

# Athreya Lahiri Chapter 1 Solutions

Arthur Chen

May 9, 2025

## Problem 1.19

Let  $\Omega$  be a nonempty set and let  $C \subset \mathcal{P}(\Omega)$  be a semialgebra. Let

$$\mathcal{A}(C) = \{A : A = \bigcup_{i=1}^k B_i : B_i \in C, i = 1, 2 \dots k, k \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

### Part a

Show that  $\mathcal{A}(C)$  is the smallest algebra containing  $C$ .

**Lemma 1**  $\mathcal{A}(C)$  is an algebra.

**Proof:** For  $\Omega \in \mathcal{A}(C)$ , let  $A \in C$  be arbitrary. Because  $C$  is a semialgebra,  $A^C = \bigcap_{i=1}^k B_i, B_i \in C$ , so  $A^C \in C$ . Thus  $A \cap A^C = \Omega \in \mathcal{A}(C)$ .

For closure under compliments,  $A \in \mathcal{A}(C)$  implies by definition that  $A = \bigcup_{i=1}^k B_i, B_i \in C$ , and taking compliments  $A^C = \bigcap_{i=1}^k B_i^C$ . Because  $B_i \in C$  and  $C$  is a semialgebra, each  $B_i^C$  is the finite union of  $C_j \in C$ . Thus

$$A^C = \bigcap_{i=1}^k \bigcup_{j=1}^{l_i} C_j$$

Distributing the intersection, we get the union of a finite number of pairwise intersections, e.g.  $A^C = (C_{11} \cap C_{12}) \cup (C_{11} \cap C_{13}) \cup \dots$ . All of the pairwise intersections are in  $C$ , and thus their union is in  $\mathcal{A}(C)$ . Thus  $A^C \in \mathcal{A}(C)$ .

Closure under finite union is immediate.  $\square$

Showing that  $\mathcal{A}(C)$  is the smallest algebra containing  $C$  is equivalent to showing that if  $B$  is an algebra such that  $C \subset B$ , then  $\mathcal{A}(C) \subset B$ . But this is almost immediate. Let  $M \in \mathcal{A}(C)$ . By definition of  $\mathcal{A}(C)$ ,  $M = \bigcap_{i=1}^k M_k, M_k \in C, k \in \mathbb{N}$ . Since  $B$  is an algebra contain  $C$ ,  $M \in B$ . Thus  $\mathcal{A}(C) \subset B$ , as desired.

## Part b

Show that  $\sigma\langle C \rangle = \sigma\langle \mathcal{A}(C) \rangle$ .

Trivially,  $C \subset \mathcal{A}(C)$  implies  $\sigma\langle C \rangle \subset \sigma\langle \mathcal{A}(C) \rangle$ . For the reverse, let  $M \in \sigma\langle \mathcal{A}(C) \rangle$ . Then  $M$  is the countable union of elements in  $\mathcal{A}(C)$ , and thus it is the countable union of elements in  $C$  and thus in  $\sigma\langle C \rangle$ .

## Problem 1.20

Let  $C$  be a semialgebra  $\Omega$  with  $\mu$  a measure on  $C$ . Let  $\mu^*$  be the outer measure induced by  $\mu^*$ , defined as

$$\mu^*(A) := \inf \left\{ \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_n) : \{A_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subset C, A \subset \bigcup_{n \geq 1} A_n \right\}$$

Show that  $\mu^*$  satisfies the following three properties making it an outer measure:

- Non-negativity:  $\mu^*(\emptyset) = 0$
- Monotonicity:  $A \subset B \Rightarrow \mu^*(A) \leq \mu^*(B)$
- Countable sub-additivity: For any  $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subset P(\Omega)$ ,  $\mu^*\left(\bigcup_{n \geq 1} A_n\right) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu^*(A_n)$

**Lemma 2** For a (non-empty) semi-algebra  $C$ ,  $\emptyset \in C$ .

**Proof:** Let  $A \in C$ . Then  $A^C = \bigcup_{i=1}^k B_i$ ,  $k$  finite,  $B_i \in C$ . Then  $A \cap B_i = \emptyset$ , and since  $C$  is closed to complements,  $\emptyset \in C$ .  $\square$

For non-negativity,  $\emptyset \in C$  and  $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$  imply  $\mu^*(\emptyset) = 0$ . For monotonicity, consider any cover of  $B$  with sets in  $C$ . Then that cover also covers  $A$ . Since  $\mu^*(A)$  is the infimum of the sum of the measures of sets in  $C$  that cover  $A$ , monotonicity follows immediately.

For countable sub-additivity, if the sum on the right is infinite, then the result is immediate. Otherwise,  $\mu^*(A_n) < \infty$  for all  $n$  and the outer measures of  $A_n$  decrease enough so that the sum is (absolutely) convergent.

