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ULTRAFILTERS WITHOUT IMMEDIATE PREDECESSORS  
IN RUDIN-FROLIK ORDER  
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**Abstract:** We describe a construction of an ultrafilter on the set of natural numbers not belonging into the closure of any countable discrete set of minimal ultrafilters in Rudin-Frolík order of  $\beta\mathbb{N}-\mathbb{N}$ . We use the technique of independent linked family developed by K. Kunen.

**Key words:** Ultrafilter, Rudin-Frolík order, independent linked family, stratified set.

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§ 0. Introduction. Petr Simon has raised the following question known as Simon's problem [1] : Does there exist a non-minimal ultrafilter in Rudin-Frolík order of  $\beta\mathbb{N}-\mathbb{N}$  (shortly written RF) without an immediate predecessor ?

Let us call such an ultrafilter Simon point.

Two simple lemmas translate the property "being a Simon point" into the topological terminology.

Lemma 0.1: An ultrafilter  $p \in \beta\mathbb{N}-\mathbb{N}$  is nonminimal in RF iff there exists a countable discrete set  $X \in \beta\mathbb{N}-\mathbb{N}$  of ultrafilters such that  $p \in \overline{X-X}$ .

Lemma 0.2: An ultrafilter  $p \in \beta\mathbb{N}-\mathbb{N}$  has an immediate predecessor in RF iff there exists a countable discrete set  $X$  of minimal ultrafilters in RF such that  $p \in \overline{X-X}$ .

Therefore, Simon point  $p$  is an ultrafilter in  $\beta\mathbb{N}-\mathbb{N}$  for which there exists a countable discrete set  $X$  such that  $p \in \overline{X-X}$

and if  $\mathcal{Y}$  is a countable discrete set of minimal ultrafilters in RF then  $p \notin \overline{\mathcal{Y}}$ .

The main result we want to present is the following

**THEOREM.** There exists a Simon point in  $\beta N - N$ .

One can easily see that a Simon point  $p$  has to be in the closure of a countable discrete set of Simon points  $X_1$ . Since each point of  $X_1$  is a Simon point, there exists a countable discrete set  $X_2$  of Simon points such that  $X_1 \subseteq \overline{X_2} - X_2$ , and so on. Therefore, we shall construct countably many countable discrete sets  $X_n$ ,  $n \in \omega$  of Simon points such that  $X_n \subseteq \overline{X_{n+1}} - X_{n+1}$ .

The original proof of Theorem needed the assumption that every set of functions from  ${}^\omega \omega$  of cardinality smaller than  $2^{\aleph_0}$  is bounded modulo fin. We are grateful to Petr Simon who has suggested us to use Kunen technique of independent linked family [3] to avoid this assumption.

We would like also to thank Lev Bukovský for his manifold help and encouragement.

§ 1. Preliminaries. We shall use the standard notation and terminology to be found e.g. in [4], [1]. If  $\mathcal{F}$  is a filter then  $\mathcal{F}^*$  is the dual ideal. If  $G$  is a centered system of sets then  $\langle G \rangle$  denotes a filter generated by this system.  $F$  refers to the Fréchet filter.

**Definition 1.1:** due to K.Kunen [3]. Let  $\mathcal{F}$  be a filter on  $N$  and  $\mathcal{F} \supseteq F$ ,  $A_\eta \in N$ .

a) Let  $1 \leq n < \omega$ . An indexed family  $\{A_\eta; \eta \in J\}$  is precisely  $n$ -linked with respect to (w.r.t.)  $\mathcal{F}$  iff for all  $\sigma \in [J]^n$ ,  $\bigcap_{\eta \in \sigma} A_\eta \notin \mathcal{F}^*$ , but for all  $\sigma \in [J]^{n+1}$ ,  $\bigcap_{\eta \in \sigma} A_\eta$  is finite.

b) An indexed family  $\{A_{\eta n}, \eta \in J, n \in \omega\}$  is a linked

system w.r.t.  $\mathcal{F}$  iff for each  $n, \{A_{\eta n}; \eta \in J\}$  is precisely  $n$ -linked w.r.t.  $\mathcal{F}$ , and for each  $n$  and  $\eta, A_{\eta n} \subseteq A_{\eta n+1}$ .

c) An indexed family  $\{A_{\eta n}^{\xi}; \eta \in J, \xi \in I, n \in \omega\}$  is a  $J$  by  $I$  independent linked family (ILF) w.r.t.  $\mathcal{F}$  iff for each  $\xi \in I$ ,  $\{A_{\eta n}^{\xi}; \eta \in J, n \in \omega\}$  is a linked system w.r.t.  $\mathcal{F}$ , and  $\bigcap_{\xi \in \tau} (\bigcap_{\eta \in \sigma_{\xi}} A_{\eta n_{\xi}}^{\xi}) \notin \mathcal{F}^*$  whenever  $\tau \in [I]^{<\omega}$ , and for each  $\xi \in \tau, 1 \leq n_{\xi} < \omega$  and  $\sigma_{\xi} \in [J]^{n_{\xi}}$ .

