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Lecture 1

Part I - MEASURE THEORY

Chapter 1 -  $\sigma$  algebras and measures

**Outline:** To give a subset of a set  $X$  a weight or measure we must restrict ourselves to "good" subsets of  $X$  or elements of  $\mathcal{P}(X)$ . Such a collection  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$  is called a  $\sigma$  algebra.

Chapter 1.1 - Review - Riemann integral

**Outline:** 1.) A function  $f$  is **Riemann integrable** if it can be "approximated" by step functions. These functions are defined by subdividing the domain.  
2.) The Riemann integral does not have good convergence properties. We should look for a better way of defining integration.

**Definition 1 (Partitions)** A **partition** or **subdivision**  $\mathcal{P}$  of an interval  $[a, b]$  is a finite sequence of points  $\mathcal{P} = \{(t_k)_{k=0, \dots, n}\}$ , such that

$$a = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_{n-1} < t_n = b.$$

- We call an interval  $(t_k, t_{k+1})$  a **subinterval** of the partition  $\mathcal{P}$ . We call the width  $w_{\mathcal{P}}$  of the largest subinterval

$$w_{\mathcal{P}} = \|\mathcal{P}\| = \max\{|t_{k+1} - t_k|, \text{ where } k \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n-1\}\} \text{ the mesh or norm of } \mathcal{P}.$$

- If for two partitions  $\mathcal{P}_1, \mathcal{P}_2$  of  $[a, b]$  we have that  $\mathcal{P}_1 \subset \mathcal{P}_2$ . Then  $\mathcal{P}_2$  is called a **refinement** of  $\mathcal{P}_1$ .

**Example** Draw a partition  $\mathcal{P}$  of the interval  $[0, 10]$  and estimate its norm. Then find a refinement of  $\mathcal{P}$ . Given two partitions  $\mathcal{P}_1$  and  $\mathcal{P}_2$  is there always a common refinement?

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To define the Riemann integral we first create step functions based on a partition  $\mathcal{P}$  that give an upper and lower bound on the area under the graph of  $f$ .

**Definition 2 (upper and lower Riemann sums)** Let  $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a bounded function and  $\mathcal{P} = \{(t_k)_{k=0, \dots, n}\}$  be a partition of  $[a, b]$ , i.e.

$$a = t_0 < t_1 < t_2 < \dots < t_{n-1} < t_n = b.$$

We define two step functions  $f^U, f_L : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  associated to  $f$  and  $\mathcal{P}$  in the following way

$$\begin{aligned} M_k &= \sup\{f(x), x \in (t_{k-1}, t_k)\} & \text{and} & & f^U(x) &= M_k & \text{for all } x \in (t_{k-1}, t_k) \\ m_k &= \inf\{f(x), x \in (t_{k-1}, t_k)\} & \text{and} & & f_L(x) &= m_k & \text{for all } x \in (t_{k-1}, t_k). \end{aligned}$$

If the partition  $\mathcal{P}$  is important we will write  $f_{\mathcal{P}}^U$  for  $f^U$  and  $f_{L, \mathcal{P}}$  for  $f_L$ .

Finally the **Riemann sums** of  $f$  with respect to  $\mathcal{P}$  are the integrals

$$\begin{aligned} \mathcal{U}(f, \mathcal{P}) &= \sum_{k=1}^n M_k \cdot (t_k - t_{k-1}) = \int_a^b f^U(x) dx \quad \textbf{(upper sum)} & \text{and} \\ \mathcal{L}(f, \mathcal{P}) &= \sum_{k=1}^n m_k \cdot (t_k - t_{k-1}) = \int_a^b f_L(x) dx \quad \textbf{(lower sum)} \end{aligned}$$

**Note** If  $\mathcal{P} = \{(t_k)_{k=0, \dots, n}\}$  is a partition of  $[a, b]$ , then we are not interested in the values of the step function  $f$  on the points  $(t_k)_{k=0, \dots, n}$  of the partition. This is because for integration it does not matter which values the the function takes on this finite number of points.

**Example** Sketch a continuous function  $f$  in the interval  $[0, 10]$ . Using your partition  $\mathcal{P}$  from the previous example, sketch  $f^U$  and  $f_L$  and estimate the integrals  $\mathcal{U}(f, \mathcal{P})$  and  $\mathcal{L}(f, \mathcal{P})$ .

