

ON FIELDS AND IDEALS CONNECTED WITH NOTIONS  
OF FORCING

BY

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**Abstract.** We investigate an algebraic notion of decidability which allows a uniform investigation of a large class of notions of forcing. Among other things, we show how to build  $\sigma$ -fields of sets connected with Laver and Miller notions of forcing and we show that these  $\sigma$ -fields are closed under the Suslin operation.

**1. Introduction.** We use standard set-theoretic notation. We denote by  $\Delta$  symmetric difference, that is,  $x \Delta y = (x - y) + (y - x)$ .

Let  $\mathbb{P} = (P, \leq)$  be a partially ordered set. A subset  $X \subseteq P$  is *dense* in  $\mathbb{P}$  if  $(\forall x \in P)(\exists y \in X)(y \leq x)$ . We denote by  $D(\mathbb{P})$  the family of all dense subsets of  $\mathbb{P}$ . For  $x \in P$  we put  $[x]_{\leq} = \{y \in P : y \leq x\}$ . A subset  $X \subseteq P$  is *open* in  $\mathbb{P}$  if  $(\forall x \in X)([x]_{\leq} \subseteq X)$ .

Let  $\mathbb{A} = (A, +, \cdot, 0, 1, \leq)$  be a Boolean algebra. We denote by  $\mathbb{A}^+$  the set of all nonzero elements of  $A$ . In this case we put  $[x]_{\leq} = \{y \in \mathbb{A}^+ : y \leq x\}$ . If  $B, C$  are subsets of the Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$  then we put

$$B + C = \{b + c : b \in B \ \& \ c \in C\},$$

$$B - C = \{b - c : b \in B \ \& \ c \in C\}.$$

For any nonempty subset  $X$  we denote by  $\mathbb{P}(X)$  the Boolean algebra of all subsets of  $X$  with standard set-theoretic operations.

If  $X \subseteq A$  then  $\sum_A X$  denotes the supremum (if exists) of  $X$  in  $\mathbb{A}$ . We say that a subalgebra  $B$  of an algebra  $\mathbb{A}$  *preserves unions* if the following two conditions are satisfied:

- (1)  $(\forall R \subseteq B)(\forall x \in B)(x = \sum_B R \rightarrow x = \sum_A R)$ ,
- (2)  $(\forall R \subseteq B)(\forall x \in A)(x = \sum_A R \rightarrow (x \in B \wedge x = \sum_B R))$ .

The next definitions play a fundamental role in our paper:

**DEFINITION 1.1.** Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be a Boolean algebra and  $x, y \in A$ . We say that  $x$  *decides*  $y$  in  $\mathbb{A}$  if  $x \leq y$  or  $x \cdot y = 0$ . This relation will be denoted by  $x \parallel y$ .

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DEFINITION 1.2. Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be a Boolean algebra and let  $P$  be a nonempty subset of  $\mathbb{A}^+$ . Then we put

- (1)  $\text{dec}(P) = \{x \in A : (\forall u \in P)(\exists v \in P)(v \leq u \wedge (v \cdot x = 0 \vee v \leq x))\}$ ,
- (2)  $s(P) = \{x \in A : (\forall u \in P)(\exists v \in P)(v \leq u \wedge v \cdot x = 0)\}$ .

The idea of the above definitions is taken from Burstin and Marczewski. A system  $(\mathbb{P}(X), \Sigma, I)$ , where  $X$  is a nonempty set,  $\Sigma$  is a field of subsets of  $X$ ,  $I$  is an ideal included in  $\Sigma$ , for which there exists a nonempty set  $P \subseteq P(X)$  such that  $P \subseteq \text{dec}(P)$ ,  $\Sigma = \text{dec}(P)$ ,  $s(P) = I$  is called *inner Marczewski–Burstin representable*, or briefly *inner MB-representable* (see [1], [3]).

In this paper we consider general algebraic properties of systems of the form  $(\mathbb{A}, \text{dec}(P), s(P))$ . We will prove that if  $P$  and  $\mathbb{A}$  satisfy some general conditions then the above system has the following properties:

- $\text{dec}(P)/s(P)$  preserves unions in  $A/s(P)$ ,
- $\text{dec}(P)/s(P)$  is a complete Boolean algebra,
- if  $\mathbb{A} = \mathbb{P}(X)$  then  $\text{dec}(P)$  is closed under the Suslin operation.

We give applications of this result to Laver and Miller forcing .

**2. Algebraic structure of decidable elements.** We start with some observations about the algebraic properties of the above definitions. Some of these facts have been known for the algebra  $\mathbb{P}(X)$  (see [2]). Notice that  $x \in \text{dec}(P)$  if and only if  $\{u \in P : u \parallel x\} \in D(P)$ . Moreover,  $x \in s(P)$  if and only if  $\{u \in P : u \cdot x = 0\} \in D(P)$ . The next lemma follows directly from the definitions:

LEMMA 2.1. *Let  $x, y, z$  be elements of a Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ . Then*

- (1)  $(x \parallel y \wedge z \leq x) \rightarrow z \parallel y$ ,
- (2)  $x \parallel y \rightarrow z \cdot x \parallel z \cdot y$ ,
- (3)  $(x \parallel y \wedge x \cdot z = 0) \rightarrow x \parallel (y + z)$ ,
- (4)  $x \parallel y \rightarrow x \parallel (-y)$ .

