



Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

# A Tale of Three Coauthors: Comparison of Ising Models

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# Introduction

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## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Introduction

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**Introduction**

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Introduction

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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I am writing a book for Cambridge Press entitled *Phase Transitions in the Theory of Lattice Gases*.

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





# The Backstory

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**Introduction**

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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**Introduction**

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Backstory

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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# The Backstory

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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The framework for much of the subject is to fix a finite set  $\Lambda \subset \mathbb{Z}^{\nu}$ , and an a priori EVEN probability measure,  $d\mu$ , on  $\mathbb{R}$ , certainly with all moments finite and typically of compact support.



# The Backstory

One considers the configurations in  $\Lambda$ , i.e. points  $\sigma$  in  $\mathbb{R}^\Lambda$ , indicated by  $\{\sigma_j\}_{j \in \Lambda}$

**Introduction**

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





# The Backstory

One considers the configurations in  $\Lambda$ , i.e. points  $\sigma$  in  $\mathbb{R}^\Lambda$ , indicated by  $\{\sigma_j\}_{j \in \Lambda}$  and uncoupled measure with expectation

$$\langle f \rangle_{\mu,0} = \int f(\sigma) \prod_{j \in \Lambda} d\mu(\sigma_j)$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Backstory

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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



# The Backstory

One considers the configurations in  $\Lambda$ , i.e. points  $\sigma$  in  $\mathbb{R}^\Lambda$ , indicated by  $\{\sigma_j\}_{j \in \Lambda}$  and uncoupled measure with expectation

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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



# The Backstory

One considers the configurations in  $\Lambda$ , i.e. points  $\sigma$  in  $\mathbb{R}^\Lambda$ , indicated by  $\{\sigma_j\}_{j \in \Lambda}$  and uncoupled measure with expectation

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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Backstory

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$$\langle f \rangle_{\mu,\Lambda} = Z^{-1} \langle f e^{-H} \rangle_{\mu,0}; \quad Z = \langle e^{-H} \rangle_{\mu,0}$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



# The Backstory

One studies the infinite volume limit with translation invariant  $J(A)$ , typically by proving stuff about the finite volume expectations.

**Introduction**

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Backstory

One studies the infinite volume limit with translation invariant  $J(A)$ , typically by proving stuff about the finite volume expectations. The traditional case is the Ising model

**Introduction**

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Backstory

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

One studies the infinite volume limit with translation invariant  $J(A)$ , typically by proving stuff about the finite volume expectations. The traditional case is the Ising model (aka spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  Ising model) where  $d\mu$  is a measure supported on  $\pm 1$  each point with weight  $\frac{1}{2}$ ;





# The Backstory

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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Backstory

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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# The Backstory

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality

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As I began to write about correlation inequalities, I wondered about a natural question. Say that an a priori measure,  $\nu$ , on  $\mathbb{R}$  Ising dominates another measure  $\mu$  if and only if for all  $J(A) \geq 0$  and all  $B$ , one has that



# The Backstory

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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$$\langle \sigma^B \rangle_{\mu, \Lambda} \leq \langle \sigma^B \rangle_{\nu, \Lambda}$$



# The Backstory

In particular for general  $\mu$  compact support, does one have that  $\mu$  Ising dominates  $b_{T_-}$  and is Ising dominated by  $b_{T_+}$  for suitable  $0 < T_- < T_+ < \infty$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



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$$T_c(\mu) \geq T_-(\mu)^2 T_c(\text{classical Ising})$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





# The Backstory

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**Introduction**

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Backstory

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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Backstory

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**Introduction**

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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**Introduction**

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Backstory

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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# The Backstory

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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The left hand side is an Ising expectation and the right with the apriori measure of the  $2D$  rotor with only couplings of the 1 components.



# The Backstory

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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The left hand side is an Ising expectation and the right with the apriori measure of the  $2D$  rotor with only couplings of the 1 components. So this was part of what seems to be an Ising domination result (the 2 indicates the Ising measure should really be  $b_{1/\sqrt{2}}$ ).



# The Search for Wells

So I set about finding this preprint.

## Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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So I set about finding this preprint. Google didn't help directly but did point me to a 1984 paper of Chuck Newman that mentioned Wells' Indiana University PhD. thesis. So I wrote to Michael asking if he knew anything about our footnote and cced Chuck (who had been a grad student with me at Princeton) because I conjectured Wells had been his student. Chuck replied and said he remembered that Wells had been Slim Sherman's student. Sherman, the S of GKS and GHS was delightful character, long dead. So I wrote to Kevin Pilgrim, the chair at Indiana, who located a copy of Wells thesis for me on Proquest.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality





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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



# The Rest of the Talk

Our first goal is to describe Wells' framework and what I regard as his most significant theorem. Since he extended a framework of Ginibre, I begin by reminding (telling) you of that.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





# Ginibre Systems

In a remarkable 1970 paper, Jean Ginibre

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Ginibre Systems

In a remarkable 1970 paper, Jean Ginibre (who alas passed away in March of 2020 at age 82) not only found a really simple proof of GKS inequalities but showed somewhat surprisingly that they held for all a priori measures.

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Ginibre Systems

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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A *Ginibre system* is a triple  $\langle X, \mu, \mathcal{F} \rangle$  of a compact Hausdorff space,  $X$ , a probability measure,  $\mu$ , on  $X$  (with expectations  $\langle \cdot \rangle_\mu$ ) and a class of continuous real valued functions  $\mathcal{F} \subset C(X)$  that obeys:



# Ginibre Systems

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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$$(G1) \quad \forall_{f_1, \dots, f_n \in \mathcal{F}} \int_X f_1(x) \dots f_n(x) d\mu(x) \geq 0$$

$$(G2) \quad \forall_{f_1, \dots, f_n \in \mathcal{F}} \int_{X \times X} \prod_{j=1}^n (f_j(x) \pm f_j(y)) d\mu(x) d\mu(y) \geq 0$$



# Ginibre Systems

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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for all  $2^n$  choices of the plus and minus sign.



