

Every open cover has a finite subcover.

CHAPTER 6

COMPACTNESS

6.0 INTRODUCTION

We have seen that the concept of completeness is the abstraction of a property of the real number system. The concept of compactness is also an abstraction of an important property possessed by subsets of $\mathbb{R}$ which are closed and bounded. This property is known as Heine Borel theorem which states that if $I \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is a closed interval, any family of open intervals in $\mathbb{R}$ whose union contains I has a finite subfamily whose union contains I . We now introduce the class of *compact metric spaces* in which the conclusion of Heine Borel theorem is valid.

6.1 COMPACT METRIC SPACES

Definition. Let M be a metric space. A family of open sets $\{G_\alpha\}$ in M is called an **open cover** for M if $\bigcup G_\alpha = M$.

A subfamily of $\{G_\alpha\}$ which itself is an open cover is called a **subcover**.

A metric space M is said to be **compact** if every open cover for M has finite subcover.

(i.e) for each family of open sets $\{G_\alpha\}$ such that $\bigcup G_\alpha = M$, there exist a finite subfamily $\{G_{\alpha_1}, G_{\alpha_2}, \dots, G_{\alpha_n}\}$ such that $\bigcup_{i=1}^n G_{\alpha_i} = M$.

Example 1. $\mathbb{R}$ with usual metric is not compact.

Proof. Consider the family of open intervals $\{(-n, n)/n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

This is a family of open sets in $\mathbb{R}$.

connected, open, closed, separable, complete

Clearly $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} (-n, n) = \mathbb{R}$.

$\therefore \{(-n, n)/n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is an open cover for $\mathbb{R}$ and this open cover has no finite subcover.

$\therefore \mathbb{R}$ is not compact.

Example 2. $(0, 1)$ with usual metric is not compact.

Proof. Consider the family of open intervals $\left\{\left(\frac{1}{n}, 1\right)/n = 2, 3, \dots\right\}$

Clearly $\bigcup_{n=2}^{\infty} \left(\frac{1}{n}, 1\right) = (0, 1)$.

$\therefore \left\{\left(\frac{1}{n}, 1\right)/n = 2, 3, \dots\right\}$ is an open cover for $(0, 1)$ and this open cover has no finite subcover.

Hence $(0, 1)$ is not compact.

Example 3. $[0, \infty)$ with usual metric is not compact.

Proof. Consider the family of intervals $\{[0, n)/n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

$[0, n)$ is open in $[0, \infty)$ for each $n \in \mathbb{N}$.

Also $\bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} [0, n) = [0, \infty)$.

$\therefore \{[0, n)/n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is an open cover for $[0, \infty)$ and this open cover has no finite subcover.

Hence $[0, \infty)$ is not compact.

Example 4. Let M be an infinite set with discrete metric. Then M is not compact.

Proof. Let $x \in M$. Since M is a discrete metric space $\{x\}$ is open in M .

Also $\bigcup_{x \in M} \{x\} = M$.

Hence $\{\{x\}/x \in M\}$ is an open cover for M and since M is infinite, this open cover has no finite subcover.

Hence M is not compact.

Example 5. We will prove in 6.2 that any closed interval $[a, b]$ with usual metric is compact.

Theorem 6.1 Let M be a metric space. Let $A \subseteq M$. A is compact iff given a family of open sets $\{G_\alpha\}$ in M such that $\bigcup G_\alpha \supseteq A$ there exists a subfamily

$G_{\alpha_1}, G_{\alpha_2}, \dots, G_{\alpha_n}$ such that $\bigcup_{i=1}^n G_{\alpha_i} \supseteq A$.

Proof. Let A be a compact subset of M .

Let $\{G_\alpha\}$ be a family of open sets in M such that $\bigcup G_\alpha \supseteq A$.

Then $(\bigcup G_\alpha) \cap A = A$.

$\therefore \bigcup (G_\alpha \cap A) = A$.

Also $G_\alpha \cap A$ is open in A . (refer theorem 2.6)

$\therefore$ The family $\{G_\alpha \cap A\}$ is an open cover for A .

Since A is compact this open cover has a finite subcover, say,

$G_{\alpha_1} \cap A, G_{\alpha_2} \cap A, \dots, G_{\alpha_n} \cap A$.

$\therefore \bigcup_{i=1}^n (G_{\alpha_i} \cap A) = A$.

$\therefore \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n G_{\alpha_i} \right) \cap A = A$.

$\therefore \bigcup_{i=1}^n G_{\alpha_i} \supseteq A$.

Conversely let $\{H_\alpha\}$ be an open cover for A .

$\therefore$ Each H_α is open in A .

$\therefore H_\alpha = G_\alpha \cap A$ where G_α is open in M .

Now, $\cup H_\alpha = A$.

$$\therefore \cup (G_\alpha \cap A) = A.$$

$$\therefore (\cup G_\alpha) \cap A = A$$

$$\therefore \cup G_\alpha \supseteq A.$$

Hence by hypothesis there exists a finite subfamily

$$G_{\alpha_1}, G_{\alpha_2}, \dots, G_{\alpha_n} \text{ such that } \bigcup_{i=1}^n G_{\alpha_i} \supseteq A.$$

$$\therefore \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n G_{\alpha_i} \right) \cap A = A.$$

$$\therefore \bigcup_{i=1}^n (G_{\alpha_i} \cap A) = A.$$

$$\therefore \bigcup_{i=1}^n H_{\alpha_i} = A.$$

Thus $\{H_{\alpha_1}, H_{\alpha_2}, \dots, H_{\alpha_n}\}$ is a finite subcover of the open cover $\{H_\alpha\}$

$\therefore A$ is compact.

