Research Article

Busemann-Petty Problems for Quasi L_p Intersection Bodies

Yanping Zhou¹ and Shanhe Wu²

¹Department of Mathematics, Shanghai University, Shanghai 200444, China

²Department of Mathematics, Longyan University, Longyan 364012, China

Correspondence should be addressed to Shanhe Wu; shanhewu@gmail.com

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We investigate the L_p dual geominimal surface area and volume forms of Busemann-Petty problems for the quasi L_p intersection bodies and establish some new geometric inequalities. Our results provide a significant complement to the researches on Busemann-Petty problems for intersection bodies.

1. Introduction and Main Results

Let S^{n-1} denote the unit sphere in Euclidean space $\mathbb{R}^n$. If K is a compact star-shaped (about the origin) set in $\mathbb{R}^n$, then its radial function, $\rho_K = \rho(K, \cdot) : \mathbb{R}^n \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow [0, \infty)$, is defined by (see [1, 2])

$$\rho(K, u) = \max \{ \lambda \geq 0 : \lambda u \in K \}, \quad u \in S^{n-1}. \quad (1)$$

If ρ_K is positive and continuous, then K will be called a star body (about the origin), and $\mathcal{S}^n$ denotes the set of star bodies in $\mathbb{R}^n$. We will use $\mathcal{S}_o^n$ and $\mathcal{S}_e^n$ to denote the subset of star bodies in $\mathcal{S}^n$ containing the origin in their interiors and origin-symmetric star bodies, respectively. Two star bodies K and L are said to be the dilation of one another if $\rho_K(u)/\rho_L(u)$ is independent of $u \in S^{n-1}$.

Let $\mathcal{K}^n$ denote the set of convex bodies (compact, convex subsets with nonempty interiors) in Euclidean $\mathbb{R}^n$. For $u \in S^{n-1}$, $u^\perp$ denotes the $(n-1)$ -dimensional subspace orthogonal to u . We use $V_k(M)$ to denote the k -dimensional volume of a k -dimensional compact convex set M . Instead of V_n we usually write V . For the standard unit ball B in $\mathbb{R}^n$, we write $\omega_n = V(B)$ for its volume.

Busemann and Petty posed a problem [3]: let K and L be origin-symmetric convex bodies in $\mathbb{R}^n$. Is it true that, for any $u \in S^{n-1}$,

$$\begin{aligned} V_{n-1}(K \cap u^\perp) &\leq V_{n-1}(L \cap u^\perp) \implies \\ V(K) &\leq V(L)? \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

A long list of authors contributed to the solution of this famous problem over a period of 40 years; see [4–18]. The question has a negative answer for $n \geq 5$ and an affirmative answer for $n = 3, 4$. For a detailed account of the interesting history of the Busemann-Petty problem, see the books by Gardner [1, Chapter 8] and Koldobsky [19, Chapter 5].

The crucial idea in the solution of the problem was to define new convex body which was called intersection body. This was done by Lutwak [15] whose work is considered the starting point of the solution of the Busemann-Petty problem in all dimensions. For $K \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$, the intersection body, IK , of K is a star body whose radial function in the direction $u \in S^{n-1}$ is equal to the $(n-1)$ -dimensional volume of the section of K by $u^\perp$; that is,

$$\rho(IK, u) = V_{n-1}(K \cap u^\perp). \quad (3)$$

The intersection bodies have been intensively studied in recent years (see [20–28] and the books [19, 29]). From (3) and the fact that star bodies K and L satisfy $K \subseteq L$ if and only if $\rho(K, \cdot) \leq \rho(L, \cdot)$, we see that the Busemann-Petty problem can be rephrased in the following way: for $K, L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$, is it true that

$$IK \subseteq IL \implies V(K) \leq V(L)? \quad (4)$$

Lutwak [15] showed that the problem has an affirmative answer if the body K is restricted to the class of intersection

