

# Planes in Schatten- $p$ , and a problem of Ball, Carlen and Lieb

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In his seminal 1956 paper Olof Hanner proved an inequality, now known as Hanner's inequality, that captures the modulus of uniform convexity of  $L_p$ . Similar inequality was later considered by Ball, Carlen and Lieb in 1994 for non-commutative variants of  $L_p$ , Schatten- $p$ , and while they managed to sidestep this defect, Ball, Carlen and Lieb only managed to prove Hanner's inequality for Schatten- $p$  when  $p \geq 4$  or  $1 \leq p \leq 4/3$ .

We propose a new conjecture on Schatten- $p$  spaces: every two-dimensional subspace of Schatten- $p$  is linearly isometric to a subspace of  $L_p$ . This would immediately imply Hanner's inequality for Schatten- $p$ , together with wide range of other inequalities. We prove this conjecture when  $p = 3$  using some curious matrix identities.