

COFINAL TYPES BELOW \aleph_ω

ROY SHALEV

Abstract. It is proved that for every positive integer n , the number of non-Tukey-equivalent directed sets of cardinality $\leq \aleph_n$ is at least c_{n+2} , the $(n + 2)$ -Catalan number. Moreover, the class \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_n} of directed sets of cardinality $\leq \aleph_n$ contains an isomorphic copy of the poset of Dyck $(n + 2)$ -paths. Furthermore, we give a complete description whether two successive elements in the copy contain another directed set in between or not.

§1. Introduction. Motivated by problems in general topology, Birkhoff [1], Tukey [15], and Day [2] studied some natural classes of directed sets. Later, Schmidt [9] and Isbell [4, 5] investigated uncountable directed sets under the Tukey order $<_T$. In [12], Todorčević showed that under PFA there are only five cofinal types in the class \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_1} of all cofinal types of size $\leq \aleph_1$ under the Tukey order, namely, $\{1, \omega, \omega_1, \omega \times \omega_1, [\omega_1]^{<\omega}\}$. In the other direction, Todorčević showed that under CH there are 2^c many non-equivalent cofinal types in this class. Later in [14] this was extended to all transitive relations on ω_1 . Recently, Kuzeljević and Todorčević [6] initiated the study of the class \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_2} . They showed in ZFC that this class contains at least fourteen different cofinal types which can be constructed from two basic types of directed sets and their products: (κ, \in) and $([\kappa]^{<\theta}, \subseteq)$, where $\kappa \in \{1, \omega, \omega_1, \omega_2\}$ and $\theta \in \{\omega, \omega_1\}$.

In this paper, we extend the work of Todorčević and his collaborators and uncover a connection between the classes of the \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_n} 's and the Catalan numbers. Denote $V_k := \{1, \omega_k, [\omega_k]^{<\omega_m} \mid 0 \leq m < k\}$, $\mathcal{F}_n := \bigcup_{k \leq n} V_k$ and finally let \mathcal{S}_n be the set of all finite products of elements of \mathcal{F}_n . Recall (see Section 3) that the n -Catalan number is equal to the cardinality of the set of all Dyck n -paths. The set \mathcal{K}_n of all Dyck n -paths admits a natural ordering \triangleleft , and the connection we uncover is as follows.

THEOREM A. *The posets $(\mathcal{S}_n / \equiv_T, <_T)$ and $(\mathcal{K}_{n+2}, \triangleleft)$ are isomorphic. In particular, the class \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_n} has size at least the $(n + 2)$ -Catalan number.*

A natural question which arises is whether an interval determined by two successive elements of $(\mathcal{S}_n / \equiv_T, <_T)$ forms an empty interval in $(\mathcal{D}_{\aleph_n}, <_T)$. In [6], the authors showed that there are two intervals of \mathcal{S}_2 that are indeed empty in \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_2} , and they also showed that consistently, under GCH and the existence of a non-reflecting stationary subset of $E_\omega^{\omega_2}$, two intervals of \mathcal{S}_2 that are nonempty in \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_2} .

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In this paper, we prove:

THEOREM B. *Assuming GCH, for every positive integer n , all intervals of \mathcal{S}_n that form an empty interval in \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_n} are identified, and counterexamples are constructed to the other cases.*

1.1. Organization of this paper. In Section 2 we analyze the Tukey order of directed sets using characteristics of the ideal of bounded subsets.

In Section 3 we consider the poset $(\mathcal{S}_n/\equiv_T, <_T)$ and show it is isomorphic to the poset of good $(n+2)$ -paths (Dyck paths) with the natural order. As a corollary we get that the cardinality of \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_n} is greater than or equal to the Catalan number c_{n+2} . Furthermore, we address the basic question of whether a specific interval in the poset $(\mathcal{S}_n/\equiv_T, <_T)$ is empty, i.e., considering an element C and a successor of it E , is there a directed set $D \in \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_n}$ such that $C <_T D <_T E$? We answer this question in Theorem 3.5 using results from the next two sections.

In Section 4 we present sufficient conditions on an interval of the poset $(\mathcal{S}_n/\equiv_T, <_T)$ which enable us to prove there is no directed set inside.

In Section 5 we present cardinal arithmetic assumptions, enough to construct on specific intervals of the poset $(\mathcal{S}_n/\equiv_T, <_T)$ a directed set inside.

In Section 6 we finish with a remark about future research.

In the Appendix diagrams of the posets $(\mathcal{S}_2/\equiv_T, <_T)$ and $(\mathcal{S}_3/\equiv_T, <_T)$ are presented.

1.2. Notation. For a set of ordinals C , we write $\text{acc}(C) := \{\alpha < \sup(C) \mid \sup(C \cap \alpha) = \alpha > 0\}$. For $\alpha < \gamma$ where α is a regular cardinal, denote $E_\alpha^\gamma := \{\beta < \gamma \mid \text{cf}(\beta) = \alpha\}$. The set of all infinite (resp. infinite and regular) cardinals below κ is denoted by $\text{Card}(\kappa)$ (resp. $\text{Reg}(\kappa)$). For a cardinal κ we denote by κ^+ the successor cardinal of κ , and by κ^{+n} the n th-successor cardinal. For a function $f : X \rightarrow Y$ and a set $A \subseteq X$, we denote $f''A := \{f(x) \mid x \in A\}$. For a set A and a cardinal θ , we write $[A]^\theta := \{X \subseteq A \mid |X| = \theta\}$ and define $[A]^{\leq \theta}$ and $[A]^{< \theta}$ similarly. For a sequence of sets $\langle A_i \mid i \in I \rangle$, let $\prod_{i \in I} D_i := \{f : I \rightarrow \bigcup_{i \in I} D_i \mid \forall i \in I [f(i) \in D_i]\}$.

1.3. Preliminaries. A partial ordered set (D, \leq_D) is *directed* iff for every $x, y \in D$ there is $z \in D$ such that $x \leq_D z$ and $y \leq_D z$. We say that a subset X of a directed set D is *bounded* if there is some $d \in D$ such that $x \leq_D d$ for each $x \in X$. Otherwise, X is *unbounded* in D . We say that a subset X of a directed D is *cofinal* if for every $d \in D$ there exists some $x \in X$ such that $d \leq_D x$. Let $\text{cf}(D)$ denote the minimal cardinality of a cofinal subset of D . If D and E are two directed sets, we say that $f : D \rightarrow E$ is a *Tukey function* if $f''X := \{f(x) \mid x \in X\}$ is unbounded in E whenever X is unbounded in D . If such a Tukey function exists we say that D is *Tukey reducible* to E , and write $D \leq_T E$. If $D \leq_T E$ and $E \not\leq_T D$, we write $D <_T E$. A function $g : E \rightarrow D$ is called a *convergent/cofinal map* from E to D if for every $d \in D$ there is an $e_d \in E$ such that for every $c \geq e_d$ we have $g(c) \geq d$. There is a convergent map $g : E \rightarrow D$ iff $D \leq_T E$. Note that for a convergent map $g : E \rightarrow D$ and a cofinal subset $Y \subseteq E$, the set $g''Y$ is cofinal in D . We say that two directed sets D and E are *cofinally/Tukey equivalent* and write $D \equiv_T E$ iff $D \leq_T E$ and $D \geq_T E$. Formally, a *cofinal type* is an equivalence class under the Tukey order, we abuse the notation and call every representative of the class a cofinal type. Notice that a directed set D

is cofinally equivalent to any cofinal subset of D . In [15], Tukey proved that $D \equiv_T E$ iff there is a directed set (X, \leq_X) such that both D and E are isomorphic to a cofinal subset of X . We denote by \mathcal{D}_κ the set of all cofinal types of directed sets of cofinality $\leq \kappa$.

Consider a sequence of directed sets $\langle D_i \mid i \in I \rangle$, we define the directed set which is the product of them $(\prod_{i \in I} D_i, \leq)$ ordered by everywhere-dominance, i.e., for two elements $d, e \in \prod_{i \in I} D_i$ we let $d \leq e$ if and only if $d(i) \leq_{D_i} e(i)$ for each $i \in I$. For $X \subseteq \prod_{i \in I} D_i$, let π_{D_i} be the projection to the i -coordinate. A simple observation [12, Proposition 2] is that if n is finite, then $D_1 \times \dots \times D_n$ is the least upper bound of D_1, \dots, D_n in the Tukey order. Similarly, we define a θ -support product $\prod_{i \in I}^{\leq \theta} D_i$; for each $i \in I$, we fix some element $0_{D_i} \in D_i$ (usually minimal). Every element $v \in \prod_{i \in I}^{\leq \theta} D_i$ is such that $|\text{supp}(v)| \leq \theta$, where $\text{supp}(v) := \{i \in I \mid v(i) \neq 0_{D_i}\}$. The order is coordinate wise.

§2. Characteristics of directed sets. We commence this section with the following two lemmas which will be used throughout the paper.

LEMMA 2.1 (Pouzet [7]). *Suppose D is a directed set such that $\text{cf}(D) = \kappa$ is infinite, then there exists a cofinal directed set $P \subseteq D$ of size κ such that every subset of size κ of P is unbounded*

PROOF. Let $X \subseteq D$ be a cofinal subset of cardinality κ and let $\{x_\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa\}$ be an enumeration of X . Let $P := \{x_\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa \text{ and for all } \beta < \alpha [x_\alpha \not\prec_D x_\beta]\}$. We claim that P is cofinal. In order to prove this, fix $d \in D$. As X is cofinal in D , fix a minimal $\alpha < \kappa$ such that $d <_D x_\alpha$. If $x_\alpha \in P$, then we are done. If not, then fix some $\beta < \alpha$ minimal such that $x_\alpha <_D x_\beta$. We claim that $x_\beta \in P$, i.e., there is no $\gamma < \beta$ such that $x_\beta <_D x_\gamma$. Suppose there is some $\gamma < \beta$ such that $x_\beta <_D x_\gamma$, then $x_\alpha <_D x_\gamma$, which is a contradiction to the minimality of β . Note that $d <_D x_\beta \in P$ as sought. As P is cofinal in D , $\text{cf}(D) = \kappa$, $P \subseteq X$ and $|X| = \kappa$, we get that $|P| = \kappa$.

Finally, let us show that every subset of size κ of P is unbounded. Suppose on the contrary that $X \subseteq P$ is a bounded subset of P of size κ . Fix some $x_\beta \in P$ above X and $\beta < \alpha < \kappa$ such that $x_\alpha \in X$, but this is an absurd as $x_\alpha <_D x_\beta$ and $x_\alpha \in P$. \dashv

FACT 2.2 (Kuzeljević–Todorčević [6, Lemma 2.3]). *Let $\lambda \geq \omega$ be a regular cardinal and $n < \omega$ be positive. The directed set $[\lambda^{+n}]^{\leq \lambda}$ contains a cofinal subset $\mathfrak{D}_{[\lambda^{+n}]^{\leq \lambda}}$ of size λ^{+n} with the property that every subset of $\mathfrak{D}_{[\lambda^{+n}]^{\leq \lambda}}$ of size $> \lambda$ is unbounded in $[\lambda^{+n}]^{\leq \lambda}$. In particular, $[\lambda^{+n}]^{\leq \lambda}$ belongs to $\mathcal{D}_{\lambda^{+n}}$, i.e. $\text{cf}([\lambda^{+n}]^{\leq \lambda}) \leq \lambda^{+n}$.*

Recall that any directed set is Tukey equivalent to any of its cofinal subsets, hence $\mathfrak{D}_{[\lambda^{+n}]^{\leq \lambda}} \equiv_T [\lambda^{+n}]^{\leq \lambda}$.

As part of our analysis of the class \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_n} , we would like to find certain traits of directed sets which distinguish them from one another in the Tukey order. This was done previously, in [4, 9, 14]. We use that the language of cardinal functions of ideals.

DEFINITION 2.3. For a set D and an ideal \mathcal{I} over D , consider the following cardinal characteristics of \mathcal{I} :

- $\text{add}(\mathcal{I}) := \min\{\kappa \mid \mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{I}, |\mathcal{A}| = \kappa, \bigcup \mathcal{A} \notin \mathcal{I}\}$;
- $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}) := \min\{|X| \mid X \subseteq D, X \notin \mathcal{I}\}$;

- $\text{out}(\mathcal{I}) := \min\{\theta \leq |D|^+ \mid \mathcal{I} \cap [D]^\theta = \emptyset\}$;
- $\text{in}(\mathcal{I}, \kappa) = \{\theta \leq \kappa \mid \forall X \in [D]^\kappa \exists Y \in [X]^\theta \cap \mathcal{I}\}$.

Notice that $\text{add}(\mathcal{I}) \leq \text{non}(\mathcal{I}) \leq \text{out}(\mathcal{I})$.

DEFINITION 2.4. For a directed set D , denote by $\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D)$ the ideal of bounded subsets of D .

PROPOSITION 2.5. *Let D be a directed set. Then:*

- (1) $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D))$ is the minimal size of an unbounded subset of D , so every subset of size less than $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D))$ is bounded.
- (2) If $\theta < \text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D))$, then there exists in D some bounded subset of size θ .
- (3) If $\theta \geq \text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D))$, then every subset X of size θ is unbounded in D .
- (4) If $\theta \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D), \kappa)$, then for every $X \in [D]^\kappa$ there exists some $B \in [X]^\theta$ bounded.
- (5) For every $\theta < \text{add}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D))$ and a family \mathcal{A} of size θ of bounded subsets of D , the subset $\bigcup \mathcal{A}$ is also bounded in D .

Let us consider another intuitive feature of a directed set, containing information about the cardinality of hereditary unbounded subsets, this was considered previously by Isbell [4].

DEFINITION 2.6 (Hereditary unbounded sets). For a directed set D , set

$$\text{hu}(D) := \{\kappa \in \text{Card}(|D|^+) \mid \exists X \in [D]^\kappa [\forall Y \in [X]^\kappa \text{ is unbounded}]\}.$$

PROPOSITION 2.7. *Let D be a directed set. Then:*

- If $\text{cf}(D)$ is an infinite cardinal, then $\text{cf}(D) \in \text{hu}(D)$.
- If $\text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D)) \leq \kappa \leq |D|$, then $\kappa \in \text{hu}(D)$.
- For an infinite cardinal κ we have that $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(\kappa)) = \text{cf}(\kappa)$, $\text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D)) = \kappa$ and $\text{hu}(\kappa) = \{\lambda \in \text{Card}(\kappa^+) \mid \lambda = \text{cf}(\kappa)\}$.
- If $\kappa = \text{cf}(D) = \text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D))$, then $D \equiv_T \kappa$.
- For two infinite cardinals $\kappa > \theta$ we have that $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}([\kappa]^{<\theta})) = \text{cf}(\theta)$.
- For a regular cardinal κ and a positive $n < \omega$, $\text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(\mathfrak{D}_{[\kappa+n] \leq \kappa})) > \kappa$ and $\text{hu}(\mathfrak{D}_{[\kappa+n] \leq \kappa}) = \{\kappa^{+(m+1)} \mid m < n\}$.
- If $\kappa = \text{cf}(D)$ is regular, $\theta = \text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D)) = \text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D))$ and $\theta^{+n} = \kappa$ for some $n < \omega$, then $D \equiv_T [\kappa]^{<\theta}$.

