

This is an update of Monk [14]; mainly we indicate solutions of some of the problems. We give a question mark for ones which have not been checked.

**Problem 7.** Does  $A \leq_s B$  imply that  $\mathfrak{a}(B) \leq \mathfrak{a}(A)$ ?

This is answered positively by Santos [23]. We give his argument here.

**Proposition 1.** If  $A$  is finite and  $B$  is infinite, then  $\mathfrak{a}(A \oplus B) = \mathfrak{a}(B)$ .

**Proof.** By 11.6 of Koppelberg [89],  $A \oplus B \cong {}^n B$ , where  $n$  is the number of atoms of  $A$ . By Proposition 3.36 of Monk [14],  $\mathfrak{a}({}^n B) = \mathfrak{a}(B)$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.** Let  $A$  be an infinite BA and let  $I$  be an ideal of  $A$  such that  $A/I$  is infinite. Suppose that  $\mathfrak{a}(A) < \mathfrak{a}(A/I)$ . Suppose that  $\langle a_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa \rangle$  is an infinite partition of  $A$  of minimum size.

Then there exist  $b \in A^+$  and  $E \in [\kappa]^\kappa$  such that  $\langle a_\alpha \cdot b : \alpha \in E \rangle$  is an infinite partition of  $A \upharpoonright b$  of minimum size consisting of elements of  $I$ .

**Proof.** Case 1.  $\sum_{\alpha < \kappa} [a_\alpha]_I = [1]_I$ . Note that  $\forall \alpha, \beta < \kappa [\alpha \neq \beta \rightarrow [a_\alpha]_I \cdot [a_\beta]_I = 0]$ . Since  $A/I$  is infinite and  $A/I$  has no infinite partition of size  $\leq \kappa$ , there is an  $F \in [\kappa]^{<\omega}$  such that  $\sum_{\alpha \in F} [a_\alpha]_I = [1]_I$ . Thus  $b \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} -\sum_{\alpha \in F} a_\alpha \in I$ . Hence  $\forall \alpha < \kappa [a_\alpha \cdot b \in I]$ . Let  $E = \{\alpha < \kappa : a_\alpha \cdot b \neq 0\}$ .

$$(1) \quad \neg \exists E' \in [E]^{<\omega} \left[ b = \sum_{\alpha \in E'} (a_\alpha \cdot b) \right]$$

For, assume that  $E' \in [E]^{<\omega}$  and  $b = \sum_{\alpha \in E'} (a_\alpha \cdot b)$ . Then

$$1 = b + -b = \sum_{\alpha \in E'} (a_\alpha \cdot b) + \sum_{\alpha \in F} a_\alpha \leq \sum_{\alpha \in E' \cup F} a_\alpha,$$

contradiction. So (1) holds.

$$(2) \quad b = \sum_{\alpha \in E} (a_\alpha \cdot b)$$

In fact, otherwise there is a nonzero  $c < b$  such that  $\forall \alpha \in E [a_\alpha \cdot c = 0]$ . Hence  $\forall \alpha < \kappa [a_\alpha \cdot c = 0]$ , contradicting  $\langle a_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa \rangle$  being a partition of  $A$ .

By (1) and (2),  $\langle a_\alpha \cdot b : \alpha \in E \rangle$  is an infinite partition of  $A \upharpoonright b$ . Suppose that  $|E| < \kappa$ . Then  $\langle a_\alpha \cdot b : \alpha \in E \rangle \cap \{b\}$  is a partition of  $A$  of size less than  $\mathfrak{a}(A)$ , contradiction.

Case 2.  $\sum_{\alpha < \kappa} [a_\alpha]_I < [1]_I$ . Then there is a  $b \in A \setminus I$  such that  $\forall \alpha < \kappa [[b] \cdot [a_\alpha]_I = 0]$ . Let  $E = \{\alpha < \kappa : a_\alpha \cdot b \neq 0\}$ .

$$(3) \quad \forall E' \in [E]^{<\omega} \left[ b \neq \sum_{\alpha \in E'} (b \cdot a_\alpha) \right].$$

For, if  $E' \in [E]^{<\omega}$  and  $b = \sum_{\alpha \in E'} (b \cdot a_\alpha)$ , then  $b \in I$ , contradiction.