Theorem 6.2 Any compact subset A of a metric space M is bounded.

Proof. Let $x_o \in A$.

Consider $\{B(x_o, n) / n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

$$\text{Clearly } \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B(x_o, n) = M.$$

$$\therefore \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} B(x_o, n) \supseteq A.$$

Since A is compact there exists a finite subfamily say,

$B(x_0, n_1), B(x_0, n_2), \dots, B(x_0, n_k)$ such that $\bigcup_{i=1}^k B(x_0, n_i) \supseteq A$.

Let $n_0 = \max\{n_1, n_2, \dots, n_k\}$.

Then $\bigcup_{i=1}^k B(x_0, n_i) = B(x_0, n_0)$.

$\therefore B(x_0, n_0) \supseteq A$.

We know that $B(x_0, n_0)$ is a bounded set and a subset of a bounded set is bounded. Hence A is bounded.

Note. The converse of the above theorem is not true.

For example, $(0, 1)$ is a bounded subset of $\mathbb{R}$.

But it is not compact. (refer example 2 of 6.1)

Theorem 6.3 Any compact subset A of a metric space (M, d) is closed.

Proof. To prove that A is closed we shall prove that A^c is open.

Let $y \in A^c$ and let $x \in A$. Then $x \neq y$.

$\therefore d(x, y) = r_x > 0$.

It can be easily verified that $B(x, \frac{1}{2}r_x) \cap B(y, \frac{1}{2}r_x) = \Phi$.

Now consider the collection $\{B(x, \frac{1}{2}r_x) / x \in A\}$.

Clearly $\bigcup_{x \in A} B(x, \frac{1}{2}r_x) \supseteq A$.

Since A is compact there exists a finite number of such open balls say,

$B(x_1, \frac{1}{2}r_{x_1}), \dots, B(x_n, \frac{1}{2}r_{x_n})$ such that $\bigcup_{i=1}^n B(x_i, \frac{1}{2}r_{x_i}) \supseteq A$.

..... (1)

$$\text{Now, let } V_y = \bigcap_{i=1}^n B(y, \frac{1}{2}r_{x_i}).$$

clearly y is in V_y

Clearly V_y is an open set containing y .

Since $B(y, \frac{1}{2}r_y) \cap B(x, \frac{1}{2}r_x) = \Phi$, we have $V_y \cap B(x, \frac{1}{2}r_x) = \Phi$ for each $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$.

$$\therefore V_y \cap \left[\bigcup_{i=1}^n B(x, \frac{1}{2}r_{x_i}) \right] = \Phi.$$

$$\therefore V_y \cap A = \Phi \quad [\text{by (1)}].$$

$$\therefore V_y \subseteq A^c.$$

$$\therefore \bigcup_{y \in A^c} V_y = A^c \text{ and each } V_y \text{ is open.}$$

$\therefore A^c$ is open. Hence A is closed.

Note 1. The converse of the above theorem is not true.

For example, $[0, \infty)$ is a closed subset of $\mathbb{R}$. But it is not compact (refer eg. 3 of 6.1)

Note 2. It follows from theorems 6.2 and 6.3 that any compact subset of a metric space is closed and bounded.

Theorem 6.4 A closed subspace of a compact metric space is compact.

Proof. Let M be a compact metric space. Let A be a non-empty closed subset of M .

We claim that A is compact.

Let $\{G_\alpha / \alpha \in I\}$ be a family of open sets in M such that

$$\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} G_\alpha \supseteq A.$$

open cover

$\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} G_\alpha \supseteq A$

every open cover has a finite subcover

$$\therefore A^c \cup \left[\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} G_\alpha \right] = M.$$

Also A^c is open. (since A is closed).

$\therefore \{G_\alpha / \alpha \in I\} \cup \{A^c\}$ is an open cover for M .

Since M is compact it has a finite subcover say

$$\therefore \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n G_{\alpha_i} \right) \cup A^c = M.$$

$G_{\alpha_1}, G_{\alpha_2}, \dots, G_{\alpha_n}, A^c$
 $\cup$ sub cover $\Rightarrow M$

$$\therefore \bigcup_{i=1}^n G_{\alpha_i} \supseteq A.$$

$\therefore A$ is compact.

Exercises

1. Give an example of an open cover which has no finite subcover for the following subsets of $\mathbb{R}$.

(i) $(5, 6)$ (ii) $(5, \infty)$ (iii) $[5, \infty)$ (iv) $[7, 9]$

2. Show that every finite metric space is compact.

3. Give an example of a connected subset of $\mathbb{R}$ which is not compact.

(Hint. Any interval in $\mathbb{R}$ is connected) $(0, 1)$

4. A and B are two compact subsets of a metric space M . Prove that $A \cup B$ is also compact.

6.2 COMPACT SUBSETS OF $\mathbb{R}$.

We have already proved that every compact subset of a metric space is closed and bounded.

$x \rightarrow$ non empty
 $x_1 \rightarrow$ cover
 $x_2 \rightarrow c = b$ COMPACTNESS

However the converse is not true.

For example, consider an infinite discrete metric space (M, d) .

Let A be an infinite subset of M .

Then A is bounded since $d(x, y) \leq 1$ for all $x, y \in A$.

Also A is closed since any subset of a discrete metric space is closed.

Hence A is closed and bounded.

However A is not compact (refer example 4 of 6.1)

In this section we shall prove that for $\mathbb{R}$ with usual metric the converse is also true.

