

# THE GAUSSIAN RADON TRANSFORM, PADÉ APPROXIMANTS, AND SHAPE RECONSTRUCTION

MAXIM DEREVYAGIN, AMBAR SENGUPTA, AND JASPER TOMAN-YIH

ABSTRACT. [To be done later](#)

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Here is a sort of to-do list for whatever this document is:

- To write:
  - ~~Intro. Place discussion of Mathematica implementation into its own section.~~
  - Intro. Discuss in the role of the Radon transform in proofs surrounding the method, as well as its extension to the Gaussian transform.
  - RT/GRT. Notation for Gaussian measure on hyperplanes is not good. The symbols  $w$  and  $\omega$  are too similar. Also is it  $w_{n-1}(x - p\omega) = \exp(-\|x - p\omega\|_{\mathbb{R}^{n-1}}^2)$  or  $w_{n-1}(x - p\omega) = \exp(-\|x - p\omega\|_{\mathbb{R}^n}^2)$ ?
  - RT/GRT. Search for references on G slice theorem and G projection moments etc. . . If none, congrats.
  - RT/GTT. Expand background, historical context, etc. . .
  - RT/GRT. Swap sufficient working condition with Fubini condition in slice theorems.
  - Implementation. Output some figures from Mathematica. For example sample points, moment tables, and reconstructions.
- To research:
  - Everywhere. Provide examples for  $n = 2, 3$  of as many results as we can.
  - GRT. Domains of defintion, i.e.  $GRT : L^2 \rightarrow L^2$  and such.
  - GRT. Integration by parts formula for  $GRT$  of  $\partial f / \partial x_i$
  - Mathematica. Compute tables of GRT on monomials (polynomials). Do they look like anything? ~~Compute GRT on Hermite polynomials?~~
  - Mathematica. Implement Gaussian shape reconstruction method, try some example shapes. Clearly lay out the choices made: Series of expanding images, or compactified  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ? How to complexify points?

The shape reconstruction method: In a 2005 paper, Annie Cuyt et. al. [1] proposed a method for shape reconstruction from moments, via Pade approximants to a multidimensional integral transform. Given a set of multivariate moments of some region  $A$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , the method produces a pixel image approximating  $A$ .

---

*Date:* September 12, 2025.

*2020 Mathematics Subject Classification.* Primary ???; Secondary ???.

*Key words and phrases.* ???; ???; ???.

Suppose  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is suitably well behaved subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . In particular we assume  $A$  is bounded and thus has finite moments. The moment sequence gives Taylor coefficients for a certain holomorphic function with integral representation

$$g(y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{f(x)}{1 + \langle x, y \rangle} dx = \sum_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n} \binom{|\alpha|}{\alpha} c_\alpha (-y)^\alpha.$$

If  $f$  has bounded support then  $g$  converges in some neighborhood of zero. Otherwise it may not (still haven't resolved how to complexify the domain/what exactly the pade approximants converge to). Padé approximants (more accurate than truncated series?) thus converge to  $g$ .

At the same time  $g$  can, in theory, be approximated by a multivariate quadrature formula

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{f(x)}{1 + \langle x, y \rangle} dx = \sum_i \frac{1}{1 + \langle x_i, y \rangle} f(x_i) = \sum_i w(x_i, y) f(x_i)$$

Where the nodes  $x_i$  lie, for example, on a cubic lattice. We can then sample a Pade approximant to  $g$  at some sufficiently large group of points  $y = y_j$  (unclear what sample points are appropriate) forming a linear system of equations, from which we — at least in theory — solve for  $f(x_i)$ . If all goes well we have approximations of  $f(x_i)$  on a node lattice, which can be turned into a pixel image of  $A$ .

Now let us briefly discuss our proposed modification to the shape reconstruction moments, the theoretical complications and computational considerations. Essentially what we are proposing is to recreate the method with a Gaussian measure applied, thus allowing for convergence on a larger class of regions  $A$ . In particular, the proposed method would apply to unbounded regions.

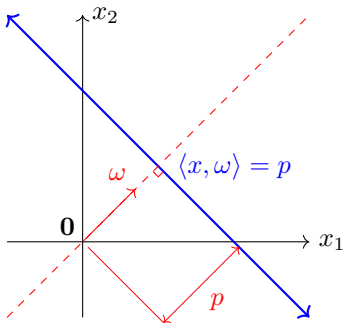
How does this modification impact the method? First and foremost instead of classical moments, we are now given a Gaussian moment sequence — that is, moments with respect to the standard Gaussian measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . On the other end, the reconstructed region may be recovered as normal by simply inverting the Gaussian weight.

From a theoretical standpoint, proving the validity of the proposed method presents a few challenges. Firstly, even a quick glance at the classical literature tells us that moment problems on bounded domains are substantially better behaved than their unbounded counterparts. Whereas all continuous moment problems on a bounded interval are determinate, we now have the potential to run in to indeterminate problems. This turns out to be not so much of an issue at all, since we can guarantee determinacy in a Gaussian-weighted  $L^2$  completion of the space of polynomials, which of course includes indicator functions. A second major complication arises when we try to define the function  $g(y)$ . From the integral representation

$$g(y) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{f(x)}{1 + \langle x, y \rangle} dx,$$

one can start to see a problem: If  $f(x)$  has unbounded support  $g(y)$  has the potential to not converge for any  $y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . In particular  $g(y)$  may not exist in a neighborhood of 0, meaning our series expansion and thus the explicit connection to moments, may be broken. We need now to consider  $g$  as a function on some non-real domain. Here, as it turns out, Pade approximants can be computed from moments which approximate  $g$  on, for example, a half space. The convergence of these approximants

is tied to the question of determinacy of the moment problem, which as mentioned above is not difficult to resolve. Thus we simply take sample points avoiding the problematic real space and — at least in theory — the method is validated.



## 2. NOTATION

a [8] [3] [10] [5] [9] [2] First recall the conventional multiindex notation. Let  $\mathbb{N}_0$  denote the nonnegative integers. A multiindex  $\alpha = (\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n) \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  is an  $n$ -tuple of nonnegative integers. The degree of a multiindex is  $|\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \alpha_2 + \dots + \alpha_n$ . Multivariate exponentiation is defined as follows. For  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$x^\alpha = x_1^{\alpha_1} x_2^{\alpha_2} \dots x_n^{\alpha_n}.$$

The multinomial formula gives a convenient expansion for multinomial powers. Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ . Then

$$(b_1 + b_2 + \dots + b_n)^k = \sum_{|\alpha|=k} \binom{k}{\alpha} b^\alpha$$

where the multinomial coefficients are defined

$$\binom{k}{\alpha} = \frac{k!}{\alpha_1! \alpha_2! \dots \alpha_n!}.$$

Note that the multinomial expansion sums over all multiindices  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  of degree  $k$ .

We denote the standard euclidean inner product

$$\langle x, y \rangle = x_1 y_1 + x_2 y_2 + \dots + x_n y_n$$

where  $y = (y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . When discussing hyperplanes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  we index them by a unit normal vector,  $\omega \in S^{n-1}$ , and distance from origin  $-\infty < p < \infty$ , and we write for example  $\langle x, \omega \rangle = p$ . Note that  $\langle x, -\omega \rangle = p$  is the same hyperplane. It is perhaps more correct, in later defining the Radon and Gaussian Radon transforms, to identify these indexes and define the transforms over a projective space. We omit this discussion as it is not relevant within the scope of this work.

