

## More on ultrafilters and topological games

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**ABSTRACT.** Two different open-point games are studied here, the  $\mathcal{G}$ -game (of Bouziad [4]) and the  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -game (introduced in [11]), defined for each  $p \in \omega^*$ . We prove that for each  $p \in \omega^*$ , there exists a space in which none of the players of the  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -game has a winning strategy. Nevertheless a result of P. Nyikos, essentially shows that it is consistent, that there exists a countable space in which all these games are undetermined.

We construct a countably compact space in which player *II* of the  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -game is the winner, for every  $p \in \omega^*$ . With the same technique of construction we built a countably compact space  $X$ , such that in  $X \times X$  player *II* of the  $\mathcal{G}$ -game is the winner. Our last result is to construct  $\omega_1$ -many countably compact spaces, with player *I* of the  $\mathcal{G}$ -game as a winner in any countable product of them, but player *II* is the winner in the product of all of them in the  $\mathcal{G}$ -game.

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### 1. INTRODUCTION AND PRELIMINARIES

In [15] G. Gruenhage introduced a local game on topological spaces, so called *open-point* game (here denoted as the *W*-game). Given a topological space  $X$  and a point  $x \in X$ , the rules of the open-point game are as follows: Two players *I* and *II* play infinitely many innings, in the  $n$ -th inning player *I* choosing a neighborhood  $U_n$  of  $x$  and player *II* responding with a point  $x_n \in U_n$ . After  $\omega$ -many innings we declare a winner, using the sequence  $(x_n)_{n < \omega}$  of the moves

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of the second player. We say that player  $I$  wins the  $W(x, X)$ -game if the sequence  $(x_n)_{n < \omega}$  converges to  $x$ , otherwise player  $II$  is declared a winner.

This game and its variations (see [4], [11] and [17]) have proved useful in studying local and convergence properties of topological spaces. These variants have the same rules and only differ from the  $W$ -game in the way a winner is declared. Following A. Bouziad [4], we say that player  $I$  wins the  $\mathcal{G}(x, X)$ -game if  $\{x_n : n < \omega\}$  has an accumulation point in  $X$ , otherwise, player  $II$  is the winner.

Here we are mainly concerned with an ultrafilter version of the open-point game as introduced and studied in [11] and [12]. Recall the definition of the  $p$ -limit of a sequence (R. A. Bernstein [2]). Let  $p$  be a free filter on  $\omega$ . A point  $x$  of a space  $X$  is said to be the  $p$ -limit of a sequence  $(x_n)_{n < \omega}$  in  $X$  ( $x = p\text{-lim } x_n$ ) if for every neighborhood  $U$  of  $x$ ,  $\{n < \omega : x_n \in U\} \in p$ .

Now, we are ready to define the  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -game, a parametrized version of the above mentioned  $\mathcal{G}$ -game. Let  $p$  be a free ultrafilter on  $\omega$ . We say that player  $I$  wins the  $\mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ -game if  $p\text{-lim } x_n$  exists (in  $X$ ). Otherwise, player  $II$  wins.

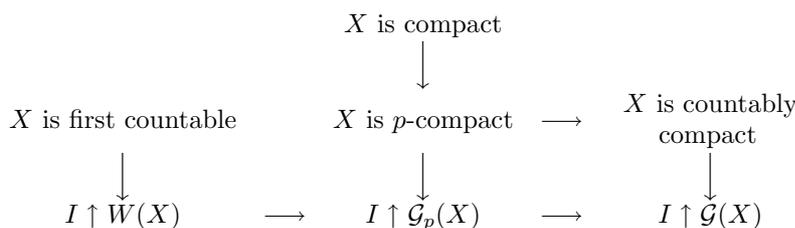
In what follows we are mostly concerned with the question as to whether either player has a winning strategy in one of the above mentioned games. A strategy for one of the players is an algorithm that specifies each move of the player in every possible situation. More precisely, a *strategy for player  $I$*  in the open-point game is any sequence of functions  $\sigma = \{\sigma_n : \mathcal{N}(x)^n \times X^n \rightarrow \mathcal{N}(x) : n < \omega\}$ . A sequence  $(x_n)_{n < \omega}$  in  $X$  is called a  $\sigma$ -sequence if  $x_{n+1} \in \sigma_{n+1}(\langle x_0, \dots, x_n \rangle; \langle V_0, \dots, V_n \rangle) = V_{n+1}$ , for each  $n < \omega$ . A strategy  $\sigma$  for player  $I$  is a *winning strategy* in the  $\mathcal{G}(x, X)$ -game (respect.  $W(x, X)$ -game,  $\mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ -game), if each  $\sigma$ -sequence has an accumulation point in  $X$  (respect.  $x_n \rightarrow x$ , or there exist  $y \in X$  such that  $p\text{-lim } x_n = y$ ). A space  $X$  is called a  $\mathcal{G}$ -space (respect.  $W$ -space,  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -space) if player  $I$  has a winning strategy in the  $\mathcal{G}(x, X)$ -game (resp.  $W(x, X)$ -game,  $\mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ -game), for every  $x \in X$ .

Similarly, one defines a *strategy for player  $II$* . It is a sequence of functions  $\rho = \{\rho_n : X^n \times \mathcal{N}(x)^{n+1} \rightarrow X : n < \omega\}$ , such that  $\rho_n(\langle x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} \rangle; \langle V_0, \dots, V_n \rangle) \in V_n$ , for each  $n < \omega$ . A sequence  $\langle (V_n, x_n) : n < \omega \rangle$  where  $V_n \in \mathcal{N}(x)$  and  $x_n \in V_n$  is called a  $\rho$ -sequence, if  $x_n = \rho_n(\langle x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} \rangle; \langle V_0, \dots, V_n \rangle) \in V_n$ , for each  $n < \omega$ . A strategy  $\rho$  for player  $II$  is a *winning strategy* in the  $\mathcal{G}(x, X)$ -game (respect.  $W(x, X)$ -game,  $\mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ -game), if for each  $\rho$ -sequence,  $\langle (V_n, x_n) : n < \omega \rangle$ , the set  $\{x_n : n < \omega\}$  does not have cluster point in  $X$  (resp.  $x_n \not\rightarrow x$ , or the  $p$ -limit of the sequence  $\{x_n\}$  does not exist).

