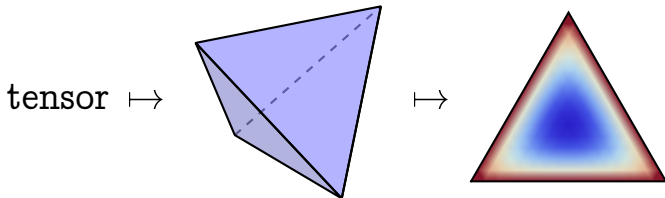


# The asymptotic spectrum of tensors



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(QuSoft & CWI)

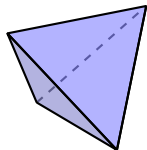
joint work with

Péter Vrana (BME Budapest)

Matthias Christandl (University of Copenhagen)

We use

- moment polytopes
- representation theory
- quantum information theory



to study asymptotic properties of tensors

motivated by problems in

- computational complexity theory
- additive combinatorics

$$\begin{pmatrix} a & b \\ c & d \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} e & f \\ g & h \end{pmatrix}$$



# 1. Tensors

tensor

$$t = (t_{i_1 i_2 i_3})_{i_1 i_2 i_3} \in \mathbb{F}^{n_1 \times n_2 \times n_3}$$

$$t = \sum_{i_1 i_2 i_3} t_{i_1 i_2 i_3} e_{i_1} \otimes e_{i_2} \otimes e_{i_3} \in \mathbb{F}^{n_1} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{n_2} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{n_3}$$

“restriction” of tensors

$$t \in \mathbb{F}^{n_1} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{n_2} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{n_3}$$

$$s \in \mathbb{F}^{m_1} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{m_2} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{m_3}$$

We say  $t$  restricts to  $s$  and write

$$t \geq s$$

if there are linear maps  $A_i : \mathbb{F}^{n_i} \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^{m_i}$  such that

$$(A_1 \otimes A_2 \otimes A_3) \cdot t = s$$

## restriction

$$s \leq t \quad \text{iff} \quad s = (A_1 \otimes A_2 \otimes A_3) \cdot t \quad \text{for some linear } A_i$$

## “diagonal” tensor

ones on the main diagonal, zeros elsewhere

$$\langle n \rangle = \sum_{i=1}^n e_i \otimes e_i \otimes e_i \quad \in \mathbb{F}^n \otimes \mathbb{F}^n \otimes \mathbb{F}^n$$

## rank and sub-rank

$$R(t) = \min\{n \in \mathbb{N} : t \leq \langle n \rangle\}$$

$$Q(t) = \max\{m \in \mathbb{N} : \langle m \rangle \leq t\}$$

## 2. Asymptotic properties of tensors

$$\text{property}(t^{\otimes n}) \quad n \rightarrow \infty$$

## tensor product $\otimes$ on tensors

$$(\mathbb{F}^{n_1} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{n_2} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{n_3}) \times (\mathbb{F}^{m_1} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{m_2} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{m_3}) \rightarrow \mathbb{F}^{n_1 m_1} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{n_2 m_2} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{n_3 m_3}$$

$$(t, s) \mapsto t \otimes s = \sum_{\substack{i_1 i_2 i_3 \\ j_1 j_2 j_3}} t_{i_1 i_2 i_3} \cdot s_{j_1 j_2 j_3} e_{i_1 j_1} \otimes e_{i_2 j_2} \otimes e_{i_3 j_3}$$

## asymptotic rank and asymptotic sub-rank

$$\underline{R}(t) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} R(t^{\otimes N})^{1/N}$$

$$\underline{Q}(t) = \lim_{N \rightarrow \infty} Q(t^{\otimes N})^{1/N}$$

## asymptotic restriction

$$s \lesssim t \quad \text{iff} \quad \forall n \quad s^{\otimes n} \leq t^{\otimes n + a_n} \quad \frac{a_n}{n} \rightarrow 0, \quad n \rightarrow \infty$$

