

Around Shelah's logic L_{κ}^1

Andrés Villaveces - *Universidad Nacional de Colombia - Bogotá*

CMU (Virtual) Model Theory Seminar - March 2021

TODAY AND NEXT THURSDAY

Session I: Shelah's logic L_{κ}^1

Logics “appropriate for model theory”

Shelah's new logic

Basic properties of L_{κ}^1

Serious Properties of L_{κ}^1

Session II: approximation from below: $L_{\kappa}^{1,c}$

Variants: Approximations from above: chain logic, ...

WHEN IS A LOGIC “APPROPRIATE” FOR MODEL THEORY?

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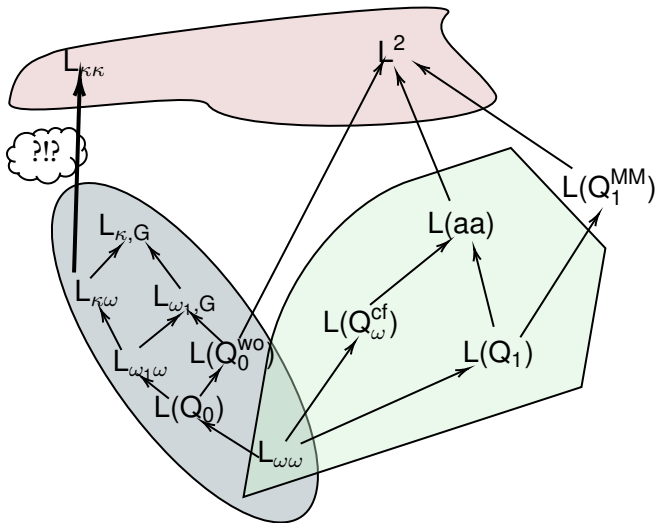
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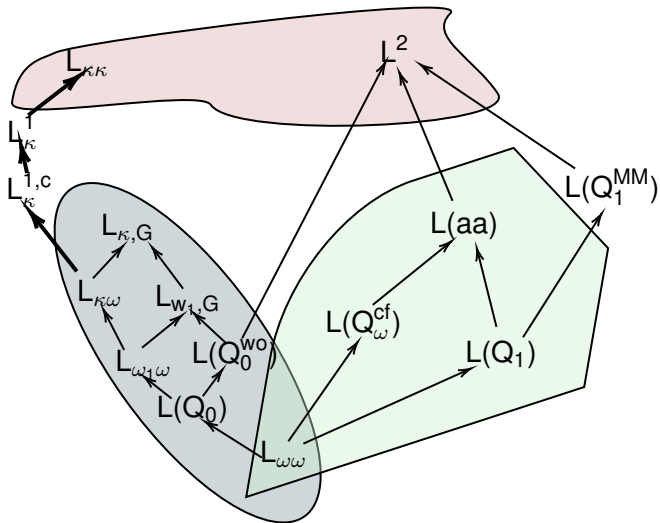
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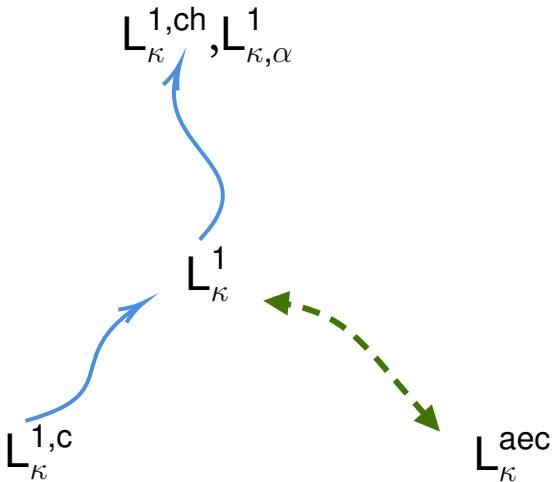
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- ▶ $L_{\kappa,\lambda}$... It depends strongly on κ (and λ)
- ▶ Väänänen: “infinitary logic may still serve as a ‘yardstick’ for model theoretic constructs, permits fragments of model theory and is preserved under (reasonable) forcing”...

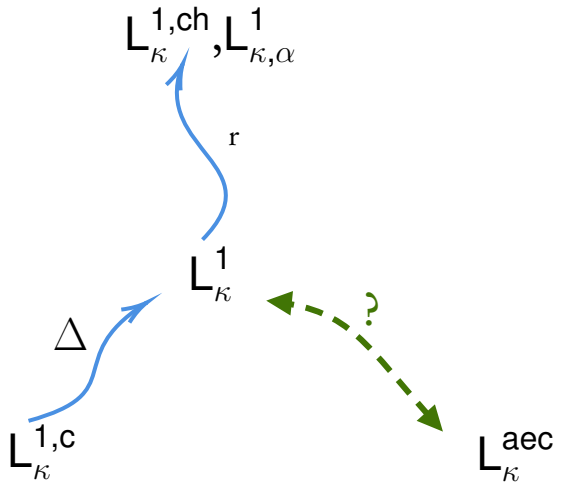
A (VÄÄNÄNEN) MAP OF VARIOUS INFINITARY LOGICS



NEW LOGICS







INTERPOLATION

- ▶ $L_{\kappa+\omega}$ (Craig) vs $L_{(2^\kappa)+\kappa+}$ (Malitz 1971).

INTERPOLATION

- ▶ **Craig**($L_{\kappa+\omega}, L_{(2^\kappa)+\kappa+}$) (Malitz 1971).
 If $\varphi \vdash \psi$, where φ is a τ_1 -sentence and ψ is a τ_2 -sentence and both are in $L_{\kappa+\omega}$ then there exists $\chi \in L_{(2^\kappa)+\kappa+}(\tau_1 \cap \tau_2)$ such that

$$\varphi \vdash \chi \vdash \psi.$$

- ▶ The original argument used “consistency properties”. Other proofs have stressed the “Topological Separation” aspect of Interpolation.

SO WHAT ABOUT “BALANCING” INTERPOLATION?

- ▶ Problem: Find L^* such that

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- ▶ Shelah, 2012: For singular strong limit κ of cofinality ω there is a logic L_{κ}^1 such that

$$\bigcup_{\lambda < \kappa} L_{\lambda+\omega} \leq L_{\kappa}^1 \leq \bigcup_{\lambda < \kappa} L_{\lambda+\lambda^+}$$

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- ▶ Moreover, in the case $\kappa = \beth_{\kappa}$, the logic L_{κ}^1 also has a Lindström-type characterization as the **maximal** logic with a peculiar strong form of undefinability of well-order.

LINDSTRÖM'S THEOREM

- ▶ A model theoretic characterization of first order logic.
- ▶ **Maximal** w.r.t. the Compactness Theorem and the Downward Löwenheim-Skolem Theorem.

DECOMPOSING “USUAL” PROOFS OF LINDSTRÖM'S THEOREM

- ▶ Build an EF-game, and its approximations.
- ▶ This gives also a model theoretic proof of Craig Interpolation.
- ▶ Craig's Theorem and Lindström's Theorem reveal parallel phenomena.

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- ▶ Shelah's L_{κ}^1 is not really defined as usual; rather, it is defined by declaring what its **elementary equivalence** relation is.

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- ▶ This elementary equivalence relation is given by an **EF-game** type equivalence.
- ▶ Then... what is the **syntax** of Shelah's logic?
- ▶ We describe two partial answers, one approaching from below (Väänänen-V.), the other one from above (Džamonja, Väänänen).

SHELAH'S GAME $\mathfrak{D}_{\theta}^{\beta}(M, N)$.

