

## DIFFERENTIABILITY PROPERTIES OF THE FAMILY OF $P$ -PARALLEL BODIES

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We investigate the differentiability of the quermassintegrals with respect to the one-parameter family of the  $p$ -parallel bodies. As in the classical case, we obtain that the volume is always differentiable. Although there is no polynomial expression for a  $p$ -sum, the rest of quermassintegrals are differentiable on positive values of the parameter too. We prove a sharp lower bound for the derivative of the support function of the  $p$ -inner parallel bodies along with equality conditions.

### 1. PRELIMINARIES AND MAIN RESULTS

Let  $\mathcal{K}^n$  be the set of all convex bodies, i.e., non-empty compact convex sets in the Euclidean space  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , endowed with the standard scalar product  $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle$ , and let  $\mathcal{K}_0^n$  be the subset of  $\mathcal{K}^n$  consisting of all convex bodies containing the origin  $0$ . We also denote by  $\mathcal{K}_n^n$  (respectively,  $\mathcal{K}_{(0)}^n$ ) the subset of  $\mathcal{K}^n$  having interior points ( $0$  as an interior point). For  $M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\text{conv } M$  and  $\text{cl } M$  will denote its convex hull and closure, and if  $M$  is measurable, we write  $\text{vol}(M)$  to denote its volume, i.e.,  $n$ -dimensional Lebesgue measure. Let  $B^n$  be the  $n$ -dimensional unit ball and  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  the  $(n - 1)$ -dimensional unit sphere of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .

The Minkowski addition and its counterpart, the Minkowski difference, of non-empty sets in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are defined, respectively, as

$$A + B = \{a + b : a \in A, b \in B\}, \quad A \sim B = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : B + x \subseteq A\}.$$

We refer the reader to [17, Section 3.1] for a detailed study.

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In 1962, FIREY introduced the following generalization of the classical Minkowski addition (see [4]). For  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $K, E \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$ , the  $p$ -sum (or  $L_p$ -sum) of  $K$  and  $E$  is the convex body  $K +_p E \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$  defined as follows:

$$h(K +_p E, u) = (h(K, u)^p + h(E, u)^p)^{1/p},$$

for all  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , where  $h(K, u) = \max\{\langle x, u \rangle : x \in K\}$  is the support function of  $K$  in the direction  $u$ . There is a homothety product corresponding to the  $p$ -sum defined by  $\lambda \cdot K := \lambda^{1/p} K$  for  $\lambda \geq 0$ .

In [12] the following counterpart of the  $p$ -sum was introduced: for  $K, E \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$ ,  $E \subseteq K$ , and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , the  $p$ -difference of  $K$  and  $E$  is defined as

$$K \sim_p E = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : \langle x, u \rangle \leq (h(K, u)^p - h(E, u)^p)^{1/p}, u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}\}.$$

When  $p = 1$ , in both above cases the usual Minkowski sum and difference are obtained. From the definition it follows that for any  $1 \leq p < \infty$ ,

$$h(K \sim_p E, u) \leq (h(K, u)^p - h(E, u)^p)^{1/p}.$$

When dealing with the  $p$ -difference, it is useful to work with the following subfamily of convex sets (see [12] for further details):

$$\mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E) = \{K \in \mathcal{K}_0^n : 0 \in K \sim r(K; E)E\},$$

where  $r(K; E) = \max\{r \geq 0 : x + rE \subseteq K \text{ for some } x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$  is the relative inradius of  $K$  with respect to  $E$ .

Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$  and  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$ . The *full system of  $p$ -parallel bodies* of  $K$  relative to  $E$ ,  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , is defined as follows.

**Definition 1** ([12]). *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$  and  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$ . For  $1 \leq p < \infty$ ,*

$$K_\lambda^p = \begin{cases} K \sim_p |\lambda|E & \text{if } -r(K; E) \leq \lambda \leq 0, \\ K +_p \lambda E & \text{if } 0 \leq \lambda < \infty. \end{cases}$$

$K_\lambda^p$  is the  $p$ -inner (respectively,  $p$ -outer) parallel body of  $K$  at distance  $|\lambda|$  relative to  $E$  and  $K_{-r(K; E)}^p$  is the  $p$ -kernel of  $K$  with respect to  $E$ .

The  $p$ -kernel of  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$  is always a degenerate convex body for all  $1 \leq p < \infty$  (see [2, p. 59] for  $p = 1$  and [12, Proposition 3.1] for  $p > 1$ ).

Differentiability properties of functions that depend on one-parameter families of convex bodies play an important role in some proofs in Convex Geometry (see e.g. [17, Theorem 7.6.19 and Notes to Section 7.6]). In particular, for  $E \in \mathcal{K}_n^n$  and  $K \in \mathcal{K}^n$ , the differentiability of functions depending on the full system of 1-parallel bodies was already addressed by BOL [1] and HADWIGER [6]. In this case, i.e., when  $p = 1$ , the considered functions are the (relative) quermassintegrals  $W_i(K_\lambda^1; E)$ ,  $i = 0, \dots, n - 1$  (see Section 2 for a precise description).

One of the most useful classical tools in this context is the differentiability of the function  $\text{vol}(K_\lambda^1)$  on  $-\text{r}(K; E) \leq \lambda \leq 0$ , and the following consequence of its explicit computation:

$$(1) \quad \text{vol}(K) = n \int_{-\text{r}(K; E)}^0 W_1(K_\lambda^1; E) \, d\lambda.$$

Further results and applications of the differentiability of quermassintegrals with respect to the one-parameter family of 1-parallel bodies can be found in [10] and the references therein.

In this work we approach the differentiability of the (relative) quermassintegrals  $W_i(K_\lambda^p; E)$  as functions of the parameter  $\lambda \in (-\text{r}(K; E), \infty)$ . We prove that they are always differentiable on  $[0, \infty)$ , providing an explicit expression for the derivative, while, in general, we only have differentiability almost everywhere on  $(-\text{r}(K; E), 0)$ . For the sake of brevity we write  $W_i(\lambda) = W_i(K_\lambda^p; E)$ ; if the distinction of  $p$  is necessary we write  $W_i(\lambda; p)$ .

**Proposition 2.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$  and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . Then  $W_i(\lambda)$  is differentiable with the exception of at most countably many points on  $(-\text{r}(K; E), 0)$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , and*

$$\frac{d^-}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \geq \frac{d^+}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \geq |\lambda|^{p-1} (n - i) W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E).$$

Here,  $W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E) := W_{p,i}(K_\lambda^p, E; E)$  (see (4)) is defined via a variational argument involving  $p$ -sums. We refer to Section 2, especially to Theorem 5, for the precise definition and references in the literature. We notice that the differentiability of  $W_i(\lambda)$  does not imply, in general, that the lower bound is attained (see Remark 16).

In order to get similar properties on the range  $(0, \infty)$ , first it will be shown that, for  $\lambda \geq 0$ , and wherever both one-sided derivatives exist,

$$\frac{d^-}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \geq \frac{d^+}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda)$$

(Proposition 17). Then, proving that the above lower bound for the right derivative also holds in this case, we will get our main result.

**Theorem 3.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_{(0)}^n$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$  and let  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . Then  $W_i(\lambda)$  is differentiable on  $(0, \infty)$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , and*

$$W_i'(\lambda) = \lambda^{p-1} (n - i) W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E).$$

As usual, when we write  $f'$  for a function  $f$ , we mean that the left and right derivatives exist and coincide.

As a consequence of deep known results of LUTWAK [11] relating the volume and the  $p$ -sum of convex bodies, we establish in Theorem 24 that  $\text{vol}(K_\lambda^p)$  is differentiable on  $(-\text{r}(K; E), \infty)$ , providing an explicit expression for its derivative.

