

CONSISTENCY OF SQUARE BRACKET PARTITION RELATION

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ABSTRACT. Characteristic earlier results were of the form $\text{CON}(2^{\aleph_0} \rightarrow [\lambda]_{n,2}^2)$, with 2^{\aleph_0} an ex-large cardinal, in the best case the first weakly Mahlo cardinal.

Characteristic new results are $\text{CON}((2^{\aleph_0} = \aleph_m) + \aleph_\ell \rightarrow [\aleph_k]_{n,2}^2)$, where $k < \ell < m$. So we improve in three respects: the continuum may be small (e.g. not a Mahlo weakly inaccessible), we use no large cardinal, and the cardinals λ involved are $< 2^{\aleph_0}$ after the forcing.

§ 0. INTRODUCTION

In their seminal list of problems [EH71], Erdős and Hajnal posed the question (15(a)): does $2^{\aleph_0} \not\rightarrow [\aleph_1]_3^2$? Recently, Komjáth [Kom21] provided a comprehensive update on this topic.

We continue here works which start with the problem above: [She88, §2], [She92], [She89], [She95] [She96], [She00] and the work with Rabus [RS00].

The simplest case of our result is (recall 0.3 below):

Theorem 0.1. *Assume GCH for transparency. Then for some ccc forcing notion of cardinality \aleph_8 in the universe $\mathbf{V}^{\mathbb{P}}$, we have $2^{\aleph_0} = \aleph_8$ and for any $n \geq 3$, $\aleph_7 \rightarrow [\aleph_2]_{n,2}^2$.*

Proof. Choose $(\mu, \theta, \partial, \lambda)$ as $(\aleph_8, \aleph_7, \aleph_2, \aleph_0)$ and apply Theorem 0.2 $\square_{0.1}$

The general case is:

Theorem 0.2. *Assume $\lambda = \lambda^{<\lambda} < \partial < \theta < \mu = \mu^\theta$ and $2^{\partial^{+\ell}} = \partial^{+\ell+1}$ for $\ell = 0, 1, 2, 3$ and $\partial^{+4} < \theta$. Then for some λ^+ -cc, $(<\lambda)$ -complete forcing notion \mathbb{P} of cardinality μ (so the forcing does not collapse any cardinal and preserves cardinal arithmetic outside $[\lambda, \mu)$), in the universe $\mathbf{V}^{\mathbb{P}}$ we have, $2^\lambda = \mu$ and for every $\sigma < \lambda$, $\theta \rightarrow [\partial]_{\sigma,2}^2$*

Proof. All this paper is dedicated to proving this theorem. Pedantically Hypothesis 1.1 holds (see Fact 1.12) so we can apply Conclusion 1.11. $\square_{1.11}$

We may replace $\theta \rightarrow [\partial]_{\sigma,2}^2$ by $(\forall \partial_1 < \partial)(\exists \theta_1 < \theta)[\theta_1 \rightarrow [\partial_1]_{\sigma,2}^2]$ and change the assumption on cardinal arithmetic accordingly.

Recall,

Definition 0.3. For possibly finite cardinals θ, ∂, σ and κ , let $\theta \rightarrow [\partial]_{\sigma,\kappa}^2$ mean:

Date: August 7, 2025.

2020 Mathematics Subject Classification. 03E2, 03E35.

Key words and phrases. set theory, partition calculus, square bracket arrows.

First typed: January 7, 2024. The author would like to thank the Israel Science Foundation for partial support of this research by grant 2320/23. The author would like to thank Craig Falls for generously funding typing services, and the typist for his careful and beautiful work. Paper F2441 on the Author's list. Submitted to Yair Hayut in February 2025 for the IJM volume dedicated to Menachem Magidor. References like [Sh:950, Th0.2=Ly5] mean that the internal label of Th0.2 is y5 in Sh:950. The reader should note that the version in my website is usually more up-to-date than the one in arXiv. This is publication number 1258 on Saharon Shelah's list.

- if \mathbf{c} is a function from $[\theta]^2 := \{u \subseteq \theta : |u| = 2\}$ into σ , then there exists some subset \mathcal{U} of θ of cardinality ∂ such that $\{\mathbf{c}(u) : u \in [\mathcal{U}]^2\}$ has at most κ -many members.

We thank Yair Hayut for many helpful comments.

§ 0(A). Preliminaries.

Notation 0.4. $\text{cof}(\delta)$ is the class of ordinals of cofinality $\text{cf}(\delta)$.

Notation 0.5.

- (1) \mathbb{P}, \mathbb{Q} and \mathbb{R} are forcing notions.
- (2) p, q, r called *conditions* are members of a forcing notion.
- (3) \mathbf{q} is as in Definition 1.3, some kind of $(< \lambda)$ -support iterated forcing with extra information.

Notation 0.6. We may write e.g. $N[\mathbf{q}, \beta, u]$ instead $N_{\mathbf{q}, \beta, u}$ to help with sub-scripts (or super-script).

Definition 0.7. Let θ, ∂, κ and λ be infinite cardinals. We say that $\theta \rightarrow_{\text{sq}} (\partial)_{\kappa}^{\lambda, 2}$ when $\theta > \partial \geq \kappa \geq \lambda$ and:

- ⊞ If (a) then (b), where:
 - (a) \mathcal{B} is an expansion of $(\mathcal{H}_{<\lambda}(\mu), \in, <_*)$, where $<_*$ is a well-ordering of $\mathcal{H}_{<\lambda}(\mu)$, $\mu^+ > \theta$, and its vocabulary $\tau_{\mathcal{B}}$ has cardinality $\leq \lambda$.
 - (b) There is a tuple $\mathbf{s} = (\mathcal{U}, \bar{N}, \bar{\pi})$ solving $\mathbf{p} = (\theta, \partial, \kappa, \lambda, \mathcal{B})$, which means:
 - ⊞ $_{\mathbf{p}, \mathbf{s}}$ for $u, v \in [\mathcal{U}]^{\leq 2}$,
 - ₁ $\bar{N} = \langle N_u : u \in [\mathcal{U}]^{\leq 2} \rangle$,
 - ₂ $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \theta$ is such that $\text{otp}(\mathcal{U}) = \partial$,
 - ₃ $N_u \prec \mathcal{B}$, $[N_u]^{<\lambda} \subseteq N_u$,
 - ₄ $\varepsilon[\mathbf{s}] := \min(\mathcal{U})$,
 - ₅ $N_u \cap \mathcal{U} = u$,
 - ₆ $\|N_u\| = \kappa$ and $\kappa + 1 \subseteq N_u$,
 - ₇ $N_u \cap N_v \prec N_{u \cap v}$,
 - ₈ $\bar{\pi} = \langle \pi_{u,v} : u, v \in [\mathcal{U}]^{\leq 2} \text{ and } |u| = |v| \rangle$ such that if $|u| = |v|$, then $\pi_{u,v}$ is an isomorphism from N_v onto N_u mapping v onto u ,
 - ₉ if $u_1 \subseteq u_2$ and $v_1 \subseteq v_2$ all from $[\mathcal{U}]^{\leq 2}$ and $|u_2| = |v_2|$, $\pi_{u_2, v_2}''(u_1) = v_1$ then $\pi_{u_1, v_1}, \pi_{u_2, v_2}$ are compatible functions¹,
 - ₁₀ for $\ell = 1, 2$, the sets $N_u \cap \partial$ for $u \in [\mathcal{U}]^\ell$ are pairwise equal² and included in N_\emptyset .

Observation 0.8. If $\bar{N} = \langle N_u : u \in [\mathcal{U}]^{\leq 2} \rangle$ satisfy 0.7(b)•₁ + •₇, then:

- (*) For every $x \in \cup \{N_u : u \in [\mathcal{U}]^{\leq 2}\}$ the set $\{u \in [\mathcal{U}]^{\leq 2} : x \in N_u\}$ has one of the following forms:
 - (a) $\{u\}$ for some $u \in [\mathcal{U}]^2$,
 - (b) $\{\zeta\}$ for some $\zeta \in \mathcal{U}$,
 - (c) $\{\{\zeta\}\} \cup \{\{\varepsilon, \zeta\} : \varepsilon \in \mathcal{U} \cap \zeta\}$ for some $\zeta \in \mathcal{U}$,
 - (d) $\{\{\zeta\}\} \cup \{\{\zeta, \xi\} : \xi \in \mathcal{U} \setminus (\zeta + 1)\}$ for some $\zeta \in \mathcal{U}$,
 - (e) $\{\emptyset\}$,
 - (f) $\{\emptyset\} \cup \{\{\zeta\} : \zeta \in \mathcal{U}\}$,
 - (g) $\{\emptyset\} \cup \{\{\zeta\} : \zeta \in \mathcal{U}\} \cup \{\{\varepsilon, \zeta\} : \varepsilon < \zeta \text{ are from } \mathcal{U}\}$.