Unless otherwise indicated all measures are Euclidean measures, that is the Borel measure associated with the standard Euclidean metric on a given space. In particular the Euclidean measure on a hyperplane of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is equivalent to the Euclidean measure on  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ . We chose for convenience to denote measures by their associated variable such as  $dx$ ,  $dp$ ,  $dz$ , and others. It should be stated that this notation, while uniform, is context dependent. For example in the integrals

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} dx \quad \text{and} \quad \int_{\langle x, \omega \rangle = p} dx,$$

the measure  $dx$  is to be understood as the  $n$ -dimensional and  $(n-1)$ -dimensional Euclidean measure respectively.

## 3. CLASSICAL AND MULTIVARIATE MOMENTS

a [10] [3] Let  $f(x)$  be a measurable function on  $\mathbb{R}$ . For  $k \in \mathbb{N}_0$ , define the  $k$ th moment of  $f$  as

$$c_k = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x)x^k dx.$$

The sequence  $(c_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0}$  is called a moment sequence or a moment problem, and the function  $f$  is called a solution to the moment problem. Loosely speaking a moment problem poses the question: Under given constraints (e.g. domain, continuity, etc...), to what extent can one determine the solution  $f$  from its moments?

The classical study of moment problems is divided into three cases depending on the domain:

- (1) Markov (or Hausdorff) moment problems for bounded domains (i.e. the unit interval),
- (2) Stieltjes moment problems for one-sided unbounded domains (i.e. the positive real line), and
- (3) Hamburger moment problems for bi-infinite domains (i.e. the real line).

There are two natural questions one can ask about a moment problem:

- (1) Solvability: Does a solution  $f$  exist possessing the given moments?
- (2) Determinacy: Is a solution unique? If not, what can be said about the set of solutions?

In the classical cases (Markov, Stieltjes, Hamburger) these questions have been resolved. Precise conditions for solvable and determinate moment problems exist, and the nature of solution sets to indeterminate moment problems are well understood. For instance, in the class of continuous functions on the unit interval, all solvable moments problems are determinate. However many classes of generalized moment problems remain in active study.

In particular let us discuss multivariate moment problems. Let  $f(x)$  be a measurable function now on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . For  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ , define the  $\alpha$ th multivariate moment of  $f$  as

$$c_\alpha = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)x^\alpha dx.$$

The moment sequence  $(c_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n}$  is now multiindexed. No precise general conditions are known for the solvability or determinacy of multivariate moment problems. However some sufficient conditions have been discovered by leveraging classical moment problem theory [5].

## 4. GAUSSIAN FUNCTIONS AND GAUSSIAN MEASURES

Let  $w(p) : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the standard Gaussian density on  $\mathbb{R}$ ,

$$w(p) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} e^{-\frac{p^2}{2}}$$

and  $w_n(x) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  the standard Gaussian density on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,

$$w_n(x) = (2\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}} e^{-\frac{\|x\|^2}{2}}.$$

Note that  $w = w_1$ .

A relationship between the univariate and multivariate Gaussian densities can be seen as follows: Let  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 2$ . Suppose  $y = p\omega$  where  $\omega \in S^1$  and  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ , so that  $p\omega$  is the orthogonal projection of  $x$  onto the span of  $y$ . Then the Pythagorean relation,

$$\|x\|^2 = \|x - p\omega\|^2 + \|p\omega\|^2 = \|x - p\omega\|^2 + p^2$$

implies that

$$\begin{aligned} w_n(x) &= (2\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}} e^{-\frac{\|x\|^2}{2}} \\ &= (2\pi)^{-\frac{n-1}{2}} e^{-\frac{\|x - p\omega\|^2}{2}} (2\pi)^{-\frac{1}{2}} e^{-\frac{p^2}{2}} \\ &= w_{n-1}(x - p\omega)w(p) \end{aligned}$$

The equation

$$(4.1) \quad w_n(x) = w_{n-1}(x - p\omega)w(p)$$

is in some respect the defining property of the Gaussian measure defined below. Indeed if  $x = (x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n)$ , by repeated application of (4.1) one can write the decomposition

$$w_n(x) = \prod_{k=1}^n w(x_k).$$

Thus the  $w_n(x)$  is the product of  $n$  copies of  $w$ . The standard Gaussian measure  $\gamma^n$  is thus a measure whose cardinal projections are standard Gaussian measures.

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $\gamma^n$  be a the Borel measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with density  $w_n$ ,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) d\gamma^n = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) w_n(x) dx.$$

We call  $\gamma^n$  the standard Gaussian measure. More generally, for mean  $a \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and variance  $\sigma > 0$ , the following  $\gamma_{a, \sigma^2}^n$  are Gaussian measures,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) d\gamma_{a, \sigma^2}^n &= \frac{(2\pi)^{-\frac{n}{2}}}{\sigma} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) e^{-\frac{\|x - a\|^2}{2\sigma^2}} dx \\ &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(\sigma x + a) d\gamma^n \end{aligned}$$

(Most general defn of Gaussian measures includes degenerate  $\delta$  functions, and any product of Gaussian measures).

## 5. BASICS OF THE RADON AND GAUSSIAN RADON TRANSFORMS

Let  $f$  be a multivariable function on the  $n$ -dimensional Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . We imagine taking “slices” of  $f$  by restricting it to a  $(n-1)$ -dimensional hyperplane  $\Lambda$ . These hyperplanes form the domain of the Radon Transform. More precisely, the Radon Transform associates each slice with a corresponding integral

$$R_f(\Lambda) = \int_{\Lambda} f(x) \, dx,$$

which can be thought of as a  $(n-1)$ -dimensional measurement of  $f$ . To be more precise we parametrize the collection of hyperplanes  $\Lambda$  by normal vector,  $\omega \in S^{n-1}$ , and (signed) distance from the origin  $-\infty < p < \infty$ . Indeed any hyperplane can be described in the form  $\Lambda = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle x, \omega \rangle = p\}$ . As mentioned, there is a slight inconsistency in these definitions where a hyperplane  $\Lambda$  can be indexed by both  $\langle \omega, x \rangle = p$  and  $\langle -\omega, x \rangle = -p$ . This difference is inconsequential for our purposes so we choose the latter for clarity.

The Radon transform [3] (RT) is a thing that I will discuss the history of, with references, in this paragraph. The transform gets its name from Johann Radon, whose first defined the transform in the form below in 1917, although a similar transform was introduced by Paul Funk in 1911 [?????]. It is interesting to note that the primary application of the RT in medical imaging (CT scans) was not invented for another half century.

**Definition 5.1.** *Let  $f$  be a nonnegative measurable function on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The **Radon transform**  $R_f : S^{n-1} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  of  $f$  is a function which, given a unit vector  $\omega \in \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $-\infty < p < \infty$ , is defined as*

$$R_f(\omega, p) = \int_{\langle x, \omega \rangle = p} f(x) \, dx,$$

*provided the integral converges.*

Our main addition to previous work will be the use of a modified RT, the Gaussian Radon transform (GRT). This transform is very similar to the RT, but the inclusion of a Gaussian density  $w_{n-1}(x)$  in the integral allows for convergence on a larger class of functions  $f$ . In a broader context the Gaussian Radon transform also has the advantages of generalizing to infinite dimensional Hilbert spaces [4] (on which the Lebesgue measure is not defined), as well as having a natural probabilistic interpretation.

