

# A PRIORI ESTIMATES FOR SOLUTIONS TO ELLIPTIC EQUATIONS IN LONG DOMAINS

SUNGWON CHO

**ABSTRACT.** We consider a second-order linear uniformly elliptic partial differential operator in non-divergence form. For the operator, there is a well-known Aleksandrov-Bakel'man-Pucci estimate (ABP estimate, in short). Following the proof of the original ABP estimate, using a rectangular cone than a circular cone, we obtain a smaller constant than the original estimate for the upper bound. Also, we show that our improved result implies the original ABP estimate and is more useful for long domains than the original one.

## 1. Introduction

In this paper, we treat a second-order linear uniformly elliptic partial differential operator. In particular, we will consider the following operator of the nondivergence form:

$$(L) \quad L = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) D_{ij} + \sum_{i=1}^n b_i(x) D_i + c(x).$$

Here,  $D_{ij}$  represents a partial derivative in the  $x_i, x_j$ -direction, namely,

$$D_{ij} = D_i D_j = \frac{\partial^2}{\partial x_j \partial x_i}, \quad \text{and } D_i = \frac{\partial}{\partial x_i}$$

for  $i, j = 1, \dots, n$  in the considered domain lying in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

The coefficients are assumed to be measurable but not necessarily continuous. Uniform ellipticity means that the second-order coefficients  $a_{ij}$  satisfy, for some strictly positive constants  $c_0, C_0$ ,

$$(UE) \quad c_0 |\xi|^2 \leq \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) \xi_i \xi_j \leq C_0 |\xi|^2, \quad \xi = (\xi_1, \xi_2, \dots, \xi_n)$$

for any  $x \in \Omega (\subset \mathbb{R}^n)$  and  $\xi \in \mathbb{R}^n$ . Without loss of generality, we will assume

$$a_{ij}(x) = a_{ji}(x) \quad \text{for each } i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n.$$

---

Received February 28, 2024. Revised April 2, 2025. Accepted April 2, 2025.

2010 Mathematics Subject Classification: 35B45, 35B50, 35J15.

Key words and phrases: Second-order elliptic equation, Maximum principle, A priori estimates.

This research was supported by the Research Program through Gwangju National University of Education.

© The Kangwon-Kyungki Mathematical Society, 2025.

This is an Open Access article distributed under the terms of the Creative Commons Attribution Non-Commercial License (<http://creativecommons.org/licenses/by-nc/3.0/>) which permits unrestricted non-commercial use, distribution and reproduction in any medium, provided the original work is properly cited.

For a given domain, we assume it is an open and connected subset of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $n \geq 1$ .

The classical Aleksandrov-Bakel'man-Pucci estimate (the ABP estimate, in short) states the following

**THEOREM 1.1.** *Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded and open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $L$  be a second-order uniformly elliptic (UE) differential operator in nondivergence form (L). In addition, let  $u$  be a function in  $W_{loc}^{2,n}(\Omega) \cap C(\bar{\Omega})$  such that  $Lu \geq f$  in  $\Omega$ , and  $b_i, f \in L^n(\Omega)$ ,  $c(x) \leq 0$ . Then,*

$$\sup_{\Omega} u := \sup_{x \in \Omega} u(x) \leq \sup_{\partial\Omega} u_+ + C_1 \cdot \text{diam}(\Omega) \cdot e^{C_1 S} \|f_-\|_{L^n(\Omega)},$$

where  $\partial\Omega$  denotes its topological boundary,  $u_+ := \max\{u, 0\}$ ,  $f_- := \max\{-f, 0\}$ ,

$$S := S(\Omega) := \sum_{i=1}^n \int_{\Omega} |b_i|^n dx,$$

$$\|f_-\|_{L^n(\Omega)} := \left( \int_{\Omega} |f_-|^n dx \right)^{1/n}, \text{ the norm of the function } f_- \text{ in } L^n(\Omega),$$

$\text{diam}(\Omega)$  is a diameter of  $\Omega$ , and  $C_1$  is a positive constant depending only on  $c_0, C_0$  and  $n$ .

Originally, ABP estimate is proved by Aleksandrov and other mathematicians [1–3, 14], and an important tool in elliptic PDE. See [8, 10, 12] for example. For a detailed history of the ABP estimate, one may refer to [9, 11] and references therein. For a proof, one may refer to [2], [9, (9.14)]. The above version is modified from [13, Theorem 1.1] to our purpose.

