

WALKS ON ORDINALS

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The structure on ω_1 :

C_α ($\alpha < \omega_1$)

(1) $C_\alpha \subseteq \alpha$, $\sup C_\alpha = \alpha$

(2) $C_{\alpha+1} = \{\alpha\}$

(3) $\alpha > 0$ limit $\rightarrow \text{otp } C_\alpha = \omega$ and
 C_α contains no limit ordinals.

A step from β towards smaller α

is

$\beta \rightarrow \min(C_\beta \setminus \alpha)$

$|C_\beta \setminus \alpha|$ is the weight of
this step

The Full Code of the walk is the function

$$f_0: [w_1]^2 \rightarrow w < w$$

defined by

$$f_0(\alpha, \beta) = (|C_\beta \cap \alpha|) f_0(\alpha, \min(C_\beta \setminus \alpha)),$$

with the boundary value $f_0(\alpha, \alpha) = \emptyset$

The Maximal Weight is the function

$$f_1: [w_1]^2 \rightarrow w$$

defined by

$$f_1(\alpha, \beta) = \max \{ |C_\beta \cap \alpha|, f_1(\alpha, \min(C_\beta \setminus \alpha)) \}$$

with the boundary value $f_1(\alpha, \alpha) = 0$.

Lemma 1. For all $\alpha < \beta < \omega_1$ and $u < \omega$: [3]

(a) $\{ \xi \leq \alpha : \rho_1(\xi, \alpha) \leq u \}$ is finite

(b) $\{ \xi \leq \alpha : \rho_1(\xi, \alpha) \neq \rho_1(\xi, \beta) \}$ is finite.

Proof: Induction. \square

The Number of Steps function is

$$\rho_2 : [\omega_1]^2 \rightarrow \omega$$

defined by

$$\rho_2(\alpha, \beta) = \rho_2(\alpha, \text{min}(C_\beta(\alpha))) + 1$$

with the boundary value $\rho_2(\alpha, \alpha) = 0$.

Lemma 2.

$$\forall \alpha < \beta < \omega_1 \quad \sup_{\xi < \alpha} |\rho_2(\xi, \alpha) - \rho_2(\xi, \beta)| < \alpha$$

Proof: Use Full Lower Trance. \square

The Last Step Function

$$S_3 : (w_1)^2 \rightarrow 2$$

is defined recursively by

$$S_3(\alpha, \beta) = 1 \text{ iff } S_0(\alpha, \beta) (S_2(\alpha, \beta) - 1) = S_1(\alpha, \beta)$$

In other words, $S_3(\alpha, \beta) = 1$ just in case the last step of the walk $\beta \rightarrow \alpha$ comes with the maximal walk

Lemma 3

$\forall \alpha < \beta < w_1 \quad \{ \gamma < \alpha : S_3(\gamma, \alpha) \neq S_3(\gamma, \beta) \}$ is finite

Proof: Use again the Full Lower Trace function. \square

Corollary 4. The tree $T(\beta_0) = \{ \beta_0(\alpha, \beta) \mid \alpha: \alpha \leq \beta < \omega \}$ has countable levels and has no uncountable branches, \therefore , $T(\beta_0)$ is Aronszajn (an A-tree)

Question. Are the other trees $T(\beta_0)$, $T(\beta_2)$ and $T(\beta_3)$ also A-trees?

Case of $T(\beta_3)$ needs the following assumption on the \bar{C} -sequence.

