

Definition and Elementary Properties of Ultrametric Spaces

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Abstract

An ultrametric space is a metric space in which the triangle inequality is strengthened by using the maximum instead of the sum. More formally, such a space is equipped with a real-valued application $dist$, called distance, verifying the four following conditions.

$$\begin{aligned} dist\ x\ y &\geq 0 \\ dist\ x\ y &= dist\ y\ x \\ dist\ x\ y = 0 &\longleftrightarrow x = y \\ dist\ x\ z \leq \max &(dist\ x\ y) (dist\ y\ z) \end{aligned}$$

In this entry, we present an elementary formalization of these spaces relying on axiomatic type classes. The connection with standard metric spaces is obtained through a subclass relationship, and fundamental properties of ultrametric spaces are formally established.

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1 Definition

setup $\langle \text{Sign.add-const-constraint } (\text{const-name } \text{dist}, \text{NONE}) \rangle$
— To be able to use *dist* out of the *metric-space* class.

```
class ultrametric-space = uniformity-dist + open-uniformity +
assumes dist-eq-0-iff [simp]: <dist x y = 0  $\longleftrightarrow$  x = y>
and ultrametric-dist-triangle2: <dist x y  $\leq$  max (dist x z) (dist y z)>
begin

subclass metric-space
proof (unfold-locales)
show <dist x y = 0  $\longleftrightarrow$  x = y> for x y by simp
next
show <dist x y  $\leq$  dist x z + dist y z> for x y z
by (rule order-trans[OF ultrametric-dist-triangle2, of - z], simp)
(metis local.dist-eq-0-iff ultrametric-dist-triangle2 max.idem)
qed

end
```

setup $\langle \text{Sign.add-const-constraint } (\text{const-name } \text{dist}, \text{SOME typ } 'a :: \text{metric-space} \Rightarrow 'a \Rightarrow \text{real}) \rangle$
— Back to normal.

```
class complete-ultrametric-space = ultrametric-space +
assumes Cauchy-convergent: <Cauchy X  $\Longrightarrow$  convergent X>
```

```

begin

subclass complete-space by unfold-locales (fact Cauchy-convergent)

end

```

2 Properties on Balls

In ultrametric space, balls satisfy very strong properties.

```

context ultrametric-space begin

lemma ultrametric-dist-triangle: <dist x z ≤ max (dist x y) (dist y z)>
  using ultrametric-dist-triangle2 [of x z y] by (simp add: dist-commute)

lemma ultrametric-dist-triangle3: <dist x y ≤ max (dist a x) (dist a y)>
  using ultrametric-dist-triangle2 [of x y a] by (simp add: dist-commute)

end

```

2.1 Balls are centered everywhere

```
context fixes x :: 'a :: ultrametric-space begin
```

The best way to do this would be to work in the context *ultrametric-space*. Unfortunately, *ball*, *cball*, etc. are not defined inside the context *metric-space* but through a sort constraint.

```

lemma ultrametric-every-point-of-ball-is-centre :
  <ball y r = ball x r> if <y ∈ ball x r>
proof (unfold set-eq-iff, rule allI)
  from <y ∈ ball x r> have * : <dist x y < r> by simp
  show <z ∈ ball y r ⟷ z ∈ ball x r> for z
    using ultrametric-dist-triangle[of x z y]
    * ultrametric-dist-triangle[of y z x]
    by (intro iffI) (simp-all add: dist-commute)
qed

```

```

lemma ultrametric-every-point-of-cball-is-centre :
  <cball y r = cball x r> if <y ∈ cball x r>
proof (unfold set-eq-iff, rule allI)
  from <y ∈ cball x r> have * : <dist x y ≤ r> by simp
  show <z ∈ cball y r ⟷ z ∈ cball x r> for z
    using ultrametric-dist-triangle[of x z y]
    * ultrametric-dist-triangle[of y z x]
    by (intro iffI) (simp-all add: dist-commute)
qed

