SOME APPLICATIONS OF PADÉ APPROXIMANTS TO QUANTUM FIELD THEORY MODELS*

D. MASSON

1. Introduction. We recall that a power series

(1)
$$P(z) = c_0 + c_1 z \cdots$$

is a series of Stieltjes iff D(0, n) and D(1, n) > 0 [10] where

(2)
$$D(m,n) = \det \begin{bmatrix} c_m & \cdots & c_{m+n} \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ c_{m+n} & c_{m+2n} \end{bmatrix}$$

Let P(z) be a series of Stieltjes, then it may be represented as

(3)
$$g(z) = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \frac{d\sigma(x)}{1 - zx}$$

with $d\sigma(x) \ge 0$ and $c_n = \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} x^n d\sigma(x)$. The problem of constructing $\sigma(x)$ from a knowledge of the c_n is the Hamburger moment problem while the requirement $d\sigma(x) = 0$ for x < 0 defines the Stieltjes moment problem. The moment problems are either determinate $(\sigma(x) \text{ unique})$ or indeterminate (infinitely many $\sigma(x)$'s). Note that the determinateness of the Hamburger moment problem implies the determinateness of the Stieltjes moment problem but that the converse is not true.

The [n/n + j](z) Padé approximant to P(z) is $P_n(z)/Q_{n+j}(z)$ where $P_n(z)$ is a polynomial of degree n and $Q_{n+j}(z)$ is a polynomial of degree n + j in z. If the Stieltjes moment problem is determinate then [n/n + j](z) converges as $n \to \infty$ to the unique function g(z) for z in the cut plane $z \notin [0, \infty)$ and gives one an approximate method of constructing $\sigma(x)$ via the Stieltjes inversion formula which expresses $\sigma(x)$ in terms of g(z).

In Sec. 2 we review the close connection between Padé approximants applied to series of Stieltjes and the theory of positive symmetric operators in a Hilbert space. This will allow us to (1) establish useful

Received by the Editors February 8, 1973.

^{*}Supported in part by the National Research Council of Canada.

Copyright © 1974 Rocky Mountain Mathematics Consortium