

## Lecture 8 - Lorentzian Characterization theorem

Last time:

Definition: A  $d$ -homogeneous  
polynomial  $p \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is  
Lorentzian if:

(P) The coefficients of  $p$  are nonnegative

(Q)  $\forall v_1, \dots, v_{d-2}$ , the Hessian of  
 $D_{v_1} \dots D_{v_{d-2}} p$  has at most  
one positive eigenvalue.

(Unwieldy/non-combinatorial defn,  
so we discussed the  
following characterization  
theorem)

Theorem: A  $d$ -homogeneous polynomial  $p \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is Lorentzian if and only if:

1)  $\forall \mu \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n, |\mu| \leq d-2, \partial_x^\mu p$  is indecomposable (cannot be written as the sum of two polynomials on disjoint sets of variables)

2)  $\forall \mu \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n, |\mu| = d-2$ , the Hessian of  $\partial_x^\mu p$  has at most one positive eigenvalue.

(Much more combinatorial conditions, since partial derivatives often correspond to comb. ops.)

Corollary 1: A  $d$ -homogeneous polyn.  $p \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}[x, y]$  is Lorentzian if:

1) Its support has no "holes"

2) Its coeff. satisfy Newton's inequalities.

Given a matrix  $M$ , let  
 $p_M(x) = \sum_{B \in \mathcal{M}} x^B$  be its basis  
generating polynomial.

Corollary 2: We have that  
 $p_M$  is Lorentzian for all  
matroids  $M$  iff:

- 1)  $p_M$  is indecomposable for all  
matroids  $M$  of rank  $\geq 2$ .
- 2) The Hessian of  $p_M$  has at  
most 1 pos. eval. for all  
matroids  $M$  of rank  $= 2$ .

(We will prove this later.)

(Upside: fills the "gaps" left  
by the real stability theory)

Goal today: Prove the  
characterization theorem.

(side board)  
Lemma: If  $g \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is  
 $d$ -homogeneous ( $d \geq 2$ ) and  $g(x) > 0$ , then  
the following are equivalent:

(a) the Hessian of  $g$  at  $x$   
has exactly one pos. eval

(b) the Hessian of  $g^{1/d}$  is  
negative semidef. at  $x$

(c) the matrix

$$d \cdot g \cdot \nabla^2 g - (d-1) \cdot \nabla g (\nabla g)^T$$

is negative semidefinite at  $x$

Proof: Exercise.

Lemma (Bochner method): Fix  $d$ -homog.

$f \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  with  $d \geq 3$  and  $x \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$ .

If: (1)  $\partial_{x_i} f(x) > 0 \quad \forall i$ ,

(2) the Hessian of  $\partial_{x_i} f$  at  $x$

has exactly one pos. eval,  
and

(3) the Hessian of  $f$  at  $x$  is irreducible with <sup>(def: side board)</sup> non-negative off-diagonal entries, then the Hessian of  $f$  at  $x$  has exactly one pos. eval.

Proof: We apply (c) from the previous lemma to  $\partial_{x_i} f$  to get  $(d-1) \partial_{x_i} f \cdot \nabla^2 \partial_{x_i} f \leq (d-2) \cdot \nabla \partial_{x_i} f (\nabla \partial_{x_i} f)^T$ , at  $x$ , and since  $\partial_{x_i} f(x) > 0, x > 0$ , we have  $x_i \cdot \nabla^2 \partial_{x_i} f \leq \frac{d-2}{d-1} \cdot \frac{x_i}{\partial_{x_i} f} \cdot \nabla \partial_{x_i} f (\nabla \partial_{x_i} f)^T$   $\forall i$ , at  $x$ . Now apply Euler's identity (side board)  $d \cdot f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \cdot \partial_{x_i} f(x)$

to the entries of  $\nabla^2 f$  to get:

$$(d-2) \nabla^2 f = \sum_{i=1}^n x_i \nabla^2 \partial_{x_i} f, \text{ and}$$

Combining the above gives

$$(d-2) \nabla^2 f \leq \frac{d-2}{d-1} \sum_{i=1}^n \frac{x_i}{\partial_{x_i} f} \cdot \nabla \partial_{x_i} f (\nabla \partial_{x_i} f)^T.$$

