

Compact totally separated types in  
univalent mathematics

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The Topos Institute Colloquium

28<sup>th</sup> April 2022

The problem addressed here

$\mathbb{Z} = \{0, 1\}$   
 $\cong \mathbb{1} + \mathbb{1} \neq \Omega$

Given a set  $X$  and  $p: X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

- either exhibit  $x \in X$  such that  $p(x) = 0$  ( $\mathbb{Z}$  root of  $p$ )
- or else determine that  $P$  has no root.

For which sets  $X$  can this be done?

- In terms of computation, this is an exhaustive search problem
- In terms of logic, this is a choice problem.
- In terms of topology, this turns out to be a compactness problem.

Can we exhaustively search an infinite set mechanically?

Can we prove non-trivial instances of choice?

# our type theory

For some results we generalize to inductive-recursive types

Martin-Löf Type Theory

MLTT  $\mathbb{O}, \mathbb{1}, \mathbb{N}, +, \times, \Sigma, \Pi, Id, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{W}$

+ univalence (so in particular we have functional and propositional extensionality)

+ quotients ( $\Leftrightarrow$  propositional truncations + set replacement)

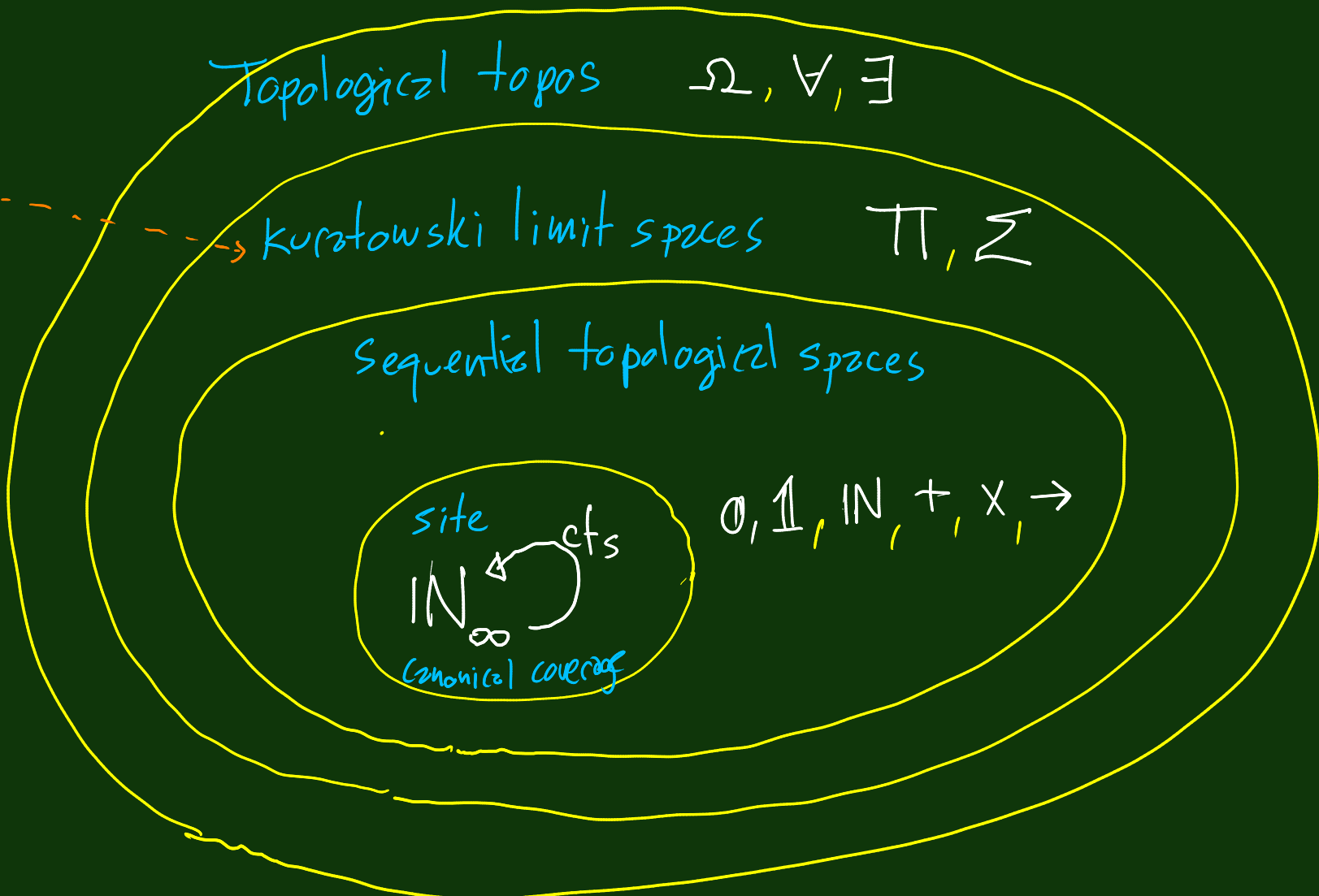
## Many models

We reason constructively, so:  
Our results hold in all models.

- Types are sets.
- Types are spaces.
- Types are homotopy types.
- Types are "sets with computational structure" (realizability).
- Types are the objects of a topos.

One particular model plays a guiding role

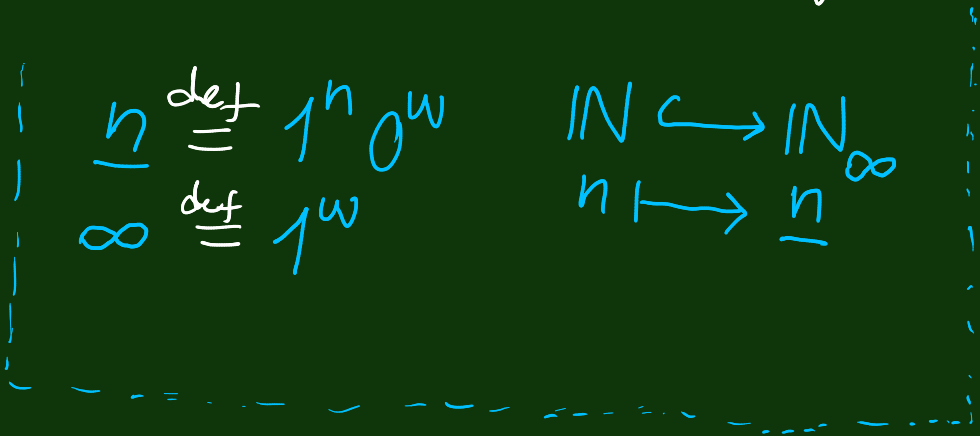
concrete  
sheaves



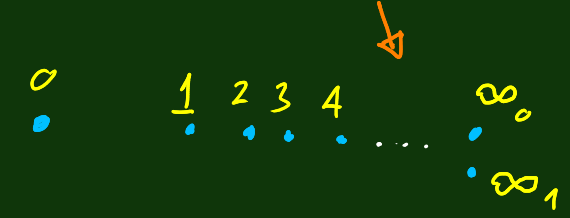
Johnstone  
1979

Examples of MLTT definable objects in that topos

- $\mathbb{N}$  and  $\mathbb{Z} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \mathbb{1} + \mathbb{1}$  get the discrete topology.
- $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  is the Cantor space, and  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is the Baire space.
- $\mathbb{N}_\infty \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \sum_{\alpha: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}} \prod_{i: \mathbb{N}} \alpha_i \geq \alpha_{i+1}$  is the one-point compactification of  $\mathbb{N}$ .



$\sum_{x: \mathbb{N}_\infty} ((x = \infty) \rightarrow \mathbb{Z})$  looks like this



This is compact  $T_1$  but not Hausdorff.

