

# The binary expansion and the intermediate value theorem in constructive reverse mathematics

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## Abstract

We introduce the notion of a *convex* tree. We show that the binary expansion for real numbers in the unit interval (BE) is equivalent to weak König lemma (WKL) for trees having at most two nodes at each level, and we prove that the intermediate value theorem (IVT) is equivalent to WKL for convex trees, in the framework of constructive reverse mathematics.

*Keywords:* the binary expansion, the intermediate value theorem, the weak König lemma, convex tree, constructive reverse mathematics

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## 1 Introduction

In Bishop's constructive mathematics (**BISH**) [3, 4, 5, 6], the *binary expansion* of real numbers in the unit interval:

BE: Every real number in  $[0, 1]$  has a binary expansion,

and the *intermediate value theorem*:

IVT: If  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is a uniformly continuous function with  $f(0) < 0 < f(1)$ , then there exists  $x \in [0, 1]$  such that  $f(x) = 0$ ,

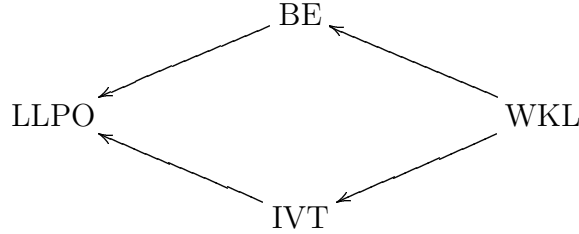
respectively imply the *lesser limited principle of omniscience* (LLPO or  $\Sigma_1^0$ -DML):

$$\forall \alpha \beta [\neg(\exists n(\alpha(n) \neq 0) \wedge \exists n(\beta(n) \neq 0)) \rightarrow \neg \exists n(\alpha(n) \neq 0) \vee \neg \exists n(\beta(n) \neq 0)]^1$$

which is an instance of De Morgan's law (DML); see [17, 5.9] for BE, and [5, 3.2.4] and [18, 6.1.2] for IVT; for a constructive version of IVT, see [4, 2.4.8], [5, 3.2.5] and [18, 6.1.4, 6.1.5]. The *weak König lemma*:

WKL: Every infinite tree has a branch,

also implies LLPO. We are able to show that BE and IVT follow from WKL, and hence BE and IVT are in between WKL and LLPO.



Ishihara [7] showed that LLPO implies WKL over **BISH** which assumes the axiom of countable choice, and hence the above diagram collapses in **BISH**. However, in the Friedman-Simpson program, called (classical) reverse mathematics [14], the base system **RCA**<sub>0</sub> (a subsystem of second order arithmetic with a very weak axiom of countable choice) proves BE and IVT, and does not prove WKL. Note that many mathematical theorems equivalent to LLPO over **BISH** are equivalent to WKL over **RCA**<sub>0</sub>; for example, the Cantor intersection theorem (CIT) [7] which is a classical contraposition of the Heine-Borel theorem [14, IV.1.2]. Therefore BE and IVT are distinguished theorems among theorems which are equivalent to LLPO in **BISH**.

$$\mathbf{BISH} \vdash \text{LLPO} \leftrightarrow \text{BE} \leftrightarrow \text{IVT} \leftrightarrow \text{WKL} \leftrightarrow \text{CIT}$$

$$\mathbf{RCA}_0 \vdash \text{LLPO}, \quad \text{BE}, \quad \text{IVT}, \quad \text{WKL} \leftrightarrow \text{CIT}$$

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<sup>1</sup>Here and in the following, we follow the notational conventions in [18]:  $m, n, i, j, k$  are supposed to range over  $\mathbf{N}$ ,  $a, b, c$  over the set  $\mathbf{N}^*$  of finite sequences of  $\mathbf{N}$ , and  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta$  over  $\mathbf{N}^{\mathbf{N}}$ ;  $|a|$  denotes the length of a finite sequence  $a$ , and  $a * b$  the concatenation of two finite sequences  $a$  and  $b$ ;  $\bar{a}(n)$  and  $\bar{\alpha}(n)$  denote the initial segments of  $a$  and  $\alpha$  of length  $n$ , respectively, where  $n \leq |a|$ .

In  $\mathbf{RCA}_0$ , we cannot compare theorems which are provable in  $\mathbf{RCA}_0$  (such as BE and IVT). On the other hand, since  $\mathbf{BISH}$  is an informal mathematics using intuitionistic logic and is assuming some function existence axioms including the axiom of countable choice, we cannot compare BE and IVT with WKL in  $\mathbf{BISH}$ . If we use a theory  $\mathbf{T}$  for *constructive reverse mathematics* which is contained both in  $\mathbf{BISH}$  and in  $\mathbf{RCA}_0$ , then we could classify BE and IVT, and compare them with WKL in  $\mathbf{T}$ ; see [8] for constructive reverse mathematics, and [19] for intuitionistic reverse mathematics. Note that WKL is equivalent, over such a theory  $\mathbf{T}$ , to LLPO and a weak form of the axiom of countable choice, such as  $\Pi_1^0\text{-AC}_0^\vee$  in [8] and  $\Pi_1^0\text{-DC}^\vee$  in [2].

