# MORE REMARKS ON SOUSLIN PROPERTIES AND TREE TOPOLOGIES

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We investigate separation properties of  $\omega_1$ -trees. We show that the property  $\gamma$  of Devlin and Shelah is equivalent to hereditary collectionwise normality. We show that monotone normality and divisibility are both equivalent to orderability. Finally we show that Souslin trees are examples of trees with property  $\gamma$  which are not retractable.

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$\omega_1$ -tree Souslin tree property $\gamma$	hereditary collectionwise normal monotonically normal property $\delta$	divisible orderable retractable

## **0. Introduction**

In this note we continue the investigation of separation properties in tree spaces which was started in [4] and [7]. First we show that trees with property  $\gamma$  are hereditarily collectionwise normal, improving [7; Theorem 2.1]. Next we consider some separation properties which every locally compact zero-dimensional Linearly Ordered Topological Space has, namely monotone normality, divisibility and retractability. We show that the first two are equivalent to orderability for  $\omega_1$ -trees. As a byproduct we see that monotonically normal trees are retractable, it is unknown whether the converse holds. Finally we show that Souslin trees are not retractable, thus showing that HCWN trees need not be retractable.

## 1. Definitions

A tree is a poset  $T = \langle T, <_T \rangle$  such that for all  $x \in T$ ,  $\hat{x} = \{y \in T \mid y <_T x\}$  is well ordered by  $<_T$ . The order type of  $\hat{x}$  is denoted by ht(x), the height of x.  $T_{\alpha} = \{x \in T \mid ht(x) = \alpha\}$  is the  $\alpha$ -th level of T.  $T \upharpoonright \alpha = \{x \in T \mid ht(x) < \alpha\}$ . If C is a set of ordinals, then  $T \upharpoonright C = \{x \in T \mid ht(x) \in C\}$ . A branch is a maximal chain. An  $\alpha$ -branch is a branch of length  $\alpha$ . An antichain is a subset of pairwise incomparable elements.  $A = \{ \alpha \in \omega_1 \mid \alpha \text{ is a limit} \}. \text{ For } x \in T, T^x = \{ y \in T \mid x < Ty \}. T \text{ is an } \omega_1 \text{-tree iff}$ (i)  $T_{\omega_1} = \emptyset$ .

- (ii)  $\forall \alpha \in \omega_1: 0 < |T_{\alpha}| \leq \omega_0$ ,
- (iii)  $\forall \alpha \in \beta \in \omega_1 \ \forall x \in T_\alpha \ \exists y_1, y_2 \in T_\beta$ :  $(y_1 \neq y_2 \land x < T_y_1 \land x < T_y_2)$ ,

(iv)  $\forall \alpha \in \omega_1 \forall x, y \in T_\alpha(\lim(\alpha) \rightarrow (x = y \Leftrightarrow \hat{x} = \hat{y})).$ 

We assume in addition that  $T_0$  consists of one point 0, the root of the tree.

The tree topology on T is defined by taking the following collection as an open basis:

 $\{\{0\}\} \cup \{(y, x] \mid y <_T x, y, x \in T\} \text{ where } (y, x] = \{z \mid y <_T z \leq_T x\}.$ 

With this topology T is first-countable and locally compact.

Clause (iv) in the definition of  $\omega_1$ -trees ensures that these trees are Hausdorff and zero-dimensional.

An  $\omega_1$ -tree T is called Aronszajn iff it has no uncountable branches and Souslin iff it has no uncountable antichains. T is said to have property  $\gamma$  [4] iff the following holds:

If  $A \subseteq T$  is an antichain, then there are a cub set  $C \subset \omega_1$  and an open set  $U \subset T$  such that  $A \subset U \subset \overline{U} \subset T \setminus (T \upharpoonright C)$ .

T is said to have property  $\delta$  iff there is a function  $f: T \upharpoonright A \rightarrow T$  such that

(i)  $\forall x \in T \upharpoonright \Lambda f(x) <_T x$ 

(ii)  $\forall x, y \in T \upharpoonright \Lambda$  if  $[f(x), x] \cap [f(y), y] \neq \emptyset$ , then  $x \leq y$  or  $y \leq x$ .

