Part II — Probability and Measure

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Measure spaces, σ-algebras, π-systems and uniqueness of extension, statement $\star$ and proof $\star$ of Carathodorys extension theorem. Construction of Lebesgue measure on $\mathbb{R}$. The Borel σ-algebra of $\mathbb{R}$. Existence of non-measurable subsets of $\mathbb{R}$. Lebesgue-Stieltjes measures and probability distribution functions. Independence of events, independence of σ-algebras. The Borel-Cantelli lemmas. Kolmogorovs zero-one law. [6]

Measurable functions, random variables, independence of random variables. Construction of the integral, expectation. Convergence in measure and convergence almost everywhere. Fatous lemma, monotone and dominated convergence, differentiation under the integral sign. Discussion of product measure and statement of Fubinis theorem. [6]

Chebyshevs inequality, tail estimates. Jensens inequality. Completeness of L^p for $1 \leq p \leq \infty$ The Hölder and Minkowski inequalities, uniform integrability. [4]

L^2 as a Hilbert space. Orthogonal projection, relation with elementary conditional probability. Variance and covariance. Gaussian random variables, the multivariate normal distribution. [2]

The strong law of large numbers, proof for independent random variables with bounded fourth moments. Measure preserving transformations, Bernoulli shifts. Statements $\star$ and proofs $\star$ of maximal ergodic theorem and Birkhoffs almost everywhere ergodic theorem, proof of the strong law. [4]

The Fourier transform of a finite measure, characteristic functions, uniqueness and inversion. Weak convergence, statement of Lvys convergence theorem for characteristic functions. The central limit theorem. [2]

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1 Boolean algebras and Finitely additive measures

Definition (Boolean Algebra)**.** A family of subset of X is called a *Boolean algebra* if it is stable under complementation and finite unions and contains the empty set. In other words

- $\emptyset \in \mathcal{B}$
- $\forall\ A, B \in \mathcal{B}, A^c \in \mathcal{B}$ and $A \cup B \in \mathcal{B}$

Remark. Clearly $\mathcal{B}$ is also stable under finite intersection and difference and symmetric difference i.e.

$$\begin{aligned} A, B \in \mathcal{B} \implies & A \cap B \in \mathcal{B} \\ & A \setminus B \in \mathcal{B} \\ & A \triangle B \in \mathcal{B}. \end{aligned}$$

Example.

- The *trivial* Boolean algebra $\mathcal{B} = \{\emptyset, X\}$
- The *discrete* Boolean algebra $\mathcal{B} = 2^X = \mathcal{P}(X)$, the family of subsets of X
- X topological space, the Boolean algebra of *constructible sets* is the family of all finite unions of *locally closed sets* (locally closes $= U \cap F$, for U open, F, closed).

Definition (Finitely additive measure)**.** A *finitely additive measure* on $(X, \mathcal{B})$ is a function $m : \mathcal{B} \mapsto [0, \infty]$ such that

(i) $m(\emptyset) = 0$

(ii) $m(E \cup F) = m(E) + m(F)$ whenever $E, F \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ are disjoint.

Remark. A finitely additive measure on (X, B) is also

(i) *monotone* - $E \subseteq F$ are in $\mathcal{B}$ then $m(E) \leq m(F)$

(ii) *subadditive* - $\forall\ E, F \in \mathcal{B}, M(E \cup F) \leq m(E) + m(F)$

Example.

(i) $\mathcal{B} = 2^X, m(E) :=$ number of E, is called the *counting measure on X*

(ii) $\mathcal{B} = 2^X$ if $f : X \mapsto [0, \infty]$ a function, $m_f(E) = \sum_{e \in E} f(e)$ is a finitely additive measure on X

(iii) $X = \bigcup_i^n X_i \quad X_i$ pairwise disjoint, let $\mathcal{B}$ be the Boolean algebra generated by this partition. If you assign some weight say $a_i \geq 0$ to each X_i, you can define a finitely additive measure on $\mathcal{B}$

$$m(E) = \sum_{i, X_i \subseteq E} a_i.$$

2 Jordan measure on $\mathbb{R}$

Definition (elementary)**.** A subset $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ is called *elementary* if it is a finite union of *boxes*. A *box* is a product of finite intervals

$$B = \prod_{i=1}^{d} I_i, \quad I_i = \text{ an interval } \subseteq \mathbb{R}.$$

For instance $(a, b), [a, b], (a, b], [a, b)$.