Finally this implies

$$(d-1)\nabla^2 f \succeq (\nabla^2 f)\Lambda(\nabla^2 f),$$

$$\text{where } \Lambda = \text{diag}\left(\frac{x_1}{\partial_{x_1} f}, \dots, \frac{x_n}{\partial_{x_n} f}\right).$$

(Side board: write out this expression to demonstrate.)

$$\text{For } B = \Lambda^{1/2}(\nabla^2 f)\Lambda^{1/2},$$

$$\text{this implies } B^2 - (d-1)B \succeq 0.$$

$\Rightarrow$  No eigenvalue of  $B$  in  $(0, d-1)$ .

Side board: Perron-Frobenius Theorem:

An irreducible matrix with non-negative off-diagonal entries has a simple real eigenvalue with uniquely maximum real part, and the corresponding eigenvector has positive entries.

$$\text{Note that } B(\Lambda^{-1/2}x) =$$

$$\Lambda^{1/2}(\nabla^2 f)x =$$

$$\Lambda^{1/2} \begin{bmatrix} \partial_{x_1} \partial_{x_1} f & \partial_{x_2} \partial_{x_1} f & \dots & \partial_{x_n} \partial_{x_1} f \\ \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ \partial_{x_1} \partial_{x_n} f & \partial_{x_2} \partial_{x_n} f & \dots & \partial_{x_n} \partial_{x_n} f \end{bmatrix} x = \Lambda^{1/2} \begin{bmatrix} (d-1)\partial_{x_1} f \\ \vdots \\ (d-1)\partial_{x_n} f \end{bmatrix}$$

by Euler's identity.

$$\text{Thus, } B(\Delta^{-1/2}x) = (d-1)\Delta^{-1/2}x$$

$\Rightarrow d-1$  is eigenvalue of  $B$   
with positive eigenvector.

Thus by the Perron-Frobenius theorem,  $B$  has exactly one positive eigenvalue, and thus so does  $\nabla^2 f(x)$ .  $\square$

## Lecture 9: Loewnerian characterization and further properties

Last time:

Lemma (Bochner method): Fix  $d$ -homog.

$f \in \mathbb{R}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  with  $d \geq 3$  and  $v \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$ .

If: (1)  $\partial_{x_i} f(v) > 0 \quad \forall i$ ,

(2) the Hessian of  $\partial_{x_i} f$  at  $v$   
has exactly one pos. eval,

(3) the Hessian of  $f$  at  
 $v$  is irreducible with  
non-negative off-diagonal entries,

then the Hessian of  $f$  at  $v$   
has exactly one pos. eval.

Proof: Opaque-ish proof leading to

two conclusions for some assoc.

matrix  $B$ : No e-vals in  $(0, d-1)$ ,

and no e-vals  $> d-1$ .

Lemma: If  $f \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is  $d$ -homog with  $d \geq 3$  and  $f$  is indecomposable, then so is  $\partial_{x_i} f$ ,  $\forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$ .

Proof:  $\exists \partial_{x_i} f = g + h$ , where  $g, h$  depend on disjoint sets of variables,  $S$  and  $S^c$ . Since  $f$  is indecomposable, there is some present monomial  $x^\alpha x^\beta$ , where  $x^\alpha, x^\beta$  depend on variables in  $S, S^c$  resp. Since  $d \geq 3$ , WLOG  $|\alpha| \geq 2$ . Thus for some  $i$ ,  $\partial_{x_i} f$  depends on variables in  $S$  and  $S^c$ , a contradiction.  $\square$

Theorem: Let  $f \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$

be  $d$ -homogeneous with  $d \geq 3$ .

If (1)  $f$  is indecomposable, and

(2)  $\partial_{x_i} f$  is Lorentzian,  $\forall i$ ,

then  $f$  is Lorentzian.