### 3. Illustrations of $\tilde{Q}(t)$ and $\tilde{R}(t)$

fast matrix multiplication

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 & 0 & 3 & 5 & 8 & 2 & 10 & 8 & 5 \\ 5 & 9 & 5 & 9 & 7 & 6 & 10 & 6 & 7 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 & 8 & 3 & 10 & 3 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 5 & 6 & 4 & 2 & 2 & 10 & 7 & 1 & 5 & 10 \\ 6 & 6 & 9 & 0 & 5 & 10 & 6 & 5 & 2 & 3 \\ 5 & 8 & 9 & 0 & 8 & 3 & 8 & 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 7 & 1 & 6 & 8 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 8 & 0 & 7 & 7 & 5 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 4 & 9 \\ 5 & 2 & 1 & 8 & 6 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 2 & 0 \\ 9 & 2 & 8 & 3 & 8 & 1 & 1 & 7 & 8 & 7 \end{pmatrix}, \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 5 & 7 & 5 & 1 & 5 & 3 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 3 & 6 & 2 & 0 & 7 & 6 & 6 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 10 & 5 & 10 & 2 & 8 & 1 & 0 & 6 & 4 & 0 \\ 9 & 5 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 10 & 7 & 7 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 10 & 4 & 6 & 1 & 5 & 1 & 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 5 & 8 & 6 & 1 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 9 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 7 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 4 \\ 6 & 3 & 3 & 9 & 6 & 5 & 6 & 3 & 4 & 10 \\ 3 & 2 & 9 & 7 & 6 & 4 & 4 & 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 7 & 10 & 2 & 5 & 1 & 6 & 6 & 8 & 9 & 6 \end{pmatrix}$$

*cap set* problem





# Fast matrix multiplication

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 4 & 0 & 3 & 5 & 8 & 2 & 10 & 8 & 5 \\ 5 & 9 & 5 & 9 & 7 & 6 & 10 & 6 & 7 & 1 \\ 0 & 3 & 7 & 8 & 3 & 10 & 3 & 2 & 3 & 1 \\ 5 & 6 & 4 & 2 & 2 & 10 & 7 & 1 & 5 & 10 \\ 6 & 6 & 9 & 0 & 5 & 10 & 6 & 5 & 2 & 3 \\ 5 & 8 & 9 & 0 & 8 & 3 & 8 & 2 & 4 & 2 \\ 0 & 7 & 1 & 6 & 8 & 0 & 0 & 0 & 2 & 3 \\ 8 & 0 & 7 & 7 & 5 & 0 & 5 & 3 & 4 & 9 \\ 5 & 2 & 1 & 8 & 6 & 2 & 0 & 5 & 2 & 0 \\ 9 & 2 & 8 & 3 & 8 & 1 & 1 & 7 & 8 & 7 \end{pmatrix} \cdot \begin{pmatrix} 9 & 5 & 7 & 5 & 1 & 5 & 3 & 0 & 6 & 0 \\ 3 & 6 & 2 & 0 & 7 & 6 & 6 & 6 & 7 & 8 \\ 10 & 5 & 10 & 2 & 8 & 1 & 0 & 6 & 4 & 0 \\ 9 & 5 & 0 & 2 & 1 & 3 & 10 & 7 & 7 & 8 \\ 0 & 0 & 10 & 4 & 6 & 1 & 5 & 1 & 4 & 2 \\ 3 & 5 & 8 & 6 & 1 & 0 & 3 & 0 & 0 & 9 \\ 1 & 1 & 2 & 1 & 7 & 1 & 3 & 4 & 1 & 4 \\ 6 & 3 & 3 & 9 & 6 & 5 & 6 & 3 & 4 & 10 \\ 3 & 2 & 9 & 7 & 6 & 4 & 4 & 1 & 4 & 3 \\ 7 & 10 & 2 & 5 & 1 & 6 & 6 & 8 & 9 & 6 \end{pmatrix} = ?$$

by hand	$2 \cdot n^3$
Strassen	$4.7 \cdot n^{2.8}$
current best	$C \cdot n^{2.32}$
lower bound	$n^2$
optimal	$C \cdot n^\omega$

$$2^\omega = \underline{\mathbb{R}}(\text{mamu tensor}), \quad \text{mamu tensor} \in \mathbb{F}^4 \otimes \mathbb{F}^4 \otimes \mathbb{F}^4$$

# Cap set problem

$$\begin{aligned} (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^n & \bullet u + 2v \\ & \bullet u + v \\ & \bullet u \end{aligned}$$

$$(\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^3$$



cap set

subset  $A \subseteq (\mathbb{Z}/3\mathbb{Z})^n$  without lines, except trivial lines  $(u, u, u)$

trivial upper bound  $|A| \leq 3^n$

Gijswijt–Ellenberg (2016)  $|A| \leq C \cdot 2.755^n$

$2.755\dots = Q(\text{cap set tensor}), \quad \text{cap set tensor} \in \mathbb{F}_3^3 \otimes \mathbb{F}_3^3 \otimes \mathbb{F}_3^3$

## 4. Asymptotic spectrum of tensors

[Strassen 1986]