We denote the fact that player  $I$  has a winning strategy in the  $\mathcal{G}(x, X)$ -game, by  $I \uparrow \mathcal{G}(x, X)$ . If he does not have a winning strategy we write  $I \downarrow \mathcal{G}(x, X)$ . When  $I \uparrow \mathcal{G}(x, X)$  for every  $x \in X$ , this is denoted by  $I \uparrow \mathcal{G}(X)$ . The meaning

of  $II \uparrow \mathcal{G}(x, X)$ ,  $II \downarrow \mathcal{G}(x, X)$  is defined analogously with the same notation used for the  $W$ -game or  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -game.

The following implications are easy consequences from definitions,  $I \uparrow W(X) \implies I \uparrow \mathcal{G}_p(X) \implies I \uparrow \mathcal{G}(X)$ . They can not be reversed in general, as shown for the spaces  $\omega^*$ ,  $\beta(\omega) \setminus \{q \in \omega^* : q \leq_{RF} p\}$ , but they are equivalent to first countability if  $X$  is a countable space (see Proposition 2.5). Dually,  $II \uparrow W(X) \longleftarrow II \uparrow \mathcal{G}_p(X) \longleftarrow II \uparrow \mathcal{G}(X)$ . These implications are also strict, the same examples work. In the next diagram, one can see relationships of these games with other concepts of general topology (for more details, see [13]).



Sharma proved in [23] that  $X$  is strongly Fréchet  $\iff II \downarrow W(X)$ , where a space  $X$  is called *strongly Fréchet* iff for every point  $x \in X$ , and every sequence  $(A_n)_{n < \omega}$  of subsets of  $X$  with  $x \in \overline{A_n}$  for each  $n < \omega$ , there exists a sequence  $\{x_n\}$  such that  $x_n \in A_n$  for every  $n \in \omega$  and  $x_n \rightarrow x$ .

The notation used here is mostly standard. The Stone-Čech compactification  $\beta\omega$  of the countable discrete space  $\omega$  is identified with the set of all ultrafilters on  $\omega$  and its remainder  $\omega^* = \beta\omega \setminus \omega$  denotes the set of all free ultrafilters on  $\omega$ . If  $f : \omega \rightarrow X$  is a function into a compact space  $X$ ,  $\hat{f}$  denotes its (unique) extension to  $\beta\omega$ . Two ultrafilters are said to be of the same type (in  $\beta\omega$ ) if there is a permutation  $f$  of  $\omega$  such that  $\hat{f}$  takes one to the other. The set of ultrafilters of the same type as a fixed ultrafilter  $p$ , is denoted by  $T(p)$ . For  $p, q \in \omega^*$ ,  $p \leq_{RK} q$  denotes that  $p$  is *Rudin-Keisler* bellow  $q$  and means that there is  $f : \omega \rightarrow \omega$  such that  $\hat{f}(q) = p$ . The relation  $p \leq_{RF} q$  is the *Rudin-Frolík* order and it means that there is an embedding  $f : \omega \rightarrow \beta\omega$  such that  $\hat{f}(p) = q$ .

## 2. INDETERMINACY OF THE GAMES $\mathcal{G}_p$ , $W$ AND $\mathcal{G}$

We say that a game is *determined* on a space  $X$  if for every point of  $X$  one of the players (not the same for all points) has a winning strategy, otherwise, the game is *undetermined*. For nice definable spaces the games are typically determined. However, they are not determined in general. In this section we are going to work with the indeterminacy of the games  $\mathcal{G}_p$ ,  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $W$ . For this, let us introduce the following notation.

Let  $Y$  be a set. A subset  $\mathbb{T}$  of  $Y^{<\omega}$  is a *tree* if whenever  $t \in \mathbb{T}$  and  $s \in Y^{<\omega}$  with  $s \subseteq t$ , then  $s \in \mathbb{T}$ . Let  $t$  be an element of the tree  $\mathbb{T}$ , the set of successors of  $t$ ,  $\{y \in Y : t \frown y \in \mathbb{T}\}$  is denoted by  $\text{succ}_{\mathbb{T}}(t)$ . A function  $f : \omega \rightarrow Y$ , is said

to be a *branch* of  $\mathbb{T}$ , if  $f \upharpoonright_n \in \mathbb{T}$  for every  $n < \omega$ . The set of branches of  $\mathbb{T}$  is denoted by  $[\mathbb{T}]$ .

Next we will show that for every  $p \in \omega^*$ , there is a countably compact space such that no player of the  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -game has a winning strategy. To that end the following lemmas will be useful.

The following fact is a standard reformulation of the existence of a winning strategy for player *II* (see e.g [17]).

**Lemma 2.1.** *Suppose that  $X$  is a topological space,  $x \in X$  and  $p \in \omega^*$ . Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1) *II*  $\uparrow$   $\mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ .
- (2) *II* has a winning strategy  $\rho'$  in the  $\mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ -game such that  $x \notin \text{rng}(\rho')$
- (3) *There exists a tree  $\mathbb{T}$  such that*
  - i. *For every  $t \in \mathbb{T}$ ,  $x \in \overline{\text{succ}_{\mathbb{T}}(t)} \setminus \{x\}$ .*
  - ii. *For every  $f \in [\mathbb{T}]$ ,  $p\text{-lim } f(n)$  does not exist in  $X$ .*

*Proof.*  $1 \implies 2$ . Let  $\rho = \{\rho_n : n < \omega\}$  be a winning strategy for player *II* in the  $\mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ -game. We say that a sequence  $\langle V_0, y_0, V_1, y_1, \dots, V_n, y_n \rangle$  is  $\rho$ -legal, if the  $V_0, \dots, V_n$  are neighborhoods of  $x$ , and for each  $i \in \{0, \dots, n\}$ , we have  $\rho_i(\langle y_0, \dots, y_{i-1} \rangle, \langle V_0, \dots, V_i \rangle) = y_i \in V_i$ .

