

## INTERSECTIONS OF $\alpha$ -SPACES

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### Abstract

Let  $\beta$  be an infinite r.e. repère,  $\bar{W}$  an infinite dimensional r.e. space such that  $\bar{W} \leq L(\beta)$ . A condition is derived that is both necessary and sufficient for the existence of an infinite subset  $\beta \subset \bar{\beta}$  such that  $L(\beta) \cap \bar{W}$  is not an  $\alpha$ -space. Examples which satisfy this condition are exhibited, proving that the class of  $\alpha$ -spaces is not closed under intersections.

### Introduction

Dekker (1969) and (1971), introduced and studied an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional recursive vector space  $\bar{U}_F$  over a countable field  $F$ . Briefly, it consists of an infinite recursive set  $\varepsilon_F$  of numbers (that is, non-negative integers), an operation  $+$  from  $\varepsilon_F \oplus \varepsilon_F$  into  $\varepsilon_F$  and an operation  $\cdot$  from  $F \times \varepsilon_F$  into  $\varepsilon_F$ . If the field  $F$  is identified with a recursive set, both  $+$  and  $\cdot$  are partial recursive functions. Let  $\beta$  be a subset of  $\varepsilon_F$ . We call  $\beta$  a *repère*, if it is linearly independent;  $\beta$  is a *r.e. repère* if  $\beta$  is a r.e. set, and  $\beta$  is an  $\alpha$ -*repère* if it is included in some r.e. repère. A subspace  $V$  of  $\bar{U}_F$  is an  $\alpha$ -*space*, if it has at least one  $\alpha$ -*basis*, that is, at least one basis which is also an  $\alpha$ -repère. A subspace  $V$  is *isolc* if it includes no infinite r.e. repère; it is r.e. if it is r.e. as a set. The word “space” is used in the sense of “subspace of  $\bar{U}_F$ ,” and we denote “ $W$  is a subspace of  $V$ ” by “ $W \leq V$ .” We usually write  $(0)$  for  $\{0\}$ , and  $\bar{U}$  for  $\bar{U}_F$ . We identify  $a(n)$  and  $a_n$  for every function  $a(n)$ ; and a bar over a set (or space) is generally intended to indicate recursive enumerability. We write “L.C.” for “linear combination” and “L.C.N.Z.C.” for “linear combination with non-zero coefficients.” Let  $\alpha \subset \varepsilon_F$ . If  $\alpha = \emptyset$ ,  $L(\alpha) = (0)$ . If  $\alpha \neq \emptyset$ ,  $L(\alpha)$  denotes the span of  $\alpha$ , that is, the set of all L.C. (with coefficients in  $F$ ) of finitely many elements of  $\alpha$ . If  $\alpha = \{a_0, \dots\}$ , we usually write  $L(a_0, \dots)$  instead of  $L(\{a_0, \dots\})$ .

The results presented in this paper were taken from the author’s doctoral dissertation written at Rutgers University under the direction of Professor J.C.E. Dekker.

The repères  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are *independent* if they are disjoint and their union is a repère. The spaces  $V$  and  $W$  are *independent* if  $V \cap W = (0)$ . The sets  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are *separable* [written:  $\beta \mid \gamma$ ], if they can be separated by r.e. sets. The  $\alpha$ -repères  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are  *$\alpha$ -independent* [written:  $\beta \parallel \gamma$ ], if they can be separated by independent r.e. repères. The spaces  $V$  and  $W$  are  *$\alpha$ -independent* [written:  $V \parallel W$ ], if there are independent r.e. spaces  $\bar{V}$  and  $\bar{W}$  such that  $V \leq \bar{V}$  and  $W \leq \bar{W}$ .

Let  $S, C, V, W$  be spaces and consider the following three statements:

- (a)  $V, W$   $\alpha$ -spaces  $\Rightarrow V \cap W$   $\alpha$ -space,
- (b)  $V$   $\alpha$ -space,  $W$  r.e. space  $\Rightarrow V \cap W$   $\alpha$ -space,
- (c)  $S \oplus C = V$  and  $S \parallel C$  and  $V$  an  $\alpha$ -space  $\Rightarrow$  both  $S$  and  $C$  are  $\alpha$ -spaces.

Clearly, (a) implies (b); (c) is a conjecture that appears in Dekker (1971; page 493), and is established in Fowler (to appear) in the case  $S$  (or  $C$ ) is isolic or r.e. Assume the hypothesis of (c), and suppose  $\bar{W}, \bar{Z}$  are two independent r.e. spaces such that  $S \leq \bar{W}, C \leq \bar{Z}$ . It can be easily shown that  $S = V \cap \bar{W}$ , and  $C = V \cap \bar{Z}$  hence (b) implies (c).

In this paper, we provide several counterexamples to (b); hence  $\alpha$ -spaces are not closed under intersections, and the above approach to (c) is fruitless. More specifically, if  $\bar{\beta}$  is an infinite r.e. repère and  $\bar{W}$  is an infinite dimensional r.e. space such that  $\bar{W} \leq L(\bar{\beta})$ , we derive a condition that is both necessary and sufficient for the existence of an infinite subset  $\beta \subset \bar{\beta}$  such that  $L(\beta) \cap \bar{W}$  is not an  $\alpha$ -space. We exhibit examples in which this condition is satisfied, regardless of the cardinality of  $F$ . We take our notation from Dekker (1969) and (1971) and the reader is assumed to be familiar with their contents.

## 2. The condition

NOTATIONS. Let  $p_0 = 2, p_n =$  the  $n$ -th odd prime for  $n \geq 1$ . Then  $\eta = \rho e_n$  is the recursive canonical basis for  $\bar{U}_F$ , where  $e_n = p_n - 1$  (see the specific Gödel numbering used in Dekker (1969)). If  $\beta$  is a repère,  $x \in L(\beta)$  and  $\sigma \subset L(\beta)$ , then

$$\beta_x = \{b \in \beta \mid x \text{ has a non-zero coordinate with respect to } b \text{ if expressed as a L.C.N.Z.C. of elements in } \beta\},$$

$$\beta_n = \cup \{\beta_x \mid x \in \sigma\}.$$

DEFINITION. Let  $\bar{W}$  be an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional r.e. space and  $\bar{\beta}$  a r.e. repère such that  $\bar{W} \leq L(\bar{\beta})$ . Then  $\bar{\beta}$  has *property  $\Delta$*  with respect to  $\bar{W}$  if there is no 1 – 1 recursive function  $d(n)$  enumerating a basis of  $\bar{W}$  for which  $\cup_{i \neq j} (\bar{\beta}_{d(i)} \cap \bar{\beta}_{d(j)})$  is finite.

REMARKS. (a) Let  $\bar{W} \leq L(\bar{\beta})$  where  $\bar{W}$  is a r.e. space and  $\bar{\beta}$  is a r.e. repère. Then  $\bar{W} \leq L(\bar{\beta}_W), \bar{\beta}_W \subset \bar{\beta}$ , where  $\bar{\beta}_W$  is also a r.e. repère; moreover,  $\bar{\beta}_x \subset \bar{\beta}_W$  for every  $x \in \bar{W}$ . Hence  $\bar{\beta}_W$  has property  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\bar{W}$  if and only if  $\bar{\beta}$  has property  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\bar{W}$ .

(b) If  $\beta$  has property  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\bar{W}$  and  $d(n)$  is a 1 – 1 recursive function enumerating a basis of  $\bar{W}$ , then the sequence  $\langle \bar{\beta}_{d(i)} \rangle$  of (finite, non-empty) sets does not have a tail of mutually disjoint sets.

DEFINITIONS.

- (a) The r.e. space  $\bar{W}$  is *decidable relative to* the r.e. space  $\bar{V}$ , if
  - (i)  $\bar{W} \leq \bar{V}$ ,
  - (ii) the set  $\bar{V} \setminus \bar{W}$  is r.e.
- (b) The r.e. space  $\bar{W}$  is *recursive relative to* the r.e. space  $\bar{V}$ , if
  - (i)  $\bar{W} \leq \bar{V}$ ,
  - (ii) there is some r.e. space  $\bar{Z}$  such that  $\bar{Z} \cap \bar{W} = (0)$  and  $\bar{W} \oplus \bar{Z} = \bar{V}$ .
- (c) If the r.e. space  $\bar{W}$  is decidable (or recursive) relative to  $\bar{U}_F$ , we say that  $\bar{W}$  is *decidable* (respectively *recursive*).

REMARKS.

- (a) If  $\bar{V}$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional r.e. space, there are many recursive isomorphisms from  $\bar{V}$  onto  $\bar{U}_F$ ; pick one, say  $h$ . Then  $\bar{W}$  is decidable (or recursive) relative to  $\bar{V}$  if and only if  $h(\bar{W})$  is decidable (respectively recursive).
- (b) Well-known results concerning decidable and recursive spaces carry over to the relative case by (a); in particular, the following two results due to Guhl (to appear):
  - (i) If  $F$  is finite,  $\bar{W}$  recursive  $\Leftrightarrow \bar{W}$  decidable,
  - (ii) if  $F$  is infinite,  $\bar{W}$  recursive  $\Rightarrow \bar{W}$  decidable, but not conversely.

