

§3 The Subcomplete Forcing Axiom (SCFA)

There are many forcings - e.g. Namba forcing - which add new countable sets of ordinals without adding new reals.

One can hope to encompass some of these forcings by changing the clause $\pi \Vdash \bar{G} \subset G$ in the definition of "complete forcing" to:

(*) There is $\sigma \in V[G]$ s.t. $\sigma : \bar{N} \prec N$
and $\sigma \Vdash \bar{G} \subset G$.

In the case e.g. of Namba forcing it is clear that we must have $\sigma \neq \pi$. This means that the condition: " \bar{N} is countable and transitive" in the definition of "complete forcing" must be strengthened. Otherwise we could take \bar{N} as the transitivization of the set X of N -definable elements of N , let $\bar{\pi}$ be the transitivity function. But then the transitivity function $\bar{\pi}$ would be the only possible $\bar{\pi} : \bar{N} \prec N$. Hence $\bar{\pi} = \sigma$. To avoid this, we impose on \bar{N} the further requirement of fullness:

Def $\bar{N} = L_{\bar{\omega}}$ is full iff \bar{N} is a ZFC⁻ model and there is s.t. $L_\gamma(\bar{N})$ is a ZFC⁻ model and \bar{N} is regular in $L_\gamma(\bar{N})$ (i.e. if $f \in L_\gamma(\bar{N})$, $x \in \bar{N}$, and $f(x) \rightarrow \bar{N}$, then $f \in \bar{N}$).

(Note: If \bar{N} is a ZFC⁻ model, then saying that \bar{N} is regular in $L_\gamma(\bar{N})$ is equivalent to saying that \bar{N} models second order ZFC⁻ in $L_\gamma(\bar{N})$.)

Our intention is to broaden the notion of complete forcing to a notion for which we still have a good iteration theorem. To achieve this we shall have to impose some strong connection between the old map π and the new map σ . For one thing, given any finite $a \subset \bar{N}$, we want to be able to choose σ s.t. it coincides with π on a . We also impose the following requirement.

Def For $x \in N$, $\delta \in N$ set

$c_\delta(x) =$ the smallest $y \in N$ s.t.
 $x \cup \delta \subset y$.

Def Let \mathbb{B} be a complete BA.

$\delta(\mathbb{B})$ = the smallest cardinality of a dense subset of \mathbb{B} .

We require:

$$C_\delta(\text{rng } \sigma) = C_\delta(\text{rng } \pi), \text{ where } \delta = \delta(\mathbb{B}).$$

(Note) If we were working with sets of conditions rather than Boolean algebras, we would normally take \mathbb{P} to be of minimal cardinality and could write $\text{card}(\mathbb{P})$ instead of $\delta(\mathbb{B})$.

Putting all of this together:

Def \mathbb{B} is subcomplete iff there is Θ s.t. $\mathbb{B} \in H_\Theta$ and whenever $N = L^A_\tau$ is a ZFC-model with $H_\Theta \subset N$ and $\Theta < \tau$, then:
 let $\pi: \bar{N} \prec N$, where \bar{N} is countable and full. Let $\pi(\bar{\Theta}, \bar{\mathbb{B}}, \bar{\iota}) = \Theta, \mathbb{B}, \iota$. Let \bar{G} be $\bar{\mathbb{B}}$ -generic over \bar{N} . Then there is $b \in \mathbb{B} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$ s.t. whenever $G \ni b$ is \mathbb{B} -generic, then
 There is $\sigma \in V[G]$ s.t.

$$(a) \sigma: \bar{N} \prec N$$

$$(b) \sigma(\bar{\Theta}, \bar{\mathbb{B}}, \bar{\iota}) = \Theta, \mathbb{B}, \iota$$

$$(c) C_\delta^N(\text{rng } \sigma) = C_\delta^N(\text{rng } \pi)$$

$$(d) \sigma'' \bar{G} \subset G.$$

We again say that θ witnesses the incompleteness of \mathbb{B} if θ is as in the definition. We say that θ verifies the incompleteness of \mathbb{B} if every cardinal $\theta' \geq \theta$ witnesses incompleteness. It is clear that incompleteness is locally based in the same sense as before and that, if θ witnesses incompleteness, then $(2^\theta)^+$ verifies it.

