

REFLECTING BROWNIAN MOTION IN
TWO DIMENSIONS:
EXACT ASYMPTOTICS FOR THE
STATIONARY DISTRIBUTION

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The Stochastic Networks Conference at MIT

- Background
- Geometric objects
- Theorems
- Proof techniques

Part I: Background

Semimartingale reflecting Brownian motion (SRBM)

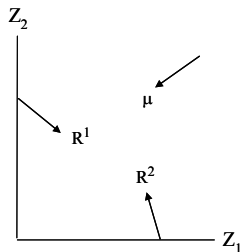
$$Z(t) = X(t) + RY(t) \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0,$$

X is a (μ, Σ) Brownian motion,

$$Z(t) \in \mathbb{R}_+^n \quad \text{for all } t \geq 0,$$

$Y(\cdot)$ is continuous and nondecreasing with $Y(0) = 0$,

$Y_i(\cdot)$ only increases when $Z_i(\cdot) = 0$, $i = 1, \dots, n$.



Semimartingale reflecting Brownian motion (SRBM)

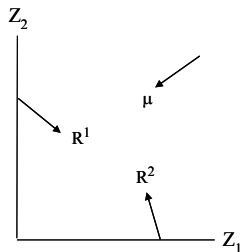
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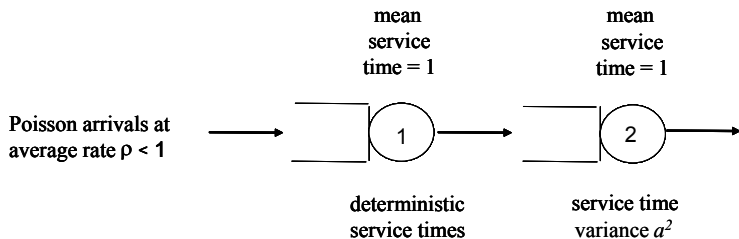


- We focus on $n = 2$.
- R is assumed to be completely- \mathcal{S}

$$R = (R^1, R^2) = \begin{pmatrix} r_{11} & r_{12} \\ r_{21} & r_{22} \end{pmatrix}.$$

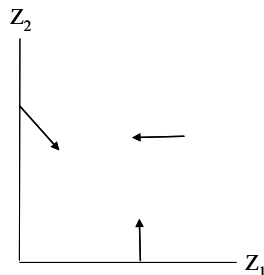
- Z exists and is unique in distribution; (Taylor-Williams 92)

A queueing network



Reiman (84), Harrison-Reiman (81)

Its Approximating SRBM



$$Z_1(t) = X_1(t) + Y_1(t),$$

$$Z_2(t) = X_2(t) - Y_1(t) + Y_2(t)$$

drift of X is $\mu = (\rho - 1, 0)$,

covariance of X is $\Sigma = \begin{pmatrix} \rho & 0 \\ 0 & a^2 \end{pmatrix}$

- [R. J. Williams \(95\)](#), Semimartingale reflecting Brownian motions in the orthant, in *Stochastic Networks*, eds. F. P. Kelly and R. J. Williams, the IMA Volumes in Mathematics and its Applications, Vol. 71 (Springer, New York)
- [R. J. Williams \(96\)](#), On the approximation of queueing networks in heavy traffic, in *Stochastic Networks: Theory and Applications*, eds. F. P. Kelly, S. Zachary and I. Ziedens, Royal Statistical Society (Oxford Univ. Press, Oxford)

PROPOSITION (HOBSON-ROGERS 94, HARRISON-HASENBEIN 09)

Assume that

$$r_{11} > 0, \quad r_{22} > 0, \quad r_{11}r_{22} - r_{12}r_{21} > 0, \quad (1)$$

$$r_{22}\mu_1 - r_{12}\mu_2 < 0, \quad \text{and} \quad r_{11}\mu_2 - r_{21}\mu_1 < 0. \quad (2)$$

Then SRBM Z has a unique stationary distribution π .

- Condition (1): R is a \mathcal{P} -matrix.
- Condition (2): $R^{-1}\mu < 0$.