PROPOSITION P1. *Let  $\bar{W}$  be an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional r.e. space and  $\beta$  a r.e. repère such that  $\bar{W} \leq L(\beta)$ . Then  $\bar{W}$  not recursive relative to  $L(\bar{\beta}_W) \Rightarrow \bar{\beta}_W$  has property  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\bar{W}$ .*

PROOF. We may assume without loss of generality that  $\bar{\beta}_W = \bar{\beta}$ . We shall prove the contrapositive, that is,

- $\bar{\beta}$  does not have property  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\bar{W} \Rightarrow$
- $\bar{W}$  recursive relative to  $L(\bar{\beta})$ .

Assume the hypothesis. Then there is a 1 – 1 recursive function  $d_n$  ranging over some r.e. basis  $\bar{\gamma}$  of  $\bar{W}$  and a finite subset  $\{b_0, \dots, b_m\}$  of  $\bar{\beta}$  such that

$$(\forall i)(\forall j)[i \neq j \Rightarrow \bar{\beta}_{d(i)} \cap \bar{\beta}_{d(j)} \subset \{b_0, \dots, b_m\}].$$

Denote  $\{b_0, \dots, b_m\}$  by  $\rho$ .

Note that for each number  $j$  we can

- (i) effectively test whether  $\bar{\beta}_{d(j)} \subset \rho$ ,
- (ii) if not  $[\bar{\beta}_{d(j)} \subset \rho]$ , effectively list both the elements of  $\bar{\beta}_{d(j)} \cap \rho$  and those of  $\bar{\beta}_{d(j)} \setminus \rho$ . Define

$$\bar{\delta} = \{d_n \in \bar{\gamma} \mid \bar{\beta}_{d(n)} \subset \rho\}.$$

Then by (i) both  $\delta$  and  $\bar{\gamma} \setminus \delta$  are r.e. Only finitely many elements  $d_n \in \bar{\gamma}$  have the property  $\beta_{d(n)} \subset \rho$ ; this follows from the fact that the span of all these elements  $d_n \in \bar{\gamma}$  is a subspace of the finite dimensional space  $L(\rho)$ , while  $\bar{\gamma}$  is an infinite repère. Thus  $\delta$  is a finite repère. Clearly if  $d_n \in \delta$ , then  $d_n \in L(\rho)$ . Then we have  $L(\delta) \leq L(\rho)$ . Combining this with the fact that  $\delta$  and  $\rho$  are finite repères, we see that there is a finite repère  $\bar{\alpha}_1$  such that  $\delta \subset \bar{\alpha}_1$  and  $L(\bar{\alpha}_1) = L(\rho)$ . The sets  $\bar{\alpha}_1$  and  $\bar{\alpha}_1 \setminus \delta$  are finite, hence r.e. We note that  $\bar{\gamma} \setminus \delta$  is infinite and r.e. For every  $d_j \in \bar{\gamma} \setminus \delta$ , we have

$$(1) \quad \begin{cases} \text{not } [\beta_{d(j)} \subset \rho], \beta_{d(j)} \setminus \rho \neq \emptyset \\ \beta_{d(j)} = (\beta_{d(j)} \setminus \rho) \cup (\beta_{d(j)} \cap \rho), \\ d_j \in L(\beta_{d(j)}), d_j \notin L(\beta_{d(j)} \cap \rho). \end{cases}$$

For  $d_j \in \bar{\gamma} \setminus \delta$ , put

$$c_j = \min \{ \beta_{d(j)} \setminus \rho \}, \tau_j = [(\beta_{d(j)} \setminus \rho) \setminus \{c_j\}] \cup \{d_j\}.$$

It follows that

$$(2) \quad d_j \in \tau_j \text{ and } L(\beta_{d(j)}) = L(\tau_j) \oplus L(\beta_{d(j)} \cap \rho).$$

We now define

$$\bar{\alpha}_2 = \cup \{ \tau_j \mid d_j \in \bar{\gamma} \setminus \delta \}$$

and we claim that

- (a)  $L(\bar{\alpha}_1) + L(\bar{\alpha}_2) = L(\bar{\beta})$ ,
- (b)  $\bar{\alpha}_2$  is a r.e. repère,
- (c)  $L(\bar{\alpha}_1) \cap L(\bar{\alpha}_2) = (0)$ ,
- (d)  $\bar{\alpha}_1$  and  $\bar{\alpha}_2$  are disjoint and  $\bar{\alpha}_1 \cup \bar{\alpha}_2$  is a r.e. basis for  $L(\bar{\beta})$ ,
- (e)  $\bar{W}$  is recursive relative to  $L(\bar{\beta})$ .

Re (a).  $L(\bar{\alpha}_1) + L(\bar{\alpha}_2) = L(\rho) + L(\cup \{ \tau_j \mid d_j \in \bar{\gamma} \setminus \delta \})$   
 $= L(\rho) + \sum \{ L(\tau_j) \mid d_j \in \bar{\gamma} \setminus \delta \}$   
 $= \sum \{ L(\beta_{d(j)}) \mid d_j \in \bar{\gamma} \}$ , since  $\bar{\beta}_W = \bar{\beta}$ ,  $d_j \in \delta$   
 implies  $L(\beta_{d(j)}) \leq L(\rho)$ , and (2).

Hence  $L(\bar{\alpha}_1) + L(\bar{\alpha}_2) = L(\bar{\beta})$ , again since  $\bar{\beta}_W = \bar{\beta}$ .

Re (b). Let  $\Gamma = \{ \tau_j \mid d_j \in \bar{\gamma} \setminus \delta \}$ . Then  $\Gamma$  is a r.e. class of non-empty finite sets, hence  $\bar{\alpha}_2$  is a r.e. set. It follows from the definition of  $\tau_j$  that  $\Gamma$  consists of finite repères. To prove that  $\bar{\alpha}_2$  is also a repère, it therefore suffices to show that

$$(3) \quad \begin{cases} \text{if } d_{i(0)}, \dots, d_{i(n)} \text{ are distinct elements of } \bar{\gamma} \setminus \bar{\delta}, \text{ then} \\ L(\tau_{i(n)}) \cap [L(\tau_{i(0)} + \dots + L(\tau_{i(n+1)}))] = (0). \end{cases}$$

Assume the hypothesis of (3) and suppose that

$$x \in L(\tau_{i(n)}) \cap [L(\tau_{i(0)} + \dots + L(\tau_{i(n-1)}))],$$

say

$$x = r_n d_{i(n)} + y_n = r_0 d_{i(0)} + \dots + r_{n-1} d_{i(n-1)} + y_0 + \dots + y_{n-1},$$

where  $r_0, \dots, r_n \in F$ , and for every  $k \leq n$ ,

$$y_k \in L(\sigma_k), \text{ where } \sigma_k = (\bar{\beta}_{d_{i(k)}} \setminus \rho) \setminus \{c_{i(k)}\}.$$

Then

$$(4) \quad 0 = r_n d_{i(n)} - [r_0 d_{i(0)} + \dots + r_{n-1} d_{i(n-1)}] + y_n - (y_0 + \dots + y_{n-1}).$$

The family  $\{(\bar{\beta}_{d_{i(j)}} \setminus \rho) \mid d_j \in \bar{\gamma} \setminus \bar{\delta}\}$  consists of mutually disjoint finite subsets of  $\bar{\beta}$ , hence its union is a repère. This fact and the definition of  $c_j$ , for  $d_j \in \bar{\gamma} \setminus \bar{\delta}$  imply the two relations

$$(5) \quad \{\sigma_k \mid k \leq n\} \text{ is a family of mutually disjoint finite subsets of } \bar{\beta},$$

hence its union is a repère.

$$(6) \quad c_{i(k)} \notin (\cup \{\sigma_k \mid k \leq n\}) \cup \rho, \text{ for } k \leq n.$$

Let us now look at (4). By the definition of  $\bar{\beta}_{d_{i(n)}}$ , the element  $d_{i(n)} \in \bar{\gamma} \setminus \bar{\delta}$  has a non-zero coordinate with respect to each element of  $\bar{\beta}_{d_{i(n)}}$  when expressed as a L.C. of elements in  $\bar{\beta}$ , in particular, with respect to  $c_{i(n)}$ . Suppose  $d_{i(k)}$ , for some  $0 \leq k \leq n - 1$ , also had a non-zero coordinate with respect to  $c_{i(n)}$  when expressed as a L.C. of elements in  $\bar{\beta}$ . Then  $c_{i(n)} \in \bar{\beta}_{d_{i(n)}} \cap \bar{\beta}_{d_{i(k)}}$  implies that  $c_{i(n)} \in \rho$ , contrary to  $c_{i(n)} \in \bar{\beta}_{d_{i(n)}} \setminus \rho$ . Thus  $d_{i(k)}$  has no non-zero coordinate w.r.t.  $c_{i(n)}$  when expressed as a L.C. of elements in  $\bar{\beta}$ . We note that (6) implies that none of  $y_0, \dots, y_n$  has a non-zero coordinate with respect to  $c_{i(n)}$  when expressed as a L.C. of elements in  $\bar{\beta}$ . Thus (4) implies that  $r_n = 0$ . Similarly we can prove that (4) implies that  $r_0 = 0, \dots, r_{n-1} = 0$ . Using (4) once more we see that

$$y_n - (y_0 + \dots + y_{n-1}) = 0.$$

This implies that  $y_0 = 0, \dots, y_n = 0$  by (5). Since  $r_n = 0$  and  $y_n = 0$ , we conclude that  $x = r_n d_{i(n)} + y_n = 0$ . This completes the proof of (3) and thereby of (b).

