

Def Let A be a subset of a metric space (X, d) . We say A is compact if every sequence $x_n \in A$ has a convergent subsequence $y_n \rightarrow y^*$ such that $y^* \in A$. We say (X, d) is a compact metric space if X is a compact set.

Theorem Suppose (X, d) is a compact metric space. If $K \subseteq X$ is closed, then K is a compact set.

Proof Let $x_n \in K$. We want to prove that x_n has a convergent subsequence whose limit lies in K . Since (X, d) is compact, x_n has a convergent subsequence $y_n \rightarrow y^*$ where $y^* \in K$. Since K is closed, and $y_n \rightarrow y^*$, we conclude $y^* \in K$. So K is compact. \square

Theorem Suppose $f: X \rightarrow Y$ is a continuous function from (X, d_X) to (Y, d_Y) . If (X, d_X) is compact and $Y = f(X)$, then (Y, d_Y) is compact.

Proof Let $y_n \in Y$ be any sequence in Y . Since $Y = f(X)$, there exists a sequence $x_n \in X$ s.t. $y_n = f(x_n)$. Since (X, d_X) is compact, x_n has a convergent subsequence with indices n_k . So since f is continuous, $f(x_{n_k})$ is a convergent sequence, and a subsequence of y_n . So y_n has a convergent subsequence and (Y, d_Y) is compact. \square

Def A set is bounded if it's contained inside some open ball.

Theorem (Bolzano-Weierstrass). Let A be a set in (\mathbb{R}^n, d_2) . Then A is compact iff A is closed & bounded.