For the case of  $f \geq 0$ , it easily reduces to a maximum principle of the following form:

**COROLLARY 1.1.** *Let  $\Omega$  be a open and bounded set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $u$  be a function belong to  $W_{loc}^{2,n}(\Omega) \cap C(\bar{\Omega})$  such that  $Lu \geq 0$  in  $\Omega$ . Then, the positive maximum of  $u$  is attained on  $\partial\Omega$ .*

*Similarly, if  $Lu \leq 0$  in  $\Omega$ , then the negative minimum of  $u$  is attained on  $\partial\Omega$ .*

In this paper, we are interested in replacing the constant of  $\text{diam}(\Omega)$  with some other constants which is a character of the given domains. This result gives us a better estimate for long domains. See Theorem 3.1, Theorem 3.3 and Remark 3.6. Also, we need to point out that Cabre obtained a different kind of geometric constant. See [4, 5].

In section 2, we prepare some preliminaries, especially ABP estimate for  $L$  without lower order terms. In section 3, we present the main result, Theorem 3.1. The estimate from the main result is useful for the long domain. See Remark 3.6.

For simplicity, we will treat an operator with the second-order terms only, without lower-order terms. But one can generalize to the general elliptic operator (L).

Concluding the introductory section, we enlist some notations which will be used later. The set of first  $n$  natural numbers is denoted by  $I_n$ . Namely,  $I_n := \{1, 2, \dots, n\}$ .

In this paper, we are interested in a rectangular domain:

$$Q_{(r_i, s_i)} := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \forall i \in I_n, r_i < x_i < s_i, x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)\}.$$

$B_r(x)$  is a open ball of radius  $r$  centered at  $x$ , namely,

$$B_r(x) := \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n : |y - x| < r\}.$$

For simplicity, we use  $B_r$  for  $B_r(0)$ .  $\omega_n$  denotes the  $n$ -dimensional measure of a unit ball,  $\omega_n := |B_1|$ .

The diameter of any given domain is denoted by  $\text{diam}(\Omega)$  which means  $\sup_{x,y \in \Omega} \{|x - y|\}$ . The topological boundary of a given domain  $\Omega$  is denoted by  $\partial\Omega$ .

## 2. Preliminaries

In this section, we provide a proof of ABP estimate, Theorem 1.1 for a simplified case  $L_0$  of  $L$ , where

$$(L_0) \quad L_0 = \sum_{i,j=1}^n a_{ij}(x) D_{ij}.$$

Note that  $L$  turn into  $L_0$  if  $b_i = c = 0$ . The idea of the proof will be adapted to the proof of the main results. For more general cases with low-order terms, one may refer to [4–7, 9, 15].

Firstly, we introduce two definitions, the upper contact set and normal mapping.

**DEFINITION 2.1.** If  $u \in C(\Omega)$ , we can define the upper contact set of  $u$  with a notation of  $\Gamma^+$  or  $\Gamma_u^+$ , to be a subset of  $\Omega$ ,

$$\Gamma^+ = \{y \in \Omega \mid \exists p = p(y) \in \mathbb{R}^n, \forall x \in \Omega, u(x) \leq u(y) + p \cdot (x - y)\}.$$

When  $u \in C^1(\Omega)$ , then it necessarily  $p(y) = Du(y)$ . For the next, we define the normal mapping:

**DEFINITION 2.2.** For  $u \in C(\Omega)$ , the normal mapping, denoted by  $\chi(y) = \chi_u(y)$ , means the following:

$$\chi(y) = \{p \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid \forall x \in \Omega, u(x) \leq u(y) + p \cdot (x - y)\}.$$

In particular, if  $u \in C^1(\Omega)$ , then  $\chi$  is the gradient vector field of  $u$  on  $\Gamma^+$ .

**EXAMPLE 2.3.** We present the circular cone centered at the origin, radius of  $r > 0$ , maximum of  $M > 0$  at 0.

$$u(x) = M \left( 1 - \frac{|x|}{r} \right).$$

By direct computation,  $\chi_u(x) = \begin{cases} \frac{Mx}{r|x|} & \text{for } x \neq 0, \\ B_{M/r}(0) & \text{for } x = 0. \end{cases}$

Thus, we have  $|\chi_u(\Omega)| = |B_{M/r}|$ .

