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## Dimension of Measures

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This paper summarizes a talk given at the 18th Winter school on Abstract Analysis — Section of Analysis. Some new inequalities are derived for the dimension of product measures, of the convolution of measures and for projection measures.

**1. Definitions.** Let  $(X, \rho)$  be a metric space,  $E \subseteq X$  and  $d(E) = \sup \{\rho(x, y); x, y \in E\}$ . If  $\mathcal{R}$  is any countable family of bounded subsets then define  $D(\mathcal{R}) = \sup \{d(E); E \in \mathcal{R}\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be the family of all closed balls  $B(x, s)$  ( $x \in X, s > 0$ ). For real  $r > 0$  let

$$A(E, r) = \{\mathcal{R}; D(\mathcal{R}) \leq r, E \subseteq \cup \mathcal{R}\}$$

$$B(E, r) = \{\mathcal{R}; \mathcal{R} \subset \mathcal{B}, D(\mathcal{R}) \leq r, B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{R} \Rightarrow B_1 \cap B_2 = \emptyset$$

and if  $x$  is the centre of  $B \in \mathcal{R}$  then  $x \in E\}$ .

For a Hausdorff function  $h$  (i.e.  $h(0) = 0, q > 0 \Rightarrow h(q) > 0, q_1 \leq q_2 \Rightarrow h(q_1) \leq h(q_2)$ ,  $h$  continuous at 0) let

$$h(\mathcal{R}) = \sum_{E \in \mathcal{R}} h(d(E)).$$

Especially, if  $A = \text{id}_{\mathcal{R}^+}$  and  $a > 0$  then the power function  $A^a$  is a Hausdorff function.

The Hausdorff measure  $h\text{-}m(E)$  for a set  $E \subseteq X$  is defined as

$$h\text{-}m(E) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} h\text{-}m(E, r)$$

where

$$h\text{-}m(E, r) = \inf \{h(\mathcal{R}); \mathcal{R} \in A(E, r)\}.$$

The Hausdorff dimension  $\dim(E)$  is

$$\dim(E) = \inf \{a > 0; A^a\text{-}m(E) = 0\}.$$

Now let

$$h\text{-}M(E, r) = \sup \{h(\mathcal{R}); \mathcal{R} \in B(E, r)\}$$

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and

$$h-M(E) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} h-M(E, r).$$

Since  $h-M$  gives only a premeasure we have to define

$$h-\hat{M}(E) = \inf \left\{ \sum_i h-M(E_i); E \subseteq \cup_i E_i \right\}$$

as the packing measure  $h-\hat{M}$ . The packing dimension of  $E$  is then given by

$$\text{Dim}(E) = \inf \{ a > 0; \Lambda^a-\hat{M}(E) = 0 \}.$$

This approach as well as the notations are due to Tricot [6]. In the sequel we only consider Borel probability measures  $\mu$  on  $x$ . Their Hausdorff resp. packing dimension is given by

$$\dim(\mu) = \inf \{ \dim(E); \mu(E) > 0 \}$$

and

$$\text{Dim}(\mu) = \inf \{ \text{Dim}(E); \mu(E) > 0 \}.$$

These definitions are well-known.

## 2. Some remarks concerning a local definition of dimension

For a compact metric space  $(X, \rho)$  Ledrappier [5] defines the dimension  $\delta$  of a measure  $\mu$  as

$$\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \mu(B(x, r))}{\log r} = \delta \quad \mu \text{ a.e.}$$

He proves that

$$(1) \quad \underline{\delta} \leq \liminf_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \mu(B(x, r))}{\log r}$$

$$\Rightarrow (\mu(E) > 0 \Rightarrow \dim(E) \geq \underline{\delta})$$

$$(2) \quad \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \mu(B(x, r))}{\log r} \leq \bar{\delta}$$

$\Rightarrow$  There exist closed sets  $E_i$  with Kolmogoroff-dimension  $K(E_i) \leq \bar{\delta}$  and  $\mu(\cup_i E_i) = 1$ .

The Kolmogoroff-dimension of a set  $E$  is defined to be

$$K(E) = \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log N(E, r)}{-\log r}$$

where  $N(E, r)$  is the smallest cardinality of a covering of  $E$  by balls of radius  $r$ . Due to Tricot [6] it is

$$K(E) = \inf \{a > 0; \Lambda^a - M(E) = 0\}$$

and thus we conclude that

$$\text{Dim}(\mu) \leq \delta.$$

### 3. Some Examples concerning calculations of $\text{dim}(\mu)$

**Example 1.** Withers [7].

Let  $p, q, r > 0$ ,  $p < 1$ ,  $q + r < 1$  and let

$$g_0, g_1: [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$$

defined to be  $g_0(x) = qx$  and  $g_1(x) = rx + 1 - r$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ . For  $S = [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$  the map  $f: S \rightarrow S$  is defined by

$$f(x, y) = \begin{cases} (g_0(x), y/p) & y \leq p \\ (g_1(x), \frac{y-p}{1-p}) & y > p. \end{cases}$$

$f$  generates an  $f$ -invariant measure  $\mu$  which is the product measure of some measure  $\nu$  on the line and the one-dimensional Lebesgue measure  $m^1$ . It is proved that

$$\text{dim}(\mu) = 1 + \frac{p \log p + (1-p) \log(1-p)}{p \log q + (1-p) \log r}.$$

The next example is more general.