In this paper, we deal with how much weaker BE and IVT are than WKL, and which of them is weaker than the other. We first present our base system  $\mathbf{EL}_0$  only with the quantifier-free axiom of countable choice as such a theory  $\mathbf{T}$ . After introducing the notions of a *convex* tree and a tree *having at most (or exactly) two nodes at each level*, we show the equivalence among WKL for trees having at most two nodes at each level ( $\text{WKL}_{\leq 2}$ ), WKL for trees having exactly two nodes at each level ( $\text{WKL}_2$ ), and WKL for convex trees having at most two nodes at each level ( $\text{WKL}_{\leq 2}^c$ ). Then we show that BE is equivalent to  $\text{WKL}_{\leq 2}^c$ , and that IVT implies  $\text{WKL}_2$ ; whence IVT implies BE. Finally we prove that IVT is equivalent to WKL for convex tree ( $\text{WKL}^c$ ). Therefore, we have the following diagram over  $\mathbf{EL}_0$ ; see [8] for the equivalence between WKL and CIT.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & \text{BE} & & \text{IVT} & & \\
 & & \updownarrow & & \updownarrow & & \\
 \text{LLPO} & \longleftarrow & \text{WKL}_{\leq 2} & \longleftarrow & \text{WKL}^c & \longleftarrow & \text{WKL} \longleftrightarrow \text{CIT}
 \end{array}$$

We conclude the paper with a discussion on the *fan theorem* which is a classical contraposition of WKL.

## 2 A subsystem of elementary analysis

We adopt a subsystem  $\mathbf{EL}_0$  of elementary analysis  $\mathbf{EL}$  [18, 3.6] as a formal base system for constructive reverse mathematics. The language of  $\mathbf{EL}$  contains, in addition to the symbols of  $\mathbf{HA}$ , unary function variables, denoted by  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \delta, \dots$ , the application operator  $\text{Ap}$ , the abstraction operator  $\lambda$  and

the recursor  $\mathbf{r}$ . We write  $\varphi(t)$  for  $\text{Ap}(\varphi, t)$ . The logic of  $\mathbf{EL}$  is two-sorted intuitionistic predicate logic. As non-logical axioms we have the axioms of  $\mathbf{HA}$ , with induction extended to formulae of the language of  $\mathbf{EL}$ , the axiom for  $\lambda$ -conversion, the axioms for the recursor, and the *quantifier-free axiom of choice*:

$$\text{QF-AC}_{00}: \quad \forall m \exists n A(m, n) \rightarrow \exists \alpha \forall m A(m, \alpha(m)),$$

where  $A$  is a quantifier-free formula and does not contain  $\alpha$  free; see [18, 3.6] for more details. The subsystem  $\mathbf{EL}_0$  is obtained from  $\mathbf{EL}$  by restricting the induction-axiom schema to quantifier-free formulae:

$$\text{QF-IND}: \quad A(0) \wedge \forall m (A(m) \rightarrow A(S(m))) \rightarrow \forall m A(m),$$

where  $A$  is a quantifier-free formula.

Note that functions in  $\mathbf{EL}_0$  contain all primitive recursive functions, and are closed under primitive recursion.

**Proposition 1.**  $\Sigma_1^0$ -IND is derivable in  $\mathbf{EL}_0$ .

*Proof.* Let  $A(m)$  be a  $\Sigma_1^0$ -formula of the form  $\exists n B(m, n)$ , where  $B(m, n)$  is quantifier-free. Note that  $\forall mn (B(m, n) \vee \neg B(m, n))$  as  $B(m, n)$  is quantifier-free. Suppose that  $A(0)$  and  $\forall m (A(m) \rightarrow A(S(m)))$ . Then, by intuitionistic predicate logic, we have

$$\forall mn \exists k (B(m, n) \rightarrow B(S(m), k)),$$

and hence, by  $\text{QF-AC}_{00}$ , there exists  $\alpha$  such that

$$\forall mn (B(m, n) \rightarrow B(S(m), \alpha(j(m, n)))),$$

where  $j$  is a coding function of pairs of natural numbers. Since  $A(0)$ , there exists  $n_0$  such that  $B(0, n_0)$ . Define a function  $\gamma$  by primitive recursion such that

$$\gamma(0) = n_0, \quad \gamma(S(m)) = \alpha(j(m, \gamma(m))).$$

Then we have

$$B(0, \gamma(0)) \wedge \forall m (B(m, \gamma(m)) \rightarrow B(S(m), \gamma(S(m)))),$$

and therefore  $\forall m B(m, \gamma(m))$ , by  $\text{QF-IND}$ . Thus  $\forall m A(m)$ .  $\square$

There is no difficulty at all to establish basic theorems of arithmetic (on natural numbers) in  $\mathbf{EL}_0$ , as in [18, 3.2]. Using the pairing function  $j$ , we can code  $n$ -tuples of natural numbers, finite sequences of natural numbers, integers and rationals into natural numbers, develop the elementary theory of operations and relations on  $\mathbf{Z}$ ,  $\mathbf{Q}$ ,  $\mathbf{N}^*$  and  $\{0, 1\}^*$ , and prove their basic properties in  $\mathbf{EL}_0$ .