Theorem 6.5 (Heine Borel theorem) $\star$ $\in$ in Imp

Any closed interval $[a, b]$ is a compact subset of $\mathbb{R}$.

Proof. Let $\{G_\alpha / \alpha \in I\}$ be a family of open sets in $\mathbb{R}$ such that

$\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} G_\alpha \supseteq [a, b]$. set a cover partition $[a, b] \rightarrow$ comp

Let $S = \{x / x \in [a, b] \text{ and } [a, x] \text{ can be covered by a finite number of } G_\alpha \text{'s}\}$.

Clearly $a \in S$ and hence $S \neq \Phi$. ①

Also S is bounded above by b . $b = b$ all G_α

Let c denote the l.u.b. of S . cover in $[a, b]$

Clearly $c \in [a, b]$. finite G_α

$\therefore c \in G_{\alpha_1}$ for some $\alpha_1 \in I$. cover in $[$

Since G_{α_1} is open, there exists $\epsilon > 0$ such that

$$B(c, \epsilon) \subseteq G_{\alpha_1}$$

$$(c - \epsilon, c + \epsilon) \subseteq G_{\alpha_1}$$

Choose $x_1 \in [a, b]$ such that $x_1 < c$ and $[x_1, c] \subseteq G_{\alpha_1}$. ②

Now, since $x_1 < c$, $[a, x_1]$ can be covered by a finite number of G_α 's.

These finite number of G_α 's together with G_{α_1} covers $[a, c]$.

$\therefore$ By definition of S , $c \in S$.

(Now, we claim that $c = b$.)

Suppose $c \neq b$.

Then choose $x_2 \in [a, b]$ such that $x_2 > c$ and $[c, x_2] \subseteq G_{\alpha_1}$.

As before, $[a, x_2]$ can be covered by a finite number of G_α 's.

Hence $x_2 \in S$.

But $x_2 > c$ which is a contradiction, since c is the l. u. b. of S .

$\therefore c = b$.

$\therefore [a, b]$ can be covered by a finite number of G_α 's.

$\therefore [a, b]$ is a compact subset of $\mathbb{R}$.

Theorem 6.6 A subset A of $\mathbb{R}$ is compact iff A is closed and bounded.

Proof. If A is compact then A is closed and bounded.

Conversely, let A be subset of $\mathbb{R}$ which is closed and bounded.

Since A is bounded we can find a closed interval $[a, b]$ such that $A \subseteq [a, b]$.

Since A is closed in $\mathbb{R}$, A is closed in $[a, b]$ also.

Thus A is a closed subset of the compact space $[a, b]$.

Hence A is compact. (by theorem 6.4)

Exercises

1. Determine which of the following subset of $\mathbb{R}$ are compact.

(i) $\mathbb{Z}$

(ii) $\mathbb{Q}$

(iii) $[1, 2]$

(iv) $(3, 4)$

(v) $(0, \infty)$

(vi) $[1, 2] \cup [3, 4]$

(vii) $[1, 3] \cap [3, 4]$ compact

(viii) $\{1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots, \frac{1}{n}, \dots\}$

(ix) $\{0, 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{3}, \dots, \frac{1}{n}, \dots\}$

2. If A and B are compact subsets of $\mathbb{R}$ prove that $A \cap B$ is also a compact subset of $\mathbb{R}$. AUB

6.3 EQUIVALENT CHARACTERISATIONS FOR COMPACTNESS

In this section we obtain several equivalent characterisation for compactness in a metric space.

Definition. A family $\mathcal{S}$ of subsets of a set M is said to have the finite intersection property if any finite members of $\mathcal{S}$ have non-empty intersection.

Example. In $\mathbb{R}$ the family of closed intervals $\mathcal{S} = \{[-n, n] / n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ has finite intersection property.

Theorem 6.7 A metric space M is compact iff any family of closed sets with finite intersection property has non-empty intersection.

Proof. Suppose M is compact.

Let $\{A_\alpha\}$ be a family of closed subsets of M with finite intersection property.

We claim that $\bigcap A_\alpha \neq \Phi$.

Suppose $\bigcap A_\alpha = \Phi$ then $(\bigcap A_\alpha)^c = \Phi^c$.

$$\therefore \bigcup A_\alpha^c = M.$$

Also, since each A_α is closed, A_α^c is open.

$\therefore \{A_\alpha^c\}$ is an open cover for M .

Since M is compact this open cover has a finite subcover say,

$$A_1^c, A_2^c, \dots, A_n^c.$$

$$\therefore \bigcup_{i=1}^n A_i^c = M.$$

$$\therefore \left(\bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i \right)^c = M.$$

$$\therefore \bigcap_{i=1}^n A_i = \Phi \quad \text{which is a contradiction to the finite intersection property.}$$

$$\therefore \bigcap A_\alpha \neq \Phi.$$

Conversely, suppose that each family of closed sets in M with finite intersection property has non empty intersection.

To prove that M is compact, let $\{G_\alpha / \alpha \in I\}$ be an open cover for M .

$$\therefore \bigcup_{\alpha \in I} G_\alpha = M.$$

$$\therefore \left(\bigcup_{\alpha \in I} G_\alpha \right)^c = M^c.$$

$$\therefore \bigcap_{\alpha \in I} G_\alpha^c = \Phi.$$

Since G_α is open, G_α^c is closed for each α .

$\therefore \mathfrak{S} = \{G_\alpha^c / \alpha \in I\}$ is a family of closed sets whose intersection is empty.

Hence by hypothesis this family of closed sets does not have the finite intersection property.

