

# **Notes**

RAYMOND ZHU

11 February 2026

# 1 Measure Theory

## §1.1 Measure Spaces

**Definition 1.1.1.** An *algebra*  $\Sigma_0$  on a set  $S$  is a collection of subsets of  $S$  such that

- $S \in \Sigma_0$ .
- if  $F \in \Sigma_0$ , then  $F^C := S \setminus F \in \Sigma_0$ .
- $\Sigma_0$  is closed under finite unions.

Notice that this implies that  $\Sigma_0$  must also be closed under finite intersections.

**Definition 1.1.2.** A  $\sigma$ -*algebra*  $\Sigma$  is an algebra closed under countably many unions (and thus intersections). Then, the pair  $(S, \Sigma)$  is a *measurable space*.

Likewise with how bases generate topologies, we may *generate* an algebra from a class of subsets:

**Definition 1.1.3.** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a class of subsets of  $S$ . Then, let the  $\sigma$ -algebra *generated* by  $\mathcal{C}$  be the intersection of all  $\sigma$ -algebras on  $S$  which superset  $\mathcal{C}$ .

### Example 1.1.4

The  $\mathcal{B}(S)$  *Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra* on topological space  $S$ , is the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by the open sets of  $S$ .

To turn a measurable space into a measure space, we must assign a measure.

**Definition 1.1.5.** Let  $\mu_0 : \Sigma_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_{\geq 0}$ . Then,  $\mu_0$  is *additive* if for any disjoint sets  $F, G \in \Sigma_0$ , we have that

$$\mu_0(F \cup G) = \mu_0(F) + \mu_0(G).$$

Likewise, denote  $\mu_0$  to be *countably additive* if the additive property applies for countably many added sets.

**Definition 1.1.6.** A measurable space endowed with a countably additive set function  $\mu$ , denoted a *measure*, is called a *measure space*. If  $\mu(S) = 1$ , then the measure is a *probability measure*.

We have several elementary inequalities which we may be familiar with, namely:

- $\mu(A \cup B) \leq \mu(A) + \mu(B)$ .
- $\mu(\bigcup S_i) \leq \sum \mu(S_i)$  for finitely many  $S_i$ .

Furthermore, if  $\mu(S)$  is finite, then:

- $\mu(A \cup B) = \mu(A) + \mu(B) - \mu(A \cap B)$ .
- principle of inclusion-exclusion for finitely many  $S_i$ .

Proof of the principle of inclusion-exclusion is kind of boring and just induction to be honest.

As a result, we have the following somewhat obvious fact:

### Theorem 1.1.7

Let  $F_n \in \Sigma$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , and let  $F_n \subseteq F_{n+1}$  for all  $n$  and  $\bigcup F_n = F$ .

Then,  $\mu(F_n)$  approaches  $\mu(F)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $G_n$  be defined so that  $G_1 := F_1$  and  $G_n := G_{n-1} \setminus F_{n-1}$  for  $n \geq 2$ . Then,

$$\mu(F_n) = \mu\left(\bigcup_{i \leq n} G_i\right) = \sum_{i \leq n} \mu(G_i),$$

hence

$$\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(F_n) = \sum \mu(G_n) = \mu(F).$$

□

Similarly, if  $F_n \supseteq F_{n+1}$  for all  $n$  and  $\bigcap F_n = F$ , then  $\mu(F_n)$  also approaches  $\mu(F)$ .

### Lemma 1.1.8 (Uniqueness of Extension)

Suppose  $S$  is a set, and let  $\mathcal{I}$  be a  $\pi$ -system, or a collection of subsets of  $S$  closed under finite intersection.

Let  $\Sigma := \sigma(\mathcal{I})$ , and suppose  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  are measures on  $(S, \Sigma)$  such that  $\mu_1(S) = \mu_2(S) < \infty$  and for all  $X \in \mathcal{I}$  that

$$\mu_1(X) = \mu_2(X).$$

Then, for all  $X \in \Sigma$ , we have that

$$\mu_1(X) = \mu_2(X).$$

### Theorem 1.1.9 (Carathéodory's Extension Theorem)

Let  $S$  be a set and  $\Sigma_0$  an algebra on  $S$ . Define  $\Sigma := \sigma(\Sigma_0)$ . Then, if  $\mu_0 : \Sigma_0 \rightarrow [0, \infty)$  is a countably additive map, then there exists a corresponding measure  $\mu$  on  $\Sigma$  such that for all  $X \in \Sigma_0$  that

$$\mu(X) = \mu_0(X).$$

If  $\mu_0(S)$  is finite, then this extension is unique.

**Example 1.1.10** (Lebesgue Measure)

Let  $S = (0, 1]$ , and for  $F \subseteq S$  that  $F \in \Sigma_0$  if

$$F = (a_1, b_1] \cup \dots \cup (a_n, b_n]$$

for finite  $n$  and  $0 \leq a_1 \leq b_1 \leq \dots \leq b_n \leq 1$ .

Then,  $\Sigma_0$  is an algebra on  $S$  and can be uniquely extended to the measure space  $\mathcal{B}(0, 1]$  with measure  $\mu$ .

If we additionally denote  $\{0\}$  to have length 0, then we have the *Lebesgue measure* on  $\mathcal{B}[0, 1]$ , which we commonly denote as length.

## §1.2 Probability Theory

Consider a probability space  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ , where  $\Omega$  is the *sample space* of *sample points*  $\omega \in \Omega$ , and  $\mathcal{F}$  is the collection of *events*. Then, we call the *probability* of an event  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  occurring to be  $\mathbb{P}(F)$ .

For example, consider the probability space of infinitely many coin flips. We'd like to show that the number of heads over the number of flips almost surely approaches  $\frac{1}{2}$ .

Let our sample space be

$$\Omega := \{H, T\}^{\mathbb{N}},$$

so that for each  $\omega \in \Omega$ , we have that  $\omega$  is some infinite sequence with members in  $\{H, T\}$  as such:

$$\omega = \{\omega_1, \dots\}, \quad \omega_n \in \{H, T\}.$$

Then, we will strategically construct  $\mathcal{F}$ . Consider the set of all sample points with the  $n$ th flip fixed to be heads:

$$F_n = \{\omega \mid \omega_n = H\}.$$

Then, we take

$$\mathcal{F} = \sigma(F_n).$$