

Generic absoluteness, determinacy, and the form  
of Ultimate- $L$

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## The building blocks for inner models: Extenders

Suppose that

$$j : V \rightarrow M$$

is an elementary embedding with critical point  $\kappa$ ,  $\kappa < \eta$ , and that

$$\mathcal{P}(\eta) \subset M.$$

The (strong) extender  $E$  of length  $\eta$  derived from  $j$

The **extender**  $E$  of **length**  $\eta$  defined from  $j$  is the function:

$$E : \mathcal{P}(\eta) \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(\eta)$$

where  $E(A) = j(A) \cap \eta$ .

Two ordinals associated to the extender  $E$ :

- ▶  $\text{CRT}(E) = \min\{\alpha \mid E(\alpha) \neq \alpha\} = \kappa$ .
- ▶  $\text{LTH}(E) = \eta$  where  $\text{dom}(E) = \mathcal{P}(\eta)$ .

## Large cardinal axioms in terms of extenders

$\delta$  is a **strong cardinal** if for each  $\gamma > \delta$  there exists an extender  $E$  such that  $\text{CRT}(E) = \delta$  and  $\text{LTH}(E) \geq \gamma$ .

$\delta$  is an **extendible cardinal** if for each  $\gamma > \delta$  there exists an extender  $E$  such that  $\text{CRT}(E) = \delta$ ,  $E(\delta) > \gamma$ , and  $\text{LTH}(E) > E(\gamma)$ .

Using Magidor's Lemma:

$\delta$  is a **supercompact cardinal** if for each  $\gamma > \delta$  there exists an extender  $E$  such that  $E(\text{CRT}(E)) = \delta$  and  $\text{LTH}(E) \geq \gamma$ .

## Gödel's transitive class HOD

- ▶ For each set  $X$ ,  $\text{TC}(X)$  is the smallest transitive set  $M$  with  $X \in M$ .

### Definition

For each ordinal  $\alpha$ ,  $\text{HOD}_{\alpha+1}$  is the set of all sets  $X \subseteq V_\alpha$  such that:

1.  $X$  is definable in  $V_\alpha$  from ordinal parameters.
2. If  $Y \in \text{TC}(X)$  then  $Y$  is definable in  $V_\alpha$  from ordinal parameters.

- ▶ The definition of  $\text{HOD}_{\alpha+1}$  is a mixture of the definition of  $L_{\alpha+1}$  and  $V_{\alpha+1}$ .

### Definition (Gödel)

$\text{HOD}$  is the class of all sets  $X$  such that  $X \in \text{HOD}_{\alpha+1}$  for some  $\alpha$ .

## Weak extender models

For a large cardinal axiom  $\Phi$ :

### Definition

A transitive class  $N$  is a **weak extender model for  $\Phi$**  if  $\Phi$  is witnessed to hold in  $N$  by extenders  $E$  of  $N$  such that

$$E = F|N$$

for some extender  $F$ .

- ▶ If  $\Phi$  holds in  $V$  then  $V$  is a weak extender model for  $\Phi$ .

For a large cardinal axiom  $\Phi$  and weak extender models, the simplest goal of the Inner Model Program is to answer the question:

### Question

*Assume that  $\Phi$  holds. **Must** there exist a weak extender model  $N$  for  $\Phi$  such that  $N \subseteq \text{HOD}$ ?*

# The Universality Theorem

## Theorem (Universality Theorem)

*Suppose that  $N$  is a weak extender model for  $\delta$  is supercompact.  
Suppose that  $F$  is an extender such that:*

- ▶  $\text{CRT}(F) \geq \delta$  and  $N$  is closed under  $F$ .

