

A model with an indecomposable ultrafilter at every successor of a singular cardinal

Inbar Oren

The Hebrew University of Jerusalem

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This is based on a joint paper with Sittinon Jirattikansakul and Assaf Rinot.¹

¹<https://papers.assafrinot.com/paper67.pdf>

The Main theorem

Theorem

Let κ be a supercompact cardinal in V , then there is a forcing extension W , in which κ is inaccessible and for every singular cardinal $\lambda < \kappa$, there exists an ultrafilter on λ^+ which is θ -indecomposable for any regular $\theta \in (cf(\lambda), \lambda)$.

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Remark

Then W_κ (i.e. V_κ^W) is a model of ZFC in which for every singular cardinal λ , there exists an ultrafilter on λ^+ which is θ -indecomposable for any regular $\theta \in (cf(\lambda), \lambda)$.

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- ▶ \mathcal{U} is *uniform* iff $|X| = \lambda$ for all $X \in \mathcal{U}$;
- ▶ For a cardinal $\theta < \lambda$, \mathcal{U} is *θ -indecomposable* iff for every partition $\langle X_\alpha \mid \alpha < \theta \rangle$ of λ , there is an $A \in [\theta]^{<\theta}$ such that $\bigcup_{\alpha \in A} X_\alpha \in \mathcal{U}$.

Remark

Notice that the Indecomposability of an ultrafilter is a weakening of the notion of completeness in which a limit is guaranteed to exist only for linear intersections.

Motivation

Theorem (Ben-David and Magidor, 1986)

If κ is κ^+ supercompact then there is a generic extension in which there is an \aleph_n -indecomposable ultrafilter on $\aleph_{\omega+1}$ for any $1 < n < \omega$.

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Remark

In the same paper, as a consequence, they showed that $\square_{\aleph_\omega}^*$ can be obtained. Thus, by that, they showed that \square^* is weaker than \square .

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Remark

The model construction appears in [Magidor, 1977].

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Remark

In our paper, we analyze several intermediate models between V and the \mathbb{R} -generic extension.

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- ▶ A crucial point in obtaining the indecomposability in the final model is to make sure that the quotient forcing is weakly homogeneous.
- ▶ In Magidor's forcing, the quotient is weakly homogeneous once adding guiding generics.
- ▶ When we replace Magidor's forcing with a Radin-based forcing we need a different notion in order to ensure weak homogeneity of the quotient, that we call *guru*.

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3. There is a canonical cofinal sequence on λ^+ : $\langle \lambda_i \mid i < \text{cf}(\lambda) \rangle$.
4. For any $\theta < \lambda$ regular in W there is a projection of \mathbb{Q}_λ , $\mathbb{Q}_{\lambda, \theta}$ that preserves θ , and contains a tail of $\langle \lambda_i \mid i < \text{cf}(\lambda) \rangle$.

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5. Weak homogeneity.

Weak homogeneity

Moreover : If $q_0, q_1 \in \mathbb{Q}_\lambda$ then there is an automorphism $\Gamma : \lambda^+ \rightarrow \lambda^+$ and some $\beta < \lambda^+$ with $\Gamma \upharpoonright \lambda \cup (\beta, \lambda^+) = \text{id}$ such that $\Gamma(q_0) \parallel q_1$. The “stems” of conditions in \mathbb{Q}_λ are subsets of λ^+ , hence we can extend Γ to a permutation of \mathbb{Q}_λ .

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Proof.

We aim to find $F^* \in W$ such that $F^* = \mathcal{F}_\lambda \cap W$.

Define $F^* \in W$ as the collection of X for which there is a \mathbb{Q}_λ -name \dot{X} (that is forced to be in \dot{W}), and some $p \in \mathbb{Q}_\lambda$ such that

$$p \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}_\lambda} "\dot{X} \in \dot{\mathcal{F}}_\lambda".$$

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We first check that F^* is well-defined.

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Since otherwise there is $q \leq p_0, p_1$ such that

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Since $\text{cf}(\lambda) < \theta$, there is $\alpha < \theta$ such that for all $j < \text{cf}(\lambda)$, $\eta(j) < \alpha$.



