

On the structure of the blurry HOD hierarchy

Gunter Fuchs
CUNY

Kobe-Waseda joint set theory seminar

Nov. 2, 2023

The starting point

An object is ordinal definable if it is the **unique** object satisfying a formula involving ordinal parameters.

The starting point

An object is ordinal definable if it is the **unique** object satisfying a formula involving ordinal parameters.

We want to weaken this notion.

Blurring definability

Definition (ZF)

Let $\kappa > 1$ be a cardinal, and let a be a set.

A $<\kappa$ -blurry definition of a is an OD set A of cardinality less than κ with $a \in A$.

Blurring definability

Definition (ZF)

Let $\kappa > 1$ be a cardinal, and let a be a set.

A $<\kappa$ -blurry definition of a is an OD set A of cardinality less than κ with $a \in A$.

The set a is $<\kappa$ -blurrily ordinal definable, or $<\kappa$ -OD, if it has a $<\kappa$ -blurry definition.

Blurring definability

Definition (ZF)

Let $\kappa > 1$ be a cardinal, and let a be a set.

A $<\kappa$ -blurry definition of a is an OD set A of cardinality less than κ with $a \in A$.

The set a is $<\kappa$ -blurrily ordinal definable, or $<\kappa$ -OD, if it has a $<\kappa$ -blurry definition. I will also write $<\kappa$ -OD for the class of all sets that are $<\kappa$ -OD.

Blurring definability

Definition (ZF)

Let $\kappa > 1$ be a cardinal, and let a be a set.

A $<\kappa$ -blurry definition of a is an OD set A of cardinality less than κ with $a \in A$.

The set a is $<\kappa$ -blurrily ordinal definable, or $<\kappa$ -OD, if it has a $<\kappa$ -blurry definition. I will also write $<\kappa$ -OD for the class of all sets that are $<\kappa$ -OD.

The set a is hereditarily $<\kappa$ -blurrily ordinal definable, denoted $<\kappa$ -HOD, iff $\text{TC}(\{a\}) \subseteq <\kappa$ -OD. Again, I write $<\kappa$ -HOD for the class of all $<\kappa$ -HOD sets.

Blurring definability

Definition (ZF)

Let $\kappa > 1$ be a cardinal, and let a be a set.

A $<\kappa$ -blurry definition of a is an OD set A of cardinality less than κ with $a \in A$.

The set a is $<\kappa$ -blurrily ordinal definable, or $<\kappa$ -OD, if it has a $<\kappa$ -blurry definition. I will also write $<\kappa$ -OD for the class of all sets that are $<\kappa$ -OD.

The set a is hereditarily $<\kappa$ -blurrily ordinal definable, denoted $<\kappa$ -HOD, iff $\text{TC}(\{a\}) \subseteq <\kappa$ -OD. Again, I write $<\kappa$ -HOD for the class of all $<\kappa$ -HOD sets.

So an object is $<\kappa$ -blurrily ordinal definable if it is one of fewer than κ objects having a property using ordinal parameters.

History

The case $\kappa = 2$ is (hereditary) ordinal definability (Gödel, Myhill-Scott).

History

The case $\kappa = 2$ is (hereditary) ordinal definability (Gödel, Myhill-Scott).

The case $\kappa = \omega$ is (hereditary) ordinal algebraicity (Hamkins, Leahy).

History

The case $\kappa = 2$ is (hereditary) ordinal definability (Gödel, Myhill-Scott).

The case $\kappa = \omega$ is (hereditary) ordinal algebraicity (Hamkins, Leahy).

The case $\kappa = \omega_1$ was recently proposed and coined (hereditary) “nontypicality” (Tzouvaras).

Three aspects

1. Structural ZF/ZFC results on blurry HOD
2. Interaction with forcing
3. Consistency strength

Proposition (ZF)

Let $2 \leq \kappa < \lambda$ be cardinals.

1. $\text{OD} \subseteq <\kappa\text{-OD} \subseteq <\lambda\text{-OD}.$
2. $<\kappa\text{-HOD}$ is transitive, and $\text{HOD} \subseteq <\kappa\text{-HOD} \subseteq <\lambda\text{-HOD}.$
3. Under AC, $H_\kappa \subseteq <(2^{<\kappa})^+\text{-HOD}.$
4. So under AC, V is the increasing union $\bigcup_{\kappa \in \text{Card}} <\kappa\text{-HOD}.$

$<\kappa$ -HOD is an inner model

Proposition (ZF)

Let $\kappa \geq \omega$ be a cardinal. Then $<\kappa$ -HOD is an inner model.

$<_{\kappa}$ -HOD is an inner model

Proof.

Let $\kappa \geq \omega$. It suffices to show that $<_{\kappa}$ -HOD satisfies the following condition: for every $u \subseteq <_{\kappa}$ -HOD, there is a transitive $v \in <_{\kappa}$ -HOD such that $u \subseteq v$ and $\text{Def}(\langle v, \in \rangle) \subseteq <_{\kappa}$ -HOD.

$<\kappa$ -HOD is an inner model

Proof.

Let $\kappa \geq \omega$. It suffices to show that $<\kappa$ -HOD satisfies the following condition: for every $u \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD, there is a transitive $v \in <\kappa$ -HOD such that $u \subseteq v$ and $\text{Def}(\langle v, \in \rangle) \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD.

So let $u \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD be given. Let $u \subseteq V_\alpha$, and set $v = V_\alpha \cap <\kappa$ -HOD. Clearly, v is transitive, OD and contained in $<\kappa$ -HOD, so $v \in <\kappa$ -HOD, and $u \subseteq v$.

$<\kappa$ -HOD is an inner model

Proof.

Let $\kappa \geq \omega$. It suffices to show that $<\kappa$ -HOD satisfies the following condition: for every $u \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD, there is a transitive $v \in <\kappa$ -HOD such that $u \subseteq v$ and $\text{Def}(\langle v, \in \rangle) \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD.

So let $u \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD be given. Let $u \subseteq V_\alpha$, and set $v = V_\alpha \cap <\kappa$ -HOD. Clearly, v is transitive, OD and contained in $<\kappa$ -HOD, so $v \in <\kappa$ -HOD, and $u \subseteq v$. To show that $\text{Def}(\langle v, \in \rangle) \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD, let $\varphi(x, \vec{y})$ be a formula, and let $\vec{a} = a_0, \dots, a_{n-1} \in v$. We have to show that $z = \{x \in v \mid \langle v, \in \rangle \models \varphi(x, \vec{a})\} \in <\kappa$ -HOD. Since $z \subseteq v \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD, it suffices to show that z is $<\kappa$ -OD. For each $i < n$, let A_i be an OD set containing a_i such that $\text{card}(A_i) < \kappa$.

$<\kappa$ -HOD is an inner model

Proof.

Let $\kappa \geq \omega$. It suffices to show that $<\kappa$ -HOD satisfies the following condition: for every $u \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD, there is a transitive $v \in <\kappa$ -HOD such that $u \subseteq v$ and $\text{Def}(\langle v, \in \rangle) \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD.

So let $u \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD be given. Let $u \subseteq V_\alpha$, and set $v = V_\alpha \cap <\kappa$ -HOD. Clearly, v is transitive, OD and contained in $<\kappa$ -HOD, so $v \in <\kappa$ -HOD, and $u \subseteq v$. To show that $\text{Def}(\langle v, \in \rangle) \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD, let $\varphi(x, \vec{y})$ be a formula, and let $\vec{a} = a_0, \dots, a_{n-1} \in v$. We have to show that $z = \{x \in v \mid \langle v, \in \rangle \models \varphi(x, \vec{a})\} \in <\kappa$ -HOD. Since $z \subseteq v \subseteq <\kappa$ -HOD, it suffices to show that z is $<\kappa$ -OD. For each $i < n$, let A_i be an OD set containing a_i such that $\text{card}(A_i) < \kappa$.

