

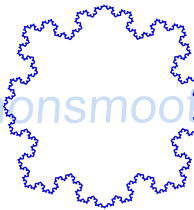
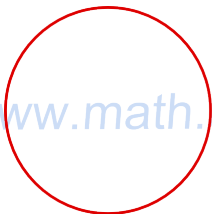
# UConn SEMESTER IN NONSMOOTH ANALYSIS

## What is Nonsmooth Analysis?

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University of Connecticut

September 24, 2015



[www.math.uconn.edu/nonsmooth](http://www.math.uconn.edu/nonsmooth)

*I turn away in fright and horror from this lamentable plague of functions that do not have derivatives.*

— C. Hermite, 1893

*...clouds are not spheres, mountains are not cones, coastlines are not circles, and bark is not smooth, nor does lightning travel in a straight line.*

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# Aspects of nonsmooth analysis

**1 nonsmooth objects** (e.g. sets, measures...)  
in (smooth) spaces

**2 nonsmooth functions**  
between (smooth) spaces

**3 nonsmooth spaces**

# Cantor sets

$C(\lambda)$ ,  $0 < \lambda < 1/2$ :

$$C(\lambda) = \bigcap_{k=0}^{\infty} C_k(\lambda)$$



- 1 At stage  $k$ :  $C_k(\lambda)$  has  $2^k$  intervals of length  $\lambda^k$
- 2 Lebesgue measure  $\mathcal{L}(C_k(\lambda)) = (2\lambda)^k$ ,  $0 < 2\lambda < 1$
- 3 Lebesgue measure  
 $\mathcal{L}(C(\lambda)) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{L}(C_k(\lambda)) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (2\lambda)^k = 0$

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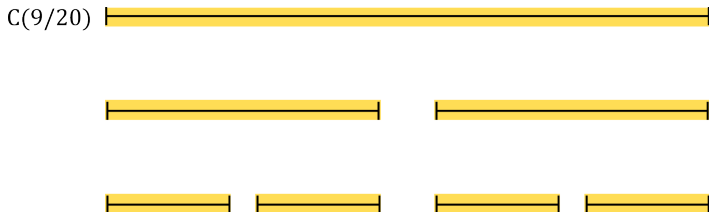


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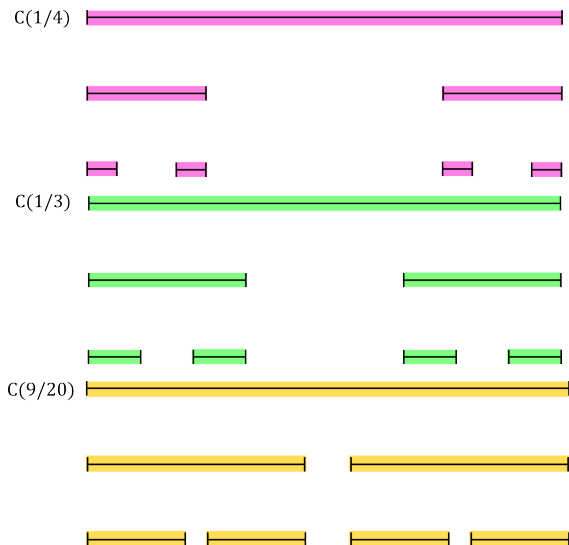
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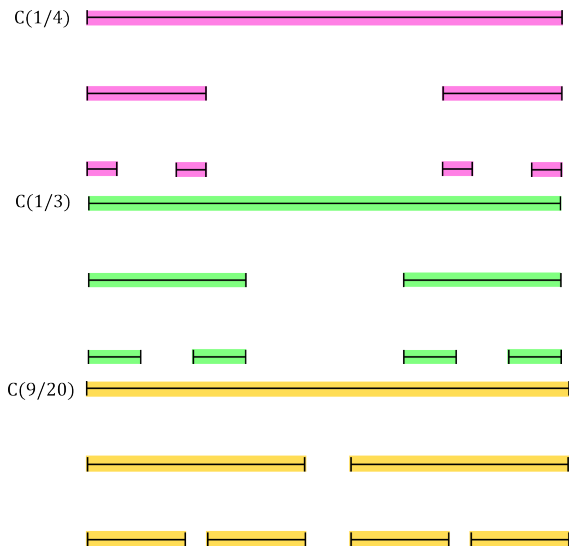
# Cantor sets

