

Definition 8.40. [0J3] A subset $K \subseteq X$ is compact^a if, from every family of open sets $(A_i)_{i \in I}$ whose union $\bigcup_{i \in I} A_i$ covers K , we can choose a finite number $J \subset I$ of open set whose union $\bigcup_{i \in J} A_i$ covers K .

^aThe definition shows that the empty set is compact. Some texts however explicitly exclude this case.