Then z is in the set

$$B = \{\{x \in v \mid \langle v, \in \rangle \models \varphi(x, \vec{b})\} \mid \langle b_0, \dots, b_{n-1} \rangle \in A_0 \times \dots \times A_{n-1}\}.$$

B is OD, as A_0, \dots, A_{n-1} and v are, and $\text{card}(B) \leq \text{card}(A)_0 \cdot \dots \cdot \text{card}(A)_{n-1} < \kappa$.



Theorem (ZF)

Let $\kappa > 1$ be a cardinal. Then, whenever $C \in <\kappa\text{-HOD}$ is a set consisting of nonempty sets, there is a function $f: C \rightarrow ([\bigcup C]^{<\kappa})^V$ such that $f \in <\kappa\text{-HOD}$, and such that for every $c \in C$, $\emptyset \neq f(c) \subseteq c$.

Blurry Codes

Fix a recursive enumeration $\langle \varphi_n \mid n < \omega \rangle$ of all internal first order formulas in the language of set theory with two free variables. Let $\text{Sat}(x, y, z)$ be the satisfaction relation, so that for a set u , a natural number n and a pair $\langle a, b \rangle \in u^2$, $\text{Sat}(u, n, \langle a, b \rangle)$ holds iff $\langle u, \in \cap u^2 \rangle \models \varphi_n(a, b)$.

Blurry Codes

Fix a recursive enumeration $\langle \varphi_n \mid n < \omega \rangle$ of all internal first order formulas in the language of set theory with two free variables. Let $\text{Sat}(x, y, z)$ be the satisfaction relation, so that for a set u , a natural number n and a pair $\langle a, b \rangle \in u^2$, $\text{Sat}(u, n, \langle a, b \rangle)$ holds iff $\langle u, \in \cap u^2 \rangle \models \varphi_n(a, b)$.

For a set a , let $\Sigma(a)$ be least such that there is an OD set A with $a \in A$ and $\text{card}(A) = \Sigma(a)$ (exists assuming AC).

Blurry Codes

Fix a recursive enumeration $\langle \varphi_n \mid n < \omega \rangle$ of all internal first order formulas in the language of set theory with two free variables. Let $\text{Sat}(x, y, z)$ be the satisfaction relation, so that for a set u , a natural number n and a pair $\langle a, b \rangle \in u^2$, $\text{Sat}(u, n, \langle a, b \rangle)$ holds iff $\langle u, \in \cap u^2 \rangle \models \varphi_n(a, b)$.

For a set a , let $\Sigma(a)$ be least such that there is an OD set A with $a \in A$ and $\text{card}(A) = \Sigma(a)$ (exists assuming AC).

Let $D(a)$ be the least ordinal of the form $\prec \alpha, n, \beta \succ$ such that the set

$$\{x \in V_\alpha \mid \text{Sat}(V_\alpha, \varphi_n, \langle x, \beta \rangle)\}$$

has cardinality $\Sigma(a)$ and contains a .

Observation

We have the following facts about Σ and D .

- 1. The functions Σ and D are ordinal definable. Assuming ZFC, both are total.*
- 2. Let a be a set for which $\Sigma(a)$ is defined. Let $D(a) = \rho$. Then $D^{-1}(\rho) = \{x \mid D(x) = \rho\}$ is a blurry ordinal definition of a , and $\text{card}(D^{-1}(\rho)) = \Sigma(a)$.*

Observation

We have the following facts about Σ and D .

- 1. The functions Σ and D are ordinal definable. Assuming ZFC, both are total.*
- 2. Let a be a set for which $\Sigma(a)$ is defined. Let $D(a) = \rho$. Then $D^{-1}(\rho) = \{x \mid D(x) = \rho\}$ is a blurry ordinal definition of a , and $\text{card}(D^{-1}(\rho)) = \Sigma(a)$.*

So every set $a \in <\lambda\text{-HOD}$ has a “canonical” blurry definition $D^{-1}(\rho)$, which has cardinality $\Sigma(a) < \lambda$.

How close is HOD to blurry HOD?

How close is HOD to blurry HOD?

Two important notions of closeness between models of set theory are Hamkins' approximation and cover properties. The following are slight variants suitable in the ZFC context, where the inner models are only assumed to satisfy ZF.

How close is HOD to blurry HOD?

Two important notions of closeness between models of set theory are Hamkins' approximation and cover properties. The following are slight variants suitable in the ZFC context, where the inner models are only assumed to satisfy ZF.

Definition

Let $M \subseteq N$ be transitive class models of ZF, and let κ be a cardinal. M satisfies the (external) κ -cover property in N if for every set $a \in N$ with $a \subseteq M$ and $\text{card}(a) < \kappa$, there is a set $c \in M$ such that $a \subseteq c$ and $\text{card}(c) < \kappa$.

How close is HOD to blurry HOD?

Two important notions of closeness between models of set theory are Hamkins' approximation and cover properties. The following are slight variants suitable in the ZFC context, where the inner models are only assumed to satisfy ZF.

Definition

Let $M \subseteq N$ be transitive class models of ZF, and let κ be a cardinal. M satisfies the (external) κ -cover property in N if for every set $a \in N$ with $a \subseteq M$ and $\text{card}(a) < \kappa$, there is a set $c \in M$ such that $a \subseteq c$ and $\text{card}(c) < \kappa$.

Let $a \in N$ be a set with $a \subseteq M$. A set of the form $a \cap c$, where $c \in M$ and $\text{card}(c) < \kappa$, is called a κ -approximation to a in M . The set a is said to be κ -approximated in M if every κ -approximation to a in M belongs to M .

How close is HOD to blurry HOD?

Two important notions of closeness between models of set theory are Hamkins' approximation and cover properties. The following are slight variants suitable in the ZFC context, where the inner models are only assumed to satisfy ZF.

Definition

Let $M \subseteq N$ be transitive class models of ZF, and let κ be a cardinal.

M satisfies the (external) κ -cover property in N if for every set $a \in N$ with $a \subseteq M$ and $\text{card}(a) < \kappa$, there is a set $c \in M$ such that $a \subseteq c$ and $\text{card}(c) < \kappa$.

Let $a \in N$ be a set with $a \subseteq M$. A set of the form $a \cap c$, where $c \in M$ and $\text{card}(c) < \kappa$, is called a κ -approximation to a in M . The set a is said to be κ -approximated in M if every κ -approximation to a in M belongs to M . M satisfies the (external) κ -approximation property in N if whenever $a \in N$ with $a \subseteq M$ is κ -approximated in M , then $a \in M$.

Approximation and cover

Theorem

Let $\kappa \leq \lambda$ be cardinals. Then $<\kappa$ -HOD satisfies the λ -approximation and κ -cover properties in $<\lambda$ -HOD.

Approximation and cover

Theorem

Let $\kappa \leq \lambda$ be cardinals. Then $<\kappa$ -HOD satisfies the λ -approximation and -cover properties in $<\lambda$ -HOD.

Note that the fact that HOD satisfies the ω -approximation property in $<\omega$ -HOD immediately implies:

Theorem (Hamkins-Leahy)

$<\omega$ -HOD = HOD.

Approximation and cover

Theorem

Let $\kappa \leq \lambda$ be cardinals. Then $<\kappa$ -HOD satisfies the λ -approximation and -cover properties in $<\lambda$ -HOD.

Note that the fact that HOD satisfies the ω -approximation property in $<\omega$ -HOD immediately implies:

Theorem (Hamkins-Leahy)

$<\omega$ -HOD = HOD.

Hence, $<\kappa$ -HOD is an inner model also for $2 < \kappa < \omega$, and the fact about the approximation property holds for all cardinals $2 \leq \kappa < \lambda$.

A useful fact

Lemma (ZFC)

Let λ be an infinite cardinal, and let $M \subsetneq N$ be inner models such that M satisfies the λ -approximation-property in N .

- 1. There is a set $a \in N \setminus M$ with $a \subseteq M$ and $\text{card}(a) < \lambda$.*
- 2. If M in addition satisfies the λ -cover property in N , then there are sets a, b such that $a \in N \setminus M$, $a \subseteq b \in M$ and $\text{card}(b) < \lambda$.*

A useful fact

Lemma (ZFC)

Let λ be an infinite cardinal, and let $M \subsetneq N$ be inner models such that M satisfies the λ -approximation-property in N .