Tail asymptotics of the stationary distribution

- Let $Z(\infty) = (Z_1(\infty), Z_2(\infty))$ be the random vector that has the stationary distribution π .
- For any $c \in \mathbb{R}_+^2$, set

$$\langle c, Z(\infty) \rangle = c_1 Z_1(\infty) + c_2 Z_2(\infty).$$

- We are interested in finding a function $f_c(x)$ that satisfies

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{\mathbb{P}\{\langle c, Z(\infty) \rangle > x\}}{f_c(x)} = b$$

for some constant $b > 0$.

- The function $bf_c(x)$ is said to be the **exact asymptotic** of $\mathbb{P}\{\langle c, Z(\infty) \rangle > x\}$.

MAIN RESULT

- For an SRBM satisfying (1) and (2), the exact asymptotic is given by

$$f_c(x) = x^{\kappa_c} e^{-\alpha_c x}.$$

- The decay rate α_c and the constant κ_c can be computed explicitly from the primitive data (μ, Σ, R) .
- The constant κ_c must take one of the values $-3/2, -1/2, 0$ or 1 .

Let $p_c(x)$ be the density of $\langle c, Z(\infty) \rangle$. In most cases, we have

$$\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} \frac{p_c(x)}{f_c(x)} = b \text{ for some } b > 0.$$

A diversion: Laplace transform

- Let $f : \mathbb{R}_+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ be a continuous and integrable function. Define

$$\tilde{f}(z) = \int_0^{\infty} e^{zx} f(x) dx, \quad \Re z < \alpha_f,$$

where $\alpha_f = \sup\{\theta \geq 0 : \tilde{f}(\theta) < \infty\}$. \tilde{f} is analytic in $\Re z < \alpha_f$.

- When f is a Gamma(k, α) density, namely,

$$f(x) = \frac{c}{\Gamma(k)} x^{k-1} e^{-\alpha x},$$

then $\alpha_f = \alpha$ and

$$\tilde{f}(z) = \frac{c}{(\alpha - z)^k} \equiv g(z) \quad \text{for } \Re z < \alpha.$$

- Complex function g is an “analytic” extension of \tilde{f} .

A diversion: complex inversion

PROPOSITION (WHEN k IS A POSITIVE INTEGER)

Suppose that the analytic extension g of \tilde{f} satisfies that

$$g(z) - \frac{c_0}{(\alpha_0 - z)^k}$$

is analytic for $\Re z < \alpha_1$ for some $\alpha_1 > \alpha_0$. Then, under some mild conditions on g ,

$$f(x) \sim \frac{c_0}{\Gamma(k)} x^{k-1} e^{-\alpha_0 x} \quad \text{as } x \rightarrow \infty. \quad (3)$$

When α_0 is the k th order pole of $g(z)$, then (3) holds.

- Define

$$\varphi(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \mathbb{E}\left[e^{\langle \theta, Z(\infty) \rangle}\right].$$

Then the transform of $\langle c, Z(\infty) \rangle$ has the following expression

$$\psi_c(z) = \mathbb{E}(e^{z\langle c, Z(\infty) \rangle}) = \varphi(zc).$$

- Define the convergence domain of φ

$$\mathcal{D} = \text{interior of } \{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \varphi(\theta) < \infty\}.$$

- Fayolle and Iasnogorodski (1979),
- Cohen and Boxma (1983), Cohen (1992), Fayolle, Iasnogorodski and Malyshev (99): [Riemann](#), [Riemann-Hilbert](#), [Wiener-Hopf](#) problem; “exact” analysis and [two-dimensional](#).
- Lieshout and Mandjes (07, 08), Miyazawa and Rolski (09),
- Miyazawa and Kobayashi (2011)

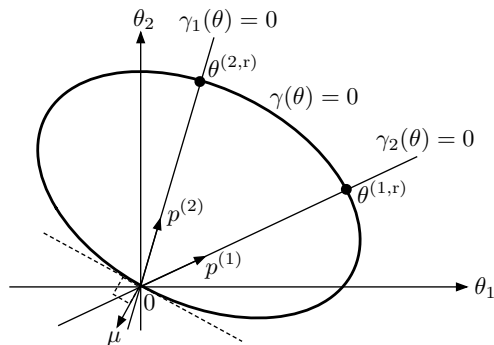
Part II: Geometric objects

Geometric objects: an ellipse and two lines

$$\gamma(\theta) = -\langle \theta, \mu \rangle - \frac{1}{2} \langle \theta, \Sigma \theta \rangle,$$

$$\gamma_1(\theta) = r_{11}\theta_1 + r_{21}\theta_2 = \langle R^1, \theta \rangle,$$

