### Fractal Geometry

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## I. Topics in Fractal Geometry

#### 1 Dimension Theory

#### 1.1 Constructing Measures in Metric Spaces

[TODO: fill in proofs and transfer to measure section] Let X be a metric space.

**Definition.** Given  $A, B \subseteq X$ , say  $d(A, B) = \inf\{d(a, b) : a \in A, b \in B\}$ . Say A, B have **positive separation** if d(A, B) > 0.

If A, B are compact and disjoint, then they have positive separation. We say that an outer measure  $\mu^*$  is a **metric outer measure** if  $\mu^*(A \cup B) = \mu^*(A) + \mu^*(B)$  when A, B have positive separation.

Example. The Lebesgue outer measure is a metric outer measure. [TODO: prove]

**1.1 Theorem.**  $\mu^*$  is a metric outer measure if and only if every Borel set is  $\mu^*$ -measurable (in the sense of Caratheodory).

Proof [TODO: prove this (homework), and find a proof of the converse? (may not be true)]

Suppose  $A \subseteq \mathcal{B}$  are both covers of X containing  $\emptyset$  and  $\mathcal{C} : \mathcal{B} \to [0, \infty]$  with  $\mathcal{C}(\emptyset)$ . Let  $\mu_{\mathcal{A}}^*$  and  $\mu_{\mathcal{B}}^*$  be the corresponding extensions of  $\mathcal{C}$  and  $\mathcal{C}|_{\mathcal{A}}$ . Then by definition,  $\mu_{\mathcal{B}}^*(E) \le \mu_{\mathcal{A}}^*(E)$  for all  $E \in \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

Let X be a metric space,  $\mathcal{A}$  cover X containing  $\emptyset$ . Suppose for each  $x \in X$  and  $\delta > 0$ , there exists  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $x \in A$  and  $A \leq \delta$ . Let  $\mathcal{C} : \mathcal{A} \to [0, \infty]$  with  $\mathcal{C}(\emptyset) = 0$ . Set  $\mathcal{A}_{\epsilon} = \{A \in \mathcal{A} : (A) \leq \epsilon\}$ , and define  $\mu_{\epsilon}^*$  by extending  $\mathcal{C}|_{\mathcal{A}_{\epsilon}}$ . In particular, as  $\epsilon$  decreases,  $\mu_{\epsilon}^*$  increases, and define

$$\mu^*(E) = \sup_{\epsilon} \mu_{\epsilon}^*(E) = \lim_{\epsilon \to 0} \mu_{\epsilon}^*(E)$$

**1.2 Theorem.** As defined above,  $\mu^*$  is a metric outer measure.

Proof [TODO: prove this, homework]

*Example.* The Lebesgue measure arises this way; in fact, the  $\mu_{\epsilon}^*$  are all the same outer measure.

**Definition.** We say that a collection of subsets C is a **semi-algebra** if it contains  $\emptyset$ , is closed under finite intersections, and complements are finite disoint unions of sets in C. We then say that  $\mu$  is a **measure on a semi-algebra** if  $\mu: C \to [0, \infty]$  has

- (i)  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$
- (ii) If  $E_1, ..., E_n \in \mathcal{C}$  are disjoint and  $\bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i \in \mathcal{C}$ , then  $\mu(\bigcup_{i=1}^n E_i) = \sum_{i=1}^n n\mu(E_i)$ .
- (iii) If  $\{E_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty} \in \mathcal{C}$  are pairwise disjoint and  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i \in \mathcal{C}$ , then  $\mu(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(E_i)$

An **algebra** is a semi-algebra which is closed under finite unions and complements. Then a **measure on an algebra** is a map  $\mu$  satisfying the same above constraints.

**1.3 Theorem.** A measure  $\mu$  on a semi-algebra  $\mathcal{C}$  has a unique extension to a measure on  $\mathcal{A} = \langle \mathcal{C} \rangle$ , the algebra generated by  $\mathcal{C}$ .

PROOF It is easy to verify that  $\mathcal{A}$  is the set of all finite unions of elements in  $\mathcal{C}$ . Thus we extend  $\mu$  to  $\mathcal{A}$  where if  $A = \bigcup_{i=1}^{n} C_i$ , set  $\mu(A) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \mu(C_i)$ .

