

PROBLEMS WEEK 6 & 7

**Problem 1:**

**Definition:** Let  $S \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ ,  $m \leq n - 1$ , and  $\epsilon \in (0, \frac{1}{4})$ . Assume that  $0 \in S$ . We say that  $S$  has the weak  $\epsilon$ - approximation property in  $B_1(0)$  if  $\forall \rho \in (0, 1]$  and for each  $Q \in S \cap B_1(0)$  there exists an  $m$  plane  $L(\rho, Q)$  containing  $Q$  and such that

$$S \cap B_\rho(Q) \subset (\epsilon\rho) - \text{neighborhood of } L(\rho, Q) \cap B_\rho(Q).$$

Prove that there is a function  $\beta : (0, \infty) \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  with  $\lim_{t \rightarrow 0} \beta(t) = 0$  such that if  $S$  satisfies the weak  $\epsilon$ - approximation property in  $B_1(0)$  then

$$\mathcal{H}^{m+\beta(\epsilon)}(S \cap B_1(0)) = 0.$$

Here  $\mathcal{H}^s$  denotes the  $s$  dimensional Hausdorff measure.

**Problem 2:** Let  $\mu$  be a Borel measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , and let  $E \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a  $\mu$ -measurable set with  $0 < \mu(E) < \infty$ . Show that for  $s > 0$

- if

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu(B(x, r) \cap E)}{r^s} < c < \infty \quad \forall x \in E,$$

then  $\mathcal{H}^s(E) > 0$ ,

- if

$$\limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mu(B(x, r) \cap E)}{r^s} > c > 0 \quad \forall x \in E,$$

then  $\mathcal{H}^s(E) < \infty$ .

**Problem 3:** Let  $E \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  satisfy  $0 < \mathcal{H}^s(E) < \infty$ , for  $0 < s < 1$ . Show that the density

$$\theta^s(E, x) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathcal{H}^s(E \cap B(x, r))}{\omega_s r^s}$$

fails to exist at almost every point of  $E$  (i.e.  $\theta^s(E, x)$  exists at most in a subset of  $E$  of  $\mathcal{H}^s$  measure 0).

**Remark:** Marstrand proved this result in 1954. Later on he showed that if  $s > 0$ , and  $\theta^s(E, x)$  exists on a subset  $F \subset E$  with  $\mathcal{H}^s(F) > 0$ , then  $s$  must be an integer.

**Problem 4:** Let  $\mu_j, \mu$  be Radon measures on a metric space  $X$ . Assume that for each  $x \in X$ , and each  $j = 1, 2, \dots$

$$\theta(\mu_j, x, r) = \frac{\mu_j(B_r(x))}{\omega_n r^n}, \text{ and } \theta(\mu, x, r) = \frac{\mu(B_r(x))}{\omega_n r^n},$$

are non-decreasing functions of  $r$ . Assume also that  $\mu_j$  converges weakly to  $\mu$ , and that  $x_j \rightarrow x$  as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ . Prove that

$$\limsup_{j \rightarrow \infty} \theta(\mu_j, x_j) \leq \theta(\mu, x).$$

Here  $\theta(\mu_j, x) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \theta(\mu_j, x, r)$ , and  $\theta(\mu, x) = \lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \theta(\mu, x, r)$ .

**Remark:** Note that in particular if  $\mu_j = \mu$  for each  $j$  and  $\theta(\mu, x, r)$  is a non-decreasing function of  $r$ , then the result above proves the upper semi-continuity of the density.

**Problem 5:** Let  $M \subset \mathbb{R}^m$ ,  $0 < n < m$ , and  $\mu = \mathcal{H}^n \llcorner M$ . Assume that  $\mu$  is a Radon measure, and that for each  $x \in M$   $\theta(\mu, x, r) = \frac{\mu(B_r(x))}{\omega_n r^n}$  is a non-decreasing function of  $r$ . Let  $\lambda_j > 0$  be a sequence converging to 0 as  $j \rightarrow \infty$ . For  $x \in M$ , let

$$M_j = \frac{1}{\lambda_j}(M - x) = \{y = \frac{1}{\lambda_j}(z - x) : z \in M\},$$

and

$$\mu_j = \mathcal{H}^n \llcorner (M_j \cap B_1(0)).$$

Show that for each  $j$ ,  $\mu_j$  is a Radon measure. Prove that there exists a subsequence  $\mu_{j_k}$  of  $\mu_j$  that converges weakly to a Radon measure  $\nu$ , and that

$$(*) \quad \theta(\mu, x) = \theta(\nu, 0).$$

Note that in particular  $(*)$  asserts that  $\lim_{r \rightarrow 0} \theta(\nu, 0, r)$  exists.

**Remark:** The situation described in Problem 5 occurs when  $M$  is a minimal  $n$ -dimensional submanifold of  $\mathbb{R}^m$ . In that case  $\nu = \mathcal{H}^n \llcorner C$ , where  $C$  is a cone of vertex 0.  $C$  is a tangent cone of  $M$  at  $x$ . As defined this cone depends on the subsequence  $\lambda_{j_k}$ . One of the big open questions in the subject is whether there is a unique tangent cone. Moreover the set  $\{x \in M : \theta(\mu, x) = 1\}$  is open and smooth. The set  $\{x \in M : \theta(\mu, x) > 1\}$  is a closed set of Hausdorff dimension at most  $n - 1$ .