Denote by $|B|$ the "volume" of a box B.

$$B = \prod_{i=1}^{d} |b_i - a_i| \text{ if } B = \prod_{i=1}^{d} I_i \text{ and } (a_i, b_i) \subseteq I_i \subseteq [a_i, b_i].$$

Proposition. Let B be a box in $\mathbb{R}^d$ and let $\mathcal{E}(B)$ be the family of elementary subsets of B

(i) $\mathcal{E}(B)$ is a Boolean algebra

(ii) Every $E \in \mathcal{E}(B)$ can be written as a finite *disjoint* union of boxes

(iii) If $E \in \mathcal{E}(B)$ is written in 2 ways $E = \bigcup_i^N B_i = \bigcup_j^{N'} B'_j$ with B_i, B'_j pairwise disjoint, then $\sum_{i=1}^N |B_i| = \sum_{i=1}^{N'} |B'_j|$

Proof. When $d = 1$ it is obvious

Exercise. $d > 1$

□

Proposition. We may set $m(E) = \sum_{i=1}^N |B_i|$ whenever E is an elementary set written as $E = \bigcup_i^N B_i$ for B_i pairwise disjoint. Then m is a finitely additive measure on $(B, \mathcal{E}(B))$.

Definition (Jordan measurable set)**.** A subset $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ is called *Jordan-measurable* if $\forall\, \epsilon > 0\ \exists\, E, F$ elementary sets such that

- $E \subseteq A \subseteq F$
- $m(F \setminus E) < \epsilon$

Definition. If A is Jordan measurable, then set

$$m(A) = \inf\{m(F), A \subseteq F, F \text{ elementary}\}$$

Remark. This implies that

$$m(A) = \sup\{m(F), A \subseteq F, F \text{ elementary}\}$$

indeed,

$$\forall\, \epsilon\ \exists\, E, F\ E \subseteq A \subseteq F : m(F \setminus E) < \epsilon.$$

So $m(E) = m(F) - m(F \setminus E) \geq m(A) - \epsilon$.

Proposition. Let B be a box. The family $J(B)$ of Jordan measurable subsets of B is a Boolean algebra and m is a finitely additive measure on $(B, J(B))$.

Proof. Exercise $\square$

Remark. $A \subseteq [0,1]$ is Jordan measurable $\iff$ 1_A is Riemann-integrable.

Example.

$$f_n(x) = \mathbb{1}_{[0,1] \cap \frac{1}{n!} \in \mathbb{Z}} \ \forall\, x, \quad f_n(x) \to \mathbb{1}_{\mathbb{Q} \cap [0,1]}(x).$$

3 Lebesgue measurable set

Definition (Outer-measure)**.** To a subset E of $\mathbb{R}^d$ we associate its *outer-measure*

$$m^*(E) = \inf\left\{\sum_{i\geq 1} m(B_i), E \subseteq \bigcup_{i\geq 1} B_i, B_i \text{ boxes}\right\}.$$

Definition (Lebesgue measurable set)**.** A subset $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ is called *Lebesgue measurable* if

$$\forall\ \varepsilon > 0\ \exists\ C = \bigcup_{i\geq 1} B_i,$$

a countable union of boxes, such that

$$m^*(C \setminus E) < \varepsilon, E \subseteq C.$$

Remark.
- $m^*(E + x) = m^*(E),\ \forall\ E,\ \forall\ x \in \mathbb{R}^d$
- We can take open boxes if we wish
- Jordan measurable sets are Lebesgue measurable

Our main proposition for this section is as follows:

Proposition.
(i) m^* extends to m on Jordan measurable sets.

(ii) The family $\mathcal{L}$ of Lebesgue measurable sets is a Boolean algebra, stable under countable unions.

(iii) m^* is a countably additive measure on $(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{L})$. i.e.

$$m^*\left(\bigcup_{n\geq 1} E_n\right) = \sum_{n\geq 1} m^*(E_n) \text{ for } E_n \text{ pairwise disjoint.}$$

Remark.
- $\mathbb{Q}$ is in $\mathcal{L}$.
- m^* when restricted the family $\mathcal{L}$ is called the Lebesge measure
- Not every subset of $\mathbb{R}^d$ is in $\mathcal{L}$.
- m^* is not finitely additive on all subsets of $\mathbb{R}^d$.