For standard topological notions we refer to [6], additional definitions will be given when needed.

## 2. Normality properties

In [7] Fleissner showed that an  $\omega_1$ -tree is collectionwise normal iff it has property  $\gamma$ . Modifying his proof we get the following result:

## **2.1. Theorem.** Let T be an $\omega_1$ -tree. Then

T has property  $\gamma \Leftrightarrow T$  is hereditarily collectionwise normal

**Proof.** Only ' $\Rightarrow$ ' needs proof. So assume T is collectionwise normal. Let  $\mathscr{F} = \{F_i | i \in I\}$  be a collection of subsets of T such that  $\forall i \in I : F_i \cap \bigcup_{j \neq i} F_j = \emptyset$ . We have to find a family  $\{U_i | i \in I\}$  of disjoint open sets s.t.  $\forall i \in I : F_i \subset U_i$ .

For  $a \in \bigcup \mathcal{F}$  we pick  $i(a) \in I$  s.t.  $a \in F_{i(a)}$  and we put

$$B(a) = \{x \mid x \text{ is minimal in } T^a \cap \bigcup_{j \neq i(a)} F_j\}.$$

We define, for all  $\eta \in \omega_1$ ,  $A_\eta \subset \bigcup \mathcal{F}$  as follows:

 $-A_0 = \{a \mid a \text{ is minimal in } \bigcup \mathscr{F}\}.$  $-A_{n+1} = \bigcup \{B(a) \mid a \in A_n\}.$  - If  $\eta$  is a limit put  $D_{\eta} = \{d \in \bigcup \mathscr{F} | \forall \nu \in \eta : A_{\nu} \cap \hat{d} \neq \emptyset\}$  and let  $A_{\eta} = \{a \mid a \text{ is minimal in } D_{\eta}\}$ .

Furthermore for all  $a \in A_n$  choose  $x_a <_T a$  in such a way that  $\{(x_a, a)\}_{a \in A_n}$  is discrete (by CWN) and

$$\forall a \in A_{\eta}: (x_a, a] \cap \bigcup_{j \neq i(a)} F_j = \emptyset.$$

Note that  $(x_a, a] \cap \bigcup_{\nu \in \eta} A_{\nu} = \emptyset$ , for if  $p \in (x_a, a] \cap A_{\nu}$  and  $q \in (x_a, a] \cap A_{\nu+1}$ , then  $i(p) \neq i(q)$ .

Put  $A = \bigcup_{n \in \omega_1} A_n$  and define, for all  $a \in A$ , X(a) as follows:

- If  $a \in A_{\eta}$  and  $\eta$  is a successor or 0 put

 $X(a) = T^{a} \setminus \bigcup \{T^{b} \mid b \in B(a)\}.$ 

- If  $a \in A_n$  and  $\eta$  is a limit put

 $X(a) = (x_a, a] \cup T^a \setminus \bigcup \{T^b | b \in B(a)\}.$ 

It is easy to see that each X(a) is clopen in T.

Next we show that  $X(a) \cap X(b) = \emptyset$  if  $a \neq b$ .

If  $a, b \in A_{\eta}$  for some  $\eta$  this follows from the fact that  $A_{\eta}$  is an antichain and that - in case  $\eta$  is a limit  $-(x_a, a] \cap (x_b, b] = \emptyset$ .

If  $a \in A_{\nu}$ ,  $b \in A_{\eta}$  with  $\nu \in \eta$ , then let b' be the point of  $A_{\nu}$  below b.

If b' = a, then  $X(b) \subset T^c$  for some  $c \in B(a)$ ; if  $b' \neq a$ , then  $X(b) \subset T^{b'}$ . In either case  $X(b) \cap X(a) = \emptyset$ .

Furthermore  $\bigcup \mathscr{F} \subset \bigcup_{a \in A} X(a) \cup A_0$ .

