

References : Timo Koski : Lecture notes : Probability and Random processes at KTH

Allan Gut : An intermediate course in probability

Remark : Pay attention. One or two questions at the exam might be chosen from ^{the home works} ~~the~~

1/ Let Ω be countable and set $\mathcal{A} := \{A \subset \Omega; A \text{ is finite or } A^c \text{ is finite}\}$.

To show : $\mathcal{A}$ is an algebra

$\mathcal{A}$ is not a σ -algebra

(a) $\emptyset \in \mathcal{A}$.

(b) $A \in \mathcal{A} \Rightarrow A^c \in \mathcal{A}$

(c) Let $(A_n)_{n \geq 1}; A_n \in \mathcal{A} \forall n \geq 1$, then $\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n \in \mathcal{A} \forall N \geq 1$.

(a) Automatic : $\emptyset$ is finite

(b) $A \in \mathcal{A} \Leftrightarrow A \text{ is finite or } A^c \text{ is finite} \Leftrightarrow (A^c)^c \text{ is finite or } A^c \text{ is finite} \Leftrightarrow A^c \in \mathcal{A}$.

(c.) By induction on N . $N=1$: $A_1 \in \mathcal{A}$: OK

$N \Rightarrow N+1$: $\bigcup_{n=1}^{N+1} A_n = \left(\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n \right) \cup (A_{N+1})$:

(1) $\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n$ and A_{N+1} are finite

(2) $\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n$ and A_{N+1} are infinite

(3) $\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n$ is finite and A_{N+1} is infinite
or
 $\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n$ is infinite and A_{N+1} is finite

(1) $\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n$ and A_{N+1} are finite $\Rightarrow \bigcup_{n=1}^{N+1} A_n$ is finite

(2) $(\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n)^c$ is finite and $(A_{N+1})^c$ is finite. $\bigcup_{n=1}^{N+1} A_n \in \mathcal{A} \Leftrightarrow \bigcup_{n=1}^{N+1} A_n$ is finite or $(\bigcup_{n=1}^{N+1} A_n)^c$ is finite

$\underbrace{\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n \right)^c}_{\text{finite}} \cap \underbrace{A_{N+1}^c}_{\text{finite}} \Rightarrow \text{OK}$

(3) $(\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n)^c$ is infinite and A_{N+1}^c is finite $\Rightarrow (\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n)^c \cap A_{N+1}^c$ is finite
since $(\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n)^c \cap A_{N+1}^c \subset A_{N+1}^c$, which is finite

Identically, $(\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n)^c$ is finite and A_{N+1} is infinite $\Rightarrow (\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n)^c \cap A_{N+1}$ is finite

since $(\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n)^c \cap A_{N+1} \subset (\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n)^c$, which is finite

* Since Ω is countable, $\exists (x_i)_{i \geq 1}; x_i \in \Omega \forall i \geq 1$ and $x_i \neq x_j \forall i \neq j$.

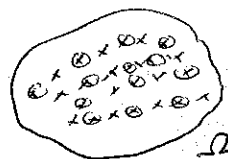
consider $\{x_{2i}\}_{i \geq 1}$ and $\{x_{2i+1}\}_{i \geq 1}$, two sequences of events.

$\forall i \geq 1, \{x_{2i}\} \in \mathcal{A}$ since it is finite and $\{x_{2i+1}\} \in \mathcal{A}$ since it is finite

However, $\bigcup_{i \geq 1} \{x_{2i}\}$ is infinite and $\bigcup_{i \geq 1} \{x_{2i+1}\}$ is infinite and $\bigcup_{i \geq 1} \{x_{2i+1}\} \subset \left(\bigcup_{i \geq 1} \{x_{2i}\} \right)^c$

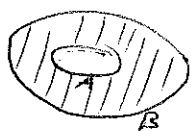
$\Rightarrow \left(\bigcup_{i \geq 1} \{x_{2i}\} \right)^c$ is infinite $\Rightarrow \bigcup_{i \geq 1} \{x_{2i+1}\} \notin \mathcal{A}$.

QED



[T.K] 1.12.2.6: Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a probability space, and let $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$; $A \subseteq B$.

Show that $\mathbb{P}(B \cap A^c) = \mathbb{P}(B) - \mathbb{P}(A)$.



$$(B \cap A^c) \cap A = \emptyset$$

$$(B \cap A^c) \cup (B \cap A) = B \text{ and } B \cap A = A \text{ since } A \subseteq B$$

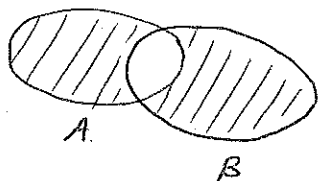
$$\Rightarrow B = (B \cap A^c) \cup A \Rightarrow \mathbb{P}(B) = \mathbb{P}(B \cap A^c) + \mathbb{P}(A)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{P}(B) - \mathbb{P}(A) = \mathbb{P}(B \cap A^c)$$

QED

[T.K] 1.12.2.7: Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a probability space. Let $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$. Show that the probability that one and only one of the events A and B occurs is $\mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B) - 2\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)$.