Re (c). Recall that  $L(\bar{\alpha}_1) = L(\rho)$ . We wish to prove that

$$L(\rho) \cap L(\bar{\alpha}_2) = (0),$$

that is, that

$$(7) \quad x \in L(\rho) \cap L(\bar{\alpha}_2) \Rightarrow x = 0.$$

Assume the hypothesis, say

$$(8) \quad x = r_0b_0 + \dots + r_mb_m = s_0d_{i(0)} + \dots + s_nd_{i(n)} + y_0 + \dots + y_n,$$

where  $r_0, \dots, r_m, s_0, \dots, s_n \in F$ ,  $i(0), \dots, i(n)$  are distinct, and

$$(9) \quad \begin{cases} \text{for } k \leq n, y_k \in L(\sigma_k), \text{ where} \\ \sigma_k = (\bar{\beta}_{d_{i(k)}} \setminus \rho) \setminus \{c_{i(k)}\}. \end{cases}$$

As observed in the proof of (b),  $d_{i(n)}$  has a non-zero coordinate with respect to the element  $c_{i(n)} \in \bar{\beta}_{d_{i(n)}} \setminus \rho$ , while none of  $d_{i(0)}, \dots, d_{i(n-1)}, y_0, \dots, y_n$  has a non-zero coordinate w.r.t.  $c_{i(k)}$  when expressed as a L.C. of elements in  $\bar{\beta}$ . Since  $c_{i(n)} \notin \rho = \{b_0, \dots, b_m\}$ , it follows from (8) that  $s_n = 0$ . Similarly we prove that  $s_0 = 0, \dots, s_{n-1} = 0$ . Then (8) yields

$$(10) \quad x = r_0b_0 + \dots + r_mb_m = y_0 + \dots + y_n.$$

However,  $(\cup \{\sigma_k \mid k \leq n\}) \cap \rho = \emptyset$ , while  $(\cup \{\sigma_k \mid k \leq n\}) \cup \rho \subset \bar{\beta}$  imply  $x = 0$  since  $\bar{\beta}$  is a repère. This completes the proof of (c).

Re (d). Since  $\bar{\alpha}_1$  and  $\bar{\alpha}_2$  are repères, neither contains 0. Thus (c) implies that  $\bar{\alpha}_1$  and  $\bar{\alpha}_2$  are disjoint and that  $\bar{\alpha}_1 \cup \bar{\alpha}_2$  is a repère. The set  $\bar{\alpha}_1 \cup \bar{\alpha}_2$  is r.e., since both  $\bar{\alpha}_1$  and  $\bar{\alpha}_2$  are r.e. Finally,  $\bar{\alpha}_1 \cup \bar{\alpha}_2$  is a basis of  $L(\bar{\beta})$  by (a).

Re (e). We have  $\bar{\gamma} = \bar{\delta} \cap (\bar{\gamma} \setminus \bar{\delta})$ . Also,  $\bar{\delta} \subset \bar{\alpha}_1$  by the definition of  $\bar{\alpha}_1$ , and  $\bar{\gamma} \setminus \bar{\delta} \subset \bar{\alpha}_2$  by the definition of  $\bar{\alpha}_2$ . Then  $\bar{\gamma} \subset \bar{\alpha}_1 \cup \bar{\alpha}_2$ , where  $\bar{\alpha}_1$  and  $\bar{\alpha}_2$  are disjoint, hence

$$(\bar{\alpha}_1 \cup \bar{\alpha}_2) \setminus \bar{\gamma} = (\bar{\alpha}_1 \setminus \bar{\delta}) \cup [\bar{\alpha}_2 \setminus (\bar{\gamma} \setminus \bar{\delta})].$$

However,  $\bar{\alpha}_1 \setminus \bar{\delta}$  is r.e., and the definitions of  $\bar{\alpha}_2$  and  $\tau_j$  imply that  $\bar{\alpha}_2 \setminus (\bar{\gamma} \setminus \bar{\delta})$  is r.e. We conclude that the set  $(\bar{\alpha}_1 \cup \bar{\alpha}_2) \setminus \bar{\gamma}$  is also r.e. Thus,

$$L(\bar{\gamma}) \oplus L((\bar{\alpha}_1 \cup \bar{\alpha}_2) \setminus \bar{\gamma}) = L(\bar{\alpha}_1 \cup \bar{\alpha}_2),$$

where both spaces on the left are r.e. Hence

$$\bar{W} \oplus L((\bar{\alpha}_1 \cup \bar{\alpha}_2) \setminus \bar{\gamma}) = L(\bar{\beta}),$$

and  $\bar{W}$  is recursive relative to  $L(\bar{\beta})$ .

Consider the following example: let  $f(n)$  be a 1 – 1 recursive function ranging over an infinite r.e. but not a recursive subset of  $\varepsilon \setminus \{0\}$ . Let  $d(n) = e_0 + e_1$

+ ... +  $e_{f(n)}$ . Then  $d_n$  is a 1 - 1 recursive function. Let  $\bar{W} = L\{d_n \mid n \in \mathbb{E}\}$ . Then  $\bar{W}$  is clearly r.e., but not decidable, and hence not recursive. Note that  $\eta_{\bar{W}} = \eta$ . By P1 then,  $\eta$  has property  $\Delta$  w.r.t.  $\bar{W}$ .

The next proposition shows that the converse of P1 is false.

**PROPOSITION P2.** *There exists an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional r.e. space  $\bar{W}$ , and a r.e. repère  $\bar{\beta}$  such that  $\bar{W} \leq L(\bar{\beta})$  is recursive relative to  $L(\bar{\beta})$  and  $\bar{\beta}_{\bar{W}}$  has property  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\bar{W}$ .*

**PROOF.** We define a function  $c_n$  by

$$\begin{aligned} c_0 &= e_0 + e_2, & c_3 &= e_1 + e_8, & c_6 &= e_5 + e_{14}, & c_9 &= e_7 + e_{20}, \\ c_1 &= e_0 + e_4, & c_4 &= e_3 + e_{10}, & c_7 &= e_5 + e_{16}, & c_{10} &= e_9 + e_{22}, \\ c_2 &= e_1 + e_6, & c_5 &= e_3 + e_{12}, & c_8 &= e_7 + e_{18}, & c_{11} &= e_9 + e_{24}, \quad \text{etc.} \end{aligned}$$

Put

$$\begin{aligned} \bar{\delta}_1 &= \rho c_n, & \bar{W} &= L(\bar{\delta}_1), \\ \bar{\delta}_2 &= \{e_0, e_1, e_3, e_5, \dots\}, & Z &= L(\bar{\delta}_2). \end{aligned}$$

Note that if  $p_0, p_1, p_2, \dots$  is the enumeration according to size of the set of all positive primes, then  $e_n + e_m = p_n p_m - 1$  (see the specific Gödel numbering used in Dekker (1969)). Thus  $c_n$  is a strictly increasing recursive function,  $\bar{\delta}_1$  an infinite and  $\bar{W}$  an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional r.e. space. It is readily seen that  $\bar{\delta}_1$  is a repère; thus  $\bar{\delta}_1$  is a r.e. basis of  $\bar{W}$ . Note that  $\bar{W} + Z = \bar{U}$ . For every number  $n$ ,

$$L(c_0, \dots, c_n) \cap L(e_0, e_1, \dots, e_{2n+1}) = (0),$$

hence  $\bar{W} \cap Z = (0)$ . Thus  $\bar{W} \oplus Z = \bar{U}$  and since  $Z$  is clearly r.e., we conclude that  $\bar{W}$  is recursive relative to  $\bar{U}$ . Furthermore,  $\bar{W} \leq L(\eta)$ , where  $\eta_{\bar{W}} = \eta$ , hence  $\bar{W}$  is recursive relative to  $L(\eta_{\bar{W}})$ . It remains to show that  $\eta$  has property  $\Delta$  w.r.t.  $\bar{W}$ . Let  $\bar{\gamma}$  be any r.e. basis of  $\bar{W}$  and  $d_n$  any 1 - 1 recursive function ranging over  $\bar{\gamma}$ .