ANTI	ISO
$\beta_0 < \beta, \vec{a}^0$	
	$f_0 : \vec{a}^0 \rightarrow \omega, g_0 : M \rightarrow N$ a p.i.
$\beta_1 < \beta_0, \vec{b}^1$	$f_1 : \vec{a}^1 \rightarrow \omega, g_1 : M \rightarrow N$ a p.i., $g_1 \supseteq g_0$
\vdots	\vdots

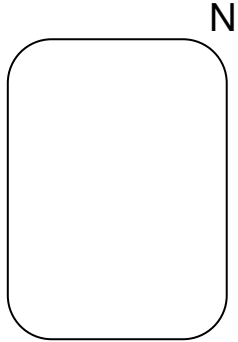
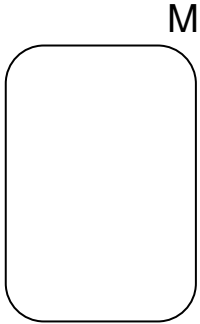
Constraints:

- ▶ $\text{len}(\vec{a}^n) \leq \theta$
- ▶ $f_{2n}^{-1}(m) \subseteq \text{dom}(g_{2n})$ for $m \leq n$.
- ▶ $f_{2n+1}^{-1}(m) \subseteq \text{ran}(g_{2n})$ for $m \leq n$.

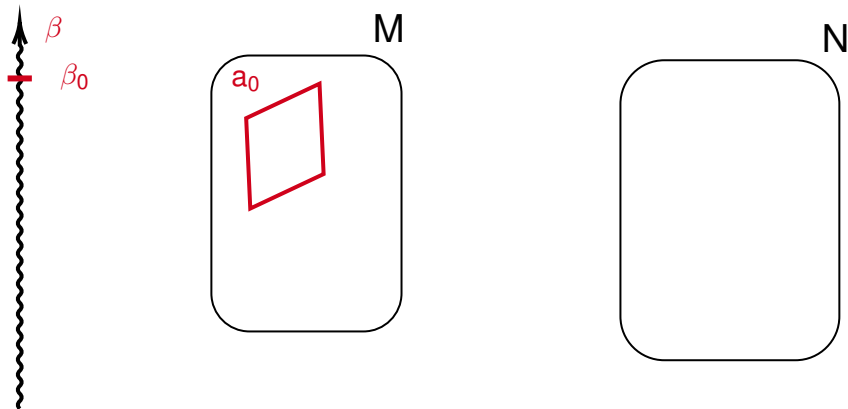
ISO **wins** if she can play all her moves, otherwise ANTI wins.

- ▶ $M \sim_{\theta}^{\beta} N$ iff ISO has a winning strategy in the game.
- ▶ $M \equiv_{\theta}^{\beta} N$ is defined as the transitive closure of $M \sim_{\theta}^{\beta} N$.
- ▶ A union of $\leq \beth_{\beta+1}(\theta)$ equivalence classes of \equiv_{θ}^{β} for some $\theta < \kappa$ and $\beta < \theta^+$ is called a **sentence** of L_{κ}^1 .

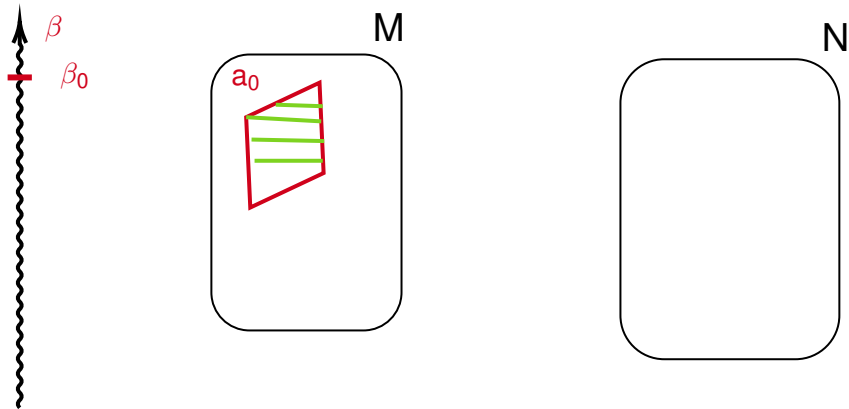
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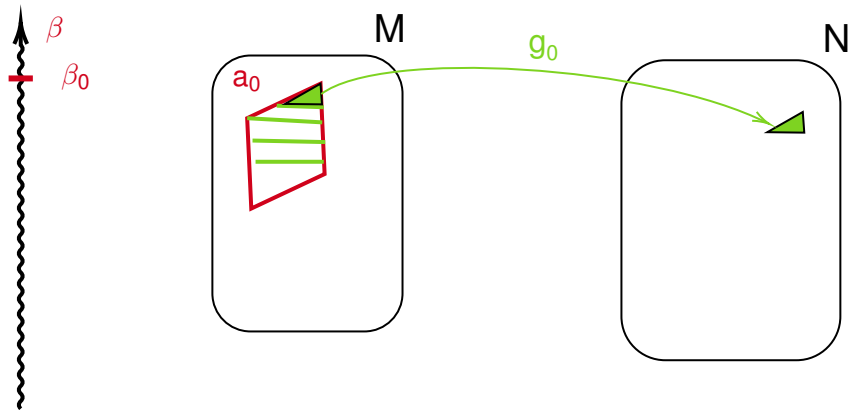
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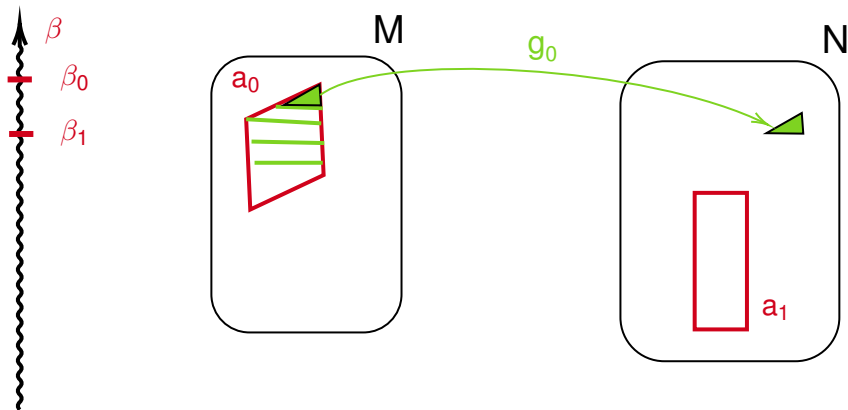
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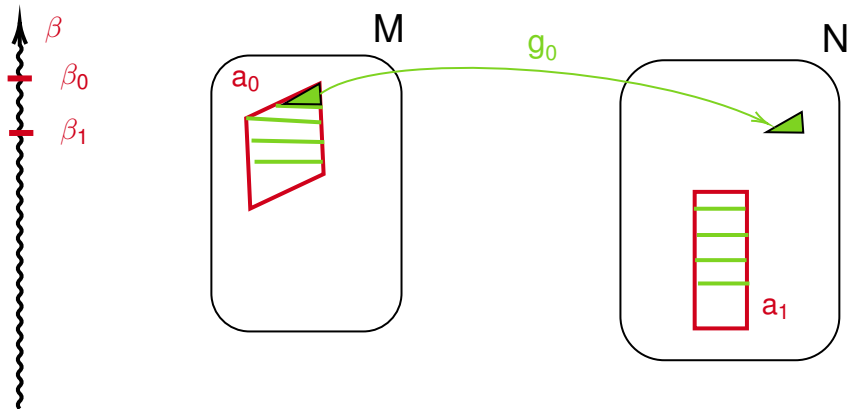
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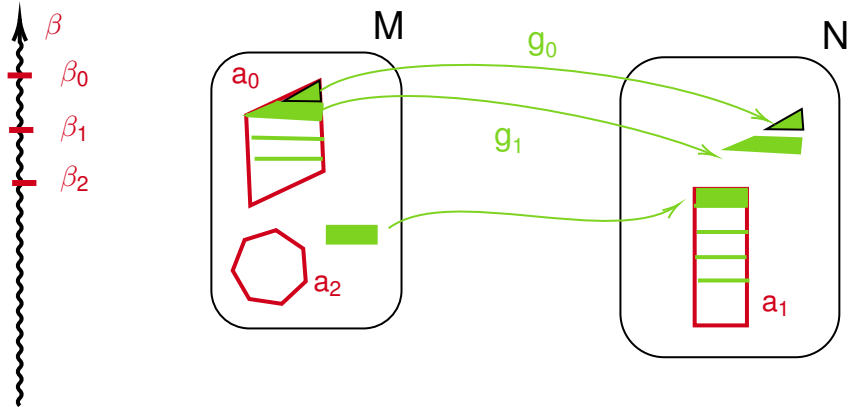
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SHELAH'S GAME $\mathfrak{D}_{\theta}^{\beta}(M, N)$.



