

# Set Theory (sometimes) can solve your problem!

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So, the CH is **undecidable** from the ZFC axioms.



## Definition

A set  $X \subseteq \mathbb{R}$  is said to have **strong measure zero** if for every sequence  $\langle \varepsilon_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle$  of positive real numbers, there is a sequence of intervals  $\langle I_n \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \rangle$  with  $\ell(I_n) < \varepsilon_n$  such that

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## Theorem (Sierpiński 1928)

*Assuming CH, there exists an uncountable set with strong measure zero. So  $\neg$ BC is consistent with ZFC.*

## Theorem (Laver 1976)

*BC is consistent with ZFC. Hence, BC is undecidable from the ZFC axioms.*

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### Theorem (Shelah 1974)

*The **axiom of constructibility** implies that every W-group is free abelian. On the other hand, **Martin's axiom** implies that there are W-groups of cardinality  $\aleph_1$  that are not free abelian. In other words, the Whitehead problem is undecidable from the ZFC axioms.*

- Let  $\mathbb{H}$  be a separable infinite-dimensional Hilbert space.
- Let  $\mathcal{B}(\mathbb{H})$  denote the  $C^*$ -algebra of bounded operators in  $\mathbb{H}$ ,
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**Theorem (Farah 2011)**

*The Proper Forcing Axiom/Open Colouring Axiom/Todorćević's Axiom implies that all automorphisms of the Calkin algebra are inner.*