

## Maximal functions and harmonic analysis

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The aim of this thesis is to present a study of various maximal functions, starting from the Hardy-Littlewood maximal function on  $\mathbf{R}^n$  to more general ones on compact Lie groups. Our main interest here will be the  $L^p$ -inequality

$$\|\mathcal{M}f\|_p \leq C_p \|f\|_p, \quad f \in L^p(X),$$

where  $\mathcal{M}$  denotes a maximal operator on  $L^p(X)$ ,  $1 < p \leq \infty$ .

We discuss various approaches to this subject, including covering lemmas, interpolation theorems, the Fourier transform method, the  $g$ -function argument, the Mellin transform technique and Lie group and representation theoretic arguments. We obtain, in particular, some results for maximal functions associated with distributions on  $\mathbf{R}^n$  and a generalisation of those on compact semisimple Lie groups.

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