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# universal nets in compact spaces are convergent

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**Theorem -** A universal net  $(x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$  in a compact space  $X$  is convergent.

**Proof :** Suppose by contradiction that  $(x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$  was not convergent. Then for every  $x \in X$  we would find neighborhoods  $U_x$  such that

$$\forall \alpha \in \mathcal{A} \quad \exists \alpha \leq \alpha_0 \quad x_{\alpha_0} \notin U_x$$

The collection of all this neighborhoods cover  $X$ , and as  $X$  is compact, a finite number  $U_{x_1}, U_{x_2}, \dots, U_{x_n}$  also cover  $X$ .

The net  $(x_\alpha)_{\alpha \in \mathcal{A}}$  is not eventually in  $U_{x_k}$  so it must be eventually in  $X - U_{x_k}$  (because it is a net). Therefore we can find  $\alpha_k \in \mathcal{A}$  such that

$$\forall \alpha_k \leq \alpha \quad x_\alpha \in X - U_{x_k}$$

Because we have a finite number  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_n \in \mathcal{A}$  we can find  $\gamma \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $\alpha_k \leq \gamma$  for each  $1 \leq k \leq n$ .

Then  $x_\gamma \in X - U_{x_k}$  for all  $k$ , i.e.  $x_\gamma \notin U_{x_k}$  for all  $k$ . But  $U_{x_1}, U_{x_2}, \dots, U_{x_n}$  cover  $X$  and thus we have a contradiction.  $\square$