

Boolean Cube Partition Function  
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Anthony Della Pella

# 1 Background Information

We set out to generalize a result of Barvinok [2] which showed that the partition function of the Boolean cube defined therein is zero free when polynomial coefficients are taken in a certain circular domain centered on the real axis. We show that a similar result holds for a thin strip stretched along the real axis. Our main result is presented as Theorem 5 below.

## 2 Useful Preliminaries

We recall definitions pertaining to functions on the boolean cube and their partition function. First, we have  $f : \{-1, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  a polynomial (indexed by subsets  $I$  of  $[n] = \{1, \dots, n\}$ ) of the form:

$$f(x) = \sum_{I: I \subseteq [n]} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I$$

where  $\mathbf{x}^I = \prod_{i \in I} x_i$ . For a given  $f$  we can define quantities:

$$L(f) = \max_{i=1, \dots, n} \sum_{I: i \in I} |\alpha_I|$$

and

$$\deg(f) = \max_{I: \alpha_I \neq 0} |I|.$$

We define the partition function of the boolean cube for a given polynomial  $f$  as:

$$\mathbb{E}[e^f] = \frac{1}{2^n} \sum_{x \in \{-1, 1\}^n} e^{f(x)}.$$

We recall that a face of the boolean cube  $F \subset \{-1, 1\}^n$  is determined by the choice of some subset of indices as well as signs ( $\pm 1$ ) for each chosen index where we fix the index to have that sign and then vary all other indices over  $\pm 1$ . In notation if  $I_+(F)$  represents the subset of indices to have positive values, and  $I_-(F)$  the subset of indices to have negative values, we have:

$$F = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \text{ where } x_i = 1 \text{ for } i \in I_+(F) \text{ and } x_i = -1 \text{ for } i \in I_-(F)\} \subset \{-1, 1\}^n.$$

Moreover, the dimension of a face is the number of “free” indices (those without a specification) and the codimension is the ambient dimension  $n$  minus the dimension of the face. For a given face  $F$  and a subset  $J \subset I_+(F) \cup I_-(F)$  we define the sign of the subset to be the quantity  $\text{sign}_F(J) = \prod_{j \in J} x_j$ .

Finally, we can fix subsets of free indices in a face. For a subset  $J \subset [n]$  we denote by  $\{-1, 1\}^J$  the set of all points  $x = (x_j : j \in J)$  where  $x_j$  is fixed as either  $\pm 1$  (and all other  $x_i$  are varied over  $\{-1, 1\}$ ). For a face  $F \subset \{-1, 1\}^n$  of the boolean cube we define  $I(F)$  as the free indices of  $F$ , that is the elements of  $[n]$  not fixed in the definition of  $F$ . We can then define for  $J \subset I(F)$ ,  $F^\epsilon$  where  $\epsilon \in \{-1, 1\}^J$  to be:

$$F^\epsilon = \{x \in F, x = (x_1, \dots, x_n) : x_j = \epsilon_j \text{ for } j \in J \subset I(F)\} \subset F.$$

Taking a conditional expectation with respect to a face of the boolean cube, we have:

$$\mathbb{E}[e^f \mid F] = \frac{1}{2^{\dim(F)}} \sum_{x \in F} e^{f(x)}.$$

We now recall a key geometric lemma from [1].

**Lemma 1.** *Let  $u_1, \dots, u_n \in \mathbb{C}$  be non-zero complex numbers viewed as vectors in the plane such that the angle between any two doesn't exceed  $\pi/2$ . Let*

$$v = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j u_j \text{ and } w = \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_j u_j$$

where  $|1 - \text{Re } \alpha_j| \leq \delta$ ,  $|1 - \text{Re } \beta_j| \leq \delta$ , and  $|\text{Im } \alpha_j| \leq \tau$ ,  $|\text{Im } \beta_j| \leq \tau$  for  $j = 1, \dots, n$  and some  $0 \leq \delta < 1$  and  $0 \leq \tau < 1 - \delta$ . Then,  $v, w \neq 0$  and the angle between  $v$  and  $w$  doesn't exceed:

