

# PADE APPROXIMANTS, STJELTJES FUNCTIONS AND VARIATIONAL PROPERTIES

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Dedicated to my friend Maciej Pindor

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# 1 Definition and algorithms

## Linear systems

Given a formal power series  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n z^n$  the  $[M/N]$  P.A. are rational functions

$$[M/N]_f(z) = \frac{P_M(z)}{Q_N(z)} \quad Q_N(z) = \sum_{k=0}^N q_k z^k \quad P_M(z) = \sum_{k=0}^M p_k z^k$$

defined by

$$\left( \frac{P_M(z)}{Q_N(z)} - f(z) \right) = O(z^{N+M+1})$$

The Taylor expansion of P.A. agrees with  $f(z)$  up to order  $N + M$  and the polynomials. If  $q_0 = Q(0) \neq 0$  then the above definition is equivalent to

$$Q_N(z) f(z) - P_M(z) = O(z^{N+M+1})$$

which provides a linear system for  $q_i/q_0$  and  $p_i/q_0$ . The system is solvable if

$$D_{M/N} = \begin{vmatrix} f_M & \cdots & f_{M+1-N} \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ f_{M+1-N} & \cdots & f_M \end{vmatrix} \neq 0 \quad N \geq 1$$

and  $D_{M/N}$  can be identified with  $q_0$ . We define  $f_k = 0$  if  $k < 0$ . If  $N = 0$  we set  $q_0 = 1$  and  $[M/0]$  are partial sums of  $f(z)$ .

## Explicit formulae

The denominator polynomial  $Q_N(z)$  is given by

$$Q_N(z) = D_{M/N}^{-1} \begin{vmatrix} f_{M+1} & f_M & \cdots & f_{M+1-j} & \cdots & f_{M+1-N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & & \vdots & \vdots \\ f_{M+N} & f_{M+N-1} & \cdots & f_{M+N-j} & \cdots & f_M \\ 1 & x & \cdots & x^j & \cdots & x^N \end{vmatrix}$$

The numerator polynomial is given by

$$Q_N(z) = D_{M/N}^{-1} \begin{vmatrix} f_{M+1} & f_M & \cdots & f_{M+1-j} & \cdots & f_{M+1-N} \\ \vdots & \vdots & & & \vdots & \vdots \\ f_{M+N} & f_{M+N-1} & \cdots & f_{M+N-j} & \cdots & f_M \\ \sum_{k=0}^M f_k x^k & \sum_{j=k}^M f_k x^k & \cdots & \sum_{k=j}^M f_k x^k & \cdots & \sum_{k=N}^M f_k x^k \end{vmatrix}$$

**Nuttal's formula** we quote another compact formula to compute P.A. we shall prove later, by considering approximations to the resolvent of a symmetric operator.

$$[N-1/N]_f(z) = (f_0 \dots f_{N-1}) \begin{pmatrix} f_0 - x f_1 & \dots & f_{N-1} - x f_N \\ \vdots & & \vdots \\ f_{-N} - 1 x f_N & \dots & f_{2N-2} - x f_{2N-1} \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} f_0 \\ \vdots \\ f_{N-1} \end{pmatrix}$$

**The Padé table** has entries are  $[M/N]$ . It is normal if  $D_{[M/N]} \neq 0$  for any  $N \geq 0, M \geq 0$ : its elements are ratios of irreducible polynomials  $P_M$  and  $Q_N$  (no common divisors).

If  $D_{[M/N]} = 0$  then the entry  $[M/N]$  is given by the ratio of two reducible polynomials  $P_M = R_k P_{M-k}$  and  $Q_N = R_k Q_{N-k}$  where  $R_k$  is a polynomial of degree  $< \max(M, N)$ , whose coefficients are arbitrary. The Padé table whose entries are ratios of irreducible polynomials has blocks of equal entries.