THE DEFINITION OF L_{κ}^1 -SENTENCES - AGAIN

- ▶ For M, N τ -structures, θ a cardinal, $\alpha \leq \theta$ an ordinal, $M \sim_{\theta}^{\beta} N$ iff ISO has a winning strategy in $\mathfrak{D}_{\theta}^{\beta}(M, N)$,
- ▶ $M \equiv_{\theta}^{\beta} N$ is defined as the transitive closure of $M \sim_{\theta}^{\beta} N$,
- ▶ A union of $\leq \beth_{\beta+1}(\theta)$ equivalence classes of \equiv_{θ}^{β} for some $\theta < \kappa$ and $\beta < \theta^+$ is called a **sentence** of L_{κ}^1 .

COMPARISON WITH OTHER LOGICS: WHERE IS L_{κ}^1 ?

$$\bigcup_{\lambda < \theta} L_{\lambda^+, \omega} \leq L_{\leq \theta}^1 \leq \bigcup_{\lambda < \beth_{\theta^+}} L_{\lambda^+, \lambda^+}$$

Key Lemma for second dominance:

$$M_1 \equiv_{L_{\beth_{\beta(\theta)^+, \theta^+}} M_2 (\forall \beta < \theta) \implies M_1 \sim_{\mathfrak{D}_{\leq \theta}^{< \theta^+}} M_2$$

(Induction on β : if s is a state in $\mathfrak{D}_{\leq \theta}^{< \theta^+}$, $\varphi(\bar{x})$ is a formula of $L_{\beth_{\beta(\theta)^+, \theta^+}$ such that

$$M_1 \models \varphi[\text{dom}(g_s)] \leftrightarrow M_2 \models \varphi[\text{ran}(g_s)]$$

then s is a winning state for ISO in $\mathfrak{D}_{\leq \theta}^{< \theta^+}$.)

“CRUCIAL CLAIM”: CLOSURE UNDER UNIONS OF ω -CHAINS

Given $(M_n)_{n < \omega}$ a sequence of τ -structures and given $\psi(\bar{z}) \in L_{\leq \theta}^1(\tau)$,
 if

$$M_n \prec_{L_{\partial^+, \theta^+}} M_{n+1}, \text{ for all } n < \omega, \partial = \beth_{\theta^+}$$

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then

$$M_n \equiv_{L_{\theta}^1} M_{\omega} := \bigcup_{n < \omega} M_n$$

and

$$\forall \bar{a} \in {}^{\text{lg}(\bar{z})} M_0 \quad M_n \models \psi[\bar{a}] \Leftrightarrow M_{\omega} \models \psi[\bar{a}] \text{ for all } n < \omega.$$

(WEAK) DOWNWARD LÖWENHEIM-SKOLEM FOR L_{κ}^1

Assuming $\kappa = \beth_{\kappa}$,

for every sentence $\psi \in L_{\kappa}^1$, if there exists M such that $M \models \psi$ then there exists a model $N \models \psi$, N of cardinality $< \kappa$.

for every $\psi \in L_{\kappa}^1$ there is $\partial < \kappa$ such that: if N is a model of ψ of cardinality λ and $\mu = \mu^{<\partial}$ then some submodel M of N of cardinality μ is a model of ψ

THE VERSION OF UNDEFINABILITY OF WELL-ORDERING

For this, the assumption $\kappa = \beth_{\kappa}$ seems crucial all along.

SUDWO (Strong Undefinability of Well Ordering):

If $\psi \in L_{\kappa}^1(\tau)$, $|\tau| < \kappa$, $<$, R are binary predicates, c_1, c_2 constants from τ , THEN for every large enough $\mu_1 < \kappa$ for arbitrarily large $\mu_2 < \kappa$ we have:

if $\lambda > \mu_2$, \mathfrak{A} is a τ -expansion of $(H(\lambda), \in, \mu_1, \mu_2, <)$, with $<$ the order on ordinals, $R^{\mathfrak{A}}$ being \in , $c_1^{\mathfrak{A}} = \mu_1$, $c_2^{\mathfrak{A}} = \mu_2 \dots$ then there is \mathfrak{B} , a_n, d_n ($n < \omega$) such that

- ▶ $\mathfrak{B} \models \psi \Leftrightarrow \mathfrak{A} \models \psi$,
- ▶ $\mathfrak{B} \models d_{n+1} < d_n < \mu_2$ for $n < \omega$,
- ▶ $\mathfrak{B} \models a_n \subseteq a_{n+1}$ has cardinality $\leq \mu_1$,
- ▶ if $e \in \mathfrak{B}$ and $\mathfrak{B} \models |e| \leq \mu_1$ then $\mathfrak{B} \models e \subseteq a_n$ for some n

THE LINDSTRÖM-LIKE THEOREM

Let \mathcal{L} be “a logic”, let $\kappa = \beth_{\kappa}$. If \mathcal{L} satisfies the following properties:

- ▶ \mathcal{L} is nice (natural closure properties),
- ▶ the occurrence number of \mathcal{L} is $\leq \kappa$,
- ▶ $L_{\theta^+, \omega} \leq \mathcal{L}$, for $\theta < \kappa$,
- ▶ \mathcal{L} satisfies SUDWO,

THEN

$$\mathcal{L} \leq L_{\kappa}^1.$$

PLAN

Session I: Shelah's logic L_{κ}^1

Logics “appropriate for model theory”

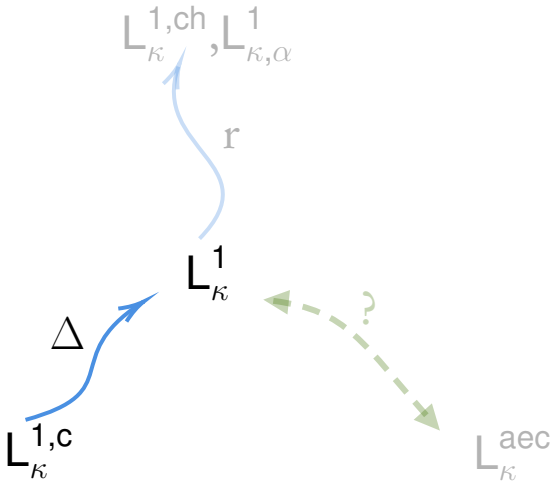
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Variants: Approximations from above: chain logic, ...



APPROACHING L_{κ}^1 FROM BELOW (MOD Δ)

- ▶ Joint work with **J. Väänänen**
- ▶ We define a sublogic $L_{\kappa}^{1,c}$ of L_{κ}^1 (“Cartagena Logic”) then the following is a formula of $L_{\kappa}^{1,c}$:

$$\forall \vec{x} \bigvee_f \bigwedge_n \phi_{f,n}(\vec{x}, \vec{y}).$$

- ▶ $L_{\kappa}^{1,c}$ has a recursive syntax.
- ▶ Many (but not all) of the nice properties of L_{κ}^1 also hold for $L_{\kappa}^{1,c}$,
- ▶ The “distance” between the two logics is not large (Δ).

SYNTAX OF $L_{\kappa}^{1,c}$

Suppose $2^{\theta} < \kappa$. The formulas of $L_{\kappa,\theta}^{1,c}$ are built from atomic formulas and their negations by means of the operation \bigwedge_I, \bigvee_I , where $|I| < \kappa$, and the following two operations:

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Suppose $\phi_A(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$, $A \subseteq \theta$, are formulas of $L_{\kappa,\theta}^{1,c}$ such that of the variables $\vec{x} = \langle x_{\alpha} : \alpha < \theta \rangle$ only those x_{α} for which $\alpha \in A$ occur free in $\phi_A(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$.

$$\forall \vec{x} \bigvee_f \bigwedge_n \phi_{f^{-1}(n)}(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$$

$$\exists \vec{x} \bigwedge_f \bigvee_n \phi_{f^{-1}(n)}(\vec{x}, \vec{y}),$$

where $\vec{x} = \langle x_{\alpha} : \alpha < \theta' \rangle$, $\theta' \leq \theta$ and $f : \theta' \rightarrow \omega$.

$$\forall \vec{x} \bigvee_f \bigwedge_n \phi_{f^{-1}(n)}(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$$

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where $\vec{x} = \langle x_\alpha : \alpha < \theta' \rangle$, $\theta' \leq \theta$ and $f : \theta' \rightarrow \omega$.

$$L_{\kappa}^{1,c} = \bigcup_{\theta < \kappa} L_{\kappa, \theta}^{1,c}$$

Subformulas of such formulas are the $\phi_A(\vec{x}, \vec{y})$, where $A \subseteq \theta'$. Thus the number of subformulas of such a formula is $2^{|\theta'|}$.

