

## Generic absoluteness under projective forcing

by

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**Abstract.** We study the preservation of the property of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  being a Solovay model under projective ccc forcing extensions. We compute the exact consistency strength of the generic absoluteness of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  under forcing with projective ccc partial orderings and, as an application, we build models in which Martin's Axiom holds for  $\sum_n^1$  partial orderings, but it fails for the  $\sum_{n+1}^1$ .

**1. Introduction.** In this paper we continue the systematic study of the preservation of the property of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  being a Solovay model under various classes of forcing notions. This work started in [2], where we considered the class of projective absolutely-ccc forcing notions and obtained an exact consistency result for the preservation of the property of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  being a Solovay model under this class of forcing extensions. It turned out that the large cardinals involved were the definably Mahlo cardinals, a weak form of Mahlo cardinals that satisfy some definability conditions. As a corollary we obtained the equiconsistency of: (1) there exists a definably-Mahlo cardinal; and (2)  $L(\mathbb{R})$ -absoluteness for projective absolutely ccc posets.

In [3] we showed that every projective strongly proper forcing notion preserves the property of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  being a definably Mahlo Solovay model. Hence, the consistency of  $L(\mathbb{R})$ -absoluteness under projective strongly proper forcing notions has the existence of a definably Mahlo cardinal as an upper bound. We also proved in [3] that the consistency strength of the preservation of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  being a Solovay model under  $\sigma$ -linked forcing notions is exactly

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that of a Mahlo cardinal, in contrast with the general ccc case, for which a weakly compact cardinal is required.

Recall that a *Solovay model* over  $V$  is the  $L(\mathbb{R})$  of a model  $M \supseteq V$  which has the following properties:

- (1) For every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\omega_1$  is an inaccessible cardinal in  $V[x]$ .
- (2) Every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  is *small-generic* over  $V$ . That is, for some forcing notion  $\mathbb{P}$  in  $V$  that is countable in  $M$ , there is, in  $M$ , a  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic filter  $g$  over  $V$  such that  $x \in V[g]$ .

The reason we call a model with properties (1) and (2) above a *Solovay model* is the following result of Woodin (see [2]), which says that it is elementarily equivalent to Solovay's model from [10].

LEMMA 1.1. *Suppose that  $V \subseteq M$  are models of (a fragment of) ZFC and  $M$  satisfies (1) and (2) above. Then there is a forcing notion  $\mathbb{W}$  in  $M$  which does not add new reals and creates a generic filter  $C$  for the Levy collapse of  $\omega_1^M$  over  $V$  such that  $M$  and  $V[C]$  have the same reals.*

Our interest in the preservation of the property of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  being a Solovay model under forcing extensions that do not collapse  $\omega_1$  lies mainly in the fact (Lemma 1.3 below) that it implies a strong form of generic absoluteness for the theory of the reals (see [2]).

DEFINITION 1.2. Let  $V$  be a model of ZF. Let  $\mathbb{P} \in V$  be a forcing notion and let  $\varphi$  be a formula (possibly with parameters in  $V$ ).  $V$  is  $\varphi$ -absolute for  $\mathbb{P}$  iff

$$V \models \varphi \quad \text{iff} \quad V^{\mathbb{P}} \models \varphi.$$

If  $\Sigma$  is a set of formulas,  $V$  is  $\Sigma$ -absolute for  $\mathbb{P}$  iff for every  $\varphi \in \Sigma$ ,  $V$  is  $\varphi$ -absolute for  $\mathbb{P}$ . Given a class  $\Gamma$  of posets,  $V$  is  $\Sigma$ -absolute for  $\Gamma$  iff for every  $\mathbb{P} \in \Gamma$ ,  $V$  is  $\Sigma$ -absolute for  $\mathbb{P}$  in  $V$ .

$V$  is  $L(\mathbb{R})$ -absolute for  $\mathbb{P}$  iff there exists an elementary embedding

$$j : L(\mathbb{R})^V \rightarrow L(\mathbb{R})^{V^{\mathbb{P}}}$$

that fixes all the ordinals (and therefore all the reals). For  $\Gamma$  a class of posets,  $V$  is  $L(\mathbb{R})$ -absolute for  $\Gamma$  if it is  $L(\mathbb{R})$ -absolute for every  $\mathbb{P}$  in  $\Gamma$ .

The following lemma is proved in [2].

LEMMA 1.3. *Suppose that  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  and  $L(\mathbb{R})^N$  are Solovay models over  $V$  such that  $\mathbb{R}^M \subseteq \mathbb{R}^N$  and  $\omega_1^M = \omega_1^N$ . Then there exists an elementary embedding  $j : L(\mathbb{R})^M \rightarrow L(\mathbb{R})^N$  which fixes all the ordinals.*

Recall that for  $\Gamma$  a point-class, a  $\Gamma$ -poset is a triple  $\mathbb{P} = \langle P, \leq_P, \perp_P \rangle$ , where  $\leq_P$  is a  $\Gamma$ -subset of  $\omega^\omega \times \omega^\omega$ ,  $P = \text{field}(\leq_P)$ ,  $\langle P, \leq_P \rangle$  is a partial order, and  $\perp_P$  is a  $\Gamma$ -subset of  $\omega^\omega \times \omega^\omega$  contained in  $P \times P$  such that for every  $x, y \in P$ ,  $x \perp_P y$  iff  $x, y$  are incompatible.  $\mathbb{P}$  is a *projective poset* iff it

is (isomorphic to) a  $\Gamma$ -poset for some projective point-class  $\Gamma$ . Notice that a poset  $\mathbb{P}$  is projective iff it is (isomorphic to a poset that is) first-order definable in  $H(\omega_1)$ , with parameters.

In this paper we consider the class of projective ccc forcing notions. We show that the property of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  being a  $\Sigma_n$ -weakly compact Solovay model (see definitions below) is preserved by forcing with  $\mathfrak{S}_{n+1}^1$  ccc posets, and that the property of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  being a definably weakly compact Solovay model is preserved by all projective ccc posets. We give an example of a  $\Delta_3^1$  poset  $\mathbb{P}$  with the property  $K$ , hence ccc, such that  $\Sigma_4^1$  generic absoluteness under forcing with  $\mathbb{P}$  implies that  $\omega_1$  is  $\Sigma_1$ -weakly compact in  $L$ . A generalization of this example to higher projective levels shows that the consistency strength of  $L(\mathbb{R})$ -absoluteness under  $\mathfrak{S}_{n+1}^1$  ccc forcing is exactly the existence of a  $\Sigma_n$ -weakly compact cardinal. Further, the consistency strength of  $L(\mathbb{R})$ -absoluteness under projective ccc forcing extensions is exactly that of the existence of a definably weakly compact cardinal. In the last section, and as an application of the previous results, we build models in which Martin's axiom holds for  $\mathfrak{S}_n^1$  partial orderings but not for the  $\mathfrak{S}_{n+1}^1$ .

**2. Projective ccc forcing extensions.** We will address the question of the preservation of the property of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  being a Solovay model under arbitrary projective ccc forcing notions. As we will see, we need to consider a definable form of weakly compact cardinals.

**2.1.  $\Sigma_n$ -weakly compact cardinals.** Recall that a  $\Pi_1^1$  sentence of the language of set theory is a sentence of the form  $\forall X \varphi(X)$ , where  $\varphi(X)$  is a first-order formula of the language of set theory expanded with the predicate symbol  $X$ .

DEFINITION 2.1. Let  $\kappa$  be a cardinal and  $n \in \omega$ . Then  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_n$ -weakly compact ( $\Sigma_n$ -w.c., for short) iff  $\kappa$  is inaccessible and for every  $R \subseteq V_\kappa$  which is definable by a  $\Sigma_n$  formula (with parameters) over  $V_\kappa$  and every  $\Pi_1^1$  sentence  $\Phi$ , if

$$\langle V_\kappa, \in, R \rangle \models \Phi$$

then there is  $\alpha < \kappa$  (equivalently, unboundedly many  $\alpha < \kappa$ ) such that

$$\langle V_\alpha, \in, R \cap V_\alpha \rangle \models \Phi.$$

That is,  $\kappa$  reflects  $\Pi_1^1$  sentences with  $\Sigma_n$  predicates. Moreover,  $\kappa$  being  $\Pi_n$ -weakly compact ( $\Pi_n$ -w.c., for short) is defined analogously by substituting  $\Pi_n$  for  $\Sigma_n$  in the definition above. Thus, an inaccessible cardinal  $\kappa$  is  $\Pi_n$ -w.c. iff it reflects  $\Pi_1^1$  sentences with  $\Pi_n$  predicates. An inaccessible cardinal is  $\Delta_n$ -weakly compact ( $\Delta_n$ -w.c., for short) iff it reflects  $\Pi_1^1$  sentences with  $\Delta_n$  predicates.

DEFINITION 2.2 (A. Leshem, [9]). A cardinal  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_\omega$ -weakly compact ( $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c., for short) iff  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. for every  $n \in \omega$ .

PROPOSITION 2.3. For  $\kappa$  an inaccessible cardinal, the following are equivalent:

- (1)  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c.
- (2)  $\kappa$  is  $\Pi_n$ -w.c.
- (3)  $\kappa$  is  $\Delta_{n+1}$ -w.c.
- (4) For every  $\Pi_1^1$  formula  $\Phi(x_0, \dots, x_k)$  in the language of set theory and every  $a_0, \dots, a_k \in V_\kappa$ , if  $V_\kappa \models \Phi(a_0, \dots, a_k)$ , then there is  $\lambda \in I_n := \{\lambda < \kappa : \lambda \text{ is inaccessible and } V_\lambda \preceq_n V_\kappa\}$  such that  $V_\lambda \models \Phi(a_0, \dots, a_k)$ .

*Proof.* (3) $\Rightarrow$ (1) and (3) $\Rightarrow$ (2) are trivial.

(1) $\Rightarrow$ (2): Suppose that  $R \subseteq V_\kappa$ . For every  $\Pi_1^1$  formula  $\Psi$  where  $R$  appears as a predicate, let  $\tilde{\Psi}$  be the formula obtained from  $\Psi$  by substituting every occurrence of the subformula  $Rx$ , where  $x$  is a first order variable, by  $\neg Rx$ . Note that  $\tilde{\Psi}$  is also  $\Pi_1^1$ .

It is easily shown, by induction on the complexity of formulas, that for every formula  $\Psi$  and every  $\alpha$ ,

$$\langle V_\alpha, \in, R \cap V_\alpha \rangle \models \Psi \quad \text{iff} \quad \langle V_\alpha, \in, V_\alpha \setminus R \rangle \models \tilde{\Psi}.$$

Suppose now that  $R \subseteq V_\kappa$  is definable by means of a  $\Pi_n$  formula over  $V_\kappa$  and  $\Phi$  is a  $\Pi_1^1$  sentence. If  $\langle V_\kappa, \in, R \rangle \models \Phi$ , then  $\langle V_\kappa, \in, V_\kappa \setminus R \rangle \models \tilde{\Phi}$ . Since  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c., there is  $\alpha < \kappa$  such that  $\langle V_\alpha, \in, (V_\kappa \setminus R) \cap V_\alpha \rangle = \langle V_\alpha, \in, V_\alpha \setminus R \rangle \models \tilde{\Phi}$ , and therefore  $\langle V_\alpha, \in, R \cap V_\alpha \rangle \models \Phi$ .

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (4): Suppose that  $\Phi(x_0, \dots, x_k) = \forall X \varphi(X, x_0, \dots, x_k)$  is a  $\Pi_1^1$  formula and  $a_0, \dots, a_k \in V_\kappa$  are such that  $V_\kappa \models \Phi(a_0, \dots, a_k)$ .

Let  $\Psi$  be the  $\Pi_1^1$  sentence expressing that  $\kappa$  is inaccessible, and let  $\sigma$  be the first order sentence saying that the  $\Pi_n$ -club  $C_n := \{\alpha < \kappa : V_\alpha \preceq_n V_\kappa\}$  is unbounded. Then

$$\langle V_\kappa, \in, C_n \rangle \models \Phi(a_0, \dots, a_k) \wedge \Psi \wedge \sigma.$$

Since  $\kappa$  is  $\Pi_n$ -w.c., there is  $\lambda < \kappa$  such that

$$\langle V_\lambda, \in, C_n \cap V_\lambda \rangle \models \Phi(a_0, \dots, a_k) \wedge \Psi \wedge \sigma.$$

But then  $\lambda$  is inaccessible, and since  $C_n \cap \lambda$  is unbounded,  $\lambda \in I_n$ .

(4) $\Rightarrow$ (3): Suppose that  $R$  is a  $\Delta_{n+1}$  subset of  $V_\kappa$  and  $\Phi$  is a  $\Pi_1^1$  sentence such that

$$\langle V_\kappa, \in, R \rangle \models \Phi.$$

Let  $\varphi(x, y_0, \dots, y_k)$  be a  $\Sigma_{n+1}$  formula and  $\psi(x, z_0, \dots, z_l)$  a  $\Pi_{n+1}$  formula that define  $R$  in  $V_\kappa$  with parameters  $a_0, \dots, a_k$  and  $b_0, \dots, b_l$ , respectively.