It follows that  $\langle a_\alpha \cdot b : \alpha \in E \rangle$  is a partition of  $A \upharpoonright b$ . As in Case 1,  $|E| = \kappa$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 3.** *If  $A \leq_s B$ , then  $\mathfrak{a}(B) \leq \mathfrak{a}(A)$ .*

**Proof.** By Monk [14] Proposition 2.28 let  $I_0$  and  $I_1$  be ideals of  $A$  such that  $I_0 \cap I_1 = \{0\}$  and  $B \cong (A/I_0) \times (A/I_1)$ . Wlog  $B = (A/I_0) \times (A/I_1)$ .

*Case 1.* One of  $A/I_0, A/I_1$  is finite; say by symmetry that  $A/I_0$  is finite. By Proposition 1,  $\mathfrak{a}(B) = \mathfrak{a}(A/I_1)$ . Suppose that  $\kappa = \mathfrak{a}(A) < \mathfrak{a}(A/I_1)$ . Let  $\langle a_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa \rangle$  be an infinite partition of  $A$ . Choose  $b$  and  $E$  as in Proposition 2. Since  $A/I_0$  is finite, there exist  $\alpha < \beta$  in  $E$  such that  $b \cdot a_\alpha \equiv_{I_0} b \cdot a_\beta$  while  $b \cdot a_\alpha \neq b \cdot a_\beta$ . Hence  $0 \neq (b \cdot a_\alpha) \triangle (b \cdot a_\beta) \in I_0 \cap I_1$ , contradiction.

*Case 2.*  $A/I_0$  and  $A/I_1$  are both infinite. By Proposition 3.36 of Monk [14] we have  $\mathfrak{p}(B) = \min\{\mathfrak{p}(A/I_0), \mathfrak{p}(A/I_1)\}$ . Suppose that  $\mathfrak{p}(A) < \mathfrak{p}(B)$ . Let  $\langle a_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa \rangle$  be an infinite partition of  $A$ . Let  $b$  and  $E$  be given by Proposition 2. Then  $\langle a_\alpha \cdot b : \alpha \in E \rangle \cap \{-b\}$  is a partition of  $A$ , with each  $a_\alpha \cdot b \in I_0$ . Let  $\langle a'_\alpha : \alpha < \lambda \rangle$  be a one-one enumeration of  $\{a_\alpha \cdot b : \alpha \in E\} \cup \{-b\}$ . Applying Proposition 2 to this partition and  $I_1$  we get  $b'$  and  $E'$  such that  $\langle a'_\alpha \cdot b' : \alpha \in E' \rangle$  is an infinite partition of  $A \upharpoonright b'$  of minimum size consisting of elements of  $I_1$ . Thus  $\sum_{\alpha \in E'} (a'_\alpha \cdot b') = b'$  and  $\sum_{\alpha < \lambda} a'_\alpha = 1$ . Choose  $\alpha < \lambda$  such that  $a'_\alpha = a_\beta \cdot b$  for some  $\beta$ . Then  $0 \neq a'_\alpha \cdot b' = a_\alpha \cdot b \cdot b' \in I_0 \cap I_1$ , contradiction.  $\square$

**Problem 8.** *Is it true that for all infinite BAs  $A, B$  one has*

$$\mathfrak{a}(A \oplus B) = \min\{\mathfrak{a}(A), \mathfrak{a}(B)\}?$$

This problem is still open, but there are several partial results concerning it.

?Kurilić [17] showed that  $\omega \leq \min\{\mathfrak{a}(A), \mathfrak{a}(B), \mathfrak{p}(A), \mathfrak{p}(B)\} \leq \mathfrak{a}(A \oplus B)$

However note that Fact 3.3 in that paper is false; a counter example is given by setting each  $K_i = \{i\}$ .

In Santos [23] the following is shown:

$$? \min\{\min\{\mathfrak{a}(A), \mathfrak{a}(B)\}, \max\{\mathfrak{p}(A), \mathfrak{p}(B)\}\} \leq \mathfrak{a}(A \oplus B).$$

In Santos [25] the following is shown. If  $A$  and  $B$  are homogeneous BAs, then

$$? \min\{\mathfrak{a}(A), \mathfrak{a}(B), \max\{\mathfrak{s}(A), \mathfrak{s}(B)\}\} \leq \mathfrak{a}(A \oplus B).$$

?If  $\omega_1 \leq \mathfrak{a}(A), \mathfrak{a}(B)$ , then

$$\min\{\mathfrak{a}(A), \mathfrak{a}(B), \max\{\mathfrak{b}(A), \mathfrak{b}(B)\}\} \leq \mathfrak{a}(A \oplus B).$$

**Problem 37.** *Does  $A \leq_s B$  imply that  $\text{tow}_{\text{spect}}(A) \subseteq \text{tow}_{\text{spect}}(B)$  or  $\text{tow}(B) \leq \text{tow}(A)$ ?*

?This was answered in part positively by Santos [23].

