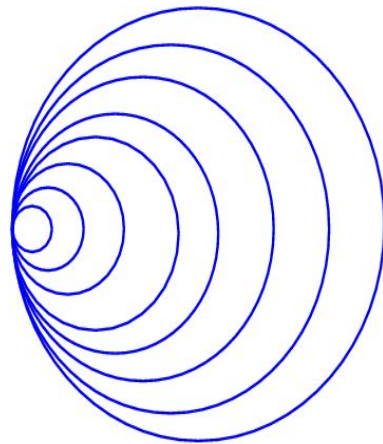


# The uncountable Specker phenomenon and $n$ -slender groups

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1. Specker's theorem and slender groups

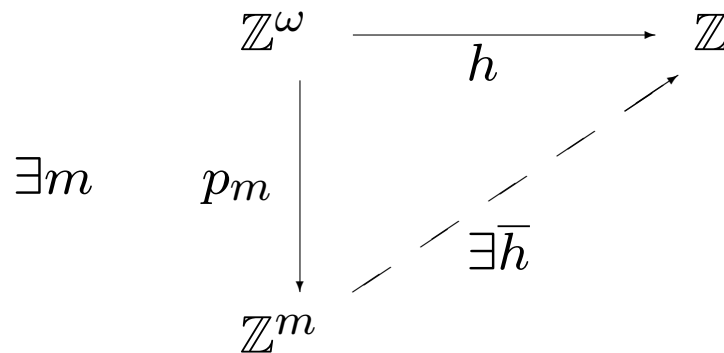
2. Non-commutative Specker's theorem and  $n$ -slender groups

3. The uncountable Specker phenomenon

# 1. Specker's theorem and slender groups

E. Specker (1950)

$h : \mathbb{Z}^\omega \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  a homomorphism.



$$h = \bar{h} \circ p_m \quad p_m: \text{projection.} \quad \bar{h}(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x(i)h(e_i)$$

$e_i$ :  $i$ -th component is 1, other components are all zero.

$$x = \sum_{i < \omega} x(i)e_i = \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x(i)e_i + \sum_{m \leq i < \omega} x(i)e_i$$

$$\begin{aligned} h(x) &= h\left(\sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x(i)e_i\right) + h\left(\sum_{m \leq i < \omega} x(i)e_i\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x(i)h(e_i) + h\left(\sum_{m \leq i < \omega} x(i)e_i\right) \\ &= \sum_{i=0}^{m-1} x(i)h(e_i) \end{aligned}$$

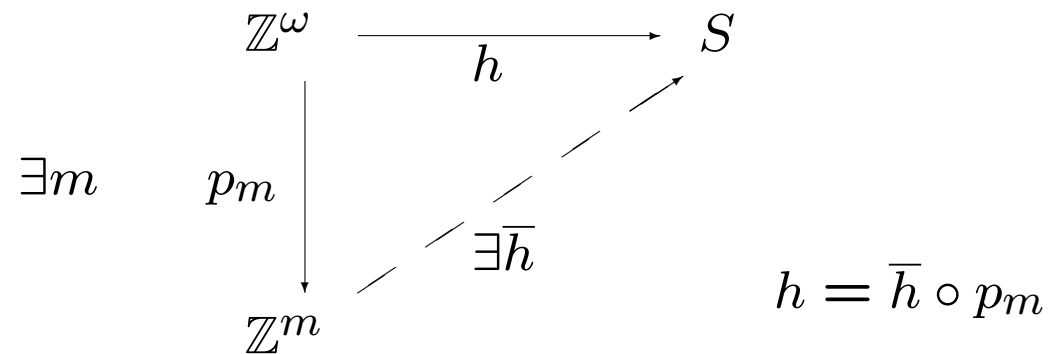
$h(x)$  is determined by only finite components of  $x$ .

$h$  factors through a finitely generated free abelian group  $\mathbb{Z}^m$ .

Slenderness was introduced by J.Łoś.

An abelian group  $S$  is slender, if  $S$  satisfies the following diagram.

$h : \mathbb{Z}^\omega \rightarrow S$  a homomorphism.



*A slender group  $S$  satisfies Specker's theorem.*

$\mathbb{Z}$  is a typical example of slender groups.

