

Hausdorff measure for limsup sets

Mumtaz Hussain

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Theorem (Dirichlet 1842)

For any real number α and $N \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists integers p, q with $1 \leq q \leq N$ such that

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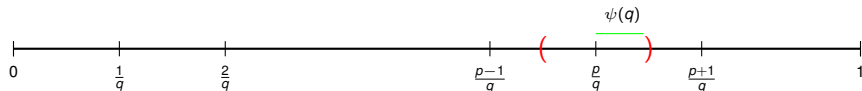


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Lemma (Borel-Cantelli, 1909)

Let E_1, E_2, \dots be a sequence of events in some probability space.

If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \Pr(E_n) < \infty$, then $\Pr\left(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} E_n\right) = 0$.



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Under what conditions $\mathcal{L}(W(\psi)) > 0$?

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Example

$A_q(\psi) = E_q = (0, 1/q)$, $\sum_{q=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{L}(E_q) = \infty$. But

$$\limsup_{t \rightarrow \infty} E_t = \bigcap_{t=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{q=t}^{\infty} E_q = \bigcap_{t=1}^{\infty} (0, 1/t) = \emptyset$$

Classical Diophantine Approximation

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Lebesgue measure criterion

Theorem (Khintchine, 1924)

Let $\psi : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^+$ be a function. Then

$$\mathcal{L}(W(\psi) \cap \mathbb{I}) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q\psi(q) < \infty \\ 1 & \text{if } \sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q\psi(q) = \infty \text{ } \psi \text{ is decreasing.} \end{cases}$$

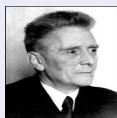


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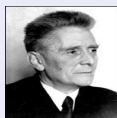


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- $\psi_1(q) = \frac{1}{q^2}$; then $\sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q\psi_1(q) = \infty \implies \mathcal{L}(W(\psi_1) \cap \mathbb{I}) = 1$.
- $\psi_2(q) = \frac{1}{q^{10}}$; then $\sum_{q=1}^{\infty} q\psi_2(q) < \infty \implies \mathcal{L}(W(\psi_2) \cap \mathbb{I}) = 0$

Uniform Approximation

Definition (Dirichlet improvable sets)

Let $\psi : [t_0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ be a non-increasing function with $t_0 \geq 1$ fixed.

$$D(\psi) := \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R} : \begin{array}{l} \exists N : \text{the system } |qx - p| < \psi(t), |q| < t \\ \text{has a non trivial integer solution for all } t > N \end{array} \right\}$$

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Theorem (Kleinbock–Wadleigh, 2018)

Let ψ be a non-increasing positive function with $t\psi(t) < 1$ for all large t . Then

$$\mathcal{L}(D(\psi)^c) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \sum_t \frac{\log \Psi(t)}{t\Psi(t)} < \infty, \\ \text{full}, & \text{if } \sum_t \frac{\log \Psi(t)}{t\Psi(t)} = \infty. \end{cases}$$



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Example

$$\mathcal{L}(D(\psi)^c) = \begin{cases} 0, & \text{if } \psi(t) = \frac{1}{t} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\log t (\log \log t)^{2+\epsilon}} \right) \text{ for any } \epsilon > 0; \\ \text{full}, & \text{if } \psi(t) = \frac{1}{t} \left(1 - \frac{1}{\log t (\log \log t)^2} \right). \end{cases}$$

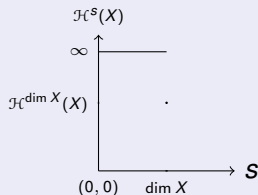
Hausdorff Measure and Dimension

Definition

Let $s > 0$ and $\{B_i\}$ be a countable collection of Euclidean balls with $\text{diam}(B_i) \leq \rho$ such that $X \subset \bigcup_i B_i$.

$$\mathcal{H}_\rho^s(X) = \inf \left\{ \sum_i (\text{diam}(B_i))^s : \{B_i\} \text{ is a } \rho\text{-cover for } X \right\},$$

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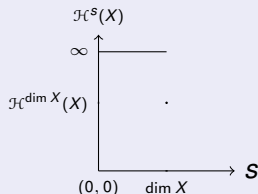
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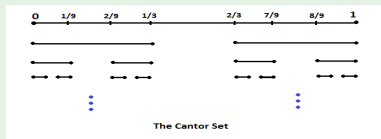
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Example