$$2 \arctan \delta + 2 \arcsin \frac{\tau}{1 - \delta}.$$

**Lemma 2.** *Let  $u_1, \dots, u_n \in \mathbb{C}$  be as in the lemma, and suppose  $a > 0$ . Then, setting*

$$v = \sum_{j=1}^n \alpha_j u_j \text{ and } w = \sum_{j=1}^n \beta_j u_j$$

we have the  $v, w \neq 0$  and the angle between  $v$  and  $w$  doesn't exceed  $2 \arctan \delta + 2 \arcsin \frac{\tau}{1-\delta}$  provided  $|1 - a \operatorname{Re} \alpha_j| \leq \delta$ ,  $|1 - a \operatorname{Re} \beta_j| \leq \delta$ , and  $|a \operatorname{Im} \alpha_j| \leq \tau$ ,  $|a \operatorname{Im} \beta_j| \leq \tau$  where  $0 \leq \delta < 1$  and  $0 \leq \tau < 1 - \delta$ .

*Proof.* Note that we can write

$$v = \sum_{j=1}^n a \alpha_j \left( \frac{1}{a} \right) u_j$$

and

$$w = \sum_{j=1}^n a \beta_j \left( \frac{1}{a} \right) u_j.$$

The vectors  $\left( \frac{1}{a} \right) u_j$  satisfy the conditions of Lemma 1 and by assumption  $|1 - \operatorname{Re} a \alpha_j| \leq \delta$ ,  $|1 - \operatorname{Re} a \beta_j| \leq \delta$  and  $|\operatorname{Im} a \alpha_j| \leq \tau$ ,  $|\operatorname{Im} a \beta_j| \leq \tau$  so applying Lemma 1 to  $v$  and  $w$  written as above we obtain the desired result.  $\square$

The following definition will be useful to save on bulky notation:

**Definition 3.** Let  $\zeta = s + it$  be a complex number with  $0 < s < 0.5$ , and  $-0.2 < t < 0.2$ . Then, we define  $\delta'(\zeta) = \frac{2e^{|s|}}{e^s + e^{-s}} - 1$  and  $\tau'(\zeta) = \frac{2e^{|s|} \sin(|t|)}{\cos(t)(e^s + e^{-s})}$ . Further, we define the quantity

$$\sphericalangle(\zeta) = 2 \arctan(\delta'(\zeta)) + 2 \arcsin \left( \frac{\tau'(\zeta)}{1 - \delta'(\zeta)} \right).$$

**Corollary 4.** Suppose that  $u_1, \dots, u_n$  are as above, and fix some complex number  $z$ . Then, if  $\alpha_i$  is chosen so that  $\alpha_i = \exp(a_i) = \exp(\pm z)$ , while  $\beta_i = \exp(b_i)$  where  $b_i = \mp z$ , we have the angle between  $u$  and  $v$  not exceeding:

$$\sphericalangle(z) = 2 \arctan(\delta'(z)) + 2 \arcsin \left( \frac{\tau'(z)}{1 - \delta'(z)} \right).$$

*Proof.* Set

$$a = \frac{2}{(e^{\operatorname{Re} z} + e^{-\operatorname{Re} z}) \cos(\operatorname{Im} z)}$$

with  $a > 0$ . Then, we apply Lemma 2 with  $a$  and note that:

$$\begin{aligned} |1 - a \operatorname{Re} \alpha_i| &\leq \left| 1 - \frac{2e^{\operatorname{Re} a_i}}{e^{\operatorname{Re} a_i} + e^{-\operatorname{Re} a_i}} \right| \\ &\leq \frac{2e^{|\operatorname{Re} a_i|}}{e^{\operatorname{Re} a_i} + e^{-\operatorname{Re} a_i}} - 1 \\ &= \delta'(z), \end{aligned}$$

while

$$\begin{aligned} |a \operatorname{Im}(\alpha_i)| &\leq \frac{2e^{|\operatorname{Re} a_i|} \sin(|\operatorname{Im} a_i|)}{\cos(\operatorname{Im} a_i) (e^{\operatorname{Re} a_i} + e^{-\operatorname{Re} a_i})} \\ &= \tau'(z). \end{aligned}$$

Since similar inequalities hold for  $\beta_i$ , we can apply Lemma 2 to obtain our result.  $\square$

