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product  $\sigma$ -algebra

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Given measurable spaces  $(E, \mathcal{F})$  and  $(F, \mathcal{G})$ , the *product  $\sigma$ -algebra*  $\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{G}$  is defined to be the  $\sigma$ -algebra on the Cartesian product  $E \times F$  generated by sets of the form  $A \times B$  for  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $B \in \mathcal{G}$ .

$$\mathcal{F} \times \mathcal{G} = \sigma(A \times B : A \in \mathcal{F}, B \in \mathcal{G}).$$

More generally, the product  $\sigma$ -algebra can be defined for an arbitrary number of measurable spaces  $(E_i, \mathcal{F}_i)$ , where  $i$  runs over an index set  $I$ . The product  $\prod_i \mathcal{F}_i$  is the  $\sigma$ -algebra on the generalized cartesian product  $\prod_i E_i$  generated by sets of the form  $\prod_i A_i$  where  $A_i \in \mathcal{F}_i$  for all  $i$ , and  $A_i = E_i$  for all but finitely many  $i$ . If  $\pi_j : \prod_i E_i \rightarrow E_j$  are the projection maps, then this is the smallest  $\sigma$ -algebra with respect to which each  $\pi_j$  is <http://planetmath.org/MeasurableFunctions>