

UNCOUNTABLE STANDARD MODELS
OF ZFC + $V \neq L$

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Dedicated to the memory of A. Mostowski

A well-known result of Cohen ([1], p.109) asserts that in $ZF + V = L$ one can prove that there are no uncountable standard models of $ZFC +$ "There is a non-constructible real". It is natural to ask what the situation is for uncountable standard models of $ZFC +$ "There is a non-constructible set". In this paper we shall prove the following

THEOREM. $ZFC +$ "There exists a natural model R_α of ZFC " \vdash "There exist standard models of $ZFC + V \neq L$ of all cardinalities $< \alpha$."

This theorem has the following consequences. Let $ZFI = ZFC +$ "There exists an inaccessible cardinal".

COROLLARY 1. $ZFI \vdash$ "There is a standard model of $ZFC + V \neq L$ of any cardinality less than the first inaccessible cardinal".

Let KMC be Kelley-Morse set theory with choice. Since it is known [5] that in KMC one can prove the existence of arbitrarily large natural models of ZFC , it follows immediately from the theorem that

COROLLARY 2. $KMC \vdash$ "There is a standard model of $ZFC + V \neq L$ of any cardinality" .

The proof of the theorem uses the technique of Boolean-valued models of set theory as presented, e.g. in [2]. For the theory of Boolean algebras we refer the reader to [6].

As usual, we write ZF for Zermelo-Fraenkel set theory, ZFC for $ZF +$ axiom of choice, $V = L$ for the axiom of constructibility and $V \neq L$ for its negation.

By a standard model of ZF we understand a model of the form $\mathcal{M} = \langle M, \epsilon/M \rangle$, where M is a transitive set and $\epsilon/M = \{ \langle x, y \rangle \in M^2 : x \in y \}$. If \mathcal{M} is a standard model of ZFC and B is a complete Boolean algebra in \mathcal{M} , we write, as usual $\mathcal{M}^{(B)}$ for the B -extension of \mathcal{M} and $\|\sigma\|$ for the B -value of any sentence σ of set theory (which may contain names for elements of $\mathcal{M}^{(B)}$). Well-known is the fact that $\|\sigma\| = 1$ for any theorem σ of ZFC . We recall that there is a canonical map $x \mapsto \hat{x}$ of \mathcal{M} into $\mathcal{M}^{(B)}$. We shall also need the following fact ([2], Lemma 50).

LEMMA 1. For each formula $\varphi(x)$ of set theory (which may contain names for elements of $\mathcal{M}^{(B)}$) there is $t \in \mathcal{M}^{(B)}$ such that:

$$\|\exists x \varphi(x)\| = \|\varphi(t)\| .$$

Let B be a complete Boolean algebra; a subset P of B is said to be dense if $0 \notin P$ and $\forall x \in B [x \neq 0 \Rightarrow \exists p \in P (p \leq x)]$. If κ is a cardinal, P is said to satisfy the κ -descending chain condition (κ -dcc) if for each $\alpha < \kappa$ and each descending α -sequence $p_0 \geq p_1 \geq \dots \geq p_\xi \geq \dots$ ($\xi < \alpha$) from P there is $p \in P$ such that $p \leq p_\xi$ for all $\xi < \alpha$.

LEMMA 2. Suppose that B contains a dense subset satisfying the κ -dcc, and let $\{A_\xi : \xi < \kappa\}$ be a family of subsets of B such that $\bigvee A_\xi = 1$ for each $\xi < \kappa$. Then there is an ultrafilter U in B such that $U \cap A_\xi \neq \emptyset$ for all $\xi < \kappa$.