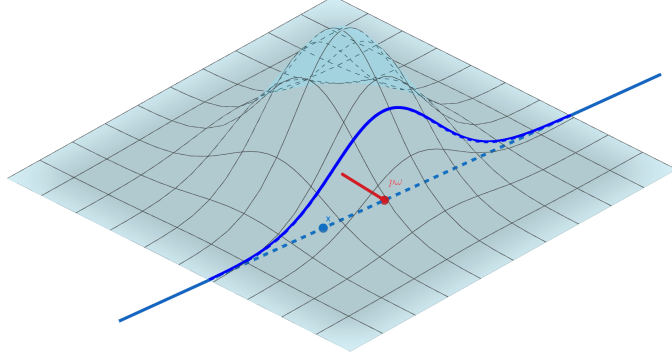
**Definition 5.2.** *The **Gaussian Radon transform**  $GR_f : S^{n-1} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  of  $f$  is defined similarly to the RT. Given  $\omega \in S^{n-1}$  and  $-\infty < p < \infty$ , the GRT is*

$$GR_f(\omega, p) = \int_{\langle x, \omega \rangle = p} f(x) w_{n-1}(x - p\omega) \, dx.$$

*provided the integral converges. Note the Gaussian density*

$$w_{n-1}(x - p\omega) = (2\pi)^{-(n-1)/2} e^{-\|x - p\omega\|^2/2}$$

*is centered on the point of the hyperplane closest to the origin.*



*Remark 5.3.* It may be helpful to understand the GRT as a simple modification of the RT with respect to a Gaussian measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Let  $g(x) := f(x)w_n(x)$ . The RT of  $g$  can be rewritten

$$\int_{\langle x, \omega \rangle = p} f(x)w_n(x) \, dx = \int_{\langle x, \omega \rangle = p} f(x)w_{n-1}(x) \, dx \, w(p),$$

where we used the Pythagorean relation  $\|x\|^2 = \|x - p\omega\|^2 + \|p\omega\|^2$ . Since  $\omega$  is a unit vector,  $\|p\omega\|^2 = p^2$ . In short, we have proved the formula

$$(5.1) \quad R_g(\omega, p) = GR_f(\omega, p)w(p), \quad g(x) := f(x)w_n(x).$$

The relation above provides decent intuition for the GRT, and is also a useful tool proving some basic properties of the transform.

Now imagine sweeping a hyperplanar “slice” across  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . As a function of  $p$ , the RT  $R(\omega, p)$  can be seen as a projection of  $f$  onto the linear subspace spanned by  $\omega$ . It is not surprising that integrating this projection over  $-\infty < p < \infty$  we get the same result as the  $n$ -fold integral of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R(\omega, p) \, dp = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) \, dx$$

The so called “slice theorem” further generalizes this observation.

**Proposition 5.4** (Slice Theorem). *If  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)F(\langle x, \omega \rangle)| \, dx < \infty$  then*

$$(5.2) \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_f(\omega, p)F(p) \, dp = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)F(\langle x, \omega \rangle) \, dx.$$

*Proof.* Inserting the definition of the RT, the left side is

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{\langle x, \omega \rangle = p} f(x) \, dx \, F(p) \, dp = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \int_{\langle x, \omega \rangle = p} f(x)F(\langle x, \omega \rangle) \, dx \, dp.$$

Up to a rigid transformation (under which the Euclidean measures are invariant) this is essentially an iterated integral over  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{R}^{n-1}$ . Thus given the integrability requirement, Fubini’s theorem applies and the theorem is proved.  $\square$



*Remark 5.5.* We can specify various conditions for convergence. If  $F(p)$  is bounded then  $\int |f(x)|dx < \infty$  suffices for convergence. If  $f$  is continuous with compact support then  $F(p)$  only needs to be integrable.

If  $F(p) = e^{-ip}$  and  $f(x)$  is such that  $\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_f(\omega, p)dp < \infty$  then (5.2) becomes the well known Fourier slice theorem

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_f(\omega, p)e^{-ip} dp = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)e^{-i\langle x, \omega \rangle} dx,$$

which is often articulated as saying that the 1-dimensional Fourier transform of the Radon transform is the  $n$ -dimensional Fourier transform of  $f$ .

An early and natural question in the study of the RT is that of inversion. Radon himself derived the “Radon inversion formula” [6] [7], which is often proved via the above Fourier slice theorem. The groundbreaking inversion formula is the basis for what, in application, called “filtered backpropagation”.

If one is interested in inverting the RT then a prerequisite concern is of course: Is the transform injective? The answer clearly depends on what space we draw the function  $f$  from. Radon [6] [7] provides a set of sufficient regularity conditions such that the RT is invertible. Other similar results followed [????]. On the other hand counterexamples have been constructed by, for example, Lawrence Zalcman [10], of continuous and nontrivial functions for which the RT is identically zero.

By way of the relation (5.1) we can prove an analagous slice theorem for the GRT.

**Theorem 5.6** (Gaussian Slice Theorem). *If  $\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)F(\langle x, \omega \rangle)w_n(x)|dx < \infty$  then*

$$(5.3) \quad \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} GR_f(\omega, p)F(p)w(p) dp = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)F(\langle x, \omega \rangle)w_n(x) dx.$$

*Remark 5.7.* Whatever conditions are sufficient for convergence in (5.2) are then sufficient conditions to be checked for  $f(x)w_n(x)$  and  $F(p)w(p)$ . For example it is sufficient that  $f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n, w_n)$  and  $F \in L^\infty$ . Note in particular that this applies bounded functions of potentially unbounded support, and to all polynomials  $f \in \mathbb{R}[x]$ .

*Proof.* From (5.1)

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} GR_f(\omega, p)F(p)w(p) dp = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_g(\omega, p)F(p) dp$$

where  $g(x) = f(x)e^{-\|x\|^2/2}$ . Then applying the slice theorem:

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_g(\omega, p)F(p) dp = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x)F(\langle x, \omega \rangle)w_n(x) dx,$$

completing the proof.  $\square$

As an applications of the slice theorems going forward, we first show that, fixing  $\omega$ , the  $k$ th projection moment at  $\omega$  can be written as a weighted sum of the degree  $k$  multivariate moments of  $f$ .

**Proposition 5.8.** *Let  $c_\alpha(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_f(\omega, p)p^\alpha dp$  be the projection moments of  $f$  at a fixed  $\omega$ , and  $c_\alpha$  the multivariate moments of  $f$ . Then*

$$c_k(\omega) = \sum_{|\alpha|=k} \binom{k}{\alpha} \omega^\alpha c_\alpha$$

where  $\binom{k}{\alpha} = \frac{k!}{\alpha_1! \alpha_2! \dots \alpha_n!}$  are multinomial coefficients.

*Proof.* By the slice theorem (5.2) with  $F(p) = p^k$ ,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} R_f(\omega, p) p^k dp = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) \langle x, \omega \rangle^k dx.$$

Now  $\langle x, \omega \rangle^k = (x_1 \omega_1 + \dots + x_n \omega_n)^k$  has the multinomial expansion

$$\langle x, \omega \rangle^k = \sum_{|\alpha|=k} \binom{k}{\alpha} x^\alpha \omega^\alpha.$$

Thus after a bit of rearranging we get

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) \langle x, \omega \rangle^k dx &= \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) \sum_{|\alpha|=k} \binom{k}{\alpha} x^\alpha \omega^\alpha dx \\ &= \sum_{|\alpha|=k} \binom{k}{\alpha} \omega^\alpha \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) x^\alpha dx, \end{aligned}$$

where the integrands are precisely the  $k$ th degree multivariate moments of  $f$ .  $\square$

Similarly, moments of the GRT (Gaussian projection moments) can be expressed in terms of multivariate gaussian moments.

