

Lecture 11: Intro to compactness

Last time: connectedness \iff pathconnectedness

← counterexample



Today: Compactness (§9)

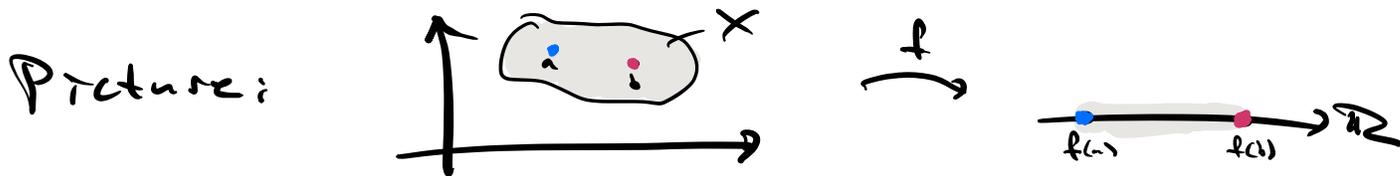
One motivation: Generalize the extreme value theorem:

If $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ ^{← with Euclidean metric} is closed and bounded,

then any continuous map $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ has a min and a max value:

$\exists a \in X$ such that $\forall x \in X: f(x) \geq f(a)$

$\exists b \in X$ such that $\forall x \in X: f(x) \leq f(b)$.



Note: • "Bounded" relies on X having a metric.

• In general metric spaces, closed and bounded is not sufficient for X to satisfy the EVT.

↑ Ex: $X = \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ in \mathbb{R} with discrete metric

$f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$

$n \mapsto \frac{1}{n}$

(see the exercises!)

Q: What should we replace "closed and bounded" by for general spaces X not embedded in \mathbb{R}^n ?

Def. A top sp (X, τ) is **compact** if

$$\forall \mathcal{A} \subseteq \tau \quad \exists n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0} \text{ and } \mathcal{U}_1, \dots, \mathcal{U}_n \in \mathcal{A} \\ \text{with } \bigcup_{\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{A}} \mathcal{U} = X \quad \text{such that } \bigcup_{i=1}^n \mathcal{U}_i = X$$

Every open covering...

... has a finite subcovering

Def. A subset $Y \subseteq X$ is called **compact** if it is compact with subspace topology in X .

Equivalently: $\forall \mathcal{A} \subseteq \tau$ with $Y \subseteq \bigcup_{\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{A}} \mathcal{U}$
 $\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}, \mathcal{U}_1, \dots, \mathcal{U}_n \in \mathcal{A}$ st. $Y \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n \mathcal{U}_i$

Think - pass - share: Compact or not?

(a) $X = \mathbb{R}$
 $\tau = \tau_{\text{standard}}$

Not compact: $\mathcal{A} = \{(-n, n) : n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}\}$
 has no finite subcovering

(b) $X = \mathbb{R}$
 $\tau = \tau_{\text{discrete}} \leftarrow \mathcal{P}(X)$

Not compact: $\tau_{\text{standard}} \subseteq \tau_{\text{discrete}}$
 A finer topology makes it harder to be compact!

(c) $X = \mathbb{R} \leftarrow \text{or any set!}$
 $\tau = \tau_{\text{trivial}} \leftarrow \{\emptyset, X\}$

Compact: $\mathcal{A} = \{\emptyset, X\}$ or $\mathcal{A} = \{X\}$ are the only open coverings, and they are already finite!

(d) $X = \mathbb{R} \leftarrow \text{or any set!}$
 $\tau = \tau_{\text{cofinite}} \leftarrow \left\{ \mathcal{U} \subseteq X : \mathcal{U} = \emptyset \text{ or } X \setminus \mathcal{U} \text{ finite} \right\}$

Compact: Let $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \tau_{\text{cofinite}}$ with $\bigcup_{\mathcal{U} \in \mathcal{A}} \mathcal{U} = X$.
 There must exist nonempty $\mathcal{U}_0 \in \mathcal{A}$ with $\mathcal{U}_0 = X \setminus \{x_1, \dots, x_m\}$
 for some $m \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and $x_1, \dots, x_m \in X$.
 For each $i \in \{1, \dots, m\}$, there is some $\mathcal{U}_i \in \mathcal{A}$ st. $x_i \in \mathcal{U}_i$.
 Then $\mathcal{U}_0 \cup \mathcal{U}_1 \cup \dots \cup \mathcal{U}_m = X$.