CARDINALITY QUANTIFIERS MAY BE CAPTURED: $|P| < \theta$

Example

Let $\theta < \kappa$ such that $\text{cof}(\theta) > \omega$. Let $\text{len}(\vec{x}) = \theta$. The sentence

$$\forall \vec{x} \bigvee_{f: n \rightarrow \theta} \bigwedge_{f(i)=n} P(x_i) \rightarrow \bigvee_{i \neq j \in f^{-1}(n)} (x_i = x_j)$$

says $|P| < \theta$.

AN EXAMPLE OF EXPRESSIVE POWER: NO LONG CHAINS

Example

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$$\forall \vec{x} \bigvee_{f} \bigwedge_n \bigwedge_{i \neq j \in f^{-1}(n)} \neg x_i < x_j$$

says $<$ has no chains of length θ .

A COVERING PROPERTY: THE COMBINATORIAL CORE OF L_{κ}^1 !

The combinatorial core of Shelah's L_{κ}^1 is captured by $L_{\kappa}^{1,c}$...

Example

Let $\theta < \kappa$ such that $\text{cof}(\theta) > \omega$. Let $\text{len}(\vec{x}) = \theta$ and $\text{len}(\vec{y}) = \omega$. The sentence

$$\forall \vec{x} \bigvee_{f} \bigwedge_n \exists \vec{y} \bigwedge_g \bigvee_m \bigwedge_{f(i)=n} \bigvee_{g(j)=m} R(y_j, x_i)$$

says every set of size $\leq \theta$ can be covered by countably many sets of the form $R(\mathbf{a}, \cdot)$.

Corollary

Suppose $\theta < \kappa$. There is a sentence in $L_{\kappa}^{1,c}$ which has a model of cardinality θ if and only if $\theta^{\omega} = \theta$.

THE EF-GAME OF $L_{\kappa}^{1,c} : \exists_{\theta}^{\beta,c}(M, N)$.

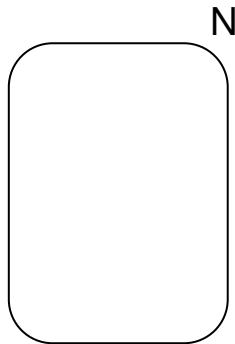
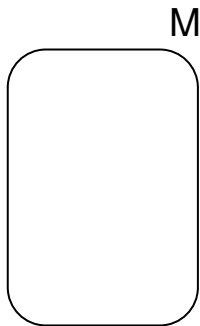
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Constraints:

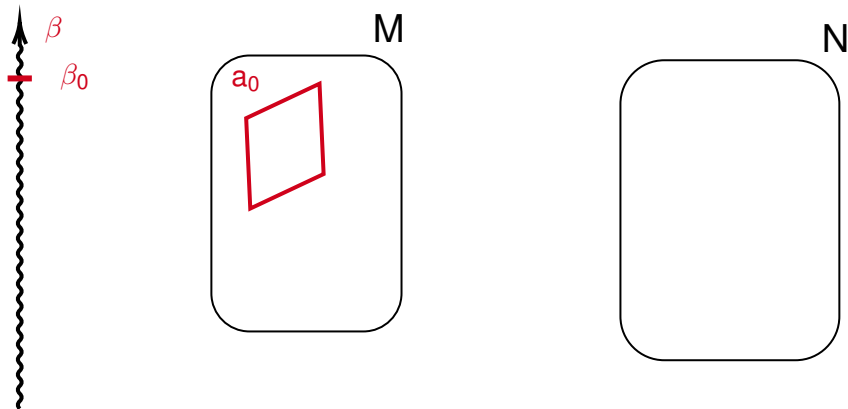
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Player II **wins** if she can play all her moves, otherwise Player I wins.