Lemma. m^* is

(i) Monotone i.e. $E \subseteq F \implies m^*(E) \leq m^*(F)$

(ii) Countably subadditive $\forall\ E_n \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$

$$m^*\left(\bigcup_{n\geq 1} E_n\right) \leq \sum_{n\geq 1} m^*(E_n).$$

Proof. (i) Clear

(ii) By definition of m^*, $\forall\, \varepsilon > 0\ \exists\, C_n = \bigcup_{i\geq 1} B_{n,i}$ a countable union of boxes such that $E_n \subseteq C_n$ and

$$m^*(E_n) + \frac{\varepsilon}{2^n} \geq \sum_{i\geq 1} m(B_{n,i})$$

by definition of m^*. Summing over all n

$$\left(\sum_{n\geq 1} m^*(E_n)\right) + \varepsilon \geq \sum_{n,i} m(B_{n,i})$$

and since $\bigcup E_n \subseteq \bigcup_{n,i} B_{n,i}$ by monotonicity of m^*

$$\sum m^*(E_n) \geq m^*\left(\bigcup_{n\geq 1} E_n\right)$$

□

Remark. It is easy to check (see the example sheet) that a finitely additive measure on a Boolean algebra is countably additive iff it has the "continuity property".

Definition (Continuity property)**.** Let X be a set, $\mathcal{B}$ a Boolean algebra of subsets of X. Let m be a finitely additive measure on X such that $m(X) < \infty$. We say that $(X, \mathcal{B}, m)$ have the *continuity property* if

$$\forall\ E_n \in \mathcal{B}, E_{n+1} \subseteq E_n \text{ and } \bigcap_n E_n = \emptyset \implies \lim_{n\to\infty} m(E_n) = 0.$$

Proposition. The Jordan measure has the continuity property on elementary sets

Proof. Suppose not. We get $E_{n+1} \subseteq E_n, \bigcap_n E_n = \emptyset$ and $m(E_n) \not\to 0, E_n$ elementary. $\exists\ F_n \subseteq E_n$ elementary sets $m(F_n) \geq m(E_n) - \frac{\varepsilon}{2^n}$ and F_n closed. By Heine-Borel, since

$$\bigcap_n F_n = \emptyset \implies \exists\ N < \infty \bigcap_{n=1}^{N} F_n = \emptyset$$

(The F_i are closed and bounded and hence compact; in particular, F_1 is compact. Since the intersection of all the F_i is $\emptyset$ then the open sets $F_1 \setminus F_n \subseteq F_1$ form an open cover of F_1. Since F_1 is compact, there is a finite subcover and in particular $\exists N$ such that $\bigcup_{n=1}^{N} F_1 \setminus F_n = F_1$)

Then,

$$\begin{aligned} m(E_n \setminus (F_1 \cap, \dots, \cap F_n)) &= m\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{n} E_n \setminus F_n\right) \\ &\le \sum_{i=1}^{n} m(E_n \setminus F_i) \\ &\le \sum_{i=1}^{n} m(E_i \setminus F_i) \\ &\le \sum_{i=1}^{n} \frac{\varepsilon}{2^i} \le \varepsilon. \end{aligned}$$

them $m(F_1 \cap \dots, \cap F_n) \ge m(E_n) - \varepsilon \ge 2\varepsilon - \varepsilon \ge \varepsilon > 0$. For $n = N$ this gives a contradiction □

We can now begin our proof of the main proposition

Proof. (i) To show $m^* = m$ on Jordan measurable sets

- It is clear $m^*(A) \le m(A)$ by definition
- We need to show converse inequality
- First suppose A is elementary, Pick

$$\varepsilon > 0, A \subseteq \bigcup_{n \ge 1} B_n, m^*(A) + \varepsilon \ge \sum_{n \ge 1} m(B_n).$$

  Let $E_n = A \setminus (B_1 \cup \dots \cup B_n)$ an elementary set.

$$E_{n+1} \subseteq E_n, \bigcap_n E_n = \emptyset \implies m(E_n) \underset{n\to\infty}{\to} 0$$

  but

$$\begin{aligned} m(A) &\le m(A \setminus B_1 \cup \dots \cup B_n) + m(B_1 \cup \dots \cup B_n) \\ &\le \underset{\to 0}{m(E_n)} + \sum_{i=1}^{n} m(B_i). \end{aligned}$$

  So $m(A) \le m^*(A) + \varepsilon$, ε arbitrary $\implies m(A) \le m^*(A)$
- In general, if A is Jordan measurable, $\forall\, \varepsilon > 0\ \exists\ E$ elementary

$$E \subseteq A, m(A) \le m(E) + \varepsilon.$$

(ii) We show that $\mathcal{L}$ is stable under countable unions. Let $E = \bigcup_n E_n$ with each $E_n \in \mathcal{L}$ then we need to show $E \in \mathcal{L}$.

