

# Shelah's Proof of Diamond

Jakub Andruszkiewicz

Faculty of Mathematics, Informatics and Mechanics, University of Warsaw

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## Definition

By  $\diamond$  ("diamond principle") we denote the sentence: "there is a sequence  $(A_\alpha)_{\alpha < \omega_1}$  of subsets of  $\omega_1$  such that for every  $\alpha < \omega_1$  we have  $A_\alpha \subseteq \alpha$  and for every subset  $X \subseteq \omega_1$  the set

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By  $\clubsuit$  ("club principle") we denote the sentence: "there is a sequence  $(A_\alpha)_{\alpha \in L_1}$  of subsets of  $\omega_1$  such that for each  $\alpha \in L_1$  we have  $\sup(A_\alpha) = \alpha$  and for every uncountable subset  $X \subseteq \omega_1$  the set

$$\{\alpha \in L_1 : A_\alpha \subseteq X\}$$

is stationary (or just non-empty)."

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## Definition

For an uncountable regular cardinal  $\kappa$  and stationary set  $S \subseteq \kappa$  by  $\diamond_\kappa(S)$  we denote the sentence: "there is a sequence  $(A_\alpha)_{\alpha \in S}$  of subsets of  $\kappa$  such that for every  $\alpha \in S$  we have  $A_\alpha \subseteq \alpha$  and for every subset  $X \subseteq \kappa$  the set

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Note that for stationary  $S_1 \subseteq S_2 \subseteq \kappa$  we have  $\diamond_{\kappa}(S_1) \Rightarrow \diamond_{\kappa}(S_2)$

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## Theorem

**(Shelah)** Let  $\kappa$  be an uncountable cardinal and let stationary set  $S \subset \kappa^+$  be such that  $S \cap T_\kappa = \emptyset$ . Furthermore, suppose that  $2^\kappa = \kappa^+$ . Then  $\diamond_{\kappa^+}(S)$  holds.

## Theorem

**(Shelah)** Let  $\kappa$  be a regular uncountable cardinal. Then it is consistent with ZFC that  $2^\kappa = \kappa^+$ , but  $\diamond_{\kappa^+}(T_\kappa)$  fails (no large cardinals required).

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## Theorem

**(Zeman)** Let  $\kappa$  be a singular cardinal and let stationary set  $S \subseteq T_\kappa$  be reflecting stationarily often. Furthermore, suppose that  $2^\kappa = \kappa^+$  and  $\square_\kappa^*$  holds. Then  $\diamond_{\kappa^+}(S)$  holds.

## Theorem

**(Komjáth)** Let  $\kappa$  be a singular cardinal such that  $cf(\kappa) > \aleph_0$  and let  $T \subseteq T_\kappa$  be stationary. Suppose that  $2^\kappa = \kappa^+$  and that  $\diamond_{\kappa^+}(T)$  fails. Then there is a function

$$h : \{\alpha < \kappa^+ : cf(\alpha) < cf(\kappa)\} \rightarrow cf(\kappa)$$

such that for almost every (i.e. for club many)  $\delta \in T$  there is a closed unbounded set  $C \subseteq \delta$ , such that  $h|_C$  is strictly increasing.

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For every  $\delta < \kappa^+$  fix an increasing decomposition

$$\delta = \bigcup \{A_\alpha^\delta : \alpha < cf(\kappa)\} \text{ with } |A_\alpha^\delta| < \kappa \text{ for every } \alpha < cf(\kappa).$$

# The proof

Key lemma:  $\exists \gamma < cf(\kappa) \exists (X_\alpha)_{\alpha < \kappa^+} : X_\alpha \subseteq \kappa \times \kappa^+ \forall Z \subseteq \kappa \times \kappa^+$  there are stationarily many  $\delta \in S$  such that  $\forall \alpha_0 < \delta \exists \alpha \in (\alpha_0, \delta) \exists \beta < \delta \alpha, \beta \in A_\gamma^\delta$  and  $Z \cap (\kappa \times \alpha) = X_\beta$ .

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For as big  $\xi < \kappa$  as possible we define by transfinite induction a pair  $(B_\xi, C_\xi)$  of subsets of  $\kappa^+$ , with  $C_\xi$  being closed unbounded, such that for every  $\delta \in C_\xi \cap S$  and for

$$V_\xi^\delta = \{(\alpha, \beta) \in A_\gamma^\delta \times A_\gamma^\delta : \forall \eta < \xi B_\eta \cap \alpha = (X_\beta)_\eta\}$$

either  $\sup\{\alpha : \exists \beta < \kappa (\alpha, \beta) \in V_\xi^\delta\} < \delta$  or else  $V_\xi^\delta \supseteq V_{\xi+1}^\delta$ .

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Observe that this construction must stop below  $\kappa$ . Indeed, because assume that we define  $(B_\xi, C_\xi)$  for every  $\xi < \kappa$ .

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$$(X_\beta)_\eta = (Z \cap (\kappa \times \alpha))_\eta = (Z)_\eta \cap \alpha = B_\eta \cap \alpha.$$

So  $(V_\xi^\delta)_{\delta < \kappa}$  is strictly decreasing, which is impossible, since those are subsets of  $A_\gamma^\delta \times A_\gamma^\delta$ , which is of cardinality less than  $\kappa$ .

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So let  $\xi_0 < \kappa$  be such that we defined  $(B_\xi, C_\xi)$  for  $\xi < \xi_0$  and  $B_{\xi_0}, C_{\xi_0}$  could not be defined. Let  $C = \bigcap_{\xi < \xi_0} C_\xi$ . We will show that  $(S_\delta)_{\delta \in S \cap C}$  defined as

$$S_\delta = \bigcup \{ (X_\beta)_{\xi_0} : \exists \alpha < \kappa (\alpha, \beta) \in V_{\xi_0}^\delta \}$$

is a  $\diamond_{\kappa^+}(S \cap C)$ -sequence.



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Suppose that for some  $B \subseteq \kappa^+$  the set  
 $A = \{\delta \in S \cap C : S_\delta = B \cap \delta\}$  is not stationary.

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definition of  $\xi_0$  we can assume that there is a stationary subset

$S_0 \subseteq C_{\xi_0} \cap S$  such that for  $\delta \in S_0$  we have

$\sup \{ \alpha : \exists \beta < \kappa (\alpha, \beta) \in V_{\xi_0}^\delta \} = \delta$  and  $V_{\xi_0}^\delta = V_{\xi_0+1}^\delta$ ,

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$\sup \{ \alpha : \exists \beta < \kappa (\alpha, \beta) \in V_{\xi_0}^\delta \} = \delta$  and  $V_{\xi_0}^\delta = V_{\xi_0+1}^\delta$ , but then we see that

$$B_{\xi_0} \cap \delta = \bigcup \{ B_{\xi_0} \cap \alpha : \exists \beta < \kappa (\alpha, \beta) \in V_{\xi_0}^\delta \} =$$

$$\bigcup \{ (X_\beta)_{\xi_0} : \exists \alpha < \kappa (\alpha, \beta) \in V_{\xi_0}^\delta \} = S_\delta.$$

□