Distance definition

Krzysztof Bartoszek

November 7, 2017

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 $d: S \times S \to \mathbb{R}$ is called a distance function or metric if it satisfies

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

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

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

4. $\forall_{P,Q,R \in S} \ d(P,Q) = d(P,R) + d(R,P) \ \text{(triangle inequality)}$

Definition.

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

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

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

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