Hence there exists a finite sub-collection of $\mathfrak{S}$ say,

$$\{G_1^c, G_2^c, \dots, G_n^c\} \text{ such that } \bigcap_{i=1}^n G_i^c = \Phi.$$

$$\therefore \left(\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} G_i \right)^c = \Phi.$$

$$\therefore \bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} G_i = M.$$

$\therefore \{G_1, G_2, \dots, G_n\}$ is a finite subcover of the given open

cover.

Hence M is compact.

Definition. A metric space M is said to be **totally bounded** if for every $\varepsilon > 0$ there exists a finite number of elements $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in M$ such that $B(x_1, \varepsilon) \cup B(x_2, \varepsilon) \cup \dots \cup B(x_n, \varepsilon) = M$.

A non-empty subset A of a metric space M is said to be totally bounded if the subspace A is a totally bounded metric space.

Theorem 6.8 Any compact metric space is totally bounded.

Proof. Let M be a compact metric space.

Then $\{B(x, \varepsilon) / x \in M\}$ is an open cover for M .

Since M is compact this open cover has a finite subcover say, $B(x_1, \varepsilon), B(x_2, \varepsilon), \dots, B(x_n, \varepsilon)$.

$$\therefore M = B(x_1, \varepsilon) \cup B(x_2, \varepsilon) \cup \dots \cup B(x_n, \varepsilon).$$

$\therefore M$ is totally bounded.

Theorem 6.9 Let A be a subset of a metric space M . If A is totally bounded then A is bounded.

Proof. Let A be a totally bounded subset of M . Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given.

Then there exists a finite number of points $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \in A$, such that $B_1(x_1, \varepsilon) \cup B_1(x_2, \varepsilon) \cup \dots \cup B_1(x_n, \varepsilon) = A$, where $B_1(x_i, \varepsilon)$ is an open ball in A .

Further we know that an open ball is a bounded set.

Thus A is the union of a finite number of bounded sets and hence A is bounded.

Note. The converse of the above theorem is not true.

✓ For, let M be an infinite set with discrete metric.

Clearly M is bounded.

Now, $B(x, \frac{1}{2}) = \{x\}$.

Since M is infinite, M cannot be written as the union of a finite number of open balls $B(x, \frac{1}{2})$.

$\therefore M$ is not totally bounded.

Definition. Let (x_n) be sequence in a metric space M .

Let $n_1 < n_2 < \dots < n_k < \dots$ be an increasing sequence of positive integers. Then (x_{n_k}) is called a subsequence of (x_n) .

Theorem 6.10 A metric space (M, d) is totally bounded iff every sequence in M has a Cauchy subsequence.

Proof. Suppose every sequence in M has a Cauchy subsequence.

We claim that M is totally bounded.

Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given. Choose $x_1 \in M$.

If $B(x_1, \varepsilon) = M$ then obviously M is totally bounded.

If $B(x_1, \varepsilon) \neq M$, choose $x_2 \in M - B(x_1, \varepsilon)$ so that $d(x_1, x_2) \geq \varepsilon$.

Now, if $B(x_1, \varepsilon) \cup B(x_2, \varepsilon) = M$ the proof is complete.

If not choose $x_3 = M - [B(x_1, \varepsilon) \cup B(x_2, \varepsilon)]$ and so on.

Suppose this process does not stop at a finite stage.

Then we obtain a sequence $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n, \dots$ such that $d(x_n, x_m) \geq \epsilon$ if $n \neq m$.

Clearly this sequence (x_n) cannot have a Cauchy subsequence which is a contradiction.

Hence the above process stops at a finite stage and we get a finite set of points $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n\}$ such that

$$M = B(x_1, \epsilon) \cup B(x_2, \epsilon) \cup \dots \cup B(x_n, \epsilon).$$

$\therefore M$ is totally bounded.

Conversely suppose M is totally bounded.

Let $S_1 = \{x_{i_1}, x_{i_2}, \dots, x_{i_n}, \dots\}$ be a sequence in M .

If one term of the sequence is infinitely repeated then S_1 contains a constant subsequence which is obviously a Cauchy subsequence.

Hence we assume that no term of S_1 is infinitely repeated so that the range of S is infinite.

Now, since M is totally bounded M can be covered by a finite number of open balls of radius $\frac{1}{2}$.

Hence atleast one of these balls must contain an infinite number of terms of the sequence S_1 .

$\therefore S_1$ contains a subsequence $S_2 = (x_{2_1}, x_{2_2}, \dots, x_{2_n}, \dots)$ all terms of which lie within an open ball of radius $\frac{1}{2}$.

Similarly S_2 contains a sub sequence $S_3 = (x_{3_1}, \dots, x_{3_n}, \dots)$ all terms of which lie within an open ball of radius $\frac{1}{3}$.

We repeat this process of forming successive subsequences and finally we take the diagonal sequence.

$$S = (x_{1_1}, x_{2_2}, \dots, x_{n_n}, \dots).$$

We claim that S is a Cauchy subsequence of S_1 .

If $m > n$ both x_{m_m} and x_{n_n} lie within an open ball of radius $\frac{1}{n}$.

$$\therefore d(x_{m_m}, x_{n_n}) < \frac{2}{n}.$$

$$\text{Hence } d(x_{m_m}, x_{n_n}) < \varepsilon \text{ if } n, m > \frac{2}{\varepsilon}.$$

This shows that S is a Cauchy subsequence of S_1 .

Thus every sequence in M contains a Cauchy subsequence.

Corollary. A non-empty subset of a totally bounded set is totally bounded.

