

## Some properties of packing measure with doubling gauge

by

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**Abstract.** Let  $g$  be a doubling gauge. We consider the packing measure  $\mathcal{P}^g$  and the packing premeasure  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$  in a metric space  $X$ . We first show that if  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(X)$  is finite, then as a function of  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$  has a kind of “outer regularity”. Then we prove that if  $X$  is complete separable, then  $\lambda \sup \mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \leq \mathcal{P}^g(B) \leq \sup \mathcal{P}_0^g(F)$  for every Borel subset  $B$  of  $X$ , where the supremum is taken over all compact subsets of  $B$  having finite  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$ -premeasure, and  $\lambda$  is a positive number depending only on the doubling gauge  $g$ . As an application, we show that for every doubling gauge function, there is a compact metric space of finite positive packing measure.

**1. Introduction.** Let  $g: [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be a *gauge*, i.e., a function which is non-decreasing for  $t \geq 0$ , right-continuous at  $t = 0$ , and  $g(t) = 0$  if and only if  $t = 0$ . A gauge  $g$  is said to be *doubling* if there are numbers  $c, \delta > 0$  such that  $g(2t) \leq cg(t)$  for all  $t \in (0, \delta)$ . For a doubling gauge  $g$  we introduce a non-decreasing function  $g_*(x)$  as follows:

$$(1) \quad g_*(x) = \liminf_{t \downarrow 0} \frac{g(xt)}{g(t)}, \quad x \in [0, \infty).$$

We write  $g_*(1-0)$  for the left limit of  $g_*(x)$  at  $x = 1$ .

Let  $X$  be a metric space. Let  $E \subset X$  and  $\delta > 0$ . A  $\delta$ -*packing* of  $E$  is defined to be a countable family  $\{B(x_i, r_i)\}$  of disjoint closed balls with  $2r_i \leq \delta$  and centers  $x_i \in E$ . The *packing premeasure* of  $E$  with respect to the gauge  $g$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{P}_\delta^g(E) = \lim_{\delta \rightarrow 0} \mathcal{P}_\delta^g(E),$$

where  $\mathcal{P}_\delta^g(E) := \sup \sum g(2r_i)$ , the supremum being taken over all  $\delta$ -packings

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of  $E$ . The *packing measure* of  $E$  with respect to the gauge  $g$  is defined by

$$\mathcal{P}^g(E) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}_0^g(E_i) : E \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i \right\}.$$

The packing premeasure and measure with respect to the gauge  $t^s$  ( $s \geq 0$ ), which we denote by  $\mathcal{P}_0^s$  and  $\mathcal{P}^s$  respectively, are the ordinary  $s$ -dimensional packing premeasure and measure. From the definitions above,  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$  is monotonic and finitely subadditive, and  $\mathcal{P}^g$  is an outer measure of  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$ ; for more details, we refer to [3], [8], [9].

Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^n$  be a compact set and  $0 \leq s \leq n$ . Feng, Hua and Wen [4] proved that if  $\mathcal{P}_0^s(K) < \infty$ , then

$$(2) \quad \mathcal{P}_0^s(K) = \mathcal{P}^s(K).$$

The above conclusion may fail for doubling gauges. M. Csörnyei [1] constructed a compact set  $K \subset \mathbb{R}^1$  and a doubling gauge  $g$  such that

$$(3) \quad \mathcal{P}^g(K) < \mathcal{P}_0^g(K) < \infty.$$

Motivated by this fact, we discuss some measure-theoretic properties of the packing measure  $\mathcal{P}^g$  and the premeasure  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$  with respect to a doubling gauge  $g$  in a metric space  $X$ . It will be shown that if  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(X) < \infty$  then  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$  is “outer regular-like”, meaning that

$$g_*(1 - 0) \inf \mathcal{P}_0^g(U) \leq \mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \leq \inf \mathcal{P}_0^g(U)$$

