

# Valuations on Sobolev Spaces

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# Sobolev Inequality

$$\frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \|\nabla f(x)\| dx \geq v_n^{1/n} |f|_{n/(n-1)}$$

- $f \in W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \{f \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n), |\nabla f| \in L^1(\mathbb{R}^n)\}$
- $\|x\|$  Euclidean norm of  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$
- $|f|_p = \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |f(x)|^p dx \right)^{1/p}$
- $v_n$  volume of  $n$ -dimensional unit ball

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- $v_n$  volume of  $n$ -dimensional unit ball
- Equality for indicator functions of balls
- Equivalent to Euclidean isoperimetric inequality
- Federer & Fleming 1960, Maz'ya 1960

# General Sobolev Inequality

$$\frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \|\nabla f(x)\|_{K^*} dx \geq v_n^{1/n} |f|_{n/(n-1)}$$

- $f \in W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$
- $\mathcal{K}_c^n$  origin-symmetric convex bodies (compact convex sets) in  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- $K \in \mathcal{K}_c^n$  with  $V(K) = v_n$
- $K^* = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x \cdot y \leq 1 \text{ for all } y \in K\}$  polar body of  $K$
- $\|\cdot\|_L$  norm with unit ball  $L$

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- $\|\cdot\|_L$  norm with unit ball  $L$
- Equality for  $f = \mathbb{1}_K$
- Equivalent to Minkowski inequality
- Gromov 1986

# Optimal Sobolev Inequality

$$\frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \|\nabla f(x)\|_{K^*} dx \geq v_n^{1/n} |f|_{n/(n-1)}$$

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## Question (Lutwak, Yang & Zhang 2006)

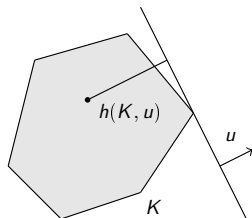
For given  $f \in W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , which convex body  $K$  (of volume  $v_n$ ) minimizes

$$\frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \|\nabla f(x)\|_{K^*} dx?$$

Which norm is optimal?

# Origin-symmetric Convex Bodies $\mathcal{K}_C^n$

- Support function  $h(K, \cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

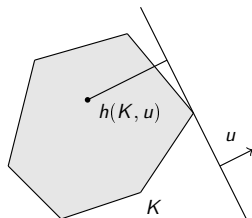


▶  $h(K, u) = \max\{u \cdot x : x \in K\}$



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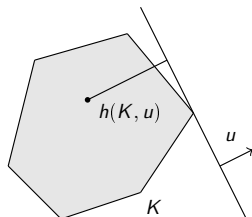
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- ▶  $h(K, u) = \max\{u \cdot x : x \in K\}$
- ▶  $h(K, u + v) \leq h(K, u) + h(K, v)$   
sublinear and even

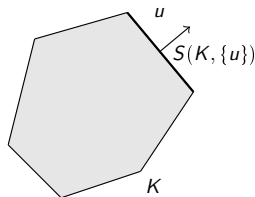
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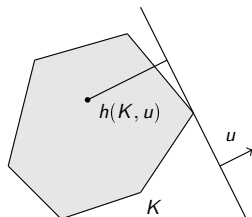
- Surface area measure  $S(K, \cdot) : \mathcal{B}(S^{n-1}) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$



- ▶  $S(K, \omega) = \mathcal{H}^{n-1}(\{x \in \text{bd } K : n(K, x) \in \omega\})$
- ▶  $n(K, x)$  outer unit normal vector to  $K$  at  $x \in \text{bd } K$

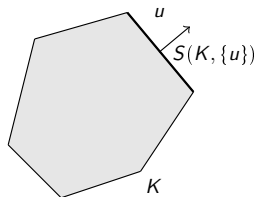
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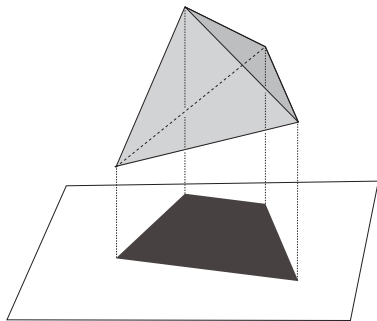
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- $n(K, x)$  outer unit normal vector to  $K$  at  $x \in \text{bd } K$
- $S(K, \cdot)$  even measure,  
not concentrated on a great sphere

