

## Chapter 3

### Measurable Functions

#### 1. Preliminaries

##### Definition.1.1.

Let  $X, Y$  be non empty sets.

To each function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  it corresponds the preimage function  $f^{-1} : \mathcal{P}(Y) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$  defined by:  $B \in \mathcal{P}(Y)$ ,  $f^{-1}(B) = \{x \in X : f(x) \in B\}$ . Also if  $\mathfrak{S}$  is any subfamily of  $\mathcal{P}(Y)$  put  $f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S}) = \{f^{-1}(B), B \in \mathfrak{S}\}$ .

##### Proposition.1.2.

The preimage function has the following properties:

$$(a) f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_i B_i\right) = \bigcup_i f^{-1}(B_i) \text{ and } f^{-1}\left(\bigcap_i B_i\right) = \bigcap_i f^{-1}(B_i)$$

for any family  $(B_i) \subset \mathcal{P}(Y)$

$$(b) f^{-1}(B^c) = (f^{-1}(B))^c, \text{ for any } B \in \mathcal{P}(Y)$$

$$(c) B \subset C \implies f^{-1}(B) \subset f^{-1}(C) \text{ for any } B, C \text{ in } \mathcal{P}(Y).$$

**Proof.** straightforward. ■

##### Proposition.1.3.

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F}), (Y, \mathcal{G})$  be measure spaces and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  a function. Define the families:

$$\mathfrak{R}_f = \{f^{-1}(G) : G \in \mathcal{G}\} = f^{-1}(\mathcal{G})$$

$$\mathcal{B}_f = \{B \subset Y : f^{-1}(B) \in \mathcal{F}\}$$

Then  $\mathfrak{R}_f$  is a  $\sigma$ -field on  $X$  and  $\mathcal{B}_f$  a  $\sigma$ -field on  $Y$

Moreover we have  $f^{-1}(\mathcal{B}_f) \subset \mathcal{F}$ .

**Proof.** We prove first that  $\mathfrak{R}_f$  is a  $\sigma$ -field on  $X$ .

$X \in \mathfrak{R}_f$  since  $X = f^{-1}(Y)$  and  $Y \in \mathcal{G}$ .

Let  $A \in \mathfrak{R}_f$  with  $A = f^{-1}(G)$  for some  $G \in \mathcal{G}$ , then  $A^c = f^{-1}(G^c)$  since  $G^c \in \mathcal{G}$ , we deduce that  $A^c \in \mathfrak{R}_f$ .

Let  $(A_n)$  be a sequence in  $\mathfrak{R}_f$  with  $A_n = f^{-1}(G_n)$  for some  $G_n \in \mathcal{G}$ ;

by Proposition. 1.2 (a) we have  $\bigcup_n A_n = \bigcup_n f^{-1}(G_n) = f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_n G_n\right)$

since  $\bigcup_n G_n \in \mathcal{G}$ , we deduce that  $\bigcup_n A_n \in \mathfrak{R}_f$ . So  $\mathfrak{R}_f$  is a  $\sigma$ -field on  $X$ .

The reader can do the remains by the same way. ■

#### 2. Measurable Functions Properties

##### Definition.2.1.

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F}), (Y, \mathcal{G})$  be measure spaces and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  a function. We say that  $f$  is measurable if  $f^{-1}(\mathcal{G}) \subset \mathcal{F}$ . This means that:

$f^{-1}(G) \in \mathcal{F}$  for every  $G \in \mathcal{G}$ .

**Theorem.2.2.**

Let  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  be a function and  $\mathfrak{S}$  a family of subsets of  $Y$ .

Then we have  $\sigma(f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S})) = f^{-1}(\sigma(\mathfrak{S}))$ .

This means that: the  $\sigma$ -field  $\sigma(f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S}))$  generated by  $f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S})$  coincides with the preimage of the  $\sigma$ -field  $\sigma(\mathfrak{S})$ .

**Proof.**  $\mathfrak{S} \subset \sigma(\mathfrak{S}) \implies f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S}) \subset f^{-1}(\sigma(\mathfrak{S}))$  and  $f^{-1}(\sigma(\mathfrak{S}))$  is a  $\sigma$ -field, since the preimage of a  $\sigma$ -field is a  $\sigma$ -field by Proposition.1.3.

So we deduce that  $\sigma(f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S})) \subset f^{-1}(\sigma(\mathfrak{S}))$ . Now consider the  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{B}_f = \{B \subset Y : f^{-1}(B) \in \sigma(f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S}))\}$ . If  $B \in \mathcal{B}_f$ , then  $f^{-1}(B) \in \sigma(f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S}))$ , so  $f^{-1}(\mathcal{B}_f) \subset \sigma(f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S}))$ . But  $\mathfrak{S} \subset \mathcal{B}_f$ , and then  $\sigma(\mathfrak{S}) \subset \mathcal{B}_f$ , so we get  $f^{-1}(\sigma(\mathfrak{S})) \subset f^{-1}(\mathcal{B}_f) \subset \sigma(f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S}))$ . ■

**Proposition.2.3.**

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F}), (Y, \mathcal{G})$  be measurable spaces and  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  a function. Suppose there is a family  $\mathfrak{S}$  of subsets of  $Y$  with  $\sigma(\mathfrak{S}) = \mathcal{G}$  and satisfying  $f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S}) \subset \mathcal{F}$ . Then  $f$  is measurable with respect to  $(X, \mathcal{F}), (Y, \mathcal{G})$ .

**Proof.** Since  $f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S}) \subset \mathcal{F}$  we have  $\sigma(f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S})) \subset \mathcal{F}$ .

By Theorem.2.2  $\sigma(f^{-1}(\mathfrak{S})) = f^{-1}(\sigma(\mathfrak{S}))$ , but  $\sigma(\mathfrak{S}) = \mathcal{G}$

and so  $f^{-1}(\mathcal{G}) \subset \mathcal{F}$ . ■

**Examples.2.4.**

(a) Let  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$ . The Borel  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  is defined in Proposition 3.6, chap.1. For  $f$  to be measurable it is enough that  $f^{-1}(]-\infty, t]) \in \mathcal{F}$  (the intervals  $]-\infty, t[$  generates  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ )

(b) Let  $X$  be a topological space with a countable base  $(U_n)$ , endowed with its Borel  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{B}_X$ . It is well known that  $\mathcal{B}_X$  is generated by the family  $(U_n)$  and any open set is the union of a subfamily of  $(U_n)$ . So for a function from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(Y, \mathcal{B}_Y)$  to be measurable it is enough that  $f^{-1}(U_n) \in \mathcal{F}$  for every  $n$ .

