

# Part II — Probability and Measure

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## §0 Holes in classical theory

Analysis

1. What is the “volume” of a subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ .
2. Integration (Riemann Integration has holes)

- $\{f_n\}$  a sequence of continuous functions on  $[0, 1]$  s.t.
  - $0 \leq f_n(x) \leq 1 \forall x \in [0, 1]$ .
  - $f_n(x)$  is monotonically decreasing on  $n \rightarrow \infty$ , i.e.  $f_n(x) \geq f_{n+1}(x) \forall x$ .

So,  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} f_n(x)$  exists. But  $f$  is not Riemann integrable. We want a theory of integration s.t.  $f$  is integrable and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \int_0^1 f_n(x) dx = \int_0^1 f(x) dx$ .

3.  $L^1 = ()$  If  $f \in L^1$  is  $f$  Riemann integrable? Will have to change the definition of integral.  $L^2$  a hilbert space

#### Probability

1. Discrete probability has its limitations,
  - Toss a unbiased coin 5 times. What is the probability if getting 3 heads?
  - Take an infinite sequence of coin tosses ( $E = \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  which is uncountable) and an event  $A$  that depends on that infinite sequence. How do you define  $\mathbb{P}(A)$ ? E.g.  $X_i \sim \text{Ber}\left(\frac{1}{2}\right)$  and  $A = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{n}$ , the average number of heads. By strong law of large numbers  $\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{\sum_{i=1}^n X_i}{n} \rightarrow \frac{1}{2}\right) = 1$ .
  - How to draw a point uniformly at random from  $[0, 1]$ ?  $U \sim U[0, 1]$ . Probability needs axioms to be made rigorous.
2. Define Expectation for a r.v.. Also would want the following if  $0 \leq X_n \leq 1$  and  $X_n \downarrow X$  then  $\mathbb{E}X_n \rightarrow \mathbb{E}X$ .

## §1 Introduction

**Notation.**  $A_n \uparrow A$  means that the sequence  $A_n$  is increasing ( $A_1 \subseteq A_2 \subseteq \dots$ ) and  $\bigcup_n A_n = A$ .

### §1.1 Definitions

#### Definition 1.1 ( $\sigma$ -algebra)

Let  $E$  be a (nonempty) set. A collection  $\mathcal{E}$  of subsets of  $E$  is called a  **$\sigma$ -algebra** if the following properties hold:

- $\emptyset \in \mathcal{E}$ ;
- $A \in \mathcal{E} \implies A^c = E \setminus A \in \mathcal{E}$ ;
- if  $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  is a countable collection of sets in  $\mathcal{E}$ ,  $\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \in \mathcal{E}$ .

#### Example 1.1

Let  $\mathcal{E} = \{\emptyset, E\}$ . This is a  $\sigma$ -algebra. Also,  $\mathcal{P}(E) = \{A \subseteq E\}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra.

*Remark 1.* Since  $\bigcap_n A_n = (\bigcup_n A_n^c)^c$ , any  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{E}$  is closed under countable intersections as well as under countable unions. Note that  $B \setminus A = B \cap A^c \in \mathcal{E}$ , so  $\sigma$ -algebras are closed under set difference.

#### Definition 1.2 (Measurable Space and Set)

A set  $E$  with a  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{E}$  is called a **measurable space**. The elements of  $\mathcal{E}$  are called **measurable sets**.

#### Definition 1.3 (Measure)

A **measure**  $\mu$  is a set function  $\mu : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$ , such that  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$ , and for a sequence  $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  such that the  $A_n$  are disjoint, we have

$$\mu\left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n\right) = \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n)$$

This is the **countable additivity** property of the measure.

*Remark 2.*  $(E, \mathcal{E}, \mu)$  is a measure space.

*Remark 3.* If  $E$  is countable, then for any  $A \in \mathcal{P}(E)$  and measure  $\mu$ , we have

$$\mu(A) = \mu\left(\bigcup_{x \in A} \{x\}\right) = \sum_{x \in A} \mu(\{x\})$$

Hence, measures are uniquely defined by the measure of each singleton.

Define  $m : E \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  s.t.  $m(x) = \mu(\{x\})$ , such an  $m$  is called a “mass function”, and measures  $\mu$  are in 1-1 correspondence with the mass function  $m$ . This corresponds to the notion of a probability mass function.

Here  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{P}(E)$  and this is the theory in elementary discrete prob. (when  $\mu(\{x\}) = 1 \forall x \in E$ ,  $\mu$  is called the counting measure. Here  $\mu(A) = |A| \forall A \subset E$ ).

For uncountable  $E$  however, the story is not so simple and  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{P}(E)$  is generally not feasible. Indeed measures are defined on  $\sigma$ -algebra “generated” by a smaller class  $\mathcal{A}$  of simple subsets of  $E$ .

#### Definition 1.4 (Generated $\sigma$ -algebra)

For a collection  $\mathcal{A}$  of subsets of  $E$ , we define the  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$  generated by  $\mathcal{A}$  by

$$\sigma(\mathcal{A}) = \{A \subseteq E : A \in \mathcal{E} \text{ for all } \sigma\text{-algebras } \mathcal{E} \supseteq \mathcal{A}\}$$

So it is the smallest  $\sigma$ -algebra containing  $\mathcal{A}$ . Equivalently,

$$\sigma(\mathcal{A}) = \bigcap_{\mathcal{E} \supseteq \mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E} \text{ a } \sigma\text{-algebra}} \mathcal{E}$$

#### Question

Why is  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$  a  $\sigma$ -algebra? See Sheet 1, Q1.

## §1.2 Rings and algebras

The class  $\mathcal{A}$  will usually satisfy some properties too, let  $E$  be a set and  $\mathcal{A}$  a collection of subsets of  $E$ . To construct good generators, we define the following.

#### Definition 1.5 (Ring)

$\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{P}(E)$  is called a **ring** over  $E$  if  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$  implies  $B \setminus A \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $A \cup B \in \mathcal{A}$ .

Rings are easier to manage than  $\sigma$ -algebras because there are only finitary operators.

**Definition 1.6 (Algebra)**

$\mathcal{A}$  is called an **algebra** over  $E$  if  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$  implies  $A^c \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $A \cup B \in \mathcal{A}$ .

*Remark 4.* Rings are closed under symmetric difference  $A \triangle B = (B \setminus A) \cup (A \setminus B)$ , and are closed under intersections  $A \cap B = A \cup B \setminus A \triangle B$ . Algebras are rings, because  $B \setminus A = B \cap A^c = (B^c \cup A)^c$ . Not all rings are algebras, because rings do not need to include the entire space.

The idea:

- Define a set function on a suitable collection  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- Extend the set function to a measure on  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$ . (Carathéodory's Extension theorem)
- Such an extension is unique. (Dynkin's Lemma)

Goal: Start with a “measure” on  $\mathcal{A}$  that has some nice properties and then extend it to  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$ .

**Definition 1.7 (Set Function)**

A **set function** on a collection  $\mathcal{A}$  of subsets of  $E$ , where  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{A}$ , is a map  $\mu: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow [0, \infty]$  such that  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$ .

- We say  $\mu$  is **increasing** if  $\mu(A) \leq \mu(B)$  for all  $A \subseteq B$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- We say  $\mu$  is **additive** if  $\mu(A \cup B) = \mu(A) + \mu(B)$  for disjoint  $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $A \cup B \in \mathcal{A}$ .
- We say  $\mu$  is **countably additive** if  $\mu(\bigcup_n A_n) = \sum_n \mu(A_n)$  for disjoint sequences  $A_n$  where  $\bigcup_n A_n \in \mathcal{A}$  and each  $A_n$  lie in  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- We say  $\mu$  is **countably subadditive** if  $\mu(\bigcup_n A_n) \leq \sum_n \mu(A_n)$  for arbitrary sequences  $A_n$  under the above conditions.

*Remark 5.* If  $\mu$  is countably additive set function on  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  is a ring then  $\mu$  satisfies all the previous listed properties.

**Proposition 1.1 (Disjointification of countable unions)**

Consider  $\bigcup_n A_n$  for  $A_n \in \mathcal{E}$ , where  $\mathcal{E}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra (or a ring, if the union is finite). Then there exist  $B_n \in \mathcal{E}$  that are disjoint such that  $\bigcup_n A_n = \bigcup_n B_n$ .

*Proof.* Define  $\tilde{A}_n = \bigcup_{j \leq n} A_j$ , then  $B_n = \tilde{A}_n \setminus \tilde{A}_{n-1}$ . □

*Remark 6.* A measure satisfies all four of the above conditions. Countable additivity implies the other conditions. Proof on Sheet 1.

**Theorem 1.1** (Carathéodory's theorem)

Let  $\mu$  be a countably additive set function on a ring  $\mathcal{A}$  of subsets of  $E$ . Then there exists a measure  $\mu^*$  on  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$  such that  $\mu^*|_{\mathcal{A}} = \mu$ .

We will later prove that this extended measure is unique.

*Proof.* For  $B \subseteq E$ , we define the *outer measure*  $\mu^*$  as

$$\mu^*(B) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mu(A_n) : A_n \in \mathcal{A}, B \subseteq \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \right\}$$

If there is no sequence  $A_n$  such that  $B \subseteq \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n$ , we declare the outer measure  $\mu^*(B)$  to be  $\infty$ . Clearly,  $\mu^*(\emptyset)$  and  $\mu^*$  is increasing, so  $\mu^*$  is an increasing set fcn on  $\mathcal{P}(E)$ .

**Definition 1.8** ( $\mu^*$  measurable)

A set  $A \subseteq E$   **$\mu^*$  measurable** if  $\forall B \subseteq E$   $\mu^*(B) = \mu^*(B \cap A) + \mu^*(B \cap A^c)$ .