Let  $0 < \epsilon < \infty$ . Since  $\mu^*(A_n)$  is the infimum over covers of  $A_n$  with elements in  $C$ , there exist  $\{A_{nj}\}_{j \geq 1} \subset C$  such that

$$\mu^*(A_n) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_{nj}) \leq \mu^*(A_n) + \frac{\epsilon}{2^n}$$

The union of covers over the  $A_n$ ,  $\bigcup_{n \geq 1} \bigcup_{j \geq 1} A_{nj}$ , form a cover for  $\bigcup_{n \geq 1} A_n$ . Thus

$$\mu^* \left( \bigcup_{n \geq 1} A_n \right) \leq \mu \left( \bigcup_{n=1} \bigcup_{j=1} A_{nj} \right) \leq \sum_{n=1} \sum_{j=1} \mu(A_{nj}) \leq \sum_{n=1} \left( \mu^*(A_n) + \frac{\epsilon}{2^n} \right)$$

which proves the desired result.

## Problem 1.22

Let  $F : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be nondecreasing. Let  $(a, b], (a_n, b_n], n \in \mathbb{N}$  be intervals in  $\mathbb{R}$  such that  $(a, b] = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} (a_n, b_n]$  and  $\{(a_n, b_n] : n \geq 1\}$  are disjoint. Let  $\mu_F(\cdot)$  be

$$\begin{aligned} \mu_F((a, b]) &= F(b+) - F(a+) \\ \mu_F((a, \infty)) &= F(\infty) - F(a+) \end{aligned}$$

Show that  $\mu_F((a, b]) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \mu_F((a_n, b_n])$  and is thus countably additive with the following:

### Part b

Assume wlog that  $F(\cdot)$  is right continuous (which follows trivially from the definition). Show that for any  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,

$$F(b) - F(a) \geq \sum_{i=1}^k (F(b_i) - F(a_i))$$

which implies that

$$F(b) - F(a) \geq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} (F(b_i) - F(a_i))$$

Wlog, assume that the intervals are indexed so that  $a_{i+1} > a_i$ . Choose  $k$  of the intervals, being sure to choose the  $a_1 = a$  and  $a_k$  corresponding to the interval with right endpoint  $b$ . Since the intervals are disjoint,  $b_{i-1} \leq a_i$  and since  $F$  is nondecreasing, this implies that  $F(b_{i-1}) \leq F(a_i)$ . Thus by telescoping,

$$\begin{aligned} F(b) - F(a) &= \sum_{i=2}^k F(b_i) - F(b_{i-1}) + F(b_1) - F(a) \\ &\geq \sum_{i=1}^k F(b_i) - F(a_i) \end{aligned}$$

for all  $k$ , which implies the desired result.

### Part c

Fix  $\eta > 0$ . Choose  $c > a$  and  $d_n > b_n, n \geq 1$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} F(c) - F(a) &< \eta \\ F(d_n) - F(b_n) &< \frac{\eta}{2^n} \end{aligned}$$

We know that  $\{(a_n, d_n)\}_{n \geq 1}$  is an open cover for  $[c, b]$ , so by the Heine-Borel theorem, there exists a finite subcover  $\{(a_i, d_i)\}_{i=1}^k$  for  $[c, b]$ . Wlog, index the intervals in the finite subcover such that  $c \in (a_1, d_1)$  and  $b \in (a_k, d_k)$ . Thus letting  $b_k$  be the  $b_i$  that corresponds to  $d_k$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} F(b) - F(a) &= F(b_k) - F(a_k) + F(a_k) - \cdots + F(a_1) - F(a) \\ &\leq F(d_k) - F(a_k) + F(d_{k-1}) - F(a_{k-1}) + \cdots + F(c) - F(a) \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^k \left( F(b_i) - F(a_i) + \frac{\eta}{2^n} \right) + \eta \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^k F(b_i) - F(a_i) + 2\eta \end{aligned}$$

which implies the desired result.

## Problem 1.26

Establish the uniqueness of the Caratheodory extension with the following. Let  $\mu$  be a  $\sigma$ -finite measure on a semialgebra  $C$ . Let  $\nu$  be a measure on the measurable space  $(\Omega, \sigma\langle C \rangle)$ , such that  $\nu = \mu$  on  $C$ . We want to prove that  $\nu = \mu^*$  on  $\sigma\langle C \rangle$ .

### Part a

Suppose that  $\nu(\Omega) < \infty$ . Verify that  $L := \{A : A \in \sigma\langle C \rangle, \mu^*(A) = \nu(A)\}$  is a  $\lambda$  system and use the  $\pi - \lambda$  theorem.

We first state a lemma that  $\sigma\langle C \rangle \subset M_{\mu^*}$ , since  $M_{\mu^*}$  is a  $\sigma$ -algebra that contains  $C$ .

We verify the assumptions of a  $\lambda$  system. For  $\Omega \in L$ , since  $C$  is a semialgebra, we know that there are finite disjoint sets  $A_1 \dots A_k \in C$  such that  $\bigcup_{i=1}^k A_i = \Omega$ . Thus

$$\nu(\Omega) = \nu\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^k A_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^k \nu(A_i) = \sum_{i=1}^k \mu^*(A_i) = \mu^*\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^k A_i\right) = \mu^*(\Omega)$$

where the middle equality follows because  $\nu = \mu = \mu^*$  on  $C$ . Thus  $\Omega \in L$ .