Put

$$\sigma = \bigcup_{i \neq j} (\eta_{d(i)} \cap \eta_{d(j)}).$$

We now show that  $\sigma$  is infinite by proving for every  $n \geq 1$ ,

$$\{e_{2n-1}, e_{4n+2}, e_{4n+4}\} \cap \sigma \neq \emptyset.$$

Since the reasoning is similar for every  $n \geq 1$ , we restrict our attention to the case  $n = 1$ , and prove

(11)  $\{e_1, e_6, e_8\} \cap \sigma \neq \emptyset.$

Consider the elements  $c_2 = e_1 + e_6$  and  $c_3 = e_1 + e_8$  of  $\bar{W}$ , say

$$c_2 = e_1 + e_6 = r_0 d_{i(0)} + \dots + r_m d_{i(m)},$$

$$c_3 = e_1 + e_8 = s_0 d_{j(0)} + \dots + s_l d_{j(l)},$$

where  $r_0, \dots, r_m, s_0, \dots, s_l \in F$ ,  $i(0), \dots, i(m)$  are distinct, and  $j(0), \dots, j(l)$  are distinct. Each of the elements  $d_{i(0)}, \dots, d_{i(m)}, d_{j(0)}, \dots, d_{j(l)}$  belongs to  $\bar{W}$ , where  $\bar{W} = L(\delta_1)$ . The only element of  $\delta_1$  which has  $e_6$  as a term is  $c_2$ , hence at least one of  $d_{i(0)}, \dots, d_{i(m)}$  has a non-zero coordinate with respect to  $c_2$  when expressed as a L.C.N.Z.C. of elements in  $\delta_1$ . Choose one, say  $d_{i(p)}$ , where  $0 \leq p \leq m$ . Similarly, at least one of  $d_{j(0)}, \dots, d_{j(l)}$  must have a non-zero coordinate with respect to  $c_3$ , when expressed as a L.C.N.Z.C. of elements in  $\delta_1$ . Choose one, say  $d_{j(q)}$ , where  $0 \leq q \leq l$ . Now assume that both  $d_{i(p)}$  and  $d_{j(q)}$  are expressed as L.C.N.Z.C. of elements in  $\delta_1$ .

Case 1.  $d_{i(p)}$  has coordinate 0 w.r.t.  $c_3$  and  $d_{j(q)}$  has coordinate 0 with respect to  $c_2$ . Then clearly  $e_1 \in \eta_{d_{i(p)}} \cap \eta_{d_{j(q)}} \subset \sigma$ .

Case 2. Either  $d_{i(p)}$  has a non-zero coordinate with respect to  $c_3$  or  $d_{j(q)}$  has a non-zero coordinate with respect to  $c_2$ . We may assume without loss of generality that the former holds. Since  $c_2 = e_1 + e_6$  does not have  $e_8$  as a term, at least one of  $d_{i(s)}$ , for  $0 \leq s \leq m$  and  $s \neq p$ , must also have a non-zero coordinate w.r.t.  $c_3$ . Then  $e_8 \in \eta_{d_{i(p)}} \cap \eta_{d_{i(s)}} \subset \sigma$ .

### 3. The equivalence

We have proved the existence of  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional r.e. spaces  $\bar{W}$  and r.e. repères  $\bar{\beta}$  such that

$$\bar{W} \leq L(\bar{\beta}) \text{ and } \bar{\beta} \text{ has property } \Delta \text{ with respect to } \bar{W}.$$

In both of our examples,  $\bar{\beta} = \bar{\beta}_W = \eta$ ; in one case  $\bar{W}$  was recursive relative to  $L(\bar{\beta}_W)$  and in the other case it was not. Now suppose that  $\bar{W}$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional r.e. space and  $\bar{\beta}$  a r.e. repère such that  $\bar{W} \leq L(\bar{\beta})$ . Consider the statement

(\*) there is an infinite subset  $\beta$  of  $\bar{\beta}$  such that  $L(\beta) \cap \bar{W}$  is not an  $\alpha$ -space.

This section is devoted to showing that (\*) holds if and only if  $\bar{\beta}$  has property  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\bar{W}$ . We first demonstrate the sufficiency. The technique was developed with the help of insight gained by reading Soare's proof of Osofsky's result concerning the existence of non- $\alpha$ -spaces (see Soare (1974; Section 1)).

**PROPOSITION P3.** *The intersection of a r.e. space and an  $\alpha$ -space need not be an  $\alpha$ -space.*

PROOF. Let  $\mathcal{W}$  be an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional r.e. space and  $\beta$  a r.e. repère such that  $\mathcal{W} \leq L(\beta)$  and  $\beta$  has property  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\mathcal{W}$ . We may assume w.l.g. that  $\beta = \beta_{\mathcal{W}}$ . Let all infinite r.e. repères in  $\mathcal{W}$  be enumerated without repetitions in the sequence  $\langle \bar{\alpha}_0, \bar{\alpha}_1, \dots \rangle$ . Let  $a_{nm}$  be a function of two variables such that for every  $n$ ,  $a_{nm}$  is a 1 - 1 recursive function of  $m$  with  $\bar{\alpha}_n$  as range. Let  $b_n$  be a 1 - 1 recursive function ranging over  $\beta$ . We shall write

$$\beta_{nm} = \beta_{a(n,m)},$$

that is,

$$\beta_{nm} = \{b \in \beta \mid a_{nm} \text{ has a non-zero coordinate w.r.t. } b \text{ when expressed as a L.C.N.Z.C. of elements in } \beta\}.$$

We shall define by induction an infinite sequence  $\langle x_0, x_1, \dots \rangle$  of elements in  $\mathcal{W}$ . For every number  $k$ , we define

$$A_k = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } x_k \notin L(\bar{\alpha}_k), \\ \{a \in \bar{\alpha}_k \mid x_k \text{ has a non-zero coordinate with respect to } a, \\ & \text{if expressed as a L.C.N.Z.C. of elements in } \bar{\alpha}_k\}, \\ & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

$$B_k = \{b \in \beta \mid x_k \text{ has a non-zero coordinate with respect to } b, \text{ when expressed as a L.C.N.Z.C. of elements in } \beta\}.$$

The goal of the following construction is to choose for every number  $n$ , an element  $x_n$  in  $\mathcal{W}$  in such a manner that if

$$\beta = \bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} B_k$$

and  $S = L(\beta) \cap \mathcal{W}$ , then

$$(\forall n)[x_n \in S \text{ and } x_n \notin L(\bar{\alpha}_n \cap S)].$$

Since every  $\alpha$ -basis of  $S$  is of the form  $\bar{\alpha}_n \cap S$ , for some  $n$ , this would imply that  $S$  is not an  $\alpha$ -space. The sequence  $\langle x_0, x_1, \dots \rangle$  of elements in  $\mathcal{W}$  we wish to define is such that for every number  $n$ ,

$$(1, n) \quad x_0, \dots, x_n \text{ are distinct and linearly independent,}$$

$$(2, n) \quad (\forall i \leq n)[A_i \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_i \setminus L(\bigcup_{j \leq n} B_j) \neq \emptyset],$$

$$(3, n) \quad (\forall i \leq n)[x_i \in L(\bar{\alpha}_i) \Leftrightarrow \text{codim } \mathcal{W}L(\bar{\alpha}_i) < \aleph_0].$$

Basis:  $n = 0$ . If  $\text{codim}_{\mathcal{W}}L(\bar{\alpha}_0) = \aleph_0$ , we define

$$x_0 = \min[\mathcal{W} \setminus L(\bar{\alpha}_0)].$$

Then  $x_0$  exists, since  $L(\bar{\alpha}_0) < \mathcal{W}$  and (1, 0) holds, because  $x_0 \neq 0$ . The fact that  $x_0 \notin L(\bar{\alpha}_0)$  implies that  $A_0 = \emptyset$ , hence (2, 0) is true. Finally, (3, 0) holds, since  $x_0 \notin L(\bar{\alpha}_0)$ . Now consider the case that  $\text{codim } \mathcal{W}L(\bar{\alpha}_0) < \aleph_0$ . Then the r.e. repère  $\bar{\alpha}_0$  can be extended to a r.e. basis  $\alpha'_0$  of  $\mathcal{W}$  such that  $\alpha'_0 \setminus \bar{\alpha}_0$  is finite. By remark (b) following the definition of property  $\Delta$ , there are two distinct elements  $a_{0i}$  and  $a_{0j}$  in  $\alpha'_0 \cap \bar{\alpha}_0$  such that  $\beta_{0i} \cap \beta_{0j} \neq \emptyset$ . Let

$$a_{0i} = rb_p + r_0b_{i(0)} + \dots + r_kb_{i(k)},$$

$$a_{0j} = sb_p + s_0b_{j(0)} + \dots + s_lb_{j(l)},$$

where  $r, r_0, \dots, r_k, s, s_0, \dots, s_l \in F \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $p \notin \{i_0, \dots, i_k\}$  and  $p \notin \{j_0, \dots, j_l\}$ . Define

$$x_0 = r^{-1}a_{0i} - s^{-1}a_{0j}.$$

Note that  $a_{0i}, a_{0j}$  are distinct elements of a repère, namely  $\bar{\alpha}_0$ ; this implies (1, 0). The element  $a_{0i}$  has a non-zero coordinate with respect to  $b_p$ , but  $b_p \notin B_0$  by definition of  $x_0$ . Hence  $a_{0i} \notin L(B_0)$  and since  $A_0 = \{a_{0i}, a_{0j}\}$  we conclude that  $a_{0i} \in A_0 \setminus L(B_0)$ ; thus (2, 0) holds. Finally, (3, 0) is true, for  $x \in L(\bar{\alpha}_0)$  by the definition of  $x_0$ .

