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Shape Factor Modeling and Simulation

by Richard Saucier

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Survivability/Lethality Analysis Directorate, ARL

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14. ABSTRACT The dimensionless shape factor, which relates the projected area of a fragment to its mass per unit density, plays a fundamental role in ballistic penetration. Explicit analytical formulas are given for the shape factor distributions of some common shapes with random orientations. It is straightforward to simulate these shape factor distributions with computer code, and we verify that the simulations match the plots from the analytical formulas. However, none of the simple common shapes provides an adequate simulation model for natural fragments. We show that natural fragment data can be fit with a lognormal distribution, which then provides a simulation model for Monte Carlo sampling. Laser scans of fragments can also be used to compute the fragment shape factor from any viewpoint; various methods of achieving a uniform spherical distribution are described. Finally, we show that it is possible to realize each fragment as either a yawed cylinder or a cuboid with a pitch, yaw, and roll. Thus, we have a procedure for generating all the input variables required to run THOR or FATEPEN with natural fragments.					
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1. Introduction

Fragment shape factor γ is defined by the equation

$$A_p = \gamma \left(\frac{m}{\rho} \right)^{2/3}, \quad (1)$$

where A_p is presented area, m is mass, and ρ is material density. The presented (or projected) area is the area that would be projected in silhouette on a screen from a distant light source, and could very well change with orientation. The mass divided by the density is the fragment's volume. We raise it to the two-thirds power so that it has the same dimensions as the presented area (square meters in SI units). This makes the shape factor γ dimensionless, which means that it is independent of any units. More importantly, the shape factor as defined in Eq. 1 is also independent of the fragment's density, so that the shape factor of a steel cube has the same value as a tungsten cube or an aluminum cube. It is also a *specific* quantity, independent of the volume of the fragment. This will prove useful later when we compare shape factors for different masses.

It is important to recognize that there are at least 3 other shape factor definitions in common use in the ballistics community:

- **Shape factor s** defined by $A_p = s m^{2/3}$, where A_p is in units of inch^2 , m is in units of grains, and s is in units of $\text{inch}^2/\text{gr}^{2/3}$.
- **Shape factor K** defined by $A_p = KW^{2/3}$, where A_p is in units of ft^2 , W is in units of pounds, and K is in units of $\text{ft}^2 \text{ gr}^{1/3}/\text{lb}$.
- **Shape factor k** defined by $A_p = (m/k)^{2/3}$, where A_p is in units of inch^2 , m is in units of grains, and k is in units of gr/inch^3 .

Notice that these are all dimensional shape factors. Using the conversion factors 1 $\text{inch} = 2.54 \text{ cm}$, 1 $\text{lb} = 7000 \text{ gr}$, and 1 $\text{g} = 15.4324 \text{ gr}$,

- the conversion between γ and s is $s = 0.025 \frac{\gamma}{\rho^{2/3}}$,
- the conversion between γ and K is $K = 0.025 \frac{7000}{144} \frac{\gamma}{\rho^{2/3}}$,

- and the conversion between γ and k is $k = 252.9 \frac{\rho}{\gamma^{3/2}}$,

where ρ is the material density in units of g/cm^3 . For example, a steel cube ($\rho = 7.83 \text{ g/cm}^3$) with a random orientation has a mean shape factor of

- $\gamma = 3/2$,
- $s = 0.0095 \text{ inch}^2/\text{gr}^{2/3}$,
- $K = 0.4623 \text{ ft}^2 \text{ gr}^{1/3}/\text{lb}$, and
- $k = 1077.8 \text{ gr/inch}^3$.

And a tungsten cube ($\rho = 17.6 \text{ g/cm}^3$) with a random orientation has a mean shape factor of

- $\gamma = 3/2$,
- $s = 0.0055 \text{ inch}^2/\text{gr}^{2/3}$,
- $K = 0.2694 \text{ ft}^2 \text{ gr}^{1/3}/\text{lb}$, and
- $k = 2422.8 \text{ gr/inch}^3$.

The dimensionless shape factor γ is much simpler and less error prone than the others since it only depends upon the *shape* and *orientation*, but is completely independent of material density.

Shape factors for some common shapes and orientations can be worked out from the definition embodied in Eq. 1 and simple geometry. Some of these are listed in Table 1.

Table 1. Shape factors of some common shapes and orientations

Shape	Orientation	Shape Factor
Sphere	All	$(3/2)^{2/3}(\pi/4)^{1/3} \approx 1.209$
Cube	Face Forward	1
	Edge Forward	$\sqrt{2} \approx 1.414$
	Corner Forward	$\sqrt{3} \approx 1.732$
	Minimum	1
	Maximum	$\sqrt{3} \approx 1.732$
	Mean	$3/2$
	Median	$7\sqrt{3}/8 \approx 1.516$
3/2/1 Cuboid	Largest Face Forward	1.817
	Intermediate Face Forward	0.909
	Smallest Face Forward	0.606
	Minimum	0.606
	Maximum	2.120
	Mean	$5.5/6^{2/3} \approx 1.666$
	Median	1.745
L/D=1 Cylinder	Face Forward	$(\pi/4)^{1/3} \approx 0.923$
	Side Forward	$(\pi/4)^{-2/3} \approx 1.175$
	Minimum	$(\pi/4)^{1/3} \approx 0.923$
	Maximum	$(\pi/4)^{-2/3} \sqrt{(\pi/4)^2 + 1} \approx 1.494$
	Mean	$(3/2)(\pi/4)^{1/3} \approx 1.384$
	Median	1.416
Regular Tetrahedron	Face/Corner Forward	1.801
	Edge Forward	2.080
	Minimum	1.471
	Maximum	2.080
	Mean	1.801
	Median	1.775
3/2/1 Ellipsoid	Minimum	0.732
	Mode	1.098
	Maximum	2.197
	Mean	1.424
	Median	1.368

Shape factor plays a fundamental role in ballistic penetration. Two simple examples will serve to illustrate this.*

- A 725-gr steel cylinder with a shape factor $\gamma = 0.72$ ($L/D = 1.4506$), when striking a 1/4-inch mild steel plate, has a limit velocity $v_L = 1162$ f/s. If

*All these results were obtained by running the FATEPEN model.^{1,2}

we reduce the shape factor by 50% ($\gamma = 0.36$ and $L/D = 4.1029$) *without changing the mass*, then the limit velocity becomes $v_L = 943$ f/s, a 19% reduction in limit velocity. On the other hand, if we keep the same shape factor of 0.72, then the mass would have to increase to 1385 gr, a 91% mass increase, in order to achieve the same reduction in limit velocity.

- A 25-g steel cylinder with a shape factor $\gamma = 0.86$ ($L/D = 1.11$), when striking a 16-mm face-hardened steel plate, has a limit velocity $v_L = 3621$ f/s. The same mass with a shape factor $\gamma = 0.43$ ($L/D = 3.14$) has a limit velocity $v_L = 3263$ f/s, a 10% reduction in limit velocity. If we leave the shape factor at 0.43, then the mass would have to be increased to 32 g to get a limit velocity of 3263 f/s, which represents a 28% increase in mass.

These examples illustrate that a decrease in shape factor is comparable to an increase in striking mass. In the first case, a 50% reduction in shape factor was comparable to a 91% increase in mass, and in the second, a 50% reduction in shape factor was comparable to a 28% increase in mass. So the shape factor can be more or less sensitive than the mass in influencing the limit velocity. But the important point is that to accurately determine penetration, we need to know the shape factor of the penetrator, much like the mass. This is further illustrated in Fig. 1.

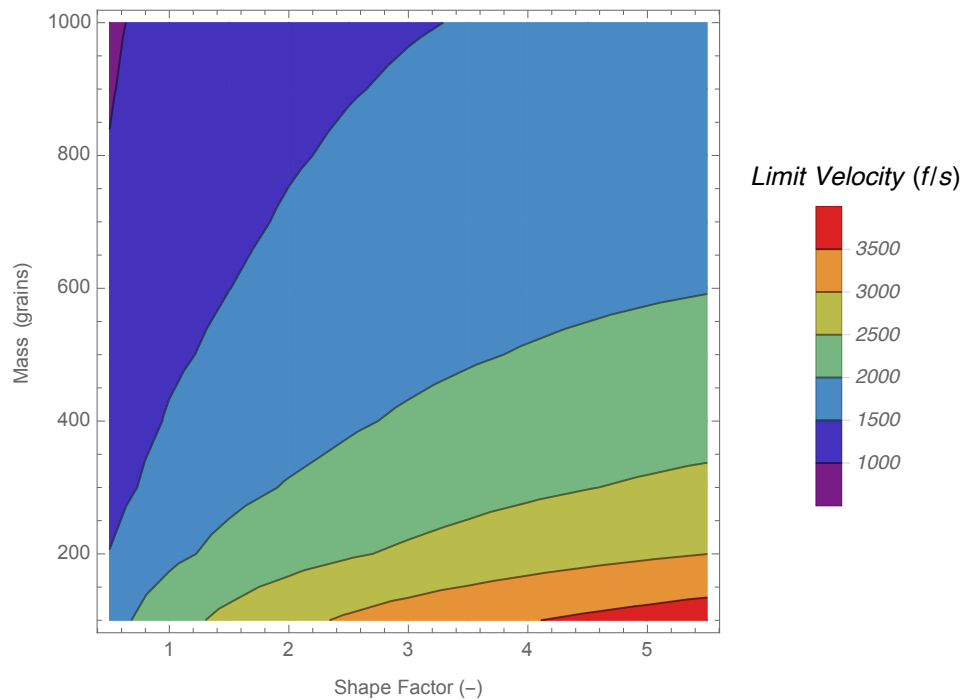


Fig. 1. Contour plot of limit velocity as a function of shape factor and mass for steel fragments impacting a 1/4-inch mild steel plate using FATEPEN

Another point worth emphasizing is that penetration depends upon the instantaneous shape factor at impact, not the average value over all orientations. Unless the fragment is tumbling while it is penetrating—which is highly unlikely in metal—we need to use the shape factor at impact. One may argue that the THOR penetration model³ makes use of the *average* presented area, but a moment’s reflection should convince us that it is a mistake to use the average value. Consider, for example, a long thin cylinder. In face-forward orientation, it is a very effective penetrator—not so in side-forward orientation. If we average over all orientations, we may find that the average value does not perforate. It would be a mistake to conclude, therefore, that there is no perforation for any orientation—an example of averaging too soon. Of course, it is not necessarily easy to measure the impact presented area. For convex solids, Cauchy’s theorem tells us that the *average presented area of a convex solid is one-fourth the total surface area*. This allows us to compute the average presented area very easily from the total surface area and may have been the reason why average shape factor was used in the THOR equations.

2. Shape Factor Distributions for 5 Convex Solids

Now let us consider the 5 shapes in Table 1 that depend upon orientation (i.e., excluding the sphere), and let us consider a random viewpoint that is uniformly distributed over a sphere. We can imagine the solid fixed at the origin while we take random viewpoints on a sphere enclosing the solid, and from each viewpoint we compute the projected area on a distant screen perpendicular to that viewpoint. Analytical formulas for the projected area probability density function (PDF) and cumulative distribution function (CDF) are known for each of these shapes and are given in Appendix A, while a variety of methods of sampling over the unit sphere are described in Appendix B. Recall that the PDF is simply the derivative of the CDF, and the CDF always ranges from 0 to 1, which means that the area under the full range of the PDF must equal 1.

Some of the formulas in Appendix A are in terms of the projected area. To convert from the projected area distribution to the shape factor distribution, we make use of Eq. 1 and the chain rule to get

$$f(\gamma) = \frac{dF}{d\gamma} = \frac{dF}{dA_p} \frac{dA_p}{d\gamma} = V^{2/3} f(A_p), \quad (2)$$

where f is the PDF, F is the CDF, and V is the fragment volume. So we see that it is

easy to convert a projected area distribution to a shape factor distribution by simple scaling.

Sample plots of the PDF and CDF for each of the 5 shapes are shown in Subsections 2.1–2.5. In each case we also show histograms that have been generated with the listed simulation code.

2.1 Cube

The shape factor distribution from a randomly oriented cube can be simulated with the code in Listing 1.

Listing 1. cubesim.cpp

```
1 // cubesim.cpp: simulate shape factor distribution of a cube
2
3 #include "Random.h"
4 #include <iostream>
5 #include <cstdlib>
6 #include <cmath>
7
8 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
9
10     int N = 1000; // default number of samples or specify on command line
11     if ( argc == 2 ) N = atoi( argv[1] ); // number of samples
12
13     rng::Random rng;
14     double x, y, z, sf;
15     for ( int i = 0; i < N; i++ ) {
16
17         rng.spherical_avoidance( x, y, z );
18         sf = fabs( x ) + fabs( y ) + fabs( z );
19         std::cout << sf << std::endl;
20     }
21
22     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
23 }
```

The simulated shape factor distribution is compared to the analytical formulas in Fig. 2.

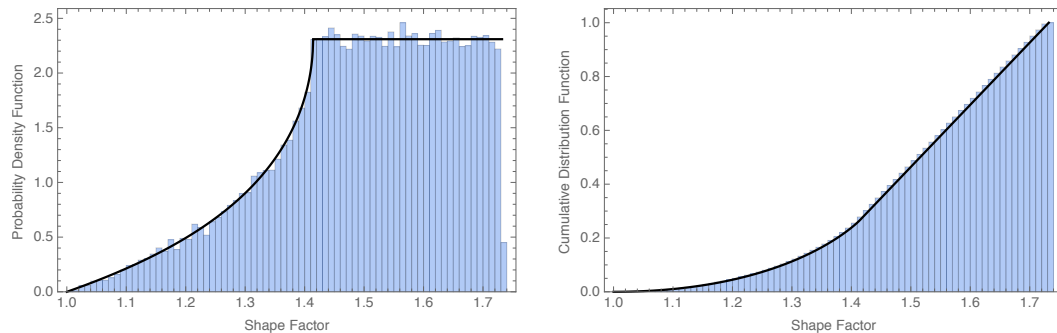


Fig. 2. Histograms of shape factor PDF and CDF for a randomly oriented cube compared to analytical formulas, Eqs. A-1 and A-2 (black curves)

2.2 Cuboid

The shape factor distribution from a randomly oriented cuboid—also known as a rectangular parallelepiped (RPP)—can be simulated with the code in Listing 2.

Listing 2. rppsim.cpp

```
1 // rppsim.cpp
2
3 #include "Random.h"
4 #include <iostream>
5 #include <cstdlib>
6 #include <cmath>
7
8 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
9
10     int N = 1000; // default number of samples
11     // default is a cube with L = W = D = 1, or specify dimensions on command line
12     double L = 1., W = 1., T = 1.;
13
14     if ( argc == 4 ) {
15         L = atof( argv[1] );
16         W = atof( argv[2] );
17         T = atof( argv[3] );
18     }
19     else if ( argc == 5 ) {
20         L = atof( argv[1] );
21         W = atof( argv[2] );
22         T = atof( argv[3] );
23         N = atoi( argv[4] ); // number of samples
24     }
25
26     double a = W * T;
27     double b = T * L;
28     double c = L * W;
29     const double V = L * W * T;
30     const double F = pow( V, -2. / 3. ); // factor to convert area to shape factor
31
32     rng::Random rng;
33     double x, y, z, ap, sf;
34
35     for ( int i = 0; i < N; i++ ) {
36
37         rng.spherical_avoidance( x, y, z );
38         ap = ( a * fabs( x ) + b * fabs( y ) + c * fabs( z ) );
39         sf = ap * F;
40         std::cout << sf << std::endl;
41     }
42     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
43 }
```

The simulated shape factor distribution is compared to the analytical formulas in Fig. 3.

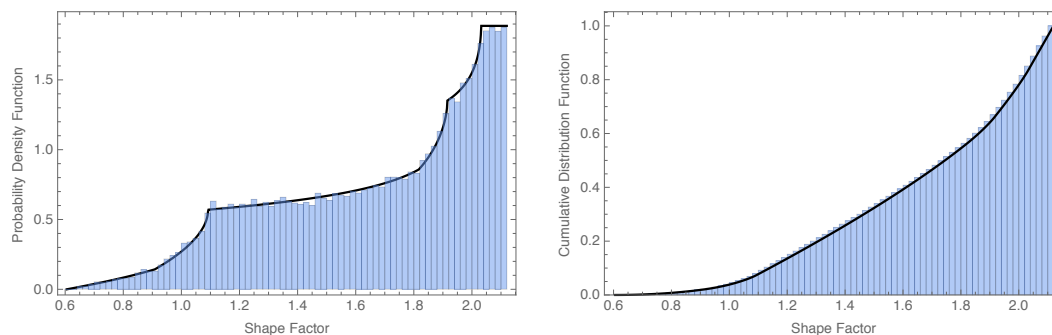


Fig. 3. Histograms of shape factor PDF and CDF for a randomly oriented $L = 3$, $W = 2$, $T = 1$ cuboid compared to analytical formulas (black curve)

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2.3 Cylinder

The shape factor distribution from a randomly oriented cylinder can be simulated with the code in Listing 3.

Listing 3. cylsim.cpp

```

1 // cylsim.cpp: simulate shape factor distribution of a right circular cylinder
2
3 #include "Random.h"
4 #include <iostream>
5 #include <cstdlib>
6 #include <cmath>
7
8 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
9
10     int    N    = 1000; // default number of samples or specify on command line
11     double L_d = 1.; // default is a L/D = 1 cylinder, or specify on command line
12
13     if ( argc == 2 )
14         N = atoi( argv[1] ); // number of samples
15     else if ( argc == 3 ) {
16         L_d = atof( argv[1] ); // L/D
17         N = atoi( argv[2] ); // number of samples
18     }
19
20     const double C = pow( M_PI_4 * L_d, -2./3. );
21     rng::Random rng;
22     double th, ph, sf;
23     for ( int i = 0; i < N; i++ ) {
24
25         rng.spherical_avoidance( th, ph );
26         sf = C * ( L_d * sin( th ) + M_PI_4 * fabs( cos( th ) ) );
27         std::cout << sf << std::endl;
28     }
29
30     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
31 }

```

The simulated shape factor distribution for an $L/D = 1$ cylinder is compared to the analytical formulas in Fig. 4.

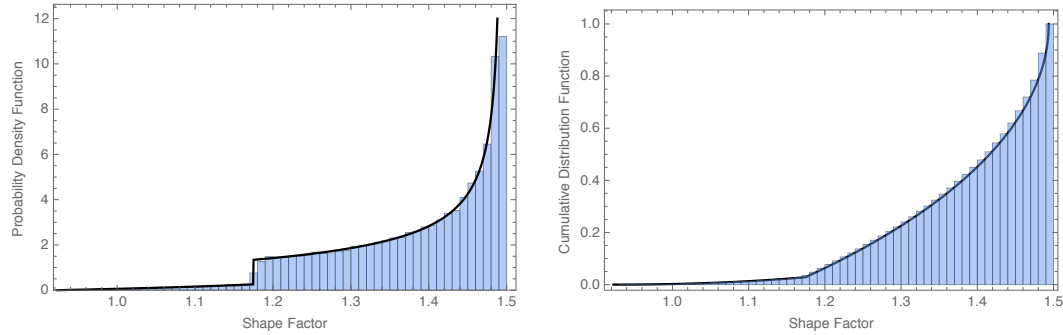


Fig. 4. Histograms of shape factor PDF and CDF for a randomly oriented $L/D = 1$ cylinder compared to analytical formulas. Notice the jump in the PDF at $\gamma = (\pi/4)^{-2/3} \approx 1.175$, as predicted (see Appendix A).

2.4 Tetrahedron

The shape factor distribution from a randomly oriented regular tetrahedron can be simulated with the code in Listing 4.

Listing 4. tetrasim.cpp

```

1 // tetrasim.cpp
2
3 #include "Vector.h"
4 #include "Random.h"
5 #include <iostream>
6 #include <cstdlib>
7 #include <cmath>
8 #include <iomanip>
9 using namespace std;
10
11 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
12
13     const double A = 1. / sqrt( 3. );
14     const va::Vector norm[4] = {
15         va::Vector( +A, -A, +A ),
16         va::Vector( +A, +A, -A ),
17         va::Vector( -A, +A, +A ),
18         va::Vector( -A, -A, -A )
19     };
20     rng::Random rng;
21     double x, y, z, dotprod, ap, sf;
22     va::Vector u;
23     const double A_FACE = sqrt( 3. ) / 2.;
24     const double VOL = 1. / 3.;
25     int N = 1000; // default number of samples or specify on command line
26     if ( argc == 2 ) N = atoi( argv[1] );
27
28     cout << std::setprecision(6) << std::fixed;
29     for ( int n = 0; n < N; n++ ) {
30
31         ap = 0.;
32         rng.spherical_avoidance( x, y, z );
33         u = va::Vector( x, y, z );
34
35         for ( int i = 0; i < 4; i++ ) if ( ( dotprod = u * norm[i] ) > 0. ) ap += A_FACE * dotprod;
36         sf = ap * pow( VOL, -2./3. );
37         std::cout << sf << std::endl;
38     }
39     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
40 }

```

The simulated shape factor distribution for a regular tetrahedron is compared to the analytical formulas in Fig. 5.

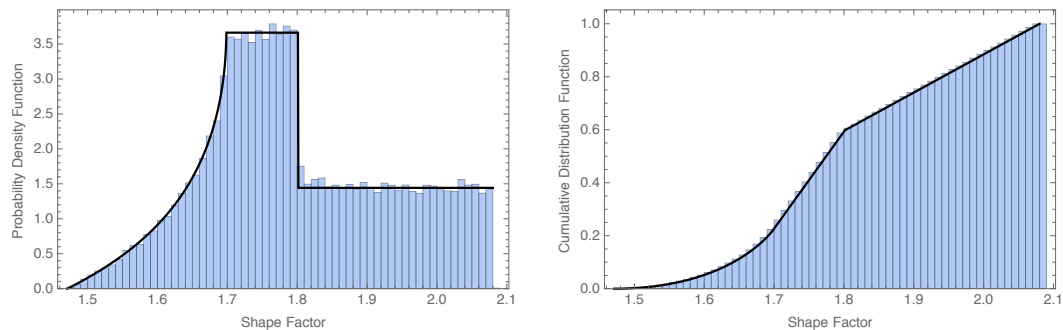


Fig. 5. Histograms of shape factor PDF and CDF for a randomly oriented regular tetrahedron compared to analytical formulas

2.5 Ellipsoid

Listing 5 is an implementation of a simulation of the shape factor for an ellipsoid.

Listing 5. ellipsoidsim.cpp

```
1 // ellipsoidsim.cpp: Simulate the shape factor a randomly oriented ellipsoid
2
3 #include "Random.h"
4 #include <iostream>
5 #include <cstdlib>
6 #include <cmath>
7
8 inline double min( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::min( std::min( a, b ), c ); }
9 inline double max( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::max( std::max( a, b ), c ); }
10 inline double mid( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::max( std::min( a, b ), std::min( std::max( a, b ), c ) ); }
11
12 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
13
14     unsigned int N = 1000;           // default number of samples or specify as 4th argument on command line
15     double a = 1., b = 1., c = 1.; // default shape is a sphere
16     if ( argc == 4 ) {               // or specify the 3 dimensions (in any order) on the commandline
17         a = atof( argv[1] );
18         b = atof( argv[2] );
19         c = atof( argv[3] );
20     }
21     else if ( argc == 5 ) { // specify number of samples as 4th argument
22         a = atof( argv[1] );
23         b = atof( argv[2] );
24         c = atof( argv[3] );
25         N = atoi( argv[4] );
26     }
27     const double A = min( a, b, c ); // minimum value
28     const double B = mid( a, b, c ); // intermediate value
29     const double C = max( a, b, c ); // maximum value
30     const double V = ( 4. / 3. ) * M_PI * A * B * C; // ellipsoid volume
31     const double F = pow( V, -2. / 3. ); // factor to convert area to shape factor
32     double x, y, z, X, Y, Z, ap, sf;
33     rng::Random rng;
34     for ( unsigned int n = 0; n < N; n++ ) {
35
36         rng.spherical_avoidance( x, y, z );
37         X = B * C * x;
38         Y = A * C * y;
39         Z = A * B * z;
40         ap = M_PI * sqrt( X * X + Y * Y + Z * Z );
41         sf = ap * F;
42         std::cout << sf << std::endl;
43     }
44     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
45 }
```

Running this code for a 3/2/1 ellipsoid gives the results shown in Fig. 6.

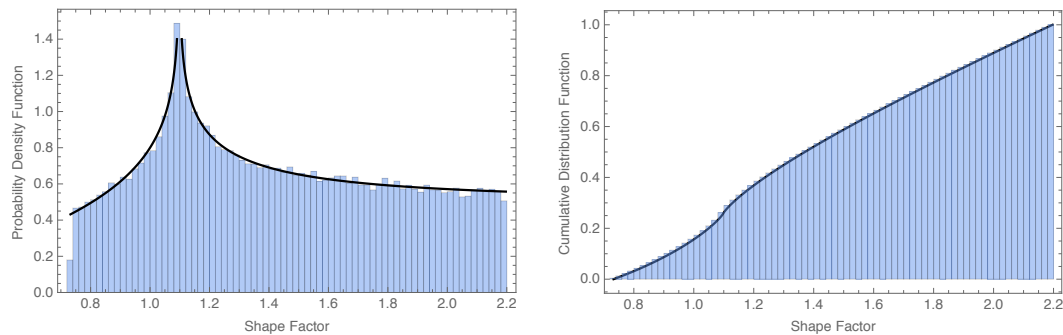


Fig. 6. Histograms of shape factor PDF and CDF for a randomly oriented ellipsoid with $a = 1$, $b = 2$, $c = 3$. The solid curve is a plot of the analytical formula.

Running the code for a 8/2/1 ellipsoid gives the results shown in Fig. 7, just to show how the side length ratios shift the plots. We will see later that the distribution from a range of ellipsoid shapes begins to resemble the shape factor distribution from natural fragments.

