

Forcing “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense” From Large Cardinals

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Abstract

We answer a question of Woodin by showing that assuming an inaccessible cardinal κ which is a limit of $<\kappa$ -supercompact cardinals exists, there is a stationary set preserving forcing \mathbb{P} so that $V^{\mathbb{P}} \models$ “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense”. We also introduce a new forcing axiom QM, show it is consistent assuming a supercompact limit of supercompact cardinals and prove that it implies $\text{QM}_{\max}(*)$. Consequently, QM implies “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense”.

1 Introduction

1.1 History of “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense”

In 1930, Stanislaw Ulam published an influential paper [Ula30] dealing with a question of Stefan Banach generalizing the measure problem of Lebesgue. He proved the following theorem:

Theorem 1 (Ulam). *Suppose κ is an uncountable cardinal and there is a σ -additive real-valued measure on κ which*

- (i) *measures all subsets of κ and*
- (ii) *vanishes on points.*

Then there is a weakly inaccessible cardinal $\leq \kappa$.

Ulam noticed that he could strengthen his conclusion if he replaces *real-valued* by *0-1-valued*. In more modern terminology, his second result reads:

Theorem 2 (Ulam). *Suppose κ is an uncountable cardinal and there is a non-principal σ -complete ultrafilter on κ . Then there is a (strongly) inaccessible cardinal $\leq \kappa$.*

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These theorems gave birth to what are now known as real-valued measurable cardinals and measurable cardinals respectively. In the interest of having all subsets of some cardinal κ be measured in some sense, instead of increasing the size of κ , it is also possible to increase the number of allowed filters that measure. Henceforth Ulam considered the following question:

Question 3. Suppose κ is an uncountable cardinal below the least inaccessible. What is the smallest possible size of a family \mathcal{F} of σ -closed nonprincipal filters on κ so that every subset of κ is measured by some filter in \mathcal{F} ?

Let us call the cardinal in question the Ulam number of κ , $\text{Ulam}(\kappa)$. Ulam’s second theorem above can be rephrased as “ $\text{Ulam}(\kappa) > 1$ ”. Indeed, Ulam proved in unpublished work that $\text{Ulam}(\kappa) \geq \omega$. At some point, Ulam proposed this question to Paul Erdős, who, together with Leonidas Alaoglu, improved Ulam’s result to “ $\text{Ulam}(\kappa) \geq \omega_1$ ” [Erd50]. The problem, this time in the special case $\kappa = \omega_1$, was apparently revitalized by appearing in the 1971 collection of unsolved problems in set theory popularized by Erdős and Hajnal [EH71]: Shortly after, Karel Prikry [Pri72] produced a model in which $\text{Ulam}(\omega_1) = 2^{\omega_1} = \omega_2$, and did the same again with a different method in [Pri76].

A critical step towards a model in which $\text{Ulam}(\omega_1) = \omega_1$ was taken by Alan D. Taylor: Building on earlier work of Baumgartner-Hajnal-Maté [BHM75], Taylor provided [Tay79] an impressive amount of statements equivalent to a natural strengthening of “ $\text{Ulam}(\omega_1) = \omega_1$ ”, here is a shortened list.

Theorem 4 (Taylor). *The following are equivalent:*

- (i) *There is a family of normal filters witnessing $\text{Ulam}(\omega_1) = \omega_1$.*
- (ii) *There is a σ -closed uniform ω_1 -dense ideal on ω_1 .*
- (iii) *There is a normal uniform ω_1 -dense ideal on ω_1 .*

The formulation (iii) is much better suited for set-theoretical arguments. We also mention that Taylor proved that all the above statements fail under MA_{ω_1} .

Thus what remains of Ulam’s original question was reduced to: Is the existence of a normal uniform ω_1 -dense ideal on ω_1 consistent with ZFC? This was answered positively by W. Hugh Woodin in three different ways. The first was by forcing over a model of $\text{AD}_{\mathbb{R}} + “\Theta$ is regular”, already in the fall of 1978. (unpublished). At that time, this theory was not yet known to be consistent relative to large cardinals. Naturally, somewhat later he did so from large cardinals:

Theorem 5 (Woodin, unpublished¹). *Assume there is an almost-huge cardinal κ . Then there is a forcing extension in which there is a normal uniform ω_1 -dense ideal on $\omega_1 = \kappa$.*

This finally resolved the question relative to large cardinals. But can the canonical normal uniform ideal, namely NS_{ω_1} , have this property? It is known that NS_{ω_1} behaves a little different in this context.

¹A proof can be found in Foreman’s handbook article [For10].

Theorem 6 (Shelah, [She86]). *If NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense then $2^\omega = 2^{\omega_1}$. In particular CH fails.*

This is not true for other normal uniform ideals on ω_1 , for example CH holds in the model Woodin constructs from an almost huge cardinal. One can also ask about the exact consistency strength of the existence of such a normal uniform ω_1 -dense ideal on ω_1 . Both these questions were answered in subsequent work by Woodin, building on his \mathbb{P}_{\max} -technique.

Theorem 7 (Woodin, [Woo10, Corollary 6.150]). *The following theories are equiconsistent:*

- (i) ZFC + “There are infinitely many Woodin cardinals.”
- (ii) ZFC + “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense.”
- (iii) ZFC + “There is a normal uniform ω_1 -dense ideal on ω_1 .”

The direction (iii) \Rightarrow (i) makes use of Woodin’s core model induction technique, the argument is unpublished. We refer the interested reader to [RS14] where part of this is proven. Woodin’s method for (i) \Rightarrow (ii) is by forcing over $L(\mathbb{R})$, assuming AD there, with the \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation \mathbb{Q}_{\max} . This approach has one downside: It is a forcing construction over a canonical determinacy model. $L(\mathbb{R})$ can be replaced by larger determinacy models, but \mathbb{Q}_{\max} relies on a good understanding of the model in question. In practice, this is akin to an anti large cardinal assumption and leaves open questions along the lines of: Is “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense” consistent together with all natural large cardinals, e.g. supercompact cardinals? Is it consistent with powerful combinatorial principles, for example SRP?

Woodin’s original motivation for these results was in fact the question of generic large cardinal properties of ω_1 : For example ω_1 is not measurable by Ulam’s theorem, but there can be a generic extension of V with an elementary embedding $j : V \rightarrow M$ with transitive M and critical point ω_1^V . This leads to precipitous ideals on ω_1 .

Definition 8. A uniform ideal I on ω_1 is precipitous if, whenever G is generic for $(\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)/I)^+$ then $\text{Ult}(V, U_G)$ is wellfounded².

The existence of an ω_1 -dense ideal is a much stronger assumption than the existence of a precipitous ideal. There is a natural well-studied intermediate principle.

Definition 9. A uniform ideal I on ω_1 is saturated if $(\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)/I)^+$ is ω_2 -c.c..

Here is a short history of similar result for these principles:

- (i) Mitchell forces a precipitous ideal on ω_1 from a measurable in the mid 70s, see [JMMP80].

² U_G denotes the V -ultrafilter induced by G .

- (ii) Magidor forces “ NS_{ω_1} is precipitous” from a measurable, published in [JMMP80].
- (iii) Kunen [Kun78] forces a saturated ideal on ω_1 from a huge cardinal, which he invented for this purpose.
- (iv) Steel-Van Wesep [SVW82] force “ NS_{ω_1} is saturated” over a model of³ $\text{AD} + \text{AC}_{\mathbb{R}}$.
- (v) Foreman-Magidor-Shelah [FMS88] force “ NS_{ω_1} is saturated” from a supercompact with semiproper forcing. Later reduced to one Woodin cardinal by Shelah⁴.

Woodin’s results continue this line of research for ω_1 -dense ideals. But the analog of the step from (iv) to (v) for ω_1 -dense ideals was missing. Accordingly, Woodin posed the following question:

Question 10 (Woodin, [Woo99, Chapter 11 Question 18 b])). Assuming the existence of some large cardinal: Must there exist some semiproper partial order \mathbb{P} such that

$$V^{\mathbb{P}} \models \text{“NS}_{\omega_1} \text{ is } \omega_1\text{-dense” ?}$$

We will answer this positively in this thesis.

Theorem 11. *Assume there is an inaccessible cardinal κ which is the limit of cardinals which are $<\kappa$ -supercompact. Then there is a stationary set preserving forcing \mathbb{P} so that*

$$V^{\mathbb{P}} \models \text{“NS}_{\omega_1} \text{ is } \omega_1\text{-dense”}.$$

If there is an additional supercompact cardinal below κ , we can find such \mathbb{P} that is semiproper.

On a different note, there has been significant interest recently into the possible Δ_1 -definability of NS_{ω_1} (with parameters), in particular in the presence of forcing axioms. Note that NS_{ω_1} is trivially $\Sigma_1(\omega_1)$ -definable, but it is independent of ZFC whether NS_{ω_1} is Π_1 -definable. Hofferler-Larson-Schindler-Wu [HLSW22] show:

- (i) If BMM holds and there is a Woodin cardinal then NS_{ω_1} is not Δ_1 -definable.
- (ii) If $(*)$ holds then NS_{ω_1} is not Δ_1 -definable.
- (iii) Thus by Asperó-Schindler [AS21], if MM^{++} holds, NS_{ω_1} is not Δ_1 -definable.
- (iv) It is consistent relative to large cardinals that BPFA holds and NS_{ω_1} is Δ_1 -definable.

³Woodin [Woo83] subsequently reduced the assumption to just AD .

⁴The main ideas for the argument are in [She98, XVI], a write-up by Schindler can be found in [Sch11].

There is also a forthcoming paper by Ralf Schindler and Xiuyuan Sun [SS22] showing that in (iii), MM^{++} can be relaxed to MM .

If NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense then NS_{ω_1} is automatically Δ_1 -definable: If \mathcal{S} is a set of ω_1 -many stationary sets witnessing the density, then $T \subseteq \omega_1$ is stationary iff

$$\exists C \subseteq \omega_1 \text{ a club, } \exists S \in \mathcal{S} \ C \cap S \subseteq T.$$

This was first observed by Friedman-Wu-Zdomskyy [FWZ15]. In this context, two interesting points arise from our results here: First, we isolate for the first time a forcing axiom which *implies* “ NS_{ω_1} is Δ_1 -definable”. Second, it is well known that many of the structural consequences of MM follow already from SRP , for example “ NS_{ω_1} is saturated”, $2^\omega = \omega_2$, SCH , etc. In contrast, in the result of Schindler-Sun, MM cannot be replaced by SRP : If appropriate large cardinals are consistent, then so is SRP together with “ NS_{ω_1} is Δ_1 -definable”.

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2 Notation

First, we fix some notation. We will extensively deal with countable elementary substructures $X < H_\theta$ for large regular θ . We will make frequent use of the following notation:

Definition 2.1. Suppose X is any extensional set.

- (i) M_X denotes the transitive isomorph of X .
- (ii) $\pi_X : M_X \rightarrow X$ denotes the inverse collapse.
- (iii) $\delta^X := \omega_1 \cap X$.

In almost all cases, we will apply this definition to a countable elementary substructure $X < H_\theta$ for some uncountable cardinal θ . In some cases, the X we care about lives in a generic extension of V , even though it is a substructure of H_θ^V . In that case, δ^X will always mean $X \cap \omega_1^V$.

We will also sometimes make use of the following convention in order to “unclutter” arguments.

Convention 2.2. If $X < H_\theta$ is an elementary substructure and some object a has been defined before and $a \in X$ then we denote $\pi_X^{-1}(a)$ by \bar{a} .

We will make use of this notation only if it is unambiguous.

Definition 2.3. If X, Y are sets then $X \sqsubseteq Y$ holds just in case

- (i) $X \subseteq Y$ and
- (ii) $\delta^X = \delta^Y$.

We use the following notions of clubs and stationarity on $[H_\theta]^\omega$:

Definition 2.4. Suppose A is an uncountable set.

- (i) $[A]^\omega$ is the set of countable subsets of A .
- (ii) $\mathcal{C} \subseteq [A]^\omega$ is a club in $[A]^\omega$ if
 - a) for any $X \in [A]^\omega$ there is a $Y \in \mathcal{C}$ with $X \subseteq Y$ and
 - b) if $\langle Y_n \mid n < \omega \rangle$ is a \sqsubseteq -increasing sequence of sets in \mathcal{C} then $\bigcup_{n < \omega} Y_n \in \mathcal{C}$.
- (iii) $\mathcal{S} \subseteq [A]^\omega$ is stationary in $[A]^\omega$ if $\mathcal{S} \cap \mathcal{C} \neq \emptyset$ for any club \mathcal{C} in $[A]^\omega$.

Next, we explain our notation for forcing iterations.

Definition 2.5. Suppose $\mathbb{P} = \langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha, \dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\beta \mid \alpha \leq \gamma, \beta < \gamma \rangle$ is an iteration and $\beta \leq \gamma$. We consider elements of \mathbb{P} as functions of domain (or length) γ .

- (i) If $p \in \mathbb{P}_\beta$ then $\text{lh}(p) = \beta$.
- (ii) If G is \mathbb{P} -generic then G_β denotes the restriction of G to \mathbb{P}_β , i.e.

$$G_\beta = \{p \upharpoonright \beta \mid p \in G\}.$$

Moreover, \dot{G}_β is the canonical \mathbb{P} -name for G_β .

- (iii) If G_β is \mathbb{P}_β -generic then $\mathbb{P}_{\beta, \gamma}$ denotes (by slight abuse of notation) the remainder of the iteration, that is

$$\mathbb{P}_{\beta, \gamma} = \{p \in \mathbb{P}_\gamma \mid p \upharpoonright \beta \in G_\beta\}.$$

$\dot{\mathbb{P}}_{\beta, \gamma}$ denotes a name for $\mathbb{P}_{\beta, \gamma}$ in V .

- (iv) If G is \mathbb{P} -generic and $\alpha < \beta$ then $G_{\alpha, \beta}$ denotes the projection of G onto $\mathbb{P}_{\alpha, \beta}$.

There will be a number of instances where we need a structure to satisfy a sufficiently large fragment of ZFC. For completeness, we make this precise.

Definition 2.6. *Sufficiently much of ZFC* is the fragment $\text{ZFC}^- + \text{“}\omega_1 \text{ exists”}$. Here, ZFC^- is ZFC without the powerset axiom and with the collection scheme instead of the replacement scheme.

3 $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$

We introduce the central combinatorial principle which is due to Woodin. The relevancy is motivated by the following observation: If NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense, then there is a dense embedding

$$\eta: \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1) \rightarrow (P(\omega_1)/\text{NS}_{\omega_1})^+.$$

We aim to force a forcing axiom that implies this. As usual, the forcing achieving this is an iteration \mathbb{P} of some large cardinal length κ which preserves ω_1 and iterates forcings of size $<\kappa$ with countable support-style supports. \mathbb{P} will thus be κ -c.c. and this means that some “representation”

$$\eta_0: \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1) \rightarrow \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^+$$

of η exists already in an intermediate extension. By “representation” we mean that in $V^{\mathbb{P}}$,

$$[\eta_0(p)]_{\text{NS}_{\omega_1}} = \eta(p)$$

for all $p \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)^5$. With this in mind, one should isolate the relevant Π_1 -properties which η_0 possesses in $V^{\mathbb{P}}$. Consequently, η_0 satisfies these properties in the intermediate extension. It is hopefully easier to first force an object with this Π_1 -fragment and we should subsequently only force with partial orders that preserve this property. This is exactly what we will do. The relevant combinatorial properties are $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and were already isolated by Woodin in his study of \mathbb{Q}_{\max} [Woo10, Section 6.2]. We remark that the definition we use here is slightly stronger than Woodin’s original principle in a technical way that turns out to be convenient for our purposes. Most results in this Section are essentially due to Woodin and proven in [Woo10, Section 6.2].

Definition 3.1. (i) We say that f guesses $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ -filters if f is a function

$$f: \omega_1 \rightarrow H_{\omega_1}$$

and for all $\alpha < \omega_1$, $f(\alpha)$ is a $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1) \cap \alpha$ -filter⁶.

(ii) Suppose $\theta \geq \omega_2$ is regular and $X < H_\theta$ is an elementary substructure. We say X is f -slim⁷ if

(X.i) X is countable,

(X.ii) $f, \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1) \in X$ and

(X.iii) $f(\delta^X)$ is $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1) \cap \delta^X$ -generic over M_X .

⁵For $S \subseteq \omega_1$ and I an ideal on ω_1 , $[S]_I$ denotes the equivalence class of S induced by the equivalence relation $T \sim T' \Leftrightarrow T \Delta T' \in I$.

⁶We consider the empty set to be a filter.

⁷We use the adjective “slim” for the following reason: An f -slim $X < H_\theta$ cannot be too fat compared to its height below ω_1 , i.e. δ^X . If $X \sqsubseteq Y < H_\theta$ and Y is f -slim then X is f -slim as well, but the converse can fail.

Definition 3.2. $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ states that there is a function f so that

- (i) f guesses $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ -filters and
- (ii) for any $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ and regular $\theta \geq \omega_2$

$$\{X < H_\theta \mid X \text{ is } f\text{-slim} \wedge b \in f(\delta^X)\}$$

is stationary in $[H_\theta]^\omega$.

$\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ is the strengthening of $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ where (ii) is replaced by:

- (ii)⁺ For any regular $\theta \geq \omega_2$

$$\{X < H_\theta \mid X \text{ is } f\text{-slim}\}$$

contains a club of $[H_\theta]^\omega$. Moreover, for any $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$

$$\{\alpha < \omega_1 \mid b \in f(\alpha)\}$$

is stationary.

We say that f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$, $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ respectively.

We introduce some convenient shorthand notation.

Definition 3.3. If f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ then

$$S_b^f := \{\alpha < \omega_1 \mid b \in f(\alpha)\}.$$

If f is clear from context we will sometimes omit the superscript f .

Note that if f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$, then S_b^f is stationary for all $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$. This is made explicit for $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. This is exactly the technical strengthening over Woodin's original definition of $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$, $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$.

Definition 3.4. If f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and \mathbb{P} is a forcing, we say that \mathbb{P} preserves f if whenever G is \mathbb{P} -generic then f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ in $V[G]$.

We remark that if f witnesses $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ then “ \mathbb{P} preserves f ” still only means that f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ in $V^{\mathbb{P}}$.

Next, we define a variant of stationary sets related to a witness of $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. Suppose $\theta \geq \omega_2$ is regular. Then $S \subseteq \omega_1$ is stationary iff for any club $\mathcal{C} \subseteq [H_\theta]^\omega$, there is some $X \in \mathcal{C}$ with $\delta^X \in S$. f -stationarity results from restricting to f -slim $X < H_\theta$ only.

Definition 3.5. Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$.

- (i) A subset $S \subseteq \omega_1$ is f -stationary iff whenever $\theta \geq \omega_2$ is regular and $\mathcal{C} \subseteq [H_\theta]^\omega$ is club then there is some f -slim $X \in \mathcal{C}$ with $\delta^X \in S$.

- (ii) A forcing \mathbb{P} preserves f -stationary sets iff any f -stationary set is still f -stationary in $V^{\mathbb{P}}$.

Note that all f -stationary sets are stationary, but the converse might fail. f -stationary sets are the correct replacement of stationary set in our context.

We mention a few basic facts about $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ which are all essentially due to Woodin [Woo10], although he did not use the notion of f -stationary sets explicitly.

Proposition 3.6. *Suppose f guesses $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ -filters. The following are equivalent for any set $S \subseteq \omega_1$:*

- (i) S is f -stationary.
- (ii) Whenever $\langle D_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$ is a sequence of dense subsets of $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$, the set

$$\{\alpha \in S \mid \forall \beta < \alpha \ f(\alpha) \cap D_\beta \neq \emptyset\}$$

is stationary.

Proposition 3.7. *Suppose f guesses $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ -filters. The following are equivalent:*

- (i) f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$.
- (ii) S_b^f is f -stationary for all $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$.
- (iii) For any $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ and sequence $\langle D_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$ of dense subsets of $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$,

$$\{\alpha \in S_b^f \mid \forall \beta < \alpha \ f(\alpha) \cap D_\beta \neq \emptyset\}$$

is stationary.

Proof. The equivalence of (i) and (ii) follows from the definitions. (ii) and (iii) are equivalent by the equivalent formulation of f -stationarity provided by Proposition 3.6. \square

We mention a handy corollary.

Corollary 3.8. *Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. Any forcing preserving f -stationary sets preserves f .*

Proposition 3.9. *Suppose f guesses $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ -filters. The following are equivalent:*

- (i) f witnesses $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$.
- (ii) For any $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$, S_b^f is stationary and all stationary sets are f -stationary.

(iii) If D is dense in $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ then

$$\{\alpha < \omega_1 \mid f(\alpha) \cap D \neq \emptyset\}$$

contains a club and for all $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$, S_b^f is stationary.

(iv) All countable $X < H_\theta$ with $f \in X$ and $\theta \geq \omega_2$ regular are f -slim and moreover for all $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$, S_b^f is stationary.

We will now give a natural equivalent formulation of $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. Witnesses of $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ are simply codes for regular embeddings⁸ of $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ into $\text{NS}_{\omega_1}^+$.

Lemma 3.10. *The following are equivalent:*

(i) $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$.

(ii) There is a regular embedding $\eta: \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)/\text{NS}_{\omega_1})^+$.

The argument above suggests the following definition.

