

# On truncated discrete moment problems

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**IWOTA 2019**

*Lisbon – 26th July*

# Discrete truncated moment problem

This talk focus on

$K$  discrete subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  for  $d = 1$ ;  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  or  $d \geq 2, n = 2$

mainly  $K = \mathbb{N}_0$  or  $K = \mathbb{Z}^d$ .

$d$ -dimensional truncated  $K$ -moment problem of degree  $n$

Given  $m := (m^{(0)}, \dots, m^{(n)})$  with  $m^{(k)}$  a tuple

$$\left( m_{j_1, \dots, j_d}^{(k)} \right)_{j_r \in \mathbb{N}_0; \sum_{r=1}^d j_r = k}$$

with  $m_{j_1, \dots, j_d}^{(k)} \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Find a nonnegative Radon measure  $\mu$  supported in  $K$  s.t.

$$m_{j_1, \dots, j_d}^{(k)} = \int_K x_1^{j_1} \dots x_d^{j_d} \mu(dx), \quad \forall k; j_r \in \mathbb{N}_0 \text{ with } \sum_r j_r = n$$

W.l.o.g. we can assume  $m_0 = 1$  and  $\mu$  is a probability measure on  $K$ .

We can use that the set is discrete

$$m_{j_1, \dots, j_d}^{(k)} = \sum_{x \in K} x_1^{j_1} \dots x_d^{j_d} \mu(\{x\}),$$

# Motivation for the discrete TMP

Main motivation (for me)

- Moment problem for point processes
- Complex systems, Material science, Statistical mechanics

## Point processes

Let  $R$  be a Riemannian manifold.

$$K := \left\{ \sum_{i \in I} \delta_{r_i} \in \mathcal{D}'(R) : I \text{ countable and } r_i \in R \right\} \subset \mathcal{D}'(R)$$

A measure  $\mu$  on  $K$  is called a point process.

- $K$  is infinite dimensional  $d = \infty$ .
- all element of  $K$  are Radon measures.
- Interpretation:  $\mu$  is probability to find point configuration  $\eta$ .

# Relation to $\mathbb{N}_0^d$ -TMP

For  $\eta = \sum_{i \in I} \delta_{r_i} \in K$ , define

$$N_A(\eta) := \eta(A) = \text{number of points in } \eta \text{ which are in } A$$

By definition  $N_A : K \rightarrow \mathbb{N}_0$ .

## Finite dimensional distribution of $\mu$

- One-dimensional distributions  $\mu_A$ :

$$\mu_A(C) := \mu(\{\eta : N_A(\eta) \in C\})$$

Push-forward of  $\mu$  w.r.t.  $N_A$ .

- Two-dimensional distribution  $\mu_{A_1, A_2}$  given by

$$\mu_{A_1, A_2}(C_1 \times C_2) := \mu(\{\eta : N_{A_1}(\eta) \in C_1, N_{A_2}(\eta) \in C_2\})$$

- and so on

- Support of  $\mu_A$  is  $\mathbb{N}_0$ .
- Support of  $\mu_{A_1, A_2}$  is  $\mathbb{N}_0 \times \mathbb{N}_0$ .
- and so on

# General convex analysis

Generalized Tchakaloff Thm (Richter-Bayer-Teichmann)



$m$  has a  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -representing measure  
 $\Updownarrow$   
 $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $m$  has a  
 $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ -representing measure

criterion to solve  $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ -TMP

criterion to solve  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -TMP depending on (unknown)  $N$

# Solving $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ -TMP

Fix  $n, N \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $N \geq n$ .

Aim:

Characterize the set  $S_N$  of all  $n$ -tuple admitting  $m = (m_1, \dots, m_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  a  $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ -representing probability measures.