The following theorem summarizes basic algebraic properties of the sets  $\text{dec}(P)$  and  $s(P)$  and also follows directly from the definitions:

THEOREM 2.2. *Let  $P \subseteq A^+$  be a nonempty subset of a Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ . Then*

- (1)  $\text{dec}(P)$  is a subalgebra of  $\mathbb{A}$ ,
- (2)  $s(P)$  is an ideal in  $\mathbb{A}$ ,  $s(P) \subseteq \text{dec}(P)$  and  $P \cap s(P) = \emptyset$ ,
- (3)  $(\forall x \in \text{dec}(P) \setminus s(P))(\exists u \in P)(u \leq x)$ .

In the next theorem we show how the sets  $\text{dec}(P)$  and  $s(P)$  are related to the basic set  $P$ .

For subsets  $P, Q \subseteq \mathbb{A}^+$  we will write  $P \prec Q$  if  $(\forall u \in Q)(\exists v \in P)(v \leq u)$ .

**THEOREM 2.3.** *Suppose that  $P, Q \subseteq \mathbb{A}^+$  are two nonempty subsets of the Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ . Then:*

- (1)  $(\forall x \in \text{dec}(P) \setminus s(P))(\text{dec}(P \cap [x]_{\leq}) = (\text{dec}(P) \cap [x]_{\leq}) + [-x]_{\leq})$ ,
- (2)  $(\forall x \in \text{dec}(P) \setminus s(P))(s(P \cap [x]_{\leq}) = (s(P) \cap [x]_{\leq}) + [-x]_{\leq})$ ,
- (3) *if  $P \prec Q$  and  $Q \prec P$  then  $\text{dec}(P) = \text{dec}(Q)$  and  $s(P) = s(Q)$ ,*
- (4) *if  $P, Q \subseteq \text{dec}(P) = \text{dec}(Q)$  and  $s(P) = s(Q)$  then  $P \prec Q$  and  $Q \prec P$ .*

*Proof.* (1) Suppose that  $x \in \text{dec}(P)$ . First, we prove the inclusion  $\text{dec}(P \cap [x]_{\leq}) \subseteq (\text{dec}(P) \cap [x]_{\leq}) + [-x]_{\leq}$ . Suppose that  $y \in \text{dec}(P \cap [x]_{\leq})$ . Since  $y = (y \cdot x) + (y \cdot -x)$  it is enough to show that  $y \cdot x \in \text{dec}(P)$ . So let  $u \in P$ . There exists  $u_1 \in P$  such that  $u_1 \leq u$  and  $u_1 \parallel x$ . If  $u_1 \cdot x = 0$  then  $u_1 \cdot x \cdot y = 0$ . Otherwise  $u_1 \leq x$ . Then  $u_1 \in P \cap [x]_{\leq}$ . Therefore there exists  $u_2 \in P$  such that  $u_2 \leq u_1$  and  $u_2 \parallel y$ . Hence,  $y \in (\text{dec}(P) \cap [x]_{\leq}) + [-x]_{\leq}$ .

To prove the opposite inclusion  $(\text{dec}(P) \cap [x]_{\leq}) + [-x]_{\leq} \subseteq \text{dec}(P \cap [x]_{\leq})$ , suppose that  $y = y_1 + y_2$ , where  $y_1 \in \text{dec}(P) \cap [x]_{\leq}$  and  $y_2 \in [-x]_{\leq}$ . Let  $u \in P \cap [x]_{\leq}$ . Then there exists  $v \leq u$  such that  $v \in P$  and  $v \parallel y_1$ . Since  $v \cdot y_2 = 0$  we see that  $v \parallel y_1 + y_2$ .

(2) The proof is similar to the previous one.

(3) Let  $x \in \text{dec}(P)$ . The assumption  $P \prec Q$  implies that for any  $v \in Q$  there exists  $u \in P \cap [v]_{\leq}$ . There exists  $u_1 \in P \cap [u]_{\leq}$  such that  $u_1 \parallel x$ . The assumption  $Q \prec P$  implies that there exists  $v_1 \in Q \cap [u_1]_{\leq}$ . Then  $v_1 \in Q \cap [v]_{\leq}$  and  $v_1 \parallel x$ . We have proved that  $x \in \text{dec}(Q)$ .

In a similar way we prove the opposite inclusion.

Both inclusions imply that  $\text{dec}(P) = \text{dec}(Q)$ . The proof that  $s(P) = s(Q)$  is similar.

(4) If  $P \subseteq \text{dec}(P)$  then  $P \subseteq \text{dec}(P) \setminus s(P)$ . Thus  $\text{dec}(P) \setminus s(P) = \text{dec}(Q) \setminus s(Q)$  and we have  $P \subseteq \text{dec}(Q) \setminus s(Q)$ . Theorem 2.2 implies that  $Q \prec P$ .

