

## ON CONTINUITY OF A $(3,1,\rho)$ -METRIC

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**Abstract.** A given  $(3,1,\rho)$ -metric  $d$  on a set  $M$ , induces more than one topology  $\tau$  on  $M$ . In general the map  $d$  from the third power of  $(M, \tau)$  to the real numbers with the usual topology is not continuous. In this paper we consider one of the topologies  $\tau$  on  $M$  and some additional conditions that will imply the continuity of  $d$ .

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The geometric properties, their axiomatic classification and the generalization of metric spaces have been considered in a lot of papers. We will mention some of them: K. Menger ([11]), V. Nemytzki, P.S. Aleksandrov ([13], [1]), Z. Mamuzic ([10]), S. Gähler ([8]), A. V. Arhangelskii, M. Choban, S. Nedev ([2], [3], [14]), R. Kopperman ([9]), J. Usan ([15]), B. C. Dhage, Z. Mustafa, B. Sims ([5], [12]). The notion of  $(n,m,\rho)$ -metric is introduced in [6]. Connections between some of the topologies induced by a  $(3,1,\rho)$ -metric  $d$  and topologies induced by a pseudo-o-metric, o-metric and symmetric are given in [7]. For a given  $(3,1,\rho)$ -metric  $d$  on set  $M$ ,  $j \in \{1,2\}$ , seven topologies  $\tau(G,d)$ ,  $\tau(H,d)$ ,  $\tau(D,d)$ ,  $\tau(N,d)$ ,  $\tau(W,d)$ ,  $\tau(S,d)$  and  $\tau(K,d)$  on  $M$ , induced by  $d$ , are defined in [4], and several properties of these topologies are shown.

In this paper we consider only the topology  $(G,d)$  induced by a  $(3,1,\rho)$ -metric  $d$ . For  $\tau = \tau(G,d)$ , we will state two conditions for  $d$  and show that these conditions imply the continuity of  $d$ , as a map from the third power of the topological space  $(M, \tau)$  to the real numbers with the usual topology.

We recall the basic notions.

Let  $M$  be a nonempty set, and let  $d:M^3 \rightarrow R_0^+ = [0,\infty)$ . We state three conditions for such a map.

(M0)  $d(x,x,x) = 0$ , for any  $x \in M$ ;

(P)  $d(x,y,z) = d(x,z,y) = d(y,x,z)$  for any  $x, y, z \in M$ ; and

(M1)  $d(x,y,z)d(x,y,a) + d(x,a,z) + d(a,y,z)$ , for any  $x, y, z, a \in M$ .

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For a map  $d$  as above let  $\rho = \{(x, y, z) \mid (x, y, z) \in M^3, d(x, y, z) = 0\}$ . The set  $\rho$  is a (3,1)-equivalence on  $M$ , as defined and discussed in [6], [4]. The sets  $\Delta = \{(x, x, x) \mid x \in M\}$  and  $\nabla = \{(x, x, y) \mid x, y \in M\}$  are (3,1)-equivalences on  $M$ . The condition **(M0)** implies that  $\Delta \subseteq \rho$ .

**Definition 1.** Let  $d : M^3 \rightarrow R_0^+$  and  $\rho$  be as above. If  $d$  satisfies **(M0)**, **(P)** and **(M1)** we say that  $d$  is a (3,1, $\rho$ )-metric on  $M$ .

Let  $d$  be a (3,1, $\rho$ )-metric on  $M$ ,  $x, y \in M$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . As in [4], we consider the following  $\varepsilon$ -ball, as subset of  $M$ :

$$B(x, y, \varepsilon) = \{z \mid z \in M, d(x, y, z) < \varepsilon\} - \varepsilon\text{-ball with center at } (x, y) \text{ and radius } \varepsilon.$$

Among the others, a (3,1, $\rho$ )-metric  $d$  on  $M$  induces the topology  $\tau(G, d)$  generated by all the  $\varepsilon$ -balls  $B(x, y, \varepsilon)$ , i.e. the topology whose base is the set of the finite intersections of  $\varepsilon$ -balls  $B(x, y, \varepsilon)$ , (see as [4]).