For the next, we consider a rectangular cone.

**EXAMPLE 2.4.** For  $M, r_i, s_i > 0$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ , let

$$\Omega := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid -r_i < x_i < s_i, i = 1, \dots, n, x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)\}$$

and

$$v(x) = v(x_1, \dots, x_n) = \min_{i \in I_n} \min \left\{ \frac{M}{r_i} (r_i + x_i), \frac{M}{s_i} (s_i - x_i) \right\}.$$

Then  $\chi_v(\Omega) = [-\frac{M}{s_1}, \frac{M}{r_1}] \times \dots \times [-\frac{M}{s_n}, \frac{M}{r_n}]$ . Thus,

$$|\chi_v(\Omega)| = M^n \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{s_i + r_i}{s_i r_i}.$$

The following two lemmas are basically from [9].

LEMMA 2.5. For  $u \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^0(\Omega)$  we have

$$\sup_{\Omega} u \leq \sup_{\partial\Omega} u + \frac{d}{\omega_n^{1/n}} \left( \int_{\Gamma^+} |\det D^2 u| \right)^{1/n}$$

where  $d = \text{diam}(\Omega)$ .

*Proof.* Considering  $u - \sup_{\partial\Omega} u$ , without loss of generality, we may assume that  $u \leq 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ .

Now we show that the maximum value of  $u$  can be estimated in terms of  $|\chi(\Omega)|$ . Let  $\max_{\Omega} u = u(y)$ , and  $k$  be the function whose graph is the cone  $K$  with vertex  $(y, u(y))$  and base  $\partial\Omega$ . Then  $\chi_k(\Omega) \subset \chi_u(\Omega)$ . Since each supporting hyperplane of  $K$ , there exists a parallel hyperplane tangent to the graph of  $u$ . Now let  $\tilde{k}$  be the function whose graph is the cone  $\tilde{K}$  with vertex  $(y, u(y))$  and base  $B_d(y)$ . Here,  $B_d(y)$  is an open ball in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  centered at  $y$  of radius  $d$ , and  $d$  is the diameter of the domain  $\Omega$ . It is clear that  $\chi_{\tilde{k}}(\Omega) \subset \chi_k(\Omega)$ . By Example 2.3,

$$\omega_n \left( \frac{u(y)}{d} \right)^n = |\chi_{\tilde{k}}(\Omega)| \leq |\chi_k(\Omega)| \leq |\chi_u(\Omega)|.$$

By definition of  $\chi$ ,

$$(1) \quad |\chi_u(\Omega)| = |\chi(\Gamma^+)| = |Du(\Gamma^+)|$$

Since the Jacobian matrix of  $Du : \Gamma_u^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $D^2u$ , is negative semi-definite,  $Du - \epsilon Id_n$  has a maximal rank for an arbitrary  $\epsilon > 0$ , where  $Id_n$  is the  $n \times n$  identity matrix. From the transformation formula for multiple integrals, we have

$$(2) \quad |(Du - \epsilon Id_n)(\Gamma_u^+)| \leq \int_{\Gamma_u^+} |\det(D^2u - \epsilon Id_n)|.$$

Letting  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ , combining (1), (2), we have

$$|\chi_u(\Omega)| = |Du(\Gamma^+)| \leq \int_{\Gamma_u^+} |\det D^2u|.$$

Now we have

$$\omega_n \left( \frac{u(y)}{d} \right)^n \leq \int_{\Gamma^+} |\det D^2u|,$$

which leads to the completion of the proof. □

LEMMA 2.6. For  $u \in C^2(\Omega) \cap C^0(\overline{\Omega})$ , we have

$$(3) \quad |\det D^2u| \leq \frac{1}{\det(a_{ij})} \cdot \left( \frac{-a_{ij} D_{ij} u}{n} \right)^n$$

on  $\Gamma^+$ . Thus, we have

$$(4) \quad \sup_{\Omega} u \leq \sup_{\partial\Omega} u + \frac{d}{n\omega_n^{1/n}} \left\| \frac{-a_{ij} D_{ij} u}{\mathcal{D}^{1/n}} \right\|_{L^n(\Gamma^+)},$$

where  $d = \text{diam}(\Omega)$ ,  $\mathcal{D} = \det(a_{ij})$ .