**Theorem** (L.Fuchs)

*Direct sums of slender groups are slender.*

**Theorem** (R.J.Nunke) the characterization of slender groups.

*An abelian group is slender if and only if, it is torsion-free and contains no copy of  $\mathbb{Q}$ ,  $\mathbb{Z}^\omega$ , or  $p$ -adic integer group  $\mathbb{J}_p$  for any prime  $p$ .*

## 2. Non-commutative Specker's theorem and n-slender groups

G.Higman (1952)

Let  $F$  be a free group and  $h : \ast_{n < \omega} \mathbb{Z}_n \rightarrow F$  a homomorphism.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \ast_{n < \omega} \mathbb{Z}_n & \xrightarrow{h} & F \\
 \exists m \quad \downarrow p_m & \nearrow \exists \bar{h} & \\
 \ast_{i < m} \mathbb{Z}_i & & 
 \end{array}$$

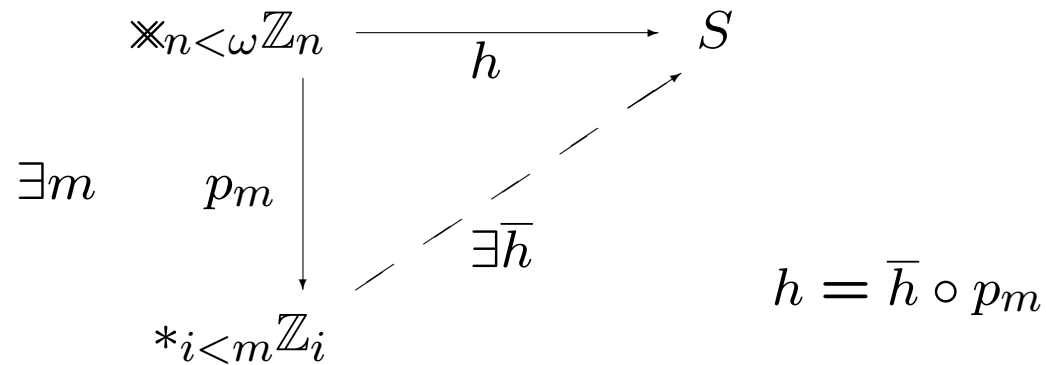
$$h = \bar{h} \circ p_m \quad p_m: \text{canonical projection}$$

$\ast_{n < \omega} \mathbb{Z}_n$  is the free complete product of copies of  $\mathbb{Z}$ .

It is isomorphic to the fundamental group of the Hawaiian earring.

n-slenderness was introduced by K.Eda in 1992.

A group  $S$  is n-slender if,  $G$  satisfies the following diagram.



*A n-slender group satisfies non-commutative Specker's theorem.*

$\mathbb{Z}$  is also a good example of n-slender groups.



## **Theorem(K.Eda)**

*Let  $A$  be an abelian group.*

*$A$  is slender if and only if,  $A$  is  $n$ -slender.*

## **Theorem(K.Eda)**

*Let  $G_i (i \in I)$  be  $n$ -slender. Then, the free product  $*_{i \in I} G_i$*

*and the restricted direct product  $\prod_{i \in I}^r G_i = \{x \in \prod_{i \in I} G_i | \{i \in I | x(i) \neq e\} \text{ is finite}\}$  are  $n$ -slender.*

There is a characterization of  $n$ -slender groups using fundamental groups.

### **Theorem(K.Eda)**

$\pi_1(X, x)$  is  $n$ -slender if and only if,

for any homomorphism  $h : \pi_1(\mathbb{H}, o) \rightarrow \pi_1(X, x)$ ,

there exists a continuous map  $f : (\mathbb{H}, o) \rightarrow (X, x)$

such that  $h = f_*$  where  $f_*$  is the induced homomorphism.

We can rephrase Higman's theorem in topological terms as follows:

*Let  $h$  be a homomorphism from  $\pi_1(\mathbb{H}, o)$  to  $\pi_1(\mathbb{S}^1)$ .*

*Then, there exists a continuous map  $f : \mathbb{H} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}^1$  such that  $h = f_*$ .*

Many things about wild algebraic topology can be reduced to the Hawaiian earring and

how the homomorphic image of the fundamental group of the Hawaiian earring can detect a point in the space in question.

