

The projections of a convex body

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Abstract

In this paper we present a new proof to the remarkable inequality of Loomis-Whitney see (2),(3). The generalised inequality is the following.

Let $O.e_1e_2\dots e_n$ be an orthonormal Coordinate system in E^n and $F_{e_{j_1j_2\dots j_k}}$ the projections of a convex body F on the k -plane $(e_{j_1}e_{j_2}\dots e_{j_k})$. By

$$\prod V(F_{e_{j_1j_2\dots j_k}})$$

we denote the product of the volumes of the k -projections of the body F on the $\binom{n}{k}$ coordinate planes. We will prove that:

$$V(F) \leq \left[\prod V(F_{e_{j_1j_2\dots j_l}}) \right]^{l \binom{n}{l}} \leq \left[\prod V(F_{e_{j_1j_2\dots j_k}}) \right]^{k \binom{n}{k}}$$

for $i \leq k \leq l \leq n - 1$.

Introduction

Let F be a convex body in the Euclidean space E^n and $O.e_1e_2\dots e_n$ an orthonormal Cartesian system. We denote by v the unit cube and $V_1(F, v) = V(F, F, \dots, F, v)$ the mixed volume of F and v . The cross sectional measure of F in the direction u is given by

$$\sigma_u = nV_1(F, v) = nV(F, F, \dots, F, v)$$

see [1]. It is well known that:

$$V(F, F \dots F, v) = V(F, F, \dots, F, e_1) + V(F, F, \dots, F, e_2) + \dots + V(F, F, \dots, F, e_n) = \frac{\sum_1^n \sigma_{e_i}}{n}$$

From the Brunn Minkowski theorem follows:

$$V(F)^{n-1}V(v) = V(F, F, \dots, F)^{n-1}V(v) \leq V(F, F, \dots, F, v)^n$$

so we have:

$$V(F)^{n-1} \leq \left[\frac{\sum_1^n \sigma_{e_i}}{n} \right]^n$$

but from M.A-G.A inequality we have:

$$\prod \sigma_{e_i} \leq \left[\frac{\sum_1^n \sigma_{e_i}}{n} \right]^n$$

so the question is where is the position of the product $\prod_1^n \sigma_{e_i}$ relative to the $V(F)^{n-1}$?

By the present paper we give the answer. We will prove that:

$$V(F)^{n-1} \leq \prod \sigma_{e_i}$$

and in our formulation, the below

theorem 1

$$V(F)^{n-1} \leq \prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{n-1}}}).$$

Additionally, from the above we will prove that:

Theorem 2

$$V(F) \leq \left[\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_l}}) \right]^{\frac{n}{l \binom{n}{l}}} \leq \left[\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}}) \right]^{\frac{n}{k \binom{n}{l}}}$$

for $i \leq k \leq l \leq n - 1$ and by $\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_p}})$ we denote the product of the volumes of the $\binom{n}{p}$ projections of F on the p coordinate planes $O.e_{j_1} e_{j_2} \dots e_{j_p}$.

Proof of the theorem 1.

For the simplicity we lightly change the formulation, so we will prove:

Let F be a convex body in E^n and $(Ox_1 x_2 \dots x_n), (L_1 L_2 \dots L_n)$ the Cartesian coordinates system and the Cartesian planes respectively. We denote by F_1, F_2, \dots, F_n the projections of F to the Cartesian planes. We will prove that:

$$\left[V(F) \right]^{n-1} \leq V(F_1) \cdot V(F_2) \cdot \dots \cdot V(F_n)$$

where $V(K)$ is the volume of the body K .

We consider $p+1$ hyperplanes $((n-1)$ linear spaces) of equal breadth parallel to L_1 . The body is partitioned into p slices K_1, K_2, \dots, K_p of breadth d . We

also denote by A_1, A_2, \dots, A_p the middle intersections of the slices K_1, K_2, \dots, K_p with planes parallel to L_1 . Let

$$V'_i = d \cdot V(A_i), \quad V' = \sum_{i=1}^p V'_i$$

We will have:

$$V(F) = \lim_{d \rightarrow 0, p \rightarrow \infty} V'$$

The A_i are convex body of $n - 1$ dimension so following the method of the mathematical induction we can suppose that the theorem is correct (for the $A_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, p$). Suppose now that $x_{2i}, x_{3i}, \dots, x_{ni}$ are the volumes of the projections of the A_i on L_i for $i = 2, 3, \dots, n$.