## The asymptotic spectrum of tensors

$\mathcal{T}$  = 3-tensors over  $\mathbb{F} = \bigcup_{n_1, n_2, n_3} \mathbb{F}^{n_1} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{n_2} \otimes \mathbb{F}^{n_3}$

$X(\mathcal{T})$  = set of maps  $F : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  such that

1. if  $t \geq s$  then  $F(t) \geq F(s)$  monotone
2.  $F(s \oplus t) = F(s) + F(t)$  additive
3.  $F(s \otimes t) = F(s)F(t)$  multiplicative
4.  $F(\langle n \rangle) = n$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  normalised

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- Let  $F \in X(\mathcal{T})$
- $t^{\otimes n} \leq \langle R(t^{\otimes n}) \rangle$
- $F(t)^n = F(t^{\otimes n}) \leq F(\langle R(t^{\otimes n}) \rangle) = R(t^{\otimes n})$
- $F(t) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} R(t^{\otimes n})^{1/n} = \underline{R}(t)$

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### Observation

- $\underline{Q}(t) \leq F(t) \leq \underline{R}(t)$
- $s \lesssim t$  implies  $\forall F \in X(\mathcal{T}) \quad F(s) \leq F(t)$

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## Theorem

- $\underline{Q}(t) = \min_{F \in X(\mathcal{T})} F(t)$
- $\underline{R}(t) = \max_{F \in X(\mathcal{T})} F(t)$
- $s \lesssim t$  iff  $\forall F \in X(\mathcal{T}) \quad F(s) \leq F(t)$

## Remark

$\underline{Q}(t), \underline{R}(t) \notin X(\mathcal{T})$

Goal Describe  $X(\mathcal{T})$  explicitly

## Known: gauge points

Transform tensor into matrix and compute matrix rank

$$\zeta_1 : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

$$(t_{i_1 i_2 i_3})_{i_1 i_2 i_3} \mapsto \mathbf{rank}(t_{i_1(i_2, i_3)})_{i_1(i_2, i_3)}$$



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**Theorem (observation)** [Strassen (1986)]

The three gauge points are in the asymptotic spectrum

$$\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \zeta_3 \in X(\mathcal{T})$$

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### Example

- mamu tensor =  $\sum_{ijk \in [2]} e_{ij} \otimes e_{jk} \otimes e_{ki} \in \mathbb{F}^4 \otimes \mathbb{F}^4 \otimes \mathbb{F}^4$
- $\zeta_1(\text{mamu tensor}) = \text{rank}(\sum_{ijk \in [2]} e_{ij} \otimes e_{jki}) = 4$
- $4 \leq \underline{\mathbb{R}}(\text{mamu tensor}) = 2^\omega$

## Known: support functionals

Study probability distributions on support of  $t \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{n_2} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{n_3}$

$$\text{supp } t = \{(i_1, i_2, i_3) : t_{i_1 i_2 i_3} \neq 0\} \subseteq [n_1] \times [n_2] \times [n_3]$$

Oblique tensor: tensor for which  $\text{supp } t$  is antichain in some basis

$$\zeta_\theta : \{\text{oblique tensors}\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$$

$$t \mapsto \max_{P \in \text{prob}(\text{supp } t)} 2^{\theta_1 H(P_1) + \theta_2 H(P_2) + \theta_3 H(P_3)}$$

**Theorem** [Strassen (1986)]

For every weighting  $\theta$

$$\zeta_\theta \in X(\{\text{oblique tensors}\})$$

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**Example**

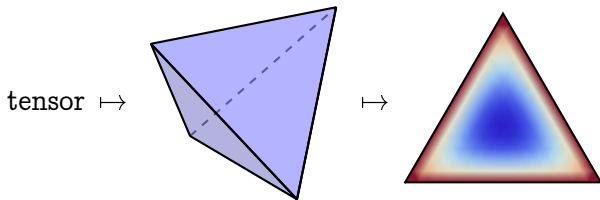
- $\zeta_{(1/3, 1/3, 1/3)}(\text{cap set tensor}) = 2.755\dots$
- $\mathbb{Q}(\text{cap set tensor}) \leq 2.755$  in fact, equality holds

## Summary of what was known

- *three* elements in  $X(\mathcal{T})$
- infinite family in  $X(\mathcal{S})$  for certain sub-semirings  $\mathcal{S} \subseteq \mathcal{T}$

## 5. New: quantum functionals

infinite family of elements in  $X(\mathcal{T})$  when  $\mathbb{F} = \mathbb{C}$   
via moment polytopes



Moment polytope

Representation theoretic description

- $t \in \mathbb{C}^{d_1} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_2} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_3}$