**Proposition 5.9.** *Let  $c_k^G(\omega) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} GR_f(\omega, p) p^k w(p) dp$  be the Gaussian weighted moments of the GRT of  $f$  at a fixed  $\omega$ . Let  $c_\alpha^G = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) w_n(x) x^\alpha dx$  be the Gaussian weighted multivariate moments of  $f$ . Then*

$$c_k^G(\omega) = \sum_{|\alpha|=k} \binom{k}{\alpha} \omega^\alpha c_\alpha^G.$$

*Proof.* The proof follows as it did for the RT. This time we apply the GRT slice theorem (5.3) with  $F(p) = p^k$ ,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} GR_f(\omega, p) p^k w(p) dp = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) \langle x, \omega \rangle^k w_n(x) dx$$

Again we use the multinomial expansion of  $\langle x, \omega \rangle^k$  and rearrange:

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) \langle x, \omega \rangle^k w_n(x) dx = \sum_{|\alpha|=k} \binom{k}{\alpha} \omega^\alpha \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) w_n(x) x^\alpha dx.$$

Thus

$$c_k^G(\omega) = \sum_{|\alpha|=k} \binom{k}{\alpha} \omega^\alpha c_\alpha^G.$$

$\square$

## 6. THE MARKOV AND HAMBURGER TRANSFORMS

Let  $\mu$  be a Borel measure with infinite support and finite moments  $c_k = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p^k d\mu$ .

**Definition 6.1.** *The function on  $\mathbb{C}$  defined by*

$$g(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{1 + zp}$$

*is called the Markov (Hamburger resp.) transform of  $\mu$  when  $\mu$  has bounded (unbounded resp.) support.*

Let us consider the domain of definition for  $g(z)$ . Since  $p$  is a real number, the denominator  $1 + zp$  can only vanish if  $\text{Im } z = 0$ . In fact:

**Proposition 6.2.** *The function  $g(z)$  is holomorphic on the upper half plane  $\text{Im } z > 0$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\gamma$  be a closed piecewise  $C^1$  curve in the upper half plane.

$$\begin{aligned} |zg(z)| &\leq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{|\frac{1}{z} + p|} \\ &\leq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{|\text{Im } \frac{1}{z}|} \\ &= \frac{c_0}{|\text{Im } \frac{1}{z}|}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$|g(z)| \leq \frac{c_0}{|z \text{Im } \frac{1}{z}|} = c_0 \left| \frac{z}{\text{Im } z} \right|.$$

Note that as a compact subset of the upper half plane  $\gamma$  must have positive distance from the real line. As a consequence  $g(z)$  is bounded on  $\gamma$ , and by Fubini's theorem

$$\begin{aligned} \oint_{\gamma} g(z) dz &= \oint_{\gamma} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{1 + zp} dz \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \oint_{\gamma} \frac{dz}{1 + zp} d\mu \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} 0 d\mu = 0. \end{aligned}$$

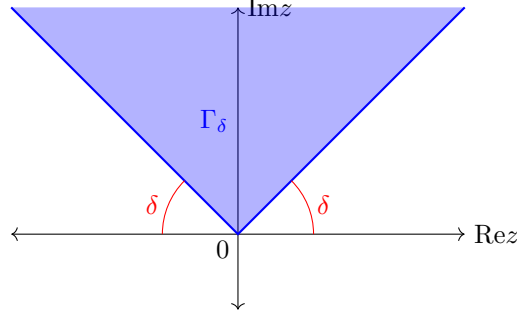
By Morera's theorem  $g(z)$  is holomorphic on the upper half plane.  $\square$

*Remark 6.3.* Similarly one can show  $g(z)$  is holomorphic on the lower half plane  $\text{Im } z < 0$ . Moreover  $g(z)$  commutes with conjugation:

$$g(\bar{z}) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{1 + \bar{z}p} = \overline{\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{1 + zp}} = \overline{g(z)}$$

since  $\mu$  is a real measure.

When  $z$  is a real number  $g(z)$  may not converge. In particular  $g(z)$  does not converge when  $z = -1/p$  for some  $p$  in the support of  $\mu$ . Thus if  $\mu$  has bounded support  $g$  converges in a neighborhood of 0. On the other hand if  $\mu$  has unbounded support  $g(0)$  is not defined. However — as we will see — even in the Hamburger transform case, a formal series expansion at  $z = 0$  holds valuable information.



By a simple geometric series expansion,

$$\frac{1}{1+zp} = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-z)^k p^k$$

when  $|zp| < 1$ . This suggests the connection between  $g(z)$  and the moment sequence  $(c_k)_{k \in \mathbb{N}_0}$ . Indeed, at least formally,

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\mu}{1+zp} &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-z)^k p^k d\mu \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} (-z)^k \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p^k d\mu \\ &= \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k (-z)^k. \end{aligned}$$

In the Markov case we have a positive radius of convergence. But even in the Hamburger case, there is a sense in which this asymptotic expansion holds “non-tangentially”.

Non-tangential convergence at  $z = 0$  is, as the name implies, convergence along curves not tangent to the real line at 0. More precisely, one defines a “wedge domain”

$$\Gamma_{\delta} = \{\delta \leq \arg z \leq \pi - \delta\}$$

in which curves approach 0 with an angle at least  $\delta$  from the real line.

**Definition 6.4.** (*Non-Tangential Limit*) We say  $g(z) \rightarrow z_0$  non-tangentially at  $z = 0$  if, for any  $\delta > 0$ , the limit

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} g(z) = z_0$$

holds for  $z$  in the  $\Gamma_{\delta}$ .

While  $g(z)$  does not generally converge at  $z = 0$ , in a non-tangential sense the aforementioned asymptotic expansion holds:

**Proposition 6.5.** (1) If  $\mu$  has bounded support

$$g(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k (-z)^k$$

in a neighborhood of  $z = 0$ .

(2) For all  $n \in \mathbb{N}_0$

$$(6.1) \quad g(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{n-1} c_k(-z)^k + z^n h_n(z)$$

where  $h_n$  is such that  $\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} h_n(z) = 0$  non-tangentially.

*Proof.* We first note that

$$\sum_{k=0}^n c_k(-z)^k = \sum_{k=0}^n \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} (-zp)^k d\mu = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{1 - (-zp)^{n+1}}{1 + zp} d\mu$$

and so

$$h_n(z) = \frac{1}{z^n} \left\{ g(z) - \sum_{k=0}^n c_k(-z)^k \right\} = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{zp^{n+1}}{1 + zp} d\mu.$$

It remains to determine if and in what sense this trailing term  $h_n(z)$  vanishes at the origin.

As expected in the case when  $\mu$  has bounded support,  $h_n(z)$  exists in a neighborhood of 0 and vanishes as  $z \rightarrow 0$  in this neighborhood. Thus the asymptotic expansion 6.1 is the Taylor expansion: The Markov transform is analytic at the origin.