Proof. Let A be a totally bounded subset of a metric space M .

Let B be a non-empty subset of A .

Let (x_n) be a sequence in B .

$\therefore (x_n)$ is a sequence in A .

Since A is totally bounded (x_n) has a Cauchy subsequence. (Thm: 6.10)

Thus every sequence in B has a Cauchy subsequence.

$\therefore B$ is totally bounded.

all seq are Cauchy
sub
unf. n, m

Definition. A metric space M is said to be **sequentially compact** if every sequence in M has a convergent sub-sequence.

Theorem 6.11. Let (x_n) be a Cauchy sequence in a metric space M . If (x_n) has a subsequence (x_{n_k}) converging to x , then (x_n) converges to x .

Or n: Cauchy seq def

Proof. Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given. Since (x_n) is a Cauchy sequence, there exists a positive integer m_1 such that $d(x_n, x_m) < \frac{1}{2}\varepsilon$ for all $n, m \geq m_1$ (1)

Also, since $(x_{n_k}) \rightarrow x$, there exists a positive integer m_2 such that

$$(x_{n_k}) \rightarrow x \implies d(x_{n_k}, x) < \frac{1}{2}\epsilon \text{ for all } n_k \geq m_2 \quad \dots (2)$$

Let $m_0 = \max \{m_1, m_2\}$ and fix $n \geq m_0$

Then $d(x_n, x) \leq d(x_n, x_{n_k}) + d(x_{n_k}, x)$

$$< \frac{\epsilon}{2} + \frac{\epsilon}{2} \text{ for all } n \geq m_0 \quad [\text{by (1) and (2)}]$$

$$= \epsilon \text{ for all } n \geq m_0.$$

Hence $(x_n) \rightarrow x$.

Theorem 6.12 In a metric space M the following are equivalent.

- (i) M is compact.
- (ii) Any infinite subset of M has a limit point.
- (iii) M is sequentially compact.
- (iv) M is totally bounded and complete.

Proof. (i) $\Rightarrow$ (ii)

Let A be an infinite subset of M .

Suppose A has no limit point in M .

Let $x \in M$.

Since x is not a limit point of A there exists an open ball $B(x, r_x)$

such that $B(x, r_x) \cap (A - \{x\}) = \Phi$.

$$\therefore B(x, r_x) \cap A = \begin{cases} \{x\} & \text{if } x \in A \\ \Phi & \text{if } x \notin A \end{cases}$$

Now, $\{B(x, r_x) / x \in M\}$ is open cover for M .

Also each $B(x, r_x)$ covers at most one point of the infinite set A .

Hence this open cover cannot have a finite sub cover which is a contradiction to (i). Hence A has at least one limit point.

(ii) $\Rightarrow$ (iii).

Let (x_n) be a sequence in M .

(If one term of the sequence is infinitely repeated then (x_n) contains a constant subsequence which is convergent.) *every constant*

Otherwise (x_n) has an infinite number of terms. (ii)

By hypothesis this infinite set has a limit point, say x .

By theorem 2.15 for any $r > 0$ the open ball $B(x, r)$ contains infinite number of terms of the sequence (x_n) . *(problem)*

Now, choose a positive integer n_1 such that $x_{n_1} \in B(x, 1)$.

Then choose $n_2 > n_1$ such that $x_{n_2} \in B(x, \frac{1}{2})$.

In general for each positive integer k choose n_k such that

$n_k > n_{k-1}$ and $x_{n_k} \in B(x, \frac{1}{k})$.

Clearly (x_{n_k}) is a subsequence of (x_n) .

Also $d(x_{n_k}, x) < \frac{1}{k}$.

$\therefore (x_{n_k}) \rightarrow x$.

Thus (x_{n_k}) is a convergent subsequence of (x_n) .

Hence M is sequentially compact.

(iii) $\Rightarrow$ (iv).

By hypothesis every sequence in M has a convergent subsequence. But every convergent sequence is a Cauchy sequence.

Thus every sequence in M has a Cauchy subsequence.

$\therefore$ By theorem 6.10, M is totally bounded.

Now we prove that M is complete.

Let (x_n) be a Cauchy sequence in M .

By hypothesis (x_n) contains a convergent subsequence (x_{n_k}) .

Let $(x_{n_k}) \rightarrow x$. (say)

Then by theorem 6.11, $(x_n) \rightarrow x$.

$\therefore M$ is complete.

(iv) $\Rightarrow$ (i)

Suppose M is not compact.

Then there exists an open cover $\{G_\alpha\}$ for M which has no finite subcover.

$$\text{Let } r_n = \frac{1}{2^n}.$$

(Since, M is totally bounded, M can be covered by a finite number of open balls of radius r_1 .)

M is not compact. Since M cannot be covered by a finite number of G_α 's at least one of these open balls, say $B(x_1, r_1)$, cannot be covered by a finite number of G_α 's.

Now, $B(x_1, r_1)$ is totally bounded.

Hence as before we can find $x_2 \in B(x_1, r_1)$ such that $B(x_2, r_2)$ cannot be covered by a finite number of G_α 's.

Proceeding like this we obtain a sequence (x_n) in M such that $B(x_n, r_n)$ cannot be covered by a finite number of G_α 's and

$$x_{n+1} \in B(x_n, r_n) \text{ for all } n.$$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Now, } d(x_n, x_{n+p}) &\leq d(x_n, x_{n+1}) + d(x_{n+1}, x_{n+2}) + \dots + d(x_{n+p-1}, x_{n+p}) \\ &< r_n + r_{n+1} + \dots + r_{n+p-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
&= \frac{1}{2^n} + \frac{1}{2^{n+1}} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^{n+p-1}} \\
&= \frac{1}{2^{n-1}} \left(\frac{1}{2} + \frac{1}{2^2} + \dots + \frac{1}{2^p} \right) \\
&< \frac{1}{2^{n-1}}.
\end{aligned}$$

$\therefore (x_n)$ is a Cauchy sequence in M .