Lebesgue measure cannot distinguish  $C(1/3)$ ,  $C(1/4)$ ,  $C(9/20)$



# Cantor sets

But our intuition says that  $C(1/4) < C(1/3) < C(9/20)$



# $s$ -dimensional Hausdorff measures $\mathcal{H}^s$ on $\mathbb{R}^n$

Let  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$  be any set. Let  $s \geq 0$  be any nonnegative real number

- 1 For any  $\delta > 0$  cover  $A$  by sets  $E_1, E_2, \dots$  of diameter  $\leq \delta$
- 2 Weight each set in the cover by its diameter to power  $s$
- 3 Optimize over all such covers

$$\mathcal{H}_\delta^s(A) := \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (\text{diam } E_i)^s : A \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i; \text{diam } E_i \leq \delta \right\}$$

- 4 Use only finer and finer covers

$$\mathcal{H}^s(A) := \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{H}_\delta^s(A)$$

$\mathcal{H}^s$  is called  **$s$ -dimensional Hausdorff measure**  
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# Some examples / properties of Hausdorff measure

- 1 Open balls  $B_{\mathbb{R}^n}(x, r)$  in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  have  $\mathcal{H}^n(B(x, r)) = c(n)r^n$
- 2 If  $s < n$ , then  $\mathcal{H}^s(B_{\mathbb{R}^n}(x, r)) = \infty$
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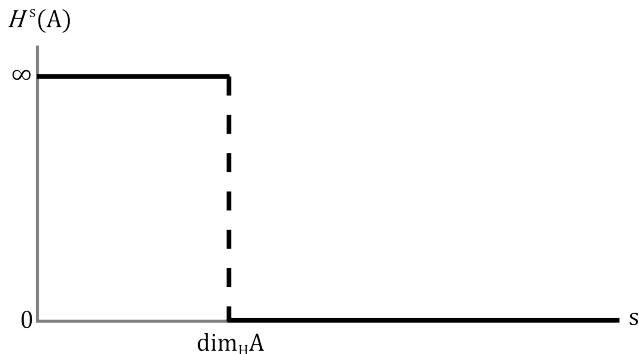
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# Hausdorff dimension

For any set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ , there is a unique number  $d \in [0, n]$  such that

- 1  $\mathcal{H}^s(A) = \infty$  for all  $s < d$
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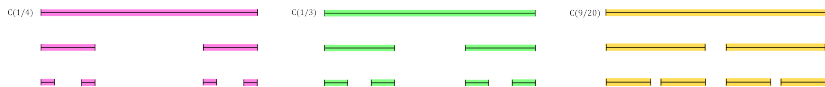


The number  $d = \dim_H(A)$  where the transition happens is called the **Hausdorff dimension of  $A$** .

# Hausdorff dimension of Cantor sets

For all  $\lambda \in (0, 1/2)$ , the Cantor set  $C(\lambda)$  has Hausdorff dimension

$$\dim_H C(\lambda) = \frac{\log(2)}{\log(1/\lambda)} \in (0, 1)$$



- $\dim_H C(1/4) = \log(2)/\log(4) = 0.5000000\dots$
- $\dim_H C(1/3) = \log(2)/\log(3) = 0.6309292\dots$
- $\dim_H C(9/20) = \log(2)/\log(20/9) = 0.8680532\dots$
- $\dim_H C(\lambda) \downarrow 0$  as  $\lambda \downarrow 0$
- $\dim_H C(\lambda) \uparrow 1$  as  $\lambda \uparrow 1/2$

# Metric spaces

A **metric space** is a set  $X$  equipped with a distance function  $\text{dist} : X \times X \rightarrow [0, \infty)$ : for all  $x, y, z \in X$

- 1 nondegenerate:  $\text{dist}(x, y) = 0$  if and only if  $x = y$
- 2 symmetric:  $\text{dist}(x, y) = \text{dist}(y, x)$
- 3 triangle inequality:  $\text{dist}(x, z) \leq \text{dist}(x, y) + \text{dist}(y, z)$ .

Metric spaces are core objects / spaces in analysis

The definition of Hausdorff measure and Hausdorff dimension only use the notions of coverings and diameter. So they make sense in any metric space.

