

A crowded Q -point under $\text{CPA}_{\text{prism}}^{\text{game}}$

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Abstract

In this note we prove that the version $\text{CPA}_{\text{prism}}^{\text{game}}$ of the Covering Property Axiom, which holds in the iterated Sacks model, implies that there exists an ω_1 -generated crowded ultrafilter on \mathbb{Q} which is also a Q -point. Since no crowded ultrafilter can be a P -point this constitutes an interesting example of a Q -point which is not a P -point.

1 Introduction

We will use standard set theoretic notation as in [5]. Let \mathcal{U} be a non-principal ultrafilter on a countable set X . Then, \mathcal{U} is a P -point if for every partition \mathcal{P} of X either $\mathcal{U} \cap \mathcal{P} \neq \emptyset$ or there exists an $X \in \mathcal{U}$ such that $X \cap P$ is finite for each $P \in \mathcal{P}$. \mathcal{U} is called a Q -point if for every partition \mathcal{P} of X into finite pieces there exists an $X \in \mathcal{U}$ such that $|X \cap P| \leq 1$ for each $P \in \mathcal{P}$. Given a non-principal ultrafilter \mathcal{U} on X we say that $\mathcal{B} \subset \mathcal{U}$ is a basis for \mathcal{U} if for every $U \in \mathcal{U}$ there exists a $B \in \mathcal{B}$ such that $B \subset U$. Then, we can define the *character* of \mathcal{U} as $\chi(\mathcal{U}) = \min\{|\mathcal{B}| : \mathcal{B} \text{ is a basis for } \mathcal{U}\}$. We say that \mathcal{U} is κ -generated if $\chi(\mathcal{U}) = \kappa$.

Consider \mathbb{Q} with the subspace topology induced by the usual topology on \mathbb{R} and denote by $\text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ the family of its perfect subsets. A non-principal

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filter \mathcal{U} on \mathbb{Q} is *crowded* if the family $\text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q}) \cap \mathcal{U}$ forms a basis for \mathcal{U} . The crowded ultrafilters have been studied in connection with the remainder of the Stone-Ćech compactification of \mathbb{Q} and their existence follows from the Continuum Hypothesis, Martin's Axiom for countable posets [4], or from the equality $\mathfrak{b} = \mathfrak{c}$ [3].

In [1] Ciesielski and Pawlikowski showed that a version of their Covering Property Axiom called $\text{CPA}_{\text{prism}}^{\text{game}}$, which holds in the iterated Sacks model, implies that there exists an ω_1 -generated crowded ultrafilter on \mathbb{Q} and they noted that no crowded ultrafilter can be a P -point. This result is interesting because CPA implies $\mathfrak{b} < \mathfrak{c}$.

The main result of this paper is that $\text{CPA}_{\text{prism}}^{\text{game}}$ implies the existence of an ω_1 -generated crowded ultrafilter on \mathbb{Q} which is also a Q -point¹. Notice that this contradicts the remark by Ciesielski and Pawlikowski in [1, page 49] that crowded ultrafilters cannot be Q -points.

It is a result of A.Miller [7] that there are no Q -points in Laver's [6] model for Borel's Conjecture. Since the equality $\mathfrak{b} = \mathfrak{c}$ holds in Laver's model, it is consistent with ZFC that no crowded ultrafilter on \mathbb{Q} is a Q -point.

2 Preliminaries on $\text{CPA}_{\text{cube}}^{\text{game}}$ and $\text{CPA}_{\text{prism}}^{\text{game}}$

2.1 Cubes and Prisms.

The framework of CPA rests on the concepts of *cube* and *prism*. If \mathfrak{C} denotes the space 2^ω with its usual product topology and \mathfrak{X} is a Polish space then we define

$$\text{Perf}(\mathfrak{X}) = \{C \subset \mathfrak{X} : C \text{ is homeomorphic to } \mathfrak{C}\}.$$

A *perfect cube* in \mathfrak{C}^ω is any set $C = \prod_{i < \omega} C_i$ where $C_i \in \text{Perf}(\mathfrak{C})$ for every $i < \omega$. If \mathfrak{X} is a Polish space, then a *cube* in \mathfrak{X} is a pair $\langle f, P \rangle$ where $f: C \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}$ is a continuous injection and $P = f[C]$ for some perfect cube C . The following theorem is one of the principal tools for using CPA , and it is a refinement of a theorem proved independently by H.G. Eggleston and M.L. Brodskiĭ.

