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### POINTWISE CONVERGENCE FAILS TO BE STRICT

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Abstract. It is known that the ring  $B(\mathbb{R})$  of all Baire functions carrying the pointwise convergence yields a sequential completion of the ring  $C(\mathbb{R})$  of all continuous functions. We investigate various sequential convergences related to the pointwise convergence and the process of completion of  $C(\mathbb{R})$ . In particular, we prove that the pointwise convergence fails to be strict and prove the existence of the categorical ring completion of  $C(\mathbb{R})$  which differs from  $B(\mathbb{R})$ .

### 1.

Consider the set  $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$  of all real functions carrying the pointwise (sequential) convergence. If we start with the ring  $C(\mathbb{R})$  of all continuous functions, then the ring  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$  of all 1-st Baire class functions is the first sequential closure of  $C(\mathbb{R})$ , the ring  $B_{\alpha}(\mathbb{R})$  of all  $\alpha$ -th Baire class functions,  $\alpha < \omega_1$ , is the  $\alpha$ -th sequential closure of  $C(\mathbb{R})$ , and the ring  $B(\mathbb{R})$  of all Baire functions is the smallest subset of  $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$  containing  $C(\mathbb{R})$  and closed with respect to the pointwise convergence, hence sequentially complete, see [NOV], [LAC].

Let  $\mathbb{L}$  be a sequential convergence on  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$  such that, for each sequence  $\langle f_n \rangle$ of continuous functions,  $\langle f_n \rangle$  converges to  $f \in B_1(\mathbb{R})$  under  $\mathbb{L}$  iff it converges to fpointwise. Then  $\mathbb{L}$  is said to be *admissible*. If  $\mathbb{L}$  is compatible with the group or ring structure of  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$ , then each Cauchy sequence of continuous functions converges under  $\mathbb{L}$  and we get  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$  as a group or ring (sequential) *precompletion* of  $C(\mathbb{R})$ . Observe that  $\mathbb{L}$ , for example the pointwise convergence, need not be complete. To get a completion, in such cases we have to iterate the precompletion process. In case of the pointwise convergence the usual sequential completion of  $C(\mathbb{R})$  is the ring

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 $B(\mathbb{R})$ . In the present paper we investigate admissible convergences and alternative ways of (pre)completing  $C(\mathbb{R})$ .

Strictness is a natural way how to control the convergence of sequences of ideal points in an extension of a convergence space or a precompletion of a sequential group or ring ([FZS], [FKE], [PAU]).

An admissible convergence  $\mathbb{L}$  on  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$  is said to be *strict* if the following condition is satisfied (see Definition 1.2 in [FZS]):

(s) Let  $\langle f_n \rangle$  be a sequence ranging in  $B_1(\mathbb{R}) \setminus C(\mathbb{R})$  which converges under  $\mathbb{L}$  to  $f \in B_1(\mathbb{R})$ . Then there are a subsequence  $\langle f'_n \rangle$  of  $\langle f_n \rangle$  and sequences  $\langle g_n^{(k)} \rangle$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , of continuous functions such that the sequence  $\langle g_n^{(k)} \rangle$  pointwise converges to  $f'_k$  and each diagonal sequence  $\langle g_{d(n)}^{(n)} \rangle$ ,  $d \colon \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ , pointwise converges to f.

In [FZS] the authors asked whether the pointwise convergence is strict. We prove that the answer is "NO".

## **Theorem 1.1.** The pointwise convergence on $B_1(\mathbb{R})$ fails to be strict.

Proof. Let  $p_1, p_2, p_3, \ldots$  denote the increasing sequence of all prime numbers. For each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $A_n = \{k/p_n; k = 1, 2, \ldots, p_n - 1\}$  and let  $f_n$  denote the characteristic function of  $A_n$ . Let f denote the constant zero function. Then  $f_n \in B_1(\mathbb{R}) \setminus C(\mathbb{R})$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  and the sequence  $\langle f_n \rangle$  pointwise converges to f. For each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , let  $\langle g_n^{(k)} \rangle$  be a sequence of continuous functions which pointwise converges to  $f_k$ . We show that there exists a mapping u of  $\mathbb{N}$  into  $\mathbb{N}$  such that for each mapping v of  $\mathbb{N}$  into  $\mathbb{N}$ , v(k) > u(k) for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and for each strictly increasing mapping s of  $\mathbb{N}$  into  $\mathbb{N}$  the subsequence  $\langle g_{v(s(n))}^{(s(n))} \rangle$  of the diagonal sequence  $\langle g_{v(n)}^{(n)} \rangle$  does not pointwise converge to f. Clearly, then the pointwise convergence on  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$  fails to be strict.

