

The ghosts of departed quantities as the soul of computation

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FotFS8, Cambridge



¹This research is generously supported by the John Templeton Foundation.

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Overarching question:

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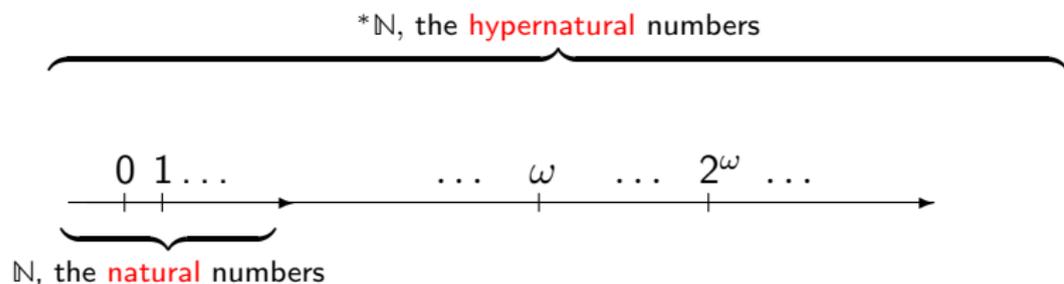
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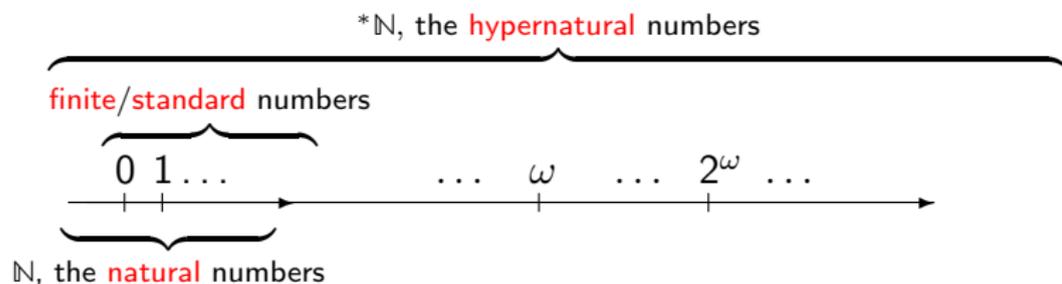
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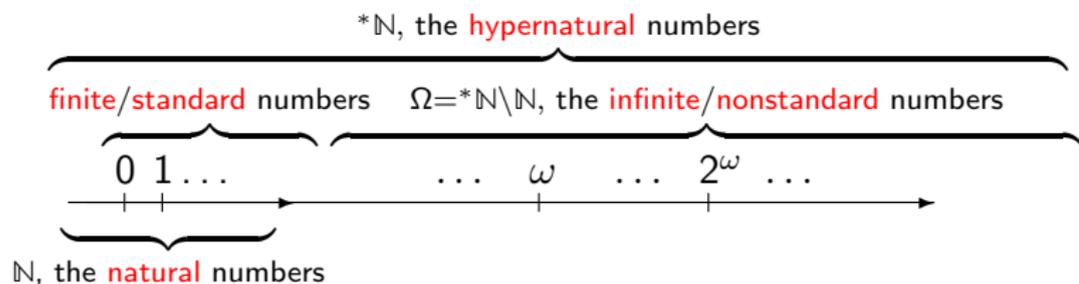
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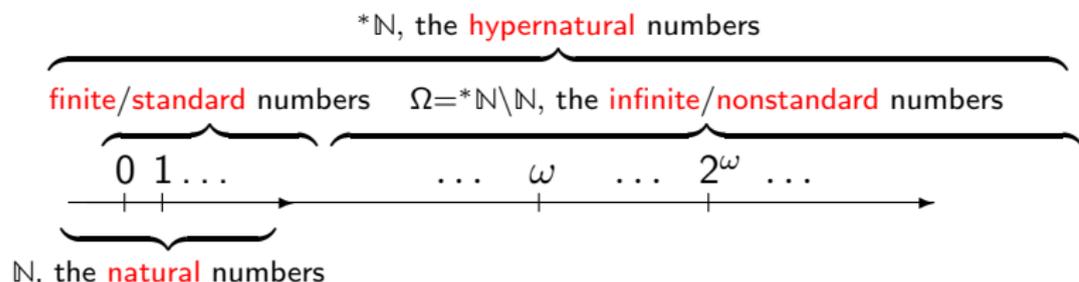
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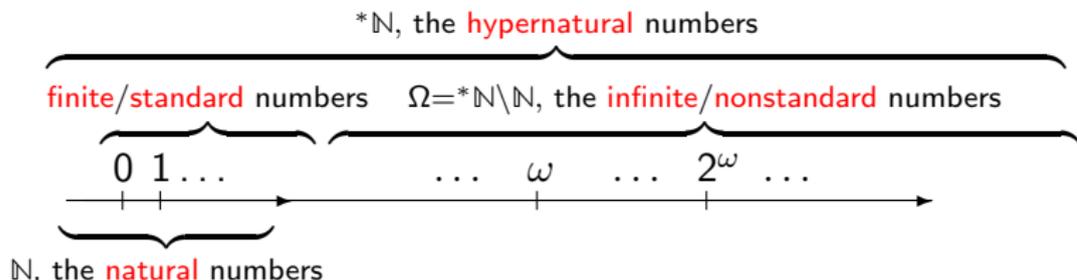