We will recursively define a winning strategy  $\rho'$  such that:

- (a)  $x \notin \text{rng}(\rho')$  and
- (b) For every  $\rho'$ -legal sequence  $\langle V_0, x_0, V_1, x_1, \dots, V_n, x_n \rangle$ , there is a unique  $\rho$ -legal sequence  $\langle V_0, y_0, V_1, y_1, \dots, V_n, y_n \rangle$  such that  $y_i = x_i$  whenever  $y_i \neq x$ .

If  $n = 0$ , let  $\rho'_0(V_0)$  be equal to  $\rho_0(V_0)$  if  $\rho_0(V_0) \neq x$  otherwise  $\rho'_0(V_0)$  is any element of  $V_0 \setminus \{x\}$ .

For the inductive step, let  $\langle V_0, x_0, V_1, x_1, \dots, x_{n-1}, V_n \rangle$  be sequence of moves where the  $x_i$  are played according to the strategy  $\rho'$ . Consider  $\langle V_0, x_0, V_1, x_1, \dots, V_{n-1}, x_{n-1} \rangle$ . By the inductive hypothesis there is a unique  $\rho$ -legal sequence  $\langle V_0, y_0, V_1, y_1, \dots, V_{n-1}, y_{n-1} \rangle$  such that  $y_i = x_i$  whenever  $y_i \neq x$ . Define  $\rho'_n(\langle x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} \rangle; \langle V_0, \dots, V_n \rangle)$  as follows: It is equal to  $\rho_n(\langle y_0, \dots, y_{n-1} \rangle; \langle V_0, \dots, V_n \rangle)$  if  $\rho_n(\langle y_0, \dots, y_{n-1} \rangle; \langle V_0, \dots, V_n \rangle) \neq x$ , otherwise is any point of  $V_n \setminus \{x\}$ .

It is clear that (a) holds and that  $\rho'$  is a strategy.

Now lets see that (b) holds. Let  $\langle V_0, x_0 \rangle$  be a  $\rho'$ -legal, then we have two cases,  $x_0$  is equal to  $\rho_0(V_0)$  or not, in any case (b) holds. Now suppose that the statement (b) is true for any  $\rho'$ -legal sequence of length  $n$  and let  $\langle V_0, x_0, V_1, x_1, \dots, V_n, x_n \rangle$  be  $\rho'$ -legal sequence, so the subsequence  $\langle V_0, x_0, V_1, x_1, \dots, V_{n-1}, x_{n-1} \rangle$  holds (b), hence there is a unique  $\rho$ -legal sequence  $\langle V_0, y_0, V_1, y_1, \dots, V_{n-1}, y_{n-1} \rangle$  fulling (b), and  $\rho_n(\langle y_0, \dots, y_{n-1} \rangle; \langle V_0, \dots, V_n \rangle) = y_n$ , so  $\langle V_0, y_0, V_1, y_1, \dots, V_n, y_n \rangle$  is the unique  $\rho$ -legal sequence.

Finally lets see that  $\rho'$  is a winning strategy for player *II*, for this, let  $(x_n)_{n < \omega}$  be a sequence of moves of player *II* according to strategy  $\rho'$ . Then there is exists a unique sequence  $(y_n)_{n < \omega}$  which is constructed by segments of  $(x_n)_{n < \omega}$ ; the difference between  $(x_n)_{n < \omega}$  and  $(y_n)_{n < \omega}$  are the points  $y_n$  which

are  $x$ . Since the  $p$ -lim  $y_n$  is not in  $X$  then the  $p$ -lim  $x_n$  is not in  $X$ , so  $\rho'$  is a winning strategy.

$2 \implies 3$ . Let  $\mathbb{T}'' = \{l \in (\mathcal{N}(x) \times X)^{<\omega} : l \text{ is a } \rho' \text{-legal sequence}\}$  and define  $\mathbb{T}' = \{g \upharpoonright_n : g \in [\mathbb{T}''] \text{ and } g \text{ is infinite}\}$ . Note that each  $f \in [\mathbb{T}']$  is a  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -play a cording to strategy  $\rho'$ , hence  $\mathbb{T}' \neq \emptyset$  and if  $s^f = (x_n^f)_{n < \omega}$  is the subsequence generated by the points of  $f$ , then this sequence does not have a  $p$ -limit in  $X$ . Set  $\mathbb{T} = \{s^f \upharpoonright_n : f \in [\mathbb{T}']\}$ , with  $s^f \upharpoonright_n \subseteq s^g \upharpoonright_m$  if and only if  $f \upharpoonright_n \subseteq g \upharpoonright_m$ .

To see that i holds, pick  $t \in \mathbb{T}$  and a neighborhood  $U$  of  $x$ . From the construction of  $\mathbb{T}$ , choose a branch  $f \in [\mathbb{T}']$  such that  $t = s^f \upharpoonright_n$ . Let  $(V_n^f)_{n < \omega}$  be the subsequence generated by the neighborhoods of  $f$ . Then  $\rho'_{|t|}(\langle t(0), t(1), \dots, t(|t| - 1) \rangle; \langle V_0^f, V_1^f, \dots, V_{|t|-1}^f, U \rangle) \in U$ , hence  $U \cap (\text{succ}_{\mathbb{T}}(t) \setminus \{x\}) \neq \emptyset$ . Finally, if  $g \in [\mathbb{T}]$ , then  $g = s^f$  for some  $f \in [\mathbb{T}']$ , so  $p$ -lim  $g(n)$  does not exist in  $X$ , this fulfilling condition ii.

$3 \implies 1$ . Take a tree  $\mathbb{T}$  fulfilling clauses i and ii. For each  $n \in \omega$ , define  $\rho_n : X^n \times \mathcal{N}(x)^{n+1} \rightarrow X$ , such that

$$\rho_n(\langle x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} \rangle; \langle V_0, \dots, V_n \rangle) \in V_n \cap \text{succ}_{\mathbb{T}}(\langle x_0, \dots, x_{n-1} \rangle).$$

Let  $\rho = \{\rho_n : n < \omega\}$ . It is straightforward to see that  $\rho$  is a winning strategy for player  $II$  in the  $\mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ -game, as in any play the resulting sequence is a branch of the tree  $\mathbb{T}$ , and by ii, it does not have a  $p$ -limit in  $X$ .  $\square$

The next result, due to Z. Frolík, is used in the proof of Lemma 2.3 and also later on in the text.