bodies. In addition, Lutwak proved that if L is a sufficiently smooth origin-symmetric star body with positive radial function which is not an intersection body, then there exists an origin-symmetric star body K such that $IK \subseteq IL$ but $V(K) > V(L)$. Further, Busemann-Petty problems have been considered in the context of L_p Brunn-Minkowski Theory (see [30–41]). In particular, Haberl and Ludwig [42] generalized the intersection body to L_p form and introduced the notion of L_p intersection body: let L be a star body and nonzero $p < 1$. The L_p intersection body of L , $I_p L$, is the symmetric star body whose radial function is defined by

$$\rho(I_p L, u)^p = \int_L |u \cdot x|^{-p} dx. \quad (5)$$

After that, associated with L_p intersection bodies, Yuan and Cheung [41] gave an affirmative form of Busemann-Petty problem for the L_p intersection bodies.

Theorem 1. Let K be L_p intersection body and L be a star body in $\mathbb{R}^n$. If $I_p K \subseteq I_p L$, then

$$\begin{aligned} V(K) &\leq V(L), \quad \text{for } 0 < p < 1, \\ V(K) &\geq V(L), \quad \text{for } p < 0. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

In both cases equality holds if and only if $K = L$.

In 2007, Yu et al. [40] defined the quasi L_p intersection body as follows: let K be a star body and $p \geq 1$. The quasi L_p intersection body, $I_p K$, of K is defined by

$$\rho(I_p K, u) = \left(\frac{\widetilde{V}_p(K, B \cap u^\perp)}{\widetilde{V}_p(B, B \cap u^\perp)} \right)^{1/p}, \quad (7)$$

for $u \in S^{n-1}$, where $\widetilde{V}_p$ denotes the L_p dual mixed volume (see (22)).

Suppose that f is a Borel function on S^{n-1} . The spherical Radon transform Rf [43] of f is defined by

$$(Rf)(u) = \int_{S^{n-1} \cap u^\perp} f(v) dS_{n-2}(v), \quad (8)$$

for $u \in S^{n-1}$. Using the spherical Radon transform, the definition of $I_p K$ is rewritten by

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(I_p K, u) &= \left(\frac{\widetilde{V}_p(K, B \cap u^\perp)}{\widetilde{V}_p(B, B \cap u^\perp)} \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{(n-1)\omega_{n-1}} R(\rho_K^{n-p})(u) \right)^{1/p} \\ &= \left(\frac{1}{(n-1)\omega_{n-1}} \int_{S^{n-1} \cap u^\perp} \rho(K, v)^{n-p} dS_{n-2}(v) \right)^{1/p}, \end{aligned} \quad (9)$$

for $u \in S^{n-1}$.

One aim of this paper is to establish the volume forms of the Busemann-Petty problems for the quasi L_p intersection bodies. For convenience, let $\mathbb{I}_p$ denote the set of quasi L_p intersection bodies.

Theorem 2. Let $K, L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$ and $p \geq 1$. If $1 \leq p < n$ and $K \in \mathbb{I}_p$, then

$$\begin{aligned} I_p K &\subseteq I_p L \implies \\ V(K) &\leq V(L). \end{aligned} \quad (10)$$

If $p > n$ and $L \in \mathbb{I}_p$, then

$$\begin{aligned} I_p K &\subseteq I_p L \implies \\ V(K) &\geq V(L). \end{aligned} \quad (11)$$

And $V(K) = V(L)$ if and only if $K = L$.

Remark 3. Theorem 2 can be found in [40]. However, what should be noted is that we give a new method of proof in this paper.

