

Introduction to Measure Theory

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1 The Exterior Measure

Def: Let $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$. The exterior measure of E is defined as

$$m_*(E) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |Q_i| : E \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} Q_i \right\} \quad (1)$$

where the infimum is taken over the countable covering

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} Q_i \supset E \quad (2)$$

by cubes $Q_i \in \mathbb{R}^d$.

Remarks:

1. $m_* : \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}^d) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$.
2. finite sums in the definition is not enough.

In this case we get the outer Jordan measure which in general is bigger than our outer measure.

Take. $E = \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, 1] \implies J_*(E) = 1$

Note, for our setting, $\mathbb{Q} \cap [0, 1] \implies m_*(E) = 0$

1. $m_*(x) = 0$, and same of the empty set.
2. if $Q \subset \mathbb{R}^p$ is a closed cube, then $m_*(Q) = |Q|$

Since $Q \supset \text{supset} Q \implies m_*(Q) \leq |Q|$.

Proof. Let

$$Q \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} Q_j$$

Let $\epsilon > 0$ and choose an open cube $S_j \supset Q_j$ such that $|\bar{S}_j| \leq (1 + \epsilon)|Q_j|$ Since

$$\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty}$$

is an open covering of the compact set Q , there is a finite subcovering such that $Q \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^n S_j$

Applying lemma 2, we deduce that

$$|Q| \leq |\bar{S}_j| + \dots + |\bar{S}_{j_k}| \leq (1 + \epsilon)(|Q_{j_1}| + \dots + |Q_{j_k}|) \leq (1 + \epsilon) \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |Q_j| \quad (3)$$

for all $\epsilon > 0$

Take $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ to get the result.

If Q is an open cube then $m_*(Q) = |Q|$ Since $Q \subset Q \implies m_*(Q) \leq |\bar{Q}| = |Q|$ Let $\epsilon > 0$ and choose a closed cube $Q_o \subset Q$ such that $|Q| \leq (1 + \epsilon)|\bar{S}|$ Then $|Q_o| \geq |Q| - \epsilon \implies |Q| - \epsilon \geq |\bar{Q}_o| = m_*(Q) \leq m_*(Q)$ for any epsilon If epsilon goes to zero we get $|Q| \leq m_*(Q)$ \square

If we use a closed rectangle, we see that the initial part of the proof applies the same way. We just need to show that $M_*(R) \leq |R|$ The Key theorem involved to prove both examples and both inequalities is the Heine-Borel theorem.

2 Properties of the Exterior Measure

Let $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$. Then $(\forall \varepsilon > 0)$ there exists a countable collection of cubes $\{Q_i\}$ such that $E \subset \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} Q_i$ and

$$m_*(E) + \varepsilon \geq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |Q_i| \leq m_*(E) + \varepsilon, \quad (4)$$

if $m_*(E) < \infty$

If $m_*(E) = \infty, \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |Q_i| = \infty$

The exterior measure has the following properties:

1. Monotonicity: If $E_1 \subset E_2 \subset \mathbb{R}^d$, then $m_*(E_1) \leq m_*(E_2)$.

$$E \text{ is bounded, } \implies m_*(E) < \infty. \quad (5)$$

2. Countable subadditivity:

$$E = \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i, \implies m_*(E) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} m_*(E_i) \quad (6)$$

$$E = \cup_{i=1}^n E_i, \implies m_*(E) \leq \sum_{i=1}^n m_*(E_i) \quad (7)$$

Proof. Assume $m_*(E_j) < \infty \forall j \in \mathbb{N}$

Let $\varepsilon > 0$ and choose a countable collection of cubes $\{Q_{ij}\}$ such that $E_j \subset \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} Q_{ij}$ such that

$$m_*(E_j) + \frac{\varepsilon}{2^j} \geq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |Q_{ij}| \geq m_*(E_j) - \frac{\varepsilon}{2^j} \quad (8)$$

Then $E \subset \cup_{i,j}^{infy} Q_{ij}$ is a covering of closed cubes and $m_*(E) \leq \sum_{i,j} |Q_{ij}| \leq \sum_j m_*(E_j) + \frac{\varepsilon}{2^j}$

Let $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ to get the result:

$$m_*(E) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} m_*(E_j) \quad (9)$$

□

Proposition:

If $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ and $m_*(E) = \inf\{m_*(U) : E \subset U, U \text{ is open}\}$ Then, by Monotonicity, $m_*(E) \leq \inf\{m_*(U) : E \subset U, U \text{ is open}\}$ We need to show that the infimum is less than or equal to $m_*(E)$

It is sufficient to show that $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ there exists an open set U such that $E \subset U$ and $m_*(U) \leq m_*(E) + \varepsilon$ Let $\varepsilon > 0$ and choose a countable collection of cubes $\{Q_i\}$ such that $E \subset \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} Q_i$ and

$$m_*(E) + \varepsilon \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |Q_i| \leq m_*(E) - \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \quad (10)$$

For each j , let \tilde{Q}_j denote an open cube such that $Q_j \subset \tilde{Q}_j$ and $|\tilde{Q}_j| \leq |Q_j| + \frac{\varepsilon}{2^{j+1}}$ Then $U = \cup_{j=1}^{\infty} \tilde{Q}_j$ is open and, due to subadditivity, we have:

$$m_*(U) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} m_*(\tilde{Q}_j) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |\tilde{Q}_j| \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |Q_j| + \frac{\varepsilon}{2^{j+1}} = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |Q_j| + \frac{\varepsilon}{2} \leq m_*(E) + \varepsilon \quad (11)$$

Proposition:

If $E = E_1 \cup E_2$ and $d(E_1, E_2) > 0$ then $m_*(E) = m_*(E_1) + m_*(E_2)$

Proof. Due to subadditivity, we have $m_*(E) \leq m_*(E_1) + m_*(E_2)$

We must show that $m_*(E) \geq m_*(E_1) + m_*(E_2)$

Choose a converging of Closed Cubes such that

$$m_*(E) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |Q_i| \leq m_*(E) + \varepsilon \quad (12)$$

Then

$$E_1 \subset \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} Q_i \implies m_*(E_1) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |Q_i| \leq m_*(E_1) + \varepsilon \quad (13)$$

Then

$$E_2 \subset \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} Q_i \implies m_*(E_2) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |Q_i| \leq m_*(E_2) + \varepsilon \quad (14)$$

Then

$$E \subset \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} Q_i \implies m_*(E) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |Q_i| \leq m_*(E) + \varepsilon \quad (15)$$

Subdividing the cubes, we can assume that each Q_j has a diameter less than $d(E_1, E_2)$

Let $J_1 := \{j \in \mathbb{N} : Q_j \cap E_1 \neq \emptyset\}$

and

Let $J_2 := \{j \in \mathbb{N} : Q_j \cap E_2 \neq \emptyset\}$

Then J_1 and J_2 are disjoint and $E_1 \subset \cup_{j \in J_1} Q_j$ and $E_2 \subset \cup_{j \in J_2} Q_j$ Then $E \subset \cup_{j \in J_1} Q_j \cup \cup_{j \in J_2} Q_j$ Then

$$m_*(E) \leq \sum_{j \in J_1} |Q_j| + \sum_{j \in J_2} |Q_j| \leq m_*(E) + \varepsilon \quad (16)$$

□

Proposition:

If $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is a countable union of almost disjoint cubes, then $m_*(E) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |Q_i|$

Proof. Let \tilde{Q}_j be a cube strictly contained in Q_j such that $|Q_j| < |\tilde{Q}_j| + \frac{\varepsilon}{2^j}$ for all \tilde{Q}_j a positive distance away from each other

Applying the previous proposition, we obtain:

$$m_*(\cup_{j=1}^N \tilde{Q}_j) = \sum_{j=1}^N |\tilde{Q}_j| \geq \sum_{j=1}^N |Q_j| - \frac{\varepsilon}{2^j} \geq \sum_{j=1}^N |Q_j| - \varepsilon \quad (17)$$

which implies

$$m_*(\cup_{j=1}^N \tilde{Q}_j) \geq \sum_{j=1}^N |Q_j| - \varepsilon, \forall N \text{ and } \forall \varepsilon > 0 \quad (18)$$

Take $N \rightarrow \infty$ and $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ to get the result:

$$m_*(E) \geq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} |Q_j| \quad (19)$$

□

Remark:

If U is an open set in \mathbb{R}^d then $m_*(\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} Q_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |Q_i|$ is a decomposition of U into almost disjoint cubes.