Definition 3.11. Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. We define

$$\eta_f: \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)/\text{NS}_{\omega_1})^+$$

by $b \mapsto [S_b^f]_{\text{NS}_{\omega_1}}$ and call η_f the *embedding associated to f* .

Definition 3.12. Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. NS_f is the ideal of f -nonstationary sets, that is

$$\text{NS}_f = \{N \subseteq \omega_1 \mid N \text{ is not } f\text{-stationary}\}.$$

Lemma 3.13. *Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. NS_f is a normal uniform ideal.*

To each witness f of $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$, one can associate a version of semiproperness.

Definition 3.14. (i) Let θ be a sufficiently large regular cardinal and $X < H_\theta$ f -slim with $\mathbb{P} \in X$. A condition $q \in \mathbb{P}$ is $(X, \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1), f)$ -semigeneric if q is $(X, \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1))$ -semigeneric and

$$q \Vdash \text{“}\check{X}[\dot{G}] \text{ is } f\text{-slim”}$$

(ii) \mathbb{P} is f -semiproper if for any sufficiently large regular θ and any f -slim $X < H_\theta$ with $\mathbb{P} \in X$ as well as all $p \in \mathbb{P} \cap X$ there is $q \leq p$ that is (X, \mathbb{P}, f) -semigeneric.

An f -semiproper forcing \mathbb{P} need not preserve stationary sets, however it will preserve f -stationary sets as f -stationary sets and hence f will still witness $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ in $V^{\mathbb{P}}$.

However, just as for semiproperness, f -semiproper forcings can be iterated.

Theorem 3.15 (Lietz, [Lie23]). *Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. Any nice iteration of f -semiproper forcings is f -semiproper.*

We refer to [Miy02] for the definition of nice iterations. For all intents and purposes, nice iterations can be replaced by RCS iterations here.

⁸Regular embeddings, also known as complete embeddings, are embeddings between partial orders which preserve maximal antichains.

4 A Forcing Axiom That Implies “NS $_{\omega_1}$ Is ω_1 -Dense”

We formulate a forcing axiom that implies $\mathbb{Q}_{\max^-}(\ast)$. We go on and show that it can be forced from a supercompact limit of supercompact cardinals.

4.1 Q-Maximum

Definition 4.1. Q-Maximum, denoted QM, holds if there is a witness f of $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and FA(Γ) holds where

$$\Gamma = \{\mathbb{P} \mid \mathbb{P} \text{ preserves } f\} = \{\mathbb{P} \mid \forall p \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1) S_p^f \in (\text{NS}_f^+)^{V^{\mathbb{P}}}\}.$$

We remark that the consistency of QM is a subtle matter, for example any “++”-version of QM would be inconsistent. It is however relevant to our purposes.

Lemma 4.2. *If f witnesses QM then η_f is a dense embedding. In particular, NS $_{\omega_1}$ is ω_1 -dense.*

Proof. Suppose $S \subseteq \omega_1$ is so that

$$S_p^f \not\subseteq S \pmod{\text{NS}_{\omega_1}}$$

for all $p \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$. Let \mathbb{P} be the canonical forcing that shoots a club through $T := \omega_1 - S$. That is $p \in \mathbb{P}$ iff $p \subseteq T$ is closed and bounded and $p \leq q$ iff q is an initial segment of p .

Claim 4.3. \mathbb{P} preserves f .

Proof. Let $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$, we have to show that S_b^f is f -stationary in $V^{\mathbb{P}}$. Let $p \in \mathbb{P}$, \dot{C} a \mathbb{P} -name for a club and $\langle \dot{D}_i \mid i < \omega_1 \rangle$ a sequence of \mathbb{P} -names for dense subsets of $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$. We will find $q \leq p$ with

$$q \Vdash \exists \xi \in \dot{C} \cap S_b^f \forall i < \xi \check{f}(\xi) \cap \dot{D}_i \neq \emptyset. \quad (q)$$

Let θ be large and regular. Note that MM(f) holds and hence f witnesses $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. As $T \cap S_b^f$ is stationary, $T \cap S_b^f$ is f -stationary and we can find some $X < H_\theta$ with

- (X.i) X is f -slim,
- (X.ii) $\mathbb{P}, p, \dot{C}, \langle \dot{D}_i \mid i < \omega_1 \rangle \in X$ and
- (X.iii) $\delta^X \in T \cap S_b^f$.

Now find a decreasing sequence $\langle p_n \mid n < \omega \rangle$ with

$$(\vec{p}.i) \ p_0 = p,$$

($\vec{p}.ii$) $\forall n < \omega$ $p_n \in \mathbb{P} \cap X$ and

($\vec{p}.iii$) for all $D \in M_X[f(\delta^X)]$ dense in $\pi_X^1(\mathbb{P})$, there is $n < \omega$ with $p_n \in \pi_X[D]$.

Set $q = \bigcup_{n < \omega} p_n \cup \{\delta^X\}$ and note that $q \in \mathbb{P}$ as $\delta^X \in T$. It is clear that q is (X, \mathbb{P}, f) -semigeneric so that if G is \mathbb{P} -generic with $q \in G$ then

$$\forall i < \delta^X = \delta^{X[G]} \quad f(\delta^X) \cap \dot{D}_i^G \neq \emptyset$$

as well as $\delta^X \in \dot{C}^G \cap S_b^f$. Thus q indeed satisfies (q). \square

Thus $\text{FA}(\{\mathbb{P}\})$ holds. This implies that if G is \mathbb{P} -generic then

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \epsilon)^V <_{\Sigma_1} (H_{\omega_2}; \epsilon)^{V[G]}$$

and as T contains a club in $V[G]$, this must already be true in V . This means S is nonstationary which is what we had to show. \square

We will prove eventually that QM can be forced from large cardinals.

Theorem 4.4. *Suppose there is a supercompact limit of supercompact cardinals. Then QM holds in a forcing extension by stationary set preserving forcing.*

4.2 Q-iterations

Our strategy to force QM, or “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense” for that matter has to make use of an iteration theorem that allows us to iterate essentially arbitrary f -preserving forcings for a witness f of $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ so that f is preserved. We have proven in [Lie23] a more general version of the following theorem.

Theorem 4.5 (Lietz, [Lie23]). *Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and $\mathbb{P} = \langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha, \dot{Q}_\beta \mid \alpha \leq \gamma, \beta < \gamma \rangle$ is a nice iteration of f -preserving forcings. Suppose that*

($\mathbb{P}.i$) $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_{\alpha+2}}$ SRP for all $\alpha + 2 \leq \gamma$ and

($\mathbb{P}.ii$) $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha}$ “ \dot{Q}_α preserves f -stationary sets from $\bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} V[\dot{G}_\beta]$ ”.

Then \mathbb{P} preserves f .

The immediate problem is that ($\mathbb{P}.ii$) puts an undesired additional requirement on the forcings we want to iterate. Luckily, there is a small trick to still get away with this: Note that an f -preserving forcing must preserve the f -stationarity of the set S_b^f for $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$. Suppose that at all successor steps, we arrange that any f -stationary set from the previous extension contains some S_b^f modulo a non-stationary set. Now at a limit step, suddenly every f -preserving forcing will satisfy requirement ($\mathbb{P}.ii$). As ($\mathbb{P}.i$) does not ask anything of us at limit steps either, we are free to use any f -preserving forcing we desire at limit steps.

Definition 4.6. Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. We say that a forcing \mathbb{P} *freezes* NS_{ω_1} along f if for any \mathbb{P} -generic G we have

- (i) f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ in $V[G]$ and
- (ii) for any $S \in \mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \cap V$, we either have $S \in \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^{V[G]}$ or there is $p \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ with $S_p^f \subseteq S \pmod{\text{NS}_{\omega_1}^{V[G]}}$.

We hope to have motivated the following definition.

Definition 4.7. Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. A Q -iteration (w.r.t. f) is a nice iteration $\mathbb{P} = \langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha, \dot{Q}_\beta \mid \alpha \leq \gamma, \beta < \gamma \rangle$ which satisfies

- (i) $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha} \text{“}\dot{Q}_\alpha \text{ preserves } f\text{”}$,
- (ii) $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_{\alpha+1}} (\ddagger)$ and
- (iii) if $\alpha + 1 < \gamma$ then $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_{\alpha+1}} \text{“}\dot{Q}_{\alpha+1} \text{ freezes } \text{NS}_{\omega_1} \text{ along } f\text{”}$

for all $\alpha < \gamma$.

As an immediate consequence of Theorem 4.5, we get the following “iteration theorem”.

Theorem 4.8. *Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. All Q -iterations (w.r.t. f) preserve f .*

Provided we find enough forcings which allow us to continue a Q -iteration up to a supercompact cardinal, we are able to force QM. To be precise, we will prove the following two lemmas.

Lemma 4.9. *Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$, there is a Woodin cardinal and V is closed under $X \mapsto M_1^\sharp(X)$. Then there is a f -preserving forcing which freezes NS_{ω_1} along f .*

Lemma 4.10. *Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and there is a supercompact cardinal. Then there is an f -preserving forcing \mathbb{P} with $V^\mathbb{P} \models \text{SRP}$.*

We can show this right away.

Proof. The same construction which forces SRP via semiproper forcing from a supercompact cardinal can be used. A small change in the proof gives that any forcing for an instance of SRP is not only semiproper, but also f -semiproper. Now use Theorem 3.15 instead of Shelah’s iteration theorem for semiproper forcings and do a nice iteration instead of a RCS iteration. \square

We will eventually prove Lemma 4.9 in the next section. The basic idea is to use a version of the Asperó-Schindler $(*)$ -forcing with \mathbb{P}_{\max} replaced by \mathbb{Q}_{\max} . However, we will run into a number of problems we need to solve first.

5 Blueprints for Instances of “ $\text{MM}^{++} \Rightarrow (*)$ ”

We modify the $(*)$ -forcing method of Asperó-Schindler in a way that allows us to prove a variety of instances of $\text{MM}^{++} \Rightarrow (*)$, though our main interest lies in Lemma 4.9.

Definition 5.1. Let $\mathbb{P} \in L(\mathbb{R})$ be a forcing. \mathbb{P} - $(*)$ asserts that AD holds in $L(\mathbb{R})$ and there is a filter $g \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ with

- (i) g is \mathbb{P} -generic over $L(\mathbb{R})$ and
- (ii) $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \subseteq L(\mathbb{R})[g]$.

$(*)$ is \mathbb{P}_{\max} - $(*)$. \mathbb{P}_{\max} is the most prominent of a number of similar forcing notions defined and analyzed by Woodin in [Woo10]. A central notion to all of them is that of a generically iterable structure.

Definition 5.2. Suppose the following holds:

- (M.i) $(M; \in, I)$ is a countable transitive model of (sufficiently much of) ZFC where I is allowed as a class parameter in the schemes.
- (M.ii) $(M; \in, I) \models$ “ I is a normal uniform ideal on ω_1 ”.
- (M.iii) $a_0, \dots, a_n \in M$.

In this case, we call (M, I, a_0, \dots, a_n) a *potentially iterable structure*. A *generic iteration* of (M, I, a_0, \dots, a_n) is a sequence

$$\langle (M_\alpha, I_\alpha, a_{0,\alpha}, \dots, a_{n,\alpha}), \mu_{\alpha,\beta} \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma \rangle$$

with

- $(M_0, I_0) = (M, I)$,
- $a_{i,\alpha} = \mu_{0,\alpha}(a_i)$ for $i \leq n$,
- $\mu_{\alpha,\alpha+1}: (M_\alpha; \in, I_\alpha) \rightarrow (M_{\alpha+1}; \in, I_{\alpha+1})$ is a generic ultrapower of M_α w.r.t I_α and
- if $\alpha \in \text{Lim}$ then

$$\langle (M_\alpha; \in, I_\alpha), \mu_{\beta,\alpha} \mid \beta < \alpha \rangle = \varinjlim \langle (M_\beta; \in, I_\beta), M_{\beta,\xi} \mid \beta \leq \xi < \alpha \rangle$$

for all $\alpha \leq \gamma$. (M, I, a_0, \dots, a_n) is a generically iterable structure if all (countable) generic iterations of (M, I, a_0, \dots, a_n) produce wellfounded models. Note that this only depends on (M, I) and that we do not require $I \in M$.

Remark 5.3. A generic iteration $\langle (M_\alpha, I_\alpha, a_{0,\alpha}, \dots, a_{n,\alpha}), \mu_{\alpha,\beta} \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma \rangle$ can be read off from the final map $\mu_{0,\gamma}: M_0 \rightarrow M_\gamma$, so we will frequently identify one with the other. We also reserve the right to call generic iterations simply iterations.

Definition 5.4. \mathbb{P}_{\max} -conditions are generically iterable structures (M, I, a) with $a \in \mathcal{P}(\omega_1)^M$ and $M \models \omega_1^{L[a]} = \omega_1$. \mathbb{P}_{\max} is ordered by $q = (N, J, b) <_{\mathbb{P}_{\max}} p$ iff there is a generic iteration

$$\mu: p \rightarrow p^* = (M^*, I^*, a^*)$$

of length $\omega_1^q + 1$ in q so that

$(<_{\mathbb{P}_{\max}} .i)$ $I^* = J \cap M^*$ and

$(<_{\mathbb{P}_{\max}} .ii)$ $a^* = b$.

There are a number of ways this definition can be varied, leading to different partial orders. We will work with such variants in a general context.

5.1 \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations and the \mathbb{V}_{\max} -multiverse view

Definition 5.5. A \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation is a nonempty projective preorder $(\mathbb{V}_{\max}, \leq_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}})$ with the following properties:

$(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.i)$ Conditions in \mathbb{V}_{\max} are generically iterable structures (M, I, a_0, \dots, a_n) for some fixed $n = n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$ ⁹.

$(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.ii)$ There is a first order formula $\varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$ in the language¹⁰ $\{\in, \dot{I}, \dot{a}_0, \dots, \dot{a}_n\}$ so that $q = (N, J, b_0, \dots, b_n) <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} (M, I, a_0, \dots, a_n)$ iff there is a generic iteration

$$j: p \rightarrow p^* = (M^*, I^*, a_0^*, \dots, a_n^*)$$

in N of length $\omega_1^N + 1$ with

$$(N; \in, J, b_0, \dots, b_n) \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(p^*).$$

$(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.iii)$ If $\mu: p \rightarrow p^*$ witnesses $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$ and $\sigma: q \rightarrow q^*$ witnesses $r <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} q$ then $\sigma(\mu): p \rightarrow \sigma(p^*)$ witnesses $r <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$.

$(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.iv)$ Suppose (M, I) is generically iterable, $j: (M, I) \rightarrow (M^*, I^*)$ is a generic iteration of (M, I) of countable length and $a_0, \dots, a_n \in M$. Then

$$(M, I, a_0, \dots, a_n) \in \mathbb{V}_{\max} \Leftrightarrow (M^*, I^*, j(a_0), \dots, j(a_n)) \in \mathbb{V}_{\max}.$$

$(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.v)$ \mathbb{V}_{\max} has no minimal conditions.

We always consider \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations as a class defined by a projective formula, rather than the set itself. So if we mention \mathbb{V}_{\max} in, e.g. a forcing extension of V , then we mean the evaluation of the projective formula in that model¹¹.

⁹Of course, not all structures of this form are necessarily conditions.

¹⁰When dealing with \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations, we stick to the convention that capitalized symbols are unary predicates symbols which are lower case are constants.

¹¹In practice this extension will be projectively absolute so it does not matter which projective formula we choose. Also all the variations we consider will have a Π_2^1 -definition.

Remark 5.6. Typically, $\varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$ dictates e.g. one or more of the following:

- $a_0^* = b_0, \dots, a_n^* = b_n$.
- $I^* = J \cap M^*$.
- Some first order property is absolute between M^* and N .

We want to relate forcing axioms to star axioms of the form $\mathbb{V}_{\max}\text{-}(\ast)$ for \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations \mathbb{V}_{\max} . To explain this relationship heuristically we present the \mathbb{V}_{\max} -Multiverse View:

Suppose \mathbb{V}_{\max} is a \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation (with $n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} = 0$ for convenience) and

- $V = (V_\kappa)^\mathcal{V}$ for some large cardinal κ in some larger model \mathcal{V} and
- there are a proper class of Woodin cardinals both in V and \mathcal{V} .

We will take the point of view of $\mathcal{V}^{\text{Col}(\omega, \kappa)}$. Note that our assumptions imply generic projective absoluteness (and more) in \mathcal{V} , in particular \mathbb{V}_{\max} is a \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation also in $\mathcal{V}^{\text{Col}(\omega, \kappa)}$ and $\mathbb{V}_{\max}^W = \mathbb{V}_{\max} \cap W$ for any generic extension of V . Pick some $\vec{A} = (A_0, \dots, A_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}}) \in H_{\omega_2}^V$. Let $\mathcal{M}(V)$ denote the closure of V under generic extensions and grounds containing \vec{A} . Points $W \in \mathcal{M}(V)$ may be considered as \mathbb{V}_{\max} -conditions if

$$(W, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^W, A_0, \dots, A_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}}) \in \mathbb{V}_{\max}.$$

In this case we identify W with this condition. In practice, this can only reasonably hold if $\omega_1^W = \omega_1^V$ so we make this an explicit condition. The \mathbb{V}_{\max} -multiverse of V (w.r.t. \vec{A}) is

$$\mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(V) = \{W \in \mathcal{M}(V) \mid W \in \mathbb{V}_{\max} \wedge \omega_1^W = \omega_1^V\}.$$

If we \vec{A} picked with sufficient care then $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(V)$ should be nonempty. If $W[G]$ is a generic extension of W , both in $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(V)$, then it is a good extension if

$$W[G] \leq_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} W.$$

Here, $p \leq_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} q$ means $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} \check{q} \in \dot{G}$. The existence of a proper class of Woodin cardinals in V should guarantee that $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(V)$ reversely ordered by good extensions is “as rich as” \mathbb{V}_{\max} .

In this sense, iterated forcing along good extensions corresponds to building descending sequences in \mathbb{V}_{\max} . In practice, \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations are σ -closed. From this point of view, σ -closure of \mathbb{V}_{\max} becomes roughly equivalent to a forcing iteration theorem: If

$$\langle W[G_\alpha] \mid \alpha < \gamma \rangle$$

is a chain of good extensions $W[G_\alpha] \subseteq W[G_\beta]$ of points

$$W[G_\alpha], W[G_\beta] \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(V), \alpha \leq \beta < \gamma \in V$$

then this constitutes a countable decreasing chain¹² in \mathbb{V}_{\max} in $\mathcal{V}^{\text{Col}(\omega, \kappa)}$. σ -closure of \mathbb{V}_{\max} suggests that there should be a further point

$$W[G_\gamma] \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(V)$$

below all $W[G_\alpha]$, $\alpha < \gamma$. Thus the “forcing iteration along $\langle W[G_\alpha] \mid \alpha < \gamma \rangle$ ” preserves ω_1 and enough structure to be able to be extended to a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition below all $W[G_\alpha]$ without collapsing ω_1 .

We should be able to find points satisfying \mathbb{V}_{\max} - $(*)$ by constructing “closure points” $W \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(V)$ of sufficiently generic $\leq_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$ -decreasing sequences

$$\langle W_\alpha \mid \alpha < \gamma \rangle$$

in $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(V)$. To make that precise, we want:

$$\text{If } D \in L(\mathbb{R})^W \text{ is dense open in } \mathbb{V}_{\max}^W \text{ then } W_\alpha \in D^* \text{ for some } \alpha < \gamma. \quad (\star)$$

Here, D^* is the reinterpretation of the universally Baire D in $\mathcal{V}^{\text{Col}(\omega, \kappa)}$. The degree of closure of $W \in \mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(V)$ under this procedure is measured by

$$g^W = \{p \in \mathbb{V}_{\max} \mid W <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p\}$$

which should be a filter if W is “sufficiently closed”. g^W can be defined in W via

$$g^W = \{p \in \mathbb{V}_{\max} \mid \exists \mu: p \rightarrow p^* \text{ of length } \omega_1 + 1 \text{ with } \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(p^*)\}^W$$

if \mathbb{V}_{\max} has unique iterations.

Definition 5.7. \mathbb{V}_{\max} has unique iterations if whenever $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$ then there is a unique generic iteration of p witnessing this.

Under reasonable assumptions, (\star) implies that g^W is generic over $L(\mathbb{R})^W$. Finally, an additional property¹³ like $W \models$ “ NS_{ω_1} is saturated” should imply $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)^W \subseteq L(\mathbb{R})^W[g^W]$.

Taking a step back, forcing a forcing axiom related to good extensions via iterated forcing looks like it should produce such sequences $\langle W_\alpha \mid \alpha < \gamma \rangle$ with (\star) and NS_{ω_1} saturated in W , so \mathbb{V}_{\max} - $(*)$ should follow from such a forcing axiom. On the other hand, W looks like an endpoint of an iteration liberally incorporating forcings leading to good extensions: For $\alpha < \gamma$, if $D \in L(\mathbb{R})^{W_\alpha}$ is dense open in $\mathbb{V}_{\max}^{W_\alpha}$ then D^* is dense open in the full \mathbb{V}_{\max} . D^* can also be considered as a dense subset of $\mathcal{M}_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(V)$. As $D^* \cap \mathbb{V}_{\max}^W \in L(\mathbb{R})^W$, by (\star) , there will be some later $\alpha \leq \beta < \gamma$ with $W_\beta \in D^*$. Thus one might expect a forcing axiom to hold at W . This suggest that \mathbb{V}_{\max} should in fact be *equivalent* to a forcing axiom related to good extensions. The consistency of this forcing axiom should

¹²Note that the size of γ in V does not matter here.

