

THE TREE PROPERTY AT THE SUCCESSOR OF A SINGULAR LIMIT OF MEASURABLE CARDINALS

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ABSTRACT. Assume λ is a singular limit of η supercompact cardinals, where $\eta \leq \lambda$ is a limit ordinal. We present two methods for arranging the tree property to hold at λ^+ while making λ^+ the successor of the limit of the first η measurable cardinals. The first method is then used to get, from the same assumptions, the tree property at \aleph_{η^2+1} with the failure of *SCH* at \aleph_{η^2} . This extends results of Neeman and Sinapova. The second method is also used to get the tree property at the successor of an arbitrary singular cardinal, which extends some results of Magidor-Shelah, Neeman and Sinapova.

1. INTRODUCTION

An important theorem of Magidor [4] says that it is consistent, relative to the existence of a strongly compact cardinal, that the least strongly compact cardinal is also the least measurable cardinal. This result is generalized by Kimchi-Magidor (see [8]) who showed that for any natural number n , it is consistent, relative to the existence of n supercompact cardinals, that there are at least n strongly compact cardinals, and the first n strongly compact cardinals are exactly the first n measurable cardinals. A major open problem is if it is consistent for the first ω strongly compact cardinals to coincide with the first ω measurable cardinals. In [8], Sargsyan, describes the problems as follows: “It is a difficult problem, one whose ultimate solution might just lie elsewhere than the places that were suspected in the past. Understanding the combinatorics of λ^+ where λ is a limit of strongly compact cardinals might eventually lead to its negative resolution”.

On the other hand a result of Magidor-Shelah [5] says that if λ is a singular limit of strongly compact cardinals, then λ^+ has the tree property. However this result is not necessarily true for measurable cardinals. This can be seen either using results from core model theory or by a simple forcing argument. Assume $V = \mathcal{K}$, where \mathcal{K} is the core model for

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a strong cardinal, and suppose that λ is a singular limit of measurable cardinals. Then \square_λ^* holds, in particular there are special λ^+ -Aronszajn trees in \mathcal{K} , hence the tree property fails at λ^+ . On the other hand, if λ is as above and if we force \square_λ^* using its initial approximations, then in the resulting generic extension, λ remains the singular limit of measurable cardinals, but the tree property fails at λ^+ .

Motivated by these results, we prove the following.

Theorem 1.1. *Assume λ is a singular limit of η supercompact cardinals, where $\eta \leq \lambda$ is a limit ordinal. Then there is a generic extension in which:*

- (a) λ^+ is preserved and it is the successor of the limit of the first η measurable cardinals,
- (b) The tree property holds at λ^+ .

Our result shows that the tree property is not a suitable candidate for the study of the above cited problem, as suggested by Sargsyan. It is worth mentioning that it is easy to modify Neeman's proof of the tree property at $\aleph_{\omega+1}$ in [7] to get the tree property at the successor of the supremum of the first ω measurable cardinals. This is enough to show that the tree property is not sufficiently strong to separate the first limit of measurable cardinals from the first limit of strongly compact cardinals. The main advantage of the above theorem is that it works for all cofinalities and also the proofs of the theorem allow us to get more results about the tree property.

In this paper we will present two different proofs of the above theorem, the first one uses diagonal Magidor forcing with interleaved collapses and the second one uses Levy collapses.

The diagonal Magidor forcing with interleaved collapses was introduced by Sinapova [9] (see also [11]), where she used the forcing to get the failure of SCH at $\aleph_{\omega_1^2}$ together with the existence of a very good scale and a bad scale at $\aleph_{\omega_1^2+1}$. Our first proof of Theorem 1.1 uses the above forcing notion and is much more complicated than the second proof which uses Levy collapses. The reason for giving such a proof is that, unlike the second proof, the method is more flexible and allows us to add the failure of SCH into our conclusion. To be more precise, we use the method to prove the following theorem, which extends results of Neeman [6] and Sinapova [11], [12].

Theorem 1.2. *Assume λ is a singular limit of η supercompact cardinals, where $\eta \leq \lambda$ is a limit ordinal. Then there is a generic extension in which:*

- (a) $\lambda^+ = \aleph_{\eta^2+1}$,
- (b) \aleph_{η^2} is a singular strong limit cardinal and $2^{\aleph_{\eta^2}} > \aleph_{\eta^2+1}$,
- (c) The tree property holds at \aleph_{η^2+1} .

The second method of the proof uses the product of Levy collapses over a suitable prepared model. This method was first used by Neeman [7] to get the tree property at $\aleph_{\omega+1}$. We extend Neeman's proof to cover uncountable cofinalities and use it to present a different proof of Theorem 1.1. The method of the proof is also used to get the following theorem, which extends the results of Magidor-Shelah [5], Neeman [7] and Sinapova [10].

Theorem 1.3. *Assume λ is a singular limit of η supercompact cardinals, where $\eta \leq \lambda$ is a limit ordinal. Then there is a generic extension in which $\lambda^+ = \aleph_{\eta+1}$ and the tree property holds at $\aleph_{\eta+1}$.*

The structure of the paper is as follows. Section 2 is devoted to some preservation lemmas that will be used later. In section 3, we give a proof of theorem 1.1 using diagonal Magidor forcing with interleaved collapses, developed by Sinapova [9], [11]. In section 4, we show how to modify the above argument to get a proof of Theorem 1.2. In section 5, we present another proof of Theorem 1.1 which uses ideas developed by Neeman [7] and finally in section 6, we sketch the proof of Theorem 1.3.

2. SOME PRESERVATION LEMMAS

In this section we present some definitions and results that will be used in later sections of this paper. Our main tool for the study of the tree property is the notion of (narrow) systems introduced by Magidor and Shelah [5].

Definition 2.1. *Let κ be a regular cardinal. A narrow system at κ is a tuple $\mathcal{S} = \langle I, \mathcal{R} \rangle$ where for some ρ , we have:*

- (1) (Narrowness) $\rho^+ < \kappa$, $|\mathcal{R}|^+ < \kappa$ and I is unbounded in κ .

- (2) For every $R \in \mathcal{R}$, R is a tree like partial order on $I \times \rho$, i.e. it is a transitive, reflective and anti-symmetric relation and for every x, y, z if yRx and zRx then either yRz or zRy .
- (3) For every $R \in \mathcal{R}$, $\langle \alpha, \zeta \rangle R \langle \beta, \xi \rangle$ implies $\alpha \leq \beta$ and if $\alpha = \beta$ then $\zeta = \xi$.
- (4) (Connectedness) for every $\alpha < \beta$ in I there are $R \in \mathcal{R}$, $\zeta, \xi < \rho$ such that $\langle \alpha, \zeta \rangle R \langle \beta, \xi \rangle$.

Sets of the form $\{\alpha\} \times \rho$ are called the levels of \mathcal{S} .

A branch through a narrow system \mathcal{S} as above is a subset $b \subseteq I \times \rho$ such that there is $R \in \mathcal{R}$ for which $\langle b, R \rangle$ is a total order. b is cofinal if it meets cofinally many levels in \mathcal{S} .

A system of branches is a collection of branches $\{b_j \mid j < |\mathcal{R} \times \rho|\}$ such that each b_j is a branch and for every $\alpha \in I$ there is j such that $b_j \cap (\{\alpha\} \times \rho) \neq \emptyset$.

Definition 2.2. Let κ be a regular cardinal. The narrow system property at κ , $\text{NSP}(\kappa)$ is the assertion that every narrow system at κ has a cofinal branch.

Systems are tuples that satisfy all requirements except for the first from definition of narrow systems. Systems, which were first defined by Magidor and Shelah [5], appear naturally when analyzing names of trees under forcing notions. The advantage of this definition is that even when restricting the system to a cofinal subset of I , it remains a system. In a similar way, a name of a system is a system. For more details about systems and narrow systems see [3].

The next lemma is proved by Sinapova [10] in the case ν has cofinality ω ; but her proof can be modified for all singular cardinals.

Lemma 2.3. (Preservation lemma 1) Let ν be a singular cardinal and let $\kappa \leq \eta < \nu$ be regular cardinals. Let \mathbb{Q} be a η^+ -c.c. forcing notion and let \mathbb{R} be a η^+ -closed forcing notion. Assume that in $V^{\mathbb{Q}}$ there is a narrow system \mathcal{S} of height ν^+ , levels of width η and index set of cardinality κ . Assume that in $V^{\mathbb{Q} \times \mathbb{R}}$ there is a system of branches for \mathcal{S} .

Then, in $V^{\mathbb{Q}}$ there is a cofinal branch for \mathcal{S} .

For the proof of Theorem 1.2 we need the following lemma from [12]. Again the lemma is stated and proved for the countable cofinality case, but its proof can be modified to get the following stronger result.

Lemma 2.4. (*Preservation lemma 2*) *Suppose that ν is a singular cardinal, $\kappa, \tau < \nu$ are regular cardinals, and in V, \mathbb{Q} is κ^+ -c.c notion of forcing and \mathbb{R} is a $\max(\kappa, \tau)^+$ -closed notion of forcing. Let E be \mathbb{Q} -generic over V and let F be \mathbb{R} -generic over $V[E]$. Suppose that $\mathcal{S} = \langle I, \mathcal{R} \rangle$ is a narrow system in $V[E]$ of height ν^+ , levels of size κ , and with $\mathcal{R} = \langle R_\sigma : \sigma < \tau \rangle$. Suppose that in $V[E][F]$ there are (not necessarily all unbounded) branches $\langle b_{\sigma, \delta} : \sigma \in L, \delta < \kappa \rangle$, such that:*

- (1) *every $b_{\sigma, \delta}$ is a branch through R_σ , and for some $(\sigma, \delta) \in L \times \kappa$, $b_{\sigma, \delta}$ is unbounded.*
- (2) *for all $\alpha \in I$, there is $(\sigma, \delta) \in L \times \kappa$ such that $S_\alpha \cap b_{\sigma, \delta} \neq \emptyset$.*

Then \mathcal{S} has an unbounded branch in $V[E]$.

We will frequently use Lemmas 2.3 and 2.4, by defining a tuple $\mathcal{S} = \langle I, \mathcal{R} \rangle$ and claiming that it forms a narrow system which satisfies the assumptions of the above lemmas, without verifying our claim. In such cases, either our claim is trivial or can be obtained by standard arguments, such as those given in [10], [11] or [12].

3. DIAGONAL MAGIDOR FORCING WITH INTERLEAVED COLLAPSES

In this section we give the proof of Theorem 1.1 using diagonal Magidor forcing with interleaved collapses, introduced by Sinapova [9]. Thus suppose that λ is a singular limit of η supercompact cardinals, where $\eta \leq \lambda$ is a limit ordinal. If $\eta = \lambda$, then λ itself is the limit of the first η measurable cardinals, and there is nothing to do. So we can assume that $\eta < \lambda$. Let $\langle \kappa_\xi : \xi \leq \eta \rangle$ be an increasing and continuous sequence of cardinals so that:

- (1) Each κ_ξ , where $\xi = 0$ or ξ is a successor ordinal is a supercompact cardinal,
- (2) $\kappa_\eta = \lambda$.

We further assume that

- (3) $\eta < \kappa_0 = \kappa$.

At the end of the proof, we will show how to remove this extra assumption. Set $I = \{\xi : \xi = 0 \text{ or } \xi \text{ is a successor ordinal}\}$. It follows that for each $\xi \leq \eta$, if $\xi \in I$, then κ_ξ is a supercompact cardinal and if $\xi \notin I$, then κ_ξ is a singular cardinal. We may further assume that

- (4) For $\xi \in I$, κ_ξ is Laver indestructible under κ_ξ -directed closed forcing notions,

(5) For all $\xi \leq \eta$, $2^{\kappa^\xi} = \kappa_\xi^+$.

Notation 3.1. For each cardinal α , let α_* denote the least measurable cardinal above α , if it exists, and let α_* be undefined otherwise.

Using the above notation, we have the following lemma, that we will use it extensively without any mention.