# Ginibre Systems

When it is clear which measure is intended, we will drop the  $\mu$  from  $\langle \cdot \rangle_\mu$ .

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Ginibre Systems

When it is clear which measure is intended, we will drop the  $\mu$  from  $\langle \cdot \rangle_\mu$ . We have restricted to compact Hausdorff spaces and so bounded functions for simplicity. But since all the arguments are essentially algebraic, all results extend to the case where  $X$  is only locally compact so long as all  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  obey  $\int |f(x)|^m d\mu(x) < \infty$  for all  $m$  since that condition assures that all integrals are convergent.

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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Note that

$$(G2) \Rightarrow 2\langle f \rangle_\mu = \int_X (f(x) + f(y)) d\mu(x)d\mu(y) \geq 0$$
$$\int_{X \times X} (f(x) - f(y))(g(x) - g(y)) d\mu(x)d\mu(y)$$

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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We will see shortly that  $(G2) \Rightarrow (G1)$

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Extending Ginibre Systems

What makes the notion so powerful is that there are three theorems for getting new Ginibre systems from old ones.

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Extending Ginibre Systems

What makes the notion so powerful is that there are three theorems for getting new Ginibre systems from old ones.

Given a family of functions,  $\mathcal{F} \subset C(X)$ , we define the *Ginibre cone*,  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{F})$ , as the set of linear combinations with non-negative coefficients of products of functions from  $\mathcal{F}$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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**Ginibre Theorem 1** *If a triple  $\langle X, \mu, \mathcal{F} \rangle$  obeys (G2), so does  $\langle X, \mu, \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{F}) \rangle$ .*

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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It is trivial that (G2) holds for sums and positive multiples of functions for which it holds,

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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It is trivial that (G2) holds for sums and positive multiples of functions for which it holds, so it suffices to prove it holds for products. By induction, we need only handle products of two functions. We note that

$$fg \pm f'g' = \frac{1}{2}(f + f')(g \pm g') + \frac{1}{2}(f - f')(g \mp g')$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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$$fg \pm f'g' = \frac{1}{2}(f + f')(g \pm g') + \frac{1}{2}(f - f')(g \mp g')$$

which allows us to prove (G2) for a single product when we have it for individual functions (and shows  $(G2) \Rightarrow (G1)$ ).

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Extending Ginibre Systems

The following is trivial

**Ginibre Theorem 2** *Let  $\{\langle X_j, \mu_j, \mathcal{F}_j \rangle\}_{j=1}^n$  be a family of Ginibre systems. Then  $\langle \times_{j=1}^n X_j, \otimes_{j=1}^n \mu_j, \cup_{j=1}^n \mathcal{F}_j \rangle$  is also a Ginibre system.*

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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And to add interactions, we use

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Extending Ginibre Systems

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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**Ginibre Theorem 3** Let  $\langle X, \mu, \mathcal{F} \rangle$  be Ginibre system. Let  $-H \in \mathcal{F}$  and define a new measure,  $\mu_H$  by

$$\langle f \rangle_{\mu_H} = \frac{\langle f e^{-H} \rangle_{\mu}}{\langle e^{-H} \rangle_{\mu}}$$

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# Extending Ginibre Systems

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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The proof is easy.



# Extending Ginibre Systems

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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The proof is easy. The normalization is irrelevant and we expand the exponential  $\exp(-H(x) - H(y))$ .



# Classical Ising System

**Ginibre Theorem 4** *Let  $X$  be  $\mathbb{R}$  or a compact subset of the form  $[-A, A]$  and let  $d\mu$  be a probability measure which is invariant under  $x \mapsto -x$  and so that (only non-trivial in case  $X$  is not compact)  $\int x^{2n} d\mu(x) < \infty$  for all  $n$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}$  contain the single function,  $f(x) = x$ . Then  $\langle X, \mu, \mathcal{F} \rangle$  is a Ginibre system.*

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Classical Ising System

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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The proof is easy!  $(G2)$  says that for all non-negative integers,  $k$  and  $m$ , one has that

$$\int_{X \times X} (x+y)^k (x-y)^m d\mu(x) d\mu(y) \geq 0$$





# Classical Ising System

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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Interchanging  $x$  and  $y$  implies the integral is zero if  $m$  is odd



# Classical Ising System

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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Interchanging  $x$  and  $y$  implies the integral is zero if  $m$  is odd and  $x \mapsto -x$  symmetry implies the integral is zero if  $m+k$  is odd.



# Classical Ising System

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

**Ginibre Theorem 4** *Let  $X$  be  $\mathbb{R}$  or a compact subset of the form  $[-A, A]$  and let  $d\mu$  be a probability measure which is invariant under  $x \mapsto -x$  and so that (only non-trivial in case  $X$  is not compact)  $\int x^{2n} d\mu(x) < \infty$  for all  $n$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}$  contain the single function,  $f(x) = x$ . Then  $\langle X, \mu, \mathcal{F} \rangle$  is a Ginibre system.*

The proof is easy! (G2) says that for all non-negative integers,  $k$  and  $m$ , one has that

$$\int_{X \times X} (x+y)^k (x-y)^m d\mu(x) d\mu(y) \geq 0$$

Interchanging  $x$  and  $y$  implies the integral is zero if  $m$  is odd and  $x \mapsto -x$  symmetry implies the integral is zero if  $m+k$  is odd. Thus the only possible non-zero integrals are when  $m$  and  $k$  are even in which case the integrand is positive!



