

Custom-made Souslin trees

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Thursday, January 21, 2016
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This is joint work with Assaf Rinot, and still in progress.
This project is partially supported by German-Israeli Foundation for
Scientific Research and Development,
Grant No. I-2354-304.6/2014.

Souslin trees — higher cardinals

Recall:

Definition

For any regular cardinal κ , a tree T is κ -Souslin if:

- ▶ it has height κ ,
- ▶ it has no chain of size κ ,
- ▶ it has no antichain of size κ .

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What does it take to construct a κ -Souslin tree for arbitrary regular cardinal κ ?

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Theorem (Jensen, 1972)

- ▶ *Suppose λ is a regular cardinal. Assuming $\lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda$ and $\diamond(E_\lambda^{\lambda^+})$, there exists a λ^+ -Souslin tree.*

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- ▶ *Suppose λ is a singular cardinal.
Assuming GCH and \square_λ , there exists a λ^+ -Souslin tree.*
- ▶ *If $V = L$, then for every regular uncountable cardinal κ that is not weakly compact, there exists a κ -Souslin tree.*

Weakening the axioms

We write CH_λ for the assertion that $2^\lambda = \lambda^+$.

Theorem (Gregory, 1976)

If $\lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda$, CH_λ , and there exists a non-reflecting stationary subset of $E_{<\lambda}^{\lambda^+}$, then there exists a λ^+ -Souslin tree.

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Baumgartner proved that $\square_{\lambda, \geq \chi}$ is consistent with the failure of \square_λ and even \square_λ^* .

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Theorem (König, Larson & Yoshinobu, 2007)

If $\lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda$, CH_λ , and $\mathfrak{u}^(\lambda, E_\lambda^{\lambda^+})$ holds for a regular uncountable cardinal λ , then there exists a λ^+ -Souslin tree.*

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If $\lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda$ and $\langle \lambda \rangle_{E_\lambda^{\lambda^+}}^-$ holds for a regular uncountable cardinal λ , then there exists a λ^+ -Souslin tree.

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These principles $(\aleph^*(\lambda, E_\lambda^{\lambda^+}), \langle \lambda \rangle_{E_\lambda^{\lambda^+}}^-)$ are consistent with the failure of $\diamond(E_\lambda^{\lambda^+})$.

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Can we overcome these limitations?

Souslin trees with extra properties

What additional properties might a κ -Souslin tree satisfy?

Example: Free trees

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A κ -Souslin tree $\langle T, <_T \rangle$ is said to be **free** if for every nonzero $n < \omega$, any $\beta < \kappa$, and any sequence of distinct nodes $\langle w_0, \dots, w_{n-1} \rangle \in {}^n T_\beta$, the derived tree $w_0^\uparrow \otimes \dots \otimes w_{n-1}^\uparrow$ is again a κ -Souslin tree.

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Here, the **derived tree** $w_0^\uparrow \otimes \dots \otimes w_{n-1}^\uparrow$ stands for the tree $(\hat{T}, <_{\hat{T}})$, as follows:

- ▶ $\hat{T} = \{ \langle z_0, \dots, z_{n-1} \rangle \in {}^n T \mid \exists \delta < \kappa \forall i < n (z_i \in T_\delta \text{ and } z_i \text{ is } <_T\text{-compatible with } w_i) \}$;
- ▶ $\vec{y} <_{\hat{T}} \vec{z}$ iff $y_i <_T z_i$ for all $i < n$.

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Can we construct a free κ -Souslin tree?

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Are we going to go over each of these models and tailor each of these particular constructions in order to get a free Souslin tree?

Order in the jungle?

We have a zoo of consistent constructions of κ -Souslin trees!
Construction of a κ -Souslin tree with any desired property seems to depend on the nature of κ , and in some cases even depends on whether κ is successor of a singular of countable or of uncountable cofinality.

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Does it have to be this way?

Looking for an alternative to \square

Notation

For any set of ordinals D :

$$\text{acc}(D) = \{\alpha \in D \mid \sup(D \cap \alpha) = \alpha > 0\}; \text{ and}$$
$$\text{nacc}(D) = D \setminus \text{acc}(D).$$

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Recall Jensen's square principle, designed to enable construction of λ^+ -Souslin trees:

Definition (Jensen, 1972)

For an infinite cardinal λ , \square_λ asserts the existence of a sequence $\langle C_\alpha \mid \alpha < \lambda^+ \rangle$ such that:

- ▶ C_α is a club in α for all limit $\alpha < \lambda^+$;
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- ▶ $\text{otp}(C_\alpha) \leq \lambda$ for all $\alpha < \lambda^+$.

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Why is \square_λ not ideal for our purpose?

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- ▶ It has no appropriate analogue for inaccessible cardinals
- ▶ It is tied to non-reflecting stationary sets, which we want to be able to avoid

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- ▶ $C_{\bar{\alpha}} = C_\alpha \cap \bar{\alpha}$ for all ordinals $\alpha < \kappa$ and $\bar{\alpha} \in \text{acc}(C_\alpha)$;
- ▶ for every cofinal subset $B \subseteq \kappa$, there exist stationarily many $\alpha < \kappa$ satisfying

$$\sup(\text{nacc}(C_\alpha) \cap B) = \alpha.$$

Building a κ -Souslin tree from $\diamond(\kappa) + \boxtimes^-(\kappa)$

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For *any* regular uncountable cardinal κ , $\diamond(\kappa) + \boxtimes^-(\kappa)$ implies the existence of a κ -Souslin tree.

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What will our tree $\langle T, <_T \rangle$ look like?