Proposition 1 (K.Ciesielski, J.Pawlikowski [2, claim 1.1.5]) *Consider \mathfrak{C}^ω with its usual topology and its usual product measure. If G is a Borel subset*

¹Recently the author has proven that $\text{CPA}_{\text{prism}}^{\text{game}}$ implies that there is also a crowded Q -point of character \mathfrak{c} .

of \mathfrak{C}^ω which is either of second category or of positive measure then G contains a perfect cube.

The notion of *prism* is a generalization of that of a cube. If $\alpha < \omega_1$ is a non-zero countable ordinal let $\Phi_{\text{prism}}(\alpha)$ be the set of all functions $f: \mathfrak{C}^\alpha \rightarrow \mathfrak{C}^\alpha$ with the property that

$$f(x) \upharpoonright \xi = f(y) \upharpoonright \xi \Leftrightarrow x \upharpoonright \xi = y \upharpoonright \xi \quad \text{for all } \xi < \alpha \text{ and } x, y \in \mathfrak{C}^\alpha.$$

Then we define $\mathbb{P}_\alpha = \{\text{range}(f) : f \in \Phi_{\text{prism}}(\alpha)\}$ and $\mathbb{P}_{\omega_1} = \bigcup_{0 < \alpha < \omega_1} \mathbb{P}_\alpha$. The elements of \mathbb{P}_{ω_1} are called the *iterated perfect sets*. If \mathfrak{X} is a Polish space, then a *prism* on X is a pair $\langle f, P \rangle$ where $f: E \rightarrow \mathfrak{X}$ is injective and continuous, $E \in \mathbb{P}_{\omega_1}$, and $P = f[E]$.

It is also immediate to observe that if the pair $\langle f, P \rangle$ and $f: E \rightarrow P$ and $E \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha$ then, we can assume that f is defined on the entire \mathfrak{C}^α .

It is important to note that the previous definitions imply that perfect cubes are, in particular, iterated perfect sets and therefore, that cubes are prisms. On the other hand, if $\langle g, P \rangle$ is a prism, where $g: E \rightarrow P$ and $E \in \mathbb{P}_\alpha$, then there exists an $f \in \Phi_{\text{prism}}(\alpha)$ with $E = \text{range}(f)$. In particular, $h = g \circ f: \mathfrak{C}^\alpha \rightarrow P$ is a continuous injection and the pair $\langle h, P \rangle$ is a cube. Thus, any prism can be thought as a cube with a different coordinate system imposed on it.

2.2 Subcubes and Subprisms.

If $\langle f, P \rangle$ is a cube, then we say that Q is its subcube provided there exists a perfect cube $C \subset \text{dom}(f)$ such that $Q = f[C]$. Subprisms are defined similarly but replacing the perfect cube C by an iterated perfect set E . Since in the games defined below we will need to consider singletons in the same position as cubes (or prism) as defined above, in what follows *singletons will be considered as cubes and prisms*. If P is a singleton in \mathfrak{X} then its only subcube is P itself.

2.3 Games and Strategies.

For a Polish space \mathfrak{X} consider the following game $\text{GAME}_{\text{cube}}(\mathfrak{X})$ of length ω_1 played by two players, Player I and Player II. At each stage $\xi < \omega_1$ of the game Player I can play an arbitrary cube P_ξ in \mathfrak{X} (i.e., P_ξ either belongs

to $\text{Perf}(\mathfrak{X})$ or is a singleton in \mathfrak{X}) and Player II must respond by playing a subcube Q_ξ of P_ξ . The game $\langle\langle P_\xi, Q_\xi \rangle : \xi < \omega_1 \rangle$ is won by Player I provided

$$\mathfrak{X} = \bigcup_{\xi < \omega_1} Q_\xi;$$

otherwise Player II wins.

