# POROUS MEASURES ON $\mathbb{R}^n$ : LOCAL STRUCTURE AND DIMENSIONAL PROPERTIES

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ABSTRACT. We study dimensional properties of porous measures on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . As a corollary of a theorem describing the local structure of nearly uniformly porous measures we prove that the packing dimension of any Radon measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  has an upper bound depending on porosity. This upper bound tends to n-1 as porosity tends to its maximum value.

## 1. Introduction and preliminaries

Porosity is a quantity that describes irregularities of fractals. The study of dimensional properties featured by porous sets was pioneered by P. Mattila. In [M] he verified the existence of a non-increasing function which gives an upper bound for Hausdorff dimension of any set in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  as a function of porosity. Furthermore, he showed that this upper bound tends to n-1 as porosity tends to its maximum value. In [S] A. Salli generalized the corresponding results for packing dimension and established the correct asymptotic behaviour for the upper bound.

For measures the following definition of porosity was introduced in [EJJ].

**1.1. Definition.** The porosity of a Radon measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  at a point  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$  is defined by

(1.1) 
$$\operatorname{por}(\mu, x) = \lim_{\epsilon \downarrow 0} \liminf_{r \downarrow 0} \operatorname{por}(\mu, x, r, \epsilon)$$

where for all  $r, \varepsilon > 0$ 

$$por(\mu, x, r, \varepsilon) = \sup\{p \ge 0 \mid \text{ there is } z \in \mathbb{R}^n \text{ such that } B(z, pr) \subset B(x, r)$$

$$(1.2) \qquad \qquad and \ \mu(B(z, pr)) \le \varepsilon \mu(B(x, r))\}.$$

The porosity of  $\mu$  is

$$por(\mu) = \underset{x \in \mathbb{R}^n}{\text{ess sup por}(\mu, x)}$$

$$= \inf\{s \ge 0 \mid por(\mu, x) \le s \text{ for } \mu\text{-almost all } x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}.$$

We will relate porosity of measures to packing dimension defined as follows.

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**1.2. Definition.** Let  $\mu$  be a Radon measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The packing dimension of  $\mu$  is defined in terms of upper local dimensions

$$(1.4) \quad \dim_{\mathbf{p}}(\mu) = \sup\{s \ge 0 \mid \limsup_{i \to \infty} \frac{\log \mu(D_i(x))}{\log 2^{-i}} \ge s \text{ for } \mu\text{-almost all } x \in \mathbb{R}^n\}$$

where  $D_i(x)$  is the closed dyadic cube of side-length  $2^{-i}$  containing x. Equivalently this definition can be given using packing dimensions of Borel sets with positive  $\mu$ -measure

(1.5) 
$$\dim_{\mathbf{p}}(\mu) = \inf \{ \dim_{\mathbf{p}}(A) \mid A \text{ is a Borel set with } \mu(A) > 0 \}.$$

Replacing "liminf" by "limsup" in (1.1) gives the upper porosity of a measure, which was studied by M. E. Mera and M. Morán in [MM]. They showed that if  $\mu$  satisfies the doubling condition, that is,

$$\limsup_{r \to 0} \frac{\mu(B(x, 2r))}{\mu(B(x, r))} < \infty$$

for  $\mu$ -almost all  $x \in \mathbb{R}^n$ , then the upper porosity of  $\mu$  is either 0 or 1/2. (Above B(x,r) is the closed ball with radius r and centre x.) Furthermore, for any non-doubling measure the upper porosity equals 1. Note that the (lower) porosity may obtain any value between 0 and 1/2 for both doubling and non-doubling measures. The upper porosity is too weak for the purpose of obtaining a non-trivial upper bound for dimension; for any p=0,1/2,1 and  $0 \le d \le n$  there exists a Radon measure  $\mu$  with the upper porosity equal to p and with both Hausdorff and packing dimension equal to p.

In this paper we will establish a connection between porosity and packing dimension for all Radon measures on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . The case n=1 was studied in [JJ]. In [EJJ] the emphasis was given to doubling measures on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . For such measures the porosity can be given in terms of porosities of Borel sets with positive measure:

$$por(\mu) = \sup\{por(A) \mid A \text{ is a Borel set with } \mu(A) > 0\}.$$

(The doubling condition is necessary here, see [EJJ] for details.)

We will generalize the results of [JJ] to higher dimensions by verifying that the packing dimension of any Radon measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is bounded above by a function that depends on porosity and by showing that this upper bound goes to n-1 as porosity tends to its maximum value 1/2. In particular, the packing dimension of any Radon measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  having porosity close to 1/2 cannot be much larger than n-1.

