# THE HALPERN-LÄUCHLI THEOREM AT SINGULAR CARDINALS AND FAILURES OF WEAK VERSIONS

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ABSTRACT. This paper continues a line of investigation of the Halpern–Läuchli Theorem at uncountable cardinals. We prove in ZFC that the Halpern–Läuchli Theorem for one tree of height  $\kappa$  holds whenever  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible and the coloring takes less than  $\kappa$  colors. We prove consistency of the Halpern–Läuchli Theorem for finitely many trees of height  $\kappa$ , where  $\kappa$  is a strong limit cardinal of countable cofinality. On the other hand, we prove failure of weak forms of Halpern–Läuchli for trees of height  $\kappa$ , whenever  $\kappa$  is a strongly inaccessible, non-Mahlo cardinal or a singular strong limit cardinal with cofinality the successor of a regular cardinal. We also prove failure in L of a weak version for all strongly inaccessible, non-weakly compact cardinals.

### 1. Introduction

Investigations of the Halpern–Läuchli Theorem on trees of uncountable height commenced with work of the second author in [7]. In that paper, Shelah built on a forcing proof due to Harrington for trees of height  $\omega$  to show the consistency of a strong version of the Halpern–Läuchli Theorem for trees of height  $\kappa$ , where  $\kappa$  is measurable in certain forcing extensions. A slightly modified version of this theorem was applied by Džamonja, Larson, and Mitchell to characterize the big Ramsey degrees for the  $\kappa$ -rationals in [3] and the  $\kappa$ -Rado graph in [4], for such  $\kappa$ . More recently, consistency strengths of various versions of the Halpern–Läuchli Theorem at uncountable cardinals were investigated in [1], [2], and [9]. This line of investigation is continued in this article.

Let  $\kappa$  be an ordinal. For nodes  $\eta, \nu \in {}^{\kappa >} 2$ , we write  $\eta \leqslant \nu$  when  $\eta$  is an initial segment of  $\nu$ , and write  $\eta \lessdot \nu$  when  $\eta$  is a proper initial segment of  $\nu$ . The *length* of  $\eta$ , denoted by  $\lg(\eta)$ , is the ordinal  $\alpha$  such that  $\eta \in {}^{\alpha} 2$ . A subset  $T \subseteq {}^{\kappa >} 2$  is a *subtree* if T is non-empty and closed under initial segments. Similarly to [1], we call a subtree  $T \subseteq {}^{\kappa >} 2$  regular if the following hold:

- (1) For all  $\eta \in T$  and  $\alpha < \kappa$ , there is a  $\nu \in T$  such that  $\eta \leq \nu$  and  $\lg(\nu) = \max\{\lg(\eta), \alpha\}$ ;
- (2) If  $\delta < \kappa$  is a limit ordinal and  $\eta \in {}^{\delta}2$  has the property that  $\eta \upharpoonright \alpha \in T$  for all  $\alpha < \delta$ , then  $\eta \in T$ .

The following is the strong-tree version of the Halpern–Läuchli Theorem for finitely many trees of height  $\kappa$ .

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- **Definition 1.1.** (1)  $(\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta}(\kappa))$  For finite  $1 \leq n < \omega$  and  $2 \leq \theta$ , we write  $\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta}(\kappa)$  to denote that for any  $c: \bigcup \{{}^{n}({}^{\alpha}2): \alpha < \kappa\} \to \theta$ , there are  $A, T_0, \ldots, T_{n-1}$  satisfying the following:
  - (a)  $A \in [\kappa]^{\kappa}$ .
  - (b)  $T_{\ell}$  is a regular subtree of  $^{\kappa}$  2, for each  $\ell < n$ .
  - (c) If  $\eta \in T_{\ell}$ , then  $\{\eta \cap \langle 0 \rangle, \eta \cap \langle 1 \rangle\} \subseteq T_{\ell}$  iff  $\lg(\eta) \in A$ .
  - (d)  $c \upharpoonright (\bigcup \{\prod_{\ell < n} T_{\ell \mid \varepsilon} : \varepsilon \in A\})$  is constant, where  $T_{\ell \mid \varepsilon} = \{\eta \in T_{\ell} : \lg(\eta) = \varepsilon\}$ .
  - (2) A tree  $T \subseteq \kappa > 2$  is called a *strong tree* if there is an  $A \in [\kappa]^{\kappa}$  such that (a)–(c) hold for T.

Variations of the Halpern–Läuchli Theorem will also be investigated in this paper. For their statements, the following notion of suitable triple will be useful.

- **Definition 1.2.** (1) A triple  $(\kappa, T, A)$  is called *suitable* if the following hold:
  - (a)  $A \in [\kappa]^{\kappa}$ ;
  - (b) T is a regular subtree of  $\kappa > 2$ ;
  - (c) If  $\eta \in T \cap {}^{\alpha}2$ , then  $\{\eta \cap 0, \eta \cap 1\} \subseteq T$  iff  $\alpha \in A$ .
  - (2) Given  $\ell < \omega$ , let  $(0_{\ell})$  denote the sequence of 0's of length  $\ell$ , and let  $\eta_{\ell}^* = (0_{\ell})^{\hat{}} 1$ , the sequence of length  $\ell + 1$  where the first  $\ell$  coordinates are 0 and the last coordinate is 1.

Note that  $(\kappa, T, A)$  is a suitable triple if and only if T is a strong tree with A being the set of lengths of nodes in T which branch.

**Definition 1.3** (Halpern–Läuchli Variations). Let  $1 \le n < \omega$  and  $2 \le \theta < \kappa$  be given, with  $\kappa$  strongly inaccessible.

- (1)  $\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta}[\kappa]$  abbreviates the following statement: Given a coloring  $c:\bigcup\{n(\alpha 2): \alpha < \kappa\} \to \theta$ , then there is a suitable triple  $(\kappa, T, A)$  and a color  $\theta_* < \theta$  such that for all  $\alpha \in A$  and  $\overline{\nu} = (\nu_0, \dots \nu_{n-1})$  with  $\eta_\ell^* \leq \nu_\ell \in T \cap {}^{\alpha}2$  for each  $\ell < n$ , then  $c(\overline{\nu}) \neq \theta_*$ .
- (2)  $\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta}^+(\kappa)$  abbreviates the following statement: Given  $\overline{<} = \langle <_{\alpha} : \alpha < \kappa \rangle$ , where  $<_{\alpha}$  is a well-ordering of  ${}^{\alpha}2$ , and given a coloring  $c : \bigcup \{[{}^{\alpha}2]^n : \alpha < \kappa \} \to \theta$ , there is a suitable triple  $(\kappa, T, A)$  so that whenever  $\alpha < \kappa$  and  $\eta_0, \ldots, \eta_{n-1} \in T \cap {}^{\alpha}2$  are pairwise distinct, then c is constant on the set

$$\{\overline{\nu} = (\nu_0, \dots \nu_{n-1}) : \bigwedge_{\ell < n} \eta_\ell \triangleleft \nu_\ell \in T, \ \lg(\nu_0) = \dots = \lg(\nu_{n-1}) \in A,$$

and 
$$\bar{\nu}$$
 is  $<_{\lg(\nu_0)}$  -increasing}.

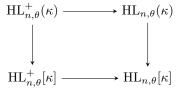
(3)  $\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  abbreviates the following statement: Given  $\overline{<} = \langle <_{\alpha} : \alpha < \kappa \rangle$ , where  $<_{\alpha}$  is a well-ordering of  ${}^{\alpha}2$ , and given a coloring  $c : \bigcup \{[{}^{\alpha}2]^n : \alpha < \kappa \} \to \theta$ , there is a suitable triple  $(\kappa, T, A)$  so that whenever  $\alpha < \kappa$  and  $\eta_0, \ldots, \eta_{n-1} \in T \cap {}^{\alpha}2$  are pairwise distinct, then c misses at least one color on the set

$$\{\overline{\nu} = (\nu_0, \dots \nu_{n-1}) : \bigwedge_{\ell < n} \eta_\ell \triangleleft \nu_\ell \in T, \ \lg(\nu_0) = \dots = \lg(\nu_{n-1}) \in A,$$

and 
$$\bar{\nu}$$
 is  $<_{\lg(\nu_0)}$  -increasing}.

We point out the following straightforward facts.

**Fact 1.4.** (1) For any given triple  $n, \theta, \kappa$ , the following implications hold:



(2) For  $m \le n$  and  $2 \le \theta \le \theta'$ , the following implications hold:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta'}(\kappa) & \longrightarrow & \operatorname{HL}_{m,\theta}(\kappa) \\
\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta'}^+(\kappa) & \longrightarrow & \operatorname{HL}_{m,\theta}^+(\kappa) \\
\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta}^+[\kappa] & \longrightarrow & \operatorname{HL}_{m,\theta'}^+[\kappa] \\
\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta}[\kappa] & \longrightarrow & \operatorname{HL}_{m,\theta'}^+[\kappa]
\end{array}$$

(3) The following versions are equal:

$$\operatorname{HL}_{n,2}(\kappa) = \operatorname{HL}_{n,2}[\kappa]$$
  
 $\operatorname{HL}_{n,2}^+(\kappa) = \operatorname{HL}_{n,2}^+[\kappa]$ 

We briefly review some highlights from previous work. Shelah proved in [7] that  $\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta}^+(\kappa)$  holds for all  $1 \leq n < \omega$  and  $2 \leq \theta < \kappa$  whenever  $\kappa$  is a cardinal with the following property (\*):  $\kappa$  is measurable after forcing with  $\operatorname{Cohen}(\kappa,\lambda)$ , where  $\lambda \to (\kappa^+)_{2\kappa}^{2n}$ . If  $\kappa$  is a  $\kappa + 2n$ -strong cardinal, then (\*) is satisfied by  $\lambda = (\beth_{2n}(\kappa))^+$ . Utilizing a lemma from [7], Zhang proved in [9] a "tail-cone" version which is intermediate between  $\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta}^+(\kappa)$  and  $\operatorname{HL}_{n,\theta}(\kappa)$ . He then applied the tail-cone version to obtain a polarized partition relation for finite products of  $\kappa$ -rationals, for  $\kappa$  satisfying (\*), proving an analogue of Laver's result for finite products of rationals in [6].