A strategy for Player II is any function S such that $S(\langle\langle P_\eta, Q_\eta \rangle : \eta < \xi \rangle, P_\xi)$ is a subcube of P_ξ for every partial game $\langle\langle P_\eta, Q_\eta \rangle : \eta < \xi \rangle$. We say that a game $\langle\langle P_\xi, Q_\xi \rangle : \xi < \omega_1 \rangle$ is played according to a strategy S for Player II provided $Q_\xi = S(\langle\langle P_\eta, Q_\eta \rangle : \eta < \xi \rangle, P_\xi)$ for every $\xi < \omega_1$. A strategy S for Player II is a *winning strategy* provided Player II wins any game played according to the strategy S . The corresponding notions of games, strategies etc. for prisms are defined in a similar way.

2.4 The Axioms.

The following principles capture the combinatorial core of the iterated Sacks model.

$\text{CPA}_{\text{cube}}^{\text{game}}$: $\mathfrak{c} = \omega_2$ and for any Polish space \mathfrak{X} Player II has no winning strategy in the game $\text{GAME}_{\text{cube}}(\mathfrak{X})$.

$\text{CPA}_{\text{prism}}^{\text{game}}$: $\mathfrak{c} = \omega_2$ and for any Polish space \mathfrak{X} Player II has no winning strategy in the game $\text{GAME}_{\text{prism}}(\mathfrak{X})$.

These axioms are consequences of a more general principle, similar in spirit, called CPA [2]. Their importance comes from the following theorem.

Proposition 2 (K.Ciesielski, J.Pawlikowski [1, 2]) *CPA holds in the iterated perfect set model. In particular, CPA is consistent with ZFC set theory.*

3 An ω_1 -generated crowded Q -point on \mathbb{Q}

If the set $X = [\omega]^{<\omega} \setminus \{\emptyset\}$ has the discrete topology then the product space $\mathfrak{X} = X^\omega$ is a Polish space and the sets $U_{(n,a)} = \{x \in \mathfrak{X} : x(n) = a\}$, where $a \in [\omega]^{<\omega}$ and $n < \omega$, constitutes a subbasis for the product topology. Consider the set

$$\mathcal{P} = \{x \in \mathfrak{X} : \{x(k) : k < \omega\} \text{ is a partition of } \omega\}.$$

It is important to know that

- \mathcal{P} is a G_δ subset of \mathfrak{X} . Therefore, \mathcal{P} is a Polish space with the relative topology inherited from \mathfrak{X} .

Lemma 1 *Let P be a prism in \mathcal{P} and let $\{A_n: n < \omega\} \subset [\mathbb{Q}]^\omega$ be arbitrary. Then, there exist a subprism Q of P and $B \in [\mathbb{Q}]^\omega$ such that $|B \cap A_n| = \omega$ for every $n < \omega$ and $|x(k) \cap B| \leq 1$ for every $x \in Q$ and $k < \omega$. Moreover, if P is a cube then, Q is a cube as well.*

PROOF. Since $|\mathbb{Q}| = \omega$ we can suppose that $\{A_n: n < \omega\} \subset [\omega]^\omega$. Let $\langle R_n: n < \omega \rangle$ be an enumeration of $\{A_n: n < \omega\}$ where each set appears infinitely often.

Case (a): If $P = \{z\}$ then, define a sequence $\langle b_n \in \omega: n < \omega \rangle$ inductively such that $b_n \in R_n \setminus \bigcup \{z(k): k < \omega \ \& \ z(k) \cap \{b_0, \dots, b_{n-1}\} \neq \emptyset\}$ for every $n < \omega$. It is easy to see that $B = \{b_n: n < \omega\}$ works.