Theorem 4. For $1 \leq p < n$, if $K \notin \mathcal{S}_e^n$, then there exists $L \in \mathcal{S}_e^n$ such that

$$I_p K \subset I_p L, \quad (12)$$

but

$$V(K) > V(L). \quad (13)$$

Recall the definition of L_p dual geominimal surface area, $\widetilde{G}_p(K)$, of $K \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$ for $p > 0$ in [44]:

$$\omega_n^{p/n} \widetilde{G}_p(K) = \sup \left\{ n \widetilde{V}_p(K, Q) V(Q^*)^{p/n} : Q \in \mathcal{S}_e^n \right\}. \quad (14)$$

Another aim of this paper is to give the L_p dual geominimal surface area forms of Busemann-Petty problems for the quasi L_p intersection bodies. If $M \in \mathbb{I}_p$, then we rewrite the definition of L_p dual geominimal surface area by

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_n^{p/n} \widetilde{G}_p(K) &= \sup \left\{ n \widetilde{V}_p(K, M) V(M^*)^{p/n} : M \in \mathbb{I}_p \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (15)$$

Theorem 5. If $p \geq 1$ and $K, L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$, then

$$I_p K \subseteq I_p L, \quad (16)$$

implying

$$\widetilde{G}_p(K) \leq \widetilde{G}_p(L). \quad (17)$$

And $\widetilde{G}_p(K) = \widetilde{G}_p(L)$ if and only if $K = L$.

Theorem 6. For $1 \leq p < n$, if $K \notin \mathcal{S}_e^n$, then there exists $L \in \mathcal{S}_e^n$ such that

$$I_p K \subset I_p L, \quad (18)$$

but

$$\widetilde{G}_p(K) > \widetilde{G}_p(L). \quad (19)$$

2. Preliminaries

2.1. *L_p Dual Mixed Volume.* For $K, L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$, $p > 0$, and $\lambda, \mu \geq 0$ ($\lambda + \mu \neq 0$), the L_p radial combination, $\lambda \circ K \tilde{+}_p \mu \circ L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$, of K and L is defined by (see [40])

$$\rho(\lambda \circ K \tilde{+}_p \mu \circ L, \cdot)^p = \lambda \rho(K, \cdot)^p + \mu \rho(L, \cdot)^p. \quad (20)$$

The polar coordinate formula for the volume of a body $K \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$ is

$$V(K) = \frac{1}{n} \int_{S^{n-1}} \rho_K(u)^n dS(u). \quad (21)$$

For $p \geq 1$, the L_p dual mixed volume, $\tilde{V}_p(K, L)$, of $K, L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$ was defined by (see [40])

$$\frac{n}{p} \tilde{V}_p(K, L) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{V(K \tilde{+}_p \varepsilon \circ L) - V(K)}{\varepsilon}. \quad (22)$$

From definition (22), the following integral representation of L_p dual mixed volume was given (see [40]): if $K, L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$ and $p \geq 1$, then

$$\tilde{V}_p(K, L) = \frac{1}{n} \int_{S^{n-1}} \rho(K, u)^{n-p} \rho(L, u)^p dS(u). \quad (23)$$

Obviously,

$$\tilde{V}_p(K, K) = V(K). \quad (24)$$

The Minkowski inequality for the L_p dual mixed volume was established in [40]: if $K, L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$, then, for $1 \leq p < n$,

$$\tilde{V}_p(K, L) \leq V(K)^{(n-p)/n} V(L)^{p/n}; \quad (25)$$

for $p > n$,

$$\tilde{V}_p(K, L) \geq V(K)^{(n-p)/n} V(L)^{p/n}. \quad (26)$$

In every case, equality holds if and only if K is a dilation of L .

2.2. *L_p Dual Blaschke Body.* For $K, L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$, $0 < p < n$, and $\lambda, \mu \geq 0$ ($\lambda + \mu \neq 0$), the L_p dual Blaschke combination, $\lambda \star K \check{+}_p \mu \star L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$, of K and L is defined by (see [28])

$$\rho(\lambda \star K \check{+}_p \mu \star L, \cdot)^{n-p} = \lambda \rho(K, \cdot)^{n-p} + \mu \rho(L, \cdot)^{n-p}. \quad (27)$$

Taking $\lambda = \mu = 1/2$, $L = -K$ in (27), the L_p dual Blaschke body, $\check{V}_p K$, of K is given by (see [28])

$$\check{V}_p K = \frac{1}{2} \star K \check{+}_p \frac{1}{2} \star (-K). \quad (28)$$

Obviously, the L_p dual Blaschke body is origin-symmetric.