So, since all sets  $A_k$  are finite, for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  choose  $u(k) \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $g_n^{(k)}(x) > 1/2$  for each n > u(k) and each  $x \in A_k$ . Let v be a mapping of  $\mathbb{N}$  into  $\mathbb{N}$  such that v(k) > u(k) for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  and let s be a strictly increasing mapping of  $\mathbb{N}$  into  $\mathbb{N}$ . From  $g_{v(s(1))}^{(s(1))}(1/p_{s(1)}) > 1/2$  it follows that there exists a closed interval  $I_1 \subset (0, 1)$  such that  $1/p_{s(1)} \in \operatorname{int} I_1$  and  $g_{v(s(1))}^{(s(1))}(I_1) > 1/2$ . Put t(1) = 1. By induction, define a strictly increasing mapping t of  $\mathbb{N}$  into  $\mathbb{N}$  and a sequence  $\langle I_n \rangle$  of closed intervals such that  $\operatorname{int} I_n \supset I_{n+1} \neq \emptyset$  and  $g_{v(s(t(n)))}^{(s(t(n)))}(I_n) > 1/2$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Choose  $t(2) \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $s(t(2)) \in \{s(2), s(3), \ldots\}$  and  $A_{s(t(2))} \cap \operatorname{int} I_1 \neq \emptyset$ . Choose a closed interval  $I_2$  such that  $\operatorname{int} I_2 \neq \emptyset$ ,  $\operatorname{int} I_1 \supset I_2$  and  $g_{v(s(t(2)))}^{(s(t(2)))}(I_2) > 1/2$ . Analogously define t(3) and  $I_3, \ldots, t(n)$  and  $I_n$ , and so on. Now, choose  $x_0 \in \bigcap_{i=1}^{\infty} I_i \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $g_{v(s(t(n)))}^{(s(t(n)))}(x_0) > 1/2$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the sequence  $\langle g_{v(s(n))}^{(s(n))} \rangle$  does not pointwise converge to f. This completes the proof.

### 2.

In this section we prove some simple facts about strict admissible convergences. Let f and  $f_n$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , be functions in  $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$ . We say (cf. [FKE]) that the sequence  $\langle f_n \rangle$  and the function f are *linked* if there are sequences  $\langle g_n^{(k)} \rangle$ ,  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , in  $\mathbb{R}^{\mathbb{R}}$  such that for each  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  the sequence  $\langle g_n^{(k)} \rangle$  pointwise converges to  $f_k$  and each diagonal sequence  $\langle g_{d(n)}^{(n)} \rangle$ ,  $d: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$ , pointwise converges to f. Note: condition (s) can be reformulated as "if  $\langle f_n \rangle$  converges to f under  $\mathbb{L}$  and  $f_n \in B_1(\mathbb{R}) \setminus C(\mathbb{R})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then there exists a subsequence  $\langle f'_n \rangle$  of  $\langle f_n \rangle$  which is linked to f via a double sequence, i.e. sequence of sequences, of continuous functions".

**Lemma 2.1.** Let  $\langle f_n \rangle$  be a sequence of functions linked to a function f. Then  $\langle f_n \rangle$  converges pointwise to f.

Proof. Assume that, on the contrary, for some  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  the sequence  $\langle f_n(x) \rangle$  does not converge to f(x). Then there exists a positive number  $\varepsilon$  such that  $|f_n(x) - f(x)| > \varepsilon$  for infinitely many  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Clearly, this is a contradiction with the assumption that  $\langle f_n \rangle$  and f are linked.

**Corollary 2.2.** Every strict convergence on  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$  is finer than the pointwise convergence.

Next, we describe the coarsest and the finest strict convergences on  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$  compatible with the ring structures of  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$ .

