

# 1 Basics of measure theory

## 1.1 Introduction

A central theme of measure theory is the following question. How can we assign a (nonnegative) measure to subsets of some ground set  $\Omega$ ? In applications, the measure can have the meaning of size, content, mass, probability etc. As a function of set the measure should be *additive*. If  $\Omega$  is finite or countable this is pretty straightforward, as a nonzero value  $\mu(\omega)$  <sup>(1)</sup> can be assigned to every  $\omega \in \Omega$  and then  $\mu(A)$  defined for any  $A \subset \Omega$  using the summation formula  $\mu(A) = \sum_{\omega \in A} \mu(\omega)$ . The problem is more involved if  $\Omega$  is uncountable like  $[0, 1]$ ,  $\mathbb{R}^k$  or the infinite ‘coin-tossing space’  $\{0, 1\}^\infty = \{0, 1\} \times \{0, 1\} \times \dots$ , or the space of continuous functions  $C[0, 1]$  etc. A fundamental example is the Lebesgue measure generalising the geometric notions of length, area and volume.

As a leading example today we shall consider the length  $\lambda$  defined on certain subsets in  $\mathbb{R}$ . The length  $\lambda(I)$  of any interval  $I = [a, b], (a, b], (a, b), [a, b)$  is  $\lambda(I) = b - a$ . For union of disjoint intervals  $I_1, \dots, I_n$  the length is

$$\lambda\left(\bigcup_{k=1}^n I_k\right) = \sum_{k=1}^n \lambda(I_k),$$

which is an instance of the property called *finite additivity*. For infinite sequence of disjoint intervals  $I_1, I_2, \dots$  the length of the union is the sum of series,

$$\lambda\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} I_i\right) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \lambda(I_k)$$

(infinite if the series diverges), which is an instance of the property called  *$\sigma$ -additivity*.

What is the length of the set  $\mathbb{Q}$  of rational numbers? The length of a point is  $\lambda(\{x\}) = 0$ , and  $\mathbb{Q}$  is countable, so by  $\sigma$ -additivity  $\lambda(\mathbb{Q}) = 0$ .

Now let us find the length of the *Cantor set*  $C \subset [0, 1]$ . The Cantor set can be constructed step-by-step, at each stage obtaining some union of disjoint intervals  $C_k$ . Start with removing the middle third from  $[0, 1]$ , thus defining  $C_1 := [0, 1/3] \cup [2/3, 1]$ . Then remove the middle third from  $[0, 1/3]$  and do the same with  $[2/3, 1]$ , thus defining  $C_2$ . By induction,  $C_{k+1}$  is obtained by removing the middle third from every interval in  $C_k$ . The Cantor set is defined as the infinite intersection  $C = \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} C_k$ . Note that for  $B \subset A$  we have  $\lambda(B) \leq \lambda(A)$ , because  $A = B \cup (A \setminus B)$  is a disjoint union and  $\lambda(A) = \lambda(B) + \lambda(A \setminus B)$ . One can calculate the length of all removed intervals

$$\lambda([0, 1] \setminus C) = \frac{1}{3} + \frac{1}{3} \left(1 - \frac{1}{3}\right) + \frac{1}{3} \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^2 + \dots = \frac{1}{3} \cdot \frac{1}{1 - 2/3} = 1$$

to see that  $\lambda(C) = 1 - 1 = 0$ . Another way to derive this is to show by induction that

$$\lambda(C_{k+1}) = \frac{2}{3} \lambda(C_k), \quad \text{hence } \lambda(C_k) = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^k,$$

and since  $C \subset C_k$ , we have

$$\lambda(C) \leq \lambda(C_k) = \left(\frac{2}{3}\right)^k, \quad k = 1, 2, \dots$$

<sup>(1)</sup>This is a shorthand notation for  $\mu(\{\omega\})$  in case of one-point sets.

and letting  $k \rightarrow \infty$  yields  $\lambda(C_k) \rightarrow 0$ , so  $\lambda(C) = 0$ . The Cantor set is uncountable (has cardinality continuum, same as the cardinality of  $[0, 1]$  or  $\mathbb{R}$ ) and, as we have shown, has length 0.