Let K be the middle third Cantor set,

$$\text{dim } K = \frac{\log 2}{\log 3}$$



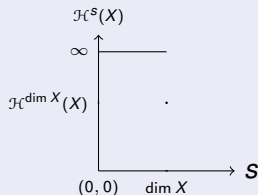
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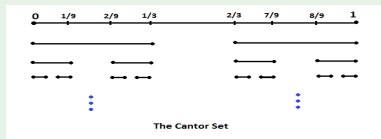
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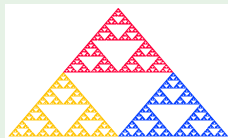
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The Hausdorff dimension of Sierpinski Triangle is $\frac{\log 3}{\log 2}$ obtained by solving the equation $2^d = 3$.



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Let ψ be an approximating function. Let f be a dimension function such that $q^{-1}f(q) \rightarrow \infty$ as $q \rightarrow 0$ and $q^{-1}f(q)$ is decreasing. Then

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Jarník theorem \implies Jarník–Besicovitch theorem.

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Question

How to prove $\mathcal{H}^f(W(\psi)) > 0$?

A general strategy

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Lemma (Mass Distribution Principle)

Let μ be a probability measure supported on a subset F of X . Suppose there are positive constants $c > 0$ and $\epsilon > 0$ such that

$$\mu(U) \leq cf(\text{diam}(U))$$

for all sets U with $\text{diam}(U) \leq \epsilon$. Then $\mathcal{H}^f(F) \geq \mu(F)/c$.

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If this can be done, then by the mass distribution principle, it follows that

$$\mathcal{H}^f(F) \geq \mathcal{H}^f(\mathcal{K}) \geq c^{-1}.$$

Then since c is arbitrary, it follows that $\mathcal{H}^f(F) = \infty$.

A general principle

Theorem (H.–Simmons, PAMS 2019)

Fix $\delta > 0$, let $(B_i)_i$ be a sequence of open sets in an Ahlfors δ -regular metric space X , and let f be a dimension function such that

$$r \mapsto r^{-\delta} f(r) \text{ is decreasing, and} \quad (1)$$

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Fix $C > 0$, and suppose that the following hypothesis holds:

- (*) For every ball $B_0 \subset X$ and for every $N \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists a probability measure $\mu = \mu(B_0, N)$ with $\text{Supp}(\mu) \subset \bigcup_{i \geq N} B_i \cap B_0$, such that for every ball $B = B(x, \rho) \subset X$, we have

$$\mu(B) \lesssim \max \left(\left(\frac{\rho}{\text{diam} B_0} \right)^\delta, \frac{f(\rho)}{C} \right). \quad (3)$$



A general principle

Theorem (H.–Simmons, PAMS 2019)

Fix $\delta > 0$, let $(B_i)_i$ be a sequence of open sets in an Ahlfors δ -regular metric space X , and let f be a dimension function such that

$$r \mapsto r^{-\delta} f(r) \text{ is decreasing, and} \quad (1)$$

$$r^{-\delta} f(r) \rightarrow \infty \text{ as } r \rightarrow 0. \quad (2)$$



Fix $C > 0$, and suppose that the following hypothesis holds:

- (*) For every ball $B_0 \subset X$ and for every $N \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists a probability measure $\mu = \mu(B_0, N)$ with $\text{Supp}(\mu) \subset \bigcup_{i \geq N} B_i \cap B_0$, such that for every ball $B = B(x, \rho) \subset X$, we have

$$\mu(B) \lesssim \max \left(\left(\frac{\rho}{\text{diam} B_0} \right)^\delta, \frac{f(\rho)}{C} \right). \quad (3)$$

Then for every ball B_0 ,

$$\mathcal{H}^f \left(B_0 \cap \limsup_{i \rightarrow \infty} B_i \right) \gtrsim C.$$

In particular, if the hypothesis (*) holds for all C , then $\mathcal{H}^f(B_0 \cap \limsup_{i \rightarrow \infty} B_i) = \infty$.