**Construction 2.3.** Denote by  $\mathbb{L}_s$  the set of all pairs  $(\langle f_n \rangle, f)$  such that  $\langle f_n \rangle$  is a sequence of functions of  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $f \in B_1(\mathbb{R})$  and for each subsequence  $\langle f'_n \rangle$  of  $\langle f_n \rangle$  there exists its subsequence  $\langle f''_n \rangle$  which is linked to f via a double sequence of continuous functions. As a rule,  $(\langle f_n \rangle, f) \in \mathbb{L}_s$  means that the sequence  $\langle f_n \rangle$  converges to f under  $\mathbb{L}_s$ .

**Claim 2.3.1.**  $\mathbb{L}_s$  is a strict  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring convergence.

Proof. It follows easily from Lemma 2.1 that each sequence  $\mathbb{L}_s$ -converges to at most one limit. The remaining axioms of convergence follow directly from the definition of  $\mathbb{L}_s$ . Indeed, each constant sequence converges, each subsequence of a convergent sequence converges to the same limit, and  $\mathbb{L}_s$  satisfies the Urysohn axiom: if  $\langle f_n \rangle$  and f are such that for each subsequence  $\langle f'_n \rangle$  of  $\langle f_n \rangle$  there exists its subsequence  $\langle f_n'' \rangle$  such that  $(\langle f_n'' \rangle, f) \in \mathbb{L}_s$ , then  $(\langle f_n \rangle, f) \in \mathbb{L}_s$ . Further, sums and products of convergent sequences converge to the corresponding sums and products of their limits, hence  $\mathbb{L}_s$  is compatible with the ring structure of  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$ . It follows from Lemma 2.1 that  $\mathbb{L}_s$  is admissible and since  $\mathbb{L}_s$  is clearly strict, the proof is complete.

**Claim 2.3.2.** Let  $\mathbb{L}$  be a strict  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring convergence on  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$ . Then  $\mathbb{L}_s$  is coarser than  $\mathbb{L}$ .

Proof. If  $\langle f_n \rangle$  converges to f under  $\mathbb{L}$ , then some subsequence  $\langle f'_n \rangle$  of  $\langle f_n \rangle$  is linked to f via a double sequence of continuous functions and hence  $\langle f'_n \rangle$  converges to f under  $\mathbb{L}_s$ . Since  $\mathbb{L}_s$  satisfies the Urysohn axiom, it follows that  $\mathbb{L} \subset \mathbb{L}_s$ .  $\Box$ 

**Construction 2.4.** Denote by  $\mathcal{N}$  the set of all sequences in  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$  of the form  $\langle \sum_{i=1}^{k} (f_{in} - f_i)g_i \rangle$ , where  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\langle f_{in} \rangle$  is a sequence of continuous functions pointwise converging to  $f_i \in B_1(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, k$ . Trivially,  $\mathcal{N}$  is closed with respect to subsequences and finite sums. Since

$$\langle (f_{1n} - f_1)g_1 \rangle \langle (f_{2n} - f_n)g_2 \rangle = \langle (f_{1n}f_{2n} - f_1f_2)g_1g_2 \rangle - \langle (f_{1n} - f_1)f_2g_1g_2 \rangle - \langle (f_{2n} - f_2)f_1g_1g_2 \rangle,$$

it follows that  $\mathcal{N}$  is closed with respect to finite products, too. By Lemma 2 in [FZE], there exists a unique  $\mathcal{L}$ -ring convergence under which a sequence  $\langle f_n \rangle$  converges to the constant zero function  $\mathbb{O}$  iff  $\langle f_n \rangle \in \mathcal{N}$ . Denote by  $\mathbb{L}_r$  its Urysohn modification. Recall that  $\langle f_n \rangle$  converges to  $\mathbb{O}$  under  $\mathbb{L}_r$  iff for each subsequence  $\langle f'_n \rangle$  of  $\langle f_n \rangle$  there exists its subsequence  $\langle f''_n \rangle$  belonging to  $\mathcal{N}$ .

