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Rotational curvature, Falconer's Distance problem, and Dimensions of sets

Let $E \subset [0, 1]^d$, $d \geq 2$ and consider

$$D_t^\phi(E) = \{(x, y) \in E \times E : \phi(x, y) = t\}.$$

We shall see that under some regularity assumptions on the function ϕ , the upper Minkowski dimension of D_t^ϕ is less than or equal to $2\dim_{\mathcal{H}}(E) - 1$ provided that the Hausdorff dimension of E is sufficiently large. We will also discuss connections between this inequality and the Falconer distance problem.