

π -systems

$$\pi(A_1, \dots, A_n) = \left\{ \bigcap_{i \in I} A_i : \emptyset \neq I \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\} \right\}.$$

Defn: Let X be a set. To say \mathcal{A} is a λ -system on X means

(a) $X \in \mathcal{A}$,

(b) $\forall A \in \mathcal{A}, X \setminus A \in \mathcal{A}$

(c) $\forall \text{ disjoint } (A_n) \in \mathcal{A}^{\mathbb{N}}, \bigcup_n A_n \in \mathcal{A}$

Remarks: σ -fields are λ -systems, but not conversely
(λ -system union requires disjoint)

Defn A λ_0 -system on X is like a λ -system but we only get finite unions.

Examp. Let (X, \mathcal{A}) be a mbe space. Let μ & ν be finite measures on \mathcal{A} with $\mu(X) = \nu(X)$.

Let $\mathcal{B} = \{B \in \mathcal{A} : \mu(B) = \nu(B)\}.$

Then \mathcal{B} is a λ -system on X .

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

Let $A \in \mathcal{F}$. Let $\mathcal{B} = \{B \in \mathcal{F} : A \text{ and } B \text{ are independent}\}$.

Then \mathcal{B} is a λ -system on Ω .

Pf We'll deduce this from the previous example.

Define μ and ν on \mathcal{F} by $\mu(B) = P(AB)$ and $\nu(B) = P(A)P(B)$.

Then μ and ν are measures on \mathcal{F} with $\mu(\Omega) = P(A\Omega) = P(A)$,
 $\nu(\Omega) = P(A) \cdot 1 = P(A)$.

So $\mu(\Omega) = \nu(\Omega) < \infty$.

And $\mathcal{B} = \{B \in \mathcal{F} : \mu(B) = \nu(B)\}$, so \mathcal{B} is a λ -system.

Propn: Let \mathcal{B} be a λ -system. Let $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$ with $A \subseteq B$.

Then $B \setminus A \in \mathcal{B}$ as well.

Pf $B \setminus A = X \setminus (A \cup (X \setminus B))$.

Propn: Let \mathcal{B} be a λ -system on X . Let $A, B \in \mathcal{B}$.

Then TFAE:

(a) $A \cap B \in \mathcal{B}$

(b) $A \setminus B \in \mathcal{B}$

(c) $A \cup B \in \mathcal{B}$

$$(c) \quad A \cup B \in \mathcal{B}$$

$$(d) \quad B \setminus A \in \mathcal{B}$$

Pf (a) \Rightarrow (b) : $A \setminus B = A \setminus (A \cap B)$

$$(b) \Rightarrow (c) : \quad A \cup B = (A \setminus B) \cup B$$

$$(c) \Rightarrow (d) : \quad B \setminus A = (A \cup B) \setminus A$$

$$(d) \Rightarrow (a) : \quad A \cap B = B \setminus (B \setminus A)$$

Propn Let \mathcal{B} be a λ -system on X . Let $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{B}$ s.t.

$\pi(A_1, \dots, A_n) \subseteq \mathcal{B}$. Let $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$. Let $B_i = A_i$ if $i \neq k$,

and $B_k = A_k^c$. Then $\pi(B_1, \dots, B_n) \subseteq \mathcal{B}$ as well.

Pf Let $\emptyset \neq I \subseteq \{1, \dots, n\}$. We wish to show that $\bigcap_{i \in I} B_i \in \mathcal{B}$.

This is obvious if $k \notin I$ or if $I = \{k\}$.

Suppose $k \in I$ and $I \neq \{k\}$. Let $J = I \setminus \{k\}$. Then

$\bigcap_{i \in I} B_i = A_k^c \cap \left(\bigcap_{j \in J} A_j \right) \in \mathcal{B}$ by the previous propn, because

$$\bigcap_{j \in J} A_j \in \mathcal{B} \text{ and } A_k \in \mathcal{B}, \quad \left(\bigcap_{j \in J} A_j \right) \cap A_k = \bigcap_{i \in I} A_i \in \mathcal{B},$$

$$\text{and } \left(\bigcap_{j \in J} A_j \right) \cap A_k^c = \left(\bigcap_{i \in I} A_i \right) \setminus A_k.$$

Corollary: Let \mathcal{B} be a λ -system on a set X .

Let $A_1, \dots, A_n \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $\pi(A_1, \dots, A_n) \subseteq \mathcal{B}$.

Then:

(a) for each $(B_i) \in \prod_{i=1}^n \{A_i, A_i^c\}$, $\pi(B_1, \dots, B_n) \in \mathcal{B}$.

(b) atoms $(A_1, \dots, A_n) \in \mathcal{B}$.

(c) field $(A_1, \dots, A_n) \in \mathcal{B}$.

Corollary: $\xrightarrow{\text{the } \pi\text{-}\lambda \text{ theorem}}$ Let \mathcal{B} be a λ -system on X . Let \mathcal{H} be a π -system on X such that $\mathcal{H} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$. Then $\text{field}(\mathcal{H}) \subseteq \mathcal{B}$.

Pf by the previous corollary \forall finite $\mathcal{H}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{H}$, we have $\text{field}(\mathcal{H}_0) \subseteq \mathcal{B}$, because $\pi(\mathcal{H}_0) \subseteq \mathcal{H} \subseteq \mathcal{B}$. But $\text{field}(\mathcal{H}) = \bigcup_{\mathcal{H}_0 \subseteq \mathcal{H}} \text{field}(\mathcal{H}_0) \subseteq \mathcal{B}$.

Defn: A monotone class is a collection of sets that is closed under countable increasing unions and countable decreasing intersections.

Example: a σ -field.

a λ -system

Pf obvious: $\bigcup A_n = \bigcup (A_{n+1} \setminus A_n) \cup A_1$ if $A_n \subseteq A_{n+1}$...

Also, if $A_n \supseteq A_{n+1}$ then $\bigcap A_n = X \setminus \bigcup_n (X \setminus A_n)$

Propn Given any set \mathcal{H} of sets, there is a smallest monotone class $MC(\mathcal{H})$ containing \mathcal{H} .

Pf Let $X = \bigcup \mathcal{H}$. Let $\Gamma = \{M \subseteq P(X) : M \text{ is a monotone class containing } \mathcal{H}\}$.

Let $M_0 = \bigcap \Gamma$. Then $MC(\mathcal{H}) = M_0$.