How far can we go with ascribing the length to more complex sets  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$ ? After the founder of measure theory Henri Lebesgue, the sets for which this can be done in a sensible way are called *Lebesgue measurable*, and the generalised length is called *the Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{R}$* , to be discussed in the next section. Using the Axiom of Choice from the set theory it is possible to show existence of sets that are not Lebesgue-measurable, but it is impossible to build them up from a system of intervals in some constructive manner.

A *probability measure* on  $\Omega$  is a measure with  $\mu(\Omega) = 1$ . Subsets of  $\Omega$  to which probability is assigned are called events, and notation  $\mathbb{P}(A)$  will be used for probability of  $A \subset \Omega$ . For instance, the Lebesgue measure on  $[0, 1]^k$  is a probability measure, used to model a point chosen uniformly at random from the cube.

In your probability courses you studied repeated Bernoulli trials (e.g. coin-tossing) with some success probability  $p$ . For infinite series of trials a suitable sample space to model possible outcomes is

$$\Omega = \{(\omega_1, \omega_2, \dots) : \omega_i = 0 \text{ or } 1, \text{ for } i = 1, 2, \dots\} = \{0, 1\}^\infty,$$

so one outcome is an infinite sequence like  $(0, 1, 1, 0, \dots)$ . Identifying 1 with a ‘head’ the event  $A$  ‘first two tosses are heads’ is  $A = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega_1 = \omega_2 = 1\}$  with  $\mathbb{P}(A) = p^2$ . More complex events are required to formulate theorems of probability theory like the Law of Large Numbers, hence the same question arises: what is the reserve of events  $A$  to make sense of  $\mathbb{P}(A)$ ?

## 1.2 Definition of measure

The idea is that a measure is an additive function of a set. Therefore the domain of definition of a measure should be a system of sets closed under the operations of taking union, and also intersection and complementation. In this context ‘closed’ means that applying operations  $\cap, \cup, ^c$  to a countable selection of sets from the system will yield another set from the system. We write  $A^c = \Omega \setminus A$  for the complement.

**Definition 1.1.** A  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{F}$  on a set  $\Omega$  is a family of subsets of  $\Omega$  with the following properties:

- (i)  $\Omega \in \mathcal{F}$ ,
- (ii)  $A \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow A^c \in \mathcal{F}$ ,
- (iii)  $A_j \in \mathcal{F}, j \in \mathbb{N}, \Rightarrow \bigcup_{j=1}^\infty A_j \in \mathcal{F}$ .

Conditions (i), (ii), (iii) is a minimal set of axioms defining  $\sigma$ -algebra. Using these other properties are derived. So  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{F}$  by (i), (ii). Then  $A_1, A_2 \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow A_1 \cup A_2 \in \mathcal{F}$  because we can set  $A_j = \emptyset$  for  $j \geq 2$  in (iii). Using complementation rules,  $A_j \in \mathcal{F}, j \in \mathbb{N}, \Rightarrow \bigcap_{j=1}^\infty A_j \in \mathcal{F}$ . And so on.

Note: operating with more than countably many sets from  $\mathcal{F}$  may lead to outside of  $\mathcal{F}$ . Indeed, every  $A \in \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  from the power-set is a union of its individual points.

Typically,  $\sigma$ -algebras have too many sets to admit explicit description. However, with each collection of sets  $\mathcal{S}$  we can associate a  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by  $\mathcal{S}$ , which we denote  $\sigma(\mathcal{S})$ . Observe that for  $\sigma$ -algebras  $\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2$  also the intersection  $\mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra. For any system of  $\sigma$ -algebras  $(\mathcal{F}_j, j \in J)$  (possibly with uncountable index set  $J$ ) also  $\bigcap_{j \in J} \mathcal{F}_j$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra. Therefore, we can specify any collection  $\mathcal{S} \subset \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  of *generators* and define  $\sigma(\mathcal{S})$  to be the intersection of all  $\sigma$ -algebras that contain  $\mathcal{S}$ .

### Examples

1. Consider  $\mathcal{S} = \{\emptyset\}$ . The generated  $\sigma$ -algebra is the smallest possible,  $\{\emptyset, \Omega\}$ .

2. Consider  $\mathcal{S} = \{A_1, \dots, A_k\}$ , where  $A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_k = \Omega$ ,  $A_j$ 's are nonempty and pairwise disjoint. We speak in this situation of a partition of  $\Omega$  with parts (blocks, etc)  $A_j$ . Every set in  $\sigma(\mathcal{S})$  is obtained by selecting some of the  $A_j$ 's and taking union, e.g.  $A_2 \cup A_3 \cup A_7$  (provided  $k \geq 7$ ). There are  $2^k$  ways to select a subset from a set with  $k$  elements, therefore  $\sigma(\mathcal{S})$  has  $2^k$  elements.