Proof. Let J be a set sufficiently large so that each A_ξ can be enumerated as $\{a_{\xi j} : j \in J\}$. We show that there is $f \in J^\kappa$ such that, for each $\alpha < \kappa$,

$$(1) \quad \bigwedge_{\xi < \alpha} a_{\xi f(\xi)} \neq 0 .$$

We define f by recursion as follows. Let $\alpha < \kappa$ and suppose that for each $\xi < \alpha$ we have selected $p_{\xi} \in P$ and $f(\xi) \in J$ in such a way that

$$(2) \quad p_{\xi} \leq a_{\xi f(\xi)} \quad \text{for all } \xi < \alpha$$

$$(3) \quad \eta \leq \xi < \alpha \Rightarrow p_{\eta} \geq p_{\xi} .$$

We show how to obtain p_{α} and $f(\alpha)$. Since P satisfies the κ -dcc, there is $p \in P$ such that $p \leq p_{\xi}$ for all $\xi < \alpha$. We have

$$0 \neq p = p \wedge 1 = p \wedge \bigvee_{j \in J} a_{\alpha j} = \bigvee_{j \in J} p \wedge a_{\alpha j} ,$$

so there must be $j \in J$ such that $p \wedge a_{\alpha j} \neq 0$, and hence, since P is dense, $q \in P$ such that $q \leq p \wedge a_{\alpha j}$. We take $f(\alpha)$ to be such a $j \in J$, and p_{α} to be such a $q \in P$. It is now clear that (2) and (3) hold with " $\xi < \alpha$ " replaced by " $\xi \leq \alpha$ " and so by recursion we obtain p_{α} and $f(\alpha)$ to satisfy (2) and (3) for all $\alpha < \kappa$. If $\alpha < \kappa$, $\langle p_{\xi} : \xi < \alpha \rangle$ is a descending α -sequence in P and so there is (by dcc) a $p \in P$ such that $p \leq p_{\xi}$ for all $\xi < \alpha$. But then, by (2), we immediately obtain (1).

To complete the proof we observe that, by (1), the set $\{a_{\alpha f(\alpha)} : \alpha < \kappa\}$ has the finite intersection property and hence can be extended to an ultrafilter in B . This ultrafilter clearly meets the requirements of the Lemma. ■

An ultrafilter U in B is said to preserve the family of joins $\bigvee A_{\alpha}$ ($\alpha < \kappa$), where $\{A_{\alpha} : \alpha < \kappa\}$ is family of subsets of B , provided that for each $\alpha < \kappa$,

$$\bigvee A_{\alpha} \in U \Rightarrow U \cap A_{\alpha} \neq \emptyset .$$

Lemma 2 gives the following generalization, for complete Boolean algebras, of the well-known Rasiowa-Sikorski lemma:

COROLLARY. Suppose that B contains a dense subset satisfying the κ -dcc. Then for each family $\{A_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa\}$ of subsets of B there is an ultrafilter in B which preserves the family of joins $\bigvee A_\alpha$ ($\alpha < \kappa$).

Proof. Put $a_\alpha = \bigvee A_\alpha$ and apply Lemma 2 to the family $\{A_\alpha \cup \{a_\alpha^*\} : \alpha < \kappa\}$, where a_α^* is the complement of a_α in B . ■

Remark. I am grateful to Professor Vopěnka and others at the conference for suggesting the present version of this Corollary, which is stronger than my original version.

Now let κ be a regular cardinal and let X_κ be the space 2^κ endowed with the κ -topology, i.e. the topology whose basic open sets are of the form

$$U(\alpha, f) = \{g \in X_\kappa : g(\xi) = f(\xi) \text{ for } \xi \leq \alpha\}$$

where $f \in X_\kappa$ and $\alpha < \kappa$. We denote by B_κ the complete Boolean algebra of regular open subsets of X_κ . (B_κ is the algebra which, in the corresponding Boolean extension, adds a new member to $\mathcal{P}\kappa$ but leaves $\mathcal{P}\alpha$ undisturbed for all $\alpha < \kappa$.)

It is clear that the family of all sets $U(\alpha, f)$ is dense in B_κ and that this family satisfies the κ -dcc (since κ is regular). Hence, by the Corollary to Lemma 2 we have

LEMMA 3. If κ is a regular cardinal, then for each family $\{A_\alpha : \alpha < \kappa\}$ of subsets of B_κ there is an ultrafilter in B_κ which preserves the family of joins $\bigvee A_\alpha$ ($\alpha < \kappa$).