For take  $x \in \bigcup \mathscr{F}$ . If  $\hat{x} \cap A = \emptyset$ , then x must be minimal in  $\bigcup F$  so  $x \in A_0$ . If  $\hat{x} \cap A \neq \emptyset$ , then let  $\eta$  be the first ordinal for which  $\hat{x} \cap A_\eta = \emptyset$ . If  $\eta = \nu + 1$ , then  $x \in X(a)$  where a is the point in  $A_{\nu} \cap \hat{x}$ , if  $\eta$  is a limit, then  $x \in D_{\eta}$  but since  $\hat{x} \cap A_{\eta} = \emptyset$ , we have  $x \in A_{\eta}$  so  $x \in X(x)$ .

Finally, for each  $a \in A$ ,  $\overline{F_{i(a)}} \cap B(a) = \emptyset$ , so we can find disjoint open sets  $U_a$ ,  $V_a \subset X(a)$  around  $F_{i(a)} \cap X(a)$  and B(a), respectively, furthermore we can find disjoint open sets around the points of B(a), contained in  $V_a$ . We can also find disjoint open sets around the points of  $A_0$ . If we now form appropriate unions we get the desired collection of open sets separating  $\mathcal{F}$ .  $\Box$ 

We remark that virtually the same proof shows that normality and hereditary normality are equivalent for  $\omega_1$ -trees. Next we consider some separation properties which are possessed by linearly ordered topological spaces and which imply hereditary collectionwise normality, namely monotone normality and divisibility. It turns out that these properties are equivalent to orderability in  $\omega_1$ -trees. We start with the definitions.

2.2. Definition. Let X be a topological space.

(a) X is called monotonically normal [8] iff to each pair  $\langle U, x \rangle$  with  $U \subset X$  open and  $x \in U$  one can assign an open set  $U_x$  such that (i)  $x \in U_x \subset U$  and (ii) if  $U_x \cap V_y \neq \emptyset$ , then  $x \in V$  or  $y \in U$ . (This is in fact a characterization from [1]). (b) X is called halvable (for lack of a better name) iff for each neighborhood assignment  $x \to U_x$  there is another one  $x \to V_x$  such that if  $V_x \cap V_y \neq \emptyset$ , then  $x \in U_y \lor y \in U_x$ . Halvability is a property of monotonically normal spaces which in some proofs is the only thing used. For instance, the proof that monotonically normal spaces are hereditarily collectionwise normal uses only halvability. Furthermore all countable regular spaces are easily seen to be halvable, so halvable spaces need not be monotonically normal. These facts were observed by I. Juhász.

(c) X is called divisible iff the collection of all neighborhoods of the diagonal  $\Delta(X)$  in  $X \times X$  is a uniformity or equivalently if for each open set  $U \supset \Delta(X)$  there exists an open set  $V \supset \Delta \supset (X)$  s.t.  $V \circ V \subset U$ . The name divisible appears in [2] and [3], the name strongly collectionwise normal in [9], however these spaces need not be strongly normal, which is why we adopt the name divisible.

Using the usual Pressing Down Lemma it is easy to prove the following.

**Lemma** (Pressing Down Lemma for  $\omega_1$ -trees). Let T be an  $\omega_1$ -tree and let  $A \subseteq T$  be a set which meets stationary many levels. Let  $f: A \to T$  be a function s.t.  $f(x) <_T x$  for all  $x \in A$ . Then f is constant on a set which meets stationary many levels.

We now come to our orderability theorem for  $\omega_1$ -trees.

**Theorem 2.2.** The following are equivalent for an  $\omega_1$ -tree T:

- (a) T is monotonically normal.
- (b) T is halvable.
- (c) T is divisible.
- (d) T has property  $\delta$ .
- (e) T is orderable.

**Proof.** (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b). See the definition

(b) $\Rightarrow$ (d). Consider the assignment  $x \rightarrow [0, x]$ . Let  $x \rightarrow V_x$  be as in the definition. Define  $f: T \upharpoonright A \rightarrow T$  s.t.  $\forall x \in T \upharpoonright A f(x) <_T x$  and  $[f(x), x] \subset V_x$ . Then f is as required.