- ▶ $\langle T, <_T \rangle$ will be a normal downward-closed subtree of $\langle {}^{<\kappa}2, \subset \rangle$. In particular:

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- ▶ Each node $t \in T$ is a function $t : \alpha \rightarrow 2$ for some ordinal $\alpha < \kappa$;
- ▶ The tree order $<_T$ is simply extension of functions \subset ;
- ▶ If $t : \alpha \rightarrow 2$ is in T , then $t \upharpoonright \beta \in T$ for every $\beta < \alpha$.
- ▶ For all $t \in T$, $\text{ht}(t) = \text{dom}(t)$ and $t \downarrow = \{t \upharpoonright \beta \mid \beta < \text{dom}(t)\}$.
- ▶ For all $\alpha < \kappa$, the level $T_\alpha = T \cap {}^\alpha 2$.

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Motivation: ease of completing a branch at a limit level.

If $\langle t_\alpha \mid \alpha < \beta \rangle$ (for some $\beta < \kappa$) is a \subseteq -increasing sequence of nodes in T , then the (unique) limit of this sequence, which may or may not be a member of T , is simply $\bigcup_{\alpha < \beta} t_\alpha$.

Refining an old axiom: From $\diamond(\kappa)$ to $\diamond(H_\kappa)$

Fix a regular uncountable cardinal κ .

Definition (Jensen, 1972)

$\diamond(\kappa)$ asserts the existence of a sequence $\langle Z_\beta \mid \beta < \kappa \rangle$ such that for every $Z \subseteq \kappa$, the set $\{\beta < \kappa \mid Z \cap \beta = Z_\beta\}$ is stationary in κ .

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- ▶ $p \in \mathcal{M}$;
- ▶ $\mathcal{M} \cap \kappa \in \kappa$;
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Here, H_λ denotes the collection of all sets of hereditary cardinality less than λ .

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Proposition

$\diamond(\kappa)$ is *equivalent* to $\diamond(H_\kappa)$.

Preliminaries

Let $\langle R_i \mid i < \kappa \rangle$ and $\langle \Omega_\beta \mid \beta < \kappa \rangle$ together witness $\diamond(H_\kappa)$.

Fix a sequence $\langle C_\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa \rangle$ witnessing $\boxtimes^-(\kappa)$.

Fix a well-ordering \triangleleft on H_κ .

The easy part

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For every $\alpha < \kappa$, define

$$T_{\alpha+1} = \{s \hat{\ } \langle i \rangle \mid s \in T_\alpha, i < 2\}.$$

The hard part

What do we do at limit levels?

Fix a limit ordinal $\alpha < \kappa$, and assume $T \upharpoonright \alpha = \bigcup_{\beta < \alpha} T_\beta$ has already been defined.

We need to decide which branches through $T \upharpoonright \alpha$ will have their limits placed in the level T_α of the tree.

We need T_α to contain enough nodes so that the tree is normal.

That is, for every $x \in T \upharpoonright \alpha$, we need to place some node \mathbf{b}_x^α in T_α above x .

The node \mathbf{b}_x^α will be the limit of some sequence b_x^α in $T \upharpoonright \alpha$. But we have to choose these sequences carefully, so that the resulting tree doesn't have large antichains.

Identifying cofinal branches

Recall that C_α is a club subset of α .

For every $x \in T \upharpoonright C_\alpha$, we will use C_α to identify a cofinal branch b_x^α through $\langle T \upharpoonright \alpha, \subseteq \rangle$, containing x , as follows:

- ▶ b_x^α will be an increasing, continuous sequence of nodes.
- ▶ $\text{dom}(b_x^\alpha) = C_\alpha \setminus \text{ht}(x)$.
- ▶ $b_x^\alpha(\text{ht}(x)) = x$.
- ▶ We will need to identify $b_x^\alpha(\beta) \in T_\beta$ for all $\beta \in C_\alpha$ with $\beta > \text{ht}(x)$.

We will do this by recursion over β , considering the cases $\beta \in \text{nacc}(C_\alpha)$ and $\beta \in \text{acc}(C_\alpha)$ in turn.

Intersecting a maximal antichain at levels in $\text{nacc}(C_\alpha)$

Suppose $\beta \in \text{nacc}(C_\alpha)$ with $\beta > \text{ht}(x)$.

Denote $\beta^- = \max(C_\alpha \cap \beta)$.

This exists and is in $\text{dom}(b_x^\alpha)$, so that $b_x^\alpha(\beta^-)$ has been defined.

We need to identify $b_x^\alpha(\beta) \in T_\beta$, extending $b_x^\alpha(\beta^-)$.

Consider two possibilities:

- ▶ If there is some $y \in \Omega_\beta$ and $z \in T_\beta$ such that $b_x^\alpha(\beta^-) \cup y \subseteq z$, then let $b_x^\alpha(\beta)$ be the \triangleleft -least such z .
- ▶ Otherwise, let $b_x^\alpha(\beta)$ be the \triangleleft -least element of T_β extending $b_x^\alpha(\beta^-)$. Such a node must exist, because we are ensuring that the tree is normal as we construct every level.

Notice that if Ω_β is a maximal antichain through $T \upharpoonright \beta$, then in particular there is some $y \in \Omega_\beta \cap (T \upharpoonright \beta)$ compatible with $b_x^\alpha(\beta^-)$, so that $b_x^\alpha(\beta^-) \cup y \in T \upharpoonright \beta$, and then by normality there is $z \in T_\beta$ extending this, so that the first option applies.

Will we get stuck at levels in $\text{acc}(C_\alpha)$?

Suppose $\beta \in \text{acc}(C_\alpha)$ with $\beta > \text{ht}(x)$.