*Inductive Step.* As inductive hypothesis, assume that  $n \geq 1$  and elements  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$  have been defined such that

- (1,  $n - 1$ )  $x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}$  are distinct and linearly independent,
- (2,  $n - 1$ )  $(\forall i \leq n - 1)[A_i \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_i \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{j \leq n-1} B_j\right) \neq \emptyset]$ ,
- (3,  $n - 1$ )  $(\forall i \leq n - 1)[x_i \in L(\bar{\alpha}_i) \Leftrightarrow \text{codim}_{\mathcal{W}}L(\bar{\alpha}_i) < \aleph_0]$ .

*Case 1.*  $\text{Codim}_{\mathcal{W}}L(\bar{\alpha}_n) = \aleph_0$ .

Suppose  $x_n$  is any element such that

$$(i) \quad x_n \in \mathcal{W} \setminus L(\bar{\alpha}_n)$$

and

$$(ii) \quad x_n \notin L\left(\bigcup_{j \leq n-1} B_j\right).$$

Such an element  $x_n$  exists, since  $L(\bar{\alpha}_n)$  has infinite co-dimension with respect to  $\mathcal{W}$  and  $B_0 \cup \dots \cup B_{n-1}$  is a finite set. Then (3,  $n$ ) holds by (i). By the definition of  $B_j$  for  $j \leq n - 1$ ,

$$\{x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}\} \subset L\left(\bigcup_{j \leq n-1} B_j\right),$$

hence  $x_n \notin L(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$  by (ii); thus (1,  $n$ ) holds. Since  $A_n$  will be empty for each such element  $x_n$ , condition (2,  $n$ ) is equivalent to

$$(iii) \quad (\forall_i \leq n - 1) \left[ A_i \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_i \setminus L \left( \bigcup_{j \leq n} B_j \right) \neq \emptyset \right].$$

We now show that an element  $x_n$  satisfying (i) and (ii) can be chosen so that (iii) holds as well. Put for  $i \leq n - 1$ ,

$$C_i = \begin{cases} \emptyset, & \text{if } A_i = \emptyset \\ \{b \in \beta \mid \text{some } a \in A_i \setminus L \left( \bigcup_{j \leq n-1} B_j \right) \text{ has a non-zero coordinate} \\ \quad \text{w.r.t. } b \text{ if expressed as a L.C.N.Z.C. of elements in } \beta\}, & \\ \text{otherwise.} & \end{cases}$$

Then  $C_0 \cup \dots \cup C_{n-1}$  is a finite set, since  $A_0, \dots, A_{n-1}$  are finite. Define

$$x_n = (\mu y) \left[ y \in W \setminus L(\bar{\alpha}_n) \text{ and } \beta_y \cap \bigcup_{j \leq n-1} (B_j \cup C_j) = \emptyset \right].$$

Note that  $x_n$  exists, since  $L(\bar{\alpha}_n)$  has infinite codimension with respect to  $W$ , while  $\bigcup_{j \leq n-1} (B_j \cup C_j)$  is a finite set, say of cardinality  $p$ . Then by linear algebra, we can find  $p + 1$  elements  $\langle y_0, \dots, y_p \rangle$  distinct and linearly independent such that  $L(y_0, \dots, y_p) \cap L(\bar{\alpha}_n) = (0)$  and such that at least one non-zero  $z \in L(y_0, \dots, y_p)$  satisfies

$$\beta_z \cap \bigcup_{j \leq n-1} (B_j \cup C_j) = \emptyset.$$

It follows from the definitions of  $x_n$  that  $x_n \neq 0$  and

$$B_n \cap \left( \bigcup_{j \leq n-1} (B_j \cup C_j) \right) = \emptyset.$$

Thus, from  $x_n \in L(B_n)$  we conclude that (ii) holds. It remains to be shown that (iii) is true. We claim that

$$(12) \quad A_i \setminus L \left( \bigcup_{j \leq n-1} B_j \right) \subset A_i \setminus L \left( \bigcup_{j \leq n} B_j \right), \text{ for } i \leq n - 1.$$

For let us assume that

$$a \in A_i \setminus L \left( \bigcup_{j \leq n-1} B_j \right), \text{ where } i \leq n - 1.$$

Then  $a$  only has non-zero coordinates w.r.t. elements of  $\beta$  which belong to  $C_i$ , hence to  $\bigcup_{j \leq n-1} C_j$ . All elements in

$$L \left( \bigcup_{j \leq n} B_j \right) \setminus L \left( \bigcup_{j \leq n-1} B_j \right)$$

have at least one non-zero coordinate w.r.t. some element in  $B_n$ , where

$$B_n \cap \bigcup_{j \leq n-1} (B_j \cup C_j) = \emptyset.$$

Hence

$$a \in A_i \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{j \leq n} B_j\right).$$

This proves (12). Then (iii) follows from  $(2, n - 1)$  and (12). Summarizing, we see that  $x_n$  has been defined so that the conditions  $(1, n)$ ,  $(2, n)$  and  $(3, n)$  are satisfied.

*Case 2.*  $\text{Codim}_{\mathcal{W}}L(\bar{\alpha}_n) < \aleph_0$ .

Let  $d$  be the finite codimension of  $L(\bar{\alpha}_n)$  relative to  $\bar{W}$ . Then the r.e. repère  $\bar{\alpha}_n$  can be extended to a r.e. basis  $\alpha'_n$  of  $\bar{W}$  by adjoining  $d$  distinct elements, say  $h_0, \dots, h_{d-1}$ . We shall use the following enumeration of  $\alpha'_n$  without repetitions:

$$(III) \quad h_0, \dots, h_{d-1}, a_{n0}, a_{n1}, \dots.$$

We define

$$m = (\mu x)(\forall y) \left[ y > x \Rightarrow b_y \notin \bigcup_{j \leq n-1} (B_j \cup C_j) \right].$$

Since  $\bar{\beta}$  has property  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\bar{W}$ , we can, no matter how far out we go in (III), find two distinct elements  $c$  and  $e$  in  $\alpha'_n$  such that

$$\bar{\beta}_c \cap \bar{\beta}_e \neq \emptyset \text{ and not } [\bar{\beta}_c \cap \bar{\beta}_e \subset \{b_0, \dots, b_m\}].$$

In particular, we want to go out a finite distance  $t + 1$  in (III), that is, to  $a_{n,t-d}$  such that

- (i) all the remaining elements of (III) are in  $\bar{\alpha}_n$ ,
- (ii) all the remaining elements of (III) are *not* in

$$L\left[\bigcup_{j \leq n-1} (B_j \cup C_j)\right],$$

let  $t - d = h$ . We distinguish two cases.

*Subcase 2.1.* There exist distinct elements  $i, j > h$  such that

$$\bar{\beta}_{ni} \cap \bar{\beta}_{nj} \neq \emptyset \text{ and } (\bar{\beta}_{ni} \cup \bar{\beta}_{nj}) \cap \bigcup_{k \leq n-1} (B_k \cup C_k) = \emptyset.$$

We select such an ordered pair  $\langle i, j \rangle$  of elements. Let

$$b_p \in \bar{\beta}_{ni} \cap \bar{\beta}_{nj},$$

and

$$a_{ni} = r b_p + r_0 b_{i(0)} + \dots + r_k b_{i(k)},$$

$$a_{nj} = s b_p + s_0 b_{j(0)} + \dots + s_l b_{j(l)},$$

where  $r, r_0, \dots, r_k, s, s_0, \dots, s_l \in F \setminus \{0\}$ ,  $p \notin \{i_0, \dots, i_k\}$  and  $p \notin \{j_0, \dots, j_l\}$ . Define

$$x_n = r^{-1} a_{ni} - s^{-1} a_{nj}.$$

We proceed to show that (1,  $n$ ), (2,  $n$ ) and (3,  $n$ ) hold.

Re (1,  $n$ ).  $x_n \neq 0$ , since  $a_{ni}$  and  $a_{nj}$  are distinct elements of a repère, namely  $\bar{\alpha}_n$ . By the definition of  $a_{ni}$  and  $a_{nj}$ ,

$$(\bar{\beta}_{ni} \cap \bar{\beta}_{nj}) \cup \bigcup_{k \leq n-1} (B_k \cup C_k) = \emptyset.$$

Using the two relations

$$\begin{aligned} x_n \in L(\bar{\beta}_{ni} \cup \bar{\beta}_{nj}) &\Rightarrow x_n \notin L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n-1} B_k\right), \\ \{x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}\} &\subset L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n-1} B_k\right), \end{aligned}$$

we conclude that  $x_n \notin L(x_0, \dots, x_{n-1})$ . This implies (1,  $n$ ).