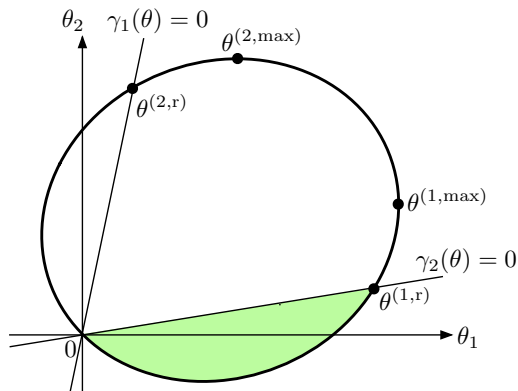
$$\gamma_2(\theta) = r_{12}\theta_1 + r_{22}\theta_2 = \langle R^2, \theta \rangle,$$



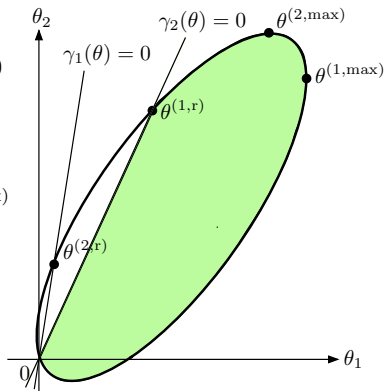
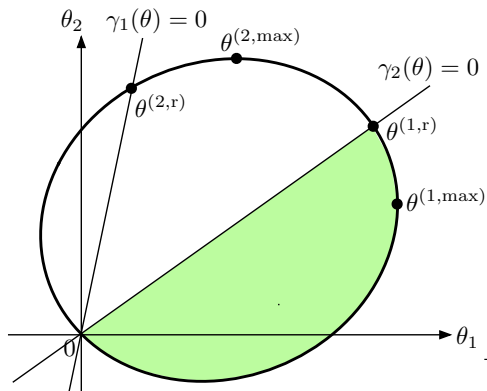
Stability condition (2): $\langle \mu, p^{(1)} \rangle < 0, \quad \langle \mu, p^{(2)} \rangle < 0. \quad (4)$

Domain Γ_1 is shaded; $\theta^{(1,\max)} \notin \partial\Gamma_1$; $\theta^{(1,\Gamma)} = \theta^{(1,r)}$

$$\Gamma = \{\theta \in \mathbb{R}^2 : \gamma(\theta) > 0\}, \quad \Gamma_1 = \{\theta \in \Gamma : \gamma_2(\theta) < 0\}.$$



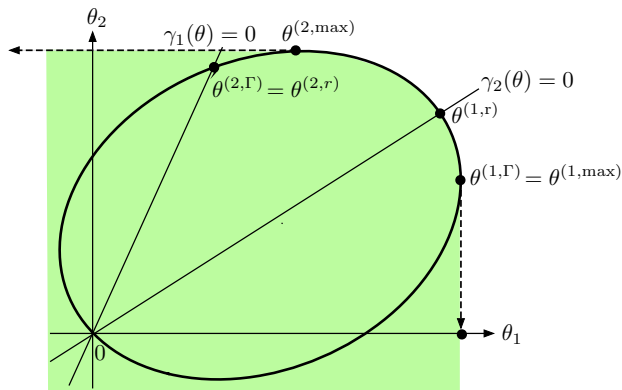
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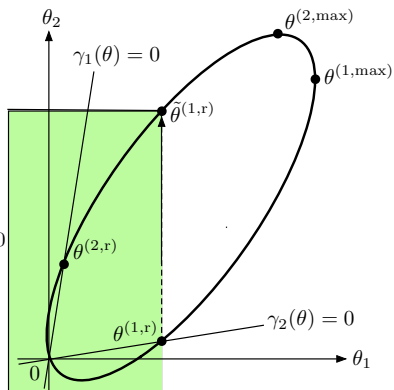
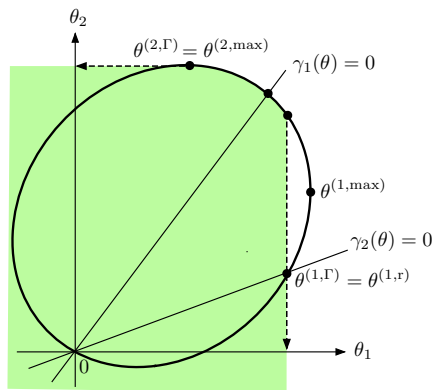
Part III: Theorems

