

IV

Fourth Lecture of FORCING & THE CONTINUUM HYPOTHESIS

4 February 2025

RECAP

What we want to do

Colson Lemma

For every finite $T \subseteq ZFC$ there is finite $T^* \subseteq ZFC$

s.t. if M true of T^* , then there is $N \supseteq M$ s.t. N true of $T + \neg CH$.

This reduces the problem to:

find true of T^* for sufficiently large finite $T^* \subseteq ZFC$.

Def.

We call an assignment

$$\alpha \mapsto Z_\alpha$$

a HIERARCHY, if

- (i) Z_α is a trans set,
- (ii) $Ord \cap Z_\alpha = \alpha$,
- (iii) $\alpha < \beta \Rightarrow Z_\alpha \subseteq Z_\beta$, and
- (iv) a limit $\rightarrow Z_\lambda = \bigcup_{\alpha < \lambda} Z_\alpha$.

If $\{Z_\alpha; \alpha \in Ord\}$ is a hierarchy,
define $Z := \bigcup_{\alpha \in Ord} Z_\alpha$. This is a class.

and $\beta_Z(\alpha) = \min \{ \beta; \alpha \in Z_\beta \}$
a notion of Z -rank.

What we need for this

Lévy Reflection Theorem

If Z is a hierarchy, φ is a formula.
Then there unboundedly many α
s.t. φ is absolute between Z_α and Z .

The technical tool
to prove the LRT

Proposition 2.3.5 (Tarski-Vaught Test) Suppose that M is a substructure of N . Then, M is an elementary substructure if and only if, for any formula $\phi(v, \vec{w})$ and $\vec{a} \in M$, if there is $b \in N$ such that $N \models \phi(b, \vec{a})$, then there is $c \in M$ such that $N \models \phi(c, \vec{a})$.

TVT

TVT $_{\Phi}$: Let $M \subseteq N$ and Φ be a collection of formulas closed under subformulas. Then TFAE

- (i) all formulas in Φ are absolute between M and N
- (ii) for all $\varphi \in \Phi$, the TV-condition holds:
if $\varphi = \exists x \psi$, then f.a. $\vec{y} \in M$
if there is $a \in N$ s.t. $N \models \psi(a, \vec{y})$,
then there is $b \in M$ s.t. $N \models \psi(b, \vec{y})$.

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Warm-up

Let $(M, e) \models \text{ZFC}$. Find countable $N \subseteq M$ s.t. $(N, e) \prec (M, e)$.

Suppose $\vec{p} = (p_0, \dots, p_n) \in M$ & $M \models \exists y \psi(y, \vec{p})$.

Let $w(\psi, \vec{p})$ be a witness for this:

[if $M \models \neg \exists y \psi(y, \vec{p})$, let $w(\psi, \vec{p}) = \emptyset$] $M \models \psi(w(\psi, \vec{p}), \vec{p})$ [if necessary, use AC]

$$N_0 := \emptyset$$

$$N_{i+1} := \{w(\psi, \vec{p}); \psi \text{ formula} \& \vec{p} \in N_i^{<\omega}\}$$

$$N := \bigcup_{i \in \omega} N_i$$

① N is countable.

② $N \prec M$ by TVT.

Remark. In general, even if M is transitive,
 N is not.

E.g., if $\omega_1 \in M$, then

$\exists x$ (x is the least uncountable
ordinal)

is true in M

$$w(\psi, \emptyset) = \omega_1,$$

so $\omega_1 \in N$. But $\omega_1 \notin N$, since
 N is countable.

Relevant later!

Also, see ~~ES~~ #1.

Lévy Reflection Theorem

If Z is a hierarchy, φ is a formula.
Then there unboundedly many α
s.t. φ is absolute between Z_α and Z .

Proposition 2.3.5 (Tarski-Vaught Test) Suppose that M is a substructure of N . Then, M is an elementary substructure if and only if, for any formula $\phi(v, \bar{u})$ and $\bar{u} \in M$, if there is $b \in N$ such that $N \models \phi(b, \bar{u})$, then there is $c \in M$ such that $N \models \phi(c, \bar{u})$.

TVT

TVT $_{\Phi}$: Let $H \subseteq N$ and Φ be a collection of formulas closed under subformulas. Then TFAE

- (i) all formulas in Φ are absolute between M and N
- (ii) for all $\varphi \in \Phi$, the TV-condition holds:
if $\varphi = \exists x \psi$, then f.a. $\bar{y} \in M$
if there is $a \in N$ s.t. $N \models \psi(a, \bar{y})$,
then there is $b \in M$ s.t. $N \models \psi(b, \bar{y})$.

Def. We call an assignment $\alpha \mapsto Z_\alpha$ a hierarchy, if

- (i) Z_α is a trans set,
- (ii) $\text{Ord} \cap Z_\alpha = \alpha$,
- (iii) $\alpha < \beta \Rightarrow Z_\alpha \subseteq Z_\beta$, and
- (iv) a limit $\rightarrow Z_\lambda = \bigcup_{\alpha < \lambda} Z_\alpha$.