Our main tools are a dimension estimate obtained from the strong law of large numbers and a description of the local structure of nearly uniformly porous measures. The latter one states that for a given nearly uniformly porous measure any sufficiently small dyadic cube can be divided into three parts two of which having small measure and the remaining one being a narrow boundary of a convex set (see Theorem (2.1)).

We conclude this section by recalling the following lemma from [JJ] according to which we may replace any measure by a nearly uniformly porous measure when estimating packing dimension from above.

**1.3. Lemma.** Assume that  $\mu$  is a Radon measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  such that  $\operatorname{por}(\mu) \geq p$ . Let  $0 < \delta < 1$ . Then there is a Radon measure  $\mu_{\delta}$  with compact support  $\operatorname{spt}(\mu_{\delta}) \subset \operatorname{spt}(\mu)$  and with  $\dim_{\mathbf{p}}(\mu_{\delta}) \geq \dim_{\mathbf{p}}(\mu)$  such that the following property holds: there exists  $\varepsilon_{\delta} > 0$  such that for all  $0 < \varepsilon \leq \varepsilon_{\delta}$  there are a Borel set  $B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  and  $r_{\delta,\varepsilon} > 0$  with  $\mu_{\delta}(\mathbb{R}^n \setminus B_{\delta,\varepsilon}) \leq \delta\mu_{\delta}(\mathbb{R}^n)$  and

$$por(\mu_{\delta}, x, r, \varepsilon) > p - \frac{\delta}{2}$$

for all  $x \in B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  and  $0 < r \le r_{\delta,\varepsilon}$ .

*Proof.* See [JJ, Lemma 2.2].

### 2. Local structure and dimensional properties

For all positive integers i we use the notation  $\mathcal{D}_i$  for the family of dyadic cubes in  $\mathbb{R}^n$  with side-length  $2^{-i}$ . For all  $Q \in \mathcal{D}_i$  and for all positive integers k, let  $\mathcal{N}^k(Q) \subset \mathcal{D}_i$  be the family of the  $(2k+1)^n$  neighbouring dyadic cubes of Q with side-length  $2^{-i}$  being located symmetrically around Q (including Q itself).

For all  $\delta > 0$ , a  $\delta$ -plate is a  $\frac{\delta}{2}$ -neighbourhood of an (n-1)-dimensional affine subspace of  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . An affine  $\delta$ -boundary of a polyhedron P is the union of parts of  $\delta$ -plates clued on all faces of P such that the union of P and its affine  $\delta$ -boundary is a polyhedron obtained by magnifying P.

The following theorem describes the local structure of porous measures by stating that in all sufficiently small dyadic cubes such measures are essentially concentrated on a narrow boundary of some convex set.

**2.1. Theorem.** Assume that  $\mu$  is a Radon measure on  $[0,1]^n$  such that  $\operatorname{por}(\mu) \geq \frac{1}{2}(1-\beta)$  for  $0 \leq \beta \leq \frac{1}{18}$ . Let K be a positive integer. For all  $0 < \delta < \frac{1}{18}$  let  $\mu_{\delta}$  and  $\varepsilon_{\delta}$  be as in Lemma 1.3. Let  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_{\delta}$ . Then there is a positive integer  $i_0$  depending on K,  $\delta$ , and  $\varepsilon$  such that for all  $i \geq i_0$  any cube  $Q \in \mathcal{D}_i$  can be divided into three disjoint (not necessarily non-empty) parts

$$(2.1) Q = E \cup P \cup I$$

where

$$\mu_{\delta}(E) \leq C_Q^K N \varepsilon$$

for an integer N depending on K,  $\delta$ , and  $\beta$  and for  $C_Q^K = \max_{D \in \mathcal{N}^K(Q)} \mu_{\delta}(D)$ , P is an affine  $C_{\beta,\delta}2^{-i}$ -boundary of a convex polyhedron with  $C_{\beta,\delta} = 6K(\beta + \delta) + \frac{2n}{K(1-\beta-\delta)}$ , and  $I \subset Q \setminus B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$ . Here  $B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  is as in Lemma 1.3.

