

Solutions to Measure, Integration & Real Analysis
- Sheldon Axler

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Preface

The goal of this document is to share my personal solutions to the exercises in Measure, Integration & Real Analysis by Sheldon Axler during my reading.

What results will I assume and what results am I going to prove in this document?

Most of the time, I will try to state precisely some results that I am going to use without proof. More generally, I will assume that the reader of this document is already familiar with classical analysis such as the results that can be found in the first chapters of Understanding Analysis by Stephen Abbott or any first class introduction to analysis. For example, I will use without proof the following properties of the infimum and supremum:

1. $\sup(A + B) = \sup\{a + b : a \in A, b \in B\} = \sup A + \sup B$
2. $\inf(A + B) = \inf\{a + b : a \in A, b \in B\} = \inf A + \inf B$
3. $\sup A \leq \sup B$ if $A \subset B$
4. $\inf A \geq \inf B$ if $A \subset B$
5. $-\sup A = \inf(-A)$

where A and B are arbitrary bounded subsets of \mathbf{R} .

As a disclaimer, the solutions are not unique and there will probably be better or more optimized solutions than mine. Feel free to correct me or ask me anything about the content of this document at the following address : samy.lahloukamal@mcgill.ca

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Chapter 1

Riemann Integration

1A Review : Riemann Integral

Exercise 1

Suppose $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a bounded function such that

$$L(f, P, [a, b]) = U(f, P, [a, b])$$

for some partition P of $[a, b]$. Prove that f is a constant function on $[a, b]$.

Solution

Let's prove this on the number of subintervals of $[a, b]$ of the partition $P = \{x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_n\}$. For our base case, let $a < b \in \mathbf{R}$, $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be an arbitrary bounded function and $P = \{a, b\}$ be the trivial partition. Suppose that

$$L(f, P, [a, b]) = U(f, P, [a, b])$$

Notice that it is equivalent to

$$\inf_{[a, b]} f = \sup_{[a, b]} f$$

If we let $c := \sup_{[a, b]} f$, then for all $x \in [a, b]$, we have

$$c = \inf_{[a, b]} f \leq f(x) \leq \sup_{[a, b]} f = c$$

Hence, $f \equiv c$ on $[a, b]$ which proves the base case.

For the inductive step, suppose that there is a natural number k such that for all $a < b \in \mathbf{R}$ and for all bounded $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, then f is constant on $[a, b]$ whenever $L(f, P, [a, b]) = U(f, P, [a, b])$ where P is a partition splitting $[a, b]$ into k subintervals. Let $a < b \in \mathbf{R}$ be real numbers, f be an arbitrary bounded function on $[a, b]$ and $P = \{a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_{k+1} = b\}$ be an arbitrary partition splitting $[a, b]$ into $k+1$ subintervals. Suppose that $L(f, P, [a, b]) = U(f, P, [a, b])$ holds. Let's show that f is constant on $[a, b]$.

First, consider the functions $f_1 := f|_{[a, x_k]}$ and $f_2 := f|_{[x_k, b]}$ and the partitions $P_1 := \{a = x_0 < x_1 < \dots < x_k\}$ and $P_2 := \{x_k < x_{k+1} = b\}$ partitioning $[a, x_k]$ and $[x_k, b]$ respectively. Notice that $L(f, P, [a, b]) = U(f, P, [a, b])$ is actually equivalent to $L(f_1, P_1, [a, x_k]) = U(f_1, P_1, [a, x_k])$ and $L(f_2, P_2, [x_k, b]) = U(f_2, P_2, [x_k, b])$.

It follows by our induction hypothesis that there exist constants c_1 and c_2 in \mathbf{R} such

that $f_1 \equiv c_1$ and $f_2 \equiv c_2$ on there respetive domains. By definition of f_1 and f_2 , we get that $f(x) = c_1$ for all $x \in [a, x_k]$ and $f(x) = c_2$ for all $x \in [x_k, b]$. By plugging-in $x = x_k$, we get that $c_1 = c_2$. It follows that f is constant on $[a, b]$.

Exercise 2

Suppose $a \leq s < t \leq b$. Define $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } s < x < t, \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Prove that f is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$ and that $\int_a^b f = t - s$.

Solution

Let $\epsilon > 0$ and consider the partition $P_\epsilon = \{a < t - \frac{\epsilon}{2} < t + \frac{\epsilon}{2} < s - \frac{\epsilon}{2} < s + \frac{\epsilon}{2} < b\}$. To make sure that P_ϵ is well defined, take ϵ small enough so that $a < t - \frac{\epsilon}{2}$, $t + \frac{\epsilon}{2} < s - \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ and $s + \frac{\epsilon}{2} < b$, i.e., consider ϵ to be stricly smaller than $\min(2(t-a), s-t, 2(b-s))$. Hence:

$$\begin{aligned} U(f, [a, b]) &\leq U(f, P_\epsilon, [a, b]) \\ &= (t - \frac{\epsilon}{2} - a) \sup_{[a, t - \frac{\epsilon}{2}]} f + (t + \frac{\epsilon}{2} - t + \frac{\epsilon}{2}) \sup_{[t - \frac{\epsilon}{2}, t + \frac{\epsilon}{2}]} f \\ &\quad + (s - \frac{\epsilon}{2} - t - \frac{\epsilon}{2}) \sup_{[t + \frac{\epsilon}{2}, s - \frac{\epsilon}{2}]} f + (s + \frac{\epsilon}{2} - s + \frac{\epsilon}{2}) \sup_{[s - \frac{\epsilon}{2}, s + \frac{\epsilon}{2}]} f \\ &\quad + (b - s - \frac{\epsilon}{2}) \sup_{[s + \frac{\epsilon}{2}, b]} f \\ &= (t - \frac{\epsilon}{2} - a) \cdot 0 + \epsilon \cdot 1 + (s - t - \epsilon) \cdot 1 + \epsilon \cdot 1 + (b - s - \frac{\epsilon}{2}) \cdot 0 \\ &= s - t + \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

But $U(f, [a, b])$ don't depend on ϵ so it follows that $U(f, [a, b]) \leq s - t$. Similarly, by construction of P_ϵ , we can prove that $L(f, [a, b]) \geq s - t$ which gives us

$$s - t \leq L(f, [a, b]) \leq U(f, [a, b]) \leq s - t$$

which gives us

$$U(f, [a, b]) = L(f, [a, b]) = s - t$$

Therefore, f is Riemann integrable and $\int_a^b f = s - t$.

Exercise 3

Suppose $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a bounded function. Prove that f is Riemann integrable if and only if for each $\epsilon > 0$, there exists a partition P of $[a, b]$ such that

$$U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b]) < \epsilon$$

Solution

(\implies) Suppose that f is Riemann integrable, then by definition, $U(f, [a, b]) = L(f, [a, b])$. Let $\epsilon > 0$, then by properties of the infimum and the supremum, there exist partitions P_1 and P_2 of $[a, b]$ such that

$$U(f, P_1, [a, b]) < U(f, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

and

$$L(f, [a, b]) - \frac{\epsilon}{2} < L(f, P_2, [a, b])$$

consider $P = P_1 \cup P_2$, then:

$$\begin{aligned} U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b]) &\leq U(f, P_1, [a, b]) - L(f, P_2, [a, b]) \\ &< U(f, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} - L(f, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ &= \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

which proves the first direction of the equivalence.

(\Leftarrow) Suppose that for all ϵ , there exists a partition P of $[a, b]$ such that

$$U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b]) < \epsilon$$

Then, since for all partitions P of $[a, b]$ we have $U(f, [a, b]) \leq U(f, P, [a, b])$ and $L(f, P, [a, b]) \leq L(f, [a, b])$, then it follows that for all ϵ , we have

$$U(f, [a, b]) - L(f, [a, b]) \leq U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b]) < \epsilon$$

for some partition P by our assumption. Since it holds for all $\epsilon > 0$ and since $U(f, [a, b]) - L(f, [a, b])$ is positive, then it follows that $U(f, [a, b]) = L(f, [a, b])$. By definition, this means that f is Riemann integrable.

Exercise 4

Suppose, $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ are Riemann integrable. Prove that $f + g$ is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$ and

$$\int_a^b (f + g) = \int_a^b f + \int_a^b g$$

Solution

First, consider the following properties of the upper and lower Riemann sums that we will prove as follows

$$\begin{aligned} \sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} (f + g) &= \sup\{f(x) + g(x) : x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}]\} \\ &\leq \sup\{f(x) + g(y) : x, y \in [x_i, x_{i+1}]\} \\ &= \sup(\{f(x) : x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}]\} + \{g(x) : x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}]\}) \\ &= \sup\{f(x) : x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}]\} + \sup\{g(x) : x \in [x_i, x_{i+1}]\} \\ &= \sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f + \sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} g \end{aligned}$$

where $[x_i, x_{i+1}]$ is an arbitrary closed interval inside $[a, b]$. Similarly, we also have the following property for the infimum:

$$\inf_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} (f + g) \geq \inf_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f + \inf_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} g$$

Thus, given a partition P of $[a, b]$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 U(f + g, P, [a, b]) &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{i+1} - x_i) \sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} (f + g) \\
 &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{i+1} - x_i) \left(\sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f + \sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} g \right) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{i+1} - x_i) \sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f + \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{i+1} - x_i) \sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} g \\
 &= U(f, P, [a, b]) + U(g, P, [a, b])
 \end{aligned}$$

and similarly:

$$L(f + g, P, [a, b]) \geq L(f, P, [a, b]) + L(g, P, [a, b])$$

These are the main inequalities we will use to prove the additivity of the Riemann integral.

Let's now prove that $f + g$ is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$ using the criterion proved in the previous exercise. Let $\epsilon > 0$, then by the criterion, there exist partitions P_f and P_g of $[a, b]$ such that

$$U(f, P_f, [a, b]) - L(f, P_f, [a, b]) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$U(g, P_g, [a, b]) - L(g, P_g, [a, b]) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

Consider now P to be the merging of P_f and P_g , i.e., let $P = P_f \cup P_g$, then we get

$$U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b]) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$U(g, P, [a, b]) - L(g, P, [a, b]) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

Thus, by the previous inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned}
 U(f + g, P, [a, b]) - L(f + g, P, [a, b]) &\leq U(f, P, [a, b]) + U(g, P, [a, b]) \\
 &\quad - L(f, P, [a, b]) - L(g, P, [a, b]) \\
 &= [U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b])] \\
 &\quad + [U(g, P, [a, b]) - L(g, P, [a, b])] \\
 &< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\
 &= \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

which proves the Riemann integrability of $f + g$.

Now, let's prove equality between $\int_a^b (f + g)$ and $\int_a^b f + \int_a^b g$. To do so, let $\epsilon > 0$, then there exist partitions P_1 and P_2 of $[a, b]$ satisfying

$$U(f, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} > U(f, P_1, [a, b])$$

and

$$U(g, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} > U(g, P_2, [a, b])$$

If we consider $P = P_1 \cup P_2$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_a^b (f + g) &= U(f + g, [a, b]) \\
 &\leq U(f + g, P, [a, b]) \\
 &\leq U(f, P, [a, b]) + U(g, P, [a, b]) \\
 &\leq U(f, P_1, [a, b]) + U(g, P_2, [a, b]) \\
 &< U(f, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} + U(g, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\
 &= \int_a^b f + \int_a^b g + \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

But ϵ is arbitrary and nothing depends on it so by letting $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, we get

$$\int_a^b (f + g) \leq \int_a^b f + \int_a^b g \quad (1)$$

For the reverse inequality, again, let $\epsilon > 0$, then there are partitions P_1 and P_2 of $[a, b]$ satisfying

$$L(f, [a, b]) < L(f, P_1, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

and

$$L(g, [a, b]) < L(g, P_2, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

Thus, by letting $P = P_1 \cup P_2$, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 \int_a^b f + \int_a^b g &= L(f, [a, b]) + L(g, [a, b]) \\
 &< L(f, P_1, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} + L(g, P_2, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\
 &= L(f, P, [a, b]) + L(g, P, [a, b]) + \epsilon \\
 &\leq L(f + g, P, [a, b]) + \epsilon \\
 &\leq L(f + g, [a, b]) + \epsilon \\
 &= \int_a^b (f + g) + \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

Letting $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ gives us

$$\int_a^b f + \int_a^b g \leq \int_a^b (f + g) \quad (2)$$

Therefore, combining (1) and (2) gives us

$$\int_a^b (f + g) = \int_a^b f + \int_a^b g$$

Exercise 5

Suppose $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is Riemann integrable. Prove that the function $-f$ is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$ and

$$\int_a^b (-f) = - \int_a^b f$$

Solution

First, notice that for any partition P of $[a, b]$, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 -U(f, P, [a, b]) &= -\sum_{i=1}^n (x_{i+1} - x_i) \sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{i+1} - x_i) \left(-\sup_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} f \right) \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_{i+1} - x_i) \inf_{[x_i, x_{i+1}]} (-f) \\
 &= L(-f, P, [a, b])
 \end{aligned}$$