It is due to the non-commutative Specker phenomenon.

### **Theorem(K.Eda)**

*Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be a one-dimensional Peano continua which are not semi-locally simply connected at any point.*

*Then,  $X$  and  $Y$  are homeomorphic if and only if, the fundamental groups of  $X$  and  $Y$  are isomorphic.*

### **Theorem(K.Eda)**

*Let  $X$  and  $Y$  be one-dimensional Peano continua.*

*If the fundamental groups of  $X$  and  $Y$  are isomorphic, then  $X$  and  $Y$  are homotopy equivalent.*

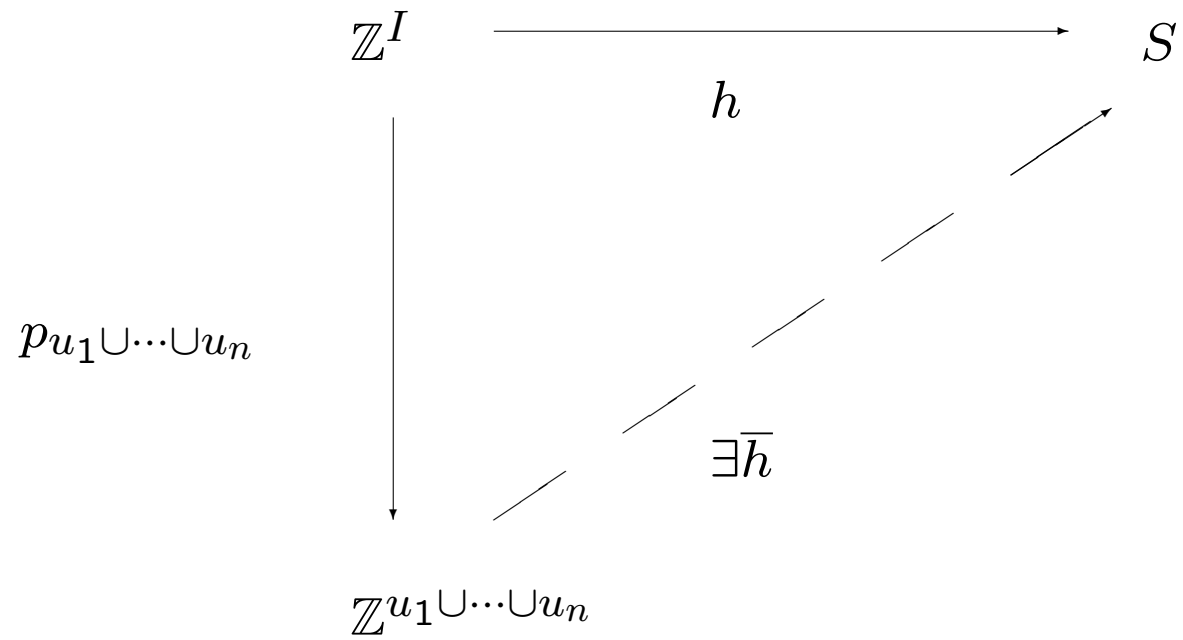
### 3.The uncountable Specker phenomenon

#### Theorem 1.(J.Łoś)

*Let  $S$  be a slender group.*

*For any homomorphism  $h : \mathbb{Z}^I \rightarrow S$ , there exist  $\omega_1$ -complete ultrafilters  $\mathcal{U}_1, \dots, \mathcal{U}_n$  on  $I$  such that*

$$h = \bar{h} \circ p_{u_1 \cup \dots \cup u_n} \text{ for any } u_1 \in \mathcal{U}_1, \dots, u_n \in \mathcal{U}_n.$$