¹So e.g. it follows that: if $\zeta_1, \zeta_2 \in \mathcal{U}$ then $\pi_{\{\zeta_2\}, \{\zeta_2\}} \upharpoonright (N_\emptyset \cap N_{\{\zeta_2\}})$ is the identity map.

²Note that ∂ has two distinct roles: the size of \mathcal{U} and the restriction on $N_u \cap \partial$. We may separate.

§ 1. THE FORCING

Our aim here is to prove the consistency of the following configuration:

$$2 < \sigma < \lambda = \lambda^{<\lambda} \leq \partial = \partial^{<\lambda} \leq \mu = \mu^\theta = 2^\lambda,$$

and having $\theta \rightarrow [\partial]_{\sigma,2}^2$.

A continuation is in preparation [S⁺], aiming to further develop the directions explored here, particularly for the case of superscript $\mathbf{n} > 2$, as dealt within [She92]. We also show there that we can weaken the requirements on the cardinals and have more pairs.

Hypothesis 1.1. The parameter $\mathbf{p} = (\mu, \theta, \partial, \lambda, \lambda, \mathcal{B})$ consists of the following:

- (a) $\lambda = \lambda^{<\lambda} < \partial < \theta \leq \mu = \mu^\theta$,
- (b) $\theta \rightarrow_{\text{sq}} (\partial)_\lambda^{\lambda,2}$ (see Definition 0.7, a variant of [She89, 2.1]); in our case using λ twice in intentional.
- (c) σ will vary on the cardinal numbers from $(2, \lambda)$ and the “nice” μ -s are such that $\gamma < \mu \Rightarrow |\gamma|^\theta < \mu$.
- (d)
 - \mathcal{B} is a model expanding $(\mathcal{H}_{<\lambda}(\mu), \in, <_{\mathcal{B}})$, where $<_{\mathcal{B}}$ is well-ordering of $\mathcal{H}_{<\lambda}(\mu)$,
 - $\tau(\mathcal{B})$ is a vocabulary of cardinality $\leq \lambda$.

We intend to use $(<\lambda)$ -support iterated forcing of quite a special kind but first, we define the iterand.

Definition 1.2.

(1) Let \mathbf{A} be the set of objects \mathbf{a} consisting of:

- (a)
 - $\gamma < \mu$ and $\sigma \in (2, \lambda)$,
 - \mathbb{P} is a forcing notion such that:

$$p \in \mathbb{P} \Rightarrow \text{dom}(p) \in [\gamma]^{<\lambda} \wedge (\forall \alpha \in \text{dom}(p))(p(\alpha) \in [\omega \cup \gamma]^{<\lambda}),$$
 - \mathbb{P} is λ^+ -cc and $(<\lambda)$ -complete,
 - the order $\leq_{\mathbb{P}}$ is: $p \leq_{\mathbb{P}} q$ iff:

$$\text{dom}(p) \subseteq \text{dom}(q) \wedge (\forall \alpha \in \text{dom}(p))[p(\alpha) \subseteq q(\alpha)],$$
- (b)
 - \mathbf{c} is a \mathbb{P} -name of a function from $[\theta]^2$ to σ , (we may write $\mathbf{c}(\alpha, \beta)$ instead $\mathbf{c}(\{\alpha, \beta\})$ for $\alpha \neq \beta < \theta$).
- (c) We have $(\mathcal{U}, \bar{N}, \bar{\pi})$ solving $\mathbf{p} = (\theta, \partial, \lambda, \lambda, \mathcal{B})$, (with \mathcal{B} as in Definition 0.7(b) and 1.1) such that $\mathbf{c} \in N_u$ for every $u \in [\mathcal{U}]^{\leq 2}$.

(1A) In the context of Definition 1.2(1), $\mathbf{a} = (\gamma, \mathcal{B}, \mathbb{P}, \mathbf{c}, \mathcal{U}, \bar{N}, \bar{\pi}) = (\gamma_{\mathbf{a}}, \mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{a}}, \dots)$, so e.g. $N_{\mathbf{a},u} = N_u$.

(2) We say that the pair (p, \bar{v}) is a *solution* of $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbf{A}$, and write $(\mathbf{a}, p, \bar{v}) \in \mathbf{A}^+$, when:

- (a) $\bar{v} = (\iota_1, \iota_2) \in \sigma \times \sigma$,
- (b) $p \in \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}} \cap N_{\mathbf{a},\{\varepsilon[\mathbf{a}]\}}$, recalling $\varepsilon(\mathbf{a}) = \min(\mathcal{U})$,
- (c) if $p \leq q \in \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}} \cap N_{\mathbf{a},\{\varepsilon[\mathbf{a}]\}}$ and $\zeta_1 < \zeta_2$ are from \mathcal{U} then there are q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2 such that for $\ell = 1, 2$, we have:
 - $q \leq_{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}}} q_\ell$,
 - $q_\ell \in \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}} \cap N_{\mathbf{a},\{\varepsilon[\mathbf{a}]\}}$ and $q_1 \restriction (N_{\mathbf{a},\emptyset} \cap \text{lg}(\mathbf{q})) = q_2 \restriction (N_{\mathbf{a},\emptyset} \cap \text{lg}(\mathbf{q}))$,
 - $r_\ell \in \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}} \cap N_{\mathbf{a},\{\zeta_1, \zeta_2\}}$,
 - $r_\ell \Vdash \text{“}\mathbf{c}(\zeta_1, \zeta_2) = \iota_\ell\text{”}$,
 - $r_\ell \restriction N_{\mathbf{a},\{\zeta_1\}}$ is $\leq_{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}}}$ -below $\pi_{\{\zeta_1\},\{\varepsilon[\mathbf{a}]\}}^{\mathbf{a}}(q_\ell)$,
 - $r_\ell \restriction N_{\mathbf{a},\{\zeta_2\}}$ is $\leq_{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}}}$ -below $\pi_{\{\zeta_2\},\{\varepsilon[\mathbf{a}]\}}^{\mathbf{a}}(q_{3-\ell})$.

(3) If $\mathbf{b} = (\mathbf{a}, p, \bar{v}) \in \mathbf{A}^+$ then let $\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{b}}$ be the \mathbb{P} -name of the following forcing notion:

- (*) For $\mathbf{G} \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ generic over \mathbf{V} ,
 (a) the set of elements of $\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{b}} = \mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{b}}[\mathbf{G}]$ is:

$$\left\{ u \in [\mathcal{U}]^{<\lambda} : \text{if } \zeta_1 < \zeta_2 \text{ in } \mathcal{U}, \text{ then } \mathfrak{c}\{\zeta_1, \zeta_2\}[\mathbf{G}] \in \{\iota_1, \iota_2\}, \text{ moreover} \right.$$

for some q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2 as in Definition 1.2(1)(c)(\bullet_1)-(\bullet_5), we have $r_1 \in \mathbf{G}$ or $r_2 \in \mathbf{G}$ $\left. \right\}$,

- (b) the order of $\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{b}}[\mathbf{G}]$ is inclusion,
 (c) the generic is $\mathcal{V}_{\mathbf{b}} = \bigcup \mathbf{G}_{\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{b}}}$.

Definition 1.3.

