

# LARGE CARDINALS

## THIRD LECTURE

30 January 2023

### RECAP

$\text{I}(\kappa) : \Leftrightarrow \kappa \text{ is inaccessible}$

$\text{IC} : \Leftrightarrow \exists \kappa \text{ I}(\kappa)$

1.  $\text{I}(\kappa) \Rightarrow \kappa = \aleph_\kappa$

2.  $\text{I}(\kappa) \Rightarrow V_\kappa \models \text{ZFC}$

3.  $\text{I}(\kappa) \Rightarrow \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC} + \neg \text{IC})$

[If  $\kappa$  is least inaccessible, then  
 $V_\kappa \models \text{ZFC} + \neg \text{IC}.$ ]

Together: 1.  $\text{I}(\kappa)$  implies  $\kappa$  is large

2.  $\text{IC}$  is not provable

3. The largeness of  $\kappa$  features in the proof of 2.

}  $\text{IC}$  is a LARGE CARDINAL AXIOM

# The consistency strength hierarchy

Fix a base theory  $B$

In our context, we can always assume  $B = \text{ZFC}$ .

[Proof-theorists would use some weak arithmetic.]

We consider theories  $T$  s.t.

$B \subseteq T$ ,  $T$  is computable enumerable and deductively closed [if  $T \vdash \varphi \rightarrow \varphi \in T$ ].

On theories like this, we define

$$T \leq_{\text{Cons}} S : \iff B \vdash \text{Cons}(S) \Rightarrow \text{Cons}(T)$$

$$T =_{\text{Cons}} S : \iff T \leq_{\text{Cons}} S \wedge S \leq_{\text{Cons}} T$$

$$T <_{\text{Cons}} S : \iff T \leq_{\text{Cons}} S \wedge S \not\leq_{\text{Cons}} T$$

EQUICONSTANCY

If  $T$  is c.e., so is  $T + \varphi$ .

Notation

If  $T$  is a theory &  $\varphi$  is a sentence.

$T + \varphi$  is the deductive closure of  $\{T, \varphi\}$ .

## Properties of $\leq_{\text{Cons}}$

1. By deductive closure, there is exactly one inconsistent theory, with

$\perp$

for this

This theory is the maximal element in  $\leq_{\text{Cons}}$  and we get that

$$T \leq_{\text{Cons}} \perp \iff T \text{ is consistent}.$$

2.



DAVID  
HILBERT

David Hilbert  
1862–1943

The HILBERTIAN  
DREAM  
("Finitism"):

There is a base theory  $\mathcal{B}$   
s.t.  $\varphi$  is true  $\Leftrightarrow$   
 $\mathcal{B} \vdash \varphi$ .

Königsberg  
Radio Address  
1930

WIR MÜSSEN WISSEN  
WIR WERDEN WISSEN

THIS IS NOT TRUE

The Hilbertian dream was shattered

- by Gödel's incompleteness Theor.

If this existed, then of course all consistent theories are equiconsistent.

Thus: The interest in  $\leq_{\text{cons}}$  derives from the INCOMPLETENESS PHENOMENON which shows that  $\leq_{\text{cons}}$  is non-trivial.

3.  $\leq_{\text{Cons}}$  is stronger than just "proves more lemmas".

Example CH.

Proofs by Gödel & Cohen:

$$\begin{array}{ll} 1938 & \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC}) \Rightarrow \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC} + \text{CH}) \\ 1962 & \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC}) \Rightarrow \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC} + \neg \text{CH}) \end{array}$$

$$\text{Thus } \text{ZFC} \equiv_{\text{Cons}} \text{ZFC} + \text{CH} \equiv_{\text{Cons}} \text{ZFC} + \neg \text{CH}$$

But of course  $\text{ZFC} + \text{CH}$  proves more lemmas than  $\text{ZFC}$ .

