

# FORCING PROPERTIES OF BOOLEAN ALGEBRAS OF TYPE $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$

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ABSTRACT. We study forcing properties of the Boolean algebras  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ , where  $\mathcal{I}$  is a Borel ideal on  $\omega$ . We show (Theorem 2.9) that (under a large cardinal hypothesis)  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  does not add reals if and only if it has a dense  $\sigma$ -closed subset. For analytic P-ideals  $\mathcal{I}$  we show (Theorem 3.3) that either  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is  $\omega^\omega$ -bounding or it is not proper. We also investigate the existence of completely separable  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD families.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

In recent years, a large body of work has been done on the structure of definable (Borel, analytic, co-analytic, ...) ideals on a countable set and their corresponding quotients (Brendle-Mejia [9], Farah [16], Fremlin [22], Hrušák-Zapletal [30], Hrušák [25, 26], Louveau-Veličković [35], Solecki [45] [46], Solecki-Todorčević [47], He-Hrušák-Rojas-Solecki [23], Chodounský-Guzmán-Hrušák [12]).

We contribute to this line of research by studying the quotient Boolean algebras  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  for definable ideals  $\mathcal{I}$  as forcing notions. We build on work done by Farah in [17, 18, 16]; by Just and Krawczyk in [31]; by Balcar, Hernández and Hrušák in [5]; by Hrušák and Zapletal in [30]; by Kurilić and Todorčević in [37], [38], [39], [40]; by Steprāns in [48].

First let us briefly consider quotients  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  without any definability restrictions. It was pointed out to us by Alan Dow, that every

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forcing of size at most  $\mathfrak{c}$  is forcing equivalent to a quotient  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  for some ideal  $\mathcal{I}$  on  $\omega$ .

**Theorem 1.1** (Dow). *For every partial order  $\mathbb{P}$  of size at most  $\mathfrak{c}$  there is an ideal  $\mathcal{I}$  on  $\omega$  such that the algebra  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  can be densely embedded into the completion  $RO(\mathbb{P})$  of  $\mathbb{P}$ .*

We present its simple proof for the sake of completeness. First we recall some well-known facts. Recall that a family  $\mathcal{J}$  of elements of a Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{B}$  is *independent* if  $\bigwedge_{a \in E} a \wedge \bigwedge_{a \in E'} -a \neq \mathbf{0}$  for any pair of disjoint finite subsets  $E, E'$  of  $\mathcal{J}$ . An old theorem of Fichtenholz and Kantorovich [21] states that *there is an independent family of size  $\mathfrak{c}$  in  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{fin}$* . It is a well known fact that the subalgebra  $\mathbb{C}$  of any Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{B}$  generated by an independent family  $\mathcal{J} \subseteq \mathbb{B}$  is *free*, that is *any function  $f$  from  $\mathcal{J}$  to any Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$  has a (unique) extension to a homomorphism  $F : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$* .

Another known fact is Sikorski's extension theorem (see [44]): *given a subalgebra  $\mathbb{C}$  of a Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{B}$  and a complete Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ , any homomorphism  $F : \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$  has an extension to a homomorphism  $\bar{F} : \mathbb{B} \rightarrow \mathbb{A}$* .

*Proof.* Given a partial order  $\mathbb{P}$  of size at most  $\mathfrak{c}$ , let  $\mathcal{J}$  be an independent family of size  $\mathfrak{c}$  in  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{fin}$  and let  $f : \mathcal{J} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$  be any surjection. Now, according to the observations made above there is a homomorphism  $F : \mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{fin} \rightarrow RO(\mathbb{P})$  extending  $f$ . Let  $\mathcal{I} = F^{-1}(\mathbf{0})$ . Then  $\mathbb{B} = \text{rng}(F)$  is a dense subalgebra of  $RO(\mathbb{P})$  containing  $\mathbb{P}$ , and  $\mathbb{B}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ .  $\square$

In fact, this proof has the following immediate corollary.

**Corollary 1.2.** *For every complete Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{B}$  of size at most  $\mathfrak{c}$  there is an ideal  $\mathcal{I}$  on  $\omega$  such that the algebra  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{B}$ .*

*Proof.* Apply the previous proof to  $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{B}$ .  $\square$

Assuming the Continuum Hypothesis, Louveau [34] completely characterized which Boolean algebras are isomorphic to algebras of the type  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ . Recall that a Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{B}$  is *weakly  $\sigma$ -complete* if it contains no  $(\omega, \omega)$ -gaps, i.e if given two countable subsets  $A, B$  of  $\mathbb{B}$  such that  $a \wedge b = \mathbf{0}$  for every  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$ , there is a  $c \in \mathbb{B}$  such that  $C$  separates  $A$  and  $B$ , that is,  $a \leq c$  for all  $a \in A$  and  $c \wedge b = \mathbf{0}$  for all  $b \in B$ . It is easy to see that every  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is weakly  $\sigma$ -distributive. On the other hand, Louveau also proved the following result.

**Theorem 1.3** ([34] Assuming CH). *For every weakly  $\sigma$ -complete Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{B}$  of size at most  $\mathfrak{c}$  there is an ideal  $\mathcal{I}$  on  $\omega$  such that the algebra  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathbb{B}$ .*

This theorem is neither true in ZFC [13] nor characterizes CH [15].

The situation is quite different if we restrict our attention to definable ideals and their quotients. The first notable difference is that no c.c.c. forcing can be represented as  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  for a definable ideal  $\mathcal{I}$ . We prove this and that no such quotient can be complete from the following theorem, which characterizes ideals with the Baire property.

**Theorem 1.4** (Jalali-Naini–Talagrand, see [1]). *An ideal  $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies the Baire Property if and only if there is a partition  $\{I_k : k \in \omega\}$  of  $\omega$  in finite pieces, such that for every infinite  $A \subseteq \omega$ ,  $\bigcup_{k \in A} I_k$  is  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive.*

Hence, by taking  $\{A_\alpha : \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  an almost disjoint family of subsets of  $\omega$ ,  $\mathcal{A} = \{[\bigcup_{k \in A_\alpha} I_k] : \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  is an antichain in  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  of size  $\mathfrak{c}$ . Moreover, by considering the family  $F = \{\sup C : C \subseteq \mathcal{A}\}$  we get a subset of the completion of  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  of size  $2^\mathfrak{c}$ . Hence  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  cannot contain  $F$  since its size is  $\mathfrak{c}$ .

Farah asked in [16] if there are infinitely many analytic P-ideals (arbitrary analytic, definable ideals) whose quotients are provably in ZFC pairwise non-isomorphic. Oliver [42] proved that there are  $\mathfrak{c}$ -many pairwise non-isomorphic quotients on Borel ideals, however, his method does not seem to produce quotients which are distinct as forcing notions. On the other hand, Steprāns [48], and Hrušák and Zapletal [30] have shown that there are many distinct, and even forcing non-equivalent, definable quotients  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ . However, most of these are co-analytic or more complex. This prompted the following question:

**Question 1.5** ([25]). *Are there uncountably many forcing non-equivalent quotients  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  for Borel ideals  $\mathcal{I}$ ?*

In fact, only a handful of quotients over Borel ideals have been studied as forcing notions:

- $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{fin}$  is the prototypical example, as seen in [4, 3].
- If  $\mathcal{I}$  is  $F_\sigma$ , then  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is  $\sigma$ -closed by a theorem of Just-Krawczyk [31]. In fact, under CH,  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is isomorphic to  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{fin}$  for every  $F_\sigma$  ideal  $\mathcal{I}$ . On the other hand, this consistently fails, see [9].
- The forcing  $\mathcal{P}(\omega \times \omega)/\text{fin} \times \text{fin}$  was considered in [49], [8], [29] and [24], and it was shown in [24], that even though it is also  $\sigma$ -closed, it is consistently not forcing equivalent with  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{fin}$ .

- The quotient  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Q})/\text{nwd}$  was considered in [5],[30], [19] and [10], and it is known to be forcing equivalent to  $\mathbb{C} * \dot{\mathbb{P}}$ , where  $\mathbb{C}$  is the Cohen forcing and  $\dot{\mathbb{P}}$  is a  $\mathbb{C}$ -name for a  $\sigma$ -closed forcing.
- Kurilić and Todorčević in [37] studied the quotient  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Q})/L\text{-scatt}$ , where  $L\text{-scatt}$  is the co-analytic ideal of scattered linearly ordered subsets of the rationals  $\mathbb{Q}$ , and showed that it is forcing equivalent to  $\mathbb{S} * \dot{\mathbb{P}}$ , where  $\mathbb{S}$  is the Sacks forcing and  $\dot{\mathbb{P}}$  is an  $\mathbb{S}$ -name for a  $\sigma$ -closed forcing.
- This ideal is not to be confused with  $T\text{-scatt}$ , the co-analytic ideal of topologically scattered subsets of the rationals, i.e. the subsets of  $\mathbb{Q}$  all of whose subsets have an isolated point. The quotient  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Q})/T\text{-scatt}$  is, in fact, forcing equivalent with  $\mathbb{M}$ , Miller's *rational perfect set forcing* [41]. By Lemma 2.4 in [11], there is a dense embedding from  $\mathbb{M} = \{A \subseteq \mathbb{Q} : A \text{ is crowded and closed}\}$  in  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Q})/T\text{-scatt}$ .
- Three quotients over analytic P-ideals have been identified:
  - a) [17]  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{Z} \simeq \mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{fin} * \mathbb{B}(\mathfrak{c})$ , where  $\mathcal{Z}$  is the ideal of asymptotic density zero subsets of  $\omega$ ,

$$\mathcal{Z} = \{A \subseteq \omega : \lim_{n \rightarrow \infty} \frac{|A \cap n|}{n} = 0\},$$

and  $\mathbb{B}(\kappa)$  denotes the measure algebra for adding  $\kappa$ -many random reals,

- b) [30]  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{tr}(\mathcal{N}) \simeq \mathbb{B}(\omega) * \dot{\mathbb{P}}$  for some forcing  $\mathbb{P}$  not adding reals, and
- c) [30] the non-proper  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{J}$ , with  $\mathcal{J}$  an analytic P-ideal, described in Example 3.12 of [30].

