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# 1 Assignment Questions

**Instruction:** Attempt any four of the following questions -

1. Give examples of families of sets that are not an algebra or a  $\sigma$  - algebra.
2. Prove that each closed subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is a  $G_\delta$  and each open subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is  $F_\sigma$  - set.
3. Prove that Lebesgue outer measure on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is an outer measure, and it assigns to each  $d$  - dimensional interval its volume.
4. Let  $(X, \mathcal{A})$  be a measurable space, and let  $A$  be a subset of  $X$  that belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$ . For a function  $f : A \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the conditions
  - (a)  $f$  is measurable with respect to  $\mathcal{A}$ ,
  - (b) for each open subset  $U$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  the set  $f^{-1}(U)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$ ,
  - (c) for each closed subset  $C$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  the set  $f^{-1}(C)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$ , and
  - (d) for each Borel subset  $B$  of  $\mathbb{R}$  the set  $f^{-1}(B)$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$are equivalent.
5. Let  $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$  be a measure space. Let  $(Y, \mathcal{B})$  be a measurable space and let  $f : (X, \mathcal{A}) \rightarrow (Y, \mathcal{B})$  be measurable. Let  $g$  be an extended real valued  $\mathcal{B}$  measurable function on  $Y$  then  $g$  is  $\mu f^{-1}$  integrable if and only if  $g \circ f$  is  $\mu$  - integrable. If these are integrable then

$$\int_Y g d(\mu f^{-1}) = \int_X g \circ f d\mu$$



## 2 Solution of Assignment Questions

### 2.1 Solution of Question No. 1

Let us define  $\sigma$ -algebra;

A collection  $\mathcal{A}$  of subsets of  $X$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra<sup>1</sup> on  $X$  If

- a)  $X \in \mathcal{A}$ ,
- b) for each set  $A$  that belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$ , the set  $A^c$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$ .
- c) for each infinite sequence  $\{A_i\}$  of sets that belong to  $\mathcal{A}$ , the set  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  
and
- d) for each infinite sequence  $\{A_i\}$  of sets that belong to  $\mathcal{A}$ , the set  $\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} A_i$  belongs to  $\mathcal{A}$

Thus a  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $X$  is a family of subsets of  $X$  that contains  $X$  and is closed under complementation, under the formation of countable unions, and under the formation of countable intersections.

#### Examples of Families of sets that are not $\sigma$ -algebra :

- 1) Let  $X$  be an infinite set, and let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the collection of all finite subsets of  $X$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}$  does not contain  $X$  and is not closed under complementation; hence it is not an algebra (or a  $\sigma$ -algebra) on  $X$ .
- 2) Let  $X$  be an infinite set, and let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the collection of all subsets  $A$  of  $X$  such that either  $A$  or  $A^c$  is finite. Then  $\mathcal{A}$  is an algebra on  $X$  but is not closed under the formation of countable unions; hence it is not a  $\sigma$ -algebra.
- 3) Let  $X$  be an uncountable set, and let  $\mathcal{A}$  be the collection of all countable (i.e., finite or countably infinite) subsets of  $X$ . Then  $\mathcal{A}$  does not contain  $X$  and is not closed under complementation; hence it is not an algebra.
- 4) Let  $L$  be the collection of all finite disjoint unions of all intervals of the form:

$$(-\infty, a], (a, b], (b, \infty), \emptyset, \mathbb{R}.$$

Then  $L$  is an algebra over  $\mathbb{R}$ , but not a  $\sigma$ -algebra because union of sets  $\left\{ \left(0, \frac{i-1}{i}\right] \right\}$  for all  $i \geq 1 = (0, 1) \notin L$ .

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<sup>1</sup>The terms field and  $\sigma$ -field are sometimes used in place of algebra and  $\sigma$ -algebra.



## 2.2 Solution of Question No. 2

Suppose that  $F$  is a closed subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$ . We need to construct a sequence  $\{U_n\}$  of open subsets of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  such that  $F = \bigcap_n U_n$ . For this define  $U_n$  by

$$U_n = \left\{ x \in \mathbb{R}^d : \|x - y\| < \frac{1}{n} \quad \text{for some } y \text{ in } F \right\}$$

(Note that  $U_n$  is empty if  $F$  is empty.) It is clear that each  $U_n$  is open and that  $F \subseteq \bigcap_n U_n$ . The reverse inclusion follows from the fact that  $F$  is closed (note that each point in  $\bigcap_n U_n$  is the limit of a sequence of points in  $F$ ). Hence each closed subset of  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is a  $G_\delta$ .

