

ON THE MOMENT PROBLEM AND THE CONVERGENCE
OF PADE APPROXIMANTS FOR MEROMORPHIC
FUNCTIONS OF STIELTJES TYPE

G. López

Summary. Let $f = \widehat{\mu} + r$, where μ is a positive measure with support in $[0, +\infty[$, $\widehat{\mu} = \mu * z^{-1}$ and r a rational function with real coefficients, $r(\infty) = 0$. In case $r \equiv 0$ a well-known result of Stieltjes asserts the convergence to $\widehat{\mu} (\equiv f)$ of the diagonal Padé approximants associated to this function under the condition that the moment problem for $\{c_v\}$, $v \in \mathbf{N}$, $c_v = \int t^v d\mu(t)$ is determined. In this paper we show that a condition, similar to that of Stieltjes in terms of certain moment problems, also assures the convergence of Padé approximants to f for general r . Our result reduces to that of Stieltjes, when $r \equiv 0$.

1. Introduction. Let

$$(1) \quad f(z) = \sum_{v=0}^{\infty} f_v / z^{v+1}$$

be a formal power series. For each $n, m \in \mathbf{N}$ there exist polynomials p, q of degree at most $n+m$ and n , respectively, $q \neq 0$, such that

$$(2) \quad z^m q(z) f(z) - p(z) = A_{n,m} z^{-n-1} + \dots,$$

where on the right-hand side we have a formal power series on increasing powers of z^{-1} . The quotient $p/z^m q$ of any such polynomials is determined uniquely and is called the $(n+m, n)$ Padé approximant associated to f and in the sequel is denoted by $\pi_{n+m,n}$. For more details see [1] and [2].

Let μ be a positive measure, whose support $\text{supp } \mu$, contained in $[0, +\infty[$, consists of infinitely many points* and whose moments $c_v = \int x^v d\mu(x)$, $v=0, 1, 2, \dots$, are all finite. Let $\widehat{\mu}(z) = \int (z-x)^{-1} d\mu(x)$. Obviously, $\widehat{\mu}$ is holomorphic in $D = \mathbf{C} \setminus [0, +\infty[$. In the following we will consider functions $f = \widehat{\mu} + r$, where r is an arbitrary rational function with real coefficients and poles in D ($r(\infty) = 0$). For each such function we can take its asymptotic expansion of type (1) at $z = \infty$ (for instance, as $z \rightarrow \infty$, $z < 0$) and construct for $n, m \in \mathbf{N}$ the corresponding Padé approximants.

* If $\text{supp } \mu$ has only a finite number of points, then f is a rational function and the main result of this paper is trivial.

In [3] I proved that if

$$(3) \quad \sum_{v \geq 1} c_v^{-1/2v} = \infty,$$

then, for $m=0$ fixed, the sequence $\{\pi_{n,n}\}$, $n \in \mathbf{N}$, converges to f uniformly on every compact set $K \subset D' = D \setminus [r(z) = \infty]$. This result contains classical ones of Markov [4] (see also [5]) and Carleman [6] and a recent one of Rajmanov [7] (for more details see §1 of [3]). Stieltjes proved in [8] that a sufficient condition for the convergence of $\pi_{n,n}$ to $\widehat{\mu}(r \equiv 0)$ is that the moment problem for the sequence $\{c_v\}$, $v \in \mathbf{N}$, is determined, while Carleman showed in [6] that condition (3) yields the determinacy of such a moment problem. From Carleman's result it is obvious that whenever l is a polynomial, positive on $[0, +\infty[$, then (3) implies the determinacy of the moment problem for the sequence $c_v^* = \int x^v l(x) d\mu(x)$, $v \in \mathbf{N}$, since (3) is equivalent to $\sum_{v \geq 1} (c_v^*)^{-1/2v} = \infty$. The object of this paper is to prove, for each $m \in \mathbf{N}$ fixed, a similar result to that, proved before by us, but under weaker conditions in terms of moment problems, which reduces to Stieltjes theorem in case $r \equiv 0$ and $m=0$.

Theorem. *Let μ be a positive measure such that the convex hull of $\text{supp } \mu$ is $[0, +\infty[$; $f = \widehat{\mu} + r$, where $r = s_d/t_d$ is an arbitrary rational function with real coefficients and poles in D ($\deg t_d = d$, $r(\infty) = 0$). If for each polynomial l positive on $[0, +\infty[$ such that $\deg l \leq d$ and $m \in \mathbf{N}$ fixed the moment problem for the sequence $c_v^* = \int x^v x^m (t_d l)(x) d\mu(x)$, $v \in \mathbf{N}$ is determined, then the sequence $\{\pi_{n+m,n}\}$, $n \in \mathbf{N}$, satisfies:*

i) *For all n sufficiently large the number of poles of $\pi_{n+m,n}$ in D is equal to the number of poles of r ; the poles of r in D tend as $n \rightarrow \infty$ to the poles of r in such a way that each pole of r pulls towards itself as many poles of $\pi_{n+m,n}$ as its multiplicity.*

ii) *The sequence $\{\pi_{n+m,n}\}$, $n \in \mathbf{N}$, converges uniformly to f on every compact $K \subset D' = D \setminus [r(z) = \infty]$.*