We will say more about non-proper quotient forcings in Section 4.

- Finally, the Mathias-Prikry forcing for destroying an  $F_\sigma$  P-ideal gives rise to a Borel quotient (see [30]).

Here, we continue the study of forcings of the type  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ . In particular, we provide answers to questions from [29] and [30].

## 2. $\omega$ -DISTRIBUTIVE QUOTIENTS

In this section we answer a question of Hrušák and Verner from [29], by showing that every definable quotient not adding sequences of ordinals has a  $\sigma$ -closed dense subset. This puts another restriction on the class of forcings which can be represented as definable quotients as, for instance, Baumgartner's forcing shooting club through a stationary set [2] cannot be represented in this way.

We say that a partially ordered set  $\mathbb{P}$  is  $\omega$ -*distributive* if for every sequence  $\{U_n : n < \omega\}$  of dense open sets in  $\mathbb{P}$ ,  $\bigcap_n U_n$  is dense. We say that  $\mathbb{P}$  is  $\sigma$ -*closed* if for every decreasing sequence  $p_n \in \mathbb{P}$ , there exists  $p \in \mathbb{P}$  such that  $p \leq p_n$  for all  $n$ . We say that  $\mathbb{P}$  is *separative* if for every  $p, q \in \mathbb{P}$ , such that  $p \not\leq q$ , there is  $r \leq p$  incompatible with  $q$ .

The following lemmas hold for  $\mathbb{P} = \mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ , with  $\mathcal{I}$  a Borel ideal.

**Lemma 2.1.** *Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be a separative ordered set with size at most  $\mathfrak{c}$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent.*

- (1)  $\mathbb{P}$  is  $\omega$ -distributive
- (2)  $\mathbb{P}$  does not add sequences of ordinals
- (3)  $\mathbb{P}$  does not add reals
- (4)  $\mathbb{P}$  does not add sequences of reals

*Proof.* To see that (1) implies (2), let  $\tau$  be a  $\mathbb{P}$ -name for a sequence of ordinals, and for each  $n$ , let  $U_n$  be an open dense set of conditions deciding  $\tau(n)$ . By our assumption,  $\bigcap_n U_n$  is dense, then for every condition  $p$  there are  $q \leq p$ , and a sequence of ordinals  $f$  in  $V$  such that  $q \Vdash \tau = f$ .

Clearly, (2) implies (3).

By a suitable (definable) bijection, sequences of reals are codified by reals, which proves that (3) implies (4).

We now prove that if  $\mathbb{P}$  is not  $\omega$ -distributive, then  $\mathbb{P}$  adds a new real. Let  $\{U_n : n < \omega\}$  be a sequence of dense open sets in  $\mathbb{P}$ , such that  $\bigcap_n U_n$  is not dense. Take  $r \in \mathbb{P}$  such that  $\{s \in \mathbb{P} : s \leq r\} \cap \bigcap_n U_n = \emptyset$ . For each  $n$ , take a maximal antichain  $A_n$  of conditions in  $U_n$  below  $r$ . Let  $G$  be a  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic filter with  $r \in G$ . In  $V[G]$ , define  $F = \{(n, p) : p \in G \cap A_n\}$ . Clearly  $r \Vdash F \in (\mathbb{P})^\omega$ . Note that  $F$  can be seen as a sequence of reals. Also, for all  $f \in (\mathbb{P})^\omega \cap V$ ,  $r \Vdash F \neq f$ , because otherwise, if some  $s \leq r$  forces that  $F = f$ , then for all  $n$ , by separativity, there is  $p_n \in A_n$  (namely  $p_n = f(n)$ ) such that  $s \leq p_n$ , and consequently  $s \in U_n$  for all  $n$ , which is a contradiction.  $\square$

In order to investigate the relation between being  $\omega$ -distributive and containing a dense  $\sigma$ -closed set, the next lemma shows one implication is easy.

**Lemma 2.2.** *If there exists a  $\sigma$ -closed dense set  $D \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ , then  $\mathbb{P}$  is  $\omega$ -distributive.*

*Proof.* It follows from a classical Baire-category argument. Let  $\{U_n : n < \omega\}$  be a family of open dense subsets of  $\mathbb{P}$ , and  $A \in \mathbb{P}$ . Then, taking  $A \geq A_0 \geq D_0 \geq A_1 \geq D_1 \dots$ , with  $A_n \in U_n$  and  $D_n \in D$ , by  $\sigma$ -closedness, there is  $C \in D$  such that  $C \leq D_n$  for all  $n$ . Hence,  $C \leq A$  and  $C \in \bigcap U_n$ .  $\square$

To obtain the implication in the other direction, we need to work a bit more.

**Definition 2.3** ([3]). Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be a partially ordered set. We say that  $\mathbb{P}$  has the *Base Tree property* (in short BT-property) if there is a dense subset  $D$  of  $P$  such that

- $D$  is atomless, i.e. for every  $d \in D$  there are incompatible  $d_1, d_2 \in D$  below  $d$ ,
- $D$  is  $\sigma$ -closed, and
- $|D| \leq \mathfrak{c}$ .

The following lemma relaxes conditions for a partially ordered set to have the BT-property.

**Lemma 2.4.** *If  $\mathbb{P}$  is an atomless partially ordered set such that*

- (1)  $\mathbb{P}$  contains a dense subset  $D$  with  $|D| \leq \mathfrak{c}$ , and
- (2)  $\mathbb{P}$  contains a dense  $\sigma$ -closed subset  $E$

*then  $\mathbb{P}$  has the BT-property.*

*Proof.* Let  $\kappa$  be a big enough cardinal, and  $M$  an elementary submodel of  $H(\kappa)$  such that

- (1)  $\mathbb{P}, D, E$  are in  $M$ ,
- (2)  $M^\omega \subseteq M$ ,
- (3)  $|M| = \mathfrak{c}$ , and
- (4)  $D \subseteq M$ .

Let us define  $R = M \cap E$ . We will prove that  $R$  is the dense set that we are looking for. By (3),  $|R| \leq \mathfrak{c}$ . For a given  $p \in \mathbb{P}$ , take  $d \in D$  with  $q \leq p$ . By (4),  $q \in M$ , and since  $M$  is an elementary submodel of  $H(\kappa)$ , there is  $r \in R$  such that  $r \leq q$ , proving that  $R$  is dense. Since  $E$  is  $\sigma$ -closed, by (2)  $R$  is  $\sigma$ -closed. Finally,  $R$  is atomless because  $\mathbb{P}$  is.  $\square$

Corollary 2.2 in [3] claims that a partially ordered set  $\mathbb{P}$  has the BT-property if and only if its Boolean completion  $RO(\mathbb{P})$  has it. We now change our focus to completions of quotients of type  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ . It is well known that the ordered sets  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ ,  $RO(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I})$  (the Boolean completion of  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ ), and  $\mathcal{I}^+ = \mathcal{P}(\omega) \setminus \mathcal{I}$  ordered by the  $\mathcal{I}$ -almost inclusion defined as

$$A \subseteq_{\mathcal{I}} B \text{ if and only if } A \setminus B \in \mathcal{I},$$

are forcing-equivalent. As usual,  $\subseteq^*$  denotes the relation  $\subseteq_{\text{fin}}$ . We will show that under large cardinal assumptions,  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  has the BT-property, if  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is  $\omega$ -distributive. For this, we consider the *Banach-Mazur* game played on a partially ordered set  $\mathcal{G}(\mathbb{P})$  (see [50]) defined as

follows. At step  $n$ , players *Empty* and *Non-empty* choose (respectively)  $p_n$  and  $q_n$  in  $\mathbb{P}$  such that  $p_0 \geq q_0 \geq p_1 \geq q_1 \geq \dots$ . *Non-empty* wins if there is  $r \in \mathbb{P}$  such that  $r \leq q_n$  for all  $n$ . Recall the following result from [50].