```

```
end
```

2.2 Balls are “clopen”

Balls are both open and closed.

```
context fixes  $x :: 'a :: \text{ultrametric-space}$  begin
```

```
lemma ultrametric-open-cball [intro, simp] : \langle open (cball x r) \rangle if \langle 0 < r \rangle
```

```
proof (rule openI)
```

```
fix  $y$  assume \langle  $y \in cball x r$  \rangle  
hence \langle  $cball y r = cball x r$  \rangle
```

```
by (rule ultrametric-every-point-of-cball-is-centre)  
hence \langle ball y (r / 2) \subseteq cball x r \rangle
```

```
by (metis ball-subset-cball cball-divide-subset-numeral subset-trans)
```

```
moreover have \langle 0 < r / 2 \rangle by (simp add: \langle 0 < r \rangle)
```

```
ultimately show \langle \exists e > 0. ball y e \subseteq cball x r \rangle by blast
```

```
qed
```

```
lemma \langle closed (cball y r) \rangle by (fact closed-cball)
```

```
lemma ultrametric-closed-ball [intro, simp]: \langle closed (ball x r) \rangle if \langle 0 \leq r \rangle
```

```
proof (cases \langle r = 0 \rangle)
```

```
show \langle r = 0 \implies closed (ball x r) \rangle by simp
```

```
next
```

```
assume \langle r \neq 0 \rangle
```

```
with \langle 0 \leq r \rangle have \langle 0 < r \rangle by simp
```

```
show \langle closed (ball x r) \rangle
```

```
proof (unfold closed-def)
```

```
have \langle - ball x r = (\bigcup z \in - ball x r. ball z r) \rangle
```

```
proof (intro subset-antisym subsetI)
```

```
from \langle 0 < r \rangle show \langle z \in - ball x r \implies z \in (\bigcup z \in - ball x r. ball
```

```
z r) \rangle for z
```

```
by (meson UN-iff centre-in-ball)
```

```
next
```

```
show \langle z \in (\bigcup z \in - ball x r. ball z r) \implies z \in - ball x r \rangle for z
```

```
by simp (metis ComplD dist-commute mem-ball
```

```
ultrametric-every-point-of-ball-is-centre)
```

```
qed
```

```
show \langle open (- ball x r) \rangle by (subst \langle ?this \rangle, rule open-Union, simp)
```

```
qed
```

```
qed
```

```
lemma ultrametric-open-sphere [intro, simp]: \langle 0 < r \implies open (sphere x r) \rangle
```

```
by (fold cball-diff-eq-sphere) (simp add: open-Diff order-le-less)
```

```

lemma closed-sphere [intro, simp] : <closed (sphere y r)>
  by (metis open-ball cball-diff-eq-sphere closed-Diff closed-cball)

end

```

2.3 Balls are disjoint or contained

```
context fixes x :: <'a :: ultrametric-space> begin
```

```

lemma ultrametric-ball-ball-disjoint-or-subset:
  <ball x r ∩ ball y s = {} ∨ ball x r ⊆ ball y s ∨
    ball y s ⊆ ball x r>
proof (unfold disj-imp, intro impI)
  assume <ball x r ∩ ball y s ≠ {}> <¬ ball x r ⊆ ball y s>
  from <ball x r ∩ ball y s ≠ {}>
  obtain z where <z ∈ ball x r> and <z ∈ ball y s> by blast
  with ultrametric-every-point-of-ball-is-centre
  have <ball x r = ball z r> and <ball y s = ball z s> by auto
  with <¬ ball x r ⊆ ball y s> have <s < r> by auto
  with <ball x r = ball z r> and <ball y s = ball z s>
  show <ball y s ⊆ ball x r> by auto
qed

```

```

lemma ultrametric-ball-cball-disjoint-or-subset:
  <ball x r ∩ cball y s = {} ∨ ball x r ⊆ cball y s ∨
    cball y s ⊆ ball x r>
proof (unfold disj-imp, intro impI)
  assume <ball x r ∩ cball y s ≠ {}> <¬ ball x r ⊆ cball y s>
  from <ball x r ∩ cball y s ≠ {}>
  obtain z where <z ∈ ball x r> and <z ∈ cball y s> by blast
  with ultrametric-every-point-of-ball-is-centre
    ultrametric-every-point-of-cball-is-centre
  have <ball x r = ball z r> <cball y s = cball z s> by blast+
  with <¬ ball x r ⊆ cball y s> have <s < r> by auto
  with <ball x r = ball z r> and <cball y s = cball z s>
  show <cball y s ⊆ ball x r> by auto
qed

```

```

corollary ultrametric-cball-ball-disjoint-or-subset:
  <cball x r ∩ ball y s = {} ∨ cball x r ⊆ ball y s ∨
    ball y s ⊆ cball x r>
using Elementary-Ultrametric-Spaces.ultrametric-ball-cball-disjoint-or-subset
by blast

```

```

lemma ultrametric-cball-cball-disjoint-or-subset:
  <cball x r ∩ cball y s = {} ∨ cball x r ⊆ cball y s ∨
    cball y s ⊆ cball x r>
proof (unfold disj-imp, intro impI)
  assume <cball x r ∩ cball y s ≠ {}> <¬ cball x r ⊆ cball y s>

