# Reflection and anti-reflection at the successor of a singular cardinal

joint work with Yair Hayut

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Reflection: Given some structure S (e.g. a set of ordinals, a group, a topological space etc.), if the structure satisfies some property P, then there is a substructure S' of smaller cardinality with the same property.

Compactness: Given some structure if every substructure of smaller cardinality satisfies a certain property, then the whole structure satisfies the same property.

When we have compactness for some property, then we have reflection for the negation of the property, and vice versa.

Example of compactness/reflection: König's lemma

Beyond ZFC:

- Large cardinals imply reflection properties
- V=L implies anti-reflection properties

#### Reflection of stationary sets

Let  $\kappa$  be a regular cardinal,  $Refl(\kappa)$ : for every stationary subset *S* of  $\kappa$ , there exists  $\alpha < \kappa$  of uncountable cofinality such that

 $S \cap \alpha$  is a stationary subset of  $\alpha$ .

**Applications:**  $Refl(\kappa)$  is equiconsistent with "every  $\kappa$ -free abelian group is  $\kappa^+$ -free"

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# Reflection of stationary sets

## In ZFC:

•  $Refl(\kappa^+)$  fails if  $\kappa$  is a regular cardinal.

## With large cardinals:

- If  $\kappa$  is weakly compact, then  $Refl(\kappa)$  holds.
- (Magidor '82)  $Cons(\exists (\kappa_n)_{n < \omega} \text{supercompact cardinals}) \rightarrow Cons(Refl(\aleph_{\omega+1}))$

## If V=L:

 If V = L, then Refl(κ) fails at every regular uncountable cardinal κ which is not weakly compact.

#### Definition (Magidor, Shelah '94)

For  $\kappa < \lambda$ ,  $\Delta_{\kappa,\lambda}$  is the following statement: given a stationary set  $S \subseteq E^{\lambda}_{<\kappa}$  and an algebra  $\mathcal{A}$  on  $\lambda$  with  $< \kappa$  operations, there exists a subalgebra  $\mathcal{A}'$  of  $\mathcal{A}$  such that the order type of  $\mathcal{A}'$  is a regular cardinal  $< \kappa$  and

 $S \cap \mathcal{A}'$  is stationary in  $sup(\mathcal{A}')$ 

We say that  $\lambda$  has the Delta-reflection if  $\Delta_{\kappa,\lambda}$  holds for every  $\kappa < \lambda$ .

## Applications (Magidor, Shelah)

Suppose that  $\kappa$  has the Delta-reflection, then

- Refl(κ) holds
- every  $< \kappa$ -free abelian group of size  $\kappa$  is free.
- Given a graph *G* of size  $\kappa$ . If every subgraph of *G* of size  $< \kappa$  has coloring number  $\leq \gamma < \kappa$ , then *G* has coloring number  $\leq \gamma$ .
- Given A a family of  $\kappa$  sets all of size  $< \kappa$ , if every subfamily of size  $< \kappa$  has a transversal, then A has a transversal.
- Given X a topological space locally of cardinality  $< \kappa$ , if X is  $< \kappa$ -collectionwise Hausdorff, then X is collectionwise Hausdorff

# Consistency of the Delta-reflection at $\aleph_{\omega^2+1}$

If  $\kappa$  is weakly compact, then  $\kappa$  has the Delta-reflection.

Theorem (Magidor, Shelah '94)

 $Cons(\exists (\kappa_n)_{n < \omega} \text{supercompact cardinals}) \rightarrow Cons(\Delta_{\aleph_{\omega^2}, \aleph_{\omega^2+1}})$ 

Moreover,  $\aleph_{\omega^2+1}$  is the smallest regular cardinal that can have the Delta-reflection.

#### (Jensen) Square $\Box_{\kappa}$ :

There exists a sequence  $\langle C_{\alpha}; \alpha \in Lim(\kappa^+) \rangle$  such that

- every  $C_{\alpha} \subseteq \alpha$  is a club;
- 2  $o.t.(C_{\alpha}) \leq \kappa$
- $\ \, {\mathfrak S} \in \operatorname{Lim}({\mathcal C}_{\alpha}) \text{ implies } {\mathcal C}_{\beta} = {\mathcal C}_{\alpha} \cap \beta;$

#### Square is an anti-reflection principle

- (Solovay) □<sub>κ</sub> implies ¬*Refl*(κ<sup>+</sup>) (in particular it implies the failure of the Delta-reflection at κ<sup>+</sup>).
- (Solovay) if  $\kappa$  is strongly compact, then  $\Box_{\mu}$  fails for every  $\mu \geq \kappa$ .

