

A pointfree account of Carathéodory's Extension Theorem

Carathéodory's extension theorem says that any σ -finite finitely additive measure $\mu: \Sigma \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ on a Boolean algebra of subsets $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{P}(X)$ can be uniquely extended to a measure on the smallest σ -algebra $\sigma(\Sigma)$ containing Σ . In the proof, μ is first extended to an outer measure $\mu^*: \mathcal{P}(X) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ and then the resulting measure is obtained as the restriction of μ^* to $\sigma(\Sigma)$.

In the point-free context, one starts with a σ -finite (abstract) finitely additive measure $\mu: B \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$, for some Boolean algebra B . Then, in order to extend μ to an outer measure, one needs to find an ambient Boolean frame which contains B and has the same set of points as the spectrum of B . It turns out that the required Boolean frame can be obtained by the frame-theoretic discretisation construction $\mathcal{S}_c(-)$, recently studied by Pultr, Ball, Picado, Tozzi, etc. As a result, we can prove Carathéodory's theorem in a purely point-free fashion.

Furthermore, we also discuss the relationship between $\mathcal{S}_c(-)$ and canonical extensions, which play the role of discretisation in the context of lattices.

References

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