Re (2,  $n$ ). We wish to prove

$$(\forall i \leq n) \left[ A_i \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_i \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k\right) \neq \emptyset \right],$$

and we split this up into two parts, namely

- (a)  $A_n \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_n \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k\right) \neq \emptyset$ ,
- (b)  $(\forall i \leq n-1) \left[ A_i \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_i \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k\right) \neq \emptyset \right]$ .

Re (a).  $A_n = \{a_{ni}, a_{nj}\}$ , hence  $A_n \neq \emptyset$ . We have to prove

$$A_n \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k\right) \neq \emptyset.$$

Since  $a_{ni} \in A_n$ , it suffices to show that

$$(13) \quad a_{ni} \notin L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k\right).$$

The definition of  $x_n$  implies  $b_p \notin B_n$ . Moreover,

$$b_p \in \bar{\beta}_{ni} \text{ and } \bar{\beta}_{ni} \cap \left(\bigcup_{k \leq n-1} B_k\right) = \emptyset \Rightarrow b_p \notin \bigcup_{k \leq n-1} B_k.$$

It follows that  $b_p \notin \bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k$ . However,  $b_p \in \bar{\beta}_{ni}$ , that is,  $a_{ni}$  has a non-zero coordinate with respect to  $b_p$  when expressed as a L.C.N.Z.C. of elements in  $\bar{\beta}$ . Thus (13) and (a) are true.

Re (b). Recall that we know by the inductive hypothesis

$$(\forall i \leq n-1) \left[ A_i \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_i \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n-1} B_k\right) \neq \emptyset \right].$$

It therefore suffices to prove

$$(14) \quad A_i \setminus L \left( \bigcup_{k \leq n-1} B_k \right) \subset A_i \setminus L \left( \bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k \right), \text{ for } i \leq n - 1.$$

Assume that  $a$  belongs to the left side of (14), where  $i \leq n - 1$ . Then  $a$  only has non-zero coordinates with respect to elements in  $C_i$ . If on the other hand,

$$a \in L \left( \bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k \right) \setminus L \left( \bigcup_{k \leq n-1} B_k \right),$$

then  $a$  has at least one non-zero coordinate with respects to some element in  $B_n$ , where

$$- B_n \subset \bar{\beta}_{ni} \cup \bar{\beta}_{nj} \text{ and } (\bar{\beta}_{ni} \cup \bar{\beta}_{nj}) \cap C_i = \emptyset.$$

We conclude that if  $a$  belongs to the left side of (14), for some  $i \leq n - 1$ , then

$$a \notin L \left( \bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k \right) \setminus L \left( \bigcup_{k \leq n-1} B_k \right),$$

so that  $a$  also belongs to the right side of (14).

*Re* (3,  $n$ ).  $x_n \in L(\bar{\alpha}_n)$ , since  $\{a_{ni}, a_{nj}\} \subset \bar{\alpha}_n$ . Thus (3,  $n$ ) holds.

*Subcase 2.2.* We have

$$(\forall i, j > h) \left[ \bar{\beta}_{ni} \cap \bar{\beta}_{nj} \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow (\bar{\beta}_{ni} \cup \bar{\beta}_{nj}) \cap \bigcup_{k \leq n-1} (B_k \cup C_k) \neq \emptyset \right].$$

Let  $p = \text{card } \bigcup_{k \leq n-1} (B_k \cup C_k)$ . We now choose  $p + 1$  ordered pairs  $\langle a_{n,i(s)}, a_{n,j(s)} \rangle$ , for  $s \leq p$ , of elements in  $\bar{\alpha}_n$  such that  $a_{n,i(0)}, a_{n,j(0)}, \dots, a_{n,i(p)}, a_{n,j(p)}$  are distinct and

- (c)  $i(s), j(s) > h$  for  $s \leq p$ ,
- (d)  $\bar{\beta}_{n,i(s)} \cap \bar{\beta}_{n,j(s)} \neq \emptyset$ , for  $s \leq p$ ,
- (e)  $(\forall s \leq p)(\exists x)[b_x \in \bar{\beta}_{n,i(s)} \cap \bar{\beta}_{n,j(s)} \text{ and } b_x \notin \{b_0, \dots, b_m\}]$ .

Note that by the definition of  $m$ ,

$$b_x \notin \{b_0, \dots, b_m\} \Rightarrow b_x \notin \bigcup_{j \leq n-1} (B_j \cup C_j).$$

Define

$$m(s) = (\mu x)[b_x \in \bar{\beta}_{n,i(s)} \cap \bar{\beta}_{n,j(s)} \text{ and } b_x \notin \{b_0, \dots, b_m\}], \text{ for } s \leq p,$$

$$\Gamma = \{b_{m(0)}, \dots, b_{m(p)}\} \cup \bigcup_{j \leq n-1} (B_j \cup C_j), \quad q = \text{card } \Gamma,$$

$$D = \{a_{n,i(0)}, a_{n,j(0)}, \dots, a_{n,i(p)}, a_{n,j(p)}\}.$$

According to the definition of  $b_{m(s)}$ ,

$$(f) \text{ for } s \leq p, \begin{cases} b_{m(s)} \in \beta_{n,i(s)} \cap \beta_{n,j(s)} \text{ and} \\ b_{m(s)} \notin \{b_0, \dots, b_m\}, \\ b_{m(s)} \notin \bigcap_{j \leq n-1} (B_j \cup C_j). \end{cases}$$

The elements  $b_{m(0)}, \dots, b_{m(p)}$  are not necessarily distinct, but none of them belongs to  $\cup_{j \leq n-1} (B_j \cup C_j)$ , hence

$$(g) \quad p + 1 \leq q \leq 2p + 1.$$

We proceed to prove

$$(h) \quad \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{there is an element } y \in L(D) \setminus (0) \text{ such that when} \\ \text{expressed as a L.C.N.Z.C. of elements in } \beta, y \text{ has} \\ \text{coordinate 0 with respect to each element in } \Gamma, \\ \text{that is, } \beta_y \cap \Gamma = \emptyset. \end{array} \right.$$

To prove (h), we put

$$\hat{\beta} = \beta_D \cup \Gamma, \quad \hat{V} = L(\hat{\beta}).$$

Then  $\hat{\beta}$  is a finite subset of  $\beta$ ; let  $l = \text{card}(\hat{\beta})$ . Clearly

$$L(D) \leq L(\hat{\beta}) = \hat{V} \text{ and } \dim \hat{V} = l.$$

Let  $b_{c(1)}, \dots, b_{c(l)}$  be an enumeration without repetitions of the basis  $\hat{\beta}$  of  $\hat{V}$  such that

$$\Gamma = \{b_{c(1)}, \dots, b_{c(q)}\}, \quad \hat{\beta} \setminus \Gamma = \{b_{c(q+1)}, \dots, b_{c(l)}\}.$$

Every element  $v$  of  $\hat{V}$  can be uniquely expressed in the form

$$v = r_1 b_{c(1)} + \dots + r_l b_{c(l)}, \text{ where } r_1, \dots, r_l \in F.$$

Let

$$\hat{W} = \{v \in \hat{V} \mid r_1 = 0, \dots, r_q = 0\},$$

then  $\dim \hat{W} = l - q$ , and

$$\begin{aligned} & \dim [\hat{W} \cap L(D)] + \dim [\hat{W} + L(D)] \\ &= \dim \hat{W} + \dim L(D) = l - q + 2p + 2, \\ q \leq 2p + 1 & \Rightarrow \dim [\hat{W} \cap L(D)] + \dim [\hat{W} + L(D)] \geq l + 1, \\ \hat{W} + L(D) & \leq \hat{V} \Rightarrow \dim [\hat{W} + L(D)] \leq l. \end{aligned}$$

Hence  $\dim[\hat{W} \cap L(D)] \geq 1$ , that is,  $(0) < \hat{W} \cap L(D)$ . Then every non-zero element  $y \in \hat{W} \cap L(D)$  satisfies the requirements. This completes the proof of (h). Define

$$x_n = (\mu y)[y \in (\hat{W} \cap L(D)) \setminus (0)].$$

Then we shall show that (1,  $n$ ), (2,  $n$ ) and 3,  $n$ ) hold.

*Re (1,  $n$ ).*  $B_n$  is disjoint from  $\Gamma$ , hence also from  $\cup_{j \leq n-1} B_j$ . Since  $x_n \neq 0$ , we obtain

$$x_n \notin L\left(\cup_{j \leq n-1} B_j\right), \{x_0, \dots, x_{n-1}\} \subset L\left(\cup_{j \leq n-1} B_j\right),$$

and (1,  $n$ ) follows in the usual way.