(1) Let $\mathbf{Q} := \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{p}}$ be the class of \mathbf{q} which consist of (below, $\alpha \leq \text{lg}(\mathbf{q})$ and $\beta < \text{lg}(\mathbf{q})$ and e.g. $\mathbb{P}_{\alpha} = \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}, \alpha}$):

- (a) $\text{lg}(\mathbf{q})$ is an ordinal $\leq \mu$,
 (b) $\langle \mathbb{P}_{\alpha}, \mathbb{Q}_{\beta} : \alpha \leq \text{lg}(\mathbf{q}), \beta < \text{lg}(\mathbf{q}) \rangle$ is a $(<\lambda)$ -support iteration,
 (c) \mathbb{P}_{β} satisfies the λ^+ -cc,
 (d) \mathbb{Q}_{β} is $\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{b}_{\beta}}$, where:
 \bullet_1 $\mathbf{b}_{\beta} := (\mathbf{a}_{\beta}, p_{\beta}^*, \bar{\iota}_{\beta}^*) \in \mathbf{A}^+$,
 \bullet_2 $\mathbf{a}_{\beta} := (\gamma_{\beta}, \mathcal{B}_{\beta}, \mathbb{P}_{\beta}^{\bullet}, \mathfrak{c}_{\beta}, \mathcal{U}_{\beta}, \bar{N}_{\beta}, \bar{\pi}_{\beta}) \in \mathbf{A}$,
 \bullet_3 $\mathbb{P}_{\beta}^{\bullet}$ is equal to $\mathbb{P}'_{\xi(\beta)}$ for some $\xi(\beta) = \xi_{\mathbf{q}}(\beta) \leq \beta$ (on \mathbb{P}'_{β} , see below),
 \bullet_4 The sequence $\langle (\mathbb{P}_{\gamma}, \mathbb{P}'_{\gamma}, \mathbf{a}_{\gamma}, \mathbf{b}_{\gamma}, \xi(\gamma)) : \gamma < \beta \rangle$ belongs to $N_{\beta, u}$ for every $u \in [\mathcal{U}_{\beta}]^{\leq 2}$.
 \bullet_5 Letting $\mathcal{W}_{\beta} = \bigcup \{N_{\beta, u} \cap \beta : u \in [\mathcal{U}_{\beta}]^{\leq 2}\}$, we ³ have: for every $\gamma \in \mathcal{W}_{\beta}$ the set $\mathcal{W}_{\beta} \cap \mathcal{W}_{\gamma}$ has cardinality $\leq \lambda$, and there is $u = u_{\beta, \gamma} \in [\mathcal{U}_{\beta}]^{\leq 2}$ such that $\mathcal{W}_{\beta} \cap \mathcal{W}_{\gamma} \subseteq N_{\beta, u}$ and without loss of generality u is minimal with this property.
 (e) \mathbb{P}'_{α} is a dense subset of \mathbb{P}_{α} , where,
 \bullet \mathbb{P}'_{α} is \mathbb{P}_{α} restricted to the set of conditions $p \in \mathbb{P}_{\alpha}$ such that:
 if $\beta \in \text{dom}(p)$ then $p(\beta)$ is a member of \mathbf{V} (not just a \mathbb{P}_{α} -name)
 and if $\zeta_1 < \zeta_2$ are in $p(\beta) \subseteq \mathcal{U}_{\beta}$, then there are q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2 as in Definition 1.2(2)(c)(\bullet_1)-(\bullet_5) with $\mathbf{a}_{\beta}, \mathbf{b}_{\beta}$ here standing for \mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} there and

$$\bigvee_{\ell=1}^2 (\forall \gamma \in \text{dom}(r_{\ell})) [\gamma \in \text{dom}(p) \wedge r_{\ell}(\gamma) \subseteq p(\gamma)].$$

- (f) $\gamma_{\mathbf{q}} := \gamma(\mathbf{q}) := \sup\{\gamma_{\mathbf{q}, \beta} : \beta < \text{lg}(\mathbf{q})\}$, so $\mathbb{P}'_{\gamma(\mathbf{q})} \subseteq \mathcal{H}_{<\lambda}(\gamma_{\mathbf{q}})$; let $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}} := \mathbb{P}_{\text{lg}(\mathbf{q})}$ and $\mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q}} := \mathbb{P}'_{\text{lg}(\mathbf{q})}$.

(1A) We may write either $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}, \alpha}$ or \mathbb{P}_{α} whenever \mathbf{q} is clear and $(\iota_{\mathbf{q}, \beta, 1}, \iota_{\mathbf{q}, \beta, 2})$ is $\bar{\iota}_{\mathbf{b}_{\beta}}$.

(2) Let $\leq_{\mathbf{p}}$ be the following two-place relation on $\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{p}}$:

$$\mathbf{q}_1 \leq_{\mathbf{p}} \mathbf{q}_2 \text{ iff } \mathbf{q}_1 = \mathbf{q}_2 \upharpoonright \text{lg}(\mathbf{q}_1), \text{ see below.}$$

(3) For $\mathbf{q}_2 \in \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{p}}$ and $\alpha_* \leq \text{lg}(\mathbf{q}_2)$, we define $\mathbf{q}_1 := \mathbf{q}_2 \upharpoonright \alpha_*$ by:

- (a) $\text{lg}(\mathbf{q}_1) = \alpha_*$,
 (b) $(\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}_1, \alpha}, \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q}_1, \alpha}) = (\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}_2, \alpha}, \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q}_2, \alpha})$ for $\alpha \leq \alpha_*$,
 (c) $(\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{q}_1, \beta}, \mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{q}_1, \beta}, \xi_{\mathbf{q}_1}(\beta)) = (\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{q}_2, \beta}, \mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{q}_2, \beta}, \xi_{\mathbf{q}_2}(\beta))$ for $\beta < \alpha_*$.

(4) We say that two conditions $p, q \in \mathbb{P}'_{\alpha}$ are *isomorphic*, when:

- (a) $\text{otp}(\text{dom}(p)) = \text{otp}(\text{dom}(q))$, and
 (b) if $\beta \in \text{dom}(p) \cap \text{dom}(q)$ then:
 \bullet_1 $\text{otp}(p(\beta)) = \text{otp}(q(\beta))$,

³ Why? By 0.8(b) \bullet_{10} .

- ₂ if $\varepsilon \in p(\beta) \cap q(\beta)$ then $\text{otp}(\varepsilon \cap p(\beta)) = \text{otp}(\varepsilon \cap q(\beta))$,
- ₃ if $\varepsilon \in p(\beta), \zeta \in q(\beta)$ and $\text{otp}(\varepsilon \cap p(\beta)) = \text{otp}(\zeta \cap q(\beta))$ then:

$$\pi_{\beta, \{\zeta\}, \{\varepsilon\}}(p \upharpoonright N_{\beta, \{\varepsilon\}}) = q \upharpoonright N_{\beta, \{\zeta\}}.$$

- ₄ if $\varepsilon < \varepsilon_1$ belongs to $p(\beta)$, $\zeta < \zeta_1$ belongs to $q(\beta)$ then:

$$\pi_{\beta, \{\zeta, \zeta_1\}, \{\varepsilon, \varepsilon_1\}}(p \upharpoonright N_{\beta, \{\varepsilon, \varepsilon_1\}}) = q \upharpoonright N_{\beta, \{\zeta, \zeta_1\}}.$$

Remark 1.4. If we prefer in clause (d) (•₃) of Definition 1.3 (1) to have $\xi(\beta) = \beta$, i.e., $\mathbb{P}_\beta^\bullet = \mathbb{P}'_\beta$, we need to add, e.g. “ μ is regular and e.g. use a preliminary forcing $(\{\mathbf{q} \in \mathbf{Q}_\mathbf{p}: \text{lg}(\mathbf{q}) < \mu\}, \triangleleft)$ ”.

Claim 1.5.

(0) For $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbf{Q}_\mathbf{p}$, we have: $\mathbb{P}'_\mathbf{q} \models “p \leq q”$ iff $\{p, q\} \subseteq \mathbb{P}'_\mathbf{q}$, $\text{dom}(p) \subseteq \text{dom}(q)$, and $\beta \in \text{dom}(p) \Rightarrow p(\beta) \subseteq q(\beta)$.

(1) For $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbf{Q}_\mathbf{p}$, any increasing sequence of members of length $< \lambda$ of $\mathbb{P}'_\mathbf{q}$ has a lub, in fact, if $\delta < \lambda$, $\bar{p} = \langle p_i: i < \delta \rangle \in {}^\delta(\mathbb{P}'_\mathbf{q})$ is increasing, then the following $p \in \mathbb{P}'_\mathbf{q}$ is a lub of \bar{p} ; defined by: $\text{dom}(p) = \bigcup \{\text{dom}(p_i): i < \delta\}$, and if $\beta \in \text{dom}(p)$ then

$$p(\beta) = \bigcup \{p_i(\beta): i < \delta \text{ and } \beta \in \text{dom}(p_i)\}.$$

We denote this p by $\lim(\bar{p})$.