3. Consider  $\Omega = \{0, 1\}^\infty$ . For each  $k$  and  $(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_k) \in \{0, 1\}^k$  let  $A(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_k) = \{\omega \in \Omega : \omega_1 = \epsilon_1, \dots, \omega_k = \epsilon_k\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{F}_k$  be generated by the partition with parts  $A(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_k)$ , where  $k$  is fixed; so the cardinality of  $\mathcal{F}_k$  is  $2^k$ . Observe that  $\mathcal{F}_1 \subset \mathcal{F}_2 \subset \dots$  is an increasing sequence of  $\sigma$ -algebras, we call such sequence *filtration*. In the coin-tossing interpretation, the event  $A(1, 0, 1, 1)$  occurs when the first outcomes are 1, 0, 1, 1. So  $\mathcal{F}_k$  incorporates the information contained in the first  $k$  coin-tosses. As more trials are observed, we get more information.

Now, let  $\mathcal{F} = \sigma(\cup_{k=1}^\infty \mathcal{F}_k)$ , which is the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by *all*  $A(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_k)$ 's, that is with  $k$  and  $\epsilon_j$ 's freely chosen. Think of  $\mathcal{F}$  as complete information gathered after infinitely many trials.

This  $\mathcal{F}$  is rich enough to state the laws of probability. For example, the event

$$A = \{\omega \in \Omega : \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (\omega_1 + \dots + \omega_k)/k = 1/2\}$$

is in  $\mathcal{F}$ , but does not belong to  $\mathcal{F}_k$  for some  $k$ . Indeed, we can only compute the long-run frequency of heads as infinitely many coin tosses have been observed. If  $p = 1/2$  (the coin is fair), then  $\mathbb{P}(A) = 1/2$ , but  $\mathbb{P}(A) = 0$  for  $p \neq 1/2$ . Indeed, recall the Law of Large Numbers.

4. Define the *Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra* on  $\mathbb{R}$ , denoted  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$ , as the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by the set of semi-open intervals  $\{(a, b] : -\infty < a < b \leq \infty\}$ . Elements of  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  are called *Borel-measurable* or *Borel sets*. Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  is a universum of sets sufficient for all practical purposes.

There are many other ways to select the set of generators: we can take for  $\mathcal{S}$  all open sets, or all closed sets. A 'spare' collection of generators  $\mathcal{S}$  for the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra is the set of half-lines  $\{(-\infty, x] : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . This can be further reduced to the countable collection of half-lines  $\{(-\infty, x] : x \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ .

**Definition 1.2.** Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F})$  be a measurable space. A measure on  $\Omega$  is a function  $\mu : \mathcal{F} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  such that  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$  and the  $\sigma$ -additivity property holds:

$$\mu\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty \mu(A_i), \quad (1)$$

for disjoint sets  $A_i \in \mathcal{F}, i \in \mathbb{N}$ . The triple  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  is referred to as a *measure space*.

By the definition  $\mu(A)$  is nonnegative, and the value  $\infty$  is allowed. If  $\mu(\Omega) < \infty$  we say that  $\mu$  is a finite measure. If  $\mu(\Omega) = 1$  we call  $\mu$  probability measure, and often use notation  $\mathbb{P}$ . In the probability context we call measurable sets  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  events, to which probability  $\mathbb{P}(A)$  is assigned.

**Examples** For fixed  $x \in \Omega$ , *Dirac measure* is

$$\delta_x(A) = \begin{cases} 1, & \text{if } x \in A, \\ 0, & \text{if } x \notin A. \end{cases}$$

Normally it is assumed that the one-point set  $\{x\}$  is measurable ( $\{x\} \in \mathcal{F}$ ), in that case  $x$  is called an atom. We sometimes say that the support of the Dirac measure is the atom  $x$ .

Choose  $x_1, x_2, \dots$  from  $\Omega$  and let  $y_1, y_2, \dots$  be positive numbers. A *discrete* (aka *atomic*) measure is defined as

$$\mu(A) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty y_i \delta_{x_i}(A), \quad A \in \mathcal{F}.$$

Plainly, mass  $y_i$  sits in point  $x_i$ , so to compute the measure of set  $A$  you calculate the total mass of atoms in this set. If  $\Omega$  is countable, e.g.  $\Omega = \mathbb{N}$  then every measure on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{P}(\Omega))$  is discrete.