*Proof.* Note that  $D^2u$  is nonpositive on  $\Gamma^+$ . Thus,  $-D^2u$  becomes a positive symmetric.

For a proof, considering  $A = -D^2u$ ,  $B = (a_{ij})$ , it is enough to show that the following claim: for positive symmetric matrix  $A$  and  $B$ ,

$$\det A \det B \leq \left( \frac{\text{tr}(AB)}{n} \right)^n,$$

where  $\text{tr}(\cdot)$  denotes the trace operator.

Note that  $B = OD_BO^T$  for some orthonormal matrix  $O$ , diagonal matrix  $D_B$ . Then  $B = O\sqrt{D_B}\sqrt{D_B}O^T = O\sqrt{D_B}O^TO\sqrt{D_B}O^T$ . Let  $\sqrt{B} = O\sqrt{D_B}O^T$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} \text{tr}(AB) &= \text{tr}(A\sqrt{B}\sqrt{B}) \\ &= \text{tr}(\sqrt{B}A\sqrt{B}) \quad (\text{since } \text{tr}(XYZ) = \text{tr}(ZXY)) \\ &\geq n \sqrt[n]{\det \sqrt{B}A\sqrt{B}} \quad (\text{using } \sqrt{B}A\sqrt{B} \text{ is symmetric.}) \\ &= n \sqrt[n]{\det AB} = n \sqrt[n]{\det A \det B}, \end{aligned}$$

which leads to (3). By Lemma 2.5, we have (4).  $\square$

Note that  $c_0 \leq \mathcal{D}^{1/n} \leq C_0$  from the uniform elliptic condition, (UE). Thus, in our setting, the denominator of (4) is bounded.

Now we present the simplified ABP estimate with its proof. For a proof of ABP estimate of Theorem 1.1 with lower order terms, one may refer to [9].

**THEOREM 2.1.** *Let  $\Omega$  be a bounded and open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $L_0$  be a second-order uniformly elliptic (UE) differential operator in the simplified nondivergence form ( $L_0$ ). In addition, let  $u$  be a function in  $W_{loc}^{2,n}(\Omega) \cap C(\bar{\Omega})$  such that  $Lu \geq f$  in  $\Omega$ , and  $f \in L^n(\Omega)$ . Then,*

$$(5) \quad \sup_{\Omega} u := \sup_{x \in \Omega} u(x) \leq \sup_{\partial\Omega} u_+ + \frac{\text{diam}(\Omega)}{n\omega^{1/n}} \left\| \frac{f_-}{\mathcal{D}^{1/n}} \right\|_{L^n(\Omega)},$$

where  $\partial\Omega$  denotes its topological boundary,  $u_+ := \max\{u, 0\}$ ,  $f_- := \max\{-f, 0\}$ ,

$$\|f_-\|_{L^n(\Omega)} := \left( \int_{\Omega} |f_-|^n dx \right)^{1/n}, \quad \text{the norm of the function } f_- \text{ in } L^n(\Omega),$$

$\text{diam}(\Omega)$  is a diameter of  $\Omega$ , and  $\mathcal{D} = \det(a_{ij})$ .

*Proof.* Let  $a_{ij}D_{ij}u \geq f$  in  $\Omega$ . Thus, we have  $0 \leq -a_{ij}D_{ij}u \leq -f \leq f_-$  in  $\Gamma_u^+$ , where  $f_- := \max\{-f, 0\}$ .

Combining Lemma 2.5 and Lemma 2.6, we obtain (5) for  $u \in C^2(\Omega)$ . Now, we generalize these results to functions  $u \in C^0(\Omega) \cap W_{loc}^{2,n}(\Omega)$  by a standard approximation argument.