3. Proofs of Theorems 2–6

The proof of Theorem 2 needs the following Lemma.

Lemma 7 (see [40]). *If $K, L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$, then, for $p \geq 1$,*

$$\tilde{V}_p(K, I_p L) = \tilde{V}_p(L, I_p K). \quad (29)$$

Proof of Theorem 2. For a star body $\bar{K}$ with $I_p \bar{K} = K$, it follows from Lemma 7 that

$$\begin{aligned} V(K) &= \tilde{V}_p(K, K) = \tilde{V}_p(K, I_p \bar{K}) = \tilde{V}_p(\bar{K}, I_p K); \\ \tilde{V}_p(L, K) &= \tilde{V}_p(L, I_p \bar{K}) = \tilde{V}_p(\bar{K}, I_p L). \end{aligned} \quad (30)$$

Since

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{V}_p(\bar{K}, I_p K) &= \frac{1}{n} \int_{S^{n-1}} \rho(\bar{K}, u)^{n-p} \left(\frac{\rho(I_p K, u)}{\rho(I_p L, u)} \right)^p \\ &\quad \cdot \rho(I_p L, u)^p dS(u) \leq \max_{u \in S^{n-1}} \left(\frac{\rho(I_p K, u)}{\rho(I_p L, u)} \right)^p \\ &\quad \cdot \tilde{V}_p(\bar{K}, I_p L), \end{aligned} \quad (31)$$

we have

$$\frac{V(K)}{\tilde{V}_p(\bar{K}, I_p L)} \leq \max_{u \in S^{n-1}} \left(\frac{\rho(I_p K, u)}{\rho(I_p L, u)} \right)^p. \quad (32)$$

From $I_p K \subseteq I_p L$, we obtain that, for $1 \leq p < n$,

$$\begin{aligned} V(K) &\leq \tilde{V}_p(\bar{K}, I_p L) = \tilde{V}_p(L, K) \\ &\leq V(L)^{(n-p)/n} V(K)^{p/n}; \end{aligned} \quad (33)$$

that is,

$$V(K) \leq V(L). \quad (34)$$

From the equality condition of (25), we know that $V(K) = V(L)$ if and only if $K = L$.

From a star body $\bar{L}$ with $I_p \bar{L} = L$, By Lemma 7, we have

$$\begin{aligned} V(L) &= \tilde{V}_p(L, L) = \tilde{V}_p(L, I_p \bar{L}) = \tilde{V}_p(\bar{L}, I_p L); \\ \tilde{V}_p(K, L) &= \tilde{V}_p(K, I_p \bar{L}) = \tilde{V}_p(\bar{L}, I_p K). \end{aligned} \quad (35)$$

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \tilde{V}_p(\bar{L}, I_p K) &= \frac{1}{n} \int_{S^{n-1}} \rho(\bar{L}, u)^{n-p} \left(\frac{\rho(I_p K, u)}{\rho(I_p L, u)} \right)^p \\ &\quad \cdot \rho(I_p L, u)^p dS(u) \leq \max_{u \in S^{n-1}} \left(\frac{\rho(I_p K, u)}{\rho(I_p L, u)} \right)^p \\ &\quad \cdot \tilde{V}_p(\bar{L}, I_p L); \end{aligned} \quad (36)$$

that is,

$$\frac{\widetilde{V}_p(K, L)}{V(L)} \leq \max_{u \in S^{n-1}} \left(\frac{\rho(I_p K, u)}{\rho(I_p L, u)} \right)^p. \quad (37)$$

