

Nonlinear anisotropic Picone type identities for general vector fields and some applications

Abimbola Abolarinwa

Department of Mathematics, University of Lagos

Ghent Analysis & PDE Center, Ghent University

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Aim

- To present a generalization of nonlinear Picone type identities for anisotropic subelliptic p -Laplacian in the context of the general vector fields.
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- named after [Mauro Picone \(1885 -1977\)](#), is classical in the theory of homogeneous linear 2^o ODE.
- dated back to [early 1900's](#), used successfully for [Sturm comparison theorem](#) and [oscillation theory](#)

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- dated back to [early 1900's](#), used successfully for [Sturm comparison theorem and oscillation theory](#)
- generalized to PDE yielding several applications:
 - Hardy type and Rellich type inequalities to
 - Liouville type and Sturmian type comparison principles to
 - first eigenvalue monotonicity and Morse index of positive solutions.

- Mauro Picone (1910): Ann. Scuola Norm. Sup. Pisa. 11: 1–141

$$\begin{aligned} & \frac{d}{dt} \left[\frac{u}{v} \left(f_1 \frac{du}{dt} v - f_2 u \frac{dv}{dt} \right) \right] \\ &= (f_1 - f_2) \left(\frac{du}{dt} \right)^2 + f_2 \left(\frac{du}{dt} - \frac{u}{v} \frac{dv}{dt} \right)^2 + (h_2 - h_1) u^2, \end{aligned}$$

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Applied to:

- Sturmian comparison principle for $f_1(t) > f_2(t)$, $h_1(t) < h_2(t)$, and
- oscillation theorem of solutions to the system.

Classical Picone identity

- The classical Picone identity (multidimensional context):
- Allegretto (1986)[1]:

$u, v \geq 0, v \neq 0$ (differentiable in \mathbb{R}^n),

$$|\nabla u|^2 + \frac{u^2}{v^2} |\nabla v|^2 - 2 \frac{u}{v} \nabla u \nabla v = |\nabla u|^2 - \nabla \left(\frac{u^2}{v} \right) \nabla v \geq 0. \quad (1)$$

- applied extensively to the study of 2^o elliptic equations and systems involving Laplacian.

- Several extensions and generalization of Picone identity have been established in order to handle more general elliptic operators.

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- Allegretto and Huang (1998)[2] extended it in order to handle p -Laplace equations and eigenvalue problems involving p -Laplacian.

Picone identity for p -Laplacian

- The p -Laplacian version reads as follows, for $u \geq 0$, $v > 0$, then

$$\mathcal{L}_p(u, v) = \mathcal{R}_p(u, v) \quad (2)$$

where

$$\mathcal{L}_p(u, v) := |\nabla u|^p + (p-1) \frac{u^p}{v^p} |\nabla v|^p - p \frac{u^{p-1}}{v^{p-1}} |\nabla v|^{p-2} \nabla v \nabla u,$$

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- Tyagi (2013) [13] - nonlinear versions of (1).
- Bal (2013) [3] - nonlinear versions of (2), (also (2016) Tirayaki [12] & Feng (2017) [5]) with several applications.
- Zographopoulos [14] studied properties of the principal eigenvalue of degenerate quasilinear elliptic system .

Anisotropic Euclidean p -Laplacian

- The anisotropic Euclidean p -Laplacian is defined for C^2 -functions as

$$\mathcal{L}f := \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{\partial}{\partial x_k} \left(\left| \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \right|^{p_k-2} \frac{\partial f}{\partial x_k} \right) \quad (3)$$

$$p_k > 1, k = 1, \dots, N.$$

Setting

- $p_k = 2 \implies$ the usual Laplacian,
- $p_k = p$ for all $k \implies$ the pseudo- p -Laplacian.

Applications in science and engineering

- anisotropic characteristics of some reinforced materials [11],
- dynamics of fluid in the anisotropic media having different conductivities in each direction [4].
- models involving (3) arise in image processing, computer vision [10], etc.

General Vector Fields & sub-Laplacian

- M - n -dimensional smooth manifold equipped with a volume form dx
- $\{X_k\}_{k=1}^N$, $n \geq N$, - a family of vector fields on M .
- Consider the operator

$$\mathcal{L} := \sum_{k=1}^N X_k^2,$$

known as canonical sub-Laplacian

- locally hypoelliptic if the commutators of $\{X_k\}_{k=1}^N$ generate the tangent space of M as the Lie algebra ([Hörmander sums of squares theorem](#))
- also well studied under weaker assumption or without hypoellipticity
- The horizontal differential operator X_k identifies each vector field X with its derivative in the direction k .
- Examples of spaces for such vector fields
 - **Carnot groups, H-type groups,**
 - **Grushin plane**, $M = \mathbb{R}^2 := \{(x, y) : X_1 = \partial/\partial x, X_2 = x\partial/\partial y\}$.