**Problem 38.** *Are there BAs  $A, B$  such that  $A \leq_m B$  and  $\text{tow}(B) < \text{tow}(A)$ ?*

?This was answered positively by Santos [23].

**Problem 44.** *Does  $A \leq_s B$  imply that  $\mathfrak{p}_{\text{spect}}(A) \subseteq \mathfrak{p}_{\text{spect}}(B)$ ?*

?This was answered in part by Santos [13].

**Problem 45.** *Are there BAs  $A, B$  such that  $A \leq_m B$  and  $\mathfrak{p}(B) < \mathfrak{p}(A)$ ?*

? This was answered positively by Santos [23].

**Problem 46.** *Is it true that for all infinite BAs  $A, B$  we have  $\mathfrak{p}(A \oplus B) = \min\{\mathfrak{p}(A), \mathfrak{p}(B)\}$ ?*

This was answered positively by Santos [23]. We give his argument here.

**Proposition 4.** *For all infinite BAs  $A, B$  we have  $\mathfrak{p}(A \oplus B) = \min\{\mathfrak{p}(A), \mathfrak{p}(B)\}$*

**Proof.**  $\leq$  is clear. For  $\geq$ , assume that  $X \subseteq A \oplus B$ ,  $\prod X = 0$ , and  $\forall F \in [X]^{<\omega} [\prod F \neq 0]$ , with  $|X| = \mathfrak{p}(A \times B) < \min\{\mathfrak{p}(A), \mathfrak{p}(B)\}$ . For each  $x \in X$  write  $x = \sum_{i \in m_x} (a_{ix} \cdot b_{ix})$ , with each  $a_{ix} \in A$  and each  $b_{ix} \in B$ . For each  $F \in [X]^{<\omega}$  let

$$C_F = \left\{ f \in \prod_{x \in X} m_x : \prod_{x \in F} (a_{f(x)x} \cdot b_{f(x)x}) \right\} \neq \emptyset.$$

We claim that each  $C_F$  is nonempty. For,

$$0 \neq \prod F = \prod_{x \in F} \sum_{i \in m_x} (a_{ix} \cdot b_{ix}) = \sum_{f \in \prod_{x \in F} m_x} \left( \prod_{x \in F} (a_{f(x)x} \cdot b_{f(x)x}) \right),$$

so there is an  $f \in \prod_{x \in F} m_x$  such that  $\prod_{x \in F} (a_{f(x)x} \cdot b_{f(x)x}) \neq 0$ . Thus any extension of  $f$  to a member of  $\prod_{x \in X} m_x$  is in  $C_F$ . So  $C_F$  is nonempty.

Now each  $C_F$  is closed in  $\prod_{x \in X} m_x$ . For, suppose that  $f \in \prod_{x \in X} m_x \setminus C_F$ . Thus  $\prod_{x \in F} (a_{f(x)x} \cdot b_{f(x)x}) = 0$ . Then  $f$  is in the open set  $\{g \in \prod_{x \in X} m_x : g \restriction F = f\}$ , and this set is disjoint from  $C_F$ .

Now let  $f \in \bigcap_{F \in [X]^{<\omega}} C_F$ . Then  $\forall F \in [X]^{<\omega} (\prod_{x \in F} (a_{f(x)x} \cdot b_{f(x)x})) \neq \emptyset$ . Hence  $\forall F \in [X]^{<\omega} [\prod_{x \in F} a_{f(x)x} \neq 0]$ , so  $\prod_{x \in X} a_{f((x)x)} \neq 0$ . Similarly  $\prod_{x \in X} b_{f((x)x)} \neq 0$ . Hence

$$0 \neq \prod_{x \in X} a_{f((x)x)} \cdot \prod_{x \in X} b_{f((x)x)} \leq \prod X = 0.$$

contradiction. □

**Problem 48.** *Is*

$$\mathfrak{p}(A) = \min\{|X| : X \text{ is a maximal ramification set in } A\}?$$

?This is solved negatively in Santos [23].

**Problem 49.** *Is it consistent that  $\mathfrak{p}(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{fin}) < \text{tow}(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{fin})$ ?*

?This is answered positively by Malliaris, Shelah [17].

**Problem 52.** *Is  $\text{spl}(A \oplus B) = \min\{\text{spl}(A), \text{spl}(B)\}$ ?*

?This is answered positively by Santos [23].