We define the class

$$\mathcal{M} = \{A \subseteq E : A \text{ is } \mu^* \text{ measurable}\}$$

We shall show that  $\mathcal{M}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra that contains  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mu^*|_{\mathcal{M}}$  is a measure on  $\mathcal{M}$  that extends  $\mu$  (i.e.  $\mu^*|_{\mathcal{A}} = \mu$ ).

*Step 1.*  $\mu^*$  is countably sub-additive on  $\mathcal{P}(E)$ : It suffices to prove that for  $B \subseteq E$  and  $B_n \subseteq E$  such that  $B \subseteq \bigcup_n B_n$  we have

$$\mu^*(B) \leq \sum_n \mu^*(B_n) \quad (\dagger)$$

We can assume without loss of generality that  $\mu^*(B_n) < \infty$  for all  $n$ , otherwise there is nothing to prove. For all  $\varepsilon > 0$  there exists a collection  $A_{n,m} \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $B_n \subseteq \bigcup_m A_{n,m}$  and

$$\mu^*(B_n) + \frac{\varepsilon}{2^n} \geq \sum_m \mu(A_{n,m})$$

as we took an infimum. Now, since  $\mu^*$  is increasing, and  $B \subseteq \bigcup_n B_n \subseteq \bigcup_n \bigcup_m A_{n,m}$ , we have

$$\mu^*(B) \leq \mu^*\left(\bigcup_{n,m} A_{n,m}\right) \leq \sum_{n,m} \mu(A_{n,m}) \leq \sum_n \mu^*(B_n) + \sum_n \frac{\varepsilon}{2^n} = \sum_n \mu^*(B_n) + \varepsilon$$

Since  $\varepsilon$  was arbitrary in the construction, (†) follows by construction.

*Step 2.*  $\mu^*$  extends  $\mu$ : Let  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , and we want to show  $\mu^*(A) = \mu(A)$ .

We can write  $A = A \cup \emptyset \cup \dots$ , hence  $\mu^*(A) \leq \mu(A) + 0 + \dots = \mu(A)$  by definition of  $\mu^*$ .

If  $\mu^*$  is infinite, there is nothing to prove.

We need to prove the converse, that  $\mu(A) \leq \mu^*(A)$ . For the finite case, suppose there is a sequence  $A_n$  where  $\mu(A_n) < \infty$  and  $A \subseteq \bigcup_n A_n$ . Then,  $A = \bigcup_n (A \cap A_n)$ , which is a union of elements of the ring  $\mathcal{A}$ . As  $\mu$  is countably additive on  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  is a ring,  $\mu$  is countably subadditive on  $\mathcal{A}$  and increasing by remark 6. Hence  $\mu(A) \leq \sum_n \mu(A \cap A_n) \leq \sum_n \mu(A_n)$ . Since the  $A_n$  were arbitrary taking the infimum over  $A_n$ , we have  $\mu(A) \leq \mu^*(A)$  as required.

*Step 3.*  $\mathcal{M} \supseteq \mathcal{A}$ : Let  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . We must show that for all  $B \subseteq E$ ,  $\mu^*(B) = \mu^*(B \cap A) + \mu^*(B \cap A^c)$ .

We have  $B \subseteq (B \cap A) \cup (B \cap A^c) \cup \emptyset \cup \dots$ , hence by countable subadditivity (†),  $\mu^*(B) \leq \mu^*(B \cap A) + \mu^*(B \cap A^c)$ .

It now suffices to prove the converse, that  $\mu^*(B) \geq \mu^*(B \cap A) + \mu^*(B \cap A^c)$ .

We can assume  $\mu^*(B)$  is finite, and so  $\forall \varepsilon > 0 \exists A_n \in \mathcal{A}$  s.t.  $B \subseteq \bigcup_n A_n$  and  $\mu^*(B) + \varepsilon \geq \sum_n \mu(A_n)$ . Now,  $B \cap A \subseteq \bigcup_n (A_n \cap A)$ , and  $B \cap A^c \subseteq \bigcup_n (A_n \cap A^c)$ . All of the members of these two unions are elements of  $\mathcal{A}$ , since  $A_n \cap A^c = A_n \setminus A$ . Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^*(B \cap A) + \mu^*(B \cap A^c) &\leq \sum_n \mu(A_n \cap A) + \sum_n \mu(A_n \cap A^c) \\ &\leq \sum_n [\mu(A_n \cap A) + \mu(A_n \cap A^c)] \\ &\leq \sum_n \mu(A_n) \leq \mu^*(B) + \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\varepsilon$  was arbitrary,  $\mu^*(B) = \mu^*(B \cap A) + \mu^*(B \cap A^c)$  as required.

*Step 4.*  $\mathcal{M}$  is an algebra: Clearly  $\emptyset$  lies in  $\mathcal{M}$ , and by the symmetry in the definition of  $\mathcal{M}$ , complements lie in  $\mathcal{M}$ . We need to check  $\mathcal{M}$  is stable under finite intersections. Let  $A_1, A_2 \in \mathcal{M}$  and let  $B \subseteq E$ . We have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^*(B) &= \mu^*(B \cap A_1) + \mu^*(B \cap A_1^c) \text{ as } A_1 \in \mathcal{M} \\ &= \mu^*(B \cap A_1 \cap A_2) + \mu^*(B \cap A_1 \cap A_2^c) + \mu^*(B \cap A_1^c) \text{ taking } \tilde{B} = B \cap A_1 \end{aligned}$$

We can write  $A_1 \cap A_2^c = (A_1 \cap A_2^c)^c \cap A_1$ , and  $A_1^c = (A_1 \cap A_2)^c \cap A_1^c$ . Hence

$$\mu^*(B) = \mu^*(B \cap A_1 \cap A_2) + \underbrace{\mu^*(B \cap (A_1 \cap A_2)^c \cap A_1) + \mu^*(B \cap (A_1 \cap A_2)^c \cap A_1^c)}_{\mu^*(B \cap (A_1 \cap A_2)^c) \text{ as } A_1 \in \mathcal{M}}$$

$$= \mu^*(B \cap A_1 \cap A_2) + \mu^*(B \cap (A_1 \cap A_2)^c)$$

which is the requirement for  $A_1 \cap A_2$  to lie in  $\mathcal{M}$ .

*Step 5.*  $\mathcal{M}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra and  $\mu^*$  is a measure on  $\mathcal{M}$ :

It suffices now to show that  $\mathcal{M}$  has countable unions and the measure respects these countable unions. Let  $A = \bigcup_n A_n$  for  $A_n \in \mathcal{M}$ . Without loss of generality, let the  $A_n$  be disjoint. We want to show  $A \in \mathcal{M}$ , and that  $\mu^*(A) = \sum_n \mu^*(A_n)$ .

By (†), we have for any  $B \subseteq E$   $\mu^*(B) \leq \mu^*(B \cap A) + \mu^*(B \cap A^c) + 0 + \dots$  so we need to check only the converse of this inequality. Also,  $\mu^*(A) \leq \sum_n \mu^*(A_n)$ , so we need only check the converse of this inequality as well. Similarly to before,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu^*(B) &= \mu^*(B \cap A_1) + \mu^*(B \cap A_1^c) \\ &= \mu^*(B \cap A_1) + \mu^*(B \cap \underbrace{A_1^c \cap A_2}_{A_2 \text{ as } A_1, A_2 \text{ disjoint}}) + \mu^*(B \cap A_1^c \cap A_2^c) \\ &= \mu^*(B \cap A_1) + \mu^*(B \cap A_2) + \mu^*(B \cap A_1^c \cap A_2^c) \\ &= \mu^*(B \cap A_1) + \mu^*(B \cap A_2) + \mu^*(B \cap A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap A_3) + \mu^*(B \cap A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap A_3^c) \\ &= \mu^*(B \cap A_1) + \mu^*(B \cap A_2) + \mu^*(B \cap A_3) + \mu^*(B \cap A_1^c \cap A_2^c \cap A_3^c) \\ &= \dots \\ &= \sum_{n \leq N} \mu^*(B \cap A_n) + \mu^*(B \cap A_1^c \cap \dots \cap A_N^c) \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\bigcup_{n \leq N} A_n \subseteq A$ , we have  $\bigcap_{n \leq N} A_n^c \supseteq A^c$ .  $\mu^*$  is increasing, hence, taking limits,

$$\mu^*(B) \geq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(B \cap A_n) + \mu^*(B \cap A^c)$$

By (†),

$$\mu^*(B) \geq \mu^*(B \cap A) + \mu^*(B \cap A^c)$$

as required. Hence  $\mathcal{M}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra. For the other inequality, we take the above result for  $B = A$ .

$$\mu^*(A) \geq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(A \cap A_n) + \mu^*(A \cap A^c) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(A_n)$$

So  $\mu^*$  is countably additive on  $\mathcal{M}$  and is hence a measure on  $\mathcal{M}$ . □

### §1.3 Uniqueness of extension

To address uniqueness of extension, we introduce further subclasses of  $\mathcal{P}(E)$ . Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a collection of subsets of  $E$ .



**Definition 1.9** ( $\pi$ -system)

A collection  $\mathcal{A}$  of subsets of  $E$  is called a  $\pi$ -system if  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $A, B \in \mathcal{A} \implies A \cap B \in \mathcal{A}$ .

**Definition 1.10** ( $d$ -system)

A collection  $\mathcal{A}$  of subsets of  $E$  is called a  $d$ -system if

- $E \in \mathcal{A}$ ;
- $A, B \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $A \subseteq B$  then  $B \setminus A \in \mathcal{A}$ ;
- $A_n \in \mathcal{A}$  is an increasing sequence of sets then  $\bigcup_n A_n \in \mathcal{A}$ .

*Remark 7.* Equivalently,  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $d$ -system if

- $\emptyset \in \mathcal{A}$ ;
- $A \in \mathcal{A} \implies A^c \in \mathcal{A}$
- $A_n \in \mathcal{A}$  is a sequence of disjoint sets then  $\bigcup_n A_n \in \mathcal{A}$ .