```

```

from ⟨cball x r ∩ cball y s ≠ {}⟩
obtain z where ⟨z ∈ cball x r⟩ and ⟨z ∈ cball y s⟩ by blast
with ultrametric-every-point-of-cball-is-centre
have ⟨cball x r = cball z r⟩ ⟨cball y s = cball z s⟩ by auto
with ⟨¬ cball x r ⊆ cball y s⟩ have ⟨s < r⟩ by auto
with ⟨cball x r = cball z r⟩ and ⟨cball y s = cball z s⟩
show ⟨cball y s ⊆ cball x r⟩ by auto
qed

end

```

2.4 Distance to a Ball

```

context fixes a :: ⟨'a :: ultrametric-space⟩ begin

lemma ultrametric-equal-distance-to-ball:
⟨dist a y = dist a z⟩ if ⟨a ∉ ball x r⟩ ⟨y ∈ ball x r⟩ ⟨z ∈ ball x r⟩
proof (rule order-antisym)
show ⟨dist a y ≤ dist a z⟩
by (rule order-trans[OF ultrametric-dist-triangle[of a y z]], simp)
(metis dist-commute dual-order.strict-trans2 linorder-linear
mem-ball that ultrametric-every-point-of-ball-is-centre)
next
show ⟨dist a z ≤ dist a y⟩
by (rule order-trans[OF ultrametric-dist-triangle[of a z y]], simp)
(metis dist-commute dual-order.strict-trans2 linorder-linear
mem-ball that ultrametric-every-point-of-ball-is-centre)
qed

```

```

lemma ultrametric-equal-distance-to-cball:
⟨dist a y = dist a z⟩ if ⟨a ∉ cball x r⟩ ⟨y ∈ cball x r⟩ ⟨z ∈ cball x r⟩
proof (rule order-antisym)
show ⟨dist a y ≤ dist a z⟩
by (rule order-trans[OF ultrametric-dist-triangle[of a y z]], simp)
(metis dist-commute dual-order.trans linorder-linear mem-cball
that ultrametric-every-point-of-cball-is-centre)
next
show ⟨dist a z ≤ dist a y⟩
by (rule order-trans[OF ultrametric-dist-triangle[of a z y]], simp)
(metis dist-commute dual-order.trans linorder-linear mem-cball
that ultrametric-every-point-of-cball-is-centre)
qed

end

```

```

context fixes x :: ⟨'a :: ultrametric-space⟩ begin

```

```

lemma ultrametric-equal-distance-between-ball-ball:
  ⟨ball x r ∩ ball y s = {}⟩  $\implies$ 
   $\exists d. \forall a \in ball x r. \forall b \in ball y s. dist a b = d$ 
  by (metis disjoint-iff dist-commute ultrametric-equal-distance-to-ball)

lemma ultrametric-equal-distance-between-ball-cball:
  ⟨ball x r ∩ cball y s = {}⟩  $\implies$ 
   $\exists d. \forall a \in ball x r. \forall b \in cball y s. dist a b = d$ 
  by (metis disjoint-iff dist-commute ultrametric-equal-distance-to-ball
    ultrametric-equal-distance-to-cball)

lemma ultrametric-equal-distance-between-cball-ball:
  ⟨cball x r ∩ ball y s = {}⟩  $\implies$ 
   $\exists d. \forall a \in cball x r. \forall b \in ball y s. dist a b = d$ 
  by (metis disjoint-iff-not-equal dist-commute ultrametric-equal-distance-to-ball
    ultrametric-equal-distance-to-cball)

lemma ultrametric-equal-distance-between-cball-cball:
  ⟨cball x r ∩ cball y s = {}⟩  $\implies$ 
   $\exists d. \forall a \in cball x r. \forall b \in cball y s. dist a b = d$ 
  by (metis disjoint-iff dist-commute ultrametric-equal-distance-to-cball)

end

### 3 Additional Properties



Here are a few other interesting properties.



#### 3.1 Cauchy Sequences



lemma (in ultrametric-space) ultrametric-dist-triangle-generalized:


$$\langle n < m \implies dist(\sigma n)(\sigma m) \leq (\text{MAX } l \in \{n..m - 1\}. dist(\sigma l)(\sigma(\text{Suc } l))) \rangle$$


proof (induct m)



show  $\langle n < 0 \implies dist(\sigma n)(\sigma 0) \leq (\text{MAX } l \in \{n..0 - 1\}. dist(\sigma l)(\sigma(\text{Suc } l))) \rangle$  by simp



next



case ( $\text{Suc } m$ )



show  $\langle dist(\sigma n)(\sigma(\text{Suc } m)) \leq (\text{MAX } l \in \{n..Suc m - 1\}. dist(\sigma l)(\sigma(\text{Suc } l))) \rangle$



proof (cases  $n = m$ )



show  $\langle n = m \implies dist(\sigma n)(\sigma(\text{Suc } m)) \leq (\text{MAX } l \in \{n..Suc m - 1\}. dist(\sigma l)(\sigma(\text{Suc } l))) \rangle$



by simp



next



assume  $\langle n \neq m \rangle$



with  $\langle n < Suc m \rangle$  obtain  $m'$  where  $\langle m = Suc m' \rangle \langle n \leq m' \rangle$