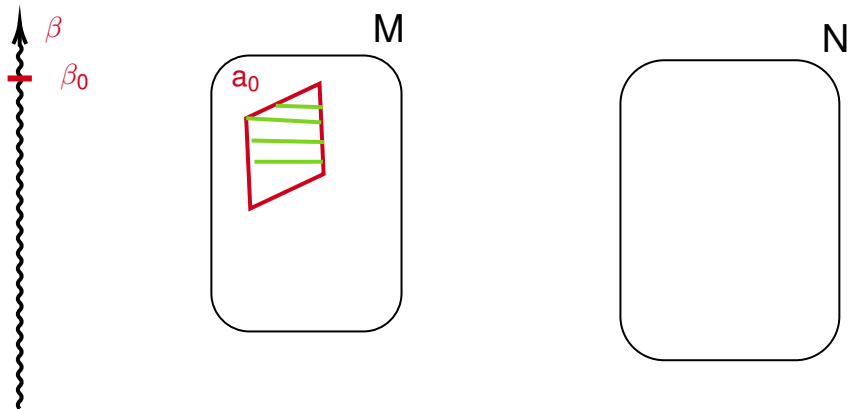
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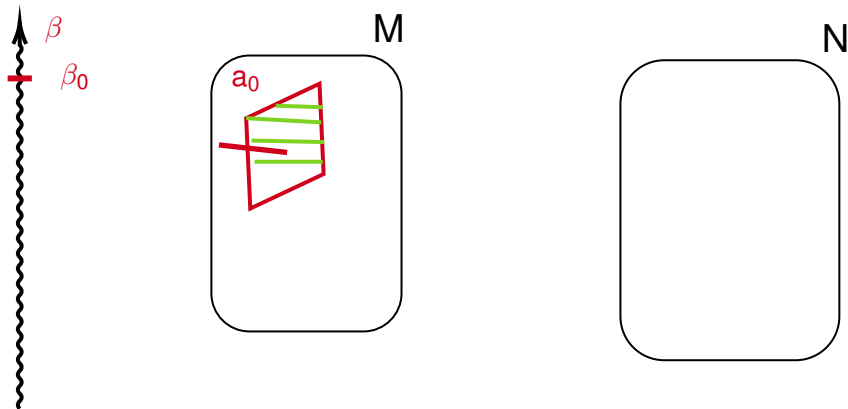
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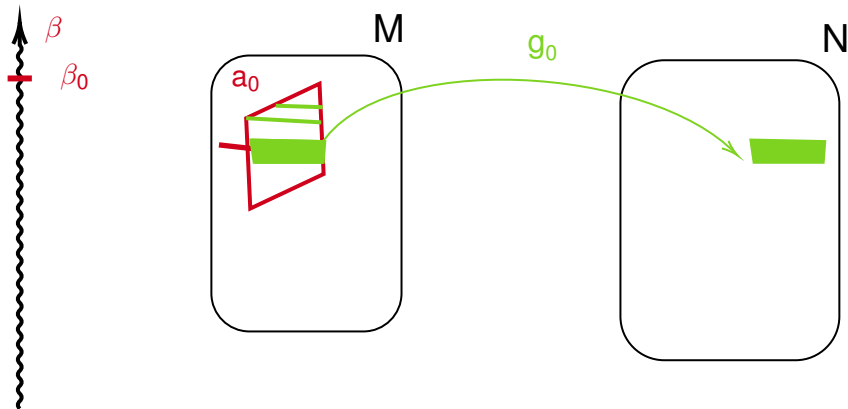
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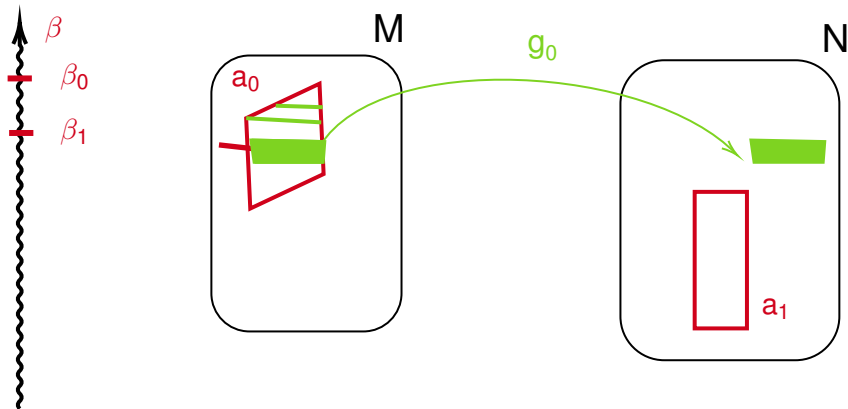
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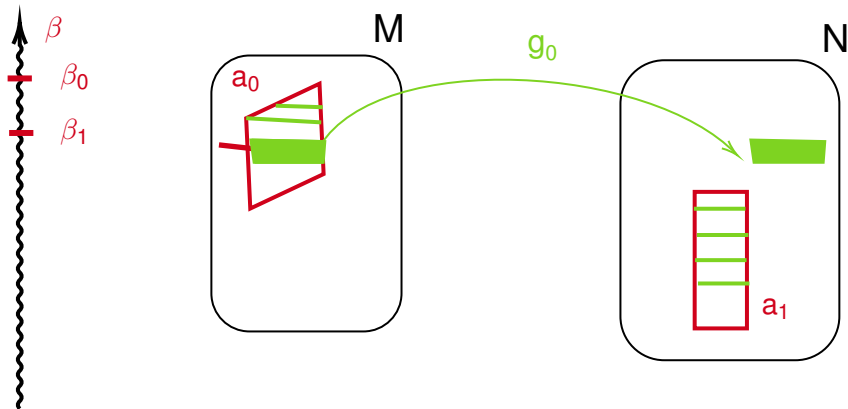
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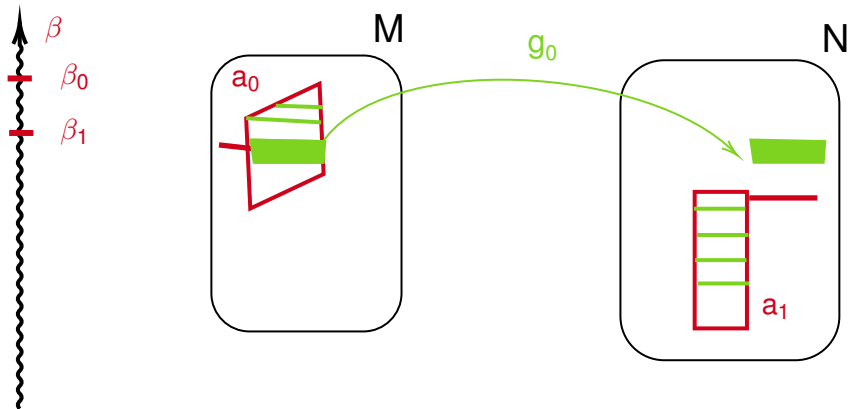
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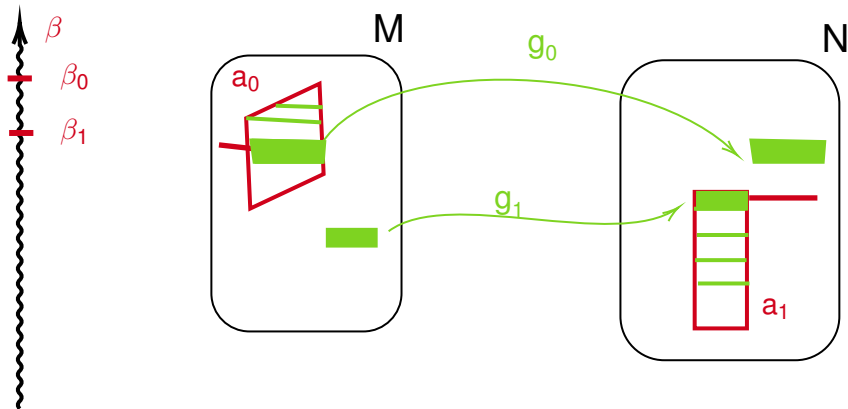
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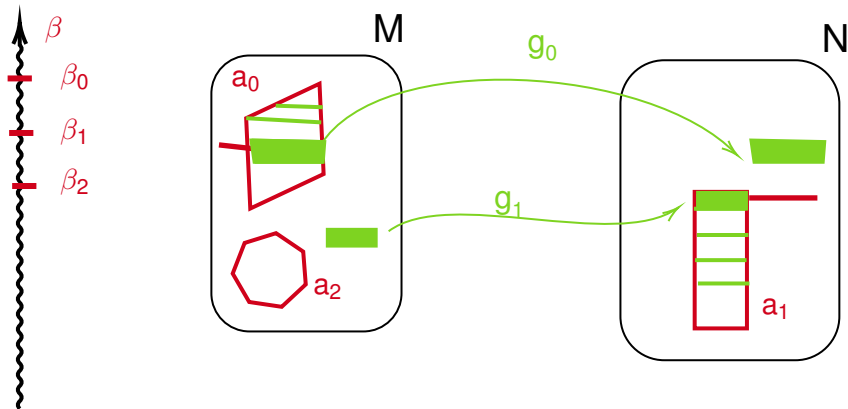
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Theorem

The following are equivalent:

1. *Player II has a winning strategy in $\mathfrak{D}_{\theta}^{\beta,c}(M, N)$.*
2. *M and N satisfy the same sentences of $L_{\theta^+}^{1,c}$ of quantifier rank $\leq \beta$.*

Corollary

$$L_{\kappa}^{1,c} \leq L_{\kappa}^1.$$

UNION PROPERTY OF $L_{\kappa}^{1,c}$

Suppose Γ is a fragment of L_{κ}^c , i.e. a set of formulas closed under subformulas.

$M_n \prec_{\Gamma} M_{n+1}$ means that for formulas $\varphi(\bar{x})$ in Γ and $\bar{a} \in M_n$ we have

$$M_n \models \varphi(\bar{a}) \quad \rightarrow \quad M_{n+1} \models \varphi(\bar{a}).$$

Lemma (Union Lemma)

If $M_n \prec_{\Gamma} M_{n+1}$ for all $n < \omega$, then $M_n \prec_{\Gamma} M_{\omega}$ where $M_{\omega} = \bigcup_n M_n$.

PROOF OF THE UNION LEMMA

Lemma (Union Lemma)

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Proof: Easy direction: $M_n \models \exists \bar{x} \wedge_f \bigvee_n \varphi_{f^{-1}(n)}(\bar{x}, \bar{a})$ implies
 $M_{\omega} \models \exists \bar{x} \wedge_f \bigvee_n \varphi_{f^{-1}(n)}(\bar{x}, \bar{a})$.

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$M_{\omega} \models \exists \bar{x} \wedge_f \bigvee_n \varphi_{f^{-1}(n)}(\bar{x}, \bar{a})$.

“Hard direction:” $M_n \models \forall \bar{x} \bigvee_f \bigwedge_n \varphi_{f^{-1}(n)}(\bar{x}, \bar{a})$ implies $M_{\omega} \models \forall \bar{x} \bigvee_f \bigwedge_n \varphi_{f^{-1}(n)}(\bar{x}, \bar{a})$.

So let $A \in [M_{\omega}]^{\theta}$, $\theta < \kappa$. We treat $A \cap M_m$ separately for each m .

Since $M_m \models \forall \bar{x} \bigvee_f \bigwedge_n \varphi_{f^{-1}(n)}(\bar{x}, \bar{a})$, there is $f_m : A \cap M_m \rightarrow \omega$ such that

$M_m \models \bigwedge_n \varphi_{f_m^{-1}(n)}(A \cap M_m, \bar{a})$.

PROOF OF THE UNION LEMMA

Lemma (Union Lemma)

If $M_n \prec_{\Gamma} M_{n+1}$ for all $n < \omega$, then $M_n \prec_{\Gamma} M_{\omega}$ where $M_{\omega} = \bigcup_n M_n$.

