## On filter $(\alpha)$ -convergence and exhaustiveness of function nets in lattice groups and applications A. Boccuto and X. Dimitriou

Abstract: We consider (strong uniform) continuity of the limit of a pointwise convergent net of lattice group-valued functions, (strong weak) exhaustiveness and (strong) ( $\alpha$ )-convergence with respect to a pair of filters, which in the setting of nets are more natural than the corresponding notions formulated with respect to a single filter. Some comparison results are given between such concepts, in connection with suitable properties of filters. Moreover, some modes of filter (strong uniform) continuity for lattice group-valued functions are investigated, giving some characterization. As an application, we get some Ascoli-type theorem in an abstract setting.

A *bornology* on a topological space X is a family  $\mathcal{B}$  of nonempty subsets of X which covers X, stable with respect to finite unions and with  $B' \in \mathcal{B}$  for each nonempty subset B' of any element  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ .

If X is a topological space and  $x \in X$ , then we say that a function  $f: X \to R$  is *continuous at* x iff there is an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  (depending on X) with the property that for each  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in X$  there exists a neighborhood  $U_x$  of x with  $|f(x) - f(z)| \le \sigma_p$  whenever  $z \in U_x$ . We say that  $f \in R^X$  is *globally continuous on* X iff it is continuous at every point  $x \in X$  with respect to a single (O)-sequence, which can be taken independently of x.

Let  $X = (X, \mathcal{D})$  be a uniform space. The elements of  $\mathcal{D}$  are often called *entourages*. If  $\emptyset \neq B \subset X$ , then a function  $f: X \to R$  is *strongly uniformly continuous on* B iff there exists an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  such that for every  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there is an entourage  $D \in \mathcal{D}$  with  $|f(\beta) - f(x)| \leq \sigma_p$  whenever  $x \in X$ ,  $\beta \in B$  and  $(x, \beta) \in D$ . If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a bornology on X, then we say that  $f: X \to R$  is *strongly uniformly continuous on*  $\mathcal{B}$  for every  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , with respect to an (O)-sequence independent of B.

We denote by  $\mathcal{F}_{cofin}$  the filter of all subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$  whose complement is finite, by  $\mathcal{I}_{fin}$  its dual ideal, namely the family of all finite subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$ , by  $\mathcal{F}_{st}$  the filter of all subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$  having asymptotic density 1, and by  $\mathcal{I}_{st}$  its dual ideal, that is the family of all subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$  with asymptotic density 0, by  $\mathcal{F}_{\Lambda}$  the class  $\{A \subset \Lambda \text{ and } A \supset M_{\lambda} : \lambda \in \Lambda\}$  and by  $\mathcal{I}_{\Lambda}$  the dual ideal of  $\mathcal{F}_{\Lambda}$ . Observe that  $\mathcal{F}_{\mathbb{N}} = \mathcal{F}_{cofin}$  and  $\mathcal{I}_{\mathbb{N}} = \mathcal{I}_{fin}$ .

We will sometimes consider free filters  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $\mathbb{N}$ , with the property that there is a partition of the type  $\mathbb{N} = \bigcup_{k=1}^{\infty} \Delta_k$ , such that

 $\mathcal{I} = \{A \subset \mathbb{N} : A \text{ intersects at most a finite number of } \Delta_k \text{'s}\}, \tag{1}$ where  $\mathcal{I}$  denotes the dual ideal of  $\mathcal{F}$  (see also [6]).

**Remarks 1** (a) Observe that the ideal  $\mathcal{I}_{fin}$  satisfies condition (1): indeed it is enough to take  $\Delta_k = \{k\}$  for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

(b) If  $\mathcal{I}$  is as in (1), and  $(A_j)_j$  is any sequence of subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$ , with  $A_j \notin \mathcal{I}$  for all  $j \in \mathbb{N}$ , then there exists a disjoint sequence  $(B_j)_j$  in  $\mathcal{I}$ , with  $B_j \subset A_j$  for every  $j \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\bigcup_{i=1}^{\infty} B_j \notin \mathcal{I}$ .