When  $\mu$  has unbounded support and  $h_n(z)$  may not be well defined on the real line, so we must weaken our result to non-tangential convergence. If  $z \in \Gamma_\delta$  then we have the following inequalities for any  $p \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

$$|p - z| \geq |p| \sin \delta \quad \text{and} \quad |p - z| \geq |p| \sin \delta.$$

We will show that

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} h_{2n}(z) = 0, \quad z \in \Gamma_\delta$$

from which the corresponding limit for odd orders will immediately follow from the relation

$$h_{2n-1}(z) = zh_{2n}(z) + c_{2n}z^{2n}.$$

Here for the sake of convenience we define  $w = -\frac{1}{z}$ , following a more classical approach. Note that  $|w| = \frac{1}{|z|}$  and if  $z$  is in the wedge  $\Gamma_\delta$  then so is  $w$ . Now

$$\begin{aligned} |h_{2n}(z)| &\leq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{|p|^{2n+1}}{|p - w|} d\mu \\ &\leq \frac{|z|}{\sin \delta} \int_{|p| \leq A} |p|^{2n+1} d\mu + \frac{1}{\sin \delta} \int_{|p| \geq A} p^{2n} d\mu \\ &\leq \frac{2|z|A^{2n+2}}{\sin \delta} + \frac{1}{\sin \delta} \int_{|p| \geq A} p^{2n} d\mu \end{aligned}$$

Thus

$$\lim_{z \rightarrow 0} |h_{2n}(z)| \leq \frac{1}{\sin \delta} \int_{|p| \geq A} p^{2n} d\mu, \quad z \in \Gamma_\delta.$$

Since  $A$  is arbitrary and the integral  $\int p^{2n} d\mu = c_{2n}$  is convergent we are done.  $\square$

Evidently the asymptotic series expansion  $g(z) \simeq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k(-z)^k$  is generally formal, having zero radius of convergence except in the Markov case. However as we will see in the next section, rational functions constructed from this formal series exist which approximate  $g(z)$  on the upper half plane  $\{\text{Im} z > 0\}$ .

Finally we prove two formulas regarding the Hamburger transform of a RT projection. Let  $\omega \in S^{n-1}$  be fixed and consider.

$$g(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{R(\omega, p)}{1 + zp} dp$$

By applying the slice theorem, with  $F(p) = (1 + zp)^{-1}$  we see that the Hamburger transform of a projection can be represented by a similar multivariable integral of  $f$  over  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{R_f(\omega, p)}{1 + zp} dp = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{f(x)}{1 + z\langle x, \omega \rangle} dx$$

Similarly the GRT slice theorem with  $F(p) = (1 + zp)^{-1}$  is

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{GR_f(\omega, p)w(p)}{1 + zp} dp = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{f(x)w_n(x)}{1 + z\langle x, \omega \rangle} dx.$$

## 7. PADÉ APPROXIMANTS

In this section we recall the necessary definitions and results. Then we will prove some new results to be applied to the Gaussian Radon transform later.

**Definition 7.1** (Classical definition of Padé approximants). *The Padé approximant to a (possibly formal) power series*

$$R^{[L/M]}(z) \simeq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k z^k$$

*is a rational function with numerator (denominator resp.) degree at most  $L$  ( $M$  resp.), with series equal to  $\sum_{k=0}^N c_k z^k + O(z^{N+1})$  up to as high an order  $N$  as possible.*

Let

$$R^{[L/M]}(z) = \frac{P^{[L/M]}(z)}{Q^{[L/M]}(z)} = \frac{a_L z^L + \cdots + a_1 z + a_0}{b_M z^M + \cdots + b_1 z + b_0}.$$

Notice that in general there is a negligible constant common factor between the numerator and denominator, so that with the remaining  $L + M + 1$  free parameters, we expect an order of accuracy of up to  $L + M + 1$  constraints,  $c_0, c_1, \dots, c_{L+M}$ . Thus we define the  $[L/M]$  Padé approximant by the condition,

$$(7.1) \quad \frac{P^{[L/M]}(z)}{Q^{[L/M]}(z)} = \sum_{k=0}^{L+M} c_k z^k + O(z^{L+M+1}).$$

It is helpful to consider the related, and necessary condition

$$(7.2) \quad P^{[L/M]}(z) = Q^{[L/M]}(z) \left( \sum_{k=0}^{L+M} c_k z^k \right) + O(z^{L+M+1}).$$

In the classical theory of Padé approximants (7.2) was often taken as a definition. It is always possible to find polynomials of the required degree satisfying this second condition, however they do not necessarily attain the degree of accuracy required by the first. We follow Baker, defining  $R^{[L/M]}(z)$  by (7.1), provided such a rational function exists.

**Definition 7.2.** *The Padé approximant  $R^{[L/M]}$  to a (possibly formal) power series is the unique rational function with numerator (denominator resp.) degree at most  $L$  ( $M$  resp.) satisfying the condition (7.1). If no such rational function exists we say the Padé approximant does not exist.*

Here we note that a sufficient condition for the equivalence of the two definitions, and hence for the existence of the Padé approximant by Baker's definition is that  $b_0 = Q^{[L/M]}(0) \neq 0$ .

Equating coefficients of  $z^k$ ,  $k = 0, 1, \dots, L+M$  in (7.2) gives two linear systems

$$\begin{aligned} a_0 &= b_0 c_0 \\ a_1 &= b_1 c_0 + b_0 c_1 \\ &\vdots \\ a_L &= b_L c_0 + b_{L-1} c_1 + \dots + b_0 c_L \end{aligned}$$

and,

$$\begin{aligned} 0 &= b_M c_{L-M+1} + b_{M-1} c_{L-M+2} + \dots + b_0 c_{L+1} \\ 0 &= b_M c_{L-M+2} + b_{M-1} c_{L-M+3} + \dots + b_0 c_{L+2} \\ &\vdots \\ 0 &= b_M c_L + b_{M-1} c_{L+1} + \dots + b_0 c_{L+M} \end{aligned}$$

where for convenience we set  $c_k = 0$  for  $k < 0$ . The first system shows the numerator  $P^{[L/M]}$  is determined by the denominator  $Q^{[L/M]}$ . From the second system we can derive a determinantal formula for  $Q^{[L/M]}$ . Augmented with the desired definition,

$$Q^{[L/M]}(z) = b_M z^M + b_{M-1} z^{M-1} + \dots + b_0$$

the system can be written in the form

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ \vdots \\ 0 \\ Q^{[L/M]}(z) \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} c_{L-M+1} & c_{L-M+2} & \dots & c_{L+1} \\ c_{L-M+2} & c_{L-M+3} & \dots & c_{L+2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_L & c_{L+1} & \dots & c_{L+M} \\ z^M & z^{M-1} & \dots & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} b_M \\ b_{M-1} \\ \vdots \\ b_1 \\ b_0 \end{pmatrix}$$

Solving for  $b_0$  by Cramer's Rule we get,

$$b_0 \begin{vmatrix} c_{L-M+1} & c_{L-M+2} & \dots & c_{L+1} \\ c_{L-M+2} & c_{L-M+3} & \dots & c_{L+2} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_L & c_{L+1} & \dots & c_{L+M} \\ z^M & z^{M-1} & \dots & 1 \end{vmatrix} = \begin{vmatrix} c_{L-M+1} & c_{L-M+2} & \dots & c_L \\ c_{L-M+2} & c_{L-M+3} & \dots & c_{L+1} \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_L & c_{L+1} & \dots & c_{L+M-1} \end{vmatrix} Q^{[L/M]}(z)$$

The LHS is clearly a polynomial, and nonzero if the RHS minor is nonzero. Thus if the Hankel determinant

$$\begin{vmatrix} c_{L-M+1} & \dots & c_L \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_L & \dots & c_{L+M-1} \end{vmatrix}$$

is nonzero, then up to the aforementioned constant factor,

$$(7.3) \quad Q^{[L/M]}(z) = \begin{vmatrix} c_{L-M+1} & \cdots & c_{L+1} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_L & \cdots & c_{L+M} \\ z^M & \cdots & 1 \end{vmatrix}$$

By convention we normalize  $R^{[L/M]}(z)$  so that  $b_0 = Q^{[L/M]}(0) = 1$ .

