

Pointwise Assouad dimension for measures

Roope Anttila joint with V. Suomala 04.09.2024

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Let μ be a Borel probability measure supported on some metric space X.



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Definition

The (global) Assouad dimension of μ is

$$\begin{split} \dim_{\mathsf{A}} \mu &= \inf \Big\{ s > 0 \colon \exists C > 0, \text{ s.t. } \forall 0 < r < R, x \in \mathsf{spt}(\mu) \\ & \frac{\mu(B(x,R))}{\mu(B(x,r))} \leqslant C\left(\frac{R}{r}\right)^s \Big\}. \end{split}$$

Quantifies globally the size of the least regular scales and locations of the measure.

Definition

The measure μ is doubling if there exists C > 0, such that

 $\mu(B(x,2r)) \leqslant C\mu(B(x,r)),$

for all $x \in \operatorname{spt}(\mu)$ and r > 0.

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Lemma

Let μ be a Borel probability measure. Then

- 1. dim_H $\mu \leq \dim_{\mathsf{P}} \mu \leq \dim_{\mathsf{A}} \mu$.
- 2. μ is doubling $\iff \dim_A \mu < \infty$.



Quantifying the pointwise characteristics, for example by using the local dimension

$$\dim_{\mathsf{loc}}(\mu, x) \coloneqq \lim_{r \downarrow 0} \frac{\log \mu(B(x, r))}{\log r},$$

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The pointwise Assouad dimension of μ at $x \in \operatorname{spt}(\mu)$ is

$$\begin{split} \dim_{\mathsf{A}}(\mu, x) &= \inf \Big\{ s > 0 \colon \exists C(x) > 0, \ \text{s.t.} \ \forall 0 < r < R \\ & \frac{\mu(B(x, R))}{\mu(B(x, r))} \leqslant C\left(\frac{R}{r}\right)^s \Big\}. \end{split}$$

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1. $\underline{\dim}_{\mathsf{loc}}(\mu, x) \leqslant \overline{\dim}_{\mathsf{loc}}(\mu, x) \leqslant \dim_{\mathsf{A}}(\mu, x) \leqslant \dim_{\mathsf{A}} \mu$.

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In general the answer is no in quite a dramatic way. It is possible that $0 = \sup_{x \in spt(\mu)} \dim_A(\mu, x) < \dim_A \mu = \infty$.



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However, if the measure has nice invariant structure, then the answer to the question is positive.

Let {φ_i(x) = r_iO_i(x) + t_i}^m_{i=1}, be a self-similar iterated function system (IFS) on ℝ^d and let X denote the associated self-similar set.



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- We fix a probability vector p = (p_i)^m_{i=1} with every p_i > 0 and let µ = µ_p denote the associated self-similar measure, i.e. the unique Borel probability measure supported on X satisfying

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▶ We assume that X satisfies the open set condition (OSC). Remark: Self-similar measures under the SSC are always doubling, but this is not true under OSC.

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Self-similar measures

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Theorem (A. 2022)

Let μ be a self-similar measure satisfying the OSC and let ν be a fully supported ergodic measure on X. Then

$$\dim_{A}(\mu, x) = \dim_{A} \mu = \begin{cases} \max_{i=1,...,m} \frac{\log p_{i}}{\log r_{i}}, \text{ if } \mu \text{ is doubling} \\ \infty, \text{ otherwise} \end{cases}$$

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for ν -almost every $x \in X$.

Remark: The theorem holds more generally for quasi-Bernoulli measures supported on self-conformal sets and a variant holds for self-affine measures on Bedford-McMullen carpets.

In the doubling case, the following lemma is implied by the fact that for $x = \pi(i)$, where $\pi: \Sigma \to X$ is the natural projection,

$$\mu(B(x,r_{i_1}r_{i_2}\cdots r_{i_k}))\approx p_{i_1}p_{i_2}\cdots p_{i_k},$$

Lemma

Let μ be a doubling self-similar measure with OSC. Then for any $x = \pi(i) \in spt(\mu)$,

$$\dim_{\mathsf{A}}(\mu, x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \max_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{\log p_{i_k} p_{i_{k+1}} \cdots p_{i_{k+n}}}{\log r_{i_k} r_{i_{k+1}} \cdots r_{i_{k+n}}}.$$

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By observing that a generic word with respect to any ergodic measure contains arbitrarily long sequences of the form $(i_{\max}, i_{\max}, \dots, i_{\max})$, where i_{\max} is the symbol maximising $\frac{\log p_i}{\log r_i}$, the claim follows.

