

# A formalization of Borel determinacy in Lean

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- In which system should you do it? In Rocq? In Isabelle? Maybe Mizar?
- Good criteria: user experience, existing standard libraries, etc.
- But the proof assistant is only as strong as the logic it uses internally!

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- (Lean is expressive enough to understand the second-order sentence  $\forall P, P \vee \neg P$  and take it as an axiom, so you can use it without proving)
- Beware: these logics are not simple!

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- Alice and Bob alternately pick natural numbers  $n_0, n_1, n_2, \dots$ . Alice is the first one to pick.
- That generates a sequence  $\langle n_i \rangle_{i \in \mathbb{N}}$ . Alice wins iff the generated sequence belongs to  $A$ , the set of winning sequences.

## When Alice can win?

- If the winning set is finite, then the set of elements  $B_1$  that Bob should choose in his first turn is also finite. So Bob can choose any number from  $\mathbb{N} - B_1$  and the rest of the game doesn't matter - Alice loses.

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- Define a set  $B_1$  of second elements
- Prove that  $\mathbb{N} - B_1$  is not empty
- Prove that for any suffix, Bob's sequence won't be winning

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- Relate these axioms to the proof above to convince reader that the existence of the proof above is actually not that obvious as it seems

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- This set is not definable in ZF without the axiom schema of replacement!
- Will we not run into troubles while proving statements about more complicated winning sets in our game?

- A Gale-Stewart game is a pair  $G = (T, P)$ , where  $T$  is a nonempty pruned tree and  $P \subseteq [T]$  is the winning set. Define topology, open, closed and Borel sets of sequences; open, closed and Borel games.

# Is the game determined when the winning set is open or closed?

- todo: a proof, needs transfinite induction?

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- This is much more difficult!
- Harvey Friedman showed that determinacy for Gale-Stewart games where the winning set is only Borel, is not provable in ZF without the axiom schema of replacement!
- But will we be able to prove it in Lean 4?



# ZFC version used in Lean 4

# Tarski-Grothendieck set theory

- ZFC + Tarski's axiom, which implies existence of inaccessible cardinals

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# Tarski-Grothendieck set theory

- ZFC + Tarski's axiom, which implies existence of inaccessible cardinals
- enough to define category theory, in contrast to ZFC
- Mizar: a Polish theorem prover. In 2009 its mathlib was the biggest body of formalized maths in the world!
- the underlying theory of Mizar is precisely first-order logic with Tarski-Grothendieck set theory

# Alexander Grothendieck (1928-2014)

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grothendieck

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## Alexander Grothendieck

French mathematician

Overview Books



Hermitary



 The Guardian

'He was in mystic delirium': was this hermit mathematician a forgotten genius whose ideas could transform AI – or a lonely madman? | Mathematics | The Guardian

# Throwback: How can you expect tax-payers to believe in this? (Inter-universal Teichmüller theory)

$$\{\pm 1\} \curvearrowright (-l^* < \dots < -2 < -1 < 0 < 1 < 2 < \dots < l^*)$$

$$(\begin{smallmatrix} / \pm & & / \pm & & / \pm & & / \pm & & / \pm & & / \pm \end{smallmatrix})$$

$$\mathfrak{D}_T$$

$$\Downarrow \phi_{\pm}^{\Theta^{\text{ell}}}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & \pm & \longrightarrow & \pm & \\ & \nearrow & & \searrow & \\ \pm & & \mathbb{F}_l^{\times \pm} \curvearrowright & & \pm \\ \uparrow & & \mathcal{D}^{\odot \pm} = & & \downarrow \\ \pm & & \mathcal{B}(\underline{X}_K)^0 & & \pm \\ & \nwarrow & & \swarrow & \\ & \pm & \dots & \pm & \end{array}$$

## Grothendieck, 1970





# Grothendieck, Lasserre, France, 2013