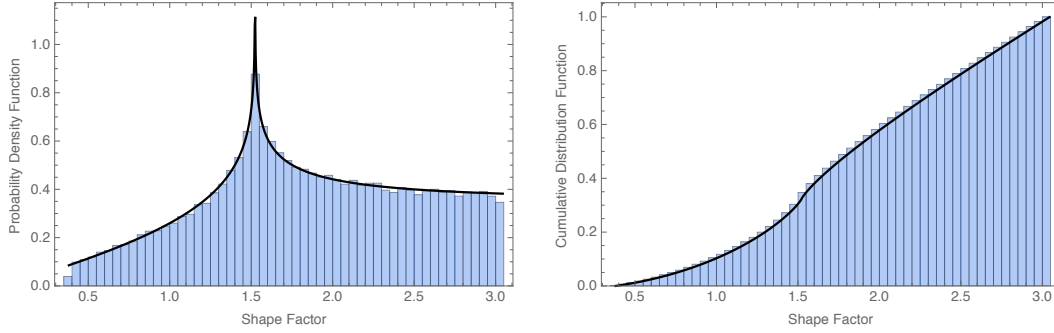


Fig. 7. Histograms of shape factor PDF and CDF for a randomly oriented ellipsoid with $a = 1$, $b = 2$, $c = 8$. The solid curve is the theoretical distribution.

Given the semi-principal axes lengths a, b, c , of the ellipsoid, where $a \leq b \leq c$, the projected areas are

$$A_{\min} = \pi ab, \quad A_m = \pi ac, \quad A_{\max} = \pi bc, \quad \text{and} \quad V = \frac{4}{3}\pi abc. \quad (3)$$

Or, if we know $A_{\min}, A_m, A_{\max}$, where $A_{\min} \leq A_m \leq A_{\max}$, then the lengths are

$$a = \sqrt{\frac{A_{\min} A_m}{\pi A_{\max}}}, \quad b = \sqrt{\frac{A_{\min} A_{\max}}{\pi A_m}}, \quad c = \sqrt{\frac{A_{\max} A_m}{\pi A_{\min}}},$$

and

$$V = \frac{4}{3} \sqrt{\frac{A_{\min} A_m A_{\max}}{\pi}}. \quad (4)$$

Therefore, if we are given the minimum, mode, and maximum shape factors, $\gamma_{\min}$, γ_m , $\gamma_{\max}$, along with the ellipsoid volume, then we can compute

$$A_{\min} = \gamma_{\min} V^{2/3}, \quad A_m = \gamma_m V^{2/3}, \quad A_{\max} = \gamma_{\max} V^{2/3}, \quad (5)$$

and use Eq. 4 to compute the ellipsoid dimensions.

Notice carefully the shape of the CDF curves for each of these shapes. We will see that none of them resembles the CDF for a randomly oriented natural fragment,

which indicates that there is no simple randomly oriented shape that will suffice as a model for a natural fragment. What we will propose instead is to first characterize the probability distribution of natural fragments and find a way to sample from this distribution.

3. Shape Factor Distributions for Natural Fragments

Natural fragments resulting from artillery rounds have been collected in many munition tests over the years. Unlike the shapes we have considered so far, these fragments tend to have highly irregular shapes, an example of which is shown in Fig. 8.

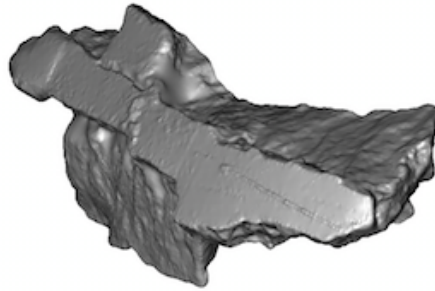


Fig. 8. Raytraced image made with BRL-CAD of SF1290, a laser-scanned natural fragment

We make the assumption that when a fragment impacts a target surface, it has a random orientation and that each orientation is equally likely. Thus, we need a way to sample over all directions in an unbiased manner. This was handled in the past by making use of Platonic solids.

3.1 Platonic Solids and Uniform Viewing from All Viewpoints

Platonic solids are 3-dimensional (3D) regular, convex polyhedra, and there are only 5, as shown in Fig. 9.



Fig. 9. The 5 Platonic solids, from left to right, are tetrahedron, cube or hexahedron, octahedron, dodecahedron, and icosahedron

Regular in this context means that each face has the same area, which is the key property for our purposes. *Convex* means that if we connect any point on the inside with any point on the outside with a straight line, then it will cross the surface only once. The number of faces and vertices of the solids are listed in Table 2.

Table 2. Properties of the 5 Platonic solids

Solid	Number of Faces	Number of Vertices
Tetrahedron	4	4
Cube	6	8
Octahedron	8	6
Dodecahedron	12	20
Icosahedron	20	12

The *dual* of a Platonic solid is one in which the positions of the face centers and the positions of vertices are switched—and is also a Platonic solid. The tetrahedron is self-dual, and the hexahedron and octahedron are duals of one another, as are the dodecahedron and the icosahedron. The vertices of a Platonic solid are equally spaced about a circumscribed sphere, so that makes them ideal candidates for unbiased projected area viewpoints.

The *Icosahedron Gage*⁴⁻⁶ is a measuring instrument that uses as viewpoints the vertices of both the icosahedron and the dodecahedron. This gives it $12 + 20 = 32$ viewpoints, but for projected areas, half of these viewpoints are redundant, so that leaves 16 viewpoints.* Table 3 lists the angles of the Icosahedron Gage.

*Notice, however, that when we do this, we no longer have equal spacing between viewpoints. When a Platonic solid and its dual are combined, some points have 3 closest neighbor vertices while other points have 5. So the rotational symmetry is spoiled. There is simply no way to distribute more than 20 points over the unit sphere and maintain equal spacing between nearest neighbors. If it were possible, then we would have a new Platonic solid, but it has been proven that there are only 5.

Table 3. Sequence of viewing angles in Icosahedron Gage

Position	Platonic Solid	Azimuthal Angle (°)	Elevation Angle (°)
1	Icosahedron	0	90
2	Dodecahedron	0	52.6226
3		72	52.6226
4		144	52.6226
5		216	52.6226
6		288	52.6226
7	Icosahedron	324	26.5651
8	Dodecahedron	36	26.5651
9		108	26.5651
10		180	26.5651
11		252	26.5651
12		288	10.8123
13	Dodecahedron	0	10.8123
14		72	10.8123
15		144	10.8123
16		216	10.8123

Projected area measurements have been performed with early versions of the Icosahedron Gage since the 1940s. The instrument that is used today is coupled to a personal computer, which greatly automates the process.^{6,7}

3.2 Natural Fragments from Artillery Rounds

Close to 900 steel fragments from artillery rounds have been collected.⁸⁻¹¹ Each fragment mass was measured along with 16 projected areas with an Icosahedron Gage, which allows us to compute 16 shape factor values for each fragment.

If we plot the mean shape factor (averaged over the 16 individual measurements) as a function of fragment mass, we find that there is essentially no correlation between fragment mass and average shape factor, as shown in Fig. 10.

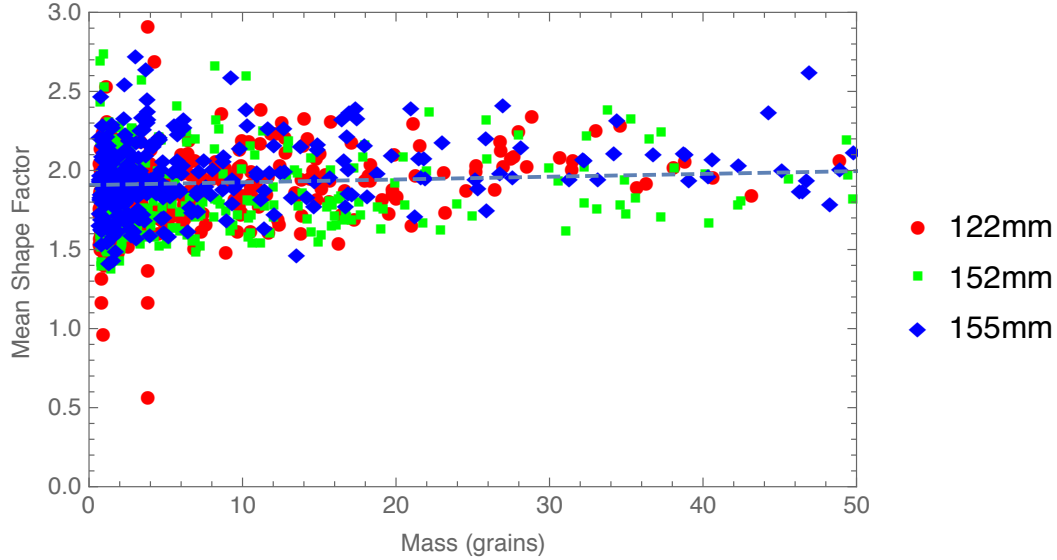


Fig. 10. Fragments from 122-mm, 152-mm, and 155-mm artillery rounds. Mean shape factors are computed from the 16 viewpoints of the Icosahedron Gage. The dashed line is a least-squares fit to the data with a slope of very nearly zero (0.0018) indicating essentially no correlation between average shape factor and mass.

Since there is essentially no correlation between shape factor and mass,* we are justified in pooling all of the shape factors, which then gives us a sample size of $898 \times 16 = 14,368$ shape factors.

So, although we started out with only 16 shape factors for each irregular fragment, we are able to exploit the fact that shape factor is independent of mass to effectively come up with over 14,000 shape factor measurements. We find that the resulting shape factor distribution closely approximates a lognormal distribution, as shown in Fig. 11.

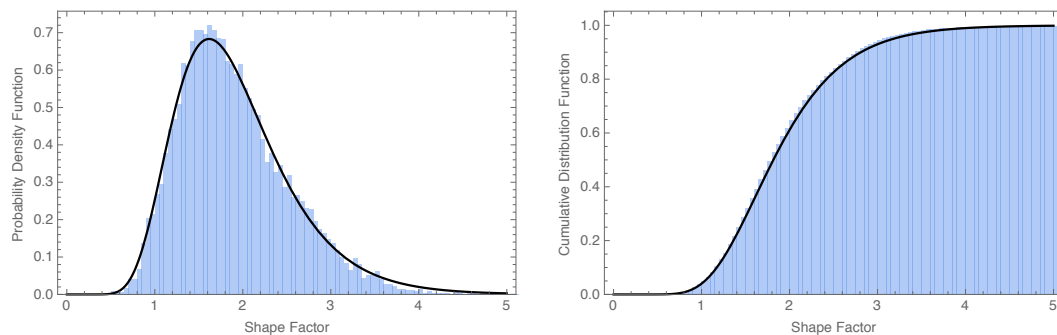


Fig. 11. Histogram of shape factor PDF and CDF for 898 artillery fragments. The black curve is the maximum likelihood fit to the lognormal distribution with $\mu = 0.597$ and $\sigma = 0.341$.

*For example, we might have expected that smaller fragments would be more compact than larger fragments, but that is not what we see in the data.

The lognormal PDF is given by

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma x} \exp \left[-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right] \quad (6)$$

and the CDF is given by

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf} \left[\frac{\ln x - \mu}{\sqrt{2} \sigma} \right] \right). \quad (7)$$

The maximum likelihood estimation* of parameters gives $\mu = 0.596514$ and $\sigma = 0.340874$. The geometric mean is $\gamma_g = e^\mu = 1.81578$ and the geometric standard deviation is $\sigma_g = e^\sigma = 1.40618$.[†] The comparison between the lognormal fit and the data is summarized in Table 4.

Table 4. Comparison of lognormal fit to artillery data

Statistic	Lognormal Fit	Artillery Data
Median	$e^\mu = 1.82$	1.81
Mean	$e^{\mu+\sigma^2/2} = 1.92$	1.93
Mode	$e^{\mu-\sigma^2} = 1.62$	1.62

Whereas a normal distribution has the property that $\mu \pm x$ are equally likely, a lognormal distribution has the property that $xe^{\mu-\sigma^2}$ and $\frac{1}{x}e^{\mu-\sigma^2}$ are equally likely, for any value $x \neq 0$. See Appendix C for some more properties of the lognormal distribution.

3.3 Natural Fragments from Spall

Spall fragments[‡] were also collected in Celotex and subsequently measured for mass and projected area with an Icosahedron Gage. In this case there were 250 spall fragments, giving $250 \times 16 = 4000$ shape factors. These data are displayed in Fig. 12 and again compared to a lognormal fit.

*Maximum likelihood estimation is easy to perform for a lognormal distribution since μ and σ are respectively the mean and the standard deviation of the logs of the data.

[†]The geometric mean and geometric standard deviation make it easy to summarize the distribution. Thus, 68% is contained in $[\gamma_g \sigma_g^{-1}, \gamma_g \sigma_g]$ and 95% in $[\gamma_g \sigma_g^{-2}, \gamma_g \sigma_g^2]$.

[‡]Spall fragments are pieces of armor that are broken off during penetrator impact.

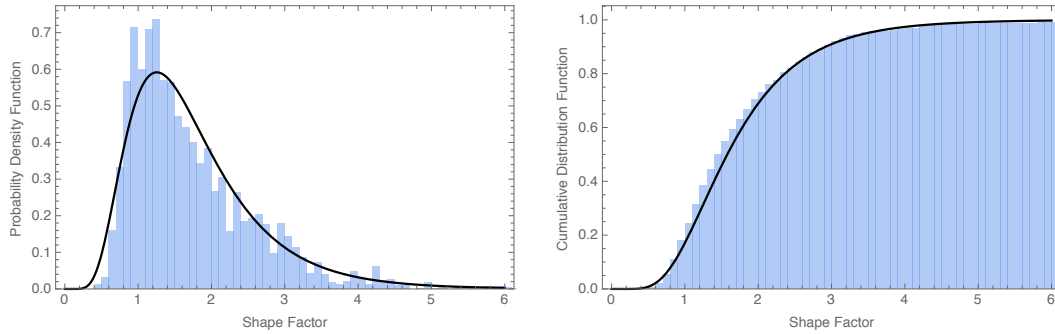


Fig. 12. Histogram of shape factor PDF and CDF for spall fragments. The black curve is a fit to the lognormal distribution.

Maximum likelihood estimation gives $\mu = 0.456095$ and $\sigma = 0.479386$. The geometric mean is $\gamma_g = e^\mu = 1.5779$ and the geometric standard deviation is $\sigma_g = e^\sigma = 1.61508$. The comparison between the lognormal fit and the data is summarized in Table 5.

Table 5. Comparison of lognormal fit to spall data

Statistic	Lognormal Fit	Spall Data
Median	$e^\mu = 1.58$	1.50
Mean	$e^{\mu+\sigma^2/2} = 1.77$	1.79
Mode	$e^{\mu-\sigma^2} = 1.25$	1.25

If we look back and compare the PDF for the simple shapes of cube, cuboid, cylinder, tetrahedron, and ellipsoid (Figs. 1–6) to the lognormal, it is clear that none of these shapes come close. Nor are we likely to find any simple shape that will reproduce the distribution of shape factors from natural fragments by merely randomizing the orientation. However, we have found that the lognormal distribution offers a lot of promise of *simulating* the shape factor. It is not necessary that we have a specific shape in order to simulate the shape factor; we only need to sample a lognormal distribution each time we need a sample of the shape factor (for example, at impact with a target).

Listing 6 is a simple program that will generate the lognormally distributed shape factors.

Listing 6. lognormal.cpp

```
1 // lognormal.cpp
2
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include <cstdlib>
5 #include <cmath>
6 #include <chrono>
7 #include <random>
8
9 int main( void ) {
10
11     // default values for the shape factor lognormal distribution from 122mm, 152mm and 155mm artillery
12     double mu = 0.590494; // these two parameters characterize the lognormal shape factor distribution
13     double sigma = 0.323433; // with mode = 1.63, median = 1.80 and mean = 1.90
14
15     unsigned int seed = std::chrono::high_resolution_clock::now().time_since_epoch().count();
16     std::mt19937 rng( seed ); // Mersenne Twister engine
17     std::lognormal_distribution<double> lognormal( mu, sigma ); // lognormal shape factor distribution
18
19     const int N = 10000;
20     for ( int i = 0; i < N; i++ ) std::cout << lognormal( rng ) << std::endl;
21
22     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
23 }
```

3.4 Shape Factor Computation from Laser-Scanned Fragments

Another technique that has been used more recently for measuring fragment shape is *laser scanning*.⁷ This will generate a facetized solid in stereolithography (STL) format.¹² An example is shown in Fig. 13.

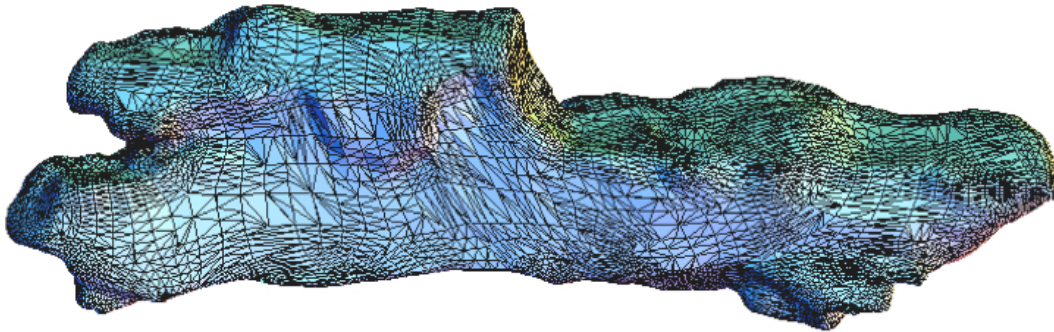


Fig. 13. Laser-scanned natural fragment showing mesh of 470,988 triangles covering the surface. It is obvious that the fragment is not convex, which means that the many hidden surfaces need to be accounted for when computing the projected area.

Listing 7 shows the format for an STL file.

Listing 7. stlformat.cpp

```
1 // stlformat.cpp
2
3 solid name
4     facet normal n1 n2 n3
5         outer loop
6             vertex v1x v1y v1z
7             vertex v2x v2y v2z
8             vertex v3x v3y v3z
9         endloop
10     endfacet
11 endsolid
```

Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

Thus, each facet is a triangle, specified by 4 vectors:

- an outward normal vector, which follows the right-hand rule* and
- one vector for each of its 3 vertices

For example, Listing 8 is the STL file (in ASCII format[†]) for a regular tetrahedron.

Listing 8. tetrahedron.stla

```
1 solid TETRAHEDRON
2 facet normal 0.57735 -0.57735 0.57735
3   outer loop
4     vertex 0 0 1
5     vertex 1 0 0
6     vertex 1 1 1
7   endloop
8 endfacet
9 facet normal 0.57735 0.57735 -0.57735
10  outer loop
11    vertex 1 1 1
12    vertex 1 0 0
13    vertex 0 1 0
14  endloop
15 endfacet
16 facet normal -0.57735 0.57735 0.57735
17  outer loop
18    vertex 1 1 1
19    vertex 0 1 0
20    vertex 0 0 1
21  endloop
22 endfacet
23 facet normal -0.57735 -0.57735 -0.57735
24  outer loop
25    vertex 0 0 1
26    vertex 0 1 0
27    vertex 1 0 0
28  endloop
29 endfacet
30 endsolid TETRAHEDRON
```

The format is somewhat redundant in that the outward normal can be computed from the 3 vertices and is therefore not strictly required. Indeed, some software applications do not specify the outward normal in the STL file, so one must be careful to check the normals. Listing 9 is a program to read in an STL file in ASCII format and print summary information.

Listing 9. stl.a.cpp

```
1 // stl.a.cpp: reads in an ASCII STL decription of a solid and computes volume and surface area
2
3 #include <iostream>
4 #include <cstdlib>
5 #include <string>
6 #include <cmath>
7 #include <iomanip>
8
```

*The right-hand rule specifies that if the fingers of the right hand curl in the direction of the corners of the triangle from its first to second to third point, then the thumb will be pointing in the direction of the outward normal.

[†]There is also a binary STL format, which we shall use in Listing 10.

```

9 inline double square( double x ) { return x * x; }
10
11 int main( void ) {
12
13     std::string solid, name, facet, normal, outer, loop, vertex, endloop, endfacet, endsolid;
14     double nx, ny, nz, v1x, v1y, v1z, v2x, v2y, v2z, v3x, v3y, v3z;
15     double ax, ay, az, bx, by, bz;
16
17     std::cin >> solid >> name;
18
19     int n_facets = 0;
20     double total_area = 0., volume = 0., mean_area;
21     while ( std::cin >> facet >> normal >> nx >> ny >> nz ) { // for each facet
22
23         std::cin >> outer >> loop;
24
25         std::cin >> vertex >> v1x >> v1y >> v1z;
26         std::cin >> vertex >> v2x >> v2y >> v2z;
27         std::cin >> vertex >> v3x >> v3y >> v3z;
28
29         std::cin >> endloop;
30         std::cin >> endfacet;
31
32         n_facets++;
33
34         // compute twice the area of the triangle specified by its three vertices
35         ax = v2x - v1x;
36         ay = v2y - v1y;
37         az = v2z - v1z;
38         bx = v3x - v1x;
39         by = v3y - v1y;
40         bz = v3z - v1z;
41         total_area += sqrt( square( ay * bz - az * by ) + square( az * bx - ax * bz ) + square( ax * by - ay * bx ) );
42
43         // compute six times the volume of the tetrahedron formed by the given triangle and the origin
44         // note that this is an oriented volume, which could be positive or negative,
45         // and the origin is completely arbitrary so might as well use Vector(0,0,0)
46         volume += v1x * ( v2y * v3z - v2z * v3y ) + v1y * ( v2z * v3x - v2x * v3z ) + v1z * ( v2x * v3y - v2y * v3x );
47     }
48     total_area /= 2.;
49     volume /= 6.;
50     mean_area = total_area / 4.; // from Cauchy's theorem
51
52     std::cout << std::setprecision(6) << std::fixed;
53     std::cout << "Solid name      = " << name << std::endl;
54     std::cout << "Number of facets = " << n_facets << std::endl;
55     std::cout << "Total surface area = " << total_area << std::endl;
56     std::cout << "Volume          = " << volume << std::endl;
57     std::cout << "Mean surface area = " << total_area / 4. << " (from Cauchy's theorem)" << std::endl;
58     std::cout << "Mean shape factor = " << mean_area * pow( volume, -2./3. ) << " (from Cauchy's theorem)" << std::endl;
59
60     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
61 }

```

3.4.1 Area Contribution from Each Facet

Implicit in the specification of the triangle is an *origin* for its vector vertices, but the origin itself is not explicitly specified in the STL file. It is here that the *orientation* of the triangle comes to our aid, since it turns out that the origin is not necessary to compute the triangle's area.

Using the fact that the area of a triangle is one-half the area of the corresponding parallelogram, the area of the triangle can be written as

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot [(\mathbf{v}_2 - \mathbf{v}_1) \times (\mathbf{v}_3 - \mathbf{v}_1)], \quad (8)$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ is the outward normal, and $\mathbf{v}_1$, $\mathbf{v}_2$, and $\mathbf{v}_3$ are the 3 vector vertices. Expand-

ing this out provides another formula:

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{n}} \cdot [\mathbf{v}_1 \times \mathbf{v}_2 + \mathbf{v}_2 \times \mathbf{v}_3 + \mathbf{v}_3 \times \mathbf{v}_1]. \quad (9)$$

Interpreting this geometrically, it is easy to see that each of the 3 terms is positive if the projection of the origin lies inside the triangle, but that one of these terms will be negative if the projected origin lies outside the triangle. The net result is always the triangle area. Equation 8 is slightly more efficient in computer code than Eq. 9 since it requires 2 vector subtractions and only 1 vector cross product, as opposed to 2 additions and 3 cross products. Since the vector cross product in Eq. 8 points in the same direction as the outward normal, the area of the triangle can also be computed from the *magnitude* of the cross product:

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \|(\mathbf{v}_2 - \mathbf{v}_1) \times (\mathbf{v}_3 - \mathbf{v}_1)\|. \quad (10)$$

We have implemented 3D vectors and their associated algebra directly into software as a C++ class, so that Eqs. 8 and 10 can be coded directly. Alternatively, these formulas can be reduced to scalar formulas by using

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} &= \det \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{i}} & \hat{\mathbf{j}} & \hat{\mathbf{k}} \\ a_x & a_y & a_z \\ b_x & b_y & b_z \end{bmatrix} \\ &= \hat{\mathbf{i}}(a_y b_z - a_z b_y) + \hat{\mathbf{j}}(a_z b_x - a_x b_z) + \hat{\mathbf{k}}(a_x b_y - a_y b_x), \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

where $\hat{\mathbf{i}}$, $\hat{\mathbf{j}}$, and $\hat{\mathbf{k}}$ are 3 unit vectors along the x , y , and z axes, respectively. Therefore, the area can be written as

$$A = \frac{1}{2} \sqrt{(a_y b_z - a_z b_y)^2 + (a_z b_x - a_x b_z)^2 + (a_x b_y - a_y b_x)^2}, \quad (12)$$

or, since $\hat{\mathbf{n}}$ is a unit vector normal to the facet,

$$A = \frac{1}{2} [n_x(a_y b_z - a_z b_y) + n_y(a_z b_x - a_x b_z) + n_z(a_x b_y - a_y b_x)]. \quad (13)$$

3.4.2 Volume Contribution from Each Facet

Each facet, combined with another fixed point $\mathbf{d}$, makes up a tetrahedron. Let $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{v}_1 - \mathbf{d}$, $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{v}_2 - \mathbf{d}$, and $\mathbf{c} = \mathbf{v}_3 - \mathbf{d}$, then the volume of this tetrahedron is the

scalar or triple product

$$V = \frac{1}{6} \mathbf{a} \cdot (\mathbf{b} \times \mathbf{c}). \quad (14)$$

The fixed point $\mathbf{d}$ is arbitrary, so we might as well choose the origin, in which case the formula for the volume is simply

$$V = \frac{1}{6} \mathbf{v}_1 \cdot (\mathbf{v}_2 \times \mathbf{v}_3). \quad (15)$$

This triple product is symmetric in all 3 vertices, but the order is important since this is an *oriented volume*. Once again, we can code this directly in the C++ Vector Class, or we can make use of the following formula:

$$\mathbf{a} \times \mathbf{b} = \det \begin{bmatrix} \hat{\mathbf{i}} & \hat{\mathbf{j}} & \hat{\mathbf{k}} \\ a_x & a_y & a_z \\ b_x & b_y & b_z \end{bmatrix}, \quad (16)$$

so that

$$V = \frac{1}{6} [v_{1x}(v_{2y}v_{3z} - v_{2z}v_{3y}) + v_{1y}(v_{2z}v_{3x} - v_{2x}v_{3z}) + v_{1z}(v_{2x}v_{3y} - v_{2y}v_{3x})]. \quad (17)$$

We purposely did not take the absolute value of this expression because these are *oriented* volumes. We do not really know the origin for the laser scanner. It could be inside or outside the fragment. If it is outside the fragment, then some of the facets will contribute a negative volume to the total volume. So, although the individual volume contributions depend upon the choice of the vector $\mathbf{d}$, the total volume does not.