# Classical Ising System

A little thought shows that for Hamiltonians of the form

$$-H = \sum_{A \subset \Lambda} J(A) \sigma^A$$

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Classical Ising System

A little thought shows that for Hamiltonians of the form

$$-H = \sum_{A \subset \Lambda} J(A) \sigma^A \quad \sigma^A = \prod_{j \in A} \sigma_j$$

with ANY (!!!) even apriori measure, one has positive expectations and positive correlations of the  $\sigma^A$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Final Ginibre Thoughts

I'd be remiss if I left the subject Ginibre's wonderful paper without mentioning two other examples he gives of Ginibre systems that are not relevant to Wells although one will appear later.

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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The first is to note that he proves that if  $d\mu$  is a product of rotation invariant measures on circles, the set of functions  $\cos(\sum_{j=1}^n m_j \theta_j)$  is a Ginibre system.

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Final Ginibre Thoughts

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

I'd be remiss if I left the subject Ginibre's wonderful paper without mentioning two other examples he gives of Ginibre systems that are not relevant to Wells although one will appear later.

The first is to note that he proves that if  $d\mu$  is a product of rotation invariant measures on circles, the set of functions  $\cos(\sum_{j=1}^n m_j \theta_j)$  is a Ginibre system. This and some extensions are essentially half the correlation inequalities for plane rotors.





# Final Ginibre Thoughts

The second is related to an 1882 paper of Chebyshev (which I don't think Ginibre knew about when he wrote this paper) which contained what is probably the earliest correlation inequality:

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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$$\int_0^1 f(x)g(x) dx \geq \int_0^1 f(x) dx \int_0^1 g(x) dx$$

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Ginibre proved that for any (not necessarily even) positive probability measure on  $\mathbb{R}$ , the set  $\mathcal{F}$  of all positive monotone functions is a Ginibre family.

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Final Ginibre Thoughts

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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# Final Ginibre Thoughts

Introduction

**Ginibre**

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

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Ginibre proved that for any (not necessarily even) positive probability measure on  $\mathbb{R}$ , the set  $\mathcal{F}$  of all positive monotone functions is a Ginibre family. The proof is again very easy. This is a sort of poor man's FKG inequalities.



# Basic Definition

There is a simple extension of Ginibre's method in Wells' thesis that allows comparison of measures.

Introduction

Ginibre

**Wells' Framework**

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Basic Definition

There is a simple extension of Ginibre's method in Wells' thesis that allows comparison of measures. Given two probability measures,  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  on a locally compact space,  $X$ , we say that  $\mu$  *Wells dominates*  $\nu$ , written  $\mu \triangleright \nu$  or  $\nu \triangleleft \mu$  with respect to a class of continuous functions  $\mathcal{F}$  (with all moments of all  $f \in \mathcal{F}$  finite with respect to both measures; not needed if  $X$  is compact)

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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$$\int \int (f_1(x) \pm f_1(y)) \dots (f_n(x) \pm f_n(y)) d\mu(x) d\nu(y) \geq 0$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Basic Definition

We will be most interested in case  $X = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  are both even measures with all moments finite and  $\mathcal{F}$  has the single function  $f(x) = x$  in which case the condition takes the form

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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$$\int_{\mathbb{R}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} (x+y)^n (x-y)^m d\mu(x) d\nu(y) \geq 0$$

for all non-negative integers,  $n$  and  $m$  in which case we use the symbol  $\triangleleft$  without being explicit about  $\mathcal{F}$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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for all non-negative integers,  $n$  and  $m$  in which case we use the symbol  $\triangleleft$  without being explicit about  $\mathcal{F}$ . Since the measures are even, one need only check this when  $n + m$  is even. It is trivial if both are even, so we only need worry about the case that both are odd.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



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for all non-negative integers,  $n$  and  $m$  in which case we use the symbol  $\triangleleft$  without being explicit about  $\mathcal{F}$ . Since the measures are even, one need only check this when  $n + m$  is even. It is trivial if both are even, so we only need worry about the case that both are odd. Since the measures are different, we don't have the exchange symmetry that makes the integral vanish if both are odd but symmetry under  $y \mapsto -y$  implies invariance under interchange of  $m$  and  $n$ , so we need only check for  $m \geq n$ . We'll see examples later.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Extending Ginibre's machine

Extending the Ginibre machine is effortless. It is easy to prove that

Introduction

Ginibre

**Wells' Framework**

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Extending Ginibre's machine

Extending the Ginibre machine is effortless. It is easy to prove that

**Theorem** (a) *If  $\mu \triangleleft \nu$  for a set of functions  $\mathcal{F}$ , the same is true for the Ginibre cone  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{F})$ .*

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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(b) *If for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $\mu_j \triangleleft \nu_j$  for probability measures on spaces  $X_j$  with respect to sets of functions  $\mathcal{F}_j$  on  $X_j$ , then for the measures on  $\times_{j=1}^n X_j$  and the set of functions  $\bigcup_{j=1}^n \mathcal{F}_j$ , one has that  $\bigotimes_{j=1}^n \mu_j \triangleleft \bigotimes_{j=1}^n \nu_j$ .*

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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(c) *If  $\mu \triangleleft \nu$  for probability measures on a space  $X$  with respect to a set of functions  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$ , if  $-H \in \mathcal{F}$  and if  $\mu_H, \nu_H$  are Gibbs measures, then  $\mu_H \triangleleft \nu_H$  for  $\mathcal{F}$ .*