- Every  $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ -representing probability for  $m$  is a convex combination of probabilities concentrated at  $k = 0, 1, \dots, N$ .
- Hence  $S_N$  is the convex hull of  $A_N := \{(k, k^2, \dots, k^n) \mid k = 0, 1, \dots, N\}$
- Classical convex analysis yields, that  $S_N$  is the intersection of finitely many closed half-spaces  $H$  containing  $A_N$  whose

bounding hyperplanes  $\partial H \leftrightarrow \left( \begin{array}{c} \partial H \text{ contains at least } n \text{ points} \\ \text{from } A_N \end{array} \right)$

bounding hyperplanes  $\partial H \leftrightarrow \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{polynomials of degree } n \\ \text{with leading coefficient } \pm 1 \\ n \text{ distinct roots in } \{0, 1, \dots, N\} \\ \text{nonnegative on } \{0, 1, \dots, N\} \end{array} \right)$

# Solving $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ -TMP

$$\mathcal{P}_{n,N} := \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{polynomials of degree } n \\ \text{with leading coefficient } +1 \\ n \text{ distinct roots in } \{0, 1, \dots, N\} \\ \text{nonnegative on } \{0, 1, \dots, N\} \end{array} \right)$$

- If  $n = 2j$  even, any  $P \in \mathcal{P}_{n,N}$  is of the form:

$$P(x) = (x - k_1)(x - (k_1 + 1)) \dots (x - k_j)(x - (k_j + 1))$$

with zeros  $k_1 < k_1 + 1 < k_2 < k_2 + 1 < \dots < k_j$  in  $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ .

- If  $n = 2j + 1$  odd, any  $P \in \mathcal{P}_{n,N}$  is of the form:

$$P(x) = x(x - k_1)(x - (k_1 + 1)) \dots (x - k_j)(x - (k_j + 1))$$

with zeros  $0 < k_1 < k_1 + 1 < k_2 < k_2 + 1 < \dots < k_j$  in  $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ .

$$\mathcal{Q}_{n,N} := \left( \begin{array}{l} \text{polynomials of degree } n \\ \text{with leading coefficient } -1 \\ n \text{ distinct roots in } \{0, 1, \dots, N\} \\ \text{nonnegative on } \{0, 1, \dots, N\} \end{array} \right) = \{P(x)(N - x) \mid P \in \mathcal{P}_{n-1, N-1}\}$$

# From $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ -TMP to $\mathbb{N}_0$ -TMP

## Generalized Tchakaloff Thm (Richter-Bayer-Teichmann)

$m$  has a  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -representing probability  
 $\Updownarrow$   
 $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  $m$  has a  
 $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ -representing probability

## criterion to solve $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ -TMP

$m$  has a  $\{0, 1, \dots, N\}$ -repr. prob.  
 $\Updownarrow$   
 $L_m(p) \geq 0, \forall p \in \mathcal{P}_{n,N} \cup \mathcal{Q}_{n,N}$

## first criterion to solve $\mathbb{N}_0$ -TMP

$m$  has a  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -representing probability  
 $\Updownarrow$   
 $\exists N \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.  
 $L_m(p) \geq 0$  for all  $p \in \mathcal{P}_{n,N} \cup \mathcal{Q}_{n,N}$

Problem: How to identify or get rid of  $N$ ?



# $N$ independent condition

- Note that  $\mathcal{P}_{n,N} \subset \mathcal{P}_{n,N+1}$
- Define  $\mathcal{P}_n := \bigcup_{N \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{P}_{n,N}$ .

$$\left( m \text{ has a } \mathbb{N}_0\text{-representing measure} \right) \Rightarrow \left( L_m(p) \geq 0 \quad \forall p \in \mathcal{P}_n. \right)$$

- Recall

$$\left( m \text{ has a } \mathbb{N}_0\text{-repr. prob.} \right) \Leftrightarrow \left( m \text{ has a } \{0, 1, \dots, N\}\text{-repr. prob.} \right. \\ \left. \text{for some } N \text{ large enough} \right)$$

- The condition

$$\left( L_m(p) \geq 0 \quad \forall p \in \mathcal{Q}_{n,M} \right) \Leftrightarrow \left( L_m((M-x)p) \geq 0 \implies ML_m(p) \geq L_m(xp) \implies L_m(p) \geq \frac{1}{M} L_m(xp) \right)$$

which implies that

$$L_m(p) \geq 0, \forall p \in \mathcal{P}_{n-1} \quad \text{and} \quad \text{if } L_m(p) = 0 \text{ for some } p \in \mathcal{P}_{n-1}, \text{ then } L_m(xp) = 0$$

