

# Lagrangian capacity of symplectic manifolds

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These are notes from my talk in the symplectic geometry seminar in the working group of Klaus Mohnke, Chris Wendl, and Thomas Walpuski in Berlin.

The Lagrangian capacity is a symplectic capacity defined by Cieliebak and Mohnke. In this talk, via a neck-stretching argument of Cieliebak-Mohnke [2], we compare the Lagrangian and McDuff-Seigel capacities of Liouville domains. As a consequence, we show that the Lagrangian capacity of a 4-dimensional convex toric domain is equal to its diagonal. This positively settles a conjecture of Cieliebak and Mohnke for the Lagrangian capacity of the 4-dimensional ellipsoids.

Our main references are Cieliebak-Mohnke [2], Pereira [5], Rizell [3].

## 1 Recall from the previous talk

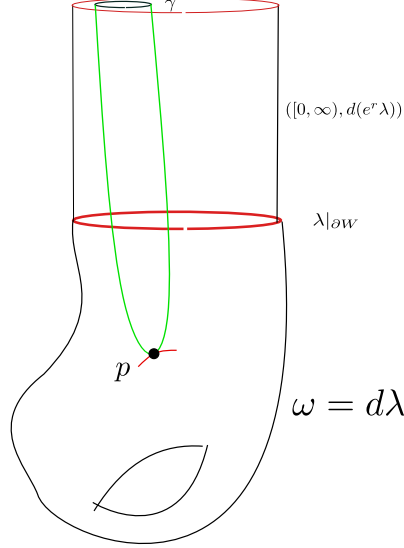
**Theorem 1.1.** (Cieliebak-Mohnke [2], 2014) *There are exactly  $(n-1)!$  holomorphic sphere in the homology class of line  $[\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1]$  in  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n$  passing through a generic point  $p \in \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n$  and having a tangency order  $n-1$  to generic local divisor containing  $p$ . In terms of the notations from my previous talk, this means*

$$N_{\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n, [\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^1]} \ll \mathcal{T}^{n-1}p \gg = (n-1)!$$

**Definition 1.2.** (McDuff-Siegel Capacities [4], 2022) Let  $(W, \lambda)$  be a non-degenerated Liouville domain. Let  $D_p$  be a smooth local symplectic divisor passing through  $p \in \text{Int } X$ . Define  $\mathcal{J}(\widehat{W}, D_p)$  to be the space of all admissible almost complex structures on the symplectic completion  $\widehat{W}$  that are integrable near  $p$  and  $D_p$  is holomorphic. For  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , define

$$\text{MS}_k^1(W) := \sup_{J \in \mathcal{J}(\widehat{W}, D_p)} \inf_u \int_{D^2} u^* d\lambda \in [0, \infty]$$

where the infimum is taken over asymptotic  $J$ -holomorphic disks in  $\widehat{W}$  with  $\ll \mathcal{T}^{k-1}p \gg$ .



## 2 Toric domains

**Definition 2.1.** (Convex toric domains) Let  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}_+^n$  denotes a convex subset containing 0. Consider  $\mu : \mathbb{C}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+^n$  given by

$$\mu(z_1, z_2, \dots, z_n) := \pi(|z_1|^2, \dots, |z_n|^2).$$

A convex toric domain in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  is a subset  $X_\Omega \subset \mathbb{C}^n$  of the form

$$X_\Omega = \mu^{-1}(\Omega).$$

The diagonal of a convex toric domain  $X_\Omega$  is defined by

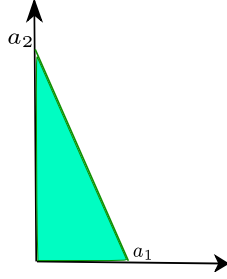
$$\text{diagonal}(X_\Omega) := \sup\{a > 0 : (a, a, \dots, a) \in \Omega\}.$$

**Remark 2.2.** Let  $\delta = \text{diagonal}(X_\Omega)$ , the Lagrangian torus  $\mathbb{S}^1(\sqrt{\frac{\delta}{\pi}}) \times \dots \times \mathbb{S}^1(\sqrt{\frac{\delta}{\pi}})$  stands on the boundary of  $(X_\Omega, \omega_0)$ .