(c) The ideal  $\mathcal{I}_{st}$  does not fulfil condition (1). To this aim, it is enough to show that for every partition  $(\Delta_k)_k$  of  $\mathbb{N}$  there is a set belonging to  $\mathcal{I}_{st}$  which intersects infinitely many  $\Delta_k$ 's. Set q(1) = 1: there is  $k_1 \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $1 \in \Delta_{k_1}$ . At the second step, take a natural number q(2) greater than q(1)+3 and belonging to  $\Delta_{k_2}$ , where  $k_2$  is a suitable integer strictly greater than  $k_1$ . At the n+1-th step, if we have chosen q(n), let q(n+1) be an integer greater than q(n)+2n+1 and belonging to  $\Delta_{k_{n+1}}$ , where  $k_1 < k_2 < \ldots < k_n < k_{n+1}$ . It is not difficult to check that the set  $A = \{q(n): n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  has asymptotic density smaller or equal than that of the set of squares, that is 0, and thus  $A \in \mathcal{I}_{st}$ . Moreover, by construction, A intersects infinitely many  $\Delta_k$ 's.

Let X be any Hausdorff topological space,  $x \in X$  and  $\mathcal{F}$  be a ( $\Lambda$ )-free filter of  $\Lambda$ . A net  $(x_{\lambda})_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  be  $\mathcal{F}$ -converges to x (shortly,  $(\mathcal{F})_{\lim \lambda} x_{\lambda} = x$ ) iff  $\{\lambda \in \Lambda : x_{\lambda} \in U\} \in \mathcal{F}$  for each neighborhood U of x.

We say that a net  $(x_{\lambda})_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  in R  $(O\mathcal{F})$ -converges to  $x \in R$  (briefly,  $(O\mathcal{F})_{\lim \lambda} x_{\lambda} = x$ ) iff there exists an (*O*)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  with  $\{\lambda \in \Lambda : | x_{\lambda} - x | \leq \sigma_p\} \in \mathcal{F}$  for each  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ .

Let  $\Xi$  be any nonempty set. A family  $\{(x_{\lambda,\xi})_{\lambda}: \xi \in \Xi\}$  (*ROF*)-converges to  $x_{\xi} \in R$  iff there is an (*O*)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in *R* such that for each  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\xi \in \Xi$  we get  $\{\lambda \in \Lambda : | x_{\lambda,\xi} - x_{\xi} | \le \sigma_p\} \in \mathcal{F}$ . We will denote by (*RO*)-convergence the (*ROF*<sub>A</sub>)-convergence. Observe that (*RO*)-convergence coincides with the usual pointwise (*O*)-convergence of a family with respect to a single (*O*)-sequence and, when  $R = \mathbb{R}$ , (*ROF*)-convergence coincides with filter convergence in the ordinary sense.

Let  $(X, \mathcal{D})$  be a uniform space,  $\emptyset \neq B \subset X$ ,  $\Xi = (\Xi, \geq)$  be a directed set and S be a  $(\Xi)$ -free filter of  $\Xi$ . We say that the pair of nets  $(z_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$ ,  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$ , satisfies condition H1) with respect to S iff  $x_{\xi}, z_{\xi} \in B$  for each  $\xi \in \Xi$ , and for every  $D \in \mathcal{D}$  there is a set  $F \in S$  with  $(x_{\xi}, z_{\xi}) \in D$  whenever  $\xi \in F$ .

Let S and  $\mathcal{F}$  be any two fixed  $(\Xi)$ -free filters of  $\Xi$ . A function  $f: X \to R$  is said to be *strongly*  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -*uniformly continuous on* B iff there is an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in R such that for every pair of nets  $(z_{\xi})_{\xi\in\Xi}$ ,  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi\in\Xi}$ , satisfying condition H1) with respect to S, we have:

for each  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there is  $F^* \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $|f(x_{\xi}) - f(z_{\xi})| \leq \sigma_p$  for each  $\xi \in F^*$ .

If  $\mathcal{B}$  is a bornology on X, we say that  $f: X \to R$  is strongly  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F})$ -uniformly continuous on  $\mathcal{B}$  iff it is strongly  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F})$ -uniformly continuous on every  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  with respect to a single (O)-sequence, independent of B.

Let X be any Hausdorff topological space. We say that  $f: X \to R$  is  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -continuous at  $x \in X$  iff there is an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in R such that, for every net  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$  S-convergent to x, the net  $(f(x_{\xi}))_{\xi \in \Xi}$   $(O\mathcal{F})$ -converges to f(x) with respect to  $(\sigma_p)_p$ . We say that  $f: X \to R$  is  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -continuous on X iff f is  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -continuous at every  $x \in X$  with respect to a single (O)-sequence,

independent of  $x \in X$  and of  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi}$ .

