

# Angular Moments

Pramook Khungurn

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## 1 Definitions

- In this section, we talk about spherical functions and their moments.
- A function  $f$  that associates a point on the unit sphere  $S^2$  to a real number is called a *spherical function*.
- Here,  $S^2$  is parameterized by two angles: the *azimuthal angle*  $\theta \in [0, 2\pi)$  and the *inclination angle*  $\varphi \in [0, \pi)$ . The point associated with the ordered pair  $(\theta, \phi)$  is

$$\begin{bmatrix} \cos \theta \sin \varphi \\ \sin \theta \sin \varphi \\ \cos \varphi \end{bmatrix}.$$

Such a point is often denoted by  $\omega$ . The three components of  $\omega$ , from top to bottom, are denoted by  $\omega_1$ ,  $\omega_2$ , and  $\omega_3$ .

- Note that  $d\omega = \sin \varphi \, d\varphi \, d\theta$ . Hence, integrating a spherical function  $f$  over the sphere can be rewritten in terms of  $\theta$  and  $\varphi$  as follows:

$$\int_{S^2} f(\omega) \, d\omega = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi f(\theta, \varphi) \sin \varphi \, d\varphi \, d\theta.$$

- Let  $f$  be a spherical function.

The *0th moment* of  $f$  is

$$\mu_0[f] = \int_{S^2} f(\omega) \, d\omega.$$

The *1st moment* of  $f$  is

$$\mu_1[f] = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1[f]_1 \\ \mu_1[f]_2 \\ \mu_1[f]_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \int_{S^2} f(\omega) \omega_1 \, d\omega \\ \int_{S^2} f(\omega) \omega_2 \, d\omega \\ \int_{S^2} f(\omega) \omega_3 \, d\omega \end{bmatrix} = \int_{S^2} f(\omega) \omega \, d\omega.$$

The *2nd moment* of  $f$  is

$$\mu_2[f] = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_2[f]_{11} & \mu_2[f]_{12} & \mu_2[f]_{13} \\ \mu_2[f]_{21} & \mu_2[f]_{22} & \mu_2[f]_{23} \\ \mu_2[f]_{31} & \mu_2[f]_{32} & \mu_2[f]_{33} \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$\mu_2[f]_{ij} = \int_{S^2} f(\omega) \omega_i \omega_j \, d\omega.$$

The 3rd moment, 4th moment, and so on can be defined in a similar way, but we will not go there.

## 2 Integrals of Powers of Sine and Cosine

- We shall develop some identities for evaluating the moments. These identities involve integrals of sine and cosine.
- **Definition 2.1.** Let  $m$  and  $n$  be non-negative integers. Define

$$\mathcal{I}^{m,n}(a, b) = \int_a^b \sin^m \theta \cos^n \theta \, d\theta.$$

Moreover, let

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{S}^{m,n} &= \mathcal{I}^{m,n}(0, 2\pi), \\ \mathcal{H}_1^{m,n} &= \mathcal{I}^{m,n}(0, \pi), & \mathcal{H}_2^{m,n} &= \mathcal{I}^{m,n}(\pi, 2\pi), \\ \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} &= \mathcal{I}^{m,n}(0, \pi/2), & \mathcal{Q}_2^{m,n} &= \mathcal{I}^{m,n}(\pi/2, \pi), \\ \mathcal{Q}_3^{m,n} &= \mathcal{I}^{m,n}(\pi, 3\pi/2), & \mathcal{Q}_4^{m,n} &= \mathcal{I}^{m,n}(3\pi/2, 2\pi). \end{aligned}$$

- **Lemma 2.2.**  $\mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} = (-1)^n \mathcal{Q}_2^{m,n} = (-1)^{m+n} \mathcal{Q}_3^{m,n} = (-1)^m \mathcal{Q}_4^{m,n}$ .