For $p > n$, it follows from $I_p K \subseteq I_p L$ that

$$V(L) \geq \widetilde{V}_p(K, L) \geq V(K)^{(n-p)/n} V(L)^{p/n}; \quad (38)$$

namely,

$$V(K) \geq V(L). \quad (39)$$

□

Lemma 8 (see [28]). If $K, L \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$ and $\lambda, \mu \geq 0$ ($\lambda + \mu \neq 0$), then, for $0 < p < n$,

$$\begin{aligned} V(\lambda * K \check{+}_p \mu * L)^{(n-p)/n} \\ \leq \lambda V(K)^{(n-p)/n} + \mu V(L)^{(n-p)/n}, \end{aligned} \quad (40)$$

with equality if and only if K is a dilation of L .

Let $\lambda = \mu = 1/2$, $L = -K$ in (40), the following is an immediate result of Lemma 8.

Corollary 9. If $K \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$, then, for $0 < p < n$,

$$V(\check{\nabla}_p K) \leq V(K), \quad (41)$$

with equality if and only if K is origin-symmetric.

Lemma 10. If $K \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$, then, for $p \geq 1$,

$$I_p(\check{\nabla}_p K) = I_p K. \quad (42)$$

Proof. From (9), (27), and (28), we have

$$\begin{aligned} \rho(I_p(\check{\nabla}_p K), u)^p &= \frac{1}{(n-1)\omega_{n-1}} \int_{S^{n-1} \cap u^\perp} \rho\left(\frac{1}{2} * K \check{+}_p \frac{1}{2} * (-K), v\right)^{n-p} dS_{n-2}(v) \\ &= \frac{1}{(n-1)\omega_{n-1}} \int_{S^{n-1} \cap u^\perp} \left[\frac{1}{2} \rho(K, v)^{n-p} \right. \\ &\quad \left. + \frac{1}{2} \rho(-K, v)^{n-p} \right] dS_{n-2}(v) = \frac{1}{2} \\ &\quad \cdot \rho(I_p K, u)^p + \frac{1}{2} \rho(I_p(-K), u)^p. \end{aligned} \quad (43)$$

Since $I_p(-K) = I_p(K)$, we have

$$\rho(I_p(\check{\nabla}_p K), u)^p = \rho(I_p K, u)^p; \quad (44)$$

that is,

$$I_p(\check{\nabla}_p K) = I_p K. \quad (45)$$

□

Proof of Theorem 4. Since $K \notin \mathcal{S}_e^n$, Corollary 9 implies

$$V(\check{\nabla}_p K) < V(K). \quad (46)$$

Let $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $V((1 + \varepsilon)\check{\nabla}_p K) < V(K)$. Taking $L = (1 + \varepsilon)\check{\nabla}_p K$ we have

$$V(K) > V(L). \quad (47)$$

Combining with Lemma 10 we get

$$\begin{aligned} I_p L &= I_p((1 + \varepsilon)\check{\nabla}_p K) = (1 + \varepsilon)^{(n-p)/p} I_p(\check{\nabla}_p K) \\ &= (1 + \varepsilon)^{(n-p)/p} I_p K \supset I_p K. \end{aligned} \quad (48)$$

□

Proof of Theorem 5. From the condition $I_p K \subseteq I_p L$, we have, for arbitrary $N \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$,

$$\widetilde{V}_p(N, I_p K) \leq \widetilde{V}_p(N, I_p L). \quad (49)$$

By Lemma 7, we obtain

$$\widetilde{V}_p(K, I_p N) \leq \widetilde{V}_p(L, I_p N). \quad (50)$$

Let $M = I_p N$ in (50). Together with (15), it follows that

$$\overline{G}_p(K) \leq \overline{G}_p(L), \quad (51)$$

with equality if and only if $K = L$. □

Lemma 11. If $K \in \mathcal{S}_o^n$ and $1 \leq p < n$, then

$$\overline{G}_p(\check{\nabla}_p K) \leq \overline{G}_p(K), \quad (52)$$

with equality if and only if K is origin-symmetric.

