

# Riesz Energy Problems and Integral Identities

Unexpected phenomena for equilibrium measures

Djalil Chafaï, Edward B. Saff, Robert S. Womersley

ENS-PSL (France), Vanderbilt U. (USA), UNSW Sydney (Australia)

Coulomb gases and universality

December 5–9, 2022

Jussieu, Sorbonne Université

# Plan

Motivation

Riesz Energy Problems

Findings and Open Questions

Integral Identities and Special Functions ( $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ )

$$\int_0^1 ((\lambda + r) \log(\lambda + r) - (\lambda - r) \log|\lambda - r|) \frac{r \, dr}{\sqrt{1 - r^2}} = ?$$

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$$\int_0^1 ((\lambda + r) \log(\lambda + r) - (\lambda - r) \log|\lambda - r|) \frac{r \, dr}{\sqrt{1 - r^2}} = \frac{\pi}{2} \left( \lambda^2 + \frac{1}{2} - \log 2 \right)$$

$$\int_0^1 K \left( \frac{4\lambda r}{(r + \lambda)^2} \right) \frac{(\lambda - r)r \, dr}{\sqrt{1 - r^2}} = \frac{\pi^2}{8} \left( \frac{3\lambda^2}{2} - 1 \right)$$

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Mathematica...

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \int_0^1 (\lambda + r) \log(\lambda + r) \frac{r \, dr}{\sqrt{1 - r^2}} \\
 &= \frac{{}_3F_2\left(\frac{1}{2}, 1, 1; \frac{3}{2}, \frac{5}{2}; \frac{1}{\lambda^2}\right)}{3\lambda} \\
 &\quad - \pi \frac{{}_3F_2\left(1, 1, \frac{3}{2}; 2, 3; \frac{1}{\lambda^2}\right)}{32\lambda^2} \\
 &\quad + \frac{(4\lambda + \pi) \log(\lambda) + \pi}{4}
 \end{aligned}$$

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## Marcel Riesz



MARCEL RIESZ

(1886, Győr, Hungary – 1969, Lund, Sweden)

- Intégrales de Riemann–Liouville et potentiels  
Acta Sci. Math. Szeged 9 (1938): 1–42, 116–118

## Riesz original problem (1931, 1938)

- Riesz  $s$ -kernel in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ ,  $-2 < s < d$

$$K_s = \begin{cases} \frac{1}{s |\cdot|^s} & \text{if } s \neq 0 \\ -\log |\cdot| & \text{if } s = 0 \end{cases}$$

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- Equilibrium Measure on ball  $B_R := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^d : |x| \leq R\}$

$$\mu_{\text{eq}} = \arg \min_{\substack{\mu \\ \text{supp}(\mu) \subset B_R}} I_s(\mu)$$

## Marcel Riesz original problem ( $d \geq 2$ )

### ■ Equilibrium Measure on $B_R$

$$\mu_{\text{eq}} = \begin{cases} \sigma_R & \text{if } -2 < s \leq d-2 \\ \frac{\Gamma(1 + \frac{s}{2})}{R^s \pi^{\frac{d}{2}} \Gamma(1 + \frac{s-d}{2})} \frac{\mathbb{1}_{B_R}}{(R^2 - |\mathbf{x}|^2)^{\frac{d-s}{2}}} d\mathbf{x} & \text{if } d-2 < s < d \end{cases}$$

( $\sigma_R$  is uniform law on sphere of radius  $R$ )

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$$\int_{|y| \leq R} \frac{|x-y|^{-s}}{(R^2 - |y|^2)^{\frac{d-s}{2}}} dy = \frac{\pi^{\frac{d}{2}+1}}{\Gamma(\frac{d}{2}) \sin(\frac{\pi}{2}(d-s))}, \quad x \in B_R$$

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- ▶ Dyda – Kuznetsov – Kwaśnicki (Constr. Approx. 2017)