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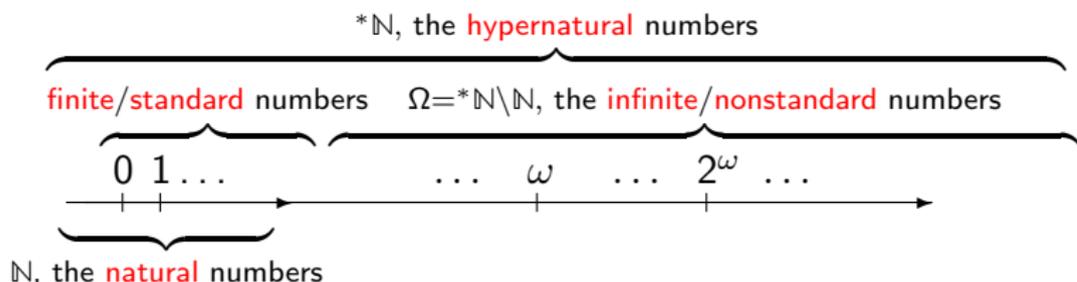


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Ω -invariant functions are nonstandard, i.e. 'come from above'.

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- 3 Well-posed problems (Hadamard, Brouwer) and uniqueness.

Computable results in physics

Theorem (In $*\text{RCA}_0 + \Omega\text{-CA}$)

For Ω -invariant $*F(x, \omega)$, there is $G : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ such that
 $(\forall x \in \mathbb{R})(*F(x, \omega) \approx G(x))$.

Observation: Math. practice involving infinitesimals in physics and engineering produces functions $*F(x, \varepsilon)$ satisfying:

$$(\forall x \in \mathbb{R})(\forall \varepsilon, \varepsilon' \approx 0)(*F(x, \varepsilon) \approx *F(x, \varepsilon'))$$

Thus, $*F(x, \varepsilon)$ is Ω -invariant and **computable** by the theorem.

Intuition and motivation:

- 1 $*F(x, \varepsilon)$ is constructed from basic operations and $\varepsilon \approx 0$. Repeating with a different $\varepsilon' \approx 0$ yields the same object, up to infinitesimals.
- 2 Previous is especially true if $*F(x, \varepsilon)$ describes a real-world object.
- 3 Well-posed problems (Hadamard, Brouwer) and uniqueness.

Functionals and NSA

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$$(\forall^{st} f \in C[0, 1])(\exists^{st} x^1 \in [0, 1])(\forall^{st} y^1 \in [0, 1])(f(y) \leq f(x))$$

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Classical existence of a **standard** object with the same standard and nonstandard properties = A standard functional computes the object.

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Hence, we can **use Ω -CA** to obtain a standard result from P'' , **without using the Halting problem**.

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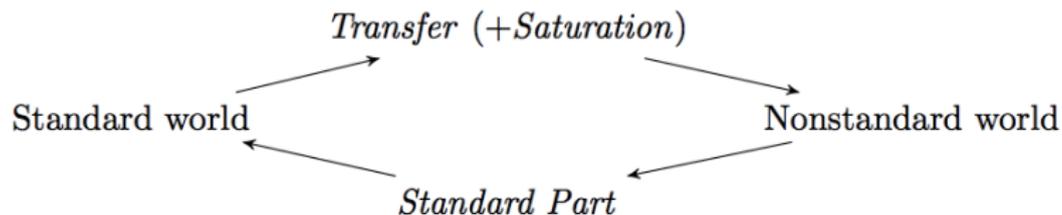
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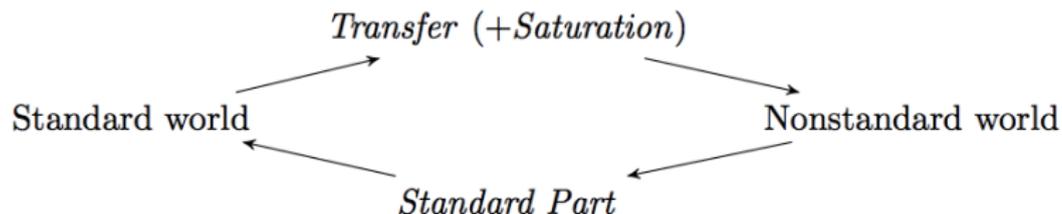
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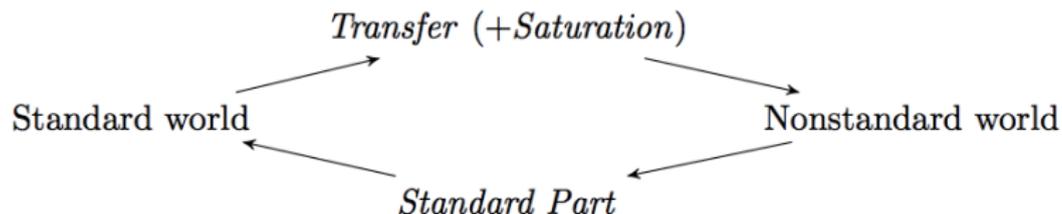
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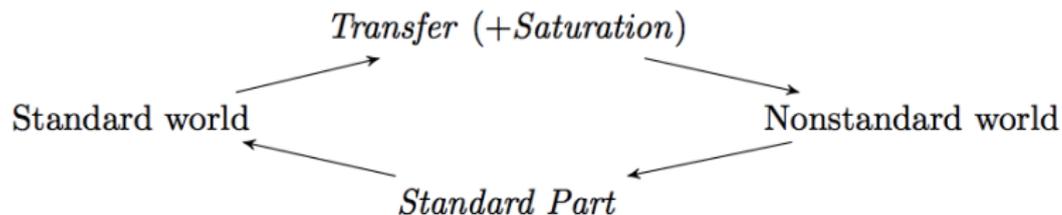


