

SUPERATOMIC BOOLEAN ALGEBRAS CONSTRUCTED FROM STRONGLY UNBOUNDED FUNCTIONS

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ABSTRACT. Using Koszmider's strongly unbounded functions, we show the following consistency result:

Suppose that κ, λ are infinite cardinals such that $\kappa^{+++} \leq \lambda$, $\kappa^{<\kappa} = \kappa$ and $2^\kappa = \kappa^+$, and η is an ordinal with $\kappa^+ \leq \eta < \kappa^{++}$ and $\text{cf}(\eta) = \kappa^+$. Then, in some cardinal-preserving generic extension there is a superatomic Boolean algebra \mathbb{B} such that $\text{ht}(\mathbb{B}) = \eta + 1$, $\text{wd}_\alpha(\mathbb{B}) = \kappa$ for every $\alpha < \eta$ and $\text{wd}_\eta(\mathbb{B}) = \lambda$ (i.e. there is a locally compact scattered space with cardinal sequence $\langle \kappa \rangle_\eta \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$).

Especially, $\langle \omega \rangle_{\omega_1} \frown \langle \omega_3 \rangle$ and $\langle \omega_1 \rangle_{\omega_2} \frown \langle \omega_4 \rangle$ can be cardinal sequences of superatomic Boolean algebras.

1. INTRODUCTION

A Boolean algebra \mathcal{B} is *superatomic* iff every homomorphic image of \mathcal{B} is atomic. Under Stone duality, homomorphic images of a Boolean algebra \mathcal{A} correspond to closed subspaces of its Stone space $S(\mathcal{A})$, and atoms of \mathcal{A} correspond to isolated points of $S(\mathcal{A})$. Thus \mathcal{B} is superatomic iff its dual space $S(\mathcal{B})$ is *scattered*, i.e. every non-empty (closed) subspace has some isolated point.

For every Boolean algebra \mathcal{A} , let $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ be the ideal generated by the atoms of \mathcal{A} . Define, by induction on α , the α^{th} *Cantor-Bendixson ideal* $\mathcal{J}_\alpha(\mathcal{A})$, and the α^{th} *Cantor-Bendixson derivative* $\mathcal{A}^{(\alpha)}$ of \mathcal{A} as follows. If $\mathcal{J}_\alpha(\mathcal{A})$ has been defined, put $\mathcal{A}^{(\alpha)} = \mathcal{A}/\mathcal{J}_\alpha(\mathcal{A})$ and let $\pi_\alpha : \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^{(\alpha)}$ be the canonical map. Define $\mathcal{J}_0(\mathcal{A}) = \{0_{\mathcal{A}}\}$, $\mathcal{J}_{\alpha+1}(\mathcal{A}) = \pi_\alpha^{-1}[\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}^{(\alpha)})]$, and for α a limit $\mathcal{J}_\alpha(\mathcal{A}) = \bigcup\{\mathcal{J}_{\alpha'}(\mathcal{A}) : \alpha' < \alpha\}$. It is easy to see that the sequence of the ideals $\mathcal{J}_\alpha(\mathcal{A})$ is increasing. And it is a well-known fact that a non-trivial Boolean algebra \mathcal{A} is superatomic iff there is an ordinal α such that $\mathcal{A} = \mathcal{J}_\alpha(\mathcal{A})$ (see [4, Proposition 17.8]).

Assume that \mathcal{B} is a superatomic Boolean algebra. The *height* of \mathcal{B} , $\text{ht}(\mathcal{B})$, is the least ordinal δ such that $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{J}_\delta(\mathcal{B})$. This ordinal δ is always a successor ordinal. Then, we define the *reduced height* of \mathcal{B} , $\text{ht}^-(\mathcal{B})$, as the least ordinal δ such that $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{J}_{\delta+1}(\mathcal{B})$. It is well-known that if $\text{ht}^-(\mathcal{B}) = \delta$, then $\mathcal{J}_{\delta+1}(\mathcal{B}) \setminus \mathcal{J}_\delta(\mathcal{B})$ is a finite set. For each $\alpha < \text{ht}^-(\mathcal{B})$ let $\text{wd}_\alpha(\mathcal{B}) = |\mathcal{J}_{\alpha+1}(\mathcal{B}) \setminus \mathcal{J}_\alpha(\mathcal{B})|$, the

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number of atoms in $\mathcal{B}/\mathcal{J}_\alpha(\mathcal{B})$. The *cardinal sequence* of \mathcal{B} , $CS(\mathcal{B})$, is the sequence $\langle wd_\alpha(\mathcal{B}) : \alpha < ht^-(\mathcal{B}) \rangle$.

Let us turn now our attention from Boolean algebras to topological spaces for a moment. Given a scattered space X , define, by induction on α , the α^{th} *Cantor-Bendixson derivative* X^α of X as follows: $X^0 = X$, $X^\alpha = \bigcap_{\beta < \alpha} X^\beta$ for α a limit, and $X^{\alpha+1} = X^\alpha \setminus I(X^\alpha)$, where $I(Y)$ denotes the set of isolated points of a space Y . The set $I_\alpha(X) = X^\alpha \setminus X^{\alpha+1}$ is the α^{th} *Cantor-Bendixson level* of X . The *reduced height* of X , $ht^-(X)$, is the least ordinal δ such that X^δ is finite (and so $X^{\delta+1} = \emptyset$). For $\alpha < ht^-(X)$ let $wd_\alpha(X) = |I_\alpha(X)|$. The *cardinal sequence* of X , $CS(X)$, is defined as $\langle wd_\alpha(X) : \alpha < ht^-(X) \rangle$.

It is well-known that if \mathcal{B} is a superatomic Boolean algebra, then the dual space of $\mathcal{B}^{(\alpha)}$ is $(S(\mathcal{B}))^{(\alpha)}$ (see [4, Construction 17.7]). So $ht^-(\mathcal{B}) = ht^-(S(\mathcal{B}))$, and $wd_\alpha(\mathcal{B}) = wd_\alpha(S(\mathcal{B}))$ for each $\alpha < ht^-(\mathcal{B})$, that is, \mathcal{B} and $S(\mathcal{B})$ have the same cardinal sequences.

In this paper we consider the following problem: given a sequence \mathbf{s} of infinite cardinals, construct a superatomic Boolean algebra having \mathbf{s} as its cardinal sequence.

For basic facts and results on superatomic Boolean algebras and cardinal sequences we refer the reader to [4] and [8]. We shall use the notation $\langle \kappa \rangle_\alpha$ to denote the constant κ -valued sequence of length α . Let us denote the concatenation of two sequences f and g by $f \frown g$. If η is an ordinal we denote by $\mathcal{C}(\eta)$ the family of all cardinal sequences of superatomic Boolean algebras whose reduced height is η .

Definition 1. If κ, λ are infinite cardinals and η is an ordinal, we say that a superatomic Boolean algebra \mathcal{B} is a (κ, η, λ) -*Boolean algebra* iff $CS(\mathcal{B}) = \langle \kappa \rangle_\eta \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$, i.e. if $ht(\mathcal{B}) = \eta + 1$, $wd_\alpha(\mathcal{B}) = \kappa$ for each $\alpha < \eta$ and $wd_\eta(\mathcal{B}) = \lambda$.

An $(\omega, \omega_1, \omega_2)$ -Boolean algebra is called a *very thin-thick Boolean algebra*. And, for an infinite cardinal κ , a $(\kappa, \kappa^+, \kappa^{++})$ -Boolean algebra is called a κ -*very thin-thick Boolean algebra*.

By using the combinatorial notion of the *new Δ property (NDP)* of a function, it was proved by Roitman that the existence of an $(\omega, \omega_1, \omega_2)$ -Boolean algebra is consistent with ZFC (see [7] and [8]). It is worth to mention that [7] was the first paper in which such a special function was used to guarantee the chain condition of a certain poset. Roitman's result was generalized in [3], where for every infinite regular cardinal κ , it was proved that the existence of a $(\kappa, \kappa^+, \kappa^{++})$ -Boolean algebra is consistent with ZFC. Then, our aim here is to prove the following stronger result.

Theorem 2. *Assume that κ, λ are infinite cardinals such that $\kappa^{+++} \leq \lambda$, $\kappa^{<\kappa} = \kappa$ and $2^\kappa = \kappa^+$. Then for each ordinal η with $\kappa^+ \leq \eta < \kappa^{++}$ and $cf(\eta) = \kappa^+$, in some cardinal-preserving generic extension there is a (κ, η, λ) -Boolean algebra, i.e. $\langle \kappa \rangle_\eta \frown \langle \lambda \rangle \in \mathcal{C}(\eta + 1)$.*

Corollary 3. *The existence of an $(\omega, \omega_1, \omega_3)$ -Boolean algebra is consistent with ZFC. An $(\omega_1, \omega_2, \omega_4)$ -Boolean algebra may also exist.*

In order to prove Theorem 2, we shall use the main result of [5].

Definition 4. Assume that κ, λ are infinite cardinals such that κ is regular and $\kappa < \lambda$. We say that a function $F : [\lambda]^2 \rightarrow \kappa^+$ is a κ^+ -strongly unbounded function on λ iff for every ordinal $\delta < \kappa^+$, every cardinal $\nu < \kappa$ and every family $A \subseteq [\lambda]^\nu$ of pairwise disjoint sets with $|A| = \kappa^+$, there are different $a, b \in A$ such that $F\{\alpha, \beta\} > \delta$ for every $\alpha \in a$ and $\beta \in b$.