**Lemma 2.2** (Frolík). *If  $f, g : \omega \rightarrow \omega^*$  are embeddings and  $p \in \omega^*$ . Then,  $\hat{f}(p) = \hat{g}(p)$  if and only if  $\{n < \omega : f(n) = g(n)\} \in p$ .*

**Lemma 2.3.** *Let  $p \in \omega^*$  and  $\mathbb{T} \subseteq (\omega^*)^{<\omega}$  be a countable tree, such that*

- (1) *For each  $t \in \mathbb{T}$ ,  $|\text{succ}_{\mathbb{T}}(t)| \geq 2$ .*
- (2) *For each  $f \in [\mathbb{T}]$ ,  $f$  is an embedding in  $\omega^*$ .*
- (3) *If  $f, g \in [\mathbb{T}]$ ,  $f \neq g$ , then  $|f \cap g| < \aleph_0$ .*

*Then,  $\hat{f}(p) \neq \hat{g}(p)$  for any two elements  $f, g \in [\mathbb{T}]$ , and in particular the set  $p[\mathbb{T}] = \{p\text{-lim } f(n) : f \in [\mathbb{T}]\}$  has cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$ .*

*Proof.* Follows from clauses 2 and 3, and Lemma 2.2.  $\square$

The idea to construct a space  $X$  in which the  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -game is undetermined (for  $p \in \omega^*$  fixed), is to construct recursively a space  $X \subset \omega^*$ , diagonalizing across all the possible strategies for players  $I$  and  $II$ . There are two obvious obstacles to doing this. If we don't know  $X$ , then we can't say too much about the strategies. Another obstacle, is that there are going to be at least  $2^{|X|}$  possible strategies. Fortunately Lemma 2.3 can be used to overcome both obstacles. The space  $X$  is going to be constructed in  $\mathfrak{c}$ -many steps, so the cardinality of  $\{\mathbb{T} \subseteq X^{<\omega} : \mathbb{T} \text{ satisfies the conditions of Lemma 2.3}\}$  is at most  $\mathfrak{c}$ .

**Theorem 2.4.** *For each  $p \in \omega^*$ , there exists a countably compact space  $X$  such that for every  $x \in X$ ,  $I \downarrow \mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$  and  $II \downarrow \mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ .*

*Proof.* Fix a bijection  $\Phi : \mathfrak{c} \rightarrow \mathfrak{c} \times \mathfrak{c}$  such that, for  $\Phi(\alpha) = (\Phi_0(\alpha), \Phi_1(\alpha))$ , we have  $\Phi_0(\alpha), \Phi_1(\alpha) \leq \alpha$ , for each  $\alpha < \mathfrak{c}$ . By recursion we are going to construct for each  $\nu < \mathfrak{c}$ , spaces  $X_\nu, Y_\nu$  and a sequence of trees  $\{\mathbb{T}_\alpha^\nu : \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$ , such that

- (1)  $X_0 \subset \omega^*$  is countable and dense in itself, and  $Y_0 = \emptyset$ .
- (2)  $X_\eta \subset X_\mu$  and  $Y_\eta \subset Y_\mu$ , for all  $\eta < \mu < \nu$ .
- (3)  $|X_\mu| \leq |\mu + \omega|$  and  $|Y_\mu| \leq |\mu|$ , for all  $\mu < \nu$ .
- (4)  $X_\mu \cap Y_\eta = \emptyset$ , for all  $\eta < \mu < \nu$ .
- (5)  $\{\mathbb{T}_\alpha^\nu : \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  is an enumeration of all trees in  $X_\nu^{<\omega}$  satisfying the conditions of Lemma 2.3.
- (6) If  $\mu + 1 < \nu$ , then  $X_{\mu+1} \cap p[\mathbb{T}_{\Phi_1(\mu)}^{\Phi_0(\mu)}] \neq \emptyset$  and  $Y_{\mu+1} \cap p[\mathbb{T}_{\Phi_1(\mu)}^{\Phi_0(\mu)}] \neq \emptyset$ .

The construction of the space  $X_0$  can be done using Theorem 1.4.7 of [18]. For a limit ordinal  $\nu$ , define  $X_\nu = \bigcup_{\mu < \nu} X_\mu$  and  $Y_\nu = \bigcup_{\mu < \nu} Y_\mu$ . When  $\nu = \mu + 1$ , define  $X_\nu = X_\mu \cup \{p_\mu\}$  and  $Y_\nu = Y_\mu \cup \{q_\mu\}$ , where  $p_\mu, q_\mu \in \omega^*$  have the property that  $p_\mu \neq q_\mu$  and

$$p_\mu, q_\mu \in p[\mathbb{T}_{\Phi_1(\mu)}^{\Phi_0(\mu)}] \setminus (X_\mu \cup Y_\mu).$$

Let  $X = \bigcup_{\nu < \mathfrak{c}} X_\nu$ . Note that if  $\mathbb{T} \subseteq X^{<\omega}$  is a tree which satisfies the condition of Lemma 2.3, then there exists a  $\nu < \mathfrak{c}$  such that  $\mathbb{T} \subseteq X_\nu^{<\omega}$ , hence there exists  $\alpha < \mathfrak{c}$  such that  $\mathbb{T}_\alpha^\nu = \mathbb{T}$ . And by the fact that  $\Phi$  is onto, then there is  $\gamma < \mathfrak{c}$  with  $\mathbb{T}_{\Phi_1(\gamma)}^{\Phi_0(\gamma)} = \mathbb{T}$ .

Let's see that  $X$  is countably compact. Take a countable subset  $Y$  of  $X$ , without loss of generality we can assume that it is discrete. It is easy to construct a tree  $\mathbb{T}$  contained in  $Y^{<\omega}$  with the properties of Lemma 2.3. Hence by the observation before, there exists  $\gamma < \mathfrak{c}$  with  $\mathbb{T}_{\Phi_1(\gamma)}^{\Phi_0(\gamma)} = \mathbb{T}$ . So  $p_\gamma$  is cluster point of  $Y$ , which is in  $X$ .