We now turn to

Proof of the Theorem. Let R_α be a natural model of ZFC. By [4], α is a limit cardinal, and so by the downward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem it will be enough to show that there is a standard model of $ZFC + \forall \neq L$ for each regular cardinal $< \alpha$. So let $\mathcal{M} = \langle R_\alpha, \epsilon/R_\alpha \rangle$ and let κ be a regular cardinal $< \alpha$. Put $B = B_\kappa$. Then B is a complete Boolean algebra in \mathcal{M} and so we can form the B -extension $\mathcal{M}^{(B)}$ of \mathcal{M} .

Using Lemma 1, for each formula $\varphi(v_0, \dots, v_n)$ of the language of set theory (without parameters from $\mathcal{M}^{(B)}$) we let

$$f_\varphi : (\mathcal{M}^{(B)})^n \rightarrow \mathcal{M}^{(B)}$$

be a Skolem function for $\varphi(v_0, \dots, v_n)$ in $\mathcal{M}^{(B)}$, i.e. such that, for all $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathcal{M}^{(B)}$

$$(1) \quad \|\exists v_0 \varphi(v_0, x_1, \dots, x_n)\| = \|\varphi(f_\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_n), x_1, \dots, x_n)\| .$$

Let $\mathcal{A} \subseteq \mathcal{M}^{(B)}$ be the closure of the set $\{\xi : \xi < \kappa\}$ under the f_φ . Then \mathcal{A} has cardinality κ and, using (1) we have

$$(2) \quad \text{for any formula } \varphi(v_0, \dots, v_n) \text{ and any } a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathcal{A}, \\ \text{there is } a_0 \in \mathcal{A} \text{ such that} \\ \|\exists v_0 \varphi(v_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)\| = \|\varphi(a_0, a_1, \dots, a_n)\| .$$

Let $\text{Ord}(x)$ be the formula "x is an ordinal". It is well-known that, for any $x \in \mathcal{M}^{(B)}$, we have $\|\text{Ord}(x)\| = \bigvee_{\xi < \alpha} \|x = \xi\|$. Using Lemma 3, let U be an ultrafilter in B which preserves the joins

$$(3) \quad \|\text{Ord}(a)\| = \bigvee_{\xi < \alpha} \|a = \xi\| \quad (a \in \mathcal{A}) .$$

Let \mathcal{A}/U be the quotient of $\mathcal{M}^{(B)}$ by U , i.e.

$$\mathcal{A}/U = \langle \{a^U : a \in \mathcal{A}\}, \epsilon_U \rangle$$

where a^U is the equivalence class of $a \in \mathcal{A}$ under the relation \sim_U defined by $a \sim_U a' \iff \|a = a'\| \in U$ and ϵ_U is defined by $a^U \epsilon_U a'^U \iff \|a \in a'\| \in U$. Using (2), it is easy to show by induction on complexity of formulas that for any formula $\varphi(v_0, \dots, v_n)$ of set theory and any $a_0, \dots, a_n \in \mathcal{A}$,

$$\mathcal{A}/U \models \varphi [a_0^U, \dots, a_n^U] \iff \|\varphi(a_0, \dots, a_n)\| \in U .$$

It follows that \mathcal{A}/U is a model of ZFC. Also, the ξ^U for $\xi < \kappa$ are all distinct, so \mathcal{A}/U has cardinality κ . Since B is atomless,

we have $\|V \neq L\| = 1$, so \mathcal{A}/U is also a model of $V \neq L$. Finally, since U preserves the joins (β), it quickly follows that the map $\xi \mapsto \xi^U$ is order-preserving from (true) ordinals onto the ordinals of \mathcal{A}/U , so that the ordinals of \mathcal{A}/U are well-ordered. The usual rank argument now implies that ϵ_U is a well-founded relation, so that \mathcal{A}/U is isomorphic to a standard model which meets the requirements of the theorem. This completes the proof. ■

CONCLUDING REMARKS

1. Since B_κ is known to preserve cardinals, it is not hard to see that for a definable cardinal κ (e.g. $\aleph_0, \aleph_1, \dots, \aleph_\omega$, etc.) the proof of the theorem yields a standard model \mathcal{N} of cardinality κ^+ such that

$$\mathcal{N} \models \text{ZFC} + \neg \kappa \subseteq L + \neg \kappa^+ \notin L .$$

Notice that in any theory consistent with $\text{ZF} + V = L$ one cannot prove the existence of a standard model \mathcal{N} of cardinality κ^+ such that $\mathcal{N} \models \text{ZFC} + \neg \kappa \notin L$, because in $\text{ZF} + V = L$ one can prove that, for any such model, $\mathcal{N} \models \neg \kappa \subseteq L$.