for any compact set  $F \subset X$ , where the infimum is over all open sets containing  $F$  (Theorem 1). Furthermore we get a relationship between  $\mathcal{P}^g$  and  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$  when  $X$  is complete separable. Namely, for any Borel set  $B \subset X$  we have

$$(g_*(1 - 0))^2 \sup \mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \leq \mathcal{P}^g(B) \leq \sup \mathcal{P}_0^g(F),$$

where the supremum is taken over all compact subsets contained in  $B$  with  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(F) < \infty$  (Theorem 2). As a corollary, we show that for every doubling gauge function there is a compact metric space of finite positive packing measure (Theorem 3), which can be regarded as a dual to a result on the Hausdorff measure obtained by A. Dvoretzky [2].

**2. The “outer regularity” of a packing premeasure.** We start with some statements equivalent to the doubling condition.

LEMMA 1. *Let  $g$  be a gauge. Then the following statements are equivalent:*

- (a)  $g$  is doubling;
- (b)  $g_*(x) > 0$  for some  $x \in (0, 1)$ ;
- (c)  $g_*(x) > 0$  for all  $x > 0$ ;
- (d)  $g_*(1 - 0) > 0$ .

*Proof.* (a) $\Rightarrow$ (b). The doubling condition implies that there is a constant  $c \in (0, \infty)$  such that  $g(t) \leq cg(t/2)$  for all  $t > 0$  small enough, so  $g_*(1/2) \geq 1/c > 0$ .

(b) $\Rightarrow$ (c). Let  $a \in (0, 1)$  with  $g_*(a) > 0$ . Then  $g(at) \geq \frac{1}{2}g_*(a)g(t)$  for  $t > 0$  small enough. For every  $x > 0$  choose a positive integer  $m$  such that  $x \geq a^m$ . For all  $t > 0$  small enough we get inductively

$$g(xt) \geq g(a^m t) \geq \frac{1}{2}g_*(a)g(a^{m-1}t) \geq \dots \geq \left(\frac{1}{2}g_*(a)\right)^m g(t),$$

which yields  $g_*(x) \geq \left(\frac{1}{2}g_*(a)\right)^m > 0$ .

(c) $\Rightarrow$ (d). This is trivial since  $g_*$  is non-decreasing.

(d) $\Rightarrow$ (a). Since  $g_*(1 - 0) > 0$ , we obtain  $g_*(x) > 0$  for some  $x \in (0, 1)$ . By an argument analogous to (b) $\Rightarrow$ (c), we get  $g_*(1/2) > 0$ , which implies that  $g$  is doubling. ■

In the rest of the paper, we assume that  $g$  is a doubling gauge. The following theorem shows that if the packing premeasure is finite then it is “outer regular”.

**THEOREM 1.** *Suppose  $X$  is a metric space with  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(X) < \infty$ . Then for any compact subset  $F$  of  $X$ ,*

$$(4) \quad g_*(1 - 0)A_F \leq \mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \leq A_F,$$

where  $A_F = \inf\{\mathcal{P}_0^g(U) : U \text{ open and } U \supseteq F\}$ .

*Proof.* From the monotonicity of  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$ , the second inequality of (4) is evident, so we only need to prove the first. Let  $\varrho$  denote the metric of  $X$ . For  $\varepsilon > 0$  denote by  $F_\varepsilon$  the open  $\varepsilon$ -neighborhood of  $F$ , i.e.

$$(5) \quad F_\varepsilon = \{x \in X : \varrho(x, y) < \varepsilon \text{ for some } y \in F\}.$$

