

MATH 202A: Notes

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We will learn how to make a measure out of an outer measure.

Definition 1. We call μ^* an outer measure if, $\mu^* : P(X) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ such that $\mu^*(\emptyset) = 0$, $\mu^*(A) \leq \mu^*(B)$ if $A \subset B$, and for all $E_n, \mu^*(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(E_j)$

Definition 2. Define some volume set function, $\rho : \mathcal{E} \subset P(X) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$

Definition 3. For any $A \subset X, X \in \mathcal{E}$, then the outer measure of A is

$$\mu^*(A) = \inf_{(E_i) \in \mathcal{E}, A \subset \bigcup E_i} \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \rho(E_n).$$

Lemma 1. Assume that $\mathcal{E} \subset P(x)$ and that $\emptyset, X \in \mathcal{E}$. Then let $\rho : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$, $\rho(\emptyset) = 0$ and define μ^* as above. Then μ^* is an outer measure.

Proof. Clearly $\mu^*(\emptyset) = 0$ since the empty set covers itself. If $A \subset B$ then we get subadditivity. Let $A_n \subset X$. Let $A = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$. Let $\epsilon > 0$. Naive: For each n there is $E_{n,i} \in \mathcal{E}$ so that $A_n \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_{n,i}$ and

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \rho(E_{n,i}) \leq \mu^*(A_n) + 2^{-n}\epsilon.$$

Now the family $E_{n,i}$ covers A . This is a countable family so $\mu^*(A) \leq \sum \sum \rho(E_{n,i}) \leq \sum_n \mu^*(A_n) + \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} 2^{-n}\epsilon$. The other direction was proven in the homeworks. \square

Remark. The $2^{-n}\epsilon$ trick is effectively a divide and conquer.

Fact 1. The outer measure of \mathbb{Q} is 0.

Fact 2. The outer measure of $[a, b]$ is $|b - a|$.

Definition 4. Let μ^* be an outer measure on $P(X)$. A set $A \subset X$ is called μ^* -measurable and $A \in \mathcal{M}$ iff for every $E \subset X$

$$\mu^*(E) = \mu^*(E \cap A) + \mu^*(E \setminus A).$$

Remark. $E = (E \cap A) \sqcup (E \setminus A)$ and so $\mu^*(E) \leq \mu^*(E \cap A) + \mu^*(E \setminus A)$ for any A . **Remark.** A measurable set is like a knife which cuts any E so that every part of E which has mass is conserve; "there is no blood loss, or unintentional injuries on the edges."

Theorem 1. If μ^* is an outer measure on $P(X)$ then \mathcal{M} is a σ -algebra and $\mu^*|_{\mathcal{M}} = \mu$ is a complete measure.

Proof. Sketchy proof sketch.

1. A set $A \in \mathcal{M}$ if and only if $X \setminus A \in \mathcal{M}$. Therefore $\mu^*(E) = \mu^*(E \cap A) + \mu^*(E \cap (X \setminus A))$. Therefore \mathcal{M} is closed under compliments.

2. Suppose $A, B \in \mathcal{M}$. Let $E \subset X$. By A measurable

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^*(E) &\geq \mu^*(E \cap A) + \mu^*(E \setminus A) \\ &\geq \mu^*(E \cap A \cap B) + \mu^*((E \cap A) \setminus B) + \mu^*((E \setminus A) \cap B) + \mu^*((E \setminus A) \setminus B) \\ &= \mu^*(E \cap A \cap B) + \mu^*(E \cap (A \setminus B)) + \mu^*(E \cap (B \setminus A)) + \mu^*(E \setminus (A \cup B)) \end{aligned}$$

Now we want to show that $\mu^*(E) \leq \mu^*(E \cap (A \cup B)) + \mu^*(E \setminus (A \cup B))$. We can use that $\mu^*(E \cap (A \cup B)) \leq \mu^*(E \cap (A \cap B)) + \mu^*(E \cap (A \setminus B)) + \dots$ So \mathcal{M} is closed under unions.

3. Assume A_n measurable for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ if $A = \bigcup A_n$ then want to show A measurable. Without loss of generality, assume that $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset A_3 \subset \dots$. Set $B_1 = A_1$, $B_n = A_n \setminus A_{n-1}$, and $\bigcup B_n = A$. So each $B_n \in \mathcal{M}$ and they are pairwise disjoint. Let $E \subset X \dots$ \square