In a similar way we prove that  $P \prec Q$ . ■

**EXAMPLE 2.1.** Let  $\mathbb{X}$  be a topological space on a set  $X$ . We denote by  $\text{Open}(\mathbb{X})$  the family of all nonempty open sets in  $\mathbb{X}$  and by  $N(\mathbb{X})$  the family of all nowhere dense subsets of  $\mathbb{X}$ . If we treat  $\text{Open}(\mathbb{X})$  as a subset of the power set Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{P}(\mathbb{X})$  then we have  $\text{dec}(\text{Open}^+(\mathbb{X})) = \text{Open}(\mathbb{X}) \triangle N(\mathbb{X})$  and  $s(\text{Open}^+(\mathbb{X})) = N(\mathbb{X})$ .

**DEFINITION 2.1.** A subset  $P \subseteq \mathbb{A}^+$  of an algebra  $\mathbb{A}$  is *separable* in  $\mathbb{A}$  if  $P$  is nonempty and  $P \subseteq \text{dec}(P)$ .

**EXAMPLE 2.2.** Let  $B \neq \{0, 1\}$  be a subalgebra of a Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ . Let  $x \in A$  be such that  $x \cdot y > 0$  and  $(-x) \cdot y > 0$  for any  $y \in B^+$ . It is easy to see that  $B^+$  is separable in  $\mathbb{A}$  and that  $B^+ \cup \{x, -x\}$  is not separable in  $\mathbb{A}$ .

LEMMA 2.4. *Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be a Boolean algebra. For any nonempty subset  $P$  of  $A$  and for any  $x \in A$  we have:*

- (1)  $(\forall u \in P)(u \cdot x \in s(P) \rightarrow (\exists v \in P \cap [u]_{\leq})(v \cdot x = 0))$ ,
- (2)  $(\forall u \in P)(u - x \in s(P) \rightarrow (\exists v \in P \cap [u]_{\leq})(v \leq x))$ .

*Proof.* (1) Let  $u \in P$  and  $u \cdot x \in s(P)$ . There exists  $v \in P \cap [u]_{\leq}$  such that  $v \cdot (u \cdot x) = 0$ . The inequality  $v \leq u$  implies  $v \cdot x = 0$ .

The proof of (2) is similar. ■

LEMMA 2.5. *Let  $B$  be a subalgebra of a Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$  and let  $J$  be an ideal in  $\mathbb{A}$  included in  $B$ . Then*

$$\{x \in B : x \Delta u \in J\} = \{x \in A : x \Delta u \in J\}.$$

*So,  $B/J$  is a subalgebra of  $A/J$ .*

If a Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$  and a set  $P \subseteq \mathbb{A}^+$  are fixed then we denote by  $[x]$  the set  $\{y \in A : x \Delta y \in s(P)\}$ .

THEOREM 2.6. *For every Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$  and any separable subset  $P$  in  $\mathbb{A}$  the subalgebra  $\text{dec}(P)/s(P)$  preserves unions in  $A/s(P)$ .*

*Proof.* (1) Suppose that  $R \subseteq \text{dec}(P)$ ,  $x \in \text{dec}(P)$  and  $[x] = \sum_{\text{dec}(P)/s(P)} [R]$ . Let

$$D = \{v \in P : (\exists r \in R)(v \leq r \text{ or } v \cdot x = 0)\}.$$

We claim that  $D$  is dense in  $P$ . Suppose that  $u \in P$ . Since  $x \in \text{dec}(P)$  there exists  $v \in P \cap [u]_{\leq}$  such that  $v \cdot x = 0$  or  $v \leq x$ . If  $v \cdot x = 0$  then  $D \cap [u]_{\leq} \neq \emptyset$ . If  $v \leq x$  then we have two possibilities.

If  $v \cdot r \in s(P)$  for every  $r \in R$  then  $r - (x - v) \in s(P)$ . Hence  $[r] \leq [x - v]$ . Since  $x - v \in \text{dec}(P)$  and  $[x - v] < [x]$  we have  $[R] \leq [x - v]$ , which contradicts the assumptions on  $x$ .

So, there exists  $r \in R$  such that  $v \cdot r \in \text{dec}(P) \setminus s(P)$ . By Theorem 2.2 there exists  $v_1 \in P$  such that  $v_1 \leq v \cdot r$ . Therefore  $v_1 \leq r$  and  $v_1 \leq u$ , which finishes the proof of the density of  $D$ .

Suppose that  $y \in A$  and  $[R] \leq [y]$ . Let  $v \in D$ . We consider two cases.

If  $v \cdot x = 0$  then  $v \cdot (x - y) = 0$ .

Otherwise  $v \leq r$  for some  $r \in R$ . Then  $[v] \leq [y]$  and hence  $v - y \in s(P)$ . By Lemma 2.4 there exists  $v_1 \in P \cap [v]_{\leq}$  such that  $v_1 \leq y$  and hence  $v_1 \cdot (x - y) = 0$ . Therefore the set  $\{v \in P : v \cdot (x - y) = 0\}$  is dense in  $P$ . Then  $x - y \in s(P)$  and  $[x] \leq [y]$ . We have proved that  $x$  is the least upper bound of  $[R]$  in  $\mathbb{A}/s(P)$ .

(2) Suppose that  $\sum_{\mathbb{A}/s(P)} [R] = [x]$ . Let  $u \in P$ . We consider two cases.

If  $[u] \cdot [x] = [0]$  then  $u \cdot x \in s(P)$  and by Lemma 2.4 there exists  $v \in P \cap [u]_{\leq}$  such that  $v \cdot x = 0$ .