We wish to point out that the proof of a similar result in case r has complex coefficients remains open even for nice measures. A very interesting paper in this direction is due to Gončar [9], where he considers measures, whose support consists of a closed segment $[a, b]$, and fulfils other additional properties true in particular, if $\mu' > 0$ with respect to Lebesgue measure in $[a, b]$. In [7] Rajmanov showed that for very simple measures, whose support consists of two segments, the sequence $\{\pi_{n,n}\}$, $n \in \mathbf{N}$ does not necessarily converge in D' . In Section 2 some auxiliary lemmas are stated. Proofs are omitted, since they are simple and resemble those of similar lemmas, proved in [3]. The demonstration of the main result is in Section 3. In the following we will keep the notations introduced above.

2. Lemmas. 1. For each $n > d$ and $m \in \mathbf{N}$ there exist polynomials p_{n+m} , q_n such that

$$(4) \quad \deg p_{n+m} \leq n + m - 1, \quad \deg q_n \leq n, \quad q_n \not\equiv 0;$$

$$(5) \quad \int x^v x^m (q_n t_d)(x) d\mu(x) = 0, \quad v = 0, 1, \dots, n - d - 1;$$

$$(6) \quad \int \frac{z^m (q_n t_d)(z) - x^m (q_n t_d)(x)}{z - x} d\mu(x) + z^m (q_n s_d)(z) - (t_d p_{n+m})(z) \equiv 0.$$

The existence of such polynomials reduces to solving a homogeneous system of $2n+m$ linear equations with $2n+m+1$ unknowns, for which a non-trivial solution always exists. This fact guarantees that q_n can be chosen such that $q_n \neq 0$. In the following we will suppose that q_n is monic, that is that the coefficient of its term of highest power is 1.

Lemma 1. Let $n > d$ and p_{n+m}, q_n be arbitrary polynomials, satisfying the system (4)–(6). Then $\pi_{n+m,n} = p_{n+m}/z^m q_n$ and

$$(7) \quad (f - \pi_{n+m,n})(z) = \int \frac{x^m (hq_n t_d)(x)}{z^m (hq_n t_d)(z)} \frac{d\mu(x)}{z-x},$$

where h is an arbitrary polynomial such that $\deg h \leq n-d$.

Formula (7), writing $p_{n+m}/z^m q_n$ instead of $\pi_{n+m,n}$, is a direct consequence of (4)–(6). On the other hand, from that formula it is obvious that $\pi_{n+m} = p_{n+m}/z^m q_n$ from the definition of $\pi_{n+m,n}$.

2. Let $n > d$ and p_{n+m}, q_n as above. From (5) we get that q_n has in $]0, +\infty[$ at least $n-d$ changes of sign (compare with [5, p. 57]). Consequently q_n can be written as $q_n = q_{n,1} \cdot q_{n,2}$, where $\deg q_{n,1} = n - d_n = n'$, $d_n \leq d$, moreover the zeros $\{x_{n,i}\}$, $i = 1, 2, \dots, n-d_n$ of $q_{n,1}$ are all simple and lie on $]0, +\infty[$, while $q_{n,2}$ does not change sign on $[0, +\infty[$, $\deg q_{n,2} \leq d_n \leq d$. We will denote

$$q_{n,1}(z) = \prod_{i=1}^{n'} (z - x_{n,i}); \quad d\mu_n = x^m q_{n,2} t_d d\mu$$

and

$$p_{n,1}(z) = \int (z-x)^{-1} (q_{n,1}(z) - q_{n,1}(x)) d\mu_n(x).$$

Without loss of generality we can suppose that $d\mu_n \geq 0'$.

Lemma 2. For each $n > d$ the following formulas hold:

$$(8) \quad z^m (q_{n,2} t_d) (f - \pi_{n+m,n})(z) = \int \frac{d\mu_n(x)}{z-x} - p_{n,1} q_{n,1}^{-1}(z), \quad z \in D;$$

$$(9) \quad \frac{p_{n,1}}{q_{n,1}}(z) = \sum_{i=1}^{n'} \frac{\lambda_{n,i}}{z-x_{n,i}}, \quad \lambda_{n,i} = \int \frac{q_{n,1}(x) d\mu_n(x)}{q'_{n,1}(x_{n,i})(x-x_{n,i})}.$$

Formula (8) is a convenient rearrangement of (7), taking in regard the above defined polynomials $p_{n,1}$ and $q_{n,1}$. Relations (9) are easily obtained by direct calculations of the residues of $p_{n,1}/q_{n,1}$, having in mind the integral formula for $p_{n,1}$.