- 1. There is a set $a \in N \setminus M$ with $a \subseteq M$ and $\text{card}(a) < \lambda$.*
- 2. If M in addition satisfies the λ -cover property in N , then there are sets a, b such that $a \in N \setminus M$, $a \subseteq b \in M$ and $\text{card}(b) < \lambda$.*

[Proof sketch: For 1, let a be an \in -minimal element of $N \setminus M$ of minimal cardinality μ .

A useful fact

Lemma (ZFC)

Let λ be an infinite cardinal, and let $M \subsetneq N$ be inner models such that M satisfies the λ -approximation-property in N .

- 1. There is a set $a \in N \setminus M$ with $a \subseteq M$ and $\text{card}(a) < \lambda$.*
- 2. If M in addition satisfies the λ -cover property in N , then there are sets a, b such that $a \in N \setminus M$, $a \subseteq b \in M$ and $\text{card}(b) < \lambda$.*

[Proof sketch: For 1, let a be an \in -minimal element of $N \setminus M$ of minimal cardinality μ . a is then μ -approximated in M .

A useful fact

Lemma (ZFC)

Let λ be an infinite cardinal, and let $M \subsetneq N$ be inner models such that M satisfies the λ -approximation-property in N .

- 1. There is a set $a \in N \setminus M$ with $a \subseteq M$ and $\text{card}(a) < \lambda$.*
- 2. If M in addition satisfies the λ -cover property in N , then there are sets a, b such that $a \in N \setminus M$, $a \subseteq b \in M$ and $\text{card}(b) < \lambda$.*

[Proof sketch: For 1, let a be an \in -minimal element of $N \setminus M$ of minimal cardinality μ . a is then μ -approximated in M . Hence $\mu < \lambda$, or else a is λ -approximated in M , and hence in M .

A useful fact

Lemma (ZFC)

Let λ be an infinite cardinal, and let $M \subsetneq N$ be inner models such that M satisfies the λ -approximation-property in N .

- 1. There is a set $a \in N \setminus M$ with $a \subseteq M$ and $\text{card}(a) < \lambda$.*
- 2. If M in addition satisfies the λ -cover property in N , then there are sets a, b such that $a \in N \setminus M$, $a \subseteq b \in M$ and $\text{card}(b) < \lambda$.*

[Proof sketch: For 1, let a be an \in -minimal element of $N \setminus M$ of minimal cardinality μ . a is then μ -approximated in M . Hence $\mu < \lambda$, or else a is λ -approximated in M , and hence in M . 2. now follows immediately.]

A useful fact

Lemma (ZFC)

Let λ be an infinite cardinal, and let $M \subsetneq N$ be inner models such that M satisfies the λ -approximation-property in N .

- 1. There is a set $a \in N \setminus M$ with $a \subseteq M$ and $\text{card}(a) < \lambda$.*
- 2. If M in addition satisfies the λ -cover property in N , then there are sets a, b such that $a \in N \setminus M$, $a \subseteq b \in M$ and $\text{card}(b) < \lambda$.*

[Proof sketch: For 1, let a be an \in -minimal element of $N \setminus M$ of minimal cardinality μ . a is then μ -approximated in M . Hence $\mu < \lambda$, or else a is λ -approximated in M , and hence in M . 2. now follows immediately.]

Note: This situation arises in particular in the case where $M = <\kappa\text{-HOD} \subsetneq <\lambda\text{-HOD} = N$.

Consequences: Definability

Theorem

Let $\lambda \geq 2$ be a cardinal and let $\kappa \geq \lambda$ be a regular cardinal. Then HOD is definable in $<\lambda$ -HOD using $\mathcal{P}(\kappa) \cap \text{HOD}$ as a parameter.

Consequences: No New Large Cardinals

Proposition

Let κ be an infinite cardinal, and let $\lambda \geq \kappa$ be inaccessible in HOD.

- 1. If λ weakly compact in $<\kappa$ -HOD, then it is weakly compact in HOD.*
- 2. If λ is measurable in $<\kappa$ -HOD, then it is measurable in HOD.*

How close is HOD to blurry HOD?, part 2

Definition (Bukovský)

Let $M_1 \subseteq M_2$ be transitive models, and let κ be a cardinal in M_2 . Then $\text{Apr}_{M_1, M_2}(\kappa)$ says that whenever $f \in M_2$ is a function from an ordinal α to an ordinal β , then there is a function $g : \alpha \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\beta)$ in M_1 such that for every $\xi < \alpha$, $f(\xi) \in g(\xi)$ and $\text{card}(g(\xi))^{M_1} < \kappa$.

How close is HOD to blurry HOD?, part 2

Definition (Bukovský)

Let $M_1 \subseteq M_2$ be transitive models, and let κ be a cardinal in M_2 . Then $\text{Apr}_{M_1, M_2}(\kappa)$ says that whenever $f \in M_2$ is a function from an ordinal α to an ordinal β , then there is a function $g : \alpha \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\beta)$ in M_1 such that for every $\xi < \alpha$, $f(\xi) \in g(\xi)$ and $\text{card}(g(\xi))^{M_1} < \kappa$.

Exercise

Let κ be a cardinal. Then $\text{Apr}_{\text{HOD}, <\kappa\text{-HOD}}(\kappa)$ holds.

Consequences: Cardinalities and Cofinalities

Proposition

Let κ be an infinite cardinal. Then HOD and $<\kappa$ -HOD have the same cardinals and cofinalities above κ , in the following sense:

- 1. If λ is a limit ordinal such that $\text{cf}^{\text{HOD}}(\lambda) \geq \kappa$, then $\text{cf}^{\text{HOD}}(\lambda) = \text{cf}^{<\kappa\text{-HOD}}(\lambda)$.*

Consequences: Cardinalities and Cofinalities

Proposition

Let κ be an infinite cardinal. Then HOD and $<\kappa$ -HOD have the same cardinals and cofinalities above κ , in the following sense:

- 1. If λ is a limit ordinal such that $\text{cf}^{\text{HOD}}(\lambda) \geq \kappa$, then $\text{cf}^{\text{HOD}}(\lambda) = \text{cf}^{<\kappa\text{-HOD}}(\lambda)$.*
- 2. For $\lambda \geq \kappa$, λ is regular in HOD iff λ is regular in $<\kappa$ -HOD.*

Consequences: Cardinalities and Cofinalities

Proposition

Let κ be an infinite cardinal. Then HOD and $<\kappa\text{-HOD}$ have the same cardinals and cofinalities above κ , in the following sense:

- 1. If λ is a limit ordinal such that $\text{cf}^{\text{HOD}}(\lambda) \geq \kappa$, then $\text{cf}^{\text{HOD}}(\lambda) = \text{cf}^{<\kappa\text{-HOD}}(\lambda)$.*
- 2. For $\lambda \geq \kappa$, λ is regular in HOD iff λ is regular in $<\kappa\text{-HOD}$.*
- 3. $\text{Card}^{\text{HOD}} \setminus \kappa = \text{Card}^{<\kappa\text{-HOD}} \setminus \kappa$.*

Consequences: Generic Passage from HOD to blurry HOD

Theorem (ZFC, Bukovský 1973)

Suppose M is a transitive inner model of ZFC, and κ is an infinite cardinal. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- 1. V is a forcing extension of M by a κ -c.c. forcing notion.*
- 2. $\text{Apr}_{M,V}(\kappa)$ holds.*

Consequences: Generic Passage from HOD to blurry HOD

Theorem (ZFC, Bukovský 1973)

Suppose M is a transitive inner model of ZFC, and κ is an infinite cardinal. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- 1. V is a forcing extension of M by a κ -c.c. forcing notion.*
- 2. $\text{Apr}_{M,V}(\kappa)$ holds.*

Hence, we get:

Theorem

Let κ be an infinite cardinal. Then the following are equivalent:

- 1. $<\kappa$ -HOD satisfies the axiom of choice.*

Consequences: Generic Passage from HOD to blurry HOD

Theorem (ZFC, Bukovský 1973)

Suppose M is a transitive inner model of ZFC, and κ is an infinite cardinal. Then the following conditions are equivalent:

- 1. V is a forcing extension of M by a κ -c.c. forcing notion.*
- 2. $\text{Apr}_{M,V}(\kappa)$ holds.*

Hence, we get:

Theorem

Let κ be an infinite cardinal. Then the following are equivalent:

- 1. $<\kappa$ -HOD satisfies the axiom of choice.*
- 2. $<\kappa$ -HOD is a forcing extension of HOD by a κ -c.c. forcing notion.*

Interactions with forcing: preserving upwards

Proposition

Suppose that \mathbb{P} is a notion of forcing, G is generic for \mathbb{P} over V , κ is a cardinal in $V[G]$, and V is definable in $V[G]$ from a parameter in $<\kappa\text{-OD}^{V[G]}$. Then

$$<\kappa\text{-OD}^V \subseteq <\kappa\text{-OD}^{V[G]}$$

and so, $<\kappa\text{-HOD}^V \subseteq <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G]}$ as well.

