

Local homogeneity and dimensions of measures

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Warwick, 21st April 2011

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This talk mainly exhibits a recent work with
Tapio Rajala (Pisa) and Ville Suomala (Jyväskylä).

1 Local homogeneity

2 Upper conical density results

3 Dimension estimates for porous measures

- Large porosity
- Small porosity

Dimension of a set

Let X be a metric space, $A \subset X$, $x \in A$, $0 < \delta < 1$, and $r > 0$.

Question

How many balls of radius δr are needed to cover $A \cap B(x, r)$?

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Can a similar idea be used to define a dimension for measures?

Let μ be a measure on a doubling metric space X , $x \in X$, and $\delta, \varepsilon, r > 0$. Define

$$\text{hom}_{\delta, \varepsilon, r}(\mu, x) = \{ \#\mathcal{B} : \mathcal{B} \text{ is a } (\delta r)\text{-packing of } B(x, r) \text{ so that} \\ \mu(B) > \varepsilon \mu(B(x, r)) \text{ for all } B \in \mathcal{B} \}$$

Local homogeneity of a measure

and let the *local homogeneity* of μ at x be

$$\text{hom}_\delta(\mu, x) = \lim_{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} \limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \text{hom}_{\delta, \varepsilon, r}(\mu, x).$$

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Roughly speaking, the local homogeneity dimension $\dim_{\text{hom}}(\mu, x)$ is the least possible exponent s so that large parts of $B(x, r)$ in terms of μ can always be covered by δ^{-s} balls of radius δr for all small $\delta, r > 0$.

Properties of homogeneity dimension

Remark

If μ satisfies the density point property, then, for every μ -measurable $A \subset X$, we have

$$\dim_{\text{hom}}(\mu|_A, x) = \dim_{\text{hom}}(\mu, x)$$

for μ -almost all $x \in A$.

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Remark

If X is also complete, then the function $x \mapsto \dim_{\text{hom}}(\mu, x)$ is Borel.

Properties of homogeneity dimension

Theorem (Rajala & Suomala & K. preprint)

If μ is a measure on a doubling metric space X , then

$$\overline{\dim}_{\text{loc}}(\mu, x) \leq \dim_{\text{hom}}(\mu, x)$$

for μ -almost all $x \in X$.

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Remark

If μ is s -regular measure, then

$$\dim_{\text{hom}}(\mu, x) = \dim_{\text{loc}}(\mu, x) = s$$

for μ -almost all $x \in X$.

Quantitative version of the result

The previous dimension result is obtained as a corollary to the following more quantitative result.

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Theorem (Rajala & Suomala & K. preprint)

Suppose X is a doubling metric space with a doubling constant N . If $0 < m < s$, then there exists a constant $\delta_0 = \delta_0(m, s, N) > 0$ such that for every $0 < \delta < \delta_0$ there is $\varepsilon_0 = \varepsilon_0(m, s, N, \delta) > 0$ so that for every measure μ on X we have

$$\limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \text{hom}_{\delta, \varepsilon, r}(\mu, x) \geq \delta^{-m}$$

for all $0 < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_0$ and for μ -almost all $x \in X$ that satisfy $\overline{\dim}_{\text{loc}}(\mu, x) > s$.

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This version is crucial in our applications.

Questions concerning local homogeneity

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Does there exist any kind of set dimension related to $\dim_{\text{hom}}(\mu, x)$ in a similar manner than e.g. $\dim_{\text{p}}(\mu)$ is related to $\dim_{\text{p}}(A)$?

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Is $x \mapsto \dim_{\text{hom}}(\mu, x)$ a Borel function also in non-complete spaces?

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Conical densities

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- The main applications deal with rectifiability and porosity.
- The study of conical densities go back to Besicovitch (1938), Morse and Randolph (1944), Marstrand (1954), Federer (1969), Salli (1985), and Mattila (1988).
- Recent work include Suomala and K. (2008), Csörnyei, Rajala, Suomala, and K. (2010), Suomala and K. (2011), and Rajala, Suomala, and K. (preprint).