We want b_x^α to be continuous, so the only possible definition is:

$$b_x^\alpha(\beta) = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \text{dom}(b_x^\alpha) \cap \beta} b_x^\alpha(\gamma).$$

Clearly $b_x^\alpha(\beta) \in {}^\beta 2$, but how do we know that $b_x^\alpha(\beta) \in T_\beta$?

This question highlights the difference between the classical approach and our new framework.

Coherence to the rescue!

Since $\beta \in \text{acc}(C_\alpha)$, our choice of the sequence satisfying $\boxtimes^-(\kappa)$ gives $C_\beta = C_\alpha \cap \beta$.

For every $\gamma \in \text{dom}(b_x^\alpha) \cap \beta$, the value of $b_x^\beta(\gamma)$ was determined in exactly the same way as $b_x^\alpha(\gamma)$:

- ▶ starting with $b_x^\beta(\text{ht}(x)) = x = b_x^\alpha(\text{ht}(x))$;
- ▶ for $\gamma \in \text{nacc}(C_\alpha)$: depending only on $b_x^\alpha(\gamma^-)$, Ω_γ , and T_γ ;
- ▶ for $\gamma \in \text{acc}(C_\alpha)$: taking limits.

It follows that

$$b_x^\alpha(\beta) = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \text{dom}(b_x^\alpha) \cap \beta} b_x^\alpha(\gamma) = \bigcup_{\gamma \in \text{dom}(b_x^\beta)} b_x^\beta(\gamma) = \mathbf{b}_x^\beta.$$

Since $\beta < \alpha$, the level T_β has already been constructed, and the construction guarantees that we have included the limit \mathbf{b}_x^β of the sequence b_x^β into T_β . But we have just shown that this is exactly $b_x^\alpha(\beta)$, so that $b_x^\alpha(\beta) \in T_\beta$, as required.

Completing the construction of T_α

The sequence b_x^α just identified determines a cofinal branch through $T \upharpoonright \alpha$ containing x .

As promised, we take its limit

$$\mathbf{b}_x^\alpha = \bigcup_{\beta \in \text{dom}(b_x^\alpha)} b_x^\alpha(\beta),$$

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Finally, we collect all nodes constructed in this way, and let

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$$T_\alpha = \{\mathbf{b}_x^\alpha \mid x \in T \upharpoonright C_\alpha\}.$$

Having constructed all levels of the tree, we then let

$$T = \bigcup_{\alpha < \kappa} T_\alpha.$$

Here we use $\diamond(H_\kappa)$

Claim

Suppose $A \subseteq T$ is a maximal antichain. Then the set

$$B = \{\beta < \kappa \mid A \cap (T \upharpoonright \beta) = \Omega_\beta \text{ is a maximal antichain in } T \upharpoonright \beta\}.$$

is a stationary subset of κ .

Proof.

Let $D \subseteq \kappa$ be an arbitrary club. We must show that $D \cap B \neq \emptyset$. Put $p = \{A, T, D\}$. Using the fact that the sequence $\langle \Omega_\beta \mid \beta < \kappa \rangle$ satisfies $\diamond(H_\kappa)$, pick $\mathcal{M} \prec H_{\kappa^+}$ with $p \in \mathcal{M}$ such that $\beta = \mathcal{M} \cap \kappa$ is in κ and $\Omega_\beta = A \cap \mathcal{M}$. Since $D \in \mathcal{M}$ and D is club in κ , we have $\beta \in D$. We claim that $\beta \in B$. For all $\alpha < \beta$, by $\alpha, T \in \mathcal{M}$, we have $T_\alpha \in \mathcal{M}$, and by $\mathcal{M} \models |T_\alpha| < \kappa$, we have $T_\alpha \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. So $T \upharpoonright \beta \subseteq \mathcal{M}$. As $\text{dom}(z) \in \mathcal{M}$ for all $z \in T \cap \mathcal{M}$, we conclude that $T \cap \mathcal{M} = T \upharpoonright \beta$. So, $\Omega_\beta = A \cap (T \upharpoonright \beta)$. As $H_{\kappa^+} \models A$ is a maximal antichain in T and $T \cap \mathcal{M} = T \upharpoonright \beta$, we get that $A \cap (T \upharpoonright \beta)$ is maximal in $T \upharpoonright \beta$.

Verifying that T is κ -Souslin

Claim

The tree $\langle T, \subset \rangle$ is a κ -Souslin tree.

Proof.

Let $A \subseteq T$ be a maximal antichain. From the previous claim,

$$B = \{\beta < \kappa \mid A \cap (T \upharpoonright \beta) = \Omega_\beta \text{ is a maximal antichain in } T \upharpoonright \beta\}$$

is a stationary subset of κ .

Thus we apply $\boxtimes^-(\kappa)$ to obtain a limit ordinal $\alpha < \kappa$ satisfying

$$\sup(\text{nacc}(C_\alpha) \cap B) = \alpha.$$

Consider any $v \in T_\alpha$. By construction,

$v = \mathbf{b}_x^\alpha = \bigcup_{\beta \in \text{dom}(b_x^\alpha)} b_x^\alpha(\beta)$ for some $x \in T \upharpoonright C_\alpha$. Fix $\beta \in \text{nacc}(C_\alpha) \cap B$ with $\text{ht}(x) < \beta < \alpha$. So $\Omega_\beta = A \cap (T \upharpoonright \beta)$ is a maximal antichain in $T \upharpoonright \beta$. Thus we chose $b_x^\alpha(\beta)$ to extend some $y \in \Omega_\beta$. Altogether, $y \subseteq b_x^\alpha(\beta) \subseteq \mathbf{b}_x^\alpha = v$, as required. □

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Theorem

$\diamond(\kappa) + \boxtimes^-(\kappa)$ holds, assuming any of the following:

- ▶ $\kappa = \aleph_1$ and $\diamond(\aleph_1)$ holds;
- ▶ $\kappa = \lambda^+$ for λ uncountable, and $\square_\lambda + \text{CH}_\lambda$ holds;
- ▶ $\kappa = \lambda^+$, λ is not subcompact, and V is a Jensen-type extender model of the form $L[E]$;
- ▶ κ is a regular uncountable cardinal that is not weakly compact, and $V = L$.

