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Some remarks on Caratheodory construction of measures in metric spaces

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Some remarks on Caratheodory construction of measures  
in metric spaces

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If we have a metric space  $X = (X, \rho)$  and  $A \subset X$ , then by Halmos [2] p.53

$$H^p(A) := \sup_{\delta > 0} \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \rho(A_i) / A_i \in \mathcal{R}(X) \wedge \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \supset A \wedge \rho(A_i) \leq \delta \right\}$$

is called the p-dimensional Hausdorff measure of A, where  $p \in \mathbb{R}_+, \{0\}$ ,  $\mathcal{R}(X)$  is the set of all subsets of X and  $\rho(B)$  denotes the diameter of  $B \subset X$ . General considerations on such a definition are given in the book of Federer [1] 169-171. I will start with these considerations.

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a family of subsets of X and  $\xi: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}_+ (= \mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{\infty\})$  a function on  $\mathcal{F}$ . A sequence  $(F_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  is called an allowed  $\xi$ -covering of A with respect to  $\mathcal{F}$ , iff

1.  $F_i \in \mathcal{F}$  for all  $i \in \mathbb{N}$
2.  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} F_i \supset A$
3.  $\xi(F_i) \leq \xi$ .

If we define

$$i_{\xi}(A) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \xi(F_i) / (F_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \text{ is allowed } \xi\text{-covering of } A \text{ with respect to } \mathcal{F} \right\}$$

so we obtain

- a)  $i_{\xi}(A) \geq i_{\xi'}(A)$  for  $\xi \leq \xi'$
- b)  $i_{\xi}(A \cup B) = i_{\xi}(A) + i_{\xi}(B)$  whenever  $\rho(A, B) > 2\xi > 0$

The validity of a) is obviously.

To b): Let  $(F_i^A)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $(F_i^B)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  be allowed  $\xi$ -coverings of A, B respectively, then  $F_1^A, F_1^B, F_2^A, F_2^B, \dots$  is an allowed  $\xi$ -covering of  $A \cup B$ . Hence it holds

$$(*) \quad i_{\xi}(A \cup B) \leq i_{\xi}(A) + i_{\xi}(B)$$

On the other hand let be  $\rho(A, B) > 2\xi$ , then every allowed  $\xi$ -covering  $(F_i^{A \cup B})_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  of  $A \cup B$  consists of two disjoint allowed  $\xi$ -coverings  $(F_i^A)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  and  $(F_i^B)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$  of A, B respectively, that means

$$(**) \quad i_{\xi}(A \cup B) \geq i_{\xi}(A) + i_{\xi}(B) \text{ whenever } \rho(A, B) > 2\xi.$$

(\*) and (\*\*) is the proof for b).

a) implies

$$\psi(A) = \lim_{\xi \rightarrow 0^+} i_{\xi}(A) = \sup_{\xi > 0} i_{\xi}(A) \text{ for all } A \subset X$$

$\varphi: \mathcal{R}(X) \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}_+$  is an outer measure (i.e.  $0 \leq \varphi(A) \leq \infty$ ,  
 $\varphi(\emptyset) = 0$ ,  $\varphi(A) \leq \varphi(B)$  for  $A \subset B$ ,  $\varphi(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \varphi(A_i)$ )

c)  $\varphi: \mathcal{R}(X) \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}_+$  is a metric outer measure,

i.e.  $\varphi(A \cup B) = \varphi(A) + \varphi(B)$  whenever  $\rho(A, B) > 0$

The proof of c) is a conclusion of b), namely  $\rho(A, B) > 0$  implies the existence of  $\epsilon_0 > 0$  such that  $\rho(A, B) > \epsilon_0$ . Then we get  $i_{\epsilon}(A \cup B) = i_{\epsilon}(A) + i_{\epsilon}(B)$  for all  $\epsilon < \frac{\epsilon_0}{2}$ , and that means  $\varphi(A \cup B) = \varphi(A) + \varphi(B)$  by definition of  $\varphi$ .

Let us denote by  $\mathcal{A}_{\varphi}$  the  $\sigma$ -field of  $\varphi$ -measurable sets ( $A \subset X$  is called  $\varphi$ -measurable, iff  $\varphi(E) = \varphi(E \cap A) + \varphi(E \cap A^c)$  for all  $E \subset X$ ). For every metric outer measure  $\phi: \mathcal{R}(X) \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}_+$  holds the following

Lemma: (Federer [1] p.75, Halmos [2] p.48)

Let  $\phi: \mathcal{R}(X) \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}_+$  be an outer measure on  $X$ , then  $\mathcal{A}_{\phi} \supset \mathcal{B}(X)$  iff  $\phi$  is a metric outer measure, where  $\mathcal{B}(X)$  denotes the  $\sigma$ -field of Borelsets of  $X$ .