Let  $\{u_m\}$  be a sequence of functions in  $C^2(\Omega)$  converging in  $W_{loc}^{2,n}(\Omega)$  to  $u$ . For arbitrary  $\epsilon > 0$ , assume that  $u_m$  converges to  $u$  in  $W^{2,n}(\Omega_\epsilon)$  and  $u_m \leq \epsilon + \sup_{\partial\Omega} u_+ = \epsilon$  on  $\partial\Omega_\epsilon$ , where

$$\Omega_\epsilon \subset\subset \Omega, \quad \Omega_{\epsilon_1} \subset \Omega_{\epsilon_2} \text{ for } \epsilon_2 \leq \epsilon_1, \quad \cup_{\epsilon} \Omega_\epsilon = \Omega.$$

Applying Lemma 2.6 to  $u_m$  in  $\Omega_\epsilon$ , we have

$$\sup_{\Omega_\epsilon} u_m \leq \sup_{\partial\Omega_\epsilon} u_m + \frac{\text{diam}(\Omega)}{n\omega_n^{1/n}} \left\| \frac{-a_{ij}D_{ij}u_m}{\mathcal{D}^{1/n}} \right\|_{L^n(\Gamma_{u_m}^+ \cap \Omega_\epsilon)}.$$

Note that, on  $\Gamma_{u_m}^+$ ,

$$0 \leq -a_{ij}D_{ij}u_m \leq -a_{ij}D_{ij}(u_m - u) - a_{ij}D_{ij}u \leq -a_{ij}D_{ij}(u_m - u) + f_-.$$

Also,

$$\|D_{ij}(u_m - u)\|_{L^n(\Omega_\epsilon)} \rightarrow 0^+ \text{ in } \Omega, \quad \|f_-\|_{L^n(\Gamma_{u_m}^+ \cap \Omega_\epsilon)} \leq \|f_-\|_{L^n(\Omega_\epsilon)},$$

$u_m \rightarrow u$  uniformly on  $\Omega_\epsilon$ . Thus in all,

$$\sup_{\Omega_\epsilon} u \leq \epsilon + \sup_{\partial\Omega} u_+ + \frac{\text{diam}(\Omega)}{n\omega_n^{1/n}} \left\| \frac{f_-}{\mathcal{D}^{1/n}} \right\|_{L^n(\Omega_\epsilon)}.$$

Now the desired estimate follows after taking  $\epsilon \rightarrow 0^+$ .  $\square$

### 3. The main results

In this section, we present the main result, Theorem 3.1, and generalize it to Theorem 3.3. The idea is to follow the idea of the original ABP estimate, Theorem 2.1, using a rectangular cone from Example 2.4 than a circular cone from Example 2.3.

**3.1. Rectangular domains.** In this subsection, we consider the case of rectangular domain,  $\Omega = Q_{(r_i, s_i)}$ .

**THEOREM 3.1.** *Let  $u \in W_{loc}^{2,n}(Q_{(r_i, s_i)}) \cap C^0(\overline{Q_{(r_i, s_i)}})$ , where*

$$Q_{(r_i, s_i)} := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid r_i < x_i < s_i, i = 1, \dots, n, x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)\}$$

*for  $r_i, s_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $r_i < s_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Also,  $L_0 u \geq f$  in  $Q_{(r_i, s_i)}$  for some  $f \in L^n(Q_{(r_i, s_i)})$ . Then, we have*

$$(6) \quad \sup_{Q_{(r_i, s_i)}} u \leq \sup_{\partial Q_{(r_i, s_i)}} u + \frac{1}{n} \cdot \left( \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{d_i^- d_i^+}{(d_i^- + d_i^+)} \right)^{1/n} \left\| \frac{f_-}{\mathcal{D}^{1/n}} \right\|_{L^n(\Gamma^+)},$$

where  $u(y) = \sup_{Q_{(r_i, s_i)}} u$  for some  $y \in Q_{(r_i, s_i)}$ ,  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$ ,  $d_i^- = d_i^-(y) := y_i - r_i$ ,  $d_i^+ = d_i^+(y) := s_i - y_i$ ,  $\mathcal{D} = \det(a_{ij})$ .

Also, we have

$$(7) \quad \sup_{Q_{(r_i, s_i)}} u \leq \sup_{\partial Q_{(r_i, s_i)}} u + \frac{1}{n} \cdot \left( \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{(s_i - r_i)}{4} \right)^{1/n} \left\| \frac{f_-}{\mathcal{D}^{1/n}} \right\|_{L^n(\Gamma^+)}.$$

*Proof.* Basically, we follow the proof of Lemma 2.5 and Lemma 2.6 with a condition of  $\Omega = Q_{(r_i, s_i)}$  and  $u(y) = \max_{\Omega} u$ .

First, we assume that  $u \in C^2(Q_{(r_i, s_i)})$ . Considering  $u - \sup_{\partial Q_{(r_i, s_i)}} u$ , we can assume that  $u \leq 0$  on  $\partial Q_{(r_i, s_i)}$ .

