

**Definition:** let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space ( $(X, \tau)$  a topological space) <sup>more generally:</sup>  
 an open cover of  $X$  is a collection of open sets  $\{U_\alpha\}$  s.t.  
 $X = \bigcup_\alpha U_\alpha$ . A subcover is a collection  $\{U_\beta\} \subseteq \{U_\alpha\}$  which  
 is also an open cover of  $X$ .

**Definition:**  $X$  is compact if any open cover of  $X$  has a finite subcover.

**Example:** Any finite metric/topological space is compact since the powerset of the space is finite so there are only finitely many open sets.

**Nonexamples:**  $\mathbb{R}^n$ :  $\mathbb{R}^n = \bigcup_{m=1}^{\infty} B(m, 0)$  <sup>any standard metric</sup> but if there were a finite subcover,  $\mathbb{R}^n \subseteq B(\max(m), 0)$ .

$(0,1)$ :  $\{(\frac{1}{n}, 1)\}_{n=2}^{\infty}$  is an open cover w/ no finite subcover. (same situation as above).

**Definition:** let  $(X, \tau)$  be a topological space (not necessarily compact) and let  $A \subseteq X$ . we say  $A$  is a compact subset of  $X$  if  $(A, \tau_A)$  (subspace topology) is a compact topological space ( $\tau_A = \{U \cap A \mid U \in \tau\}$ ).

**Definition 2:** let  $X$  be a topological/metric space, let  $A \subseteq X$ . we say that a collection of open sets  $\{U_\alpha\}$  in  $X$  is an open cover of  $A$  in  $X$  if  $A \subseteq \bigcup_\alpha U_\alpha$ . we say  $\{U_\beta\} \subseteq \{U_\alpha\}$  is a subcover if  $A \subseteq \bigcup_\beta U_\beta$ .

**Proposition:**  $A$  is a compact subset of  $X$  iff any open cover of  $A$  in  $X$  has a finite subcover.

**Proof:**  $A \subseteq \bigcup_\alpha U_\alpha \iff A = (\bigcup_\alpha U_\alpha) \cap A$   
 $A \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n U_{\alpha_i} \iff A = (\bigcup_{i=1}^n U_{\alpha_i}) \cap A$

**Remark:** compactness is an absolute property (not relative to enclosing space, just topology)

if  $A \subseteq X$ , (top/met space)

$A \subseteq Y$ , " "

& the subspace topologies on  $A$  coincide, then

$A$  compact in  $X \Leftrightarrow A$  compact in  $Y$

**Proposition:** Suppose  $(X, \tau)$  is a compact top. space. Let  $A \subseteq X$  be closed. Then  $A$  is compact.

**Proof:** Suppose  $\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A}$  is an open cover of  $A$  in  $X$  ( $A \subseteq \bigcup_\alpha U_\alpha$ ).

Then  $X = A \cup (X \setminus A) \subseteq \left(\bigcup_\alpha U_\alpha\right) \cup (X \setminus A) \subseteq X$ , This means

$\{U_\alpha\}_{\alpha \in A} \cup \{X \setminus A\}$  is an open cover of  $X$ . So there is

a finite subcover  $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n U_{\alpha_i} \cup (X \setminus A)$ .

$\Rightarrow A \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n U_{\alpha_i}$ . since  $A \cap (X \setminus A) = \emptyset$ .

is the converse true? i.e. if  $A \subseteq X$  compact subset of  $X$  is  $A$  closed?

No! Example: Any finite top. space:  $X = \{1, 2\}$   $\tau = \{\emptyset, X, \{1\}\}$ .

$\{1\}$  is compact but open.

Need additional property:

**Definition** we say that a topological space  $(X, \tau)$  is Hausdorff if for any two distinct points  $a, b \in X$ ,  $a \neq b$ , we can find two open sets  $U, V \in \tau$  s.t.  $a \in U$ ,  $b \in V$ ,  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ .

**Proposition:** Any metric space is Hausdorff.

**Proof:** Take balls w/ radius  $\frac{d(b,a)}{2}$ :  $U = B(\frac{d(b,a)}{2}, a)$

$V = B(\frac{d(b,a)}{2}, b)$ .

$U \cap V$  empty (o.w. if  $z \in U \cap V$ ,

then  $d(a,b) \leq d(a,z) + d(z,b) < \frac{d(b,a)}{2} + \frac{d(b,a)}{2} = d(b,a)$ .

**Theorem:** Let  $(X, \tau)$  be a <sup>Hausdorff</sup> topological space. Let  $A \subseteq X$  be a compact subset. Then  $A$  is closed in  $X$ .

**Proof:**  $A$  closed in  $X \iff X \setminus A$  is open in  $X$ .

Let  $b \in X \setminus A$ . We want to show  $b$  is an interior pt of  $X \setminus A$  in  $X$ .

For each  $a \in A$ , pick open sets  $U_a$  and  $V_a$  s.t.  $a \in U_a, b \in V_a, U_a \cap V_a = \emptyset$ .

Then  $A = \bigcup_{a \in A} \{a\} \subseteq \bigcup_{a \in A} U_a$  i.e.  $\{U_a\}_{a \in A}$  is an open cover of  $A$  in  $X$ .

So (by compactness) there is a finite subcover  $\{U_{a_i}\}_{i=1}^n$  of  $A$  in  $X$ .

Let  $V = \bigcap_{i=1}^n V_{a_i}$ .  $b \in V$ , and  $V \cap A \subseteq V \cap \left( \bigcup_{i=1}^n U_{a_i} \right) = \bigcup_{i=1}^n (U_{a_i} \cap V)$

$$\subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n (U_{a_i} \cap V_{a_i}) = \emptyset.$$

This implies  $V \subseteq X \setminus A \Rightarrow b$  is an interior point, so  $X \setminus A$  is open so  $A$  is closed.

**Theorem:** (Heine-Borel)  $A$  is a compact subset of  $(\mathbb{R}^n, d)$  <sup>metric from a norm.</sup>  
 $\iff A$  is closed & bounded.

Note: This is not true if we take an <sup>arbitrary</sup> metric on  $\mathbb{R}^n$  which is equiv. to the usual one.

**Exercise (notes):** if  $(X, d)$  any metric space then  $\tilde{d}(x, y) = \frac{d(x, y)}{1 + d(x, y)}$  is an equivalent metric (not strongly). &  $\tilde{d}(x, y) < 1 \forall x, y \in X$ .  
 (we could say  $\mathbb{R}^n$  is bounded, and it is closed, but it is not compact in itself).  
 (take-home midterm)