

1. Carothers 16.4 [Sakti]
2. Carothers 16.12 [Mason]
3. Carothers 16.16 (Solution by Lander Ver Hoef)

If  $m^*(E) = 0$ , show that  $m^*(E \cup A) = m^*(A) = m^*(A \setminus E)$  for any  $A$ .

**Solution:**

Suppose we have some set  $E$  such that  $m^*(E) = 0$ , and let  $A$  be any subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . Observe that  $A \subseteq A \cup E$ , so  $m^*(A) \leq m^*(A \cup E)$ . But  $m^*(A \cup E) \leq m^*(A) + m^*(E) = m^*(A) + 0$ , so  $m^*(A) = m^*(A \cup E)$ .

Similarly,  $A \setminus E \subseteq A$ , so  $m^*(A \setminus E) \leq m^*(A)$ , and  $A \subseteq (A \setminus E) \cup E$ , so  $m^*(A) \leq m^*(A \setminus E) + m^*(E) = m^*(A \setminus E)$ . Thus,  $m^*(A) = m^*(A \setminus E)$ .

4. Carothers 16.22 [Jody]: Let  $E = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n$ . Show that  $m^*(E) = 0$  if and only if  $m^*(E_n) = 0$  for every  $n$ .

**Solution:**

Since  $m^*$  is countably subadditive, then if  $m^*(E_n) = 0$  for every  $n$  we have that  $m^*(E) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} m^*(E_n) = 0$ . Since  $m^*(A) \geq 0$  for all  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  then  $m^*(E) \leq 0$  implies  $m^*(E) = 0$ . Now suppose  $m^*(E) = 0$ . Note for each  $E_n$  that  $m^*(E_n) \leq m^*(E) = 0$ , which implies  $m^*(E_n) = 0$ .

5. [Carothers 16.24] (Solution by Max Heldman)

Given  $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ , there is a  $G_\delta$ -set  $G$  so that  $m^*(G) = m^*(E)$ .

**Solution:**

By **Exercise 16.12**,  $m^*(E) = \inf\{m^*(U) : U \text{ is open and } E \subseteq U\}$ . Hence there is a sequence of open sets  $(U_n)$  so that  $E \subseteq U_n$  for each  $n$  and  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m^*(U_n) = m^*(E)$ . Take  $U = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} U_n$ , and observe that  $E \subseteq U$ , so  $m^*(E) \leq m^*(U)$ . Moreover, for every  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  so that  $0 \leq m^*(U_n) - m^*(E) < \epsilon$ . But since  $U \subseteq U_n$ ,  $m^*(U) \leq m^*(U_n)$ , which implies

$$0 \leq m^*(U) - m^*(E) \leq m^*(U_n) - m^*(E) < \epsilon.$$

Hence  $m^*(U) = m^*(E)$ .

6. Carothers 16.25 (Solution by Lander Ver Hoef)

Suppose that  $m^*(E) > 0$ . Given  $0 < \alpha < 1$ , show that there exists an open interval  $I$  such that  $m^*(E \cap I) > \alpha m^*(E)$ . [Hint: It is enough to consider the case  $m^*(E) < \infty$ . Now suppose that the conclusion fails.]

**Solution:**

Let  $E_n = E \cap [-n, n]$ . Observe that as  $n$  goes to infinity,  $m^*(E_n)$  goes to  $m^*(E)$ , so there exists an  $n$  such that  $m^*(E_n) > 0$ , but  $m^*(E_n) \leq 2n < \infty$ , and  $E_n \subseteq E$ . Thus, if we can find an interval  $I$  that satisfies the condition for  $E_n$ , that same interval will satisfy the condition for  $E$ . Thus, we may consider only sets with finite outer measure.

