COLOURING OF SUCCESSOR OF REGULAR AGAIN SH1163

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ABSTRACT. We prove that for regular cardinals $\theta < \partial$ and $\lambda = \partial^+$ the colouring property $\Pr_1(\lambda,\lambda,\lambda,\theta)$ almost always holds. The only exceptions are when θ is an uncountable limit regular cardinal and λ carries a uniform θ -complete filter which is not θ^+ -complete. The result is nearly optimal

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§ 0. Introduction

We prove a strong colouring theorem. The connection between purely combinatorial theorems and topological constructions is known for many years. Several results in general topology were proved using the property $\Pr_1(\lambda, \mu, \sigma, \theta)$, see recently [JS15], [She19], the later by improving the existence result on \Pr_1 . We continue [She19] but the proof is self contained (except in the conclusion 1.3); see history and background in [She94]. Note that [She97, §4] states more than it proved. Recall:

Definition 0.1. 1) Assume $\lambda \geq \mu \geq \sigma + \theta_0 + \theta_1, \bar{\theta} = (\theta_0, \theta_1)$, see 0.4(1). Assume further that $\theta_0, \theta_1 \geq \aleph_0$ but σ may be finite

Let $\Pr_1(\lambda, \mu, \sigma, \bar{\theta})$ mean that there is $\mathbf{c} : [\lambda]^2 \to \sigma$ witnessing it, which means:

- $(*)_{\mathbf{c}}$ if (a) then (b), where:
 - (a) for $\iota = 0, 1, \mathbf{i}_{\iota} < \theta_{\iota}$ and $\bar{\zeta}^{\iota} = \langle \zeta_{\alpha,i}^{\iota} : \alpha < \mu, i < \mathbf{i}_{\iota} \rangle$ are sequences of ordinals of λ without repetitions, and $\operatorname{Rang}(\bar{\zeta}^{0})$, $\operatorname{Rang}(\bar{\zeta}^{1})$ are disjoint and $\gamma < \sigma$
 - (b) there are $\alpha_0 < \alpha_1 < \mu$ such that $\forall i_0 < \mathbf{i}_0, \forall i_1 < \mathbf{i}_1, \mathbf{c}\{\zeta_{\alpha_0, i_0}^0, \zeta_{\alpha_1, i_1}^1\} = \gamma$ and $\zeta_{\alpha_0, i_0}^0 < \zeta_{\alpha_1, i_1}^1$.
- 2) Above if $\theta_0 = \theta = \theta_1$ then we may write $\Pr_1(\lambda, \mu, \sigma, \theta)$.

In the previous paper [She19] we proved, e.g. $\Pr_1(\aleph_3, \aleph_3, 2, (\aleph_0, \aleph_1))$ which means that the sequences $\bar{\zeta}^{\iota}$ are finite at the first coordinate and countable, possibly infinite at the second.

In this paper we prove e.g. that $\Pr_1(\aleph_3, \aleph_3, \aleph_3, \aleph_1)$ holds, which means that countable infinite sequences can be taken in both coordinates. Actually, the theorem says that, in particular, $\Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda, \theta)$ holds whenever $\theta = \mathrm{cf}(\theta) > \aleph_0$ and $\lambda = \theta^{++}$.

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Definition 0.2. 1) A filter D on a set I is uniform when for every subset A of I of cardinal $\langle |I|$, the set $I \setminus A \in D$; all our filters will be uniform

- 2) A filter D on a set I is weakly θ -saturated when $\theta \geq |I|$ and there is no partition of I to θ sets from D^+ ,
- 3) We say the filter D on a set I is θ -saturated when the Boolean algebra $\mathscr{P}(I)/D$ satisfies the θ -c.c.

Fact 0.3. 1) If D is a θ -complete filter on λ and is not θ -saturated then it is not weakly θ -saturated.

- 2) If $\theta = \sigma^+$ and D is a θ -complete filter on θ , then D is not weakly θ -saturated.
- 3) If $n \ge 1$ and $\lambda = \sigma^n$ and D is a (uniform) σ^+ -complete filter on λ then D is not weakly σ^{+n} -saturated

Proof. 1) Obvious and well known

- 2) By [Sol71],
- 3) Let μ be the minimal cardinal such that D is not μ^+ -complete, so clearly $\mu \in [\sigma^+, \lambda]$ hence μ is a successor cardinal. So there is a function f from λ into μ such that for every subset A of μ of cardinality $< \mu$, $f^{-1}(A) = \emptyset \mod D$. Let E be the family of subsets A of μ such that $f^{-1}(A) \in D$. Clearly E is a (uniform) μ -complete filter on μ hence by part (2) is not weakly μ -saturated, let $\langle A_{\varepsilon} : \varepsilon < \mu \rangle$

COLOURING OF SUCCESSOR OF REGULAR AGAIN

SH1163

be a partition of μ to set from E^+ . Now $\langle f^{-1}(A_{\varepsilon}) : \varepsilon < \mu \rangle$ witnesses the desired conclusion.

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Notation 0.4. 1) We denote infinite cardinals by $\lambda, \mu, \kappa, \theta, \partial$ while σ denote a finite or infinite cardinal. We denote ordinals by $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \varepsilon, \zeta, \xi$. Natural numbers are denoted by k, ℓ, m, n and $\iota \in \{0, 1, 2\}$

- 1A) Let D denote a filter on an infinite set dom(D)
- 2) For a set A of ordinals let $\mathrm{nacc}(A) = \{\alpha \in A; \alpha > \sup(A \cap \alpha)\}$ and $\mathrm{acc}(A) = A \setminus \mathrm{nacc}(A)$ For regular $\lambda > \kappa$ let $S_{\kappa}^{\lambda} = \{\delta < \lambda : \mathrm{cf}(\delta) = \kappa\}$.

§ 1. A COLOURING THEOREM

Our aim is to prove

Theorem 1.1. $Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \theta, \theta)$ and even $Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda, \theta)$ holds provided that:

- (a) $\lambda = \partial^+, \partial = \mathrm{cf}(\partial) \ge \theta = \mathrm{cf}(\theta) > \aleph_0$
- (b) there is no θ -complete not θ^+ -complete uniform weakly θ -saturated filter on λ .