Interactions with forcing: preserving upwards

Proposition

Suppose that \mathbb{P} is a notion of forcing, G is generic for \mathbb{P} over V , κ is a cardinal in $V[G]$, and V is definable in $V[G]$ from a parameter in $<\kappa\text{-OD}^{V[G]}$. Then

$$<\kappa\text{-OD}^V \subseteq <\kappa\text{-OD}^{V[G]}$$

and so, $<\kappa\text{-HOD}^V \subseteq <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G]}$ as well.

Corollary

Let κ be a cardinal, and let \mathbb{P} be a notion of forcing of cardinality γ , where $2^{2^\gamma} < \kappa$. If G is \mathbb{P} -generic over V , then

$$<\kappa\text{-HOD}^V \subseteq <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G]}.$$

Interactions with forcing: homogeneity

Lemma

Let κ be a regular cardinal, \mathbb{P} a cone homogeneous, $<\kappa$ -closed forcing notion, and let $G \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ be \mathbb{P} -generic over V . Then

$$<\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G]} \subseteq V.$$

Interactions with forcing: homogeneity

Lemma

Let κ be a regular cardinal, \mathbb{P} a cone homogeneous, $<\kappa$ -closed forcing notion, and let $G \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ be \mathbb{P} -generic over V . Then

$$<\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G]} \subseteq V.$$

Note how nicely this lemma generalizes the folklore fact that if \mathbb{P} is cone homogeneous and $G \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ is generic, then $\text{HOD}^{V[G]} \subseteq V$ - this is the special case $\kappa = \omega$.

Interactions with forcing: preserving downwards

Lemma

Let κ be a regular cardinal, \mathbb{P} a cone homogeneous, $<\kappa$ -closed forcing notion, $\bar{\kappa} \leq \kappa$ a cardinal such that \mathbb{P} is $<\bar{\kappa}$ -OD, and let $G \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ be \mathbb{P} -generic over V . Then

$$<\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD}^{V[G]} \subseteq <\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD}^V.$$

Interactions with forcing: preserving downwards

Lemma

Let κ be a regular cardinal, \mathbb{P} a cone homogeneous, $<\kappa$ -closed forcing notion, $\bar{\kappa} \leq \kappa$ a cardinal such that \mathbb{P} is $<\bar{\kappa}$ -OD, and let $G \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ be \mathbb{P} -generic over V . Then

$$<\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD}^{V[G]} \subseteq <\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD}^V.$$

Again, note how nicely this generalizes the fact that if \mathbb{P} is an OD forcing notion and $G \subseteq \mathbb{P}$ is generic, then $\text{HOD}^{V[G]} \subseteq \text{HOD}^V$.

I have used these general forcing tools in order to study the possible constellations of **leaps**.

Leaps

Definition

A cardinal $\lambda > 2$ is a **leap** if

$$<\delta\text{-HOD} \subsetneq <\lambda\text{-HOD},$$

for every cardinal $\delta < \lambda$.

Leaps

Definition

A cardinal $\lambda > 2$ is a **leap** if

$$<\delta\text{-HOD} \subsetneq <\lambda\text{-HOD},$$

for every cardinal $\delta < \lambda$.

Lemma

1. *The class of leaps is closed in the ordinals.*
2. *The least leap, if there is one, is an uncountable successor cardinal.*
3. *Successor leaps are successor cardinals.*

Big leaps

Definition

Say that a leap λ is a **big leap** if

$$\left(\bigcup_{\delta < \lambda, \delta \in \text{Card}} <\delta\text{-HOD} \right) \subsetneq <\lambda\text{-HOD}.$$

Big leaps

Definition

Say that a leap λ is a **big leap** if

$$\left(\bigcup_{\delta < \lambda, \delta \in \text{Card}} <\delta\text{-HOD} \right) \subsetneq <\lambda\text{-HOD}.$$

Theorem

Every leap is big, and if λ is a limit leap, then $<\lambda\text{-HOD}$ does not satisfy the axiom of choice.

λ is a big leap

Let

$$T = \{\kappa < \lambda \mid \kappa \text{ is a successor leap}\}.$$

For $\kappa \in T$, let κ_- be its predecessor leap, and let τ_κ be least such that

$$B_\kappa = V_{\tau_\kappa} \cap (<\kappa\text{-HOD} \setminus <\kappa_-\text{-HOD}) \neq \emptyset.$$

λ is a big leap

Let

$$T = \{\kappa < \lambda \mid \kappa \text{ is a successor leap}\}.$$

For $\kappa \in T$, let κ_- be its predecessor leap, and let τ_κ be least such that

$$B_\kappa = V_{\tau_\kappa} \cap (<\kappa\text{-HOD} \setminus <\kappa_-\text{-HOD}) \neq \emptyset.$$

So for every $b \in B_\kappa$, $b \in <\kappa\text{-HOD}$, $b \notin <\kappa_-\text{-HOD}$, but $b \subseteq <\kappa_-\text{-HOD}$.

λ is a big leap

Let

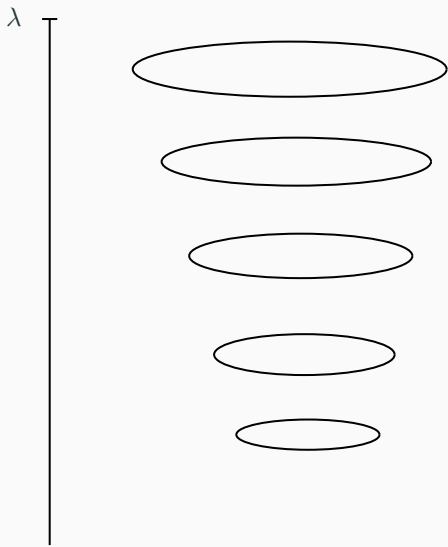
$$T = \{\kappa < \lambda \mid \kappa \text{ is a successor leap}\}.$$

For $\kappa \in T$, let κ_- be its predecessor leap, and let τ_κ be least such that

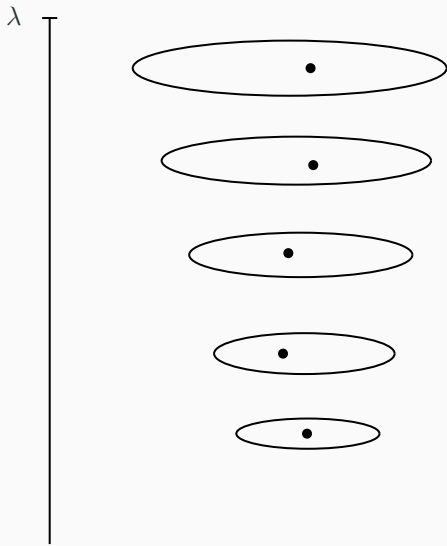
$$B_\kappa = V_{\tau_\kappa} \cap (<\kappa\text{-HOD} \setminus <\kappa_-\text{-HOD}) \neq \emptyset.$$

So for every $b \in B_\kappa$, $b \in <\kappa\text{-HOD}$, $b \notin <\kappa_-\text{-HOD}$, but $b \subseteq <\kappa_-\text{-HOD}$.
Then $\vec{B} = \langle B_\kappa \mid \kappa \in T \rangle$ is OD, and \vec{B} belongs to $<\lambda\text{-HOD}$, but it is not in $<\kappa\text{-HOD}$ for any cardinal $\kappa < \lambda$.