Check: well-defined and a measure

We then appeal to Caratheodory extension theorem to get a measure  $\mu$  (on a  $\sigma$ -algebra) that extends  $\mu$  from A.

Let  $\Sigma = \{1, ..., k\}$  be our alphabet and let  $\Sigma^*$  denote the set of all words on  $\Sigma$ . We then associate to  $\Sigma^*$  a heirarchy of subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  where to each  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ , get some subset  $X_\sigma$ ; set  $\mathcal{C} = \{X_\sigma : \sigma \in \Sigma^*\}$ . We also assume that

$$X_{\sigma} \supseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^{k} X_{\sigma i}.$$

Suppose  $\mu: \mathcal{C} \cup \{\emptyset\} \to [0, \infty]$  has  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$  and  $\mu(X_{\sigma}) = \sum_{i=1}^k \mu(X_{\sigma i})$ . We assume that for every infinite sequence  $(i_1, i_2, \ldots)$ , with  $\sigma_j = (i_1, \ldots, i_j)$ ,  $\lim_{j \to \infty} |X_{\sigma_j}| = 0$  and  $\lim_{j \to \infty} \mu(X_{\sigma_j}) = 0$ .

#### 1.2 Hausdorff Measure and Dimension

For the remainder of this chapter, if X is a metric space and  $U \subseteq X$ , we denote |U| = (U). **Definition.** A  $\delta$ -cover of a set  $F \subseteq X$  is any countable collection  $\{U_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  such that  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} U_n \supseteq F$  and  $|U_n| \le \delta$ .

Let  $A = \mathcal{P}(X)$ , and  $A_{\delta} = \{A \subseteq X : |A| \le \delta\}$ . For  $\delta \ge 0$ , put  $\mathcal{C}_s(A) = |A|^s$ . Then for  $s \ge 0$ ,  $\delta > 0$ , and  $E \subseteq$ , we define

$$H_{\delta}^{s}(E) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |U_{n}|^{s} : \{U_{n}\} \text{ is a } \delta \text{-cover of } E \right\}$$
$$= \inf \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} C_{s}(U_{n}) : \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} U_{n} \supseteq E, U_{n} \in \mathcal{A}_{\delta} \right\}$$

This is the outer measure as constructed in  $\ref{eq:this}$  with covering family  $A_\delta$  and function  $\mathcal{C}_s$ . In particular, as  $\delta \to 0$ ,  $H^s_\delta$  increases; in particular, by Theorem 1.2,  $H^s(E) = \sup_\delta H^s_\delta(E)$  is a metric outer measure. Then apply Caratheodory ( $\ref{eq:this}$ ) to get the s-dimensional Hausdorff measure, which is a complete Borel measure.

Example. (i)  $H^0$  is the counting measure on any metric space.

(ii) Take  $X = \mathbb{R}$  and s = 1. Then  $H^1$  is the Lebesgue measure (on Borel sets). To see this, we have

$$\lambda(E) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |I_n| : \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n \supseteq E, |I_n| \le \delta \right\}$$
  
 
$$\ge H_{\delta}^{1}(E)$$

for any  $\delta > 0$ ; and conversely, take any  $\delta$ -cover of E, say  $\{U_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$  and set  $I_n = \overline{\operatorname{conv} U_n}$  so  $|I_n| = |U_n| \le \delta$ . Thus  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |U_n| = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} |I_n| \ge \lambda(E)$  for any such cover, so  $\lambda(E) = H_{\delta}^1(E)$  for any  $\delta > 0$ . Thus  $\lambda(E) = H^1(E)$  for any Borel set E.

(iii) More generally, if  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$  and s = n, then  $\lambda = \pi_n \cdot H^n$  where  $\pi_n$  is the n-dimensional volume of the ball of diameter 1.

We will verify that  $H^n \le m$  where m is n-dimensional Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ ; the general result is harder and left as an exercise. To see this, we have

$$m(E) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (C_i) : C_i \text{ cube,} \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} C_i \supseteq E, \text{sides } \le \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \delta \right\}$$

$$= \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{1}{\sqrt{n}} \right)^n |C_i|^n : \{C_i\} - \delta \text{-cover of cubes of } E \right\}$$

$$\geq c_n \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |c_i|^n : \text{all } \delta \text{-covers of } E = c_n H_{\delta}^n(E) \right\}$$

where  $c_n = (1/\sqrt{n})^n \le 1$ .

