

Aim: Show that Peano's function

$$f: [0, 1] \longrightarrow \Delta$$

is surjective.

It should be clear that  $\Delta$  equals the image of  $f$  together with the accumulation points of  $\text{image}(f)$ .

So we just need to show that  $\text{image}(f)$

contains all its accumulation points.

i.e. we just need to show that  $\text{image}(f)$  is closed.

We know that  $[0, 1]$  is compact.

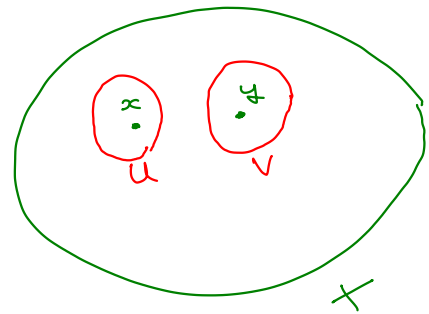
Hence (by one of the propositions proved in a previous

lecture) we know that  $\underbrace{f([0, 1])}_{\text{Image}(f)}$  is compact.

$$f: [0, 1] \longrightarrow \text{Image}(f) \subseteq \Delta$$

So we just need to show that "compact" implies "closed" under a suitable hypothesis.

Defn A topological space  $X$  is said to be Hausdorff if for any distinct  $x, y \in X$  there exists open sets  $U, V$  in  $X$  such that  $x \in U, y \in V, U \cap V = \emptyset$ .



Example  $\mathbb{R}$  with usual Euclidean topology is Hausdorff.

Example  $\mathbb{R}^2$  with usual topology is Hausdorff.

Example  $\mathbb{Z}$  with cofinite topology

(i.e.  $U \subseteq \mathbb{Z}$  is open iff  $\mathbb{Z} \setminus U$  is finite or  $U = \emptyset$ ) is not Hausdorff.

Exercise If  $X$  is Hausdorff and if  $Y$  is homeomorphic to  $X$  then  $Y$  is Hausdorff, i.e. Hausdorff is a topological property.

Theorem A compact subset of a Hausdorff topological space is closed.

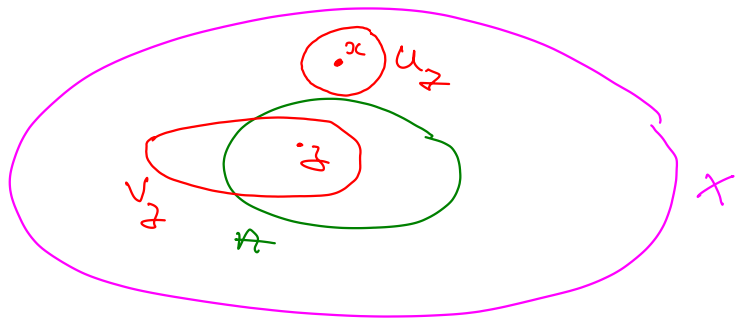
Proof Let  $X$  be a Hausdorff space.

Let  $A$  be a compact subset of  $X$ .

We just need to prove that  $A$  contains all its accumulation points.

Let  $x \in X \setminus A$ . Just need to show that this (arbitrary)  $x$  is not an accumulation point.

Let  $z \in A$ . Since  $X$  is Hausdorff we can find open sets  $U_z, V_z$  in  $X$  with  $z \in U_z, x \in V_z$  and  $U_z \cap V_z = \emptyset$ .



We have a collection of open sets

$$\{V_z\}_{z \in A}$$

But  $A$  is compact, so (!) we can find a finite collection of points

$$z_1, z_2, \dots, z_k \in A$$

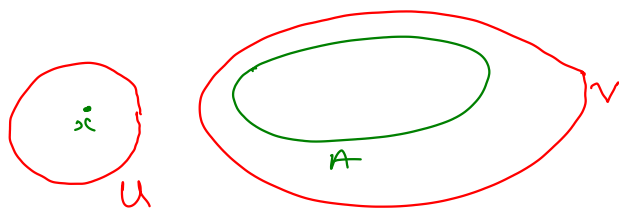
with

$$A \subseteq V_{z_1} \cup V_{z_2} \cup \dots \cup V_{z_k} =: V$$

Now  $V$  is disjoint from the following finite intersection

$$U := U_{z_1} \cap U_{z_2} \cap \dots \cap U_{z_k}$$

But  $U$  is a finite intersection of open sets and is thus open.



Since  $U$  is open we see that  $x$  is not an accumulation point of  $A$ . Hence  $A$  contains all its accumulation points and is therefore closed.  $\square$