Proof. Let  $r_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  be as in Lemma 1.3 and let  $i_0$  be the smallest integer such that  $(1+K)2^{-i_0} < r_{\delta,\varepsilon}$ . Consider an integer  $i \ge i_0$ . Note that for those  $Q \in \mathcal{D}_i$  which do not intersect  $B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  equality (2.1) is trivial. Let  $Q \in \mathcal{D}_i$  such that  $Q \cap B_{\delta,\varepsilon} \ne \emptyset$ . Setting  $r_x = \operatorname{dist}(x, \partial Q) + K2^{-i}$  for all  $x \in Q \cap B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$ , we have  $B(x, r_x) \subset \bigcup_{D \in \mathcal{N}^K(Q)} D$ . Lemma 1.3 implies that for all  $x \in Q \cap B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  there is a ball  $B_x$  with radius  $qr_x = \frac{1}{2}(1-\beta-\delta)r_x$  such that  $B_x \subset B(x, r_x)$  and

(2.2) 
$$\mu_{\delta}(B_x) \le (2K+1)^n C_Q^K \varepsilon.$$

Set  $a^{1/n} = 2K(1-2q)\alpha^{1/n}$  where  $\alpha = \mathcal{L}^n(B(0,1))$  is the Lebesgue measure of the unit ball. Then there are integers  $N(a) \geq N(a,Q) \geq 0$  for which there are  $x_1, \ldots, x_{N(a,Q)} \in Q \cap B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  such that

$$\mathcal{L}^n\Big((B_{x_j}\cap Q)\setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{j-1}B_{x_k}\Big)\geq a\mathcal{L}^n(Q)$$

for all j = 1, ..., N(a, Q) and

(2.3) 
$$\mathcal{L}^n\Big((B_x \cap Q) \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{N(a,Q)} B_{x_k}\Big) < a\mathcal{L}^n(Q)$$

for all  $x \in Q \cap B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  such that  $x \neq x_j$  for all  $j = 1, \ldots, N(a, Q)$ . (We use the interpretation  $\bigcup_{k=1}^{0} B_{x_k} = \emptyset$ . In the case N(a, Q) = 0 we have  $\mathcal{L}^n(B_x \cap Q) < a\mathcal{L}^n(Q)$  for all  $x \in Q \cap B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$ .)

Define

$$I_1 = \Big\{ y \in Q \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{N(a,Q)} B_{x_k} \mid \operatorname{dist}\Big(y, \partial\Big(Q \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{N(a,Q)} B_{x_k}\Big)\Big) > 2\left(\frac{a}{\alpha}\right)^{1/n} 2^{-i} \Big\}.$$

Then

$$(2.4) B_x \cap I_1 = \emptyset$$

for all  $x \in I_1 \cap B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$ . In fact, assuming that  $B_x = B_{x_j}$  for some  $j = 1, \ldots, N(a, Q)$ , equality (2.4) holds. If  $B_x \cap I_1 \neq \emptyset$  for some  $x \in I_1 \cap B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$  with  $B_x \neq B_{x_j}$  for all  $j = 1, \ldots, N(a, Q)$ , then, as it will be indicated shortly, the set  $(B_x \cap Q) \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{N(a,Q)} B_{x_k}$  contains a ball with radius  $(a/\alpha)^{1/n}2^{-i}$  contradicting (2.3). To find such a ball, take  $z \in B_x \cap I_1$ . Then  $B(z, 2(a/\alpha)^{1/n}2^{-i}) \subset Q \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{N(a,Q)} B_{x_k}$ . Since  $(a/\alpha)^{1/n}2^{-i} \leq \frac{1}{2}qr_x$ , the ball  $B_x$  contains a ball with radius  $(a/\alpha)^{1/n}2^{-i}$  having z on its boundary such that the centre of the ball belongs to the line going through z and the centre of  $B_x$ . Clearly this ball is a subset of  $Q \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{N(a,Q)} B_{x_k}$ . This completes the proof of (2.4). Set

$$I_2 = \Big\{ y \in Q \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{N(a,Q)} B_{x_k} \mid \operatorname{dist}\Big(y, \partial \Big(Q \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{N(a,Q)} B_{x_k}\Big)\Big) > 3(\frac{a}{\alpha})^{1/n} 2^{-i} \Big\}.$$

Then  $I_2 \subset Q \setminus B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$ . To see this, assume that there exists  $x \in I_2 \cap B_{\delta,\varepsilon}$ . From (2.4) we get

$$dist(x, \partial B_x) > (\frac{a}{\alpha})^{1/n} 2^{-i} = 2K(1 - 2q)2^{-i}.$$

On the other hand  $\operatorname{dist}(x, \partial B_x) \leq r_x(1 - 2q) \leq (K + 1/2)(1 - 2q)2^{-i}$ . Hence  $I_2 \subset Q \setminus B_{\delta, \varepsilon}$ .

