

**Compactness (1.5): Part-III : If  $(X, d)$  is TB and complete, every sequence within it has a convergent subsequence.**

We begin by proving (3)  $\implies$  (2) for our main theorem. We show that every sequence in a TB metric space has a *Cauchy* subsequence; if our metric space is **complete**, this Cauchy subsequence must converge.

**Theorem 5.6 :** Any sequence in a totally bounded (TB) metric space  $(X, d)$  has a Cauchy subsequence.

**Proof** Let  $(x_j)_{j=1}^\infty$  be a sequence in  $X$ . We will iteratively extract subsequences from  $(x_j)_{j=1}^\infty$  and arrive at a Cauchy subsequence; we use the symbol  $\subset^*$  to denote a subsequence inclusion. Let  $k$  index the  *$k$ -th subsequence extracted*:  $(x_{kj})_{j=1}^\infty \subset^* (x_j)_{j=1}^\infty$ , and also *denote the  $k$ -th term of our sequence of interest*  $(y_n)_{n=1}^\infty$ , which we constructed as explained below.

- (Base Case) For  $k = 1$ , let the first “extracted” sequence:  $(x_{1j})_{j=1}^\infty$  just be our original sequence  $(x_j)_{j=1}^\infty$ ;  
Set  $y_1 = x_{11} = x_1$ .
- (Recursion) For  $k \geq 2$ , extract  $(x_{kj})_{j=1}^\infty$  to satisfy:
  - (1)  $(x_{kj})_{j=1}^\infty$  is a subsequence of  $(x_{k-1j})_{j=1}^\infty$
  - (2)  $(x_{kj})_{j=1}^\infty$  falls into a ball of radius  $(\frac{1}{k})$  inside  $X$ .
  - (3) Set  $y_k = x_{kk}$

First, we need to show that this construction can be *satisfied* for each  $k \geq 2$ . Certainly, condition (1) can always be satisfied. For (2), we proceed by induction.

Suppose for some  $k \geq 2$ , the subsequence  $(x_{k-1j})_{j=1}^\infty$  has already been formed to satisfy (1) and (2). Since  $(X, d)$  is TB, for  $\varepsilon = \frac{1}{k}$ ,  $X$  can be covered by **finitely many** (say,  $p$ ) balls of radius  $\frac{1}{k}$ :  $B_1, \dots, B_p$ . Thus:  $(x_{k-1j})_{j=1}^\infty \subset X \subseteq \bigcup_{s=1}^p B_s$ . Since the sequence  $(x_{k-1j})_{j=1}^\infty$  has *infinitely* many terms, at least one of these balls must contain infinitely many terms of  $(x_{k-1j})_{j=1}^\infty$ .

Let this ball be  $B_l, l \in [p]$ . Now, we can simply select *all* the terms in  $B_l$  *in order*, to form our  $k$ -th subsequence  $(x_{kj})_{j=1}^\infty$ ; let  $x_{k1}$  be the first<sup>1</sup> term in  $B_l$ ,  $x_{k2}$  the second, and so on. Thus,  $(x_{kj})_{j=1}^\infty \subseteq (x_{k-1j})_{j=1}^\infty$  falls into a ball of radius  $1/k$ . Setting  $y_k = x_{kk}$ , conditions (1)–(3) are met.

Now we claim that  $(y_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  is a Cauchy subsequence of our original sequence  $(x_j)_{j=1}^\infty$ .

For **any**  $k \geq 2$ ,  $(y_n)_{n=k}^\infty \subset^* (x_{kj})_{j=1}^\infty$ , since: At the starting index  $n = k$ ,  $y_k = x_{kk} \in (x_{kj})_{j=1}^\infty$ , and for  $n > k$ ,  $y_n = x_{nn} \in (x_{nj})_{j=1}^\infty \subset^* (x_{kj})_{j=1}^\infty$ , seen by  $(x_{k+1j})_{j=1}^\infty \subset^* (x_{kj})_{j=1}^\infty$  for any  $k > 1$  (from (1)).

<sup>1</sup>By “first”, we mean:  $k1$  is the smallest index among the indices  $k-1j$  to fall in  $B_l$ , and so on (Well-Ordering of  $\mathbb{N}$ )

Thus, for **each**  $k > 1$ ,  $(y_n)_{n=k}^\infty \subset^* (x_{kj})_{j=1}^\infty \subseteq B(z; \frac{1}{k})$ , where  $z \in X$  (-(2)).  
 So whenever  $n \geq k$ ,  $y_n \in B(z; \frac{1}{k}) \implies d(y_n, z) < \frac{1}{k}$ .  
 Then,  $\forall k \geq 2, m, n > k \implies d(y_m, y_n) < d(y_m, z) + d(z, y_n) < \frac{2}{k}$ . Thus,

For any  $\varepsilon > 0$ , with  $N = \frac{2}{\varepsilon}$ . Then  $k \geq N \implies \forall m, n > N, d(y_m, y_n) < \varepsilon$

Whereby  $(y_n)_{n=1}^\infty$  is a Cauchy subsequence of our original sequence  $(x_j)_{j=1}^\infty$ .