*Re (2,  $n$ ).* We wish to prove

$$(\forall i \leq n) \left[ A_i \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_i \setminus L\left(\cup_{j \leq n} B_j\right) \neq \emptyset \right],$$

and we split this up into two parts, namely

$$(i) \quad A_n \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_n \setminus L\left(\cup_{k \leq n} B_k\right) \neq \emptyset,$$

$$(j) \quad (\forall i \leq n-1) \left[ A_i \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_i \setminus L\left(\cup_{k \leq n} B_k\right) \neq \emptyset \right].$$

*Re (i).* Since  $x_n \in L(D) \setminus (0)$ , we know that  $A_n \neq \emptyset$ , hence all we have to show is

$$A_n \setminus L\left(\cup_{j \leq n} B_j\right) \neq \emptyset.$$

Since  $x_n \neq 0$ , there is a number  $t \leq p$  such that  $a_{n,i(t)} \in A_n$  or  $a_{n,j(t)} \in A_n$ ; we may assume without loss of generality that  $a_{n,i(t)} \in A_n$ . It now suffices to prove that

$$(15) \quad a_{n,i(t)} \notin L\left(\cup_{j \leq n} B_j\right).$$

By the definition of  $b_{m(t)}$ , the element  $a_{n,i(t)}$  has a non-zero coordinate with respect to  $b_{m(t)}$ . However,  $b_{m(t)}$  does not belong to  $\cup_{j \leq n-1} B_j$  by (f). Moreover,  $x_n$  has coordinate 0 with respect to each element in  $\Gamma$ , in particular with respect to  $b_{m(t)}$ ; this implies  $b_{m(t)} \notin B_n$ . Hence  $b_{m(t)} \notin \cup_{j \leq n} B_j$  and we conclude that (15) holds.

*Re (j).* Recall that by the inductive hypothesis

$$(\forall i \leq n-1) \left[ A_i \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_i \setminus L\left(\cup_{k \leq n-1} B_k\right) \neq \emptyset \right].$$

It therefore suffices to prove

$$(16) \quad A_i \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n-1} B_k\right) \subset A_i \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k\right) \text{ for } i \leq n-1.$$

Assume that  $a$  belongs to the left side of (16), where  $i \leq n-1$ . Then  $a$  only has non-zero coordinates with respect to elements in  $C_i$ , hence in  $\Gamma$ . If, on the other hand,

$$a \in L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k\right) \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n-1} B_k\right),$$

then  $a$  has at least one non-zero coordinate with respect to element of  $B_n$ , where  $B_n$  is disjoint from  $\Gamma$ . Hence

$$a \notin L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n} B_k\right) \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{k \leq n-1} B_k\right),$$

and  $a$  belongs to the right side of (16).

*Re* (3,  $n$ ).  $x_n \in L(D) \setminus (0)$ , where  $D \subset \bar{\alpha}_n$ , hence  $x \in L(\bar{\alpha}_n)$  and (3,  $n$ ) holds.

This completes the inductive step. We have defined an infinite sequence  $\langle x_0, x_1, \dots \rangle$  of elements in  $\bar{W}$  such that for every  $n$ ,

- (1,  $n$ )  $x_0, \dots, x_n$  are distinct and linearly independent,
- (2,  $n$ )  $(\forall i \leq n)[A_i \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_i \setminus L(\cup_{j \leq n} B_j) \neq \emptyset]$ ,
- (3,  $n$ )  $(\forall i \leq n)[x_i \in L(\bar{\alpha}_i) \Leftrightarrow \text{codim}_{\bar{W}} L(\bar{\alpha}_i) < \aleph_0]$ .

We claim that

$$(17) \quad x_0, x_1, \dots \text{ are all distinct and linearly independent,}$$

$$(18) \quad (\forall n) \left[ A_n \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_n \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{k=0}^{\infty} B_k\right) \neq \emptyset \right],$$

$$(19) \quad (\forall n) [x_n \in L(\bar{\alpha}_n) \Leftrightarrow \text{codim}_{\bar{W}} L(\bar{\alpha}_n) < \aleph_0].$$

Relations (17) and (19) follow immediately from the fact that (1,  $n$ ) and (3,  $n$ ) hold for every  $n$ . We now establish (18). Suppose  $A_k \neq \emptyset$  and  $A_k \setminus L(\cup_{j=0}^{\infty} B_j) = \emptyset$ , that is  $A_k \subset L(\cup_{j=0}^{\infty} B_j)$ . Since  $A_k, B_0, B_1, \dots$  are finite sets, there is a number  $m \geq k$  such that

$$A_k \subset L\left(\bigcup_{j \leq m} B_j\right), \text{ that is, } A_k \setminus L\left(\bigcup_{j \leq m} B_j\right) = \emptyset,$$

contrary to (2,  $m$ ).

We define  $\beta = \cup_{k=0}^{\infty} B_k$ ,  $V = L(\beta)$ ,  $S = V \cap \bar{W}$ . Clearly,  $x_n \in (B_n)$ , for every  $n$ , hence  $\{x_0, x_1, \dots\} \subset V$ . The elements  $x_0, x_1, \dots$  also belong to  $\bar{W}$ , hence

$\{x_0, x_1, \dots\} \subset S$ . Thus  $S$  is an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional space by (17), hence so is  $V$ ; then  $\beta$  is an infinite subset of  $\bar{\beta}$  and  $\beta = \bar{\beta}_S$ . Relation (18) can be rewritten as

$$(\forall n)[A_n \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_n \setminus V \neq \emptyset].$$

Since  $A_n \subset \bar{W}$ ,  $A_n \setminus V = A_n \setminus (V \cap \bar{W})$  and we obtain

$$(20) \quad (\forall n)[A_n \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_n \setminus S \neq \emptyset].$$

We claim that  $S$  is not an  $\alpha$ -space. For suppose it were. Then  $S$  would have an  $\alpha$ -basis of the form  $\bar{\alpha} \cap S$ , for some infinite r.e. repère  $\bar{\alpha}$  in  $\bar{W}$ , say  $\bar{\alpha} = \bar{\alpha}_n$ . Hence  $S = L(\bar{\alpha}_n \cap S)$ . Since  $x_n \in S$  we obtain  $x_n \in L(\bar{\alpha}_n)$ . However  $x_n \neq 0$ , hence  $A_n \neq \emptyset$ . We now have a contradiction, for

$$x_n \in L(\bar{\alpha}_n \cap S) \Rightarrow A_n \subset S,$$

$$A_n \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow A_n \setminus S \neq \emptyset, \text{ by (20).}$$

We conclude that  $S$  is not an  $\alpha$ -space.

Let  $\bar{W}$  be an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional r.e. space and  $\bar{\beta}$  a r.e. repère such that  $\bar{W} \leq L(\bar{\beta})$ . According to the proof of P3

$$\begin{aligned} &\bar{\beta} \text{ has property } \Delta \text{ with respect to } \bar{W} \Rightarrow \\ &(\exists \beta)[\beta \subset \bar{\beta} \text{ and } \beta \text{ is infinite and} \\ &L(\beta) \cap \bar{W} \text{ is not an } \alpha\text{-space}]. \end{aligned}$$

We conclude this section by proving the converse of this condition. We shall need the following two lemmas.

**LEMMA L4.** *Let  $A, B, W$  be spaces such that  $A$  is finite dimensional and  $A \cap B = (0)$ . Then  $B \cap W$  has finite codimension in  $(A \oplus B) \cap W$ .*

**PROOF.** Assume the hypothesis and suppose that  $B \cap W$  has infinite codimension with respect to  $(A \oplus B) \cap W$ . Then there is an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional space  $C$  such that

$$(B \cap W) \cap C = (0) \text{ and } (B \cap W) \oplus C = (A \oplus B) \cap W.$$

Let  $y_0, y_1, \dots$  be distinct elements in  $C$  such that  $\{y_0, y_1, \dots\}$  is a basis of  $C$ . Define for  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ , the elements  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  by

$$y_n = a_n + b_n, \quad a_n \in A, \quad b_n \in B.$$

Let  $m = \dim(A)$ . Then  $\langle a_0, \dots, a_m \rangle$  is a linearly dependent sequence of elements in  $A$ , hence there exist elements  $r_0, \dots, r_m \in F$ , at least one of which is non-zero, such that  $r_0 a_0 + \dots + r_m a_m = 0$ . This implies

$$r_0y_0 + \dots + r_my_m = r_0b_0 + \dots + r_mb_m,$$

$$r_0y_0 + \dots + r_my_m \in B \cap C.$$

But  $C \leq W$  and  $(B \cap W) \cap C = (0)$  imply that  $B \cap C = (0)$ . It follows that  $y_0, \dots, y_m$  are linearly dependent, contrary to the fact that they are distinct elements of a repère. Hence  $B \cap W$  cannot have infinite codimension in  $(A \oplus B) \cap W$ .