Remark 1.2. 1) The case of θ colours, i.e. proving only $\Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \theta, \theta)$ is easier so we prove it first.

- 2) If $\lambda = \aleph_2, \theta = \aleph_0$, then $\Pr_1(\aleph_2, \aleph_2, \aleph_2, \aleph_0)$ holds by [She97], so (by monotonicity in θ), the restriction $\theta > \aleph_0$ is not serious
- 3) We can omit the "weakly" in 1.1(b) because the filter is θ -complete by 0.3(1).
- 4) If θ, λ fail clause (b) of 1.1 then θ is (possibly weakly) inaccessible cardinal and is a large cardinal in some sense.
- 5) By monotonicity of Pr_1 in θ , if clause (b) of 1.1 holds for some regular $\theta' \in (\theta, \partial)$ this suffice
 - 6) We use $\partial > \theta$ rather then $\partial \geq \theta$ only in proving $(*)_2$ in Stage C of the proof

Proof. Stage A: We begin exactly as in earlier proofs. We let $(\kappa_1, \kappa_2) = (\theta, \lambda)$. Let $S \subseteq S_{\partial}^{\lambda}$ be stationary and $h: \lambda \to \lambda$ be such that $\alpha < \lambda \Rightarrow h(\alpha) < 1 + \alpha, h \upharpoonright (\lambda \backslash S)$ is constantly zero and $S_{\gamma}^* := \{\delta \in S : h(\delta) = \gamma\}$ is a stationary subset of λ for every $\gamma < \lambda$. Let $F_{\iota}: \lambda \to \kappa_{\iota}$ for $\iota = 1, 2$ be such that for every $(\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2) \in (\kappa_1 \times \kappa_2)$ the set $W_{\varepsilon_1, \varepsilon_2}(\beta) = \{\gamma \in S_{\beta}^* : F_{\iota}(\gamma) = \varepsilon_{\iota} \text{ for } \iota = 1, 2\}$ is a stationary subset of λ for every $\beta < \lambda$.

For $\iota = 1, 2$ and $\rho \in {}^{\omega} > \lambda$ let $F_{\iota}(\rho) = \langle F_{\iota}(\rho(\ell)) : \ell < \ell g(\rho) \rangle$.

Let $\bar{e} = \langle e_{\alpha} : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$ be such that

- \odot_1 (a) if $\alpha = 0$ then $e_{\alpha} = \emptyset$
 - (b) if $\alpha = \beta + 1$ then $e_{\alpha} = \{\beta\}$
 - (c) if α is a limit ordinal then e_{α} is a club of α of order type $\mathrm{cf}(\alpha)$ disjoint to S_{∂}^{λ} hence to S.

In other cases (not here) instead h we use a sequence $\langle h_{\alpha} : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$ of functions, $h_{\alpha} : e_{\alpha} \to \theta$ and use e.g $\langle h_{\gamma_{\ell}(\beta,\alpha)}(\gamma_{\ell+1}(\beta,\alpha)) : \ell < k(\beta,\alpha) \rangle$ and ρ_h , but this is not necessary here.

Now (using \bar{e}) for $\alpha < \beta < \lambda$, let

$$\gamma(\beta, \alpha) := \min\{\gamma \in e_{\beta} : \gamma \geq \alpha\}.$$

Let us define $\gamma_{\ell}(\beta, \alpha)$:

$$\gamma_0(\beta, \alpha) = \beta,$$

$$\gamma_{\ell+1}(\beta,\alpha) = \gamma(\gamma_{\ell}(\beta,\alpha),\alpha)$$
 (if well defined).

If $\alpha < \beta < \lambda$, let $k(\beta, \alpha)$ be the maximal $k < \omega$ such that $\gamma_k(\beta, \alpha)$ is defined (equivalently is equal to α) and let $\rho_{\beta,\alpha} = \rho(\beta,\alpha)$ be the sequence

$$\langle \gamma_0(\beta, \alpha), \gamma_1(\beta, \alpha), \dots, \gamma_{k(\beta, \alpha) - 1}(\beta, \alpha) \rangle.$$

SH1163

5

Let $\gamma_{\ell t}(\beta, \alpha) = \gamma_{k(\beta, \alpha) - 1}(\beta, \alpha)$ where ℓt stands for last. Let

$$\rho_h = \langle h(\gamma_\ell(\beta, \alpha)) : \ell < k(\beta, \alpha) \rangle$$

and we let $\rho(\alpha, \alpha)$ and $\rho_h(\alpha, \alpha)$ be the empty sequences. Now clearly:

$$\odot_2$$
 if $\alpha < \beta < \lambda$ then $\alpha \leq \gamma(\beta, \alpha) < \beta$

hence

 \odot_3 if $\alpha < \beta < \lambda, 0 < \ell < \omega$, and $\gamma_{\ell}(\beta, \alpha)$ is well defined, then

$$\alpha < \gamma_{\ell}(\beta, \alpha) < \beta$$

and

 \odot_4 if $\alpha < \beta < \lambda$, then $k(\beta, \alpha)$ is well defined and letting $\gamma_\ell := \gamma_\ell(\beta, \alpha)$ for $\ell \le k(\beta, \alpha)$ we have

$$\alpha = \gamma_{k(\beta,\alpha)} < \gamma_{\ell t}(\beta,\alpha) = \gamma_{k(\beta,\alpha)-1} < \dots < \gamma_1 < \gamma_0 = \beta$$

and
$$\alpha \in e_{\gamma_{\ell t}(\beta,\alpha)}$$

i.e. $\rho(\beta, \alpha)$ is a (strictly) decreasing finite sequence of ordinals, starting with β , ending with $\gamma_{\ell t}(\beta, \alpha)$ of length $k(\beta, \alpha)$.

Note that if $\alpha \in S, \alpha < \beta$ then $\gamma_{\ell t}(\beta, \alpha) = \alpha + 1$.