(4) (a) If $\alpha = \lambda + \omega$ for λ limit,

$$C_\alpha = \{ \lambda + n : m < n < \omega \} \text{ for some}$$

(b) If α is limit of limits and

$C_\alpha = (C_\alpha(n) : n < \omega)$ is the increasing enumeration, then for each n , $C_\alpha(n) = \lambda_n + m$ for some $m > n$

Notation

Λ = the set of countable limit ordinals

$$\Lambda + n = \{ \lambda + n : \lambda \in \Lambda \} \text{ for } n < \omega$$

Lemma 5. ~~forall~~ $\forall \beta \forall \lambda \in \Lambda \exists k \forall n$

$$\lambda + n < \beta \implies f_3(\lambda + n, \beta) = 1 \dots$$

$f_{3\beta} := f_3(\cdot, \beta)$ restricted to $(\Lambda, \lambda + \omega)$

is equal to 1 modulo finitely many ex

Proof: We may assume $\alpha = \lambda + \omega \leq \beta$

Then there is m_0 such that

$\forall n \geq m_0$ the walk $\beta \rightarrow \lambda + n$ passes through

Let m_1 be such that (see (4))

$$C_\alpha = \{ \lambda + n : m_1 < n < \omega \}$$

So for $n > \max(m_0, m_1)$ the last of
 the walk $\beta \rightarrow \lambda + n$ is the
 step $\alpha \rightarrow \lambda + n$.

Its weight $|\{k: m_0 < k < n\}| = n - m_0 - 1$
 $\stackrel{= C_{\alpha} \wedge (\lambda + n)}{=}$
 is eventually bigger than $\rho_1(\alpha, \beta)$, so
 eventually $\rho_3(\lambda + n, \beta) = 1 \quad \square$

Lemma 6.

$\forall \beta \forall n \quad |\{\lambda \in \Lambda: \lambda + n < \beta \ \& \ \rho_3(\lambda + n, \beta) = 1\}| < \infty$

Proof: Given an infinite $\Gamma \subseteq (\Lambda + n)$,
 we need to find $\lambda + n \in \Gamma$ such that
 $\rho_3(\lambda + n, \beta) = 0$.

Shrink Γ so that we can assume
 $\forall \lambda + n \in \Gamma \quad \rho_1(\lambda + n, \beta) > n + 2$.

So, if $\rho_3(\lambda+n, \beta) = 1$ for some $\lambda+n \in$
 the last step $\alpha \rightarrow \lambda+n$ of the
 walk $\beta \rightarrow \lambda+n$ must have weight $> n$.

Note however that by the assumption

(2) $\alpha \neq \lambda+n+1$, by the assumption

4(a) $\alpha \neq \lambda+\omega$, and by

the assumption 4(b) α cannot be

limit of limits. $\ast \square$

Lemma 7. Let $B_\alpha = \{ \xi < \alpha : \rho_3(\xi, \alpha) = 1 \}$ for
 $\alpha < \omega_1$. Then

$$(1) \quad B_\alpha = {}^* B_\beta \cap \alpha \quad \text{for } \alpha < \beta$$

(2) $(\lambda+n) \cap B_\beta$ is finite for all $n < \omega$ and $\beta < \omega$

(3) $\{ \lambda+n : n < \omega \} \subseteq {}^* B_\beta$ whenever $\lambda+\omega \leq \beta$

So in particular there is no

$$g: \omega_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$$

such that $g \upharpoonright \beta =^* \mathcal{P}_3(\cdot, \beta)$ for all β ,

so we have the following.

Lemma 8. $T(\mathcal{P}_3)$ is a coherent
A-tree. \square

Case of $T(\mathcal{P}_2)$ needs the following
fact.

Lemma 9. For every pair A and B
of uncountable subsets of ω_1 and
every $k < \omega$ there exist $\alpha \in A$, $\beta \in B$
such that $\mathcal{P}_2(\alpha, \beta) > k$.