¹³Often, simply $(\neg\text{CH})^W$ is enough. Woodin [Woo] (see also [Sch]) has shown that if $\text{AD}^{L(\mathbb{R})}$ holds, there is a filter $g \subseteq \mathbb{P}_{\max}$ generic over $L(\mathbb{R})$ and CH fails then g witnesses $(*)$.

follow from the iteration theorem suggested by the σ -closure of \mathbb{V}_{\max} . If we look at the case $\mathbb{V}_{\max} = \mathbb{P}_{\max}$ and let A be some subset of ω_1 so that $\omega_1^{L[A]} = \omega_1^V$ then stationary set preserving extensions are exactly the generic extensions intermediate to a good extension. The \mathbb{P}_{\max} -Multiverse View is roughly correct in the sense that:

- (Woodin) \mathbb{P}_{\max} is σ -closed assuming $\text{AD}^{L(\mathbb{R})}$.
- (Shelah) Semiproper forcings can be iterated and the class of stationary set preserving forcings and semiproper forcings coincide under MM.
- (Asperó-Schindler) If there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals then

$$(*) \Leftrightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \cap L(\mathbb{R}))\text{-BMM}^{++}.$$

The rest of this section distills this heuristic into rigorous mathematics that relates more \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations to forcing axioms. We will assume (two-step) generic absoluteness in this section, though this is not fully necessary. Note that in this case, if \mathbb{V}_{\max} is a \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation then we have

$$V^{\mathbb{P}} \models \text{“}\mathbb{V}_{\max} \text{ is a } \mathbb{P}_{\max}\text{-variation”}$$

in any generic extension $V^{\mathbb{P}}$, where \mathbb{V}_{\max} is to be understood as defined by a projective formula. Usually, \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations are Π_2^1 .

We will from now on work with some fixed \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation \mathbb{V}_{\max} and assume $n_{\max}^{\mathbb{V}} = 0$ to ease notation.

Definition 5.8. We say that a structure \mathcal{H} is *almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition* if

$$V^{\text{Col}(\omega, \mathcal{H})} \models \check{\mathcal{H}} \in \mathbb{V}_{\max}.$$

For $A \in H_{\omega_2}$, \mathcal{H}_A denotes the structure:

$$\mathcal{H}_A := (H_{\omega_2}, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A)$$

Suppose that for some fixed $A \in H_{\omega_2}$ we have that $\mathcal{H} := \mathcal{H}_A$ is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition. We may define

$$g_A = \{p \in \mathbb{V}_{\max} \mid V^{\text{Col}(\omega, 2^{\omega_1})} \models \mathcal{H} \lessdot_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p\}.$$

Our goal is to show that g_A witnesses \mathbb{V}_{\max} - $(*)$ under favorable circumstances. At the very least, it should be a filter.

Proposition 5.9. *Suppose g_A meets all projective dense $D \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$. Then g_A is a filter.*

Proof. It is easy to see that if $q \lessdot_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$ and $q \in g_A$ then $p \in g_A$. So assume $p, q \in g_A$ and we have to find some $r \in g_A$ with $r \lessdot_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p, q$. Consider

$$D = \{r \in \mathbb{V}_{\max} \mid r \lessdot_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p, q \vee r \perp p \vee r \perp q\}$$

and note that D is a projective dense subset of \mathbb{V}_{\max} , so by assumption we can find some $r \in D \cap g_A$. Now in $V^{\text{Col}(\omega, 2^{\omega_1})}$ we have $r, p, q \lessdot_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} \mathcal{H}$ and thus r is compatible with both p and q . By generic absoluteness, this is true in V as well so that $r \lessdot_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p, q$ as $r \in D$. \square

Even assuming that g_A is a fully generic over $L(\mathbb{R})$, we still have to arrange $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \subseteq L(\mathbb{R})[g_A]$.

Definition 5.10. Suppose that

- (i) $g \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ is a filter,
- (ii) $p \in g$ and
- (iii) $\langle p_\alpha, \mu_{\alpha, \beta} \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma \rangle$ is a generic iteration of $p_0 = p$.

Then we say that $\langle p_\alpha, \mu_{\alpha, \beta} \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma \rangle$ is guided by g if $p_\alpha \in g$ for all countable $\alpha \leq \gamma$.

Lemma 5.11. *Suppose \mathbb{V}_{\max} has unique iterations and $g \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ is a filter meeting all projective dense $D \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$. For any $p \in g$ and any $\gamma \leq \omega_1$, there is a unique iteration*

$$\langle p_\alpha, \mu_{\alpha, \beta} \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma \rangle$$

of $p_0 = p$ of length $\gamma + 1$ guided by g .

Proof. First, we prove existence for all $\gamma < \omega_1$.

Claim 5.12. *There is $q \in g$ with $\omega_1^q > \gamma$.*

Proof. Let $D = \{q \in \mathbb{V}_{\max} \mid \omega_1^q > \gamma\}$. Clearly, D is projective and we will show that D is dense. Let $q \in \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ and using $(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.v)$, find $r <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} q$ as witnessed by

$$\sigma: q \rightarrow q^*.$$

Now let

$$\nu: r \rightarrow r^*$$

be any generic iteration of r of length $\gamma + 2$, consequently $\omega_1^{r^*} > \gamma$. We have $r^* \in \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ by $(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.iv)$. Note that the iteration $\nu \circ \sigma$ witnesses $r^* <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} q$. Again applying $(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.v)$, there is $s <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} r^*$ and thus $s <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} q$ and $s \in D$. Thus $g \cap D \neq \emptyset$. \square

As g is a filter, we can find $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$ with $\omega_1^q > \gamma$. Thus if $\mu: p \rightarrow p^*$ witnesses this then μ is an iteration

$$\langle p_{\alpha, \beta}, \mu_{\alpha, \beta} \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \omega_1^q \rangle$$

of length $\omega_1^q + 1 > \gamma + 1$ by $(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.ii)$.

Claim 5.13. $\langle p_{\alpha, \beta}, \mu_{\alpha, \beta} \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma \rangle$ is guided by g .

Proof. Let $\alpha \leq \gamma$. Then μ_{α, ω_1^q} is an iteration of length $\omega_1^q + 1$ in q and $q \Vdash \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(p_{\omega_1^q})$, thus $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p_\alpha$ and $p_\alpha \in g$. \square

Next we prove uniqueness. By proceeding by induction on $\gamma \leq \omega_1$, it is in fact enough to verify the case $\gamma = 1$. Suppose that $\mu_i: p \rightarrow p_i^*$ is a generic ultrapower of p with $p_i^* \in g$ for $i < 2$. As g is a filter and by $(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.v)$, there is $q \in g$ with $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p_i^*$ as witnessed by some

$$\mu_i^*: p_i^* \rightarrow p_i^{**}$$

for $i < 2$ as well as $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$ as witnessed by

$$\mu: p \rightarrow p^{**}.$$

Let $i < 2$. We have that p, p_i^* are countable in q . As

“ p_i^* is a generic ultrapower of p ”

is a true $\Sigma_1^1(p, p_i^*)$ -statement, it is true in q as well. Thus there is a generic ultrapower

$$\mu'_i: p \rightarrow p_i^*$$

in q . Both $\mu, \mu_i^* \circ \mu'_i$ witness $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$ and as \mathbb{V}_{\max} has unique iterations, $\mu = \mu_i^* \circ \mu'_i$. It follows that $p_0^* = p_1^*$.

Claim 5.14. $\mu_0^* = \mu_1^*$.

Proof. Assume this fails, then

“There are distinct generic ultrapower maps $p \rightarrow p_0^*$ ”

is another true $\Sigma_1^1(p, p_0^*)$ -statement which accordingly must hold in q . Thus there is a generic ultrapower map $\mu''_0: p \rightarrow p_0^*$ in q different from μ'_0 . But then both $\mu_0^* \circ \mu'_0$ and $\mu_0^* \circ \mu''_0$ witness $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$, which contradicts that \mathbb{V}_{\max} has unique iterations. \square

Finally, existence of a generic iteration of p of length $\omega_1 + 1$ guided by g follows from existence and uniqueness of generic iterations of p guided by g of any countable length. \square

This suggests the following definition:

Definition 5.15. Suppose \mathbb{V}_{\max} is a \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation with unique iterations and $g \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ is a filter. For $p \in g$, the g -iteration of p is the unique generic iteration of p of length $\omega_1 + 1$ that is guided by g (if it exists).

Corollary 5.16. *Suppose that*

- (i) AD holds in $L(\mathbb{R})$,
- (ii) \mathbb{V}_{\max} has unique iterations,
- (iii) \mathcal{H}_A is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition,
- (iv) $g_A \cap D \neq \emptyset$ for all dense $D \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$, $D \in L(\mathbb{R})$ and

(v) $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) = \bigcup \{ \mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \cap p^* \mid p \in g_A \wedge \mu: p \rightarrow p^* \text{ is guided by } g_A \}$.

Then \mathbb{V}_{\max} - $(*)$ holds and g_A witnesses this.

Proof. g_A is a filter by Proposition 5.9 and thus $L(\mathbb{R})$ -generic by assumption. To see that $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \subseteq L(\mathbb{R})[g_A]$, notice that for any $p \in g_A$, $L(\mathbb{R})$ knows of all countable generic iterations of p . Hence, $L(\mathbb{R})[g_A]$ can piece together the g_A -iteration of p from the countable iterations of p that are guided by g_A . $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \subseteq L(\mathbb{R})[g_A]$ now follows immediately from (v). \square

The biggest obstacle by far is to get into a situation where $g_A \cap D \neq \emptyset$ for all dense $D \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$, $D \in L(\mathbb{R})$. The main idea is:

Lemma 5.17. *Suppose that all of the following hold:*

- (i) $D \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ is dense.
- (ii) \mathcal{H}_A is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition.
- (iii) \mathbb{P} is a forcing and D is $|\mathbb{P}|$ -universally Baire.
- (iv) In $V^{\mathbb{P}}$ there is $q \in D^*$ and an iteration $\sigma: q \rightarrow q^*$ with

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A)^{V^{\mathbb{P}}} \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(q^*).$$

(v) Γ is a set of formulas in the language $\{\in, \dot{I}, \dot{a}, \dot{D}\}$ so that

- (Γ .i) $\varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} \in \Gamma$,
- (Γ .ii) $\Sigma_0 \subseteq \Gamma$, where Σ_0 is computed in the language $\{\in, \dot{D}\}$ and
- (Γ .iii) Γ is closed under \exists and \wedge .

(vi) $(H_{\omega_2}; \in, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A, D)^V \prec_{\Gamma} (H_{\omega_2}; \in, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A, D^*)^{V^{\mathbb{P}}}$.

Then $g_A \cap D \neq \emptyset$.

If additionally

(vii) $H_{\omega_2}^V \subseteq q^*$

then $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) = \bigcup \{ \mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \cap p^* \mid p \in g_A \wedge \mu: p \rightarrow p^* \text{ is guided by } g_A \}$.

Proof. Observe that $(H_{\omega_2}; \in) \prec_{\Sigma_1} (H_{\omega_2}; \in)^{V^{\mathbb{P}}}$ implies that \mathbb{P} preserves ω_1 . The statement

$$\exists q \in \dot{D} \exists \sigma: q \rightarrow q^* \text{ an iteration of length } \omega_1 + 1 \text{ and } \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(q^*)$$

is in Γ and thus is true in

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A, D)^V$$

as witnessed by some $p \in D$ and iteration $\mu: p \rightarrow p^*$. It follows that μ witnesses $\mathcal{H}_A <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} q$ in $V^{\text{Col}(\omega, 2^{\omega_1})}$ so that $p \in D \cap g_A$. Now assume (vii), it is our duty to show

$$\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) = \bigcup \{ \mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \cap p^* \mid p \in g_A \wedge \mu: p \rightarrow p^* \text{ is guided by } g_A \}.$$

Let $X \subseteq \omega_1$. As above,

$$\exists q \in \mathbb{V}_{\max} \exists \sigma: q \rightarrow q^* \text{ an iteration of length } \omega_1 + 1 \text{ and } \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(q^*) \wedge X \in q^*$$

reflects down to V . The iteration witnessing this in V is guided by g_A by the same argument that showed $p \in g_A$ above. \square

Condition (vi) is a typical consequence of a (bounded) forcing axiom. It is left to construct forcings \mathbb{P} with property (iv) to which hopefully a broad range of forcing axioms may apply.

5.2 Asperó-Schindler (*)-forcing

We describe the results of Asperó-Schindler[AS21]. Their results carry over to any \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation \mathbb{V}_{\max} though they were originally proven in the case of $\mathbb{V}_{\max} = \mathbb{P}_{\max}$. Suppose that

- (i) NS_{ω_1} is saturated,
- (ii) $A \in H_{\omega_2}$ is so that $\mathcal{H} = (H_{\omega_2}, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A)$ is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition and
- (iii) $D \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ is a 2^{ω_1} -universally Baire dense subset of \mathbb{V}_{\max} whose reinterpretation is still dense in extensions by forcings of size $\leq 2^{\omega_1}$, as witnessed by trees T, S with $D = p[T]$.

Asperó-Schindler construct a partial order $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}(\mathbb{V}_{\max}, A, D)$ so that in $V^{\mathbb{P}}$ the following picture

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & p[T] & & \\
 & & \Downarrow & & \\
 & & q_0 = (N, I, b) & \xrightarrow{\sigma_{0, \omega_1}} & q_{\omega_1} = (N^*, I^*, b) \\
 & & \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \\
 p_0 & \xrightarrow{\mu_{0, \omega_1^N}} & p_{\omega_1^N} & \xrightarrow{\mu_{\omega_1^N, \omega_1}} & p_{\omega_1} \\
 \cap & & & & \parallel \\
 \mathbb{V}_{\max} & & & & ((H_{\omega_2})^V, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^V, A) = \mathcal{H}
 \end{array}$$

exists so that

- ($\mathbb{P}.i$) $\mu_{0, \omega_1}, \sigma_{0, \omega_1}$ are generic iterations of p_0, q_0 respectively,
- ($\mathbb{P}.ii$) μ_{0, ω_1^N} witnesses $q_0 <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p_0$,
- ($\mathbb{P}.iii$) $\mu_{0, \omega_1} = \sigma_{0, \omega_1}(\mu_{0, \omega_1^N})$ and

($\mathbb{P}.iv$) the generic iteration $\sigma_{0,\omega_1} : q_0 \rightarrow q_{\omega_1}$ is *correct*, i.e. $I^* = \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^{V^{\mathbb{P}}} \cap N^*$.

If $\varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}((M, J, a))$ implies $J = \dot{I} \cap M$ then $\text{NS}_{\omega_1}^{p_{\omega_1}^N} = I \cap p_{\omega_1}^N$. This gets transported upwards along σ_{0,ω_1} and shows $\text{NS}_{\omega_1}^V = I^* \cap H_{\omega_2}^V$. Together with ($\mathbb{P}.iv$), this yields $\text{NS}_{\omega_1}^V = \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^{V^{\mathbb{P}}} \cap V$, i.e. \mathbb{P} preserves stationary sets. If MM^{++} holds in V then

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A, D)^V <_{\Sigma_1} (H_{\omega_2}; \in, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A, D^*)^{V^{\mathbb{P}}}$$

and it follows from Lemma 5.17 that $g_A \cap D \neq \emptyset$ (note that $\varphi^{\mathbb{P}_{\max}}((M, I, a))^{\text{“}} = I = \dot{I} \cap M \wedge a = \dot{a}$). This is how Asperó-Schindler prove $\text{MM}^{++} \Rightarrow (*)$.

An important observation is the following: To invoke a forcing axiom in the case of \mathbb{P} or variants thereof, typically \mathbb{P} needs to preserve certain structure, like stationary sets in the example above. This preservation is proven in two steps:

- (i) Preservation between q_{ω_1} and $V^{\mathbb{P}}$. This is governed by the iteration σ_{0,ω_1} having certain properties in $V^{\mathbb{P}}$, e.g. correctness.
- (ii) Preservation between p_{ω_1} and q_{ω_1} . This is governed by the nature of \mathbb{V}_{\max} , specifically the formula $\varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$.

We will modify the construction of \mathbb{P} and get a forcing \mathbb{P}^{\diamond} which strengthens ($\mathbb{P}.iv$) so that \mathbb{P}^{\diamond} can have a variety of preservation properties depending on the \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation \mathbb{V}_{\max} in question, for example

- preserving stationary sets as well as all Suslin trees or
- preserving a witness f of $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ ($\rightsquigarrow \text{QM} \Rightarrow \mathbb{Q}_{\max}-(*)$).

5.3 \diamond -iterations

We introduce the concept that is roughly the equivalent of \diamond -forcing in the world of generic iterations.

Definition 5.18. Suppose (N, I) is generically iterable. A generic iteration

$$\langle (N_i, I_i), \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle$$

of $(N, I) = (N_0, I_0)$ is a \diamond -iteration if for any

- (i) sequence $\langle D_i \mid i < \omega_1 \rangle$ of dense subsets of $((\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)/I_{\omega_1})^+)^{N_{\omega_1}}$ and
- (ii) $S \in \mathcal{P}(\omega_1)^{N_{\omega_1}} - I_{\omega_1}$

the set

$$\{\xi \in S \mid \forall i < \xi \ g_{\xi} \cap \sigma_{\xi, \omega_1}^{-1}[D_i] \neq \emptyset\}$$

is stationary. Here, g_{ξ} is the generic ultrafilter applied to N_{ξ} for $\xi < \omega_1$.

If (N, I) is generically iterable and \diamond holds then there is a \diamond -iteration of (N, I) . But this is not generally the case. Paul Larson noted that if (M, I) is generically iterable and

$$\langle M_\alpha, \mu_{\alpha, \beta} \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \omega_1 \rangle$$

is a *generic* generic iteration of $(M, I) = (M_0, I_0)$ of length ω_1 then this is a \diamond -iteration. By this we mean that this iteration has been constructed generically by forcing with countable approximations ordered by endextension.

Lemma 5.19. *Suppose*

$$\langle (N_i, I_i), \sigma_{i,j}, g_i \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle$$

is a \diamond -iteration. If

$$N_{\omega_1} \models \text{“}f \text{ witnesses } \diamond_{I_{\omega_1}}^+(\mathbb{B})\text{”}$$

then $I_{\omega_1} = \text{NS}_f \cap N_{\omega_1}$. In particular, f witnesses $\diamond(\mathbb{B})$.

Proof. Let $S \in \mathcal{P}(\omega_1)^{N_{\omega_1}} - I_{\omega_1}$, we have to show that S is f -stationary. Let $\langle D'_i \mid i < \omega_1 \rangle$ be a sequence of dense subsets of \mathbb{B} . As f witnesses $\diamond_{I_{\omega_1}}^+(\mathbb{B})$ in N_{ω_1} , we have

$$N_{\omega_1} \models \text{“}\eta_f: \mathbb{B} \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)/I_{\omega_1})^+ \text{ is a complete embedding”}$$

and notice that η_f is a complete embedding in V as well. Thus $D_i = \eta_f[D'_i]$ is dense for $i < \omega_1$. As $\sigma_{0, \omega_1}: N_0 \rightarrow N_{\omega_1}$ is a \diamond -iteration,

$$T := \{\xi \in S \mid \forall i < \xi \ g_\xi \cap \sigma_{\xi, \omega_1}^{-1}[D_i] \neq \emptyset\}$$

is stationary. Thus if $C \subseteq \omega_1$ is club, we can find $\xi \in C \cap T$ with $\omega_1^{N_\xi} = \xi$ and $f \in \text{ran}(\sigma_{\xi, \omega_1})$. It follows that

$$f(\xi) = \eta_{\sigma_{\xi, \omega_1}^{-1}(f)}^{-1}[g_\xi]$$

so that $f(\xi) \cap D'_i \neq \emptyset$ for all $i < \xi$. □

5.4 \diamond -(*)-forcing

Theorem 5.20. *Suppose that*

- (i) *generic projective absoluteness holds for generic extensions by forcings of size 2^{ω_1} ,*
- (ii) \mathbb{V}_{\max} *is a \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation,*
- (iii) NS_{ω_1} *is saturated and $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)^\sharp$ exists,*
- (iv) $(H_{\omega_2}, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A_0, \dots, A_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}})$ *is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition and*

- (v) $D \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ is 2^{ω_1} -universally Baire and dense in \mathbb{V}_{\max} in any generic extension by a forcing of size 2^{ω_1} , as witnessed by trees T, S with $p[T] = D$.