In the rest of this section we consider various scenarios in which the traits of a certain directed set give us information about its position in the poset $(\mathcal{D}_\kappa, <_T)$.

LEMMA 2.8. *Suppose D is a directed set, κ is an infinite regular cardinal and $X \subseteq D$ is an unbounded subset of size κ such that every subset of X of size $< \kappa$ is bounded. Then $\kappa \in \text{hu}(D)$.*

PROOF. Enumerate $X := \{x_\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa\}$, by the assumption, for every $\alpha < \kappa$ we may fix some $z_\alpha \in D$ above the bounded initial segment $\{x_\beta \mid \beta < \alpha\}$. We show that $Z := \{z_\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa\}$, witnesses $\kappa \in \text{hu}(D)$. First, let us show that $|Z| = \kappa$. Suppose on the contrary that $Z := \{z_\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa\}$ is of cardinality $< \kappa$. Then for some $\alpha < \kappa$, the element z_α is above the subset X , hence X is bounded which is absurd. Now, let us prove that Z is hereditarily unbounded. We claim that every subset of Z of

cardinality κ is also unbounded. Suppose not, let us fix some $W \in [Z]^\kappa$ bounded by some $d \in D$, but then d is above X contradicting the fact that X is unbounded. \dashv

LEMMA 2.9. *Suppose D is a directed set and κ is an infinite cardinal in $\text{hu}(D)$, then $\kappa \leq_T D$.*

PROOF. Fix $X \subseteq D$ of cardinality κ such that every subset of X of size κ is unbounded and a one-to-one function $f : \kappa \rightarrow X$, notice that f is a Tukey function from κ to D as sought. \dashv

COROLLARY 2.10. *Suppose D is directed set, κ is regular and $X \subseteq D$ is an unbounded subset of size κ such that every subset of X of size $< \kappa$ is bounded, then $\kappa \leq_T D$.*

The reader may check the following:

- For any two infinite cardinals λ and κ of the same cofinality, we have $\lambda \equiv_T \kappa$.
- For an infinite regular cardinal κ , we have $\kappa \equiv_T [\kappa]^{<\kappa}$.
- $\text{hu}(\prod_{n < \omega}^{\leq \omega} \omega_{n+1}) = \{\omega_n \mid n < \omega\}$.

LEMMA 2.11. *Suppose D and E are two directed sets such that for some $\theta \in \text{hu}(D)$ regular we have $\theta > \text{cf}(E)$, then $D \not\leq_T E$.*

PROOF. By passing to a cofinal subset, we may assume that $|E| = \text{cf}(E)$. Fix $\theta \in \text{hu}(D)$ regular such that $\text{cf}(E) < \theta$ and $X \in [D]^\theta$ witnessing $\theta \in \text{hu}(D)$, i.e., every subset of X of size θ is unbounded. Suppose on the contrary that there exists a Tukey function $f : D \rightarrow E$. By the pigeonhole principle, there exists some $Z \in [X]^\theta$ and $e \in E$ such that $f''Z = \{e\}$. As f is Tukey and the subset $Z \subseteq X$ is unbounded, $f''Z$ is unbounded in E which is absurd. \dashv

Notice that for every directed set D , if $\text{cf}(D) > 1$, then $\text{cf}(D)$ is an infinite cardinal.

As a corollary from the previous lemma, $\lambda \not\leq_T \kappa$ for any two regular cardinals $\lambda > \kappa$ where λ is infinite. Furthermore, the reader can check that $\lambda \not\leq_T \kappa$, whenever $\lambda < \kappa$ are infinite regular cardinals.

LEMMA 2.12. *Suppose C and D are directed sets such that $C \leq_T D$, then $\text{cf}(C) \leq \text{cf}(D)$.*

PROOF. Suppose $|D| = \text{cf}(D)$ and let $f : C \rightarrow D$ be a Tukey function. As f is Tukey, for every $d \in D$ the set $\{x \in C \mid f(x) = d\}$ is bounded in C by some $c_d \in C$. Note that for every $x \in C$, we have $x \leq_C c_{f(x)}$, hence the set $\{c_d \mid d \in D\}$ is cofinal in C . So $\text{cf}(C) \leq |D| = \text{cf}(D)$ as sought. \dashv

LEMMA 2.13. *Let κ and θ be two cardinals such that $\theta < \kappa = \text{cf}(\kappa)$.*

Suppose D is a directed set such that $\text{cf}(D) \leq \kappa$ and $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D)) \geq \theta$, then $D \leq_T [\kappa]^{<\theta}$. Furthermore, if $\theta \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D), \kappa)$, then $D <_T [\kappa]^{<\theta}$.

PROOF. First, we show that there exists a Tukey function $f : D \rightarrow [\kappa]^{<\theta}$. Let us fix a cofinal subset $X \subseteq D$ of cardinality $\leq \kappa$ such that every subset of X of cardinality $< \theta$ is bounded. As $|X| \leq \kappa$ we may fix an injection $f : X \rightarrow [\kappa]^1$, we will show f is a Tukey function. Let $Y \subseteq X$ be a subset unbounded in D , this implies $|Y| \geq \theta$. As f is an injection, the set $\bigcup f''Y$ is of cardinality $\geq \theta$. Note that every subset of $[\kappa]^{<\theta}$ whose union is of cardinality $\geq \theta$ is unbounded in $[\kappa]^{<\theta}$, hence $f''Y$ is an unbounded subset in $[\kappa]^{<\theta}$ as sought.

Assume $\theta \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D), \kappa)$, we are left to show that $[\kappa]^{<\theta} \not\leq_T D$. Suppose on the contrary that $g : [\kappa]^{<\theta} \rightarrow D$ is a Tukey function. We split to two cases:

► Suppose $|g''[\kappa]^1| < \kappa$. As κ is regular, by the pigeonhole principle there exists a set $X \subseteq [\kappa]^1$ of cardinality κ , and $d \in D$ such that $g(x) = d$ for each $x \in X$. Notice $g''X$ is a bounded subset of D . As $X \subseteq [\kappa]^1$ is of cardinality κ and $\kappa > \theta$, it is unbounded in $[\kappa]^{<\theta}$. Since g is a Tukey function, we get that $g''X$ is unbounded which is absurd.

► Suppose $|g''[\kappa]^1| = \kappa$. Let $X := g''[\kappa]^1$, by our assumption on D , there exists a bounded subset $B \in [X]^\theta$. Since B is of size θ , we get that $(g^{-1}[B]) \cap [\kappa]^1$ is of cardinality $\geq \theta$, hence unbounded in $[\kappa]^{<\theta}$, which is absurd to the assumption g is Tukey. ◄

REMARK 2.14. For every two directed sets, D and E , if $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D)) < \text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E))$, then $D \not\leq_T E$. For example, $\theta \not\leq_T [\kappa]^{\leq\theta}$.

LEMMA 2.15. *Let κ be a regular infinite cardinal. Suppose D and E are two directed sets such that $|D| \geq \kappa$ and $\text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D)) \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E), \kappa)$, then $D \not\leq_T E$.*

PROOF. Let $\theta := \text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D))$. By the definition of $\text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E), \kappa)$, as $\theta \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E), \kappa)$, we know that $\theta \leq \kappa$. Notice that every subset of D of size $\geq \theta$ is unbounded in D and every subset of size κ of E contains a bounded subset in E of size θ .

Suppose on the contrary that there exists a Tukey function $f : D \rightarrow E$. We split to two cases:

► Suppose $|f''D| < \kappa$, then by the pigeonhole principle there exists some $X \in [D]^\kappa$ and $e \in E$ such that $f''X = \{e\}$. As $|X| = \kappa \geq \theta$, we know that X is unbounded in D , but $f''X$ is bounded in E which is absurd as f is a Tukey function.

► Suppose $|f''D| \geq \kappa$, by the assumption there exists a subset $Y \in [f''D]^\theta$ which is bounded in E . Notice that $X := f^{-1}Y$ is a subset of D of size $\geq \theta$, hence unbounded in D . So X is an unbounded subset of D such that $f''X = Y$ is bounded in E , contradicting the fact that f is a Tukey function. ◄

LEMMA 2.16. *Suppose κ is a regular uncountable cardinal, C and $\langle D_m \mid m < n \rangle$ are directed sets such that $|C| < \kappa \leq \text{cf}(D_m)$ and $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D_m)) > \theta$ for every $m < n$. Then $\theta \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(C \times \prod_{m < n} D_m), \kappa)$.*

PROOF. Suppose $X \subseteq C \times \prod_{m < n} D_m$ is of size κ , we show that X contains a bounded subset of size θ . As $|C| < \kappa$, by the pigeonhole principle we can fix some $Y \in [X]^\kappa$ and $c \in C$ such that $\pi_C''Y = \{c\}$. Suppose on the contrary that some subset $Z \subseteq Y$ of size θ is unbounded, it must be that for some $m < n$ the set $\pi_{D_m}''Z$ is unbounded in D_m , but this is absurd as $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D_m)) > \theta$ and $|\pi_{D_m}''Z| \leq \theta$. ◄

LEMMA 2.17. *Suppose C, D and E are directed sets such that:*

- for every partition $D = \bigcup_{\gamma < \kappa} D_\gamma$, there exists an ordinal $\gamma < \kappa$, and an unbounded $X \subseteq D_\gamma$ of size κ ;
- $|C| \leq \kappa$;
- $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \kappa$.

Then $D \not\leq_T C \times E$.

PROOF. Suppose on the contrary, that there exists a Tukey function $h : D \rightarrow C \times E$. For $c \in C$, let $D_c := \{x \in D \mid \exists e \in E[h(x) = (c, e)]\}$. Since h is a function, $D := \bigcup_{c \in C} D_c$ is a partition to $\leq \kappa$ many sets. By the assumption, there exists $c \in C$ and an unbounded subset $X \subseteq D_c$ of cardinality κ . Enumerate $X = \{x_\xi \mid \xi < \kappa\}$ and let $e_\xi \in E$ be such that $h(x_\xi) = (c, e_\xi)$, for each $\xi < \kappa$. As $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \kappa$, there exists some upper bound $e \in E$ to the set $\{e_\xi \mid \xi < \kappa\}$. Since X is unbounded and h is Tukey, $h''X = \{(c, e_\xi) \mid \xi < \kappa\}$ must be unbounded, which is absurd as (c, e) is bounding it. \dashv

Note that the lemma is also true when the partition of D is of size less than κ .

§3. The Catalan structure. The sequence of Catalan numbers $\langle c_n \mid n < \omega \rangle = \langle 1, 1, 2, 5, 14, 42, \dots \rangle$ is an ubiquitous sequence of integers with many characterizations, for a comprehensive review of the subject, we refer the reader to Stanley's book [11]. One of the many representations of c_n , is the number of good n -paths (Dyck paths), where a *good n -path* is a monotonic lattice path along the edges of a grid with $n \times n$ square cells, which do not pass above the diagonal. A *monotonic path* is one which starts in the lower left corner, finishes in the upper right corner, and consists entirely of edges pointing rightwards or upwards. An equivalent representation of a good n -path, which we will consider from now on, is a vector \vec{p} of the columns' heights of the path (ignoring the first trivial column), i.e., a vector $\vec{p} = \langle p_0, \dots, p_{n-2} \rangle$ of length $n - 1$ of \leq -increasing numbers satisfying $0 \leq p_k \leq k + 1$, for every $0 \leq k \leq n - 2$. We consider the poset $(\mathcal{K}_n, \triangleleft)$ where \mathcal{K}_n is the set of all good n -paths and the relation \triangleleft is defined such that $\vec{a} \triangleleft \vec{b}$ if and only if the two paths are distinct and for every k with $0 \leq k \leq n - 2$ we have $b_k \leq a_k$, in other words, the path \vec{b} is below the path \vec{a} (allowing overlaps). Notice that for two distinct good n -paths \vec{a} and \vec{b} , either $\vec{a} \not\triangleleft \vec{b}$ or $\vec{b} \not\triangleleft \vec{a}$. A good n -path \vec{b} is an immediate successor of a good n -path \vec{a} if $\vec{a} \triangleleft \vec{b}$ and $\vec{a} - \vec{b}$ is a vector with value 0 at all coordinates except one of them which gets the value 1.

Suppose \vec{a} and \vec{b} are two good n -paths where \vec{b} is an immediate successor of \vec{a} . Let $i \leq n - 2$ be the unique coordinate on which \vec{a} and \vec{b} are different and a_i be the value of \vec{a} on this coordinate, i.e., $a_i = b_i + 1$. We say that the pair (\vec{a}, \vec{b}) is on the k -diagonal if and only if $i + 1 - a_i = k$ and \vec{b} is an immediate successor of \vec{a} (Figure 1).

In this section we show the connection between the Catalan numbers and cofinal types. Let us fix $n < \omega$. Recall that for every $k < \omega$, we set $V_k := \{1, \omega_k, [\omega_k]^{<\omega_m} \mid 0 \leq m < k\}$, $\mathcal{F}_n := \bigcup_{k \leq n} V_k$ and let \mathcal{S}_n be the set of all finite products of elements in \mathcal{F}_n . Our goal is to construct a coding which gives rise to an order-isomorphism between $(\mathcal{S}_n / \equiv_T, <_T)$ and $(\mathcal{K}_{n+2}, \triangleleft)$.

To do that, we first consider a "canonical form" of directed sets in \mathcal{S}_n . By Lemma 2.13 the following hold:

- (a) For all $0 \leq l < m < k < \omega$ we have $1 <_T \omega_k <_T [\omega_k]^{<\omega_m} <_T [\omega_k]^{<\omega_l}$.
- (b) For all $0 \leq l \leq t < m \leq k < \omega$ with $(l, k) \neq (t, m)$ we have $[\omega_m]^{<\omega_t} <_T [\omega_k]^{<\omega_l}$ and $\omega_m <_T [\omega_k]^{<\omega_l}$.

Notice that (a) implies $(V_k, <_T)$ is linearly ordered. A basic fact is that for two directed sets C and D such that $C \leq_T D$, we have $C \times D \equiv_T D$. Hence, for every

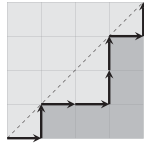


FIGURE 1. The good 4-path $\langle 1, 1, 3 \rangle$.