Thus,

$$\langle V_\kappa, \in, R \rangle \models \forall x (Rx \leftrightarrow \varphi(x, a_0, \dots, a_k) \leftrightarrow \psi(x, b_0, \dots, b_l)).$$

Let  $\Phi'(y_0, \dots, y_k)$  be the  $\Pi_1^1$  formula (with  $y_0, \dots, y_k$  as the only free individual variables) obtained by substituting every occurrence of the formula  $Rx$  in  $\Phi$  by the formula  $\varphi(x, y_0, \dots, y_k)$ . Then, clearly,  $V_\kappa \models \Phi'(a_0, \dots, a_k)$ .

Hence, there is  $\lambda \in I_n$  such that

$$V_\lambda \models \Phi'(a_0, \dots, a_k) \wedge \forall x (\varphi(x, a_0, \dots, a_k) \leftrightarrow \psi(x, b_0, \dots, b_l)).$$

But since  $V_\lambda \preceq_n V_\kappa$ ,  $R \cap V_\lambda = \{x : V_\lambda \models \varphi(x, a_0, \dots, a_k)\}$ . Therefore,

$$\langle V_\lambda, \in, R \cap V_\lambda \rangle \models \Phi. \blacksquare$$

Notice that in the proof of (4) $\Rightarrow$ (3) above, we have not made use of the fact that  $\lambda$  was inaccessible. Thus an inaccessible cardinal  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. iff  $\kappa$  reflects  $\Pi_1^1$  sentences (in the language with  $\in$  only) to some  $\lambda < \kappa$  such that  $V_\lambda \preceq_n V_\kappa$ .

Leshem [9] has proved that if  $\kappa$  is Mahlo, then the set of  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c. cardinals below  $\kappa$  is stationary. So, all these cardinals are, consistency-wise, below a Mahlo cardinal.

Let us recall from [2] that a subset  $C$  of a cardinal  $\kappa$  is a  $\Pi_n$ -club iff  $C$  is a club subset of  $\kappa$  that is definable over  $V_\kappa$  by means of a  $\Pi_n$  formula, possibly with parameters. A subset  $S \subseteq \kappa$  is  $\Pi_n$ -stationary iff for every  $\Pi_n$ -club subset  $C$  of  $\kappa$ ,  $S \cap C \neq \emptyset$ . (Notice that we do not require that  $S$  itself be  $\Pi_n$ -definable.) Finally,  $\kappa$  is a  $\Pi_n$ -Mahlo cardinal iff it is inaccessible and the set of all inaccessible cardinals below  $\kappa$  is  $\Pi_n$ -stationary. For more information about  $\Pi_n$ -Mahlo cardinals see [2] and [4]. The next fact shows that  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinals are  $\Pi_n$ -Mahlo, and that the least  $\Pi_n$ -Mahlo cardinal is not  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c.

**FACT 2.4.** *Every  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal  $\kappa$  is  $\Pi_n$ -Mahlo, and the set of  $\Pi_n$ -Mahlo cardinals below  $\kappa$  is  $\Pi_n$ -stationary.*

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Let  $C$  be a  $\Pi_n$ -club of  $\kappa$ , i.e.,  $C$  is a club on  $\kappa$  which is definable over  $V_\kappa$  by means of a  $\Pi_n$  formula with parameters. Let  $\Phi$  the  $\Pi_1^1$  sentence expressing that  $\kappa$  is inaccessible. Let  $\varrho$  be the first-order sentence expressing that  $C$  is unbounded. Then

$$\langle V_\kappa, \in, C \rangle \models \Phi \wedge \varrho.$$

So, there is  $\alpha < \kappa$  such that

$$\langle V_\alpha, \in, C \cap V_\alpha \rangle \models \Phi \wedge \varrho.$$

Therefore  $\alpha$  is inaccessible, and since  $C \cap V_\alpha = C \cap \alpha$  is unbounded in  $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha \in C$ .

Note that “every  $\widetilde{\Pi}_n$ -club of  $\kappa$  contains an inaccessible cardinal” is expressible by a first-order sentence. Therefore, the above argument shows that there is a  $\widetilde{\Pi}_n$ -stationary set of  $\widetilde{\Pi}_n$ -Mahlo cardinals below  $\kappa$ . ■

Recall  $\kappa$  is a  $\Sigma_\omega$ -Mahlo cardinal iff it is  $\widetilde{\Pi}_n$ -Mahlo for every  $n \in \omega$ . In [4] it is shown that every  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c. cardinal is  $\Sigma_\omega$ -Mahlo, and that the set of  $\Sigma_\omega$ -Mahlo cardinals below a  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c. cardinal is  $\Sigma_\omega$ -stationary. However, also from [4], if  $\kappa$  is  $\Pi_{n+1}$ -Mahlo, then the set of  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinals below  $\kappa$  is  $\Pi_{n+1}$ -stationary.

### 2.1.1. The tree property

DEFINITION 2.5. Let  $\kappa$  be a cardinal and  $n \in \omega$ . A tree  $T = \langle T, \leq_T \rangle$  with  $T \subseteq V_\kappa$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -tree (over  $V_\kappa$ ) iff there are  $\Sigma_n$  formulas  $\varphi_T(x)$ ,  $\varphi_{\leq_T}(x, y)$  and  $\varphi_{\text{ht}_T}(x, y)$ , possibly with parameters in  $V_\kappa$ , such that for every  $t, t' \in V_\kappa$  and every  $\alpha < \kappa$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} t \in T & \text{ iff } V_\kappa \models \varphi_T(t), \\ t \leq_T t' & \text{ iff } V_\kappa \models \varphi_{\leq_T}(t, t'), \\ t \in T_\alpha & \text{ iff } V_\kappa \models \varphi_{\text{ht}_T}(t, \alpha), \end{aligned}$$

where  $T_\alpha$  denotes the  $\alpha$ th level of the tree  $T$ . Similarly, we define the notion of  $\Pi_n$ -tree by substituting  $\Pi_n$  for  $\Sigma_n$  in the above definition. Moreover,  $T$  is a  $\Delta_n$ -tree iff  $T$  is both a  $\Sigma_n$ -tree and a  $\Pi_n$ -tree. Finally,  $T$  is a  $\Sigma_\omega$ -tree iff  $T$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -tree for some  $n \in \omega$ .

DEFINITION 2.6. Let  $\kappa$  be a cardinal and  $n \in \omega$ .  $\kappa$  has the  $\Sigma_n$ -tree property iff  $\kappa$  is inaccessible and every  $\kappa$ -tree which is a  $\Sigma_n$ -tree has a cofinal branch. The  $\Pi_n$ -tree property,  $\Delta_n$ -tree property, and  $\Sigma_\omega$ -tree property are defined analogously.

LEMMA 2.7. For every  $n \in \omega$ , if  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c., then  $\kappa$  has the  $\Sigma_n$ -tree property.

*Proof.* Suppose that  $\kappa$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal and let  $T$  be a  $\kappa$ -tree which is a  $\Sigma_n$ -tree over  $V_\kappa$ . Suppose that  $T$  does not have a branch of length  $\kappa$ . So, since  $\kappa$  is regular, every branch of  $T$  belongs to  $V_\kappa$ .

Let  $\Phi$  be the  $\Pi_1^1$  sentence expressing that  $\kappa$  is inaccessible.

Let  $\Psi$  be the following  $\Pi_1^1$  sentence:

$$\forall B (B \text{ is a branch of } T \rightarrow \exists x B = x).$$

Let  $F$  be the function with domain  $\kappa$  such that  $F(\alpha) = T_\alpha$ , the  $\alpha$ th level of  $T$ . Since  $t \in T_\alpha$  is a  $\Sigma_n$  fact over  $V_\kappa$ ,  $F$  is  $\Delta_{n+1}$ -definable over  $V_\kappa$ . Let  $\varphi$  be the following first-order sentence:

$$\forall \alpha (\alpha \text{ is an ordinal} \rightarrow \exists x F(\alpha) = x).$$

Thus,

$$\langle V_\kappa, \in, T, F \rangle \models \Phi \wedge \Psi \wedge \varphi.$$

Hence, there is  $\lambda < \kappa$  such that

$$\langle V_\lambda, \in, T \cap V_\lambda, F \cap V_\lambda \rangle \models \Phi \wedge \Psi \wedge \varphi.$$

Fix some  $t \in T_\lambda$ . Let  $\text{pred}(t) = \{t' \in T : t' <_T t\}$ . It is clear that  $\text{pred}(t)$  is a branch through  $T \cap V_\lambda$ . So,  $\text{pred}(t) \in V_\lambda$ , and hence, since  $\lambda$  is inaccessible,  $|\text{pred}(t)| < \lambda$ . A contradiction. ■

**COROLLARY 2.8.** *If  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c., then  $\kappa$  has the  $\Sigma_\omega$ -tree property.*

**2.1.2. The partition property.** Recall that if  $\kappa$  is a cardinal and  $n > 0$  is a natural number,  $[\kappa]^n$  is the set of all subsets of  $\kappa$  with exactly  $n$  elements.

Given a cardinal  $\kappa$ , natural numbers  $n, m$  ( $n > 0$ ), and a function  $f : [\kappa]^n \rightarrow m$ , a set  $H \subseteq \kappa$  is said to be *f-homogeneous* iff  $f^n[H]^n = \{i\}$  for some  $i \in m$ .

**DEFINITION 2.9.** Let  $\kappa$  be a cardinal. Then  $\kappa$  has the  $\Sigma_n$ -partition property iff  $\kappa$  is an inaccessible cardinal and for every function  $f : [\kappa]^2 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  that is  $\Sigma_n$ -definable over  $V_\kappa$  there exists an  $f$ -homogeneous set of cardinality  $\kappa$ . We write  $\kappa \xrightarrow{\Sigma_n} (\kappa)^2$  to indicate that  $\kappa$  has the  $\Sigma_n$ -partition property. The  $\Sigma_\omega$ -partition property is defined analogously, and we write  $\kappa \xrightarrow{\Sigma_\omega} (\kappa)^2$ .

**LEMMA 2.10.** *For every  $n \in \omega$ ,  $n > 0$ , if  $\kappa$  has the  $\Sigma_n$ -tree property, then  $\kappa \xrightarrow{\Sigma_n} (\kappa)^2$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $F : [\kappa]^2 \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  be  $\Sigma_n$ -definable over  $V_\kappa$ . Let  $\varphi(x, y, z)$  be a  $\Sigma_n$  formula, possibly with parameters in  $V_\kappa$ , that defines it.

For every  $\beta < \kappa$ , let  $f_\beta : \beta \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  be such that for all  $\alpha < \beta$ ,  $f_\beta(\alpha) = F(\{\alpha, \beta\})$ . Let  $T = \{f_\beta \upharpoonright \gamma : \gamma \leq \beta < \kappa\}$  be ordered by extension. Note that  $T$  is  $\Sigma_n$ -definable over  $V_\kappa$ :

$$t \in T \text{ iff } V_\kappa \models \exists \beta, \gamma (\gamma \leq \beta \wedge \text{dom}(t) = \gamma \wedge (\forall \alpha < \gamma) (\exists i \in \{0, 1\}) (\varphi(\alpha, \beta, i))).$$

It is clear that for every  $\beta < \kappa$ , we have:  $t \in T_\beta$  iff  $t \in T$  and  $\text{dom}(t) = \beta$ . So,  $T$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -tree. Moreover,  $\text{ht}(T) = \kappa$ , and since for every  $\beta < \kappa$ ,  $T_\beta \subseteq 2^\beta$ , and  $\kappa$  is inaccessible,  $|T_\beta| < \kappa$ . Therefore  $T$  is a  $\kappa$ -tree.

Since  $\kappa$  has the  $\Sigma_n$ -tree property, there is a cofinal branch  $B$  through  $T$ . Let  $\{t_\xi : \xi < \kappa\}$  be an increasing enumeration of  $B$  so that  $\text{dom}(t_\xi) = \xi$  for all  $\xi < \kappa$ . For every  $i \in \{0, 1\}$ , let

$$H_i = \{\xi < \kappa : t_\xi \widehat{\langle \xi, i \rangle} \in B\}.$$

We claim that for every  $i \in \{0, 1\}$ ,  $H_i$  is a homogeneous subset of  $\kappa$  for  $F$ . Fix  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in H_i$  with  $\alpha < \beta < \gamma$ . Since  $t_\alpha \widehat{\langle \alpha, i \rangle} \subseteq t_\beta$  and  $t_\beta \widehat{\langle \beta, i \rangle} \subseteq t_\gamma$ ,

$$F(\{\alpha, \beta\}) = t_\beta(\alpha) = i = t_\gamma(\beta) = F(\{\beta, \gamma\}).$$

So, the  $H_i$  are homogeneous for  $i \in \{0, 1\}$ . Since  $|B| = \kappa$ , either  $|H_0| = \kappa$  or  $|H_1| = \kappa$ . Therefore,  $\kappa \xrightarrow{\Sigma_n} (\kappa)^2$ . ■

**COROLLARY 2.11.** *If  $\kappa$  has the  $\Sigma_\omega$ -tree property, then  $\kappa \xrightarrow{\Sigma_\omega} (\kappa)^2$ .*

**LEMMA 2.12** (E. Kranakis, [8]). *Assume  $V = L$ . For every  $n > 0$ ,  $\kappa \xrightarrow{\Sigma_n} (\kappa)^2$  implies that for every  $\Pi_1^1$  formula  $\Phi(x_0, \dots, x_k)$  and  $a_0, \dots, a_k \in L_\kappa$  such that  $L_\kappa \models \Phi(a_0, \dots, a_k)$ , there is  $\lambda < \kappa$  with  $L_\lambda \preceq_n L_\kappa$  such that  $L_\lambda \models \Phi(a_0, \dots, a_k)$ .*

Finally, we have:

**THEOREM 2.13.** ( $V = L$ ) *Let  $\kappa$  be a cardinal. Then for every  $n \geq 1$  the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\kappa$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal.
- (2)  $\kappa$  has the  $\Sigma_n$ -tree property.
- (3)  $\kappa \xrightarrow{\Sigma_n} (\kappa)^2$ .