Then there is a forcing \mathbb{P}^\diamond so that in $V^{\mathbb{P}^\diamond}$ the following picture

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
& p[T] & \\
& \Downarrow & \\
& q_0 & \xrightarrow{\sigma_{0,\omega_1}} q_{\omega_1} \\
& \Downarrow & \Downarrow \\
p_0 & \xrightarrow{\mu_{0,\omega_1^N}} p_{\omega_1^N} & \xrightarrow{\mu_{\omega_1^N,\omega_1}} p_{\omega_1} \\
\cap & & \parallel \\
\mathbb{V}_{\max} & & ((H_{\omega_2})^V, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^V, A_0, \dots, A_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}}) = \mathcal{H}
\end{array}$$

exists so that

- (\mathbb{P}^\diamond .i) $\mu_{0,\omega_1}, \sigma_{0,\omega_1}$ are generic iterations of p_0, q_0 respectively,
- (\mathbb{P}^\diamond .ii) μ_{0,ω_1^N} witnesses $q_0 <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p_0$,
- (\mathbb{P}^\diamond .iii) $\mu_{0,\omega_1} = \sigma_{0,\omega_1}(\mu_{0,\omega_1^N})$ and
- (\mathbb{P}^\diamond .iv) the generic iteration $\sigma_{0,\omega_1}: q_0 \rightarrow q_{\omega_1}$ is a \diamond -iteration.

For the remainder of this section, ω_1 will always denote ω_1^V . So suppose (i)-(v) holds. We will assume $n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} = 0$ for notational purposes. For the most part, we will follow the construction of \mathbb{P} in [AS21] but will put additional constraints on the certificates. The idea that guides us here is:

In order for $\sigma_{0,\omega_1}: q \rightarrow q^*$ to be a \diamond -iteration, the forcing \mathbb{P}^\diamond will have to anticipate dense subsets of the forcing $(I^+)^{N_{\omega_1}}$ so that they have been “hit before”. This should be captured by the map $K \rightarrow C$. Formulating this correctly produces a strengthened version of the “genericity condition” put onto semantic certificates.

A reader who can compile the above paragraph without syntax error can probably safely skip most the definition of \mathbb{P} and go straight to ($\Sigma.8$).

We try to keep our notation here consistent with the notation in the paper [AS21]. For this reason, we will identify a condition $p = (M, I, a) \in \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ with its first coordinate M . Additionally, by even more abuse of notation:

Convention 5.21. If (N, J, b) is (almost) a condition in \mathbb{V}_{\max} , then

- I^N denotes J ,
- $(I^+)^N$ denotes $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)^M - J$ and
- a^N denotes b .

We will additionally assume both $2^{\omega_1} = \omega_2$ and \diamond_{ω_3} to hold. Otherwise, first force with $\text{Add}(\omega_2, 1) * \text{Add}(((2^{\omega_1})^+)^V, 1)$ and note that (i) and (v) still hold for forcing with $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_2)$, which is all we need. Moreover, observe that this preserves “ NS_{ω_1} is saturated”.

We will denote ω_3 by κ and pick a \diamond_{κ} -sequence $\langle \bar{A}_\lambda \mid \lambda < \kappa \rangle$.

We may find $T_0 \subseteq T$ of size ω_2 so that

$$V^{\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_2)} \models \exists q \in p[T_0] \ q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} \mathcal{H}.$$

Here we use that \mathcal{H} is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition as well as $(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.v)$. Note that $p[T_0] \subseteq p[T]$ in any outer model. Without loss of generality, we may assume that T_0 is a tree on $\omega \times \omega_2$.

Fix a bijection

$$c: \kappa \rightarrow H_\kappa.$$

For $\lambda < \kappa$ let

$$Q_\lambda := c[\lambda] \text{ and } A_\lambda := c[\bar{A}_\lambda].$$

There is then a club $C \subseteq \kappa$ with

- (i) $T_0, p \in Q_\lambda$ and $\omega_2 + 1 \subseteq Q_\lambda$,
- (ii) $Q_\lambda \cap \text{Ord} = \lambda$ and
- (iii) $(Q_\lambda; \in) < (H_\kappa; \in)$

for all $\lambda \in C$. We now have

$$\begin{aligned} &\text{For all } P, B \subseteq H_\kappa \text{ the set} \\ (\diamond) \quad &\{\lambda \in C \mid (Q_\lambda; \in, P \cap Q_\lambda, A_\lambda) < (H_\kappa; \in, P, B)\} \\ &\text{is stationary.} \end{aligned}$$

We will also define Q_κ as H_κ . The forcing \mathbb{P} will add some

$$(N_0, I_0, a_0) \in D^*$$

together with a generic iteration

$$\langle N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle$$

by Henkin-style finite approximations. By abuse of notation, we let $N_i = (N_i; I_i, a_i)$. For readability we will also write

$$N_{\omega_1} = (N_{\omega_1}, I^*, a^*).$$

\mathbb{P}^\diamond will be the last element of an increasing sequence $\langle \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond \mid \lambda \in C \cup \{\kappa\} \rangle$ of forcings which we define inductively. We will have:

- (i) $\mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond \subseteq Q_\lambda$,

(ii) conditions in $\mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond$ will be finite sets of formulae in a first order language \mathcal{L}_λ and

(iii) the order on $\mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond$ is reverse inclusion.

Suppose now that $\lambda \in C \cup \{\kappa\}$ and \mathbb{P}_ν^\diamond is defined for all $\nu \in C \cap \lambda$.

We will make use of the same convention as Asperó-Schindler.

Convention 5.22. $x \subseteq \omega$ is a real code for $N_0 = (N, I_0, a_0)$ if there is a surjection $f: \omega \rightarrow N$ so that x is the monotone enumeration of Gödel numbers of all expressions of the form

$$\ulcorner \dot{N} \models \varphi(\dot{n}_1, \dots, \dot{n}_l, \dot{I}, \dot{a}) \urcorner$$

where φ is a first order formula of the language associated to (N_0, I_0, a_0) (see below) and

$$N \models \varphi(f(n_1), \dots, f(n_l), I_0, a_0)$$

holds.

We will have conditions in $\mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond$ be certified in a concrete sense by objects \mathfrak{C} which exist in generic extensions of V that satisfies projective absoluteness w.r.t. V . They are of the form

$$\mathfrak{C} = \langle \langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle (k_n, \alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda_\xi, X_\xi \mid \xi \in K \rangle \rangle$$

where

$$(\mathfrak{C}.1) \quad M_0, N_0 \in \mathbb{V}_{\max},$$

$$(\mathfrak{C}.2) \quad x = \langle k_n \mid n < \omega \rangle \text{ is a real code for } N_0 = (N_0; \in, I, a_0) \text{ and } \langle (k_n, \alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle \text{ is a branch through } T_0,$$

$$(\mathfrak{C}.3) \quad \langle M_i, \mu_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1^{N_0} \rangle \in N_0 \text{ is a generic iteration of } M_0 \text{ witnessing } N_0 \lessdot_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} M_0,$$

$$(\mathfrak{C}.4) \quad \langle N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle \text{ is a generic iteration of } N_0,$$

$$(\mathfrak{C}.5) \quad \langle M_i, \mu_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle = \sigma_{0, \omega_1}(\langle M_i, \mu_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1^{N_0} \rangle) \text{ and}$$

$$M_{\omega_1} = ((H_{\omega_2})^V; \in, (\text{NS}_{\omega_1})^V, A),$$

$$(\mathfrak{C}.6) \quad K \subseteq \omega_1 \text{ and for all } \xi \in K$$

$$(\mathfrak{C}.6.a) \quad \lambda_\xi \in \lambda \cap C, \text{ and if } \gamma < \xi \text{ is in } K \text{ then } \lambda_\gamma < \lambda_\xi \text{ and } X_\gamma \cup \{\lambda_\gamma\} \subseteq X_\xi,$$

$$(\mathfrak{C}.6.b) \quad X_\xi < (Q_{\lambda_\xi}; \in, \mathbb{P}_{\lambda_\xi}^\diamond, A_{\lambda_\xi}) \text{ and } \delta^{X_\xi} = \xi.$$

If \mathfrak{C} has these properties, we call \mathfrak{C} a *potential certificate*.

Next up, we will define a certain first order language \mathcal{L} . \mathcal{L} will have the following distinguished constants

- \underline{x} for any $x \in H_\kappa$,
- \dot{n} for any $n < \omega$,
- \dot{M}_i for $i < \omega_1$,
- $\dot{\mu}_{i,j}$ for $i \leq j \leq \omega_1$,
- $\dot{\vec{M}}$,
- \dot{N}_i for $i < \omega_1$,
- $\dot{\sigma}_{i,j}$ for $i \leq j < \omega_1$,
- \dot{I}, \dot{a} and
- \dot{X}_ξ for $\xi < \omega_1$.

The constants \dot{n} will eventually produce “Henkin-style” term models for the N_i . Formulas in the language \mathcal{L} are of the form

$$\ulcorner \dot{N}_i \models \varphi(\underline{\gamma}_1, \dots, \underline{\gamma}_k, \dot{n}_1, \dots, \dot{n}_l, \dot{I}, \dot{a}, \dot{M}_{j_1}, \dots, \dot{M}_{j_m}, \dot{\mu}_{q_1, r_1}, \dots, \dot{\mu}_{q_s, r_s}, \dot{\vec{M}}) \urcorner$$

where

- $i < \omega_1$,
- $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k < \omega_1$,
- $n_1, \dots, n_l < \omega$,
- $j_1, \dots, j_m < \omega_1$,
- $q_t \leq r_t < \omega_1$ for $t \in \{1, \dots, s\}$

and φ is a first order \in -formula. Moreover we allow as formulas

- $\ulcorner \dot{\mu}_{i, \omega_1}(\dot{n}) = \underline{x} \urcorner$ for $i < \omega_1, n < \omega$ and $x \in H_{\omega_2}$,
- $\ulcorner \dot{\mu}_{\omega_1, \omega_1}(\underline{x}) = \underline{x} \urcorner$ for $x \in H_{\omega_2}$,
- $\ulcorner \dot{\sigma}_{i,j}(\dot{n}) = \dot{m} \urcorner$ for $i \leq j < \omega_1$ and $n, m < \omega$,
- $\ulcorner (\vec{k}, \vec{\alpha}) \in \underline{T} \urcorner$ for $\vec{k} \in \omega^{<\omega}$ and $\vec{\alpha} \in \omega_2^{<\omega}$,
- $\ulcorner \underline{\xi} \mapsto \underline{\nu} \urcorner$ for $\xi < \omega_1$ and $\nu < \kappa$ and
- $\ulcorner \underline{x} \in \dot{X}_\xi \urcorner$ for $\xi < \omega_1$ and $x \in H_\kappa$.

\mathcal{L}^λ is the set of \mathcal{L} -formulae φ so that if \underline{x} appears in φ for some $x \in H_\kappa$ then $x \in Q_\lambda$. We assume formulae in \mathcal{L}^λ to be coded in a reasonably way (ultimately uniform in λ) so that $\mathcal{L}^\lambda = \mathcal{L} \cap Q_\lambda$. We will not make this precise.

A potential certificate

$$\mathfrak{C} = \langle \langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle (k_n, \alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda_\xi, X_\xi \mid \xi \in K \rangle \rangle$$

is (λ) -precertified by $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}^\lambda$ if there are surjections $e_i: \omega \rightarrow N_i$ for $i < \omega_1$ so that

$$(\Sigma.1) \quad \ulcorner \dot{N}_i \models \varphi(\underline{\gamma}_1, \dots, \underline{\gamma}_k, \dot{n}_1, \dots, \dot{n}_l, \dot{I}, \dot{a}, \dot{M}_{j_1}, \dots, \dot{M}_{j_m}, \dot{\mu}_{q_1, r_1}, \dots, \dot{\mu}_{q_s, r_s}, \dot{\vec{M}}) \urcorner \in \Sigma \text{ iff}$$

- (a) $i < \omega_1$,
- (b) $\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k \leq \omega_1^{N_i}$,
- (c) $n_1, \dots, n_l < \omega$,
- (d) $j_1, \dots, j_m \leq \omega_1^{N_i}$,
- (e) $q_t \leq r_t \leq \omega_1^{N_i}$ for $t \in \{1, \dots, s\}$

and

$$N_i \models \varphi(\gamma_1, \dots, \gamma_k, e_i(n_1), \dots, e_i(n_l), I^{N_i}, a^{N_i}, M_{j_1}, \dots, M_{j_m}, \mu_{q_1, r_1}, \dots, \mu_{q_s, r_s}, \vec{M})$$

$$\text{where } \vec{M} = \langle M_j, \mu_{j,j'} \mid j \leq j' \leq \omega_1^{N_i} \rangle,$$

$$(\Sigma.2) \quad \ulcorner \dot{\mu}_{i, \omega_1}(\dot{n}) = \underline{x} \urcorner \in \Sigma \text{ iff } i < \omega_1, n < \omega \text{ and } \mu_{i, \omega_1}(e_i(n)) = x,$$

$$(\Sigma.3) \quad \ulcorner \dot{\mu}_{\omega_1, \omega_1}(\underline{x}) = \underline{x} \urcorner \in \Sigma \text{ for all } x \in H_{\omega_2},$$

$$(\Sigma.4) \quad \ulcorner \dot{\sigma}_{i,j}(\dot{n}) = \dot{m} \urcorner \in \Sigma \text{ iff } i \leq j < \omega_1 \text{ and } \sigma_{i,j}(e_i(n)) = e_j(m),$$

$$(\Sigma.5) \quad \ulcorner (\vec{l}, \vec{\beta}) \in \vec{T} \urcorner \in \Sigma \text{ iff for some } n < \omega, \text{lh}(\vec{l}) = n = \text{lh}(\vec{\beta}) \text{ and for all } m < n \\ l_m = k_m, \beta_m = \alpha_m,$$

$$(\Sigma.6) \quad \ulcorner \underline{\xi} \mapsto \underline{\nu} \urcorner \in \Sigma \text{ iff } \xi \in K \text{ and } \nu = \lambda_\xi \text{ and}$$

$$(\Sigma.7) \quad \ulcorner \underline{x} \in \dot{X}_\xi \urcorner \in \Sigma \text{ iff } \xi \in K \text{ and } x \in X_\xi.$$

Note that \mathfrak{C} can be “read off” from Σ in a unique way via a Henkin-style construction. For $i < \omega_1$ and $n, m < \omega$, let

$$n \sim_i m \Leftrightarrow \ulcorner N_i \models \dot{n} = \dot{m} \urcorner \in \Sigma$$

and denote the equivalence class of n modulo \sim_i by $[n]_i^\Sigma$. We will usually drop the superscript Σ if it is clear from context. Also let

$$n \tilde{\sim}_i m \Leftrightarrow \ulcorner N_i \models \dot{n} \in \dot{m} \urcorner \in \Sigma.$$

Then $(N_i, \in) \cong (\omega, \tilde{\epsilon}_i) / \sim_i$. We call the latter model the term model producing N_i . See Lemma 3.7 in [AS21] for more details. For $x \in N_i$ we say x is represented by n if x gets mapped to $[n]_i$ by the unique isomorphism of N_i to the term model. The term model for N_{ω_1} is then the direct limit along the term models producing the N_i , $i < \omega_1$ and elements can then be represented by pairs (i, n) , $i < \omega_1, n < \omega$ in the natural way.

To define certificates, we make use of the following concept:

Definition 5.23. For $\bar{\lambda} \in C \cap \lambda$,

$$Z \subseteq \mathbb{P}_{\bar{\lambda}}^{\diamond} \times \omega_1 \times \omega$$

is a $\bar{\lambda}$ -code for a dense subset of $(I^+)^{\dot{N}_{\omega_1}}$ given that

(i) if $(p, i, n) \in Z$ then

$$\ulcorner \dot{N}_i \models \text{“} \dot{n} \in \dot{I}_i^+ \text{”} \urcorner \in p,$$

(ii) for any $(q, j, m) \in \mathbb{P}_{\bar{\lambda}} \times \omega_1 \times \omega$ with

$$\ulcorner \dot{N}_j \models \text{“} \dot{m} \in \dot{I}_j^+ \text{”} \urcorner \in q$$

there is $(p, i, n) \in Z$ with

(a) $p \leq q$, $j \leq i$ and

(b) $\ulcorner \dot{N}_i \models \text{“} \dot{n} \subseteq \dot{k} \text{ mod } \dot{I}_i^+ \text{”} \urcorner, \ulcorner \dot{\sigma}_{j,i}(\dot{m}) = \dot{k} \urcorner \in p$ for some $k < \omega$,

(iii) and if $(p, i, n) \in Z$ as well as $q \leq p$ then $(q, i, n) \in Z$.

Suppose that

$$\mathfrak{C} = \langle \langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle (k_n, \alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda_\xi, X_\xi \mid \xi \in K \rangle \rangle$$

is $(\lambda-)$ precertified by $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}^\lambda$ as witnessed by $(e_i)_{i < \omega_1}$. For $Z_0 \subseteq Z$ we define the evaluation of Z_0 by Σ as

$$Z_0^\Sigma := \{S \in N_{\omega_1} \mid \exists p \in [\Sigma]^{<\omega} \exists i < \omega_1 \exists n < \omega ((p, i, n) \in Z_0 \wedge S = \sigma_{i,\omega_1}(e_i(n)))\}.$$

A potential certificate \mathfrak{C} is $(\lambda-)$ certified by a collection $\Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}^\lambda$ if \mathfrak{C} is $(\lambda-)$ precertified by Σ and additionally

($\Sigma.8$) whenever $\xi \in K$ and Z is a λ_ξ -code for a dense subset of $(I^+)^{\dot{N}_{\omega_1}}$ definable over

$$(Q_{\lambda_\xi}; \in, \mathbb{P}_{\lambda_\xi}^{\diamond}, A_{\lambda_\xi})$$

from parameters in X_ξ , then there is $S \in (Z \cap X_\xi)^\Sigma$ with $\xi \in S$.

Definition 5.24. In the case that ($\Sigma.8$) is satisfied, we call \mathfrak{C} a semantic certificate, and Σ a syntactic certificate, relative to

$$\mathbb{V}_{\max}, A, H_{\omega_2}, T_0, \langle A_\nu \mid \nu \in C \cap \lambda \rangle \text{ and } \langle \mathbb{P}_\nu^{\diamond} \mid \nu \in C \cap \lambda \rangle.$$

Remark 5.25. The genericity condition in [AS21] that is replaced here with $(\Sigma.8)$ (adapted to our context) is:

$(\Sigma.8)^{\text{AS}}$ If $\xi \in K$ and $E \subseteq \mathbb{P}_{\lambda_\xi}^\diamond$ is dense and definable over

$$(Q_{\lambda_\xi}; \epsilon, \mathbb{P}_{\lambda_\xi}^\diamond, A_{\lambda_\xi})$$

from parameters in X_ξ then

$$[\Sigma]^{<\omega} \cap E \cap X_\xi \neq \emptyset.$$

Condition $(\Sigma.8)$ is stronger than $(\Sigma.8)^{\text{AS}}$: From any such E ,

$$Z = \{(p, i, n) \in \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond \times \omega_1 \times \omega \mid \exists q \in E \ p \leq q \wedge \ulcorner \dot{N}_i \models \text{“}\dot{n} \in \dot{I}_i^+ \text{”} \urcorner \in p\}$$

is a λ_ξ -code for a dense subset of $(I^+)^{N_{\omega_1}}$ definable over the same structure from the same parameters. If $(Z \cap X_\xi)^\Sigma \neq \emptyset$, it follows that

$$[\Sigma]^{<\omega} \cap E \cap X_\xi \neq \emptyset.$$

Suppose Σ is a certificate that certifies

$$\mathfrak{C} = \langle\langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle\rangle, \langle\langle k_n, \alpha_n \mid n < \omega \rangle\rangle, \langle\lambda_\xi, X_\xi \mid \xi \in K\rangle\rangle,$$

$\xi \in K$ and Z is a λ_ξ -code for a dense subset of $(I^+)^{N_{\omega_1}}$ definable over

$$(Q_{\lambda_\xi}; \epsilon, \mathbb{P}_{\lambda_\xi}^\diamond, A_{\lambda_\xi}).$$

Z is supposed to represent a dense subset of $(I^+)^{N_{\omega_1}}$ (w.r.t. inclusion mod $I^{N_{\omega_1}}$) in $V^{\mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond}$. Σ may not be “generic over V ”, so it may not be the case that Z^Σ is dense in $(I^+)^{N_{\omega_1}}$. Nonetheless, already $(\Sigma.8)^{\text{AS}}$ implies that

$$D = \sigma_{\xi, \omega_1}^{-1} [(Z \cap X_\xi)^\Sigma] \subseteq (I^+)^{N_\xi}$$

is dense. D may not be in N_ξ , so it is not guaranteed that D is hit by the ultrapower $\sigma_{\xi, \xi+1}: N_\xi \rightarrow N_{\xi+1}$ just from genericity over N_ξ alone, however $(\Sigma.8)$ makes sure that this happens (observe that $\omega_1^{N_\xi} = \xi$). So in essence, the idea of $(\Sigma.8)$ is that any dense subset of $(I^+)^{N_{\omega_1}}$ that exists in the final $V^{\mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond}$ has been “hit” before at some point along the iteration of N_0 to N_{ω_1} .

Remark 5.26. Note that for any syntactic certificate, there is a unique semantic certificate it corresponds to. Given a semantic certificate, its corresponding syntactic certificate is unique modulo the choice of the maps $(e_i)_{i < \omega}$.

A finite set p of \mathcal{L}^λ -formulas is *certified* by Σ iff Σ is a syntactic certificate and $p \subseteq \Sigma$. If \mathfrak{C} is a semantic certificate then we also say p is certified by \mathfrak{C} in case there is a syntactic certificate λ certifying both \mathfrak{C} and p .