$$E_n \in \mathcal{L} \iff \forall\ \epsilon > 0\ \exists\ C_n \text{ a countable union of boxes :}$$

$$m^*(C_n \setminus E_n) < \frac{\epsilon}{2^n}, E_n \subseteq C_n$$

Set $C = \bigcup_n C_n$ is still a countable union of boxes. $E \subseteq C$ and $m^*(C \setminus E) = m^*(\bigcup C_n \setminus \bigcup E_n)$.
m^* is monotone

$$\implies m^*\left(\left\{\bigcup_n C_n\right\} \setminus \left\{\bigcup_n E_n\right\}\right) \leq m^*\left(\bigcup_n (C_n \setminus E_n)\right).$$

m^* is countably subadditive

$$\implies \sum_n m^*(C_n \setminus E_n) \leq \sum \frac{\epsilon}{2^n} \leq \epsilon.$$

So $E \in \mathcal{L}$

□

Example. $E = \mathbb{Q} \cap [0,1]$, $m^*(E) = 0$. Since Q is countable, we can make the boxes singletons which each have measure 0.

Lemma. If $(E_n)_n$ is a family of elementary sets such that $E_{n+1} \subseteq E_n$ then $A = \bigcap_n E_n \in \mathcal{L}$ and $\lim_{n\to\infty} m(E_n) = m^*(A)$

Proof. Note $E_n \setminus A = \bigcup_{i \geq n} E_i \setminus E_{i+1}$. So

$$\begin{aligned}
m^*(E_n \setminus A) &\leq \sum_{i\geq n} m^*(E_i \setminus E_{i+1}) (m^* \text{ only subadditive}) \\
&\leq \sum_{i \geq n} m(E_i \setminus E_{i+1}) \\
&= \sum_{i \geq n} m(E_i) - m(E_{i+1}).
\end{aligned}$$

We get

$$m^*(E_n \setminus A) \leq m(E_n) - \lim_{i\to\infty} m(E_i) \underset{n\to\infty}{\to} 0,$$

and hence

$$\begin{aligned}
&A \in \mathcal{L} \text{ and } m^*(A) \leq m^*(E_n) \leq m^*(E_n \setminus A) + m^*(A) \\
&\implies m(E_n) = m^*(E_n) \to m^*(A).
\end{aligned}$$

□

Corollary.
(i) Countable intersection of elementary sets are in $\mathcal{L}$,

(ii) Open sets and closed sets in $\mathbb{R}^d$ are in $\mathcal{L}$

Proof.
(i) $A = \bigcap E_n \implies A = \bigcap F_n, F_n = E_1 \cap \ldots \cap E_n$, with F_n still elementary and $F_{n+1} \subseteq F_n$ so the lemma shows $A \in \mathcal{L}$.

(ii) Every open subset of $\mathbb{R}^d$ is a countable union of open boxes. So it must be in $\mathcal{L}$ by the proof of stability under countable unions.
If $C \subseteq R^d$ is closed

$$C = \bigcup_{n \geq 1} (C \cap [-n,n]^d).$$

So wlog we may assume that C is bounded say $C \subseteq B$ an open box. $B \setminus C$ is open so $B \setminus C = \bigcup_n B_n, B_n$ open boxes

$$C = B \setminus (B \setminus C) = B \setminus \bigcup_n B_n = \bigcap_n (B \setminus B_n).$$

$B \setminus B_n$ is elementary so by $(i), C \in \mathcal{L}$.

□

Definition (Null set)**.** We say a subset $E \subseteq \mathbb{R}^d$ is called a *null set* if $m^*(E) = 0$

Lemma. Every null set is in $\mathcal{L}$

Proposition. Clear since $\exists\ C = \bigcup B_i, E \subseteq C, \sum m(B_i) < \epsilon$

$$\implies m^*(C \setminus E) \leq m^*(C) \leq \sum m^*(B_i) < \epsilon.$$

Proof. End of proof of main proposition (ii) : to show $E \in \mathcal{L} \implies E^c \in \mathcal{L}$ wlog we can assume that E is bounded i.e. $E \subseteq B = [-k,k]^d$ for some k. Indeed,

$$E^c = \bigcup_{k \geq 1} E^c \cap [-k,k].$$

$$E^c \cap [-k,k]^d = [-k,k]^d \setminus \underset{\in \mathcal{L}}{E} \cap [-k,k]^d.$$

