Compactness and Incompactness on Singular Cardinals

Maxwell Levine

Universität Wien

Winter School in Abstract Analysis 2020 section Set Theory & Topology

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Section 1

What Compactness Means for Singular Cardinals

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- A property is non-compact if you have approximations of something that cannot exist, e.g. an Aronszajn tree or □_κ.
- ▶ Non-compactness is a key property of *L* and other inner models.

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Theorem (Easton)

The continuum function $\kappa \mapsto 2^{\kappa}$ on regular cardinals is constrained only by:

- $\lambda \leq \kappa \implies 2^{\lambda} \leq 2^{\kappa}$ (monotonicity)
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Theorem (Shelah)

If \aleph_{ω} is a strong limit then $2^{\aleph_{\omega}} < \aleph_{\omega_4}$.

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Section 2

The Non-Compactness of Stationary Reflection (joint w/ Sy-David Friedman)

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Defining Stationary Reflection



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If κ is a cardinal and $S \subseteq \kappa$ a stationary set, then S reflects at α if $cf(\alpha) > \omega$ and $S \cap \alpha$ is stationary. S reflects if it reflects at some $\alpha < \kappa$.



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Examples





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- cofinalities and GCH are preserved above χ ;
- For all regular κ ∈ W such that κ ≥ ℵ_{n+2}, there is a non-reflecting stationary subset of κ ∩ cof(ℵ_n) if and only if F(κ) = 1.

A Snappier Corollary

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- κ is the successor of a regular cardinal;
- κ is the successor of a singular cardinal;
- κ is inaccessible;
- κ is not inaccessible;

•
$$\kappa = \aleph_{n+17};$$

▶ $\kappa \neq \aleph_{n+17}$.

Further Directions for Stationary Reflection

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Question

Can we get the same result for $SR(\kappa \cap cof(\aleph_{\omega+1}))$ *?*



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Conjecture

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Section 3

The Situation with Square (joint w/ Sy-David Friedman and Dima Sinapova)

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Definition

We say that \Box_{κ} holds if there is a sequence $\langle C_{\alpha} : \alpha \in \lim(\kappa^+) \rangle$ such that for all $\alpha \in \lim(\kappa^+)$:



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Fact

Given a \Box_{κ} -sequence, there is no club $D \subseteq \kappa^+$ such that $\forall \alpha \in \lim D, \ D \cap \alpha = C_{\alpha}$. In other words, the sequence has no thread.

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Definition If $f, g: \tau \mapsto ON$, then $f <^* g$ if there is a $j < \tau$ such that $i \ge j \implies f(i) < g(i)$.



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If λ is a singular cardinal and $\langle \lambda_i : i < \operatorname{cf} \lambda \rangle$ is a sequence of regular cardinals converging to λ , a *scale* on λ is a sequence of functions $\langle f_{\alpha} : \alpha < \lambda^+ \rangle$ such that:

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Theorem (Shelah)

If λ is a singular cardinal then there is a product of regular cardinals $\prod_{i < cf \lambda} \lambda_i$ with $\sup_{i < cf \lambda} \lambda_i = \lambda$ that carries a scale.

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Maxwell Levine

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If λ is singular, then \Box_{λ}^* implies that all scales on λ are good.

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If κ is supercompact and cf $\lambda < \kappa < \lambda$, then every scale on λ is bad.



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A Weak Non-Compactness Result

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A Weak Non-Compactness Result

Theorem (Friedman, L., Sinapova)

Assuming the consistency of a supercompact cardinal, there is a model in which:

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- there is a nonstationary set $A \subset \lambda$ such that \Box_{δ} holds for all $\delta \in A$;
- \Box_{λ} fails;
- more precisely, there is a bad scale on λ .

Proof of the Weak Non-Compactness Result

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- Use this idea to (carefully) embed S into a forcing Q which is κ-directed closed and which factors as product of a λ_ξ-sized forcing with a λ⁺_ξ-distributive forcing for all ξ < cf λ, which implies that it preserves λ⁺.

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- κ remains supercompact in $V[\mathbb{Q}]$, which means that every scale on λ^+ is bad. Because \mathbb{Q}/\mathbb{S} preserves λ^+ , this implies that there must have been a bad scale in $V[\mathbb{S}]$, hence \Box_{λ} fails in $V[\mathbb{S}]$.

Weak Silver's Theorem for Square

Theorem (Friedman, L., Sinapova)

Suppose:

• λ is a singular strong limit cardinal of uncountable cofinality μ ;



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Then there is a partial \Box_{λ} -sequence on $\lambda^{+} \cap cof(> \mu)$, i.e. there is some $Z \supset lim(\lambda^{+}) \cap cof(> \mu)$ and a sequence $\langle C_{\alpha} : \alpha \in Z \rangle$ such that for all $\alpha \in Z$:

- $C_{\alpha} \subset \alpha$ is a club in α ;
- the order-type of C_{α} is $< \lambda$;
- for all $\beta \in \lim C_{\alpha}$, $\beta \in S$ and $C_{\alpha} \cap \beta = C_{\beta}$.