## About Mellin transform and Riesz kernels

- Reciprocal pair of integral transform of  $f : (0, +\infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$$\mathcal{M}f(z) := \int_0^{\infty} f(x)x^{z-1}dx, \quad \alpha < \Re z < \beta,$$

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- Riesz potential of radial function : if  $f(x) = \varphi(|x|^2)$  then

$$(K_s * f)(x) = \psi(|x|^2) \quad \text{where} \quad \mathcal{M}\psi(z) = \eta_{d,s}(z)\mathcal{M}(\varphi)\left(z + \frac{d-s}{2}\right)$$

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- More on <https://djalil.chafai.net/blog/2022/08/26/mellin-transform-and-riesz-potentials/>

## External Field Equilibrium Problem

- Energy with external field  $V$  on  $\mathbb{R}^d$

$$I_{s,V}(\mu) := \iint [K_s(\mathbf{x} - \mathbf{y}) + V(\mathbf{x}) + V(\mathbf{y})] d\mu(\mathbf{x})d\mu(\mathbf{y})$$

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- Frostman or Euler – Lagrange characterization of  $\mu_{\text{eq}}$

$$K_s * \mu + V \begin{cases} = c & \text{q.e. on } \text{supp}(\mu) \\ \geq c & \text{q.e. outside } \text{supp}(\mu) \end{cases}$$

Coulomb case :  $s = d - 2$ 

- Laplace fundamental solution

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- If  $V = |\cdot|^\alpha$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ , then

$$\mu_{\text{eq}} = \alpha(\alpha + d - 2) |\cdot|^{\alpha-2} \mathbb{1}_{B_R} dx$$

$$\left(\text{with } R = \left(\frac{1}{\alpha}\right)^{\frac{1}{\alpha+d-2}}\right)$$

Continuous case  $-2 < s < 0$  and  $\alpha = 2$ 

Equilibrium problem :

$$\arg \min_{\mu} \left\{ - \iint |x - y|^{s|} d\mu(x) d\mu(y) + 2 \int |x|^2 d\mu(x) \right\}$$

- Arises in steepest descent for halftoning functionals

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*Wasserstein Steepest Descent Flows  
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- Explicit formulas for  $\mu_{\text{eq}}$

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Iterated Coulomb case :  $s = d - 2n$ ,  $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$

### Proposition (CSW 2022)

*If  $s = d - 2n$  then, restricted to the interior of  $\mu_{\text{eq}}$ ,*

$$\mu_{\text{eq}} = \frac{\Delta^n V}{c_d C_{d,n}} \quad \text{where} \quad C_{d,n} := (-1)^{n-1} (2n-2)!!$$

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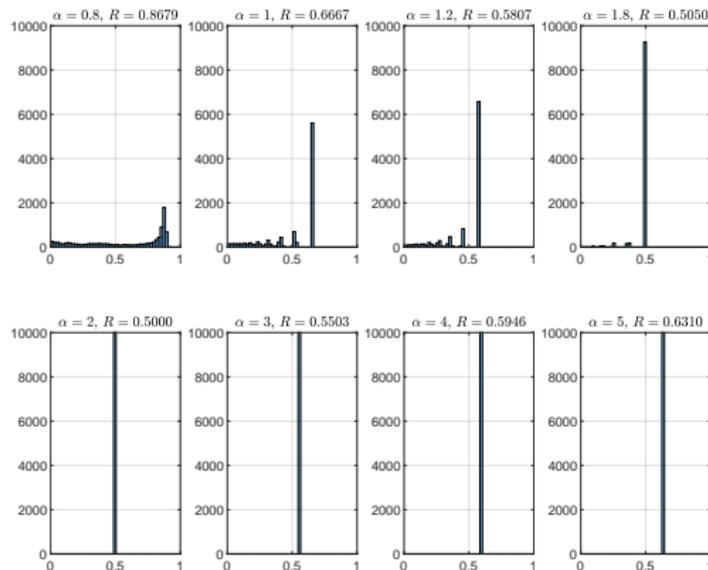
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- Key :  $-\Delta K_u = c_{d,u} K_{u+2}$ ,  $c_{d,u} := d - 2 - u$
- In particular : if  $s = d - 4$  and  $V = |\cdot|^\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \geq 2$ , then  $C_{d,2} < 0$  while  $\Delta V = \alpha(\alpha + d - 2) |\cdot|^{\alpha-2} \geq 0$  and thus  $\mu_{\text{eq}}$  is necessarily singular!