### 3 The Main Theorem

**Theorem 5.** *Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Consider the domain in  $\mathbb{C}^{2^n}$ , denoted  $\mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$ , and defined to be the set*

$$\left\{ f(x) = \sum_{I \subset [n]} \alpha_I x^I : \{-1, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \forall j \in [n], \sum_{J \subset [n]: j \in J} |\operatorname{Re} \alpha_J| < \frac{\delta}{\deg(f)} \text{ and } \sum_{J \subset [n]: j \in J} |\operatorname{Im} \alpha_J| < \frac{\tau}{\deg(f)} \right\}.$$

For a fixed  $0 < \delta < \pi/4$ , set  $\tau = \frac{1}{50}(\frac{\pi}{4} - \delta)^2$ . Then, those polynomials  $f \in \mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$  have the property that  $\mathbb{E}[e^f]$  is nonzero.

As an expository remark, we mention here that this is similar to a theorem in the prequel [2] where instead a circular zero free region was obtained.

*Proof.* We will use descending induction on the codimension  $r$  of faces  $F$  of the boolean cube. We use three Statements:

- Statement 1. $r$ : Let  $F$  be a face of codimension  $r$ . Then:

$$\mathbb{E}[e^f \mid F] \neq 0$$

for all  $f \in \mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$ .

- Statement 2. $r$ : Let  $F$  be a face of codimension  $r - 1$ . For every element  $j \in I(F)$ , we denote by  $j^+ \in \{-1, 1\}^{\{j\}}$  the set of points with coordinate  $j$  fixed to  $+1$  and similarly for  $j^-$ . Then, for any  $f \in \mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$ , the angle between:

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^f \mid F^{j^+}\right] \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{E}\left[e^f \mid F^{j^-}\right] \neq 0 \quad (1)$$

doesn't exceed  $\frac{\pi}{2}$ . Moreover, choosing  $J \subset I(F)$ , we have for any  $\epsilon, \phi \in \{-1, 1\}^J$ , the same statement as above for

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^f \mid F^\epsilon\right] \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{E}\left[e^f \mid F^\phi\right] \neq 0, \quad (2)$$

where now  $f$  is a polynomial in  $\mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$  with  $|J| \leq \deg(f)$ .

- Statement 3. $r$ : Let  $f, g \in \mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$  be two polynomials which differ only on the coefficient corresponding to  $\mathbf{x}^J$  where the signs of the coefficients,  $\alpha_J$  and  $\beta_J$ , corresponding to  $\mathbf{x}^J$  are flipped. Then, for any face  $F$  of codimension  $r$ , the angle between

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^f \mid F\right] \neq 0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{E}\left[e^g \mid F\right] \neq 0$$

doesn't exceed  $\sphericalangle(\alpha_J) = 2 \arctan \delta'(\alpha_J) + 2 \arcsin \frac{\tau'(\alpha_J)}{1 - \delta'(\alpha_J)}$ .

We now show that each Statement holds for  $r = n$  *i.e.* faces with dimension 0.

- Statement 1. $n$ : This holds trivially since  $\mathbb{E}\left[e^f \mid F\right] = e^{f(x)}$  where  $x \in F$  is the single element in the face. We can write:

$$e^{f(x)} = \prod_{I \subset [n]} e^{\alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} \quad (3)$$

which is certainly nonzero provided  $f \in \mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$ .

- Statement 2. $n$ : Since the codimension of  $F$  is  $n - 1$ , we note that  $F^{j^+}$  and  $F^{j^-}$  each correspond to one vertex on the cube, call it  $\mathbf{x}$ . Thus, we can write:

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^f \mid F^{j^+}\right] = \prod_{I \subset [n]: j \notin I} e^{\alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} \prod_{J \subset [n]: j \in J} e^{\alpha_J \mathbf{x}^J}$$

and

$$\mathbb{E}\left[e^f \mid F^{j^-}\right] = \prod_{I \subset [n]: j \notin I} e^{\alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} \prod_{J \subset [n]: j \in J} e^{-\alpha_J \mathbf{x}^J}.$$

Each expectation is nonzero (being a product of nonzero exponential terms). Moreover, by dividing the two expressions, we note that the angle between the two expectations is at most  $\frac{2\tau}{\deg(f)} < \frac{\pi}{2}$ .