Let  $(X, \mathcal{D})$  be a uniform space and  $\emptyset \neq B \subset X$ . A net of functions  $f_{\lambda} : X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is said to be *strongly*  $\mathcal{F}$ -*exhaustive on* B iff there is an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  such that for any  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there exist an entourage  $D \in \mathcal{D}$  and a set  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  such that for each  $\lambda \in A$  and  $x \in X$ ,  $\beta \in B$  with  $(x, \beta) \in D$  we have  $|f_{\lambda}(x) - f_{\lambda}(\beta)| \leq \sigma_p$ .

We say that a net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is *strongly weakly*  $\mathcal{F}$ -*exhaustive on* B iff there is an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  such that for each  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there is an entourage  $D \in \mathcal{D}$  such that, for every  $x \in X$  and  $\beta \in B$  with  $(x,\beta) \in D$ , there is  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  (depending on x and  $\beta$ ) with  $|f_{\lambda}(x) - f_{\lambda}(\beta)| \leq \sigma_p$  whenever  $\lambda \in A$ .

Given a bornology  $\mathcal{B}$  on X, we say that  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is said to be *strongly* (weakly)  $\mathcal{F}$ -exhaustive on  $\mathcal{B}$  iff it is strongly (weakly)  $\mathcal{F}$ -exhaustive on every  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  with respect to a single (O)-sequence, independent of B.

Let  $x \in X$ . We say that a net  $f_{\lambda} : X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is  $\mathcal{F}$ -exhaustive at x iff there is an (O)sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  with the property that for any  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there exist a neighborhood U of x and a set  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  such that for each  $\lambda \in A$  and  $z \in U$  we have  $|f_{\lambda}(z) - f_{\lambda}(x)| \leq \sigma_p$ .

A net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is *weakly*  $\mathcal{F}$ -*exhaustive at* x iff there is an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$ such that for each  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there is a neighborhood U of x with the property that for any  $z \in U$  there is  $A_z \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $|f_{\lambda}(z) - f_{\lambda}(x)| \leq \sigma_p$  whenever  $\lambda \in A_z$ .

We say that  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is *(weakly)*  $\mathcal{F}$ -exhaustive on X iff it is (weakly)  $\mathcal{F}$ -exhaustive at every  $x \in X$  with respect to a single (O)-sequence, independent of  $x \in X$ .

Let S and  $\mathcal{F}$  be as above,  $(X, \mathcal{D})$  be a uniform space and  $\emptyset \neq B \subset X$ . A net  $f_{\lambda} : X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is said to be *strongly*  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -*exhaustive* on B iff there exists an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in Rsuch that, for every pair of nets  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$ ,  $(z_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$ , satisfying H1) with respect to S and for any  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ there are  $S \in S$ ,  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $|f_{\lambda}(x_{\xi}) - f_{\lambda}(z_{\xi})| \leq \sigma_p$  for every  $\xi \in S$  and  $\lambda \in F$ .

The net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is *strongly weakly*  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -*exhaustive* on *B* iff there exists an (*O*)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in *R* such that, for each pair of nets  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$ ,  $(z_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$ , satisfying H1) with respect to *S* and for every  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there is a set  $S \in S$  such that for each  $\xi \in S$  there exists  $F_{\xi} \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $|f_{\lambda}(x_{\xi}) - f_{\lambda}(z_{\xi})| \leq \sigma_p$  whenever  $\lambda \in F_{\xi}$ .

Given a bornology  $\mathcal{B}$  on X, we say that the net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is *strongly (weakly)*  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F})$ -*exhaustive* on  $\mathcal{B}$  iff it is strongly (weakly)  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive on every  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ , with respect to a single (*O*)-sequence, independent of *B*.

Let X be any Hausdorff topological space and  $x \in X$ . A net  $f_{\lambda} : X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is said to be  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive at  $x \in X$  iff there exists an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in R such that, for every net  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$   $\mathcal{S}$ -convergent to x and for any  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there are  $S \in \mathcal{S}$ ,  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $|f_{\lambda}(x_{\xi}) - f_{\lambda}(x)| \leq \sigma_p$  for every  $\xi \in S$  and  $\lambda \in F$ .

The net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is weakly  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive at  $x \in X$  iff there exists an (O)sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in R such that, for each net  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$   $\mathcal{S}$ -convergent to x and for every  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there is

a set  $S \in S$  such that for each  $\xi \in S$  there exists  $F_{\xi} \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $|f_{\lambda}(x_{\xi}) - f_{\lambda}(x)| \leq \sigma_{p}$  whenever  $\lambda \in F_{\xi}$ .