Now, assume  $[u] \cdot [x] \neq [0]$ . Then for some  $r \in R$  we have  $[u] \cdot [r] \neq [0]$  and  $[u] \cdot [r] \leq [x]$ . Therefore  $u \cdot r - x \in s(P)$ . Since  $u \cdot r \in \text{dec}(P) \setminus s(P)$ , from

Theorem 2.2 there exists  $v \in P \cap [u \cdot r]_{\leq}$ . Therefore  $v - x \in s(P)$  and then by Lemma 2.4 there exists  $w \in P \cap [u]_{\leq}$  such that  $w \leq x$ . This proves that the family  $\{u \in P : u \parallel x\}$  is a dense subset in  $P$  and hence  $x \in \text{dec}(P)$ . ■

**THEOREM 2.7.** *Let  $(\mathbb{A}, B, I)$  be a system such that  $\mathbb{A}$  is a Boolean algebra,  $B$  is a subalgebra of  $\mathbb{A}$  and  $I \subseteq B$  is an ideal in  $\mathbb{A}$ . Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1) *There exists a subset  $P$  which is separable in  $\mathbb{A}$  such that  $\text{dec}(P) = B$  and  $s(P) = I$ .*
- (2) *The algebra  $B/I$  preserves unions in  $\mathbb{A}/I$ .*

*Proof.* (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2). This follows immediately from Theorem 2.6.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (1). For a while we will use the following notation:  $[x]_I = \{y \in A : x \Delta y \in I\}$ . Let  $x \in \text{dec}(B \setminus I)$ . By density of  $D = \{u \in B \setminus I : u \parallel x\}$  in  $B \setminus I$  the set  $[D]_I = \{[u]_I : u \in D\}$  is dense in  $B/I$ . Let  $E \subseteq D$  be such that  $[E]_I$  is a maximal partition in  $B/I$ . Put  $E_1 = \{u \in E : u \leq x\}$  and  $E_2 = \{u \in E : u \cdot x = 0\}$ . Notice that  $[x]_I$  is an upper bound of  $[E_1]_I$ . Let  $y \in A$  be such that  $[y]_I$  is an upper bound of  $[E_1]_I$ . If  $u \in E_1$  then  $u \cdot (x - y) \in I$ , because  $u - y \in I$ . If  $u \in E_2$  then  $u \cdot (x - y) = 0$ , because  $u \cdot x = 0$ . Since  $[E]_I$  is a maximal partition in  $B/I$ , we have  $\sum_{B/I} [E]_I = [1]_I$ . So  $\sum_{A/I} [E]_I = [1]_I$ . We have  $[x - y]_I = 0$ . So,  $[x]_I \leq [y]_I$ . We have shown that  $[x]_I$  is the least upper bound of  $[E_1]_I$  in  $A/I$ . Because  $B/I$  preserves unions, we have  $\sum_{B/I} [E_1]_I = [x]_I$ . So  $x \in B$ . We have shown that  $\text{dec}(B \setminus I) \subseteq B$ .

Because  $B \setminus I$  is separable in  $A$  we have  $B \setminus I \subseteq \text{dec}(B \setminus I)$ . So  $B = \text{dec}(B \setminus I)$ .

In a similar way we show that  $s(B \setminus I) = I$ . (Notice that  $E_1 = \emptyset$ .) ■

**3. Disjoint refinement property.** In this section we discuss some properties which imply that the Boolean algebra  $\text{dec}(P)/s(P)$  is complete.

Let  $[E]_{\leq} = \bigcup \{[x]_{\leq} : x \in E\}$ .

**DEFINITION 3.1.** A partition  $E$  in a Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$  is called *P-maximal* for a subset  $P \subseteq \mathbb{A}^+$  if  $P \cap [E]_{\leq}$  is a dense open subset in  $P$ .

**DEFINITION 3.2.** We say that a subset  $P \subseteq A^+$  has the *disjoint refinement property* if for every open dense subset  $D$  in  $P$  there exists a *P*-maximal partition included in  $D$ .

**LEMMA 3.1.** *Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be a complete Boolean algebra. For  $P \subseteq \mathbb{A}^+$  and a *P*-maximal partition  $E$  we have*

- (1)  $(\forall R \subseteq E)(\sum R \in \text{dec}(P))$ ,
- (2)  $(\forall x \in A)(\forall u \in E)(x \cdot u \in s(P) \rightarrow x \in s(P))$ .

*Proof.* (1) This follows directly from the inclusion  $P \cap [E]_{\leq} \subseteq \{v : v \parallel \sum R\}$ .