# Projection Body, $\Pi K$ , of $K$



- $u^\perp$  hyperplane orthogonal to  $u$
- $K|u^\perp$  projection of  $K$  to  $u^\perp$
- $V_{n-1}$   $(n-1)$ -dimensional volume

## Definition (Minkowski 1901)

$$\begin{aligned}h(\Pi K, u) &= V_{n-1}(K|u^\perp) \\ &= \frac{1}{2} \int_{S^{n-1}} |u \cdot v| dS(K, v)\end{aligned}$$

# Optimal Sobolev Body

## Definition (LYZ 2006)

For  $f \in W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , the optimal Sobolev body,  $\langle f \rangle$ , of  $f$  is defined as the unique origin-symmetric convex body such that

$$\int_{S^{n-1}} g(u) dS(\langle f \rangle, u) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} g(\nabla f(x)) dx$$

for all even and positively 1-homogeneous functions  $g \in C(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .

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for all even and positively 1-homogeneous functions  $g \in C(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .

## Theorem (LYZ 2006)

For  $f \in W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ , the infimum over all origin-symmetric convex bodies  $K$  of volume  $V(K) = v_n$  over

$$\int_{\mathbb{R}^n} \|\nabla f(x)\|_{K^*} dx$$

is attained if and only if  $K$  is a dilate of  $\langle f \rangle$ .

# Affine Sobolev inequality

## Theorem (Gaoyong Zhang (JDG 1999))

For  $f \in W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ ,

$$\frac{1}{n} \int_{S^{n-1}} \left( \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |u \cdot \nabla f(x)| dx \right)^{-n} du \leq \left( \frac{V_n}{2 V_{n-1}} \right)^n |f|_{\frac{n}{n-1}}^{-n}.$$

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- Left hand side is multiple of  $V(\Pi^*\langle f \rangle)$ .
- Affine isoperimetric inequality which implies Sobolev inequality
- Equality for indicator functions of ellipsoids.



# Affine Sobolev inequality

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- Left hand side is multiple of  $V(\Pi^* \langle f \rangle)$ .
- Affine isoperimetric inequality which implies Sobolev inequality
- Equality for indicator functions of ellipsoids.
- $\Pi \langle f \rangle$  Sobolev-Zhang body of  $f$

$$h(\Pi \langle f \rangle, v) = \frac{1}{2} \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} |v \cdot \nabla f(x)| dx$$

# Valuations on Convex Bodies

- $\mathcal{K}^n$  space of convex bodies (compact convex sets) in  $\mathbb{R}^n$
- $\langle \mathbb{A}, + \rangle$  Abelian semigroup
- A function  $z : \mathcal{K}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$  is a *valuation*  $\iff$

$$z(K) + z(L) = z(K \cup L) + z(K \cap L)$$

for all  $K, L \in \mathcal{K}^n$  such that  $K \cup L \in \mathcal{K}^n$ .

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- **Theory of valuations:**



Blaschke 1937, **Hadwiger** 1949, Sallee 1966, Schneider 1971, Groemer 1972, McMullen 1977, Goodey & Weil 1984, Betke & Kneser 1985, Klain 1995, Alesker 1999, Ludwig 1999, Reitzner 1999, Dulio & Peri 2000, R. Schuster 2002, Hug 2005, Fu 2006, Bernig 2006, Haberl 2006, F. Schuster 2006, Abardia 2010, Wannerer 2010, Parapatits 2011, ...

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- Birkhoff: *Lattice theory* 1940
- Valuations on  $L^p$  stars: Dan Klain (AIM 1996, 1997)
- Valuations on  $L^p$  spaces: Andy Tsang (PhD Thesis NYU Poly 2010, IMRN 2010, ...)
- Valuations on Orlicz spaces: Hassane Kone (2011+)
- Valuations on  $BV(\mathbb{R}^n)$ : Tuo Wang (2011+)
- Valuations on Sobolev spaces: L. (AIM 2011, AJM 2011+)

# Sobolev Space $W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$

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- $z : W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_c^n$  is **affinely contravariant**  $\Leftrightarrow$

$z$  is  $GL(n)$  contravariant, translation invariant and homogeneous

# Valuations on Sobolev Spaces

- $\Pi \langle \cdot \rangle : W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_c^n$  is affinely contravariant (LYZ 2006).
- $\Pi \langle \cdot \rangle : W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_c^n$  is *continuous*.
- $\Pi \langle \cdot \rangle : W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{K}_c^n, + \rangle$  is a valuation.