(c) Let  $X, Y$  be topological spaces endowed with their Borel  $\sigma$ -fields  $\mathcal{B}_X, \mathcal{B}_Y$ . A function  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is measurable with respect to  $\mathcal{B}_X, \mathcal{B}_Y$  iff  $f^{-1}(G) \in \mathcal{B}_X$  for every open set  $G \subset Y$ . In particular any continuous function is measurable.

(d) Let  $I_A : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the indicator function of the set  $A$ , i.e  $I_A(x) = 1$  if  $x \in A$  and  $I_A(x) = 0$  if  $x \notin A$ . We have  $I_A^{-1}(\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}) = \{A, A^c, X, \emptyset\}$ , then  $I_A$  is measurable from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$  iff  $A \in \mathcal{F}$ .

Now we state some important properties of measurable functions.

**Proposition.2.5.**

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F}), (Y, \mathcal{G}), (Z, \mathcal{H})$  be measurable spaces and  $f : X \rightarrow Y, g : Y \rightarrow Z$  measurable functions. Then the composition function  $g \circ f : X \rightarrow Z$  is measurable from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(Z, \mathcal{H})$ .

**Proof.** We have  $(g \circ f)^{-1}(\mathcal{H}) = (f^{-1} \circ g^{-1})(\mathcal{H}) = f^{-1}(g^{-1}(\mathcal{H}))$ . Since  $g$  is measurable  $g^{-1}(\mathcal{H}) \subset \mathcal{G}$ , so  $f^{-1}(g^{-1}(\mathcal{H})) \subset f^{-1}(\mathcal{G})$ . But  $f$  is measurable then  $f^{-1}(\mathcal{G}) \subset \mathcal{F}$ . We deduce that  $(g \circ f)^{-1}(\mathcal{H}) \subset \mathcal{F}$  and  $g \circ f$  is measurable. ■

**Proposition.2.6.**

Let  $(X \times Y, \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G})$  be the product of the measurable spaces  $(X, \mathcal{F}), (Y, \mathcal{G})$  (see Definition 3.4. Chap.1). Then the projection  $\pi_1(x, y) = x$  is measurable from  $(X \times Y, \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G})$  into  $(X, \mathcal{F})$ . Similarly the projection  $\pi_2(x, y) = y$  is measurable from  $(X \times Y, \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G})$  into  $(Y, \mathcal{G})$ .

**Proof.** By Definition 3.4 Chap.1 the  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}$  contains the family  $\{A \times B : A \in \mathcal{F}, B \in \mathcal{G}\}$ . We get  $\pi_1^{-1}(A) = A \times Y \in \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}$  for every  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $\pi_2^{-1}(B) = X \times B \in \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}$  for every  $B \in \mathcal{G}$ . So  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  are measurable. ■

**Proposition.2.7.**

Let  $(Z, \mathcal{H})$  be a measurable space and let  $f : Z \rightarrow X \times Y$  be a function with  $f_1 = \pi_1 \circ f : Z \rightarrow X$  and  $f_2 = \pi_2 \circ f : Z \rightarrow Y$ . Then  $f$  is measurable from  $(Z, \mathcal{H})$  into  $(X \times Y, \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G})$  if and only if  $f_1$  is measurable from  $(Z, \mathcal{H})$  into  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  and  $f_2$  is measurable from  $(Z, \mathcal{H})$  into  $(Y, \mathcal{G})$ .

**Proof.** The <if> part comes from the measurability of  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  (Proposition 2.6) and the measurability of the composition function (Proposition 2.5).

We prove the <only if> part:. Since the family  $\{A \times B : A \in \mathcal{F}, B \in \mathcal{G}\}$  generates the product  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}$  it is enough to prove that  $f^{-1}(A \times B) \in \mathcal{H}$  (Proposition 2.3). Since  $f_1$  and  $f_2$  are measurable we have

$$\begin{aligned} f_1^{-1}(A) &= (\pi_1 \circ f)^{-1}(A) = f^{-1}(A \times Y) \in \mathcal{H} \\ \text{and } f_2^{-1}(B) &= (\pi_2 \circ f)^{-1}(B) = f^{-1}(X \times B) \in \mathcal{H} \\ f^{-1}(A \times Y) \cap f^{-1}(X \times B) &= f^{-1}((A \times Y) \cap (X \times B)) = f^{-1}(A \times B) \in \mathcal{H}. \blacksquare \end{aligned}$$

**Remark. 2.8.**

Let  $X$  be a topological space. Let us recall that the Borel  $\sigma$ -field of  $X$  is the  $\sigma$ -field generated by the family of all the open sets of  $X$ .

It is denoted by  $\mathcal{B}_X$ . Sets in  $\mathcal{B}_X$  are called Borel sets of  $X$ . If  $X, Y$  are topological spaces whose product  $X \times Y$  is endowed with the product topology then on the space  $X \times Y$  one may put two  $\sigma$ -fields that are  $\mathcal{B}_X \otimes \mathcal{B}_Y$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{X \otimes Y}$ . An interesting question is when do we have  $\mathcal{B}_{X \otimes Y} = \mathcal{B}_X \otimes \mathcal{B}_Y$ . It is known that if  $X$  and  $Y$  are separable metric spaces then  $\mathcal{B}_{X \otimes Y} = \mathcal{B}_X \otimes \mathcal{B}_Y$ . This result is of particular importance when  $X = Y = \mathbb{R}$  :

**Theorem.2.9.**

The space  $\mathbb{R}$  is separable, since the countable set  $\mathbb{Q}$  of rational numbers is dense. So the set  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with the product topology is separable and we have  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}^2} = \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ .

As a consequence of this Theorem we have:

**Proposition. 2.10.**

Let  $f, g : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be measurable functions from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$ . Then the following functions  $f + g, f.g, \sup(f, g), \inf(f, g)$  are measurable.

**Proof.** Since the functions  $f, g$  are measurable, the function  $\varphi : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}^2$  defined by  $\varphi(x) = (f(x), g(x))$  is measurable with respect to  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}^2}$  (Proposition.2.7). On the other hand the functions  $S, P, M, m : \mathbb{R}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by:  $S(u, v) = u + v, P(u, v) = uv, M(u, v) = \sup(u, v), m(u, v) = \inf(u, v)$  are continuous and so measurable with respect to  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}^2}$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ . Now we have  $S \circ \varphi = f + g, P \circ \varphi = fg, M \circ \varphi = \sup(f, g), m \circ \varphi = \inf(f, g)$ ; the conclusion comes from Proposition.2.5. ■

**Corollary.** The family  $\mathcal{M}(X, \mathbb{R})$  of measurable functions from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$  is a vector space on the field  $\mathbb{R}$  and even an algebra of functions.