The difference between this and a  $\sigma$ -algebra is the requirement for disjoint sets.

Proof on Sheet 1.

**Proposition 1.2**

A  $d$ -system which is also a  $\pi$ -system is a  $\sigma$ -algebra.

*Proof.* Sheet 1. □

**Lemma 1.1** (Dynkin's Lemma/ $\pi$ - $\lambda$ / $\pi$ - $d$  theorem)

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  be a  $\pi$ -system. Then any  $d$ -system that contains  $\mathcal{A}$  also contains  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$ .

*Proof.* We define

$$\mathcal{D} = \bigcap_{\mathcal{D}' \text{ is a } d\text{-system; } \mathcal{D}' \supseteq \mathcal{A}} \mathcal{D}'$$

We can show this is a  $d$ -system (proof same as in  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$  on Sheet 1). It suffices to prove that  $\mathcal{D}$  is a  $\pi$ -system, because then it is a  $\sigma$ -algebra<sup>a</sup>.

We now define

$$\mathcal{D}' = \{B \in \mathcal{D} : \forall A \in \mathcal{A}, B \cap A \in \mathcal{D}\}$$

We can see that  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{D}'$ , as  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\pi$ -system.

We now show that  $\mathcal{D}'$  is a  $d$ -system, fix  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ .

- Clearly  $E \cap A = A \in \mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{D}'$  hence  $E \in \mathcal{D}'$ .
- Let  $B_1, B_2 \in \mathcal{D}'$  such that  $B_1 \subseteq B_2$ . Then  $(B_2 \setminus B_1) \cap A = (B_2 \cap A) \setminus (B_1 \cap A)$ , and since  $B_i \cap A \in \mathcal{D}$  this difference also lies in  $\mathcal{D}$ , so  $B_2 \setminus B_1 \in \mathcal{D}'$ .
- Now, suppose  $B_n$  is an increasing sequence converging to  $B$ , and  $B_n \in \mathcal{D}'$ . Then  $B_n \cap A \in \mathcal{D}$ , and  $\mathcal{D}$  is a  $d$ -system, we have  $B \cap A \in \mathcal{D}$ , so  $B \in \mathcal{D}'$ .

Hence  $\mathcal{D}'$  is a  $d$ -system. Also,  $\mathcal{D}' \subseteq \mathcal{D}$  by construction of  $\mathcal{D}'$ . But also  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{D}'$  and  $\mathcal{D}'$  is a  $d$ -system so  $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{D}'$  as  $\mathcal{D}$  is the smallest  $d$ -system containing  $\mathcal{A}$ . Thus  $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}'$ , i.e.  $\forall B \in \mathcal{D}$  and  $A \in \mathcal{A}, B \cap A \in \mathcal{D}$  (\*).

We then define

$$\mathcal{D}'' = \{B \in \mathcal{D} : \forall A \in \mathcal{D}, B \cap A \in \mathcal{D}\}$$

Note that  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{D}''$  by (\*). Running the same argument as before, we can show that  $\mathcal{D}''$  is a  $d$ -system. So  $\mathcal{D}'' = \mathbb{D}$ . But then (by the definition of  $\mathcal{D}''$ ),  $\forall B \in \mathcal{D}, A \in \mathcal{D} \implies B \cap A \in \mathcal{D}$ , i.e.  $\mathcal{D}$  is a  $\pi$ -system (check that  $\emptyset \in \mathcal{D}$ ).

So  $\mathcal{D}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra containing  $\mathcal{A}$ , hence  $\mathcal{D} \supseteq \sigma(\mathcal{A})$ . □

<sup>a</sup>As  $\mathcal{D} \supseteq \mathcal{A}$  and  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$  the intersection of all  $\sigma$ -algebras containing  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $\mathcal{D} \supseteq \sigma(\mathcal{A})$ .

### Theorem 1.2 (Uniqueness of extension)

Let  $\mu_1, \mu_2$  be measures on a measurable space  $(E, \mathcal{E})$ , such that  $\mu_1(E) = \mu_2(E) < \infty$ . Suppose that  $\mu_1$  and  $\mu_2$  coincide on a  $\pi$ -system  $\mathcal{A}$ , such that  $\mathcal{E} \subseteq \sigma(\mathcal{A})$ . Then  $\mu_1 = \mu_2$  on  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$ , and hence on  $\mathcal{E}$ .

*Proof.* We define

$$\mathcal{D} = \{A \in \mathcal{E} : \mu_1(A) = \mu_2(A)\}$$

This collection contains  $\mathcal{A}$  by assumption. By Dynkin's lemma, it suffices to prove  $\mathcal{D}$  is a  $d$ -system, because then  $\mathcal{D} \supseteq \sigma(\mathcal{A}) \supseteq \mathcal{E}$  giving  $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{E}$  as  $\mathcal{D} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$ .

- $\emptyset \in \mathcal{D}$ , since  $\mu_1(\emptyset) = \mu_2(\emptyset) = 0$ ;
- $A \in \mathcal{D} \implies \mu_1(A) = \mu_2(A)$ , thus  $\mu_1(A^c) = \mu_1(E) - \mu_1(A) = \mu_2(E) - \mu_2(A) = \mu_2(A^c)$ , so  $A^c \in \mathcal{D}$  ( $\mu_1, \mu_2$  finite so this works);
- Let  $A_n \in \mathcal{D}$  be a disjoint sequence then,  $\mu_1(\bigcup_n A_n) = \sum \mu_1(A_n) = \sum \mu_2(A_n) = \mu_2(\bigcup_n A_n)$  by countable additivity. So  $\bigcup_n A_n \in \mathcal{D}$ .

So  $\mathcal{D}$  is a  $d$ -system. □

*Remark 8.* If  $A_n \in \mathcal{A}$  an increasing sequence, then  $\mu(\mathcal{A}) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(A_n)$ . Use this to show that  $\mathcal{D}$  is a  $d$ -system satisfying conditions in [d-system](#).

The above theorem applies to finite measures ( $\mu$  such that  $\mu(E) < \infty$ ) only. However, the theorem can be extended to measures that are  $\sigma$ -finite, for which  $E = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} E_n$  where  $\mu(E_n) < \infty$ .

### Question

How to show all sets of a  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{E}$  generated by  $\mathcal{A}$  has a certain property  $\mathcal{P}$ ?

### Answer

Consider set  $\mathcal{G} = \{A \subseteq E : A \text{ has the property } \mathcal{P}\}$  and have that all elements of  $\mathcal{A}$  have the property  $\mathcal{P}$ .

Method 1: Show that  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra, as it then must contain  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{E}$ .

Method 2: Show that  $\mathcal{G}$  is a  $d$ -system and pick  $\mathcal{A}$  s.t. it is a  $\pi$ -system and use [Dynkin's Lemma/ \$\pi\$ - \$\lambda\$ / \$\pi\$ - \$d\$  theorem](#).

Method 3: Monotone Convergence Theorem, we will see it shortly.

## §1.4 Borel measures

### Definition 1.11 (Borel Sets)

Let  $(E, \tau)$  be a Hausdorff topological space. The  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by the open sets of  $E$ , i.e.  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$  where  $\mathcal{A} = \{A \subseteq E : A \text{ open}\}$ , is called the **Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra** on  $E$ , denoted  $\mathcal{B}(E)$ .

A measure  $\mu$  on  $(E, \mathcal{B}(E))$  is called a **Borel measure on  $E$** .

Members of  $\mathcal{B}(E)$  are called **Borel sets**.

**Notation.** We write  $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$ .

### Definition 1.12 (Radon Measure)

A **Radon measure** is a Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $E$  such that  $\mu(K) < \infty$  for all  $K \subseteq E$  compact.

Note that in a Hausdorff space, compact sets are closed and hence measurable.

### Definition 1.13 (Probability Measure)

If  $\mu(E) = 1$ ,  $\mu$  is called a **probability measure** on  $E$ , and  $(E, \mathcal{E}, \mu)$  is called a probability space, typically denoted instead by  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathcal{P})$ .

**Definition 1.14 (Finite Measure)**

If  $\mu(E) < \infty$ ,  $\mu$  is a **finite measure** on  $E$ .

**Definition 1.15 ( $\sigma$ -finite Measure)**

If  $\exists$  sequence  $E_n \in \mathcal{E}$  s.t.  $\mu(E_n) < \infty \forall n$  and  $E = \bigcup_n E_n$ , then  $\mu$  is called a  **$\sigma$ -finite measure**.

*Remark 9.* Arguments that hold for finite measures can usually be extended to  $\sigma$ -finite measures.

**§1.5 Lebesgue measure**

One of the main goals for this course is to define a notion of volume for arbitrary sets, we can do this by constructing a Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d)$  s.t.  $\mu\left(\prod_{i=1}^d (a_i, b_i)\right) = \prod_{i=1}^d (b_i - a_i)$  where  $a_i < b_i$  corresponding to the usual notion of volume of rectangles.

Initially, we will perform this construction for  $d = 1$ , and later we will consider product measures to extend this to higher dimensions.

**Theorem 1.3 (Construction of the Lebesgue measure)**

There exists a unique Borel measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  such that

$$a < b \implies \mu((a, b]) = b - a. \quad (\dagger)$$

$\mu$  is called the Lebesgue measure on  $\mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* First we shall prove the existence of the measure and then uniqueness.

Consider the ring  $\mathcal{A}$  of finite unions of disjoint intervals<sup>a</sup> of the form

$$\mathcal{A} = (a_1, b_1] \cup \cdots \cup (a_n, b_n]$$

where  $a_1 \leq b_1 \leq a_2 \leq \cdots \leq a_n \leq b_n$ . Note that  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{B}$  (see Example Sheets<sup>b</sup>).