Mass Transference Principle

Mass Transference Principle

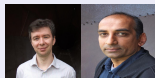
Theorem (Beresnevich–Velani, Ann. Math. 2006)

Let $X \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ be Ahlfors δ -regular. Let $(B_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ be a sequence of balls in X with $\text{rad}(B_i) \rightarrow 0$ as $i \rightarrow \infty$. Let f be a dimension function such that $r \mapsto r^{-\delta} f(r)$ is monotonic. Suppose that for every ball $B \subset X$

$$\mathcal{H}^\delta(B \cap \limsup_{i \rightarrow \infty} B_i^f) = \mathcal{H}^\delta(B).$$

Then for every ball $B \subset X$

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Khintchine's Theorem \implies Jarník's Theorem

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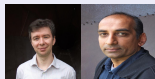
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Dirichlet's Theorem \implies Jarník–Besicovitch Theorem

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H.–Simmons Theorem \implies Beresnevich–Velani Theorem

A Jarnik type criterion for uniform approximation

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Definition (Dirichlet improvable sets)

Let $\psi : [t_0, \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ be a non-increasing function with $t_0 \geq 1$ fixed.

$$D(\psi) := \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R} : \begin{array}{l} \exists N : \text{the system } |qx - p| < \psi(t), |q| < t \\ \text{has a non trivial integer solution for all } t > N \end{array} \right\}$$

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Let ψ be a non-increasing positive function with $t\psi(t) < 1$ for all large t . Let f be a dimension function such that $\lim_{x \rightarrow 0} x^{-1}f(x) \rightarrow \infty$ and $x^{-1}f(x)$ is decreasing. Then

$$\mathcal{H}^f(D^c(\psi)) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j < \log_2 \Psi(2^k)} 2^{2k+j} f\left(\frac{2^{-(2k+j)}}{\Psi(2^{k+j})}\right) < \infty; \\ \infty & \text{if } \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j < \log_2 \Psi(2^k)} 2^{2k+j} f\left(\frac{2^{-(2k+j)}}{\Psi(2^{k+j})}\right) = \infty. \end{cases}$$



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Corollary (H.–Kleinbock–Wadleigh–Wang, Mathematika 2018)

Let ψ be a non-increasing positive function with $t\psi(t) < 1$ for all large t , and let f be an essentially sub-linear dimension function. Then

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Corollary

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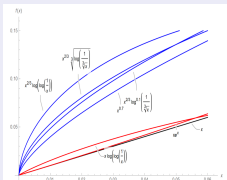
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$$\Psi(Q^x) \asymp \Psi(Q), \quad (4)$$

where the implied constant depends only on x . Then

$$\mathcal{H}^f(D^c(\psi)) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } \sum_q q \log(\Psi(q)) f\left(\frac{1}{q^2 \Psi(q)}\right) < \infty; \\ \infty & \text{if } \sum_q q \log(\Psi(q)) f\left(\frac{1}{q^2 \Psi(q)}\right) = \infty. \end{cases}$$

Sketch of the proof

$$G(\Psi) = \left\{ x \in [0, 1) : a_n(x)a_{n+1}(x) \geq \Psi(q_n) \text{ for i.m. } n \in \mathbb{N} \right\},$$

$$\begin{aligned} G(\Psi) &= \left\{ x \in [0, 1) : a_n(x)a_{n+1}(x) \geq \Psi(q_n) \text{ for i.m. } n \in \mathbb{N} \right\} \\ &\subseteq \left\{ x \in [0, 1) : a_n(x)a_{n+1}(x) \geq \Psi(a_n q_{n-1}) \text{ for i.m. } n \in \mathbb{N} \right\} \\ &\subseteq \bigcup_{n=N}^{\infty} \bigcup_{a_1, \dots, a_n} \bigcup_{a_{n+1} > \frac{\Psi(a_n q_{n-1})}{a_n}} I_{n+1}(a_1, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1}) \\ &= \mathcal{A}_1(\Psi) \cup \mathcal{A}_2(\Psi). \end{aligned}$$

Where

$$\mathcal{A}_1(\Psi) = \bigcup_{n=N}^{\infty} \bigcup_{a_1, \dots, a_n} \bigcup_{a_n \leq \Psi(q_{n-1})} \bigcup_{a_{n+1} > \frac{\Psi(a_n q_{n-1})}{a_n}} I_{n+1}(a_1, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1}),$$

$$\mathcal{A}_2(\Psi) = \bigcup_{n=N}^{\infty} \bigcup_{a_1, \dots, a_n} \bigcup_{a_n > \Psi(q_{n-1})} \bigcup_{a_{n+1} > \frac{\Psi(a_n q_{n-1})}{a_n}} I_{n+1}(a_1, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1}).$$