**Examples** The Padé table has blocks if  $f$  is a rational function or a function of  $z^q$  for  $q > 1$ . Take for instance  $f(z) = (1 - z)^{-1}$  with  $f_n = 1$ . Then  $D_{[0/N]} = 1$  but  $D_{[M/N]} = 0$  for  $M \geq 1, N \geq 1$

$$D_{[1/2]} = \begin{vmatrix} 1 & 1 \\ 1 & 1 \end{vmatrix} = 0 \quad [1/2] = \frac{1 + (1 + q_1)z}{1 + q_1 z - (1 + q_1)z^2} = \frac{1 \times (1 + (1 + q_1)z)}{(1 - z) \times (1 + (1 + q_1)z)}$$

**Algebraic properties** We list a few properties following from definition

1) If the  $[M/N]$  P.A. exists (  $D_{[M/N]} \neq 0$  ) exists it is unique.

$$2) [M + J/N]_f(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{J-1} f_k z^k + z^J [M/N]_{\hat{f}}(z) \quad \hat{f}(z) = \sum_{k=0}^{\infty} f_{k+J} z^k$$

$$3) [M - J/N]_f(z) = z^{-J} [M - J/N]_{\hat{f}}(z) \quad \hat{f}(z) = z^J f(z)$$

$$4) [M/N]_{f+R_n}(z) = R_n + [M - J/N]_f(z) \quad \text{degree}(R_n) \leq M - n$$

$$5) [M/N]_{1/f}(z) = \left( [M/N]_f(z) \right)^{-1}$$

6) The diagonal  $[N/N]_f(z)$  P.A. are invariant for **omographic** transformations of  $f$  namely  $\mathbb{T}f = (\alpha + \beta f)/(\gamma + \delta f)$  and of  $z$  preserving the origin  $T(z) = az/(b + cz)$

# Continued fractions

Are defined by

$$S = b_0 + \frac{a_0}{b_1 + \frac{a_1}{b_2 + \frac{a_2}{\ddots + \frac{a_{n-1}}{b_n + r_n}}}} \quad r_n = \frac{a_n}{b_{n+1} + r_n}$$

The following recurrence holds

$$S = \frac{A_n + r_n A_{n-1}}{B_n + r_n B_{n-1}} \quad \begin{cases} A_n = b_n A_{n-1} + a_{n-1} A_{n-2} \\ B_n = b_n B_{n-1} + a_{n-1} B_{n-2} \end{cases}$$

initialized by

$$A_{-1} = 1 \quad A_0 = b_0 \quad B_{-1} = 0 \quad B_0 = 1$$

The ratios  $A_n/B_n$  are the **truncations** of the continued fractions with  $r_n = 0$ .

**Theorem** For positive continues fractions  $a_n > 0, b_n > 0$  the even and odd sequences are **monotonic**

$$\frac{A_0}{B_0} \leq \dots \leq \frac{A_{2n}}{B_{2n}} \leq \frac{A_{2n+2}}{B_{2n+2}} \leq S \leq \frac{A_{2n+1}}{B_{2n+1}} \leq \frac{A_{2n-1}}{B_{2n-1}} \leq \dots \leq \frac{A_1}{B_1}$$

## Analytic continued fractions

Given a power series  $f(z) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n z^n$  where  $f_0 = 1$  we consider the recurrence

$$f(z) \equiv \frac{f_1(z)}{f_0} = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha_0 z - \beta_1 z^2 \frac{f_2(z)}{f_1(z)}} \quad \dots \quad \frac{f_n(z)}{f_{n-1}} = \frac{1}{1 - \alpha_{n-1} z - \beta_n z^2 \frac{f_{n+1}(z)}{f_n(z)}}$$

Letting

$$f_n(z) = 1 + \sum_{k \geq 1} f_k^{(n)} z^k \quad f_0^{(n)} = 1$$

and  $f_k^{(1)} = f_k$  we start from the first relation and after multiplying both sides by the denominator of the left side we determine  $\alpha_0, \beta_1$  and  $f_2$  according to

$$\alpha_0 = f_1 \quad \beta_1 = f_2 - \alpha_0 f_1 \quad f_k^{(2)} = \frac{1}{\beta_1} (f_{k+2} - \alpha_0 f_{k+1})$$

