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**Robert G. Todd\*** (rtodd@math.uiowa.edu), IA. *Khovanov Homology and The Geometry of Alternating Knots.*

O. Dasbach and X.S. Lin showed that the sum of the absolute value of the second and penultimate coefficients of the Jones polynomial of an alternating knot gives the twist number of the knot. Here I give a new proof of their result using a variant of Khovanov's homology that was given by O. Viro for the Kauffman bracket. The proof is by induction on the number of crossings using the long exact sequence in Khovanov homology corresponding to the Kauffman bracket skein relation. (Received February 13, 2006)