We have  $\{0, 1, \dots, \infty_0\} \cap \{0, 1, \dots, \infty_1\} = \mathbb{N}$   
 compact  $\rightarrow$  not compact

Mathematical expression of the problem in our system

We can pick  
a root of  $p$   
if it has any.

$$\prod p: X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, \left( \sum x: X, px=0 \right) + \underbrace{\left( \prod x: X, px=1 \right)}_{\neg \sum x: X, px=0}$$

- Stronger than excluded middle.
- We are making a choice.

We have  $\sum$  rather than  $\exists$ .

We ask which types  $X$  satisfy this choice principle.

Definition. We call such types compact.

All types are compact  $\Leftrightarrow$  global choice holds

Global choice: We can choose a point of every non-empty type.

$$\prod_{X:U} \underbrace{\exists X}_{X \text{ is non-empty}} \rightarrow X$$

E.g. Voevodsky's model of simplicial sets

- Stronger than choice, which is consistent with univalence.
- Contradicts univalence.
- But there are plenty of compact types in HoTT/UF.
- The ones we can construct are all equipped with well-orders.

# Ordinals

$X$  equipped with a proposition-valued relation  $<$  satisfying

1.  $<$  is transitive

2. If two points have the same predecessors then they are equal.

3.  $<$  satisfies transfinite induction

$$\left( \prod x: X \left( \prod y: X, y < x \rightarrow P y \right) \rightarrow P x \right) \\ \rightarrow \prod x: X, P x$$

- $X$  is automatically a set by (2) (its identity types are propositions)
- Trichotomy  $X < Y$  or  $X = Y$  or  $X > Y$  is equivalent to excluded middle.
- But there are lots of well-ordered types that are trichotomous



The large type of all small ordinals

Univalence implies that this type

1. Is a (large) ordinal,
2. Has suprema of arbitrary small families.

# Functions $p: X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$

They classify complemented subtypes of  $X$ .

$$X \simeq \left( \sum_{x: X} p x = 0 \right) + \left( \sum_{x: X} p x = 1 \right).$$

Complemented

$$\begin{array}{ccc} Y & \longrightarrow & 1 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow 0 \\ X & \xrightarrow{p} & 2 \end{array}$$

In models:

- Topological topos. They classify clopen subspaces.
- Realizability toposes. They classify decidable subobjects.  
complemented c.e. subobjects with c.e. complement.

# Totally separated types

Recall

Definition. A type  $X$  is called **compact** if

$$\prod p: X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, \left( \sum x: X, p x = 0 \right) + \left( \prod x: X, p x = 1 \right).$$

This definition is not good unless there are plenty of maps  $X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ .

Definition. A type  $X$  is called **totally separated** if

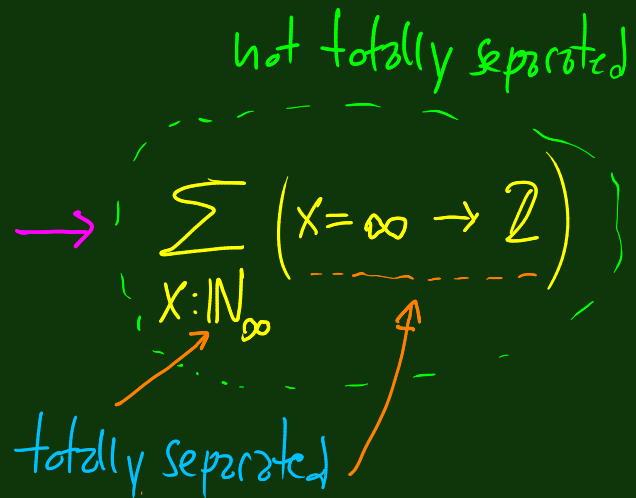
$$\prod x, y: X, \left( \prod p: X \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}, p x = p y \right) \rightarrow x = y.$$

In the topological topos. The clopens separate the points.  
(Topological notion with the same name.)