## Necessary conditions

$$m \text{ has a } \mathbb{N}_0\text{-repr. prob.} \Rightarrow \begin{cases} L_m(p) \geq 0, \forall p \in \mathcal{P}_n \cup \mathcal{P}_{n-1} \\ \text{if } L_m(p) = 0 \text{ for some } p \in \mathcal{P}_{n-1} \text{ then } L_m(xp) = 0 \end{cases}$$

## Theorem (Infusino, K., Lebowitz, Speer, 2017)

$m$  has a  $\mathbb{N}_0$ -repr. prob.  $\Leftrightarrow L_m(p) \geq 0, \forall p \in \mathcal{P}_n \cup \mathcal{P}_{n-1}$   
if  $L_m(p) = 0$  for some  $p \in \mathcal{P}_{n-1}$  then  $L_m(xp) = 0$   
Moreover, non of the conditions can be dropped.

**Proof of  $\Leftarrow$ :** One need to derive an a priori bound on  $N$  using only the above conditions not realizability.

Previous results:

- **Karlin and Studden 1966** on  $K = \mathbb{N}_0 \cup \{\infty\}$ .  
Solvability condition depending on an unknown parameter
- The best one could *hope* to obtain using *Semi-algebraic techniques* is conditions

$$L_m((x-k)(x-(k+1))p^2) \geq 0 \quad \forall p \text{ polynomial and } \forall k \in \mathbb{N}_0$$

Challenge:

Can one reduce the conditions further by making them  $m$  dependent?

# $m$ dependent conditions: what was known

Case  $n = 1$ :

$$\left( m = (m_1) \text{ is realizable} \right) \Leftrightarrow \left( m_1 \geq 0 \right)$$

Case  $n = 2$ : (Yamada 1961)

$$\left( m = (m_1, m_2) \text{ is realizable} \right) \Rightarrow \left( m_2 - (m_1)^2 \geq \lfloor m_1 \rfloor \lceil m_1 \rceil \right)$$

Case  $n = 2$ : (K., Lebowitz, Speer 2009)

$$\left( m = (m_1, m_2) \text{ is realizable} \right) \Leftrightarrow \left( \begin{array}{l} m_1 > 0; m_2 - (m_1)^2 \geq \lfloor m_1 \rfloor \lceil m_1 \rceil \\ \text{or } m_1 = 0 \text{ and } m_2 = 0 \end{array} \right)$$

Kwerel 1975, Prekopa et al. 1986:  $K = \{0, 1, \dots, N\}$

some explicit (necessary) conditions for  $n = 2, 3$

but no explicit conditions for  $n \geq 4$ .

# $m$ dependent conditions

We partition the set of all  $m := (m_1, \dots, m_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  realizable on  $\mathbb{N}_0$  into:

(i)  $m := (m_1, \dots, m_n)$  is **B-realizable** if

$$\exists p \in \bigcup_{k=1}^n \mathcal{P}_k \text{ with } L_m(p) = 0$$

(ii) otherwise  $m$  is **I-realizable**, i.e.

$$\forall p \in \bigcup_{k=1}^n \mathcal{P}_k \text{ one has } L_m(p) > 0$$

Main Theorem (Infusino, K., Lebowitz, Speer, 2017)

Let  $m := (m_1, \dots, m_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$ .

If  $(m_1, \dots, m_{n-1})$  is I-realizable, then  $\exists p_m^{(n)} \in \mathcal{P}_n$  s.t.

$$L_m(q) \geq L_m(p_m^{(n)}), \quad \forall q \in \mathcal{P}_n$$

$p_m^{(n)}$  does not  
depend on  $m_n$

We call such a  $p_m^{(n)}$  a **minimizing polynomial** for  $m$ .