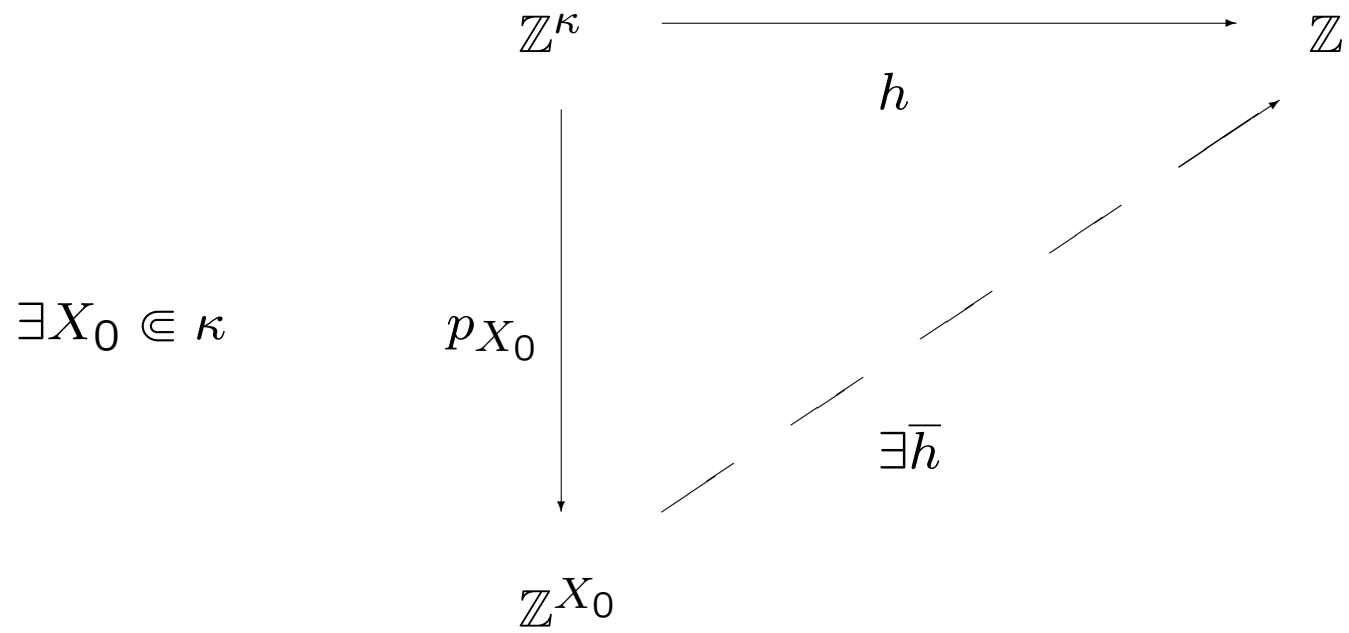
## Corollary 1.

*If  $\kappa$  is less than the least measurable cardinal, then  $\mathbb{Z}^\kappa$  satisfies Specker's theorem.*

## Remark

Let  $\kappa$  be the least cardinal which has a non-principal  $\omega_1$ -complete ultrafilters on  $\kappa$ . Then,  $\kappa$  is measurable.





**Theorem 2.**(S.Shelah and L.Strüingmann)

$\prod_{\alpha < \omega_1} \mathbb{Z}_\alpha$  fails the non-commutative Specker phenomenon, i.e;

there exists a homomorphism  $h : \prod_{\alpha < \omega_1} \mathbb{Z}_\alpha \rightarrow \mathbb{Z}$  such that  $h(\delta_\alpha) = 0$  for any  $\alpha < \omega_1$  but also  $h$  is non-trivial.