Proof: If  $d \geq 4$ , then  $\forall v \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$ ,  
 $D_v f$  is indecomposable and  
 $\partial_{x_i} D_v f = D_v \partial_{x_i} f$  is Lorentzian  $\forall i$   
by defn. of Lorentzian. Thus  
by induction  $D_v f$  is Lorentzian  
 $\forall v \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$ , which implies  $f$   
is Lorentzian by definition.

If  $d=3$ , then for  $v \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$ ,  
 $\nabla^2 f(v) \cong D_v(\nabla^2 f) = \nabla^2 D_v f$ ,  
which is irreducible by indecompos.  
of  $f$  and positivity of  $v$ .

Thus we can apply the  
Bochner Lemma to  $f$  to  
get that  $\nabla^2 f(v)$  has  
exactly one positive eval.  
Since  $\nabla^2 f(v) \cong \nabla^2(D_v f)$ ,  
this implies  $D_v f$  is Lorentzian,  
and the result follows.  $\square$

Theorem: A  $d$ -homogeneous polynomial  $p \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$  is Lorentzian if and only if:

1)  $\forall \mu \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n, |\mu| \leq d-2, \partial_x^\mu p$  is indecomposable (cannot be written as the sum of two polynomials on disjoint sets of variables)

2)  $\forall \mu \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^n, |\mu| = d-2$ , the Hessian of  $\partial_x^\mu p$  has at most one positive eigenvalue.

Proof: ( $\Leftarrow$ ) For  $d=2$ , immediate.

For  $d \geq 3$ ,  $\partial_{x_i} p$  is Lorentzian  $\forall i$  by induction, and  $p$  is indecomposable by assumption.

Thus  $p$  is Lorentzian.

NEXT  $\rightarrow$

( $\Rightarrow$ ) By induction,  $\partial_{x_i} p$  is  
Lorentzian for all  $i$ .

(Consider  $D_{v_1} \dots D_{v_{d-3}} D_{e_i + \varepsilon i} p$  and  
let  $\varepsilon \searrow 0$ .)

By induction, we only need  
to show  $p$  is indecomposable,  
and when  $d=2$  Hessian  $p$  has at  
most one pos. eval (follows  
immediately from definition).

Suppose  $p = g + h$  where  $g, h$   
depend on disjoint sets of variables.

$$\text{Then } D_{\mathbf{1}}^{d-2} p = D_{\mathbf{1}}^{d-2} g + D_{\mathbf{1}}^{d-2} h$$

is a sum of non zero polynomials  
depending on disjoint sets of variables,  
and  $D_{\mathbf{1}}^{d-2} p$  is also Lorentzian.

Thus up to reordering variables,  
the Hessian of  $D_{\mathbf{1}}^{d-2} p$  can

be written as

$$\begin{bmatrix} A & 0 \\ 0 & B \end{bmatrix}$$

where  $A, B$  have non-negative entries and are not identically zero. Since  $A, B$  real symm. and  $\text{tr}(A), \text{tr}(B) \geq 0$ , each of  $A$  and  $B$  have at least one pos. eval. Thus Hessian of  $D_{\mathbb{I}}^{d-2} p$  has at least 2 pos. evals., a contradiction.  $\square$

(Corollary that a bivariate homogeneous polynomial is Lorentzian iff its coefficient sequence has no holes and satisfies Newton's inequalities.)

## Lecture 10 - Matroid polynomials

Definition: A matroid  $M$  on a finite ground set  $E$  is defined by a non-empty collection of subsets of  $E$  all of the same size (the rank of  $M$ ), called bases of  $M$ , which satisfy:

(Exch)  $\forall B_1, B_2 \in M, \forall i \in B_1 \setminus B_2,$   
 $\exists j \in B_2 \setminus B_1$  such that  
 $B_1 \cup \{j\} \setminus \{i\} \in M.$

Let  $p_M((x_e)_{e \in E}) := \sum_{B \in M} x^B,$

called the basis generating polynomial.