In the last part of the paper we deal with the differentiability of the support function  $h(\lambda, u) := h(K_\lambda^p, u)$  in terms of  $\lambda$ :

**Theorem 4.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_{(0)}^n$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$  and let  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . Then, for all  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ ,*

$$(2) \quad \frac{d}{d\lambda} h(\lambda, u) \geq \frac{|\lambda|^{p-1} h(E, u)^p}{h(\lambda, u)^{p-1}}$$

*almost everywhere on  $(-r(K; E), 0]$ . Equality holds for all  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , almost everywhere on  $[-r(K; E), 0]$ , if and only if  $K = K_{-r(K; E)}^p +_p r(K; E)E$ .*

The paper is organized as follows. In the next section we introduce the notions and results which are used throughout the paper along with specific notation and references. In Section 3 we study the differentiability of the quermassintegrals in the above mentioned sense, proving Proposition 2 and Theorem 3, as well as the differentiability of the volume in Theorem 24. Finally, in Section 4 we prove Theorem 4 and a consequence of it.

## 2. GENERAL BACKGROUND

For convex bodies  $K_1, \dots, K_m \in \mathcal{K}^n$  and real numbers  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m \geq 0$ , the volume of the linear combination  $\lambda_1 K_1 + \dots + \lambda_m K_m$  is expressed as a polynomial of degree at most  $n$  in the variables  $\lambda_1, \dots, \lambda_m$ ,

$$\text{vol}(\lambda_1 K_1 + \dots + \lambda_m K_m) = \sum_{i_1, \dots, i_n=1}^m V(K_{i_1}, \dots, K_{i_n}) \lambda_{i_1} \cdots \lambda_{i_n},$$

whose coefficients  $V(K_{i_1}, \dots, K_{i_n})$  are the *mixed volumes* of  $K_1, \dots, K_m$ . Notice that such a polynomial expression is not possible for the sum  $+_p$  when  $p > 1$  (see e.g. [5]). Further, it is known that there exist finite Borel measures on  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , the *mixed area measures*  $S(K_2, \dots, K_n, \cdot)$ , such that

$$V(K_1, \dots, K_n) = \frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} h(K_1, u) dS(K_2, \dots, K_n, u).$$

If only two convex bodies  $K, E \in \mathcal{K}^n$  are involved in the above sum, the mixed volumes arising  $V(K[n-i], E[i]) = W_i(K; E)$  are called the *quermassintegrals* of  $K$  (relative to  $E$ ), and  $[i]$  to the right of a convex body indicates that it appears  $i$  times. In particular, we have  $W_0(K; E) = \text{vol}(K)$  and  $W_n(K; E) = \text{vol}(E)$ . We notice that

$$(3) \quad W_i(K; E) = \frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} h(K, u) dS(K[n-i-1], E[i], u).$$

If  $K, E \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$ , using a variational argument involving the  $p$ -sum, other functionals can be introduced. This is the case, for example, of the so-called mixed quermassintegrals defined by LUTWAK in [11]; for further functionals defined in such a variational way, we refer to [17, Section 9.1]. The following theorem gathers deep results in the  $L_p$ -Brunn-Minkowski theory on which some of the proofs of this paper are based on. Note that we need the stronger assumption  $K, L \in \mathcal{K}_{(0)}^n$  and  $E \in \mathcal{K}_n^n$  in order the integral expression to make sense.

**Theorem 5** ([17, Theorems 9.1.1 and 9.1.2], [11]). *Let  $K, L \in \mathcal{K}_{(0)}^n$  and  $E \in \mathcal{K}_n^n$ . Let  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ . Then*

$$(4) \quad \begin{aligned} \frac{n-i}{p} W_{p,i}(K, L; E) &:= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(K +_p \varepsilon \cdot L; E) - W_i(K; E)}{\varepsilon} \\ &= \frac{n-i}{p} \frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} h(L, u)^p h(K, u)^{1-p} dS(K[n-i-1], E[i], u). \end{aligned}$$

Moreover,

$$(5) \quad W_{p,i}(K, L; E)^{n-i} \geq W_i(K; E)^{n-i-p} W_i(L; E)^p$$

and

$$(6) \quad W_i(K +_p L; E)^{\frac{p}{n-i}} \geq W_i(K; E)^{\frac{p}{n-i}} + W_i(L; E)^{\frac{p}{n-i}}.$$

The following binary operation on the real numbers was introduced in [12] in order to deal with  $p$ -parallel bodies. Since we will often use it along this work, we detail it here for completeness. Let  $+_p : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  denote the binary operation defined by

$$a +_p b = \begin{cases} \operatorname{sgn}_2(a, b) (|a|^p + |b|^p)^{1/p} & \text{if } ab > 0, \\ \operatorname{sgn}_2(a, b) (\max\{|a|, |b|\}^p - \min\{|a|, |b|\}^p)^{1/p} & \text{if } ab \leq 0, \end{cases}$$

being  $\operatorname{sgn}_2 : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  the function given by

$$\operatorname{sgn}_2(a, b) = \begin{cases} \operatorname{sgn}(a) = \operatorname{sgn}(b) & \text{if } ab > 0, \\ \operatorname{sgn}(a) & \text{if } ab \leq 0 \text{ and } |a| \geq |b|, \\ \operatorname{sgn}(b) & \text{if } ab \leq 0 \text{ and } |a| < |b|; \end{cases}$$

as usual,  $\operatorname{sgn}$  denotes the sign function and  $0 +_p 0 := 0$ . For  $\lambda \geq 0$  and  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ , we will also use the product  $\lambda \cdot a := \lambda^{1/p} a$ .

For  $ab > 0$ , this definition corresponds essentially to the classical  $p$ -mean ([7, Chapter II]) but does not correspond to any of the more general  $\phi$ -means considered in [7, Chapter III].

Commutativity, associativity and distributivity of  $+_p$  can be easily proved distinguishing the sign of the involved real numbers (see [12]).

**Lemma 6.** *Let  $a, b, c \in \mathbb{R}$ . Then*

- (i)  $a +_p b = b +_p a$ ,
- (ii)  $(a +_p b) +_p c = a +_p (b +_p c) = (a +_p c) +_p b$ ,
- (iii)  $a(b +_p c) = (ab) +_p (ac)$ .

The following inequality between real numbers can be easily obtained as a consequence of the mean value theorem applied to the function  $t^p$ . It will be useful later.

**Lemma 7.** *Let  $0 \leq a \leq b$  and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . Then,*

$$(7) \quad p(b-a)a^{p-1} \leq b^p - a^p \leq p(b-a)b^{p-1}.$$

We will be dealing with functions concerning  $p$ -parallel bodies, which instead of being concave, satisfy an analogous inequality involving  $+_p$ . In order to address this property we will name it  $+_p$ -concavity in the following definition. We notice that given an interval  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ ,  $x, y \in I$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ , it follows from [12, Lemma 4.1] that  $(1 - \lambda) \cdot x +_p \lambda \cdot y \in I$ .

**Definition 8.** *Let  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , with  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  an interval, and let  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . We say that  $f$  is  $+_p$ -concave if for all  $x, y \in I$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ ,*

$$f((1 - \lambda) \cdot x +_p \lambda \cdot y) \geq (1 - \lambda)f(x) + \lambda f(y).$$

*We say that  $f$  is  $+_p$ -convex if  $-f$  is  $+_p$ -concave.*

If  $p = 1$  this is the usual definition of concavity.  $+_p$ -concave functions are not as nice as concave functions. However, sometimes they share their good properties. Next we prove the existence of derivatives almost everywhere (cf. [17, Theorem 1.5.4]), as well as absolute continuity (cf. [14, Remark B, p. 13]) for monotone  $+_p$ -concave functions in appropriate intervals, since they are indeed concave.

**Lemma 9.** *Let  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be an increasing  $+_p$ -concave function,  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , with  $I \subseteq (-\infty, 0]$  an interval. Then  $f$  is a concave function.*

**Proof.** Let  $x, y \in I$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ . Using the concavity of  $t^p$  for  $t \geq 0$  we get

$$(1 - \lambda) \cdot x +_p \lambda \cdot y = -((1 - \lambda)(-x)^p + \lambda(-y)^p)^{1/p} \leq (1 - \lambda)x + \lambda y,$$

and since  $f$  is increasing and  $+_p$ -concave, we get that  $f$  is concave on  $I$ .  $\square$

Next we prove that  $+_p$ -concave functions are quasi-concave (see e.g. [17, p. 520] for details), although there is no direct relation between  $+_p$ -concave functions and concave ones.