## Some facts

1. Totally separated types are sets (their identity types are propositions)
2. They form an exponential ideal (more generally a "TT-ideal") and are closed under  $+$ ,  $\times$ , retracts and include  $0, 1, 2, \mathbb{N}, \mathbb{N}_\infty$  and all discrete types (those with decidable equality).
3. They are not closed under  $\Sigma$  in general.

Example. In the topological topos, the type  $\rightarrow$  is not totally separated.



(Compact totally separated spaces are Hausdorff. Also known as Stone spaces.)

4. Define the simple types to be the smallest collection of types including  $\mathbb{0}, \mathbb{1}, \mathbb{N}$  and closed under  $\times, +, \rightarrow$ .

The simple types are all totally separated (by (2) above).

5. In the topological topos, a subtype of a simple type is compact in the above type-theoretic sense iff it is compact in the topological sense.

In this case the inclusion is a section and hence the subtype is itself totally separated.

counter example

A so-called constructive taboo.

- The set  $\mathbb{N}$  of natural numbers fails to be compact
- The compactness of  $\mathbb{N}$  amounts to Bishop's LPO (Limited Principle of Omniscience).

→ More precisely, LPO is independent of MLTT

- False in realizability models (not computable)
- False in topological models (not continuous)
- True in the model of classical sets (by choice)

Probably the simplest infinite example

$$\mathbb{N}_\infty := \sum \alpha = 2^{\mathbb{N}}, \prod i:\mathbb{N}, \alpha_i \geq \alpha_{i+1}$$

That is, the type of decreasing binary sequences.

$$\underline{n} := 1^n 0^\omega$$

$$\infty := 1^\omega$$

Theorem of HoTT/UF

The type  $\mathbb{N}_\infty$  is compact.

(JSL '2013)

↳ Done in a weaker system  
(Gödel's system T)

We have an injection

$$\mathbb{N} \longrightarrow \mathbb{N}_\infty$$

$$n \longmapsto \underline{n}$$

## Proof sketch (with the difficult part omitted)

• Given  $p: \mathbb{N}_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$ , (not assumed to be continuous)

define  $\beta_n = \min(p_0, p_1, \dots, p_n)$

Formula for the infimum of the set of roots.

• This is clearly decreasing.

• Now we check whether  $p_\beta = 0$  or  $p_\beta = 1$ .

(0) If  $p_\beta = 0$  then we've found a root.

(1) If  $p_\beta = 1$  then  $p_\alpha = 1$  for all  $\alpha: \mathbb{N}_\infty$  and so

there is no root. (This is easy classically and less so constructively.)

| In the pub  $\mathbb{N}_\infty$  there is a person  $\beta: \mathbb{N}_\infty$  such that if  $\beta$  drinks, then everybody drinks.



Some consequences (decision procedures)

(1) For every  $p: \mathbb{N}_\infty \rightarrow 2$  either  $\prod n: \mathbb{N}, p_n = 1$  or  $\neg \prod n: \mathbb{N}, p_n = 1$   
(JSL'2013)

↑  
quantification over the natural numbers! Not over  $\mathbb{N}_\infty$ .

(2) Given  $f: \mathbb{N}_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ , we can decide whether it is continuous or not.

(3) There is some discontinuous  $f: \mathbb{N}_\infty \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  iff WLPO holds

(Bishop's principle of Weak Limited omniscience,  $\prod p: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow 2, (\prod n. p_n = 1) + \neg(\prod p_n = 1)$  which is also independent of MLTT)

(MSCS'2015)

# Some applications of the compactness of $\mathbb{N}_\infty$

1. Pierre Pradic & Chad E. Brown. Arxiv '2019  
Cantor-Bernstein implies excluded middle  
arxiv 1904.09193  
(Also implemented in Coq.)

2. Dag Normann & William Tait. Springer '2017  
On the computability of the Fan Functional  
(They use the system T compactness of  $\mathbb{N}_\infty$   
to fill a gap in an unpublished but widely  
circulated 1958 manuscript by Tait.)