In [1], the first author and Hathaway proved that  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,n}(\kappa)$  holds for any  $2 \leq n < \omega$  when  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible. Soon after, Zhang showed in [9] that when  $\kappa$  is weakly compact, then  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,\theta}(\kappa)$  holds for all  $2 \leq \theta < \kappa$ . We will improve both results by proving the following:

**Theorem 1.5.** If  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible and  $2 \le \theta < \kappa$ , then  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,\theta}(\kappa)$  holds.

In [1], the upper bound for the consistency strength of  $\mathrm{HL}_{n,\theta}(\kappa)$ , for  $\kappa$  strongly inaccessible,  $2 \leq n < \omega$ , and  $2 \leq \theta < \kappa$ , was reduced from a  $\kappa + 2n$ -strong cardinal to a  $\kappa + n$ -strong cardinal. Our first theorem extends this result to strong limit cardinals  $\kappa$  of countable cofinality. The hypotheses of Theorem 1.6 are satisfied whenever  $\kappa$  is a  $\kappa + n$ -strong cardinal.

**Theorem 1.6.** Let  $1 \leq \mathbf{n} < \omega$  and  $2 \leq k < \omega$  be given. Suppose  $\lambda \geq (\beth_{\mathbf{n}}(\kappa))^+$  and that  $\kappa$  is measurable in the generic extension via  $\mathbb{P} = Cohen(\kappa, \lambda)$  forcing. Let  $\widetilde{\mathbb{Q}}$  be a  $\mathbb{P}$ -name for Prikry forcing. Then  $\mathrm{HL}_{n,k}(\kappa)$  holds for all  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$  in the generic extension forced by  $\mathbb{P} * \widetilde{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

Džamonja, Larson, and Mitchell pointed out in [3] that  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,2}^+(\kappa)$  implies that  $\kappa$  is weakly compact. In the following theorem we find lower bounds for the weak version  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,\theta}[\kappa]$ , for all  $2 \leq \theta < \kappa$ .

**Theorem 1.7.** (1) If  $\kappa$  is the first inaccessible, then  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  fails, for each  $2 < \theta < \kappa$ .

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- (2) Suppose  $\kappa$  is inaccessible and not Mahlo. Then  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  fails, for each  $2 \leq \theta < \kappa$ .
- (3) If  $\kappa$  is a singular strong limit cardinal and  $\operatorname{cf}(\kappa) = \mu^+$ , with  $\mu$  regular, then  $\operatorname{HL}_{2,\mu^+}^+[\kappa]$  fails.

**Theorem 1.8.** Assume  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible,  $S \subseteq \kappa$  is a non-reflecting stationary set, and  $\diamondsuit_S$  holds. Then  $\operatorname{HL}_{2,\theta}[\kappa]$  fails, for each  $2 \leq \theta \leq \kappa$ .

Since the hypotheses of the previous theorem hold in L for all strongly inaccessible  $\kappa$  which are not weakly compact, we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 1.9.** If V = L, then for all strongly inaccessible, non-weakly compact  $\kappa$  and for each  $2 \le \theta \le \kappa$ ,  $\operatorname{HL}_{2,\theta}[\kappa]$  fails.

#### 2. Halpern-Läuchli on one tree

In [1], Hathaway and the first author proved that  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,n}(\kappa)$  holds for all weakly compact  $\kappa$  and all  $2 \leq n < \omega$ ; Zhang pointed out that the proof in [1] actually implies  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,n}(\kappa)$  holds for all strongly inaccessible cardinals  $\kappa$ . In [9], Zhang proved  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,\theta}(\kappa)$  holds for all weakly compact  $\kappa$  and all  $2 \leq \theta < \kappa$ . Zhang also proved two consistency results showing that under certain large cardinal assumptions, it is consistent that there is a strongly inaccessible, not weakly compact cardinal  $\kappa$  such that for all  $2 \leq \theta < \kappa$ ,  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,\theta}(\kappa)$  holds. (See Corollary 5.7 and Theorem 5.8 in [9].)

The following theorem shows that the strong tree version of Halpern–Läuchli holds on one tree for all strongly inaccessible  $\kappa$  and all colorings into less than  $\kappa$  many colors.

**Theorem 1.5.** If  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible and  $2 \leq \theta < \kappa$ , then  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,\theta}(\kappa)$  holds.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible and that  $2 \leq \theta < \kappa$  is the least ordinal such that  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,\theta}(\kappa)$  fails. By a result in [1],  $\theta$  must be at least  $\omega$ ; furthermore, it is straightforward to see that  $\theta$  must be a regular cardinal. Let  $c: \kappa > 2 \to \theta$  be a coloring which witnesses failure of  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,\theta}(\kappa)$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $\theta$  is the range of the coloring c.

For  $\varepsilon < \theta$ , define  $OB_{\varepsilon}$  to be the set of triples

(1) 
$$\mathbf{m} = (T, A, \alpha) = (T_{\mathbf{m}}, A_{\mathbf{m}}, \alpha_{\mathbf{m}})$$

satisfying the following (a)–(f):

- (a)  $\alpha < \kappa$  and  $A \subseteq \alpha$  is unbounded in  $\alpha$ .
- (b) T is a subtree of  $\alpha \geq 2$ .
- (c) If  $\eta \in T$ , then there is a  $\nu \in T \cap {}^{\alpha}2$  such that  $\eta \leqslant \nu$ .
- (d) If  $\eta \in T$ , then  $(\eta \cap 0 \text{ and } \eta \cap 1 \text{ are both in } T) \iff \lg(\eta) \in A$ .
- (e) If  $\delta \leq \alpha$  is a limit ordinal and  $\eta \in {}^{\delta}2$ , then  $\eta \in T \iff \forall \beta < \delta \ (\eta \upharpoonright \beta \in T)$ .
- (f) c is constant with value  $\varepsilon$  on  $T \cap (\bigcup_{\beta \in A} {}^{\beta}2)$ .

Define  $\leq_{\varepsilon}$  as the following 2-place relation on  $OB_{\varepsilon}$ : For  $\mathbf{m}, \mathbf{n} \in OB_{\varepsilon}$ ,  $\mathbf{m} \leq_{\varepsilon} \mathbf{n}$  if and only if  $\alpha_{\mathbf{m}} \leq \alpha_{\mathbf{n}}$ ,  $A_{\mathbf{m}} = A_{\mathbf{n}} \cap \alpha_{\mathbf{m}}$ , and  $T_{\mathbf{m}} = T_{\mathbf{n}} \cap \alpha_{\mathbf{m}} \geq 2$ .

The following facts are straightforward.

Fact 2.1. (1)  $\leq_{\varepsilon}$  is a partial order on  $OB_{\varepsilon}$ .

(2) If  $\langle \mathbf{m}_i : i < \delta \rangle$  is  $a \leq_{\varepsilon}$ -increasing sequences, where  $\delta < \kappa$ , then the sequence has  $a \leq_{\varepsilon}$ -least upper bound.

*Proof.* (1) is clear. For (2), take  $\alpha = \sup_{i < \delta} \alpha_{\mathbf{m}_i}$  and  $A = \bigcup_{i < \delta} A_{\mathbf{m}_i}$ , and take T to be  $\bigcup_{i < \delta} T_{\mathbf{m}_i}$  along with all maximal branches in  $\bigcup_{i < \delta} T_{\mathbf{m}_i}$ . Then  $\mathbf{m} = (\alpha, A, T)$  is a member of  $OB_{\varepsilon}$  and is the  $\leq_{\varepsilon}$ -least upper bound of  $\langle \mathbf{m}_i : i < \delta \rangle$ .

**Lemma 2.2.** For each  $\varepsilon < \theta$  and each  $\mathbf{m} \in \mathrm{OB}_{\varepsilon}$ , there is an  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathrm{OB}_{\varepsilon}$  such that  $\mathbf{m} \leq_{\varepsilon} \mathbf{n}$  and  $\mathbf{n}$  is  $\leq_{\varepsilon}$ -maximal.

*Proof.* Suppose not. Then there are  $\varepsilon < \theta$  and  $\mathbf{m}_0 \in \mathrm{OB}_{\varepsilon}$  such that for each  $\mathbf{n} \in \mathrm{OB}_{\varepsilon}$ ,  $\mathbf{m}_0 \leq_{\varepsilon} \mathbf{n}$  implies that  $\mathbf{n}$  is not maximal. Thus, we can build a  $\leq_{\varepsilon}$ -strictly increasing sequence  $\langle \mathbf{m}_i : i < \kappa \rangle$  as follows: Given  $\mathbf{m}_i$ , since  $\mathbf{m}_0 \leq_{\varepsilon} \mathbf{m}_i$  there is some  $\mathbf{m}_{i+1} \in \mathrm{OB}_{\varepsilon}$  such that  $\mathbf{m}_i <_{\varepsilon} \mathbf{m}_{i+1}$ . If  $i < \kappa$  is a limit ordinal, take  $\mathbf{m}_i$  to be the least upper bound of  $\langle \mathbf{m}_j : j < i \rangle$ , guaranteed by Fact 2.1.

Let  $A = \bigcup_{i < \kappa}$  and  $T = \bigcup_{i < \kappa} T_{\mathbf{m}_i}$ . Note that  $A \in [\kappa]^{\kappa}$  since  $\sup_{i < \kappa} \alpha_{\mathbf{m}_i} = \kappa$  and each  $A_{\mathbf{m}_i}$  is unbounded in  $\alpha_{\mathbf{m}_i}$ . Thus,  $(\kappa, T, A)$  is a suitable triple. But then c has constant value  $\varepsilon$  on  $\bigcup_{\alpha \in A} T \cap {}^{\alpha}2$ , contradicting that c witnesses the failure of  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,\theta}(\kappa)$ .

We will choose  $(\Lambda_i, \overline{\mathbf{m}}_i, \overline{\varepsilon}_i)$  by induction on  $i < \theta$  satisfying the following.