Then  $A_F = \inf_{\varepsilon > 0} \mathcal{P}_0^g(F_\varepsilon)$  and  $0 \leq A_F < \infty$  since  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(X)$  is finite. Let  $\omega > 0$  be arbitrary and choose  $\varepsilon > 0$  small enough such that

$$(6) \quad A_F \leq \mathcal{P}_0^g(F_\varepsilon) \leq A_F + \omega.$$

Then, by the definition of  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$ , we have

$$(7) \quad \mathcal{P}_0^g(F_\varepsilon) \leq \mathcal{P}_\delta^g(F_\varepsilon) \leq \mathcal{P}_0^g(F_\varepsilon) + \omega$$

for  $\delta > 0$  small enough. Now let  $\{B(x_i, r_i)\}_{i=1}^m$  be a  $\delta$ -packing of  $F_\varepsilon$  such that

$$(8) \quad \mathcal{P}_\delta^g(F_\varepsilon) - \omega \leq \sum_{i=1}^m g(2r_i) \leq \mathcal{P}_\delta^g(F_\varepsilon).$$

By the compactness of  $F$ , we may choose  $\{y_i\}_{i=1}^m \subset F$  such that

$$\varrho(x_i, y_i) = \varrho(x_i, F), \quad 1 \leq i \leq m.$$

Let

$$r_i^* = \max\{r_i - \varrho(x_i, y_i), 0\}, \quad r_i^{**} = \min\{\varrho(x_i, y_i), r_i\}.$$

By the definitions above, we easily see that  $r_i^* + r_i^{**} = r_i$ . Let  $I = \{i : B(x_i, r_i) \cap F \neq \emptyset, 1 \leq i \leq m\}$ . It is obvious that  $\{B(y_i, r_i^*)\}_{i \in I}$  is a  $\delta$ -packing of  $F$ . Thus

$$(9) \quad P_\delta^g(F) \geq \sum_{i \in I} g(2r_i^*) = \sum_{i=1}^m g(2r_i^*).$$

Now let  $J = \{i : x_i \notin F, 1 \leq i \leq m\}$  and  $1/2 < t < 1$ , and choose  $0 < \varepsilon_1 \leq 3\delta$  such that  $F_{\varepsilon_1} \cap \bigcup_{i \in J} B(x_i, tr_i^{**}) = \emptyset$ . We see that if  $\{B(z_i, l_i)\}_{i=1}^\infty$  is a  $3^{-1}\varepsilon_1$ -packing of  $F_{3^{-1}\varepsilon_1}$  then  $\{B(z_i, l_i)\}_{i=1}^\infty \cup \{B(x_i, tr_i^{**})\}_{i \in J}$  is a  $\delta$ -packing of  $F_\varepsilon$ . Thus, in view of (6) and (7), we have

$$\sum_{i=1}^\infty g(2l_i) + \sum_{i \in J} g(2tr_i^{**}) \leq A_F + 2\omega,$$

so

$$\sum_{i \in J} g(2tr_i^{**}) \leq 2\omega,$$

which together with the doubling property of  $g$  yields

$$(10) \quad \sum_{i=1}^m g(2r_i^{**}) = \sum_{i \in J} g(2r_i^{**}) \leq c \sum_{i \in J} g(2tr_i^{**}) \leq 2c\omega,$$

where  $c > 0$  is a constant.

Now we are going to estimate the sum on the right hand side of (9). Let

$$x(\omega) = \omega + 2 \sup\{x \geq 0 : g_*(x) < \omega^{1/2}\}.$$

From Lemma 1, we have  $\lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} x(\omega) = 0$  and  $\lim_{\omega \rightarrow 0} \omega/g_*(x(\omega)) = 0$ .