In fact we prove a stronger statement

Lemma 9* For every κ uncountable $A \subseteq [w_1]^{<\omega}$

consisting of pairwise disjoint sets all of same fixed size n and every $k < \omega$

there exist uncountable $B \subseteq A$ such that

$$(\forall a < b \text{ in } B) (\forall i, j < n) \rho_2(a(i), b(j)) \geq k$$

Proof: Induction on k . So suppose

$$(\forall a < b \text{ in } A) (\forall i, j < n) \rho_2(a(i), b(j)) \geq k, \text{ and}$$

work for uncountable $B \subseteq A$ such that

$$(\forall a < b \text{ in } B) (\forall i, j < n) \rho_2(a(i), b(j)) \geq k+1.$$

Fix limit $\delta < \omega$ and $b_\delta \in A$, $b_\delta \geq \delta$. Then for some $\eta_\delta < \delta$,

$$\forall \xi \in (\eta_\delta, \delta) \forall \beta \in b_\delta \quad \rho_0(\xi, \beta) = \rho_0(\beta, \delta) \wedge \rho_0(\delta, \xi).$$

Find stationary $\Gamma \subseteq \omega_1$ and $\gamma < \omega_1$ such that $\gamma_\delta = \gamma$ for all $\delta \in \Gamma$.

Choose stationary $\Sigma \subseteq \Gamma$ such that $\forall \gamma < \delta \in \Sigma \quad \gamma < b_\gamma < \delta < b_\delta$

Consider the family

$$A^* = \{\{\gamma\} \cup b_\gamma : \gamma \in \Sigma\}$$

By induction hypothesis there is uncountable

$$B^* \subseteq A^* \text{ such that } p_2(a(i), b(j)) \geq k$$

for all $1 \leq j < n+1$ and $a < b$ in B . Let

$$B = \{b \setminus \{\text{sum}(b)\} : b \in B^*\} \text{ Then } B \subseteq A \text{ is}$$

uncountable and $p_2(a(i), b(j)) \geq k+1$ for all $1 \leq j < n$ and $a < b$ in B . \square

Corollary 10. For every $g: \omega_1 \rightarrow \omega$ there is $\alpha < \omega_1$ such that $\sup_{\beta < \alpha} |p_2(\beta, \alpha) - g(\beta)| = \infty$.

Corollary 11. $T(\beta_2)$ is an A-tree.

Question. Is $T(\beta_0)$ an A-tree?

§2. Traces

The upper trace $Tr: [w_1]^2 \rightarrow [w_1]^{\leftarrow w}$

is defined by

$$Tr(\alpha, \beta) = \{\beta\} \cup Tr(\alpha, \min(C_\beta \setminus \alpha))$$

with the boundary value is $Tr(\alpha, \alpha) = \{\alpha\}$.

The lower trace $L: [w_1]^2 \rightarrow [w_1]^{\leftarrow w}$,

$$L(\alpha, \beta) = \{ \gamma(\xi, \beta) : \xi \in Tr(\alpha, \beta), \xi \neq \beta \}$$

$$\gamma(\xi, \beta) = \max \{ \max(C_\eta \cap \xi) : \eta \in Tr(\xi, \beta), \eta \neq \xi \}$$

Recursive definition:

$$L(\alpha, \beta) = (L(\alpha, \min(C_\beta \setminus \alpha))) \setminus \max(C_\beta \cap \alpha) \cup \{ \max(C_\beta \cap \alpha) \}$$

with the boundary value $L(\alpha, \alpha) = \emptyset$.

If $\beta = \beta_0 > \beta_1 > \dots > \beta_n = \alpha$ is the walk from β to α i.e.

$$\beta_0 = \beta, \beta_n = \alpha \text{ and } \beta_{i+1} = \min \left(\bigcup_{j=i}^n C_{\beta_j} \setminus \alpha \right) \quad (i < n)$$

Then

$$\text{Tr}(\alpha, \beta) = \{ \beta_i : i \leq n \}$$

$$L(\alpha, \beta) = \{ \lambda_i : i \leq n \},$$

where $\lambda_i = \max \left(\bigcup_{j \leq i} C_{\beta_j} \cap \alpha \right)$.