(iv) If s < t, then  $H^s(E) \ge H^t(E)$ .

Suppose s < t. Clearly  $H^s(E) \ge H^t(E)$ , but we can in fact make stronger statements. Suppose we have some  $U_i$  where  $|U_i| \le \delta$ , and

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |U_i|^t = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |U_i|^s |U_i|^{t-s} \le \delta^{t-s} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |U_i|^s$$

so that

$$H^t_{\delta}(E) \le \delta^{t-s} \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |U_i|^s : \{U_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty} \ \delta - \text{cover of } E \right\} = \delta^{t-s} H^s_{\delta}(E).$$

In particular, as  $\delta \to 0$ ,  $H^t_{\delta}(E) \to H^t(E)$  and  $H^s_{\delta}(E) \to H^s(E)$  and  $\delta^{t-s} \to 0$  since s < t. Thus if  $H^s(E) \neq \infty$ , then  $H^t(E) = 0$  for all t > s. Similarly, if  $H^t(E) > 0$ , then  $H^s(E) = \infty$  for all s < t. As a result, there exists some unique number  $S_0 := \dim_H(E) \geq 0$  such that for all  $s < S_0$ ,  $H^s(E) = \infty$ , and for all  $t > S_0$ ,  $H^t(E) = 0$ . We call this value the **Hausdorff dimension** of E. Note that  $H^{S_0}(E) \in [0,\infty]$  and all choices are possible.

Example. (i) Since  $1 = m([0,1]) = H^1([0,1])$ ,  $\dim_H[0,1] = 1$ 

- (ii)  $\dim_H \mathbb{R} = 1$  but  $m(\mathbb{R}) = H^1(\mathbb{R}) = \infty$ .
- (iii) It is possible to have  $S_0 = 1$  but m(E) = 0.
- (iv) There is a Cantor-like set with Hausdorff-dimension 0.
- (v) If *E* is countable and s > 0,  $H^s_{\delta}(E) \le \sum_{x \in E} |\{x\}|^s = 0$ . In particular, there exist compact countable sets, and in this case,  $\dim_H C = 0$  while  $H^0(C) = \infty$ .

Here are some basic properties of Hausdorff dimension.

- **1.4 Proposition.** (Properties of Hausdorff Dimension) (i) If  $A \subseteq B$ , then  $\dim_H A \le \dim_H B$ .
  - (ii) If  $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , then  $\dim_H F \leq n$ .
- (iii) If  $U \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  is open, then  $\dim_H U = n$ .
- (iv) If  $F = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} F_i$ , then  $\dim_H(F) = \sup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} \dim_H F_i$ .

PROOF (i) If  $H^s(B) = 0$ , then  $H^s(A) = 0$  by monotonicity of measures so  $\dim_H A \le \dim_H B$ .

(ii) First consider the unit cube  $I^n \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . Then

$$H^{s}_{\sqrt{n}\delta}(I^{n}) \le \left(\frac{2}{\delta}\right)^{n} (\sqrt{n}\delta)^{s} = 2^{n} \sqrt{n}^{n} \delta^{s-n}$$

so if s > n, then  $\delta^{s-n} \to 0$  as  $\delta \to 0$ . Thus for all s > n,  $H^s(I^n) = \lim_{\delta \to 0} H^s_{\sqrt{n}\delta}(I^n) = 0$  so that  $\dim_H(I^n) \le n$ . Moreover,  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is the countable union of unit cubes, so that  $H^s(\mathbb{R}^n) = 0$  and  $\dim_H(\mathbb{R}^n) \le n$ . Then appeal to (i).

- (iii) Cubes have positive Hausdorff n-measure.
- (iv) If  $s > \sup\{\dim_H F_i\}$ , then  $H^s(F_i) = 0$  for all i and by subadditivity  $H^s(F) = 0$ . Thus  $s \ge \dim_H F$ . By monotonicity,  $\dim_H F \ge \dim_H F_i$  for all j.

Suppose  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $\lambda > 0$ . Set  $\lambda E = \{\lambda e : e \in E\}$ : then  $H^s(\lambda E) = \lambda^s H^s(E)$  since there is a bijection between  $\delta$ -covers and  $\lambda \delta$ -covers.