Let  $I_\omega = \{i : r_i^{**} \geq r_i x(\omega)\}$  and  $J_\omega = \{i : r_i^{**} < r_i x(\omega)\}$ . Then, by (10), we have

$$(11) \quad \sum_{i \in I_\omega} g(2r_i) \leq \sum_{i \in I_\omega} \frac{g(2r_i^{**})g(2r_i)}{g(2r_i x(\omega))} \leq 2c\omega \left( \inf_{0 < t \leq \delta} \frac{g(tx(\omega))}{g(t)} \right)^{-1},$$

which combined with (6), (7), (8) and (11) yields

$$(12) \quad \begin{aligned} \sum_{i \in J_\omega} g(2r_i) &= \sum_{i=1}^m g(2r_i) - \sum_{i \in I_\omega} g(2r_i) \\ &\geq A_F - \omega - 2c\omega \left( \inf_{0 < t \leq \delta} \frac{g(tx(\omega))}{g(t)} \right)^{-1}. \end{aligned}$$

From (9) and (12),

$$P_\delta^g(F) \geq \sum_{i \in J_\omega} g(2r_i) \geq \sum_{i \in J_\omega} \frac{g(2r_i(1 - x(\omega)))g(2r_i)}{g(2r_i)}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\geq \inf_{0 < t \leq \delta} \frac{g(t(1-x(\omega)))}{g(t)} \sum_{i \in J_\omega} g(2r_i) \\ &\geq \inf_{0 < t \leq \delta} \frac{g(t(1-x(\omega)))}{g(t)} \left( A_F - \omega - 2c\omega \left( \inf_{0 < t \leq \delta} \frac{g(tx(\omega))}{g(t)} \right)^{-1} \right). \end{aligned}$$

Thus by letting  $\delta \rightarrow 0$  we get

$$\mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \geq g_*(1-x(\omega)) \left( A_F - \omega - \frac{2c\omega}{g_*(x(\omega))} \right).$$

Letting  $\omega \rightarrow 0$ , finally we obtain  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \geq g_*(1-0)A_F$ . ■

**3. The relationship between  $\mathcal{P}^g$  and  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$ .** In this section, we will investigate the relation between the packing measure and the premeasure with respect to a doubling gauge in a complete separable metric space.

LEMMA 2. *Let  $X$  be a metric space and let  $g$  be a gauge. Then:*

(a) *for any subset  $F$  of  $X$ , we have*

$$(13) \quad g_*(1-0)\mathcal{P}_0^g(\text{cl}(F)) \leq \mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \leq \mathcal{P}_0^g(\text{cl}(F)),$$

*where  $\text{cl}(F)$  denotes the closure of  $F$ ;*

(b) *if  $g$  is left-continuous for  $t > 0$ , then  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(F) = \mathcal{P}_0^g(\text{cl}(F))$ .*

*Proof.* (a) To prove (13), it suffices to prove the first inequality. Let  $\varepsilon, \delta \in (0, 1)$ . For every  $\delta$ -packing  $\{B(x_i, r_i)\}$  of  $\text{cl}(F)$ , choose  $\{y_i\} \subset F$  such that  $\{B(y_i, (1-\varepsilon)r_i)\}$  is a  $\delta$ -packing of  $F$ . Then we have

$$\mathcal{P}_\delta^g(F) \geq \sum g(2(1-\varepsilon)r_i) \geq \inf_{0 < t \leq \delta} \frac{g((1-\varepsilon)t)}{g(t)} \sum g(2r_i),$$

so

$$\mathcal{P}_\delta^g(F) \geq \inf_{0 < t \leq \delta} \frac{g((1-\varepsilon)t)}{g(t)} \mathcal{P}_\delta^g(\text{cl}(F)).$$

Letting  $\delta \rightarrow 0$  and  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we immediately get the desired inequality.