Domain \mathcal{D}_1 is shaded; $\theta^{(1,\max)} \in \partial\Gamma_1$

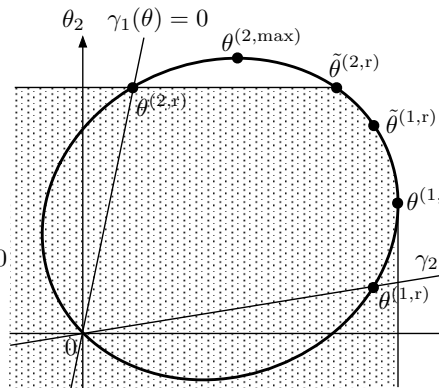
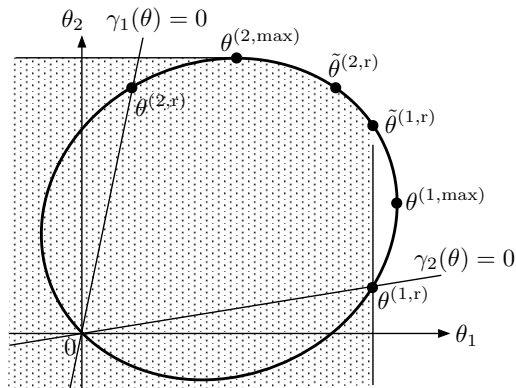
$$\mathcal{D}^{(1)} = \left\{ \theta \in \mathbb{R}^2; \text{there exists a } \theta' \in \Gamma \text{ such that } \theta < \theta' \text{ and } \theta'_1 < \theta_1^{(1,\Gamma)} \right\}.$$



Domain D_1 ; $\theta^{(1,\max)} \notin \partial\Gamma_1$



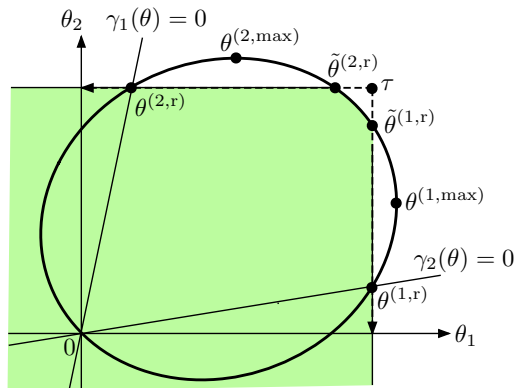
Domains \mathcal{D}_1 and \mathcal{D}_2



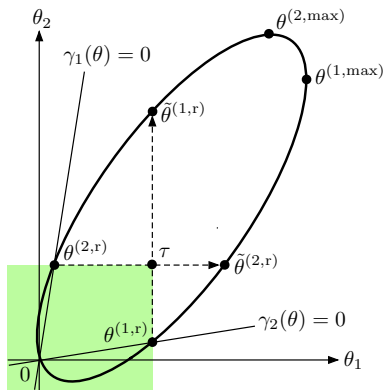
Theorem 1 when $\tau \notin \partial\Gamma$ (Category I); τ is outside of $\bar{\Gamma}$

