

DENSITY IS AT MOST THE
SPREAD OF THE SQUARE
E56

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§1

1.1 Claim. Assume \mathbb{B} is an infinite Boolean Algebra and $\lambda = d(\mathbb{B})$. Then $\mathfrak{s}(\mathbb{B} * \mathbb{B})$, i.e. $\mathfrak{s}(\text{uf}(\mathbb{B}) \times \text{uf}(\mathbb{B})) \geq \lambda$ (if λ limit-obtained).

Remark. 1) $\text{ul}(\mathbb{B})$ is the space of ultrafilters of \mathbb{B} a compact space with clopen base.
 2) $\mathfrak{s}(X)$ is $\sup\{|Y| : Y \subseteq X \text{ is discrete } Y, \text{ same as } \text{des}(X)\}$.
 3) We meant to consider whether this works for compact Hausdorff spaces. But subsequently and independently Szentmiklőssy prove this.

Proof. Without loss of generality $\lambda > \aleph_0$. We choose (p_i^0, p_i^1, a_i) by induction on $i < \lambda$ such that

- ⊗ (a) p_i^ℓ is an ultrafilter of \mathbb{B} for $\ell = 0, 1$
- (b) $a_i \in p_i^1, a_i \notin p_i^0$, i.e. $(-a_i) \in p_i^1$
- (c) if $j < i$ then $a_j \in p_i^0 \Leftrightarrow a_j \in p_i^1$
- (d) if $j < i$ then $a_i \notin p_j^0, a_i \notin p_j^1$.

So assume we have arrived to i . Let \mathbb{B}_i be the subalgebra of \mathbb{B} generated by $\{a_j : j < i\}$.

For every non-zero $b \in \mathbb{B}_i$ choose an ultrafilter q_b^i of \mathbb{B} and for simplicity $b = a_j \Rightarrow q_b^i = p_j^1$ and $b = (-a_j) \Rightarrow q_b^i = p_j^0$ for $j < i$.

As $d(\mathbb{B}) \geq \lambda$ clearly $\{q_b^i : b \in \mathbb{B}_i \setminus \{0\}\}$ is not dense hence there is a non-zero $a_i \in \mathbb{B}$ such that $b \in \mathbb{B}_i \setminus \{0\} \Rightarrow a_i \notin q_b^i$ (i.e. a non-empty clopen set to which none of the points q_b^i belongs).

Now clearly $b \in \mathbb{B}_i \setminus \{0\} \Rightarrow a_i \neq b$ (as $b \in q_b^i$) hence $a_i \notin \mathbb{B}_i$. This implies that there is an ultrafilter q_i^* of \mathbb{B}_i such that

$$\otimes \quad b \in q \Rightarrow a_i \cap b > 0 \wedge (-a_i) \cap b > 0.$$

[Why? As $\{b_0 \cup b_1 : b_0, b_1 \in \mathbb{B}_2 \text{ and } b - 1 \cap a_i = 0_{\mathbb{B}} \text{ and } b_a - a_i = 0\}$ is a proper ideal of \mathbb{B}_i hence can be extended to an ultrafilter of \mathbb{B}_i .]

So there are ultrafilters p_i^0, p_i^1 of \mathbb{B} such that

$$\otimes \quad q_i^* \cup \{a_i\} \subseteq p_i^1 \text{ and } q_i^* \cup \{-a_i\} \subseteq p_i^0.$$

This is enough for the induction step.

Having carried the induction

- (a) $p_i := (p_i^0, p_i^1) \in \text{uf}(\mathbb{B}) \times \text{uf}(\mathbb{B})$
- (b) $(-a_i) \times a_i$ is an open subset of $\text{uf}(\mathbb{B}) \times \text{uf}(\mathbb{B})$.

Lastly,

(c) if $i < j < \lambda$ then $p_j \notin (-a_i) \times a_i$ because $(-a_i) \notin p_j^0$ or $a_i \notin p_j^1$ as $a_i \in \mathbb{B}_j$ and $p_j^0 \cap B_j = p_j^1 \cap \mathbb{B}_j$ by the choice of p_j^0, p_0^1

(d) if $i < j < \lambda$ then $p_i \notin (-a_j) \times a_j$ because $p_i^1 \notin a_j$ by the choice of a_j .

So $\langle (p_i, (-a_i) \times a_i) : i < \lambda \rangle$ exemplify $\text{dis}(\text{uf}(\mathbb{B}) \times \text{uf}(\mathbb{B})) \geq \lambda$ as required.