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**Raul E. Curto\*** (raul-curto@uiowa.edu), Department of Mathematics, University of Iowa,  
Iowa City, IA 52242. *A new approach to the sextic truncated moment problem.*

For a degree  $2n$  real bivariate moment sequence  $\beta \equiv \beta^{(2n)} = \{\beta_{ij}\}_{i,j \in \mathbb{Z}_+, i+j \leq 2n}$  to have a representing measure  $\mu$ , it is necessary for the associated moment matrix  $M(n)$  to be positive semidefinite, and for the algebraic variety associated to  $\beta$ ,  $\mathcal{V}_\beta \equiv \mathcal{V}(M(n))$ , to satisfy  $\text{rank } M(n) \leq \text{card } \mathcal{V}_\beta$  as well as the following consistency condition: if a polynomial  $p(x, y) \equiv \sum_{ij} a_{ij} x^i y^j$  of degree at most  $2n$  vanishes on  $\mathcal{V}_\beta$ , then the *Riesz functional*  $\Lambda(p) \equiv p(\beta) := \sum_{ij} a_{ij} \beta_{ij} = 0$ .

Let  $n = 3$ , assume that  $M(3) \geq 0$ , and that it satisfies the variety condition  $\text{rank } M(3) \leq \text{card } \mathcal{V}_\beta$  as well as consistency. Also assume that  $M(3)$  admits at least one *cubic* column relation. In joint work with Seonguk Yoo, we prove the existence of a related matrix  $\widetilde{M}(3)$  with  $\text{rank } \widetilde{M}(3) < \text{rank } M(3)$  and such that each representing measure for  $\widetilde{M}(3)$  gives rise to a representing measure for  $M(3)$ . As a concrete application, we discuss the case when  $\text{rank } M(3) = 8$  and  $\text{card } \mathcal{V}(M(3)) \leq 9$ . (Received September 15, 2013)