

# $L_p$ -centroid Bodies and Its Characterizations

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**Abstract:** In this paper, we study the characteristic properties for  $L_p$ -centroid bodies, and an improved version of Busemann-Petty problem for  $L_p$ -centroid bodies is obtained. In addition, using the definitions of  $L_p$ -pole curvature image and  $L_p$ -affine surface area, a new proof of Busemann-Petty problem for  $L_p$ -centroid bodies is given.

**Key words:** convex body, star body, centroid body,  $L_p$ -centroid body, Busemann-Petty problem

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## 1 Introduction

The concept of classic centroid body was first proposed by Blaschke and Dupin (see [1]), and was defined by Petty<sup>[2]</sup>. Lutwak and Zhang<sup>[3]</sup> introduced the concept of  $L_p$ -centroid body. For each convex subset in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ , it is well-known that there is a unique ellipsoid with the following property: The moment of inertia of the ellipsoid and the moment of inertia of the convex set are the same about every 1-dimensional subspace of  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . This ellipsoid is called the Lengendre ellipsoid of the convex set. Namely,  $L_2$ -centroid body  $\Gamma_2 K$ . The Lengendre ellipsoid and its polar (the Binet ellipsoid) are well-known concepts from classical mechanics.

As usual,  $V(K)$  denotes the  $n$ -dimensional volume of a body  $K$  in Euclidean space  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . Let  $S^{n-1}$  denote the unit sphere in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . Let  $B$  denote the centered (centrally symmetric with respect to the origin) unit ball in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ , and we write  $\omega_n = V(B)$  for its volume.

The definition of the classic centroid body was introduced by Petty<sup>[2]</sup>: Let  $K$  be a star body (about the origin) in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ . Then the classic centroid body,  $\Gamma K$ , of  $K$  is the origin-

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symmetric convex body whose support function is given by

$$h_{\Gamma K}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{V(K)} \int_K |\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{x}| d\mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{u} \in S^{n-1},$$

where  $\mathbf{x} \cdot \mathbf{y}$  denotes the standard inner product of vectors  $\mathbf{x}$  and  $\mathbf{y}$  in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ .

The classic centroid body is an important concept in convex geometry analysis. About the research of classic centroid body, Petty<sup>[4]</sup>, Lutwak<sup>[5-7]</sup> and Zhang<sup>[8-10]</sup> have made plentiful and substantial achievements.

In 1997, Lutwak and Zhang<sup>[3]</sup> introduced the notion of  $L_p$ -centroid body, which extend the concept of the classical centroid body. Let  $K$  be a star body (about the origin) in  $\mathbf{R}^n$  and  $p \geq 1$ . Then the  $L_p$ -centroid body,  $\Gamma_p K$ , of  $K$  is the origin-symmetric convex body whose support function is given by

$$h_{\Gamma_p K}(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{c_{n,p} V(K)} \int_K |\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{x}|^p d\mathbf{x}, \quad \mathbf{u} \in S^{n-1}, \quad (1.1)$$

where

$$c_{n,p} = \frac{\omega_{n+p}}{\omega_2 \omega_n \omega_{p-1}}, \quad \omega_n = \frac{\pi^{n/2}}{\Gamma(1+n/2)}.$$

By using polar coordinate transformation in (1.1), we can obtain

$$h_{\Gamma_p K}^p(\mathbf{u}) = \frac{1}{(n+p)c_{n,p} V(K)} \int_{S^{n-1}} |\mathbf{u} \cdot \mathbf{v}|^p \rho_K^{n+p}(\mathbf{v}) dS(\mathbf{v}), \quad \mathbf{u} \in S^{n-1}. \quad (1.2)$$

For set of the polar bodies of all  $L_p$ -projection bodies, we define the following:

$$\Pi_p^* = \{\Pi_p^* Q : Q \subset \mathbf{R}^n \text{ is the any convex body containing origin in their interiors}\},$$

where  $\Pi_p^* Q$  denotes the polar body of  $L_p$ -projection body  $\Pi_p Q$ . The following results are equivalent:

- (i)  $L \in \Pi_p^*$ ;
- (ii)  $(\mathbf{R}^n, \|\cdot\|_L)$  is isometric to a subspace of  $L_p$ .

The latter fact can be found in [11].

Concerning the operator  $\Gamma_p$ , a well-known Shephard problem can be stated as follows: Let  $K, L$  be two origin-symmetric convex bodies in  $\mathbf{R}^n$  and suppose that, for every  $p \geq 1$ ,  $\Gamma_p K \subseteq \Gamma_p L$ , does it follow that we have an inequality for the volumes of  $K$  and  $L$ ?

The premier solution of this problem was given by Grinberg and Zhang<sup>[12]</sup>. Their results are described as follows:

**Theorem 1.1** *Let  $K$  be a star body (about the origin) in  $\mathbf{R}^n$ ,  $L \in \Pi_p^*$ , and  $p \geq 1$ . If  $\Gamma_p K \subseteq \Gamma_p L$ , then*

$$V(K) \leq V(L)$$

*with equality for  $n \neq p \geq 1$  if and only if  $K = L$ .*

*On the other hand, if  $K \notin \Pi_p^*$ , then there is a body  $L$  such that  $\Gamma_p K \subseteq \Gamma_p L$ , but  $V(K) > V(L)$ .*

In this paper, we further study the characteristic properties of  $L_p$ -centroid bodies. First, we give the following result for  $L_p$ -centroid bodies.