Generalization of (c): Any space (X, τ) with finite τ is compact.

In particular, this is true if X is finite ($\#\tau \leq 2^{\#X}$).

Heine-Borel thm: $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}^n$ with subspace topology. Then

$$[X \text{ is compact}] \iff [X \text{ is closed and bounded}].$$

Pf. Next lecture!

Ex: $[0, 1] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is compact

$(0, 1) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is not compact

$A = \left\{ \left(\frac{1}{n}, 1 \right) : n \in \{2, 3, 4, \dots\} \right\}$ has no finite subcovering

Prop. Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a cont map. Then

$$[X \text{ is compact}] \implies [f(X) \text{ is compact}]$$

Pf. Let $f(X) \subseteq \bigcup_{V \in \mathcal{A}} V$ for some $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{T}_Y$

Then $X = f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{V \in \mathcal{A}} V\right) = \bigcup_{V \in \mathcal{A}} f^{-1}(V)$

So $\{f^{-1}(V) : V \in \mathcal{A}\}$ is open covering of X .
 $f^{-1}(V) \in \mathcal{T}_X$
b/c f is cont

By compactness, $\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}, V_1, \dots, V_n \in \mathcal{A}$ s.t. $X = \bigcup_{i=1}^n f^{-1}(V_i)$

But then

$$f(x) = f\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n f^{-1}(V_i)\right) = \bigcup_{i=1}^n f(f^{-1}(V_i)) \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n V_i$$

So we have found a finite subcovering of A . \square

Cor. Let X be a top. sp. and \sim an equivalence relation on X . Then

$$[X \text{ compact}] \Rightarrow [X/\sim \text{ compact}]$$

Pf. X/\sim is the image of $\pi: X \rightarrow X/\sim$
 $x \mapsto [x]$. \square

Extreme value thm.

Let X be compact, and $f: X \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ a cont. map. with standard topology

Then (i) $\exists a \in X$ s.t. $\forall x \in X: f(x) \geq f(a)$

(ii) $\exists b \in X$ s.t. $\forall x \in X: f(x) \leq f(b)$.

Picture:

Pf. Note: $f(X) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is compact by previous prop.

(i) Suppose for a contradiction that $f(X) \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ has no smallest element. Then

$A = \{(z, \infty) : z \in f(X)\}$ is an open covering of $f(X)$

By assumption: $\forall y \in f(X) \exists z \in f(X)$ with $y \in (z, \infty)$

By compactness, $\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}$ and $z_1, \dots, z_n \in f(X)$ such that
with $z_1 < z_2 < \dots < z_n$

$$f(X) \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n (z_i, \infty) = (z_1, \infty).$$

This is impossible, since $z_1 \in f(X)$ but $z_1 \notin (z_1, \infty)$. ↘

Conclusion: $f(X)$ has a smallest element, say $w \in f(X)$,
with $w = f(a)$ for some $a \in X$. It satisfies

$$\forall x \in X: f(x) \geq w = f(a).$$

(ii) Analogous!

□

Remark. We can replace the codomain \mathbb{R}
by any totally ordered set Y with the order topology.

Think-pair-share:

(a) IS $\mathbb{R}P^2 = \frac{\mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\}}{\sim \lambda x \quad \forall x \in \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\} \quad \forall \lambda \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \{0\}}$ compact? ← lines through origin in \mathbb{R}^3

Yes! It's the image of $S^2 \subseteq \mathbb{R}^3$ under $\pi: \mathbb{R}^3 \setminus \{0\} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}P^2$
 $(x, y, z) \mapsto [x:y:z]$

↑
closed and bounded
so compact by Heine-Borel

(b) Does $f: \mathbb{R}P^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ have a min and max value?

$$[x:y:z] \mapsto \frac{xyz}{x^3 + y^3 + z^3}$$

Yes, follows by the extreme value thm, since f is continuous by the universal property of quotients.

(In fact, it's not hard to see that $\min_{x \in \mathbb{R}P^2} f(x) = -\frac{1}{3}$ and $\max_{x \in \mathbb{R}P^2} f(x) = \frac{1}{3}$.)

