

Measures: Definition & Examples

(II.5.1 in Driver)

(Ω, \mathcal{F})
any set \uparrow
 σ -field

measurable space

$E \in \mathcal{F}$

"measurable sets"
"events"

Def:

A function $\mu: \mathcal{F} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ is called a **measure** if it is countably additive. I.e.

\rightarrow If $E_1, E_2, E_3, \dots \in \mathcal{F}$ are all disjoint, then

$$\mu\left(\bigsqcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n\right) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(E_n).$$

The triple $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$ is then called a **measure space**.

If $\mu(\Omega) < \infty$, we say μ is a **finite measure**.

If $\mu(\Omega) = 1$, we say μ is a **probability measure** and $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$ is a **probability space**.

Eg. $\mu \equiv 0$ or $\mu \equiv \infty$ (on any (Ω, \mathcal{F})).

Eg. Point mass: on $(\Omega, 2^\Omega)$, fix a point $\omega_0 \in \Omega$,
and define $\delta_{\omega_0}: 2^\Omega \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ by

$$\delta_{\omega_0}(E) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } \omega_0 \in E \\ 0 & \text{if } \omega_0 \notin E \end{cases}$$

If $\{E_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$ are disjoint, then ω_0 is in at most 1
of the E_n .

• If $\exists n_0$ s.t. $\omega_0 \in E_{n_0}$, then $\omega_0 \in \bigsqcup_{n=1}^\infty E_n$, so $\delta_{\omega_0}(\bigsqcup_{n=1}^\infty E_n) = 1$ ✓

$$\sum_{n=1}^\infty \delta_{\omega_0}(E_n) = 0 + 0 + 0 + \dots + 1 + 0 + \dots$$

n_0

• If $\nexists n$ s.t. $\omega_0 \in E_n$, then $\omega_0 \notin \bigsqcup_{n=1}^\infty E_n$, so $\delta_{\omega_0}(\bigsqcup_{n=1}^\infty E_n) = 0$ ✓

$$\sum_{n=1}^\infty \delta_{\omega_0}(E_n) = 0$$

\downarrow
0

New Measures from Old

Fix a measurable space (Ω, \mathcal{F}) .

If μ is a measure, so is $\alpha\mu$ for any $\alpha \geq 0$. $(\alpha\mu)(E) = \alpha \cdot \mu(E)$

If $\{\mu_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ is a countable set of measures, then

$$\mu = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu_j$$

• $\mu_j \geq 0$, allowed to be ∞
∴ no convergence issues.

is a measure.

Pf. If $\{E_i\}_{i=1}^{\infty}$ are disjoint events in \mathcal{F} , then

$$\mu\left(\bigsqcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i\right) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu_j\left(\bigsqcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i\right) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \left(\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu_j(E_i)\right)$$

Tonelli's
theorem

$$= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \underbrace{\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu_j(E_i)}_{\mu(E_i)}$$

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Eg. $\mu = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} p_j \delta_{\omega_j}$ for some $\omega_j \in \Omega$, $p_j \geq 0$

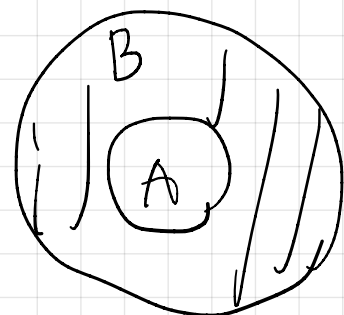
\hookrightarrow If $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} p_j = 1$, probability measure. $\mu(\Omega) = \sum_j p_j \delta_{\omega_j}(\Omega) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} p_j = 1$.

\hookrightarrow If $\{\omega_j\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$ is all of Ω , this is discrete probability:

$$\mu(E) = \sum_{j: \omega_j \in E} p_j = \sum_{\omega \in E} \underbrace{p_j}_{\text{if } \omega = \omega_j} \mu(\{\omega\})$$

Basic Properties

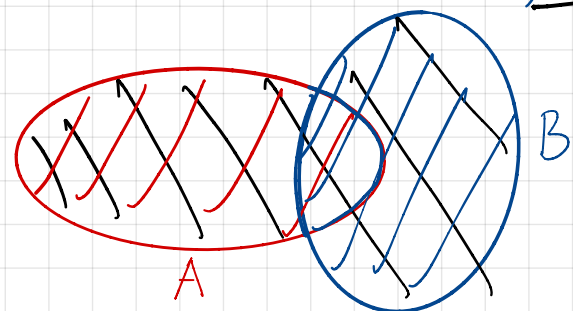
* **monotone**: If $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$ and $A \subseteq B$, $\mu(A) \leq \mu(B)$.



$$B = (B \setminus A) \sqcup A$$

$$\therefore \mu(B) = \underbrace{\mu(B \setminus A)}_{\geq 0} + \mu(A) \geq \mu(A)$$

* **rule of addition**: If $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$, $\mu(A \cup B) + \mu(A \cap B) = \mu(A) + \mu(B)$.



$$\mu(A \cup B) = \mu(A) + \mu(B) - \mu(A \cap B)$$

* **subadditive**: If $\{B_n\}_{n=1}^{\infty}$ are in \mathcal{F} , then $\mu\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n\right) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(B_n)$

$$A_1 = B_1, \quad A_2 = B_2 \setminus B_1, \quad \dots, \quad A_n = B_n \setminus (B_1 \cup \dots \cup B_{n-1})$$

$$\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n \Rightarrow \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B_n$$

$$A_n \subseteq B_n$$

$$\mu\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right)$$

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_j) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu(B_j)$$