**Example 2.3.** (Example of a convex toric domain) Let  $0 < a_1 \leq a_2 < \infty$ ,

$$E(a_1, a_2) := \{(z_1, z_2) \in \mathbb{C}^2 : \sum_{i=1}^2 \frac{\pi|z_i|^2}{a_i} \leq 1\}$$

$$E(a_1, a_2) := \mu^{-1}(\Omega)$$



$$\text{diagonal}(E(a_1, a_2)) = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^2 \frac{1}{a_i}}.$$

In general,

$$\text{diagonal}(E(a_1, \dots, a_n)) := \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{a_i}}.$$

**Definition 2.4.** (Symplectic energy of Lagrangian tori) Let  $(M, \omega)$  be a symplectic manifold and  $L \subset (M, \omega)$  be an embedded Lagrangian torus. The symplectic energy of  $L$  is defined as

$$A_{\min}(L) := \inf \left\{ \int_{D^2} u^* \omega > 0 : u : (D^2, \partial D^2) \rightarrow (M, L) \right\}.$$

**Example 2.5.** For the Clifford torus  $L_{Clif} := \mathbb{S}^1(r) \times \cdots \times \mathbb{S}^1(r) \subset (\mathbb{C}^n, \omega_0)$  we have

$$A_{\min}(L_{Clif}) = \pi r^2$$

**Example 2.6.** For the product torus  $L_{std} := \mathbb{S}^1(1) \times \mathbb{S}^1(2) \subset (\mathbb{C}^2, \omega_0)$  we have

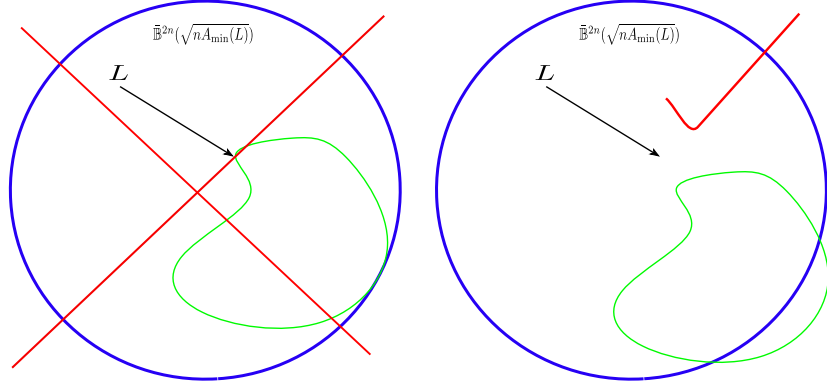
$$A_{\min}(L_{std}) = \pi.$$

**Example 2.7.** Let  $\delta = \text{diagonal}(X_\Omega)$ ,  $L_{std} = \mathbb{S}^1(\sqrt{\frac{\delta}{\pi}}) \times \cdots \times \mathbb{S}^1(\sqrt{\frac{\delta}{\pi}}) = \mu^{-1}(\delta, \delta) \subset (X_\Omega, \omega_0)$ , so

$$\text{diagonal}(X_\Omega) = A_{\min}(L_{std}).$$

The energy of a Lagrangian sub-manifold remembers how the Lagrangian sits in the ambient symplectic manifold. This was conjectured by Cieliebak and Mohnke as follows:

**Conjecture 2.8.** (Cieliebak-Mohnke [2], Conjecture 1.9) *If a Lagrangian torus in  $(\mathbb{C}^n, \omega_0)$  intersects the interior of the ball  $\bar{\mathbb{B}}^{2n}(\sqrt{n A_{\min}(L)}/\pi)$ , then it must intersect its exterior as well.*



**Conjecture 2.9.** (Weak version of this conjecture) *A Hamiltonian flow on  $(\mathbb{C}^n, \omega_0)$  can not squeeze a Lagrangian torus  $L$  in  $\mathbb{C}^n$  into the open ball of radius  $\sqrt{n A_{\min}(L)}/\pi$ .*

**Theorem 2.10.** (Georgios Rizell [3]) *The following is true:*

- *Every Lagrangian torus in  $(\bar{\mathbb{B}}^4(1), \omega_0)$  with energy  $\pi/2$  lies totally on the boundary  $\mathbb{S}^3$ .*
- *Every Lagrangian torus in  $(\bar{\mathbb{B}}^4(1), \omega_0)$  with energy  $\pi/2$  is Hamiltonian isotopic to the Clifford torus  $\mathbb{S}^1(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}}) \times \mathbb{S}^1(\frac{1}{\sqrt{2}})$  on  $\mathbb{S}^3$ .*

**Open Problem 2.11.** The above conjecture is open for  $n > 2$ .

**Definition 2.12.** (Lagrangian Capacity, Cieliebak-Mohnke [2], 2014) For a symplectic manifold  $(M, \omega)$ , the number  $c_L(M, \omega) \in [0, \infty]$  defined by

$$c_L(M, \omega) := \sup\{A_{\min}(L) : L \subset (M, \omega) \text{ is embedded Lagrangian torus}\}$$

is a symplectic capacity known as Lagrangian capacity of  $(M, \omega)$ .