**Theorem 2.5** (Veličković). *Let  $\mathbb{B}$  be a complete Boolean algebra containing a dense subset  $D$  with  $|D| \leq \mathfrak{c}$ . If *Non-empty* has a winning strategy in  $\mathcal{G}(\mathbb{B})$ , then  $\mathbb{B}$  has a dense  $\sigma$ -closed subset.*

**Lemma 2.6.** *If  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is  $\omega$ -distributive, then *Empty* does not have a winning strategy in  $\mathcal{G}(RO(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}))$ .*

*Proof.* Let us assume that *Empty* has a winning strategy  $\sigma$  contained in  $(\mathbb{P}(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}))^{<\omega}$ . We may assume that for all  $t \in \sigma$  if  $|t|$  is even,  $t \frown p \in \sigma$ , and  $t \frown q \in \sigma$ , then  $p = q$ ; and if  $|t|$  is odd, then  $t \frown p \in \sigma$ , for all  $p \leq t(|t| - 1)$ . Let us denote  $p_0 = \sigma(\emptyset)$ . Note that for all  $n$ , the family

$$U_n = \{p \in \mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I} : (\exists t \in \sigma \cap (\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I})^{2n+1})(t \frown p \in \sigma)\}$$

is open and dense below  $p_0$  (or below a  $p'_0 \leq p_0$  in  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ , if the reader prefers). If  $p \in \bigcap_n U_n$ , then we can identify a branch  $x$  in  $\sigma$  such that  $p \leq x \upharpoonright 2n+1$ , contradicting that  $\sigma$  is a winning strategy for *Empty*. Hence  $\bigcap_n U_n = \emptyset$ , and so,  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is not  $\omega$ -distributive.  $\square$

Note that we can obtain a winning strategy for some player in  $\mathcal{G}(RO(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}))$  from a given winning strategy for the same player in  $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{I}^+)$ , and viceversa. Moreover,  $\mathcal{G}(\mathcal{I}^+)$  is equivalent to the game  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{I}^+)$  defined as follows: At step  $n$ , players *Empty* and *Non-empty* choose (respectively)  $A_n$  and  $B_n$  in  $\mathcal{I}^+$  such that  $A_0 \supseteq B_0 \supseteq A_1 \supseteq B_1 \supseteq \dots$ . *Non-empty* wins if there is  $C \in \mathcal{I}^+$  such that  $C \subseteq_{\mathcal{I}} B_n$  for all  $n$ . We will use this game and the following theorem to prove that  $\mathcal{G}(RO(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}))$  is determined when  $\mathcal{I}$  is a Borel ideal.

Let  $W$  be a subset of  $U^\omega$ . The *game in  $U$  with payoff set  $W$* , denoted by  $\mathcal{CS}(W)$ , is defined as follows: Players I and II alternately choose elements  $a_0, b_0, a_1, b_1, \dots$  of  $U$ , and Player I is declared the winner if and only if the sequence  $(a_0, b_0, a_1, b_1, \dots)$  belongs to  $W$ . Our game  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{I}^+)$  is an example of this type of game, and the following theorem establishes some conditions that render it determined.

**Theorem 2.7** (Martin). *(LC) Let  $U$  be a set,  $A \subseteq U^\omega$  be a Borel set,  $X$  a Polish space,  $f : A \rightarrow X$  a continuous function, and  $B \subseteq X$  a universally Baire set. Then the game whose payoff set is  $f^{-1}(B)$  is determined.*  $\square$

As usual, LC denotes a large cardinal hypothesis. This and other details can be consulted in Zapletal's book [51]. In our case, the payoff set will be co-analytic, and hence, it is a universally Baire set.

**Lemma 2.8** (LC). *If  $\mathcal{I}$  is a Borel ideal, then  $\mathcal{G}(RO(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}))$  is determined.*

*Proof.* We now verify that  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{I}^+)$  satisfies the hypothesis of Martin's theorem. Consider  $U = \mathcal{I}^+$  and define  $A = \{C \in U^\omega : (\forall n)C_{n+1} \subseteq C_n\}$ . Hence,  $A$  is a Borel set. Consider  $X = (\mathcal{P}(\omega))^\omega$ , which is a Polish space. The identity function from  $A$  to  $X$  is clearly continuous. Define  $B = \{C \in X : (\exists D \in \mathcal{I}^+)(\forall n)D \subseteq_{\mathcal{I}} C(n)\}$ .  $B$  is an analytic subset of  $X$  and  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{I}^+)$  is the game whose payoff set is  $f^{-1}(X \setminus B)$ . Note that  $X \setminus B$  is co-analytic, and so is universally Baire. By Martin's theorem,  $\mathcal{C}(\mathcal{I}^+)$  is determined, and hence,  $\mathcal{G}(RO(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}))$  is determined.  $\square$

**Theorem 2.9** (LC). *If  $\mathcal{I}$  is a Borel ideal and  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is  $\omega$ -distributive, then  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  contains a dense  $\sigma$ -closed set.*

*Proof.* By Lemma 2.8 and Lemma 2.6, *Non-empty* has a winning strategy for  $\mathcal{G}(RO(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}))$ . By Theorem 2.5,  $RO(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I})$  contains a dense  $\sigma$ -closed subset. Note that  $RO(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I})$  is atomless and contains a dense subset of cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$ , namely  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ . By Lemma 2.4 and Corollary 2.2 in [3],  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  has the BT-property, in particular,  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  contains a dense  $\sigma$ -closed set.  $\square$

The conditions listed for  $\mathcal{I}$  in Theorem 2.1 are not equivalent to  $\mathcal{I}$  being  $\sigma$ -closed. From a  $\sigma$ -closed  $\mathcal{I}$  on  $\omega$ , we can construct an ideal  $\mathcal{I}^\omega$  such that  $\mathcal{P}(\omega \times \omega)/\mathcal{I}^\omega$  has a  $\sigma$ -closed dense subset, but is not  $\sigma$ -closed. We define  $\mathcal{I}^\omega$  as follows. For all  $A \subseteq \omega \times \omega$ ,

$A \in \mathcal{I}^\omega$  if and only if for every  $n$ ,  $\{m : \{(n, m) \in A\}\}$  belongs to  $\mathcal{I}$ .

For every  $n$ ,  $X_n = [n, \infty) \times \omega$  is  $\mathcal{I}^\omega$ -positive, and if for every  $n$ ,  $X \setminus X_n \in \mathcal{I}$ , then  $X \in \mathcal{I}^\omega$ , which proves that the decreasing sequence  $\{X_n : n \in \omega\}$  does not have an  $\mathcal{I}^\omega$ -positive lower bound. On the other hand, the family  $\mathcal{D} = \bigcup_n \{X \in (\mathcal{I}^\omega)^+ : X \subseteq \{n\} \times \omega\}$  is a dense  $\sigma$ -closed subset of  $(\mathcal{I}^\omega)^+$ .

### 3. DICHOTOMY FOR QUOTIENTS OVER ANALYTIC P-IDEALS

We now deal with the important family of analytic P-ideals. Recall that  $\mathcal{I}$  is a *P-ideal* if for every countable subset  $\mathcal{C}$  of  $\mathcal{I}$ , there is  $B \in \mathcal{I}$  such that  $C \subseteq^* B$ , for all  $C \in \mathcal{C}$ . Solecki [46] characterized the analytic P-ideals as the ideals of the form

$$\mathcal{I} = \text{Exh}(\varphi) = \{A \subseteq \omega : \lim_n \varphi(A \setminus n) = 0\},$$



where  $\varphi$  is a *lower semicontinuous submeasure* (lscsm), i.e. a function from  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$  to  $[0, \infty)$  satisfying that for all  $A, B \subseteq \omega$ ,

- $\varphi(\emptyset) = 0$ ,
- $\max\{\varphi(A), \varphi(B)\} \leq \varphi(A \cup B) \leq \varphi(A) + \varphi(B)$ , and
- $\varphi(A) = \lim_n \varphi(A \cap n)$ .

We say that a family  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{I}^+$  is a *strong partition* when  $A \cap B = \emptyset$  for all  $A \neq B \in \mathcal{A}$ , and  $I \in \mathcal{I}$  if and only if  $I \cap A \in \mathcal{I}$ , for all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . Strong partitions represent countable maximal antichains in  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ .

An example of a strong partition for  $\mathcal{Z}$  is the following: For  $n \in \omega$ , define  $A_n = \{k : k \equiv 2^n - 1 \pmod{2^{n+1}}\}$ . Note that the density of  $A_n$  is  $2^{-n}$ , and if  $A$  is a set such that for all  $n$ ,  $A \cap A_n \in \mathcal{Z}$ , the density of  $A$  can be bounded by  $\varepsilon$ , for all  $\varepsilon > 0$ , as follows. Let  $n$  be such that  $2^{-n+1} < \varepsilon$ . Then, the density of  $\bigcup_{k=n+1}^{\infty} A_k$  is  $2^{-n}$ , and for some big enough  $N_k$ , we know that the density of  $(A \cap A_k) \setminus N_k$  is less than  $2^{-n-k}$ . Then, for  $N$  sufficiently large, the density of  $(A \cap \bigcup_{k=1}^n A_k) \setminus N$  is less than  $2^{-n}$ . Hence, the density of  $A \setminus N$  is less than  $\varepsilon$ .

This example illustrates the general characterization of strong partitions on analytic P-ideals.

**Theorem 3.1.** *If  $\mathcal{I} = \text{Exh}(\varphi)$  for some lscsm  $\varphi$  and  $P = \{A_n : n \in \omega\}$  is a partition of  $\omega$  in  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive pieces, then  $P$  is a strong partition if and only if for all  $\varepsilon > 0$  there are  $N, M$  such that  $\varphi(\bigcup_{n \geq N} A_n \setminus M) < \varepsilon$ .*

*Proof.* Let us prove that if for some fixed  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\varphi(\bigcup_{n \geq N} A_n \setminus M) \geq \varepsilon$ , for all  $N, M$ , then  $P$  is not a strong partition. We recursively define two increasing sequences  $n_k$  and  $m_k$  ( $k \in \omega$ ) such that

- (1)  $m_0 = 0 = n_0$ ,
- (2)  $\varphi([m_k, m_{k+1}) \cap \bigcup_{j=n_k}^{\infty} A_j) > \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ , and
- (3)  $\varphi(\bigcup_{j=n_k}^{n_{k+1}-1} A_j \setminus m_k) > \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ .