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## Theorem (L. (AJM, to appear))

$z : W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{K}_c^n, + \rangle$  is a continuous, affinely contravariant valuation

$\iff$

$\exists c \geq 0$ :

$$z(f) = c \Pi \langle f \rangle$$

for every  $f \in W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ .

# Valuations on Sobolev Spaces

- $\langle \cdot \rangle : W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathcal{K}_c^n$  is affinely covariant (LYZ 2006).
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- $\langle \cdot \rangle : W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{K}_c^n, \# \rangle$  is a valuation.

$$S(K \# L, \cdot) = S(K, \cdot) + S(L, \cdot) \quad \text{Blaschke addition}$$

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# Sketch of the Proof

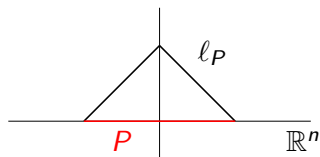
- $z : W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{K}_c^n, + \rangle$  continuous, affinely contravariant valuation

# Sketch of the Proof

- $z : W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{K}_c^n, + \rangle$  continuous, affinely contravariant valuation
- $L^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \subset W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  piecewise linear continuous functions

# Sketch of the Proof

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- $L^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \subset W^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  piecewise linear continuous functions
- $P^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n) \subset L^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  'linear elements'



$$l_P \in L^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

$$P \in \mathcal{P}_0^n$$

$\mathcal{P}_0^n$  convex polytopes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  containing the origin in their interiors

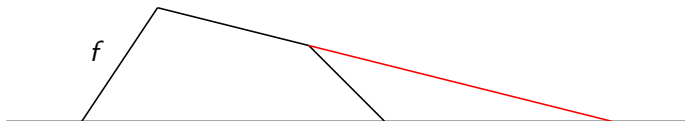
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- $f \in L^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$



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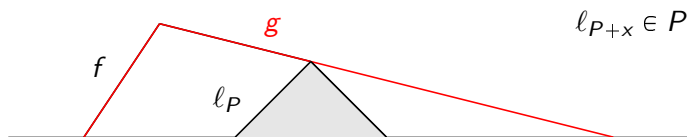
## Sketch of the Proof, cont.

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# Sketch of the Proof, cont.

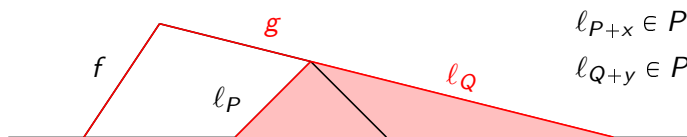
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$$l_{P+x} \in P^{1,1}(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

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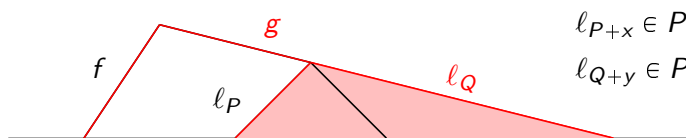
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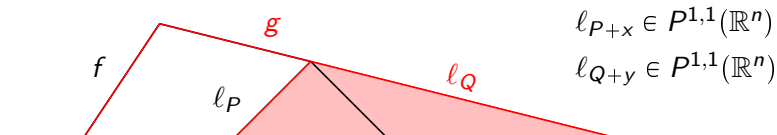
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$$f \vee l_Q = g, \quad f \wedge l_Q = l_P$$
$$z(f) + z(l_Q) = z(g) + z(l_P)$$

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$$z(f) + z(l_Q) = z(g) + z(l_P)$$

- $Z : \mathcal{P}_0^n \rightarrow \langle \mathcal{K}_c^n, + \rangle, \quad Z(P) = z(l_P)$

Classification of  $SL(n)$  contravariant valuations on  $\mathcal{P}_0^n$   
(L. (JDG 2010))

Thank you !!!