# Real Analysis Homework 2

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### Problem 1

Let F be an increasing, right continuous function defined on  $\mathbb{R}$  and consider the measure  $\mu_F$  induced by F on  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ . Show that (a)  $\mu_F(\{a\}) = F(a) - F(a^-)$ ; (b)  $\mu_F([a,b]) = F(b) - F(a^-)$ ; (c)  $\mu_F([a,b]) = F(b^-) - F(a^-)$ ; (d)  $\mu_F((a,b)) = F(b^-) - F(a)$ .

**Solution.** We will solve the first problem, and use the result in other problems.

(a) First, let us consider the fact that

$$\{a\} = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(a - \frac{1}{n}, a\right].$$

Moreover, if we consider each  $J_n := (a - \frac{1}{n}, a]$ , we see that  $J_1 \supset J_2 \supset \cdots$ . Let us invoke the property of continuity from above of  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}, \mu_F)$ , then we have the following:

$$\mu_F(\{a\}) = \mu\left(\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \left(a - \frac{1}{n}, a\right]\right) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \mu\left(\left(a - \frac{1}{n}, a\right]\right) = \lim_{n \to \infty} (F(a) - F(a - 1/n))$$
$$= F(a) - \lim_{n \to \infty} F(a - 1/n).$$

Since F is increasing, we have that  $\lim_{n\to\infty} F(a-1/n) = \lim_{x\to a^-} F(x) = F(a^-)$ , and since F is only taken to be right continuous, we know that we cannot have that  $\lim_{n\to\infty} F(a-1/n) = \lim_{x\to a} F(x) = F(a)$ . So,  $\mu(\{a\}) = F(a) - F(a^-)$ .

(b) Observe that  $[a, b] = (a, b] \cup \{a\}$ . Then we have that  $\mu_F([a, b]) = \mu_F((a, b]) + \mu_F(\{a\})$ . Recall that in class we showed that  $\mu_F((a, b]) = F(b) - F(a)$ , and from part (a), we have

$$\mu_F([a,b]) = \mu_F((a,b]) + \mu_F(\{a\}) = (F(b) - F(a)) + (F(a) - F(a^-)) = F(b) - F(a^-).$$

(c) Observe that  $[a,b] = [a,b) \cup \{b\}$ . Then we have that  $\mu_F([a,b]) = \mu_F([a,b]) + \mu_F(\{b\})$ , or equivalently,  $\mu_F([a,b]) = \mu_F([a,b]) - \mu_F(\{b\})$ . From parts (a) and (b), we have

$$\mu_F([a,b]) = \mu_F([a,b]) - \mu_F(\{b\}) = (F(b) - F(a^-)) - (F(b) - F(b^-)) = F(b^-) - F(a^-).$$

(d) Observe that  $(a, b) = (a, b] \setminus \{b\}$ . Then we have that  $\mu_F((a, b)) = \mu_F((a, b)) - \mu_F(\{b\})$ . So from what we showed in class and from part (a), we have

$$\mu_F((a,b)) = \mu_F((a,b)) - \mu_F(\{b\}) = (F(b) - F(a)) - (F(b) - F(b^-)) = F(b^-) - F(a).$$

# Problem 2

Let F be an increasing, right continuous function defined on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $\mu$  be the completion of the measure  $\mu_F$  induced by F on  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  and denote by  $\mathcal{M}_{\mu}$  the domain of  $\mu$ . So we have,

$$\mu(E) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} (F(b_j) - F(a_j)) : E \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} (a_j, b_j) \right\} \text{ for } E \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}.$$

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Prove the following statements. Let  $E \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}$ .

