

International Journal of Statistics and Applied Mathematics

ISSN: 2456-1452
 Maths 2017; 2(5): 101-103
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 www.mathsjournal.com
 Received: 15-07-2017
 Accepted: 18-08-2017

Baljodh Singh
 P. G. Department of
 Mathematics, S.G.G.S. Khalsa
 College, Mahilpur, Hoshiarpur,
 Punjab, India

The extension of measures

Baljodh Singh

Abstract

In this paper we have to show that if A is any algebra of subsets of a set X and if μ is a measure defined on A then there exist a σ - algebra A^* containing A and a measure μ^* defined on A^* such that $\mu^*(E) = \mu(E)$ in A . In other words the measure μ can be extended to a measure on a σ -algebra A^* of subsets of X , which contains A .

Keywords: algebra, σ - algebra, measure, measurable set, finite and infinite measure

1. Introduction

1.1 Definition

Let X be any set and \mathcal{A} be any non-empty subset of $P(X)$ the power set of X , \mathcal{A} is said to be an algebra if

1. ϕ and $X \in \mathcal{A}$
2. $A, B \in \mathcal{A} \Rightarrow A \cup B \in \mathcal{A}$
3. $A \in \mathcal{A} \Rightarrow A^c \in \mathcal{A}$

Here it is easy to prove that if \mathcal{A} is an algebra and A and B are in \mathcal{A} then $A \cap B$ and A/B are also in \mathcal{A} and also $A \Delta B = (A - B) \cup (B - A)$ belongs to \mathcal{A} .

1.2 Remark: \mathcal{A} is closed under finite unions and intersections that if $A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{A}$ then

$$\begin{cases} \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i \in \mathcal{A} \\ \bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i \in \mathcal{A} \end{cases}$$

Example: 1. If $X = [0, 1)$, then the set \mathcal{A} consisting of ϕ and all unions $A = \bigcup_{i=1}^n [a_i, b_i)$ where $0 \leq a_i < b_i \leq a_{i+1} \leq 1$ is an algebra.

2. If X be a finite set then consider the set

$E = \{A \in P(X) / A \text{ is finite or } A^c \text{ is finite}\}$ then E is an algebra. It can be easily verified that E is closed under finite unions and finite intersections.

3. Obviously for any set X the power set $P(X)$ and $E = \{\phi, X\}$ are σ -algebras in X and $P(X)$ is called the largest and $E = \{\phi, X\}$ is the smallest σ -algebra.

1.3 Definition: If B be an arbitrary subset of X , define $\mu^*(B) = \text{Inf} \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(E_i)$ where the infimum is extended over all sequences $\{E_i\}$ of sets in A such that $B \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i$. Generally the function μ^* defined above is called outer measure generated by μ .

1.4 Lemma: The function μ^* defined above satisfy the following

- (1) $\mu^*(\phi) = 0$
- (2) $\mu^*(A) \geq 0$ for any $A \subseteq X$.
- (3) If $A \subseteq B$, then $\mu^*(A) \leq \mu^*(B)$.
- (4) If $A \in \mathcal{A}$ then $\mu^*(A) = \mu(A)$.
- (5) If (E_i) be a sequence of subsets of X , then $\mu^*(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} E_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(E_i)$.

Correspondence
Baljodh Singh
 P. G. Department of
 Mathematics, S.G.G.S. Khalsa
 College, Mahilpur, Hoshiarpur,
 Punjab, India

Proof: Statements (1), (2) and (3) are immediate consequences of the definition 1.1.

(4) Since $\{A, \phi, \phi, \dots\}$ is a countable collection of sets in \mathcal{A} whose union contains A, then it follows that $\mu^*(A) \leq \mu(A) + 0 + 0 + \dots = \mu(A)$ (1)

Conversely, If (E_i) be any sequence of subsets from \mathcal{A} with $A \subseteq \cup E_i$, then $A = \cup (A \cap E_i)$. Since μ is a measure on \mathcal{A} , then

$$\mu(A) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A \cap E_i) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(E_i).$$

Follows that $\mu(A) \leq \mu^*(A)$ (2)

Hence from (1) and (2) we have $\mu^*(A) = \mu(A)$.

