

# The Constructible Universe

## IV

Fourth Lecture 29 April 2024

Recap.

Absolute for transitive models:

Function, Injection, Surjection, Subset,  
Ordinal\* (only if Foundation is true)

Downwards absolute for transitive models:

Cardinal

$\Pi_1$ , downwards absolute

Q. Is being a cardinal absolute?

Lecture III

If  $\alpha > \omega$  limit, then

$$V_\alpha \models ZF$$

(Zermelo set theory:  
everything w/o Replacement)  
wast)

If  $\kappa$  is inaccessible,  
then  $V_\kappa \models ZF$ .



$\kappa$  is INACCESSIBLE if it's a regular strong limit cardinal

Lemma If  $\kappa$  is inaccessible, then  $\forall \kappa > \lambda, |V_\lambda| < \kappa$ .

Theorem If  $\kappa$  is inaccessible, then  $V_\kappa \models \text{Replacement}$ .

§2 Replacement -  $\aleph_\alpha$  - the next level

Let  $\kappa = \aleph_\alpha$  be a cardinal. We say  $\kappa$  is regular if  $\text{cf}(\kappa) = \kappa$ .  
 If  $\kappa$  is not regular, then  $\text{cf}(\kappa) = \lambda < \kappa$ .  
 Then  $\kappa = \sum_{\alpha < \lambda} \aleph_{\alpha}$ .

Theorem (Zermelo) If  $\kappa$  is a cardinal, then  $\kappa$  is regular iff  $\kappa$  is a successor cardinal or  $\kappa = \aleph_0$ .

Let  $\kappa$  be a cardinal, and let  $\lambda < \kappa$ .  
 If  $\kappa$  is a cardinal, then  $\text{cf}(\kappa) = \lambda$  iff there is a sequence  $\langle \alpha_i \mid i < \lambda \rangle$  of ordinals such that  $\kappa = \sup_{i < \lambda} \alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_i < \kappa$  for all  $i$ .

Let  $F: V_\kappa \rightarrow V_\kappa$ ,  $\kappa = \aleph_\alpha$ .  
 If  $\kappa$  is regular, then  $\text{ran}(F) \cap V_\kappa = \text{ran}(F) \cap V_\kappa$ .

Let  $\kappa$  be a cardinal, and let  $\lambda < \kappa$ .  
 If  $\kappa$  is a cardinal, then  $\text{cf}(\kappa) = \lambda$  iff there is a sequence  $\langle \alpha_i \mid i < \lambda \rangle$  of ordinals such that  $\kappa = \sup_{i < \lambda} \alpha_i$  and  $\alpha_i < \kappa$  for all  $i$ .

We proved something stronger:

We proved that for every function  $F: V_\kappa \rightarrow V_\kappa$ , the range of  $F$  restricted to a set is a set.

$\kappa$  is INACCESSIBLE if it's a regular strong limit

Lemma If  $\kappa$  is inaccessible, then  $\forall \alpha < \kappa \quad |V_\alpha| < \kappa$ .

Theorem If  $\kappa$  is inaccessible, then  $V_\kappa \models \text{Replacement}$ .

Q. Is this theorem an equivalence, i.e., if  $V_\kappa \models \text{Replacement}$ , then  $\kappa$  is inaccessible.

A. NO (later today)

Replacement would only have definable functions here.  
 How many are there:

DEFINABLE w/o PARAMETER:  $\aleph_0$

DEFINABLE w/ PARAMETERS FROM  $V_\kappa$ :  $|V_\kappa| = \kappa$ .

However, there are  $2^\kappa$  many functions from  $V_\kappa$  to  $V_\kappa$

Remark There is a converse of Zermelo's Theorem, but not with Replacement but rather the stronger statement we proved in the proof.

Def.  $V_\kappa$  satisfies **SECOND-ORDER REPLACEMENT (SOR)** if f.a.  $F: V_\kappa \rightarrow V_\kappa$  and all  $x \in V_\kappa$   $\{F(y) \mid y \in x\} \in V_\kappa$ .

Theorem (SHEPHERDSON'S THEOREM)  
If  $V_\kappa$  satisfies SOR, then  $\kappa$  is inaccessible.

## § 9 Countable transitive submodels.

For reasons of simplicity, let's assume that  $\kappa$  is inaccessible and thus  $V_\kappa \models ZF$ .

[This assumption is an overkill & only for convenience.]

Note that Löwenheim-Skolem tells us that if ZF is consistent, it has a countable model.

Our goal: a transitive inner model of ZF.