**Definition.** Let X, Y be metric spaces. A function  $f: X \to Y$  is called **Lipschitz** if there exists C such that  $d(f(x), f(y)) \le Cd(x, y)$ .

Certainly if f is Lipschitz, then f is uniformly continuous. Functions  $f : \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  with bounded derivative are Lipschitz by the mean value theorem.

**Definition.** A function  $f: X \to Y$  is **Hölder continuous** with exponent  $\alpha$  if there exists c such that  $d(f(x), f(y)) \le cd(x, y)^{\alpha}$ .

*Example.* (i) If  $\alpha = 1$ , then f is Lipschitz, and if  $\alpha = 0$ , then f is bounded.

- (ii) If  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \to \mathbb{R}^n$  and  $\alpha > 0$ , then f is constant (by considering derivatives). Thus the most interesting cases occur for  $0 < \alpha \le 1$ .
  - **1.5 Proposition.** If  $f: X \to Y$  is Hölder continuous with exponent  $\alpha$ . Then  $H^{s/\alpha}(f(E)) \le cH^s(E)$  for some constant c.

PROOF If  $\{U_i\}$  are a  $\delta$ -cover of E, then  $\{f(U_i)\}$  cover f(E). Then  $f(U_i) = \sup\{d(f(x), f(y)): x, y \in U_i\} \le c \sup\{d(x, y)^\alpha : x, y \in U_i\} = C \cdot (U_i)^\alpha$ . Thus if  $\{U_i\}$  is a  $\delta$ -cover of E, then  $\{f(U_i)\}$  is a  $\epsilon \delta^\alpha$ -cover of E. Passing through the definition, we get E.

We then have the easy corollaries

- **1.6** Corollary.  $\dim_H f(X) \leq \frac{1}{\alpha} \dim_H X$ .
- **1.7 Corollary.** If f is an isometry, then  $H^s(f(X)) = H^s(X)$ .
- **1.8 Corollary.** If  $f: X \to Y$  are bi-Lipschitz, then  $\dim_H X = \dim_H Y$ .

*Example.* Let C denote the Cantor set. Let's show that  $\frac{1}{2} \le H^s(C) \le 1$  for  $s = \frac{\log 2}{\log 3}$ . In particular, this implies that  $\dim_H C = \frac{\log 2}{\log 3}$ .

Let  $\delta = 3^{-n}$  and cover C with a  $\delta$ -covering with generation n Cantor intervals. Then  $H^s_{\delta}(C) \leq \sum_{I \in C_m} |I|^s = 2^n 3^{-ns} = 1$  by choice of s. Thus  $\lim_{\delta \to 0} H^s_{\delta}(C) = \lim_{n \to \infty} H^s_{3^{-n}}(C) \leq 1$ .

For the lower bound, take any  $\delta$ -cover  $\{U_i\}$  of C. Without loss of generality, we may assume that the  $U_i$  are open intervals. Since C is compact, get some finite subcover  $U_1, \ldots, U_N$ . For each i, get  $k_i \in \mathbb{N}$  so that  $3^{-(k_i+1)} \le |U_i| < 3^{-k_i}$ ; set  $k = \max\{k_1, \ldots, k_N\}$ . Since

 $U_i$  intersects at most 1 interval in  $C_{k_i}$ ,  $U_i$  intersects at most  $2^{k-k_i}$  intervals of  $C_k$ . Thus  $2^k \le \sum_{i=1}^N 2^{k-k_i}$  where  $2^{k-k_i} = 2^k 3^{-sk_i} = 2^k 3^{-s(k_i+1)} \le 2^k |U_i|^s 3^s$ . Thus

$$2^{k} \le \sum_{i=1}^{N} 2^{k} |U_{i}|^{s} 3^{s}$$

so  $\frac{1}{2} = 3^{-s} \le \sum_{i=1}^{N} |U_i|^s \le \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |U_i|^s$  so  $H_{\delta}^s(C) \ge \frac{1}{2}$  so  $H^s(C) \ge \frac{1}{2}$ .