(5) Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be arbitrary and for each n chose a sequence (E_{nk}) of the sets in \mathcal{A} such that $B_n \subseteq \cup_{k=1}^{\infty} E_{nk}$ and $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu(E_{nk}) \leq \mu^*(B_n) + \frac{\varepsilon}{2^n}$. Since $\{E_{nk} : n, k \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a countable collection from \mathcal{A} whose union contains $\cup B_n$ it follows from the definition of μ^* that $\mu^*(\cup_{i=1}^n B_n) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu(E_{nk}) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(B_n) + \varepsilon$. Since ε is arbitrary, hence proved.

1.5 Remark: The property (5) is referred by saying that μ^* in countably sub-additive. Although μ^* has the advantage that it is defined for arbitrary subsets of X, it has the defect that it is not necessarily countably additive. Hence we are willing to restrict μ^* to a smaller σ –algebra provided we can find one containing \mathcal{A} and over which μ^* has the property of countable additivity. There is a remarkable condition due to Caratheodory which provides the desired restriction of the domain of μ^* .

1.6 Definition: A subset E of X is said to be to be μ^* -measurable if

$$\mu^*(A) = \mu^*(A \cap E) + \mu^*(A \setminus E) \tag{A}$$

for all sub sets A of X. The collection of all μ^* -measurable sets is denoted by \mathcal{A}^* . Condition (A) indicated an additivity property on μ^*

1.7 Caratheodory Extension theorem: The collection \mathcal{A}^* of all μ^* -measurable sets is a σ –algebra containing \mathcal{A} . Moreover if (E_n) is a disjoint sequence in \mathcal{A}^* , then

$$\mu^*(\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(E_n).$$

Proof: It is clear that ϕ and X are μ^* -measurable sets and if $E \in \mathcal{A}^*$ then its complement $X \setminus E$ belongs to \mathcal{A}^* . Next we shall show that \mathcal{A}^* is closed under intersections. Indeed suppose that E and F are μ^* -measurable. Then for any $A \subseteq X$ and $E \in \mathcal{A}^*$, we have $\mu^*(A \cap F) = \mu^*(A \cap F \cap E) + \mu^*((A \cap F) \setminus E)$

Since $F \in \mathcal{A}^*$ then then $\mu^*(A) = \mu^*(A \cap F) + \mu^*(A \setminus F)$.

Let $B = A \setminus (E \cap F)$, then it is readily seen that $B \cap F = A \cap F \setminus E$ and $B \setminus F = A \setminus F$; since $F \in \mathcal{A}^*$ it follows that $\mu^*((A \cap F) \setminus E) = \mu^*(B \cap F) + \mu^*(A \setminus F)$

Combining these three relations we get $\mu^*(A) = \mu^*(A \cap E \cap F) + \mu^*(A \setminus (E \cap F))$.

Which shows that $E \cap F$ belongs to \mathcal{A}^* . Since \mathcal{A}^* is closed under intersection and complementation, it follows that \mathcal{A}^* is an algebra.

Suppose that $E, F \in \mathcal{A}^*$ and $E \cap F = \emptyset$. If we take A to be $A \cap (E \cup F)$ in (A) we get

$$\mu^*(A \cap (E \cup F)) = \mu^*(A \cap E) + \mu^*(A \cap F)$$

For $A = X$, this relation implies that μ^* is additive on \mathcal{A}^* .

We shall now show that \mathcal{A}^* is a σ –algebra and that μ^* is countably additive on \mathcal{A}^* . Let (E_i) be a disjoint sequence in \mathcal{A}^* and let $E = \cup E_k$ if A be any subset of X then

$$\mu^*(A) = \mu^*(A \cap F_n) + \mu^*(A \setminus F_n) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(A \cap E_k) + \mu^*(A \setminus F_n).$$

Since $F_n \subseteq E$, then $A \setminus E$, then $A \setminus E \subseteq A \setminus F_n$ and letting $n \rightarrow \infty$ the above relation yields

$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(A \cap E_k) + \mu^*(A \setminus E) \leq \mu^*(A)$ On the other hand it follows from Lemma 1.5 (5) that $\mu^*(A \cap E) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(A \cap E_k)$, $\mu^*(A) \leq \mu^*(A \cap E) + \mu^*(A \setminus E)$ on combining these inequalities we get that

$$\mu^*(A) = \mu^*(A \cap E) + \mu^*(A \setminus E) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(A \cap E_k) + \mu^*(A \setminus E).$$

In particular this shows that $E = \cup_{k=1}^{\infty} E_k$ is μ^* – measurable. On taking $A = E$, we obtain $\mu^*(\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(E_n)$.