At the next orders the recurrence reads

$$\alpha_{n-1} = f_1^{(n)} - f_1^{(n-1)} \quad \beta_n = f_2^{(n)} - \alpha_{n-1} f_1^{(n)} - f_2^{(n-1)}$$

$$f_k^{(n+1)} = \frac{1}{\beta_k} \left( f_{k+2}^{(n)} - \alpha_{n-1} f_{k+1}^{(n)} - f_{k+2}^{(n-1)} \right)$$

## Truncations and P.A.

The even and odd truncations of the continued fraction give two diagonal sequences of P.A. Let

$$F(z) = \frac{1}{z} f\left(\frac{1}{z}\right) = \frac{1}{z - \alpha_0 - \frac{\beta_1}{z - \alpha_1 + \frac{\beta_2}{\ddots + \frac{\beta_n}{z - \alpha_n + r_n}}}}$$

Identifying  $a_n = -\beta_n$ ,  $b_n = z - \alpha_{n-1}$  the truncations  $A_n/B_n$  satisfy

$$\begin{cases} A_n = (z - \alpha_{n-1}) A_{n-1} - \beta_{n-1} A_{n-2} \\ B_n = (z - \alpha_{n-1}) B_{n-1} - \beta_{n-1} B_{n-2} \end{cases} \quad \begin{cases} A_0 = 0 & A_1 = 1 \\ B_0 = 1 & B_1 = z - \alpha_0 \end{cases}$$

Hence  $A_n = \hat{Q}_{n-1}(z)$  and  $B_n = \hat{Q}_n(z)$  are polynomials of order  $n-1$  and  $n$ .  
Letting  $P_n = z^n \hat{P}_n(z^{-1})$  and  $Q_n = z^n \hat{Q}_n(z^{-1})$  it can be shown that

$$f(z) = \frac{P_{N-1}(z)}{Q_N(z)} + O(z^{2N}) \quad \boxed{\frac{P_{N-1}(z)}{Q_N(z)} = [N - 1/N]_f(z)}$$



## Positive measures

**Orthogonal polynomials** Let  $\mu(t)$  be a positive measure on  $\mathbb{R}$  and let

$$\mathcal{F}(g) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(t) d\mu(t)$$

The moments and their generating function are

$$f_n = \mathcal{F}(t^n) \quad f(z) = \mathcal{F}\left(\frac{1}{1-tz}\right) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n z^n$$

We define the orthogonal polynomials  $\hat{Q}_n(z)$  and their associates by  $\hat{P}_n(z)$  by

$$\mathcal{F}\left(t^k \hat{Q}_N(t)\right) = 0 \quad \text{for} \quad 0 \leq k \leq N-1 \quad \hat{P}_{N-1}(z) = \mathcal{F}\left(\frac{\hat{Q}_N(x) - \hat{Q}_N(t)}{z-t}\right)$$

The normalization is  $z^{-n} \hat{Q}_N(z) \rightarrow 1$  for  $z \rightarrow \infty$ . The linear systems satisfies by the coefficients of  $\hat{Q}_N(z)$  are the same as the ones for the denominator  $Q_n(z)$  of the  $[N-1/N]$  P.A. and the same relation holds between  $\hat{P}_{n-1}(z)$  and  $P_{n-1}(z)$ .

$$[N-1/N]_f(z) = \frac{z^{N-1} \hat{P}_{N-1}(z^{-1})}{z^N \hat{Q}_N(z^{-1})} = \frac{P_{N-1}(z)}{Q_N(z)}$$