Since the Hankel determinants give a useful form for expressing some conditions of interest we will define  $H(n, m)$  to be the determinant of the  $(m+1) \times (m+1)$  Hankel matrix starting with  $c_n$ ,

$$H(n, m) := \begin{vmatrix} c_n & \cdots & c_{n+m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{n+m} & \cdots & c_{n+2m} \end{vmatrix}$$

Note in particular that the sufficient condition  $Q^{[L/M]}(0) \neq 0$  for the existence of  $R^{[L/M]}(z)$  is equivalent to  $H(L-M+1, M-1) \neq 0$

We now narrow our focus to Padé approximants to a Hamburger series. Let  $\mu$  be a Borel measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  with infinite support and finite moments  $c_k = \int p^k d\mu$ . Recall that the Hamburger transform of  $\mu$ ,

$$g(z) := \int_{\mathbb{R}} \frac{d\mu}{1 + pz}$$

has the asymptotic expansion, in the sense of non-tangential limits,

$$g(z) \simeq \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k (-z^k).$$

We call this formal power series a Hamburger series.

*Remark 7.3.* [To simplify the rest of this maybe we redefine](#)

$$c_k = (-1)^k \int p^k d\mu$$

**Lemma 7.4.** *The hamburger moments  $c_k$  satisfy the determinantal condition  $H(2n, m) \neq 0$  for  $n, m = 0, 1, \dots$*

*Proof.* Consider the quadratic form given by

$$G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y}) := \mathbf{x}^\top \begin{pmatrix} c_{2n} & \cdots & c_{2n+m} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{2n+m} & \cdots & c_{2n+2m} \end{pmatrix} \mathbf{y}$$



If  $\mathbf{x} = (x_0, x_1, \dots, x_m)^\top$  then

$$\begin{aligned} G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{x}) &= \sum_{i,j=0}^m x_i x_j c_{2n+i+j} \\ &= \sum_{i,j=0}^m x_i x_j \int p^{2n+i+j} d\mu \\ &= \int \sum_{i,j=0}^m x_i x_j p^{2n+i+j} d\mu \\ &= \int p^{2n} \left( \sum_{k=0}^m x_k p^k \right)^2 d\mu \geq 0. \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $G(\mathbf{x}, \mathbf{y})$  is positive semi-definite. Furthermore, equality holds

$$\int p^{2n} \left( \sum_{k=0}^m x_k p^k \right)^2 d\mu = 0$$

if and only if  $\mu$  is supported entirely on the zeros of the polynomial  $p^n \sum_{k=0}^m x_k p^k$ . However by assumption  $\mu$  has infinite support. So in fact  $G$  is strictly positive definite. We conclude, by Sylvester's criterion for example, that associated hankel matrix has positive determinant. That is,  $D(2n, m) > 0$ .  $\square$

The previous lemma guarantees the existence of certain Padé approximants, specifically those with  $L - M + 1$  even.

**Theorem 7.5.** *If  $J$  is odd then the Padé approximant  $R^{[L/L+J]}(z)$  to the Hamburger series exists in Baker's sense.*

With our particular application in mind, we will assume the measure  $\mu$  is absolutely continuous with respect to the Lebesgue measure and denote it  $f(x)dx$  where  $f(x)$  is some non-negative Lebesgue measurable function of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $R_M(z)$  be the “offdiagonal” approximant  $R^{[M/M+1]}(z)$  to the Hamburger series of  $\mu$ ,

$$R_M(z) = \frac{P_M(z)}{Q_M(z)} \approx \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k (-z)^k \simeq \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{f(p)}{1+zp} dp$$

where  $c_k = \int p^k f(p) dp$ . In this section we will prove

**Theorem 7.6.** *The off-diagonal Padé approximants  $R_M(z)$  to the a determinate Hamburger series  $\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} c_k (-z)^k$  exist and converge to  $g(z)$  uniformly on compact subsets of the upper half plane  $\{Im z > 0\}$ .*

An outline of the proof is as follows: We first justify that the approximants exist in Baker's sense. Then it can be shown that limit of any convergent subsequence of  $R_M$  must have a representation as the Hamburger transform of some Borel measure  $\mu$  which is a solution to our moment problem, and that furthermore such convergent subsequences exist. Thus in order for the sequence  $R_M$  to converge to  $g(z)$  it will be necessary and sufficient that the moment problem be determinate.

**Proposition 7.7.** *If the sequence  $c_k$  gives a determinate moment problem then the off-diagonal Padé approximants  $R_M(z)$  converge to  $g(z)$  locally uniformly.*

*Proof.* The Padé approximant  $R_M(z)$  has a convenient representation as an inner product in terms of a finite Jacobi matrix,

$$R_M(z) = \langle \delta_0, (1 + zA_M)^{-1} \delta_0 \rangle.$$

Now since  $A_M$  is a real matrix and  $\frac{1}{|w|} \geq \frac{1}{|\operatorname{Im}(w)|}$  for any  $w \in \mathbb{C}$ , we see that

$$|zR_M(z)| = |\langle \delta_0, (z^{-1} + A_M)^{-1} \delta_0 \rangle| \leq \frac{1}{|\operatorname{Im}(1/z)|}$$

and thus

$$|R_M(z)| \leq \frac{1}{|z||\operatorname{Im}(1/z)|} = \frac{|z|}{|\operatorname{Im}(z)|}.$$

Since this bound is independent of  $R_M$ , Montel's theorem implies that the off-diagonal Padé approximants form a normal family. It can be shown that the limit of any convergent subsequence has a representation  $\int (1+xz)d\sigma(x)$  where  $\sigma$  is a solution to the Hamburger moment problem. Since the moment problem is determinate, the sequence  $R_M$  must converge to  $g(z)$  uniformly on compact sets.  $\square$

It remains to discuss the determinacy of the Hamburger moment problem. Here we need to add an additional constraint on the measure  $d\mu = f(p)dp$ , which is that  $f(p)$  is  $L^2$  integrable with respect to the Gaussian weight.

**Proposition 7.8.** *A function  $f(p) \in L^2(\mathbb{R}, e^{-p^2} dp)$  such that the moments*

$$(7.4) \quad c_k = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} p^k f(p) e^{-p^2} dp, \quad k = 0, 1, \dots$$

*are finite, is uniquely determined by those moments.*

*Proof.* It is sufficient to show that if  $c_k = 0$  for all  $k \geq 0$ , then  $f \equiv 0$  a.e. The Hermite moments are just linear combinations of 0,

$$\int_{-\infty}^{\infty} H_k(p) f(p) e^{-p^2} dp = 0, \quad k \geq 0$$

where  $H_k(p)$  is the Hermite polynomial of order  $k$ . Since the Hermite polynomials are complete in the space  $L^2(\mathbb{R}, e^{-p^2} dp)$  then  $f \equiv 0$ .  $\square$

## 8. CONVERGENCE RESULTS FOR THE GAUSSIAN RADON TRANSFORM

Now we are in the position to assemble all the previous results into an approximation scheme to be used for reconstruction shapes of unbounded domains.