*Proof.* (1) $\Rightarrow$ (2) follows from Lemma 2.7.

(2) $\Rightarrow$ (3) follows from Lemma 2.10.

Since  $L \models \kappa \xrightarrow{\Sigma_n} (\kappa)^2$ , by definition,  $\kappa$  is inaccessible in  $L$ . The rest of implication (3) $\Rightarrow$ (1) follows from Lemma 2.12 (this is the only place where  $V = L$  is used) and Proposition 2.3. ■

**COROLLARY 2.14.** ( $V = L$ ) *Let  $\kappa$  be a cardinal. Then the following are equivalent:*

- (1)  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c.
- (2)  $\kappa$  has the  $\Sigma_\omega$ -tree property.
- (3)  $\kappa \xrightarrow{\Sigma_\omega} (\kappa)^2$ .

## 2.2. Generic absoluteness for projective ccc posets

**DEFINITION 2.15.**  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. (resp.  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c.) Solovay model over  $V \subseteq M$  iff  $M$  satisfies:

- (1) For every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$ ,  $\omega_1$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. (resp.  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c.) cardinal in  $V[x]$ .
- (2) Every  $x \in \mathbb{R}$  is small-generic over  $V$ .

Notice that since every  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. (resp.  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c.) cardinal is inaccessible, Lemma 1.1 also holds for  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. (resp.  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c.) Solovay models.

We will make use of the following property of  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinals:

**LEMMA 2.16.** *Let  $n \geq 1$ . Suppose that  $\kappa$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal and  $\mathbb{P}$  is a  $\kappa$ -cc poset that is  $\Sigma_n$ -definable (with parameters) over  $V_\kappa$ . If  $X \subseteq \mathbb{P}$  has cardinality less than  $\kappa$ , then there is a complete subposet  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $\mathbb{P}$ , also of cardinality less than  $\kappa$ , such that  $X \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ .*



*Proof.* Let  $X \subseteq \mathbb{P}$  with  $|X| < \kappa$ . Since  $\kappa$  is inaccessible, there is a cardinal  $\lambda < \kappa$  with  $X \subseteq V_\lambda$ .

Let  $R = \{D : D \text{ is a maximal antichain of } \mathbb{P}\}$ . Since  $\mathbb{P}$  is  $\kappa$ -cc,  $R \subseteq V_\kappa$ . For all  $D \in V_\kappa$ ,  $D \in R$  iff  $V_\kappa$  satisfies:

$$D \subseteq \mathbb{P} \wedge \forall x, y \in D (x \neq y \rightarrow x \perp_{\mathbb{P}} y) \wedge \forall z (z \in \mathbb{P} \rightarrow \exists y \in D (\neg z \perp_{\mathbb{P}} y)).$$

Note that the formula above is the conjunction of a  $\Sigma_n$  formula and a  $\Pi_n$  formula. Hence,  $R$  is a  $\Delta_{n+1}$  predicate in  $V_\kappa$ .

Let  $\Phi$  be the conjunction of the following sentences of the second-order language of type  $\{\in, \mathbb{P}, \leq_{\mathbb{P}}, \perp_{\mathbb{P}}, R\}$ :

- (1)  $\leq_{\mathbb{P}}$  is a partial order with  $\text{field}(\leq_{\mathbb{P}}) = \mathbb{P}$ .
- (2)  $\perp_{\mathbb{P}}$  is the incompatibility relation of  $\langle \mathbb{P}, \leq_{\mathbb{P}} \rangle$ .
- (3)  $\forall Y (Y \subseteq \mathbb{P} \wedge \forall xy (Yx \wedge Yy \wedge x \neq y \rightarrow x \perp_{\mathbb{P}} y) \wedge \forall z (\mathbb{P}z \rightarrow \exists y (Yy \wedge \neg y \perp_{\mathbb{P}} z)) \rightarrow \exists x (Rx \wedge Y = x))$ , i.e., every maximal antichain of  $\mathbb{P}$  belongs to  $R$ .

Notice that (1) and (2) are first-order, and (3) is  $\Pi_1^1$ .

We have

$$\langle V_\kappa, \in, \mathbb{P}, \leq_{\mathbb{P}}, \perp_{\mathbb{P}}, R \rangle \models \Phi.$$

So, since  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c., there is  $\alpha < \kappa$  with  $\lambda < \alpha$  such that

$$\langle V_\alpha, \in, \mathbb{P} \cap V_\alpha, \leq_{\mathbb{P}} \cap V_\alpha, \perp_{\mathbb{P}} \cap V_\alpha, R \cap V_\alpha \rangle \models \Phi.$$

Let  $\mathbb{Q} = \langle \mathbb{P} \cap V_\alpha, \leq_{\mathbb{P}} \cap V_\alpha, \perp_{\mathbb{P}} \cap V_\alpha \rangle$ . So,  $|\mathbb{Q}| < \kappa$ . By (1) and (2),  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a subposet of  $\mathbb{P}$  that preserves the incompatibility relation of  $\mathbb{P}$ . Since  $\lambda < \alpha$ , we have  $X \subseteq \mathbb{P} \cap V_\alpha$ . Finally, let  $D$  be a maximal antichain of  $\mathbb{Q}$ . Then, by (3),  $D \in R \cap V_\alpha$ . So since  $D \in R$ , it follows that  $D$  is a maximal antichain of  $\mathbb{P}$ . This shows that  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a complete subposet of  $\mathbb{P}$  of cardinality less than  $\kappa$  which includes  $X$ . ■

For  $\alpha$  an ordinal, we shall write  $\text{Coll}_\alpha$  for the Levy collapse below  $\alpha$ , instead of the usual and more cumbersome  $\text{Coll}(\omega, < \alpha)$ .

**THEOREM 2.17.** *Let  $n \geq 1$ . Suppose  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$  and  $\mathbb{P}$  is a ccc poset which is, in  $M$ ,  $\Sigma_n$ -definable (with parameters) over  $H(\omega_1)$ . Then the  $L(\mathbb{R})$  of any  $\mathbb{P}$ -extension of  $M$  is also a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\kappa = \omega_1^M$ . Force over  $M$  with Woodin's partial ordering  $\mathbb{W}$  (see Lemma 1.1) to obtain a  $\text{Coll}_\kappa$ -generic  $C$  over  $V$  so that  $\mathbb{R}^M = \mathbb{R}^{V[C]}$ . Notice that for a generic filter  $G \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ ,  $G$  is  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic over  $M$  iff it is  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic over  $V[C]$  and, moreover,  $\mathbb{R}^{M[G]} = \mathbb{R}^{V[C][G]}$ . Thus, to prove the theorem it will be enough to show that every real in  $V[C][G]$  is generic over  $V$  for some forcing notion  $\mathbb{P}$  in  $V$  that is countable in  $V[C][G]$ .

Let  $\dot{\mathbb{P}}$  be a  $\text{Coll}_\kappa$ -name for  $\mathbb{P}$  in  $V$ . By the Factor Lemma for the Levy collapse, we may assume that the parameters of the definition of  $\mathbb{P}$  are in  $V$ . Further, since the Levy collapse is homogeneous, we may assume that  $\Vdash_{\text{Coll}_\kappa}$  “ $\dot{\mathbb{P}}$  is a poset”. Notice that  $\text{Coll}_\kappa$  is definable by means of a  $\Sigma_1$  and a  $\Pi_1$  formula without parameters over  $V_\kappa$  (see [2]). Hence, for  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \dot{\mathbb{P}}$  is a poset which is  $\Sigma_n$ -definable over  $V_\kappa$ , possibly with parameters.

Let  $x$  be a real in  $V[C][G]$ . Let  $\dot{x}$  be a simple  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \dot{\mathbb{P}}$ -name for  $x$  in  $V$ , and let  $X$  be the set of all conditions of  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \dot{\mathbb{P}}$  in  $TC(\dot{x})$ . Since  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \dot{\mathbb{P}}$  is  $\kappa$ -cc,  $|X| < \kappa$ . So, by Lemma 2.16, there is a complete subposet  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \dot{\mathbb{P}}$  such that  $X \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$  and  $\mathbb{Q}$  has cardinality less than  $\kappa$ . Let  $H = (C * G) \cap \mathbb{Q}$ . Then  $H$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -generic over  $V$  and  $\dot{x}[H] = \dot{x}[C * G] = x$ . This completes the proof of the theorem since it shows that  $x$  is generic over  $V$  for the countable poset  $\mathbb{Q}$ . ■

COROLLARY 2.18.

- (1) For every  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\text{Con}(\text{ZFC} + \text{there exists a } \Sigma_n\text{-w.c. cardinal})$  implies  $\text{Con}(\text{ZFC} + L(\mathbb{R})\text{-absoluteness for } \sum_{n+1}^1 \text{ ccc posets})$ .
- (2)  $\text{Con}(\text{ZFC} + \text{there exists a } \Sigma_\omega\text{-w.c. cardinal})$  implies  $\text{Con}(\text{ZFC} + L(\mathbb{R})\text{-absoluteness for projective ccc posets})$ .

*Proof.* (1): Suppose  $\kappa$  is  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Force with  $\text{Coll}_\kappa$  so that the  $L(\mathbb{R})$  of the generic extension  $M$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$ . By Theorem 2.17 and Lemma 1.3,  $L(\mathbb{R})$ -absoluteness holds in  $M$  for ccc posets that are  $\Sigma_n$  definable, with parameters, in  $H(\omega_1)$ , and hence, for  $\sum_{n+1}^1$  ccc posets. ■

Recall that for  $\Gamma$  a class of posets, a poset  $\mathbb{P}$  is  $\Gamma$ -productive-ccc iff it is ccc and for every ccc poset  $\mathbb{Q}$  in  $\Gamma$ ,  $\mathbb{P} \times \mathbb{Q}$  is ccc.

Let  $\Gamma_n$  be the class of all  $\sum_{n+1}^1$  ccc posets, and let  $\Gamma_\omega$  be the class of all projective ccc forcing notions. Then, as in [2], we can show:

THEOREM 2.19.

- (1) If  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model, then in  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  every ccc poset is  $\Gamma_n$ -productive-ccc.
- (2) If  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  is a  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c. Solovay model, then in  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  every ccc poset is  $\Gamma_\omega$ -productive-ccc.

*Proof.* (1): Suppose  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$ , and in  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$ ,  $\mathbb{P}$  is a ccc poset and  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a poset in the class  $\Gamma_n$ .

It is known (see [7]) that there is a ccc poset  $\mathbb{Q}^*$  in  $\Gamma_n$  such that  $\mathbb{Q}$  completely embeds into  $\mathbb{Q}^*$ , and if  $G$  is  $\mathbb{Q}^*$ -generic over some model  $M$ , then  $M[G]$  is of the form  $M[g]$  for some real  $g$ .

Let  $\mathbb{Q}^*$  be as above, and suppose  $\tau$  is a  $\mathbb{Q}^*$ -name for an uncountable antichain of  $\mathbb{P}$ ,  $\tau \in L(\mathbb{R})^M$ . Let  $\varphi_{\mathbb{P}}(x)$ ,  $\varphi_{\leq \mathbb{P}}(x, y)$  and  $\varphi_{\perp \mathbb{P}}(x, y)$  be formulas with only reals and ordinals as parameters that define, respectively,  $\mathbb{P}$ ,

$\leq_{\mathbb{P}}$ , and  $\perp_{\mathbb{P}}$  in  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$ , and let  $\varphi_{\mathbb{Q}^*}(x)$ ,  $\varphi_{\leq_{\mathbb{Q}^*}}(x, y)$ , and  $\varphi_{\perp_{\mathbb{Q}^*}}(x, y)$  be  $\Sigma_{n+1}^1$  formulas with real parameters that define, respectively,  $\mathbb{Q}^*$ ,  $\leq_{\mathbb{Q}^*}$ , and  $\perp_{\mathbb{Q}^*}$ . Thus, there is a formula  $\varphi(x, y)$  with only reals and ordinals as parameters such that the following holds in  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$ :

- (i) For all  $p, a$ , if  $\varphi(p, a)$ , then  $\varphi_{\mathbb{Q}^*}(p)$  and  $\varphi_{\mathbb{P}}(a)$ .
- (ii) For all  $p, q, a, b$ , if  $\varphi(p, a)$ ,  $\varphi(q, b)$ , and not  $\varphi_{\perp_{\mathbb{Q}^*}}(p, q)$ , then  $\varphi_{\perp_{\mathbb{P}}}(a, b)$ .
- (iii) For all  $p, a$ ,  $\varphi(p, a)$  iff  $\langle p, \check{a} \rangle \in \tau$ .