## Approximate measures

The zeroes  $z = r_k^{(N)}$  of the orthogonal polynomial  $\hat{Q}_N(z)$  are all real and belong to the support of  $\mu$ . Since  $Q_N(0) = 1$  we can write

$$\frac{P_{N-1}(z)}{Q_N(z)} = \frac{P_{N-1}(z)}{(1 - zr_1^{(N)}) \cdots (1 - zr_N^{(N)})} = \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{\gamma_k}{1 - zr_k}$$

We introduce an atomic measure  $\mu_N(t)$  such that

$$\mathcal{F}_N(g) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} g(t) d\mu_N(t) \quad \mu_N(t) = \sum_{k=1}^n \gamma_k^{(N)} \vartheta(t - r_k^{(N)})$$

The approximate functional satisfies

$$\mathcal{F} \left( \frac{1}{1 - tz} \right) = \mathcal{F}_N \left( \frac{1}{1 - tz} \right) + (z^{2N})$$

so that consequence

$$\mathcal{F}_N(t^k) = \mathcal{F}(t^k) \quad \text{for} \quad 0 \leq k \leq 2N - 1$$

## Quadrature formulae

The approximate functional  $\mathcal{F}_N$  allows an **analytic extrapolation** of the first  $2N - 1$  moments of the measure, i.e. of the first  $2N - 1$  coefficients of  $f(z)$

$$f_n^{(N)} = \mathcal{F}_N(t^n) = \sum_{k=1}^N \gamma_k^{(N)} (r_k^{(N)})^n \quad f_n^{(N)} = f_n \quad \text{for} \quad 0 \leq n \leq 2N - 1$$

The transform of a function  $g(t)$ , which is a **quadrature** with respect to  $\mu(t)$ .

**Theorem** The transform  $\mathcal{F}_N(g)$  is the Gauss quadrature of  $\mathcal{F}(g)$  since it is exact if  $\mathcal{F}(g)$  for any polynomial of order  $m \leq 2N - 1$

$$\mathcal{F}_N(g) = \sum_{n=1}^N g(r_n^{(N)}) \gamma_n^{(N)}$$

Let  $T$  polynomial of order  $m \leq 2N - 1$

$$\mathcal{F}_N(T) = \sum_{k=1}^m T_k \mathcal{F}_N(t^k) = \sum_{k=1}^m T_k \mathcal{F}(t^k) = \mathcal{F}_N(T)$$

If  $\mu(t) = t$  with support on  $[-1, 1]$  then  $Q_N(z)$  are Legendre polynomial, their zeroes  $r_n^{(N)}$  are the quadrature points and  $\gamma_n^{(N)}$  the weights.

## Stieltjes functions

If the support of  $\mu(t)$  is  $\mathbb{R}_+$  then its Hilbert transform

$$f(z) = \mathcal{F} \left( \frac{1}{1-tz} \right) = \int_0^\infty \frac{d\mu(t)}{1-zt}$$

is a **Stieltjes function**. It is analytic on the complex  $z$  cut along  $\mathbb{R}_+$

- i) The coefficients  $\alpha_n, \beta_n$  of the continued fraction expansion are **positive**.
- ii) The zeroes of  $Q_N(z)$ , orthogonal polynomials with respect to  $\mu(t)$ , are on  $\mathbb{R}_+$  and interlace with the zeroes of  $Q_{N-1}(z)$ .
- iii) If  $x \in \mathbb{R}_-$  then  $f(x) > 0$  and the following bounds hold

$$[0/1]_f(x) \leq \dots \leq [N-1/N]_f(x) \leq f(x) \leq [N/N]_f(x) \leq \dots \leq [1/1]_f(x)$$

- iv) The sequences  $[N-1/N]_f(z), [N/N]_f(z)$  **converge uniformly to  $f(z)$**  in any compact domain of the cut plane  $\mathbb{C} - \mathbb{R}_+$  provided that

$$\sum_{n=0}^{\infty} f_n^{-1/2n} = +\infty \quad \text{satisfied if } f_n < a c^n (2n)!$$