Take a non-negative Lebesgue measurable function  $f(x)$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with finite multivariate Gaussian moments

$$c_\alpha^G = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} f(x) e^{-\|x\|^2/2} x^\alpha dx$$

We have seen that the multivariate Stieltjes transform of  $f$ ,

$$g(z) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{f(x) e^{-\|x\|^2/2}}{1 + \langle x, \omega \rangle z} dx,$$

is equal to the Hamburger transform of  $GR_f(\omega, p)$ , whose moments in turn are easily computed from the moments of  $f$ , for fixed  $\omega$ . Thus for  $z$  in the one dimensional subspace spanned by  $\omega$ ,  $g(z)$  can be approximated well by Padé approximants,

under the integrability condition  $GR_f(\omega, p) \in L^2(\mathbb{R}, e^{-p^2} dp)$ . On the other hand as an integral on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , we can also approximate  $g(z)$  by cubature formula,

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \frac{f(x) e^{-\|x\|^2/2}}{1 + \langle x, \omega \rangle z} dx \approx \sum_{\ell=L} \frac{e^{-\|x_\ell\|^2/2}}{1 + \langle x_\ell, \omega \rangle z} w_\ell f(x_\ell) =: \sum_{\ell=L} C_\ell(z) f(x_\ell).$$

By equating these parallel approximations,

$$\sum_{\ell=L} C_\ell(z) f(x_\ell) \approx R_M(z),$$

with a sufficient quantity of sample points  $z_j$  we have arrived at a linear system

$$\sum_{\ell=L} C_\ell(z_j) f(x_\ell) = R_M(z_j), \quad j = 1, 2, \dots, J$$

from which we should be able to recover the value of  $f$  on our cubature nodes  $x_\ell$ .

## 9. IMPLEMENTATION

While the authors describe forming multivariate “homogeneous” Pade approximants — perhaps first proposed by Cuyt herself in [2] — we opt to bypass this step using univariate approximants instead. Indeed, the only benefit to Cuyt’s approximants explicitly cited by the authors, as compared to other multivariate generalizations of the Pade approximants, is that they are “the only satisfying the following powerful slice theorem” [1]. This slice theorem simply states that the homogeneous approximants when restricted to one dimensional subspaces, are equivalent to univariate Pade approximants. Since we only need a finite number of sample points it seems reasonable to compute a series of univariate approximants at various projection angles.

The decision to drop the homogenous approximants has the following potential consequences: On the one hand, the univariate approximants are simpler to compute, with methods built in to many CASs. On the other, while the authors select sample points from a cubic lattice, it would be inefficient (though potentially less so with careful selection of projection angles via, say, Farey sequences) to do so with one dimensional subspaces. Instead we take a collection of equidistant projection angles forming a radial grid of sample points. This seems acceptable, as it is unclear if there is any benefit to the sample points having a particular geometric structure. We should also acknowledge the potential that forming a single homogeneous approximant is more computationally efficient than many univariate approximants. This requires further investigation, but we note that (anecdotally) in computational tests the formation of approximants is not very intensive compared to the subsequent solving of the high dimensional linear system. Some thought was given to the possibility that sampling from a cubic lattice provides some structure which makes the system easier to solve, but so far we have no hard evidence of this.

A couple of notes on computational details: First we should be explicit about the line of computation. At the outset, the given information is a certain multivariate moment sequence (up to a finite order with some accuracy assumption) which we assume belongs to a region within some fixed bounding box. In evaluating the computational viability of the method we take note of which steps depend on the moments, and which can be precomputed. In order to form univariate approximants we first compute projection moments. While these of course depend on the moment sequence, the multinomial formula used for this computation only

depends on the projection angle. Thus with a predetermined set of projection angles this is partially precomputed. Since the cubature formula itself only depends on the choice of quadrature nodes and sample points, it can be precomputed and applied to any moment sequence. The choice of quadrature formula is somewhat arbitrary. Lacking expertise in the area of numerical integration, we follow the authors, opting for the four-point Gauss-Legendre product formula. This formula takes nodes from a nearly cubic lattice, which is implicitly quantized when forming the pixel image. We have not evaluated the error introduced by this quantization but expect it to be minimal and to approach zero with higher pixel resolution.

We don't expect the linear system to have an exact solution, let alone one that whose computation is tractable for high resolutions. We may try Mathematica's LeastSquares method, but Cuyt et al. specifically mention using a truncated singular value decomposition.

For my own benefit, let's review singular value decompositions. An  $i \times j$  matrix  $A$  of rank  $r$  can be written as

$$A = U\Sigma V^\top,$$

where  $\Sigma$  is the diagonal matrix of singular values  $\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_r$ , and  $U$  and  $V$  are unitary matrices. The truncated singular value decomposition gives us a reduced rank approximation to  $A$  by replacing all but the largest (first)  $k$  singular values in  $\Sigma$  with zeros,

$$\tilde{\Sigma} = \text{diag}(\sigma_1, \sigma_2, \dots, \sigma_k, 0, \dots, 0)$$

The truncated SVD matrix  $\tilde{A} = U\tilde{\Sigma}V^\top$  is optimal in the sense that it is the closest rank- $k$  matrix to  $A$  in the Frobenius norm.

The SVD and truncated SVD are used to solve the linear least squares problem as follows: From  $U\Sigma V^\top f = p$  we get  $f = V\Sigma^{-1}U^\top p$ , and similarly  $f = \tilde{V}\tilde{\Sigma}^{-1}U^\top p$ . Note that the psuedoinverse  $\tilde{\Sigma}^{-1}$  is a diagonal matrix made up of the reciprocal singular values.

Mathematica offers a few built in functions for this. LeastSquares packages a number of methods to solve a linear least squares based on the sparsity of the System (our system is dense). SingularValueDecomposition can be restricted to a certain number of singular values. PsuedoInverse can specify a "tolerance" zeroing out singular values less than some proportion of the maximum singular value. While LeastSquares is the simplest option, it does not seem to support truncated solutions. Between SingularValueDecomposition and PsuedoInverse, both can handle truncated problems, but the latter seems — at least superficially — better suited for our application.

On Gaussian shape reconstruction. There remain some minor practical concerns about, for example, the choice of quadrature formula and sample points. An obvious choice would be to continue with the Gauss-Legendre product formula, now applied on a Gaussian-weighted  $f$ . Some consideration should be taken as to the viability of other Gaussian quadrature formulas defined particularly for the Gaussian measure.

Now, a fundamental limitation with the proposed method which we have neglected to mention is the practical one: As a computational method we are necessarily restricted to the finite — finite moments, finite order approximations, and most problematic, bounded domains. In what application would one even be interested in unbounded shape reconstruction, while also having access of Gaussian moments? It would be reasonable to question the use of a computational method in an unbounded context. As with any finite approximation, the unboundedness

should be thought of as an idealized limit; perhaps an unbounded approximation is a limit of bounded approximations. But then, the original method applies just as well if all we wanted was a sequence of reconstructions expanding in range. We can only speculate at this point that perhaps this method, being tailored specifically for unbounded reconstruction, could hold some practical advantages over its predecessor; or be satisfied with impracticality.