Similarly, we also have

$$-L(f, P, [a, b]) = U(-f, P, [a, b])$$

Therefore, we get that

$$\begin{aligned}
 f \text{ is Riemann integrable} &\implies U(f, [a, b]) = L(f, [a, b]) \\
 &\implies -U(f, [a, b]) = -L(f, [a, b]) \\
 &\implies -\inf_P \{U(f, P, [a, b])\} = -\sup_P \{L(f, P, [a, b])\} \\
 &\implies \sup_P \{-U(f, P, [a, b])\} = \inf_P \{-L(f, P, [a, b])\} \\
 &\implies \sup_P \{L(-f, P, [a, b])\} = \inf_P \{U(-f, P, [a, b])\} \\
 &\implies L(-f, [a, b]) = U(-f, [a, b]) \\
 &\implies -f \text{ is Riemann integrable}
 \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by the previous exercise, we get

$$\int_a^b f + \int_a^b (-f) = \int_a^b (f + (-f)) = \int_a^b 0 = 0$$

which directly implies

$$\int_a^b (-f) = -\int_a^b f$$

Exercise 6

Suppose $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is Riemann integrable. Suppose $g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a function such that $g(x) = f(x)$ for all except finitely many $x \in [a, b]$. Prove that g is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$ and

$$\int_a^b g = \int_a^b f$$

Solution

Let's prove this by induction on the number of the number of elements in the set $\{x \in [a, b] : g(x) \neq f(x)\}$. For the base case, let $g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be a function which differs from f at exactly one point $x_0 \in [a, b]$. Consider the function $h = f - g$ defined

on $[a, b]$ and notice that h is zero everywhere except for $x = x_0$. Now, consider the following cases, if $x_0 \in (a, b)$, then to prove that h is Riemann integrable, let $\epsilon > 0$, define $\epsilon_0 = \epsilon/4|h_0|$ and consider the partition $P = \{a, x_0 - \epsilon_0, x_0 + \epsilon_0, b\}$. Then, we get

$$\begin{aligned}
 U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b]) &= \left(\sup_{[a, x_0 - \epsilon_0]} f - \inf_{[a, x_0 - \epsilon_0]} f \right) (x_0 - \epsilon_0 - a) \\
 &\quad + \left(\sup_{[x_0 - \epsilon_0, x_0 + \epsilon_0]} f - \inf_{[x_0 - \epsilon_0, x_0 + \epsilon_0]} f \right) (x_0 + \epsilon_0 - x_0 + \epsilon_0) \\
 &\quad + \left(\sup_{[x_0 + \epsilon_0, b]} f - \inf_{[x_0 + \epsilon_0, b]} f \right) (b - x_0 - \epsilon_0) \\
 &= 0 \cdot (x_0 - \epsilon_0 - a) + 2|h(x_0)|\epsilon_0 + 0 \cdot (b - x_0 - \epsilon_0) \\
 &= 2|h(x_0)| \frac{\epsilon}{4|h(x_0)|} \\
 &= \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\
 &< \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

Thus, by the criterion proved in exercise 3, h is Riemann integrable. Since $g = f - h$, then g is Riemann integrable as well by exercises 4 and 5.

Now, suppose without loss of generality that $h(x_0)$ is positive, then $L(f, P, [a, b]) = 0$ for any partition P of $[a, b]$. Hence, if we rewrite the last inequality, we get that

$$U(f, P, [a, b]) < \epsilon$$

for some partition P and for all $\epsilon > 0$. Hence, for all $\epsilon > 0$, there is a partition P such that

$$0 = L(f, P, [a, b]) \leq U(f, [a, b]) \leq U(f, P, [a, b]) < \epsilon$$

It follows that

$$\int_a^b h = U(f, [a, b]) = 0$$

by letting $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$. Thus, by exercise 4 and 5, we get

$$\int_a^b f = \int_a^b (h + g) = \int_a^b h + \int_a^b g = \int_a^b g$$

which proves the base case when $x_0 \in (a, b)$. When $x_0 \in \{a, b\}$, the proof is the same up to a small modification of the partition P given $\epsilon > 0$. If $x_0 = a$, define $P = \{a, a + \frac{\epsilon}{2|h(x_0)|}, b\}$ and if $x_0 = b$, define $P = \{a, b - \frac{\epsilon}{2|h(x_0)|}, b\}$.

For the inductive hypothesis, suppose that there is a $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ such that any function that differs from a Riemann integrable function f at precisely k points is still Riemann integrable and has its integral to be equal to $\int_a^b f$. Now, let $g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be an arbitrary function that differs from f at precisely k points x_1, x_2, \dots, x_{k+1} . From this, consider the function $g_0 : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ defined by

$$g_0(x) = \begin{cases} f(x) & x = x_{k+1} \\ g(x) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Notice that g_0 differs from f at precisely k points. Hence, by the inductive hypothesis, g_0 is integrable and its integral is the same as f . Moreover, g differs from g_0 at precisely one point, hence, by the base case, since g_0 is Riemann integrable, then g is Riemann integrable as well and

$$\int_a^b g = \int_a^b g_0 = \int_a^b f$$

which proves our claim by induction.

Exercise 7

Suppose $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a bounded function. For $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, let P_n denote the partition that divides $[a, b]$ into 2^n intervals of equal size. Prove that

$$L(f, [a, b]) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L(f, P_n, [a, b]) \text{ and } U(f, [a, b]) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} U(f, P_n, [a, b])$$

Solution

Let's prove it for the lower Riemann integral. Since $P_{n+1} \subset P_n$ for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, then $\{L(f, P_n, [a, b])\}_n$ is an increasing sequence that is bounded by $L(f, [a, b])$, thus, it converges to its supremum. Hence, it suffices to prove that $L(f, [a, b]) = \sup_n L(f, P_n, [a, b])$.

Let $\epsilon > 0$, then by properties of the supremum, there exists a partition $P = \{a = x_0, \dots, x_m = b\}$ of $[a, b]$ that satisfies

$$L(f, P, [a, b]) > L(f, [a, b]) - \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

Let $k \in \llbracket 1, m-1 \rrbracket$, then there are dyadic numbers $a_k/2^{n_k}$ and $b_k/2^{n_k}$ that satisfies the following properties. First, $a_k/2^{n_k}$ is strictly between x_{k-1} and x_k minus half the distance between x_k and x_{k-1} . Similarly, $b_k/2^{n_k}$ is strictly between x_k and x_k plus half the distance between x_k and x_{k+1} . This condition is made to ensure that

$$\frac{b_{k-1}}{2^{n_{k-1}}} < \frac{a_k}{2^{n_k}} < x_k < \frac{b_k}{2^{n_k}} < \frac{a_{k+1}}{2^{n_{k+1}}}$$

Moreover, the dyadic numbers also satisfy

$$x_k - \frac{a_k}{2^{n_k}} < \frac{\epsilon}{4M(m-1)}$$

and

$$\frac{b_k}{2^{n_k}} - x_k < \frac{\epsilon}{4M(m-1)}$$

It directly follows that

$$\frac{b_k}{2^{n_k}} - \frac{a_k}{2^{n_k}} < \frac{\epsilon}{2M(m-1)}$$

From this, define N to be the maximum of the n_k 's and notice that we can rewrite

$$\frac{\epsilon}{2} = \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} M \frac{\epsilon}{2M(m-1)}$$

Hence, combining this with the previous inequality gives us

$$\frac{\epsilon}{2} > \sum_{k=1}^{m-1} M \left(\frac{b_k}{2^{n_k}} - \frac{a_k}{2^{n_k}} \right)$$

But notice that right hand side is an upper bound for the lower Riemann sum with the partition $P_N \cup P$ where the subintervals are precisely the ones between the dyadic approximations of the x_i 's. Hence, since we can split $L(f, P_N \cup P, [a, b])$ into two sums, one that iterates over the subintervals of P_N that are not contained between the dyadic approximations of some x_i and another sum that iterates over the subintervals of $P_N \cup P$ that are contained between the dyadic approximations of some x_i , then we get the following upper bound:

$$L(f, P_N, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} > L(f, P_N \cup P, [a, b])$$

which implies

$$\begin{aligned} L(f, P_N, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} &> L(f, P_N \cup P, [a, b]) \\ &\geq L(f, P, [a, b]) \\ &> L(f, [a, b]) - \frac{\epsilon}{2} \end{aligned}$$

giving us

$$L(f, P_N, [a, b]) > L(f, [a, b]) - \epsilon$$

Thus, the sequence $\{L(f, P_n, [a, b])\}_n$ gets arbitrarily close to $L(f, [a, b])$. But $L(f, [a, b])$ is an upper bound for this sequence. It follows that $L(f, [a, b]) = \sup_n L(f, P_n, [a, b])$. Therefore,

$$L(f, [a, b]) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} L(f, P_n, [a, b])$$

The proof for the upper Riemann integral is the same up to some small readjustments.

Exercise 8

Suppose $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is Riemann integrable. Prove that

$$\int_a^b f = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b-a}{n} \sum_{j=1}^n f \left(a + \frac{j(b-a)}{n} \right).$$

Solution

In this solution, for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, I will denote by P_n the partition of $[a, b]$ that divides the interval into n equally spaced subintervals. Let's use the definition of the limit for sequences to prove the claim.

Let $\epsilon > 0$, then there exist partitions $P^{(1)}$ and $P^{(2)}$ of $[a, b]$ satisfying

$$L(f, P^{(1)}, [a, b]) > L(f, [a, b]) - \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$U(f, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} > U(f, P^{(2)}, [a, b])$$

If we consider the merging of the partitions $P = P^{(1)} \cup P^{(2)} = \{a = x_0, x_1, \dots, x_m = b\}$, then the previous inequalities still hold even if we replace $P^{(1)}$ and $P^{(2)}$ by P :

$$L(f, P, [a, b]) > L(f, [a, b]) - \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

$$U(f, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} > U(f, P, [a, b])$$

By the Archimedean Property in \mathbf{R} , there is a $N \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ such that

$$\frac{1}{N} < \frac{1}{b-a} \cdot \frac{\epsilon}{4M(m-1)}$$

Moreover, to make the rest of the proof simpler, make N large enough so that $(b-a)/N$ is strictly less than the maximum size of the subintervals in P . Let $n \geq N$, let's first prove that

$$L(f, P \cup P_n, [a, b]) \leq L(f, P_n, [a, b]) + 2M(m-1)\frac{b-a}{n}$$

To do so, since P_n is a partition of $[a, b]$, then any x_i is going to be in a subinterval of P_n of the form $[y_{i_1}, y_{i_2}]$ where $y_{i_1} = a + j\frac{b-a}{n}$ and $y_{i_2} = y_{i_1} + \frac{b-a}{n}$:

$$y_{i_1} \leq x_i \leq y_{i_2}$$

By our assumption on N , there are no x_j between y_{i_1} and x_i or x_i and y_{i_2} . Hence, the lower Riemann sum corresponding to the partition $P \cup P_n$ contains the following terms:

$$(x_i - y_{i_1}) \inf_{[y_{i_1}, x_i]} f + (y_{i_2} - x_i) \inf_{[x_i, y_{i_2}]} f$$

for all $i \in \llbracket 1, m-2 \rrbracket$. But notice that we can find the following upper bound:

$$\begin{aligned} (x_i - y_{i_1}) \inf_{[y_{i_1}, x_i]} f + (y_{i_2} - x_i) \inf_{[x_i, y_{i_2}]} f &\leq (x_i - y_{i_1})M + (y_{i_2} - x_i)M \\ &= M(y_{i_2} - y_{i_1}) \\ &= M\frac{b-a}{n} \end{aligned}$$

Summing over all i 's gives us

$$\sum_{i=1}^{m-1} \left[(x_i - y_{i_1}) \inf_{[y_{i_1}, x_i]} f + (y_{i_2} - x_i) \inf_{[x_i, y_{i_2}]} f \right] \leq \sum_{i=1}^{m-1} M\frac{b-a}{n} = M(m-1)\frac{b-a}{n}$$

Thus, from the $n + (m-1)$ terms of the lower Riemann sum associated with the partition $P \cup P_n$, we can bound above $2(m-1)$ of the terms by $M(m-1)\frac{b-a}{n}$. What it means is that $L(f, P \cup P_n, [a, b])$ can be bounded above by $M(m-1)\frac{b-a}{n}$ plus $L(f, P_n, [a, b])$ without the $m-1$ subintervals containing the x_i 's. But each subinterval in $L(f, P_n, [a, b])$ is of the form $\inf_{[y_j, y_{j+1}]} f \frac{b-a}{n}$ so is greater than $-M\frac{b-a}{n}$.

Thus, if we denote by m_k the infimum of f on the k th subinterval of P_n , we get:

$$\begin{aligned}
 L(f, P \cup P_n, [a, b]) &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{n-(m-1)} \left[m_{k_i} \frac{b-a}{n} \right] + M(m-1) \frac{b-a}{n} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{n-(m-1)} \left[m_{k_i} \frac{b-a}{n} \right] + \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} \left[-M \frac{b-a}{n} \right] + 2M(m-1) \frac{b-a}{n} \\
 &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{n-(m-1)} \left[m_{k_i} \frac{b-a}{n} \right] + \sum_{j=1}^{m-1} \left[m_{k'_j} \frac{b-a}{n} \right] + 2M(m-1) \frac{b-a}{n} \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^n \left[m_k \frac{b-a}{n} \right] + 2M(m-1) \frac{b-a}{n} \\
 &= L(f, P_n, [a, b]) + 2M(m-1) \frac{b-a}{n}
 \end{aligned}$$

which is the desired inequality. Similarly, we can prove an analogous inequality for the upper Riemann sum:

$$U(f, P \cup P_n, [a, b]) \geq U(f, P_n, [a, b]) - 2M(m-1) \frac{b-a}{n}$$

From these inequalities, we get the following:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \frac{b-a}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f \left(a + i \frac{b-a}{n} \right) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} &\geq \sum_{i=1}^n \left[m_i \frac{b-a}{n} \right] + 2M(m-1) \frac{b-a}{n} \\
 &= L(f, P_n, [a, b]) + 2M(m-1) \frac{b-a}{n} \\
 &\geq L(f, P \cup P_n, [a, b]) \\
 &\geq L(f, P, [a, b]) \\
 &> L(f, [a, b]) - \frac{\epsilon}{2}
 \end{aligned}$$

which implies

$$\int_a^b f - \frac{b-a}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f \left(a + i \frac{b-a}{n} \right) < \epsilon \quad (1)$$

Similarly, with upper Riemann sums, we get

$$\frac{b-a}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f \left(a + i \frac{b-a}{n} \right) - \int_a^b f < \epsilon \quad (2)$$

Combining (1) and (2) gives us

$$\left| \frac{b-a}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f \left(a + i \frac{b-a}{n} \right) - \int_a^b f \right| < \epsilon$$

Therefore, by definition of the limit of a sequence, we have

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{b-a}{n} \sum_{i=1}^n f \left(a + i \frac{b-a}{n} \right) = \int_a^b f$$

which proves our claim.