(2) For $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbf{Q}_\mathbf{p}$, we have:

- $p \in \mathbb{P}'_\mathbf{q}$ iff:
 - (a) p is a function with domain $\in [\text{lg}(\mathbf{q})]^{<\lambda}$,
 - (b) if $\beta \in \text{dom}(p)$ then $p(\beta)$ belongs to $[\mathcal{W}_\beta]^{<\lambda}$.
 - (c) If $\beta \in \text{dom}(p)$ and $(\iota_1, \iota_2) = (\iota_{\mathbf{q}, \beta, 1}, \iota_{\mathbf{q}, \beta, 2})$ then for every $\zeta_1 < \zeta_2$ from $p(\beta)$, $(p \upharpoonright \beta) \upharpoonright N_{\mathbf{q}, \beta, \{\zeta_1, \zeta_2\}} \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}, \beta}} “\mathfrak{C}\{\zeta_1, \zeta_2\} \in \{\iota_1, \iota_2\}”$. Moreover, there are q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2 as in Definition 1.2(2)(c)(•₁)-(•₅) and

$$\bigvee_{\ell=1}^2 (\forall \gamma \in \text{dom}(r_\ell)) [\gamma \in \text{dom}(p) \cap \beta \wedge r_\ell(\gamma) \subseteq p(\gamma)].$$

(3) If $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbf{Q}_\mathbf{p}$ and $\alpha \leq \text{lg}(\mathbf{q})$ then $\mathbf{q} \upharpoonright \alpha \in \mathbf{Q}_\mathbf{p}$.

(4) $\leq_\mathbf{p}$ is a partial order on $\mathbf{Q}_\mathbf{p}$.

(5) If $\bar{\mathbf{q}} = \langle \mathbf{q}_j: j < \delta \rangle$ is $\leq_\mathbf{p}$ -increasing then it has a $\leq_\mathbf{p}$ -lub, $\lim(\bar{\mathbf{q}})$, of length $\cup \{\text{lg}(\mathbf{q}_j): j < \delta\}$.

(6) If $\beta < \text{lg}(\mathbf{q})$, $\mathbf{a} = \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{q}, \beta}$, $u \in [\mathcal{W}_{\mathbf{a}, \beta}]^{\leq 2}$ and $N_u = N_{\mathbf{a}, u}$, then:

- (*) if $p \in \mathbb{P}'$ then $q = p \upharpoonright N_{\mathbf{q}, \beta, u}$ satisfies $q \in N_u$ and $q \leq_{\mathbb{P}_\mathbf{q}} p$ where q is defined by:
 - ₁ $\text{dom}(q) = \text{dom}(p) \cap N_u \cap \beta$
 - ₂ If $\gamma \in \text{dom}(q)$ then $q(\gamma) = p(\gamma) \cap N_u$.

(7) If (A) then (B), where:

- (A) (a) $i_* < \lambda$,
- (b) $p_i \in \mathbb{P}'_\mathbf{q}$ for $i < i_*$,
- (c) if $i < j < i_*$, then p_i and q_i are essentially comparable, i.e.:
 - if $\beta \in \text{dom}(p_i) \cap \text{dom}(p_j)$ then $p_i(\beta) \subseteq p_j(\beta)$ or $p_j(\beta) \subseteq p_i(\beta)$.
- (B) (a) $\{p_i: i < i_*\}$ have a common upper bound in $\mathbb{P}'_\mathbf{q}$,
- (b) moreover, p is the least common upper bound when:
 - $\text{dom}(p) = \bigcup \{\text{dom}(p_i): i < i_*\}$,
 - if $\beta \in \text{dom}(p)$, then

$$p(\beta) = \bigcup \{p_i(\beta): i < i_* \text{ satisfying } \beta \in \text{dom}(p_i)\}.$$

Proof. Part (2) is crucial but easy to verify. Parts (0), (1), (3), and (4) are also easy.

(5) For this, define $\mathbf{q} := \lim(\bar{\mathbf{q}})$ naturally, but we elaborate.

- (*) (a) $\lg(\mathbf{q}) = \bigcup \{\lg(\mathbf{q}_i) : i < \delta\}$,
- (b) if $i < \delta$ and $\alpha \leq \lg(\mathbf{q}_i)$, then $(\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q},\alpha}, \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q},\alpha}) = (\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}_i,\alpha}, \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q}_i,\alpha})$,
- (c) if $i < \delta$ and $\beta < \lg(\mathbf{q}_i)$, then $(\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{q},\beta}, \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{q},\beta}, \mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{q},\beta}) = (\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{q}_i,\beta}, \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{q}_i,\beta}, \mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{q}_i,\beta})$,
- (d) $(\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q},\lg(\mathbf{q})}, \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q},\lg(\mathbf{q})})$ is $(\bigcup \{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}_i} : i < \delta\}, \bigcup \{\mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q}_i} : i < \delta\})$ when $\text{cf}(\delta) \geq \lambda$,
- (e) if $\text{cf}(\delta) < \lambda$, then $(\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q},\lg(\mathbf{q})}, \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q},\lg(\mathbf{q})})$ are defined as inverse limit. Then,
 - $\mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q}} := \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q},\lg(\mathbf{q})}$ is dense in $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}$ because by Definition 1.2(3), for each $\beta < \lg(\mathbf{q}_j)$ with $j < \delta$, $\mathbb{Q}_{\mathbf{b}[\beta, \mathbf{q}_j]}$ is closed under increasing unions of length $< \lambda$.

Recalling that in Definition 1.3(1)(c), we use β and not α , “ $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}$ satisfies the λ^+ -cc” is not required for proving 1.5 (5), only “if $\beta < \lg(\mathbf{q})$ then $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q},\beta}$ satisfies the λ^+ -cc”, which is clear. Note that even though we formally do not need it here, the chain condition of $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}$ will be proved in claim 1.6.

(6) Note that:

- (a) If $\gamma \in \text{dom}(q)$ then $\gamma \in N_u$ and $q(\gamma) \subseteq N_u$,
- (b) As $\text{dom}(q)$ and $q(\gamma)$ for $\gamma \in \text{dom}(q)$ has cardinality $< \lambda$ and $[N_u]^{<\lambda} \subseteq N_u$ so recalling clause (a) obviously $q \in N_u$.
- (c) To prove q is in $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}$ we need, for $\gamma \in \text{dom}(q)$ and $\zeta_1 < \zeta_2$ from $q(\gamma) \subseteq \mathcal{U}_{\gamma}$ to verify the condition in 1.5(2)(c).
- (d) But as $\gamma \in N_u$ hence $\mathbf{q} \upharpoonright (\gamma + 1)$ and ζ_1, ζ_2 belongs to N_u , also $N_{\mathbf{q},\gamma, \{\zeta_1\}}, N_{\mathbf{q},\gamma, \{\zeta_2\}}, N_{\mathbf{q},\gamma, \{\zeta_1, \zeta_2\}}$ belongs to N_u hence are included in it so we can finish easily.

(7) Follow by our definitions. $\square_{1.5}$

Still,

Crucial Claim 1.6. *If $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{p}}$ then $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}$ satisfies λ^+ -cc.*

Proof. It suffices, by 1.3(1)(e), to prove that $\mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q}} = \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q},\lg(\mathbf{q})}$ satisfies the λ^+ -cc, so assume:

- (*)₁ (a) Let $\bar{p} = \langle p_{\xi} : \xi < \lambda^+ \rangle$, where $p_{\xi} \in \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q}}$,
- (b) it suffice to prove that for some $\zeta < \xi < \lambda^+$, p_{ζ} and p_{ξ} are compatible.

[Why? By the definitions.]

- (*)₂ For some stationary set $S \subseteq \text{cof}(\lambda) \cap \lambda^+$, we have:

- ₁ $\langle \text{dom}(p_{\xi}) : \xi \in S \rangle$ is a Δ -system with heart $w_* \in [\lg(\mathbf{q})]^{<\lambda}$, and
- ₂ if $\beta \in w_*$ then $\langle p_{\xi}(\beta) : \xi \in S \rangle$ is a Δ -system.

[Why? By the Delta system lemma, the proof using Fodor’s lemma recalling $\lambda = \lambda^{<\lambda}$.]

- (*)₃ Without loss of generality, $\langle p_{\xi} : \xi \in S \rangle$ are pairwise isomorphic (see Definition 1.3(4)).

[Why? Easy because for every \mathbf{a}, u the model $N_{\mathbf{a},u}$ has cardinality λ .]

- (*)₄ For $\gamma \in w_*$ we have:

- ₁ Let $\mathcal{U}_{\beta, u_{\beta}, \gamma}$ be as in 1.3(1)(d)•₅.
- ₂ Without loss of generality, $u_{\beta, \gamma}$ is disjoint to $N_{\mathbf{q}, \beta, \{\zeta\}} \setminus N_{\mathbf{q}, \beta, \emptyset} \cap \mu$ for every $\zeta \in \mathcal{U}_{\beta}$ and is disjoint to $N_{\mathbf{q}, \beta, \{\varepsilon, \zeta\}} \setminus N_{\mathbf{q}, \beta, \emptyset} \cap \mu$ for every $\varepsilon < \zeta$ from \mathcal{U}_{β} .