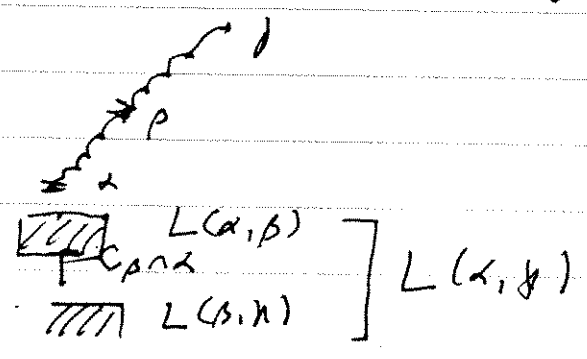
Lemma 12. For $\alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma$,

(a) $\alpha > L(\beta, \gamma)$ implies $\rho_0(\alpha, \gamma) = \rho_0(\beta, \gamma) \cup \rho_0(\alpha, \beta)$ and therefore $\text{Tr}(\alpha, \gamma) = \text{Tr}(\beta, \gamma) \cup \text{Tr}(\alpha, \beta)$.

(b) $L(\alpha, \beta) > L(\beta, \gamma)$ implies

$$L(\alpha, \gamma) = L(\beta, \gamma) \cup L(\alpha, \beta)$$

Proof.



The Full Lower trace

$$F: [w_1]^2 \rightarrow [w_1]^{<\omega}$$

$$F(\alpha, \beta) = F(\alpha, \min(C_\beta \setminus \alpha)) \cup F(\xi, \alpha) \\ \xi \in C_\beta \cap \alpha$$

with the boundary value $F(\alpha, \alpha) = \{\alpha\}$

Lemma 13. For $\alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma$

(a) $F(\alpha, \gamma) \subseteq F(\alpha, \beta) \cup F(\beta, \gamma)$

(b) $F(\alpha, \beta) \subseteq F(\alpha, \gamma) \cup F(\beta, \gamma)$.

Proof: Induction on γ . To prove (a), let

$$\gamma_1 = \min(C_\gamma \setminus \alpha)$$

We first show that

$$F(\alpha, \gamma_1) \subseteq F(\alpha, \beta) \cup F(\beta, \gamma)$$

Case 1. $\gamma_1 < \beta$.

By ind. hyp.

$$\begin{aligned} F(\alpha, \gamma_1) &\subseteq F(\alpha, \beta) \cup F(\gamma_1, \beta) \\ &\subseteq F(\alpha, \beta) \cup F(\beta, \gamma) \end{aligned}$$

since $\gamma_1 \in C_\gamma \cap \beta$ and therefore $F(\gamma_1, \beta) \subseteq F(\beta, \gamma)$

Case $\gamma_1 \geq \beta$: Then

$$\gamma_1 = \min(C_\gamma \setminus \beta)$$

and therefore $F(\gamma_1, \beta) \subseteq F(\beta, \gamma)$. \square

Consider a factor $F(\xi, \alpha)$ of $F(\alpha, \gamma)$,

where $\xi \in C_\gamma \cap \alpha$.

By ind. hyp.

$$\begin{aligned} F(\xi, \alpha) &\subseteq F(\alpha, \beta) \cup F(\xi, \beta) \\ &\subseteq F(\alpha, \beta) \cup F(\beta, \gamma) \end{aligned}$$

since $\xi \in C_\gamma \cap \beta$ and so $F(\xi, \beta) \subseteq F(\beta, \gamma)$

To prove (b) consider cases;

Case $\gamma_1 < \beta$. By ind hyp

$$F(\alpha, \beta) \subseteq F(\alpha, \gamma_1) \cup F(\gamma_1, \beta)$$

Since $\gamma_1 \in C_\gamma \cap \beta$, ~~the set~~ we get

$$F(\gamma_1, \beta) \subseteq F(\beta, \gamma_1)$$

By definition of $F(\alpha, \gamma_1)$,

$$F(\alpha, \gamma_1) \subseteq F(\alpha, \gamma).$$

Case $\gamma_1 \geq \beta$. Then

$$\gamma_1 = \min(C_\gamma \cap \beta) \text{ so}$$

$$F(\beta, \gamma_1) \subseteq F(\beta, \gamma).$$

Using the ind hyp for $\alpha \leq \beta \leq \gamma_1$, we

$$F(\alpha, \beta) \subseteq F(\alpha, \gamma_1) \cup F(\beta, \gamma_1) \subseteq F(\alpha, \gamma) \cup F(\beta, \gamma)$$

□

Remark Note that since $\alpha \in F(\alpha, \beta)$ for all $\alpha \leq \beta$, by the definition of the full lower trace, we have that

$$F(\alpha, \beta) \supseteq L(\alpha, \beta)$$

for all $\alpha \leq \beta \in \omega_1$.