In the last example we implicitly used the following simple fact: for measures  $\mu_1, \mu_2, \dots$  on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F})$  and nonnegative reals  $y_1, y_2, \dots$ , the linear combination  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} y_i \mu_i$  is also a measure on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F})$ .

There are useful properties implied  $\sigma$ -additivity. Let  $A_i \in \mathcal{F}, i \in \mathbb{N}$ .

1. Increasing tower of sets, monotonicity:

$$A_1 \subset A_2 \subset \dots \Rightarrow \mu \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \right) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_i).$$

To see this, apply the  $\sigma$ -additivity property to the union of disjoint sets  $A_{i+1} \setminus A_i$ . Note that  $\mu(A_i)$  is nondecreasing in  $i$  in this case.

2. Decreasing tower of sets, monotonicity:

$$A_1 \supset A_2 \supset \dots \Rightarrow \mu \left( \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \right) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_i).$$

This is obtained from the above increasing case by passing to complements.

3. Subadditivity:

$$\mu \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \right) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_i).$$

The sets  $A_i$  can be arbitrary here.

### 1.3 Construction of measures by extension

Having introduced the general concept of measure, we wish to return to our principal example. We have the length  $\lambda(A)$  defined for intervals and some other sets of relatively simple nature. Is it possible to have  $\lambda$  well defined for all Borel sets, consistently with the naive idea of length?

This is the fundamental problem of extension, which we shall treat in a general setting. A system of sets  $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  is called *algebra* if it satisfies conditions (i),(ii) from Definition 1.1, but (iii) is replaced by the finite additivity condition

$$A, B \in \mathcal{F} \Rightarrow A \cup B \in \mathcal{F}.$$

A function  $\mu_0 : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  is called a *pre-measure* if it satisfies (1) whenever  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i \in \mathcal{A}$ .

The difference between pre-measure and measure is that a pre-measure is defined on algebra, which need not be closed under countable unions of sets.

These concepts are best seen on our main example, the set  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be the set of intervals  $(a, b]$ , this is a generator of the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the collection of sets  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$  representable as finite unions of disjoint intervals,

$$A = \bigcup_{i=1}^k (a_i, b_i],$$

one may check that  $\mathcal{A}$  is an algebra. We have the length defined on  $\mathcal{A}$  by the formula

$$\lambda(A) = \sum_{i=1}^k (b_i - a_i).$$

Note that a countable union of disjoint intervals *may* belong to  $\mathcal{A}$ , for example  $(0, 1/2] \cup (1/2, 3/4] \cup (3/4, 7/8] \cup \dots = (0, 1]$ . The length  $\lambda$  (which is a pre-measure for a time being) is  $\sigma$ -additive on  $\mathcal{A}$ .

The next is the measure extension theorem due to Carathéodory.

**Theorem 1.3.** *Suppose  $\mu_0$  is a pre-measure on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A})$ , where  $\mathcal{A}$  is an algebra. Then there is a measure on  $(\Omega, \sigma(\mathcal{A}))$  such that*

$$\mu(A) = \mu_0(A) \quad \text{for } A \in \mathcal{A}.$$

*Moreover, this measure  $\mu$  is unique if there exists a sequence of sets  $B_1 \subset B_2 \dots$  such that  $\cup_{j=1}^{\infty} B_j = \Omega$ ,  $B_j \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $\mu_0(B_j) < \infty$  for all  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ .*

If  $\cup_{j=1}^{\infty} B_j = \Omega$ , for some  $B_j \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , such that  $\mu(B_j) < \infty$  for all  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , we call measure  $\mu$   $\sigma$ -finite. Carathéodory's Theorem entails that a  $\sigma$ -finite measure on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F})$  is uniquely determined by its values on some algebra of generators.

By Carathéodory's Theorem, the length  $\lambda$  defined initially on intervals has a unique extension to the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra.

**Example.** Let us look how to define probability as a measure on  $\Omega = \{0, 1\}^{\infty}$ , to give a rigorous meaning to the notion of 'infinitely many independent Bernoulli trials with success probability  $p$ '.