By this lemma it holds  $\mathcal{A}_{\varphi} \supset \mathcal{B}(X)$ .  $\varphi: \mathcal{A}_{\varphi} \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}_+$  is called the Caratheodory measure on  $X$  with respect to  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\zeta: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \bar{\mathbb{R}}_+$ .

Examples for Caratheodory measures:

1)  $\zeta(F) := \mathcal{D}(F)$  for all  $F \in \mathcal{F}$

a)  $\mathcal{F} = \{X\}$

If  $|X| = 1$ , then  $\varphi = 0$ . In the case  $|X| > 1$  it holds  $\varphi(A) = \infty$  for all  $A \subset X$

b)  $\mathcal{F} = \{F / F \subset X \wedge |F| = 1\}$ , then

$$\varphi(A) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } |A| \leq \alpha_0 \\ \infty & \text{for } |A| > \alpha_0 \end{cases}$$

c)  $X = \{x / x=0 \vee x=\frac{1}{n}, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ ,  $\rho(a, b) = |a-b|$ ,  $\mathcal{F} = \{F / F \subset X \wedge |F| \geq 2\}$

then  $\varphi(A) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{for } A = \{0\} \\ \infty & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$

d)  $(X, \rho) = (R, \rho)$ ,  $\mathcal{F} = \{F / F = [a, b] \wedge a, b \in R\}$ , then  $\varphi$  is the Lebesgue measure on  $R$ .

2)  $\zeta(F) = \mathcal{D}^p(F)$  for all  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $p \in R_+ \setminus \{0\}$

a)  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{R}(X)$ , then  $\varphi$  corresponds to the  $p$ -dim. Hausdorff measure  $H^p$ .

b)  $\mathcal{F} = \{F / F \text{ is a closed ball in } X\}$ , in this case  $\varphi$  is called the  $p$ -dim. spherical measure over  $X$ .

The 1-dim. Hausdorff measure, the 1-dim. spherical measure and the set of between points

Let us start with the definition of between points

$x \in X$  is called between  $a, b \in X$ ,  $a \neq x$ ,  $b \neq x$ , iff

$$\varphi(a, b) = \varphi(a, x) + \varphi(x, b).$$

Let  $B(a, b)$  be the set of all between points of  $a, b \in X$  and

$B^*(a, b) = B(a, b) \cup \{a, b\}$ , then it holds for the reals

$\varphi(a, b) = \sigma(B^*(a, b)) = \lambda(B^*(a, b)) = H^1(B(a, b)) = S^1(B(a, b))$ ,

where  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\varphi$  denotes the euclidian metric on the reals,  $\lambda$  the 1-dim. Lebesgue measure and  $S^1$  the 1-dim. spherical measure. In my lecture in Warnemünde (in autumn 1977)

"A special property of 1-dimensional Hausdorff measure".

I asked for the validity of the equation

$\varphi(a, b) = \sigma(B(a, b)) = H^1(B(a, b))$  in an arbitrary metric space  $X$ . The main result was the following

### 1 Theorem.

Let  $(X, \varphi)$  be a complete and convex metric space (convex in the sense of Menger) and  $a, b \in X$ , then the following conditions are equivalent:

- $\varphi(a, b) = \sigma(B^*(a, b)) = H^1(B(a, b))$

is possible to connect  $a$  and  $b$  with a shortest arc.

- $B(a, b)$  is an arc, i.e. homeomorphic to  $[0, 1]$

there is a unique metric segment  $(a, b)_g$  connecting  $a$  and  $b$ .

- If  $p, q \in B^*(a, b)$  with  $p \neq q$ , then  $p \in B^*(a, q) \cap B^*(q, b)$

### Remarks:

1) An arc connecting  $a, b \in X$  is a homeomorphism  $f: [0, 1] \xrightarrow{\text{into}} X$  such that  $f(0)=a$  and  $f(1)=b$ .

A shortest arc connecting  $a, b \in X$  is an arc  $f: [0, 1] \xrightarrow{\text{into}} X$  connecting  $a, b$  such that  $l(f) \leq l(g)$  for all arcs

$g: [0, 1] \xrightarrow{\text{into}} X$  connecting  $a, b$ , where  $l(f)$  denotes the length of the arc  $f$ .