So, suppose  $0 < m^*(E) < \infty$ . Choose  $\alpha$  such that  $0 < \alpha < 1$ . Suppose to produce a contradiction that for all open intervals  $I$ ,

$$m^*(E \cap I) \leq \alpha m^*(I).$$

Let  $\varepsilon > 0$  such that  $m^*(E) + \varepsilon < \frac{1}{\alpha} m^*(E)$ . Then there exists a measuring cover  $\{I_k\}$  such that

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} m^*(I_k) < m^*(E) + \varepsilon < \frac{1}{\alpha} m^*(E).$$

That is,  $m^*(E) > \alpha \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} m^*(I_k)$ .

Next, note that because  $E$  is a subset of  $\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k$ ,

$$m^*(E) = m^*\left(E \cap \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} I_k\right) = m^*\left(\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} E \cap I_k\right) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} m^*(E \cap I_k),$$

by countable subadditivity. But then, by our hypothesis,

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} m^*(E \cap I_k) \leq \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \alpha m^*(I_k) = \alpha \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} m^*(I_k) < m^*(E).$$

Thus,  $m^*(E) < m^*(E)$ , which is a contradiction.

7. Carothers 16.28 [Mason]
8. Carothers 16.40 [Sakti]
9. [Carothers 16.42] (Solution by Max Heldman)

Suppose  $E$  is measurable with  $m(E) = 1$ . Then

- a) There is a measurable set  $F \subseteq E$  such that  $m(F) = 1/2$ .

**Solution:**

Define  $f : \mathbb{R}^+ \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  by  $f(x) = m([-x, x] \cap E)$ . Let  $\varepsilon > 0$ , and suppose  $x, y \in \mathbb{R}^+$  with  $x > y$ . Then

$$\begin{aligned} |f(x) - f(y)| &= m([-x, x] \cap E) - m([-y, y] \cap E) \\ &= m(([-x, x] \setminus [-y, y]) \cap E) + m([-y, y] \cap E) - m([-y, y] \cap E) \\ &\leq m([-x, -y]) + m((y, x]) \\ &= 2|x - y|. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $f$  is Lipschitz continuous. Since  $f(0) = 0$ , by the Intermediate Value Theorem we need only show that there exists  $b \in \mathbb{R}^+$  so that  $f(b) \geq 1/2$ .

For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $E_n = [-n, n] \cap E$ , and observe that  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} E_n = E$ . The  $E_n$  are nested, so  $\lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} m(E_n) = m(E) = 1$ . But  $f(n) = m(E_n)$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , so there exists  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  so that  $f(n) > 1/2$ .

- b) There is a closed set  $F$ , consisting entirely of irrationals, so that  $F \subseteq E$  and  $m(F) = 1/2$ .

**Solution:**

Let  $A = E \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ . Since  $m(\mathbb{Q}) = 0$ ,  $m(A) = m(E) = 1$ . Since  $A$  is measurable, there exists a sequence  $(V_n)$  of closed sets so that  $V_n \subseteq A$  and  $m(V_n) \rightarrow m(A) = 1$ . In particular, there is a closed set  $V \subseteq A$  so that  $m(V) > 1/2$ . By (a), there exists  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  so that  $F = V \cap [-x, x]$  has measure  $1/2$ . Since  $F$  is an intersection of closed sets,  $F$  is closed, and  $F$  consists of only irrationals since  $F \subseteq A \subseteq \mathbb{Q}^c$ .

- c) There is a compact set  $F$  with empty interior so that  $F \subseteq E$  and  $m(F) = 1/2$ .

**Solution:**

The set  $F \subseteq E$  produced in part (b) is closed, bounded (and therefore compact) and has an empty interior (since it contains only irrationals), and  $m(F) = 1/2$ .

10. Carothers 16.44 [Jody]: Let  $E$  be a measurable set with  $m(E) > 0$ . Prove that  $E - E = \{x - y : x, y \in E\}$  contains an interval centered at 0.