The following result was proved in [5].

Koszmider's Theorem . *If κ, λ are infinite cardinals such that $\kappa^{+++} \leq \lambda$, $\kappa^{<\kappa} = \kappa$ and $2^\kappa = \kappa^+$, then there is a κ -closed and cardinal-preserving partial order that forces the existence of a κ^+ -strongly unbounded function on λ .*

So, in order to prove Theorem 2 it is enough to show the following result.

Theorem 5. *Assume that κ, λ are infinite cardinals with $\kappa^{+++} \leq \lambda$ and $\kappa^{<\kappa} = \kappa$, and η is an ordinal with $\kappa^+ \leq \eta < \kappa^{++}$ and $\text{cf}(\eta) = \kappa^+$. Assume that there is a κ^+ -strongly unbounded function on λ . Then, there is a cardinal-preserving partial order that forces the existence of a (κ, η, λ) -Boolean algebra.*

In [3], [6], [7] and in many other papers, the authors proved the existence of certain superatomic Boolean algebras in such a way that instead of constructing the algebras directly, they actually produced certain “graded posets” which guaranteed the existence of the wanted superatomic Boolean algebras. From these constructions, Bagaria, [1], extracted the following notion and proved the Lemma 7 below which was implicitly used in many earlier papers.

Definition 6 ([1]). Given a sequence $\mathfrak{s} = \langle \kappa_\alpha : \alpha < \delta \rangle$ of infinite cardinals, we say that a poset $\langle T, \prec \rangle$ is an \mathfrak{s} -poset iff the following conditions are satisfied:

- (1) $T = \bigcup \{T_\alpha : \alpha < \delta\}$ where $T_\alpha = \{\alpha\} \times \kappa_\alpha$ for each $\alpha < \delta$.
- (2) For each $s \in T_\alpha$ and $t \in T_\beta$, if $s \prec t$ then $\alpha < \beta$.
- (3) For every $\{s, t\} \in [T]^2$ there is a finite subset $i\{s, t\}$ of T such that for each $u \in T$:

$$(u \preceq s \wedge u \preceq t) \text{ iff } u \preceq v \text{ for some } v \in i\{s, t\}.$$

- (4) For $\alpha < \beta < \delta$, if $t \in T_\beta$ then the set $\{s \in T_\alpha : s \prec t\}$ is infinite.

Lemma 7 ([1, Lemma 1]). *If there is an \mathfrak{s} -poset then there is a superatomic Boolean algebra with cardinal sequence \mathfrak{s} .*

Actually, if $\mathcal{T} = \langle T, \prec \rangle$ is an \mathfrak{s} -poset, we write $U_{\mathcal{T}}(x) = \{y \in T : y \preceq x\}$ for $x \in T$, and we denote by $X_{\mathcal{T}}$ the topological space on T whose subbase is the family

- (1) $\{U_{\mathcal{T}}(x), T \setminus U_{\mathcal{T}}(x) : x \in T\},$

then $X_{\mathcal{T}}$ is a locally compact, Hausdorff, scattered space whose cardinal sequence is \mathfrak{s} , and so the clopen algebra of the one-point compactification of $X_{\mathcal{T}}$ is the required superatomic Boolean algebra with cardinal sequence \mathfrak{s} .

So, to prove Theorem 5 it will be enough to show that $\langle \kappa \rangle_{\eta} \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -posets may exist for κ, η and λ as above.

The organization of this paper is as follows. In Section 2, we shall prove Theorem 5 for the special case in which $\kappa = \omega$ and $\lambda \geq \omega_3$, generalizing in this way the result proved by Roitman in [7]. In Section 3, we shall define the combinatorial notions that make the proof of Theorem 5 work. And in Section 4, we shall present the proof of Theorem 5.

2. GENERALIZATION OF ROITMAN'S THEOREM

In this section, our aim is to prove the following result.

Theorem 8. *Let λ be a cardinal with $\lambda \geq \omega_3$. Assume that there is an ω_1 -strongly unbounded function on λ . Then, in some cardinal-preserving generic extension for each ordinal η with $\omega_1 \leq \eta < \omega_2$ and $\text{cf}(\eta) = \omega_1$ there is an (ω, η, λ) -Boolean algebra.*

The theorem above is a bit stronger than Theorem 5 for $\kappa = \omega$, because the generic extension does not depend on η . However, as we will see, its proof is much simpler than the proof of the general case.

By Lemma 7, it is enough to construct a c.c.c. poset \mathcal{P} such that in $V^{\mathcal{P}}$ for each $\eta < \omega_2$ with $\text{cf}(\eta) = \omega_1$ there is an $\langle \omega \rangle_{\eta} \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -poset.

For $\eta = \omega_1$ it is straightforward to obtain a suitable \mathcal{P} : all we need is to plug Kosmider's strongly unbounded function into the original argument of Roitman. For $\omega_1 < \eta < \omega_2$ this simple approach does not work, but we can use the "stepping-up" method of Er-rhaimini and Veličkovic from [2]. Using this method, it will be enough to construct a single $\langle \omega \rangle_{\omega_1} \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -poset (with some extra properties) to obtain $\langle \omega \rangle_{\eta} \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -posets for each $\eta < \omega_2$ with $\text{cf}(\eta) = \omega_1$.

To start with, we adapt the notion of a skeleton introduced in [2] to the cardinal sequences we are considering.

Definition 9. Assume that $\mathcal{T} = \langle T, \prec \rangle$ is an \mathfrak{s} -poset such that \mathfrak{s} is a cardinal sequence of the form $\langle \kappa \rangle_{\mu} \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ where κ, λ are infinite cardinals with $\kappa < \lambda$ and μ is a non-zero ordinal. Let i be the infimum function associated with \mathcal{T} . Then:

- (a) For $\gamma < \mu$ we say that T_{γ} , the γ^{th} -level of \mathcal{T} , is a *bone level* iff the following holds:
 - (1) $i\{s, t\} = \emptyset$ for every $s, t \in T_{\gamma}$ with $s \neq t$.
 - (2) If $x \in T_{\gamma+1}$ and $y \prec x$ then there is a $z \in T_{\gamma}$ with $y \preceq z \prec x$.
- (b) We say that \mathcal{T} is a μ -*skeleton* iff T_{γ} is a bone level of \mathcal{T} for each $\gamma < \mu$.

The next statement can be proved by a straightforward modification of the proof of [2, Theorem 2.8].

Theorem 10. *Let κ, λ be infinite cardinals. If there is a $\langle \kappa \rangle_{\kappa^+} \widehat{\langle \lambda \rangle}$ -poset which is a κ^+ -skeleton, then for each $\eta < \kappa^{++}$ with $cf(\eta) = \kappa^+$ there is a $\langle \kappa \rangle_\eta \widehat{\langle \lambda \rangle}$ -poset.*

So, to get Theorem 8 it is enough to prove the following result.

Theorem 11. *Let λ be a cardinal with $\lambda \geq \omega_3$. Assume that there is an ω_1 -strongly unbounded function on λ . Then, in some c.c.c. generic extension there is an $\langle \omega \rangle_{\omega_1} \widehat{\langle \lambda \rangle}$ -poset which is an ω_1 -skeleton.*

Let $F : [\lambda]^2 \longrightarrow \omega_1$ be an ω_1 -strongly unbounded function on λ . In order to prove Theorem 11, we shall define a c.c.c. forcing notion $\mathcal{P} = \langle P, \leq \rangle$ that adjoins an \mathfrak{s} -poset $\mathcal{T} = \langle T, \preceq \rangle$ which is an ω_1 -skeleton, where \mathfrak{s} is the cardinal sequence $\langle \omega \rangle_{\omega_1} \widehat{\langle \lambda \rangle}$.

First, we define the underlying set of the required \mathfrak{s} -poset.

Definition 12.

- (a) We put $T = \bigcup \{T_\alpha : \alpha \leq \omega_1\}$ where $T_\alpha = \{\alpha\} \times \omega$ for $\alpha < \omega_1$ and $T_{\omega_1} = \{\omega_1\} \times \lambda$.
- (b) If $s = (\alpha, \nu) \in T$, we write $\pi(s) = \alpha$ and $\xi(s) = \nu$.

Definition 13. We define the poset $\mathcal{P} = \langle P, \leq \rangle$ as follows.

- (a) We say that $p = \langle X, \preceq, i \rangle \in P$ iff the following conditions hold:
 - (P1) X is a finite subset of T .
 - (P2) \preceq is a partial order on X such that $s \prec t$ implies $\pi(s) < \pi(t)$.
 - (P3) $i : [X]^2 \longrightarrow [X]^{<\omega}$ is an infimum function, that is, a function such that for every $\{s, t\} \in [X]^2$ we have:
$$\forall x \in X ([x \preceq s \wedge x \preceq t] \text{ iff } x \preceq v \text{ for some } v \in i\{s, t\}).$$
 - (P4) If $s, t \in X \cap T_{\omega_1}$ and $v \in i\{s, t\}$, then $\pi(v) \in F\{\xi(s), \xi(t)\}$.
 - (P5) If $s, t \in X$ with $\pi(s) = \pi(t) < \omega_1$, then $i\{s, t\} = \emptyset$.
 - (P6) If $s, t \in X$, $s \prec t$ and $\pi(t) = \alpha + 1$, then there is a $u \in X$ such that $s \preceq u \prec t$ and $\pi(u) = \alpha$.
- (b) If $\langle X, \preceq, i \rangle, \langle X', \preceq', i' \rangle \in P$ we put $\langle X', \preceq', i' \rangle \leq \langle X, \preceq, i \rangle$ iff $X \subseteq X'$, $\preceq = \preceq' \cap (X \times X)$ and $i \subseteq i'$.