For (2), suppose  $n_k$  and  $m_k$  are defined. Since  $\varphi(\bigcup_{j=n_k}^{\infty} A_j \setminus m_k) \geq \varepsilon$ , by the lower semicontinuity of  $\varphi$ , there is  $m_{k+1} > m_k$  such that  $\varphi(\bigcup_{j=n_k}^{\infty} A_j \cap [m_k, m_{k+1})) > \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . For (3), let  $n_{k+1}$  be the maximal  $j > n_k$  such that  $A_{j-1} \cap [m_k, m_{k+1}) \neq \emptyset$ . Now we define  $X_k = \bigcup_{j=n_k}^{n_{k+1}-1} A_j \cap [m_k, m_{k+1})$ , and  $X = \bigcup_k X_k$ . Clearly, for all  $k$ ,  $\varphi(X_k) \geq \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ , and so  $\varphi(X \setminus M) > \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ , for all  $M$ , proving that  $X \in \mathcal{I}^+$ . However, for all  $m \in \omega$ ,  $X \cap A_m \subseteq [m_k, m_{k+1})$ , for the unique  $k$  such that  $m_k \leq m < m_{k+1}$ .

The argument for the other implication is a replica of the argument given in the previous example. Let  $X \subseteq \omega$  be such that  $X \cap A_j \in \mathcal{I}$  for all  $j$ , and let  $\varepsilon > 0$  be fixed. Take  $N, M$  such that  $\varphi(\bigcup_{n \geq N} A_n \setminus M) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . Let  $K \geq M$  be such that  $\varphi(\bigcup_{j=0}^{N-1} A_j \setminus K) < \frac{\varepsilon}{2}$ . Then,  $\varphi(X \setminus K) \leq \varphi(\bigcup_{j=0}^{N-1} A_j \setminus K) + \varphi(\bigcup_{n \geq N} A_n \setminus K) < \varepsilon$ . Hence,  $X \in \mathcal{I}$ .  $\square$

For a partial ordered set  $\mathbb{P}$ ,  $p \in \mathbb{P}$  and  $A \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ , we denote

$$p \parallel A = \{q \in A : p \parallel q\}.$$

where  $p \parallel q$  means that  $p$  and  $q$  are *compatible*, i. e. there is  $r \in \mathbb{P}$  such that  $r \leq p$  and  $r \leq q$ .

**Definition 3.2.** We say that  $\mathbb{P}$  is  $(\omega, \cdot, \omega_1)$ -*distributive* if for every countable family  $\mathcal{A}$  of maximal antichains in  $\mathbb{P}$ , there is a dense subset  $B$  of  $\mathbb{P}$  such that for all  $p \in B$  and all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , the set  $p \parallel A$  is countable.

It is clear that every proper forcing is  $(\omega, \cdot, \omega_1)$ -distributive.

**Theorem 3.3.** *Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be an analytic  $P$ -ideal. Then either  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is  $\omega^\omega$ -bounding or it is not  $(\omega, \cdot, \omega_1)$ -distributive (and hence, it is not proper).*

*Proof.* Let  $\varphi$  be a lscsm such that  $\mathcal{I} = \text{Exh}(\varphi)$ , and let us suppose that  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is  $(\omega, \cdot, \omega_1)$ -distributive. Let  $\dot{f}$  be a name for a real number in  $\omega^\omega$ . For  $n$ , let  $\mathcal{A}_n$  be a maximal antichain deciding  $\dot{f}(n)$ . Let us deal with  $\mathcal{I}^+$  instead of  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ , which is also  $(\omega, \cdot, \omega_1)$ -distributive. Taking  $X \in \mathcal{I}^+$  as the  $B$  in the definition of  $(\omega, \cdot, \omega_1)$ -distributivity, we see that the restrictions of  $\mathcal{A}_n$  in  $X$  are strong partitions of  $X$ . Let us denote by  $\|\varphi \upharpoonright Z\| = \lim_{k \rightarrow \infty} \varphi(Z \setminus k)$ . Let  $r = \|\varphi \upharpoonright X\|$ , and for each  $n$ , let us recursively define  $\mathcal{B}_n \in [\mathcal{A}_n \upharpoonright X]^{<\omega}$ ,  $a_n \in [\omega]^{<\omega}$ , and an auxiliary  $C_n$ , as follows:

- (1)  $\mathcal{B}_0 \in [\mathcal{A}_0 \upharpoonright X]^{<\omega}$  such that for  $C_0 = \bigcup \mathcal{B}_0$ ,  $\|\varphi \upharpoonright C_0\| > \frac{r}{2}$ ,
- (2)  $a_0 \in [C_0]^{<\omega}$ , with  $\varphi(a_0) \geq \frac{r}{2}$ ,
- (3)  $\mathcal{B}_{n+1} \in [\mathcal{A}_{n+1} \upharpoonright X]^{<\omega}$  such that  $C_{n+1} = C_n \cap \bigcup \mathcal{B}_{n+1}$  satisfies  $\|\varphi \upharpoonright C_{n+1}\| > \frac{r}{2}$  and  $\bigcup_{k=0}^n a_k \subseteq C_{n+1}$ , and finally
- (4)  $a_{n+1} \in [C_{n+1}]^{<\omega}$  with  $\varphi(a_{n+1}) > \frac{r}{2}$ , and  $\min(a_{n+1}) > \max(a_n)$ .

Let us assume that this construction is possible, and define  $Y = \bigcup_k a_k$ . By (4),  $Y \in \mathcal{I}^+$ . Note that  $\mathcal{B}_n$  is a finite maximal antichain below  $Y$  of conditions deciding  $\dot{f}(n)$ , for all  $n$ . Hence,  $Y$  forces that  $\dot{f}$  is dominated by a ground-model function.

We now verify our construction. Since  $\mathcal{A}_0 \upharpoonright X$  is a strong partition of  $X$ , by 3.1, for  $\varepsilon = \frac{r}{4}$ , there are a finite subset  $\mathcal{B}_0$  of  $\mathcal{A}_0$ , and an  $N \in \omega$  such that  $\varphi(\bigcup\{A \in \mathcal{A}_0 : A \notin \mathcal{B}_0\} \cap X \setminus N) < \varepsilon$ . Then,  $\|\varphi \upharpoonright C_0\| > \frac{r}{2}$ . By lower semicontinuity,  $C_0$  contains some finite subset  $a_0$  with  $\varphi(a_0) > \frac{r}{2}$ . An analogous argument shows that we can choose a finite subset  $\mathcal{B}_{n+1}$  of  $\mathcal{A}_{n+1} \upharpoonright X$  such that  $\|\varphi \upharpoonright C_{n+1}\| > \frac{r}{2}$ . We may add finitely-many pieces from  $\mathcal{A}_{n+1} \upharpoonright X$ , if necessary, in order to achieve  $\bigcup_{k=1}^n a_k \subseteq C_{n+1}$ .  $\square$

One would conjecture that if  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is not proper, then it is equivalent to the collapse forcing  $RO^{(\omega \mathfrak{c})}$ , at least in a positive restriction. For analytic P-ideals, we confirm this fact under CH.

Recall that an antichain  $\mathcal{A}$  is a *refinement* of an antichain  $\mathcal{B}$  if every  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  is contained in some  $B \in \mathcal{B}$ .

**Definition 3.4.** We say that an antichain  $\mathcal{A}$  of  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  has *true cardinality*  $\mathfrak{c}$  if for every  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive set  $X$ , the family  $\{[A] : A \cap X \in \mathcal{I}^+\}$  is countable or has cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$ . An ideal  $\mathcal{I}$  has the property  $RP(\mathcal{I})$  if every maximal antichain  $\mathcal{B}$  in  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  has a refinement  $\mathcal{A}$  which is a maximal antichain and has true cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$ .

Recall the following theorem that compares a partially ordered set with the collapse forcing  $\mathfrak{c}^{<\omega}$ , which we will use in the next proof. See Theorem 14.17 in [33].