Next up: Connection to closedness and Hausdorffness

Thm. Let (X, τ) be a compact space, and $Y \subseteq X$. Then

$$[Y \text{ closed}] \Rightarrow [Y \text{ compact}]$$

\nearrow in X

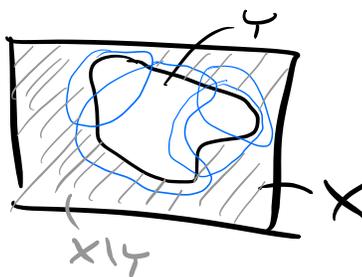
Pf. Suppose $Y \subseteq \bigcup_{U \in \mathcal{A}} U$ for some $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \tau$.

Trick: $X = (X \setminus Y) \cup \left(\bigcup_{U \in \mathcal{A}} U \right)$ is an open covering of X
 \nwarrow open b/c Y is closed

Compactness now gives that $\exists n \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}, u_1, \dots, u_n \in \mathcal{A}$ s.t.

$$X = (X \setminus Y) \cup \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n u_i \right)$$

$$\Rightarrow Y \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n u_i$$



i.e. we've found a finite subcovering!

□

⚠ The converse is not true in general!

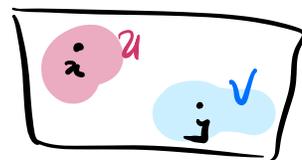
Ex: $X = \{a, b\}$
 $\tau = \tau_{\text{trivial}}$
 $Y = \{a\}$

X is compact, and Y is compact,
 but Y is not closed in X .

We will soon see that the converse is true if X is Hausdorff

Recall: (X, τ) is called Hausdorff if

$$\forall x, y \in X, x \neq y \quad \exists U, V \in \tau \text{ s.t. } \begin{cases} x \in U \\ y \in V \\ U \cap V = \emptyset \end{cases}$$



Generalization: Let (X, τ) be Hausdorff. Then

$$\forall x \in X \quad \forall \text{compact } Y \subseteq X \text{ s.t. } x \notin Y$$

$$\exists U, V \in \tau \text{ s.t. } U \cap V = \emptyset, x \in U \text{ and } Y \subseteq V.$$

Pf. For any $y \in Y$, we can choose

$$\begin{array}{l} U_y \text{ neighborhood of } x \\ V_y \text{ neighborhood of } y \end{array} \quad \text{s.t. } U_y \cap V_y = \emptyset$$

Then $\{V_y : y \in Y\}$ covers Y .

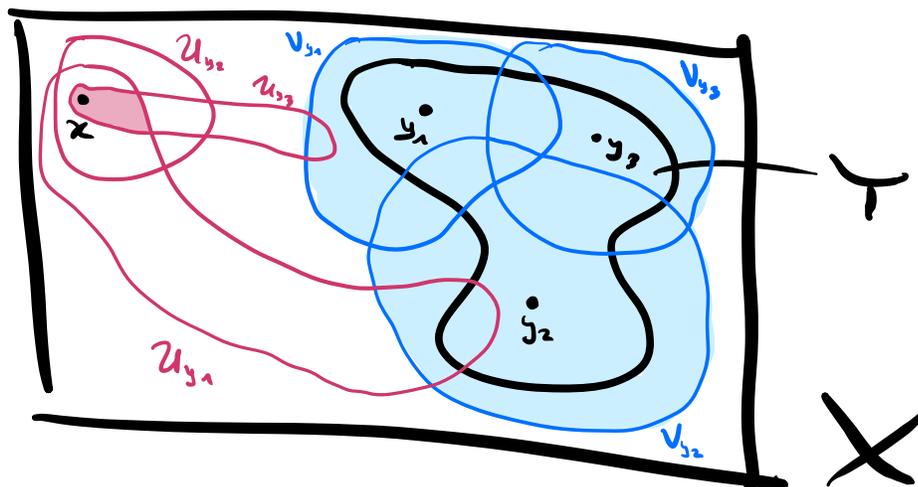
By compactness, $\exists n \in \mathbb{Z}_{>0}, y_1, \dots, y_n \in Y$ s.t. $Y \subseteq \bigcup_{i=1}^n V_{y_i}$.

