# Instantaneous dimension of finite metric spaces via magnitude and spread 

Simon Willerton<br>University of Sheffield

Applied Topology in Będlewo 2017

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Measure of size: magnitude [Leinster]
Finite metric space ( $X, \mathrm{~d}$ ) with $N$ points.

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Finite metric space $(X, \mathrm{~d})$ with $N$ points.
Define weight $w_{i} \in \mathbb{R}$ for each point $i \in X$ so that

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\sum_{i} \mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{d}(i, j)} w_{i}=1 \quad \text { for every } j
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$$
|X| \sim 1.47
$$

Magnitude function: scaling a space


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t X:=0 \stackrel{\mathrm{t}}{\mathrm{t}} \longleftrightarrow{ }^{\circ} 0.001 \mathrm{t}
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As any space $X$ is scaled bigger and bigger $|t X| \rightarrow N$.

## Measure of size: spread [Willerton]

One parameter family of measures of size $\left\{\mathrm{E}_{q}\right\}_{q=0}^{\infty}$.
Closely related to magnitude but simpler and better behaved.

$$
\mathrm{E}_{q}(X):=\left(\frac{1}{N} \sum_{i}\left(\frac{N}{\sum_{j} \mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{d}(i, j)}}\right)^{1-q}\right)^{\frac{1}{1-q}}
$$

In particular,

$$
\mathrm{E}_{0}(X)=\sum_{i}^{N} \frac{1}{\sum_{j} \mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{d}(i, j)}} ; \quad \mathrm{E}_{2}(X)=\frac{N^{2}}{\sum_{i, j} \mathrm{e}^{-\mathrm{d}(i, j)}}
$$

If $X$ is homogeneous then $\mathrm{E}_{q}(X)=|X|$ for all $q$.

More on spread


1. $1 \leq \mathrm{E}_{q}(X) \leq N$;
2. $\mathrm{E}_{q}(t X)$ is increasing in $t$;
3. $\mathrm{E}_{q}(t X) \rightarrow 1$ as $t \rightarrow 0$;
4. $\mathrm{E}_{q}(t X) \rightarrow N$ as $t \rightarrow \infty$.

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In a metric space what should happen to the size when we scale distances?

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$$
3^{1}=3 \text { times as big }
$$

$$
3^{2}=9 \text { times as big }
$$

$3^{\log _{3} 2}=2$ times as big

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Think of dimension as how the size changes when the distances are changed. Given 'size' can see if it gives a good idea of dimension.

## Instantaneous dimension

Given a notion of size $S$, if

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S(t X)=a \cdot t^{d}
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then we want

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\operatorname{dim}_{S}(t X)=d \quad \text { for all } t
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Think of $\operatorname{dim}_{S}(t X)$ as $t$ varies as the dimension profile of $X$.

Can you identify these 10 point clouds from just their dimension profile????

Profile 1


## Profile 1



Answer: Our little 3 point space.

## Profile 2



## Profile 2



## Profile 2



Answer: 1,000 points in the interval $[0,1]$.

## Profile 3



## Profile 3



## Profile 3



Answer: 100,000 points in the interval $[0,1]$.

Profile 4


Profile 4


## Profile 4



Answer: $270 \times 270$ grid of points.

## Profile 5



## Profile 5



Answer: $12 \times 6000$ grid of points.

## Profile 6



## Profile 6



## Profile 6



Answer: 2000 points in a circle in the plane.

## Profile 7



Profile 7


## Profile 7



Answer: 20000 points in a circle in the plane.

Profile 8


Profile 8


## Profile 8



Answer: 10000 points in a 'noisy' circle in the plane.

Profile 9


Profile 9


## Profile 9



Answer: 2048 points in the Cantor set.

## Profile 9



Answer: 2048 points in the Cantor set.

## Profile 9



Answer: 2048 points in the Cantor set.

## Profile 10



## Profile 10



## Profile 10



Answer: 16385 points in the Sierpinski gasket.

## Challenge

Calculate the dimension profiles for some interesting data sets!