## 10. AN EXAMPLE

$$f : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

$$\begin{aligned} GR_f(\theta, p) &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(x(t), y(t)) w(t) dt \\ &= \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} f(t \sin \theta + p \cos \theta, -t \cos \theta + p \sin \theta) w(t) dt \end{aligned}$$

Let  $H_\alpha(x) = H_{\alpha_1}(x_1)H_{\alpha_2}(x_2) \cdots H_{\alpha_n}(x_n)$  for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$  and when  $n = 2$ ,

$$H_{i,j}(x, y) = H_i(x)H_j(y)$$

Mathematica table:  $\frac{GR_{H_{i,j}}(\theta, p)}{\cos^i \theta \sin^j \theta}$  for  $i, j \leq 4$

$1$	$p$	$p^2 - 1$	$p^3 - 3p$	$p^4 - 6p^2 + 3$	$p^5 - 10p^3 + 15p$	$p^6 - 15p^4 + 45p^2 - 15$	$p^7 - 21p^5 + 105p^3 - 105p$	$p^8 - 28p^6 + 210p^4 - 420p^2 + 105$
$p$	$p^2 - 1$	$p^3 - 3p$	$p^4 - 6p^2 + 3$	$p^5 - 10p^3 + 15p$	$p^6 - 15p^4 + 45p^2 - 15$	$p^7 - 21p^5 + 105p^3 - 105p$	$p^8 - 28p^6 + 210p^4 - 420p^2 + 105$	$p^9 - 36p^7 + 315p^5 - 1260p^3 + 1575p$
$p^2 - 1$	$p^3 - 3p$	$p^4 - 6p^2 + 3$	$p^5 - 10p^3 + 15p$	$p^6 - 15p^4 + 45p^2 - 15$	$p^7 - 21p^5 + 105p^3 - 105p$	$p^8 - 28p^6 + 210p^4 - 420p^2 + 105$	$p^9 - 36p^7 + 315p^5 - 1260p^3 + 1575p$	$p^{10} - 45p^8 + 4725p^6 - 25200p^4 + 47250p^2 - 1575$
$p^3 - 3p$	$p^4 - 6p^2 + 3$	$p^5 - 10p^3 + 15p$	$p^6 - 15p^4 + 45p^2 - 15$	$p^7 - 21p^5 + 105p^3 - 105p$	$p^8 - 28p^6 + 210p^4 - 420p^2 + 105$	$p^9 - 36p^7 + 315p^5 - 1260p^3 + 1575p$	$p^{10} - 45p^8 + 4725p^6 - 25200p^4 + 47250p^2 - 1575$	$p^{11} - 54p^9 + 6237p^7 - 35280p^5 + 72075p^3 - 52920p$
$p^4 - 6p^2 + 3$	$p^5 - 10p^3 + 15p$	$p^6 - 15p^4 + 45p^2 - 15$	$p^7 - 21p^5 + 105p^3 - 105p$	$p^8 - 28p^6 + 210p^4 - 420p^2 + 105$	$p^9 - 36p^7 + 315p^5 - 1260p^3 + 1575p$	$p^{10} - 45p^8 + 4725p^6 - 25200p^4 + 47250p^2 - 1575$	$p^{11} - 54p^9 + 6237p^7 - 35280p^5 + 72075p^3 - 52920p$	$p^{12} - 63p^{10} + 7593p^8 - 45288p^6 + 127008p^4 - 127008p^2 + 52920$

**Conjecture:** Based on a Mathematica table (at least up to  $i, j \leq 4$ ) it seems that the following formula holds:

$$GR_{H_{i,j}}(\theta, p) = H_{i+j}(p) \cos^i \theta \sin^j \theta$$

We further expect

$$GR_{H_\alpha}(\omega, p) = H_{|\alpha|}(p) \omega^\alpha$$

for  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n$ .

Bogachev:  $(H_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \mathbb{N}_0^n}$  is an orthogonal basis in  $L^2(\gamma_n)$

Mathematica table:  $GR_f(a, p)$  for  $f(x, y) = x^i y^j$

$1$	$p \sin(a)$	$p^2 \sin^2(a)$
$p \cos(a)$	$(p^2 - 1) \sin(a) \cos(a)$	$p \cos(a) ((p^2 - 1) \cos^2(a) + \sin^2(a))$
$p^2 \cos^2(a) + \sin^2(a)$	$p \sin(a) ((p^2 - 2) \cos^2(a) + \sin^2(a))$	$\frac{1}{8} p \cos(a) ((p^4 - 6p^2 + 3) \cos(2a) + p^4 - 3)$
$p \cos(a) (p^2 \cos^2(a) + 3 \sin^2(a))$	$\frac{1}{4} \sin(2a) ((p^4 - 6p^2 + 3) \cos(2a) + p^4 - 3)$	$\frac{1}{8} p \cos(a) (-8(p^2 - 3) \cos(2a) - (p^4 - 6p^2 + 3) \cos(4a) + p^4 - 3)$

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1, & \langle x, \varphi \rangle \leq 1/2 \\ 0, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Unit ball in  $\mathbb{R}^3$ ? Annulus in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ ? Some assymmetric or off-center examples?

## REFERENCES

- [1] Annie Cuyt, *Multidimensional integral inversion, with applications in shape reconstruction*, SIAM Journal on Scientific Computing **27** (2005), no. 3.
- [2] ———, *Padè approximants for operators: Theory and applications*, Springer-Verlag, 84.
- [3] S. Helgason, *The Radon transform*, Birkhäuser, 1965.
- [4] Irina Holmes and Ambar N. Sengupta, *The Gaussian Radon transform in classical Wiener space*, Commun. Stoch. Anal. **8** (2014), no. 2, 247–268. MR3269847
- [5] L. C. Petersen, *On the relation between the multidimensional moment problem and the one-dimensional moment problem*, Math. Scand. **51** (1982), no. 2, 361–366. MR690537
- [6] Johann Radon, *Über die Bestimmung von Funktionen durch ihre Integralwerte längs gewisser Mannigfaltigkeiten* (1917).
- [7] ———, *On the determination of functions from their integral values along certain manifolds* (1986).
- [8] A. H. Stroud, *Approximate calculation of multiple integrals*, Prentice-Hall, 1971.
- [9] Imants Svalbe and Andrew Kingston, *Farey sequences and discrete Radon transform projection angles*, 9th International Workshop on Combinatorial Image Analysis, 2003, pp. 12. MR2155842
- [10] Lawrence Zalcman, *Uniqueness and nonuniqueness for the Radon transform*, Bull. London Math. Soc. **14** (1982), no. 3, 241–245. MR656606

MD, DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, 341 MANSFIELD ROAD,  
U-1009, STORRS, CT 06269–1009, USA  
Email address: maksym.derevyagin@uconn.edu

AS, DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, 341 MANSFIELD ROAD,  
U-1009, STORRS, CT 0626–91009, USA  
Email address: ambar.sengupta@uconn.edu

JT, DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS, UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT, 341 MANSFIELD ROAD,  
U-1009, STORRS, CT 06269–1009, USA  
Email address: jasper.toman{yih}@uconn.edu