## 14 | Compact Spaces

**14.1 Definition.** Let X be a topological space. A *cover* of X is a collection  $\mathcal{Y} = \{Y_i\}_{i \in I}$  of subsets of X such that  $\bigcup_{i \in I} Y_i = X$ .



If the sets  $Y_i$  are open in X for all  $i \in I$  then  $\mathcal{Y}$  is an *open cover* of X. If  $\mathcal{Y}$  consists of finitely many sets then  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a *finite cover* of X.

**14.2 Definition.** Let  $\mathcal{Y} = \{Y_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a cover of X. A *subcover* of  $\mathcal{Y}$  is cover  $\mathcal{Y}'$  of X such that every element of  $\mathcal{Y}'$  is in  $\mathcal{Y}$ .

**14.4 Definition.** A space X is compact if every open cover of X contains a finite subcover.

| 14.8 Proposition. | Let $f: X \to Y$ | be a | continuous | function. | If X | is | compact | and $f$ | is | onto | then | Y | is |
|-------------------|------------------|------|------------|-----------|------|----|---------|---------|----|------|------|---|----|
| compact.          |                  |      |            |           |      |    |         |         |    |      |      |   |    |

*Proof.* Exercise.

**14.9 Corollary.** Let  $f: X \to Y$  be a continuous function. If  $A \subseteq X$  is compact then  $f(A) \subseteq Y$  is compact.

**14.10 Corollary.** Let X, Y be topological spaces. If X is compact and  $Y \cong X$  then Y is compact.

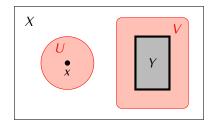
**14.12 Proposition.** For any a < b the closed interval  $[a, b] \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is compact.

**14.13 Proposition.** Let X be a compact space. If Y is a closed subspace of X then Y is compact.

*Proof.* Exercise.

**14.14 Proposition.** Let X be a Hausdorff space and let  $Y \subseteq X$ . If Y is compact then it is closed in X.

**14.15 Lemma.** Let X be a Hausdorff space, let  $Y \subseteq X$  be a compact subspace, and let  $x \in X \setminus Y$ . There exists open sets  $U, V \subseteq X$  such that  $x \in U, Y \subseteq V$  and  $U \cap V = \emptyset$ .



| <b>14.16 Corollary.</b> Let $X$ be a compact Hausdorff space. A subspace $Y \subseteq X$ is compact if and only if is closed in $X$ .                                                                                                                       | Y |
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|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |   |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |   |
| <i>Proof.</i> Let $A \subseteq X$ be a closed set. By Proposition 14.13 $A$ is a compact space and thus by Corolla 14.9 $f(A)$ is a compact subspace of $Y$ . Since $Y$ is a Hausdorff space, using Proposition 14.14 we obtathat $f(A)$ is closed in $Y$ . |   |
| <b>14.18 Proposition.</b> Let $f: X \to Y$ be a continuous bijection. If $X$ is a compact space and $Y$ is Hausdorff space then $f$ is a homeomorphism.                                                                                                     | a |
|                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |   |

**14.19 Theorem.** If X is a compact Hausdorff space then X is normal.