**Definition.2.11.**

Let  $\{f_i, i \in I\}$  be a family of functions defined on a set  $X$  such that each  $f_i : X \rightarrow E_i$  sends  $X$  into the measurable space  $(E_i, \mathcal{F}_i)$ . The  $\sigma$ -field generated by the family  $\{f_i, i \in I\}$  is defined as the smallest  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$  making each function  $f_i$  measurable from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into the space  $(E_i, \mathcal{F}_i)$ . We denote this  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{F}$  by  $\sigma\{f_i, i \in I\}$ ; in other words  $\sigma\{f_i, i \in I\}$  is the smallest  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{F}$  on  $X$  containing all the families  $f_i^{-1}(\mathcal{F}_i), i \in I$ .

**Examples.2.12.**

(a) Let  $X$  be a set and take  $\{f_i, i \in I\} = \{I_A, A \in \mathcal{P}(X)\}$  where  $I_A$  is the indicator function, then  $\sigma\{I_A, A \in \mathcal{P}(X)\} = \mathcal{P}(X)$ .

(b) Let  $X$  be a topological space. The Baire  $\sigma$ -field on  $X$  is defined as the  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{B}_0(X)$  generated by all continuous functions  $f_i : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , that is the smallest  $\sigma$ -field on  $X$  making each continuous function  $f_i : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  measurable with respect to  $\mathcal{B}_0(X)$  and  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ .

(c) If in Example (b) the space  $X$  is a metric space whose topology is defined by the distance  $d$  then  $\mathcal{B}_0(X)$  coincides with the Borel  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{B}_X$  on  $X$ .

Indeed we have  $\mathcal{B}_0(X) \subset \mathcal{B}_X$  since  $\mathcal{B}_X$  makes each continuous function measurable as easily may be seen. On the other hand let  $F$  be a closed set in  $X$  and consider the continuous function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  given by  $f(x) = d(x, F)$ . Then we have  $F = \{x \in X : f(x) = 0\} = f^{-1}(0) \in \mathcal{B}_0(X)$ ; so  $\mathcal{B}_0(X)$  contains all the closed sets of  $X$  and then  $\mathcal{B}_X \subset \mathcal{B}_0(X)$  since  $\mathcal{B}_X$  is generated by the family of closed sets in  $X$  (see Definition 3.5 Chap.1).

(d) Let  $(X \times Y, \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G})$  be the product of the measurable spaces  $(X, \mathcal{F}), (Y, \mathcal{G})$ . Then the projection  $\pi_1(x, y) = x$  and the projection  $\pi_2(x, y) = y$  are measurable on  $(X \times Y, \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G})$  (Proposition.2.6). Then  $\pi_1^{-1}(A) = A \times Y \in \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}$  for every  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $\pi_2^{-1}(B) = X \times B \in \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}$  for every  $B \in \mathcal{G}$ .

We deduce that  $\sigma\{\pi_1, \pi_2\} \subset \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}$ . On the other hand we have:

$\pi_1^{-1}(A) \cap \pi_2^{-1}(B) = (A \times Y) \cap (X \times B) = A \times B \in \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}$ . So every set of the form  $A \times B$  with  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  and  $B \in \mathcal{G}$  is in  $\sigma\{\pi_1, \pi_2\}$ . But  $\sigma\{A \times B : A \in \mathcal{F}, B \in \mathcal{G}\} = \mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G}$ , finally  $\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G} \subset \sigma\{\pi_1, \pi_2\}$ . Then  $\mathcal{F} \otimes \mathcal{G} = \sigma\{\pi_1, \pi_2\}$ .

### 3. Exercises

**20.** Let  $X$  be a non empty set. Determine the  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{F}$  generated by the constant functions  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ . Let  $\mathfrak{S}$  be the family of measurable functions from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$ , prove that  $\mathfrak{S}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{R}$ .

**21.** Let  $f$  be a measurable function from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$ , prove that  $|f|$  is measurable. Let  $E$  be a set not Lebesgue measurable (see section 5 for the definition of Lebesgue measurable sets). Consider the function  $f : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  defined by  $f(x) = xI_{E^c} - xI_E$ , prove that  $f$  is not Lebesgue measurable but  $|f|$  is measurable.

**22.** Let  $\{(X_i, \mathcal{F}_i), 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  be a finite family of measurable spaces and form the product set  $X = \prod_1^n X_i = X_1 \times X_2 \times \cdots \times X_n$ . We denote by  $p_i : X \rightarrow X_i$  the projection from  $X$  onto  $X_i$  given by  $p_i(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n) = x_i$ . Consider the  $\sigma$ -field  $\sigma\{p_i, 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  generated by the functions  $\{p_i, 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  and denoted by  $\mathcal{F}_1 \otimes \mathcal{F}_2 \otimes \cdots \otimes \mathcal{F}_n = \otimes_1^n \mathcal{F}_i$ . The space  $\left(X, \otimes_1^n \mathcal{F}_i\right)$  is called the product of the spaces  $(X_i, \mathcal{F}_i), 1 \leq i \leq n$ .

(a) Prove that  $\otimes_1^n \mathcal{F}_i$  is generated by the subsets of  $X$  of the form  $A = A_1 \times A_2 \times \cdots \times A_n, A_i \in \mathcal{F}_i, 1 \leq i \leq n$ .

(b) Let  $(Y, \mathcal{G})$  be a measurable space and let  $g : Y \rightarrow \prod_1^n X_i$  be a function, prove that  $g$  is measurable with respect to  $(Y, \mathcal{G})$  and  $\left(X, \otimes_1^n \mathcal{F}_i\right)$  if and only if  $p_i \circ g$  is measurable from  $(Y, \mathcal{G})$  into  $(X_i, \mathcal{F}_i)$  for each  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

**23.** Let  $X$  be a non empty set and let  $\{f_i, i \in I\}$  be a family of functions defined on  $X$  such that each  $f_i : X \rightarrow E_i$  sends  $X$  into the measurable space  $(E_i, \mathcal{B}_i)$ . Suppose that  $X$  is endowed with the  $\sigma$ -field  $\sigma\{f_i, 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  generated by the functions  $\{f_i, 1 \leq i \leq n\}$  (see Definition 2.11). Let  $(Y, \mathcal{G})$  be a measurable space and let  $g : Y \rightarrow X$ , prove that  $g$  is measurable with respect to  $(Y, \mathcal{G})$  and  $(X, \sigma\{f_i, 1 \leq i \leq n\})$  if and only if  $f_i \circ g$  is measurable from  $(Y, \mathcal{G})$  into  $(E_i, \mathcal{B}_i)$  for each  $1 \leq i \leq n$ .