**Lemma 10.** *Let  $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  be an interval and let  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . If  $f : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is  $+_p$ -concave, then  $f$  is quasi-concave.*

**Proof.** The intermediate value theorem ensures that there exists  $\mu_\lambda \in [0, 1]$  such that  $(1 - \lambda)x + \lambda y = (1 - \mu_\lambda) \cdot x +_p \mu_\lambda \cdot y$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} f((1 - \lambda)x + \lambda y) &= f((1 - \mu_\lambda) \cdot x +_p \mu_\lambda \cdot y) \\ &\geq (1 - \mu_\lambda)f(x) + \mu_\lambda f(y) \geq \min\{f(x), f(y)\}. \end{aligned} \quad \square$$

REMARK 11. In general, there is no relation between  $+_p$ -concavity and concavity. Indeed, let  $f(x) = x^p$ ,  $p > 1$ , which is a convex function on  $[0, \infty)$ . Then:

- (i)  $f$  is  $+_q$ -convex (and not  $+_q$ -concave) if  $1 \leq q < p$ .
- (ii)  $f$  is  $+_q$ -concave (and not  $+_q$ -convex) if  $p < q < \infty$ .
- (iii)  $f$  is  $+_p$ -linear, i.e.,  $f((1 - \lambda) \cdot x +_p \lambda \cdot y) = (1 - \lambda)f(x) + \lambda f(y)$ , for all  $x, y \in [0, \infty)$  and  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$ .

From now on we fix  $E \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$  and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ , and for  $K \in \mathcal{K}^n$  we write  $r = r(K; E)$ . The following known relations between  $p$ -parallel bodies will be useful throughout the whole work.

**Proposition 12** ([12, Proposition 4.2]). *Let  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$  and let  $\lambda, \mu \geq 0$ . Then, the following relations hold:*

- (i)  $(K_\lambda^p)_\mu^p = K_{\lambda+_p\mu}^p$ .
- (ii)  $(K_{-\lambda}^p)_\mu^p \subseteq K_{(-\lambda)+_p\mu}^p$  for  $\lambda \leq r$ .
- (iii)  $(K_{-\lambda}^p)_{-\mu}^p = K_{(-\lambda)+_p(-\mu)}^p$  for  $\lambda^p + \mu^p \leq r^p$ .
- (iv)  $(K_\lambda^p)_{-\mu}^p = K_{\lambda+_p(-\mu)}^p$  for  $\mu \leq r+_p\lambda$ .
- (v)  $\lambda K_\sigma^p = (\lambda K)_{\lambda\sigma}^p$  for  $-r \leq \sigma < \infty$ .

The following straightforward facts about  $p$ -inner parallel bodies will be used without further mention: for  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$  and  $-r \leq \lambda < \infty$ ,

- (i)  $r(K_\lambda^p; E) = r+_p\lambda$ ,
- (ii)  $K_\lambda^p \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$ ,
- (iii) if  $K = K_{-r}^p +_p rE$ , then  $K_\lambda^p = K_{-r}^p +_p (r+_p\lambda)E$  for all  $\lambda \in [-r, 0]$ .

The full system of  $p$ -parallel bodies of a convex body  $K$  is continuous with respect to the Hausdorff metric (see [17, Section 1.8] for the definition) and satisfies a certain concavity property that will be needed later. We include the precise statement for completeness.

**Theorem 13** ([12, Theorem 4.1, Proposition 4.3]). *Let  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$ . Then:*

- (i)  $K_\lambda^p$  is continuous in  $\lambda$  with respect to the Hausdorff metric on  $\mathcal{K}^n$ .
  - (ii)  $K_\lambda^p$  is  $+_p$ -concave on  $\mathcal{K}^n$  with respect to inclusion, i.e., for  $\lambda \in [0, 1]$  and  $\mu, \sigma \in [-r, \infty)$ ,
- (8)  $(1 - \lambda) \cdot K_\mu^p +_p \lambda \cdot K_\sigma^p \subseteq K_{(1-\lambda)\cdot\mu+_p\lambda\cdot\sigma}^p$ .

### 3. QUERMASSTEGRALES OF $K_\lambda^p$ AS FUNCTIONS OF $\lambda$

The problem of studying the differentiability of the quermassintegrals  $W_i(K_\lambda^1)$  of a convex body  $K$  with respect to the parameter  $\lambda$  of definition of the full system of parallel bodies of  $K$ , in the 3-dimensional case and with respect to the Euclidean unit ball  $B^3$ , goes back to BOL, [1]. In [6], HADWIGER addressed a closely related question, providing some partial solutions to it. This last question was posed and studied for a general gauge body  $E$  and arbitrary dimension  $n$  in [10], where the original problem was solved. In this section we study differentiability properties of the functions  $W_i(\lambda)$ .

For the sake of brevity, given  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and  $b \geq 0$ , we denote by  $\mu(a, b)$  the real number satisfying

$$(9) \quad \begin{aligned} &\text{either } a + b = a +_p \mu(a, b), \text{ when } \mu(a, b) = (a + b) +_p (-a), \\ &\text{or } a - b = a +_p (-\mu(a, b)), \text{ when } \mu(a, b) = a +_p (-(a - b)). \end{aligned}$$

Of course  $\mu(a, b)$  will strongly depend on the “size” of  $a$  and  $b$  and their signs.

First we prove a lower bound for the right derivative of  $W_i(\lambda)$  with respect to  $\lambda$ , for the whole range of definition  $[-r, \infty)$ .

**Proposition 14.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_{(0)}^n$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$ ,  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ . Then, wherever the right derivative exists,*

$$(10) \quad \frac{d^+}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \geq |\lambda|^{p-1} (n - i) W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E) \quad \text{on } [-r, \infty),$$

and equality holds if  $\lambda \in [0, \infty)$ .

For the proof of this result we need the following property.

**Lemma 15.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_{(0)}^n$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$ ,  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , and let  $\lambda \in [-r, \infty)$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . If there exist suitable positive constants  $C$  and  $c \geq \varepsilon$ , not depending on  $\varepsilon$ , such that:*

(i)  $K_{\lambda+\varepsilon}^p \supseteq K_\lambda^p +_p (\varepsilon C)^{1/p} E$ , then

$$\frac{d^+}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \geq C \frac{n-i}{p} W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E);$$

(ii)  $K_{\lambda+\varepsilon}^p \subseteq K_\lambda^p +_p (\varepsilon C)^{1/p} E$ , then

$$\frac{d^+}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \leq C \frac{n-i}{p} W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E).$$

**Proof.** We prove (i), and thus we assume that  $K_{\lambda+\varepsilon}^p \supseteq K_\lambda^p +_p (\varepsilon C)^{1/p} E$ . Then, the monotonicity of the mixed volumes (see e.g. [17, Section 5.1]) yields

$$\frac{W_i(\lambda + \varepsilon) - W_i(\lambda)}{\varepsilon} \geq C \frac{W_i(K_\lambda^p +_p (\varepsilon C)^{1/p} E; E) - W_i(\lambda)}{\varepsilon C}$$



for  $0 < \varepsilon \leq c$ , and thus, computing the limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0+$  and taking into account (4), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^+}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) &\geq C \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(K_\lambda^p +_p \eta^{1/p} E; E) - W_i(\lambda)}{\eta} \\ &= C \frac{n-i}{p} W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E). \end{aligned}$$

Item (ii) is analogous.  $\square$

**Proof of Proposition 14.** Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ , and let  $\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)$  satisfy  $\lambda + \varepsilon = \lambda +_p \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)$  (cf. (9)).