- (a)  $\Lambda_i$  is a nonempty set of pairwise  $\triangleleft$ -incomparable nodes in  $\kappa > 2$ .
- (b) If j < i, then for each  $\eta \in \Lambda_i$  there is a unique  $\nu \in \Lambda_j$  such that  $\nu \triangleleft \eta$ . (It follows that  $\Lambda_j \cap \Lambda_i = \emptyset$ .)
- (c)  $\overline{\varepsilon}_i = \langle \varepsilon_{\eta} = \varepsilon(\eta) : \eta \in \Lambda_i \rangle$ , where  $\varepsilon_{\eta}$  is the minimum ordinal in the range of c on  $\{\zeta \in {}^{\kappa >} 2 : \eta \leqslant \zeta\}$  which is also above  $\sup\{\varepsilon_{\nu} : \exists j < i (\nu \in \Lambda_j) \land \nu \lhd \eta\}$ .
- (d)  $\overline{\mathbf{m}}_i = \langle \mathbf{m}_{\eta} = \mathbf{m}(\eta) : \eta \in \Lambda_i \rangle$ . Notation:  $\mathbf{m}_{\eta} = (T_{\eta}, A_{\eta}, \alpha_{\eta} = \alpha(\eta))$ . (There is no ambiguity using  $\eta$  as an index since the  $\Lambda_i$  will be disjoint.)
- (e)  $\mathbf{m}_{\eta}$  is a  $\leq_{\varepsilon(\eta)}$ -maximal member of  $OB_{\varepsilon(\eta)}$ .
- (f)  $\eta \in T_{\eta}$  and  $\lg(\eta) \leq \min(A_{\eta})$ . (This implies that  $\eta \leq \operatorname{stem}(T_{\eta})$ .)
- (g) If i is a limit ordinal and  $\langle \eta_j : j < i \rangle$ ,  $\eta_j \in \Lambda_j$ , is an  $\triangleleft$ -increasing sequence, then  $\bigcup_{j < i} \eta_j \in \Lambda_i$ .

We now carry out the inductive construction.

Case 1: i = 0. Let  $\Lambda_0 = \{\langle \rangle \}$  and  $\varepsilon_{\langle \rangle} = 0$ . Take  $\mathbf{m}_{\langle \rangle}$  to be any  $\leq_0$ -maximal member of  $OB_0$ , and let  $\overline{\mathbf{m}}_0 = \langle \mathbf{m}_{\langle \rangle} \rangle$ .

For Cases 2 and 3, we use the following notation. For  $\eta \in {}^{\kappa >}2$ , define

(2) 
$$\Theta_{\eta} = \{ \varepsilon \in \theta : \exists \zeta \, (\eta \leqslant \zeta \land c(\zeta) = \varepsilon) \}.$$

That is,  $\Theta_{\eta}$  is the range of c on the set of nodes in  $\kappa > 2$  extending  $\eta$ . Note that  $|\Theta_{\eta}| = \theta$ , since  $\theta$  is by assumption the least ordinal for which  $\mathrm{HL}_{1,\theta}(\kappa)$  fails and the coloring c witnesses this failure.

Case 2: i = j + 1. Let  $\Lambda_i = \bigcup_{\nu \in \Lambda_j} T_{\nu} \cap {}^{\alpha(\nu)} 2$ . Since  $\Lambda_j$  is an antichain, so is  $\Lambda_i$ . By (f) of the induction hypothesis, for each  $\nu \in \Lambda_j$ ,  $\nu \triangleleft \text{stem}(T_{\nu})$  and hence  $|\nu| < \alpha(\nu)$ . Given  $\eta \in \Lambda_i$ , choose

(3) 
$$\varepsilon_{\eta} = \min(\Theta_{\eta} \setminus \{ \varepsilon_{\nu} : \nu \triangleleft \eta \text{ and } \exists k < i (\nu \in \Lambda_{k}) \}).$$

Then choose  $\mathbf{m}_{\eta}$  to be some  $\leq_{\varepsilon_n}$ -maximal member of  $OB_{\varepsilon_n}$  such that  $\eta \leqslant \operatorname{stem}(T_{\eta})$ .

Case 3: i is a limit ordinal. Let  $\Lambda_i$  be the set of all nodes  $\eta \in T$  such that  $\lg(\eta)$  is a limit ordinal and  $\forall \alpha < \lg(\eta), \exists j < i \exists \nu \in \Lambda_j \ (\nu \lhd \eta \land \lg(\nu) \ge \alpha)$ . In other words,  $\Lambda_i$  is the set of limits of  $\lhd$ -increasing sequences  $\langle \nu_j : j < i \rangle$  with each  $\nu_j \in \Lambda_j$ . For  $\eta \in \Lambda_i$ , choose  $\varepsilon_{\eta}$  and  $\mathbf{m}_{\eta}$  as in Case 2.

Let  $\Lambda = \bigcup_{i < \theta} \Lambda_i$ . Note that  $|\Lambda| < \kappa$  since  $|\Lambda_i| < \kappa$  for each  $i < \theta$ , and  $\kappa$  is regular. Fix some  $\alpha(*) < \kappa$  greater than  $\sup\{\alpha_{\eta} : \eta \in \Lambda\}$ . We choose by induction a sequence  $\langle \eta_i : i < \theta \rangle$  such that

- (a)  $\eta_i \in \Lambda_i$ ;
- (b) j < i implies  $\eta_j \lhd \eta_i$ ;
- (c)  $\eta_i \leqslant \nu \in {}^{\alpha(*)}2$  implies  $c(\nu) > \varepsilon_{\eta_j}$  for all j < i.

Case 1: i = 0. Let  $\eta_0 \in \Lambda_0$ ; that is,  $\eta_0 = \langle \rangle$ .

Case 2: i is a limit ordinal. By the construction of the  $(\Lambda_i, \overline{\mathbf{m}}_i, \overline{\varepsilon}_i)$ ,  $\eta_i = \bigcup \{\eta_j : j < i\}$  belongs to  $\Lambda_i$ , where  $\eta_j$  is the member of  $\Lambda_j$  such that  $\eta_j \triangleleft \eta_i$ . Clearly, (b) holds, and (c) follows from (b) and (c) holding for all j < i.

Case 3: i = j + 1. Then  $\eta_i \in \Lambda_i$ . Let

(4) 
$$\Omega = \{ \eta \in T_{\eta_i} \cap {}^{\alpha(\eta_j)}2 : \exists \nu \in {}^{\alpha(*)}2 \, (\eta \triangleleft \nu \land c(\nu) = \varepsilon_{\eta_i}) \}.$$

Now, if  $\Omega = T_{\eta_j} \cap^{\alpha(\eta_j)} 2$  then we get a contradiction to  $\mathbf{m}(\eta_j)$  being  $\leq_{\varepsilon(\eta_j)}$ -maximal. So we can choose  $\eta_i \in T_{\eta_j} \cap^{\alpha(\eta_j)} 2$  which is not in  $\Omega$ . Then  $\eta_i$  is in  $\Lambda_i$ , so (a) holds, and for all  $\nu \in {}^{\alpha(*)} 2$  such that  $\eta_i \triangleleft \nu$ ,  $c(\nu) \neq \varepsilon_{\eta_j}$ .

Recall that by the definition of  $\varepsilon_{\eta_i}$ , for each  $\nu$  above  $\eta_i$ , either  $c(\nu) \geq \varepsilon_{\eta_i}$  or else  $c(\nu) = \varepsilon_{\eta_k}$  for some  $k \leq j$ . We have already seen that  $c(\nu) \neq \varepsilon_{\eta_j}$ , and by the induction hypothesis,  $c(\nu) > \varepsilon_{\eta_k}$  for all k < j. Thus, (c) holds. Note that (b) holds since  $\eta_j < \text{stem}(T_{\eta_j})$ .

This finishes the construction of a sequence  $\langle \eta_i : i < \theta \rangle$  satisfying (a)–(c). Let  $\eta = \bigcup_{i < \theta} \eta_i$ , noting that  $\lg(\eta) \leq \alpha(*)$ . Take any  $\nu \in {}^{\alpha(*)}2$  such that  $\eta \leqslant \nu$ . Then for each  $i < \theta$ ,  $\eta_{i+1} \leqslant \nu$  so (c) implies that  $c(\nu) > \varepsilon_{\eta_i}$ . The sequence of ordinals  $\langle \varepsilon_{\eta_i} : i < \theta \rangle$  is strictly increasing, so  $\sup_{i < \theta} \varepsilon_{\eta_i} = \theta$  since  $\theta$  is regular, implying that  $c(\nu) \geq \theta$ . But this contradicts that  $c(\nu)$  must be in  $\theta$ .

## 3. Halpern-Läuchli at singular cardinals of countable cofinality

In this section, we prove Theorem 1.6, the consistency of  $\mathrm{HL}_{n,\theta}(\kappa)$  for  $\kappa$  a singular cardinal of countable cofinality.

**Notation 3.1.** Given  $1 \le n < \omega$ , we define the function  $\xi$  on  $\bigcup \{n(\alpha 2) : \alpha < \kappa\}$  as follows: For  $\alpha < \kappa$  and  $\bar{\eta} \in n(\alpha 2)$ , let

(5) 
$$\xi(\bar{\eta}) = \min\{\beta \le \alpha + 1 : \beta \le \alpha \text{ implies } \langle \eta_{\ell} \upharpoonright \beta : \ell < n \rangle \text{ has no repetition} \}.$$

Thus, for  $\alpha < \kappa$  and  $\bar{\eta} \in {}^{n}({}^{\alpha}2)$ , if all members of the tuple  $\bar{\eta}$  are distinct, then  $\xi(\bar{\eta})$  is the least ordinal where they are all distinct; if the members of  $\bar{\eta}$  are not all distinct, then  $\xi(\bar{\eta}) = \alpha + 1$ .

Recall that given  $\ell < \omega$ , we let  $\eta_{\ell}^* = \langle (0_{\ell}), 1 \rangle$  denote the sequence of length  $\ell + 1$  where the last entry is 1 and all other entries are 0. Given  $1 \le n < \omega$ , define

(6) 
$$A_n(\kappa) = \{ \bar{\eta} = (\eta_0, \dots, \eta_{n-1}) \in \bigcup_{\alpha < \kappa} {}^n({}^{\alpha}2) : (\forall \ell < n) \, \eta_{\ell}^* \leqslant \eta_{\ell} \},$$

and for  $m < \omega$ , define

(7) 
$$A_{n,m}(\kappa) = \{(u,\bar{\eta}) : \exists \gamma < \kappa \, (u \in [\gamma]^m \text{ and } \bar{\eta} \in {}^n(\gamma_2))\}.$$

When  $\kappa$  is clear, we omit it and simply write  $A_n$  and  $A_{n,m}$ .