(a) 
$$\mu(E) = \inf \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu((a_j, b_j)) : E \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} (a_j, b_j) \right\}.$$

Proof. (From Folland Lemma 1.17) Let us define  $\nu(E) := \inf \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu((a_j, b_j)) : E \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} (a_j, b_j) \right\}$ . We aim to show that  $\nu(E) = \mu(E)$ . Now suppose that  $E \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} (a_j, b_j)$ , in which each  $(a_j, b_j)$  is a countable (without loss of generality) disjoint union of half intervals of the form  $(c_j^k, c_j^{k+1}]$ , which we can denote  $I_j^k$  for  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and where  $\{c_j\}$  is any sequence in which  $c_j^1 = a_j$  and  $c_j^k \to b_j$  as  $k \to \infty$ . Note that these  $I_j^k$ 's are indeed measurable, as each interval is of the form  $\bigcap_n (c_j^k, c_j^{k+1} + 1/n)$ , and each of these sets are open in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Clearly by this construction,  $E \subset \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} I_j^k$ , and so via countable additivity, we have

$$\sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu(I_j^k) = \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu((a_j, b_j))$$
 by construction of  $I_j^k$  
$$\geq \mu(E)$$
 def. of infimum.

So, we have shown that  $\nu(E) \ge \mu(E)$ .

Conversely, take some arbitrary  $\epsilon > 0$ . Then there exists some  $\{(a_j, b_j]\}_{j=1}^{\infty}$  such that  $E \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} (a_j, b_j]$  and  $\mu(E) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu((a_j, b_j]) \leq \mu(E) + \epsilon$ . Also for each j there exists some  $\delta_j > 0$  such that  $F(b_j + \delta_j) - F(b_j) < \epsilon/(2^j)$ , which follows from the right continuity of F. Then we have  $E \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} (a_j, b_j + \delta_j)$  since we already have  $E \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} (a_j, b_j]$ , and

$$\sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu((a_j, b_j + \delta_j)) \le \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu((a_j, b_j]) + \epsilon \qquad \text{(since } (a_j, b_j + \delta_j) = (a_j, b_j] \cup [b_j, b_j + \delta_j) \text{ and } \sum_j \frac{\epsilon}{2^j} = \epsilon)$$

$$\le \mu(E) + 2\epsilon, \qquad \text{(since } \sum_{j=1}^{\infty} \mu((a_j, b_j]) \le \mu(E) + \epsilon)$$

and therefore  $\nu(E) \leq \mu(E)$  since we can force  $\epsilon \to 0$ .

Therefore,  $\mu(E) = \nu(E)$ , and we have shown our desired result.

(b)  $\mu(E) = \inf \{ \mu(U) : E \subset U \text{ and } U \text{ is open} \}.$ 

Proof. By part (a), we have that for any  $\epsilon > 0$ , there exists a set of intervals  $\{(a_j,b_j)\}$  such that  $E \subset \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty}(a_j,b_j)$  and  $\sum_{j=1}^{\infty}(a_j,b_j) \leq \mu(E) + \epsilon$ . If we then take  $U := \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty}(a_j,b_j)$ , then U must be open since it is a countable union of open sets, and we have that  $E \subset U$  and  $\mu(U) \leq \sum_{j=1}^{\infty}(a_j,b_j) \leq \mu(E) + \epsilon$ . Since  $E \subset U$  we have that by monotonicity,  $\mu(E) \leq \mu(U)$ , This implies that  $\mu(E) \leq \mu(U) \leq \mu(E) + \epsilon$ . Forcing  $\epsilon$  to 0, we have that  $\mu(E) = \inf\{\mu(U) : E \subset U, U \text{ open}\}$ .

(c)  $\mu(E) = \sup \{ \mu(K) : K \subset E \text{ and } K \text{ is compact} \}.$ 

*Proof.* Let us suppose that E is bounded. If E is closed, then by definition we have that E is compact, and therefore equality holds since K is then compact as well. If E is open, then let us take some open U such that  $\overline{E} \setminus E \subset U$  such that  $\mu(U) \leq \mu(\overline{E} \setminus E) + \epsilon$ . Now define  $K = \overline{E} \setminus U$ . Then certainly K is compact since  $\overline{E}$  is bounded and via DeMorgan's Laws we have that  $\overline{E} \setminus U = \overline{E} \cap U^c$  is closed, and also  $K \subset E$ , and

$$\mu(K) = \mu(E) - \mu(E \cap U) = \mu(E) - [\mu(U) - \mu(U \setminus E)] \ge \mu(E) - \mu(U) + \mu(\overline{E} \setminus E) \ge \mu(E) - \epsilon.$$