Challenge: How to find  $p_m^{(n)}$

# Finding $p_m^{(2)}$ : case $n = 2$

Let  $m = (m_1, m_2) \in \mathbb{R}^2$  be such that  $m_1$  is I-realizable, i.e.  $m_1 > 0$ .

$$\mathcal{P}_2 := \left\{ t_k(x) := (x - k)(x - k - 1) \mid k \in \mathbb{N}_0 \right\}$$

Case  $n = 2, m_1 > 0$

$$\left( (m_1, m_2) \text{ realisable on } \mathbb{N}_0 \right) \Leftrightarrow m_2 - (m_1)^2 \geq \lfloor m_1 \rfloor \lceil m_1 \rceil$$

Case:  $n=2$

$$P_m^{(2)}(x) = (x - k)(x - (k + 1)) \text{ for } k = \lfloor m_1 \rfloor$$

corresponds to condition

$$m_2 - (m_1)^2 \geq \lfloor m_1 \rfloor \lceil m_1 \rceil.$$

Connection to Stieltjes TMP

Case  $n = 2, m_1 > 0$

$$\left( (m_1, m_2) \text{ realisable on } [0, +\infty) \right) \Leftrightarrow \begin{vmatrix} 1 & m_1 \\ m_1 & m_2 \end{vmatrix} \geq 0 \Leftrightarrow m_2 - m_1^2 \geq 0$$

# Connection between $\mathbb{N}_0$ -TMP & $[0, +\infty)$ -TMP

Let  $m = (m_1, \dots, m_{n-1}, m_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  s.t.  $(m_1, \dots, m_{n-1})$  is I-realizable on  $\mathbb{N}_0$

$\Downarrow$   
 $(m_1, \dots, m_{n-1})$  is I-realizable on  $[0, +\infty)$

Take the smallest  $\hat{m}_n \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $\hat{m} := (m_1, \dots, m_{n-1}, \hat{m}_n)$  is realizable on  $[0, +\infty)$

**Curto-Fialkow 1991**

$\Downarrow$

- $\hat{m}$  is B-realizable on  $[0, +\infty)$
- $\hat{m}$  has a unique  $[0, +\infty)$ -representing probability  $\nu$
- the support of  $\nu$  is given by the zeros of a polynomial determined only by  $(m_1, \dots, m_{n-1})$ .

$$n = 2: \quad \text{supp}(\nu) = \{m_1\}$$

$$n = 3: \quad \text{supp}(\nu) = \{0, m_2/m_1\}$$

$$n = 2: \quad \text{supp}(\nu) = \{m_1\}, \quad \text{zeros of } p_m^{(2)} = \{\lfloor m_1 \rfloor, \lfloor m_1 \rfloor + 1\};$$

$$n = 3: \quad \text{supp}(\nu) = \{0, m_2/m_1\}, \quad \text{zeros of } p_m^{(2)} = \{0, \lfloor m_2/m_1 \rfloor, \lfloor m_2/m_1 \rfloor + 1\}.$$

## Conjecture

The zeros of  $p_m^{(n)}$  are the nearest integers to the points in  $\text{supp}(\nu)$

# Finding $p_m^{(n)}$ : case $n \geq 4$

Let  $m = (m_1, \dots, m_{n-1}, m_n) \in \mathbb{R}^n$  s.t.  $(m_1, \dots, m_{n-1})$  is I-realizable on  $\mathbb{N}_0$ .

## Theorem\*

At least one pair of zeros of  $p_m^{(2)}$  consists of the nearest integers to a point  $y_i \in \text{supp}(v)$ , i.e.  $\exists y_i \in \text{supp}(v)$  s.t.  $p_m^{(n)}(\lfloor y_i \rfloor) = 0 = p_m^{(n)}(\lceil y_i \rceil)$ .

**Notation** Take the smallest  $\tilde{m}_n \in \mathbb{R}$  s.t.  $\tilde{m} := (m_1, \dots, m_{n-1}, \tilde{m}_n)$  is realizable on  $\mathbb{N}_0$ .