Lemma 3.2. Assume $\alpha > \eta$ and α_* is well-defined. Then $\alpha^{+\eta} < \alpha_*$; in particular $\forall \xi \leq \eta$, $(\alpha^{+\xi})_* = \alpha_*$.

Let \mathbb{C} be the Easton support iteration of $\text{Col}(\kappa_i^+, < \kappa_{i+1})$, $i < \eta$, and let H be \mathbb{C} -generic over V . The following lemma can be proved easily:

Lemma 3.3. (a) \mathbb{C} is κ -directed closed, in particular κ remains supercompact in $V[H]$.

(b) In $V[H]$, for all $\xi \leq \eta$, $\kappa_\xi = \kappa^{+\xi}$.

Work in $V[H]$. We now define our main forcing construction. The forcing defined below is motivated from [9] and [11], where we refer to them for more details. The following lemma can be proved as in [9], Lemma 3.3 and [11], Proposition 2.

Lemma 3.4. In $V[H]$, there are sequences $\langle U_\xi : \xi < \eta \rangle$, and $\langle K_\xi : \xi < \eta \rangle$ such that:

- (a) U_ξ is a normal measure on $P_\kappa(\kappa^{+\xi})$,
- (b) κ is $\kappa^{+\xi}$ -supercompact in $N_\xi = \text{Ult}(V[H], U_\xi)$,
- (c) The sequence $\langle U_\xi : \xi < \eta \rangle$ is Mitchell increasing, i.e., $\zeta < \xi < \eta \Rightarrow U_\zeta \in N_\xi$,
- (d) K_ξ is $\text{Col}(\kappa_*^{++}, < j_{U_\xi}(\kappa))_{N_\xi}$ -generic over N_ξ .

For $\xi < \eta$, let X_ξ be the set of all $x \in P_\kappa(\kappa^{+\xi})$ such that

- (1) $\kappa_x = x \cap \kappa$ is an ordinal $> \eta$,
- (2) For all $\zeta \leq \xi$, $\text{otp}(x \cap \kappa^{+\zeta}) = \kappa_x^{+\zeta}$, in particular $\text{otp}(x) = \kappa_x^{+\xi}$,
- (3) For all $\zeta \leq \xi$, $(\kappa_x^{+\zeta})^{< \kappa_x} \leq \kappa_x^{+\zeta+1}$.

By standard reflection arguments each $X_\xi \in U_\xi$. For $\zeta < \xi < \eta$, $x \in X_\xi$ and $Y \subseteq P_{\kappa_x}(x \cap \kappa^{+\zeta})$, let

$$\bar{Y} = \{\{\text{otp}(x \cap \delta) : \delta \in y\} : y \in Y\} \subseteq P_{\kappa_x}(\text{otp}(x \cap \kappa^{+\zeta})) = P_{\kappa_x}(\kappa_x^{+\zeta}).$$

Since $U_\zeta \in N_\xi$, there is a function $x \mapsto \bar{U}_{\xi,x}^\zeta$ such that $U_\zeta = [x \mapsto \bar{U}_{\xi,x}^\zeta]_{U_\xi}$ and each $\bar{U}_{\xi,x}^\zeta$ is a normal measure on $P_{\kappa_x}(\kappa_x^{+\zeta}) = P_{\kappa_x}(\text{otp}(x \cap \kappa^{+\zeta}))$. Lift this measure to a normal measure $U_{\xi,x}^\zeta$ on $P_{\kappa_x}(x \cap \kappa^{+\zeta})$, so that we have

$$\bar{U}_{\xi,x}^\zeta = \{\bar{Y} \subseteq P_{\kappa_x}(\kappa_x^{+\zeta}) : Y \in U_{\xi,x}^\zeta\}.$$

For $\xi < \eta$, let

$$B_\xi = \{z \in X_\xi : \forall \zeta < \tau < \xi (\bar{U}_{\xi,z}^\zeta = [x \mapsto \bar{U}_{\eta,x}^\zeta]_{U_{\xi,z}^\zeta})\}.$$

Then $B_\xi \in U_\xi$. Also for $\zeta < \xi < \eta$ and $x \in B_\xi$ let $j_{\xi,x}^\zeta = j_{\bar{U}_{\xi,x}^\zeta}$, and assume $K_{\xi,x}^\zeta$ is such that $K_\zeta = [x \mapsto K_{\xi,x}^\zeta]_{U_\xi}$. Then $K_{\xi,x}^\zeta$ is $\text{Col}((\kappa_x)^{++}, < j_{\xi,x}^\zeta(\kappa_x))_{N_{\xi,x}^\zeta}$ -generic over $N_{\xi,x}^\zeta$, where $N_{\xi,x}^\zeta = \text{Ult}(V, \bar{U}_{\xi,x}^\zeta)$.

We are now ready to define our main forcing notion. The forcing is essentially the same as the forcing construction in section 3.2 of [9].

Definition 3.5. *A condition in \mathbb{P} is a tuple $p = \langle g, f, H, F \rangle$ where:*

- (1) $\text{dom}(g)$ is a finite subset of η and $\text{dom}(H) = \eta \setminus \text{dom}(g)$,
- (2) For each $\xi \in \text{dom}(g)$, $g(\xi) \in B_\xi$,
- (3) For $\zeta < \xi$ in $\text{dom}(g)$, $g(\zeta) \prec g(\xi)$, i.e., $g(\zeta) \subseteq g(\xi)$ and $\text{otp}(g(\zeta)) < \kappa_{g(\xi)}$,
- (4) If $\xi > \max(\text{dom}(g))$, then $H(\xi) \in U_\xi$, $H(\xi) \subseteq B_\xi$,
- (5) If $\xi \notin \text{dom}(g)$ and $\xi < \max(\text{dom}(g))$, then setting $\zeta = \min(\text{dom}(g) \setminus \xi)$, we have $H(\xi) \in U_{\zeta, g(\zeta)}^\xi$,
- (6) If $\xi < \zeta$, $\xi \in \text{dom}(g)$ and $\zeta \notin \text{dom}(g)$, then for all $z \in H(\zeta)$, $g(\xi) \prec z$,
- (7) $\text{dom}(f) = \text{dom}(g)$, and for $\xi \in \text{dom}(f)$:
 - (7-1) If $\xi < \max(\text{dom}(f))$, then setting $\zeta = \min(\text{dom}(f) \setminus \xi)$, we have $f(\xi) \in \text{Col}((\kappa_{g(\xi)})^{++}, < \kappa_{g(\zeta)})$,
 - (7-2) If $\xi = \max(\text{dom}(f))$, then $f(\xi) \in \text{Col}((\kappa_{g(\xi)})^{++}, < \kappa)$,
- (8) $\text{dom}(F) = \text{dom}(H)$,
- (9) For $\xi \in \text{dom}(F)$, $F(\xi)$ is a function with domain $H(\xi)$, and for $y \in H(\xi)$
 - (9-1) If $\xi < \max(\text{dom}(g))$, then setting $\zeta = \min(\text{dom}(g) \setminus \xi)$ and $x = g(\zeta)$, we have $F(\xi)(y) \in \text{Col}((\kappa_y)^{++}, < \kappa_x)$ and $[\bar{F}(\xi)]_{U_{\zeta,x}^\xi} \in K_{\zeta,x}^\xi$, where $\bar{F}(\xi)$ is defined on $P_{\kappa_x}(\text{otp}(x \cap \kappa_\xi))$ by $\bar{y} \mapsto F(\xi)(y)$ (where $\bar{y} = \{\text{otp}(x \cap \eta) : \eta \in y\}$),

(9-2) If $\xi > \max(\text{dom}(g))$, then $F(\xi)(y) \in \text{Col}((\kappa_y)^{++}, < \kappa)$ and $[F(\xi)]_{U_\xi} \in K_\xi$.

Given a condition $p \in \mathbb{P}$, we denote it by

$$p = \langle g^p, f^p, H^p, F^p \rangle.$$

We call $\langle g^p, f^p \rangle$ the stem of p , and denote it by $\text{stem}(p)$. The following definition will be used later.

Definition 3.6. *The pair $\langle g, f \rangle$ is a \mathbb{P} -stem, if there exists $p \in \mathbb{P}$ such that $\text{stem}(p) = \langle g, f \rangle$*

We now define the order relation. In fact we define two kind of order relations \leq and \leq^* .

Definition 3.7. *Let $p, q \in \mathbb{P}$.*

(a) $p \leq q$ (p is an extension of q) iff

- (1) $g^p \supseteq g^q$,
- (2) $\xi \in \text{dom}(g^p) \setminus \text{dom}(g^q) \Rightarrow g^p(\xi) \in H^q(\xi)$,
- (3) If $\xi \notin \text{dom}(g^p)$, then $H^p(\xi) \subseteq H^q(\xi)$,
- (4) If $\xi \in \text{dom}(f^q)$ and $\xi < \max(\text{dom}(f^p))$, then setting $\zeta = \min(\text{dom}(f^p \setminus \xi))$, we have $f^p(\xi) \leq f^q(\xi) \upharpoonright \kappa_{g^p(\zeta)}$,
- (5) If $\xi = \max(\text{dom}(f^q))$, then $f^p(\xi) \leq f^q(\xi)$,
- (6) If $\xi \in \text{dom}(f^p) \setminus \text{dom}(f^q)$, then setting $\zeta = \min(\text{dom}(f^p \setminus \xi))$, we have $f^p(\xi) \leq F^q(\xi)(g^p(\xi)) \upharpoonright \kappa_{g^p(\zeta)}$,
- (7) If $\xi \in \text{dom}(f^p) \setminus \text{dom}(f^q)$ and $\xi = \max(\text{dom}(f^p))$, then $f^p(\xi) \leq F^q(\xi)(g^p(\xi))$,
- (8) If $\max(\text{dom}(g^p)) < \xi$, then for each $y \in H^p(\xi)$, $F^p(\xi)(y) \leq F^q(\xi)(y)$,
- (9) If $\xi \notin \text{dom}(g^p)$ and $\xi < \max(\text{dom}(g^p))$, then setting $\zeta = \min(\text{dom}(g^p) \setminus \xi)$, for each $y \in H^p(\xi)$ we have $F^p(\xi)(y) \leq F^q(\xi)(y) \upharpoonright \kappa_{g^p(\zeta)}$.

(b) $p \leq^* q$ (p is a Prikry or a direct extension of q) iff $p \leq q$ and $\text{dom}(g^p) = \text{dom}(g^q)$.

Let's state the main properties of the forcing notion \mathbb{P} . Let G be \mathbb{P} -generic over $V[H]$, and let $g^* = \bigcup_{p \in G} g^p$.

Lemma 3.8. *(Basic properties of the forcing notion \mathbb{P})*

- (a) \mathbb{P} satisfies the κ_η^+ -c.c..

- (b) g^* is a function with domain η .
- (c) For $\xi < \eta$ set $x_\xi^* = g^*(\xi)$ and $\tau_\xi = \kappa_{x_\xi^*} = x_\xi^* \cap \kappa$. Then $\kappa_\eta = \bigcup_{\xi < \eta} x_\xi^*$ and $\kappa = \sup_{\xi < \eta} \tau_\xi$.

We now state a factorization property of \mathbb{P} . Assume $p \in \mathbb{P}$ with $g^p = \{\langle \alpha, x \rangle\}$, where $\alpha < \eta$ is a limit ordinal. For $\xi < \alpha$ let $v_\xi = \bar{U}_{\alpha, x}^\xi$. Also for $\xi < \zeta < \alpha$ let $y \mapsto \bar{v}_{\zeta, y}^\xi$ be such that $v_\xi = [y \mapsto \bar{v}_{\zeta, y}^\xi]_{v_\zeta}$, where each $\bar{v}_{\zeta, y}^\xi$ is a normal measure on $P_{\kappa_x \cap y}(otp(\kappa_x \cap y))$. Also let $v_{\zeta, y}^\xi$ be the lift of $\bar{v}_{\zeta, y}^\xi$ on $P_{\kappa_x \cap y}(\kappa_x \cap y)$. Also we can find the sets $b_\xi \subseteq \overline{H(\xi)}$, $b_\xi \in v_\xi$, such that for all $\zeta < \gamma < \xi < \alpha$ and all $y \in b_\xi$, $\bar{v}_{\xi, y}^\zeta = [z \mapsto \bar{v}_{\gamma, z}^\zeta]_{v_{\xi, y}^\gamma}$. Also let $k_\xi = K_{\alpha, x}^\xi$.