## Moment polytope

### Representation theoretic description

- $t \in \mathbb{C}^{d_1} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_2} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_3}$
- $t^{\otimes n} \in (\mathbb{C}^{d_1})^{\otimes n} \otimes (\mathbb{C}^{d_2})^{\otimes n} \otimes (\mathbb{C}^{d_3})^{\otimes n} \cong (\mathbb{C}^{d_1} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_2} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_3})^{\otimes n}$



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- $S_n \times (\mathrm{GL}_{d_1} \times \mathrm{GL}_{d_2} \times \mathrm{GL}_{d_3}) \curvearrowright (\mathbb{C}^{d_1} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_2} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_3})^{\otimes n}$

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- $(\mathbb{C}^{d_1} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_2} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_3})^{\otimes n} = \bigoplus_{\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3 \vdash n} P_\lambda (\mathbb{C}^{d_1} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_2} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{d_3})^{\otimes n}$

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$$\Delta_t = \left\{ \left( \frac{1}{n} \lambda_1, \frac{1}{n} \lambda_2, \frac{1}{n} \lambda_3 \right) : n \in \mathbb{N}, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3 \vdash n, P_\lambda \cdot t^{\otimes n} \neq 0 \right\}$$

Moment polytope

Marginal spectrum description

(natural point of view for quantum information theory)

- $s \in \mathbb{C}^{n_1} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{n_2} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{n_3}$ ,  $\|s\|_2 = 1$  quantum state

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- $\rho^s = ss^* : \mathbb{C}^{n_1} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{n_2} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{n_3} \rightarrow \mathbb{C}^{n_1} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{n_2} \otimes \mathbb{C}^{n_3}$  density matrix

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$$\Delta_t = \left\{ (\text{spec}(\rho_1^s), \text{spec}(\rho_2^s), \text{spec}(\rho_3^s)) : s \trianglelefteq t, \|s\|_2 = 1 \right\}$$

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$$\Delta_t = \left\{ (\text{spec}(\rho_1^s), \text{spec}(\rho_2^s), \text{spec}(\rho_3^s)) : s \preceq t, \|s\|_2 = 1 \right\}$$

### Theorem

- the two descriptions of  $\Delta_t$  indeed coincide
- $\Delta_t$  is a convex polytope

[Guillemin–Sternberg, Kempf, Ness, Mumford, Brion, Kirwan,  
Walter–Doran–Gross–Christandl]

## Construction of the quantum functional

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- $H(x^1) = \sum_i x_i^1 \log_2 1/x_i^1$

Shannon entropy

## Construction of the quantum functional

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- $\Delta_t = \{(\text{spec}(\rho_1^s), \text{spec}(\rho_2^s), \text{spec}(\rho_3^s)) : s \leq t, \|s\|_2 = 1\}$
- $x = (x^1, x^2, x^3) \in \Delta_t$
- $H(x^1) = \sum_i x_i^1 \log_2 1/x_i^1$  Shannon entropy
- $\sum_{i=1}^3 \theta_i H(x^i)$   $\theta$ -weighted average

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**Theorem** [Christandl–Vrana–Zuiddam 2017]

For every weighting  $\theta$

$$F_\theta \in X(\mathcal{T})$$

$$\underline{Q}(t) \leq F_\theta(t) \leq \underline{R}(t)$$

## Example

- $w = e_1 \otimes e_1 \otimes e_2 + e_1 \otimes e_2 \otimes e_1 + e_2 \otimes e_1 \otimes e_1 \in \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2 \otimes \mathbb{C}^2$

## Example

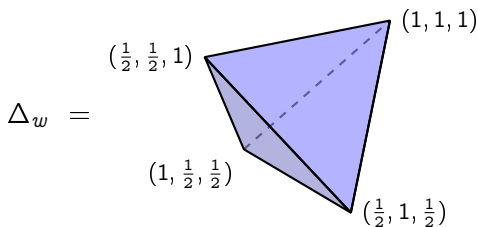
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# Example

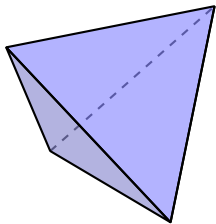
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[Walter–Doran–Gross–Christandl]

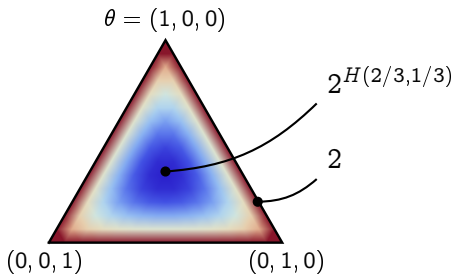
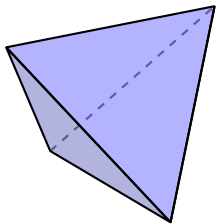
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- $F_\theta(w) = \max_{(p_1, p_2, p_3) \in \Delta_w} 2 \sum_{i=1}^3 \theta_i H(p_i, 1-p_i)$