### 4. Measurable Functions with values in $\mathbb{R}, \overline{\mathbb{R}}, \mathbb{C}$

#### Definition.4.1

- (a) The set  $\mathbb{R}$  is the real numbers system endowed with the Borel  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$ .
- (b) The set  $\overline{\mathbb{R}}$  is defined as  $\{\mathbb{R}, -\infty, +\infty\}$ . The  $\sigma$ -field we need on  $\overline{\mathbb{R}}$  is given by  $\sigma\{\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}, -\infty, \infty\}$  and denoted by  $\mathcal{B}_{\overline{\mathbb{R}}}$ .
- (c) It is well known that the set  $\mathbb{C}$  of complex numbers can be identified with the product space  $\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}$ ; so we can identify the Borel  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}}$  with  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R}}$ , which is  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}} \otimes \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  by Theorem.2.9.

**Notations. 4.2.**

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  be a measurable space. In the sequel we will use the following notations:

$\mathcal{M}(X, \mathbb{R})$  is the family of measurable functions  $f$  from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$ .

$\mathcal{M}(X, \mathbb{C})$  is the family of measurable functions  $f$  from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{C}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{C}})$

We already have seen that  $\mathcal{M}(X, \mathbb{R})$  is a vector space on the field  $\mathbb{R}$  (see the Corollary of Proposition.2.10).

It is not difficult to prove the same for  $\mathcal{M}(X, \mathbb{C})$

**Arithmetic in  $\overline{\mathbb{R}}$ . 4.3.**

We will agree with the following conventions in  $\overline{\mathbb{R}} = \{\mathbb{R}, -\infty, +\infty\}$  :

$$0 \cdot (\pm\infty) = (\pm\infty) \cdot 0 = 0$$

$$(+\infty) + (+\infty) = +\infty$$

$$(-\infty) + (-\infty) = -\infty$$

$$a \pm (\pm\infty) = \pm\infty, \forall a \in \mathbb{R}$$

$$(-1) \cdot (\pm\infty) = (\mp\infty)$$

**Definition. 4.4.**

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  be a measurable space.

A function  $f : X \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  is measurable from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\overline{\mathbb{R}}, \mathcal{B}_{\overline{\mathbb{R}}})$  if:

$$f^{-1}(B) \in \mathcal{F}, \forall B \in \mathcal{B}_{\overline{\mathbb{R}}}, \text{ and } f^{-1}(+\infty) \in \mathcal{F}, f^{-1}(-\infty) \in \mathcal{F}$$

this comes from the fact that  $\mathcal{B}_{\overline{\mathbb{R}}} = \sigma\{\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}, -\infty, \infty\}$  and Proposition 2.3.

We denote by  $\mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  the family of measurable functions  $f$  from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\overline{\mathbb{R}}, \mathcal{B}_{\overline{\mathbb{R}}})$ .

**Proposition. 4.5.**

The  $\sigma$ -field  $\mathcal{B}_{\overline{\mathbb{R}}}$  is generated by all the intervals of the form  $[-\infty, t[$ .

**Proof.** Use the fact that  $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  is generated by all the open intervals by Proposition 3.6.Chap.1■

**Corollary.**

A function  $f : X \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  is measurable from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\overline{\mathbb{R}}, \mathcal{B}_{\overline{\mathbb{R}}})$  if:

$$f^{-1}([-\infty, t[) \in \mathcal{F}, \forall t \in \mathbb{R}.$$

**Definition. 4.6.**

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F}), (Y, \mathcal{G})$  be measurable spaces and  $E \subset X$  a subset of  $X$ . If  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is a function. We say that  $f$  is measurable on  $E$  if the restriction of  $f$  to  $E$  considered as a function from  $(E, E \cap \mathcal{F})$  into  $(Y, \mathcal{G})$  is measurable.

**Example. 4.7.**

If  $f, g$  are in  $\mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$ , then the function  $f + g$  is measurable on the set  $E$  with:  $E^c = (\{f = \infty\} \cap \{g = -\infty\}) \cup (\{f = -\infty\} \cap \{g = \infty\})$

Let  $\varphi$  be the restriction of  $f + g$  to  $E$  then we have

$\varphi$  is well defined on  $E$  and  $\{\varphi < t\} = \{f + g < t\} \cap E \in E \cap \mathcal{F}$ .

**5. Sequences of Measurable Functions****Definition. 5.1. (simple function)**

Let  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a function from  $X$  into  $\mathbb{R}$ . The function  $f$  is simple if it takes a finite number of values, that is,  $f$  is simple if the set  $f(X)$  is a finite subset of  $\mathbb{R}$ . So if  $f(X) = \{a_1, a_2, \dots, a_n\}$  and  $A_i = \{x : f(x) = a_i\}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ , then  $\{A_1, A_2, \dots, A_n\}$  is a partition of  $X$  and the function  $f$  can be written as  $f(\cdot) = \sum_1^n a_i \cdot I_{A_i}(\cdot)$ , where  $I_{A_i}$  is the indicator function of the set  $A_i, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

**Proposition. 5.2**

A simple function  $f(\cdot) = \sum_{i=1}^n a_i \cdot I_{A_i}(\cdot)$  is measurable from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$  iff  $A_i \in \mathcal{F}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .

**Proof.** We have  $f^{-1}\{a_i\} = A_i \in \mathcal{F}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n$ ; so if  $B \in \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}}$  and  $n_B = \{i : a_i \in B\}$ , we deduce that  $f^{-1}(B) = \bigcup_{i \in n_B} A_i \in \mathcal{F}$ . ■

**Notation. 5.3.** We denote by  $\mathcal{E}$  the family of measurable simple functions from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$

**Proposition. 5.4.**

Let  $s, t$  be in  $\mathcal{E}$  and  $\lambda \in \mathbb{R}$ , then: the functions  $s + t, s \cdot t, \lambda \cdot s, \sup(s, t), \inf(s, t)$  are in  $\mathcal{E}$ .