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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(d) *If  $\mu \triangleleft \nu$  with respect to a set of functions  $\mathcal{F}$ , then for every  $f \in \mathcal{F}$ , we have that*

$$\int f(x) d\mu(x) \leq \int f(x) d\nu(x)$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Wells Domination implies Ising Domination

This immediately implies that

Introduction

Ginibre

**Wells' Framework**

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Wells Domination implies Ising Domination

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**Corollary** *If for  $j = 1, \dots, n$ ,  $\mu_j \triangleleft \nu_j$  for probability measures on spaces  $X_j$  with respect to sets of functions  $\mathcal{F}_j$  on  $X_j$ ,*

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



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$$\int f(x) d\mu_H(x) \leq \int f(x) d\nu_H(x).$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



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*$\int f(x) d\mu_H(x) \leq \int f(x) d\nu_H(x)$ . In particular, if each  $X_j = \mathbb{R}$ , (so implicitly  $\mathcal{F}_j$  is the single function  $\sigma_j$ ) and if  $H$  has the general Ising form, then for all  $A \subset 2^{\{1, \dots, n\}}$  one has that*

$$\langle \sigma^A \rangle_{\mu_H} \leq \langle \sigma^A \rangle_{\nu_H}$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



# Almost a Partial Order

Of course,  $\triangleleft$  is a binary relation and it is tempting to think of it as a partial order on measures on  $\mathbb{R}$  with all moments finite.

Introduction

Ginibre

**Wells' Framework**

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





# Almost a Partial Order

Of course,  $\triangleleft$  is a binary relation and it is tempting to think of it as a partial order on measures on  $\mathbb{R}$  with all moments finite. Indeed, it is certainly reflexive. It is almost antisymmetric.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Of course,  $\triangleleft$  is a binary relation and it is tempting to think of it as a partial order on measures on  $\mathbb{R}$  with all moments finite. Indeed, it is certainly reflexive. It is almost antisymmetric. It is easy to see that  $\mu \triangleleft \nu$  and  $\nu \triangleleft \mu$  if and only if  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  have the same moments. Thus it is antisymmetric among the measures of compact support or among measures obeying  $\int e^{Ax^2} d\mu(x) < \infty$  for some  $A > 0$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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**Question 1** Is Wells relation transitive among all even measures on  $\mathbb{R}$ ? How about among all measures on a general topological space if  $\mathcal{F}$  is rich enough?

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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**Question 1** Is Wells relation transitive among all even measures on  $\mathbb{R}$ ? How about among all measures on a general topological space if  $\mathcal{F}$  is rich enough?

Since Ising domination is trivially transitive, for applications, this lack isn't so important.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





# Statement of the Theorem

We say an even probability measure is non-trivial if and only if it is not a unit mass at 0.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

**Wells' Big  
Theorem**

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Statement of the Theorem

We say an even probability measure is non-trivial if and only if it is not a unit mass at 0. The following theorem says that any non-trivial measure of compact support is Ising dominated by a scaling of any other such measure and gives quantitative optimal bounds when one of the measures is the Bernoulli measure.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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**Big Theorem** *Let  $d\mu$  be an even probability measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  with compact support that is not a point mass at 0.*

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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**Big Theorem** *Let  $d\mu$  be an even probability measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  with compact support that is not a point mass at 0. Then there are two strictly positive numbers  $T_-(\mu)$  and  $T_+(\mu)$  so that  $\mu \triangleleft b_S$  if and only if  $S \geq T_+$  and  $b_S \triangleleft \mu$  if and only if  $S \leq T_-$ . Moreover*

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



# Statement of the Theorem

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality

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$$T_+ = \sup\{s \mid s \in \text{supp}(\mu)\}$$



# Statement of the Theorem

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

We say an even probability measure is non-trivial if and only if it is not a unit mass at 0. The following theorem says that any non-trivial measure of compact support is being dominated by a scaling of any other such measure and gives quantitative optimal bounds when one of the measures is the Bernoulli measure.

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$$T_+ = \sup\{s \mid s \in \text{supp}(\mu)\}$$

and

$$S \leq T_- \iff \forall_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \int_{\mathbb{R}} (x^2 - S^2)^n d\mu(x) \geq 0$$



# What is $T_1$

The proof is not hard but given time constraints, I refer you to the preprint I'll discuss below or to my book when it appears

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

**Wells' Big  
Theorem**

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# What is $T_$

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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

**Wells' Big  
Theorem**

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





# What is $T_-$

The proof is not hard but given time constraints, I refer you to the preprint I'll discuss below or to my book when it appears (or Wells thesis on Proquest).

One consequence of the theorem is

$$T_- \leq \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^2 d\mu(x) \right)^{1/2}$$

It is an interesting question when one has equality.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# What is $T_-$

The proof is not hard but given time constraints, I refer you to the preprint I'll discuss below or to my book when it appears (or Wells thesis on Proquest).

