

Exercise 1.1: Let P be a probability measure on (Ω, \mathcal{F})

i) **Monotonicity:** If $A \subset B$ then $P(B) - P(A) = P(B - A) \geq 0$.

Let $C = B \cap A^c$. Then $A \cup C = B$. Because A and C are disjoint, we have that $P(B) = P(A \cup C) = P(A) + P(C)$. Then $P(B) - P(A) = P(C) = P(B \setminus A)$ which is greater or equal to zero since $P(C) \geq 0$. □

ii) **Subadditivity:** For $\langle A_m \rangle \in \mathcal{F}$ and $A \subset \cup^\infty A_m$ it follows that $P(A) \leq \sum^\infty P(A_m)$

Since $\langle A_m \rangle \in \mathcal{F}$ and \mathcal{F} is a sigma field, there exists $\langle B_m \rangle$ such that $B_i \cap B_j = \emptyset$ for $i \neq j$ and $\cup^\infty A_m = \cup^\infty B_m$ [2, pp. 17–18]. From (i) we know that $A \subset \cup B_m \implies P(A) \leq P(\cup B_m)$. Then

$$P(A) \leq P(\cup^\infty B_m) = \sum^\infty P(B_m) \leq \sum_*^\infty P(A_m)$$

The (*) inequality follows from how we define each element of $\langle B_m \rangle$:

$$\begin{aligned} B_i &= A_i \setminus [A_1 \cup \dots \cup A_{i-1}] \implies P(B_i) = P(A_i) - \sum_{j=1}^{i-1} P(A_j) \\ &\implies P(B_i) \leq P(A_i), \forall i \end{aligned}$$

□

iii) **Continuity from below:** If $A_i \uparrow A$ then $P(A_i) \uparrow P(A)$

By supposition, we know that for every i we have $A_i = \cup_{j=1}^i A_j$

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} P(A_i) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} P(\cup^i A_j) = P(A)$$

(I'm not sure if this is rigorous enough but ...)

□

iv) **Continuity from above:** If $A_i \downarrow A$ then $P(A_i) \downarrow P(A)$

For every i we have that $A_i = \cap_{j=1}^i A_j$

$$\lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} P(A_j) = \lim_{i \rightarrow \infty} P(\cap^i A_j) = P(A)$$

□

Exercise 1.2:

i) If \mathcal{F}_i , $i \in I$ are σ -fields then $\cap_{i \in I} \mathcal{F}_i$ is.

Suppose \mathcal{F}_i are σ -fields.

- Consider $A \in \cap_{i \in I} \mathcal{F}_i$. Then $\exists i$ such that $A \in \mathcal{F}_i$. So $A^c \in \mathcal{F}_i$ because \mathcal{F}_i is a σ -field. Then $A^c \in \cap_{i \in I} \mathcal{F}_i$.
- Consider $A_j \in \cap_{i \in I} \mathcal{F}_i$ a countable sequence of sets. Then $\forall j, \forall i$, $A_j \in \mathcal{F}_i$. Then $\cup A_j \in \mathcal{F}_i$, $\forall i$ because \mathcal{F}_i is a σ -field. Then $\cup A_j \in \cap_{i \in I} \mathcal{F}_i$

□

ii) Use the result in (i) to show if we are given a set Ω and a collection \mathcal{A} of subsets of Ω then there is a smallest σ -field containing \mathcal{A} .

Let \mathcal{A} be a collection of subsets of Ω . let $\mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{A}}$ be the set of sigma fields that contain \mathcal{A} . Define $\mathcal{F} = \cap_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{A}}$. From (i) we know that \mathcal{F} is a sigma field. By definition \mathcal{F} is the smallest sigma field containing \mathcal{A} since for sigma field \mathcal{C} such that $\mathcal{A} \subset \mathcal{C}$, we have $\mathcal{F} = \cap_{\mathcal{A}} \mathcal{F}_{\mathcal{A}} \subset \mathcal{C}$

□

With $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{F}, P)$ and \mathcal{B} the borel sets, define a random variable as a real valued function such that $X : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is \mathcal{F} measurable for every borel set

$$X^{-1}(B) \in \mathcal{F}, \quad B \in \mathcal{B}$$

Then X induces a probability measure on \mathbb{R} called its distribution

$$\mu(A) = P(X \in A) = P(X^{-1}(A)), \quad A \in \mathcal{B}$$

The **distribution function** is defined as

$$F(x) = P(X \leq x)$$

When the distribution function $F(x) = P(X \leq x)$ has the form

$$F(x) = \int_{-\infty}^x f(y)dy$$

we say that X has **density function** f .