$\Delta_w =$

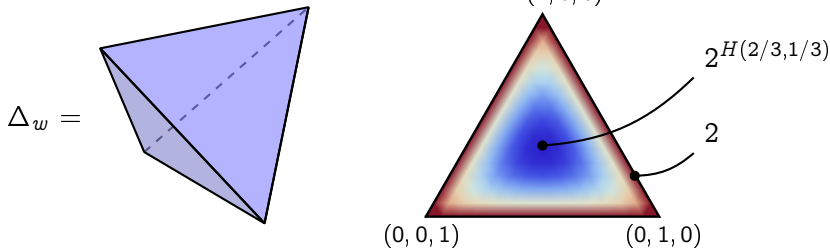


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- $\underline{Q}(w) \leq 2^{H(2/3, 1/3)}$  and  $2 \leq \underline{R}(w)$
- In fact these are equalities.



## Some remarks about the proof

$$F_\theta(t) = \sup\{2^{\sum_{i=1}^3 \theta_i H(x^i)} : x \in \Delta_t\}$$

To show:

$F_\theta$  is multiplicative, additive,  $\leq$ -monotone,  $\langle n \rangle$ -normalised

$$\Delta_t = \left\{ \left( \frac{1}{n} \lambda_1, \frac{1}{n} \lambda_2, \frac{1}{n} \lambda_3 \right) : n \in \mathbb{N}, \lambda_1, \lambda_2, \lambda_3 \vdash n, P_\lambda \cdot t^{\otimes n} \neq 0 \right\}$$

- sub-multiplicativity
- sub-additivity

$$\Delta_t = \left\{ \left( \text{spec}(\rho_1^s), \text{spec}(\rho_2^s), \text{spec}(\rho_3^s) \right) : s \trianglelefteq t, \|s\|_2 = 1 \right\}$$

- super-multiplicativity
- super-additivity

# Proof ingredient for sub-multiplicativity

## Schur-Weyl duality

$$S_n \times GL_d \curvearrowright (\mathbb{C}^d)^{\otimes n} \cong \bigoplus_{\lambda \vdash_d n} [\lambda] \otimes S_\lambda(\mathbb{C}^d)$$

## Kronecker coefficient

$$S_n \curvearrowright [\lambda] \otimes [\mu] \cong \bigoplus_{\nu \vdash n} [\nu]^{\oplus g_{\lambda\mu\nu}}$$

## Semigroup property

If  $g_{\lambda\mu\nu} \neq 0$  and  $g_{\alpha\beta\gamma} \neq 0$ , then  $g_{\lambda+\alpha, \mu+\beta, \nu+\gamma} \neq 0$

## Semigroup property + dimension bounds $\rightarrow$ entropy inequality

If  $g_{\lambda\mu\nu} \neq 0$ , then  $H(\frac{1}{n}\lambda) \leq H(\frac{1}{n}\mu) + H(\frac{1}{n}\nu)$

# Relation to gauge points and support functionals

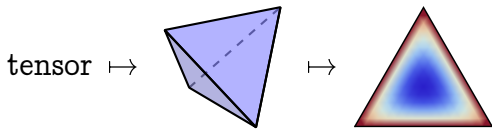
- gauge points [Strassen 86]  $\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \zeta_3 \in X(\mathcal{T})$
- support functionals [Strassen 86]  $\zeta_\theta \in X(\{\text{oblique tensors}\})$
- quantum functionals [CVZ 17]  $F_\theta \in X(\mathcal{T})$

## Relations

1.  $\zeta_1 = F_{(1,0,0)}$ ,  $\zeta_2 = F_{(0,1,0)}$ ,  $\zeta_3 = F_{(0,0,1)}$
2.  $\zeta_\theta = F_\theta$  on oblique tensors

## 6. Conclusion

- Knowing the asymptotic spectrum means knowing  $\mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$ .
- We construct an infinite family of elements in the asymptotic spectrum  $X(\mathcal{T})$  of tensors over  $\mathbb{C}$  via quantum information ideas and moment polytopes.



- Are these all? We do not know for 3-tensors. For 4-tensors: there are more.
- We do not improve the bounds on  $2^\omega = \mathbb{R}(\text{mamu tensor})$ .

Thank you