## Self adjoint operators

The spectral decomposition of a self adjoint operator  $A$  in a Hilbert space  $\mathcal{H}$  establishes a precise relation with positive measures

$$A = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} t dP(t)$$

Letting  $\phi \in \mathcal{H}$  we have

$$\mu(t) = \langle \phi | P(t) | \phi \rangle \quad f(z) = \langle \phi | (I - zA)^{-1} | \phi \rangle$$

**Galerkin' method** Letting  $\phi, \phi_1, \dots, \phi_n \in \mathcal{E}_N \subset \mathcal{H}$  we consider the projector  $P_N$  defined by

$$P_N = \sum_{i,k=0}^{N-1} (G^{-1})_{ik} |\phi_i\rangle\langle\phi_k| \quad G_{ik} = \langle\phi_i|\phi_k\rangle$$

We solve the approximate equation for the the restriction  $A_N = P_N A P_N$

$$\psi_N = \phi + zA_N\psi_N \quad \langle\phi|\psi_N\rangle = \langle\phi|(I - zA_N)^{-1}|\phi\rangle$$

Letting  $\psi_N = c_0\phi_0 + \dots + c_{N-1}\phi_{N-1}$  we obtain

$$\langle\phi|\psi_N\rangle = \mathbf{b}^* \cdot M^{-1}\mathbf{b} \quad b_k = \langle\phi_k|\phi\rangle \quad M_{ik} = \langle\phi_i|(I - zA)|\phi_k\rangle$$

**Perturbative ansatz** Choosing the base  $\phi_k = \mathbf{A}^k \phi$  it is immediate to show that

$$\langle \phi | (I - z\mathbf{A}_N)^{-1} | \phi \rangle = \langle \phi | (I - z\mathbf{A})^{-1} | \phi \rangle + O(z^{2N})$$

The approximate resolvent is a ratio of two polynomials  $P_{N-1}(z)/Q_N(z)$ , hence it agrees with  $[N - 1/N]$  P.A. to  $f(z)$  and coincides with Nuttall's formula.

$$\langle \phi | (I - z\mathbf{A}_N)^{-1} | \phi \rangle = [N - 1/N] \langle \phi | (I - z\mathbf{A})^{-1} | \phi \rangle$$

### Variational methods

The quadratic functional defined on  $\mathcal{H}$

$$\mathcal{L}(\chi) = \langle \chi | \phi \rangle + \langle \phi | \chi \rangle - \langle \chi | (1 - z\mathbf{A}) | \chi \rangle$$

is stationary for  $\chi = \psi$  where  $\psi = (1 - z\mathbf{A})^{-1} \phi$ . Indeed

$$\delta \mathcal{L}(\chi) = \mathcal{L}(\chi + \delta\chi) - \mathcal{L}(\chi) = \langle \delta\chi | \phi - (1 - z\mathbf{A})\chi \rangle + \langle \phi - (1 - z\mathbf{A})\chi | \delta\chi \rangle$$

Choosing  $\chi \in \mathcal{E}_N$  the variational solution agrees with Galerkin's method.

$$\{\delta \mathcal{L}(\chi)\}_{\chi \in \mathcal{E}_N} = 0 \quad \chi = \psi_N \equiv (1 - z\mathbf{A})^{-1} \phi \quad \mathcal{L}(\psi_N) = \langle \phi | \psi_N \rangle$$

## Variational bounds

With the perturbative ansatz the variational solution is the  $[N - 1/N]$  P.A. If  $\mathbf{A}$  is positive then  $(I - x\mathbf{A})$  for  $x \in \mathbb{R}_-$  is positive and

$$\mathcal{L}(\psi) - \mathcal{L}(\chi) = \|(I - x\mathbf{A})^{-1/2}\phi - (I - x\mathbf{A})^{1/2}\chi\|^2 \geq 0$$

## Lower bounds

From previous inequality we obtain

$$\mathcal{L}(\chi) \leq f(x) \equiv \langle \phi | (I - x\mathbf{A})^{-1} | \phi \rangle \quad [N - 1/N]_f(x) \leq f(x) \quad x \in \mathbb{R}_-$$

and the sequence  $[N - 1/N]_f(x)$  is monotonically increasing .