Also

- \odot_5 if δ is a limit ordinal and $\delta < \beta < \lambda$, then for some $\alpha_0 < \delta$ we have: $\alpha_0 \le \alpha < \delta$ implies:
 - (i) for $\ell < k(\beta, \delta)$ we have $\gamma_{\ell}(\beta, \delta) = \gamma_{\ell}(\beta, \alpha)$
 - (ii) $\delta \in \text{nacc}(e_{\gamma_{\ell t}(\beta,\delta)}) \Leftrightarrow \delta = \gamma_{k(\beta,\delta)}(\beta,\delta) = \gamma_{k(\beta,\delta)}(\beta,\alpha) \Leftrightarrow \neg[\gamma_{k(\beta,\delta)}(\beta,\delta) = \delta > \gamma_{k(\beta,\delta)}(\beta,\alpha)]$
 - (iii) $\rho(\beta, \delta) \leq \rho(\beta, \alpha)$; i.e. is an initial segment
 - (iv) $\delta \in \text{nacc}(e_{\gamma_{\ell t}(\beta,\delta)})$ (here always holds if $\delta \in S$) implies:
 - $\rho(\beta, \delta) \hat{\delta} \leq \rho(\beta, \alpha)$ hence
 - $\rho_h(\beta, \delta) \hat{\langle} h(\beta, \delta)(\delta) \rangle \leq \rho_h(\beta, \alpha).$
 - (v) if $cf(\delta) = \partial$ then we have $\gamma_{\ell t}(\beta, \delta) = \delta + 1$ so $\delta \in nacc(e_{\gamma_{t}(\beta, \delta)})$
 - (vi) if $cf(\delta) = \partial$ and $\delta \in e_{\gamma}$, then necessarily $\gamma = \delta + 1$.

Why? Just let

$$\alpha_0 = \operatorname{Max}\{\sup(e_{\gamma_{\ell}(\beta,\delta)} \cap \delta) + 1 : \ell < k(\beta,\delta) \text{ and } \delta \notin \operatorname{acc}(e_{\gamma_{\ell}(\beta,\delta)})\}.$$

Notice that if $\ell < k(\beta, \delta) - 1$ then $\delta \notin acc(e_{\gamma_{\ell}(\beta, \delta)})$ follows.

Note that the outer maximum (in the choice of α_0) is well defined as it is over a finite non-empty set of ordinals. The inner sup is on the empty set (in which case we get zero) or is the maximum (which is well defined) as $e_{\gamma_{\ell}(\beta,\delta)}$ is a closed subset of $\gamma_{\ell}(\beta,\delta)$, $\delta < \gamma_{\ell}(\beta,\delta)$ and $\delta \notin \mathrm{acc}(e_{\gamma_{\ell}(\beta,\delta)})$ - as this is required. For clauses (v),

(vi) recall $\delta \in S_{\partial}^{\lambda}$ and $e_{\gamma} \cap S_{\partial}^{\lambda} = \emptyset$ when γ is a limit ordinal and $e_{\gamma} = \{\gamma - 1\}$ when γ is a successor ordinal.

- \odot_6 (a) if $\alpha < \beta < \lambda, \ell < k(\beta, \alpha), \gamma = \gamma_{\ell}(\beta, \alpha)$ then $\rho(\beta, \alpha) = \rho(\beta, \gamma) \hat{\rho}(\gamma, \alpha)$ and $\rho_h(\beta, \alpha) = \rho_h(\beta, \gamma) \hat{\rho}_h(\gamma, \alpha)$
 - (b) if $\alpha_0 < \ldots < \alpha_k$ and $\rho(\alpha_k, \alpha_0) = \rho(\alpha_k, \alpha_{k-1})^{\hat{}} \ldots \hat{} \rho(\alpha_1, \alpha_0)$ then this holds for any sub-sequence of $\langle \alpha_0, \ldots, \alpha_k \rangle$.
- \odot_7 let F'_{ι} be $F_{\iota} \circ h$ for $\iota = 1, 2$; so F'_1 is a function from λ into θ and F'_2 is a function from λ into λ .

Stage B:

Let

- $\boxplus_2 \mathbf{T} = \{\bar{t} : \bar{t} = \langle t_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda \rangle \text{ satisfies } t_\alpha \in [\lambda]^{<\theta} \text{ and } t_\alpha \subseteq \lambda \backslash \alpha \}.$
- \boxplus_3 for $\varepsilon < \theta$ and $\bar{t} \in \mathbf{T}$ let $A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon}$ be the set of $\gamma < \lambda$ such that for some (α_0, α_1) we have:
 - (a) $\alpha_0 < \alpha_1 < \lambda \text{ and}^1 (\zeta, \xi) \in t_{\alpha_0} \times t_{\alpha_1} \Rightarrow \zeta < \xi$
 - (b) for every $(\zeta, \xi) \in t_{\alpha_0} \times t_{\alpha_1}$ for some ℓ we have:
 - (α) $\ell < k(\xi, \zeta)$
 - $(\beta) \ \gamma_{\ell}(\xi,\zeta) = \gamma$
 - (γ) if $k < k(\xi, \zeta)$ then $F_1'(\gamma) \ge F_1'(\gamma_k(\xi, \zeta))$ and $F_1'(\gamma) \ge \varepsilon$
 - (δ) if $k < \ell$ then $F'_1(\gamma_k(\xi, \zeta)) < F'_1(\gamma)$.

We define:

 $\boxplus_4 D = \{A \subseteq \lambda : A \text{ includes } A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon} \text{ for some } \bar{t} \in \mathbf{T}, \varepsilon < \theta\}.$

Now note:

- \boxplus_5 (a) if $\bar{s}, \bar{t} \in \mathbf{T}, \varepsilon \leq \zeta < \theta$ and $(\forall \alpha < \lambda)(s_\alpha \subseteq t_\alpha), \underline{\text{then}} \ A_{\bar{t},\zeta} \subseteq A_{\bar{s},\varepsilon}$
 - (b) if $\bar{s} \in \mathbf{T}, \varepsilon < \theta, g$ is an increasing function from λ to λ and $\bar{t} = \langle t_{\alpha} : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$ is defined by $t_{\alpha} = s_{g(\alpha)}$ then $A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon} \subseteq A_{\bar{s},\varepsilon}$.

