

Solutions Week 1

Problem 2.6

First note that if $\mu(A \cap B) = \infty$ then by property 2 we have that also $\mu(A), \mu(B)$ and $\mu(A \cup B) = \infty$ and hence the result holds trivially. So assume now that $\mu(A \cap B) < \infty$. Since

$$A \cup B = (A \setminus (A \cap B)) \cup (B \setminus (A \cap B)) \cup (A \cap B),$$

it follows from property 1 that

$$\mu(A \cup B) = \mu(A \setminus (A \cap B)) + \mu(A \cap B) + \mu(B \setminus (A \cap B)).$$

Adding $\mu(A \cap B) < \infty$ to both side we get

$$\begin{aligned} \mu(A \cup B) + \mu(A \cap B) &= \mu(A \setminus (A \cap B)) + \mu(A \cap B) + \mu(B \setminus (A \cap B)) + \mu(A \cap B) \\ &= \mu(A) + \mu(B), \end{aligned}$$

where the last line follows from applying property 3 twice.

Problem 2.7

The idea is to construct a family of disjoint sets $(E_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ with the following properties:

1. $E_i \subset A_i$, and
2. $\bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} E_i = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} A_i$.

If such a sequence exists then we have

$$\begin{aligned} \mu\left(\bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} A_i\right) &= \mu\left(\bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} E_i\right) \quad \text{by 2} \\ &= \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_i) \quad \text{because } E_i \text{ are disjoint and } \mu \text{ is } \sigma\text{-additive} \\ &\leq \sum_{i=1}^{\infty} \mu(A_i) \quad \text{by 1 and monotone property of } \mu. \end{aligned}$$

So we are left to construct the required family of sets $(E_i)_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$. The following set will do:

$$E_1 = A_1 \quad E_i = A_i \setminus \bigcup_{k < i}^i A_k \text{ for all } i > 1.$$

Note that by definition the set E_i are pair-wise disjoint and property 1 holds. Finally, property 2 holds since $\bigcup_{i=1}^k E_i = \bigcup_{i=1}^k A_i$ holds for all $k \geq 1$.