**Remark 1.2:** If  $\{A_{\eta n}^{\xi}; \xi \in I, \eta \in J, n \in \omega\}$  is independent linked family w.r.t.  $\mathcal{F} \supseteq \mathcal{F}, C \in \mathcal{F}, \tau \in [I]^{<\omega}, \sigma_{\xi} \in [J]^{n_{\xi}}$  and  $B \supseteq \bigcap_{\xi \in \tau} (\bigcap_{\eta \in \sigma_{\xi}} A_{\eta n_{\xi}}^{\xi}) \cap C$ , then  $\{A_{\eta n}^{\xi}; \xi \in I - \tau, \eta \in J, n \in \omega\}$  is independent linked family w.r.t.  $(\mathcal{F} \cup \{B\})$ .

K.Kunen [3] has also proved the following

**Proposition 1.3:** There exists a  $2^{\omega}$  by  $2^{\omega}$  independent linked family w.r.t. Fréchet filter.

**Definition 1.4:** A countable set  $\{\mathcal{F}_n; n \in \omega\}$  of filters on  $\omega$  is discrete iff there exists a partition of  $\omega$  (into disjoint sets)  $\{A_n; n \in \omega\}$  such that  $A_n \in \mathcal{F}_n$  for each  $n \in \omega$ .

**Definition 1.5:** A filter  $\mathcal{F}$  is in a closure of a discrete set of filters  $\{\mathcal{F}_n; n \in \omega\}$  iff for each  $A \in \mathcal{F}$  the set  $\{n \in \omega; A \in \mathcal{F}_n\}$  is infinite.

**Definition 1.6:** A set of filters  $\{\mathcal{F}_{n,m}; n, m \in \omega\}$  is stratified iff

- (1) the set  $\{\mathcal{F}_{n,m}; m \in \omega\}$  is discrete for each  $n \in \omega$ ,
- (2) the filter  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}$  is in the closure of the set  $\{\mathcal{F}_{m+1,\ell}; \ell \in \omega\}$  for each  $n, m \in \omega$ .

**Definition 1.7:** Let  $\{\mathcal{F}_{n,m}; n, m \in \omega\}$  be a stratified set of filters and  $C$  be its subset. We define

$$C(0) = C$$

$$C(\alpha) = \bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} C(\beta), \text{ if } \alpha \text{ is limit.}$$

$$C(\alpha+1) = C(\alpha) \cup \{ \mathcal{F}_{n,m} ; \exists B \in \mathcal{F}_{n,m} \text{ such that}$$

$$\{ \mathcal{F}_{n+1, \epsilon} ; B \in \mathcal{F}_{n+1, \epsilon} \} \subseteq C(\alpha) \}$$

$$\text{and } \bar{C} = \bigcup_{\alpha < \omega_1} C(\alpha).$$

We shall need the following result proved by M.E. Rudin [4].

**Lemma 1.8:** If  $X, Y$  are countable discrete sets of ultrafilters and  $p \in \overline{X \cap Y}$  then  $p \in \overline{X \cap Y} \cup \overline{X \cap (\bar{Y} - Y)} \cup \overline{Y \cap (\bar{X} - X)}$ .

**§ 2. Construction of a stratified set.** The proof of Theorem will be done via a construction of a stratified set of ultrafilters with properties described in the following proposition.

**Proposition 2.1:** There exists a stratified set of ultrafilters  $\{q_{n,m} ; n, m \in \omega\}$  on  $\omega$  satisfying for each partition  $\{D_i ; i \in \omega\}$  of  $\omega$  the following property (P): Let  $C = \{q_{n,m} ; (\exists i \in \omega)(D_i \in q_{n,m})\}$ . If  $q_{k,e} \notin \bar{C}$  then there exists a family  $\{U_\alpha ; \alpha \in 2^\omega\} \subseteq q_{k,e}$  such that for each  $i \in \omega$  and for each  $\alpha_1 < \alpha_2 < \dots < \alpha_i$ ,  $U_{\alpha_1} \cap U_{\alpha_2} \cap \dots \cap U_{\alpha_i} \cap D_i$  is finite.