:

**Theorem 2.13.** (Cieliebak-Mohnke [2], 2014)

$$c_L(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n, \omega_{FS}) = \frac{\pi}{n+1}.$$

$$c_L(\mathbb{B}^{2n}(1), \omega_0) = \frac{\pi}{n}.$$

$$c_L(\mathbb{B}^2(1) \times \mathbb{C}^{(n-1)}, \omega_0) = \pi$$

**Theorem 2.14.** (Cieliebak-Mohnke [2], 2014) *The Lagrangian capacity satisfies*

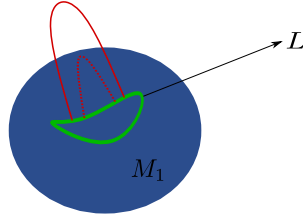
- $c_L(M, \alpha\omega) = \alpha c_L(M, \omega), \forall \alpha > 0.$
- *If there exists a symplectic embedding  $i : (M_1, \omega_1) \rightarrow (M_2, \omega_2)$  with  $\pi_2(M_2, i(M_1)) = 0$ , then*

$$c_L(M_1, \alpha\omega_1) \leq c_L(M_2, \alpha\omega_2).$$

- $0 < c_L(\mathbb{B}^{2n}(1), \omega_0)$ , and  $0 < c_L(\mathbb{B}^2(1) \times \mathbb{C}^{(n-1)}, \omega_0) < \infty.$

**Remark 2.15.** In the second bullet point above, the condition  $\pi_2(M_2, i(M_1)) = 0$  is very important. For any Lagrangian  $L$  in  $i(M_1)$ , there might be disks in  $M_2$  with boundary on  $L$  which has area less than any other disk in  $M_1$  with boundary on  $L$ .

$$A_{min}^{M_2}(L) < A_{min}^{M_1}(L)$$



$M_2$

In this case and hence

$$c_L(M_1, \alpha\omega_1) > c_L(M_2, \alpha\omega_2).$$

For example, take  $M_1 = \mathbb{B}^{2n}(1)$  and  $M_2 = \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n$ , by the above theorem

$$c_L(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n, \omega_{FS}) < c_L(\mathbb{B}^{2n}(1), \omega_0).$$

**Conjecture 2.16.** (Cieliebak-Mohnke [2], 2014)

$$c_L(E(a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n), \omega_0) = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^n \frac{1}{a_i}}.$$

**Theorem 2.17.** (Pereira [5], 2022) *If  $(X, \lambda)$  is a Liouville domain, then*

$$c_L(X, d\lambda) \leq \inf_k \frac{\text{MS}_k^1(X)}{k},$$

where  $\text{MS}_k^1(X)$  is the  $k$ th-McDuff-Siegel capacity of  $X$ .

**Corollary 2.18.** *Let  $X_\Omega$  be a four dimensional convex toric domain, then*

$$c_L(X_\Omega, \omega_0) = \delta.$$

*In particular,  $c_L(E(a_1, a_2), \omega_0) = \frac{1}{\sum_{i=1}^2 \frac{1}{a_i}}$ .*

*Proof.* • Let  $\delta = \text{diagonal}(X_\Omega)$ ,  $L_{std} = \mathbb{S}^1(\sqrt{\frac{\delta}{\pi}}) \times \cdots \times \mathbb{S}^1(\sqrt{\frac{\delta}{\pi}}) \subset (X_\Omega, \omega_0)$ , so

$$\delta = A_{min}(L_{std}) \leq c_L(X_\Omega, \omega_0).$$

•

$$\delta \leq c_L(X_\Omega, \omega_0) \leq \frac{\text{MS}_k^1(X_\Omega)}{k} \leq \frac{\delta(k+1)}{k} = \delta + \frac{\delta}{k}$$