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Thus, we get a κ -Souslin tree uniformly in all these scenarios!

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At each limit level $\alpha < \kappa$, we put (at most) one node into T_α for every $x \in T \upharpoonright \alpha$.

It follows that $|T_\alpha| \leq \max\{|\alpha|, \aleph_0\}$ for every $\alpha < \kappa$.

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What if we consider an opposite property?

Complete Souslin trees

Definition

For cardinals $\chi < \kappa$, the κ -Souslin tree $\langle T, <_T \rangle$ is χ -complete if every $<_T$ -increasing sequence of elements of T of length $< \chi$ has an upper bound in T .

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Which axiom should we strengthen: $\diamond(\kappa)$ or $\boxtimes^-(\kappa)$?

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Classical constructions of χ -complete Souslin trees would replace $\diamond(\kappa)$ with $\diamond(E_{\geq \chi}^\kappa)$. But we'll try something different. . . .

A stronger parameter: $\boxtimes^-(S)$

Recall

Fix a regular uncountable cardinal κ .

The principle $\boxtimes^-(\kappa)$ asserts the existence of a sequence $\langle C_\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa \rangle$ such that:

- ▶ C_α is a club subset of α for every limit ordinal $\alpha < \kappa$;
- ▶ $C_{\bar{\alpha}} = C_\alpha \cap \bar{\alpha}$ for all ordinals $\alpha < \kappa$ and $\bar{\alpha} \in \text{acc}(C_\alpha)$;
- ▶ for every cofinal subset $B \subseteq \kappa$, there exist stationarily many $\alpha < \kappa$ satisfying

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- ▶ for every cofinal subset $B \subseteq \kappa$, there exist stationarily many $\alpha \in S$ satisfying

$$\sup(\text{nacc}(C_\alpha) \cap B) = \alpha.$$

Theorem

For any regular uncountable cardinal κ and any infinite $\chi < \kappa$ satisfying $\lambda^{<\chi} < \kappa$ for all $\lambda < \kappa$, $\diamond(\kappa) + \boxtimes^-(E_{\geq \chi}^\kappa)$ implies the existence of a χ -complete κ -Souslin tree.

A stronger parameter: $\boxtimes^-(S)$

There exist models satisfying $\diamond(\kappa)$ and $\boxtimes^-(E_{\geq\chi}^\kappa)$ in which $\diamond(E_{\geq\chi}^\kappa)$ fails. The preceding theorem shows that we can build a χ -complete κ -Souslin tree in such a model, despite the failure of $\diamond(E_{\geq\chi}^\kappa)$.

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Coherent trees

Definition

A subtree $T \subseteq {}^{<\kappa}\kappa$ is **coherent** if for every $\alpha < \kappa$ and $s, t \in T \cap {}^\alpha\kappa$, the set $\{\beta < \alpha \mid s(\beta) \neq t(\beta)\}$ is finite.

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What about inaccessible κ ?

Strengthening $\boxtimes^-(S)$ to $\boxtimes(S)$

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- ▶ for every **sequence** $\langle B_i \mid i < \kappa \rangle$ **of cofinal subsets of κ** , there exist stationarily many $\alpha \in S$ such that **for all $i < \alpha$**

$$\sup(\text{nacc}(C_\alpha) \cap B_i) = \alpha.$$

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- ▶ for every sequence $\langle B_i \mid i < \kappa \rangle$ of cofinal subsets of κ , there exist stationarily many $\alpha \in S$ such that for all $i < \alpha$

$$\sup\{\beta < \alpha \mid \text{succ}_\omega(C_\alpha \setminus \beta) \subseteq B_i\} = \alpha,$$

where

$$\text{succ}_\omega(D) := \{\delta \in D \mid 0 < \text{otp}(D \cap \delta) < \omega\}.$$

Construction of a coherent tree

Theorem

If κ is a regular uncountable cardinal and $\boxtimes(\kappa) + \diamondsuit(\kappa)$ holds, then there exists a coherent κ -Souslin tree.

Construction of a coherent tree

Let $\langle C_\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa \rangle$ be a witness to $\boxtimes(\kappa)$.

WLOG, assume that $0 \in C_\alpha$ for all $\alpha < \kappa$.

Let $\langle R_i \mid i < \kappa \rangle$ and $\langle \Omega_\beta \mid \beta < \kappa \rangle$ together witness $\diamond(H_\kappa)$.

Fix a well-ordering \triangleleft on H_κ .

Let $\pi : \kappa \rightarrow \kappa$ be such that $\alpha \in R_{\pi(\alpha)}$ for all $\alpha < \kappa$.

By $\diamond(\kappa)$, we have $2^{<\kappa} = \kappa$, thus let $\phi : \kappa \leftrightarrow {}^{<\kappa}2$ be some bijection.

Put $\psi := \phi \circ \pi$.

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Put $\psi := \phi \circ \pi$.

For two elements of η, τ of H_κ , we define $\eta * \tau$ to be the empty set, unless $\eta, \tau \in {}^{<\kappa}2$ with $\text{dom}(\eta) < \text{dom}(\tau)$, in which case

$\eta * \tau : \text{dom}(\tau) \rightarrow 2$ is defined by stipulating:

$$(\eta * \tau)(\beta) := \begin{cases} \eta(\beta), & \text{if } \beta \in \text{dom}(\eta); \\ \tau(\beta), & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

Construction of a coherent tree (continued)

We shall now recursively construct a sequence $\langle T_\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa \rangle$ of levels whose union will ultimately be the desired tree T .

