

Rado's Conjecture, Strong Chang's Conjecture, Tree Properties and Two Cardinal Square Principles

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The Role of the Higher Infinite in Mathematics and Other
Disciplines

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Rado's Conjecture

Some applications of RC

Special Aronszajn trees

The Tree Property

The Strong Tree Property

Weak squares

Ascent paths and square sequences

Rado's Conjecture (RC)

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Rado's Conjecture (RC)

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A family of intervals of a linearly ordered set is the union of countably many disjoint subfamilies (σ -disjoint) if and only if every subfamily of size \aleph_1 is σ -disjoint.

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Todorčević has shown the consistency of this statement relative to the consistency of the existence of a strongly compact cardinal.

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Theorem (Feng, 1999)

Rado's Conjecture implies the presaturation of the nonstationary ideal on ω_1 .

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For every regular cardinal $\kappa \geq \omega_2$, there are arbitrary large λ such that for every countable $M \prec H_\lambda$ and for every $a \in [\kappa]^{\omega_1}$, there is a countable $M^* \prec H_\lambda$ and $b \in M^* \cap [\kappa]^{\omega_1}$ such that $M^* \supseteq M$ and $M^* \cap \omega_1 = M \cap \omega_1$.

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The Tree Property (TP)

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Definition

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A regular cardinal κ has the *tree property* and we denote it by $\text{TP}(\kappa)$, if every tree T of height κ , with levels of size less than κ has a cofinal branch.

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What about trees of height ω_2 and levels of size ω_1 ?

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A natural question is if under RC, the negation of the Continuum Hypothesis is enough to imply there are no \aleph_2 -Aronszajn trees at all, i.e. if $TP(\omega_2)$ holds.

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We have the following:

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$CC^* + \neg CH \rightarrow TP(\omega_2)$.

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We call $\mathcal{F} = \bigcup_{a \in [\kappa]^{<\lambda}} \mathcal{F}_a$ a (κ, λ) -tree, and \mathcal{F}_a the level a of \mathcal{F} for $a \in [\kappa]^{<\lambda}$.

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Observe that in general, $\leq_{\mathcal{F}}$ is not a tree order.

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A cofinal branch through \mathcal{F} is a function $B : \kappa \rightarrow 2$ such that $B \upharpoonright_a \in \mathcal{F}$ for every $a \in [\kappa]^{<\lambda}$.

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We say that λ has the Strong Tree Property if every (κ, λ) -tree has a cofinal branch for every $\kappa \geq \lambda$.

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CC^* and $\neg CH$ together imply \aleph_2 has the Strong Tree Property.

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RC and $\neg CH$ together imply \aleph_2 has the Strong Tree Property.

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2. $|\mathcal{C}_\alpha| \leq \lambda$ and $\text{otp}(C) \leq \kappa$ for all $C \in \mathcal{C}_\alpha$.
3. If $C \in \mathcal{C}_\beta$ and if α is a limit point of C , then $C \cap \alpha \in \mathcal{C}_\alpha$.

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Under CC^ , $\square_{\omega_1}^{\omega_1}$ and CH are equivalent.*

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Theorem (Sakai)

If there is a supercompact cardinal, then there is a class forcing extension where RC holds and

- ▶ $\square_{\kappa}^{\text{cof}(\kappa)}$ holds for every cardinal with $\text{cof}(\kappa) > \omega_1$,
- ▶ $\square_{\kappa}^{\kappa}$ holds for every singular cardinal κ of cofinality ω_1 .

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- (2) if $\gamma \in \text{Lim}(C_\delta)$, then $C_\delta \cap \gamma = C_\gamma$,
- (3) there is no closed unbounded set $C \subseteq \theta$ such that for every $\gamma \in \text{Lim}(C)$, $C \cap \gamma = C_\gamma$.

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- (3) if $C \in \mathcal{C}_\delta$ and if $\gamma < \delta$ is a limit point of C then $C \cap \gamma$ belongs to \mathcal{C}_γ .

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Thus the existence of ascent θ -paths of subsets of θ of other small cardinalities is a natural weakening of this notion.

In fact let us say that a given $\square_{<\lambda}(\theta)$ -sequence \mathcal{C}_δ ($\delta < \theta$) is κ -trivial whenever it admits an ascent θ -path consisting of nonempty sets of cardinalities at most κ .

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Theorem (Todorćević-T., 2014)

Assume RC. Let θ be a regular cardinal $\geq \omega_2$ with the property that for every $\delta < \theta$, the set $[\delta]^\omega$ contains a closed and unbounded subset of size $< \theta$. Then every $\square_{< \mathfrak{b}}(\theta)$ -sequence $\langle \mathcal{C}_\delta : \delta < \theta \rangle$ has an ascent θ -path of countable subsets of θ .

Theorem (T.-Wu, 2015)

Assume CC^ . Then every $\square_{<\omega_1}(\theta)$ -sequence is 1-trivial for every regular cardinal $\theta \geq \omega_2$.*

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Thanks!