THEOREM

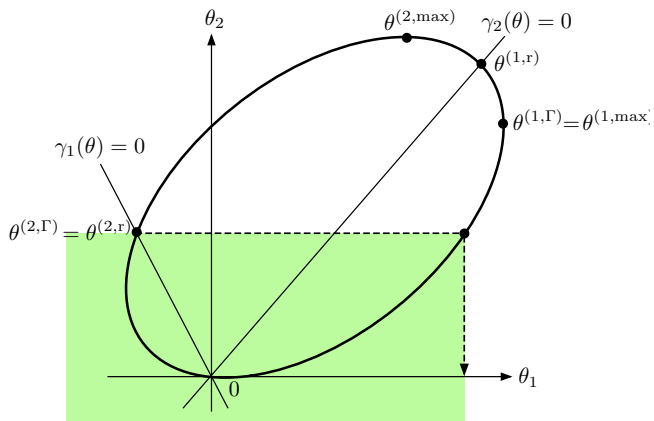
$$\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_1 \cap \mathcal{D}_2$$



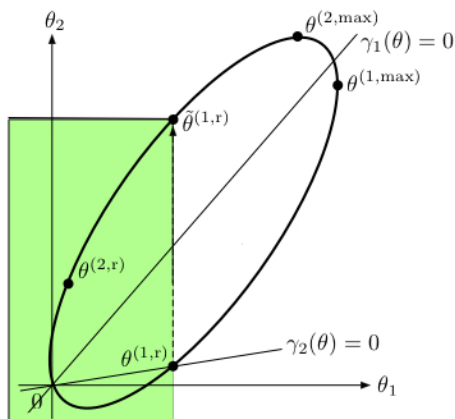
Theorem 1 when $\tau \notin \partial\Gamma$ (Category I); τ is inside of Γ



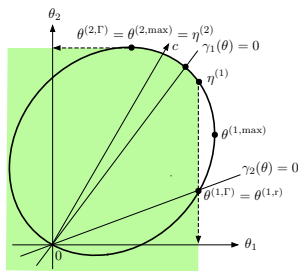
Theorem 1 when $\tau \in \partial\Gamma$; $\theta^{(2,\Gamma)} \leq \theta^{(1,\Gamma)}$ (Category II)



Theorem 1 when $\tau \in \partial\Gamma$; $\theta^{(1,\Gamma)} \leq \theta^{(2,\Gamma)}$ (Category III)



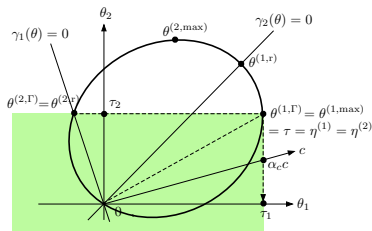
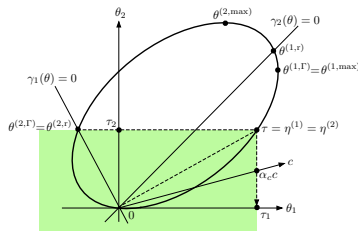
Theorem 2 (illustrated)



$$f_c(x) = \begin{cases} e^{-\alpha_c x} & \text{if } \beta \in [0, \beta_1), \\ x e^{-\alpha_c x} & \text{if } \beta = \beta_1, \\ e^{-\alpha_c x} & \text{if } \beta \in (\beta_1, \beta_2), \\ x^{-1/2} e^{-\alpha_c x} & \text{if } \beta = \beta_2 \\ x^{-3/2} e^{-\alpha_c x} & \text{if } \beta \in (\beta_2, \pi/2] \end{cases}, \quad \alpha_c = \begin{cases} \tau_1/c_1 & \text{if } \beta < \beta_1 \\ z_c & \text{if } \beta \in [\beta_1, \beta_2] \\ \tau_2/c_2 & \text{if } \beta > \beta_2 \end{cases}$$

where $z_c \in \partial\Gamma$

Theorem 3



When $\beta \in [0, \beta_1)$

$$f_c(x) = \begin{cases} xe^{-\alpha_c x} & \text{if } \tau = \theta^{(1,r)} \neq \theta^{(1,\max)} \\ x^{-1/2} e^{-\alpha_c x} & \text{if } \tau = \theta^{(1,\max)} \neq \theta^{(1,r)}, \\ e^{-\alpha_c x} & \text{otherwise,} \end{cases}$$