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In $W[G_\lambda]$, let $\eta(j)$ be the unique η such that $\lambda_j \in A_\eta$, for $j < \text{cf}(\lambda)$.

Since $\text{cf}(\lambda) < \theta$, there is $\alpha < \theta$ such that for all $j < \text{cf}(\lambda)$, $\eta(j) < \alpha$.

Hence, $\bigcup_{i < \alpha} A_i \in \mathcal{F}_\lambda \cap W$, so $\bigcup_{i < \alpha} A_i \in \mathcal{U}_\lambda$. □

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Let $G_{\lambda,\theta}$ be the generic filter generated by the projection of \mathbb{Q}_λ to $\mathbb{Q}_{\lambda,\theta}$.

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In $W[G_{\lambda,\theta}]$, define a filter $\mathcal{F}_{\lambda,\theta}$ over λ^+ by:

$X \in \mathcal{F}_{\lambda,\theta}$ iff X contains a tail of the generic cofinal sequence.

Notice that $W[G_{\lambda,\theta}] \cap \mathcal{F}_\lambda = \mathcal{F}_{\lambda,\theta}$ hence $W \cap \mathcal{F}_\lambda = W \cap \mathcal{F}_{\lambda,\theta}$.

Therefore \mathcal{U}_λ extends $\mathcal{F}_{\lambda,\theta}$.

We can show that \mathcal{U}_λ is θ -indecomposable in a similar manner to the previous Lemma (by working in $W[G_{\lambda,\theta}]$).

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Lemma

In W , for every $\theta \in (\text{cf}(\lambda), \lambda)$ that is regular in W , \mathcal{U}_λ is θ -indecomposable.



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In $V' := V_{\kappa}^W$, for every λ which is singular, there is an ultrafilter on λ^+ which is θ -indecomposable for any regular $\theta \in (\text{cf}(\lambda), \lambda)$.

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Proof of the main theorem.

Since κ is inaccessible in W , $V_{\kappa}^W = V'$ is a model of ZFC. Hence by the previous lemmas for every λ which is singular in V' , \mathcal{U}_{λ} is an uniform ultrafilter on λ^+ which is θ -indecomposable for any regular $\theta \in (\text{cf}(\lambda), \lambda)$. □

Remark

Similarly, we can get \mathcal{U}'_λ an ultrafilter on $\mathcal{P}_\lambda(\lambda^+)$ such that for any regular $\theta \in (\text{cf}(\lambda), \lambda)$, $|\text{ult}(\theta, \mathcal{U}'_\lambda)| = \theta$.

Applications

Definition

Let U be a uniform ultrafilter on η . A *base* for η is a collection $\mathcal{B} = \langle A_\gamma \mid \gamma < \tau \rangle$ of sets in U such that for any $A \in U$, there is a γ such that $A_\gamma \subseteq^* A$.

$$\chi(U) := \min\{|\mathcal{B}| \mid \mathcal{B} \text{ is a base for } U\}.$$

$$u(\eta) = \min\{\chi(U) \mid U \text{ is a uniform ultrafilter on } \eta\}.$$

Definition

Let $G := (V, E)$ be a graph of η vertices. The chromatic number of G is the minimal θ such that there is a colouring $c : \theta \rightarrow V$ with no two adjacent vertices of the same colour.

Applications

The model W appears to be a combinatorial rich model, with applications such as:

1. Small ultrafilter number at a successor of a given singular:
Let λ be a singular cardinal in W , hence \mathcal{U}_λ is a θ -indecomposable ultrafilter on λ^+ for all regular $\theta \in (\text{cf}(\lambda), \lambda)$.
Let $\mu = \aleph_{\lambda+\text{cf}(\lambda)^+}$, and H be $\text{Add}(\aleph_0, \mu)$ -generic over W .
In $W[H]$, by Theorem 7 of [Raghavan and Shelah, 2020], we have:
$$u_{\lambda^+} \leq \mu < 2^{\lambda^+}.$$
2. In W , for any singular λ , any graph $G = (\lambda^+, E)$, and regular $\theta \in (\text{cf}(\lambda), \lambda)$, if every subgraph of G of size less than λ has chromatic number at most θ , then G has chromatic number at most θ .

Thank You!