## 2. CONTINUITY OF A (3,1, $\rho$ )-METRIC $d$ FOR $\tau(G, d)$

**Proposition 1.** Let  $d$  be a (3,1, $\rho$ )-metric on  $M$ , let  $\tau = \tau(G, d)$ , and let  $d$  satisfies the following two conditions:

**(A)** For each  $x_1, x_2, x_3$  of  $M$  there is permutation  $i_1, i_2, i_3$  of 1,2,3 such that

$$d(x_{i_1}, x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}) = d(x_{i_1}, x_{i_1}, x_{i_3}) = d(x_{i_2}, x_{i_2}, x_{i_3}) = 0 \text{ and}$$

**(B)** For each two points  $u, v$  of  $M$  and each  $\varepsilon > 0$  there are open sets  $U_u, U_v \in \tau$  such that  $u \in U_u$ ,  $v \in U_v$  and for each  $x \in U_u$  and  $y \in U_v$ :

$$d(u, x, y) < \varepsilon \text{ and } d(v, x, y) < \varepsilon.$$

Then, the (3,1, $\rho$ )-metric  $d$  is a continuous function.

**Proof.** Let  $u, v, t$  be points of  $M$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Using (A), w.l.o.g. we can set  $x_1 = u$ ,  $x_2 = t$  and  $x_3 = v$ . Thus:

$$d(u, u, t) = d(u, u, v) = d(t, v, v) = 0. \quad (1)$$

For  $u, v$  of  $M$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , the condition (B) implies that there are open neighborhoods  $U_u, U_v$  of  $u$  and  $v$ , such that for each  $x$  of  $U_u$  and each  $y$  of  $U_v$  we have

$$d(x, y, u) < \varepsilon/6 \text{ and } d(x, y, v) < \varepsilon/6. \quad (2)$$

Let  $U_u^1$  and  $U_v^1$  be the open sets defined by:

$$U_u^1 = B(u, v, \varepsilon/6) \cap B(u, t, \varepsilon/6) \cap U_u \text{ and } U_v^1 = B(t, v, \varepsilon/6) \cap U_v. \quad (3)$$

Then, (1) implies that  $u \in U_u^1$  and  $v \in U_v^1$ . This together with (3), implies that for each  $x$  of  $U_u^1$  and each  $y$  of  $U_v^1$ , we have

$$d(u, v, x) < \varepsilon/6, d(u, t, x) < \varepsilon/6 \text{ and } d(t, v, y) < \varepsilon/6. \quad (4)$$

For  $u, t$  of  $M$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , the condition (B) implies that there are open neighborhoods  $U_u^2$  of  $u$  and  $U_t$  of  $t$  such that for each  $x$  of  $U_u^2$  and each  $z$  of  $U_t$  we have

$$d(u, x, z) < \varepsilon/6 \text{ and } d(t, x, z) < \varepsilon/6. \quad (5)$$

For  $t, v$  of  $M$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ , the condition (B) implies that there are open neighborhoods  $U_t^1$  of  $t$  and  $U_v^2$  of  $v$  such that for each  $z$  of  $U_t^1$  and each  $y$  of  $U_v^2$  we have

$$d(t, z, y) < \varepsilon/6 \text{ and } d(v, z, y) < \varepsilon/6. \quad (6)$$