We will need condition (P4) in order to show that \mathcal{P} is c.c.c.

Lemma 14. *Assume that $p = \langle X, \preceq, i \rangle \in P$, $t \in X$, $\alpha < \pi(t)$ and $n < \omega$. Then, there is a $p' = \langle X', \preceq', i' \rangle \in P$ with $p' \leq p$ and there is an $s \in X' \setminus X$ with $\pi(s) = \alpha$ and $\xi(s) > n$ such that, for every $x \in X$, $s \preceq' x$ iff $t \preceq' x$.*

Proof. Let $L = \{\alpha\} \cup \{\xi : \alpha < \xi < \pi(t) \wedge \exists j < \omega \xi + j = \pi(t)\}$. Let $\alpha = \alpha_0, \dots, \alpha_\ell$ be the increasing enumeration of L . Since X is finite, we can pick an $s_j \in T_{\alpha_j} \setminus X$ with $\xi(s_j) > n$ for $j \leq \ell$. Let $X' = X \cup \{s_j : j \leq \ell\}$ and let

$$\preceq' = \preceq \cup \{(s_j, y) : j \leq \ell, t \preceq y\} \cup \{(s_j, s_k) : j < k \leq \ell\}.$$

Now, we put $i'\{x, y\} = i\{x, y\}$ if $x, y \in X$, $i'\{s_j, y\} = \{s_j\}$ if $t \preceq y$, $i'\{s_j, s_k\} = s_{\min(j,k)}$, and $i'\{s_j, y\} = \emptyset$ otherwise. Clearly, $\langle X', \preceq', i' \rangle$ is as required. \square

Lemma 15. *If \mathcal{P} preserves cardinals, then \mathcal{P} adjoins an $\langle \omega \rangle_{\omega_1} \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -poset which is an ω_1 -skeleton.*

Proof. Let \mathcal{G} be a \mathcal{P} -generic filter. We put $p = \langle X_p, \preceq_p, i_p \rangle$ for $p \in \mathcal{G}$. By Lemma 10 and standard density arguments, we have

$$(2) \quad T = \bigcup \{X_p : p \in \mathcal{G}\},$$

and taking

$$(3) \quad \preceq = \bigcup \{\preceq_p : p \in \mathcal{G}\},$$

the poset $\langle T, \preceq \rangle$ is an $\langle \omega \rangle_{\omega_1} \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -poset. Especially, Lemma 14 ensures that $\langle T, \preceq \rangle$ satisfies (4) in Definition 6. Properties (P5) and (P6) guarantee that $\langle T, \preceq \rangle$ is an ω_1 -skeleton. \square

Now, we prove the key lemma for showing that \mathcal{P} adjoins the required poset.

Lemma 16. *\mathcal{P} is c.c.c.*

Proof. Assume that $R = \langle r_\nu : \nu < \omega_1 \rangle \subseteq P$ with $r_\nu \neq r_\mu$ for $\nu < \mu < \omega_1$. For $\nu < \omega_1$, write $r_\nu = \langle X_\nu, \preceq_\nu, i_\nu \rangle$ and put $L_\nu = \pi[X_\nu]$. By the Δ -System Lemma, we may suppose that the set $\{X_\nu : \nu < \omega_1\}$ forms a Δ -system with root X^* . By thinning out R again if necessary, we may assume that $\{L_\nu : \nu < \omega_1\}$ forms a Δ -system with root L^* in such a way that $X_\nu \cap T_\alpha = X_\mu \cap T_\alpha$ for every $\alpha \in L^* \setminus \{\omega_1\}$ and $\nu < \mu < \omega_1$. Without loss of generality, we may assume that $\omega_1 \in L^*$. Since $\beta \setminus \alpha$ is a countable set for $\alpha, \beta \in L^*$ with $\alpha < \beta < \omega_1$, we may suppose that $L^* \setminus \{\omega_1\}$ is an initial segment of L_ν for every $\nu < \omega_1$. Of course, this may require a further thinning out of R . Now, we put $Z_\nu = X_\nu \cap T_{\omega_1}$ for $\nu < \omega_1$. Without loss of generality, we may assume that the domains of the forcing conditions of R have the same size and that there is a natural number $n > 0$ with $|Z_\nu \setminus X^*| = |Z_\mu \setminus X^*| = n$ for $\nu < \mu < \omega_1$. We consider in T_{ω_1} the well-order induced by λ . Then, by thinning out R again if necessary, we may assume that for every $\{\nu, \mu\} \in [\omega_1]^2$ there is an order-preserving bijection $h = h_{\nu, \mu} : L_\nu \longrightarrow L_\mu$ with $h \upharpoonright L^* = \text{id}$ that lifts to an isomorphism of X_ν with X_μ satisfying the following:

- (A) For every $\alpha \in L_\nu \setminus \{\omega_1\}$, $h(\alpha, \xi) = (h(\alpha), \xi)$.
- (B) h is the identity on X^* .
- (C) For every $i < n$, if x is the i^{th} -element in $Z_\nu \setminus X^*$ and y is the i^{th} -element in $Z_\mu \setminus X^*$, then $h(x) = y$.
- (D) For every $x, y \in X_\nu$, $x \preceq_\nu y$ iff $h(x) \preceq_\mu h(y)$.
- (E) For every $\{x, y\} \in [X_\nu]^2$, $h[i_\nu\{x, y\}] = i_\mu\{h(x), h(y)\}$.

Now, we deduce from condition (P4) and the fact that R is uncountable that if $\{x, y\} \in [X^*]^2$ then $i_\nu\{x, y\} \subseteq X^*$ for every $\nu < \omega_1$. So if $\{x, y\} \in [X^*]^2$, then $i_\nu\{x, y\} = i_\mu\{x, y\}$ for $\nu < \mu < \omega_1$.

Let $\delta = \max(L^* \setminus \{\omega_1\})$. Since F is an ω_1 -strongly unbounded function on λ , there are ordinals ν, μ with $\nu < \mu < \omega_1$ such that if we put $a = \{\xi \in \lambda : (\omega_1, \xi) \in Z_\nu \setminus X^*\}$ and $a' = \{\xi \in \lambda : (\omega_1, \xi) \in Z_\mu \setminus X^*\}$, then $F\{\xi, \xi'\} > \delta$ for every $\xi \in a$ and every $\xi' \in a'$. Our purpose is to prove that r_ν and r_μ are compatible in \mathcal{P} . We put $p = r_\nu$ and $q = r_\mu$. And we write $p = \langle X_p, \preceq_p, i_p \rangle$ and $q = \langle X_q, \preceq_q, i_q \rangle$. Then, we define the extension $r = \langle X_r, \preceq_r, i_r \rangle$ of p and q as follows. We put $X_r = X_p \cup X_q$. We define $\preceq_r = \preceq_p \cup \preceq_q$. Note that \preceq_r is a partial order on X_r , because $L^* \setminus \{\omega_1\}$ is an initial segment of $\pi[X_p]$ and $\pi[X_q]$. Now, we define the infimum function i_r . Assume that $\{x, y\} \in [X_r]^2$. We put $i_r\{x, y\} = i_p\{x, y\}$ if $x, y \in X_p$, and $i_r\{x, y\} = i_q\{x, y\}$ if $x, y \in X_q$. Suppose that $x \in X_p \setminus X_q$ and $y \in X_q \setminus X_p$. Note that x, y are not comparable in $\langle X_r, \preceq_r \rangle$ and there is no $u \in (X_p \cup X_q) \setminus X^*$ such that $u \preceq_r x, y$. Then, we define $i_r\{x, y\} = \{u \in X^* : u \prec_r x, y\}$. It is easy to check that $r \in P$, and so $r \leq p, q$. \square

After finishing the proof of Theorem 5 for $\kappa = \omega$, try to prove it for $\kappa = \omega_1$. So, assume that $2^\omega = \omega_1$, $\omega_4 \leq \lambda$, and there is an ω_2 -strongly unbounded function on λ . We want to find $\langle \omega_1 \rangle_\eta \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -posets for each ordinal $\eta < \omega_3$ with $\text{cf}(\eta) = \omega_2$ in some cardinal-preserving generic extension. Since the “stepping-up” method of Er-rhaimini and Veličkovic worked for $\kappa = \omega$, it is natural to try to apply Theorem 10 for the case $\kappa = \omega_1$. That is, we can try to find a cardinal-preserving generic extension that contains an $\langle \omega_1 \rangle_{\omega_2} \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -poset which is an ω_2 -skeleton. For this, first we should consider the forcing construction given in [3, Section 4] to add an $\langle \omega_1 \rangle_{\omega_2} \frown \langle \omega_3 \rangle$ -poset, and then try to extend this construction to add the required ω_2 -skeleton. However, the construction from [3] is σ -complete and requires that CH holds in the ground model. Then, the following results show that the forcing construction of an $\langle \omega_1 \rangle_{\omega_2} \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -poset which is an ω_2 -skeleton is quite hopeless, at least by using the standard forcing from [3].