3.4.3 Total Surface Area and Total Volume

By adding up individual contributions to the surface area and volume from Eqs. 8 and 15, we can compute the total surface area and total volume of the fragment. These formulas hold whether or not the solid is convex.

3.4.4 Projected Area

Let the viewing direction be specified by a unit vector $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$. Then the area of the triangle projected on a plane that is perpendicular to $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$ is given by

$$A_p = \frac{1}{2} \hat{\mathbf{u}} \cdot [(\mathbf{v}_2 - \mathbf{v}_1) \times (\mathbf{v}_3 - \mathbf{v}_1)] \quad \text{if and only if} \quad \hat{\mathbf{u}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} > 0. \quad (18)$$

The requirement that $\hat{\mathbf{u}} \cdot \hat{\mathbf{n}} > 0$ is necessary so that we only compute the projected area of *one* side of the triangle, not both sides. If the solid is convex, then the total projected area from the given viewpoint $\hat{\mathbf{u}}$ is the simple summation from all the triangles. These fragments are not convex, however, which means that they have hidden surfaces. Not taking this into account will overestimate the presented area of the fragment. To properly account for hidden surfaces, we can use raytracing from BRL-CAD to compute the presented area from a given direction. It is useful to know how much the fragments deviate from convexity, so we also compute the presented area by simply adding the contributions according to Eq. 18.

The computation of the total projected area obtained by summing the contributions from each triangle, using Eq. 18, is fast enough that we have used 10,000 points over the unit sphere.* But we also know that these fragments are not convex, so we have also used 1000 points distributed over the unit sphere to raytrace a projected area that fully accounts for hidden surfaces. Once the projected area has been computed, the (dimensionless) shape factor, γ , is then computed from $\gamma = A_p V^{-2/3}$.

As an approximation to the true projected area, we can compute the projected area of the STL solid without accounting for hidden surfaces and the fact that the solid is not convex, as in Listing 10.

Listing 10. stl.b.cpp

```

1 // stl.b.cpp: reads in a binary STL description of a solid and computes volume and surface area
2
3 #include "Vector.h"
4 #include "Random.h"
5 #include <fstream>
6 #include <iostream>
7 #include <cstdlib>
8 #include <cmath>
9 #include <iomanip>
10 #include <vector>
11
12 inline double square( double x ) { return x * x; }
13
14 struct facet {
15
16     float nx, ny, nz;
17     float v1x, v1y, v1z;
18     float v2x, v2y, v2z;
19     float v3x, v3y, v3z;
20     unsigned int byte_count;
21 };
22
23 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
24
25     char * file;
26     if ( argc == 2 ) {
27         file = argv[1];
28     }
29     else {
30         std::cerr << "Usage: " << argv[0] << " stl_binary_inputfile > outputfile" << std::endl;
31         exit( 1 );
32     }
33     char header[100] = "";

```

*See Appendix B for sampling strategies.

```

34     unsigned long int n_facets = 0;
35     facet tri;
36
37     std::ifstream fin;
38     fin.open( file, std::ios::in | std::ios::binary );
39     if ( fin.bad() ) {
40         std::cerr << "Error in opening file " << file << std::endl;
41         exit( 1 );
42     }
43     std::cerr << "Contents of " << file << ": " << std::endl;
44     fin.read( ( char * ) header, 80 );
45     fin.read( ( char * ) &n_facets, 4 );
46     std::cerr << "Header = " << header << std::endl;
47     std::cerr << "There are " << n_facets << " triangles in " << file << ": " << std::endl;
48
49     double nx, ny, nz, v1x, v1y, v1z, v2x, v2y, v2z, v3x, v3y, v3z;
50     double ax, ay, az, bx, by, bz;
51
52     double total_area = 0., volume = 0., mean_area, a_facet;
53     std::vector< va::Vector > norm;
54     std::vector< double > area;
55     for ( unsigned int i = 0; i < n_facets; i++ ) { // for each facet
56
57         fin.read( ( char * ) &tri, 50 );
58
59         // note that we don't need the normal vector to compute the area or volume
60         nx = double( tri.nx );
61         ny = double( tri.ny );
62         nz = double( tri.nz );
63
64         norm.push_back( va::Vector( nx, ny, nz ) );
65
66         v1x = double( tri.v1x );
67         v1y = double( tri.v1y );
68         v1z = double( tri.v1z );
69         v2x = double( tri.v2x );
70         v2y = double( tri.v2y );
71         v2z = double( tri.v2z );
72         v3x = double( tri.v3x );
73         v3y = double( tri.v3y );
74         v3z = double( tri.v3z );
75
76         // compute the area of the triangle specified by its three vertices
77         ax = v2x - v1x;
78         ay = v2y - v1y;
79         az = v2z - v1z;
80         bx = v3x - v1x;
81         by = v3y - v1y;
82         bz = v3z - v1z;
83         a_facet = 0.5 * sqrt( square( ay * bz - az * by ) + square( az * bx - ax * bz ) + square( ax * by - ay * bx ) );
84         total_area += a_facet;
85
86         area.push_back( a_facet );
87
88         // compute six times the volume of the tetrahedron formed by the given triangle and the origin
89         // note that this is an oriented volume, which could be positive or negative,
90         // and the origin is completely arbitrary so might as well use Vector(0,0,0)
91         volume += v1x * ( v2y * v3z - v2z * v3y ) + v1y * ( v2z * v3x - v2x * v3z ) + v1z * ( v2x * v3y - v2y * v3x );
92     }
93     volume /= 6.;
94     mean_area = total_area / 4.;
95     const double F = pow( volume, -2./3. );
96
97     std::clog << std::setprecision(6) << std::fixed;
98     std::clog << "Number of facets = " << n_facets << std::endl;
99     std::clog << "Total surface area = " << total_area << std::endl;
100    std::clog << "Volume = " << volume << std::endl;
101    std::clog << "Mean surface area = " << total_area / 4. << " (from Cauchy's theorem)" << std::endl;
102    std::clog << "Mean shape factor = " << mean_area * F << " (from Cauchy's theorem)" << std::endl;
103
104    const int N = 100000;
105    rng::Random rng;
106    double dotprod, sf, ap, x, y, z;
107    va::Vector u;
108    std::cout << std::setprecision(6) << std::fixed;
109    for ( int n = 0; n < N; n++ ) {
110
111        ap = 0.;
112        rng.spherical_avoidance( x, y, z );
113        u = va::Vector( x, y, z );
114
115        for ( unsigned int i = 0; i < n_facets; i++ ) if ( ( dotprod = u * norm[i] ) > 0 ) ap += area[i] * dotprod;
116        sf = ap * F;
117        std::cout << sf << std::endl;
118    }

```

```

119
120     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
121 }

```

When this is applied to the fragment (SF1290) shown in Fig. 8, we get the histogram of shape factors displayed in Fig. 14.

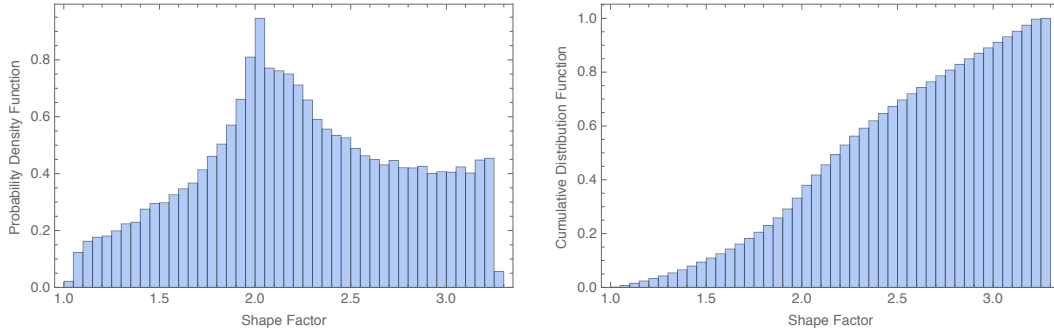


Fig. 14. Shape factor histograms generated by STL description of SF1290. No account has been taken for hidden surfaces so this is an overestimate of the shape factor.

Notice the similarity to the shape factor distribution from an ellipsoid (cf. Figs. 6 and 7). Now notice what happens when we sample from all the 15 fragments that were scanned⁷ (Fig. 15).

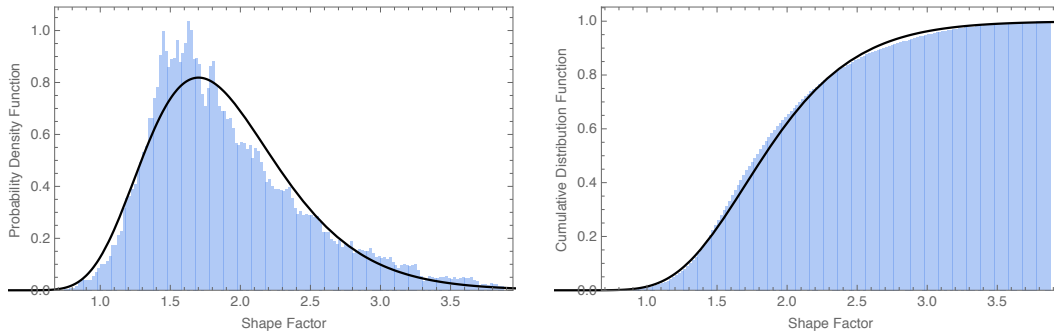


Fig. 15. Shape factor histograms from 15 fragments in STL form. The routine used to generate this, `stl.b.cpp`, does not account for hidden surfaces, and since the fragments are not convex, this is an overestimate. The black curve is the lognormal fit. The maximum likelihood estimate is $\mu = 0.607588$ and $\sigma = 0.275688$, which gives a median $e^\mu = 1.71746$, mean $e^{\mu+\sigma^2/2} = 1.7949$, and mode $e^{\mu-\sigma^2} = 1.57247$.

Once again we see that the resulting distribution begins to approximate a lognormal distribution.

The next step is to take account of the hidden surfaces to come up with a more accurate computation of the true projected area. The computer code in Listing 11 was used for this purpose, and we get the results shown in Fig. 16.

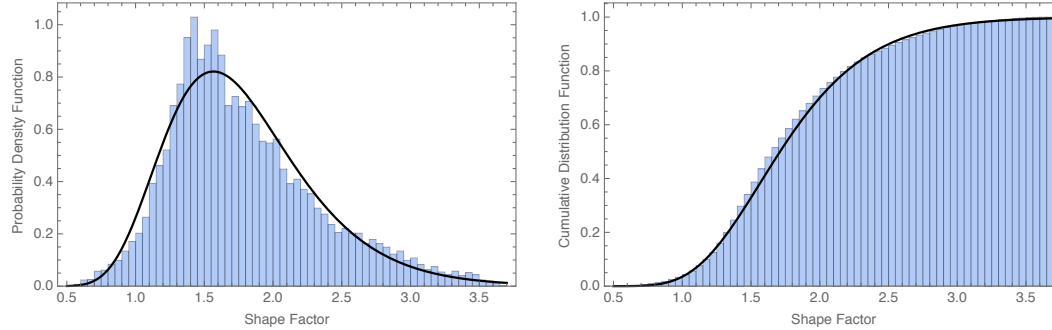


Fig. 16. Shape factor histograms for 15 fragments using stlarea. This computer code computes the projected area and *does* account for hidden surfaces, much like the Icosahedron Gage. The black curve is the lognormal fit. The maximum likelihood estimate is $\mu = 0.537$ and $\sigma = 0.297$, which gives a median $e^\mu = 1.71$, mean $e^{\mu+\sigma^2/2} = 1.79$, and mode $e^{\mu-\sigma^2} = 1.57$.

Listing 11. stlarea.cpp

```

1 // stlarea.cpp: Read an STL binary file and compute presented areas and shape factors
2 // using viewpoints from the spiral distribution over the unit sphere.
3 // This implementation computes a true presented area, similar to raytracing,
4 // by imposing a grid over the bounding box from each viewpoint and then
5 // checking if the grid point lies in at least one of the projected facets.
6 // Note: Little endian is assumed in STL so may need to convert when porting to another computer.
7 // R. Saucier, September 2011
8
9 #include "Rotation.h"
10 #include <fstream>
11 #include <iostream>
12 #include <iomanip>
13 #include <cstdlib>
14 #include <string>
15 #include <vector>
16 //using namespace std;
17
18 struct facet {
19
20     float nx, ny, nz;
21     float v1x, v1y, v1z;
22     float v2x, v2y, v2z;
23     float v3x, v3y, v3z;
24     unsigned int byte_count;
25 };
26
27 va::Vector normal( const va::Vector& v1, const va::Vector& v2, const va::Vector& v3 ) { // returns outward normal of
28     oriented triangle
29
30     return unit( ( v2 - v1 ) ^ ( v3 - v1 ) );
31 }
32
33 // returns twice the area of the triangle specified by its three vertices
34 double area2( const va::Vector& v1, const va::Vector& v2, const va::Vector& v3 ) { // one way to compute the area
35
36     return mag( ( v2 - v1 ) ^ ( v3 - v1 ) );
37 }
38
39 // returns twice the area of the triangle specified by its normal vector and its three vertices
40 double area2( const va::Vector& n, const va::Vector& v1, const va::Vector& v2, const va::Vector& v3 ) { // alternative
41     way to compute the area
42
43     return n * ( ( v2 - v1 ) ^ ( v3 - v1 ) );
44 }

```

Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

```

43
44 // returns six times the volume of the tetrahedron formed by the given triangle and the origin
45 // note that this is an oriented volume, which could be positive or negative,
46 // and the origin is completely arbitrary so might as well use Vector(0,0,0)
47 double volume6( const va::Vector& v1, const va::Vector& v2, const va::Vector& v3 ) { // returns the oriented volume
48
49     return v1 * ( v2 ^ v3 );
50 }
51
52 inline double min( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::min( std::min( a, b ), c ); }
53
54 inline double max( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::max( std::max( a, b ), c ); }
55
56 // fast point-in-triangle test (Ref: www.blackpawn.com/texts/pointinpoly/default.html)
57 bool inside( const va::Vector& p, const va::Vector& a, const va::Vector& b, const va::Vector& c ) {
58
59     // compute vectors
60     va::Vector v0 = c - a;
61     va::Vector v1 = b - a;
62     va::Vector v2 = p - a;
63
64     // compute dot products
65     double dot00 = v0 * v0;
66     double dot01 = v0 * v1;
67     double dot02 = v0 * v2;
68     double dot11 = v1 * v1;
69     double dot12 = v1 * v2;
70
71     // Compute barycentric coordinates
72     double w = 1. / ( dot00 * dot11 - dot01 * dot01 );
73     double u = ( dot11 * dot02 - dot01 * dot12 ) * w;
74     double v = ( dot00 * dot12 - dot01 * dot02 ) * w;
75
76     // Check if point is in triangle
77     return ( u > 0 ) && ( v > 0 ) && ( u + v < 1 );
78 }
79
80 double area_projected( const std::vector<va::Vector>& facet_v1, const std::vector<va::Vector>& facet_v2, const std::vector
    <va::Vector>& facet_v3, const va::Vector& u, int n_dim ) {
81
82     const int N_FACETS = facet_v1.size();
83     static const va::Vector I( 1., 0., 0. ), J( 0., 1., 0. ), K( 0., 0., 1. );
84     va::Vector v1, v2, v3;
85     double x_min = 1.e36, x_max = -1.e36, y_min = 1.e36, y_max = -1.e36;
86     double v1x, v2x, v3x, v1y, v2y, v3y;
87     double xmin, xmax, ymin, ymax;
88
89     va::Vector i = I;
90     va::Vector j = J;
91     va::Rotation R;
92     va::Vector minus_u = -1. * u;
93     if ( u != K && minus_u != K ) {
94         R = va::Rotation( K, u );
95         i = R * I;
96         j = R * J;
97     }
98
99     // compute the bounding box in the plane perpendicular to u
100     for ( int n = 0; n < N_FACETS; n++ ) {
101
102         v1 = facet_v1[n];
103         v2 = facet_v2[n];
104         v3 = facet_v3[n];
105         v1x = v1 * i;
106         v2x = v2 * i;
107         v3x = v3 * i;
108         v1y = v1 * j;
109         v2y = v2 * j;
110         v3y = v3 * j;
111         xmin = min( v1x, v2x, v3x );
112         xmax = max( v1x, v2x, v3x );
113         ymin = min( v1y, v2y, v3y );
114         ymax = max( v1y, v2y, v3y );
115         x_min = xmin < x_min ? xmin : x_min;
116         x_max = xmax > x_max ? xmax : x_max;
117         y_min = ymin < y_min ? ymin : y_min;
118         y_max = ymax > y_max ? ymax : y_max;
119     }
120     const double DELTA_X = ( x_max - x_min ) / double(n_dim);
121     const double DELTA_Y = ( y_max - y_min ) / double(n_dim);
122     const double DELTA_A = DELTA_X * DELTA_Y;
123
124     va::Vector p, py;
125     double ap = 0.;
126     for ( double y = y_min; y <= y_max; y += DELTA_X ) {

```

```

127
128     py = y * j;
129     for ( double x = x_min; x <= x_max; x += DELTA_Y ) {
130
131         p = x * i + py;
132         for ( register int n = 0; n < N_FACETS; n++ ) {
133             v1 = facet_v1[n];
134             v2 = facet_v2[n];
135             v3 = facet_v3[n];
136             v1 = ( v1 * i ) * i + ( v1 * j ) * j;
137             v2 = ( v2 * i ) * i + ( v2 * j ) * j;
138             v3 = ( v3 * i ) * i + ( v3 * j ) * j;
139             if ( inside( p, v1, v2, v3 ) ) {
140                 ap += DELTA_A;
141                 break;
142             }
143         }
144     }
145 }
146 return ap;
147 }
148
149 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
150
151     char * file;
152     int n_dim = 32; // grid size is n_dim x n_dim, with 32 x 32 = 1024 as default
153     if ( argc == 3 ) {
154         file = argv[1];
155         n_dim = atoi( argv[2] );
156     }
157     else if ( argc == 2 )
158         file = argv[1];
159     else {
160         std::cerr << "Usage: " << argv[0] << " stl_binary_inputfile" << std::endl;
161         exit( 1 );
162     }
163     char header[100] = "";
164     unsigned long int number = 0;
165     facet tri;
166
167     std::ifstream fin;
168     fin.open( file, std::ios::in | std::ios::binary );
169     if ( fin.bad() ) {
170         std::cerr << "Error in opening file " << file << std::endl;
171         exit( 1 );
172     }
173     std::cerr << "Contents of " << file << ": " << std::endl;
174     fin.read( (char *) header, 80 );
175     fin.read( (char *) &number, 4 );
176     std::clog << "Header = " << header << std::endl;
177     std::clog << "There are " << number << " triangles in " << file << ": " << std::endl;
178
179     va::Vector n, v1, v2, v3;
180     double surface_area = 0., vol6 = 0.;
181     std::vector<va::Vector> facet_v1(number), facet_v2(number), facet_v3(number);
182
183     for ( unsigned int i = 0; i < number; i++ ) {
184
185         fin.read( (char *) &tri, 50 );
186
187         n = va::Vector( (double)tri.nx, (double)tri.ny, (double)tri.nz );
188         v1 = va::Vector( (double)tri.v1x, (double)tri.v1y, (double)tri.v1z );
189         v2 = va::Vector( (double)tri.v2x, (double)tri.v2y, (double)tri.v2z );
190         v3 = va::Vector( (double)tri.v3x, (double)tri.v3y, (double)tri.v3z );
191
192         surface_area += area2( n, v1, v2, v3 );
193         vol6 += volume6( v1, v2, v3 );
194
195         facet_v1[i] = v1;
196         facet_v2[i] = v2;
197         facet_v3[i] = v3;
198     }
199     fin.close();
200     surface_area /= 2.;
201
202     const double VOLUME = fabs( vol6 / 6. );
203     const double F = pow( VOLUME, -2. / 3. );
204
205     std::cerr << "Volume = " << VOLUME << std::endl;
206     std::cerr << "Number of facets = " << number << std::endl;
207     std::cerr << "Total surface area = " << surface_area << std::endl;
208     std::cerr << "Mean shape factor (using Cauchy's theorem for convex solid) = " << 0.25 * surface_area * F << std::endl;
209
210     const int N = 10;
211     double x, y, z, sf;

```

```

212     rng::Random rng;
213     for ( int i = 0; i < N; i++ ) {
214
215         rng.spherical_avoidance( x, y, z );
216         sf = F * area_projected( facet_v1, facet_v2, facet_v3, va::Vector( x, y, z ), n_dim );
217         std::cout << sf << std::endl;
218     }
219
220     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
221 }

```

Thus, to characterize the shape factor distribution of natural fragments, we can either measure many fragments using the Icosahedron Gage, or we can laser scan, possibly a fewer number. Two parameters are sufficient to characterize the lognormal distribution, in either case. Then it is a simple matter to *simulate* the shape factor using Listing 6.

4. Shape Factor Modeling

Finally, let us consider *modeling* the shape factor. Some penetration models, such as THOR,³ only require the presented area of the fragment at impact, in which case the shape factor is sufficient. But other penetration models, such as FATEPEN,^{1,2} require a specific shape and orientation. This requires a realization of the shape factor, and the simplest shapes in FATEPEN that allow for this are a cylinder and a cuboid.

The procedure we use applies to both shapes. We start with the cylinder and cuboid in standard orientation, which is with the axis of symmetry along the z -axis in the case of the cylinder, and with the length along the z -axis, width along the x -axis, and thickness along the y -axis in the case of the cuboid. The target is taken to be in the x - y plane. Then we are given the mass m , material density ρ , and shape factor γ .

For cylinders, we randomly select a candidate L/D , which then allows us to compute a minimum and a maximum shape factor for this cylinder, depending upon its orientation. If the drawn shape factor falls within this range, $\gamma_{\min} \leq \gamma \leq \gamma_{\max}$, then we know there is some orientation that will work; in the next section we work out the formula for the appropriate yaw angle. We then have enough information to also compute the diameter and the length of the cylinder.

For cuboids, it is the same idea except that we need to select candidate W/L and T/W ratios, which then provide enough information to compute a minimum and a maximum shape factor, depending upon orientation. We then compute the 3D rotation that will realize this shape factor. Finally, we factor this rotation into a

pitch-yaw-roll rotation sequence,¹³ as these are required for FATEPEN.

4.1 Cylinder

The formula for the dimensionless shape factor of a right-circular cylinder (RCC) as a function of the effective yaw angle* ϕ_y is¹⁴

$$\gamma(\phi_y) = a \sin \phi_y + b \cos \phi_y, \quad (19)$$

where

$$a \equiv \left(\frac{\pi L}{4 D} \right)^{-2/3} \frac{L}{D} \quad \text{and} \quad b \equiv \left(\frac{\pi L}{4 D} \right)^{-2/3} \frac{\pi}{4}. \quad (20)$$

The yaw angle that gives the maximum shape factor is obtained by setting the derivative with respect to ϕ_y equal to zero and solving for ϕ_y :

$$\left(\frac{d\gamma}{d\phi_y} \right)_{\gamma=\gamma_{\max}} = a \cos \phi_y - b \sin \phi_y = 0, \quad (21)$$

which gives

$$\phi_{y \gamma=\gamma_{\max}} = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{a}{b} \right). \quad (22)$$

To simplify the notation, let $\hat{\phi}_y$ denote this angle: $\hat{\phi}_y \equiv \phi_{y \gamma=\gamma_{\max}}$. Then,

$$\gamma_{\max} = \gamma(\hat{\phi}_y) = a \frac{a}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} + b \frac{b}{\sqrt{a^2 + b^2}} = \sqrt{a^2 + b^2}, \quad (23)$$

and we can write

$$a = \gamma_{\max} \sin \hat{\phi}_y \quad \text{and} \quad b = \gamma_{\max} \cos \hat{\phi}_y, \quad (24)$$

so that Eq. 19 can be written as

$$\gamma(\phi_y) = \begin{cases} \gamma_{\max} \cos(\phi_y - \hat{\phi}_y) & \text{if } \phi_y > \hat{\phi}_y \\ \gamma_{\max} \cos(\hat{\phi}_y - \phi_y) & \text{if } \phi_y < \hat{\phi}_y \end{cases} \quad (25)$$

*Note that *effective* yaw includes pitch and is defined by $\phi_{y,\text{eff}} = \cos^{-1}(\cos \phi_p \cos \phi_y)$, where ϕ_p is pitch and ϕ_y is *actual* yaw, but we use ϕ_y rather than $\phi_{y,\text{eff}}$ just to simplify the notation.

where $\hat{\phi}_y = \cos^{-1}(b/\gamma_{\max})$. Solving for the yaw angle, we get

$$\phi_y = \begin{cases} \cos^{-1}(b/\gamma_{\max}) + \cos^{-1}(\gamma/\gamma_{\max}) & \text{if } \gamma < b \\ \cos^{-1}(b/\gamma_{\max}) - \cos^{-1}(\gamma/\gamma_{\max}) & \text{if } \gamma \geq b \end{cases}, \quad (26)$$

which shows that we can easily get the orientation (yaw angle) of an RCC from the shape factor at impact.