Let  $U_u' = U_u \cap U_u^1 \cap U_u^2$ ,  $U_v' = U_v \cap U_v^1 \cap U_v^2$  and  $U_t' = U_t \cap U_t^1$ . The construction of these open sets implies that  $u \in U_u'$ ,  $v \in U_v'$  and  $t \in U_t'$ . Moreover, for each  $x$  of  $U_u'$ ,  $y$  of  $U_v'$  and  $z$  of  $U_t'$ , using (2), (4), (5) and (6), and the tetrahedral inequality (M1) several times we obtain the following inequalities:

$$\begin{aligned} d(u, t, v) &\leq d(u, t, x) + d(u, x, v) + d(x, t, v) < \varepsilon/6 + \varepsilon/6 + d(x, t, v) \\ &\leq \varepsilon/3 + d(x, t, y) + d(x, y, v) + d(y, t, v) < \varepsilon/3 + d(x, t, y) + \varepsilon/6 + \varepsilon/6 \\ &\leq 2\varepsilon/3 + d(x, t, z) + d(x, z, y) + d(z, t, y) < 2\varepsilon/3 + \varepsilon/6 + d(x, z, y) + \varepsilon/6 \\ &= d(x, z, y) + \varepsilon, \end{aligned} \quad (7)$$

$$\begin{aligned} d(x, z, y) &\leq d(x, z, t) + d(x, t, y) + d(t, z, y) < \varepsilon/6 + \varepsilon/6 + d(x, t, y) \\ &\leq \varepsilon/3 + d(x, t, v) + d(x, v, y) + d(v, t, y) < \varepsilon/3 + d(x, t, v) + \varepsilon/6 + \varepsilon/6 \\ &\leq 2\varepsilon/3 + d(x, t, u) + d(x, u, v) + d(u, t, v) < 2\varepsilon/3 + \varepsilon/6 + d(u, t, v) + \varepsilon/6 \\ &= d(u, t, v) + \varepsilon. \end{aligned} \quad (8)$$

Next, (7) and (8) imply that:

$$|d(u, t, v) - d(x, z, y)| < \varepsilon.$$

All this shows that  $d$  is a continuous function from  $M^3$  to  $R$  with the usual topology. ■

With the next example we show the existence of a continuous  $(3,1,\rho)$ -metric  $d$  satisfying the condition (A), but not satisfying the condition (B) as in Proposition 1.

**Example 1.** Let  $M = (p_1) \cup (p_2)$  whereas  $(p_1)$  and  $(p_2)$  are parallel lines and let

$d : M^3 \rightarrow R_0^+$  be defined by:

$$d(x, y, z) = \begin{cases} 0, & x = y = z \text{ or } x \neq y \neq z \neq x \text{ and } x, y, z \in (p_k), k = 1, 2 \\ 1, & \text{in other cases} \end{cases}$$

$$d(x, x, y) = \begin{cases} 0, & x, y \in (p_k), k = 1, 2 \text{ or } x \in (p_1), y \in (p_2) \\ 1, & x \in (p_2), y \in (p_1). \end{cases}$$

It is easy to show that  $d$  is a  $(3,1,\rho)$ -metric on  $M$  with

$$\rho = \Delta \cup \{(x,x,y) | x \in (p_1), y \in (p_2) \text{ or } x, y \in (p_k), k=1,2\} \\ \cup \{(x,y,z) | x \neq y \neq z \neq x \text{ and } x, y, z \in (p_k), k=1,2\}.$$

For  $x \neq y \in M$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,

$$B(x,y,\varepsilon) = \begin{cases} (p_k), & x \neq y, \quad x, y \in (p_k), k=1,2, \varepsilon \leq 1 \\ \{x\}, & x \neq y, \quad x \in (p_1), y \in (p_2), \varepsilon \leq 1 \\ M, & \varepsilon > 1, \end{cases}$$

and for  $x=y \in M$  and  $\varepsilon > 0$

$$B(x,x,\varepsilon) = \begin{cases} (p_2), & x \in (p_2), \varepsilon \leq 1 \\ M, & x \in (p_1), \varepsilon > 1. \end{cases}$$

From this it follows that  $\tau = \tau(G,d) = D_{(p_1)} \cup \{(p_2) \cup V | V \subseteq (p_1)\}$  where  $D_{(p_1)}$  is the discrete topology on  $(p_1)$ .

First we show that the  $(3,1,\rho)$ -metric  $d$  satisfies the condition (A).