□

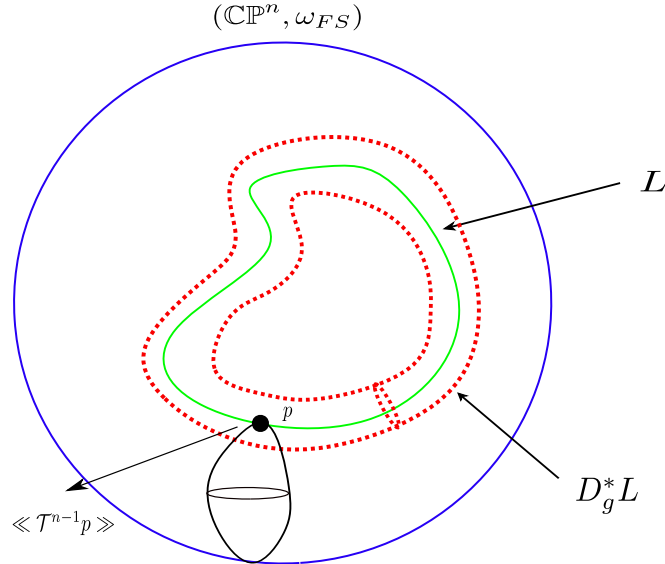
*Proof.* (Proof sketch of  $c_L(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n, \omega_{FS}) = \frac{\pi}{n+1}$ )

Note that  $L_{std} := \mathbb{S}^1(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}}) \times \cdots \times \mathbb{S}^1(\frac{1}{\sqrt{n+1}}) \subset \mathbb{B}^{2n}(1) \subset \mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n$ , so

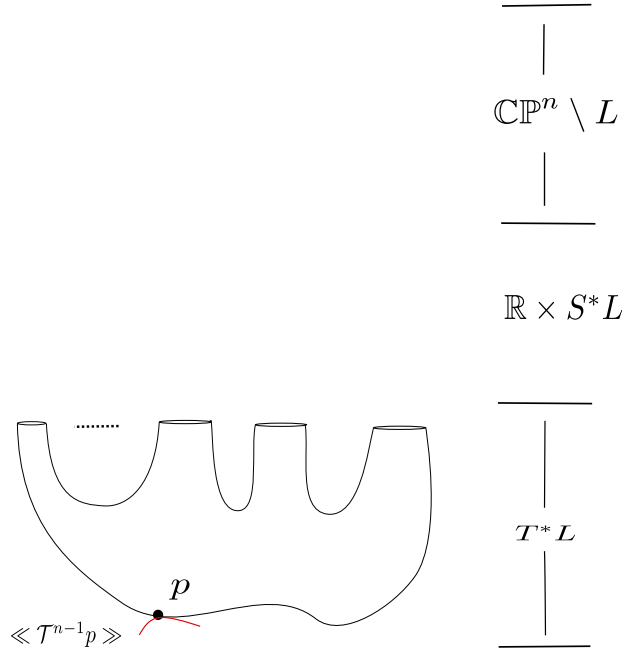
$$\frac{\pi}{n+1} = A_{min}(L_{std}) \leq c_L(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n, \omega_{FS}).$$

To prove: for every Lagrangian torus  $L$  in  $\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n$ , there exists a smooth disk  $u : (D^2, \partial D^2) \rightarrow (\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n, L)$  with

$$0 < \int_{D^2} u^* \omega_{FS} \leq \frac{\pi}{n+1}.$$



There is a holomorphic sphere passing through  $p$  with the constraint  $\ll \mathcal{T}^{n-1}p \gg$ .  
 Stretching the neck of this sphere along  $\partial D_g^*L$  leads to a building:



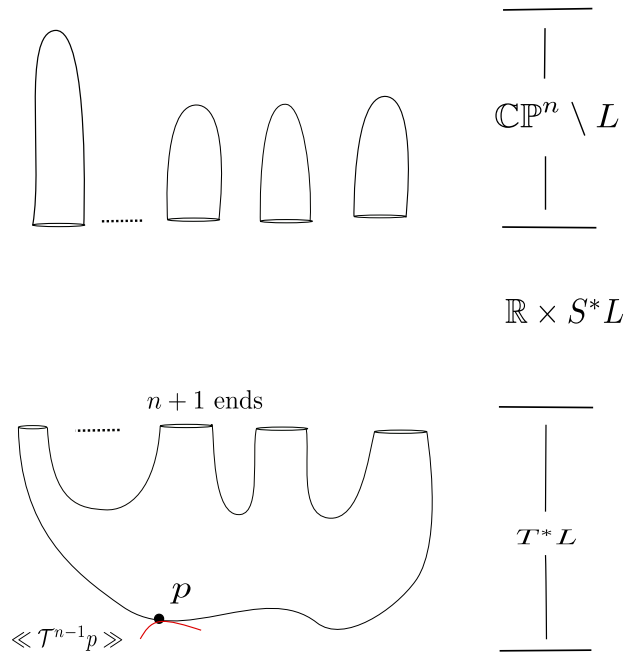
$$\text{ind}(C_{bot}) = (n-3)(2-l) + \sum_{i=1}^l (\text{RS}(\gamma_i) + \frac{1}{2} \dim(\gamma_i)) - 2n + 2 - 2(n-1).$$

$$\text{RS}(\gamma_i) = \frac{1}{2} \text{Nullity}(\gamma_i) + \text{Morse-ind}(\gamma_i).$$

$$\text{RS}(\gamma_i) = \frac{1}{2} \dim(\gamma_i) = \frac{1}{2}(n-1).$$

$$\text{ind}(C_{bot}) = 2l - 2n - 2.$$

We must have  $l \geq n + 1$ .