Define for each  $A \in \mathcal{A}$

$$\mu(A) = \sum_{i=1}^n (b_i - a_i).$$

This agrees with  $(\dagger)$  for  $(a, b]$ . This is additive and well-defined (check).

So, the existence of  $\mu$  on  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{B}$  follows from [Carathéodory's theorem](#) if we can show that  $\mu$  is *countable additive* on  $\mathcal{A}$ .

*Remark 10.* Suppose  $\mu$  a finitely additive set function on a ring  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then  $\mu$  is countable additive iff

- $A_n \uparrow A; A_n, A \in \mathcal{A} \implies \mu(A_n) \uparrow \mu(A)$ .
- In addition, if  $\mu$  is finite and  $A_n \downarrow A$  s.t.  $A_n, A \in \mathcal{A}$  then  $\mu(A_n) \downarrow \mu(A)$ .

See Example Sheet for proof.

So showing  $\mu$  is countably additive on  $\mathcal{A}$  is equivalent to showing the following  
If  $A_n \in \mathcal{A}, A_n \downarrow \emptyset$  then  $\mu(A_n) \downarrow 0$ . We require that  $\mu$  is finite, as  $A_n$  decreasing we require  $A_1$  to have finite measure. ????

We shall prove this by contradiction.

Suppose this is not the case, so there exist  $\varepsilon > 0$  and  $B_n \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $B_n \downarrow \emptyset$  but  $\mu(B_n) \geq 2\varepsilon$  for infinitely many  $n$  (and so wlog for all  $n$ ).

We can approximate  $B_n$  from within by a sequence  $\overline{C}_n \in \mathcal{A}$  s.t.  $C_n \subseteq B_n$  and  $\mu(B_n \setminus C_n) \leq \varepsilon/2^n$ . Suppose  $B_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^{N_n} (a_{ni}, b_{ni}]$ , then define  $C_n = \bigcup_{i=1}^{N_n} (a_{ni} + \frac{2^{-n}\varepsilon}{N_n}, b_{ni}]$ . Note that the  $C_n$  lie in  $\mathcal{A}$ , and  $\mu(B_n \setminus C_n) \leq 2^{-n}\varepsilon$ . Since  $B_n$  is decreasing, we have  $B_N = \bigcap_{n \leq N} B_n$ , and

$$B_N \setminus (C_1 \cap \dots \cap C_N) = B_N \cap \left( \bigcup_{n \leq N} C_n^c \right) = \bigcup_{n \leq N} B_N \setminus C_n \subseteq \bigcup_{n \leq N} B_n \setminus C_n$$

Since  $\mu$  is increasing and finitely additive and thus subadditive on  $\mathcal{A}$ ,

$$\mu(B_N \setminus (C_1 \cap \dots \cap C_N)) \leq \mu\left(\bigcup_{n \leq N} B_n \setminus C_n\right) \leq \sum_{n \leq N} \mu(B_n \setminus C_n) \leq \sum_{n \leq N} 2^{-n}\varepsilon \leq \varepsilon$$

Since  $\mu(B_N) \geq 2\varepsilon$ , additivity implies that  $\mu(C_1 \cap \dots \cap C_N) \geq \varepsilon$ . This means that  $C_1 \cap \dots \cap C_N$  cannot be empty. We can add the left endpoints of the intervals, giving  $K_N = \overline{C}_1 \cap \dots \cap \overline{C}_N \neq \emptyset$ . By Analysis I,  $K_N$  is a nested sequence of bounded nonempty closed intervals and therefore there is a point  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $x \in K_N$  for all  $N$ . But  $K_N \subseteq \overline{C}_N \subseteq B_N$ , so  $x \in \bigcap_N B_n$ , which is a contradiction since  $\bigcap_N B_n$  is empty. Therefore, a measure  $\mu$  on  $\mathcal{B}$  exists.

Now we prove uniqueness. Suppose  $\mu, \lambda$  are measures such that the measure of an interval  $(a, b]$  is  $b - a$ . We define truncated measures for  $A \in \mathcal{B}$

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_n(A) &= \mu(A \cap (n, n+1)) \\ \lambda_n(A) &= \lambda(A \cap (n, n+1])\end{aligned}$$

Then  $\mu_n, \lambda_n$  are *probability measures* on  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mu_n = \lambda_n$  on the  $\pi$ -system of intervals of the form  $(a, b]$  with  $a < b^g$ . This  $\pi$ -system generates  $\mathcal{B}$ , so by the uniqueness theorem for finite measures (theorem 1.2)  $\mu_n = \lambda_n$  on  $\mathcal{B}$ . Hence  $\forall A \in \mathcal{B}$

$$\begin{aligned}\mu(A) &= \mu\left(\bigcup_n A \cap (n, n+1]\right) \\ &= \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \mu(A \cap (n, n+1]) \\ &= \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \mu_n(A) \\ &= \sum_{n \in \mathbb{Z}} \lambda_n(A) = \dots = \lambda(A)\end{aligned}$$

□

<sup>a</sup>We take semi intervals as for  $\mathcal{A}$  to be a ring, we require the set difference to be in  $\mathcal{A}$ .

<sup>b</sup>as all open intervals are in  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$  and open intervals generate open sets

<sup>c</sup>increasing sequence tending to  $A$

<sup>d</sup>E.g. let  $A_n = [n, \infty)$  with the Lebesgue measure then  $A_n \downarrow \emptyset$ . But  $\mu(A_n) = \infty$  whilst  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$

<sup>e</sup> $\overline{C}_n$  means the closure of  $C_n$ , i.e. make it a closed set by including the left endpoint

<sup>f</sup>As completeness of  $\mathbb{R}$  implies  $\bigcap_n K_n$  is closed and non empty.

<sup>g</sup>As  $(a, b] \cap (c, d] = \emptyset$  or  $(e, f]$ .

### Definition 1.16 (Lebesgue null set)

A Borel set  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  is called a **Lebesgue null set** if  $\lambda(B) = 0$  where  $\lambda$  is the Lebesgue measure.

*Remark 11.* A singleton  $\{x\}$  can be written as  $\bigcap_n \left(x - \frac{1}{n}, x\right]$ , hence  $\lambda(\{x\}) = \lim_n \frac{1}{n} = 0$ . Hence singletons are null sets. In particular,  $\lambda((a, b)) = \lambda((a, b]) = \lambda([a, b)) = \lambda([a, b])$ . Any countable set  $Q = \bigcup_q \{q\}$  is a null set. Not all null sets are countable; the Cantor set is an example.

The Lebesgue measure is *translation-invariant*. Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ , then the set  $B + x = \{b + x : b \in B\}$  lies in  $\mathcal{B}$  iff  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , and in this case, it satisfies  $\lambda(B + x) = \lambda(B)$ . We can define the translated Lebesgue measure  $\lambda_x(B) = \lambda(B + x)$  for all  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , then  $\lambda_x((a, b]) = \lambda((a, b] + x) = \lambda((a + x, b + x]) = b - a = \lambda((a, b])$ . So  $\lambda_x = \lambda$  on the  $\pi$ -system of intervals and so  $\lambda_x = \lambda$  on the sigma algebra  $\mathcal{B}$  (i.e.  $\forall B \in \mathcal{B}, \lambda(B + x) = \lambda(B)$ ).

### Question

Is the Lebesgue measure the only such translation invariant measure on  $\mathcal{B}$ ?

Carathéodory's theorem extends  $\lambda$  from  $\mathcal{A}$  to not just  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{B}$ , but actually to  $\mathcal{M}$ , the set of outer-measurable sets  $M \supseteq \mathcal{B}$ , but how large is  $\mathcal{M}$ ?

The class of outer measurable sets  $\mathcal{M}$  used in Carathéodory's extension theorem is here called the class of Lebesgue measurable sets. This class, the Lebesgue  $\sigma$ -algebra, can be shown to be

$$\mathcal{M} = \{A \cup N : A \in \mathcal{B}, N \subseteq B, B \in \mathcal{B}, \lambda(B) = 0\} \supsetneq \mathcal{B}$$

## §1.6 Existence of non-measurable sets

We now show that  $\mathcal{B} \subsetneq \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$  (in fact  $\mathcal{M}_{leb} \subsetneq \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$ ).

Consider  $E = [0, 1)$  with addition defined modulo one. By the same argument as before, the Lebesgue measure is translation-invariant modulo one. Consider the subgroup  $Q = E \cap \mathbb{Q}$  of  $(E, +)$ . We define  $x \sim y$  for  $x, y \in E$  if  $x - y \in Q$ . Assuming the axiom of choice (uncountable version), we can select a representative from each equivalence class, and denote by  $S$  the set of such representatives. We shall show that  $S \notin \mathcal{B}$ .

We can partition  $E$  into the union of its cosets, so  $E = \bigcup_{q \in Q} (S + q)$  is a disjoint<sup>1</sup> union.

Suppose  $S$  is a Borel set. Then  $S + q$  is also a Borel set<sup>2</sup>. Therefore by translation invariance of  $\lambda$  and by countably additivity,

$$\lambda([0, 1)) = 1 = \lambda\left(\bigcup_{q \in Q} (S + q)\right) = \sum_{q \in Q} \lambda(S + q) = \sum_{q \in Q} \lambda(S)$$

But no value for  $\lambda(S) \in [0, \infty]$  can be assigned to make this equation hold. Therefore  $S$  is not a Borel set.

*Remark 12.* We can extend this proof to show that  $S \notin \mathcal{M}_{leb}$ .

One can further show that  $\lambda$  cannot be extended to all subsets  $\mathcal{P}(E)$ .

### Theorem 1.4 (Banach - Kuratowski)

Assuming the continuum hypothesis, there exists no measure  $\mu$  on the set  $\mathcal{P}([0, 1))$  such that  $\mu([0, 1)) = 1$  and  $\mu(\{x\}) = 0$  for  $x \in [0, 1)$ .

Henceforth, whenever we are on a metric space  $E$ , we will work with  $\mathcal{B}(E)$ , which will be perfectly satisfactory.