Computing the exact Hausdorff measure of a set is very hard.

Computing the Hausdorff dimension of a set is feasible.

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## Maps between metric spaces

Let  $X, Y$  be metric spaces. A map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is **Lipschitz** if there exists  $L < \infty$  such that

$$\text{dist}_Y(f(x), f(y)) \leq L \text{dist}_X(x, y) \quad \text{for all } x, y \in X.$$

- Natural class of maps between metric spaces: involves only distance functions for the source and target spaces
- Lipschitz maps do not stretch distances “too much” (no more than a bounded multiplicative factor)
- Let  $B_X(x, r)$  denote an open ball in  $X$ . Let  $B_Y(y, s)$  denote an open ball in  $Y$ . Then

$$f(B_X(x, r)) \subseteq B_Y(f(x), Lr) \quad \text{for all } x \in X \text{ and } r > 0$$

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# Lipschitz maps don't increase dimension

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If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is Lipschitz, then  $\mathcal{H}^s(f(X)) \leq L^s \mathcal{H}^s(X)$ .

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If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is Lipschitz, then  $\dim_H f(X) \leq \dim_H X$ .

X | Y

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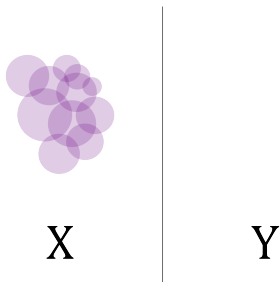
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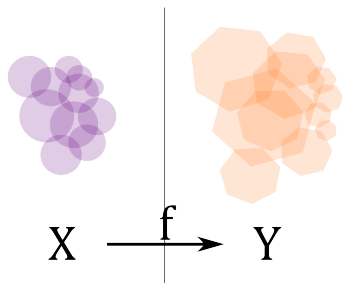
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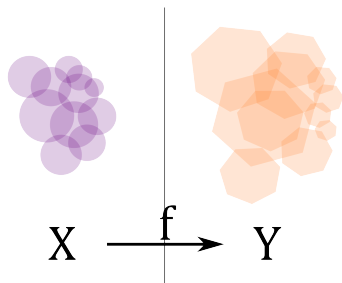
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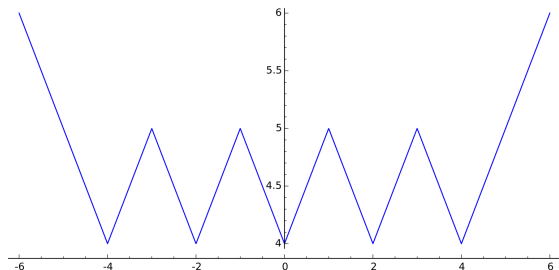
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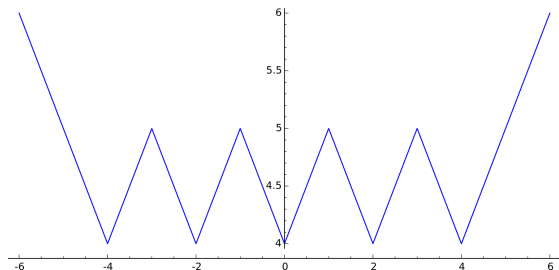


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If  $f : \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is Lipschitz, then

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## Theorem (Cheeger 1999)

Assume  $X$  is a metric space equipped with a measure  $\mu$  such that

$$\mu(B(x, 2r)) \leq C\mu(B(x, r)) \quad \text{for all } x \in X \text{ and } r > 0$$

and  $(X, \mu)$  satisfies a Poincaré inequality (Event #3 by Kleiner)

Then there exists

- positive  $\mu$  measure sets  $U_i$  of dimension  $1 \leq n_i < \infty$
- Lipschitz maps  $\phi_i : U_i \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{n_i}$

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# Additional classes of nonsmooth maps

- Bi-Lipschitz maps
- Hölder continuous maps
- Sobolev maps
- Quasiconformal maps
- Quasisymmetric maps
- Coarse isometries