**Lemma 3.2.** 
$$(A) \Longrightarrow (B)$$
, where

(A) is the statement:

- (a)  $1 \leq \mathbf{n}$ ,  $\kappa$  is inaccessible, and  $\lambda \geq (\beth_{\mathbf{n}}(\kappa))^+$ .
- (b)  $\mathbb{P}$  is  $Cohen(\kappa, \lambda)$ .
- (c)  $\kappa$  is  $\mathbb{P}$ -indestructibly measurable. That is, there is a  $\mathbb{P}$ -name  $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$  so that  $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}}$  " $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$  is a normal ultrafilter on  $\kappa$ ".
- (d) For any  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$ ,  $m < \omega$ , and  $2 \leq k_{n,m} < \omega$ ,  $\widetilde{c}_{n,m}$  is a  $\mathbb{P}$ -name for a function with domain  $A_{n,m}(\kappa)$  and range  $k_{n,m}$ .
- (B) is the statement: There exist  $(\tilde{g}, h)$  such that
- ( $\alpha$ ) (i)  $\widetilde{g}$  is a  $\mathbb{P}$ -name for an increasing function from  $\kappa$  to  $\kappa$ .
  - (ii) h is a  $\mathbb{P}$ -name for a function from  $\kappa > 2$  into  $\kappa > 2$  mapping  $\alpha = 2$  into  $\widetilde{g}(\alpha) = 2$ , for each  $\alpha < \kappa$ .
  - (iii)  $\widetilde{h}(\eta) \stackrel{\frown}{\langle} \ell \rangle \leqslant \widetilde{h}(\eta \stackrel{\frown}{\langle} \ell \rangle)$ , for  $\eta \in {}^{\kappa >} 2$  and  $\ell < 2$ .
- ( $\beta$ ) There is a  $\mathbb{P}$ -name  $\widetilde{D}$  for a set in  $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$  such that given  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$  and  $m < \omega$ , for each  $(u, \bar{\eta}) \in A_{n,m}$  with  $u \subseteq \widetilde{D}$  and  $\eta_{\ell}^* \leq \eta_{\ell}$  for all  $\ell < \mathbf{n}$ , the value of  $\widetilde{c}_{n,m}(u,h''(\bar{\eta}))$  in the  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic extension of V depends only on (n,m).

The proof of Lemma 3.2 will use the following Theorem 3.3 and Lemma 3.5.

**Theorem 3.3** (Erdős–Rado, [5]). For  $r \geq 0$  finite and  $\kappa$  an infinite cardinal,  $\beth_r(\kappa)^+ \to (\kappa^+)^{r+1}_{\kappa}$ .

**Definition 3.4.** Let  $\kappa < \lambda$  be given and let  $\mathbb{P}$  denote Cohen $(\kappa, \lambda)$ . We say that a subset  $X \subseteq \mathbb{P}$  is *image homogenized* if

- (a) All members of X have domain with the same order-type: i.e., there is some  $\zeta < \kappa$  such that o.t. $(\text{dom}(p)) = \zeta$  for all  $p \in X$ ; and
- (b) For all  $p, q \in X$  and  $\xi < \zeta$ , if  $\alpha < \lambda$  is the  $\xi$ -th element of dom(p) and  $\beta < \lambda$  is the  $\xi$ -th element of dom(q), then  $p(\alpha) = q(\beta)$ .

The following instance of Lemma 4.3 of [1] allows us to assume only that  $\lambda \geq (\beth_{\mathbf{n}}(\kappa))^+$  in (A) of Lemma 3.2.

**Lemma 3.5** ([1]). Let  $1 \leq n < \omega$  be given and let  $\kappa$  be a strongly inaccessible cardinal satisfying  $\kappa \to (\mu_1)_{\mu_2}^{2n}$  for all  $\mu_1, \mu_2 < \kappa$ . Suppose that  $\{p_{\vec{\alpha}} : \vec{\alpha} \in [\kappa]^n\}$  is an image homogenized set of conditions in the forcing  $\mathbb{P} = \text{Cohen}(\kappa, \lambda)$ , where  $\lambda \geq \kappa$ . Then for each  $\gamma < \kappa$  there is are sets  $K_i \subseteq \kappa$ , i < n, such that each o.t. $(K_i) \geq \gamma$ , every element of  $K_i$  is less than every element of  $K_j$  whenever i < j < n, and  $\{p_{\vec{\alpha}} : \vec{\alpha} \in \prod_{i < n} K_i\}$  is a pairwise compatible set of conditions.

Proof of Lemma 3.2. Assume (A) and, without loss of generality, assume the conditions of  $\mathbb P$  have the following form: For  $p \in \mathbb P$ , p is a function from some subset of  $\lambda \times \mathbf n$  of cardinality less than  $\kappa$  into  $\kappa > 2$ , the size of  $\mathrm{dom}(p) \cap (\lambda \times \{\ell\})$  is the same for all  $\ell < \mathbf n$ ,  $p(\alpha, \ell)$  extends  $\eta_{\ell}^*$  for each  $(\alpha, \ell) \in \mathrm{dom}(p)$ , and all nodes in  $\mathrm{ran}(p)$  have the same length.

Let G denote the canonical name for the generic object forced by  $\mathbb{P}$  over V, and let  $V_1$  denote V[G]. We let  $A_n$  denote  $A_n(\kappa)$  and  $A_{n,m}$  denote  $A_{n,m}(\kappa)$ , and note that  $A_n$  and  $A_{n,m}$  remain the same in V and  $V_1$ . Given  $\vec{\alpha} \in [\kappa]^{\mathbf{n}}$ , we write  $\vec{\alpha}$  in increasing order as  $\{\alpha_i : i < \mathbf{n}\}$ . In  $V_1$ , given  $\vec{\alpha} \in [\kappa]^{\mathbf{n}}$ ,  $1 \le n \le \mathbf{n}$ , and  $1 \le n \le n$ .

(8) 
$$G_n(\vec{\alpha}) \upharpoonright \gamma := \langle G(\alpha_i, i) \upharpoonright \gamma : i < n \rangle.$$

Claim 1. In  $V_1$ , given  $\vec{\alpha} \in [\lambda]^{\mathbf{n}}$  there is an  $X_{\vec{\alpha}} \in \mathcal{D}$  and an integer  $k_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}} < k_{n,m}$ , for all  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$  and  $m < \omega$ , such that  $c_{n,m}$  is constant on the set

(9) 
$$A_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}} := \{ (u, G_n(\vec{\alpha}) \upharpoonright \gamma) \in A_{n,m} : u \in [X_{\vec{\alpha}}]^m \text{ and } \gamma \in X_{\vec{\alpha}} \},$$

with value  $k_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}}$ .

Proof. Work in  $V_1$  and fix  $\vec{\alpha} \in [\lambda]^{\mathbf{n}}$ . Given  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$ , notice that since  $G_n(\vec{\alpha}) \upharpoonright \gamma$  is completely determined by  $\gamma$ , for each  $u \in [\kappa]^{<\omega}$  the function  $c_{n,|u|}(u,\cdot)$  restricted to the set  $\{G_n(\vec{\alpha}) \upharpoonright \gamma : \max(u) < \gamma < \kappa\}$  is essentially a function on the ordinals in the interval  $(\max(u), \kappa)$ . Since  $\mathcal{D}$  is a normal ultrafilter on  $\kappa$ , there is a set  $X_{n,u} \in \mathcal{D}$  such that  $c_{n,|u|}(u,\cdot)$  is constant on  $\{G_n(\vec{\alpha}) \upharpoonright \gamma : \gamma \in X_{n,u}\}$ , say with value  $k_{n,u,\vec{\alpha}}$ . Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $\max(u) < \min(X_{n,u})$ .

Now for each  $\beta < \kappa$ , let

(10) 
$$X_{\beta} = \bigcap \{X_{n,u} : 1 \le n \le \mathbf{n}, \ u \in [\beta]^{<\omega}\},$$

and let  $X = \Delta_{\beta < \kappa} X_{\beta}$ . Since  $\mathcal{D}$  is normal, X is in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Without loss of generality, we may further assume that all ordinals in X are limit ordinals.

Let  $u \in [\kappa]^{<\omega}$  and  $\gamma \in X$  be given with  $\max(u) < \gamma$ . Since all members of X are limit ordinals,  $\max(u) + 1 < \gamma$ ; let  $\beta_u = \max(u) + 1$ . Note that  $\gamma \in X_{\beta_u}$  since  $\beta_u < \gamma$ . It follows that for each  $1 \le n \le \mathbf{n}$ ,  $\gamma \in X_{\beta_u} \subseteq X_{n,u}$ , which implies that  $c_{n,|u|}(u, G_n(\vec{\alpha}) \upharpoonright \gamma) = k_{n,u,\vec{\alpha}}$ .

For each  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$ , define a coloring  $\psi_n : [X]^{<\omega} \to k$  by setting  $\psi_n(u) = k_{n,u,\vec{\alpha}}$ . Then there is a  $Y_n \subseteq X$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  such that for each  $m < \omega$ ,  $\psi_n$  is constant on  $[Y_n]^m$ ; denote its value by  $k_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}}$ . Letting  $X_{\vec{\alpha}} = \bigcap_{1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}} Y_n$ , we see that for each  $u \in [X_{\vec{\alpha}}]^{<\omega}$ ,  $k_{n,u,\vec{\alpha}} = k_{n,|u|,\vec{\alpha}}$ .

In V, for each  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$ ,  $m < \omega$ , and  $\vec{\alpha} \in [\lambda]^{\mathbf{n}}$ , there are  $\mathbb{P}$ -names  $X_{\vec{\alpha}}$  and  $\widetilde{A}_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}}$  for the sets  $X_{\vec{\alpha}}$  and  $A_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}}$  guaranteed by Claim 1, and a condition  $p_{\vec{\alpha}} \in \mathbb{P}$  which forces the following: " $\widetilde{X}_{\vec{\alpha}} \in \widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$  and for all  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$  and  $m < \omega$ ,  $\widetilde{c}_{n,m}$  takes value  $k_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}}$  on the set  $\widetilde{A}_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}}$ ." Without loss of generality, we may assume that  $p_{\vec{\alpha}}$  forces " $\lg(\operatorname{ran}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})) \in \widetilde{X}_{\vec{\alpha}}$  and  $\widetilde{c}_{n,m}(u,\operatorname{ran}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})) = k_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}}$  for all  $u \in [\widetilde{X}_{\vec{\alpha}}]^m$  with  $\max(u) < \lg(\operatorname{ran}(p_{\vec{\alpha}}))$ ."

