

Probability and Measure Theory

1. Is the family \mathcal{F} consisting of all finite subsets of Ω and their complements always a σ -algebra?
2. Is the family \mathcal{F} consisting of all countable subsets of Ω and their complements always a σ -algebra?
3. Let \mathcal{F} be a σ -algebra on $\Omega = [0, 1]$ such that $[\frac{1}{n+1}, \frac{1}{n}] \in \mathcal{F}$ for $n \in \mathbb{N}$. Show that:
 - (a) $\{0\} \in \mathcal{F}$.
 - (b) $\{\frac{1}{n} : n = 2, 3, 4, \dots\} \in \mathcal{F}$.
 - (c) $(\frac{1}{n}, 1] \in \mathcal{F}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
 - (d) $(0, \frac{1}{n}] \in \mathcal{F}$ for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$.
4. Let \mathcal{F} be a σ -algebra. Demonstrate that if $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subset \mathcal{F}$, then

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n \in \mathcal{F}.$$

5. Let Ω and $\tilde{\Omega}$ be arbitrary sets and $X : \tilde{\Omega} \rightarrow \Omega$ be any mapping. Show that if \mathcal{F} is a σ -algebra on Ω , then $\tilde{\mathcal{F}} = \{X^{-1}(A) : A \in \mathcal{F}\}$ is a σ -algebra on $\tilde{\Omega}$.
6. Let \mathcal{F} be a σ -algebra on Ω and let $A \subset \mathcal{F}$. Show that $\mathcal{F}_A := \{A \cap B : B \in \mathcal{F}\}$ is a σ -algebra on Ω .
7. Show that if $\{\mathcal{F}_i\}_{i \in I}$ is any collection of σ -algebra defined on the same set Ω , then their intersection $\bigcap_{i \in I} \mathcal{F}_i$ is also a σ -algebra on Ω .
8. Let (Ω, \mathcal{F}) be a measurable space. We define the *upper limit* or *limit superior* of a sequence of sets $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subset \Omega$ by

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcup_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k,$$

and the *lower limit* or *limit inferior* by

$$\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} \bigcap_{k=n}^{\infty} A_k.$$

Show that if $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subset \mathcal{F}$, then

$$\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n \in \mathcal{F}, \quad \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n \in \mathcal{F}.$$

Show that

$$\begin{aligned} \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n &= \{A_n \text{ occurs for infinitely many } n\}, \\ \liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n &= \{A_n \text{ occurs for all but finitely many } n\}. \end{aligned}$$

and that $\liminf_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n \subset \limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n$.

9. Let $\Omega = \mathbb{N}$, and let \mathcal{F} be the family of all subsets of Ω . Put $P(\{i\}) = \alpha_i, i = 1, 2, \dots$. Extend P to a probability measure defined on \mathcal{F} . What conditions have to be imposed on the numbers α_i ? Can they all be chosen the same?

10. Let (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) be a probability space. Show that:

- (a) P is monotone, that is, if $A, B \in \mathcal{F}$ satisfies $B \subset A$ then $P(B) \leq P(A)$.
- (b) P is finitely subadditive, that is, for any $\{A_n\}_{n=1, \dots, N} \subset \mathcal{F}$ where $N \in \mathbb{N}$, one has that

$$P\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^N A_n\right) \leq \sum_{n=1}^N P(A_n).$$

11. Let (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) be a probability space and $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subset \mathcal{F}$ be a sequence of events. Show that:

- (a) If $A_1 \subset A_2 \subset A_3 \subset \dots$ (that is, the sequence $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is increasing) then

$$P\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n).$$

- (b) If $A_1 \supset A_2 \supset A_3 \supset \dots$ (that is, the sequence $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ is decreasing) then

$$P\left(\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right) = \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} P(A_n).$$

- (c) We have that

$$P\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right) \leq \sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(A_n).$$

- (d) If $P(A_n) = 0, n \geq 1$, then $P\left(\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right) = 0$.

- (e) If $P(A_n) = 1, n \geq 1$, then $P\left(\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n\right) = 1$.

- (f) *First Borel-Cantelli lemma.* If $\sum_{n=1}^{\infty} P(A_n) < \infty$, then $P(\limsup_{n \rightarrow \infty} A_n) = 0$.

12. Show that if X is a constant function, then it is a random variable with respect to any σ -algebra.

13. Let X be a discrete random variable, that is, X only can take a countable number of values. Describe how is the σ -algebra $\sigma(X)$. Describe how are the $\sigma(X)$ measurable functions.

