

# Compact Sets

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## 3.2.5

Recall that  $x$  is a limit point of  $A$  if and only if  $x = \lim a_n$  for some sequence  $(a_n)$  contained in  $A$  such that  $a_n \neq x$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

- Proving if  $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is closed then every Cauchy sequence contained in  $F$  has its limit point in  $F$ :

Assume that  $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is closed.

Since  $F$  is closed it contains all its limit points. Let  $(a_n)$  be a Cauchy sequence contained in  $F$ .

Then  $(a_n) \rightarrow a$  for some  $a \in \mathbb{R}$  since all Cauchy sequences converge.

If  $a_n \neq a$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  then since  $(a_n)$  is contained in  $F$ ,  $a$  is a limit point of  $F$ .

Since  $F$  contains all its limit points  $a \in F$ .

If  $a_n = a$  for some  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  then  $a \in F$  since the sequence  $(a_n)$  is contained in  $F$ .

Therefore if  $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is closed then every Cauchy sequence contained in  $F$  has its limit point in  $F$ .

- Proving if every Cauchy sequence contained in  $F$  has its limit point in  $F$  then  $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is closed:

Assume that every Cauchy sequence contained in  $F$  has its limit point in  $F$ .

Consider an arbitrary limit point  $a$  of  $F$ .

Then for some sequence  $(a_n)$  contained in  $F$  such that  $a_n \neq a$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  it must be that  $(a_n) \rightarrow a$ .

Since this  $(a_n)$  converges it is a Cauchy sequence, so by assumption we also have that  $a \in F$ .

This was for an arbitrary limit point of  $F$  and is therefore true for all limit points of  $F$ .

Therefore if every Cauchy sequence contained in  $F$  has its limit point in  $F$  then  $F \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is closed.

### 3.2.14

The interior of a set  $E$  is  $E^o = \{x \in E : \exists V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E\}$ .

**a.** Let  $E$  be a set and  $L_E$  be the set of all the limit points of  $E$ .

Showing  $E$  is closed if and only if  $\overline{E} = E$ :

If  $E$  is closed then  $L_E \subseteq E$  because  $E$  contains its limit points, so  $\overline{E} = L_E \cup E = E$ .

If  $\overline{E} = L_E \cup E = E$  then  $L_E \subseteq E$  so  $E$  contains its limit points and is closed.

So  $E$  is closed if and only if  $\overline{E} = E$   $\square$

Showing  $E$  is open if and only if  $E^o = E$ :

If  $E$  is open then every  $x \in E$  has some  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E$  and therefore  $E^o = E$ .

If  $E^o = E$  then every  $x \in E$  has some  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E$  and therefore  $E$  is open.

So  $E$  is closed if and only if  $E^o = E$   $\square$

**b.** Let  $E$  be a set and  $L_E$  be the set of all the limit points of  $E$ .

Showing  $\overline{E}^c = (E^c)^o$ :

Let  $x \in \overline{E}^c$  then  $x \notin \overline{E} = E \cup L_E$ . So  $x \notin E$  and  $x \notin L_E$ , therefore  $x \in E^c$  and  $x \in (L_E)^c$ .

So  $x$  is not a limit point of  $E$  and therefore there does not exist a  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E$ .

Therefore, there does exist a  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E^c$ , so  $x \in (E^c)^o$ .

So  $\overline{E}^c \subseteq (E^c)^o$ .

Let  $x \in (E^c)^o$  then there exists a  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E^c$ .

Then  $x \in E^c$  and there exists a  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E^c$ .

Therefore, there does not exist a  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E$ .

So  $x$  is not a limit point of  $E$ , so  $x \notin E$  and  $x \notin L_E$ .

Therefore  $x \notin E \cup L_E = \overline{E}$ , and  $x \in \overline{E}^c$ .

So  $(E^c)^o \subseteq \overline{E}^c$ .

Therefore  $\overline{E}^c = (E^c)^o$   $\square$

Showing  $(E^o)^c = \overline{E^c}$ :

Let  $x \in (E^o)^c$ , then  $x \notin E^o$ . So there does not exist a  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E$ .

Therefore there does exist a  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E^c$ . So  $x$  is a limit point of  $E^c$ .

So  $x \in L_{(E^c)}$  therefore  $x \in L_{(E^c)} \cup E^c = \overline{E^c}$ .

So  $(E^o)^c \subseteq \overline{E^c}$ .

Let  $x \in \overline{E^c} = E^c \cup L_{(E^c)}$ , then  $x \in E^c$  or  $x \in L_{(E^c)}$ .