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Multifractal analysis

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Question

Given a self-similar measure satisfying the OSC, what is the multifractal spectrum of the pointwise Assouad dimension

$$f_{\mathsf{A}}(\alpha) \coloneqq \dim_{\mathsf{H}} \{ x \in X \colon \dim_{\mathsf{A}}(\mu, x) = \alpha \}.$$



Multifractal analysis

To simplify notation, let us define

$$\begin{split} E_{\alpha}^{\mathsf{loc}} &= \{ x \in X \colon \dim_{\mathsf{loc}}(\mu, x) = \alpha \}, \\ U_{\alpha}^{\mathsf{loc}} &= \{ x \in X \colon \dim_{\mathsf{loc}}(\mu, x) \leqslant \alpha \} \end{split}$$

Recall that in the classical case of the local dimensions, there exists a smooth continuous and concave function $f = f_{\mu} : [\alpha_{\min}, \alpha_{\max}] \to \mathbb{R}$, such that

$$\dim_{\mathsf{H}} E_{\alpha}^{\mathsf{loc}} = f(\alpha),$$

for all $\alpha \in [\alpha_{\min}, \alpha_{\max}]$, and $E_{\alpha}^{\mathsf{loc}} = \emptyset$ for $\alpha \notin [\alpha_{\min}, \alpha_{\max}]$. Moreover,

$$\dim_{\mathsf{H}} U_{\alpha}^{\mathsf{loc}} = \overline{f}(\alpha),$$

where $\overline{f}(\alpha) = \max_{\beta \leqslant \alpha} f(\alpha)$. Going forward, f (and thus \overline{f}) are fixed.

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Multifractal analysis for local dimensions





Multifractal analysis Let

$$U_{\alpha} = \{ x \in X : \dim_{\mathsf{A}}(\mu, x) \leq \alpha \}$$
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$$U_{\alpha} = \{ x \in X : \dim_{\mathsf{A}}(\mu, x) \leq \alpha \}$$
$$E_{\alpha} = \{ x \in X : \dim_{\mathsf{A}}(\mu, x) = \alpha \}.$$

Theorem (A.-Suomala 2024)

Let μ be a non-doubling self-similar measure satisfying the OSC. Then for all $\alpha \in [\alpha_{\min}, \alpha_{\max})$, we have

$$\dim_{\mathsf{H}} E_{\alpha} = \dim_{\mathsf{H}} U_{\alpha} = \overline{f}(\alpha).$$

Moreover,

$$\dim_{\mathrm{H}} E_{\infty} = \dim_{\mathrm{H}} U_{\infty} = \dim_{\mathrm{H}} X,$$

and $E_{\alpha} = \emptyset$ for all $\alpha \notin [\alpha_{\min}, \alpha_{\max}] \cup \{\infty\}$.



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- lf μ is doubling, then the multifractal spectrum fully agrees with the sub-level spectrum of the local dimension \overline{f} .
- If μ is not doubling, various behaviour is possible at α = α_{max}.
- ▶ If μ is doubling at x (i.e. if dim_A(μ , x) < ∞), then dim_A(μ , x) ≤ α _{max}.

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- Proof is combinatorial: we count the number of words with predefined frequency of symbols corresponding to a given sub-level set (method of types).
- Recalling the earlier lemma gives intuition on why the level sets have the same dimension as sub-level sets.

Lemma

Let μ be a doubling self-similar measure with OSC. Then for any $x = \pi(i) \in spt(\mu)$,

$$\dim_{\mathsf{A}}(\mu, x) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \max_{k \in \mathbb{N}} \frac{\log p_{i_k} p_{i_{k+1}} \cdots p_{i_{k+n}}}{\log r_{i_k} r_{i_{k+1}} \cdots r_{i_{k+n}}}$$

Corollary

The following corollary about the size of the set of doubling points $D(\mu) := \{x \in \operatorname{spt}(\mu) : \mu \text{ is doubling at } x\}$ is immediate.

Corollary

Let μ be a non-doubling self-similar measure with OSC and let $s = \dim_H X$. Then

$$\mathcal{H}^{s}(D(\mu))=0,$$

and

$$\dim_{\mathsf{H}} D(\mu) = s.$$



Thank you for your attention! **Questions are welcome!**