[Note] This definition differs from the definition given in [IT] in the following respects:

(i) In the earlier definition we required that $N = L_\tau^A$ for a regular cardinal $\tau > \theta$. We weakened this requirement (thus making the definition harder to satisfy) in order to make the definition locally based.

(ii) The requirement:

$$C_\delta^N(\text{rng } \sigma) = C_\delta^N(\text{rng } \pi)$$

in the conclusion replaces a weaker one, (thus again making our new definition harder to meet). We made

The change because in all cases in which we have hitherto verified the subcompleteness of a specific forcing, we essentially verified the weaker condition by first verifying the stronger one. The stronger condition also seems to work more smoothly in proofs of iteration theorems.]

[Note If we formulated this for sets of conditions rather than complete Boolean algebras, we would normally choose the set IP to be of minimal cardinality. Thus we could write ' $\text{card}(\text{IP})$ ' in place of ' $\delta(\text{IB})$ '.]

The two-step iteration theorem for subcomplete forcing reads:

Thm 1 Let A be subcomplete and B subcomplete. Then $A * B$ is subcomplete.

For longer iterations we must use the revised countable supports (RCS) rather than countable supports. The iteration theorem reads:

Thm 2 Let $\langle B_i \mid i < \omega \rangle$ be an RCS iteration

s.t. $B_0 = 2$ and

(a) $B_i \neq B_{i+1}$

(b) $\prod_i (B_{i+1} / G)$ is subcomplete

(c) $H_{i+1}(\delta(B_i))$ has cardinality $\leq \omega_1$

Then every B_i is subcomplete.

This is proven in [IT] §3. (However, the proof needs slight changes because of our change in the definition of "subcomplete".)

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The subcomplete forcing axiom (SCFA) says that $MA(B)$ holds for every subcomplete B . SCFA⁺ says that $MA^+(B)$ for all subcomplete B . By the iteration theorem and the fact that subcompleteness is locally based, we get:

Thm 3 $SCFA^+ + CH$ is consistent relative to a supercompact.

proof (sketch)

We repeat the previous proof, using

an RCS iteration $\langle IB_i \mid i \leq n \rangle$ whose successor stages are defined exactly as before. Letting G be IB_n -generic, it follows as before that $V[G]$ models $S\text{CFA}^+ + \text{CH}$.

QED (Thm 3)

We again refer to $V[G]$ as the "natural model". As before, we could have done a prior application of Silver forcing to make GCH hold in V , in which case GCH also holds in $V[G]$. \square also holds in $V[G]$. This follows as before, using.

Lemma 4 Assume \square , let IB be incomplete.

Then $H_{IB} \models \square$.

pf.

Let $\langle S_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$ be a \square -sequence. Define a \square' -sequence $S' = \langle S'_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$ by: Choose $f_\alpha : \omega \xrightarrow{\text{onto}} \omega + \alpha$, let τ_α be least s.t. $\alpha = L_{\tau_\alpha}[S_\alpha, f_\alpha]$ is a ZFC-model. Set:

$$S'_\alpha = \#(\alpha) \cap W_\alpha.$$

Let G be IB - generic.

Claim S' remains a \square' - sequence in $V[G]$.

prf. Suppose not.

Then there are $C, A \in V[G]$ s.t. C is club in ω_1 , $B \subset \omega_1$ and $B \cap d \notin S'_d$ for $d \in C$.