Suppose  $G$  is  $\mathbb{Q}^*$ -generic over  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$ . So,  $G$  is also generic over  $M$ . Let  $N$  be the  $L(\mathbb{R})$  of  $L(\mathbb{R})^M[G]$ . Clearly, since  $M[G]$  and  $L(\mathbb{R})^M[G]$  have the same reals,  $N = L(\mathbb{R})^{M[G]}$ . Thus, by Lemma 1.3 and Theorem 2.17, (i) and (ii) above hold in  $N$ . Since  $G$  is easily coded by a real,  $G \in N$ . In  $N$ , let  $A = \{a : \exists p \in G \varphi(p, a)\}$ . Notice that, by (iii) above,  $\tau[G] \subseteq A$ , and so  $A$  is an uncountable set in  $N$ . Also, for every  $a \in A$ ,  $N \models \varphi_{\mathbb{P}}(a)$ . Let  $\mathbb{P}^N$  and  $\leq_{\mathbb{P}}^N$  be the sets defined in  $N$  by the formulas  $\varphi_{\mathbb{P}}(x)$  and  $\varphi_{\leq_{\mathbb{P}}}(x, y)$ , respectively. Then  $N \models \text{“}\langle \mathbb{P}^N, \leq_{\mathbb{P}^N} \rangle \text{ is a ccc poset”}$ . So, since

$$N \models \text{“}A \text{ is an uncountable subset of } \mathbb{P}^N\text{”},$$

we have

$$N \models \text{“}\exists p, q, a, b (\varphi(p, a) \wedge \varphi(q, b) \wedge \neg\varphi_{\perp_{\mathbb{Q}^*}}(p, q) \wedge \neg\varphi_{\perp_{\mathbb{P}}}(a, b))\text{”}.$$

Therefore, by 1.3 and 2.17,

$$L(\mathbb{R})^M \models \text{“}\exists p, q, a, b (\varphi(p, a) \wedge \varphi(q, b) \wedge \neg\varphi_{\perp_{\mathbb{Q}^*}}(p, q) \wedge \neg\varphi_{\perp_{\mathbb{P}}}(a, b))\text{”},$$

which contradicts (ii) above.

Now suppose  $H$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -generic over  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$ . Let  $G$  be  $\mathbb{Q}^*$ -generic over  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  such that

$$L(\mathbb{R})^M[H] \subseteq L(\mathbb{R})^M[G].$$

Since  $\mathbb{P}$  is ccc in  $L(\mathbb{R})^M[G]$ , it is also ccc in  $L(\mathbb{R})^M[H]$ . ■

**COROLLARY 2.20.** *If  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$ , then in  $M$  there are no  $\widetilde{\Sigma}_{n+1}^1$  Suslin trees. And if  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  is a  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$ , then in  $M$  there are no projective Suslin trees.*

*Proof.* If  $T$  is a  $\widetilde{\Sigma}_{n+1}^1$  Suslin tree, then  $T \times T$  with the product ordering is a  $\widetilde{\Sigma}_{n+1}^1$  poset which is not ccc (see [6]). ■

**3. The strength of generic absoluteness under projective ccc forcing notions.** In this section we shall prove the following:

**THEOREM 3.1.** *If  $\Sigma_4^1$ -absoluteness holds for  $\Delta_3^1$  ccc forcing notions, then  $\omega_1$  is a  $\Sigma_1$ -w.c. cardinal in  $L$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose towards a contradiction that  $\omega_1$  is not  $\Sigma_1$ -w.c. in  $L$ . We know (see [2]) that  $\omega_1$  is inaccessible in  $L$  and, in fact,  $\omega_1$  is inaccessible to

reals, i.e.,  $\omega_1^{L[x]}$  is countable for every real  $x$ . Hence, by Theorem 2.13, there is, in  $L$ , an Aronszajn tree  $T = \langle T, \leq_T \rangle$  whose nodes are elements of  $2^{<\omega_1}$  and which is a  $\Sigma_1$ -tree over  $L_{\omega_1}$ .

We need the following version of the Silver tree  $S_T$  for  $T$  (See [5]): For every set  $M$  and every  $X \subseteq M$ , let  $H^M(X)$  denote the Skolem hull of  $X$  in  $M$ . Then the Silver tree  $S_T$  for  $T$  is defined as follows:

- (1)  $\langle \alpha, \beta, a \rangle \in S_T$  iff
  - (a)  $\alpha < \beta < \omega_1$ ,
  - (b)  $a \in L_\beta$  is a function with  $\alpha \subseteq \text{dom}(a)$ ,
  - (c)  $L_\beta = H^{L_\beta}(\alpha \cup \{a\})$ ,
  - (d)  $a \upharpoonright \alpha \in T$ .
- (2)  $\langle \alpha, \beta, a \rangle \leq_{S_T} \langle \gamma, \delta, c \rangle$  iff
  - (a)  $\alpha \leq \gamma$ ,
  - (b)  $L_\beta = \mu'' H^{L_\delta}(\alpha \cup \{c\})$ , where  $\mu$  is Mostowski's transitive collapse function, and  $\mu(c) = a$ .

Note that if  $\langle \alpha, \beta, a \rangle \in S_T$ , then  $\langle \alpha, \beta, a \rangle$  is a node of height  $\alpha$ .

LEMMA 3.2 (J. H. Silver, see [5]).  *$S_T$  is an Aronszajn tree in  $L$  such that in any model of ZFC (extending  $L$ ), if there is a branch of length  $\omega_1$  through  $S_T$ , then  $\text{cf}(\omega_1) = \omega$ .*

An important fact for our purposes is that the complexity of  $S_T$  is the same as that of  $T$ . That is:

LEMMA 3.3. *For all  $n \geq 1$ , if  $T \subseteq 2^{<\omega_1}$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -tree (resp.  $\Pi_n$ -tree) over  $L_{\omega_1}$ , then  $S_T$  is also a  $\Sigma_n$ -tree (resp.  $\Pi_n$ -tree) over  $L_{\omega_1}$ .*

*Proof.* Fix some recursive enumeration  $\langle \varphi_i : i \in \omega \rangle$  of all formulas of the language of set theory of the form  $\exists \bar{x} \varphi(\bar{y}, \bar{z}, \bar{x})$ , where  $\bar{y}, \bar{z}, \bar{x}$  are finite sequences of variables and  $\bar{x}$  is non-empty. We use the following notational conventions: given a formula  $\varphi_i$ , we denote by  $\varphi'_i$  the formula resulting from the removal of the first block of existential quantifiers of  $\varphi_i$ . Also,  $\exists \bar{y} \varphi_i$  denotes the formula resulting by adding the block of existential quantifiers  $\exists \bar{y}$  to the formula  $\varphi_i$ . Note that the maps  $\varphi_i \mapsto \varphi'_i$  and  $\varphi_i \mapsto \exists \bar{y} \varphi_i$  are recursive.

If  $x$  is an ordered pair, then let  $(x)_0$  and  $(x)_1$  denote, respectively, the first and second coordinates of  $x$ .

For every set  $M \in L$ , we define the function  $r^M$  from  $\omega \times M^{<\omega}$  to  $M^{<\omega} \times M^{<\omega}$  as follows: for all  $i \in \omega$  and every  $b \in M^{<\omega}$ ,

$$r^M(i, b) = \begin{cases} \text{the } <_L \text{-least } a \in M^{<\omega} \times M^{<\omega} \text{ such that} \\ M \models \varphi'_i((a)_0, b, (a)_1) & \text{if } M \models \exists y \varphi_i(b), \\ \langle \emptyset, \emptyset \rangle & \text{if } M \not\models \exists y \varphi_i(b). \end{cases}$$

Let  $\text{Sk}^M$  be the function from  $\omega \times M^{<\omega}$  into  $M^{<\omega}$  defined by  $\text{Sk}^M(i, b) = (r^M(i, b))_0$  for every  $i \in \omega$  and  $b \in M^{<\omega}$ .

CLAIM 3.4. ( $V = L$ ) For every set  $M$ , the functions  $r^M$  and  $\text{Sk}^M$  are  $\Delta_1$  with  $M$  as a parameter.

*Proof.* We only need to show that  $r^M$  is  $\Delta_1$ . Let  $\text{Sat}(x, y, z)$  denote the satisfaction relation for sets, i.e.,  $\text{Sat}(x, y, z)$  iff the set  $x$  satisfies the formula  $y$  with the sequence  $z$  of elements of  $x$ . Notice that this is a  $\Delta_1$  relation.

For every  $i \in \omega$ , and every  $b \in M^{<\omega}$ ,  $r^M(i, b) = a$  iff

- (1)  $a$  is an ordered pair, and  $(a)_0, (a)_1 \in M^{<\omega}$ .
- (2) Either  $\text{Sat}(M, \exists y \varphi_i, b)$  and
  - (a)  $\text{Sat}(M, \varphi'_i, (a)_0 \frown b \frown (a)_1)$ ,
  - (b)  $(\forall c, d \in M)(\text{Sat}(M, \varphi'_i, c \frown b \frown d) \rightarrow a <_L \langle c, d \rangle)$ ,
- (3) or  $\neg \text{Sat}(M, \exists y \varphi_i, b)$  and  $(\forall c, d \in M)(a <_L \langle c, d \rangle)$ .

Since  $<_L$  is a  $\Delta_1$  relation, (1), (2), and (3) can be written as both  $\Sigma_n$  and  $\Pi_n$  sentences. Hence,  $r^M$  is a  $\Delta_1$  function. ■

Therefore, the functions  $M \mapsto r^M$  and  $M \mapsto \text{Sk}^M$  are  $\Delta_1$  definable in  $L$  without parameters.

CLAIM 3.5. ( $V = L$ ) For every set  $M$  and every  $X \subseteq M$ ,  $H^M(X)$  is a  $\Delta_1$  definable set with  $M$  and  $X$  as parameters.

*Proof.* Given  $M$  and  $X \subseteq M$ , define a sequence  $(H^M(X, n))_{n < \omega}$  recursively by:

$$\begin{aligned} H^M(X, 0) &= \text{Sk}^{M''}(\omega \times X^{<\omega}), \\ H^M(X, n+1) &= \text{Sk}^{M''}(\omega \times H^M(X, n)^{<\omega}). \end{aligned}$$

Since  $\text{Sk}^M$  is  $\Delta_1$  definable, with  $M$  as parameter, the map  $n \mapsto H^M(X, n)$  is also  $\Delta_1$  definable with parameters  $M$  and  $X$ . Note that  $H^M(X) = \bigcup_{n \in \omega} H^M(X, n)$ . Thus, for all  $a$ ,

$$a \in H^M(X) \quad \text{iff} \quad (\exists n \in \omega)(a \in H^M(X, n)),$$

and so  $H^M(X)$  is  $\Delta_1$ -definable with  $M$  and  $X$  as parameters. ■

We continue with the proof of Lemma 3.3. Recall that  $T$  is a tree which is definable over  $L_{\omega_1}$  with  $\Sigma_n$  formulas  $\varphi_T(x)$  and  $\varphi_{\leq T}(x, y)$ , possibly with parameters. Then, for all  $\alpha, \beta < \omega_1$  and every  $b \in L_{\omega_1}$ ,  $\langle \alpha, \beta, b \rangle \in S_T$  iff  $L_{\omega_1}$  satisfies:

- (1)  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are ordinals and  $\alpha < \beta$ .
- (2)  $b$  is a function such that  $(\forall \gamma \in \alpha)(\gamma \in \text{dom}(b))$  and  $b \in L_\beta$ .
- (3)  $(\forall x \in L_\beta)(x \in H^{L_\beta}(\alpha \cup \{b\}))$  and  $(\forall x \in H^{L_\beta}(\alpha \cup \{b\}))(x \in L_\beta)$ .
- (4)  $\varphi_T(b \upharpoonright \alpha)$ .

(1) is  $\Delta_0$ . Since the maps  $\beta \mapsto L_\beta$ , and  $(X, M) \mapsto H^M(X)$  are  $\Delta_1$ , (2) and (3) are  $\Delta_1$ . Finally, it is clear that (4) is  $\Sigma_n$ .

