

Homework 2, 140.721, due 9/27/17 at 5PM.

1. The algebra $f(\mathcal{A})$ generated by a class \mathcal{A} of subsets of S is defined as the intersection of all algebras on S containing \mathcal{A} .
 - (a) Prove that $f(\mathcal{A})$ is indeed an algebra. This requires showing that the intersection of an arbitrary collection of algebras is an algebra, and that there is at least one algebra containing \mathcal{A} .
 - (b) Consider the special case of $S = (0, 1]$ and $\mathcal{A} = \{(x, y] : 0 \leq x < y \leq 1\}$. Characterize $f(\mathcal{A})$ and prove your claim.
 - (c) Again, consider the special case of $S = (0, 1]$ and $\mathcal{A} = \{(x, y] : 0 \leq x < y \leq 1\}$. Characterize $\sigma(\mathcal{A})$ (the σ -algebra generated by \mathcal{A}) and prove your claim.
2. For each claim below, tell if it is true or false, and prove your answer.
 - (a) For any σ -algebras Σ_1, Σ_2 on a set S , we have $\Sigma_1 \cap \Sigma_2$ is a σ -algebra on S .
 - (b) For any σ -algebras Σ_1, Σ_2 on a set S , we have $\Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2$ is a σ -algebra on S .
 - (c) For any σ -algebras Σ_1, Σ_2 on a set S , we have $\Sigma_1 \times \Sigma_2$ is a σ -algebra on $S \times S$ (where \times is the Cartesian product).
 - (d) For \mathcal{B} the Borel σ -algebra on \mathbb{R} , we have $\mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{B}$ is the σ -algebra on \mathbb{R}^2 generated by the closed rectangles $\{[a, b] \times [c, d] : a, b, c, d \in \mathbb{R} \text{ such that } a < b, c < d\}$.
3. For each claim below, tell if it is true or false, and prove your answer.
 - (a) For any collections \mathcal{F} and \mathcal{G} of subsets of S , we have $\sigma(\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G}) \subseteq (\sigma(\mathcal{F}) \cap \sigma(\mathcal{G}))$.
 - (b) For any collections \mathcal{F} and \mathcal{G} of subsets of S , we have $\sigma(\mathcal{F} \cap \mathcal{G}) \supseteq (\sigma(\mathcal{F}) \cap \sigma(\mathcal{G}))$.