**Proof.** Write  $s(\cdot) = \sum_1^n a_i \cdot I_{A_i}(\cdot), t(\cdot) = \sum_1^m b_j \cdot I_{B_j}(\cdot)$ , then we have:

$$s + t = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m (a_i + b_j) \cdot I_{A_i \cap B_j}$$

$$s \cdot t = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m (a_i b_j) \cdot I_{A_i \cap B_j}, \lambda \cdot s = \sum_1^n (\lambda a_i) \cdot I_{A_i}$$

(so the family  $\mathcal{E}$  is an algebra on  $\mathbb{R}$ .)

$$\sup(s, t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m \sup(a_i, b_j) \cdot I_{A_i \cap B_j}, \inf(s, t) = \sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{j=1}^m \inf(a_i, b_j) \cdot I_{A_i \cap B_j}$$

Since  $\{A_i \cap B_j, 1 \leq i \leq n, 1 \leq j \leq m\}$  is a partition of  $X$  we get the result. ■

**Proposition. 5.5.**

Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of functions in  $\mathcal{M}(X, \mathbb{R})$  or either in  $\mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  then: the functions  $\sup_n f_n$  and  $\inf_n f_n$  are in  $\mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$ .

**Proof.** For any  $t \in \mathbb{R}$  we have  $\left\{ \sup_n f_n \leq t \right\} = \bigcap_n \{f_n \leq t\}$  whence the measurability of  $\sup_n f_n$ . Since  $\inf_n f_n = -\sup_n -f_n$  we deduce the measurability of  $\inf_n f_n$ . ■

**Corollary. 1.**

Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of functions in  $\mathcal{M}(X, \mathbb{R})$  or either in  $\mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  then: the functions  $\limsup_n f_n$  and  $\liminf_n f_n$  are measurable

**Proof.** Comes directly from the proposition above since  $\limsup_n f_n = \inf_{n \geq 1} \sup_{k \geq n} f_k$  and  $\liminf_n f_n = \sup_{n \geq 1} \inf_{k \geq n} f_k$ . ■

**Corollary. 2.**

Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of functions in  $\mathcal{M}(X, \mathbb{R})$  or either in  $\mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  then: The set  $C = \left\{ x : \limsup_n f_n(x) = \liminf_n f_n(x) \right\}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{F}$ .

**Proof.** Observe that  $C$  is the convergence set of the sequence  $(f_n)$ . Put :

$$\begin{aligned} C_1 &= \left( \left\{ x : \limsup_n f_n(x) = \infty \right\} \cap \left\{ x : \liminf_n f_n(x) = \infty \right\} \right) \\ C_2 &= \left( \left\{ x : \limsup_n f_n(x) = -\infty \right\} \cap \left\{ x : \liminf_n f_n(x) = -\infty \right\} \right) \\ C_3 &= \left\{ x : \limsup_n f_n(x) \in \mathbb{R} \right\} \cap \left\{ x : \limsup_n f_n(x) = \liminf_n f_n(x) \right\} \end{aligned}$$

Then  $C_1$  and  $C_2$  and  $C_3$  are in  $\mathcal{F}$  and  $C = C_1 \cup C_2 \cup C_3$ . ■

**Corollary. 3.**

Let  $(f_n)$  be a sequence of functions in  $\mathcal{M}(X, \mathbb{R})$  or either in  $\mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  Suppose that:  $\lim_n f_n(x) = f(x) \in \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  exists for each  $x \in X$ . Then  $f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$ .

**Proof.** The convergence set  $C = \left\{ x : \limsup_n f_n(x) = \liminf_n f_n(x) \right\}$  given in Corollary 2 is equal to  $X$  here.

So the function  $f(x)$  is equal to  $\limsup_n f_n(x) = \liminf_n f_n(x), \forall x \in X$ . Then  $f$  is measurable by Corollary 1. ■

The following theorem is fundamental and will be used in the construction of the integral of a measurable function.

**Theorem. 5.6.**

Let  $f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  be such that  $f(x) \in [0, \infty], \forall x \in X$ . Then: there exists a sequence  $(s_n)$  of positive measurable simple functions from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$  with:

- (i)  $0 \leq s_n \leq s_{n+1}$
- (ii)  $\lim_n s_n(x) = f(x), \forall x \in X$ .



**Proof.** For each  $n \geq 1$  and each  $x \in X$ , define  $s_n$  by:

$$s_n(x) = \frac{i-1}{2^n} \text{ if } \frac{i-1}{2^n} \leq f(x) < \frac{i}{2^n}, i = 1, 2, \dots, n2^n$$

$$s_n(x) = n \text{ if } f(x) \geq n$$

we can use a consolidated form for  $s_n$ :

$$s_n(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n2^n} \frac{i-1}{2^n} I_{\left\{ \frac{i-1}{2^n} \leq f(x) < \frac{i}{2^n} \right\}} + n I_{\{f(x) \geq n\}}$$

recall that  $I_A$  is the function defined by  $I_A(x) = 1$  if  $x \in A$  and  $I_A(x) = 0$  if  $x \notin A$ .

Then  $(s_n)$  is an increasing sequence of positive simple functions (check it!).

Let us prove that  $\lim_n s_n(x) = f(x), \forall x \in X$ :

if  $f(x) < \infty$  then for every  $n > f(x)$  we have  $0 < f(x) - s_n(x) < \frac{1}{2^n}$ , so  $\lim_n s_n(x) = f(x)$

if  $f(x) = \infty$  then  $f(x) \geq n$  for every  $n$  and so we have  $s_n(x) = n$  for all  $n$  whence  $\lim_n s_n(x) = \infty$ . ■

**Definition. 5.7.**

Let  $f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$ . Define the positive measurable functions  $f^+, f^-$  by:  
 $f^+ = \sup(f, 0), f^- = -\inf(f, 0)$

**Remark. 5.8.**

It is easy to check that:

$$f = f^+ - f^-$$

$$|f| = f^+ + f^-$$

**Proposition. 5.9.**

Let  $f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$ . Then there exists a sequence  $(s_n)$  of measurable simple functions from  $(X, \mathcal{F})$  into  $(\mathbb{R}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbb{R}})$  with  $\lim_n s_n(x) = f(x), \forall x \in X$ .