Let  $k$  be the function whose graph is the rectangular cone  $K$  with vertex  $(y, u(y))$  and base  $\partial Q_{(r_i, s_i)}$ . Similar to Lemma 2.5,  $\chi_k(\Omega) \subset \chi_u(\Omega)$ .

By Example 2.4,

$$(u(y))^n \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{(d_i^- + d_i^+)}{d_i^- d_i^+} = |\chi_k(\Omega)| \leq |\chi_u(\Omega)|.$$

By definition of  $\chi$  and the change of variables formula,

$$|\chi_u(\Omega)| = |\chi(\Gamma^+)| = |Du(\Gamma^+)| \leq \int_{\Gamma^+} |\det D^2 u|.$$

By Lemma 2.6 and the fact that  $a_{ij}D_{ij}u \leq 0$  on  $\Gamma^+$ , we finished the proof of (6). For (7), note that

$$\prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{d_i^- d_i^+}{(d_i^- + d_i^+)} \leq \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{\frac{(s_i - r_i)^2}{4}}{(s_i - r_i)} \leq \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{(s_i - r_i)}{4}.$$

Here we used the fact that

$$(y_i - r_i)(s_i - y_i) \leq \left( \frac{s_i - r_i}{2} \right)^2$$

for each  $y_i \in (r_i, s_i)$ ,  $i \in I_n$ .

For a generalization to  $u \in W_{loc}^{2,n}$ , we follow the proof of Theorem 2.1. We omit details.  $\square$

For an application, we show a distance weighted estimate:

**COROLLARY 3.2.** *Let  $d(y) = \text{dist}(y, \partial Q_{(r_i, s_i)}) = \min\{s_j - y_j, y_j - r_j\}$  for some  $j \in I_n$ . Then*

$$\sup_{Q_{(r_i, s_i)}} u \leq \sup_{\partial Q_{(r_i, s_i)}} u + \frac{d(y)^{1/n}}{n} \cdot \left( \prod_{i \in I_n \setminus \{j\}} \frac{d_i}{4} \right)^{1/n} \left\| \frac{a_{ij}D_{ij}u}{\mathcal{D}^{1/n}} \right\|_{L^n(\Gamma^+)},$$

where  $d_i = s_i - r_i$ .

*Proof.* Note that  $d(y) = \min_{i \in I_n} \min\{d_i^-, d_i^+\}$ . Without loss of generality, let  $d(y) = d_j^-$  for some  $j \in I_n$ . Note that

$$\frac{d_j^- d_j^+}{(d_j^- + d_j^+)} \leq d(y) \frac{d_j}{d_j} = d(y), \quad \frac{d_i^- d_i^+}{(d_i^- + d_i^+)} \leq \frac{(d_i/2)^2}{d_i} = \frac{d_i}{4}$$

for  $j \neq i$ . This completes the proof from (6).  $\square$

**3.2. General domains.** In this subsection, we consider the general bounded domain of  $\Omega \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . We consider the case of  $\Omega \subset Q_{r_i, s_i}$ , Theorem 3.3, and  $\Omega \subset B_{R/2}$ , Corollary 3.4.

**THEOREM 3.3.** *Let  $u \in W_{loc}^{2,n}(\Omega) \cap C^0(\overline{\Omega})$ , and*

$$\Omega \subset Q_{(r_i, s_i)} := \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n \mid r_i < x_i < s_i, i = 1, \dots, n, x = (x_1, \dots, x_n)\}$$

for  $r_i, s_i \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $r_i < s_i$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, n$ . Also,  $L_0 u \geq f$  in  $\Omega$  for some  $f \in L^n(\Omega)$ . Then, we have

$$\sup_{\Omega} u \leq \sup_{\partial \Omega} u + \frac{1}{n} \cdot \left( \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{d_i^- d_i^+}{(d_i^- + d_i^+)} \right)^{1/n} \left\| \frac{f_-}{\mathcal{D}^{1/n}} \right\|_{L^n(\Gamma^+)},$$

where  $u(y) = \sup_{\Omega} u$  for some  $y \in \Omega$ ,  $y = (y_1, \dots, y_n)$ ,  $d_i^- = d_i^-(y) := y_i - r_i$ ,  $d_i^+ = d_i^+(y) := s_i - y_i$ .