$D \in \mathcal{S}_n$ we can find a sequence of elements $\langle D^k \mid k \leq n \rangle$, where $D^k \in V_k$ for every $k \leq n$, such that $D \equiv_T \prod_{k \leq n} D^k$. As we are analyzing the class \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_n} under the Tukey relation $<_T$, two directed sets which are of the same \equiv_T -equivalence class are indistinguishable, so from now on we consider only elements of this form in \mathcal{S}_n .

We define a function $\mathfrak{F} : \mathcal{S}_n \rightarrow \mathcal{S}_n$ as follows: Fix $D \in \mathcal{S}_n$ where $D = \prod_{k \leq n} D^k$. Next, we construct a sequence $\langle D_k \mid k \leq n \rangle$ by reverse recursion on $k \leq n$. At the top case, set $D_n := D^n$. Next, for $0 \leq k < n$. If by (b), we get that $D^k <_T D^m$ for some $k < m \leq n$, then set $D_k := 1$. Else, let $D_k := D^k$. Finally, let $\mathfrak{F}(D) := \prod_{k \leq n} D_k$. Notice that we constructed $\mathfrak{F}(D)$ such that $\mathfrak{F}(D) \equiv_T D$. We define $\mathcal{T}_n := \text{Im}(\mathfrak{F})$.

The coding. We encode each product $D \in \mathcal{T}_n$ by an $(n + 2)$ -good path $\vec{v}_D := \langle v_0, \dots, v_n \rangle$. Recall that $D := \prod_{k \leq n} D_k$, where $D_k \in V_k$ for every $k \leq n$. We define by reverse recursion on $0 \leq k \leq n$, the elements of the vector \vec{v}_D such that $v_k \leq k + 1$ as follows: Suppose one of the elements of $\langle [\omega_k]^{<\omega}, \dots, [\omega_k]^{<\omega_{k-1}}, \omega_k \rangle$ is equal to D_k , then let v_k be its coordinate (starting from 0). Suppose this is not the case, then if $k = n$, we let $v_k := n + 1$ else $v_k := \min\{v_{k+1}, k + 1\}$.

Notice that by (b), if $0 \leq i < j \leq n$, then $v_i \leq v_j$. Hence, every element $D \in \mathcal{T}_n$ is encoded as a good $(n + 2)$ -path.

To see that the coding is one-to-one, suppose $C, D \in \mathcal{T}_n$ are distinct. Let $k := \max\{i \leq n \mid C_i \neq D_i\}$. We split to two cases:

- Suppose both C_k and D_k are not equal to 1, then clearly the column height of \vec{v}_C and \vec{v}_D are different at coordinate $k + 1$.

- Suppose one of them is equal to 1, say C_k , then $D_k \neq 1$. Let $\vec{v}_C := \langle v_0^C, \dots, v_n^C \rangle$ and $\vec{v}_D := \langle v_0^D, \dots, v_n^D \rangle$. Suppose $k = n$, then clearly $v_n^D < v_n^C$. Suppose $k < n$, then $v_i^D = v_i^C$ for $k < i \leq n$. By the coding, $v_k^D < k + 1$ and by (b) $v_k^D < v_{k+1}^D = v_{k+1}^C$, but $v_k^C := \min\{k + 1, v_{k+1}^C\}$. Hence $v_k^D < v_k^C$ as sought.

To see that the coding is onto, let us fix a good $(n + 2)$ -path $\vec{v} := \langle v_0, \dots, v_n \rangle$. We construct $\langle D_k \mid k \leq n \rangle$ by reverse recursion on $k \leq n$. At the top case, set D_n to be the v_n element of the vector $\langle [\omega_n]^{<\omega}, \dots, [\omega_n]^{<\omega_{n-1}}, \omega_n, 1 \rangle$. For $k < n$, if $v_k = v_{k+1}$, let $D_k := 1$. Else, let D_k be the k th element of the vector $\langle [\omega_k]^{<\omega}, \dots, [\omega_k]^{<\omega_{k-1}}, \omega_k, 1 \rangle$. Let $D = \prod_{k \leq n} D_k$, notice that as \vec{v} represents a good $(n + 2)$ -path we have $D = \mathfrak{F}(D)$, hence $D \in \mathcal{T}_n$. Furthermore, $\vec{v}_D = \vec{v}$, hence the coding is onto as sought. As a Corollary we get that $|\mathcal{T}_n| = c_{n+2}$.

In Figure 2 we present all good 4-paths and the corresponding types in \mathcal{T}_2 they encode.

LEMMA 3.1. *Suppose $C, D \in \mathcal{T}_n$ and $\vec{v}_D \triangleleft \vec{v}_C$, then $D \leq_T C$.*

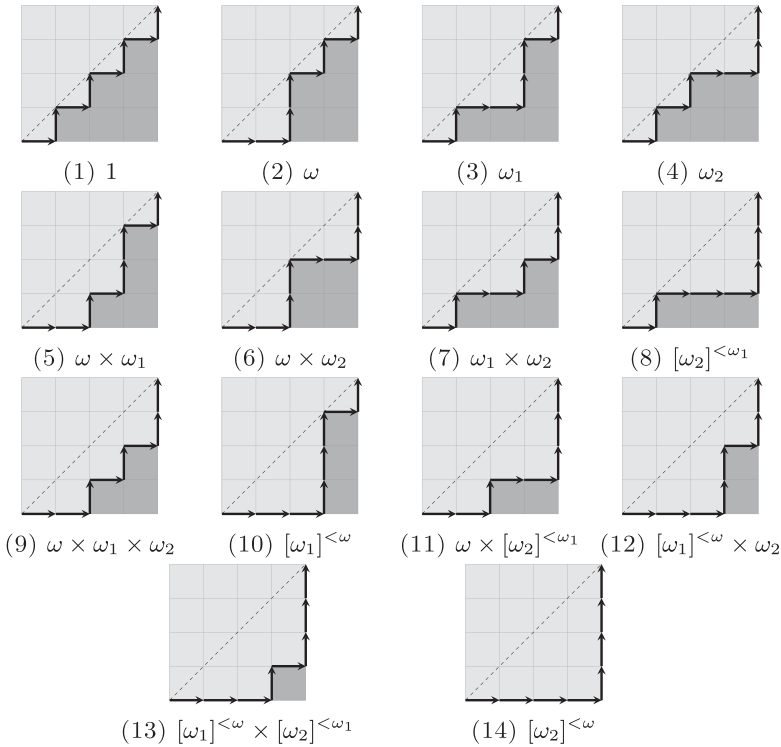


FIGURE 2. All good 4-paths and the corresponding types in \mathcal{T}_2 they encode.

PROOF. Let $D = \prod_{k \leq n} D_k$ and $C = \prod_{k \leq n} C_k$. Note that if $D_k \leq_T C$ for every $k \leq n$, then $D \leq_T C$ as sought. Fix $k \leq n$, if $D_k = 1$, then clearly $D_k \leq C$. Suppose $D_k \neq 1$, we split to two cases:

- ▶ Suppose $C_k \neq 1$. As $v_k^C < v_k^D$ and by (a) we have $D_k \leq_T C_k \leq_T C$ as sought.
- ▶ Suppose $C_k = 1$, let $m := \max\{i \leq n \mid k < i, v_i^C = v_k^C\}$. As $v_i^C \leq i + 1$, by the coding m is well-defined and $v_m^C = v_k^C \leq k < m$. Notice that $C_m = [\omega_m]^{<\omega_p}$ where $p = v_m^C$ and $D_k \equiv_T [\omega_k]^{<\omega_p}$. So by (b), $D_k \leq_T C_m \leq_T C$ as sought. \dashv

LEMMA 3.2. Suppose $C, D \in \mathcal{T}_n$ and $\vec{v}_D \not\leq \vec{v}_C$, then $D \not\leq_T C$.

PROOF. Let $D = \prod_{k \leq n} D_k$, $C = \prod_{k \leq n} C_k$, $\vec{v}_C := \langle v_0^C, \dots, v_n^C \rangle$ and $\vec{v}_D := \langle v_0^D, \dots, v_n^D \rangle$. As $\vec{v}_D \not\leq \vec{v}_C$, we can define $i = \min\{k \leq n \mid v_k^C > v_k^D\}$.

Let $p := v_i^D$ and $r = \max\{k \leq n \mid v_i^D = v_k^D\}$, notice that $p \leq i$. We define a directed set F such that $F \leq_T D$.

▶ Suppose $p = i$ and let $F = \omega_i$. If $r = i$, then clearly $F = D_i$ and $F \leq_T D$ as sought. Else, by the coding $D_r = [\omega_r]^{<\omega_p}$. By Lemma 2.13, we have $F \leq_T D$ as sought.

▶ Suppose $p < i$ and let $F = \mathfrak{D}_{[\omega_i]^{<\omega_p}}$. By the coding $D_r = [\omega_r]^{<\omega_p}$ and by Clause (b), we have $F \leq_T D$ as sought.

Notice that $\text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(F)) = \omega_p$ and $\text{cf}(F) = \omega_i$. As $F \leq_T D$, it is enough to verify that $F \not\leq_T C$.

As \vec{v}_C is a good $(n + 2)$ -path, we know that $v_k^C > p$ for every $k \geq i$. Consider $A := \{i \leq k \leq n \mid C_k \neq 1\}$. We split to two cases:

► Suppose $A = \emptyset$. Then $\text{cf}(\prod_{k \leq n} C_k) < \omega_i$. As $\text{cf}(F) = \omega_i$, by Lemma 2.12 we have that $F \not\leq_T \prod_{k \leq n} C_k$ as sought.

► Suppose $A \neq \emptyset$. Let $E := \prod_{k < i} C_k \times \prod_{k \in A} C_k$. Notice that $\text{cf}(\prod_{k < i} C_k) < \omega_i$, $\prod_{i \leq k \leq n} C_k \equiv_T \prod_{k \in A} C_k$ and $C \equiv_T E$. Furthermore, for each $k \in A$, we have $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(C_k)) > \omega_p$. By Lemma 2.16, we have $\omega_p \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E), \omega_i)$. Recall $\text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(F)) = \omega_p$. By Lemma 2.15, we get that $F \not\leq_T E$, hence $F \not\leq_T C$ as sought. \dashv

THEOREM 3.3. *The posets $(\mathcal{T}_n, <_T)$ and $(\mathcal{K}_{n+2}, \triangleleft)$ are isomorphic.*

PROOF. Define f from $(\mathcal{T}_n, <_T)$ to $(\mathcal{K}_{n+2}, \triangleleft)$, where for $C \in \mathcal{T}_n$, we let $f(C) := \vec{v}_C$. By Lemmas 3.1 and 3.2, this is indeed an isomorphism of posets.

Furthermore, we claim that \mathcal{T}_n contains one unique representative from each equivalence class of $(\mathcal{S}_n, \equiv_T)$. Recall that the function \mathfrak{F} is preserving Tukey equivalence classes. Consider two distinct $C, D \in \mathcal{T}_n$. As the coding is a bijection, \vec{v}_C and \vec{v}_D are different. Notice that either $\vec{v}_C \not\triangleleft \vec{v}_D$ or $\vec{v}_D \not\triangleleft \vec{v}_C$, hence by Lemma 3.2, $C \not\equiv_T D$ as sought. \dashv

Consider the poset $(\mathcal{T}_n, <_T)$, clearly 1 is a minimal element and by Lemma 2.13, $[\omega_n]^{<\omega}$ is a maximal element. By the previous theorem, the set of immediate successors of an element D in the poset $(\mathcal{T}_n, <_T)$, is the set of all directed sets $C \in \mathcal{T}_n$ such that \vec{v}_C is an \triangleleft -immediate successor of \vec{v}_D .

LEMMA 3.4. *Suppose $G, H \in \mathcal{T}_n$, H is an immediate successor of G in the poset $(\mathcal{T}_n, <_T)$ and (\vec{v}_G, \vec{v}_H) are on the l -diagonal. Then there are C, E, M, N directed sets such that:*

- $G \equiv_T C \times M \times E$ and $H \equiv_T C \times N \times E$;
- for some $k \leq n$, $\text{cf}(N) = \omega_k$, $|C| < \omega_k$ and either $E \equiv_T 1$ or $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \omega_{k-l}$.

Furthermore,

- If $l = 0$, then $M = 1$ and $N = \omega_k$.
- If $l = 1$, then $k > 1$ and $M = \omega_k$ and $N = [\omega_k]^{<\omega_{k-1}}$.
- If $l > 1$, then $k > l$ and $M = [\omega_k]^{<\omega_{k-l+1}}$ and $N = [\omega_k]^{<\omega_{k-l}}$.

PROOF. As H is an immediate successor of G in the poset $(\mathcal{T}_n, <_T)$, we know that \vec{v}_H is an immediate successor of \vec{v}_G in $(\mathcal{K}_{n+2}, \triangleleft)$. Let k be the unique $k \leq n$ such that $v_G^k = v_H^k + 1$.

Let $\vec{v}_G := \langle v_G^0, \dots, v_G^n \rangle$ be a good $(n + 2)$ -path coded by G . We construct $\langle M_i \mid i \leq n \rangle$ by letting M_i be the i th element of the vector $\langle [\omega_i]^{<\omega}, \dots, [\omega_i]^{<\omega_{i-1}}, \omega_i, 1 \rangle$ for every $i \leq n$. Notice that $G \equiv_T \prod_{i \leq n} M_i$. Similarly, we may construct $\langle N_i \mid i \leq n \rangle$ such that $H \equiv_T \prod_{i \leq n} N_i$. Clearly, $M_i = N_i$ for every $i \neq k$.

Let $C := \prod_{i < k} M_i$ and $E := \prod_{i > k} M_i$. Notice that $|C| = \text{cf}(C) < \omega_k$ and either $E \equiv_T 1$ or $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \omega_{k-l}$. Moreover, $G \equiv_T C \times M_k \times E$ and $H \equiv_T C \times N_k \times E$. We split to cases:

- If $l = 0$, then $v_H^k = k + 1$, hence $M_k = 1$ and $N_k = \omega_k$.
- If $l = 1$, then $v_H^k = k$, hence $M_k = \omega_k$ and $N_k = [\omega_k]^{<\omega_{k-1}}$.
- If $l > 1$, then $v_H^k = k - l + 1$, hence $M_k = [\omega_k]^{<\omega_{k-l+1}}$ and $N_k = [\omega_k]^{<\omega_{k-l}}$.

