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Karim Adiprasito, Eran Nevo and Jose Alejandro Samper*

(samper@math.washington.edu). *The geometric lower bound theorem.*

We study the relationship between the g -theorem and polytopes that approximate convex bodies with smooth boundary. In 1994 Kalai posited a visionary conjecture stating that if K is a convex body whose boundary is C^1 and P is a simplicial polytope that gives a good approximation of K , then the face numbers of P must be far from extremal in the sense of the g -theorem. We will explain this conjecture, sketch a proof of the lower bound part of the conjecture for general C^1 -convex bodies, give a tight (up to a constant) lower bound on the g -numbers of P in terms of the quality of the approximation (when K is C^2), and use this lower bound to resolve the conjecture in general for polytopes that arise from randomly sampling points from K . (Received August 06, 2015)