Proof: Easy direction: $M_n \models \exists \bar{x} \wedge_f \bigvee_n \varphi_{f^{-1}(n)}(\bar{x}, \bar{a})$ implies

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$M_m \models \bigwedge_n \varphi_{f_m^{-1}(n)}(A \cap M_m, \bar{a})$. Let (e.g.) $f(a) = 2^m \cdot 3^{f_m(a)}$ for the smallest m such that $a \in M_m$. This f is the move of II. Then I plays m .

Claim

$M_{\omega} \models \varphi_{f^{-1}(m)}(A \cap f^{-1}(m), \bar{a})$.

But this follows from the Induction Hypothesis as $A \cap f^{-1}(m) = A \cap f_k^{-1}(m')$ for

some m', k and $M_k \models \varphi_{f_k^{-1}(m')} (A \cap f_k^{-1}(m'), \bar{a})$. □

A CONSEQUENCE OF THE UNION LEMMA

Theorem

Assume $\kappa = \beth_{\kappa}$. Then $\Delta(L_{\kappa}^{1,c}) = L_{\kappa}^1$.

Further properties include

- ▶ LS theorems
- ▶ Undefinability of well order
- ▶ $\Delta(L_{\kappa}^c)$ contains any logic that satisfies the Union Lemma for $\prec_{\theta+\theta+}$, for arbitrary large $\theta < \kappa$. Shelah's L_{κ}^1 is one such logic.

Note: Undefinability of well-order is a consequence of the LS property and the Union Lemma.

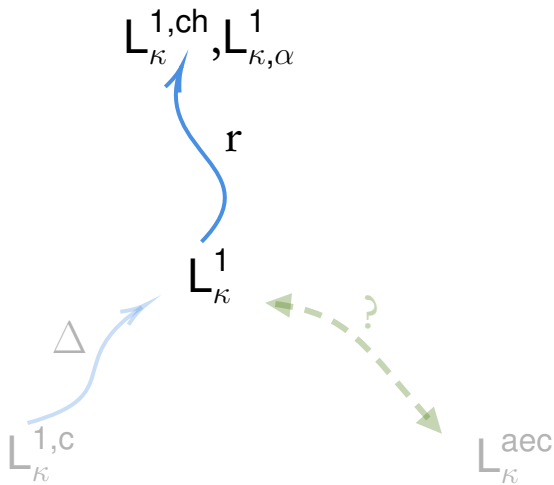
WHAT IS $\Delta(L)$?

- ▶ A model class \mathcal{K} is $\Sigma(L)$ if it is the class of relativized reducts of an L -definable model class.
- ▶ A model class \mathcal{K} is $\Delta(L)$ if both \mathcal{K} and its complement are $\Sigma(L)$.
- ▶ $\Delta(L_{\omega\omega}) = L_{\omega\omega}$
- ▶ $\Delta(L_{\omega_1\omega}) = L_{\omega_1\omega}$
- ▶ $\Delta(\Delta(L)) = \Delta(L)$
- ▶ Δ preserves compactness, axiomatizability, Löwenheim-Skolem properties...

THE ADVANTAGES OF $L_{\kappa}^{1,c}$

- ▶ Simple syntax.
- ▶ Can express what L_{κ}^1 does, at least implicitly.
- ▶ Its Δ -extension has Craig and Lindström Theorem.
- ▶ Undefinability of well-ordering is (also) a consequence of Caicedo's theorem on rigid structures and Uniform Reducibility of Pairs.

MUSINGS ON APPROXIMATION FROM ABOVE



I: CHAIN LOGIC $L_{\kappa}^{1,ch}$: CAROL KARP

(This is recent work of Džamonja and Väänänen)

- ▶ Syntax: $L_{\kappa\kappa}$, κ singular strong limit of $\text{cof } \omega$.
- ▶ Semantics in chain models ($M_0 \subseteq M_1 \subseteq \dots$)
- ▶ $\exists \vec{x} \phi$ means $\exists \vec{x} ((\bigvee_n \bigwedge_j x_j \in M_n) \wedge \phi)$
- ▶ Craig($L_{\kappa}^{1,ch}$) (E. Cunningham, 1975)
- ▶ $L_{\kappa\omega} < L_{\kappa}^{1,ch} < L_{\kappa\kappa}$
- ▶ $L_{\kappa}^1 \leq L_{\kappa}^{1,c} < L_{\kappa\kappa}$
- ▶ “Chu-transform” (Chu-spaces) is used as a device to compare logics.

II: FROM ABOVE, A NEW GAME (OTHER SPLITTINGS)

- ▶ L_{κ}^1 is robust, but the lack of proper syntax is problematic.
- ▶ Väänänen and Velickovic define a deliberately stronger but simpler logic and then show that it is the same as L_{κ}^1 , under conditions on κ .

THE MODIFIED GAME $G_{\theta, \alpha}^{1, \beta}(M, N)$.

$\beta_0 < \beta, \vec{a}^0$	
	$f_0 : \vec{a}^0 \rightarrow \alpha, g_0 : M \rightarrow N$ a p.i.
$\beta_1 < \beta_0, \vec{b}^1$	
	$f_1 : \vec{a}^0 \cup \vec{b}^1 \rightarrow \alpha, g_1 : M \rightarrow N$ a p.i., $g_1 \supseteq g_0$
\vdots	\vdots

Constraints:

- ▶ $\text{len}(\vec{a}^n) \leq \theta, \text{len}(\vec{b}^n) \leq \theta$.
- ▶ $f_{i+1}(x) < f_i(x)$ if $f_i(x) \neq 0$.
- ▶ $f_{2n}^{-1}(0) \subseteq \text{dom}(g_{2n})$ for $m \leq n$.
- ▶ $f_{2n+1}^{-1}(0) \subseteq \text{ran}(g_{2n})$ for $m \leq n$.

Player II **wins** if she can play all her moves, otherwise Player I wins.

FROM ABOVE, THE VÄÄNÄNEN-VELICKOVIC VARIANT OF THE GAME

- ▶ $G_{\theta,\alpha}^{1,\beta}(M, N)$ is the EF-game of a logic $L_{\theta,\alpha}^1$ up to the quantifier-rank β .
- ▶ If $\omega \leq \alpha \leq \alpha'$ and $\theta \leq \eta$, then $L_{\theta}^1 \leq L_{\theta,\alpha}^1 \leq L_{\theta,\alpha'}^1 \leq L_{\eta^+\eta^+}$.
- ▶ If α is indecomposable, then “Player II has a winning strategy in $G_{\theta,\alpha}^{1,\beta}(M, N)$ ” is transitive and $L_{\kappa,\alpha}^1$ has a syntax (less clear than that of our $L_{\kappa}^{1,c}$).

FROM ABOVE, THE VÄÄNÄNEN-VELICKOVIC VARIANT OF THE GAME

Theorem

If $\kappa = \beth_{\kappa}$ and α is indecomposable, then $L_{\kappa}^1 = L_{\kappa, \alpha}^1$.

COMPARISON OF THE TWO GAMES:

Trivially: If $\beta' \leq \beta$, $\theta' \leq \theta$ and $\alpha \leq \alpha'$, then

$$\text{II} \uparrow G_{\theta, \alpha}^{1, \beta}(A, B) \Rightarrow \text{II} \uparrow G_{\theta', \alpha'}^{1, \beta'}(A, B).$$

Theorem

For every β there is β^ such that*

$$\text{II} \uparrow G_{2\theta, \alpha}^{1, \beta^*}(A, B) \Rightarrow \text{II} \uparrow G_{\theta, \omega}^{1, \beta}(A, B).$$

Here if $\kappa = \beth_{\kappa}$ and $\beta < \kappa$, then $\beta^* < \kappa$. The proof uses a lemma by Komjath and Shelah (A partition theorem for scattered order types. *Combin. Probab. Comput.* 12 (2003), no. 5-6, 621-626.)

For any α let $\text{FS}(\alpha)$ be the tree of all descending sequences of elements of α . We use $\text{len}(\mathbf{s})$ to denote the length of $\mathbf{s} \in \text{FS}(\alpha)$.