⊖

THEOREM 3.5. *Suppose $G, H \in \mathcal{T}_n$, H is an immediate successor of G in the poset $(\mathcal{T}_n, <_T)$ and (\vec{v}_G, \vec{v}_H) are on the l -diagonal.*

- If $l = 0$, then there is no directed set $D \in \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_n}$ such that $G <_T D <_T H$.
- If $l > 0$, then consistently there exist a directed set $D \in \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_n}$ such that $G <_T D <_T H$.

PROOF. Let C, E, M, N be as in the previous lemma, so $G \equiv_T C \times M \times E, H \equiv_T C \times N \times E$ and for some $k \leq n, |C| < \omega_k$ and either $E \equiv_T 1$ or $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \omega_{k-l}$. We split to three cases:

- Suppose $l = 0$, then $G \equiv_T C \times E$ and $H \equiv_T C \times \omega_k \times E$, by Theorem 4.1 there is no directed set D such that $G <_T D <_T H$.
- Suppose $l = 1$, then $k \geq 1$ and $N = [\omega_k]^{<\omega_{k-1}}$ and $M = \omega_k$.
 - Suppose $k = 1$, then under the assumption $\mathfrak{b} = \omega_1$, by Theorem 5.9 there exists a directed set D such that $G <_T D <_T H$.
 - Suppose $k > 1$, then under the assumption $2^{\aleph_{k-2}} = \aleph_{k-1}$ and $2^{\aleph_{k-1}} = \aleph_k$, by Corollary 5.1 there exists a directed set D such that $G <_T D <_T H$.
- Suppose $l > 1$, then $k \geq 2$. Let $\theta = \omega_{k-l}$ and $\lambda = \omega_{k-1}$. Notice $N = [\omega_k]^{<\theta}$ and $M = [\omega_k]^{<\theta}$. In Corollary 5.11, we shall show that under the assumption $\lambda^\theta < \lambda^+$ and $\clubsuit_J^{\omega_{k-1}}(S, 1)$ for some stationary set $S \subseteq E_\theta^{\omega_k}$, there exists a directed set D such that $G <_T D <_T H$.

⊖

§4. Empty intervals in D_{\aleph_n} . Consider two successive directed sets in the poset $(\mathcal{T}_n, <_T)$, we can ask whether there exists some other directed set in between in the Tukey order. The following theorem give us a scenario in which there is a no such directed set.

THEOREM 4.1. *Let κ be a regular cardinal. Suppose C and E are two directed sets such that $\text{cf}(C) < \kappa$ and either $E \equiv_T 1$ or $\kappa \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E), \kappa)$ and $\kappa \leq \text{cf}(E)$. Then there is no directed set D such that $C \times E <_T D <_T C \times \kappa \times E$.*

PROOF. By the upcoming Lemmas 4.2 and 4.3.

⊖

LEMMA 4.2. *Let κ be a regular cardinal. Suppose C is a directed set such that $\text{cf}(C) < \kappa$, then there is no directed set D such that $C <_T D <_T C \times \kappa$.*

PROOF. Suppose D is a directed set such that $C <_T D <_T C \times \kappa$. Let us assume D is a directed set of size $\text{cf}(D)$ such that every subset of D of size $\text{cf}(D)$ is unbounded in D . By Lemma 2.12 we get that $\text{cf}(C) \leq \text{cf}(D) \leq \kappa$. We split to two cases:

► Suppose $\text{cf}(C) \leq \text{cf}(D) < \kappa$. Let $g : D \rightarrow C \times \kappa$ be a Tukey function. As $|D| = \text{cf}(D) < \kappa$ and κ is regular there exists some $\alpha < \kappa$ such that $g''D \subseteq C \times \alpha$. We claim that $\pi_C \circ g$ is a Tukey function from D to C , hence $D \leq_T C$ which is absurd. Suppose $X \subseteq D$ is unbounded in D , as g is a Tukey function, we know that $g''X$ is unbounded in $C \times \kappa$. But as $(\pi_\kappa \circ g)''X$ is bounded by α , we get that $(\pi_C \circ g)''X$ is unbounded in C as sought.

► Suppose $\text{cf}(D) = \kappa$, notice that $\kappa \in \text{hu}(D)$ is regular so by Lemma 2.9 we get that $\kappa \leq_T D$. We also know that $C \leq_T D$, thus $\kappa \times C \leq_T D$ which is absurd. \dashv

Note that $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \kappa$ implies that $\kappa \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E), \kappa)$.

LEMMA 4.3. *Let κ be a regular cardinal. Suppose C and E are two directed sets such that $\text{cf}(C) < \kappa \leq \text{cf}(E)$ and $\kappa \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E), \kappa)$. Then there is no directed set D such that $C \times E <_T D <_T C \times \kappa \times E$.*

PROOF. Suppose D is a directed set such that $C \times E \leq_T D \leq_T C \times \kappa \times E$, we will show that either $D \equiv_T C \times E$ or $D \equiv_T C \times \kappa \times E$. We may assume that every subset of D of size $\text{cf}(D)$ is unbounded and $|C| = \text{cf}(C)$. By Lemma 2.12, we have that $\text{cf}(E) = \text{cf}(D)$.

Suppose first there exists some unbounded subset $X \in [D]^\kappa$ such that every subset $Y \in [X]^{<\kappa}$ is bounded. By Corollary 2.10, this implies that $\kappa \leq_T D$. But as $C \times E \leq_T D$ and $D \leq_T C \times \kappa \times E$, this implies that $C \times \kappa \times E \equiv_T D$ as sought.

Hereafter, suppose for every unbounded subset $X \in [D]^\kappa$ there exists some subset $Y \in [X]^{<\kappa}$ unbounded. Let $g : D \rightarrow C \times \kappa \times E$ be a Tukey function. Define $h := \pi_{C \times E} \circ g$. Now, there are two main cases to consider:

► Suppose every unbounded subset $X \subseteq D$ of size $\lambda > \kappa$ which contain no unbounded subset of smaller cardinality is such that $h''X$ is unbounded in $C \times E$.

We show that h is Tukey, it is enough to verify that for every cardinal $\omega \leq \mu \leq \kappa$ and every unbounded subset $X \subseteq D$ of size μ which contain no unbounded subset of smaller cardinality is such that $h''X$ is unbounded in $C \times E$.

As g is Tukey, the set $g''X$ is unbounded in $C \times \kappa \times E$. Notice that if the set $\pi_{C \times E} \circ g''X$ is unbounded, then we are done. Assume that $\pi_{C \times E} \circ g''X$ is bounded, then $\pi_\kappa \circ g''X$ is unbounded.

►► Suppose $|X| < \kappa$. As $|g''X| < \kappa$, we have that $\pi_\kappa \circ g''X$ is bounded, which is absurd.

►► Suppose $|X| = \kappa$, by the case assumption there exists some $Y \in [X]^{<\kappa}$ unbounded in D . But this is absurd as the assumption on X was that X contains no subset of size smaller than $|X|$ which is unbounded.

►► Suppose $|X| > \kappa$, by the case assumption, $h''X$ is unbounded in $C \times E$ as sought.

► Suppose for some unbounded subset $X \subseteq D$ of size $\lambda > \kappa$ which contains no unbounded subset of smaller cardinality is such that $h''X$ is bounded in $C \times E$. As g is Tukey, $\pi_\kappa \circ g''X$ is unbounded.

Let $X_\alpha := X \cap g^{-1}(C \times \{\alpha\} \times E)$ and $U_\alpha := \bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} X_\beta$ for every $\alpha < \kappa$. As g is Tukey and $g''U_\alpha$ is bounded, we get that U_α is also bounded by some $y_\alpha \in D$. Let $Y := \{y_\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa\}$. We claim that Y is of cardinality κ . If it wasn't, then by the pigeonhole principle as κ is regular there would be some $\alpha < \kappa$ such that y_α bounds the set X in D and that is absurd. Similarly, as X is unbounded, the set Y and also every subset of it of size κ must be unbounded.

Next, we aim to get $Z \in [Y]^\kappa$ such that $\pi_{C \times E} \circ g''Z$ is bounded by some $(c, e) \in C \times E$. This can be done as follows: As $|C| < \kappa$ and κ is regular, by the pigeonhole principle, there exists some $Z_0 \in [Y]^\kappa$ and $c \in C$ such that $g''Z_0 \subseteq$

$\{c\} \times \kappa \times E$. Similarly, if $|\pi_E \circ g''Z_0| < \kappa$, by the pigeonhole principle, there exists some $Z \in [Z_0]^\kappa$ and $e \in E$ such that $g''Z \subseteq \{c\} \times \kappa \times \{e\}$. Else, if $|\pi_E''Z_0| = \kappa$, then as $\kappa \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E), \kappa)$ for some $B \in [\pi_E \circ g''Z_0]^\kappa$ and $e \in E$, B is bounded in E by e . Fix some $Z \in [Z_0]^\kappa$ such that $g''Z \subseteq \{c\} \times \kappa \times B$.

Note that Z is a subset of Y of size κ , hence, unbounded in D . By the assumption, there exists some subset $W \in [Z]^{<\kappa}$ unbounded in D . Note that as κ is regular, for some $\alpha < \kappa$, $\pi_\kappa \circ g''W \subseteq \alpha$. As g is Tukey, the subset $g''W \subseteq \{c\} \times \kappa \times E$ is unbounded in $C \times \kappa \times E$, but this is absurd as $g''W$ is bounded by (c, α, e) . ⊥

§5. Non-empty intervals. In this section we consider three types of intervals in the poset $(\mathcal{T}_n, <_T)$ and show each one can consistently have a directed set inside.

5.1. Directed set between $\theta^+ \times \theta^{++}$ and $[\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta}$. In [6, Theorem 1.1], the authors constructed a directed set between $\omega_1 \times \omega_2$ and $[\omega_2]^{\leq \omega}$ under the assumption $2^{\aleph_0} = \aleph_1$, $2^{\aleph_1} = \aleph_2$ and the existence of an \aleph_2 -Souslin tree. In this subsection we generalize this result while waiving the assumption concerning the Souslin tree. The main corollary of this subsection is:

COROLLARY 5.1. *Assume θ is an infinite cardinal such that $2^\theta = \theta^+$, $2^{\theta^+} = \theta^{++}$. Suppose C and E are directed sets such that $\text{cf}(C) \leq \theta^+$ and either $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \theta^+$ or $E \equiv_T 1$. Then there exists a directed set D such that $C \times \theta^+ \times \theta^{++} \times E <_T C \times D \times E <_T C \times [\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta} \times E$.*

The result follows immediately from Theorems 5.3 and 5.4. First, we prove the following required lemma.

LEMMA 5.2. *Suppose θ is a infinite cardinal and D, J, E are three directed sets such that:*

- $\text{cf}(D) = \text{cf}(J) = \theta^{++}$;
- $\theta^+ \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D), \theta^{++})$ and $\text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(J)) \leq \theta^+$;
- $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \theta^+$ or $E \equiv_T 1$;
- $D \times E \leq_T J \times E$.

Then $J \times E \not\leq_T D \times E$. In particular, $D \times E <_T J \times E$.

PROOF. Notice that D is a directed set such that every subset of size θ^{++} contains a bounded subset of size θ^+ . Let us fix a cofinal subset $A \subseteq J$ of size θ^{++} such that every subset of A of size $> \theta$ is unbounded in J .

Suppose on the contrary that $J \times E \leq_T D \times E$. As $D \times E \leq_T J \times E$ we get that $D \times E \equiv_T J \times E$, hence there exists some directed set X such that both $D \times E$ and $J \times E$ are cofinal subsets of X .

We may assume that D has an enumeration $D := \{d_\alpha \mid \alpha < \theta^{++}\}$ such that for every $\beta < \alpha < \theta^{++}$ we have $d_\alpha \not\leq d_\beta$. Fix some $e \in E$. Now, for each $a \in A$ take a unique $x_a \in D$ and some $e_a \in E$ such that $(a, e) \leq_X (x_a, e_a)$. To do that, enumerate $A = \{a_\alpha \mid \alpha < \theta^{++}\}$. Suppose we have constructed already the increasing sequence $\langle v_\beta \mid \beta < \alpha \rangle$ of elements in θ^{++} . Pick some $\xi < \theta^{++}$ above $\{v_\beta \mid \beta < \alpha\}$. As $D \times E$ is a directed set we may fix some $(x_{a_\alpha}, e_a) := (d_{v_\alpha}, e_a) \in D \times E$ above (a_α, e) and (d_ξ, e) .

Set $T = \{x_a \mid a \in A\}$, since $A \times E$ is cofinal in X , the set $T \times E$ is also cofinal in X and $D \times E$. As $|T| = \theta^{++}$ we get that there exists some subset $B \in [T]^{\theta^+}$ bounded in D . Let $c \in D$ be such that $b \leq c$ for each $b \in B$. Consider the set $K = \{a \in A \mid x_a \in B\}$. Since either $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \theta^+$ or $E \equiv_T 1$, as $\{e_a \mid a \in K\}$ is of size $\leq \theta^+$, it is bounded in E by some $\tilde{e} \in E$. So $P := \{(x_a, e_a) \mid a \in K\}$ is bounded in X . Since B is of size $> \theta$, the set K is also of size $> \theta$. Thus, by the assumption on A , the set $K \times \{e\}$ is unbounded in $J \times E$, but also in X because $J \times E$ is a cofinal subset of X . Then, for each $a \in K$ we have $(a, e) \leq_X (x_a, e_a) \leq_X (c, \tilde{e})$, contradicting the unboundedness of $K \times \{e\}$ in $J \times E$. \dashv

THEOREM 5.3. *Suppose θ is an infinite cardinal and C, D, E are directed sets such that:*

- (1) $\text{cf}(D) = \theta^{++}$.
- (2) For every partition $D = \bigcup_{\gamma < \theta^+} D_\gamma$, there is an ordinal $\gamma < \theta^+$, and an unbounded $K \subseteq D_\gamma$ of size θ^+ .
- (3) $\theta^+ \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D), \theta^{++})$ and $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D)) = \theta^+$.
- (4) $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \theta^+$ or $E \equiv_T 1$.
- (5) C is a directed set such that $\text{cf}(C) \leq \theta^+$.

Then $C \times \theta^+ \times \theta^{++} \times E <_T C \times D \times E <_T C \times [\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta} \times E$.

PROOF. As $\text{cf}(D) = \theta^{++}$, we may assume that every subset of D of size θ^{++} is unbounded. \dashv

CLAIM 5.3.1. $\theta^+ \times \theta^{++} \leq_T D$.

PROOF. As $\text{cf}(D) = \theta^{++}$, we get by Lemma 2.9 that $\theta^{++} \leq_T D$. Let K be an unbounded subset of D of size θ^+ , as every subset of size θ is bounded, by Corollary 2.10 we get that $\theta^+ \leq_T D$. Hence, $\theta^+ \times \theta^{++} \leq_T D$ as sought. \dashv

CLAIM 5.3.2. $D \leq_T [\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta}$.

