A reverse Minkowski-type inequality

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JOINT WORK WITH KÁROLY BÖRÖCZKY
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in honour of

Rolf Schneider (*1940) & Wolfgang Weil (1945-2018)
The **isoperimetric inequality** for a convex body \( K \in \mathcal{K}_2 \) states that

\[
A(K) \leq \frac{1}{4\pi} L(K)^2
\]

with equality iff \( K \) is a Euclidean 2-ball.

Since for \( K, M \in \mathcal{K}_2 \),

\[
A(K + M) = A(K) + 2 A(K, M) + A(M)
\]

and

\[
L(K + M)^2 = L(K)^2 + 2 L(K)L(M) + L(M)^2,
\]

it is tempting to ask:

\[
A(K, M) \leq c L(K) L(M) \quad \text{with} \quad c = \frac{1}{4\pi}?
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The isoperimetric inequality for a convex body $K \in K^2_0$ states that

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it is tempting to ask:

$$A(K, M) \leq c L(K) L(M) \quad \text{with} \quad c = \frac{1}{4\pi}.$$
Choose $K = [o, e_1]$ and $M = [o, e_2]$. Then

\[
A(K, M) = \frac{1}{2}(A(K + M) - A(K) - A(M)) = \frac{1}{2}
\]

and

\[
L(K) = L(M) = 2.
\]

Hence, necessarily

\[
c \geq \frac{A(K, M)}{L(K) L(M)} \geq \frac{1}{8} \geq \frac{1}{4\pi}.
\]

This is in fact best possible.
Theorem (Betke, Weil ’91)

If \( K, M \in \mathcal{K}^2 \), then

\[ A(K, M) \leq \frac{1}{8} L(K) L(M) \]

with equality iff \( K \) and \( M \) are (possibly degenerate) orthogonal segments.

**Proof.** Use Choquet representation of convex sets (integral version of the Krein-Milman theorem). Characterization of the equality case is more subtle.
Theorem (Betke, Weil ’91)

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**Proof.** Use Choquet representation of convex sets (integral version of the Krein-Milman theorem). Characterization of the equality case is more subtle.
Modified proof of the inequality. If $K = P$ is a polygon, then $P = \triangle_1 + \cdots + \triangle_m$ with (possibly degenerate) triangles $\triangle_i$.

- By approximation it suffices to show
  \[ A(P, M) \leq \frac{1}{8} L(P) L(M) \]

- By linearity, it is sufficient to consider $P = \triangle$.
- By homog. and transl. inv., we can assume that $B^2 = B_c(\triangle)$.

\[ \Rightarrow A(\triangle, M) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{S^1} h(\triangle, u) S(M, du) \leq \frac{1}{2} \cdot 1 \cdot L(M). \]

Lemma

*If $\triangle$ is a triangle with circumball $B^2$, then $L(\triangle) \geq 4$.\n
\[ \Rightarrow A(\triangle, M) \leq \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4} L(\triangle) \cdot L(M) = \frac{1}{8} L(\triangle) L(M). \]
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**General dimensions:** For $K, M \in \mathcal{K}^n$, Minkowski’s inequality states that

$$V(K, M, \ldots, M)^n \geq V(K) \cdot V(M)^{n-1}.$$ 

Equality holds iff $K, M$ are homothetic or lie in parallel hyperplanes or $\dim(M) \leq n - 2$.

In the plane, the inequality states that

$$V(K, M) \geq V(K)^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot V(M)^{\frac{1}{2}}.$$ 

Apparently, this inequality cannot be reversed by inserting some constant.

However, the result by Betke & Weil '91 can be considered a reverse form of the planar Minkowski inequality.

Equivalently, their planar result can be stated in the form

$$V(K, M) \leq \frac{1}{2} \cdot V_1(K) \cdot V_1(M).$$
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Reverse Minkowski-type inequality

Theorem (Böröczky & H. ’19)

If \( K, M \in \mathcal{K}^n \), then

\[
V(K, M[n-1]) \leq \frac{1}{n} V_1(K) V_{n-1}(M).
\]

If \( \dim(K) \geq 1 \) and \( \dim(M) \geq n - 1 \), then equality holds iff \( K \) is a segment and \( M \) is contained in a hyperplane orthogonal to \( K \).