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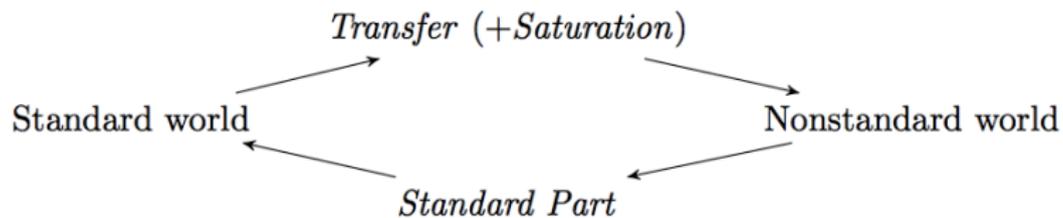


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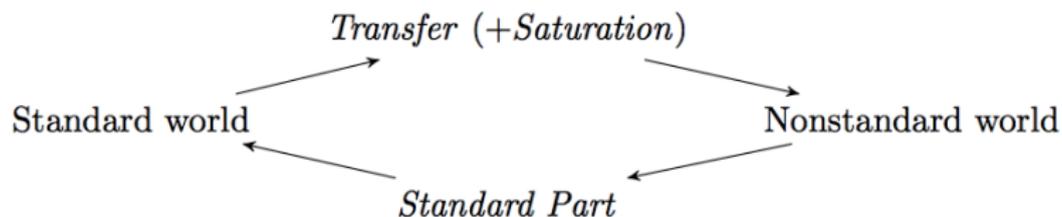
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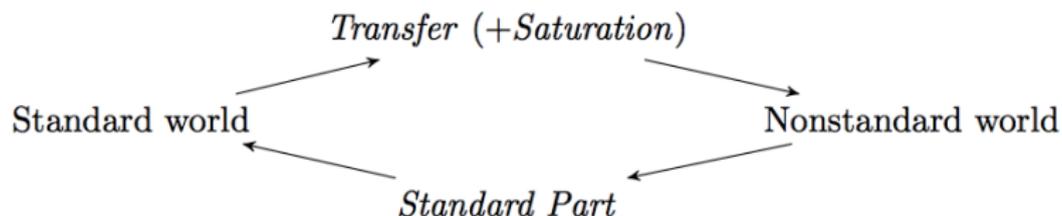


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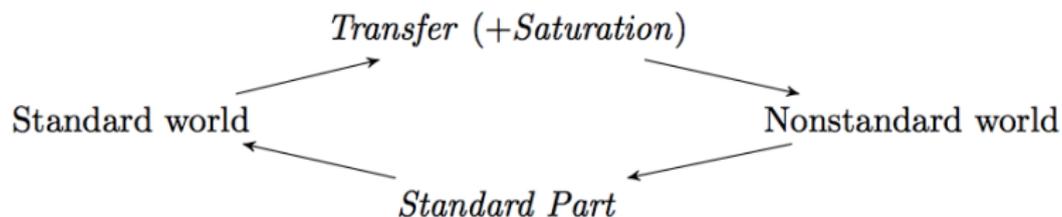
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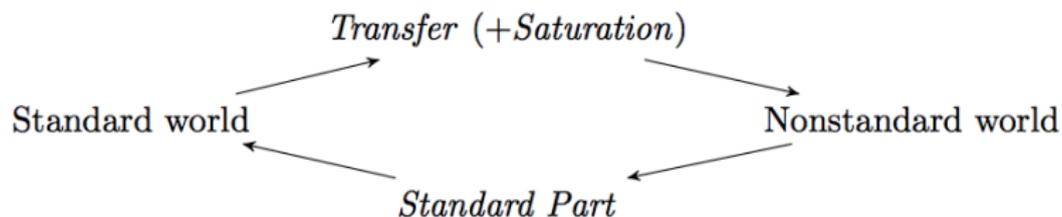


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To guarantee Ω -invariance, we need to assume **'constructive' definitions in the standard world**.

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Any questions?