PROOF. As $\text{cf}(D) = \theta^{++}$ and $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D)) = \theta^+$, by Lemma 2.13, $D \leq_T [\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta}$ as sought. \dashv

Notice this implies that $C \times \theta^+ \times \theta^{++} \times E \leq_T C \times D \times E \leq_T C \times [\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta} \times E$.

By Lemma 2.17, as $|C \times \theta^+| \leq \theta^+$, $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(\theta^{++} \times E)) > \theta^+$ and Clause (2) we get that $D \not\leq_T C \times \theta^+ \times \theta^{++} \times E$.

CLAIM 5.3.3. $C \times [\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta} \times E \not\leq_T C \times D \times E$.

PROOF. Recall that $\mathfrak{D}_{[\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta}} \equiv_T [\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta}$. Notice that following:

- $\text{cf}(C \times D) = \text{cf}(C \times \mathfrak{D}_{[\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta}}) = \theta^{++}$.
- By Clause (3) we have that $\theta^+ \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(C \times D), \theta^{++})$ and $\text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(C \times \mathfrak{D}_{[\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta}})) \leq \theta^+$.
- $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \theta^+$ or $E = 1$.
- $C \times D \times E \leq_T C \times \mathfrak{D}_{[\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta}} \times E$.

So by Lemma 5.2 we are done. \dashv

We are left with proving the following theorem, in which we define a directed set D_c using a coloring c .

THEOREM 5.4. *Suppose θ is an infinite cardinal such that $2^\theta = \theta^+$ and $2^{\theta^+} = \theta^{++}$. Then there exists a directed set D such that:*

- (1) $\text{cf}(D) = \theta^{++}$.
- (2) *For every partition $D = \bigcup_{\gamma < \theta^+} D_\gamma$, there is an ordinal $\gamma < \theta^+$, and an unbounded $K \subseteq D_\gamma$ of size θ^+ .*
- (3) $\theta^+ \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D), \theta^{++})$ and $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D)) = \theta^+$.

The rest of this subsection is dedicated to proving Theorem 5.4. The arithmetic hypothesis will only play a role later on. Let θ be an infinite cardinal. For two sets of ordinals A and B , we denote $A \otimes B := \{(\alpha, \beta) \in A \times B \mid \alpha < \beta\}$. Recall that by [3, Corollary 7.3], $\text{onto}(\mathcal{S}, \mathcal{J}^{\text{bd}}[\theta^{++}], \theta^+)$ holds for $\mathcal{S} := [\theta^{++}]^{\theta^{++}}$. This means that we may fix a coloring $c : [\theta^{++}]^2 \rightarrow \theta^+$ such that for every $S \in \mathcal{S}$ and unbounded $B \subseteq \theta^{++}$, there exists $\delta \in S$ such that $c''(\{\delta\} \otimes B) = \theta^+$.

We fix some $S \in \mathcal{S}$. For our purpose, it will suffice to assume that S is nothing but the whole of θ^{++} . Let

$$D_c := \{X \in [\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta^+} \mid \forall \delta \in S[\{c(\delta, \beta) \mid \beta \in X \setminus (\delta + 1)\} \in \text{NS}_{\theta^+}]\}.$$

Consider D_c ordered by inclusion, and notice that D_c is a directed set since NS_{θ^+} is an ideal.

PROPOSITION 5.5. *The following hold:*

- $[\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta} \subseteq D_c \subseteq [\theta^{++}]^{\leq \theta^+}$.
- $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D_c)) \geq \text{add}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D_c)) \geq \theta^+$, i.e., every family of bounded subsets of D_c of size $< \theta^+$ is bounded.
- If $2^{\theta^+} = \theta^{++}$, then $|D_c| = \theta^{++}$, and hence $D_c \in \mathcal{D}_{\theta^{++}}$.

LEMMA 5.6. *For every partition $D_c = \bigcup_{\gamma < \theta^+} D_\gamma$, there is an ordinal $\gamma < \theta^+$, and an unbounded $E \subseteq D_\gamma$ of size θ^+ .*

PROOF. As $[\theta^{++}]^1$ is a subset of D_c , the family $\{D_\gamma \mid \gamma < \theta^+\}$ is a partition of the set $[\theta^{++}]^1$ to at most θ^+ many sets. As $\theta^+ < \theta^{++} = \text{cf}(\theta^{++})$, by the pigeonhole principle we get that for some $\gamma < \theta^+$ and $b \in [\theta^{++}]^{\theta^{++}}$, we have $[b]^1 \subseteq D_\gamma$. Notice that by the assumption on the coloring c , there exists some $\delta \in S$ and $\delta < b' \in [b]^{\theta^+}$ such that $c''(\delta \otimes b') = \theta^+$. Clearly the set $E := [b']^1$ is a subset of D_γ of size θ^+ which is unbounded in D_c . ◻

LEMMA 5.7. *Suppose $2^\theta = \theta^+$, then $\theta^+ \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D_c), \theta^{++})$.*

PROOF. We follow the proof of [6, Lemma 5.4].

Let D' be a subset of D_c of size θ^{++} we will show it contains a bounded subset of size θ^+ , let us enumerate it as $\{T_\gamma \mid \gamma < \theta^{++}\}$. Let, for each $X \in D_c$ and $\gamma \in S$, N_γ^X denote the non-stationary set $\{c(\gamma, \beta) \mid \beta \in X \setminus (\gamma + 1)\}$, and let G_γ^X denote a club in θ^+ disjoint from N_γ^X .

As $2^\theta = \theta^+$ we may fix a sufficiently large regular cardinal χ , and an elementary submodel $M \prec H_\chi$ of cardinality θ^+ containing all the relevant objects and such that $M^\theta \subseteq M$. Denote $\delta = M \cap \theta^{++}$, notice $\delta \in E_{\theta^+}^{\theta^{++}}$. Fix an increasing sequence $\langle \gamma_\xi \mid \xi < \theta^+ \rangle$ in δ such that $\sup\{\gamma_\xi \mid \xi < \theta^+\} = \delta$. Enumerate $\delta \cap S = \{s_\xi \mid \xi < \theta^+\}$. In order to simplify notation, let G_ξ^ζ denote the set $G_{s_\xi}^{T_\zeta}$ for each $\gamma < \theta^{++}$ and $\xi < \theta^+$.

We construct by recursion on $\xi < \theta^+$ three sequences $\langle \delta_\xi \mid \xi < \theta^+ \rangle$, $\langle \Gamma_\xi \mid \xi < \theta^+ \rangle$ and $\langle \eta_\xi \mid \xi < \theta^+ \rangle$ with the following properties:

- (1) $\langle \delta_\xi \mid \xi < \theta^+ \rangle$ is an increasing sequence converging to δ .
- (2) $\langle \Gamma_\xi \mid \xi < \theta^+ \rangle$ is a decreasing \subseteq -chain of stationary subsets of θ^{++} each one containing δ and definable in M .
- (3) $\langle \eta_\xi \mid \xi < \theta^+ \rangle$ is an increasing sequence of ordinals below θ^+ .
- (4) $G_\zeta^\delta \cap \eta_\mu = G_\zeta^{\delta_\mu} \cap \eta_\mu$ for $\zeta \leq \mu < \theta^+$.

► Base case: Let η_0 be the first limit point of G_0^δ . Notice that $G_0^\delta \cap \eta_0$ is an infinite set of size $\leq \theta$ below δ , hence it is inside of M . Let

$$\Gamma_0 := \{ \gamma < \theta^{++} \mid G_0^\delta \cap \eta_0 = G_0^\gamma \cap \eta_0 \}.$$

Since $\delta \in \Gamma_0$, the set Γ_0 is stationary in θ^{++} . Let $\delta_0 := \min(\Gamma_0)$.

► Suppose $\xi_0 < \theta^+$, and that δ_ξ , Γ_ξ and η_ξ have been constructed for each $\xi < \xi_0$. Let η_{ξ_0} be the first limit point of $G_{\xi_0}^\delta \setminus \sup\{\eta_\xi \mid \xi < \xi_0\}$. Consider the set

$$\Gamma_{\xi_0} = \{ \gamma \in \bigcap_{\xi < \xi_0} \Gamma_\xi \mid \forall \zeta \leq \xi_0 [G_\zeta^\delta \cap \eta_{\xi_0} = G_\zeta^\gamma \cap \eta_{\xi_0}] \}.$$

Since Γ_{ξ_0} belongs to M , and since $\delta \in \Gamma_{\xi_0}$, it must be that Γ_{ξ_0} is stationary in θ^{++} . Since Γ_{ξ_0} is cofinal in θ^{++} and belongs to M , the set $\delta \cap \Gamma_{\xi_0}$ is cofinal in δ . Define δ_{ξ_0} be the minimal ordinal in $\delta \cap \Gamma_{\xi_0}$ greater than both $\sup\{\delta_\xi \mid \xi < \xi_0\}$ and γ_{ξ_0} . It is clear from the construction that conditions (1 – 4) are satisfied. \dashv

The following claim gives us the wanted result.

CLAIM 5.7.1. *The set $\{T_{\delta_\xi} \mid \xi < \theta^+\}$ is a subset of D' of size θ^+ which is bounded in D_c .*

PROOF. As the order on D_c is \subseteq , it suffices to prove that the union $T = \bigcup_{\xi < \theta^+} T_{\delta_\xi} \in D_c$. Since, for each $\xi < \theta^+$, both δ_ξ and $\langle T_\gamma \mid \gamma < \theta^{++} \rangle$ belong to M , it must be that $T_{\delta_\xi} \in M$. Since $\theta^+ \in M$ and $M \models |T_{\delta_\xi}| \leq \theta^+$, we have $T_{\delta_\xi} \subseteq M$. Thus $T \subseteq M$ and furthermore $T \subseteq \delta$. This means that, in order to prove that $T \in D_c$, it is enough to prove that for each $t \in S \cap \delta$, the set $\{c(t, \beta) \mid \beta \in T \setminus (t + 1)\}$ is non-stationary in θ^+ . Fix some $t \in S \cap \delta$. Let $\zeta < \theta^+$ be such that $s_\zeta = t$. Define

$$G := G_\zeta^\delta \cap \left(\bigcap_{\xi \leq \zeta} G_\xi^{\delta_\xi} \right) \cap (\Delta_{\xi < \theta^+} G_\xi^{\delta_\xi}).$$

Since the intersection of $< \theta^+$ -many clubs in θ^+ is a club, and since diagonal intersection of θ^+ many clubs is a club, we know that G is a club in θ^+ .

We will prove that $G \cap \{c(t, \beta) \mid \beta \in T \setminus (t + 1)\} = \emptyset$. Suppose $\alpha < \theta^+$ is such that $\alpha \in G \cap \{c(t, \beta) \mid \beta \in T \setminus (t + 1)\}$. This means that $\alpha \in G$ and that for some $\mu < \theta^+$ and $\beta \in T_{\delta_\mu} \setminus (t + 1)$ we have $\alpha = c(t, \beta)$. So $\alpha \in N_t^{T_{\delta_\mu}}$. Note that this implies that $\alpha \notin G_\zeta^{\delta_\mu}$. Let us split to three cases:

► Suppose $\mu \leq \zeta$, then since $\alpha \in \bigcap_{\xi \leq \zeta} G_\xi^{\delta_\xi}$, we have that $\alpha \in G_\zeta^{\delta_\mu}$ which is clearly contradicting $\alpha \notin G_\zeta^{\delta_\mu}$.

► Suppose $\mu > \zeta$ and $\alpha < \eta_\mu$. Then by (4), we have that $G_\zeta^\delta \cap \eta_\mu = G_\zeta^{\delta_\mu} \cap \eta_\mu$. As $\alpha \notin G_\zeta^{\delta_\mu}$ and $\alpha < \eta_\mu$, it must be that $\alpha \notin G_\zeta^\delta$. Recall that $\alpha \in G$, but this is absurd as $G \subseteq G_\zeta^\delta$ and $\alpha \notin G_\zeta^\delta$.

► Suppose $\mu > \zeta$ and $\alpha \geq \eta_\mu \geq \mu$. As $\alpha \in G$, we have that $\alpha \in \Delta_{\xi < \theta^+} G_\zeta^{\delta_\xi}$. As $\alpha > \mu$, we get that $\alpha \in G_\zeta^{\delta_\mu}$ which is clearly contradicting $\alpha \notin G_\zeta^{\delta_\mu}$. \dashv

5.2. Directed set between $\omega \times \omega_1$ and $[\omega_1]^{<\omega}$. As mentioned in [8], by the results of Todorćević [13], it follows that under the assumption $\mathfrak{b} = \omega_1$ there exists a directed set of size ω_1 between the directed sets $\omega \times \omega_1$ and $[\omega_1]^{<\omega}$. In this subsection we spell out the details of this construction.

For two functions $f, g \in {}^\omega\omega$, we define the order $<^*$ by $f <^* g$ iff the set $\{n < \omega \mid g(n) \geq f(n)\}$ is finite. Furthermore, by $f \triangleleft g$ we means that there exists $m < \omega$ such that for all $n < m$ we have $f(n) \leq g(n)$ and $f(k) < g(k)$ whenever $m \leq k < \omega$. Assuming $f \leq^* g$, we let $\Delta(f, g) := \min\{m < \omega \mid \forall n \geq m [f(n) \leq g(n)]\}$.

The following fact is a special case of [13, Theorem 1.1] in the case $n = 0$, for complete details we give the proof as suggested by the referee.

FACT 5.8 (Todorćević [13, Theorem 1.1]). *Suppose A is an uncountable sequence of ${}^\omega\omega$ of increasing functions which are $<^*$ -increasing and \leq^* -unbounded, then there are $f, g \in A$ such that $f \triangleleft g$.*

PROOF. Let $A := \{g_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1\}$ be an uncountable sequence of increasing functions of ${}^\omega\omega$ which are $<^*$ -increasing and \leq^* -unbounded.

Let us fix a countable elementary sub-model $M \prec (H_{\omega_2}, \in)$ with $A \in M$. Let $\delta := \omega_1 \cap M$, $B := \omega_1 \setminus (\delta + 1)$ and write $B_n := \{\beta \in B \mid \Delta(g_\delta, g_\beta) = n\}$. As $B = \bigcup_{n < \omega} B_n$, let us fix some $n < \omega$ such that B_n is uncountable. As $\{g_\alpha \mid \alpha \in B_n\}$ is unbounded, we get that the set $K := \{m < \omega \mid \sup\{g_\beta(m) \mid \beta \in B_n\} = \omega\}$ is non-empty, so consider the minimal element, $m := \min(K)$. For $t \in {}^m\omega$, denote $B'_n := \{\beta \in B_n \mid t \subseteq g_\beta\}$. By minimality of m , the set $\{t \in {}^m\omega \mid B'_n \neq \emptyset\}$ is finite, so we can easily find some $t \in {}^m\omega$ such that $\sup\{g_\beta(m) \mid \beta \in B'_n\} = \omega$.