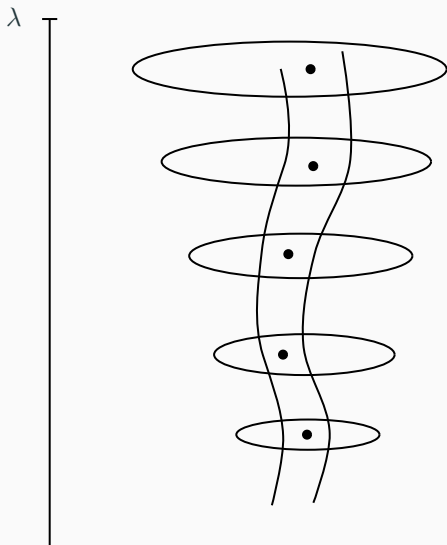
\vec{B} has no choice function in $<\lambda$ -HOD



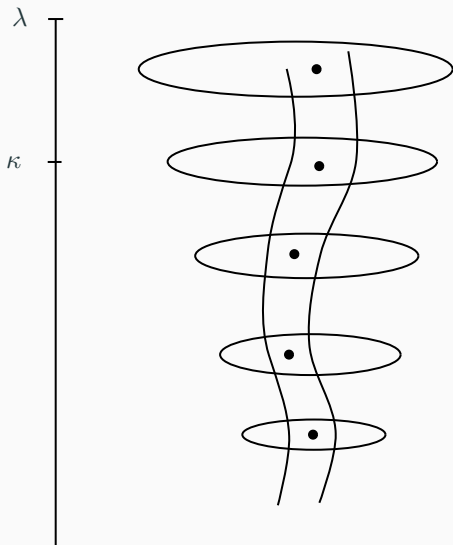
\vec{B} has no choice function in $<\lambda$ -HOD



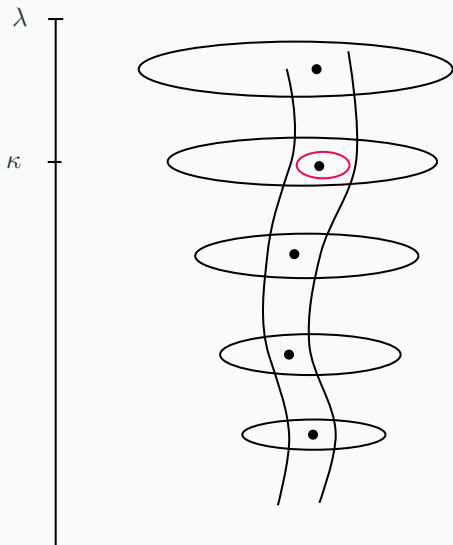
\vec{B} has no choice function in $<\lambda$ -HOD



\vec{B} has no choice function in $<\lambda$ -HOD



\vec{B} has no choice function in $<\lambda$ -HOD



Sample applications on leaps

By forcing, one can arrange that:

Sample applications on leaps

By forcing, one can arrange that:

- GCH holds and the least leap is the double successor cardinal of any regular cardinal (using Cohen forcing over L , say).

Sample applications on leaps

By forcing, one can arrange that:

- GCH holds and the least leap is the double successor cardinal of any regular cardinal (using Cohen forcing over L , say).
- GCH holds and the least leap is \aleph_1 (using Kanovei-Lyubetsky's variant of a forcing due to Jensen, over L).

Sample applications on leaps

By forcing, one can arrange that:

- GCH holds and the least leap is the double successor cardinal of any regular cardinal (using Cohen forcing over L , say).
- GCH holds and the least leap is \aleph_1 (using Kanovei-Lyubetsky's variant of a forcing due to Jensen, over L).
- GCH holds and each \aleph_n is a leap.

Sample applications on leaps

By forcing, one can arrange that:

- GCH holds and the least leap is the double successor cardinal of any regular cardinal (using Cohen forcing over L , say).
- GCH holds and the least leap is \aleph_1 (using Kanovei-Lyubetsky's variant of a forcing due to Jensen, over L).
- GCH holds and each \aleph_n is a leap.
- GCH holds and the least leap is the successor of an inaccessible cardinal (by forcing with a very homogeneous Souslin tree over L , say).

Sample applications on leaps

By forcing, one can arrange that:

- GCH holds and the least leap is the double successor cardinal of any regular cardinal (using Cohen forcing over L , say).
- GCH holds and the least leap is \aleph_1 (using Kanovei-Lyubetsky's variant of a forcing due to Jensen, over L).
- GCH holds and each \aleph_n is a leap.
- GCH holds and the least leap is the successor of an inaccessible cardinal (by forcing with a very homogeneous Souslin tree over L , say).
- the least leap is the successor of a singular cardinal (by adding lots of Kanovei-Lyubetsky reals over L , say - the singular cardinal won't be a strong limit then).

Sample applications on leaps

By forcing, one can arrange that:

- GCH holds and the least leap is the double successor cardinal of any regular cardinal (using Cohen forcing over L , say).
- GCH holds and the least leap is \aleph_1 (using Kanovei-Lyubetsky's variant of a forcing due to Jensen, over L).
- GCH holds and each \aleph_n is a leap.
- GCH holds and the least leap is the successor of an inaccessible cardinal (by forcing with a very homogeneous Souslin tree over L , say).
- the least leap is the successor of a singular cardinal (by adding lots of Kanovei-Lyubetsky reals over L , say - the singular cardinal won't be a strong limit then).

The question arises: can the least leap be the successor of a singular strong limit cardinal?

Sample applications on leaps

By forcing, one can arrange that:

- GCH holds and the least leap is the double successor cardinal of any regular cardinal (using Cohen forcing over L , say).
- GCH holds and the least leap is \aleph_1 (using Kanovei-Lyubetsky's variant of a forcing due to Jensen, over L).
- GCH holds and each \aleph_n is a leap.
- GCH holds and the least leap is the successor of an inaccessible cardinal (by forcing with a very homogeneous Souslin tree over L , say).
- the least leap is the successor of a singular cardinal (by adding lots of Kanovei-Lyubetsky reals over L , say - the singular cardinal won't be a strong limit then).

The question arises: can the least leap be the successor of a singular strong limit cardinal? Or, more generally, can the leaps be bounded below a singular strong limit cardinal whose successor is a leap?

It turns out that a positive answer requires large cardinals:

It turns out that a positive answer requires large cardinals:

Theorem (F.)

Suppose that λ is a singular strong limit cardinal such that

- 1. λ^+ is a leap,*
- 2. the leaps are bounded below λ .*

Then there is an inner model with a measurable cardinal.

► Skip the proof sketch?

Assume towards a contradiction that there is no inner model with a measurable cardinal.

Let $\bar{\lambda} < \lambda$ be a cardinal which is greater than all the leaps below λ .
So $<\lambda\text{-HOD} = <\bar{\lambda}\text{-HOD}$.

Assume towards a contradiction that there is no inner model with a measurable cardinal.

Let $\bar{\lambda} < \lambda$ be a cardinal which is greater than all the leaps below λ .
So $<\lambda\text{-HOD} = <\bar{\lambda}\text{-HOD}$.

Let a_0 be \in -minimal in $<\lambda^+\text{-HOD} \setminus <\bar{\lambda}\text{-HOD}$, of minimal cardinality possible. Then $\kappa := \text{card}(a_0) \leq \lambda$.

Assume towards a contradiction that there is no inner model with a measurable cardinal.

Let $\bar{\lambda} < \lambda$ be a cardinal which is greater than all the leaps below λ .
So $<\lambda\text{-HOD} = <\bar{\lambda}\text{-HOD}$.

Let a_0 be \in -minimal in $<\lambda^+\text{-HOD} \setminus <\bar{\lambda}\text{-HOD}$, of minimal cardinality possible. Then $\kappa := \text{card}(a_0) \leq \lambda$.