Sometimes known as "Skolem paradox", but there is nothing paradoxical about it.

# Model-theoretic technique

## Tarski-Vaught Lemma

(a.k.a. Tarski-Vaught Test)

$M \leq N$  elementary substructure if all formulas are absolute.

$$M \leq N \iff$$

for every formula  $\varphi$  and  $m_1, \dots, m_n \in M$ , we have

if  $N \models \exists x \varphi(x, m_1, \dots, m_n)$ , there is  $m \in M$  s.t.

$$N \models \varphi(m, m_1, \dots, m_n).$$

Proof.

$\implies$  is obvious.

$\impliedby$  is a proof by induction on the complexity of formulas.

We have already seen:

- ① Atomic formulas are absolute.
- ② Absolute formulas are closed under propositional connectives.

So, only to show:

if  $\varphi$  is absolute, then so is  $\exists x \varphi$ .

$$M \models \exists x \varphi(x, m_1, \dots, m_n) \iff N \models \exists x \varphi(x, m_1, \dots, m_n)$$

$\implies$  is trivial since  $M \subseteq N$

$\impliedby$  if  $N \models \exists x \varphi(x, m_1, \dots, m_n)$ , then by the TV condition get  $m \in M$  s.t.

$$N \models \varphi(m, m_1, \dots, m_n)$$

By H,  $M \models \varphi(m, m_1, \dots, m_n)$ . So

$$M \models \exists x \varphi(x, m_1, \dots, m_n).$$

q.e.d.

Let's apply that to  $V_k \models ZF$ .

$$M_0 := \emptyset.$$

If  $M_i$  is already defined, look at all formulas  $\varphi$  and all  $\vec{p} \in M_i^n$  and consider,  $n+1$  free variables

$$V_k \models \exists x \varphi(x, \vec{p})$$

if false, let  $w(\varphi, \vec{p}) := \emptyset$

if true, there is some  $n \in V_k$  s.t.  
 $V_k \models \varphi(n, \vec{p})$   
So pick [uses AC] some  $w(\varphi, \vec{p})$  s.t.  
 $V_k \models \varphi(w(\varphi, \vec{p}), \vec{p})$ .

$$M_{i+1} := M_i \cup \{w(\varphi, \vec{p}) \mid \varphi \text{ formula}, \vec{p} \in M_i^{<\omega}\}$$

Finally, let  $M := \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} M_i$ .

Claim  $M \models V_k$ .

By TV, I only have to show if  $V_k \models \exists x \varphi(x, \vec{p})$  with  $\vec{p} \in M^{<\omega}$  then there is  $u \in M$   $V_k \models \varphi(u, \vec{p})$ .

Since  $\vec{p} \in M^{<\omega}$ , we find  $k_i$  s.t.

$p_i \in M_{k_i}$ ,  
 since there are finitely many, there is some  
 $j \in \mathbb{N}$  s.t.