Since M is complete there exists $x \in M$ such that $(x_n) \rightarrow x$.

Now, $x \in G_\alpha$ for some α .

Since G_α is open we can find $\varepsilon > 0$ such that $B(x, \varepsilon) \subseteq G_\alpha$ (1)

We have $(x_n) \rightarrow x$ and $(r_n) = \left(\frac{1}{2^n}\right) \rightarrow 0$.

Hence we can find a positive integer n_1 such that $d(x_n, x) < \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon$

and $r_n < \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon$ for all $n \geq n_1$.

Now, fix $n \geq n_1$.

(We claim that $B(x_n, r_n) \subseteq B(x, \varepsilon)$.)

Let $y \in B(x_n, r_n)$

$$\therefore d(y, x_n) < r_n < \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon \quad (\text{since } n \geq n_1)$$

Now, $d(y, x) \leq d(y, x_n) + d(x_n, x)$

$$< \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon + \frac{1}{2} \varepsilon = \varepsilon.$$

$\therefore y \in B(x, \varepsilon)$.

$\therefore B(x_n, r_n) \subseteq B(x, \varepsilon) \subseteq G_\alpha$ (by (1))

Thus $B(x_n, r_n)$ is covered by the single set G_α which is a contradiction since $B(x_n, r_n)$ cannot be covered by a finite number of G_α 's.

Hence M is compact.

Theorem 6.13. $\mathbb{R}$ with usual metric is complete.

Proof. Let (x_n) be a Cauchy sequence in $\mathbb{R}$.

Interval Thm

Then (x_n) is a bounded sequence and hence is contained in a closed interval $[a, b]$.

result

Now, $[a, b]$ is compact and hence is complete.

Hence (x_n) converges to some point $x \in [a, b]$.

Thus every Cauchy sequence (x_n) in $\mathbb{R}$ converges to some point x in $\mathbb{R}$ and hence $\mathbb{R}$ is complete.

Solved problems

Problem 1. Give an example of a closed and bounded subset of l_2 which is not compact.

Solution. Consider $\mathbf{0} = (0, 0, 0, \dots) \in l_2$.

Consider the closed ball $B[\mathbf{0}, 1]$.

Clearly, $B[\mathbf{0}, 1]$ is bounded.

Also, $B[\mathbf{0}, 1]$ is a closed set. (*since closed ball*)

We claim that $B[\mathbf{0}, 1]$ is not compact.

Consider $e_1 = (1, 0, 0, \dots); e_2 = (0, 1, 0, \dots); \dots$

$\dots e_n = (0, 0, 0, \dots, 1, 0, \dots).$

Now, $d(\mathbf{0}, e_n) = 1$ and hence $e_n \in B[\mathbf{0}, 1]$ for all n .

Thus (e_n) is a sequence in $B[\mathbf{0}, 1]$.

EQUIVALENT CHARACTERISATIONS

171

Also $d(e_n, e_m) = \sqrt{2}$ if $n \neq m$.

Hence the sequence (e_n) does not contain a Cauchy subsequence.

$\therefore B[0, 1]$ is not totally bounded.

$\therefore B[0, 1]$ is not compact.

M is totally bounded $\Rightarrow M$ is compact

Problem 2. Prove that any totally bounded metric space is separable.

Solution. Let M be a totally bounded metric space.

For each natural number n let $A_n = \{x_{n_1}, x_{n_2}, \dots, x_{n_k}\}$ be a

subset of M such that $\bigcup_{i=1}^k B(x_{n_i}, \frac{1}{n}) = M$. (1)

Let $A = \bigcup_{n=1}^{\infty} A_n$.

Since each A_n is finite, A is a countable subset of M .

We claim that A is dense in M .

Let $B(x, \epsilon)$ be any open ball.

Choose a natural number n such that $\frac{1}{n} < \epsilon$.

Now, $x \in B(x_{n_i}, \frac{1}{n})$ for some i . (by (1)).

$\therefore d(x_{n_i}, x) < \frac{1}{n} < \epsilon$.

$\therefore (x_{n_i}) \in B(x, \epsilon)$.

$\therefore B(x, \epsilon) \cap A \neq \Phi$.

Thus every open ball in M has non-empty intersection with A .

Hence by theorem 2.17, A is dense in M .

Thus A is a countable dense subset of M .

Hence M is separable.

A intersects every open ball

Page 75

Problem 3. Prove that any bounded sequence in $\mathbf{R}$ has a convergent subsequence.

Solution. Let (x_n) be a bounded sequence in $\mathbf{R}$.

Then there exists a closed interval $[a, b]$ such that $x_n \in [a, b]$ for all n .

Thus (x_n) is a sequence in the compact metric space $[a, b]$.

Hence by theorem 6.12, (x_n) has a convergent sub-sequence.

u.d.

Problem 4. Prove that the closure of a totally bounded set is totally bounded.

Solution. Let A be a totally bounded subset of a metric space M .

We claim that $\bar{A}$ is totally bounded.

We shall show that every sequence in $\bar{A}$ contains a Cauchy subsequence.

Let (x_n) be a sequence in $\bar{A}$.

Let $\varepsilon > 0$ be given.