**Theorem 3.5** (McAloon). *Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be a partially ordered set with  $|\mathbb{P}| \leq \mathfrak{c}$ . If there is a countable family  $\mathcal{A}$  of maximal antichains of  $\mathbb{P}$  such that for every  $p \in \mathbb{P}$  there is  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $|p||A| = \mathfrak{c}$ , then  $\mathbb{P}$  is forcing equivalent to  $\mathfrak{c}^{<\omega}$ .*

**Proposition 3.6.** *If  $\mathcal{I}$  satisfies  $RP(\mathcal{I})$ , and  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is not  $(\omega, \cdot, \omega_1)$ -distributive, then there is  $X \in \mathcal{I}^+$  such that  $\mathcal{P}(X)/\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright X$  is forcing equivalent to  $\mathfrak{c}^{<\omega}$ .*

*Proof.* Using the non  $(\omega, \cdot, \omega_1)$ -distributivity, we may choose a sequence  $\{A_n : n < \omega\}$  of maximal antichains in  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ , and an  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive set  $X$  such that for every  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive  $Y \subseteq_{\mathcal{I}} X$ , there is  $n$  such that  $[Y]||A_n$  is uncountable. By  $RP(\mathcal{I})$ , for each  $n$  we can choose a maximal antichain  $B_n$  having true cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$  and refining  $A_n$ . Hence, for all  $Z \in \mathcal{P}(X)/\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright X$  there is  $n$  such that  $Z||A_n$  is uncountable, and then  $Z||B_n$  is uncountable. Since  $B_n$  has true cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$ , we conclude that  $|Z||A_n| = \mathfrak{c}$ . By McAloon's Theorem 3.5,  $\mathcal{P}(X)/\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright X$  is forcing equivalent to  $\mathfrak{c}^{<\omega}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.7** (CH). *Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be an analytic P-ideal. Then either  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is  $\omega^\omega$ -bounding or there is  $X \in \mathcal{I}^+$  such that  $\mathcal{P}(X)/\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright X$  is forcing equivalent to the collapse forcing  $\mathfrak{c}^{<\omega}$ .*

*Proof.* It follows directly from Theorem 3.3 and Proposition 3.6, and the trivial fact that under CH, every  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family is of true cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$ .  $\square$

#### 4. COMPLETELY SEPARABLE $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD FAMILIES

Clearly, now the main question is if  $RP(\mathcal{I})$  is true for all analytic P-ideals  $\mathcal{I}$ , or even for all hereditarily meager. In this direction, we

adapt the notion of a completely separable MAD family ([14], [6], [28]), and a construction of such families due to Shelah [43] (also see [27]). Proposition 3.6 motivates us to study  $RP(\mathcal{I})$  and complete separability in the general context of Borel ideals. This is interesting in itself, beyond the context of forcing.

By  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  we denote the ideal generated by  $\mathcal{I} \cup \mathcal{A}$ , where  $\mathcal{I}$  is an ideal and  $\mathcal{A}$  is a family of (typically  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive) sets. We say that a family  $\mathcal{A}$  of  $\mathcal{I}$  positive sets is  $\mathcal{I}$ -almost disjoint (in short,  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD) if  $A \cap B \in \mathcal{I}$  for all  $A \neq B \in \mathcal{A}$ . Note that if  $\mathcal{A}$  is  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD, then the family of equivalence classes of elements of  $\mathcal{A}$  is an antichain in  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$ . We say that an  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD family  $\mathcal{A}$  is an  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family if it is a maximal one. Let us recall that an *interval partition* of  $\omega$  is a set  $\{P_n : n < \omega\}$  of consecutive intervals of natural numbers.

**Definition 4.1.** Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be an ideal. We say that an  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family is *completely separable* if for every  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive set  $X$ , there is  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $A \subseteq X$ .

**Proposition 4.2.** *Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be a hereditarily meager ideal and  $\mathcal{A}$  an  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD family. Then  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  is hereditarily meager.*

*Proof.* We first prove the case when  $\mathcal{A}$  is an  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family. Let  $X$  be an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive set. We will show that  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}) \upharpoonright X$  satisfies Talagrand's characterization of meager ideals. Since  $X$  is  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive, there is a countable subfamily  $\{A_n : n < \omega\}$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $X \cap A_n \in \mathcal{I}^+$ , for all  $n$ . By Theorem 1.4, there are interval partitions  $P^n = \{P_m^n : m < \omega\}$  of  $A_n$  such that for every  $R \subseteq X \cap A_n$ , if  $P_m^n \subseteq R$  for infinitely many  $m \in \omega$ , then  $R$  is  $\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright (X \cap A_n)$ -positive. Here, we are considering that the interval partition  $P^n$  of  $X \cap A_n$ , has the form  $P_m^n = X \cap A_n \cap [k_m^n, k_{m+1}^n)$  for some increasing sequence  $k_m^n \in \omega$  ( $m < \omega$ ). Recursively, we define  $k_n$  for  $n < \omega$  as follows: Let  $k_0 = 0$ , and let  $k_{n+1} > k_n$  be big enough so that for each  $j \leq n$ , there is  $m_j$  such that  $P_{m_j}^j \subseteq A_j \cap [k_n, k_{n+1})$ . Then,  $P = \{X \cap [k_n, k_{n+1}) : n < \omega\}$  is an interval partition of  $X$ , such that if  $R \subseteq X$  contains infinitely many pieces of  $P$ , then for every  $n$ ,  $R$  contains infinitely many pieces of  $P^n$ , showing that  $R \cap A_n$  is  $\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright (X \cap A_n)$ -positive, for every  $n$ . Hence, such  $R$  is  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive.

For the general case, we can extend  $\mathcal{A} \upharpoonright X$  to an  $\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright X$ -MAD family  $\mathcal{A}'$  on  $X$ , and we may conclude by noting that  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}) \upharpoonright X \subseteq \mathcal{I} \upharpoonright X(\mathcal{A}')$ , and  $\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright X(\mathcal{A}')$  is meager.  $\square$

**Definition 4.3.** Let  $\mathcal{S}$  be a set of infinite subsets of  $\omega$ . We say that  $\mathcal{S}$  is a *block-splitting family* if for every interval partition  $\{P_n : n < \omega\}$ , there exists  $S \in \mathcal{S}$  such that the sets  $\{n : P_n \subseteq S\}$  and  $\{n : P_n \cap S = \emptyset\}$  are infinite.

We say that an ideal  $\mathcal{I}$  is a  $P^+$ -ideal if for every *subseq*<sup>\*</sup>-decreasing sequence  $\{X_n : n < \omega\}$  of  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive sets, there is an  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive  $X$  such that  $X \subseteq^* X_n$  for all  $n$ .

**Lemma 4.4.** *Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be a hereditarily meager ideal,  $\mathcal{S}$  a block-splitting family,  $\mathcal{A}$  an  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD family and  $X$  an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive set. There exists  $S \in \mathcal{S}$  such that  $X \cap S$  and  $X \setminus S$  are  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive.*

*Proof.* Let us note that, if there is an  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive set  $Y \subseteq X$  such that  $\mathcal{A} \upharpoonright Y$  is not an  $\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright Y$ -MAD family, then there is a  $W \subseteq Y$  such that  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}) \upharpoonright W = \mathcal{I} \upharpoonright W$ , and hence  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}) \upharpoonright W$  is a meager ideal. On the other hand, by 4.2, if  $\mathcal{A} \upharpoonright X$  is an  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family, then  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}) \upharpoonright X$  is a meager ideal. Hence, without loss of generality, we will assume that  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}) \upharpoonright X$  is a meager ideal. By 1.4, there is an interval partition  $\{P_n : n < \omega\}$  of  $X$  such that for every  $W \subseteq X$ , if  $P_n \subseteq W$  for infinitely many  $n \in \omega$ , then  $W$  is  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}) \upharpoonright X$ -positive. Since  $\mathcal{S}$  is a block-splitting family, there is  $S \in \mathcal{S}$  such that the sets  $\{n : P_n \subseteq S\}$  and  $\{n : P_n \cap S = \emptyset\}$  are infinite, which proves that  $S$  and  $X \setminus S$  are  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}) \upharpoonright X$ -positive sets.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be a hereditarily meager  $P^+$ -ideal, and  $\mathcal{A}$  an  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD family. Then  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  is a  $P^+$ -ideal.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{X_n : n < \omega\}$  be a decreasing sequence of  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive sets. If there is an  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive pseudointersection  $B$  of  $\{X_n : n < \omega\}$  such that  $B \cap A \in \mathcal{I}$  for all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ , then  $B$  is an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive pseudointersection of  $\{X_n : n < \omega\}$ .

Let us assume that for every  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive pseudointersection  $B$  of  $\{X_n : n < \omega\}$ , there is  $A \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $B \cap A \in \mathcal{I}^+$ . We will choose sequences of sets  $A_n, B_n$  and  $C_n$  as follows.  $B_0$  is an  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive pseudointersection of  $\{X_n : n \in \omega\}$ ,  $A_n \in \mathcal{A}$  is such that  $A_n \neq A_k$  for all  $k < n$  and  $C_n := A_n \cap B_n$  is  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive, and  $B_{n+1}$  an  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive pseudointersection of  $\{X_k \setminus \bigcup_{j \leq n} A_j : k > n\}$  contained in  $X_n$ . This construction works since  $X_n \setminus \bigcup_{j < n} A_j$  is  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive, and so, for each  $n$ , there is  $A_n \in \mathcal{A}$  such that  $A_n \neq A_k$  for all  $k < n$ , and  $A_n \cap X_n \in \mathcal{I}^+$ . Hence,  $B = \bigcup B_n$  is an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive pseudointersection of  $\{X_n : n < \omega\}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 4.6.** *Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be a hereditarily meager ideal. If  $\mathcal{A}$  is a completely separable  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family, then for every  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive set  $X$ , the set  $\{A \in \mathcal{A} : A \subseteq X\}$  has cardinality  $\mathfrak{c}$ .*

*Proof.* Since  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  is hereditarily meager, there is an interval partition  $\{P_n : n < \omega\}$  of  $X$  such that for every  $x \in [\omega]^\omega$ ,  $\bigcup_{n \in x} P_n$  is an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive set. Let  $t$  be a bijection from  $2^{<\omega}$  onto  $\omega$ , and define  $X_y =$

$\bigcup_n P_{t(y|n)}$ , for all  $y \in 2^\omega$ . Then, the family  $\{X_y : y \in 2^\omega\}$  is an AD-family of  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive sets, each of them containing a set  $A_y$  from  $\mathcal{A}$ , by the complete separability of  $\mathcal{A}$ . It is clear that  $A_y \neq A_w$ , for all  $y \neq w \in 2^\omega$ . Hence,  $X$  contains at least (and also at most)  $\mathfrak{c}$  sets from  $\mathcal{A}$ .  $\square$

Recall that the *block splitting number*  $\mathfrak{bs}$  is the minimal size of a block splitting family. By Kamburelis and Węglorz [32], it is known that  $\mathfrak{bs} = \max\{\mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{s}\}$ .