*Then  $F|N \in N$ .*

- ▶ For any extender  $F$ ,  $L$  is closed under  $F$  but  $F|L \notin L$ .
- ▶ **Any** weak extender model for  $\delta$  is supercompact inherits **all** large cardinals from  $V$  which occur above  $\delta$ .
  - ▶ (in a strong enough form)

## Conclusion

*The extension of the Inner Model Program to the level of one supercompact cardinal must yield the ultimate inner model*

- ▶ *it must yield an ultimate version of  $L$ .*

# Weak extender models for supercompact cardinals

## Theorem

*Suppose that  $\delta$  is an extendible cardinal. Then the following are equivalent.*

- (1) There exists a regular cardinal  $\kappa > \delta$  which is not a measurable cardinal in HOD.*
- (2) There is a weak extender model  $N$  for  $\delta$  is a supercompact cardinal such that  $N \subseteq \text{HOD}$ .*
- (3) HOD is a weak extender model for  $\delta$  is a supercompact cardinal.*

- ▶ Perhaps we need a different test question for the Inner Model Program.
  - ▶ One option is to refine the notion of a weak extender model.

## Partial-extenders and partial-extender models

A **partial-extender**  $E$  of length  $\eta$  is obtained from an elementary embedding

$$j : N \rightarrow M$$

where  $N \cap \mathcal{P}(\eta) = M \cap \mathcal{P}(\eta)$ :

1.  $E$  has domain  $N \cap \mathcal{P}(\eta)$ ;
2.  $E(A) = j(A) \cap \eta$ .

### Definition

A transitive class  $N$  is a **partial-extender model** for  $\Phi$  if for some sequence  $\mathbb{E}$  of partial-extenders:

1.  $N = L[\mathbb{E}]$ ,
2.  $N$  is a weak extender model for  $\Phi$  and this is witnessed by the partial extenders on the sequence  $\mathbb{E}$ .



## Good partial-extender models

### Definition (Coherence)

$\mathbb{E}$  is **coherent** if for all  $\alpha \in \text{dom}(\mathbb{E})$ ,  $E(\mathbb{E}|\eta) = \mathbb{E}|\eta$  where  $E$  is the partial extender given by  $\mathbb{E}_\alpha$  and  $\text{dom}(E) = \mathcal{P}(\eta) \cap N$ .

### Definition

Suppose  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  is a partial-extender model. Then  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  is a **good partial-extender model** if  $\mathbb{E}$  is coherent and for all  $\gamma < \alpha$ , if

$$X \prec (L_\alpha[\mathbb{E}], \mathbb{E} \cap L_\alpha[\mathbb{E}])$$

is the elementary substructure given by the elements which are definable with parameters from  $\gamma$  and if  $\gamma$  is an  $L[\mathbb{E}]$ -cardinal, then

$$X \cong (L_\beta[\mathbb{E}], \mathbb{E} \cap L_\beta[\mathbb{E}])$$

for some  $\beta$ .

- ▶ If  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  is a good partial-extender model then the Generalized Continuum Hypothesis holds in  $L[\mathbb{E}]$ .

## Mitchell-Steel models

- ▶ The basic framework for good partial-extenders models for large cardinals up to the level of superstrong cardinals originates in the constructions of Mitchell and Steel.
  - ▶ There is an important variation due to Jensen which is equivalent but yields models with stronger condensation properties.

### Theorem (Mitchell-Steel et al)

*Assume the Iteration Hypothesis and that there is a proper class of superstrong cardinals. Then there is a partial-extender model  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  for a proper class of superstrong cardinals such that*

- (1)  $L[\mathbb{E}] \subseteq \text{HOD}$ ,
- (2)  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  is a good partial-extender model.

# Generalized Mitchell-Steel models

## Definition

A cardinal  $\kappa$  is an  $\alpha$ -**extendible cardinal** where  $\alpha < \kappa$  if there exists an elementary embedding

$$j : V_{\kappa+\alpha} \rightarrow V_{j(\kappa)+\alpha}$$

with critical point  $\kappa$ .