Note that the set $\{\beta < \omega_1 \mid t \subseteq g_\beta\}$ is a non-empty set that is definable from A and t , hence it is in M . Let us fix some $\alpha \in M \cap \omega_1$ such that $t \subseteq g_\alpha$. Put $k := \Delta(g_\alpha, g_\delta)$, and then pick $\beta \in B'_n$ such that $g_\beta(m) > g_\alpha(k + n)$. Of course, $\alpha < \delta < \beta$. We claim that $g_\alpha \triangleleft g_\beta$ as sought.

Let us divide to three cases:

- If $i < m$, then $g_\alpha(i) = t(i) = g_\beta(i)$.
- If $m \leq i \leq k + n$, then $g_\alpha(i) \leq g_\alpha(k + n) < g_\beta(m) \leq g_\beta(i)$ recall that every function in A is increasing.
- If $k + n < i < \omega$, then $\Delta(g_\alpha, g_\delta) = k < i$ and $g_\alpha(i) \leq g_\delta(i)$, as well as $\Delta(g_\delta, g_\beta) = n < i$ and $g_\delta(i) \leq g_\beta(i)$. Altogether, $g_\alpha(i) \leq g_\beta(i)$. \dashv

THEOREM 5.9. *Assume $\mathfrak{b} = \omega_1$. Suppose E is a directed set such that $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \omega$ or $E \equiv_T 1$. Then there exists a directed set D such that*

$$\omega \times \omega_1 \times E <_T D \times E <_T [\omega_1]^{<\omega} \times E.$$

PROOF. Let $\mathcal{F} := \langle f_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle \subseteq {}^\omega\omega$ witness $\mathfrak{b} = \omega_1$. Recall \mathcal{F} is a $<^*$ -increasing and unbounded sequence, i.e., for every $g \in {}^\omega\omega$, there exists some $\alpha < \omega_1$ such that $f_\beta \not\leq^* g$, whenever $\alpha < \beta < \omega_1$.

For a finite set of functions $F \subseteq {}^\omega\omega$, we define a function $h := \max(F)$ which is \triangleleft -above every function in F by letting $h(n) := \max\{f(n) \mid f \in F\}$. We consider the directed set $D := \{\max(F) \mid F \subseteq \mathcal{F}, |F| < \aleph_0\}$, ordered by the relation \triangleleft , clearly D is a directed set. \dashv

CLAIM 5.9.1. *Every uncountable subset $X \subseteq D$ contains a countable $B \subset X$ which is unbounded in D .*

PROOF. Let X be an uncountable subset of D . As \mathcal{F} is a $<^*$ -increasing and unbounded, also X contains an uncountable $<^*$ -unbounded subset $Y \subseteq X$. As no function $g : \omega \rightarrow \omega$ is $<^*$ -bounding the set Y , we can find an infinite countable subset $B \subseteq Y$ and $n < \omega$ such that $\{f(n) \mid f \in B\}$ is infinite. Clearly B is \triangleleft -unbounded in D as sought. \dashv

CLAIM 5.9.2. $\omega \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D), \omega_1)$.

PROOF. We show that every uncountable subset of D contains a countable infinite bounded subset. Let $A \subseteq D$ be an uncountable set, we may refine A and assume that it is $<^*$ -increasing and unbounded. We enumerate $A := \{g_\alpha \mid \alpha < \omega_1\}$ and define a coloring $c : [\omega_1]^2 \rightarrow 2$, letting for $\alpha < \beta < \omega_1$ the color $c(\alpha, \beta) = 1$ iff $g_\alpha \triangleleft g_\beta$. Recall that Erdős and Rado showed that $\omega_1 \rightarrow (\omega_1, \omega + 1)^2$, so either there is an uncountable homogeneous set of color 0 or there exists an homogeneous set of color 1 of order-type $\omega + 1$. Notice that Fact 5.8 contradicts the first alternative, so the second one must hold. Let $X \subseteq \omega_1$ be a set such that $\text{otp}(X) = \omega + 1$ and $c''[X]^2 = \{1\}$, notice that $\{g_\alpha \mid \alpha \in X\}$ is an infinite countable subset of A which is \triangleleft -bounded by the function $g_{\max(X)} \in A$ as sought here. \dashv

Note that $\text{cf}(D) = \omega_1$, hence $D \times E \leq_T [\omega_1]^{<\omega} \times E$.

CLAIM 5.9.3. $\omega \times \omega_1 \times E \leq_T D \times E$.

PROOF. As every subset of D of size ω_1 is unbounded, we get by Lemma 2.9 that $\omega_1 \leq_T D$. As D is a directed set, every finite subset of D is bounded. By Claim 5.9.1, D contains an infinite countable unbounded subset, so by Corollary 2.10 we have $\omega \leq_T D$. Finally, $\omega \times \omega_1 \leq_T D$ as sought. \dashv

CLAIM 5.9.4. $D \not\leq_T \omega \times E$.

PROOF. Recall that either $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \omega$ or $E \equiv_T 1$. Note that if $E \equiv_T 1$, then as $\text{cf}(D) = \omega_1 > \text{cf}(\omega)$, we have by Lemma 2.12 that $D \not\leq_T \omega \times E$ as sought. Note that for every partition $D = \bigcup\{D_n \mid n < \omega\}$ of D , there exists some $n < \omega$ such that D_n is uncountable, and by Claim 5.9.1, there exists some $X \subseteq D_n$ infinite and unbounded in D . As $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \omega$, by Lemma 2.17 we have $D \not\leq_T \omega \times E$ as sought. \dashv

CLAIM 5.9.5. $[\omega_1]^{<\omega} \not\leq_T D \times E$.

PROOF. By Claim 5.9.2, every uncountable subset of D contains an infinite countable bounded subset and every countable subset of E is bounded, we get that $\omega \in \text{in}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D \times E), \omega_1)$. As $\text{out}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}([\omega_1]^{<\omega})) = \omega$ by Lemma 2.15 we get that $[\omega_1]^{<\omega} \not\leq_T D \times E$ as sought. \dashv

5.3. Directed set between $[\lambda]^{<\theta} \times [\lambda^+]^{\leq\theta}$ and $[\lambda^+]^{<\theta}$. In [6, Theorem 1.2], the authors constructed a directed set between $[\omega_1]^{<\omega} \times [\omega_2]^{\leq\omega}$ and $[\omega_2]^{<\omega}$ under the assumption $2^{\aleph_0} = \aleph_1$, $2^{\aleph_1} = \aleph_2$ and the existence of a non-reflecting stationary subset of E_{ω^2} . In this subsection we generalize this result while waiving the assumption concerning the non-reflecting stationary set.

We commence by recalling some classic guessing principles and introducing a weak one, named $\clubsuit_J^\mu(S, 1)$, which will be useful for our construction.

DEFINITION 5.10. For a stationary subset $S \subseteq \kappa$:

- (1) $\diamond(S)$ asserts the existence of a sequence $\langle C_\alpha \mid \alpha \in S \rangle$ such that:
 - for all $\alpha \in S$, $C_\alpha \subseteq \alpha$;
 - for every $B \subseteq \kappa$, the set $\{\alpha \in S \mid B \cap \alpha = C_\alpha\}$ is stationary.
- (2) $\clubsuit(S)$ asserts the existence of a sequence $\langle C_\alpha \mid \alpha \in S \rangle$ such that:
 - for all $\alpha \in S \cap \text{acc}(\kappa)$, C_α is a cofinal subset of α of order type $\text{cf}(\alpha)$;
 - for every cofinal subset $B \subseteq \kappa$, the set $\{\alpha \in S \mid C_\alpha \subseteq B\}$ is stationary.
- (3) $\clubsuit_J^\mu(S, 1)$ asserts the existence of a sequence $\langle C_\alpha \mid \alpha \in S \rangle$ such that:
 - for all $\alpha \in S \cap \text{acc}(\kappa)$, C_α is a cofinal subset of α of order type $\text{cf}(\alpha)$;
 - for every partition $\langle A_\beta \mid \beta < \mu \rangle$ of κ there exists some $\beta < \mu$ such that the set $\{\alpha \in S \mid \sup(C_\alpha \cap A_\beta) = \alpha\}$ is stationary.

Recall that by a Theorem of Shelah [10], for every uncountable cardinal λ which satisfy $2^\lambda = \lambda^+$ and every stationary $S \subseteq E_{\neq \text{cf}(\lambda)}^{\lambda^+}$, $\diamond(S)$ holds. It is clear that $\diamond(S) \Rightarrow \clubsuit(S) \Rightarrow \clubsuit_J^\lambda(S, 1)$. The main corollary of this subsection is:

COROLLARY 5.11. *Let $\theta < \lambda$ be two regular cardinals. Assume $\lambda^\theta < \lambda^+$ and $\clubsuit_J^\lambda(S, 1)$ holds for some stationary $S \subseteq E_\theta^{\lambda^+}$. Suppose C and E are two directed sets such that $\text{cf}(C) < \lambda^+$ and $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \theta$ or $E \equiv_T 1$. Then there exists a directed set D_C such that:*

$$C \times [\lambda]^{<\theta} \times [\lambda^+]^{\leq\theta} \times E <_T C \times [\lambda]^{<\theta} \times D_C \times E <_T C \times [\lambda^+]^{<\theta} \times E.$$

In the rest of this subsection we prove this result.

Suppose $\mathcal{C} := \langle C_\alpha \mid \alpha \in S \rangle$ is a \mathcal{C} -sequence for some stationary set $S \subseteq E_\theta^{\lambda^+}$, i.e., C_α is a cofinal subset of α of order-type θ , whenever $\alpha \in S$. We define the directed set $D_C := \{Y \in [\lambda^+]^{\leq\theta} \mid \forall \alpha \in S [Y \cap C_\alpha < \theta]\}$ ordered by \subseteq . Notice that $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(D_C)) = \theta$ and $[\lambda^+]^{<\theta} \subseteq D_C$.

Recall that by Hausdorff's formula $(\lambda^+)^\theta = \max\{\lambda^+, \lambda^\theta\}$, so if $\lambda^\theta < \lambda^+$, then $(\lambda^+)^\theta = \lambda^+$. So we may assume $|D_C| = \lambda^+$.

CLAIM 5.11.1. *Suppose $|D_C| = \lambda^+$, then $[\lambda^+]^{\leq\theta} \leq_T D_C$.*

PROOF. Fix a bijection $\phi : D_C \rightarrow \lambda^+$. Denote $X := \{x \cup \{\phi(x)\} \mid x \in D_C\}$, clearly X is cofinal subset of D_C . Let us fix some injective function $g : [\lambda^+]^{\leq\theta} \rightarrow X$. We claim that g is a Tukey function, which witness that $[\lambda^+]^{\leq\theta} \leq_T D_C$. Fix some $B \subseteq [\lambda^+]^{\leq\theta}$ unbounded in $[\lambda^+]^{\leq\theta}$, note that $|B| > \theta$. As g is injective, we get that $g''B$ is a set of size $> \theta$. Notice that there exists $Z \in [\lambda^+]^{\theta^+}$ such that $Z \subseteq \bigcup g''B$. Assume that $g''B$ is bounded by $d \in D_C$ in D_C . As D_C is ordered by \subseteq , we get that $Z \subseteq d$, so $|d| \geq \theta^+$. But this is a absurd as every set in D_C is of size $\leq \theta$. \dashv

Notice that by Lemma 2.13 and Claim 5.11.1, as $(\lambda^+)^{\theta} = \lambda^+$ we have $[\lambda]^{<\theta} \times [\lambda^+]^{\leq\theta} \leq_T [\lambda]^{<\theta} \times D_C \leq_T [\lambda^+]^{<\theta}$. Hence, $C \times [\lambda]^{<\theta} \times [\lambda^+]^{\leq\theta} \times E \leq_T C \times [\lambda]^{<\theta} \times D_C \times E \leq_T C \times [\lambda^+]^{<\theta} \times E$.

CLAIM 5.11.2. *Suppose C is a $\clubsuit_{\lambda}^{\lambda}(S, 1)$ -sequence and:*

- (i) C is a directed set such that $|C| < \lambda^+$;
- (ii) E is a directed set such that $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \theta$ and $\text{cf}(E) \geq \lambda^+$.

Then $C \times D_C \not\leq_T C \times E$.

PROOF. Suppose that $f : C \times D_C \rightarrow C \times E$ is a Tukey function. Fix some $o \in C$ and for each $\xi < \lambda^+$, denote $(c_{\xi}, x_{\xi}) := f(o, \{\xi\})$. Consider the set $\{(c_{\xi}, x_{\xi}) \mid \xi < \lambda^+\}$. For every $c \in C$, we define $A_c := \{\xi < \lambda^+ \mid c_{\xi} = c\}$, clearly $\langle A_c \mid c \in C \rangle$ is a partition of λ^+ to less than λ^+ many sets.

As C is a $\clubsuit_{\lambda}^{\lambda}(S, 1)$ -sequence, there exists some $c \in C$ and $\alpha \in S$ such that $|C_{\alpha} \cap A_c| = \theta$. Let us fix some $B \in [C_{\alpha} \cap A_c]^{\theta}$. Notice that the set $G := \{(o, \{\xi\}) \mid \xi \in B\}$ is unbounded in $C \times D_C$, hence as f is Tukey, $f''G$ is unbounded in $C \times E$. The subset $\{x_{\xi} \mid \xi \in B\}$ of E is of size θ , hence bounded by some e . Note that $f''G = \{(c, x_{\xi}) \mid \xi \in B\}$ is bounded by (c, e) in $C \times E$ which is absurd. \dashv

By the previous claim, as $\lambda^{\theta} < \lambda^+$, we get that $C \times D_C \times [\lambda]^{<\theta} \times E \not\leq_T C \times [\lambda]^{<\theta} \times [\lambda^+]^{\leq\theta} \times E$. The following claim gives a negative answer to the question of whether there is a C -sequence C such that $D_C \equiv_T [\lambda^+]^{<\theta}$.

In the following claim we use the fact that the sets in the sequence C are of a bounded cofinality.

