Assignment 6 MAT 357

Q3a: First, WLOG suppose that $y = \alpha x$, that is assume that the line goes through 0. This clearly does not change the measure of the set, since measure is invariant under translation. Define the set $A_{\alpha} = \{(x,y) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x \in [0,1], y = \alpha x\}$. Since any line through 0 is a countable union of sets of similar for to A_{α} , except with different ranges for the value of x, it will be sufficient to show that A is the zero set. Let $\varepsilon > 0$, choose N sufficiently large so that $N > \frac{\alpha}{\varepsilon}$. We now take $\{R_i\}_{i=1}^N$ to be the collection of rectangles R_i where each $R_i = \left[\frac{i-1}{n}, \frac{i}{N}\right] \times \left[\frac{\alpha(i-1)}{n}, \frac{\alpha(i)}{N}\right]$. This will be a cover of A_{α} , and we can compute its measure as follows:

$$m^*A \le \sum_{i=1}^{N} |R_i|$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N} \left(\frac{i}{N} - \frac{i-1}{N}\right) \left(\frac{\alpha i}{N} - \frac{\alpha(i-1)}{N}\right)$$

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{N} \frac{\alpha}{N^2}$$

$$= \frac{\alpha}{N}$$

$$< \varepsilon$$

Hence this set is the zero set, and so any line is the zero set.

Q3b: Let $P_i(a) = \{x \in \mathbb{R}^n : x_i = a\}$ be an n-1 hyerplane in \mathbb{R}^n . For the same reasoning as above, it is sufficient to consider when a = 0. Let $\varepsilon > 0$, we define $I_k = \left[\frac{-\varepsilon}{k^{n-1}2^{k+n}}, \frac{\varepsilon}{k^{n-1}2^{k+n}}\right]$, and $J_k = [-k, k]$. Then consider the set of boxes $\{B_k\}$ where B_k is the product of n-1 copies of J_k , and one I_k in the i'th spot We compute the volume of this covering as

$$\sum_{k} |B_{k}| = \sum_{k} 2^{n-1} k^{n-1} \cdot \frac{2\varepsilon}{k^{n-1} \cdot 2^{k+n}}$$
$$= \sum_{k} \frac{\varepsilon}{2^{k}}$$
$$= \varepsilon$$

Hence this is the zero set. The same is true for any arbitrary n-1 hyperplane, since we can map any $P_i(0)$ to it by an isometry, which is linear and has a determinant of 1, so by Pugh Theorem 16 (page 397) any plane will also be the zero set.