4. Gödel's 2nd Incompleteness Theorem implies

$$\text{If } T \neq \perp, \text{ then } T \leq_{\text{Cons}} T + \text{Cons}(T).$$

5. Careful There are consistent theories  $T$  s.t.  $T + \text{Cons}(T) = \perp$ .

Example G2 implies  $\text{ZFC} + \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC})$   
[Assuming that  $\text{ZFC}$  is consistent] or in other words  $T := \text{ZFC} + \neg \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC})$  is consistent.

Since  $T \supseteq \text{ZFC}$ ,  $\text{Cons}(T) \Rightarrow \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC})$ ,

$$\text{so } T + \text{Cons}(T) \vdash \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC})$$

Since  $T + \text{Cons}(T) \vdash \neg \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC})$ .

$$= T, \quad \text{So } T + \text{Cons}(T) = \perp.$$

6. There is a stronger notion of consistency, called  $\omega$ -consistency

[Essentially adding an infinitary proof rule that corresponds to the naive idea of semantics of " $\forall n \in \mathbb{N}$ " and demanding that no contradiction can be derived even with this additional rule].

If  $T$  is  $\omega$ -consistent, then  $T + \text{Cons}(T)$  is consistent.

7. Luckily, our proof of  $\text{ZFC} + \text{IC} \vdash \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC})$  gives much more:

$$\text{ZFC}_0 := \text{ZFC}$$

$$\text{ZFC}_{i+1} := \text{ZFC}_i + \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC}_i)$$

[We could even add

$$\text{ZFC}_\omega := \text{"for all } i, \text{ZFC}_i"$$

and continue into the transfinite.]

Want that

$$\text{ZFC}_0 <_{\text{Cons}} \text{ZFC}_1 <_{\text{Cons}} \text{ZFC}_2 <_{\text{Cons}} \dots$$

We proved  $\text{ZFC} + \text{IC} \vdash \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC})$

by a very concrete model, viz.  $V_k$ , of  $\text{ZFC}$ .

Since  $w \subseteq V_k$  and therefore

$\exists n \in N$  and  $\forall n \in N$   
are interpreted the same way in  $V_k$  &  $V$ ,  
we get that all formulas whose quantifiers  
are restricted to  $N$  will get the same  
true value in  $V_k$  and  $V$ .  $V \models \varphi \Leftrightarrow V \models "V_k \models \varphi"$

### (ARITHMETICAL FORMULAS)

In other words, arithmetical formulas  
are absolute between  $V_k$  &  $V$ .

IMPORTANT For any  $T$ ,  $\text{Cons}(T)$  is  
an arithmetical formulas.

<u>BOOTSTRAP</u> :	Suppose $V \models \text{IC}$	1
	$\implies V \models "V_k \models \text{ZFC}"$	2
	$\implies V \models \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC})$	3
Absoluteeness	$\implies V \models "V_k \models \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC})"$	4
	$\stackrel{2+4}{\implies} V \models "V_k \models \text{ZFC}_1"$	5
	$\implies V \models \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC}_1)$	6
Absoluteeness	$\implies V \models "V_k \models \text{Cons}(\text{ZFC})"$	7
$\stackrel{5+7}{\implies}$	$V \models "V_k \models \text{ZFC}_2"$ .	8

AND SO ON.

To summarize:

$\text{ZFC} + \text{IC}$  proves

$$\text{ZFC}_0 <_{\text{Cons}} \text{ZFC}_1 <_{\text{Cons}} \dots <_{\text{Cons}} \text{ZFC}_i <_{\text{Cons}} \dots <_{\text{Cons}} \text{ZFC} + \text{IC}$$

Natural question

Is this about inaccessibility or rather about  
 $V_k \models \text{ZFC}$ ?

Definition

An ordinal  $\alpha$  is called  
WORLDLY if  $V_\alpha \models \text{ZFC}$ .

Are "inaccessible" and "worldly" the  
same thing.

Answer will be (lectures III & IV):

NO!

In particular, we'll show that  
 $\models \text{IC}_k \rightarrow$  there are many worldly  
cardinals below  $k$ .

The difference between INACCESSIBLE and WORLDLY  
cardinals comes down to the difference between

$V_k \models \text{Replacement}$   
and

$V_k$  satisfies SOR  
mentioned in Lecture II.