In the language of  $\mathbf{EL}$  (and hence  $\mathbf{EL}_0$ ), a *detachable subset*  $S$  of  $\mathbf{N}$  is given by its characteristic function  $\chi_S : \mathbf{N} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$  such that

$$\forall n (n \in S \leftrightarrow \chi_S(n) = 1).$$

We adopt a definition of real numbers with a fixed modulus<sup>2</sup>: a *real number* is a sequence  $(p_n)_n$  of rationals such that

$$\forall mn (|p_m - p_n| < 2^{-m} + 2^{-n}).$$

The relations  $<$ ,  $\leq$ , and  $=$  between real numbers  $x = (p_n)_n$  and  $y = (q_n)_n$  are defined by

$$x < y \Leftrightarrow \exists n (2^{-n+2} < q_n - p_n),$$

$x \leq y \Leftrightarrow \neg(y < x)$ , and  $x = y \Leftrightarrow x \leq y \wedge y \leq x$ , respectively. There is no trouble to define the arithmetical operations on the reals, and to show basic theorems on them in  $\mathbf{EL}_0$ ; see [10, Section 4] and [18, 5.2 and 5.3]. Note that for each real number  $x = (p_n)_n$ , we have  $\forall n (|x - p_n| \leq 2^{-n})$ ; see [10, Lemma 4.4] and [18, Propositions 5.2.14 and 5.2.15].

A *uniformly continuous function*  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  consists of two functions  $\varphi : \mathbf{Q} \times \mathbf{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{Q}$  and  $\nu : \mathbf{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$  such that  $f(p) = (\varphi(p, n))_n \in \mathbf{R}$ , and for each  $k$  and  $p, q \in \mathbf{Q}$  with  $0 \leq p, q \leq 1$

$$|p - q| < 2^{-\nu(k)} \rightarrow |f(p) - f(q)| < 2^{-k}.$$

Then the uniformly continuous function  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is given by

$$(f(x))_n = \varphi(\min\{\max\{p_{\mu(n)}, 0\}, 1\}, n + 1)$$

and  $f(x) = ((f(x))_n)_n$ , where  $x = (p_n)_n \in [0, 1]$  and  $\mu(n) = \nu(n + 1) + 1$ , and its modulus of uniform continuity is  $\mu$ ; see [10, Proposition 15].

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<sup>2</sup>We adopt this definition of real numbers as in constructive mathematics [3], in computable mathematics [13], and in classical reverse mathematics [14]. Mostowski [12] showed that, in some other definitions of real numbers including one with Dedekind cuts, we can construct two computable sequences of real numbers whose pointwise sum does not form a computable sequence of real numbers; see also [13, Chapter 0, Section 2] and [15]. Hence those definitions have a drawback when we interpret real numbers in a theory as computable real numbers.

### 3 Weak König's lemma for convex trees

For  $a, b \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , let  $a \preceq b$  denote that  $a$  is an *initial segment* of  $b$ , that is,  $a \preceq b \Leftrightarrow |a| \leq |b| \wedge \bar{b}(|a|) = a$ . Note that  $a \preceq c \wedge b \preceq c \rightarrow a \preceq b \vee b \preceq a$ .

Let  $a \sqsubset b$  denote that  $a$  is *on the left of*  $b$  ( $b$  is *on the right of*  $a$ ), that is,  $a \sqsubset b \Leftrightarrow \exists u \preceq a(u * \langle 0 \rangle \preceq a \wedge u * \langle 1 \rangle \preceq b)$ . It is straightforward to show the following lemma.

**Lemma 2.** 1.  $\neg(a \sqsubset a)$ ,

2.  $a \sqsubset b \wedge b \sqsubset c \rightarrow a \sqsubset c$ ,

3.  $a \sqsubset b \vee b \sqsubset a \vee a \preceq b \vee b \preceq a$ ,

4.  $a * \langle 0 \rangle \sqsubset b \leftrightarrow a \sqsubset b \vee a * \langle 1 \rangle \preceq b$ ,

5.  $a * \langle 1 \rangle \sqsubset b \leftrightarrow a \sqsubset b$ ,

6.  $a \sqsubset b * \langle 0 \rangle \leftrightarrow a \sqsubset b$ ,

7.  $a \sqsubset b * \langle 1 \rangle \leftrightarrow a \sqsubset b \vee b * \langle 0 \rangle \preceq a$ ,

8.  $a \sqsubset b \wedge a' \preceq a \rightarrow a' \sqsubset b \vee a' \preceq b$ ,

9.  $a \sqsubset b \wedge b' \preceq b \rightarrow a \sqsubset b' \vee b' \preceq a$ ,

10.  $a' \sqsubset b' \wedge a' \preceq a \wedge b' \preceq b \rightarrow a \sqsubset b$ ,

11.  $\neg(a * \langle 0 \rangle \sqsubset b \sqsubset a * \langle 1 \rangle)$ .

