

# **On a generalization of the Alexandrov–Fenchel inequality**

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Convex Geometry - Analytic aspects  
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## Alexandrov–Fenchel inequality

$$V(K, L, C_1, \dots, C_{d-2})^2 \geq V(K, K, C_1, \dots, C_{d-2})V(L, L, C_1, \dots, C_{d-2})$$

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- generalization of the isoperimetric inequality
- implies many inequalities
- connection with complex algebraic geometry/Kähler geometry

## Notation

$$f(x) = \sum_{|\alpha|=d} c_\alpha x^\alpha, \quad x \in \mathbb{R}^n$$

$$\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n, |\alpha| = \alpha_1 + \cdots + \alpha_n = d$$

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For  $K_1, \dots, K_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}^d$  define

$$V(K^\alpha) = V(K_1[\alpha_1], \dots, K_n[\alpha_n]), \quad |\alpha| = d$$

and

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If  $f = gh$  write

$$V(g(K), h(K)) = V(f(K)).$$

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# A generalization of the Alexandrov–Fenchel inequality

**Corollary (Ross–Süss–W. '23)**

Let  $K, L, C_1, \dots, C_n$  be convex bodies in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .

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Let  $K, L, C_1, \dots, C_n$  be convex bodies in  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . Let  $s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a non-zero Schur polynomial of degree  $d - 2$ .

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$$V(K, L, s_\lambda(C_1, \dots, C_n))^2 \geq V(K, K, s_\lambda(C_1, \dots, C_n))V(L, L, s_\lambda(C_1, \dots, C_n)).$$

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## Examples.

1.  $\lambda = (1, \dots, 1) \in \mathbb{N}^{d-2}$ ,  $s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_{d-2}) = x_1 \cdots x_{d-2}$ .
2.  $\lambda = (2)$ ,  $s_\lambda(x_1, x_2) = x_1^2 + x_1 x_2 + x_2^2$ .

# Hodge–Riemann bilinear relations for Schur classes

## Theorem (Ross–Toma 2022)

Let  $M$  be an  $d$ -dimensional Kähler manifold. Let  $s_\lambda(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  be a non-zero Schur polynomial of degree  $d - 2$ . Let  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n$  be Kähler forms on  $M$ . Then the quadratic form

$$Q: H_{\mathbb{R}}^{1,1}(M) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, \quad Q([\alpha]) = \int_M \alpha^2 \wedge s_\lambda(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n)$$

has signature  $(+, -, \dots, -)$ .

## **Lorentzian polynomials**

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# Log-concave sequences, Kähler package, and Lorentzian polynomials

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$$a_i^2 \geq a_{i-1}a_{i+1}$$

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Alexandrov–Fenchel implies log-concavity of  $a_i = V(K[i], L[d-i])$ .

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"A log-concave sequence points to the existence of a Kähler package in the background" (June Huh)

1. Poincaré duality
2. hard Lefschetz theorem
3. Hodge–Riemann bilinear relations

# Lorentzian polynomials

$H_n^d \subset \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  homogeneous polynomials

## **Definition (Brändén–Huh '20)**

$f \in H_n^d$  is strictly Lorentzian if for every  $\alpha \in \mathbb{N}^n$  with  $|\alpha| = d - 2$  the quadratic form  $\partial^\alpha f$  has positive coefficients and signature  $(+, -, \dots, -)$ .

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Limits of strictly Lorentzian polynomials are called Lorentzian.

## Examples

1.  $f(x) = \det(\sum_{i=1}^n x_i A_i)$ , where  $A_i$  is positive semi-definite.

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3. Define

$$N(x^\alpha) = \frac{1}{\alpha!} x^\alpha = \frac{1}{\alpha_1! \cdots \alpha_n!} x^\alpha$$

Then  $N(s_\lambda)$  is Lorentzian (Huh–Matherne–Mészáros–Dizier '22)

## Dually Lorentzian polynomials

$\mathbb{R}_\kappa[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  polynomials of degree at most  $\kappa_i$  in  $x_i$ .