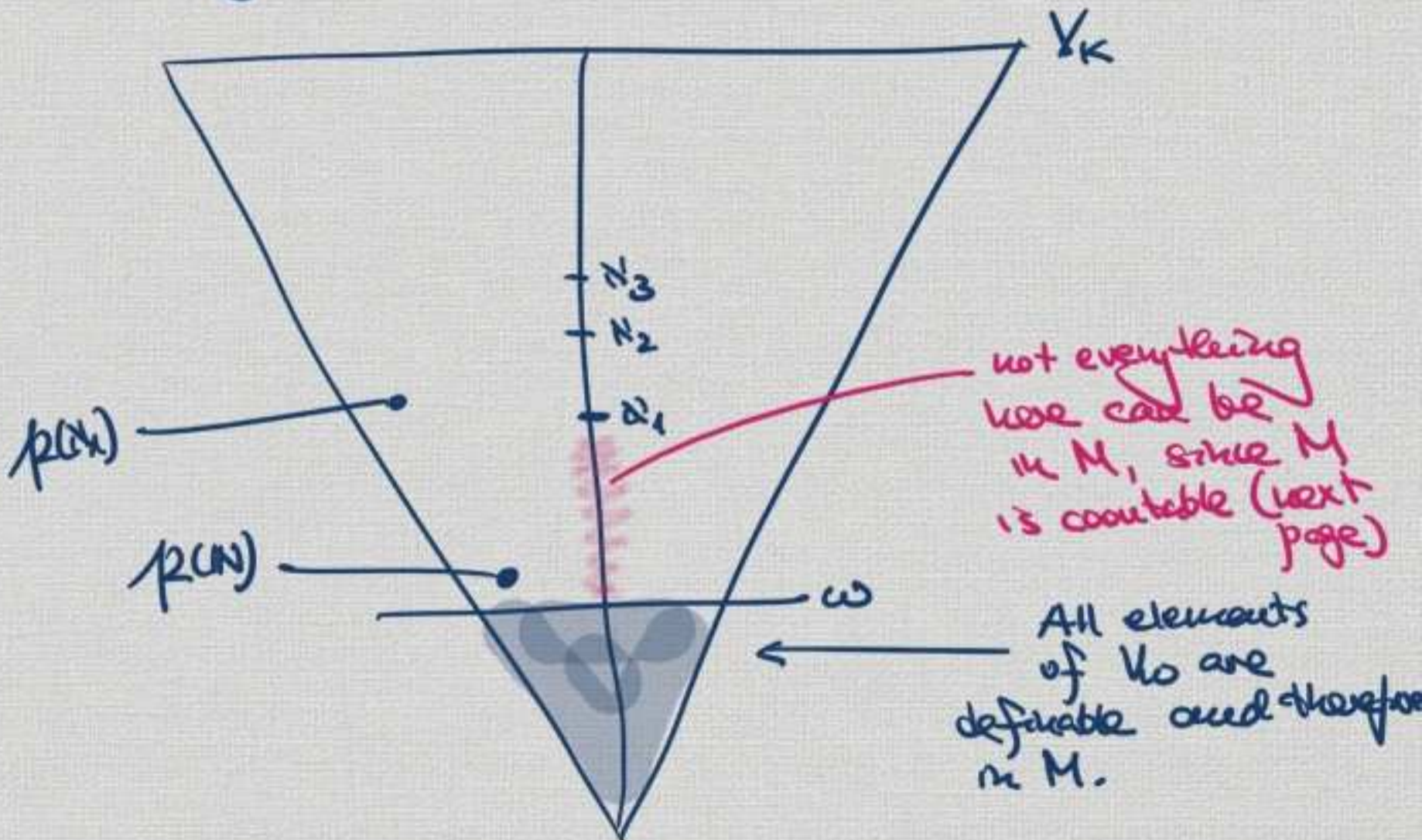
$$\vec{p} \in M_j^{<\omega}$$

Now  $V_k \models \exists x \varphi(x, \vec{p})$  for  $\vec{p} \in M_j^{<\omega}$

Therefore  $w(\varphi, \vec{p}) \in M_{j+1} \subseteq M$ .

So by TV,  $M \cong V_k$ .

q.e.d.



Note that by induction

$M_i$  is countable

and thus  $M = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}} M_i$  is also countable.

[The step from  $M_i$  to  $M_{i+1}$  adds at most  $\aleph_0 \cdot |M_i|$  many elts.]  
 $\underbrace{\qquad\qquad\qquad}_{= \aleph_0}$

Therefore  $M \leq V_\kappa$  and countable, but certainly not transitive since  $\aleph_1 \in M$ , but  $\aleph_1 \notin M$ .

How can we make a non-transitive set transitive.

### Mostowski's Collapsing Theorem

If  $M \subseteq V_\kappa$  s.t.  $\Delta M \neq \text{Ext}$ , then there is a transitive set  $T$  s.t.  $(T, \varepsilon) \cong (M, \varepsilon)$ .