**Claim 1:** For each  $x \in X$ ,  $I \downarrow \mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ .

Fix  $x \in X$  and suppose that player  $I$  has a winning strategy  $\sigma = \{\sigma_n : n < \omega\}$  at  $x$  in the  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -game. For each  $s \in 2^{<\omega}$  inductively pick  $x_s \in X$  and a clopen neighborhood  $W_n$  of  $x$ , such that

$$\begin{aligned} x_s &\in \sigma_{|s|}(\langle x_{s|_0}, x_{s|_1}, \dots, x_{s|_{|s|-1}} \rangle; \langle V_0, \dots, V_{|s|-1} \rangle) = V_{|s|}, \\ x_s &\notin \{x_r : r \in 2^{\leq |s|} \text{ and } r \neq s\}, \\ x_s &\in W_n \text{ for all } s \in 2^n \text{ and} \\ x_s &\notin W_n \text{ for all } s \in 2^{<n}. \end{aligned}$$

Define  $t_s = \langle x_{s|_0}, x_{s|_1}, x_{s|_2}, \dots, x_s \rangle$  and  $\mathbb{T} = \{t_s : s \in 2^{<\omega}\}$ . From our construction it follows that  $\mathbb{T}$  is a tree which satisfies the premises of Lemma 2.3. Hence there exists  $\gamma < \mathfrak{c}$  with  $\mathbb{T}_{\Phi_1(\gamma)}^{\Phi_0(\gamma)} = \mathbb{T}$ . And  $f \in [\mathbb{T}]$  such that  $p\text{-lim } f(n) = q_\gamma$ . Note that  $\text{rng}(f)$  is a  $\sigma$ -sequence which does not have a  $p$ -limit in  $X$ . So the strategy  $\sigma$  is not winning.

**Claim 2:** For each  $x \in X$ ,  $II \downarrow \mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ .

Suppose that there exist  $x \in X$  and a tree  $\mathbb{T} \subseteq X^{<\omega}$  with the properties of Lemma 2.1. We are going to construct a countable subtree  $\overline{\mathbb{T}}$  of  $\mathbb{T}$  which is going to satisfy the conditions of Lemma 2.3. Fix  $t \in \mathbb{T}$ . For each  $s \in 2^{<\omega}$  and  $n > 0$ , pick inductively points  $x_{s \smallfrown 0} \neq x_{s \smallfrown 1}$  in  $X$  and a clopen neighborhood  $V_n$  of  $x$  with the followings properties:

$$\begin{aligned} x_{s \smallfrown 0}, x_{s \smallfrown 1} &\in \text{succ}_T(t \smallfrown x_{s|_1} \smallfrown x_{s|_2} \smallfrown \dots \smallfrown x_s), \\ x_{s \smallfrown 0}, x_{s \smallfrown 1} &\notin \{x_r : r \in 2^{\leq |s|+1} \setminus \{s \smallfrown 0, s \smallfrown 1\}\}, \\ x_{s \smallfrown 0}, x_{s \smallfrown 1} &\in V_n, \text{ for each } s \in 2^{n-1} \text{ and } n-1 \geq 0, \\ x_{s \smallfrown 0}, x_{s \smallfrown 1} &\notin V_n, \text{ for each } s \in 2^{<n-1} \text{ and } n-1 > 0. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $t_s = t \smallfrown \langle x_{s|_1}, x_{s|_2}, \dots, x_s \rangle$ , and define  $\overline{\mathbb{T}} = \{t_s : s \in 2^{<\omega}\}$ . So  $\overline{\mathbb{T}}$  is a subtree of  $\mathbb{T}$  like Lemma 2.3. Hence there exists  $\gamma < \mathfrak{c}$  with  $\mathbb{T}_{\Phi_1(\gamma)}^{\Phi_0(\gamma)} = \overline{\mathbb{T}}$ . However from this fact, there is a branch  $f \in [\overline{\mathbb{T}}]$  with  $p\text{-lim } f(n) \in X$ .  $\square$

The proof of the following fact is analogous to the proof given in [15, Theorem 3.3] for the W-game. We have already mentioned that, for a countable space  $X$ , the existence of a winning strategy for player I in the  $\mathcal{G}$ -game on  $X$  is equivalent to  $X$  being first countable.

**Proposition 2.5.** *In a Tychonoff countable space  $X$ , the following statements are equivalent for a fixed element  $x$  in  $X$ :*

- (1)  $\chi(x, X) = \aleph_0$ .
- (2)  $I \uparrow \mathcal{G}(x, X)$ .

*Proof.*  $1 \implies 2$ . It is straightforward to define a winning strategy for player  $I$  using a countable local base.

$2 \implies 1$ . Suppose that  $\chi(x, X) > \aleph_0$ . Let  $\sigma$  be any strategy for player  $I$ . Enumerate the range of  $\sigma$  as  $\{V_n : n < \omega\}$ . As  $X$  is zero-dimensional, we can get for each  $n < \omega$ , a clopen subset  $U_n$  such that

- (1)  $U_{n+1} \subset U_n$ , for every  $n < \omega$ .
- (2)  $\bigcap_{n < \omega} U_n = \{x\}$ .
- (3)  $U_n \subset V_n$ , for every  $n < \omega$ .

Since  $\chi(x, X) > \aleph_0$ , there exists a neighborhood  $V$  of  $x$  such that  $|U_n \setminus V| = \aleph_0$  for each  $n < \omega$ . Take  $x_n \in U_n \setminus V$  for each  $n < \omega$ . Then  $x \notin \overline{\{x_n : n < \omega\}}$ . Now, if  $y \in X \setminus \{x\}$ , then there exist  $n < \omega$  with  $y \notin U_n$ , hence  $X \setminus U_n \in \mathcal{N}(y)$ , so  $|(X \setminus U_n) \cap \{x_n : n < \omega\}| < \aleph_0$ , i.e.  $y \notin \overline{\{x_n : n < \omega\}}$ . Hence the sequence  $\{x_n : n < \omega\}$  does not have cluster points. It is easy to see that it contains a subsequence which is  $\sigma$ -sequence without cluster points. Therefore the strategy  $\sigma$  is not winning.  $\square$

Theorem 1.12 of [21] essentially says that it is consistent that there exist countable dense-in-themselves spaces on which our three games are undetermined. We will need the following version of this result.