In the following, we write \( \mathcal{K}_i^n \) for the space of convex bodies which are at least \( i \)-dimensional.
Related work I

- Betke and Weil (1991) also proved that if $K \in \mathcal{K}^2$, then

$$V(K, -K) \leq \frac{\sqrt{3}}{18} L^2(K), \quad (1)$$

and under the additional assumption that $K$ is a polygon they showed that equality holds in (1) iff $K$ is a regular triangle.

- Betke and Weil (1991) suggested to characterize the equality cases of (1) among all planar compact convex sets $K \in \mathcal{K}^2$. This goal will be achieved in a forthcoming manuscript.

- They also suggested to study sharp inequalities of the form

$$V(K_1[r_1], \ldots, K_\ell[r_\ell]) \leq c(r_1, \ldots, r_\ell) V_{r_1}(K_1) \cdots V_{r_\ell}(K_\ell).$$

Inequalities of this type are known for *zonoids* (Schneider & H ’11, w.i.p.).
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Inequalities of this type are known for zonoids (Schneider & H ’11, w.i.p.).
\[ V(L_1, \ldots, L_n) V(K) \leq V(L_1, K[n - 1]) V(L_2, \ldots, L_n, K) \]

for all \( L_1, \ldots, L_n \in \mathcal{K}^n \), then \( K = \Delta \).

They also prove the \textbf{Bezout-type} inequality

\[ V(L_1, \ldots, L_n) V(K) \leq n \cdot V(L_1, K[n - 1]) V(L_2, \ldots, L_n, K) \quad \text{(BI)} \]

for all \( K, L_1, \ldots, L_n \in \mathcal{K}^n \). More general inequalities: Jian Xiao ’19.

\textbf{(BI)} is sharp, but for \( K = B^n, L_1 =: K, L_2 = \cdots = L_n =: M \) states

\[ V(K, M[n - 1]) \leq \frac{2\kappa_{n-1}}{\kappa_n} \cdot \frac{1}{n} V_1(K) V_{n-1}(M) \]

with

\[ \frac{2\kappa_{n-1}}{\kappa_n} \sim \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \cdot \sqrt{n}. \]
Related work II

- Saroglou, Soprunov, Zvavitch ’18: If $K \in \mathcal{K}^n$ is such that

$$V(L_1, \ldots, L_n) V(K) \leq V(L_1, K[n - 1]) V(L_2, \ldots, L_n, K)$$

for all $L_1, \ldots, L_n \in \mathcal{K}^n$, then $K = \triangle$.

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$$V(L_1, \ldots, L_n) V(K) \leq \binom{n}{1} V(L_1, K[n - 1]) V(L_2, \ldots, L_n, K) \quad (\text{BI})$$

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- (BI) is sharp, **but** for $K = B^n$, $L_1 =: K$, $L_2 = \cdots = L_n =: M$ states

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$$V(L_1, \ldots, L_n) V(K) \leq n V(L_1, K[n - 1]) V(L_2, \ldots, L_n, K) \quad \text{(BI)}$$

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$$\frac{2\kappa_{n-1}}{\kappa_n} \sim \sqrt{\frac{2}{\pi}} \cdot \sqrt{n}.$$
Theorem (Linhart ’77, Böröczky & H. ’19)

If $K \in \mathcal{K}_1^n$, then

$$V_1(K) \geq 2R(K)$$

with equality iff $K$ is a segment.

- We follow Linhart’s idea, but implement several modifications and clarify the discussion of the equality case.
- This also prepares for stronger stability results.
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- We follow Linhart’s idea, but implement several modifications and clarify the discussion of the equality case.
- This also prepares for stronger stability results.
Recall