If E is unbounded, then take  $E_j = E \cap (j, j+1]$ . By the preceding argument, we have that for any  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists some compact  $K_j \subset E_j$  such that  $\mu(K_j) \geq \mu(E_j) - \epsilon/(2^j)$ . Denote  $H_n = \bigcup_{j=-n}^n K_j$ . Then  $H_n$  is also compact,  $H_n \subset E$ , and  $\mu(H_n) \geq \mu(\bigcup_{j=-n}^n E_j) - \epsilon$ . Since  $\mu(E) = \lim_{n \to \infty} \mu(\bigcup_{j=-n}^n E_j)$ , we have equality.  $\square$ 

## Problem 3

Let F be an increasing, right continuous function defined on  $\mathbb{R}$ . Let  $\mu$  be the completion of the measure  $\mu_F$  induced by F on  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  and denote by  $\mathcal{M}_{\mu}$  the domain of  $\mu$ . If  $E \subset X$  the following are equivalent:

- (a)  $E \in \mathcal{M}_u$
- (b)  $E = V \setminus N_1$ , where V is a  $G_{\delta}$  set and  $\mu(N_1) = 0$
- (c)  $E = H \cup N_2$ , where H is an  $F_{\sigma}$  set and  $\mu(N_2) = 0$

*Proof.* We will show  $a \iff b$  and  $a \iff c$ .

 $(a \Longrightarrow b)$  Consider some bounded set  $E \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}$ . Then by parts (b) and (c) of Problem 2, we have that for any  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , there exists some sequence of open sets  $\{U_j\}$  such that  $E \subset U_j \subset U_{j-1} \ \forall j$  and a compact set  $K_j$  such that

$$\mu(U_j) - \frac{1}{2^j} \le \mu(E) \le \mu(K_j) + \frac{1}{2^j}.$$

Now let  $V = \bigcap_{j=1}^{\infty} U_j$  and  $H = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\infty} K_j$ . Clearly V is a  $G_{\delta}$  set by definition. Also we have that  $E \subset V$  and  $\mu(V) = \mu(E)$  due to how we defined our sets  $U_j$ . Let us take  $N_1 = V \setminus E$ , then  $N_1 \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}$  since  $E, V \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}$ . Also since  $E \subset V$ , we have that  $E = V \setminus N_1$ . So if  $\mu(E) < \infty$ , we have that  $\mu(N_1) = \mu(V) - \mu(E) = 0$ .

Let us now consider some unbounded set E. Since  $\mu$  is a  $\sigma$ -finite measure, we have that there exists a family of sets  $\{E_k\}_{k\in\mathbb{N}}\subset\mathcal{M}_{\mu}$  such that  $\mu(E_k)<\infty$  for all k, and that  $E=\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty}E_k$ . Now by Problem 2a, we have that for each  $k,n\in\mathbb{N}$  there exists some open set  $U_{k,n}$  depending on k and n such that  $E_k\subset U_{k,n}$ , and  $\mu(E_k)\leq \mu(U_{k,n})\leq \mu(E_k)+1/(n2^k)$ . Let us define  $U_n=\bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty}U_{k,n}$ . Then certainly  $U_n$  is open since each  $U_{k,n}$  is open, and  $E\subset U_{k,n}\subset U_n$ . Then we have the following:

$$\mu(E) \le \mu(U_n) \le \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu(U_{k,n}) \le \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu(E_k) + \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{n2^k} = \mu(E) + \frac{1}{n}.$$

Now since  $\mu(E_k) < \infty$ , we see that

$$\mu(U_n \setminus E) \le \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \mu(U_{k,n} \setminus E_k) = \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} (\mu(U_{k,n}) - \mu(E_k)) \le \sum_{k=1}^{\infty} \frac{1}{2^k} = \frac{1}{n}.$$