## Theorem

*Assume the Iteration Hypothesis and that there is a proper class of  $(\omega + 1)$ -extendible cardinals. Then there is a partial-extender model  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  for a proper class of  $\omega$ -extendible cardinals such that*

- (1)  $L[\mathbb{E}] \subseteq \text{HOD}$ ,
- (2)  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  is a good partial-extender model.
- (3)  $L[\mathbb{E}] \models$  “There is a  $\Sigma_2^2$ -wellordering of  $\mathbb{R}$ ”.

## Good partial extender models and factoring

### Definition: cut-point

Suppose  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  is a partial extender model. Then  $\kappa$  is a **cut-point** of  $\mathbb{E}$  if

$$\text{LTH}(\mathbb{E}_\alpha) < \kappa$$

for all  $\alpha \in \text{dom}(\mathbb{E})$  such that  $\text{CRT}(\mathbb{E}) < \kappa$ .

### Definition: factoring

A good partial extender model  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  satisfies **factoring** if for all  $L[\mathbb{E}]$ -cardinals  $\kappa$  which are strongly inaccessible in  $L[\mathbb{E}]$ , if  $\kappa$  is a cut-point of  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  and

$$L_\kappa[\mathbb{E}][g] = M[h],$$

then there exists  $M^*$  such that

$$L[\mathbb{E}][g] = M^*[h]$$

and such that  $M \cap V_\kappa = M^* \cap V_\kappa$ .

# Good partial extender models and strong factoring

## Definition: strong factoring

*Suppose that  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  is a good partial extender model which satisfies factoring.*

*Then  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  satisfies **strong factoring**, if for all  $L[\mathbb{E}]$ -cardinals  $\kappa$  which are strongly inaccessible in  $L[\mathbb{E}]$ :*

- ▶ *If  $\kappa$  is a cut-point of  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  and there is a Woodin cardinal of  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  below  $\kappa$ , then*

$$L_{\kappa}[\mathbb{E}]$$

*is a nontrivial generic extension.*

## Theorem

*Suppose  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  is an iterable generalized Mitchell-Steel model. Then  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  satisfies strong factoring.*

## Is Ultimate- $L$ a generalized Mitchell-Steel model?

*Assume the Iteration Hypothesis holds in  $V$  and that there is a proper class of measurable Woodin cardinals.*

- ▶ It is not known if there exists a Mitchell-Steel model  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  for a proper class of measurable Woodin cardinals within which  $\mathbb{E}$  is definable (even from parameters).
- ▶ Suppose  $L[\mathbb{E}]$  is a Mitchell-Steel model within which there exists a Woodin cardinal. The inductive first order requirements on  $L_\alpha[\mathbb{E}]$  are very complicated:
  - ▶ things only get worse for the generalized Mitchell-Steel models.

### Two questions

1. *Is there a simple candidate for the axiom " $V = \text{Ultimate-}L$ "?*
2. *Is Ultimate- $L$  even a good partial-extender model which satisfies strong factoring?*

# Universally Baire sets

## Definition (Feng-Magidor-Woodin)

A set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is **universally Baire** if for all topological spaces  $\Omega$  and for all continuous functions  $\pi : \Omega \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ , the preimage of  $A$  by  $\pi$  has the property of Baire in the space  $\Omega$ .

- ▶ Universally Baire sets are an abstract generalization of the borel sets.

## Theorem

*Suppose that there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals and that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is universally Baire.*

- (1) *Every set  $B \in L(A, \mathbb{R}) \cap \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$  is universally Baire.*
- (2)  $L(A, \mathbb{R}) \models \text{AD}^+$ .

# The Inner Model Program and the universally Baire sets

- ▶  $\text{HOD}^{L(A, \mathbb{R})}$  denotes HOD as defined in  $L(A, \mathbb{R})$ .

For a large cardinal axiom  $\Phi$ , the non-trivial test question for the Inner Model Program is:

## Question

*Assume there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals.*

- ▶ **Can** there exist a weak extender model  $N$  for  $\Phi$  such that for all  $x \in \mathbb{R} \cap N$  there exists a universally Baire set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  such that

$$x \in \text{HOD}^{L(A, \mathbb{R})}?$$



# $\text{HOD}^{L(A, \mathbb{R})}$ and large cardinal axioms

## Definition

Suppose that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is universally Baire.