CLAIM 5.11.3. *Assume $\lambda^{\theta} < \lambda^+$. Suppose $S \subseteq E_{\theta}^{\lambda^+}$ is a stationary set and $C := \langle C_{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in S \rangle$ is a C -sequence, then $D_C \not\leq_T [\lambda^+]^{<\theta}$.*

PROOF. Let $S \subseteq E_{\theta}^{\lambda^+}$ and $C := \langle C_{\alpha} \mid \alpha \in S \rangle$ be a C -sequence. Suppose we have $[\lambda^+]^{<\theta} \leq_T D_C$, let $f : [\lambda^+]^{<\theta} \rightarrow D_C$ be a Tukey function and $Y := f''[\lambda^+]^1$. Let us split to two cases:

► Suppose $|Y| < \lambda^+$. By the pigeonhole principle, we can find a subset $Q \subseteq [\lambda^+]^1$ of size θ such that $f''Q = \{x\}$ for some $x \in D_C$. As f is Tukey and Q is unbounded in $[\lambda^+]^{<\theta}$, the set $f''Q$ is unbounded which is absurd.

► Suppose $|Y| = \lambda^+$. As f is Tukey, every subset of Y of size θ is unbounded which is absurd to the following claim. \dashv

SUBCLAIM 5.11.3.1. *There is no subset $Y \subseteq D_C$ of size λ^+ such that every subset of Y of size θ is unbounded.*

PROOF. Assume towards a contradiction that Y is such a set. As $\lambda^{\theta} < \lambda^+$, we may refine Y and assume that $Y = \{y_{\alpha} \mid \alpha < \lambda^+\}$ is a Δ -system with a root R separated by a club $C \subseteq \lambda^+$, i.e., such that for every $\alpha < \beta < \lambda^+$, $y_{\alpha} \setminus R < \eta < y_{\beta} \setminus R$ for some $\eta \in C$.

We define an increasing sequence of ordinals $\langle \beta_v \mid v \leq \theta^2 \rangle$ where for each $v \leq \theta^2$ we let $\beta_v := \sup\{y_{\xi} \mid \xi < v\}$. As C is a club, we get that $\beta_{\theta \cdot v} \in C$ for each $v < \theta$.

We aim to construct a subset $X = \{x_j \mid j < \theta\}$ of Y , we split to two cases: Suppose $\beta_{\theta^2} \in S$. Recall that $\text{otp}(C_{\beta_{\theta^2}}) = \theta$ and $\text{sup}(C_{\beta_{\theta^2}}) = \beta_{\theta^2}$, so for every $j < \theta$ we have that the interval $[\beta_{\theta \cdot j}, \beta_{\theta \cdot (j+1)})$ contains $< \theta$ many elements of the ladder $C_{\beta_{\theta^2}}$, let us

fix some $x_j \in Y$ such that $x_j \setminus R \subset [\beta_{\theta \cdot j}, \beta_{\theta \cdot (j+1)})$ and $x_j \setminus R$ is disjoint from $C_{\beta_{\theta^2}}$. If $\beta_{\theta^2} \notin S$, define $X := \{x_j \mid j < \theta\}$ where $x_j := y_{\theta \cdot j}$.

Let us show that $X = \{x_j \mid j < \theta\}$ is a bounded subset of Y , which is a contradiction to the assumption. It is enough to show that for every $\alpha \in S$, we have that $|(\bigcup X) \cap C_\alpha| < \theta$. Let $\alpha \in S$.

► Suppose $\alpha > \beta_{\theta^2}$, as C_α is a cofinal subset of α of order-type θ and $\bigcup X$ is bounded by β_{θ^2} it is clear that $|(\bigcup X) \cap C_\alpha| < \theta$.

► Suppose $\alpha < \beta_{\theta^2}$. As C_α is cofinal in α and of order-type θ , there exists some $j < \theta$ such that for all $j < \rho < \theta$, we have $(x_\rho \setminus R) \cap C_\alpha = \emptyset$. As $x_\rho \in D_{C_R}$ for every $\rho < \theta$ and θ is regular, we get that $|(\bigcup X) \cap C_\alpha| < \theta$ as sought.

► Suppose $\alpha = \beta_{\theta^2}$. Notice this implies that we are in the first case of the construction of the set X . Recall that the Δ -system $\{x_j \mid j < \theta\}$ is such that $(x_j \setminus R) \cap C_\alpha = \emptyset$, hence $(\bigcup X) \cap C_\alpha = R \cap C_\alpha$. Recall that as $x_0 \in D_C$, we get that $R \cap C_\alpha$ is of size $< \theta$, hence also $(\bigcup X) \cap C_\alpha$ is as sought. \dashv

CLAIM 5.11.4. Assume $\lambda^\theta < \lambda^+$. Suppose C and E are two directed sets such that $|C| < \lambda^+$ and either $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \theta$ or $E \equiv_T 1$. Then for every C -sequence \mathcal{C} on a stationary $S \subseteq E_\theta^{\lambda^+}$, $C \times [\lambda^+]^{<\theta} \times E \not\leq_T C \times D_C \times E$.

PROOF. Let $\mathcal{C} := \langle C_\alpha \mid \alpha \in S \rangle$ be a C -sequence where $S \subseteq E_\theta^{\lambda^+}$. Suppose on the contrary that $C \times [\lambda^+]^{<\theta} \times E \leq_T C \times D_C \times E$. Hence, $[\lambda^+]^{<\theta} \leq_T C \times D_C \times E$, let us fix a Tukey function $f : [\lambda^+]^{<\theta} \rightarrow C \times D_C \times E$ witnessing that. Consider $X = [\lambda^+]^1$.

By the pigeonhole principle, there exists some $c \in C$ and some set $Z \subseteq X$ of size λ^+ such that $f''Z \subseteq \{c\} \times D_C \times E$. Let $Y := \pi_{D_C}(f''Z)$. Let us split to two cases:

► Suppose $|Y| < \lambda^+$. By the pigeonhole principle, we can find a subset $Q \subseteq Z$ of size θ such that $f''Q = \{c\} \times \{x\} \times E$ for some $x \in D_C$. As f is Tukey and Q is unbounded, we must have that $f''Q$ is unbounded, but this is absurd as $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \theta$.

► Suppose $|Y| = \lambda^+$. As f is Tukey and either $\text{non}(\mathcal{I}_{\text{bd}}(E)) > \theta$ or $E = 1$, every subset of Y of size θ is unbounded which is impossible by Claim 5.11.3.1. \dashv

5.4. Structure of D_C . In [12, Lemmas 1, 2], Todorcević defined for every κ regular and $S \subseteq \kappa$ the directed set $D(S) := \{C \subseteq [S]^{\leq \omega} \mid \forall \alpha < \omega_1 [\text{sup}(C \cap \alpha) \in C]\}$ ordered by inclusion; and studied the structure of such directed sets. In this section we follow this line of study but for directed sets of the form D_C , constructing a large $<_T$ -antichain and chain of directed sets using θ -support product.

5.4.1. Antichain

THEOREM 5.12. Suppose $2^\lambda = \lambda^+$, $\lambda^\theta < \lambda^+$, then there exists a family \mathcal{F} of size 2^{λ^+} of directed sets of the form D_C such that every two of them are Tukey incomparable.

PROOF. As $2^\lambda = \lambda^+$ holds, by Shelah’s Theorem we get that $\diamond(S)$ holds for every $S \subseteq E_\theta^{\lambda^+}$ stationary subset. Let us fix some stationary subset $S \subseteq E_\theta^{\lambda^+}$ and a partition of S into λ^+ -many stationary subsets $\langle S_\alpha \mid \alpha < \lambda^+ \rangle$. For each S_α we fix a $\clubsuit(S_\alpha)$ sequence $\langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in S_\alpha \rangle$.

Let us fix a family \mathcal{F} of size 2^{λ^+} of subsets of S such that for every two $R, T \in \mathcal{F}$ there exists some S_α such that $R \setminus T \supseteq S_\alpha$. For each $T \in \mathcal{F}$ let us define

a C -sequence $\mathcal{C}_T := \langle C_\alpha \mid \alpha \in T \rangle$. Clearly the following lemma shows the family $\{D_{\mathcal{C}_T} \mid T \in \mathcal{F}\}$ is as sought. \dashv

CLAIM 5.12.1. *Suppose $\mathcal{C}_T := \langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in T \rangle$ and $\mathcal{C}_R := \langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in R \rangle$ are two C -sequences such that $T, R \subseteq E_\theta^{\lambda^+}$ are stationary subsets. Then if $\langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in T \setminus R \rangle$ is a \clubsuit -sequence, then $D_{\mathcal{C}_T} \not\leq_T D_{\mathcal{C}_R}$.*

PROOF. Suppose $f : D_{\mathcal{C}_T} \rightarrow D_{\mathcal{C}_R}$ is a Tukey function. Fix a subset $W \subseteq [\lambda^+]^1 \subseteq D_{\mathcal{C}_T}$ of size λ^+ , we split to two cases:

► Suppose $f''W \subseteq [\alpha]^\theta$ for some $\alpha < \lambda^+$. As $\lambda^\theta < \lambda^+$, by the pigeonhole principle we can find a subset $X \subseteq W$ of size λ^+ such that $f''X = \{z\}$ for some $z \in D_{\mathcal{C}_R}$. As $\langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in T \setminus R \rangle$ is a \clubsuit -sequence and $\bigcup X \in [\lambda^+]^{\lambda^+}$, there exists some $\beta \in T \setminus R$ such that $C_\beta \subseteq \bigcup X$. So X is an unbounded subset of \mathcal{C}_T such that $f''X$ is bounded in \mathcal{C}_R which is absurd.

► As $|f''W| = \lambda^+$, using $\lambda^\theta < \lambda^+$ we may fix a subset $Y = \{y_\beta \mid \beta < \lambda^+\} \subseteq f''W$ which forms a Δ -system with a root R_1 . In other words, for $\alpha < \beta < \lambda^+$ we have $y_\alpha \setminus R_1 < y_\beta \setminus R_1$ and $y_\alpha \cap y_\beta = R_1$. For each $\alpha < \lambda^+$, we fix $x_\alpha \in W$ such that $f(x_\alpha) = y_\alpha$. Finally, without loss of generality we may use the Δ -system lemma again and refine our set Y to get that there exists a club $E \subseteq \lambda^+$ such that, for all $\alpha < \beta < \lambda^+$ we have:

- $x_\alpha \cap x_\beta = \emptyset$;
- $y_\alpha \cap y_\beta = R_1$;
- there exists some $\gamma \in E$ such that $x_\alpha < \gamma < x_\beta$ and $y_\alpha \setminus R_1 < \gamma < y_\beta \setminus R_1$;
- $f(x_\alpha) = y_\alpha$.

Furthermore, we may assume that between any two elements of $\xi < \eta$ in E there exists a unique $\alpha < \lambda^+$ such that $\xi < x_\alpha \cup (y_\alpha \setminus R_1) < \eta$.

As $\langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in T \setminus R \rangle$ is a \clubsuit -sequence, there exists some $\beta \in (T \setminus R) \cap \text{acc}(E)$ such that $C_\beta \subseteq \bigcup \{x_\alpha \mid \alpha < \lambda^+\}$. Construct by recursion an increasing sequence $\langle \beta_v \mid v < \theta \rangle \subseteq C_\beta$ and a sequence $\langle z_v \mid v < \theta \rangle \subseteq \{x_\alpha \mid \alpha < \lambda^+\}$ such that $\beta_v \in z_v < \beta$.

Clearly, $\{z_v \mid v < \theta\}$ is unbounded in $D_{\mathcal{C}_T}$, so the following claim proves f is not a Tukey function. \dashv

SUBCLAIM 5.12.1.1. *The subset $\{f(z_v) \mid v < \theta\}$ is bounded in $D_{\mathcal{C}_R}$.*

PROOF. Let $Y := \bigcup f(z_v)$ and $\mathcal{C}_R := \langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in R \rangle$, we will show that for every $\alpha \in R$, we have $|Y \cap C_\alpha| < \theta$. By the refinement we did previously it is clear that $\{f(z_v) \setminus R_1 \mid v < \theta\}$ is a pairwise disjoint sequence, where for each $v < \theta$ we have some element $\gamma_v \in E$ such that $f(z_v) \setminus R_1 < \gamma_v < f(z_{v+1}) \setminus R_1 < \beta$. Let $\alpha \in R$.

► Suppose $\alpha > \beta$. As C_α is cofinal in α and of order-type θ , then $|Y \cap C_\alpha| < \theta$.

► Suppose $\alpha < \beta$. As C_α is cofinal in α and of order-type θ , there exists some $v < \theta$ such that for all $v < \rho < \theta$, we have $(f(z_\rho) \setminus R_1) \cap C_\alpha = \emptyset$. As $f(z_\rho) \in D_{\mathcal{C}_R}$ for every $\rho < \theta$ and θ is regular, we get that $|Y \cap C_\alpha| < \theta$ as sought.

As $\beta \notin R$ there are no more cases to consider. \dashv

COROLLARY 5.13. *Suppose $2^\lambda = \lambda^+$, $\lambda^\theta < \lambda^+$ and $S \subseteq E_\theta^{\lambda^+}$ is a stationary subset. Then there exists a family \mathcal{F} of directed sets of the form $D_C \times [\lambda]^{<\theta}$ of size 2^{λ^+} such that every two of them are Tukey incomparable.*

PROOF. Clearly by the same arguments of Theorem 5.12 the following lemma is suffices to get the wanted result. \dashv

CLAIM 5.13.1. *Suppose $\mathcal{C}_T := \langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in T \rangle$ and $\mathcal{C}_R := \langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in R \rangle$ are two \mathcal{C} -sequences such that $T, R \subseteq E_\theta^{\lambda^+}$ are stationary subsets such that $T \setminus R$ is stationary. Then if $\langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in T \setminus R \rangle$ is a \clubsuit -sequence, then $D_{\mathcal{C}_T} \times [\lambda]^{<\theta} \not\leq_T D_{\mathcal{C}_R} \times [\lambda]^{<\theta}$.*

PROOF. Suppose $f : D_{\mathcal{C}_T} \times [\lambda]^{<\theta} \rightarrow D_{\mathcal{C}_R} \times [\lambda]^{<\theta}$ is a Tukey function. Consider $Q = f''([\lambda^+]^1 \times \{\emptyset\})$, let us split to two cases:

► If $|Q| < \lambda^+$, then by the pigeonhole principle, there exists $x \in D_{\mathcal{C}_R}$, $F \in [\lambda]^{<\theta}$ and a set $W \subseteq [\lambda^+]^1$ of size λ^+ such that $f''(W \times \{\emptyset\}) = \{(x, F)\}$. As $\langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in T \setminus R \rangle$ is a \clubsuit -sequence and $\bigcup W \in [\lambda^+]^{\lambda^+}$, we may fix some $\beta \in T \setminus R$ such that $C_\beta \subseteq \bigcup W$. Hence $W \times \{\emptyset\}$ is unbounded in $D_{\mathcal{C}_T} \times [\lambda]^{<\theta}$ but $f''(W \times \{\emptyset\})$ is bounded in $D_{\mathcal{C}_R} \times [\lambda]^{<\theta}$ which is absurd as f is Tukey.