# Compact sets in our type theory

- (1)  $0$ ,  $1$  and  $\mathbb{N}_\infty$  are compact. Baby Tychonoff.
- (2) If  $X$  and  $Y$  are compact then so are  $X+Y$  and  $X \times Y$ .
- (3) If  $X$  is a compact set and  $A$  is a family of compact sets indexed by  $X$ , then its disjoint union  $\sum_{x:X} A_x$  is a compact set.
- (4) If furthermore (a) we have a function that picks an element of  $A_x$  for any given  $x:X$ , and (b) the set  $X$  has at most one element, then the cartesian product  $\prod_{x:X} A_x$  is compact. Micro-Tychonoff.

Does arbitrary Tychonoff hold? | Is the Cantor type  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow 2$  <sup>(provably)</sup> compact in our type theory? |

No.

- The compactness of  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow 2$  is independent.

True in the topological topos (notions of compactness coincide)

False in Hyland's effective topos (Kleene tree to blame)  
(realizability topos over Kleene's  $K_1$ )

True in the Kleene-Vesley topos  
(realizability over Kleene's  $K_2$ )

Perhaps amazingly, these two toposes have the same simple types.

(more precisely, the full subcategories on the objects that arise as the interpretation of the simple types are equivalent.)

# Building more compact sets

- The compact sets that we have constructed so far are all well-ordered.