Let $T_0 := \{\emptyset\}$.

For every $\alpha < \kappa$, define

$$T_{\alpha+1} = \{s \hat{\ } \langle i \rangle \mid s \in T_\alpha, i < 2\}.$$

Construction of a coherent tree (continued)

Next, suppose that α is a nonzero limit ordinal, and that $\langle T_\beta \mid \beta < \alpha \rangle$ has already been defined.

As before, to each node $x \in T \upharpoonright \alpha$ we shall associate some node $\mathbf{b}_x^\alpha : \alpha \rightarrow \kappa$ above x , and then let $T_\alpha := \{\mathbf{b}_x^\alpha \mid x \in T \upharpoonright \alpha\}$.

Unlike the previous proof we first define $\mathbf{b}_\emptyset^\alpha$, and then use $\mathbf{b}_\emptyset^\alpha$ to define \mathbf{b}_x^α for $x \neq \emptyset$.

Define $b_\emptyset^\alpha \in \prod_{\beta \in C_\alpha} T_\beta$ by recursion. Let $b_\emptyset^\alpha(0) := \emptyset$.

Construction of a coherent tree (continued)

Next, suppose $\beta^- < \beta$ are successive points of C_α , and $b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta^-)$ has already been defined. In order to decide $b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta)$, we advise with the following set:

$$Q^{\alpha, \beta} := \{t \in T_\beta \mid \exists s \in \Omega_\beta[(s \cup (\psi(\beta) * b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta^-))) \subseteq t]\}.$$

Now, consider the two possibilities:

- ▶ If $Q^{\alpha, \beta} \neq \emptyset$, let t denote its \triangleleft -least element, and put $b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta) := b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta^-) * t$;
- ▶ Otherwise, let $b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta)$ be the \triangleleft -least element of T_β that extends $b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta^-)$.

Note that $Q^{\alpha, \beta}$ depends only on $T_\beta, \Omega_\beta, \psi(\beta)$ and $b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta^-)$, and hence for every ordinal $\gamma < \kappa$, if $C_\alpha \cap (\beta + 1) = C_\gamma \cap (\beta + 1)$, then $b_\emptyset^\alpha \upharpoonright (\beta + 1) = b_\emptyset^\gamma \upharpoonright (\beta + 1)$. It follows that for all $\beta \in \text{acc}(C_\alpha)$ such that $b_\emptyset^\alpha \upharpoonright \beta$ has already been defined, we may let

$b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta) := \bigcup \text{Im}(b_\emptyset^\alpha \upharpoonright \beta)$ and infer that $b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta) = \mathbf{b}_\emptyset^\beta \in T_\beta$. This completes the definition of b_\emptyset^α and its limit $\mathbf{b}_\emptyset^\alpha = \bigcup \text{Im}(b_\emptyset^\alpha)$.

Construction of a coherent tree (continued)

Next, for each $x \in T \upharpoonright \alpha$, let $\mathbf{b}_x^\alpha := x * \mathbf{b}_\emptyset^\alpha$. This completes the definition of the level T_α .

Having constructed all levels of the tree, we then let

$$T := \bigcup_{\alpha < \kappa} T_\alpha.$$

Construction of a coherent tree (continued)

Next, for each $x \in T \upharpoonright \alpha$, let $\mathbf{b}_x^\alpha := x * \mathbf{b}_\emptyset^\alpha$. This completes the definition of the level T_α .

Having constructed all levels of the tree, we then let

$$T := \bigcup_{\alpha < \kappa} T_\alpha.$$

Claim

For every $\alpha < \kappa$, every two nodes of T_α differ on a finite set.

Proof.

Suppose not, and let α be the least counterexample. Clearly, α must be a limit nonzero ordinal. Pick $x, y \in T \upharpoonright \alpha$ such that \mathbf{b}_x^α differs from \mathbf{b}_y^α on an infinite set. As $\mathbf{b}_x^\alpha = x * \mathbf{b}_\emptyset^\alpha$ and $\mathbf{b}_y^\alpha = y * \mathbf{b}_\emptyset^\alpha$, it follows that x and y differ on an infinite set, contradicting the minimality of α . □

Thus, we are left with verifying that (T, \subset) is κ -Souslin.

Construction of a coherent tree (continued)

Claim

Suppose $A \subseteq T$ is a maximal antichain. Then $|A| < \kappa$.

Construction of a coherent tree (continued)

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Suppose $A \subseteq T$ is a maximal antichain. Then $|A| < \kappa$.

PROOF:

As in the previous theorem but this time making use of the sequence $\langle R_i \mid i < \kappa \rangle$, for every $i < \kappa$, the set

$B_i := \{\beta \in R_i \mid A \cap (T \upharpoonright \beta) = \Omega_\beta \text{ is a maximal antichain in } T \upharpoonright \beta\}$

is stationary. Thus, we apply $\boxtimes(\kappa)$ to the sequence $\langle B_i \mid i < \kappa \rangle$, and the club $D := \{\alpha < \kappa \mid T \upharpoonright \alpha \subseteq \phi[\alpha]\}$ to obtain an ordinal $\alpha \in D$ such that for all $i < \alpha$:

$$\sup(\text{nacc}(C_\alpha) \cap B_i) = \alpha.$$

Construction of a coherent tree (continued)

To see that $A \subseteq T \upharpoonright \alpha$, consider any $z \in T \upharpoonright (\kappa \setminus \alpha)$. Let $y := z \upharpoonright \alpha \in T_\alpha$. By construction, $y = \mathbf{b}_x^\alpha = x * \mathbf{b}_\emptyset^\alpha$ for some $x \in T \upharpoonright \alpha$. As $\alpha \in D$ and $x \in T \upharpoonright \alpha$, we can fix $i < \alpha$ such that $\phi(i) = x$.