First, we assume that  $\lambda \in [-r, 0)$  and we observe that, since we aim to take limits as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we may suppose that  $-r \leq \lambda < \lambda + \varepsilon < 0$ . In this case,  $\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) = (|\lambda|^p - |\lambda + \varepsilon|^p)^{1/p}$ , and we are going to prove that

$$(11) \quad \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) \geq (\varepsilon C_{p,\alpha,\lambda})^{1/p} \quad \text{for all } 0 < \varepsilon \leq c(p, \alpha, \lambda),$$

with  $C_{p,\alpha,\lambda} = p(1 - \alpha)|\lambda|^{p-1}$ , and

$$c(p, \alpha, \lambda) = \begin{cases} [1 - (1 - \alpha)^{1/(p-1)}]|\lambda| & \text{if } p > 1, \\ |\lambda| & \text{if } p = 1. \end{cases}$$

If  $p = 1$ , then  $\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) = \varepsilon > (1 - \alpha)\varepsilon = \varepsilon C_{1,\alpha,\lambda}$  for all  $\varepsilon \leq |\lambda| = c(1, \alpha, \lambda)$ , which establishes (11) in this case. So, let  $p > 1$  and  $\varepsilon \leq c(p, \alpha, \lambda)$ . Then

$$(1 - \alpha)^{\frac{1}{p-1}} |\lambda| \leq |\lambda| - \varepsilon = |\lambda + \varepsilon|,$$

i.e.,  $(1 - \alpha)|\lambda|^{p-1} \leq |\lambda + \varepsilon|^{p-1}$ , and with Lemma 7 for  $a = |\lambda + \varepsilon|$  and  $b = |\lambda|$  we get that  $\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)^p = |\lambda|^p - |\lambda + \varepsilon|^p \geq p\varepsilon|\lambda + \varepsilon|^{p-1} \geq \varepsilon C_{p,\alpha,\lambda}$  for all  $\varepsilon \leq c(p, \alpha, \lambda)$ , which concludes the proof of (11).

Using Proposition 12 (ii) and (11), we immediately get

$$K_{\lambda+\varepsilon}^p = K_{\lambda+_p\mu(\lambda,\varepsilon)}^p \supseteq (K_\lambda^p)_{\mu(\lambda,\varepsilon)}^p = K_\lambda^p +_p \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)E \supseteq K_\lambda^p +_p (\varepsilon C_{p,\alpha,\lambda})^{1/p} E.$$

Thus, Lemma 15 ensures that

$$\frac{d^+}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \geq C_{p,\alpha,\lambda} \frac{n-i}{p} W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E) = (1 - \alpha)|\lambda|^{p-1} (n-i) W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E)$$

for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . It proves (10) when  $\lambda < 0$ .

If  $\lambda = 0$ , then writing  $\eta = \varepsilon^p$  and using (4),

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^+}{d\lambda} \Big|_{\lambda=0} W_i(\lambda) &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \varepsilon^{p-1} \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(0 +_p \eta^{1/p}) - W_i(0)}{\eta} \\ &= \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } p > 1, \\ (n-i)W_{1,i}(0, E; E) & \text{if } p = 1. \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

Therefore (10) holds with equality.

Next, we assume  $\lambda > 0$ . Now  $\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) = ((\lambda + \varepsilon)^p - \lambda^p)^{1/p}$ , and therefore, Lemma 7 yields

$$(12) \quad (p\varepsilon\lambda^{p-1})^{1/p} \leq \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) \leq (p\varepsilon(\lambda + \varepsilon)^{p-1})^{1/p}.$$

Using Proposition 12(i), the left inequality in (12) implies

$$\begin{aligned} K_{\lambda+\varepsilon}^p &= K_{\lambda+p\mu(\lambda,\varepsilon)}^p = (K_\lambda^p)_{\mu(\lambda,\varepsilon)}^p \supseteq K_\lambda^p +_p (\varepsilon p \lambda^{p-1})^{1/p} E \\ &\supseteq K_\lambda^p +_p (\varepsilon(1 - \alpha)p\lambda^{p-1})^{1/p} E \end{aligned}$$

for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and Lemma 15 yields

$$\frac{d^+}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \geq (1 - \alpha)\lambda^{p-1}(n - i)W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E)$$

for any  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . It shows (10) on  $(0, \infty)$ .

Next we deal with the equality case. Noticing that  $(\lambda + \varepsilon)^{p-1} \leq (1 + \alpha)\lambda^{p-1}$  if and only if  $\varepsilon \leq \lambda [(1 + \alpha)^{1/(p-1)} - 1]$ , we get from the right inequality in (12) that

$$\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) \leq (\varepsilon p(1 + \alpha)\lambda^{p-1})^{1/p},$$

and hence, by Proposition 12(i), that

$$(13) \quad K_{\lambda+\varepsilon}^p = K_\lambda^p +_p \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) E \subseteq K_\lambda^p +_p (\varepsilon p(1 + \alpha)\lambda^{p-1})^{1/p} E$$

for  $\varepsilon \leq \lambda [(1 + \alpha)^{1/(p-1)} - 1]$ . Now, applying Lemma 15 we obtain

$$\frac{d^+}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \leq (1 + \alpha)\lambda^{p-1}(n - i)W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E)$$

for any  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$  which, together with (10), proves the equality case and concludes the proof.  $\square$

REMARK 16. We notice that if we work on the range  $(-r, 0)$ , the inclusion in (13) would be reversed, and we cannot expect to get equality in (10).

We are now ready to prove Proposition 2.

**Proof of Proposition 2.** Expressions (6), (8) imply that the function  $W_i(\lambda)^{p/(n-i)}$  is  $+_p$ -concave and increasing on  $(-r, 0)$ . Then, Lemma 9 ensures that it is concave on this range. Hence there exist left and right derivatives of  $W_i(\lambda)$  and they satisfy the required inequality on  $(-r, 0)$ . Finally, (10) concludes the proof.  $\square$

The next result cannot be obtained as a consequence of the  $+_p$ -concavity of the full system of  $p$ -parallel bodies (8), since there is no analogue of Lemma 9 for  $+_p$ -concave increasing functions defined on  $[0, \infty)$  (see Remark 11).

**Proposition 17.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$ ,  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $0 \leq i \leq n-1$ . Then, wherever the left derivative exists for  $\lambda \geq 0$ ,*

$$\frac{d^-}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \geq \frac{d^+}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda).$$

**Proof.** By (8) and Lemma 6, it is easy to check that

$$(14) \quad K_{\lambda+_p(-t)}^p +_p K_{\lambda+_p t}^p \subseteq 2^{1/p} K_\lambda^p$$

for all  $t > 0$  such that  $\lambda+_p(-t) > -r$ . Then, (6) yields

$$W_i(2^{1/p} K_\lambda^p; E) \frac{p}{n-i} \geq W_i(\lambda+_p(-t)) \frac{p}{n-i} + W_i(\lambda+_p t) \frac{p}{n-i},$$

which, by the homogeneity of  $W_i$  amounts to

$$(15) \quad W_i(\lambda) \frac{p}{n-i} - W_i(\lambda+_p(-t)) \frac{p}{n-i} \geq W_i(\lambda+_p t) \frac{p}{n-i} - W_i(\lambda) \frac{p}{n-i}.$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  with  $-r < \lambda - \varepsilon$ . By (9) we write  $\lambda - \varepsilon = \lambda+_p(-\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)) > -r$ , and with

$$m(a, b) := \frac{W_i(b)^{p/(n-i)} - W_i(a)^{p/(n-i)}}{W_i(b) - W_i(a)},$$

inequality (15) implies that

$$(16) \quad \begin{aligned} W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda - \varepsilon) &= \frac{W_i(\lambda)^{p/(n-i)} - W_i(\lambda - \varepsilon)^{p/(n-i)}}{m(\lambda - \varepsilon, \lambda)} \\ &\geq \frac{W_i(\lambda+_p \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon))^{p/(n-i)} - W_i(\lambda)^{p/(n-i)}}{m(\lambda - \varepsilon, \lambda)} \\ &= (W_i(\lambda+_p \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)) - W_i(\lambda)) \frac{m(\lambda, \lambda+_p \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon))}{m(\lambda - \varepsilon, \lambda)}. \end{aligned}$$

We notice that  $m(a, b)$  is the slope in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  of the straight line joining the points  $(W_i(a), W_i(a)^{p/(n-i)})$  and  $(W_i(b), W_i(b)^{p/(n-i)})$ , which yields

$$(17) \quad \lim_{a \rightarrow b^-} m(a, b) = \lim_{c \rightarrow b^+} m(b, c) = \frac{p}{n-i} W_i(b) \frac{p}{n-i}^{-1}.$$

