

XVI

LECTIO ULTIMA SIXTEENTH LECTURE

LARGE CARDINALS

15 March 2023

KUNEN'S INCONSISTENCY

Proof. Suppose $j: V \rightarrow M$ is elementary
with $\text{crit}(j) = \kappa$.

Then the least fixed pt of j above κ is

$$\kappa_0 := \kappa$$

$$\kappa_{i+1} := j(\kappa_i)$$

$$\hat{\kappa} := \sup \{ \kappa_i ; i \in \omega \}$$

By the usual arguments, $j(\hat{\kappa}) = \hat{\kappa}$.

Kunen's Lemma

In this situation
 $\{ j(\alpha) ; \alpha \in \hat{\kappa} \} \notin M$.

From
Lecture
XV

Remark . In the proof of Kunen's lemma, we didn't need that $V \models \text{ZFC}$. We only used ZFC to apply the Gdo's-Hajnal result that there is an ω -Jónsson fn for $\hat{\kappa}$.

Thus if V is just large enough to contain that ω -Jónsson fn for $\hat{\kappa}$, the proof still goes through.

An ω -Jónsson fn $f: [\hat{\kappa}]^\omega \rightarrow \hat{\kappa}$ lives in $V_{\hat{\kappa}+2}$.

Corollary If $j: V_{\delta+2} \rightarrow M$ is an elementary embedding with $\text{crit}(j) = \kappa$ and

$$\delta \rightarrow \hat{\kappa}$$

where $\hat{\kappa}$ is the least j -fixed pt.

Then $M \neq V_{\delta+2}$.

Corollary (ZFC) There is no nontrivial elementary embedding

$$j: V_{\delta+2} \rightarrow V_{\delta+2}$$

for any δ .

[If $\kappa := \text{crit}(j) < \delta$, then by induction $\kappa_i < \delta$, and so $\hat{\kappa} \leq \bigcup \delta$. Then the claim follows from previous Cor.]

Maxim called "ONE STEP BACK FROM DESASTER".
leads to slightly weaker statements:

I1 There is nontrivial elem. emb.

$$j: V_{\delta+1} \rightarrow V_{\delta+1}$$

some δ .

I for "inconsistency" $\rightarrow$ I3

There is nontrivial elem. emb

$$j: V_{\delta} \rightarrow V_{\delta}$$

some δ .

I2 is something between I1 & I3

Clearly, $I.1$ implies $I.3$.

The axioms were thought to be inconsistent.

Note These axioms have an algebraic character since the embeddings become operators on V_S or V_{S+1} .

(I3)

Two operations: if i, j are emb. on V_S ,
then $i \circ j$ is the concatenation
 ij is " i applied to j as set-theoretical object"

These operations satisfy:

$$i(j \circ k) = ij \circ ik$$

$$i \circ j = ij \circ i$$

$$i(jk) = ij(ik)$$

LEFT DISTRIBUTIVE LAW.

[Related to braided groups!]

I_1 & I_3 were not proposed as Large Cardinal Axioms, but as technical variants of Kunen's inconsistency; they were not expected to be consistent or of any mathematical interest.

Kanamori, THE HIGHER INFINITE, pp. 328-329

Attitudes about and expectations concerning I_1 - I_3 have evolved since their formulation, from skepticism toward confidence and acceptance. In Solovay-Reinhardt-Kanamori [78:109] we had written: "It seems likely that I_1 , I_2 , and I_3 are all inconsistent since they appear to differ from the proposition proved inconsistent by Kunen only in an inessential technical way." However, this may not be the case. As mentioned earlier, the Axiom of Choice figures prominently

in the proof of Kunen's result by providing a well-ordering of $\mathcal{P}(\lambda)$, and such well-orderings first appear, in coded form, in $V_{\lambda+2} - V_{\lambda+1}$. Hence, any refutations of I_1 - I_3 would have to have a different basis. Also, recent work has provided some extrinsic evidence for their coherence and consistency:

From Example Sheet #3:

(33) **Presentation Example.** Let μ be a cardinal. We say that a set $X \subseteq V_\lambda$ is closed under μ -sequences if $X^\mu \subseteq X$. Show that M is closed under κ -sequences, but not under κ^+ -sequences.

[Hint. For the second claim, show that $s: \kappa^+ \rightarrow M: \alpha \mapsto j(\alpha)$ is not an element of M .]

Definition A cardinal κ is called α -supercompact if there is an embedding j that is α -supercompact.

Embedding j is called α -supercompact if $j: V \rightarrow M$, $\text{crit}(j) = \kappa$ & $M^\alpha \subseteq M$.

[i.e., if $f: \alpha \rightarrow M$, then $f \in M$.]

So, example (33) says:

Every embedding w/ $\text{crit}(j) = \kappa$ is κ -supercompact;

the ultrapower embedding is not κ^+ -supercompact.

Def. κ is supercompact if it's α -sc. for all α .

Similarly to strength, the supercompact analogue of a Reinhardt cardinal would be a cardinal κ with embedding j that is κ -sc. for all α .

Kunen's lemma implies that no embedding can be $\hat{\kappa}$ -sc. where $\hat{\kappa}$ is its first fixed pt bigger than $\text{crit}(j)$.

So, sc. analogues of Reinhardt cardinals don't exist either.