Definition 5.27. Conditions $p \in \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond$ are finite sets of \mathcal{L}^λ formulae so that

$$V^{\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_2)} \models \text{“}\exists \Sigma \subseteq \mathcal{L}^\lambda \text{ } \Sigma \text{ certifies } p\text{”}.$$

This completes the construction of $\mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond$.

Proposition 5.28. *Let $p \in [\mathcal{L}^\lambda]^{<\omega}$. If p is certified in some outer model, then p is certified in $V^{\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_2)}$.*

Proof. Let g be $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_2)$ -generic. If there is some outer model in which p is certified, then by Shoenfield absoluteness we can find in $V[g]$ a set of \mathcal{L}^λ -formulas Σ with $p \in [\Sigma]^{<\omega}$ such that if

$$\mathfrak{C} = \langle \langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle (k_n, \alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda_\xi, X_\xi \mid \xi \in K \rangle \rangle$$

is the corresponding semantic interpretation then

(i) Σ satisfies $(\Sigma.1)$ - $(\Sigma.8)$,

(ii) \mathfrak{C} satisfies $(\mathfrak{C}.2)$ as well as $(\mathfrak{C}.4)$ - $(\mathfrak{C}.6)$ and

(iii) \mathfrak{C} satisfies $(\mathfrak{C}.3)$ in the sense that $\mu_{0, \omega_1^{N_0}} \in N_0$ and $N_0 \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(M_{\omega_1^{N_0}})$,

as this can be expressed by a Σ_2^1 -formula. It remains to show that $(\mathfrak{C}.1)$ holds true as well, i.e. $M_0, N_0 \in \mathbb{V}_{\max}$. For N_0 this follows as $N_0 \in p[T_0]$ and by assumption (v), $p[T_0] \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ in $V[g]$. To see that $M_0 \in \mathbb{V}_{\max}$, note that $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ as \mathcal{H} is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition in V . By $(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.iv)$, it is enough to see that M_0 is generically iterable. This follows from (the proof of) Theorem 3.16 in [Woo10], here we use $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)^\sharp$ exists in V . \square

We let $\mathbb{P}^\diamond = \mathbb{P}_\kappa^\diamond$. As in Asperó-Schindler, we conclude that there is a club $D \subseteq C$ so that for all $\lambda \in D$

$$\mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond = \mathbb{P}^\diamond \cap Q_\lambda$$

and hence we get

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{for all } B \subseteq H_\kappa \text{ the set} \\ (\diamond(\mathbb{P}^\diamond)) \quad & \{ \lambda \in C \mid (Q_\lambda; \in, \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond, A_\lambda) < (H_\kappa; \in, \mathbb{P}, B) \} \\ & \text{is stationary.} \end{aligned}$$

Lemma 5.29. $\emptyset \in \mathbb{P}_{\min(C)}^\diamond$.

The argument is essentially the same as the proof of Lemma 3.6 in [AS21] modulo some details that arise from replacing \mathbb{P}_{\max} by a general \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation.

Proof. Let g be generic for $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_2)$. Note that $\mathcal{H} \in \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ as \mathcal{H} is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition in V . By choice of T_0 , we can find $N_0 = (N_0, I_0, a_0) \in D^*$ with $N_0 \leq_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} \mathcal{H}$. Let $\langle (k_n, \alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle$ witness $N_0 \in p[T]$. Let us denote $M_0 = \mathcal{H}$ and let

$$\mu_{0, \omega_1^{N_0}} : M_0 \rightarrow M_{\omega_1^{N_0}}$$

witness $N_0 \leq_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} M_0$. Now let

$$\sigma_{0, \kappa} : N_0 \rightarrow N_\kappa$$

be a generic iteration of N_0 of length $\kappa + 1 = \omega_1^{V[g]} + 1$ as well as

$$\mu_{0, \kappa} := \sigma_{0, \kappa}(\mu_{0, \omega_1^{N_0}}) : M_0 \rightarrow M_\kappa$$

the stretch of $\mu_{0, \omega_1^{N_0}}$ by $\sigma_{0, \kappa}$. Note that this is a generic iteration of M_0 of length $\kappa + 1$.

Claim 5.30. *The generic iteration*

$$\langle M_\alpha, \mu_{\alpha, \beta} \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \kappa \rangle$$

can be extended to a generic iteration of $M_0^+ := (V, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^V)$ of length $\kappa + 1$. That is, there is a generic iteration

$$\langle M_\alpha^+, \mu_{\alpha, \beta}^+ \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \kappa \rangle$$

of M_0^+ so that for all $\alpha \leq \beta \leq \kappa$

$$(+.i) \quad M_\alpha = (H_{\omega_2})^{M_\alpha^+} \text{ and}$$

$$(+.ii) \quad \mu_{\alpha, \beta} = \mu_{\alpha, \beta}^+ \upharpoonright M_\alpha.$$

Proof. The iteration $\langle M_\alpha^+, \mu_{\alpha, \beta}^+ \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \kappa \rangle$ arises by applying the same generic ultrafilter g_α which generates $\mu_{\alpha, \alpha+1} : M_\alpha \rightarrow M_{\alpha+1}$ to M_α^+ . By induction on α , as $M_\alpha = (H_{\omega_2})^{M_\alpha^+}$, g_α measures all subsets of $\omega_1^{M_\alpha^+}$ in M_α^+ . It is a generic ultrafilter as

$$M_\alpha^+ \models \text{“NS}_{\omega_1} \text{ is saturated”}$$

by elementarity of $\mu_{0, \alpha}^+$, and hence all maximal antichains in $(\text{NS}_{\omega_1}^+)^{M_\alpha^+}$ are already in M_α , hence are met by g_α . Now let

$$\mu_{\alpha, \alpha+1}^+ : M_\alpha^+ \rightarrow M_{\alpha+1}^+ := \text{Ult}(M_\alpha^+, g_\alpha)$$

be the ultrapower. Any $x \in (H_{\omega_2})^{M_{\alpha+1}^+}$ is represented by some function $f : \omega_1^{M_\alpha^+} \rightarrow (H_{\omega_2})^{M_\alpha^+}$ which is an element of $(H_{\omega_2})^{M_\alpha^+} = M_\alpha$. It follows that $\mu_{\alpha, \alpha+1} = \mu_{\alpha, \alpha+1}^+ \upharpoonright M_\alpha$. It is easy to see that the properties $(+.i), (+.ii)$ are stable under taking direct limits. \square

The point is that

$$\langle\langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle (k_n, \alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \emptyset \rangle$$

is a semantic certificate for \emptyset in $M^+ := M_\kappa^+$ with respect to

$$\mu^+(\mathbb{V}_{\max}), \mu^+(A), (H_{\omega_2})^{M^+}, \mu^+(T_0), \mu^+(\langle A_\nu \mid \nu \in C \cap \lambda \rangle), \mu^+(\langle \mathbb{P}_\nu^\diamond \mid \nu \in C \cap \lambda \rangle)$$

for $\lambda = \min(C)$ and $\mu^+ = \mu_{0,\kappa}^+$. By Proposition 5.28,

$$M^+ \models \emptyset \in \mu^+(\mathbb{P}_{\min(C)}^\diamond)$$

so that $\emptyset \in \mathbb{P}_{\min(C)}^\diamond$ in V by elementarity of μ^+ . \square

Lemma 5.31. *Suppose $\lambda \in C \cup \{\kappa\}$ and $g \subseteq \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond$ is a filter with*

(i) *$g \cap E \neq \emptyset$ whenever $E \subseteq \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond$ is dense and definable over*

$$(Q_\lambda; \in, \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond, A_\lambda),$$

(ii) *g is an element of a generic extension of V by a forcing of size $\leq 2^{\omega_2}$.*

Then $\bigcup g$ is a semantic certificate.

Proof. Read off the canonical candidate

$$\mathfrak{C} = \langle\langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle (k_n, \alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda_\xi, X_\xi \mid \xi \in K \rangle \rangle$$

from g . The proof of Lemma 3.7 in [AS21] shows that $\bigcup g$ λ -precertifies \mathfrak{C} . Note that the argument from Proposition 5.28 gives that $M_0, N_0 \in \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ and $(\mathfrak{C}.3)$ follows from $(\Sigma.1)$ and $(\mathbb{V}_{\max}.ii)$. It remains to check $(\Sigma.8)$. So suppose $\xi \in K$ and Z is a λ_ξ -code for a dense subset of $(I^+)^{N_{\omega_1}}$ definable over

$$\mathcal{Q}_\lambda := (Q_{\lambda_\xi}; \in, \mathbb{P}_{\lambda_\xi}^\diamond, A_{\lambda_\xi})$$

from a parameter $x \in X_\xi$. Then there is $p \in g$ with

$$\ulcorner \xi \mapsto \lambda_\xi \urcorner, \ulcorner x \in X_\xi \urcorner \in p.$$

Let Σ' be a syntactic certificate certifying p (in some extension of V by $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_2)$) and

$$\mathfrak{C}' = \langle\langle M'_i, \mu'_{i,j}, N'_i, \sigma'_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle (k'_n, \alpha'_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda'_\rho, X'_\rho \mid \rho \in K' \rangle \rangle$$

the corresponding semantic certificate. We have $\xi \in K$ and $\lambda'_\xi = \lambda_\xi$ as well as $x \in X'_\xi$. Thus Z is definable over \mathcal{Q}_λ from parameters in X'_ξ . As Σ' satisfies $(\Sigma.8)$, there is $S \in (Z \cap X'_\xi)^{\Sigma'}$ with $\xi \in S$. We may now find $(q, i, n) \in Z \cap X'_\xi$ so that

$$S = \sigma_{i,\omega_1}([n]_i^{\Sigma'}).$$

Note that $i < \xi$ as $\delta^{X'_\xi} = \xi$. Let $\sigma_{i,\xi+1}([n]_i^{\Sigma'}) = [m]_{\xi+1}^{\Sigma'}$. It follows that

$$\dot{N}_{\xi+1} \models \text{“}\underline{\xi} \in \dot{m}\text{”}, \dot{\sigma}_{i,\xi+1}(\dot{n}) = \dot{m} \in \Sigma'.$$

This is a density argument that shows: There are $s \geq r \in g$, $j < \xi$, $l < \omega$ so that

$$(i) (s, j, l) \in Z,$$

$$(ii) \text{“}\underline{s} \in \dot{X}_\xi\text{”} \in r \text{ and}$$

$$(iii) \dot{N}_{\xi+1} \models \text{“}\underline{\xi} \in \dot{k}\text{”}, \dot{\sigma}_{j,\xi+1}(\dot{l}) = \dot{k} \in r \text{ for some } k < \omega.$$

It follows that for $S = \sigma_{j,\omega_1}([l]_j^{\cup g})$, we have $S \in (Z \cap X_\xi)^{\cup g}$ and $\xi \in S$. \square

Lemma 5.32. *Suppose g is generic for \mathbb{P}^\diamond and*

$$\mathfrak{C} = \langle\langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle (k_n, \alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda_\xi, X_\xi \mid \xi \in K \rangle\rangle$$

is the resulting semantic certificate. Then in $V[g]$,

$$\langle N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle$$

is a \diamond -iteration.

Proof. Let \dot{S}, \dot{C} be \mathbb{P}^\diamond -names with

$$p \Vdash \text{“}\dot{C} \subseteq \omega_1 \text{ is club and } \dot{S} \in (I^+)^{\dot{N}_{\omega_1}}\text{”}$$

for some $p \in \mathbb{P}^\diamond$. Further suppose $\langle \dot{D}_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$ is a sequence of \mathbb{P}^\diamond -names for dense subsets of $(I^+)^{\dot{N}_{\omega_1}}$. We may suppose that

$$p \Vdash \dot{S} = \dot{\sigma}_{i_0, \omega_1}([\dot{n}]_{i_0}^{\cup \dot{G}})$$

for some $i_0 < \omega_1$ and $n < \omega$ where $\dot{\sigma}_{i_0, \omega_1}$ is a name for σ_{i_0, ω_1} which arises in the semantic certificate corresponding to the generic filter. It is our duty to find $\xi < \omega_1$ and $q \leq p$ with

$$q \Vdash \check{\xi} \in \dot{S} \cap \dot{C} \wedge \forall \alpha < \check{\xi} \dot{g}_\xi \cap \dot{\sigma}_{\xi, \omega_1}^{-1}[\dot{D}_\alpha] \neq \emptyset \quad (\spadesuit)$$

where \dot{g}_ξ is a name for the generic ultrafilter applied to \dot{N}_ξ along the iteration to \dot{N}_{ω_1} . We will replace the \dot{D}_α with codes for them: For $\alpha < \omega_1$, let Z_α be defined by $(q, j, m) \in Z_\alpha$ iff

$$(Z.i) (q, j, m) \in \mathbb{P}^\diamond \times \omega_1 \times \omega,$$

$$(Z.ii) \text{“}\dot{N}_j \models \text{“}\dot{m} \in \dot{I}_j\text{”}\text{”} \in q \text{ and}$$

$$(Z.iii) q \Vdash \dot{\sigma}_{j, \omega_1} \left([m]_j^{\cup \dot{G}} \right) \in \dot{D}_\alpha.$$

Further, for $\alpha < \omega_1$, we let

$$E_\alpha = \{q \leq p \mid \exists \beta \alpha \leq \beta \wedge q \Vdash \check{\beta} \in \dot{C}\}$$

and

$$E = \{(q, \alpha) \in \mathbb{P}^\diamond \times \omega_1 \mid q \Vdash \check{\alpha} \in \dot{C}\}.$$

Finally we define

$$\tau = \left(\bigoplus_{\alpha < \omega_1} Z_\alpha \right) \oplus \left(\bigoplus_{\alpha < \omega_1} E_\alpha \right) \oplus E.$$

We may now find $\lambda \in C$ so that $p \in \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond$ and

$$(Q_\lambda; \epsilon, \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond, A_\lambda) < (H_\kappa; \epsilon, \mathbb{P}^\diamond, \tau).$$

Here, \oplus denotes some canonical way of coding at most ω_1 -many subsets of H_κ into a subset of H_κ . Let h be $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_2)$ -generic over V .

Claim 5.33. *In $V[h]$, there are filters g, G that satisfy the following properties (i)-(iii):*

(i) *g meets every dense subset of $\mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond$ that is definable (with parameters) in*

$$(Q_\lambda; \epsilon, \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond, A_\lambda).$$

Let

$$\mathfrak{C} = \langle \langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle (k_n, \alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda_\xi, X_\xi \mid \xi \in K \rangle \rangle$$

denote the semantic certificate corresponding to g .

(ii) *G is $(I^+)^{N_{\omega_1}}$ -generic over N_{ω_1} with $\dot{S}^g = [n]_{i_0}^{\cup g} \in G$.*

(iii) *G meets $Z^{\cup g}$ whenever Z is a λ -code for a dense subset of $(I^+)^{N_{\omega_1}}$ definable (with parameters) over*

$$(Q_\lambda; \epsilon, \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond, A_\lambda).$$

Proof. Let $g' \subseteq \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond$ be generic over V and let

$$\mathfrak{C}' = \langle \langle M'_i, \mu'_{i,j}, N'_i, \sigma'_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle (k'_n, \alpha'_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda'_\rho, X'_\rho \mid \rho \in K' \rangle \rangle$$

be the semantic certificate corresponding to $\bigcup g'$. Let further G' be $(I^+)^{N'_{\omega_1}}$ -generic over $V[g']$ (so in particular over N'_{ω_1}) with $\dot{S}^{g'} = [n]_{i_0}^{\cup g'} \in G'$. It is clear that g', G' satisfy (i)-(iii) above. The existence of such filters is Σ_1^1 in a real code for $(Q_\lambda; \epsilon, \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond, A_\lambda)$ so that there are $g, G \in V[h]$ with (i)-(iii) by Shoenfield-absoluteness. \square

We now work in $V[h]$. Let G, g be the filters given by the claim above and let

$$\mathfrak{C} = \langle\langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle\langle k_n, \alpha_n \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda_\xi, X_\xi \mid \xi \in K \rangle\rangle$$

be the semantic certificate that comes from g . Let

$$\sigma_{\omega_1, \omega_1+1}: N_{\omega_1} \rightarrow N_{\omega_1+1} = \text{Ult}(N_{\omega_1}, G)$$

be the generic ultrapower. We can further extend the generic iteration

$$\langle N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 + 1 \rangle$$

to one of length $\kappa + 1$, say

$$\langle N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \kappa \rangle.$$

Further, set

$$\vec{M} = \langle M_i, \mu_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \kappa \rangle := \sigma_{\omega_1, \kappa}(\langle M_i, \mu_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle).$$

As \mathfrak{C} is certified, $M_{\omega_1} = \mathcal{H}$ and as in Claim 5.30, we can extend the tail of \vec{M} that is an iteration of M_{ω_1} to a generic iteration of $M_{\omega_1}^+ := (V, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^V, A)$, say

$$\langle M_i^+, \mu_{i,j}^+ \mid \omega_1 \leq i \leq j \leq \kappa \rangle$$

and have all M_i^+ , $i \in [\omega_1, \kappa]$, wellfounded. Let us write

$$\mu^+ := \mu_{\omega_1, \kappa}^+ : V \rightarrow M_{\omega_1}^+ =: M^+.$$

Work in M^+ . We will now use

$$\langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \kappa \rangle$$

as part of a certificate. Set

$$q := \mu^+(p) \cup \{ \ulcorner \omega_1 \mapsto \mu^+(\lambda) \urcorner, \ulcorner \dot{\sigma}_{i_0, \omega_1+1}(\dot{n}) = \dot{m} \urcorner, \ulcorner \dot{N}_{\omega_1+1} \models \ulcorner \omega_1 \in \dot{m} \urcorner \urcorner \}$$

where \dot{m} represents $\sigma_{\omega_1, \omega_1+1}(S)$ in the term model for N_{ω_1+1} .

Claim 5.34. $q \in \mu^+(\mathbb{P}^\diamond)$.

Proof. Set

$$\mathfrak{C}^* = \langle\langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \kappa \rangle, \langle\langle k_n, \mu^+(\alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda_\xi^*, X_\xi^* \mid \xi \in K^* \rangle\rangle$$

where

- $K^* = K \cup \{\omega_1\}$,
- for $\xi \in K$, $\lambda_\xi^* = \mu^+(\lambda_\xi)$ and $X_\xi^* = \mu^+[X_\xi]$ and

- $\lambda_{\omega_1} = \mu^+(\lambda)$, $X_{\omega_1}^* = \mu^+[Q_\lambda]$.

We show that \mathfrak{C}^* is a semantic certificate for q in M^+ . Note that we have to show that \mathfrak{C}^* is a certificate relative to

$$\mu^+(\mathbb{V}_{\max}), \mu^+(A), \mu^+(H_{\omega_2}) = (H_{\omega_2})^{M^+}, \mu^+(T_0), \mu^+(\langle A_\nu \mid \nu \in C \rangle), \mu^+(\langle \mathbb{P}_\nu \mid \nu \in C \rangle).$$

Observe that we can find a corresponding set of formulae Σ^+ that corresponds to \mathfrak{C}^* with $\mu^+[\bigcup g] \subseteq \Sigma^+$ which we aim to prove to be a syntactic certificate.

We have $M_\kappa = (H_{\omega_2})^{M^+}$. Notice also that

$$\langle (k_n, \mu^+(\alpha_n)) \mid n < \omega \rangle \in [\mu^+(T_0)]$$

and that $(k_n)_{n < \omega}$ is still a real code for N_0 . Next, we prove $(\Sigma.8)$. First assume $\xi \in K$. Then

$$X_\xi^* = \mu^+[X_\xi] < (\mu^+(Q_{\lambda_\xi}); \in, \mu^+(\mathbb{P}_{\lambda_\xi}^\diamond), \mu^+(A_{\lambda_\xi}))$$

and $\delta^{X_\xi^*} = \delta^{X_\xi} = \xi$ as $\text{crit}(\mu) = \omega_1 > \xi$. As $\mu^+[X_\xi] = X_\xi^*$, $(\Sigma.8)$ holds for ξ in \mathfrak{C}^* , since it holds for ξ in \mathfrak{C} .

Finally, let us consider the case $\xi = \omega_1$. We have

$$X_{\omega_1}^* = \mu^+[Q_\lambda] < (\mu^+(Q_\lambda); \in, \mu^+(\mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond), \mu^+(A_\lambda))$$

and $\delta^{X_{\omega_1}^*} = \omega_1$ as μ^+ has critical point ω_1 . Clearly $X_{\omega_1}^*$ collapses to Q_λ . So if $x \in X_{\omega_1}^*$ and

$M^+ \models \text{“}\hat{Z} \text{ is a } \mu^+(\lambda)\text{-code for a dense subset of } (\dot{I}^+)^{N_\kappa} \text{ definable over}$

$$(\mu^+(Q_\lambda); \in, \mu^+(\mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond), \mu^+(A_\lambda))$$

with parameter x ”

for some $x \in X_{\omega_1}^*$, then by elementarity, the same definition defines a λ -code Z for a dense subset of $(\dot{I}^+)^{N_{\omega_1}}$ over

$$(Q_\lambda; \in, \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond, A_\lambda)$$

with parameter $(\mu^+)^{-1}(x)$ and we have $\mu^+(Z) = \hat{Z}$. Our properties of g, G imply that there is $R \in G \cap Z \cup g$. It is not difficult to see

$$(\hat{Z} \cap X_{\omega_1}^*)^{\Sigma^+} = \sigma_{\omega_1, \kappa}[Z \cup g]$$

and hence $\omega_1 \in \sigma_{\omega_1, \kappa}(R) \in (\hat{Z} \cap X_{\omega_1}^*)^{\Sigma^+}$. This shows $(\Sigma.8)$ at ω_1 .