According the supposition of the induction

$$[V(A_i)]^{n-2} \leq x_{2i} x_{3i} \dots x_{ni} = S_i \quad (1)$$

for $i = 2, 3, \dots, n$

Also

$$V(A_i) \leq V_1(F) \quad (2)$$

From Holder's inequality follows:

$$\left[(\prod_{i=2}^n x_{i1})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} + (\prod_{i=2}^n x_{i2})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} + \dots + (\prod_{i=2}^n x_{ip})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \right]^{n-1} \leq \left(\sum_{i=1}^p x_{2i} \right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^p x_{3i} \right) \dots \left(\sum_{i=1}^p x_{ni} \right)$$

or

$$d^{n-1} \left[(\prod_{i=2}^n V(F_1) x_{i1})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} + (\prod_{i=2}^n V(F_1) x_{i2})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} + \dots + (\prod_{i=2}^n V(F_1) x_{ip})^{\frac{1}{n-1}} \right]^{n-1} \\ \leq V(F_1) d^{n-1} \left(\sum_{i=1}^p x_{2i} \right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^p x_{3i} \right) \dots \left(\sum_{i=1}^p x_{ni} \right)$$

and from (1),(2) arises:

$$\left[dV(A_1) + dV(A_2) + \dots + dV(A_p) \right]^{n-1} \leq V(F_1) \left(\sum_{i=1}^p dx_{2i} \right) \left(\sum_{i=1}^p dx_{3i} \right) \dots \left(\sum_{i=1}^p dx_{ni} \right)$$

Therefore, for $d \rightarrow 0, p \rightarrow \infty$ we finally take:

$$[V(F)]^{n-1} \leq V(F_1) \cdot V(F_2) \cdot \dots \cdot V(F_n)$$

Proof of the Theorem 2

First we prove that:

$$V(F) \leq \left[\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}}) \right]^{\frac{n}{k \binom{n}{k}}},$$

for $1 \leq k \leq n - 1$.

From the Theorem 1 in E^{k+1} holds:

$$V^k(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{k+1}}}) \leq \prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}}) \quad (3)$$

In the E^n the number of the planes $e_{j_1} e_{j_2} \dots e_{j_{k+1}}$ are $\binom{n}{k+1}$. In every inequality from the above (1) there are $k + 1$ equal terms to $V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}})$, therefore

$$\frac{(k+1) \binom{n}{k+1}}{\binom{n}{k}} = n - k$$

non equal terms.

So, multiplying the above $\binom{n}{k+1}$ inequalities, we take:

$$\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{k+1}}})^{\frac{k}{n-k}} \leq \prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}}) \quad (4)$$

The above argument also ensures:

$$\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{k+2}}})^{\frac{k+1}{n-k-1}} \leq \prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{k+1}}})$$

and an easy induction leads as finally to:

$$\left[V(F) \right]^{\frac{k(k+1) \dots (n-1)}{1 \cdot 2 \cdot 3 \dots (n-k)}} \leq \prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}}),$$

that is:

$$V(F) \leq \left[\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}}) \right]^{\frac{n}{k \binom{n}{k}}},$$

Let now $k \leq l$. From (4) we take:

$$\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{k+1}}})^{\frac{k}{n-k}} \leq \prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}})$$

or

$$\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{k+2}}})^{\frac{k(k+1)}{(n-k)(n-k-1)}} \leq \prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_{k+1}}})^{\frac{k}{n-k}}$$

We continue this way and we take:

$$\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_l}})^q \leq \prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}})$$

where

$$q = \frac{k(k+1)\dots(l-1)}{(n-k)\dots[n-(l-1)]} = \frac{l \binom{n}{l}}{k \binom{n}{k}}$$

Therefore it follows:

$$V(F) \leq \left[\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_l}}) \right]^{\frac{n}{l \binom{n}{l}}} \leq \left[\prod V(F_{e_{j_1 j_2 \dots j_k}}) \right]^{\frac{n}{k \binom{n}{k}}}$$

References

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