[Why? As for any $\gamma < \beta$ from w_* we have to omit from \mathcal{U}_{β} at most two elements and w_* has cardinality $< \lambda$.]

- (*)₅ We fix $\xi(1) \neq \xi(2)$ from S and we shall prove that $p_{\xi(1)}$ and $p_{\xi(2)}$ have a common upper bound; this suffices for proving Crucial Claim 1.6.

- (*)₆ For $\beta \in w_*$:
- (a) for $\ell \in \{1, 2\}$, consider the sequence $\langle \alpha_{\xi(\ell), \varepsilon}^\beta : \varepsilon < \varepsilon_\beta \rangle$ listing the set $p_{\xi(\ell)}(\beta)$ in increasing order
 - (b) Why ε_β and not $\varepsilon_{\beta, \ell}$? as the two sequences have the same length because $p_{\xi(1)}, p_{\xi(2)}$ are isomorphic, see Definition 1.3(4) \bullet_1 .
 - (c) Let $\mathcal{S}_\beta := \{\varepsilon < \varepsilon_\beta : \alpha_{\xi(1), \varepsilon}^\beta \neq \alpha_{\xi(2), \varepsilon}^\beta\}$,
 - (d) so by Definition 1.3 (4) \bullet_2 the sets $\{\alpha_{\xi(1), \varepsilon}^\beta : \varepsilon \in \mathcal{S}_\beta\}$, $\{\alpha_{\xi(2), \varepsilon}^\beta : \varepsilon \in \mathcal{S}_\beta\}$ are disjoint and disjoint to $\{\alpha_{\xi(1), \varepsilon}^\beta : \varepsilon \in \varepsilon_\beta \setminus \mathcal{S}_\beta\} = \{\alpha_{\xi(2), \varepsilon}^\beta : \varepsilon \in \varepsilon_\beta \setminus \mathcal{S}_\beta\}$.

Let $\bar{\beta} = \langle \beta_i : i \leq i_* \rangle$ list the closure of $\{\alpha, \alpha+1 : \alpha \in w_*\} \cup \{0, \lg(\mathbf{q})\}$ in increasing order, so necessarily $i_* < \lambda$ and clearly it suffice:

- (*)₇ To choose $q_i \in \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q}, \beta_i}$ a common upper bound of $\{p_{\xi(1)} \restriction \beta_i, p_{\xi(2)} \restriction \beta_i\}$ increasing with $i \leq i_*$ by induction on $i \leq i_*$ such that:
- (*) If $\beta \in w_* \setminus \{\beta_j : j < i\}$ and $\zeta(1), \zeta(2)$ are from \mathcal{S}_β then:
 - \bullet_1 $\text{dom}(q_j) \cap N_{\beta, \{\alpha_{\xi(1), \zeta(1)}, \alpha_{\xi(2), \zeta(2)}\}}$ is a subset of

$$N_{\beta, \{\alpha_{\xi(1), \zeta(1)}\}} \cup N_{\beta, \{\alpha_{\xi(2), \zeta(2)}\}} \cup N_{\beta, \emptyset},$$
 - \bullet_2 if $\ell = 1, 2$ and $\gamma \in \text{dom}(q_j) \cap N_{\beta, \{\alpha_{\xi(\ell), \zeta(\ell)}\}}$ then $q_i(\gamma) = p_{\xi(\ell)}(\gamma)$ or $\gamma \in N_{\beta, \emptyset}$

Let us carry the induction.

Case 1: $i = 0$. Clearly, this case is trivial, letting $q_0 = \emptyset$.

Case 2: i is a limit ordinal.

In this case, let $q_i := \lim \langle q_j : j < i \rangle$, so by Claim 1.5(1), q_i is well-defined and is as required by the definition of the order and satisfies \bullet of (*)₇.

Case 3: $i = j + 1$ and $\beta_j \notin w_*$.

In this case, $\text{dom}(p_{\xi(1)}) \cap \text{dom}(p_{\xi(2)}) \cap \beta_i \subseteq \beta_j$, hence the condition

$$q_i := q_j \cup (p_{\xi(1)} \restriction [\beta_j, \beta_i]) \cup (p_{\xi(2)} \restriction [\beta_j, \beta_i])$$

is as promised.

Case 4: $i = j + 1$ and $\beta_j \in w_*$.

By the choice of $\bar{\beta}$, clearly $\beta_i = \beta_j + 1$ and let $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}_\beta$.

Recalling 1.3(1)(d) and 0.7(b)(\bullet_8), we have:

- (*)₈ $\mathbf{a}_{\beta_j} = \mathbf{a}_{\mathbf{q}, \beta_j}$ determine:
- (a) $\bar{\pi}_{\beta_j} = \langle \pi_{u,v} : u, v \in [\mathcal{U}_{\beta_j}]^{\leq 2} \text{ and } |u| = |v| \rangle$,
 - (b) $\bar{N}_{\beta_j} = \langle N_u : u \in [\mathcal{U}_{\beta_j}]^{\leq 2} \rangle$,
 - (c) for $\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2) \in \mathcal{S}$, let:
 - \bullet $v[\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2)] = \{\alpha_{\xi(1), \varepsilon(1)}, \alpha_{\xi(1), \varepsilon(2)}\}$, and
 - \bullet $u[\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2)] = \{\alpha_{\xi(1), \varepsilon(1)}, \alpha_{\xi(2), \varepsilon(2)}\}$.
 - (d) for $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{S}$, let $v[\varepsilon] = \{\alpha_{\xi(1), \varepsilon}\}$ and $u[\varepsilon] = \{\alpha_{\xi(2), \varepsilon}\}$,
 - (e) $\bar{t} = \bar{t}_{\beta_j}^*$, see 1.3 (1) (d) \bullet_1 .
 - (f) $\gamma_j = \xi_{\mathbf{q}}(\beta_j)$; see 1.3(1)(d) \bullet_3 .

We shall now define $p_{\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2)}$ for $\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2) \in \mathcal{S}$ such that:

- (*)₉
- (a) $p_{\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2)} \in \mathbb{P}_{\gamma_j} \cap N_{u[\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2)]}$, hence $\text{dom}(p_{\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2)}) \subseteq \gamma_j \cap N_{u[\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2)]}$,
 - (b) if $\varepsilon(1) = \varepsilon(2)$, then $p_{\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2)} \restriction (\gamma_j \cap N_{v[\varepsilon(1)]})$, $p_{\xi(1)} \restriction N_{v[\varepsilon(1)]}$ are essentially comparable; see 1.5(7)(A)(c), moreover the first is $\leq_{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}}$ -above the second,
 - (c) if $\varepsilon(1) \neq \varepsilon(2)$, then $p_{\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2)} \restriction (\gamma_j \cap N_{u[\varepsilon(2)]})$, $p_{\xi(2)} \restriction N_{u[\varepsilon(2)]}$ are essentially comparable, moreover the first is $\leq_{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}}$ -above the second,
 - (d) $p_{\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2)}$ satisfies 1.3(1)(e) \bullet with $(\gamma_j, \varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2))$ here standing for $(\beta, \zeta_1, \zeta_2)$ there,

- (e) $\{q_j \upharpoonright N_\emptyset\} \cup \{p_{\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)} \upharpoonright N_\emptyset : \varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2) \in \mathcal{S}\}$ are pairwise essentially comparable,
- (f) if $\varepsilon(1) \neq \varepsilon(2)$ then $p_{\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)} \upharpoonright N_{\{\alpha_{\varepsilon(\ell)}\}} \leq p_{\xi(\ell)} \upharpoonright N_{\{\alpha_{\varepsilon(\ell)}\}}$ for $\ell = 1, 2$.
- (g) if $\mathcal{S}_* \subseteq \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S}$ then the lub $q_{\mathcal{S}_*}$ of $\{q_j[N_{u[\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)]}] : \varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2) \in \mathcal{S}_*\}$ satisfies the condition in $(*)_7$.

We have to show two things: \boxplus_1 and \boxplus_2 . The first saying we can choose them (the $p_{\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)}$ -s), the second that this is enough.

\boxplus_1 we can choose $p_{\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)}$ for $\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2) \in \mathcal{S}$ as required in $(*)_7$.