► If $|Q| = \lambda^+$, then by the pigeonhole principle there exists some $F \in [\lambda]^{<\theta}$ and a set $W \subseteq [\lambda^+]^1$ of size λ^+ such that, $f''(W \times \{\emptyset\}) \subseteq D_{\mathcal{C}_R} \times \{F\}$. Let $Y := \pi_0(f''(W \times \{\emptyset\}))$. Next, we may continue with the same proof as in Lemma 5.12.1. \dashv

5.4.2. Chain

THEOREM 5.14. *Suppose $2^\lambda = \lambda^+$, $\lambda^\theta < \lambda^+$. Then there exists a family $\mathcal{F} = \{D_{\mathcal{C}_\xi} \mid \xi < \lambda^+\}$ of Tukey incomparable directed sets of the form $D_{\mathcal{C}}$ such that $\langle \prod_{\xi < \zeta}^{\leq \theta} D_{\mathcal{C}_\xi} \mid \xi < \lambda^+ \rangle$ is a $<_T$ -increasing chain.*

PROOF. As in Theorem 5.12, we fix a partition $\langle S_\zeta \mid \zeta < \lambda^+ \rangle$ of $E_\theta^{\lambda^+}$ to stationary subsets such that there exists a $\clubsuit(S_\zeta)$ -sequence \mathcal{C}_ζ for $\zeta < \lambda^+$. Note that for every $A \in [\lambda^+]^{<\lambda^+}$, we have $|\prod_{\zeta \in A}^{\leq \theta} D_{\mathcal{C}_\zeta}| = \lambda^+$. Note that for every $A, B \in [\lambda^+]^{<\lambda^+}$ such that $A \subset B$, we have $\prod_{\zeta \in A}^{\leq \theta} D_{\mathcal{C}_\zeta} \leq_T \prod_{\zeta \in B}^{\leq \theta} D_{\mathcal{C}_\zeta}$. The following claim gives us the wanted result. \dashv

CLAIM 5.14.1. *Suppose $A \in [\lambda^+]^{<\lambda^+}$ and $\xi \in \lambda^+ \setminus A$, then $D_{\mathcal{C}_\xi} \not\leq_T \prod_{\zeta \in A}^{\leq \theta} D_{\mathcal{C}_\zeta}$. In particular, $\prod_{\zeta \in A}^{\leq \theta} D_{\mathcal{C}_\zeta} <_T \prod_{\zeta \in A}^{\leq \theta} D_{\mathcal{C}_\zeta} \times D_{\mathcal{C}_\xi}$.*

PROOF. Let $D := D_{\mathcal{C}_\xi}$ and $E := \prod_{\zeta \in A}^{\leq \theta} D_{\mathcal{C}_\zeta}$. Note that as $2^\lambda = \lambda^+$, then $(\lambda^+)^\lambda = \lambda^+$, so $|E| = \lambda^+$. Suppose $f : D \rightarrow E$ is a Tukey function. Consider $Q = f''([\lambda^+]^1)$, let us split to cases:

► Suppose $|Q| < \lambda^+$, then by pigeonhole principle, there exists $e \in E$ and a subset $X \subseteq D$ of size λ^+ such that $f''X = \{e\}$. As $\langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in S_\xi \rangle$ is a \clubsuit -sequence, there exists some $\beta \in S_\xi$ such that $C_\beta \subseteq \bigcup X$. So X is an unbounded subset of D such that $f''X$ is bounded in E which is absurd.

► Suppose $|Q| = \lambda^+$. Let us enumerate $Q := \{q_\alpha \mid \alpha < \lambda^+\}$. Recall that for every $\zeta \in A$, $D_{\mathcal{C}_\zeta} \subseteq [\lambda^+]^{\leq \theta}$. Let $z_\alpha := \bigcup \{q_\alpha(\zeta) \times \{\zeta\} \mid \zeta \in A, q_\alpha(\zeta) \neq 0_{D_{\mathcal{C}_\zeta}}\}$, notice that $z_\alpha \in [\lambda^+ \times A]^{\leq \theta}$. We fix a bijection $\phi : \lambda^+ \times A \rightarrow \lambda^+$.

As $\{\phi''z_\alpha \mid \alpha < \lambda^+\}$ is a subset of $[\lambda^+]^{\leq \theta}$ of size λ^+ and $\lambda^\theta < \lambda^+$, by the Δ -system lemma, we may refine our sequence Q and re-index such that $\{\phi''z_\alpha \mid \alpha < \lambda^+\}$ will be a Δ -system with root R' .

For each $\alpha < \lambda^+$ and $\zeta \in A$, let $y_{\alpha,\zeta} := \{\beta < \lambda^+ \mid \beta \in q_\alpha(\zeta)\}$. We claim that for each $\zeta \in A$, the set $\{y_{\alpha,\zeta} \mid \zeta \in A\}$ is a Δ -system with root $R'_\zeta := \{\beta < \lambda^+ \mid$

$(\beta, \zeta) \in \phi^{-1}[R']$. Let us show that whenever $\alpha < \beta < \lambda^+$, we have $y_{\alpha, \zeta} \cap y_{\beta, \zeta} = R_\zeta$. Notice that $\delta \in y_{\alpha, \zeta} \cap y_{\beta, \zeta} \iff \delta \in q_\alpha(\zeta) \cap q_\beta(\zeta) \iff (\delta, \zeta) \in z_\alpha \cap z_\beta \iff \phi(\delta, \zeta) \in \phi''(z_\alpha \cap z_\beta) = \phi''z_\alpha \cap \phi''z_\beta = R' \iff (\delta, \zeta) \in \phi^{-1}R' \iff \delta \in R_\zeta$. For each $\alpha < \lambda^+$, we fix $x_\alpha \in [\lambda^+]^1$ such that $f(x_\alpha) = q_\alpha$.

We use the Δ -system lemma again and refine our sequence such that there exists a club $C \subseteq \lambda^+$ and for all $\alpha < \beta < \lambda^+$ we have:

- (1) for every $\zeta \in A$, we have $y_{\alpha, \zeta} \cap y_{\beta, \zeta} = R_\zeta$;
- (2) $x_\alpha \cap x_\beta = \emptyset$;
- (3) there exists some $\gamma \in C$ such that $x_\alpha \cup (\bigcup_{\zeta \in A} (y_{\alpha, \zeta} \setminus R_\zeta)) < \gamma < x_\beta \cup (\bigcup_{\zeta \in A} (y_{\beta, \zeta} \setminus R_\zeta))$.

Furthermore, we may assume that between any two elements of $\gamma < \delta$ in C there exists some $\alpha < \lambda^+$ such that $\gamma < x_\alpha \cup (\bigcup_{\zeta \in A} (y_{\alpha, \zeta} \setminus R_\zeta)) < \delta$. We continue in the spirit of Claim 5.11.3.1.

As $\langle C_\beta \mid \beta \in S_\xi \rangle$ is a \clubsuit -sequence, there exists some $\beta \in S_\xi \cap \text{acc}(C)$ such that $C_\beta \subseteq \bigcup \{x_\alpha \mid \alpha < \lambda^+\}$. Construct by recursion an increasing sequence $\langle \beta_v \mid v < \theta \rangle \subseteq C_\beta$ and a sequence $\langle w_v \mid v < \theta \rangle \subseteq \{x_\alpha \mid \alpha < \lambda^+\}$ such that $\beta_v \in w_v < \beta$.

Clearly, $\{w_v \mid v < \theta\}$ is unbounded in D_{C_ξ} , so the following Claim proves f is not a Tukey function. ⊥

SUBCLAIM 5.14.1.1. *The subset $\{f(w_v) \mid v < \theta\}$ is bounded in E .*

PROOF. For each $\zeta \in A$, let $W_\zeta := \bigcup_{v < \theta} f(w_v)(\zeta)$. We will show that $W_\zeta \in D_{C_\zeta}$, as $|\{\zeta \in A \mid W_\zeta \neq \emptyset\}| \leq \theta$ this will imply that $\prod_{\zeta \in A}^{\leq \theta} W_\zeta$ is well defined and an element of E . Clearly $f(w_v) \leq_E \prod_{\zeta \in A}^{\leq \theta} W_\zeta$ for every $v < \theta$, so the set $\{f(w_v) \mid v < \theta\}$ is bounded in E as sought.

Let $C_\zeta := \langle C_\alpha \mid \alpha \in S_\zeta \rangle$, we will show that for every $\alpha \in S_\zeta$, we have $|W_\zeta \cap C_\alpha| < \theta$. By the refinement we did previously it is clear that $\{f(w_v)(\zeta) \setminus R_\zeta \mid v < \theta\}$ is a pairwise disjoint sequence, where for each $v < \theta$ we have some element $\gamma_v \in C$ such that $f(w_v)(\zeta) \setminus R_\zeta < \gamma_v < f(w_{v+1})(\zeta) \setminus R_\zeta$. Furthermore, $f(w_v)(\zeta) \subseteq \beta$ for every $v < \theta$. Let $\alpha \in S_\zeta$.

► Suppose $\alpha > \beta$. As C_α if cofinal in α and of order-type θ , then $|W_\zeta \cap C_\alpha| < \theta$.

► Suppose $\alpha < \beta$. As C_α if cofinal in α and of order-type θ , there exists some $v < \theta$ such that for all $v < \rho < \theta$, we have $(f(w_\rho)(\zeta) \setminus R_\zeta) \cap C_\alpha = \emptyset$. As $f(w_\rho)(\zeta) \in D_{C_\zeta}$ for every $\rho < \theta$, we get that $|W_\zeta \cap C_\alpha| < \theta$ as sought.

As $\beta \notin S_\zeta$ there are no more cases to consider. ⊥

§6. Concluding remarks. A natural continuation of this line of research is analysing the class \mathcal{D}_κ for cardinals $\kappa \geq \aleph_\omega$. As a preliminary finding we notice that the poset $(\mathcal{P}(\omega), \subset)$ can be embedded by a function \mathfrak{F} into the class $\mathcal{D}_{\aleph_\omega}$ under the Tukey order. Furthermore, for every two successive elements A, B in the poset $(\mathcal{P}(\omega), \subset)$, i.e., $A \subset B$ and $|B \setminus A| = 1$, there is no directed set D such that $\mathfrak{F}(A) <_T D <_T \mathfrak{F}(B)$. The embedding is defined via $\mathfrak{F}(A) := \prod_{n \in A}^{\leq \omega} \omega_{n+1}$, and the furthermore part can be proved by Lemma 4.3. As a corollary, we get that in ZFC the cardinality of $\mathcal{D}_{\aleph_\omega}$ is at least 2^{\aleph_0} .

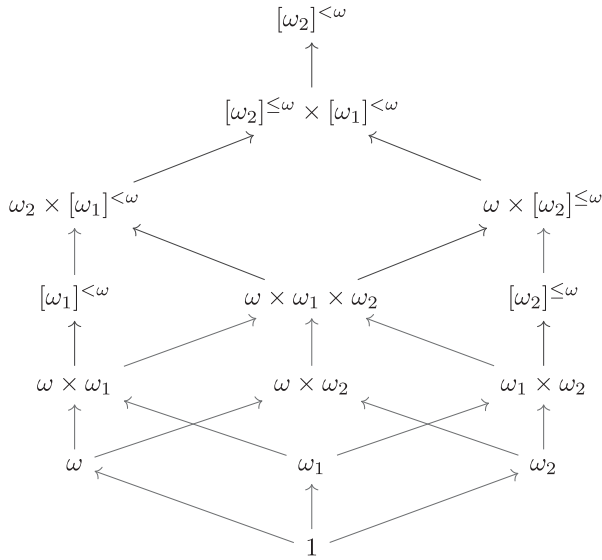


FIGURE 3. Tukey ordering of $(\mathcal{T}_2, <_T)$.

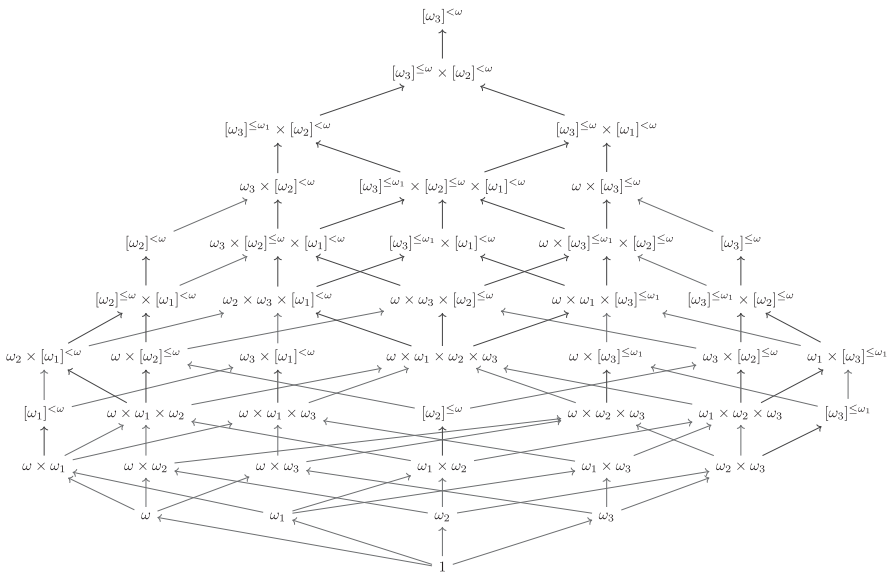


FIGURE 4. Tukey ordering of $(\mathcal{T}_3, <_T)$.

A. Appendix: Tukey ordering of simple elements of the class \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_2} and \mathcal{D}_{\aleph_3} We present each of the posets $(\mathcal{T}_2, <_T)$ and $(\mathcal{T}_3, <_T)$ in a diagram. In both diagrams below, for any two directed sets A and B , an arrow $A \rightarrow B$, represents the fact that $A <_T B$. If the arrow is dashed, then under GCH there exists a directed set in

between. If the arrow is not dashed, then there is no directed set in between A and B . Every two directed sets A and B such that there is no directed path (in the obvious sense) from A to B , are such that $A \not\leq_T B$. Note that this implies that any two directed sets on the same horizontal level are incompatible in the Tukey order (Figures 3 and 4).

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DEPARTMENT OF MATHEMATICS
 BAR-ILAN UNIVERSITY
 RAMAT GAN 5290002, ISRAEL
 E-mail: royshalev2@gmail.com
 URL: <https://roy-shalev.github.io/>