Exercise 9

Suppose $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is Riemann integrable. Prove that if $c, d \in \mathbf{R}$ and $a \leq c < d \leq b$, then f is Riemann integrable on $[c, d]$.

[To say that f is Riemann integrable on $[c, d]$ means that f with its domain restricted to $[c, d]$ is Riemann integrable.]

Solution

In this solution, we will denote by $f|_{[c,d]}$ the restriction of f to $[c, d]$. Let's prove this using the criterion proven in exercise 3. Let $\epsilon > 0$, then by Riemann integrability of f , there exists a partition P such that

$$U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b]) < \epsilon$$

Consider now the partition $P' = P \cup \{c, d\}$, then the previous still holds if we replace P by P' since P' is a refinement of P :

$$U(f, P', [a, b]) - L(f, P', [a, b]) < \epsilon$$

If we write P' as $\{a = x_0, x_1, \dots, x_n = b\}$, then there must exist integers $i < j \in \llbracket 0, n \rrbracket$ such that $x_i = c$ and $x_j = d$. Define now the partition $P_0 = \{c = x_i, x_{i+1}, \dots, x_j = d\}$ and notice that

$$\begin{aligned} & U(f|_{[c,d]}, P_0, [c, d]) - L(f|_{[c,d]}, P_0, [c, d]) \\ &= \sum_{k=i}^{j-1} \left(\sup_{[x_k, x_{k+1}]} f|_{[c,d]} - \inf_{[x_k, x_{k+1}]} f|_{[c,d]} \right) (x_{k+1} - x_k) \\ &= \sum_{k=i}^{j-1} \left(\sup_{[x_k, x_{k+1}]} f - \inf_{[x_k, x_{k+1}]} f \right) (x_{k+1} - x_k) \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^{n-1} \left(\sup_{[x_k, x_{k+1}]} f - \inf_{[x_k, x_{k+1}]} f \right) (x_{k+1} - x_k) \\ &= U(f, P', [a, b]) - L(f, P', [a, b]) \\ &< \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

which proves that f is Riemann integrable on $[c, d]$.

Exercise 10

Suppose $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a bounded function and $c \in (a, b)$. Prove that f is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$ if and only if f is Riemann integrable on $[a, c]$ and f is Riemann integrable on $[c, b]$. Furthermore, prove that if these conditions hold, then

$$\int_a^b f = \int_a^c f + \int_c^b f.$$

Solution

Before proving this, let's show that

$$U(f, [a, b]) = U(f, [a, c]) + U(f, [c, b])$$

and

$$L(f, [a, b]) = L(f, [a, c]) + L(f, [c, d])$$

hold. To do so, we will use properties of the supremum and infimum. Let $\epsilon > 0$, then there exists a partition P of $[a, b]$ such that $U(f, P, [a, b]) < U(f, [a, b]) + \epsilon$. But if we consider $P \cup \{c\} = \{a = x_0, \dots, x_j = c, \dots, x_n = b, \}$ instead of P , we can split it into two partitions $P_1 = \{x_0, \dots, x_j\}$ and $P_2 = \{x_j, \dots, x_n\}$ of $[a, c]$ and $[c, b]$ respectively. Hence:

$$\begin{aligned} U(f, [a, b]) + \epsilon &> U(f, P, [a, b]) \\ &\geq U(f, P \cup \{c\}, [a, b]) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) \inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} f \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^j (x_i - x_{i-1}) \inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} f + \sum_{i=j+1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) \inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} f \\ &= U(f, P_1, [a, c]) + U(f, P_2, [c, b]) \\ &\geq U(f, [a, c]) + U(f, [c, b]) \end{aligned}$$

In short:

$$U(f, [a, c]) + U(f, [c, b]) \leq U(f, [a, b]) + \epsilon$$

But nothing here depends on ϵ so if just take $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, we get

$$U(f, [a, c]) + U(f, [c, b]) \leq U(f, [a, b])$$

Similarly, for any $\epsilon > 0$, there exist partitions P_1 and P_2 of $[a, c]$ and $[c, b]$ respectively such that $U(f, P_1, [a, c]) < U(f, [a, c]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ and $U(f, P_2, [c, b]) < U(f, [c, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$. Hence, if we consider the partition $P = P_1 \cup P_2 = \{x_0, \dots, x_j = c, \dots, x_n\}$ of $[a, b]$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} U(f, [a, c]) + U(f, [c, b]) + \epsilon &> U(f, P_1, [a, c]) + U(f, P_2, [c, b]) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^j (x_i - x_{i-1}) \inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} f + \sum_{i=j+1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) \inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} f \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) \inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} f \\ &= U(f, P, [a, b]) \\ &\geq U(f, [a, b]) \end{aligned}$$

In short:

$$U(f, [a, b]) \leq U(f, [a, c]) + U(f, [c, b]) + \epsilon$$

But nothing here depends on ϵ so if just take $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$, we get

$$U(f, [a, b]) \leq U(f, [a, c]) + U(f, [c, b])$$

It follows that

$$U(f, [a, b]) = U(f, [a, c]) + U(f, [c, b])$$

The proof for the lower Riemann integral is the same up to some small modifications. Now that we proved these results, the rest will follow easily.

For the equivalence that we need to prove, notice that the forward implication follows from the previous exercise. For the reverse implication, suppose that f is both Riemann integrable on $[a, c]$ and $[c, b]$, then by definition, we have

$$U(f, [a, c]) = L(f, [a, c])$$

and

$$U(f, [c, b]) = L(f, [c, b])$$

Adding the two equations gives us

$$U(f, [a, c]) + U(f, [c, b]) = L(f, [a, c]) + L(f, [c, b])$$

which is equivalent to

$$U(f, [a, b]) = L(f, [a, b])$$

Thus, f is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$.

Now, suppose that f is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$ and consequently, on $[a, c]$ and $[c, b]$ as well, then:

$$\int_a^b f = U(f, [a, b]) = U(f, [a, c]) + U(f, [c, b]) = \int_a^c f + \int_c^b f$$

which proves our claim.

Exercise 11

Suppose $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is Riemann integrable. Define $F : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ by

$$F(t) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } t = a \\ \int_a^t f & \text{if } t \in (a, b] \end{cases}$$

Prove that F is continuous on $[a, b]$.

Solution

First, let m be the infimum of f on $[a, b]$ and M be the supremum of f on $[a, b]$. Define A to be the maximum between $|m|$ and $|M|$. Now, let $x \in [a, b]$ and $(x_n)_n$ a sequence in $[a, b]$ that converges to x . For all $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, if $x < x_n$ we have

$$(x_n - x) \inf_{[x, x_n]} f \leq \int_x^{x_n} f \leq (x_n - x) \sup_{[x, x_n]} f$$

But by properties of the infimum and supremum, we have

$$m(x_n - x) \leq (x_n - x) \inf_{[a, b]} f \leq \int_x^{x_n} f \leq (x_n - x) \sup_{[a, b]} f \leq M(x_n - x)$$

By definition of A , we have

$$-A(x_n - x) \leq m(x_n - x) \leq \int_x^{x_n} f \leq M(x_n - x) \leq A(x_n - x)$$

By the previous exercise and by definition of F , we have

$$F(x_n) - F(x) = \int_a^{x_n} f - \int_a^x f = \int_x^{x_n} f$$

Thus, plugging this in our inequality gives us

$$-A(x_n - x) \leq F(x_n) - F(x) \leq A(x_n - x)$$

which is equivalent to

$$|F(x_n) - F(x)| \leq A(x_n - x)$$

We assumed here that $x < x_n$ but we actually get the exact same result if $x = x_n$ or if $x > x_n$. Thus, since our last inequality holds for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, then by the Squeeze Theorem:

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} F(x_n) = F(x)$$

Since it holds for any sequence $(x_n)_n$ converging to x , then by the Sequential Characterization of Continuity, we get that F is continuous at x . Since it holds for all $x \in [a, b]$, then F is continuous on $[a, b]$.

Exercise 12

Suppose $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is Riemann integrable. Prove that $|f|$ is Riemann integrable and that

$$\left| \int_a^b f \right| \leq \int_a^b |f|.$$

Solution

First, let's prove that $|f|$ is Riemann integrable. To do so, let's use the criterion proven in exercise 3. Let $\epsilon > 0$, then there exists a partition $P = \{x_0, \dots, x_n\}$ of $[a, b]$ such that

$$U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b]) < \epsilon$$

Let $k \in \llbracket 1, n \rrbracket$, define

$$\begin{aligned} m_k &= \inf_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} f & M_k &= \sup_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} f \\ m'_k &= \inf_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} |f| & M'_k &= \sup_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} |f| \end{aligned}$$

Let's show that $M'_k - m'_k \leq M_k - m_k$.

If $M_k \leq 0$ or $m_k \geq 0$, it is trivial. Suppose that $M_k \geq 0$ and $m_k \leq 0$, then for all $x \in [x_{k-1}, x_k]$:

$$\begin{aligned} m_k \leq f(x) &\implies m_k \leq f(x) + M_k \\ &\implies m_k - M_k \leq f(x) \\ &\implies -(M_k - m_k) \leq f(x) \end{aligned}$$

and

$$\begin{aligned} f(x) \leq M_k &\implies f(x) + m_k \leq M_k \\ &\implies f(x) \leq M_k - m_k \end{aligned}$$

Putting the last two inequalities together gives us

$$-(M_k - m_k) \leq f(x) \leq M_k - m_k$$

which is equivalent to

$$|f(x)| \leq M_k - m_k$$

But it holds for all $x \in [x_{k-1}, x_k]$, so we get

$$M'_k - m'_k \leq M'_k \leq M_k - m_k$$

which is the desired inequality.

Now, simply notice that

$$\begin{aligned} U(|f|, P, [a, b]) - L(|f|, P, [a, b]) &= \sum_{k=1}^n (M'_k - m'_k)(x_k - x_{k-1}) \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^n (M_k - m_k)(x_k - x_{k-1}) \\ &= U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b]) \\ &< \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

which proves that $|f|$ is Riemann integrable as well.

To prove the triangle inequality, I find it easier to first prove that the Riemann integral is monotone. To do so, let $g_1, g_2 : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ be two Riemann integrable functions such that $g_1 \leq g_2$, then if we define $h = g_2 - g_1 \geq 0$, by exercises 4 and 5, we know that h is Riemann integrable as well and that

$$\int_a^b h = \int_a^b g_2 - \int_a^b g_1$$

Moreover, since h is positive on $[a, b]$, then $\inf_{[a, b]} h$ must be positive as well. It follows that

$$0 \leq (b - a) \inf_{[a, b]} h \leq \int_a^b h = \int_a^b g_2 - \int_a^b g_1$$

which directly implies

$$\int_a^b g_1 \leq \int_a^b g_2$$

Hence, the Riemann integral is monotone. Therefore:

$$-|f| \leq f \leq |f|$$

implies by monotonicity and by exercise 5 that

$$-\int_a^b |f| \leq \int_a^b f \leq \int_a^b |f|$$

which is equivalent to

$$\left| \int_a^b f \right| \leq \int_a^b |f|$$

This proves the triangle inequality for the Riemann integral.

Exercise 13

Suppose $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is an increasing function, meaning that $c, d \in [a, b]$ with

$c < d$ implies $f(c) \leq f(d)$. Prove that f is Riemann integrable on $[a, b]$.

Solution

Let's prove that f is Riemann integrable using the criterion proven in exercise 3. Let $\epsilon > 0$, then by the Archimedean property in \mathbf{R} , there exists a $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ such that

$$\frac{(b-a)(f(b) - f(a))}{n} < \epsilon$$

Now, consider $P = \{x_0, \dots, x_n\}$ to be the partition of $[a, b]$ that divides the interval into n subintervals of equal size. For all $k \in \llbracket 1, n \rrbracket$, if we define

$$m_k = \inf_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} f \quad M_k = \sup_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} f$$

then we get

$$m_k = f\left(a + (k-1)\frac{b-a}{n}\right) \quad M_k = f\left(a + k\frac{b-a}{n}\right)$$

since f is increasing. Hence:

$$\begin{aligned} U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b]) &= \sum_{k=1}^n (M_k - m_k)(x_k - x_{k-1}) \\ &= \frac{b-a}{n} \sum_{k=1}^n \left[f\left(a + k\frac{b-a}{n}\right) - f\left(a + (k-1)\frac{b-a}{n}\right) \right] \\ &= \frac{b-a}{n} (f(b) - f(a)) \\ &< \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, f is Riemann integrable.