# Condensation phenomenon for $s = d - 4$ ?



Point norms histograms  $|x_j|, 1 \leq j \leq N = 10^4$  of a discrete approximation of  $\mu_{\text{eq}}, d = 4, s = d - 4 = 0, V = |\cdot|^\alpha, \alpha > 0$ .

Theorem (CSW arXiv 2022 :  $V = \gamma |\cdot|^\alpha$ ,  $\gamma > 0$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ )

- *Let  $d \geq 4$  and  $s = d - 4 \geq 0$ .*

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■ Let  $d = 3$  and  $s = d - 4 = -1$  (non-singular kernel!).

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▶ If  $\alpha = 1$  and  $\gamma \geq 1$ , then  $\mu_{\text{eq}} = \delta_0$

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■ Let  $d = 3$  and  $s = d - 4 = -1$  (non-singular kernel!).

▶ If  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , then  $\mu_{\text{eq}}$  does not exist

▶ If  $\alpha = 1$  and  $\gamma \geq 1$ , then  $\mu_{\text{eq}} = \delta_0$

▶ If  $\alpha > 1$ , then  $\mu_{\text{eq}}$  is as above

Theorem (CSW JMAA 2022 :  $V = \gamma |\cdot|^2, \gamma > 0$ )

■ If  $s = d - 3$  and  $\alpha = 2$  then

$$\mu_{\text{eq}} = \frac{\Gamma(\frac{s+4}{2})}{\pi^{\frac{s+4}{2}} R^{s+2}} \frac{1_{B_R}}{\sqrt{R^2 - |\cdot|^2}} dx$$

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- This is also  $\mu_{\text{eq}}$  for  $s = d - 1$  on  $B_R$  with this  $R$ .
- Initial motivation :  $(d, s, \alpha) = (3, 0, 2)$  and Gumbel at edge.

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## Link : obstacle problems (thanks, Sylvia!)

- Fundamental solution (fractional Laplacian) :