(2) Suppose that  $x \in A$  and for any  $u \in E$  we have  $u \cdot x \in s(P)$ . Let  $v \in P$ . Then there exist  $u \in E$  and  $v_1 \in (P \cap [v]_{\leq}) \cap [u]_{\leq}$ . Since  $u \cdot x \in s(P)$  we have  $v_1 \cdot x \in s(P)$ . Therefore from Lemma 2.4 there exists  $w \in P \cap [v_1]_{\leq}$  such that  $w \cdot x = 0$  and moreover  $w \leq v$ . ■

**THEOREM 3.2.** *Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be a complete Boolean algebra and let  $P$  be a separable subset of  $A$  with the disjoint refinement property. Then  $\text{dec}(P)/s(P)$  is a complete Boolean algebra and it preserves unions in  $\mathbb{A}/s(P)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $R$  be any subset of  $\text{dec}(P)$ . We define

$$D_1 = \{v \in P : (\exists r \in R)(v - r \in s(P))\}$$

and

$$D_2 = \{v \in P : (\forall r \in R)(v \cdot r \in s(P))\}.$$

By separability of  $P$  the set  $D_1 \cup D_2$  is dense and open in  $P$ . By the disjoint refinement property of  $P$  there exists a maximal disjoint subset  $E$  included in  $D_1 \cup D_2$ . Let  $E_1 = E \cap D_1$  and  $E_2 = E \cap D_2$ . From Lemma 3.1 we deduce that  $\sum E_1 \in \text{dec}(P)$ .

Suppose that  $r \in R$  and  $u \in E$ . If  $u \in E_1$  then  $u \cdot (r - \sum E_1) = 0$ . If  $u \in E_2$  then  $u \cdot (r - \sum E_1) \in s(P)$ . From Lemma 3.1 we see that  $r - \sum E_1 \in s(P)$ . This proves that  $[r] \leq [\sum E_1]$  and therefore  $[\sum E_1]$  is an upper bound for the family  $[R]$  in  $\text{dec}(P)/s(P)$ . Let  $w \in \text{dec}(P)$  be such that  $r - w \in s(P)$  for any  $r \in R$ . Let  $u \in E$ . If  $u \in E_1$  then there exists  $r \in R$  such that  $u - r \in s(P)$ . Since  $r - w \in s(P)$  we have  $u - w \in s(P)$ . This proves that  $u \cdot (\sum E_1 - w) \in s(P)$ .

If  $u \in E_2$  then  $u \cdot (\sum E_1 - w) = 0$ . Lemma 3.1 implies that  $\sum E_1 - w \in s(P)$ . We have proved that  $[\sum E_1] \leq [w]$ , so that  $[\sum E_1]$  is the least upper bound of the family  $[R]$  in  $\text{dec}(P)/s(P)$ . ■

**EXAMPLE 3.1.** Let  $\mathbb{X}$  be a topological space. With the notation from Example 2.1,  $(\text{Open}(\mathbb{X}) \triangle N(\mathbb{X}))/N(\mathbb{X})$  is complete and preserves unions in  $\mathbb{P}(X)/N(\mathbb{X})$ .

**COROLLARY 3.3.** *Let  $\kappa$  be an infinite cardinal. Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be a complete Boolean algebra and let  $P$  be a separable subset of  $\mathbb{A}$  of size  $\kappa$ . If  $s(P)$  is a  $\kappa$ -complete ideal then  $P$  has the disjoint refinement property and the sub-algebra  $\text{dec}(P)/s(P)$  is complete and preserves unions in  $A/s(P)$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $D = \{u_\xi : \xi \in \eta\}$  be a dense open subset in  $P$ ,  $\eta \leq \kappa$ . We construct a sequence  $(v_\xi : \xi \in \eta)$ . Let  $v_0 = u_0$ . Assume we have defined  $(v_\xi : \xi \in \lambda)$  for some  $\lambda \in \eta$ . If  $\{v_\xi : u_\lambda \cdot v_\xi \notin s(P), \xi \in \lambda\} \neq \emptyset$  then let  $v_\lambda$  be any element of the above set. In the other case  $\{u_\lambda \cdot v_\xi : \xi \in \lambda\} \subseteq s(P)$ . So, because  $\lambda < \kappa$  and  $s(P)$  is  $\kappa$ -complete, we have  $r_\lambda = \sum \{u_\lambda \cdot v_\xi : \xi \in \lambda\} \in$

$s(P)$ . So  $u_\lambda - r_\lambda \in \text{dec}(P) \setminus s(P)$ . We have  $P \cap [u_\lambda - r_\lambda]_{\leq} \neq \emptyset$ . By density of  $D$  we have  $D \cap [u_\lambda - r_\lambda]_{\leq} \neq \emptyset$ . Let  $v_\lambda$  be any element of the latter set.

Let  $E = \{v_\xi : \xi \in \eta\}$ . Directly from the construction it follows that  $E$  is included in  $D$  and is a partition.

We will show that  $\bigcup\{[v]_{\leq} : v \in E\}$  is dense in  $P$ . Let  $x \in P$ . By density of  $D$  we can choose  $u \in D \cap [x]_{\leq}$ . Then  $u = u_\xi$  for some  $\xi \in \eta$ . By the construction of the sequence  $(v_\xi : \xi \in \eta)$  we know that  $v_\xi \cdot u_\xi \notin s(P)$ . So  $[v_\xi]_{\leq} \cap [x]_{\leq} \neq \emptyset$ . Since  $v_\xi \in E$  we have  $\bigcup\{[v]_{\leq} : v \in E\} \cap [x]_{\leq} \neq \emptyset$ .

Now, we can apply Theorem 3.2 to get the desired conclusion. ■

**4. Closedness under the Suslin operation.** Recall that a family  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \mathbb{P}(X)$  is closed under the Suslin operation if for every function  $\varphi : \omega^{<\omega} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  the set

$$A(\varphi) = \bigcup_{x \in \omega^\omega} \bigcap_{s \subset x} \varphi(s)$$

belongs to  $\mathcal{B}$ .