**Solution:**

Since  $m(E) > 0$  then by Exercise 16.25 there exists an open interval  $I$  such that  $m(E \cap I) > 3m(I)/4$ . Let  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  so that  $|x| < m(I)/2$ . Then  $x$  shifts  $I$  by no more than  $m(I)/2$ , which implies  $m((I+x) \setminus I) \leq m(I)/2$ . Observe

$$m(I \cup (I+x)) = m(((I+x) \setminus I) \cup I) = m((I+x) \setminus I) + m(I) \leq m(I)/2 + m(I) = 3m(I)/2.$$

Suppose  $E$  and  $E+x$  are disjoint. Since  $E \cap I \subseteq E$  and  $(E \cap I) + x \subseteq E+x$  then  $E \cap I$  and  $(E \cap I) + x$  are disjoint. Moreover  $(E \cap I) \cup (E \cap I) + x \subseteq I \cup (I+x)$ , thus monotonicity of  $m$  implies

$$m((E \cap I) \cup (E \cap I) + x) \leq m(I \cup (I+x)) \leq 3m(I)/2.$$

Since  $E \cap I$  and  $(E \cap I) + x$  are disjoint then

$$m((E \cap I) \cup (E \cap I) + x) = m(E \cap I) + m((E \cap I) + x) = 2m(E \cap I),$$

which implies  $m(E \cap I) \leq 3m(I)/4$ , a contradiction of  $3m(I)/4 < m(E \cap I)$ . So there exists  $y \in (E+x) \cap E$ . That is,  $y \in E$  and  $y = x + z$  for some  $z \in E$ , which implies  $x = y - z \in E - E$ . Hence for all  $|R| < m(I)/2$  we have that  $(-|R|, |R|) \subseteq E - E$ .

11. Carothers 16.45 (Solution by former 641 student TJ Barry)

Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be any function.

- a) If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra of subsets of  $Y$ , prove that  $\mathcal{A} = \{f^{-1}(B) : B \in \mathcal{B}\}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra of subsets of  $X$ .
- b) If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra of subsets of  $X$ , prove that  $\mathcal{B} = \{B : f^{-1}(B) \in \mathcal{A}\}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra of subsets of  $Y$ .

**Solution, part a:**

Let  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  be arbitrary. Note,  $A = f^{-1}(B)$  for some  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ . Hence,

$$A^c = \left(f^{-1}(B)\right)^c = f^{-1}(B^c).$$

Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra,  $B^c \in \mathcal{B}$ , and hence  $A^c \in \mathcal{A}$ .

Similarly, let  $\{A_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a countable collection of subsets of  $\mathcal{A}$ . Then for each  $i$ ,  $A_i = f^{-1}(B_i)$  for some  $B_i \in \mathcal{B}$ . Hence,

$$\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i = \bigcup_{i \in I} f^{-1}(B_i) = f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} B_i\right).$$

Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra,  $\bigcup_{i \in I} B_i \in \mathcal{B}$ , and hence  $\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i \in \mathcal{A}$ .

Thus,  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed under complements and countable unions. By De Morgan's laws we also find that  $\mathcal{A}$  is closed under countable intersections. Therefore, we conclude that  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra.

**Solution, part b:**

Let  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  be arbitrary. Note,  $f^{-1}(B^c) = \left(f^{-1}(B)\right)^c$ . Since  $f^{-1}(B) \in \mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra,  $\left(f^{-1}(B)\right)^c \in \mathcal{A}$ . Thus,  $f^{-1}(B^c) \in \mathcal{A}$ , and hence  $B^c \in \mathcal{B}$ .

Now, let  $\{B_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a countable collection of subsets of  $\mathcal{B}$ . Then  $f^{-1}(B_i) \in \mathcal{A}$  for each  $i \in I$ , and hence  $\bigcup_{i \in I} f^{-1}(B_i) \in \mathcal{A}$ . But  $\bigcup_{i \in I} f^{-1}(B_i) = f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} B_i\right)$ , so we have  $f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} B_i\right) \in \mathcal{A}$ , and hence  $\bigcup_{i \in I} B_i \in \mathcal{B}$ .