(b) Now assume that  $g$  is left-continuous for  $t > 0$ . In this case, from a  $\delta$ -packing  $\{B(x_i, r_i)\}$  of  $\text{cl}(F)$  we may construct a  $\delta$ -packing  $\{B(y_i, r_i^*)\}$  of  $F$  such that for every  $i$ ,

$$g(2r_i^*) \geq g(2r_i) - \varepsilon/2^i.$$

From this we get  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \geq \mathcal{P}_0^g(\text{cl}(F))$ , which yields the required equality immediately. ■

LEMMA 3. *Let  $X$  be a metric space. Then for any compact subset  $K$  with  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(K) < \infty$ , we have*

$$(14) \quad (g_*(1-0))^2 \mathcal{P}_0^g(K) \leq \mathcal{P}^g(K) \leq \mathcal{P}_0^g(K).$$

*Proof.* It suffices to prove the first inequality of (14). Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ . By the definition of  $\mathcal{P}^g$ , there exists a countable family  $\{F_i\}_{i \geq 1}$  of sets such that  $\bigcup_{i \geq 1} F_i = K$  and

$$\mathcal{P}^g(K) + \varepsilon \geq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}_0^g(F_i).$$

From Theorem 1 we see that for every  $i$  there is an open set  $U_i$  such that  $U_i \supset \text{cl}(F_i)$  and

$$(15) \quad \mathcal{P}_0^g(\text{cl}(F_i)) \geq g_*(1-0)(\mathcal{P}_0^g(U_i) - \varepsilon/2^i).$$

Since  $K$  is compact and  $\{U_i\}$  is an open covering of  $K$ , we may choose a finite subcovering, say  $K \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^N U_i$ . From the finite subadditivity of  $\mathcal{P}_0^g$  and the inequalities (13) and (15), we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{P}^g(K) + \varepsilon &\geq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}_0^g(F_i) \geq g_*(1-0) \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}_0^g(\text{cl}(F_i)) \\ &\geq (g_*(1-0))^2 \left( \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}_0^g(U_i) - \varepsilon \right) \\ &\geq (g_*(1-0))^2 \left( \sum_{i=1}^N \mathcal{P}_0^g(U_i) - \varepsilon \right) \\ &\geq (g_*(1-0))^2 (\mathcal{P}_0^g(K) - \varepsilon). \end{aligned}$$

Letting  $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ , we finally obtain  $\mathcal{P}^g(K) \geq (g_*(1-0))^2 \mathcal{P}_0^g(K)$ . ■

Lemma 3 implies immediately

COROLLARY 1. *For any compact set  $K \subset X$  with  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(K) < \infty$ , we have:*

- (a)  $0 < \mathcal{P}^g(K) < \infty \Leftrightarrow 0 < \mathcal{P}_0^g(K) < \infty$ ;
- (b)  $g_*(1-0) = 1 \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}^g(K) = \mathcal{P}_0^g(K)$ .

REMARK 1. It is known that a countable compact subset  $E$  of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  may have strictly positive upper box-counting dimension. However, from the result above we see that either  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(E) = 0$  or  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(E) = \infty$  for every doubling gauge  $g$ .

LEMMA 4. *Let  $X$  be a complete separable metric space with  $\mathcal{P}^g(X) < \infty$  and let  $B$  be a Borel subset of  $X$ . Then for any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , there is a compact set  $F \subset B$  with  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(F) < \infty$  such that*

$$(16) \quad \mathcal{P}^g(F) \geq \mathcal{P}^g(B) - \varepsilon.$$

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{P}^g$  is a finite Borel measure on a complete separable metric space  $X$ ,  $\mathcal{P}^g$  is inner regular, thus it suffices to prove the statement under the assumption that  $B$  is compact. By the definition of  $\mathcal{P}^g$ , the condition

$\mathcal{P}^g(X) < \infty$  implies that there is a family  $\{F_i\}$  of subsets with  $B = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} F_i$  such that

$$(17) \quad \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}_0^g(F_i) < \infty.$$

Since  $g$  is doubling we have  $g_*(1 - 0) > 0$ . By Lemma 2, we may assume that all  $F_i$  are compact. Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  and choose a positive integer  $m$  such that

$$(18) \quad \sum_{i=m+1}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}_0^g(F_i) < \varepsilon.$$