We need to show

$$E \subseteq B, E \in \mathcal{L} \implies B \setminus E \in \mathcal{L}.$$

$$E \subseteq C_n = \bigcup_{i \geq 1} B_{i,n}, \quad m^*(C_n \setminus E) < \frac{1}{n}.$$

We can assume $B_{i,n} \subseteq B$.

$$B \setminus C_n = \bigcap_{i \geq 1} \underbrace{B \setminus B_{i,n}}_{\text{elementary}} \in \mathcal{L},$$

by the corollary (i). Let $F = \bigcup_n B \setminus C_n \in \mathcal{L}$ (as a countable union of sets in $\mathcal{L}$, but $F \subseteq B \setminus E$ and $(B \setminus E) \setminus F$ is null.

$$m^*((B \setminus E) \setminus F) \leq m^*((B \setminus E) \setminus (B \setminus C_n)) = m^*(C_n \setminus E) < \frac{1}{n}.$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\implies (B \setminus E) \setminus F \text{ is null} \\ &\implies B \setminus E = \underset{\in \mathcal{L}}{F} \cup ((B \setminus E) \setminus F) \text{ null so in } \mathcal{L}. \end{aligned}$$

So $B \setminus E \in \mathcal{L}$ □

Proposition. (i) If $E \in \mathcal{L}$, then $\forall\ \epsilon > 0\ \exists\ U$ open, $\exists\ F$ closed such that

$$F \subseteq E \subseteq U \text{ and } m^*(U \setminus F) < \epsilon.$$

(ii) Every $E \in \mathcal{L}$ can be written as

$$E = G \setminus N = F \cup M, \quad F, M \text{ disjoint}.$$

Where G is a countable intersection of open sets, F is a countable union of closed sets and M, N are null.

Proof. Easy $\forall\ \epsilon > 0, E \subseteq U = \bigcup_i B_i$ a countable union of open boxes such that $m^*(E \setminus U_n) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$ by definition of $E \in \mathcal{L}$. We know $E^c \in \mathcal{L}$ so $E^c \subseteq \Omega = \bigcup_i B_i', m^*(\underbrace{\Omega \setminus E^c}_{E \setminus \Omega^c}) < \frac{\epsilon}{2}$. So $\Omega^c = \bigcap_i B_i^{'c}$

$$\implies \Omega^c \subseteq E \subseteq U, m^*(u \setminus \Omega^c) \leq \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} = \epsilon.$$

□

Question. Is every subset of $\mathbb{R}^d$ in $\mathcal{L}$?

The Vitali counter-example is as follows: Let E be a set of representatives of the cosets of $(\mathbb{Q}, +)$ in $(\mathbb{R}, +)$ i,e, $x + \mathbb{Q} \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. For each coset $x + \mathbb{Q}$ pick one element $e \in x + \mathbb{Q}$ such that $e \in [0, 1]$.

$$\implies \forall\ x \in R\ \exists!\ e_x \in E : e_x \in x + \mathbb{Q}.$$

<u>Claim 1</u> m^* is not finitely additive on all subsets of $\mathbb{R}^d$. <u>Claim 2</u> E is not in $\mathcal{L}$

Proof. Observe if $r_1, \ldots, r_N$ are N distinct rationals then $(r_i + E)_{1 \leq i \leq N}$ are pairwise disjoint [

$$r_i + e = r_j + f \implies e + \mathbb{Q} = f + \mathbb{Q} \implies e = f, \implies r_i = r_j.$$

] Assume each $r_i \in [0, 1]$, then $r_i + E \subseteq [0, 2]$

$$\implies \bigcup_{i=1}^{N} r_i + E \subseteq [0, 2], m^*(\bigcup_{i=1}^{N} r_i + E) \leq m^*([0, 2]) = 2.$$

If m^* were finitely additive on the family of all subsets of $\mathbb{R}^d$ then

$$m^*(\bigcup_{i=1}^{N} r_i + E) = \sum_{i=1}^{N} m^*(r_i + E) = N m^*(E) \implies m^*(E) = 0.$$

However, $[0, 1] \subseteq \mathbb{R} = \bigcup_{r \in \mathbb{Q}} E + r$.

$$m^* \text{ is countably subadditive} \implies m^*([0, 1]) \leq \sum_{r \in \mathbb{Q}} m^*(r + E).$$

But $m^*(r + E) = m^*(E) = 0$m so $m^*([0, 1]) = 0$ but we know that $m^*([0, 1]) = 1$, contradicting our assumption of finite additivity and non-measurability follows by the same argument. □

4 Abstract measure theory

Definition (σ-algebra)**.** A *σ-algebra* on X is a Boolean algebra which is stable under countable unions.