One consequence of the theorem is

$$T_- \leq \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^2 d\mu(x) \right)^{1/2}$$

It is an interesting question when one has equality. Before leaving this theorem, I should mention I happened to look at a 1981 paper of Bricmont, Lebowitz and Pfister that includes in an appendix a proof (with attribution to Wells) of Wells result about the existence of  $T_- > 0$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Three Spin Values

For  $0 \leq \lambda \leq 1$ , consider the probability measure supported by the three points  $\{0, \pm 1\}$  given by

$$d\mu_\lambda = \frac{\lambda}{2} (\delta_1 + \delta_{-1}) + (1 - \lambda)\delta_0$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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For  $\lambda = 2/3$ , which is equal weights this called (normalized) spin 1. For general  $\lambda$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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$$\langle (x^2 - T^2)^{2m+1} \rangle_\lambda = (1 - T^2)^{2m+1} \lambda - (1 - \lambda) T^{2(2m+1)}$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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$$\geq 0 \iff \left[ \frac{1 - T^2}{T^2} \right]^{2m+1} \geq \frac{1 - \lambda}{\lambda}$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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$$\iff \frac{1 - T^2}{T^2} \geq \left( \frac{1 - \lambda}{\lambda} \right)^{1/2m+1}$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Three Spin Values

If  $\lambda \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , then  $(1 - \lambda)/\lambda \geq 1$  and the maximum on the right side of the last formula occurs for  $m = 0$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





# Three Spin Values

If  $\lambda \leq \frac{1}{2}$ , then  $(1 - \lambda)/\lambda \geq 1$  and the maximum on the right side of the last formula occurs for  $m = 0$  while, if  $\lambda \geq \frac{1}{2}$ , then  $(1 - \lambda)/\lambda \leq 1$  and we get the maximum as  $m \rightarrow \infty$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Three Spin Values

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$$T_-(\lambda) = \begin{cases} \sqrt{\lambda}, & \text{if } \lambda \leq \frac{1}{2} \\ \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}}, & \text{if } \lambda \geq \frac{1}{2} \end{cases}$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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So we see there are cases where  $T_- = \langle x^2 \rangle^{1/2} = \sqrt{\lambda}$  and other cases where the inequality is strict.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Three Spin Values

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So we see there are cases where  $T_- = \langle x^2 \rangle^{1/2} = \sqrt{\lambda}$  and other cases where the inequality is strict. Note also that at  $\lambda = \frac{1}{2}$ , the integral  $\langle (x^2 - T_-^2)^{2m+1} \rangle_\lambda$  vanishes for all  $n$ , a sign that the distribution of  $x^2 - T_-^2$  is symmetric about 0.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Spin $S$

For each value of  $S = \frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \dots$ , consider the measure  $d\tilde{\mu}_S$  which takes  $2S + 1$  values equally spaced between  $-1$  and  $1$ , each with weight  $1/(2S + 1)$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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$$T_- = \sqrt{\frac{1}{2}} < \sqrt{\frac{2}{3}} = \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^2 d\tilde{\mu}_{S=1}(x) \right)^{1/2}$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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So  $T_- \neq (\langle x^2 \rangle_{\mu})^{1/2}$  for spin 1

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Spin $S$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

For each value of  $S = \frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \dots$ , consider the measure  $d\tilde{\mu}_S$  which takes  $2S + 1$  values equally spaced between  $-1$  and  $1$ , each with weight  $1/(2S + 1)$ . This is a scaled version of what is called spin  $S$  Ising. We have just seen that for  $S = 1$  ( $\lambda = \frac{2}{3}$  in the above example), one has that

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So  $T_- \neq (\langle x^2 \rangle_{\mu})^{1/2}$  for spin 1 but I quickly determined that one should expect equality in all other cases. I did spin  $\frac{3}{2}$  by hand and used Mathematica to compute  $\langle (x^2 - a_S)^{2n+1} \rangle_S$  where  $a_S = \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^2 d\tilde{\mu}_S(x) \right)$  for  $S = 2, \frac{5}{2}, 3$  and  $m = 1, 2, \dots, 10$  and for  $S = 20$  and  $m = 1, \dots, 5$



# Spin $S$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality

For each value of  $S = \frac{1}{2}, 1, \frac{3}{2}, \dots$ , consider the measure  $d\tilde{\mu}_S$  which takes  $2S + 1$  values equally spaced between  $-1$  and  $1$ , each with weight  $1/(2S + 1)$ . This is a scaled version of what is called spin  $S$  Ising. We have just seen that for  $S = 1$  ( $\lambda = \frac{2}{3}$  in the above example), one has that

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# Spin S

**Conjecture** For  $S = \frac{3}{2}, 2, \frac{5}{2}, 3, \dots$  one has that

$$\langle (x^2 - a_S)^{2n+1} \rangle_S \geq 0$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Spin $S$

**Conjecture** For  $S = \frac{3}{2}, 2, \frac{5}{2}, 3, \dots$  one has that

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Shortly I'll say a lot more about this

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Spin $S$

**Conjecture** For  $S = \frac{3}{2}, 2, \frac{5}{2}, 3, \dots$  one has that

$$\langle (x^2 - a_S)^{2n+1} \rangle_S \geq 0$$

Shortly I'll say a lot more about this (including that it is a now a Theorem).

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Totally Anisotropic D-vector model

I turn next to what for a time I thought was my only new result on this subject.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Totally Anisotropic D-vector model

I turn next to what for a time I thought was my only new result on this subject. It involves the interesting measure

$$d\mu_D(x) = \left[ \frac{\Gamma\left(\frac{D}{2}\right)}{\sqrt{\pi} \Gamma\left(\frac{D-1}{2}\right)} \right] (1-x^2)^{\frac{1}{2}(D-3)} \chi_{[-1,1]}(x) dx$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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This is the distribution of  $x_1$  is one looks at a  $D$ -component unit vector distributed with the rotation invariant measure on  $\mathbb{S}^{D-1}$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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This is the distribution of  $x_1$  is one looks at a  $D$ -component unit vector distributed with the rotation invariant measure on  $\mathbb{S}^{D-1}$ . Since with respect to this measure all  $x_j$  have the same distribution and  $\sum_{j=1}^D x_j^2 = 1$ , we clearly have that