Let $V = \bigcup_{i=1}^n V_{y_i}$ and $U = \bigcap_{i=1}^n U_{y_i}$. Then:

- V is open \leftarrow union of open sets
- U is open \leftarrow finite intersection of open sets
- $x \in U \leftarrow x \in U_{y_i} \quad \forall i \in \{1, \dots, n\}$
- $U \cap V = U \cap \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n V_{y_i} \right) = \bigcup_{i=1}^n (U \cap V_{y_i}) = \bigcup_{i=1}^n \emptyset = \emptyset.$ □

empty b/c $U \subseteq U_{y_i}$
and $U_{y_i} \cap V_{y_i} = \emptyset$

Picture:



Suggestion: Draw the picture step by step while working through the proof!

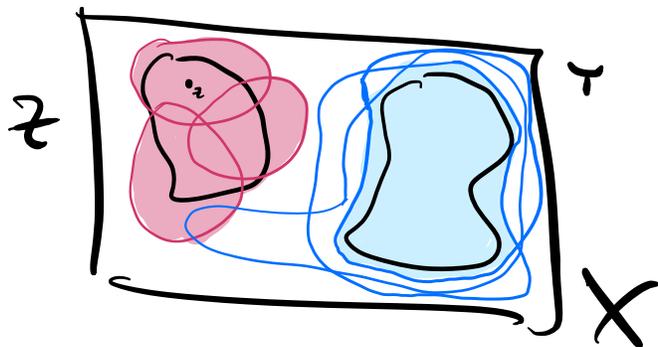
Further generalization: Let (X, τ) be Hausdorff, and

let $Z, Y \subseteq X$ be compact subsets with $Z \cap Y = \emptyset$. Then

$\exists U, V \in \tau$ s.t. $U \cap V = \emptyset$, $Z \subseteq U$, $Y \subseteq V$.

Pf. Exercise!

Picture:



Thm 9.10: Let X be Hausdorff, and $Y \subseteq X$. Then

$[Y \text{ compact}] \Rightarrow [Y \text{ closed}]$.

Pf. Strategy: Show that $X \setminus Y$ is open.

For each $x \in X \setminus Y$, the generalized Hausdorff property gives that there are $U_x, V_x \in \tau$ s.t. $U_x \cap V_x = \emptyset$, $x \in U_x$ and $Y \subseteq V_x$.

Then in particular, $U_x \subseteq X \setminus Y$, and we conclude $X \setminus Y = \bigcup_{x \in X \setminus Y} U_x$ is open.

Prop 9.14: Let $f: X \rightarrow Y$ be a bijective cont. map, where X is compact and Y is Hausdorff.

Then f is a homeomorphism.

Pf. Since, by assumption, f is bijective and cont., it suffices to show f^{-1} is closed.

Let $A \subseteq X$ be closed. Then by previous results:

A is compact, $f(A) \subseteq Y$ is compact, and $f(A)$ is closed. \square

closed in compact space

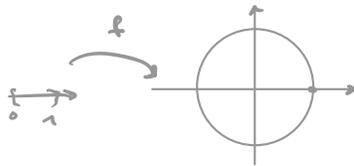
image of compact space under cont. map

compact in Hausdorff space

Think-pair-share: Which are homeomorphisms?

$$f: [0, 1] \rightarrow S^1 = \left\{ \left(\frac{x}{r}, \frac{y}{r} \right) \in \mathbb{R}^2 : x^2 + y^2 = r^2 \right\}$$

$$t \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos(2\pi t) \\ \sin(2\pi t) \end{pmatrix}$$



Not injective!

$$f(0) = f(1) = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$$

$$j: [0, 1) \rightarrow S^1$$

$$t \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos(2\pi t) \\ \sin(2\pi t) \end{pmatrix}$$

$j([0, 1)) \subseteq S^1$ is not closed



$$h: \frac{[0, 1]}{0 \sim 1} \rightarrow S^1$$

$$[t] \mapsto \begin{pmatrix} \cos(2\pi t) \\ \sin(2\pi t) \end{pmatrix}$$

Homeomorphism!

- Bijective
- continuous by the universal property of quotients
- $[0, 1] / \sim$ is compact b/c quotient of compact space
- S^1 is Hausdorff b/c subspace of \mathbb{R}^2 .

Next time:

- Heine-Borel $[\text{compact in } \mathbb{R}^n] \Leftrightarrow [\text{closed and bounded}]$
- Tychonoff $\left[X_i \text{ compact } \forall i \in I \right] \Rightarrow \left[\prod_{i \in I} X_i \text{ compact} \right]$
- Sequential compactness
- One-point compactification $X \rightsquigarrow X^+ := X \cup \{\infty\}$