**Definition 4.7.** Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be an ideal. We denote the minimal size of an  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family by  $\mathfrak{a}(\mathcal{I})$ .

**Proposition 4.8.** *Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be a hereditarily meager  $P^+$ -ideal. If  $\mathfrak{bs} \leq \mathfrak{a}(\mathcal{I})$ , then there is a completely separable  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family.*

**Remark 4.9.** *By a result of Farkas and Soukup [20], if  $\mathcal{I}$  is an analytic  $P$ -ideal, then  $\mathfrak{b} \leq \mathfrak{a}(\mathcal{I})$ . Hence, in this case, the hypothesis is reduced to  $\mathfrak{s} \leq \mathfrak{a}(\mathcal{I})$ , and it is fulfilled whenever  $\mathfrak{s} \leq \mathfrak{b}$ .*

*Proof.* Fix an enumerated block-splitting family  $\mathcal{S} = \{S_\alpha : \alpha < \mathfrak{bs}\}$  of minimal size. For a given  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD family  $\mathcal{A}$  and an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive set  $X$ , by 4.4, there is a minimal  $\alpha < \mathfrak{bs}$  such that  $X \cap S_\alpha$  and  $X \setminus S_\alpha$  are  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive. Hence, for such  $\mathcal{A}$ ,  $X$  and  $\alpha$  we can define a sequence  $\tau_X^{\mathcal{A}}$  in  $2^\alpha$  such that  $\tau_X^{\mathcal{A}}(\beta) = j$  if and only if  $X \cap S_\beta^{1-j} \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ . Note that if  $Y$  is an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive subset of  $X$ , then  $\tau_Y^{\mathcal{A}}$  extends  $\tau_X^{\mathcal{A}}$ . Fix an enumeration  $\{X_\alpha : \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  of  $[\omega]^\omega$ . Recursively, we construct two sequences  $\mathcal{A} = \{A_\alpha : \alpha \in \mathfrak{c}\} \subseteq [\omega]^\omega$  and  $\{\sigma_\alpha : \alpha \in \mathfrak{c}\} \subseteq 2^{<\mathfrak{bs}}$  such that for all  $\alpha$ ,

- (1)  $\mathcal{A}_\alpha = \{A_\beta : \beta < \alpha\}$  is an  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD family,
- (2)  $\sigma_\alpha \not\subseteq \sigma_\beta$ , for all  $\beta < \alpha$ ,
- (3) if  $X_\alpha$  is  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ -positive then  $A_\alpha \subseteq X_\alpha$ , and
- (4)  $A_\xi \subseteq_{\mathcal{I}} S_\xi^{\sigma_\alpha(\xi)}$ , for all  $\xi < \text{dom}(\sigma_\alpha)$ .

It is clear that if the construction works, then  $\mathcal{A}$  is a completely separable  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family. Let us assume that  $\mathcal{A}_\alpha$  and  $\sigma_\beta$  ( $\beta < \alpha$ ) were already constructed, and also assume that  $X_\alpha$  is  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive (if not, take  $\omega$  in its place). We recursively construct a family  $\{X_s : s \in 2^{<\omega}\}$  of  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ -positive sets, a family  $\{\eta_s : s \in 2^{<\omega}\}$  of sequences in  $2^{<\mathfrak{bs}}$ , with  $\text{dom}(\eta_s) = \alpha_s$  satisfying

- (1)  $X_\emptyset = X_\alpha$ ,
- (2)  $\eta_s = \tau_{X_s}^{\mathcal{A}_\alpha}$ , and
- (3)  $X_{s \smallfrown 0} = X_s \cap S_{\alpha_s}$  and  $X_{s \smallfrown 1} = X_s \setminus S_{\alpha_s}$ .

Let us note that since  $\alpha_s = \text{dom}(\tau_{X_s}^{A_\alpha})$ , we have that  $S_{\alpha_s} \cap X_s$  and  $X_s \setminus S_{\alpha_s}$  are  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ -positive. Moreover, if  $t \subseteq s$  then  $\eta_t \subseteq \eta_s$  and  $X_s \subseteq X_t$ ; and if  $s$  and  $t$  are incompatible then  $\eta_s$  and  $\eta_t$  are incompatible. For every  $f \in 2^\omega$ , let us define  $\eta_f = \bigcup_n \eta_{f \upharpoonright n}$ . Since  $\mathfrak{bs}$  has uncountable cofinality,  $\eta_f$  is in  $2^{<\mathfrak{bs}}$ , and moreover, if  $f \neq g$ , then  $\eta_f$  and  $\eta_g$  are incompatible. Since  $\alpha < \mathfrak{c}$ , there is  $f \in 2^\omega$  such that there is no  $\beta < \alpha$  such that  $\eta_f \subseteq \sigma_\beta$ . The sequence  $\{X_{f \upharpoonright n} : n < \omega\}$  is a decreasing sequence of  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ -positive sets. By 4.5, there is an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ -positive set  $Y$  such that  $Y \subseteq^* X_{f \upharpoonright n}$  for all  $n$ . That is, for all  $n$ ,  $Y \setminus X_{f \upharpoonright n} \in \text{fin}$ , consequently, for all  $\xi \in \text{dom}(\eta_f)$ ,  $Y \cap S_\xi^{1-\eta_f(\xi)} \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ . This means that for all  $\xi \in \text{dom}(\eta_f)$ , there are a finite subset  $F_\xi$  of  $\mathcal{A}_\alpha$  and  $I_\xi \in \mathcal{I}$ , such that  $Y \cap S_\xi^{1-\eta_f(\xi)} \subseteq I_\xi \cup \bigcup F_\xi$ . Let us define  $\mathcal{D} = \{A_\beta : \sigma_\beta \subseteq \eta_f\} \cup \bigcup_{\xi \in \text{dom}(\eta_f)} F_\xi$ . Note that  $\mathcal{D}$  is a subset of  $\mathcal{A}_\alpha$  with less than  $\mathfrak{bs}$  elements, and since  $\mathfrak{bs} \leq \mathfrak{a}(\mathcal{I}) \leq \mathfrak{a}(\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright Y)$ ,  $\mathcal{D}$  is not maximal. Let  $A_\alpha$  be an infinite subset of  $Y$ , which is  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD with all sets in  $\mathcal{D}$ , and define  $\sigma_\alpha = \eta_f$ . It only remains to verify that  $A_\alpha$  is  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD with  $A_\beta$  for all  $\beta < \alpha$ , but that is clearly the case when  $A_\beta \in \mathcal{D}$ . Suppose  $A_\beta \notin \mathcal{D}$ . In this case,  $\sigma_\beta \not\subseteq \eta_f$ . If  $\xi = \Delta(\sigma_\alpha, \sigma_\beta)$ , we have that  $A_\alpha \subseteq_{\mathcal{I}} S_\xi^{\sigma_\alpha(\xi)}$  and  $A_\beta \subseteq_{\mathcal{I}} S_\xi^{\sigma_\beta(\xi)}$ . Since  $\sigma_\alpha(\xi) = 1 - \sigma_\beta(\xi)$ ,  $A_\alpha$  and  $A_\beta$  are  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD.  $\square$

We will now prove that a completely separable  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family exists if some cardinal characteristic condition plus a certain pcf/guessing principle are satisfied.

**Lemma 4.10.** *Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be a hereditarily meager  $P^+$ -ideal. Let  $C$  be an infinite subset of  $\omega$  and  $\{C_n : n < \omega\}$  a partition of  $C$  in infinite pieces. There is a family  $\mathcal{B}$  of  $\mathfrak{b}$  infinite subsets of  $C$  such that if  $\mathcal{A}$  is an  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD family and  $X$  is a subset of  $C$  for which there are a family  $\{A_i : i < \omega\} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  and a sequence  $\{n_i : i < \omega\}$  such that*

- (1)  $X \cap A_i \in \mathcal{I}^+$ ,
- (2)  $A_i \subseteq C_{n_i}$ , and
- (3)  $n_i \neq n_j$  if  $i \neq j$ ,

*then there is  $B \in \mathcal{B}$  such that  $B \cap X$  and  $X \setminus B$  are  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathcal{D} = \{f_\alpha : \alpha < \mathfrak{b}\}$  be an unbounded family of increasing functions defined on  $C$ . Also, let  $\mathcal{P} = \{P_\alpha : \alpha < \mathfrak{b}\}$  be an unbounded family of interval partitions of  $C$ , i.e. for every interval partition  $P$  of  $C$ , there is  $\alpha < \mathfrak{b}$  such that for infinitely many  $I$  in  $P_\alpha$ , there is  $J$  in  $P$  such that  $J \subseteq I$ . For every  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  in  $\mathfrak{b}$ , let  $g_{\alpha\beta}$  be given by  $g_{\alpha\beta}(j) = f_\alpha(k)$ , for the maximal  $k \geq 0$  such that  $[j, k] \subseteq I$ , for some  $I \in P_\beta$ . For each pair  $\alpha, \beta \in \mathfrak{b}$ , define  $B_{\alpha\beta} = \{m \in C : \forall j (m \in C_j \rightarrow m \leq g_{\alpha\beta}(j))\}$ . We

now define the family  $\mathcal{B} = \{B_{\alpha\beta} : \alpha, \beta \in \mathfrak{b}\}$ . Let  $X$ ,  $\{A_i : i < \omega\}$  and  $\{n_i : i < \omega\}$  be as in the hypothesis. We may assume that  $X = \bigcup_i A_i$ .