Lemma (Komjath-Shelah 2003)





Assume that α is an ordinal and I a set. Set $\lambda = (|\alpha|^{|\alpha|})^{++}$. Suppose $T = \text{FS}(\lambda)$ and $F : T \rightarrow I$. Then there is a subtree

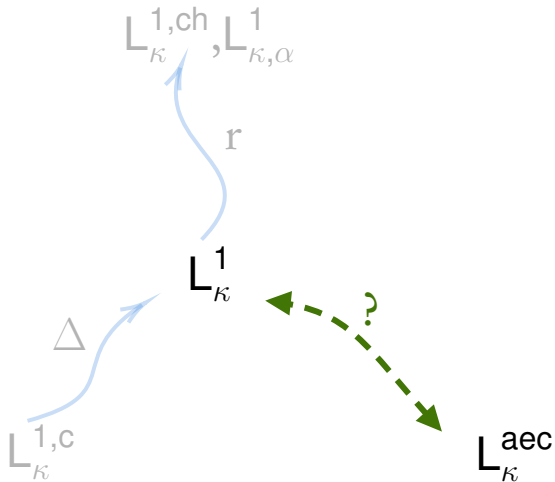
$T^ = \{(\delta_0^{\mathbf{s}}, \dots, \delta_n^{\mathbf{s}}) : \mathbf{s} = (\mathbf{s}_0, \dots, \mathbf{s}_n) \in \text{FS}(\alpha)\}$ of T and a function $\mathbf{c} : \omega \rightarrow I$ such that for all $\mathbf{s} \in T^*$ we have $F(\mathbf{s}) = \mathbf{c}(\text{len}(\mathbf{s}))$.*

THANK YOU!

For your attention!

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THE CANONICAL TREE OF AN A.E.C.

This is joint work with Saharon Shelah.

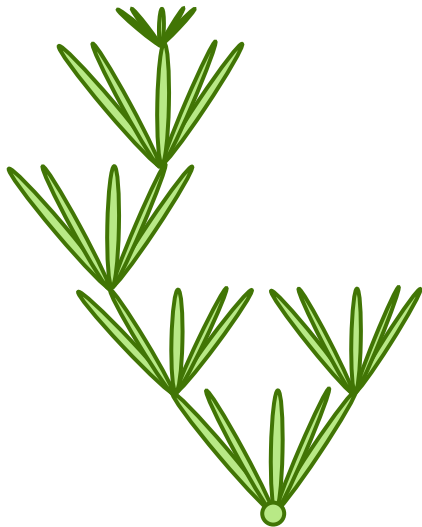
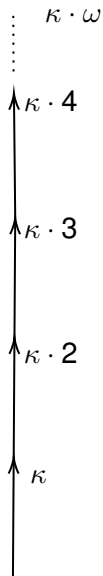
Fix an a.e.c. \mathcal{K} with vocabulary τ and $\text{LS}(\mathcal{K}) = \kappa$.

Let $\lambda = \beth_2(\kappa + |\tau|)^+$.

The **canonical tree** of \mathcal{K} :

- ▶ $\mathcal{S}_n := \{\mathbf{M} \in \mathcal{K} \mid \text{for some } \bar{\alpha} = \bar{\alpha}_{\mathbf{M}} \text{ of length } n, \mathbf{M} \text{ has universe } \{\mathbf{a}_{\alpha}^* \mid \alpha \in \mathbf{S}_{\bar{\alpha}[\mathbf{M}]}\} \text{ and } m < n \Rightarrow \mathbf{M} \upharpoonright \mathbf{S}_{\bar{\alpha} \upharpoonright m[\mathbf{M}]} \prec_{\mathcal{K}} \mathbf{M}\}$ (and $\mathcal{S}_0 = \{\mathbf{M}_{\text{empt}}\}$),
- ▶ $\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}_{\mathcal{K}} := \bigcup_n \mathcal{S}_n$; this is a tree with ω levels under $\prec_{\mathcal{K}}$ (equivalently under \subseteq).

$\mathcal{S}(\mathcal{K})$



$$\mathcal{S} = \mathcal{S}(\mathcal{K})$$

\mathcal{S}_3

\mathcal{S}_2

\mathcal{S}_1

FORMULAS $\varphi_{M,\gamma,n}(\bar{x}_n)$

For M in the canonical tree \mathcal{S} at level n , a formula with $\kappa \cdot n$ free variables, defined by induction on γ .

- ▶ $\gamma = 0$: $\varphi_{0,0} = \top$ (“truth”). If $n > 0$,

$$\varphi_{M,0,n} := \bigwedge \text{Diag}_{\kappa}^n(M),$$

the atomic diagram of M in $\kappa \cdot n$ variables.

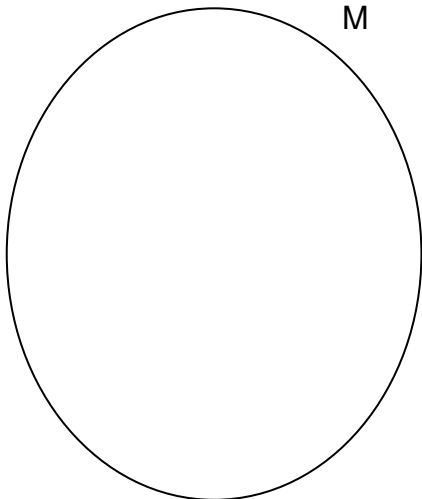
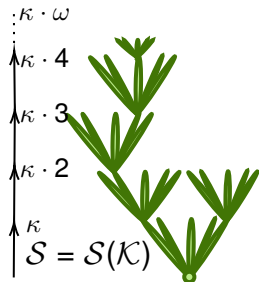
- ▶ γ limit: Then

$$\varphi_{M,\gamma,n}(\bar{x}_n) := \bigwedge_{\beta < \gamma} \varphi_{M,\beta,n}(\bar{x}_n).$$

- ▶ $\gamma = \beta + 1$: Then $\varphi_{M,\gamma,n}(\bar{x}_n)$ is the $L_{\lambda^+, \kappa^+}(\tau)$ formula

$$\forall \bar{z}_{[\kappa]} \bigvee_{\substack{N > \kappa^M \\ N \in \mathcal{S}_{n+1}}} \exists \bar{x}_{=n} \left[\varphi_{N,\beta,n+1}(\bar{x}_{n+1}) \wedge \bigwedge_{\alpha < \alpha_n[N]} \bigvee_{\delta \in \mathcal{S}[N]} z_{\alpha} = x_{\delta} \right]$$

TESTING THE CLASS AGAINST THE TREE - DOES $M \in \mathcal{K}$?



So we have sentences $\varphi_{\gamma,0}$, for $\gamma < \lambda^+$, such that $i < j < \lambda^+$ implies $\varphi_j \rightarrow \varphi_i$. These sentences are better and better approximations of the aec \mathcal{K} ; they describe how small models of the class embed into arbitrary ones.

Let us take a closer look at low levels:

THE CATCH (BEGINNINGS)

When does $M \models \varphi_{1,0}$?

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That is, for every subset Z of M of size $\leq \kappa$ **some** model N in the tree (level 1, of size κ) embeds into M , covering Z .

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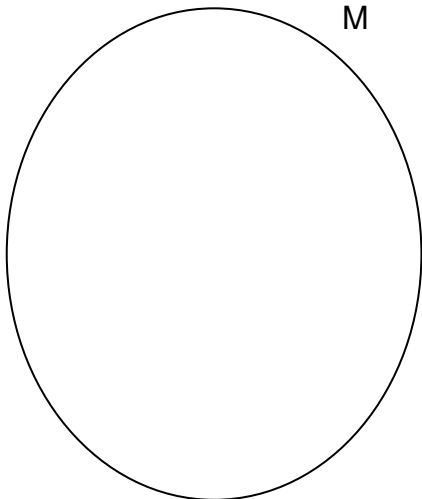
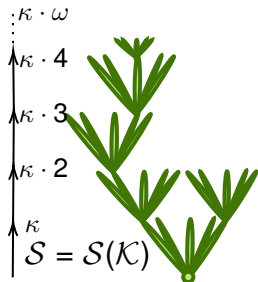
THIS IS SLIGHTLY MORE COMPLICATED TO UNRAVEL:

$$\forall \bar{Z}_{[\kappa]} \forall N \in \mathcal{M}_1 \exists \bar{x}_{=1} \left[\varphi_{N,1,1}(\bar{x}_1) \wedge \bigwedge_{\alpha < \alpha_0[N]} \forall \delta \in S[N] z_\alpha = x_\delta \right]$$