Theorem: For any matroid  $M$ ,  
 $p_M$  is Lorentzian.

Recall: We already showed that to  
prove this, we just need to  
show that

(1)  $p_M$  is indecomposable  $\forall M, \text{rank}(M) \geq 2$

(2) Hessian of  $p_M$  has at most  
one pos. eval  $\forall M, \text{rank}(M) = 2$

Proof: (1) Fix  $M$  and suppose  
 $p_M(x) = f((x_e)_{e \in S}) + g((x_e)_{e \in S^c})$   
 $f, g \neq 0$ .

Choose  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{M}$  s.t.  $B_1 \subseteq S$ ,  
 $B_2 \subseteq S^c$ . Apply exchange

axiom to get  $B := B_1 \cup \{f\} \setminus \{e\} \in \mathcal{M}$ ,  
with  $e \in S, f \in S^c$ . Since  $\text{rank} \geq 2$ ,  
 $B \cap S \neq \emptyset, B \cap S^c \neq \emptyset$ , a contradiction.

(2) What does a rank-2 matroid look like?

By removing loops of  $M$  (unused vars.) we may assume every  $e \in E$  is contained in some basis of  $M$ .

Claim:  $\{e, f\} \in M$  is an equivalence relation on  $E$ .

Pf.:  $\delta \{e_1, e_2\} \in M, \{e_2, e_3\} \in M$

If  $\{e_1, e_3\} \in M$ , fix any  $\{e_2, f\} \in M$  and apply exch. axiom  $\Rightarrow$

$\{e_2, f\} \cup \{e_1\} \setminus \{f\} \in M$  for some  $i \in \{1, 3\} \Rightarrow$  contradiction.  $\square$

Thus,  $E$  breaks up into equiv. classes, and for any  $e, f$  in distinct classes,  $\{e, f\} \in M$ .

I.e., complete multipartite graph:



Now,  $p_m(x) = x^T A x$ , what does  $A$  look like? Order the variables by equivalence class:

$$\begin{matrix} c_1 \\ c_2 \\ \vdots \\ c_m \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 & | & J & | & \dots & | & J \\ \hline & & & & & & \\ J & | & 0 & | & \dots & | & J \\ \hline & & & & & & \\ \hline J^T & | & J & | & \dots & | & 0 \\ \hline c_1 & | & c_2 & | & \dots & | & c_m \end{bmatrix} \cdot \frac{1}{2} = A$$

$J =$  all-ones matrix

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \frac{1}{2}(J_E - J_{c_1} - J_{c_2} - \dots - J_{c_m}) \\ &= (\text{rank-one PSD}) - (\text{PSD}) \end{aligned}$$

Thus  $A$  has at most one positive eigenvalue.  $\square$

(In fact this characterizes matroids: Let  $\mathcal{M}$  be a collection of subsets of  $E$ , all of the same cardinality. Then  $\mathcal{M}$  is the set of bases of a matroid iff  $p_{\mathcal{M}}(x) = \sum_{B \in \mathcal{M}} x^B$  is Lorentzian. More generally, the support of any multiaffine Lorentzian polynomial is the set of bases of a matroid.)

### Mason's conjecture ('70s, BH '19, ALOV '19)

The strongest form of the conjecture says the set of independent sets (subsets of bases) of size  $k$  of a matroid form an ultra log-concave sequence (w.r.t.  $|E|=n$ ).

A set  $S \subseteq E$  is independent  
 if  $S \subseteq B$  for some  $B \in \mathcal{M}$ .  
 Construct independent set gen.  
polynomial :

$$q_M((x_e)_{e \in E}, y) = \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq E \\ \text{indep.}}} x^I y^{n-|I|}$$

If  $q_M$  is Lorentzian, then  
 $q_M(t, \dots, t, s)$  has coefficients  
 given by the number of size- $k$   
 indep. sets, and the coeff  
 are ultra log-concave.

$\Rightarrow$  proves Mason's conjecture

(Lemma: truncation is a matroid.)