The net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is (weakly)  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive on X iff it is (weakly)  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive at every  $x \in X$  with respect to a single (O)-sequence, independent of x.

Note that the analogous concepts of (strong weak) filter exhaustiveness can be formulated analogously for *sequences* of functions, by taking  $\Lambda = \mathbb{N}$  with the usual order.

Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a bornology on X. We say that a net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ,  $(\mathcal{FB})$ -converges to  $f: X \to R$  iff there exists an (*O*)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  such that  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is  $(RO\mathcal{F})$ -convergent to f with respect to  $(\sigma_p)_p$ , and for every  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there is  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $|f_{\lambda}(x) - f(x)| \leq \sigma_p$  for each  $x \in B$  and  $\lambda \in F$ .

We now consider  $(\alpha)$ -convergence of nets  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  of  $(\ell)$ -group-valued functions, defined on a Hausdorff topological space X. When we deal with nets, in general it is not always advisable to follow an approach similar as that used for sequences, since the cardinality of  $\Lambda$  can be larger than the one of X, and we want to consider possibly nets in X of the type  $x_{\xi}, \xi \in \Xi$ , whose points are all distinct. We say that  $f_n: X \to R$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , *c*-converges (continuously converges) to  $f: X \to R$  at  $x \in X$  iff there is an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  such that for each sequence  $(x_n)_n$  in X with  $\lim_n x_n = x$  we get  $(O)\lim_n f_n(x_n) = f(x)$  (with respect to the (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$ ).

The sequence  $(f_n)_n$  *c*-converges to  $f: X \to R$  on X iff it *c*-converges to f at every  $x \in X$  with respect to a single (O)-sequence, independent of  $x \in X$ .

Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a fixed free filter of  $\mathbb{N}$ . We say that a sequence  $(f_n)_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}^X$  ( $\mathcal{F}c$ )-converges (filter continuously converges) to  $f \in \mathbb{R}^X$  at  $x \in X$  iff there exists an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  such that for each sequence  $(x_n)_n$  in X with  $(\mathcal{F})_{\lim_n x_n} = x$  we get  $(O\mathcal{F})_{\lim_n f_n}(x_n) = f(x)$  with respect to  $(\sigma_p)_p$ .

The sequence  $(f_n)_n$  is  $(\mathcal{F}c)$ -convergent to  $f: X \to R$  on X iff it  $(\mathcal{F}c)$ -converges to f at every  $x \in X$  with respect to a single (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$ , independent of the choice of x.

Note that  $(f_n)_n$  is c-convergent to f if and only if  $(f_n)_n$  is  $(\mathcal{F}_{cofin}c)$ -convergent to f.

Let now  $\Lambda$  and  $\Xi$  be two directed sets, S and  $\mathcal{F}$  be a  $(\Xi)$ -free filter of  $\Xi$  and a  $(\Lambda)$ -free filter of  $\Lambda$  respectively. We say that a net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ,  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -converges to  $f: X \to R$  at  $x \in X$  iff there exists an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in R such that, for every net  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$  S-convergent to x and for each  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there are  $S \in S$ ,  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $|f_{\lambda}(x_{\xi}) - f(x)| \leq \sigma_p$  whenever  $\xi \in S$  and  $\lambda \in F$ .

A net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ,  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -converges to  $f: X \to R$  on  $x \in X$  iff it  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ converges to  $f: X \to R$  at every  $x \in X$  with respect to a single (*O*)-sequence, independent of the
choice of x.

Let  $(X, \mathcal{D})$  be a uniform space and  $\emptyset \neq B \subset X$ . We say that a sequence  $(f_n)_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}^X$  strongly  $(\mathcal{F}c)$ -converges to  $f \in \mathbb{R}^X$  on B iff there exists an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  such that for each pair of sequences  $(x_n)_n$ ,  $(z_n)_n$  in X satisfying condition H1) with respect to  $\mathcal{F}$  we get  $(\mathcal{OF})\lim_n f_n(x_n) = f(x)$  with respect to  $(\sigma_p)_p$ .

Given a bornology  $\mathcal{B}$  on X, we say that a sequence  $(f_n)_n$  in  $\mathbb{R}^X$  is strongly  $(\mathcal{F}c)$ -convergent to  $f: X \to \mathbb{R}$  on  $\mathcal{B}$  iff it strongly  $(\mathcal{F}c)$ -converges to f on every  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  with respect to an (O)-

sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$ , independent of *B*.