**Theorem (Böröczky & H. ’19)**

If $K, M \in \mathcal{K}^n$, then

$$V(K, M[n-1]) \leq \frac{1}{n} V_1(K) V_{n-1}(M).$$

If $\dim(K) \geq 1$ and $\dim(M) \geq n - 1$, then equality holds iff $K$ is a segment and $M$ is contained in a hyperplane orthogonal to $K$. 
**Proof.** We can assume that \( c(K) = 0 \). Let \( R(K) \) be the circumradius of \( K \) and \( F(M) \) the surface area of \( M \). Then

\[
V(K, M[n−1]) = \frac{1}{n} \int_{S^{n−1}} h_K(u) S_{n−1}(M, du)
\]

\[
\leq \frac{1}{n} R(K) F(M) \quad (1)
\]

\[
\leq \frac{1}{n} \frac{1}{2} V_1(K) 2 V_{n−1}(M) \quad (2)
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= \frac{1}{n} V_1(K) V_{n−1}(M).
\]

If equality holds, then equality holds in (2), since \( V_{n−1}(M) > 0 \). Hence \( K = [−R e, R e] \) with \( R = R(K) \) and for some \( e \in S^{n−1} \). Then also (1) holds with equality, which yields

\[
\int_{S^{n−1}} |⟨u, e⟩| S_{n−1}(M, du) = F(M).
\]

This implies that \( S_{n−1}(M, ·) \) has support \( \{−e, e\} \), hence \( M \) is contained in a hyperplane orthogonal to \( e \).
Proof. We can assume that \( c(K) = o \). Let \( R(K) \) be the circumradius of \( K \) and \( F(M) \) the surface area of \( M \). Then

\[
V(K, M[n - 1]) = \frac{1}{n} \int_{S^{n-1}} h_K(u) S_{n-1}(M, du) \\
\leq \frac{1}{n} R(K) F(M) \tag{1}
\]

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\leq \frac{1}{n} \frac{1}{2} V_1(K) 2V_{n-1}(M) \tag{2}
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If equality holds, then equality holds in (2), since \( V_{n-1}(M) > 0 \). Hence \( K = [-Re, Re] \) with \( R = R(K) \) and for some \( e \in S^{n-1} \).

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$$V(K, M[n-1]) = \frac{1}{n} \int_{S^{n-1}} h_K(u) S_{n-1}(M, du) \leq \frac{1}{n} R(K) F(M) \quad (1)$$

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This implies that $S_{n-1}(M, \cdot)$ has support $\{-e, e\}$, hence $M$ is contained in a hyperplane orthogonal to $e$. 


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$$V(K, M[n - 1]) = \frac{1}{n} \int_{S^{n-1}} h_K(u) S_{n-1}(M, du)$$

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Recall

Theorem (Linhart ’77, Böröczky & H. ’19)

If $K \in \mathcal{K}_1^n$, then

$$V_1(K) \geq 2R(K)$$

with equality iff $K$ is a segment.
In the proof, the following lemma is crucial.

For \( z \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1} \) and \( \alpha \in (0, \pi) \), let \( B(z, \alpha) = \{ x \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1} : \langle x, z \rangle \geq \cos \alpha \} \) be the **spherical cap** centered at \( z \) and of radius \( \alpha \).

**Lemma (Monotonicity)**

If \( \alpha \in (0, \frac{\pi}{2}] \), \( n \geq 2 \), \( z \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1} \) and \( \Pi \subset B(z, \alpha) \) is compact and spherically starshaped with respect to \( z \), then

\[
\int_{\Pi} \langle z, u \rangle H^{n-1}(du) \geq \int_{B(z,\alpha)} \frac{\langle z, u \rangle H^{n-1}(du)}{H^{n-1}(B(z, \alpha))} \cdot H^{n-1}(\Pi).
\]

If \( z \in \text{int}_s(\Pi) \), then equality holds iff \( \Pi = B(z, \alpha) \).
Proof of the Theorem.

We can assume that $B^n$ is the circumball of $K$, hence $R(K) = 1$. Then the origin $o$ is contained in the convex hull of $x_1, \ldots, x_k \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1} \cap K$ with $2 \leq k \leq n + 1$.

For $i = 1, \ldots, k$, we define the Dirichlet-Voronoi cells

$$D_i = \{ x \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1} : \langle x, x_i \rangle \geq \langle x, x_j \rangle \text{ for } j = 1, \ldots, k \} \subset B \left( x_i, \frac{\pi}{2} \right).$$

Then $D_i$ is starshaped with respect to $x_i \in \text{int}_s(D_i)$ and

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k} \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(D_i) = \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(\mathbb{S}^{n-1}).$$

For $x \in D_i$, we have $h([x_1, \ldots, x_k], x) = \langle x, x_i \rangle.$
Proof of the Theorem.

