

Content:

- Theorem** 2.35 Closed subsets of compact sets are compact.
- Corollary** If F is closed and K is compact, then $F \cap K$ is compact.
- Theorem** 2.36 If $\{K_\alpha\}$ is a collection of compact sets such that the intersection of every finite subcollection of $\{K_\alpha\}$ is nonempty, then $\bigcap_\alpha K_\alpha \neq \emptyset$.
- Corollary** If $\{K_n\}$ is a sequence of nonempty compact sets such that $K_{n+1} \subset K_n \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, then $\bigcap_{1 \leq n \leq \infty} K_n \neq \emptyset$.
- Theorem** 2.37 If E is an infinite subset of a compact set K , then E has a limit point.

Homework Discussion Exercise 18, p. 44 You cannot have a perfect set that contains only rationals as perfect sets are uncountable.

Choose $[\sqrt{2}, \sqrt{2} + 1]$. We cannot have rationals in this set, but if we delete, say, 2, then the irrationals that have limit 2 will have no limit in the set. So we can construct this set in a manner similar to constructing the Cantor Set. We can delete successive intervals. First order the rationals of the set, $\{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_{100}, q_{101}, \dots\}$. Then delete the interval that contains the first n rational numbers, leaving irrational endpoints. Any Cantor-type construction will produce a perfect set.

Review (X, d) is a metric space.
 $K \subset X$ is compact \Leftrightarrow every open cover has a finite subcover.
 Compact sets are closed in metric spaces.

Theorem 2.35 Closed subsets of compact sets are compact.

Proof:

Consider $K \subset X$ compact and $\emptyset \neq K$.
 Consider $F \subset K$ closed. Let $\{G_\alpha\}$ be an open cover of F .
 Note that F is closed $\Rightarrow X \setminus F$ is open.
 $\{G_\alpha\} \cup \{X \setminus F\}$ is an open cover of K .
 K is compact so we can select $X \setminus F, G_1, G_2, \dots, G_n$.
 $F \subset K \subset [(X \setminus F) \cup G_1 \cup G_2 \cup \dots \cup G_n]$.
 Thus, $F \subset G_1 \cup G_2 \cup \dots \cup G_n$ (as $F \cap (X \setminus F) = \emptyset$).
 And this is a finite subcover of $\{G_\alpha\}$.

Corollary If F is closed and K is compact, then $F \cap K$ is compact.

Proof:

$F \cap K$ is closed as K is compact $\Rightarrow K$ is closed. So $F \cap K$ is a finite intersection of closed sets. And $(F \cap K) \subset K$, so then by Thm 2.35 $F \cap K$ is compact.

Theorem 2.36 Important

If $\{K_\alpha\}$ is a collection of compact sets such that the intersection of every finite subcollection of $\{K_\alpha\}$ is nonempty, then $\bigcap_\alpha K_\alpha \neq \emptyset$.

Proof:

Suppose (X, d) is compact. If not, then replace X by $X \cap K_{\alpha_0}$ for a fixed α_0 .

Say $X = [0, 1 + 1/n]_{n \in \mathbb{N}}$. Then X is not compact, but each K_n is.

So then we can just replace X with $X \cap K_1$. And replace each K_α with $K_\alpha \cap K_1$.

Suppose $\bigcap_\alpha K_\alpha = \emptyset$. Let $G_\alpha = X \setminus K_\alpha$ for each α .

Then $G_\alpha = X \setminus K_\alpha$ form an open cover of X by DeMorgan's Laws.

$$\bigcup G_\alpha = \bigcup (X \setminus K_\alpha) = X \setminus \bigcap K_\alpha = X \setminus \emptyset = X.$$

Use the fact that X is compact and extract a finite subcover

$$G_1 \cup G_2 \cup \dots \cup G_n = X \setminus \bigcap_{1 \leq i \leq n} K_i = X.$$

So $\bigcap_{1 \leq i \leq n} K_i = \emptyset$, contrary to our hypothesis that every finite subcollection has a nonempty intersection.

Alternative proof:

Fix K_1 and suppose that K_1 does not intersect with any K_α (i.e. $\bigcap_\alpha K_\alpha = \emptyset$).

Let $\{K_\beta\} = \{K_\alpha\} \setminus \{K_1\}$. Then we have

$$\begin{aligned} K_1 \cap \left(\bigcap_\beta K_\beta\right) &= \emptyset \Rightarrow K_1 \subset \left(\bigcap_\beta K_\beta\right)^c, \\ &\Rightarrow K_1 \subset \bigcup_\beta K_\beta^c, && \text{by DeMorgan's Laws,} \\ &\Rightarrow K_1 \subset \bigcup_{1 \leq i \leq n} K_i^c, && \text{as } K_1 \text{ is compact,} \\ &\Rightarrow K_1 \subset \left(\bigcap_{1 \leq i \leq n} K_i\right)^c, && \text{by DeMorgan's Laws,} \\ &\Rightarrow K_1 \cap \left(\bigcap_{1 \leq i \leq n} K_i\right) = \emptyset, && \text{contrary to our hyp.} \end{aligned}$$

Corollary If $\{K_n\}$ is a sequence of nonempty compact sets such that

$K_{n+1} \subset K_n \forall n \in \mathbb{N}$, then $\bigcap_{1 \leq n \leq \infty} K_n \neq \emptyset$.

Example If $K_n = [-1/n, 1/n]$, then $\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} K_n = \{0\}$.

If $K_n = [-1/n, 1 + 1/n]$, then $\bigcap_{n \in \mathbb{N}} K_n = [0, 1]$.

Thus, the intersection can be unique or can have many values.

Theorem 2.37 Important

If E is an infinite subset of a compact set K , then E has a limit point.

Proof:

Suppose E does not have any limit points.

Then $\forall x \in K, \exists r_x$ such that $N_{r_x}(x) \cap E = \emptyset$.

$\{N_{r_x}(x) \mid x \in K\}$ is an open cover of K .

This does not have any finite subcover, contrary to compactness of K .

Other proof:

In \mathbb{R}^n , we can cut our set into 4 parts. One of them contains infinitely many points. The fourth that contains infinitely many points can be cut into 4 parts. And so on.