We consider two possible cases:

Case 4.1: $\varepsilon(1) \neq \varepsilon(2)$.

Let $p_{\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)} = \pi(p_{\xi(1)} \upharpoonright N_{v[\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)]})$, where $\pi = \pi_{u[\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)], v[\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)]}$.

Why is $(*)_9$ preserved? Most clauses are obvious, but $(*)_9(g)$ deserve elaboration, recalling that we have to satisfy $(*)_7$.

So let $\beta \in \mathcal{W}_* \setminus \{\beta_\iota : \iota < i\}$, hence for some $j(*) < i_*$, we have $\beta = \beta_{j(*)}$, hence we have $\beta_{j(*)} \geq \beta_i$ hence $\beta_{j(*)} > \beta_j$ and we have $\mathcal{S}_* \subseteq \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{S}$ and deal with $q_{\mathcal{S}_*}$.

For this, it is enough to consider the cases:

- \boxplus_1 $\mathcal{S}_* = \{\zeta(1), \zeta(2)\}$, where $\zeta(1) = \varepsilon(1)$ and $\zeta(2) = \varepsilon(2)$ hence from \mathcal{S} , so $\zeta(1) \neq \zeta(2)$,
- \boxplus_2 $\mathcal{S}_* = \{\zeta(1), \zeta(2)\}$ where $\zeta(1) \neq \zeta(2)$ are from \mathcal{S} but $(\zeta(1), \zeta(2)) \neq (\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2))$.

Easy to check.

Case 4.2: $\varepsilon(1) = \varepsilon(2)$.

In this case, we pick some sequence $\langle p_{\varepsilon,\varepsilon} : \varepsilon \in \mathcal{S} \rangle$ by choosing $p_{\varepsilon,\varepsilon}$ by induction on $\varepsilon \in \mathcal{S}$. Now, $p_{\varepsilon,\varepsilon} \in \mathbb{P}'_\beta \cap N_{u[\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)]}$ is such that:

- (*) (a) $p_{\varepsilon,\varepsilon}$ is $\leq_{\mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q},\beta}}$ -above $p_{\xi(1)} \upharpoonright N_{v[\varepsilon]}$ and above the restriction $p_{\xi(2)} \upharpoonright N_{u[\varepsilon]}$,
- (b) $\langle p_{\zeta,\zeta} \upharpoonright N_\emptyset : \zeta \in (\varepsilon + 1) \cap \mathcal{S} \rangle$ is $\leq_{\mathbb{P}_{\beta[j]}}$ -increasing, and
- (c) there are q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2 as in Definition 1.3(2)(c) (\bullet_1) - (\bullet_5) with $\mathbf{b}_{\mathbf{q},\beta}$ standing here for $(\mathbf{a}, p, \bar{\iota})$ there such that:

$$\bigvee_{\ell=1}^2 (\forall \gamma \in \text{dom}(r_\ell)) [\gamma \in \text{dom}(p_{\varepsilon,\varepsilon}) \wedge r_\ell(\gamma) \subseteq p_{\varepsilon,\varepsilon}(\gamma)].$$

We can choose $p_{\varepsilon,\varepsilon}$ by the properties of \mathbf{b}_{β_j}

Having defined all the $p_{\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)}$ -s we can proceed.

\boxplus_2 The following set of members of \mathbb{P}_{β_i} has a common upper bound q_* :

- $p_{\xi(1)}, p_{\xi(2)}$, and
- $p_{\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)}$ for $\varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2) \in \mathcal{S}$.

[Why? Recall Claim 1.5(2) and 1.2(1)(c)(\bullet_1) by 1.5(7), clause (A) there holds, in particular sub-clause (A)(c). The main point is that:

- (*) $\langle N_{v[\varepsilon(1),\varepsilon(2)]} \cap \gamma_j \setminus (N_{v[\varepsilon(1)]} \cup N_{u[\varepsilon(1)]}) : \varepsilon(1), \varepsilon(2) \in \mathcal{S} \rangle$ is a sequence of pairwise disjoint sets.

Why? As “ $N_u \cap N_v \subseteq N_{u \cap v}$ for $u, v \in [\mathcal{W}_{\beta_j}]^{<\partial}$ by 0.7 \bullet_7 .”

So q_* from \boxplus_2 is a common upper bound of $p_{\xi(1)}, p_{\xi(2)}$, as promised. $\square_{1.6}$

Remark 1.7. 1) No need so far, but we may add in $(*)_4$ of the proof of Crucial Claim 1.6 the following item:

- (d) if $\beta \in w_*$ and $\langle \alpha_{\zeta,\beta,i} : i < \iota_{\zeta,\beta} \rangle$ list in increasing order the members of $p_\zeta(\beta)$ for $\zeta \in S$, then:
 - $\langle \iota_{\zeta,\beta} : \zeta \in S \rangle$ is constant called i_β ,
 - for $i < i_\beta$, the sequence $\langle \alpha_{\zeta,\beta,i} : \zeta \in S \rangle$ is constant or increasing,
 - if $i, j < i_\beta$ the sequence of truth values $\langle \text{Truth value}(\alpha_{\zeta,\beta,i} < \alpha_{\xi,\beta,j}) : \zeta < \xi \text{ are from } S \rangle$

is constant, and

- if $i, j < i_\beta$, $\zeta \neq \xi$ are from S and $\alpha_{\zeta, \beta, i} = \alpha_{\xi, \beta, j}$ then $i = j$.
- 2) We can make our choice of q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2 canonical, that is
- (A) In 1.2(2) we replace $(p, \bar{t}, (\mathbf{a}, p, \bar{t}, \mathbb{F}))$ by $(p, \bar{t}, (\mathbf{a}, p, \bar{t}, \mathbb{F}))$
 - ₁ $\mathbb{F}_{\zeta_1, \zeta_2}(q) = (q_1, q_2, r_1, r_2) = \langle \mathbb{F}_{\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \ell}(q) : \ell = 1, 2, 3, 4 \rangle$
 - ₂ if also $\zeta_3 < \zeta_4$ are from \mathcal{U} then $\pi_{\zeta_3, \zeta_4, \zeta_1, \zeta_2}^{\mathbf{a}} \mathbb{F}_{\zeta_1, \zeta_2, \ell} = \mathbb{F}_{\zeta_3, \zeta_4, \ell}$,
where if $p \leq q \in \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}} \cap N_{\mathbf{a}, \{\varepsilon[\mathbf{a}]\}}$ and $\zeta_1 < \zeta_2$ are from \mathcal{U} ,
then $\langle \mathbb{F}_{\zeta_1, \zeta_1, \ell}(p, q) : \ell < \mu \rangle$ is the quadruple (q_1, q_2, r_2, r_2) as in
1.2(1)(c)(•₁)-(•₅).
- (B) In 1.2(3) similarly and in 1.3(1)(d)
- (C) In 1.5(1)(d) use \mathbb{F}_β ,
- (D) In the proof of 1.6, in $(*)_{7\boxplus 1}$, case 4.2(*)_{4.2} we use \mathbb{F}_{β_j} ,
- (E) Update the proof of 1.8 accordingly.

Claim 1.8. *If (A) then (B), where:*

- (A) (a) $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbf{G}_{\mathbf{p}}$,
- (b) $2 < \sigma < \lambda$,
- (c) \mathfrak{c} is a $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}$ -name of a function from $[\theta]^2$ into σ .
- (d) $p_* \in \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}$.
- (B) *There is some $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbf{A}^+$ such that $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{b}} = \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q}}$ and $\mathfrak{c}_{\mathbf{b}} = \mathfrak{c}$ and $p_* \leq_{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}} p_{\mathbf{b}}$.*

Proof. Recalling Hypothesis 1.1(b), on the one hand, it is clear how to choose $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbf{A}$ such that $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}} = \mathbb{P}'_{\mathbf{q}}$ and $\mathfrak{c}_{\mathbf{a}} = \mathfrak{c}$. On the other hand, the choice of $p_{\mathbf{b}}$ and $\bar{t}_{\mathbf{b}}$ is similar to the proof of [She88, 2.1]. We now elaborate.

First, we can find \mathbf{a} such that:

- (*)_a¹ (a) $\mathbf{a} \in \mathbf{A}$,
- (b) $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}} = \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}$,
- (c) $\gamma = \text{lg}(\mathbf{q})$,
- (d) $\mathfrak{c}_{\mathbf{a}} = \mathfrak{c}$.