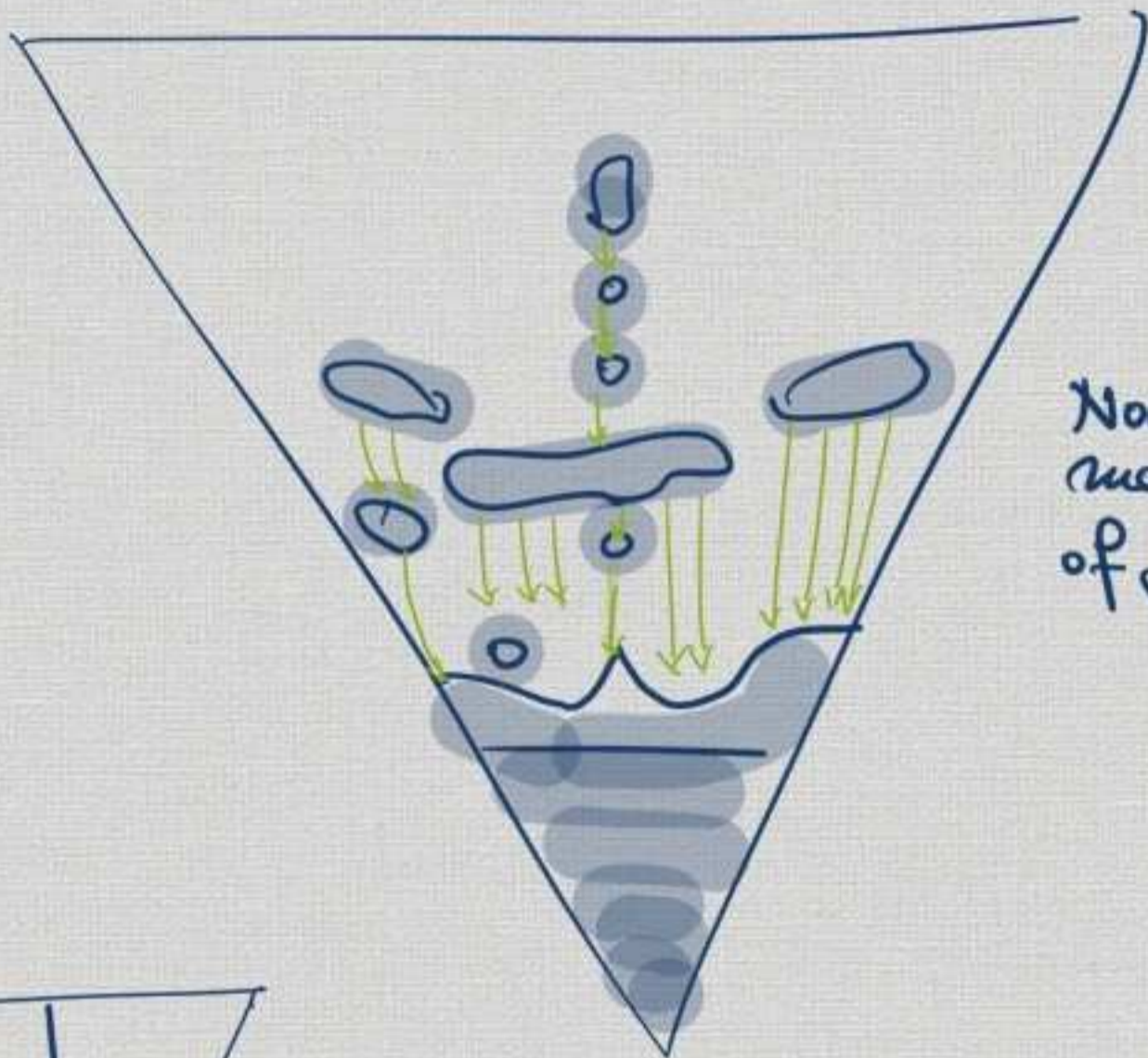
[Proof] By  $\varepsilon$ -recursion.

$$f(x) := \{f(y); y \in x\}$$

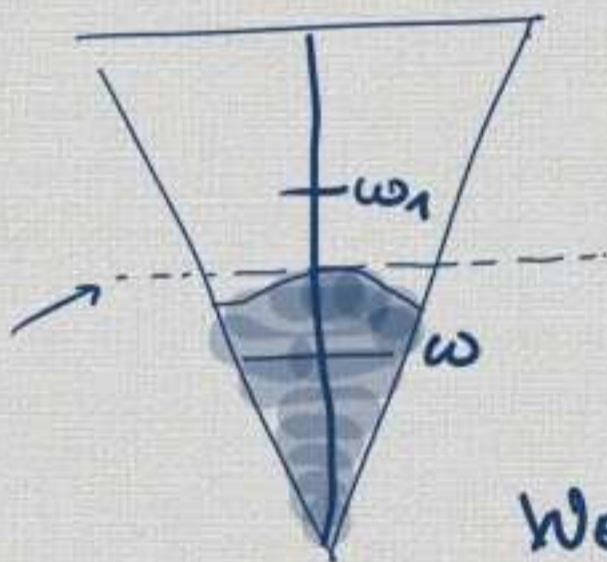
Then  $T := \text{ran}(f)$  is transitive and

$$f: (M, \varepsilon) \cong (T, \varepsilon)$$

Here we use  $M \neq \text{Ext}$  for injectivity of the function.]



Non-transitive model with lots of gaps.



We could call  $\text{Ord} \cap T$  the height of the model

We obtain that

$$\begin{aligned} f: M &\longrightarrow T \\ \text{id}: M &\longrightarrow V_\kappa \end{aligned}$$

are both elementary

Thus  $f^{-1}: T \longrightarrow V_\kappa$  is an elementary embedding.