Then  $\Theta^{L(A, \mathbb{R})}$  is the supremum of the ordinals  $\alpha$  such that there is a surjection,  $\pi : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \alpha$ , such that  $\pi \in L(A, \mathbb{R})$ .

- ▶  $\Theta^{L(A, \mathbb{R})}$  is a measure of the complexity of  $A$ .

## Theorem

*Suppose that there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals and that  $A$  is universally Baire.*

*Then  $\Theta^{L(A, \mathbb{R})}$  is a Woodin cardinal in  $\text{HOD}^{L(A, \mathbb{R})}$ .*

# $\text{HOD}^{L(A, \mathbb{R})}$ and the Inner Model Program

## Theorem (Steel)

*Suppose that there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals and let  $\delta = \Theta^{L(\mathbb{R})}$ .*

*Then  $\text{HOD}^{L(\mathbb{R})} \cap V_\delta$  is a Mitchell-Steel model.*

## Theorem

*Suppose that there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals.*

*Then  $\text{HOD}^{L(\mathbb{R})}$  is **not** a Mitchell-Steel model.*

- ▶ *It is a strategic partial-extender model.*

*There is another class of solutions to the Inner Model Program.*

## The axiom for $V = \text{Ultimate-L}$

A sentence  $\varphi$  is a  $\Sigma_3$ -sentence if it is of the form:

- ▶ There exists  $\alpha$  such that  $V_\alpha \models \psi$  and such that  $V_\alpha \prec_{\Sigma_2} V$ ; for some sentence  $\psi$ .

Conjecture: The axiom for  $V = \text{Ultimate-L}$

- ▶ *There is a strong cardinal which is a limit of Woodin cardinals.*
- ▶ *For each  $\Sigma_3$ -sentence  $\varphi$ , if  $\varphi$  holds in  $V$  then there is a universally Baire set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  such that*

$$\text{HOD}^{L(A, \mathbb{R})} \cap V_\Theta \models \varphi$$

where  $\Theta = \Theta^{L(A, \mathbb{R})}$ .

- ▶ This axiom settles (modulo axioms of infinity) *all* sentences about  $\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{R})$  (and much more) which have been shown to be independent by Cohen's method.

## Consequences of $V = \text{Ultimate-L}$

Theorem ( $V = \text{Ultimate-L}$ )

*The Continuum Hypothesis holds.*

Theorem ( $V = \text{Ultimate-L}$ )

$V = \text{HOD}$ .

Theorem ( $V = \text{Ultimate-L}$ )

*For every real  $x$  there exists a universally Baire set  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  such that  $x \in \text{HOD}^{L(A, \mathbb{R})}$ .*

Theorem ( $V = \text{Ultimate-L}$ )

*$V$  does not satisfy strong factoring.*

- ▶  *$V$  is not a nontrivial generic extension of any inner model,*
- ▶  *$V$  is the minimum universe of the Generic-Multiverse.*

# The Ultimate- $L$ Conjecture

## Ultimate- $L$ Conjecture

(ZFC) *Suppose that  $\delta$  is an extendible cardinal. Then there is a transitive class  $N$  such that:*

1.  *$N$  is a weak extender model for  $\delta$  is supercompact.*
2.  *$N \subseteq \text{HOD}$ .*
3.  *$N \models \text{“}V = \text{Ultimate-}L\text{”}$ .*

## Two questions

1. *Is there a version of the axiom,  $V = \text{Ultimate-}L$ , for good partial extender models which satisfy strong factoring?*
2. *If both versions exist, how do we choose between them?*

# Generic absoluteness

## Theorem

*Suppose there is a proper class of measurable Woodin cardinals.*

- ▶ *Then  $\Sigma_1^2$ -sentences are absolute between all generic extensions of  $V$  in which CH holds.*