Now we find an image homogenized collection of  $p_{\vec{\alpha}}$ 's. For  $\vec{\alpha} \in [\lambda]^{\mathbf{n}}$ , recall that  $\operatorname{dom}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})$  is a subset of  $\lambda \times \mathbf{n}$  of cardinality less than  $\kappa$ . Fix a bijection  $b : \lambda \times \mathbf{n} \to \lambda$ . For  $\vec{\alpha} \in [\lambda]^{\mathbf{n}}$ , let  $b[\operatorname{ran}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})]$  denote the range of  $p_{\vec{\alpha}}$  ordered as the sequence  $\langle p_{\vec{\alpha}}(b^{-1}(\beta)) : \beta \in b[\operatorname{dom}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})] \rangle$ . Let f be the coloring on  $[\lambda]^{\mathbf{n}}$  into  $\kappa$  many colors defined as follows: For  $\vec{\alpha} \in [\lambda]^{\mathbf{n}}$ ,

$$f(\vec{\alpha}) = \langle \text{o.t.}(b[\text{dom}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})]) \rangle \cap [\text{lg}(\text{ran}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})) \cap b[\text{ran}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})] \cap (11)$$

$$\langle k_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}} : 1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}, \ m < \omega \rangle \cap \langle p_{\vec{\alpha}}(\alpha_{\ell}, \ell) : \ell < \mathbf{n} \rangle.$$

Since  $\lambda \to (\kappa)^{\mathbf{n}}_{\kappa}$ , there are  $J \in [\lambda]^{\kappa}$ ,  $\gamma^*, \delta^* < \kappa$ , nodes  $\langle t^*_{\beta} : \beta < \delta^* \rangle$  in  $\kappa > 2$ ,  $k^*_{n,m} < k_{n,m}$ , and  $\vec{\zeta}^* \in {}^{\mathbf{n}}(\gamma^*2)$  with  $\eta^*_{\ell} \leqslant \zeta^*_{\ell}$  for each  $\ell < \mathbf{n}$  such that for all  $\vec{\alpha} \in [J]^{\mathbf{n}}$ , the following hold:

- (1) o. t. $(b[\text{dom}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})]) = \delta^*;$
- (2)  $\lg(\operatorname{ran}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})) = \gamma^*;$
- (3)  $b[\operatorname{ran}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})] = \langle t_{\beta}^* : \beta < \delta^* \rangle;$
- (4)  $k_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}} = k_{n,m}^*$ , for each  $1 \le n \le \mathbf{n}$  and  $m < \omega$ ;
- (5)  $\langle p_{\vec{\alpha}}(\alpha_{\ell}, \ell) : \ell < \mathbf{n} \rangle = \vec{\zeta^*}.$

In particular,  $|J| = \kappa$ , and the set  $\{p_{\vec{\alpha}} : \vec{\alpha} \in [J]^{\mathbf{n}}\}$  is image homogenized. By Lemma 3.5, for each  $\gamma < \kappa$ , there are sets  $K_n \subseteq J$ ,  $n < \mathbf{n}$ , with  $K_0 < K_1 < \cdots < K_{\mathbf{n}-1}$  such that each o.t. $(K_n) \ge \gamma$  and, letting  $\vec{K}$  denote  $\prod_{n < \mathbf{n}} K_n$ , the set  $\{p_{\vec{\alpha}} : \vec{\alpha} \in \vec{K}\}$  is pairwise compatible.

Claim 2. In  $V_1$ , there is a  $D \in \mathcal{D}$ , a strictly increasing function  $g : \kappa \to \kappa$  with  $\operatorname{ran}(g) \subseteq D$ , and a strong subtree  $T \subseteq {}^{\kappa >} 2$  with splitting levels in  $\operatorname{ran}(g)$  such that given  $1 \le n \le n$  and  $m < \omega$ , for all  $u \in [D]^m$  and  $\bar{\eta} \subseteq T$  in  $A_n$  with  $\max(u) < \operatorname{lg}(\bar{\eta})$ , we have

$$c_{n,m}(u,\bar{\eta}) = k_{n,m}^*.$$

*Proof.* The function g will be constructed recursively and will give the levels of the strong subtree  $T \subseteq {}^{\kappa>}2$  which is being built. For ease of notation, we will let  $T(\gamma)$  denote  $g(\gamma) \supseteq \cap T$ .

For the base case, let  $u = \emptyset$ . Take  $\vec{\alpha}$  to be any increasing sequence in J. By Claim 1 and following exposition, we may take  $g(0) = \lg(\operatorname{ran}(p_{\vec{\alpha}})) \in X_{\vec{\alpha}}$  so that for all  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$ ,

$$(12) c_{n,0}(\emptyset, \langle p_{\vec{\alpha}}(\alpha_{\ell}, \ell) : \ell < n \rangle) = k_{n,0}^*.$$

Let  $T(0) = \{ p_{\vec{\alpha}}(\alpha_{\ell}, \ell) : \ell < \mathbf{n} \}$  and let  $X_0 = X_{\vec{\alpha}}$ .

Given  $0 < \gamma < \kappa$ , suppose that for all  $\delta < \gamma$ ,  $g(\delta)$  and  $T(\delta)$  have been defined and satisfy the claim. If  $\gamma$  is a limit ordinal, let B denote the set of branches through  $\bigcup_{\delta < \gamma} T(\delta)$ . If  $\gamma$  is a successor ordinal, let B denote the set of immediate successors in  $\kappa > 2$  of the branches through  $\bigcup_{\delta < \gamma} T(\delta)$ . Take sets  $K_{\ell} \subseteq J$ ,  $\ell < \mathbf{n}$ , such that  $K_{\ell}$  has the same cardinality as the set of nodes in B extending  $\eta_{\ell}^*$ ,  $K_0 < \cdots < K_{\mathbf{n}-1}$ , and  $\{p_{\vec{\alpha}} : \vec{\alpha} \in \vec{K}\}$  is pairwise compatible, where  $\vec{K} = \prod_{\ell < \mathbf{n}} K_{\ell}$ . Let q be a condition in  $\mathbb P$  such that, for each  $\ell < \mathbf{n}$ ,  $\{q(\beta, \ell) : \beta \in K_{\ell}\}$  is in one-to-one correspondence with  $\{\eta \in B : \eta_{\ell}^* \leqslant \eta\}$ . In particular, q extends  $\bigcup \{p_{\vec{\alpha}} : \vec{\alpha} \in \vec{K}\}$ .

Let

(13) 
$$X_{\gamma} = \bigcap \{ X_{\delta} : \delta < \gamma \} \cap \bigcap \{ X_{\vec{\alpha}} : \vec{\alpha} \in \vec{K} \},$$

noting that this set is in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Extend q to some  $r \in \mathbb{P}$  so that  $\lg(\operatorname{ran}(r)) \in X_{\gamma}$  and, utilizing Claim 1 again, for each  $m < \omega$ ,  $u \in [\{g(\delta) : \delta < \gamma\}]^m$ , and  $\vec{\alpha} \in \vec{K}$ ,  $c_{n,m}(u,\cdot)$  has color  $k_{n,m,\vec{\alpha}} = k_{n,m}^*$  on  $\langle r(\alpha_{\ell},\ell) : \ell < n \rangle$ . We let  $g(\gamma) = \lg(\operatorname{ran}(r))$  and  $T(\gamma) = \{r(\alpha_{\ell},\ell) : \ell < \mathbf{n} \text{ and } \vec{\alpha} \in \vec{K}\}$ .

In this way, we construct g and T and a decreasing sequence of sets  $X_{\gamma} \in \mathcal{D}$ . Let  $D = \Delta_{\gamma < \kappa} X_{\gamma}$ . Each  $g(\gamma) \in X_{\gamma} \setminus (\gamma + 1)$ , so  $\operatorname{ran}(g) \subseteq X$ . Then for each  $1 \le n \le \mathbf{n}$ , for any  $\gamma < \kappa$  and  $u \in [\{g(\delta) : \delta < \gamma\}]^{<\omega}$ , for each  $\bar{\eta} \in A_n \cap T$  with  $\operatorname{lg}(\bar{\eta}) \ge g(\gamma)$ , we have  $c_{n,m}(u,\bar{\eta}) = k_{n,m}^*$ .

Letting  $\widetilde{D}$  be a  $\mathbb{P}$ -name for D, and letting  $\widetilde{h}$  be a  $\mathbb{P}$ -name for the tree isomorphism from  ${}^{<\kappa}2$  to T finishes the proof of  $(\beta)$  of Lemma 3.2.

Remark 3.6. In fact, we get more than the Lemma claims: The statement  $(\beta)$  actually holds for all  $(u, \bar{\eta}) \in A_{n,m}$  with  $u \subseteq \widetilde{D}$  and  $\bar{\eta}$  with  $\lg(\eta_{\ell}) \in \widetilde{D}$  (rather than just  $\lg(\eta_{\ell}) \in \operatorname{ran}(\widetilde{g})$ ).

We now restate Theorem 1.6 and prove it.

**Theorem 1.6.** Let  $1 \leq \mathbf{n} < \omega$  and  $2 \leq k < \omega$  be given. Suppose  $\lambda \geq (\beth_{\mathbf{n}}(\kappa))^+$  and that  $\kappa$  is measurable in the generic extension via  $\mathbb{P} = Cohen(\kappa, \lambda)$  forcing. Let  $\widetilde{\mathbb{Q}}$  be a  $\mathbb{P}$ -name for Prikry forcing. Then  $\mathrm{HL}_{n,k}(\kappa)$  holds for all  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$  in the generic extension forced by  $\mathbb{P} * \widetilde{\mathbb{Q}}$ .

*Proof.* Let  $1 \leq \mathbf{n} < \omega$  and  $2 \leq k < \omega$  be given. Suppose  $\lambda \geq (\beth_{\mathbf{n}}(\kappa))^+$  and that  $\kappa$  is measurable in the generic extension via  $\mathbb{P} = \operatorname{Cohen}(\kappa, \lambda)$  forcing. Let  $\widetilde{\mathcal{D}}$  be a

 $\mathbb{P}$ -name in V for a normal ultrafilter on  $\check{\kappa}$ . Let G be  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic over V and let  $V_1$  denote V[G]. In  $V_1$ , let  $\mathbb{Q}$  denote Prikry forcing with tails in  $\mathcal{D}$ . Let H be  $\mathbb{Q}$ -generic over  $V_1$ , and let  $V_2$  denote  $V_1[H]$ .