We conclude that indeed, \mathfrak{C}^* is a semantic certificate for q which exists in some outer model of M^+ . This gives $q \in \mu^+(\mathbb{P}^\diamond)$ by Proposition 5.28. \square

Thus we have

$$M^+ \models \text{“}\exists \xi < \mu^+(\omega_1) \left(\mu^+(p) \cup \{ \ulcorner \xi \mapsto \underline{\mu}^+(\lambda) \urcorner, \ulcorner \dot{\sigma}_{i_0, \xi+1}(\dot{n}) = \dot{m} \urcorner, \ulcorner \dot{N}_{\xi+1} \models \text{“}\underline{\xi} \in \dot{m} \text{”} \urcorner \} \in \mu^+(\mathbb{P}^\diamond) \right) \text{”}.$$

By elementarity of μ^+ , we conclude

$$V \models \text{“}\exists \xi < \omega_1 \left(p \cup \{ \ulcorner \xi \mapsto \underline{\lambda} \urcorner, \ulcorner \dot{\sigma}_{i_0, \xi+1}(\dot{n}) = \dot{m} \urcorner, \ulcorner \dot{N}_{\xi+1} \models \text{“}\underline{\xi} \in \dot{m} \text{”} \urcorner \} \in \mathbb{P}^\diamond \right) \text{”}.$$

Let ξ witness this and set

$$q = p \cup \{ \ulcorner \xi \mapsto \underline{\lambda} \urcorner, \ulcorner \dot{\sigma}_{i_0, \xi+1}(\dot{n}) = \dot{m} \urcorner, \ulcorner \dot{N}_{\xi+1} \models \text{“}\underline{\xi} \in \dot{m} \text{”} \urcorner \}.$$

We will show that q, ξ witness (\spadesuit) . From this point on, we work in V again and forget about h, g, \mathfrak{C} , etc.

Claim 5.35. $q \Vdash \check{\xi} \in \dot{C} \cap \dot{S}$.

Proof. As in Claim 3.17 in [AS21], exploit the components of τ made up from E as well as E_α , $\alpha < \omega_1$. \square

Claim 5.36. $q \Vdash \forall \alpha < \check{\xi} \dot{g}_\alpha \cap \dot{\sigma}_{\xi, \omega_1}^{-1}[\dot{D}_\alpha] \neq \emptyset$.

Proof. Let g be \mathbb{P}^\diamond -generic with $q \in g$ and let

$$\mathfrak{C} = \langle \langle M_i, \mu_{i,j}, N_i, \sigma_{i,j} \mid i \leq j \leq \omega_1 \rangle, \langle (k_n, \alpha_n) \mid n < \omega \rangle, \langle \lambda_\xi, X_\xi \mid \xi \in K \rangle \rangle$$

be the resulting semantic certificate. We have $\xi \in K$ and $\lambda_\xi = \lambda$ as $q \in g$. Fix some $\alpha < \xi$. Clearly,

$$\bar{Z}_\alpha = Z_\alpha \cap Q_\lambda$$

is a λ -code for a dense subset of $(\dot{I}^+)^{\dot{N}_{\omega_1}}$ which is definable over

$$(Q_\lambda; \in, \mathbb{P}_\lambda^\diamond, A_\lambda)$$

from a parameter in X_ξ , namely α . Recall that $\delta^{X_\xi} = \xi$. Using $(\Sigma.8)$, we find that there is

$$R \in (\bar{Z}_\alpha \cap X_\xi) \cup g$$

with $\xi \in R$. Note that there are $r \in g$, $j < \xi = \delta^{X_\xi}$ as well as $k < \omega$ with

$$(i) \ (r, j, k) \in \bar{Z}_\alpha \subseteq Z_\alpha \text{ and}$$

$$(ii) \ R = \sigma_{j, \omega_1}([k]_j^{\cup g}).$$

By definition of Z_α , and as $r \in g$, $R \in D_\alpha$ and since $\xi \in R$, $R \in g_\xi$, where g_ξ is the generic ultrafilter generating $\sigma_{\xi, \xi+1}: N_\xi \rightarrow N_{\xi+1}$. \square

(\spadesuit) follows from Claim 5.35 together with Claim 5.36. \square

This completes the proof of Theorem 5.20. We denote the forcing \mathbb{P}^\diamond constructed above in the instance of a \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation \mathbb{V}_{\max} , the set $A \in H_{\omega_2}$ and appropriate dense $D \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ by $\mathbb{P}^\diamond(\mathbb{V}_{\max}, A, D)$ (and forget that \mathbb{P}^\diamond also depends on the choice of T, T_0 , etc.).

5.5 The first blueprint

We will formulate a general theorem that will allow us to prove a variety of instances of $\text{MM}^{++} \Rightarrow (*)$. In order to formulate the relevant forcing axioms, we use that in practice $\varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$ has a specific form.

Definition 5.37. A \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation \mathbb{V}_{\max} is *typical* if $\varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$ can be chosen to be the form

$$\begin{aligned} \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(x) = & \text{“}\exists M, I, a_0, \dots, a_n \ x = (M, I, a_0, \dots, a_n) \\ & \wedge \forall y \in M \bigwedge_{\psi \in \Psi} [\psi(y) \leftrightarrow (M; \in, I, a_0, \dots, a_n) \models \psi(y)]\text{”} \end{aligned}$$

for $n = n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$ and a finite set Ψ of formulae $\psi(y)$ in the language $\{\in, \dot{I}, \dot{a}_0, \dots, \dot{a}_n\}$. Moreover, Ψ contains the formulae $\psi(x) = \text{“}x \in \dot{I}\text{”}$ and $\psi_i(x) = \text{“}x = \dot{a}_i\text{”}$ for all $i \leq n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$. We say that Ψ witnesses the typicality of \mathbb{V}_{\max} .

This means that $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$ iff there is a generic iteration $\mu: p \rightarrow p^*$ of p in q of length $\omega_1^q + 1$ so that the formulae in Ψ are absolute between q, p^* .

Remark 5.38. For example, \mathbb{P}_{\max} is (or can be construed as) a typical \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation. We have that typicality of \mathbb{P}_{\max} is witnessed by $\{\psi_0^{\mathbb{P}_{\max}}, \psi_1^{\mathbb{P}_{\max}}\}$ where

- $\psi_0^{\mathbb{P}_{\max}}(y) = \text{“}y \in \dot{I}\text{”}$ and
- $\psi_1^{\mathbb{P}_{\max}}(y) = \text{“}y = \dot{a}_0\text{”}$.

All \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations we will encounter, except for \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^- , are typical \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations.

Next, we formulate the relevant bounded and unbounded forcing axioms as general as possible.

Definition 5.39. Suppose $\psi(x)$ is a formula in the language $\{\in, \dot{I}, \dot{a}_0, \dots, \dot{a}_n\}$ and $\vec{A} = (A_0, \dots, A_n) \in H_{\omega_2}$.

(i) We define $R_{\vec{A}}^{\psi}$ via

$$R_{\vec{A}}^{\psi} := \{x \in H_{\omega_2} \mid (H_{\omega_2}; \in, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A_0, \dots, A_n) \models \psi(x)\}.$$

(ii) For $x \in H_{\omega_2}$, we say that $C \subseteq \omega_1$ is a code for x if: Let $l: \omega_1 \rightarrow \omega_1 \times \omega_1$ denote Gödel's pairing function and $E = l[C]$. Then $(\omega_1 \times \omega_1, E)$ is wellfounded and $(\text{tc}(\{x\}), \in)$ is the transitive isomorph¹⁴.

(iii) $C \subseteq \omega_1$ is a code for an element of $R_{\vec{A}}^{\psi}$ if C is a code for some $x \in R_{\vec{A}}^{\psi}$.

Definition 5.40. Suppose that

- Γ is a class of forcings,

¹⁴ tc denotes transitive closure.

- $\vec{A} = (A_0, \dots, A_n) \in H_{\omega_2}$ and
 - Ψ is a set of formulae $\psi(x)$ in the language $\{\dot{I}, \dot{a}_0, \dots, \dot{a}_n\}$.
- (i) $D\text{-BFA}_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}(\Gamma)$ states that $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is ∞ -universally Baire and whenever $\mathbb{P} \in \Gamma$ and g is \mathbb{P} -generic then

$$\left(H_{\omega_2}; \in, D, R_{\vec{A}}^{\psi} \mid \psi \in \Psi \right)^V <_{\Sigma_1} \left(H_{\omega_2}; \in, D^*, R_{\vec{A}}^{\psi} \mid \psi \in \Psi \right)^{V[g]}.$$

For $\Delta \subseteq \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$, $\Delta\text{-BFA}_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}(\Gamma)$ means $D\text{-BFA}_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}(\Gamma)$ for all $D \in \Delta$.

(ii) $\text{FA}_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}(\Gamma)$ states that whenever $\mathbb{P} \in \Gamma$ and

- (FA.i) \mathcal{D} is a set of at most ω_1 -many dense subsets of \mathbb{P} ,
- (FA.ii) \mathcal{N}_{ψ} is a set of at most ω_1 -many \mathbb{P} -names for codes of elements of $(R_{\vec{A}}^{\psi})^{V^{\mathbb{P}}}$ for $\psi \in \Psi$

then there is a filter $g \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ so that

- (g.i) $g \cap D \neq \emptyset$ for all $D \in \mathcal{D}$ and
- (g.ii) $\dot{S}^g = \{\alpha < \omega_1 \mid \exists p \in g \ p \Vdash \dot{\alpha} \in \dot{S}\}$ is a code for an element of $R_{\vec{A}}^{\psi}$ for all $\dot{S} \in \mathcal{N}_{\psi}$, $\psi \in \Psi$.

We note that the methods of Bagaria in [Bag00] readily yield the following.

Lemma 5.41. *Suppose that*

- (i) Γ is a class of forcings,
 - (ii) $\vec{A} = (A_0, \dots, A_n) \in H_{\omega_2}$ and
 - (iii) Ψ is a set of formulae $\psi(x)$ in the language $\{\dot{I}, \dot{a}_0, \dots, \dot{a}_n\}$.
- If $\text{FA}_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}(\Gamma)$ holds then so does $\text{uB-BFA}_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}(\Gamma)$.

Definition 5.42. Let Ψ be a set of formulae in the language $\{\dot{I}, \dot{a}_0, \dots, \dot{a}_n\}$ for some n . For $\vec{A} = (A_0, \dots, A_n)$, we say that a forcing \mathbb{P} is (Ψ, \vec{A}) -preserving iff

$$R_{\vec{A}}^{\psi} = \left(R_{\vec{A}}^{\psi} \right)^{V^{\mathbb{P}}} \cap V$$

for all $\psi \in \Psi$. $\Gamma_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}$ denotes the class of (Ψ, \vec{A}) -preserving forcings.

Definition 5.43. A \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation \mathbb{V}_{\max} accepts \diamond -iterations if

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{“If } p \in \mathbb{V}_{\max} \text{ and } p \rightarrow p^* = (M, I, a_0, \dots, a_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}}) \\ & \text{is a } \diamond\text{-iteration then } \mathcal{H}_{(a_0, \dots, a_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}})} \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(p^*)\text{”} \end{aligned}$$

is provable in $\text{ZFC}^- + \text{“}\omega_1 \text{ exists”}$ (that is, from sufficiently much of ZFC).

First Blueprint Theorem 5.44. *Suppose that*

- (i) \mathbb{V}_{\max} is a typical \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation with typicality witnessed by Ψ ,
- (ii) \mathbb{V}_{\max} has unique iterations and accepts \diamond -iterations,
- (iii) $\vec{A} \in H_{\omega_2}$ and $\mathcal{H}_{\vec{A}}$ is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition,
- (iv) SRP holds and
- (v) $\text{FA}_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}(\Gamma_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi})$ holds.

Then \mathbb{V}_{\max} - $(*)$ holds as witnessed by $g_{\vec{A}}$.

Proof. Let us assume $n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} = 0$, so $\vec{A} = A$. SRP entails “ NS_{ω_1} is saturated” as well as $\forall \kappa \geq \omega_2 \neg \square_{\kappa}$. Results of Steel [Ste05] show that the latter implies that V is closed under $X \mapsto M_{\omega}^{\sharp}(X)$. As a consequence

- $\text{AD}^{L(\mathbb{R})}$,
- all sets of reals in $L(\mathbb{R})$ are ∞ -universally Baire and
- $(L(\mathbb{R})^V; \in, D) \equiv (L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G]}; \in, D^*)$ for all sets $D \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ in $L(\mathbb{R})$ and any generic extension $V[G]$ of V .

Thus generic projective absoluteness holds in V and if $D \in L(\mathbb{R})$ is a dense subset of \mathbb{V}_{\max} , then D^* is a dense subset of \mathbb{V}_{\max} in any generic extension. Thus $\mathbb{P}^{\diamond}(\mathbb{V}_{\max}, A, D)$ exists for any such D .

Claim 5.45. *For any dense $D \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$, $D \in L(\mathbb{R})$, $\mathbb{P}^{\diamond}(\mathbb{V}_{\max}, A, D)$ is (Ψ, A) -preserving.*

Proof. Let g be $\mathbb{P}^{\diamond}(\mathbb{V}_{\max}, A, D)$ -generic. By Theorem 5.20, in $V[g]$ we have

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & D^* & & \\
 & & \cup & & \\
 & & q_0 & \xrightarrow{\sigma_{0,\omega_1}} & q_{\omega_1} = (N^*, I^*, b^*) \\
 & & \cup & & \cup \\
 p_0 & \xrightarrow{\mu_{0,\omega_1^N}} & p_{\omega_1^N} & \xrightarrow{\mu_{\omega_1^N,\omega_1}} & p_{\omega_1} \\
 \cap & & & & \parallel \\
 \mathbb{V}_{\max} & & & & ((H_{\omega_2})^V, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^V, A) = \mathcal{H}_A
 \end{array}$$

where

- $(\mathbb{P}^{\diamond}.i)$ $\mu_{0,\omega_1}, \sigma_{0,\omega_1}$ are generic iterations of p_0, q_0 respectively,
- $(\mathbb{P}^{\diamond}.ii)$ μ_{0,ω_1^N} witnesses $q_0 <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p_0$,
- $(\mathbb{P}^{\diamond}.iii)$ $\mu_{0,\omega_1} = \sigma_{0,\omega_1}(\mu_{0,\omega_1^N})$ and
- $(\mathbb{P}^{\diamond}.iv)$ the generic iteration $\sigma_{0,\omega_1} : q_0 \rightarrow q_{\omega_1}$ is a \diamond -iteration.

Note that

$$(N^*; \in, I^*, b^*) \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(\mathcal{H}_A).$$

As \mathbb{V}_{\max} is typical, we must have $b^* = A$. As \mathbb{V}_{\max} accepts \diamond -iterations,

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A)^{V[g]} \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(q_{\omega_1})$$

and finally it follows from typicality that

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A)^{V[g]} \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(\mathcal{H}_A).$$

As Ψ witnesses the typicality of \mathbb{V}_{\max} , it follows that $\mathbb{P}^\diamond(\mathbb{V}_{\max}, A, D)$ is (Ψ, A) -preserving. \square

It follows from Theorem 5.20, Lemma 5.41 and Lemma 5.17 that

- $g_{\bar{A}} \cap D \neq \emptyset$ for all dense $D \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$, $D \in L(\mathbb{R})$ and
- $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) = \bigcup \{ \mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \cap p^* \mid p \in g_{\bar{A}} \wedge \mu: p \rightarrow p^* \text{ is guided by } g_{\bar{A}} \}$.

By Corollary 5.16, $g_{\bar{A}}$ witnesses \mathbb{V}_{\max} -(*). \square

Remark 5.46. If additionally there are a proper class of Woodin cardinals, then $g_{\bar{A}}$ meets all ∞ -universally Baire dense subsets of \mathbb{V}_{\max} .

5.6 The second blueprint

From the right perspective, \mathbb{V}_{\max} -(*) is a forcing axiom. As noted before, Asperó-Schindler show that if there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals, then (*) is equivalent to $(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \cap L(\mathbb{R}))$ -BMM⁺⁺. Some additional assumption like large cardinals is necessary as BMM implies closure of V under sharps while (*) holds in the \mathbb{P}_{\max} -extension of $L(\mathbb{R})$. We try to generalize this result roughly to all natural \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations for which the \mathbb{P}^\diamond -method can prove them from some forcing axiom. We will have to restrict to better behaved \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations.

Definition 5.47. Let \mathbb{V}_{\max} be a \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation with unique iterations and g be \mathbb{V}_{\max} -generic over $L(\mathbb{R})$.

- (i) We say that g produces $(A_0, \dots, A_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}})$ if there is $p \in g$ so that if

$$\mu: p \rightarrow p^* = (M, I, a_0, \dots, a_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}})$$

is the g -iteration of p then $a_i = A_i$ for all $i \leq n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$.

- (ii) If \mathbb{V}_{\max} is typical, we set

$$\mathcal{H}_g := (H_{\omega_2}, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A_0, \dots, A_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}})^{L(\mathbb{R})[g]}$$

where $(A_0, \dots, A_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}})$ is the unique sequence produced by g .

Definition 5.48. A \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation \mathbb{V}_{\max} with unique iterations is *self-assembling* if: Whenever g is \mathbb{V}_{\max} -generic over $L(\mathbb{R})$ then

- (i) \mathcal{H}_g is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition and
- (ii) $(H_{\omega_2})^{L(\mathbb{R})}[g] = \bigcup \{p^* \mid p \in g, \mu: p \rightarrow p^* \text{ guided by } g\}$.

All \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation we will work with are self-assembling (assuming AD in $L(\mathbb{R})$). For example, \mathbb{P}_{\max} is self-assembling. The relevance of this property for us is partly explained by the following result.

Lemma 5.49. *Suppose \mathbb{V}_{\max} is a self-assembling \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation with unique iterations and typicality of \mathbb{V}_{\max} is witnessed by a set Ψ of $(\Sigma_1 \cup \Pi_1)$ -formulae. If \mathbb{V}_{\max} -(*) holds as witnessed by g then*

- (i) $\mathcal{H}_{\vec{A}}$ is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition and
- (ii) $g = g_{\vec{A}}$

where g produces \vec{A} .

Proof. As \mathbb{V}_{\max} is self-assembling, \mathcal{H}_g is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition. Moreover, $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \subseteq L(\mathbb{R})[g]$ as g witnesses \mathbb{V}_{\max} -(*). It follows that $\mathcal{H}_g = \mathcal{H}_{\vec{A}}$ and thus (i) holds.

Let us now prove (ii), note that it suffices to show $g \subseteq g_{\vec{A}}$.

Claim 5.50. *If $q \in g$ and*

$$\sigma: q \rightarrow q^* = (M^*, I^*, a_0^*, \dots, a_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}}^*)$$

is the g -iteration of q then $I^ = \text{NS}_{\omega_1} \cap M^*$ and $a_i^* = A_i$ for $i \leq n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$.*

Proof. $a_i^* = A_i$ for $i \leq n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}$ follows easily from typicality, we show $I^* = \text{NS}_{\omega_1} \cap M^*$. It is clear that $I^* \subseteq \text{NS}_{\omega_1}$ since if $S \in I^*$, then a tail of the iteration points of the iteration $\sigma: q \rightarrow q^*$ is missing from S . On the other hand, suppose $S \in \mathcal{P}(\omega_1)^{M^*} - I^*$. We may assume $S = \mu(\bar{S})$ for some $\bar{S} \in q$. If $C \subseteq \omega_1$ is club then as \mathbb{V}_{\max} is self-assembling, there is $r \in g$, such that if $\nu: r \rightarrow r^*$ is the g -iteration of r , then $C \in \text{ran}(\nu)$, say $C = \nu(\bar{C})$. Note that we may assume $r <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} q$, say this is witnessed by

$$\bar{\sigma}: q \rightarrow \bar{q} = (\bar{M}, \bar{I}, \bar{a}).$$

Write $r = (N, J, b)$. As \mathbb{V}_{\max} is typical, $\bar{I} = J \cap \bar{M}$ and hence $\bar{\sigma}(\bar{S}) \cap \bar{C} \neq \emptyset$ which gives

$$\nu \circ \bar{\sigma}(\bar{S}) \cap C \neq \emptyset.$$

Clearly, $\nu(\bar{\sigma})$ is an iteration of q of length $\omega_1 + 1$ guided by g . Thus, by Lemma 5.11, $\nu(\bar{\sigma}) = \sigma$. $S \cap C \neq \emptyset$ follows. \square

Let $p \in g$ and let $\mu: p \rightarrow p^*$ be the g -iteration of p .

Claim 5.51. $\mathcal{H}_{\vec{A}} \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(p^*)$.