If X is the topological space associated with a skeleton and $x \in X$, we denote by $t(x, X)$ the tightness of x in X . Also, if A is a subset of points of X we denote by A' the set of all points $x \in X$ such that x is an accumulation point of A .

Proposition 17. *Assume that $\mathcal{T} = \langle T, \prec \rangle$ is a μ -skeleton, $\alpha < \mu$ and $x \in I_{\alpha+1}(X_{\mathcal{T}})$. Then, $t(x, X_{\mathcal{T}}) = \omega$.*

Proof. Assume that $A \subseteq T$ and $x \in A'$. We can assume that $a \prec x$ for each $a \in A$.

Let

$$(4) \quad U = \{u \in I_\alpha(X_{\mathcal{T}}) : u \prec x \wedge \exists a_u \in A \ a_u \preceq u\}.$$

Since $y \prec x$ iff $y \preceq u$ for some $u \prec x$ with $u \in I_\alpha(X_{\mathcal{T}})$, the set U is infinite.

Pick $V \in [U]^\omega$, and put $B = \{a_v : v \in V\}$. We claim that $x \in B'$. Indeed, if $y \prec x$ then there is a $u \in I_\alpha(X_{\mathcal{T}})$ such that $y \preceq u \prec x$. So $|\{b \in B : b \preceq y\}| \leq 1$. Hence $y \notin B'$. However, B has an accumulation point because $B \subseteq U_{\mathcal{T}}(x)$ and $U_{\mathcal{T}}(x)$ is compact in $X_{\mathcal{T}}$. So, B should converge to x . \square

Corollary 18. *If \mathcal{T} is a μ -skeleton, then $\mu \leq |I_0(X_{\mathcal{T}})|^{\omega}$. Especially, under CH an $\langle \omega_1 \rangle_{\omega_2} \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -poset can not be an ω_2 -skeleton.*

Thus, we are unable to use Theorem 10 to prove Theorem 5 even for $\kappa = \omega_1$. Instead of this stepping-up method, in the next two sections we will construct $\langle \omega_1 \rangle_{\eta} \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -posets directly using the method of orbits from [6]. This method was used to construct by forcing $\langle \omega_1 \rangle_{\eta}$ -posets for $\omega_2 \leq \eta < \omega_3$. It is not difficult to get an $\langle \omega_1 \rangle_{\omega_2}$ -poset by means of countable ‘‘approximations’’ of the required poset. However, for $\omega_2 \leq \eta < \omega_3$ we need the notion of orbit and a much more involved forcing to obtain $\langle \omega_1 \rangle_{\eta}$ -posets (see [6]).

3. COMBINATORIAL NOTIONS

In this section, we define the combinatorial notions that will be used in the proof of Theorem 5.

If α, β are ordinals with $\alpha \leq \beta$ let

$$(5) \quad [\alpha, \beta) = \{\gamma : \alpha \leq \gamma < \beta\}.$$

Definition 19.

(a) We say that I is an *ordinal interval* iff there are ordinals α and β with $\alpha \leq \beta$ and $I = [\alpha, \beta)$. Then, we write $I^- = \alpha$ and $I^+ = \beta$.

(b) Assume that $I = [\alpha, \beta)$ is an ordinal interval. If β is a limit ordinal, let $E(I) = \{\varepsilon_{\nu}^I : \nu < \text{cf}(\beta)\}$ be a cofinal closed subset of I having order type $\text{cf}(\beta)$ with $\alpha = \varepsilon_0^I$, and then put

$$(6) \quad \mathcal{E}(I) = \{[\varepsilon_{\nu}^I, \varepsilon_{\nu+1}^I) : \nu < \text{cf}(\beta)\}.$$

If $\beta = \beta' + 1$ is a successor ordinal, put $E(I) = \{\alpha, \beta'\}$ and

$$(7) \quad \mathcal{E}(I) = \{[\alpha, \beta'), \{\beta'\}\}.$$

(c) If κ is an infinite cardinal and η is an ordinal with $\kappa^+ \leq \eta < \kappa^{++}$ and $\text{cf}(\eta) = \kappa^+$, we define $\mathbb{I}_{\eta} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{I}_n : n < \omega\}$ where:

$$(8) \quad \mathcal{I}_0 = \{[0, \eta)\} \text{ and } \mathcal{I}_{n+1} = \bigcup \{\mathcal{E}(I) : I \in \mathcal{I}_n\}.$$

Note that \mathbb{I}_{η} is a cofinal tree of intervals in the sense defined in [6]. So, the following conditions are satisfied:

- (i) For every $I, J \in \mathbb{I}_{\eta}$, $I \subseteq J$ or $J \subseteq I$ or $I \cap J = \emptyset$.
- (ii) If I, J are different elements of \mathbb{I}_{η} with $I \subseteq J$ and J^+ is a limit, then $I^+ < J^+$.
- (iii) \mathcal{I}_n partitions $[0, \eta)$ for each $n < \omega$.
- (iv) \mathcal{I}_{n+1} refines \mathcal{I}_n for each $n < \omega$.
- (v) For every $\alpha < \eta$ there is an $I \in \mathbb{I}_{\eta}$ such that $I^- = \alpha$.

Definition 20.

(a) For each $\alpha < \eta$ and $n < \omega$ we define $I(\alpha, n)$ as the unique interval $I \in \mathcal{I}_n$ such that $\alpha \in I$.

(b) For each $\alpha < \eta$ we define $n(\alpha)$ as the least natural number n such that there is an interval $I \in \mathcal{I}_n$ with $I^- = \alpha$.

Note that if $n(\alpha) = k$, then for every $m \geq k$ we have $I(\alpha, m)^- = \alpha$.

The following notion will be essential in our forcing construction.

Definition 21. Assume that $\alpha < \eta$. If $m < n(\alpha)$, we put $o_m(\alpha) = E(I(\alpha, m)) \cap \alpha$. Then, we define the *orbit* of α (with respect to \mathbb{I}_η) as

$$(9) \quad o(\alpha) = \bigcup \{o_m(\alpha) : m < n(\alpha)\}.$$

For basic facts on orbits and trees of intervals, we refer the reader to [6, Section 1]. In particular, we have $|o(\alpha)| \leq \kappa$ for every $\alpha < \eta$.

We write $E([0, \eta)) = \{\varepsilon_\nu : \nu < \kappa^+\}$.

Claim 22. $o(\varepsilon_\nu) = \{\varepsilon_\zeta : \zeta < \nu\}$ for $\nu < \kappa^+$.

Proof. Clearly $I(\varepsilon_\nu, 0) = [0, \eta)$ and $I(\varepsilon_\nu, 1) = [\varepsilon_\nu, \varepsilon_{\nu+1})$. So $n(\varepsilon_\nu) = 1$. Thus $o(\varepsilon_\nu) = o_0(\varepsilon_\nu) = E(I(\varepsilon_\nu, 0)) \cap \varepsilon_\nu = E([0, \eta)) \cap \varepsilon_\nu = \{\varepsilon_\zeta : \zeta < \nu\}$. \square

For $\alpha < \beta < \eta$ let

$$(10) \quad j(\alpha, \beta) = \max\{j : I(\alpha, j) = I(\beta, j)\},$$

and put

$$(11) \quad J(\alpha, \beta) = I(\alpha, j(\alpha, \beta) + 1).$$

For $\alpha < \eta$ let

$$(12) \quad J(\alpha, \eta) = I(\alpha, 1).$$

Claim 23. If $\varepsilon_\zeta \leq \alpha < \varepsilon_{\zeta+1} \leq \beta \leq \eta$, then $J(\alpha, \beta) = [\varepsilon_\zeta, \varepsilon_{\zeta+1})$.

Proof. For $\beta = \eta$, $J(\alpha, \beta) = I(\alpha, 1) = [\varepsilon_\zeta, \varepsilon_{\zeta+1})$.

Now assume that $\beta < \eta$. Since $I(\alpha, 0) = I(\beta, 0) = [0, \eta)$, but $I(\alpha, 1) = [\varepsilon_\zeta, \varepsilon_{\zeta+1})$ and $I(\beta, 1) = [\varepsilon_\xi, \varepsilon_{\xi+1})$ for some ε_ξ with $\varepsilon_{\zeta+1} \leq \varepsilon_\xi$, we have $j(\alpha, \beta) = 0$ and so $J(\alpha, \beta) = [\varepsilon_\zeta, \varepsilon_{\zeta+1})$. \square

4. PROOF OF THE MAIN THEOREM

In order to prove Theorem 5, suppose that κ, λ are infinite cardinals with $\kappa^{+++} \leq \lambda$ and $\kappa^{<\kappa} = \kappa$, η is an ordinal with $\kappa^+ \leq \eta < \kappa^{++}$ and $\text{cf}(\eta) = \kappa^+$, and there is a κ^+ -strongly unbounded function on λ . We will use a refinement of the arguments given in [6] and [3, Section 4].

First, we define the underlying set of our construction.

Definition 24.

- (a) We put $T = \bigcup\{T_\alpha : \alpha \leq \eta\}$ where $T_\alpha = \{\alpha\} \times \kappa$ for every $\alpha < \eta$ and $T_\eta = \{\eta\} \times \lambda$.
 (b) We write $T_{<\eta} = T \setminus T_\eta$.

Definition 25.