$$(1) \quad \mathbb{1}$$

$$\mathbb{1}$$

$$\mathbb{N}_\infty$$

$$(2) \quad X + Y$$

$$X \times Y$$

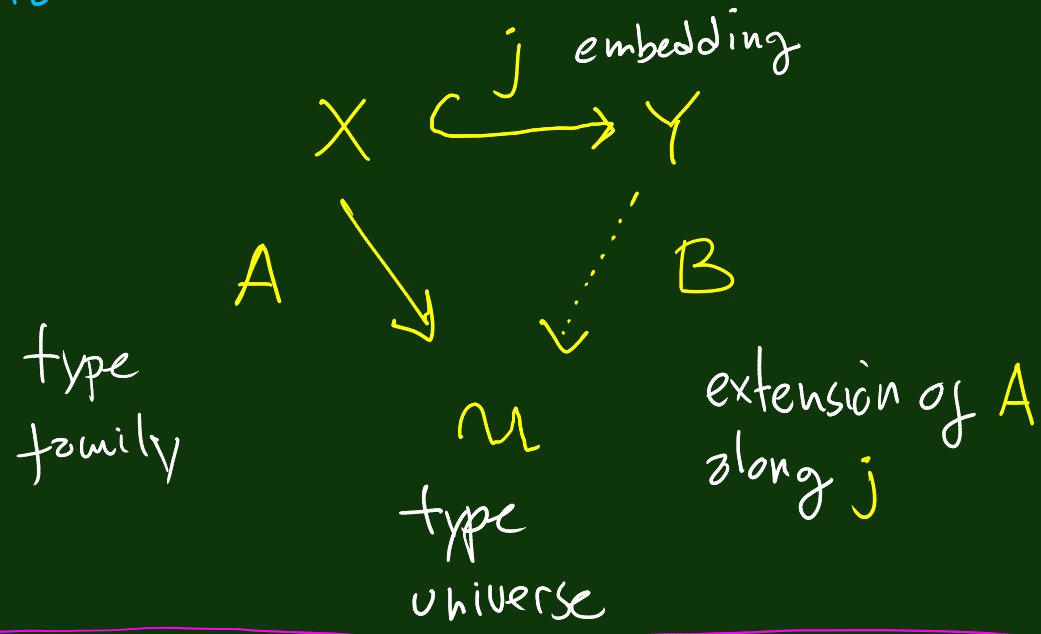
lexicographic order

$$(3) \quad \sum_{x \in X} \mathbb{1} \times X$$

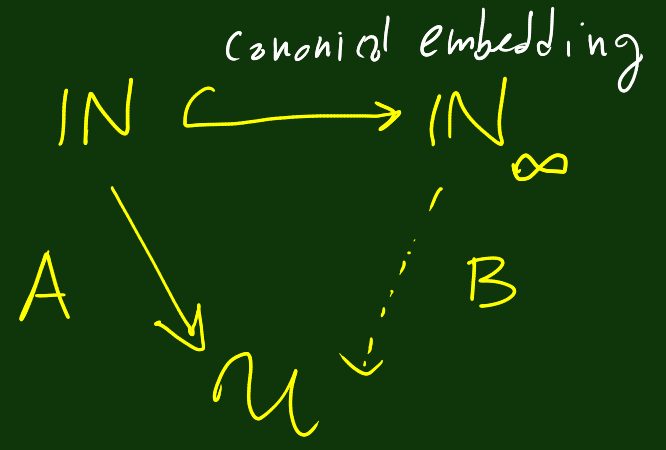
- But we can't get very high ordinals with just the above.
- This is what we address next.

# Extending families of compact sets

General situation:



Interested in:

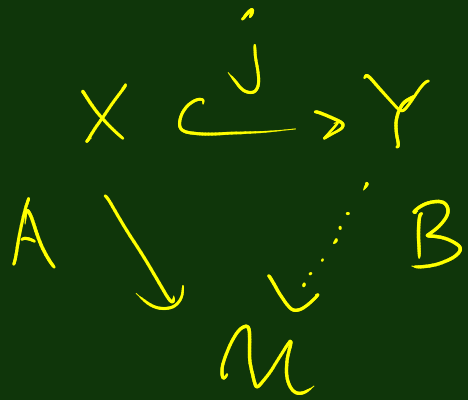


Want:  $\prod_f A \times$  compact  
 for every  $x: X$ , then  $B Y$  compact  
 for every  $y: Y$ .

Because then: By (3), if  $Y$  is also compact, then  $\exists y: Y$ ,  $B Y$  compact too.

$$j^{-1}(y) = \sum_{x: X} j x = y$$

# Family extension problem



(MSCS'2021. "Injective types in univalent mathematics")

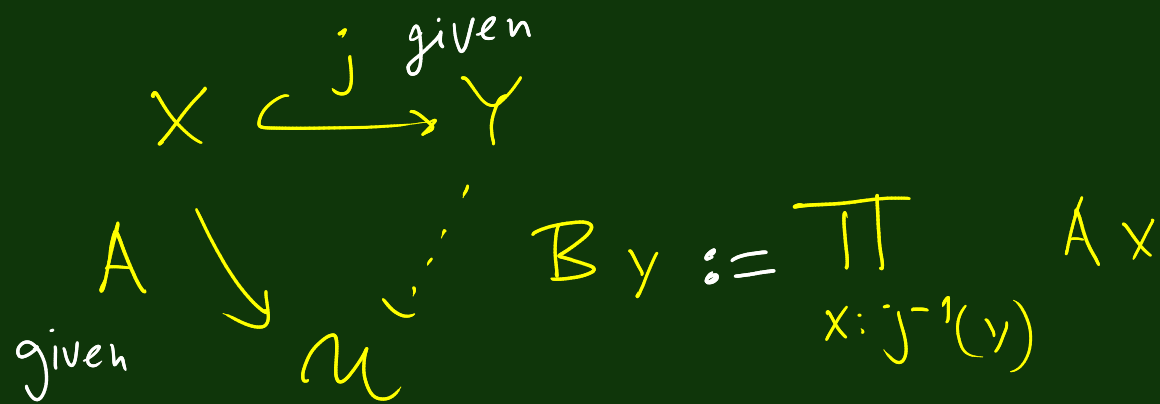
This set has at most one element.  
(because  $j$  is an embedding)

Smallest solution (left Kan extension):  $B y := \sum_{(x, -): j^{-1}(y)} A x$

Largest solution (right Kan extension):  $B y := \prod_{(x, -): j^{-1}(y)} A x$

It is this that works for the wish of the previous board. ] why? By Micro-Tychonoff