Let $C = \dot{C}^G$, $B = \dot{B}^G$ and let $b \in G$ force the above statement. Let θ verify the incompleteness of IB . Let

$N = L_t^A$ be a ZFC - model s.t. $H_\theta \subset N$

and $\theta < \bar{\tau}$. Assume w.l.o.g. that

$\dot{C}, \dot{B} \in N$. Let $X \prec N$ s.t. $\omega_1 \subset X$, $\bar{X} = \omega_1$, and $\dot{C}, \dot{B}, \theta, \text{IB}, b \in X$. Let

$f: \omega_1 \hookrightarrow X$ and set: $D = \{\alpha \mid f''\alpha \prec N\}$

Then D is club in ω_1 . Set:

$$E = \{\langle v, i \rangle \mid f(v) \in f(i+1)\}$$

$$\tilde{A} = \{v \mid f(v) \in A\};$$

$$\tilde{E} = \{\langle v, i \rangle \mid (v \in E \wedge i=0) \vee (v \in \tilde{A} \wedge i=1)\}.$$

Let $\alpha \in D$ s.t. $\dot{C}, \dot{B}, \theta, \text{IB}, b \in f''\alpha$ and

$\tilde{E} \cap \alpha \in S'$. Let $\pi: \bar{N} \hookrightarrow f''\alpha$. Then

$\bar{N} \in \omega_\alpha$. Let $\pi(\dot{C}, \dot{B}, \theta, \text{IB}, b) = \dot{C}, \dot{B}, \theta, \text{IB}, b$.

We can easily choose α s.t. \bar{N} is full.
and $\alpha = \omega_1^{N^*}$

(where θ verifies the
incompleteness of IB)

Since \bar{N} is countable in W_α there is $\bar{G} \in W_\alpha$ s.t.,
 \bar{G} is \bar{B} -generic over \bar{N} and $\bar{b} \in \bar{G}$. Set:
 $\bar{C} = \dot{C}^{\bar{G}}$, $\bar{B} = \dot{B}^{\bar{G}}$. Let G be B -generic
s.t. there is $\sigma \in V[G]$ wth:

$$(a) \sigma : \bar{N} \prec N$$

$$(b) \sigma(\dot{C}, \dot{B}, \bar{G}, \bar{B}, \bar{b}) = C, B, G, B, b$$

$$(c) \sigma''\bar{G} \subset G.$$

Then τ extends uniquely to:

$$\sigma' : \bar{N}[G] \prec N[G] \text{ s.t. } \sigma'(\bar{G}) = G.$$

Let $C = \dot{C}^G$, $B = \dot{B}^G$. Then $\sigma'(\bar{C}, \bar{B}) = C, B$,

But $\bar{C} = C \cap d$ is unbounded in α ;

hence $d \in C$. Hence $\bar{B} = B \cap d \notin S_d'$; since

$b = \sigma(\bar{b}) \in G$. But $\bar{B} = \dot{B}^{\bar{G}} \in W_\alpha$;

hence $\bar{B} \in S_d'$. Contr! QED (Lemma 4)

Hence:

Corollary 5 SCFA⁺ + GCH + \diamond is
consistent relative to a supercompact,

We also note that by a similar proof:

Lemma 7 Let T be a Souslin tree. Then T remains Souslin under incomplete forcing.

pf.

Let \mathbb{B} be incomplete. Let G be \mathbb{B} -generic.

Claim T remains Souslin in $V[G]$.

Suppose not. Then there is $D \in V[G]$ which is a ^{maximal} antichain of size ω_1 in T . Let $D = D^G$ and let $b \in G$ force D to be a maximal antichain of size ω_1 . Let θ verify the incompleteness of \mathbb{B} and let $N = L_T^A$ be a ZFC -model s.t. $H_\theta \subset N$ and $\theta \notin N$. Let $\bar{D} \in N$. Let $\pi: \bar{N} \prec N$ s.t. \bar{N} is countable and full and $\pi(\bar{\theta}, \bar{\mathbb{B}}, \bar{D}, \bar{b}, \bar{T}) = \theta, \mathbb{B}, D, b, T$.

Then $\bar{T} = T|_\alpha$ is the restriction of T

to points of rank $< \alpha$, where $\alpha = \omega_1^{\bar{N}}$.

Let W be a countable, transitive ZFC -model, where $\bar{N}, T|_{\alpha+1} \in W$. Let \bar{G}

be $\bar{\mathbb{B}}$ generic over W (hence over \bar{N}).