3. Translation invariance:

$$E \subset \mathbb{R}^d, \implies m_*(E + x) = m_*(E) \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^d \quad (20)$$

3 Lebesgue Measure and Lebesgue Measurable Sets

Definition:

1. A set $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is said to be Lebesgue measurable if $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ there exists an open set U such that $E \subset U$ and $m_*(U \setminus E) < \varepsilon$

2. If E is Lebesgue measurable, then the Lebesgue measure of E is defined as $m(E) = m_*(E)$

Proposition:

Every open set in \mathbb{R}^d is Lebesgue measurable.

Properties of the Lebesgue Measure:

1. If $E \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is Lebesgue measurable, then $m(E) = 0$
 In particular, if $F \subset E$ and $m(E) = 0$ then F is measurable

Proof. Recall $m_*(E) = \inf\{m_*(U) : E \subset U, U \text{ is open}\}$

since $m_*(E) = 0$, we have $\forall \varepsilon > 0$ there exists an open set U such that $E \subset U$ and $m_*(U) < \varepsilon$

Since $U \setminus E \subset U$, we have $m_*(U \setminus E) \leq m_*(U) < \varepsilon$

If $F \subset E$ and $m(E) = 0$ then $m_*(E) = 0$ and $m_*(F) \leq m_*(E) = 0$

Then $m_*(F) = 0$ and F is measurable □

Remark:

The Cantor Ternary set is measurable and has measure zero.

Proof. trivial □

2. A countable union of measurable sets is measurable.

Proof. Let $E = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i$ and E_i is measurable.

Given $\varepsilon > 0$, let U_j be open such that $O_j \supset E_j$ and $m_*(U_j \setminus E_j) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2^j}$

Then $U = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} U_j$ is open and $E \subset U$

Then

$$U \setminus E = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} U_j \setminus E_j$$

Then $O \setminus E \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} U_j \setminus E_j$

Then

$$m_*(U \setminus E) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} m_*(U_j \setminus E_j) < \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \frac{\varepsilon}{2^j} = \varepsilon \quad (21)$$

Then E is measurable □

Lemma:

If $F \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is closed and $K \subset \mathbb{R}^d$ is compact and $F \cap K = \emptyset$, then $d(F, K) > 0$

Proof. Assume that the $d(F, K) = 0$

Then \exists a sequence $\{x_n\}$ in F and a sequence $\{y_n\}$ in K such that $d(x_n, y_n) < \frac{1}{n}$ since K is compact, due to Heine-Borel Theorem, K is bounded and closed. Then, by Bolzano-Weierstrauss Theorem, $\{y_n\}$ has a convergent subsequence $\{y_{n_k}\}$ such that $y_{n_k} \rightarrow y \in K$ Since

$$d(x_{n_k}, y_{n_k}) < \frac{1}{n_k} \rightarrow 0 \quad (22)$$

Then $x_{n_k} \rightarrow y$ Then $x_n \in F$ where F is closed. Therefore $y \in F$ Then $y \in F \cap K$ Then $d(F, K) = 0$, which contradicts our lemma that $K \cup F = \emptyset$. □

3. Closed sets are measurable.

Proof. It is enough to prove that compact sets are measurable: If F is closed, then $F = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} F \cap B_n(0)$ then apply the previous property. Assume F is compact, then F is closed and bounded.

Then $m_*(F) < \infty$

$\forall \varepsilon > 0$, since $m_*(F) = \inf\{m_*(U) : U \supset F, U \text{ is open}\}$ We can choose an U such that $F \subset U$ and $m_*(U) \leq m_*(F) + \varepsilon$ Then $U \setminus F := U \cap F^c$ is open, $U \setminus F = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} Q_j$ a countable union of disjoint cubes. It is enough to prove

$$\sum_{j=1}^N m_*(Q_j) < \varepsilon$$

Let $K = \bigcup_{j=1}^N Q_j$ Then K is compact and $F \cap K = \emptyset$ and $F \cup K \subset U$ Since K and F are compact, we can use the previous lemma to conclude that $d(F, K) > 0$ Now

$$m_*(U) \geq m_*(F \cup K) = m_*(F) + m_*(K) = m_*(F) + \sum_{j=1}^N m_*(Q_j) \quad (23)$$