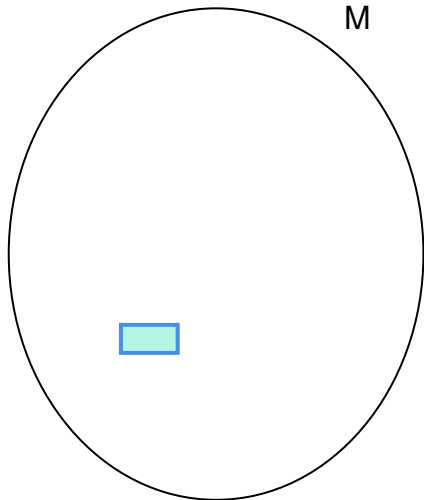
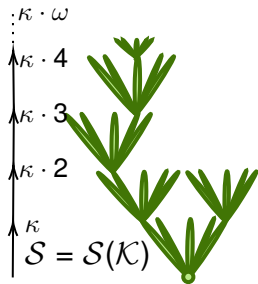
For every subset Z of M of size $\leq \kappa$ **some** model N in the tree (at level 1) M is such that $M \models \varphi_{N,1,1}$, through some “image of N ” covering Z ...

for all $Z' \subset M$ of size κ there is some $N' \succ_{\mathcal{K}} N$ in the canonical tree, at level 2, extending N , such that some tuple $\bar{x}_{=2}$ from M covers Z' and is the “image” of N' by an embedding

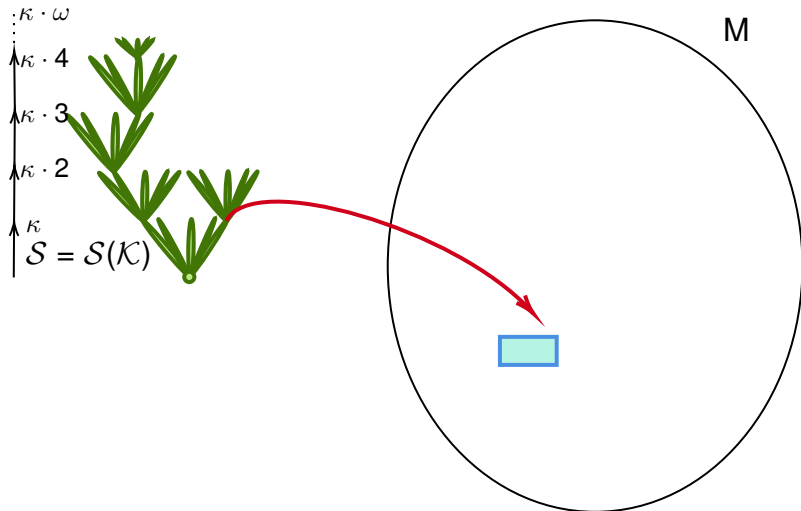
THE MEZCAL TEST - DOES $M \in \mathcal{K}$?



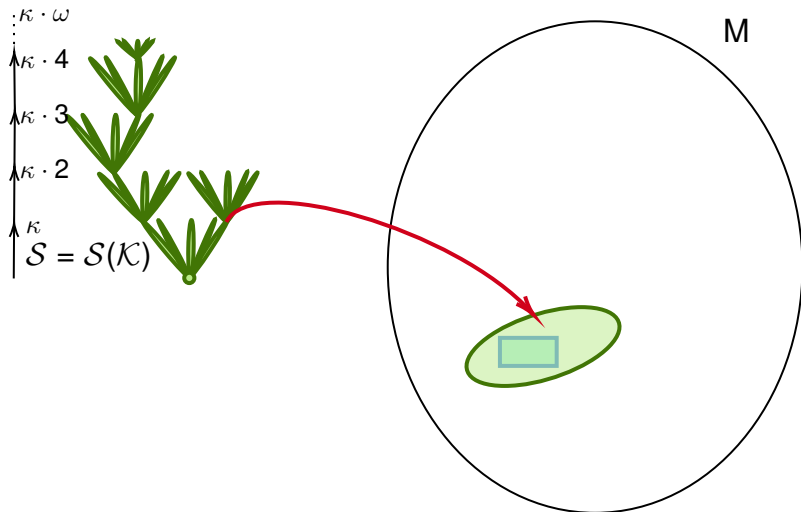
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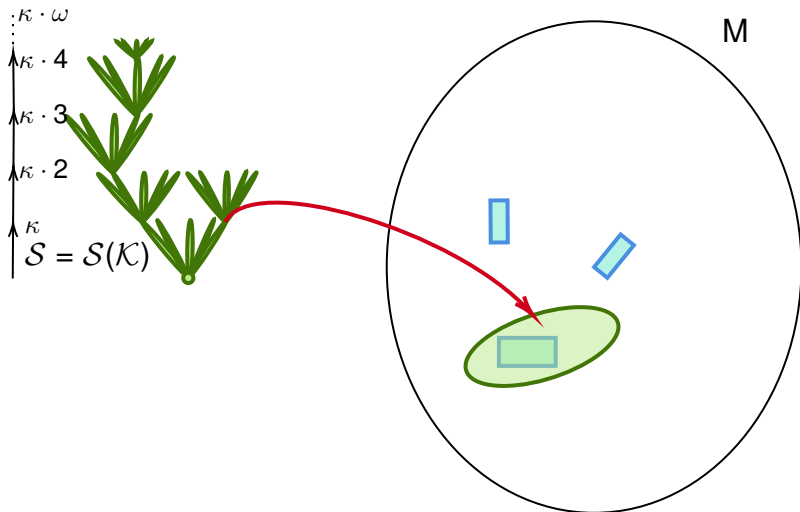
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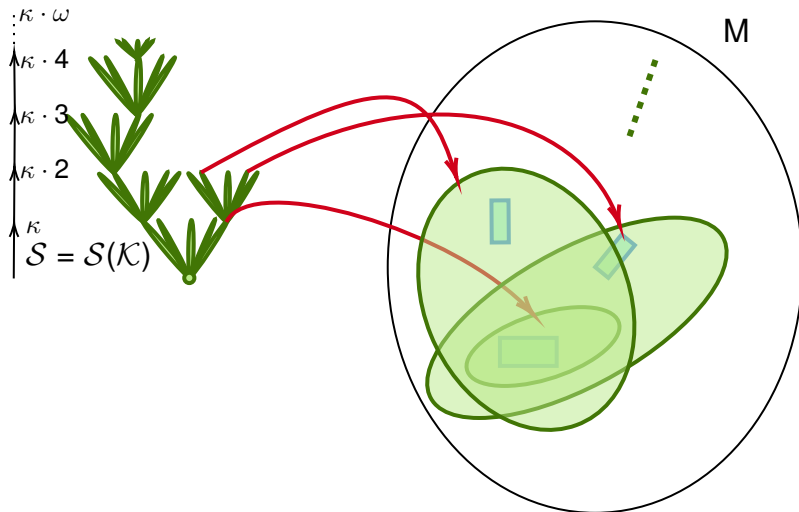
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THE MEZCAL TEST - DOES $M \in \mathcal{K}$?



Theorem

$M \in \mathcal{K}$ implies $M \models \varphi_{\gamma,0}$ for each $\gamma < \lambda^+$

Theorem

$M \models \varphi_{\exists_2(\kappa)^{++}, 2, 0}$ *implies* $M \in \mathcal{K}$

This much harder implication requires understanding the tree of possible embeddings of small models; the partition property due to Komjath and Shelah is the key...

The same partition property that worked for Väänänen and Velickovic's reduction of the game!

The tree property enables us to “reconstruct” \mathbf{M} (satisfying $\varphi_{\lambda+2,0}$ as a limit of models of size κ , in the class \mathcal{K}).

With this we can

- ▶ define “quantificational depth” of an aec (variants of Baldwin-Shelah (building on Mekler and Eklöf) give examples of high quantificational depth)...
- ▶ get definability of the “strong submodel relation” $\prec_{\mathcal{K}}$... and genuine variants of a Tarski-Vaught test
- ▶ a grip on biinterpretability of AECs...