*Proof.* We have that

$$\mathcal{Q}_2^{m,n} = \int_{\pi/2}^{\pi} \sin^m \theta \cos^n \theta \, d\theta.$$

Let  $u = \pi - \theta$ . We have that  $du = -d\theta$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} \int_{\pi/2}^{\pi} \sin^m \theta \cos^n \theta \, d\theta &= - \int_{\pi/2}^0 \sin^m(\pi - u) \cos^n(\pi - u) \, du \\ &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^m u (-1)^n \cos^n u \, du = (-1)^n \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n}. \end{aligned}$$

Other equations are similar. □

- **Lemma 2.3.** If  $m$  or  $n$  is odd, then  $\mathcal{S}^{m,n} = 0$ . Otherwise,  $\mathcal{S}^{m,n} = 4\mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n}$ .

*Proof.* If  $m$  or  $n$  is odd, then exactly two of  $m$ ,  $n$ , and  $m+n$  are odd. So,

$$\mathcal{S}^{m,n} = \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} + \mathcal{Q}_2^{m,n} + \mathcal{Q}_3^{m,n} + \mathcal{Q}_4^{m,n} = \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} + (-1)^n \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} + (-1)^{m+n} \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} + (-1)^m \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} = 0.$$

Otherwise, all of  $m$ ,  $n$ , and  $m+n$  are positive.

$$\mathcal{S}^{m,n} = \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} + \mathcal{Q}_2^{m,n} + \mathcal{Q}_3^{m,n} + \mathcal{Q}_4^{m,n} = \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} + \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} + \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} + \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} = 4\mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n}.$$

- **Lemma 2.4.**  $\mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} = \mathcal{Q}_1^{n,m}$  and  $\mathcal{S}^{m,n} = \mathcal{S}^{n,m}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $u = \pi/2 - \theta$ . We have  $d\theta = -du$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^m \theta \cos^n \theta \, d\theta \\ &= - \int_{\pi/2}^0 \sin^m(\pi/2 - u) \cos^n(\pi/2 - u) \, du \\ &= \int_0^{\pi/2} \cos^m u \sin^n u \, du = \mathcal{Q}_1^{n,m}. \end{aligned}$$

The equation involving  $\mathcal{S}^{m,n}$  follows from Lemma 2.3. □

- **Lemma 2.5.** If  $m \geq 2$  and  $n \geq 0$ , then  $\mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} = \frac{m-1}{m+n} \mathcal{Q}_1^{m-2,n}$ . Moreover, if  $n \geq 2$  and  $m \geq 0$ , then  $\mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} = \frac{n-1}{m+n} \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n-2}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $u = \sin^{m-1} \theta \cos^n \theta$ , and  $v = \cos \theta$ . We have that  $dv = -\sin \theta d\theta$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} du &= [(m-1) \sin^{m-2} \theta \cos^{n+1} \theta - n \sin^m \theta \cos^{n-1} \theta] d\theta \\ &= [(m-1) \sin^{m-2} \theta (1 - \sin^2 \theta) \cos^{n-1} \theta - n \sin^m \theta \cos^{n-1} \theta] d\theta \\ &= [(m-1) \sin^{m-2} \theta \cos^{n-1} \theta - (m+n-1) \sin^m \theta \cos^{n-1} \theta] d\theta. \end{aligned}$$

So,

$$\mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} = \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^m \theta \cos^n \theta d\theta = - \int_0^{\pi/2} u dv = -[uv]_0^{\pi/2} + \int_0^{\pi/2} v du.$$

Now,  $[uv]_0^{\pi/2} = [\sin^{m-1} \theta \cos^{n+1} \theta]_0^{\pi/2}$ . Since both  $m-1$  and  $n+1$  are at least one, we have that  $[uv]_0^{\pi/2} = 0$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} &= \int_0^{\pi/2} v du \\ &= (m-1) \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^{m-2} \theta \cos^n \theta d\theta - (m+n-1) \int_0^{\pi/2} \sin^m \theta \cos^n \theta d\theta \\ &= (m-1) \mathcal{Q}_1^{m-2,n} - (m+n-1) \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n}. \end{aligned}$$

Thus,  $\mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} = \frac{m-1}{m+n} \mathcal{Q}_1^{m-2,n}$ .