Exercise 14

Suppose f_1, f_2, \dots is a sequence of Riemann integrable functions on $[a, b]$ such that f_1, f_2, \dots converges uniformly on $[a, b]$ to a function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$. Prove that f is Riemann integrable and

$$\int_a^b f = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f_n$$

Solution

First, let's show that f is Riemann integrable using the criterion proven in exercise 3. Let $\epsilon > 0$, then by uniform convergence, there is a $N \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ such that

$$|f(x) - f_N(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)}$$

for all $x \in [a, b]$. Since f_N is Riemann integrable, then there is a partition $P = \{x_0, \dots, x_n\}$ such that

$$U(f_N, P, [a, b]) - L(f_N, P, [a, b]) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

Let $k \in \llbracket 1, n \rrbracket$ and define

$$\begin{aligned} m_k &= \inf_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} f & M_k &= \sup_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} f \\ m_k^N &= \inf_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} f_N & M_k^N &= \sup_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} f_N \end{aligned}$$

Let $x \in [x_{k-1}, x_k]$, then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f_N(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} &\implies f(x) - f_N(x) < \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} \\ &\implies f(x) < \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} + f_N(x) \\ &\implies f(x) \leq \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} + M_k^N \end{aligned}$$

However, since the last inequality holds for all $x \in [x_{k-1}, x_k]$ and only the left hand side depends on x , then it follows that

$$M_k \leq \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} + M_k^N \quad (1)$$

Similarly,

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f_N(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} &\implies f_N(x) - f(x) < \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} \\ &\implies f_N(x) < \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} + f(x) \\ &\implies m_k^N \leq \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} + f(x) \\ &\implies m_k^N - \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} \leq f(x) \end{aligned}$$

However, since the last inequality holds for all $x \in [x_{k-1}, x_k]$ and only the right hand side depends on x , then it follows that

$$m_k^N - \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} \leq m_k$$

which implies

$$-m_k \leq -m_k^N + \frac{\epsilon}{4(b-a)} \quad (2)$$

Adding (1) and (2) together gives us

$$M_k - m_k \leq M_k^N - m_k^N + \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)}$$

for all $k \in \llbracket 1, n \rrbracket$. Thus:

$$\begin{aligned}
 U(f, P, [a, b]) - L(f, P, [a, b]) &= \sum_{k=1}^n (M_k - m_k)(x_k - x_{k-1}) \\
 &\leq \sum_{k=1}^n \left[(M_k^N - m_k^N) + \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)} \right] (x_k - x_{k-1}) \\
 &= \sum_{k=1}^n (M_k^N - m_k^N)(x_k - x_{k-1}) + \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)} \sum_{k=1}^n (x_k - x_{k-1}) \\
 &= U(f_N, P, [a, b]) - L(f_N, P, [a, b]) + \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)}(b-a) \\
 &< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\
 &= \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

which proves that f is Riemann integrable.

Now, let's prove that $\int_a^b f_n \rightarrow \int_a^b f$ as $n \rightarrow \infty$ using the limit definition. Let $\epsilon > 0$, by uniform convergence, there is a $N \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ such that for all $n \geq N$ and $x \in [a, b]$

$$|f(x) - f_n(x)| < \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)}$$

Thus, for any $n \geq N$, using the triangle inequality (exercise 12),

$$\begin{aligned}
 \left| \int_a^b f - \int_a^b f_n \right| &= \left| \int_a^b (f - f_n) \right| \\
 &\leq \int_a^b |f - f_n| \\
 &\leq \int_a^b \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)} \\
 &= \frac{\epsilon}{2(b-a)}(b-a) \\
 &= \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\
 &< \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, by definition,

$$\int_a^b f = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_a^b f_n$$

which proves our claim.

1B Riemann Integral Is Not Good Enough

Exercise 1

Define $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ as follows:

$$f(a) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } a \text{ is irrational,} \\ \frac{1}{n} & \text{if } a \text{ is rational and } n \text{ is the smallest positive integer} \\ & \text{such that } a = \frac{m}{n} \text{ for some integer } m. \end{cases}$$

Show that f is Riemann integrable and compute $\int_0^1 f$.

Solution

First, notice that f can be written as the limit of a sequence f_0, f_1, \dots of functions defined recursively by $f_0 \equiv 0$ and $f_{n+1} = f_n$ except for the x 's which can be written as $\frac{m}{n+1}$ as an irreducible fraction. In that case, define $f_{n+1}(x)$ to be $\frac{1}{n+1}$. It is to see that the sequence of functions converges uniformly to f .

But notice that for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, the function f_n only differs from the function zero at finitely many points. Thus, by exercise 6 of section 1A, f_n is Riemann integrable and its integral is equal to zero. Hence, by exercise 14 of section 1A, f is Riemann integrable as well and

$$\int_0^1 f = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f_n = 0$$

Exercise 2

Suppose that $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a bounded function. Prove that f is Riemann integrable if and only if

$$L(-f, [a, b]) = -L(f, [a, b])$$

Solution We actually proved a very similar result in the solution of exercise 5. Let's prove it again here for completeness. Our goal here will be to show that

$$L(-f, [a, b]) = -U(f, [a, b])$$

To do so, consider first an arbitrary partition $P = \{x_0, \dots, x_n\}$ of $[a, b]$. By properties of the infimum, we have

$$\begin{aligned} L(f, P, [a, b]) &= \sum_{k=1}^n (x_k - x_{k-1}) \inf_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} (f) \\ &= - \sum_{k=1}^n (x_k - x_{k-1}) \sup_{[x_{k-1}, x_k]} (-f) \\ &= -U(-f, P, [a, b]) \end{aligned}$$

Hence, by properties of the supremum, we get

$$\begin{aligned} L(-f, [a, b]) &= \sup_P L(-f, P, [a, b]) \\ &= \sup_P (-U(f, P, [a, b])) \\ &= -\inf_P U(f, P, [a, b]) \\ &= -U(f, [a, b]) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, the equivalence can be proved easily as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} f \text{ is Riemann integrable} &\iff U(f, [a, b]) = L(f, [a, b]) \\ &\iff -U(f, [a, b]) = -L(f, [a, b]) \\ &\iff L(-f, [a, b]) = -L(f, [a, b]) \end{aligned}$$

which is the desired equivalence.

Exercise 3

Suppose $f, g : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ are bounded functions. Prove that

$$L(f, [a, b]) + L(g, [a, b]) \leq L(f + g, [a, b])$$

and

$$U(f + g, [a, b]) \leq U(f, [a, b]) + U(g, [a, b]).$$

Solution

Let's prove it for the lower Riemann integral. To do so, let P_1 and P_2 be two arbitrary partitions of $[a, b]$ and consider the common refinement $P = P_1 \cup P_2 = \{x_0, \dots, x_n\}$, then by properties of the infimum:

$$\begin{aligned} L(f, P_1, [a, b]) + L(g, P_2, [a, b]) &\leq L(f, P, [a, b]) + L(g, P, [a, b]) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) \inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} f + \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) \inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} g \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) \left[\inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} f + \inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} g \right] \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^n (x_i - x_{i-1}) \inf_{[x_{i-1}, x_i]} (f + g) \\ &= L(f + g, P, [a, b]) \\ &\leq L(f + g, [a, b]) \end{aligned}$$

If we fix P_2 and rewrite the inequality as

$$L(f, P_1, [a, b]) \leq L(f + g, [a, b]) - L(g, P_2, [a, b])$$

Then taking the supremum over the P_1 's gives us

$$L(f, [a, b]) \leq L(f + g, [a, b]) - L(g, P_2, [a, b])$$

Rewriting the inequality as

$$L(g, P_2, [a, b]) \leq L(f + g, [a, b]) - L(f, [a, b])$$

and taking the supremum over the P_2 's gives us

$$L(g, [a, b]) \leq L(f + g, [a, b]) - L(f, [a, b])$$

which can be rewritten as

$$L(f, [a, b]) + L(g, [a, b]) \leq L(f + g, [a, b])$$

The proof for the upper Riemann integral is the same.

Exercise 4

Give an example of bounded functions $f, g : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ such that

$$L(f, [0, 1]) + L(g, [0, 1]) < L(f + g, [0, 1])$$

and

$$U(f + g, [0, 1]) < U(f, [0, 1]) + U(g, [0, 1]).$$

Solution

Let f and g be defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 2 & x \in \mathbf{Q} \cap [0, 1] \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \quad g(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in \mathbf{Q} \cap [0, 1] \\ 2 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

on $[0, 1]$. Then, $L(f, [0, 1]) = L(g, [0, 1]) = 1$ but $L(f + g, [0, 1]) = 3 \neq 2$.

Similarly, $U(f, [0, 1]) = U(g, [0, 1]) = 2$ but $U(f + g, [0, 1]) = 3 \neq 4$.

Exercise 5

Give an example of a sequence of continuous real-valued functions f_1, f_2, \dots on $[0, 1]$ and a continuous real-valued function f on $[0, 1]$ such that

$$f(x) = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} f_k(x)$$

for each $x \in [0, 1]$ but

$$\int_0^1 f \neq \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f_k$$

Solution

Consider the functions f_1, f_2, \dots defined by

$$f_k(x) = \begin{cases} nx & x \in [0, \frac{1}{n}] \\ 2 - nx & x \in (\frac{1}{n}, \frac{2}{n}] \\ 0 & x \in (\frac{2}{n}, 1] \end{cases}$$

Then, for all $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$: $\int_0^1 f_k = 1$. However, the f_k 's converge pointwise to the constant zero function on $[0, 1]$ so $\int_0^1 f = 0$. It follows that $\int_0^1 f$ and $\lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f_k$ are two different quantities.

Chapter 2

Measures

2A Outer Measure on \mathbf{R}

Exercise 1

Prove that if A and B are subsets of \mathbf{R} and $|B| = 0$, then $|A \cup B| = |A|$.

Solution

By finite subadditivity, we have

$$|A \cup B| \leq |A| + |B| = |A| \quad (1)$$

Since $A \subset A \cup B$, then by monotonicity we have

$$|A| \leq |A \cup B| \quad (2)$$

Combining (1) and (2) gives us

$$|A \cup B| = |A|$$

Exercise 2

Suppose $A \subset \mathbf{R}$ and $t \in \mathbf{R}$. Let $tA = \{ta : a \in A\}$. Prove that $|tA| = |t||A|$.
[Assume that $0 \cdot \infty$ is defined to be 0.]

Solution

First, notice that the statement is trivial for $t = 0$ so suppose t is nonzero. Secondly, if we let $I = (a, b)$ be an arbitrary open set with $a < b \in \mathbf{R}$, then for $t > 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} \ell(tI) &= \ell((ta, tb)) \\ &= tb - ta \\ &= t(b - a) \\ &= |t|\ell(I) \end{aligned}$$

and for $t < 0$:

$$\begin{aligned} \ell(tI) &= \ell((tb, ta)) \\ &= ta - tb \\ &= -t(b - a) \\ &= |t|\ell(I) \end{aligned}$$

Thus, it works for all $t \neq 0$.

Now, let $\{I_1, I_2, \dots\}$ be an arbitrary collection of open intervals covering A . It is easy to see that $\{tI_1, tI_2, \dots\}$ covers tA . Hence,

$$|tA| \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \ell(tI_n) = |t| \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_n)$$

which is equivalent to

$$\frac{1}{|t|} |tA| \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_n)$$

But notice that $\{I_n\}_n$ was an arbitrary cover of A so taking the infimum on both sides over all covers $\{I_n\}_n$ of A gives us

$$|tA| \leq |t| |A| \tag{1}$$

Proving the reverse inequality can actually be done using equation (1):

$$|A| = \left| \frac{1}{t}(tA) \right| \leq \left| \frac{1}{t} \right| |tA|$$

which is equivalent to

$$|t| |A| \leq |tA| \tag{2}$$

Combining (1) and (2) gives us

$$|tA| = |t| |A|$$

which is the desired formula.

Exercise 3

Prove that if $A, B \subset \mathbf{R}$ and $|A| < \infty$, then $|B \setminus A| \geq |B| - |A|$.

Solution

By subadditivity and monotonicity, since $B \subset (B \setminus A) \cup A$, then

$$|B| \leq |(B \setminus A) \cup A| \leq |B \setminus A| + |A|$$

Since $|A| < \infty$, then

$$|(B \setminus A) \cup A| \geq |B| - |A|$$

which is the desired inequality.

Exercise 4

Suppose F is a subset of \mathbf{R} with the property that every open cover of F has a finite subcover. Prove that F is closed and bounded.

Solution

Let's prove first that F is bounded. To do so, notice that $\{(k, k+2)\}_{k \in \mathbf{Z}}$ is certainly an open cover for F since $\cup_{k \in \mathbf{Z}} (k, k+2) = \mathbf{R}$. Hence, by our assumption on F , there exist finitely many open intervals that covers F , i.e., F is a subset of a finite union of open intervals of the form $(k, k+2)$ where $k \in \mathbf{Z}$. Obviously, each of these

intervals is bounded, hence a finite union of such intervals is bounded as well. Thus, F is a subset of a bounded set, so it must be bounded as well.