## §1.7 Probability spaces

### Definition 1.17

If a measure space  $(E, \mathcal{E}, \mu)$  has  $\mu(E) = 1$ , we call it a **probability space**, and

<sup>1</sup>Suppose  $s_1 + q_1 = s_2 + q_2$  then  $s_1 - s_2 = q_2 - q_1 \in \mathbb{Q}$  but then  $s_1, s_2 \in S$  by definition  $\sharp$ .

<sup>2</sup>Consider  $\mathcal{G} = \{B \in \mathcal{B} : B + x \in \mathcal{B}\}$  we can show this is a  $\sigma$ -algebra, see page 11.

instead write  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ . We call  $\Omega$  the outcome space or sample space,  $\mathcal{F}$  the set of events, and  $\mathbb{P}$  the probability measure.

The axioms of probability theory (Kolmogorov, 1933), are

1.  $\mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1, \mathbb{P}(\emptyset) = 0$ ;
2.  $0 \leq \mathbb{P}(E) \leq 1$  for all  $E \in \mathcal{F}$ ;
3. if  $A_n$  are a disjoint sequence of events in  $\mathcal{F}$ , then  $\mathbb{P}(\bigcup_n A_n) = \sum_n \mathbb{P}(A_n)$ .

This is exactly what is required by our definition:  $\mathbb{P}$  is a measure on a  $\sigma$ -algebra.

*Remark 13.*

- $\mathbb{P}(\bigcup_n A_n) \leq \sum_n \mathbb{P}(A_n)$  for all sequences  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}$ ;
- $A_n \uparrow A \implies \mathbb{P}(A_n) \uparrow \mathbb{P}(A)$ ;
- $A_n \downarrow A \implies \mathbb{P}(A_n) \downarrow \mathbb{P}(A)$  as  $\mathbb{P}$  a finite measure.

This definition is what separates probability from analysis.

### Definition 1.18 (Independent)

Events  $(A_i, i \in I), A_i \in \mathcal{F}$  are **independent** if for all finite  $J \subseteq I$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{j \in J} A_j\right) = \prod_{j \in J} \mathbb{P}(A_j).$$

$\sigma$ -algebras  $(\mathcal{A}_i, i \in I), \mathcal{A}_i \subseteq \mathcal{F}$  are **independent** if for any  $A_j \in \mathcal{A}_j$ , where  $J \subseteq I$  is finite, the  $A_j$  are independent.

Kolmogorov showed that these definitions are sufficient to derive the law of large numbers.

### Proposition 1.3

Let  $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$  be  $\pi$ -systems of sets in  $\mathcal{F}$ . Suppose  $\mathbb{P}(A_1 \cap A_2) = \mathbb{P}(A_1)\mathbb{P}(A_2)$  for all  $A_1 \in \mathcal{A}_1, A_2 \in \mathcal{A}_2$ . Then the  $\sigma$ -algebras  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}_1), \sigma(\mathcal{A}_2)$  are independent.

*Proof.* Fix  $A_1 \in \mathcal{A}_1$ , and define for all  $A \in \sigma(\mathcal{A}_2)$ .

$$\mu(A) = \mathbb{P}(A_1 \cap A), \nu(A) = \mathbb{P}(A_1)\mathbb{P}(A).$$

Then  $\mu, \nu$  are finite measures and they agree on the  $\pi$ -system  $\mathcal{A}_2$ . Hence by **Uniqueness of extension**,  $\mu(A) = \nu(A) \forall A \in \sigma(\mathcal{A}_2)$ , i.e.  $\mathbb{P}(A_1 \cap A) = \mathbb{P}(A_1)\mathbb{P}(A) \forall A_1 \in$



$\mathcal{A}_1, A_2 \in \sigma(\mathcal{A}_2)$ .

Now repeat same argument, but now by fixing  $A_2 \in \sigma(\mathcal{A}_2)$  define for all  $A \in \sigma(\mathcal{A}_1)$

$$\mu'(A) = \mathbb{P}(A \cap A_2), \nu'(A) = \mathbb{P}(A)(A_2).$$

Then  $\mu', \nu'$  are finite measures and they agree on the  $\pi$ -system  $\mathcal{A}_1$ . Hence by [Uniqueness of extension](#),  $\mu'(A) = \nu'(A) \forall A \in \sigma(\mathcal{A}_1)$ , i.e.  $\mathbb{P}(A_1 \cap A) = \mathbb{P}(A_1)\mathbb{P}(A) \forall A_1 \in \sigma(\mathcal{A}_1), A_2 \in \sigma(\mathcal{A}_2)$ .

□

This follows by uniqueness.

## §1.8 Borel–Cantelli lemmas

### Definition 1.19

Let  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}$  be a sequence of events. Then the **limit superior** of  $A_n$  is

$$\limsup_n A_n = \bigcap_n \bigcup_{m \geq n} A_m = \{A_n \text{ infinitely often}\}^a$$

The **limit inferior** of  $A_n$  is

$$\liminf_n A_n = \bigcup_n \bigcap_{m \geq n} A_m = \{A_n \text{ eventually}\}^b$$

<sup>a</sup>Consider  $\omega$ , if  $\omega \in \limsup_n A_n$  then  $\forall n, \omega \in \bigcup_{m \geq n} A_m$  thus  $\omega$  must be in an infinite number of  $A_n$ s.

<sup>b</sup> $\omega$  is in all but finitely many  $A_n$ .

### Lemma 1.2 (First Borel–Cantelli lemma)

Let  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}$  be a sequence of events such that  $\sum_n \mathbb{P}(A_n) < \infty$ . Then  $\mathbb{P}(A_n \text{ infinitely often}) = 0$ .

*Proof.* For all  $n$ , we have

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\limsup_n A_n\right) = \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_n \bigcup_{m \geq n} A_m\right) \leq \mathbb{P}\left(\bigcup_{m \geq n} A_m\right) \leq^a \sum_{m \geq n} \mathbb{P}(A_m) \rightarrow 0$$

□

<sup>a</sup>By countable subadditivity

This proof did not require that  $\mathbb{P}$  be a probability measure, just that it is a measure.

Therefore, we can use this for arbitrary measures.

**Lemma 1.3** (Second Borel–Cantelli lemma)

Let  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}$  be a sequence of independent events with  $\sum_n \mathbb{P}(A_n) = \infty$ . Then  $\mathbb{P}(A_n \text{ infinitely often}) = 1$ .

*Proof.* By independence, for all  $N \geq n \in \mathbb{N}$  and using  $1 - a \leq e^{-a}$ , we find

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\bigcap_{m=n}^N A_m^c\right) = \prod_{m=n}^N (1 - \mathbb{P}(A_m)) \leq \prod_{m=n}^N e^{-\mathbb{P}(A_m)} = e^{-\sum_{m=n}^N \mathbb{P}(A_m)}$$

As  $N \rightarrow \infty$ , this approaches zero.

Since  $\bigcap_{m=n}^N A_m^c$  decreases to  $\bigcap_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m^c$ ,  $\mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m^c) = 0$  as  $\mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m^c) \leq \mathbb{P}(\bigcap_{m=n}^N A_m^c) \leq e^{-\sum_{m=n}^N \mathbb{P}(A_m)} \rightarrow 0$ . So by taking complements  $\mathbb{P}(\bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m) = 1 \forall n(\dagger)$ .

Let  $B_n = \bigcup_{m=n}^{\infty} A_m$ ,  $B_n$  decreasing and so  $B_n \downarrow \bigcap_n B_n = \bigcap_n \bigcup_{m \geq n} A_m = \{A_n \text{ i.o.}\}^a$ . As  $\mathbb{P}(B_n) = 1$  by  $(\dagger)$ ,  $\mathbb{P}\{A_n \text{ i.o.}\} = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mathbb{P}(B_n) = 1$  as probabilities are a finite measure.  $\square$

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<sup>a</sup> $A_n$  occurs infinitely often

*Remark 14.* If  $A_n$  independent, then  $\{A_n \text{ i.o.}\}$  has either probability 0 or 1 and is called a “tail event”. Kolmogorov 0-1 law shows this is true for all “tail events”.

## §2 Measurable Functions

### §2.1 Definition

#### Definition 2.1 (Measurable)

Let  $(E, \mathcal{E}), (G, \mathcal{G})$  be measurable spaces. A function  $f: E \rightarrow G$  is called **measurable** if  $f^{-1}(A) \in \mathcal{E} \forall A \in \mathcal{G}$ , where  $f^{-1}(A)$  is the preimage of  $A$  under  $f$  i.e.  $f^{-1}(A) = \{x \in E : f(x) \in A\}$ .

If  $G = \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathcal{G} = \mathcal{B}$ , we can just say that  $f: (E, \mathcal{E}) \rightarrow G$  is measurable. Moreover, if  $E$  is a topological space and  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{B}(E)$ , we say  $f$  is Borel measurable.

Note that preimages  $f^{-1}$  commute with many set operations such as intersection, union, and complement. This implies that  $\{f^{-1}(A) : A \in \mathcal{G}\}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra over  $E$ , and likewise,  $\{A : f^{-1}(A) \in \mathcal{E}\}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra over  $G$ . Hence, if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a collection of subsets s.t.  $G \supset \sigma(\mathcal{A})$  then if  $f^{-1}(A) \in \mathcal{E}$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , the class  $\{A : f^{-1}(A) \in \mathcal{E}\}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra that contains  $\mathcal{A}$  and so  $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$ . So  $f$  is measurable.

If  $f: (E, \mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the collection  $\mathcal{A} = \{(-\infty, y] : y \in \mathbb{R}\}$  generates  $\mathcal{B}$  (Sheet 1). Hence  $f$  is Borel measurable iff  $f^{-1}((-\infty, y]) = \{x \in E : f(x) \leq y\} \in \mathcal{E}$  for all  $y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

If  $E$  is a topological space and  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{B}(E)$ , then if  $f: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is continuous, the preimages of open sets  $B$  are open, and hence Borel sets. The open sets in  $\mathbb{R}$  generate the  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{B}$ . Hence, continuous functions to the real line are measurable.