Lemma 14. If $\alpha \in F(\beta, \gamma)$ then

$$F(\alpha, \gamma) \cup F(\alpha, \beta) \subseteq F(\beta, \gamma)$$

Proof: Induction on γ . Let $\gamma_1 = \min(C_\beta^1)$.

Case 1. $\alpha \in F(\beta, \gamma_1)$. Then by ind. hyp.

$$F(\alpha, \beta) \subseteq F(\beta, \gamma_1) \subseteq F(\beta, \gamma)$$

On the other hand

$$F(\alpha, \gamma) \subseteq F(\alpha, \beta) \cup F(\beta, \gamma) = F(\beta, \gamma)$$

Case 2 $\alpha \in F(\xi, \beta)$ for some $\xi \in \Omega, \alpha \leq \xi \leq \beta$

Then by ind hyp for $\alpha \leq \xi \leq \beta$:

$$F(\alpha, \beta) \subseteq F(\xi, \beta) \subseteq F(\beta, \eta)$$

On the other hand

$$F(\alpha, \eta) \subseteq F(\alpha, \beta) \cup F(\beta, \eta) = F(\beta, \eta). \quad \square$$

Lemma 15. Let $\alpha \leq \beta \leq \eta < \omega_1$ and let

$$\bar{\alpha} = \min(F(\beta, \eta) \setminus \alpha).$$

Then

$$(a) \quad \mathcal{F}_0(\alpha, \beta) = \mathcal{F}_0(\bar{\alpha}, \beta) \cap \mathcal{F}_0(\alpha, \bar{\alpha})$$

$$(b) \quad \mathcal{F}_0(\alpha, \eta) = \mathcal{F}_0(\bar{\alpha}, \eta) \cap \mathcal{F}_0(\alpha, \bar{\alpha})$$

Proof: This is trivial if $\alpha = \bar{\alpha}$, so we

assume $\alpha < \bar{\alpha}$. By Lemma 14,

$$F(\bar{\alpha}, \beta) \cup F(\bar{\alpha}, \eta) \subseteq F(\beta, \eta),$$

so

We have

$$\alpha > F(\beta, \eta) \cap \bar{\alpha} \supseteq F(\bar{\alpha}, \beta) \cap \bar{\alpha}, F(\bar{\alpha}, \eta) \cap \bar{\alpha} \supseteq L(\bar{\alpha}, \beta), L(\bar{\alpha}, \eta)$$

and so we are done by Lemma 12 (9). \square

Corollary 16. For all $\alpha < \omega_1$

$$|\{ \beta_0(\cdot, \beta) \upharpoonright \alpha : \alpha \leq \beta < \omega_1 \}| \leq \aleph_0, \text{ and}$$

$$|\{ \beta_2(\cdot, \beta) \upharpoonright \alpha : \alpha \leq \beta < \omega_1 \}| \leq \aleph_0.$$

It follows that the tree

$$T(\beta_2) = \{ \beta_2(\cdot, \beta) \upharpoonright \alpha : \alpha \leq \beta < \omega_1 \}$$

is Aronszajn. How about $T(\beta_0)$?

Definition 17. The right lexicographical ordering $<^r_{lex}$ on $\omega < \omega$ is defined by letting $s <^r_{lex} t$ if $s \sqsupset t$,

$s(j) < t(j)$ for $r = \min \{ j : s(j) \neq t(j) \}$.