Let x be a point of rank α in T . Set

$b_x = \{z \mid z < x \text{ in } T\}$. Then \bar{G} is

$\bar{\mathbb{B}}$ -generic over $N[b_x]$, where b_x is

\bar{T} -generic over N . By the product

lemma b_x is \bar{T} -generic over $N[\bar{G}]$.

Set $\bar{D} = D^{\bar{G}}$. Since \bar{D} is a maximal antichain in \bar{T} , we conclude: $b_x \cap \bar{D} \neq \emptyset$. Thus every point of rank α in T lies above an element of \bar{D} . Hence \bar{D} is a maximal antichain in T .

Now let G be \mathbb{B} -generic and $\sigma \in V[G]$ s.t. $\sigma : \bar{N} \prec N$, $\sigma(\bar{\theta}, \bar{\mathbb{B}}, \bar{T}, \bar{D}, \bar{b}) = \dots = \theta, \mathbb{B}, T, D, b$, and $\sigma''\bar{G} \subset G$. σ then extends to $\sigma' : \bar{N}[G] \prec N[G]$ s.t. $\sigma'(\bar{G}) = G$. Hence $\sigma'(\bar{D}) = D$, where $D = D^G$ is a maximal antichain of type ω_1 .

But $D = \bar{D}$ since $\bar{D} \subset D$ is maximal. Hence D is countable. Contr!

QED (Lemma 7)

It follows as before that the natural model is particularly rich in Souslin trees.

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We now consider some consequences of SCFA and SCFA⁺.

Since complete forcings are subcomplete, the above mentioned consequences of CFA⁺ follow from SCFA⁺. We now show that some of the most striking consequences of MM also follow from SCFA.

Lemma 8 SCFA implies Friedman's property:

Let $\tau > \omega_1$ be regular. Let $A \subset \tau$ be a stationary set of ω -cofinal points.

There is a normal function $f: \omega_1 \rightarrow A$, proof (sketch).

Let IP_A be the natural conditions for adding a normal $f: \omega_1 \rightarrow A$ s.t. $\sup f''\omega_1 = \tau$.

In [SPSC] we define IP_A^+ and prove that it is subcomplete. By §1 Lemma 1, there exist $\pi: \bar{H} \prec H_{\alpha+}, G$ s.t.

- \bar{H} is transitive, $\omega_1 \subset \bar{H}$

- $A \in \text{rng}(\pi)$

- G is IP_A^+ -generic over \bar{H} , where $\pi(\text{IP}_A^+) = \text{IP}_A$.

Then $f' \in \text{rng}(\pi)$, where f' is the canonical name for the function f to be added. Set: $f = \pi \circ \pi^{-1}(f')^G$.

Then f has the derived property,

QED (Lemma 8)

Corollary 8.1 Assume SCFA. Then

(a) \square_β is false for cardinals $\beta > \omega$.

(b) Global \square is false below κ , where κ is inaccessible.

pf.

Suppose not. Let $\kappa = \beta^+$ in case (a), or κ inacessible in case (b). Then there is a club $D \subseteq \kappa$ and a sequence $\langle C_\lambda \mid \lambda \in D \wedge cf(\lambda) = \omega \rangle$ s.t.

- $C_\lambda \subset \lambda$ is club in λ

- $otp(C_\lambda) < \lambda$

- If μ is a limit point of C_λ , then $C_\mu = \mu \cap C_\lambda$

Then $A = \{\lambda \in D \mid otp(C_\lambda) = \gamma\}$ is stationary for some γ . Let $f: \omega_1 \rightarrow A$ be normal. Set

$C = \text{rng}(f)$. Let $\mu = \sup C$. Then C, C_μ are club in μ , but C, C_μ have at most one point in common. Contr! QED

By essentially the same proof as Lemma 8:

Lemma 9 Assume SCFA. Let $\tau > \omega_1$ be regular.