The minimum shape factor is

$$\gamma_{\min} = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \frac{L}{D}\right)^{-2/3} \frac{L}{D} & \text{if } \frac{L}{D} < \frac{\pi}{4} \quad (\text{disk-like}) \\ \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \frac{L}{D}\right)^{-2/3} \frac{\pi}{4} & \text{if } \frac{L}{D} > \frac{\pi}{4} \quad (\text{rod-like}) \end{cases} \quad (27)$$

Solving this for L/D for a given minimum shape factor, we get

$$\frac{L}{D} = \begin{cases} \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^2 \gamma_{\min}^3 & \text{if } \frac{L}{D} < \frac{\pi}{4} \quad (\text{disk-like}) \\ \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{1/2} \gamma_{\min}^{-3/2} & \text{if } \frac{L}{D} > \frac{\pi}{4} \quad (\text{rod-like}) \end{cases} \quad (28)$$

The minimum shape factor for natural fragments is around 0.5. Inserting this value into this equation gives

$$\frac{L}{D} = \begin{cases} 0.077 & \text{if } \frac{L}{D} < \frac{\pi}{4} \quad (\text{disk-like}) \\ 2.5 & \text{if } \frac{L}{D} > \frac{\pi}{4} \quad (\text{rod-like}) \end{cases} \quad (29)$$

The maximum shape factor for natural fragments is around 5.5. Inserting this value into the appropriate cubic equation (see Appendix A, Eq. A-46) gives

$$\frac{L}{D} = \begin{cases} 0.0691055 & \text{if } \frac{L}{D} < \frac{\pi}{4} \quad (\text{disk-like}) \\ 102.619 & \text{if } \frac{L}{D} > \frac{\pi}{4} \quad (\text{rod-like}) \end{cases} \quad (30)$$

The L/D value for a rod-like RCC is unrealistic, so we choose disk-like RCCs to model the maximum shape factor. Selecting disk-like RCCs with L/D in the range

from 0.069 to $\pi/4$ will span the range of shape factors from 0.5 to 5.5. The actual code that generates a yawed RCC to represent the shape factor is given in Listing 12.

Listing 12. sf-rcc.cpp

```

1 // sf-rcc.cpp: Implementation of an algorithm for generating FATEPEN RCCs to represent a specified shape factor.
2 //           Given a dimensionless shape factor, generates the L/D and yaw angle for the RCC to represent it.
3 //           The RCCs are disk-like in order to span the range of shape factors from 0.5 to 5.5.
4 // R. Saucier, October 2011
5
6 #include "Random.h"
7 #include <iostream>
8 #include <cstdlib>
9 #include <cmath>
10
11 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
12
13     int N = 1000; // number of samples or override on command line
14     const double R2D = 180. / M_PI; // to convert from radians to degrees
15     const double SF_MIN = 0.5; // minimum shape factor (found from artillery fragments)
16     const double SF_MAX = 4.5; // maximum shape factor (found from artillery fragments)
17
18     if ( argc == 2 ) N = atoi( argv[1] ); // override default number of samples on command line
19
20     // default values for the shape factor lognormal distribution from 122mm, 152mm and 155mm artillery
21     double mu = 0.596514; // these two parameters characterize the lognormal shape factor distribution
22     double sigma = 0.340874; // with mode = 1.62, median = 1.81 and mean = 1.93
23
24     rng::Random rng;
25     double a, b, c, th, sf_min, sf_max, sf, L_d, l, d, yaw, V = 1.; // here we use a fragment with unit volume
26
27     for ( int n = 0; n < N; n++ ) {
28
29         // normally, the shape factor would be provided, but here we get a shape factor within bounds [SF_MIN, SF_MAX]
30         do { sf = rng.lognormal( 0., mu, sigma ); } while ( sf < SF_MIN || sf > SF_MAX );
31
32         // now we want to realize this shape factor with a yawed cylinder
33         do {
34             L_d = rng.uniform( 0.069, M_PI_4 ); // disk-like RCCs (L_d = 0.069 corresponds to sf_max = 5.5)
35             c = pow( M_PI_4 * L_d, -2./3. );
36             a = c * L_d;
37             b = c * M_PI_4;
38             sf_min = a;
39             sf_max = sqrt( a * a + b * b );
40         } while ( sf < sf_min || sf > sf_max );
41
42         if ( sf < b ) th = acos( b / sf_max ) + acos( sf / sf_max );
43         else th = acos( b / sf_max ) - acos( sf / sf_max );
44
45         d = pow( V / ( M_PI_4 * L_d ), 1./3. );
46         l = d * L_d;
47         yaw = th * R2D;
48
49         std::cout << sf << "\t" << L_d << "\t" << yaw << std::endl;
50     }
51     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
52 }

```

This algorithm is stochastic, so that for a given shape factor there will be a range of L/D ratios and yaw angles that can represent the fragment. This will result in a range of residual velocities, but this range will be relatively small. For example, a 725-gr steel RCC with a shape factor of 1.93 striking a 1/4-inch mild steel plate at 3500 f/s results in a residual velocity of 1988 ± 23 f/s.

4.2 Cuboid

The procedure for realizing the shape factor as a cuboid with a specific pitch, yaw, and roll¹⁵ is implemented in the code in Listing 13.

Listing 13. sf-rpp.cpp

```

1 // sf-rpp.cpp: Monte Carlo shape factor from a lognormal distribution
2 // This code demonstrates how it is possible to make use of a lognormal shape factor distribution,
3 // and at the same time create RPPs for FATEPEN that have the proper volume and presented area.
4 // Given the fragment volume (or mass and density), it provides everything that FATEPEN requires:
5 // the length, width, and thickness of the RPP, as well as the pitch-yaw-roll rotation sequence
6 // that will take the RPP from standard orientation to the orientation that realizes the shape factor.
7 // R. Saucier, September 2011
8
9 #include "Random.h"
10 #include "Rotation.h"
11 #include <iostream>
12 #include <cstdlib>
13 #include <cassert>
14 #include <iomanip>
15
16 const double SF_MIN = 0.5; // minimum shape factor
17 const double SF_MAX = 4.5; // maximum shape factor
18 const double MU = 0.596514; // these two parameters characterize the lognormal shape factor distribution
19 const double SIGMA = 0.340874; // mode = 1.62, median = 1.81, mean = 1.93
20 const va::Vector I( 1., 0., 0. ), J( 0., 1., 0. ), K( 0., 0., 1. );
21
22 int main( void ) {
23
24     const int N_SAMPLES = 10000;
25     const double W_L_MIN = 0.185; // minimum W/L ratio (must be 0.185 or smaller to get SF_MAX = 5.5)
26     const double T_W_MIN = 0.185; // minimum T/W ratio (must be 0.185 or smaller to get SF_MAX = 5.5)
27     const double G2GR = 15.4324; // to convert grams to grains
28     const double GR2G = 1. / G2GR; // to convert grains to grams
29     const double MASS = 725. * GR2G; // mass (725 grains converted to grams)
30     const double RHO = 7.83; // density of steel (g/cm^3)
31     const double V = MASS / RHO; // volume (cm^3)
32     const double V_23 = pow( V, 2./3. );
33
34     double th, th_max, Amin, Amax, w_l, t_w, Ax, Ay, Az, W, L, T;
35     va::Vector Ap, u_max, axis, u;
36     va::Rotation R;
37     va::sequence s;
38     rng::Random rng;
39     double cp, cy, cr, sp, sy, sr, p, y, r, sf, ap, apcalc;
40
41     std::cout << std::setprecision(6) << std::fixed;
42     for ( int n = 0; n < N_SAMPLES; n++ ) {
43
44         // normally, the shape factor would be provided, but here we get a shape factor within bounds [SF_MIN, SF_MAX]
45         do { sf = rng.lognormal( 0., MU, SIGMA ); } while ( sf < SF_MIN || sf > SF_MAX );
46
47         sf = 1.93; // or select from a lognormal distribution
48         ap = sf * V_23;
49
50         do {
51             w_l = rng.uniform( W_L_MIN, 1. ); // ratio of W/L
52             t_w = rng.uniform( T_W_MIN, 1. ); // ratio of T/W
53             W = pow( V * w_l / t_w, 1./3. ); // width of RPP
54             L = W / w_l; // length of RPP
55             T = W * t_w; // thickness of RPP
56             Ax = L * T; // presented area orthogonal to x-axis (intermediate) in initial
                    // orientation
57             Ay = L * W; // presented area orthogonal to y-axis (maximum)
58             Az = W * T; // presented area orthogonal to z-axis (minimum)
59             Amin = Az; // min presented area
60             Amax = sqrt( Ax * Ax + Ay * Ay + Az * Az ); // max presented area
61         } while ( ap < Amin || ap > Amax );
62
63         Ap = Ax * I + Ay * J + Az * K; // presented area vector
64         u_max = Ap / Amax; // u_max is direction which realizes Amax = Ap * u_max;
65         R = va::Rotation( K, u_max ); // rotation which takes K to u_max, and will take |Ap| from Amin to
                    // Amax
66         axis = va::Vector( R ); // fixed axis of this rotation
67         th_max = double( R ); // angle of rotation to rotate K to u_max
68         th = th_max - acos( ap / Amax ); // rotation angle for u
69         R = va::Rotation( axis, th ); // rotation which takes K to u
70         va::Rotation R2( K, rng.uniform( 0., 2. * M_PI ) ); // this should have no effect upon the projected area perp to
                    // K
71         s = va::factor( R2 * R, va::XYZ ); // pitch-yaw-roll rotation sequence
72
73         p = s.first; // pitch (rad)
74         y = s.second; // yaw (rad)
75         r = s.third; // roll (rad)
76         cp = cos( p );
77         cy = cos( y );
78         cr = cos( r );
79         sp = sin( p );
80         sy = sin( y );

```

```

81     sr = sin( r );
82     apcalc = fabs( sp * sr - cp * sy * cr ) * Ax + fabs( sp * cr + cp * sy * sr ) * Ay + fabs( cp * cy ) * Az;
83     assert ( fabs( ap - apcalc ) < 0.001 );
84     std::cout << w_l << "\t" << t_w << "\t" << p * va::R2D << "\t" << y * va::R2D << "\t" << r * va::R2D << std::endl;
85
86 }
87 return EXIT_SUCCESS;
88 }

```

This will result in a range of residual velocities. For example, a 725-gr steel cuboid with a shape factor of 1.93 striking a 1/4-inch mild steel plate at 3500 f/s results in a residual velocity of 2464 ± 363 f/s, much more variation than is the case with cylinders.

5. Conclusions and Recommendations

We have provided explicit analytical formulas for the shape factor distributions of some common shapes with random orientations. And we have shown that it is easy to simulate these shape factor distributions with computer code and demonstrated through plots that the simulations match the plots from the analytical formulas. When we examine natural fragment shape factor distributions, however, the only shape that comes close is an ellipsoid. But it, too, fails to provide an adequate representation by simply randomizing its orientation. We can work out the dimensions of the ellipsoid from the projected area measurements, but then the volume comes out wrong because it does not account for hidden surfaces.

A better approach to shape factor simulation was found after enough natural fragment data was processed to reveal that it could be fit with a lognormal distribution. The measurement of fragment shape factor with the Icosahedron Gage does not give any indication of a lognormal distribution with only 16 measurements, but once we combine the measurements from hundreds of fragments, the resemblance to the lognormal is striking. Rather than trying to find a shape that will work by randomizing the orientation, it makes more sense to use the lognormal as a probability distribution in Monte Carlo sampling.

We also showed that laser scans of fragments can be used to compute the fragment shape factor from any viewpoint, and we described a variety of methods of achieving a uniform spherical distribution. Computing fragment volume and projected area is fast if we treat the fragments as convex solids. But natural fragments are not convex, and accounting for hidden surfaces uses much more computer time.

Finally, we showed that it is possible to realize each fragment mass and shape factor as either a yawed cylinder or a cuboid with a pitch, yaw, and roll. Thus, we have a procedure for generating all the input variables required to run THOR or FATEPEN from the given mass and shape factor.

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Appendix A. Analytical Shape Factor Formulas for 5 Convex Solids

Here we cite explicit formulas for the probability density function (PDF) and the cumulative distribution function (CDF) for 5 convex solids that have a random orientation. For each solid, we also list code that can be used to plot the PDF and CDF.

A-1. Cube

The PDF $f(\gamma)$ is given by¹

$$f(\gamma) = \begin{cases} \frac{4}{\sqrt{3}} - \frac{4\sqrt{3}}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\gamma} \sqrt{2 - \gamma^2} \right) & \text{if } 1 \leq \gamma \leq \sqrt{2} \\ \frac{4}{\sqrt{3}} & \text{if } \sqrt{2} \leq \gamma \leq \sqrt{3} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A-1})$$

and the CDF $F(\gamma)$ is given by

$$F(\gamma) = \begin{cases} \frac{4\gamma}{\sqrt{3}} - 3 - \frac{4\sqrt{3}\gamma}{\pi} \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{3}}{\gamma} \sqrt{2 - \gamma^2} \right) + \frac{6}{\pi} \left[\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2 - \sqrt{3}\gamma}{\sqrt{2 - \gamma^2}} \right) + \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{2 + \sqrt{3}\gamma}{\sqrt{2 - \gamma^2}} \right) \right] & \text{if } 1 \leq \gamma \leq \sqrt{2} \\ \frac{4\gamma}{\sqrt{3}} - 3 & \text{if } \sqrt{2} \leq \gamma \leq \sqrt{3} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A-2})$$

These formulas are implemented in the code in Listing A-1 and shown plotted in Fig. A-1.

Listing A-1. cube.cpp

```

1 // cube.cpp: generates plotting points for cube pdf and cdf
2 // Ref: Vickers, G. T. and Brown, D. J.,
3 // "The distribution of projected area and perimeter of convex, solid particles,"
4 // Proc. R. Soc. Lond. A (2001), Vol. 457, pp. 283-306.
5
6 #include <iostream>
7 #include <cmath>
8 #include <cstdlib>
9 #include <cassert>
10
11 static const double SQRT2 = M_SQRT2, SQRT3 = sqrt( 3. );
12
13 double pdf( double x ) {
14
15     assert( 1. <= x && x <= SQRT3 );
16
17     if ( x <= SQRT2 ) {
18         double a = sqrt( 2. - x * x );
19         return 4. / SQRT3 - 4. * SQRT3 * atan( SQRT3 * a / x ) / M_PI;
20     }
21     else
22         return 4. / SQRT3;
23 }
24
25 double cdf( double x ) {
26
27     assert( 1. <= x && x <= SQRT3 );
28
29     if ( x < SQRT2 ) {
30         double a = sqrt( 2. - x * x );

```

¹Vickers GT, Brown DJ. The distribution of projected area and perimeter of convex, solid particles. Proc R Soc Lond A. 2001;457:283–306.

```

31     return 4. * x / SQRT3 - 3. - ( 4. * SQRT3 * x / M_PI ) * atan( SQRT3 * a / x ) +
32         ( 6. / M_PI ) * ( atan( ( 2. - SQRT3 * x ) / a ) + atan( ( 2. + SQRT3 * x ) / a ) );
33 }
34 else
35     return 4. * x / SQRT3 - 3.;
36 }
37
38 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) { // specify number of points on commandline or use 1000
39
40     int N = 1000;
41     if ( argc == 2 ) N = atoi( argv[1] );
42
43     const double GMIN = 1., GMAX = SQRT3;
44     for ( double g = GMIN; g <= GMAX; g += ( GMAX - GMIN ) / N )
45         std::cout << g << "\t" << pdf( g ) << "\t" << cdf( g ) << std::endl;
46
47     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
48 }

```

The conventional way of turning this into a shape factor probability distribution is to sample the uniform distribution between 0 and 1, $P \sim U(0, 1)$, and then invert F to get $\gamma = F^{-1}(P)$. But there is no simple way to solve Eq. A-2 for γ when $1 \leq \gamma \leq \sqrt{2}$, so instead we simulate the shape factor probability distribution by uniform random sampling over the unit sphere and compute the shape factor for each orientation to build up a probability distribution.

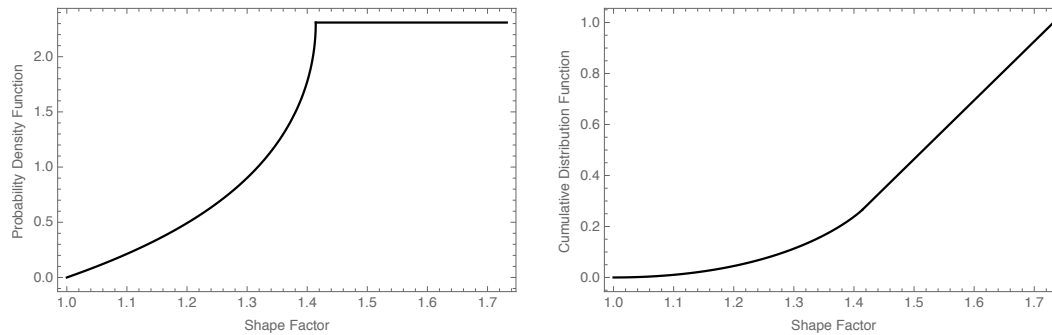


Fig. A-1. Plot of shape factor PDF and CDF for a randomly oriented cube

A-2. Cuboid

The source for the following formulas is Walters.²

A-2.1. Notation

Let $L \geq W \geq T$ be the length, width, and thickness of the cuboid, so that length is always the largest dimension and thickness the smallest. By setting

$$A_x = WT, \quad A_y = TL, \quad A_z = LW, \quad (\text{A-3})$$

²Walters AG. The distribution of projected areas of fragments. Proc Cambridge Phil Soc Math and Phys Sci. 1947;43:343–347.

we order the areas of the 3 faces so that $A_x \leq A_y \leq A_z$ and match the notation in Walters². If we only know the 3 face areas, then we can get the dimensions from

$$L = \sqrt{\frac{A_y A_z}{A_x}}, \quad W = \sqrt{\frac{A_z A_x}{A_y}}, \quad T = \sqrt{\frac{A_x A_y}{A_z}}. \quad (\text{A-4})$$

To simplify the notation, let x represent the variable presented area and define

$$a \equiv A_x, \quad b \equiv A_y, \quad c \equiv A_z, \quad m^2 \equiv a^2 + b^2 + c^2, \quad (\text{A-5})$$

$$x_a \equiv \sqrt{m^2 - a^2}, \quad x_b \equiv \sqrt{m^2 - b^2}, \quad x_c \equiv \sqrt{m^2 - c^2}. \quad (\text{A-6})$$

Walters² also defines the following quantities:

$$\Delta \equiv \frac{m^2 + x^2}{m^2 - x^2}, \quad \Delta_z \equiv \frac{m^2 + c^2}{m^2 - c^2}, \quad D \equiv \frac{2m^2 x^2}{m^2 - x^2}, \quad D_z \equiv \frac{2m^2 c^2}{m^2 - c^2}, \quad (\text{A-7})$$

$$\alpha_1 \equiv \frac{1}{c^2 + x^2}, \quad \alpha_x \equiv \frac{1}{c^2 + a^2}, \quad \alpha_y \equiv \frac{1}{c^2 + b^2}. \quad (\text{A-8})$$

A-2.2. Integrals

Using x as the variable presented area, we make use of the following 4 indefinite integrals:

$$\begin{aligned} I_1(x) &\equiv \int \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_1 D) dx \\ &= x \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_1 D) \\ &\quad + 2m \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{x_c^2 - x^2}}{c} \right) - 2c \tanh^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{x_c^2 - x^2}}{m} \right) \quad \text{for } a \leq x \leq x_c \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A-9})$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_2(x) &\equiv \int \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_x D) dx \\ &= x \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_x D) - 2m \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{x_b^2 - x^2}}{b} \right) \quad \text{for } a \leq x \leq x_b \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A-10})$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_3(x) &\equiv \int \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_y D) dx \\ &= x \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_y D) - 2m \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{x_a^2 - x^2}}{a} \right) \quad \text{for } a \leq x \leq x_a \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A-11})$$

$$\begin{aligned} I_4(x) &\equiv \int \sin^{-1}(\Delta_z - \alpha_1 D_z) dx \\ &= x \sin^{-1}(\Delta_z - \alpha_1 D_z) + 2c \tanh^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{x_c^2 - x^2}}{m} \right) \quad \text{for } a \leq x \leq x_c \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A-12})$$

The corresponding definite integrals are

$$I_i(x_1, x_2) \equiv I_i(x_2) - I_i(x_1) \text{ for } i = 1, 2, 3, 4. \quad (\text{A-13})$$

It is also convenient to define the following 2 constants:

$$k_1 \equiv \sin^{-1}(\Delta_z - \alpha_x D_z) \quad \text{and} \quad k_2 \equiv \sin^{-1}(\Delta_z - \alpha_y D_z). \quad (\text{A-14})$$

A-2.3. Probability Density Function and Cumulative Distribution Function

Let $f(x)$ represent the probability density function and $F(x)$ represent the cumulative distribution function. The following expressions for $f(x)$ are taken from Walters,² and $F(x)$ is obtained by integrating the corresponding density function. There are 2 cases to consider, depending upon the value of $a^2 + b^2$ relative to c^2 , and each case has 6 distinct regions.

Case 1: $a^2 + b^2 < c^2$

- Case 1.1: $a < x < b$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [\sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_1 D) - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_x D) + \sin^{-1}(\Delta_z - \alpha_1 D_z) - k_1] \quad (\text{A-15})$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, x) - I_2(a, x) + I_4(a, x) - k_1(x - a)] \quad (\text{A-16})$$

- Case 1.2: $b < x < x_c$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [2 \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_1 D) - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_x D) - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_y D) + 2 \sin^{-1}(\Delta_z - \alpha_1 D_z) - k_1 - k_2] \quad (\text{A-17})$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, b) - I_2(a, b) + I_4(a, b) - k_1(b - a) + 2I_1(b, x) - I_2(b, x) - I_3(b, x) + 2I_4(b, x) - k_1(x - b) - k_2(x - b)] \quad (\text{A-18})$$

- Case 1.3: $x_c < x < c$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [2\pi - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_x D) - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_y D) - k_1 - k_2] \quad (\text{A-19})$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, b) - I_2(a, b) + I_4(a, b) - k_1(b - a) + 2I_1(b, x_c) - I_2(b, x_c) - I_3(b, x_c) + 2I_4(b, x_c) - k_1(x_c - b) - k_2(x_c - b) + 2\pi(x - x_c) - I_2(x_c, x) - I_3(x_c, x) - k_1(x - x_c) - k_2(x - x_c)] \quad (\text{A-20})$$

- Case 1.4: $c < x < x_b$

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi m} [\pi - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_x D) - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_y D)] \quad (\text{A-21})$$

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, b) - I_2(a, b) + I_4(a, b) - k_1(b - a) + 2I_1(b, x_c) - \\ I_2(b, x_c) - I_3(b, x_c) + 2I_4(b, x_c) - k_1(x_c - b) - k_2(x_c - b) + \\ 2\pi(c - x_c) - I_2(x_c, c) - I_3(x_c, c) - k_1(c - x_c) - k_2(c - x_c) + \\ 2\pi(x - c) - 2I_2(c, x) - 2I_3(c, x)] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A-22})$$

- Case 1.5: $x_b < x < x_a$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [3\pi - 2\sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_y D)] \quad (\text{A-23})$$

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, b) - I_2(a, b) + I_4(a, b) - k_1(b - a) + 2I_1(b, x_c) - \\ I_2(b, x_c) - I_3(b, x_c) + 2I_4(b, x_c) - k_1(x_c - b) - k_2(x_c - b) + \\ 2\pi(c - x_c) - I_2(x_c, c) - I_3(x_c, c) - k_1(c - x_c) - k_2(c - x_c) + \\ 2\pi(x_b - c) - 2I_2(c, x_b) - 2I_3(c, x_b) + \\ 3\pi(x - x_b) - 2I_3(x_b, x)] \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A-24})$$

- Case 1.6: $x_a < x < m$

$$f(x) = \frac{4}{m} \quad (\text{A-25})$$

$$\begin{aligned} F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, b) - I_2(a, b) + I_4(a, b) - k_1(b - a) + 2I_1(b, x_c) - \\ I_2(b, x_c) - I_3(b, x_c) + 2I_4(b, x_c) - k_1(x_c - b) - k_2(x_c - b) + \\ 2\pi(c - x_c) - I_2(x_c, c) - I_3(x_c, c) - k_1(c - x_c) - k_2(c - x_c) + \\ 2\pi(x_b - c) - 2I_2(c, x_b) - 2I_3(c, x_b) + \\ 3\pi(x_a - x_b) - 2I_3(x_b, x_a)] + \frac{4}{m}(x - x_a) \end{aligned} \quad (\text{A-26})$$

Case 2: $a^2 + b^2 > c^2$

- Case 2.1: $a < x < b$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [\sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_1 D) - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_x D) + \sin^{-1}(\Delta_z - \alpha_1 D_z) - k_1] \quad (\text{A-27})$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, x) - I_2(a, x) + I_4(a, x) - k_1(x - a)] \quad (\text{A-28})$$

- Case 2.2: $b < x < c$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [2 \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_1 D) - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_x D) - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_y D) + 2 \sin^{-1}(\Delta_z - \alpha_1 D_z) - k_1 - k_2] \quad (\text{A-29})$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, b) - I_2(a, b) + I_4(a, b) - k_1(b - a) + 2I_1(b, x) - I_2(b, x) - I_3(b, x) + 2I_4(b, x) - k_1(x - b) - k_2(x - b)] \quad (\text{A-30})$$

- Case 2.3: $c < x < x_c$

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi m} [\sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_1 D) - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_x D) + \sin^{-1}(\Delta_z - \alpha_1 D_z) - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_y D)] \quad (\text{A-31})$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, b) - I_2(a, b) + I_4(a, b) - k_1(b - a) + 2I_1(b, c) - I_2(b, c) - I_3(b, c) + 2I_4(b, c) - k_1(c - b) - k_2(c - b) + 2I_1(c, x) - 2I_2(c, x) - 2I_3(c, x) + 2I_4(c, x)] \quad (\text{A-32})$$

- Case 2.4: $x_c < x < x_b$

$$f(x) = \frac{2}{\pi m} [\pi - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_x D) - \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_y D)] \quad (\text{A-33})$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, b) - I_2(a, b) + I_4(a, b) - k_1(b - a) + 2I_1(b, c) - I_2(b, c) - I_3(b, c) + 2I_4(b, c) - k_1(c - b) - k_2(c - b) + 2I_1(c, x_c) - 2I_2(c, x_c) - 2I_3(c, x_c) + 2I_4(c, x_c) + 2\pi(x - x_c) - 2I_2(x_c, x) - 2I_3(x_c, x)] \quad (\text{A-34})$$

- Case 2.5: $x_b < x < x_a$

$$f(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [3\pi - 2 \sin^{-1}(\Delta - \alpha_y D)] \quad (\text{A-35})$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, b) - I_2(a, b) + I_4(a, b) - k_1(b - a) + 2I_1(b, c) - I_2(b, c) - I_3(b, c) + 2I_4(b, c) - k_1(c - b) - k_2(c - b) + 2I_1(c, x_c) - 2I_2(c, x_c) - 2I_3(c, x_c) + 2I_4(c, x_c) + 2\pi(x_b - x_c) - 2I_2(x_c, x_b) - 2I_3(x_c, x_b) + 3\pi(x - x_b) - 2I_3(x_b, x)] \quad (\text{A-36})$$

- Case 2.6: $x_a < x < m$

$$f(x) = \frac{4}{m} \quad (\text{A-37})$$

$$F(x) = \frac{1}{\pi m} [I_1(a, b) - I_2(a, b) + I_4(a, b) - k_1(b - a) + 2I_1(b, c) - I_2(b, c) - I_3(b, c) + 2I_4(b, c) - k_1(c - b) - k_2(c - b) + 2I_1(c, x_c) - 2I_2(c, x_c) - 2I_3(c, x_c) + 2I_4(c, x_c) + 2\pi(x_b - x_c) - 2I_2(x_c, x_b) - 2I_3(x_c, x_b) + 3\pi(x_a - x_b) - 2I_3(x_b, x_a)] + \frac{4}{m}(x - x_a) \quad (\text{A-38})$$

These formulas have been implemented in Listing A-2. Example plots are displayed in Fig. A-2.