# Summary of the previous reasoning



Special case  
of interest:



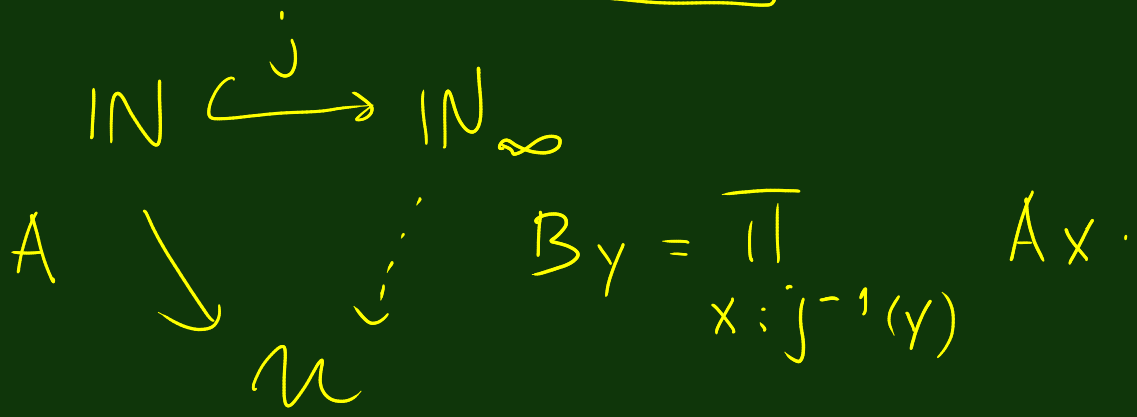
**Theorem** If the set  $A_x$  is compact for every  $x: X$ , then  
then set  $B_y$  is compact for every  $y: Y$ .

**Corollary** If additionally  $Y$  is compact, then so is  $\sum_{y: Y} B_y$ .

In the special case of interest we have  $B(\infty) \simeq \mathbb{1}$



More



Classically

This is a bijection  
(with noncomputable inverse)

Constructively

This is an injection  
whose image has empty  
complement.



Notation:

$$\sum_{x: X}^1 A_x$$

adds "isolated" point

adds point "at infinity".

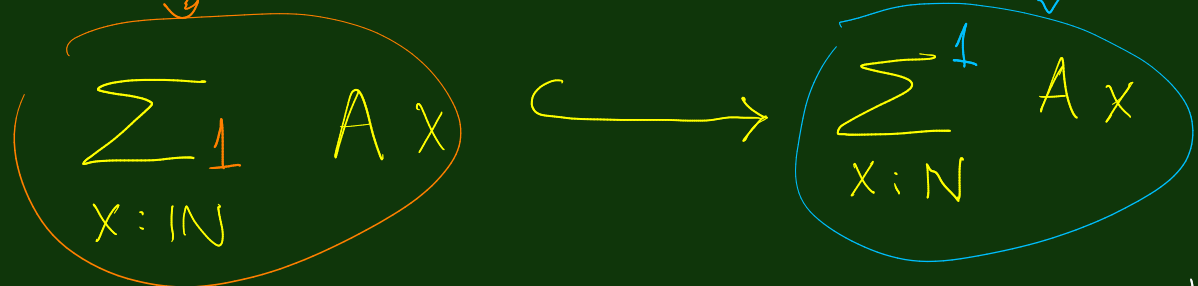
Notation:

$$\sum_{x: X}^1 A_x$$

What is the point of the previous discussion?

The well-ordered set  $(\sum_{x:\mathbb{N}} Ax) + \mathbb{1}$  is not compact in general, even if  $Ax$  is compact for every  $x:\mathbb{N}$ .

However, the (classically isomorphic) set  $\sum_{y:\mathbb{N}_\infty} By$  is compact.



Constructively, this embedding has empty complement.