Lemma 3.9. *(The factorization property) With the same notation as above, the forcing notion \mathbb{P}/p can be factored as $\mathbb{P}_0 \times \mathbb{P}_1$, where*

- (1) \mathbb{P}_0 is defined using:
- The normal measures $v_\xi = \bar{U}_{\alpha, x}^\xi$, $\xi < \alpha$,
 - The sets b_ξ , $\xi < \alpha$,
 - The functions $y \mapsto \bar{v}_{\zeta, y}^\xi$, for $\xi < \zeta < \alpha$,
 - The generic filters k_ξ , $\xi < \alpha$.
- (2) \mathbb{P}_1 is defined using:
- The normal measures U_ξ , $\alpha < \xi < \eta$,
 - The sets $H(\xi)$, $\alpha < \xi < \eta$,
 - The functions $x \mapsto \bar{U}_{\zeta, x}^\xi$, for $\alpha < \xi < \zeta < \eta$,
 - The generic filters K_ξ , $\alpha < \xi < \eta$.

With the same notation as above, forcing with \mathbb{P}_0 adds a generic sequence $\langle y_\xi : \xi < \alpha \rangle$ such that $y_\xi \in P_{\kappa_x}(\kappa_x^{+\xi})$ and $\bigcup_{\xi < \alpha} y_\xi = \kappa_x^{+\alpha}$. As $otp(x) = \kappa_x^{+\alpha}$, so using the resulting order isomorphism, we can lift this chain to get a sequence $\langle y_\xi^* : \xi < \alpha \rangle$, with $y_\xi^* \in P_{\kappa_x}(x \cap \kappa_x^{+\xi})$ whose union is x . Setting $\tau_\xi^* = y_\xi \cap \kappa_x$, we have $\tau_\xi^* = y_\xi^* \cap \kappa = \tau_\xi$ and forcing with \mathbb{P}_0 collapses cardinals between $(\tau_\xi^*)^{++}$ and $\tau_{\xi+1}$ for each $\xi < \alpha$.

In general, if $p \in \mathbb{P}$ is such that $\text{dom}(g^p)$ has size n , then we can factor \mathbb{P}/p as the product of $n + 1$ forcings as above.

Lemma 3.10. *(Prikry property)*

- (a) $(\mathbb{P}, \leq, \leq^*)$ satisfies the Prikry property.
- (b) Let $p \in \mathbb{P}, \alpha \in \text{dom}(g^p)$ where α is a limit ordinal and let ϕ be a statement in the forcing language. Then there is a condition $p' \leq^* p$ such that if $q \leq p$ and q decides ϕ , then $q \upharpoonright \alpha \cap p' \upharpoonright [\alpha, \eta)$ decides ϕ in the same way.

Using the above lemmas, and by standard arguments, we get the following.

Lemma 3.11. (Preservation of cardinals)

- (a) κ is preserved and has cofinality $\text{cf}(\eta)$ in the generic extension.
- (b) All cardinals and cofinalities below τ_0 are preserved.
- (c) Let τ be a cardinal in V with $\tau_\alpha < \tau < \tau_\alpha^{+\alpha+1}$, for α limit. Then $|\tau|^{V[H][G]} = \tau_\alpha$.
- (d) Cardinals between κ and $\kappa_\eta = \kappa^{+\eta}$ are collapsed and $\kappa_{V[H][G]}^+ = \kappa_{V[H]}^{+\eta+1} = \kappa_\eta^+$.
- (e) For each $\alpha < \eta$, the cardinals between $(\tau_\alpha)_*^{++}$ and $\tau_{\alpha+1}$ are collapsed.
- (f) Let $\tau < \kappa$ be a cardinal in V such that for some ordinal $\alpha < \eta, \tau'_\alpha \leq \tau \leq (\tau_\alpha)_*^{++}$, where for successor $\alpha, \tau'_\alpha = \tau_\alpha$ and for limit $\alpha, \tau'_\alpha = \tau_\alpha^{+\alpha+1}$. Then τ is preserved. Each $\tau_\alpha, \alpha < \eta$ is preserved too.

It follows that

$$\text{CARD}^{V[H][G]} \cap (\tau_0, \kappa) = \{\tau_\alpha : \alpha < \eta\} \cup \bigcup_{\alpha < \eta} [\tau'_\alpha, (\tau_\alpha)_*^{++}],$$

where for successor $\alpha, \tau'_\alpha = \tau_\alpha$ and for limit $\alpha, \tau'_\alpha = \tau_\alpha^{+\alpha+1}$. The next lemma can be proved easily.

Lemma 3.12. The only measurable cardinals of $V[H][G]$ in the interval (τ_0, κ) are of the form $(\tau_\alpha)_*$ for some $\alpha < \eta$.

Proof. For $\alpha < \tau$, we can factor the forcing as a product of two forcing notions $\mathbb{P}_0 \times \mathbb{P}_1$ where \mathbb{P}_0 has size less than $(\tau_\alpha)_*$ and \mathbb{P}_1 does not add new bounded subset to $(\tau_\alpha)_*^{++}$. It follows that $(\tau_\alpha)_*$ remains measurable in the generic extension. It is clear that no other measurable cardinals exist. \square

We are now ready to complete the proof of the main theorem. First note that:

Lemma 3.13. Let K be $\text{Col}(\omega, \tau_0^{+\eta})$ -generic over $V[H][G]$, where τ_0 is the first Prikry point added by \mathbb{P} . Then in $V[H][G][K], \kappa$ is the limit of the first η measurable cardinals.

Proof. In $V[H][G][K]$, the only measurable cardinals below κ are $(\tau_\alpha)_*$, $\alpha < \eta$, which are cofinal in κ . \square

Definition 3.14. Set $\mathbb{R} = \mathbb{P} * \underset{\sim}{\text{Col}}(\omega, \tau_0^{+\eta})$. Given $r = \langle p, d \rangle \in \mathbb{R}$, let $\text{stem}(r) = \langle g^p, f^p, d \rangle$. Also call a triple $\langle g, f, d \rangle$ an \mathbb{R} -stem if there exists $r \in \mathbb{R}$ with $\text{stem}(r) = \langle g, f, d \rangle$.

Now we show that there is some generic extension of $V[H]$ by $\mathbb{R} = \mathbb{P} * \underset{\sim}{\text{Col}}(\omega, \tau_0^{+\eta})$ in which the tree property holds at $\kappa^+ = \kappa^{+\eta+1} = \kappa_\eta^+$, which will complete the proof of our main theorem. Note that knowing τ_0 , we have

$$\mathbb{P} * \underset{\sim}{\text{Col}}(\omega, \tau_0^{+\eta}) \simeq \mathbb{P} \times \text{Col}(\omega, \tau_0^{+\eta}).$$

Assume on the contrary that for any $\mathbb{P} * \underset{\sim}{\text{Col}}(\omega, \tau_0^{+\eta})$ -generic filter $G * K$ over $V[H]$, the tree property fails in $V[H][G][K]$ at κ_η^+ .

Let $\underset{\sim}{\mathcal{T}}$ be an \mathbb{R} -name which is forced by the trivial condition to be a κ_η^+ -Aronszajn tree. We may further suppose that the trivial condition forces “the elements of the α -th level of $\underset{\sim}{\mathcal{T}}$ are elements of $\{\alpha\} \times \kappa$ for $\alpha < \kappa_\eta^+$ ”. We will show that there is a generic $G * K$ such that $T = \underset{\sim}{\mathcal{T}}[G * K]$ has a cofinal branch in $V[H][G][K]$, a contradiction. The proof is motivated by [10] and [11].

Lemma 3.15. *There is $\vec{\gamma} \in \eta^{<\omega}$ and an unbounded subset $I \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$, $I \in V[H]$, such that for all $\alpha < \beta$ in I , there are $\xi, \zeta < \kappa$ and a condition $r = (p, d) \in \mathbb{R}$ with $\text{dom}(g^p) = \vec{\gamma}$ such that $r \Vdash \langle \alpha, \xi \rangle \leq_{\mathcal{X}} \langle \beta, \zeta \rangle$.*

Proof. Let $j : V[H] \rightarrow M$ be a κ_η^+ -supercompact embedding with critical point κ and let $L^* = G^* * K^*$ be $j(\mathbb{R})$ -generic over M , such that if $\langle x_\xi^* : \xi < \eta \rangle$ is the Prikry sequence added by forcing, then $\tau_0^* = x_0^* \cap j(\kappa)$ equals κ . It follows that

$$j(\mathbb{R}) = j(\mathbb{P}) \times \text{Col}(\omega, \kappa_\eta),$$

and so κ_η^+ is preserved in $M[L^*]$ and remains regular. Let $T^* = j(\underset{\sim}{\mathcal{T}})[L^*]$. Let μ be such that $\sup j'' \kappa_\eta^+ < \mu < j(\kappa_\eta^+)$, and let $u \in T_\mu^*$. Then

$$\forall \alpha < \kappa_\eta^+ \exists \xi_\alpha < j(\kappa) \exists r_\alpha \in L^* (r_\alpha = (p_\alpha, d_\alpha) \Vdash \langle j(\alpha), \xi_\alpha \rangle <_{j(\mathcal{X})} u).$$

It follows from the regularity of κ_η^+ in $M[L^*]$ that there is an unbounded subset $I^* \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$, $I^* \in M[L^*]$ and a fixed $\vec{\gamma} \in \eta^{<\omega}$, such that for all $\alpha \in I^*$, $\text{dom}(g^{p_\alpha}) = \vec{\gamma}$. By further shrinking of I^* , we can also assume that for some $d \in \text{Col}(\omega, \kappa^{+\eta})$ and for all $\alpha \in I^*$, $d_\alpha = d$.

Consider the pair $\langle g, f \rangle$, where $\text{dom}(g) = \text{dom}(f) = \vec{\gamma}$, and

- (1) $g = g^{p_\alpha}$, for some and hence all $\alpha \in I^*$,
- (2) For all $\xi \in \vec{\gamma}$, $f(\xi) = \bigcup_{\alpha \in I^*} f^{p_\alpha}(\xi)$.

It is easily seen that $\langle g, f \rangle$ is a \mathbb{P} -stem. Let

$$I = \{\alpha < \kappa_\eta^+ : \exists r \in j(\mathbb{R}) \text{ (stem}(r) = \langle g, f, d \rangle \text{ and } \exists \xi < j(\kappa)r \Vdash \langle j(\alpha, \xi_\alpha) \rangle <_{j(\mathcal{I})} u)\}.$$

Then $I \in V[H]$ and $I^* \subseteq I$, so I is unbounded. Then I is as required. \square

Fix $\vec{\gamma}$ and I as in the conclusion of the above lemma. Before we continue, let us introduce a notion that will be helpful.