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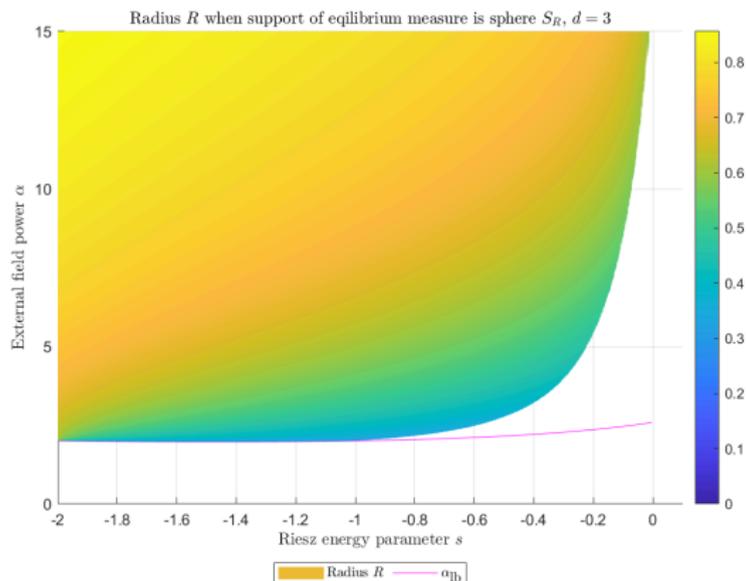
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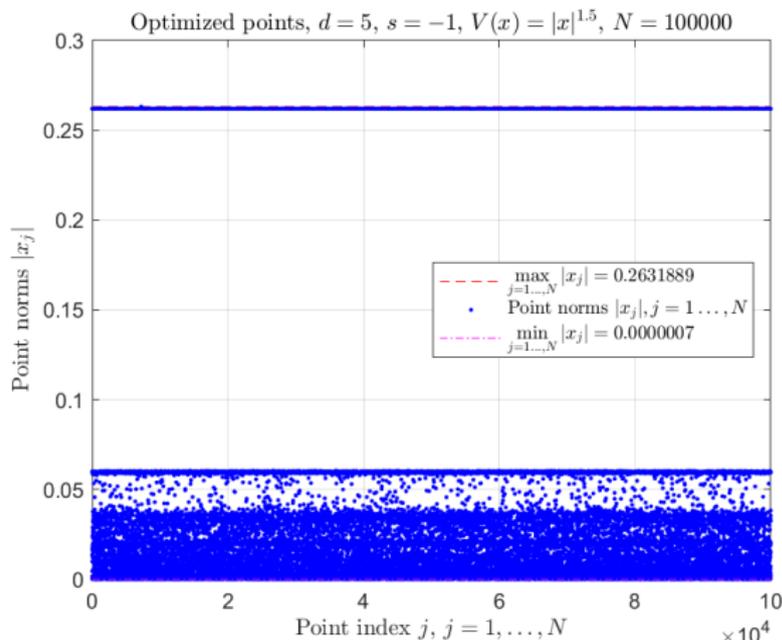
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- Other norms in kernel and external field

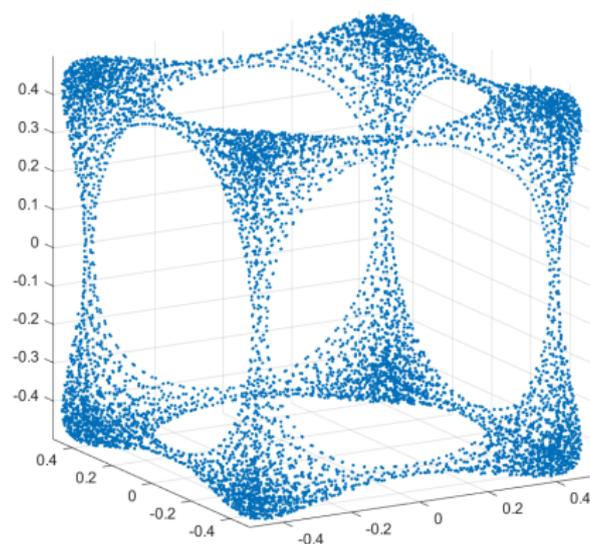


A plot of the radius  $R$  when the support of the equilibrium measure is the sphere  $S_R$  for  $d = 3$  and various  $s$  and  $\alpha$ .



Point norms  $|x_j|$ ,  $1 \leq j \leq N = 10^5$ ,  
 $d = 5$ ,  $s = d - 6 = -1$ ,  $V = |\cdot|^{3/2}$ .

More than 70% on outer boundary!



Projection on  $x_1 = 0$  of a numerical approximation of  $\mu_{\text{eq}}$ ,

$$N = 10^4, \quad d = 4, \quad s = d - 4 = 0, \quad V = |\cdot|_4^4,$$

$$|x|_p := (|x_1|^p + \dots + |x_d|^p)^{1/p}.$$

## Naoum Samoilovitch Landkof



(1915, Kharkov, Russian Empire – 2004, Israel)

- Foundations of Modern Potential Theory  
Grundlehren der mathematischen Wissenschaften 180  
Springer 1972 (translated from Russian, Moscow 1966)