Definition (Measurable space)**.** A *measurable space* is a pair $(X, \mathcal{A})$ with X a set and $\mathcal{A}$ a σ-algebra of subsets of X.

Definition (Measure)**.** A *measure* on $(X, \mathcal{A})$ is a function $\mu : \mathcal{A} \to [0, +\infty]$ such that

(i) $\mu(\emptyset) = 0$

(ii) It is countably additive, i.e

$$\mu\left(\bigcup_{n\geq 1} E_n\right) = \sum_{n\geq 1} \mu(E_n).$$

if $E_n \in \mathcal{A}$ are disjoint.

Definition (Measure space)**.** The triple $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$ is called a *measure space.*

Example. (i) $\mu = 0$ is always a measure.

(ii) $(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{L}, m)$ is a measure space.

(iii) If $A_0 \in \mathcal{L}$, $m_0(E) = m^*(A_0 \cap E)$, then we get a measure on $(\mathbb{R}^d, \mathcal{L}, m^*)$

(iv) $(X, 2^X, |\,|$

(v) $(\mathbb{N}, 2^{\mathbb{N}}, \mu)$ pick $a_n \geq 0$, $\mu(I) = \sum_{i\in I} a_i$

Proposition. Let $(X, \mathcal{A}, \mu)$ be a measure space

(i) μ is monotone: $\mu(A) \leq \mu(B)$ if $A \subseteq B,\ A, B \in \mathcal{A}$.

(ii) μ is countably subadditive

$$\mu\left(\bigcup_{n\geq 1} E_n\right) \leq \sum_{n\geq 1} \mu(E_n)\ \forall\ E_n \in \mathcal{A}.$$

(iii) Upward monotone convergence. If

$$E_1 \subseteq \ldots \subseteq E_n, E_i \in \mathcal{A}.$$

then

$$\mu(E_n) \underset{n\to\infty}{\to} \mu\left(\bigcup_{n\geq 1} E_n\right).$$

(iv) Downward monotone convergence. If $\mu(E_n) < \infty$ and

$$E_1 \supseteq \ldots \supseteq E_n, E_i \in \mathcal{A}.$$

then

$$\mu(E_n) \to \mu\left(\bigcap E_n\right).$$

Proof. (i) $\mu(B) = \mu(B \setminus A) + \mu(A)$

(ii)

$$\bigcup E_n = \bigcup F_n,\ F_n = E_n \setminus (E_1 \cup \ldots \cup E_{n-1}).$$

$$\mu(\cup E_n) = \mu(\cup F_n) = \sum \mu(F_n) \leq \sum \mu(E_n).$$

(iii) Set $E_0 = \emptyset$ and write

$$\mu(\bigcup_{n=1}^{N} F_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \mu(F_n) = \sum_{n=1}^{N} \mu(E_n) - \mu(E_{n+1}) = \mu(E_N).$$

(iv) Same as (iii) applied to $E_1 \setminus E_n$

□

Caveat :We need $\mu(E_1) < \infty$ in (iv) e.g.

$$E_n = [n, +\infty] \subseteq \mathbb{R}, \bigcap_n E_n = \emptyset \text{ but } \mu(E_n) = \infty.$$

Proposition. If $\mathcal{F}$ is a family of subsets of X, the intersection of all σ-algebras containing $\mathcal{F}$ is a σ-algebra denoted by $\sigma(\mathcal{F})$.

Proof. See the example sheet. □

Example. (i) $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^{N} X_i, \mathcal{F} = \{X_1, \ldots, X_n\}$ the atoms of the partition. $\sigma(\mathcal{F})$ = subsets of X that are finite unions of X_i 's.

(ii) X = countable set $\mathcal{F}$ = singletons, then $\sigma(\mathcal{F}) = 2^X$

Definition (Borel σ-algebra)**.** If X is a topological space, then the σ-algebra generated by open subsets of X is called the *Borel* σ-algebra of X denoted by $\mathcal{B}(X)$

Example. $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}^d) \subseteq \mathcal{L}$

Remark. The Boolean algebra generated by a family $\mathcal{F}$ of subsets of X call it $\beta(\mathcal{F})$: every set in $\beta(\mathcal{F})$ is a finite union of subsets of the form $F_1 \cap \ldots \cap F_n$ where $\forall\ i$ either $F_i \in \mathcal{F}$ or $F_i^c \in \mathcal{F}$.