**Theorem 3.**(S.Shelah and K.Eda)

*Let  $S$  be a  $n$ -slender group.*

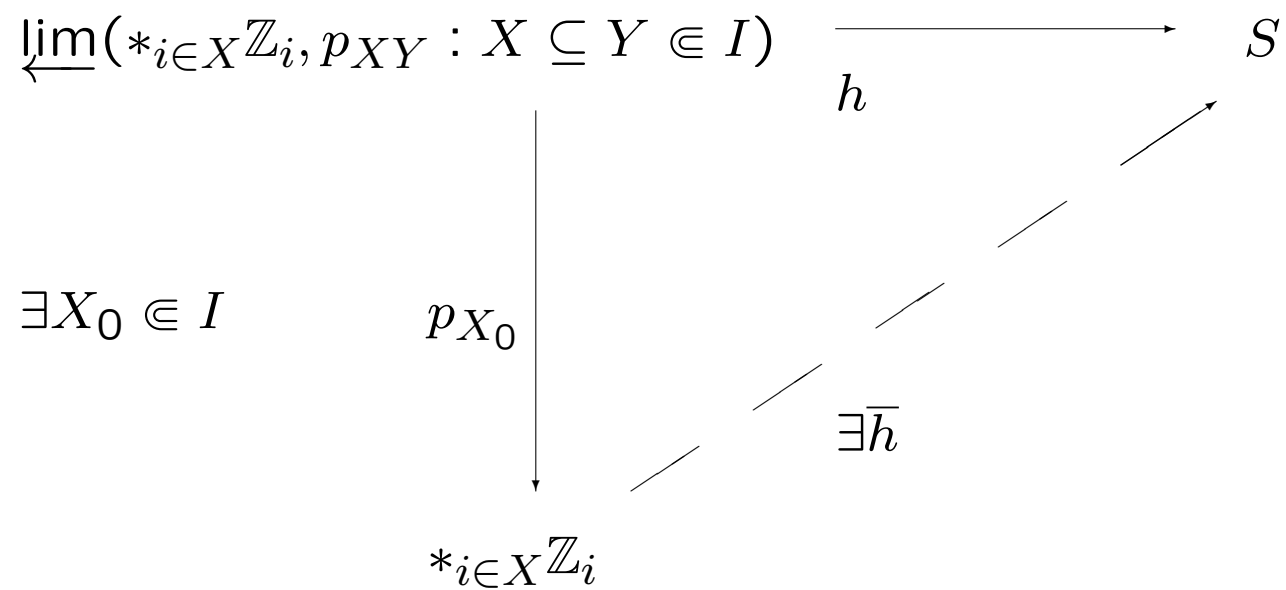
*For any homomorphism  $h : \varprojlim (*_{i \in X} \mathbb{Z}_i, p_{XY} : X \subseteq Y \in I) \rightarrow S$ ,*

*there exist  $\omega_1$ -complete ultrafilters  $\mathcal{U}_1, \dots, \mathcal{U}_n$  on  $I$  such that*

*$h = \bar{h} \circ p_{u_1 \cup \dots \cup u_n}$  for any  $u_1 \in \mathcal{U}_1, \dots, u_n \in \mathcal{U}_n$ .*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\varprojlim (*_{i \in X} \mathbb{Z}_i, p_{XY} : X \subseteq Y \in I) & \xrightarrow{h} & S \\
\downarrow p_{u_1 \cup \dots \cup u_n} & \nearrow \exists \bar{h} & \\
\varprojlim (*_{i \in X} \mathbb{Z}_i, p_{XY} : X \subseteq Y \in u_1 \cup \dots \cup u_n) & & 
\end{array}$$

If  $|I|$  is less than the least measurable cardinal, then the following holds.



If  $\kappa$  is uncountable,  $\prod_{\alpha < \kappa} \mathbb{Z}_\alpha$  fails the non-commutative Specker phenomenon.

But, there exist subgroups of  $\prod_{\alpha < \kappa} \mathbb{Z}_\alpha$  which exhibit the Specker phenomenon.

**Def.**

Let  $G_i$  ( $i \in I$ ) be groups s.t  $G_i \cap G_j = \{e\}$  for any  $i \neq j \in I$ . we call elements of  $\bigcup_{i \in I} G_i$  letters.

**A word**  $W$  is a function

$W : \overline{W} \rightarrow \bigcup_{i \in I} G_i$   $\overline{W}$  is a **linearly ordered set** and

$\{\alpha \in \overline{W} \mid W(\alpha) \in G_i\}$  is **finite** for any  $i \in I$ .

The class of all words is denoted by  $\mathcal{W}(G_i : i \in I)$

**Theorem 4.**(K.Eda and J.Nakamura)

Let  $G$  be the subgroup of  $\ast_{\alpha < \kappa} \mathbb{Z}_\alpha$  consisting of all words which have no subword whose cofinality or coinitality is uncountable.

Then,  $G$  is a maximal subgroup which exhibits the non-commutative Specker phenomenon.



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