14. Let $\Omega = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$ and $\mathcal{F} = \{\emptyset, \Omega, \{1\}, \{2, 3, 4\}\}$. Is $X(\omega) = 1 + \omega$ a random variable with respect to the σ -algebra \mathcal{F} ? If not give an example of a non-constant function which is.

15. Let X be a random variable and $Y = X^2$. Show that Y is also a random variable. Is X measurable with respect to $\sigma(Y)$?

16. Let X be a random variable such that $X \geq 0, P$ -a.s.. Prove that if $\mathbb{E}[X] = 0$ then $X = 0, P$ -a.s..

17. Let $X \in L^1(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$. Prove that if $\mathbb{E}[X \mathbf{1}_A] = 0, \forall A \in \mathcal{F}$ then $X = 0, P$ -a.s..

18. Let P and Q be two probability measures defined on the same measurable space (Ω, \mathcal{F}) . Show that $P \sim Q$ iff $Q \ll P$ and $P\left(\frac{dQ}{dP} = 0\right) = 0$. What is the relationship between $\frac{dQ}{dP}$ and $\frac{dP}{dQ}$?

19. Let Q be the distribution on $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}(\mathbb{R}))$ given by

$$Q((a, b]) = \int_a^b \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{z^2}{2}\right) dz, \quad a < b \in \mathbb{R}.$$

Construct a probability space and a random variable Z defined on it such that the law of Z is given by Q . We say that the random variable Z is a standard Normal (or Gaussian) random variable. Compute its mean and variance. Let $X = \sigma Z + \mu$, where $\mu \in \mathbb{R}$ and $\sigma > 0$. Check that X is a random variable, find its distribution function and compute $\mathbb{E}[X]$ and $\text{Var}[X]$. We say that X is normal random variable with mean μ and variance σ^2 and we denote it by $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$.

20. Let $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ defined on some probability space (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) . Compute $\psi(\theta) = \mathbb{E}[e^{\theta X}]$ for $\theta \in \mathbb{R}$. Define $L(X; \theta) := e^{\theta X} / \psi(\theta)$ and show that $Q_\theta(A) = \mathbb{E}[L(X; \theta) \mathbf{1}_A]$, $A \in \mathcal{F}$ defines a probability measure on (Ω, \mathcal{F}) . Show that $Q_\theta \ll P$. Find the law of X under Q_θ , that is, the law of X as a random variable defined on $(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, Q_\theta)$.

21. Let $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$. Define $Y = \exp(X)$. Show that Y is a random variable. The law of Y is called lognormal with mean μ and variance σ^2 , show that $P_Y \ll \lambda$ and find its density function $\frac{dP_Y}{d\lambda}$. Compute $\mathbb{E}[Y^n]$, $n \geq 1$ and $\text{Var}[Y]$.

22. (**Markov inequality**). Let X be a random variable and $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ an increasing, Borel measurable function. Let $a \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $f(a) > 0$. Prove that

$$P(X \geq a) \leq \frac{\mathbb{E}[f(X)]}{f(a)}.$$

23. Let (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) be a probability space. Let $I \subset \mathbb{R}$ be an open interval and $t_0 \in I$. Let $\{X_t\}_{t \in I}$ be a family of random variables satisfying:

- (a) $X_t(\omega) : I \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is differentiable on I , P -a.s.
- (b) There exists a random variable Y such that $|X_t| + \left| \frac{d}{dt} X_t \right| \leq Y$, P -a.s., $\forall t \in I$.

Show that the function

$$F : \begin{array}{l} I \rightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ t \mapsto \mathbb{E}[X_t] \end{array},$$

is well defined, differentiable at t_0 with $F'(t_0) = \mathbb{E}\left[\frac{d}{dt} X_t \Big|_{t=t_0}\right]$.

24. Let X and Y be two independent random variables that are absolutely continuous with respect to λ . Show that $X + Y$ is absolutely continuous with respect to λ and find its density.

25. Let X and Y be two independent and identically distributed (i.i.d.) random variables with law $\mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$. Find the density of $(U, V) = (X + Y, X - Y)$. Under which conditions on μ and σ^2 are U and V independent?

26. Let X and Y be two i.i.d. random variables with law $\mathcal{N}(0, \sigma^2)$ independent random variables. Find the density of $(U, V) = (\sqrt{X^2 + Y^2}, X/Y)$, where V is defined as zero if $Y = 0$. Are U and V independent?

