

γ -Sets and the $\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \mathcal{A} \\ \mathcal{B}_\infty \end{smallmatrix}\right)$ Selection Principle

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This dissertation titled
 γ -Sets and the $\binom{\mathcal{A}}{\mathcal{B}_\infty}$ Selection Principle

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Question 2.1. If both spaces X and Y satisfy (Ω_{∞}) , does $X \cup Y$ satisfy (Ω_{∞}) ?

Question 2.2. If X and Y are γ -sets, does $X \cup Y$ satisfy (Ω_{∞}) ?

Question 2.3. If X and Y both satisfy the (Ω_{∞}) selection principle, does $X \times Y$ satisfy the (Ω_{∞}) selection principle?

We will later show that if X satisfies (Ω_{∞}) , then X^n satisfies (Ω_{∞}) for all $n < \omega$.

Question 2.4. If X and Y both satisfy the (\mathcal{O}_{∞}) selection principle, does $X \times Y$ satisfy the (\mathcal{O}_{∞}) selection principle? What can be said about X^n ?

A positive answer to the first three questions, assuming CH , will prove the consistency of Conjecture 1.1.

CHAPTER 3: GENERAL FILTER CHARACTERIZATIONS

3.1: ω -covers and Footprint Filters

Basic results for filters on ω will allow us to prove new results concerning the selection principles mentioned in Conjecture 1.1.

Definition 3.1. A *filter* \mathcal{F} on a nonempty set X is a nonempty collection of subsets of X such that

1. $\emptyset \notin \mathcal{F}$,
2. if $F_1, F_2 \in \mathcal{F}$, then $F_1 \cap F_2 \in \mathcal{F}$,
3. if $F \in \mathcal{F}$ and $F \subseteq A$, then $A \in \mathcal{F}$.

Recall the following basic definitions.

Definition 3.2.

- (a) A *base* (*filter base*) for a filter \mathcal{F} is a subfamily of \mathcal{F} that contains subsets of all the sets in \mathcal{F} . In other words, a subfamily \mathcal{B} of \mathcal{F} is a base for \mathcal{F} if for every set $F \in \mathcal{F}$, there is a set $B \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $B \subseteq F$.
- (b) \mathcal{B} is a *sub-base* for a filter \mathcal{F} if $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathcal{F}$ and every element of \mathcal{F} contains a finite intersection of sets from \mathcal{B} .
- (c) Let \mathcal{A} be a family of subsets of X . We say \mathcal{A} satisfies the *finite intersection property* if every finite subfamily of \mathcal{A} has a nonempty intersection.

Also recall the following properties.

Proposition 3.1.

CHAPTER 4: CONSTRUCTING γ -SETS

We saw in Chapter 2 that there is an example of a space satisfying $(\mathcal{O}_\infty^\Omega)$ that isn't a γ -space if we assume \diamond_{ω_1} . It is natural to ask if we can weaken this assumption somewhat. We know that a ‘‘real’’ example of this phenomenon does not exist. The next step is to try to construct a counterexample from assumptions about cardinal characteristics of the continuum.

4.1: Cardinal Characteristics

We first recall a few cardinal characteristics of the continuum. In particular, \mathfrak{p} , \mathfrak{b} , and \mathfrak{t} .

Definition 4.1. A family of countable sets has the *strong finite intersection property* if every nonempty finite subfamily has an infinite intersection. The cardinal characteristic \mathfrak{p} is the smallest cardinality of any family $\mathcal{F} \subseteq [\omega]^\omega$ which has the strong finite intersection property, but does not have a pseudo-intersection.

Notice that this means whenever $X \subseteq [\omega]^\omega$ has the strong finite intersection property and $|X| < \mathfrak{p}$, then X has a pseudo-intersection.

Definition 4.2.

- (a) \leq^* is the quasi-ordering defined on ω^ω by $f \leq^* g$ if $f(n) \leq g(n)$ for all but finitely many $n < \omega$.
- (b) $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \omega^\omega$ is *unbounded* if the set of all increasing enumerations of elements of \mathcal{B} is unbounded in ω^ω with respect to \leq^* .
- (c) \mathfrak{b} is the minimal cardinality of a \leq^* -unbounded subset of ω^ω .

Definition 4.3. A *tower* of cardinality κ is a set $T \subseteq [\omega]^\omega$ which can be enumerated bijectively as $\{x_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa\}$, such that for all $\alpha < \beta < \kappa$, $x_\beta \leq^* x_\alpha$. The cardinal characteristic \mathfrak{t} is the smallest cardinality of a tower which has no pseudo-intersection.

finitely many k . For each large enough k , $m_{n_k}^k$ is large enough so that

$$\begin{aligned} x_\alpha \cap (m_{n_k}^k, m_{n_{k+1}}^k) &\subseteq (x_\alpha^0 \cup x_\alpha^1) \cap (m_{n_k}^k, m_{n_{k+1}}^k) \\ &\subseteq (x_{\alpha_{k+1}}^0 \cup x_{\alpha_{k+1}}^1) \cap (m_{n_k}^k, m_{n_{k+1}}^k) \\ &= \emptyset \end{aligned}$$

as $n_k \in D_{k+1}$. Thus, $x \in U_{n_k}^k$. ■

One can also ask if assuming $(\tilde{\Omega}_{\infty})$ will reverse the implications for the newer selection principles in (1.1).