# The Heisenberg group $\mathbb{H}^n$

- $\mathbb{H}^n = \mathbb{R}^{2n} \times \mathbb{R}$ .
- $p = (p_1, \dots, p_{2n}, p_{2n+1}) := (p', p_{2n+1}) \in \mathbb{H}^n$ ,
- $p \cdot q = (p_1 + q_1, \dots, p_{2n} + q_{2n}, p_{2n+1} + q_{2n+1} - A(p', q'))$ ,

$$A(p', q') = 2 \sum_{i=1}^n (p_i q_{i+n} - p_{i+n} q_i).$$

- $\mathbb{H}^n$  is not Abelian.
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- $\mathbb{H}^1 \approx \mathbb{R}^3$ .
- $|B(x, r)| = c r^4 \implies \dim_H \mathbb{H}^1 = 4$ . (!)
- If  $\Sigma$  is a smooth surface then  $\dim_H \Sigma = 3$ .
- There exist (many) curves  $\gamma$  with  $\dim_H \gamma = 2$ .

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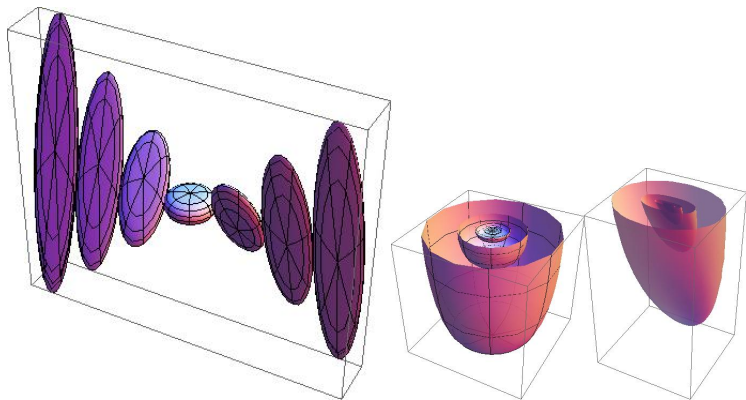
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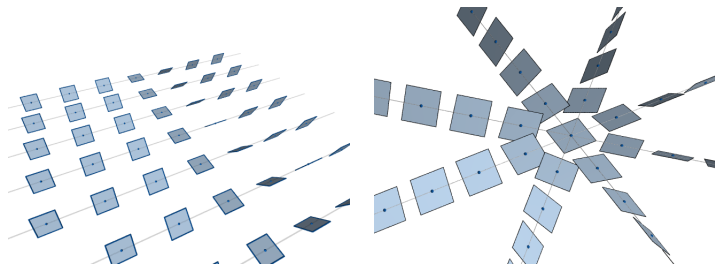
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# The geometry of $\mathbb{H}$ : Sub-Riemannian structure

Let  $X_1, X_2$  be the left invariant vector fields

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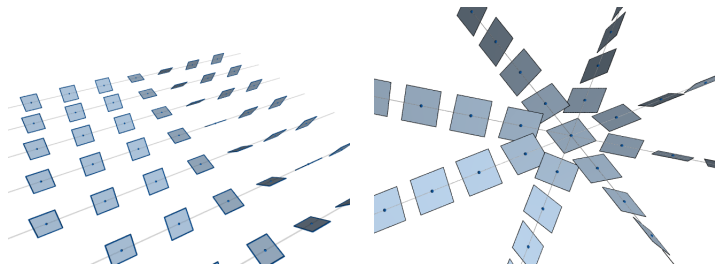
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An absolutely continuous curve  $\gamma : [0, S] \rightarrow \mathbb{H}^1$  such that

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- Length of a horizontal curve  $\gamma = (x, y, t) : [0, S] \rightarrow \mathbb{H}^1$ :

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# CC distance and geodesics in $\mathbb{H}^1$

- CC-metric in  $\mathbb{H}^1$ : For  $p, q \in \mathbb{H}^1$

$$d_{cc}(p, q)$$

$$= \inf\{\ell_H(\gamma) : \gamma : [0, S] \rightarrow \mathbb{H}^1 \text{ horizontal}, \gamma(0) = p, \gamma(S) = q\}.$$

- $d_{cc}$  is globally equivalent to  $d_H$ .
- A *geodesic* between  $p, q \in \mathbb{H}^1$  is a horizontal curve of shortest length joining  $p$  and  $q$ .
- The only geodesically convex subsets of  $\mathbb{H}^1$  are the empty set, points, arcs of geodesics and  $\mathbb{H}^1$ .