Sketch of the proof

$$J_n(a_1, \dots, a_n) := \bigcup_{a_{n+1} > \frac{\Psi(a_n q_{n-1})}{a_n}} I_{n+1}(a_1, \dots, a_n, a_{n+1}).$$

$$|J_n(a_1, \dots, a_n)| \leq \frac{1}{\Psi(a_n q_{n-1}) a_n q_{n-1}^2}.$$

Let $Q > 1$ and $Q < q_{n-1} \leq 2Q$. Then

$$|J_n(a_1, \dots, a_n)| \ll \frac{1}{\Psi(a_n Q) a_n Q^2}.$$

Hence, the cost of the cover when $a_n < \Psi(q_{n-1})$, is

$$\sum_{a=1}^{\Psi(Q)} f\left(\frac{1}{a Q^2 \Psi(a Q)}\right).$$

In the case $a_n > \Psi(q_{n-1})$, the cost of the cover is given by

$$f\left(\frac{1}{Q^2 \Psi(Q)}\right).$$

Sketch of the proof

Since $Q > 1$, it follows that for each window $[Q, 2Q]$, there are at most Q^2 cylinders I_n of length comparable (up to a constant) to Q^{-2} . Multiplying the cost of the cover given above by Q^2 which are the number of such intervals, and then summing over all the windows $Q = 2^k$, we have

$$\sum_{Q=2^k; k \geq 1} Q^2 \sum_{a=1}^{\Psi(Q)} f\left(\frac{1}{aQ^2\Psi(aQ)}\right) + \sum_{Q=2^k; k \geq 1} Q^2 f\left(\frac{1}{Q^2\Psi(Q)}\right).$$

Applying Cauchy's condensation test on the second term, and rewriting the first term gives the total cost as

$$\sum_{\substack{k \geq 1 \\ Q=2^k}} \sum_{\substack{j \geq 1, A=2^j \\ A < \Psi(Q)}} Q^2 A f\left(\frac{1}{Q^2 A \Psi(QA)}\right) + \sum_q q f\left(\frac{1}{q^2 \Psi(q)}\right).$$

Sketch of the proof

Theorem

Let $(u_a)_{a \in E}$ be the Gauss iterated function system. For each finite word $\omega \in E^*$ and $a \leq \Psi(Q_\omega)$ let

$$S_{\omega a} = u_{\omega a}([0, a/\Psi(Q_\omega a)]).$$

Let f be a dimension function such that $\sum_{\omega, a} f(\text{diam } S_{\omega a})$ diverges. Then

$$\mathcal{H}^f \left(\limsup_{\omega, a} S_{\omega a} \right) = \infty.$$

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First we show that $\limsup_{\omega, a} S_{\omega a} \subseteq G(\Psi)$.

$$\sum_{\omega, a} f(\text{diam } S_{\omega a}) \asymp \sum_{Q=2^k; k \geq 1} Q^2 \sum_{a=1}^{\Psi(Q)} f \left(\frac{1}{aQ^2\Psi(aQ)} \right) \asymp \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j < \log_2 \Psi(2^k)} 2^{2k+j} f \left(\frac{2^{-(2k+j)}}{\Psi(2^{k+j})} \right).$$

Fix $B_0 \subset [0, 1]$ and $N \in \mathbb{N}$, and we will construct the measure $\mu = \mu(B_0, N)$ such that the hypothesis (*) in Theorem 0 holds.

Applications: Recurrence sets

Let $(X, \mathcal{B}, \mu, T, d)$ be a metric measure preserving system (m.m.p.s.). the Poincaré recurrence theorem implies that μ -almost every $x \in X$ is recurrent in the sense that

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$$\mathcal{R}(\psi) = \{x \in X : d(T^n x, x) < \psi(n) \text{ for infinitely many } n \in \mathbb{N}\}.$$

Theorem (H. 2023)

Let T be a beta or Gauss dynamical system. Let f be a dimension function such that

$$f(ax) \asymp a^s f(x) \quad \forall x \leq a^\epsilon$$

for some $s, \epsilon > 0$. Then

$$\sum_n e^{nP(s)} f(\psi(n)) = \infty \quad \iff \quad \mathcal{H}^f(\mathcal{R}(\psi)) = \infty$$



THANK YOU!!!

FOR YOUR TIME AND ATTENTION