Fix $\beta \in \text{nacc}(C_\alpha) \cap B_i$ with $\text{ht}(x) < \beta < \alpha$. Clearly, $\psi(\beta) = \phi(\pi(\beta)) = \phi(i) = x$. Since $\beta \in B_i$, we know that $\Omega_\beta = A \cap (T \upharpoonright \beta)$ is a maximal antichain in $T \upharpoonright \beta$, and hence $Q^{\alpha, \beta} \neq \emptyset$. Let $t := \min(Q^{\alpha, \beta}, \triangleleft)$ and $\beta^- := \sup(C_\alpha \cap \beta)$. Then $b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta) = b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta^-) * t$, and there exists some $s \in \Omega_\beta$ such that $(s \cup (x * b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta^-))) \subseteq t$. In particular, $x * b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta)$ extends an element of Ω_β . Altogether, there exists some $s \in A \cap (T \upharpoonright \beta)$ such that $s \subseteq x * b_\emptyset^\alpha(\beta) \subseteq x * \mathbf{b}_\emptyset^\alpha = \mathbf{b}_x^\alpha = y \subseteq z$, and hence $z \notin A$.

How does $\boxtimes(\kappa)$ fit with other axioms?

Now we've built a **coherent** κ -Souslin tree from $\diamond(\kappa) + \boxtimes(\kappa)$. How does this compare with other known axioms?

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Theorem

$\diamond(\kappa) + \boxtimes(\kappa)$ holds, assuming any of the following:

- ▶ $\kappa = \aleph_1$ and $\diamond(\aleph_1)$ holds;
- ▶ $\kappa = \lambda^+$ for λ singular, and $\square_\lambda + \text{CH}_\lambda$ holds;
- ▶ $\kappa = \lambda^+$ for λ regular uncountable, and \boxtimes_λ holds;
- ▶ $\kappa = \lambda^+$, λ is not subcompact, and V is a Jensen-type extender model of the form $L[E]$;
- ▶ κ is a regular uncountable cardinal that is not weakly compact, and $V = L$;
- ▶ $\kappa = \lambda^+$ for λ regular uncountable and $V = W^{\text{Add}(\lambda,1)}$, where

$$W \models \text{ZFC} + \square_\lambda + \text{CH}_\lambda + \lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda.$$

Unified result

Thus, we get a **coherent** κ -Souslin tree uniformly in all these scenarios!

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Thus, we get a **coherent** κ -Souslin tree uniformly in all these scenarios!

In fact, we can construct a **free** κ -Souslin tree from $\diamond(\kappa) + \boxtimes(\kappa)$.
Thus there exists a **free** κ -Souslin tree in all of these scenarios as well!

Using the full strength of $\boxtimes(\kappa)$

The construction of the coherent and free trees does not use the full force of the axiom $\boxtimes(\kappa)$: We needed only

$$\sup(\text{nacc}(C_\alpha) \cap B_i) = \alpha,$$

which is equivalent to

$$\sup\{\beta < \alpha \mid \text{succ}_1(C_\alpha \setminus \beta) \subseteq B_i\} = \alpha,$$

while $\boxtimes(\kappa)$ provides

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Why do we need the stronger condition?

Using the full strength of $\boxtimes(\kappa)$: Ascent paths

Using $\boxtimes(\kappa)$, we can construct a κ -Souslin tree with a θ -**ascent path**, for every cardinal $\theta < \kappa$.

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Using $\boxtimes(\kappa)$, we can construct a κ -Souslin tree with a θ -**ascent path**, for every cardinal $\theta < \kappa$.

What is an ascent path?

Instead of defining it, let's look at its consequences.

Ascent paths make a tree non-specializable

An ascent path makes a tree hard to specialize.

Recall: Baumgartner, Malitz & Reinhardt (1970) proved that every \aleph_1 -Aronszajn tree can be made special in some cofinality-preserving extension. The next example is of a λ^+ -Souslin tree that **cannot be specialized** without reducing it to the BMR scenario.

Theorem

Assume $\square_\lambda + \text{CH}_\lambda$ for a given singular cardinal λ of countable cofinality.

Then there exists a λ^+ -Souslin tree $\langle T, <_T \rangle$ satisfying the following. If W is a ZFC extension of the universe in which $\langle T, <_T \rangle$ is a special $|\lambda|^+$ -tree, then $W \models |\lambda| = \aleph_0$.

Free trees with ascent paths

Theorem

*For any regular uncountable cardinal κ and any infinite cardinal $\theta < \kappa$, $\diamond(\kappa) + \boxtimes(\kappa)$ implies that there exists a **free** κ -Souslin tree with a **θ -ascent path**.*

Reduced-power trees

Ascent paths provide a branch through the reduced-power tree, while freeness can prevent such branches from existing. With careful control over both, we obtain:

Theorem

Assume $V = L$.

Then there exist trees T_0, T_1, T_2, T_3 , and selective ultrafilters \mathcal{U}_0 over ω and \mathcal{U}_1 over ω_1 , such that:

	T	T^ω/\mathcal{U}_0	$T^{\omega_1}/\mathcal{U}_1$
T_0	\aleph_3 -Souslin	\aleph_3 -Aronszajn	\aleph_3 -Aronszajn
T_1	\aleph_3 -Souslin	\aleph_3 -Kurepa	\aleph_3 -Kurepa
T_2	\aleph_3 -Souslin	\aleph_3 -Aronszajn	\aleph_3 -Kurepa
T_3	\aleph_3 -Souslin	$\neg\aleph_3$ -Aronszajn	\aleph_3 -Aronszajn

This is new: Previous results addressed θ -power trees with respect to a single power θ , but here we control different powers simultaneously and independently.