**1.9 Proposition.** Let (X, d) be a metric space. If  $\dim_H X < 1$ , then X is totally disconnected.

PROOF Let  $x \in X$  and define  $f: X \to [0, \infty)$  by f(z) = d(z,x). Then f is Lipschitz with constant 1 so  $\dim_H f(X) \le \dim_H X < 1$  so m(f(X)) = 0. Then if  $y \ne x$ , d(y,x) = f(y) > 0 while f(x) = 0. In particular,  $(0, f(y)) \not\subset f(X)$  so there exists 0 < r < f(y) such that  $r \not\in f(X)$ . Then  $U_1 = \{z \in X : f(z) < r\}$  and  $U_2 = \{z \in X : f(z) > r\}$  are disconnecting sets for X separating x and y.

#### 1.3 Box Dimensions

**Definition.** Let  $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be a bounded Borel set, and for each  $\delta > 0$ , let  $N_{\delta}(E)$  be the least number of closed balls of diameter  $\delta$ . We then define the **upper box dimension** of E

$$\overline{\dim}_B E = \limsup_{\delta \to 0} \frac{\log N_{\delta}(E)}{|\log \delta|}$$

and similarly  $\underline{\dim}_B E$  (the **lower box dimension**) with a liminf in place of limsup. If  $\underline{\dim}_B E = \overline{\dim}_B E$ , then we define the **box dimension** to be this shared quantity.

If I is any interval, it is easy to see that  $\dim_B I = 1$ . Note that if  $N_{\delta}(E) \sim \delta^{-s}$ , then  $\dim_B E = S$ .

*Example.* Let's show that the box dimension of  $C_{1/3}$  exists, and compute it. Given some  $\delta > 0$ , let n be so that  $3^{-n} \le \delta < 3^{-(n-1)}$ . Certainly we can cover  $C_{1/3}$  by Cantor intervals of level n, so that  $N_{\delta}(C_{1/3}) \le 2^n$ . Moreover, the endpoints of Cantor inversals of level n-1 are distance at least  $3^{-(n-1)} > \delta$  apart. Thus  $N_{\delta}(C_{1/3})$  is at least the number of endpoints of level n-1, i.e.  $N_{\delta}(C_{1/3}) \ge 2^n$ . Thus  $N_{\delta}(C_{1/3}) = 2^n$ , so that

$$\frac{\log 2}{\log 3} = \frac{\log 2^n}{\log 3^n} \le \frac{\log N_{\delta}(C_{1/3})}{|\log \delta|} \le \frac{\log 2^n}{\log 3^{n-1}} = \frac{n}{n-1} \cdot \frac{\log 2}{\log 3}$$

and, as  $\delta \to 0$ ,  $n \to \infty$  so that the  $C_{1/3} = \frac{\log 2}{\log 3}$ .

More generally, using the same technique, we may compute  $C_r = \frac{\log 2}{\log 1/r}$ .

However, the box dimension has poor properties: for example, we may verify  $\dim_B\{0,1,1/2,1/3,\ldots\} = \frac{1}{2}$ . In particular, the box dimension does not have countable stability (the box dimension of any singleton is 0). But this is very concerning from a measure theoretic perspective, since this is a countable set with larger "dimension" than some uncountable sets (e.g.  $C_r$  for small r).

**1.10 Theorem.** The value of the various box dimensions are equal for all following definitions of  $N_{\delta}(E)$ :

- 1. least number of open balls of radius  $\delta$  that cover E
- 2. least number of cubes of side length  $\delta$
- 3. the number of  $\delta$ -mesh cubes that intersect  $E: [m_1\delta, (m_1+1)\delta] \times \cdots \times [m_n\delta, (m_n+1)\delta]$  for  $(m_1, \ldots, m_n) \in \mathbb{Z}^n$ .
- 4. the largest number of disjoint closed balls of radius  $\delta$  with centers in E.

Proof Throughout, from the logarithms in the definition, it suffices to bound  $N_{\delta}^{(i)}(E)$  with respect to  $N_{\delta}(E)$  up to some constant factor either with respect to  $\delta$  or with respect to  $N_{\delta}$ .