When $\beta \geq \beta_1$,

$$f_c(x) = \begin{cases} xe^{-\alpha_c x} & \text{if } \beta = \beta_1, \\ e^{-\alpha_c x} & \text{if } \beta > \beta_1. \end{cases}$$

Part 4: Proof techniques

Basic adjoint relationship

- For each $f \in C_b^2(\mathbb{R}_+^2)$, let

$$Lf(x) = \frac{1}{2} \sum_{i,j=1}^2 \Sigma_{i,j} \frac{\partial^2 f}{\partial x_i \partial x_j}(x) + \sum_{i=1}^2 \mu_i \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_i}(x),$$

$$D_i f(x) = \langle R^i, \nabla f \rangle.$$

- The following holds for each $f \in C_b^2(\mathbb{R}_+^2)$:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} Lf(x) \pi(dx) + \sum_{i=1}^2 \int_{\mathbb{R}_+^2} D_i f(x) \nu_i(dx) = 0, \quad (5)$$

where $\nu_i(A) = \mathbb{E}_\pi \left[\int_0^1 \mathbf{1}_{\{Z(u) \in A\}} dY_i(u) \right]$ defines the i th boundary measure.

- Fix $\theta = \mathbb{R}^2$. Ignoring the $C_b^2(\mathbb{R}_+^2)$ assumption, applying BAR (5) to function

$$f(x_1, x_2) = e^{\theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2} = e^{\langle \theta, x \rangle}. \quad (6)$$

A key relationship

- Let φ_1 and φ_2 be boundary Laplace transforms:

$$\varphi_1(\theta_2) = \mathbb{E}_\pi \left[\int_0^1 e^{\theta_2 Z_2(u)} dY_1(u) \right], \varphi_2(\theta_1) = \mathbb{E}_\pi \left[\int_0^1 e^{\theta_1 Z_1(u)} dY_2(u) \right]$$

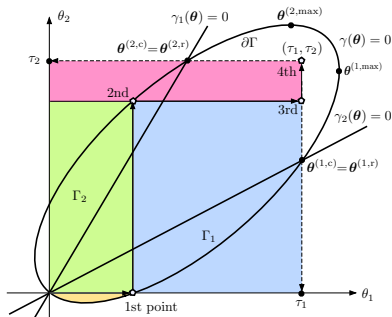
- Recall $\varphi(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \mathbb{E}_\pi [e^{\theta_1 Z_1(\infty) + \theta_2 Z_2(\infty)}]$.
- If $e^{\theta_1 x_1 + \theta_2 x_2} \in C_b^2(\mathbb{R}_+^2)$, one has the **key relationship**

$$\gamma(\theta)\varphi(\theta) = \gamma_1(\theta)\varphi_1(\theta_2) + \gamma_2(\theta)\varphi_2(\theta_1). \quad (7)$$

- Can the $C_b^2(\mathbb{R}_+^2)$ assumption be ignored?

Key steps in proving Theorem 1

- $\varphi(\theta) < \infty$ implies $\varphi_1(\theta_2) < \infty$ and $\varphi_2(\theta_1) < \infty$.
- $\theta \in \Gamma_1$ and $\varphi_1(\theta_2) < \infty$ imply $\varphi(\theta) < \infty$.
- $\theta \in \Gamma$, $\varphi_1(\theta_2) < \infty$ and $\varphi_2(\theta_1) < \infty$ imply $\varphi(\theta) < \infty$.



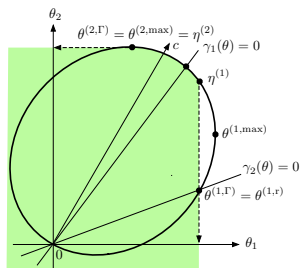
An illustration for proving Theorems 2: $\beta \in (\beta_1, \beta_2)$

- Key relationship (7) gives

$$\gamma(zc)\psi_c(z) = \gamma_1(zc)\varphi_1(c_2z) + \gamma_2(zc)\varphi_2(c_1z) \quad \text{for } \Re z < \alpha_c.$$