**Example 2.** The  $p$ -balanced measure of Geronimo and Hardin [3]. Let  $K \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be a compact subset and  $w_i: K \rightarrow K$ ,  $i = 1, \dots, N$  are continuous and contractive. Then  $\{K, w_i; i = 1, \dots, N\}$  is called to be a hyperbolic iterated function system on  $K$  and there exists a compact attractor  $A \subseteq K$  such that

$$A = \bigcup_{i=1}^N w_i(A).$$

For given probabilities  $p_i > 0$ ,  $\sum_{i=1}^N p_i = 1$  there exists a unique measure  $\mu$  such that for all continuous real valued functions  $f$  on  $A$

$$\int_A f d\mu = \sum_{i=1}^N p_i \int_A f w_i d\mu.$$

Under some restrictive conditions, namely

- (i)  $w_i(A) \cap w_j(A) = \emptyset$  for  $i \neq j$ ;
- (ii)  $w_i$  is a similitude ( $|w_i(x) - w_i(y)| = s_i|x - y|$ );
- (iii)  $0 < s_1 \leq s_2 \leq \dots \leq s_N < 1$

it can be proved that

$$\dim(\mu) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\log \mu(B(x, r))}{\log r} = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^N p_i \log p_i}{\sum_{i=1}^N p_i \log s_i}.$$

We remark at this point that the  $p$ -balanced measure  $\mu$  is singular w.r.t. the measures  $\Lambda^r - \widehat{M}$  as well as  $\Lambda^r - m$  if  $r \neq \dim(\mu)$  (for  $r$  with  $\sum_{i=1}^N s_i^r = 1$ ).

Furthermore it seems to be interesting to know whether or not the formula for  $\dim(\mu)$  does hold if the  $w_i$ 's are contractive in the average, i.e. for all  $x, y \in R^n$  there is some  $r < 1$  such that

$$\prod_{i=1}^N s_i^{p_i} \leq r.$$

Barnsley and Elton [1] have proved that the  $p$ -balanced measure still exists.

#### 4. Some dimension inequalities

Let  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  measures on  $R^m$  and  $R^k$ .  $\mu \otimes \nu$  denotes the product measure on  $R^{m+k}$ . Then we obtain

**Proposition 1** (Haase [4])

$$\begin{aligned} \dim(\mu) + \dim(\nu) &\leq \dim(\mu \otimes \nu) \leq \dim(\mu) + \text{Dim}(\nu) \leq \\ &\leq \text{Dim}(\mu \otimes \nu) \leq \text{Dim}(\mu) + \text{Dim}(\nu). \end{aligned}$$

For sets this was proved by Tricot and most of his arguments are straightforward for the measure version except of  $\dim(\mu) + \text{Dim}(\nu) \leq \text{Dim}(\mu \otimes \nu)$ . The main argument in this case is a variant of [2, Theorem 5.8, p. 72], namely

**Proposition 2** Let  $E$  be a plane set and let  $A$  be any subset of the  $x$ -axis. Suppose that if  $x \in A$  then  $\Lambda^t - m(E_x) > c$  ( $E_x$  is the  $x$ -section of  $E$ ) for some constant  $c$ . Then

$$\Lambda^{s+t} - \widehat{M}(E) \geq c \Lambda^s - \widehat{M}(A).$$

This proposition allows us to prove that

$$\Lambda^{s+t} - \widehat{M}(E) \geq \int \Lambda^t - m(E_x) d\Lambda^s - \widehat{M}(x)$$

holds, which proves the desired inequality. For simplicity let  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  now be measures on the reals. For a Borel set  $B$  let

$$\mu * \nu(B) = \mu \otimes \nu(\{(x, y); x + y \in B\}).$$

What about the dimension of  $\mu * \nu$ ?

Let's start with a lemma.

**Lemma** Let  $K \subseteq R$  be compact with  $\dim(K) = \alpha$  ( $\text{Dim}(K) = \alpha$ ) then  $\dim(\{(x, y); x + y \in K\}) = 1 + \alpha$  ( $\text{Dim}(\{(x, y); x + y \in K\}) = 1 + \alpha$ ).