# Ordinal expressions

 OE

Inductively defined (z w type)

We can get much higher than  $\epsilon_0$  (c.f. Anton Setzer's work)

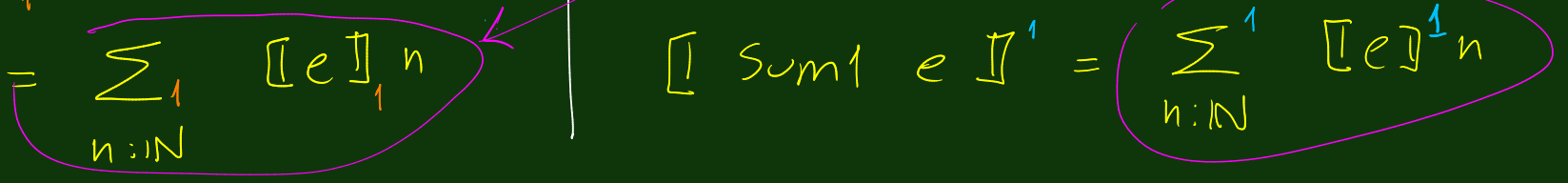
- One : OE
- Add : OE  $\rightarrow$  OE  $\rightarrow$  OE
- Mul : OE  $\rightarrow$  OE  $\rightarrow$  OE
- Sum1 : (IN  $\rightarrow$  OE)  $\rightarrow$  OE

Two interpretations

$$\begin{aligned} \llbracket \text{one} \rrbracket_1 &= 1 \\ \llbracket \text{Add } e \ e' \rrbracket_1 &= \llbracket e \rrbracket_1 + \llbracket e' \rrbracket_1 \\ \llbracket \text{Mul } e \ e' \rrbracket_1 &= \llbracket e \rrbracket_1 \times \llbracket e' \rrbracket_1 \\ \llbracket \text{sum1 } e \rrbracket_1 &= \sum_{n \in \mathbb{N}} \llbracket e \rrbracket_1^n \end{aligned}$$

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only difference



# Theorems

## The ordinal

$$[e]_1$$

- is discrete
- is a retract of  $\mathbb{N}$
- so countable
- Not compact unless LPO holds

## The ordinal

$$[e]^1$$

- is compact
- is a retract of  $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow 2$
- so totally separated
- is not countable unless LPO holds
- is not discrete unless LPO holds

Even better:  
Every decidable subset is either empty or has a least element.

• There is an order-preserving-reflecting embedding

$$[e]_1 \hookrightarrow [e]^1$$

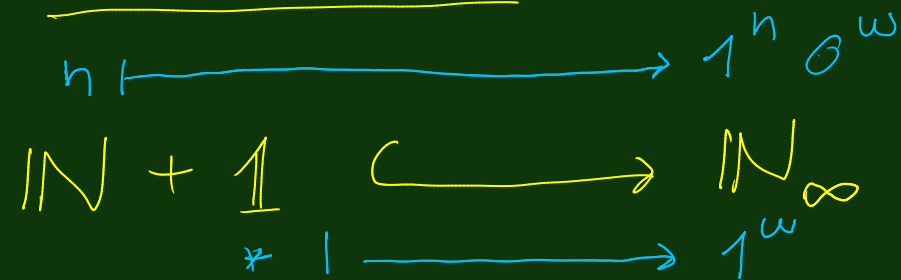
whose image has empty complement.

• LPO  $\Rightarrow$  this embedding is a bijection  $\Rightarrow$  WLPO.

### In models:

The embedding doesn't have a computable/continuous inverse.

# Illustration | The ordinal $\omega+1$ .



- Discrete
- Compact iff LPO
- Countable
- Compact
- discrete iff WLPO
- countable iff LPO

- bijection iff LPO,
- but its image has empty complement.

Every decreasing sequence is of one of the forms  $1^n 0^\omega$  and  $1^\omega$ .

There is no decreasing sequence other than  $1^\omega 0$  and  $1^\omega$ .