## Theorem

*Suppose that there is a proper class of measurable Woodin cardinals and the Iteration Hypothesis holds.*

- ▶ *Then for each  $A \in \Gamma^\infty$ , for each  $\Sigma_1^2$ -formula  $\varphi(x)$ , either*

$$\text{ZFC} + \text{CH} \vdash_\Omega \varphi[A]$$

*or  $\text{ZFC} + \text{CH} \vdash_\Omega (\neg\varphi)[A]$ .*

## Beyond $\Sigma_1^2$ -generic absoluteness

### Question

*Does some large cardinal hypothesis imply that  $\Sigma_2^2$ -sentences are absolute between all generic extensions of  $V$  in which  $\diamond$  holds?*

### Lemma ( $\diamond$ )

*Suppose that  $\Sigma_2^2$ -sentences are absolute between all generic extensions of  $V$  in which  $\diamond$  holds.*

- ▶ *Then there is no  $\Sigma_2^2$ -wellordering of the reals.*

### Claim

*Any plausible extension of the theory of Mitchell-Steel extender models to the level of a weak extender model of supercompactness*

- ▶ *must yield a weak extender model of supercompactness in which  $\diamond$  holds and there is a  $\Sigma_2^2$ -wellordering of the reals.*

## Games of length $\omega_1$

The following theorem is a corollary of a key theorem of Neeman:

### Theorem

*Suppose that ZFC is consistent with a proper class of Woodin cardinals which are limits of Woodin cardinals.*

- ▶ *Then ZFC is consistent with a proper class of Woodin cardinals and every set*

$$X \subset \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$$

*which is ordinal definable from a universally Baire set, is determined.*

### Question

*Which games of length  $\omega_1$  can be **provably** determined from large cardinal hypotheses?*



# Universally Baire closed games of length $\omega_1$

## Definition

Suppose that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is universally Baire and  $\varphi(x)$  is a formula.

- ▶ The closed set

$\mathcal{C}_\varphi^A = \{f \in \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1} \mid (H(\omega_1), A, \epsilon) \models \varphi[f \upharpoonright \alpha] \text{ for all } \alpha < \omega_1\}$   
is the closed set given by  $(A, \varphi)$ .

## Strategies

1. *Strategies are functions  $\tau : \{0, 1\}^{<\omega_1} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ .*
2. *To define universally Baire strategies, one must use a more refined notion.*

Suppose

$$\tau_0 : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}, \tau_1 : \mathbb{R} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$$

are functions

## $(\tau_0, \tau_1)$ as a winning quasi-strategy

### Definition

Suppose  $X \subseteq \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$ .

- ▶  $(\tau_0, \tau_1)$  is a **winning quasi-strategy for Player I** in the  $X$ -game if  $g \in X$  for all

$$(f, g) \in \mathbb{R}^{\omega_1} \times \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$$

such that for all even  $\alpha < \omega_1$ ,

1.  $f(\alpha)$  codes  $(f|_\alpha, g|_\alpha, \tau_1 \circ f|_\alpha)$ ,
2.  $\tau_0(f(\alpha)) = g(\alpha)$ .

- ▶  $(\tau_0, \tau_1)$  is a **winning quasi-strategy for Player II** in the  $X$ -game if  $g \notin X$  for all

$$(f, g) \in \mathbb{R}^{\omega_1} \times \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$$

such that for all odd  $\alpha < \omega_1$ ,

1.  $f(\alpha)$  codes  $(f|_\alpha, g|_\alpha, \tau_1 \circ f|_\alpha)$ ,
2.  $\tau_0(f(\alpha)) = g(\alpha)$ .