(c)  $\Rightarrow$  (d). Let  $U = \bigcup_{x \in T} [0, x]^2$  and let  $V \supset \Delta T$  be open such that  $V \circ V \subset U$  and  $V = V^{-1}$ . For all  $x \in T \upharpoonright \Lambda$  take  $f(x) <_T x$  such that  $[f(x), x]^2 \subset V$ . Assume  $[f(x), x] \cap [f(y), y] \neq \emptyset$  and take z in the intersection. Then  $\langle x, z \rangle \in V$  and  $\langle z, y \rangle \in V$  so  $\langle x, y \rangle \in U$ , hence  $\{x, y\} \subset [0, u]$  for some  $u \in T$ . But then  $x \leq_T y$  or  $y \leq_T x$ .

 $(e) \Rightarrow (a)$  and  $(e) \Rightarrow (c)$  are well known, so we now prove:

(d) $\Rightarrow$ (e) Let  $f: T \upharpoonright A \rightarrow T$  witness property  $\delta$ , we can assume that  $f(x) \notin T \upharpoonright A$  for all x. From now on we let  $z_x$  denote f(x). Let

$$A = \{z_x \mid x \in T \upharpoonright A\}, \qquad P_z = \{x \mid z_x = z\}, \quad z \in A,$$

note that  $x, y \in P_z \Rightarrow x \leq_T y$  or  $y \leq_T x$ ,

$$Q_z = \bigcup_{x \in P_z} [z, x], \qquad B = \{z \mid P_z \text{ meets stationary many levels}\}$$

Note that  $Q_z$  is linearly ordered since  $P_z$  is.

Claim. If  $z_1, z_2 \in B$ , then  $Q_{z_1} \cap Q_{z_2} = \emptyset \lor Q_{z_1} \subset Q_{z_2} \lor Q_{z_2} \subset Q_{z_1}$ .

*Proof.* Suppose  $Q_{z_1} \not\subset Q_{z_2}$  and  $Q_{z_2} \not\subset Q_{z_1}$ . Then  $\exists x \in Q_{z_1}$ ,  $\exists y \in Q_{z_1}$  s.t. x and y are incomparable. For if not we have, say,  $z_1 \leq_T z_2$ . Take  $y \in Q_{z_2}$  and choose  $x \in Q_{z_1}$  s.t. ht(y) < ht(x). It then follows that  $y <_T x$  so  $y \in [z_2, x] \subset [z_1, x] \subset Q_{z_1}$ . Hence  $Q_{z_2} \subset Q_{z_1}$ . Hence  $Q_{z_2} \subset Q_{z_1}$ , a contradiction. So pick  $x \in Q_{z_1}$  and  $y \in Q_{z_2}$  s.t. x and y are incomparable, take  $u \in P_{z_1}$  and  $v \in P_{z_2}$  s.t.  $x \leq_T u$  and  $y \leq_T v$ . Then u and v are incomparable so  $[z_1, u] \cap [z_2, v] = \emptyset$  and hence  $Q_{z_1} \cap Q_{z_2} = \emptyset$ , which completes the proof of the claim.

Now let  $z \in B$  and consider  $\{u \in B | Q_z \subset Q_u\}$ . Let  $z_0$  be its minimum. Then  $Q_z \subset Q_{z_0}$ and  $Q_{z_0}$  is maximal in  $\{Q_u | u \in B\}$ . Put  $C = \{z \in B | Q_z \text{ is maximal}\}$ . Then for  $z_1, z_2 \in C$ we have  $z_1 \neq z_2 \Rightarrow Q_{z_1} \cap Q_{z_2} = \emptyset$  and we have  $Q = \bigcup_{z \in B} Q_z = \bigcup_{z \in C} Q_z$ . Now each  $Q_z$  is clopen in T since  $z \notin T \upharpoonright A$  so  $Q = \bigoplus_{z \in C} Q_z$  (topological sum). Q is open since  $Q_z$  is open. Q is closed: Let  $x \in T \setminus Q$  be non-isolated i.e.  $x \in T \upharpoonright A$ . Then  $[z_x, x] \cap Q = \emptyset$ . If not, then  $[z_x, x] \cap Q_z \neq \emptyset$  for some z. Pick  $y \in P_z$  s.t. ht(x) <ht(y). Then  $[z_x, x] \cap [z, y] \neq \emptyset$  and hence  $x <_T y$ . But then  $x \in [z, y] \subset Q_z$ , contradiction. So Q is clopen.

