

# Compactness

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**Theorem 1.** *Let  $S_k$  be a decreasing sequence of non-empty compact sets ( $S_{k+1} \subset S_k$ ). Then  $\bigcap S_k \neq \emptyset$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $x_k \in S_k$ . Then  $x_k \in S_1$  for all  $k$ . Hence there is a subsequence  $x_{k_j}$  that converges to a point  $a \in S_1$ . But ultimately all points of  $\{x_{k_j} : j \geq N\}$  are in  $S_i$  for each fixed  $i$ . Since  $S_i$  is compact,  $a \in S_i$ . This is true for all  $i$ , so  $a \in \bigcap S_i \neq \emptyset$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 1.** *If  $S_j$  is a decreasing sequence of compact sets and  $\bigcap_j S_j = \emptyset$  then  $S_j = \emptyset$  for some  $j$ .*