# (Todorčević) $\Box(\kappa)$ :

There exists a sequence  $\langle C_{\alpha}; \alpha \in Lim(\kappa) \rangle$  such that

- every  $C_{\alpha} \subseteq \alpha$  is a club;
- $\ \ \, \boldsymbol{\beta} \in \operatorname{Lim}(\boldsymbol{C}_{\alpha}) \text{ implies } \boldsymbol{C}_{\beta} = \boldsymbol{C}_{\alpha} \cap \boldsymbol{\beta};$
- there are no threads for the sequence, i.e. there is no club *C* ⊂  $\kappa$  such that  $\beta \in \text{Lim}(C)$  implies  $C_{\beta} = C \cap \beta$ ;

**Fact:**  $\Box_{\kappa}$  implies  $\Box(\kappa^+)$ 

#### $\Box(\kappa)$ is an anti-reflection principle

- (Veličković) □(κ) implies the existence of two stationary subsets of E<sup>κ</sup><sub>ω</sub> that do not reflect simultaneously (i.e. there is no α such that both reflect to α).
- (Rinot) □(κ) implies that every stationary subset of κ can be split into κ many disjoint stationary parts that do not reflect simultaneously
- (Solovay, Veličković) if  $\kappa$  is strongly compact, then  $\Box(\mu)$  fails for every  $\mu \geq \kappa$ .

## Theorem (F., Hayut)

 $Cons(\exists (\kappa_n)_{n < \omega} \text{supercompact cardinals}) \rightarrow Cons(\Delta_{\aleph_{\omega^2}, \aleph_{\omega^2+1}} + \Box(\aleph_{\omega^2+1})))$ 

- In particular the Delta-reflection does not imply the simultaneous reflection.
- □(κ<sup>+</sup>) implies the failure of the tree property at κ<sup>+</sup>, so in particular the Delta-reflection does not imply the tree property at ℵ<sub>ω<sup>2</sup>+1</sub> (see also F. , Magidor).
- The Delta-reflection at *κ*<sup>+</sup> is incompatible even with the weak square □<sup>\*</sup><sub>κ</sub>, so in a way this result is optimal.

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What is the idea of the proof?

We can force a  $\Box(\lambda^+)$ -sequence with bounded approximations: a condition is a sequence of the form  $\langle C_{\alpha}; \alpha \in \gamma + 1 \rangle$  where  $\gamma < \lambda^+$  and

- for every  $\alpha$ ,  $C_{\alpha} \subseteq \alpha$  is a club (if  $\alpha$  is a successor ordinal, then  $C_{\alpha} = \{\alpha 1\}$ );
- for every  $\alpha, \beta$ , if  $\beta \in acc(C_{\alpha})$ , then  $C_{\alpha} \cap \beta = C_{\beta}$ .

Given two conditions *s*, *t*, we say that *s* is stronger than *t* if  $t \sqsubseteq s$ .

#### Theorem (Solovay)

Suppose  $\lambda = \lim_{n < \omega} \kappa_n$  is a limit of supercompact cardinals, then  $\lambda^+$  has the Delta-reflection.

## Proof.

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## Let S and A be a stationary set and an algebra as in the statement of the Delta-reflection.

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Delta-refl
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Use a forcing  $\mathbb{P}$  similar to diagonal Prikry forcing.

#### We want both the Delta-reflection at $\aleph_{\omega^2+1}$ and $\Box(\aleph_{\omega^2+1})$ .

**Problem:** if  $\Box(\lambda^+)$  holds, then there are no  $\lambda^+$ -supercompact cardinals.

An attempted solution: Force with

- $\mathbb{S}$  : forces a  $\Box(\lambda^+)$ -sequence  $\mathcal{S}$
- $\bullet~\mathbb{T}$  : adds a thread to  $\mathcal S$

Then  $\mathbb{S} * \mathbb{T}$  contains a  $\lambda^+$ -directed closed dense subset, thus

 $V^{\mathbb{S}*\mathbb{T}} \models \operatorname{each} \kappa_n$  is supercompact

Forcing with  $\mathbb{P}$ , we have

$$V^{(\mathbb{S}*\mathbb{T}) imes\mathbb{P}}\models\Delta_{leph_{\omega^2},leph_{\omega^2+1}}$$

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# **New problem:** $\mathbb{T}$ destroys stationary sets, so it may destroy stationary sets that do not reflect in $V^{\mathbb{S}*\mathbb{P}}$ , thus the preservation lemma cannot be proven.

**New solution:** we do some preparation, namely we define an iteration  $\mathbb{R}$  that preventively destroy all the stationary sets in  $V^{S \times \mathbb{P}}$  that would be destroyed by  $\mathbb{T}$ .

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Factorising  $\mathbb P$ 

$$\mathbb{C}_n := \prod_{m \ge n} \textit{Coll}(\kappa_m^{++}, < \kappa_{m+1})$$

For  $c, c' \in \mathbb{C}_0$ , let

• 
$$c \sim c' \iff \exists n \forall m \ge n c(m) = c'(m)$$
  
•  $c \le^* c' \iff \exists n \forall m \ge n c(m) \le c'(m)$ 

$$\mathbb{C}_{\textit{fin}} := (\mathbb{C}_0 / \sim, \leq^*)$$

 $\ensuremath{\mathbb{P}}$  can be factorised like this

$$\mathbb{P} \equiv \mathbb{C}_{\textit{fin}} * \mathbb{P}^*$$

# In $V^{\mathbb{C}_{fin}\times\mathbb{S}}$ we define $\mathbb{R}$ such that if E is a stationary set in $V^{(\mathbb{C}_{fin}\times\mathbb{S})*\mathbb{R}}$ , then $V^{(\mathbb{C}_{fin}\times\mathbb{S})*\mathbb{R}} \models "1_{\mathbb{T}} \Vdash E$ is stationary".

