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The problem of finding configurations that are optimally-distributed on a set appears in a number of guises including best-packing problems, coding theory, geometrical modeling, statistical sampling, radial basis approximation and golf-ball design. We consider the geometry of  $N$ -point configurations  $\{x_i\}_{i=1}^N$  on a compact set  $A$  (with a metric  $m$ ) that minimize a *weighted Riesz  $s$ -energy* functional of the form

$$\sum_{i \neq j} \frac{w(x_i, x_j)}{m(x_i, x_j)^s}$$

for a given weight function  $w$  on  $A \times A$  and a parameter  $s > 0$ .

Specifically, if  $A$  supports an Ahlfors  $\alpha$ -regular measure, we prove that whenever  $s > \alpha$ , any sequence of weighted minimal Riesz  $s$ -energy  $N$ -point configurations on  $A$  (for ‘nice’ weights) is quasi-uniform in the sense that the ratios of its mesh norm to separation distance remain bounded as  $N$  grows. Furthermore, if  $A$  is an  $\alpha$ -rectifiable compact subset of Euclidean space with positive and finite  $\alpha$ -dimensional Hausdorff measure, one may choose the weight  $w$  to generate a quasi-uniform sequence of configurations that have (as  $N \rightarrow \infty$ ) a prescribed positive continuous limit distribution with respect to  $\alpha$ -dimensional Hausdorff measure. This is joint work with E. Saff and D. Hardin. (Received December 13, 2011)