[Why? Read the definitions.]

- \boxplus_6 (a) the intersection of any $<\theta$ members of D is a member of D, equivalently includes the set $A_{\bar{t},\zeta}$ for some $\bar{t} \in \mathbf{T}, \zeta < \theta$
 - (b) for every $\beta < \lambda$ for some $\bar{t} \in \mathbf{T}, A_{\bar{t},0} \subseteq [\beta, \lambda)$
 - (c) if $\bar{t} \in \mathbf{T}$ and $\alpha < \lambda \Rightarrow t_{\alpha} \neq \emptyset$ then $\cap \{A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon} : \varepsilon < \theta\} = \emptyset$
 - (d) D is upward closed.
 - (e) λ belongs to D

[Why? For clause (a) assume $A_{\varepsilon} \in D$ for $\varepsilon < \varepsilon(*) < \theta$ then for some $\zeta_{\varepsilon} < \theta$ and $\bar{t}_{\varepsilon} \in \mathbf{T}$ we have $A_{\varepsilon} \supseteq A_{\bar{t}_{\varepsilon},\zeta_{\varepsilon}}$. Define $t_{\alpha} = \bigcup \{t_{\alpha}^{\varepsilon} : \varepsilon < \varepsilon(*)\}$ for $\alpha < \lambda$ and $\zeta = \sup \{\zeta_{\varepsilon} : \varepsilon < \varepsilon(*)\}$; as the cardinal θ is regular, clearly $|t_{\alpha}| \le \sum_{\varepsilon < \varepsilon(*)} |t_{\alpha}^{\varepsilon}| < \theta$

and obviously $t_{\alpha} \subseteq [\alpha, \lambda)$ hence $\bar{t} = \langle t_{\alpha} : \alpha < \lambda \rangle \in \mathbf{T}$ and similarly $\zeta < \theta$. Easily $A_{\bar{t},\zeta} \subseteq A_{\bar{t}_{\varepsilon},\zeta_{\varepsilon}}$ for every $\varepsilon < \varepsilon(*)$, see $\boxplus_5(a)$ so we are done proving clause (a). For clause (b) define $t_{\alpha} = \{\beta + \alpha + 1\}$ and recalling $\boxplus_3(b)(\beta)$ and \odot_4 check that

¹If we choose to add here " $t_{\alpha_0} \subseteq \alpha_1$ ", then we would a problem in proving clause $\boxplus_5(b)$.

 $A_{\bar{t},0} \subseteq [\beta,\lambda)$. Also clause (c) obviously holds because $\gamma \in A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon} \Rightarrow F_1'(\gamma) \ge \varepsilon$ by $\boxplus_3(b)(\gamma)$ and F_1' is a function from λ to θ and clauses (d),(e) hold trivially by the definition.]

- \boxplus_7 (a) $\emptyset \notin D$
 - (b) D is a filter on λ , equivalently $A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon} \neq \emptyset$ for every \bar{t},ε ; also D is uniform θ -complete, not θ^+ -complete.

[Why? Clause (a) is a major point, proved in Stage C below. That is, by $\boxplus_6(a)$, (d) the only missing point is to show $A_{\bar{t},\zeta} \neq \emptyset$, (in fact, $|A_{\bar{t},\zeta}| = \lambda$). For clause (b) by (a) and $\boxplus_6(a)$, (d), (e), D is a θ -complete filter and the statement that D is uniform holds by $\boxplus_6(b)$ and not θ^+ -complete holds by $\boxplus_6(c)$.]

Note also

 \boxplus_8 D is not weakly θ -saturated.

[Why? By \boxplus_7 and clause (b) in the assumptions of the theorem.]

Stage C:

In this stage we accomplish the proof of the missing point in $\boxplus_7(a)$ from above, so we shall prove " $A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon}$ is non-empty (in fact, has cardinality λ)" when:

- \boxplus (a) $t_{\alpha} \subseteq \lambda \setminus \alpha$ for $\alpha < \lambda$
 - (b) $|t_{\alpha}| < \theta$
 - (c) $\varepsilon < \theta$.

To start we note that:

 $(*)_1$ without loss of generality $t_{\alpha} \neq \emptyset$ and $\alpha < \min(t_{\alpha})$.

[Why? First, recalling $\boxplus_5(a)$ we can replace \bar{t} by $\bar{t} = \langle t_\alpha \cup \{\alpha\} : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$, so we may assume that each t_α is not empty. Second, let $\bar{t}' = \langle t'_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda \rangle, t'_\alpha = t_{\alpha+1}$, so easily \bar{t}' satisfies $(*)_1$ and $A_{\bar{t}',\varepsilon} \subseteq A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon}$ by clause $\boxplus_5(b)$.]

Now

- $(*)_2$ we can find $\mathcal{U}_1^{\mathrm{dn}}, \varepsilon^{\mathrm{dn}}$ such that:
 - (a) $\mathscr{U}_1^{\mathrm{dn}} \subseteq S_0^*$ is stationary in λ , see stage A on S_0^*
 - (b) $\alpha < \delta \in \mathscr{U}_1^{\mathrm{dn}} \Rightarrow t_\alpha \subseteq \delta$
 - (c) $\varepsilon^{\mathrm{dn}} < \theta$
 - (d) if $\delta \in \mathcal{U}_1^{\mathrm{dn}}$ then for arbitrarily large $\alpha < \delta$ we have $\zeta \in t_\alpha \Rightarrow \mathrm{Rang}(F_1(\rho_h(\delta,\zeta))) \subseteq \varepsilon^{\mathrm{dn}} < \kappa_1 = \theta$.