Let  $a \sqsubseteq b \Leftrightarrow a \sqsubset b \vee a \preceq b \vee b \preceq a$ . Then it is easy to see the following lemma.

**Lemma 3.** 1.  $a \sqsubseteq b \wedge a' \preceq a \rightarrow a' \sqsubseteq b$ ,

2.  $a \sqsubseteq b \wedge b' \preceq b \rightarrow a \sqsubseteq b'$ ,

3.  $a \sqsubseteq b \rightarrow a * \langle 0 \rangle \sqsubseteq b$ ,

4.  $a \sqsubseteq b \rightarrow a \sqsubseteq b * \langle 1 \rangle$ ,

5.  $|a| = |b| \rightarrow (a \sqsubseteq b \leftrightarrow a \sqsubset b \vee a = b)$ ,

6.  $|a| = |b| \rightarrow (a \sqsubseteq b \wedge b \sqsubset c \rightarrow a \sqsubset c)$ ,

7.  $|a| = |b| \rightarrow (a \sqsubseteq b \wedge b \sqsubseteq c \rightarrow a \sqsubseteq c)$ .

For a detachable subset  $S$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$ , we write  $S_n$  for the set  $\{a \in S \mid |a| = n\}$  and  $|S_n|$  for the number of elements of  $S_n$ . We say that, for each  $n$ , a subset  $C$  of  $\{0, 1\}^n$  is *convex* if for each  $a, b \in C$  and  $c \in \{0, 1\}^n$ ,

$$a \sqsubseteq c \sqsubseteq b \rightarrow c \in C,$$

and a subset  $S$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  is *convex* if  $S_n$  is convex for each  $n$ .

A *tree*  $T$  is a detachable subset of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  such that  $\langle \rangle \in T$ , and  $b \in T$  and  $a \preceq b$  imply  $a \in T$  for each  $a, b \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , and a tree  $T$  is *infinite* if  $T_n$  is inhabited for each  $n$ . A sequence  $\alpha \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbf{N}}$  is a *branch* of a tree  $T$  if all initial segment of  $\alpha$  are in  $T$ , that is,  $\forall n(\bar{\alpha}(n) \in T)$ .

A tree  $T$  has at most (exactly)  $k$  nodes at each level if  $|T_{n+1}| \leq k$  (respectively,  $|T_{n+1}| = k$ ) for each  $n$ . Let  $\text{WKL}_{\leq k}$  ( $\text{WKL}_k$ ) denote WKL for trees having at most (respectively, exactly)  $k$  nodes at each level, and let  $\text{WKL}^c$  denote WKL for convex trees. Also we write  $\text{WKL}_{\leq k}^c$  ( $\text{WKL}_k^c$ ) for WKL for convex trees having at most (respectively, exactly)  $k$  nodes at each level.

Note that, since  $|T_{n+1}| \leq 2|T_n|$ , we have  $|T_{n+1}|/2^{n+1} \leq |T_n|/2^n$ , and hence the sequence  $(|T_n|/2^n)_n$  is nonincreasing.

**Proposition 4.** *Let  $T$  be an infinite convex tree such that*

$$|T_n|/2^n \rightarrow 0 \text{ as } n \rightarrow \infty \tag{1}$$

*with a modulus of convergence. Then there exists an infinite convex subtree  $T'$  of  $T$  having at most two nodes at each level.*

*Proof.* Let  $T$  be an infinite convex tree such that  $|T_n|/2^n \rightarrow 0$  as  $n \rightarrow \infty$  with a modulus  $\mu : \mathbf{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$  of convergence, that is,  $|T_{\mu(n)}|/2^{\mu(n)} < 2^{-n}$  for each  $n$ , and let  $(a_n)_n$  and  $(b_n)_n$  be sequences of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  such that  $T_n = \{c \in \{0, 1\}^n \mid a_n \sqsubseteq c \sqsubseteq b_n\}$  for each  $n$ . We may assume, without loss of generality, that  $n \leq \mu(n) \leq \mu(n+1)$  for each  $n$ . Define sequences  $(a'_n)_n$  and  $(b'_n)_n$  by  $a'_n = \overline{a_{\mu(n)}}(n)$  and  $b'_n = \overline{b_{\mu(n)}}(n)$ . If  $a'_n \sqsubseteq c \sqsubseteq b'_n$  for  $c \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , then  $a_{\mu(n)} \sqsubseteq c * u \sqsubseteq b_{\mu(n)}$  for each  $u \in \{0, 1\}^{\mu(n)-n}$ , by Lemma 2 (10), and hence  $2^{\mu(n)-n} < |T_{\mu(n)}|$ , or  $2^{-n} < |T_{\mu(n)}|/2^{\mu(n)}$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $\neg(a'_n \sqsubseteq c \sqsubseteq b'_n)$ , and so  $T'_n = \{a'_n, b'_n\}$  is convex and has at most two nodes. Since  $a_{\mu(n)} \sqsubseteq \overline{a_{\mu(n+1)}}(\mu(n)) \sqsubseteq b_{\mu(n)}$ , we have  $a'_n \sqsubseteq \overline{a_{\mu(n+1)}}(n) \sqsubseteq b'_n$ , by Lemma 3 (1) and (2), and hence  $\overline{a_{\mu(n+1)}}(n) = a'_n$  or  $\overline{a_{\mu(n+1)}}(n) = b'_n$ , by Lemma 3 (5). Therefore  $a'_n \preceq a'_{n+1}$  or  $b'_n \preceq a'_{n+1}$ . Similarly, we have  $a'_n \preceq b'_{n+1}$  or  $b'_n \preceq b'_{n+1}$ . Thus  $T' = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} T'_n$  is an infinite convex subtree of  $T$  having at most two nodes at each level.  $\square$