It's natural to try to use the Dodd-Jensen covering lemma. If $<\bar{\lambda}\text{-HOD}$ were equal to HOD , then $a_0 \subseteq \text{HOD}$ could be identified with a set of ordinals.

Assume towards a contradiction that there is no inner model with a measurable cardinal.

Let $\bar{\lambda} < \lambda$ be a cardinal which is greater than all the leaps below λ .
So $<\lambda\text{-HOD} = <\bar{\lambda}\text{-HOD}$.

Let a_0 be \in -minimal in $<\lambda^+\text{-HOD} \setminus <\bar{\lambda}\text{-HOD}$, of minimal cardinality possible. Then $\kappa := \text{card}(a_0) \leq \lambda$.

It's natural to try to use the Dodd-Jensen covering lemma. If $<\bar{\lambda}\text{-HOD}$ were equal to HOD, then $a_0 \subseteq \text{HOD}$ could be identified with a set of ordinals.

We have to work with blurry codes instead.

So let $P = D[a_0]$, $\pi = \text{otp}(P)$, and let $e : \pi \longrightarrow P$ be the monotone enumeration of P . Since $\text{card}(a_0) \leq \lambda$, it follows that $\pi < \lambda^+$. For $\xi \leq \pi$, let

$$a_0 \restriction \xi = \{x \in a_0 \mid e^{-1}(D(x)) < \xi\} = a_0 \cap D^{-1}[e[\xi]].$$

So $a_0 \restriction \pi = a_0$. Let $\Omega \leq \pi$ be least such that $a_0 \restriction \Omega \notin <\lambda\text{-HOD}$.

Claim: Ω is a limit ordinal.

Otherwise, say $\Omega = \bar{\Omega} + 1$. Let $a'_0 = a_0 \cap D^{-1}(e(\bar{\Omega}))$. Then $a_0 \restriction \Omega = a \restriction \bar{\Omega} \cup a'_0$. Let $\bar{\kappa} = \text{card}(D^{-1}(e(\bar{\Omega})))$. Then $\bar{\kappa} < \lambda$. So $\mathcal{P}(D^{-1}(e(\bar{\Omega})))$ is OD (using $e(\bar{\Omega})$ as a parameter), has cardinality less than λ , and contains a'_0 , making it a $<\lambda$ -blurry ordinal definition of a'_0 . Since $a'_0 \subseteq <\lambda\text{-HOD}$, it follows that $a'_0 \in <\lambda\text{-HOD}$. But also, by minimality of Ω , $a_0 \restriction \bar{\Omega} \in <\lambda\text{-HOD}$. Hence,

$$a_0 \restriction \Omega = (a_0 \restriction \bar{\Omega}) \cup a'_0 \in <\lambda\text{-HOD},$$

a contradiction.

Claim: $\kappa < \lambda$.

Since Ω is a limit ordinal, it makes sense to consider its cofinality.

As $\Omega \leq \pi < \lambda^+$ and λ is singular, it follows that $\text{cf}(\Omega) < \lambda$. And since $K \subseteq <\lambda^+$ -HOD and K has the covering property, $\bar{\Omega} = \text{cf}^{<\lambda^+ \text{-HOD}}(\Omega) < \lambda$.

So let $c : \bar{\Omega} \rightarrow \Omega$ be monotone and cofinal, $c \in <\lambda^+$ -HOD. Let $a'_0 = \{a_0 \restriction c(\xi) \mid \xi < \bar{\Omega}\}$. Then $a'_0 \in <\lambda^+$ -HOD, $a'_0 \subseteq <\lambda$ -HOD and $a'_0 \notin <\lambda$ -HOD. So by minimality of κ , $\kappa \leq \text{card}(a'_0) \leq \bar{\Omega} < \lambda$, as wished.

So we have $\kappa = \text{card}(a_0) < \lambda$, and hence, $\text{card}(D[a_0]) < \lambda$.

So we have $\kappa = \text{card}(a_0) < \lambda$, and hence, $\text{card}(D[a_0]) < \lambda$.

By the Dodd-Jensen Covering Lemma, there is a set $c \in K$ such that $D[a_0] \subseteq c$ and $\text{card}(c) \leq \aleph_1 + \text{card}(D[a_0]) < \lambda$.

So we have $\kappa = \text{card}(a_0) < \lambda$, and hence, $\text{card}(D[a_0]) < \lambda$.

By the Dodd-Jensen Covering Lemma, there is a set $c \in K$ such that $D[a_0] \subseteq c$ and $\text{card}(c) \leq \aleph_1 + \text{card}(D[a_0]) < \lambda$.

Let $c' = \{\xi \in c \mid \text{card}(D^{-1}(\xi)) < \bar{\lambda}\}$. Then c' is OD, and we still have that $D[a_0] \subseteq c'$.

So we have $\kappa = \text{card}(a_0) < \lambda$, and hence, $\text{card}(D[a_0]) < \lambda$.

By the Dodd-Jensen Covering Lemma, there is a set $c \in K$ such that $D[a_0] \subseteq c$ and $\text{card}(c) \leq \aleph_1 + \text{card}(D[a_0]) < \lambda$.

Let $c' = \{\xi \in c \mid \text{card}(D^{-1}(\xi)) < \bar{\lambda}\}$. Then c' is OD, and we still have that $D[a_0] \subseteq c'$.

It then follows that $\text{card}(D^{-1}[c']) \leq \bar{\lambda} \cdot \text{card}(c') < \lambda$, and that $a_0 \subseteq D^{-1}[c']$.

So we have $\kappa = \text{card}(a_0) < \lambda$, and hence, $\text{card}(D[a_0]) < \lambda$.

By the Dodd-Jensen Covering Lemma, there is a set $c \in K$ such that $D[a_0] \subseteq c$ and $\text{card}(c) \leq \aleph_1 + \text{card}(D[a_0]) < \lambda$.

Let $c' = \{\xi \in c \mid \text{card}(D^{-1}(\xi)) < \bar{\lambda}\}$. Then c' is OD, and we still have that $D[a_0] \subseteq c'$.

It then follows that $\text{card}(D^{-1}[c']) \leq \bar{\lambda} \cdot \text{card}(c') < \lambda$, and that $a_0 \subseteq D^{-1}[c']$.

But then $\mathcal{P}(D^{-1}[c'])$ is an OD set of cardinality $2^{\text{card}(D^{-1}[c'])} < \lambda$, and it contains a_0 , so a_0 has a $<\lambda$ -blurry ordinal definition and $a_0 \subseteq <\lambda\text{-HOD}$. This means that $a_0 \in <\lambda\text{-HOD}$. This is a contradiction.

Question

Is the consistency strength of a singular strong limit cardinal λ which is a **limit of leaps** such that λ^+ is also a leap, lower than a measurable cardinal?

Question

Is the consistency strength of a singular strong limit cardinal λ which is a **limit of leaps** such that λ^+ is also a leap, lower than a measurable cardinal?

Remark

If in L , λ is a regular cardinal that's not weakly compact, then one can force with a very homogeneous Souslin tree to produce a model where λ^+ is the least leap. So if λ was inaccessible, it remains so. Hence, the strength comes from the singularity of λ .

Question

Is the consistency strength of a singular strong limit cardinal λ which is a **limit of leaps** such that λ^+ is also a leap, lower than a measurable cardinal?

Remark

If in L , λ is a regular cardinal that's not weakly compact, then one can force with a very homogeneous Souslin tree to produce a model where λ^+ is the least leap. So if λ was inaccessible, it remains so. Hence, the strength comes from the singularity of λ .

But one can also produce models where the least leap is λ^+ , and λ is singular (of any desired cofinality), without assuming any large cardinals. So the strength also comes from the strength (i.e., from the assumption that λ is a **strong** limit cardinal).

The reversal

Theorem

By Prikry forcing with respect to U over $L[U]$, where U is on κ , one arrives at a model where κ^+ is a singular strong limit cardinal and κ^+ is the least leap.

Next goal: Arrange that \aleph_ω is a strong limit cardinal and $\aleph_{\omega+1}$ is the least leap.