2)  $(a, b)_g$  is called a metric segment connecting  $a, b$  iff

- $(a, b)_g \subset X$  and  $a, b \in (a, b)_g$

- $(a, b)_g$  is congruent to an interval  $[x, y] \subset \mathbb{R}$ , i.e. there is an interval  $[x, y]$  and a metrical isomorphism  $f: [x, y] \rightarrow (a, b)_g$ , such that  $f(x)=a$  and  $f(y)=b$ .

Now let  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a  $n$ -dimensional normed vector space and

$$K_r(x) := \{y/y \in X \wedge \|x-y\| \leq r\}$$

the  $r$ -ball with the centre  $x \in X$ , then  $K_r(x)$  is a convex and symmetrical set. A point  $y \in K_r(x)$  is called an extreme point of  $K_r(x)$ , iff there is not a finite line  $g \subset K_r(x)$ , containing  $y$  in the relative interior of  $g$ . For example let us consider  $R^2$  having the following two norms

$$1) \|x\| := (x_1^2 + x_2^2)^{\frac{1}{2}}, \text{ where } x = (x_1, x_2)$$

In this case every point  $y \in \text{Fr}K_r(x)$  is an extreme point.

$$2) \|x\| := \sup\{|x_1|, |x_2|\}$$

Then  $\text{Fr}K_r(x)$  contains exactly four extreme points.

We obtain the following theorem as a conclusion of the theorem above.

## 2. Theorem:

Let  $(X, \|\cdot\|)$  be a  $n$ -dimensional normed vector space, then the following two conditions are equivalent:

- $\varphi(x, y) = d(B^x(x, y)) = H^1(B^x(x, y))$  for each  $x, y \in X$
- Every point  $y$  belonging to  $\text{Fr}K_r(x)$  is an extreme point of  $K_r(x)$  for each  $x \in X$  and  $r > 0$ .

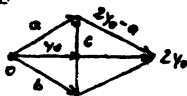
Proof:  $1 \Rightarrow 2$

We suppose  $y_0 \in \text{Fr}K_1(0)$  and  $y_0$  is not extreme point of  $K_1(0)$ , hence there is a finite line  $[a, b] \subset K_1(0)$ , such that  $y_0$  is the centre of  $[a, b]$ , i.e.  $y_0 = \frac{1}{2}(a + b)$ . The definition  $c := a - y_0$  implies the following equations

$$\|a\| = \|y_0 + c\| = 1$$

$$\|b\| = \|y_0 - c\| = 1$$

$$\|2y_0 - a\| = \|2y_0 - y_0 - c\| = \|y_0 - c\| = 1.$$



On the other hand it holds:  $\|2y_0\| = 2\|y_0\| = 2$ . Hence the arcs  $[0, 2y_0]$  and  $[0, a] \cup [a, 2y_0]$  are two shortest arcs connecting 0 and  $2y_0$ . That is a contradiction to theorem 1 condition 2. (If  $y_0 \in \text{Fr}K_r(x)$  and  $y_0$  is not extreme point, so we get a contradiction in the same way)

$2 \Rightarrow 1$

On the supposition that 1. does not hold there are two points  $x, y \in X$  and two shortest arcs  $f: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$ ,  $g: [0, 1] \rightarrow X$  connecting  $x$  and  $y$ , such that  $f \neq g$  and  $l(f) = l(g) = \varphi(x, y)$ .

It is possible to find  $a, b \in X$ , such that

$$a \in g([0, 1]) \wedge a \notin f([0, 1])$$

$$b \notin g([0, 1]) \wedge b \in f([0, 1])$$

$$0 < \tilde{r} := l([x, a]_g) = l([x, b]_f) < \varphi(x, y),$$



where  $l([x, a]_g)$  denotes the length of  $g$  from  $x$  to  $a$  and

$l([x, b]_f)$  denotes the length of  $f$  from  $x$  to  $b$ . We ask for the distance  $\rho(x, y_0)$  and  $\rho(y, y_0)$ , where  $y_0 = \frac{1}{2}(a+b)$ .

$$\rho(x, y_0) = |x - y_0| \leq \frac{1}{2}(|x-a| + |x-b|) = \frac{1}{2}(\rho(x, a) + \rho(x, b)) = \frac{1}{2}(\tilde{r} + \tilde{r}) = \tilde{r}$$

$$\rho(y, y_0) = |y - y_0| \leq \frac{1}{2}(\rho(y, a) + \rho(y, b)) = \frac{1}{2}(\rho(x, y) - \tilde{r} + \rho(x, y) - \tilde{r}) = \rho(x, y) - \tilde{r}$$

