

## proof of Lebesgue number lemma

 ${\bf Canonical\ name} \quad {\bf ProofOfLebesgueNumberLemma}$ 

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By way of contradiction, suppose that no Lebesgue number existed. Then there exists an open cover  $\mathcal{U}$  of X such that for all  $\delta > 0$  there exists an  $x \in X$  such that no  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  contains  $B_{\delta}(x)$  (the open ball of radius  $\delta$  around x). Specifically, for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , since 1/n > 0 we can choose an  $x_n \in X$  such that no  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  contains  $B_{1/n}(x_n)$ . Now, X is compact so there exists a subsequence  $(x_{n_k})$  of the sequence of points  $(x_n)$  that converges to some  $y \in X$ . Also,  $\mathcal{U}$  being an open cover of X implies that there exists  $\lambda > 0$  and  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  such that  $B_{\lambda}(y) \subseteq U$ . Since the sequence  $(x_{n_k})$  converges to y, for k large enough it is true that  $d(x_{n_k}, y) < \lambda/2$  (d is the metric on X) and  $1/n_k < \lambda/2$ . Thus after an application of the triangle inequality, it follows that

$$B_{1/n_k}(x_{n_k}) \subseteq B_{\lambda}(y) \subseteq U,$$

contradicting the assumption that no  $U \in \mathcal{U}$  contains  $B_{1/n}(x_n)$ . Hence a Lebesgue number for  $\mathcal{U}$  does exist.