In order to compute the limit in (16) we need to control the size of the right-hand side in the latter inequality. Since  $\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) = (\lambda^p - (\lambda - \varepsilon)^p)^{1/p}$ , given  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ , an easy computation proves that, for  $\varepsilon$  small enough,

$$(18) \quad \lambda+_p \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) = (2\lambda^p - (\lambda - \varepsilon)^p)^{1/p} \geq \lambda + (1 - \alpha)\varepsilon.$$

Indeed, if  $\lambda = 0$ , then (18) is valid for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , whereas if  $\lambda > 0$  it suffices to consider

$$\varepsilon \in \left( 0, \lambda \frac{1 - (1 - \alpha)^{1/(p-1)}}{1 + (1 - \alpha)^{p/(p-1)}} \right].$$

Thus, for  $\varepsilon > 0$  small enough we get

$$\frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda - \varepsilon)}{\varepsilon} \geq \frac{W_i(\lambda + (1 - \alpha)\varepsilon) - W_i(\lambda)}{\varepsilon} \frac{m(\lambda, \lambda +_p \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon))}{m(\lambda - \varepsilon, \lambda)}.$$

Then, taking limits as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0+$  to the right in the above inequality, since, by (17),  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0+} m(\lambda, \lambda +_p \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon))/m(\lambda - \varepsilon, \lambda) = 1$ , we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^-}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) &\geq (1 - \alpha) \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0+} \frac{W_i(\lambda + (1 - \alpha)\varepsilon) - W_i(\lambda)}{(1 - \alpha)\varepsilon} \\ &= (1 - \alpha) \lim_{\eta \rightarrow 0+} \frac{W_i(\lambda + \eta) - W_i(\lambda)}{\eta} = (1 - \alpha) \frac{d^+}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $\alpha \in (0, 1)$ . We notice that the above expression can be written because the right derivative always exists on  $[0, \infty)$  (Proposition 14).  $\square$

We observe that, for  $\lambda < 0$ , (14) does not hold in general.

At this point we notice that, in the classical case  $p = 1$ , the differentiability of  $W_i(\lambda; 1)$  on  $(0, \infty)$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ , follows immediately from the fact that  $W_i(K + \lambda E; E)$  can be written as a polynomial in  $\lambda \geq 0$  (see e.g. [17, Theorem 5.1.7]).

In order to establish the differentiability of  $W_i(\lambda)$  on  $(0, \infty)$ , and taking into account Proposition 17, we will prove that the bound for the right derivative given in (10) provides also an upper bound for the left derivative.

**Proof of Theorem 3.** We are going to prove that

$$(19) \quad \frac{d^-}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \leq \lambda^{p-1} (n - i) W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E),$$

which, together with the equality case in Proposition 14 and Proposition 17, will conclude the proof.

Let  $\lambda > 0$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  with  $\lambda - \varepsilon > 0$ , and let  $\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) = (\lambda^p - (\lambda - \varepsilon)^p)^{1/p}$ , which satisfies  $\lambda - \varepsilon = \lambda +_p (-\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon))$  (cf. (9)). From Lemma 7 we obtain that  $\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) \leq (p\varepsilon\lambda^{p-1})^{1/p}$ , and hence

$$\lambda - \varepsilon \geq \lambda +_p [-(p\varepsilon\lambda^{p-1})^{1/p}],$$

which implies, by Proposition 12 (iv) and the monotonicity of the mixed volumes, that for all  $0 < \varepsilon < \lambda$ ,

$$(20) \quad \frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda - \varepsilon)}{\varepsilon} \leq \frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda +_p [-(p\varepsilon\lambda^{p-1})^{1/p}])}{\varepsilon}.$$

We need some properties of the latter quermassintegral, for which we argue, where it applies, as in the proof of [11, Theorem (1.1)]. We show the argument for completeness. For the sake of brevity we write, for  $\tau, \mu \geq 0$ ,  $W_{1,i}(\mu, \tau) := W_{1,i}(K_\mu^p, K_\tau^p; E)$  and  $\lambda(\varepsilon) := \lambda +_p [-(p\varepsilon\lambda^{p-1})^{1/p}]$ , and let

$$g(\varepsilon) := W_i(\lambda +_p [-(p\varepsilon\lambda^{p-1})^{1/p}]) \frac{1}{n-i} = W_i(\lambda(\varepsilon)) \frac{1}{n-i}.$$

We also define

$$\ell_i := \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_{1,i}(\lambda, \lambda(\varepsilon))}{\varepsilon}, \quad \ell_s := \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_{1,i}(\lambda(\varepsilon), \lambda) - W_i(\lambda(\varepsilon))}{\varepsilon}.$$

Since  $K_{\lambda(\varepsilon)}^p \subseteq K_\lambda^p$  for  $\varepsilon < \lambda$ , the monotonicity of the mixed volumes (cf. (4)) yields that  $\ell_i$  and  $\ell_s$  are the lim inf and lim sup, respectively, of nonnegative functions for  $0 < \varepsilon < \lambda$ . Using inequality (5) we obtain

$$\begin{aligned} \ell_i &\leq \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda)^{(n-i-1)/(n-i)} W_i(\lambda(\varepsilon))^{1/(n-i)}}{\varepsilon} \\ &= W_i(\lambda)^{\frac{n-i-1}{n-i}} \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(\lambda)^{1/(n-i)} - W_i(\lambda(\varepsilon))^{1/(n-i)}}{\varepsilon}, \end{aligned}$$

and analogously,

$$\ell_s \geq \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} W_i(\lambda(\varepsilon))^{\frac{n-i-1}{n-i}} \frac{W_i(\lambda)^{1/(n-i)} - W_i(\lambda(\varepsilon))^{1/(n-i)}}{\varepsilon}.$$

The continuity of the full system of  $p$ -parallel bodies with respect to the Hausdorff metric (Theorem 13 (i)) and of the quermassintegrals  $W_i$  on  $\mathcal{K}^n$  (see e.g. [17, p. 280]) prove that  $g$  is continuous at 0. Hence we may write

$$\begin{aligned} (21) \quad \ell_i &\leq W_i(\lambda)^{\frac{n-i-1}{n-i}} \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(\lambda)^{1/(n-i)} - W_i(\lambda(\varepsilon))^{1/(n-i)}}{\varepsilon} \\ &\leq W_i(\lambda)^{\frac{n-i-1}{n-i}} \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(\lambda)^{1/(n-i)} - W_i(\lambda(\varepsilon))^{1/(n-i)}}{\varepsilon} \leq \ell_s. \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, using the integral expressions of  $W_i$  and  $W_{1,i}$  given in (3) and (4), respectively, we can write

$$\ell_i = \liminf_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} \frac{h(\lambda, u) - h(\lambda(\varepsilon), u)}{\varepsilon} \, dS(K_\lambda^p[n-i-1], E[i], u)$$

and

$$\ell_s = \limsup_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} \frac{h(\lambda, u) - h(\lambda(\varepsilon), u)}{\varepsilon} \, dS(K_{\lambda(\varepsilon)}^p[n-i-1], E[i], u).$$

Since

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h(\lambda, u) - h(\lambda(\varepsilon), u)}{\varepsilon} = \lambda^{p-1} h(\lambda, u)^{1-p} h(E, u)^p$$

uniformly on  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , the continuity of  $(h(\lambda, u) - h(\lambda(\varepsilon), u))/\varepsilon$  on  $\varepsilon \in (0, \lambda)$  and the weak convergence  $S(K_{\lambda(\varepsilon)}^p[n-i-1], E[i], \cdot) \rightarrow S(K_\lambda^p[n-i-1], E[i], \cdot)$  ([17, Theorem 4.2.1] and Theorem 13 (i)) when  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0+$  prove that

$$(22) \quad \ell_i = \ell_s = \frac{\lambda^{p-1}}{n} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} h(\lambda, u)^{1-p} h(E, u)^p \, dS(K_\lambda^p[n-i-1], E[i], u).$$

Now, since  $\ell_i = \ell_s$ , we get from (21) that the right derivative of  $g^{n-i}$  at 0 does exist and satisfies