Let  $B_{x_k} = B(z_k, qr_{x_k})$ . Since  $\frac{n}{qK}2^{-i}$  is an upper bound for the height of a segment of any ball with radius  $qr_x$  having chord with length at most  $\sqrt{n}2^{-i}$ , the intersections of each of the annuli  $B(z_k, qr_x + 3(a/\alpha)^{1/n}2^{-i}) \setminus B_{x_k}$  and Q can

be included in a  $C_{\beta,\delta}2^{-i}$ -plate. Adding parts of the affine  $C_{\beta,\delta}$ -boundary of Q if necessary concludes the construction of P. Setting

$$I = I_2 \setminus P$$

and

$$E = Q \setminus (P \cup I) \subset Q \cap \bigcup_{k=1}^{N(a,Q)} B_{x_k},$$

equality (2.1) follows since

$$\mu_{\delta}(Q \cap \bigcup_{k=1}^{N(a,Q)} B_{x_k}) \le N(a)(2K+1)^n C_Q^K \varepsilon$$

by (2.2).  $\square$ 

Let  $\mu$  be a Radon probability measure on  $[0,1]^n$  such that  $\mu(V) = 0$  for all affine hyperplanes  $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . Letting k be a positive integer set  $I = \{1, \ldots, 2^{kn}\}$ . For all positive integers j, denote by  $\mathbf{I}^j$  the set of all j-term sequences of integers belonging to I and by  $\mathbf{I}^{\infty}$  the corresponding set of infinite sequences, that is,

$$\mathbf{I}^{j} = \{(i_1, \dots, i_j) \mid i_l \in I \text{ for all } l = 1, \dots, j\}$$

and

$$\mathbf{I}^{\infty} = \{(i_1, i_2, \dots) \mid i_l \in I \text{ for all } l = 1, 2, \dots\}.$$

Divide  $[0,1]^n$  into  $2^{kn}$  dyadic subcubes, enumarate them and denote them by  $D_j$ ,  $j=1,\ldots,2^{kn}$ . Define  $f:[0,1]^n\to [0,1]^n$  by setting  $f(x)=2^kx$  mod 1. For each  $x\in [0,1]^n$  we define a sequence  $\mathbf{i}^x=(i_1,i_2,\ldots)\in \mathbf{I}^\infty$  such that  $f^{l-1}(x)\in D_{i_l}$  for all  $l=1,2,\ldots$ . Note that for all  $x=(x_1,\ldots,x_n)$  the sequence  $\mathbf{i}^x$  is unique unless  $x_j$  is a dyadic rational for some  $j=1,\ldots,n$ . For a positive integer l and  $\mathbf{i}=(i_1,i_2,\ldots)\in \mathbf{I}^\infty$  let  $\mathbf{i}|_l=(i_1,\ldots,i_l)\in \mathbf{I}^l$  be the sequence of the first l digits of  $\mathbf{i}$  and for all  $j=1,\ldots,2^{kn}$  let  $\mathbf{n}_j(\mathbf{i}|_l)$  be the number of j's in  $\mathbf{i}|_l$ .

We can attach a sequence  $(P_l^{\mu})$  of probability measures on I to  $\mu$  such that for all  $j = 1, \ldots, 2^{kn}$   $P_l^{\mu}(\{j\})$  gives the probability that the l:th digit (in the above representation) of a random number (with respect to  $\mu$ ) in  $[0,1]^n$  equals j, that is,

$$P_l^{\mu}(\{j\}) = \sum_{\substack{(i_1, \dots, i_l) \in \mathbf{I}^l \\ i_l = j}} \mu(D_{i_1, \dots, i_l})$$

where  $D_{i_1,...,i_l}$  is the closed dyadic subcube of  $[0,1]^n$  of side-length  $2^{-kl}$  consisting of points whose expansion begins with  $(i_1,...,i_l)$ . The measures  $P_l^{\mu}$  are well-defined since  $\mu(V) = 0$  for all affine hyperplanes  $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . We use the notation  $P^{\mu}$  for the product measure  $\prod_{l=1}^{\infty} P_l^{\mu}$  on the code space  $\mathbf{I}^{\infty}$ .