2. Both P. Vopěnka and J. Paris have pointed out that the assumption in the theorem that there exists a natural model of ZFC can be substantially weakened (thereby yielding, of course, a weaker conclusion). In fact one can prove the following

(*) $\text{ZFC} +$ "There exists an uncountable standard model of ZFC"
 \vdash "There exists an uncountable standard model of $\text{ZFC} + V \neq L$ ".

The proof of (*) can be based on the following Lemma (which I have recently noticed resembles a result implicit in [3]):

LEMMA. Let κ be a regular uncountable cardinal and let \mathcal{M} be a standard model of ZFC such that (i) $|\mathcal{M}| = \kappa$, (ii) $\kappa \in \mathcal{M}$ and (iii) $\{x \subseteq \kappa : |x| < \kappa\} \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. Then there is a standard model \mathcal{N} of ZFC such that $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{N}$ and $\mathcal{N} \models \neg \kappa \notin L$.

Proof. (Sketch). Let $B = B_\kappa^{(\mathcal{M})}$, i.e. the Boolean algebra B constructed in \mathcal{M} . Since every subset of κ of cardinality $< \kappa$ is in \mathcal{M} , it quickly follows that B has a dense subset satisfying the κ -dcc (consider the set of $U(\alpha, f)$ constructed in \mathcal{M}). Hence, by the Corollary to Lemma 2 and the fact that $|\mathcal{M}| = \kappa$, there is an

\mathcal{M} -generic ultrafilter U in B . Then $\mathcal{N} = \mathcal{M}[U]$ meets the requirements of the lemma.

Now we can prove (*) á la Vopěnka and Paris. Suppose that there is an uncountable standard model \mathcal{M} of ZFC. If $\mathcal{M} \models V \neq L$ then we are done, so assume $\mathcal{M} \models V = L$. There are now two cases to consider.

Case (a): $\omega_1 \in \mathcal{M}$. We work in L until further notice, with the proviso that ω_1 is always the true ω_1 , not $\omega_1^{(L)}$. By the Löwenheim-Skolem theorem we may assume $|\mathcal{M}| = \omega_1$. It is now easy to see that (inside L), conditions (i) through (iii) of the above Lemma are satisfied by \mathcal{M} (with $\kappa = \omega_1$). Therefore, applying the Lemma inside L , there is a standard model \mathcal{N} of $ZFC + V \neq L$ such that $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{N}$, so that $\omega_1 \in \mathcal{N}$. But the property of being a standard model of $ZFC + V \neq L$ is L -absolute, so, emerging from L into the real world, \mathcal{N} is truly a standard model of $ZFC + V \neq L$. Since $\omega_1 \in \mathcal{N}$, we have $|\mathcal{N}| \geq \omega_1$ and (*) follows.

Case (b): $\omega_1 \notin \mathcal{M}$. By the downward Löwenheim-Skolem theorem we may assume $|\mathcal{M}| = \omega_1$. It is clear that every member of \mathcal{M} is countable, since if x were an uncountable member of \mathcal{M} it could (by AC in \mathcal{M}) be put into one-one correspondence with an ordinal of \mathcal{M} which would have to be uncountable, contradicting the assumption that $\omega_1 \notin \mathcal{M}$. It follows that there are only countably many subsets of ω in \mathcal{M} , and so by the usual forcing argument we can find a generic extension \mathcal{N} of \mathcal{M} which is a standard model of $ZFC + V \neq L$.

Thus in either case we have the conclusion of (*), completing the proof.

Notice that an argument similar to that used in case (a) also proves the following:

ZFC + "There exists an (uncountable) model of ZFC containing a regular uncountable cardinal κ " \vdash "There exists a standard model of $ZFC + V \neq L$ of cardinality κ ".

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