Question 5.8. Can any of the implications in (1.1) be reversed assuming $(\tilde{\Omega}_{\infty})$?

It is unknown whether or not we can prove the consistency of Conjecture 1.1 assuming CH . A positive answer to Question 5.8 will at least allow us to prove there exists such spaces mentioned in Conjecture 1.1 if we assume $(\tilde{\Omega}_{\infty})$ instead of CH .

CHAPTER 6: RESULTS CONCERNING FILTERS ON ω

We were unable to prove the consistency of both items in Conjecture 1.1, but we were able to prove new results about the selections principles considered in the conjecture. We will revisit these properties and the open questions asked in the previous chapters to develop new results and open questions concerning filters on ω .

6.1: Properties and Open Questions

It is consistent that the union of two γ -sets need not be a γ -set. Using the filter characterizations, this means if we have two filters \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_2 on ω , each having a pseudo-intersection, then the filter generated by $\mathcal{F}_1 \cup \mathcal{F}_2$ is not guaranteed to have a pseudo-intersection. We will give an example illustrating why the union is not guaranteed to have a pseudo-intersection. First, recall the following definitions.

Definition 6.1.

- (a) A filter \mathcal{F} is an *ultrafilter* on X if for any $A \subseteq X$, either $A \in \mathcal{F}$ or $X \setminus A \in \mathcal{F}$.
- (b) An ultrafilter on X is *non-principle* if it contains no finite subsets of X . In other words, it contains only infinite subsets of X .

Unlike filters on ω , it is impossible for a non-principle ultrafilter on ω to have an infinite pseudo-intersection.

Lemma 6.1. No non-principle ultrafilter on ω has a pseudo-intersection.

Proof. Let \mathcal{F} be a non-principle ultrafilter on ω . Assume \mathcal{F} has a pseudo-intersection $P \in [\omega]^\omega$. Then, $P \setminus F$ is finite for every $F \in \mathcal{F}$. Since \mathcal{F} is an ultrafilter on ω , either $P \in \mathcal{F}$ or $\omega \setminus P \in \mathcal{F}$. However, $P \setminus (\omega \setminus P) = P$ is infinite, so $\omega \setminus P \notin \mathcal{F}$. Therefore, $P \in \mathcal{F}$.

Consider a set G such that both G and $\omega \setminus G$ contain infinitely many elements of P . Then, either $G \in \mathcal{F}$ or $\omega \setminus G \in \mathcal{F}$. If $G \in \mathcal{F}$, then $P \setminus G$ is finite, which is a

contradiction. If $\omega \setminus G \in \mathcal{F}$, then $P \setminus (\omega \setminus G) = P \cap G$ is finite, leading to another contradiction. Thus \mathcal{F} cannot have a pseudo-intersection. ■

We now present an example of two filters having a pseudo-intersection such that the filter generated by their union does not have a pseudo-intersection.

Define the filters \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_2 as follows. Let $X \in \mathcal{F}_1$ if and only if X contains cofinitely many even numbers and \mathcal{U} -many odd numbers, where \mathcal{U} is a non-principle ultrafilter. Let \mathcal{F}_2 be the cofinite filter on the evens.

\mathcal{F}_1 has a pseudo-intersection, namely the evens. \mathcal{F}_2 has the same pseudo-intersection. Furthermore, the filter generated by $\mathcal{F}_1 \cup \mathcal{F}_2$ has the finite intersection property, as it generates \mathcal{F}_2 .

Next, define \mathcal{F}_3 to be the cofinite filter on the odds. \mathcal{F}_3 has a pseudo-intersection, namely the odds. However, the filter generated by $\mathcal{F}_1 \cup \mathcal{F}_3$ generates the ultrafilter \mathcal{U} , which does not have a pseudo-intersection.

To guarantee the filter generated by the union does have a pseudo-intersection, we need the notion of “ez” filters.

Definition 6.2.

- (a) Given a collection \mathcal{B} of subsets of ω , we denote by \mathcal{B}^+ the collection of sets in ω which have nonempty intersection with each member of \mathcal{B} . That is,

$$\mathcal{B}^+ = \{S \subseteq \omega : S \cap T \neq \emptyset, \forall T \in \mathcal{B}\}.$$

- (b) We say a filter \mathcal{F} on ω is *ez* if every \mathcal{F}^+ set has a pseudo-intersection.

Lemma 6.2. Let X be a γ -set, $\mathcal{U} = \{U_n : n < \omega\}$ be an ω -cover of X , and \mathcal{F} be the footprint filter associated with \mathcal{U} on ω . $B \subseteq \omega$ is in \mathcal{F}^+ if and only if $\{U_n : n \in B\}$ is an ω -cover.