Moreover, if  $n \geq 2$  and  $m \geq 0$ , then  $\mathcal{Q}_1^{n,m} = \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} = \frac{n-1}{m+n} \mathcal{Q}_1^{n-2,m} = \frac{n-1}{m+n} \mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n-2}$  as required.  $\square$

- **Definition 2.6.** Let  $n$  be a non-negative integer. The double factorial of  $n$ , denoted by  $n!!$ , is defined as follows:

$$n!! = \begin{cases} 1, & n \leq 1 \\ n \times (n-2)!!, & n \geq 2 \end{cases}.$$

- **Theorem 2.7.**

$$\mathcal{Q}_1^{m,n} = \begin{cases} \pi/2, & m = n = 0 \\ 1, & m = 1, n = 0 \\ 1, & m = 0, n = 1 \\ 1/2, & m = 1, n = 1 \\ \frac{(m-1)!!(n-1)!!}{(m+n)!!} \mathcal{Q}_1^{m \bmod 2, n \bmod 2}, & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* By induction on  $m+n$  and repeated use of Lemma 2.5.  $\square$

### 3 Moment Integrals

- **Lemma 3.1.** Let  $k$  be a positive integer. Let  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k \in \{1, 2, 3\}$ . Let  $\pi$  be any permutation of  $\{1, 2, 3\}$ . Then,

$$\int_{S^2} \omega_{i_1} \omega_{i_2} \cdots \omega_{i_k} d\omega = \int_{S^2} \omega_{\pi(i_1)} \omega_{\pi(i_2)} \cdots \omega_{\pi(i_k)} d\omega.$$

That is, you can change the indices without changing the value of the integral.

*Proof.* Symmetry. □

- **Lemma 3.2.**  $\mu_1[1]_1 = \mu_1[1]_2 = \mu_1[1]_3 = 0$ .

*Proof.* By Lemma 3.1, we only need to show that  $\mu_1[1]_3 = 0$ . We have that

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_1[1]_3 &= \int_{S^2} \omega_3 \, d\omega = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \cos \varphi \sin \varphi \, d\varphi d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \int_0^\pi \cos \varphi \sin \varphi \, d\varphi \\ &= 2\pi \mathcal{H}_1^{1,1} = 2\pi(\mathcal{Q}_1^{1,1} + \mathcal{Q}_2^{1,1}) = 2\pi(\mathcal{Q}_1^{1,1} - \mathcal{Q}_1^{1,1}) = 0.\end{aligned}$$

- **Lemma 3.3.**

$$\mu_2[1]_{ij} = \begin{cases} 0, & i \neq j \\ 4\pi/3, & i = j \end{cases}$$

*Proof.* If  $i \neq j$ , we have

$$\mu_2[1]_{ij} = \mu_2[1]_{12} = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \sin \theta \cos \theta \sin^3 \varphi \, d\varphi d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} \sin \theta \cos \theta \, d\theta \int_0^\pi \sin^3 \varphi \, d\varphi = \mathcal{S}^{1,1} \mathcal{H}_1^{3,0} = 0.$$

If  $i = j$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_2[1]_{ii} &= \mu_2[1]_{33} = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi \cos^2 \varphi \sin \varphi \, d\varphi d\theta = \int_0^{2\pi} d\theta \int_0^\pi \cos^2 \varphi \sin \varphi \, d\varphi \\ &= 2\pi \mathcal{H}_1^{2,1} = 4\pi \mathcal{Q}_1^{2,1} = 4\pi \cdot \frac{1}{3} \mathcal{Q}_1^{0,1} = \frac{4\pi}{3}.\end{aligned}$$