LEMMA 4.1. *Let  $P$  be a separable subset of a complete Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$ . If  $s(P)$  is a  $\kappa$ -complete ideal then  $\text{dec}(P)$  is a  $\kappa$ -complete subalgebra of  $\mathbb{A}$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $R \subseteq \text{dec}(P)$  and  $|R| < \kappa$ . Let  $v \in P$ . If  $v \cdot r \in s(P)$  for any  $r \in R$  then  $v \cdot (\sum R) \in s(P)$  because  $s(P)$  is  $\kappa$ -complete. By Lemma 2.4 there exists  $w \in P \cdot [v]_{\leq}$  such that  $w \cdot (\sum R) = 0$ . If  $r \in R$  is such that  $v \cdot r \notin s(P)$  then  $v \cdot r \in \text{dec}(P) \setminus s(P)$  and from Theorem 2.2 there exists  $w \in P \cap [v \cdot r]_{\leq}$ . This implies that  $w \in P \cap [v]_{\leq}$  and  $w \leq \sum R$ . ■

The starting point of the proof of the next theorem is the following classical result of Marczewski:

THEOREM 4.2 (Marczewski). *Let  $\mathbf{B}$  be a  $\sigma$ -field of subsets of a set  $X$  and let  $J$  be an ideal in  $\mathbb{P}(X)$  included in  $\mathbf{B}$  such that*

$$(\forall Z \subseteq X)(\exists M \in \mathbf{B})(Z \subseteq M \wedge (\forall N \in \mathbf{B})(Z \subseteq N \rightarrow M \setminus N \in J)).$$

*Then  $B$  is closed under the Suslin operation.*

LEMMA 4.3. *Assume that  $\mathbb{A}$  is a Boolean algebra. Let  $B$  be a subalgebra of  $\mathbb{A}$  and let  $I$  be an ideal of  $\mathbb{A}$  included in  $B$ . Suppose  $B/I$  is complete and*

$$(\forall R \subseteq B)(\sum_{B/I}[R] = [x] \rightarrow \sum_{A/I}[R] = [x]).$$

*Then for every  $y \in A$  there exists  $x \in B$  such that  $y \leq x$  and*

$$(\forall r)(r \in B \wedge y \leq r \rightarrow x - r \in I).$$

*Proof.* Let  $y \in A$ . Put  $R = \{r \in B : y \leq r\}$ . By completeness of  $B/I$  we have  $\prod_{B/I}[R] = [z]$  for some  $z \in B$ . By assumption  $\prod_{A/I}[R] = [z]$ . Notice that  $[y]_{\leq} \leq [r]$  for every  $r \in R$ . So  $[y]_{\leq} \leq \prod_{A/I}[R] = [z]$ . Thus,  $[y]_{\leq} \leq [z]$ . Put

$x = z \vee y - z$ . Notice that  $y - z \in I$ . So  $x \in B$  and  $y \leq x$ . If  $r \in B$ ,  $y \leq r$  then  $r \in R$ . So,  $[z] \leq [r]$  and  $[z] = [x]$ . Thus  $x - r \in I$ . ■

Recall that an ideal  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathbb{P}(X)$  is  $\sigma$ -closed if it is closed under countable unions.

Similarly, an ideal  $\mathcal{I} \subseteq \mathbb{P}(X)$  is  $\omega_1$ -closed if for every family  $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{I}$  such that  $|\mathcal{A}| \leq \omega_1$  we have  $\bigcup \mathcal{A} \in \mathcal{I}$ .

**THEOREM 4.4.** *Suppose that  $P$  is separable and has the disjoint refinement property in  $\mathbb{P}(X)$  and that the ideal  $s(P)$  is  $\sigma$ -closed. Then the algebra  $\text{dec}(P)$  is closed under the Suslin operation.*

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.2 the Boolean algebra  $\text{dec}(P)/s(P)$  is complete and preserves unions in  $\mathbb{P}(X)/s(P)$ .

We show that the assumptions of Theorem 4.2 are satisfied. Because  $P$  is separable and  $s(P)$  is a  $\sigma$ -closed ideal, Lemma 4.1 shows that  $\text{dec}(P)$  is  $\sigma$ -field.

Let  $Z \subseteq X$ . By Lemma 4.3, putting  $B = \text{dec}(P)$ ,  $I = s(P)$ ,  $A = P(X)$ , there exists  $M \in \text{dec}(P)$  such that  $Z \subseteq M$  and for every  $N \in \text{dec}(P)$  with  $Z \subseteq N$  we have  $M - N \in s(P)$ .

Hence  $\text{dec}(P)$  is closed under the Suslin operation. ■

**COROLLARY 4.5.** *Let  $P$  be a separable subset of  $\mathbb{P}(\kappa)$  for a regular cardinal number  $\kappa$ . If  $s(P)$  is  $\kappa$ -complete and  $|P| \leq \kappa$  then*

- (1)  $P$  has the disjoint refinement property.
- (2)  $\text{dec}(P)/s(P)$  is complete and preserves unions in  $\mathbb{P}(\kappa)/s(P)$ .
- (3) If  $\kappa \geq \omega_1$  then  $\text{dec}(P)$  is closed under the Suslin operation.