Why can we find? Because we have chosen $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}}$ as in $(*)_{\mathbf{a}}^1$ (b), it is λ^+ -cc by Claim 1.6; also $\gamma, \mathfrak{c}_{\mathbf{a}}$ are as is required in Definition 1.2. Next, it is easy to choose $\mathcal{B}_{\mathbf{a}}$ as required satisfying \mathfrak{c}, p_* are definable; and lastly we can choose $(\mathcal{U}_{\mathbf{a}}, \bar{N})$ as is required because $\theta \rightarrow_{\text{sq}} (\partial)_{\lambda}^{\lambda, 2}$ holds by Hypothesis 1.1 clause (b) and 0.7 in particular clause (b)•₁₀.

We are left with choosing some appropriate (p, \bar{t}) and then let $\mathbf{b} = (\mathbf{a}, p, \bar{t})$. Let

$$Y := \{(q_1, q_2) : q_1, q_2 \in \mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{a}} \cap N_{\mathbf{a}, \{\varepsilon[\mathbf{a}]\}} \text{ are above } p_* \text{ and,} \\ q_1 \restriction (N_{\mathbf{a}, \emptyset} \cap \text{lg}(\mathbf{q})) = q_2 \restriction (N_{\mathbf{a}, \emptyset} \cap \text{lg}(\mathbf{q}))\},$$

and let \leq_Y be the following two place relation on Y :

- (*)₂ $(p_1, p_2) \leq_Y (q_1, q_2)$ iff:
 - (a) $(p_1, p_2) \in Y$ and $(q_1, q_2) \in Y$,
 - (b) $p_1 \leq_{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}} q_1$ and $p_2 \leq_{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}}} q_2$.

Clearly,

- (*)₃ (Y, \leq_Y) is a $(< \lambda)$ -complete partial order.

[Why? Recalling 1.5(1).]

- (*)₄ For $(p_1, p_2) \in Y$, let
 - (a) $\text{solv}(p_1, p_2)$ be the set of pairs (ι_0, ι_1) such that for any $\zeta_1 < \zeta_2$ from \mathcal{U} , there are r_1, r_2 such that for $\ell = 1, 2$ clauses •₂-•₅ of Definition 1.2(2)(c) hold.
 - (b) $\text{solv}^+(p_1, p_2) := \bigcap \{\text{solv}(q_1, q_2) : (p_1, p_2) \leq_Y (q_1, q_2) \in Y\}$.

(*)₅ (a) if $(p_1, p_2) \leq_Y (q_1, q_2)$ then:

$$\text{solv}(p_1, p_2) \supseteq \text{solv}(q_1, q_2) \supseteq \text{solv}^+(q_1, q_2) \supseteq \text{solv}^+(p_1, p_2),$$

(b) if $(p_1, p_2) \in Y$ then $\text{solv}(p_1, p_2) \neq \emptyset$.

[Why? The first inclusion in Clause (a) holds because $\leq_{\mathbb{P}_q}$ is transitive. The other inclusions are clear, and Clause (b) is easy too.]

(*)₆ If $(p_1, p_2) \in Y$ then for some (q_1, q_2) and \bar{t} , we have:

(a) $(p_1, p_2) \leq_Y (q_1, q_2) \in Y$,

(b) if $(q_1, q_2) \leq_Y (q'_1, q'_2)$ then $\bar{t} \in \text{solv}(q'_1, q'_2)$, moreover, $\text{solv}(q_1, q_2) = \text{solv}(q'_2, q'_2) = \text{solv}^+(q'_1, q'_2) = \text{solv}^+(q_1, q_2)$.

[Why? Recalling $\sigma < \lambda$, hence $|\sigma \times \sigma| < \lambda$ and (Y, \leq_Y) is λ -complete by (*)₃.]

(*)₇ For $p \in \mathbb{P}_a \cap N_{a, \{\varepsilon[a]\}}$, let $\text{solv}(p)$ be the set of $\bar{t} \in \sigma \times \sigma$ such that: if $q \in \mathbb{P}_a \cap N_{a, \{\varepsilon[a]\}}$ is $\leq_{\mathbb{P}_a}$ -above then there is (q_1, q_2) :

- ₁ $q \leq_{\mathbb{P}_q} q_1, q \leq_{\mathbb{P}_q} q_2$ and
- ₂ $(q_1, q_2) \in Y$,
- ₃ $\bar{t} \in \text{solv}^+(q_1, q_2)$,
- ₄ $\text{solv}(q_1, q_2) = \text{solv}^+(q_1, q_2)$.

(*)₈ (a) if $p \in \mathbb{P}_a \cap N_{a, \{\varepsilon[a]\}}$ then $\text{solv}(p) \neq \emptyset$,

(b) if $p \leq_{\mathbb{P}_a} q$ are from $\mathbb{P}_a \cap N_{a, \{\varepsilon[a]\}}$ then $\text{solv}(p) \supseteq \text{solv}(q)$,

(c) if $p \in \mathbb{P}_a \cap N_{a, \{\varepsilon[a]\}}$ then for some q and \bar{t} , for every q' , we have $q \leq_{\mathbb{P}_q} q' \in \mathbb{P}_a \cap N_{a, \{\varepsilon[a]\}} \Rightarrow \bar{t} \in \text{solv}(q')$.

[Why? Clause (a) follows by (*)₆, Clause (b) by the definitions, and Clause (c) holds as \mathbb{P}_a and even $\mathbb{P}_a \cap N_{a, \{\varepsilon[a]\}}$ is λ -complete and $|\sigma \times \sigma| < \lambda$.]

Now, applying (*)₈(c) to p_* finish the proof of 1.8. □_{1.8}

Claim 1.9. *If (A) then (B), where:*

- (A) (a) $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{Q}_p$ and $\mathbf{q}_0 <_p \mathbf{q}$,
 (b) $\gamma(\mathbf{q}) < \mu$, so $\text{lg}(\mathbf{q}) < \mu$,
 (c) $\mathbf{b} \in \mathbf{A}_p$ and $\mathbb{P}_b = \mathbb{P}_{q_0}$.
 (B) *There exists some \mathbf{q}_1 such that:*
 (a) $\mathbf{q} \leq_p \mathbf{q}_1$,
 (b) $\text{lg}(\mathbf{q}_1) = \text{lg}(\mathbf{q}) + 1$,
 (c) $\mathbf{b}_{\text{lg}(\mathbf{q})}[\mathbf{q}_1] = \mathbf{b}$.

Proof. Easy. □_{1.9}

Lastly, before arriving at the main conclusion, we have to prove the following.

Claim 1.10.

(1) Assume $\mathbf{q} \in \mathbb{Q}_p$, $\alpha < \text{lg}(\mathbf{q})$ and $\mathbf{b} = \mathbf{b}_{q, \alpha} = (\mathbf{a}_\alpha, p_\alpha, \bar{t}_\alpha) = (\mathbf{a}, p, \bar{t})$, then:

- $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_{q, \alpha+1}} \mathcal{V}_{\mathbb{Q}_b} \in [\mathcal{U}_{\mathbf{a}_\alpha}]^\partial$ and for every $\alpha \neq \beta \in \mathcal{V}_{\mathbb{Q}_b}$, $\mathbf{c}_{\mathbf{a}_\alpha}\{\alpha, \beta\} \in \{\iota_1, \iota_2\}$ ".

(2) If $\mathbf{b} = (\mathbf{a}, p, \bar{t}) \in \mathbf{A}^+$, $\text{cf}(\partial) > \lambda$, and in $\mathbf{V}^{\mathbb{P}_a}$, \mathbb{Q}_b satisfies the λ^+ -cc, then for some $p \in \mathbb{Q}_b \cap \mathbb{P}_a \cap N_{a, \{\varepsilon[a]\}}$ we have⁴ $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}_b} \mathcal{V}_{\mathbb{Q}_b} \in [\mathcal{U}_a]^\partial$ and for every $\alpha \neq \beta \in \mathcal{V}_{\mathbb{Q}_b}$, $\mathbf{c}_a\{\alpha, \beta\} \in \{\iota_1, \iota_2\}$ ".

Proof. (1) The second phrase in both conclusion holds by the definitions of \mathbb{Q}_b .

By the proof of " \mathbb{P}_q satisfies the λ^+ -cc", we can show for $\varepsilon < \partial$, the density of the set

$$\mathcal{I}_\varepsilon := \{p \in \mathbb{P}'_q : \alpha \in \text{dom}(p) \text{ and there is } \beta \in p(\alpha) \text{ such that } \varepsilon < \text{otp}(\mathcal{U}_{\mathbf{a}_\alpha} \cap \beta)\}.$$

⁴We may omit p but it does not matter.