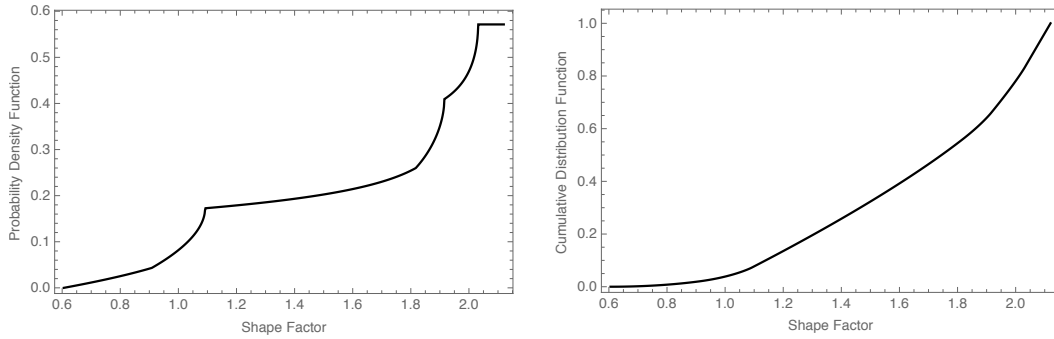


Fig. A-2. Plot of shape factor PDF and CDF for a randomly oriented cuboid with $L = 3$, $W = 2$, $T = 1$

Listing A-2. rpp.cpp

```

1 // rpp.cpp: Given the side lengths of an RPP, computes the shape factor
2 // cumulative distribution function, which is obtained by
3 // integrating Walters' formula for the probability density function.
4 // Ref: Walters, A., "The Distribution of Projected Areas of Fragments,"
5 // Proc. Cambridge Phil. Soc., Vol. 43, pp. 342-347, 25 July 1946.
6 // R. Saucier, April 2010
7
8 #include <iostream>
9 #include <stdlib>
10 #include <cmath>
11 #include <cassert>
12
13 inline double min( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::min( std::min( a, b ), c ); }
14 inline double max( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::max( std::max( a, b ), c ); }
15 inline double mid( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::max( std::min( a, b ), std::min( std::max( a, b ), c ) ); }
16
17 double i1( double a, double b, double c, double x ) {
18
19     double a2 = a * a;
20     double b2 = b * b;
21     double c2 = c * c;
22     double m2 = a2 + b2 + c2;
23     double m = sqrt( m2 );
24     double x2 = x * x;
25     double x4 = x2 * x2;
26     double xc2 = m2 - c2;
27     if ( x2 < xc2 )
28         return x * asin( ( c2 * m2 + ( c2 - m2 ) * x2 + x4 ) / ( c2 * m2 + ( m2 - c2 ) * x2 - x4 ) ) + 2. * m * atan( sqrt( xc2 - x2 ) / c ) - 2. * c * atanh( sqrt( xc2 - x2 ) / m );
29     else
30         return sqrt( xc2 ) * M_PI_2;
31 }
32
33 inline double i1( double a, double b, double c, double x1, double x2 ) { return i1( a, b, c, x2 ) - i1( a, b, c, x1 ); }
34
35 double i2( double a, double b, double c, double x ) {
36
37     double a2 = a * a;
38     double b2 = b * b;
39     double c2 = c * c;
40     double m2 = a2 + b2 + c2;
41     double m = sqrt( m2 );
42     double x2 = x * x;
43     double xb2 = m2 - b2;
44     if ( x2 < xb2 )
45         return x * asin( ( m2 * ( a2 + c2 ) + ( a2 + c2 - m2 - m2 ) * x2 ) / ( m2 * ( a2 + c2 ) - ( a2 + c2 ) * x2 ) ) - 2. * m * atan( sqrt( xb2 - x2 ) / b );
46     else
47         return -sqrt( xb2 ) * M_PI_2;
48 }
49
50 inline double i2( double a, double b, double c, double x1, double x2 ) { return i2( a, b, c, x2 ) - i2( a, b, c, x1 ); }

```

```

51 double i3( double a, double b, double c, double x ) {
52
53
54     double a2 = a * a;
55     double b2 = b * b;
56     double c2 = c * c;
57     double m2 = a2 + b2 + c2;
58     double m = sqrt( m2 );
59     double x2 = x * x;
60     double xa2 = m2 - a2;
61     if ( x2 < xa2 )
62         return x * asin( ( m2 * ( b2 + c2 ) + ( b2 + c2 - m2 ) * x2 ) / ( m2 * ( b2 + c2 ) - ( b2 + c2 ) * x2 ) ) - 2. * m * atan( sqrt( xa2 - x2 ) / a );
63     else
64         return -sqrt( xa2 ) * M.PI.2;
65 }
66
67 inline double i3( double a, double b, double c, double x1, double x2 ) { return i3( a, b, c, x1 ); }
68
69 double i4( double a, double b, double c, double x ) {
70
71     double a2 = a * a;
72     double b2 = b * b;
73     double c2 = c * c;
74     double m2 = a2 + b2 + c2;
75     double m = sqrt( m2 );
76     double x2 = x * x;
77     double xc2 = m2 - c2;
78     if ( x2 < xc2 )
79         return x * asin( ( c2 * ( c2 - m2 ) + ( c2 + m2 ) * x2 ) / ( c2 * ( m2 - c2 ) + ( m2 - c2 ) * x2 ) ) + 2. * c * atan( sqrt( xc2 - x2 ) / m );
80     else
81         return sqrt( xc2 ) * M.PI.2;
82 }
83
84 inline double i4( double a, double b, double c, double x1, double x2 ) { return i4( a, b, c, x2 ) - i4( a, b, c, x1 ); }
85
86 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
87
88     double l = 1., w = 1., t = 1.; // default is a cube of unit side length
89     if ( argc == 4 ) { // or specify the 3 dimensions (in any order) on the command line
90         l = atof( argv[1] );
91         w = atof( argv[2] );
92         t = atof( argv[3] );
93     }
94     const double T = min( l, w, t ); // smallest dimension is thickness
95     const double W = mid( l, w, t ); // intermediate dimension is width
96     const double L = max( l, w, t ); // largest dimension is length
97     const double V = L * W * T; // volume
98     const double S1 = pow( V, +2. / 3. ); // factor to convert PDF from area to shape factor
99     const double S2 = pow( V, -2. / 3. ); // factor to convert area to shape factor
100
101     double a = W * T; // smallest area, Ax in Walters' formula
102     double b = T * L; // intermediate area, Ay in Walters' formula

```

```

103 double c = L * W; // largest area, Az in Walters' formula
104
105 double a2 = a * a;
106 double b2 = b * b;
107 double c2 = c * c;
108 double m2 = a2 + b2 + c2;
109 double m = sqrt( m2 );
110 double xa = sqrt( b2 + c2 );
111 double xb = sqrt( a2 + c2 );
112 double xc = sqrt( a2 + b2 );
113
114 const double DELTAZ = ( m2 + c2 ) / ( m2 - c2 );
115 const double DZ = 2. * m2 * c2 / ( m2 - c2 );
116 const double ALPHAX = 1. / ( c2 + a2 );
117 const double ALPHAY = 1. / ( c2 + b2 );
118 const double K1 = asin( DELTAZ - ALPHAX * DZ );
119 const double K2 = asin( DELTAZ - ALPHAY * DZ );
120
121 const double C = 1. / ( M.PI * m );
122 const double C1 = C * ( i1( a, b, c, a, b ) - i2( a, b, c, a, b ) + i4( a, b, c, a, b ) - K1 * ( b - a ) );
123 const double C2 = C * ( 2. * i1( a, b, c, b, xc ) - i2( a, b, c, b, xc ) - i3( a, b, c, b, xc ) + 2. * i4( a, b, c, b, xc ) - K2 * ( xc - b ) );
124 const double D2 = C * ( 2. * i1( a, b, c, b, c ) - i2( a, b, c, b, c ) - i3( a, b, c, b, c ) + 2. * i4( a, b, c, b, c ) - K1 * ( c - b ) - K2 * ( c - b ) );
125 const double C3 = C * ( 2. * M.PI * ( c - xc ) - i2( a, b, c, xc, c ) - i3( a, b, c, xc, c ) - K1 * ( c - xc ) - K2 * ( c - xc ) );
126 const double D3 = 2. * C * ( i1( a, b, c, c, xc ) - i2( a, b, c, c, xc ) - i3( a, b, c, c, xc ) + i4( a, b, c, c, xc ) );
127 const double C4 = 2. * C * ( M.PI * ( xb - c ) - i2( a, b, c, c, xb ) - i3( a, b, c, c, xb ) );
128 const double D4 = 2. * C * ( M.PI * ( xb - xc ) - i2( a, b, c, xc, xb ) - i3( a, b, c, xc, xb ) );
129 const double C5 = 2. * C * ( 1.5 * M.PI * ( xa - xb ) - i3( a, b, c, xb, xa ) );
130
131 double x, x2, delta, d, alpha1, f1, f2, f3, f4, sf, pdf = 0., cdf = 0.;
132
133 // a is the minimum projected area and m is the maximum projected area
134 const int N = 1000;
135 const double inc = ( m - a ) / double( N );
136 for ( x = a; x <= m; x += inc ) {
137
138     x2 = x * x;
139     delta = ( m2 + x2 ) / ( m2 - x2 );
140     d = 2. * m2 * x2 / ( m2 - x2 );
141     alpha1 = 1. / ( c2 + x2 );
142
143     f1 = asin( delta - alpha1 * d );
144     f2 = asin( delta - ALPHAX * d );
145     f3 = asin( delta - ALPHAY * d );
146     f4 = asin( DELTAZ - alpha1 * DZ );
147
148     if ( xc <= c ) { // case: a2 + b2 <= c2
149
150         if ( a <= x && x < b ) { // case a
151             pdf = C * ( f1 - f2 + f4 - K1 );
152             cdf = C * ( i1( a, b, c, a, x ) - i2( a, b, c, a, x ) + i4( a, b, c, a, x ) - K1 * ( x - a ) );
153         }
154         else if ( b <= x && x < xc ) { // case b

```

```

155 pdf = C * ( 2. * f1 - f2 - f3 + 2. * f4 - K1 - K2 );
156 cdf = C1 + C * ( 2. * i1( a, b, c, b, x ) - i2( a, b, c, b, x ) - i3( a, b, c, b, x ) + 2. * i4( a, b, c, b, x ) - K1 * ( x - b ) - K2 * ( x - b ) );
157 }
158 else if ( xc <= x && x < c ) { // case c
159 pdf = C * ( 2. * M_PI - f2 - f3 - K1 - K2 );
160 cdf = C1 + C2 + C * ( 2. * M_PI * ( x - xc ) - i2( a, b, c, xc, x ) - i3( a, b, c, xc, x ) - K1 * ( x - xc ) - K2 * ( x - xc ) );
161 }
162 else if ( c <= x && x < xb ) { // case d
163 pdf = 2. * C * ( M_PI - f2 - f3 );
164 cdf = C1 + C2 + C3 + 2. * C * ( M_PI * ( x - c ) - i2( a, b, c, c, x ) - i3( a, b, c, c, x ) );
165 }
166 else if ( xb <= x && x < xa ) { // case e
167 pdf = 2. * C * ( 1.5 * M_PI - f3 );
168 cdf = C1 + C2 + C3 + C4 + 2. * C * ( 1.5 * M_PI * ( x - xb ) - i3( a, b, c, xb, x ) );
169 }
170 else if ( xa <= x && x <= m ) { // case f
171 pdf = 4. / m;
172 cdf = C1 + C2 + C3 + C4 + C5 + ( x - xa ) * 4. / m;
173 }
174 }
175 else { // case: a2 + b2 > c2
176
177 if ( a <= x && x < b ) { // case a
178 pdf = C * ( f1 - f2 + f4 - K1 );
179 cdf = C * ( i1( a, b, c, a, x ) - i2( a, b, c, a, x ) + i4( a, b, c, a, x ) - K1 * ( x - a ) );
180 }
181 else if ( b <= x && x < c ) { // case b
182 pdf = C * ( 2. * f1 - f2 - f3 + 2. * f4 - K1 - K2 );
183 cdf = C1 + C * ( 2. * i1( a, b, c, b, x ) - i2( a, b, c, b, x ) - i3( a, b, c, b, x ) + 2. * i4( a, b, c, b, x ) - K1 * ( x - b ) - K2 * ( x - b ) );
184 }
185 else if ( c <= x && x < xc ) { // case c
186 pdf = 2. * C * ( f1 - f2 + f4 - f3 );
187 cdf = C1 + D2 + 2. * C * ( i1( a, b, c, c, x ) - i2( a, b, c, c, x ) - i3( a, b, c, c, x ) + i4( a, b, c, c, x ) );
188 }
189 else if ( xc <= x && x < xb ) { // case d
190 pdf = 2. * C * ( M_PI - f2 - f3 );
191 cdf = C1 + D2 + D3 + 2. * C * ( M_PI * ( x - xc ) - i2( a, b, c, xc, x ) - i3( a, b, c, xc, x ) );
192 }
193 else if ( xb <= x && x < xa ) { // case e
194 pdf = 2. * C * ( 1.5 * M_PI - f3 );
195 cdf = C1 + D2 + D3 + D4 + 2. * C * ( 1.5 * M_PI * ( x - xb ) - i3( a, b, c, xb, x ) );
196 }
197 else if ( xa <= x && x <= m ) { // case f
198 pdf = 4. / m;
199 cdf = C1 + D2 + D3 + D4 + C5 + ( x - xa ) * 4. / m;
200 }
201 }
202 sf = x * S2; // convert presented area to dimensionless shape factor
203 std::cout << sf << "\t" << pdf * S1 << "\t" << cdf << std::endl; // shape factor PDF and CDF
204 }
205 return EXIT_SUCCESS;
206 }

```

A-3. Cylinder

Consider a right-circular cylinder (RCC) with length L and diameter D . Let ϕ_y be the yaw angle measured from the axis of symmetry so that $\phi_y = 0$ corresponds to a face-forward orientation of the cylinder. Then the shape factor as a function of yaw angle is³

$$\gamma(\phi_y) = \left(\frac{\pi L}{4 D} \right)^{-2/3} \left(\frac{L}{D} \sin \phi_y + \frac{\pi}{4} |\cos \phi_y| \right), \quad (\text{A-39})$$

where $0 \leq \phi_y \leq \pi$. The *minimum* shape factor is

$$\gamma_{\min} = \left(\frac{\pi L}{4 D} \right)^{-2/3} \min \left(\frac{L}{D}, \frac{\pi}{4} \right) \quad (\text{A-40})$$

and is realized at the yaw angle

$$\phi_y = \begin{cases} \pi/2 & \text{if } L/D < \pi/4 \\ 0 & \text{if } L/D > \pi/4 \end{cases}. \quad (\text{A-41})$$

The *maximum* shape factor is

$$\gamma_{\max} = \left(\frac{\pi L}{4 D} \right)^{-2/3} \sqrt{\left(\frac{L}{D} \right)^2 + \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \right)^2} \quad (\text{A-42})$$

and is realized at

$$\phi_y = \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{L/D}{\pi/4} \right). \quad (\text{A-43})$$

The *mean* shape factor when averaged over all random orientations is

$$\bar{\gamma} = \left(\frac{\pi}{4} \right)^{1/3} \left(\frac{L}{D} \right)^{-2/3} \left(\frac{L}{D} + \frac{1}{2} \right). \quad (\text{A-44})$$

Some plots of Eqs. A-39, A-42, and A-44 as a function of L/D are shown in Fig. A-3.

³Saucier R. Shape factor of a randomly oriented cylinder. Aberdeen Proving Ground (MD): Army Research Laboratory (US); 2000 Jul. Report No.: ARL-TR-2269.

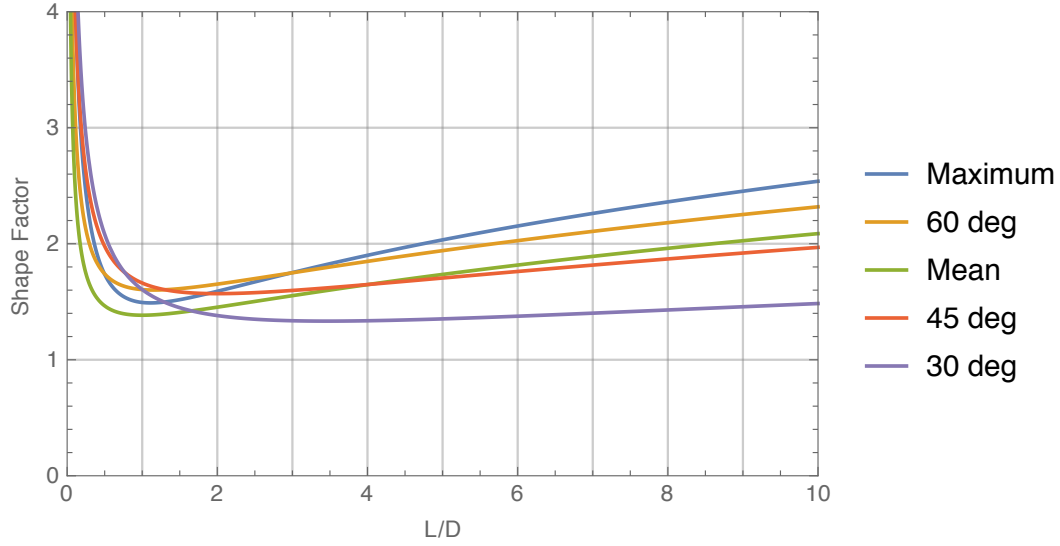


Fig. A-3. Shape factors of a cylinder as a function of L/D at a fixed yaw angle from Eq. A-39 are displayed at 30° , 45° , and 60° . The maximum shape factor as a function of L/D is from Eq. A-42, and the average shape factor of a randomly oriented cylinder as a function of L/D is from Eq. A-44.

The minimum of the maximum shape factor curve is $(\gamma_{\max})_{\min} = \sqrt{3} \left(\frac{\pi}{2}\right)^{-1/3} \approx 1.49$ and occurs when $L/D = \sqrt{2} \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right) \approx 1.11072$. The minimum of the mean shape factor curve is $\bar{\gamma}_{\min} = \frac{3}{2} \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{1/3} \approx 1.38395$ and occurs when $L/D = 1$.

In Eq. A-39, let $x \equiv (L/D)^{-1/3}$; then it can be written as

$$x^3 - \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{-1/3} \frac{\gamma}{\cos \phi_y} x + \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{-1} \tan \phi_y = 0. \quad (\text{A-45})$$

Square Eq. A-42 and let $x \equiv (L/D)^{-2/3}$; then it can be written as

$$x^3 - \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{-2/3} \gamma_{\max}^2 x + \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{-2} = 0. \quad (\text{A-46})$$

And in Eq. A-44, let $x \equiv (L/D)^{-1/3}$; then it can be written as

$$x^3 - 2 \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{-1/3} \bar{\gamma} x + 2 = 0. \quad (\text{A-47})$$

So we see that these 3 equations all have the same form:

$$x^3 + px + q = 0, \quad (\text{A-48})$$

where

- $x = \left(\frac{L}{D}\right)^{-1/3}$, $p = -\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{-1/3} \frac{\gamma}{\cos \phi_y}$, $q = \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{-1} \tan \phi_y$ in Eq. A-45;
- $x = \left(\frac{L}{D}\right)^{-2/3}$, $p = -\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{-2/3} \gamma_{\max}^2$, $q = \left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{-2}$ in Eq. A-46;
- $x = \left(\frac{L}{D}\right)^{-1/3}$, $p = -2\left(\frac{\pi}{4}\right)^{-1/3} \bar{\gamma}$, $q = 2$ in Eq. A-47.

A-3.1. Diversion: Solution to Cubic Equation in the Case of Real Roots

Without loss of generality, the general cubic can be written as

$$x^3 + ax^2 + bx + c = 0. \quad (\text{A-49})$$

Setting $x = y - a/3$ eliminates the quadratic term and puts it in the form

$$y^3 + py + q = 0, \quad (\text{A-50})$$

with

$$p = b - \frac{a^2}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad q = c - \frac{ab}{3} + \frac{2a^3}{27}. \quad (\text{A-51})$$

We note in passing that the absence of the quadratic term implies that the roots must sum to zero. For if y_1 , y_2 , and y_3 are the roots of Eq. A-50, then

$$(y - y_1)(y - y_2)(y - y_3) = y^3 - (y_1 + y_2 + y_3)y^2 + (y_1y_2 + y_1y_3 + y_2y_3)y - y_1y_2y_3 = 0, \quad (\text{A-52})$$

and eliminating the y^2 term means that $y_1 + y_2 + y_3 = 0$.

A useful trick⁴ for solving the cubic without the quadratic term (Eq. A-50) is to make use of the trigonometric identity

$$4 \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta - \cos(3\theta) = 0, \quad (\text{A-53})$$

which can be easily derived by using the double angle formulas in the expansion of $\cos(3\theta)$. Let us return then to Eq. A-48 to see if we can transform it into this form.

⁴Hubbard JH, Hubbard BB. Vector calculus, linear algebra, and differential forms: a unified approach. Upper Saddle River (NJ): Prentice Hall; 2001.

Begin by setting

$$x = t \cos \theta, \quad (\text{A-54})$$

which gives

$$t^3 \cos^3 \theta + pt \cos \theta + q = 0, \quad (\text{A-55})$$

or, multiplying through by $4/t^3$,

$$4 \cos^3 \theta + \frac{4p}{t^2} \cos \theta + \frac{4q}{t^3} = 0. \quad (\text{A-56})$$

Choosing

$$t = \sqrt{-\frac{4p}{3}} \quad (\text{A-57})$$

then gives

$$4 \cos^3 \theta - 3 \cos \theta - \frac{3q}{p} \sqrt{-\frac{3}{4p}} = 0. \quad (\text{A-58})$$

Now we see that if we choose θ such that

$$\cos(3\theta) = \frac{3q}{p} \sqrt{-\frac{3}{4p}}, \quad (\text{A-59})$$

then the cubic is automatically satisfied, guaranteed by the trigonometric identity Eq. A-53. Therefore,

$$3\theta = \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{3q}{p} \sqrt{-\frac{3}{4p}} \right) + 2\pi k \quad \text{where } k = 0, \pm 1, \quad (\text{A-60})$$

and from Eqs. A-54 and A-57, the solutions for x are

$$x_k = \sqrt{-\frac{4p}{3}} \cos \left(\frac{1}{3} \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{3q}{p} \sqrt{-\frac{3}{4p}} \right) + k \frac{2\pi}{3} \right) \quad \text{for } k = 0, \pm 1. \quad (\text{A-61})$$

It is easy enough to check that the 3 solutions do indeed sum to zero as promised, since

$$\cos \theta + \cos \left(\theta + \frac{2\pi}{3} \right) + \cos \left(\theta - \frac{2\pi}{3} \right) = 0 \quad (\text{A-62})$$

for arbitrary θ . Two of the solutions will be positive, corresponding to a disk-like and a rod-like cylinder, and the third solution will be negative, which is of no physical interest.

The solutions for L/D are

- $\frac{L}{D} = x_0^{-3}$ for disk-like cylinders and $\frac{L}{D} = x_1^{-3}$ for rod-like cylinders in Eq. A-45;
- $\frac{L}{D} = x_0^{-3/2}$ for disk-like cylinders and $\frac{L}{D} = x_1^{-3/2}$ for rod-like cylinders in Eq. A-46;
- $\frac{L}{D} = x_0^{-3}$ for disk-like cylinders and $\frac{L}{D} = x_1^{-3}$ for rod-like cylinders in Eq. A-47.

A-3.2. Cylinder Probability Distributions

There are 2 cases to consider: rod-like with $\frac{L}{D} > \frac{\pi}{4}$ and disk-like with $\frac{L}{D} < \frac{\pi}{4}$.

For the following formulas, define $a \equiv \left(\frac{\pi L}{4D}\right)^{-2/3} \frac{L}{D}$ and $b \equiv \left(\frac{\pi L}{4D}\right)^{-2/3} \frac{\pi}{4}$.