#### Example 2.1

Consider the indicator function  $1_A$  of a set  $A \subset E$ .  $1_A^{-1}(1) = A$  and  $1_A^{-1}(0) = A^c$  hence measurable iff  $A \in \mathcal{E}$ .

#### Example 2.2

The composition of measurable functions is measurable. Note that given a collection of maps  $\{f_i: E \rightarrow (G, \mathcal{G}) : i \in I\}$ , we can make them all measurable by taking  $\mathcal{E}$  to be a large enough  $\sigma$ -algebra, for instance  $\sigma\left(\{f_i^{-1}(A) : A \in \mathcal{G}, i \in I\}\right)$  called the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by  $\{f_i\}_{i \in I}$ .

#### Proposition 2.1

If  $f_1, f_2, \dots$  are measurable  $\mathbb{R}$ -valued. Then  $f_1 + f_2, f_1 f_2, \inf_n f_n, \sup_n f_n, \liminf f_n, \limsup f_n$  are all measurable.

*Proof.* See Sheet 1. □

## §2.2 Monotone class theorem

### Theorem 2.1 (Monotone class theorem)

Let  $(E, \mathcal{E})$  be a measurable space and  $\mathcal{A}$  be a  $\pi$ -system that generates the  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\mathcal{E}$ . Let  $\mathcal{V}$  be a vector space of bounded maps from  $E$  to  $\mathbb{R}$  s.t.

1.  $1_E \in \mathcal{V}$ ;
2.  $1_A \in \mathcal{V}$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ ;
3. if  $f$  is bounded and  $f_n \in \mathcal{V}$  are nonnegative functions that form an increasing sequence that converge pointwise to  $f$  on  $E$ , then  $f \in \mathcal{V}$ .

Then  $\mathcal{V}$  contains all bounded measurable functions  $f: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ .

*Proof.* Define  $\mathcal{D} = \{A \in \mathcal{E} : 1_A \in \mathcal{V}\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{D}$  is a  $d$ -system as  $1_E \in \mathcal{V}$  and for  $A \subseteq B$ ,  $1_{B \setminus A} = 1_B - 1_A \in \mathcal{V}$  as  $\mathcal{V}$  a vector space so  $B \setminus A \in \mathcal{D}$ .

If  $A_n \in \mathcal{D}$  increases to  $A$ , we have  $1_{A_n}$  increases pointwise to  $1_A$ , which lies in  $\mathcal{V}$  by the (3.) so  $A \in \mathcal{D}$ .

$\mathcal{D}$  contains  $\mathcal{A}$  by (2.), as well as  $E$  itself. So by Dynkin's lemma  $\mathcal{D}$  contains  $\sigma(\mathcal{A}) = \mathcal{E}$  so  $\mathcal{E} = \mathcal{D}$  i.e.  $1_A \in \mathcal{V} \forall A \in \mathcal{E}$ .

Since  $\mathcal{V}$  a vector space it contains all finite linear combinations of indicators of measurable sets. Let  $f: E \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a bounded measurable function, which we will assume at first is nonnegative. We define

$$\begin{aligned} f_n(x) &= 2^{-n} \lfloor 2^n f(x) \rfloor \\ &= 2^{-n} \sum_{j=0}^{\infty} 1_{A_{n,j}}(x) \\ A_{n,j} &= \{2^n f(x) \in [j, j+1)\} \\ &= f^{-1} \left( \left[ \frac{j}{2^n}, \frac{j+1}{2^n} \right) \right) \in \mathcal{E}. \end{aligned}$$

As  $f$  is bounded we do not need an infinite sum but only a finite one. Then  $f_n \leq f \leq f_n + 2^{-n}$ . Hence  $|f_n - f| \leq 2^{-n} \rightarrow 0$  and  $f_n \uparrow f$ .

So  $0 \leq f_n \uparrow f$ ,  $f_n \in \mathcal{V}$  and  $f$  is bounded non-negative so  $f \in \mathcal{V}$  by (3.).

Finally, for any  $f$  bounded and measurable,  $f = f^{+a} - f^{-b}$ .  $f^+, f^-$  are bounded, nonnegative and measurable, so in  $\mathcal{V}$  and  $\mathcal{V}$  a vector space thus  $f \in \mathcal{V}$ .  $\square$

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<sup>a</sup> $\max(f, 0)$   
<sup>b</sup> $\max(-f, 0)$

## §2.3 Image measures

### Definition 2.2 (Image Measure)

Let  $f: (E, \mathcal{E}) \rightarrow (G, \mathcal{G})$  be a measurable function and  $\mu$  a measure on  $(E, \mathcal{E})$ . Then the **image measure**  $\nu = \mu \circ f^{-1}$  is obtained from assigning  $\nu(A) = \mu(f^{-1}(A))$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{G}$ .

*Remark 15.* This is well defined as  $f^{-1}(A) \in \mathcal{E}$  as  $f$  measurable.  $\nu$  is countably additive because the preimage satisfies set operations and  $\mu$  countably additive (See Sheet 1).

Starting from the Lebesgue measure, we can get all probability measures (in fact we can get all Radon measures) in this way.

### Definition 2.3 (Right-Continuous)

A function  $f$  is **right-continuous** if  $x_n \downarrow x \implies f(x_n) \rightarrow f(x)$ .

### Lemma 2.1

Let  $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a non-constant, increasing, right-continuous function, and set  $g(\pm\infty) = \lim_{z \rightarrow \pm\infty} g(z)$ . On  $I = (g(-\infty), g(+\infty))$  we define the **generalised inverse**  $f: I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by

$$f(x) = \inf \{y \in \mathbb{R} : g(y) \geq x\}.$$

Then  $f$  is increasing, left-continuous, and  $f(x) \leq y$  iff  $x \leq g(y)$  for all  $x \in I, y \in \mathbb{R}$ .

*Remark 16.*  $f$  and  $g$  form a Galois connection.

*Proof.* Fix  $x \in I$ .

Let  $J_x = \{y \in \mathbb{R} : g(y) \geq x\}$ . Since  $x > g(-\infty)$ ,  $J_x$  is nonempty and bounded below. Hence  $f(x)$  is a well-defined real number.

If  $y \in J_x$ , then  $y' \geq y$  implies  $y' \in J_x$  since  $g$  is increasing. Since  $g$  is right-continuous, if  $y_n \downarrow y$ , and all  $y_n \in J_x$ , then  $g(y) = \lim_n g(y_n) \geq x$  so  $y \in J_x$ .

So  $J_x = [f(x), \infty)$ . Hence  $f(x) \leq y \iff x \leq g(y)$  as required.

If  $x \leq x'$ , we have  $J_x \supseteq J_{x'}$  (as  $y \in J_x \iff y \in J_{x'}$ ), i.e.  $[f(x), \infty) \supseteq [f(x'), \infty)$  so  $f(x) \leq f(x')$ .

Similarly, if  $x_n \uparrow x$ , we have  $J_x = \bigcap_n J_{x_n}$ <sup>a</sup> so  $[f(x), \infty) = \bigcap_n [f(x_n), \infty)$  so  $f(x_n) \rightarrow f(x)$  as  $x_n \rightarrow x$ .  $\square$

<sup>a</sup>As  $y \in \bigcap_n J_{x_n} \iff g(y) \geq x_n \forall n \iff g(y) \geq x \iff y \in J_x$ .

### Theorem 2.2

Let  $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as in the previous lemma. Then  $\exists$  a unique Radon measure  $\mu_g$  on  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $\mu_g((a, b]) = g(b) - g(a)$  for all  $a < b$ . Further, all Radon measures on  $\mathbb{R}$  can be obtained in this way.

*Proof.* Define  $I, f$  as in the previous lemma and  $\lambda$  the Lebesgue measure on  $I$ .

$f$  is Borel measurable since  $f^{-1}((-\infty, z]) = \{x \in I: f(x) \leq z\} = \{x \in I: x \leq g(z)\} = (-g(\infty), g(z)] \in \mathcal{B}$ . As  $\{(-\infty, z]: z \in \mathbb{R}\}$  generate  $\mathcal{B}$ ,  $f$  measurable.

Therefore, the image measure  $\mu_g = \lambda \circ f^{-1}$  exists on  $\mathcal{B}$ . Then for any  $-\infty < a < b < \infty$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned}\mu_g((a, b]) &= \lambda(f^{-1}((a, b])) \\ &= \lambda(\{x: a < f(x) \leq f(b)\}) \\ &= \lambda(\{x: g(a) < x \leq g(b)\}) \\ &= g(b) - g(a)\end{aligned}$$

By the [Uniqueness of extension](#) for  $\sigma$ -finite measures,  $\mu_g$  is uniquely defined.

Conversely, let  $\nu$  be a Radon measure on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Define  $g: \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  as

$$g(y) = \begin{cases} \nu((0, y]) & \text{if } y \geq 0 \\ -\nu((y, 0]) & \text{if } y < 0 \end{cases}$$

$\nu$  Radon tells us that  $g$  is finite. Easy to check  $g$  is right-continuous<sup>a</sup>. This is an increasing function in  $y$ , since  $\nu$  is a measure. Finally,  $\nu((a, b]) = g(b) - g(a)$  which can be seen by case analysis and additivity of the measure  $\nu$ . By uniqueness as before, this characterises  $\nu$  in its entirety.  $\square$

<sup>a</sup>For  $y_n \downarrow y$  where  $y \geq 0$ ,  $(0, y_n] \downarrow (0, y]$  and then  $\nu((0, y_n]) \downarrow \nu((0, y])$  by countably additivity. Similarly for  $y < 0$ .