For to prove the proposition we need some auxiliary results.

**Lemma 2.2:** If  $\{ \mathcal{F}_{n,m} ; n, m \in \omega \}$  is a stratified set of filters,  $\mathcal{A} = \{ A_{\eta, k}^{\xi} ; \xi \in I, |I| > \omega, \eta < 2^\omega, k \in \omega \}$  is ILF w.r.t.  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}$  for every  $n, m \in \omega$  and  $B \subseteq \omega$  then there exists a stratified set of filters  $\{ \overline{\mathcal{F}_{n,m}} ; n, m \in \omega \}$  and

$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \{A_{\eta \& \xi}^{\xi} ; \xi \in \bar{I}, \eta < 2^{\omega}, \& \in \omega\}$  an ILF w.r.t.  $\overline{\mathcal{F}_{n,m}}$  for each  $n, m \in \omega$  such that  $\overline{\mathcal{F}_{n,m}} \supseteq \mathcal{F}_{n,m}$ ,  $B$  or  $\omega - B$  belongs into  $\overline{\mathcal{F}_{n,m}}$ ,  $\bar{I} \subseteq I$  and  $I - \bar{I}$  is countable.

**Proof.** Let us consider the set

$$C = \{ \mathcal{F}_{i,j} ; \mathcal{A} \text{ is not ILF w.r.t. } (\mathcal{F}_{i,j} \cup \{B\}) \}.$$

If  $\mathcal{F}_{i,j}$  belongs to the set  $C$  then there exist sets  $\tau_{i,j} \in [I]^{\omega}$  and  $E \in \mathcal{F}_{i,j}$  such that  $B \cap E \cap \bigcap_{\xi \in \tau_{i,j}} \bigcap_{\eta \in \mathcal{F}_{\xi}} A_{\eta \& \xi}^{\xi} = \emptyset$ , i.e.  $\omega - B \supseteq E \cap \bigcap_{\xi \in \tau_{i,j}} \bigcap_{\eta \in \mathcal{F}_{\xi}} A_{\eta \& \xi}^{\xi}$ .

Evidently  $\{A_{\eta \& \xi}^{\xi} ; \xi \in I - \tau_{i,j}, \eta < 2^{\omega}, \& \in \omega\}$  is ILF w.r.t.  $(\mathcal{F}_{i,j} \cup \{\omega - B\})$ .

We denote  $\bar{I} = I - U\{\tau_{i,j} ; \mathcal{F}_{i,j} \in C\}$ . Therefore,

$$\bar{\mathcal{A}} = \{A_{\eta \& \xi}^{\xi} ; \xi \in \bar{I}, \eta < 2^{\omega}, \& \in \omega\} \text{ is ILF w.r.t.}$$

$(\mathcal{F}_{i,j} \cup \{\omega - B\})$  for  $\mathcal{F}_{i,j} \in C$ . If  $\mathcal{F}_{h,e} \notin \bar{C}$  then  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$  is ILF w.r.t.  $(\mathcal{F}_{h,e} \cup \{B\})$ .

It remains to show that  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$  is ILF w.r.t.  $(\mathcal{F}_{h,e} \cup \{\omega - B\})$  if  $\mathcal{F}_{h,e} \in \bar{C} - C$ . Suppose the opposite in order to get a

contradiction. Let  $\beta$  be the least ordinal such that  $\mathcal{F}_{h,e} \in C(\beta)$  and  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$  is not ILF w.r.t.  $(\mathcal{F}_{h,e} \cup \{\omega - B\})$ .

Hence there exist sets  $E \in \mathcal{F}_{h,e}$  and  $\tau \in [I]^{\omega}$  satisfying  $E \cap (\omega - B) \cap \bigcap_{\xi \in \tau} \bigcap_{\eta \in \mathcal{F}_{\xi}} A_{\eta \& \xi}^{\xi} = \emptyset$ . Take  $\mathcal{F}_{h+1,t}$  containing  $E$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{h+1,t} \in C(\beta - 1)$ . There exists such a filter. Then  $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$  is not ILF w.r.t.  $(\mathcal{F}_{h+1,t} \cup \{\omega - B\})$ . This is a contradiction with the minimality of  $\beta$ .