If  $U$  is open, then  $U^c$  is closed and so is a  $G_\delta$ . Thus there is a sequence  $\{U_n\}$  of open sets such that  $U^c = \bigcap_n U_n$ . The sets  $U_n^c$  are then closed, and  $U = \bigcup_n U_n^c$ ; hence  $U$  is an  $F_\sigma$ .

## 2.3 Solution of Question No. 3

We begin by verifying that  $m^*$  is an outer measure. The relation  $m^*(\emptyset) = 0$  holds, since for each positive number  $\epsilon$  there is a sequence  $\{(a_i, b_i)\}$  of open intervals (whose union necessarily includes  $\emptyset$ ) such that  $\sum_i (b_i - a_i) < \epsilon$ . For the monotonicity of  $m^*$ , note that if  $A \subseteq B$ , then each sequence of open intervals that covers  $B$  also covers  $A$ , and so  $m^*(A) \leq m^*(B)$ . Now consider the countable subadditivity of  $m^*$ . Let  $\{A_n\}_{n=1}^\infty$  be an arbitrary sequence of subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$ . If  $\sum_n m^*(A_n) = +\infty$ , then  $m^*(\bigcup_n A_n) \leq \sum_n m^*(A_n)$  certainly holds.

So suppose that  $\sum_n m^*(A_n) < +\infty$ , and let  $\epsilon$  be an arbitrary positive number. For each  $n$  choose a sequence  $\{(a_{n,i}, b_{n,i})\}_{i=1}^\infty$  that covers  $A_n$  and satisfies

$$\sum_{i=1}^\infty (b_{n,i} - a_{n,i}) < m^*(A_n) + \frac{\epsilon}{2^n}.$$

If we combine these sequences into one sequence  $\{(a_j, b_j)\}_j$ , then the combined sequence satisfies

$$\bigcup_n A_n \subseteq \bigcup_j (a_j, b_j)$$

and

$$\sum_j (b_j - a_j) < \sum_n \left( m^*(A_n) + \frac{\epsilon}{2^n} \right) = \sum_n m^*(A_n) + \epsilon$$



These relations, together with the fact that  $\epsilon$  is arbitrary, imply that  $m^*(\cup_n A_n) \leq \sum_n m^*(A_n)$ . Thus  $m^*$  is an outer measure.

Now, Suppose that if  $K$  is a compact  $d$ -dimensional interval and if  $\{\mathbb{R}_i\}_{i=1}^\infty$  is a sequence of bounded and open  $d$ -dimensional intervals for which  $K \subseteq \cup_{n=1}^\infty \mathbb{R}_i$ , then there is a positive integer  $n$  such that  $K \subseteq \cup_{n=1}^\infty \mathbb{R}_i$ , and  $K$  can be decomposed into a finite collection  $\{K_j\}$  of  $d$ -dimensional intervals that overlap only on their boundaries and are such that for each  $j$  the interior of  $K_j$  is included in some  $\mathbb{R}_i$  (where  $i \leq n$ ). From this it follows that

$$\text{vol}(K) = \sum_j \text{vol}(K_j) \leq \sum_i \text{vol}(\mathbb{R}_i)$$

and hence that  $\text{vol}(K) \leq m^*(K)$ .

Overall, we shown that "Lebesgue outer measure on  $\mathbb{R}^d$  is an outer measure, and it assigns to each  $d$ -dimensional interval its volume".

## 2.4 Solution of Question No. 4

Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{B \subseteq \mathbb{R} : f^{-1}(B) \in \mathcal{A}\}$ . Then the fact that  $f^{-1}(\mathbb{R}) = A$  and the identities

$$f^{-1}(B^c) = A - f^{-1}(B)$$

and

$$f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_n B_n\right) = \bigcup_n f^{-1}(B_n)$$

imply that  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $\mathbb{R}$ . To require that  $f$  be measurable is to require that  $\mathcal{F}$  contain all the intervals of the form  $(-\infty, b]$  or equivalently (since  $\mathcal{F}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra) to require that  $\mathcal{F}$  include the  $\sigma$ -algebra on  $\mathbb{R}$  generated by these intervals. Since the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by these intervals is the  $\sigma$ -algebra of Borel subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  so it is obvious, conditions (a) and (d) are equivalent. However the  $\sigma$ -algebra of Borel subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  is also generated by the collection of all open subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$  and by the collection of all closed subsets of  $\mathbb{R}$ , and so conditions (b) and (c) are equivalent to the others.



### 3 References

- Measure Theory : Donald L. Cohn (Birkhauser edition)
- Measure, Integration & Real Analysis : Sheldon Axler (Springer edition)
- JBH (<https://math.stackexchange.com/users/91349/jbh>), Example of an algebra which is not a  $\sigma$ -algebra., URL (version: 2013-08-22): <https://math.stackexchange.com/q/473549>
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