

Set-up/Notation

Throughout this handout:

- (X, d) is a metric space
- $S \subset X$, i.e., $S \in \mathcal{P}(X) =$ the power set of X .

We write “ A is (X, d) -open” to mean that

$$A \subset X \quad \text{and} \quad A \text{ is open in the metric } (X, d).$$

When d and/or X are understood, we often say just “ A is X -open” or “ A is d -open” or “ A is open”.

Definitions

1. \mathcal{U} is a covering of S provided

$$\mathcal{U} \subset \mathcal{P}(X) \quad \text{and} \quad S \subset \bigcup_{U \in \mathcal{U}} U.$$

2. $\tilde{\mathcal{U}}$ is a subcovering of a covering \mathcal{U} of S provided

$$\tilde{\mathcal{U}} \subset \mathcal{U} \quad \text{and} \quad S \subset \bigcup_{U \in \tilde{\mathcal{U}}} U.$$

3. A covering \mathcal{U} is a finite covering provided \mathcal{U} has a finite number of elements.
4. A covering \mathcal{U} is an X -open covering provided each element of \mathcal{U} is X -open.
5. S is compact in X provided each X -open covering of S has a finite subcovering.
6. S is totally bounded provided, for each $\varepsilon > 0$, there is a finite covering of S by (open) ε -balls.
7. S is sequentially compact provided each sequence from S has a convergent subsequence (which converges to a point in S).
8. S has the Bolzano-Weierstrass property (also phrased S is limit point compact) provided each infinite subset of S has a limit point in S .

Remark

Definition 5 of compact varies slightly from the book’s def’n. The two definitions are equivalent, as shown by Lemma 2.3.14, which follows from Lemma 2.1.5, which says, for a $U \subset S$,

$$U \text{ is open in } (S, d|_S) \quad \iff \quad U = S \cap V \text{ for some } (X, d)\text{-open subset } V \text{ of } X.$$

Lemma. 2.3.14. *Let $S \neq \emptyset$. (So $(S, d|_S)$ is a metric space.) Then*

$$S \text{ is compact in } (X, d) \quad \iff \quad S \text{ is compact in } (S, d|_S) .$$

Goal: characterize compactness in a metric space

The Heine-Borel Thm. says that a subset of \mathbb{R} is compact if and only if it is closed and bounded. Now we extend Heine-Borel to general metric spaces.

Theorem 2.3.8. TFAE:

- a. X is compact.
- b. $C(X) = \mathcal{C}(X)$, i.e., each continuous map $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is bounded.
- c. X has the Bolzano-Weierstrass property.
- d. X is sequentially compact.
- e. X is complete and totally bounded.