Let  $\text{WKL}_{\rightarrow 0}^c$  denote WKL for convex trees with the property (1) in Proposition 4. Then we have the following corollary.

**Corollary 5.** *The following are equivalent.*

1.  $\text{WKL}_{\leq 2}^c$ ,
2.  $\text{WKL}_{\leq k}^c$  ( $k \geq 3$ ),
3.  $\text{WKL}_{\rightarrow 0}^c$ .

*Proof.* Straightforward by Proposition 4. □

**Theorem 6.** *The following are equivalent.*

1.  $\text{WKL}_{\leq 2}$ ,
2.  $\text{WKL}_2$ ,
3.  $\text{WKL}_{\leq 2}^c$ ,
4.  $\text{WKL}_2^c$ .

*Proof.* Since  $\text{WKL}_{\leq 2} \Rightarrow \text{WKL}_2 \Rightarrow \text{WKL}_2^c$  and  $\text{WKL}_{\leq 2} \Rightarrow \text{WKL}_{\leq 2}^c \Rightarrow \text{WKL}_2^c$  are trivial, it suffices to show that  $\text{WKL}_2^c \Rightarrow \text{WKL}_{\leq 2}$ .

( $\text{WKL}_2^c \Rightarrow \text{WKL}_{\leq 2}$ ): Suppose  $\text{WKL}_2^c$ , and let  $T$  be an infinite tree having at most two nodes at each level. Then there exist sequences  $(a_n)_n$  and  $(b_n)_n$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  such that  $T_n = \{a_n, b_n\}$  and  $a_n \sqsubseteq b_n$  for each  $n$ . Note that, since  $T$  is a tree, we have  $a_n \preceq a_{n+1} \wedge a_n \preceq b_{n+1}$ ,  $a_n \sqsubset b_n \wedge b_n \preceq a_{n+1} \wedge b_n \preceq b_{n+1}$ , or  $a_n \sqsubset b_n \wedge a_n \preceq a_{n+1} \wedge b_n \preceq b_{n+1}$  for each  $n$ . Define sequences  $(a'_n)_n$  and  $(b'_n)_n$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  by  $a'_0 = b'_0 = \langle \rangle$  and

$$\begin{aligned} a'_{n+1} &= a'_n * \langle 0 \rangle, & b'_{n+1} &= a'_n * \langle 1 \rangle & \text{if } a_n \preceq a_{n+1} \wedge a_n \preceq b_{n+1}, \\ a'_{n+1} &= b'_n * \langle 0 \rangle, & b'_{n+1} &= b'_n * \langle 1 \rangle & \text{if } a_n \sqsubset b_n \wedge b_n \preceq a_{n+1} \wedge b_n \preceq b_{n+1}, \\ a'_{n+1} &= a'_n * \langle 1 \rangle, & b'_{n+1} &= b'_n * \langle 0 \rangle & \text{if } a_n \sqsubset b_n \wedge a_n \preceq a_{n+1} \wedge b_n \preceq b_{n+1}. \end{aligned}$$

Then it is straightforward to show, by induction on  $n$ , that  $|a'_n| = |b'_n| = n$ ,  $a'_{n+1} \sqsubset b'_{n+1}$  and  $\neg \exists c (a'_n \sqsubset c \sqsubset b'_n)$  for each  $n$ , using Lemma 2 (11), (5) and (6). Therefore  $T' = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \{a'_n, b'_n\}$  is an infinite convex tree having exactly two nodes at each level, and so there exists a branch  $\alpha$  in  $T'$ , by  $\text{WKL}_2^c$ . Define a mapping  $f : T' \rightarrow T$  by  $f(a'_n) = a_n$  and  $f(b'_n) = b_n$  for each  $n$ . Then  $|f(a')| = |a'|$  for each  $a' \in T'$ , and it is straightforward to see that  $f(a') \preceq f(a' * \langle i \rangle)$  for each  $a', a' * \langle i \rangle \in T'$ . Thus the sequence  $(f(\bar{\alpha}(n)))_n$  defines a branch in  $T$ . □



## 4 The binary expansion

For  $a \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , define a rational number  $l_a$  inductively by  $l_{\langle \rangle} = 0$ ,  $l_{a*\langle 0 \rangle} = l_a$  and  $l_{a*\langle 1 \rangle} = l_a + 2^{-(|a|+1)}$ , and let  $r_a = l_a + 2^{-|a|}$ . Note that  $a \preceq b$  implies  $l_a \leq l_b$  and  $a \sqsubset b$  implies  $2^{-|a|} \leq l_b - l_a$ .