# Determinacy and winning quasi-strategies

## Theorem

*Suppose that there exists a proper class of Woodin cardinals which are limits of Woodin cardinals. Let  $\Gamma^\infty$  be the set of all  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  such that  $A$  is universally Baire. Then the following are equivalent.*

- (1) For each  $A \in \Gamma^\infty$  and for each formula  $\varphi(x)$ ,  
$$\text{ZFC} \vdash_\Omega \text{“}\mathcal{C}_\varphi^A \text{ is determined.”}$$*
- (2) For each  $A \in \Gamma^\infty$ , for each formula  $\varphi(x)$ , there is a universally Baire quasi-strategy  $(\tau_0, \tau_1)$  which witnesses that the game  $\mathcal{C}_\varphi^A$  is determined.*

## $\Sigma_1^2$ -generic absoluteness and determinacy

### Theorem

Suppose that there exists a proper class of Woodin cardinals which are limits of Woodin cardinals. Let  $\Gamma^\infty$  be the set of all  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  such that  $A$  is universally Baire. Then the following are equivalent.

- (1) For each  $A \in \Gamma^\infty$ , for each  $\Sigma_1^2$ -formula  $\varphi(x)$ , one of the following hold.
  - ▶  $\text{ZFC} + \text{CH} \vdash_\Omega \varphi[A]$ .
  - ▶  $\text{ZFC} + \text{CH} \vdash_\Omega (\neg\varphi)[A]$ .
- (2) For each  $A \in \Gamma^\infty$  and for each formula  $\varphi(x)$ ,  
 $\text{ZFC} \vdash_\Omega$  “ $\mathcal{C}_\varphi^A$  is determined.”

### Question

Is there a version of this theorem for  $\Sigma_2^2$ -generic absoluteness conditioned on  $\diamond$ ?

## The term relation of $A$ and condensation

Suppose that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is universally Baire.

- ▶  $\tau_A^\infty$  is the class of all  $(\mathbb{P}, \sigma, p)$  such that

$$p \Vdash_{\mathbb{P}} \text{“}\sigma \in A_G\text{”}.$$

- ▶  $\tau_A^\infty$  satisfies **condensation** if for all strongly inaccessible  $\kappa$  and for all

$$\mathcal{X} \prec (V_\kappa, \tau_A^\infty \cap V_\kappa, \in)$$

with transitive collapse  $(M, \tau)$ ,

$$\tau = \tau_A^\infty \cap M.$$

## Lemma (Proper class of Woodin cardinals)

Suppose that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is universally Baire.

- ▶ Then there exists a universally Baire set  $B$  such that  $\tau_B^\infty$  satisfies condensation and such that  $A \leq B$ .

The sets  $Y_\varphi^A \subseteq \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$

### Definition

Suppose that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is universally Baire and  $\varphi(x)$  is a  $\Sigma_1$ -formula.

- ▶  $Y_\varphi^A$  denotes the set of all  $f \in \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$  such that

$$(H(\omega_2), \tau_A^\infty \cap H(\omega_2), \epsilon) \models \varphi[f].$$

### Lemma (Proper class of strongly inaccessible cardinals)

*Suppose that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is universally Baire,  $\tau_A^\infty$  satisfies condensation, and  $X \subset \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$ . Then the following are equivalent.*

1.  $X$  is  $\Sigma_1$ -definable from in  $(V, \tau_A^\infty, \epsilon)$  from  $\omega_1$ .
2. There exists a  $\Sigma_1$ -formula  $\varphi(x)$  such that  $X = Y_\varphi^A$ .

## The sets $Y_\varphi^A$ and CH

Assume CH,  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is universally Baire, and there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals:

- ▶ The set  $Y = \{f \in \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1} \mid \mathbb{R} \subset L[f]\}$  is not of the form  $Y_\varphi^A$  for any choice of  $\varphi$ ,
  - ▶ but it is  $\Sigma_1$ -definable from  $\mathbb{R}$ .