M. Ruzhansky, D. Suragan, *Hardy inequalities on homogeneous groups*, Progress in Math. Vol. 327, Birkhäuser, (2019).

Anisotropic p -sub-Laplacian

- For $1 < p_k < \infty$, the anisotropic p -sub-Laplacian on M is defined by

$$\mathcal{L}_p f := \sum_{k=1}^N X_k (|X_k f|^{p_k-2} X_k f),$$

subelliptic form of (3).

- If $M = \mathbb{R}^n$, (e.g. X_k are linearly independent and span the tangent space)

$dx =$ Lebesgue measure,

$(X_1, \dots, X_k) = \nabla$ is the Euclidean gradient,

$\mathcal{L} = \Delta$ is the Euclidean Laplacian.

- By setting $p = 2$,
the p -Laplacian becomes $\mathcal{L}_2 = \Delta$.

Motivating Literature

- We derive generalized nonlinear versions of Picone identities (2) for the anisotropic subelliptic p -Laplacian in the context of general vector fields.
- Generalization of Picone type identities to subelliptic context is growing rapidly owing to numerous applications in the analysis of PDE.
- Ruzhansky, Sabitbek and Suragan (2019 & 2021) [7, 8] - interesting extension to general vector fields and p -sub-Laplacian (with applications to Grushin plane, Heisenberg group, Stratified Lie groups).
- Suragan and Yessirkegenov (2021) [9] for nonlinear Picone's identities for anisotropic p -sub-Laplacian and p -biLaplacian (with applications to horizontal Hardy inequalities and weighted eigenvalue problem on Stratified Lie groups).



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Nonlinear Anisotropic Picone identities

Theorem

Let $\Omega \subset M$, u, v are nonconstant a.e. differentiable functions in Ω .

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H1: $g_k, f_k : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ are C^1 for $k = 1, \dots, N$, satisfying the ffg:

$$g_k(u) > 0, \quad g'_k(u) > 0 \quad \text{for } u > 0, \quad x \in \Omega;$$

$$g_k(u) = 0, \quad g'_k(u) = 0 \quad \text{for } u = 0, \quad x \in \partial\Omega;$$

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H2: for $1 < p_k < \infty$

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \frac{g_k(u) f'_k(v)}{[f_k(v)]^2} |X_k v|^{p_k} \geq \sum_{k=1}^N (p_k - 1) \left[\frac{g'_k(u)}{p_k f_k(v)} |X_k v|^{p_k - 1} \right]^{\frac{p_k}{p_k - 1}}. \quad (4)$$

Theorem cont'd

Define the quantities $R(u, v)$ and $L(u, v)$ as follows ($p_k > 1$, $k = 1, \dots, N$):

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$$\begin{aligned} L(u, v) := \sum_{k=1}^N |X_k u|^{p_k} - \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{g'_k(u)}{f_k(v)} |X_k v|^{p_k-2} X_k v X_k u \\ + \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{g_k(u) f'_k(v)}{[f_k(v)]^2} |X_k v|^{p_k}. \end{aligned} \quad (6)$$

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Then

$$R(u, v) = L(u, v) \geq 0. \quad (7)$$

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Moreover,

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$$u = \alpha v \quad \text{a.e in } \Omega \quad \text{for } \alpha \in \mathbb{R}, \quad (9)$$

$$|X_k u|^{p_k} = \left[\frac{g'_k(u)}{p_k f_k(v)} |X_k v|^{p_k-1} \right]^{\frac{p_k}{p_k-1}}, \quad k = 1, \dots, N, \quad (10)$$

and

$$\frac{g_k(u) f'_k(v)}{[f_k(v)]^2} |X_k v|^{p_k} = (p_k - 1) \left[\frac{g'_k(u)}{p_k f_k(v)} |X_k v|^{p_k-1} \right]^{\frac{p_k}{p_k-1}}, \quad (11)$$

$$(12)$$

$$k = 1, \dots, N.$$

Remark

1 $M = \mathbb{R}^n$, $p_k = 2$, $g_k = u^2$ and $f_k(y) = y$ in (5) and (6) \implies the classical Picone identity (1).

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- 4 The case $p_k = p$, $g_k = u^p$ and $f_k(y) = y^{p-1}$ for each k in (5) and (6) was proved in [2] ($M = \mathbb{R}^n$ and Euclidean p -Laplacian), in [6] (for the Heisenberg group and horizontal p -sub-Laplacian) and in [7] (for general vector fields).