[Why? Clearly $E_0 = \{\delta < \lambda : \delta \text{ is a limit ordinal such that } \alpha < \delta \Rightarrow t_\alpha \subseteq \delta \}$ is a club of λ . For every $\delta \in S_0^* \cap E_0$ and $\alpha < \delta$ we can find $\varepsilon_{\delta,\alpha}^{dn}$ as in clauses (c),(d) of (*)₂ and so recalling that $\operatorname{cf}(\delta) = \partial > \theta > |t_\delta|$ it follows that there is ε_δ^{dn} such that $\delta = \sup\{\alpha < \delta : \varepsilon_{\delta,\alpha}^{dn} = \varepsilon_\delta^{dn}\}$. Then recalling $\lambda = \operatorname{cf}(\lambda) > \theta$ we can choose ε^{dn} such that the set $\mathscr{U}_1^{dn} = \{\delta \in S_0^* \cap E_0 : \varepsilon_\delta^{dn} = \varepsilon^{dn}\}$ is stationary. So (*)₂ holds indeed.]

- (*)₃ We can find $\mathcal{U}_1^{\text{up}}, \alpha_1^*, \varepsilon^{\text{up}}$ such that:
 - (a) $\mathscr{U}_1^{\text{up}} \subseteq S_0^*$ is stationary
 - (b) $h \upharpoonright \mathscr{U}_1^{\text{up}}$ is constantly 0, actually follows by (a), see Stage A
 - (c) $\alpha_1^* < \lambda$ satisfies $\alpha_1^* < \min(\mathcal{U}_1^{\text{up}})$ and $\varepsilon^{\text{up}} < \theta$

SAHARON SHELAH

(d) if $\delta \in \mathcal{U}_1^{\text{up}}$ and $\alpha \in [\alpha_1^*, \delta)$ and $\beta \in t_\delta$ then:

- $\rho_{\beta,\delta} \hat{\ } \langle \delta \rangle \leq \rho_{\beta,\alpha}$
- Rang $(F_1(\rho_h(\beta, \delta))) \subseteq \varepsilon^{\text{up}}$.

[Why? For every $\delta \in S_0^* \subseteq S$ and $\zeta \in t_\delta$ let $\alpha_{1,\delta,\zeta} < \delta$ be such that $(\forall \alpha)(\alpha \in [\alpha_{1,\delta,\zeta},\delta) \Rightarrow \rho_{\zeta,\delta} \hat{\delta} \leq \rho_{\zeta,\alpha})$, it exists by \odot_5 of Stage A.

- $\alpha_{1,\delta} = \sup\{\alpha_{1,\delta,\zeta} : \zeta \in t_{\delta}\}$
- $\varepsilon_{\delta}^{\text{up}} = \sup\{F_1'(\gamma_{\rho}(\zeta,\delta))(\ell)+1 : \zeta \in t_{\delta} \text{ and } \ell < k(\zeta,\delta)\} = \cup\{\sup \text{Rang}(F_1(\rho_h(\zeta,\delta)))+1 : \zeta \in t_{\delta}\}; \text{ as } \text{cf}(\delta) = \partial = \text{cf}(\partial) > \theta \text{ and } \theta = \text{cf}(\theta) > |t_{\delta}|, \text{ necessarily } \alpha_{1,\delta} < \delta \text{ and } \varepsilon_{\delta}^{\text{up}} < \theta.$

Lastly, there are $\alpha_1^* < \lambda$ and $\varepsilon^{\text{up}} < \kappa_1 = \theta$ and $\mathscr{U}_1^{\text{up}} \subseteq S_0^*$ as required by using Fodor lemma. So $(*)_3$ holds indeed.]

Now let $E = \{\delta < \lambda : \delta \text{ is a limit ordinal } > \alpha_1^* \text{ such that } \delta = \sup(\mathcal{U}_1^{\mathrm{dn}} \cap \delta)$ and $\alpha < \delta \Rightarrow t_{\alpha} \subseteq \delta\}$, it is a club of λ because $\alpha_1^* < \lambda$ by $(*)_3(c)$ and $\mathcal{U}_1^{\mathrm{dn}}$ is an unbounded subset of λ by $(*)_2(a)$, and t_{α} is a subset of λ of cardinality $< \theta$ hence is bounded.

Choose $\varepsilon(*) = \max\{\varepsilon^{\mathrm{up}} + 1, \varepsilon^{\mathrm{dn}} + 1, \varepsilon + 1\}$ where ε is from $\boxplus(c)$, so $\varepsilon(*) < \theta$ and choose $\delta_2 \in E \cap S$ such that $F_1'(\delta_2) = \varepsilon(*)$. Next choose $\alpha_2 \in \mathscr{U}_1^{\mathrm{up}} \setminus (\delta_2 + 1)$ and let $\alpha^* \in (\alpha_1^*, \delta_2)$ be large enough such that $\zeta \in (\alpha^*, \delta_2) \wedge \xi \in t_{\alpha_2} \Rightarrow \rho(\xi, \delta_2) \hat{\ } \langle \delta_2 \rangle \triangleleft \rho(\xi, \zeta)$. Now choose $\delta_1 \in \mathscr{U}_1^{\mathrm{dn}} \cap (\alpha^*, \delta_2)$ and $\alpha^{**} \in (\alpha^*, \delta_1)$ be such that $\alpha \in (\alpha^{**}, \delta_1) \wedge \xi \in t_{\alpha_2} \Rightarrow \rho(\xi, \delta_1) \hat{\ } \langle \delta_1 \rangle \triangleleft \rho(\xi, \alpha)$.

Next let $\ell_* < \ell g(\rho(\alpha_2, \delta_1))$ be such that:

- $F_1(\rho_h(\alpha_2, \delta_1))(\ell_*) = \max \operatorname{Rang} F_1(\rho_h(\alpha_2, \delta_1))$
- under this restriction ℓ_* is minimal.

Now let $\gamma_* = \rho(\alpha_2, \delta_1)(\ell_*)$.

Lastly, choose $\alpha_1 \in (\alpha^{**}, \delta_1)$ which is as in $(*)_2(d)$ with respect to δ_1 , i.e. such that:

$$(*)_5$$
 if $\zeta \in t_{\alpha_1}$ then $\operatorname{Rang} F_1(\rho_h(\delta_1,\zeta)) \subseteq \varepsilon^{\operatorname{dn}}$.