Next goal: Arrange that \aleph_ω is a strong limit cardinal and $\aleph_{\omega+1}$ is the least leap.

Idea: try to use Magidor's Prikry forcing with interleaved collapses.

Next goal: Arrange that \aleph_ω is a strong limit cardinal and $\aleph_{\omega+1}$ is the least leap.

Idea: try to use Magidor's Prikry forcing with interleaved collapses.

Problem: If we collapse between the Prikry points, the Prikry sequence becomes definable.

Next goal: Arrange that \aleph_ω is a strong limit cardinal and $\aleph_{\omega+1}$ is the least leap.

Idea: try to use Magidor's Prikry forcing with interleaved collapses.

Problem: If we collapse between the Prikry points, the Prikry sequence becomes definable.

Revised idea: modify Magidor's Prikry forcing with interleaved collapses, so that the even indexed Prikry points remain cardinals but the odd indexed ones get collapsed.

The forcing conditions

\mathbb{M} is the forcing notion consisting of conditions of the form

$$\pi = \langle \langle \kappa_i \mid i < l \rangle, \langle f_i \mid i < l, i \text{ is even} \rangle, A, F \rangle$$

with the following properties:

1. $2 \leq l \in \omega$ is an even number, the *length* of π , denoted $\text{lh}(\pi)$.
2. The sequence $\langle \kappa_i \mid i < l \rangle$ is strictly increasing, $\kappa_0 = \omega$, and for $0 < i < l$, κ_i is inaccessible. Note that $l - 1$, the largest index for which κ_i is defined, is *odd*.
3. For even i with $i + 2 < l$,

$$f_i \in \text{Col}(\kappa_i^+, < \kappa_{i+2}).$$

4. $f_{l-2} \in \text{Col}(\kappa_{l-2}, < \min(A))$.
5. $A \in U$, and for all $\alpha \in A$, α is inaccessible.
6. For $i < l$, $\kappa_i < \min(A)$.
7. F is a function with domain $[A]^2$, and if $\alpha < \beta < \gamma$ and $\alpha, \beta, \gamma \in A$, then $F(\{\alpha, \beta\}) \in \text{Col}(\alpha^+, < \gamma)$.

The ordering

The ordering of \mathbb{M} is defined as follows. Let π be as above, and let

$$\pi' = \langle \langle \kappa'_i \mid i < l' \rangle, \langle f'_i \mid i < l' \text{ is even} \rangle, A', F' \rangle \in \mathbb{M}.$$

Then $\pi' \leq \pi$ if:

1. $l \leq l'$.
2. For $i < l$, $\kappa_i = \kappa'_i$.
3. For $l \leq i < l'$, $\kappa'_i \in A$.
4. For all even $i < l$, $f_i \subseteq f'_i$.
5. For all even $i \in [l, l')$, $F(\kappa'_i, \kappa'_{i+1}) \subseteq f'_i$.
6. $A' \subseteq A$.
7. For all $\{\alpha, \beta\} \in [A']^2$, $F(\alpha, \beta) \subseteq F'(\alpha, \beta)$.

The cardinals in the extension

$$\begin{array}{cccccccccc} \aleph_0 & \aleph_1 & \aleph_2 & \aleph_3 & \aleph_4 & \aleph_5 & \cdots & \aleph_{2n} & \aleph_{2n+1} & \cdots \\ \kappa_0 & \kappa_0^+ & \kappa_2 & \kappa_2^+ & \kappa_4 & \kappa_4^+ & \cdots & \kappa_{2n} & \kappa_{2n}^+ & \cdots \end{array}$$

The construction

- Start in $V = L[U]$, where U is on κ .

The construction

- Start in $V = L[U]$, where U is on κ .
- Force with \mathbb{M} . Let G be generic. The extension is of the form

$$L[U][G] = L[U][\vec{\kappa}, \vec{f}]$$

where $\vec{\kappa}$ is the Příkrý sequence and \vec{f} is the sequence of collapsing functions (where for even n and all $\xi \in [\kappa_n^+, \kappa_{n+2})$, $\gamma \mapsto f_n(\xi, \gamma)$ is a surjection from κ_n^+ onto ξ).

The construction

- Start in $V = L[U]$, where U is on κ .
- Force with \mathbb{M} . Let G be generic. The extension is of the form

$$L[U][G] = L[U][\vec{\kappa}, \vec{f}]$$

where $\vec{\kappa}$ is the Příkrý sequence and \vec{f} is the sequence of collapsing functions (where for even n and all $\xi \in [\kappa_n^+, \kappa_{n+2})$, $\gamma \mapsto f_n(\xi, \gamma)$ is a surjection from κ_n^+ onto ξ).

We want there to be no leap up to $\kappa = \aleph_\omega = \sup_{n < \omega} \kappa_n$, so we have to ensure these surjections are ordinal definable. So:

- Force to code \vec{f} into the continuum function up high (say, above $\aleph_{\omega+2}$). Call the forcing to do this \mathbb{C} , and the generic for it H .

The construction

- Start in $V = L[U]$, where U is on κ .
- Force with \mathbb{M} . Let G be generic. The extension is of the form

$$L[U][G] = L[U][\vec{\kappa}, \vec{f}]$$

where $\vec{\kappa}$ is the Příkrý sequence and \vec{f} is the sequence of collapsing functions (where for even n and all $\xi \in [\kappa_n^+, \kappa_{n+2})$, $\gamma \mapsto f_n(\xi, \gamma)$ is a surjection from κ_n^+ onto ξ).

We want there to be no leap up to $\kappa = \aleph_\omega = \sup_{n < \omega} \kappa_n$, so we have to ensure these surjections are ordinal definable. So:

- Force to code \vec{f} into the continuum function up high (say, above $\aleph_{\omega+2}$). Call the forcing to do this \mathbb{C} , and the generic for it H . Note: the forcing \mathbb{C} is not ordinal definable, but it is weakly homogeneous.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$.

Suppose $\vec{\kappa} \in A = \{x \mid \varphi(x, \rho)\}^{V[G][H]}$. Then in $V[G]$, $1_{\mathbb{C}}$ forces $\varphi(\check{\vec{\kappa}}, \check{\rho})$.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$.

Suppose $\vec{\kappa} \in A = \{x \mid \varphi(x, \rho)\}^{V[G][H]}$. Then in $V[G]$, $1_{\dot{C}}$ forces $\varphi(\check{\kappa}, \check{\rho})$.
Let $\pi \in G$ force this. So in V :

$$\pi \Vdash_{\mathbb{M}} "1_{\dot{C}} \Vdash \varphi(\check{\kappa}, \check{\rho})".$$

One can now find κ many finite variations of G , all of the form G' , where G' results from G by changing its $\vec{\kappa}$ sequence in one odd coordinate, and G' also contains a condition like π .

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <_{\kappa}\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$.

Suppose $\vec{\kappa} \in A = \{x \mid \varphi(x, \rho)\}^{V[G][H]}$. Then in $V[G]$, $1_{\dot{C}}$ forces $\varphi(\check{\vec{\kappa}}, \check{\rho})$.
Let $\pi \in G$ force this. So in V :

$$\pi \Vdash_{\mathbb{M}} "1_{\dot{C}} \Vdash \varphi(\check{\vec{\kappa}}, \check{\rho})".$$

One can now find κ many finite variations of G , all of the form G' , where G' results from G by changing its $\vec{\kappa}$ sequence in one odd coordinate, and G' also contains a condition like π . In particular, $\vec{f}^G = \vec{f}^{G'}$, and hence, $\dot{C}^G = \dot{C}^{G'}$. So $\varphi(\check{\vec{\kappa}}^{G'}, \check{\rho})$ holds in $V[G'][H] = V[G][H]$. So $\vec{\kappa}' \in A$, giving $\text{card}(A) \geq \kappa$.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <_{\kappa}\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \in <_{\kappa^+}\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$.