According to the foregoing discussion we denote

$$\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{n,m} = \begin{cases} (\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{n,m} \cup \{B\}) & \text{for } \mathcal{F}_{n,m} \notin \bar{C} \\ (\bar{\mathcal{F}}_{n,m} \cup \{\omega - B\}) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

**Lemma 2.3:** If  $\{\mathcal{F}_{n,m} ; n,m \in \omega\}$  is a stratified set of filters,  $\mathcal{A} = \{A_{\eta,k}^{\xi} ; \xi \in I, \eta < 2^\omega, k < \omega\}$  is ILF w.r.t.  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}$  for each  $n,m \in \omega$  and  $\mathcal{D} = \{D_i ; i \in \omega\}$  is a partition of  $\omega$  such that  $D_i$  or  $\omega - D_i$  belongs into  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}$  then there exists a stratified set of filters  $\{\widehat{\mathcal{F}}_{n,m} ; n,m \in \omega\}$  and  $\widehat{\mathcal{A}} = \{A_{\eta,k}^{\xi} ; \xi \in \widehat{I}, \eta < 2^\omega, k < \omega\}$  an ILF w.r.t.  $\widehat{\mathcal{F}}_{n,m}$  for each  $n,m \in \omega$  such that  $\widehat{\mathcal{F}}_{n,m} \supseteq \mathcal{F}_{n,m}$ ,  $\widehat{\mathcal{F}}_{n,m}$  possesses the property (P) for the partition  $\mathcal{D}$ ,  $\widehat{I} \subseteq I$  and  $I - \widehat{I}$  is finite.

**Proof:** Let us consider the set

$$C = \{\mathcal{F}_{j,\varepsilon} ; (\exists i \in \omega)(D_i \in \mathcal{F}_{j,\varepsilon})\}.$$

If  $\mathcal{F}_{\alpha,\varepsilon} \in \widetilde{C}$  we put  $\widehat{\mathcal{F}}_{\alpha,t} = \mathcal{F}_{\alpha,t}$ .

Let  $\mathcal{F}_{\alpha,\varepsilon} \notin \widetilde{C}$ . Take  $\xi \in I$  and define (similarly as K.Kunen does)

$$U_\eta = \bigcup_{k \in \omega} (A_{\eta,k}^{\xi} \cap D_{k+1}), \quad \widehat{I} = I - \{\beta\}$$

$$\text{and } \widehat{\mathcal{F}}_{\alpha,t} = (\mathcal{F}_{\alpha,t} \cup \{U_\eta ; \eta < 2^\omega\}).$$

$$U_\eta \supseteq A_{\eta,k}^{\xi} \cap \bigcap_{i \leq k} (\omega - D_i), \text{ therefore } \widehat{\mathcal{A}} \text{ is ILF w.r.t. } \widehat{\mathcal{F}}_{\alpha,t}.$$

To verify the property (P), let  $\beta_1 < \beta_2 < \dots < \beta_i < 2^\omega$ .

The set  $U_{\beta_1} \cap U_{\beta_2} \cap \dots \cap U_{\beta_i} \cap D_i$  is a subset of  $A_{\beta_1, i-1}^{\xi} \cap A_{\beta_2, i-1}^{\xi} \cap \dots \cap A_{\beta_i, i-1}^{\xi}$  which is in fact finite.

The set  $\{\widehat{\mathcal{F}}_{n,m} ; n,m \in \omega\}$  is stratified by the definition of  $\widetilde{C}$ .

q.e.d.

**Proof of Proposition 2.1.** We construct ultrafilters

$\mathcal{F}_{n,m}, n,m \in \omega$  by the transfinite induction in  $2^\omega$  stages.

At each stage  $\alpha < 2^\omega$  we will construct filters  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^\alpha$

and  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m} = \bigcup_{\alpha < 2^\omega} \mathcal{F}_{n,m}^\alpha$ . At the even stages we ensure that  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}$ 's become ultrafilters and at the odd stages we ensure that  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}$ 's will not belong into the closure of any countable discrete set of minimal ultrafilters. Simultaneously, at each stage we ensure that  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}$  will belong into the closure of the set  $\{q_{n+1,\ell} ; \ell \in \omega\}$ .