- $L/D > \pi/4$:

The PDF is given by

$$f(\gamma) = \begin{cases} \frac{a\gamma - b\sqrt{\gamma_{\max}^2 - \gamma^2}}{\gamma_{\max}^2 \sqrt{\gamma_{\max}^2 - \gamma^2}} & \text{if } b \leq \gamma < a \\ \frac{2a\gamma}{\gamma_{\max}^2 \sqrt{\gamma_{\max}^2 - \gamma^2}} & \text{if } a \leq \gamma < \gamma_{\max} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A-63})$$

and the CDF is given by

$$F(\gamma) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{b\gamma + a\sqrt{\gamma_{\max}^2 - \gamma^2}}{\gamma_{\max}^2} & \text{if } b \leq \gamma < a \\ 1 - \frac{2a\sqrt{\gamma_{\max}^2 - \gamma^2}}{\gamma_{\max}^2} & \text{if } a \leq \gamma \leq \gamma_{\max} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A-64})$$

- $L/D < \pi/4$:

The PDF is given by

$$f(\gamma) = \begin{cases} \frac{a\gamma + b\sqrt{\gamma_{\max}^2 - \gamma^2}}{\gamma_{\max}^2 \sqrt{\gamma_{\max}^2 - \gamma^2}} & \text{if } a \leq \gamma < b \\ \frac{2a\gamma}{\gamma_{\max}^2 \sqrt{\gamma_{\max}^2 - \gamma^2}} & \text{if } b \leq \gamma \leq \gamma_{\max} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A-65})$$

and the CDF is given by

$$F(\gamma) = \begin{cases} \frac{b\gamma - a\sqrt{\gamma_{\max}^2 - \gamma^2}}{\gamma_{\max}^2} & \text{if } a \leq \gamma < b \\ 1 - \frac{2a\sqrt{\gamma_{\max}^2 - \gamma^2}}{\gamma_{\max}^2} & \text{if } b \leq \gamma \leq \gamma_{\max} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A-66})$$

These functions are plotted in Fig. A-4 for the case when $L/D = 1$.

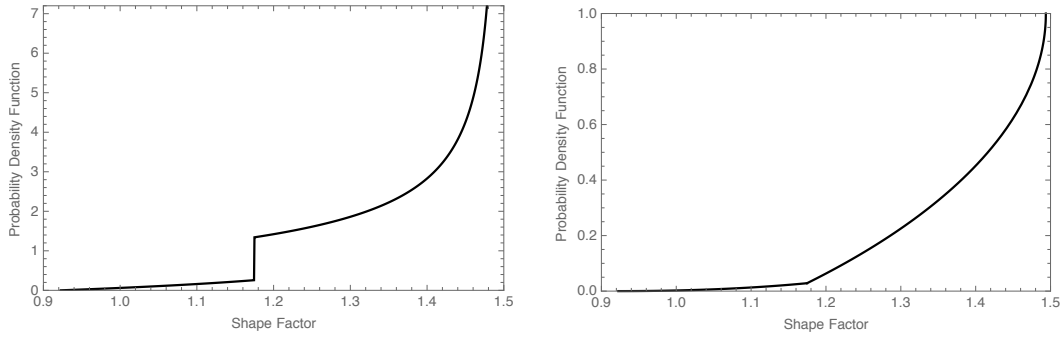


Fig. A-4. Plot of shape factor PDF and CDF for a randomly oriented cylinder with $L/D = 1$. Notice the discontinuity at $\gamma = (\pi/4)^{-2/3}$ where the shape factor changes from being single-valued to being multivalued.

Equations A-64 and A-66 can be solved for γ for a given value of F —and in this way turn this into a direct and fast method for computing the shape factor probability distribution of a random tumbling cylinder. The resulting algorithm has been implemented into the C++ code in Listing A-3.

Listing A-3. algo.cpp

```
1 // algo.cpp: fast algorithm for generating the shape factor of an RCC with a uniform random orientation over the unit
  sphere
2 // R. Saucier, Feb 2016 (see p. 12 of ARL-TR-2269 for derivation of this algorithm)
3
4 #include <iostream>
5 #include <cmath>
6 #include <chrono>
7 #include <random>
8 using namespace std;
9
10 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
11
12     double l_d = 1.;
13     if ( argc == 2 ) l_d = atof( argv[1] ); // L/D = 1 is default or override with 1st arg
14     int N = 1000;
15     if ( argc == 3 ) N = atoi( argv[2] ); // 1000 samples is default or override with 2nd arg
16
17     const double C = pow( M_PI_4 * l_d, -2. / 3. );
18     const double A = C * l_d;
19     const double B = C * M_PI_4;
20     const double G_MAX2 = A * A + B * B;
21     const double G_MAX = sqrt( G_MAX2 );
22     const double K = G_MAX / ( 2. * A );
23     const double P1 = 1. - 2. * A * B / G_MAX2;
```

```

24     const double P2      = ( B - A ) * ( B + A ) / G_MAX2;
25
26     unsigned seed = std::chrono::high_resolution_clock::now().time_since_epoch().count();
27     std::mt19937 rng( seed );           // Mersenne Twister engine
28     std::uniform_real_distribution<double> u( 0., 1. ); // bind uniform distribution
29
30     double p, q, r, g;
31
32     for ( int i = 0; i < N; i++ ) {
33
34         p = u( rng );
35         q = 1. - p;
36         r = q * K;
37
38         if ( A >= B ) { // same as L/D >= PI/4
39             if ( p <= P1 ) g = B * q + A * sqrt( p * ( 1. + q ) );
40             else          g = G_MAX * sqrt( ( 1 - r ) * ( 1. + r ) );
41         }
42         else { // same as L/D < PI/4
43             if ( p <= P2 ) g = B * p + A * sqrt( q * ( 1. + p ) );
44             else          g = G_MAX * sqrt( ( 1. - r ) * ( 1. + r ) );
45         }
46         std::cout << g << std::endl;
47     }
48     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
49 }

```

This code generates over 28 million shape factors per second on a Mac with a 2.4-GHz Intel Xeon processor. Running the code for an $L/D = 1$ cylinder gives the results shown in Fig. A-5.

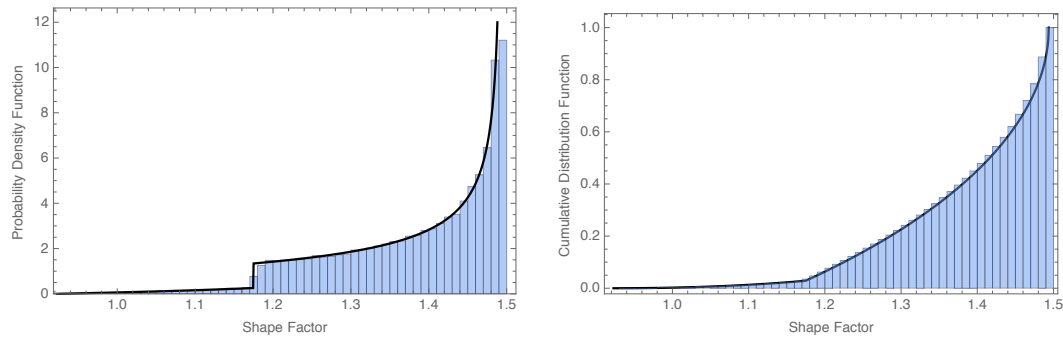


Fig. A-5. Histograms of shape factor PDF and CDF for a randomly oriented $L/D = 1$ cylinder compared to plots from analytical formulas, Eqs. A-65 and A-66. Notice the jump in the PDF at $\gamma = (\pi/4)^{-2/3} \approx 1.175$, as predicted (compare to Fig. A-4).

A-4. Tetrahedron

Consider a regular tetrahedron of unit side length, which has a volume of $\frac{1}{3}(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})^3$. Its presented area ranges from $\frac{1}{\sqrt{8}}$ to $\frac{1}{2}$. The PDF as a function of area is given by¹

$$f(A) = \begin{cases} \frac{12}{\pi} \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{8A^2 - 1}{1 - 4A^2} \right) + \frac{8\sqrt{3}}{\pi} \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{3 - 20A^2}{3 - 16A^2} \right) - \frac{8}{\sqrt{3}} & \text{if } \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \leq A \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ 6 + \frac{16}{\sqrt{3}} & \text{if } \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \leq A \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \\ 6 & \text{if } \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \leq A \leq \frac{1}{2} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A-67})$$

Since presented area, A , and dimensionless shape factor, γ , are related by

$$A = \gamma V^{2/3}, \quad (\text{A-68})$$

where V is the volume, we can get the PDF as a function of γ by simply scaling the area by $V^{-2/3} = 2 \cdot 3^{2/3}$.

The CDF as a function of area is given by

$$F(A) = \begin{cases} \frac{12}{\pi} A \sin^{-1} \left(\frac{8A^2 - 1}{1 - 4A^2} \right) + \frac{8\sqrt{3}}{\pi} A \cos^{-1} \left(\frac{3 - 20A^2}{3 - 16A^2} \right) - \frac{8}{\sqrt{3}} A + \\ \frac{6}{\pi} \left[\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}(1 - 3A)}{\sqrt{1 - 6A^2}} \right) + \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}(1 + 3A)}{\sqrt{1 - 6A^2}} \right) \right] + \\ \frac{6}{\pi} \left[\tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}(2 - 3\sqrt{3}A)}{\sqrt{1 - 6A^2}} \right) + \tan^{-1} \left(\frac{\sqrt{2}(2 + 3\sqrt{3}A)}{\sqrt{1 - 6A^2}} \right) \right] + \\ \frac{6}{\pi} \left[\tan^{-1}(3 - 2\sqrt{2}) - \tan^{-1}(3 + 2\sqrt{2}) \right] - \\ \frac{6}{\pi} \left[\tan^{-1}(4\sqrt{2} - 3\sqrt{3}) + \tan^{-1}(4\sqrt{2} + 3\sqrt{3}) \right] & \text{if } \frac{1}{\sqrt{8}} \leq A \leq \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \\ \left(6 + \frac{16}{\sqrt{3}} \right) A + \frac{6}{\pi} \left[\tan^{-1}(3 - 2\sqrt{2}) - \tan^{-1}(3 + 2\sqrt{2}) \right] - \\ \frac{6}{\pi} \left[\tan^{-1}(4\sqrt{2} - 3\sqrt{3}) + \tan^{-1}(4\sqrt{2} + 3\sqrt{3}) \right] & \text{if } \frac{1}{\sqrt{6}} \leq A \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \\ 6A - 2 & \text{if } \frac{\sqrt{3}}{4} \leq A \leq \frac{1}{2} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A-69})$$

The C++ code in Listing A-4 implements the PDF and CDF, Eqs. A-67 and A-69.

Listing A-4. tetrahedron.cpp

```

1 // tetrahedron.cpp: generates plotting points for tetrahedron pdf and cdf
2 // Ref: Vickers, G. T. and Brown, D. J.,
3 // "The distribution of projected area and perimeter of convex, solid particles,"
4 // Proc. R. Soc. Lond. A (2001), Vol. 457, pp. 283-306.
5
6 #include <iostream>
7 #include <cmath>
8 #include <cstdlib>
9 #include <cassert>
10
11 const double CUBE_VOLUME = 1. / ( M_SQRT2 * M_SQRT2 * M_SQRT2 ); // volume of cube that encloses the tetrahedron
12 // with unit side length
13 const double TETRAHEDRON_VOLUME = CUBE_VOLUME / 3.; // volume of tetrahedron with unit side length
14 const double FACTOR = pow( TETRAHEDRON_VOLUME, -2. / 3. ); // factor that converts presented area to
15 // dimensionless shape factor
16 const double SQRT3 = sqrt( 3. );
17 const double SQRT6 = M_SQRT2 * SQRT3;
18 const double SQRT8 = sqrt( 8. );
19 const double AMIN = 1. / SQRT8;
20 const double AMAX = 1. / 2.;
21
22 double pdf( double x ) {
23     assert( AMIN <= x && x <= AMAX );
24
25     if ( x < 1. / SQRT6 ) {
26         double x2 = x * x;
27         return ( 12. / M_PI ) * asin( ( 8. * x2 - 1. ) / ( 1. - 4. * x2 ) ) +
28             ( 8. * SQRT3 / M_PI ) * acos( ( 3. - 20. * x2 ) / ( 3. - 16. * x2 ) ) - 8. / SQRT3;
29     }
30     else if ( x < SQRT3 / 4. )
31         return 6. + 16. / SQRT3;
32     else
33         return 6.;
34 }
35
36 double cdf( double x ) {
37     assert( AMIN <= x && x <= AMAX );
38
39     if ( x < 1. / SQRT6 ) {
40
41         double x2 = x * x;
42         double x4 = x2 * x2;
43         return
44             ( -2. * ( 4. * SQRT3 * M_PI * x - 12. * SQRT3 * x * acos( ( 3. - 20. * x2 ) / ( 3. - 16. * x2 ) ) +
45             18. * x * asin( ( 1. - 8. * x2 ) / ( 1. - 4. * x2 ) ) -
46             9. * atan( 3. - 2. * M_SQRT2 ) +
47             9. * atan( 3. + 2. * M_SQRT2 ) +
48             9. * atan( 4. * M_SQRT2 - 3. * SQRT3 ) +
49             9. * atan( 4. * M_SQRT2 + 3. * SQRT3 ) -
50             9. * atan( ( M_SQRT2 * ( 1. - 3. * x ) ) / sqrt( 1. - 6. * x2 ) ) -
51             9. * atan( ( M_SQRT2 * ( 1. + 3. * x ) ) / sqrt( 1. - 6. * x2 ) ) -
52             9. * atan( ( M_SQRT2 * ( -2. + 3. * SQRT3 * x ) * sqrt( x2 - 6. * x4 ) ) / ( x * ( -1. + 6. * x2 ) ) ) +
53             9. * atan( ( M_SQRT2 * ( 2. + 3. * SQRT3 * x ) * sqrt( x2 - 6. * x4 ) ) / ( x * ( -1. + 6. * x2 ) ) ) ) ) / ( 3. *
54             M_PI );
55     }
56     else if ( x < SQRT3 / 4. ) {
57         return ( 6. + 16. / SQRT3 ) * x +
58             ( 6. * ( atan( 3. - 2. * M_SQRT2 ) -
59             atan( 3. + 2. * M_SQRT2 ) -
60             atan( 4. * M_SQRT2 - 3. * SQRT3 ) -
61             atan( 4. * M_SQRT2 + 3. * SQRT3 ) ) ) / M_PI;
62     }
63     else
64         return 6. * x - 2.;
65 }
66
67 int main( int argc, char** argv ) { // specify number of points on commandline or use 1000
68     int N = 1000;
69     if ( argc == 2 ) N = atoi( argv[1] );
70
71     for ( double a = AMIN; a <= AMAX; a += ( AMAX - AMIN ) / double( N ) ) {
72
73         double g = FACTOR * a;
74         std::cout << g << "\t"
75             << pdf( a ) / FACTOR << "\t"
76             << cdf( a ) << std::endl;
77     }
78     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
79 }

```

This is plotted in Fig. A-6.

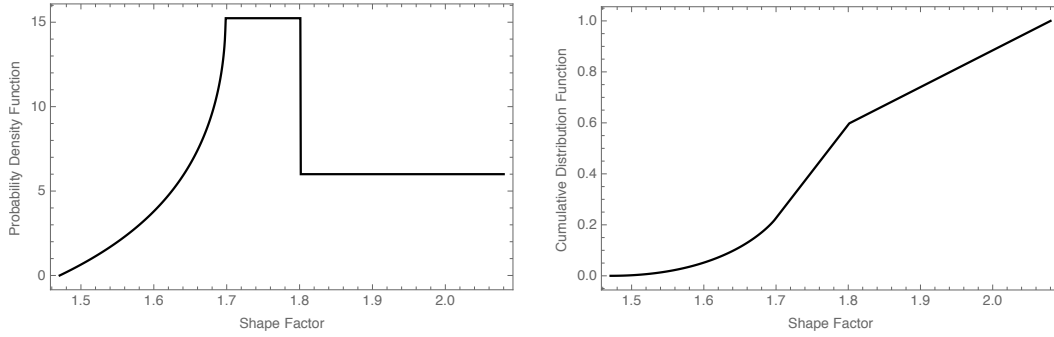


Fig. A-6. Plot of shape factor PDF and CDF for a randomly oriented regular tetrahedron

A-5. Ellipsoid

The equation of an ellipsoid, in which its principal axes are aligned with the coordinate axes, is given by

$$\frac{x^2}{a^2} + \frac{y^2}{b^2} + \frac{z^2}{c^2} = 1, \quad (\text{A-70})$$

where a , b , and c are the 3 semi-principal axes, and its volume is

$$V = \frac{4}{3}\pi abc. \quad (\text{A-71})$$

Let the viewing angle be specified by the polar angle θ and the azimuthal angle ϕ . The presented area of the ellipsoid will be in the shape of an ellipse of area⁵

$$A = \pi \sqrt{b^2 c^2 \sin^2 \theta \cos^2 \phi + a^2 c^2 \sin^2 \theta \sin^2 \phi + a^2 b^2 \cos^2 \theta}. \quad (\text{A-72})$$

Let the dimensions be ordered so that $a \leq b \leq c$. The CDF as a function of area is given by¹

$$F(x) = \begin{cases} 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{\xi \eta} \left[R_F(0, \xi - 1, \xi - \eta) - \frac{1}{3} R_J(0, \xi - 1, \xi - \eta, \xi) \right] & \text{if } A_{\min} \leq x \leq A_m \\ \frac{2}{\pi} \sin^{-1} \sqrt{(A_m^2 - A_{\min}^2)/(A_{\max}^2 - A_{\min}^2)} & \text{if } x = A_m \\ 1 - \frac{2}{\pi} \sqrt{\xi \eta} \left[R_F(0, 1 - \xi, 1 - \eta) - \frac{1}{3} R_J(0, 1 - \xi, 1 - \eta, 1) \right] & \text{if } A_m < x \leq A_{\max} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A-73})$$

⁵Vickers GT. The projected areas of ellipsoids and cylinders. Powder Technology. 1996; 86: 195–200.

where

$$\xi = \frac{A_{\max}^2 - x^2}{A_{\max}^2 - A_m^2}, \quad \eta = \frac{A_{\max}^2 - x^2}{A_{\max}^2 - A_{\min}^2}, \quad A_{\min} = \pi ab, \quad A_m = \pi ac, \quad A_{\max} = \pi bc, \quad (\text{A-74})$$

and the functions R_F and R_J are the Carlson symmetrized form of the classic elliptic integrals:

$$R_F(x, y, z) = \frac{1}{2} \int_0^\infty \frac{dt}{\sqrt{(t+x)(t+y)(t+z)}} \quad (\text{A-75})$$

and

$$R_J(x, y, z, \rho) = \frac{3}{2} \int_0^\infty \frac{dt}{(t+\rho)\sqrt{(t+x)(t+y)(t+z)}}. \quad (\text{A-76})$$

It is shown in *Numerical Recipes*⁶ that the PDF as a function of area is given by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{2x}{\pi} R_F(0, (A_m^2 - x^2)(A_{\max}^2 - A_{\min}^2), (A_{\max}^2 - x^2)(A_m^2 - A_{\min}^2)) & \text{if } A_{\min} \leq x \leq A_m \\ \frac{2x}{\pi} R_F(0, (x^2 - A_m^2)(A_{\max}^2 - A_{\min}^2), (x^2 - A_{\min}^2)(A_{\max}^2 - A_m^2)) & \text{if } A_m < x \leq A_{\max} \end{cases} \quad (\text{A-77})$$

There is a logarithmic singularity in f at $x = A_m$ when a , b , and c are all different.

The total surface area of the ellipsoid is given by

$$S = 2\pi a^2 + \frac{2\pi bc}{a} R_F\left(\frac{1}{a^2}, \frac{1}{b^2}, \frac{1}{c^2}\right) - \frac{2\pi abc}{3} \left(\frac{1}{a^2} - \frac{1}{c^2}\right) \left(\frac{1}{a^2} - \frac{1}{b^2}\right) R_J\left(\frac{1}{c^2}, \frac{1}{b^2}, \frac{1}{a^2}, \frac{1}{a^2}\right), \quad (\text{A-78})$$

and from this we can get the mean presented area as $S/4$ from Cauchy's theorem.

The presented areas in these formulas are easily converted to dimensionless shape factors, γ , via the relationship

$$A = \gamma V^{2/3}, \quad (\text{A-79})$$

where V is the ellipsoid volume. To convert the PDF from a function of area to a function of shape factor, use

$$f(\gamma) = \frac{dF}{d\gamma} = \frac{dF}{dA} \frac{dA}{d\gamma} = V^{2/3} f(x). \quad (\text{A-80})$$

The formulas in Eqs. A-77 and A-74 are plotted in Fig. A-7.

⁶Press WH, Teukolsky SA, Vetterling WT, Flannery BP. Numerical recipes in C: the art of scientific computing. New York (NY): Cambridge University Press; 1995.

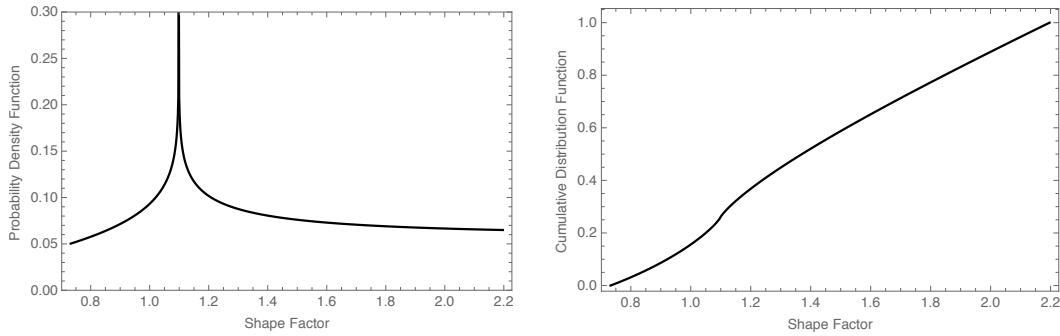


Fig. A-7. Plot of shape factor PDF and CDF for an ellipsoid with $a = 1$, $b = 2$, $c = 3$. There is a logarithmic singularity in the PDF when a , b , and c are all different and is located at $\gamma = (4/3)^{-2/3}(\pi ac/b^2)^{1/3}$, which in this case is at $3\pi^{1/3}/4 \approx 1.098$.

Listings A-5 through A-8 can be used for printing out the solid curves in Fig. A-7.

Listing A-5. ellipsoid.cpp

```

1 // ellipsoid.cpp: Prints out the PDF and CDF as a function of shape factor for an ellipsoid
2 // Specify the dimension of the ellipsoid on the commandline (or use default 3/2/1)
3 // R. Saucier, Feb 2016
4
5 #include <iostream>
6 #include <cstdlib>
7 #include <cmath>
8
9 double rf( double x, double y, double z );
10 double rj( double x, double y, double z, double p );
11
12 inline double min( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::min( std::min( a, b ), c ); }
13 inline double max( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::max( std::max( a, b ), c ); }
14 inline double mid( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::max( std::min( a, b ), std::min( std::max( a, b ), c ) ); }
15
16 class PDF { // functor for probability density function
17 public:
18     PDF( double amin, double am, double amax ) : _amin( amin ), _am( am ), _amax( amax ) {}
19     double operator()( double x ) {
20         double y, z;
21         if ( _amin <= x && x <= _am ) {
22             y = ( _am - x ) * ( _am + x ) * ( _amax - _amin ) * ( _amax + _amin );
23             z = ( _amax - x ) * ( _amax + x ) * ( _am - _amin ) * ( _am + _amin );
24         }
25         else {
26             y = ( x - _am ) * ( x + _am ) * ( _amax - _amin ) * ( _amax + _amin );
27             z = ( x - _amin ) * ( x + _amin ) * ( _amax - _am ) * ( _amax + _am );
28         }
29         return ( x / M_PI_2 ) * rf( 0, y, z );
30     }
31 private:
32     double _amin, _am, _amax;
33 };
34
35 class CDF { // functor for cumulative distribution function
36 public:
37     CDF( double amin, double am, double amax ) : _amin( amin ), _am( am ), _amax( amax ) {}
38     double operator()( double x ) {
39         if ( x == _am )
40             return asin( sqrt( ( _am - _amin ) * ( _am + _amin ) / ( ( _amax - _amin ) * ( _amax + _amin ) ) ) ) / M_PI_2;
41
42         double y, z, p, xi, eta;
43         if ( _amin <= x && x <= _am ) {
44             xi = ( _amax - x ) * ( _amax + x ) / ( ( _amax - _am ) * ( _amax + _am ) );
45             eta = ( _amax - x ) * ( _amax + x ) / ( ( _amax - _amin ) * ( _amax + _amin ) );
46             y = xi - 1.;
47             z = xi - eta;
48             p = xi;
49         }
50         else {
51             xi = ( _amax - x ) * ( _amax + x ) / ( ( _amax - _am ) * ( _amax + _am ) );
52             eta = ( _amax - x ) * ( _amax + x ) / ( ( _amax - _amin ) * ( _amax + _amin ) );
53             y = 1. - xi;
54             z = 1. - eta;

```

```

55     p = 1;
56 }
57 return 1. - ( sqrt( xi * eta ) / M_PI_2 ) * ( rf( 0, y, z ) - rf( 0, y, z, p ) / 3. );
58 }
59 private:
60 double _amin, _am, _amax;
61 };
62
63 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
64
65     double a = 1., b = 2., c = 3.;
66     if ( argc == 4 ) { // or specify the 3 dimensions (in any order) on the command line
67         a = atof( argv[1] );
68         b = atof( argv[2] );
69         c = atof( argv[3] );
70     }
71     const double A = min( a, b, c ); // minimum value
72     const double B = mid( a, b, c ); // intermediate value
73     const double C = max( a, b, c ); // maximum value
74     const double V = ( 4. / 3. ) * M_PI * A * B * C; // ellipsoid volume
75     const double S1 = pow( V, +2. / 3. ); // factor to convert PDF from area to shape factor
76     const double S2 = pow( V, -2. / 3. ); // factor to convert area to shape factor
77     const double AMIN = M_PI * A * B;
78     const double AM = M_PI * A * C;
79     const double AMAX = M_PI * B * C;
80
81     PDF pdf( AMIN, AM, AMAX );
82     CDF cdf( AMIN, AM, AMAX );
83     const int N = 1000;
84     for ( double x = AMIN; x <= AMAX; x += ( AMAX - AMIN ) / double( N ) )
85         std::cout << S2 * x << "\t" << S1 * pdf( x ) << "\t" << cdf( x ) << std::endl;
86
87     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
88 }