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Anisotropic Sobolev spaces

- $\Omega \subset M$ be an open domain. Define the anisotropic functional spaces $\mathcal{D}^{1,p_k}(\Omega)$, $1 < p_k < \infty$, $k = 1, \dots, N$, as

$$\mathcal{D}^{1,p_k}(\Omega) := \{u \in \mathcal{D}^{1,1}(\Omega) : |X_k u| \in L^{p_k}(\Omega)\}$$

w.r.t the norm

$$\|u\|_{\mathcal{D}^{1,p_k}(\Omega)} := \int_{\Omega} |u| dx + \sum_{k=1}^N \left(\int_{\Omega} |X_k u|^{p_k} dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p_k}}.$$

- Consider the anisotropic functional

$$\mathbb{J}_{p_k}(u) := \sum_{k=1}^N \left(\int_{\Omega} |X_k u|^{p_k} dx \right)^{\frac{1}{p_k}},$$

then, define the anisotropic functional class $\mathcal{D}_0^{1,p_k}(\Omega)$ to be the closure of $C_0^\infty(\Omega)$ w.r.t. to the norm generated by $\mathbb{J}_{p_k}(u)$.

- $\mathcal{D}^{1,p_k}(\Omega)$ and $\mathcal{D}_0^{1,p_k}(\Omega)$ are both separable and reflexive Banach spaces.

Definition -weak solutions

- Consider the nonlinear anisotropic p -sub-Laplacian equation

$$\begin{aligned} - \sum_{k=1}^N X_k (|X_k u|^{p_k-2} X_k u) &= \sum_{k=1}^N F_k(u), & x \in \Omega, \\ u &> 0, & x \in \Omega, \\ u &= 0, & x \in \partial\Omega. \end{aligned} \quad (13)$$

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 \end{aligned} \tag{13}$$

Definition- Weak Solution

By the (weak) solution of (13), we refer to a positive function $u \in \mathcal{D}_0^{1,p_k}(\Omega)$ satisfying

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} |X_k u|^{p_k-2} X_k u X_k \phi dx = \sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} F_k(u) \phi dx \tag{14}$$

for all $\phi \in C_0^\infty(\Omega)$.

Application to comparison principle

Anisotropic Picone identities yields a linear relation between u and v of:

Anisotropic quasilinear system with singular nonlinearities

$$\begin{aligned}
 - \sum_{k=1}^N X_k(|X_k u|^{p_k-2} X_k u) &= \sum_{k=1}^N f_k(v), & x \in \Omega, \\
 - \sum_{k=1}^N X_k(|X_k v|^{p_k-2} X_k v) &= \sum_{k=1}^N \frac{[f_k(v)]^2 u}{g_k(u)}, & x \in \Omega, \\
 g_k(u) &> 0, \quad f_k(v) > 0, \quad u > 0, \quad v > 0, & x \in \Omega, \\
 g_k(u) &= 0, \quad f_k(v) = 0, \quad u = 0, \quad v = 0, & x \in \partial\Omega.
 \end{aligned} \tag{15}$$

Proposition 1

Let $(u, v) \in \mathcal{D}_0^{1,p_k}(\Omega) \times \mathcal{D}_0^{1,p_k}(\Omega)$ be a pair of (weak)-solutions to (15). Then $u = \alpha v$ a.e. in Ω , where $\alpha \in \mathbb{R}$ is a constant.

Proof of Proposition 1

Since $(u, v) \in \mathcal{D}_0^{1,p_k} \times \mathcal{D}_0^{1,p_k}$ a pair of solutions to (15), it follows that

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for any pair of functions $(\phi_1, \phi_2) \in C_0^\infty(\Omega) \times C_0^\infty(\Omega)$.

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Letting $\phi_1 \rightarrow u$ and $\phi_2 = \frac{g_k(u)}{f_k(v)}$ in (16) and (17), respectively, we obtain

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for any pair of functions $(\phi_1, \phi_2) \in C_0^\infty(\Omega) \times C_0^\infty(\Omega)$.

Letting $\phi_1 \rightarrow u$ and $\phi_2 = \frac{g_k(u)}{f_k(v)}$ in (16) and (17), respectively, we obtain

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} |X_k u|^{p_k} dx = \sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} |X_k v|^{p_k-2} X_k v X_k \left(\frac{g_k(u)}{f_k(v)} \right) dx.$$

Hence, $\int_{\Omega} R(u, v) dx = 0 \implies R(u, v) = 0$. □

Weighted anisotropic Hardy inequalities

Application of the Theorem to derivation of a generalized anisotropic Hardy inequality for the general vector fields.