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• We have a singular λ with cofinality $\mu > \omega$ such that $\{\delta < \lambda : \Box_{\delta} \text{ holds}\}$ is stationary. Let $\langle \lambda_i : i < \mu \rangle$ be a club in λ . Then $S := \{i < \mu : \Box_{\lambda_i} \text{ holds}\}$ is stationary in μ .

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- Using the fact that ∏_{i∈S} λ⁺_i carries a good scale, we can argue that there is a *continuous* good scale *f*. Namely, a scale ⟨f_α : α < λ⁺⟩ such that:
 - If cf $\alpha < \mu$ and $A \subset \alpha$ is unbounded, then $[i \mapsto \sup_{\beta \in A} f_{\beta}(i)] =^{*} f_{\alpha}$.

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If cf α > μ, then for all unbounded A ⊂ α, there is some A' ⊂ A unbounded such that [i → sup_{β∈A'} f_β(i)] =^{*} f_α.

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- ▶ Let $C_i = \langle C_{\xi}^i : \xi < \lambda_i^+ \rangle$ witness \Box_{λ_i} for all $i \in S$. For each $\alpha \in \lambda^+ \cap \operatorname{cof}(> \mu)$, let:

$$X_{lpha} := \langle eta < lpha : \{i < \mu : f_{eta}(i) \in \lim C^i_{f_{lpha}(i)}\} \subset S \setminus j, \text{ some } j
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- The X_{α} 's are closed under sequences of length $\neq \mu$.
- C_{α} will be the closure of X_{α} in α .

Proof of WSTfS: Verifying the Properties of Partial Square • $X_{\alpha} := \langle \beta < \alpha : \{i < \mu : f_{\beta}(i) \in \lim C^{i}_{f_{\alpha}(i)}\} \subset S \setminus j$, some $j \rangle$



Proof of WSTfS: Verifying the Properties of Partial Square

- $X_{\alpha} := \langle \beta < \alpha : \{i < \mu : f_{\beta}(i) \in \lim C^{i}_{f_{\alpha}(i)}\} \subset S \setminus j, \text{ some } j \rangle$
- Coherence of the X_{α} 's follows (with an argument) from closure.



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- Coherence of the X_{α} 's follows (with an argument) from closure.
- ▶ Unboundedness of the X_{α} 's follows from an interleaving argument: We define $\langle \gamma_n : n < \omega \rangle \subset \alpha$, $\langle g_n : n < \omega \rangle \subset \prod_{i < \mu} \lambda_i^+$, $\langle j_n : n < \omega \rangle \subset \mu$ such that given γ_n , $g_{n+1}(i) = \min C^i_{f_{\alpha}(i)} \setminus f_{\gamma_n}(i)$ and $g <^* f_{\gamma_{n+1}}$ (using the exact upper bound property). Then if $\gamma^* = \sup_{n < \omega} \gamma_n$ and $j^* = \sup_{n < \omega} j_n$, j^* witnesses that $\gamma^* \in X_{\alpha}$.

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- To show that the X_α's have order-type < λ: Assume without loss of generality that the square sequences ⟨Cⁱ_ξ : i < μ⟩ were defined so that ot Cⁱ_ξ < λ_i for all ξ < λ⁺_i, i < μ. For every i ∈ lim S, there is some j < i such that ot Cⁱ_{f_α(i)} < λ_j. So there is a stationary T ⊆ S and some j such that for all i ∈ T, ot Cⁱ_{f_α(i)} < λ_j. If β ∈ X_α, let g_β(i) = ot Cⁱ_{f_α(i)} ∩ f_β(i) for all i such that f_β(i) ∈ Cⁱ_{f_α(i)} and 0 otherwise. If β, β' ∈ X_α and β < β', then g_β and g_{β'} are distinct because f'_β eventually dominates f_β. Furthermore, {g_β : β ∈ X_α} has size λ^{cf λ}_β < λ since we assumed λ is a strong limit, which shows that X_β has size less than λ.

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Conjectures Not Necessarily Believed by Collaborators

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Conjecture

Silver's Theorem for Square is false. Rather, it is consistent up to large cardinals that $\Box_{\aleph_{\delta}}$ holds for all $\delta < \omega_1$, while $\Box_{\aleph_{\omega_1}}$ fails.

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Silver's Theorem for Square is false. Rather, it is consistent up to large cardinals that $\Box_{\aleph_{\delta}}$ holds for all $\delta < \omega_1$, while $\Box_{\aleph_{\omega_1}}$ fails.

Conjecture

Some strong-ish form of Silver's Theorem for Weak Square is true. If λ is a singular strong limit of uncountable cofinality and \Box_{δ}^* holds for all $\delta < \lambda$, then \Box_{λ}^* holds as well.

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Děkuji!



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