

1.4 Measure and Probability

Def. 1.5 (Measure)

$\mu: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a **measure** on $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}) \Leftrightarrow$

1. $\forall A \in \mathcal{F}, \mu(A) \geq 0$
2. $\exists A \in \mathcal{F}$ s.t. $\mu(A) < \infty$
3. $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{F}$ s.t. $A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset$ ($i \neq j$) (mutually disjoint)
 $\Rightarrow \mu\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_i)$ (σ -additivity)

$(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$: **Measure space**

- $\mu(\Omega) < \infty \Leftrightarrow$ **finite measure**
- $\exists \{A_1, A_2, \dots\}, A_i \in \mathcal{F}$ s.t. $\bigcup_i A_i = \Omega$ & $\mu(A_i) < \infty, i = 1, 2, \dots$
 \Leftrightarrow **σ -finite measure**

Remark 1.1 $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$

\therefore By 2, $\exists A \in \mathcal{F}$ s.t. $\mu(A) < \infty$.

In 3, $A_1 = A, A_2 = A_3 = \dots = \emptyset$ ($A_i \cap A_j = \emptyset, i \neq j$)
 $\Rightarrow \mu(A) = \mu(A) + \mu(\emptyset) + \mu(\emptyset) + \dots \Rightarrow \mu(\emptyset) = 0$

Examples of measures

Lebesgue measure λ on $(\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^n))$:

1. $A = \prod_{i=1}^n (a_i, b_i), a_i < b_i$ (open interval) $\Rightarrow \lambda(A) = \prod_{i=1}^n (b_i - a_i)$
2. $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}) \Rightarrow \lambda(A) = \inf_{\mathcal{C}_A} \sum_{B \in \mathcal{C}_A} \lambda(B),$
 where $\mathcal{C}_A = \{\text{Open intervals covering } A\}$

Counting measure ν : Measure s.t. $\nu(A) \in \overline{\mathbb{Z}}_+ = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, +\infty\}, A \in \mathcal{F}$

Probability measure P : Measure s.t. $P(\Omega) = 1$

Properties of measures

- i) $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$ s.t. $A \subset B \Rightarrow \mu(A) \leq \mu(B)$
- ii) $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{F}$ (not necessarily disjoint) $\Rightarrow \mu\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_i)$
- iii) $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{F}$ s.t. $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset \dots \Rightarrow \mu\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_i)$
- iv) $A_1, A_2, \dots \in \mathcal{F}$ s.t. $A_1 \supset A_2 \supset \dots$ & $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $\mu(A_n) < \infty$
 $\Rightarrow \mu\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i\right) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_i)$

Remark 1.2 In iv), “ $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $\mu(A_n) < \infty$ ” is necessary.

Example: $\forall a, b \in \mathbb{R}$ ($a < b$), $\mu((a, b)) = b - a$ (Lebesgue measure)

$$A_i = [i, \infty) \Rightarrow \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = \emptyset \text{ while } \forall i \in \mathbb{N}, \mu(A_i) = +\infty$$

1.5 Measurable Functions

Def. 1.6 (Measurable Function)

$(E, \mathcal{E}), (F, \mathcal{F})$: Measurable spaces

$f: E \rightarrow F$ is a **measurable function** from (E, \mathcal{E}) to (F, \mathcal{F})
(or \mathcal{E}/\mathcal{F} -measurable) \Leftrightarrow

$$\forall B \in \mathcal{F}, \quad f^{-1}(B) = \{x \in E : f(x) \in B\} \in \mathcal{E}$$

Especially, $(E, \mathcal{E}) = (\mathbb{R}^n, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^n)), (F, \mathcal{F}) = (\mathbb{R}^m, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^m)) \Leftrightarrow$ **Borel function**

Examples: Random variables, stochastic processes: $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$: Probability space

- $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is a random variable $\Leftrightarrow \forall B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}), \{\omega \in \Omega : X(\omega) \in B\} \in \mathcal{F}$
 $\Leftrightarrow X$ is $\mathcal{F}/\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$ -measurable

- $X: \Omega \rightarrow D(\mathbb{R})$ is a stochastic process s.t. the sample paths are right-continuous with left limits on \mathbb{R} ($\forall \omega \in \Omega, (X(\omega, t))_{t \in \mathbb{R}}$ is right-continuous with left limits) $\Leftrightarrow X$ is $\mathcal{F}/\mathcal{B}(D(\mathbb{R}))$ -measurable

Properties of measurable functions

- i) Continuous and piecewise continuous functions on \mathbb{R}^n are Borel functions
- ii) f, g : measurable functions \Rightarrow
 $f + g: x \mapsto f(x) + g(x), f \cdot g: x \mapsto f(x) \times g(x)$ are measurable functions
- iii) f_1, f_2, \dots : measurable functions \Rightarrow
 $\lim_n f_n: x \mapsto \lim_n f(x)$ (pointwise limit) is a measurable function (whenever it exists)
- iv) $(E_i, \mathcal{E}_i), i = 1, 2, 3$: Measurable spaces
 $f_i: E_i \rightarrow E_{i+1}, i = 1, 2$: Measurable functions
 $\Rightarrow f_2 \circ f_1: E_1 \rightarrow E_3 (x \mapsto f_2(f_1(x)))$ is measurable

Example 1.8 X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n : Random variables

$f: \mathbb{R}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$: Borel function

$\Rightarrow f(X_1, X_2, \dots, X_n)$ is a random variable

Example 1.9 (Unmeasurable function) $A \notin \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$: An unmeasurable set

$$\mathbf{1}_A(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & x \in A, \\ 0 & x \notin A \end{cases} \quad \Rightarrow \quad \mathbf{1}_A^{-1}(\{1\}) = A \notin \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$$

2 Integration and Expectation

Expectation at Elementary Level:

X : A random variable

X is **discrete** $\Leftrightarrow X$ takes only a countable $\#$ of different values x_1, x_2, \dots

X is **(absolutely) continuous** $\Leftrightarrow \exists f: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ (probability density function)
s.t.

$$\mathbb{P}(X \leq x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(s) \, ds, \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}$$

Def. 2.1 (Elementary Definition of Expectation)

The expectation $\mathbb{E}(X)$ of a random variable X is given by

$$\mathbb{E}(X) = \begin{cases} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} x_i \mathbb{P}(X = x_i) & X \text{ is discrete,} \\ \int x f(x) \, dx & X \text{ is continuous with density } f \end{cases}$$

Question: How about more general cases?

- There exist random variables which are neither discrete nor continuous.
- Not all continuous random variables are absolutely continuous (with probability density functions).

Example 2.1 For $U \sim U[0, 1)$, $X = U \mathbf{1}_{U > 1/2}$ is neither discrete nor continuous