Also, we have

$$\sup_{\Omega} u \leq \sup_{\partial \Omega} u + \frac{1}{n} \cdot \left( \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{(s_i - r_i)}{4} \right)^{1/n} \left\| \frac{f_-}{\mathcal{D}^{1/n}} \right\|_{L^n(\Gamma^+)}.$$

*Proof.* Basically, we follow the proof of Theorem 3.1 with a condition of  $\Omega \subset Q_{(r_i, s_i)}$ . First, we assume that  $u \in C^2(Q_{(r_i, s_i)})$ .

Considering  $u - \sup_{\partial\Omega} u$ , we can assume that  $u \leq 0$  on  $\partial\Omega$ . If  $u \leq 0$  in  $\Omega$ , then there is nothing to prove. Let  $\max_{\Omega} u = u(y) > 0$ , and  $k$  be the function whose graph is the cone  $K$  with vertex  $(y, u(y))$  and base  $\partial\Omega$ . Similar to Lemma 2.5,  $\chi_k(\Omega) \subset \chi_u(\Omega)$ .

Now let  $\tilde{k}$  be the function whose graph is the cone  $\tilde{K}$  with vertex  $(y, u(y))$  and base  $\partial Q_{(r_i, s_i)}$ . It is clear that  $\chi_{\tilde{k}}(\Omega) \subset \chi_k(\Omega)$ . By Example 2.4,

$$(u(y))^n \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{d_i^- + d_i^+}{d_i^- d_i^+} \leq |\chi_{\tilde{k}}(\Omega)| \leq |\chi_k(\Omega)| \leq |\chi_u(\Omega)|.$$

By definition of  $\chi$  and the change of variables formula,

$$|\chi_u(\Omega)| = |\chi(\Gamma^+)| = |Du(\Gamma^+)| \leq \int_{\Gamma^+} |\det D^2 u|.$$

Now we have

$$(u(y))^n \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{d_i^- + d_i^+}{d_i^- d_i^+} \leq \int_{\Gamma^+} |\det D^2 u|.$$

The remaining part of the proof is the same as Theorem 3.1.  $\square$

**COROLLARY 3.4.** *Let  $u \in W_{loc}^{2,n}(\Omega) \cap C^0(\bar{\Omega})$  and the domain  $\Omega$  satisfies that  $\Omega \subset B_{R/2}$ . Also,  $L_0 u \geq f$  in  $\Omega$  for some  $f \in L^n(\Omega)$ . Then we have*

$$\sup_{\Omega} u \leq \sup_{\partial\Omega} u + \frac{R}{2n} \left\| \frac{f_-}{\mathcal{D}^{1/n}} \right\|_{L^n(\Gamma^+)}.$$

*Proof.* After translation, one may assume that  $u(0) = \sup_{\Omega} u$ ,  $\Omega \subset B_R(0) = B_R$ . Since  $\Omega \subset B_R$ ,  $\Omega \subset Q_{(-R_i, R_i)}$  for  $R_i = R$  for each  $i \in I_n$ . By Theorem 3.3, (3.3),

$$\sup_{\Omega} u \leq \sup_{\partial\Omega} u + \frac{R}{2n} \left\| \frac{f_-}{\mathcal{D}^{1/n}} \right\|_{L^n(\Gamma^+)}.$$

$\square$

**REMARK 3.5.** Corollary 3.4 corresponds to the usual ABP estimates. Thus, our result, Theorem 3.1, implies the standard ABP estimate without lower-order terms, Theorem 2.1. Also, see [9, Problems 9.1].

**REMARK 3.6.** Here, we compare the result of ABP estimate with Theorem 3.3. For the right-hand side term, we have

$$\frac{\text{diam}(\Omega)}{n\omega_n^{1/n}} \text{ and } \frac{1}{n} \cdot \left( \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{(s_i - r_i)}{4} \right)^{1/n}$$

from Theorem 2.1 and Theorem 3.3, respectively.

