

Monge-Ampère operators and valuations

Jonas Knoerr

TU Wien

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Valuations on sets and functions

\mathcal{S} : family of sets, $(\mathcal{A}, +)$: Abelian semi-group

Definition

$\mu : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ is called a valuation if

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

for all $K, L \in \mathcal{S}$ s.t. $K \cup L, K \cap L \in \mathcal{S}$.

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X : some family of real valued functions

Definition

$\mu : X \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ is called a valuation if

$$\mu(f \vee h) + \mu(f \wedge h) = \mu(f) + \mu(h)$$

for all $f, h \in X$ such that $f \vee h, f \wedge h \in X$.

$f \vee h$: pointwise maximum, $f \wedge h$: pointwise minimum

Valuations functions

- Valuations on L_p and Orlicz functions
Tsang 2010, 2012; Ludwig 2013; Ober 2014; Kone 2014; Li & Ma 2017
- Valuations on Sobolev functions and BV functions
Ludwig 2011; Wang 2014; Ma 2016
- Valuations on continuous and Lipschitz functions
Villanueva 2016; Tradacete & Villanueva 2017, 2018, 2020; Colesanti, Pagnini, Tradacete & Villanueva 2020, 2021

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- **Valuations on convex functions**
Cavallina & Colesanti 2015, Colesanti, Ludwig & Mussnig 2017, ..., 2023; Alesker 2019; Mussnig 2019, 2020; K. 2020, 2021; Hofstätter & Schuster 2023; Hofstätter & K. 2023,...

Examples

- $\text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$: convex functions $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ (loc. uniform conv.)
- $\mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^n) := (C_c(\mathbb{R}^n))'$: signed Radon measures on \mathbb{R}^n (weak-* conv.)

Example (real Monge-Ampère operator)

$$\text{MA} : \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}) \cap C^2(\mathbb{R}^n) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

$$f \mapsto \left[B \mapsto \int_B \det(D^2 f(x)) dx, \quad B \text{ Borel set} \right]$$

extends uniquely by continuity to a continuous valuation.

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mixed Monge-Ampère operators:

$$\text{MA}(f_1, \dots, f_n) := \frac{1}{n!} \frac{\partial^n}{\partial \lambda_1 \dots \partial \lambda_n} \Big|_0 \text{MA} \left(\sum_{i=1}^n \lambda_i f_i \right)$$

Further examples

Theorem (Alesker 2019)

For every $B \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $A_1, \dots, A_{n-k} \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^n, \text{Sym}^2 \mathbb{R}^n)$ there exists a unique continuous valuation $\mu : \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ s.t.

$$\mu(f) = \int_{\mathbb{R}^n} B(x) \det(D^2 f(x)[k], A_1(x), \dots, A_{n-k}(x)) dx$$

for all $f \in \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}) \cap C^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$. \det : mixed discriminant

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Remark:

- μ is dually epi-translation invariant:

$$\mu(f + \ell) = \mu(f) \quad \text{for } f \in \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}), \ell : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \text{ affine}$$

- μ is k -homogeneous: $\mu(tf) = t^k \mu(f)$, $t \geq 0$

Dually epi-translation invariant valuations

F : locally convex vector space

Definition

$\text{VConv}(\mathbb{R}^n, F)$: continuous, dually epi-translation invariant valuations
 $\mu : \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow F$.

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Theorem (Colesanti-Ludwig-Mussnig 2020, K. 2021)

$$\text{VConv}(\mathbb{R}^n, F) = \bigoplus_{k=0}^n \text{VConv}_k(\mathbb{R}^n, F)$$

$\text{VConv}_k(\mathbb{R}^n, F)$: k -homogeneous valuations, $\mu(tf) = t^k \mu(f)$

Valuations of degree n

Theorem (Colesanti-Ludwig-Mussnig 2020)

$\mu \in \text{VConv}_n(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$ iff there exists $\zeta \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^n)$ s.t.

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Theorem (K. 2023+)

Let $\Psi \in \text{VConv}_n(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^n))$ be **locally determined**, that is, for $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ open, $f, h \in \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$:

$$f|_U = h|_U \quad \Rightarrow \quad \Psi(f)|_U = \Psi(h)|_U.$$

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Then there exists $\psi \in C(\mathbb{R}^n)$ s.t. for $B \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ bounded Borel set

$$\Psi(f)[B] = \int_B \psi(x) d\text{MA}(f)[x].$$

Characterization of the real Monge-Ampère operator

$\Psi \in V\text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^n))$ is **translation equivariant** iff for $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $f \in \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$:

$$\Psi(f(\cdot + x))[B] = \Psi(f)[B + x] \quad \text{for all bounded Borel sets } B \subset \mathbb{R}^n.$$

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Corollary (K. 2023+)

$\Psi \in V\text{Conv}_n(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^n))$ is *locally determined and translation equivariant* iff $\Psi = c \cdot \text{MA}$ for some $c \in \mathbb{R}$.