So taking now  $V := \bigcap_{k=1}^{\infty} U_n$  (which is clearly a  $G_{\delta}$  set), we see that  $E \subset V$  and also

$$\mu(E) \ge \mu(V) \ge \mu(U_n) \ge \mu(E) + \frac{1}{n},$$

which yields  $\mu(V) = \mu(E)$ . Moreover, we have that  $V \setminus E \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}$  since both V and E are sets in  $\mathcal{M}_{\mu}$ , and with that, we see

$$\mu(V \setminus E) \le \mu(U_n \setminus E) \le \frac{1}{n}$$

which gives that  $\mu(V \setminus E) = 0$  when  $n \to \infty$ . Setting  $N_1 := V \setminus E$ , we see that  $E = V \setminus N_1$ .

 $(a \Longrightarrow c)$  Take some  $E \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}$ . Then since  $\sigma$ -algebras are closed under complement, we have that  $E^c \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}$ . By the previous section of the proof  $(a \Longrightarrow b)$ , we have that for some  $G_{\delta}$  set V and some set  $N_1$  such that  $\mu(N_1) = 0$ , we have that  $E^c = V \setminus N_1 = V \cap N_1^c$  by DeMorgan's Laws. This implies that  $E = (V \cap N_1^c)^c = V^c \cup N_1$ . Since a complement of a  $G_{\delta}$  set is an  $F_{\sigma}$  set, we have that  $V^c$  must be an  $F_{\sigma}$  set. If we then take  $H = V^c$  and redefine  $N_2 := N_1$ , then we see that  $E = H \cup N_2$  as desired.

 $(b \Longrightarrow a)$  Suppose  $E = V \setminus N_1$  where V is a  $G_\delta$  set and  $\mu(N_1) = 0$ . We know that  $V \in \mathcal{M}_\mu$  as it is a  $G_\delta$  set, and since  $\mu$  is by definition a complete measure, we have that  $N_1 \in \mathcal{M}_\mu$ . So then we have  $E = V \setminus N_1 \in \mathcal{M}_\mu$  since both both V and  $N_1$  are in  $\mathcal{M}_\mu$ .

 $(c \Longrightarrow a)$  Take some  $E \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}$  with  $E = H \cup N_2$  where H is an  $F_{\sigma}$  set and  $\mu(N_2) = 0$ . We know that  $H \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}$  since it is an  $F_{\sigma}$  set, and since  $\mu$  is by definition a complete measure, we have that  $N_2 \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}$  as well. Therefore we have that  $E = H \cup N_2 \in \mathcal{M}_{\mu}$ .

We have shown  $b \iff a \iff c$ , and we are done.

### Problem 4

The following shows that Lebesgue measure in  $\mathbb{R}$  is translation invariant and has a simple behavior under dilations: If  $E \subset \mathbb{R}$ , and  $s, r \in \mathbb{R}$  define the sets  $E + s = \{x + s : x \in E\}$ , and  $rE = \{rx : x \in E\}$ . Prove that if  $E \in \mathcal{L}$ , then  $E + s \in \mathcal{L}$  for all  $s, r \in \mathbb{R}$ . Moreover, m(E + s) = m(E) and m(rE) = |r|m(E).

*Proof.* Let us recall that  $\mathcal{L}$  is the  $\mu_F$  completion of  $\mathbb{R}$ , and the Lebesgue measure  $m = \overline{\mu_F}$  where F(x) = x. In particular, that is  $\mathcal{L} = \{E \cap F : E \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}, F \subset N, N \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}, m(N) = 0\}$ . So, given that  $E \in \mathcal{L}$ , take  $E = A \cup F$  where  $A \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  and  $F \subset N$  for some  $N \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  such that m(N) = 0.

Now without loss of generality, we can take A and F to be disjoint via the constructions we have used in class and in previous homework. So, we have the following:

$$E + s = (A \cup F) + s = (A + s) \cup (F + s),$$
  
 $rE = r(A \cup F) = (rA) \cup (rF).$ 

Since Borel  $\sigma$ -algebras are invariant under translation and dilation, we have that E + s and rE are both contained in  $\mathcal{L}$ .