- 1. Exercise.
- 2. Exercise.
- 3. In general, the diameter of a  $\delta$ -cube in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is  $\sqrt{n}\delta$ . Let  $N_\delta^{(3)}(E)$  denote the number of  $\delta$ -mesh cubes intersecting E. Then the cubes which intersect E cover E and these have diameter  $\sqrt{n}\delta$ , so  $N_{\sqrt{n}\delta}(E) \leq N_\delta^{(3)}(E)$ . Conversely, any set with diameter at most  $\delta$  is contained in at most  $3^n \delta$ -mesh cubes. Thus  $N_\delta^{(3)}(E) \leq 3^n N_\delta(E)$ .
- 4. Let  $N_{\delta}^{(4)}$  denote the largest number of disjoint balls of radius  $\delta$  centred in E. Say  $B_1, \ldots, B_{N_{\delta}^{(4)}(F)}$  are such balls. If  $x \in F$ , then  $d(x, B_i) \le \delta$  for some i, else  $B(x, \delta)$  would be disjoint from all  $B_i$ , contradicting maximality. Thus the balls  $B_1^1, \ldots, B_{N_{\delta}^{(4)}(E)}^1$  cover

E and have diameter  $4\delta$ , so  $N_{4\delta}(E) \leq N_{\delta}^{(4)}(E)$ . Conversely, let  $U_1, \ldots, U_{N_{\delta}(E)}$  be any collection of sets of diameter at most  $\delta$  that cover E. Let  $B_1, \ldots, B_m$  be any disjoint balls with radius  $\delta$  and centres  $x_i \in E$ . Since the  $U_j$  cover E, each  $x_i \in U_{j(i)}$  for some j(i) so  $U_{j(i)} \subseteq B_i$  and  $U_{j(i)} \cap B_k = \emptyset$  for  $k \neq i$ . Thus  $N_{\delta}(E) \geq N_{\delta}^{(4)}(E)$ .

Note that, in the box dimension computation, it suffices to verify along a sequence of  $(\delta_k)_{k=1}^{\infty} \to 0$  such that  $\delta_{k+1} \ge c \cdot \delta_k$  for some c > 0 (i.e. not faster than exponentially).

### 1.11 Proposition. $\dim_H(E) \leq \underline{\dim}_R(E)$ .

Proof Suppose we cover E by  $N_{\delta}(E)$  sets of diameter at most  $\delta$ . Then  $\inf\{\sum |U_i|^s: \{U_i\}\delta$ -cover of  $E\} \leq \delta^s N_{\delta}(E)$  so that  $H^s_{\delta}(E) \leq \delta^s N_{\delta}(E)$ . Suppose  $s < \dim_H E$ , so  $H^s(E) > \lambda$  for some  $\lambda > 0$ . Then  $\delta^s N_{\delta}(E) \geq \lambda$  so that  $\frac{\log N_{\delta}(E)}{-\log \delta} \geq s + \frac{\log \lambda}{-\log \delta}$ . Then as  $\delta \to 0$ ,  $\liminf \frac{\log N_{\delta}(E)}{-\log \delta} \geq s$ . Thus  $\dim_B E \geq \dim_H E$ .

- 1.12 Proposition. (Properties of Box Dimension) (i)  $\underline{\dim}_B E = \underline{\dim}_B \overline{E}$  and  $\overline{\dim}_B E = \underline{\dim}_B \overline{E}$ 
  - (ii)  $\dim_B E = n$  if E is dense in an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ .
- (iii)  $\overline{\dim}_B(E \cup F) = \max(\overline{\dim}_B E, \overline{\dim}_B F)$ . However,  $\underline{\dim}_B E \cup \underline{\dim}_B F \ge \max\{\underline{\dim}_B E, \underline{\dim}_B F\}$  and the inequality can hold strictly.
- (iv) Box dimension is Lipschitz invariant.
- **1.13 Theorem.** (Mass Distribution Principle) Let  $\mu$  be a finite Borel measure on F with  $\mu(F) > 0$ . Suppose there exists c > 0 and  $\delta_0 > 0$  such that whenever  $|U| \le \delta_0$ ,  $\mu(U) \le \frac{1}{2} U|^s$ . Then  $H^s(F) \ge \frac{\mu(F)}{c} > 0$ .

PROOF Let  $\{U_i\}$  be a  $\delta$ -cover of F with  $\delta \leq \delta_0$ . Then  $\mu(F) \leq \mu(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} U_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(U_i) \leq c \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |U_i|^s$ . Thus  $\inf\{\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |U_i|^s : \{U_i\}\delta$ -cover of  $F\} \geq \frac{\mu(F)}{c}$  and let  $\delta \to 0$ .