**Proposition 7.** *Let  $T$  be a tree, and let  $x$  be a real number such that*

$$\forall n \exists a \in T_n (|x - l_a| < 2^{-n}).$$

*Then there exists an infinite convex subtree  $T'$  of  $T$  having at most two nodes at each level, and*

$$\forall n \forall a' \in T'_n (|x - l_{a'}| < 2^{-(n+1)}).$$

*Proof.* Let  $T$  be a tree, and let  $x$  be a real number such that  $\exists a \in T_n (|x - l_a| < 2^{-n})$  for each  $n$ . Let  $x = (q_n)_n$  such that  $|q_m - q_n| < 2^{-m} + 2^{-n}$  for each  $n$  and  $m$ , and let

$$T'_n = \{\bar{a}(n) \mid a \in T_{n+2} \wedge |q_{n+4} - l_a| < 2^{-(n+1)}\} \subseteq T_n$$

for each  $n$ . Then for each  $n$ , since there exists  $a \in T_{n+2}$  such that  $|x - l_a| < 2^{-(n+2)}$ , we have

$$|q_{n+4} - l_a| \leq |q_{n+4} - x| + |x - l_a| < 2^{-(n+4)} + 2^{-(n+2)} < 2^{-(n+1)},$$

and hence  $T'_n$  is inhabited. Assume that  $a * \langle i \rangle \in T'_{n+1}$ . Then there exists  $b \in T_{n+3}$  such that  $\bar{b}(n+1) = a * \langle i \rangle$  and  $|q_{n+5} - l_b| < 2^{-(n+2)}$ , and hence, setting  $c = \bar{b}(n+2) \in T_{n+2}$ , we have  $a = \bar{c}(n)$  and

$$\begin{aligned} |q_{n+4} - l_c| &\leq |q_{n+4} - q_{n+5}| + |q_{n+5} - l_b| + |l_b - l_c| \\ &< 2^{-(n+4)} + 2^{-(n+5)} + 2^{-(n+2)} + 2^{-(n+3)} < 2^{-(n+1)}. \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $a \in T'_n$ . If  $a' \sqsubset c \sqsubset b'$  with  $a', b' \in T'_n$  and  $c \in \{0, 1\}^n$ , then there exist  $a, b \in T_{n+2}$  such that  $a' = \bar{a}(n)$ ,  $b' = \bar{b}(n)$ ,  $|q_{n+4} - l_a| < 2^{-(n+1)}$  and  $|q_{n+4} - l_b| < 2^{-(n+1)}$ , and hence

$$\begin{aligned} 2^{-n+1} &= 2^{-n} + 2^{-n} \leq (l_{b'} - l_c) + (l_c - l_{a'}) \\ &= (l_{b'} - l_b) + (l_b - q_{n+4}) + (q_{n+4} - l_a) + (l_a - l_{a'}) \\ &< 0 + 2^{-(n+1)} + 2^{-(n+1)} + 2^{-n} = 2^{-n+1}, \end{aligned}$$

a contradiction. Therefore  $T'_n$  is convex and has at most two nodes. If  $a' \in T'_n$ , then there exists  $a \in T_{n+2}$  such that  $a' = \bar{a}(n)$  and  $|q_{n+4} - l_a| < 2^{-(n+1)}$ , and hence

$$|x - l_{a'}| \leq |x - q_{n+4}| + |q_{n+4} - l_a| + |l_a - l_{a'}| < 2^{-(n+4)} + 2^{-(n+1)} + 2^{-n} < 2^{-n+1}.$$

Thus  $T' = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} T'_n$  is an infinite convex subtree of  $T$  with the required properties.  $\square$

**Theorem 8.** *The following are equivalent.*

1. BE,
2.  $\text{WKL}_{\leq 2}^c$ ,

*Proof.* It suffices to show that  $\text{BE} \Rightarrow \text{WKL}_2^c$  and  $\text{WKL}_{\leq 2}^c \Rightarrow \text{BE}$ , by Theorem 6.

