered}
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where $D:=\sum_{i=1}^{N} \operatorname{deg}\left(g_{i}\right)$. Thus $M=R^{\frac{1}{\lambda}}$. Note, $R>1$ and $M>1$.

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Assume $\sharp\left(\boldsymbol{C}\left(g_{1}, \ldots, g_{N}\right)\right)>1$. Then there exist $r_{0}>0$ and $\kappa \in \mathbb{Z}_{+}$such that for any $r \in\left(0, r_{0}\right]$ and $y \in \mathbf{J}(S)$, we have

$$
\sharp\left(\left(F^{n}\right)^{\dagger}(y) \cap D(z, r)\right)^{\bullet} \leq \max \left(D^{n-\frac{\nu}{\kappa}+1} N^{\frac{\nu}{\kappa}-1},\left(D-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n}\right)
$$

for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $z \in \mathbb{C}$, where $\nu \in \mathbb{Z}_{+}$is the unique integer such that

$$
r \in I(\nu):=\left(r_{0} R^{\frac{-2 \nu}{\lambda}}, r_{0} R^{\frac{-2(\nu-1)}{\lambda}}\right] .
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## ${ }_{17} \mathrm{~A}$ counting lemma, continued: Main idea

Goal: $\sharp\left(\left(F^{n}\right)^{\dagger}(y) \cap D(z, r)\right)^{\bullet} \leq \max \left(D^{n-\frac{\nu}{\kappa}+1} N^{\frac{\nu}{\kappa}-1},\left(D-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n}\right) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall z \in \mathbb{C}$.

Assume that $C\left(g_{1}, \ldots, g_{N}\right) \cap \mathbf{J}(S)=\emptyset$.

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- Let $\delta_{4}>0$ be the Lebesgue number of the following cover: $\left\{D(\xi, r(\xi)): \xi \in \overline{\mathbf{J}}^{\delta_{2}}\right\}$, where $r(\xi)>0$ is such that $\left.g_{i}\right|_{D(\xi, r(\xi))}$ is injective for $i=1,2, \ldots, N$.


## ${ }_{17} \mathrm{~A}$ counting lemma, continued: Main idea

Goal: $\sharp\left(\left(F^{n}\right)^{\dagger}(y) \cap D(z, r)\right)^{\bullet} \leq \max \left(D^{n-\frac{\nu}{\kappa}+1} N^{\frac{\nu}{\kappa}-1},\left(D-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n}\right) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall z \in \mathbb{C}$.

Assume that $\boldsymbol{C}\left(g_{1}, \ldots, g_{N}\right) \cap \mathbf{J}(S)=\emptyset$.

- Let $\delta_{2}>0$ be such that $g_{i}^{\prime}(z) \neq 0$ for every $z \in \mathbf{J}^{2 \delta_{2}} \backslash \mathbf{J}(S) \& \forall i$.
- Let $\delta_{3}>0$ be such that $\left|g_{i}^{\prime}(z)\right|<R^{\frac{2}{\lambda}}$ for every $z \in \mathbf{J}^{\delta_{3}} \& \forall i$.
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Write:

$$
r_{0}:=\frac{\min \left\{\delta_{2}, \delta_{3}, \delta_{4}\right\}}{4} \text { and } \kappa=1
$$

With this choice of $r_{0}$ and $\kappa$, the inequality follows by induction on $n$.

## ${ }_{18} \mathrm{~A}$ counting lemma, continued: Main idea

Goal: $\sharp\left(\left(F^{n}\right)^{\dagger}(y) \cap D(z, r)\right)^{\bullet} \leq \max \left(D^{n-\frac{\nu}{\kappa}+1} N^{\frac{\nu}{\kappa}-1},\left(D-\frac{1}{2}\right)^{n}\right) \quad \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \forall z \in \mathbb{C}$.

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What if $\boldsymbol{C}\left(g_{1}, \ldots, g_{N}\right) \cap \mathbf{J}(S) \neq \emptyset$ ? Let $\delta_{1}>0$ be so small that:

- $D\left(c_{j}, 2 \delta_{1}\right)$ are pairwise disjoint for $j=1,2, \ldots, q$,


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This $\delta_{1}$ and a parameter $\delta_{3}$ (as in last slide) describe two partial open covers of $\overline{\mathbf{J}}^{\delta_{2}}$. These form an open cover serving the same purpose as in the last slide.

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Value of $\kappa$ : Let $\kappa$ be such that

$$
\sum_{i: g_{i}^{\prime}(x) \neq 0}\left(\frac{D}{N}\right)^{1 / \kappa}+\sum_{i: g_{i}^{\prime}(x)=0} \operatorname{ord}_{x}\left(g_{i}\right) \leq D-\frac{1}{2} \quad \forall x \in \boldsymbol{C}\left(g_{1}, g_{2}, \ldots, g_{N}\right)
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## ${ }_{19}$ Sketch of the proof of the Key Proposition

The proof is divided between the following essential cases:

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We'll only address Case 1. For $n$ sufficiently large:

$$
\mu_{n}(D(z, r))=\frac{1}{D^{n}} \sharp\left(\left(F^{n}\right)^{\dagger}(a) \cap D(z, r)\right)^{\bullet} \leq\left(\frac{D}{N}\right)^{1-\frac{\nu}{\kappa}} .
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Since $r>r_{0} R^{-2 \nu / \lambda}$ and recalling that $R:=D / N$, we get

$$
\mu_{n}(D(z, r)) \leq\left(\frac{R}{r_{0}^{\lambda / 2 \kappa}}\right) r^{\frac{\lambda}{2 \kappa}}=C_{1} r^{\alpha} .
$$

Since $\mu_{n} \rightarrow \mu_{\mathcal{G}}$ in the weak* topology, $\mu_{\mathcal{G}}(D(z, r)) \leq C_{1} r^{\alpha}$.

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$$
\begin{aligned}
& U^{\mu_{\mathcal{G}}}(z)+G_{\mathcal{G}}(z) \leq \frac{\log A}{D-N} \quad \text { for every } z \in \mathbb{C} \\
& U^{\mu_{\mathcal{G}}}(z)+G_{\mathcal{G}}(z)=\frac{\log A}{D-N} \quad \text { for q.e. } z \in \mathbb{C} \quad \text { [by Lower Envelope Theorem] }, \\
& \text { where } A=\left|\operatorname{lead}\left(g_{1}\right) \times \operatorname{lead}\left(g_{2}\right) \times \cdots \times \operatorname{lead}\left(g_{N}\right)\right| .
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$$

- As $U^{\mu_{\mathcal{G}}}$ is continuous, it follows that

$$
U^{\mu_{\mathcal{G}}}(z)+G_{\mathcal{G}}^{*}(z)=\frac{\log A}{D-N} \quad \forall z \in \mathbb{C}
$$

## ${ }_{21}$ Lower bound for capacity of the Julia set

Theorem (L., 2020)
Let $(S, \mathcal{G})$ be as in our main theorem and let $Q_{\mathcal{G}}$ denote the external field associated with $(S, \mathcal{G})$.

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(1) Assume that, for some $z_{0} \in \mathbf{J}(S)$, the orbit of $z_{0}$ is unbounded and is not dense in $\mathbb{C}$. Then $Q_{\mathcal{G}} \not \equiv 0$ for any finite generating set $\mathcal{G}$. Moreover, if each element of $S$ is of degree at least 2 then

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## THANK YOU!