Now we shall prove that the pair (α_1, α_2) is as required. So let $(\zeta, \xi) \in t_{\alpha_1} \times t_{\alpha_2}$; now by our choices

$$(*)_6$$
 $\rho(\xi,\zeta) = \rho(\xi,\alpha_2)\hat{\rho}(\alpha_2,\delta_2)\hat{\rho}(\delta_2,\delta_1)\hat{\rho}(\delta_1,\zeta)$ and $\rho(\alpha_2,\delta_1) = \rho(\alpha_2,\delta_2)\hat{\rho}(\delta_2,\delta_1)$

So

8

- $(*)_7 \operatorname{Rang}(F_1(\rho_h(\xi,\alpha_2)) \subseteq \varepsilon^{\operatorname{up}} \leq \varepsilon(*)$
- $(*)_8 \operatorname{Rang}(F_1(\rho_h(\delta_1,\zeta)) \subseteq \varepsilon^{\operatorname{dn}} \leq \varepsilon(*)$
- $(*)_9$ $\varepsilon(*)=F_1\circ h(\delta_2)\in \operatorname{Rang}(F_1(\rho_h(\alpha_2,\delta_1)))$, see $(*)_6$ and (before and after) \odot_1 .

[Why? Recall that δ_2 was chosen in $E \cap S$ such that $F_1'(\delta_2) = \varepsilon(*)$.] Hence (*)₁₀ in $\boxplus_3(b)$ for our \bar{t} and the pair (α_1, α_2) , our γ_* (chosen before (*)₅) is gotten, witnessing $\gamma_* \in A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon(*)} \subseteq A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon}$ as first $\varepsilon < \varepsilon(*)$, by the choice of $\epsilon(*)$, and second if $(\zeta, \xi) \in t_{\alpha_1} \times t_{\alpha_2}$ then $\ell = \ell g(\rho(\xi, \alpha_2)) + \ell_*$ is as required in $\boxplus_3(b)$ for \bar{t} by $(*)_6 - (*)_9$

So we are done proving $\coprod_{7} (a)$.

Stage D: By \boxplus_8

 \circledast_1 there is $F_*: \lambda \to \theta$ such that $\varepsilon < \theta \Rightarrow F_*^{-1}(\{\varepsilon\}) \neq \emptyset \mod D$.

We first deal with the easier version with θ colours, i.e. proving $\Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \theta, \theta)$. We now define the colouring $\mathbf{c}_1 : [\lambda]^2 \to \theta$ by:

 \circledast_2 if $\alpha < \beta < \lambda$ then $\mathbf{c}_1\{\alpha, \beta\}$ is $F_*(\gamma_{\ell(\beta, \alpha)}(\beta, \alpha))$ where $\ell(\beta, \alpha) = \min\{\ell < k(\beta, \alpha) : F'_1(\gamma_{\ell}(\beta, \alpha)) = \max \operatorname{Rang}(F'_1(\rho(\beta, \alpha)))\}.$

To prove that the colouring \mathbf{c}_1 really witnesses $\Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \theta, \theta)$, our task is to prove:

 \circledast_3 given $\bar{t} \in \mathbf{T}$ and $\iota < \theta$ there are $\alpha < \beta$ such that:

• $\zeta \in t_{\alpha} \land \xi \in t_{\beta} \Rightarrow \mathbf{c}_1\{\zeta,\xi\} = \iota$.

[Why does \circledast_3 holds? Let $B_{\iota} = \{ \gamma < \lambda : F_*(\gamma) = \iota \}$. By the choice of F_* we know that $B_{\varepsilon} \neq \emptyset \mod D$. Focus on $A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon}$ for the specific $\bar{t} \in \mathbf{T}$ and any $\varepsilon < \theta$. Since $A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon} \in D$ we conclude that $B_{\varepsilon} \cap A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon} \neq \emptyset$.

Fix an ordinal $\gamma \in B_{\iota} \cap A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon}$. By the very definition of $A_{\bar{t},\varepsilon}$ in \boxplus_3 we choose $\alpha < \beta < \lambda$ and $\gamma \in B_{\iota}$ such that for every $(\zeta, \xi) \in t_{\alpha} \times t_{\beta}$ there exists $\ell < k(\xi, \zeta)$ for which $\gamma_{\ell}(\xi, \zeta) = \gamma$ and $F'_1(\gamma) \geq F'_1(\gamma_k(\xi, \zeta))$ whenever $k < k(\xi, \zeta)$ and $F_1(\gamma) \geq \varepsilon$ and $F'_1(\gamma) > F'_1(\gamma_k(\xi, \zeta))$ whenever $k < \ell$. Let $\ell(\xi, \zeta)$ be this ℓ , in fact, this ℓ is unique (for the pair (ζ, ξ)).

Now $\mathbf{c}_1\{\zeta,\xi\} = F_*(\gamma_{\ell(\xi,\zeta)}(\xi,\zeta))$ (by \circledast_2) which equals $F_*(\gamma)$ (by the choice of $\ell(\xi,\zeta)$) which equals ι (since $\gamma \in B_{\iota}$). Hence \circledast_3 holds and we finish Stage D.]

Stage E: The full theorem: the case of λ colors

Let h', h'' be functions from θ into θ, ω respectively such that the mapping $\zeta \mapsto (h'(\zeta), h''(\zeta))$ is onto $\theta \times \omega$ and moreover each such pair is gotten θ times.

We have to define a colouring $\mathbf{c}_2 : [\lambda]^2 \to \lambda$ exemplifying $\Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda, \theta)$.

