

2.4 Lebesgue integral

Note that we use this notation below: for $f, g: [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and $s \in \mathbb{R}$,
 $\{f > g\} = \{x \in [a, b] \mid f(x) > g(x)\}$, $\{f > s\} = \{x \in [a, b] \mid f(x) > s\}$.

In preparation for the second half of the proof of Theorem 2.4.3, we show Lemma 2.4.6.

Proof of Lemma 2.4.6

Lemma 2.4.6. Let $f \in \mathcal{L}^\infty([a, b])$ be Lebesgue measurable, and assume that $f \geq 0$ a.e. on $[a, b]$ and that $\int_a^b f(x) dx = 0$. Then $f = 0$ a.e. on $[a, b]$.

Since $f \geq 0$ a.e., $m(\{f < 0\}) = 0$, so we only need to show $m(\{f > 0\}) = 0$ for proving $f = 0$ a.e.. We can easily observe that $\{f > 0\} = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} E_k$, where $E_k = \{f \geq \frac{1}{k}\}$.

For each $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $\frac{1}{k} \chi_{E_k}(x) \leq \frac{1}{k} \leq f(x)$ for all $x \in E_k$. (here, χ is a characteristic function.)

We can easily observe that for any measurable set $\Omega \subset [a, b]$, $\int_a^b \chi_{\Omega}(x) dx = m(\Omega)$, by considering the partition $P = \{\Omega, [a, b] \setminus \Omega\}$.

So for each $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $\frac{1}{k} m(E_k) = \int_a^b \frac{1}{k} \chi_{E_k}(x) dx \leq \int_a^b f(x) dx = 0$, so $m(E_k) = 0$.

By the above, $m(\{f > 0\}) = m(\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} E_k) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} m(E_k) = 0$, which was the only thing we need to show.

Proof of Theorem 2.4.3

Theorem 2.4.3. For any $f \in \mathcal{L}^\infty([a, b])$, f is a Lebesgue measurable function if and only if f is a Lebesgue integrable function.

We show that for any $f \in \mathcal{L}^\infty([a, b])$, f 's integrability implies its measurability, the proof of which was not given in the lecture.

Suppose $f \in \mathcal{L}^\infty([a, b])$ and f is L -integrable. By its integrability and a property of supremum and infimum, for each $k \in \mathbb{N}$, there exists a partition $P_k = \{E_j^k\}_{j=1}^{n_k}$ of $[a, b]$ such that (i) $U[f, P_k] - L[f, P_k] < \frac{1}{k}$,

(ii) for each $j \in \{1, \dots, n_{k+1}\}$, $E_j^{k+1} \subset E_l^k$ for some $l \in \{1, \dots, n_k\}$ (P_{k+1} is a refinement of P_k),

(iii) $E_{j_1}^k \cap E_{j_2}^k = \emptyset$ if $j_1 \neq j_2$, and (iv) each E_j^k is L -measurable.

Now we set $g_k(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{n_k} m_j^k \chi_{E_j^k}(x)$, where $m_j^k = \inf_{x \in E_j^k} f(x)$.

For any $x \in E_{j_0}^{k+1}$, $x \in E_{l_0}^k$ ($= E_{j_0}^k$) for some l_0 and so

$$g_{k+1}(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{n_{k+1}} m_j^{k+1} \chi_{E_j^{k+1}}(x) = \inf_{x \in E_{j_0}^{k+1}} f(x) \geq \inf_{x \in E_{l_0}^k} f(x) = \sum_{l=1}^{n_k} m_l^k \chi_{E_l^k}(x) = g_k(x).$$

Therefore, for all $x \in [a, b]$ ($= \bigcup_{j=1}^{n_k} E_j^k$), $\{g_k(x)\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ is an increasing sequence.

Moreover, for each k and all x , $g_k(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{n_k} m_j^k \chi_{E_j^k}(x) \leq \max_j m_j^k = \max_j \left(\inf_{x \in E_j^k} f(x) \right) \leq \sup_{x \in [a, b]} f(x) < \infty$,

So $\{g_k(x)\}_k$ is bounded. By monotone convergence theorem, the sequences have their limits and we can consider the function $g(x) := \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} g_k(x)$. Since $\{E_j^k\}_{j=1}^{n_k}$ are L -measurable sets for each k and so each g_k is L -measurable, the pointwise limit g is also L -measurable by Theorem 2.3.11.

We can easily observe that $\int_a^b g_k(x) dx = L[f, P_k]$ and $g_k(x) \leq g(x) \leq f(x)$ for each simple function g_k . Thus, $L[f, P_k] = \int_a^b g_k(x) dx \leq \int_a^b g(x) dx \leq \int_a^b f(x) dx$.

On the other hand, we set $h_k(x) := \sum_{j=1}^{n_k} M_j^k \chi_{E_j^k}(x)$ where $M_j^k = \sup_{x \in E_j^k} f(x)$.

Then we get the pointwise limit function h , which is L -measurable and satisfies $\int_a^b f \leq \int_a^b h \leq \int_a^b h_k = U[f, P_k]$, by almost the same argument. Now we know $g \leq f \leq h$ and so $h - g \geq 0$, then $0 \leq \int_a^b (h - g) = \int_a^b h - \int_a^b g = U[f, P_k] - L[f, P_k] < \frac{1}{k}$ for any $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Therefore, we get $\int_a^b (h - g) = 0$ and so $h = g$ a.e. by Lemma 2.4.6 that we proved above.

Since $g \leq f \leq h$, $\{g \neq f\} \subset \{g \neq h\}$ and $m(\{g \neq f\}) \leq m(\{g \neq h\}) = 0$ so $g = f$ a.e.

By Exercise 2.3.8 (I provided the proof of it in my previous report), f is L -measurable from the measurability of g .

Reference: [Ne]