Case (b): If $P \in \text{Perf}(\mathcal{P})$, let f be a witness function for P . By our remarks in section 2, we can assume that f acts from \mathfrak{C}^α onto P . Thus, P is a cube. It is enough to find its subcube with the desired properties.

Let μ be the standard product probability measure on \mathfrak{C}^α .

We construct, by induction on $n < \omega$, a sequence $\langle K_n: n < \omega \rangle$ of open subsets of \mathfrak{C}^α and two sequences, $\langle b_n \in R_n: n < \omega \rangle$ and $\langle B_n \in [\omega]^{<\omega}: n < \omega \rangle$, such that for every $n < \omega$:

- (i) $b_n > \max \left(\{b_i: i < n\} \cup \bigcup_{j < n} B_j \right)$,
- (ii) $\mu(K_n) \geq 1 - 2^{-(n+2)}$, and
- (iii) $f(h)(k) \subseteq B_n$ for every $h \in K_n$ and $k < \omega$ for which $b_n \in f(h)(k)$.

If this construction is possible put $B = \{b_n: n < \omega\}$. Then, clearly $|B \cap A_n| = \omega$. Condition (ii) implies that $\mu \left(\bigcap_{n < \omega} K_n \right) \geq \frac{1}{2}$. Hence, by Proposition 1, there exists a perfect cube $C \subseteq \bigcap_{n < \omega} K_n$. Then $Q = f[C]$ is a subcube of P and the pair $\langle Q, B \rangle$ is as required. To see this, it is enough to show that $|z(k) \cap B| \leq 1$ for every $z \in Q$ and $k < \omega$. Let $z = f(h)$ for some $h \in C$. By conditions (i) and (iii), for every $b_j \in z(k) = f(h)(k)$ and $n > j$ we have that $b_n \notin z(k)$. Therefore, no two elements of B are in the same $z(k)$ or, in other words, $|z(k) \cap B| \leq 1$ for every $k < \omega$.

Next, we show that the inductive construction is possible. Let $n < \omega$ be such that the appropriate b_i , K_i , and B_i are already constructed for every $i < n$. We will construct b_n , K_n , and B_n satisfying (i)–(iii). We pick an b_n as

an arbitrary element of R_n satisfying (i). If $L = \{a \in [\omega]^{<\omega} : b_n \in a\}$ then, $\{f^{-1}(U_{\langle m, a \rangle}) : \langle m, a \rangle \in \omega \times L\}$ is a partition of \mathfrak{C}^α into clopen sets. Thus, we can find a finite set $S \subseteq \omega \times L$ such that $K_n = \bigcup \{f^{-1}(U_{\langle m, a \rangle}) : \langle m, a \rangle \in S\}$ satisfies condition (ii). Let $B_n = \bigcup \{a : \langle m, a \rangle \in S \text{ for some } m < \omega\}$. Then clearly, B_n is finite. To see that it satisfies (iii) take an $h \in K_n$. Then $f(h) \in U_{\langle m, a \rangle}$ for some $\langle m, a \rangle \in S$. Let $k < \omega$ be such that $b_n \in f(h)(k)$. Since we have also $b_n \in a = f(h)(m)$ we conclude that $k = m$. So, $f(h)(k) = f(h)(m) = a \subseteq B_n$. ■

Fix a $p \in \mathbb{R} \setminus \mathbb{Q}$. For $\mathcal{D} \subset [\mathbb{Q}]^\omega$ let $F(\mathcal{D}) = F(p, \mathcal{D})$ be the filter generated by the family $\mathcal{D} \cup \{I_n : n < \omega\}$, where $I_n = [p - 2^{-n}, p + 2^{-n}] \cap \mathbb{Q}$.

Lemma 2 (K.Ciesielski, J.Pawlikowski [1, lemma 4.23]) *Let $\mathcal{D} \subset \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ be a countable family such that $F(\mathcal{D})$ is crowded. Then, for every prism P in $[\mathbb{Q}]^\omega$ there exists a subprism Q of P and a $Z \in \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ such that $F(\mathcal{D} \cup \{Z\})$ is crowded and either*

- (i) $Z \cap x = \emptyset$ for every $x \in Q$, or else
- (ii) $Z \subset x$ for every $x \in Q$.