Upper density result for Hausdorff measures

Theorem (Besicovitch 1938 and Marstrand 1954)

Suppose $0 \leq s \leq n$ and $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ with $0 < \mathcal{H}^s(A) < \infty$. Then

$$2^{-s} \leq \limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{\mathcal{H}^s(A \cap B(x, r))}{(2r)^s} \leq 1$$

for \mathcal{H}^s -almost all $x \in A$.

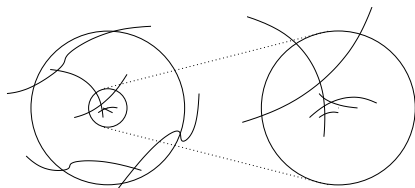
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There are arbitrary small scales having a lot of A .

Upper density result for general measures

Theorem (Rajala & Suomala & K. preprint)

If μ is a Radon measure on a doubling metric space X and $A \subset X$ is μ -measurable, then

$$\limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{\mu(A \cap B(x, r))}{\mu(B(x, r))} = 1$$

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Again, there are arbitrary small scales having a lot of mass.

We remark that in \mathbb{R}^n , the limit above exists for all Radon measures.

It may happen that $\liminf_{r \downarrow 0} \mu(A \cap B(x, r)) / \mu(B(x, r)) = 0$.

Upper conical densities

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- If we know that the measure is “scattered enough”, can we say how the measure is distributed on those scales where we have a lot of mass?
- If the measure is purely unrectifiable and doubling, then the answer is yes. An example of Csörnyei, Rajala, Suomala, and K. (2010) shows that it is really needed that the measure is doubling.

Upper conical densities

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- Another possibility is to assume that the dimension of the measure is large enough.

Definition of nonsymmetric cones

Let $G(n, n - m)$ denote the space of all $(n - m)$ -dimensional linear subspaces of \mathbb{R}^n and set $S^{n-1} = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : |x| = 1\}$.

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For $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $r > 0$, $V \in G(n, n - m)$, $\theta \in S^{n-1}$, and $0 < \alpha \leq 1$ define

$$X(x, r, V, \alpha) = \{y \in B(x, r) : \text{dist}(y - x, V) < \alpha|y - x|\},$$

$$H(x, \theta, \alpha) = \{y \in \mathbb{R}^n : (y - x) \cdot \theta > \alpha|y - x|\}.$$

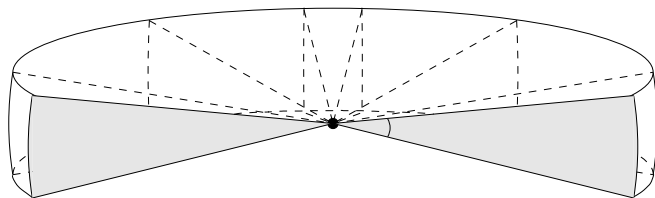
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The set $X(x, r, V, \alpha) \setminus H(x, \theta, \alpha)$ when $n = 3$ and $m = 1$.

Upper conical density result for packing measures

Theorem (Suomala & K. 2008)

Suppose $0 \leq m < s \leq n$ and $0 < \alpha \leq 1$. Then there exists $c = c(n, m, s, \alpha) > 0$ so that for every $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ with $0 < \mathcal{P}^s(A) < \infty$ we have

$$\limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \inf_{\substack{\theta \in S^{n-1} \\ V \in G(n, n-m)}} \frac{\mathcal{P}^s(A \cap X(x, r, V, \alpha) \setminus H(x, \theta, \alpha))}{(2r)^s} \geq c$$

for \mathcal{P}^s -almost all $x \in A$.

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To our knowledge, this is the first upper conical density result for other measures than the Hausdorff measures.

Upper conical density result for general measures

Theorem (Rajala & Suomala & K. preprint)

Suppose $0 \leq m < s \leq n$ and $0 < \alpha \leq 1$. Then there exists $c = c(n, m, s, \alpha) > 0$ so that for every Radon measure μ on \mathbb{R}^n with $\underline{\dim}_p(\mu) \geq s$ we have

$$\limsup_{r \downarrow 0} \inf_{\substack{\theta \in S^{n-1} \\ V \in G(n, n-m)}} \frac{\mu(X(x, r, V, \alpha) \setminus H(x, \theta, \alpha))}{\mu(B(x, r))} > c$$

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The proof of this result uses a local homogeneity estimate.