Take  $F = \bigcup_{i=1}^m F_i$ . In view of (17) and (18), we see that  $F$  is a compact subset of  $B$  such that

$$\mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \leq \sum_{i=1}^m \mathcal{P}_0^g(F_i) < \infty$$

and

$$\mathcal{P}^g(B) - \mathcal{P}^g(F) \leq \mathcal{P}^g\left(\bigcup_{i=m+1}^{\infty} F_i\right) \leq \sum_{i=m+1}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}^g(F_i) \leq \sum_{i=m+1}^{\infty} \mathcal{P}_0^g(F_i) < \varepsilon. \blacksquare$$

**THEOREM 2.** *Let  $X$  be a complete separable metric space. Then for any Borel set  $B \subset X$  we have*

$$(19) \quad (g_*(1 - 0))^2 \sup \mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \leq \mathcal{P}^g(B) \leq \sup \mathcal{P}_0^g(F),$$

where the supremum is taken over all compact subsets of  $B$  with  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(F) < \infty$ .

*Proof.* The first inequality in (19) follows directly from Lemma 3, and the second can be obtained immediately from Lemma 4 if  $\mathcal{P}^g(X) < \infty$ . To complete the proof, it suffices to prove the second inequality in the case  $\mathcal{P}^g(X) = \infty$ . Without loss of generality, assume  $\mathcal{P}^g(B) > 0$ . Let  $\beta \in (0, \mathcal{P}^g(B))$ . From the existence theorem of H. Joyce and D. Preiss [5], there is a compact subset  $E \subset B$  such that  $\beta \leq \mathcal{P}^g(E) < \infty$ . Applying Lemma 4 to the set  $E$ , we get  $\sup \mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \geq \beta$ . Since  $\beta \in (0, \mathcal{P}^g(B))$  can be picked arbitrarily, we obtain  $\sup \mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \geq \mathcal{P}^g(B)$  as required.  $\blacksquare$

Theorem 2 immediately gives the following corollary.

**COROLLARY 2.** *Let  $B$  be a Borel subset of a complete separable space. Then:*

- (a)  $\mathcal{P}^g(B) > 0$  if and only if  $B$  contains a compact subset  $F$  such that  $0 < \mathcal{P}_0^g(F) < \infty$ ;
- (b)  $\mathcal{P}^g(B) < \infty$  if and only if there is  $\lambda \in [0, \infty)$  such that for any compact subset  $F \subset B$ , either  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \leq \lambda$  or  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(F) = \infty$ ;
- (c)  $g_*(1 - 0) = 1 \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}^g(B) = \sup \mathcal{P}_0^g(F)$ .

Using the above results, we are going to prove that for every doubling gauge, there is a compact metric space which has finite positive packing measure with respect to the gauge. This result is analogous to the existence theorem proved by A. Dvoretzky for Hausdorff measures [2].

LEMMA 5. *Suppose that  $X$  is a separable metric space. Then for any subset  $K$  of  $X$ ,*

$$\mathcal{H}^g(K) \leq \mathcal{P}^g(K),$$

where  $\mathcal{H}^g(K)$  denotes the Hausdorff measure of  $K$  with respect to the gauge  $g$ .

*Proof.* The proof is completely analogous to the proof of the case  $g(t) = t^s$  and  $X = \mathbb{R}^n$  which can be found in P. Mattila [6]. ■

THEOREM 3. *Let  $g$  be any doubling gauge. Then there is a compact metric space  $X$  such that*

$$(20) \quad 0 < \mathcal{P}^g(X) < \infty.$$

*Proof.* There is a compact metric space  $\Omega$  such that  $H^g(\Omega) > 0$  (see Theorem 36 in [7]), so  $\mathcal{P}^g(\Omega) > 0$  by Lemma 5. By Corollary 2(a), there is a compact subset  $X \subset \Omega$  such that  $0 < \mathcal{P}_0^g(X) < \infty$ . Then by Corollary 1(a), we finally get  $0 < \mathcal{P}^g(X) < \infty$ . ■

**4. An example.** Theorem 2 states that for any Borel set  $G$  in a complete separable metric space,

$$g_*(1 - 0) = 1 \Rightarrow \mathcal{P}^g(G) = \sup \mathcal{P}_0^g(F),$$

where the supremum is taken over all compact subsets contained in  $G$  with  $\mathcal{P}_0^g(F) < \infty$ . We will show by giving a counterexample that the implication cannot be inverted, even if both  $\mathcal{P}^g(G)$  and  $\sup \mathcal{P}_0^g(F)$  are finite positive.

