

Recall: $\Omega_* = \{H, T\}^{\mathbb{N}} = \{x : x_n \in \{H, T\}\}$

For $k \in \mathbb{N}$, $E_k = \{x \in \Omega_* : x_k = H\}$. Denote $\mathcal{E} = (E_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ and denote $\sigma_{\mathcal{E}} = \sigma(\mathcal{E})$. Then $\sigma_{\mathcal{E}}$ is a σ -algebra.

For example, $\sigma_{\mathcal{E}}$ contains events such as $E_1 \cap E_2 \cap E_3^c \cap E_4^c$ is the event that the first four tosses are H, H, T, T.

For a fair coin, this should have probability $\frac{1}{2^4} = \frac{1}{16}$. More generally, a fair coin should satisfy

$$(i) \quad P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n \tilde{E}_i\right) = \frac{1}{2^n} \quad \text{where } \tilde{E}_i \in \{E_i, E_i^c\}.$$

Theorem: There exists a (unique) probability measure

$P = P_{\mathcal{E}}$ on $(\Omega_*, \sigma_{\mathcal{E}})$ such that

$$P\left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n \tilde{E}_i\right) = \frac{1}{2^n} \quad \text{for all } n \in \mathbb{N}, \tilde{E}_i \in \{E_i, E_i^c\}.$$

Proof: omitted.

Remark: Each $y \in [0, 1]$ can be written as

$$y = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{y_n}{2^n} \quad \text{where } y_n \in \{0, 1\}$$

for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$. We define $g: \Omega_* \rightarrow [0, 1]$ by

$$g(x) = \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} \frac{z(x_n)}{2^n} \quad \text{where } z(x_n) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x_n = H \\ 0 & \text{if } x_n = T. \end{cases}$$

Then

$$g(E_1) = \{y \in [0, 1] : y_1 = 1\} = \left[\frac{1}{2}, 1\right]$$

$$g(E_1 \cap E_2) = \{y \in [0, 1] : y_1 = y_2 = 1\} = \left[\frac{3}{4}, 1\right]$$

$$g(E_1^c \cap E_2) = \{y \in [0, 1] : y_1 = 0, y_2 = 1\} = \left[\frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{2}\right]$$

Then $P_{\mathcal{E}}$ on $(\Omega_*, \sigma_{\mathcal{E}})$ corresponds to the Lebesgue measure (uniform distribution) on $([0, 1], \mathcal{B}([0, 1]))$.

Product Measures

Definition: Let $(\Omega_1, \mathcal{F}_1, P_1)$ and $(\Omega_2, \mathcal{F}_2, P_2)$ be probability spaces. The **product measure space** is $(\Omega_1 \times \Omega_2, \mathcal{F}_{12}, P_{12})$ where \mathcal{F}_{12} is the σ -algebra generated by the class $\mathcal{A}_{12} = \{A \times B, A \in \mathcal{F}_1, B \in \mathcal{F}_2\}$ of **measurable rectangles**, and P_{12} is the probability measure on $(\Omega_1 \times \Omega_2, \mathcal{F}_{12})$ such that

$$P_{12}(A \times B) = P_1(A) P_2(B)$$

for $A \in \mathcal{F}_1, B \in \mathcal{F}_2$.

Proposition: Let $(\Omega_1 \times \Omega_2, \mathcal{F}_{12}, P_{12})$ be a product measure space. Then the probability measure P_{12} on $(\Omega_1 \times \Omega_2, \mathcal{F}_{12})$ is unique.

In general, we can extend the product measure to $\Omega = \prod_{i=1}^n \Omega_i$, $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_{1,2,\dots,n}$, $P = P_1 \dots P_n$ so (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) is a probability triple.

Special Case: Product of $\text{Uniform}([0,1])$ with itself gives $\text{Uniform}([0,1]^2)$.

Random Variables

Definition: A random variable (RV) on (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) is a function $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that $\{x \in \Omega: X(x) \leq t\}$ belongs to \mathcal{F} for all $t \in \mathbb{R}$.

Notation: For $D \subset \Omega$, the characteristic function (or indicator function) is

$$\mathbb{1}_D(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in D \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin D \end{cases}$$

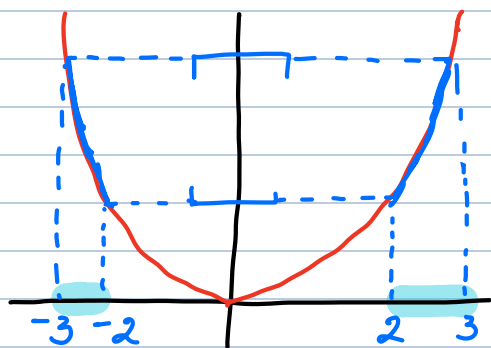
Technical Requirement: X must be compatible with \mathcal{F} .

Notation: Let $f: A \rightarrow B$ be a function. For $U \subset B$, the inverse image of U under f is

$$f^{-1}[U] = \{a \in A: f(a) \in U\}$$

The definition of a RV says that X is a RV if $X^{-1}((-\infty, t]) \in \mathcal{F}$.

e.g. if $A = B = \mathbb{R}$, $f(x) = x^2$, $f^{-1}([4, 9]) = [-3, -2] \cup [2, 3]$



Consider $\mathbb{1}_D$. Then note $(\mathbb{1}_D)^{-1}((-\infty, 0]) = D^c$. Also

$$(\mathbb{1}_D)^{-1}((-\infty, x]) = \begin{cases} \emptyset & : x < 0 \\ D & : 0 \leq x < 1 \\ \Omega & : x \geq 1. \end{cases}$$

Proposition: Let $f: A \rightarrow B$, $(U_i)_{i \in I} \subset A$, $(V_i)_{i \in I} \subset B$.

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

$$(ii) f^{-1}\left(\bigcap_{i \in I} U_i\right) = \bigcap_{i \in I} f^{-1}(U_i)$$

$$(iii) f^{-1}(U^c) = [f^{-1}(U)]^c$$

$$(iv) f^{-1}(U \setminus V) = f^{-1}(U) \setminus f^{-1}(V).$$

Proof: Exercise.

Lemma: Let $g: A \rightarrow B$ be a function and let \mathcal{F} be a σ -algebra of A . Let $\mathcal{A} = \{T \subset B : g^{-1}(T) \in \mathcal{F}\}$

Then \mathcal{A} is a σ -algebra of B .

Proof: $g^{-1}(B) = A \in \mathcal{F}$, i.e. $B \in \mathcal{A}$.

Let $T \in \mathcal{A}$. Then $g^{-1}(T^c) = [g^{-1}(T)]^c \in \mathcal{F}$ so $T^c \in \mathcal{A}$.

Let $(T_n)_{n=1}^{\infty}$ be a collection in \mathcal{A} . Then

$$g^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n\right) = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} g^{-1}(T_n) \in \mathcal{F} \quad \text{so} \quad \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} T_n \in \mathcal{A}.$$

Corollary: Let X be a RV on (Ω, \mathcal{F}) . Then $X^{-1}(V) \in \mathcal{F}$ for every Borel set V .

Proof: By previous lemma, because X is a RV, \mathcal{A} contains $(-\infty, t] \quad \forall t \in \mathbb{R}$. Since \mathcal{A} is a σ -algebra, it contains the σ -algebra generated by these intervals, which is $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R})$.

Proposition: Let X, Y RVs and let $c \in \mathbb{R}$. Then $X+Y, cX$,

X^2 , XY are RVs.