*Proof.* (1) and (2) follow from Corollary 3.3.

(3) If  $\kappa \geq \omega_1$  then  $\text{dec}(P)$  is a  $\sigma$ -field by Lemma 4.1. So, the assertion follows from Theorem 4.4. ■

**COROLLARY 4.6.** *If  $P$  is a separable subset in  $\mathbb{P}(X)$  such that  $s(P)$  is  $\omega_1$ -closed then  $\text{dec}(P)$  is closed under the Suslin operation.*

*Proof.* It is a classical fact that if  $A \in \text{Suslin}(B)$  and  $B$  is  $\sigma$ -closed then there exists a family  $\{A_\xi\}_{\xi < \omega_1} \subseteq B$  such that

$$A = \bigcup_{\xi \in \omega_1} A_\xi.$$

From Lemma 4.1 we deduce that  $\text{dec}(P)$  is  $\omega_1$ -closed. Using the above fact we deduce that  $\text{dec}(P)$  is closed under the Suslin operation. ■

**EXAMPLE 4.1.** Let  $(X, S, \mu)$  be a complete measure space such that  $\mu(X) < \infty$ . Let  $J = \{A \in S : \mu(A) = 0\}$  and  $S^+ = \{A \in S : \mu(A) > 0\}$ . Then  $S^+$  is separable and has the disjoint refinement property in  $\mathbb{P}(X)$ .



Moreover  $\text{dec}(S^+) = S$  and  $s(S^+) = J$ . From Theorem 4.4 we obtain the classical result of Sierpiński about closedness of  $S$  under the Suslin operation.

EXAMPLE 4.2 (Marczewski sets). Let  $X$  be a Polish space without isolated points. We denote by  $\text{Perf}(X)$  the family of all nonempty compact dense-in-themselves subsets of  $X$ . Marczewski (see [7]) introduced the notion of sets with property  $S$  and the ideal  $s^0$ . in our terminology these objects may be defined as follows:  $S = \text{dec}(\text{Perf}(X))$  and  $s^0 = s(\text{Perf}(X))$ . Marczewski proved that  $s^0$  is a  $\sigma$ -closed ideal.

Suppose that  $U$  is an open subset in  $X$  and  $F \in \text{Perf}(X)$ . If  $U \cap F \neq \emptyset$  then there exists  $H \in \text{Perf}(X) \cap [F]_{\leq}$  such that  $H \subseteq U \cap F$ . It follows that  $\text{Open}(X) \subseteq S$  and in consequence the family  $\text{Perf}(X)$  is separable. In  $\text{Perf}(X)$  any dense open family  $D$  has size  $\mathfrak{c}$ . If  $A \subseteq X$  and  $F \in \text{Perf}(X)$  and  $|A| < \mathfrak{c}$  then there exists  $H \in \text{Perf}(X) \cap [F]_{\leq}$  such that  $H \cap A = \emptyset$ . Using this property, in a standard way we may conclude that  $\text{Perf}(X)$  has the disjoint refinement property in  $\mathbb{P}(\mathbb{X})$ . From Theorem 3.2 we conclude that the subalgebra  $S/s^0$  is complete (see [9]) and preserves unions in  $\mathbb{P}(X)/s^0$  and, moreover,  $S$  is closed under the Suslin operation (see [7]) by Theorem 4.4.

Let  $p$  be a closed dense-in-itself subset of  $\omega^\omega$  in the standard topology. For  $s \in \omega^{<\omega}$  we put  $p(s) = p \cap \{x \in \omega^\omega : s \subseteq x\}$ . Let  $P_M$  denote the family of all nonempty closed dense-in-themselves subsets  $p$  of  $\omega^\omega$  such that for any  $s \in \omega^{<\omega}$  with  $p(s) \neq \emptyset$  there exists  $t \supseteq s$  such that  $|\{n \in \omega : p(t \smallfrown n) \neq \emptyset\}| = \aleph_0$ . The family  $P_M$  is called the *Miller forcing*. It is known that the ideal  $s(P_M)$  is  $\sigma$ -closed (see [8]).

Let  $P_L$  denote the family of all nonempty closed dense-in-themselves subsets  $p$  of  $\omega^\omega$  such that there exists  $s$  for which  $p(s) \neq \emptyset$  and, for every  $t$ , if  $p(t) \neq \emptyset$  then  $t \subseteq s$  or  $|\{n \in \omega : p(t \smallfrown n) \neq \emptyset\}| = \aleph_0$ . The family  $P_L$  is called the *Laver forcing*. It is known that the ideal  $s(P_L)$  is  $\sigma$ -closed (see [6]).

COROLLARY 4.7. (CH) *Let  $Q = P_M$  or  $Q = P_L$ . Then*

- (1)  *$Q$  is separable and has the disjoint refinement property,*
- (2)  *$\text{dec}(Q)/s(Q)$  is complete and preserves unions in  $\mathbb{P}(\omega^\omega)$ ,*
- (3)  *$\text{dec}(Q)$  is a  $\sigma$ -closed field, contains all Borel subsets of  $\omega^\omega$  and is closed under the Suslin operation.*

*Proof.* Similarly to Example 4.2 we prove that  $\text{Open}(\omega^\omega)$  is included in  $\text{dec}(Q)$ . From this it is easy to see that  $\text{dec}(Q)$  is separable. Since  $s(Q)$  is  $\sigma$ -closed, the Borel subsets are contained in  $\text{dec}(Q)$ . The disjoint refinement property follows from Corollary 3.3. Assertions (2) and (3) follow immediately from Theorem 4.4. ■

**5. A generalization of first category sets.** We will generalize the notion of first category sets to the class of complete Boolean algebras.