We can assume that $B^n$ is the circumball of $K$, hence $R(K) = 1$. Then the origin $o$ is contained in the convex hull of $x_1, \ldots, x_k \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1} \cap K$ with $2 \leq k \leq n + 1$.

For $i = 1, \ldots, k$, we define the Dirichlet-Voronoï cells

$$D_i = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1} : \langle x, x_i \rangle \geq \langle x, x_j \rangle \text{ for } j = 1, \ldots, k \right\} \subset B \left( x_i, \frac{\pi}{2} \right).$$

Then $D_i$ is starshaped with respect to $x_i \in \text{int}_s(D_i)$ and

$$\sum_{i=1}^{k} \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(D_i) = \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(\mathbb{S}^{n-1}).$$

For $x \in D_i$, we have $h([x_1, \ldots, x_k], x) = \langle x, x_i \rangle.$
Then,

\[
V_1(K) \geq V_1([x_1, \ldots, x_k]) = \frac{n}{\kappa_{n-1}} V([x_1, \ldots, x_k], B^n[n - 1])
\]

\[= \frac{1}{\kappa_{n-1}} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \int_{D_i} \langle x, x_i \rangle \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(dx) \]

\[\geq \frac{1}{\kappa_{n-1}} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \frac{2\kappa_{n-1}}{\mathcal{H}^{n-1}(S^{n-1})} \cdot \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(D_i) = 2.\]

If \(V_1(K) = 2\), then equality in (2) yields that \(K = [x_1, \ldots, x_k]\).

Moreover, by the Lemma strict inequality holds in (3) if \(D_i \neq B(x_i, \frac{\pi}{2})\) for some \(i \in \{1, \ldots, k\}\).

Hence, if equality holds, we must have \(k = 2\) and \(K = [x_1, x_2]\).
Then,

\[
V_1(K) \geq V_1([x_1, \ldots, x_k]) = \frac{n}{\kappa_{n-1}} V([x_1, \ldots, x_k], B^n[n-1])
\]

(2)

\[
= \frac{1}{\kappa_{n-1}} \sum_{i=1}^{k} \int_{D_i} \langle x, x_i \rangle \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(dx)
\]

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Hence, if equality holds, we must have \( k = 2 \) and \( K = [x_1, x_2] \).
Stability I

\[ V_1(K) \geq 2R(K). \]

**Theorem (Böröczky & H. ’19)**

Let \( K \in \mathcal{K}_1^n \). For some small \( \varepsilon > 0 \), suppose that

\[ V_1(K) \leq (2 + \varepsilon)R(K). \]

Then there exists a segment \( s \) of length \( (2 - \gamma_1 \varepsilon)R(K) \) such that

\[ s \subset K \subset s + \gamma_2 R(K) \sqrt{\varepsilon} B^n, \]

where \( \gamma_1, \gamma_2 > 0 \) are constants depending on \( n \).
Stability I

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Theorem (Böröczky & H. ’19)

Let $K \in \mathcal{K}_1^n$ and $M \in \mathcal{K}_{n-1}^n$. For some $\varepsilon \in (0, \varepsilon_0)$, suppose that

$$V(K, M[n-1]) \geq (1 - \varepsilon) \frac{1}{n} V_1(K) V_{n-1}(M).$$

Then there exists $e \in S^{n-1}$, a segment $s$ of length $(2 - \gamma_1 \varepsilon) R(K)$ parallel to $e$ such that $s \subset K \subset s + \gamma_2 R(K) \sqrt{\varepsilon} B^n$, and there is a $f \in S^{n-1}$ s.t.

$$h_M(f) + h_M(-f) \leq \gamma_2 r \varepsilon^4, \quad \langle e, f \rangle \geq 1 - \gamma_2 \sqrt{\varepsilon},$$

where $r$ is the maximal radius of an $(n-1)$-ball in $M|e^\perp$, and $\gamma_1, \gamma_2, \varepsilon_0 > 0$ are constants depending on $n$. 

