

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Score (Out of 5 points):

1. (5 points) Let  $(X, d_X)$  and  $(Y, d_Y)$  be two metric spaces. Let  $X \times Y$  be the Cartesian product of the sets  $X$  and  $Y$ , i.e.,  $X \times Y$  is the set

$$X \times Y = \{(x, y) \mid x \in X, y \in Y\}.$$

Prove that the following function defines a metric on  $X \times Y$ .

$$\begin{aligned} d : (X \times Y) \times (X \times Y) &\longrightarrow \mathbb{R} \\ d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) &= d_X(x_1, x_2) + d_Y(y_1, y_2) \end{aligned}$$

**Solutions.** From the description of  $d$  we see that it is well-defined: its outputs are (uniquely) defined for every element of  $(X \times Y) \times (X \times Y)$ , and its outputs are always elements of  $\mathbb{R}$ . We do not need to do any additional work to verify well-definedness of  $d$ .

To show that  $d$  is a metric, we will check the 3 conditions that define a metric:

- (M1) **(Positivity).**  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) \geq 0$  for all  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2) \in X \times Y$ ,  
and  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = 0$  if and only if  $(x_1, y_1) = (x_2, y_2)$ .
- (M2) **(Symmetry).**  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) = d((x_2, y_2), (x_1, y_1))$  for all  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2) \in X \times Y$ .
- (M3) **(Triangle inequality).**  $d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) + d((x_2, y_2), (x_3, y_3)) \geq d((x_1, y_1), (x_3, y_3))$  for all  $(x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2), (x_3, y_3) \in X \times Y$ .

We will use the assumption that  $d_X, d_Y$  are metrics. We first check (M1). Let  $x_1, x_2 \in X$  and  $y_1, y_2 \in Y$  be any points.

$$\begin{aligned} d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) &= d_X(x_1, x_2) + d_Y(y_1, y_2) \\ &\geq 0 + 0 && \text{[since } d_X, d_Y \text{ satisfy (M1)]} \\ &= 0 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) &= 0 \\ \iff d_X(x_1, x_2) + d_Y(y_1, y_2) &= 0 \\ \iff d_X(x_1, x_2) = 0 \text{ and } d_Y(y_1, y_2) &= 0 && \text{[since both terms are nonnegative]} \\ \iff x_1 = x_2 \text{ and } y_1 = y_2 & && \text{[since } d_X, d_Y \text{ satisfy (M1)]} \\ \iff (x_1, y_1) = (x_2, y_2) & && \end{aligned}$$

We next check (M2). Let  $x_1, x_2 \in X$  and  $y_1, y_2 \in Y$  be any points.

$$\begin{aligned} d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) &= d_X(x_1, x_2) + d_Y(y_1, y_2) \\ &= d_X(x_2, x_1) + d_Y(y_2, y_1) && \text{[since } d_X, d_Y \text{ satisfy (M2)]} \\ &= d((x_2, y_2), (x_1, y_1)) \end{aligned}$$

Finally, we check (M3). Let  $x_1, x_2, x_3 \in X$  and  $y_1, y_2, y_3 \in Y$  be any points.

$$\begin{aligned} & d((x_1, y_1), (x_2, y_2)) + d((x_2, y_2), (x_3, y_3)) \\ &= d_X(x_1, x_2) + d_Y(y_1, y_2) + d_X(x_2, x_3) + d_Y(y_2, y_3) \\ &= \left( d_X(x_1, x_2) + d_X(x_2, x_3) \right) + \left( d_Y(y_1, y_2) + d_Y(y_2, y_3) \right) \\ &\geq d_X(x_1, x_3) + d_Y(y_1, y_3) && \text{[since } d_X, d_Y \text{ satisfy (M3)]} \\ &= d((x_1, y_1), (x_3, y_3)) \end{aligned}$$