For every  $n < \omega$ ,  $(\mathbb{C}_n \times \mathbb{S}) * \mathbb{R} * \mathbb{T}$  contains a  $\kappa_n^+$ -directed closed dense subsets, thus

 $V^{(\mathbb{C}_n \times \mathbb{S}) * \mathbb{R} * \mathbb{T}} \models \kappa_n \text{ is supercompact}$ 

In this model fix a normal ultrafilter on  $\mathcal{P}_{\kappa_n}(\lambda^+)$ , it has a projection to a normal ultrafilter  $U_n$  on  $\kappa_n$ ,  $U_n$  is already in V. From  $\{U_n\}_{n < \omega}$  define  $\mathbb{P}$  in V.

The final model is

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# The idea of the proof

## Part 1: $V^{\mathbb{S}} \models \Box(\lambda^+)$

A forcing  $\mathbb{B}$  does not add a thread to a  $\Box(\lambda^+)$ -sequence if  $\mathbb{B} \times \mathbb{B}$  does not change the cofinality of  $\lambda^+$ .

 $\mathbb{C}_{fin}, \mathbb{R}$  and  $\mathbb{P}^*$  satisfy this requirement, thus

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# The idea of the proof

## Part 2: Suppose that

# $V^{(\mathbb{C}_{fin} \times \mathbb{S})*(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{P}^*)} \models \dot{S} \subseteq E_{<\kappa_n}^{\lambda^+}$ stationary, $\dot{A}$ algebra on $\lambda^+$ with $<\kappa_n$ -many operations

Define in  $V^{(\mathbb{C}_{fin} \times S)*\mathbb{R}}$  "fake versions"  $S^*$  of  $\dot{S}$  and  $A^*$  of  $\dot{A}$ . By the preparation  $\mathbb{R}$ , there exists a generic  $G_{\tau}$  for  $\mathbb{T}$  such that

$$V^{(\mathbb{C}_{fin} \times \mathbb{S}) * \mathbb{R}}(G_T) \models S^*$$
 is stationary

Forcing with  $\mathbb{C}_n/\mathbb{C}_{fin}$ , we still have

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Moreover  $\kappa_n$  is supercompact in  $V^{(\mathbb{C}_n \times \mathbb{S})*\mathbb{R}}(G_T)$ , so here  $S^*$  reflects on a subalgebra  $B^*$  of  $A^*$  of order type  $< \kappa_n$ . By the distributivity of  $\mathbb{T}$ , the subalgebra  $B^*$  already existed in  $V^{(\mathbb{C}_n \times \mathbb{S})*\mathbb{R}}$ .

This gives us a subalgebra B of the real algebra A where the real stationary set S reflects, so we have the conclusion.

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 $V^{(\mathbb{C}_{fin} \times \mathbb{S})*(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{P}^*)} \models \dot{S} \subseteq E_{<\kappa_n}^{\lambda^+} \text{ stationary, } \dot{A} \text{ algebra on } \lambda^+ \text{ with } < \kappa_n \text{-many operations}$ 

Define in  $V^{(\mathbb{C}_{fin} \times \mathbb{S})*\mathbb{R}}$  "fake versions"  $S^*$  of  $\dot{S}$  and  $A^*$  of  $\dot{A}$ . By the preparation  $\mathbb{R}$ , there exists a generic  $G_T$  for  $\mathbb{T}$  such that

$$V^{(\mathbb{C}_{fin} \times \mathbb{S}) * \mathbb{R}}(G_T) \models S^*$$
 is stationary

Forcing with  $\mathbb{C}_n/\mathbb{C}_{fin}$ , we still have

$$V^{(\mathbb{C}_n \times \mathbb{S}) * \mathbb{R}}(G_T) \models S^*$$
 is stationary.

Moreover  $\kappa_n$  is supercompact in  $V^{(\mathbb{C}_n \times \mathbb{S})*\mathbb{R}}(G_T)$ , so here  $S^*$  reflects on a subalgebra  $B^*$  of  $A^*$  of order type  $< \kappa_n$ . By the distributivity of  $\mathbb{T}$ , the subalgebra  $B^*$  already existed in  $V^{(\mathbb{C}_n \times \mathbb{S})*\mathbb{R}}$ .

This gives us a subalgebra B of the real algebra A where the real stationary set S reflects, so we have the conclusion.

 $V^{(\mathbb{C}_{\textit{fin}} \times \mathbb{S})*(\mathbb{R} \times \mathbb{P}^*)} \models \dot{S} \subseteq E_{<\kappa_n}^{\lambda^+} \text{ stationary, } \dot{A} \text{ algebra on } \lambda^+ \text{ with } < \kappa_n \text{-many operations}$ 

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Thank you