By the Dodd-Jensen Covering Lemma for $L[U]$, since 0^\dagger does not exist in $V[G][H]$, there is a maximal Příkrý sequence C over $L[U]$. Each Příkrý sequence is determined by C , a subset of ω and a finite subset of κ . So in total there are κ Příkrý sequences over $L[U]$, and $\vec{\kappa}$ is one of them.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓
- κ is the least leap in $V[G][H]$.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\bar{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\bar{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓
- κ is the least leap in $V[G][H]$.

Let $\bar{\kappa}$ be the least leap in $V[G][H]$, and assume $\omega < \bar{\kappa} < \kappa$.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\bar{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\bar{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓
- κ is the least leap in $V[G][H]$.

In $V[G][H]$: since $\text{HOD} \subsetneq <\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD}$, pick a, b such that $a \in <\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD} \setminus \text{HOD}$, $a \subseteq b \in \text{HOD}$, $\text{card}(b) < \bar{\kappa}$.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\bar{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\bar{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓
- κ is the least leap in $V[G][H]$.

In $V[G][H]$: since $\text{HOD} \subsetneq <\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD}$, pick a, b such that $a \in <\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD} \setminus \text{HOD}$, $a \subseteq b \in \text{HOD}$, $\text{card}(b) < \bar{\kappa}$. Using an OD bijection $i : \beta \longrightarrow b$, we can replace a with $\bar{a} = i^{-1}[a]$, a subset of $\beta < \kappa$.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\bar{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\bar{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓
- κ is the least leap in $V[G][H]$.

In $V[G][H]$: since $\text{HOD} \subsetneq <\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD}$, pick a, b such that $a \in <\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD} \setminus \text{HOD}$, $a \subseteq b \in \text{HOD}$, $\text{card}(b) < \bar{\kappa}$. Using an OD bijection $i : \beta \rightarrow b$, we can replace a with $\bar{a} = i^{-1}[a]$, a subset of $\beta < \kappa$. Since $i, a \in <\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD}$, $\bar{a} \in <\bar{\kappa}\text{-HOD}$ as well. And $\bar{a} \notin \text{HOD}$, or else $a \in \text{HOD}$.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓
- κ is the least leap in $V[G][H]$.

Since \bar{a} is a bounded subset of κ , $\bar{a} \in V[G]$.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓
- κ is the least leap in $V[G][H]$.

Since \bar{a} is a bounded subset of κ , $\bar{a} \in V[G]$. The key property of Magidor still holds of \mathbb{M} : $\bar{a} \in V[\vec{f} \restriction j]$ for some $j < \omega$!

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <_{\kappa}\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \in <_{\kappa^+}\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓
- κ is the least leap in $V[G][H]$.

Since \bar{a} is a bounded subset of κ , $\bar{a} \in V[G]$. The key property of Magidor still holds of \mathbb{M} : $\bar{a} \in V[\vec{f} \restriction j]$ for some $j < \omega$! So $\bar{a} \in L[U][\vec{f} \restriction j]$, but \vec{f} is definable in $V[G][H]$, and so is U .

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓
- κ is the least leap in $V[G][H]$.

Since \bar{a} is a bounded subset of κ , $\bar{a} \in V[G]$. The key property of Magidor still holds of \mathbb{M} : $\bar{a} \in V[\vec{f} \restriction j]$ for some $j < \omega$! So $\bar{a} \in L[U][\vec{f} \restriction j]$, but \vec{f} is definable in $V[G][H]$, and so is U . So \bar{a} is in $\text{HOD}^{V[G][H]}$ after all, a contradiction.

$V[G][H]$ is our model

- In $V[G][H]$, $\kappa = \aleph_\omega$ is a strong limit cardinal. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \notin <\kappa\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- $\vec{\kappa} \in <\kappa^+\text{-HOD}^{V[G][H]}$. ✓
- So κ^+ is a leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓
- κ is the least leap in $V[G][H]$. ✓

So we get the equiconsistency of the following theories over ZFC:

- There is a measurable cardinal.
- There is a singular strong limit cardinal κ such that κ^+ is a leap and the leaps are bounded below κ .
- \aleph_ω is a strong limit cardinal and $\aleph_{\omega+1}$ is the least leap.

So we get the equiconsistency of the following theories over ZFC:

- There is a measurable cardinal.
- There is a singular strong limit cardinal κ such that κ^+ is a leap and the leaps are bounded below κ .
- \aleph_ω is a strong limit cardinal and $\aleph_{\omega+1}$ is the least leap.

There are lots of open questions in this area. One obvious set of questions has to do with the cofinality of the singular strong limit cardinal below which the leaps are bounded and whose successor is a leap.

A theorem of Shelah

I am grateful to Moti Gitik for pointing out to me the relevance of the following theorem:

Theorem (Shelah)

If κ is a singular strong limit cardinal of uncountable cofinality $\bar{\kappa}$, M is an inner model which contains H_κ along with a well-ordering of it, and $\text{cf}^M(\kappa) = \bar{\kappa}$, then $\mathcal{P}(\kappa) \subseteq M$.

Observation

*Suppose that κ is a strong limit cardinal. Then $H_\kappa \subseteq <\kappa\text{-HOD}$.
Moreover, if κ is singular, then $(\kappa \text{ is singular})^{<\kappa\text{-HOD}}$ iff
 $\text{cf}^{<\kappa\text{-HOD}}(\kappa) = \text{cf}(\kappa)$.*

Observation

*Suppose that κ is a strong limit cardinal. Then $H_\kappa \subseteq <\kappa\text{-HOD}$.
Moreover, if κ is singular, then $(\kappa \text{ is singular})^{<\kappa\text{-HOD}}$ iff
 $\text{cf}^{<\kappa\text{-HOD}}(\kappa) = \text{cf}(\kappa)$.*

Observation

*Suppose κ is a strong limit cardinal which is singular in $<\kappa\text{-HOD}$,
and suppose that the leaps below κ are bounded in κ . Then, in
 $<\kappa\text{-HOD}$, there is a well-ordering of H_κ in order type κ .*

Shelah's theorem gives:

Corollary

Suppose κ is a singular strong limit cardinal of uncountable cofinality, below which the leaps are bounded, and such that $(\kappa \text{ is singular})^{<\kappa\text{-HOD}}$. Then $\mathcal{P}(\kappa) \subseteq <\kappa\text{-HOD}$.

Shelah's theorem gives:

Corollary

Suppose κ is a singular strong limit cardinal of uncountable cofinality, below which the leaps are bounded, and such that $(\kappa \text{ is singular})^{<\kappa\text{-HOD}}$. Then $\mathcal{P}(\kappa) \subseteq <\kappa\text{-HOD}$.

Theorem

Suppose κ is a singular strong limit cardinal of uncountable cofinality below which the leaps are bounded, yet κ^+ is a leap. Then κ is regular in $<\kappa\text{-HOD}$.

Shelah's theorem gives:

Corollary

Suppose κ is a singular strong limit cardinal of uncountable cofinality, below which the leaps are bounded, and such that $(\kappa \text{ is singular})^{<\kappa\text{-HOD}}$. Then $\mathcal{P}(\kappa) \subseteq <\kappa\text{-HOD}$.

Theorem

Suppose κ is a singular strong limit cardinal of uncountable cofinality below which the leaps are bounded, yet κ^+ is a leap. Then κ is regular in $<\kappa\text{-HOD}$.

Corollary

Suppose κ is a singular strong limit cardinal of uncountable cofinality below which the leaps are bounded and such that κ^+ is a leap. Then $\kappa = \aleph_\kappa$.

In particular, it cannot be that \aleph_{ω_1} is a strong limit cardinal and \aleph_{ω_1+1} is the least leap. This is one more sense in which the result at \aleph_ω is optimal.

In particular, it cannot be that \aleph_{ω_1} is a strong limit cardinal and \aleph_{ω_1+1} is the least leap. This is one more sense in which the result at \aleph_ω is optimal.

Regarding the consistency strength, all we have at present is a lower bound.

Corollary

Suppose κ is a singular strong limit cardinal of uncountable cofinality $\bar{\kappa}$ below which the leaps are bounded and such that κ^+ is a leap. Then there is an inner model in which κ is measurable with $o(\kappa) = \bar{\kappa}$.

Thank you!