A net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is said to be *strongly*  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -convergent to  $f: X \to R$  on B iff there exists an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in R such that, for every pair of nets  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$ ,  $(z_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$  satisfying condition H1) with respect to S and for each  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there are  $S \in S$ ,  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $|f_{\lambda}(z_{\xi}) - f(x_{\xi})| \leq \sigma_p$  whenever  $\xi \in S$  and  $\lambda \in F$ .

A net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , strongly  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -converges to  $f: X \to R$  on  $\mathcal{B}$  iff it strongly  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -converges to  $f: X \to R$  on every  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  with respect to a single (O)-sequence, independently of B.

A net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is said to (*strongly*) ( $\mathcal{F}\alpha$ )-converge to  $f: X \to R$  at  $x \in X$  and on X (resp. on B and on  $\mathcal{B}$ ) iff it is (strongly) ( $\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F}\alpha$ )-convergent to  $f: X \to R$  at  $x \in X$  and on X (resp. on B and on  $\mathcal{B}$ ) for every directed set  $\Xi = (\Xi, \geq)$  and for each ( $\Xi$ )-free filter  $\mathcal{S}$  of  $\Xi$ .

We will prove that the limit of any (strongly)  $(\mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -convergent net is a (strongly uniformly) continuous function.

**Remarks 2** (a) Note that, even when  $R = \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathcal{F} = \mathcal{F}_{\Lambda}$ , to use arbitrary nets of the type  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$  instead of arbitrary sequences  $(x_n)_n$  is essential. Indeed there are nets  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  and functions f in  $\mathbb{R}^X$  such that  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  does not  $(\mathcal{F}_{\Lambda}\alpha)$ -converge to f, but for every  $\varepsilon > 0$ ,  $x \in X$  and for each sequence  $(x_n)_n$  convergent to x in the usual sense there are  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $\lambda_0 \in \Lambda$ , with  $|f_{\lambda}(x_n) - f(x)| \le \varepsilon$  whenever  $n \ge n_0$  and  $\lambda \ge \lambda_0$ .

(b) Observe that, in general,  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -convergence is strictly weaker than strong  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -convergence. Indeed, let  $\Lambda = \mathbb{N}$  be with the usual order, X = [0,1] with the usual metric,  $R = \mathbb{R}$ ,  $f_n(x) = x^n$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $x \in [0,1]$ , f(1) = 1 and f(x) = 0 for every  $x \in [0,1)$ . We prove that for every  $(\Xi)$ -free filter S of  $\Xi$  and for each free filter  $\mathcal{F}$  of  $\mathbb{N}$  the sequence  $(f_n)_n$   $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -converges to f, but does not strongly  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -converge to f on B := [0,1). Indeed, if  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$  is any net in B, S-convergent to  $x_0 \in B$ , then  $f_n(x_{\xi}) = x_{\xi}^n$  and  $f(x_0) = 0$ , and there exist  $S \in S$  and  $x_0 < y < 1$  with  $x_{\xi} < y$  whenever  $\xi \in S$ . Choose arbitrarily  $\varepsilon > 0$ . Since 0 < y < 1, there exists  $n' \in \mathbb{N}$  with  $y^n < \varepsilon$  for each  $n \ge n'$ . Hence for such n's and  $\xi \in S$  we get  $0 < x_{\xi}^n < y^n < \varepsilon$ . Thus  $(f_n)_n$   $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -converges to f on B. On the other hand, pick any pair of nets  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi}$ ,  $(z_{\xi})_{\xi} \in B$ , with  $(S)_{\lim\xi} x_{\xi} = (S)_{\lim\xi} z_{\xi} = 1$ . Then we get  $f(x_{\xi}) = 0$  for each  $\xi \in \Xi$ . Now we claim that

for every 
$$S \in S$$
 and  $F \in \mathcal{F}$  there are  $\xi' \in S, n' \in F$  with  $z_{\xi'}^{n'} > \frac{1}{3}$ . (2)

Choose arbitrarily  $S \in S$  and  $F \in \mathcal{F}$ . As  $\lim_{n \to \infty} \left(1 - \frac{1}{n}\right)^n = \frac{1}{e}$ , there is  $n_0 \in \mathbb{N}$  with

$$\left(1-\frac{1}{n}\right)^n > \frac{1}{3} \quad \text{for every } n \ge n_0. \tag{3}$$

Let n' be any integer greater than  $n_0$  and belonging to F. Since  $(S)_{\lim_{\xi} z_{\xi}} = 1$ , in correspondence with n' there is  $S_n \in S$  with  $z_{\xi} > 1 - \frac{1}{n'}$  whenever  $\xi \in S_n$ . Let  $\xi \in S \cap S_n$ . Since  $z_{\xi'} > 1 - \frac{1}{n'}$ , taking into account (3) we get

$$z_{\xi'}^{n'} > \left(1 - \frac{1}{n'}\right)^n > \frac{1}{3},$$

that is (2). Thus, the sequence  $(f_n)_n$  does not strongly  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -converge to f on B.