*Remark 17.* Such image measures  $\mu_g$  are called [Lebesgue–Stieltjes measures](#) associated with  $g$ , where  $g$  is the [Stieltjes distribution](#).

### Example 2.3

Fix  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  and take  $g = 1_{[x, \infty)}$ . Then  $\mu_g = \delta_x$  the *dirac measure at  $x$*  defined for all  $A \in \mathcal{B}$  by

$$\delta_x(A) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in A \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

## §2.4 Random variables

**Definition 2.4 (Random Variable)**

Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$  be a probability space, and  $(E, \mathcal{E})$  be a measurable space. If  $X : \Omega \rightarrow E$  is a measurable function then  $X$  is a **random variable** in  $E$ .

When  $E = \mathbb{R}$  or  $\mathbb{R}^d$  with the Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra, we simply call  $X$  a random variable or random vector.

**Example 2.4**

$X$  models a “random” outcome of an experiment, e.g. when tossing a coin  $\Omega = \{H, T\}$ ,  $X = \# \text{ heads} : \Omega \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ .

**Definition 2.5 (Distribution)**

The **law** or **distribution**  $\mu_X$  of a random variable  $X$  is given by the image measure  $\mu_X = \mathbb{P} \circ X^{-1}$ . It is a measure on  $(E, \mathcal{E})$ .

When  $(E, \mathcal{E}) = (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B})$ ,  $\mu_X$  is uniquely determined by its values on any  $\pi$ -system, we shall take  $\{(-\infty, x] : x \in \mathbb{R}\}$  and

$$F_X(z) = \mu_X((-\infty, z]) = \mathbb{P}(X^{-1}((-\infty, z])) = \mathbb{P}(\{\omega \in \Omega : X(\omega) \leq z\}) = \mathbb{P}(X \leq z)$$

The function  $F_x$  is called the **distribution function** of  $X$ , because it uniquely determines the distribution of  $X$ .

Using the properties of measures, we can show that any distribution function satisfies:

1.  $F_X$  is increasing;
2.  $F_X$  is right-continuous<sup>3</sup>;
3.  $F_X(-\infty) = \lim_{z \rightarrow -\infty} F_X(z) = \mu_X(\emptyset) = 0$ ;
4.  $F_X(\infty) = \lim_{z \rightarrow \infty} F_X(z) = \mu_X(\mathbb{R}) = \mathbb{P}(\Omega) = 1$ .

**Proposition 2.2**

Given any function  $F$  satisfying the previous properties,  $\exists$  a random variable  $X$  s.t.  $F = F_X$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\Omega = (0, 1)$ ,  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{B}(0, 1)$ ,  $\mathbb{P}$  the Lebesgue measure  $\lambda|_{(0,1)}$ . Let  $F$  be any function satisfying the properties, then  $F$  is increasing and right

<sup>3</sup> $x_n \downarrow x \implies (-\infty, x_n] \downarrow (-\infty, x]$  hence by countable additivity of  $\mathbb{P} \circ X^{-1}$ .

continuous so we can define the generalised inverse

$$X(\omega) = \inf \{x : \omega \leq F(x)\} : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

Hence  $X$  is a measurable function and thus a random variable.

$$\begin{aligned} F_X(x) &= \mathbb{P}(X \leq x) = \mathbb{P}(\{\omega \in \Omega : X(\omega) \leq x\}) = \mathbb{P}(\{\omega \in \Omega : \omega \leq F(x)\}) \\ &= \mathbb{P}(\{\omega \in (0, 1) : \omega \leq F(x)\}) \\ &= \mathbb{P}((0, F(x)]) \\ &= F(x) - 0 \end{aligned}$$

□

*Remark 18.* This is similar to what we saw in IB Probability, if we have  $F$  then r.v.  $F^{-1}(U)$  where  $U \sim U(0, 1)$  has the distribution function  $F$ , where  $F^{-1}$  is the generalised inverse.

### Definition 2.6 (Independent)

Consider a countable collection  $(X_i : (\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow (E, \mathcal{E}))$  for  $i \in I$ . This collection of random variables is called **independent** if the  $\sigma$ -algebras  $\sigma(X_i)$  are independent, recall  $\sigma(X_i)$  is generated by  $\{X_i^{-1}(A) : A \in \mathcal{E}\}$ , the smallest  $\sigma$ -algebra s.t.  $X_i$  measurable.

For  $(E, \mathcal{E}) = (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B})$  we show on an Sheet 1 that this is equivalent to the condition

$$\mathbb{P}(X_1 \leq x_1, \dots, X_n \leq x_n) = \mathbb{P}(X_1 \leq x_1) \dots \mathbb{P}(X_n \leq x_n)$$

for all finite subsets  $\{X_1, \dots, X_n\}$  of the  $X_i$ .

## §2.5 Constructing independent random variables

### Question

Given a distribution function  $F$ , we know  $\exists$  a r.v.  $X$  corresponding to it. But given an infinite sequence of distribution functions  $F_1, F_2, \dots$  does  $\exists$  independent r.v.  $(X_1, X_2, \dots)$  corresponding to them?

Let  $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P}) = ((0, 1), \mathcal{B}(0, 1), \lambda|_{(0, 1)})$ . We start with Bernoulli random variables.

Any  $\omega \in (0, 1)$  has a binary representation given by  $(\omega_i) \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  where  $\omega = \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} 2^{-i} \omega_i$ , which is unique if we exclude infinitely long tails of zeroes from the binary representation (same reasoning as  $1.00000\dots = 0.99999\dots$ ).



**Definition 2.7** (*nth Rademacher function*)

The **nth Rademacher function**  $R_n : \Omega \rightarrow 0, 1$  is given by  $R_n(\omega) = \omega_n$ , it extracts the  $n$ th bit from the binary expansion.

Observe that  $R_1 = 1_{(1/2, 1]}$ ,  $R_2 = 1_{(1/4, 1/2]} + 1_{(3/4, 1]}$  and so on. Since each  $R_n$  can be given as the sum of finite  $(2^{n-1})$  indicator functions on measurable sets, they are measurable functions and are hence random variables.

**Claim 2.1**

$R_i$  are iid  $\text{Ber}(\frac{1}{2})$ .

*Proof.*  $\mathbb{P}(R_n = 1) = \frac{1}{2} = \mathbb{P}(R_n = 0)$  can be checked by induction.

We now show they are independent. For a finite set  $(x_i)_{i=1}^n$ , by considering the size of the intervals that  $\omega$  can lie in,

$$\mathbb{P}(R_1 = x_1, \dots, R_n = x_n) = 2^{-n} = \mathbb{P}(R_1 = x_1) \dots \mathbb{P}(R_n = x_n)$$

□

Therefore, the  $R_n$  are all independent, so countable sequences of independent random variables indeed exist.

The next step is to construct a sequence of iid r.v.s on  $U(0, 1)$ .

Now, take a bijection  $m : \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  and define  $Y_{k,n} = R_{m(k,n)}$ , the Rademacher functions. We now define  $Y_n = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{-k} Y_{k,n}$ <sup>4</sup>.

**Claim 2.2**

$Y_n$  are iid  $U(0, 1)$ , i.e.  $\mu_{Y_n} = \lambda|_{(0,1)}$  and  $Y_n$  independent.

**Lemma 2.2**

Any measurable functions of independent random variables are independent.

*Proof.* They are independent because the  $Y_i$  are measurable functions of independent random variables, e.g.  $Y_1$  is a measurable function of  $Y_{1,1}, Y_{2,1}, \dots$ ;  $Y_2$  of  $Y_{1,2}, Y_{2,2}, \dots$

The  $\pi$ -system of intervals  $\left(\frac{i}{2^m}, \frac{i+1}{2^m}\right]$  for  $i = 0, \dots, 2^m - 1$  for  $m \in \mathbb{N}$  generates  $\mathcal{B}(0, 1)$  as  $\mathbb{Q}$  dense in  $\mathbb{R}$ . So by theorem 1.2 the distribution of  $Y_n$  is identified on the

<sup>4</sup>This converges for all  $\omega \in \Omega$  since  $|Y_{k,n}| \leq 1$ .

intervals.

$$\begin{aligned}
\mathbb{P}\left(Y_n \in \left(\frac{i}{2^m}, \frac{i+1}{2^m}\right]\right) &= \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{i}{2^m} < \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} 2^{-k} Y_{k,n} \leq \frac{i+1}{2^m}\right)^a \\
&= \mathbb{P}(Y_{1,n} = y_1, \dots, Y_{m,n} = y_m) \text{ where } \frac{i}{2^m} = 0.y_1 y_2 \dots y_m \\
&= \prod_{i=1}^m \mathbb{P}(Y_{m,n} = y_m) \text{ by independence.} \\
&= 2^{-m} = \lambda\left(\frac{i}{2^m}, \frac{i+1}{2^m}\right]
\end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\mu_{Y_n} = \lambda|_{(0,1)}$  on the  $\pi$ -system and so on  $\mathcal{B}(0,1)$ . □

<sup>a</sup>This specifies the first  $m$  digits in the binary expansion of  $Y_n$ .

As before, set  $G_n(x) = F_n^{-1}(x)$  which is the generalised inverse. Then  $G_n$  are Borel functions, set  $X_n = G_n(Y_n)$  for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then as before  $F_{X_n} = F_n$  and  $X_n$  are independent as  $Y_n$  are.

## §2.6 Convergence of measurable functions

Let  $(E, \mathcal{E}, \mu)$  be a measure space. Let  $A \in \mathcal{E}$  be defined by some property.

### Definition 2.8 (Almost everywhere)

We say that a property defining a set  $A \in \mathcal{E}$  holds  **$\mu$ -almost everywhere** if  $\mu(A^c) = 0$ .

### Definition 2.9 (Almost surely)

If  $\mu$  is a  $\mathbb{P}$ -measure, we say a property holds  **$\mathbb{P}$ -almost surely** or **with probability one**, if  $\mathbb{P}(A^c) = 0$ , i.e. if  $\mathbb{P}(A) = 1$ .