Proof. Let $\psi \in \Psi$ and assume ψ is Σ_1 , so write $\psi(x) = \exists y \theta(x, y)$ where θ is Σ_0 . So suppose for some $x \in p$ and $y \in H_{\omega_2}$ we have

$$\mathcal{H}_{\vec{A}} \models \exists y \theta(x, y).$$

As \mathbb{V}_{\max} is self-assembling, we can find $q \in g$ with

- (q.i) $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$ as witnessed by $\bar{\mu}: p \rightarrow \bar{p}$ and
- (q.ii) $\mathcal{H}_{\vec{A}} \models \theta(x, \sigma(y))$ for some $y \in q$

where $\sigma: q \rightarrow q^*$ is the g -iteration of q . By Claim 5.50,

$$q^* <_{\Sigma_0} \mathcal{H}_{\vec{A}}$$

and as $\sigma(\bar{\mu}) = \mu$ by Lemma 5.11 as well as elementarity of σ we find

$$q \models \theta(\bar{\mu}(x), y).$$

Finally, $q \models (\varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(\bar{p}))$ so that

$$\bar{p} \models \exists z \theta(\bar{\mu}(x), z)$$

and hence $p \models \exists z \theta(x, z)$ by elementarity of $\bar{\mu}$.

The “dual argument” works if ψ is Π_1 instead. \square

Now if G is $\text{Col}(\omega, 2^{\omega_1})$ -generic then the above shows that $\mu: p \rightarrow p^*$ witnesses $\mathcal{H}_{\vec{A}} <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$ in $V[G]$. Thus $p \in g_{\vec{A}}$. \square

Theorem 5.44 gives a hint how the forcing axiom equivalent to \mathbb{V}_{\max} -(*) should look like. However, $\Gamma_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}$ is not the right class of forcings, for example one can construe two \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations which are the same as forcings, but for which the resulting classes $\Gamma_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}$ are fundamentally different for reasonable \vec{A} . Instead, we should look at the class of forcings which roughly lie on the way to the good extensions highlighted in the \mathbb{V}_{\max} -Multiverse View.

Definition 5.52. Suppose that

- (i) \mathbb{V}_{\max} is a typical \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation,
- (ii) typicality of \mathbb{V}_{\max} is witnessed by Ψ and
- (iii) $\vec{A} = (A_0, \dots, A_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}}) \in H_{\omega_2}$.

The class $\Gamma_{\vec{A}}^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(\Psi)$ consists of all (Ψ, \vec{A}) -preserving forcings \mathbb{P} so that if g is \mathbb{P} -generic, then there is a forcing $\mathbb{Q} \in V[g]$ with

$$V[g] \models \text{“}\mathbb{Q} \text{ is } (\Psi, \vec{A})\text{-preserving”}$$

and if further h is \mathbb{Q} -generic over $V[g]$, then in $V[g][h]$ both

- (h.i) $\mathcal{H}_{\vec{A}}$ is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition and

(h.ii) NS_{ω_1} is saturated.

It just so happens that, maybe by accident, for the \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variations we will look at explicitly, if there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals then one can choose Ψ so that $\Gamma_{\bar{A}}^{\Psi} = \Gamma_{\bar{A}}^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(\Psi)$ in case that $\Gamma_{\bar{A}}^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} \neq \emptyset$.

Definition 5.53. Suppose that (M, I) is a potentially iterable structure and $Y \subseteq \mathbb{R}$. We say that (M, I) is (generically) Y -iterable if for $X := Y \cap M$ we have

- (i) $(M; \in, I, X)$ is a model of (sufficiently much of) ZFC where Y is allowed as a class parameter in the schemes and
- (ii) whenever $\langle (M_\alpha, I_\alpha, X_\alpha), \mu_{\alpha, \beta} \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma \rangle$ is a generic iteration of $(M_0, I_0, X_0) = (M, I, X)$, i.e.
 - ($\mu.i$) $(M_{\alpha+1}; \in, I_{\alpha+1}, X_{\alpha+1})$ is an ultrapower of $(M_\alpha; \in, I_\alpha, X_\alpha)$ by a M_α -generic ultrafilter w.r.t. I_α for $\alpha < \gamma$,
 - ($\mu.ii$) if $\alpha \leq \gamma$ is a limit then

$$\langle (M_\alpha, I_\alpha, X_\alpha), \mu_{\xi, \alpha} \mid \xi < \alpha \rangle = \varinjlim \langle (M_\beta, I_\beta, X_\beta), \mu_{\beta, \xi} \mid \beta \leq \xi < \alpha \rangle$$

then $X_\gamma = Y \cap M_\gamma$.

Proposition 5.54 (Folklore). *Suppose that NS_{ω_1} is saturated and $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$ is ∞ -universally Baire. Then in any forcing extension $V[G]$ in which $H_{\omega_2}^V$ is countable, $(H_{\omega_2}, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, X)^V$ is X^* -iterable.*

Proof. Let \mathbb{P} be some forcing which collapses 2^{ω_1} to ω . Let $T, S \in V$ witness that X is $|\mathbb{P}|$ -universally Baire with $p[T] = X, p[S] = \mathbb{R} - X$. Let G be \mathbb{P} -generic over V . Let

$$\langle (M_\alpha, I_\alpha, X_\alpha), \mu_{\alpha, \beta} \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma \rangle$$

be any generic iteration of $(M_0, I_0, X_0) = (H_\kappa, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, X)^V$. Then as in Claim 5.30, this iteration can be lifted to a generic iteration

$$\langle (M_\alpha^+, I_\alpha, X_\alpha), \mu_{\alpha, \beta}^+ \mid \alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma \rangle$$

of $(M_0^+, I_0, X_0) = (V, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^V, X)$. In particular, M_γ is wellfounded as M_γ^+ is wellfounded. Let $\mu^+ = \mu_{0, \gamma}^+, M^+ = M_\gamma^+$.

Claim 5.55. *In $V[G]$, $p[\mu^+(T)] = X^*$.*

Proof. Work in $V[G]$. We have $X^* = p[T]$ and this implies $X^* \subseteq p[\mu^+(T)]$, likewise $\mathbb{R} - X^* \subseteq p[\mu^+(S)]$. In $M^+, \mu^+(T), \mu^+(S)$ project to complements and an absoluteness of wellfoundedness argument shows that this must be true in $V[G]$ as well, so that we indeed have $X^* = p[\mu^+(T)]$. \square

We conclude

$$X_\gamma = \mu^+(X) = \mu^+(p[T]) = p[\mu^+(T)] \cap M^+ = X^* \cap M^+ = X^* \cap M_\gamma$$

which is what we had to show. \square

Lemma 5.56. *Suppose that*

- (i) \mathbb{V}_{\max} is a typical self-assembling \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation with unique iterations,
- (ii) typicality of \mathbb{V}_{\max} is witnessed by a set of $(\Sigma_1 \cup \Pi_1)$ -formulae Ψ ,
- (iii) there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals,
- (iv) \mathbb{V}_{\max} - $(*)$ holds as witnessed by g and
- (v) g produces \vec{A} .

Then $(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \cap L(\mathbb{R}))$ -BFA $_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}(\Gamma_{\vec{A}}^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(\Psi))$ holds true.

Proof. We will assume $n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} = 0$. Let g witness \mathbb{V}_{\max} - $(*)$. Let $p \in g$ and $\mu: p \rightarrow p^* = (M, I, A)$ the generic iteration of p guided by g . We will show that

$$(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \cap L(\mathbb{R}))\text{-BFA}_{\vec{A}}^{\Psi}(\Gamma_{\vec{A}}^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(\Psi))$$

holds. By Lemma 5.49, $\mathcal{H}_g = \mathcal{H}_A$ is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition. Now let $\mathbb{P} \in \Gamma_{\vec{A}}^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(\Psi)$ and $X \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \cap L(\mathbb{R})$. Let G be \mathbb{P} -generic. We have to show that

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, X, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^V <_{\Sigma_1} (H_{\omega_2}; \in, X^*, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^{V[G]}.$$

So let $v \in H_{\omega_2}^V$, and θ a Σ_0 -formula such that

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, X^*, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^{V[G]} \models \exists u \theta(u, v).$$

As \mathbb{V}_{\max} is self-assembling, we may assume without loss of generality that $v = \mu(\bar{v})$ for some $\bar{v} \in p$. Let $V[G][H]$ be a further generic extension by (Ψ, A) -preserving forcing so that in $V[G][H]$

- (H.i) $\mathcal{H}_A^{V[G][H]}$ is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition and
- (H.ii) NS_{ω_1} is saturated.

Note that

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, X^*, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^{V[G]} <_{\Sigma_0} (H_{\omega_2}; \in, X^{**}, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^{V[G][H]}$$

as the extension is (Ψ, A) -preserving. Here, X^{**} denotes the reevaluation of X^* in $V[G][H]$. Accordingly,

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, X^{**}, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^{V[G][H]} \models \exists u \theta(u, v).$$

Let g be $\text{Col}(\omega, 2^{\omega_1})^{V[G][H]}$ -generic over $V[G][H]$ and X^{***} the reevaluation of X^{**} in $V[G][H][g]$. Then in $V[G][H][g]$,

$$(H_{\omega_2}, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, X^{***})^{V[G][H]}$$

is X^{***} -iterable by Proposition 5.54.

Claim 5.57. $\mathcal{H}_A^{V[G][H]} <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} q$ for all $q \in g$.

Proof. Let $q \in g$ and $\sigma: q \rightarrow q^*$ the g -iteration of q . It follows from the proof of Lemma 5.49 that

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A)^V \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(q^*)$$

and since the extension $V \subseteq V[G][H]$ is (Ψ, A) -preserving,

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A)^{V[G][H]} \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(q^*)$$

follows. □

Let $q \in g$, $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$ as witnessed by $\bar{\mu}: p \rightarrow \bar{p}$. $\mathcal{H}_A^{V[G][H]}$ witnesses in $V[G][H][g]$ that there is $r = (M, I, a) <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} q$, as witnessed by $\sigma: q \rightarrow q^*$, so that

- (r.i) (M, I, Y) is X^{***} -iterable,
- (r.ii) $(M; \in, I) \models "V = H_{\omega_2} \wedge I = \text{NS}_{\omega_1}"$ and
- (r.iii) $(M; \in, Y, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^M \models \exists u \theta(u, \sigma(\bar{\mu}(\bar{v}))$

where $Y = X^{***} \cap M$. As there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals,

$$(L(\mathbb{R})^V; \in, X) \equiv (L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G][H][g]}; \in, X^{***})$$

and hence a density argument shows that there is $q = (N, J, b) \in g$, $q <_{\mathbb{V}_{\max}} p$, as witnessed by $\mu': p \rightarrow p'$, such that

- (q.i) $(N, J, X \cap N)$ is X -iterable,
- (q.ii) $(N; \in, J) \models "V = H_{\omega_2} \wedge J = \text{NS}_{\omega_1}"$ and
- (q.iii) for some $u \in N$, $(N; \in, X \cap N, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^N \models \theta(u, \mu'(v))$.

Let $\sigma: q \rightarrow q^* = (N^*, J^*, a^*)$ be the g -iteration of q . By (the proof of) Lemma 5.49 (ii)

$$(H_{\omega_2}, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, A)^V \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(q^*)$$

and hence

$$(N^*; \in, X \cap N^*, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^{N^*} <_{\Sigma_0} (H_{\omega_2}; \in, X, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^V.$$

Moreover,

$$\sigma: (N, J, X \cap N) \rightarrow (N^*, J^*, X \cap N^*)$$

is fully elementary by (q.i) so that

$$(N^*; \in, X \cap N^*, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^{N^*} \models \theta(\sigma(u), \sigma(\mu'(v))).$$

By Lemma 5.11, $\sigma \circ \mu' = \mu$, so we can conclude

$$(H_{\omega_2}; \in, X, R_A^\psi \mid \psi \in \Psi)^V \models \theta(\sigma(u), v)$$

which is what we had to show. □

In fact, we get an equivalence in case we can apply the \mathbb{P}^\diamond -method.

Second Blueprint Theorem 5.58. *Suppose that*

- (i) *There are a proper class of Woodin cardinals,*
- (ii) \mathbb{V}_{\max} *is a self-assembling typical \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation,*
- (iii) \mathbb{V}_{\max} *has unique iterations and accepts \diamond -iterations,*
- (iv) *typicality of \mathbb{V}_{\max} is witnessed by a set Ψ of $(\Sigma_1 \cup \Pi_1)$ -formulae,*
- (v) $\vec{A} = (A_0, \dots, A_{n^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}}) \in H_{\omega_2}$ *and*
- (vi) $\Gamma_{\vec{A}}^\Psi = \Gamma_{\vec{A}}^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(\Psi)$.

The following are equivalent:

- (\ast .i) *There is a filter $g \subseteq \mathbb{V}_{\max}$ which witnesses \mathbb{V}_{\max} -(\ast) and produces \vec{A} .*
- (\ast .ii) $(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}) \cap L(\mathbb{R}))$ -BFA $_{\vec{A}}^\Psi(\Gamma_{\vec{A}}^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(\Psi))$.

Proof. “(\ast .i) \Rightarrow (\ast .ii)” follows from Theorem 5.56. “(\ast .ii) \Rightarrow (\ast .i)” can be proven similar to the First Blueprint Theorem 5.44. We use the existence of a proper class of Woodin cardinals instead of SRP to justify $\text{AD}^{L(\mathbb{R})}$, that all sets of reals in $L(\mathbb{R})$ are ∞ -universally Baire and generic $L(\mathbb{R})$ -absoluteness. It is not immediate that $\mathcal{H}_{\vec{A}}$ is almost a \mathbb{V}_{\max} -condition, nor did we assume that NS_{ω_1} is saturated, however as $\Gamma_{\vec{A}}^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(\Psi) = \Gamma_{\vec{A}}^\Psi$, we can pass to a (Ψ, \vec{A}) -preserving forcing extension in which both of this is true. It follows that

$$g = \{p \in \mathbb{V}_{\max} \mid \exists \mu: p \rightarrow p^* \text{ a generic iteration of} \\ \text{length } \omega_1 + 1 \text{ with } \mathcal{H}_{\vec{A}} \models \varphi^{\mathbb{V}_{\max}}(p^*)\}$$

witnesses \mathbb{V}_{\max} -(\ast) and produces \vec{A} . □

5.7 The \mathbb{Q}_{\max} -variation \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-

We will have to do some work in order to find a forcing which freezes NS_{ω_1} along a witness f of $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. The main idea is to find the correct \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation to throw into the \diamond -(\ast)-forcing. Let us first introduce Woodin’s \mathbb{Q}_{\max} .

Definition 5.59. A condition $p \in \mathbb{Q}_{\max}$ is a generically iterable structure $p = (N, I, f)$ with

- (\mathbb{Q}_{\max} .i) $N \models$ “ f guesses $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ -filters” and
- (\mathbb{Q}_{\max} .ii) $N \models$ “ $\eta_f : \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)/I)^+$ is a dense embedding”, where η_f is the embedding associated to f .

The order on \mathbb{Q}_{\max} is given by

$$q = (M, J, h) <_{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}} p$$

iff there is an iteration

$$j: p \rightarrow p^* = (N^*, I^*, f^*)$$

in q with $f^* = h$.

We mention that it follows from Lemma 3.10 that if (N, I, f) is a \mathbb{Q}_{\max} -condition then $N \models$ “ f witnesses $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ ”.

Forcing that \mathcal{H}_f is almost a \mathbb{Q}_{\max} -condition for some f essentially amounts to forcing “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense”. We replace \mathbb{Q}_{\max} by an equivalent forcing for which this is easier to achieve.

Definition 5.60. A condition $p \in \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-$ is a generically iterable structure of the form $p = (N, I, f)$ so that

$$(N; \in, I) \models \text{“}f \text{ witnesses } \diamond_I^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})\text{”}.$$

The order on \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^- is given by $q := (M, J, h) <_{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-} (N, I, f) =: p$ iff there is an iteration

$$j: p \rightarrow p^* = (N^*, I^*, f^*)$$

in q so that

($<_{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-}$.i) $f^* = h$ and

($<_{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-}$.ii) if $S \in J^+ \cap p^*$ then there is $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1^q)$ with $S_b^h \subseteq S \pmod J$.

We note that \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^- is essentially unchanged if condition ($<_{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-}$.ii) is dropped, but demanding it is convenient for us.

Proposition 5.61 (Woodin, [Woo10, Definition 6.20]). *Suppose $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)$ is closed under $A \mapsto A^\sharp$ and I is a normal uniform ideal. Suppose f guesses $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ -filters. The following are equivalent:*

(i) f witnesses $\diamond_I^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$.

(ii) For any $A \subseteq \omega_1$,

$$\{\alpha < \omega_1 \mid f(\alpha) \text{ is not generic over } L[A \cap \alpha]\} \in I$$

and for all $b \in \mathbb{B}$, $S_b^f \in I^+$.

The following is the key result about \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^- .

Lemma 5.62. *Suppose J is a normal uniform ideal, h witnesses $\diamond_J^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$, and $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)$ is closed under $A \mapsto A^\sharp$. For any $p = (N, I, f) \in \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-$ there is an iteration*

$$j: p \rightarrow p^* = (N^*, I^*, f^*)$$

so that

- (i) $f^* = h \pmod J$ (so in particular f^* witnesses $\diamond_J^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$) and
- (ii) if $S \in J^+ \cap N^*$ then there is $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ with $S_b^{f^*} \subseteq S \pmod J$.

Proof. Let x be a real coding p and let D be the club of x -indiscernibles below ω_1 . By induction along ω_1 we will define a filter $g \subseteq \text{Col}(\omega, <\omega_1)$. Let

$$\vec{\alpha} := \langle \alpha_i \mid i < \omega_1 \rangle$$

be the increasing enumeration of D . Assume that $g \upharpoonright \alpha_i$ is already defined. First we define $g(\alpha_i)$:

Case 1: $h(\alpha_i)$ is generic over $L[x, g \upharpoonright \alpha_i]$. Then let $g(\alpha_i) = h(\alpha_i)$.

Case 2: Case 1 fails. Then let $g(\alpha_i)$ be some generic for $\text{Col}(\omega, \alpha_i)$ over $L[x, g \upharpoonright \alpha_i]$.

Next, we choose $g \upharpoonright (\alpha_i, \alpha_{i+1})$ to be any generic for $\text{Col}(\omega, (\alpha_i, \alpha_{i+1}))$ over $L[x, g \upharpoonright \alpha_i + 1]$.

Claim 5.63. g is generic over $L[x]$.

Proof. $\vec{\alpha}$ enumerates a club of $L[x]$ -regular ordinals. Thus for any $i < \omega_1$, $\text{Col}(\omega, <\alpha_i)$ has the α_i -c.c. in $L[x]$. It follows by induction that $g \upharpoonright \alpha_i$ is $\text{Col}(\omega, <\alpha_i)$ -generic over $L[x]$ and finally that g is $\text{Col}(\omega, <\omega_1)$ -generic over $L[x]$. \square

By induction on $\alpha < \omega_1$, we now define a generic iteration

$$\langle p_i, \sigma_{i,j}, U_i \mid i \leq j \leq \alpha \rangle$$

of $p_0 = p$. Here, U_i denotes the generic filter that produces the ultrapower $\sigma_{i,i+1}$.

Let η_α denote the map

$$(\eta_{\sigma_{0,\alpha}(f)})^{p_\alpha} : \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1^{p_\alpha}) \rightarrow ((\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)/\sigma_{0,\alpha}(I))^+)^{p_\alpha}.$$

Simply pick U_α least, according to the canonical global wellorder in

$$L[x, g \upharpoonright \omega_1^{p_\alpha} + 1]$$

so that

(U.i) U_α is $((\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)/\sigma_{0,\alpha}(I))^+)^{p_\alpha}$ -generic over p_α and

(U.ii) $\eta_\alpha[g(\omega_1^{p_\alpha})] \subseteq U_\alpha$.

This is possible as $g(\omega_1^{p_\alpha})$ is $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1^{p_\alpha})$ -generic over p_α , as

$$p_\alpha \models \text{“}\eta^{p_\alpha} \text{ is a regular embedding”}$$

and as p_α is countable in $L[x, g \upharpoonright \omega_1^{p_\alpha} + 1]$. U_α induces the generic ultrapower $\sigma_{\alpha,\alpha+1} : p_\alpha \rightarrow \text{Ult}(p_\alpha, U_\alpha) =: p_{\alpha+1}$.

Finally we get a generic iteration map

$$\sigma := \sigma_{0,\omega_1} : p \rightarrow p^* := p_{\omega_1} = (N^*, I^*, f^*).$$

Claim 5.64. $f^* = h \pmod J$.

Proof. f^* and g agree on the club of iteration points, i.e. we have $f^*(\omega_1^{p_\alpha}) = g(\omega_1^{p_\alpha})$ for any $\alpha < \omega_1$. Here we use that U_α extends $\pi^{p_\alpha}[g(\alpha)]$.

Moreover,

$$\{\alpha < \omega_1 \mid h(\alpha) \text{ is not generic over } L[x, g \upharpoonright \alpha]\} \in J$$

by Proposition 5.61 as h witnesses $\diamond_J^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. By construction of g , it follows that $\{\alpha < \omega_1 \mid h(\alpha) \neq g(\alpha)\} \in J$. As J is a normal uniform ideal, we can conclude

$$\{\alpha < \omega_1 \mid f^*(\alpha) \neq h(\alpha)\} \in J.$$

□

It follows that f^* witnesses $\diamond_J^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. Now let $S \in J^+ \cap N^*$. We have to show the following.

Claim 5.65. $S_b^{f^*} \subseteq S \pmod J$ for some $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$.