For the second part, take  $E \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $r, s \in \mathbb{R}$ , and define  $m_s = m$  and  $m_r = |r|m$ . Then we have that  $m_s = m$  and  $m_r = |r|m$  on finite disjoint unions of half intervals. So, let  $\mathcal{A}$  be an algebra of finite disjoint unions of half intervals, then we see that  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  is the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by  $\mathcal{A}$ . Now by Folland Theorem 1.14, we have that indeed,  $m_s = m$  and  $m_r = |r|m$  are restrictions on  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ .

Now for all  $F \subset N$ , we have that m(F+s) = m(rF) = m(F) = 0. Thus, we have the following.

$$\begin{split} m(E+s) &= m((A \cup F) + s) = m((A+s) \cup (F+s)) \\ &= m(A+s) + m(F+s) = m(A+s) = m(A) = m(A) + m(F) = m(A \cup F) = m(E), \\ m(rE) &= m(r(A \cup F)) = m((rA) \cup (rF)) = m(rA) + m(rF) \\ &= m(rA) = |r|m(A) = |r|m(A \cup F) = |r|m(E). \end{split}$$

We see that indeed m(E+s) = m(E) and m(rE) = |r|m(E).

# Problem 5

Nonmeasurable sets in  $\mathbb{R}$ . Consider in [0,1) the equivalence relation  $x \sim y$  if and only if  $x - y \in \mathbb{Q}$ . Define N as the subset of [0,1) that contains exactly one element of each equivalence class. Show that N is not Lebesgue measurable.

Proof. Let us consider said set  $N \subset [0,1)$  which contains exactly one member of each equivalence class. Let us take now  $R = \mathbb{Q} \cap [0,1)$ , and take  $N_r := \{x+r: x \in N \cap [0,1-r)\} \cup \{x+r-1: x \in N \cap [1-r,1)\}$  for each  $r \in R$ . In other words, each  $N_r$  is obtained by shifting N to the right by r units, and then bringing the part of N which does not intersect with [0,1) to the left of N, which is equivalent to shifting the section of N which does not intersect with [0,1) to the left by one unit. Certainly by construction we have that  $N_r \subset [0,1)$  for each  $r \in R$ , and every  $x \in [0,1)$  belongs to precisely one  $N_r$ .

Now, if  $y \in N$  and  $y \sim x$ , then we see that  $x \in N_r$  where r = x - y for  $x \geq y$ , or where r = x - y + 1 for x < y. Note that for distinct r and r', we have that  $N_r \cap N_{r'} = \emptyset$ , as if there were some element in  $N_r \cap N_{r'}$ , then we have that there are two distinct elements of N which belong to the same equivalence class: this is a contradiction via the construction of N.

Consider now the Lebesgue measure m. Notice that by the countable additivity of measure and the property that  $E \cong F$  implies that m(E) = m(F), we see that  $m(N) = m(N \cap [0, 1 - r)) + m(N \cap [1 - r, 1)) = m(N_r)$ . Moreover, since R is countable (it is simply a subset of the rationals) and  $[0, 1) = \bigsqcup_{r \in R} N_r$ , we have

$$m([0,1)) = \sum_{r \in R} m(N_r) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} m(N).$$

But recall that m([0,1)) is defined to be equal to 1-0=1: if we have that m(N)>0, then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} m(N)=\infty$ , and if m(N)=0 then  $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} m(N)=0$ . Certainly  $0\neq 1\neq \infty$ , and we have a contradiction.

#### Problem 6

Let  $(X, \mathcal{M})$  be a measurable space.

(a) Prove that if  $f: X \to \mathbb{R}$  is such that  $\{x \in X : f(x) \ge r\}$  for all  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then f is  $\mathcal{M}$ -measurable.