Lemma 18. For all $\beta < \gamma < \omega_1$, the set

$$\{ \xi < \beta : \mathcal{P}_0(\xi, \beta) = \mathcal{P}_0(\xi, \gamma) \} =: X$$

is a closed subset of β .

Proof: Let $\alpha < \beta$ be an accumulation point of X . Let $\bar{\alpha} = \min (F(\beta, \gamma) \setminus \alpha)$

Pick a point $\xi \in X \cap \alpha$, such that $\xi > F(\beta, \gamma) \cap \alpha$.

Then $\bar{\alpha} = \min (F(\beta, \gamma) \setminus \xi)$, so by Lemma 15,

$$\mathcal{P}_0(\xi, \beta) = \mathcal{P}_0(\bar{\alpha}, \beta) \cap \mathcal{P}_0(\xi, \bar{\alpha})$$

$$\mathcal{P}_0(\xi, \gamma) = \mathcal{P}_0(\bar{\alpha}, \gamma) \cap \mathcal{P}_0(\xi, \bar{\alpha})$$

It follows that $\mathcal{P}_0(\bar{\alpha}, \beta) = \mathcal{P}_0(\bar{\alpha}, \gamma)$

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Applying Lemma 15 again, we have

$$\rho_0(\alpha, \beta) = \rho_0(\bar{\alpha}, \beta) \cap \rho_0(\alpha, \bar{\alpha})$$

$$\rho_0(\alpha, \beta) = \rho_0(\bar{\alpha}, \beta) \cap \rho_0(\alpha, \bar{\alpha}),$$

$$\text{so } \rho_0(\alpha, \beta) = \rho_0(\alpha, \beta). \quad \square$$

Lemma 19 $\alpha < \beta < \gamma$ implies

$$\rho_0(\alpha, \gamma) <_{\text{lex}} \rho_0(\beta, \gamma).$$

Proof: Let $\gamma = \gamma_0(\alpha) > \dots > \gamma_m(\alpha) = \alpha$

and $\gamma = \gamma_0(\beta) > \dots > \gamma_n(\beta) = \beta$ be

the walks from γ to α and γ to β ,

respectively. Let $j = \min\{m, n\}$ be the largest

such that $\gamma_j(\alpha) = \gamma_j(\beta) = \gamma_j$. Then

$$(\alpha, \beta) \cap C_{\gamma_j} \neq \emptyset, \text{ so}$$

$$\exists |C_{\gamma_j} \cap \alpha| < |C_{\gamma_j} \cap \beta|$$

$$\parallel \parallel$$

$$S_0(\alpha, \gamma)(j) \neq S_0(\beta, \gamma)(j')$$

and $S_0(\alpha, \gamma)(i) = S_0(\beta, \gamma)(i) \neq$ for $i < j'$

It follows that $S_0(\alpha, \gamma) <_{\text{lex}}^r S_0(\beta, \gamma)$. \square

Definition 20 (Kurepa 1935) Let

$\sigma \mathbb{Q}$ be the tree of all increasing transfinite sequences of rationals.

Corollary 21. $T(\mathcal{P}_0)$ is a downward closed subtree of $\sigma \mathbb{Q}$. \square

Theorem 22 (Kurepa 1935, 1953)

There is a strictly increasing $f: \sigma \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}$ but there is no str. increasing $f: \sigma \mathbb{Q} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}$. \square

Lemma 23 $T(\beta_0)$ is a special A -tree.

Proof: In $T(\beta_0)$ nodes of limit height have at most one immediate successor. This follows from Lemma 18. \square

Lemma 24 (Peng) $T(\beta_2)$ is also special.

§3 \mathcal{F} -models

Proof: For each $t = \mathcal{F}_2(\cdot, \beta) \upharpoonright \alpha$ we assume β is minimal ordinal witnessing this and set

$f(t) =$ the isomorphism type of the \mathcal{F}_2 -model $(\mathcal{F}(\alpha, \beta) \cup \{\beta\}, \leq \beta_2)$.