Note that  $\mu$ , the Mostowski collapsing map, is  $\Delta_1$ . So, for all  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta < \omega_1$  and every  $b, d \in L_{\omega_1}$ ,  $\langle \alpha, \beta, b \rangle \leq_{S_T} \langle \gamma, \delta, d \rangle$  iff  $L_{\omega_1}$  satisfies:

- (1)  $\langle \alpha, \beta, b \rangle, \langle \gamma, \delta, d \rangle \in S_T$ .
- (2)  $\alpha \leq \gamma$ .
- (3)  $(\forall x \in L_\beta)(x \in \mu(H^{L_\delta}(\alpha \cup \{d\})))$  and  $(\forall x \in \mu(H^{L_\delta}(\alpha \cup \{d\}))(x \in L_\beta)$ .
- (4)  $\mu(d) = b$ .

(1) is  $\Sigma_n$  in  $L_{\omega_1}$ , (2) is  $\Delta_0$ , and (3) and (4) are  $\Delta_1$  in  $L_{\omega_1}$ .

Therefore  $\langle S_T, \leq_{S_T} \rangle$  is a tree which is  $\Sigma_n$ -definable over  $L_{\omega_1}$ .

It only remains to show that the relation  $t \in (S_T)_\alpha$  is  $\Sigma_n$  over  $L_{\omega_1}$ . But this is clear, since  $t \in (S_T)_\alpha$  iff  $t \in S_T$  and  $t_0 = \alpha$ . This finishes the proof of Lemma 3.3. ■

REMARK 3.6. Notice that the arguments above show that in  $L$ , if  $(T, \leq_T)$  is a tree where both  $T$  and  $\leq_T$  are  $\Sigma_n$ -definable over  $L_\kappa$  and, possibly, the levels of  $T$  are not  $\Sigma_n$ -definable over  $L_\kappa$ , where  $\kappa$  is an uncountable cardinal, then  $S_T$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -tree over  $L_\kappa$ . Thus, if  $V = L$ , then the conclusion of Lemma 2.7 can be strengthened to: every  $\kappa$ -tree that is  $\Sigma_n$ -definable over  $L_\kappa$  has a cofinal branch. Hence, in Theorem 2.13 we can add the following as a further equivalence:  $\kappa$  is inaccessible and every  $\kappa$ -tree that is  $\Sigma_n$ -definable over  $V_\kappa$  has a cofinal branch.

Continuing now with the proof of Theorem 3.1, recall that WO is the  $\Pi_1^1$  set of elements of the Baire space  $\omega^\omega$  that code well-orderings of  $\omega$ . If  $a \in \text{WO}$ , let  $\|a\|$  be the order-type of the well-ordering coded by  $a$  (see [6]). For  $x \subseteq \omega$ , let  $\bar{x}$  be the element of  $\omega^\omega$  coded by  $x$ , via some recursive bijection between  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)$  and  $\omega^\omega$ .

LEMMA 3.7. *If  $C$  is a  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -generic filter over  $V$ , then there is a function  $\pi \in V[C]$  from WO into WO such that:*

- (1) *For every  $x \in \text{WO}$ ,  $\pi(x)$  is a code for the ordinal  $\|x\|$ .*
- (2) *For every  $x, y \in \text{WO}$ , if  $\|x\| = \|y\|$ , then  $\pi(x) = \pi(y)$ .*
- (3)  *$\pi$  has a  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -name that can be coded by a  $\Delta_3^1$  subset of  $\omega^\omega$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\dot{\text{WO}}$  be the set of all simple  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -names  $\sigma$  for a subset of  $\omega$  such that  $\Vdash_{\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}} \text{“}\sigma \in \dot{\text{WO}}\text{”}$ .

Note that, since  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1} \in L$ , every  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -generic filter over  $V$  is also generic over  $L$ . So, for every  $\gamma < \omega_1$  let  $\tau_\gamma$  be the  $<_L$ -least simple  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -name for a subset of  $\omega$  such that  $\Vdash_{\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}} \text{“}\|\bar{\tau}_\gamma\| = \check{\gamma}\text{”}$ . Let  $B_{\omega_1} = \{\tau_\gamma : \gamma < \omega_1\}$  and let  $\dot{B} = \text{Coll}_{\omega_1} \times B_{\omega_1}$ .

Define the function  $\pi_{\omega_1}$  from  $\dot{\text{WO}}$  into  $B_{\omega_1}$  as follows: for every  $\sigma \in \dot{\text{WO}}$ ,  $\pi_{\omega_1}(\sigma) = \tau$  iff

- (1)  $\tau \in B_{\omega_1}$ ,
- (2)  $\Vdash_{\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}} \|\bar{\sigma}\| = \|\bar{\tau}\|$ .

Let  $\dot{\pi} = \text{Coll}_{\omega_1} \times \pi_{\omega_1}$ .

We can now easily check that if  $C$  is  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -generic over  $V_1$ , then in  $V[C]$ ,  $\pi := \dot{\pi}[C]$  is a function satisfying: if  $\pi(a) = b$ , then  $\|\bar{a}\| = \|\bar{b}\|$  and  $b$  is the unique code in  $\dot{B}[C]$  coding the ordinal  $\|\bar{a}\|$ . Thus  $\pi$  satisfies (1) and (2) of the lemma, modulo a recursive coding of elements of the Baire space  $\omega^\omega$  by subsets of  $\omega$ .

To prove (3) we need to compute the complexity of the sets and names involved in the definition of  $\pi$ .

First observe that  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$  is a  $\Delta_2^1$  poset (see [2]).

Let  $\text{WO}^*$  be the set of codes of elements of  $\dot{\text{WO}}$ . Then  $\text{WO}^*$  is a  $\Delta_2^1$  set of reals (cf. [1]).

**CLAIM 3.8.** *Let  $B^*$  be the set of all codes of elements of  $B_{\omega_1}$ . Then  $B^*$  is a  $\Delta_3^1$  set of reals.*

*Proof.* Let  $<_L^*$  be the following relation: for every  $x, y \in \omega^\omega$ ,  $x <_L^* y$  iff  $x, y$  code simple  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -names in  $L$  for subsets of  $\omega$  and the name coded by  $x$  is  $<_L$ -less than the name coded by  $y$ . Since every simple  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -name for a subset of  $\omega$  is hereditarily countable, the predicate “ $x$  codes a simple  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -name in  $L$  for a subset of  $\omega$ ” is  $\Sigma_1$  in  $H(\omega_1)$ . Hence, as  $<_L$  is also  $\Sigma_1$  over  $H(\omega_1)$ ,  $<_L^*$  is a  $\Sigma_2^1$  relation.

Recall that  $B_{\omega_1}$  is the range of a function that assigns to each  $\gamma < \omega_1$  the  $<_L$ -least  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -name for a subset of  $\omega$  that is forced by  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$  to be a code for  $\gamma$ . Thus,  $x \in B^*$  iff

- (1)  $x$  codes a simple  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -name in  $L$  for a subset of  $\omega$  and  $\Vdash_{\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}} \text{“}x \in \dot{\text{WO}}\text{”}$ ,
- (2) for every  $w$ , if  $w$  codes a simple  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -name for a subset of  $\omega$ , and  $w <_L^* x$ , then  $\not\Vdash_{\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}} \|\bar{w}\| = \|\bar{x}\|$ .

Since (1) is a  $\Sigma_2^1$  sentence and (2) is  $\Pi_2^1$ ,  $B^*$  is a  $\Delta_3^1$  set.

Let  $\pi^*$  be the relation given by:  $\pi^*(x, y)$  iff  $x$  and  $y$  code simple  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -names  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$ , respectively, for subsets of  $\omega$ , and  $\pi_{\omega_1}(\sigma) = \tau$ .

We will finish the proof of (3) of Lemma 3.7 by showing that  $\pi^*$  is a  $\Delta_3^1$  relation.

Let  $S(v, x, y)$  iff  $v$  codes a condition  $p \in \text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ ,  $x$  and  $y$  code simple  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -names  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$ , respectively, for subsets of  $\omega$ , and  $p \Vdash_{\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}} \|\bar{\sigma}\| = \|\bar{\tau}\|$ . Since the relation  $\|\bar{\sigma}\| = \|\bar{\tau}\|$  is  $\Sigma_1^1$ , and  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$  is a  $\Delta_2^1$  ccc poset,  $S$  is a  $\Delta_2^1$  relation.

So, for every  $x, y \in \omega^\omega$ ,  $\pi^*(x, y)$  iff

- (1)  $x \in \text{WO}^*$ ,

- (2)  $y \in B^*$ ,
- (3)  $\forall v S(v, x, y)$ .

Since (1) is  $\Delta_2^1$ , (2) is  $\Delta_3^1$  and (3) is  $\Pi_2^1$ , we see that  $\pi^*$  is  $\Delta_3^1$ . This concludes the proof of Lemma 3.7. ■

Recall that WF denotes the  $\Pi_1^1$  set of all reals that code a well-founded relation on  $\omega$  (see [6]). Every set in  $H(\omega_1)$  can be coded by some  $x \in \text{WF}$  as follows:  $x \in \omega^\omega$  codes  $a \in H(\omega_1)$  iff  $\langle \omega, E_x \rangle \cong \langle \text{TC}(a), \in \rangle$ , where for  $n, m \in \omega$ ,  $nE_x m$  iff  $x(J(n, m)) = 0$ , where  $J$  is some recursive one-to-one pairing function from  $\omega \times \omega$  onto  $\omega$ . Moreover, every  $x \in \text{WF}$  codes one and only one set in  $H(\omega_1)$ . So, given  $x \in \text{WF}$ , denote by  $[x]$  the set coded by  $x$ . Note that the map  $x \mapsto [x]$  is  $\Delta_1$  over  $H(\omega_1)$ . Let  $[x] \sim [y]$  iff  $x \notin \text{WF}$  or  $y \notin \text{WF}$  or  $\langle \omega, E_x \rangle \cong \langle \omega, E_y \rangle$ . Thus,  $[x] \sim [y]$  is a  $\Sigma_1^1$  relation on the reals. Hence, we may code every function  $f \in H(\omega_1)$  by a real so that the set  $F$  of all such codes is a  $\Delta_2^1$  set of reals: for every  $x \in \omega^\omega$ ,  $x \in F$  iff

- (1)  $x$  codes  $\langle x_n : n \in \omega \rangle$ ,
- (2)  $\forall n (x_n \text{ codes } \langle x_n^0, x_n^1 \rangle \wedge x_n^0, x_n^1 \in \text{WF})$ ,
- (3)  $\forall n, m ([x_n^0] \sim [x_m^0] \rightarrow [x_n^1] \sim [x_m^1])$ .

Back to the proof of Theorem 3.1, recall that we have a tree  $T$  whose nodes are functions in  $2^{<\omega_1}$  and which is  $\Sigma_1$ -definable in  $L_{\omega_1}$ . By Lemma 3.3,  $S_T$  is also  $\Sigma_1$ -definable in  $L_{\omega_1}$ . And by Lemma 3.2,  $S_T$  is still an Aronszajn tree in  $V$ , and in any generic extension of  $V$  that preserves  $\omega_1$ . Force with  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$  over  $V$ . In the generic extension  $V[C]$ , and using the function  $\pi$  from Lemma 3.7, we may code the nodes of  $S_T$  by reals to obtain an isomorphic tree  $S_T^*$  on the reals. Namely: for all  $x, y, z \in \omega^\omega$ ,  $\langle x, y, z \rangle \in S_T^*$  iff

- (1)  $x, y \in \text{WO}$ ,
- (2)  $\pi(x) = x \wedge \pi(y) = y$ ,
- (3)  $\exists f (\langle \|x\|, \|y\|, f \rangle \in S_T \wedge z \text{ codes the } <_L\text{-least } \text{Coll}_{\omega_1}\text{-name } \sigma \text{ for a real such that } \sigma[C] \text{ codes } f)$ .

Thus,  $S_T^*$  is  $\Sigma_1$ -definable in  $H(\omega_1)$  with  $\pi$  and  $C$  as additional predicates.

We will now define a version of the specializing forcing of Harrington–Shelah ([5]) which will code, using  $S_T^*$ , any given  $\omega_1$ -sequence of reals into a single real. So, let  $X$  be a fixed sequence of reals of length  $\omega_1$ , and let  $X_\alpha$  denote the  $\alpha$ th element of  $X$ .

Let the forcing notion  $\mathbb{P}(S_T^*, X)$  be defined as follows:

- $q \in \mathbb{P}(S_T^*, X)$  iff  $q$  is a finite function from  $S_T^*$  into  $\mathbb{Q}$  such that
  - (1)  $(\forall s, t \in \text{dom}(q))(s <_{S_T^*} t \rightarrow q(s) < q(t))$ ,
  - (2)  $(\forall s = \langle x, y, z \rangle \in \text{dom}(q))((z \text{ codes } \sigma \wedge \sigma[C] \text{ codes } f \wedge \text{dom}(f) = \omega \cdot \alpha \wedge q(s) \in \omega) \rightarrow q(s) \in X_\alpha)$ .
- $q \leq q'$  iff  $q' \subseteq q$ .