Proof. Consider some arbitrary  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . It suffices to show that  $[a, \infty) \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  implies that  $f^{-1}([1, \infty)) \in \mathcal{M}$ . We consider two cases: one for  $a \in \mathbb{Q}$  and one for  $a \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$ . If  $a \in \mathbb{Q}$ , then by our assumptions for f, we have that  $f^{-1}([a, \infty)) = \{x \in X : f(x) \geq r\} \in \mathcal{M}$ . If a is irrational, then we have that there exists some increasing sequence  $\{a_i\}$  which converges to a. In this case, we have  $f^{-1}([a_i, \infty))$  is measurable in  $\mathcal{M}$  and as such  $f^{-1}(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} [a_i, \infty))$  is measurable in  $\mathcal{M}$ . So, we have the following:

$$f^{-1}([a,\infty)) = f^{-1}\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} [a_i,\infty)\right) = \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} f^{-1}([a_i,\infty)) \in \mathcal{M}.$$

So we have seen that  $f^{-1}([a,\infty)) \in \mathcal{M}$  for all  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . So, f must be  $\mathcal{M}$ -measurable.

(b) Prove that if  $f: \mathbb{R} \to \mathbb{R}$  is monotone, then f is Borel measurable.

Proof. Consider  $a \in \mathbb{R}$ . It suffices to show that  $f^{-1}([a,\infty)) \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ . Since  $\emptyset$  and  $\mathbb{R}$  are included in  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  by definition, let us assume for the sake of simplicity that  $\emptyset \neq f^{-1}([a,\infty)) \neq \mathbb{R}$ . Now, if there exists some  $b \in \mathbb{R}$  such that for any c < b we have that f(c) < a, then  $f^{-1}([a,\infty)) = f^{-1}([f(b),\infty))$ . Loosely speaking, we can say that b can be considered to be the smallest element such that f(b) is greater than or equal to f(a). We claim now that  $f^{-1}([f(b),\infty)) = [b,\infty)$ . If we have some  $x \in f^{-1}([f(b),\infty))$ , then certainly  $f(x) \geq f(b)$ . Furthermore, since f is a monotone function, we see  $x \geq b$  and  $x \in [b,\infty)$ . On the other hand, if  $x \in [b,\infty)$ , we have that  $x \geq b$  and since f is monotone, we have that  $f(x) \geq f(b)$  and thus  $x \in f^{-1}([f(b),\infty))$ . Therefore, we have that

$$f^{-1}([a,\infty)) = f^{-1}([f(b),\infty)) = [b,\infty) \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}.$$

Now let us suppose that there does not exist such a  $b \in \mathbb{R}$ . Because  $f^{-1}(a,\infty) \neq \mathbb{R}$ , we may assume that there exists a  $c \in \mathbb{R}$  such that f(c) < a. Then there exists a bounded below, decreasing sequence  $\{b_i\}$  such that  $f(b_i) > a \, \forall i$ . Indeed,  $\{b_i\}$  is bounded below by c and it is decreasing since there does not exist a smallest element b such that  $f(b) \geq a$ . Now since f is monotone and  $f^{-1}([a,\infty)) \neq \emptyset$ , we may consider such a sequence which converges to some  $b' := \inf\{f^{-1}([a,\infty))\}$ .

We claim that  $f^{-1}([a,\infty))=(b',\infty)$ . So, take  $x\in f^{-1}([a,\infty))$ . By assumption, we have that there is no smallest element b such that  $f(b)\geq f(a)$ , and as such, we must have some  $y\in f^{-1}([a,\infty))$  such that y< x. Thus b'< x and  $x\in (b',\infty)$ . On the other hand, take  $x\in (b',\infty)$ . Since  $\{b_i\}\to b'$ , we have some n such that  $i\geq n$  implies that  $x>b_i$ . Because f is monotone, we have that  $f(x)>f(b_i)$ . Therefore f(x)>a and  $x\in f^{-1}([a,\infty))$ . Now since  $(b',\infty)\in\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ , we have that  $f^{-1}([a,\infty))\in\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ . So, we have that f is Borel measurable.