- Letting $\gamma(zc) = z\zeta_c(z)$, we have

$$\psi_c(z) = \frac{\gamma_1(c)\varphi_1(c_2z) + \gamma_2(c)\varphi_2(c_1z)}{\zeta_c(z)} \quad \text{for } \Re z < \alpha_c.$$



- $\varphi_2(z)$ is analytic on $\Re z < \tau_1$.
- $\varphi_1(z)$ is analytic on $\Re z < \tau_2$.
- $\alpha_c c \in \partial\Gamma$.
- $\alpha_c < \min(\tau_1/c_1, \tau_2/c_2)$.
- $\psi_c(z)$ has a simple pole at $z = \alpha_c$.
- $f_c(x) = e^{-\alpha_c x}$.

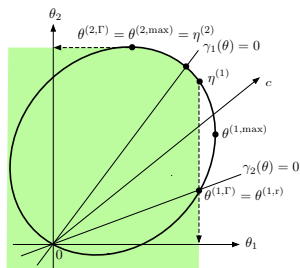
An illustration for proving Theorems 2: $\beta < \beta_1$ and $\alpha_c c \notin \partial\Gamma$

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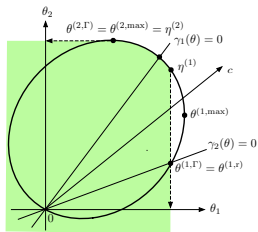
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- $\varphi_2(z)$ has a simple pole at $\Re z < \tau_1$.
- $\varphi_1(z)$ is analytic on $\Re z < \tau_2$.
- $\psi_c(z)$ has a simple pole at $z = \alpha_c$.
- $f_c(x) = e^{-\alpha_c x}$.

Category I: $\varphi_2(z)$ has a simple pole at $z = \tau_1 < \theta^{(1,\max)}$



- $(z, \underline{f}_2(z)) \in \partial\Gamma$.
- $\gamma(z, \underline{f}_2(z)) = 0$.

$$\varphi_2(z) = -\frac{\gamma_1(z, \underline{f}_2(z))\varphi_1(\underline{f}_2(z))}{\gamma_2(z, \underline{f}_2(z))}.$$

$$\underline{f}_2(\theta_1) = -\frac{\mu_2 + \Sigma_{12}z}{\Sigma_{22}} - \frac{\sqrt{\det(\Sigma)}}{\Sigma_{22}} \sqrt{(\theta_1 - \theta_1^{(1,\min)})(\theta_1^{(1,\max)} - \theta_1)}.$$

$$\gamma(\theta_1, \theta_2)\varphi(\theta_1, \theta_2) = \gamma_1(\theta_1, \theta_2)\varphi_1(\theta_2) + \gamma_2(\theta_1, \theta_2)\varphi_2(\theta_1).$$

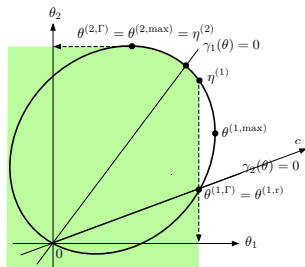
An illustration for proving Theorems 2: $\beta < \beta_1$ and $\alpha_c c \in \partial\Gamma$

- Key relationship (7) gives

$$\gamma(zc)\psi_c(z) = \gamma_1(zc)\varphi_1(c_2z) + \gamma_2(zc)\varphi_2(c_1z) \quad \text{for } \Re z < \alpha_c.$$

- In this case, $\gamma_2(c) = 0$. Thus, we have

$$\psi_c(z) = \frac{\gamma_1(c)\varphi_1(c_2z)}{\zeta_c(z)} \quad \text{for } \Re z < \alpha_c.$$



- $\varphi_1(z)$ is analytic on $\Re z < \tau_2$.
- $\psi_c(z)$ has a simple pole at $z = \alpha_c$.
- $f_c(x) = e^{-\alpha_c x}$.