**Definition (Ross–Süss–W. '23)**

$s \in \mathbb{R}_\kappa[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is *dually Lorentzian* if

$$s^\vee(x_1, \dots, x_n) = N(x^\kappa s(x_1^{-1}, \dots, x_n^{-1}))$$

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2. Covolume polynomials of irred varieties in  $\mathbb{P}^{d_1} \times \dots \times \mathbb{P}^{d_k}$  (Aluffi '23)

**Theorem (Ross–Süss–W. '23)**

$s \neq 0$  is dually Lorentzian if and only if the operator

$$\partial_s = s(\partial_1, \dots, \partial_n) : \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$$

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**Theorem (Ross–Süss–W. '23)**

Let  $A$  be an  $n \times m$  matrix with non-negative entries. If  $s \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is dually Lorentzian, then so is  $s(Ay)$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .

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## Generalized Alexandrov inequality

### Theorem (Ross–Süss–W. '23)

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where  $s$  be a non-zero dually Lorentzian polynomial of degree  $d - 2$ .

Equality holds if and only if  $p$  is proportional to  $q$ .

## Generalized AF inequality for Kähler classes

### **Theorem (Ross–Süss–W. '23)**

Let  $Y$  be a smooth complex manifold of dimension  $d$  and  $\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n, \alpha$  be Kähler classes on  $Y$ .

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$$\left( \int_Y \alpha \beta s(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n) \right)^2 \geq \int_Y \alpha^2 s(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n) \int_Y \beta^2 s(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n)$$

and equality holds if and only if  $\alpha$  is proportional to  $\beta$ .

## **Proofs**

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# Operations preserving Lorentzian polynomials

## Theorem (Brändén–Huh '20)

Let  $A$  be an  $n \times m$  matrix with non-negative entries. If  $f \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is Lorentzian, then so is  $f(Ay)$ ,  $y \in \mathbb{R}^m$ .

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## Theorem (Brändén–Huh '20)

Let  $T: \mathbb{R}_\kappa[x_i] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\gamma[x_i]$  be linear and homogeneous. If the symbol

$$\text{sym}_T(x, y) = \sum_{\beta} \binom{\kappa}{\beta} T(x^\beta) y^{\kappa - \beta} \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n]$$

is Lorentzian, then  $T$  preserves Lorentzian polynomials.

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$$\begin{aligned}\text{sym}_{\partial^\alpha}(x, y) &= \sum_{\beta} \binom{\gamma}{\beta} \partial^\alpha(x^\beta) y^{\gamma-\beta} = \partial^\alpha(x+y)^\gamma \\ &= \frac{\gamma!}{(\gamma-\alpha)!} (x+y)^\gamma (x+y)^{-\alpha}.\end{aligned}$$

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Let  $s = \sum c_\alpha x^\alpha \in \mathbb{R}_\kappa[x_i]$  be homogeneous and let  $\gamma \geq \kappa$ . Let

$$\partial_s = s(\partial_{x_i}) : \mathbb{R}_\gamma[x_i] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_\gamma[x_i].$$

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Hence  $\text{sym}_{\partial_s}$  is Lorentzian if  $s^\vee$  is Lorentzian.

## Proof of inequalities

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is Lorentzian. Hence

$$\partial_s f(0, y) = \frac{d!}{2} V((y_1 K + y_2 L)^2, s(C_1, \dots, C_n))$$

is Lorentzian.

## Proof of equality cases

$$\left( \int_Y \alpha \beta s(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n) \right)^2 \geq \int_Y \alpha^2 s(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n) \int_Y \beta^2 s(\omega_1, \dots, \omega_n)$$

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- We use

*Lorentzian polynomials on cones* (Brändén–Leaky '23)

to overcome this issue.