Theorem: For any matroid  $M$ ,  
 $q_M$  is Lorentzian.

Proof: Note that  $\partial_{x_e} q_M = q_{M/e}$ ,  
 as w/ the basis gen. poly..  
 So, to prove the theorem,

We need to show:

1)  $\partial_y^K q_M$  is indecomposable  
for all matroids  $M$  and  $K \leq n-2$ .

2)  $\partial_y^{n-2} q_M$  has Hessian with at  
most one pos. eval for all  
matroids  $M$ .

For (1), the lowest degree term  
in  $y$  has support the set of bases  
of some matroid (possibly a truncation  
of some other matroid). Thus

(1) follows from the same argument  
as in the basis gen. poly. case.

For (2), we have

$$\frac{1}{(n-2)!} \partial_y^{n-2} q_M(x, y) = \frac{n(n-1)}{2} y^2 + (n-1)y \sum_{e \in E} x_e + \sum_{e, f \in E, e \neq f} x_e x_f$$

where  $M_2$  is the truncation.

NEXT



Now we compute  $v^T B v$

for any  $v$  s.t.  $v \cdot \begin{pmatrix} \bar{1} \\ n \end{pmatrix} = 0$   
with  $v = \begin{pmatrix} w \\ v_0 \end{pmatrix}$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} v^T B v &= w^T A w + 2(n-1)v_0 \cdot (w \cdot \bar{1}) + \\ &\quad n(n-1)v_0^2 \\ &= w^T A w - n(n-1)v_0^2 \end{aligned}$$

Let  $A = J - \sum_{i=1}^m J_{C_i}$  where  
 $C_i$  are the equiv. classes  
of parallel elements of  $M_2$ .

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Then, } w^T A w &= (w \cdot \bar{1})^2 - \sum_{i=1}^m \left( \sum_{j \in C_i} w_j \right)^2 \\ &\leq \frac{m-1}{m} (w \cdot \bar{1})^2 \leq \frac{n-1}{n} (w \cdot \bar{1})^2 \end{aligned}$$

by the previous lemma, since  $m \leq m$ .

We then finally have

$$\begin{aligned} v^T B v &= w^T A w - n(n-1)v_0^2 \\ &\leq \frac{n-1}{n} (w \cdot \bar{1})^2 - n(n-1)v_0^2 \\ &= n(n-1)v_0^2 - n(n-1)v_0^2 = 0. \quad \square \end{aligned}$$

## Lec. 11: Other properties of Lorentzian polynomials

### Last time: Matroid polynomials

$$p_M(x) = \sum_{B \in \mathcal{M}} x^B$$

basis gen. polyn.

$$q_M(x, y) = \sum_{\substack{I \subseteq E \\ \text{indep.}}} x^I y^{n-|I|}$$

indep. set gen. polyn.

Both are Lorentzian for all matroids  $M$ .

Mason's Conjecture: If  $c_k = \#$  of indep sets of size  $k$  in  $M$ ,

then  $c_k$  is ultra log-concave, with respect to  $n = |E|$ .

Pf.:  $q_M(t \cdot \bar{1}, s) = \sum_{k=0}^n c_k t^k s^{n-k}$

$q_M(t \cdot \bar{1}, s)$  Lorentzian implies the result. Why Lorentzian?

Proposition: If  $p, q \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$   
are Lorentzian polynomials, then  
so are the following:

(a)  $D_v p$  for  $v \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$  and  $p|_{x_i=0}$ .

(b)  $p(Ax)$  for all  $n \times m$  matrices  $A$   
with non-negative entries

(c)  $p(a \cdot t + b \cdot s) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}[t, s]$  for  
all  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$ .

(d)  $p(x) \cdot q(z) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}[x_1, \dots, x_n, z_1, \dots, z_n]$ .

(e)  $p(x) \cdot q(x) \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ .

Proof:

(a)  $D_v p$  by limiting,  $p|_{x_i=0}$  by  
Cauchy interlacing theorem.