Consider the domain of  $\Omega := (-r, r) \times (-\frac{1}{r}, \frac{1}{r})$  lying in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . Note that

$$\frac{\text{diam}(\Omega)}{n\omega_n^{1/n}} \geq \frac{2r}{n\omega_n^{1/n}} \rightarrow \infty,$$

but

$$\frac{1}{n} \cdot \left( \prod_{i \in I_n} \frac{(s_i - r_i)}{4} \right)^{1/n} = \frac{1}{2} \cdot \frac{1}{4} \cdot \sqrt{2r \times \frac{2}{r}} = \frac{1}{4}.$$



Thus, the estimate from Theorem 3.3 does hold with a smaller constant than one from Theorem 2.1 even when the domain is long enough.

## References

- [1] A. D. Aleksandrov, *Certain estimates for the Dirichlet problem*, Dokl. Akad. Nauk SSSR **134** (1960), 1001–1004 (Russian); translated as Soviet Math. Dokl. **1** (1961), 1151–1154.
- [2] A. D. Aleksandrov, *Uniqueness conditions and estimates for the solution of the Dirichlet problem*, Vestnik Leningrad Univ. **18** (1963), no. 3, 5–29 (in Russian); translated in Amer. Math. Soc. Transl. (2) **68** (1968), 89–119.
- [3] I. Ja. Bakel'man, *On the theory of quasilinear elliptic equations*, Sibirsk. Mat. Z. **2** (1961), 179–186 (in Russian).
- [4] X. Cabré, *On the Aleksandrov–Bakel'man–Pucci estimate and the reversed Hölder inequality for solutions of elliptic and parabolic equations*, Comm. Pure Appl. Math. **48** (1995), no. 5, 539–570.  
<https://doi.org/10.1002/cpa.3160480504>
- [5] X. Cabré, *Estimates for Solutions of Elliptic and Parabolic Problems*, Ph.D. dissertation, Courant Institute, New York University, 1994.
- [6] G. Chen, *Non-divergence parabolic equations of second order with critical drift in Lebesgue spaces*, J. Differential Equations **262** (2017), no. 3, 2414–2448.  
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jde.2016.10.050>
- [7] S. Cho, *An improved Aleksandrov–Bakel'man–Pucci estimate for a second-order elliptic operator with unbounded drift*, Commun. Contemp. Math. **23** (2021), no. 7, 2050068.  
<https://doi.org/10.1142/S0219199720500686>
- [8] E. Ferretti and M. V. Safonov, *Growth theorems and Harnack inequality for second order parabolic equations*, in *Harmonic Analysis and Boundary Value Problems* (Fayetteville, AR, 2000), Contemp. Math. **277**, Amer. Math. Soc., Providence, RI, 2001, 87–112.
- [9] D. Gilbarg and N. S. Trudinger, *Elliptic Partial Differential Equations of Second Order*, 2nd ed., Springer-Verlag, Berlin-Heidelberg-New York-Tokyo, 1983.
- [10] N. V. Krylov and M. V. Safonov, *A certain property of solutions of parabolic equations with measurable coefficients*, Izv. Akad. Nauk SSSR Ser. Mat. **44** (1980), no. 1, 161–175 (in Russian); English translation in Math. USSR Izv. **16** (1981), no. 1, 151–164.
- [11] A. I. Nazarov, *The A. D. Aleksandrov maximum principle*, J. Math. Sci. **142** (2007), no. 3, 2154–2171.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/s10958-007-0126-1>
- [12] M. V. Safonov, *Harnack inequality for elliptic equations and the Hölder property of their solutions*, Zap. Nauchn. Sem. LOMI **96** (1980), 272–287 (in Russian); English translation in J. Soviet Math. **21** (1983), no. 5, 851–863.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/BF01094448>
- [13] M. V. Safonov, *Non-divergence elliptic equations of second order with unbounded drift*, in *Nonlinear Partial Differential Equations and Related Topics*, Amer. Math. Soc. Transl. (2) **229** (2010), 211–232.
- [14] C. Pucci, *Limitazioni per soluzioni di equazioni ellittiche*, Ann. Mat. Pura Appl. (4) **74** (1966), 15–30.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/BF02416445>
- [15] N. S. Trudinger, *Local Estimates for Subolutions and Supersolutions of General Second Order Elliptic Quasilinear Equations*, Inventiones mathematicae **61** (1980), 67–79.  
<https://doi.org/10.1007/BF01389895>

**Sungwon Cho**

Department of Mathematics Education,  
Gwangju National University of Education,  
55 Pilmundaero, Buk-gu, Gwangju 61204, Republic of Korea  
E-mail: scho@gnue.ac.kr