- (a) We put $\mathbb{I} = \mathbb{I}_\eta$.
 (b) We define $E = E([0, \eta)) = \{\varepsilon_\nu : \nu < \kappa^+\}$.

Since there is a κ^+ -strongly unbounded function on λ and $\text{cf}(\eta) = \kappa^+$ there is a function $F : [\lambda]^2 \longrightarrow E$ such that the following condition holds:

- (\star) For every ordinal $\gamma < \eta$ and every family $A \subseteq [\lambda]^{<\kappa}$ of pairwise disjoint sets with $|A| = \kappa^+$, there are different $a, b \in A$ such that $F\{\alpha, \beta\} > \gamma$ for every $\alpha \in a$ and $\beta \in b$.

The following notion will be used in our forcing construction.

Definition 26. Let $\Lambda \in \mathbb{I}$ and $\{s, t\} \in [T]^2$ with $\pi(s) < \pi(t)$. We say that Λ *isolates s from t* iff $\Lambda^- < \pi(s) < \Lambda^+$ and $\Lambda^+ \leq \pi(t)$.

Definition 27. We define the poset $\mathcal{P} = \langle P, \leq \rangle$ as follows.

- (a) We say that $p = \langle X, \preceq, i \rangle \in P$ iff the following conditions hold:
 (P1) $X \in [T]^{<\kappa}$.
 (P2) \preceq is a partial order on X such that $s \prec t$ implies $\pi(s) < \pi(t)$.
 (P3) $i : [X]^2 \longrightarrow X \cup \{\text{undef}\}$ is an infimum function, that is, a function such that for every $\{s, t\} \in [X]^2$ we have:

$$\forall x \in X ([x \preceq s \wedge x \preceq t] \text{ iff } x \preceq i\{s, t\}).$$

 (P4) If $s, t \in X$ are compatible but not comparable in $\langle X, \preceq \rangle$, $v = i\{s, t\}$ and $\pi(s) = \alpha_1$, $\pi(t) = \alpha_2$ and $\pi(v) = \beta$, we have:
 (a) If $\alpha_1, \alpha_2 < \eta$, then $\beta \in o(\alpha_1) \cap o(\alpha_2)$.
 (b) If $\alpha_1 < \eta$ and $\alpha_2 = \eta$, then $\beta \in o(\alpha_1) \cap E$.
 (c) If $\alpha_1 = \eta$ and $\alpha_2 < \eta$, then $\beta \in o(\alpha_2) \cap E$.
 (d) If $\alpha_1 = \alpha_2 = \eta$, then $\beta \in F\{\xi(s), \xi(t)\} \cap E$.
 (P5) If $s, t \in X$ with $s \preceq t$ and $\Lambda = J(\pi(s), \pi(t))$ isolates s from t , then there is a $u \in X$ such that $s \preceq u \preceq t$ and $\pi(u) = \Lambda^+$.
 (b) If $\langle X, \preceq, i \rangle, \langle X', \preceq', i' \rangle \in P$, we put $\langle X', \preceq', i' \rangle \leq \langle X, \preceq, i \rangle$ iff $X \subseteq X'$, $\preceq = \preceq' \cap (X \times X)$ and $i \subseteq i'$.

Lemma 28. *Assume that $p = \langle X, \preceq, i \rangle \in P$, $t \in X$, $\alpha < \pi(t)$ and $\nu < \kappa$. Then, there is a $p' = \langle X', \preceq', i' \rangle \in P$ with $p' \leq p$ and there is an $s \in X' \setminus X$ with $\pi(s) = \alpha$ and $\xi(s) > \nu$ such that, for every $x \in X$, $s \preceq' x$ iff $t \preceq' x$.*

Proof. Since $|X| < \kappa$, we can take an $s \in T_\alpha \setminus X$ with $\xi(s) > \nu$. Let $\{I_0, \dots, I_n\}$ be the list of all the intervals in \mathbb{I} that isolate s from t in such a way that

$I_0^+ > I_1^+ > \dots > I_n^+$. Put $\gamma_i = I_i^+$ for $i \leq n$. We take points $c_i \in T \setminus X$ with $\pi(c_i) = \gamma_i$ for $i \leq n$. Let $X' = X \cup \{s\} \cup \{c_i : i \leq n\}$ and let

$$\prec' = \prec \cup \{\langle s, c_i \rangle : i \leq n\} \cup \{\langle s, y \rangle : t \preceq y\} \cup \{\langle c_j, c_i \rangle : i < j\} \cup \{\langle c_i, y \rangle : i \leq n, t \preceq y\}.$$

Note that, for $z \in X'$ and $y \in \{s\} \cup \{c_i : i \leq n\}$, either z and y are comparable or they are incompatible with respect to \preceq' . So, the definition of i' is clear.

Finally, observe that p' satisfies (P5) because if $x \prec' y$ with $x \in \{s\} \cup \{c_i : i \leq n\}$, $y \in X'$ and $J(\pi(x), \pi(y))$ isolates x from y then either $J(\pi(x), \pi(y)) = I_k$ for some $0 \leq k \leq n$ or $J(\pi(x), \pi(y)) = J(\pi(t), \pi(y))$. But if $J(\pi(x), \pi(y)) = I_k$, then c_k witnesses (P5) for x and y ; and if $J(\pi(x), \pi(y)) = J(\pi(t), \pi(y))$, we are done by condition (P5) for p . \square

Definition 29. For $p \in P$ we write $p = \langle X_p, \preceq_p, i_p \rangle$, $Y_p = X_p \cap T_{<\eta}$ and $Z_p = X_p \cap T_\eta$.

Lemma 30. *If \mathcal{P} preserves cardinals, then forcing with \mathcal{P} adjoins a (κ, η, λ) -Boolean algebra.*

Proof. Let \mathcal{G} be a \mathcal{P} -generic filter. Then

$$(13) \quad T = \bigcup \{X_p : p \in \mathcal{G}\},$$

and taking

$$(14) \quad \preceq = \bigcup \{\preceq_p : p \in \mathcal{G}\}$$

the poset $\langle T, \preceq \rangle$ is a $\langle \kappa \rangle_\eta \frown \langle \lambda \rangle$ -poset. Especially, Lemma 28 guarantees that $\langle T, \prec \rangle$ satisfies (4) from Definition 6. So, by Lemma 7, in $V[\mathcal{G}]$ there is a (κ, η, λ) -Boolean algebra. \square

To complete our proof we should check that forcing with P preserves cardinals. It is straightforward that \mathcal{P} is κ -closed. The burden of our proof is to verify the following statement, which completes the proof of Theorem 5.

Lemma 31. *\mathcal{P} has the κ^+ -chain condition.*

We need to consider the partial order introduced in [6].

Definition 32. We define the subposet $\mathcal{P}_\eta = \langle P_\eta, \leq_\eta \rangle$ of \mathcal{P} as follows. We put

$$(15) \quad P_\eta = \{p \in P : X_p \subseteq \eta \times \kappa\},$$

and we let $\leq_\eta = \leq \upharpoonright P_\eta$.

The poset \mathcal{P}_η was defined in [6, Definition 2.1], and it was proved that \mathcal{P}_η satisfies the κ^+ -chain condition. In [6, Lemmas 2.5 and 2.6] it was shown that every set $R \in [P_\eta]^{\kappa^+}$ has a linked subset of size κ^+ . Actually, a stronger statement was proved, and we will use that statement to prove Lemma 31. However, before doing so, we need some preparation.

Definition 33. Suppose that $g : A \longrightarrow B$ is a bijection, where $A, B \in [T]^{<\kappa}$. We say that g is *adequate* iff the following conditions hold:

- (1) $g[A \cap T_{<\eta}] = B \cap T_{<\eta}$ and $g[A \cap T_\eta] = B \cap T_\eta$.
- (2) For every $s, t \in A$, $\pi(s) < \pi(t)$ iff $\pi(g(s)) < \pi(g(t))$.
- (3) For every $s = \langle \alpha, \nu \rangle \in A \cap T_{<\eta}$, $g(\alpha, \nu) = (\beta, \zeta)$ implies $\nu = \zeta$.
- (4) For every $s, t \in A \cap T_\eta$, $\xi(s) < \xi(t)$ iff $\xi(g(s)) < \xi(g(t))$.

For $A, B \subseteq T_{<\eta}$, this definition is just [6, Definition 2.2].

Definition 34. A set $Z \subseteq P$ is *separated* iff the following conditions are satisfied:

- (1) $\{X_p : p \in Z\}$ forms a Δ -system with root X .
- (2) For each $\alpha < \eta$, either $X_p \cap T_\alpha = X \cap T_\alpha$ for every $p \in Z$, or there is at most one $p \in Z$ such that $X_p \cap T_\alpha \neq \emptyset$.
- (3) For every $p, q \in Z$ there is an adequate bijection $h_{p,q} : X_p \longrightarrow X_q$ which satisfies the following:
 - (a) For any $s \in X$, $h_{p,q}(s) = s$.
 - (b) If $s, t \in X_p$, then $s \prec_p t$ iff $h_{p,q}(s) \prec_q h_{p,q}(t)$.
 - (c) If $s, t \in X_p$, then $h_{p,q}(i_p\{s, t\}) = i_q\{h_{p,q}(s), h_{p,q}(t)\}$.

For $Z \subseteq P_\eta$, this definition is just [6, Definition 2.3].