Let  $G = [0, 1]$  and  $g : [0, \infty) \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  be defined by

$$g(t) = \begin{cases} 2^{-n} & \text{if } 2^{-n} \leq t \leq (1 - 2^{-n})2^{-n+1}, n \in \mathbb{N}, \\ 2^{n-1}t + 2^{-n+1} - 1 & \text{if } (1 - 2^{-n})2^{-n+1} \leq t \leq 2^{-n+1}, n \in \mathbb{N}. \end{cases}$$

It is easy to verify that

$$(21) \quad \frac{1}{2} = \liminf_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(t)}{t} \leq \limsup_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(t)}{t} = 1,$$

and thus  $g$  is a doubling gauge. We are going to prove that

$$(22) \quad \mathcal{P}^g(G) = \mathcal{P}_0^g(G) = 1, \quad \text{but} \quad g_*(1 - 0) = 1/2.$$

Let  $x_k = 1 - 2^{-k}$  and  $t_n = 2^{-n}$ ,  $k, n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Fix  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . By the construction of  $g$  we have

$$\begin{aligned} \liminf_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(tx_k)}{g(t)} &\leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{g(t_n x_k)}{g(t_n)} \leq \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{g((1 - 2^{-n-1})2^{-n})}{g(2^{-n})} \\ &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{2^{-n-1}}{2^{-n}} = \frac{1}{2}, \end{aligned}$$



which yields  $g_*(x_k) \leq 1/2$ . Letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , we get  $g_*(1 - 0) \leq 1/2$  since  $g_*$  is non-decreasing. On the other hand, by the inequality (21), we have

$$\liminf_{t \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(tx)}{g(t)} \geq \frac{x}{2}$$

for all  $x > 0$ , and thus  $g_*(1 - 0) \geq 1/2$ . We have thus proved the last equality of (22).

Notice that (21) implies that  $\frac{1}{2}\mathcal{P}_0^1(F) \leq \mathcal{P}_0^g(F) \leq \mathcal{P}_0^1(F)$  for any Borel set  $F$  on the real line, thus

$$\frac{1}{2}\mathcal{P}^1 \leq \mathcal{P}^g \leq \mathcal{P}^1$$

for any Borel sets. Note that  $\mathcal{P}^1$  is equal to the 1-dimensional Lebesgue measure and  $\mathcal{P}^g$  is translation invariant and locally finite, so there is a number  $c > 0$  such that  $\mathcal{P}^g = c\mathcal{P}^1$ . In addition, analogously to the lower density theorem for the  $s$ -dimensional packing measure (see Theorem 6.10 of [6]), we have

$$\liminf_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{\mathcal{P}^g(G \cap B(x, r))}{g(2r)} = 1$$

for  $\mathcal{P}^g$ -almost all  $x \in G$ . Invoking the Lebesgue density theorem we get

$$c = \limsup_{r \rightarrow 0} \frac{g(t)}{t} = 1,$$

and so  $\mathcal{P}^g = \mathcal{P}^1$ . Since  $\mathcal{P}_0^1(G) = \mathcal{P}^1(G) = 1$  we then get

$$1 = \mathcal{P}^1(G) = \mathcal{P}^g(G) \leq \mathcal{P}_0^g(G) \leq \mathcal{P}_0^1(G) = 1,$$

which yields the first two equalities in (22).

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