# The bubble set in $\mathbb{H}^1$

- A horizontal curve  $\gamma$  connecting the origin to  $(0, 0, t) \in \mathbb{H}^1$  is a geodesic iff  $\tilde{\gamma}$ , i.e. its projection on  $\mathbb{R}^2$ , is a circle.
- Thus there exist infinitely many such geodesics.
- Rotating such a geodesic produces a surface  $\Sigma$ .
- Dilating and translating vertically we obtain sets centered at the origin  $o$ :

$$\mathcal{B}(o, R) = \{(p', p_3) \in \mathbb{H}^1 : |p_3| < f_R(|p'|)\}$$

where  $f_R(r) = \frac{1}{4} \left( R^2 \arccos \left( \frac{r}{R} \right) + r \sqrt{R^2 - r^2} \right)$ .

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# The bubble set in $\mathbb{H}^1$

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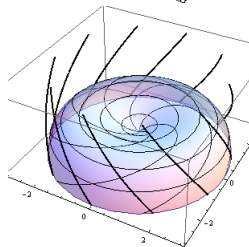
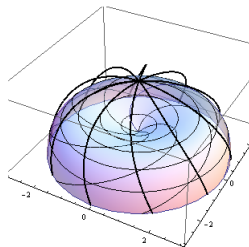
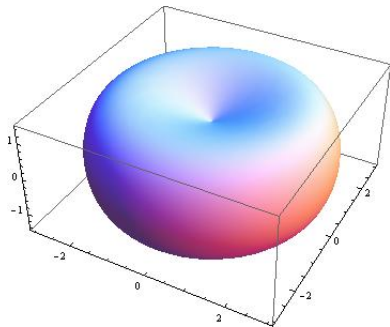
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# The isoperimetric problem in $\mathbb{R}^n$

Isoperimetric Inequality in  $\mathbb{R}^n$ : For  $\Omega$  bounded Borel set with finite perimeter measure  $P$ .

$$|\Omega|^{\frac{n-1}{n}} \leq C_n P(\Omega)$$

- Sharp constant  $C_n = (n^{1-1/n} \omega_{n-1}^{1/n})^{-1}$ , where  $\omega_{n-1}$  = surface area of  $\mathbb{S}^{n-1}$ .
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# The isoperimetric problem in $\mathbb{H}^1$

In  $\mathbb{R}^3$  among all simple closed surfaces with given surface area, the sphere encloses a region of maximal volume.

Theorem (Pansu)

*There exists some  $C > 0$  such that*

$$|\Omega|^{3/4} \leq CP_{\mathbb{H}}(\Omega)$$

*for any bounded open set  $\Omega$  with  $C^1$  boundary.*

Conjecture (Pansu 1982)

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# Best bounds for the Kakeya conjecture

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# UCONN SEMESTER IN NONSMOOTH ANALYSIS

$\int f(x) = \int k(x, y) d\mu(y)$      $|u(x) - v(y)| \leq \int_{\gamma} f ds$      $\lambda_j = \partial x_j + \partial y_j$      $\dim_{\mathcal{H}}(E) \leq \dim_{\mathcal{M}_1}(E)$      $d(\cdot, \cdot) : X_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^{\Lambda(\infty)}$   
 $\|x\|_{H^1} = (|x'|^q + |x|^q)^{1/q}$      $\|\sqrt{I(f)}\|_p \approx \|\sqrt{-I}f\|_p$      $\mu = \sum_i f_i S_i^2(\mu)$      $H\psi = -\psi'' + V(x)\psi$      $\tan(\mu, x)$

## Public University Lecture:

**Michael Barnsley**

(Australian National University)

**November 17**



## COLLOQUIUM LECTURES

- October 1    Fabrice Baudoin (Purdue)
- October 8    Bruce Kleiner (NYU)
- October 22    Pertti Mattila (Helsinki)
- October 29    Nages Shanmugalingam (Cincinnati)
- November 12    Luca Capogna (Worcester)
- November 19    Xavier Tolsa (Barcelona)

## Organizing committee

Matthew Badger  
 Vasileios Chousionis  
 Masha Gordina  
 Luke Rogers  
 Alexander Teplyaev

For more information visit:  
[www.math.uconn.edu/nonsmooth](http://www.math.uconn.edu/nonsmooth)

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