Next suppose  $S = \{ht(x) | x \in T \setminus Q\}$  is stationary. By the P.D.L. for trees there is a  $z \in T$  and a set  $K \subset (T \setminus Q) \cap (T \upharpoonright A)$  such that  $\{ht(x) | x \in K\}$  is stationary and  $\forall x \in K : z_x = z$ . But then  $z \in B$  since  $K \subset P_z$  and hence  $K \subset Q_z \subset Q$  contradiction. Let  $M \subset \omega_1$  be c.u.b. s.t.  $(T \setminus Q) \cap (T \upharpoonright M) = \emptyset$  and let  $\{m_\alpha \mid \alpha \in \omega_1\}$  be its monotone enumeration. Put

$$L_{\alpha} = \{x \in T \setminus Q \mid m_{\alpha} < \operatorname{ht}(x) < m_{\alpha+1}\}, \quad \alpha \in \omega_1.$$

Each  $L_{\alpha}$  is countable and metrizable, so  $T \setminus Q = \bigoplus_{\alpha \in \omega_1} L_{\alpha}$  is metrizable and strongly zerodimensional and hence orderable. Now  $T = (T \setminus Q) \oplus \bigoplus_{z \in C} Q_z$  can be ordered as follows: Order the  $Q_z$ 's two by two in type  $\omega_1^* + \omega_1$ , i.e. as (-][-) but keep one  $Q_{z_0}$  aside. Order the union of the paired  $Q_z$ 's in type  $\omega_1 \times (\omega_1^* + \omega_1)$  lexicographically and put  $Q_{z_0}$  at the beginning giving the following picture:

$$[-) (-] [-) (-] [-) \cdots (-] [-) (-] [-) \cdots$$

Now order  $T \setminus Q$  in some way and place it at the beginning or somewhere in the middle so as not to create any pseudogaps.  $\Box$ 

**Remark.** The P.D.L. for trees can be used to show two more things:

(1) No Aronszajn tree has property  $\delta$ . For let  $f: T \to T \upharpoonright \Lambda$  be a function s.t.  $\forall x \in T : \Lambda : f(x) <_T x$ . There is an uncountable set on which f is constant. This set is not linearly ordered by  $<_T$ . So we find incomparable x and y such that  $[f(x), x] \cap [f(y), y] \neq \emptyset$ .

(2) No  $\omega_1$ -tree is metalindelöf (=every open cover has a point-countable refinement). For let  $\mathcal{V}$  be an open refinement of  $\{[0, x]\}_{x \in T}$ . Let  $f: T \upharpoonright A \to T$  be a function such that  $\forall x \in T \upharpoonright A: f(x) <_T x$  and  $[f(x), x] \subset$  some  $V \in \mathcal{V}$ . Again we find an uncountable set  $A \subseteq T \upharpoonright A$  and a point  $z \in T$  s.t. f(x) = z for all  $x \in A$ . But then z is contained in uncountably many elements of  $\mathcal{V}$  i.e.  $\mathcal{V}$  is not point-countable.

## 3. Retractability

We start with the definition.

**3.1. Definition.** A topological space X is called retractable iff each closed subset of X is a retract of X, i.e., for each closed set  $A \subseteq X$  there is a continuous map

$$r: X \rightarrow A$$
 s.t.  $r \upharpoonright A = id_A$ .