- Denote these disks by  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_n, u_{n+1}$ . We have that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \int_{D^2} u_i^* \omega_{FS} \leq \pi.$$

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$$\int_{D^2} u_1^* \omega_{FS} \leq \frac{1}{n+1} \sum_{i=1}^{n+1} \int_{D^2} u_i^* \omega_{FS} \leq \frac{\pi}{n+1}.$$

- This proves

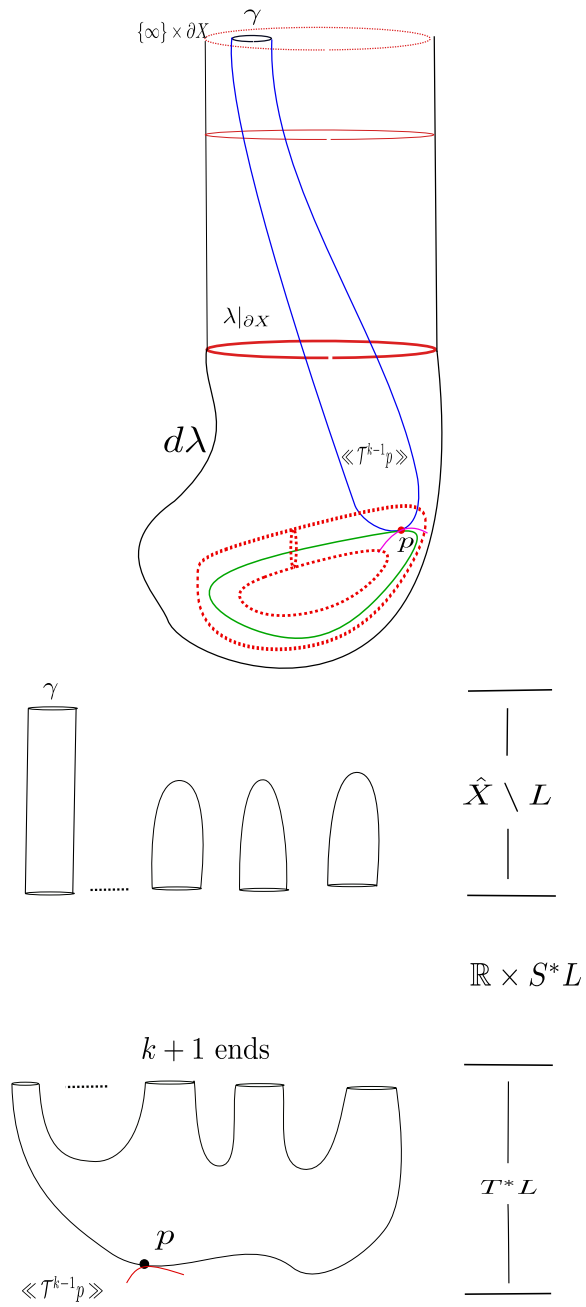
$$c_L(\mathbb{C}\mathbb{P}^n, \omega_{FS}) = \frac{\pi}{n+1}.$$

$$c_L(\mathbb{B}^{2n}(1), \omega_0) = \frac{\pi}{n}.$$

□

*Proof.* (Proof sketch of  $c_L(X, d\lambda) \leq \inf_k \frac{MS_k^1(X)}{k}$ )





- Denote these disks by  $u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$ . We have that

$$\sum_{i=1}^k \int_{D^2} u_i^* \omega_{FS} \leq \text{MS}_k^1(X).$$

- For one of these disks, we have

$$\int_{D^2} u_1^* \omega_{FS} \leq \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \int_{D^2} u_i^* \omega_{FS} \leq \frac{\text{MS}_k^1(X)}{k}.$$

- This proves

$$c_L(X, d\lambda) \leq \inf_k \frac{\text{MS}_k^1(X)}{k}.$$

□

## References

- [1] Kai Cieliebak and Klaus Mohnke, *Symplectic hypersurfaces and transversality in Gromov-Witten theory*. J. Symplectic Geom., **5(3)** (2007), 281356.
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- [5] Miguel Pereira, *On the Lagrangian capacity of convex or concave toric domains*. <https://arxiv.org/abs/2207.11022>, (2022).