It is clear that  $\mathbb{P}(S_T^*, X)$  is  $\Sigma_1$ -definable in  $H(\omega_1)$  with  $\pi$ ,  $C$ , and  $X$  as additional predicates. And as in [5] one can show that  $\mathbb{P}(S_T^*, X)$  has the property  $K$ , i.e., every uncountable subset contains an uncountable subset of pairwise compatible conditions. Hence it is ccc. Forcing with  $\mathbb{P}(S_T^*, X)$  adds an order-preserving and continuous function  $F_X : S_T^* \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$ , with the property that for every  $n \in \omega$ ,  $n \in X_\alpha$  iff  $F(t) = n$  for some  $t \in S_T^*$  of height  $\omega \cdot \alpha$ . Moreover,  $F_X$  specializes  $S_T^*$ , i.e., for every  $a \in \mathbb{Q}$ ,  $F_X^{-1}(a)$  is an antichain of  $S_T^*$ .

Now let  $X^0 = \text{range}(\pi) = \{x \in \omega^\omega : \exists y (y \in \text{WO} \wedge \pi(y) = x)\}$ , ordered by  $x \leq_{X^0} x'$  iff  $x, x' \in X_0 \wedge \|x\| \leq \|x'\|$ . Clearly,  $(X^0, \leq_{X^0})$  is a well-ordering of reals of order-type  $\omega_1$ . By using some fixed recursive coding of elements of  $\omega^\omega$  by subsets of  $\omega$ , we may assume that  $X_\alpha^0 \in \mathcal{P}(\omega)$  for all  $\alpha < \omega_1$ .

We next describe a finite-support iteration of length  $\omega$ ,  $\Delta_2$ -definable over  $H(\omega_1)$ , with  $\pi$ ,  $C$ , and  $X^0$  as additional predicates. Let  $\mathbb{P}_0 = \mathbb{P}(S_T^*, X^0)$ . Given  $\mathbb{P}_n$ , which is  $\Delta_2$ -definable over  $H(\omega_1)$ , with  $\pi$ ,  $C$ , and  $X^0$  as additional predicates, we define  $\mathbb{P}_{n+1}$ :

For  $\beta < \omega_1$ , let  $(S_T^*)_{<\beta}$  denote the set of nodes of  $S_T^*$  of height  $< \beta$ . Notice that the predicate  $x \in (S_T^*)_{<\beta}$  is  $\Sigma_1$  in the parameter  $\beta$  over  $H(\omega_1)$ . Let  $\dot{F}_{X^n}$  be the  $\mathbb{P}_n$ -name for the generic specializing function  $F_{X^n}$ . Thus,

$$\dot{F}_{X^n} \upharpoonright (S_T^*)_{<\omega \cdot (\alpha+1)} = \{\langle p, \langle t, r \rangle \rangle : p \in \mathbb{P}_n, \langle t, r \rangle \in p, t \in (S_T^*)_{<\omega \cdot (\alpha+1)}\}.$$

Since  $\mathbb{P}_n$  is  $\Delta_2$ -definable over  $H(\omega_1)$ , with  $\pi$ ,  $C$ , and  $X^0$  as additional predicates, so is the set displayed above, with  $\alpha$  as a parameter. Let  $\dot{X}^{n+1}$  be a  $\mathbb{P}_n$ -name for a code for  $\dot{F}_{X^n}$ . i.e.,  $\dot{X}^{n+1} = \langle \dot{X}_\alpha^{n+1} : \alpha < \omega_1 \rangle$ , where for every  $\alpha < \omega_1$ ,

$$\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_n} \text{“}\dot{X}_\alpha^{n+1} \subseteq \omega \text{ codes } \dot{F}_{X^n} \upharpoonright (S_T^*)_{<\omega \cdot (\alpha+1)}\text{”}.$$

So,  $\mathbb{P}_n$  forces that  $\dot{X}_\alpha^{n+1}$  codes  $\langle x, \dot{y} \rangle$ , where  $x = \langle x_k : k \in \omega \rangle$  codes  $(S_T^*)_{<\omega \cdot (\alpha+1)}$ ,  $\dot{y} = \langle \dot{y}_k : k \in \omega \rangle$ , and  $\dot{y}_k = \{\langle p, r \rangle : \langle x_k, r \rangle \in p\}$ . Notice that the sentence “ $x$  codes  $(S_T^*)_{<\omega \cdot (\alpha+1)}$ ” is  $\Delta_2$ .

Now let  $\langle p, \dot{q} \rangle \in \mathbb{P}_{n+1}$  iff  $p \in \mathbb{P}_n$  and  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_n}$  “ $\dot{q} \in \mathbb{P}(S_T^*, \dot{X}^{n+1})$ ”. Let us check that  $\mathbb{P}_{n+1}$  is  $\Delta_2$ -definable over  $H(\omega_1)$ , with  $\pi$ ,  $C$ , and  $X^0$  as additional predicates.

First notice that the predicate “ $N(\dot{q})$  iff  $\dot{q}$  is a  $\mathbb{P}_n$ -name for a finite function from  $S_T^*$  into  $\mathbb{Q}$ ” is  $\Delta_2$ . Indeed,  $N(\dot{q})$  iff  $\dot{q}$  is a finite set of triples  $\langle q, s, r \rangle$ , where  $q \in \mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $s \in S_T^*$ , and  $r \in \mathbb{Q}$ , and for every  $\langle q_0, s_0, r_0 \rangle, \langle q_1, s_1, r_1 \rangle \in \dot{q}$ , if  $s_0 = s_1$  and  $r_0 \neq r_1$ , then  $q_0 \perp q_1$ .

Thus, we have:  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_n}$  “ $\dot{q} \in \mathbb{P}(S_T^*, \dot{X}^{n+1})$ ” iff  $p \in \mathbb{P}_n$ ,  $N(\dot{q})$ , and

- (1)  $\forall \langle q_0, s_0, r_0 \rangle, \langle q_1, s_1, r_1 \rangle \in \dot{q} (s_0 <_{S_T^*} s_1 \wedge r_1 \geq r_0 \rightarrow q_0 \perp q_1)$ ,
- (2)  $\forall \langle q_0, s_0, r_0 \rangle \in \dot{q} (s_0 = \langle x, y, z \rangle \wedge z \text{ codes } \sigma \wedge \sigma[C] \text{ codes } f \wedge \text{dom}(f) = \omega \cdot \alpha \wedge p \leq q_0 \wedge r_0 \in \omega \rightarrow q_0 \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_n} \text{“}r_0 \in \dot{X}_\alpha^{n+1}\text{”})$ .

But  $q_0 \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_n} \text{“}r_0 \in \dot{X}_\alpha^{n+1}\text{”}$  iff  $r_0 = \langle k, r \rangle$  and there exists  $q_1 \leq q_0$  such that  $\langle x_k, r \rangle \in q_1$ , where  $x = \langle x_k : k \in \omega \rangle$  is the code for  $(S_T^*)_{<\omega \cdot (\alpha+1)}$ .

This shows that  $\mathbb{P}_{n+1}$  is also  $\Delta_2$  over  $H(\omega_1)$ , with  $\pi$ ,  $C$ , and  $X^0$  as additional predicates.

Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be the direct limit of the iteration  $\langle \mathbb{P}_n : n < \omega \rangle$ . Since the support of the iteration is finite, it is easily seen that  $\mathbb{P}$  is  $\Delta_2$ -definable over  $H(\omega_1)$  with  $\pi$ ,  $C$ , and  $X^0$  as additional predicates (see Lemma 4.1 below). Moreover, every  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic filter  $G$  over  $V[C]$  adds a real  $c$  such that  $X^0 \in L[c]$  (see [5]), and so  $V[C][G] \models \text{“}\exists x (L[x] \text{ has uncountably many reals})\text{”}$ .

It is interesting to observe that  $\mathbb{P}$  (and, in fact,  $\mathbb{P}(S_T^*, X)$ ) is not projective in  $V[C]$ , as there are no uncountable projective sequences of reals in  $V[C]$ . However, we claim that the two-step iteration  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1} * \mathbb{P}$  is  $\Delta_3^1$ .

It will be enough to show that the relation  $R(x, y)$  given by:

$$\text{“}x \in \text{Coll}_{\omega_1}, y \text{ is a Coll}_{\omega_1}\text{-name for a real, and } x \Vdash_{\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}} y \in \dot{\mathbb{P}}\text{”}$$

is  $\Delta_2$  in  $H(\omega_1)$ , without parameters.

But since  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$  is a  $\Delta_2^1$  forcing notion, it will be enough to see that the formula  $\text{“}x \Vdash_{\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}} y \in \dot{\mathbb{P}}\text{”}$  is equivalent both to a  $\Sigma_2$  and a  $\Pi_2$  formula in  $H(\omega_1)$ . For this, it is sufficient to show that the formula  $y \in \dot{\mathbb{P}}$  is equivalent both to a  $\Sigma_2$  and a  $\Pi_2$  formula in  $H(\omega_1)$ . This is clearly so in the  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -name for  $\pi$  as a parameter. But since by Lemma 3.7,  $\pi$  has a  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1}$ -name that is  $\Delta_2$ -definable in  $H(\omega_1)$  without parameters, we are done.

Since  $\text{“}\exists x (L[x] \text{ has uncountably many reals})\text{”}$  is a  $\Sigma_4^1$  sentence, and it holds in a  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1} * \mathbb{P}$ -generic extension of  $V$ , by  $\Sigma_4^1$ -absoluteness for  $\Delta_3^1$  ccc posets, it holds in  $V$ . Therefore, there exists a real  $x \in V$  such that  $\omega_1^{L[x]} = \omega_1$ , contradicting the fact that  $\omega_1$  is inaccessible to reals. This finishes the proof of 3.1. ■

Theorem 3.1 can be easily generalized:

**COROLLARY 3.9.** *Let  $n \geq 2$ . If  $\Sigma_4^1$  absoluteness holds for  $\Sigma_{n+1}^1$  ccc forcing notions, then  $\omega_1$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal in  $L$ .*

*Proof.* As in Theorem 3.1, if  $\omega_1$  is not a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal in  $L$ , then there exists an Aronszajn tree  $T$  on  $2^{<\omega_1}$  which is a  $\Sigma_n$ -tree over  $L_{\omega_1}$ . As in Lemmas 3.2 and 3.3, we can find  $S_T$ , a version of the Silver tree for  $T$ , which is an Aronszajn tree definable over  $L_{\omega_1}$  and has the same complexity as  $T$ . Using  $S_T$ , we may define the poset  $\mathbb{P}$  as in Theorem 3.1 in such a way that  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1} * \mathbb{P}$  is a  $\Sigma_{n+1}^1$  and ccc poset that adds a real  $x$  such that  $\omega_1 = \omega_1^{L[x]}$ , yielding a contradiction. ■

We finish with two corollaries that summarize our results:

COROLLARY 3.10. *For every  $n \geq 2$ , the following are equiconsistent:*

- (1)  $L(\mathbb{R})$ -absoluteness under  $\widetilde{\Sigma}_{n+1}^1$  ccc posets.
- (2) There exists a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal.

COROLLARY 3.11. *The following are equiconsistent:*

- (1)  $L(\mathbb{R})$ -absoluteness under projective ccc posets.
- (2) There exists a  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c. cardinal.

**4. On iterations of projective ccc posets.** We will show that after the Levy collapse of a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal, the property of  $L(\mathbb{R})$  being a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model is preserved under finite-support iterations of  $\widetilde{\Sigma}_{n+1}^1$  ccc forcing notions.

Recall that if  $\mathbb{P}$  is a forcing notion, a *simple*  $\mathbb{P}$ -name for a real, i.e., for a function from  $\omega$  to  $\omega$ , is a set  $\tau$  of triples  $\langle p, m, n \rangle$  such that  $p \in \mathbb{P}$ ,  $n, m \in \omega$ , and for every  $m$ , the set of all  $p$  such that  $\langle p, m, n \rangle \in \tau$  for some  $n \in \omega$ , is a maximal antichain of  $\mathbb{P}$ .

Observe that if  $\mathbb{P}$  is ccc and its conditions are real numbers, then for every simple  $\mathbb{P}$ -name  $\tau$  for a real,  $|\text{TC}(\tau)|$  is countable. Further, if  $\mathbb{P}$  is a finite-support iteration of ccc forcing notions whose conditions are reals, then it can be easily shown, by induction on the length of the iteration, that every simple  $\mathbb{P}$ -name for a real has countable transitive closure.

LEMMA 4.1. *Let  $n \geq 1$ . Suppose  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$  and  $\mathbb{P} \in M$  is the direct limit of an iteration  $\langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha, \dot{Q}_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$  of countable length and with finite support such that for every  $\alpha < \lambda$ ,*

$$\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha} \text{“}\dot{Q}_\alpha \text{ is a } \widetilde{\Sigma}_{n+1}^1 \text{ ccc poset”}.$$

*Then the  $L(\mathbb{R})$  of any  $\mathbb{P}$ -extension of  $M$  is also a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $\kappa = \omega_1^M$ . Force over  $M$  to obtain a  $\text{Coll}_\kappa$ -generic  $C$  over  $V$  with  $\mathbb{R}^M = \mathbb{R}^{V[C]}$  (see Lemma 1.1).

