

On the 544 final exam, several people made statements suggesting that to prove a function on a product space is continuous, it suffices to check that it is continuous in each variable separately. *This is not the case.* Part (a) of the problem below is intended to emphasize this fact. Part (b) is intended to prevent a somewhat similar misconception about differentiability.

*Reminder of some definitions.* A function  $f$  on an open subset of a product space  $X \times Y$  is said to be *continuous separately on  $X$*  or *continuous separately in  $x$*  if for each  $y_0 \in Y$ , the function  $x \mapsto f(x, y_0)$  is continuous on  $X$  wherever defined. Separate continuity on  $Y$  or in  $y$  is defined similarly. The definitions for differentiability and directional derivatives of a function on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  are given on p. 642 and p. 647 of ISM.

**Problem 0-1.** Give an example of each of the following. (This of course means prove they are examples. You may find some of the theorems in ISM Appendix C useful in writing the proofs.)

(a) A function  $f(x, y)$  on an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  that is continuous in each variable separately but is not continuous on its domain.

(b) A function  $f(x, y)$  on an open set in  $\mathbb{R}^2$  that has a directional derivative in every direction at every point of its domain, but is not differentiable everywhere on its domain.

*Remark, not part of the problem.* Note that partial derivatives are special cases of directional derivatives. Thus part (b) shows that differentiability is a stronger condition than the existence of partial derivatives.

*Not part of the homework.* You also should know of the existence of a function whose mixed second partials are not equal.