- Statement 3.n: Let  $F$  be a face of codimension  $n$ , that is a point in the cube (call it  $\mathbf{x}$ ). Then, Statement 3.n holds by utilizing the representation Eq. (3). Namely, for  $f(x) = \sum_{I \subset [n]} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I$  and  $g = \sum_{\substack{I \subset [n] \\ I \neq J}} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I + \beta_J \mathbf{x}^J$ , (where  $\beta_J = -\alpha_J$ ) we have

$$\mathbb{E}[e^f \mid F] = \prod_{I \subset [n]} e^{\alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} \quad (4)$$

while

$$\mathbb{E}[e^g \mid F] = e^{\beta_J \mathbf{x}^J} \prod_{\substack{I \subset [n] \\ I \neq J}} e^{\alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} \quad (5)$$

where the products differ only by a factor  $e^{\alpha_J - \beta_J}$ . We claim then that the angle between the expectations is smaller than  $2(\text{Im } \alpha_J)$  which in turn is bounded above by  $2\angle(\alpha_J)$  whenever  $f \in \mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$ .

Indeed, letting  $\alpha_J = s + it$ , we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \tau'(s + it) &= \frac{2e^{|s|} \sin(|t|)}{\cos(t) (e^s + e^{-s})} \\ &\geq \frac{\sin(|t|)}{\cos(t)} \end{aligned}$$

which for small  $t < \pi/2$ ,

$$= \tan(|t|).$$

Similarly, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} 1 - \delta'(s + it) &= 2 - \frac{2e^{|s|}}{e^s + e^{-s}} \\ &\leq 1. \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by considering the arcsin term of  $\angle(\alpha_J)$  we have:

$$\begin{aligned} 2\text{Im}(\alpha_J) &= 2t \\ &\leq 2 \arcsin(\tan(|t|)) \\ &\leq 2 \arctan(\delta'(s + it)) + 2 \arcsin\left(\frac{\tau'(s + it)}{1 - \delta'(s + it)}\right) \\ &= \angle(s + it) \\ &= \angle(\alpha_J) \end{aligned}$$

where it is worth remarking that  $1 - \delta'(s+it)$  is non-negative since  $e^{|s|} \leq e^s + e^{-s}$ . This proves the claim.

With the base case of our induction verified, we will show that Statements 1. $r$ , 2. $r$ , and 3. $r$  imply Statements 1. $(r-1)$ , 2. $(r-1)$ , and 3. $(r-1)$ .

Statement 1. $(r-1)$  follows from an application of 2. $r$  to a decomposition of  $\mathbb{E}[e^f | F]$ . In particular, suppose that  $F$  is a face of codimension  $r-1$ . Then, we have for some  $j \in I(F)$ :  $2\mathbb{E}[e^f | F] = \mathbb{E}[e^f | F^{j^+}] + \mathbb{E}[e^f | F^{j^-}]$  where as before,  $j^+ \in \{-1, 1\}^{\{j\}}$  is the set of points with a 1 in the  $j^{\text{th}}$  entry and similarly for  $j^-$ . By 1. $r$  each summand is itself nonzero and the angle between them is bounded by  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  via 2. $r$ , thus the sum cannot possibly be zero.

For Statement 3. $(r-1)$  we note that there are two possible cases for  $\mathbb{E}[e^f | F]$  and  $\mathbb{E}[e^g | F]$ . Let  $J$  be the coefficient on which  $f$  and  $g$  differ. If  $J \subset I_+(F) \cup I_-(F)$  then  $\text{sign}_F(J)$  is well defined and we can factor out the  $J$  coefficient which is equal up to sign in  $f$  and  $g$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[e^f | F] &= \sum_{x \in F} e^{f(x)} \\ &= \sum_{x \in F} e^{\sum_{I \subset [n]} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} \\ &= \sum_{x \in F} e^{\sum_{I \subset [n]: I \neq J} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} e^{\alpha_J \mathbf{x}^J} \\ &= e^{\alpha_J \text{sign}_F(J)} \sum_{x \in F} e^{\sum_{I \subset [n]: I \neq J} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbb{E}[e^g | F] &= \sum_{x \in F} e^{g(x)} \\ &= \sum_{x \in F} e^{\sum_{I \subset [n]} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} \\ &= \sum_{x \in F} e^{\sum_{I \subset [n]: I \neq J} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} e^{\beta_J \mathbf{x}^J} \\ &= e^{\beta_J \text{sign}_F(J)} \sum_{x \in F} e^{\sum_{I \subset [n]: I \neq J} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} \end{aligned}$$

Then, dividing the common parts we have the angle between the two is at most  $|\text{Im } \alpha_J| + |\text{Im } \beta_J| = 2|\text{Im } \alpha_J|$  and noting that  $f \in \mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$  we get the desired result.



