

1. Let  $(X, d)$  be a metric space (or more generally, any Hausdorff topological space). Let  $A$  and  $B$  be disjoint compact subsets of  $X$ . Prove that there exist disjoint open sets  $U$  and  $V$  of  $X$  such that  $A \subseteq U$  and  $B \subseteq V$ .
2. Proof for Hausdorff spaces: Let  $(a, b)$  be a point of  $A \times B$ . Since  $X$  is Hausdorff, there exist disjoint neighborhoods  $U_{ab}$  of  $a$  and  $V_{ab}$  of  $b$ . Fix  $b$ , and consider  $\{U_{ab} : a \in A\}$ , which is an open cover of  $A$ . Hence there exists a finite number of  $a_i$  such that  $\{U_{a_i, b}\}$  covers  $A$ . Let  $V_b := \cap V_{a_i, b}$ . Then  $V_b$  is a neighborhood of  $b$  and doesn't meet  $U_b := \cup U_{a_i, b}$ . Now the set of all  $V_b$  is an open cover of  $B$ , hence has a finite subcover  $\{V_{b_1} \dots V_{b_n}\}$ . Each  $U_{b_i}$  is an open set containing  $A$ , and hence so is their intersection  $U$ . Since  $V_{b_i} \cap U_{b_i} = \emptyset$ ,  $V_{b_i} \cap U = \emptyset$ . Hence  $V := \cup V_{b_i}$  is an open neighborhood of  $B$  which doesn't meet  $U$ .