

# VERY LARGE CARDINALS

PHILIPP LÜCKE

ABSTRACT. In this tutorial, I will give an introduction to the theory of very strong axioms of infinity. Starting from the *Kunen Inconsistency*, I will discuss so-called *rank-into-rank embeddings* and their basic properties. Building on this, I will present results concerning iterations of these embeddings and their connections with Prikry forcing. Finally, I plan to discuss an application of the presented theory from recent joint work with Juan Aguilera (TU Wien), Joan Bagaria (Barcelona) and Gabriel Goldberg (Berkeley), which derives the consistency of very strong large cardinal axioms with more global properties – so-called *extacting cardinals* – from the consistency of the existence of surprisingly weak rank-into-rank embeddings.