Definition 3.16. *Assume $\gamma < \eta$.*

(a) *Let Ξ_γ be the set of all $\Lambda = \langle \langle g_\Lambda, f_\Lambda, H_\Lambda, F_\Lambda \rangle, d_\Lambda \rangle$, such that for some condition $r \in \mathbb{R}$, $\text{stem}(r) = \langle g_\Lambda, f_\Lambda, d_\Lambda \rangle$ and $r \upharpoonright \gamma = \Lambda$. Also set $\Xi = \bigcup_{\gamma < \eta} \Xi_\gamma$.*

(b) *Given $\Lambda \in \Xi$, we set $\text{stem}(\Lambda) = \langle g_\Lambda, f_\Lambda, d_\Lambda \rangle$.*

(c) *For $\Lambda \in \Xi$ and a statement ϕ in the forcing language, by $\Lambda \Vdash^* \phi$ we mean there exists a condition $r \in \mathbb{R}$ witnessing $\Lambda \in \Xi$ which forces ϕ . Note that this is well-defined, as any two such conditions are compatible.*

Lemma 3.17. *There is in $V[H]$, an unbounded set $J \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$, a tuple $\langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle$, some fixed \bar{d} and a sequence of nodes $\langle u_\alpha : \alpha \in J \rangle$ such that $\text{dom}(\bar{g}) = \text{dom}(\bar{f}) = \vec{\gamma}$ and if we set $\gamma_0 = \max(\vec{\gamma})$, then \bar{H} and \bar{F} have domain $\gamma_0 \setminus \vec{\gamma}$ and for all $\alpha < \beta$ in J , there is a condition $r \in \mathbb{R}$ such that*

- (1) $\text{stem}(r) = \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{d} \rangle$,
- (2) $r \upharpoonright (\gamma_0 + 1) = \langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$
- (3) $r \Vdash "u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{I}} u_\beta"$.

Proof. Let $j : V \rightarrow N$ be a κ_η^+ -supercompact embedding with critical point κ_{γ_0+3} . Using standard arguments we can extend j to some

$$j^* : V[H] \rightarrow N[H^*],$$

where j^* is defined in $V[H^*]$, and H^* is $j(\mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}'$ -generic with \mathbb{C}' being κ_{γ_0+3} -closed. Let $\mu \in j^*(I)$ be such that $\sup j''\kappa_\eta^+ < \mu < j(\kappa_\eta^+)$. By elementarity, for all $\alpha \in I$ we can find $\xi_\alpha, \delta_\alpha < \kappa$ and $r_\alpha = (p_\alpha, d_\alpha) \in j^*(\mathbb{R})$ with $\text{dom}(g^{p_\alpha}) = \vec{\gamma}$ such that $r_\alpha \Vdash \langle j(\alpha), \xi_\alpha \rangle <_{j^*(\mathcal{X})} \langle \mu, \delta_\alpha \rangle$.

By simple counting arguments, and the fact that \mathbb{C}' does not add any new sequences of length κ_{γ_0} , we can conclude that there is a cofinal subset $J \subseteq I, J \in V[H^*]$, fixed ordinals $\xi, \delta < \kappa$ and a fixed $\langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$ such that for all $\alpha \in J, \xi_\alpha = \xi, \delta_\alpha = \delta$ and $r_\alpha \upharpoonright (\gamma_0 + 1) = \langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$. Note that for any such $\alpha, \text{stem}(r_\alpha) = \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{d} \rangle$.

Then for all $\alpha < \beta$ in J , there is a condition $r \in j^*(\mathbb{R})$ with $\text{stem}(r) = \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{d} \rangle$ and $r \upharpoonright (\gamma_0 + 1) = \langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$ such that $r \Vdash \langle j(\alpha), \xi \rangle <_{j^*(\mathcal{X})} \langle j(\beta), \xi \rangle$. Since $j^*(\langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle) = \langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$, by elementarity, there is a condition $r \in \mathbb{R}$ such that $\text{stem}(r) = \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{d} \rangle, r \upharpoonright (\gamma_0 + 1) = \langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$ and $r \Vdash \langle \alpha, \xi \rangle <_{\mathcal{X}} \langle \beta, \xi \rangle$.

Working in $V[H]$, we consider the narrow system $\mathcal{S} = \langle I, \mathcal{R} \rangle$ of height κ_η^+ and levels of size κ , where

- $\mathcal{R} = \{R_\Lambda : \Lambda \in \Xi_{\gamma_0+1}, \max(\text{dom}(g_\Lambda)) = \gamma_0\}$,
- For nodes a, b , we have

$$\langle a, b \rangle \in R_\Lambda \Leftrightarrow \Lambda \Vdash^* a <_{\mathcal{X}} b,$$

Note that $|\mathcal{R}| < \kappa_{\gamma_0+2}$. For any $R_\Lambda \in \mathcal{R}$, consider the branch

$$b_{R_\Lambda, \delta} = \{\langle \alpha, \xi \rangle : \Lambda \Vdash^* \langle j(\alpha), \xi \rangle <_{j^*(\mathcal{X})} \langle \mu, \delta \rangle\}.$$

Applying the preservation Lemma 2.3 to \mathcal{S} for \mathbb{C}' which is κ_{γ_0+3} -closed in $V[H]$, we get that \mathcal{S} has an unbounded branch in $V[H]$. I.e., in $V[H]$, there is an unbounded $J \subseteq I, \alpha \mapsto \xi_\alpha$ and $\Lambda = \langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle \in \Xi_{\gamma_0+1}$ with $\max(\text{dom}(g_\Lambda)) = \gamma_0$ such that for all $\alpha < \beta$ in J we have $\Lambda \Vdash^* \langle \alpha, \xi_\alpha \rangle <_{\mathcal{X}} \langle \beta, \xi_\beta \rangle$. Setting $u_\alpha = \langle \alpha, \xi_\alpha \rangle$ for $\alpha \in J$ we get that for $\alpha < \beta$ in J , there is a condition $r \in \mathbb{R}$ which satisfies the required properties of the lemma. \square

Fix $J \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$, $\langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$ and the sequence of nodes $\langle u_\alpha : \alpha \in J \rangle$ as in the conclusion of the above lemma. By shrinking J , if necessary, we can assume that for some $\epsilon < \kappa$, each $u_\alpha = \langle \alpha, \epsilon \rangle$.

Definition 3.18. *Assume $\Lambda, \Delta \in \Xi_\gamma$ be such that $\text{stem}(\Lambda) = \text{stem}(\Delta)$. Then $\Lambda \wedge \Delta \in \Xi_\gamma$ is defined by:*

- $\text{stem}(\Lambda \wedge \Delta) = \text{stem}(\Lambda) = \text{stem}(\Delta)$,
- $H_{\Lambda \wedge \Delta} = H_\Lambda \wedge H_\Delta$, i.e., for all $\sigma \in \text{dom}(H_{\Lambda \wedge \Delta})$,

$$H_{\Lambda \wedge \Delta}(\sigma) = \{y \in H_\Lambda(\sigma) \cap H_\Delta(\sigma) : F_\Lambda(\sigma)(y) \text{ is compatible with } F_\Delta(\sigma)(y)\}.$$
- $F_{\Lambda \wedge \Delta} = F_\Lambda \vee F_\Delta$, i.e., for all $\sigma \in \text{dom}(F_{\Lambda \wedge \Delta})$ and all $y \in \text{dom}(F_{\Lambda \wedge \Delta}(\sigma)) = H_{\Lambda \wedge \Delta}(\sigma)$,

$$F_{\Lambda \wedge \Delta}(\sigma)(y) = F_\Lambda(\sigma)(y) \cup F_\Delta(\sigma)(y).$$

Lemma 3.19. *Suppose that $\Lambda_0 = \langle \langle g, f, H, F \rangle, d \rangle \in \Xi_{\gamma_0}$, $L \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$ is unbounded and for all $\alpha < \beta$ in L , we have $\Lambda_0 \Vdash^* \text{“}u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{I}} u_\beta\text{”}$. Let $\gamma_0 \leq \gamma < \eta$. Then there are $\rho < \kappa_\eta^+$ and $\langle \Lambda_\alpha : \alpha \in L \setminus \rho \rangle$ such that:*

- (1) $\Lambda_\alpha \in \Xi_{\gamma+1}$, $\text{stem}(\Lambda_\alpha) = \text{stem}(\Lambda_0)$ and $\Lambda_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma_0 = \Lambda_0$,
- (2) For all $\alpha < \beta$ in $L \setminus \rho$ and for all $y \in H_{\Lambda_\alpha}(\gamma) \cap H_{\Lambda_\beta}(\gamma)$ such that $F_{\Lambda_\alpha}(\gamma)(y)$ and $F_{\Lambda_\beta}(\gamma)(y)$ are compatible, we have

$$\langle \langle g \frown \langle \gamma, y \rangle, f \frown \langle \gamma, F_{\Lambda_\alpha}(\gamma)(y) \cup F_{\Lambda_\beta}(\gamma)(y) \rangle, H_{\Lambda_\alpha} \wedge H_{\Lambda_\beta} \upharpoonright \gamma, F_{\Lambda_\alpha} \vee F_{\Lambda_\beta} \upharpoonright \gamma, d \rangle \Vdash^* u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{I}} u_\beta.$$

Proof. Let $j : V \rightarrow N$ be a κ_η^+ -supercompact embedding with critical point $\kappa_{\gamma+4}$. Using standard arguments we can extend j to some

$$j^* : V[H] \rightarrow N[H^*],$$

where j^* is defined in $V[H^*]$, and H^* is $j(\mathbb{C}) = \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C}'$ -generic with \mathbb{C}' being $\kappa_{\gamma+4}$ -closed. Let $\mu \in j^*(L)$ be such that $\sup j''\kappa_\eta^+ < \mu < j(\kappa_\eta^+)$. Note that $j^*(\Lambda_0) = \Lambda_0$. By elementarity, for each $\alpha \in L$, we can find $r_\alpha = (p_\alpha, d) \in j^*(\mathbb{R})$ with $\text{stem}(r_\alpha) = \langle g, f, d \rangle$ and $r_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma_0 = \Lambda_0$ such that

$$r_\alpha \Vdash \langle j(\alpha), \epsilon \rangle <_{j^*(\mathcal{I})} \langle \mu, \epsilon \rangle.$$

For each $\alpha \in L$, denote $r_\alpha = \langle \langle g, f, H_\alpha, F_\alpha \rangle, d \rangle$. Then $H_\alpha(\gamma) \in j^*(U_\gamma) = U_\gamma$ and $j^*(H_\alpha(\gamma)) = H_\alpha(\gamma)$. By counting arguments, we can find an unbounded subset of L on which $\alpha \mapsto r_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma + 1$ is constant. So we can find an unbounded subset $\bar{L} \subseteq L$, $\bar{L} \in V[H^*]$, and $\bar{\Lambda}$ such that for all $\alpha \in \bar{L}$, $r_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma + 1 = \bar{\Lambda}$. Note that $\bar{\Lambda} \in \Xi_{\gamma+1}$ and $\bar{\Lambda} \upharpoonright \gamma_0 = \Lambda_0$.

Working in $V[H]$, consider the narrow system $\mathcal{S} = \langle L, \mathcal{R} \rangle$ of height κ_η^+ and levels of size κ , where

- $\mathcal{R} = \{R_\Lambda : \Lambda \in \Xi_{\gamma+1}, \Lambda \upharpoonright \gamma_0 = \Lambda_0 \text{ and } \text{stem}(\Lambda) = \text{stem}(\Lambda_0)\}$,
- For nodes a, b , we have

$$\langle a, b \rangle \in R_\Lambda \Leftrightarrow \Lambda \Vdash^* a <_{\mathcal{X}} b,$$

Note that $|\mathcal{R}| < \kappa_{\gamma+3}$. For any $R_\Lambda \in \mathcal{R}$, consider the branch

$$b_{R_\Lambda} = \{\langle \alpha, \xi \rangle : \Lambda \Vdash^* \langle j(\alpha), \epsilon \rangle <_{j^*(\mathcal{X})} \langle \mu, \epsilon \rangle\}.$$

Applying the preservation Lemma 2.3 to \mathcal{S} for \mathbb{C}' which is $\kappa_{\gamma+4}$ -closed in $V[H]$, we get that \mathcal{S} has an unbounded branch in $V[H]$. I.e., in $V[H]$, there is an unbounded $J \subseteq L$ and $\Lambda^* \in \Xi_{\gamma+1}$ with $\Lambda^* \upharpoonright \gamma_0 = \Lambda_0$ and $\text{stem}(\Lambda^*) = \text{stem}(\Lambda_0)$, such that for all $\alpha < \beta$ in J we have $\Lambda^* \Vdash^* \langle \alpha, \epsilon \rangle <_{\mathcal{X}} \langle \beta, \epsilon \rangle$.