Proof. From (14), (27), and (28), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \omega_n^{p/n} \overline{G}_p(\check{\nabla}_p K) &= \sup \left\{ n \widetilde{V}_p(\check{\nabla}_p K, Q) V(Q^*)^{p/n} : Q \right. \\ &\quad \left. \in \mathcal{S}_e^n \right\} = \sup \left\{ n \widetilde{V}_p\left(\frac{1}{2} * K \check{+}_p \frac{1}{2} * (-K), Q\right) \right. \\ &\quad \left. \cdot V(Q^*)^{p/n} : Q \in \mathcal{S}_e^n \right\} \\ &= \sup \left\{ \int_{S^{n-1}} \rho\left(\frac{1}{2} * K \check{+}_p \frac{1}{2} * (-K), u\right)^{n-p} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \cdot \rho(L, u)^p dS(u) V(Q^*)^{p/n} : Q \right. \\ &\quad \left. \in \mathcal{S}_e^n \right\} \\ &= \sup \left\{ \int_{S^{n-1}} \left[\frac{1}{2} \rho(K, u)^{n-p} + \frac{1}{2} \rho(-K, u)^{n-p} \right] \right. \\ &\quad \left. \cdot \rho(L, u)^p dS(u) V(Q^*)^{p/n} : Q \right. \\ &\quad \left. \in \mathcal{S}_e^n \right\} = \sup \left\{ \frac{n}{2} \widetilde{V}_p(K, Q) V(Q^*)^{p/n} + \frac{n}{2} \right. \\ &\quad \left. \cdot \widetilde{V}_p(-K, Q) V(Q^*)^{p/n} : Q \in \mathcal{S}_e^n \right\} \leq \frac{1}{2} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \cdot \sup \left\{ n \widetilde{V}_p(K, Q) V(Q^*)^{p/n} : Q \in \mathcal{S}_e^n \right\} + \frac{1}{2} \\ & \cdot \sup \left\{ n \widetilde{V}_p(-K, Q) V(Q^*)^{p/n} : Q \in \mathcal{S}_e^n \right\}. \end{aligned} \quad (53)$$

Note that $Q \in \mathcal{S}_e^n$, thus we have $\widetilde{V}_p(-K, Q) = \widetilde{V}_p(K, Q)$. Together with (53), this yields

$$\widetilde{G}_p(\widetilde{V}_p K) \leq \widetilde{G}_p(K). \quad (54)$$

Equality holds in (53) if and only if K is a dilation of $-K$. This gives $K = -K$. Namely, K is origin-symmetric. Hence, equality holds in (54) if and only if K is origin-symmetric. $\square$

Proof of Theorem 6. Since $K \notin \mathcal{S}_e^n$, from Lemma 11 we have

$$\widetilde{G}_p(\widetilde{V}_p K) < \widetilde{G}_p(K). \quad (55)$$

Choose $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $\widetilde{G}_p((1 + \varepsilon)\widetilde{V}_p K) < \widetilde{G}_p(K)$. Taking $L = (1 + \varepsilon)\widetilde{V}_p K$ we obtain

$$\widetilde{G}_p(K) > \widetilde{G}_p(L). \quad (56)$$

It follows from Lemma 10 that

$$\begin{aligned} I_p L &= I_p \left((1 + \varepsilon) \widetilde{V}_p K \right) = (1 + \varepsilon)^{(n-p)/p} I_p(\widetilde{V}_p K) \\ &= (1 + \varepsilon)^{(n-p)/p} I_p K \supset I_p K. \end{aligned} \quad (57)$$

$\square$

Conflicts of Interest

The authors declare that they have no conflicts of interest.

Authors' Contributions

All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

Acknowledgments

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