**Theorem 2.6** (P. Nyikos). *Assume  $\mathfrak{p} > \omega_1$ . If  $D$  is a countable dense subset of  $2^{\omega_1}$ , then  $I \downarrow \mathcal{G}(D)$  and  $II \downarrow W(D)$ .*

From this Theorem and the implications between the games  $W$ ,  $\mathcal{G}_p$  and  $\mathcal{G}$ , we have the next corollary.

**Corollary 2.7** ( $\mathfrak{p} > \omega_1$ ). *There exists a topological countable group  $G$  such that the games  $W$ ,  $\mathcal{G}$  and  $\mathcal{G}_p$  are undetermined in  $G$ .*

### 3. PLAYER II AND COUNTABLE COMPACTNESS

If  $X$  is countably compact, player  $I$  has a (trivial) winning strategy in the  $\mathcal{G}$ -game. This is no longer true for the  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -game. In fact, it is easy to construct (for a fixed  $p \in \omega^*$ ) a countably compact space  $X$  such that  $II \uparrow \mathcal{G}_p(X)$ . Now, we will construct a countably compact space  $X$  such that  $II \uparrow \mathcal{G}_p(X)$  for every  $p \in X$  and then show that there is a countably compact space  $X$  such that  $II \uparrow \mathcal{G}(X \times X)$ , which is a strengthening of results of Novak and Terasaka's examples (see [24, Lemma 3.1]).

Recall the definition of the *relative type*, introduced by Z. Frolík. Let  $Y \in [\omega^*]^\omega$  be discrete and  $p \in Y^* = \overline{Y}^{\beta\omega} \setminus Y$ . The relative type of  $p$  with respect to  $Y$  is  $T(\hat{h}(p))$ , where  $h : Y \rightarrow \omega$  is an embedding. It is going to be denote by  $T(p, Y)$ . Now, for a subset  $S$  of  $\beta\omega$  and  $p \in \omega^*$ , define  $T[p, S] = \{T(p, Y) : Y \in [S]^\omega \text{ and } Y \text{ is homeomorphic to } \omega\}$ . Frolík proved that  $T[p, \omega^*]$  has cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$ .

**Theorem 3.1.** *There exists a countably compact space  $X$  such that  $II \uparrow \mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$  for every  $p \in \omega^*$  and  $x \in X$ .*

*Proof.* The space  $X$  is going to be the union of  $\{X_\nu : \nu < \omega_1\}$ , where each  $X_\nu$  is constructed recursively. Suppose that for each  $\mu < \nu < \omega_1$  we have  $X_\mu$  such that

- (1)  $X_0 \subseteq \omega^*$  is countable and dense in it self.
- (2)  $X_0$  is a dense subset of  $X_\mu$ , for each  $\mu < \nu$ .
- (3)  $|X_\mu| \leq \mathfrak{c}$ , for each  $\mu < \nu$ .
- (4)  $X_\eta \subset X_\mu$ , if  $\eta < \mu < \nu$ .
- (5) If  $\mu + 1 < \nu$ , then every countable discrete subset of  $X_\mu$  has a cluster point in  $X_{\mu+1}$ .
- (6) For each  $x \in X_\mu \setminus X_0$ ,  $\{y \in X_\mu : T[x, X_0] \cap T[y, X_0] \neq \emptyset\} = \{x\}$ .

We can assume the existence of the space  $X_0$ , using Theorem 1.4.7 of [18]. Now, we show how to construct  $X_\nu$ . When  $\nu$  is a limit ordinal, define  $X_\nu = \bigcup_{\mu < \nu} X_\mu$ . If  $\nu$  is a successor ordinal, say  $\nu = \mu + 1$  then we have from clause 3, that the set of all embeddings from  $\omega$  to  $X_\mu$  has size  $\mathfrak{c}$ , let  $\{f_\alpha : \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  be an enumeration of this set. For each  $\alpha < \mathfrak{c}$ , pick a point  $p_\alpha \in \overline{f_\alpha[\omega]}^{\beta(\omega)}$  such that

for all  $y \in X_\mu$ ,  $T[p_\alpha, X_0] \cap T[y, X_0] = \emptyset$ , and also  $T[p_\alpha, X_0] \cap T[p_\beta, X_0] = \emptyset$ , for all  $\beta < \alpha$ . Define  $X_{\mu+1} = X_\mu \cup \{p_\alpha : \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$ .

Notice that our space  $X = \bigcup_{\nu < \omega_1} X_\nu$  is countably compact and also for each  $p \in \omega^*$ ,  $|\{y \in X \setminus X_0 : T(p) \in T[y, X_0]\}| \leq 1$ . Therefore,  $|\{y \in X : T(p) \in T[y, X_0]\}| \leq \omega$ .

Fix  $p \in \omega^*$  and  $x \in X$ . Let's see that  $II \uparrow \mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ . It follows from the previous observation that the set  $A = \{q \in X : T(p) \in T[q, X_0]\}$  is countable. Enumerate it as  $\{q_i : i < \omega\}$ . For each  $i < \omega$  fix an embedding  $f_i : \omega \rightarrow X_0$  such that  $\hat{f}_i(p) = q_i$ . The strategy of player  $II$  is to choose in the  $n$ -th step  $g(n) \in X_0 \setminus \{f_0(n), f_1(n), \dots, f_n(n)\}$  such that the function  $g : \omega \rightarrow X_0$  defined in this way is an embedding. From Lemma 2.2, we have  $\hat{g}(p) \notin A$ . And hence  $T(p) \in T[\hat{g}(p), X_0]$ , then  $\hat{g}(p) \notin X$ . So this is a winning strategy for player  $II$  in the  $\mathcal{G}_p(x, X)$ -game.  $\square$

In the construction of the next example, we use a space which is countable, dense in itself and extremally disconnected. This space is defined for a fixed ultrafilter  $p \in \omega^*$  and it is denoted by  $Seq(p)$ , its underlying set is  $\omega^{<\omega}$ , the set of all finite sequences in  $\omega$ . A set  $U \subset \omega^{<\omega}$  is open if and only if for every  $t \in U$ ,  $\{n < \omega : t \frown n \in U\} \in p$  (see [7], [20], [5], [25]).