**Proof.** We have  $f = f^+ - f^-$  where  $f^+, f^-$  are simple positives.

By Theorem. 5.6. there exist simple positive functions  $s'_n, s''_n$  such that:

$\lim_n s'_n(x) = f^+(x), \forall x \in X$  and  $\lim_n s''_n(x) = f^-(x), \forall x \in X$ . Then  $s_n = s'_n - s''_n$  is measurable simple and  $\lim_n s_n(x) = f^+(x) - f^-(x) = f(x), \forall x \in X$ . ■

**Corollary.**

Let  $f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \mathbb{R})$  and suppose  $f$  bounded. Then there is a sequence  $(s_n)$  of measurable simple functions converging uniformly to  $f$  on  $X$ .

**Proof.** By the Proposition above it is enough to consider the case  $f$  positive. Since  $f$  is bounded there is  $n$  such that  $n > f(x)$  for every  $x \in X$ . So there exists a sequence  $(s_n)$  of positive measurable simple functions

with  $0 \leq f(x) - s_m(x) < \frac{1}{2^m}, \forall x \in X, \forall m > n$ , from which we deduce the uniform convergence of  $s_n$  to  $f$  on  $X$ . ■

## 6. Convergence of Measurable Functions

Let us recall that if  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  is a measure space, a subset  $N$  of  $X$  is a null set if there is  $A \in \mathcal{F}$ , with  $\mu(A) = 0$  such that  $N \subset A$ .

In this section we describe different type of convergence of measurable functions and the relations between them.

### Definition. 6.1.

Let  $\mathcal{P}$  be a property depending on a variable  $x \in X$ , that is  $\mathcal{P}$  may be true or false according to  $x$ . We say that  $\mathcal{P}$  is true almost every where if there is a null subset  $N$  of  $X$  such that  $\mathcal{P}$  is true for any  $x$  outside  $N$ .

### Examples. 6.2.

(a) A function  $f : X \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  is said to be finite almost every where if there is a null subset  $N$  of  $X$  such that  $f(x) \in \mathbb{R} \forall x \in X \setminus N$ . If moreover  $f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  then  $\{f = \pm\infty\} \in \mathcal{F}$  and the condition of finiteness almost every where may be written simply as  $\mu\{f = \pm\infty\} = 0$ .

(b) A function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is said to be bounded almost every where if there is a constant  $M > 0$  and a null subset  $N$  such that  $|f(x)| \leq M, \forall x \in X \setminus N$ . If moreover  $f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \mathbb{R})$  then  $\{|f| > M\} \in \mathcal{F}$  and the condition of boundedness almost every where may be written simply as  $\mu\{|f| > M\} = 0$ .

(c). Let  $f, g : X \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  be functions. We say that  $f = g$  almost every where if there is a null subset  $N$  such that  $f(x) = g(x), \forall x \in X \setminus N$ . If moreover  $f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$ , the condition may be written as  $\mu\{f \neq g\} = 0$ .

**Abbreviation.** almost every where with respect to  $\mu$  is abbreviated to:  $\mu - a.e$

### Definition. 6.3.

Let  $f_n : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a sequence of functions. We say that  $f_n$  converges  $\mu - a.e$  if the set  $N = \left\{ \limsup_n f_n \neq \liminf_n f_n \right\}$  is a null set. In other words  $f_n$  converges  $\mu - a.e$  if for each  $x \in X \setminus N$  the real sequence  $f_n(x)$  converge to the real number  $f(x)$ , that is:  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists m(\epsilon, x) \geq 1$  such that  $\forall n \geq m(\epsilon, x), |f_n(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon$ .

### Definition. 6.4.

Let  $f_n : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a sequence of functions. We say that  $f_n$  is a Cauchy sequence  $\mu - a.e$  if there is a null subset  $N$  such that for each  $x \in X \setminus N$  the real sequence  $f_n(x)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ , that is satisfies the following condition:

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists M(\epsilon, x) \geq 1 \text{ such that } \forall n, m \geq M(\epsilon, x), |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| < \epsilon$$

### Proposition. 6.5.

Let  $f_n : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a sequence of functions. The following conditions are equivalent:

- (a) The sequence  $f_n$  converges to  $\mu - a.e$  to a function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$
- (b)  $f_n$  is a Cauchy sequence  $\mu - a.e$

**Proof.** For each  $x$  outside of a null set  $f_n(x)$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $\mathbb{R}$ , so the Proposition results from the validity of the same properties in  $\mathbb{R}$ . ■

Now let us come to the convergence of measurable functions.

**Proposition. 6.6.**

Let  $f_n$  be a sequence of functions in  $\mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  converging  $\mu - a.e$  on  $X$ . Then there is  $f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  such that  $f_n$  converges  $\mu - a.e$  to  $f$ . Conversely if there is  $f : X \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}$  such that  $f_n$  converges  $\mu - a.e$  to  $f$ , then  $f$  is measurable on a set  $E$  with  $\mu(E^c) = 0$ .

**Proof.** Take  $E = \left\{ x : \limsup_n f_n(x) = \liminf_n f_n(x) \right\}$  and take  $f$  defined by:

$$f(x) = \liminf_n f_n(x) \text{ for } x \in E \text{ and } f(x) = 0 \text{ for } x \in E^c$$

(see Definition 4.6 for the measurability of  $f$  on  $E$ ). ■

**Definition. 6.7. (uniform convergence  $\mu - a.e$ )**

Let  $f_n : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be a sequence of functions. We say that  $f_n$  converges uniformly  $\mu - a.e$  to the function  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  if there is a null set  $N$  such that  $f_n$  converges uniformly to  $f$  on  $X \setminus N$ , that is:

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists M(\epsilon) \geq 1 \text{ such that } \forall n \geq M(\epsilon), |f_n(x) - f(x)| < \epsilon, \forall x \in X \setminus N$$

We say that  $f_n$  is a Cauchy sequence for the uniform convergence  $\mu - a.e$  if there is a null set  $N$  such that:

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \exists M(\epsilon) \geq 1 \text{ such that } \forall n, m \geq M(\epsilon), |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| < \epsilon, \forall x \in X \setminus N$$

let us observe that the integer  $M(\epsilon)$  does not depend on  $x$ .

**Remark. 6.8.**

In most of our discussion, especially in integration theory, we frequently use a complete measure space  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  as our basic space. So in this case every null set is in  $\mathcal{F}$  and this avoids some cumbersome measurability character of functions.