- **Lemma 3.4.** Let  $\mathbf{a}$  be any constant vector. Then,  $\omega_0[\mathbf{a} \cdot \omega] = 0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, a_2, a_3)^T$ . Then,

$$\omega_0[\mathbf{a} \cdot \omega] = \int_{S^2} \omega \cdot \mathbf{a} \, d\omega = \int_{S^2} (a_1 \omega_1 + a_2 \omega_2 + a_3 \omega_3) \, d\omega = a_1 \mu_1[1]_1 + a_2 \mu_1[1]_2 + a_3 \mu_1[1]_3 = 0.$$

- **Lemma 3.5.** Let  $a$  be any scalar. Then,  $\omega_0[a] = 4\pi a$ .

*Proof.* Obvious. □

- **Lemma 3.6.** Let  $A$  be any  $3 \times 3$  constant matrix. Then,  $\mu_0[\omega^T A \omega] = \frac{4\pi}{3} \text{tr}(A)$ .

*Proof.* We have that

$$\omega^T A \omega = \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 & \omega_2 & \omega_3 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} a_{11} & a_{12} & a_{13} \\ a_{21} & a_{22} & a_{23} \\ a_{31} & a_{32} & a_{33} \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \omega_1 \\ \omega_2 \\ \omega_3 \end{bmatrix} = \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 \omega_i \omega_j a_{ij}.$$

Thus,

$$\mu_0[\omega^T A \omega] = \mu_0 \left[ \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 \omega_i \omega_j a_{ij} \right] = \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 a_{ij} \mu_0[\omega_i \omega_j] = \sum_{i=1}^3 \sum_{j=1}^3 a_{ij} \mu_2[1]_{ij}.$$

By Lemma 3.3, the only non-zero terms in the sum are those where  $i = j$ . Thus,

$$\mu_0[\omega^T A \omega] = a_{11} \mu_2[1]_{11} + a_{22} \mu_2[1]_{22} + a_{33} \mu_2[1]_{33} = \frac{4\pi}{3} (a_{11} + a_{22} + a_{33}) = \frac{4\pi}{3} \text{tr}(A).$$

- **Lemma 3.7.** Let  $a$  be any constant. We have that  $\mu_1[a] = \mathbf{0}$ .

*Proof.* We have that

$$\mu_1[a] = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1[a]_1 \\ \mu_1[a]_2 \\ \mu_1[a]_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a\mu_1[1]_1 \\ a\mu_1[1]_2 \\ a\mu_1[1]_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}.$$

- **Lemma 3.8.** If  $\mathbf{a}$  is a constant vector, then  $\mu_1[\omega \cdot \mathbf{a}] = \frac{4\pi}{3} \mathbf{a}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbf{a} = (a_1, a_2, a_3)^T$ . Then,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_1[\omega \cdot \mathbf{a}] &= \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1[\omega \cdot \mathbf{a}]_1 \\ \mu_1[\omega \cdot \mathbf{a}]_2 \\ \mu_1[\omega \cdot \mathbf{a}]_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1[a_1\omega_1 + a_2\omega_2 + a_3\omega_3]_1 \\ \mu_1[a_1\omega_1 + a_2\omega_2 + a_3\omega_3]_2 \\ \mu_1[a_1\omega_1 + a_2\omega_2 + a_3\omega_3]_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1\mu_1[\omega_1]_1 + a_2\mu_1[\omega_2]_1 + a_3\mu_1[\omega_3]_1 \\ a_1\mu_1[\omega_1]_2 + a_2\mu_1[\omega_2]_2 + a_3\mu_1[\omega_3]_2 \\ a_1\mu_1[\omega_1]_3 + a_2\mu_1[\omega_2]_3 + a_3\mu_1[\omega_3]_3 \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \begin{bmatrix} a_1\mu_2[1]_{11} + a_2\mu_2[1]_{12} + a_3\mu_2[1]_{13} \\ a_1\mu_2[1]_{21} + a_2\mu_2[1]_{22} + a_3\mu_2[1]_{23} \\ a_1\mu_2[1]_{31} + a_2\mu_2[1]_{32} + a_3\mu_2[1]_{33} \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} a_1(4\pi/3) \\ a_2(4\pi/3) \\ a_3(4\pi/3) \end{bmatrix} = \frac{4\pi}{3} \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ a_2 \\ a_3 \end{bmatrix} = \frac{4\pi}{3} \mathbf{a}. \end{aligned}$$