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{g(\varepsilon)^{n-i} - g(0)^{n-i}}{\varepsilon} = (n-i)g(0)^{n-i-1} \left. \frac{d^+}{d\varepsilon} \right|_{\varepsilon=0} g(\varepsilon).$$

It implies (cf. (21))

$$(23) \quad \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda(\varepsilon))}{\varepsilon} = (n-i)\ell_i = (n-i)\ell_s.$$

Thus, (20), (23), (22), and (4) yield

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^-}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda - \varepsilon)}{\varepsilon} \leq \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda(\varepsilon))}{\varepsilon} = (n-i)\ell_i \\ &= \frac{n-i}{n} \lambda^{p-1} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} h(E, u)^p h(\lambda, u)^{1-p} dS(K_\lambda^p[n-i-1], E[i], u) \\ &= (n-i)\lambda^{p-1} W_{p,i}(\lambda, E; E) \end{aligned}$$

for  $\lambda > 0$ , which proves (19) and concludes the proof. □

We point out that none of the results proved so far provides a proof of the differentiability of  $W_i$  at  $\lambda = 0$ . In order to deal with this we will need a slightly different approach. This will be treated in Corollary 21.

There exist families of convex bodies for which the functions  $W_i(\lambda)$  are differentiable on  $(-r, 0)$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n-1$ . This is, for instance, the case of the so-called tangential bodies, which can be defined as follows: a convex body  $K \in \mathcal{K}^n$  containing  $E \in \mathcal{K}^n$ , is called a *tangential body* of  $E$ , if through each boundary point of  $K$  there exists a support hyperplane to  $K$  also supporting  $E$ . We notice that if  $K$  is a tangential body of  $E$ , then  $r(K; E) = 1$ . We refer to [17, Section 2.2 and p. 149] for further detailed information.

In [12, Theorem 4.2] it was proven that  $K$  is a tangential body of  $E$  if and only if  $K_\lambda^p$  is homothetic to  $K$  for all  $\lambda \in (-r, 0)$ . This property, the homogeneity of quermassintegrals and the differentiability of  $(1 - |\lambda|^p)^{1/p}$  on  $(-1, 0)$  immediately prove the following result. We notice that  $E$  is always assumed to be in  $\mathcal{K}_0^n$ , and any other assumption complements this one.

**Lemma 18.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_n^n$  and  $K \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$  be a tangential body of  $E$ , and let  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . Then  $W_i(\lambda)$  is differentiable on  $(-1, 0)$ ,  $0 \leq i \leq n-1$ , and*

$$W_i'(\lambda) = (n-i)|\lambda|^{p-1} (1 - |\lambda|^p)^{\frac{n-i}{p}-1} W_i(0).$$

Next we prove a lemma that will be used to provide an upper bound for the left derivative of  $W_i(\lambda)$ , involving  $W_i(\lambda)$  itself. The case  $p = 1$  was obtained in [16, Lemma 4.7].

**Lemma 19.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_n^n$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$  and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . For all  $-r \leq \lambda \leq 0$ ,*

$$(24) \quad \frac{r+p}{r} \lambda K \subseteq K_\lambda^p.$$

*Equality holds for some  $\lambda \in (-r, 0)$  if and only if  $K$  is homothetic to a tangential body of  $E$ .*

**Proof.** Since  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$  we have  $rE \subseteq K$ , which yields  $rh(E, u) \leq h(K, u)$  for all  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ . Thus,  $h(K, u)^p/r^p - h(E, u)^p \geq 0$  for all  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , and so

$$\frac{r^p - |\lambda|^p}{r^p} h(K, u)^p + |\lambda|^p h(E, u)^p \leq h(K, u)^p, \quad \text{for all } u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}.$$

It implies, as required, that

$$h\left(\frac{r+p}{r} \lambda K +_p |\lambda| E, u\right) \leq h(K, u), \quad \text{for all } u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}.$$

The equality case is provided by [12, Theorem 4.2], which ensures that (24) holds with equality for some  $\lambda \in (-r, 0)$  if and only if  $K$  is homothetic to a tangential body of  $E$ .  $\square$

Now we are ready to prove the mentioned upper bound for the left derivative of  $W_i(\lambda)$ . The case  $p = 1$  of this lemma was obtained in [8, Lemma 2.2].

**Proposition 20.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_n^n$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$ ,  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ . Then the left derivative exists on  $(-r, 0]$  and*

$$(25) \quad \frac{d^-}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \leq (n - i) \frac{|\lambda|^{p-1}}{r^p - |\lambda|^p} W_i(\lambda).$$

*For  $0 \leq i \leq n - 2$ , equality holds almost everywhere on  $(-r, 0)$  if and only if  $K$  is homothetic to a tangential body of  $E$ .*

**Proof.** The existence of the left derivative is assured by the concavity of  $W_i$  (see e.g. [15]). Let  $\lambda \in (-r, 0]$  and  $\varepsilon \geq 0$  be such that  $-r < \lambda - \varepsilon \leq \lambda$ . Using (9) and Proposition 12 (iii) we can write

$$K_{\lambda-\varepsilon}^p = K_{\lambda+p(-\mu(\lambda,\varepsilon))}^p = (K_\lambda^p)_{-\mu(\lambda,\varepsilon)}^p.$$

Then, Lemma 19 and the monotonicity and homogeneity of the mixed volumes yield

$$\left(\frac{r+p}{r} \lambda +_p (-\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon))\right)^{n-i} W_i(\lambda) \leq W_i(\lambda - \varepsilon),$$

and thus,

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{d^-}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda - \varepsilon)}{\varepsilon} \leq \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{1 - \left(\frac{r^p - |\lambda - \varepsilon|^p}{r^p - |\lambda|^p}\right)^{(n-i)/p}}{\varepsilon} W_i(\lambda) \\ &= (n - i) \frac{|\lambda|^{p-1}}{r^p - |\lambda|^p} W_i(\lambda). \end{aligned}$$

Next we deal with the equality case. From Proposition 2 we know that, with the exception of at most countably many points, the function  $W_i(\lambda)$  is differentiable on  $(-r, 0)$ . Hence, assuming equality in (25) we can write

$$W'_i(\lambda) = (n - i) \frac{|\lambda|^{p-1}}{r^p - |\lambda|^p} W_i(\lambda)$$

almost everywhere on  $(-r, 0)$ . Then, for  $\mu \in (-r, 0)$ ,

$$\int_{\mu}^0 \frac{W'_i(\lambda)}{W_i(\lambda)} d\lambda = (n - i) \int_{\mu}^0 \frac{|\lambda|^{p-1}}{r^p - |\lambda|^p} d\lambda,$$

and thus we obtain that

$$(26) \quad W_i(\mu) = \left(\frac{r +_p \mu}{r}\right)^{n-i} W_i(0) = W_i\left(\frac{r +_p \mu}{r} K; E\right).$$

Therefore, because of the inclusion provided by Lemma 19, we can conclude that  $((r +_p \mu)/r)K = K_{\mu}^p$  for  $0 \leq i \leq n - 2$ . Now, [12, Theorem 4.2] implies that  $K$  is homothetic to a tangential body of  $E$ .

Conversely, if  $K$  is homothetic to a tangential body of  $E$  then (see [12, Theorem 4.2])  $K_{\lambda}^p = ((r^p - |\lambda|^p)^{1/p}/r)K$ . The homogeneity of  $W_i$  allows us to explicitly compute the derivative on  $(-r, 0)$ :

$$W'_i(\lambda) = (n - i) |\lambda|^{p-1} \frac{(r^p - |\lambda|^p)^{\frac{n-i}{p}-1}}{r^{n-i}} W_i(0) = (n - i) \frac{|\lambda|^{p-1}}{r^p - |\lambda|^p} W_i(\lambda). \quad \square$$

We observe that the equality case in (25) when  $i = n - 1$  cannot be deduced from (26), and we will treat it in a different way in Theorem 25.

As a direct consequence we get the following result.