This is done as follows using h', h'' and F_* from \circledast_1 :

- \oplus_1 for $\alpha < \beta < \lambda$ we let
 - •₁ $\zeta = \zeta(\beta, \alpha) := h'(\mathbf{c}_1\{\beta, \alpha\}), \text{ necessarily } < \theta$
 - •2 $n = n(\beta, \alpha) := h''(\mathbf{c}_1\{\beta, \alpha\}), \text{ necessarily } < \omega$
 - •3 $m = m(\beta, \alpha)$ is the *n*-th member of $\{k < k(\beta, \alpha) : F'_1(\gamma_k(\beta, \alpha)) = \zeta\}$ when there is such m and is zero otherwise
 - •4 we define \mathbf{c}_2 as follows: for $\alpha < \beta, \mathbf{c}_2\{\alpha, \beta\}$ is $F_2'(\gamma_{m(\beta, \alpha)}(\beta, \alpha))$ recalling that F_2' , a function from $\lambda to\lambda$ is from \odot_2 from the end of stage A

To prove that \mathbf{c}_2 indeed exemplifies $\Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda, \theta)$ it suffice to prove (this is the task of the rest of the proof)

 \oplus_2 assume $\bar{t} \in \mathbf{T}$ and $j_* < \lambda$ and we shall find $\alpha < \beta$ such that $t_{\alpha} \subseteq \beta$ and $(\zeta, \xi) \in t_{\alpha} \times t_{\beta} \Rightarrow \mathbf{c}_2\{\zeta, \xi\} = j_*$.

Toward this:

- \oplus_3 (a) we apply $(*)_3$ to our \bar{t} , getting $\varepsilon^{\mathrm{up}}, \mathscr{U}_1^{\mathrm{up}}, \alpha_1^*$ as there
 - (b) we apply $(*)_2$ to our \bar{t} getting $\mathscr{U}_1^{\mathrm{dn}}, \varepsilon^{\mathrm{dn}}$
 - (c) let $\varepsilon^{\mathrm{md}} = \max\{\varepsilon^{\mathrm{up}} + 1, \varepsilon^{\mathrm{dn}} + 1\}.$

We can find $g_2, \mathcal{U}_2^{\text{up}}, \gamma_*, \alpha_2^*, m_2^*$ such that:

- \oplus_4 (a) $\gamma_* < \lambda$ satisfies $F_2(\gamma_*) = j_*$ and $F_1(\gamma_*) = \varepsilon^{\mathrm{md}}$
 - (b) $\mathscr{U}_2^{\mathrm{up}} \subseteq S_{\gamma_*}^*$ is stationary such that $\delta \in \mathscr{U}_2^{\mathrm{up}} \Rightarrow F_2'(\delta) = F_2(h(\delta)) = F_2(\gamma_*) = j_* \wedge F_1'(\delta) = F_1(h(\delta)) = F_1(\gamma_*) = \varepsilon^{\mathrm{md}}$
 - (c) g_2 is a function with domain $\mathscr{U}_2^{\text{up}}$ such that $\delta \in \mathscr{U}_2^{\text{up}} \Rightarrow \delta < g_2(\delta) \in \mathscr{U}_2^{\text{up}}$
 - (d) α_2^* satisfies $\alpha_1^* < \alpha_2^* < \min(\mathscr{U}_2^{\mathrm{up}})$
 - (e) if $\delta \in \mathcal{U}_2^{\text{up}}$ and $\alpha \in [\alpha_2^*, \delta)$ and $\beta \in t_{g_2(\delta)}$ then
 - $\rho(g_2(\delta), \delta) \hat{\delta} \leq \rho(g_2(\delta), \alpha)$ hence
 - $\rho_{\beta,\delta} \hat{\ } \langle \delta \rangle \leq \rho_{\beta,\alpha}$
 - (f) m_2^* satisfies: for every $\delta \in \mathscr{U}_2^{\mathrm{up}}$, the cardinality of the set $\{\ell < k(g_2(\delta), \delta) : F_1'(\gamma_\ell(g_2(\delta), \delta)) = \varepsilon^{\mathrm{md}}\}$ which may be zero.

[Why? First choose γ_* as in clause (a) of \oplus_4 (possible by the choice of F_0, F_1, F_2 in the beginning of Stage A; hence $\delta \in S_{\gamma_*} \Rightarrow F_2'(\delta) = F_2(h(\delta))F_2(\gamma_*) = j_*$ and $F_1'(\delta) = F_1(h(\delta)) = F_1(\gamma_*) = \varepsilon^{\mathrm{md}}$ (by the choice of F_1' in \odot_7 recalling the definitions of h, F_1'). Second, define $g': S_{\gamma_*}^* \to \mathscr{U}_1^{\mathrm{up}}$ such that $\delta \in S_{\gamma_*}^* \Rightarrow \delta < g'(\delta) \in \mathscr{U}_1^{\mathrm{up}}$. Third, for each $\delta \in S_{\gamma_*}^* \setminus (\alpha_1^* + 1)$, find $\alpha_{2,\delta}' < \delta$ above α_1^* and $m_{2,\delta}$ such that the parallel of clauses (e),(f) (with g' here instead of g_2 there) of \oplus_4 holds. Fourth, use Fodor lemma to get a stationary $\mathscr{U}_2^{\mathrm{up}} \subseteq S_{\gamma_*}^*$ such that $\langle (\alpha_{2,\delta}', m_{2,\delta}) : \delta \in \mathscr{U}_2^{\mathrm{up}} \rangle$ is constantly (α_2^*, m_2^*) and lastly let $g_2 = g' \upharpoonright \mathscr{U}_2^{\mathrm{up}} \setminus (\alpha_2^* + 1)$. Now it is easy to check that \oplus_4 holds indeed.]

Next

- \oplus_5 if $\delta \in \mathscr{U}_2^{\mathrm{up}}$ then:
 - (a) $F_1'(\delta) = \varepsilon^{\mathrm{md}}$
 - (b) if $\alpha \in [\alpha_2^*, \delta), \xi \in t_{g_2(\delta)}$ then $u = \{\ell < k(\xi, \alpha) : F_1'(\gamma_\ell(\xi, \alpha)) = \varepsilon^{\text{md}}\}$ has $> m_2^*$ members and if ℓ is the m_2^* -th member of u then $\gamma_\ell(\xi, \alpha) = \delta$.