It suffices to show that if α and α' are limit ordinals and

$$t = \beta_2(\cdot, \beta) \upharpoonright \alpha \quad \text{and} \quad t' = \beta_2(\cdot, \beta') \upharpoonright \alpha'$$

are nodes of $T(\beta_2)$ such that

$$(F(\alpha, \beta) \cup \{\beta\}, \leq, \beta_2) \cong (F(\alpha', \beta') \cup \{\beta'\}, \leq, \beta_2)$$

then t and t' can't be comparable (and different). Assume $\alpha < \alpha'$.

Case 1. $F(\alpha, \beta) \upharpoonright \alpha \neq F(\alpha', \beta') \upharpoonright \alpha$.

Let $\xi = \min(F(\alpha, \beta) \Delta F(\alpha', \beta'))$.

Then $\xi < \alpha$. May assume $\alpha \in F(\alpha, \beta) \setminus F(\alpha', \beta')$; the other case is considered similarly.

Let $\xi' \in F(\alpha', \beta')$ be the ordinal that corresponds to ξ .

$$\begin{array}{l} \xrightarrow{\cdot} \xi' \in F(\alpha', \beta') \\ \xi \cdot \\ \downarrow \\ F(\alpha, \beta) \cap \xi = F(\alpha', \beta') \cap \xi \end{array} \quad |25$$

Then from Lemma 15 we get

$$\rho_2(\xi, \beta') = \rho_2(\xi', \beta') + \rho_2(\xi, \xi') > \rho_2(\xi', \beta')$$

$$\text{From } (F(\alpha, \beta) \cup \{\beta\}, \rho_2) \cong (F(\alpha', \beta') \cup \{\beta'\}, \rho_2)$$

we infer that

$$\rho_2(\xi, \beta) = \rho_2(\xi', \beta') \not\leq \rho_2(\xi, \beta')$$

so $t(\xi) \neq t(\xi')$ so t and t' are incomparable.

Case 2': $F(\alpha, \beta) \cap \alpha = F(\alpha', \beta') \cap \alpha$.

Then α and α' correspond to each other in the isomorphism

between $(F(\alpha, \beta) \cup \{\beta\}, \rho_2)$ and $(F(\alpha', \beta') \cup \{\beta'\}, \rho_2)$.

So by Lemma 15

$$\rho_2(\alpha, \beta') = \rho_2(\alpha', \beta') + \rho_2(\alpha, \alpha') > \rho_2(\alpha', \beta')$$

$\rho_2(\alpha', \beta)$

It follows that the two functions $f_2(\cdot, \beta)$ and $f_2(\cdot, \beta')$ disagree at the limit ordinal α , so they must disagree below α , and therefore t and t' are incomparable. This follows from the following analogue of Lemma 18.

Lemma 18' For all $\alpha < \beta < \omega_1$, the set $\{\xi < \beta : f_2(\xi, \beta) = f_2(\xi, \beta)\}$ is a closed subset of β . \square

§4. Positional Graphs

Definition 25. Two finite sets $F, G \subseteq \text{Ord}$ are in Δ_n -position for some $n < \omega$

If their intersection admits
a disjoint decomposition

$$F \cap G = I \cup J$$

such that $I \subseteq F$, $I \subseteq G$ and

$|J| \leq n$. A positional graph

is a graph of the form

$$(\mathcal{V}, \mathcal{E}, \Delta_n)$$

where \mathcal{V} is a family of finite sets
of ordinals.

Theorem 26. $\text{Chr}([\omega_1]^{<\omega}, \mathcal{V}, \Delta_0) = \aleph_0$.

Proof. Deferred. \square

Exercise 27. Show that for all $n < \omega$,

$$\mathcal{K}_{\aleph_1} \subseteq ([\omega_2]^{<\omega}, \mathcal{V}, \Delta_n),$$

and therefore $\text{Chr}([\omega_2]^{<\omega}, \mathcal{V}, \Delta_n) > \aleph_0$.