```

Listing A-6. rf.cpp

```

1 // rf.cpp: Computes Carlson's elliptic integral of the first kind, Rf(x,y,z),
2 //   where x, y, and z must be nonnegative and at most one can be zero. TINY
3 //   must be at least 5 times the machine underflow limit and BIG at most
4 //   one fifth the machine overflow limit.
5 // Ref: Press, W.H., Teukolsky, S.A., Vetterling, W. T., Flannery, B.P.,
6 //   Numerical Recipes in C, Cambridge University Press, 1992.
7
8 #include <cmath>
9 #include <cstdlib>
10 #include <iostream>
11
12 inline double FMIN3( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::min( std::min( a, b ), c ); }
13 inline double FMAX3( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::max( std::max( a, b ), c ); }
14
15 double rf( double x, double y, double z ) {
16
17     const double ERRTOL = 0.08;
18     const double TINY = 5.7e-103; // at least 2(DBL_MIN)^(1/3), where DBL_MIN = 2.22507e-308
19     const double BIG = 1.1e+102; // at most (1/5)(DBL_MAX)^(1/3), where DBL_MAX = 1.79769e+308
20     const double THIRD = 1. / 3.;
21     const double C1 = 1. / 24.;
22     const double C2 = 0.1;
23     const double C3 = 3. / 44.;
24     const double C4 = 1. / 14.;
25
26     double lambd, ave, delx, dely, delz, e2, e3, sqrtx, sqrty, sqrtz, xt, yt, zt;
27
28     if ( FMIN3( x, y, z ) < 0.0 ||
29         FMIN3( x + y, x + z, y + z ) < TINY ||
30         FMAX3( x, y, z ) > BIG ) {
31         std::cerr << "invalid arguments in rf: " << std::endl;
32         std::cerr << " x = " << x << std::endl;
33         << " y = " << y << std::endl;
34         << " z = " << z << std::endl;
35         exit( EXIT_FAILURE );
36     }
37
38     xt = x;
39     yt = y;
40     zt = z;
41     do {
42         sqrtx = sqrt( xt );
43         sqrty = sqrt( yt );
44         sqrtz = sqrt( zt );
45         alamb = sqrtx * ( sqrty + sqrtz ) + sqrty * sqrtz;
46         xt = 0.25 * ( xt + alamb );

```

```

47     yt = 0.25 * ( yt + alamb );
48     zt = 0.25 * ( zt + alamb );
49     ave = THIRD * ( xt + yt + zt );
50     delx = ( ave - xt ) / ave;
51     dely = ( ave - yt ) / ave;
52     delz = ( ave - zt ) / ave;
53 } while( FMAX3( fabs( delx ), fabs( dely ), fabs( delz ) ) > ERRTOL );
54 e2 = delx * dely - delz * delz;
55 e3 = delx * dely * delz;
56 return ( 1. + ( C1 * e2 - C2 - C3 * e3 ) * e2 + C4 * e3 ) / sqrt( ave );
57 }

```

Listing A-7. rj.cpp

```

1 // rj.cpp: Computes Carlson's elliptic integral of the third kind, Rj(x,y,z,p),
2 //   where x, y, and z must be nonnegative and at most one can be zero. p
3 //   must be nonzero. If p < 0, the Cauchy principal value is returned. TINY
4 //   must be at least twice the cube root of the machine underflow limit and
5 //   BIG at most one fifth the cube root of the machine overflow limit.
6 // Ref: Press, W.H., Teukolsky, S.A., Vetterling, W. T., Flannery, B.P.,
7 //   Numerical Recipes in C, Cambridge University Press, 1992.
8
9 #include <cmath>
10 #include <cstdlib>
11 #include <iostream>
12
13 double rc( double x, double y );
14 double rf( double x, double y, double z );
15
16 inline double FMIN3( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::min( std::min( a, b ), c ); }
17 inline double FMAX3( double a, double b, double c ) { return std::max( std::max( a, b ), c ); }
18 inline double FMIN4( double a, double b, double c, double d ) { return std::min( FMIN3( a, b, c ), d ); }
19 inline double FMAX4( double a, double b, double c, double d ) { return std::max( FMAX3( a, b, c ), d ); }
20 inline double SQR( double a ) { return a * a; }
21
22 double rj( double x, double y, double z, double p ) {
23
24     const double ERRTOL = 0.05;
25     const double TINY = 5.7e-103; // at least 2(DBL_MIN)^(1/3), where DBL_MIN = 2.22507e-308
26     const double BIG = 1.1e+102; // at most (1/5)(DBL_MAX)^(1/3), where DBL_MAX = 1.79769e+308
27     const double C1 = 3. / 14.;
28     const double C2 = 1. / 3.;
29     const double C3 = 3. / 22.;
30     const double C4 = 3. / 26.;
31     const double C5 = 0.75 * C3;
32     const double C6 = 1.5 * C4;
33     const double C7 = 0.5 * C2;
34     const double C8 = C3 + C3;
35
36     double a = 0., alamb, alpha, ans, ave, b = 0., beta, delp, delx, dely, delz, ea, eb, ec,
37     ed, ee, fac, pt, rcx = 0., rho, sqrtx, sqrtz, sum, tau, xt, yt, zt;
38
39     if ( FMIN3( x, y, z ) < 0.0 ||
40         FMIN4( x + y, x + z, y + z, fabs( p ) ) < TINY ||
41         FMAX4( x, y, z, fabs( p ) ) > BIG ) {
42         std::cerr << "invalid arguments in rj: " << std::endl;
43         std::cerr << " x = " << x << std::endl;
44         << " y = " << y << std::endl;
45         << " z = " << z << std::endl;
46         << " p = " << p << std::endl;
47         << " TINY = " << TINY << std::endl;
48         << " BIG = " << BIG << std::endl;
49         exit( EXIT_FAILURE );
50     }
51
52     sum = 0.;
53     fac = 1.;
54     if ( p > 0. ) {
55         xt = x;
56         yt = y;
57         zt = z;
58         pt = p;
59     }
60     else {
61         xt = FMIN3( x, y, z );
62         zt = FMAX3( x, y, z );
63         yt = x + y + z - xt - zt;
64         a = 1. / ( yt - p );
65         b = a * ( zt - yt ) * ( yt - xt );
66         pt = yt + b;
67         rho = xt * zt / yt;
68         tau = p * pt / yt;
69         rcx = rc( rho, tau );

```

```

70     }
71     do {
72         sqrtx = sqrt( xt );
73         sqrt y = sqrt( yt );
74         sqrtz = sqrt( zt );
75         alamb = sqrtx * ( sqrt y + sqrtz ) + sqrt y * sqrtz;
76         alpha = SQR( pt * ( sqrtx + sqrt y + sqrtz ) + sqrtx * sqrt y * sqrtz );
77         beta = pt * SQR( pt + alamb );
78         sum += fac * rc( alpha, beta );
79         fac *= 0.25;
80         xt = 0.25 * ( xt + alamb );
81         yt = 0.25 * ( yt + alamb );
82         zt = 0.25 * ( zt + alamb );
83         pt = 0.25 * ( pt + alamb );
84         ave = 0.2 * ( xt + yt + zt + pt + pt );
85         delx = ( ave - xt ) / ave;
86         dely = ( ave - yt ) / ave;
87         delz = ( ave - zt ) / ave;
88         delp = ( ave - pt ) / ave;
89     } while( FMAX4( fabs( delx ), fabs( dely ), fabs( delz ), fabs( delp ) ) > ERRTOL );
90     ea = delx * ( dely + delz ) + dely * delz;
91     eb = delx * dely * delz;
92     ec = delp * delp;
93     ed = ea - 3. * ec;
94     ee = eb + 2. * delp * ( ea - ec );
95     ans = 3. * sum +
96         fac * ( 1. + ed * ( -C1 + C5 * ed - C6 * ee ) +
97             eb * ( C7 + delp * ( -C8 + delp * C4 ) ) +
98             delp * ea * ( C2 - delp * C3 ) -
99             C2 * delp * ec ) / ( ave * sqrt( ave ) );
100     if ( p <= 0. ) ans = a * ( b * ans + 3. * ( rcx - rf( xt, yt, zt ) ) );
101     return ans;
102 }

```

Listing A-8. rc.cpp

```

1 // rc.cpp: Computes Carlson's degenerate elliptic integral, Rc(x,y), where x must
2 // be nonnegative and y must be nonzero. If y < 0, the Cauchy principal
3 // value is returned. TINY must be at least 5 times the machine underflow
4 // limit and BIG must be at most one fifth the machine overflow limit.
5 // Ref: Press, W.H., Teukolsky, S.A., Vetterling, W. T., Flannery, B.P.,
6 // Numerical Recipes in C, Cambridge University Press, 1992.
7
8 #include <cmath>
9 #include <cstdlib>
10 #include <iostream>
11
12 double rc( double x, double y ) {
13
14     const double ERRTOL = 0.04;
15     const double TINY = 5.7e-103; // at least 2(DBL_MIN)^(1/3), where DBL_MIN = 2.22507e-308
16     const double BIG = 1.1e+102; // at most (1/5)(DBL_MAX)^(1/3), where DBL_MAX = 1.79769e+308
17     const double SQRTNY = sqrt( TINY );
18     const double TNBG = TINY * BIG;
19     const double COMP1 = 2.236 / SQRTNY;
20     const double COMP2 = TNBG * TNBG / 25.;
21     const double THIRD = 1. / 3.;
22     const double C1 = 0.3;
23     const double C2 = 1. / 7.;
24     const double C3 = 0.375;
25     const double C4 = 9. / 22.;
26
27     double alamb, ave, s, w, xt, yt;
28     if ( x < 0.0 || y == 0.0 ||
29         ( x + fabs( y ) ) < TINY ||
30         ( x + fabs( y ) ) > BIG ||
31         ( y < -COMP1 && x > 0.0 && x < COMP2 ) ) {
32         std::cerr << "invalid arguments in rc: " << std::endl;
33         << " x = " << x << std::endl;
34         << " y = " << y << std::endl;
35         exit( EXIT_FAILURE );
36     }
37     if ( y > 0. ) {
38         xt = x;
39         yt = y;
40         w = 1.;
41     }
42     else {
43         xt = x - y;
44         yt = -y;
45         w = sqrt( x ) / sqrt( xt );
46     }
47     do {

```

```

48     alamb = 2. * sqrt( xt ) * sqrt( yt ) + yt;
49     xt = 0.25 * ( xt + alamb );
50     yt = 0.25 * ( yt + alamb );
51     ave = THIRD * ( xt + yt + yt );
52     s = ( yt - ave ) / ave;
53 } while ( fabs( s ) > ERRTOL );
54 return w * ( 1. + s * s * ( C1 + s * ( C2 + s * ( C3 + s * C4 ) ) ) ) / sqrt( ave );
55 }

```

Appendix B. Uniform Sampling over the Unit Sphere

The *global* version of Archimedes' theorem¹ states that the area of a sphere is equal to the area of a cylinder circumscribed about the sphere, excluding the bases. The area of a unit sphere is 4π . The area of the circumscribed cylinder is the circumference times the height: $2\pi \times 2 = 4\pi$. The *local* version of the theorem states further that *any* region on the sphere is equal to the axial projection on the cylinder. This is a very powerful theorem for our purposes since it is much easier to define a sampling strategy on the cylinder, which we can lay out flat and independently sample ϕ and z , and then use Archimedes' theorem to map onto the unit sphere.

Let θ and ϕ be the polar and azimuthal angles, respectively, on the unit sphere, and let ϕ and z be coordinates on the circumscribed cylinder, where $\theta \in [0, \pi]$, $\phi \in [0, 2\pi]$, and $z \in [-1, 1]$. Then the mapping from the cylinder to the sphere $[0, 2\pi] \times [-1, 1] \Rightarrow S^2(\theta, \phi)$ is simply

$$\theta = \cos^{-1} z \quad (\text{B-1})$$

while the ϕ value remains the same. Now that we know the mapping from the cylinder to the sphere, we focus on the sampling strategy on the unwrapped cylinder, the aspect ratio of which is depicted in Fig. B-1.

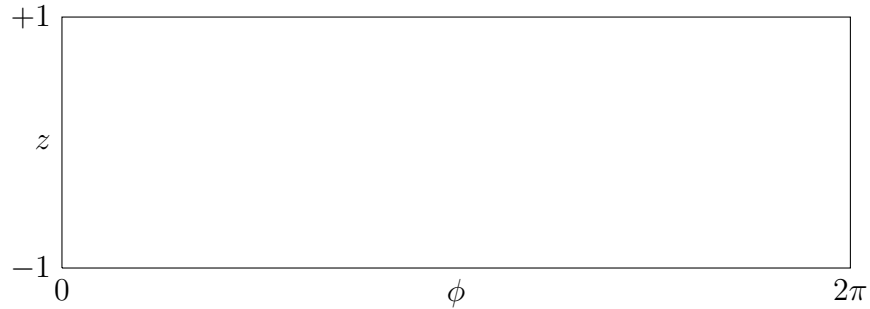


Fig. B-1. Sampling on the $[0, 2\pi] \times [-1, 1]$ circumscribed cylinder allows us to sample both ϕ and z uniformly and independently over their entire range

We describe 4 sampling strategies, 2 randomized and 2 deterministic.

¹Shao M, Badler N. Spherical sampling by Archimedes' theorem. Philadelphia (PA): University of Pennsylvania; 1996; Technical Report MS-CIS-96-02.

B-1. Uniform Random

The first is independent uniform random sampling² on both $\phi \sim U(0, 2\pi)$ and $z \sim U(-1, 1)$. The C++ code is given in Listing B-1.

Listing B-1. uniform.cpp

```
1 // uniform.cpp: generate a uniform random distribution over the unit sphere
2
3 #include "Random.h"
4 #include <iostream>
5 #include <cstdlib>
6 #include <cmath>
7 #include <iomanip>
8
9 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
10
11     unsigned int N = 1000;
12     if ( argc == 2 ) N = atoi( argv[1] );
13
14     std::cout << std::setprecision(6) << std::fixed;
15
16     rng::Random rng;
17     double th, ph, x, y, z;
18     for ( unsigned int n = 0; n < N; n++ ) {
19
20         x = rng.uniform( 0., 2. * M_PI );
21         z = rng.uniform( -1., 1 );
22         //std::cout << x << "\t" << z << std::endl;
23         ph = x;
24         th = acos( z );
25         //std::cout << ph << "\t" << th << std::endl;
26         x = sin( th ) * cos( ph );
27         y = sin( th ) * sin( ph );
28         std::cout << x << "\t" << y << "\t" << z << std::endl;
29     }
30     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
31 }
```

This is the simplest strategy, and it has the advantage that we do not need to know the total number of sample points beforehand; we can simply continue until we meet some convergence criterion. The biggest disadvantage is that it produces a pattern that contains clustering of points and is not very uniform, as we see in Fig. B-2.

B-2. Stratified Random

We can improve upon the clustering problem that we see with uniform sampling by using stratified random sampling. This can be achieved by imposing a grid on the cylinder and drawing a random sample within each grid cell. The C++ code is given in Listing B-2.

Listing B-2. strat.cpp

```
1 // strat.cpp: Stratified uniform spherical sampling based upon Archimedes' Theorem;
2 // works by subdividing the [0,2 pi] x [-1,1] cylinder into N^2 rectangles,
3 // randomly selects a point from each, and then maps onto the unit sphere.
4 // Reference: Min-Zhi Shao and Norman Badler, "Spherical Sampling by Archimedes' Theorem,"
5 // http://repository.upenn.edu/cis_reports/184/, 25 June 2007.
6
7 #include "Random.h"
```

²Saucier R. Computer generation of statistical distributions. Aberdeen Proving Ground (MD): Army Research Laboratory (US); 2000 Mar. Report No.: ARL-TR-2168.

```

8  #include <iostream>
9  #include <cstdlib>
10 #include <cmath>
11
12 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) { // override default N on commandline
13
14     int N = 32; // number of points is N^2, so default is 32^2 = 1024
15     if ( argc == 2 ) N = atoi( argv[1] );
16
17     const double DEL_X = 2. * M_PI / double( N );
18     const double DEL_Z = 2. / double( N );
19
20     rng::Random rng;
21
22     double x, y, ph1, ph2, z, z1, z2, ph, th;
23     for ( int i = 1; i <= N; i++ ) {
24
25         z2 = i * DEL_Z;
26         z1 = z2 - DEL_Z;
27         for ( int j = 1; j <= N; j++ ) {
28
29             ph2 = j * DEL_X;
30             ph1 = ph2 - DEL_X;
31             ph = rng.uniform( ph1, ph2 );
32             z = rng.uniform( z1, z2 ) - 1.;
33
34             //std::cout << ph << "\t" << z << std::endl;
35             th = acos( z );
36             //std::cout << ph << "\t" << th << std::endl;
37             x = sin( th ) * cos( ph );
38             y = sin( th ) * sin( ph );
39             std::cout << x << "\t" << y << "\t" << z << std::endl;
40         }
41     }
42     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
43 }

```

This does a lot to remove the clustering as shown in Fig. B-3, but the disadvantage is that we need to know the total number of sample points beforehand to impose the grid. There is another issue with this stratified sampling: to get uniform sampling, the grid cells must be rectangles rather than squares. This results in a different density of points along the 2 dimensions.

B-3. Spiral Distribution

A good discussion of the general problem of distributing points uniformly over the unit sphere is contained in the paper by Saff and Kuijlaars.³ They show that a distribution of points on the sphere spiraling from the north pole to south pole provides a good compromise that keeps the spacing between points about the same. Their formulation is implemented in Listing B-3. This is not randomized, and we need to know beforehand the total number of sample points. The pattern it produces is shown in Fig. B-4.

³Saff EB, Kuijlaars AB. Distributing many points on a sphere. The Mathematical Intelligencer. 1997;19:5A1.

Listing B-3. spiral.cpp

```
1 // spiral.cpp: uniform spiral distribution over the unit sphere
2 // Implementation of the spiral distribution on the unit sphere as described in the paper:
3 // Saff and Kuijlaars, "Distributing Many Points on a Sphere," The Mathematical Intelligencer, Vol. 19 (1967) pp. 5-11.
4
5 #include <iostream>
6 #include <cstdlib>
7 #include <cmath>
8 using namespace std;
9
10 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
11
12     const double TWO_PI = 2. * M_PI;
13
14     int N = 1000;
15     if ( argc == 2 ) N = atoi( argv[1] );
16
17     double x, y, z, th, ph = 0.;
18     for ( int i = 1; i <= N; i++ ) {
19
20         if ( i == 1 ) {
21             z = -1.;
22             ph = 0.;
23         }
24         else if ( i == N ) {
25             z = 1.;
26             ph = 0.;
27         }
28         else {
29             z = -1. + 2. * ( i - 1 ) / double( N - 1 );
30             ph += 3.6 / sqrt( double( N ) * ( 1. - z ) * ( 1. + z ) );
31         }
32         th = acos( z );
33         while ( ph > TWO_PI ) ph -= TWO_PI;
34
35         //cout << ph << "\t" << z << endl;
36         //cout << ph << "\t" << th << endl;
37         x = sin( th ) * cos( ph );
38         y = sin( th ) * sin( ph );
39         cout << x << "\t" << y << "\t" << z << endl;
40     }
41     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
42 }
```

We call this the *spiral distribution* since it starts at the north pole and spirals points around the sphere until it reaches the south pole.

B-4. Maximal Avoidance

The last method we consider is based upon number theory. The code listing is in Listing B-4 and is based upon the code in *Numerical Recipes*.⁴

Listing B-4. avoidance.cpp

```
1 // avoidance.cpp: use maximal avoidance to generate a uniform distribution over the unit sphere
2
3 #include "Random.h"
4 #include "Vector.h"
5 #include <iostream>
6 #include <cstdlib>
7 #include <cmath>
8 #include <iomanip>
9
10 va::Vector spherical( rng::Random& rng ) { // returns a random unit vector uniformly distributed over the unit sphere
11
12     double x, y, z;
13     rng.spherical_avoidance( x, y, z );
14     return va::Vector( x, y, z );
15 }
```

⁴Press WH, Teukolsky SA, Vetterling WT, Flannery BP. Numerical recipes in C: the art of scientific computing. New York (NY): Cambridge University Press; 1995.

```

16
17 int main( int argc, char* argv[] ) {
18
19     unsigned int N = 1024;
20     if ( argc == 2 ) N = atoi( argv[1] );
21
22     std::cout << std::setprecision(6) << std::fixed;
23
24     rng::Random rng;
25     for ( unsigned int n = 0; n < N; n++ ) std::cout << spherical( rng ) << std::endl;
26
27     /*
28     double th, ph, xy[2];
29     for ( unsigned int n = 0; n < N; n++ ) {
30
31         //rng.avoidance( xy, 2 );
32         //std::cout << xy[0] * 2. * M_PI << "\t" << xy[1] * 2. - 1. << std::endl;
33         rng.spherical_avoidance( th, ph );
34         std::cout << ph << "\t" << th << std::endl;
35     }
36     */
37     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
38 }

```

This is also deterministic, not random, and one requires to know the number of sample points ahead of time. However, it does a very nice job of distributing the points, as shown in Fig. B-5. The points are computed sequentially, and number theory is used to avoid previous points.

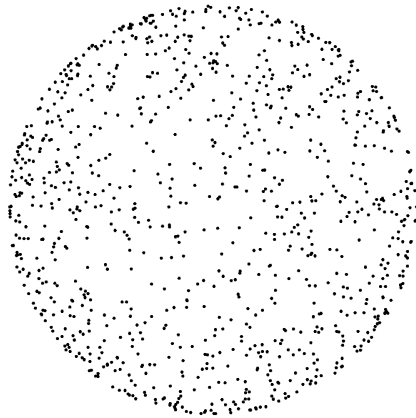
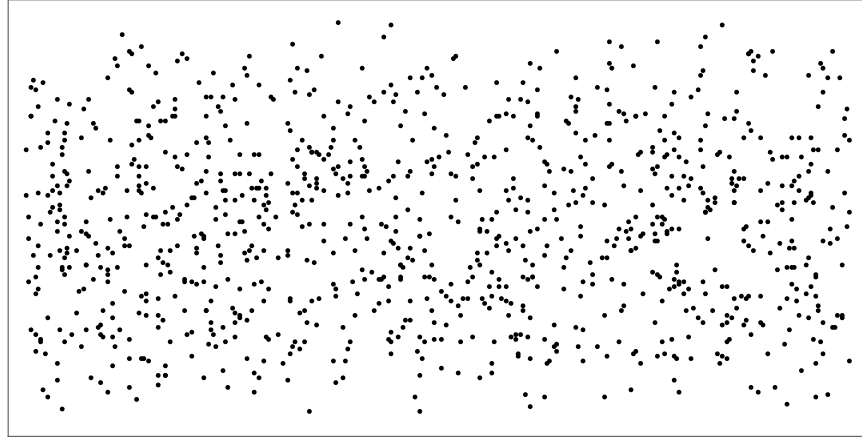
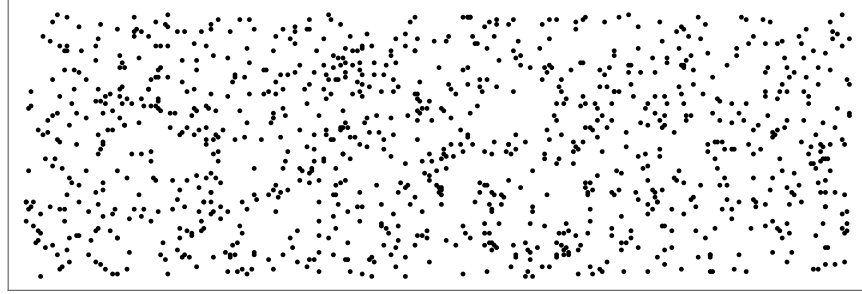


Fig. B-2. Using *uniform sampling* on the cylinder with $x \in [0, 2\pi]$ and $z \in [-1, 1]$ (top plot) and Archimedes' theorem to map onto the sphere with $\phi = x$ and $\theta = \cos^{-1} z$

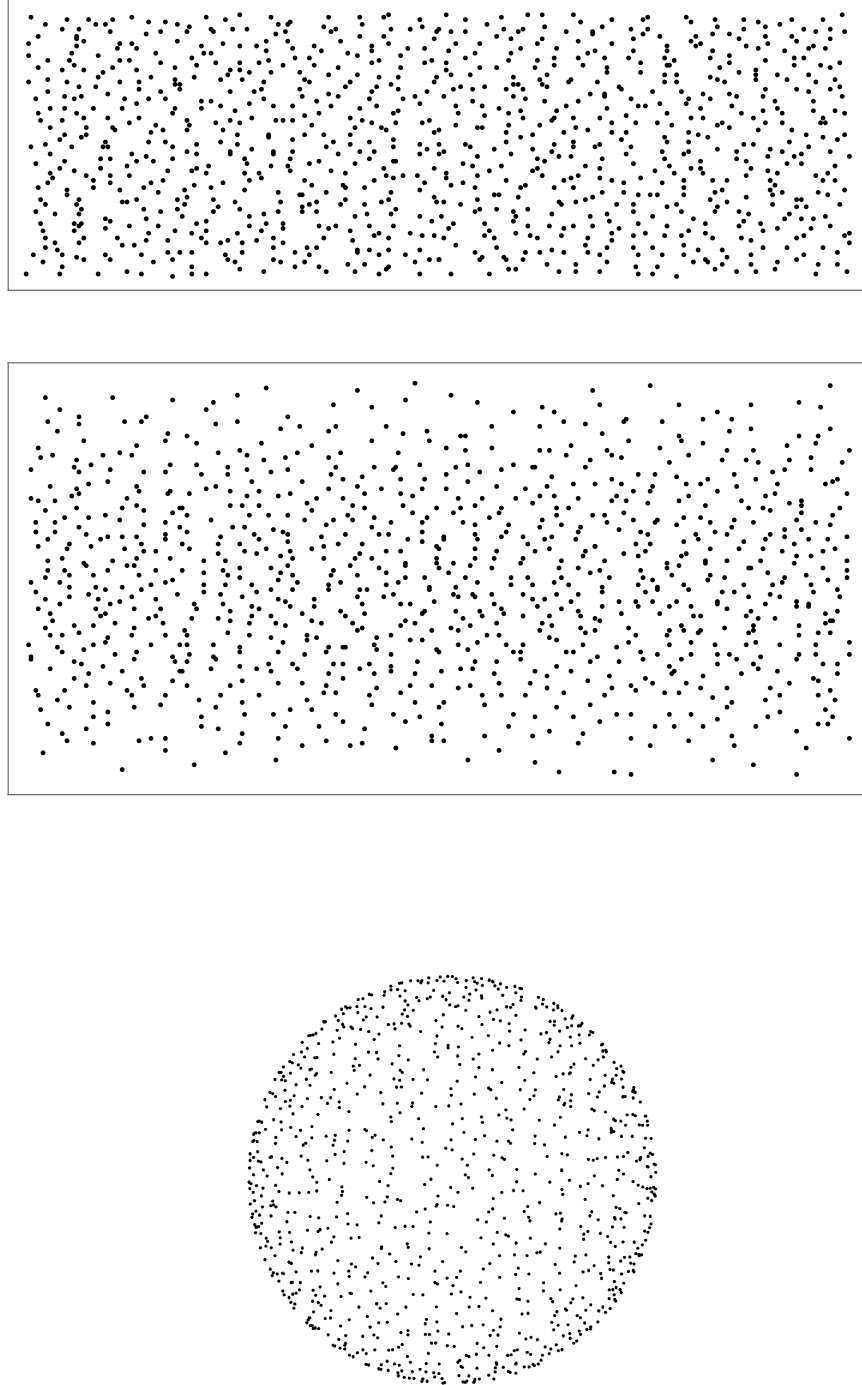


Fig. B-3. Using *stratified sampling* on the cylinder with $x \in [0, 2\pi]$ and $z \in [-1, 1]$ (top plot) and Archimedes' theorem to map onto the sphere with $\phi = x$ and $\theta = \cos^{-1} z$