Let $\rho = \min(J)$. For every $\alpha \in (L \setminus \rho) \setminus J$ let $\alpha' = \min(J \setminus \alpha)$ and let $\Lambda_\alpha^* \in \Xi_{\gamma+1}$ be such that $\Lambda_\alpha^* \upharpoonright \gamma_0 = \Lambda_0$, $\text{stem}(\Lambda_\alpha^*) = \text{stem}(\Lambda_0)$ and $\Lambda_\alpha^* \Vdash^* \langle \alpha, \epsilon \rangle <_{\mathcal{X}} \langle \alpha', \epsilon \rangle$. We can find such Λ_α^* by our assumption $\Lambda_0 \Vdash^* \langle u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{X}} u_{\alpha'} \rangle$.

Let $\alpha \in L \setminus \rho$. If $\alpha \in J$ define $\Lambda_\alpha = \Lambda_\alpha^*$. If $\alpha \notin J$, then set $\Lambda_\alpha = \Lambda_{\alpha'}^* \wedge \Lambda^*$. Then ρ and $\langle \Lambda_\alpha : \alpha \in L \setminus \rho \rangle$ are as required. \square

Lemma 3.20. *There are $\rho < \kappa_\eta^+$ and conditions $\langle p_\alpha : \alpha \in J \setminus \rho \rangle$ with $p_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma_0 + 1 = \langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$ such that for all $\alpha < \beta$ in $J \setminus \rho$, $p_\alpha \wedge p_\beta \Vdash \langle u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{X}} u_\beta \rangle$. Here $p_\alpha \wedge p_\beta$ denotes the weakest extension of p_α and p_β .*

Proof. Let $\Pi = \langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$. We define sequences $\langle \rho_\xi : \gamma_0 < \xi < \eta \rangle$ and $\langle \Lambda_\alpha^\xi : \alpha \in J \setminus \rho_\xi, \gamma_0 < \xi < \eta \rangle$ by induction on ξ such that for all such ξ :

- (1) $_\xi$: For all $\alpha \in J \setminus \rho_\xi$, $\Lambda_\alpha^\xi \in \Xi_\xi$,
- (2) $_\xi$: For all $\zeta < \xi$ and all $\alpha \in J \setminus \rho_\xi$ we have $\Lambda_\alpha^\xi \upharpoonright \zeta = \Lambda_\alpha^\zeta$,

(3) $_{\xi}$: For all $\alpha < \beta$ in $J \setminus \rho_{\xi+1}$, for all $\Lambda^* \in \Xi_{\xi+1}$ with $stem(\Lambda^*)$ extending $stem(\Pi)$ with $\max(\text{dom}(g_{\Lambda^*})) = \xi$, if Λ^* is compatible with $\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi+1}$ and $\Lambda_{\beta}^{\xi+1}$, then $\Lambda^* \Vdash^* "u_{\alpha} <_{\mathcal{X}} u_{\beta}"$.

For $\xi = \gamma_0 + 1$ set $\rho_{\gamma_0+1} = 0$ and $\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\gamma_0+1} = \Pi$, for all $\alpha \in J$.

For limit $\xi > \gamma_0$ set $\rho_{\xi} = \sup_{\gamma_0 < \zeta < \xi} \rho_{\zeta}$, and for $\alpha \in J \setminus \rho_{\xi}$ let Λ_{α}^{ξ} be the unique element of Ξ_{ξ} such that for all $\gamma_0 < \zeta < \xi$, $\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi} \upharpoonright \zeta = \Lambda_{\alpha}^{\zeta}$. Note that this is well-defined by assumptions (2) $_{\zeta}$, $\gamma_0 < \zeta < \xi$. Clearly (1) $_{\xi}$ and (2) $_{\xi}$ are satisfied and there is nothing to prove related to (3) $_{\xi}$.

Now suppose that we have defined $\langle \rho_{\zeta} : \gamma_0 < \zeta \leq \xi \rangle$ and $\langle \Lambda_{\alpha}^{\zeta} : \alpha \in J \setminus \rho_{\zeta}, \gamma_0 < \zeta \leq \xi \rangle$.

We define $\rho_{\xi+1}$ and $\langle \Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi+1} : \alpha \in J \setminus \rho_{\xi+1} \rangle$.

Call $\Lambda \in \Xi_{\zeta}$, $\gamma_0 < \zeta \leq \xi$ fits α , if $stem(\Lambda)$ extends $stem(\Pi)$ and Λ is compatible with Λ_{α}^{ζ} , $\gamma_0 < \zeta \leq \xi$. For any $\Lambda \in \Xi_{\zeta}$, $\zeta \leq \xi$ with $stem(\Lambda)$ extending $stem(\Pi)$ set

$$J^{\Lambda} = \{\alpha \in J \setminus \rho_{\xi} : \Lambda \text{ fits } \alpha\}.$$

We define a function $\Lambda \mapsto \rho^{\Lambda}$ on all Λ 's as above as follows:

- If J^{Λ} is bounded in κ_{η}^+ , then $\rho^{\Lambda} < \kappa_{\eta}^+$ is a bound,
- Otherwise, let ρ^{Λ} and $\langle \Pi_{\alpha}^{\Lambda} : \alpha \in J^{\Lambda} \setminus \rho^{\Lambda} \rangle$ be given by Lemma 3.19, applied to Λ and J^{Λ} .

Let $\rho_{\xi+1} = \sup\{\rho^{\Lambda} : \Lambda \in \Xi_{\zeta}, \zeta \leq \xi, stem(\Lambda) \text{ extends } stem(\Pi)\}$. Note that $\rho_{\xi+1} < \kappa_{\eta}^+$. For $\alpha \in J \setminus \rho_{\xi+1}$ define $\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi+1}$ so that

- (1) $\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi+1} \upharpoonright \xi = \Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi}$,
- (2) $\xi \in \text{dom}(H_{\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi+1}}) = \text{dom}(F_{\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi+1}})$,
- (3) If $X = \{\Lambda : \Lambda \in \Xi_{\zeta}, \zeta \leq \xi \text{ and } \Lambda \text{ fits } \alpha\}$, then

$$H_{\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi+1}}(\xi) = \Delta_{\Lambda \in X} H_{\Pi_{\alpha}^{\Lambda}}(\xi),$$

and

$$[F_{\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi+1}}(\xi)]_{U_{\xi}} = \bigcup_{\Lambda \in X} [F_{\Pi_{\alpha}^{\Lambda}}(\xi)]_{U_{\xi}}.$$

- (4) By shrinking $H_{\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi+1}}(\xi)$, we can assume that for all $y \in H_{\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi+1}}(\xi)$, we have

$$F_{\Lambda_{\alpha}^{\xi+1}}(\xi)(y) = \bigcup_{\Lambda \prec y} F_{\Pi_{\alpha}^{\Lambda}}(\xi)(y).$$

Now we have to verify the above conditions are satisfied. Conditions $(1)_\xi$ and $(2)_\xi$ are easily seen to be true. For $(3)_\xi$, assume that $\alpha < \beta$ are in $J \setminus \rho_\xi$ and $\Lambda^* \in \Xi_{\xi+1}$ is such that $stem(\Lambda^*)$ extends $stem(\Pi)$ with $\max(\text{dom}(g_{\Lambda^*})) = \xi$. Also assume that Λ^* is compatible with $\Lambda_\alpha^{\xi+1}$ and $\Lambda_\beta^{\xi+1}$. Consider $\Lambda = \Lambda^* \upharpoonright \xi$. Then Λ fits both α and β , so by our construction and Lemma 3.19, we can easily conclude that

$$\langle \langle g_\Lambda \widehat{\langle \xi, g_{\Lambda^*}(\xi) \rangle}, f_\Lambda \widehat{\langle \xi, F_{\Lambda_\alpha^{\xi+1}}(\xi)(y) \cup F_{\Lambda_\beta^{\xi+1}}(\xi)(y) \rangle}, H_{\Lambda_\alpha^{\xi+1}} \wedge H_{\Lambda_\beta^{\xi+1}} \upharpoonright \xi, F_{\Lambda_\alpha^{\xi+1}} \vee F_{\Lambda_\beta^{\xi+1}} \upharpoonright \xi, d \rangle \Vdash^* u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{T}} u_\beta.$$

This gives $\Lambda^* \Vdash^* "u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{T}} u_\beta"$, and the result follows.

Finally set $\rho = \sup_{\gamma_0 < \xi < \eta} \rho_\xi < \kappa_\eta^+$ and for each $\alpha \in J \setminus \rho$ let p_α be the unique condition obtained using the sequence $\langle \Lambda_\alpha^\xi : \gamma_0 < \xi < \eta \rangle$. So

- $stem(p_\alpha) = stem(\Pi)$,
- $p_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma_0 + 1 = \Pi$,
- For all ξ with $\gamma_0 < \xi < \eta$, $\xi \in \text{dom}(H^{p_\alpha})$,

$$H^{p_\alpha}(\xi) = H_{\Lambda_\alpha^{\xi+1}}(\xi),$$

and

$$F^{p_\alpha}(\xi) = F_{\Lambda_\alpha^{\xi+1}}(\xi).$$

If $q \leq p_\alpha \wedge p_\beta$, then by construction $stem(q) \Vdash^* "u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{T}} u_\beta"$, so $q \not\Vdash^* "u_\alpha \not<_{\mathcal{T}} u_\beta"$. It follows that $p_\alpha \wedge p_\beta \Vdash "u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{T}} u_\beta"$. The lemma follows. \square

The rest of the argument is standard. Let $\langle p_\alpha : \alpha \in J \setminus \rho \rangle$ be as in the above Lemma. We want to find a condition q that forces that the set $\{\alpha \in J : p_\alpha \in G\}$ is unbounded in κ_η^+ , since such a q forces that there is a branch in \mathcal{T} , namely, the downward closure of $\{\langle \alpha, \epsilon \rangle : p_\alpha \in G\}$.

Assume that this is not the case. So, it is forced that the set $\{\alpha \in J : p_\alpha \in G\}$ is bounded. Since \mathbb{R} is κ_η^+ -c.c., in $V[H]$, there is an ordinal $\beta < \kappa_\eta^+$ such that it is forced by the trivial condition that $\{\alpha : p_\alpha \in G\} \subseteq \beta$. This is impossible, as for any $\gamma \in J \setminus \beta$, p_γ forces the opposite statement.

This completes the proof of the theorem in the case $\eta < \kappa_0$. We now consider the general case. Fix the sequence $\langle \kappa_\xi : \xi \leq \eta \rangle$ as before. As $\eta < \kappa_\eta$, we can find the least $\xi_* < \eta$ such

that $\kappa_{\xi_*-1} \leq \eta < \kappa_{\xi_*}$, where $\kappa_{-1} = \omega$. Note that we can assume that $\xi_* > 0$. We consider two cases:

- (1) $\eta > \kappa_{\xi_*-1}$: Then by the same arguments as above, we can find a generic extension in which cardinals below κ_{ξ_*-1} are preserved, and κ_η^+ is the successor of the limit of the first $\eta - \kappa_{\xi_*-1}$ measurable cardinals above κ_{ξ_*-1} which has the tree property. But then κ_η^+ is the successor of the limit of the first η measurable cardinals and it has the tree property.
- (2) $\eta = \kappa_{\xi_*-1}$: Then $\eta - \xi_* = \eta$, so again by the same arguments as above we can find a generic extension in which κ_{ξ_*} changes its cofinality to η , κ_η^+ becomes the new successor of κ_{ξ_*} , κ_{ξ_*} is the limit of the first η measurable cardinals and κ_η^+ has the tree property.