See [5] for more information. In [5] it is shown that retractable spaces are hereditarily collectionwise normal and that locally compact zero-dimensional linearly ordered topological spaces are retractable. So, by Theorem 2.2, trees with property  $\delta$  are retractable. Two questions now arise naturally: (1) Must retractable  $\omega_1$ -trees have property  $\delta$ , and (2) must  $\omega_1$ -trees with property  $\gamma$  be retractable. We were unable to answer question (1), but we shall provide a negative answer to question (2). In fact we shall show that if T is a Souslin tree, then  $T \upharpoonright \Lambda$  is not a retract of T.

First we reduce the problem a little bit. For convenience we assume in this section that 0 is also a limit ordinal.

**3.2. Lemma.** Assume  $f: T \rightarrow T \upharpoonright \Lambda$  is a retraction, then we can find another retraction  $r: T \rightarrow T \upharpoonright \Lambda$  with the following property:

If  $x \in T \setminus (T \upharpoonright A)$ , then

(1)  $r(x) <_T x$ , or

(2)  $x <_T r(x)$ ,  $ht(r(x)) = ht(x) + \omega$  and  $x \leq_T y \leq_T r(x) \rightarrow r(y) = r(x)$ . Such a retraction will be called a nice retraction.

**Proof.** We put  $\Lambda^2 = \{\alpha \in \omega_1 \mid \alpha \text{ is a limit of limits}\}$ . If  $ht(p) \in \Lambda \setminus \Lambda^2$ , then p is isolated in  $T \upharpoonright \Lambda$  so we can define

 $x_p = \min\{x \in \hat{p} \mid f[[x, p]] = \{p\}\}.$ 

Now define  $r: T \rightarrow T \upharpoonright A$  as follows:

- If  $p \in T \upharpoonright \Lambda$  put r(p) = p = f(p).

- If  $x \in [x_p, p]$  for some p put r(x) = p = f(x).

- If  $x \notin (T \upharpoonright \Lambda) \cup \bigcup_p [x_p, p]$  put  $r(x) = \max(\hat{x} \cap T \upharpoonright \Lambda)$ .

Obviously r is a map satisfying (1) and (2), so it remains to show that r is continuous. Take  $q \in T$ .

If ht(q) is a successor or 0, then q is isolated and hence r is continuous at q.

If  $ht(q) \in A \setminus A^2$ , then r is constant on the neighborhood  $[x_q, q]$  of q, hence r is continuous at q.

Finally assume  $ht(q) \in \Lambda^2$  and let  $y <_T q$ . By continuity of f there is a  $z <_T q$  such that  $f[(z,q]] \subset (y,q]$ , we can assume that  $y \leq_T z$  and that  $z = x_p$  for some  $p \in T \upharpoonright \Lambda \cap \hat{q}$ . Take  $x \in (z,q)$ . If  $x \in (x_s, s]$  for some s, then r(x) = s = f(x), so  $r(x) \in (y,q]$ .

If  $x \notin (x_s, s]$  for all s, then  $p <_T x$ , hence by definition of  $r: p \leq_T r(x) < x < q$ . So  $r[(z, q)] \subset (y, q]$  and we can conclude that r is continuous at q.  $\Box$ 

Now we prove the main result of this section.

**3.3. Theorem.** Let T be an  $\omega_1$ -tree s.t.  $T \upharpoonright A$  is a retract of T. Then T contains an uncountable antichain.

**Proof.** By the lemma let  $r: T \to T \upharpoonright \Lambda$  be a nice retraction. For  $q \in T \upharpoonright (\Lambda^2)$  put

$$x_q = \min\{x \in \hat{q} \mid r[[x, q]] \subset [0, q]\}.$$

If  $x_q \in T \upharpoonright A$ , then  $\exists y <_T x_q$ :  $r[[y, x_q]] \subseteq [0, x_q]$ , contradicting the choice of  $x_q$ .

Consider  $r(x_{\overline{q}})$ . We cannot have  $r(x_{\overline{q}}) < x_q$  for in that case  $r[[x_{\overline{q}}, q]] \subset [0, q]$ , and if  $x_q < r(x_{\overline{q}})$ , then because r is nice,  $r(x_q) = r(x_{\overline{q}})$ , so again  $r[[x_{\overline{q}}, q]] \subset [0, q]$  which contradicts the choice of  $x_q$ . We conclude therefore that  $r(x_{\overline{q}})$  and  $x_q$  are incomparable.