The following Theorem localizes the points of the space  $X$  where the convergence of a sequence fails to be uniform. Let us start with an example:

**Example. 6.9.**

Consider the space  $X = [0, 1]$  endowed with the Lebesgue measure  $\mu$  and let  $f_n : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be the sequence of functions given by  $f_n(x) = x^n, x \in [0, 1]$ . The sequence converges pointwise to the function  $f$  given by  $f(x) = 0$  for  $0 \leq x < 1$ , and  $f(x) = 1$  for  $x = 1$ , but the convergence is not uniform (why?). However for  $\epsilon > 0$ , we see that the sequence  $f_n$  converges uniformly on the interval  $[0, 1 - \frac{\epsilon}{2}]$ ; intuitively the points where the uniform convergence fails are localized in the set  $B = [1 - \frac{\epsilon}{2}, 1]$  and  $\mu(B) < \epsilon$ .

**Theorem. 6.10. (Egorov)**

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  be a measure space, with  $\mu(X) < \infty$ . Let  $f_n, f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  be functions finite  $\mu - a.e$ .

Suppose that the sequence  $f_n$  converges  $\mu - a.e$  to  $f$  on  $X$ . Then we have:

For every  $\epsilon > 0$  there is  $B \in \mathcal{F}$  such that  $\mu(B) < \epsilon$   
and  $f_n$  converges uniformly to  $f$  on  $X \setminus B$ .

**Proof.** Without losing general hypothesis, we can assume that:  $f_n, f$  take values in  $\mathbb{R}$  and  $f_n$  converges everywhere to  $f$  on  $X$ .

Let  $E_n^m = \bigcap_{j \geq n} \{|f_j - f| < \frac{1}{m}\}$ , since  $f_n, f$  are measurable we get  $E_n^m \in \mathcal{F}, \forall n, m$ . Moreover it is clear that  $E_n^m \subset E_{n+1}^m \subset \dots \subset \bigcup_{n \geq 1} E_n^m$ . Since  $f_n$  converges everywhere to  $f$  on  $X$ , we have  $\bigcup_{n \geq 1} E_n^m = X, \forall m \geq 1$ .

So  $X \setminus E_n^m \supset X \setminus E_{n+1}^m \supset \dots \supset \bigcap_{n \geq 1} (X \setminus E_n^m) = \emptyset$  for each  $m \geq 1$ . Since  $\mu(X) < \infty$  we deduce that  $\lim_n \mu(X \setminus E_n^m) = 0$ ; so for each  $m \geq 1$  there is  $n(m) \geq 1$  such

that  $\mu(X \setminus E_{n(m)}^m) < \frac{\epsilon}{2^m}$ . Now put  $B = \bigcup_{m \geq 1} X \setminus E_{n(m)}^m$ ; then we have:

$$\mu(B) \leq \sum_{m \geq 1} \mu(X \setminus E_{n(m)}^m) < \sum_{m \geq 1} \frac{\epsilon}{2^m} = \epsilon. \text{ So } \mu(B) < \epsilon \text{ and } X \setminus B = \bigcap_{m \geq 1} E_{n(m)}^m,$$

therefore  $|f_n(x) - f(x)| < \frac{1}{m}, \forall x \in X \setminus B, \forall n > n(m)$  and then the uniform convergence of  $f_n$  to  $f$  on  $X \setminus B$ . ■

**Remark. 6.11.**

Egorov's Theorem is not valid in the case  $\mu$  infinite as is shown by the following:

Take for  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  the space  $(\mathbb{N}, \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}), \mu)$  with  $\mu$  the counting measure; if  $f_n = I_{\{1, 2, \dots, n\}}$  then  $f_n(k)$  converges to 1 for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ; nevertheless there is no  $F \subset \mathbb{N}$  such that  $\mu(F) < \epsilon$  and  $f_n$  converges uniformly to 1 on  $X \setminus F$  (indeed take  $0 < \epsilon < 1$ ).

**Remark. 6.12.**

It is not difficult to prove the equivalence of the following assertions:

- (a)  $f_n$  converges almost uniformly
- (b)  $f_n$  is a Cauchy sequence for the almost uniform convergence.

**Definition. 6.13.**

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  be a measure space, and let  $f_n, f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  be functions finite  $\mu - a.e.$

- (a) the sequence  $f_n$  converges almost uniformly if:  
 $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists B \in \mathcal{F}$  such that  $\mu(B) < \epsilon$  and  $f_n$  converges uniformly to  $f$  on  $X \setminus B$ .
- (b) the sequence  $f_n$  is a Cauchy sequence for the almost uniform convergence if:  
 $\forall \epsilon > 0 \exists B \in \mathcal{F}$  such that  $\mu(B) < \epsilon$  and  $f_n$  is a Cauchy sequence for the uniform convergence on  $X \setminus B$ .

Here is a specific type of convergence of measurable functions:

**Definition. 6.14.**

Let  $f_n, f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  be functions finite  $\mu - a.e.$

We say that the sequence  $(f_n)$  converges in measure to  $f$  if:

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \lim_n \mu \{x : |f_n(x) - f(x)| > \epsilon\} = 0$$

**Notation:**  $f_n \xrightarrow{\mu} f$

**Proposition. 6.15.**

The almost uniform convergence implies:

- (a) The convergence  $\mu - a.e$
- (b) The convergence in measure

**Proof.** By almost uniform convergence we have:

$\forall k \geq 1, \exists F_k \in \mathcal{F}$ , with  $\mu(F_k) < \frac{1}{k}$ , and  $f_n$  converges uniformly on  $X \setminus F_k$ .  
Take  $F = \bigcap_k F_k$  then  $F \in \mathcal{F}$ ,  $\mu(F) = 0$ . If  $x \in X \setminus F$ , there is  $k$  such that  
 $x \in X \setminus F_k$ , so  $\lim_n f_n(x) = f(x)$  and proves (a).

By almost uniform convergence we have:

$\forall \delta > 0, \exists F_\delta \in \mathcal{F}$ , with  $\mu(F_\delta) < \delta$ , and  $f_n$  converges uniformly on  $X \setminus F_\delta$ .  
Put  $E_n(\epsilon) = \{x : |f_n(x) - f(x)| > \epsilon\}$ , then  $E_n(\epsilon) = E_n(\epsilon) \cap F_\delta + E_n(\epsilon) \cap X \setminus F_\delta$ ;  
we deduce that  $\mu(E_n(\epsilon)) < \delta + \mu(E_n(\epsilon) \cap X \setminus F_\delta)$ . Now since  $f_n$  converges uniformly on  $X \setminus F_\delta$  there is  $N(\epsilon, \delta) \geq 1$  such that for  $n \geq N(\epsilon, \delta)$ ,  
 $\mu(E_n(\epsilon) \cap X \setminus F_\delta) = 0$ . This proves that  $\forall \epsilon > 0, \lim_n \mu(E_n(\epsilon)) = 0$  whence  
 $f_n \xrightarrow{\mu} f$ . ■

**Proposition. 6.16.**

Let  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  be a measure space, with  $\mu(X) < \infty$ . Then:

The convergence  $\mu - a.e$  implies the convergence in measure.