Lemma 35. Assume that $Z \in [P]^{\kappa^+}$ is separated and X is the root of the Δ -system $\{X_p : p \in Z\}$. If s, t are compatible but not comparable in $p \in Z$ and $s \in X \cap T_{<\eta}$, then $i_p\{s, t\} \in X$.

Proof. Assume that s, t are compatible but not comparable in $p \in Z$ and $s \in X \cap T_{<\eta}$. Assume that $i_p\{s, t\} \notin X$. Then since

$$(16) \quad \{i_q\{s, h_{p,q}(t)\} : q \in Z\} = \{h_{p,q}(i_p\{s, t\}) : q \in Z\},$$

the elements of $\{i_q\{s, h_{p,q}(t)\} : q \in Z\}$ are all different. But this is impossible, because $\pi(i_q\{s, h_{p,q}(t)\}) \in o(s)$ for all $q \in Z$ and $|o(s)| \leq \kappa$. \square

In [6, Lemmas 2.5 and 2.6], as we explain in the Appendix of this paper, actually the following statement was proved.

Proposition 36. For each subset $R \in [P_\eta]^{\kappa^+}$ there is a separated subset $Z \in [R]^{\kappa^+}$ and an ordinal $\gamma < \eta$ such that every $p, q \in Z$ have a common extension $r \in P_\eta$ such that the following holds:

- (R1) $\sup \pi[X_r \setminus (X_p \cup X_q)] < \gamma$.
- (R2) (a) $y \prec_r s$ iff $y \prec_r h_{p,q}(s)$ for each $s \in X_p$ and $y \in X_r \setminus (X_p \cup X_q)$,
(b) $s \prec_r y$ iff $h_{p,q}(s) \prec_r y$ for each $s \in X_p$ and $y \in X_r \setminus (X_p \cup X_q)$,
(c) if $s \prec_r y$ for $s \in X_p \cup X_q$ and $y \in X_r \setminus (X_p \cup X_q)$, then there is a $w \in X_p \cap X_q$ with $s \preceq_r w \prec_r y$,

$$\begin{aligned}
& (d) \text{ for } s \in X_p \setminus X_q \text{ and } t \in X_q \setminus X_p, \\
(17) \quad & s \prec_r t \text{ iff } \exists u \in X_p \cap X_q \text{ such that } s \prec_p u \prec_q t, \\
& t \prec_r s \text{ iff } \exists u \in X_p \cap X_q \text{ such that } t \prec_q u \prec_p s.
\end{aligned}$$

After this preparation, we are ready to prove Lemma 31.

Proof of Lemma 31. We will argue in the following way. Assume that $R = \langle r_\nu : \nu < \kappa^+ \rangle \subseteq P$, where $r_\nu = \langle X_\nu, \preceq_\nu, i_\nu \rangle$. For each $\nu < \kappa^+$ we will “push down” r_ν into P_η , more precisely, we will construct an isomorphic copy $r'_\nu \in P_\eta$ of r_ν . Using Proposition 36 we can find a separated subfamily $\{r'_\nu : \nu \in K\}$ of size κ^+ and an ordinal $\gamma < \eta$ such that for each $\nu, \mu \in K$ with $\nu \neq \mu$ there is a condition $r'_{\nu, \mu} \in P_\eta$ such that $r'_{\nu, \mu} \leq_\eta r'_\nu, r'_\mu$ and (R1)–(R2) hold, especially

$$(18) \quad \sup \pi[X'_{\nu, \mu} \setminus (X'_\nu \cup X'_\mu)] < \gamma.$$

Let X be the root of $\{X_\nu : \nu < \kappa^+\}$, $Y = X \setminus T_\eta$ and $\gamma_0 = \max(\gamma, \sup \pi[Y])$. Since F is κ^+ -strongly unbounded, there are $\nu, \mu \in K$ with $\nu < \mu$ such that

$$(19) \quad \forall s \in (X_\nu \setminus X_\mu) \cap T_\eta \quad \forall t \in (X_\mu \setminus X_\nu) \cap T_\eta \quad F\{\xi(s), \xi(t)\} > \gamma_0.$$

Then we will be able to “pull back” $r' = r'_{\nu, \mu}$ into P to get a condition $r = r_{\nu, \mu}$ which is a common extension of r_ν and r_μ . Let us remark that r will not be an isomorphic copy of r' , rather r will be a “homomorphic image“ of r' .

Now we carry out our plan.

Since $\kappa^{<\kappa} = \kappa$, by thinning out our sequence we can assume that R itself is a separated set. So $\{X_r : r \in R\}$ forms a Δ -system with kernel \bar{X} . We write $\bar{Y} = \bar{X} \cap T_{<\eta}$ and $\bar{Z} = \bar{X} \cap T_\eta$.

Recall that $E = E([0, \eta)) = \{\varepsilon_\zeta : \zeta < \kappa^+\}$ is a closed unbounded subset of η .

Fix $\nu < \kappa^+$. Write $Y_\nu = X_\nu \cap T_{<\eta}$ and $Z_\nu = X_\nu \cap T_\eta$. Pick a limit ordinal $\zeta(\nu) < \kappa^+$ such that:

- (i) $\sup(\pi[Y_\nu]) < \varepsilon_{\zeta(\nu)}$,
- (ii) $\zeta(\mu) < \zeta(\nu)$ for $\mu < \nu$.

Let $\theta = \text{tp}(\xi[Z_\nu])$ and $\alpha = \varepsilon_{\zeta(\nu)}$. We put $Z'_\nu = \{\langle \alpha, \xi \rangle : \xi < \theta\}$. Clearly, $Z'_\nu \subseteq T_{\varepsilon_{\zeta(\nu)}}$ and $\text{tp}(\xi[Z'_\nu]) = \text{tp}(\xi[Z_\nu])$. We consider in Z'_ν and Z_ν the well-orderings induced by κ and λ respectively. Put $X'_\nu = Y_\nu \cup Z'_\nu$, and let $g_\nu : X'_\nu \rightarrow X_\nu$ be the natural bijection, i.e. $g_\nu \upharpoonright Y_\nu = \text{id}$ and $g_\nu(s) = t$ if for some $\xi < \text{tp}(\xi[Z_\nu])$ s is the ξ -element in Z'_ν and t is the ξ -element in Z_ν .

Let $\bar{Z}'_\nu = g_\nu^{-1} \bar{Z}$. We define the condition $r'_\nu = \langle X'_\nu, \preceq'_\nu, i'_\nu \rangle \in P_\eta$ as follows: for $s, t \in X'_\nu$ with $s \neq t$ we put

$$(20) \quad s \prec'_\nu t \text{ iff } g_\nu(s) \prec_\nu g_\nu(t),$$

and

$$(21) \quad i'_\nu\{s, t\} = i_\nu\{g_\nu(s), g_\nu(t)\}.$$

Claim 37. $r'_\nu \in P_\eta$.

Proof. (P1), (P2) and (P3) are clear because g_ν is an isomorphism between $r'_\nu = \langle X'_\nu, \preceq'_\nu, i'_\nu \rangle$ and $r_\nu = \langle X_\nu, \preceq_\nu, i_\nu \rangle$, moreover $\pi(s) < \pi(t)$ iff $\pi(g_\nu(s)) < \pi(g_\nu(t))$. (P4) Since $X'_\nu \subseteq T_{<\eta}$ we should check just (a). So assume that $s', t' \in X'_\nu$ are compatible but not comparable in $\langle X'_\nu, \preceq'_\nu \rangle$ and $v' = i'_\nu\{s', t'\}$. Put $s = g_\nu(s')$, $t = g_\nu(t')$. Since $g_\nu \upharpoonright Y_\nu = id$, we can assume that $\{s', t'\} \notin [Y_\nu]^2$, e.g. $s' \in Z'_\nu$ and so $s \in Z_\nu$.

First observe that $v' \in Y_\nu$, so $v' = g_\nu(v')$.

If $t' \in Y_\nu$, then $t' = g_\nu(t')$, and $v' = i_\nu\{s, t'\}$. By applying (P4)(c) in r_ν for s and t' we obtain

$$(22) \quad \pi(v') \in E \cap o(\pi(t')) \subseteq E \cap \varepsilon_{\zeta(\nu)} \cap o(\pi(t')) = o(\pi(s')) \cap o(\pi(t'))$$

because $o(\pi(s')) = E \cap \varepsilon_{\zeta(\nu)}$ by Claim 22.

If $t' \in Z'_\nu$, then $t = g_\nu(t') \in Z_\nu \subseteq T_\eta$. Since $v' = i'_\nu\{s', t'\} = i_\nu\{s, t\}$, applying (P4)(d) in r_ν for s and t we obtain

$$\pi(v') \in F\{\xi(s), \xi(t)\} \cap E \cap \varepsilon_{\zeta(\nu)} \subseteq E \cap \varepsilon_{\zeta(\nu)} = o(\pi(s')) \cap o(\pi(t'))$$

because $o(\pi(s')) = o(\pi(t')) = E \cap \varepsilon_{\zeta(\nu)}$ by Claim 22.

(P5) Assume that $s', t' \in X'_\nu$, $s' \prec'_\nu t'$ and $\Lambda = J(\pi(s'), \pi(t'))$ isolates s' from t' . Then $s' \in Y_\nu$, so $g_\nu(s') = s'$. Since $g_\nu \upharpoonright Y_\nu = id$, we can assume that $\{s', t'\} \notin [Y_\nu]^2$, i.e. $t' \in Z'_\nu$.