**Lemma 3.2.** *There exists a countable dense-in-itself space  $X \subset \omega^*$  such that, for any  $x \in X$  there exists a sequence  $\{V_n : n < \omega\} \subset \mathcal{N}(x)$  with the following property: if  $\{x_n : n < \omega\} \subset X$  and  $x_n \in \bigcap_{m \leq n} V_m$  for each  $n < \omega$  then  $x \notin \overline{\{x_n : n < \omega\}}$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $p \in \omega^*$  be not a P-point and consider the space  $Seq(p)$ . Using Theorem 1.4.7 of [18], we can take an homeomorphic copy of  $Seq(p)$  inside of  $\omega^*$ . So, now it is sufficient to prove that  $Seq(p)$  is the desired space.

Since  $p$  is not a P-point, there exists a sequence  $\{U_n : n < \omega\} \subset p$  without pseudointersection in  $p$ . Take  $x \in Seq(p)$  and define  $V_n = \{t \in Seq(p) : x \subseteq t \text{ and } t(|x|) \in U_n\}$ . If  $(x_n)_{n < \omega}$  is a sequence such that  $x_n \in \bigcap_{m \leq n} V_m$ , then  $x_n(|x|) \in U_m$ , for every  $n > m$ . Hence  $W = \{x_n(|x|) : n < \omega\} \notin p$ . So  $U = \omega \setminus W \in p$ , this implies that  $V = \{t \in X : x \subseteq t \text{ and } t(|x|) \in U\}$  is a neighborhood of  $x$ , disjoint from  $\{x_n : n < \omega\}$ .  $\square$

It is easy to see that the product of at most  $\omega$ -many  $W$ -spaces ( $\mathcal{G}_p$ -spaces), is also a  $W$ -space ( $\mathcal{G}_p$ -space). However, this is not true for  $\mathcal{G}$ -spaces, as we will see in the next example. An application of the following example, is the existence of a countably compact space whose product is not countably compact.

**Example 3.3.** There exists a countably compact space  $X$  such that  $II \uparrow \mathcal{G}(X \times X)$ .

*Proof.* Let  $X$  be the space constructed in Theorem 3.1, with the condition that, the space  $X_0$  is homeomorphic to  $Seq(p)$  where the free ultrafilter  $p$  is not a

P-point. Let's see that  $II \uparrow \mathcal{G}((x, y), X \times X)$ , for a fixed point  $(x, y) \in X \times X$ . By  $\Delta$  we denote the set  $\{(x, x) : x \in X_0\}$ .

Case (i):  $(x, y) \in X \times X \setminus (X_0 \times X_0)$ . Let  $\{(x_n, y_n) : n < \omega\}$  be an enumeration of all the points in  $X_0 \times X_0$ . For each  $n < \omega$ , let  $W_n \in \mathcal{N}((x_n, y_n)) \setminus \mathcal{N}((x, y))$  clopen such that  $X_0 \times X_0 \setminus \bigcup_{m \leq n} W_m$  is infinite for every  $n < \omega$  and also  $(x_m, y_m) \notin W_n$  for every  $m < n$  (this is possible because the space  $X_0$  is a subspace of  $\omega^*$  dense in it self). Let  $V_0$  be the first move of player  $I$ , player  $II$  responds with a point  $(g(0), h(0)) \in V_0 \cap (X_0 \times X_0)$ , and at the same time he chooses clopen sets  $A_0 \in \mathcal{N}(g(0)) \setminus \mathcal{N}(x)$  and  $B_0 \in \mathcal{N}(h(0)) \setminus \mathcal{N}(y)$ , such that

$$(X_0 \times X_0) \setminus [(A_0 \times X_0) \cup (X_0 \times B_0) \cup \Delta] \text{ is infinite.}$$

Inductively players  $I$  and  $II$  produce a sequence of points in  $X_0 \times X_0$ ,  $\{(g(n), h(n)) : n < \omega\}$ , and sequences of clopen sets  $\{A_n : n < \omega\}$  and  $\{B_n : n < \omega\}$ , such that, if the moves of player  $I$  are denoted by  $V_n$ 's then:

- (1)  $(g(0), h(0)) \in V_0$ ,
- (2)  $(g(n), h(n)) \in V_n \cap (X_0 \times X_0 \setminus [\bigcup_{m \leq n} W_m \cup \bigcup_{m < n} (A_m \times X_0) \cup (X_0 \times B_m) \cup \Delta])$ , for all  $n < \omega$ ,
- (3)  $A_n \in \mathcal{N}(g(n)) \setminus \mathcal{N}(x)$ , for all  $n < \omega$ ,
- (4)  $B_n \in \mathcal{N}(h(n)) \setminus \mathcal{N}(y)$ , for all  $n < \omega$ , and
- (5)  $X_0 \times X_0 \setminus [\bigcup_{m \leq n} W_m \cup \bigcup_{m \leq n} (A_m \times X_0) \cup (X_0 \times B_m) \cup \Delta]$  is infinite, for all  $n < \omega$ .

From the construction of the space  $X$ , it is possible that player  $II$  play inductively in this way, choosing the  $A_n$ 's and  $B_n$ 's, fulfilling the previous conditions.

So at the end the resulting sequence  $S(g, h) = \{(g(n), h(n)) : n < \omega\}$  is discrete and also the functions in each coordinate,  $g, h : \omega \rightarrow X_0$  are embeddings. Now, since  $(x_n, y_n) \in W_n$  for each  $n < \omega$ , no element of  $X_0 \times X_0$  is a cluster point of the sequence  $S(g, h)$ . Note that if  $(a, b) \in X \times X \setminus X_0 \times X_0$  is a cluster point of  $S(g, h)$ , then  $T[a, X_0] \cap T[b, X_0] \neq \emptyset$  but from the construction of  $X$ , this implies that  $a = b$  while  $S(g, h) \cap \Delta = \emptyset$ , so  $S(g, h)$  is closed and discrete.