( $\text{BE} \Rightarrow \text{WKL}_2^c$ ): Suppose BE, and let  $T$  be an infinite convex tree having exactly two nodes at each level. Then there exist sequences  $(a_n)_n$  and  $(b_n)_n$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  such that  $T_n = \{a_n, b_n\}$  and  $a_{n+1} \sqsubset b_{n+1}$  for each  $n$ . Note that, since  $T$  is a tree, we have  $a_{n+1} = a_n * \langle 0 \rangle \wedge b_{n+1} = a_n * \langle 1 \rangle$ ,  $a_{n+1} = b_n * \langle 0 \rangle \wedge b_{n+1} = b_n * \langle 1 \rangle$ , or  $a_{n+1} = a_n * \langle 1 \rangle \wedge b_{n+1} = b_n * \langle 0 \rangle$  for each  $n$ . Define sequences  $(a'_n)_n$  and  $(b'_n)_n$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  by  $a'_0 = b'_0 = \langle \rangle$ ,

$$\begin{aligned} a'_{2n+1} &= a'_{2n} * \langle 0 \rangle, & b'_{2n+1} &= a'_{2n} * \langle 1 \rangle & \text{if } a_{n+1} &= a_n * \langle 0 \rangle \wedge b_{n+1} = a_n * \langle 1 \rangle, \\ a'_{2n+1} &= b'_{2n} * \langle 0 \rangle, & b'_{2n+1} &= b'_{2n} * \langle 1 \rangle & \text{if } a_{n+1} &= b_n * \langle 0 \rangle \wedge b_{n+1} = b_n * \langle 1 \rangle, \\ a'_{2n+1} &= a'_{2n} * \langle 1 \rangle, & b'_{2n+1} &= b'_{2n} * \langle 0 \rangle & \text{if } a_{n+1} &= a_n * \langle 1 \rangle \wedge b_{n+1} = b_n * \langle 0 \rangle, \end{aligned}$$

and

$$a'_{2n+2} = a'_{2n+1} * \langle 1 \rangle, \quad b'_{2n+2} = b'_{2n+1} * \langle 0 \rangle.$$

Then it is straightforward to show, by induction on  $n$ , that  $|a'_n| = |b'_n| = n$ ,  $a'_{n+1} \sqsubset b'_{n+1}$ , and  $\neg \exists c (a'_n \sqsubset c \sqsubset b'_n)$  for each  $n$ , using Lemma 2 (11), (5) and (6). Therefore  $T' = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \{a'_n, b'_n\}$  is an infinite convex tree having exactly two nodes at each level. It is straightforward to see, by induction on  $n$ , that  $l_{b'_{n+1}} - l_{a'_{n+1}} = 2^{-(n+1)}$  for each  $n$ , and hence  $0 \leq l_{a'_{n+1}} - l_{a'_n} \leq 2^{-n}$  for each  $n$ . Therefore  $(l_{a'_n})_n$  is a Cauchy sequence of rationals, and so it converges to a real number  $x$  in  $[0, 1]$ . Note that  $l_{a'_n} \leq x \leq l_{a'_n} + 2^{-n+1}$  and  $x \leq l_{b'_n} + 2^{-n}$  for each  $n$ . By BE, there exists  $\alpha \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbb{N}}$  such that  $x = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \alpha(i) \cdot 2^{-(i+1)}$ . Note that  $l_{\bar{\alpha}(n)} \leq l_{\bar{\alpha}(n+1)}$  and  $x \leq l_{\bar{\alpha}(n)} + 2^{-n}$ .

We show that  $\alpha$  is a branch in  $T'$ . Assume that  $\bar{\alpha}(n) \notin T'$ , and choose  $m$  so that  $n \leq 2m + 1$ . Then  $\bar{\alpha}(2m + 1) \notin T'_{2m+1}$ , and hence either  $\bar{\alpha}(2m + 1) \sqsubset a'_{2m+1}$  or  $b'_{2m+1} \sqsubset \bar{\alpha}(2m + 1)$ , by Lemma 2 (3). In the former case, since  $x \leq l_{\bar{\alpha}(2m+1)} + 2^{-(2m+1)} \leq l_{a'_{2m+1}}$ , we have

$$x + 2^{-(2m+2)} \leq l_{a'_{2m+1}} + 2^{-(2m+2)} = l_{a'_{2m+2}} \leq x,$$

a contradiction. In the latter case, since  $l_{b'_{2m+1}} + 2^{-(2m+1)} \leq l_{\bar{\alpha}(2m+1)} \leq x$ , we have

$$x + 2^{-(2m+2)} \leq l_{b'_{2m+2}} + 2^{-(2m+2)} + 2^{-(2m+2)} = l_{b'_{2m+1}} + 2^{-(2m+1)} \leq x,$$

a contradiction. Therefore  $\bar{\alpha}(n) \in T'$ . Let  $\beta(n) = \alpha(2n)$ . Then it is straightforward to show, by simultaneous induction on  $n$ , that  $\bar{\alpha}(2n) = a'_{2n}$  implies  $\bar{\beta}(n) = a_n$  and  $\bar{\alpha}(2n) = b'_{2n}$  implies  $\bar{\beta}(n) = b_n$  for each  $n$ . Thus  $\beta$  is a branch in  $T$ .

