

# Axiomatic Potentialism

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# Overview

- 1 Background
- 2 Warm Up: Height Potentialism
- 3 Height and Width Potentialism
- 4 Concluding Remarks

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- The model-theoretic side has seen thorough examination in the recent literature
- Here we will be focused on axiomatic potentialism, and on relations between potentialist axiom systems and their first order counterparts.



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Instantiation requires assumption of existence.

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Proof: use mirroring.

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This is essentially what Button calls ‘near-synonymy’.

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- $M$  proves the universal possibility of forcing.
- e.g., it proves it is possible for the continuum to exist and have a cardinality at least as great as any  $\aleph$  number whose existence is provable in ZFC.



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But then the rigidity/extensionality imply  $w = z$  after all, so we have a contradiction.

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Amounts to ‘restricting’ ourselves to parameters that exist at the world of evaluation.

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- Our translation will be doubly parameterized, once by a real and once by a transitive set.
- Our interpretation for  $\diamond_{\uparrow}$  will involve holding  $r$  fixed and climbing transitive sets in  $L[r]$ ;
- while our interpretation for  $\diamond_{\leftarrow}$  will involve allowing new reals to be added but not extending the height of the transitive set parameter.

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## Theorem

$M \vdash \varphi$  implies  $T \vdash \forall r, T \in L[r][t(\varphi)(X, r)]$

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A peculiar sort of necker cube effect. Of philosophical interest?

# Thanks!