The theorem follows. □

Remark 3.21. *By the same argument, we can prove the following: Assume λ is a singular limit of η supercompact cardinals, where $\eta \leq \lambda$ is a limit ordinal. Then there is a generic extension in which $\lambda^+ = \aleph_{\eta^2+1}$, and the tree property holds at \aleph_{η^2+1} .*

4. THE TREE PROPERTY AND THE FAILURE OF *SCH*

By a result of Neeman [6], it is consistent, relative to the existence of infinitely many supercompact cardinals, that for some singular cardinal κ of countable cofinality, *SCH* fails at κ and the tree property holds at κ^+ . Sinapova [12] proved the same result for $\kappa = \aleph_{\omega^2}$. She also proved similar result for a singular cardinal of uncountable cofinality [11]. In this section we prove Theorem 1.2, which extends the above results of Neeman and Sinapova. The basic idea of the proof is to combine the ideas of Section 3 with those of Sinapova [12]. As the proof is similar to the above proof of Theorem 1.1, we just mention the main changes which are needed to get the required result.

Fix an increasing continuous sequence $\langle \kappa_\xi : \xi \leq \eta \rangle$ of supercompact cardinals and their limits as before, with $\eta < \kappa_0 = \kappa$ and $\lambda = \kappa_\eta$. Let \mathbb{C} be the Easton support iteration of $\text{Col}(\kappa_i^+, < \kappa_{i+1}), i < \eta$, and let H be \mathbb{C} -generic over V . Now force with $\text{Add}(\kappa, \kappa_\eta^{++})_{V[H]}$ and let E be $\text{Add}(\kappa, \kappa_\eta^{++})_{V[H]}$ -generic over $V[H]$. The next lemma can be proved as in Lemma 3.4.

Lemma 4.1. *In $V[H][E]$, there are sequences $\langle U_\xi : \xi < \eta \rangle$ and $\langle K_\xi : \xi < \eta \rangle$ such that:*

- (a) U_ξ is a normal measure on $P_\kappa(\kappa^{+\xi})$,
- (b) κ is $\kappa^{+\xi}$ -supercompact in $N_\xi = \text{Ult}(V, U_\xi)$,
- (c) The sequence $\langle U_\xi : \xi < \eta \rangle$ is Mitchell increasing, i.e., $\zeta < \xi < \eta \Rightarrow U_\zeta \in N_\xi$,
- (d) K_ξ is $\text{Col}(\kappa^{+\eta+2}, < j_{U_\xi}(\kappa))_{N_\xi}$ -generic over N_ξ .

Proof. We sketch the proof of the lemma and refer to [9] Section 3.1, for details. The lemma is proved in several steps. For $\gamma < \kappa_\eta^{++}$ let $g_\gamma : \kappa \rightarrow \kappa$ denote the γ -th generic function added by E .

Step 1. Assume $\xi < \eta$ and $\mathcal{X} \subseteq P(P_\kappa(\kappa^{+\xi}))$, $\mathcal{X} \in V[H][E]$. Then there exists a normal measure U on $P_\kappa(\kappa_\eta^+)$ such that $\mathcal{X} \in \text{Ult}(V[H][E], U)$.

To see this, assume on the contrary that there is no such a normal measure U . Let $\phi(\mathcal{X}, \kappa, \xi, \eta)$ be the assertion “ $\mathcal{X} \subseteq P(P_\kappa(\kappa^{+\xi}))$ and for all normal measures U on $P_\kappa(\kappa_\eta^+)$, $\mathcal{X} \notin \text{Ult}(V[H][E], U)$ ”. so for some $\mathcal{X} \in V[H][E]$, $\phi(\mathcal{X}, \kappa, \xi, \eta)$ holds in $V[H][E]$.

Let $j : V[H][E] \rightarrow M^*$ be a κ_η^{++} -supercompactness embedding with critical point κ . Then $M^* \models \neg \phi(\mathcal{X}, \kappa, \xi, \eta)$. Let U be the normal measure on $P_\kappa(\kappa_\eta^+)$ generated by j and let $k : \text{Ult}(V[H][E], U) \rightarrow M^*$ be the natural embedding with $k \circ j_U = j$. By elementarity of k and the fact that $k(\kappa) = \kappa$, we have $\text{Ult}(V[H][E], U) \models \phi(\mathcal{X}, \kappa, \xi, \eta)$. Let \mathcal{X}' witness this. We have $k(\mathcal{X}') = \mathcal{X}$ and so by elementarity of k , $M^* \models \phi(\mathcal{X}', \kappa, \xi, \eta)$. But $\mathcal{X}' \in \text{Ult}(V[H][E], U)$ and $U \in M^*$, a contradiction.

Step 2. Assume $\xi < \eta$ and $\mathcal{X} \subseteq P(P_\kappa(\kappa^{+\xi}))$, $\mathcal{X} \in V[H][E]$. Then there exists a κ_η^+ -supercompactness embedding $j^* : V[H][E] \rightarrow M[H^*][E^*]$ with $\text{crit}(j^*) = \kappa$ such that $\mathcal{X} \in M[H^*][E^*]$ and $j^*(\kappa) = \{j^*(g_\gamma)(\kappa) : \gamma < \kappa_\eta^{++}\}$.

The proof uses ideas of [1]. Let $\pi : V[H][E] \rightarrow M[H^*][E']$ be a κ_η^+ -supercompactness embedding with critical point κ such that $\mathcal{X} \in M[H^*][E']$. We also assume that π extends some κ_η^+ -supercompactness embedding $j : V[H] \rightarrow M[H^*]$.

Working in $V[H][E]$, enumerate $j(\kappa)$ as $\langle y_\gamma : \gamma < \kappa_\eta^{++} \rangle$. also let E'_γ be the restriction of E' to $j(\gamma)$. By ideas from Woodin’s surgery method we can modify E'_γ to find some E_γ^* which is still generic for the related forcing notion, $E^* = \bigcup_{\gamma < \kappa_\eta^{++}} E_\gamma^*$ is $j(\text{Add}(\kappa, \kappa_\eta^{++}))$ -generic over $M[H^*]$ so that we can lift j to some $j^* : V[H][E] \rightarrow M[H^*][E^*]$ and such that

for $\gamma < \kappa_\eta^{++}$, $j^*(g_\gamma)(\kappa) = y_\gamma$. Also it is easily seen that $\mathcal{X} \in M[H^*][E^*]$, which completes the proof.

Step 3. Assume $\xi < \eta$ and $\mathcal{X} \subseteq P(P_\kappa(\kappa^{+\xi}))$, $\mathcal{X} \in V[H][E]$. Then there is a normal measure U_ξ on $P_\kappa(\kappa^{+\xi})$ such that $\mathcal{X} \in N_\xi = \text{Ult}(V[H][E], U_\xi)$. Further, there is $K_\xi \in V[H][E]$ which is $\text{Col}(\kappa^{+\eta+2}, < j_{U_\xi}(\kappa))_{N_\xi}$ -generic over N_ξ .

This follows easily from step 2. Let $j^* : V[H][E] \rightarrow M[H^*][E^*]$ be a κ_η^+ -supercompactness embedding with critical point κ as in Step 2 and let U_ξ be the normal measure on $P_\kappa(\kappa^{+\xi})$ derived from j^* , i.e.,

$$U_\xi = \{X \subseteq P_\kappa(\kappa^{+\xi}) : j[\kappa^{+\xi}] \in j^*(X)\}.$$

Then U_ξ is as required. The construction of K_ξ is also by standard arguments.

Now by induction, we can easily construct the sequences $\langle U_\xi : \xi < \eta \rangle$ and $\langle K_\xi : \xi < \eta \rangle$ with the required properties. This completes the proof of the lemma. \square

Now define the sets X_ξ , $\xi < \eta$, the measures $U_{\xi,x}^\zeta$ and the generic filters $K_{\xi,x}^\zeta$, for $\zeta < \xi < \eta$ and $x \in U_\xi$ as before. The forcing notion \mathbb{P} is defined over $V[H][E]$ as in Definition 3.5, with the following changes:

- In (7-1), require $f(\xi) \in \text{Col}(\kappa_{g(\xi)}^{+\eta+2}, < \kappa_{g(\xi)})$,
- In (7-2), require $f(\xi) \in \text{Col}(\kappa_{g(\xi)}^{+\eta+2}, < \kappa)$,
- In (9-1), require $F(\xi)(y) \in \text{Col}(\kappa_y^{+\eta+2}, < \kappa_x)$,
- In (9-2), require $F(\xi)(y) \in \text{Col}(\kappa_y^{+\eta+2}, < \kappa)$.

The order relation is defined as before (see Definition 3.7). Finally set $\mathbb{R} = \mathbb{P} * \mathcal{C}ol(\omega, \tau_0^{+\eta})$. Let $G * K$ be \mathbb{R} -generic over $V[H][E]$ and let $\langle \tau_\xi : \xi < \eta \rangle$ be the Prikry sequence added by G . An analysis as in previous section shows that κ is preserved in the resulting generic extension, $\kappa = \aleph_{\eta^2}^{V[H][E][G][K]}$ and $\lambda^+ = \kappa_\eta^+ = \aleph_{\eta^2+1}^{V[H][E][G][K]}$. Also $V[H][E][G][K] \models "2^{\aleph_{\eta^2}} \geq \kappa_\eta^{++} = \aleph_{\eta^2+2}"$ and so *SCH* fails at \aleph_{η^2} .

It remains to show that there is an extension of $V[H][E]$ by \mathbb{R} in which the tree property holds at κ_η^+ . Assume on the contrary that for any \mathbb{R} -generic filter $G * K$ over $V[H][E]$, the tree property fails in $V[H][E][G][K]$ at κ_η^+ . Let $\mathcal{T} \in V[H][E]$ be an \mathbb{R} -name which is forced by the trivial condition to be a κ_η^+ -Aronszajn tree. We may further suppose that the trivial condition forces "the elements of the α -th level of \mathcal{T} are elements of $\{\alpha\} \times \kappa$ for $\alpha < \kappa_\eta^+$ ".

We will show that $T = \mathcal{T}[G * K]$ has a cofinal branch in $V[H][E][G][K]$. The next lemma is similar to Lemma 3.15 and its proof is the same.

Lemma 4.2. *There is $\bar{\gamma} \in \eta^{<\omega}$ and an unbounded subset $I \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$, $I \in V[H][E]$, such that for all $\alpha < \beta$ in I , there are $\xi, \zeta < \kappa$ and a condition $r = (p, d) \in \mathbb{R}$ with $\text{dom}(g^p) = \bar{\gamma}$ such that $r \Vdash \langle \alpha, \xi \rangle \leq_{\mathcal{L}} \langle \beta, \zeta \rangle$.*

Fix $\bar{\gamma}$ and I as above lemma.

Lemma 4.3. *There is in $V[H][E]$, an unbounded set $J \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$, a tuple $\langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle$, some fixed \bar{d} and a sequence of nodes $\langle u_\alpha : \alpha \in J \rangle$ such that $\text{dom}(\bar{g}) = \text{dom}(\bar{f}) = \bar{\gamma}$ and if we set $\gamma_0 = \max(\bar{\gamma})$, then \bar{H} and \bar{F} have domain $\gamma_0 \setminus \bar{\gamma}$ and for all $\alpha < \beta$ in J , there is a condition $r \in \mathbb{R}$ such that*

- (1) $\text{stem}(r) = \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{d} \rangle$,
- (2) $r \upharpoonright (\gamma_0 + 1) = \langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$
- (3) $r \Vdash "u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{L}} u_\beta"$.