**Proof.** By Egorov Theorem (6.10) convergence  $\mu - a.e$  implies almost uniform convergence from which the convergence in measure comes by Proposition. 6.15. ■

**Proposition. 6.17.**

If  $f_n \xrightarrow{\mu} f$  then  $f_n$  is a Cauchy sequence for the convergence in measure that is:

$$\forall \epsilon > 0, \lim_{n,m} \mu \{x : |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| > \epsilon\} = 0$$

Moreover if also  $f_n \xrightarrow{\mu} g$  then  $f = g$   $\mu - a.e$ .

**Proof.** Since  $|f_n(x) - f_m(x)| \leq |f_n(x) - f(x)| + |f(x) - f_m(x)|$ , we deduce that:

$$\{x : |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| > \epsilon\} \subset \{x : |f_n(x) - f(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\} \cup \{x : |f_m(x) - f(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\}$$

and we have:

$$\begin{aligned} \mu \{x : |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| > \epsilon\} &\leq \\ &\mu \{x : |f_n(x) - f(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\} + \mu \{x : |f_m(x) - f(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\} \\ \text{so } \lim_{n,m} \mu \{x : |f_n(x) - f_m(x)| > \epsilon\} &\leq \\ \lim_n \mu \{x : |f_n(x) - f(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\} + \lim_m \mu \{x : |f_m(x) - f(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\} &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

now suppose  $f_n \xrightarrow{\mu} g$ ; it is clear that

$$\{x : |f(x) - g(x)| > 0\} = \bigcup_n \{x : |f(x) - g(x)| > \frac{1}{n}\}$$

and  $\{x : |f(x) - g(x)| > \frac{1}{n}\} \subset$

$$\{x : |f(x) - f_k(x)| > \frac{1}{2n}\} \cup \{x : |f_k(x) - g(x)| > \frac{1}{2n}\}, \forall k, n; \text{ then}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \mu \{x : |f(x) - g(x)| > \frac{1}{n}\} &\leq \\ \mu \{x : |f(x) - f_k(x)| > \frac{1}{2n}\} + \mu \{x : |f_k(x) - g(x)| > \frac{1}{2n}\} & \end{aligned}$$

the right side goes to 0 as  $k \rightarrow \infty$ , for each  $n$  since  $f_n \xrightarrow{\mu} f$  and  $f_n \xrightarrow{\mu} g$ ,

so  $\mu \{x : |f(x) - g(x)| > \frac{1}{n}\} = 0$  for all  $n$  and then

$$\mu \{x : |f(x) - g(x)| > 0\} = 0 \text{ whence } f = g \text{ } \mu - a.e. \text{ } \blacksquare$$

**Lemma. 6.18.**

Every Cauchy sequence in measure  $f_n$  contains a subsequence  $f_{n_k}$  satisfying Cauchy condition for the almost uniform convergence (Definition 6.13(b)).

**Proof.** Left to the reader. ■

**Theorem. 6.19.**

Every Cauchy sequence in measure  $f_n$  converges in measure to a measurable function  $f$

**Proof.** By Lemma 6.18,  $f_n$  contains a subsequence  $f_{n_k}$  satisfying the Cauchy condition for the almost uniform convergence. So from Remark.6.12 the subsequence  $f_{n_k}$  converges almost uniformly to some measurable function  $f$  and then  $f_{n_k}$  converges in measure to  $f$  by Proposition. 6.15 (b). But  $f_n$  itself converges in measure to  $f$ , indeed we have:

$$\{x : |f_n(x) - f(x)| > \epsilon\} \subset \{x : |f_n(x) - f_{n_k}(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\} \cup \{x : |f(x) - f_{n_k}(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\}$$

and  $\mu\{x : |f_n(x) - f(x)| > \epsilon\} \leq$

$$\mu\{x : |f_n(x) - f_{n_k}(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\} + \mu\{x : |f(x) - f_{n_k}(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\}$$

so if  $n, k \rightarrow \infty, \mu\{x : |f_n(x) - f_{n_k}(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\} \rightarrow 0$ , since  $f_n$  is Cauchy sequence in measure and  $\mu\{x : |f(x) - f_{n_k}(x)| > \frac{\epsilon}{2}\} \rightarrow 0$  because  $f_{n_k}$  converges in measure to  $f$ . ■

**7. Exercises**

24. (a) Prove that in any measure space the uniform convergence implies the convergence in measure.

(b) In the counting measure space  $(\mathbb{N}, \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}), \mu)$  the uniform convergence is equivalent to the convergence in measure.

25. In the space  $(\mathbb{N}, \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}), \mu)$  consider the sequence of indicator functions  $f_n = I_{\{1,2,\dots,n\}}$ ; prove that  $f_n$  converges  $\mu - a.e$  but does not converge in measure. What do we deduce about Proposition. 6.16.

26. Let  $f_n, f \in \mathcal{M}(X, \overline{\mathbb{R}})$  be functions finite  $\mu - a.e.$ . Suppose  $f_n$  converges pointwise to  $f$  and there is a positive measurable function  $g$  satisfying  $\lim_n \mu\{g > \epsilon_n\} = 0$  for some sequence of positive numbers  $\epsilon_n$  with  $\lim_n \epsilon_n = 0$ . Then if  $|f_n| \leq g, \forall n$ , prove that  $f_n$  converges in measure to  $f$ .

27. Let  $f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be measurable in the space  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  and put:  $M(f) = \inf\{\alpha \geq 0 : \mu\{|f| > \alpha\} = 0\}$ , Prove that  $|f| \leq M(f)$   $\mu - a.e.$  Prove that  $\lim_n M(f_n - f) = 0$  iff  $\lim_n f_n = f$  uniformly  $\mu - a.e.$

28 Let  $f_n, f : X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  be measurable functions in the space  $(X, \mathcal{F}, \mu)$  and suppose that  $f_n$  converges in measure to  $f$ ; if  $g : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$  is a uniformly continuous function prove that the sequence  $g \circ f_n$  converges in measure to  $g \circ f$  ■.