Contrarily, if  $J$  is not fixed by  $F$ , there is some nonempty, and maximal subset of  $J$  say  $\hat{J}$  of elements whose sign is not fixed in  $F$ , *i.e.*  $\hat{J} \subset I(F)$ . Then we can write:

$$\mathbb{E}[e^f \mid F] = \frac{1}{2^{r+|\hat{J}|}} \sum_{\epsilon \in \{-1,1\}^{\hat{J}}} \sum_{x \in F^\epsilon} e^{\sum_{I:I \neq J} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} e^{\alpha_J \mathbf{x}^J}.$$

Similarly,

$$\mathbb{E}[e^g \mid F] = \frac{1}{2^{r+|\hat{J}|}} \sum_{\epsilon \in \{-1,1\}^{\hat{J}}} \sum_{x \in F^\epsilon} e^{\sum_{I:I \neq J} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} e^{\beta_J \mathbf{x}^J}.$$

We now note that each  $\epsilon$  leads to a complex number  $u_\epsilon = \sum_{x \in F^\epsilon} e^{\sum_{I:I \neq J} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I}$  multiplied by either an  $e^{\alpha_J}$  factor or an  $e^{\beta_J}$  factor (up to the sign of  $\mathbf{x}^J$ ). Since by Statement 2.*r* the  $u_\epsilon$  differ in angle no more than  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  (taking for instance a function  $h : \{-1,1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C}$  which agrees with  $f \equiv g$  on all other coefficients than  $J$  and is 0 for coefficient  $J$ ) by use of Statement 2.*r*. We can apply Corollary 4 and obtain that the angle between  $\mathbb{E}[e^f \mid F]$  and  $\mathbb{E}[e^g \mid F]$  doesn't exceed  $\angle(\alpha_J) = 2 \arctan \delta'(\alpha_J) + 2 \arcsin \frac{\tau'(\alpha_J)}{1-\delta'(\alpha_J)}$ .

We now prove Statement 2. $(r-1)$  assuming the higher codimension statements 1, 2, and 3 hold. Let  $F$  be a face of codimension  $r-2$ . For any  $f = \sum_{I \subset [n]} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I \in \mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$  and any  $J \subset I(F)$ , we can define a family of subsets  $\mathcal{F} \subset \mathcal{P}([n])$ , where  $K \in \mathcal{F}$  precisely when  $K \cap J \neq \emptyset$  and  $\alpha_K \neq 0$ . Moreover, (for any  $\epsilon, \phi \in \{-1,1\}^J$ ) we can write:

$$\mathbb{E}[e^f \mid F^\epsilon] = \sum_{x \in F^\epsilon} \prod_{I:J \cap I = \emptyset} e^{\alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} \prod_{K:J \cap K \neq \emptyset} e^{\alpha_K \mathbf{x}^K}$$

and

$$\mathbb{E}[e^f \mid F^\phi] = \sum_{x \in F^\phi} \prod_{I:J \cap I = \emptyset} e^{\alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I} \prod_{K:J \cap K \neq \emptyset} e^{\alpha_K \mathbf{x}^K}.$$

We now note that the rightmost product in both expressions is over subsets  $K \in \mathcal{F}$ . Consider an algorithm which remedies the discrepancy between the signs of the coefficients of  $f$  between  $F^\phi$  and  $F^\epsilon$ . For each  $K \in \mathcal{F}$  we can define a function  $h$  which agrees with  $f$  in all coefficients except that corresponding to  $K$ . For the coefficient corresponding to  $K$ ,  $h$  will have the sign corresponding to whether the

sign (for fixed  $\mathbf{x} \in F$ ) of  $\mathbf{x}^K$  differs between  $\phi$  and  $\epsilon$  or not. In the case that the sign does flip, we let the coefficient corresponding to  $K$  of  $h$  have the opposite sign of the coefficient  $K$  in  $f$ . By Statement 3.(s) (with  $s \geq r$ ) we note that the rotation between any two expectations in our process is at most  $\angle(\alpha_K)$ . After we have made the signs of every coefficient corresponding to  $K \in \mathcal{F}$  correct we have rotated an angle at most  $\sum_{K \in \mathcal{F}} \angle(\alpha_K)$ .