Proof. Suppose $B \subset \omega$ is in \mathcal{F}^+ . Then B has a nonempty intersection with every $F \in \mathcal{F}$. Recall,

$$\mathcal{F} = \left\{ Y \subseteq \omega : \bigcap_{i < n} A_{x_i} \subseteq Y \text{ for } n < \omega, A_{x_i} \in \mathcal{A}, \text{ and } x_i \in X \right\},$$

where $\mathcal{A} = \{A_x : x \in X\}$ and $A_x = \{n < \omega : x \in U_n\}$. This means for any $F \in \mathcal{F}$, $\bigcap_{i < n} A_{x_i} \subseteq F$. Note that $\bigcap_{i < n} A_{x_i}$ is the set of $n < \omega$ such that $\{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_i\} \subseteq U_n$. Since $B \cap F \neq \emptyset$, there exists an $n < \omega$ such that $\{U_n : n \in B\}$ is an ω -cover of X .

To prove the reverse implication, let $\{U_n : n \in B\}$ be an ω -cover of X . Then, $\{x_i : i < k\}$ is contained in some U_n for $n \in B$. This implies $\bigcap_{i < n} A_{x_i} \subseteq B$. As $\mathcal{F} = \{Y \subseteq \omega : \bigcap_{i < n} A_{x_i} \subseteq Y \text{ for } n < \omega\}$, B and any $F \in \mathcal{F}$ would have a nonempty intersection. Therefore, $B \in \mathcal{F}^+$. ■

Given a γ -set X and a countable ω -cover \mathcal{U} of X , the footprint filter associated with \mathcal{U} on ω is always ez. Recall, being a γ -set means the footprint filter \mathcal{F} has a pseudo-intersection. By the previous lemma, a set B is in \mathcal{F}^+ if and only if $\{U_n : n \in B\}$ is an ω -cover of X . As X is a γ -set, there is a γ -subcover of $\{U_n : n \in B\}$. Representing γ -sets using filters, it follows \mathcal{F}^+ would have a pseudo-intersection. This leads us to the following.

Corollary 6.1. Any filter on ω generated by fewer than \mathfrak{p} sets is ez.

Recall, \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_3 each had a pseudo-intersection, but the filter generated by $\mathcal{F}_1 \cup \mathcal{F}_3$ did not. Furthermore, these filters were not ez. Adding the condition that two filters are ez will guarantee the union generated by both filters will have a pseudo-intersection. As ez filters are relevant to γ -sets, this emphasizes why this kind of pathology does not happen with γ -sets.

It is also worth noting that ez filters share a connection with certain topological spaces.

π -base? If the answer is negative, then which conditions would provide a positive solution?

Question 6.3. Suppose \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 generate the filters \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_2 , respectively, on ω . Furthermore, suppose both \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 have a countable π -base. Does $\mathcal{A}_1 \times \mathcal{A}_2$ have a countable π -base? Which conditions will provide a positive solution?

We do know however that the union of two spaces satisfying $(\mathfrak{O}_\infty^\Omega)$ also satisfies $(\mathfrak{O}_\infty^\Omega)$. This means if \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_2 are filters generated by \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 on ω , then $\mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2$ has a countable π -base.

It is also unclear whether or not the union of two γ -sets satisfies $(\mathfrak{O}_\infty^\Omega)$.

Question 6.4. Suppose \mathcal{F}_1 and \mathcal{F}_2 are filters on ω , each having a pseudo-intersection. Does the filter generated by $\mathcal{F}_1 \cup \mathcal{F}_2$ have a countable π -base? If not, then under which conditions does it have a countable π -base?

We will now outline our results on linear σ -additivity using filters. Consider the filter on ω generated by $\mathcal{F} = \bigcup_n \mathcal{F}_n$ with filters $\mathcal{F}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{F}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{F}_3 \dots$ on ω . Furthermore, let $\mathcal{A} = \bigcup_n \mathcal{A}_n$ with $\mathcal{A}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{A}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{A}_3 \dots$, where \mathcal{A}_n generates \mathcal{F}_n for each n . We have the following.

1. If each filter \mathcal{F}_n has a pseudo-intersection, then the filter generated by \mathcal{F} has a pseudo-intersection.
2. If each filter \mathcal{F}_n has a countable π -base, then the filter generated by \mathcal{F} has a countable π -base.
3. If each generating set \mathcal{A}_n has a countable π -base, then \mathcal{A} has a countable π -base.

We also proved the covering property $(\mathfrak{O}_\infty^\Omega)$ is preserved under finite powers. It was shown that the (\mathfrak{R}^Ω) selection principle is preserved under finite powers by Scheepers,

Just, Miller, and Szeptycki in [27]. It is unknown if the covering property $(\mathfrak{c}_\infty^\Omega)$ is preserved under finite powers.

Below is a table summarizing the known results and open questions for filters on ω .

Table 6.1: Closure Properties for Filters on ω

	Fin. Unions	Inc. Unions	Fin. Products	Fin. Powers
Filter has a pseudo-intersection	No	Yes	No	Yes
Filter has a countable π -base	?	Yes	?	Yes
Generating set has a countable π -base	Yes	Yes	?	?

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