- **Lemma 3.9.**  $\mu_3[1]_{ijk} = 0$  for all  $i, j, k$ .

*Proof.* We start with the case where  $i, j$ , and  $k$  are all different.

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_3[1]_{ijk} &= \mu_3[1]_{123} = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi (\sin \varphi \sin \theta)(\sin \varphi \cos \theta) \cos \varphi \sin \varphi \, d\varphi \, d\theta \\ &= \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi (\sin^3 \varphi \cos \varphi)(\sin \theta \cos \theta) \, d\varphi \, d\theta \\ &= \left( \int_0^{2\pi} \sin \theta \cos \theta \, d\theta \right) \left( \int_0^\pi \sin^3 \varphi \cos \varphi \, d\varphi \right) \\ &= \mathcal{S}^{1,1} \left( \int_0^\pi \sin^3 \varphi \cos \varphi \, d\varphi \right) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

We then deal with the case where two of  $i, j$ , and  $k$  are the same.

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_3[1]_{ijk} &= \mu_3[1]_{113} = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi (\sin \varphi \cos \theta)^2 \cos \varphi \sin \varphi \, d\varphi \, d\theta \\ &= \left( \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^2 \theta \, d\theta \right) \left( \int_0^\pi \cos^3 \varphi \sin \varphi \, d\phi \right) \\ &= \mathcal{S}^{0,2} \mathcal{H}_1^{1,3} = \mathcal{S}^{0,2}(\mathcal{Q}_1^{1,3} + \mathcal{Q}_2^{1,3}) = \mathcal{S}^{0,2}(\mathcal{Q}_1^{1,3} + (-1)^3 \mathcal{Q}_1^{1,3}) = 0. \end{aligned}$$

Lastly, we work on the case where  $i = j = k$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_3[1]_{ijk} &= \mu_3[1]_{111} = \int_0^{2\pi} \int_0^\pi (\sin \varphi \cos \theta)^3 \sin \varphi \, d\varphi \, d\theta \\ &= \left( \int_0^{2\pi} \cos^3 \theta \, d\theta \right) \left( \int_0^\pi \sin^4 \varphi \, d\varphi \right) \\ &= \mathcal{S}^{0,3} \mathcal{H}_1^{4,0} = 0. \end{aligned}$$

- **Lemma 3.10.** Let  $A$  be a constant  $3 \times 3$  matrix. Then,  $\mu_1[\omega^T A \omega] = \mathbf{0}$ .

*Proof.* We have that

$$\mu_1[\omega^T A \omega] = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1[\omega^T A \omega]_1 \\ \mu_1[\omega^T A \omega]_2 \\ \mu_1[\omega^T A \omega]_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \mu_1[\sum \sum a_{ij}\omega_i\omega_j]_1 \\ \mu_1[\sum \sum a_{ij}\omega_i\omega_j]_2 \\ \mu_1[\sum \sum a_{ij}\omega_i\omega_j]_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum \sum a_{ij}\mu_1[\omega_i\omega_j]_1 \\ \sum \sum a_{ij}\mu_1[\omega_i\omega_j]_2 \\ \sum \sum a_{ij}\mu_1[\omega_i\omega_j]_3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} \sum \sum a_{ij}\mu_3[1]_{1ij} \\ \sum \sum a_{ij}\mu_3[1]_{2ij} \\ \sum \sum a_{ij}\mu_3[1]_{3ij} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{0}.$$