Notice that  $A_n$  and  $A_{n,m}$  remain the same in V,  $V_1$ , and  $V_2$ . In  $V_2$ , for each  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$ , let  $c_n : A_n \to k$  be a function. In  $V_1$ , let  $\widetilde{c}_n$  be a  $\mathbb{Q}$ -name for  $c_n$ . For each  $m < \omega$ , define in  $V_1$  a function  $c_{n,m} : A_{n,m} \to k$  by

(14) 
$$c_{n,m}(u,\bar{\eta}) = j \iff \exists X \in \mathcal{D} \ (u,X) \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}} \tilde{c}_n(\bar{\eta}) = j.$$

Let  $\widetilde{c}_{n,m}$  be a  $\mathbb{P}$ -name in V for  $c_{n,m}$ . By Lemma 3.2, there are  $\mathbb{P}$ -names  $(\widetilde{g}, \widetilde{h}), \widetilde{T}$ , and  $\widetilde{D}$  in V and integers  $k_{n,m}^*$  denoting the value in  $V_1$  of  $c_{n,m}(u, \bar{\eta})$  for  $(u, \bar{\eta}) \in A_{n,m}$  with  $\bar{\eta}$  from T.

**Claim 3.** In  $V_1$ , there is an  $E \subseteq D$  in  $\mathcal{D}$  such that for each  $u \in [E]^{<\omega}$  with  $\max(u) < \alpha \in E$  and each  $1 \le n \le n$ , we have

$$(u, E \setminus (\alpha + 1)) \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}} \widetilde{c}_n(\bar{\eta}) = k_{n,|u|}^*,$$

for each  $\bar{\eta} \in A_n \cap T$  such  $\max(u) < \lg(\bar{\eta}) < \alpha$ .

*Proof.* Given  $\alpha < \kappa$  and  $u \in [\alpha]^{<\omega}$ , let  $Y_{\alpha,u} \subseteq D$  be in  $\mathcal{D}$  so that for all  $1 \le n \le \mathbf{n}$  and  $\bar{\eta} \in A_n \cap T$  with  $\max(u) < \lg(\bar{\eta}) < \alpha$ ,

$$(15) (u, Y_{\alpha,u}) \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}} \widetilde{c}_n(\bar{\eta}) = c_n(u, \bar{\eta}).$$

By Claim 2, the value of  $c_n(u,\eta)$  in equation (15) is  $k_{n,|u|}^*$ . Let  $Y_\alpha = \bigcap \{Y_{\alpha,u} : u \in [\alpha]^{<\omega}\}$ , and let  $E = \Delta_{\alpha<\kappa}Y_\alpha$ . Then for each  $m < \omega$ , whenever  $\alpha \in E$  and  $u \in [E \cap \alpha]^m$ , we have  $E \setminus (\alpha+1) \subseteq Y_{\alpha,u}$ . Thus,  $(u, E \setminus (\alpha+1)) \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}} \tilde{c}_n(\bar{\eta}) = k_{n,m}^*$ , for all  $\bar{\eta}$  in T with  $\lg(\bar{\eta}) < \alpha$ .

In  $V_2$ , let  $\bar{\lambda} = \langle \lambda_i : i < \omega \rangle$  be the generic Prikry generic sequence over  $V_1$  given by H. By genericity, for each  $Z \in \mathcal{D}$  in  $V_1$ , all but finitely many members of  $\bar{\lambda}$  are contained in Z. In particular,  $\bar{\lambda} \subseteq^* E$ , so without loss of generality we may assume  $\bar{\lambda} \subseteq E$ . We may assume (by genericity) that the Prikry sequence has the property that  $|\lambda_{i+1} \setminus \lambda_i|$  is strictly increasing with limit  $\kappa$ . Moreover, we may assume that the sequence  $|\operatorname{ran}(g) \cap (\lambda_i, \lambda_{i+1})|$  is strictly increasing with limit  $\kappa$ .

In  $V_2$ , we now construct a strong subtree U of T with  $\kappa$  many levels so that  $c_n$  is constant for each  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$ . By Claim 3, for all  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$  and all  $\bar{\eta} \in A_n \cap T$  with  $\lg(\bar{\eta}) < \lambda_0$ , we have  $(\emptyset, D \setminus (\lambda_0 + 1)) \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}} \tilde{c}_n(\bar{\eta}) = k_{\emptyset,n}^*$ . In general, given  $i < \omega$ , for all  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$  and all  $\bar{\eta} \in A_n \cap T$  with  $\lg(\bar{\eta}) \in (\lambda_i, \lambda_{i+1})$ , we have  $(\{\lambda_0, \ldots, \lambda_i\}, Y \setminus (\lambda_{i+1} + 1)) \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}} \tilde{c}_n(\bar{\eta}) = k_{n,i+1}^*$ . Since each  $k_{n,i}^* < k$ , in  $V_2$  there is a set  $I \in [\omega]^{\omega}$  such that for all  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$ ,  $c_n$  is constant for all  $\bar{\eta}$  in T with length in  $\bigcup_{i \in I} (\lambda_i, \lambda_{i+1})$ . Then we may take a strong subtree U of T which has splitting levels in  $\bigcup_{i \in I} (\lambda_i, \lambda_{i+1})$ , so that U has  $\kappa$  many splitting levels. Then this tree U witnesses that  $HL_{n,k}(\kappa)$  holds in  $V_2$  for each  $1 \leq n \leq \mathbf{n}$ .

Remark 3.7. If the colorings  $c_n:A_n\to k$  are in V, then the functions h and  $\widetilde{g}$  in conclusion of Lemma 3.2 can be found in V. Hence, the strong subtree T witnessing  $\mathrm{HL}_{n,k}(\kappa)$  for such  $c_n$  in Theorem 1.6 exists in V.

We now consider a version of Halpern–Läuchli for infinite colorings. For  $2 \le \theta_0 \le \theta_1$ , let  $\mathrm{HL}_{n,(1,\theta_0,\theta_1)}[\kappa]$  abbreviate the following statement: Given a coloring  $c: \bigcup \{^n({}^{\alpha}2) : \alpha < \kappa\} \to \theta_1$ , then there is a suitable triple  $(\kappa, T, A)$  and a subset  $u \subseteq \theta_1$ 

such that  $|u| < \theta_0$  and for all  $\alpha \in A$  and  $\overline{\nu} = (\nu_0, \dots \nu_{n-1})$  with  $\eta_\ell^* \leq \nu_\ell \in T \cap {}^{\alpha}2$  for each  $\ell < n$ , then  $c(\overline{\nu}) \in u$ .

A minor straightforward modification of the proof of Theorem 1.6 yields the following theorem.

**Theorem 3.8.** Under the assumptions of Theorem 1.6, if  $\aleph_0 < \theta < \kappa$ , we get that  $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}*\widetilde{\mathbb{Q}}} \operatorname{HL}_{n,(1,\aleph_1,\theta)}(\kappa)$ .

## 4. Consistent Failures of Halpern-Läuchli

This section provides conditions under which various versions of the Halpern–Läuchli Theorem fail. Our first theorem provides conditions which imply strong failure of Halpern–Läuchli; that is, failure of  $\operatorname{HL}_{2,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  for all  $2 \leq \theta < \kappa$ . For this, we will use negative square bracket partition relations. Given cardinals  $1 \leq n < \omega$  and  $\theta, \mu \leq \kappa$ , the square bracket partition relation

(16) 
$$\kappa \to [\mu]_{\theta}^n$$

holds if for every function  $c : [\kappa]^n \to \theta$ , there is a subset  $A \subseteq \kappa$  with  $|A| = \mu$  such that  $\operatorname{ran}(c \upharpoonright [A]^n)$  is a proper subset of  $\theta$ . The negation

(17) 
$$\kappa \nrightarrow [\mu]_{\theta}^{n}$$

holds if there is a function  $c : [\kappa]^n \to \theta$  so that for each subset  $A \subseteq \kappa$  with  $|A| = \mu$ , ran $(c \upharpoonright [A]^n) = \theta$ . The following lemma will aid in the proof of Theorem 1.7.

**Lemma 4.1.** Suppose  $\kappa$  is a strong limit cardinal and either

- (a)  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible,  $\theta < \kappa$ , and  $\kappa \nrightarrow [\kappa]_{\theta}^2$ ; or
- (b)  $\theta < \operatorname{cf}(\kappa)$  and  $\operatorname{cf}(\kappa) \nrightarrow [\operatorname{cf}(\kappa)]_{\theta}^2$ .

Then  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  fails.

*Proof.* To prove (a), suppose  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible and  $\theta < \kappa$ , and let  $c : [\kappa]^2 \to \theta$  be a function witnessing  $\kappa \to [\kappa]^2_{\theta}$ .

**Claim 4.** For each  $A \in [\kappa]^{\kappa}$ , there is an  $\alpha \in A$  such that c has range  $\theta$  on the set  $\{\{\alpha, \beta\} : \beta \in A \cap (\alpha, \kappa)\}.$ 

*Proof.* Suppose not. Then there is an  $A \in [\kappa]^{\kappa}$  such that for each  $\alpha \in A$ , there is some ordinal  $e(\alpha) \in \theta$  which is not in the range of c on the set  $\{\{\alpha, \beta\} : \beta \in A \cap (\alpha, \kappa)\}$ . Since  $\theta < \kappa$ , there is an  $A' \in [A]^{\kappa}$  such that e is constant on A'. But then  $\operatorname{ran}(c \upharpoonright [A']^2) \neq \theta$ , contradicting that c witnesses  $\kappa \to [\kappa]^2_{\theta}$ .

Let  $\overline{<}$  be any sequence of well-orderings of the levels of  $\kappa>2$ . Define the function  $d:\bigcup_{\alpha<\kappa} [^{\alpha}2]^2\to \theta$  by

(18) 
$$\{\nu_0, \nu_1\} \in [{}^{\alpha}2]^2 \implies d(\{\nu_0, \nu_1\}) = c(\{\lg(\nu_0 \cap \nu_1), \alpha\}).$$

Let  $(\kappa, T, A)$  be a suitable triple. Take  $A' \in [A]^{\kappa}$  such that between any two consecutive ordinals in A', there are  $\omega$  many ordinals in A. Fix  $\alpha \in A'$  as in Claim 4, and fix any node  $\eta \in T \cap^{\alpha} 2$  and distinct nodes  $\eta_0, \eta_1 \in^{\alpha+1} 2$  such that  $\eta_0 \cap \eta_1 = \eta$ . For each  $\beta \in A' \cap (\alpha, \kappa)$  there are at least  $2^{\omega}$  many pairs of distinct nodes  $\nu_0, \nu_1$  in  $T \cap^{\beta} 2$  such that  $\eta_0 \triangleleft \nu_0$  and  $\eta_1 \triangleleft \nu_1$  and  $\nu_0 \triangleleft_{\beta} \nu_1$ . By Claim 4, d has range  $\theta$  on the set

(19) 
$$\{\{\nu_0, \nu_1\} \in [T]^2 : \eta_0 \triangleleft \nu_0, \ \eta_1 \triangleleft \nu_1, \ \lg(\nu_0) = \lg(\nu_1) \in A', \text{ and } \nu_0 <_{\lg(\nu_0)} \nu_1\}.$$
  
Thus,  $\operatorname{HL}^+_{2,\theta}[\kappa]$  fails.