```

```

by (metis le-add1 less-Suc-eq less-imp-Suc-add)
have ‹{n..Suc m'} = {n..m-1} ∪ {m}›
  by (simp add: ‹m = Suc m'› ‹n ≤ m'› atLeastAtMostSuc-conv
le-Suc-eq)
  have ‹dist (σ n) (σ (Suc m)) ≤ max (dist (σ n) (σ m)) (dist (σ
m) (σ (Suc m)))›
    by (simp add: ultrametric-dist-triangle)
  also have ‹... ≤ max ((MAX l∈{n..m - 1}. dist (σ l) (σ (Suc
l)))) (dist (σ m) (σ (Suc m)))›
    using Suc.hyps Suc.preds ‹n ≠ m› by linarith
  also have ‹... = (MAX l∈{n..Suc m - 1}. dist (σ l) (σ (Suc l)))›
    by (subst Max-Un[of - ‹((λl. dist (σ l) (σ (Suc l))) ` {m})›,
simplified, symmetric])
  (simp-all add: ‹m = Suc m'› ‹n ≤ m'› ‹{n..Suc m'} = {n..m-1}
∪ {m}›)
  finally show ‹dist (σ n) (σ (Suc m)) ≤ (MAX l∈{n..Suc m - 1}.
dist (σ l) (σ (Suc l)))› .
  qed
qed

```

```

lemma (in ultrametric-space) ultrametric-Cauchy-iff:
  ‹Cauchy σ ↔ (λn. dist (σ (Suc n)) (σ n)) —→ 0›
proof (rule iffI)
  assume ‹Cauchy σ›
  show ‹(λn. dist (σ (Suc n)) (σ n)) —→ 0›
  proof (unfold lim-sequentially, intro allI impI)
    fix ε :: real
    assume ‹0 < ε›
    from ‹Cauchy σ›[unfolded Cauchy-altdef, rule-format, OF ‹0 <
ε›]
    show ‹∃ N. ∀ n≥N. dist (dist (σ (Suc n)) (σ n)) 0 < ε›
      by (auto simp add: dist-commute)
    qed
next
  assume convergent : ‹(λn. dist (σ (Suc n)) (σ n)) —→ 0›
  show ‹Cauchy σ›
  proof (unfold Cauchy-altdef2, intro allI impI)
    fix ε :: real
    assume ‹0 < ε›
    from convergent[unfolded lim-sequentially, rule-format, OF ‹0 <
ε›]
    obtain N where * : ‹N ≤ n ⇒ dist (σ (Suc n)) (σ n) < ε› for
n
      by (simp add: dist-real-def) blast
    have ‹N < n ⇒ dist (σ n) (σ N) < ε› for n
    proof (subst dist-commute, rule le-less-trans)
      show ‹N < n ⇒ dist (σ N) (σ n) ≤ (MAX l∈{N..n - 1}. dist

```

```

(σ l) (σ (Suc l)))>
  by (fact ultrametric-dist-triangle-generalized)
next
  show ‹N < n ⟹ (MAX l∈{N..n - 1}. dist (σ l) (σ (Suc l)))
< ε›
  by simp (metis * atLeastAtMost-iff dist-commute)
qed
with ‹0 < ε› have ‹N ≤ n ⟹ dist (σ n) (σ N) < ε› for n
  by (cases ‹N = n›) simp-all
thus ‹∃ N. ∀ n≥N. dist (σ n) (σ N) < ε› by blast
qed
qed

```

3.2 Isosceles Triangle Principle

```

lemma (in ultrametric-space) ultrametric-isosceles-triangle-principle :
  ‹dist x z = max (dist x y) (dist y z)› if ‹dist x y ≠ dist y z›
proof (rule order-antisym)
  show ‹dist x z ≤ max (dist x y) (dist y z)›
    by (fact ultrametric-dist-triangle)
next
  from ‹dist x y ≠ dist y z› linorder-less-linear
  have ‹dist x y < dist y z ∨ dist y z < dist x y› by blast
  with ultrametric-dist-triangle[of y z x]
    ultrametric-dist-triangle[of x y z]
  show ‹max (dist x y) (dist y z) ≤ dist x z›
    by (elim disjE) (simp-all add: dist-commute)
qed