Now it remains to prove that $A \in \mathcal{A}^*$. It was proved in lemma 1.5(4) that if $E \in \mathcal{A}$, then $\mu^*(E) = \mu(E)$, but we need to show that E is μ^* – measurable. Let A be an arbitrary subset of X; it follows from 1.5 (5) that $\mu^*(A) \leq \mu^*(A \cap E) + \mu^*(A \setminus E)$. To establish the opposite inequality, let $\varepsilon > 0$ be arbitrary and let (F_n) be a sequence in \mathcal{A} such that

$$A \subseteq \cup F_n \text{ and } \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(F_n) \leq \mu^*(A) + \varepsilon.$$

Since $A \cap E \subseteq \cup (F_n \cap E)$ and $A \setminus E \subseteq \cup (F_n \setminus E)$, it follows that

$$\mu^*(A \cap E) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(F_n \cap E), \mu^*(A \setminus E) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(F_n \setminus E).$$

$$\mu^*(A \cap E) + \mu^*(A \setminus E) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \{\mu(F_n \cap E) + \mu(F_n \setminus E)\} = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(F_n) \leq \mu^*(A) + \varepsilon.$$

Since ε is arbitrary, the desired inequality is established and the set E belongs to \mathcal{A}^* .

The Caratheodory Extension Theorem shows that a measure μ on an algebra \mathcal{A} can always be extended to a measure μ^* on a σ -algebra \mathcal{A}^* containing \mathcal{A} . The σ -algebra \mathcal{A}^* obtained in this way is automatically complete in the sense that if $E \in \mathcal{A}^*$ with $\mu^*(E) = 0$ and if $B \subseteq E$, then $B \in \mathcal{A}^*$ and $\mu^*(B) = 0$. To prove this let A be an arbitrary subset of X and employ Lemma 1.5(3) to observe that $\mu^*(A) = \mu^*(E) + \mu^*(A \setminus E) \geq \mu^*(A \cap B) + \mu^*(A \setminus B)$; and as before the inequality $\mu^*(A) \leq \mu^*(A \cap B) + \mu^*(A \setminus B)$ follows from Lemma 1.5(5). Hence B is μ^* -measurable and $0 \leq \mu^*(B) \leq \mu^*(E) = 0$. We shall now show that in the case that μ is a σ -finite measure, it has a unique extension to a measure on \mathcal{A}^* .

1.8 Hahn Extension Theorem: Suppose that μ is a σ -finite measure on an algebra \mathcal{A} . Then there exist a unique extension of μ to a measure on \mathcal{A}^* .

Proof: The fact that μ^* gives a measure on \mathcal{A}^* proved in theorem 1.7 even without the σ -finiteness assumption. To establish the uniqueness, let ν be a measure on \mathcal{A}^* which agrees with μ on \mathcal{A} .

First suppose that μ and therefore μ^* and ν are finite measures. Let E be any set in \mathcal{A}^* and let (E_n) be a sequence in \mathcal{A} such that $E \subseteq \cup E_n$. Since ν be a measure and agrees with μ on \mathcal{A} we have $\nu(E) \leq \nu\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n\right) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \nu(E_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(E_n)$. Therefore $\nu(E) \leq \mu^*(E)$ for any $E \in \mathcal{A}^*$. Since μ^* and ν are additive. $\mu^*(E) + \mu^*(X \setminus E) + \nu(E) + \nu(X \setminus E)$. Since the terms on the right hand side are finite and not greater than the corresponding terms on the left hand side, we infer that $\mu^*(E) = \nu(E)$ for all $E \in \mathcal{A}^*$. This establishes the uniqueness when μ is a finite measure. Suppose that μ is σ -finite and let (F_n) be an increasing sequence of sets in \mathcal{A} with $\mu(F_n) < \infty$ and $X = \cup F_n$. Then from the proceeding $\mu^*(E \cap F_n) = \nu(E \cap F_n)$ for each $E \in \mathcal{A}^*$. Therefore $\mu^*(E) = \lim \mu^*(E \cap F_n) = \lim \nu(E \cap F_n) = \nu(E)$, hence μ and μ^* agrees on \mathcal{A}^* .

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