- If  $x, y, z \in (p_k), k=1,2$ , then  $d(x,x,y) = d(x,x,z) = d(y,z,z) = 0$ .
- If  $x, y \in (p_1), z \in (p_2)$ , then  $d(y,y,x) = d(y,y,z) = d(x,z,z) = 0$ .
- If  $x \in (p_1), y, z \in (p_2)$ , then  $d(x,x,y) = d(x,x,z) = d(y,z,z) = 0$ .
- If  $x = z \in (p_2), y \in (p_1)$ , then  $d(x,x,x) = d(x,y,y) = 0$  and  $d(y,y,y) = d(y,y,x) = 0$ .

We will show that the  $(3,1,\rho)$ -metric  $d$  is a continuous function. For each  $x, y$  of  $M$  we define the map  $f_{x,y} : M \rightarrow R$  by  $f_{x,y}(z) = d(x,y,z)$ .

Let  $U$  be an open set in  $R$  with the usual topology, such that  $1 \in U$  and  $0 \notin U$ . Then

$$f_{x,y}^{-1}(U) = \{z | f_{x,y}(z) \in U\} = \{z | d(x,y,z) = 1\}.$$

We consider the following cases:

- if  $x \neq y$  and  $x, y \in (p_1)$ , then  $f_{x,y}^{-1}(U) = (p_2) \in \tau$ ,
- if  $x \neq y$  and  $x, y \in (p_2)$ , then  $f_{x,y}^{-1}(U) = (p_1) \in \tau$ ,
- if  $x \neq y$  and  $x \in (p_1), y \in (p_2)$ , then  $f_{x,y}^{-1}(U) = (p_1) \setminus \{x\} \cup (p_2) \in \tau$ ,
- if  $x = y$  and  $x \in (p_1)$ , then  $f_{x,x}^{-1}(U) = \emptyset \in \tau$ ,
- if  $x = y$  and  $x \in (p_2)$ , then  $f_{x,x}^{-1}(U) = (p_1) \in \tau$ .

Let  $V$  be an open set in  $R$  such that  $0 \in V, 1 \notin V$ . Then

$$f_{x,y}^{-1}(V) = \{z | f_{x,y}(z) \in V\} = \{z | d(x,y,z) = 0\}.$$

We consider the following cases:

- if if  $x \neq y$  and  $x, y \in (p_1)$ , then  $f_{x,y}^{-1}(V) = (p_1) \in \tau$ ,

- if  $x \neq y$  and  $x, y \in (p_2)$ , then  $f_{x,y}^{-1}(V) = (p_2) \in \tau$ ,
- if  $x \neq y$  and  $x \in (p_1)$ ,  $y \in (p_2)$ , then  $f_{x,y}^{-1}(V) = \{x\} \in \tau$ ,
- if  $x = y$  and  $x \in (p_1)$ , then  $f_{x,x}^{-1}(V) = M \in \tau$ ,
- if  $x = y$  and  $x \in (p_2)$ , then  $f_{x,x}^{-1}(V) = (p_2) \in \tau$ .

Let  $W$  be an open set in  $R$  such that  $0,1 \in W$ . Then

$$f_{x,y}^{-1}(W) = \{z \mid f_{x,y}(z) \in W\} = \{z \mid d(x, y, z) = 0 \text{ or } d(x, y, z) = 1\} = M \in \tau.$$

All this implies that  $d$  is a continuous function.

Next, we show that  $d$  does not satisfy the condition (B) from the above proposition. Let  $u, v \in M$ , and let  $u \in (p_1)$ ,  $v \in (p_2)$  and  $0 < \varepsilon < 1$ . For each open neighborhoods  $U_u$  of  $u$  and  $U_v$  of  $v$ , for  $x = u$  and each  $y = v$  we have

$$d(u, x, y) = d(u, u, v) = 0 < \varepsilon \text{ and } d(v, x, y) = d(u, v, v) = 1 \not< \varepsilon.$$

Hence, the condition (B) is not satisfied.

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