**Claim 2.4.1.**  $\mathbb{L}_r$  is a strict  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring convergence.

Proof. Obviously,  $\mathbb{L}_r$  is finer than the pointwise convergence on  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$  and hence the limits of  $\mathbb{L}_r$ -convergent sequences are uniquely determined. Thus  $\mathbb{L}_r$  is an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring convergence. If  $\langle f_n \rangle$  is a sequence of continuous functions pointwise converging to  $f \in B_1(\mathbb{R})$ , then  $(\langle f_n \rangle, f) \in \mathbb{L}_r$ . Consequently,  $\mathbb{L}_r$  is admissible. The proof of strictness of  $\mathbb{L}_r$  is straightforward. Hint: if  $(\langle h_n \rangle, h) \in \mathbb{L}_r$  and  $h_n \in$  $B_1(\mathbb{R}) \setminus C(\mathbb{R})$  for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , then there exists a subsequence  $\langle h'_n \rangle$  of  $\langle h_n \rangle$  such that  $\langle h'_n - h \rangle \in \mathcal{N}$ ; hence  $\langle h'_n \rangle$  is of the form  $\langle \sum_{i=1}^k (f_{in} - f_i)g_i + h \rangle$ , where  $f_i, g_i, h \in$  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$ , and  $\langle f_{in} \rangle$  is a sequence of continuous functions pointwise converging to  $f_i$ ,  $i = 1, \ldots, k$ ; the rest is trivial.

**Claim 2.4.2.** Let  $\mathbb{L}$  be a strict  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring convergence on  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$ . Then  $\mathbb{L}_r \subset \mathbb{L}$ .

Proof. Since  $\mathbb{L}$  is admissible and compatible with the ring structure of  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$ ,  $\langle (f_n - f)g \rangle$  converges under  $\mathbb{L}$  to  $\mathbb{O}$  whenever  $\langle f_n \rangle$  is a sequence of continuous functions pointwise converging to  $f \in B_1(\mathbb{R})$  and  $g \in B_1(\mathbb{R})$ . Hence  $\mathbb{L}_r \subset \mathbb{L}$ .

It is known that each commutative  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -group can have many nonequivalent  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ group completions and its Novák completion ([NOV]) yields its categorical  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -group completion ([FKO]). We show that the Novák  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -group completion of  $C(\mathbb{R})$  fails to be an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring completion.

**Example 2.5.** Let  $\mathbb{L}$  denote the pointwise convergence on  $C(\mathbb{R})$ . Then the Novák  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -group completion of  $C(\mathbb{R})$  has  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$  as its underlying group and is equipped with an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -group convergence  $\mathbb{L}_1^*$  defined as follows:  $\langle f_n \rangle$  converges to f under  $\mathbb{L}_1^*$  iff for each subsequence  $\langle f'_n \rangle$  of  $\langle f_n \rangle$  there exists its subsequence  $\langle f''_n \rangle$  such that  $f''_n - f = g_n - g$ ,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , where  $\langle g_n \rangle$  is a sequence of continuous functions pointwise converging to  $g \in B_1(\mathbb{R})$ . Let h be the characteristic function of the singleton  $\{0\}$  and let  $f_n$  be the constant function with value 1/n,  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $h \in B_1(\mathbb{R})$  and the sequence of continuous functions  $\langle f_n \rangle$  pointwise converges to  $\mathbb{Q}$ , but their product  $\langle hf_n \rangle$  fails to converge under  $\mathbb{L}_1^*$ . Hence  $\mathbb{L}_1^*$  fails to be an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring convergence and clearly  $\mathbb{L}_1^* \subsetneq \mathbb{L}_r$ .

Note: it is known that an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring need not have an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring completion ([FZE]) and there are known sufficient conditions guaranteeing the existence of the categorical  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring completion ([FKO]);  $C(\mathbb{R})$  fails to be a field and hence does not satisfy the conditions.

We finish this section by mentioning some problems. First, we do not know whether  $\mathbb{L}_s$  or  $\mathbb{L}_r$  is complete. Second, if not, then we can ask whether  $B_1(\mathbb{R})$ equipped with  $\mathbb{L}_s$  or  $\mathbb{L}_r$  has an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring completion, at all.

3.

Our final goal is to construct an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring completion of  $C(\mathbb{R})$  having a universal extension property or, in categorical terms, an epireflection of  $C(\mathbb{R})$  into complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -rings. Since  $C(\mathbb{R})$  is not a field, we cannot use the construction due to J. Novák. The interested reader is referred to [FKO] for the background information about  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring completions and to [HES] about categorical notions. To make the paper more self-contained, we briefly recall some related notions.