**Theorem 3** Let X be a Hausdorff topological space, x be a fixed element of X,  $f_n: X \to R$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence,  $(RO\mathcal{F})$ -convergent to  $f: X \to R$ . If  $(f_n)_n$  is  $\mathcal{F}$ -exhaustive at x, then  $(f_n)_n$  $(\mathcal{F}c)$ -converges to f at x.

Conversely, if  $\mathcal{F}$  satisfies condition (1) and  $(f_n)_n$  is  $(\mathcal{F}c)$ -convergent to f at x, then  $(f_n)_n$  is  $\mathcal{F}$ -exhaustive at x.

**Theorem 4** Let  $(X, \mathcal{D})$  be any uniform space,  $\emptyset \neq B \subset X$ , S and  $\mathcal{F}$  be two free filters of  $\mathbb{N}$ with  $S \supset \mathcal{F}$ , and  $f_n : X \rightarrow R$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a function sequence, strongly  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -convergent to  $f \in R^X$ on B. Then  $(f_n)_n$  is strongly  $(S_c)$ -convergent to f on B.

**Theorem 5** Let X be a Hausdorff topological space,  $x \in X$ , S and  $\mathcal{F}$  be as in Theorem 3.2 and  $f_n: X \to R$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence,  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -convergent to  $f \in R^X$  at x. Then  $(f_n)_n$  is (Sc)convergent to f at x.

**Theorem 6** Let  $(X, \mathcal{D})$  be a uniform space with a decreasing base  $(U_k)_k$  of entourages,  $\emptyset \neq B \subset X$ , S be a  $(\Xi)$ -free filter of  $\Xi$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$  be a free filter of  $\mathbb{N}$ , satisfying condition (1), and  $f_n: X \to R$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence, strongly  $(\mathcal{F}c)$ -convergent to  $f \in \mathbb{R}^X$  on B. Then  $(f_n)_n$  is strongly  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -convergent to f on B.

**Theorem 7** Let X be a Hausdorff topological space,  $x \in X$ ,  $(U_k)_k$  be a decreasing base of neighborhoods of x, S be a  $(\Xi)$ -free filter of  $\Xi$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$  be a free filter of  $\mathbb{N}$ , satisfying condition (1), and  $f_n: X \to R$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , be a sequence,  $(\mathcal{F}c)$ -convergent to  $f \in R^X$  at x. Then  $(f_n)_n$  is  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -convergent to f at x.

**Theorem 8** Let  $(X, \mathcal{D})$  be any uniform space,  $\emptyset \neq X \subset B$ ,  $\Lambda$  and  $\Xi$  be two directed sets, S and  $\mathcal{F}$  be a  $(\Xi)$ -free filter of  $\Xi$  and a  $(\Lambda)$ -free filter of  $\Lambda$  respectively, and  $f_{\lambda} : X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , be a function net, strongly  $\mathcal{F}$ -exhaustive on B. Then  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is strongly  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive on B.

Conversely, if  $(D_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$  is a decreasing net in  $\mathcal{D}$ , such that

for each  $U \in \mathcal{D}$  there exists  $\xi \in \Xi$  with  $D_{\xi} \subset U$ 

and  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is strongly  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive on B, then  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is strongly  $\mathcal{F}$ -exhaustive on B.

**Remark 9** It is easy to check that the set  $\Xi = D$ , endowed with the order  $D_1 \ge D_2$  if and only if  $D_1 \subset D_2$ , is a directed set, and that (4) is satisfied.

(4)

**Theorem 10** Let X be a Hausdorff topological space,  $x \in X$  be fixed,  $(\mathcal{T}_x, \subset)$  be the set of all neighborhoods of x;  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Xi$ , S,  $\mathcal{F}$  be as in Theorem 8, and  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , be a net,  $\mathcal{F}$ -exhaustive at x. Then  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive at x.