## Upper bounds

We consider the functional  $\mathcal{U}$  defined by

$$\mathcal{U}(\chi) = \langle \phi | \phi \rangle + z \langle \chi | \mathbf{A} | \phi \rangle + z \langle \phi | \mathbf{A} | \chi \rangle - z \langle \chi | \mathbf{A} (1 - z\mathbf{A}) | \chi \rangle$$

It is easy to check that it is stationary for  $\chi = \psi \equiv (1 - z\mathbf{A})^{-1}\phi$  and  $\phi = f(z)$  . In the subspace given by the perturbative ansatz the stationary solution is  $[N/N]_f(x)$

$$\mathcal{U}(\chi) \geq f(x) \equiv \langle \phi | (I - x\mathbf{A})^{-1} | \phi \rangle \quad f(x) \leq [N/N]_f(x) \quad x \in \mathbb{R}_-$$

## Generalizations

**Matrix P.A.** They are defined for an analytic  $L \times L$  matrix  $F_{ik}(z)$  of order  $L$ . Explicit formulae of Nuttall's type are obtained if the matrix is given by

$$F_{ik}(z) = \langle \phi_i | (I - z\mathbf{A})^{-1} | \phi_k \rangle \quad i, j = 0, \dots, L-1$$

by the Galerking or variational method in a subspace

$$\mathcal{E}_{LN} = \{\phi, \phi_1, \dots, \phi_{L-1}, \mathbf{A}\phi, \mathbf{A}\phi_1, \dots, \mathbf{A}\phi_{L-1}, \dots, \mathbf{A}^{N-1}\phi, \mathbf{A}\mathbf{A}^{N-1}\phi_1, \dots, \mathbf{A}^{N-1}\phi_{L-1}\}$$

The P.A. to a stjeltjes matrix  $F(x)$  have bounding properties on  $\mathbb{R}_-$

$$[N - 1/N]_{\zeta}(x) \leq F(x) \leq [N/N]F(x) \quad x \in \mathbb{R}_-$$

**Generalized P.A.** Consider a sequence of polynomials  $L_n(z)$  and their generating function  $K(z, t) = \sum t^n L_n(z)$ . For instance  $K(z, t) = e^{-zt}$  and  $L_n(z)$  Laguerre polynomials. Letting

$$f(z) = \mathcal{F}(K(z, t)) = \int_{-\infty}^{+\infty} K(z, t) d\mu(t) = \sum_n f_n L_n(z)$$

the generalized P.A. are defined by the corresponding quadrature formula

$$[N - 1/N]_f^{\text{gen}}(z) = \mathcal{F}_N(K(z, t)) = \sum \gamma_n^{(N)} K(z, r_n^{(N)})$$



## Conclusions

**Algebraic properties** The P.A. are obtained by solving linear systems. If the ratio of polynomials is irreducible the Pad/'e table is **normal**, otherwise there are **blocks**. The diagonal P.A. are invariant by **omographic** transformations.

**Continued fractions** This algorithm has **optimal computational complexity**. It provides the diagonal sequence of  $[n - 1/n], [n/n]$  for  $1 \leq n \leq N$  given a Taylor series up to order  $2N$ . To be used with **extended precision**, necessary to counteract **noise** effects.

**Stieltjes functions** The denominators of diagonal sequences of P.A. are **orthogonal polynomials**, with respect to a positive measure, their zeroes being on its support. This implies **convergence** of P.A. in the cut plane and bounding properties on the real axis excluding the cut.

**Resolvents of symmetric operators** The mean value of the resolvent is a Stieltjes function. The **Galerkin** method in a subspace  $\mathcal{E}_N$  defined by the perturbative ansatz gives the diagonal P.A. They are **stationary values** of quadratic functionals in the subspace  $\mathcal{E}_N$ . For positive operators the P.A. give bounds.