CONSISTENCY STRENGTH ISN'T ALWAYS ABOUT SIZE

Φ cardinal property

$$L_{\Phi} := \left\{ \kappa \mid \text{least } \Phi\text{-cardinal} \right\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} & \text{if } \neg \Phi C \\ & \text{if } \kappa \text{ is the least} \\ & \text{s.t. } \Phi(\kappa) \end{aligned}$$

$$\Phi <_R \Psi \iff \text{ZFC} \vdash$$

"REFLECTS"

$$L_{\Phi} = L_{\Psi} = \emptyset \vee$$

$$L_{\Phi} < L_{\Psi}$$

Clearly $\Phi <_R \Phi$ means ΦC is inconsistent.
Our reflection arguments have shown:

$$I <_R W <_R M <_R O_1 <_R S_2$$

$$O_k(\kappa) \iff \kappa \text{ has Mitchell order } \geq k$$

$$o(\kappa) \geq k$$

$$S_{\alpha}(\kappa) \iff \kappa \text{ is } \alpha\text{-strong}$$

It is tempting to expect that if

$$\Phi C <_{\text{cons}} \Psi C,$$

then $\Phi <_R \Psi$.

But that is not true.

Let's analyse this:

① $<_R$ depends too much on details.

E.g. $IC <_{\text{cons}} 2IC <_{\text{cons}} 3IC$.

We could define

$$2I^-(*) : \Leftrightarrow \exists \lambda (* < \lambda \wedge I(*) \wedge I(\lambda))$$

$$2I^+(*) : \Leftrightarrow \exists \lambda (\lambda < * \wedge I(*) \wedge I(\lambda))$$

Clearly $2I^+C \Leftrightarrow 2I^-C$

Therefore $2I^+C \equiv_{\text{cons}} 2I^-C$.

But $\mathcal{L}_{2I^-} <_R \mathcal{L}_{2I^+}$.

②

$$\Phi(k) := I(k) \wedge (WC \Rightarrow W(k))$$

$$\Phi C \longleftrightarrow IC$$

Thus $\Phi C \equiv_{\text{Cons}} IC$.

But $I \not\models_R \Phi$ [in models of $IC \wedge \neg WC$]

and $\Phi \not\models_P I$ [in models of WC].

③

$$\Phi(k) : \mathcal{W} \hookrightarrow \mathcal{W} \vee \mathcal{I}(k).$$

$$\Phi C \iff WC$$

so $\Phi C \equiv_{\text{cons}} WC,$

but if ΦC holds, then $L_{\Phi} <_R L_W$.

Examples ① to ③ are all about technical failing with properties that could be seen as "unnatural" (playing around with propositional logic). But phenomena like this can happen with proper LCA.

HOW LARGE IS THE FIRST STRONGLY COMPACT CARDINAL? or A STUDY ON IDENTITY CRISES

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It is proved that if strongly compact cardinals are consistent, then it is consistent that the first such cardinal is the first measurable. On the other hand, if it is consistent to assume the existence of supercompact cardinal, then it is consistent to assume that it is the first strongly compact cardinal.



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IDENTITY CRISES

We say an identity crisis is a situation where we have two LC notions Φ and Ψ with

$$\Phi C <_{\text{cons}} \Psi C$$

and it is consistent to have

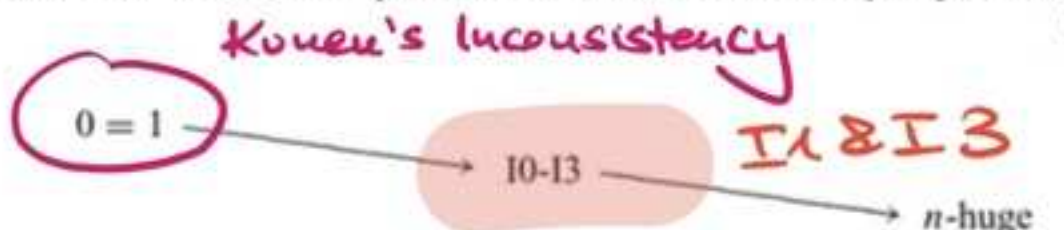
$$\Phi C \wedge \Psi C \wedge L_{\Phi} = L_{\Psi}$$

Magidor's example: $St(\kappa) : \iff \kappa$ is strongly compact

Consistent: $MC \wedge StC \wedge L_M = L_{St}$

Chart of Cardinals

The arrows indicates direct implications or relative consistency implications, often both.



n-huge
 ↓
 superhuge

huge

almost huge

Vopěnka's Principle

extendible

supercompact

strongly compact

superstrong

Woodin

strong

$0^\dagger$ exists

measurable

Ramsey

Rowbottom

Jónsson

$\kappa \rightarrow (\omega_1)_2^{<\omega}$ → $\forall a \in {}^\omega \omega (a^\# \text{ exists})$

$0^\#$ exists

$\kappa \rightarrow (\omega)_2^{<\omega}$

indescribable

weakly compact

α -Mahlo

Mahlo

α -inaccessible

inaccessible

weakly inaccessible

Strong & supercompact

higher Mitchell orders live here

M, W, I

The protagonists of this lecture course

THE LINEARITY PHENOMENON

The hierarchy is largely linear!

*Kanamori,
THE HIGHER
INFINITE*

REVISION CLASS
in Easter term:

Friday 19 MAY 2023

3³⁰ - 5³⁰ MR 9