DEFINITION 5.1.

- (1) For a complete Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$  and a separable subset  $P$  in  $A$  we say that  $x \in \mathbb{A}$  is of the *first category* for  $\text{dec}(P)$  if  $x$  is the supremum of a countable family included in  $s(P)$ .
- (2) The family of all subsets of the first category for  $\text{dec}(P)$  will be denoted by  $I(P)$ .

LEMMA 5.1. *Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be a Boolean algebra and let  $P$  be a separable subset with the disjoint refinement property in  $\mathbb{A}$ . Let  $I$  be an ideal in  $\mathbb{A}$  such that  $\text{dec}(P) \cap I = s(P)$ . Then  $P - I$  is separable and has the disjoint refinement property.*

*Proof.* Notice that  $(P - I) \cap I = \emptyset$ . We will use the letters  $r, s$  for elements of  $I$ . Let  $u - r$  and  $v - s$  be any elements of  $P - I$ . Since there is  $w \in P \cap [v]_{\leq}$  such that  $w \parallel u$ , we have  $w - (r + s) \parallel u - r$ . This proves that  $P - I$  is separable in  $\mathbb{A}$ .

If  $D$  is any dense open subset in  $P - I$  then

$$H = \{u \in P : (\exists r)(r \in I \ \& \ u - r \in D)\}$$

is open dense in  $P$ . Let  $E$  be a  $P$ -maximal disjoint family included in  $H$ . For any  $u$  let  $r_u$  be such that  $u - r_u \in D$ . Then  $\{u - r_u : u \in E\}$  is a  $(P - I)$ -maximal disjoint family included in  $D$ . ■

The next lemma is a reformulation of the well-known Banach lemma ([4]) in our language.

LEMMA 5.2. *Suppose that  $P$  is a separable subset in a complete Boolean algebra  $\mathbb{A}$  and  $E$  is a  $P$ -maximal partition included in  $P$ . Then*

- (1) *If  $x \in A$  is such that  $x \cdot u \in I(P)$  for any  $u \in E$  then  $x \in I(P)$ .*
- (2) *For any subset  $M \subseteq E$  we have  $\sum M \in \text{dec}(P)$ .*

*Proof.* (1) For any  $u \in E$  take a family  $\{r_n(u) : n \in \omega\}$  with least upper bound  $x \cdot u$ . Set  $r_n = \sum\{r_n(u) : u \in E\}$ . It follows from Lemma 3.1 that  $x \cdot r_n \in s(P)$  for any  $n \in \omega$ . From the equality  $x = \sum\{(x \cdot u) : u \in E\} + x \cdot (-\sum E)$  it follows that  $x = \sum\{(x \cdot r_n) : n \in \omega\} + x \cdot (-\sum E)$ . Since  $(-\sum E) \in s(P)$  we have  $x \in I(P)$ .

(2) This follows immediately from the definition of a  $P$ -maximal partition. ■

THEOREM 5.3. *Let  $\mathbb{A}$  be a complete Boolean algebra, let  $P$  be separable and  $P \cap I(P) = \emptyset$  and let  $P$  have the disjoint refinement property. Then*

- (1)  *$P - I(P)$  is separable and has the disjoint refinement property in  $\mathbb{A}$ .*
- (2)  *$\text{dec}(P - I(P)) = \text{dec}(P) \triangle I(P)$  and  $s(P - I(P)) = I(P)$ .*

*Proof.* (1) follows directly from Lemma 5.1.

(2) Fix  $x \in \text{dec}(P - I(P))$  and let

$$D = \{v \in P : (\exists r \in I(P))(v - r \parallel x)\}.$$

Let  $E$  be a  $P$ -maximal disjoint family in  $D$ . Let  $E_1 = \{u \in E : u - x \in I(P)\}$ . In a standard way we prove that  $u \cdot (x \triangle \sum_A E_1) \in I(P)$  for any  $u \in E$ . Lemma 5.2 yields  $x \triangle \sum_A E_1 \in I(P)$  and  $\sum_A E_1 \in \text{dec}(P)$ . This shows that  $\text{dec}(P - I(P)) \subseteq \text{dec}(P) \triangle I(P)$ .

In a similar way we prove that  $s(P - I(P)) \subseteq I(P)$ .

The reverse inclusions can be proved similarly. ■

We get the following example (see [5]):

EXAMPLE 5.1. Let  $\mathbb{X}$  be a topological space and let  $I(\mathbb{X})$  denote the ideal of the first category subsets of  $X$ . Then  $\text{dec}(\text{Open}^+(\mathbb{X}) - I(\mathbb{X})) = \text{Baire}(\mathbb{X})$  and  $s(\text{Open}^+(\mathbb{X}) - I(\mathbb{X})) = I(\mathbb{X})$ .

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