**Problem 70.** *Are there BAs  $A, B$  such that  $A \leq_\sigma B$  and  $\pi(A) > \pi(B)$ ?*

?This is answered negatively by Santos [23].

**Problem 71.** *Are there BAs  $A, B$  such that  $A \leq_s B$  and  $\pi(A) > \pi(B)$ ?*

?This is answered negatively by Santos [23].

**Problem 86.** *Can one have  $\text{Irr}(A) < \text{Irr}(B)$  for  $A \leq_s B$  or  $A \leq_m (B)$ ?*

This was answered negatively by Santos [23]. We give his argument here.

**Proposition 5.** *Let  $A$  and  $B$  be infinite BAs. Suppose that  $A \leq_s B$ , Then  $\text{Irr}(A) = \text{Irr}(B)$ .*

**Proof.** Clearly  $\text{irr}(A) \leq \text{Irr}(B)$ . By Proposition 2.29 of Monk [14], there are ideals  $I_0, I_1$  of  $A$  such that  $I_0 \cap I_1 = \{0\}$  and  $B \cong (A/I_0) \times (A/I_1)$ . By Theorem 8.4 of Monk [14],  $\text{Irr}(B) = \max\{\text{Irr}(A/I_0), \text{Irr}(A/I_1)\}$ . Wlog  $\text{Irr}(B) = \text{Irr}(A/I_0)$ .

*Case 1.*  $\text{Irr}(A/I_0) = \kappa^+$  for some infinite  $\kappa$ . Let  $\langle [a_\alpha]_{I_0} : a < \kappa^+ \rangle$  be an irredundant system in  $A/I_0$ . Clearly  $\langle a_\alpha : a < \kappa^+ \rangle$  is irredundent. Hence  $\kappa^+ \leq \text{Irr}(A)$ .

*Case 2,*  $\text{Irr}(A/I_0)$  is a limit cardinal. Take any infinite  $\kappa^+ < \text{Irr}(A/I_0)$ . As in Case 1,  $\kappa^+ \leq \text{Irr}(A)$ . Hence  $\text{irr}(A/I_0) \leq \text{Irr}(A)$ .

Thus in any case,  $\text{Irr}(A/I_0) \leq \text{Irr}(A)$ . □

**Problem 90.** *Is  $\text{Irr}_{\text{mm}}(A) = \pi(A)$  for every infinite BA  $A$ ?*

This is answered consistently negatively by Kunen <http://arxiv.org/1307.3533>

Page 383. Theorem 11.20 is false.

**Problem 126.** *Is there an atomless BA  $A$  such that  $\text{s}_{\text{mm}}(A) < \mathfrak{i}(A)$ ?*

?This is answered positively consistently by Cancino, J.; Guzman.O.; Miller, A.

**Problem 149.** *What is the exact place of  $\text{hd}_{\text{mm}}^{\text{id}}$  among the other cardinal functions?*

The following result shows that  $\text{hd}_{\text{mm}}^{\text{id}}$  is trivial.

**Proposition 5.**  $\forall A [\text{hd}_{\text{mm}}^{\text{id}}(A) = \omega]$ .

**Proof.** Let  $\langle b_n : n \in \omega \rangle$  be a partition in  $\overline{A}$ . Define

$$I_n = \{a \in A : \forall m < n [a \cdot b_m = 0]\}$$

Clearly  $I_n \supseteq I_p$  if  $n < p$ . Suppose that  $0 \neq a \in \bigcap_{n \in \omega} I_n$ . Choose  $n \in \omega$  such that  $a \cdot b_n \neq 0$  and choose  $c \in A^+$  such that  $c \leq a \cdot b_n$ . Now  $c \in I_{n+1}$ , so  $c \cdot b_n = 0$ , contradiction. Hence  $\bigcap_{n \in \omega} I_n = 0$ . Hence  $\text{hd}_{mm}^{id}(A) = \omega$ .

**Problem 156.** *Is  $\text{Inc}_{\text{spect}}^{\text{tree}}(\mathcal{P}(\kappa)) = \{\kappa, 2^\kappa\}$ ?*

Campero-Arena, G.; Cancino, J; Hrusak, M.; Miranda-Perea, F. E. showed that consistently the answer is negative.

**Problem 158.** *Is it consistent that  $\text{Inc}_{\text{mm}}(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{fin}) \neq \text{Inc}_{\text{mm}}^{\text{tree}}(\mathcal{P}(\omega)/\text{fin})$ ?*

Campero-Arena, G.; Cancino, J; Hrusak, M.; Miranda-Perea, F. E. showed that consistently the answer is yes.