

1 Abstract Measure Theory

Let S be a set. Capital letters $A, B, C, \dots \subset S$ denote *subsets*. Lowercase letters $s \in S$ denote *elements*. Calligraphic letters $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}, \dots, \mathcal{F}, \dots, \mathcal{S}, \dots \subset 2^S$ denote *collections of subsets*.

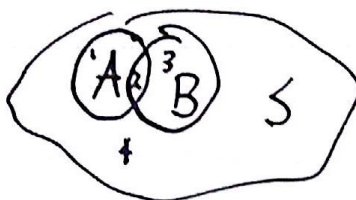
Definition 1.1. \mathcal{S} is a *field* (or *algebra*) if \mathcal{S} is closed under Boolean operations. i.e. if $A, B \in \mathcal{S}$, then:

(a) $A \cup B \in \mathcal{S}$

(b) $A \cap B \in \mathcal{S}$

(c) $A \setminus B \in \mathcal{S}$

Also $\mathcal{S} \neq \emptyset$.



There are 16 total possible Boolean operations, each a disjoint union of sets from $\{A \setminus B, A \cap B, B \setminus A, S \setminus (A \cup B)\}$ hence isomorphic to a binary string of length 4.

Example 1.2. $\mathcal{F} = \{\emptyset, S\}$ is a field.

$$\mathcal{F} = \{\emptyset, A, A^c, S\}.$$

Exercise 1.3. Show that to show \mathcal{S} is a field, it suffices to check $\forall A, B \in \mathcal{S}, A^c, A \cup B \in \mathcal{S}$.

Lemma 1.4. Let $\mathcal{S}_1, \mathcal{S}_2$ be fields. Then $\mathcal{S}_1 \cap \mathcal{S}_2$ is a field (Not true for $\mathcal{S}_1 \cup \mathcal{S}_2$).

More generally, if $(\mathcal{S}_\theta)_{\theta \in \Theta}$ is any collection of fields on S , $\cap_{\theta \in \Theta} \mathcal{S}_\theta$ is a field.

Definition 1.5. Let \mathcal{A} be any collection of subsets of S . Then

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{A}) := \bigcap_{\substack{\mathcal{F} \text{ a field} \\ \mathcal{F} \supset \mathcal{A}}} \mathcal{F} \quad (1.1)$$

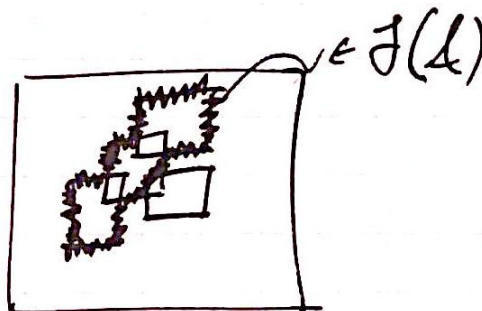
is a field, called the *field generated by \mathcal{A}* .

Exercise 1.6. (HW 1) Show that $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{A})$ is the collection of subsets that can be obtained from sets in \mathcal{A} via a finite number of Boolean operations.

Example 1.7. $S = \mathbb{R}$, \mathcal{A} collection of $(-\infty, x]$ for $x \in \mathbb{R}$. $\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{A}) =$ union of disjoint half-open intervals

$$\mathcal{F}(\mathcal{A}) = \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---} \text{---}$$

Example 1.8. $S = [0, 1]^2$. $\mathcal{A} =$ rectangles $(x_1, x_2] \times (y_1, y_2]$



Definition 1.9. \mathcal{S} is a σ -field (σ -algebra) if:

- (a) \mathcal{S} is a field
- (b) \mathcal{S} is closed under *countable* unions and intersections

Exercise 1.10. Suffices to show closed under increasing unions i.e. $A_i \in \mathcal{S}, A_1 \subset A_2 \subset \dots$, then $\cup_i A_i \in \mathcal{S}$.

Definition 1.11. Let $\mathcal{A} \subset 2^S$, then

$$\sigma(\mathcal{A}) := \bigcap_{\substack{\mathcal{G} \text{ } \sigma\text{-field} \\ \mathcal{G} \supset \mathcal{A}}} \mathcal{G} \quad (1.2)$$

is a σ -field, called the σ -field generated by \mathcal{A} .

Definition 1.12. A *measurable space* is (S, \mathcal{S}) where S is a set, \mathcal{S} a σ -field on S .

If S is a topological space and \mathcal{G} the collection of open sets, then $\sigma(\mathcal{G})$ is called the *Borel σ -field* on S .

Example 1.13. On \mathbb{R}^d , the Borel σ -field is the same as the σ -field generated by the d -dimensional cubes $\prod_{i=1}^d (x_i, y_i)$.