Then since $x_n \in \bar{A}$, $B(x_n, \frac{1}{3}\varepsilon) \cap A \neq \Phi$.

Choose $y_n \in B(x_n, \frac{1}{3}\varepsilon) \cap A$.

$$\therefore d(y_n, x_n) < \frac{1}{3}\varepsilon. \quad \dots\dots (1)$$

Now, (y_n) is a sequence in A . Since A is totally bounded (y_n) contains a Cauchy sequence say (y_{n_k}) .

Hence there exists a natural number m such that

$$\text{Sub seq} \quad d(y_{n_i}, y_{n_j}) < \frac{1}{3}\varepsilon \text{ for all } n_i, n_j \geq m \quad \dots\dots (2)$$

$$\therefore d(x_{n_i}, x_{n_j}) \leq d(x_{n_i}, y_{n_i}) + d(y_{n_i}, y_{n_j}) + d(y_{n_j}, x_{n_j})$$

$$< \frac{1}{3}\epsilon + \frac{1}{3}\epsilon + \frac{1}{3}\epsilon = \epsilon \text{ for all } n_i, n_j \geq m. \text{ (by (1) and (2))}$$

Hence (x_{n_k}) is a Cauchy subsequence of (x_n) .

$\therefore \bar{A}$ is totally bounded.

Problem 5. Let A be a totally bounded subset of $\mathbb{R}$. Prove that $\bar{A}$ is compact.

Solution. Since A is totally bounded $\bar{A}$ is also totally bounded.

Also, since $\bar{A}$ is a closed subset of $\mathbb{R}$ and $\mathbb{R}$ is complete $\bar{A}$ is complete.

(refer theorem 3.4)

Hence $\bar{A}$ is totally bounded and complete.

$\therefore \bar{A}$ is compact. (refer theorem 6.12)

Exercises

✓✓✓✓✓
page 88

6.4 COMPACTNESS AND CONTINUITY

In this section we prove some results about continuous functions defined on a compact metric space. These are generalizations of the corresponding results for continuous real valued functions defined on any closed interval $[a, b]$.

Theorem 6.14. Let f be a continuous mapping from a compact metric space M_1 to any metric space M_2 . Then $f(M_1)$ is compact.

(i.e.,) *Continuous image of a compact metric space is compact.*

Proof. Without loss of generality we assume that $f(M_1) = M_2$.

Let $\{G_\alpha\}$ be a family of open sets in M_2 such that $\bigcup G_\alpha = M_2$.

$$\therefore \bigcup G_\alpha = f(M_1)$$

$$\therefore f^{-1}(\bigcup G_\alpha) = M_1.$$

$$\therefore \bigcup f^{-1}(G_\alpha) = M_1.$$

Also since f is continuous $f^{-1}(G_\alpha)$ is open in M_1 for each α .

$\therefore \{f^{-1}(G_\alpha)\}$ is an open cover for M_1 . [Handwritten: $\{G_\alpha\}$]

Since M_1 is compact this open cover has a finite subcover, say,

$$f^{-1}(G_{\alpha_1}), \dots, f^{-1}(G_{\alpha_n}).$$

$$\therefore f^{-1}(G_{\alpha_1}) \cup f^{-1}(G_{\alpha_2}) \cup \dots \cup f^{-1}(G_{\alpha_n}) = M_1.$$

$$\therefore f^{-1}\left(\bigcup_{i=1}^n G_{\alpha_i}\right) = M_1.$$

$$\therefore \bigcup_{i=1}^n G_{\alpha_i} = f(M_1) = M_2.$$

$\therefore G_{\alpha_1}, G_{\alpha_2}, \dots, G_{\alpha_n}$ is a cover for M_2 .

Thus the given open cover $\{G_\alpha\}$ for M_2 has a finite subcover.

$\therefore M_2$ is compact.

conv. fff closed & bounded

Corollary 1. Let f be a continuous map from a compact metric space M_1 into any metric M_2 . Then $f(M_1)$ is closed and bounded.

Proof. $f(M_1)$ is compact and hence is closed and bounded.

*[Th: 6.6]
[Th: 6.4]*

Corollary 2. Any continuous real valued function f defined on a compact metric space is bounded and attains its bounds.

*codomain $\mathbb{R}$
bounding values
continuous*

Proof. Let M be a compact metric space.

Let $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous real valued function.

Then $f(M)$ is a compact subset of $\mathbb{R}$.

$\therefore f(M)$ is a closed and bounded subset of $\mathbb{R}$.

Since $f(M)$ is bounded f is a bounded function.

Now, let $a = l.u.b.$ of $f(M)$ and $b = g.l.b.$ of $f(M)$.

By definition of $l.u.b.$ and $g.l.b.$ $a, b \in \overline{f(M)}$.

But $f(M)$ is closed. Hence $f(M) = \overline{f(M)}$.

$\therefore a, b \in f(M)$.

$\therefore$ There exist $x, y \in M$ such that $f(x) = a$ and $f(y) = b$.

Hence f attains its bounds.

Note. Corollary (2) is not true if M is not compact.

The function $f : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $f(x) = 1/x$ is continuous but not bounded

The function $g : (0, 1) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ defined by $g(x) = x$ is bounded having $l.u.b. = 1$ and $g.l.b. = 0$. However this function never attains these bounds at any point in $(0, 1)$.

COMPACTNESS

Theorem 6.15. Any continuous mapping f defined on a compact metric space (M_1, d_1) into any other metric space (M_2, d_2) is uniformly continuous on M_1 .

Proof. Let $\epsilon > 0$ be given. Let $x \in M_1$.