Fix  $p$  and for each  $A(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_k)$  set

$$\mathbb{P}(A(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_k)) = p^t (1-p)^{k-t}, \quad \text{where } t = \epsilon_1 + \dots + \epsilon_k. \quad (2)$$

The union  $\mathcal{A} = \cup_{k=1}^{\infty} \mathcal{F}_k$  is an algebra, and  $\mathbb{P}$  is a pre-measure on  $(\Omega, \mathcal{A})$ . By Carathéodory's theorem there is a probability measure consistent with (2) and defined on  $\mathcal{F} = \sigma(\mathcal{A})$ . This probability measure is unique because  $\mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1$  is finite. The Law of Large numbers says that the event

$$A = \{\omega \in \Omega : \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (\omega_1 + \dots + \omega_k)/k = z\}$$

has probability  $\mathbb{P}(A) = 1$  if  $z = p$ , and  $\mathbb{P}(A) = 0$  if  $z \neq p$ .

*Construction via distribution function.* Many measures on  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}))$  can be defined in terms of generalised distribution functions. Let  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow (0, \infty)$  be a nondecreasing right-continuous function with left limits and  $\lim_{x \rightarrow -\infty} F(x) = 0$ . We define the measure of halfline  $(-\infty, x]$  to be

$$\mu(-\infty, x] = F(x). \quad (3)$$

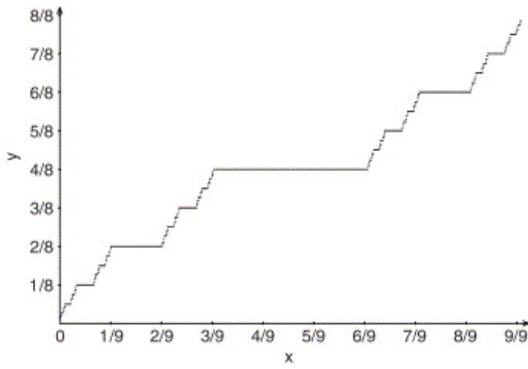
This is extended to intervals by  $\mu(a, b] = F(b) - F(a)$  and is extendible to all Borel sets in a unique way by Carathéodory's theorem. If  $\lim_{x \rightarrow \infty} F(x) = 1$  the measure  $\mu$  is a probability measure, and  $F$  its cumulative distribution function. This method is very general, and allows one to construct both discrete distributions (e.g. supported by  $\mathbb{N}$ ) and probability distributions with densities. The correspondence defined by (3) is invertible, in the sense that for every  $\mu$  with  $\mu(-\infty, x] < \infty$ ,  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  the function  $F$  defined by this formula has the above properties (nondecreasing, etc).

If  $F$  has a jump at  $x$ , then the corresponding  $\mu$  has an atom at  $x$  of mass  $\mu(\{x\}) = F(x) - \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} F(x - 1/k)$ . If  $F$  has a density, in the sense that

$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(z) dz \quad (4)$$

then the measure of each point  $\{x\}$  is zero, in which case we say that the measure is non-atomic (or diffuse). Conversely, if  $F$  is continuous then the associated measure is non-atomic, but this does not mean that the measure has a density!

Cantor distribution function (see the picture) is an example of a probability measure which is non-atomic, but has no density to represent  $F$  as integral (4). Under this measure, the Cantor set has full probability  $\mu(C) = 1$  although its Lebesgue measure is  $\lambda(C) = 0$ ; in this sense the Cantor distribution is singular.



## 1.4 Lebesgue measure and Lebesgue measurable sets

The Lebesgue measure on the line has natural generalisation to Euclidean spaces  $\mathbb{R}^k$ . For a rectangular parallelepiped  $A = [a_1, b_1] \times \cdots \times [a_k, b_k]$  its Lebesgue measure is defined as the  $k$ -dimensional volume

$$\lambda^{(k)}(A) = \prod_{i=1}^k (b_i - a_i).$$

The  $\sigma$ -algebra of Borel sets  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^k)$  in  $k$  dimensions is the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by open sets in  $\mathbb{R}^k$ . Like in  $\mathbb{R}$ , there is a more sparse systems of generators generalising the half-lines in one dimension

$$\mathcal{S} = \{(-\infty, x_1] \times \cdots \times (-\infty, x_k] : (x_1, \dots, x_k) \in \mathbb{R}^k\}.$$

There is a larger than  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^k)$   $\sigma$ -algebra of sets, to which the Lebesgue measure can be extended. If  $A$  is a Borel set with  $\lambda^{(k)}(A) = 0$  and  $B \subset A$  it is reasonable to assign to  $B$  measure 0. The  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^k)$  and such subsets  $B$  is the  $\sigma$ -algebra of *Lebesgue-measurable* sets. This operation of adding subsets of zero-measure sets is called *completion*, that is the  $\sigma$ -algebra of Lebesgue-measurable sets is complete.

