

consider a counter example to the statement that we only need a collection of subsets of Ω to form a sigma-field:

$$\Omega = \{1, 2, 3\}$$

$$\backslash\Omega = \backslash\{ 1, 2, 3 \}$$

$$\mathcal{F} := \{\emptyset, 1, 2, \Omega\}$$

$$\backslash\mathcal{F} := \backslash\{\emptyset, 1, 2, \Omega\}$$

$$\{1\} \cup \{2\} = \{1, 2\} \notin \mathcal{F}$$

$$\backslash\{1\} \cup \backslash\{2\} = \backslash\{1, 2\} \notin \backslash\mathcal{F}$$

Clearly, \mathcal{F} cannot be a sigma-field.

The point here is that you cannot take any arbitrary collection of subsets of Ω to form a sigma-field, but you need to take a collection of subsets of Ω that satisfies 3 conditions for the set \mathcal{F} to be a sigma-field: For these 3 conditions, see Xiu 2010 p.10, definition of sigma-field.

If you take ALL possible subsets of Ω , then you have a sigma-field, which is the largest sigma-field possible.

The smallest sigma-field is $\mathcal{F} := \{\emptyset, \Omega\}$

$\backslash\text{mathcal F} := \{\backslash\text{emptyset}, \backslash\Omega\}$