Write $t = g_\nu(t')$. Since $\pi(t') = \varepsilon_{\zeta(\nu)} \in E$, by Claim 23, $J(\pi(s'), \pi(t')) = J(\pi(s'), \pi(t)) = [\varepsilon_\zeta, \varepsilon_{\zeta+1}] = I(\pi(s'), 1)$, where $\varepsilon_\zeta \leq \pi(s') < \varepsilon_{\zeta+1}$. Applying (P5) in r_ν for s' and t , we obtain a $v \in Y_\nu$ such that $\pi(v) = \Lambda^+$ and $s' \prec_\nu v \prec_\nu t$. Then $g_\nu(v) = v$, so $s' \prec'_\nu v \prec'_\nu t'$, which was to be proved. \square

Now applying Proposition 36 to the family $\{r'_\nu : \nu < \kappa^+\}$, there are $K \in [\kappa^+]^{\kappa^+}$ and $\gamma < \eta$ such that $\{r'_\nu : \nu \in K\}$ is separated and for every $\nu, \mu \in K$ with $\nu \neq \mu$ there is a common extension $r' \in P_\eta$ of r'_ν and r'_μ such that (R1)-(R2) hold. Let $\gamma_0 = \max(\gamma, \sup \pi[\bar{Y}])$. Recall that \bar{Y} is the root of the Δ -system $\{Y_\nu : \nu \in \kappa^+\}$. For $\nu < \mu < \kappa^+$ we denote by $h'_{\nu, \mu}$ the adequate bijection $h_{r'_\nu, r'_\mu}$.

Since F satisfies (\star) , there are $\nu, \mu \in K$ with $\nu \neq \mu$ such that for each $s \in (Z_\nu \setminus Z_\mu)$ and $t \in (Z_\mu \setminus Z_\nu)$ we have

$$(23) \quad F\{\xi(s), \xi(t)\} > \gamma_0.$$

We show that the conditions r_ν and r_μ have a common extension $r = \langle X, \preceq, i \rangle \in P$.

Consider a condition $r' = \langle X', \preceq', i' \rangle$ which is a common extension of r'_ν and r'_μ and satisfies (R1)-(R2). We define the condition $r = \langle X, \preceq, i \rangle$ as follows. Let

$$(24) \quad X = (X' \setminus (Z'_\nu \cup Z'_\mu)) \cup (Z_\nu \cup Z_\mu).$$

Write $U = X' \setminus (Z'_\nu \cup Z'_\mu) = X \setminus (Z_\nu \cup Z_\mu)$ and $V = X' \setminus (X'_\nu \cup X'_\mu)$. Clearly, $V \subseteq U$. We define the function $h : X' \rightarrow X$ as follows:

$$(25) \quad h = g_\nu \cup g_\mu \cup (id \upharpoonright U).$$

Then h is well-defined, h is onto, $h \upharpoonright X' \setminus (\bar{Z}'_\nu \cup \bar{Z}'_\mu)$ is injective, and $h[\bar{Z}'_\nu] = h[\bar{Z}'_\mu] = \bar{Z}$.

Now, if $s, t \in X$ we put

$$(26) \quad s \prec t \text{ iff there is a } t' \in X' \text{ with } h(t') = t \text{ and } s \prec' t'.$$

Finally, we define the meet function i on $[X]^2$ as follows:

$$(27) \quad i\{s, t\} = \max_{\prec'} \{i'\{s', t'\} : h(s') = s \text{ and } h(t') = t\}.$$

We will prove in the following claim that the definition of the function i is meaningful. Then, the proof of Lemma 31 will be complete as soon as we verify that $r \in P$ and $r \leq r_\nu, r_\mu$.

Claim 38. i is well-defined by (27), moreover $i \supseteq i_\nu \cup i_\mu$.

Proof. We need to verify that the maximum in (27) does exist when we define $i\{s, t\}$. So, suppose that $\{s, t\} \in [X]^2$.

If $\{s, t\} \in [X \setminus \bar{Z}]^2$ then there is exactly one pair (s', t') such that $h(s') = s$ and $h(t') = t$, and hence there is no problem in (27). So if $\{s, t\} \in [X_\nu]^2$ then $i\{s, t\} = i'\{s', t'\} = i_\nu\{s, t\}$ by the construction of r'_ν . If $\{s, t\} \in [X_\mu]^2$ proceeding similarly we obtain $i\{s, t\} = i'\{s', t'\} = i_\mu\{s, t\}$.

So we can assume that e.g. $s \in \bar{Z}$. Then $h^{-1}(s) = \{s', s''\}$ for some $s' \in \bar{Z}'_\nu$ and $s'' \in \bar{Z}'_\mu$.

First assume that $t \notin \bar{Z}$, so there is exactly one $t' \in X'$ with $h(t') = t$. We distinguish the following cases.

Case 1. $t \in V$.

Note that since $t \in V$, $t = t'$. We show that $i'\{s', t\} = i'\{s'', t\}$.

Let $v = i'\{s', t\}$. Assume that $v \in X'_\nu \cup X'_\mu$. Then, by (R2)(c), $v \prec' t$ and $t \in V$ imply that there is a $w \in \bar{Y} = X'_\nu \cap X'_\mu$ such that $v \preceq' w \prec' t$. Thus $v = i'\{s', w\}$ and $i'\{s', w\} = i'_\nu\{s', w\} = i_\nu\{s, w\} \in \bar{Y}$ by Lemma 35 for $w \in \bar{Y}$. Clearly, $v \prec' t, s''$. Hence $v \preceq' i'\{s'', t\}$.

Now assume that $v \in V$. Then $v \prec' s'$ implies $v \prec' h'_{\nu, \mu}(s') = s''$ by (R2)(a). So $v \prec' t, s''$, thus $i'\{s', t\} \preceq' i'\{s'', t\}$.

So, in both cases $i'\{s', t\} \preceq' i'\{s'', t\}$. But s' and s'' are symmetrical, hence $i'\{s'', t\} \preceq' i'\{s', t\}$, and so we are done.

Case 2. $t \in X_\nu \setminus \bar{Z}$.

We show that in this case $i'\{s'', t'\} \preceq' i'\{s', t'\}$.

Let $v = i'\{s'', t'\}$. If $v \in V$, then $v \prec' s''$ and $h'_{\nu, \mu}(s') = s''$ imply $v \prec' s'$ by (R2)(a). Thus $v \preceq' s', t'$, and so $v \preceq' i'\{s', t'\}$.

Now assume that $v \in X'_\nu \cup X'_\mu$. Note that if $v \in \bar{Y} = X'_\nu \cap X'_\mu$, then $v \prec' s'$, and so $v \prec' i'\{s', t'\}$. We show that $v \in \bar{Y}$. For this, assume that $v \in (X'_\nu \cup X'_\mu) \setminus \bar{Y}$. Without loss of generality, we may suppose that $v \in X'_\nu \setminus X'_\mu$. Then, by (R2)(d),

there is a $w \in \bar{Y}$ such that $v \prec' w \prec' s''$. Thus $v = i'\{w, t'\} = i'_\nu\{w, t'\} \in \bar{Y}$ by Lemma 35.

Moreover, $\{s, t\} \in [X_\nu]^2$ and $i\{s, t\} = i'\{s', t'\} = i_\nu\{s, t\}$ because $g_\nu(s') = h(s') = s$ and $g_\nu(t') = h(t') = t$.

Case 3. $t \in X_\mu \setminus \bar{Z}$.

Proceeding as in Case 2, we can show that $i'\{s', t'\} \preceq' i'\{s'', t''\} = i_\mu\{s, t\}$.

Finally, assume that $t \in \bar{Z}$. Then $h^{-1}(t) = \{t', t''\}$ for some $t' \in \bar{Z}'_\nu$ and $t'' \in \bar{Z}'_\mu$.

Note that by Cases (2) and (3),

$$i'\{s'', t''\} \preceq' i'\{s', t'\} \text{ and } i'\{s', t''\} \preceq' i'\{s'', t''\}.$$

Since $i'\{s', t'\} = i_\nu\{s, t\} = i_\mu\{s, t\} = i'\{s'', t''\}$ by the construction of r'_ν and r'_μ , we have

$$(28) \quad i'\{s', t'\} = i'\{s'', t''\} = \max_{\prec'}(i'\{s', t'\}, i'\{s'', t''\}, i'\{s', t''\}, i'\{s'', t'\}).$$

Moreover, in this case $\{s, t\} \in [X_\nu]^2 \cap [X_\mu]^2$ and we have just proved that $i\{s, t\} = i_\nu\{s, t\} = i_\mu\{s, t\}$. \square

By Claim 38 above, r is well-defined. Since $i \supseteq i_\nu \cup i_\mu$, it is easy to check that if $r \in P$ then $r \leq r_\nu, r_\mu$. So, the following claim completes the verification of the chain condition.

Claim 39. $r \in P$.

Proof. (P1) and (P2) are clear.

(P3) Assume that $\{s, t\} \in [X]^2$. Without loss of generality, we may assume that s, t are compatible but not comparable in $\langle X, \preceq \rangle$. Note that by (26), (27) and condition (P3) for r' , we have $i\{s, t\} \prec s, t$. So, we have to show that if $v \prec s, t$ then $v \preceq i\{s, t\}$.