So  $x \notin E$  or there exists a  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E^c$ . So  $x \notin E^o$  or there does not exist a  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq E$ .

Therefore  $x \notin E^o$ , and  $x \in (E^o)^c$ .

So  $\overline{E^c} \subseteq (E^o)^c$ .

Therefore  $(E^o)^c = \overline{E^c}$   $\square$

### 3.3.1

Let  $K \subset \mathbb{R}$  be a compact, nonempty set. Then  $K$  is closed and bounded.

Since  $K$  is bounded there exists an upper bound and a lower bound of  $K$ .

Therefore since  $\mathbb{R}$  has the least upper bound property, the least upper bound and greatest lower bound of  $K$  exist in  $\mathbb{R}$ .

- Proving  $\sup K \in K$ :

Say  $\sup K = x$ , then for all  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists an  $a \in K$  such that  $x - \epsilon < a$ .

So for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists an  $a_n \in K$  such that  $x - \frac{1}{n} < a_n$ .

Consider the sequences  $(x - a_n)$  and  $(\frac{1}{n})$  then  $0 < x - a_n < \frac{1}{n}$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

As shown in previous sample works, the sequences  $(0)$  and  $(\frac{1}{n})$  both converge to 0.

Therefore by the squeeze theorem  $(x - a_n) \rightarrow 0$ .

Clearly the sequence  $(x) \rightarrow x$  so by the algebraic limit theorem  $(a_n) \rightarrow x = \sup K$ .

So we have found a sequence contained in  $K$  such that its limit is  $\sup K$ , so  $\sup K$  is a limit point of  $K$ .

Therefore since  $K$  is closed it contains its limit points, and so  $\sup K \in K$   $\square$

- Proving  $\inf K \in K$ :

Say  $\inf K = x$ , then for all  $\epsilon > 0$  there exists an  $a \in K$  such that  $x + \epsilon > a$ .

So for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  there exists an  $a_n \in K$  such that  $x + \frac{1}{n} > a_n \geq x$ .

Consider the sequences  $(x + \frac{1}{n})$  and  $(x)$  then  $x + \frac{1}{n} > a_n \geq x$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

As shown in previous sample works, the sequence  $(\frac{1}{n})$  converges to 0. Clearly the sequence  $(x) \rightarrow x$ .

By the algebraic limit theorem  $(x + \frac{1}{n}) \rightarrow x$ , so by the squeeze theorem  $(a_n) \rightarrow x$ .

So we have found a sequence contained in  $K$  such that its limit is  $\inf K$ , so  $\inf K$  is a limit point of  $K$ .

Therefore since  $K$  is closed it contains its limit points, and so  $\inf K \in K$   $\square$

### 3.3.9

Let  $K$  be a compact set and let this imply  $K$  is closed and bounded.

Let  $\{O_\lambda : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  be an open cover of  $K$  and assume no finite subcover exists.

Let  $I_0$  be a closed interval containing  $K$ , such an interval exists since  $K$  is bounded.

**a.** Then  $I_0 \cap K = K$  can not be finitely covered.

Bisect  $I_0$ , then either the left half of  $I_0 \cap K$  or the right half of  $I_0 \cap K$  can not be finitely covered.

Otherwise if both can be finitely covered then the union of those finite covers, which is a finite cover would cover  $I_0 \cap K$  which can not happen.

Let  $I_1$  be the half that can not be finitely covered, if both can then just pick either.

Then bisect  $I_1$  and again we have the same process one of the two halves can not be finitely covered.

Repeat this, then  $I_n \cap K$  can not be finitely covered for all  $n \in \{0, 1, 2, \dots\} = \mathbb{N}$ .

Furthermore  $I_0 \supseteq I_1 \supseteq I_2 \supseteq \dots$

And if the original length of  $I_0$  is  $|I_0| = l$  then the length of  $I_n$  is  $|I_n| = \frac{l}{2^n}$ .

So  $(|I_n|) = (\frac{l}{2^n}) \rightarrow 0$  by the algebraic limit theorem and the fact that  $(\frac{1}{2^n}) \rightarrow 0$ .

**b.** Since  $K$  is compact so is  $K \cap I_n$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

We also know  $I_0 \supseteq I_1 \supseteq I_2 \supseteq \dots$ , so  $I_0 \cap K \supseteq I_1 \cap K \supseteq I_2 \cap K \supseteq \dots$

Therefore  $\bigcap_{n=0}^{\infty} K \cap I_n \neq \emptyset$  since the arbitrary intersection of nested compact sets is nonempty.