Let  $\{B_\alpha ; \alpha < 2^\omega, \alpha \text{ even}\}$  enumerate all subsets of  $\omega$  and  $\{D_\alpha ; \alpha < 2^\omega, \alpha \text{ odd}\}$  enumerate all partitions of  $\omega$ ,  $D_\alpha = \{D_{\alpha i} ; i \in \omega\}$ , in such a way that each partition occurs  $2^{2^\omega}$  many times in this enumeration.

Let  $\{A_{\eta, \ell}^\xi ; \xi < 2^\omega, \eta < 2^\omega, \ell < \omega\}$  be independent linked family w.r.t. Fréchet filter  $F$ .

For each  $\xi$ , the system  $\{A_{\eta, 1}^\xi ; \eta < 2^\omega\}$  is almost disjoint. Put  $B_{1,m} = A_{m,1}^1 - \bigcup_{j < m} A_{j,1}^1$ . Let  $\{C_n ; n \in \omega\}$  be a fixed partition of  $\omega$  on infinite sets. Suppose  $B_{n,m}$  is defined for each  $m < \omega$ . Put  $B_{n+1,m} = B_{n,\ell} \cap (A_{m,1}^{n+1} - \bigcup_{j < m} A_{j,1}^{n+1})$  iff  $m \in C_\ell$ . For each  $m \in \omega$ , the system  $\{B_{n,m} ; n \in \omega\}$  is pairwise disjoint.

Let  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^0$  be a filter generated by  $F \cup \{B_{n,m}\} \cup \{\omega - B_{n+1,\ell} ; \ell \in \omega\}$  for each  $n, m \in \omega$  and  $I_0 = 2^\omega - \omega$ .

The set  $\{A_{\eta, \ell}^\xi ; \xi \in I_0, \eta < 2^\omega, \ell < \omega\}$  is ILF w.r.t.  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^0$  for all  $n, m \in \omega$  according to Remark 1.2. (For each  $B \in \mathcal{F}_{n,m}^0$  there exist  $G \in F$  and  $A_{\eta, j}^i$ ,  $j \leq n+1$  satisfying  $B \supseteq G \cap \bigcap_{j \leq n+1} A_{\eta, j}^i$ ). The system  $\{\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^0 ; n, m \in \omega\}$  is evidently stratified.

By the induction on  $\alpha < 2^\omega$  we construct filters  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^\alpha$  and an indexed set  $I_\alpha$  with following properties:



1) If  $\alpha$  is even, we put  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\alpha+1} = \overline{\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\alpha}}$  and  $I_{\alpha+1} = \overline{I_{\alpha}}$  (using Lemma 2.2 where  $B = B_{\alpha}$  ).

2) If  $\alpha$  is odd,  $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha} = \{D_{\alpha i}; i \in \omega\}$  is a partition of  $\omega$  and assume that:

(A) for each  $i \in \omega$  there exists  $\beta < \alpha$ ,  $\beta$  even such that  $D_{\alpha i} = B_{\beta}$ ,  $\alpha$  being the first odd ordinal with this property. Hence for each  $i \in \omega$  we have  $D_{\alpha i} \in \mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\beta}$  or  $\omega - D_{\alpha i} \in \mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\beta}$ .

Then we define  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\alpha+1} = \widehat{\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\alpha}}$ ,  $I_{\alpha+1} = \widehat{I_{\alpha}}$  (using Lemma 2.3 where  $\mathcal{D}_{\alpha} = \mathcal{D}$  ).

If the condition (A) does not hold true, we simply set  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\alpha+1} = \mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\alpha}$  and  $I_{\alpha+1} = I_{\alpha}$ .

3) If  $\alpha$  is a limit ordinal we set  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\alpha} = \bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} \mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\beta}$  and  $I_{\alpha} = \bigcap_{\beta < \alpha} I_{\beta}$ .

Finally we put  $q_{n,m} = \bigcup_{\alpha < 2^{\omega}} \mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\alpha}$ .

It remains to show that the set  $\{q_{n,m}; n, m \in \omega\}$  satisfies the property required in Proposition 2.1.

Clearly, this set is stratified.