To show that F is closed, let's prove that F^c is open. To prove it, let x be an arbitrary element in F^c and let's show the existence of an $\epsilon > 0$ such that $(x - \epsilon, x + \epsilon) \subset F^c$. Consider the collection $\{(-\infty, x - \frac{1}{n}) \cup (x + \frac{1}{n}, \infty)\}_{n \in \mathbf{Z}^+}$ and notice that its union is $\mathbf{R} \setminus \{x\}$. Since $x \notin F$, then $F \subset \mathbf{R} \setminus \{x\}$ which shows that the collection is actually an open cover for F . Again, by our assumption on F , there exist finitely many natural numbers n_1, n_2, \dots, n_N such that

$$F \subset \bigcup_{i=1}^N \left(-\infty, x - \frac{1}{n_i} \right) \cup \left(x + \frac{1}{n_i}, \infty \right)$$

If we take $M = \max_{1 \leq i \leq N} (n_i)$, then

$$F \subset \left(-\infty, x - \frac{1}{M} \right) \cup \left(x + \frac{1}{M}, \infty \right)$$

It follows that

$$\left[x - \frac{1}{M}, x + \frac{1}{M} \right] \subset F^c$$

If we let $\epsilon = \frac{1}{M+1}$, then we get

$$(x - \epsilon, x + \epsilon) \subset F^c$$

which proves that F^c is open, and therefore that F is closed and bounded.

Exercise 5

Suppose \mathcal{A} is a set of closed subsets of \mathbf{R} such that $\bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{A}} F = \emptyset$. Prove that if \mathcal{A} contains at least one bounded set, then there exist $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ and $F_1, \dots, F_n \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $F_1 \cap \dots \cap F_n = \emptyset$.

Solution

In this proof, I will use the following theorem proved in Exercise 3.3.6.(c) of Understanding Analysis : If $\{A_n\}_n$ is a countable collection of closed and bounded subsets of \mathbf{R} such that any finite intersection is non empty, then $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$ is non empty as well. As a corollary, if a countable intersection of closed and bounded sets is empty, then there must be a finite subcollection such that the intersection is empty as well. Notice that the theorem that I just stated is simply a generalisation of the Nested Interval Property.

Since we have no informations about the cardinality of \mathcal{A} , the first step of this proof will be to construct a countable collection of closed and bounded sets that will let us apply the previous theorem in a useful way. To do so, recall that any open set in \mathbf{R} can be written as a countable union of open intervals. Moreover, any open interval can be written as a countable union of open intervals with rational endpoints. Hence, any open set can be written as a countable union of open intervals with rational coefficients.

Consider now the set $B = \{(a, b)^c : a, b \in \mathbf{Q}\}$ which is countable ($(a, b) \mapsto (a, b)^c$ is a bijection from \mathbf{Q}^2 to B and we know that \mathbf{Q}^2 is countable) and let F be a closed set. By what we said previously, we have that

$$F^c = \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i^c$$

for some $\{B_i\}_i \subset B$. It follows that

$$F = \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i$$

Since F was an arbitrary closed set, then any closed set can be written as a countable intersection of elements in B . It follows that for every element F in \mathcal{A} , there is a countable collection $\{I_k^{(F)}\}_k$ such that $F = \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k^{(F)}$.

From this, define the collection $I = \bigcup_{F \in \mathcal{A}} \{I_k^{(F)}\}_k$ which must be countable since it is a subset of B which is countable. Since it is countable, to make the notation easier, enumerate the elements in I as $\{I_1, I_2, \dots\}$. Let's prove that $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n \subset \bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{A}} F$:

- Suppose that $x \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n$ and let $F_0 \in \mathcal{A}$, then $F_0 = \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k^{(F_0)}$. Since $x \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n$, then $x \in I_k^{(F_0)}$ for all $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$. It follows that

$$x \in \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k^{(F_0)} = F_0$$

Since F_0 was an arbitrary element of \mathcal{A} , then $x \in \bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{A}} F$. Since x was an arbitrary element of $\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n$, then

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n \subset \bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{A}} F$$

Now if we suppose that $\bigcap_{F \in \mathcal{A}} F = \emptyset$, we get:

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} (F_0 \cap I_n) = F_0 \cap \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} I_n = \emptyset$$

But notice that on the left hand side, we have a countable intersection of closed and bounded sets. By the theorem stated at the very beginning, we must have a finite subcollection $\{F_0 \cap I_{n_1}, \dots, F_0 \cap I_{n_m}\}$ such that

$$F_0 \cap \bigcap_{i=1}^m I_{n_i} = \bigcap_{i=1}^m (F_0 \cap I_{n_i}) = \emptyset$$

Now, for each $i \in \llbracket 1, m \rrbracket$, since $I_{n_i} \in I$ and by definition of I , there must be a set $F_i \in \mathcal{A}$ such that $I_{n_i} \in \{I_k^{(F_i)}\}_k$ which implies that

$$F_i = \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k^{(F_i)} \subset I_{n_i}$$

Therefore:

$$F_0 \cap F_1 \cap \dots \cap F_m \subset F_0 \cap \bigcap_{i=1}^m I_{n_i} = \emptyset$$

which proves our claim.

Exercise 6

Prove that if $a, b \in \mathbf{R}$ and $a < b$, then

$$|(a, b)| = |[a, b]| = |(a, b]| = b - a.$$

Solution

Since the sets $\{a\}$, $\{b\}$ and $\{a, b\}$ are all of outer measure zero, then by exercise 1:

- $|(a, b)| = |(a, b) \cup \{a, b\}| = |[a, b]| = b - a$
- $|[a, b]| = |[a, b) \cup \{b\}| = |[a, b]| = b - a$
- $|(a, b]| = |(a, b] \cup \{a\}| = |[a, b]| = b - a$

which proves our claim.

Exercise 7

Suppose a, b, c, d are real numbers with $a < b$ and $c < d$. Prove that

$$|(a, b) \cup (c, d)| = (b - a) + (d - c) \text{ if and only if } (a, b) \cap (c, d) = \emptyset.$$

Solution

First, suppose that $(a, b) \cap (c, d) = \emptyset$, then we either have $b < c$ or $d < a$. Assume without loss of generality that $b < c$. By subadditivity, we have

$$|(a, b) \cup (c, d)| \leq |(a, b)| + |(c, d)| = (b - a) + (d - c)$$

By exercise 3, we also have

$$\begin{aligned} |(a, b) \cup (c, d)| &= |(a, d) \setminus [b, c]| \\ &\geq |(a, d)| - |[b, c]| \\ &= (d - a) - (c - b) \\ &= (b - a) + (d - c) \end{aligned}$$

which shows that

$$|(a, b) \cup (c, d)| = (b - a) + (d - c)$$

Suppose now that $(a, b) \cap (c, d) \neq \emptyset$, then we either have $(a, b) \cup (c, d) = (a, d)$ or $(a, b) \cup (c, d) = (c, b)$. Assume without loss of generality that $(a, b) \cup (c, d) = (a, d)$, then since we must have $c < b$, we get

$$\begin{aligned} |(a, b) \cup (c, d)| &= |(a, d)| \\ &= d - a \\ &< d - a + b - c \\ &= (b - a) + (d - c) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore,

$$|(a, b) \cup (c, d)| \neq (b - a) + (d - c)$$

which proves the equivalence between the two statements.

Exercise 8

Prove that if $A \subset \mathbf{R}$ and $t > 0$, then $|A| = |A \cap (-t, t)| + |A \cap (\mathbf{R} \setminus (-t, t))|$.

Solution

First, by subadditivity, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |A| &= |A \cap [(-t, t) \cup (\mathbf{R} \setminus (-t, t))]| \\ &= |[A \cap (-t, t)] \cup [A \cap (\mathbf{R} \setminus (-t, t))]| \\ &\leq |A \cap (-t, t)| + |A \cap (\mathbf{R} \setminus (-t, t))| \end{aligned}$$

which gives us

$$|A| \leq |A \cap (-t, t)| + |A \cap (\mathbf{R} \setminus (-t, t))| \quad (1)$$

Let's now prove the reverse inequality. Let $\epsilon > 0$, then by properties of the infimum, there exists a collection $\{I_k\}_k$ of open intervals that covers A and such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k) < |A| + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

Consider now the subcollection $\{I_{1,k}\}_k$ of $\{I_k\}_k$ only composed of the intervals that are fully contained in $(-t, t)$. Similarly, define the subcollection $\{I_{2,k}\}_k$ of $\{I_k\}_k$ only composed of the intervals that are fully contained in $(-t, t)^c$. Obviously, these two subcollection are disjoint but may not partition $\{I_k\}_k$ since there may be intervals that are neither fully contained in $(-t, t)$ nor in $(-t, t)^c$. Concerning these sets, let's define the collections $\{I_{3,k}\}_k$, $\{I_{4,k}\}_k$ and $\{I_{5,k}\}_k$ that will contain the following intervals. Let $I_k = (a_k, b_k) \in \{I_k\}_k$.

- If both t and $-t$ are contained in I_k , then by the previous definitions, we have $I_k \in \{I_{1,k}\}_k$ or $I_k \in \{I_{2,k}\}_k$.
- If I_k contains t but not $-t$, define

$$I_{3,k} = \left(a_k, t + \frac{\epsilon}{2^{k+2}}\right)$$

$$I_{4,k} = \left(t - \frac{\epsilon}{2^{k+2}}, b_k\right)$$

- If I_k contains $-t$ but not t , define

$$I_{3,k} = \left(a_k, -t + \frac{\epsilon}{2^{k+2}}\right)$$

$$I_{4,k} = \left(-t - \frac{\epsilon}{2^{k+2}}, b_k\right)$$

- If both t and $-t$ are contained in I_k , define

$$I_{3,k} = (-t, t)$$

$$I_{4,k} = \left(a_k, -t + \frac{\epsilon}{2^{k+2}}\right)$$

$$I_{5,k} = \left(t - \frac{\epsilon}{2^{k+2}}, b_k\right)$$

Consider now the collections $A_0 = \{I_{1,k}\}_k \cup \{I_{3,k}\}_k$ and $B_0 = \{I_{2,k}\}_k \cup \{I_{4,k}\}_k \cup \{I_{5,k}\}_k$. By construction, A_0 is a collection of open intervals that covers $A \cap (-t, t)$ and B_0 is a collection of open intervals that covers $A \cap (\mathbf{R} \setminus (-t, t))$. Moreover, even if the collections $A_0 \cup B_0$ and $\{I_k\}_k$, the construction was done so that the total length of all the open intervals in $A_0 \cup B_0$ differs from the total length of all the open intervals in $\{I_k\}_k$ by at most $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2 \frac{\epsilon}{2^{k+2}} = \frac{\epsilon}{2}$. This gives us

$$\sum_{I \in A_0} \ell(I) + \sum_{I \in B_0} \ell(I) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k) + \frac{\epsilon}{2}$$

which implies

$$\begin{aligned} |A \cap (-t, t)| + |A \cap (\mathbf{R} \setminus (-t, t))| &\leq \sum_{I \in A_0} \ell(I) + \sum_{I \in B_0} \ell(I) \\ &\leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k) + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ &< |A| + \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \\ &= |A| + \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Taking $\epsilon \rightarrow 0$ gives us

$$|A \cap (-t, t)| + |A \cap (\mathbf{R} \setminus (-t, t))| \leq |A| \quad (2)$$

Combining (1) and (2) gives us

$$|A| = |A \cap (-t, t)| + |A \cap (\mathbf{R} \setminus (-t, t))|$$

which is the desired equation.

Exercise 9

Prove that $|A| = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |A \cap (-t, t)|$ for all $A \subset \mathbf{R}$.

Solution

For this proof, let's first prove by induction that

$$|A \cap (-n, n)| = \sum_{i=1}^n |A \cap ((-i, -i+1] \cup [i-1, i))|$$

for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$.

- (Base Case) For $n = 1$, it can be derived as follows

$$\sum_{i=1}^1 |A \cap ((-i, -i+1] \cup [i-1, i))| = |A \cap ((-1, 0] \cup [0, 1))| = |A \cap (-1, 1)|$$

- (Inductive Step) Suppose that there is a $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ such that

$$|A \cap (-k, k)| = \sum_{i=1}^k |A \cap ((-i, -i+1] \cup [i-1, i))|$$

holds. Let's prove it for $k+1$. Notice that it suffices to apply the result of the previous exercise to the set $A \cap (-k-1, k+1)$ with $t = k$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 |A \cap (-k-1, k+1)| &= |(A \cap (-k-1, k+1)) \cap (\mathbf{R} \setminus (-k, k))| \\
 &\quad + |A \cap (-k-1, k+1) \cap (-k, k)| \\
 &= |A \cap ((-k-1, -k] \cup [k, k+1))| + |A \cap (-k, k)| \\
 &= |A \cap ((-k-1, -k] \cup [k, k+1))| \\
 &\quad + \sum_{i=1}^k |A \cap ((-i, -i+1] \cup [i-1, i))| \\
 &= \sum_{i=1}^{k+1} |A \cap ((-i, -i+1] \cup [i-1, i))|
 \end{aligned}$$

which proves it $k+1$.

Now that we proved the formula, let's prove our claim. By subadditivity,

$$\begin{aligned}
 |A| &= \left| \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A \cap ((-i, -i+1] \cup [i-1, i)) \right| \\
 &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} |A \cap ((-i, -i+1] \cup [i-1, i))| \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n |A \cap ((-i, -i+1] \cup [i-1, i))| \\
 &= \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |A \cap (-n, n)|
 \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, by monotonicity, for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, we have

$$|A \cap (-n, n)| \leq |A|$$

It follows that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |A \cap (-n, n)| \leq |A|$$

Thus,

$$|A| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |A \cap (-n, n)|$$

But we still need to prove it when the limit is taken over all positive real numbers t and not just for positive integers. However, the desired result follows from the fact that $t \mapsto |A \cap (-t, t)|$ is increasing which shows that

$$\lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |A \cap (-t, t)| = \sup_{t \geq 0} |A \cap (-t, t)| = \sup_{n \in \mathbf{Z}^+} |A \cap (-n, n)| = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} |A \cap (-n, n)|$$

Therefore,

$$|A| = \lim_{t \rightarrow \infty} |A \cap (-t, t)|$$

Exercise 10

Prove that $|[0, 1] \setminus \mathbf{Q}| = 1$.