Further characterization results: Li-Ludwig 2023+

Translation equivariant Monge-Ampère operators

Definition

$$\text{MAVal}(\mathbb{R}^n) := \{\Psi \in \text{VConv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^n)) : \Psi \text{ locally determined and translation equivariant}\}$$

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Corollary

$$\text{MAVal}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \bigoplus_{k=0}^n \text{MAVal}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$$

- $\text{MAVal}_0(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is spanned by the Lebesgue measure.
- $\text{MAVal}_n(\mathbb{R}^n)$ is spanned by MA.

Construction of valuations with the differential cycle

- For $f \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$

$$\text{graph}(df) := \{(x, df(x)) \in \mathbb{R}^n \times (\mathbb{R}^n)^* : x \in \mathbb{R}^n\} \subset T^*\mathbb{R}^n$$

is an oriented C^1 -submanifold of the cotangent bundle
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Theorem (K. 2023+)

For any differential form $\tau \in \Lambda^{n-k,k} := \Lambda^{n-k}\mathbb{R}^n \otimes \Lambda^k(\mathbb{R}^n)^*$,

$$\Psi_\tau(f)[B] := D(f) [1_{\pi^{-1}(B)}\tau] = \int_{\text{graph}(df) \cap \pi^{-1}(B)} \tau$$

defines an element of $\text{MAVal}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Construction of valuations with the differential cycle

Example

For standard coordinates $(x_1, \dots, x_n, y_1, \dots, y_n)$ on $T^*\mathbb{R}^n \cong \mathbb{R}^n \times \mathbb{R}^n$

$$\int_B \det(D^2 f(x)) dx = \int_{\text{graph}(df) \cap \pi^{-1}(B)} dy_1 \wedge \dots \wedge dy_n$$

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and

$$\int_B \Delta f(x) dx = \int_{\text{graph}(df) \cap \pi^{-1}(B)} \sum_{i=1}^n dx_1 \dots dx_{i-1} \wedge dy_i \wedge dx_{i+1} \dots dx_n$$

for $f \in C^2(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Translation equivariant Monge-Ampère operators

Theorem (K. 2023+)

For a continuous map $\Psi : \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ the following are equivalent:

- 1 $\Psi \in \text{MAVal}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

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- ③ Ψ is a linear combination of the mixed Monge-Ampère operators

$$f \mapsto \text{MA}(f[k], A_1, \dots, A_{n-k}), \quad A_j \text{ quadratic polynomial.}$$

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In particular, $\dim \text{MAVal}_k(\mathbb{R}^n) = \binom{n}{k}^2 - \binom{n}{k-1} \binom{n}{n-k-1}$.

Restrictions to subspaces

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For $E \in \operatorname{Gr}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $\Psi \in \operatorname{MAVal}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$, consider

$$f_E \mapsto \Psi(\pi_E^* f) \in \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^n) = \mathcal{M}(E \oplus E^\perp),$$

$\pi_E : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow E$ orthogonal projection, $f_E \in \operatorname{Conv}(E, \mathbb{R})$.

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$\Rightarrow \Psi(\pi_E^* f)[A \times B] = \tilde{\Psi}(f)[A] \cdot \text{vol}_{E^\perp}(B)$, $A \subset E$, $B \subset E^\perp$

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Lemma

Let $\Psi \in \text{MAVal}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$. For $E \in \text{Gr}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ there exists $\text{Kl}_\Psi(E) \in \mathbb{R}$ s.t.

$$\Psi(\pi_E^* f) = \text{Kl}_\Psi(E) \cdot \text{MA}_E(f) \otimes \text{vol}_{E^\perp} \quad \text{for all } f \in \text{Conv}(E, \mathbb{R}).$$

The Goodey-Weil distributions

For $\mu \in \text{VConv}_k(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$: $\bar{\mu}(f_1, \dots, f_k) := \frac{1}{k!} \frac{\partial^k}{\partial \lambda_1 \dots \partial \lambda_k} \Big|_0 \mu \left(\sum_{i=1}^k \lambda_i f_i \right)$

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Theorem (K. 2021)

