

Informal discussion on measures:

$X$  - nonempty set.

A measure on  $X$  is a fn  $\mu: \mathcal{M} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$   
 $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(X)$

such that

$$\textcircled{0}: \mu(\emptyset) = 0$$

$$\textcircled{1}: \mu(\bigsqcup E_n) = \sum \mu(E_n)$$

↑  
disjoint union

(countable)  
↓  
whenever  $(E_n)$  is a sequence  
of disjoint sets

call  $\mu$  finite if  $\mu(X) < \infty$

what properties should  $\mathcal{M}$  satisfy?

- $\emptyset, X \in \mathcal{M}$

- closed under countable disjoint unions

Examples:

countable = uncountable =  $\infty$

$$(6) \quad \mathcal{M} = \mathcal{P}(X), \quad \mu(E) = |E|$$

counting measure

(1) There is a measure  $\lambda$  on  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$   
 s.t. all intervals are in  $\mathcal{M}$ , and

$$\lambda([0,1]) = 1$$

$$\lambda(E+r) = \lambda(E) \quad \forall r \in \mathbb{R}, E \in \mathcal{M}$$

Under basic axioms of set theory (A.C),  
 $\mathcal{M}$  cannot be  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$ !

• work mod 1 for convenience

$$[ \text{---} ] = S'$$

Define an eq. rel'n on  $S'$  by

$$x \sim y \iff x - y \in \mathbb{Q}.$$

Using A.C, pick one representative

from each equivalence class; call this set  $E$ .

for  $q \in \mathbb{Q} \cap S'$ , set  $E_q := E + q$ .

If  $P(X) = \mathcal{M}$  then  $E_q \in \mathcal{M} \forall q$ .

Notice  $[0, 1) = \bigsqcup_{q \in \mathbb{Q} \cap S'} E_q$

$$1 = \lambda([0, 1)) = \lambda\left(\bigsqcup_q E_q\right) = \sum_i \lambda(E_q)$$

$$= \sum_i \lambda(E) = \lambda(E) \cdot \underbrace{\sum_i 1}_{\substack{= \\ \infty}}$$

contradiction  
(nothing  $\cdot \infty = 1$ ).

formal discussion:

$X$  a non-empty set "measurable sets"

Defn: call  $\mathcal{M} \subset P(X)$  an algebra if

①  $\mathcal{M} \neq \emptyset$

①  $\mathcal{M}$  is closed under finite unions

②  $\mathcal{M}$  is closed under complements ( $E^c = X \setminus E$ ).

Observe: Every algebra  $\mathcal{M}$

• contains  $X = E \sqcup E^c$

• contains  $\emptyset = X^c$

• is closed under finite intersections:

$$E_1 \cap \dots \cap E_n \in \mathcal{M} \text{ if } E_1, \dots, E_n \in \mathcal{M}$$

$$\tilde{\bigcap}_i E_i = [\tilde{\bigcap}_i E_i]^{cc} = [\bigcup_i E_i^c]^c$$

If in addition  $\mathcal{M}$  is closed under countable

unions, call  $\mathcal{M}$  a  $\sigma$ -algebra

Exs

②:  $\{\emptyset, X\}$  trivial  $\sigma$ -algebra

①:  $P(X)$  discrete  $\sigma$ -algebra

②: if  $X$  is uncountable,  $\mathcal{M} = \{E \mid E \text{ or } E^c \text{ is cble}\}$   
is a  $\sigma$ -algebra.

Exercises:

• [Disjointification] If  $(E_n) \subset \mathcal{M}$  is a sequence of subsets of  $X$ ,  
let  $F_1 = E_1$ ,  $F_n = E_n \setminus \bigcup_{i=1}^{n-1} E_i$ . ( $A \setminus B = A \cap B^c$ )

Then  $(F_n) \subset \mathcal{M}$  and  $\bigcup E_n = \bigsqcup F_n$ .