

5. The Lebesgue outer measure of an interval is its length (see ppg. 31-33). $[0, 1]$ is a closed, bounded interval, so its outer measure is $1 - 0 = 1$. The Lebesgue outer measure of a countable set is 0, by the following line of reasoning:

Let $\{a_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ be a countable set. Let $\epsilon > 0$ and define $\{I_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}$ such that $I_k = (a_k - 2/\epsilon^{k+1}, a_k + 2/\epsilon^{k+1})$. Hence, $\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k) = \epsilon$ and, since ϵ is arbitrary,

$$m^*(\{a_k\}_{k=1}^{\infty}) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \ell(I_k) \mid \cup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k \supseteq [0, 1] \right\} = 0.$$

Therefore, it is impossible that $[0, 1]$ is countable.