**2.2.** Proposition. Let  $\mu$  be a Radon probability measure on  $[0,1]^n$  such that  $\mu(V) = 0$  for all affine hyperplanes  $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . Let  $p \leq 2^{-kn}$  and  $L \in I$ . Assume that  $\limsup_{l \to \infty} \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^{l} \operatorname{P}_i^{\mu}(\{j\}) \leq p$  for all  $j = 1, \ldots, L$ . Then

$$\dim_{\mathbf{p}} \mu \le -\frac{1}{\log 2^k} (Lp \log p + (1 - Lp) \log (\frac{1 - Lp}{2^{kn} - L})) =: \alpha(p, L).$$

*Proof.* The strong law of large numbers [Fe, X.7.1] gives for all j = 1, ..., L that

$$\limsup_{l \to \infty} \frac{1}{l} \, \mathbf{n}_j(\mathbf{i}|_l) \le p$$

for  $P^{\mu}$ -almost all  $\mathbf{i} \in \mathbf{I}^{\infty}$ . Defining

$$E_{p,L} = \{ x \in [0,1]^n \mid \limsup_{l \to \infty} \frac{1}{l} \operatorname{n}_j(\mathbf{i}^x|_l) \le p \text{ for all } j = 1, \dots, L \},$$

this implies that  $\mu(E_{p,L}) = 1$ . Since  $E_{p,L}$  is a Borel set it is enough to prove that  $\dim_{\mathbb{D}}(E_{p,L}) \leq \alpha(p,L)$ .

Let  $\rho$  be a probability measure on I such that  $\rho(\{j\}) = p$  for all j = 1, ..., L and  $\rho(\{j\}) = (1 - Lp)/(2^{kn} - L)$  for all  $j = L + 1, ..., 2^{kn}$ . Let  $\nu$  be the image of the infinite product of the measures  $\rho$  under the map  $\pi: \mathbf{I}^{\infty} \to [0,1]^n$ . Note that since  $p \leq 2^{-kn}$  we have

$$-u\log p - (1-u)\log\left(\frac{1-Lp}{2^{kn}-L}\right) \le \alpha(p,L)\log 2^k$$

for all  $u \leq Lp$ . Let  $x \in E_{p,L}$ . The equality

$$\log \nu(D_{kl}(x)) = \log p \sum_{j=1}^{L} n_j(\mathbf{i}^x|_l) + \log \left(\frac{1 - Lp}{2^{kn} - L}\right) \sum_{j=L+1}^{2^{kn}} n_j(\mathbf{i}^x|_l)$$

gives

$$\liminf_{l \to \infty} \frac{1}{l} \log \left( \frac{\nu(D_{kl}(x))}{2^{-klt}} \right) \ge -\log 2^k \alpha(p, L) + t \log 2^k$$

where  $D_{kl}(x)$  is the dyadic cube of side-length  $2^{-kl}$  containing x. Thus if  $t > \alpha(p, L)$  then  $\lim \inf_{l \to \infty} \frac{\nu(D_{kl}(x))}{2^{-klt}} = \infty$ , implying

$$\limsup_{l \to \infty} \frac{\log(\nu(D_{kl}(x)))}{\log 2^{-kl}} \le t.$$

By [Fa, Proposition 2.3 (d)] we get  $\dim_{\mathbf{p}}(E_{p,L}) \leq \alpha(p,L)$ .  $\square$ 

Let k and i be positive integers. Dyadic cubes in  $\mathcal{D}_{ki}$  form a brood if they belong to the same dyadic cube belonging to  $\mathcal{D}_{k(i-1)}$ . Note that each brood consists of  $2^{kn}$  dyadic cubes. Given a measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ , order the cubes of every brood such that  $\mu(D_j) \leq \mu(D_{j+1})$  for all  $j = 1, \ldots, 2^{kn}$ . Let  $\mathcal{D}_{ki}^j(\mu)$  be the set of the j:th cubes of all broods.

**2.3. Theorem.** Let  $\mu$  be a Radon probability measure on  $[0,1]^n$  such that  $\operatorname{por}(\mu) \geq \frac{1}{2}(1-\beta)$  for  $0 \leq \beta \leq \frac{1}{18}$  and  $\mu(V) = 0$  for all affine hyperplanes  $V \subset \mathbb{R}^n$ . For all  $0 < \delta < \frac{1}{18}$  let  $\mu_{\delta}$  be as in Lemma 1.3. Then there is an integer L with  $2^{k(\beta,\delta)n} \geq L \geq 2^{k(\beta,\delta)n} - c2^{k(\beta,\delta)(n-1)}$  where c is a constant depending only on n and  $k(\beta,\delta) \to \infty$  as  $\delta \to 0$  and  $\beta \to 0$  such that the following inequality is valid: for all  $j=1,\ldots,L$  we have

$$\limsup_{l \to \infty} \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^{l} \sum_{D \in \mathcal{D}_{k,i}^{j}(\mu_{\delta})} \mu_{\delta}(D) \leq \delta \mu_{\delta}([0,1]^{n}).$$