### Lemma (CH)

*Suppose that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is universally Baire and  $\tau_A^\infty$  satisfies condensation. Then the following are equivalent.*

- (1) *Every  $X \subset \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$  which is  $\Sigma_1$ -definable from  $(A, \mathbb{R})$ , is determined.*
- (2) *Every  $X \subset \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$  which is of the form  $Y_\varphi^A$ , is determined.*

## A generic form of $\diamond$

Definition:  $\diamond_G^\infty$

For each  $\Sigma_2$ -sentence,  $\varphi$ , and for each universally Baire set  $A$ ,

$$(H(\omega_2), \tau_A^\infty \cap H(\omega_2), \epsilon) \models \varphi$$

if and only if

$$(H(\omega_2), \tau_A^\infty \cap H(\omega_2), \epsilon)^{V[G]} \models \varphi$$

where  $G \subset \text{Coll}(\omega_1, \mathbb{R})$  is  $V$ -generic.



# The main theorem

## Theorem (IH + Proper class of measurable Woodin cardinals)

*The following are equivalent.*

- (1) *For each  $A \in \Gamma^\infty$  and for each  $\Sigma_2^2$ -formula  $\varphi(x)$  one of the following hold.*
  - ▶  $\text{ZFC} + \diamond_G^\infty \vdash_\Omega \varphi[A]$ .
  - ▶  $\text{ZFC} + \diamond_G^\infty \vdash_\Omega (\neg\varphi)[A]$ .
  
- (2) *For each  $A \in \Gamma^\infty$ ,*  
 $\text{ZFC} + \diamond_G^\infty \vdash_\Omega$  “ $\Sigma_1(A)$ -determinacy holds for  $\{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$ ”.

# Why $\diamond_G^\infty$ and not just $\diamond$ ?

## Theorem (Paul Larson)

*Suppose that there is a proper class of Woodin cardinals.*

- ▶ *Then there is a  $\Sigma_1$ -formula  $\varphi(x)$  and a partial order  $\mathbb{P}$  such that in  $V[G]$ , the game  $Y_\varphi^{\mathbb{R}}$  is not determined.*

## Claim

*Larson's theorem shows one cannot hope to prove from any (consistent) large cardinal hypothesis that all the games  $Y_\varphi^A$  are determined.*

- ▶ Recall that assuming the Iteration Hypothesis and that there is a proper class of measurable Woodin cardinals then all the games  $C_\varphi^A$  are  $\vdash_\Omega$ -provably determined.
  - ▶ This then gives  $\Sigma_1^2$ -generic absoluteness conditioned on CH.

## Perhaps this is why

- ▶ There is a fundamental asymmetry between the winning strategies for Player I versus Player II in the  $\Sigma_1(A)$ -games.

### Theorem (IH + Proper class of measurable Woodin cardinals)

*The following are equivalent.*

- (1) *For each  $A \in \Gamma^\infty$ ,*

$\text{ZFC} + \diamond_G^\infty \vdash_\Omega$  “ $\Sigma_1(A)$ -determinacy holds for  $\{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$ ”.

- (2) *For each  $A \in \Gamma^\infty$ , if  $X \subset \{0, 1\}^{\omega_1}$  is  $\Sigma_1$ -definable in  $(V, \tau_A^\infty, \epsilon)$  from  $\omega_1$  then one of the following hold.*

- ▶ *There is a universally Baire quasi-strategy  $(\tau_0, \tau_1)$  for Player I such that*

$\text{ZFC} \vdash_\Omega$  “ $(\tau_0, \tau_1)$  is a winning quasi-strategy in  $X$ ”.

- ▶ *There is a universally Baire term  $\tau \in V^{\text{Coll}(\omega_1, \mathbb{R})}$  for a strategy for Player II such that*

$\text{ZFC} \vdash_\Omega$  “ $\tau$  is a term for a winning strategy in  $X$ ”.

# Summary

The following now seems a very plausible conjecture.

## Conjecture

1. *From some large cardinal hypothesis,  $\Sigma_2^2$ -generic absoluteness holds conditioned on  $\diamond_G^\infty$ .*
2. *There is no non-strategic version of Ultimate-L.*