```

3.3 Distance to a convergent Sequence

```

lemma ultrametric-dist-to-convergent-sequence-is-eventually-const :
  fixes σ :: ‹nat ⇒ 'a :: ultrametric-space›
  assumes ‹σ —→ Σ› and ‹x ≠ Σ›
  shows ‹∃ N. ∀ n≥N. dist (σ n) x = dist Σ x›
proof –
  from ‹x ≠ Σ› have ‹0 < dist x Σ› by simp
  then obtain ε where ‹0 < ε› ‹ball x ε ∩ ball Σ ε = {}›
    by (metis centre-in-ball disjoint-iff mem-ball order-less-le
      ultrametric-every-point-of-ball-is-centre)

  from ‹σ —→ Σ› ‹0 < ε› obtain N where ‹N ≤ n ⟹ σ n ∈
  ball Σ ε› for n
    by (auto simp add: dist-commute lim-sequentially)
  with ‹0 < ε› ‹ball x ε ∩ ball Σ ε = {}› have ‹N ≤ n ⟹ dist (σ
  n) x = dist Σ x› for n
    by (metis centre-in-ball dist-commute ultrametric-equal-distance-between-ball-ball)
  thus ‹∃ N. ∀ n≥N. dist (σ n) x = dist Σ x› by blast
qed

```

3.4 Diameter

```

lemma ultrametric-diameter : <diameter S = (SUP y ∈ S. dist x y)>
  if <bounded S> and <x ∈ S> for x :: <'a :: ultrametric-space>
proof -
  from <x ∈ S> have <S ≠ {}> by blast
  show <diameter S = (SUP y ∈ S. dist x y)>
    proof (rule order-antisym)
      from diameter-bounded-bound[OF <bounded S> <x ∈ S>]
      have <y ∈ S ⟹ dist x y ≤ diameter S> for y .
      thus <(SUP y ∈ S. dist x y) ≤ diameter S>
        by (rule cSUP-least[OF <S ≠ {}>])
    next
    have <bdd-above (dist x ` S)>
      by (meson bdd-above.I2 bounded-any-center <bounded S>)
    have <y ∈ S ⟹ z ∈ S ⟹ dist y z ≤ max (dist x y) (dist x z)>
    for y z
      by (metis dist-commute ultrametric-dist-triangle)
    also have <y ∈ S ⟹ z ∈ S ⟹
      max (dist x y) (dist x z) ≤ (SUP y ∈ S. dist x y)> for y z
      by (cases <dist x y ≤ dist x z>)
      (simp-all add: cSUP-upper2[OF <bdd-above (dist x ` S)>])
    finally have * : <y ∈ S ⟹ z ∈ S ⟹ dist y z ≤ (SUP y ∈ S.
      dist x y)> for y z .
    have <(SUP (y, z) ∈ S × S. dist y z) ≤ (SUP y ∈ S. dist x y)>
      by (rule cSUP-least) (use * in <auto simp add: <S ≠ {}>>)
      thus <diameter S ≤ Sup (dist x ` S)>
        by (simp add: diameter-def <S ≠ {}>)
    qed
qed

```

3.5 Totally disconnected

```

lemma ultrametric-totally-disconnected :
  <∃x. S = {x}> if <S ≠ {}> <connected S>
for S :: <'a :: ultrametric-space set>
proof -
  from <S ≠ {}> obtain x where <x ∈ S> by blast
  have <ball x r ∩ S = {} ∨ − ball x r ∩ S = {}> if <0 < r> for r
    by (rule <connected S>[unfolded connected-def, simplified, rule-format])
    (simp-all, use order-less-imp-le that ultrametric-closed-ball in
blast)
  with <x ∈ S> have <0 < r ⟹ − ball x r ∩ S = {}> for r
    by (metis centre-in-ball disjoint-iff)
  hence <0 < r ⟹ y ∈ S ⟹ dist x y < r> for r y
    by (auto simp add: disjoint-iff)
  hence <y ∈ S ⟹ dist x y = 0> for y
    by (metis dist-self order-less-irrefl zero-less-dist-iff)
  hence <y ∈ S ⟹ y = x> for y by simp
  with <x ∈ S> show <∃x. S = {x}> by blast

```

qed