\(\text{Stability II}\)

$$V(K, M[n-1]) \leq \frac{1}{n} V_1(K) V_{n-1}(M).$$
Theorem (Böröczky & H. ’19)

Let $K \in \mathcal{K}_{1}^{n}$ and $M \in \mathcal{K}_{n-1}^{n}$. For some $\varepsilon \in (0, \varepsilon_{0})$, suppose that

$$V(K, M[n - 1]) \geq (1 - \varepsilon) \frac{1}{n} V_1(K) V_{n-1}(M).$$

Then there exists $e \in S^{n-1}$, a segment $s$ of length $(2 - \gamma_{1}\varepsilon)R(K)$ parallel to $e$ such that $s \subset K \subset s + \gamma_{2}R(K)\sqrt{\varepsilon}B^{n}$, and there is a $f \in S^{n-1}$ s.t.

$$h_{M}(f) + h_{M}(-f) \leq \gamma_{2} r \varepsilon^{\frac{1}{4}}, \quad \langle e, f \rangle \geq 1 - \gamma_{2}\sqrt{\varepsilon},$$

where $r$ is the maximal radius of an $(n - 1)$-ball in $M|e^\perp$, and $\gamma_{1}, \gamma_{2}, \varepsilon_{0} > 0$ are constants depending on $n$. 
Stability III

\[ \int_{S^{n-1}} |\langle e, u \rangle| S_{n-1}(M, du) \leq 2V_{n-1}(M), \quad e \in S^{n-1}. \]

Proposition (Böröczky & H. ’19)

Let \( \epsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{2} (\frac{1}{2n})^n) \) and \( e \in S^{n-1} \). Suppose that \( M \in \mathcal{K}_{n-1} \) is such that

\[ \int_{S^{n-1}} |\langle e, u \rangle| S_{n-1}(M, du) \geq (1 - \epsilon)2V_{n-1}(M). \]

Then there is some \( f \in S^{n-1} \) such that

\[ h_M(f) + h_M(-f) \leq c_7 r \sqrt{\epsilon}, \quad \langle e, f \rangle \geq 1 - c_8 \epsilon, \]

where \( c_7 \leq 48n^2 \sqrt{6}^n \), \( c_8 \leq (10n)^4(2n)^n \) and \( r \) is as before.
Stability III

\[
\int_{S^{n-1}} \left| \langle e, u \rangle \right| S_{n-1}(M, du) \leq 2V_{n-1}(M), \quad e \in S^{n-1}.
\]

Proposition (Böröczky & H. ’19)

Let \( \varepsilon \in \left(0, \frac{1}{2} \left(\frac{1}{2n}\right)^n\right) \) and \( e \in S^{n-1} \). Suppose that \( M \in K_{n-1} \) is such that

\[
\int_{S^{n-1}} \left| \langle e, u \rangle \right| S_{n-1}(M, du) \geq (1 - \varepsilon)2V_{n-1}(M).
\]

Then there is some \( f \in S^{n-1} \) such that

\[
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\]

where \( c_7 \leq 48n^2 \sqrt{6}^n \), \( c_8 \leq (10n)^4(2n)^n \) and \( r \) is as before.
An application to random tessellations

Geometric stability results have been useful also in stochastic geometry.

**Theorem (Böröczky & H. ’19)**

Let \( Z_0 \) denote the zero cell of a stationary and isotropic Poisson hyperplane tessellation in \( \mathbb{R}^n \) with intensity \( \lambda > 0 \). Then there is a constant \( c_0 \) (depending on \( n \)) such that the following holds. If \( \varepsilon > 0 \) and \( 0 < a < b \leq \infty \), then

\[
\mathbb{P}(\vartheta(Z_0) \geq \varepsilon \mid R(Z_0) \in [a, b)) \leq c \exp\{c_0 \varepsilon a \lambda\},
\]

where \( c \) is a constant which depends on \( n, \varepsilon \).

This completes the discussion of an application of a general result in Schneider & H ’07 to a specific functional.
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in honour of

Rolf Schneider (*1940) & Wolfgang Weil (1945-2018)