In particular:  $(T, \in) \models \text{ZF}$ .

But  $T \cong M$ , so  $|T| = |M|$ , so  $T$  is countable, and therefore the height of  $T$  is a countable ordinal.



In particular,

$T \models$  there are uncountable cardinals  
in particular  $\aleph_1, \aleph_2, \aleph_3, \aleph_4$  etc.

All of these are countable ordinals.

Corollary The formula  $K(x) := "x \text{ is a cardinal}"$  is not absolute between  $T$  and  $V_\kappa$ .

### Remark

While this shows that a transitive inner model and the outer model can disagree about cardinals, this technique always produces

$T \equiv V_\kappa$  [i.e., for all sentences  $\sigma$   
 $T \models \sigma \iff V_\kappa \models \sigma$ ],

so in particular

$$V_\kappa \models CH \iff T \models CH.$$

### Cardinals

$0, 1, 2, 3, 4, \dots$

$\aleph_0$

$\aleph_1, \aleph_2, \aleph_3, \aleph_4, \dots$

absolute for  
arbitrary  
the model

finite or  
countable

uncountable  
cardinals

Theorem Suppose  $M$  is transitive in  $N$ .

(i) If  $\kappa(\omega)^M = \kappa(\omega)^N$ , then  $\aleph_1^M = \aleph_1^N$ .

This notation means:  
 the formula defining  $\kappa(\omega)$   
 i.e., the unique object that consists of  
 all subset of the unique object that  
 is the smallest inductive set  
 relativized to  $M$  or  $N$ , resp., i.e.  
 $\Phi^M$  as  $\Phi^N$ .

(ii) If  $\kappa(\omega)^M = \kappa(\omega)^N$ , then  $N \models \neg CH \Rightarrow M \models \neg CH$ .

Proof. (i). In Lecture I we proved that there is a surjection from  $\kappa(\omega)$  onto  $\aleph_1$  by producing  $R \subseteq \omega \times \omega$  s.t.  $(\omega, R)$  is wellfounded.

If  $M$  is transitive in  $N$ , since being a cardinal is downwards absolute, know  $\aleph_1^M \neq \aleph_1^N$ , then  $\aleph_1^M < \aleph_1^N$ . So  $\aleph_1^M$  is a countable ordinal in  $N$ , so there is  $R \in N$  s.t.

$$N \models (\omega, R) \cong (\aleph_1^M, \epsilon)$$

By assumption,  $R \in M$  so by absoluteness of wellfoundedness

$M \models (\omega, R)$  is wellfounded, so

$$M \models (\omega, R) \cong (\alpha, \epsilon)$$

so  $\alpha = \aleph_1^M$  and thus  $M \models \aleph_1^M$  is countable. Contradiction!

(ii) Suppose  $M \models CH$ .

i.e.,  $M \models \exists f: \mathcal{P}(\omega) \rightarrow \aleph_1$  bijection

By assumption  $\mathcal{P}(\omega)^M = \mathcal{P}(\omega)^N$ .

By (i),  $\aleph_1^M = \aleph_1^N$ .

Since  $M \subseteq N$ ,  $f \in N$ .

So  $N \models \exists f: \mathcal{P}(\omega) \rightarrow \aleph_1$  bijection.

Thus  $N \models CH$ . q.e.d.

Remark So, if I want to make CH true in an inner model, I cannot include all subsets of  $\omega$ . [Unless we already had CH in the bigger model.]

Theorem If  $M \subseteq N$  is transitive s.t. " $x$  is a cardinal" is absolute between  $M$  and  $N$ .

Then  $N \models CH \implies M \models CH$ .

Proof. Suppose  $M \models \neg CH$ , i.e., there is some surjection  $f: \mathcal{P}(\omega) \rightarrow \aleph_2^M \in M$ .  
But by assumption,  $\aleph_1^M = \aleph_1^N$  and  $\aleph_2^M = \aleph_2^N$  and  $f \in N \supseteq M$ , so  $N \models f: \mathcal{P}(\omega) \rightarrow \aleph_2$  is a surj.  
 $\implies N \models \neg CH$ . q.e.d.

Corollary

if  $M \subseteq N$  and

$\kappa(\omega)^M = \kappa(\omega)^N$  and

" $x$  is a cardinal" is absolute between  $M$  &  $N$

then

$M \models CH \iff N \models CH$ .