27. Let (X, Y) be a Gaussian random vector with mean (μ_X, μ_Y) and covariance matrix

$$Q = \begin{pmatrix} \text{Var}[X] & \text{Cov}(X, Y) \\ \text{Cov}(X, Y) & \text{Var}[Y] \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} \sigma_X^2 & \text{Cov}(X, Y) \\ \text{Cov}(X, Y) & \sigma_Y^2 \end{pmatrix},$$

with $\sigma_X \sigma_Y > 0$. Let ρ be the correlation coefficient

$$\rho = \frac{\text{Cov}(X, Y)}{\sqrt{\text{Var}[X] \text{Var}[Y]}}.$$

Show that if $|\rho| < 1$ the density of (X, Y) exists and it is equal to

$$f_{X,Y}(x, y) = \frac{\exp \left\{ -\frac{1}{2(1-\rho^2)} \left\{ \left(\frac{x-\mu_X}{\sigma_X} \right)^2 - \frac{2\rho(x-\mu_X)(y-\mu_Y)}{\sigma_X\sigma_Y} + \left(\frac{y-\mu_Y}{\sigma_Y} \right)^2 \right\} \right\}}{2\pi\sigma_X\sigma_Y\sqrt{1-\rho^2}}.$$

Show that if $|\rho| = 1$, then the density of (X, Y) does not exist. In the case $|\rho| < 1$ show that the law of Y conditioned to X has density and it is equal to the density of a univariate Gaussian r.v. with mean $\mu_Y + \rho\frac{\sigma_Y}{\sigma_X}(x - \mu_X)$ and variance $\sigma_Y^2(1 - \rho^2)$.

28. Let $Y \sim \mathcal{N}(0, 1)$ and for $a > 0$ define $Z = Y\mathbf{1}_{\{|Y| \leq a\}} - Y\mathbf{1}_{\{|Y| > a\}}$. Show that Z is Gaussian r.v. but (Y, Z) is not multivariate Gaussian.

29. Let $Y \in L^2(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$. Show that if $\mathbb{E}[Y|X] = X$ and $\mathbb{E}[Y^2|X] = X^2$ then $X = Y, P$ -a.s..

30. Prove that if $X, Y \in L^1(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ and \mathcal{G} is a sub- σ -algebra of \mathcal{F} then:

- (a) $\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}]] = \mathbb{E}[X]$.
- (b) If $X \geq 0 \Rightarrow \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}] \geq 0, P$ -a.s.
- (c) If \mathcal{H} is a sub- σ -algebra of \mathcal{G} . Then,

$$\mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}|\mathcal{H}]] = \mathbb{E}[\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{H}|\mathcal{G}]] = \mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{H}], P\text{-a.s.}$$

- (d) Assume that $XY \in L^1(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ and that Y is \mathcal{G} -measurable. Then, $\mathbb{E}[XY|\mathcal{G}] = Y\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}], P$ -a.s.. In particular, if X is \mathcal{G} -measurable then $\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}] = X, P$ -a.s..

31. Let (Ω, \mathcal{F}, P) be a probability space, let $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1} \subset \mathcal{F}$ be a partition of Ω , (i.e., $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$ are pairwise disjoint and its union is Ω) and let \mathcal{G} be the σ -algebra generated by $\{A_n\}_{n \geq 1}$. Assume that $X \in L^1(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, P)$ and $P(A_n) > 0$. Show that

$$\mathbb{E}[X|\mathcal{G}] = \sum_{n \geq 1} \frac{\mathbb{E}[X\mathbf{1}_{A_n}]}{P(A_n)} \mathbf{1}_{A_n}, \quad P\text{-a.s.}$$

32. In the setup of Exercise 20, let \mathcal{G} be a sub- σ -algebra of \mathcal{F} . Show that for any $Y \in L^1(\Omega, \mathcal{F}, Q_\theta)$ one has that

$$\mathbb{E}_{Q_\theta}[Y|\mathcal{G}] = \frac{\mathbb{E}[YL(X; \theta)|\mathcal{G}]}{\mathbb{E}[L(X; \theta)|\mathcal{G}]}, \quad Q_\theta\text{-a.s.}$$

33. Let $X \sim \mathcal{N}(\mu, \sigma^2)$ and $K > 0$. Compute

$$\mathbb{E}[\max(0, e^X - K)].$$

You can express the solution in terms of the cumulative distribution function of a standard normal random variable

$$\Phi(x) := \int_{-\infty}^x \frac{1}{\sqrt{2\pi}} \exp\left(-\frac{z^2}{2}\right) dz.$$