The proof of (b) is similar. Suppose  $\kappa$  is a strong limit cardinal, let  $\mu = \operatorname{cf}(\kappa)$ , and let  $c : [\mu]^2 \to \theta$  be a function witnessing that  $\mu \nrightarrow [\mu]_{\theta}^2$ . Let  $\langle \kappa_i : i < \mu \rangle$  be an increasing continuous sequence with limit  $\kappa$ , and assume  $\kappa_0 = 0$ . Define  $h : \kappa \to \mu$  by

(20) 
$$h(\alpha) = i \iff \alpha \in [\kappa_i, \kappa_{i+1}).$$

A proof similar to the one given for Claim 4 yields the following:

**Claim 5.** Given  $B \in [\mu]^{\mu}$ , there is an  $a \in B$  such that c has range  $\theta$  on the set  $\{\{a,b\}: b \in B \cap (a,\mu)\}.$ 

Define the function  $d: \bigcup_{\alpha < \kappa} [{}^{\alpha}2]^2 \to \theta$  by

(21) 
$$\{\eta,\nu\} \in [^{\alpha}2]^2 \Longrightarrow d(\{\eta,\nu\}) = c(\{h(\lg(\eta \cap \nu)), h(\alpha)\})$$

if  $\lg(\eta \cap \nu)$  and  $\alpha$  are in different intervals of the partition  $[\kappa_i, \kappa_{i+1})$   $(i < \mu)$  of  $\kappa$ , and let  $d(\{\eta, \nu\}) = 0$  otherwise. Let  $(\kappa, T, A)$  be a suitable triple. Again take  $A' \in [A]^{\kappa}$  such that between any two consecutive ordinals in A', there are  $\omega$  many ordinals in A.

Let B = h[A'] and take  $a \in B$  satisfying Claim 5. Let  $\alpha \in A'$  be such that  $h(\alpha) = a$ , and fix any node  $\eta \in T \cap^{\alpha} 2$  and nodes  $\eta_0, \eta_1 \in^{\alpha+1} 2$  such that  $\eta_0 \cap \eta_1 = \eta$ . For each  $\beta \in A' \cap (\alpha, \kappa)$  there are at least  $2^{\omega}$  many pairs of distinct nodes  $\nu_0, \nu_1$  in  $T \cap^{\beta} 2$  such that  $\eta_0 \triangleleft \nu_0$  and  $\eta_1 \triangleleft \nu_1$  and  $\nu_0 \triangleleft_{\beta} \nu_1$ . By Claim 5, d has range  $\theta$  on the set

(22) 
$$\{\{\nu_0, \nu_1\} \in [T]^2 : \eta_0 \triangleleft \nu_0, \ \eta_1 \triangleleft \nu_1, \ \lg(\nu_0) = \lg(\nu_1) \in A', \text{ and } \nu_0 <_{\lg(\nu_0)} \nu_1\}.$$
  
Thus,  $\operatorname{HL}_{2,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  fails.

The next Lemma 4.3 will also aid in the proof of Theorem 1.7. For this, we need the following.

**Definition 4.2** ([8], Definition 1.2 page 418).  $\Pr_1(\kappa, \mu, \sigma, \theta)$ , where  $\sigma + \theta \leq \mu \leq \kappa$  and  $\kappa$  is an infinite cardinal, means the following: There is a symmetric function  $c : \kappa \times \kappa \to \sigma$  such that

(\*) If  $\xi < \theta$  and for all  $i < \mu$ ,  $\langle \alpha_{i,\zeta} : \zeta < \xi \rangle$  is a strictly increasing sequence of ordinals less than  $\kappa$  with the  $\alpha_{i,\zeta}$  being distinct, and if  $\gamma < \sigma$ , then there are  $i < j < \mu$  such that

$$\otimes \quad \zeta_1 < \zeta_2 < \xi \Longrightarrow c(\alpha_{i,\zeta_1}, \alpha_{j,\zeta_2}) = \gamma.$$

 $\Pr_1(\kappa, \sigma, \theta)$  denotes  $\Pr_1(\kappa, \kappa, \sigma, \theta)$ , which implies  $\kappa \to [\kappa]_{\theta}^{\sigma}$ . The following lemma is Conclusion 4.8 in Chapter III Section 4 of [8]:

- **Lemma 4.3.** (1) Suppose that either
  - (a)  $\mu, \theta$  are regular cardinals and  $\mu > \theta^+$ , or
  - (b)  $\mu$  is singular,  $\mu < \aleph_{\mu}$ , and  $\theta = cf(\mu)$ . Then  $Pr_1(\mu^+, \mu^+, \theta)$ .
  - (2) Suppose  $\kappa > \aleph_0$  is inaccessible, there is a stationary set  $S \subseteq \kappa$  which reflects in no inaccessible,  $\delta \in S$  implies  $\mathrm{cf}(\delta) \geq \theta$ , and  $\sigma < \kappa$  and  $\aleph_0 < \theta < \kappa$ . Then  $\mathrm{Pr}_1(\kappa, \sigma, \theta)$  holds.

Note that  $\Pr_1(\kappa, \sigma, \theta)$  for any  $2 \le \theta$  implies  $\Pr_1(\kappa, \sigma, 2)$ , which implies  $\kappa \to [\kappa]^2_{\sigma}$ , which is what we will use in order to apply Lemma 4.1.

(1) If  $\kappa$  is the first inaccessible, then  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  fails, for each Theorem 1.7.  $2 \le \theta < \kappa$ .

- (2) Suppose  $\kappa$  is inaccessible and not Mahlo. Then  $\operatorname{HL}_{2,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  fails, for each
- (3) If  $\kappa$  is a singular strong limit cardinal and  $\mathrm{cf}(\kappa) = \mu^+$ , with  $\mu$  regular, then  $\operatorname{HL}_{2,\mu^+}^+[\kappa]$  fails.
- *Proof.* (1) Suppose  $\kappa$  is the first inaccessible and  $2 \le \theta < \kappa$ , and let  $\mu = \max(\theta, \aleph_1)$ . Then the set  $S = \{\delta < \kappa : \mathrm{cf}(\delta) \geq \mu\}$  is stationary and trivially does not reflect in any inaccessible. Thus, by Lemma 4.3 (2),  $\Pr_1(\kappa, \sigma, \mu)$  holds, for any  $\sigma < \kappa$ . It follows that  $\Pr_1(\kappa, \theta, 2)$  holds, and hence,  $[\kappa] \rightarrow [\kappa]_{\theta}^2$  holds. Then Lemma 4.1 (a) implies that  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  fails.
- (2) Now suppose  $\kappa$  is inaccessible and not Mahlo. By Lemma 4.1 (A)  $\Rightarrow$  (C) in Chapter III of [8], there is a stationary set  $S \subseteq \kappa$  which does not reflect in inaccessible cardinals, and such that  $\delta \in S$  implies  $cf(\delta) \ge \mu$ , where  $\mu = \max(\theta, \aleph_1)$ . By Lemma 4.3 (2),  $\Pr_1(\kappa, \theta, 2)$  holds, and hence,  $[\kappa] \nrightarrow [\kappa]_{\theta}^2$  holds. Then  $\operatorname{HL}_{2,\theta}^+[\kappa]$ fails, by Lemma 4.1 (a).
- (3) Lastly, suppose  $\kappa$  is a singular strong limit cardinal, with  $cf(\kappa) = \mu^+$ , where  $\mu$  is regular. By Lemma 4.3 (1),  $\Pr_1(\mu^+, \mu^+, 2)$  holds, and hence,  $\mu^+ \nrightarrow [\mu^+]_{\mu^+}^2$ holds. Then  $\mathrm{HL}^+_{2.u^+}(\kappa)$  fails, by Lemma 4.1 (b).

Džamonja, Larson, and Mitchell point out in Section 8 of [3] that  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,2}^+(\kappa)$ implies that  $\kappa$  must be weakly compact. Weakly compact cardinals are Mahlo and hence not the least strongly inaccessible. Theorem 1.7 showed that if  $\mathrm{HL}_{2\,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  holds for any  $2 \le \theta < \kappa$  where  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible, then  $\kappa$  must be Mahlo. Recall that  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,2}^+[\kappa]$  is exactly  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,2}^+(\kappa)$ , leading to the following question.

**Question 4.4.** Can  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  consistently hold for some  $2 < \theta \le \kappa$  when  $\kappa$  is a Mahlo, non-weakly compact cardinal?

We can only ask for consistency because Corollary 1.9 to the next theorem shows that  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,\theta}[\kappa]$  fails in L for all  $2 \leq \theta \leq \kappa$  whenever  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible and not weakly compact.

The following theorem shows that the failure of  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,\theta}[\kappa]$ , for all  $2 \leq \theta \leq \kappa$ , follows from  $\Diamond_S$  for a non-reflecting stationary subset  $S \subseteq \kappa$ .

**Theorem 1.8.** Assume  $\kappa$  is strongly inaccessible,  $S \subseteq \kappa$  is a non-reflecting stationary set, and  $\lozenge_S$  holds. Then  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,\theta}[\kappa]$  fails, for each  $2 \leq \theta \leq \kappa$ .