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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$$\langle x^2 \rangle_D = 1/D$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Totally Anisotropic D-vector model

After some experimentation with Mathematica, I have proven that

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Totally Anisotropic D-vector model

After some experimentation with Mathematica, I have proven that

**Theorem**  $T_-(\mu_D)$  is given by the second moment,

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Totally Anisotropic D-vector model

After some experimentation with Mathematica, I have proven that

**Theorem**  $T_-(\mu_D)$  is given by the second moment, i.e.  
 $T_-(\mu_D)^2 = 1/D$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

**Examples**

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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After some experimentation with Mathematica, I have proven that

**Theorem**  $T_-(\mu_D)$  is given by the second moment, i.e.  
 $T_-(\mu_D)^2 = 1/D$

The result for  $D = 2$  is especially easy because  
 $\langle (x^2 - 1/2)^{2m+1} \rangle_{D=2} = 0$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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 $T_-(\mu_D)^2 = 1/D$

The result for  $D = 2$  is especially easy because  
 $\langle (x^2 - 1/2)^{2m+1} \rangle_{D=2} = 0$  since it is equivalent to  
 $\langle (2x^2 - 1)^{2m+1} \rangle_{D=2} = \langle (x_1^2 - x_2^2)^{2m+1} \rangle_{\text{rotor}} = 0$  by  
 $x_1 \leftrightarrow x_2$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





# Totally Anisotropic D-vector model

After some experimentation with Mathematica, I have proven that

**Theorem**  $T_-(\mu_D)$  is given by the second moment, i.e.  
$$T_-(\mu_D)^2 = 1/D$$

The result for  $D = 2$  is especially easy because  $\langle (x^2 - 1/2)^{2m+1} \rangle_{D=2} = 0$  since it is equivalent to  $\langle (2x^2 - 1)^{2m+1} \rangle_{D=2} = \langle (x_1^2 - x_2^2)^{2m+1} \rangle_{\text{rotor}} = 0$  by  $x_1 \leftrightarrow x_2$ . I note that this result for  $D = 2$  is precisely the result that Aizenman and I say is in Wells mystery preprint. I now know that he did not consider  $D \geq 3$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Improving an Old Result of Griffiths

As explained earlier, because Wells domination implies Ising domination, one has that for pair interactions

$$T_c(S) \geq T_-(S)^2 T_c\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

**More on the  
Conjecture**

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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As it turns out there is a result of this genre in the literature.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

**More on the  
Conjecture**

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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As it turns out there is a result of this genre in the literature. In 1969 Griffiths wrote a famous paper on obtaining spin  $S$  Ising spins by ferromagnetically coupling  $2S$  spin  $\frac{1}{2}$  spins together which lead to GKS and Lee Yang for spin  $S$  Ising systems.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



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$$T_c(S) \geq \frac{1}{4} T_c\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality





# Improving an Old Result of Griffiths

The quantity  $a_S = (\int_{\mathbb{R}} x^2 d\tilde{\mu}_S(x))$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

**More on the  
Conjecture**

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Improving an Old Result of Griffiths

The quantity  $a_S = \left(\int_{\mathbb{R}} x^2 d\tilde{\mu}_S(x)\right) = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3S}$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

**More on the  
Conjecture**

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Improving an Old Result of Griffiths

The quantity  $a_S = \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}} x^2 d\tilde{\mu}_S(x) \right) = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3S}$ . If one proves that this is  $T_-^2$  for  $S \neq 1$ , one has for such  $S$  that

$$T_c(S) \geq \left( \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3S} \right) T_c \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

**More on the  
Conjecture**

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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while for  $S = 1$  where we know that one has that  $T_-^2 = \frac{1}{2}$

$$T_c(1) \geq \frac{1}{2} T_c\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

**More on the  
Conjecture**

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Not only is this an improvement of Griffiths by more than  $\frac{4}{3}$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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$$T_c(1) \geq \frac{1}{2} T_c \left( \frac{1}{2} \right)$$

Not only is this an improvement of Griffiths by more than  $\frac{4}{3}$  but in the result for  $S \neq 1$ , the improved constant is optimal!!

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Not only is this an improvement of Griffiths by more than  $\frac{4}{3}$  but in the result for  $S \neq 1$ , the improved constant is optimal!! For one has equality if  $T_c$  is replaced by its mean field values and as noted by Dyson, Lieb and Simon, mean field theory is exact in the nearest neighbor infinite dimension limit.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality





# The Precise Conjecture

By rescaling so the maximum spin value is  $S$ , the conjecture is the assertion that for  $m = 1, 2, \dots$  and  $S = \frac{3}{2}, 2, \frac{5}{2}, 3, \dots$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

**More on the  
Conjecture**

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

**More on the  
Conjecture**

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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For  $S$  an integer, this is the usual kind of sum.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

**More on the  
Conjecture**

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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For  $S$  an integer, this is the usual kind of sum. For  $2S$  an odd integer,  $j$  takes the  $2S+1$  values  $-S, -S+1, \dots, S-1, S$ , i.e.  $2j$  is an odd integer.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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I found this conjecture fascinating and worked on it with no progress for about 7 months.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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I found this conjecture fascinating and worked on it with no progress for about 7 months. I even got 3 coauthors to think about it with no luck.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



# A One Authored Draft

Given that Lieb has a celebrated paper on comparing Heisenberg models

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality





# A One Authored Draft

Given that Lieb has a celebrated paper on comparing Heisenberg models (admittedly classical vs. quantum and pressures, not correlations)

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Given that Lieb has a celebrated paper on comparing Heisenberg models (admittedly classical vs. quantum and pressures, not correlations) and that I didn't want to bury in a long book this material which had already been buried for 45 years,

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

**From One to Three Authors**

Proof of The Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



# A One Authored Draft

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality

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It seemed a shame not to make one more push to prove the conjecture so I did the obvious thing.