Proof. Let  $k_0$  be the largest integer such that  $\beta + \delta \leq 2^{-2k_0}$ . Set  $K = 2^{k_0}$ . Let  $0 < \varepsilon < \varepsilon_{\delta}$  and let  $i \geq i_0$  where  $\varepsilon_{\delta}$  and  $i_0$  are as in Theorem 2.1. Let k be the largest integer such that  $2^{-k} > 4(6+4n)2^{-k_0}$ . Then  $2^{-k} > 4C_{\beta,\delta}$  where  $C_{\beta,\delta}$  is as in Theorem 2.1. Consider  $Q \in \mathcal{D}_{ki}$ . Let  $Q = E_Q \cup P_Q \cup I_Q$  be the partition of Q given in Theorem 2.1. Take any  $x \in P_Q$ . Then  $D_{k(i+1)}(x)$  and its neighbouring cubes in  $\mathcal{D}_{k(i+1)}$  cover a part of  $P_Q$  such that the  $\mathcal{L}^{n-1}$ -measure of the covered part of both inner and outer boundary of  $P_Q$  is at least  $2^{-(n-1)}2^{-k(i+1)(n-1)}$ . By the convexity of  $P_Q$  the  $\mathcal{L}^{n-1}$ -measure of the outer boundary of  $P_Q$  is less than  $2n2^{-ki(n-1)}$ . Hence we need at most  $3^{2n}2n2^{n-1}2^{k(n-1)}$  cubes from  $\mathcal{D}_{k(i+1)}$  to cover  $P_Q$ . Thus there are  $L \geq 2^{kn} - 3^{2n}2n2^{n-1}2^{k(n-1)}$  cubes in  $\mathcal{D}_{k(i+1)}$  which belong to  $E_Q \cup I_Q$ . Clearly  $\mu_{\delta}(D_j) \leq \mu_{\delta}(E_Q \cup I_Q)$  for all  $j = 1, \ldots, L$ . Theorem 2.1 and Lemma 1.3 give

$$\limsup_{l \to \infty} \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^{l} \sum_{D \in \mathcal{D}_{k_{i}}^{j}(\mu_{\delta})} \mu_{\delta}(D) \leq \limsup_{l \to \infty} \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^{l} \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{D}_{k_{i}}} \mu_{\delta}(E_{Q} \cup I_{Q})$$

$$\leq \limsup_{l \to \infty} \frac{1}{l} \sum_{i=1}^{l} ((2K+1)^{n} N \varepsilon + \delta) \mu_{\delta}([0,1]^{n}) \xrightarrow[\varepsilon \to 0]{} \delta \mu_{\delta}([0,1]^{n}).$$

Since  $k_0 \to \infty$  as  $\delta$  and  $\beta$  tend to zero we may let k tend to infinity when  $\delta \to 0$  and  $\beta \to 0$ .  $\square$ 

**2.4.** Corollary. Assume that  $\mu$  is a Radon measure on  $\mathbb{R}^n$ . If  $0 < \beta \le 1$  such that  $\operatorname{por}(\nu) \ge \frac{1}{2}(1-\beta)$ , then  $\dim_{\mathbf{p}}(\nu) \le d(\beta)$  where  $d(\beta) \to n-1$  as  $\beta \to 0$ .

Proof. The claim follows from Theorem 2.3 and from the obvious generalization of [JJ, Lemma 3.3] (see [JJ, Corollary 3.4]) with  $d(\beta) = \lim_{\delta \to 0} \alpha(\delta, L)$  where L is as in Theorem 2.3. Note that by the choices of k and  $k_0$  in Theorem 2.3 we have  $C_n(\beta + \delta)^{-1/2} \leq 2^k \leq \widetilde{C}_n(\beta + \delta)^{-1/2}$  for constants  $C_n$  and  $\widetilde{C}_n$  depending only on n. By the lower and upper bounds given in Theorem 2.3 for L we obtain that  $d(\beta) \to n-1$  when  $\beta \to 0$ .  $\square$ 

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**2.5.** Remark. After finishing this paper we obtained the preprint [BS] from D. B. Beliaev and S. K. Smirnov where similar dimension results have been proved using different methods.

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