LEMMA L5. Let  $\Gamma = \{V_i \mid i \in I\}$  be a non-empty family of distinct  $\alpha$ -spaces, where  $I = \{0, \dots, n - 1\}$  if  $\text{card } \Gamma = n > 0$  and  $I = \varepsilon$  otherwise. Let  $S = \bigcap \Gamma$ . Then for all finite dimensional spaces  $B$ ,

$$S \parallel B \Leftrightarrow S \cap B = (0).$$

PROOF. (a)  $\Rightarrow$  This is clear from the definition of  $S \parallel B$ . (b)  $\Leftarrow$  If  $\dim(B) = 0$ , we are done, so assume  $\dim(B) = m \geq 1$ . We establish the result by induction on  $m$ .

*Basis step.*  $m = 1$ . Then  $B = L(p)$  for some  $p \notin S$ . Then there must be at least one  $V_i \in \Gamma$  such that  $p \notin V_i$ . Pick one, say  $V_j$ , and let  $\alpha_j$  be an  $\alpha$ -basis for  $V_j$ , and  $\alpha_j \subset \bar{\alpha}_j$ , where  $\bar{\alpha}_j$  is a r.e. repère. If  $p \notin L(\bar{\alpha}_j)$ , we are done since  $S \parallel B$  by  $\langle L(\bar{\alpha}_j), B \rangle$ . If  $p \in L(\bar{\alpha}_j)$ , let  $p = r_0a_0 + \dots + r_ka_k$ , where  $r_0, \dots, r_k \in F \setminus (0)$  and  $a_0, \dots, a_k \in \bar{\alpha}_j$ . Now  $p \notin L(\alpha_j) = V_j$  implies that at least one of  $a_0, \dots, a_k$  is not an element of  $\alpha_j$ , say  $a_0$ . Then  $S \parallel B$  by  $\langle L(\bar{\alpha}_j \setminus \{a_0\}), B \rangle$ .

*Inductive hypothesis.* Assume  $S \cap B = (0)$  implies  $S \parallel B$  for all  $B$  such that  $\dim(B) \leq k$ .

*Inductive step.* Suppose  $\dim(B) = k + 1$ . Let  $b \in B \setminus (0)$ . Then by the induction hypothesis applied to  $L(b)$ , there exists a r.e. space  $\bar{W}$  such that  $S \leq \bar{W}$  and  $L(b) \cap \bar{W} = (0)$ . Thus

$$(0) \leq \bar{W} \cap B < B, \quad 0 \leq \dim((\bar{W} \cap B) \leq k.$$

If  $\bar{W} \cap B = (0)$ , we are done. So assume  $(0) < \bar{W} \cap B < B$ . By the induction hypothesis applied to  $\bar{W} \cap B$ , there exists a r.e. space  $\bar{V}$  such that  $S \leq \bar{V}$  and  $\bar{V} \cap (\bar{W} \cap B) = (0)$ . Hence  $S \parallel B$  by  $\langle \bar{W} \cap \bar{V}, B \rangle$  since  $(\bar{W} \cap \bar{V}) \cap B = (0)$  while  $S \leq \bar{W} \cap \bar{V}$ .

PROPOSITION P6. Let  $\bar{W}$  be an  $\aleph_0$ -dimensional r.e. space and  $\bar{\beta}$  a r.e. repère such that  $\bar{W} \leq L(\bar{\beta})$ . If there is an infinite subset  $\beta$  of  $\bar{\beta}$  such that  $L(\beta) \cap \bar{W}$  is not an  $\alpha$ -space, then  $\bar{\beta}$  has property  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\bar{W}$ .

PROOF. We may assume without loss of generality that  $\bar{\beta} = \bar{\beta}_{\bar{W}}$ . We shall prove the contrapositive. Suppose  $\bar{\beta}$  does not have property  $\Delta$  with respect to  $\bar{W}$ .

This means that there is a 1-1 recursive function  $d_n$  enumerating a r.e. bases  $\bar{\gamma}$  of  $\bar{W}$ , and a finite subset  $\{b_0, \dots, b_m\}$  of  $\bar{\beta}$  such that

$$(21) \quad (\forall i)(\forall j)[i \neq j \Rightarrow \bar{\beta}_{d(i)} \cap \bar{\beta}_{d(j)} \subset \{b_0, \dots, b_m\}].$$

Define  $\rho = \{b_0, \dots, b_m\} \cap \bar{\beta}_{\bar{\gamma}}$ . Then  $\rho$  is a finite subset of  $\bar{\beta}$ . Let  $\beta$  be any infinite subset of  $\bar{\beta}$ , and  $S = L(\beta) \cap \bar{W}$ . We wish to prove that  $S$  is an  $\alpha$ -space. The sets  $\beta$  and  $\rho$  are repères, and  $\beta \cup \rho$  is a repère since it is included in  $\bar{\beta}$ . Let  $\rho' = \rho \setminus \beta$ . Then

$$(22) \quad L(\beta) \cap L(\rho') = (0), L(\beta \cup \rho) = L(\beta) \oplus L(\rho').$$

We proceed to show that

$$(23) \quad S \leq L(\bar{\gamma}_S) \leq [L(\beta) \oplus L(\rho')] \cap \bar{W}.$$

The first inclusion of (23) is obvious, since  $S \leq \bar{W}$  and  $\bar{\gamma}$  is a basis of  $\bar{W}$ . To prove the second inclusion we shall show that

$$(24) \quad d_k \in \bar{\gamma}_S \Rightarrow d_k \in [L(\beta) \oplus L(\rho')],$$

for trivially,  $d_k \in \bar{W}$ . Assume the hypothesis of (24). Then there is an element  $x$  in  $S$  which, when expressed as a L.C.N.Z.C. of elements in  $\bar{\gamma}$ , has a non-zero coordinate with respect to  $d_k$ ; let

$$(25) \quad x = rd_k + s_0d_{i(0)} + \dots + s_nd_{i(n)},$$

where  $r, s_0, \dots, s_n \in F \setminus (0)$  and  $k, i_0, \dots, i_n$  are distinct. Since  $x \in S$ , it can also be expressed in the form

$$(26) \quad x = t_0b_{j(0)} + \dots + t_pb_{j(p)},$$

where  $t_0, \dots, t_p \in F \setminus (0)$  and  $b_{j(0)}, \dots, b_{j(p)}$  are distinct elements of  $\beta$ . If we can prove

$$(27) \quad \bar{\beta}_{d(k)} \subset \beta \cup \rho,$$

we are done, for then  $d_k \in L(\bar{\beta}_{d(k)})$  and (27) imply  $d_k \in L(\beta \cup \rho)$ , hence  $d_k \in L(\beta) \oplus L(\rho')$  by (22). To prove (27), suppose  $b \in \bar{\beta}_{d(k)}$ . Either  $b \in \beta$ , hence  $b \in \beta \cup \rho$ , or  $b \in \bar{\beta}_{d(k)} \setminus \beta$ . In the latter case,  $b \notin \{b_{j(0)}, \dots, b_{j(p)}\}$ , since  $b_{j(0)}, \dots, b_{j(p)}$  all belong to  $\beta$ . Hence in (25), at least one of the  $d_{i(0)}, \dots, d_{i(n)}$  must also have a non-zero coordinate with respect to  $b$ , when expressed as a L.C.N.Z.C. of element in  $\bar{\beta}$ , say  $d_{i(q)}$ , where  $0 \leq q \leq n$ . Then we have by (21)

$$b \in \bar{\beta}_{d(k)} \cap \bar{\beta}_{d(i(q))} \Rightarrow b \in \{b_0, \dots, b_m\}.$$

Since trivially,  $b \in \bar{\beta}_{\bar{\gamma}}$ , we conclude that  $b \in \rho$ ; again  $b \in \beta \cup \rho$ . This completes the proof of (27), and thereby of (24). We have now established (23). If we take  $A = L(\rho')$ ,  $B = L(\beta)$ ,  $W = \bar{W}$  in  $L4$ , then  $A \cap B = (0)$  since  $L(\beta) \cap L(\rho') = (0)$ .

Hence  $B \cap W$  has finite codimension in  $(A \oplus B) \cap W$ , i.e.,  $S = L(\beta) \cap \bar{W}$  has finite codimension in  $[L(\beta) \oplus L(\rho')] \cap \bar{W}$ . Then (23) implies that  $S$  also has finite codimension in the  $\alpha$ -space  $L(\bar{\gamma}_S)$ . Thus there is a finite dimensional space  $E$  such that  $S \cap E = (0)$  and  $S \oplus E = L(\bar{\gamma}_S)$ . Note that  $S = L(\beta) \cap \bar{W}$ , where  $L(\beta)$  and  $\bar{W}$  are  $\alpha$ -spaces. Hence  $S \parallel E$  by  $L5$ . We know  $S \oplus E = L(\bar{\gamma}_S)$ ,  $S \parallel E$  and  $L(\bar{\gamma}_S)$  is an  $\alpha$ -space. Since  $E$  is r.e. (and isolic!) we know by the established cases of the conjecture (c) mentioned in the Introduction that  $S$  is an  $\alpha$ -space.

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