

# Measure Theory Second Week

## Outer Measures:

Let  $X$  be a set,

$\mathcal{P}(X)$  the collection of all subsets of  $X$ .

An outer measure  $\mu : \mathcal{P}(X) \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  (defined on all subsets) is a function such that

(a)  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$ ,

(b) if  $A \subseteq B$  then  $\mu(A) \leq \mu(B)$ ,

(c) if  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  is a sequence of subsets then

$$\mu(\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_i) \text{ (subadditive).}$$

For outer measures  $\mu$  that are not measures there is some sequence  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  of disjoint sets such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_i) > \mu(\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i).$$

For finitely additive measures  $\mu$  that are not measures there is some sequence  $A_1, A_2, \dots$  of disjoint sets such that

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_i) < \mu(\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i).$$

In general, outer measures are not measures, as they are defined on all subsets;

usually measures require some restriction to a collection of measurable subsets.

## Examples:

(a)  $\mu(A) = 0$  if  $A = \emptyset$  and

$\mu(A) = 1$  if  $A \neq \emptyset$ .

(b)  $\mu(A) = 0$  if  $A$  is countable and

$\mu(A) = 1$  if  $A$  is uncountable.

(c) Let  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  be a measurable space.

Define  $\mu^*(B) = \inf_{A \in \mathcal{A}, A \supset B} \mu(A)$ .

## Lebesgue outer measure:

$\lambda^*$  is defined on all subsets of  $\mathbf{R}$ .

$$\lambda^*(A) =$$

$$\inf\left\{\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} b_i - a_i \mid \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} (a_i, b_i) \supset A\right\}.$$

**Lemma (1.3.2):** Lebesgue outer measure is an outer measure and assigns to every interval its length.

**Proof:** The empty set is covered by any collection of open intervals, hence also of lengths  $\epsilon/2, \epsilon/4, \dots$ ,

therefore  $\lambda^*(\emptyset) = 0$ .

If  $A \subseteq B$  then any collection of intervals covering  $B$  also covers  $A$ .

Hence the collection of coverings for  $A$  involves a larger collection than that for  $B$ ,

and therefore  $\lambda^*(A) \leq \lambda^*(B)$ .

Let  $\epsilon > 0$  be given. Any covering collection used to define  $\mu(A_i)$  to within  $\frac{\epsilon}{2^i}$  also is a covering collection for  $\cup_i A_i$ .

Hence after taking the infimum on all coverings of  $\cup_i A_i$  and ignoring the  $\epsilon$

it follows that  $\lambda^*(\cup_i A_i) \leq \sum_i \lambda^*(A_i)$ .

Finally, letting  $I$  be any interval from  $a$  to  $b$  with  $b > a$ , be in closed, open, or open on one end and closed on the other,

the sequence  $(a - \epsilon, b + \epsilon)$  covers the interval, and so  $\lambda^*$  of the interval is no more than  $b - a$ .

On the other hand, it suffices to show that  $\lambda^*$  of the closed interval  $[a, b]$  is at least  $b - a$ .

Because it is compact, any collection of covering open intervals can be reduced to a finite covering collection.

Now easy to show that if the lengths of this finite cover did not add up to at least  $b - a$  they could not reach from  $a$  to  $b$ .

**Definition:** Let  $\mu$  be an outer measure on  $X$ . A subset  $B$  is  $\mu$ -measurable if for every subset  $A$  of  $X$  it holds that

$$\mu(A) = \mu(A \cap B) + \mu(A \setminus B).$$

Subadditivity of outer measures implies already that  $\mu(A) \leq \mu(A \cap B) + \mu(A \setminus B)$ ,

so whenever  $\mu(A) = \infty$  it is automatically true.

A *Lebesgue* measurable set is one that is measurable with respect to Lebesgue outer measure,

and the measure  $\lambda$  is the measure  $\lambda^*$  restricted to the Lebesgue measurable sets.



**Lemma: (1.3.5)** Let  $\mu$  be an outer measure on  $X$ . Every subset  $B$  such that  $\mu(B) = 0$  or  $\mu(X \setminus B) = 0$  is  $\mu$ -measurable.

**Proof:** We need only show for every subset  $A$  that  $\mu(A) \geq \mu(A \cap B) + \mu(A \cap (X \setminus B))$ .

With  $\mu(B) = 0$  or  $\mu(X \setminus B) = 0$  it follows by monotonicity.