Conversely, if  $(D_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$  is a decreasing net in  $\mathcal{T}_x$  satisfying (5), and  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive at x, then  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is  $\mathcal{F}$ -exhaustive at x.

**Theorem 11** Let  $(X, \mathcal{D})$  be any uniform space,  $\mathcal{B}$  be a bornology on X,  $\Xi$  and  $\Lambda$  be as

above, S and  $\mathcal{F}$  be any two  $(\Xi)$ -free and  $(\Lambda)$ -free filters of  $\Xi$  and  $\Lambda$  respectively, and  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , be a net of functions,  $(\mathcal{FB})$ -convergent to  $f: X \to R$ . Let  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  be fixed. Then  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is strongly  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -convergent to f on B if and only if  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is strongly  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive on B.

**Theorem 12** Let X be a Hausdorff topological space,  $x \in X$ , S and  $\mathcal{F}$  be as in Theorem 11, and  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , be a net of functions,  $(RO\mathcal{F})$ -convergent to  $f: X \to R$ . Then  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -convergent to f at x if and only if  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is  $(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive at x.

**Theorem 13** Let X, R,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Xi$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$ ,  $\mathcal{S}$ ,  $\mathcal{B}$  be as in Theorem 11,  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  be fixed, and  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , be a function net, (RO $\mathcal{F}$ )-convergent to  $f \in R^{X}$ .

Then  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is strongly weakly  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive on B if and only if f is strongly (S, S)-uniformly continuous on B.

**Theorem 14** Let X, R,  $\Lambda$ ,  $\Xi$ ,  $\mathcal{F}$ ,  $\mathcal{S}$ , be as in Theorem 12,  $x \in X$  be fixed, and  $f_{\lambda} : X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , be a net,  $(RO\mathcal{F})$ -convergent to  $f \in R^{X}$ .

Then  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is weakly  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive at x if and only if f is (S, S)-continuous at x.

**Theorem 15** Let  $(X, \mathcal{D})$  be a uniform space,  $(\Xi, \geq)$  be a directed set,  $f: X \to R$ ,

 $\emptyset \neq B \subset X$ ,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  be any two fixed  $(\Xi)$ -free filters of  $\Xi$ . Suppose that for every point  $x \in X$  there is a net  $(y_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$  in X, with

$$(\mathcal{S}_1)\lim_{\xi} y_{\xi} = x.$$
(5)

Then the following results hold.

(a) If  $S_1 \setminus S_2 \neq \emptyset$ , then f is strongly  $(S_1, S_2)$ -uniformly continuous on B if and only if f is constant.

(b) If  $(D_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$  is a decreasing net in  $\mathcal{D}$ , satisfying (5), and  $S_1 \subset S_2$ , then f is strongly  $(S_1, S_2)$ -uniformly continuous on B if and only if f is strongly uniformly continuous on B.

**Theorem 16** Let X be a Hausdorff topological space,  $f: X \to R$ ,  $(\Xi, \geq)$  be a directed set,  $S_1$  and  $S_2$  be two fixed  $(\Xi)$ -free filters of  $\Xi$ ,  $x \in X$  be such that there is a net  $(y_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$  in X, fulfilling (5). Then the following results hold.

(a) If  $S_1 \setminus S_2 \neq \emptyset$ , then f is  $(S_1, S_2)$ -continuous at x if and only if f is constant.

(b) If  $(\mathcal{T}_x, \subset)$  is the set of all neighborhoods of x,  $(D_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$  is a decreasing net in  $\mathcal{T}_x$  fulfilling (5) and  $S_1 \subset S_2$ , then f is  $(S_1, S_2)$ -continuous at x if and only if it is continuous at x.

A consequence of the previous theorems is that, if X is a Hausdorff topological space (resp. a uniform space) and a net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is (strongly) ( $\mathcal{F}\alpha$ )-convergent to  $f: X \to R$  on X (resp. on  $\mathcal{B}$ ), then it ( $RO\mathcal{F}$ )-converges to f, and f is (strongly uniform) continuous on X (resp. on  $\mathcal{B}$ ).

