Abstract

SELF-SIMILAR SETS AND MEASURES

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In this thesis we consider Iterated Function Systems (IFS) which are either self-similar or hyperbolic. The hyperbolic IFS' are generalizations of the self-similar ones.

We focus on the case when the cylinders have significant overlap. To handle the problem caused by the overlapping we study a method which is called "transversality method". We want to estimate the dimension of the attractor of a typical self-similar (or in the one-but last chapter) hyperbolic IFS. Furthermore, we also want to know if the Lebesgue measure of a self-similar attractor is positive assuming that the so-called similarity dimension is greater than one. We ask the corresponding questions for the the self-similar invariant measures.

Due to the limitation of the transversality method, we cannot answer these questions for individual IFS'. We always consider families of self-similar or hyperbolic IFS' and ask these questions above for a typical element of the family. Essentially the transversality method yields (when we can apply it) that the behavior of the typical element of a family of self-similar IFS is the one that we would expect. Using this we describe the solution of the absolute continuity of the infinite Bernoulli convolution measures.

In Chapter 7 we study hyperbolic IFS. The most important tool is the so-called topological pressure. The root of the so-called pressure formula is analogous to the similarity dimension. We verify that whenever the transversality condition holds, the Hausdorff dimension of the attractor of a typical element of a given family of hyperbolic IFS' can be computed as the root of the pressure formula.