

We will sometimes use the following:

Definition: Let X be a metric space and let $E \subset Y \subset X$.

(Y is also a metric space with the same distance as in X).

We say that E is open relative to Y if for every $p \in E$, $\exists r > 0$ such that:

$$S_r(p) := \{q \in Y : d(p, q) < r\} \subset E$$

Note: $S_r(p)$ might not be open in X

Example: Consider $X = \mathbb{R}^2$, $Y = \mathbb{R}$, $E = (a, b)$, then E is open relative to Y .

We have the following:

Theorem 2.30: Suppose $Y \subset X$. Then:

$E \subset Y$ is open relative to $Y \iff E = Y \cap G$, for some open set G of X .

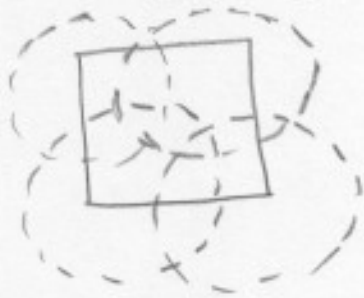
Compact sets

Def: Let X be a metric space, $E \subset X$. An open cover of E is a collection $\{G_\alpha\}$ of open subsets of X such that:

$$E \subset \bigcup_\alpha G_\alpha$$

Ex. $X = \mathbb{R}^2$
 $E = [0, 1] \times [0, 1]$

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An example of an open cover of E .

Def: Let $K \subset X$. K is said to be compact if every open cover of K contains a finite subcover. That is, if $\{G_\alpha\}$ is an open cover of K , there exists $\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ such that

$$K \subset G_{\alpha_1} \cup G_{\alpha_2} \cup \dots \cup G_{\alpha_n}$$

Ex: Show that $E = \{x \in \mathbb{R}; x \geq 0\}$ is not compact.

$E = [0, \infty)$, $X = \mathbb{R}$

Let $G_n = (-1, n)$. Then $E = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} G_n$, but this open cover has no finite subcover.

Ex: Show that the closed interval $I = [0, 1]$ is compact.

Proof: Let $G = \{G_\alpha\}$ be an open cover of I . Since $0 \in I$ then there exists α such that $0 \in G_\alpha$. Since G_α is open, $\exists \delta > 0$ s.t. $[0, \delta] \subset G_\alpha$. Hence $\delta \in E$ where:

$$E := \{x \in I : [0, x] \text{ is contained in the union of a finite number of sets in } G\}$$

Since $E \neq \emptyset$, and E is bounded above, $\sup E$ exists.

Let:

$$x^* = \sup E.$$

We will show that $x^* = 1$. Since 1 is an upper bound of E , and x^* is the smallest upper bound of E , it follows that $x^* \leq 1$. We assume first that $x^* < 1$, and proceed as follows:

Since $x^* \in [0, 1] \subset \bigcup_\alpha G_\alpha$, then x^* belong to one of the sets in the collection, say G_0 .

Since G_0 is open and x^* is an interior point of G_0 , there exists $\tilde{\epsilon} > 0$ such that:

$$(x^* - \tilde{\epsilon}, x^* + \tilde{\epsilon}) \subset G_0$$

$$\Rightarrow [x^* - \epsilon, x^* + \epsilon] \subset (0, 1) \subset G_0, \text{ for } \epsilon \text{ small enough.}$$

Since $x^* = \sup E$, there exists $\tilde{x} \in E$ such that $x^* - \epsilon \leq \tilde{x} < x^*$, for otherwise $x^* - \epsilon$ would be an upper bound of E , and x^* is the smallest upper bound of E . Hence, $[0, \tilde{x}]$ can be covered with a finite number of sets in G . Since $[0, x^* - \epsilon] \subset [0, \tilde{x}]$, it follows that $[0, x^* - \epsilon]$ can also be covered with a finite number of sets in G ;

Hence:

$$[0, x^* - \epsilon] \subset G_{\alpha_1} \cup \dots \cup G_{\alpha_n}$$

By adding G_0 to this finite collection we obtain:

$$[0, x^* + \epsilon] \subset G_{\alpha_1} \cup \dots \cup G_{\alpha_n} \cup G_0,$$

Since $[x^* - \epsilon, x^* + \epsilon] \subset G_0$.

