

Distance definition

Krzysztof Bartoszek

November 4, 2019

The Johnson & Wichern textbook uses the term *distance* to mean *metric* so we will adopt the following definitions.

Definition (p. 37 Johnson & Wichern). *A function $d : S \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called a distance function or metric if it satisfies*

1.

$$\forall_{P,Q \in S} d(P, Q) \geq 0 \quad (\text{non - negativity})$$

2.

$$\forall_{P,Q \in S} d(P, Q) = 0 \text{ iff } P = Q \quad (\text{identity of indiscernibles})$$

3.

$$\forall_{P,Q \in S} d(P, Q) = d(Q, P) \quad (\text{symmetricity})$$

4.

$$\forall_{P,Q,R \in S} d(P, Q) \leq d(P, R) + d(R, P) \quad (\text{triangle inequality})$$

Definition.

([https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metric_\(mathematics\)#Pseudoquasimetrics](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Metric_(mathematics)#Pseudoquasimetrics))
A function $d : S \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is called a pseudosemimetric if it satisfies

1.

$$\forall_{P,Q \in S} d(P, Q) \geq 0 \quad (\text{non - negativity})$$

2.

$$\forall_{P \in S} d(P, P) = 0 \quad (\text{but } P \neq Q \text{ does not imply } d(P, Q) > 0)$$

3.

$$\forall_{P,Q \in S} d(P, Q) = d(Q, P) \quad (\text{symmetricity})$$