For closure under complement, let  $A, B \in L$ . Then since  $A, B \in \sigma\langle C \rangle$ , both are measurable under  $\nu$  and  $\mu^*$ , so

$$\nu(B \setminus A) = \nu(B) - \nu(A) = \mu^*(B) - \mu^*(A) = \mu^*(B \setminus A)$$

and so  $B \setminus A \in L$ . These expressions are well-defined because  $\nu(\Omega) < \infty$ , so  $\nu(A) < \infty$ .

For closure under monotone increasing union, let  $A_1, \dots \in L$ , with  $A_n \subset A_{n+1}$  for all  $n$ . Let  $B_1 = A_1, B_n = A_n \setminus A_{n-1}$ . Since the  $A_n \in L$ , by the above,  $B_n \in L$ . It's also clear that  $\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty A_i = \bigcup_{i=1}^\infty B_i$ . Thus

$$\nu\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty B_i\right) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty \nu(B_i) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty \mu^*(B_i) = \mu^*\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty B_i\right)$$

Thus  $\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty A_i \in L$ , and  $L$  is a  $\lambda$ -system. Since  $C$  is a semialgebra and thus a  $\pi$ -system, the  $\pi - \lambda$  theorem states that  $\lambda\langle C \rangle = \sigma\langle C \rangle$ , which implies that  $\sigma\langle C \rangle \subset L$ . But by definition,  $L \subset \sigma\langle C \rangle$ , and thus  $L = \sigma\langle C \rangle$ . Thus  $\mu^*(A) = \nu(A)$  for all  $A \in \sigma\langle C \rangle$ , as desired.

## Part b

Extend the result to the  $\sigma$ -finite case.

The only result that needs to be changed in Part ii. Because  $\Omega$  is  $\sigma$ -finite on  $C$ , there exist countable sets  $\{C_i\} \subset C$ , not necessarily disjoint, such that  $\mu(C_i) < \infty$  and  $\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty C_i = \Omega$ . Since  $C$  is a semialgebra, we can take intersections of all subsets of  $\{C_i\}$  to get a countable disjoint collection of subsets in  $C$  with finite measure whose union is  $\Omega$ . Thus, wlog, we can assume that  $\{C_i\}$  are disjoint.

Thus

$$\begin{aligned} \nu(B \setminus A) &= \nu(B \setminus A \cap \Omega) = \nu\left(B \cap A^C \cap \bigcup_{i=1}^\infty C_i\right) = \nu\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^\infty B \cap A^C \cap C_i\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^\infty \nu(B \cap A^C \cap C_i) = \sum_{i=1}^\infty \mu^*(B \cap A^C \cap C_i) \\ &= \mu^*\left(B \cap A^C \cap \bigcup_{i=1}^\infty C_i\right) \\ &= \mu^*(B \setminus A) \end{aligned}$$

where the equalities follow because  $B \cap A \cap C_i \in \sigma\langle C \rangle$  and disjoint.

## Problem 1.28

Let  $F$  be a discrete distribution function, i.e.  $F$  is of the form

$$F(x) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_j I(x_j \leq x), x \in \mathbb{R}$$

where  $0 < a_j < \infty$ ,  $\sum_{j \geq 1} a_j = 1$ ,  $x_j \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $j \geq 1$ . Show that  $\mathcal{M}_{\mu_F^*} = \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$ .

We know that  $F$  is cadlag, so it is right-continuous and has left limits everywhere. Define  $A = \{x_j\}_{j \geq 1}$  to be the set of jump points. It's clear by the definition of  $F$  that  $F$  is discontinuous on  $A$  and continuous everywhere else. By the definition of the Riemann-Stieltjes measure,

$$\mu_F^*(\{x_j\}) = F(x_j^+) - F(x_j^-) = a_j$$

for all  $j \geq 1$ , and  $\mu_F^*(x) = 0$  everywhere else.

**Lemma 3**  $A \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu_F^*}$ .

**Proof:** All singletons are measurable, because for  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\{x\} = ((-\infty, x) \cup (x, \infty))^C$ , so  $\{x\} \in \mathcal{B} = \sigma\langle C \rangle \subset \mathcal{M}_{\mu_F^*}$ . The countable union of measurable sets is measurable.  $\square$

Thus

$$\mu_F^*(A) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu_F^*(\{x_j\}) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} a_j = 1$$

By definition,  $\mu^*(\mathbb{R}) = 1$ . Thus

$$\mu_F^*(A^C) = \mu_F^*(\mathbb{R} \setminus A) = \mu_F^*(\mathbb{R}) - \mu_F^*(A) = 0$$

For all  $B \subset \mathbb{R}$ ,  $B \cap A \in \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$ , so  $B \cap A$  is measurable.  $\mu_F^*$  is complete, so  $\mu_F^*(A^C) = 0$  implies that  $B \cap A^C$  is measurable. Thus  $B$  is the finite union of measurable sets, and is thus measurable.