For every $\mu \in \text{VConv}_k(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$ there exists a unique symmetric distribution $\text{GW}(\mu) \in \mathcal{D}((\mathbb{R}^n)^k)$ **with compact support** such that

$$\text{GW}(\mu)[f_1 \otimes \dots \otimes f_k] = \bar{\mu}(f_1, \dots, f_k)$$

for all $f_1, \dots, f_k \in \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}) \cap C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

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for all $f_1, \dots, f_k \in \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}) \cap C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

- $\text{GW}(\mu)[f \otimes \dots \otimes f] = \mu(f)$ for $f \in \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}) \cap C^\infty(\mathbb{R}^n)$
- original construction due to Goodey and Weil for $\text{Val}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$

The Fourier transform of Goodey-Weil distributions

Recall: $\text{GW}(\mu)$ compactly supported distribution on $(\mathbb{R}^n)^k$,
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$$\mathcal{F}(\text{GW}(\mu))[z_1, \dots, z_k] = \text{GW}(\mu)[\exp(i\langle z_1, \cdot \rangle) \otimes \cdots \otimes \exp(i\langle z_k, \cdot \rangle)].$$

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- It is determined by the restriction to $(i\mathbb{R}^n)^k$.

The Fourier transform of Goodey-Weil distributions

Recall: $\text{GW}(\mu)$ compactly supported distribution on $(\mathbb{R}^n)^k$,

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- Right hand side: evaluation in functions defined on $\text{span}(y_1, \dots, y_k)$.

Restriction to subspaces

- 1 Take the orthogonal projection $\pi_E : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow E$.
- 2 Consider the **restriction** $\pi_{E*}\mu \in \text{VConv}(E, \mathbb{R})$,

$$[\pi_{E*}\mu](f) := \mu(\pi_E^* f), \quad f \in \text{Conv}(E, \mathbb{R}),$$

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Corollary

For $\mu \in \text{VConv}_k(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$ the following are equivalent:

- 1 $\mu = 0$,
- 2 $\pi_{E*}\mu = 0$ for all $E \in \text{Gr}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

In other words, μ is uniquely determined by its restrictions.

Application to measure-valued valuations

For $\phi \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^n)$, $\Psi \in \text{MAVal}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$, consider $\Psi[\phi] \in \text{VConv}_k(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R})$:

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For $y_1, \dots, y_k \in E \in \text{Gr}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$:

$$\mathcal{F}(\text{GW}(\Psi[\phi]))[iy_1, \dots, iy_k] = \text{Kl}_\Psi(E) \frac{\det_k(\langle y_j, y_l \rangle)_{j,l=1}^k}{(-1)^k k!} \mathcal{F}(\phi) \left(\sum_{j=1}^k iy_j \right).$$

From valuations to polynomials

Theorem (K. 2023+)

For every $\Psi \in \text{MAVal}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$ there exists a unique polynomial $Q[\Psi]$ on $(\mathbb{C}^n)^k$ of degree at most $2k$ such that for all $\phi \in C_c(\mathbb{R}^n)$

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$Q[\Psi](z_1, \dots, z_k) = P(\sum_{i=1}^k z_i \cdot z_i^T)$, where P is a linear combination of $(k \times k)$ -minors.

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$(k \times k)$ -minors: irreducible representation of $\text{GL}(n, \mathbb{R})$.

Irreducibility under $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$

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The map $MAVal_k(\mathbb{R}^n) \ni \Psi \mapsto Q[\Psi]$ defines a $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ -equivariant map into an irreducible representation of $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$.

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Lemma

The following valuations span $GL(n, \mathbb{R})$ -invariant subspaces of $MAVal_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$:

- ① $f \mapsto D(f)[1_{\pi^{-1}(\cdot)}\tau], \tau \in \Lambda^{n-k,k}.$
- ② $f \mapsto MA(f[k], A_1, \dots, A_{n-k}), A_j \text{ quadratic polynomial.}$

Thus, these spaces coincide with $MAVal_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$.

Translation equivariant Monge-Ampère operators

Theorem (K. 2023+)

For a continuous map $\Psi : \text{Conv}(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}(\mathbb{R}^n)$ the following are equivalent:

- 1 $\Psi \in \text{MAVal}_k(\mathbb{R}^n)$.
- 2 $\Psi(f)[B] = D(f)[1_{\pi^{-1}(B)}\tau]$ for some $\tau \in \Lambda^{n-k,k}$.
- 3 Ψ is a linear combination of the mixed Monge-Ampère operators

$$f \mapsto \text{MA}(f[k], A_1, \dots, A_{n-k}), \quad A_j \text{ quadratic polynomial.}$$

Thank you for your attention!