Assume that $v \prec s, t$. Then, $v \in U$ and there are $s', t' \in X'$ such that $h(s') = s$, $h(t') = t$ and $v \prec' s', t'$. By (P3) for r' , $v \preceq' i'\{s', t'\}$. Now as $v, i'\{s', t'\}, i\{s, t\} \in U$ and $h \upharpoonright U = id$, we infer from (27) that $v \preceq' i'\{s', t'\} \preceq' i\{s, t\}$ and hence $v \preceq i\{s, t\}$.

(P4) Assume that $s, t \in X$ are compatible but not comparable in $\langle X, \preceq \rangle$. Let $v = i\{s, t\}$.

(a) In this case $\pi(s), \pi(t) < \eta$. Then $s, t \in X \setminus (Z_\nu \cup Z_\mu) = U$, so $h(s) = s$ and $h(t) = t$. Thus $i\{s, t\} = i'\{s, t\}$. Hence, it follows from condition (P4)(a) for r' that $\pi(i\{s, t\}) \in o(s) \cap o(t)$.

(b) In this case $\pi(s) < \eta$ and $\pi(t) = \eta$. Then $s \in X \setminus (Z_\nu \cup Z_\mu) = U$ and $t \in Z_\nu \cup Z_\mu$.

By (27) and Claim 38, there is a $t^* \in Z'_\nu \cup Z'_\mu$ such that $h(t^*) = t$ and $i\{s, t\} = i'\{s, t^*\}$.

Now, applying (P4)(a) for r' , we infer that $\pi(v) \in o(s) \cap o(t^*)$. Since $\pi(t^*) \in E$, we have $o(t^*) \subseteq E$ by Claim 22. Then we deduce that $\pi(v) \in o(s) \cap E$, which was to be proved.

(c) The same as (b).

(d) In this case $\pi(s) = \pi(t) = \eta$. If $\{s, t\} \in [Z_\nu]^2$ then $i\{s, t\} = i_\nu\{s, t\}$, and by (P4)(d) for r_ν , we deduce that $\pi(i\{s, t\}) \in F\{\xi(s), \xi(t)\} \cap E$. A parallel argument works if $s, t \in Z_\mu$.

So we can assume that $s \in Z_\nu \setminus Z_\mu$ and $t \in Z_\mu \setminus Z_\nu$. Note that there are a unique $s' \in Z'_\nu$ with $h(s') = s$ and a unique $t' \in Z'_\mu$ with $h(t') = t$. Then, $v = i\{s, t\} = i'\{s', t'\} \in U$. Hence either $v \in V$, or $v \in X_\nu \cup X_\mu$ and in this case there is a $w \in X_\nu \cap X_\mu$ with $v \preceq' w$ by (R2)(d).

In both cases $\pi(v) \leq \gamma_0$. Note that, applying (P4)(a) in r' for s', t' and $v = i'\{s', t'\}$, we obtain $\pi(v) \in o(s') \cap o(t')$. Since $\pi(s'), \pi(t') \in E$ we have $o(s') \cup o(t') \subseteq E$ by Claim 22. Thus $\pi(v) \in E$. And since $\pi(v) \leq \gamma_0$, we have $\pi(v) \in F\{\xi(s), \xi(t)\} \cap E$, which was to be proved.

(P5) Assume that $s, t \in X$, $s \prec t$ and $\Lambda = J(\pi(s), \pi(t))$ isolates s from t . Then $s \notin T_\eta$, so $h(s) = s$.

If $t \notin T_\eta$ then $h(t) = t$, so we are done because r' satisfies (P5).

Assume that $t \in T_\eta$. As $s \prec t$, there is a $t' \in T_{\varepsilon_{\zeta(\nu)}} \cup T_{\varepsilon_{\zeta(\mu)}}$ such that $h(t') = t$ and $s \prec' t'$. Since $\pi(t') \in E$, by Claim 23 we have $J(\pi(s), \pi(t')) = I(\pi(s), 1) = J(\pi(s), \pi(t))$. Applying (P5) in r' for s and t' , we obtain a $v \in X'$ such that $s \prec' v \preceq' t'$ and $\pi(v) = \Lambda^+$. But as $\zeta(\nu), \zeta(\mu)$ are limit ordinals, we have $v \prec' t'$, and hence $v \in X' \setminus (Z'_\nu \cup Z'_\mu) = U$. Then $h(v) = v$, so $s \prec v \prec t$, which was to be proved. \square

Hence we have proved that \mathcal{P} satisfies the κ^+ -chain condition, which completes the proof of Theorem 5. \square

5. APPENDIX

We explain in detail how Proposition 36 was proved in [6].

Definition 40. Assume that $Z \subseteq P_\eta$ is a separated set and \bar{X} is the root of $\{X_p : p \in Z\}$.

(a) For every $n \in \omega$ and every $I \in \mathcal{I}_n$ with $\text{cf}(I^+) = \kappa^+$, we define $\xi(I) =$ the least ordinal γ such that $\varepsilon_\gamma^I \supseteq \pi[\bar{X}] \cap I$ and we put $\gamma(I) = \varepsilon_{\xi(I)+\kappa}^I$.

(b) For every $\alpha < \eta$, if there is an $n < \omega$ and an interval $I \in \mathcal{I}_n$ with $\text{cf}(I^+) = \kappa^+$ such that $\alpha \in I$ and $\gamma(I) \leq \alpha$, we consider the least natural number k with this property and write $I(\alpha) = I(\alpha, k)$. Otherwise, we write $I(\alpha) = \{\alpha\}$.

(c) We say that Z is *pairwise equivalent* iff for every $p, q \in Z$ and every $s \in X_p$, $I(\pi(s)) = I(\pi(h_{p,q}(s)))$.

In [6], the following two lemmas were proved:

Lemma 41 ([6, Lemma 2.5]). *Every set in $[P_\eta]^{\kappa^+}$ has a pairwise equivalent subset of size κ^+ .*

Lemma 42 ([6, Lemma 2.6]). *A pairwise equivalent set $Z \subseteq P_\eta$ of size κ^+ is linked.*

To get Proposition 36 we explain that the proof of [6, Lemma 2.6] actually gives the following statement:

If $Z \subseteq P_\eta$ is a pairwise equivalent set of size κ^+ , then there is an ordinal $\gamma < \eta$ such that every $p, q \in Z$ have a common extension $r \in P_\eta$ satisfying (R1)–(R2).

As above, we denote by \bar{X} the root of $\{X_p : p \in Z\}$. Assume that $p, q \in Z$ with $p \neq q$. First observe that the ordering \prec_r is defined in [6, Definition 2.4]. For this, adequate bijections $g_1 : X_r \setminus (X_p \cup X_q) \rightarrow X_p \setminus \bar{X}$ and $g_2 : X_r \setminus (X_p \cup X_q) \rightarrow X_q \setminus \bar{X}$ are considered in such a way that $g_2 = h_{p,q} \circ g_1$. Then since $g_2 = h_{p,q} \circ g_1$, [6, Definition 2.4](b) and (c) imply (R2)(a) and [6, Definition 2.4](d) and (f) imply (R2)(b). Also, (R2)(c) follows directly from [6, Definition 2.4](d) and (f), and (R2)(d) is just [6, Definition 2.4](e) and (g). So, we have verified (R2).

To check (R1), i.e. to get the right γ we need a bit more work. Let

$$(29) \quad \mathcal{J} = \{I(\pi(s)) : s \in X_p\}$$

where $p \in Z$. Since Z is pairwise equivalent, \mathcal{J} does not depend on the choice of $p \in Z$. For every $I \in \mathbb{I}_\eta$ with $\text{cf}(I^+) = \kappa^+$ we can choose a set $D(I) \in [E(I) \cap \gamma(I)]^\kappa$ unbounded in $\gamma(I)$. We claim that

$$(30) \quad \gamma = \sup(\bigcup\{D(I) : I \in \mathcal{J}\}) + 1$$

works.

First observe that $\gamma < \eta$, because $\text{cf}(\eta) = \kappa^+$, $|\mathcal{J}| < \kappa$ and $|D(I)| = \kappa$ for any $I \in \mathcal{J}$.

Now assume that $p, q \in Z$ with $p \neq q$. Write $L_p = \pi[X_p]$, $L_q = \pi[X_q]$ and $\bar{L} = \pi[\bar{X}]$. Let $\{\alpha_\xi : \xi < \delta\}$ and $\{\alpha'_\xi : \xi < \delta\}$ be the strictly increasing enumerations of $L_p \setminus \bar{L}$ and $L_q \setminus \bar{L}$ respectively. In the proof of [6, Lemma 2.6], for each $\xi < \delta$ an element $\beta_\xi \in D(I(\alpha_\xi)) = D(I(\alpha'_\xi))$ was chosen, and then a condition $r \leq_\eta p, q$ was constructed in such a way that $X_r = X_p \cup X_q \cup Y$ where $Y \cap (X_p \cup X_q) = \emptyset$ and $\pi[Y] = \{\beta_\xi : \xi < \delta\}$. Then since $\{\beta_\xi : \xi < \delta\} \subseteq \bigcup\{D(I) : I \in \mathcal{J}\}$, we infer that

$$(31) \quad \sup \pi[X_r \setminus (X_p \cup X_q)] = \sup \pi[Y] < \gamma,$$

which was to be proved.

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