Why? Clause (a) holds by $\oplus_4(a)$, (b). For clause (b) use clause (a) and the demands on m_2^* . That is

- (a) $\rho(\xi, \alpha) = \rho(\xi, g_2(\delta)) \hat{\rho}(g_2(\delta), \delta) \hat{\rho}(\delta, \alpha)$ [Why? by $(*)_3, \oplus_4(e)$]
- (b) Rang $(\rho_h(\alpha, g_2(\delta))) \subseteq \epsilon^{\text{up}} \subseteq \epsilon^{\text{md}}$ [Why? by $(*)_2$]
- (c) the set $\{\ell < k(g_2(\delta), \delta) : F'_1(\gamma_\ell(g_2(\delta), \delta)) = \epsilon^{\text{md}}\}$ has m_2^* members [why? by $\oplus_4(f)$]
- (d) $F'_1(\gamma_0(\delta, \alpha)) = F'_1(\delta) = \epsilon^{\text{md}}$ [Why? by $\oplus_4(a)$, (b)]]
- (e) if ℓ_* is the m_2^* -th member of $\{\ell : F_1(\gamma_\ell(\xi,\alpha)) = \epsilon^{\mathrm{md}}\}$ then $\gamma_{\ell_*}(\xi,\alpha) = \delta$ [Why? putting the above together]

SH1163

So \oplus_5 holds indeed.

Now choose $\varepsilon(*) < \theta$ such that $h'(\varepsilon(*)) = \varepsilon^{\text{md}}$ and $h''(\varepsilon(*)) = m_2^*$.

Next, let $E = \{\delta < \lambda : \delta \text{ limit ordinal } > \alpha_2^* \text{ such that } \delta = \sup(\mathcal{U}_1^{\mathrm{dn}} \cap \delta) \text{ and }$ $\alpha < \delta \Rightarrow g_2(\alpha) < \delta$.

Lastly,

 \oplus_6 choose $\delta_1 < \delta_2$ such that

- (a) $\delta_1 \in \mathcal{U}_1^{\operatorname{dn}} \cap E$ (b) $\delta_2 \in \mathcal{U}_2^{\operatorname{up}} \cap E \setminus (\delta_1 + 1)$ (c) $\mathbf{c}_1 \{ \delta_2, \delta_1 \} = \varepsilon(*),$

[Why does such a pair (δ_1, δ_2) exist? By Stage D applied to $\bar{s} = \langle s_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$ where $s_{\alpha} = \{\min(\mathscr{U}_{s}^{\mathrm{dn}} \cap E \backslash \alpha), \min(\mathscr{U}_{2}^{\mathrm{up}} \cap E \backslash \alpha)\}.$

That is, we can find ordinals $\alpha < \bar{\beta} < \lambda$ such that: for every $(\zeta, \xi) \in (s_{\alpha} \times s_{\beta})$ we have $\mathbf{c}_1\{\xi,\zeta\} = \epsilon^{\mathrm{md}}$.

Let $\delta_1 = \min(\mathscr{U}_1^{\mathrm{dn}} \cap E \setminus \alpha \text{ and let } \delta_2 = \min(\mathscr{U}_1^{\mathrm{up}} \cap E \setminus \beta.$

So $(\delta_1, \delta_2) \in (s_\alpha \times s_\beta)$ hence clearly $\delta_1 < \delta_2$, $\mathbf{c}_1 \{ \delta_1, \delta_2 \} = \epsilon(*), \ \delta_1 \in \mathcal{U}_1^{\mathrm{dn}} \cap E$ and $\delta_2 \in \mathcal{U}_1^{\text{up}} \cap E$. So the pair (δ_1, δ_2) is as promised in in \oplus_6]

Now let $\beta = g_2(\delta_2)$ and choose $\alpha \in \mathcal{U}_2^{\mathrm{dn}} \cap \delta_1 \setminus (\alpha_2^* + 1)$. Easy to check that α, β are as required.

So we have finished proving Theorem 1.1.

 $\square_{1.1}$

Conclusion 1.3. If $\lambda = \partial^+, \partial > \theta$ are regular, then $\Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda, \theta)$ except possibly when the statement \boxplus holds where:

- \boxplus (a) there is a θ -complete not θ^+ -complete uniform filter on λ and
 - (b) $\partial = \theta^+$
 - (c) θ is a regular limit uncountable cardinal.

Proof. Case 1: $\partial = \chi^{++}$ so $> \aleph_1$

By monotonicity of Pr₁ in θ , without loss of generality $\theta = \chi^+$, hence $\theta \geq \aleph_1$ and there is no θ -complete weakly θ -saturated filter on $\theta^{+2} = \chi^{+3} = \partial^+ = \lambda$ by 0.3(3) so we can use Theorem 1.1 noting $\theta = cf(\theta) > \aleph_0$.

Case 2: $\partial = \aleph_1$

In this case necessarily $\theta = \aleph_0, \partial = \aleph_1, \lambda = \aleph_2$ and the result hold by [She97].

Case 3: $\partial = \chi^+, \chi$ singular

As θ is regular, necessarily $\theta < \chi$ and we can apply Theorem [She19, 2.5=Le16] with $(\lambda, \theta^+, \theta)$ here standing for $(\lambda, \theta_1, \theta_0)$ there, $(\lambda \text{ is indeed a successor of reg-}$ ular because ∂ is regular, and θ is regular; if we like to allow θ singular we should have used $(\lambda, \theta^{++}, \theta^{+})$ here standing for $(\lambda, \theta_1, \theta_0)$ there). So we get that $\Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda, (\theta^+, \theta))$ holds. Hence by monotonicity $\Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda, (\theta, \theta))$ holds which means that also $Pr_1(\lambda, \lambda, \lambda, \theta)$ holds as promised.

Case 4: $\partial = \chi^+ > \aleph_1, \chi$ a regular limit cardinal.

If $\chi > \theta$ we can repeat the proof of case 3 relying on [She19], so without loss of generality we have $\theta = \chi$. Now in \boxplus , clauses (b) and (c) hold but it should fail hence by $\boxplus(a)$ fail, which give clause (b) in Theorem 1.1 hence we can apply 1.1 as in Case 1.

Case 5: ∂ is a limit cardinal

Still ∂ is regular $> \theta$ and we continue as in Case 3.

 $\square_{1.3}$

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12