We will need also the following easy fact.

Lemma 3 (K.Ciesielski, J.Pawlikowski [1, Fact 4.21]) *Every non-scattered set $B \subset \mathbb{Q}$ contains a subset from $\text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$.*

Lemma 4 *Let $\mathcal{D} \subset \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ be a countable family such that $F(\mathcal{D})$ is crowded and let P be prism in \mathcal{P} then there exists a subprism Q of P and $Z \in \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ such that $F(\mathcal{D} \cup \{Z\})$ is crowded and $|Z \cap x(k)| \leq 1$ for every $x \in Q$.*

PROOF. Observe that since $F(\mathcal{D})$ is crowded it is possible to find a sequence $\langle D_n \in \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q}) : n < \omega \rangle$ coinitial in $F(\mathcal{D})$ such that $D_{n+1} \subset D_n \subset I_n$ for every $n < \omega$. Note that

- there are sequences $\langle J_k : k < \omega \rangle$ of pairwise disjoint intervals in \mathbb{Q} and $\langle S_k \subset J_k : k < \omega \rangle$ of perfect subsets of \mathbb{Q} such that if $S = \bigcup_{k < \omega} S_k$ then for every $D \in F(\mathcal{D})$ there exists an $n < \omega$ such that $S \cap I_n \subset D$.

To see it, define two sequences $\langle n_k : k < \omega \rangle$ and $\langle S_k \in \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q}) : k < \omega \rangle$ such that $S_k \subset D_k \cap I_{n_k} \cap J_k$ where J_k is a clopen interval such that $p \notin \text{cl}_{\mathbb{R}}(J_k)$. If n_k and S_k are already defined pick $n_{k+1} > n_k$ with $J_k \cap I_{n_{k+1}} = \emptyset$. Since $D_{k+1} \cap I_{n_{k+1}} \in F(\mathcal{D})$ and $F(\mathcal{D})$ is crowded we can find a clopen interval J_{k+1} such that $p \notin \text{cl}_{\mathbb{R}}(J_{k+1})$ and $J_{k+1} \cap D_{k+1} \cap I_{n_{k+1}} \neq \emptyset$. Define $S_{k+1} = J_{k+1} \cap D_{k+1} \cap I_{n_{k+1}}$. Then, $S_{k+1} \in \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ and $S_{k+1} \subset D_{k+1} \cap I_{n_{k+1}}$. Now, put $S = \bigcup_{k < \omega} S_k$. Then, $S \in \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ and $S \cap I_{n_k} = \bigcup_{i \geq k} S_i \cap I_{n_k} = \bigcup_{i \geq k} S_i \subset D_k$. This proves our claim.

Let \mathcal{B} be a countable basis for the topology on \mathbb{Q} consisting of clopen sets and consider the family $\mathcal{B}_0 = \{B \in \mathcal{B} : |B \cap S| = \omega\}$.

If $P \in \text{Perf}(\mathcal{P})$ apply Lemma 1 to P and the family $\{B \cap S : B \in \mathcal{B}_0\}$ to find a set $T \in [S]^\omega$ and a subprism Q of P such that

- (a) $|T \cap (B \cap S)| = \omega$ for every $B \in \mathcal{B}_0$ and
- (b) $|T \cap x(k)| \leq 1$ for every $x \in Q$ and $k \in \omega$.

If $P = \{x\}$ is a singleton we put $Q = P$ and apply Lemma 1 to the family $\{B \cap S : B \in \mathcal{B}_0\}$ and to x to obtain a T satisfying (a) and (b).

