

Let  $\phi$  be the Cantor-Lebesgue function and define

$$\psi(x) = \frac{1}{2}(\phi(x) + x)$$

Then  $\psi$  is a strictly increasing function from  $[0,1]$  onto  $[0,1]$ , and maps a measurable subset of Cantor set onto a non-measurable set. (proposition on Royden's real analysis)

So we can suppose  $E$  is a subset of Cantor set and  $\psi(E)$  is non-measurable. Define  $f : [-1, 1] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \psi(x) & x \in E \\ x^2 + 2 & x \in [-1, 1] \setminus E \end{cases}$$

$f(x)$  is continuous outside  $E$ , which is of measure zero. So  $f(x)$  is measurable.

If  $n(y) := \#\{x : f(x) = y\}$ , then

$$\{y : n(y) = 1\} = \psi(E) \cup \{x^2 + 2 : x \in E\}$$

which is not a measurable set since  $\psi(E)$  is not measurable and  $\{x^2 + 2 : x \in E\}$  is far away from  $\psi(E)$ .

Hence  $n(y)$  is not measurable.