# Desperate Measures

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Desperate Measures

Desperate situations call for desperate measures.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Desperate Measures

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At 11 AM on Friday, Jan 14, I sent an email entitled "A *challenge*" stating the conjectured inequality (and with the draft to explain its significance) to

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality





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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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His note had one wonderful idea (using Karamata's inequality) and 5 dense pages of calculation to implement it.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



# Desperate Measures

José and I Zoomed several times, first for me to offer him a coauthorship (Terry had suggested an appendix)

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality





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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Desperate Measures

José and I Zoomed several times, first for me to offer him a coauthorship (Terry had suggested an appendix) and to discuss simplifying the implementation. We discovered a criteria for majorization that led to a three line proof. OK, a proof with three long lines. We then discovered that the proof was only really simple in case  $S$  was half an odd integer.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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José also suggested it would be good to try again to locate Daniel Wells.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Search for Daniel Wells

I wasn't starting at ground zero.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Search for Daniel Wells

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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality





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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Search for Daniel Wells

*Daniel R Wells was born in Sterling, Illinois on March 15, 1945. He attended the local parochial schools and graduated from high school in 1963.*

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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*Daniel R Wells was born in Sterling, Illinois on March 15, 1945. He attended the local parochial schools and graduated from high school in 1963. In October of that year he enlisted in the United States Navy and served for four years. After the Navy, he started college in 1968, studying mathematics, eventually earning a PhD from Indiana University in 1977.*

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality





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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





# The Search for Daniel Wells

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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Search for Daniel Wells

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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



# The Search for Daniel Wells

The next week, José and I zoomed with Daniel and I got some more background.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Search for Daniel Wells

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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Search for Daniel Wells

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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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At this point, his thesis advisor should have stepped in and explained the facts of life:

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

**From One to  
Three Authors**

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Search for Daniel Wells

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality

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At this point, his thesis advisor should have stepped in and explained the facts of life: just as there are bad papers, there are bad referees and one should send the paper off to another journal. But alas, Slim Sherman, his advisor, had passed away shortly before he took his oral exam and wasn't there to advise him. Wells was so discouraged, he totally left mathematics even though he'd written a very good thesis. Sometimes the system doesn't work.



# Majorization

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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In the time remaining, I want to explain the idea of the proof of the above inequality (for  $S \geq \frac{3}{2}$ ) at least in the simpler case when  $2S$  is odd.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**





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In the time remaining, I want to explain the idea of the proof of the above inequality (for  $S \geq \frac{3}{2}$ ) at least in the simpler case when  $2S$  is odd. In this case the proof extends to the general situation where  $j \mapsto 3j^2$  is replaced by any even convex function,  $S(S+1)$  the constant needed for the sum to vanish when  $m = 0$ , and  $w \mapsto w^{2m+1}$  by any continuous odd function which is convex on  $[0, \infty)$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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The key mathematical tool is the theory of majorization.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



# Majorization

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In the time remaining, I want to explain the idea of the proof of the above inequality (for  $S \geq \frac{3}{2}$ ) at least in the simpler case when  $2S$  is odd. In this case the proof extends to the general situation where  $j \mapsto 3j^2$  is replaced by any even convex function,  $S(S+1)$  the constant needed for the sum to vanish when  $m = 0$ , and  $w \mapsto w^{2m+1}$  by any continuous odd function which is convex on  $[0, \infty)$ . On the other hand, our proof for  $S$  integral doesn't work if  $j^2$  is replaced by  $|j|^p$  with  $1 < p < \frac{3}{2}$ .

The key mathematical tool is the theory of majorization. I suspect my coauthors hadn't seen this theory but I didn't have this excuse.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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The key mathematical tool is the theory of majorization. I suspect my coauthors hadn't seen this theory but I didn't have this excuse. My convexity book has a whole chapter on it!

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big Theorem

Examples

More on the Conjecture

From One to Three Authors

Proof of The Inequality



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If  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}_{+, \geq}^n$  (the set with  $x_1 \geq x_2 \geq \dots x_n \geq 0$ ),

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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The key fact is that  $\mathbf{y} \prec \mathbf{x}$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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The key fact is that  $\mathbf{y} \prec \mathbf{x}$  iff  $\mathbf{y}$  is in the convex hull in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of the (at most)  $n!$  points obtained from  $\mathbf{x}$  by permuting the coordinates

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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The key fact is that  $\mathbf{y} \prec \mathbf{x}$  iff  $\mathbf{y}$  is in the convex hull in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  of the (at most)  $n!$  points obtained from  $\mathbf{x}$  by permuting the coordinates proven by slicing  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with specific hyperplanes.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Karamata's Inequality

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

**Theorem** (Karamata's Inequality) Let  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}_{+, \geq}^n$  with  $\mathbf{x} \succ \mathbf{y}$  and let  $\varphi$  be an arbitrary continuous convex function on  $[0, x_1]$ . Then

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



# Karamata's Inequality

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$$\sum_{j=1}^n \varphi(x_j) \geq \sum_{j=1}^n \varphi(y_j)$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Karamata's Inequality