In both cases we obtain from (a) that T is dense in S . Since $S_k \in \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ for every $n < \omega$ we conclude that $T \cap S_k$ is non-scattered and contains a subset Z_k from $\text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ for every $k < \omega$. Hence, if we put $Z = \bigcup_{k < \omega} Z_k$ then, $Z \in \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$, $Z \cap I_k \subset D_k$ for every $k < \omega$ and $|Z \cap x(k)| \leq 1$ for every $x \in Q$ and every $k < \omega$. To see that $F(\mathcal{D} \cup \{Z\})$ is crowded note that $Z \cap D_{n_k} \subset S \cap I_{n_k} \subset D_k$ for every $k < \omega$. \blacksquare

Theorem 3 $\text{CPA}_{\text{prism}}^{\text{game}}$ implies that there exists an ω_1 -generated crowded Q -point on \mathbb{Q} .

PROOF. For $\mathcal{Y} = [\mathbb{Q}]^\omega \cup \mathcal{P}$ consider the topology τ on \mathcal{Y} whose open sets are those $U \subset \mathcal{Y}$ such that $U \cap [\mathbb{Q}]^\omega$ and $U \cap \mathcal{P}$ are open in $[\mathbb{Q}]^\omega$ and \mathcal{P} respectively. Then $\langle \mathcal{Y}, \tau \rangle$ is a Polish space. Note that $[\mathbb{Q}]^\omega$ and \mathcal{P} are clopen in \mathcal{Y} with this topology. Every prism $P \in \text{Perf}(\mathcal{Y})$ must intersect either $[\mathbb{Q}]^\omega$ or \mathcal{P} . Since every non-empty clopen set in a prism is its subprism (see [2], or use Proposition 1) we can suppose without any loss of generality that either $P \in \text{Perf}([\mathbb{Q}]^\omega)$ or $P \in \text{Perf}(\mathcal{P})$. Of course, every singleton is in either $[\mathbb{Q}]^\omega$ or \mathcal{P} . Therefore, given a prism P in \mathcal{Y} and a countable family $\mathcal{D} \subset \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ such that $F(\mathcal{D})$ is crowded we denote by $Z(\mathcal{D}, P) \in \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ and a subprism

$Q(\mathcal{D}, P)$ of P as in Lemma 4 provided $P \subset [\mathbb{Q}]^\omega$ and as in Lemma 2 for $P \subset \mathcal{P}$ respectively.

Consider the following strategy S for Player II:

$$S(\langle \langle P_\eta, Q_\eta \rangle : \eta < \xi \rangle, P_\xi) = Q(Z(\{Z_\eta : \eta < \xi\}), P_\xi),$$

where sets Z_η are defined inductively by $Z_\eta = Z(\{Z_\zeta : \zeta < \eta\}, P_\eta)$.

By $\text{CPA}_{\text{prism}}^{\text{game}}$ strategy S is not a winning strategy for Player II. Hence, there is a game $\langle \langle P_\xi, Q_\xi \rangle : \xi < \omega_1 \rangle$ played according to S for which Player II loses so, $\mathcal{Y} = \bigcup_{\xi < \omega_1} Q_\xi$.

Let $\mathcal{U} = F(\{Z_\xi : \xi < \omega_1\})$. To see it is an ultrafilter note that if $x \in [\mathbb{Q}]^\omega$ then there exists a $\xi < \omega_1$ such that $x \in Q_\xi$. But then, either $Z_\xi \subset x$ or $Z_\xi \cap x = \emptyset$. Therefore either x or its complement is in \mathcal{U} . This proves that \mathcal{U} is an ultrafilter and that $\langle Z_\xi : \xi < \omega_1 \rangle \subset \text{Perf}(\mathbb{Q})$ is basis for \mathcal{U} . So, \mathcal{U} is crowded. Since, no crowded ultrafilter can be principal it follows that \mathcal{U} is also non-principal. To see that \mathcal{U} is a Q -point, pick an $x \in \mathcal{P}$. Then, there exists a $\xi < \omega_1$ such that $x \in Q_\xi$. Thus, $Z_\xi \in \mathcal{U}$ and $|Z_\xi \cap x(k)| \leq 1$ for every $k < \omega$. ■

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