Thus,  $\mathcal{B}$  is closed under complements and countable unions. By De Morgan's laws we can easily show that  $\mathcal{B}$  is closed under countable intersections. Therefore, we conclude that  $\mathcal{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra.

**12. Carothers 16.53 (Solution by David Maxwell)**

Show that  $\mathcal{B}$  is generated by each of the following:

- (i) The open intervals  $\mathcal{E}_1 = \{(a, b) : a < b\}$ .
- (ii) The closed intervals  $\mathcal{E}_2 = \{[a, b] : a < b\}$ .
- (iii) The half-open intervals  $\mathcal{E}_3 = \{(a, b], [a, b) : a < b\}$ .
- (iv) The open rays  $\mathcal{E}_4 = \{(a, \infty), (-\infty, b) : a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .
- (iv) The closed rays  $\mathcal{E}_5 = \{[a, \infty), (-\infty, b] : a, b \in \mathbb{R}\}$ .

**Solution:**

Note that each  $\mathcal{E}_k$  is a collection of Borel sets. This is certainly true for  $\mathcal{E}_1$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_2$ ,  $\mathcal{E}_4$ , and  $\mathcal{E}_5$  since these are collections of open or closed sets. Every half open interval  $(a, b]$  or  $[a, b)$  is a  $G_\delta$  set (being the intersection  $\bigcap_n (a - 1/n, b)$  and  $\bigcap_n (a, b + 1/n)$  respectively). Hence

the elements of  $\mathcal{E}_3$  are Borel sets as well. Hence for each  $k$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra containing  $\mathcal{E}_k$  and therefore

$$\sigma(\mathcal{E}_k) \subseteq \mathcal{B}.$$

Let  $\mathcal{F} = \{(a, \infty) : a \in \mathbb{R}\}$ . We will show that  $\sigma(\mathcal{F}) = \mathcal{B}$ , and that  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \sigma(\mathcal{E}_k)$  for every  $k$ . Having done this, we can conclude that

$$\mathcal{B} = \sigma(\mathcal{F}) \subseteq \sigma(\mathcal{E}_k)$$

for each  $k$  and hence  $\sigma(\mathcal{E}_k) = \mathcal{B}$ .

Suppose  $U$  is an open set. Then  $U$  is a countable union of open intervals. To show that  $U \in \sigma(\mathcal{F})$ , it is enough to show that any open interval is in  $\sigma(\mathcal{F})$ . But  $\sigma(\mathcal{F})$  contains, by taking complements, any closed ray  $(-\infty, b]$  and by taking finite intersections any half open interval  $(a, b]$ . Now by taking countable unions of sets of the form  $(a, b - 1/n]$  we have  $\sigma(\mathcal{F})$  contains any bounded open intervals  $(a, b)$ . But any unbounded open interval can be written as a countable union of open intervals. Hence  $\sigma(\mathcal{F})$  contains the open intervals and hence the open sets. Since  $\mathcal{B}$  is the smallest such  $\sigma$ -algebra,  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \sigma(\mathcal{F})$ . But the elements of  $\mathcal{F}$  are Borel sets, so  $\sigma(\mathcal{F}) \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ . Hence  $\mathcal{B} = \sigma(\mathcal{F})$ .

Let  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  and let  $I = (a, \infty)$ . We will show that  $I \in \sigma(\mathcal{E}_k)$  for each  $k$  and hence  $\mathcal{F} \subseteq \sigma(\mathcal{E}_k)$ . Notice

$$I = \cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (a, a + n)$$

$$I = \cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} [a + 1/n, a + n]$$

$$I = \cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} (a, a + n]$$

$$I = (a, \infty)$$

$$I = \cup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} [a + 1/n, \infty).$$

In each case we have exhibited  $I$  as an element or countable union of elements of each  $\mathcal{E}_k$ . So  $I \in \sigma(\mathcal{E}_k)$  for each  $k$ .