As an application, we give an Ascoli-type theorem. Given a topological space X, a nonempty set  $\Phi \subset R^X$  and a convergence  $(\sigma)$  on  $\Phi$ , we say that  $\Phi$  is  $(\sigma)$ -compact iff every net  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  in  $\Phi$ admits a subnet  $(f_{\lambda_K})_{\kappa \in \Lambda}$ ,  $(\sigma)$ -convergent to an element  $f \in \Phi$ , and that  $\Phi$  is  $(\sigma)$ -closed iff  $f \in \Phi$ whenever  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  is a net in  $\Phi$ ,  $(\sigma)$ -convergent to  $f \in R^X$ . The  $(\sigma)$ -closure of  $\Phi$  is the set of the functions  $f \in R^X$ , having a net  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$  in  $\Phi$   $(\sigma)$ -convergent to f. A set  $\Phi$  is  $(\sigma)$ -closed if and only if it coincides with its  $(\sigma)$ -closure.

**Theorem 17** Let X be a Hausdorff topological space, S and  $\mathcal{F}$  be as above.

If  $\Phi \subset \Psi \subset \mathbb{R}^{X}$ , where  $\Phi$  is  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -closed and  $\Psi$  is  $(RO\mathcal{F})$ -compact, and every net  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda \in \Lambda}$ ,  $(RO\mathcal{F})$ -convergent in  $\Phi$ , has a subnet  $(f_{\lambda_{\kappa}})_{\kappa \in \Lambda}$ ,  $(RO\mathcal{F})$ -convergent (in

 $R^{X}$ ) and  $(S, \mathcal{F})$ -exhaustive,

then  $\Phi$  is  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -compact.

Moreover, if  $\Phi$  is  $(S, \mathcal{F}\alpha)$ -compact, then  $\Phi$  satisfies condition H').

In our setting, a related question, which arises naturally, is to find some necessary and/or sufficient conditions under which the limit function of a suitably pointwise convergent net is constant, or (S, F)-continuous. In this framework, it is advisable to consider the following extensions of the concepts of (S, F)-exhaustiveness and corresponding  $(\alpha)$ -convergence.

Let X be any Hausdorff topological space,  $x \in X$ , R be any Dedekind complete lattice group,  $(\Xi, \geq)$  and  $(\Lambda, \geq)$  be two directed sets,  $\mathcal{F}_1$  and  $\mathcal{F}_2$  be two  $(\Xi)$ -free filters of  $\Xi$ ,  $\mathcal{F}_3$  be a  $(\Lambda)$ -free filter of  $\Lambda$ , and  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , be a function net. We say that  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is  $(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{F}_3)$ -exhaustive at  $x \in X$  iff there exists an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in R such that, for every net  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$   $\mathcal{F}_1$ -convergent to x and for any  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there are  $F_2 \in \mathcal{F}_2$  and  $F_3 \in \mathcal{F}_3$  with  $|f_{\lambda}(x_{\xi}) - f_{\lambda}(x)| \leq \sigma_p$  for every  $\xi \in F_2$  and  $\lambda \in F_3$ . The net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , is weakly  $(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{F}_3)$ -exhaustive at  $x \in X$  iff there is an (O)sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in R such that, for each net  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$   $\mathcal{F}_1$ -convergent to x and for every  $p \in \mathbb{N}$  there is a set  $F_2 \in \mathcal{F}_2$  such that for each  $\xi \in F_2$  there exists  $F_{\xi} \in \mathcal{F}_3$  with  $|f_{\lambda}(x_{\xi}) - f_{\lambda}(x)| \leq \sigma_p$  whenever  $\lambda \in F_{\xi}$ . The net  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ ,  $(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \alpha)$ -converges to  $f: X \to R$  at  $x \in X$  iff there exists an (O)-sequence  $(\sigma_p)_p$  in R such that, for every net  $(x_{\xi})_{\xi \in \Xi}$   $\mathcal{F}_1$ -convergent to x and for each  $p \in \mathbb{N}$ there are  $F_2 \in S$ ,  $F_3 \in \mathcal{F}$  with  $|f_{\lambda}(x_{\xi}) - f(x)| \leq \sigma_p$  whenever  $\xi \in F_2$  and  $\lambda \in F_3$ .

**Theorem 18** Let  $f_{\lambda}: X \to R$ ,  $\lambda \in \Lambda$ , be a net of functions,  $(RO\mathcal{F}_3)$ -convergent to  $f: X \to R$ , and  $x \in X$ . Then  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is  $(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{F}_3 \alpha)$ -convergent to f at x if and only if  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is  $(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{F}_3)$ exhaustive at x. Moreover,  $(f_{\lambda})_{\lambda}$  is weakly  $(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2, \mathcal{F}_3)$ -exhaustive at x if and only if f is  $(\mathcal{F}_1, \mathcal{F}_2)$ continuous at x.