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**Theorem** (Karamata's Inequality) Let  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}_{+, \geq}^n$  with  $\mathbf{x} \succ \mathbf{y}$  and let  $\varphi$  be an arbitrary continuous convex function on  $[0, x_1]$ . Then

$$\sum_{j=1}^n \varphi(x_j) \geq \sum_{j=1}^n \varphi(y_j)$$

Even though this is widely referred to as Karamata's inequality after Karamata's 1932 paper, it or theorems that imply it appear in a 1923 paper of Schur and a 1929 paper of Hardy-Littlewood-Pólya.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Karamata's Inequality

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

That said, we note that HLP doesn't have a proof which may not have appeared until their 1934 book and that Karamata proved a converse, namely, if  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}_{+, \geq}^n$  and the inequality holds for all convex  $\varphi$ , then  $\mathbf{x} \succ \mathbf{y}$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**





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The proof of Karamata's theorem is simple.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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That said, we note that HLP doesn't have a proof which may not have appeared until their 1934 book and that Karamata proved a converse, namely, if  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}_{+, \geq}^n$  and the inequality holds for all convex  $\varphi$ , then  $\mathbf{x} \succ \mathbf{y}$ .

The proof of Karamata's theorem is simple. One proves the convex hull result and then one notes the function  $\mathbf{w} \mapsto \sum_{j=1}^n \varphi(w_j)$  is convex and permutation symmetric.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# Strategy of the Proof

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

The strategy of the proof when  $2S$  is odd is straight-forward.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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The strategy of the proof when  $2S$  is odd is straight-forward. In that case,  $j = 0$  doesn't occur, so we can sum only over  $j \geq 0$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Proof

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

The proof that  $\mathbf{x} \succ \mathbf{y}$  relies on a new criteria for majorization that we found:

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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**Lemma** Suppose that  $\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y} \in \mathbb{R}_{+, \geq}^n$  with  $\sum_{j=1}^n x_j = \sum_{j=1}^n y_j$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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$$j < \ell \Rightarrow x_j > y_j \quad j \geq \ell \Rightarrow x_j \leq y_j$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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**Proof** If  $k < \ell$ , it is immediate that  $\sum_{j=1}^k x_j \geq \sum_{j=1}^k y_j$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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Then  $\mathbf{x} \succ \mathbf{y}$ .

**Proof** If  $k < \ell$ , it is immediate that  $\sum_{j=1}^k x_j \geq \sum_{j=1}^k y_j$  and similarly, it is immediate that if  $k \geq \ell$ , then  $\sum_{j=k}^n x_j \leq \sum_{j=k}^n y_j$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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Then  $\mathbf{x} \succ \mathbf{y}$ .

**Proof** If  $k < \ell$ , it is immediate that  $\sum_{j=1}^k x_j \geq \sum_{j=1}^k y_j$  and similarly, it is immediate that if  $k \geq \ell$ , then

$\sum_{j=k}^n x_j \leq \sum_{j=k}^n y_j$ . Subtracting this from  $\sum_{j=1}^n x_j = \sum_{j=1}^n y_j$ , we see that also for  $k \geq \ell$ , one has that  $\sum_{j=1}^k x_j \geq \sum_{j=1}^k y_j$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Proof

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

Thus the key to proving the inequality in our case is showing that

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



# The Proof

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

Thus the key to proving the inequality in our case is showing that  $x_{j+1} - y_{j+1} \leq x_j - y_j$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



# The Proof

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

Thus the key to proving the inequality in our case is showing that  $x_{j+1} - y_{j+1} \leq x_j - y_j$  since this shows that once  $x_j - y_j \leq 0$ , that is true for larger  $j$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



# The Proof

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

Thus the key to proving the inequality in our case is showing that  $x_{j+1} - y_{j+1} \leq x_j - y_j$  since this shows that once  $x_j - y_j \leq 0$ , that is true for larger  $j$  proving the single sign change required for the Lemma.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality





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which is true by convexity of  $\psi$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



# The Proof

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

For  $S$  integral, one can't just take positive  $j$ 's since  $j = 0$  occurs once and other  $j$  values twice.

- Introduction
- Ginibre
- Wells' Framework
- Wells' Big Theorem
- Examples
- More on the Conjecture
- From One to Three Authors
- Proof of The Inequality**



# The Proof

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

For  $S$  integral, one can't just take positive  $j$ 's since  $j = 0$  occurs once and other  $j$  values twice. One can still define  $x$  and  $y$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



# The Proof

$$\sum_{j=-S}^S (3j^2 - S(S+1))^{2m+1} \geq 0$$

For  $S$  integral, one can't just take positive  $j$ 's since  $j = 0$  occurs once and other  $j$  values twice. One can still define  $x$  and  $y$ . For example if  $n = 7$ ,

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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$$\mathbf{x} = 22, 22, 11, 11, 2, 2, 0$$

$$\mathbf{y} = 14, 13, 13, 10, 10, 5, 5$$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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If you have sharp eyes, you'll notice that  $x - y$  has three sign shifts, not one so the lemma doesn't work.

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

**Proof of The  
Inequality**



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Nevertheless, using  $22 + 22 \geq 14 + 13 + 13$  allows one to prove that  $\mathbf{x} \succ \mathbf{y}$

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality



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$$\mathbf{x} = 22, 22, 11, 11, 2, 2, 0$$

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If you have sharp eyes, you'll notice that  $x - y$  has three sign shifts, not one so the lemma doesn't work.

Nevertheless, using  $22 + 22 \geq 14 + 13 + 13$  allows one to prove that  $\mathbf{x} \succ \mathbf{y}$  and a similar trick works for all integral  $S$ .

Introduction

Ginibre

Wells' Framework

Wells' Big  
Theorem

Examples

More on the  
Conjecture

From One to  
Three Authors

Proof of The  
Inequality