We first deal with the case in which  $\mathcal{A} \upharpoonright X$  is not an  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family. Let  $Y$  be an  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive set such that  $Y \cap A \in \mathcal{I}$ , for all  $A \in \mathcal{A}$ . Note that  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}) \upharpoonright Y = \mathcal{I} \upharpoonright Y$ . Since  $\mathcal{I}$  is a  $P^+$ -ideal, we can find a subset  $D$  of  $Y$  such that  $D \cap A_n$  is finite, for all  $n$ . Let  $Q = \{I_n : n < \omega\}$  be an interval partition of  $D$  such that every set containing infinitely many pieces from  $Q$  is  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive. Let  $R = \{J_n : n < \omega\}$  be an interval partition of  $\omega$  such that for every  $n$ , there is  $m(n)$  with  $I_{m(n)} \subseteq \bigcup_{j \in J_n} C_j$ . Let  $\beta < \mathfrak{b}$  be such that  $P_\beta = \{K_i : i < \omega\}$  is not dominated by  $R$ , i.e. the set  $H = \{i : \exists n(i)(J_{n(i)} \subseteq K_i)\}$  is infinite. For every  $i \in H$ , define  $h(i) = \max(I_{m(n(i))})$ , and let  $\alpha < \mathfrak{b}$  be such that  $f_\alpha \upharpoonright H$  is not dominated by  $h$ , i.e. the set  $K = \{i \in H : h(i) < f_\alpha(i)\}$  is infinite. Hence, for each  $i \in K$ ,  $I_{m(n(i))} \subseteq \bigcup_{j \in J_{n(i)}} \{r \in C_j : r \leq g_{\alpha\beta}(i)\}$ , and then  $B_{\alpha\beta} \cap D$  contains infinitely many intervals from  $Q$ . This proves that  $B_{\alpha\beta} \cap D$  is a positive subset of  $X$ . On the other hand,  $X \setminus B_{\alpha\beta}$  contains  $X \setminus D$ , which is an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive set.

Now we deal with the case in which  $\mathcal{A} \upharpoonright X$  is an  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family. By the maximality of  $\mathcal{A} \upharpoonright X$ , we can find a sequence  $\{A'_j : j < \omega\} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$  satisfying

- (1)  $A'_j \neq A_i$  for all  $i$ ,
- (2)  $A'_j \neq A'_k$  if  $j \neq k$ , and
- (3)  $A'_j \cap X \in \mathcal{I}^+$ .

Since  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$  is a  $P^+$ -ideal, for the sequence  $X_n := \bigcup_{i \geq n} A_i$ , there is an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive pseudointersection  $Y$ . Let us denote with  $D_n$  the set  $A'_n \cap X$ . Since  $\mathcal{I}$  is a hereditarily meager ideal, for every  $n$ , there is an interval partition  $Q_n$  of  $Y \cap D_n$ , such that every set containing infinitely many pieces of  $Q_n$  is  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive. For all  $n$ , take an interval partition  $\{R_n : n < \omega\}$  of  $Y$  in such a way that each interval  $J$  in  $R_n$  is large enough for  $\bigcup_{j \in J} C_j$  to contain an interval  $I$  in  $Q_i$ , for all  $i \leq n$ . Let us fix enumerations for  $Q_n = \{I(n, j) : j < \omega\}$  and  $R_n = \{J(n, m) : m < \omega\}$ , and a function  $j(n, m, k)$ , such that for all  $n, m \in \omega$  and  $k \leq n$ ,  $I(k, j(n, m, k)) \subseteq \bigcup_{r \in J(n, m)} C_r$ . Let  $R = \{K_s : s < \omega\}$  be an interval partition in such a way that for every  $s$  and every  $t \leq s$ , there is  $m(s, t) < \omega$  such that  $J(t, m(s, t)) \subseteq K_s$ . Let  $\beta < \mathfrak{b}$  be such that  $P_\beta = \{L_n : n < \omega\}$  is not dominated by  $R$ , i.e. the set  $H = \{n \in \omega : \exists m(n)(K_{m(n)} \subseteq L_n)\}$  is infinite. For all  $n \in H$ , let  $h(n)$  be the maximum of  $\bigcup \{I(k, j(t, m(s(n), t), k)) : t \leq s(n), k \leq m(s(n), t)\}$ . Let  $\alpha < \mathfrak{b}$  be such that  $f_\alpha \upharpoonright H \not\leq^* h$ . Hence, the set

$$M = \bigcup \{I(k, j(t, m(s(n), t), k)) : h(n) \leq f_\alpha(n), t \leq s(n), k \leq m(s(n), t)\}$$



is an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive set contained in  $X \cap B_{\alpha\beta}$ . Clearly,  $X \setminus B_{\alpha\beta}$  is  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A})$ -positive.  $\square$

By a simple modification of the proof above, we may conclude that under the lemma's hypothesis  $RP(\mathcal{I})$  is satisfied.

The pcf/guessing principle mentioned before is defined as follows.

**Definition 4.11.** Let  $\kappa \geq \mathfrak{b}$  be a cardinal number. By  $P(\mathfrak{b}, \kappa)$  we denote the property that there is a family  $\{U_\alpha : \omega \leq \alpha < \kappa\}$  such that

- (1)  $U_\alpha \subseteq \alpha$ , and the order type of  $U_\alpha$  is  $\omega$ , for all  $\alpha < \kappa$ , and
- (2) for every  $X \subseteq \kappa$  with order type  $\mathfrak{b}$ , there is  $\alpha < \sup X$  such that  $|U_\alpha \cap X| = \omega$ .

Shelah proved (in ZFC) that if  $\mathfrak{b} \leq \kappa < \aleph_\omega$  then  $P(\mathfrak{b}, \kappa)$  holds.

**Theorem 4.12.** Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be a hereditarily meager  $P^+$  ideal. If

- (1)  $\mathfrak{b}\mathfrak{s} \leq \mathfrak{a}(\mathcal{I})$ , or
- (2)  $P(\mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{s})$  and  $\mathfrak{b} < \mathfrak{a}(\mathcal{I})$

then there is a completely separable  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family. In fact,  $RP(\mathcal{I})$  holds.

*Proof.* Case 1 is a consequence of Proposition 4.8. For Case 2, let us additionally assume that Case 1 is not true. Hence,  $\mathfrak{b} \leq \mathfrak{a}(\mathcal{I}) < \mathfrak{s}$ , and so  $\mathfrak{b}\mathfrak{s} = \mathfrak{s}$ , i.e. there is a block-splitting family of size  $\mathfrak{s}$ . Let  $\{U_\alpha(n) : n < \omega\}$  be an enumeration of  $U_\alpha$ , and  $\{P_\alpha : \alpha < \mathfrak{s}\}$  a partition of  $\mathfrak{s}$  such that

- $|P_0| = \mathfrak{s}$  and  $\omega \subseteq P_0$ ,
- for all  $\alpha > 0$ ,  $|P_\alpha| = \mathfrak{b}$  and  $\alpha < \min(P_\alpha) < \sup(P_\alpha) \leq \alpha + \mathfrak{b}$ .

Let  $\{S_\alpha : \alpha \in P_0\}$  be a block-splitting family and  $\{X_\alpha : \alpha < \mathfrak{c}\}$  an enumeration of  $[\omega]^\omega$ . Recursively, we construct three sequences  $\{A_\alpha : \alpha \in \mathfrak{c}\}$ ,  $\{\sigma_\alpha : \alpha \in \mathfrak{c}\}$ , and  $\{C_\alpha : \alpha \in \mathfrak{c}\}$ , such that for all  $\alpha < \mathfrak{c}$ ,

- (i)  $\mathcal{A}_\alpha = \{A_\xi : \xi < \alpha\}$  is an  $\mathcal{I}$ -AD family,
- (ii)  $\sigma_\alpha \in 2^{<\mathfrak{s}}$ ,
- (iii)  $C_\alpha : 2^{<\mathfrak{s}} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\omega)$ ,
- (iv)  $A_\alpha \subseteq C_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \xi)^{\sigma_\alpha(\xi)}$ , for all  $\xi \in \text{dom}(\sigma_\alpha)$ ,
- (v)  $A_\alpha \subseteq X_\alpha$  if  $X_\alpha \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)^+$ , and
- (vi)  $\sigma_\alpha \not\subseteq \sigma_\beta$ , for all  $\beta < \alpha$ .