Now put  $K = \{x_q \mid q \in T \upharpoonright (\Lambda^2)\}$ . K has the following two properties:

( $\alpha$ ) For all  $t \in T \exists x \in K : t \leq_T x$ .

Take  $t \in T$  and fix a point p above t such that  $ht(p) = ht(t) + \omega$ . Pick  $x \in [t, p)$ s.t.  $r[[x, p]] = \{p\}$ , let  $x^+$  be a successor of x not below p and take  $q \in T \upharpoonright (A^2)$  above  $x^+$ . Then  $x \in \hat{q}$  but  $r(x) = p \in [0, q]$ , so  $t \le x < x_q$ .

( $\beta$ ) For all  $t \in T$ ,  $\hat{t} \cap K$  is finite.

Suppose to the contrary that for some  $t \in T$ ,  $\hat{t} \cap K$  is infinite and let  $\{x_i | i \in \omega\}$  be its initial segment of length  $\omega$ . Note that

$$x_0 \leqslant x_1^- < x_1 \leqslant x_2^- \leqslant x_3^- \cdots < t.$$

Let  $x = \sup_{n \in \omega} x_n = \sup_{n \in \omega} x_n^-$ . Since, for all  $n, r(x_n^-)$  and  $x_n$  are incomparable we have that  $r(x_n^-) \notin [0, x]$  for all n. On the other hand  $x_n^- \to x$ , so  $r(x_n^-) \to r(x) = x$ , so  $r(x_n^-) \in [0, x]$  for at least one  $n \in \omega$ , which is a contradiction.

By ( $\alpha$ ) K is uncountable, by ( $\beta$ )  $K = \bigcup_{i \in \omega} K_i$  where  $K_i = \{x \in K \mid |\hat{x} \cap K| = i\}$ , that is, K is the union of countably many antichains. One of these antichains is uncountable.  $\Box$ 

**3.4. Reformulation.** No Souslin tree T admits a retraction  $r: T \rightarrow T \upharpoonright A$ .

## 4. Remarks and questions

**4.1.** S. Todorcevic [10] showed that for an  $\omega_1$ -tree having property  $\delta$  is equivalent to being (isomorphic to) an initial segment of

$$T(\emptyset) = \{ s \in \omega^{<\omega_1} | s(\alpha) \neq 0 \text{ for only finitely many } \alpha \}.$$

 $T(\emptyset)$  is an example of a tree with property  $\delta$ :

$$f(s) = s \upharpoonright (\alpha(s) + 1)$$
 where  $\alpha(s) = \max\{\alpha \mid s(\alpha) \neq 0\},\$ 

defines a function  $f: T(\emptyset) \upharpoonright A \to T(\emptyset)$ , which witnesses the fact that  $T(\emptyset)$  has property  $\delta$ .

**4.2.** Question. Is there (in some model of set theory) a retractable  $\omega_1$ -tree which does not have property  $\delta$ ? Possible candidates are Aronszajn trees (they do not have property  $\delta$ ) or Kurepa trees (they have too many branches to be initial segments of  $T(\emptyset)$ ).

**4.3. Remark.** In [11] it is shown than  $K_{0}$ - and  $K_{1}$ -trees are retractable and that for  $n \ge 2$  a tree has property  $K_{n}$  iff the tree is collectionwise Hausdorff. See [5] for the definition of  $K_{n}$ -spaces. There it is shown that retractable spaces are  $K_{0}$ , that  $K_{1}$ -spaces are hereditarily collectionwise normal and for all n every  $K_{n}$ -space is a  $K_{n+1}$ -space. So by the results in this paper Souslin trees are examples of locally compact  $K_{2}$ -spaces which are not  $K_{1}$ . Their one-point compactifications are compact spaces with this property.

#### Note added in proof

Recently S. Todorčević showed that it is consistent relative to the existence of an at least inaccessible cardinal that all collectionwise Hausdorff (hence all retractable) trees are orderable.

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