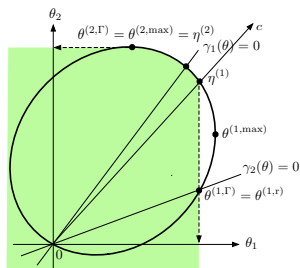
An illustration for proving Theorems 2: $\beta = \beta_1$

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- Letting $\gamma(zc) = z\zeta_c(z)$, we have

$$\psi_c(z) = \frac{\gamma_1(c)\varphi_1(c_2z) + \gamma_2(c)\varphi_2(c_1z)}{\zeta_c(z)} \quad \text{for } \Re z < \alpha_c.$$



- $\varphi_2(z)$ has a simple pole at $\Re z < \tau_1$.
- $\varphi_1(z)$ is analytic on $\Re z < \tau_2$.
- $\alpha_c c \in \partial\Gamma$.
- $\psi_c(z)$ has a **double** pole at $z = \alpha_c$.
- $f_c(x) = xe^{-\alpha_c x}$.

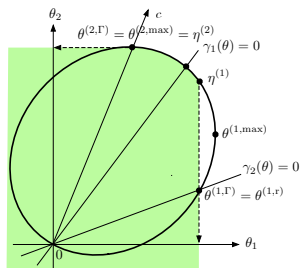
An illustration for proving Theorems 2: $\beta = \beta_2$

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$$\gamma(zc)\psi_c(z) = \gamma_1(zc)\varphi_1(c_2z) + \gamma_2(zc)\varphi_2(c_1z) \quad \text{for } \Re z < \alpha_c.$$

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- $\varphi_2(z)$ is analytic on $\Re z < \tau_1$.
- $\varphi_1(z)$ has “-1/2 pole” at $z = \theta^{(2, \max)}$.
- α_c is a zero of $\zeta_c(z) = 0$.
- $\psi_c(z)$ has a **half** pole at $z = \alpha_c$.
- $f_c(x) = x^{-1/2}e^{-\alpha_c x}$.

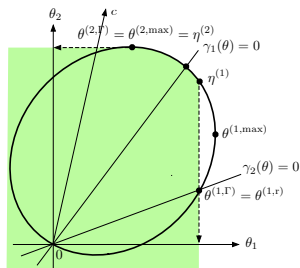
An illustration for proving Theorems 2: $\beta > \beta_2$

- Key relationship (7) gives

$$\gamma(zc)\psi_c(z) = \gamma_1(zc)\varphi_1(c_2z) + \gamma_2(zc)\varphi_2(c_1z) \quad \text{for } \Re z < \alpha_c.$$

- Letting $\gamma(zc) = z\zeta_c(z)$, we have

$$\psi_c(z) = \frac{\gamma_1(c)\varphi_1(c_2z) + \gamma_2(c)\varphi_2(c_1z)}{\zeta_c(z)} \quad \text{for } \Re z < \alpha_c.$$



- $\varphi_2(z)$ is analytic on $\Re z < \tau_1$.
- $\varphi_1(z)$ has “ $-1/2$ pole” at $z = \theta^{(2,max)}$.
- α_c is **not** a zero of $\zeta_c(z) = 0$.
- $\psi_c(z)$ has a $-1/2$ pole at $z = \alpha_c$.
- $f_c(x) = x^{-3/2}e^{-\alpha_c x}$.

Singularity properties of $\varphi_2(z)$ at $z = \tau_1$

- In Category I when $\tau_1 < \theta_1^{(1,max)}$, simple pole
- In Category I when $\tau_1 = \theta_1^{(1,max)}$
 - When $\theta^{(1,max)} \neq \theta^{(1,r)}$, $1/2$ “analytic” or $-1/2$ “pole”
 - When $\theta^{(1,max)} = \theta^{(1,r)}$, $1/2$ “pole”
- In Category II when $\tau_1 < \theta_1^{(1,max)}$,
 - When $\theta^{(1,max)} \neq \theta^{(1,r)}$, simple pole
 - When $\theta^{(1,max)} = \theta^{(1,r)}$, double pole
- In Category II when $\tau_1 = \theta_1^{(1,max)}$
 - When $\theta^{(1,max)} \neq \theta^{(1,r)}$, $1/2$ “pole”
 - When $\theta^{(1,max)} = \theta^{(1,r)}$, 1 “pole”

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