*Proof.* Let  $\kappa$  be inaccessible and  $S \subseteq \kappa$  be a non-reflecting stationary set, and suppose that  $\diamondsuit_S$  holds. By possibly thinning S, we may assume that S is a set of strong limit cardinals, and that there is a sequence

(23) 
$$\{(\mu, T_{\mu}^{0}, T_{\mu}^{1}, A_{\mu}, F_{\mu}, \xi_{\mu}) : \mu \in S\}$$

such that

- (a) for each  $\mu \in S$ :

 $\begin{array}{l} \bullet_5 \ \eta \lhd \nu \in T_\mu^0 \ \text{implies} \ F_\mu(\eta) \lhd F_\mu(\nu), \\ \bullet_6 \ \xi_\mu < \theta, \end{array}$ 

and such that

(b) if  $(\kappa, T_{\kappa}^0, T_{\kappa}^1, A_{\kappa}, F_{\kappa}, \xi_{\kappa})$  are as above, i.e.,  $\bigoplus_{\kappa}$  holds, then for stationarily many  $\mu \in S$ , we have

$$(\mu, T_{\mu}^{0}, T_{\mu}^{1}, A_{\mu}, F_{\mu}, \xi_{\mu}) = (\mu, T_{\kappa}^{0} \cap {}^{\mu >} 2, T_{\kappa}^{1} \cap {}^{\mu >} 2, A_{\kappa} \cap \mu, F_{\kappa} \upharpoonright T_{\mu}^{0}, \xi_{\kappa}).$$

Note that for each  $\mu \in S$ ,  $A_{\mu}$  is an unbounded subset of  $\mu$ , since  $(\mu, A_{\mu}, T_{\mu}^{\ell})$  is suitable, for each  $\ell < 2$ .

**Claim 6.** Given  $\beta < \gamma < \kappa$  with  $\beta \notin S$ , then there is a function  $g = g_{\beta,\gamma}$  such that

- (1) g is one-to-one;
- (2)  $dom(g) = S \cap \gamma \setminus (\beta + 1);$
- (3)  $\mu \in \text{dom}(g) \text{ implies } g(\mu) \in A_{\mu} \setminus (\beta + 1).$

*Proof.* The proof is by induction on  $\gamma < \kappa$ .

Case 1.  $\gamma$  is a successor ordinal, say  $\gamma = \gamma_1 + 1$ . Let  $\beta \in \gamma \setminus S$  be given. If  $\beta = \gamma_1$ , then  $S \cap \gamma \setminus (\beta + 1) = \emptyset$  and the empty function trivially satisfies (1)–(3); so now assume that  $\beta < \gamma_1$ . If  $\gamma_1 \notin S$ , then  $S \cap \gamma \setminus (\beta + 1) = S \cap \gamma_1 \setminus (\beta + 1)$  and we let  $g_{\beta,\gamma} = g_{\beta,\gamma_1}$ .

If  $\gamma_1 \in S$ , since  $A_{\gamma_1}$  is unbounded in  $\gamma_1$  we can choose  $\beta_1 \in A_{\gamma_1} \setminus (\beta + 1)$ . By the induction hypothesis, we have  $g_1 := g_{\beta,\beta_1+1}$  on  $S \cap (\beta_1 + 1) \setminus (\beta + 1)$  satisfying (1)–(3) and  $g_2 := g_{\beta_1+1,\gamma_1}$  on  $S \cap \gamma_1 \setminus (\beta_1 + 2)$  satisfying (1)–(3). Then  $\text{dom}(g_1) \cap \text{dom}(g_2) \subseteq (\beta,\beta_1] \cap (\beta_1 + 1,\gamma_1) = \emptyset$ , so  $g_1 \cup g_2$  is a function. Further.  $\text{ran}(g_1) \subseteq \beta_1$  and  $\text{ran}(g_2) \cap (\beta_1 + 2) = \emptyset$ , so  $g_1 \cup g_2$  is one-to-one and does not contain  $\beta_1$  in its range. Define  $g_{\beta,\gamma} = g_1 \cup g_2 \cup \{(\gamma_1,\beta_1)\}$ . Then  $g_{\beta,\gamma}$  is a one-to-one function. Moreover,

$$dom(g_{\beta,\gamma}) = \{\gamma_1\} \cup (S \cap ((\beta, \beta_1] \cup (\beta_1 + 1, \gamma_1)))$$

$$= S \cap (\beta, \gamma_1]$$

$$= S \cap \gamma \setminus (\beta + 1)$$
(24)

since  $\gamma_1 \in S$  and  $\beta_1 + 1 \notin S$  as S consists only of limit ordinals. As  $\beta_1 \in A_{\gamma_1} \setminus (\beta + 1)$ , this along with (3) of the induction hypothesis for  $g_1$  and  $g_2$  imply that  $g_{\beta,\gamma}$  satisfies (1)–(3).

Case 2.  $\gamma$  is a limit ordinal. Let  $\beta \in \gamma \setminus S$ . As S does not reflect,  $S \cap \gamma$  is not stationary in  $\gamma$ . Recalling that S consists only of limit ordinals, there is an increasing continuous sequence  $\langle \beta_{\iota} : \iota < \operatorname{cf}(\gamma) \rangle$  of ordinals in  $\gamma \setminus S$  such that  $\gamma = \sup\{\beta_{\iota} : \iota < \operatorname{cf}(\gamma)\}$ , with  $\beta_0 = \beta$ . Choose  $g_{\iota}$  for  $(\beta_{\iota}, \beta_{\iota+1})$  according to the induction hypothesis, and let  $g_{\beta,\gamma} = \bigcup\{g_{\iota} : \iota < \operatorname{cf}(\gamma)\}$ . Then  $g_{\beta,\gamma}$  is a function satisfying (1)–(3).

Using Claim 6, we define a function  $c: [\alpha 2]^2 \to \theta$  for each  $\alpha < \kappa$  as follows:

(\*)<sub>2</sub> For  $\gamma \in \operatorname{ran}(g_{0,\alpha})$  and  $\mu$  such that  $g_{0,\alpha}(\mu) = \gamma$ , if  $\{\nu_0, \nu_1\} \in [\alpha 2]^2$  satisfy  $\gamma = \operatorname{lg}(F_{\mu}(\nu_0 \upharpoonright \gamma') \cap \nu_1)$ , where  $\gamma'$  is the least ordinal in  $A_{\mu}$  above  $\gamma$ , then define  $c(\{\nu_0, \nu_1\}) = \xi_{\mu}$ ; otherwise,  $c(\{\nu_0, \nu_1\}) = 0$ . Let  $c = \bigcup_{\alpha < \kappa} c_{\alpha}$ .

To finish the proof, let  $\xi < \theta$  be given and let  $T^{\ell}$ ,  $\ell < 2$ , and  $A \subseteq \kappa$  be such that  $(\kappa, T^{\ell}, A)$  is a suitable triple for each  $\ell < \kappa$ , and let F be the isomorphism from  $T^0$ 

onto  $T^1$ . Then  $\bigoplus_{\kappa}$  holds for the sequence  $(\kappa, T^0, T^1, A, F, \xi)$ , so the set S' of those  $\mu \in S$  for which

$$(\mu, T_{\mu}^{0}, T_{\mu}^{1}, A_{\mu}, F_{\mu}, \xi_{\mu}) = (\mu, T^{0} \cap {}^{\mu} > 2, T^{1} \cap {}^{\mu} > 2, A \cap \mu, F \upharpoonright T_{\mu}^{0}, \xi)$$

holds is stationary. Fix  $\mu < \sigma$ , both in S'. Then  $F_{\sigma} = F \upharpoonright T_{\sigma}^{0}$  and  $F_{\sigma} \upharpoonright T_{\mu}^{0} = F_{\mu} = F \upharpoonright T_{\mu}^{0}$ . Choose  $\alpha \in A_{\sigma}$  (which equals  $A \cap \sigma$ ) such that  $\mu + \omega \leq \alpha$ . This is possible since  $\sigma \in S$  implies that  $\sigma$  is a strong limit, and  $A_{\sigma}$  is unbounded in  $\sigma$ . Note that  $T^{\ell} \cap {}^{\alpha}2 = T_{\sigma}^{\ell} \cap {}^{\alpha}2$ , for each  $\ell < 2$ ,

Let  $\gamma = g_{0,\alpha}(\mu)$ . Then  $\gamma \in A_{\mu} = A \cap {}^{\mu}2$ , since  $\mu \in S'$  and by (3) of Claim 6. Fix a node  $\eta \in T^1 \cap {}^{\gamma}2$  and let  $\eta_0 = \eta \cap 0$  and  $\eta_1 = \eta \cap 1$ . Extend  $\eta_0$  to some  $\nu'_0$  in  ${}^{\alpha}2 \cap T^1_{\sigma}$ , and extend  $\eta_1$  to some  $\nu_1$  in  ${}^{\alpha}2 \cap T^1_{\sigma}$ . Let  $\nu_0 = F^{-1}_{\sigma}(\nu'_0)$ . Then  $\nu_0$  is in  $T^0 \cap {}^{\alpha}2$ . Note that, letting  $\gamma'$  be the least ordinal in  $A_{\mu}$  above  $\gamma$ ,

$$F_{\mu}(\nu_0 \upharpoonright \gamma') = F_{\sigma}(\nu_0 \upharpoonright \gamma') = F_{\sigma}(\nu_0) \upharpoonright \gamma' = \nu_0' \upharpoonright \gamma'.$$

In particular,  $\gamma = \lg(F_{\mu}(\nu_0 \upharpoonright \gamma') \cap \nu_1)$ . By the definition  $(*)_2$  of c it follows that  $c(\{\nu_0, \nu_1\}) = \xi_{\mu}$ , which is  $\xi$ . Since  $\xi$  was an arbitrary ordinal less than  $\theta$ , we see that  $HL_{2,\theta}[\kappa]$  fails.

Corollary 1.9 follows immediately.

#### 5. Open Problems

We conclude by stating some of the multitude of open problems regarding various versions of Halpern–Läuchli at uncountable cardinals and their consistency strengths.

**Question 5.1.** For  $\kappa$  weakly compact, if  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  holds for some  $2 < \theta < \kappa$ , then must  $\mathrm{HL}_{2,2}^+(\kappa)$  hold?

A similar question can be asked for Halpern-Läuchli on products of two trees:

**Question 5.2.** Given  $2 < \theta < \kappa$ , is  $\text{HL}_{2,\theta}[\kappa]$  strictly weaker than  $\text{HL}_{2,\theta}(\kappa)$ ?

**Question 5.3.** For  $2 \le n < \omega$  and  $2 \le \theta < \kappa$ , how do  $\mathrm{HL}_{n,\theta}(\kappa)$  and  $\mathrm{HL}_{n,\theta}^+[\kappa]$  compare? Are there models of ZFC where one holds but the other does not?

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