If $\{Z_\alpha; \alpha \in \text{Ord}\}$ is a hierarchy, we can define $Z := \bigcup_{\alpha \in \text{Ord}} Z_\alpha$. This is a proper class with $\text{Ord} \cap Z = \text{Ord}$.
and $\beta_Z(\omega) = \min\{\alpha; \omega \in Z_\alpha\}$ a notion of Z -rank.

Proof of LRT. Fix φ and let Φ be its collection of subformulas. This is a finite set!

NTS: $\forall \alpha \exists \beta > \alpha$ s.t. $Z_\beta \models \varphi \Leftrightarrow Z \models \varphi$.

For each $\psi \in \Phi$ and $\vec{p} = (p_0, \dots, p_n)$, write

$$o(\psi, \vec{p}) := \begin{cases} \text{least } \alpha \text{ s.t. } \exists \bar{y} \in Z_\alpha \\ \text{with } Z \models \psi(\bar{y}, \vec{p}) \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} \text{if it} \\ \text{exists} \\ \\ \text{o/w} \end{matrix}$$

$$o(\vec{p}) := \max_{\psi \in \Phi} o(\psi, \vec{p})$$

$$\beta_0 := \alpha + 1$$

$$\beta_{i+1} := \sup \{ o(\vec{p}) ; \vec{p} \in Z_{\beta_i}^{<\omega} \}$$

$$\beta := \sup_{i \in \omega} \beta_i$$

Then TVT implies that Z_β and Z agree on φ . qed.

Corollary If $T \subseteq ZFC$ is finite, there is M transitive s.t. $M \models T$.

Pf. Let $\varphi := \bigwedge_{\psi \in T} \psi$. Since $ZFC \vdash \varphi$, we have that φ is true. By LRT, find $\mathcal{D}$ s.t. $V_{\mathcal{D}} \models \varphi$. $V_{\mathcal{D}}$ is transitive. q.e.d.

Remark about the proof of LRT:

Can you do the same if Φ is not finite?!?

Of course not: o/w we could prove
 $\exists \mathcal{D} V_{\mathcal{D}} \models ZFC$

$\Rightarrow Con(ZFC)$

The problem is the core distinction in the definition of $\mathcal{O}(\psi, \vec{p})$: it requires to check whether $\exists y \psi$ is true.

Next goal

Obtain some $M \subseteq V_{\mathcal{D}}$ countable s.t. $M \models \varphi$ and M is transitive.

The analogue of 'subset collapse' is:

LEADER, Logic & Set Theory
NOTES, §5

Theorem 4 (Mostowski's Collapsing Theorem). Let r be a relation on a set a that is well-founded and extensional. Then there exists a transitive set b , and a bijection $f : a \rightarrow b$ such that $(\forall x, y \in a)(x r y \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in f(y))$. Moreover, b and f are unique.

Remark. 'Well-founded' and 'extensional' are trivially necessary.

Corollary

For every $T \subseteq ZFC$ finite,
there is a c of T .

Proof. From $M \models T$ transitive
by LPT.

[W.l.o.g., assume that T contains
the axiom of extensionality.]

Use warning-up to obtain $N \prec M$ countable.

N is extensional and well-founded, so
by Mostowski find W transitive s.t.

$$(W, \in) \cong (N, \in).$$

Then $W \models T$, and $|W| = |N|$, so W is
countable.

q.e.d.

Andrzej Mostowski



Mostowski in 1973

Born	1 November 1913 Lemberg, Austria-Hungary
Died	22 August 1975 (aged 61) Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada
Nationality	Polish
Alma mater	University of Warsaw
Known for	Kleene–Mostowski hierarchy Mostowski collapse lemma Mostowski model

Lectures V-VII

Proof of $\text{Con}(\text{ZFC} + \text{CH})$ using Gödel's constructible universe.

Absoluteness is preserved under transfinite recursion

Let F, G, H be three operations.

$$\text{RECURSION EQUATION } (*) \left[\begin{array}{l} R(0, \vec{x}) := F(\vec{x}) \\ R(\alpha+1, \vec{x}) := G(\alpha, R(\alpha, \vec{x}), \vec{x}) \\ R(\lambda, \vec{x}) := H(\lambda, \{R(\alpha, \vec{x}) ; \alpha < \lambda\}, \vec{x}) \end{array} \right.$$

Note that for F, G, H there is a finite fragment $T_{F,G,H} \subseteq \text{ZFC}$ that proves the recursion theorem instance for F, G, H .

Proof of recursion theorem:

Attempts: set functions satisfying

L1: All attempts agree on their common domain.

L2: $\forall \alpha \exists r$ attempt $(\alpha, \vec{x}) \in \text{dom}(r)$

$$R(\alpha, \vec{x}) := y : \iff \exists r \text{ attempt } (\alpha, \vec{x}) \in \text{dom}(r) \text{ and } r(\alpha, \vec{x}) = y$$

Theorem If $T \supseteq T_{F,G,H}$ and F, G, H are absolute for transitive models of T , then so is R defined by $(*)$.
[Proof given: will be repeated in writing in lecture V]