

(1)

Among the most significant properties of Lebesgue measure are its invariance under translations and simple behavior under dilations.

Theorem 1 Let E be a Lebesgue measurable subset of \mathbb{R}^n .

(i) For all $h \in \mathbb{R}^n$, the set $E+h := \{x+h : x \in E\}$ is also Lebesgue measurable, and moreover $m(E+h) = m(E)$.

(ii) For all $c \in \mathbb{R}$, the set $cE := \{cx : x \in E\}$ is also Lebesgue measurable, and moreover $m(cE) = |c|^n m(E)$.

More generally, if T is a linear transformation from \mathbb{R}^n to \mathbb{R}^n , i.e. $T \in GL(n, \mathbb{R})$, then the set $TE := \{Tx : x \in E\}$ is also Lebesgue measurable and $m(TE) = |\det T| m(E)$.

* We could prove this now, but will do so later after having developed some integration theory *.

Proof of Theorem 1:

• Both results clearly hold for closed cubes and hence for any $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ (not necessarily measurable) we have

$$m_x(E+h) = m_x(E) \quad \text{and} \quad m_x(cE) = |c|^n m_x(E).$$

* Check this, if you do not see it immediately *

(2)

Thus it suffices to show that the sets

$$E+h \quad \text{and} \quad cE$$

are both measurable (recall if E is measurable, then $m(E) := m_*(E)$).

Let $\varepsilon > 0$. Since E is measurable, we know \exists open set G with

$$E \subseteq G \quad \text{and} \quad m_*(G \setminus E) \leq \varepsilon.$$

Notice that $G+h$ and cG are both still open and clearly

$$E+h \subseteq G+h \quad \text{and} \quad cE \subseteq cG.$$

Since

$$(G+h) \setminus (E+h) = (G \setminus E) + h$$

$$\text{and} \quad cG \setminus cE = c(G \setminus E)$$

it follows that

$$m_*((G+h) \setminus (E+h)) = m_*((G \setminus E) + h) = m_*(G \setminus E) \leq \varepsilon$$

and

$$m_*(cG \setminus cE) = m_*(c(G \setminus E)) = |c|^n m_*(G \setminus E) \leq |c|^n \varepsilon$$

these hold for any set

□