

# Noncommutative Analogues of the Fejér-Riesz Theorem

Michael Dritschel

25 April 2011

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- ▶ *Hilbert's 17th problem*: Is every nonnegative polynomial  $q: \mathbb{R}^d \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  a sum of squares of rational functions?
- ▶ Yes (Artin 1927).

## Some definitions

Let  $A$  be a unital commutative ring.

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- ▶ If  $C$  is a convex set,  $a \in C$  is in the *algebraic interior* of  $C$  if for all  $x$  there is a  $t_x \in [0, 1)$  such that  $ta + (1 - t)x \in C$  for all  $t \in [t_x, 1]$ .

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- ▶ A prepositive cone  $T$  is *archimedean* if  $1$  is in the algebraic interior of  $T$ .

*Abstract Positivstellensatz (Krivine):*

1.  $a > 0$  on  $W(H)$  iff there exists  $t_1, t_2 \in T(H)$  such that  $t_1 a = 1 + t_2$ .
2.  $a \geq 0$  on  $W(H)$  iff there exists  $t_1, t_2 \in T(H)$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $t_1 a = a^{2n} + t_2$ .
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- The four statements are equivalent. For example, to get 2. from 1., replace  $A$  by  $A[x]$  and add the polynomials  $ax - 1$  and  $-ax + 1$  to  $H$ . Then  $a > 0$  on  $W(H)$ . The rest is straightforward algebra.

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  - ▶ On the other hand, if  $-1 \notin T(H)$ , then  $T(H)$  is a prepositive cone, and so extends to a positive cone  $P$ . So for each  $h \in H$ ,  $h \in T(H) \subset P$ , and so  $W(H) \neq \emptyset$ .



*Tarski Transfer Principle:* Let  $(F, \leq)$  be an ordered field extension of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then any finite system  $H$  of  $d$ -variable polynomial inequalities (with coefficients in  $\mathbb{R}$ ) having a solution in  $F^d$  has a solution in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

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*Concrete Positivstellensatz:* Let  $A = \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ ,  $H \subset A$  finite,  $W_{\mathbb{R}}(H) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : h(x) \geq 0 \ \forall h \in H\}$ . Then  $W_{\mathbb{R}}(H) \neq \emptyset$  iff  $W(H) \neq \emptyset$ .

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*Idea of the proof:* Suppose  $x \in W_{\mathbb{R}}(H) \neq \emptyset$ . Then  $P = \{a \in A : a(x) \geq 0\} \in \text{sp}A$ , and so clearly  $P \in W(H)$ .

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Suppose  $P \in W(H)$ . Note that  $P \supset T(H)$ . Set  $F = \text{Quot}(A/\text{supp}P)$  with the ordering induced by  $P$ . Note that  $\mathbb{R}$  sits inside of  $F$  as constant functions, and the ordering on  $F$  restricts to the unique ordering on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Find a solution inside of  $F$  and apply the Tarski Transfer Principle to get  $x \in \mathbb{R}^d$  such that  $h(x) \geq 0$  for all  $h \in H$ ; that is,  $W_{\mathbb{R}}(H) \neq \emptyset$ .

## A generalization of Artin's result

Argue as before that the following statements are equivalent for  $A = \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_d]$ :

1.  $a > 0$  on  $W_{\mathbb{R}}(H)$  iff there exists  $t_1, t_2 \in T(H)$  such that  $t_1 a = 1 + t_2$ .
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Then when  $H \subset A$  finite, Artin's result is just a corollary of the concrete Positivstellensatz along with 2. when  $H = \{1\}$ .

## Putinar's Theorem and Schmüdgen's Theorem

Recall:

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In the single variable case, a more careful analysis can be used to get the outer factorization. Likewise in several variables, depending on how you define outer!

- ▶ The complex scalar valued trigonometric polynomials in  $d$  variables form a unital involutive algebra  $\mathcal{P}$ , the involution taking  $z^n$  to  $z^{-n}$ , where for  $n=(n_1, \dots, n_d)$ ,  $-n=(-n_1, \dots, -n_d)$ . This is the (algebraic) group algebra for  $G=\mathbb{Z}^d$ .

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- ▶ Involution preserving representations of  $G$  are unitary, and since the group is commutative, the irreducible representations are 1-dimensional. Group representations of locally compact groups extend naturally to the algebraic group algebra  $\mathcal{P}$ .

**Alternate definition:** A (commutative) multivariable trigonometric polynomial  $P$  is positive / strictly positive if for each (topologically) irreducible (and hence 1-dimensional) unitary representation  $\pi$  of  $G$ , the extension of  $\pi$  to a unital \*-representation of the algebra  $\mathcal{P} \otimes \mathcal{C}$ , has the property that  $\pi(P) \geq 0$  /  $\pi(P) > 0$ .



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- ▶ This (and what follows) also works if  $G$  is an inverse semigroup.



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- ▶ We consider the problem of factorizing nonnegative / positive (real) trigonometric polynomials.



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What if we only consider strict positivity?

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- ▶ Iterating shows that  $C$  is archimedean: for any  $P \in H$ , there is some constant  $0 \leq \alpha < \infty$  such that  $\alpha 1 \pm P \in C$ .

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*Noncommutative Fejér-Riesz Theorem:* Let  $G$  be a finitely generated discrete group,  $P$  a strictly positive trigonometric polynomial over  $G$  with coefficients in  $\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{G})$ . Then  $P$  is a sum of squares of analytic polynomials.

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- ▶ Are there noncommutative analogues of Schmüdgen's theorem? All known proofs of Schmüdgen's theorem ultimately depend on the Tarski Transfer Principle. Is there a noncommutative analogue of this?

The End