Then

$$m_*(F) + \sum_{j=1}^N m_*(Q_j) \leq m_*(U) - m_*(F) < \varepsilon \quad (24)$$

Then $m_*(F) < \varepsilon$

Then F is measureable □

SHOW THAT THE LEMMA FAILS IF F AND K ARE ONLY CLOSED AND NOT NECESARILY COMPACT WHERE THEY SHARE NO POINTS

4. The complement of a measureable set is measureable.

Proof. Assume E is measureable. Then $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}, \exists O_n$ open such that $E \subset O_n$ and $m_*(O_n \setminus E) < \frac{1}{n}$. Since O_n^c is a closed set, it is measureable. Consequently, $S := \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} O_n^c$ is also measureable. Then $S \subset E^c$ and $E^c \setminus S \subset E \setminus O_n$. $E^c \cap S^c \subset O_n \cap E^c$ because the $\bigcap_k O_k \subset O_n$. Hence $m_*(E^c \setminus S) \leq m_*(E \setminus O_n) < \frac{1}{n}$.

Take $n \rightarrow \infty$ to get the result. Therefore $E^c \setminus S$ is measureable. To conclude, note that $E^c = S \cup (E^c \setminus S)$

Then E^c is measureable. □

5. The union of two measureable sets is measureable.

Proof. Assume a squence of sets $\{E_n\}$ is measureable. Then using DeMorgan's Law we have $\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} E_j = (\bigcap_{j=1}^{\infty} E_j^c)^c$

Then $\bigcap_{j=1}^{\infty} E_j^c$ is measureable and hence $\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} E_j$ is measureable. □

4 Theorem

If E_1, E_2, \dots , are disjoing measureable sets and $E = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} E_j$ then $m(E) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} m(E_j)$

Proof. Case 1:

Assume that each E_j is bounded. we have

$$\sum_{j=1}^N m(E_j) \leq m\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^N E_j\right) \leq m(E) \quad (25)$$

Since E_j^c is measurable $\exists U_j \supset_{open} E_j^c$ such that $m(U_j \setminus E_j^c) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2^j}$

Let $F_j = U_j^c$ and note that F_j is closed and $E_j \setminus F_j = F_j^c \setminus E_j^c = U_j \setminus E_j$

Conesquently, $m(E_j \setminus F_j) = m_*(U_j \setminus E_j^c) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2^j}$

Note, F_j is compact by Heine-Borel Theorem

Let $N \in \mathbb{N}$ and since $\{F_n\}_{j=1}^N$ are disjoint, we have we have

$$m\left(\bigcup_{j=1}^N F_j\right) = \sum_{j=1}^N m(F_j) \quad (26)$$

since $\bigcup_{j=1}^N F_j \subset E = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} E_j$ we have

$$\sum_{j=1}^N m(F_j) \leq m(E) \quad (27)$$

On the otherhand, we have $F_j \cup (E_j \setminus F_j) = E_j$. Hence we deduce that

$$m_*(E_j) \leq m_*(F_j) + m_*(E_j \setminus F_j) = m_*(E_j) + \frac{\text{varepsilonpsilon}}{2} \quad (28)$$

Giving us

$$\sum_{j=1}^N m(E_j) \leq \sum_{j=1}^N m(F_j) + \sum_{j=1}^N \frac{1}{2^j} \leq m(E) + \varepsilon \quad (29)$$

Take $N \rightarrow \infty$ and $\varepsilon \rightarrow 0$ to get the result

$$m_*(E) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} m(E_j) \quad (30)$$

Case 2:

E is not necessarily bounded.

Let $\{Q_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ be a sequence of closed cubes, such that Q_k covers \mathbb{R}^d set $S = Q_1$ and $S_k = Q_k \setminus Q_{k-1}$ and $E = \bigcup_{j,k=1}^{\infty} E_{j,k}$

where $E_j = \cup_{k=1}^{\infty} E_{j,k}$
Applying case 1, yields

$$m(E) = \sum_{j,k=1}^{\infty} m(E_{j,k}) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} m(E_{j,k}) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} m(E_j) \quad (31)$$

□

5 Corollary

Let E_1, E_2 be measurable sets.

1. If E_1 increases to E , then E is measurable and $m(E) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m(E_n)$
2. If E_1 decreases to E , then E is measurable and $m(E) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m(E_n)$

Proof. Note that $E = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n = E_1 \cup (E_2 \setminus E_1) \cup (E_3 \setminus E_2) \cup \dots$ where each set equals and element from G_k where $E = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} G_k$ and G_k is a disjoint set. Hence $m(E) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} m(G_k) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} m(E_k)$

$$m(E) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m(G_n) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m(E_n) \quad (32)$$

□