In  $M$ , for each  $\alpha < \lambda$ , fix a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha$ -name  $\tau_\alpha$  for a real that codes the parameters in some fixed  $\widetilde{\Sigma}_{n+1}^1$  definition of  $\dot{Q}_\alpha$ .

Since the iteration is of countable length and ccc, all the  $\tau_\alpha$ ,  $\alpha < \lambda$ , belong to  $V[C]$  and  $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}^{V[C]}$ , where  $\mathbb{P}^{V[C]}$  is the iteration in  $V[C]$  defined in the same way as  $\mathbb{P}$  is defined in  $M$ . Moreover, a filter  $G \subseteq \mathbb{P}$  is  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic over  $M$  iff it is  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic over  $V[C]$ , and  $\mathbb{R}^{M[G]} = \mathbb{R}^{V[C][G]}$ . Thus, it is enough to show that for every real  $x$  in  $V[C][G]$  and every  $X \subseteq \text{Coll}_\kappa * \mathbb{P}$  of size less than  $\kappa$  there is a complete subposet  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \mathbb{P}$  such that  $\mathbb{Q}$  is countable in  $V[C][G]$ ,  $X \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$  and  $x$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -generic over  $V$ .

We proceed by induction on  $\lambda$ . So we assume that for every  $\alpha < \lambda$  and every  $X \subseteq \text{Coll}_\kappa * \mathbb{P}_\alpha$  of size less than  $\kappa$ , there is a complete subposet  $\mathbb{Q}$  of  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \mathbb{P}_\alpha$ , also of size less than  $\kappa$ , such that  $X \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ .

We may assume that  $\lambda$  is a limit ordinal, since the successor case follows directly from the proof of Theorem 2.17.

Now fix a subset  $X$  of  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \mathbb{P}$  of size less than  $\kappa$ , and fix a real  $x$  in  $V[C][G]$ . Let  $\dot{x} \in V$  be a simple  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \dot{\mathbb{P}}$ -name for  $x$ , and let  $Y = \text{Coll}_\kappa * \dot{\mathbb{P}} \cap \text{TC}(\dot{x})$ . Since  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \dot{\mathbb{P}}$  is  $\kappa$ -cc,  $Y$  has cardinality less than  $\kappa$ . Let  $Z = X \cup Y$ .

For every  $\alpha < \lambda$ , let  $Z_\alpha = Z \cap \text{Coll}_\kappa * \mathbb{P}_\alpha$ . By inductive hypothesis, we can find a  $\subseteq$ -increasing chain  $\langle \mathbb{Q}_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$  such that  $\mathbb{Q}_\alpha$  is a complete subposet of  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \mathbb{P}_\alpha$ , hence also a complete subposet of  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \mathbb{P}$ , such that  $Z_\alpha \subseteq \mathbb{Q}_\alpha$  for all  $\alpha < \lambda$ . Let  $\mathbb{Q} = \bigcup_{\alpha < \lambda} \mathbb{Q}_\alpha$ . Since the iteration has finite support,  $\mathbb{Q}$  is a complete subposet of  $\text{Coll}_\kappa * \mathbb{P}$ . Moreover,  $\mathbb{Q}$  has size less than  $\kappa$  and  $Z \subseteq \mathbb{Q}$ . Furthermore, letting  $H = C * G \cap \mathbb{Q}$ , we have  $\dot{x}[H] = \dot{x}[C * G] = x$ , and so  $x$  is  $\mathbb{Q}$ -generic over  $V$ . ■

For conciseness, in what follows we will use the notation  $\mathbb{P} \triangleleft \mathbb{Q}$  to express that  $\mathbb{P}$  is a complete subposet of  $\mathbb{Q}$ .

**THEOREM 4.2.** *Let  $\kappa$  be a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal,  $n \geq 1$ , and let  $\lambda > 0$ . Suppose that  $\mathbb{P} = \mathbb{P}_\lambda \in V$  is the direct limit of an iteration  $\langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha, \dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$  with finite support such that  $\mathbb{P}_0 = \text{Coll}_\kappa$  and for every  $\alpha < \lambda$ ,*

$$\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha} \text{“}\dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\alpha \text{ is a } \Sigma_{n+1}^1 \text{ ccc poset”}.$$

*Then the  $L(\mathbb{R})$  of any  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic extension of  $V$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $G$  is a  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic filter over  $V$ . Notice that  $\omega_1^{V[G]} = \kappa$ , and so  $\omega_1^{V[G]}$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal in  $V$ . We only need to prove that every real in  $V[G]$  is small-generic over  $V$ , for then it will clearly follow that for every real  $x$  in  $V[G]$ ,  $\omega_1^{V[G]}$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal in  $V[x]$ .

The proof is by induction on  $\lambda$ . So, suppose that for every  $\beta < \lambda$ , writing  $\mathbb{P}_\beta$  for the iteration up to  $\beta$  and letting  $G_\beta = G \cap \mathbb{P}_\beta$ , we find that  $L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G_\beta]}$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$ .

Let  $\mathbb{P}^1 = \langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha^1, \dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\alpha^1 : \alpha < \lambda \rangle \in V[G_0]$  be the remaining part of the iteration  $\langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha, \dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$ , i.e.,  $\mathbb{P}_0^1 = \dot{\mathbb{Q}}_0[G_0]$ ,  $\mathbb{P}_{n+1}^1 = \mathbb{P}_n^1 * \mathbb{Q}_{n+1}$  for  $n < \omega$ , and  $\mathbb{P}_{\alpha+1}^1 = \mathbb{P}_\alpha^1 * \dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\alpha$  for  $\alpha \geq \omega$ . We may assume that for every  $\alpha$ ,

$$\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1} \text{“}\dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\alpha^1 \text{ has a largest element } \mathbf{1}\text{”},$$

and  $\mathbf{1}$  is some fixed real that does not depend on  $\alpha$ . Moreover, we may assume that for every  $p \in \mathbb{P}^1$  and every  $\alpha < \lambda$ ,  $p(\alpha)$  is a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ -name for a real.

In  $V[G_0]$ , for each  $\alpha < \lambda$ ,  $\alpha > 0$ , fix a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ -name  $\tau_\alpha$  for a real that codes the parameters in a fixed  $\Sigma_{n+1}^1$  definition of  $\dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\alpha^1$ , so that for some  $\Sigma_{n+1}^1$

formulas  $\varphi_\alpha(x, y)$ ,  $\psi_\alpha(x, y, z)$ , and  $\theta_\alpha(x, y, z)$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha} \text{“}\dot{Q}_\alpha &= \{x : \varphi_\alpha(x, \tau_\alpha)\}\text{”}, \\ \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha} \text{“}\leq_{\dot{Q}_\alpha^1} &= \{\langle x, y \rangle : \psi_\alpha(x, y, \tau_\alpha)\}\text{”}, \\ \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha} \text{“}\perp_{\dot{Q}_\alpha^1} &= \{\langle x, y \rangle : \theta_\alpha(x, y, \tau_\alpha)\}\text{”}. \end{aligned}$$

Let  $x$  be a real in  $V[G]$  and let  $\dot{x} \in V[G_0]$  be a simple  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -name for  $x$ .

Work in  $V[G_0]$ . Since  $\mathbb{P}^1$  is ccc,  $|\text{TC}(\dot{x})|$  is countable. Let  $\mu$  be a large enough regular cardinal, and let  $N \preceq H(\mu)$  be such that:

- (1)  $\mathbb{P}^1, \langle \tau_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda \rangle, \dot{x} \in N$ ,
- (2)  $\text{TC}(\dot{x}) \subseteq N$ ,
- (3)  $|N| = \aleph_0$ .

Notice that if  $\alpha \in \text{OR} \cap N$ , then  $\tau_\alpha \in N$ , and since  $|\text{TC}(\tau_\alpha)|$  is countable,  $\text{TC}(\tau_\alpha) \subseteq N$ .

Now let  $\mathbb{P}^*$  be the direct limit of the finite-support iteration  $\langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha^*, \dot{Q}_\alpha^* : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$  defined as follows:  $\mathbb{P}_0^* = \mathbb{P}_0^1$ , and  $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*} \text{“}\dot{Q}_\alpha^* = \{x : \varphi_\alpha(x, \tau_\alpha)\}\text{”}$  if  $\alpha \in \text{OR} \cap N$ , and  $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*} \text{“}\dot{Q}_\alpha^* = \{\mathbf{1}\}\text{”}$  otherwise, i.e.,  $\dot{Q}_\alpha^*$  is the trivial poset.

We need to check that the iteration is well-defined, i.e., if  $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*} \text{“}\dot{Q}_\alpha^* = \{x : \varphi_\alpha(x, \tau_\alpha)\}\text{”}$ , then  $\tau_\alpha$  is a  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ -name. We will show much more:

CLAIM 4.3.

- (1) If  $p \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ , then  $p \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ . And if  $p \in N$ , then the converse also holds.
- (2) If  $\sigma$  is a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ -name for a real, then it is also a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ -name for a real. And if  $\sigma \in N$ , then the converse also holds.
- (3) If  $p \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$  and  $\sigma, \sigma', \tau_\alpha$  are simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ -names for reals, then:
  - (a) If  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*} \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)$ , then  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1} \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)$ .
  - (b) If  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*} \psi_\alpha(\sigma, \sigma', \tau_\alpha)$ , then  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1} \psi_\alpha(\sigma, \sigma', \tau_\alpha)$ .
  - (c) If  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*} \theta_\alpha(\sigma, \sigma', \tau_\alpha)$ , then  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1} \theta_\alpha(\sigma, \sigma', \tau_\alpha)$ .

And if  $\alpha, p, \sigma, \sigma' \in N$ , then the converses of (a), (b), and (c) also hold.

- (4)  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^* \leq \mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ .

*Proof.* By induction on  $\alpha$ . For  $\alpha = 0$  it is clear. So, let  $\alpha = \beta + 1$ .

(1) Fix  $p \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ . Then  $p = \langle p \upharpoonright \beta, \sigma' \rangle$ , where  $p \upharpoonright \beta \in \mathbb{P}_\beta^*$ ,  $\sigma'$  is a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^*$ -name, and either  $p \upharpoonright \beta \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\beta^*} \text{“}\sigma' = \mathbf{1}\text{”}$ , or  $p \upharpoonright \beta \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\beta^*} \varphi_\beta(\sigma', \tau_\beta)$ . So, by induction hypothesis on (1), (2), and (3)(a), we deduce that  $p \upharpoonright \beta \in \mathbb{P}_\beta^1$ ,  $\sigma'$  is a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^1$ -name, and either  $p \upharpoonright \beta \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\beta^1} \text{“}\sigma' = \mathbf{1}\text{”}$ , or  $p \upharpoonright \beta \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\beta^1} \varphi_\beta(\sigma', \tau_\beta)$ . This shows that  $p \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ .

Fix now  $p = \langle p \upharpoonright \beta, \sigma' \rangle \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^1 \cap N$ . Thus,  $p \upharpoonright \beta \in \mathbb{P}_\beta^1$ ,  $\sigma'$  is a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^1$ -name, and  $p \upharpoonright \beta \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\beta^1} \varphi_\beta(\sigma', \tau_\beta)$ . Since  $p \in N$ , we also know that  $p \upharpoonright \beta, \sigma' \in N$ . So,

again by induction hypothesis on (1), (2), and (3)(a), we infer that  $p \upharpoonright \beta \in \mathbb{P}_\beta^*$ ,  $\sigma'$  is a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^*$ -name, and  $p \upharpoonright \beta \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\beta^*} \varphi_\beta(\sigma', \tau_\beta)$ , which shows that  $p \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ .

(2) Now suppose that  $\sigma$  is a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ -name for a real. If  $q \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^* \cap \text{TC}(\sigma)$ , we can conclude as before in the case of  $p$  that  $q \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ . This implies that  $\sigma$  is a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ -name.

If  $\sigma$  is a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ -name for a real and  $\sigma \in N$ , then  $\text{TC}(\sigma) \subseteq N$ . So, if  $q \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^1 \cap \text{TC}(\sigma)$ , we can conclude as before in the case of  $p$  that  $q \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ . This implies that  $\sigma$  is a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ -name. In particular, if  $\alpha \in N$ , then  $\tau_\alpha$  is a  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ -name.

