

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Department of Economics

Econ 703
Fall 2004

Prof. R. Deneckere

Homework #5

1. Let $X = \mathbb{R}^n$, and define the function $X \times X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}_+$ by $d_2(x,y) = \max_i |x_i - y_i|$.
 - 1) Prove that d_2 is a metric on X
 - 2) What are the basic open sets in (X, d_2) ?
 - 3) Prove that A is an open subset of (X, d_2) iff it is an open subset of (X, d_1) , where d_1 is the Euclidean metric on X . Thus d_1 and d_2 induce the same collection of open subsets of X .
2. Let X, Y and Z be metric spaces, and let $f : X \times Y \rightarrow Z$. We say that f is *continuous in each variable separately* if for each x_0 in X the function $h : Y \rightarrow Z$ defined by $h(y) = f(x_0, y)$ is continuous and if for each y_0 in Y the function $g(x) = f(x, y_0)$ is continuous. Prove that if f is continuous, then f is continuous in each variable separately. (Remark : whenever considering product spaces, we use the product metric to define their open sets)
3. Let $f : \mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be defined by :
$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} xy/(x^2+y^2), & \text{if } (x,y) \text{ differs from } (0,0); \\ 0, & \text{if } (x,y) = (0,0). \end{cases}$$
 - (a) Show that f is continuous in each variable separately.
 - (b) Compute the function $g(x) = f(x,x)$.
 - (c) Show that f is not continuous.
4. Let X be a metric space and Y be a compact metric space. Show that f is continuous if and only if the *graph of f* ,
$$G(f) = \{(x, f(x)) : x \in X\}$$
is a closed subset of $X \times Y$ (using the product metric).
(HINT : If $G(f)$ is closed, and V is a ball around $f(x_0)$, find a tube about $x_0 \times (Y \setminus V)$ not intersecting $G(f)$).
5. A subset A of \mathbb{R}^n is *star-shaped* around the origin if $x \in A$ implies $\lambda x \in A$ for all $\lambda \in [0,1]$. Prove that a star-shaped set is connected.