A question concerning conical densities

Question

Does the upper conical density result hold in non-Euclidean spaces that have enough geometry (e.g. in the Heisenberg group)?

1 Local homogeneity

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Porosity

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- Dimension estimates obtained from *lower porosity* were used by Sarvas (1975), Trocenko (1981), and Väisälä (1987) in connection with the boundary behavior of quasiconformal mappings.

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Porosity is a quantity that measures the size and abundance of holes.
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- Dimension estimates obtained from *lower porosity* were used by Sarvas (1975), Trocenko (1981), and Väisälä (1987) in connection with the boundary behavior of quasiconformal mappings.
- In lower porosity we have holes on all scales whereas in upper porosity we just know that there are arbitrary small scales having holes.

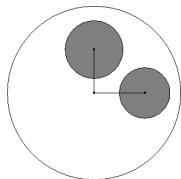
Porosity of sets

Let $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$, $k \in \{1, \dots, d\}$, $x \in A$, and $r > 0$. We define

$$\text{por}_k(A, x, r) = \sup\{\varrho \geq 0 : \text{there are } y_1, \dots, y_k \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ such that} \\ B(y_i, \varrho r) \subset B(x, r) \setminus A \text{ for every } i \\ \text{and } (y_i - x) \cdot (y_j - x) = 0 \text{ if } i \neq j\}$$

and from this the (lower) k -porosity of A at x as

$$\text{por}_k(A, x) = \liminf_{r \downarrow 0} \text{por}_k(A, x, r).$$



Recent results

- For recent results on the dimension of porous sets, see Järvenpää, Järvenpää, Suomala, and K. (2005), Rajala (2009), Chousionis (2009), Järvenpää, Järvenpää, Rajala, Rogovin, Suomala, K. (2010), and Suomala and K. (2011).

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- We also define porosity for measures. In applications, it is more convenient to consider measures instead of sets.
- For recent results concerning porous measures, see Suomala and K. (2008), Beliaev, Järvenpää, Järvenpää, Rajala, Smirnov, Suomala, K. (2009), Rajala, Suomala, K. (preprint), and Shmerkin (preprint).

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Let μ be a Radon measure on \mathbb{R}^n , $k \in \{1, \dots, d\}$, $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$, $r > 0$, and $\varepsilon > 0$. We set

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that $B(y_i, \varrho r) \subset B(x, r)$ and
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$$\text{por}_k(\mu, x) = \lim_{\varepsilon \downarrow 0} \liminf_{r \downarrow 0} \text{por}_k(\mu, x, r, \varepsilon).$$

An example of Smirnov et al. (2009) shows that even if $\text{por}_1(\mu, x) > 0$ in a set of positive μ -measure, it is possible that $\mu(A) = 0$ for all $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ with $\inf_{x \in A} \text{por}_1(A, x) > 0$.

Dimension estimate (when the porosity is large)

Theorem (Rajala & Suomala & K. preprint)

There exists a constant $c > 0$ such that for every Radon measure μ on \mathbb{R}^n we have

$$\overline{\dim}_{\text{loc}}(\mu, x) \leq n - k + \frac{c}{-\log(1 - 2 \text{por}_k(\mu, x))}$$

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The proof of this result uses a local homogeneity estimate.

Dimension estimate (when the porosity is small)

Theorem (Rajala & Suomala & K. preprint)

There exists a constant $c > 0$ such that for every Radon measure μ on an s -regular metric space X satisfying the density point property we have

$$\overline{\dim}_{\text{loc}}(\mu, x) \leq s - \text{por}_1(\mu, x)^s$$

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Observe that this is an application of the local homogeneity in metric spaces.

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Questions concerning porosity

Question

Is the density point property needed in the small porosity dimension estimate?

Question

Does the large porosity dimension estimate hold in non-Euclidean spaces that have enough geometry (e.g. in the Heisenberg group)?

Question

Do the previous theorems have counterparts for mean porous measures?

Thank you!

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