Let  $\mathbb{K}$  be an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -convergence on a set  $Y \neq \emptyset$ . For  $A \subset Y$ , denote by cl A the set of all  $\mathbb{K}$ -limits of sequences ranging in A. Define 0-cl A = A and, by induction, for each ordinal number  $\alpha \leq \omega_1$  define  $\alpha$ -cl  $A = \bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} cl(\beta$ -cl A). Then 1-cl A = cl A and

each  $\alpha$ -cl yields a closure operator on Y. Further,  $\omega_1$ -cl is idempotent and hence a topology; it is the finest of all topologies on Y coarser than cl.

Note: if  $\omega_1$ -cl A = Y and f, g are continuous maps of  $(Y, \mathbb{K})$  into an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -space  $(Y', \mathbb{K}')$  such that f(x) = g(x) for each  $x \in A$ , then f = g; consequently a morphism with a topologically dense range is an epimorphism in  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -spaces.

Let Y be a ring (commutative, not necessarily possessing a unit element) and let K be an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring convergence on Y. A sequence  $\langle x_n \rangle$  is said to be *Cauchy* if  $\langle x'_n - x''_n \rangle$  converges under K to zero whenever  $\langle x'_n \rangle$  and  $\langle x''_n \rangle$  are subsequences of  $\langle x_n \rangle$ . If each Cauchy sequence converges, then we speak of a complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring. Let X be a subring of Y. Then, for each ordinal number  $\alpha \leq \omega_1$ , the set  $\alpha$ -cl X is a subring of Y and if Y is complete, then the subring  $\omega_1$ -cl X is complete, too. If Y is complete and  $Y = \omega_1$ -cl X, then  $(Y, \mathbb{K})$  is said to be an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring *completion* of X carrying the restriction of K to X. Finally, for  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -convergences the coordinatewise convergence on products is the categorical one and the product of complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -rings is a complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring.

Let  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$ , and  $\mathcal{C}$  denote the categories of all  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -rings, all  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -rings having a completion, and all complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -rings, respectively. A straightforward application of the usual categorical tricks yields the following

### **Theorem 3.1.** C is an epireflective subcategory of $\mathcal{B}$ .

Proof. Let X be a ring carrying an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring convergence  $\mathbb{L}$  and let  $(\overline{X}, \overline{\mathbb{L}})$  be its  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring completion. We show that there exists its  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring completion  $\varrho(X, \mathbb{L}) = (\hat{X}, \hat{\mathbb{L}})$  having the following universal extension property: for each continuous homomorphism f of  $(X, \mathbb{L})$  into a complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring  $(Y, \mathbb{K})$  there exists a unique continuous homomorphism  $\hat{f}$  of  $(\hat{X}, \hat{\mathbb{L}})$  into  $(Y, \mathbb{K})$  such that  $f(x) = \hat{f}(x)$  for each  $x \in X$ . Since  $\hat{X}$  is the smallest sequentially closed subset containing X, the embedding id:  $(X, \mathbb{L}) \to (\hat{X}, \hat{\mathbb{L}})$  is an epimorphism and  $\varrho$  yields an epireflector of  $\mathcal{B}$  into  $\mathcal{C}$ . The construction of  $(\hat{X}, \hat{\mathbb{L}})$  is divided into two parts. The first has an auxiliary character.

Part 1. There exists a nonempty set  $S = \{f_a \colon (X, \mathbb{L}) \to (X_a, \mathbb{L}_a); a \in A\}$  of continuous homomorphisms such that each  $(X_a, \mathbb{L}_a)$  is a complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring and if f is a continuous homomorphism of  $(X, \mathbb{L})$  into a complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring  $(Y, \mathbb{K})$ , then there exists  $a \in A$  and a homeomorphic isomorphism g of  $(X_a, \mathbb{L}_a)$  onto a subring  $(Y_f, \mathbb{K} \upharpoonright Y_f)$  of  $(Y, \mathbb{K})$  such that f is a composition of  $g \circ f_a$  and the embedding of  $(Y_f, \mathbb{K} \upharpoonright Y_f)$  into  $(Y, \mathbb{K})$ . Indeed, each f determines a complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -subring of  $(Y, \mathbb{K})$  the underlying set of which is  $Y_f = \omega_1$ -cl f(X). Since card(1-cl f(X)) cannot exceed the cardinality of the set of all countable infinite subsets of f(X) and  $\omega_1$ cl  $f(X) = \bigcup_{\beta < \omega_1} cl(\beta$ -cl f(X)), it follows that card $(Y_f) \leq exp$  card(X). Hence there is a set  $\{(X_b, \mathbb{L}_b); b \in B\}$  of complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -rings such that card $(X_b) \leq exp$  card(X) and each  $(Y_f, \mathbb{K} \upharpoonright Y_f)$  is homeomorphic and isomorphic to some  $(X_b, \mathbb{L}_b), b \in B$ . Note: S yields a so-called solution set for  $(X, \mathbb{L})$  with respect to the inclusion functor of Cinto  $\mathcal{B}$ .

