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compactification

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Let X be a topological space. A (Hausdorff) compactification of X is a pair (K, h) where K is a Hausdorff topological space and $h : X \rightarrow K$ is a continuous function such that

- K is compact
- h is a homeomorphism between X and $h(X)$
- $\overline{h(X)}^K = K$ where \overline{A}^K denotes closure in K for any subset A of K

h is often considered to be the inclusion map, so that $X \subseteq K$ with $\overline{X}^K = K$.