(2) Easily, for every $\beta \in \mathcal{U}_a$ we can choose $p_\beta^0 = \{\beta\}$, $q_\beta = \{(p, p_\beta^0)\}$. Clearly, $q_\beta \in \mathbb{P}_a * \mathbb{Q}_b$ for $\beta \in \mathcal{U}_a$. So by the λ^+ -cc for some $\beta \in \mathcal{U}_a$, $q_\beta \Vdash \{\varepsilon \in \mathcal{U}_a : q_\varepsilon \in \mathbb{Q}_b\} \in [\mathcal{U}_a]^\partial$; well assuming $\text{cf}(\theta) > \lambda$. $\square_{1.10}$

Conclusion 1.11. *There exists a forcing notion \mathbb{P} satisfying the following conditions:*

- (a) \mathbb{P} is λ^+ -cc of cardinality μ .
- (b) \mathbb{P} is $(< \lambda)$ -complete; hence, it collapses no cardinals, changes no cofinalities, and preserves cardinal arithmetic outside the interval $[\lambda, \mu]$.
- (c) $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}} 2^\lambda = \mu$.
- (d) $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}} \theta \rightarrow [\partial]_{\sigma, 2}^2$ for every $\sigma \in (2, \lambda)$.

Proof. Choose a $\leq_{\mathbf{p}}$ -increasing continuous sequence $\langle \mathbf{q}_\alpha : \alpha < \mu \rangle \in {}^\mu(\mathbf{Q}_{\mathbf{p}})$ such that $\text{lg}(\mathbf{q}_\alpha) = \alpha$, $\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}_\alpha}$ has cardinality $\leq (|\alpha| + \lambda)^{< \lambda}$ and,

- if $\alpha < \mu$ and $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}_\alpha}} \mathbf{c} : [\theta]^2 \rightarrow \sigma$, then for unboundedly many $\beta \in [\alpha, \mu)$, $\mathbf{c}_{\mathbf{q}_{\beta+1}, \beta} = \mathbf{c}$.

The existence of $\mathbf{b}_\beta[\mathbf{q}_{\beta+1}]$ with $\mathbf{c}[\mathbf{b}_\beta[\mathbf{q}_{\beta+1}]] = \mathbf{c}$ as required hold by Claim 1.8 and Claim 1.9.

Clearly $\bigcup \{\mathbb{P}_{\mathbf{q}_\beta} : \beta < \mu\}$ is a forcing notion as is required. $\square_{1.11}$

Conclusion 1.11 is meaningful because:

Fact 1.12. Assume that $\lambda = \lambda^{< \lambda} < \partial < \theta < \mu = \mu^\theta$, $\alpha < \mu \Rightarrow |\alpha|^\lambda < \mu$, $\theta > \beth_4(\partial)$ and $\partial = \partial^{< \lambda}$. Then the demands in Hypothesis 1.1 hold.

Remark 1.13. To justify the assumption, notice that:

- (A) Omitting $\partial = \partial^{< \lambda}$ does not help.
- (B) $\theta \rightarrow_{\text{sq}} (\partial)^{\lambda, \leq 2}$ implies $\theta \rightarrow (\partial)_{2^\partial}^2$, hence $\theta > 2^{2^\partial}$.

With stronger lower bound on θ , see [She89] and anyhow just $\theta < \partial^{+\omega}$ and GCH in $[\partial, \partial^{+\omega}]$ would suffice for me.

The main point is proving $\theta \rightarrow_{\text{sq}} (\partial)_{\partial}^{\leq \lambda, 2}$. For this, see [She89], $\theta = \beth_m(\partial)$ for some small m suffice, we intend to return for better bound, see $[S^+]$.

Proof. The point is to prove $\theta \rightarrow_{\text{sq}} (\partial)_{\partial}^{\lambda, 2}$. Let \mathcal{B} be as in 0.7(a).

For $u \subseteq \mathcal{B}$, let N_u^* be the minimal $N \prec \mathcal{B}$ such that $u \subseteq N$, $\partial + 1 \subseteq N$ and $[N]^{< \lambda} \subseteq N$, which exists as $<_*^{\mathcal{B}}$ is a well-ordering of $\mathcal{H}(\chi)$.

We define $\mathbf{c} : [\theta]^3 \rightarrow 2^\partial$ such that from $\mathbf{c}(u)$ we can compute the isomorphism type of $(N_u, \alpha)_{\alpha \in u}$. By Erdős-Rado theorem, $\beth_4(\partial)^+ \rightarrow ((2^\partial)^+)^3_{2^\partial}$, hence there is $\mathcal{U}_1 \subseteq \theta$ of order type $(2^\partial)^+$ such that $\mathbf{c} \upharpoonright [\mathcal{U}_1]^3$ is constant and $\text{otp}(\mathcal{U}_1) = (2^\partial)^+$.

Clearly, if $\alpha < \beta < \gamma$ are from \mathcal{U}_1 , then $x \in N_{\{\alpha, \beta\}}^* \cap N_{\{\alpha, \gamma\}}^*$ implies $\beta < \gamma(1) \in \mathcal{U}_1 \Rightarrow x \in N_{\{\alpha, \beta\}}^* \cap N_{\{\alpha, \gamma(1)\}}^*$, and

$$\alpha < \beta(1) < \gamma(1) \wedge \{\beta(1), \gamma(1)\} \subseteq \mathcal{U}_1 \Rightarrow x \in N_{\{\alpha, \beta(1)\}}^* \cap N_{\{\alpha, \gamma(1)\}}^*.$$

So, for $\alpha \in \mathcal{U}_1$, we let:

- $X_0^\alpha := \{x : \text{for some } \beta, \gamma \text{ from } \mathcal{U}_1, \alpha < \beta < \gamma \text{ and } x \in N_{\{\alpha, \beta\}}^* \cap N_{\{\alpha, \gamma\}}^*\}$ have cardinality ∂ and it includes $N_{\{\alpha\}}^*$.

Similarly, X_1^α, X_2^α has cardinality ∂ , where:

- $X_1^\alpha := \{x : \text{for some } \beta, \gamma \in \mathcal{U}_1, \text{ we have } \beta < \alpha < \gamma \text{ and } x \in N_{\{\alpha, \beta\}}^* \cap N_{\{\alpha, \gamma\}}^*\}$, and
- $X_2^\alpha := \{x : \text{for some } \beta, \gamma \in \mathcal{U}_1, \text{ we have } \beta < \gamma < \alpha \text{ and } x \in N_{\{\alpha, \beta\}}^* \cap N_{\{\alpha, \gamma\}}^*\}.$

For $\alpha \in \mathcal{U}_1$, let $X_\alpha := \bigcup_{\ell=0}^2 X_\ell^\alpha$ and let $N_{\{\alpha\}} := N_{X_\alpha}^*$, so $N_{\{\alpha\}}^*$ has cardinality ∂ .

Now,

(*)₁ The sets $\langle N_{\{\alpha,\beta\}}^* \setminus (N_{\{\alpha\}} \cup N_{\{\beta\}}) : \alpha < \beta \text{ are from } \mathcal{U}_1 \rangle$ is a sequence of pairwise disjoint sets.

(*)₂ If $\gamma \in \mathcal{U}_1$ then $\Lambda_\gamma := \{\{\alpha, \beta\} : \alpha < \beta \text{ are from } \mathcal{U}_1 \text{ and } (N_{\{\alpha,\beta\}}^* \setminus (N_{\{\alpha\}} \cup N_{\{\beta\}})) \cap N_{\{\gamma\}} \neq \emptyset\}$ has cardinality $\leq \partial$.

So for some $\mathcal{U}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{U}_1$ of cardinality $(2^\partial)^+$, we have:

(*)₃ (a) $\langle N_{\{\gamma\}} : \gamma \in \mathcal{U}_2 \rangle$ is a Δ -system with heart called N_\emptyset ,

(b) The $N_{\{\gamma\}}$ for $\gamma \in \mathcal{U}_2$ are pairwise isomorphic over N_\emptyset .

Lastly choose $N_{\{\alpha,\beta\}}$ for $\alpha \neq \beta \in \mathcal{U}_2$ as $N_{\{\alpha,\beta\}}^*$. Replacing \mathcal{U}_2 by $\mathcal{U} \subseteq \mathcal{U}_2$ of order type ∂ , we are done. $\square_{1.12}$

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