Let $A_i \subset \tau$ be a stationary set of ω -cofinal points for $i < \omega_1$. Let $\langle D_i \mid i < \omega_1 \rangle$ be a partition of ω_1 into disjoint stationary sets. Then there is a normal function $f: \omega_1 \rightarrow \bigcup_i A_i$ s.t. $f(i) \in A_i$ for $i \in D_i$.

Hence:

Corollary 9.1 Assume SCFA. Let τ be as above.

Then $\tau^{\omega_1} = \tau$.

Proof.

$$\{x < \tau \mid cf(x) = \omega\}$$

Let $\langle A_{\bar{z}} \mid \bar{z} < \tau \rangle$ partition τ into τ many disjoint stationary sets. For each $a \in [\tau]^{\omega_1}$

let $\langle \bar{z}_i \mid i < \omega_1 \rangle$ enumerate a and let

$f: \omega_1 \rightarrow \bigcup_{i < \omega_1} A_{\bar{z}_i}$ s.t. $f(j) \in A_{\bar{z}_i}$ if $j \in D_{\bar{z}_i}$,

where f is normal and $\langle D_i \mid i < \omega_1 \rangle$ partitions ω_1 into stationary sets. Set: $\lambda = \sup f''\omega_1$,

$$a = B_\lambda = \{ \bar{z} \mid A_{\bar{z}} \cap \lambda \text{ is stationary in } \lambda \}$$

Hence $[\tau]^{\omega_1} \subset \{B_\lambda \mid \lambda < \tau\}$. QED (9.1)

Corollary 9.2 If $cf(\beta) \leq \omega_1 < \beta$, $2^\beta \leq \beta^+$,

Then $2^\beta = \beta^+$.

pf. $2^\beta = (2^\beta)^{cf(\beta)} \leq (\beta^+)^{\omega_1} = \beta^+$

Hence by Silver's theorem:

Corollary 9.3 If β is a strong limit cardinal and $\omega < cf(\beta) < \beta$, then

$$2^\beta = \beta^+$$

All of the above consequences of SCFA

were known consequences of MM. We now make a new application of SCFA + CH.

Assuming SCFA we
then get

Problem Let $\lambda > \omega_1$ be a cardinal. Let $X \in H_\lambda$, s.t. $\bar{X} = \omega_1 \subset X$. Set:

$$R_X = \{\tau \mid \omega_1 < \tau < \lambda \wedge \tau \text{ is regular} \wedge \tau \in X\}$$

For limit $\alpha \in X$ set: $\text{cf}_X(\alpha) = \text{cf}(\text{otp}(\alpha \cap X))$

(Hence $\text{cf}_X(\tau) \in \{\omega, \omega_1\}$.)

What forms can the function $\text{cf}_X \upharpoonright R_X$ take?

If we assume $V=L$, the possibilities are very limited, since it can be shown by a fine structural argument that:

Fact Assume $V=L$. Let α be a limit ordinal with $\bar{\alpha} < \alpha$. There is $\beta < \alpha$ s.t. $\text{cf}(\alpha) = \text{cf}(\tau)$ for all $\tau \in (\beta, \alpha)$ which are regular in L_α .

Transitivizing X then gives:

Lemma 10 Assume $V=L$. Let X be as above and let $\alpha \in X$ be a cardinal. There is $\beta < \alpha$ s.t. $\text{cf}_X(\tau) = \text{cf}_X(\alpha)$ for all regular $\tau \in (\beta, \alpha)$.

Hence $\text{cf}_X(\tau)$ can change only finitely often as τ ranges over R_X .

Using measurable cardinals, Magidor and Foreman proved a result in the opposite direction, which we state at the end of

this chapter. However, the assumption $\text{SCFA} + \text{GCH}$ below λ yields an optimal result:

Lemma 11 Assume SCFA . Let λ be as above and let GCH hold below λ .