(b) Compute

$$\partial_{x_i} p(a_{11}x_1 + \dots + a_{1m}x_m, \dots, a_{n1}x_1 + \dots + a_{nm}x_m)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n a_{ij} (\partial_{x_i} p)(Ax)$$

Thus for  $v \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^m$ ,  $D_v[p(Ax)]$

$$= \sum_{j=1}^m v_j \partial_{x_j} [p(Ax)]$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m a_{ij} \cdot v_j (\partial_{x_i} p)(Ax)$$

$$= (D_w p)(Ax)$$

for some  $w \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n$ . By (a) and induction, we need to prove it for  $d=2$ . In this

case  $p(x) = x^T M x$ , which implies  $p(Ax) = x^T (A^T M A) x$ . The matrix  $A^T M A$  has non-negative entries, and at most one pos. eval. (why?).

(c) follows from (b) with

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} a & b \\ 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}.$$

(d) Use characterization theorem.

$$\forall \mu \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}^{2n} \text{ with } \mu = \alpha + \beta, \\ |\mu| \leq d-2 \Rightarrow$$

$$\partial_x^\alpha \partial_z^\beta [p(x)q(z)] = (\partial_x^\alpha p(x)) (\partial_z^\beta q(z))$$

is Lorentzian by induction,  
for  $|\mu| \geq 1$ . So, need  
to show  $p(x) \cdot q(z)$  is  
indecomposable, and  $p(x) \cdot q(z)$   
is Lorentzian when  $\deg(p(x) \cdot q(z)) = 2$ .

If  $p(x) \cdot q(z) = g + h$ , depending on  
disjoint sets of variables, then  
let  $x^\alpha z^\beta$  be a term of  $g$   
and  $x^\gamma z^\delta$  a term of  $h$ . Thus  
 $x^\alpha z^\delta$  and  $x^\gamma z^\beta$  are terms  
of  $p(x) \cdot q(z)$ , a contradiction.

Further, if  $\deg(p(x) \cdot q(z)) = 2$ ,

then  $p(x) \cdot q(z)$  is obviously  
Lorentzian unless  $\deg(p) = \deg(q) = 1$ .

In this case,

$$p(x) \cdot q(z) = x^T v w^T z \text{ for } v, w \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^n, \text{ and thus}$$

$$2 \cdot p(x) \cdot q(z) = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \\ \vdots \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}^T \begin{bmatrix} 0 & v w^T \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ w^T v & 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ x \\ \vdots \\ z \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

This matrix is real symmetric,

rank  $\leq 2$  and traceless

$\Rightarrow$  has at most one pos. eval.

(e) Follows from (b) and (d).

Let  $f(x, z) = p(x) \cdot q(z)$ , and

consider  $A = [I_n, I_n] \Rightarrow$

$$f(Ax) = f(x, x) = p(x) \cdot q(x)$$

is Lorentzian.  $\square$

(Upshot: Similar properties to real stable polynomials, but harder to get!)

Corollary: Given a matroid  $M$  and some subset  $S \subseteq E$  of the ground set, the number of bases  $C_k$  containing exactly  $k$  elements of  $S$  forms an ultra log-concave sequence (w.r.t. rank).

Proof: Consider  $P_M(\underbrace{t, \dots, t}_{|E \setminus S|}, \underbrace{s, \dots, s}_{|S|})$ .

Corollary: Mason's conjecture.

(Another operator we would like to have: polarization. Note that it preserves homogeneity. With this we could get linear preservers theorem.)

Recall:  $\text{Pol}^d[x^k] = \frac{1}{\binom{d}{k}} \sum_{S \in \binom{[d]}{k}} x^S$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Thus, } \partial_{x_d} \text{Pol}^d[x^k] &= \frac{1}{\binom{d}{k}} \sum_{S \in \binom{[d-1]}{k-1}} x^S \\ &= \frac{k}{d} \left[ \frac{1}{\binom{d-1}{k-1}} \sum_{S \in \binom{[d-1]}{k-1}} x^S \right] \\ &= \frac{k}{d} \text{Pol}^{d-1}[x^{k-1}] \\ &= \text{Pol}^{d-1} \left[ \frac{1}{d} \partial_x (x^k) \right] \end{aligned}$$

That is,  $\frac{1}{d} \partial_x$  commutes with  $\partial_{x_d}$  through polarization operator.