The proxy principle

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Definition (Proxy principle)

The principle $P^-(\kappa, \mu, \mathcal{R}, \theta, S, \nu, \sigma, \mathcal{E})$ asserts the existence of a sequence $\langle \mathcal{C}_\alpha \mid \alpha < \kappa \rangle$ such that:

- ▶ for every limit $\alpha < \kappa$, \mathcal{C}_α is a collection of club subsets of α ;
- ▶ for every ordinal $\alpha < \kappa$, $0 < |\mathcal{C}_\alpha| < \mu$, and $C \mathcal{E} D$ for all $C, D \in \mathcal{C}_\alpha$;
- ▶ for every ordinal $\alpha < \kappa$, every $C \in \mathcal{C}_\alpha$, and every $\bar{\alpha} \in \text{acc}(C)$, there exists $D \in \mathcal{C}_{\bar{\alpha}}$ such that $D \mathcal{R} C$;
- ▶ for every sequence $\langle A_i \mid i < \theta \rangle$ of cofinal subsets of κ , and every $S \in S$, there exist stationarily many $\alpha \in S$ for which:
 - ▶ $|\mathcal{C}_\alpha| < \nu$; and
 - ▶ for every $C \in \mathcal{C}_\alpha$ and $i < \min\{\alpha, \theta\}$:

$$\sup\{\beta \in C \mid \text{succ}_\sigma(C \setminus \beta) \subseteq A_i\} = \alpha.$$

The proxy principle

Definition

$P(\kappa, \mu, \mathcal{R}, \theta, \mathcal{S}, \nu, \sigma, \mathcal{E})$ asserts that both $P^-(\kappa, \mu, \mathcal{R}, \theta, \mathcal{S}, \nu, \sigma, \mathcal{E})$ and $\diamond(\kappa)$ hold.

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- ▶ To calibrate various properties of Souslin trees, by identifying the weakest vector of parameters necessary to construct a tree satisfying any desired property;

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Why so many parameters?

- ▶ To calibrate various properties of Souslin trees, by identifying the weakest vector of parameters necessary to construct a tree satisfying any desired property;
- ▶ To capture all of the axioms used in classical \diamond -based constructions of Souslin trees.

The proxy principle

Recall:

We constructed a slim κ -Souslin tree from $\boxtimes^-(\kappa) + \diamond(\kappa)$, and a χ -complete κ -Souslin tree from $\boxtimes^-(E_{\geq\chi}^\kappa) + \diamond(\kappa)$.

We can restate \boxtimes^- in terms of the proxy principle as follows:

$$\boxtimes^-(S) \iff P^-(\kappa, 2, \sqsubseteq, 1, \{S\}, 2, 1, \mathcal{E}_\kappa),$$

so that we get a slim κ -Souslin tree from

$$P(\kappa, 2, \sqsubseteq, 1, \{\kappa\}, 2, 1, \mathcal{E}_\kappa),$$

and a χ -complete κ -Souslin tree (assuming $\lambda^{<\chi} < \kappa$ for all $\lambda < \kappa$) from

$$P(\kappa, 2, \sqsubseteq, 1, \{E_{\geq\chi}^\kappa\}, 2, 1, \mathcal{E}_\kappa).$$

Recovering the classical axioms

For any regular uncountable cardinal κ and any stationary $S \subseteq \kappa$:

$$\clubsuit_w(S) \iff P^-(\kappa, 2, \kappa \sqsubseteq, 1, \{S\}, 2, \kappa, \mathcal{E}_\kappa)$$

$$\diamond(S) \iff P(\kappa, 2, \kappa \sqsubseteq, 1, \{S\}, 2, \kappa, \mathcal{E}_\kappa)$$

For any infinite cardinal λ and any stationary $S \subseteq \lambda^+$:

$$\square_\lambda \iff P^-(\lambda^+, 2, \sqsubseteq, 1, \{\lambda^+\}, 2, 0, \mathcal{E}_\lambda)$$

$$\square_\lambda + \text{CH}_\lambda \iff P(\lambda^+, 2, \sqsubseteq, 1, \{\lambda^+\}, 2, 0, \mathcal{E}_\lambda) \quad (\lambda > \aleph_0)$$

$$\diamondsuit_\lambda \iff P(\lambda^+, 2, \sqsubseteq, 1, \{E_{\text{cf}(\lambda)}^{\lambda^+}\}, 2, \lambda^+, \mathcal{E}_\lambda)$$

$$\boxminus_{\lambda, \geq \chi} \iff P^-(\lambda^+, 2, \sqsubseteq_\chi, 1, \{\lambda^+\}, 2, 0, \mathcal{E}_\lambda) \quad \lambda > \aleph_0; \lambda \geq \chi \geq \aleph_0$$

$$\langle \lambda \rangle_S^- \iff P(\lambda^+, 2, \lambda \sqsubseteq, 1, \{S\}, 2, 1, \mathcal{E}_\lambda)$$

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Thus any time we carry out a construction from the proxy principle, we can tell immediately which of the classical axioms are sufficient for the construction.

More examples

Theorem

Assuming $P(\kappa, \kappa, \chi \sqsubseteq, \kappa, \{E_{\geq \chi}^\kappa\}, 2, 1, \mathcal{E}_\kappa)$ and $\lambda^{<\chi} < \kappa$ for all $\lambda < \kappa$, there exists a χ -complete, free κ -Souslin tree.