Case (ii):  $(x, y) \in X_0 \times X_0$ . Let  $\{(x_n, y_n) : n < \omega\}$  be an enumeration of all the points in  $X_0 \times X_0 \setminus \{(x, y)\}$  and let  $\{W_n : n < \omega\}$  a sequence of neighborhoods as in Case (i). Let  $\{U_n^x : n < \omega\}$  and  $\{U_n^y : n < \omega\}$  sequence of neighborhoods of  $x$  and  $y$  respectively, like in Lemma 3.2. If  $V_n$  is the  $n$ -th move of player  $I$ , then player  $II$  is going to play as before, but with the clause 2 strengthened as:

$$(g(n), h(n)) \in V_n \cap (\bigcap_{m \leq n} U_m^x \times U_m^y) \cap (X_0 \times X_0 \setminus [\bigcup_{m \leq n} W_m \cup \bigcup_{m < n} (A_m \times X_0) \cup (X_0 \times B_m) \cup \Delta]).$$

Then as before, player  $II$  gets a discrete set  $S(g, h)$ , with  $g, h$  embeddings. And in this case, the only possible cluster point is  $(x, y)$ , but from the choice of the sequences  $g$  and  $h$ , and the properties of the points of  $X_0$ , it follows that  $(x, y)$  is not a cluster point of  $S(g, h)$ .  $\square$

**Question 3.4.** *Is there for each  $n \geq 2$ , a space  $X$  such that  $X^n$  is countably compact and  $II \uparrow \mathcal{G}(X^{n+1})$ ?*

The next example will show a family of countably compact spaces, such that the product of countably many of them is a  $\mathcal{G}$ -space but in the product of all them, player  $II$  of the  $\mathcal{G}$ -game, has a winning strategy. The example shows that the converse of Theorem 2.2 of the paper [12] is not true which establishes that, if player  $I$  has a winning strategy in the  $\mathcal{G}$ -game in the product of  $\omega_1$ -many spaces, then all but countably many of them are countably compact.

To make this example, we generalize the space from [11, Theorem 2.3]. For  $p \in \omega^*$ , let  $R(p) = \{\hat{f}(p) : f : \omega \rightarrow \omega \text{ is strictly increasing}\}$ .

Let  $\emptyset \neq M \subseteq \omega^*$ . Put  $M_0 = \omega$  and  $M_1 = \bigcup_{p \in M} R(p)$ . Let  $\nu < \omega_1$ . If  $\nu$  is limit ordinal, then  $M_\nu = \bigcup_{\mu < \nu} M_\mu$ . If  $\nu = \mu + 1$ , then we define

$$M_\nu = \{\hat{f}(p) : f : \omega \rightarrow M_\mu \text{ is an embedding, } f|_{A_f} \text{ is strictly increasing and } p \in M\}$$

where  $A_f = \{n < \omega : f(n) \in \omega\}$  for a function  $f : \omega \rightarrow \beta\omega$ . Then define  $\Omega(M) = \bigcup_{\nu < \omega_1} M_\nu$ . By using arguments similar to those used in the paper [11], we can prove that, for  $\emptyset \neq M \subseteq \omega^*$ , the space  $\Omega(M)$  is a countably compact  $\mathcal{G}_p$ -space, for all  $p \in M$ .

**Example 3.5.** There is a family  $\{X_\nu : \nu < \omega_1\}$  of countably compact spaces such that  $I \uparrow \mathcal{G}(\prod_{\nu < \mu} X_\nu)$ , for every  $\mu < \omega_1$ , but  $II \uparrow \mathcal{G}(\prod_{\nu < \omega_1} X_\nu)$ .

*Proof.* We start fixing a family  $\{p_\nu : \nu < \omega_1\}$  of free ultrafilters on  $\omega$  which are pairwise RK-incomparable (see [22]). For  $\nu < \omega_1$ , define  $X_\nu = \Omega(\{p_\mu : \mu \geq \nu\})$ . We know that  $X_\nu$  is a countably compact space and  $I \uparrow \mathcal{G}_{p_\nu}(X_\nu)$ , for all  $\nu < \omega_1$ . In fact  $I \uparrow \mathcal{G}_{p_\mu}(X_\nu)$ , for all  $\mu > \nu$ . Then by Theorem 2.6 of [12], we obtain that  $I \uparrow \mathcal{G}_{p_\mu}(\prod_{\nu < \mu} X_\nu)$ , this shows the first part of the theorem. Notice that from the linearity of the RF-order and the properties of the ultrafilters  $p_\nu$ 's, it follows that  $\bigcap_{\nu < \omega_1} X_\nu = \omega$ . Now, fix  $x \in \prod_{\nu < \omega_1} X_\nu$ , we will show that  $II \uparrow \mathcal{G}(x, \prod_{\nu < \omega_1} X_\nu)$ . Indeed, assume that player  $I$  has chosen at the  $n$ -th step  $V_n = \bigcap_{\alpha \in F_n} [\alpha, V_\alpha]$ , where  $F_n \in [\omega_1]^{<\omega}$ ,  $V_\alpha \in \mathcal{N}(x(\alpha))$  for each  $\alpha \in F_n$  and  $[\alpha, V_\alpha] = \{f \in \prod_{\nu < \omega_1} X_\nu : f(\alpha) \in V_\alpha\}$ . The strategy of player  $II$  is to choose at the  $n$ -th step  $x_n \in \prod_{\nu < \omega_1} X_\nu$  such that

$$x_n(\alpha) = \begin{cases} x(\alpha) & \text{if } \alpha \in F_n, \\ n & \text{if } \alpha \in \omega_1 \setminus (\bigcup_{m \leq n} F_m). \end{cases}$$

From the fact that  $\bigcap_{\nu < \omega_1} X_\nu = \omega$ , we have that for  $\beta = \sup(\bigcup_{n < \omega} F_n)$  the set  $\{x_n|_{[\beta, \omega_1)} = n : n < \omega\}$  does not have a cluster point. So  $\{x_n : n < \omega\}$  is close and discrete and hence player  $II$  wins.  $\square$

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