So there exists an element in  $K$  that is in every  $I_n$ .

**c.** Since  $x \in K$  there must be some open set  $O_{\lambda_0}$  such that  $x \in O_{\lambda_0}$ .

However, since  $O_{\lambda_0}$  is open there must exist some  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $V_\epsilon(x) \subseteq O_{\lambda_0}$ .

Since  $(|I_n|) \rightarrow 0$  we can find an  $N \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $|I_n| < \epsilon$  for all  $n \geq N$ .

Then  $O_{\lambda_0}$  contains  $I_n$  for all  $n \geq N$ .

But this implies that  $I_n$  can be finitely covered for all  $n \geq N$ , a contradiction.

Therefore our assumption that  $K$  can not be finitely covered must be false.

So for a compact set  $K$ ,  $K$  can be finitely covered  $\square$

### 3.2.12

Let  $A$  be an uncountable set and let  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  if  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \in A, x < s\}$  and  $\{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \in A, x > s\}$  are uncountable.

For some  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  let  $L_s = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \in A, x < s\} = (-\infty, s) \cap A$  and  $R_s = \{x \in \mathbb{R} : x \in A, x > s\} = (s, \infty) \cap A$ .

Now let  $T_1 = \{s \in \mathbb{R} : L_s \text{ is uncountable}\}$  and  $T_2 = \{s \in \mathbb{R} : R_s \text{ is uncountable}\}$ .

Recall that the countable union of countable or finite sets is countable.

Let  $(a_n)$  be a positive, monotonically decreasing sequence that converges to 0.

Then  $(a_n + s) \rightarrow s$  for all  $s \in \mathbb{R}$  by the algebraic limit theorem.

- Proving  $T_1$  is nonempty and open:

**$T_1$  is nonempty:**

Assume  $T_1$  is empty, that is  $L_s = (-\infty, s) \cap A$  is countable or finite for all  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then  $L_n = (-\infty, n) \cap A$  is countable or finite for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

This implies  $\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} L_n = \cup_{n=1}^{\infty} (-\infty, n) \cap A$  is countable.

However,  $\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} (-\infty, n) \cap A = A \cap (\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} (-\infty, n)) = A \cap (-\infty, \infty) = A$  is uncountable.

So it must be that  $T_1$  is nonempty.

**$T_1$  is open:**

$T_1 \neq \emptyset$  from above. So let  $s \in T_1$ , then  $L_s$  is uncountable.

Clearly for any  $t > s$ ,  $t \in T_1$  because  $L_s = (-\infty, s) \cap A \subseteq (-\infty, t) \cap A = L_t$ .

And  $L_s = (-\infty, s) \cap A$  is uncountable so  $L_t = (-\infty, t) \cap A$  is uncountable, hence  $t \in T_1$ .

Furthermore there exists some  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $s - \epsilon \in T_1$ .

Otherwise  $(-\infty, s - a_n) \cap A$  is countable or finite for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

But this would imply  $\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} (-\infty, s - a_n) \cap A$  is countable.

However,  $\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} (-\infty, s - a_n) \cap A = A \cap (\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} (-\infty, s - a_n)) = A \cap (-\infty, s) = L_s$  is uncountable since  $s \in T_1$ .

Therefore for all  $s \in T_1$  there exists some  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $s - \epsilon \in T_1$ .

We have shown that for any  $x \in T_1$  if  $y > x$  then  $y \in T_1$  and for all  $s \in T_1$  there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $s - \epsilon \in T_1$ .

Consequently we have shown that for all  $s \in T_1$  there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that for all  $t \geq s - \epsilon$ ,  $t \in T_1$ .

So for all  $s \in T_1$  there exists a  $V_{\epsilon}(s) \subseteq T_1$ .

So  $T_1$  is open.

- Proving  $T_2$  is nonempty and open:

**$T_2$  is nonempty:**

Assume  $T_2$  is empty, that is  $R_s = (s, \infty) \cap A$  is countable or finite for all  $s \in \mathbb{R}$ .

Then  $R_{-n} = (-n, \infty) \cap A$  is countable or finite for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

This implies  $\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} R_{-n} = \cup_{n=1}^{\infty} (-n, \infty) \cap A$  is countable.

However,  $\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} (-n, \infty) \cap A = A \cap (\cup_{n=1}^{\infty} (-n, \infty)) = A \cap (-\infty, \infty) = A$  is uncountable.