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Theorem

Assuming $\text{GCH} + P(\lambda^+, \lambda^+, \chi \sqsubseteq^*, 1, \{E_\lambda^{\lambda^+}\}, \lambda^+, 1, =^*)$, there exists a λ -complete specializable λ^+ -Souslin tree.

Still more

By further tweaking the parameters and varying the construction slightly, we can construct a Souslin tree from weaker axioms than those mentioned earlier.

Theorem

A form of the proxy principle $P(\dots)$ holds enabling the construction of a λ^+ -Souslin tree for uncountable λ , assuming any of the following:

- ▶ $\lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda + \diamond(E_\lambda^{\lambda^+})$;
- ▶ $V = W^{\text{Add}(\lambda,1)}$, where $W \models \text{ZFC} + \text{CH}_\lambda + \lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda$;
- ▶ $V = W^{\text{Prikry}(\lambda)}$, where $W \models \text{ZFC} + \text{CH}_\lambda + \lambda$ is measurable;
- ▶ $\lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda + \text{CH}_\lambda + \text{NS} \upharpoonright E_\theta^\lambda$ is saturated where $\lambda = \theta^+$ for regular θ ;
- ▶ $\lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda + \text{CH}_\lambda + \exists$ a non-reflecting stationary set of $E_{<\lambda}^{\lambda^+}$.

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- ▶ $\lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda + \text{CH}_\lambda + \exists$ a non-reflecting stationary set of $E_{<\lambda}^{\lambda^+}$.
- ▶ $2^{<\lambda} = \lambda + \square_\lambda^* + \text{CH}_\lambda + \exists$ a non-reflecting stationary subset of $E_{\neq \text{cf}(\lambda)}^{\lambda^+}$.

Returning to some earlier scenarios

Corollary

If $\lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda$, CH_λ , and $\aleph^(\lambda, E_\lambda^{\lambda^+})$ holds for a regular uncountable cardinal λ , then there exists a **free** λ^+ -Souslin tree.*

Returning to some earlier scenarios

Corollary

If $\lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda$, CH_λ , and $\aleph^*(\lambda, E_\lambda^{\lambda^+})$ holds for a regular uncountable cardinal λ , then there exists a **free** λ^+ -Souslin tree.

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If $\lambda^{<\lambda} = \lambda$ and $\langle \lambda \rangle_{E_\lambda^{\lambda^+}}^-$ holds for a regular uncountable cardinal λ , then there exists a **free** λ^+ -Souslin tree.

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Corollary

If $\square_{\lambda, \geq \chi}$ and CH_λ for cardinals $\chi < \lambda$ where λ is a singular strong limit cardinal, then there exists a **free** λ^+ -Souslin tree.

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If $\square_{\lambda, \geq \chi}$ and CH_λ for cardinals $\chi < \lambda$ where λ is a singular strong limit cardinal, then there exists a **free** λ^+ -Souslin tree.

The last theorem uses the ascent path to ensure that the construction goes through despite the possible failure of \square_λ^* in this case.

Even more

Theorem

Assuming the consistency of a supercompact cardinal, there is a model of ZFC that satisfies:

- 1. Martin's Maximum holds, and hence:
 - 1.1 \square_λ^* fails for every singular cardinal λ of countable cofinality;*
 - 1.2 $\square_{\lambda, \aleph_1}$ fails for every regular uncountable cardinal λ ;*
 - 1.3 There does not exist any \aleph_1 -Souslin or \aleph_2 -Souslin tree.**
- 2. $P(\lambda^+, 2, \sqsubseteq_{\aleph_2}, \lambda^+, \{E_{\text{cf}(\lambda)}^{\lambda^+}\}, 2, \omega, \mathcal{E}_\lambda)$ holds for every singular cardinal λ ;*
- 3. $P(\lambda^+, 2, \sqsubseteq_\lambda, \lambda^+, \{E_\lambda^{\lambda^+}\}, 2, \omega, \mathcal{E}_\lambda)$ holds for every regular uncountable cardinal λ .*

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- 2. $P(\lambda^+, 2, \sqsubseteq_{\aleph_2}, \lambda^+, \{E_{\text{cf}(\lambda)}^{\lambda^+}\}, 2, \omega, \mathcal{E}_\lambda)$ holds for every singular cardinal λ ;*
- 3. $P(\lambda^+, 2, \sqsubseteq_\lambda, \lambda^+, \{E_\lambda^{\lambda^+}\}, 2, \omega, \mathcal{E}_\lambda)$ holds for every regular uncountable cardinal λ .*
- 4. There are no inaccessible cardinals;*

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From (2), (3) and (4), it follows that there exists a **free** κ -Souslin tree for every regular cardinal $\kappa > \aleph_2$.

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2. $P(\lambda^+, 2, \sqsubseteq_{\aleph_2}, \lambda^+, \{E_{\text{cf}(\lambda)}^{\lambda^+}\}, 2, \omega, \mathcal{E}_\lambda)$ holds for every singular cardinal λ ;
3. $P(\lambda^+, 2, \sqsubseteq_\lambda, \lambda^+, \{E_\lambda^{\lambda^+}\}, 2, \omega, \mathcal{E}_\lambda)$ holds for every regular uncountable cardinal λ .
4. *There are no inaccessible cardinals;*

From (2), (3) and (4), it follows that there exists a **free** κ -Souslin tree for every regular cardinal $\kappa > \aleph_2$.

For $\lambda > \text{cf}(\lambda) = \omega$, we seal the antichains at points of $E_\omega^{\lambda^+}$, even though MM implies that **every stationary subset of $E_\omega^{\lambda^+}$ reflects!**

The end?

We've reached the end of today's presentation.
But the story doesn't end here.
Would you like to join our tree-building adventure?

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