Part 2. The product  $\prod_{a \in A} (X_a, \mathbb{L}_a)$  is a complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring and, via the canonical embedding sending  $x \in X$  into  $\varphi(x) = (f_a(x), a \in A), (X, \mathbb{L})$  can be view as the corresponding  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -subring of  $\prod_{a \in A} (X_a, \mathbb{L}_a)$  (remember,  $(X, \mathbb{L})$  is an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -subring of its completion  $(\overline{X}, \overline{\mathbb{L}})$ ). Denote by  $(\hat{X}, \hat{\mathbb{L}})$  the smallest sequentially closed  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -subring of  $\prod_{a \in A} (X_a, \mathbb{L}_a)$  containing  $(X, \mathbb{L})$ . It is easy to see that  $(\hat{X}, \hat{\mathbb{L}})$  has the desired properties. This completes the proof.  $\Box$ 

**Lemma 3.2.** Let  $(Y, \mathbb{K})$  be a complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring and let X be a subring of Y. Put  $\overline{X} = \omega$ -cl X and define  $\overline{\mathbb{L}} \subset \overline{X}^{\mathbb{N}} \times \overline{X}$  as follows:  $(\langle x_n \rangle, x) \in \overline{\mathbb{L}}$  whenever  $(\langle x_n \rangle, x) \in \mathbb{K}$  and there exists a natural number k such that  $x_n \in (k\text{-cl }X)$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then  $(\overline{X}, \overline{\mathbb{L}})$  is a complete  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring and the identity mapping on  $\overline{X}$  is a continuous isomorphism of  $(\overline{X}, \overline{\mathbb{L}})$  onto  $(\overline{X}, \mathbb{K} \upharpoonright \overline{X})$ .

Proof. It is easy to verify that  $\overline{\mathbb{L}}$  is an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring convergence on  $\overline{X}$  finer than  $\mathbb{K} \upharpoonright \overline{X}$ . If  $\langle x_n \rangle$  is a Cauchy sequence in  $(\overline{X}, \overline{\mathbb{L}})$ , then there exists  $k \in \mathbb{N}$  such that  $x \in (k - \operatorname{cl} X)$  for each  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ . Thus  $(\overline{X}, \overline{\mathbb{L}})$  is complete.

**Theorem 3.3.** Let  $(X, \mathbb{L})$  be an  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring in  $\mathcal{B}$  and let  $(\hat{X}, \hat{\mathbb{L}})$  be its categorical  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring completion. Then  $\omega$ -cl  $X = \hat{X}$ .

Proof. The assertion follows from Lemma 3.2. Putting  $\hat{X} = Y$  and  $\hat{\mathbb{L}} = \mathbb{K}$ , we easily infer that  $\overline{X} = \hat{X}$  and  $\overline{\mathbb{L}} = \hat{\mathbb{L}}$ .

**Corollary 3.4.**  $B(\mathbb{R})$  carrying the pointwise convergence fails to be the categorical completion of  $C(\mathbb{R})$ .

Proof. Indeed,  $\omega$ -cl $C(\mathbb{R}) = B_{\omega}(\mathbb{R}) \subsetneqq B(\mathbb{R})$ , while  $C(\mathbb{R})$  is  $\omega$ -dense in its categorical  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring completion.

Problem. Describe the categorical  $\mathcal{L}_0^*$ -ring completion of  $C(\mathbb{R})$ .

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