This implies that $x^* + \epsilon \in E$, which contradicts that x^* is an upper bound of E . From this contradiction we conclude that $x^* = 1$. (since $x^* \leq 1$, and $x^* < 1$ is not true).

Now, since $1 \in [0, 1] \subset \bigcup_{\alpha} G_{\alpha}$, then 1 belongs to one of these open sets, say G_2 . Since 1 is an interior point of G_2 , there exists $0 < \epsilon < \frac{1}{4}$ such that $(1 - \epsilon, 1 + \epsilon) \subset G_2$. Since $1 = \text{Sup } E$, there exists $\tilde{x} \in E$ s.t:

$$1 - \epsilon \leq \tilde{x} < 1,$$

for otherwise $1 - \epsilon$ would be a smaller upper bound of E , which contradicts that 1 is the smallest upper bound of E .

Since $\tilde{x} \in E$, $[0, \tilde{x}]$ can be covered with a finite number of open sets in G , say:

$$[0, \tilde{x}] \subset G_{\beta_1} \cup G_{\beta_2} \cup \dots \cup G_{\beta_m}$$

Adding G_2 to this collection we conclude:

$$[0, 1] \subset G_{\beta_1} \cup \dots \cup G_{\beta_m} \cup G_2; \text{ since } (1 - \epsilon, 1] \subset G_2 \text{ and } \tilde{x} \geq 1 - \epsilon.$$

Therefore $[0, 1]$ is compact.

Theorem 2.34 : Let $K \subset X$, K compact.

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Then K is closed.

Proof : We will show that K^c is open. Let $p \in K^c$.

We need to show that p is an interior point of K^c ; that is, that $p \in (K^c)^\circ$. For every $q \in K$, we define:

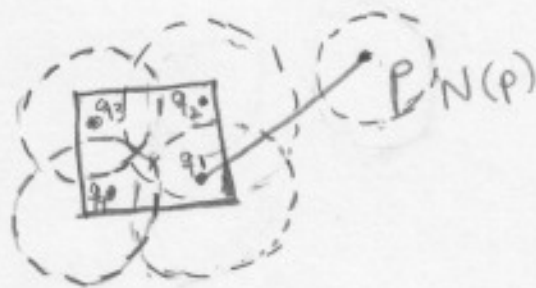
$$r_q := \frac{1}{4} d(p, q)$$

Clearly:

$$K \subset \bigcup_{q \in K} N_{r_q}(q)$$

Since K is compact, it can be covered with a finite number of neighborhoods:

$$K \subset \underbrace{N_{r_{q_1}}(q_1) \cup N_{r_{q_2}}(q_2) \cup \dots \cup N_{r_{q_n}}(q_n)}_{\text{Denote this open set as } W.}$$



$$\text{Let } V := N_{r_{q_1}}(p) \cap \dots \cap N_{r_{q_n}}(p)$$

The open set V contains a neighborhood of p , $N(p)$, such that:

$$N(p) \cap W = \emptyset$$

Indeed, if $s \in N(p)$, then:

$$d(p, q_i) \leq d(q_i, s) + d(s, p) \Rightarrow d(s, q_i) \geq d(p, q_i) - d(s, p) \geq 4r_{q_i} - r_{q_i} > r_{q_i}$$

$$\Rightarrow s \notin N_{r_{q_i}}(q_i), i=1, \dots, n \Rightarrow N(p) \cap K = \emptyset \Rightarrow p \in (K^c)^\circ. \quad \square$$

Theorem 2.35: Let $K \subset X$, K compact.
If $F \subset K$ and F is closed, then F is compact.

Proof: Let $\{G_\alpha\}$ be an open cover of F .