**Proof.** Let  $E = \{(x, y); 0 \leq x \leq 1, x + y \in K\}$ . Then it is easy to see that

$$\dim(E) = \dim(\{(x, y); x + y \in K\}).$$

Let  $F = I \times (-z + K)$  where  $z = \min K$  and  $I = \llbracket 0, 1 \rrbracket$ . Then the map  $f: E \rightarrow F$  defined by  $f(x, y) = (x, y - (z - x))$  is a bijection and because of

$$|f(x_1, y_1) - f(x_2, y_2)| \leq \sqrt{3} |(x_1, y_1) - (x_2, y_2)|$$

and

$$|f^{-1}(x_1, y_1) - f^{-1}(x_2, y_2)| \leq \sqrt{3} |(x_1, y_1) - (x_2, y_2)|$$

by a direct calculation (where  $|\cdot|$  is the Euclidean norm,  $f^{-1}$  the inverse map)  $f$  is Bi-Lipschitz. Since the Hausdorff dimension as well as the packing dimension are invariant under such maps,

$$\dim(\{(x, y); x + y \in K\}) = \dim(F).$$

Since  $\dim(F) = \dim(I) + \dim(-z + K) = 1 + \dim(K)$ , by an application of version of Proposition 1 the result follows. ■

Now it is easy to see that the following is true.

**Proposition 3**

- (1)  $\dim(\mu * \nu) \geq \dim(\mu \otimes \nu) - 1$ ;
- (2)  $\text{Dim}(\mu * \nu) \geq \text{Dim}(\mu \otimes \nu) - 1$ .

A further result in this direction is

**Proposition 4**

- (1)  $\max(\dim(\mu), \dim(\nu)) \leq \dim(\mu * \nu)$ ;
- (2)  $\max(\text{Dim}(\mu), \text{Dim}(\nu)) \leq \text{Dim}(\mu * \nu)$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  and choose a Borel set  $B \subseteq R$  with  $\mu * \nu(B) > 0$  and

$$\dim(B) < \dim(\mu * \nu) + \varepsilon.$$

Since  $\mu \otimes \nu(\{(x, y); x + y \in B\}) > 0$  we obtain

$$\mu(\{x; \nu(\{y; x + y \in B\}) > 0\}) > 0$$

by Fubini's theorem. This implies that

$$\mu(\{x; \dim(\{y; x + y \in B\}) \geq \dim(\nu)\}) > 0.$$

Hence there exists some  $x$  with

$$\dim(\{y; x + y \in B\}) \geq \dim(\nu).$$

Consequently

$$\dim(B) \geq \dim(\nu)$$

since Hausdorff (packing) measure is translation-invariant. Hence

$$\dim(\nu) < \dim(\mu * \nu) + \varepsilon \quad \text{for all } \varepsilon > 0.$$

Since  $\mu$  and  $\nu$  may be interchanged this yields (1) (resp. (2) by the same arguments). ■

Let  $l_\alpha$  be a line in  $R^2$  with angle  $\alpha$  to the  $x$ -axis and let  $\text{proj}_\alpha$  denote the orthogonal projection on the line  $l_\alpha$ . For a Borel set  $B \subseteq l_\alpha$  let  $\nu_\alpha(B) = \mu(\text{proj}_\alpha^{-1}(B))$  be the projection measure. If  $\dim(\mu)$  ( $\text{Dim}(\mu)$ ) is given what can be said about its projection measures  $\nu_\alpha$ ?

Take a Borel set  $B \subseteq l_\alpha$  such that  $\nu_\alpha(B) > 0$ . Then

$$\mu(\text{Proj}_\alpha^{-1}(B)) > 0.$$

Obviously, the set  $\text{proj}_\alpha^{-1}(B)$  consists of parallel lines  $l'_\alpha$  orthogonal to  $l_\alpha$ . Hence  $\text{proj}_\alpha^{-1}(B)$  is an isometric strip to  $B \times R$  and

$$\dim(\mu) \leq \dim(B \times R) = \dim(B) + 1$$

is true for all such  $B$ , hence

**Proposition 5**

- (1)  $\dim(\mu) \leq \dim(\nu_\alpha) + 1$  for all  $\alpha$ .
- (2)  $\text{Dim}(\mu) \leq \text{Dim}(\nu_\alpha) + 1$  for all  $\alpha$ .

Unfortunately, as I has hoped, the projection theorem for sets (Falconer [2]) does not give news for  $\dim(\nu_\alpha)$ . The angle  $\alpha$  may belong to the exceptional set for  $\text{proj}_\alpha^{-1}(B)$  and for angles  $\beta \neq \alpha$   $\text{proj}_\beta(\text{proj}_\alpha^{-1}(B))$  may be the full line  $l_\beta$ .

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