(3) Suppose now that  $p \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ ,  $\sigma, \tau_\alpha$  are simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ -names for reals, and  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*} \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)$ . We have already shown that  $p \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$  and  $\sigma$  is a simple  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ -name. Since by the induction hypothesis of the theorem,  $L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G_0]^{\mathbb{P}_\beta^*}}$  and  $L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G_0]^{\mathbb{P}_\beta^1}}$  are both  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay models over  $V$ , with the same  $\omega_1$ , and since, by induction hypothesis on (4),  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^* \triangleleft \mathbb{P}_\beta^1$ , we also have  $\mathbb{R}^{V[G_0]^{\mathbb{P}_\beta^*}} \subseteq \mathbb{R}^{V[G_0]^{\mathbb{P}_\beta^1}}$ . So, by Lemma 1.3, there exists a canonical embedding from  $L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G_0]^{\mathbb{P}_\beta^*}}$  into  $L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G_0]^{\mathbb{P}_\beta^1}}$ . We claim that  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1} \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)$ . Indeed, suppose  $G_\alpha^1 = G_\beta^1 * \dot{H}$  is  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ -generic over  $V[G_0]$ , with  $p = p \upharpoonright \beta * \dot{q} \in G_\alpha^1$ . Since  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*} \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)$ , and  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^* \triangleleft \mathbb{P}_\beta^1$ , we deduce that  $G_\beta^* := G_\beta^1 \cap \mathbb{P}_\beta^*$  is  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^*$ -generic over  $V[G_0]$  with  $p \upharpoonright \beta \in G_\beta^*$ . Hence,

$$V[G_0][G_\beta^*] \models "i_{G_\beta^*}(\dot{q}) \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}_\beta^*} \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)".$$

Since we have  $i_{G_\beta^1}(\dot{q}) = i_{G_\beta^*}(\dot{q})$ , by the canonical elementary embedding of  $L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G_0][G_\beta^*]}$  into  $L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G_0][G_\beta^1]}$ , we obtain

$$V[G_0][G_\beta^1] \models "i_{G_\beta^1}(\dot{q}) \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}_\beta^1} \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)".$$

Hence,  $V[G_0][G_\alpha^1] \models \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)$ . This proves (a), and similar arguments prove (b) and (c).

Suppose now that  $\alpha, p, \sigma \in N$ , and  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1} \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)$ . We have already shown that  $p \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$  and  $\sigma, \tau_\alpha$  are  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ -names. To see that  $p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*} \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)$ , suppose  $G_\alpha^* = G_\beta^* * \dot{H}$  is  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ -generic over  $V[G_0]$  with  $p = p \upharpoonright \beta * \dot{q} \in G_\alpha^*$ . Since  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^* \triangleleft \mathbb{P}_\beta^1$ , we can extend  $G_\beta^*$  to a  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^1$ -generic filter  $G_\beta^1$  over  $V[G_0]$  such that

$$V[G_0][G_\beta^1] \models "i_{G_\beta^1}(\dot{q}) \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}_\beta^1} \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)".$$

Since  $i_{G_\beta^1}(\dot{q}) = i_{G_\beta^*}(\dot{q})$  and since  $\beta \in N$ , by the canonical elementary embedding we have

$$V[G_0][G_\beta^*] \models "i_{G_\beta^*}(\dot{q}) \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}_\beta^*} \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)".$$

Hence,  $V[G_0][G_\alpha^*] \models \varphi_\alpha(\sigma, \tau_\alpha)$ . This proves the converse of (a), and similar arguments prove the converses of (b) and (c).

(4) Finally, suppose  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^* \triangleleft \mathbb{P}_\beta^1$ . By (3),  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$  is a subposet of  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$  and the incompatibility relation is preserved. Now suppose  $A \in V[G_0]$  is a maximal antichain of  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^*$ . Then  $A \upharpoonright \beta := \{p \upharpoonright \beta : p \in A\}$  is a maximal antichain of  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^*$  and, by induction hypothesis, it is also a maximal antichain of  $\mathbb{P}_\beta^1$ . If  $\beta \notin N$ , then clearly  $A$  is maximal in  $\mathbb{P}_\alpha^1$ . So, suppose  $\beta \in N$ . Then every  $p \in A$  is of the form  $\langle p \upharpoonright \beta, \sigma \rangle$ , where  $p \upharpoonright \beta \Vdash_{\mathbb{Q}_\beta^*} \varphi_\beta(\sigma, \tau_\beta)$ . Let  $A(\beta) := \{p(\beta) : p \in A\}$ . Then  $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\beta^*}$  “ $A(\beta)$  is a maximal antichain of  $\dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\beta^*$ ”. Notice that, since  $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\beta^*}$  “ $A(\beta)$  is countable”,  $A(\beta) \in L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G_0]^{\mathbb{P}_\beta^*}}$ . Thus, by the canonical embedding from  $L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G_0]^{\mathbb{P}_\beta^*}}$  into  $L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G_0]^{\mathbb{P}_\beta^1}}$ , we conclude that  $\Vdash_{\mathbb{P}_\beta^1}$  “ $A(\beta)$  is a maximal antichain of  $\dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\beta^1$ ”.

If  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal, then the claim follows by induction, using the fact that the iterations have finite support. This finishes the proof of the claim. ■

Since the iterations have finite support, it follows from the claim above that  $\mathbb{P}^* \triangleleft \mathbb{P}$ . Moreover, since  $\dot{x} \in N$ ,  $\dot{x}$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^*$ -name. Notice that  $\mathbb{P}^*$  is a ccc iteration.

Let  $\bar{\mathbb{P}} = \langle \bar{\mathbb{P}}_\beta, \dot{\bar{\mathbb{Q}}}_\beta : \beta < \text{ot}(\text{On} \cap N) \rangle$  be the iteration consisting of all non-trivial iterands of  $\mathbb{P}^*$ , i.e.,  $\bar{\mathbb{P}}_0 = \mathbb{P}_0^*$  and for every  $\beta < \text{ot}(\text{On} \cap N)$ ,  $\Vdash_{\bar{\mathbb{P}}_\beta}$  “ $\dot{\bar{\mathbb{Q}}}_\beta = \{x : \varphi_\alpha(x, \tau_\alpha)\}$ ”, where  $\alpha \in N$  and  $\beta = \text{ot}(\alpha \cap N)$ . For each  $p \in \mathbb{P}^*$ , let  $\bar{p} \in \bar{\mathbb{P}}$  be the result of deleting the coordinates of  $p$  that correspond to the trivial iterands of  $\mathbb{P}^*$ . Clearly, the map  $e : \bar{p} \mapsto p$  is a dense complete embedding of  $\bar{\mathbb{P}}$  into  $\mathbb{P}^*$ . Notice that  $\dot{x}$  is a  $\bar{\mathbb{P}}$ -name.

Recall that  $G$  is  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic over  $V$ , and  $x$  is a real in  $V[G]$ . Let us write  $G$  as  $G_0 * G^1$ , where  $G_0$  is  $\mathbb{P}_0$ -generic over  $V$  and  $G^1$  is  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -generic over  $V[G_0]$ . Then  $\dot{x}$  is a  $\mathbb{P}^1$ -name in  $V[G_0]$  and  $i_{G^1}(\dot{x}) = x$ . Let  $g = e^{-1}[G^1 \cap \mathbb{P}^*]$ . Then  $g$  is  $\bar{\mathbb{P}}$ -generic over  $V[G_0]$  and  $i_g(\dot{x}) = x$ . This shows that  $x$  belongs to a countable finite-support iteration over  $V[G_0]$  of  $\sum_{n+1}^1$  ccc forcing notions. So, by Lemma 4.1,  $x$  is small-generic over  $V$ . This proves the theorem. ■

**COROLLARY 4.4.** *Suppose that  $L(\mathbb{R})^M$  is a  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$  and  $\mathbb{P} \in M$  is the direct limit of an iteration  $\langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha, \dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$  with finite support such that for every  $\alpha < \lambda$ ,*

$$\Vdash_\alpha \text{ “} \dot{\mathbb{Q}}_\alpha \text{ is a projective ccc poset”}.$$

*Then the  $L(\mathbb{R})$  of any  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic extension of  $M$  is also a  $\Sigma_\omega$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$ .*

**4.1. Two applications to Martin’s Axiom for projective posets.** The first application will show, modulo the consistency of definable weakly compact cardinals, that Martin’s Axiom restricted to posets in a given projective point-class does not imply Martin’s Axiom for posets in higher point-classes.

DEFINITION 4.5. Let  $\Gamma$  be a class of posets. *Martin's Axiom for  $\Gamma$* , henceforth denoted by  $\text{MA}(\Gamma)$ , is the following statement:

*For every ccc poset  $\mathbb{P} \in \Gamma$  and for every family  $\langle A_i : i < \kappa \rangle$ ,  $\kappa < 2^{\aleph_0}$ , of maximal antichains of  $\mathbb{P}$ , there exists  $G \subseteq \mathbb{P}$  directed such that for every  $i < \kappa$ ,  $G \cap A_i \neq \emptyset$ .*

For every  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\text{MA}(\Sigma_n^1)$  is *Martin's Axiom for  $\Sigma_n^1$  posets*.  $\text{MA}(\text{Proj})$  is *Martin's Axiom for projective posets*.

THEOREM 4.6. *Let  $n \geq 1$ , and suppose that there exists a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal in  $L$ . Then there exists a poset  $\mathbb{P}$  such that for every  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic filter  $G$  over  $L$ ,*

$$L[G] \models \text{MA}(\Sigma_{n+1}^1) \wedge \neg \text{MA}(\Sigma_{n+2}^1).$$

*Proof.* Let  $\kappa$  be the least  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal in  $L$ . Let  $\mathbb{P}$  be the direct limit of an iteration  $\langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha, \dot{Q}_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa^+ \rangle$ , with finite support, where  $\mathbb{P}_0 = \text{Coll}_\kappa$  and for every  $\alpha < \kappa^+$ ,

$$\Vdash_\alpha \text{“}\dot{Q}_\alpha \text{ is a } \Sigma_{n+1}^1 \text{ ccc forcing notion”},$$

so that for every  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic filter  $G$  over  $L$ ,

$$L[G] \models \text{MA}(\Sigma_{n+1}^1) \wedge 2^{\aleph_0} = \aleph_2$$

(see [1, Theorem 3.10]).

Now assume, towards a contradiction, that

$$L[G] \models \text{MA}(\Sigma_{n+2}^1).$$

Then, since  $\omega_1^{L[G]} = \kappa$  is not a  $\Sigma_{n+1}$ -w.c. cardinal in  $L$ , there is, in  $L$ , a  $\kappa$ -Aronszajn tree  $T$  which is  $\Sigma_{n+1}$ -definable over  $L_\kappa$ . As in the proof of Theorem 3.1 we may define a  $\Sigma_{n+2}^1$  ccc poset of the form  $\text{Coll}_{\omega_1} * \mathbb{P}$  such that  $\text{MA}(\text{Coll}_{\omega_1} * \mathbb{P})$  implies that there exists a real  $x$  such that  $\omega_1^{L[G]} = \omega_1^{L[x]}$ . But then  $L(\mathbb{R})^{L[G]}$  is not a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$ , in contradiction with Theorem 4.2. ■

COROLLARY 4.7. *Let  $n \geq 1$  and suppose that the existence of a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal is consistent with ZFC. Then  $\text{ZFC} + \text{MA}(\Sigma_{n+1}^1)$  does not imply  $\text{MA}(\Sigma_{n+2}^1)$ .*

It is known that if ZFC is consistent, then  $\text{ZFC} + \text{MA}(\Sigma_1^1)$  does not imply  $\text{MA}(\Sigma_2^1)$  (see [1, Section 5]).

For the second application, let  $\varphi$  be the statement “Every set of reals in  $L(\mathbb{R})$  is Lebesgue measurable, has the property of Baire, is Ramsey, and has the perfect set property”.



THEOREM 4.8. *Let  $n \geq 1$ , and suppose that there exists a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal. Then there exists a poset  $\mathbb{P}$  such that for every  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic filter  $G$  over  $V$ ,*

$$V[G] \models \text{MA}(\Sigma_{n+1}^1) \wedge \neg\text{CH} + \varphi.$$

*Proof.* Let  $\kappa$  be a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. cardinal, and let  $\mathbb{P}$  be the direct limit of a finite-support iteration  $\langle \mathbb{P}_\alpha, \dot{Q}_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa^+ \rangle$ , where  $\mathbb{P}_0 = \text{Coll}_\kappa$  and for every  $\alpha < \kappa^+$ ,

$$\Vdash_\alpha \text{“}\dot{Q}_\alpha \text{ is a } \Sigma_{n+1}^1 \text{ ccc forcing notion”},$$

so that for every  $\mathbb{P}$ -generic filter  $G$  over  $V$ ,

$$V[G] \models \text{MA}(\Sigma_{n+1}^1) \wedge 2^{\aleph_0} = \aleph_2$$

(see [1, Theorem 3.10]). By Theorem 4.2,  $L(\mathbb{R})^{V[G]}$  is a  $\Sigma_n$ -w.c. Solovay model over  $V$ . Thus,

$$V[G] \models \varphi. \blacksquare$$

COROLLARY 4.9.

- (1) *For every  $n \geq 1$ ,  $\text{Con}(\text{ZFC} + \text{there exists a } \Sigma_n\text{-w.c. cardinal})$  implies  $\text{Con}(\text{ZFC} + \text{MA}(\Sigma_{n+1}^1) + \neg\text{CH} + \varphi)$ .*
- (2)  *$\text{Con}(\text{ZFC} + \text{there exists a } \Sigma_\omega\text{-w.c. cardinal})$  implies  $\text{Con}(\text{ZFC} + \text{MA}(\text{Proj}) + \neg\text{CH} + \varphi)$ .*

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