

A subset  $A$  of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  has ( $n$ -dimensional) **measure 0** if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there is a cover  $\{U_1, U_2, U_3, \dots\}$  of  $A$  by closed rectangles such that  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} v(U_i) < \epsilon$ . It is obvious (but never-

countable

A subset  $A$  of  $\mathbf{R}^n$  has ( $n$ -dimensional) **content 0** if for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there is a finite cover  $\{U_1, \dots, U_n\}$  of  $A$  by closed rectangles such that  $\sum_{i=1}^n v(U_i) < \epsilon$ . If  $A$  has content 0,

Q: What if replace "rectangles" by "balls"? A:  

Thm  $A$  compact, then  $A$  has content 0  $\Leftrightarrow A$  has measure 0

Recall  $A$  is compact  $\Leftrightarrow \forall$  open cover  $\{U_i\}_{i \in I}$ ,  $\exists$  a finite subcover.

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Clearly, even if  $A$  is not compact.

" $\Leftarrow$ ":  $\forall \epsilon > 0$ ,  $\exists$  an open rect cover  $\{U_1, U_2, \dots\}$  s.t.  $\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} v(U_i) < \epsilon$ .

$A$  is cpt  $\Rightarrow \exists$  a subcover  $\{U_{j_1}, U_{j_2}, \dots, U_{j_n}\}$  of  $A$

Clearly,  $\sum_{k=1}^n v(U_{j_k}) \leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} v(U_i)$

Ex  $\mathbb{R} \subset \mathbb{R}^2$  has measure 0 but doesn't have content 0

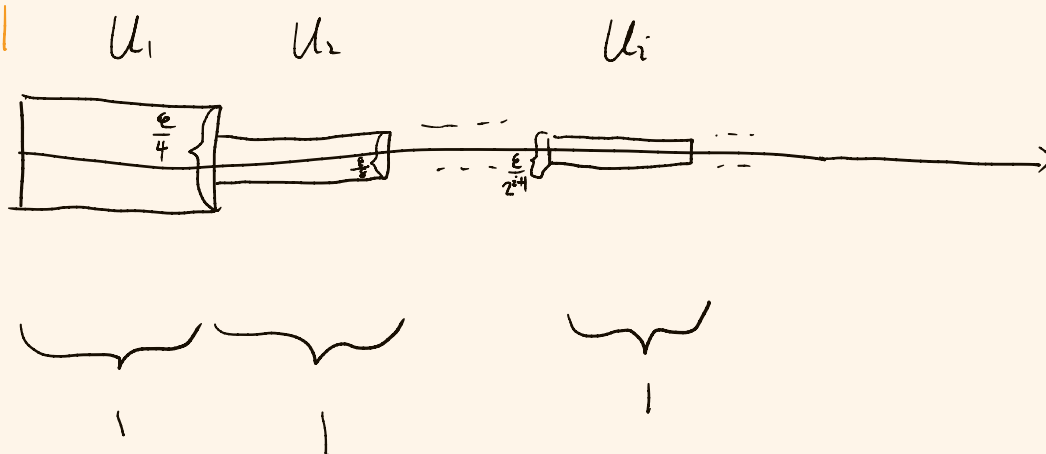
content: Unbounded subsets don't have content 0.

measure: We show both  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  and  $\mathbb{R}_{\leq 0}$  have measure 0. Thus  $\mathbb{R} = \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0} \cup \mathbb{R}_{\leq 0}$

have measure 0.

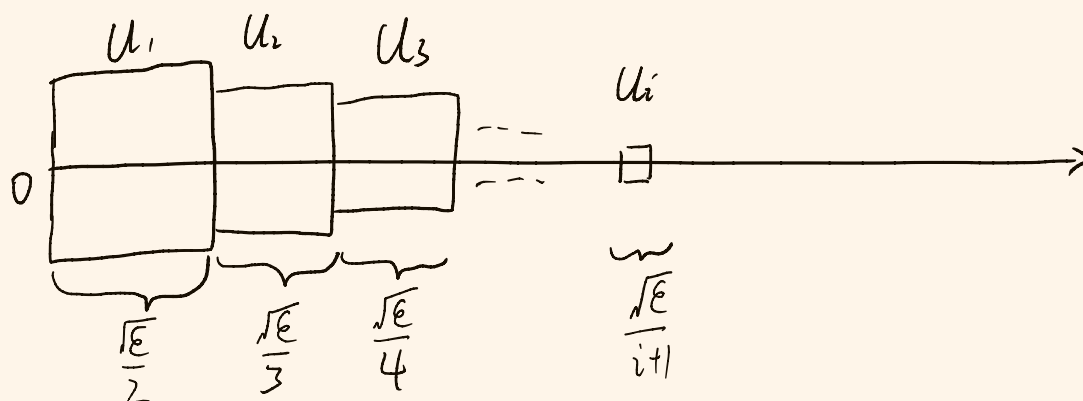
$\forall \epsilon > 0$ , let  $\{U_1, U_2, \dots\}$  be the closed cover of  $\mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$  as shown:

Choice 1



$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \nu(U_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon}{2^{i+1}} = \frac{\epsilon}{2} < \epsilon$$

or Choice 2



$$\sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \nu(U_i) = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \left( \frac{\sqrt{\epsilon}}{i+1} \right)^2 = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \frac{\epsilon}{(i+1)^2} = \left( \frac{\pi^2}{6} - 1 \right) \epsilon < \epsilon$$

"Philosophy": Let  $n < m$  "n-dimensional subsets" in  $\mathbb{R}^m$  have measure 0.

$$\exists x \quad S^n \subset \mathbb{R}^{n+1} \quad \text{non-}\exists x \quad \mathbb{Q} \subset \mathbb{R}$$

1. Let  $f$  be a bounded integrable function on  $R$ . Prove that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists some  $\delta > 0$  such that whenever  $\mathcal{P}$  is a partition of  $R$  with  $\text{diam}(Q) < \delta$  for all  $Q \in \mathcal{P}$ , we have  $U(f, \mathcal{P}) - L(f, \mathcal{P}) < \epsilon$ .

*Hint: Let  $R = [a_1, b_1] \times \cdots \times [a_n, b_n]$  and  $w = \max_i |b_i - a_i|$ . For any partition  $\mathcal{P}$  with  $\text{diam}(Q) < \delta$  for all  $Q \in \mathcal{P}$ , if we take a refinement  $\mathcal{P}'$  of  $\mathcal{P}$  by adding one more grid point to  $[a_i, b_i]$  for some  $i$ , then we have  $L(f, \mathcal{P}') \leq L(f, \mathcal{P}) + 2M\delta w^{n-1}$  where  $M > 0$  is a global bound for  $|f|$ .*

**Solution.** Let  $\epsilon > 0$ . By Riemann condition, there exists a partition  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$  of  $R$  such that  $U(f, \tilde{\mathcal{P}}) - L(f, \tilde{\mathcal{P}}) < \epsilon/2$ . Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a partition of  $R$  with  $\max_{Q \in \mathcal{P}} (\text{diam}(Q)) < \delta$ . Following the hint, if  $\mathcal{P}'$  is a common refinement of  $\mathcal{P}$  and  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$  obtained by adding the grid points of  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$  to  $\mathcal{P}$ , then

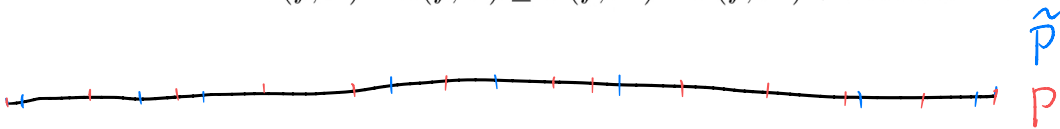
$$L(f, \mathcal{P}') \leq L(f, \mathcal{P}) + 2CM\delta w^{n-1},$$

and similarly

$$U(f, \mathcal{P}') \geq U(f, \mathcal{P}) - 2CM\delta w^{n-1},$$

where  $C$  is a constant that depends only on  $\tilde{\mathcal{P}}$ . Thus,

$$U(f, \mathcal{P}) - L(f, \mathcal{P}) \leq U(f, \mathcal{P}') - L(f, \mathcal{P}') + 4CM\delta w^{n-1}.$$



$$U(f, \mathcal{P}) - L(f, \mathcal{P}) \leq \epsilon/2 + 4CM\delta w^{n-1}.$$

The proof is complete by choosing a sufficiently small  $\delta > 0$ .

□

2. Let  $f$  be a bounded integrable function on  $R$ . Prove that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists some  $\delta > 0$  such that whenever  $\mathcal{P}$  is a partition of  $R$  with  $\text{diam}(Q) < \delta$  for all  $Q \in \mathcal{P}$ , and  $x_Q \in Q$  is any arbitrarily chosen point inside  $Q \in \mathcal{P}$ , we have

$$\left| \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{P}} f(x_Q) \text{Vol}(Q) - \int_R f \, dV \right| < \epsilon.$$

(The sum in the above expression is what we usually call the “Riemann sum”!)

**Solution.** It suffices to note that given a partition  $\mathcal{P}$  and arbitrarily chosen points  $x_Q \in Q$  for each  $Q \in \mathcal{P}$ , we have

$$L(f, \mathcal{P}) \leq \sum_{Q \in \mathcal{P}} f(x_Q) \text{Vol}(Q) \leq U(f, \mathcal{P}),$$

and

$$L(f, \mathcal{P}) \leq \int_R f \, dV \leq U(f, \mathcal{P}).$$

□