

MATH597

Analysis II

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Lecture 1: Measures

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1 Measures

Example. Before we start, we first see some examples.

1. Let $X = \{a, b, c\}$. Then

$$\mathcal{P}(X) := \{\emptyset, \{a\}, \{b\}, \{c\}, \{a, b\}, \{a, c\}, \{b, c\}, \{a, b, c\}\},$$

which is the *power set* of X . We see that

$$\#X = n \implies \#\mathcal{P}(X) = 2^n$$

for $n < \infty$.

2. If $n = \infty$, say $X = \mathbb{N}$, then

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$$

is an uncountable set while \mathbb{N} is a countable set. We can see this as follows. Consider

$$\phi: \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) \rightarrow [0, 1], \quad A \mapsto 0.a_1a_2a_3 \dots \text{ (base 2),}$$

where

$$a_i = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } i \in A \\ 0, & \text{if } i \notin A, \end{cases}$$

and for example, A can be $A = \{2, 3, 6, \dots\} \subseteq \mathbb{N}$. Note that ϕ is surjective, hence we have

$$\#\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) \geq \#[0, 1].$$

But since $[0, 1]$ is uncountable, so is $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N})$.

We like to *measure* the *size* of subsets of X . Hence, we are intriguing to define a map μ such that

$$\mu: \mathcal{P}(X) \rightarrow [0, \infty].$$

Example. We first see some examples.

1. Let $X = \{0, 1, 2\}$. Then we want to define $\mu: \mathcal{P}(X) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$, we can have

- $\mu(A) = \#A$. Then we have
 - $\mu(\{0, 1\}) = 2$
 - $\mu(\{0\}) = 1$
- $\mu(A) = \sum_{i \in A} 2^i$. Then we have
 - $\mu(\{0, 1\}) = 2^0 + 2^1 = 3$

2. Let $X = \{0\} \cup \mathbb{N}$. Then we want to define $\mu: \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$, we can have

- $\mu(A) = \#A$. Then we have
 - $\mu(\{2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}) = \infty = \mu(\{\text{even numbers}\})$
- $\mu(A) = e^{-1} \sum_{i \in A} \frac{1}{i!}$. Then we have
 - $\mu(\{0, 2, 4, 6, \dots\}) = e^{-1} (1 + \frac{1}{2!} + \frac{1}{3!} + \dots)$
- $\mu(A) = \sum_{i \in A} a_i$

3. Let $X = \mathbb{R}$. Then we want to define $\mu: \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$, we can have

- $\mu(A) = \#A$
- $\mu((a, b)) = b - a$.

Problem. Can we extend this map to all of $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$?

Answer. No!

- $\mu((a, b)) = e^b - e^a$.

Problem. Can we extend this map to all of $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$?

Answer. No!

We immediately see the problems. To extend our native measure method into \mathbb{R} is hard and will cause something counter-intuitive!¹ Hence, rather than define measurement on *all* subsets in the power set of X , we only focus on *some* subsets. In other words, we want to define

$$\mu: \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \supset \mathcal{U} \rightarrow [0, \infty].$$

1.1 σ -algebras

¹https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Banach-Tarski_paradox

Definition 1. Let X be a set. A collection \mathcal{U} of subsets of X , i.e., $\mathcal{U} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$ is called a σ -algebra on X if

- $\phi \in \mathcal{U}$
- \mathcal{U} is closed under complements. i.e., if $A \in \mathcal{U}$, $A^c = X \setminus A \in \mathcal{U}$.
- \mathcal{U} is closed under countable union. i.e., if $A_i \in \mathcal{U}$, then $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{U}$.

Remark. There are some easy properties we can immediately derive.

- $X \in \mathcal{U}$
- $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i^c \right)^c$, namely \mathcal{U} is closed under countable intersections.
- $A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n = A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \dots \cup A_n \cup \emptyset \cup \emptyset \cup \dots$, hence \mathcal{U} is closed under finite unions and intersections.