Since:

$F \subset K \subset X$, and $K \setminus F$ is open

then

$\{G_\alpha\} \cup F^c$ is a cover of K .

Since K is compact, we have a finite subcover of K , say:

$$K \subset G_{\alpha_1} \cup G_{\alpha_2} \cup \dots \cup G_{\alpha_n} \cup F^c$$

Hence, F can be also cover with this finite collection of open sets.

$$F \subset G_{\alpha_1} \cup G_{\alpha_2} \cup \dots \cup G_{\alpha_n}$$

$\Rightarrow F$ is compact.

Corollary: If F is closed and K compact. Then $F \cap K$ is compact.

Proof: K compact $\Rightarrow K$ is closed

$\Rightarrow F \cap K$ is closed; since intersection of closed sets is closed

Since $F \cap K \subset K$, previous theorem $\Rightarrow F \cap K$ is compact

Notation : The open interval (a, b) is also denoted as segment.

The closed interval $[a, b]$ is just denoted as interval.

$[a, b)$ is called a half open interval.

Theorem 2.36 : If $\{K_\alpha\}$ is a collection of compact subsets of a metric space X such that the intersection of every finite subcollection of $\{K_\alpha\}$ is non-empty, then

$$\bigcap_{\alpha} K_{\alpha} \text{ is not empty.}$$

Proof : Fix a member K_1 of $\{K_\alpha\}$. Let $G_\alpha = K_\alpha^c$.

We proceed by contradiction and assume that

$$\bigcap_{\alpha} K_{\alpha} = \emptyset.$$

Hence:

$$K_1 \cap \left(\bigcap_{\substack{\alpha \\ \alpha \neq 1}} K_{\alpha} \right) = \emptyset$$

$$\text{Hence } K_1 \subset \left(\bigcap_{\substack{\alpha \\ \alpha \neq 1}} K_{\alpha} \right)^c,$$

That is:

$$K_1 \subset \left(\bigcup_{\substack{\alpha \\ \alpha \neq 1}} G_{\alpha} \right); \quad \text{recall formula } \left(\bigcap A_{\alpha} \right)^c = \bigcup A_{\alpha}^c$$

Since K_1 is compact, $\exists \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n$ s.t.:

$$K_1 \subset G_{\alpha_1} \cup \dots \cup G_{\alpha_n}, \quad \alpha_i \neq 1$$

This says that K_1 is contained in the union of all the complements of $K_{\alpha_1}, \dots, K_{\alpha_n}$, which means:

$$K_1 \cap K_{\alpha_2} \cap \dots \cap K_{\alpha_n} = \emptyset,$$

which contradicts that any finite intersection of the collection is non-empty. \square

Corollary: If we have:

$$K_1 \supset K_2 \supset K_3 \supset \dots,$$

with $K_i \neq \emptyset, K_i$ compact, $i = 1, 2, \dots$, then

$$\bigcap_{n=1}^{\infty} K_n \neq \emptyset. \quad \square$$

Theorem 2.37: If E is an infinite subset of a compact set K , then E has a limit point in K .

Proof:



If this is not true, then for each $q \in K$, $\exists N(q)$ s.t.

$$N(q) \cap E = \{q\} \quad \text{if } q \in E$$
$$\text{or } N(q) \cap E = \emptyset \quad \text{if } q \notin E$$

Hence, we have obtained an open cover of K :

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$$K \subset \bigcup_{\mathcal{F}} N(\mathcal{F})$$

Since K is compact, $\exists \{\mathcal{F}_1, \dots, \mathcal{F}_n\}$ such that:

$$K \subset N(\mathcal{F}_1) \cup \dots \cup N(\mathcal{F}_n)$$

Since $E \subset K$, then

$$E \subset N(\mathcal{F}_1) \cup \dots \cup N(\mathcal{F}_n),$$

but this is not possible since:

$$E \cap N(\mathcal{F}_i) = \emptyset \text{ or } \mathcal{F}_i, \quad i=1, \dots, n, \text{ and } E$$

is an infinite set. \square