**Corollary 21.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_n^n$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$ ,  $1 < p < \infty$  and  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ . Then  $W_i(\lambda)$  is differentiable at 0 and  $W'_i(0) = 0$ .*

**Proof.** Using Proposition 20 we conclude that the left derivative exists at  $\lambda = 0$  and  $(d^-/d\lambda)|_{\lambda=0} W_i(\lambda) \leq 0$ . Moreover, using Proposition 14, we can assure that the right derivative of  $W_i(\lambda)$  at  $\lambda = 0$  exists. Finally, the equality case for (10) together with Proposition 17 allows us to conclude the result:

$$0 = \frac{d^+}{d\lambda} \Big|_{\lambda=0} W_i(\lambda) \leq \frac{d^-}{d\lambda} \Big|_{\lambda=0} W_i(\lambda) \leq 0. \quad \square$$

We observe that the above result is not true in the classical case  $p = 1$ , since the above used bounds for the left and right derivatives are neither zero nor equal, in general.

In the following lemma we provide an *equivalent* expression for the left derivative of  $W_i(\lambda)$  involving the  $p$ -sum in computing the limit.



**Lemma 22.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$ ,  $1 \leq p < \infty$  and  $0 \leq i \leq n - 1$ . Then, for all  $\lambda \in (-r, 0)$ ,*

$$\frac{d^-}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) = p|\lambda|^{p-1} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda +_p (-\varepsilon^{1/p}))}{\varepsilon}.$$

**Proof.** Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be such that  $-r < \lambda - \varepsilon$  and let  $\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon) = (|\lambda - \varepsilon|^p - |\lambda|^p)^{1/p}$ , which satisfies  $\lambda - \varepsilon = \lambda +_p (-\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon))$  (cf. (9)). From Lemma 7 we obtain that  $p\varepsilon|\lambda|^{p-1} \leq \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)^p \leq p\varepsilon|\lambda - \varepsilon|^{p-1}$ , and hence

$$K_\lambda^p \sim_p (p\varepsilon|\lambda|^{p-1})^{1/p} E \supseteq K_{\lambda-\varepsilon}^p \supseteq K_\lambda^p \sim_p (p\varepsilon|\lambda - \varepsilon|^{p-1})^{1/p} E.$$

Then, using the monotonicity of the mixed volumes we can write

$$W_i(\lambda +_p (-p\varepsilon|\lambda|^{p-1})^{1/p}) \geq W_i(\lambda - \varepsilon) \geq W_i(\lambda +_p (-p\varepsilon|\lambda - \varepsilon|^{p-1})^{1/p}).$$

Therefore, since the left derivative exists (see Proposition 2),

$$\begin{aligned} p|\lambda|^{p-1} \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda +_p (-p|\lambda|^{p-1}\varepsilon)^{1/p})}{p|\lambda|^{p-1}\varepsilon} &\leq \frac{d^-}{d\lambda} W_i(\lambda) \\ &\leq \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} p|\lambda - \varepsilon|^{p-1} \frac{W_i(\lambda) - W_i(\lambda +_p (-p|\lambda - \varepsilon|^{p-1}\varepsilon)^{1/p})}{p|\lambda - \varepsilon|^{p-1}\varepsilon}, \end{aligned}$$

which proves the result. □

The case  $i = 0$  can be already found in the literature, directly related to the  $p$ -sums, though not in the context of  $p$ -inner parallel bodies. In [11], LUTWAK proved the following integral expression for a  $p$ -variation of the volume functional.

**Theorem 23** ([11, Lemma (3.2)]). *Let  $K, E \in \mathcal{K}_{(0)}^n$  and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . Then,*

$$\begin{aligned} \frac{n}{p} W_{p,0}(K, E; E) &= \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0} \frac{\text{vol}(K +_p \varepsilon \cdot E) - \text{vol}(K)}{\varepsilon} \\ &= \frac{1}{p} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} h(E, u)^p h(K, u)^{1-p} dS(K[n-1], u). \end{aligned}$$

We observe that the above formula is not a particular case of (4) when  $i = 0$ , since here the limit as  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$  is two-sided. In the case of the left limit, the result was established using a variation of the support function, which turns out to be equivalent to the  $p$ -difference considered in this work. Using Lutwak’s proof for an arbitrary  $-r \leq \lambda \leq 0$ , we prove in Theorem 24 that the volume function of the system of parallel bodies,  $\text{vol}(\lambda) = \text{vol}(K_\lambda^p)$ , is differentiable on its whole range of definition  $(-r, \infty)$ .

**Theorem 24.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_{(0)}^n$ ,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$  and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . Then, for all  $\lambda \in (-r, \infty)$ ,*

$$(27) \quad \frac{d}{d\lambda} \text{vol}(\lambda) = |\lambda|^{p-1} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} h(E, u)^p h(\lambda, u)^{1-p} dS(K_\lambda^p[n-1], u).$$

**Proof.** Theorems 3 and 23 ensure that  $\text{vol}(\lambda)$  is differentiable on  $[0, \infty)$ , with the desired derivative. Thus, let  $\lambda \in (-r, 0)$ . Since  $K_\lambda^p \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$ , using Proposition 2, Lemma 22 for  $i = 0$  and Theorem 23, we get

$$\begin{aligned} n|\lambda|^{p-1}W_{p,0}(\lambda, E; E) &\leq \frac{d^+}{d\lambda}\text{vol}(\lambda) \leq \frac{d^-}{d\lambda}\text{vol}(\lambda) \\ &= |\lambda|^{p-1} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} h(E, u)^p h(\lambda, u)^{1-p} dS(K_\lambda^p[n-1], u) \\ &= n|\lambda|^{p-1}W_{p,0}(\lambda, E; E), \end{aligned}$$

i.e., the volume function is differentiable and satisfies (27). □

Since  $\dim K_{-r}^p \leq n - 1$  (see [12, Proposition 3.1]), the latter result provides the following integral formula for the volume of  $K$  in terms of functionals evaluated on its  $p$ -inner parallel bodies (cf. (1)):

$$\begin{aligned} \text{vol}(K) &= n \int_{-r}^0 |\lambda|^{p-1}W_{p,0}(\lambda, E; E) d\lambda \\ &= \int_{-r}^0 |\lambda|^{p-1} \left( \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} h(E, u)^p h(\lambda, u)^{1-p} dS(K_\lambda^p[n-1], u) \right) d\lambda. \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 23 for  $p = 1$  is connected to the theory of Wulff shapes. We refer to [17, Section 7.5] and the references therein for detailed information, in particular, to Lemma 7.5.3. It provides, in the same way we have just done, the proof of the differentiability of  $W_0(\lambda; 1)$ .

We observe that, if  $K \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$  and  $0 \leq \varepsilon \leq 1$ , then  $\text{vol}(K +_p \varepsilon K) - \text{vol}(K) \leq \text{vol}(K) - \text{vol}(K \sim_p \varepsilon K)$  if  $p > n$ , just noticing that  $K +_p \varepsilon K = (1 + \varepsilon^p)^{1/p}K$  and  $K \sim_p \varepsilon K = (1 - \varepsilon^p)^{1/p}K$  ([12, Proposition 2.1]). Therefore, the differentiability of the volume in the above sense cannot be obtained as in [13].

### 3. DIFFERENTIABILITY PROPERTIES OF THE SUPPORT FUNCTION

For  $K, E \in \mathcal{K}^n$ , the concavity of the family of parallel bodies of  $K$  in  $-r \leq \lambda < \infty$  yields concavity of the support function, as a function in  $\lambda \in (-r, \infty)$ , which implies the existence of derivatives almost everywhere. Moreover, in [3] it was proved that wherever the derivative exists, it satisfies

$$(28) \quad \frac{d}{d\lambda}h(\lambda, u) \geq h(E, u),$$

and equality holds for all  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , all  $\lambda \in (0, \infty)$  and almost everywhere on  $(-r, 0)$ , if and only if  $K = K_{-r} + rE$ .

For  $p \geq 1$ , Lemma 9 ensures the existence of derivatives of  $h(\lambda, u)$  almost everywhere, and it makes sense to ask for an analogue of (28) when  $1 \leq p < \infty$ .