$\mathcal{S}_m := \text{supp}(\text{unique } \mathbb{N}_0\text{-representing probability for } \tilde{m}) \subseteq \text{zero set of } p_m^{(n)}$

Sketch of algorithm to find  $p_m^{(n)}$  for  $n \geq 4$

- 1 use Curto-Fialkow '91 to compute  $\text{supp}(v) = \begin{cases} (y_1, \dots, y_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor}) & \text{if } n \text{ even} \\ (0, y_1, \dots, y_{\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor}) & \text{if } n \text{ odd} \end{cases}$
- 2 For each  $y_j$  in  $\text{supp}(v)$  construct  $M_j(m)$  in a particular way such that  $\mathcal{S}_m^{(n)} = \mathcal{S}_{M_j(m)}^{(n-2)} \sqcup \{ \lfloor y_j \rfloor, \lfloor y_j \rfloor + 1 \}$ .
- 3 Construct inductively  $\mathcal{S}_{M_j(m)}^{(n-2)}$ .
- 4 Construct for each of the choices a polynomial  $Q$
- 5  $p$  is the  $Q$  such that  $L_m(Q)$  is minimal.

we do not know *a priori* the right  $y_i$ , so in the worst case we need  $\lfloor \frac{n}{2} \rfloor!$  stages.

# Explicit formulas for $n = 4$

Suppose  $(m_1, m_2, m_3)$  is I-realizable, i.e.  $\begin{cases} m_1 > 0 \\ m_2 - m_1^2 > \lfloor m_1 \rfloor \lceil m_1 \rceil \\ m_3 m_1 - m_2^2 \geq \lfloor \frac{m_2}{m_1} \rfloor \lceil \frac{m_2}{m_1} \rceil m_1^2 \end{cases}$

Curto-Fialkow 1991  $\Rightarrow \text{supp}(\nu) = \{y_1, y_2\}$  with  $y_1, y_2$  solutions of:

$$\begin{vmatrix} 1 & m_1 \\ m_1 & m_2 \end{vmatrix} x^2 - \begin{vmatrix} 1 & m_1 \\ m_2 & m_3 \end{vmatrix} x + \begin{vmatrix} m_1 & m_2 \\ m_2 & m_3 \end{vmatrix} = 0$$

Define  $Y_1 := \lfloor y_1 \rfloor, Y_2 := \lfloor y_2 \rfloor$  and

$$\begin{aligned} t_1 &= \frac{m_3 - (2Y_2 + 1)m_2 + Y_2(Y_2 + 1)m_1}{m_2 - (2Y_2 + 1)m_1 + Y_2(Y_2 + 1)m_0}, & T_1 &= \lfloor t_1 \rfloor; \\ t_2 &= \frac{m_3 - (2Y_1 + 1)m_2 + Y_1(Y_1 + 1)m_1}{m_2 - (2Y_1 + 1)m_1 + Y_1(Y_1 + 1)m_0}, & T_2 &= \lfloor t_2 \rfloor. \end{aligned}$$

Take  $p_m^{(4)}(x) = (x - T_1)(x - T_1 - 1)(x - T_2)(x - T_2 - 1)$ ,  
and compute the associated condition

$$L_m(p_m^{(4)}) \geq 0$$



# Final remarks and open problems

## Further remarks

- our results can be easily adapted to solve the  $\mathbb{M}$ -TMP when  $\mathbb{M} \subset \mathbb{R}$  is a general discrete set which is bounded below:

$\lfloor y \rfloor \rightsquigarrow$  the largest element of  $\mathbb{M}$  not greater than  $y$   
 $\lfloor y \rfloor + 1 \rightsquigarrow$  the smallest element of  $\mathbb{M}$  larger than  $y$

- generalization to any unbounded discrete subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ , e.g.  $\mathbb{Z}$
- $K = \mathbb{Z}$  can be treated in the same way
- and generalization as above

# TMP for $K = \mathbb{Z}_0^d$ and $n = 2$

Three fundamental points:

Classify polynomials non-negative on  $\mathbb{Z}_0^d$ .

- All non-negative polynomials on  $\mathbb{Z}^2$  of degree 2 are squares.
- We have a complete classification of these polynomials
- Done for  $d = 2$ . True for  $d \leq 5$ .
- Unclassified for  $d > 5$ : key words *L-polytopes*, *empty spheres* [Voronoi], [Delone], [Ryshkov], [Erdahl '92].

Identify minimal set of polynomials

- Additional spurious conditions appear.
- Done for  $d = 2$ . Seems doable for all  $n$ .

Identify  $p_m$

- In  $d = 2$  there exists an algorithm which will give  $p_m$ .
- Spurious solutions are the root of complications.
- Something radical new needed like distance to spurious solutions.

Thank you for your  
attention