Theorem: Given  $p \in \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}^\lambda[x_1, \dots, x_n]$ ,  
if  $p$  is Lorentzian, then  
 $\text{Pol}^\lambda[p]$  is Lorentzian.

Proof: Just need to show that  
 $\text{Pol}^\lambda[p]$  is Lorentzian. To

ease notation, we consider  
 $p \in \mathbb{R}^{(\lambda_1, \lambda_2, \dots, \lambda_n)}[y, x_2, \dots, x_n]$   
and apply  $\text{Pol}^{\wedge}$  w.r.t.  
the variable  $y$ . By induction  
and deriv. commuting, the char. thm.

implies we only need to prove:

- (1)  $\text{Pol}^{\wedge}[p]$  is indecomposable (deg(p) = 2)
- (2)  $\text{Pol}^{\wedge}[p]$  has Hessian with  
at most one pos. e-val,  
when  $\text{deg}(p) = 2$ .

(Recall char. theorem on board)

(1) is clear  $\rightarrow$  Suppose

$\text{Pol}^{\wedge}[p] = g + h$ , dependent  
on disjoint sets of vars.

Since  $\text{Pol}^{\wedge}[p]$  is symmetric in  
the  $y$  vars, it must be that  
one of  $g, h$  is dep. on all  
 $y$  vars. But then this

contradicts the fact that  $p$  is indecomposable by assumption.

For (2), the following lemma will immediately imply the result.

Lemma: If  $\deg(p) = 2$ , then  $p$  is Lorentzian iff  $p$  is real stable.

Pf.: ( $\Rightarrow$ ) Note that  $p(a \cdot x + b \cdot s)$   
 $= C_0 s^2 + C_1 s x + C_2 x^2$   
satisfies Newton's inequalities,  
 $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$ . Thus  $(\frac{C_1}{2})^2 \geq C_0 C_2$   
 $\Leftrightarrow C_1^2 \geq 4 C_0 C_2 \Rightarrow p(a \cdot x + b)$   
is real-rooted. Now, for any  
 $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $a \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$ ,  $p(a \cdot x + b)$  is  
real-rooted iff  $p(a(x+c) + b)$   
 $= p(a \cdot x + (b + a \cdot c))$  is real-rooted

for any large  $c > 0$ . Thus  $p(a \cdot t + b)$  is real-rooted  $\forall a \in \mathbb{R}_{>0}^n$  and  $b \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , and this completes the proof. (See HW for other direction.)  $\square$

(Linear alg proof?)

Thus  $\text{Pol}^{\wedge}$  preserves Lorentzian.  $\square$

Recall: For multivariate  $p$  and linear operator  $T$  on multivariate polynomials, we have

$$T(p)(x) = \prod_{i=1}^n (2y_i + 2z_i) \left[ \text{Symb}^2[T](x, z) \cdot p(y) \right]$$

Theorem: If  $\text{Symb}^2[T]$  is Lorentzian, then  $T$  preserves Lorentzian. (No converse!)

Pf.: Same argument as real stable case.  $\square$

Theorem: If  $\text{Symb}^\lambda[T]$  is Lorentzian, then  $T$  preserves Lorentzian. (No converse.)

Pf: Recall

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Symb}^\lambda[T \circ \text{Diag}^\lambda](x, z) \\ = \text{Pol}_z^\lambda(\text{Symb}^\lambda[T](x, z))\end{aligned}$$

Since  $\text{Pol}_z^\lambda$  preserves Lorentzian,

$T \circ \text{Diag}^\lambda$  preserves Lorentzian

by the prev. thm.. Thus

$T = T \circ \text{Diag}^\lambda \circ \text{Pol}^\lambda$  preserves

Lorentzian as well.  $\square$