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Partial metrics are metrics except that the distance from a point to itself need not be 0. These are useful in modeling partially defined information, which often appears in computer science. We generalize this notion to study "partial metrics" whose values lie in a space which may be other than the reals. Then each topology arises from a partial metric.

In fact, a partial metric naturally gives rise to two topologies, and given any continuous poset, there is a partial metric on it giving rise to the Scott and lower topologies. As time allows, we study their completions, and their relationship to domain theory. (Received September 28, 2005)