3. Let us consider the linear functional Λ_n , $n > d$, defined on the set of continuous functions $\subset]0, +\infty[$ by the formula $\Lambda_n(\varphi) = \sum_{i=1}^{n'} \lambda_{n,i} \varphi(x_{n,i})$, $\varphi \in \subset]0, +\infty[$. The following lemma is an analogue of the Gauss-Jacobi quadrature formula (see [5, p. 60]).

Lemma 3. For each $n > d$ and every polynomial P , $\deg P < 2n - (d + d_n)$ we have that

$$(10) \quad \int P(x) d\mu_n(x) = \Lambda_n(P).$$

From Lemma 3 we have

Lemma 4. For each $n > d$ the number of positive $\lambda_{n,i}$ is not less than $n - (d + d_n)/2$.

This follows immediately, taking in (10) a convenient P .

3. Proof of the Theorem. 1. Let $\rho_n(z) = \prod (z - x_{n,i})^2$ where \prod stands for the product over those i , for which $\lambda_{n,i} < 0$. From Lemma 4 is deduced that $\deg \rho_n \leq 2(n' - n + (d + d_n)/2) = d - d_n$.

Let $R = 2 \max\{|z| : t_d(z) = 0\}$, $M = \max\{2R, 1\}$ and B_n be the product of all the zeros of $q_{n,2}$ and f_n , whose module is greater than M (each zero taken according to its multiplicity). Everywhere in the sequel $n > d$. We shall now prove that the sequence of functions $\Phi_n = B_n^{-1} z^m \rho_n t_d q_{n,2} (f - \pi_{n+m,n})$, $n \in \mathbf{N}$, is uniformly bounded on each compact $K \subset D$.

From (8), (9) and the definition of Λ_n we obtain

$$(11) \quad \Phi_n(z) = B_n^{-1} \rho_n(z) [f(z-x)^{-1} d\mu_n(x) - \Lambda_n((z-x)^{-1})].$$

On the other hand

$$\frac{1}{z-x} - \frac{\rho_n(x)}{\rho_n(z)} \frac{1}{z-x} = \frac{\rho_n(z) - \rho_n(x)}{(z-x)\rho_n(z)} = K_n(x; z),$$

where $K_n(x, z)$ is a polynomial of x such that $\deg K_n < d - d_n < 2n - (d + d_n)$. From (10) and (11) it follows that

$$(12) \quad \Phi_n(z) = B_n^{-1} \rho_n(z) = [f((z-x)^{-1} - K_n(x; z)) d\mu_n(x) - \Lambda_n((z-x)^{-1} - K_n(x; z))] = B_n^{-1} [f(z-x)^{-1} \rho_n(x) d\mu_n(x) - \Lambda_n((z-x)^{-1} \rho_n(x))],$$

hence for $z \in K \subset D$, K compact, from (12) and (10) we get

$$|\Phi_n(z)| \leq |B_n|^{-1} \int |z-x|^{-1} \rho_n(x) d\mu_n(x) + |B_n|^{-1} \Lambda_n(|z-x|^{-1} \rho_n(x)) \leq 2|B_n|^{-1} d^{-1}(K, [0, +\infty[) \int \rho_n(x) d\mu_n(x) \leq 2Cd^{-1}(K, [0, +\infty[),$$

where $d(K, [0, +\infty[) = \inf\{|z-x| : z \in K, x \in [0, +\infty[\}$, $C = \int (x+M)^{2d+m} d\mu(x)$

2. We shall now prove that $\{\Phi_n\}$, $n \in \mathbf{N}$, converges uniformly to zero on every compact $K \subset D$. Since $\{\Phi_n\}$, $n \in \mathbf{N}$, is uniformly bounded, it suffices to show that each convergent subsequence converges pointwise to zero in D . Let $\{\Phi_{n_j}\}$, $n_j \in \mathbf{N}$ be a convergent subsequence. From this subsequence we can choose a subsequence $\{\Phi_{n_l}\}$, $n_l \in L' \subset L$ such that $B_{n_l}^{-1} \rho_{n_l} q_{n_l,2}$ tends as $n \rightarrow \infty$, $n \in L'$, to a polynomial l , $\deg l \leq d$, since its coefficients are uniformly bounded.