### Definition 2.10 (Convergence almost everywhere)

If  $f_n$  and  $f$  are measurable functions on  $(E, \mathcal{E}, \mu) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B})$ , we say  **$f_n$  converges to  $f$   $\mu$ -almost everywhere** if  $\mu(\{x \in E : f_n(x) \not\rightarrow f(x)\}) = 0$ .

For r.v.s, we say  $X_n \rightarrow X$   **$\mathbb{P}$ -almost surely** if  $\mathbb{P}(\{\omega \in \Omega : X_n(\omega) \rightarrow X(\omega)\}) = 1$ .

### Definition 2.11 (Convergence in Measure)

We say  $f_n$  **converges to  $f$  in  $\mu$ -measure** if for all  $\varepsilon > 0$

$$\mu(\{x \in E : |f_n(x) - f(x)| > \varepsilon\}) \rightarrow 0,$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

We say  $X_n \rightarrow X$  in  $\mathbb{P}$ -probability if  $\forall \varepsilon > 0$

$$\mathbb{P}(|X_n - X| > \varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$$

as  $n \rightarrow \infty$ .

### Theorem 2.3

Let  $f_n: (E, \mathcal{E}, \mu) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be measurable functions.

1. If  $\mu(E) < \infty$ , then  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  a.e.  $\implies f_n \rightarrow 0$  in measure;
2. If  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  in measure,  $\exists$  subsequence  $n_k$  s.t.  $f_{n_k} \rightarrow 0$  a.e.

### Example 2.5

Let  $f_n = 1_{(n, \infty)}$  and the Lebesgue measure, then  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  a.e. but  $\mu(|f_n| > \varepsilon) = \infty \forall n$ .

*Proof.* Fix  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Suppose  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  a.e., then for every  $n$ ,

$$\mu(E) \geq \mu(|f_n| \leq \varepsilon) \geq \mu\left(\bigcap_{m \geq n} \{|f_m| \leq \varepsilon\}\right)$$

Let  $A_n = \bigcap_{m \geq n} \{|f_m| \leq \varepsilon\}$  which is increasing to  $\bigcup_n \bigcap_{m \geq n} \{|f_m| \leq \varepsilon\}$ . So by the countable additivity of  $\mu$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \mu\left(\bigcap_{m \geq n} \{|f_m| \leq \varepsilon\}\right) &\rightarrow \mu\left(\bigcup_n \bigcap_{m \geq n} \{|f_m| \leq \varepsilon\}\right) \\ &= \mu(|f_n| \leq \varepsilon \text{ eventually}) \\ &\geq \mu(|f_n| \rightarrow 0) \\ &= \mu(E) \text{ as } f_n \rightarrow 0 \text{ a.e. and } \mu \text{ finite.} \end{aligned}$$

Hence,

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(|f_n| \leq \varepsilon) = \mu(E) \implies \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} \mu(|f_n| > \varepsilon) \leq 0 \implies \mu(|f_n| > \varepsilon) \rightarrow 0$$

□

*Proof.* Suppose  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  in measure, choosing  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{k}$  we have

$$\mu\left(|f_n| > \frac{1}{k}\right) \rightarrow 0.$$

So we can choose  $n_k$  s.t.  $\mu\left(|f_{n_k}| > \frac{1}{k}\right) \leq \frac{1}{k^2}$ . We can choose  $n_{k+1}$  in the same way s.t.  $n_{k+1} > n_k$ . So we get a subsequence  $n_k$  s.t.  $\mu\left(|f_{n_k}| > \frac{1}{k}\right) < \frac{1}{k^2}$ . Also  $\sum_k \frac{1}{k^2} < \infty$ , so  $\sum_k \mu\left(|f_{n_k}| > \frac{1}{k}\right) < \infty$ . So by the first Borel–Cantelli lemma, we have

$$\mu\left(\underbrace{\left|f_{n_k}\right| > \frac{1}{k} \text{ infinitely often}}_{f_{n_k} \not\rightarrow 0}\right) = 0$$

so  $f_{n_k} \rightarrow 0$  a.e. □

*Remark 19.* The first statement is false if  $\mu(E)$  is infinite: consider  $f_n = 1_{(n,\infty)}$  on  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}, \mu)$ , since  $f_n \rightarrow 0$  almost everywhere but  $\mu(f_n) = \infty$ .

The second statement is false if we do not restrict to subsequences: consider independent events  $A_n$  such that  $\mathbb{P}(A_n) = \frac{1}{n}$ , then  $1_{A_n} \rightarrow 0$  in probability since  $\mathbb{P}(1_{A_n} > \varepsilon) = \mathbb{P}(A_n) = \frac{1}{n} \rightarrow 0$ , but  $\sum_n \mathbb{P}(A_n) = \infty$ , and by the second Borel–Cantelli lemma,  $\mathbb{P}(1_{A_n} > \varepsilon \text{ infinitely often}) = 1$ , so  $1_{A_n} \not\rightarrow 0$  almost surely.

### Definition 2.12 (Convergence in Distribution)

For  $X$  and  $X_n$  a sequence of r.v.s, we say  $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X^a$  if  $F_{X_n}(t) \rightarrow F_X(t)$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  for all  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  which are continuity points of  $F_X$ .

<sup>a</sup> $X_n$  converges to  $X$  in distribution

*Remark 20.* This definition does not require  $X_n$  to be defined on the same probability space.

*Remark 21.* If  $X_n \rightarrow X$  in probability, then  $X_n \xrightarrow{d} X$ , see Sheet 2 for proof.

### Example 2.6

Let  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be iid  $\text{Exp}(1)$ , i.e.  $\mathbb{P}(X_n > x) = e^{-x}$  for  $x \geq 0$ .

#### Question

Find a deterministic fcn  $g : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  s.t. a.s.  $\limsup \frac{X_n}{g(n)} = 1$ .

Define  $A_n = \{X_n \geq \alpha \log n\}$  where  $\alpha > 0$ , so  $\mathbb{P}(A_n) = n^{-\alpha}$ , and in particular,  $\sum_n \mathbb{P}(A_n) < \infty$  if and only if  $\alpha > 1$ . By the Borel–Cantelli lemmas, we have for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,

$$\mathbb{P}\left(\frac{X_n}{\log n} \geq 1 \text{ infinitely often}\right) = 1; \quad \mathbb{P}\left(\frac{X_n}{\log n} \geq 1 + \varepsilon \text{ infinitely often}\right) = 0$$

In other words,  $\mathbb{P}(\limsup_n \frac{X_n}{\log n} = 1) = 1$ .

## §2.7 Kolmogorov's zero-one law

Let  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of r.v.s. We can define  $\mathcal{T}_n = \sigma(X_{n+1}, X_{n+2}, \dots)$ <sup>5</sup>. Let  $\mathcal{T} = \bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \mathcal{T}_n$  be the **tail  $\sigma$ -algebra**, which contains all events in  $\mathcal{F}$  that depend only on the ‘limiting behaviour’ of  $(X_n)$ .

### Theorem 2.4 (Kolmogorov 0-1 Law)

Let  $(X_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$  be a sequence of independent r.v.s. Let  $A \in \mathcal{T}$  be an event in the tail  $\sigma$ -algebra. Then  $\mathbb{P}(A) = 1$  or  $\mathbb{P}(A) = 0$ .

If  $Y: (\Omega, \mathcal{T}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B})$  is measurable, it is constant almost surely.

*Proof.* Define  $\mathcal{F}_n = \sigma(X_1, \dots, X_n)$  to be the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by the first  $n$  elements of  $(X_n)$ . This is also generated by the  $\pi$ -system of sets  $A = (X_1 \leq x_1, \dots, X_n \leq x_n)$  for any  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$ . Note that the  $\pi$ -system of sets  $B = (X_{n+1} \leq x_{n+1}, \dots, X_{n+k} \leq x_{n+k})$ , for arbitrary  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x_i \in \mathbb{R}$ , generates  $\mathcal{T}_n$ . By independence of the sequence, we see that  $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) = \mathbb{P}(A)\mathbb{P}(B)$  for all such sets  $A, B$ , and so the  $\sigma$ -algebras  $\mathcal{T}_n, \mathcal{F}_n$  generated by these  $\pi$ -systems are independent.

Let  $\mathcal{F}_\infty = \sigma(X_1, X_2, \dots)$ . Then,  $\bigcup_n \mathcal{F}_n$  is a  $\pi$ -system that generates  $\mathcal{F}_\infty$ . If  $A \in \bigcup_n \mathcal{F}_n$ , we have  $A \in \mathcal{F}_n$  for some  $n$ , so there exists  $\bar{n}$  such that  $B \in \mathcal{T}_{\bar{n}}$  is independent of  $A$ . In particular,  $B \in \bigcap_n \mathcal{T}_n = \mathcal{T}$ . By uniqueness,  $\mathcal{F}_\infty$  is independent of  $\mathcal{T}$ .

Since  $\mathcal{T} \subseteq \mathcal{F}_\infty$ , if  $A \in \mathcal{T}$ ,  $A$  is independent from  $A$ . So  $\mathbb{P}(A) = \mathbb{P}(A \cap A) = \mathbb{P}(A)\mathbb{P}(A)$ , so  $\mathbb{P}(A)^2 - \mathbb{P}(A) = 0$  as required.

Finally, if  $Y: (\Omega, \mathcal{T}) \rightarrow (\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B})$ , the preimages of  $\{Y \leq y\}$  lie in  $\mathcal{T}$ , which give probability one or zero. Let  $c = \inf \{y : F_Y(y) = 1\}$ , so  $Y = c$  almost surely.  $\square$

<sup>5</sup>The smallest  $\sigma$ -algebra s.t.  $X_{n+1}, \dots$  are measurable.