Let σ be any map of

$\{\tau \mid \omega_1 < \tau < \lambda \wedge \tau \text{ is regular}\}$ into $\{\omega, \omega_1\}$,

Let $\bar{z} \in H_\lambda$ s.t. $\bar{z} \leq \omega_1$. There is $X \subset H_\lambda$

s.t. $\bar{z} \subset X$, $\bar{x} = \omega_1 \subset X$, and $\text{cf}_X(\tau) = \sigma(\tau)$

for all $\tau \in R_X$.

proof (sketch)

In [EN] we showed that if κ is

inaccessible and GCH holds below κ ,

then, letting σ be any map of

$\{\tau \mid \omega_1 < \tau < \kappa \wedge \tau \text{ is regular}\}$ into $\{\omega, \omega_1\}$,

there is a subcomplete forcing IB s.t.

whenever G is IB -generic, then in $V[G]$

we have: $\text{cf}(\tau) = \sigma(\tau)$ whenever $\omega_1 < \tau < \kappa$
and τ is regular in V . (Hence $\kappa = \omega_2$

in $V[G]$.) A closer examination

of the proof reveals that it goes

through for arbitrary cardinals $\lambda > \omega_1$

in place of κ , although λ might then be collapsed to ω_1 . Now let $\theta > \lambda$ s.t.

$\text{IB}, \sigma \in H_\theta$ and θ is regular. By §1 Lemma 1 there are $\pi : \bar{H} \prec H_\theta, \bar{G}$ s.t.

- \bar{H} is transitive, $\text{card}(\bar{H}) = \omega_1 \subset \bar{H}$,

$$Z \cup \{\text{IB}, \sigma\} \subset \text{rang}(\pi)$$

- \bar{G} is \bar{B} -generic over \bar{N} , where $\pi(\bar{\sigma}, \bar{B}) = \sigma, \text{IB}$.

Let $X = \text{rang}(\pi)$. If $\tau \in R_X, \pi(\bar{\tau}) = \bar{\sigma}$,

we then have: $\sigma(\tau) = \bar{\sigma}(\bar{\tau}) = \text{cf}_X(\tau)$.

QED (Lemma 11)

If GCH does not hold below λ we can make it hold by a prior forcing which is ω -closed (hence complete). Set:

Def Γ = the set of regular $\tau > \omega$ s.t. whenever $\alpha^+ < \tau$, there is $\delta \in (\alpha, \tau)$ s.t. $\zeta^\delta = \delta$.

(This is just the set of regular cardinals which will survive if - in the most economical way possible - we collapse to make GCH true.)

Then $\omega_1 \in \Gamma$ and $\omega_2 \in \Gamma$ iff CH holds.

Lemma 12 Assume SCFA. Let

$$\sigma : \{\tau < \lambda \mid \tau \in \Gamma\} \rightarrow \{\omega, \omega_1\} \text{ s.t. } \sigma(\omega_1) = \omega_1.$$

For each $Z \subset \lambda$ of type $\leq \omega_1$ there is $X \in H_\lambda$

s.t. $Z \subset X$, $\omega_2 = \bar{X} \subset X$, and

$$\circ \text{cf}_X(\tau) = \sigma(\tau) \text{ for } \tau \in R_X \cap \Gamma$$

- At $\tau \in R_X \setminus \Gamma$, then $\text{cf}_X(\tau) = \text{cf}_X(\tau')$, where $\tau' =$ the maximal $\tau' \in \Gamma$ s.t. $\tau' \leq \tau$,

proof (sketch)

First force with the ~~the~~ BA \mathbb{G} which makes GCH true below λ and leaves Γ as the set of regular $\tau < \lambda$ s.t. $\tau > \omega$. There is then $B \in \mathbb{G}$ s.t.

whenever G is \mathbb{C} -generic, then $\overset{\circ}{\mathbb{B}}^G$ is subcomplete and forces $\text{cf}(\tau) = \sigma(\tau)$ for $\tau \in \Gamma$. Set $\mathbb{B} = \mathbb{C} * \overset{\circ}{\mathbb{B}}$ and repeat the above argument. Letting θ be as above we get $\pi: \bar{H} \prec H_\theta$, \bar{G} s.t., $\bar{G} \in \bar{\mathbb{B}} = \pi^{-1}(\mathbb{B})$ generic. Let $\bar{\sigma} = \pi^{-1}(\sigma)$, $\bar{\Gamma} = \pi^{-1}(\Gamma)$, let $\bar{G}_0 = \bar{G} \cap \bar{\mathbb{C}}$, where $\pi(\bar{\mathbb{C}}) = \mathbb{C}$, $\pi(\bar{\mathbb{B}}) = \mathbb{B}$. Then

