

A NOTE ON A PAPER OF GINSBURG

BY OSCAR E. LANFORD, III

Introduction. Let P be a partially ordered system and let S and T be non-empty subsets of P . If, for every $p \in S$, there exists a $q \in T$ such that $q \geq p$, T is said to be cofinal in S . For every $p \in P$, we denote the set of successors of p in P by $A_P(p)$. If two partially ordered systems P and Q are order isomorphic with cofinal subsets of some partially ordered system, they are said to be cofinally similar. A partially ordered system P without maximal elements is said to have sufficiently many non-cofinal subsets if, for any two distinct elements p and q of P , either $A_P(p)$ is not cofinal in $A_P(q)$ or $A_P(q)$ is not cofinal in $A_P(p)$. The properties of sets having sufficiently many non-cofinal subsets have been investigated by Ginsburg [1], who poses the following question: "If P has sufficiently many non-cofinal subsets and Q is cofinally similar to P , does Q contain a cofinal subset S which has sufficiently many non-cofinal subsets?" It will be shown by example that the answer to this question is negative.

A subset S of a partially ordered system P is said to be a residual subset if, for every $p \in S$, $A_P(p)$ is contained in S . A subset S of P is said to be maximal residual if S is a residual subset which is not a proper cofinal subset of any residual subset of P . The set of maximal residual subsets of P , ordered by the dual of set inclusion, is denoted by $F(P)$. Ginsburg proves the following theorem (Theorem 5 of [1]): *If P has sufficiently many non-cofinal subsets, P is cofinally similar to $F(P)$.* It is shown that the proof given for this theorem is invalid, and a counterexample to the theorem is given.

1. An example. An example is to be given of two cofinally similar partially ordered systems, one of which has sufficiently many non-cofinal subsets and the other of which contains no cofinal subset having sufficiently many non-cofinal subsets.

Let ω_1 be the first non-denumerable ordinal, and let $W(\omega_1)$ be the set of ordinals less than ω_1 . Associate with each $x \in W(\omega_1)$ an infinite subset A_x of the set of integers in such a way that distinct ordinals are assigned distinct sets of integers. Now, for any finite set of integers A , one of the following two cases occurs:

- i. For each $x \in W(\omega_1)$ there exists an $s \in W(\omega_1)$, $s \geq x$, such that $A \subset A_s$.
- ii. For some $x \in W(\omega_1)$, A is not contained in A_s for any $s \geq x$, while, for all $y < x$, there exists a $z \in W(\omega_1)$, $z \geq y$, such that $A \subset A_z$.

We now consider the set of all x 's associated with sets of integers in the second category. This is a denumerable set of denumerable ordinals; hence, there exists a denumerable ordinal ω' which is greater than any of the ordinals

Received March 21, 1962. This work was supported by the National Science Foundation.