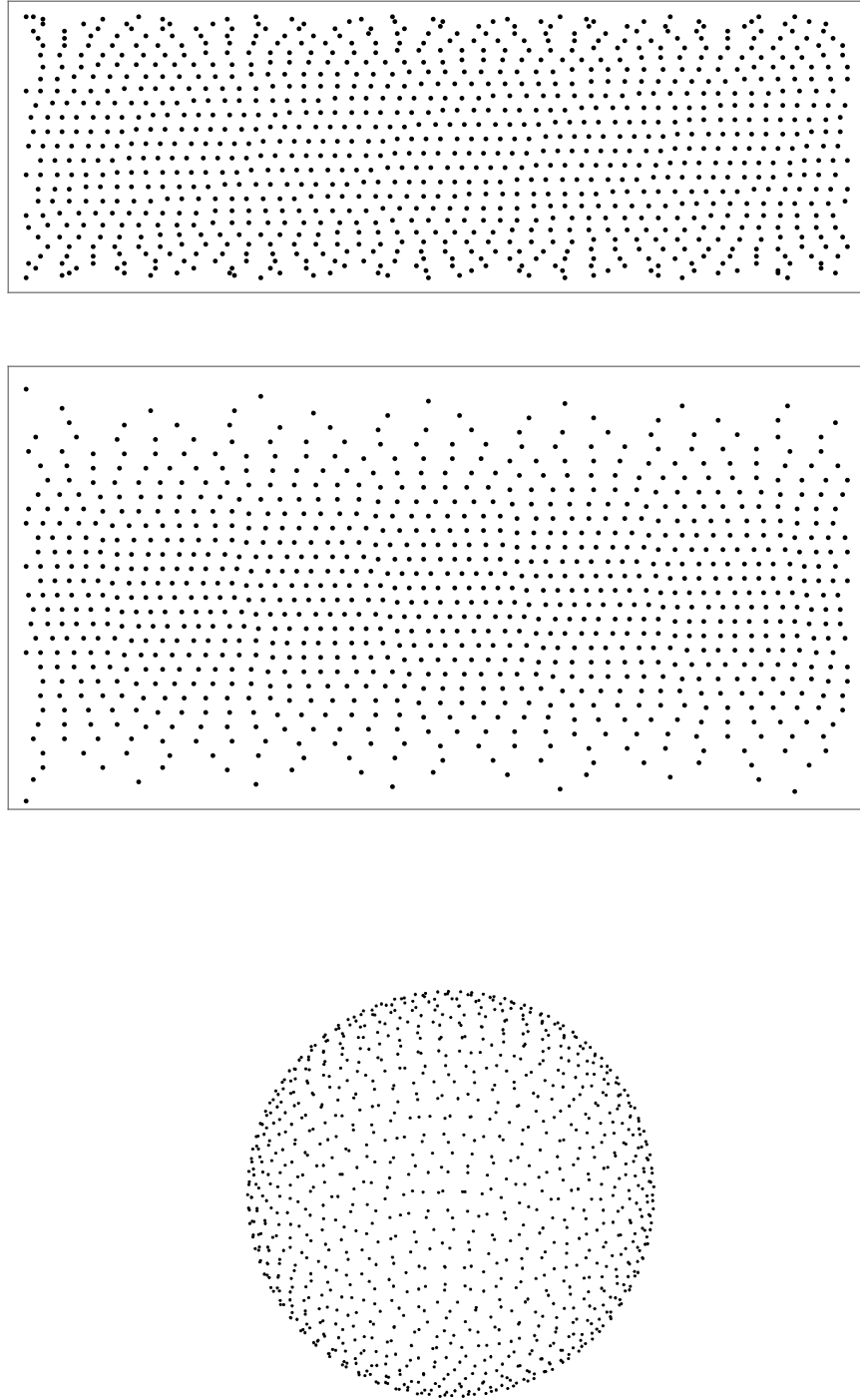


Fig. B-4. Using the *spiral distribution* on the cylinder with $x \in [0, 2\pi]$ and $z \in [-1, 1]$ (top plot) and Archimedes' theorem to map onto the sphere with $\phi = x$ and $\theta = \cos^{-1} z$

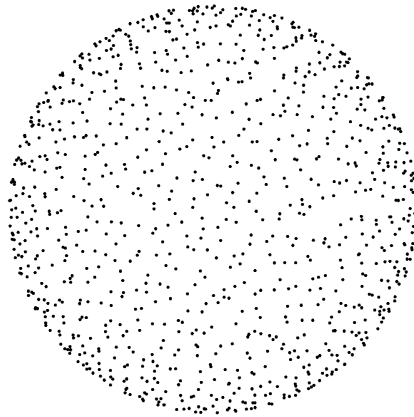
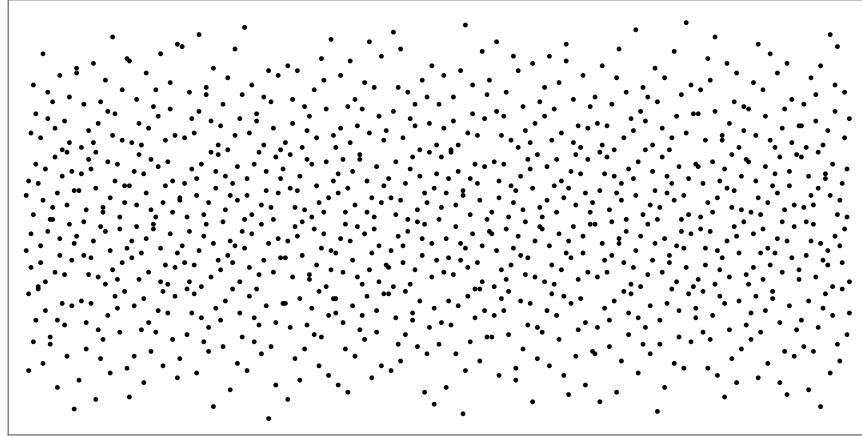
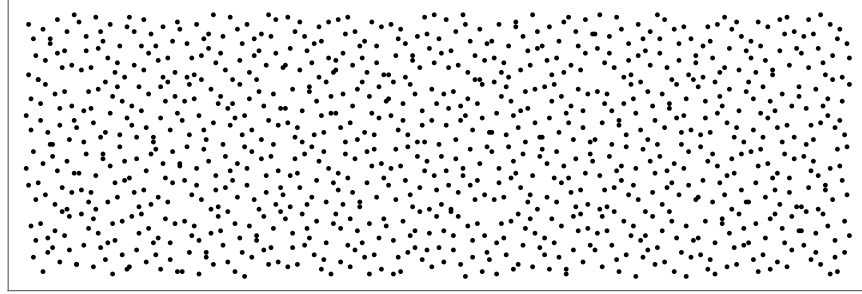


Fig. B-5. Using *maximal avoidance* on the cylinder with $x \in [0, 2\pi]$ and $z \in [-1, 1]$ (top plot) and Archimedes' theorem to map onto the sphere with $\phi = x$ and $\theta = \cos^{-1} z$

Appendix C. Some Properties of the Lognormal Distribution

The probability density function (PDF) is

$$f(x | \mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma x} \exp \left[-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} \right] \quad (\text{C-1})$$

and the cumulative distribution function (CDF) is

$$F(x | \mu, \sigma^2) = \frac{1}{2} \left(1 + \operatorname{erf} \left[\frac{\ln x - \mu}{\sqrt{2} \sigma} \right] \right), \quad (\text{C-2})$$

where μ is the location parameter and σ is the scale parameter. Expressions for the usual metrics are listed in Table C-1.

Table C-1. Properties of the lognormal distribution

Statistic	Expression
Geometric Mean	$x_g = e^\mu$
Geometric Standard Deviation	$\sigma_g = e^\sigma$
Median	$x_{50} = e^\mu$
Mean	$\bar{x} = e^{\mu + \sigma^2/2}$
Mode	$\hat{x} = e^{\mu - \sigma^2}$

- The values $a\hat{x}$ and $\hat{x}/a$ are equally likely for any value $a \neq 0$. That is, $f(a\hat{x}) = f(\hat{x}/a)$.
- 68% of the distribution is contained in the interval $[x_g\sigma_g^{-1}, x_g\sigma_g]$.
- 95% of the distribution is contained in the interval $[x_g\sigma_g^{-2}, x_g\sigma_g^2]$.

The n -th moment about the origin is

$$\begin{aligned}
\lambda_n &\equiv \int_0^\infty x^n f(x) dx \\
&= \int_0^\infty e^{n \ln x} f(x) dx \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \int_0^\infty \exp \left[-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} + n \ln x \right] d \ln x \\
&= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma} \int_0^\infty \exp \left[-\frac{(\ln x - \mu - n\sigma^2)^2}{2\sigma^2} + n\mu + \frac{1}{2}n^2\sigma^2 \right] d \ln x \\
&= \exp \left(n\mu + \frac{1}{2}n^2\sigma^2 \right) \\
&= x_g^n \exp \left(\frac{1}{2}n^2\sigma^2 \right) \quad (\text{C-3})
\end{aligned}$$

The n -th moment distribution function of $f(x | \mu, \sigma^2)$ is defined by

$$f_n(x | \mu, \sigma^2) \equiv \frac{1}{\lambda_n} x^n f(x | \mu, \sigma^2). \quad (\text{C-4})$$

Using Eqs. C-3 and C-1,

$$\begin{aligned} f_n(x | \mu, \sigma^2) &= \exp\left(-n\mu - \frac{1}{2}n^2\sigma^2\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma x} \exp\left[-\frac{(\ln x - \mu)^2}{2\sigma^2} + n \ln x\right] \\ &= \exp\left(-n\mu - \frac{1}{2}n^2\sigma^2\right) \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma x} \exp\left[-\frac{(\ln x - \mu - n\sigma^2)^2}{2\sigma^2} + n\mu + \frac{1}{2}n^2\sigma^2\right] \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}\sigma x} \exp\left[-\frac{(\ln x - \mu - n\sigma^2)^2}{2\sigma^2}\right]. \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C-5})$$

And thus we have derived the *Fundamental Theorem of the Moment Distribution*:

The n -th moment distribution of a lognormal distribution with parameters μ and σ^2 is also a lognormal distribution with parameters $\mu + n\sigma^2$ and σ^2 , respectively,

$$f_n(x | \mu, \sigma^2) = f(x | \mu + n\sigma^2, \sigma^2). \quad (\text{C-6})$$

We can also show that the product and quotient of lognormal distributions are also lognormal. Using the notation of Aitchison and Brown¹, if $X_1 \sim \Lambda(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$ and $X_2 \sim \Lambda(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$, then the product $X_1 X_2$ is also lognormal with

$$X_1 X_2 \sim \Lambda(\mu_1 + \mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2), \quad (\text{C-7})$$

and the quotient X_1/X_2 is also lognormal with

$$X_1/X_2 \sim \Lambda(\mu_1 - \mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2). \quad (\text{C-8})$$

We can derive these results as follows.

¹Aitchison J, Brown JAC. The lognormal distribution. New York (NY): Cambridge University Press; 1963.

C-1. Product of Lognormals

Let $X_1 \sim \Lambda(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$ and $X_2 \sim \Lambda(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$ be lognormal distributions. Then the cumulative distribution of their product is

$$F_{X_1 X_2}(u) = \iint_{X_1 X_2 \leq u} f(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 = \int_0^\infty \left(\int_0^{u/x_1} f(x_1, x_2) dx_2 \right) dx_1. \quad (\text{C-9})$$

The density is obtained by differentiating with respect to u , so that

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X_1 X_2}(u) &= \int_0^\infty f\left(x_1, \frac{u}{x_1}\right) \frac{1}{x_1} dx_1 \\ &= \int_0^\infty f(x) f\left(\frac{u}{x}\right) d \ln x \\ &= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma_1 x} \exp\left[-\frac{(\ln x - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2}\right] \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma_2 (u/x)} \exp\left[-\frac{(\ln(u/x) - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2}\right] d \ln x \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi \sigma_1 \sigma_2 u} \int_0^\infty \exp\left[-\frac{(\ln x - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2} - \frac{(\ln u - \ln x - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2}\right] d \ln x \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi \sigma_1 \sigma_2 u} \int_0^\infty \exp\left[-\left(\frac{(\ln x - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(\ln x + \mu_2 - \ln u)^2}{2\sigma_2^2}\right)\right] d \ln x \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi \sigma_1 \sigma_2 u} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \exp\left[-\left(\frac{(x - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(x + \mu_2 - \ln u)^2}{2\sigma_2^2}\right)\right] dx \\ &= \frac{1}{2\pi \sigma_1 \sigma_2 u} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \exp[-g(x)] dx, \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C-10})$$

where

$$g(x) \equiv \frac{(x - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(x + \mu_2 - \ln u)^2}{2\sigma_2^2} \equiv a(x - \mu_1)^2 + b(x + \mu_2 - c)^2, \quad (\text{C-11})$$

and

$$a \equiv \frac{1}{2\sigma_1^2}, \quad b \equiv \frac{1}{2\sigma_2^2}, \quad c \equiv \ln u. \quad (\text{C-12})$$

Completing the square in x gives, after some messy algebra,

$$g(x) = (a + b) \left(x - \frac{a\mu_1 - b\mu_2 + bc}{a + b} \right)^2 + \frac{ab}{a + b} [c - (\mu_1 + \mu_2)]^2 \quad (\text{C-13})$$

or, in terms of σ_1 , σ_2 , and $\ln u$,

$$g(x) = \frac{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}{2\sigma_1^2\sigma_2^2} \left(x - \frac{\sigma_2^2\mu_1 - \sigma_1^2\mu_2 + \sigma_1^2 \ln u}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2} \right)^2 + \frac{(\ln u - \mu_1 - \mu_2)^2}{2(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)}. \quad (\text{C-14})$$

Therefore, returning to Eq. C-10,

$$f_{X_1X_2}(u) = \exp \left[-\frac{(\ln u - \mu_1 - \mu_2)^2}{2(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)} \right] \times \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2 u} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left[-\frac{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}{2\sigma_1^2\sigma_2^2} \left(x - \frac{\sigma_2^2\mu_1 - \sigma_1^2\mu_2 + \sigma_1^2 \ln u}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2} \right)^2 \right] dx \quad (\text{C-15})$$

The integral is now easily evaluated with the substitution

$$\xi = \frac{\sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_1\sigma_2} \left(x - \frac{\sigma_2^2\mu_1 - \sigma_1^2\mu_2 + \sigma_1^2 \ln u}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad d\xi = \frac{\sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_1\sigma_2} dx \quad (\text{C-16})$$

and we get

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X_1X_2}(u) &= \exp \left[-\frac{(\ln u - \mu_1 - \mu_2)^2}{2(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)} \right] \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\pi\sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}u} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\xi^2} d\xi \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)}u} \exp \left[-\frac{(\ln u - \mu_1 - \mu_2)^2}{2(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)} \right] \\ &= \Lambda(\mu_1 + \mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2). \end{aligned} \quad (\text{C-17})$$

Thus,

$$\boxed{X_1X_2 \sim \Lambda(\mu_1 + \mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)} \quad (\text{C-18})$$

as was to be shown.

C-2. Quotient of Lognormals

Let $X_1 \sim \Lambda(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$ and $X_2 \sim \Lambda(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$ be lognormal distributions. Then the cumulative distribution of their quotient is

$$F_{X_1/X_2}(u) = \iint_{X_1/X_2 \leq u} f(x_1, x_2) dx_1 dx_2 = \int_0^{\infty} \left(\int_0^{ux_2} f(x_1, x_2) dx_1 \right) dx_2. \quad (\text{C-19})$$

The density is obtained by differentiating with respect to u , so that

$$\begin{aligned}
f_{X_1/X_2}(u) &= \int_0^\infty f(ux_2, x_2) x_2 dx_2 \\
&= \int_0^\infty f(ux) f(x) x dx \\
&= \int_0^\infty \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma_1 x} \exp \left[-\frac{(\ln(ux) - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2} \right] \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi} \sigma_2 x} \exp \left[-\frac{(\ln x - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2} \right] x dx \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi \sigma_1 \sigma_2 u} \int_0^\infty \exp \left[-\frac{(\ln u + \ln x - \mu_1)^2}{2\sigma_1^2} - \frac{(\ln x - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2} \right] d \ln x \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi \sigma_1 \sigma_2 u} \int_0^\infty \exp \left[-\left(\frac{(\ln x - \mu_1 + \ln u)^2}{2\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(\ln x - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2} \right) \right] d \ln x \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi \sigma_1 \sigma_2 u} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \exp \left[-\left(\frac{(x - \mu_1 + \ln u)^2}{2\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(x - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2} \right) \right] dx \\
&= \frac{1}{2\pi \sigma_1 \sigma_2 u} \int_{-\infty}^\infty \exp [-h(x)] dx, \tag{C-20}
\end{aligned}$$

where

$$h(x) \equiv \frac{(x - \mu_1 + \ln u)^2}{2\sigma_1^2} + \frac{(x - \mu_2)^2}{2\sigma_2^2} \equiv a(x - \mu_1 + c)^2 + b(x - \mu_2)^2, \tag{C-21}$$

and

$$a \equiv \frac{1}{2\sigma_1^2}, \quad b \equiv \frac{1}{2\sigma_2^2}, \quad c \equiv \ln u. \tag{C-22}$$

Completing the square in x gives

$$h(x) = (a + b) \left(x - \frac{a\mu_1 + b\mu_2 - ac}{a + b} \right)^2 + \frac{ab}{a + b} [c - (\mu_1 - \mu_2)]^2 \tag{C-23}$$

or, in terms of σ_1 , σ_2 , and $\ln u$,

$$h(x) = \frac{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}{2\sigma_1^2 \sigma_2^2} \left(x - \frac{\sigma_2^2 \mu_1 + \sigma_1^2 \mu_2 - \sigma_2^2 \ln u}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2} \right)^2 + \frac{[\ln u - (\mu_1 - \mu_2)]^2}{2(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)}. \tag{C-24}$$

Therefore, returning to Eq. C-20,

$$f_{X_2/X_1}(u) = \exp \left[-\frac{[\ln u - (\mu_1 - \mu_2)]^2}{2(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)} \right] \times \frac{1}{2\pi\sigma_1\sigma_2 u} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} \exp \left[-\frac{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}{2\sigma_1^2\sigma_2^2} \left(x - \frac{\sigma_2^2\mu_1 + \sigma_1^2\mu_2 - \sigma_2^2 \ln u}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2} \right)^2 \right] dx \quad (C-25)$$

The integral is now easily evaluated with the substitution

$$\xi = \frac{\sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_1\sigma_2} \left(x - \frac{\sigma_2^2\mu_1 + \sigma_1^2\mu_2 - \sigma_2^2 \ln u}{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2} \right) \quad \text{and} \quad d\xi = \frac{\sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}}{\sqrt{2}\sigma_1\sigma_2} dx \quad (C-26)$$

and we get

$$\begin{aligned} f_{X_2/X_1}(u) &= \exp \left[-\frac{[\ln u - (\mu_1 - \mu_2)]^2}{2(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)} \right] \frac{1}{\sqrt{2}\pi\sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2}u} \int_{-\infty}^{\infty} e^{-\xi^2} d\xi \\ &= \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)}u} \exp \left[-\frac{[\ln u - (\mu_1 - \mu_2)]^2}{2(\sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)} \right] \\ &= \Lambda(\mu_1 - \mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2). \end{aligned} \quad (C-27)$$

Thus,

$$\boxed{X_1/X_2 \sim \Lambda(\mu_1 - \mu_2, \sigma_1^2 + \sigma_2^2)} \quad (C-28)$$

as was to be shown.

In general, if X_i , $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ are independent random variables with $X_i \sim \Lambda(\mu_i, \sigma_i^2)$ and a and p_i are constants, then²

$$\boxed{a \prod_{i=1}^n X_i^{p_i} \sim \Lambda(\ln a + \sum_{i=1}^n p_i \mu_i, \sum_{i=1}^n p_i^2 \sigma_i^2)} \quad (C-29)$$

Notice that the variance can only increase, never decrease. The next section gives an application of this result.

²Crow EL, Shimizu K, Editors. Lognormal distributions: theory and applications. New York (NY): Marcel Dekker, Inc.; 1988.

C-3. Mass per Unit Area Distribution

Suppose that the dimensionless shape factor γ is lognormally distributed with $\gamma \sim \Lambda(\mu_1, \sigma_1^2)$ and that fragment mass is also lognormally distributed with $m \sim \Lambda(\mu_2, \sigma_2^2)$. Then, since the fragment presented area, A_p , equals $\gamma(m/\rho)^{2/3}$, where ρ is the material density, it follows from Eq. C-29 that mass per unit area is also lognormally distributed:

$$\frac{m}{A_p} = \frac{1}{\gamma} \rho^{2/3} m^{1/3} \sim \Lambda(\mu, \sigma^2), \quad (\text{C-30})$$

where

$$\mu = \ln \rho^{2/3} - \mu_1 + \frac{\mu_2}{3} \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma^2 = \sigma_1^2 + \left(\frac{\sigma_2}{3}\right)^2. \quad (\text{C-31})$$

To illustrate this, let us return to the artillery fragments described in Section 3.2. A lognormal distribution fits the fragment masses (in grams) with $\mu_2 = 1.690$ and $\sigma_2 = 1.323$. We also found that the shape factor distribution was lognormal with $\mu_1 = 0.597$ and $\sigma_1 = 0.341$. From Eqs. C-29, C-30, and C-31, it then follows that the mass per unit area distribution (in g/cm²) should also be lognormal with

$$\mu = \ln 7.83^{2/3} - \mu_1 + \mu_2/3 = 1.338 \quad \text{and} \quad \sigma = \sqrt{\sigma_1^2 + (\sigma_2/3)^2} = 0.557. \quad (\text{C-32})$$

The program in Listing C-1 generates the shape factor and mass independently and outputs the mass per unit area.

Listing C-1. mu.cpp

```
1 // mu.cpp: generate shape factor and mass independently
2 // and output mass per unit area to compare to the theoretical distribution
3
4 #include "Random.h"
5 #include <iostream>
6 #include <cstdlib>
7 #include <cmath>
8
9 int main( void ) {
10
11     const int N = 10000;
12     const double MU1 = 0.597, SIGMA1 = 0.341, RHO = 7.83, C = pow( RHO, 2./3. );
13     const double MU2 = 1.690, SIGMA2 = 1.323;
14     rng::Random rng;
15     double sf, m, mu;
16
17     for ( int i = 0; i < N; i++ ) {
18
19         sf = rng.lognormal( 0., MU1, SIGMA1 ); // shape factor (dimensionless)
20         m = rng.lognormal( 0., MU2, SIGMA2 ); // mass (grams)
21         mu = C * pow( m, 1./3. ) / sf; // mass per unit area (g/cm^2)
22         std::cout << mu << std::endl;
23     }
24     return EXIT_SUCCESS;
25 }
```

These values are compared to the theoretical distribution in Fig. C-1.

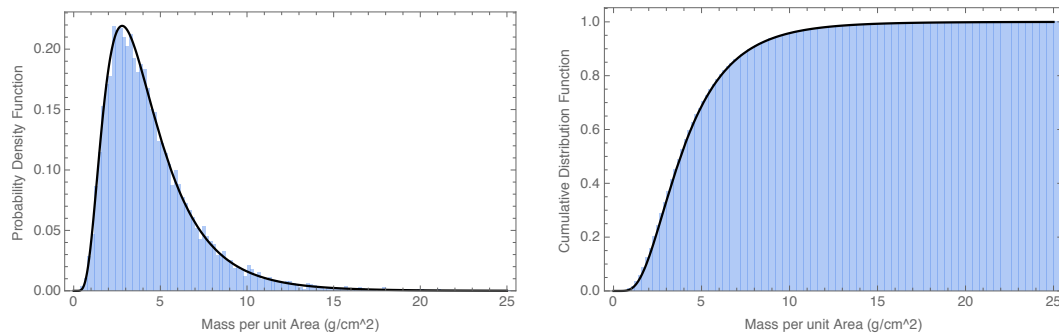


Fig. C-1. The program in Listing C-1 was used to generate independent samples of shape factor and mass and output mass per unit area in order to compare to the theoretical distribution (black curve)

This shows that the resulting distribution is indeed lognormal with μ and σ as given by Eq. C-31. Thus, the mass per unit area samples could be generated from a single lognormal distribution.

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List of Symbols, Abbreviations, and Acronyms

TERMS:

3D: 3 dimensional

FATEPEN: Fast Air Target Encounter Penetration

RCC: right-circular cylinder

RPP: rectangular parallelepiped (also known as cuboid)

STL: stereolithography

MATHEMATICAL SYMBOLS:

f , PDF: probability density function

F , CDF: cumulative distribution function

γ : shape factor

ρ : material density

$\Lambda(\mu, \sigma^2)$: lognormal distribution with mean μ and variance σ^2

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