If  $\mu$  is an outer measure,

let  $\mathcal{M}_\mu$  be the collection of  $\mu$  measurable sets.

**Theorem (1.3.6):**

$\mathcal{M}_\mu$  is a sigma-algebra and

$\mu$  is a measure on  $\mathcal{M}_\mu$ .

**Proof:** From the previous lemma and the definition of  $\mathcal{M}_\mu$ ,  $X$  is in  $\mathcal{M}_\mu$ ,  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$ , and  $A \in \mathcal{M}_\mu$  if and only if  $X \setminus A \in \mathcal{M}_\mu$ .

Next we show that  $\mathcal{M}_\mu$  is an algebra and it is finitely additive.

Let  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{M}_\mu$ ; with closure by complementation already demonstrated, it suffices to show that  $B_1 \cap B_2$  is also in  $\mathcal{M}_\mu$ .

Let  $A$  be any subset: as  $B_2$  is in  $\mathcal{M}_\mu$

$$\mu(A \cap B_1) =$$

$$\mu(A \cap B_1 \cap B_2) + \mu((A \cap B_1) \setminus B_2) \text{ and}$$

$$\mu(A \setminus B_1) = \mu(A \cap (X \setminus B_1)) =$$

$$\mu((A \setminus B_1) \cap B_2) + \mu((A \setminus B_1) \setminus B_2).$$

As  $B_1 \in \mathcal{M}_\mu$ :  $\mu(A) = \mu(A \cap B_1) + \mu(A \setminus B_1)$

$$\mu(A) = \mu(A \cap B_1 \cap B_2) + \mu((A \cap B_1) \setminus B_2) + \mu((A \setminus B_1)) \geq$$

$$\mu(A \cap B_1 \cap B_2) + \mu(A \setminus (B_1 \cap B_2)) \geq \mu(A),$$

(by subadditivity)

hence  $B_1 \cap B_2$  is also in  $\mathcal{M}_\mu$ .

Furthermore, assuming  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{M}_\mu$  are disjoint,

and letting  $A = B_1 \cup B_2$  be the set chosen,

we have  $A \setminus B_1 = B_2$ ,  $A \cap B_1 = B_1$

and  $\mu(A) = \mu(B_1 \cup B_2) = \mu(B_1) + \mu(B_2)$ .

Therefore  $\mu$  is finitely additive on  $\mathcal{M}_\mu$ .

Let  $B_1, B_2, \dots$  be an infinite sequence of mutually disjoint members of  $\mathcal{M}_\mu$  and let  $A$  be any subset:

It follows from finite additivity and induction that

$$\mu(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n \mu(A \cap B_i) + \mu(A \setminus (\cup_{i=1}^n B_i)).$$

Letting  $n$  go to infinity,

$$\mu(A) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \mu(A \cap B_i) + \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A \setminus (\cup_{i=1}^n B_i)).$$

By monotonicity  $\mu(A \setminus (\cup_{i=1}^\infty B_i)) \leq \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A \setminus (\cup_{i=1}^n B_i))$

and by the definition of infinite sums

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \sum_{i=1}^n \mu(A \cap B_i) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty \mu(A \cap B_i),$$

$$\text{so } \mu(A) \geq \sum_{i=1}^\infty \mu(A \cap B_i) + \mu(A \setminus (\cup_{i=1}^\infty B_i))$$

Therefore by the above and  $\mu$  being an outer measure,  $\mu(A) \geq$

$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A \cap B_i) + \mu(A \setminus (\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i)) \geq \\ \mu(A \cap (\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i)) + \mu(A \setminus (\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i)) \geq \mu(A).$$

It follows that  $\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i$  is in  $\mathcal{M}_{\mu}$ .

Sigma-additivity on the disjoint sequence of the  $B_i$  follows from setting  $A = \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i$ .

Starting from any sequence  $A_1, \dots$  of sets in  $\mathcal{M}_{\mu}$ , by choosing the disjoint  $B_i = A_i \setminus (\cup_{j=0}^{i-1} A_j)$  (with  $A_0 = \emptyset$ ) we get  $\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i = \cup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_i$  in  $\mathcal{M}_{\mu}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma:** Every Borel subset of  $\mathbf{R}$  is Lebesgue measurable.