Solution

Since $\mathbf{Q} \cap [0, 1]$ is countable, and hence has measure zero, then by exercise 1 of this section:

$$|[0, 1] \setminus \mathbf{Q}| = |([0, 1] \setminus \mathbf{Q}) \cup (\mathbf{Q} \cap [0, 1])| = |[0, 1]| = 1$$

Exercise 11

Prove that if I_1, I_2, \dots is a disjoint sequence of open intervals, then

$$\left| \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k \right| = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k).$$

Solution

Let's first prove it for finitely many disjoint open intervals I_1, \dots, I_n where $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$. By subadditivity, we have

$$\left| \bigcup_{k=1}^n I_k \right| \leq \sum_{k=1}^n \ell(I_k)$$

Moreover, by if write $I_k = (a_k, b_k)$ and suppose that they are ordered as follows

$$a_1 < b_1 < a_2 < b_2 < \dots < a_n < b_n$$

Then, by exercise 3, we have

$$\begin{aligned} |I_n \cup (a_1, b_{n-1})| &= |(a_1, b_n) \setminus [b_{n-1}, a_n]| \\ &\geq |(a_1, b_n)| - |[b_{n-1}, a_n]| \\ &= b_n - a_1 - a_n + b_{n-1} \\ &= \ell(I_n) + |(a_1, b_{n-1})| \end{aligned}$$

by induction, it follows that

$$\left| \bigcup_{k=1}^n I_k \right| \geq \sum_{k=1}^n \ell(I_k)$$

Thus, equality holds in the finite case. Consider now the infinite case with the sequence I_1, I_2, \dots , then again, by subadditivity:

$$\left| \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k \right| \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k)$$

However, notice that for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, using the finite case, we have

$$\left| \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k \right| \geq \left| \bigcup_{k=1}^n I_k \right| = \sum_{k=1}^n \ell(I_k)$$

Hence, taking $n \rightarrow \infty$ gives us

$$\left| \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k \right| \geq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k)$$

which finishes the proof.

Exercise 12

Suppose r_1, r_2, \dots is a sequence that contains every rational number. Let

$$F = \mathbf{R} \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(r_k - \frac{1}{2^k}, r_k + \frac{1}{2^k} \right)$$

- (a) Show that F is a closed subset of \mathbf{R} .
- (b) Prove that if I is an interval contained in F , then I contains at most one element.
- (c) Prove that $|F| = \infty$

Solution

- (a) If we rewrite

$$F = \mathbf{R} \cap \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(r_k - \frac{1}{2^k}, r_k + \frac{1}{2^k} \right)^c$$

then we get that F is simply an intersection of closed sets. Hence, F is closed as well.

- (b) By definition, F contains no rationals. Let I be an interval contained in F . Suppose that I has two distinct elements a and b such that $a < b$, then, $[a, b] \subset F$. However, by the density of \mathbf{Q} in \mathbf{R} , there must be a rational r_0 in $[a, b]$ which would imply that $r_0 \in F$. A contradiction. Thus, I contains at most one element.
- (c) The proof is straightforward:

$$\begin{aligned} |F| &= \left| \mathbf{R} \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(r_k - \frac{1}{2^k}, r_k + \frac{1}{2^k} \right) \right| \\ &\geq |\mathbf{R}| - \left| \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(r_k - \frac{1}{2^k}, r_k + \frac{1}{2^k} \right) \right| \\ &\geq |\mathbf{R}| - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \left| \left(r_k - \frac{1}{2^k}, r_k + \frac{1}{2^k} \right) \right| \\ &= |\mathbf{R}| - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2 \cdot \frac{1}{2^k} \\ &= \infty - 2 \\ &= \infty \end{aligned}$$

Therefore, $|F| = \infty$.

Exercise 13

Suppose $\epsilon > 0$. Prove that there exists a subset F of $[0, 1]$ such that F is closed, every element in F is an irrational number, and $|F| > 1 - \epsilon$.

Solution

Since $\mathbf{Q} \cap [0, 1]$ is countable, then it has measure zero. By the properties of the infimum, there is a cover $\{I_k\}_k$ of open intervals of $\mathbf{Q} \cap [0, 1]$ that satisfies

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k) < \epsilon$$

Consider now the set F defined by

$$F = [0, 1] \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k$$

Then, $F \subset [0, 1]$. To show that F is closed, notice that we can write

$$F = [0, 1] \cap \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k^c$$

which is an intersection of closed sets, hence, closed. To show that F contains only rational numbers, notice that $\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k$ covers $\mathbf{Q} \cap [0, 1]$, hence, contains all the rationals in $[0, 1]$. It follows that $[0, 1] \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k$ contains no rationals. Finally:

$$\begin{aligned} |F| &= \left| [0, 1] \setminus \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k \right| \\ &\geq |[0, 1]| - \left| \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k \right| \\ &\geq 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} |I_k| \\ &= 1 - \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k) \\ &> 1 - \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

which proves that F has all the required properties.

Exercise 14

Consider the following figure, which is drawn accurately to scale.

[...]

- (a) Show that the right triangle whose vertices are $(0,0)$, $(20, 0)$ and $(20, 9)$ has area 90.

[We have not defined area yet but just use the elementary formulas for the areas of triangles and rectangles that you learned long ago.]

- (b) Show that the yellow (lower) right triangle has area 27.5.
- (c) Show that the red rectangle has area 45.
- (d) Show that the blue (upper) right triangle has area 18.
- (e) Add the results of parts (b), (c), and (d), showing that the area of the colored region is 90.5.
- (f) Seeing the figure above, most people expect parts (a) and (e) to have the same result. Yet in part (a) we found area 90, and in part (e) we found area 90.5. Explain why these results differ. [*You may be tempted to think that what we have here is a two-dimensional example similar to the result about the nonadditivity of outer measure (2.18). However, genuine examples of nonadditivity require much more complicated sets than in this example.*]

Solution

- (a) $\text{Area} = \frac{20 \cdot 9}{2} = 90$
- (b) $\text{Area}_{\text{yellow}} = \frac{11 \cdot 5}{2} = 27.5$
- (c) $\text{Area}_{\text{red}} = (20 - 11) \cdot 5 = 45$
- (d) $\text{Area}_{\text{blue}} = \frac{(20-11)(9-5)}{2} = 18$
- (e) $\text{Area}_{\text{yellow}} + \text{Area}_{\text{red}} + \text{Area}_{\text{blue}} = 27.5 + 45 + 18 = 90.5$
- (f) The big triangle composed of the three coloured shapes is actually not a triangle at all. To verify this, if there was a triangle with vertices (0,0), (20, 0) and (20, 9), then a quick calculation shows that it passes through the point (11, 4.95) and not (11, 5).

2B Measurable Spaces and Functions

Exercise 1

Show that $\mathcal{S} = \{\cup_{n \in K}(n, n+1] : K \subset \mathbf{Z}^+\}$ is a σ -algebra on \mathbf{R} .

Solution

As most of the proofs showing that a collection is a σ -algebra, let's split this one into three parts:

- ($\emptyset \in \mathcal{S}$) Since $\emptyset \subset \mathbf{Z}$, then $\cup_{n \in \emptyset}(n, n+1] \in \mathcal{S}$. However, notice that $\cup_{n \in \emptyset}(n, n+1] = \emptyset$. It follows that $\emptyset \in \mathcal{S}$.
- (closed under complements) Let $A \in \mathcal{S}$, then there exists a $K_0 \subset \mathbf{Z}$ such that $A = \cup_{n \in K_0}(n, n+1]$. Consider $K_1 = \mathbf{Z} \setminus K_0$ and its associated element $B = \cup_{n \in K_1}(n, n+1]$ in \mathcal{S} . Since $A \cap B = \emptyset$ and $A \cup B = \mathbf{R}$, then $B = \mathbf{R} \setminus A$. Hence, $A^c \in \mathcal{S}$ which proves that \mathcal{S} is closed under complements.
- (closed under countable union) Let $\{A_i\}_i$ be a countable collection of elements in \mathcal{S} , then for all $i \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, there is a subset K_i of \mathbf{Z} such that $A_i = \cup_{n \in K_i}(n, n+1]$. Consider $K = \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} K_i \subset \mathbf{Z}$ and $A = \cup_{n \in K}(n, n+1] \in \mathcal{S}$. By construction, $A = \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{S}$. Therefore, \mathcal{S} is closed under countable union.

Therefore, \mathcal{S} is a σ -algebra on \mathbf{R} .

Exercise 2

Verify both bullet points in Example 2.28.

Solution

- Suppose X is a set and \mathcal{A} is the set of subsets of X that consist of exactly one element:

$$\mathcal{A} = \{\{x\} : x \in X\}$$

Define \mathcal{S} to be the smallest σ -algebra on X generated by \mathcal{A} . Let's prove that \mathcal{S} is precisely the collection of subsets of X that are countable or co-countable. To make it easier, denote by \mathcal{M} the collection of subsets of X that are countable or co-countable.

Hence, we need to prove that $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{M}$. We already know from example 2.24 that \mathcal{M} is a σ -algebra on X . Moreover, it is easy to see that $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{M}$. It follows that $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{M}$.

To prove the reverse inclusion, let $E \in \mathcal{M}$, then one of E or E^c is countable. If E is countable, then we can simply write E as the countable union of the singletons of its elements, hence, a countable union of elements in $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{S}$. This would imply that $E \in \mathcal{S}$. Similarly, if E^c is countable, then with the same argument, $E^c \in \mathcal{S}$ which also implies that $E \in \mathcal{S}$. Thus, $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{S}$. It follows that $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{M}$.

- Let $\mathcal{A} = \{(0, 1), (0, \infty)\}$ and denote by \mathcal{S} the smallest σ -algebra containing \mathcal{A} . Define the collection

$$E = \{\emptyset, (0, 1), (0, \infty), (-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty), (-\infty, 0], [1, \infty), (-\infty, 1), \mathbf{R}\}$$

Let's show that $\mathcal{S} = E$. First, let's prove that E is a σ -algebra:

- $(\emptyset \in E)$ By definition of E .
- (closed under complement)
 - * $\mathbf{R} \setminus \emptyset = \mathbf{R} \in E$
 - * $\mathbf{R} \setminus (0, 1) = (-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty) \in E$
 - * $\mathbf{R} \setminus (0, \infty) = (-\infty, 0] \in E$
 - * $\mathbf{R} \setminus ((-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)) = (0, 1) \in E$
 - * $\mathbf{R} \setminus [1, \infty) = (-\infty, 1) \in E$
 - * $\mathbf{R} \setminus (-\infty, 0] = (0, \infty) \in E$
 - * $\mathbf{R} \setminus (-\infty, 1) = [1, \infty) \in E$
 - * $\mathbf{R} \setminus \mathbf{R} = \emptyset \in E$
- (closed under countable union) Since E is finite, then it suffices to check that E is closed under the regular union between two sets. To be faster, I skipped the trivial unions that involve \mathbf{R} or \emptyset .
 - * $(0, 1) \cup (0, \infty) = (0, \infty) \in E$
 - * $(0, 1) \cup ((-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)) = \mathbf{R} \in E$
 - * $(0, 1) \cup [1, \infty) = (0, \infty) \in E$
 - * $(0, 1) \cup (-\infty, 0] = (-\infty, 1) \in E$
 - * $(0, 1) \cup (-\infty, 1) = (-\infty, 1) \in E$
 - * $(0, \infty) \cup ((-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)) = \mathbf{R} \in E$
 - * $(0, \infty) \cup [1, \infty) = (0, \infty) \in E$
 - * $(0, \infty) \cup (-\infty, 0] = \mathbf{R} \in E$
 - * $(0, \infty) \cup (-\infty, 1) = \mathbf{R} \in E$
 - * $((-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)) \cup [1, \infty) = ((-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)) \in E$
 - * $((-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)) \cup (-\infty, 0] = ((-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)) \in E$
 - * $((-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)) \cup (-\infty, 1) = \mathbf{R} \in E$
 - * $[1, \infty) \cup (-\infty, 0] = ((-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)) \in E$
 - * $[1, \infty) \cup (-\infty, 1) = \mathbf{R} \in E$
 - * $(-\infty, 0] \cup (-\infty, 1) = (-\infty, 1) \in E$

Therefore, E is a σ -algebra on \mathbf{R} that contains \mathcal{A} . It follows that $\mathcal{S} \subset E$. For the reverse inclusion, let's prove that any element in E can be constructed from elements in \mathcal{A} using the operations of σ -algebras, i.e., complements and unions:

- \emptyset is in \mathcal{S} because \mathcal{S} is a σ -algebra.
- $(0, 1)$ is in \mathcal{S} because it is in \mathcal{A} .
- $(0, \infty)$ is in \mathcal{S} because it is in \mathcal{A} .
- $(-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)$ is in \mathcal{S} because it is the complement of $(0, 1)$ which is in \mathcal{S} .
- $[1, \infty)$ is in \mathcal{S} because it can be written as $(0, \infty) \setminus (0, 1)$ and we already know that $(0, \infty)$ and $(0, 1)$ are in \mathcal{S} .
- $(-\infty, 0]$ is in \mathcal{S} because it can be written as $((-\infty, 0] \cup [1, \infty)) \setminus [1, \infty)$ and we already know that both sets are in \mathcal{S} .