Assume that  $\mathcal{D}$  is a partition of  $\omega$ . Since each partition of  $\omega$  occurs  $2^{\omega}$  many times in the enumeration  $\{\mathcal{D}_{\alpha}; \alpha \in 2^{\omega}, \alpha \text{ odd}\}$  there exists a sufficiently large odd  $\alpha$  such that  $\mathcal{D} = \mathcal{D}_{\alpha}$  and the condition (A) is fulfilled. Now, we denote  $C = \{q_{k,e}; (\exists i \in \omega)(D_{\alpha i} \in q_{k,e})\}$ . If  $q_{n,m} \notin \tilde{C}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\alpha} \notin \tilde{C}_{\alpha}$  where  $C_{\alpha} = \{q_{k,e}; (\exists i \in \omega)(D_{\alpha i} \in q_{k,e})\}$  then the family  $\{u_{\eta}; \eta < 2^{\omega}\}$  used in the construction of  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\alpha+1}$  according to the proof of Lemma 2.3 is the family desired by the proposition. Thus it remains to show that

for  $q_{n,m} \notin \tilde{C}$  also  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\omega} \notin \tilde{C}_{\omega}$ .

In order to get a contradiction we suppose that there exists  $q_{n,m} \notin \tilde{C}$  and  $\mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\omega} \in C_{\omega}(\beta)$  where  $\beta$  is the first ordinal with this property. Clearly,  $\beta \neq 0$ . By the definition of  $C_{\omega}(\beta)$ , there exists  $B \in \mathcal{F}_{n,m}^{\omega} \subseteq q_{n,m}$  such that  $B = \{\mathcal{F}_{n+1,e}^{\omega}; B \in \mathcal{F}_{n+1,e}^{\omega}\} \subseteq C_{\omega}(\beta-1)$ . By the minimality of  $\beta$ , each  $q_{n+1,e} \supseteq \mathcal{F}_{n+1,e}^{\omega} \in B$  is an element of  $\tilde{C}$ . This is a contradiction with the assumption of  $q_{n,m} \notin \tilde{C}$ .

q.e.d.

§ 3. Proof of the THEOREM. Now, we are ready to prove the main result. Theorem follows immediately from Proposition 2.1 and Lemma 3.1.

Lemma 3.1: If  $\{q_{n,m}; n,m \in \omega\}$  is a stratified set of ultrafilters with the property (P) (of Proposition 2.1) then each  $q_{n,m}; n,m \in \omega$  is a Simon point.

Proof: Since the set  $\{q_{n,m}; n,m \in \omega\}$  is stratified, each  $q_{n,m}$  is a nonminimal ultrafilter.

It remains to show that  $q_{n,m} \notin \overline{D}$  whenever  $D = \{j_i; i \in \omega\}$  is a countable discrete set of minimal ultrafilters in RF,  $n,m \in \omega$ . Let  $\{D_i; i \in \omega\}$  be a partition of  $\omega$  such that  $D_i \in j_i$  for each  $i \in \omega$ . Let  $C$  be as in Proposition 2.1. We show that  $\tilde{C} \cap \overline{D} = \emptyset$ . Clearly,  $C(0) \cap \overline{D} = \emptyset$ . We proceed by induction. Suppose that  $C(\alpha) \cap \overline{D} = \emptyset$  and there exist  $i, j \in \omega$  such that  $q_{i,j} \in C(\alpha+1) \cap \overline{D}$ . By Definition 1.7 there exists a set  $B \in q_{i,j}$  with property  $\{q_{i+1,e}; B \in q_{i+1,e}\} \subseteq C(\alpha)$ . This means that  $q_{i,j} \in \overline{C(\alpha) \cap X_{i+1}}$ . Hence  $C(\alpha) \cap X_{i+1} \cap \overline{D} \neq \emptyset$ . But, this is impossible by Lemma 0.1 and Lemma 1.8.

Thus, if  $q_{k,l} \in \tilde{C}$  then  $q_{k,l} \notin \bar{D}$ .

Assume now  $q_{k,l} \notin \tilde{C}$  and  $\{U_\alpha; \alpha \in 2^\omega\} \subseteq q_{k,l}$  be such that for each  $i \in \omega$  and for each  $\alpha_1 < \alpha_2 < \dots < \alpha_i$ ,  $U_{\alpha_1} \cap U_{\alpha_2} \cap \dots \cap U_{\alpha_i} \cap D_i$  is finite (the existence of  $U_\alpha$  follows from the property (P)). Then for each  $i$  there exist at most  $i-1$  values of  $\alpha$  for which  $U_\alpha \in j_i$ . Thus there exists an ordinal  $\alpha$  such that  $U_\alpha \notin j_i$  for each  $i \in \omega$ . This yields  $q_{k,l} \notin \bar{D}$ .

q.e.d.

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