Using this approximation with step functions we can try to find the "best approximating"  $f^U$  and  $f_L$  by varying and refining the partition.

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b) (**popcorn function**) Let  $g : [0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the function, such that

$$g(x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } x \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q} \\ \frac{1}{q} & \text{if } x = \frac{p}{q} \in \mathbb{Q}, \frac{p}{q} \text{ in lowest term} \end{cases}$$

Sketch the popcorn function for  $q = 2, 3, 4, 5$ .

Then  $g$  is integrable on  $[0, 1]$ .

**Definition 6** A subset  $S \subset \mathbb{R}$  has **measure zero** if for all  $\epsilon > 0$  there are open intervals  $(I_n(\epsilon))_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that

a)  $S \subset \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} I_n(\epsilon)$ .

b)  $\sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \ell(I_n(\epsilon)) \leq \epsilon$ , where  $\ell((a, b)) = b - a$ .

We would like to define integration in a way such that the functions in these two previous examples have integral zero. More generally we would like to have that countable subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  have measure zero and define integration such that the integral over these sets is zero.

**Example 7** Let  $C$  be a countable subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Then  $C$  has measure zero.

**proof Idea:** We put "small enough" intervals around every point of  $C$ . Fix  $\epsilon > 0$ . Since  $C$  is countable,  $C = (c_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} = \{c_1, c_2, c_3, \dots\}$ . We set

**Note 8** The countable union of countable sets has measure zero (see **HW 1**).

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**Why should we not settle for the Riemann integral?**

- The integral over countable subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  is not always zero.
- The definition is restricted to bounded functions and domains.
- $\mathcal{R}([a, b])$  does not have good convergence properties.

**Example 9** Consider a sequence of functions  $(f_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$ , such that  $f_n : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , such that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$f_n \text{ continuous} \quad \text{and} \quad 0 \leq f_n(x) \leq 1 \quad \text{for all } x \in [0, 1]$$

If  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x) = 0$  for all  $x \in [0, 1]$ . Is it true that

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathcal{R} \int_0^1 f_n(x) dx = 0 \quad ?$$

This is in fact true, but very hard to prove. However this will be a simple result in our new integration method using measure theory.

**From Riemann to Lebesgue**

**Idea:** We define integration the other way round. We look at the set  $I$ , such that  $f(I)$  in an interval  $[y_1, y_2]$  on the  $y$ -axis. Then

$$y_1 \cdot m(I) \leq \int_I f \leq y_2 \cdot m(I)$$

Refining the intervals now on the  $y$ -axis we get an estimate of the integral. Indeed we can define integration this way. However to this end we have to define the measure  $m$  properly. If  $I$  is an interval, we would have  $m(I) = \ell(I)$ .

**Example**

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In general we would like to have a measure  $m : \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , such that

- a)  $m(\emptyset) = 0$
- b)  $m(I) = \ell(I)$  for an interval  $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ .
- c)  $m(\bigsqcup_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} m(A_k)$ .
- d)  $m(A + x) = m(A)$  for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  ( $m$  is invariant under translation).

**Remark 1.)** Unfortunately this is not possible, as  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$  is too complex. This is a consequence of **Vitali's Theorem**.

2.) In c) we want countable additivity. If we have additivity for finite sets only, then we can not pass to limits. If we take uncountable additivity, then if we have for  $p \in \mathbb{R}$  that  $m(p) = 0$ , then  $m(\mathbb{R}) = 0$  (using d)).

### Chapter 1.2 - $\sigma$ algebras

**Outline** To define a measure we have to use the "right" subsets of  $X$ .

**Definition 1 ( $\sigma$  algebra)** Let  $X$  be a set, a collection  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$  of subsets of  $X$  is called a  $\sigma$  algebra if

- a)  $X \in \mathcal{M}$ .
- b)  $A \in \mathcal{M} \Rightarrow A^c = X \setminus A \in \mathcal{M}$  ( $\mathcal{M}$  is closed under complements).
- c)  $(A_k)_{k=1, \dots, \infty} \subset \mathcal{M} \Rightarrow \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} A_k \in \mathcal{M}$  ( $\mathcal{M}$  is closed under countable unions).

In this case  $(X, \mathcal{M})$  is called a **measurable space**.

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