- $(-\infty, 1)$ is in \mathcal{S} because it is the complement of $[1, \infty)$ which is in \mathcal{S} .
- \mathbf{R} is in \mathcal{S} because \mathcal{S} is a σ -algebra.

Therefore, $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{E}$.

Exercise 3

Suppose \mathcal{S} is the smallest σ -algebra on \mathbf{R} containing $\{(r, s] : r, s \in \mathbf{Q}\}$. Prove that \mathcal{S} is the collection of Borel subsets of \mathbf{R} .

Solution

To make things easier, let's denote by \mathcal{B} the collection of Borel subsets of \mathbf{R} . We need to prove that $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{B}$. First, notice that for all rationals $r, s \in \mathbf{Q}$ with $r < s$, the set $(r, s] \in \mathcal{B}$ since it can be written as $(r, \infty) \setminus (s, \infty)$ and both are open (so Borel) sets. It follows that $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{B}$.

For the reverse inclusion, let's show that \mathcal{S} contains every open sets. Let's prove first that \mathcal{S} contains open interval. Let (a, b) be an open interval with $a < b \in \mathbf{R}$. By density of \mathbf{Q} in \mathbf{R} , there exist two sequence $\{q_n\}_n$ and $\{s_n\}$ of rationals that satisfy the following properties : $\{q_n\}_n$ is decreasing and converges to a , $\{s_n\}_n$ is increasing and converges to b . Since all of the terms are rationals, then $(r_n, s_n] \in \mathcal{S}$ for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$. But \mathcal{S} is a σ -algebra so

$$(a, b) = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (r_n, s_n] \in \mathcal{S}$$

Hence, \mathcal{S} contains every open interval. Now, using the fact that any open set can be written as a countable union of open intervals, it easily follows that \mathcal{S} actually contains every open set. Therefore, $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{S}$ since \mathcal{B} is generated by the open sets so $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{B}$.

Exercise 4

Suppose \mathcal{S} is the smallest σ -algebra on \mathbf{R} containing $\{(r, n] : r \in \mathbf{Q}, n \in \mathbf{Z}^+\}$. Prove that \mathcal{S} is the collection of Borel subsets of \mathbf{R} .

Solution

For this proof, I will use the result of the previous exercise. Hence, define $E = \{(r, n] : r \in \mathbf{Q}, n \in \mathbf{Z}^+\}$, $E_0 = \{(r, s] : r, s \in \mathbf{Q}\}$ and consider \mathcal{S}_0 to be the smallest σ -algebra generated by E_0 . Let's denote by \mathcal{B} the collection of Borel subsets of \mathbf{R} . Obviously, since $E \subset E_0 \subset \mathcal{S}_0$, then $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{S}_0$.

For the reverse inclusion, let's show that $E_0 \subset \mathcal{S}$. Let $(r, s] \in E_0$ with $r, s \in \mathbf{Q}$. Notice that for all integers $n \geq r$, $(r, n] \in E \subset \mathcal{S}$, hence, taking their union gives us

$$(r, \infty) = \bigcup_{n \geq r} (r, n] \in \mathcal{S}$$

Similarly, $(s, \infty) \in \mathcal{S}$ for the same reasons. Hence, $(r, s] = (r, \infty) \setminus (s, \infty) \in \mathcal{S}$. It follows that $E_0 \subset \mathcal{S}$ which implies that $\mathcal{S}_0 \subset \mathcal{S}$. Therefore

$$\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}_0 = \mathcal{B}$$

Exercise 5

Suppose \mathcal{S} is the smallest σ -algebra on \mathbf{R} containing $\{(r, r+1) : r \in \mathbf{Q}\}$. Prove that \mathcal{S} is the collection of Borel subsets of \mathbf{R} .

Solution

Let $E = \{(r, r+1) : r \in \mathbf{Q}\}$ and denote by \mathcal{B} the collection of Borel subsets of \mathbf{R} . Moreover, let $E_0 = \{(r, n] : r \in \mathbf{Q}, n \in \mathbf{Z}^+\}$ and define \mathcal{S}_0 as the smallest σ -algebra containing E_0 . By exercise 4, we know that

$$\mathcal{S}_0 = \mathcal{B}$$

Let's show that $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{B}$. Obviously, since every element in E is a Borel set, then $E \subset \mathcal{B}$ which implies that $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{B}$.

For the reverse inclusion, Let's show that $E_0 \subset \mathcal{S}$. Let $(r, n]$ be an arbitrary element of E_0 with $r \in \mathbf{Q}$ and $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$. By definition of E , we know that for all $k \geq 0$, the set $(r + \frac{1}{2}k, r + \frac{1}{2}k + 1) \in E \subset \mathcal{S}$. Thus, since \mathcal{S} is closed under countable unions,

$$(r, \infty) = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \left(r + \frac{1}{2}k, r + \frac{1}{2}k + 1 \right) \in \mathcal{S}$$

Similarly, $(n, \infty) \in \mathcal{S}$ for the same reasons. Hence, $(r, s] = (r, \infty) \setminus (n, \infty) \in \mathcal{S}$. It follows that $E_0 \subset \mathcal{S}$ which implies $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{S}_0 \subset \mathcal{S}$. Therefore, $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{B}$.

Exercise 6

Suppose \mathcal{S} is the smallest σ -algebra on \mathbf{R} containing $\{[r, \infty) : r \in \mathbf{Q}\}$. Prove that \mathcal{S} is the collection of Borel subsets of \mathbf{R} .

Solution

Let $E = \{[r, \infty) : r \in \mathbf{Q}\}$ and denote by \mathcal{B} the collection of Borel subsets of \mathbf{R} . Moreover, let $E_0 = \{(r, s] : r, s \in \mathbf{Q}\}$ and define \mathcal{S}_0 as the smallest σ -algebra containing E_0 . By exercise 3, we know that

$$\mathcal{S}_0 = \mathcal{B}$$

Let's show that $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{B}$. Since every element of E is closed, then $E \subset \mathcal{B}$ (closed sets are Borel sets). It follows that $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{B}$.

For the reverse inclusion, let's prove that $E_0 \subset \mathcal{S}$. Let $(r, s]$ be an arbitrary set in E_0 with $r < s \in \mathbf{Q}$, then by definition of E , both $[r + \frac{1}{n}, \infty)$ and $[s + \frac{1}{n}, \infty)$ are contained in E and hence in \mathcal{S} . Since \mathcal{S} is a σ -algebra, then

$$(r, \infty) = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[r + \frac{1}{n}, \infty \right) \in \mathcal{S}$$

and

$$(s, \infty) = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \left[s + \frac{1}{n}, \infty \right) \in \mathcal{S}$$

It follows that $(r, s] = (r, \infty) \setminus (s, \infty) \in \mathcal{S}$. Hence, $E_0 \subset \mathcal{S}$ which implies $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{S}_0 \subset \mathcal{S}$. Therefore, $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{B}$.

Exercise 7

Prove that the collection of Borel subsets of \mathbf{R} is translation invariant. More precisely, prove that if $B \subset \mathbf{R}$ is a Borel set and $t \in \mathbf{R}$, then $t + B$ is a Borel set.

Solution

Let $B \subset \mathbf{R}$ be a Borel set and t be an arbitrary real number. Let's show that $t + B$ is a Borel set. Consider the function $f : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ defined by $x \mapsto x - t$. Since f is continuous, then f is Borel measurable. It follows that $f^{-1}(B)$ is a Borel set. However, notice that for all $x \in \mathbf{R}$:

$$\begin{aligned} x \in f^{-1}(B) &\iff f(x) \in B \\ &\iff x - t \in B \\ &\iff x \in t + B \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $t + B = f^{-1}(B)$. Therefore, $t + B$ is a Borel set which proves that the collection of Borel sets is translation invariant.

Exercise 8

Prove that the collection of Borel subsets of \mathbf{R} is dilation invariant. More precisely, prove that if $B \subset \mathbf{R}$ is a Borel set and $t \in \mathbf{R}$, then tB (which is defined to be $\{tb : b \in B\}$) is a Borel set.

Solution

Let $B \subset \mathbf{R}$ be a Borel set and t be an arbitrary real number. Let's show that tB is a Borel set. Notice that the case $t = 0$ is trivial since $tB = \{0\}$ in that case and $\{0\}$ is a Borel set. Consider the function $f : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ defined by $x \mapsto \frac{1}{t}x$. Since f is continuous, then f is Borel measurable. It follows that $f^{-1}(B)$ is a Borel set. However, notice that for all $x \in \mathbf{R}$:

$$\begin{aligned} x \in f^{-1}(B) &\iff f(x) \in B \\ &\iff \frac{1}{t}x \in B \\ &\iff x \in tB \end{aligned}$$

Hence, $tB = f^{-1}(B)$. Therefore, tB is a Borel set which proves that the collection of Borel sets is dilation invariant.

Exercise 9

Give an example of a measurable space (X, \mathcal{S}) and a function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ such that $|f|$ is \mathcal{S} -measurable but f is not \mathcal{S} -measurable.

Solution

Consider $(X, \mathcal{S}) = (\mathbf{R}, \{\emptyset, \mathbf{R}\})$ and the function $f : X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ defined by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \geq 0 \\ -1 & x < 0 \end{cases}$$

Notice that $|f| = \chi_{\mathbf{R}}$ and hence \mathcal{S} -measurable since $\mathbf{R} \in \mathcal{S}$. However,

$$f^{-1}(\{1\}) = [0, \infty) \notin \mathcal{S}$$

even if $\{1\}$ is a Borel set. Therefore, $|f|$ is \mathcal{S} -measurable but not f .

Exercise 10

Show that the set of real numbers that have a decimal expansion with the digit 5 appearing infinitely often is a Borel set.

Solution

This proof will have three steps but the idea is the following :

1. Construct the set of reals that contains no digit 5 in their decimal part in a process similar to the construction of the Cantor set. By construction, show that this set is a Borel set.
2. Construct, using the previous set, the set of reals with finitely many 5's in their decimal expansion. By construction, show that this set is a Borel set.
3. Simply take the complement of the previous set. It follows that the desired set is Borel.

(Step 1) Let's construct the set of reals that contains no 5 in their decimal part. Let's construct recursively a sequence of sets that converges to the desired set. To do so, define the Borel set $M_0 = \mathbf{R}$ which simply represents the reals. Define M_1 which represents the set of reals that contains no 5 in their first decimal and M_2 as the set representing the reals with no digit 5 in their first two decimals. To generalize this process, suppose that M_n is a Borel which represents the reals which contains no 5 in their first n decimals, to construct M_{n+1} , simply remove from M_n the reals with a 5 in their $(n+1)$ st decimal. Notice that the set of reals with a 5 in their $(n+1)$ st decimal can be written as follows : $\frac{1}{10^{n+1}}(10\mathbf{Z} + 5)$. Hence,

$$M_{n+1} = M_n \setminus \frac{1}{10^{n+1}}(10\mathbf{Z} + 5)$$

By properties of σ -algebras and exercise 7 and 8, M_{n+1} is also a Borel set. Thus, if we define

$$M = \bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} M_n$$

by construction of the M_n 's, we have that M is precisely the (Borel) set of reals that contains no 5's in their decimal part (such reals can contain a 5 in their decimal representation but only in the integer part).

(Step 2) To construct the set of reals with finitely many 5's in their decimal expansion, notice that if $x \in \mathbf{R}$ has finitely many 5's in their decimal expansion, then there is a natural number n such that $10^n x$ has no 5's in its decimal part. From this observation, we get that the set

$$N = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{10^n} M$$

is precisely the set of reals with finitely 5's in their decimal expansion. Moreover, by exercise 8 and by properties of σ -algebras, N is a Borel set.

(Step 3) By construction, N^c must be the set of reals with infinitely many 5's in their decimal expansion. Since the collection of Borel sets is closed under complements, then N^c is a Borel set. We could also have shown that it has outer measure 0 by the construction on the interval $[0, 1]$ and then extending to the reals but the proof would have been longer.

Exercise 11

Suppose \mathcal{T} is a σ -algebra on a set \mathcal{Y} and $X \in \mathcal{T}$. Let $\mathcal{S} = \{E \in \mathcal{T} : E \subset X\}$.

- (a) Show that $\mathcal{S} = \{F \cap X : F \in \mathcal{T}\}$.
- (b) Show that \mathcal{S} is a σ -algebra on X .

Solution

- (a) Let $E \in \mathcal{S}$, then $E \in \mathcal{T}$ and $E \subset X$. It follows that $E = E \cap X \in \{F \cap X : F \in \mathcal{T}\}$. Hence, $\mathcal{S} \subset \{F \cap X : F \in \mathcal{T}\}$. For the reverse inclusion, let $F \cap X$ be an arbitrary element of $\{F \cap X : F \in \mathcal{T}\}$, then $F \in \mathcal{T}$ which implies that $F \cap X \in \mathcal{T}$. Moreover, $F \cap X \subset X$ so $F \cap X \in \mathcal{S}$. Therefore, $\mathcal{S} = \{F \cap X : F \in \mathcal{T}\}$.
- (b) First, since $\emptyset \in \mathcal{T}$ and $\emptyset \subset X$, then $\emptyset \in \mathcal{S}$. Now, if E is an arbitrary element of \mathcal{S} , then its complement, $X \setminus E$ is still in \mathcal{T} and obviously is a subset of X . Hence, $E^c \in \mathcal{S}$. Thus, \mathcal{S} is closed under complements. Suppose that $\{E_n\}_n$ is a countable collection of elements in \mathcal{S} , then they all are in \mathcal{T} and all are subsets of X . It follows that their union is still in \mathcal{T} and still a subset of X . Hence, their union is in \mathcal{S} . Therefore, \mathcal{S} is a σ -algebra.