Proof. We will prove that the intersection of D with $S_b^{f^*} - S$ is bounded below ω_1 for some b . Find $\alpha \in D$ so that

($\alpha.i$) there is $\bar{S} \in p_\alpha$ with $\sigma_{\alpha, \omega_1}(\bar{S}) = S$ and

($\alpha.ii$) $\alpha \in S$.

By ($\alpha.ii$), there must be some $b \in g(\alpha)$ with

$$b \Vdash_{\text{Col}(\omega, \alpha)}^{L[x, g \upharpoonright \alpha]} \bar{S} \in \dot{U}_\alpha$$

where \dot{U}_α is a name for the least filter U that is generic over p_α and contains $\eta_\alpha[\dot{g}]$, where \dot{g} is now the canonical name for the generic. Now suppose $\alpha < \beta \in S_b^{f^*} \cap D$. There is then an elementary embedding

$$j: L[x] \rightarrow L[x]$$

with

($j.i$) $j(\alpha) = \beta$ and

($j.ii$) $\text{crit}(j) = \alpha$.

We have that j lifts to an elementary embedding

$$j^+: L[x, g \upharpoonright \alpha] \rightarrow L[x, g \upharpoonright \beta]$$

so that

$$b = j(b) \Vdash_{\text{Col}(\omega, \beta)}^{L[x, g \upharpoonright \beta]} j^+(\bar{S}) \in j^+(\dot{U}_\alpha).$$

Clearly, $j^+ \left(\dot{U}_\alpha \right)^{g(\beta)} = U_\beta$ and thus

$$\beta \in \sigma_{\beta, \omega_1} \left(j^+ (\bar{S}) \right)$$

as $b \in f^*(\beta) = g(\beta)$. Note that all points in D are iteration points and recall that f^* and g agree on iteration points.

Subclaim 5.66. $j^+ (\bar{S}) = \sigma_{\alpha, \beta} (\bar{S})$.

Proof. The reason is that, since α is a limit ordinal, p_α is the direct limit along $\langle p_i, \sigma_{i,k} \mid i \leq k < \alpha \rangle$ and thus there is some $\gamma < \alpha$ and $\bar{\bar{S}} \in p_\gamma$ with $\sigma_{\gamma, \alpha} (\bar{\bar{S}}) = \bar{S}$. Hence

$$\begin{aligned} j^+ (\bar{S}) &= j^+ \left(\sigma_{\gamma, \alpha} (\bar{\bar{S}}) \right) = j^+ (\sigma_{\gamma, \alpha}) \left(j^+ (\bar{\bar{S}}) \right) \\ &= \sigma_{\gamma, \beta} (\bar{\bar{S}}) = \sigma_{\alpha, \beta} \left(\sigma_{\gamma, \alpha} (\bar{\bar{S}}) \right) = \sigma_{\alpha, \beta} (\bar{S}). \end{aligned}$$

Here, we use $j^+(\sigma_{\gamma, \alpha}) = \sigma_{\gamma, \beta}$ in the third equation. This holds as our lift j^+ satisfies $j^+(g \upharpoonright \alpha) = g \upharpoonright \beta$ and so it is easy to see that $j^+(\langle U_i \mid i < \alpha \rangle) = \langle U_i \mid i < \beta \rangle$ so that

$$j^+(\langle p_i, \sigma_{i,k} \mid i \leq k < \alpha \rangle) = \langle p_i, \sigma_{i,k} \mid i \leq k < \beta \rangle.$$

□

All in all, $\beta \in \sigma_{\beta, \omega_1} \left(\sigma_{\alpha, \beta} (\bar{S}) \right) = S$. Thus

$$\left(S_b^{f^*} - S \right) \cap D \subseteq \alpha$$

so that $S_b^{f^*} \subseteq S \pmod{J}$.

□

□

Proposition 5.67 (Folklore?). *Suppose there is a precipitous ideal on ω_1 . Then $\mathcal{P}(\omega_1)$ is closed under $A \mapsto A^\sharp$.*

Proof. It is easy to see that \mathbb{R} is closed under $x \mapsto x^\sharp$. Let I be a precipitous ideal and let $j: V \rightarrow M = \text{Ult}(V, g)$ be the generic ultrapower of V in the extension $V[g]$, g generic for I^+ . Then $A = j(A) \cap \omega_1^V \in M$ and is coded by a real in M . By elementarity, $\mathbb{R} \cap M$ is closed under $x \mapsto x^\sharp$. Thus A^\sharp exists in $M \subseteq V[g]$. As forcing cannot add a sharp, $A^\sharp \in V$. □

Lemma 5.68. *Assume AD in $L(\mathbb{R})$. The inclusion $\mathbb{Q}_{\max} \hookrightarrow \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-$ is a dense embedding.*

Proof. It is easy to see that if $p, q \in \mathbb{Q}_{\max}$ then

$$q <_{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}} p \Leftrightarrow q <_{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-} p.$$

Now let $p \in \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-$ and find x a real coding p . Our assumptions imply by Woodin's analysis of \mathbb{Q}_{\max} under $\text{AD}^{L(\mathbb{R})}$ that there is $q = (M, J, h) \in \mathbb{Q}_{\max}$ with $x^\sharp \in M$. By Proposition 5.67,

$$M \models \text{“}\mathcal{P}(\omega_1) \text{ is closed under } A \mapsto A^\sharp\text{”}.$$

Thus we may apply Lemma 5.61 inside M and find an iteration

$$j: p \rightarrow p^* = (N^*, I^*, f^*)$$

so that

$$q' := (M, J, f^*) \in \mathbb{Q}_{\max}$$

and j witnesses $q' <_{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-} p$. \square

It is not obvious how to even prove construct a single \mathbb{Q}_{\max} -condition assuming only $\text{AD}^{L(\mathbb{R})}$. Woodin worked with a variant \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^* of \mathbb{Q}_{\max} instead to analyze the \mathbb{Q}_{\max} -extension of $L(\mathbb{R})$. We remark that this can be done with \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^- as well. The arguments are, modulo Lemma 5.62, quite similar to the arguments in the \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^* analysis.

6 Consistency of QM and forcing “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense”

We are now in position to force QM and force “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense”.

We can now finally find a forcing which freezes NS_{ω_1} along f assuming large cardinals and that f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$.

We will also reap what we have sown by replacing \mathbb{Q}_{\max} with \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^- .

Proof of Lemma 4.9. Use the Woodin cardinal to make NS_{ω_1} saturated while turning f into a witness of $\diamond^+(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ by f -semiproper forcing in a generic extension $V[g]$ using the iteration theorem 3.15. Shelah's construction to make NS_{ω_1} saturated works just as well in this context. Observe that

$$(H_{\omega_2}, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}, f)^{V[g]}$$

is almost a \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^- -condition in $V[g]$. Work in $V[g]$. Next we want to apply Theorem 5.20 with $\mathbb{V}_{\max} = \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-$ for the dense set $D = \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-$. Note that the universe is closed under $X \mapsto X^\sharp$ and as D is Π_2^1 , D is ∞ -universally Baire. We cannot guarantee full generic absoluteness for small forcings, however we actually only need that for any forcing \mathbb{P} of size $\leq 2^{\omega_2}$ we have that

$$(i) (\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-)^{V[g]^\mathbb{P}} \cap V[g] = (\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-)^{V[g]} \text{ and}$$

(ii) $(\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-)^{V[g]^{\mathbb{P}}}$ is a \mathbb{P}_{\max} -variation in $V[g]^{\mathbb{P}}$

(i) is again guaranteed by the closure under $X \mapsto X^\sharp$. The only nontrivial thing one has to verify for (ii) is that \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^- has no minimal conditions in $V[g]^{\mathbb{P}}$. This follows from the closure of \mathbb{R} under $x \mapsto M_1^\sharp(x)$.

Thus $\mathbb{P}^\diamond = \mathbb{P}^\diamond(\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-, f, \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-)$ exists and in a further extension $V[g][h]$ by \mathbb{P}^\diamond we have:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
& & \mathbb{Q}_{\max}^- & & \\
& & \Downarrow & & \\
& & q_0 & \xrightarrow{\sigma_{0,\omega_1}} & q_{\omega_1} = (N_{\omega_1}, I_{\omega_1}, f) \\
& & \Downarrow & & \Downarrow \\
p_0 & \xrightarrow{\mu_{0,\omega_1^{q_0}}} & p_{\omega_1^{q_0}} & \xrightarrow{\mu_{\omega_1^{q_0},\omega_1}} & p_{\omega_1} \\
\cap & & & & \parallel \\
\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^- & & & & ((H_{\omega_2})^{V[g]}, \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^{V[g]}, f)
\end{array}$$

So that

(\mathbb{P}^\diamond .i) $\mu_{0,\omega_1}, \sigma_{0,\omega_1}$ are generic iterations of p_0, q_0 respectively,

(\mathbb{P}^\diamond .ii) $\mu_{0,\omega_1^{q_0}}$ witnesses $q_0 <_{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-} p_0$,

(\mathbb{P}^\diamond .iii) $\mu_{0,\omega_1} = \sigma_{0,\omega_1}(\mu_{0,\omega_1^{q_0}})$ and

(\mathbb{P}^\diamond .iv) the generic iteration $\sigma_{0,\omega_1} : q_0 \rightarrow q_{\omega_1}$ is a \diamond -iteration.

Claim 6.1. f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ in $V[g][h]$.

Proof. By Lemma 5.19 and (\mathbb{P}^\diamond .iv), $I_{\omega_1} = \text{NS}_f^{V[g][h]} \cap N_{\omega_1}$, in particular f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ in $V[g][h]$. \square

It remains to show that the extension $V \subseteq V[g][h]$ has “frozen $\text{NS}_{\omega_1}^V$ along f ”. Let $S \in \mathcal{P}(\omega_1)^V$. It follows from (\mathbb{P}^\diamond .ii), (\mathbb{P}^\diamond .iii) and the definition of $<_{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-}$ (especially ($<_{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}^-}$.ii)) that one of the following holds:

- Either $S \in I_{\omega_1}$,
- or for some $p \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ we have $S_p^f \subseteq S \pmod{I_{\omega_1}}$.

As any \diamond -iteration is correct, $I_{\omega_1} = \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^{V[g][h]} \cap N_{\omega_1}$. It follows that

- either $S \in \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^{V[g][h]}$,
- or for some $p \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ we have $S_p^f \subseteq S \pmod{\text{NS}_{\omega_1}^{V[g][h]}}$,

which is what we had to show. \square

Remark 6.2. Instead of closure of V under $X \mapsto M_1^\sharp$ we could just as well have assumed that there is a second Woodin cardinal with a measurable above.

Theorem 6.3. *Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and there is a supercompact limit of supercompact cardinals. Then there is a f -preserving forcing extension in which f witnesses QM.*

Proof. Let κ be a supercompact limit of supercompact cardinals and

$$L: V_\kappa \rightarrow V_\kappa$$

an associated Laver function. We describe a Q -iteration w.r.t. f

$$\mathbb{P} = \langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha, \dot{Q}_\beta \mid \alpha \leq \kappa, \beta < \kappa \rangle$$

that forces QM. For any $\alpha < \kappa$, \dot{Q}_α is a two step-iteration of the form

$$\dot{Q}_\alpha = \dot{Q}_\alpha^0 * \ddot{Q}_\alpha^1$$

with $|\dot{Q}_\alpha| < \kappa$. If α is a successor (or 0) then

- (i) \dot{Q}_α^0 is forced to be a f -preserving forcing that freezes NS_{ω_1} along f and
- (ii) \ddot{Q}_α^1 is a name for a f -preserving partial order forcing SRP.

Note that \dot{Q}_α^0 exists by Lemma 4.9 and \ddot{Q}_α^1 exists by Corollary ??.

If α is a limit ordinal, then

- (i) \dot{Q}_α^0 is $L(\alpha)$ if that is a \mathbb{P}_α -name for a f -preserving forcing and the trivial forcing else,
- (ii) \ddot{Q}_α^1 is as in the successor case.

It is clear that this constitutes a Q -iteration and hence \mathbb{P} preserves f and in particular ω_1 is not collapsed. \mathbb{P} is κ -c.c.. As we use f -preserving forcings guessed by L at limit steps, QM holds in the extension as witnessed by f by the usual argument. \square

If one is only interested in forcing “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense”, a slightly weaker large cardinal assumption is sufficient.

Theorem 6.4. *Suppose f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and κ is an inaccessible limit of $<\kappa$ -supercompact cardinals. Then there is a f -preserving forcing extension in which NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense.*

Proof. Indeed any nice iteration

$$\mathbb{P} = \langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha, \dot{Q}_\beta \mid \alpha \leq \kappa, \beta < \kappa \rangle$$

so that for all $\gamma < \kappa$

$$V_\kappa \models \text{“}\mathbb{P}_\gamma \text{ is a } Q\text{-iteration w.r.t. } f\text{”}$$

preserves f and forces “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense”. To see this, first of all note that \mathbb{P} is κ -c.c. by Fact ???. Now any \mathbb{P}_γ for $\gamma < \kappa$ preserves f by Theorem 4.8 applied in V_κ and it follows immediately that \mathbb{P} preserves f . Suppose now that G is \mathbb{P} -generic and

$$V[G] \models S \in \text{NS}_{\omega_1}^+.$$

There must be some nonlimit $\gamma < \kappa$ with $S \in V[G_\gamma]$. As $\dot{Q}_\gamma^{G_\gamma}$ freezes NS_{ω_1} along f in $V[G_\gamma]$, there must be some $b \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ with $S_b^f \subseteq S \pmod{\text{NS}_{\omega_1}}$ in $V[G_{\gamma+1}]$, hence in $V[G]$. \square

Neither of these results answers the original question, as Woodin asks specifically for a semiproper forcing, but Q -iterations are not stationary set preserving if NS_{ω_1} is not ω_1 -dense to begin with. However, we have one more trick up our sleeves: For once we will pick f more carefully.

Lemma 6.5. *Suppose $\vec{S} = \langle S_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$ is a sequence of pairwise disjoint stationary sets in ω_1 and $\diamond(S_\alpha)$ holds for all $\alpha < \omega_1$. Then there is f witnessing $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ so that for all $\alpha < \omega_1$, there is $p \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ with $S_p^f \subseteq S_\alpha$.*

Proof. From $\diamond(S_\alpha)$, we get a witness f_α of $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ so that $f_\alpha(\beta)$ is the trivial filter if $\beta \notin S$. Let $\langle b_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$ be an enumeration of some maximal antichain in $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ of size \aleph_1 . Now define $f: \omega_1 \rightarrow H_{\omega_1}$ as follows: For $\beta \in S_\alpha$ we let

$$f(\beta) = \{p \in \text{Col}(\omega, \beta) \mid \exists p' \leq p \exists q \in f_\alpha(\beta) \ p' \leq b_\alpha \hat{\wedge} q\}.$$

Note that there is at most one α with $\beta \in S_\alpha$. If β is not in any S_α , let $f(\beta)$ be the trivial filter. It is now clear that $S_{b_\alpha}^f \subseteq S_\alpha$, but we still need to verify that f indeed witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$. So let $p \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ and

$$\vec{D} = \langle D_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$$

be a sequence of dense subsets of $\text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$. We have that show that

$$\{\beta < \omega_1 \mid p \in f(\beta) \wedge \forall \gamma < \beta \ f(\beta) \cap D_\gamma \neq \emptyset\}$$

is stationary. So let C be a club in ω_1 . Find α so that b_α is compatible with p and note that we may assume further that $p \leq b_\alpha$. Hence we can write $p = b_\alpha \hat{\wedge} q$. For $\gamma < \omega_1$, let

$$D'_\gamma = \{r \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1) \mid b_\alpha \hat{\wedge} r \in D_\gamma\}$$

and note that D'_γ is dense. As f_α witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$, we may find $\beta \in C$ large enough so that

$$(\beta.i) \ p \in \text{Col}(\omega, \beta),$$

$$(\beta.ii) \ q \in f_\alpha(\beta) \text{ and}$$

$$(\beta.iii) \ \forall \gamma < \beta \ f_\alpha(\beta) \cap D'_\gamma \neq \emptyset.$$

It follows that $p \in f(\beta)$ and that

$$\forall \gamma < \beta \ f(\beta) \cap D_\gamma \neq \emptyset.$$

□

Corollary 6.6. *Assume there is a supercompact limit of supercompact cardinals. Then there is a semiproper forcing \mathbb{P} with $V^{\mathbb{P}} \models \text{QM}$.*

Proof. By otherwise taking advantage of the least supercompact, we may assume all stationary-set preserving forcings are semiproper. Next, we force with

$$\mathbb{P}_0 = \text{Col}(\omega_1, 2^{\omega_1}).$$

Let G be \mathbb{P}_0 -generic over V . There is then a partition $\langle T_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$ of ω_1 into stationary sets so that whenever $S \in V$ is stationary in ω_1 , then $T_\alpha \cap S$ is stationary for all $\alpha < \omega_1$. Also, there is an enumeration

$$\langle S_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$$

of all stationary sets in V . Now in $V[G]$,

$$\langle S_\alpha \cap T_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$$

is a sequence of pairwise disjoint stationary sets. Moreover, \diamond_T holds for any stationary $T \subseteq \omega_1$. By Lemma 6.5, there is a witness f of $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ so that for any $\alpha < \omega_1$ there is $p \in \text{Col}(\omega, \omega_1)$ with $S_p^f \subseteq (S_\alpha \cap T_\alpha)$. Thus for any stationary $S \in V$, S contains some S_p^f . Note that any further f -preserving forcing preserves the stationarity of any S_p^f and hence does not kill any stationary $S \in V$. By Theorem 6.3, there is an f -preserving \mathbb{P}_1 that forces QM. It follows that back in V , the two-step forcing $\mathbb{P}_0 * \dot{\mathbb{P}}_1$ preserves stationary sets, hence is semiproper, and forces QM. □

Similarly, can prove the following from Theorem 6.4.

Corollary 6.7. *Assume there is an inaccessible κ that is a limit of $<\kappa$ -supercompact cardinals. Then there is a stationary set preserving forcing \mathbb{P} with*

$$V^{\mathbb{P}} \models \text{“NS}_{\omega_1} \text{ is } \omega_1\text{-dense”}.$$

Assuming one more (sufficiently past κ -) supercompact cardinal below κ , one can replace stationary set preserving forcing by semiproper forcing.

So the answer to Woodin’s question is yes assuming sufficiently large cardinals.

6.1 QM implies $\mathbb{Q}_{\max}\text{-}(\ast)$

We apply the Blueprint Theorems to show that the relation between QM and $\mathbb{Q}_{\max}\text{-}(\ast)$ is analogous to the one of MM^{++} and (\ast) .

Typicality of \mathbb{Q}_{\max} is witnessed by $\Psi^{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}}$ consisting of the formulae

- $\psi_0^{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}}(x) = “x \in \dot{I}”$,
- $\psi_1^{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}}(x) = “x = \dot{f}”$ and
- $\psi_2^{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}}(x) = “x = \dot{f} \wedge x$ witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})”$.

Note that $\psi_2^{\mathbb{Q}_{\max}}(x)$ is (in context equivalent to) a Π_1 -formula.

Theorem 6.8. *QM implies $\mathbb{Q}_{\max}\text{-}(\ast)$.*

Proof. Suppose f witnesses QM. We already mentioned that forcing an instance of SRP is f -preserving and so SRP holds. \mathcal{H}_f is almost a \mathbb{Q}_{\max} -condition by Lemma 4.2. \mathbb{Q}_{\max} accepts \diamond -iterations by Lemma 5.19. $\mathbb{Q}_{\max}\text{-}(\ast)$ now follows from the First Blueprint Theorem 5.44. \square

Definition 6.9. For $\Delta \subseteq \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$, Δ -BQM states that there is f witnessing $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ so that

$$\Delta\text{-BFA}(\{\mathbb{P} \mid \mathbb{P} \text{ preserves } f\})$$

holds.

We mention that already $\text{BQM} = \emptyset\text{-BQM}$ is enough to prove “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense”.

Finally, we remark that one can show that fragments of QM hold in \mathbb{Q}_{\max} -extensions of canonical models of determinacy. For example $\text{QM}(\mathfrak{c})$, i.e. QM for forcings of size at most continuum, holds in the \mathbb{Q}_{\max} -extension of models of $\text{AD}_{\mathbb{R}} + “\Theta$ is regular” + $V = L(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}))$ and BQM holds in the \mathbb{Q}_{\max} -extension of suitable \mathbb{R} -mice.

Finally we want to mention that Woodin has formulated a forcing axiom $\text{FA}(\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega}))[\mathfrak{c}]$ somewhat similar to $\text{QM}(\mathfrak{c})$ and has proven that it holds in the \mathbb{Q}_{\max} -extension of a model of $\text{AD}_{\mathbb{R}} + “\Theta$ is regular” + $V = L(\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R}))$, see Theorem 9.54 in [Woo10]¹⁵. The global version $\text{FA}(\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega}))$ of Woodin’s axiom does *not* imply “ NS_{ω_1} is ω_1 -dense”. The reason is that if f witnesses $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ and $\text{MM}^{++}(f)$ holds then $\text{FA}(\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega}))$ is true, however NS_{ω_1} is not ω_1 -dense.

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¹⁵We remark once again that Woodin has defined $\diamond(\omega_1^{<\omega})$ slightly different than we have here.

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