Proof. The proof is similar to the proof of Lemma 3.17, so we just sketch it. Let $j : V \rightarrow N$ be a κ_η^+ -supercompact embedding with critical point κ_{γ_0+3} . Using standard arguments we can extend j to some

$$j_1 : V[H] \rightarrow N[H^*],$$

where H^* is $j(\mathbb{C})$ -generic over V . We can arrange so that $H^* = H * E * H'$, where H' is \mathbb{C}' -generic over $V[H][E]$, for some \mathbb{C}' which is κ_{γ_0+3} -distributive in $V[H][E]$ and it is κ_{γ_0+3} -closed in $V[H]$. Let F be $\text{Add}(\kappa, j(\kappa_\eta^{++}))$ -generic over $V[H][E]$. Then F is also generic over $V[H][E][H']$. Define

$$E^* = \{f \in \text{Add}(\kappa, j(\kappa_\eta^{++})) : f \upharpoonright j''\kappa_\eta^{++} \in j_1''E, f \upharpoonright (j(\kappa_\eta^{++}) \setminus j''\kappa_\eta^{++}) \in F\}.$$

Then E^* is $\text{Add}(\kappa, j(\kappa_\eta^{++}))$ -generic over $V[H^*] = V[H][E][H']$ such that $j_1''E \subseteq E^*$, and so we can extend j to some

$$j^* : V[H][E] \rightarrow N[H^*][E^*]$$

which is defined in $V[H][E][F][H'] = V[H][E][H'][F]$. Define a narrow system $\mathcal{S} \in V[H][E]$ as in the proof of Lemma 3.17. Applying the preservation Lemma 2.4, we argue that \mathcal{S} has

a cofinal branch in $V[H][E][F]$. So in $V[H][E][F]$ we can find an unbounded $J \subseteq I, \alpha \mapsto \xi_\alpha$ and $\Lambda = \langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle \in \Xi_{\gamma_0+1}$ with $\max(\text{dom}(g_\Lambda)) = \gamma_0$ such that for all $\alpha < \beta$ in J we have $\Lambda \Vdash^* \langle \alpha, \xi_\alpha \rangle <_{\mathcal{X}} \langle \beta, \xi_\beta \rangle$. Then by the argument in Lemma 3.2 from [6], we can get that J, Λ and $\alpha \mapsto \xi_\alpha$ in $V[H][E]$. Setting $u_\alpha = \langle \alpha, \xi_\alpha \rangle$ for $\alpha \in J$ we get that for $\alpha < \beta$ in J , there is a condition $r \in \mathbb{R}$ which satisfies the required properties of the lemma. \square

Fix $J \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$, $\langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$ and the sequence of nodes $\langle u_\alpha : \alpha \in J \rangle$ as in the conclusion of the above lemma. By shrinking J , if necessary, we can assume that for some $\epsilon < \kappa$, each $u_\alpha = \langle \alpha, \epsilon \rangle$. The next lemma corresponds to Lemma 3.19 of last section.

Lemma 4.4. *Suppose that $\Lambda_0 = \langle \langle g, f, H, F \rangle, d \rangle \in \Xi_{\gamma_0}$, $L \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$ is unbounded and for all $\alpha < \beta$ in L , we have $\Lambda_0 \Vdash^* \langle u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{X}} u_\beta \rangle$. Let $\gamma_0 \leq \gamma < \eta$. Then there are $\rho < \kappa_\eta^+$ and $\langle \Lambda_\alpha : \alpha \in L \setminus \rho \rangle \in V[H][E]$ such that:*

- (1) $\Lambda_\alpha \in \Xi_{\gamma+1}$, $\text{stem}(\Lambda_\alpha) = \text{stem}(\Lambda_0)$ and $\Lambda_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma_0 = \Lambda_0$,
- (2) For all $\alpha < \beta$ in $L \setminus \rho$ and for all $y \in H_{\Lambda_\alpha}(\gamma) \cap H_{\Lambda_\beta}(\gamma)$ such that $F_{\Lambda_\alpha}(\gamma)(y)$ and $F_{\Lambda_\beta}(\gamma)(y)$ are compatible, we have

$$\langle \langle g \frown \langle \gamma, y \rangle, f \frown \langle \gamma, F_{\Lambda_\alpha}(\gamma)(y) \cup F_{\Lambda_\beta}(\gamma)(y) \rangle, H_{\Lambda_\alpha} \wedge H_{\Lambda_\beta} \upharpoonright \gamma, F_{\Lambda_\alpha} \vee F_{\Lambda_\beta} \upharpoonright \gamma, d \rangle \Vdash^* u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{X}} u_\beta.$$

Proof. We follow the proof of Lemma 3.19 and modify it using ideas of the proof of Lemma 16 from [12] to get the result. We present the proof in some details, as it requires major modifications with respect to Lemma 3.19.

Let $j : V \rightarrow N$ be a κ_η^+ -supercompact embedding with critical point $\kappa_{\gamma+4}$. As in the previous lemma, extend j to some

$$j_1 : V[H] \rightarrow N[H^*],$$

where H^* is $j(\mathbb{C})$ -generic over V . We can arrange so that $H^* = H * E * H'$, where H' is \mathbb{C}' -generic over $V[H][E]$, for some \mathbb{C}' which is $\kappa_{\gamma+4}$ -distributive in $V[H][E]$ and it is $\kappa_{\gamma+4}$ -closed in $V[H]$. Let F be $\text{Add}(\kappa, j(\kappa_\eta^{++}))$ -generic over $V[H][E]$. Then F is also generic over $V[H][E][H']$ and so

$$E^* = \{f \in \text{Add}(\kappa, j(\kappa_\eta^{++})) : f \upharpoonright j''\kappa_\eta^{++} \in j_1''E, f \upharpoonright (j(\kappa_\eta^{++}) \setminus j''\kappa_\eta^{++}) \in F\}.$$

is $\text{Add}(\kappa, j(\kappa_\eta^{++}))$ -generic over $V[H^*] = V[H][E][H']$ such that $j_1''E \subseteq E^*$. It follows that we can extend j to some

$$j^* : V[H][E] \rightarrow N[H^*][E^*]$$

which is defined in $V[H][E][F][H'] = V[H][E][H'][F]$.

First we show that there are $\rho < \kappa_\eta^+$ and $\langle \Lambda_\alpha^* : \alpha \in L \setminus \rho \rangle$ as in the statement of the lemma in $V[H][E][H']$. Then we will use the preservation Lemma 2.4 to show that we can find these objects in $V[H][E]$.

For $\alpha < \beta$ in L , by our assumption of the lemma, $\Lambda_0 \Vdash^* \text{“}u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{I}} u_\beta\text{”}$, and so we can find $r \in \mathbb{R}$ such that

- $\text{stem}(r) = \langle g, f, d \rangle$,
- $r \upharpoonright \gamma = \Lambda_0$,
- $r \Vdash \text{“}u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{I}} u_\beta\text{”}$.

As K_γ is closed under κ_η^+ -sequences, so we can assume that $[F^r(\gamma)]_{U_\gamma}$ is the same for all r 's as above. We also assume that for all such r 's, $\text{dom}(F^r)(\gamma) = H^r(\gamma) = B_\gamma$.

Now let $\mu \in j^*(L)$ be such that $\sup j''\kappa_\eta^+ < \mu < j(\kappa_\eta^+)$. Note that $j^*(\Lambda_0) = \Lambda_0$. By elementarity, for each $\alpha \in L$, we can find $r_\alpha = (p_\alpha, d) \in j^*(\mathbb{R})$ with $\text{stem}(r_\alpha) = \langle g, f, d \rangle$ and $r_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma_0 = \Lambda_0$ such that

$$r_\alpha \Vdash \langle j(\alpha), \epsilon \rangle <_{j^*(\mathcal{I})} \langle \mu, \epsilon \rangle.$$

For each $\alpha \in L$, denote $r_\alpha = \langle \langle g, f, H_\alpha, F_\alpha \rangle, d \rangle$. We may assume that for each α , $[F_\alpha(\gamma)]_{j^*(U_\gamma)} = [F^*]_{j^*(U_\gamma)}$, for some fixed F^* .

Note that in this case, the measures $j^*(U_\gamma)$ and U_γ are different, so we can not argue as in the proof of Lemma 3.19. We use ideas of Neeman [6] to overcome this difficulty.

For each $y \in B_\gamma$ set

$$J_y = \{ \alpha \in L : \langle \langle g \upharpoonright \langle \gamma, y \rangle, f \upharpoonright \langle \gamma, F_\alpha(\gamma)(y) \rangle, H_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma, F_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma \rangle, d \rangle \Vdash^* \langle j(\alpha), \epsilon \rangle <_{j^*(\mathcal{I})} \langle \mu, \epsilon \rangle \}.$$

Also let

$$W_y = \{ C \subseteq L : C \text{ is unbounded and } \exists b \in \text{Add}(\kappa, j(\kappa_\eta^{++})) \text{ such that } b \Vdash \mathcal{I}_y = C \}.$$

Then each W_y and $y \mapsto W_y$ is in $V[H][E][H']$ and as in [6], we have that

- If J_y is unbounded in κ_η^+ , then $J_y \in V[H][E][H']$,

- If $C_1 \neq C_2$ are both in W_y , then they are disjoint on a tail end,
- For all $C \in W_y$, if $\alpha < \beta$ in C , then

$$\langle \langle g \frown \langle \gamma, y \rangle, f \frown \langle \gamma, F_\alpha(\gamma)(y) \rangle, H_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma, F_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma \rangle, d \rangle \Vdash^* \langle j(\alpha), \epsilon \rangle <_{j^*(\mathcal{X})} \langle \mu, \epsilon \rangle.$$

Let $\rho < \kappa_\eta^+$ be such that for all $C_1, C_2 \in W_y$, C_1 and C_2 are disjoint above ρ . For $\alpha \in L \setminus \rho$ and $y \in B_\gamma$ define $h(y, \alpha)$ to be the unique $C \in W_y$ such that $\alpha \in C$, if such a C exists and undefined otherwise. Note that if J_y is unbounded in κ_η^+ and $\alpha \in J_y$, then $h(y, \alpha) = J_y$. Let $\alpha_0 = \min(L \setminus \rho)$ and for $\alpha \in L \setminus \rho$ let

$$A_\alpha^* = \{y \in B_\gamma : h(y, \alpha) = h(y, \alpha_0)\}.$$

By the arguments in [6], each $A_\alpha^* \in U_\gamma$. For each $\alpha \in L \setminus \rho$ set $\Lambda_\alpha^* \in \Xi_{\gamma+1}$ be such that

- $stem(\Lambda_\alpha^*) = stem(\Lambda_0)$,
- $\Lambda_\alpha^* \upharpoonright \gamma_0 = \Lambda_0$,
- $H_{\Lambda_\alpha^*}(\gamma) = A_\alpha^*$,
- $F_{\Lambda_\alpha^*}(\gamma) = F^* \upharpoonright A_\alpha^*$.

Then $\rho < \kappa_\eta^+$ and $\langle \Lambda_\alpha^* : \alpha \in L \setminus \rho \rangle$ are as in the statement of the lemma, but they are in $V[H][E][H']$ and not necessarily in $V[H][E]$. We now use the preservation Lemma 2.4 to show that there are such objects in $V[H][E]$.

Let $\Theta = \{\Lambda \in \Xi_{\gamma+1} : \Lambda \upharpoonright \gamma_0 = \Lambda_0, stem(\Lambda) = stem(\Lambda_0) \text{ and } F_\Lambda(\gamma) = F^* \upharpoonright H_\Lambda(\gamma)\}$. For $\Lambda \in \Theta$ and $y \in H_\Lambda(\gamma)$, we define $\Pi = \Lambda \frown \langle y \rangle \in \Xi_{\gamma+1}$ be such that $g_\Pi = g_\Lambda \frown \langle \gamma, y \rangle$, $f_\Pi = f \frown \langle \gamma, F_\Lambda(\gamma)(y) \rangle$, $d_\Pi = d_\Lambda$ and we set F_Π, H_Π be the same as F_Λ, H_Λ with γ removed from their domain.

For $\Lambda \in \Theta$ and $y \in H_\Lambda(\gamma)$ set

$$b_{\Lambda, y} = \{\alpha \in L \setminus \rho : y \in A_\alpha^*\}.$$

Note that $b_{\Lambda, y} \in V[H][E][H']$ and for all $\alpha < \beta$ in $b_{\Lambda, y}$ we have $\Lambda \frown \langle y \rangle \Vdash^* \langle \alpha, \epsilon \rangle <_{\mathcal{X}} \langle \beta, \epsilon \rangle$.