**Proof:** Given that the Lebesgue measurable sets define a sigma algebra,

and the Borel subsets are the smallest sigma algebra containing intervals of the form  $I = (-\infty, c]$ , given any subset  $A$  we need that

$$\lambda^*(A) = \lambda^*(A \cap I) + \lambda^*(A \setminus I).$$

We can break the  $i$ th open interval  $(a_i, b_i)$  covering  $A$  into two intervals,  $(a_i, c + \frac{\epsilon}{2^i})$  and  $(c, b_i)$  whenever  $a_i < c < b_i$ .

In this way we cover both  $A \cap I$  and  $A \setminus I$  and show that  $\lambda^*(A \cap I) + \lambda^*(A \setminus I) \leq \lambda^*(A) + \epsilon$  for every  $\epsilon > 0$ ;

together with subadditivity, the equality follows.

## More on Lebesgue measure:

**Lemma (regularity):** Let  $B$  be a Lebesgue measurable subset of finite measure.

For every  $\epsilon > 0$  there is an open set  $A$  and a compact set  $C$  such that  $C \subseteq B \subseteq A$  and  $\lambda(A \setminus C) < \epsilon$ .

### Proof:

As the measure  $\lambda(B)$  is approximated by open covers,

there is an open cover of  $B$  whose union  $A$  has measure less than  $\lambda(B) + \epsilon/3$



By sigma additivity,

there is an  $n$  large enough so that

$$\lambda(B \cap [-n, n]) > \lambda(B) - \epsilon/3.$$

Cover  $[-n, n] \setminus B$  with an open set  $G$  so that  $\lambda(G) > \lambda([-n, n] \setminus B) + \epsilon/3$ .

$C = [-n, n] \setminus G$  is a closed set contained in  $B$  whose measure is more than  $\lambda(B) - 2\epsilon/3$ .

**Lemma:** Lebesgue measure is translation invariant,

meaning that for any given  $r \in \mathbb{R}$ ,

a set  $A$  is Lebesgue measurable

if and only if  $A + r := \{a + r \mid a \in A\}$  is Lebesgue measurable

and  $\lambda^*(A) = \lambda^*(A + r)$ .

**Proof:** Let  $(I_i \mid i = 1, 2, \dots)$  be a collection of open intervals covering  $A$ .

The intervals  $(I_i + r)$  cover  $A + r$  and each interval has the same length.

This shows that  $\lambda^*(A + r) \leq \lambda^*(A)$ ,

and the same argument shifting by  $-r$  shows the opposite inequality.

Likewise the intersection property with any subset of  $\mathbf{R}$  that confirms that  $A$  and  $X \setminus A$  are Lebesgue measurable

shows the same for  $A + r$  and  $(X \setminus A) + r$  after all sets are shifted by  $r$ .

**Theorem:** Given the axiom of choice,  
there is a subset of  $[0, 1)$  that is not Lebesgue  
measurable.

**Proof:** Define an equivalence relation on  
 $r, s \in [0, 1)$

by  $r \sim s \Leftrightarrow r - s$  is rational.

Define addition modulo 1,

so that  $b + c$  is  $b + c - 1$  if  $b + c \geq 1$ .

List the rational numbers  $a_1, a_2, \dots$  in  $[0, 1)$ .

Let  $B$  be a set of representatives for the equivalence relation (Axiom of Choice)

meaning that  $B$  intersects every equivalence class one and only once,

or that for every  $r \in [0, 1)$  there is one and only one  $i$  with  $r + a_i \in B$ .

This means that  $\cup_{i=1}^{\infty} (B - a_i)$  partitions  $[0, 1)$ :

for every  $r$  there is some  $b \in B$  and  $a_i$  such that  $r = b - a_i$

and if  $r \in (B - a_i) \cap (B - a_j) \neq \emptyset$  for distinct  $a_i \neq a_j$

then  $r = b_i - a_i = b_j - a_j$  for some  $b_i, b_j \in B$  and the equivalence relation sharing both  $r + a_i$  and  $r + a_j$  have two representatives  $b_i$  and  $b_j$  in  $B$ , a contradiction.

Assume that  $B$  is Lebesgue measurable.

Notice that translation invariance holds also in the modulo arithmetic,

due to a secondary shift of the measurable subset that went over the value of 1.

So every  $B + a_i$  must be Lebesgue measurable and have the same measure.

This measure can neither be 0 or anything positive,

as that would imply that the whole set  $[0, 1)$  is either infinite in measure or zero in measure,

when it is really of measure one.