EXTENDING OF PARTIAL METRICS

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A function $p: X^2 \to [0, +\infty)$ is called a partial metric on X if for every $x, y, z \in X$ the following conditions

 $\begin{array}{l} (p_1) \ x = y \Leftrightarrow p(x,x) = p(x,y) = p(y,y); \\ (p_2) \ p(x,x) \leq p(x,y); \\ (p_3) \ p(x,y) = p(y,x); \\ (p_4) \ p(x,z) \leq p(x,y) + p(y,z) - p(y,y). \end{array}$

are true.

For any partial metric $p: X^2 \to [0, +\infty)$ the function $q_p: X^2 \to [0, +\infty)$, $q_p(x, y) = p(x, y) - p(x, x)$, is a quasi-metric on X and the topology of the partial metric space (X, p) is the topology τ_q of the quasimetric space (X, q_p) . Moreover, the function $d_p: X^2 \to [0, +\infty)$, $d_p(x, y) = 2p(x, y) - p(x, x) - p(y, y)$ is a metric on X.

The following theorem was proved by F. Hausdorff in 1930.

Theorem 1. Let X be a metrizable space, $A \subseteq X$ be a closed subset and $d_A : A^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ be a compatible metric on A. Then there exists a compatible metric $d : X^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ on X such that $d|_{A^2} = d_A$.

Problem 2. Let X be a partial metrizable space, $A \subseteq X$ be a closed subset and $p_A : A^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ be a compatible partial metric on A. Does there exist a compatible partial metric $p : X^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ on X such that $p|_{A^2} = p_A$?

Proposition 3. Let (X,p) be a partial metric space. Then the function $f: X \to \mathbb{R}$, f(x) = p(x,x), is an 1-Lipschitz function with respect to the metric d_p .

Proposition 4. Let (X,d) be a metric space and $f: X \to [0,+\infty)$ be an 1-Lipschitz function. Then the function $p: X^2 \to \mathbb{R}$,

$$p(x,y) = \frac{1}{2}(d(x,y) + f(x) + f(y)),$$

is a partial metric on X such that $d = d_p$ and p(x, x) = f(x) for every $x \in X$.

Theorem 5. Let X be a quasi-pseudometrizable space, A be a closed subset of X and $q_A : A^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ be a compatible bounded quasi-pseudometric on A. Then there exists a compatible quasi-pseudometric q on X such that $q|_{A^2} = q_A$.

Corollary 6. Let X be a partial metrizable space, A be a closed subset of X and $p_A : A^2 \to \mathbb{R}$ be a compatible partial metric on A such that q_{p_A} is bounded. Then there exists a compatible partial metric p on X such that $p|_{A^2} = p_A$.

Proposition 7. There exist a quasi-pseudometric space (X,q), a τ_q -closed set $A \subseteq X$ and a quasipseudometric p on A such that

(1) q and p are equivalent on A;

(2) $\tau_r \not\subseteq \tau_q$ for every extension r of p on X.

References

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