So it must be that  $T_2$  is nonempty.

**$T_2$  is open:**

$T_2 \neq \emptyset$  from above. So let  $s \in T_2$ , then  $R_s$  is uncountable.

Clearly for any  $t < s$ ,  $t \in T_2$  because  $R_s = (s, \infty) \cap A \subseteq (t, \infty) \cap A = R_t$ .

And  $R_s = (s, \infty) \cap A$  is uncountable so  $R_t = (t, \infty) \cap A$  is uncountable, hence  $t \in T_2$ .

Furthermore there exists some  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $s + \epsilon \in T_2$ .

Otherwise  $(s + a_n, \infty) \cap A$  is countable or finite for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ .

But this would imply  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (s + a_n, \infty) \cap A$  is countable.

However,  $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (s + a_n, \infty) \cap A = A \cap (\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (s + a_n, \infty)) = A \cap (s, \infty) = R_s$  is uncountable since  $s \in T_2$ .

Therefore for all  $s \in T_2$  there exists some  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $s + \epsilon \in T_2$ .

We have shown that for any  $x \in T_2$  if  $y < x$  then  $y \in T_2$  and for all  $s \in T_2$  there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that  $s + \epsilon \in T_2$ .

Consequently we have shown that for all  $s \in T_2$  there exists an  $\epsilon > 0$  such that for all  $t \leq s + \epsilon$ ,  $t \in T_2$ .

So for all  $s \in T_2$  there exists a  $V_{\epsilon}(s) \subseteq T_2$ .

So  $T_2$  is open.

- Proving  $B = T_1 \cap T_2$  is nonempty and open:

**$B$  is nonempty:**

We have shown that  $T_1$  is nonempty and open and that for  $s \in T_1$  if  $t > s$  then it must be that  $t \in T_1$ .

So  $T_1$  is of the form  $T_1 = (t_1, \infty)$  for some  $t_1 \in \mathbb{R}$  or  $T_1 = (-\infty, \infty) = \mathbb{R}$ .

We have shown that  $T_2$  is nonempty and open and that for  $s \in T_2$  if  $t < s$  then it must be that  $t \in T_2$ .

So  $T_2$  is of the form  $T_2 = (-\infty, t_2)$  for some  $t_2 \in \mathbb{R}$  or  $T_2 = (-\infty, \infty) = \mathbb{R}$ .

If  $T_1 = \mathbb{R}$  or  $T_2 = \mathbb{R}$  then  $B = T_1 \cap T_2 = \mathbb{R} \cap T_2 = T_2 \neq \emptyset$  or  $B = T_1 \cap T_2 = T_1 \cap \mathbb{R} = T_1 \neq \emptyset$  and we would be done.

Otherwise we want to show  $B = T_1 \cap T_2 = (t_1, \infty) \cap (-\infty, t_2) = (-\infty, t_2) \cap (t_1, \infty)$  is nonempty.

So we want to show that  $t_1 < t_2$ .

For all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  it must be that  $L_x = (-\infty, x) \cap A$  or  $R_x = (x, \infty) \cap A$  is uncountable.

This is because otherwise both  $L_x$  and  $R_x$  would be countable or finite for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ .

But this implies  $L_x \cup R_x \cup (\{x\} \cap A)$  is a finite union of countable or finite sets and is therefore countable or finite.

However,  $L_x \cup R_x \cup (\{x\} \cap A) = A \cap ((-\infty, x) \cup \{x\} \cup (x, \infty)) = A \cap (-\infty, \infty) = A$  is uncountable.

So it must be that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $L_x$  or  $R_x$  is uncountable, so  $x \in T_1$  or  $x \in T_2$ .

So  $T_1 \cup T_2 \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  trivially and  $\mathbb{R} \subseteq T_1 \cup T_2$  as we have just shown.

Therefore  $T_1 \cup T_2 = (t_1, \infty) \cup (-\infty, t_2) = (-\infty, t_2) \cup (t_1, \infty) = \mathbb{R}$ .

This can only happen if  $t_1 < t_2$ . So it must be that  $t_1 < t_2$ .

So  $B = T_1 \cap T_2 = (t_1, \infty) \cap (-\infty, t_2) = (t_1, t_2) \neq \emptyset$ . So  $B$  is nonempty.

**$B$  is open:**

$B = T_1 \cap T_2$  where  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  are both open.

Since the intersection of finitely many open sets is open we have that  $B$  is open.

So  $B$  is nonempty and open  $\square$