

# $\sigma$ -Algebras

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**Definition 3.4** ( $\sigma$ -Algebra). A family  $\mathcal{A}$  of subsets of  $X$  with:

- (i)  $X \in \mathcal{A}$ ,
- (ii)  $A \in \mathcal{A} \Rightarrow A^c \in \mathcal{A}$ ,
- (iii)  $(A_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \in \mathcal{A} \Rightarrow \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \in \mathcal{A}$ .

**Theorem 3.5** (and Definition).

- (i) *The intersection of arbitrarily many  $\sigma$ -algebras in  $X$  is again a  $\sigma$ -algebra in  $X$ .*
- (ii) *For every system of sets  $p \subset \mathcal{P}(X)$  there exists a smallest  $\sigma$ -algebra containing  $p$ . This is the  $\sigma$ -algebra generated by  $p$ , denoted  $\sigma(p)$ , and  $\sigma(p)$  is called its generator.*

**Definition 3.6** (Borel). The  $\sigma$ -algebra  $\sigma(\mathcal{O})$  generated by the open sets  $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{O}_{\mathbb{R}^n}$  of  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is called **Borel  $\sigma$ -algebra**, and its members are called **Borel sets** or **Borel measurable sets**.