We let  $\alpha_K = s + it$  and compute the the Maclaurin series (as an upper bound) for  $\arctan(\delta'(\alpha_K))$  and an elementary upper bound on  $\arcsin\left(\frac{\tau'(\alpha_K)}{1-\delta'(\alpha_K)}\right)$  assuming  $f \in \mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$ .

$$\arctan(\delta'(s + it)) = \arctan\left(\frac{2e^{|s|}}{e^s + e^{-s}} - 1\right) \quad (6)$$

$$\leq |s| - \frac{2|s|^3}{3} + \frac{2|s|^5}{3} + O(|s|^8) \quad (7)$$

$$\leq |s|. \quad (8)$$

Also,

$$\arcsin\left(\frac{\tau'(\alpha_K)}{1-\delta'(\alpha_K)}\right) \leq \arcsin\left(\frac{1.7 \sin(|t|)}{0.3 \cos(t)}\right)$$

which follows from upper and lower bounds on  $\delta'(s+it)$  and  $1-\delta'(s+it)$  respectively. The Maclaurin series here ( $5.666|t| + 32.21666|t|^3 + O(|t|^5)$ ) is upper bounded by  $6t$  for  $|t| < \frac{\pi}{200}$ . With these upper bounds, we have that the sum

$$\sum_{K \in \mathcal{F}} \angle(\alpha_K) \quad (9)$$

is bounded above by

$$\sum_{K \in \mathcal{F}} 2|\operatorname{Re}(\alpha_K)| + 12|\operatorname{Im}(\alpha_K)| \leq \deg(f) \left( \frac{2\delta}{\deg(f)} + \frac{12\tau}{\deg(f)} \right). \quad (10)$$

We see that choosing  $\delta < \frac{\pi}{4}$  suffices to obtain the required  $\frac{\pi}{2}$  bound needed for the induction to proceed since  $\tau = \frac{1}{50}(\frac{\pi}{4} - \delta)^2$  in our definition of  $\mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$ .

## 4 Sharpening for the Degree 2 Case

We notice that the bound for  $\arctan(\delta'(s + it))$  in Eq. (6) is weak – namely the linear behavior of  $\arctan(\delta')$  in the real part ( $s$ ) of the argument is suboptimal as  $s$

increases. In particular, for large values of  $|s|$  the linearization  $|s|$  is too crude. It is better to use a linearization centered at 0.43:  $0.717792(s - 0.43) + 0.385085$ . For  $\deg(f) = 2$ , we note that the family  $\mathcal{F}$  is small, and so we can bound Eq. (9) with our linearization at 0.43. In this case, we can choose  $\delta = .44$  since:

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{K \in \mathcal{F}} 2|\operatorname{Re}(\alpha_K)| &\leq 4(0.717792(|s| - 0.43) + 0.385085) \\ &= 4(0.392263) \\ &\leq 4(0.3926\dots) \\ &= 4\left(\frac{\pi}{8}\right) \end{aligned}$$

in Theorem 5 and still obtain Eq. (9) with a proper tuning of  $\tau$ . The theorem for the degree 2 case follows.

**Theorem 6.** *Let  $n$  be a positive integer. Consider the domain in  $\mathbb{C}^{2^n}$ , denoted  $\mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$ , and defined to be the set*

$$\left\{ f(x) = \sum_{I \subset [n]} \alpha_I \mathbf{x}^I : \{-1, 1\}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{C} \mid \deg(f) = 2 \text{ and} \right. \\ \left. \forall j \in [n], \sum_{J \subset [n]: j \in J} |\operatorname{Re} \alpha_J| < \frac{\delta}{2} \text{ and } \sum_{J \subset [n]: j \in J} |\operatorname{Im} \alpha_J| < \frac{\tau}{2} \right\}.$$

For a fixed  $0 < \delta < 0.44$ , set  $\tau = \frac{1}{50}(0.44 - \delta)^2$ . Then, those polynomials  $f \in \mathcal{U}(\delta, \tau)$  have the property that  $\mathbb{E}[e^f]$  is nonzero.

□

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## References

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