Proposition 2

Let Ω -open bounded in M . $v \in \mathcal{D}_0^{1,p_k}(\Omega)$, $p_k > 1$, $k = 1, \dots, N$, satisfying

$$\begin{aligned} -X_k(|X_k v|^{p_k-2} X_k v) &\geq H_k(x) f_k(v), & x \in \Omega, \\ f_k(v) &> 0, v > 0, & x \in \Omega, \\ f_k(v) &= 0, v = 0, & x \in \partial\Omega, \end{aligned} \quad (18)$$

where $f_k : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ is C^1 and $H_k(x) \geq 0$ - weight function. Then for any nonnegative $u \in C_0^1(\Omega)$ with $g_k(u) > 0$, $g_k(u)$ is C^1 , there holds

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} |X_k u|^{p_k} dx \geq \sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} H_k(x) g_k(u) dx. \quad (19)$$

Proof of Proposition 2

Application of Picone identity, the divergence theorem and (18) leads to

$$\begin{aligned}
 0 &\leq \int_{\Omega} L(u, v) dx = \int_{\Omega} R(u, v) dx \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} |X_k u|^{p_k} dx - \sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} X_k \left(\frac{g_k(u)}{f_k(v)} \right) |X_k v|^{p_k-2} X_k v dx \\
 &\leq \sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} |X_k u|^{p_k} dx - \sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} H_k(x) g_k(u) dx,
 \end{aligned}$$

which is the desired inequality (19). □

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 \end{aligned}$$

which is the desired inequality (19). □

Remark

Putting $p_k = p$ (constant) and $g_k(u) = u^p$ for each k , then we have isotropic Hardy inequality for the general vector fields

$$\int_{\Omega} |\nabla_X u|^p dx \geq C_p \int_{\Omega} H(x) |u|^p dx.$$

Examples - anisotropic weighted Hardy inequalities

Corollary 1

Let $\Omega \subset M$ be any domain. Let $\beta > 2$, $1 < p_k < \beta$, $k = 1, \dots, N$. Then for all $u \in C_0^1(\Omega)$, we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} |X_k u|^{p_k} dx \geq \sum_{k=1}^N \left(\frac{\beta - p_k}{p_k} \right)^{p_k} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|X_k \rho|^{p_k}}{\rho^{p_k}} |u|^{p_k} dx, \quad (20)$$

where ρ is a homogeneous norm on M .

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To prove :

- Assume \mathcal{L} possesses a fundamental solution. in an open set of M , say Φ
- The function $\rho(x) = \Phi^{\frac{1}{2-\beta}}$, $x \neq 0$, is a homogeneous quasi norm on M
- a continuous function, $\rho : M \rightarrow (0, \infty)$, smooth away from the origin.
- In the case of general homogeneous Carnot group, $\beta = Q \geq 3$ is precisely the homogeneous dimension of the group.
- To prove , choose $v = \Phi_y^{\frac{\varphi}{2-\beta}} = \rho^{\varphi}$, where $\varphi = -\left(\frac{\beta - p_k}{p_k}\right) < 0$ into (18).

Corollary 2

Let $M = \mathbb{G} \setminus \{x' = 0\}$ be a stratified Lie group, and N , the dimension of the first stratum. There holds for all $u \in C_0^1(\Omega)$, $1 < p_k < N$, $k = 1, \dots, N$

$$\sum_{k=1}^N \int_{\Omega} |X_k u|^{p_k} dx \geq \sum_{k=1}^N \left(\frac{p_k - 1}{p_k} \right)^{p_k} \int_{\Omega} \frac{|u|^{p_k}}{|x'_k|^{p_k}} dx, \quad (21)$$

where $|x'| = (x_1'^2 + \dots + x_N'^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ (Euclidean norm).

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Let $M = \mathbb{G} \setminus \{x' = 0\}$ be a stratified Lie group, and N , the dimension of the first stratum. There holds for all $u \in C_0^1(\Omega)$, $1 < p_k < N$, $k = 1, \dots, N$

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where $|x'| = (x_1'^2 + \dots + x_N'^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}$ (Euclidean norm).

- Here we take M to be a stratified Lie group.
- the volume measure dx is the Haar measure.
- The left invariant vector field X_k has an explicit form

$$X_k = \frac{\partial}{\partial x'_k} + \sum_{l=2}^r \sum_{m=1}^{N_l} a_{k,m}^{(l)}(x', \dots, x^{(l-1)}) \frac{\partial}{\partial x_m^{(l)}},$$








where $x = (x', x^{(2)}, \dots, x^{(r)})$, and $x^{(l)} = (x_1^{(l)}, \dots, x_{N_l}^{(l)})$ are the variables in the l^{th} -stratum.








- Choose auxiliary function $v = \prod_{k=1}^N |x'_k|^{\varphi_k}$, $\varphi_k = \frac{p_k-1}{p_k}$ into (18).

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Thank you for your attention !