Exercise 1.5: A σ -field \mathcal{F} is said to be **countably generated** if there is a countable collection $\mathcal{C} \subset \mathcal{F}$ so that $\sigma(\mathcal{C})$. Show that \mathcal{R}^d is countably generated.

\mathcal{R}^d are the Borel subsets of \mathbb{R}^n . First let's look at \mathcal{R} . We'll show that $\mathcal{G} = \{[q, \infty) : q \in \mathbb{Q}\}$ generates \mathcal{R} . Consider an arbitrary open interval $(a, b) \subset \mathbb{R}$, $a < b$. See that

$$[b, \infty)^c \cap \bigcup_n [a + 1/n, \infty) = (-\infty, b) \cap (a, \infty) = (a, b) \quad (1)$$

Remembering that every open set of real numbers is the countable union of disjoint open intervals [2, p. 42], we observe that using 1 as a way to generate open intervals, we can also generate any open set. Therefore $\mathcal{R} \subset \sigma(\mathcal{G})$. To see that $\sigma(\mathcal{B}) \subset \mathcal{R}$, observe that any interval $[q, \infty)$ can be generated by unions, intersections, and complements of open sets (very easy to show). Therefore $\mathcal{R} = \sigma(\mathcal{G})$. Since \mathcal{G} is countable, $\mathcal{G} \times \cdots \times \mathcal{G}$ is countable and $\sigma(\mathcal{G} \times \cdots \times \mathcal{G}) = \mathcal{R} \times \cdots \times \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{R}^d$. \square

Exercise 1.6: Suppose X and Y are random variables on (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) and let $A \in \mathcal{F}$. Show that if we let $Z(\omega) = X(\omega)$ for $\omega \in A$ and $Z(\omega) = Y(\omega)$ for $\omega \in A^c$, then Z is a random variable.

We want to show that $Z^{-1}(B) \in \mathcal{F}$ given $B \in \mathcal{R}$ (borel set). By supposition we have $Z^{-1}(B) \cap A = X^{-1}(B) \cap A$ and $Z^{-1}(B) \cap A^c = Y^{-1}(B) \cap A^c$. Therefore,

$$\begin{aligned} Z^{-1}(B) &= (Z^{-1}(B) \cap A) \cup (Z^{-1}(B) \cap A^c) \\ &= (X^{-1}(B) \cap A) \cup (Y^{-1}(B) \cap A^c) \stackrel{*}{\in} \mathcal{F} \end{aligned}$$

To show (*), observe that since X and Y are random variables, we know that $X^{-1}(B), Y^{-1}(B) \in \mathcal{F}$. Then since $A, A^c \in \mathcal{F}$ it's clear that both $X^{-1}(B) \cap A$ and $Y^{-1}(B) \cap A^c \in \mathcal{F}$. So their intersection must also be an element of \mathcal{F} . \square

Exercise 1.8: Show that a distribution function has at most countably many discontinuities.

Let $D = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : F(x-) \neq F(x+)\}$. Since F is increasing, $x \in D \implies F(x-) < F(x+) \implies F(x+) - F(x-) > 0$. However, it's also clear from the fact that F is increasing and $F(-\infty) = 0, F(\infty) = 1$ that $\sum_{x \in D} F(x+) - F(x-) \leq 1 < \infty$. Therefore D must be countable infinite since the sum over the terms is finite [1, p. 11]. \square

Alternate solution partially inspired from a clever answer on stack exchange

Let D be the set of points of discontinuity. Since $F(x-) < F(x+)$ for all $x \in D$, choose a rational r_x such that $F(x-) < r_x < F(x+)$. Because F is increasing, the intervals $(F(x-), F(x+))$ are mutually disjoint. So $x \rightarrow r_x$ is an injective function from $D \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$. Therefore D must be countably infinite. \square

Exercise 1.9:

Exercise 1.10:

Exercise 1.11:

Exercise 1.12:

References

- [1] G.B. Folland. *Real Analysis: Modern Techniques and Their Applications*. Pure and Applied Mathematics: A Wiley Series of Texts, Monographs and Tracts. Wiley, 2013. ISBN: 9781118626399.
- [2] H. L. Royden. *Real analysis / H.L. Royden*. eng. Third edition. New York: Macmillan, 1988 - 1988. ISBN: 0024041513.