Exercise 12

Suppose $f : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a function.

- (a) For $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, let

$$G_k = \{a \in \mathbf{R} : \text{there exists } \delta > 0 \text{ such that } |f(b) - f(c)| < \frac{1}{k} \\ \text{for all } b, c \in (a - \delta, a + \delta)\}.$$

Prove that G_k is an open subset of \mathbf{R} for each $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$.

- (b) Prove that the set of points at which f is continuous equals $\bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} G_k$.
- (c) Conclude that the set of points at which f is continuous is a Borel set.

Solution

- (a) Let $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ and let's prove that G_k is open by proving that every point is an interior point of the set. Let $x \in G_k$, then by definition, there is a $\delta > 0$ such that

$$|f(y) - f(z)| < \frac{1}{k}$$

for all $y, z \in (x - \delta, x + \delta)$. Let's show that $(x - \delta, x + \delta) \subset G_k$. Let $x_0 \in (x - \delta, x + \delta)$ and define $\delta_0 = \min(x_0 - x + \delta, x + \delta - x_0)$. It follows that

$$(x_0 - \delta_0, x_0 + \delta_0) \subset (x - \delta, x + \delta)$$

Hence, for all $y, z \in (x_0 - \delta_0, x_0 + \delta_0)$, we have $y, z \in (x - \delta, x + \delta)$ which implies

$$|f(y) - f(z)| < \frac{1}{k}$$

Thus, $x_0 \in G_k$. Since it holds for all $x_0 \in (x - \delta, x + \delta)$, then $(x - \delta, x + \delta) \subset G_k$. Since it holds for all $x \in G_k$, then G_k is open.

- (b) Let's show that the elements in $\cap_{k=1}^{\infty} G_k$ are precisely the points on which f is continuous. Let x be a real number such that f is continuous at x . Let $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, then by continuity of f at x , there is a $\delta > 0$ such that

$$|f(y) - f(x)| < \frac{1}{2k}$$

whenever $y \in (x - \delta, x + \delta)$. Hence, for all $b, c \in (x - \delta, x + \delta)$, by the triangle inequality:

$$|f(b) - f(c)| < \frac{1}{k}$$

Thus, $x \in G_k$. Since it holds for all $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, then $x \in \cap_{k=1}^{\infty} G_k$. It follows that $C_f \subset \cap_{k=1}^{\infty} G_k$.

For the reverse inclusion, let x be an arbitrary element of $\cap_{k=1}^{\infty} G_k$, let's show that f is continuous at x using the ϵ - δ definition. Let $\epsilon > 0$, then by the Archimedean Property of \mathbf{R} , there is a $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ such that $\frac{1}{n} < \epsilon$. But recall that $x \in \cap_{k=1}^{\infty} G_k \subset G_n$, hence, there is a $\delta > 0$ such that

$$|f(b) - f(c)| < \frac{1}{n}$$

whenever $b, c \in (x - \delta, x + \delta)$. Let $y \in (x - \delta, x + \delta)$, since x is also in $(x - \delta, x + \delta)$, then

$$|f(x) - f(y)| < \frac{1}{n} < \epsilon$$

Thus, by definition, f is continuous at x . Therefore, $\cap_{k=1}^{\infty} G_k$ is precisely the set of points on which f is continuous.

- (c) The set of points at which f is continuous can be written as a countable intersection of open sets. Since open sets are Borel sets and Borel sets are closed under countable intersections, then the set of points at which f is continuous is a Borel set.

Exercise 13

Suppose (X, \mathcal{S}) is a measurable space, E_1, \dots, E_n are disjoint subsets of X , and c_1, \dots, c_n are distinct nonzero real numbers. Prove that $c_1\chi_{E_1} + \dots + c_n\chi_{E_n}$ is an \mathcal{S} -measurable function if and only if $E_1, \dots, E_n \in \mathcal{S}$.

Solution

(\implies) Suppose that $c_1\chi_{E_1} + \dots + c_n\chi_{E_n}$ is \mathcal{S} -measurable, then for all borel sets B ,

$$(c_1\chi_{E_1} + \dots + c_n\chi_{E_n})^{-1}(B) \in \mathcal{S}$$

Hence, for all $k \in \llbracket 1, n \rrbracket$, since $\{c_k\}$ is a Borel set, then

$$(c_1\chi_{E_1} + \dots + c_n\chi_{E_n})^{-1}(\{c_k\}) \in \mathcal{S}$$

But notice that

$$(c_1\chi_{E_1} + \dots + c_n\chi_{E_n})^{-1}(\{c_k\}) = E_k$$

since the E_i 's are disjoint and the c_i 's are distinct. It follows that $E_1, \dots, E_n \in \mathcal{S}$.

(\impliedby) Suppose that $E_1, \dots, E_n \in \mathcal{S}$, then for all $k \in \llbracket 1, n \rrbracket$, the function χ_{E_k} is \mathcal{S} -measurable. Moreover, for all $k \in \llbracket 1, n \rrbracket$, since $g_k : x \mapsto c_k x$ is continuous, then it is Borel measurable. It follows that $c_k\chi_{E_k} = g_k \circ \chi_{E_k}$ is \mathcal{S} -measurable. Since measurable functions are closed under addition, then $c_1\chi_{E_1} + \dots + c_n\chi_{E_n}$ is \mathcal{S} -measurable.

Exercise 14

(a) Suppose f_1, f_2, \dots is a sequence of functions from a set X to \mathbf{R} . Explain why

$$\begin{aligned} & \{x \in X : \text{the sequence } f_1(x), f_2(x), \dots \text{ has a limit in } \mathbf{R}\} \\ &= \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=j}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}\left(\left(-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}\right)\right). \end{aligned}$$

(b) Suppose (X, \mathcal{S}) is a measurable space and f_1, f_2, \dots is a sequence of \mathcal{S} -measurable functions from X to \mathbf{R} . Prove that

$$\{x \in X : \text{the sequence } f_1(x), f_2(x), \dots \text{ has a limit in } \mathbf{R}\}$$

is an \mathcal{S} -measurable subset of X .

Solution

(a) First, to make it easier to read, denote by E the set

$$\{x \in X : \text{the sequence } f_1(x), f_2(x), \dots \text{ has a limit in } \mathbf{R}\}$$

Let $x \in E$ be arbitrary, then by definition, the sequence $\{f_n(x)\}_n$ is a convergent sequence in \mathbf{R} . It follows that $\{f_n(x)\}_n$ is a Cauchy sequence. Let $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, since $\frac{1}{n} > 0$, then there is a $j \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ such that

$$|f_a(x) - f_b(x)| < \frac{1}{n}$$

for all $a, b \geq j$. In particular, for all $k \geq j$, we have

$$|f_j(x) - f_k(x)| < \frac{1}{n}$$

Notice that this can be written as

$$\frac{1}{n} < (f_j - f_k)(x) < \frac{1}{n}$$

which again can be written as

$$x \in (f_j - f_k)^{-1}\left(\left(-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}\right)\right)$$

Since it holds for all $j \geq k$, then

$$x \in \bigcap_{j=k}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}\left(\left(-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}\right)\right)$$

Since there is a $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ such that it holds, then

$$x \in \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{j=k}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}\left(\left(-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}\right)\right)$$

Since it holds for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, then

$$x \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=j}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}\left(\left(-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}\right)\right)$$

It follows that $E \subset \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=j}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}\left(\left(-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}\right)\right)$.
Now, for the reverse inclusion, suppose that

$$x \in \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=j}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}\left(\left(-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}\right)\right)$$

Let's prove that $\{f_n(x)\}_n$ is a Cauchy sequence. Let $\epsilon > 0$, then by the Archimedean Property, there is an integer $N \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ such that $\frac{1}{N} < \epsilon$. By our assumption on x , it follows that

$$x \in \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=j}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}\left(\left(-\frac{1}{2N}, \frac{1}{2N}\right)\right)$$

But it means that there is a $j \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ such that

$$x \in \bigcap_{k=j}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}\left(\left(-\frac{1}{2N}, \frac{1}{2N}\right)\right)$$

Let $r, s \geq j$, then the previous statement about x , it implies that

$$x \in (f_j - f_r)^{-1}\left(\left(-\frac{1}{2N}, \frac{1}{2N}\right)\right)$$

and

$$x \in (f_j - f_s)^{-1}\left(\left(-\frac{1}{2N}, \frac{1}{2N}\right)\right)$$

which are both equivalent to

$$|f_j(x) - f_r(x)| < \frac{1}{2N}$$

$$|f_j(x) - f_s(x)| < \frac{1}{2N}$$

By the triangle inequality, this gives us

$$|f_r(x) - f_s(x)| < \frac{1}{N} < \epsilon$$

Thus, $\{f_n(x)\}_n$ is a Cauchy sequence and by completeness of \mathbf{R} , we get that the sequence $\{f_n(x)\}_n$ converges in \mathbf{R} . Therefore,

$$E = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=j}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}((-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n}))$$

(b) Since for all $n, j \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ and $k \geq j$, the function $f_j - f_k$ is \mathcal{S} -measurable, then

$$(f_j - f_k)^{-1}((-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n})) \in \mathcal{S}$$

since $(-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n})$ is a Borel set. Since it holds for all $k \geq j$, then

$$\bigcap_{k=j}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}((-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n})) \in \mathcal{S}$$

Similarly, since it holds for all $j \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, then

$$\bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=j}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}((-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n})) \in \mathcal{S}$$

Again, since it holds for all $n \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, then

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=j}^{\infty} (f_j - f_k)^{-1}((-\frac{1}{n}, \frac{1}{n})) \in \mathcal{S}$$

which proves our claim.

Exercise 15

Suppose X is a set and E_1, E_2, \dots is a disjoint sequence of subsets of X such that $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i = X$. Let $\mathcal{S} = \{\bigcup_{k \in K} E_k : K \subset \mathbf{Z}^+\}$.

- (a) Show that \mathcal{S} is a σ -algebra on X .
- (b) Prove that a function from X to \mathbf{R} is \mathcal{S} -measurable if and only if the function is constant on E_k for every $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$.

Solution

- (a) Since this statement is a generalization of Exercise 1, then the proof will be very similar. As most of the proofs showing that a collection is a σ -algebra, let's split this one into three parts:

- ($\emptyset \in \mathcal{S}$) Since $\emptyset \subset \mathbf{Z}$, then $\cup_{k \in \emptyset} E_k \in \mathcal{S}$. However, notice that $\cup_{k \in \emptyset} E_k = \emptyset$. It follows that $\emptyset \in \mathcal{S}$.
- (closed under complements) Let $A \in \mathcal{S}$, then there exists a $K_0 \subset \mathbf{Z}$ such that $A = \cup_{k \in K_0} E_k$. Consider $K_1 = \mathbf{Z} \setminus K_0$ and its associated element $B = \cup_{k \in K_1} E_k$ in \mathcal{S} . Since $A \cap B = \emptyset$ and $A \cup B = X$, then $B = X \setminus A$. Hence, $A^c \in \mathcal{S}$ which proves that \mathcal{S} is closed under complements.
- (closed under countable union) Let $\{A_i\}_i$ be a countable collection of elements in \mathcal{S} , then for all $i \in \mathbf{Z}^+$, there is a subset K_i of \mathbf{Z} such that $A_i = \cup_{k \in K_i} E_k$. Consider $K = \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} K_i \subset \mathbf{Z}$ and $A = \cup_{k \in K} E_k \in \mathcal{S}$. By construction, $A = \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{S}$. Therefore, \mathcal{S} is closed under countable union.

Therefore, \mathcal{S} is a σ -algebra on X .

- (b) Let $f : X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$, suppose first that f is constant on E_k for every $k \in \mathbf{Z}^+$. Call c_k the constant value of f on E_k . To show that f is \mathcal{S} -measurable, let $B \subset \mathbf{R}$ be a Borel set. Notice that

$$f^{-1}(B) = f^{-1}(B \cap \{c_k\}_k) = \bigcup_{k; c_k \in B} E_k \in \mathcal{S}$$

It follows that f is \mathcal{S} -measurable.

Suppose now that f is not constant on all E_k 's, then, there is a $k_0 \in \mathbf{Z}^+$ and distinct real numbers a and b such that both $a, b \in f(E_{k_0})$. What we get is that $f^{-1}(\{a\}) \subsetneq E_{k_0}$. Hence, since that E_k 's are disjoint, then we cannot write $f^{-1}(\{a\})$ as a union of E_k 's. Thus, $f^{-1}(\{a\}) \notin \mathcal{S}$ even if $\{a\}$ is a Borel set. It follows that f is not \mathcal{S} -measurable.

Exercise 16

Suppose \mathcal{S} is a σ -algebra on a set X and $A \subset X$. Let

$$\mathcal{S}_A = \{E \in \mathcal{S} : A \subset E \text{ or } A \cap E = \emptyset\}$$

- (a) Prove that \mathcal{S}_A is a σ -algebra on X .
- (b) Suppose $f : X \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$ is a function. Prove that f is \mathcal{S} -measurable if and only if f is measurable with respect to \mathcal{S} and f is constant on A .

Solution

- (a) h

2C Measures and Their Properties

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2D Lebesgue Measure

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2E Convergence of Measurable Functions

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