In the case  $\rho(x, y_0) < \tilde{r}$  we obtain for the length of the arc  $[x, y_0] \cup [y_0, y]$  connecting  $x$  and  $y$

$$l([x, y_0] \cup [y_0, y]) = l([x, y_0]) + l([y_0, y]) = \rho(x, y_0) + \rho(y_0, y) < \tilde{r} + \rho(x, y) - \tilde{r} = \rho(x, y), \text{ i.e.}$$

$$l([x, y] \cup [y_0, y]) < \rho(x, y).$$

That is impossible, hence  $\rho(x, y_0) = \tilde{r}$ . That means  $y_0$  belongs to  $\text{Fr}K_f(x)$  and so we get a contradiction to 2. (because  $y_0$  is not extreme point).

Now we consider some relations between the Hausdorff measure and the spherical measure on a metric space  $X$ . The following properties are well known (see Federer [1])

- $H^p(A) \leq S^p(A)$  for all  $A \subset X$  and  $p \in \mathbb{R}, \neq 0$
- If there is a real  $c \geq 1$  for every subset  $A \subset X$ , such that  $A$  is contained in a closed ball having the diameter smaller or equal  $c \cdot \mathcal{D}(A)$ , then  $S^p(A) \leq c^p H^p(A)$ . ( $c$  must be independent of  $A$ )

$c = 2$  fulfils the condition above. We obtain such a real number  $c$  in the  $n$ -dim. Euclidian space  $\mathbb{R}^n$  by

Jung's theorem: (Federer 2.10.41)

If  $A \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $0 < \mathcal{D}(A) < \infty$ , then  $A$  is contained in a unique closed ball with minimal diameter, which does not exceed  $(\frac{2n}{n+1})^{\frac{1}{2}} \cdot \mathcal{D}(A)$ .

For example if we consider a equilateral triangle  $\Delta$  in  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , then the smallest closed ball containing  $\Delta$  has the diameter  $2\tilde{r}$ , where  $r = \frac{\sqrt{3}}{3} \cdot \mathcal{D}(\Delta)$



- If  $A \subset X$  is congruent to a closed interval  $[x, y]$ , then  $S^1(A) = |x - y|$ .

Now it is easy to prove the following theorem.

### 3. Theorem B

For every complete and convex metric space  $X$  holds:

$$H^1(B^*(a, b)) = \rho(a, b) \iff S^1(B^*(a, b)) = \rho(a, b)$$

for arbitrary  $a, b \in X$ .

Proof:  $\Rightarrow$

By theorem 1  $H^1(B^*(a, b)) = \rho(a, b)$  implies:  $B^*(a, b)$  is

congruent to a closed interval  $[x, y]$  such that  $\varphi(a, b) = |x - y|$ .  
 Now we use property 3. and obtain  $S^1(B^*(a, b)) = |x - y| = \varphi(a, b)$   
 $\leftarrow$

By property 1. we have  $H^1(B^*(a, b)) \leq S^1(B^*(a, b)) = \varphi(a, b)$ .  
 On the other hand it holds  $\varphi(a, b) \leq H^1(B^*(a, b))$  in every  
 complete and convex metric space.

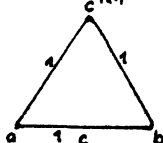
Remarks:

1) This theorem implies the validity of theorem 1 for the  
 1-dim. spherical measure.

2) By theorem 3 it holds  $H^1(B^*(a, b)) = \varphi(a, b)$  implies  
 $H^1(B^*(a, b)) = S^1(B^*(a, b))$  for every complete and convex metric  
 space. But in general it does not hold  $H^1(A) = S^1(A)$  for  $A \subset X$   
 and  $(X, \varphi)$  complete and convex metric space. For example:  
 Let  $(X, \varphi)$  be the Euclidian plain  $R^2$ . We define

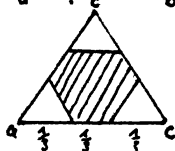
$$A := \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i, \text{ where}$$

$A_1 =$



set of all points belonging  
 to the equilateral  
 triangle

$A_2 =$



set of all points belonging  
 to the smaller three  
 equilateral triangle

$\vdots$

$\vdots$

$\vdots$

Then it holds:  $H^1(A) = 1$  and  $S^1(A) = \frac{2}{\sqrt{3}}$

References:

- [1] H. Federer : Geometric Measure Theory, Berlin 1969
- [2] P. R. Halmos : Measure Theory, New York 1950
- [3] W. Rinow : Die inner Geometrie der metrischen  
 Räume, Berlin 1961