$\bar{H}[\bar{G}] = \bar{H}[\bar{G}_0][\bar{G}_1]$ where $\bar{G}_1 \in \bar{\mathbb{B}} = \overset{\circ}{\mathbb{B}}^{\bar{G}}$ - generic over $\bar{H}[\bar{G}_0]$. But then, $\bar{\Gamma} = \{\bar{\tau} \mid \omega_1 < \bar{\tau} < \bar{\lambda} \wedge \bar{\tau} \text{ is reg. in } \bar{H}[\bar{G}_0]\}$, where $\pi(\bar{\lambda}) = \lambda$. Hence

$$\text{cf}_X(\tau) = \text{cf}_{H[\bar{G}_0][\bar{G}_1]}(\bar{\tau}) = \bar{\sigma}(\bar{\tau}) = \sigma(\tau)$$

for $\tau \in \Gamma$, $\pi(\bar{\tau}) = \tau$. Moreover, if $\bar{\tau} \in X \setminus \Gamma$ is regular and $\pi(\bar{\tau}) = \tau$, then \bar{G}_0 collapses $\bar{\tau}$ to $\bar{\tau}' = \max \bar{\tau}' \in \bar{\Gamma}$ s.t. $\bar{\tau}' \leq \bar{\tau}$. But then $\text{cf}(\bar{\tau}) = \text{cf}(\bar{\tau}')$ in $\bar{H}[\bar{G}_0]$. Hence

$$\text{cf}_X(\tau) = \text{cf}(\bar{\tau}) = \text{cf}(\bar{\tau}') = \bar{\sigma}(\bar{\tau}') = \sigma(\tau')$$
 in $\bar{H}[\bar{G}_0][\bar{G}_1]$

QED (Lemma 12)

MM of course also implies the conclusion of Lemma 12, but it also implies $\omega_2 \notin \Gamma$, which means that $\text{cf}_X(\omega_2) = \omega_1$ in the application. Hence SCFA + CH gives results which do not necessarily carry over to MM. F.i.m. if κ is a strong limit cardinal which is regular or has cofinality ω_1 , then Lemma 12 gives $X \prec H_{\kappa^+} \dashv \vdash$

- $\bar{X} = \omega_1 \subset X$
- $\text{cf}(X \cap \kappa) = \omega_1$
- $\text{cf}(X \cap \tau) = \omega$ for regular $\tau \in X \cap (\omega_1, \kappa)$.

Question Does this follow from (or is even compatible with) MM?

Note Menachem Magidor has informed me that he and Matt Foreman have proven the following theorem, which goes in the same direction as the above results but uses a much weaker hypothesis:

Let $\langle \kappa_i : i < \lambda \rangle$ be any monotone sequence of measurable cardinals. Let the generic extension $V[G]$ be the result of making successive Levy collapses in such a way that:

- κ_0 becomes ω_2
- κ_{i+1} becomes κ_i^{++}
- If λ is a limit and $\kappa_\lambda > \bar{\tau} = \sup_{i < \lambda} \kappa_i$,
then κ_λ becomes τ^{++} . \star

Then in $V[G]$ the following statement holds:

Let $\theta > \sup_i \kappa_i$. Let $\sigma : \alpha \rightarrow \{\omega, \omega_1\}$.

There is $X \in H_\theta$ s.t.

- $\sigma, \langle \kappa_i \mid i < \alpha \rangle \in X$
- $\bar{X} = \omega_1 \subset X$
- $\text{cf}(X \cap \kappa_i) = \sigma(i)$ whenever $\kappa_i \in X$.

\star If λ is regular, we could have $\tau = \lambda^+$.