It is the content of Theorem 4. We notice that if  $\lambda \geq 0$ , the existence of the derivative, as well as its explicit expression, follow from the fact that  $h(\lambda, u)^p = h(0, u)^p + \lambda^p h(E, u)^p$ , i.e., equality holds in (2).

**Proof of Theorem 4.** The existence of the derivative of  $h(\lambda, u)$  almost everywhere on  $(-r, 0)$  is ensured by Lemma 9. Writing  $\lambda + \varepsilon = \lambda +_p \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)$  (cf. (9)) and using Proposition 12 (ii), we have

$$\begin{aligned} h(\lambda + \varepsilon, u) - h(\lambda, u) &\geq h(K_\lambda^p +_p \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)E, u) - h(\lambda, u) \\ &= [h(\lambda, u)^p + \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)^p h(E, u)^p]^{1/p} - h(\lambda, u) \\ &\geq \frac{\mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)^p h(E, u)^p}{p[h(\lambda, u)^p + \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)^p h(E, u)^p]^{(p-1)/p}}, \end{aligned}$$

where the last inequality follows from the right-hand side of (7). Since

$$\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} [h(\lambda, u)^p + \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)^p h(E, u)^p]^{\frac{p-1}{p}} = h(\lambda, u)^{p-1}$$

and  $\lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \mu(\lambda, \varepsilon)^p / \varepsilon = p|\lambda|^{p-1}$ , we may conclude that

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} h(\lambda, u) = \lim_{\varepsilon \rightarrow 0^+} \frac{h(\lambda + \varepsilon, u) - h(\lambda, u)}{\varepsilon} \geq \frac{|\lambda|^{p-1} h(E, u)^p}{h(\lambda, u)^{p-1}}.$$

Now we deal with the equality case in (2). If  $K = K_{-r}^p +_p rE$ , it is not difficult to check that  $h(\lambda, u)^p = h(-r, u)^p + (r +_p \lambda)^p h(E, u)^p$  for all  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , and a direct computation proves that, for all  $\lambda \in [-r, 0]$  and  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ ,

$$\frac{d}{d\lambda} h(\lambda, u) = \frac{|\lambda|^{p-1} h(E, u)^p}{h(\lambda, u)^{p-1}}.$$

Conversely, we assume that, for all  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  and almost everywhere on  $[-r, 0]$ , equality holds in (2). For  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , we consider the function

$$\psi(\lambda) := h(\lambda, u)^p - h(-r, u)^p - (r +_p \lambda)^p h(E, u)^p.$$

Since  $h(\lambda, u)^p$  is increasing and  $+_p$ -concave on  $(-r, 0)$ , Lemma 9 and [14, Problem/Remark B, p.13] yield that it is absolutely continuous. Therefore  $\psi$  is absolutely continuous on  $[-r, 0]$ , and since  $\psi(-r) = 0$  and  $\psi'(\lambda) = 0$  almost everywhere on  $[-r, 0]$ , we get that  $\psi \equiv 0$  for any  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ . In particular,  $\psi(0) = 0$  for any  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , which yields  $K = K_{-r}^p +_p rE$ .  $\square$

Next we will slightly relax the equality conditions in Theorem 4, for which we will impose regularity on  $E$ : a convex body  $E \in \mathcal{K}^n$  is said to be *regular* if the supporting hyperplane at every boundary point is unique. This property will ensure that the support  $\text{supp } S(E[n-1], \cdot) = \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  (see e.g. [17, Theorem 4.5.3]):

(29) If  $E$  is regular, then equality holds in (2) almost everywhere on  $[-r, 0]$  and  $S(E[n-1], \cdot)$ -almost everywhere on  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  (instead of for all  $u \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ ) if and only if  $K = K_{-r}^p +_p rE$ .

We notice that, in order to prove (29), it suffices to see that if  $K, L, E \in \mathcal{K}^n$ ,  $K \subseteq L$ , with  $E$  regular, such that  $h(K, u) = h(L, u)$   $S(E[n-1], \cdot)$ -almost everywhere on  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , then  $K = L$ . Indeed, under these assumptions, by (3) we get  $W_{n-1}(K; E) = W_{n-1}(L; E)$ , and hence

$$\int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} [h(L, u) - h(K, u)] dS(E[n-1], u) = 0.$$

Then  $h(L, u) = h(K, u)$  for all  $u \in \text{supp } S(E[n-1], \cdot) = \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , and so  $K = L$ .

We point out that this property can be not true for an arbitrary  $E$ . Indeed, let  $M := \text{supp } S(E[n-1], \cdot) \subsetneq \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$  and let  $u_0 \in \mathbb{S}^{n-1} \setminus M$ . Since  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1} \setminus M$  is open on  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , there exists an open neighborhood  $\Omega \subseteq \mathbb{S}^{n-1} \setminus M$  of  $u_0$ , and taking  $L = \text{conv}\{B^n, (1 + \varepsilon)u_0\}$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$  small enough such that  $\text{cl}(L \setminus B^n) \cap \mathbb{S}^{n-1} \subseteq \Omega$ , we have  $h(B^n, u) = h(L, u)$  for all  $u \in M$ , but  $L \neq B^n$ .

As mentioned at the beginning of Section 3, HADWIGER proposed to determine the convex bodies for which  $W_i(\lambda, 1)$  is differentiable,  $1 \leq i \leq n-1$ , with  $W'_i(\lambda, 1) = (n-i)W_{i+1}(\lambda, 1)$ . In [9, 10] the cases  $i = n-1, n-2$  were solved, respectively. We conclude the paper by using the previous discussion to solve the corresponding  $p$ -problem for  $i = n-1$ . It will provide also the characterization of the equality case in (10) when  $i = n-1$ .

**Theorem 25.** *Let  $E \in \mathcal{K}_0^n$  be regular,  $K \in \mathcal{K}_{00}^n(E)$  and  $1 \leq p < \infty$ . Then  $W_{n-1}(\lambda)$  is differentiable on  $(-r, 0)$  with  $W'_{n-1}(\lambda) = |\lambda|^{p-1}W_{p,n-1}(\lambda, E; E)$ , if and only if  $K = K_{-r}^p +_p rE$ .*

**Proof.** First we assume that  $W'_{n-1}(\lambda) = |\lambda|^{p-1}W_{p,n-1}(\lambda, E; E)$ . Then, integrating and using (4), Fubini's Theorem and Theorem 4 we can write

$$\begin{aligned} W_{n-1}(K) - W_{n-1}(K_{-r}^p) &= \frac{1}{n} \int_{-r}^0 \left( \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} \frac{|\lambda|^{p-1}h(E, u)^p}{h(\lambda, u)^{p-1}} dS(E[n-1], u) \right) d\lambda \\ &\leq \frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} \left( \int_{-r}^0 \frac{d}{d\mu} \Big|_{\mu=\lambda} h(\mu, u) d\lambda \right) dS(E[n-1], u) \\ &= W_{n-1}(K) - W_{n-1}(K_{-r}^p). \end{aligned}$$

Hence, we have equality all over the above expression, and thus

$$\int_{-r}^0 \frac{|\lambda|^{p-1}h(E, u)^p}{h(\lambda, u)^{p-1}} d\lambda = \int_{-r}^0 \frac{d}{d\mu} \Big|_{\mu=\lambda} h(\mu, u) d\lambda$$

$S(E[n-1], \cdot)$ -almost everywhere on  $\text{supp } S(E[n-1], \cdot) = \mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ , because  $E$  is regular. From (29) we get  $K = K_{-r}^p +_p rE$ .

Conversely, if  $K = K_{-r}^p +_p rE$  then, by (3), Theorem 4 and (4),

$$\begin{aligned} W'_{n-1}(\lambda) &= \frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} \frac{d}{d\mu} \Big|_{\mu=\lambda} h(\mu, u) dS(E[n-1], u) \\ &= \frac{1}{n} \int_{\mathbb{S}^{n-1}} \frac{|\lambda|^{p-1}h(E, u)^p}{h(\lambda, u)^{p-1}} dS(E[n-1], u) = |\lambda|^{p-1}W_{p,n-1}(\lambda, E; E) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $\lambda \in (-r, 0)$ . □

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