Using transfinite induction, it can be shown, that the cardinality of  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  is continuum. On the other hand, for Cantor set  $C$  the cardinality of the power-set  $\mathcal{P}(C)$  is bigger than continuum, and each  $A \subset C$  is Lebesgue-measurable. It follows that there are more Lebesgue-measurable sets than Borel sets. Hence many Lebesgue-measurable non-Borel sets exist although they do not admit a constructive description.

### Exercises

1. For  $A \subset \Omega$  proper subset, describe  $\sigma(\{A\})$ .
2. Let  $\Omega = [0, 1]$ . Find the  $\sigma$  generated by  $\{[0, 1/4], (3/4, 1]\}$ .
3. Show that the increasing monotonicity property is equivalent to  $\sigma$ -additivity.
4. Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the family of sets  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  with the property that there exists a limit

$$\mu(A) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} n^{-1} \lambda(A \cap [0, n]).$$

Show that  $\mathcal{A}$  is an algebra. Is  $\mu$   $\sigma$ -additive on  $\mathcal{A}$ ?

5. Consider the space of functions  $x : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $\mathcal{S} = \{x : x(t) \in B, \text{ for some } t \in \mathbb{R}, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})\}$ . Show that all sets in  $\sigma(\mathcal{S})$  have the form

$$A = \{x : (x(t_1), \dots, x(t_k)) \in D\}$$

for some  $k, t_1 < \cdots < t_k$  and  $D \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^k)$ .

6. Is there a probability measure  $\mu$  on  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}))$  supported by  $\mathbb{Q}$ , i.e. such that  $\mu(x) > 0$  for  $x \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\sum_{x \in \mathbb{Q}} \mu(x) = 1$ . Is this measure discrete or diffuse?
7. For  $A \subset \mathbb{R}$  define  $x + A := \{x + a, a \in A\}$ . Prove translation invariance of the Lebesgue measure:  $\lambda(x + A) = \lambda(A)$ ,  $A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$ . Extend the property to Lebesgue-measurable sets  $A$ .
8. Explain why the distribution function is right-continuous with left limits.
9. Show that every probability measure on  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}))$  admits a representation  $\mu + \nu$ , where  $\mu$  is a discrete measure and  $\nu$  is a diffuse measure.
10. Let  $\mu = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} 2^{-j} \delta_j$ . Is it a probability measure? Sketch the graph of its cumulative distribution function.
11. Let  $\Omega = \{0, 1\}^{\infty}$ . Using set-theoretic operations  $\cup, \cap, ^c$  express the event

$$A = \{\omega \in \Omega : \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} (\omega_1 + \dots + \omega_k)/k = z\}$$

in terms of events  $A(\epsilon_1, \dots, \epsilon_k)$ .

12. (First half of Borel-Cantelli lemma) Let  $A_j, j \in \mathbb{N}$ , be events in the probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  such that  $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mathbb{P}(A_j) < \infty$ . Prove that  $\mathbb{P}(\cap_{n=1}^{\infty} \cup_{j=n}^{\infty} A_j) = 0$ .
13. Consider  $\mathcal{S} := \{\{x\} : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . Show that for  $A \in \sigma(\mathcal{S})$ , either  $A$  is countable (i.e. either finite or countably infinite) or  $A^c$  is countable. Now let  $\mu(x) = 1$  for every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ . What are possible values of  $\mu(A)$ ? When  $\mu(A) = \infty$ ?
14. For Borel sets  $A, B \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  let  $d(A, B) = \lambda(A \Delta B)$ . Show that  $d(A, B)$  is a metric on  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$  (in particular, satisfies the triangle inequality). The metric space  $(d, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}))$  is not complete: some Cauchy sequences do not have a limit. Show that the completion of the metric space  $(d, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}))$  is the  $\sigma$ -algebra of Lebesgue sets.

### Literature

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