Heuristic:



$$\{A \setminus (A \cap B)\} \cup \{B \setminus (A \cap B)\}$$

To make this formal, we are going to use the additivity of the measure

$$\mathbb{P}(\{A \setminus (A \cap B)\} \cup \{B \setminus (A \cap B)\}) = \mathbb{P}(A \setminus (A \cap B)) + \mathbb{P}(B \setminus (A \cap B))$$

$$\stackrel{1.12.2.6}{=} \mathbb{P}(A) - \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) + \mathbb{P}(B) - \mathbb{P}(A \cap B)$$

$$= \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B) - 2\mathbb{P}(A \cap B)$$

QED

[T.K] 1.12.2.9. Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a probability space. Show that if $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$, then $\min\{\mathbb{P}(A), \mathbb{P}(B)\} \geq \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) \geq \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B) - 1$.

Reminder: Let x, y, z be three real numbers. If $z \leq x$ and $z \leq y$, then $z \leq \min\{x, y\}$.

Here $A \cap B \subseteq A$ and $A \cap B \subseteq B \stackrel{1.12.2.6}{\Rightarrow} \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) \leq \mathbb{P}(A)$ and $\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) \leq \mathbb{P}(B) \Rightarrow \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) \leq \min\{\mathbb{P}(A), \mathbb{P}(B)\}$

Now for the second inequality, we want to reexpress it so that it has a form that resembles additivity.

$$\mathbb{P}(A \cap B) \geq \mathbb{P}(A) + \mathbb{P}(B) - 1$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) \geq -\mathbb{P}(A^c) + 1 - 1 + \mathbb{P}(B)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(A^c) = 1 - \mathbb{P}(A)$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{P}(A \cap B) + \mathbb{P}(A^c) \geq \mathbb{P}(B)$$

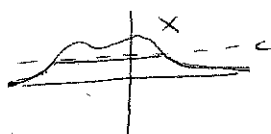
$$\text{Now we know that } \mathbb{P}(B) \stackrel{\text{add.}}{=} \mathbb{P}(B \cap A) + \mathbb{P}(B \cap A^c) \stackrel{1.12.2.6}{\leq} \mathbb{P}(B \cap A) + \mathbb{P}(A^c)$$

$$\mathbb{P}(B \cap A^c) \leq \mathbb{P}(A^c)$$

which proves the result

QED

[T.K] 1.12.3.6. Markov's inequality: Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, \mathbb{P})$ be a probability space and $X: \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a random variable. Suppose $\mathbb{P}(X \geq 0) = 1$. Show that $\forall c > 0, \mathbb{P}(X \geq c) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{c}$.



$$X \geq c \mathbb{1}_{\{X \geq c\}} \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[X] \geq \mathbb{E}[c \mathbb{1}_{\{X \geq c\}}] = c \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{1}_{\{X \geq c\}}] = c \mathbb{P}(X \geq c)$$

$$\text{concl: } X \leq Y \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[X] \leq \mathbb{E}[Y]$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \mathbb{P}(X \geq c) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[X]}{c}$$

QED

Remark: What can you say if $X \geq -M$ almost surely, $M > 0$?

$$\mathbb{P}(X \geq -M) = 1 \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[X] \geq -M$$

[T.K] 1.2.3.10 Let $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_1)$ and $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_2)$ be two measurable spaces.

To show: $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2)$ is a measurable space.

We are going to show that the conditions that make $\mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2$ a σ -algebra are verified.

$$(1) \phi \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 : \text{OK since } \underbrace{\phi \in \mathcal{F}_1}_{\text{since } \mathcal{F}_1 \text{ is a } \sigma\text{-algebra}} \text{ and } \underbrace{\phi \in \mathcal{F}_2}_{\text{since } \mathcal{F}_2 \text{ is a } \sigma\text{-algebra}} \Rightarrow \phi \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2$$

$\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2$ are σ -algebras

$$(2) A \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 \Rightarrow A^c \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 : A \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 \Rightarrow A \in \mathcal{F}_1 \text{ and } A \in \mathcal{F}_2 \xrightarrow{!} A^c \in \mathcal{F}_1 \text{ and } A^c \in \mathcal{F}_2 \Rightarrow A^c \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 : \text{OK.}$$

$$(3) A_n \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 : A_n \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow A_n \in \mathcal{F}_1 \text{ and } A_n \in \mathcal{F}_2 \forall n \in \mathbb{N} \Rightarrow \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \in \mathcal{F}_1 \text{ and } \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \in \mathcal{F}_2$$

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$$\Rightarrow \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A_n \in \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 : \text{OK}$$

$\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2$ are σ -algebras.

$$\Rightarrow \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2 \text{ is a } \sigma\text{-algebra} \Rightarrow (\Omega, \mathcal{F}_1 \cap \mathcal{F}_2) \text{ is a measurable space.}$$

QED.