First we define  $C_\alpha$ , assuming that  $C_\eta$ ,  $A_\eta$  and  $\sigma_\eta$  are defined for all  $\eta < \alpha$ . Let  $\tau$  be in  $2^{<\mathfrak{s}}$ , let us say  $\tau \in 2^\xi$ . If  $\xi \in P_0$ , then define  $C_\alpha(\tau) = S_\xi$ . If  $\xi \in P_\delta$  for some  $\delta > 0$ , recall that  $\delta \leq \xi < \delta + \mathfrak{b}$ . Let us focus on the sequence  $\{\tau \upharpoonright U_\delta(n) : n < \omega\}$ . Let  $R_{\alpha, \tau} = \{\gamma < \alpha : (\exists n < \omega)(\tau \upharpoonright U_\delta(n) = \sigma_\gamma)\}$ . Note that if  $\gamma \in R_{\alpha, \tau}$ , then there is a unique  $n$

such that  $\tau \upharpoonright U_\delta(n) = \sigma_\gamma$ . For all  $n$ , define  $A_n^{\alpha,\tau} = A_\gamma$ , if  $\gamma \in R_{\alpha,\tau}$  and  $\sigma_\gamma = \tau \upharpoonright U_\delta(n-1)$ , and define  $A_n^{\alpha,\tau} = \emptyset$ , if not. For each  $n$ , fix

$$B_n^{\alpha,\tau} = \bigcap_{i \leq n} (C_\alpha(\tau \upharpoonright U_\delta(i)) \setminus A_n^{\alpha,\tau}).$$

We will pick an enumerated family  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha^\tau = \{D_\alpha^\tau(\nu) : \nu \in P_\delta\}$  in such a way that

- if  $\xi > \min P_\delta$ , then  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha^\tau = \mathcal{D}_\alpha^{\tau \upharpoonright \min P_\delta}$ ,
- if  $R_{\alpha,\tau} = R_{\beta,\tau}$  for some  $\beta < \alpha$ , then  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha^\tau = \mathcal{D}_\beta^\tau$ , and
- in the remaining case, take  $C_\alpha(\tau \upharpoonright U_\delta(0))$  and  $B_n^{\alpha,\tau} \setminus B_{n+1}^{\alpha,\tau}$  as the  $C$  and  $C_n$  (respectively) in the hypothesis of Lemma 4.10, and then pick the family  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha^\tau$  as the family  $\mathcal{B}$  given by this Lemma, and fix an enumeration for it, indexed by  $P_\delta$ .

Now we define  $C_\alpha(\tau) = D_\alpha^\tau(\xi)$ .

We claim that for all  $\beta < \alpha$  and  $\eta \in \text{dom}(\sigma_\beta)$ ,

$$C_\beta(\sigma_\beta \upharpoonright \eta) = C_\alpha(\sigma_\beta \upharpoonright \eta).$$

Let us prove it by induction on  $\eta$ . By induction hypothesis, we have that  $C_\alpha(\sigma_\beta \upharpoonright U_\delta(i)) = C_\beta(\sigma_\beta \upharpoonright U_\delta(i))$  for all  $i$ . On the other hand, note that clearly  $R_{\beta,\sigma_\beta \upharpoonright \eta} \subseteq R_{\alpha,\sigma_\beta \upharpoonright \eta}$ , but actually, the reverse inclusion is also true, because for every  $\tau$ , if  $\gamma \in R_{\alpha,\tau} \setminus R_{\beta,\tau}$  then  $\gamma > \text{dom}(\sigma_\beta)$ , and so  $\tau \not\subseteq \sigma_\beta$ . Hence  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha^\tau = \mathcal{D}_\beta^\tau$  and the claim follows immediately from the definitions.

From the claim and an inductive argument based on condition (iv), we may deduce that

$$A_\beta \subseteq^* C_\alpha(\sigma_\beta \upharpoonright \xi)^{\sigma_\beta(\xi)},$$

for all  $\beta < \alpha$ , and  $\xi \in \text{dom}(\sigma_\beta)$ .

Now we define  $\sigma_\alpha$ . By recursion on  $\omega$ , let  $T_n$  be the subset of  $2^{<\omega}$  defined by  $T_0 = \emptyset$  and  $\tau \in T_{n+1}$  if and only if there is  $s \in T_n$  such that

- $s = \tau \upharpoonright |s|$ ,
- either  $X \cap C_\alpha(\tau \upharpoonright \xi)$  or  $X \setminus C_\alpha(\tau \upharpoonright \xi)$  belong to  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ , for all  $|s| < \xi < |\tau|$ , and
- $X \cap C_\alpha(\tau)$  and  $X \setminus C_\alpha(\tau)$  are  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ -positive.

Since  $T = \bigcup_n T_n$  has  $\mathfrak{c}$  many branches, there is a branch  $B$  of  $T$  such that  $\bigcup B \not\subseteq \sigma_\beta$  for all  $\beta < \alpha$ . Define  $\sigma_\alpha = \bigcup B$ . Let  $Y$  be an  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ -positive pseudointersection of  $\{C_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha \cap T_n) : n < \omega\}$ , i.e.  $Y \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)^+$  and  $Y \setminus C_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha \cap T_n) \in \mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$  for all  $n$ . Moreover, note that for all  $\xi < \text{dom}(\sigma_\alpha)$ , if  $\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \xi$  is not in  $T$ , then  $Y \cap C_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \xi)^{1-\sigma_\alpha(\xi)}$  is in  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ .

We claim that  $\mathcal{A}_\alpha \upharpoonright Y$  is not an  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family. To see it, let us consider the set

$$W = \{\xi < \text{dom}(\sigma_\alpha) : (\exists \beta < \alpha)(\xi = \text{dom}(\sigma_\beta) \vee \xi = \text{dom}(\sigma_\alpha \cap \sigma_\beta))\}.$$

We claim that  $W$  has less than  $\mathfrak{b}$  many elements. Suppose not. Let  $W_0$  be the set of the first  $\mathfrak{b}$  elements of  $W$ . By  $P(\mathfrak{b}, \mathfrak{s})$ , there is  $\delta < \sup W_0$  such that  $U_\delta \cap W_0$  is infinite. Let  $\varepsilon$  be the minimum of  $P_\delta$ . By its definition, the family  $\mathcal{D}_\alpha^{\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \varepsilon}$  splits  $Y$ , i.e. there is  $\nu \in P_\delta$  such that  $Y \cap D_\alpha^{\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \varepsilon}(\nu)$  and  $Y \setminus D_\alpha^{\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \varepsilon}(\nu)$  are  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ -positive. Hence,  $Y \cap C_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \nu)$  and  $Y \setminus C_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \nu)$  are  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ -positive, in particular,  $Y \cap C_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \nu)^{1-\sigma_\alpha(\nu)}$  is  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ -positive, which is a contradiction, since  $\varepsilon < \nu < \text{dom}(\sigma_\alpha)$ .

For each  $\xi \in W$ , let  $Z(\xi)$  be defined as follows:

- If there is  $\beta < \alpha$  such that  $\xi = \text{dom}(\sigma_\beta)$ , then  $Z(\xi) = \{A_\beta\}$ .
- If not, then define  $Z(\xi)$  as a finite subset of  $\mathcal{A}_\alpha$  such that  $Y \cap C_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \xi)^{1-\sigma_\alpha(\xi)} \subseteq \bigcup Z(\xi)$ . This finite set exists since  $Y \cap C_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \xi)^{1-\sigma_\alpha(\xi)}$  is in  $\mathcal{I}(\mathcal{A}_\alpha)$ .

Clearly,  $\bigcup_{\xi \in W} Z(\xi)$  has less than  $\mathfrak{b}$  many elements. We claim that for all  $\beta < \alpha$ ,  $Y \cap A_\beta$  is  $\mathcal{I}$ -almost contained in  $Z(\xi)$  for some  $\xi \in W$ . This is clear when  $\xi = \text{dom}(\sigma_\beta)$ . In the other case, the claim follows from the fact that  $A_\beta \subseteq C_\alpha(\sigma_\alpha \upharpoonright \xi)^{1-\sigma_\alpha(\xi)}$ . Since  $\mathfrak{b} \leq \mathfrak{a}(\mathcal{I})$ ,  $\mathcal{A}_\alpha \upharpoonright Y$  cannot be an  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family.  $\square$

## 5. OPEN QUESTIONS

The existence of a completely separable MAD family is a famous problem of Erdős and Shelah [14]. We conjecture the same for quotients over analytic P-ideals. We list some interesting open questions.

**Question 5.1.** *Are there  $\mathfrak{c}$ -many non forcing equivalent quotients  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  Borel?*

**Question 5.2.** *Does  $(\omega, \cdot, \omega_1)$ -distributivity imply properness for  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  with  $\mathcal{I}$  a Borel ideal?*

**Question 5.3.** *Is it true that if  $\mathcal{I}$  is Borel and  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  is  $\omega^\omega$ -bounding, then one of the following conditions holds?*

- (a)  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\mathcal{I}$  does not add reals.
- (b) There exists an  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive set  $X$  such that  $\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright X$  is a P-ideal.

**Question 5.4.** *Is it true (in ZFC) that if  $\mathcal{I}$  is Borel and not proper, then there exists an  $\mathcal{I}$ -positive set  $X$  such that  $\mathcal{P}(X)/(\mathcal{I} \upharpoonright X)$  is forcing equivalent to  $\mathfrak{c}^{<\omega}$ ?*

**Question 5.5.** *Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be a Borel ideal. Does there exist (in ZFC) a completely separable  $\mathcal{I}$ -MAD family?*

**Question 5.6.** *Let  $\mathcal{I}$  be a Borel ideal. Is  $RP(\mathcal{I})$  true (in ZFC)?*

**Question 5.7.** *Is it possible to avoid the large cardinals assumption in Theorem 2.9?*

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