From (10) we see that for each fixed $v \in \mathbf{N}$ and $n > v + d/2$, $n \in L'$

$$(13) \quad \sum_{i=1}^{n'} B_n^{-1} \lambda_{n,i} \rho_n(x_{n,i}) x_{n,i}^v = \int x^v (B_n^{-1} x^m \rho_n q_{n,2} t_d)(x) d\mu(x) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} \int x^v x^m (l t_d)(x) d\mu(x) = c_v^*.$$

Since the moment problem for $\{c_v^*\}$, $v \in \mathbf{N}$, is determined, then (13) yields (see [10, p. 119-121]) that for each continuous on $[0, +\infty[$ function φ and $n \in L'$

$$\Lambda_n(B_n^{-1} \rho_n \varphi) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} \int \varphi(x) x^m (l t_d)(x) d\mu(x) \text{ and } \int \varphi(x) B_n^{-1} \rho_n(x) d\mu_n(x) \xrightarrow[n \rightarrow \infty]{} \int \varphi(x) x^m (l t_d)(x) d\mu(x).$$

In view of (12), taking $\varphi(x) = (z-x)^{-1}$, $z \in D$, this implies that $\Phi_n(z) \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$, which is what we wanted to prove.

3. Let K be a fixed compact set $K \subset D_R = D \cap \{|z| < R\}$ and $q_{n,R}(z) = \prod(z - \xi_{n,i})$, where the product is taken over those zeros of $q_{n,2}$ inside D_R . From the definition of Φ_n it follows that $(f - \pi_{n+m,n})(z) = B_n \Phi_n(z) (z^m \rho_n q_{n,2} t_d)^{-1}(z)$. From this relation the following estimate readily follows:

$$(14) \quad |(f - \pi_{n+m,n})(z)| \leq A(K) \|\Phi_n\|_K |(q_{n,R} t_d)(z)|^{-1}, \quad z \in K,$$

where $A(K) > 0$ doesn't depend on n , and $\|\cdot\|_K$ is the sup-norm. From (14) we have that

$$\{z \in K : |(f - \pi_{n+m,n})(z)| \geq \varepsilon\} \subset \{z \in K : |(q_{n,R} t_d)(z)| \leq \varepsilon^{-1} A(K) \|\Phi_n\|_K\}.$$

Since $\|\Phi_n\|_K \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$ and $\deg q_{n,R} t_d \leq 2d$, then for all n sufficiently large (see [11, p. 291])

$$\text{cap} \{z \in K : |(f - \pi_{n+m,n})(z)| \geq \varepsilon\} \leq (\varepsilon^{-1} A(K) \|\Phi_n\|_K)^{1/2d},$$

where $\text{cap}(\cdot)$ denotes the logarithmic capacity. Since the right-hand side tends to zero as $n \rightarrow \infty$, the sequence $\{\pi_{n+m,n}\}$, $n \in \mathbf{N}$, converges in capacity to f on every compact $K \subset D_R$. The poles of $\pi_{n+m,n}$ in D_R are less than d for each $n \in \mathbf{N}$ and the poles of f in D_R are exactly d . From Lemma 1 of [12] follows that the number of poles of $\pi_{n+m,n}$ in D is d for all sufficiently large n (in the following we consider only such n), moreover each pole of f in D pulls towards it as $n \rightarrow \infty$ as many poles of $\pi_{n+m,n}$ as its multiplicity. Hence $q_{n,R} = q_{n,2} \rightarrow t_d$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$. We can now assert that $\deg q_{n,2} = d$, $\deg q_{n,1} = n' = n - d$ and consequently from Lemma 4 we see that for all large $n \in \mathbf{N}$, $\lambda_{n,i} > 0$, $B_n = 1$ and $\rho_n = 1$. Part i) of the theorem has been proved. This implies that for all large n

$$(15) \quad (f - \pi_{n+m,n})(z) = \Phi_n(z) (q_{n,2} t_d)^{-1}(z), \quad z \in D.$$

Since for each $K \subset D'$, $\|\Phi_n\|_K \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} 0$ and $q_{n,2} \xrightarrow{n \rightarrow \infty} t_d$ ii) easily follows from (15).

Immediate consequences of the proved theorem are

Corollary 1. *If $\sum_{n \geq 1} c_n^{-1/2n} = \infty$, then for each fixed $m \in \mathbf{N}$ $\pi_{n+m,n}$ converges uniformly to f on every compact set $K \subset D'$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.*

This result appears in [13] for the case, when $r = 0$ (that is $f \equiv \hat{\mu}$).

Corollary 2. *If $f \equiv \hat{\mu}$ and the moment problem for $\{c_v\}$, $v \geq k$, is determined, then for each fixed $m = 0, 1, \dots, k$ the sequences $\{\pi_{n+m,n}\}$, $n \in \mathbf{N}$, converge to $\hat{\mu}$ uniformly on every compact $K \subset D'$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$.*

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Havana University
 Department of Mathematics
 Havana Cuba

Received on June 4, 1981