Since f is continuous at x there exists $\delta_x > 0$ such that

$$d_1(y, x) < \delta_x \Rightarrow d_2(f(y), f(x)) < \frac{1}{2} \epsilon. \quad \dots\dots (1)$$

Now, the family of open balls $\{B(x, \frac{1}{2} \delta_x) / x \in M_1\}$ is an open cover for M_1 .

Since M_1 is compact this open cover has a finite subcover say

$$B(x_1, \frac{1}{2} \delta_{x_1}), \dots\dots B(x_n, \frac{1}{2} \delta_{x_n}).$$

$$\text{Let } \delta = \min \left\{ \frac{1}{2} \delta_{x_1}, \dots\dots \frac{1}{2}, \delta_{x_n} \right\}$$

We claim that $d_1(p, q) < \delta \Rightarrow d_2(f(p), f(q)) < \epsilon$.

Let $p \in B(x_i, \frac{1}{2} \delta_{x_i})$ for some i where $1 \leq i \leq n$.

$$\therefore d_1(p, x_i) < \frac{1}{2} \delta_{x_i} \quad f \text{ is continuous}$$

$$\Rightarrow d_2(f(p), f(x_i)) < \frac{1}{2} \epsilon \quad (\text{by (1)}) \quad \dots\dots (2)$$

$$\text{Now, } d_1(q, x_i) \leq d_1(q, p) + d_1(p, x_i)$$

$$\leq \delta + \frac{1}{2} \delta_{x_i}$$

$$\leq \frac{1}{2} \delta_{x_i} + \frac{1}{2} \delta_{x_i} = \delta_{x_i}$$

$$\text{Thus } d_1(q, x_i) < \delta_{x_i}$$

$$\Rightarrow d_2(f(q), f(x_i)) < \frac{1}{2} \epsilon \quad (\text{by (1)}) \quad \dots\dots (3)$$

f continuous

$$\text{Now, } d_2(f(p), f(q)) \leq d_2(f(p), f(x_i)) + d_2(f(x_i), f(q))$$

$$< \frac{1}{2}\epsilon + \frac{1}{2}\epsilon = \epsilon. \quad (\text{by (2) and (3)})$$

$$\text{Thus } d_1(p, q) < \delta \Rightarrow d_2(f(p), f(q)) < \epsilon.$$

This proves that f is uniformly continuous on M_1 .

Note. The above theorem is not true if M_1 is not compact.

We have seen that if f is a continuous bijection then f^{-1} need not be continuous. Now we shall prove that if f is a continuous bijection defined on a compact metric space, then f^{-1} is also continuous.

Theorem 6.16 Let f be a 1 - 1 continuous function from a compact metric space M_1 onto any metric space M_2 . Then f^{-1} is continuous on M_2 . Hence f is a homeomorphism from M_1 onto M_2 .

Proof. We shall show that f^{-1} is continuous by proving that

$$F \text{ is a closed set in } M_1 \Rightarrow (f^{-1})^{-1}(F) = f(F) \text{ is a closed set in } M_2.$$

Let F be a closed set in M_1 .

Since M_1 is compact F is compact. (by theorem 6.4).

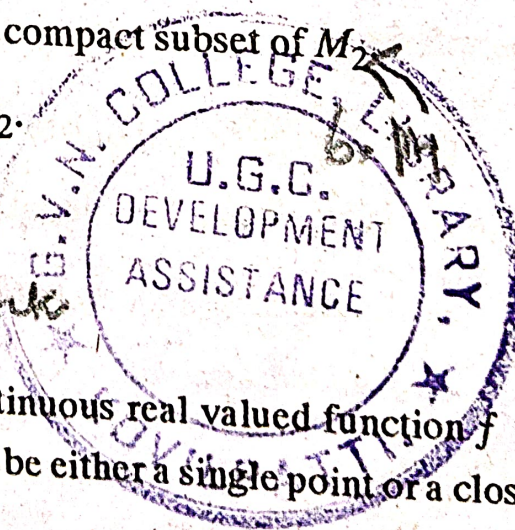
Since f is continuous $f(F)$ is a compact subset of M_2 .

$\therefore f(F)$ is a closed subset of M_2 .

$\therefore f^{-1}$ is continuous on M_2 .

Solved problems

Problem 1. Prove that the range of a continuous real valued function f on a compact connected metric space M must be either a single point or a closed and bounded interval.



Solution. Let $f : M \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ be a continuous function.

Case (i) Suppose f is a constant function.

Then the range of f is a single point.

Case (ii) Suppose f is not a constant function.

Then the range of f contains more than one point.

Since M is connected $f(M)$ is a connected subset of $\mathbb{R}$.

(refer theorem 5.5)

$\therefore f(M)$ is an interval in $\mathbb{R}$. (by theorem 5.3)

Also, since M is compact and f is continuous $f(M)$ is a compact subset of $\mathbb{R}$. (by theorem 6.14)

$\therefore f(M)$ is a closed and bounded subset of $\mathbb{R}$.

Thus $f(M)$ is a closed and bounded interval of $\mathbb{R}$.

Problem 2. Prove that any continuous function $f : [a, b] \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ is not onto.

Solution. Suppose f is onto. Then $f([a, b]) = \mathbb{R}$.

Now, since $[a, b]$ is compact and f is continuous, $f[a, b] = \mathbb{R}$ is compact which is a contradiction.

$\therefore f$ is not onto.

Exercises.

1. Prove that any continuous function from a compact metric space to any other metric space is a closed map.

2. Prove that any continuous function defined on a closed interval