Claim 4.5. *For every $\Lambda \in \Theta$ and $A \subseteq H_\Lambda(\gamma)$, $A \in U_\gamma$, there is $y \in A$ such that $b_{\Lambda, y}$ is unbounded and there is an unbounded set $b \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$ in $V[H][E]$ such that $b_{\Lambda, y} \subseteq b$ and for all $\alpha < \beta$ in b , $\Lambda \frown \langle y \rangle \Vdash^* \langle \alpha, \epsilon \rangle <_{\mathcal{X}} \langle \beta, \epsilon \rangle$.*

Proof. Consider the narrow system $\mathcal{S} = \langle L \setminus \rho, \mathcal{R} \rangle$, where

$$\mathcal{R} = \{R_{\Lambda, y} : \Lambda \in \Theta, y \in H_\Lambda(\gamma)\}$$

and for nodes a, b we have

$$aR_{\Lambda, y}b \iff \Lambda \frown \langle y \rangle \Vdash^* a <_{\mathcal{T}} b.$$

Also consider the branches $\{b_{\Lambda, y}^* : \Lambda \in \Theta, y \in H_\Lambda(\gamma)\}$, where $b_{\Lambda, y}^* = \{\langle \alpha, \epsilon \rangle : \alpha \in b_{\Lambda, y}\}$ if $y \in A$, and $b_{\Lambda, y}^* = \emptyset$ otherwise. By preservation Lemma 2.4 (see also Remark 12 in [12]), in $V[H][E]$, we can find an unbounded $b \subseteq \Lambda$ and $y \in H_\Lambda(\gamma)$ such that $b_{\Lambda, y} \subseteq b$ and $b_{\Lambda, y}$ is unbounded. Since $b_{\Lambda, y}$ is unbounded, we have $y \in A$. Then b is as required. \square

For $\Lambda \in \Theta$ and $y \in H_\Lambda(\gamma)$ let $\dagger_{\Lambda, y}$ be the assertion: $b_{\Lambda, y}$ is unbounded and there is an unbounded $b \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$ in $V[H][E]$ with $b_{\Lambda, y} \subseteq b$ such that for all $\alpha < \beta$ in b , $\Lambda \frown \langle y \rangle \Vdash^* \langle \alpha, \epsilon \rangle <_{\mathcal{T}} \langle \beta, \epsilon \rangle$. It follows from the above claim that, for each $\Lambda \in \Theta$, the set

$$A_\Lambda = \{y \in H_\Lambda(\gamma) : \dagger_{\Lambda, y} \text{ holds}\}$$

is in $V[H][E]$ and $A_\Lambda \in U_\gamma$ (A_Λ is in $V[H][E]$ since \mathbb{C}' is enough distributive. If A_Λ is not in U_γ , then its complement, i.e., $Y = \{y \in H_\Lambda(\gamma) : \dagger_{\Lambda, y} \text{ fails}\}$, is in U_γ . Apply the above claim to Y to get a contradiction).

For each $\Lambda \in \Theta$ and $y \in A_\Lambda$ let $L_{\Lambda, y} \subseteq L$ witness $\dagger_{\Lambda, y}$. Note that by the distributivity of \mathbb{C}' , we have that $\langle \Lambda, y \rangle \mapsto L_{\Lambda, y}$ is in $V[H][E]$. For $\Lambda \in \Theta$ and $\alpha \in L \setminus \rho$ define

$$A_{\Lambda, \alpha} = \{y \in H_\Lambda(\gamma) : \alpha \in L_{\Lambda, y}\}.$$

Then as in Claim 20 in [12], each $A_{\Lambda, \alpha} \in U_\gamma$. The rest of the argument is as in Lemma 3.19 and we are done. \square

The next lemma is analogue to Lemma 3.20 and whose proof is essentially the same.

Lemma 4.6. *There are $\rho < \kappa_\eta^+$ and conditions $\langle p_\alpha : \alpha \in J \setminus \rho \rangle$ with $p_\alpha \upharpoonright \gamma_0 + 1 = \langle \langle \bar{g}, \bar{f}, \bar{H}, \bar{F} \rangle, \bar{d} \rangle$ such that for all $\alpha < \beta$ in $J \setminus \rho$, $p_\alpha \wedge p_\beta \Vdash "u_\alpha <_{\mathcal{T}} u_\beta"$. Here $p_\alpha \wedge p_\beta$ denotes the weakest extension of p_α and p_β .*

The rest of the argument is as before. This completes our sketch of the proof of Theorem 1.2.

5. PRODUCT OF LEVY COLLAPSES

In this section we present another proof of Theorem 1.1, using ideas of Neeman [7]. The idea of using Neeman's method to prove the theorem was suggested by Yair Hayut [2]. The proof is much easier than the proof given in the previous section. However let us mention that the method given in this section can not be used to Theorem 1.2. Let $\langle \kappa_\xi : \xi \leq \eta \rangle$ be an increasing and continuous sequence of cardinals so that:

- (1) Each κ_ξ , where $\xi = 0$ or ξ is a successor ordinal is a supercompact cardinal,
- (2) $\kappa_\eta = \lambda$.
- (3) If $\xi = 0$ or ξ is a successor ordinal, then κ_ξ is Laver indestructible under κ_ξ -directed closed forcing notions,
- (4) For all $\xi \leq \eta$, $2^{\kappa_\xi} = \kappa_\xi^+$.

As before we can assume that $\eta < \kappa_0$.

Let \mathbb{C} be the Easton support iteration of $\text{Col}((\kappa_i)_*^{++}, < \kappa_{i+1}), i < \eta$, and let H be \mathbb{C} -generic over V . The following lemma can be proved easily:

Lemma 5.1. (a) \mathbb{C} is κ -directed closed, in particular κ remains supercompact in $V[H]$.

(b) In $V[H]$, the only measurable cardinals in the interval (κ, κ_η) are $(\kappa_i)_*$, $i < \eta$ and κ_η is the limit of them; in particular, κ_η is the limit of the first η measurable cardinals above κ .

(c) $NSP(\kappa_\eta^+)$ holds in $V[H]$, where $NSP(\kappa_\eta^+)$ is the assertion "the Narrow System Property holds at κ_η^+ ".

Proof. (a) and (b) are clear; for (c), see [3]. □

The following lemma completes the proof.

Lemma 5.2. *Work in $V[H]$. There is $\mu < \kappa = \kappa_0$ such that in the generic extension of $V[H]$ by $\text{Col}(\omega, \mu) \times \text{Col}(\mu^+, \kappa)$ the tree property at κ_η^+ holds.*

Proof. The proof of the lemma, which in conjunction with NSP gives the tree property, follows arguments from Neeman's paper [7], adapting them for the uncountable cofinality case. We may also mention that the supercompactness of the other cardinals is used in the proof of NSP , see [3].

Assume that for all $\mu < \kappa$ the forcing $\text{Col}(\omega, \mu) \times \text{Col}(\mu^+, \kappa)$ adds an Aronszajn tree at κ_η^+ and let \mathcal{T}_μ be a name for this tree.

Let $j: V[H] \rightarrow M$ be a κ_η^+ -supercompact elementary embedding, i.e., $\text{crit}(j) = \kappa$ and M is closed under κ_η^+ -sequences. Let $\vec{T} = \langle \mathcal{T}_\mu : \mu < \kappa \rangle$ and set $j(\vec{T}) = \langle \mathcal{T}_\mu^* : \mu < j(\kappa) \rangle$.

In M , let us pick $\mu = \kappa_\eta < j(\kappa)$, so $\mathcal{T}_{\kappa_\eta}^*$ is a $\text{Col}(\omega, \kappa_\eta) \times \text{Col}(\kappa_\eta^+, j(\kappa))$ -name for an Aronszajn tree at $j(\kappa_\eta^+)$. Let $\delta = \sup j''(\kappa_\eta^+) < j(\kappa_\eta^+)$. By recursion on $\alpha < \kappa_\eta^+$, and using the κ_η^+ -closure of $\text{Col}^M(\kappa_\eta^+, j(\kappa))$, pick a sequence $\langle (p_\alpha, q_\alpha) : \alpha < \kappa_\eta^+ \rangle$ such that:

- (1) $(p_\alpha, q_\alpha) \in \text{Col}(\omega, \kappa_\eta) \times \text{Col}^M(\kappa_\eta^+, j(\kappa))$,
- (2) $\langle q_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa_\eta^+ \rangle$ is a decreasing sequence in $\text{Col}^M(\kappa_\eta^+, j(\kappa))$,
- (3) There is an ordinal $\zeta_\alpha < j(\kappa_\eta)$ such that $(p_\alpha, q_\alpha) \Vdash \langle j(\alpha), \zeta_\alpha \rangle \leq_{\mathcal{T}_{\kappa_\eta}^*} \langle \delta, 0 \rangle$.

Let $I \subseteq \kappa_\eta^+$ be a cofinal set such that for all $\alpha \in I$, $p_\alpha = p_\star$ and $\zeta_\alpha < j(\kappa_\sigma)$ for some fixed $p_\star \in \text{Col}(\omega, \kappa_\eta)$ and $\sigma < \eta$.

For every $\alpha, \beta \in I$, $\alpha < \beta$, M satisfies that there is a condition $r = (p_\star, q_\beta)$ and ordinals $\zeta_\alpha, \zeta_\beta < j(\kappa_\sigma)$ such that that r forces $\langle j(\alpha), \zeta_\alpha \rangle \leq_{\mathcal{T}_{\kappa_\eta}^*} \langle j(\beta), \zeta_\beta \rangle$. Reflecting this downwards (for every pair α, β separately), in $V[H]$ there is $\rho < \kappa$, a condition r and $\zeta, \eta < \kappa_\sigma$ such that $r \Vdash \langle \alpha, \zeta \rangle \leq_{\mathcal{T}_\rho} \langle \beta, \eta \rangle$. This defines a narrow system on I of width κ_σ and κ relations. Namely, for a pair of ordinal $\rho < \kappa$ and condition $r \in \text{Col}(\omega, \rho) \times \text{Col}(\rho^+, \kappa)$ we say that $\langle \alpha, \zeta \rangle \leq_{\langle \rho, r \rangle} \langle \beta, \eta \rangle$ iff $r \Vdash \langle \alpha, \zeta \rangle \leq_{\mathcal{T}_\rho} \langle \beta, \eta \rangle$.

A branch in this narrow system consists of a single condition that forces a branch through a name of an Aronszajn tree. Since the narrow system property holds in $V[H]$, such a branch exists so we get a contradiction. □

6. THE TREE PROPERTY AT THE SUCCESSOR OF ARBITRARY SINGULAR CARDINALS

In this section we use the method of Section 5 to prove Theorem 1.3 which gives us the tree property at the successor of an arbitrary singular cardinal. Let $\langle \kappa_\xi : \xi \leq \eta \rangle$ be as in Section 5 with $\eta < \kappa_0$. Let \mathbb{C} be the Easton support iteration of $\text{Col}(\kappa_i^+, < \kappa_{i+1})$, $i < \eta$, and let H be \mathbb{C} -generic over V . Note that $V[H] \models \kappa_\eta = \kappa_0^{+\eta}$. The next lemma can be proved as in Lemma 4.2.

Lemma 6.1. *Work in $V[H]$. There is $\mu < \kappa$ such that in the generic extension of $V[H]$ by $\text{Col}(\omega, \mu) \times \text{Col}(\mu^+, \kappa)$ the tree property at κ_η^+ holds.*

Let $G_1 \times G_2$ be $\text{Col}(\omega, \mu) \times \text{Col}(\mu^+, \kappa)$ -generic over $V[H]$ such that $V[H][G_1 \times G_2] \models$ “The tree property holds at κ_η^+ ”. But $\aleph_{\eta+1}^{V[H][G_1 \times G_2]} = \kappa_\eta^+$, and the result follows.

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