(WKL $_{\leq 2}^c \Rightarrow$  BE): Suppose WKL $_{\leq 2}^c$ . Let  $x \in [0, 1]$ , and let  $T = \{0, 1\}^*$  be the complete binary tree. Then  $\exists a \in T_n (|x - l_a| < 2^{-n})$  for each  $n$ , and hence there exists an infinite convex subtree  $T'$  of  $T$  having at most two nodes at each level and  $\forall a' \in T'_n (|x - l_{a'}| < 2^{-n+1})$  for each  $n$ , by Proposition 7. By WKL $_{\leq 2}^c$ , there exists a branch  $\alpha$  in  $T'$ , and hence in  $T$ . Since

$$|x - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \alpha(i) \cdot 2^{-(i+1)}| \leq |x - l_{\bar{\alpha}(n)}| + |l_{\bar{\alpha}(n)} - \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \alpha(i) \cdot 2^{-(i+1)}| < 2^{-n+1} + 2^{-n}$$

for each  $n$ , we have  $x = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \alpha(i) \cdot 2^{-(i+1)}$ .  $\square$

## 5 The intermediate value theorem

For  $a \in \{0, 1\}^*$ , define a rational number  $l'_a$  inductively by  $l'_{\langle \rangle} = 1/3$ ,  $l'_{a*\langle 0 \rangle} = l'_a$  and  $l'_{a*\langle 1 \rangle} = l'_a + 2 \cdot 3^{-(|a|+2)}$ , and let  $r'_a = l'_a + 3^{-(|a|+1)}$ . Note that  $a \preceq b$  implies  $l'_a \leq l'_b$  and  $r'_b \leq r'_a$ , and  $a \sqsubset b$  implies  $3^{-|a|+1} \leq l'_b - r'_a$ .

**Proposition 9.** IVT implies WKL $_2$ .

*Proof.* Suppose IVT, and let  $T$  be an infinite tree having exactly two nodes at each level. Then there exist sequences  $(a_n)_n$  and  $(b_n)_n$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  such that  $a_0 = b_0 = \langle \rangle$ ,  $T_n = \{a_n, b_n\}$  and  $a_{n+1} \sqsubset b_{n+1}$  for each  $n$ . Note that

$l'_{a_n} \leq l'_{a_{n+1}} < r'_{b_{n+1}} \leq r'_{b_n}$  for each  $n$ , and hence  $l'_{a_n} < r'_{b_m}$  for each  $n$  and  $m$ . For each  $n$ , define a uniformly continuous function  $f_n : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  by

$$f_n(x) = \min\{l'_{a_n}{}^{-1}(x - l'_{a_n}), 0\} + \max\{(1 - r'_{b_n})^{-1}(x - r'_{b_n}), 0\}.$$

Note that  $x < l'_{a_n}$  if and only if  $f_n(x) < 0$ ,  $l'_{a_n} \leq x \leq r'_{b_n}$  if and only if  $f_n(x) = 0$ ,  $r'_{b_n} < x$  if and only if  $0 < f_n(x)$ ,  $f_n(0) = -1$ , and  $f_n(1) = 1$ . If  $f_n(x) < 0$  and  $0 < f_m(x)$  then  $x < l'_{a_n} < r'_{b_m} < x$ , a contradiction. Hence if  $f_n(x) < 0$  for some  $n$ , then  $f_m(x) \leq 0$  for each  $m$ . Similarly, if  $0 < f_n(x)$  for some  $n$ , then  $0 \leq f_m(x)$  for each  $m$ . Moreover, note that  $|f_n(x) - f_n(y)| \leq 3|x - y|$  for each  $x, y \in [0, 1]$ . Let

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^{-(n+1)} f_n(x).$$

Then  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is a uniformly continuous function such that  $f(0) < 0 < f(1)$ , and hence there exists  $x = (p_n)_n \in [0, 1]$  such that  $f(x) = 0$ , by IVT.

We define inductively a sequence  $(c_n)_n$  of  $T$  such that  $|c_n| = n$ ,  $c_n \preceq c_{n+1}$ , and  $\forall m \geq n \exists c \in T_m(c_n \preceq c)$  for each  $n$ . Then, trivially, the sequence  $(c_n)_n$  defines a branch in  $T$ . Let  $c_0 = \langle \rangle$ , and suppose that  $c_n$  has been defined. If  $c_n \preceq a_{n+1}$  and  $\neg(c_n \preceq b_{n+1})$ , then set  $c_{n+1} = a_{n+1}$ , and if  $c_n \preceq b_{n+1}$  and  $\neg(c_n \preceq a_{n+1})$ , then set  $c_{n+1} = b_{n+1}$ . If  $c_n \preceq a_{n+1}$  and  $c_n \preceq b_{n+1}$ , then either  $r'_{a_{n+1}} + 2^{-(2n+5)} < p_{2n+5}$  or  $p_{2n+5} \leq r'_{a_{n+1}} + 2^{-(2n+5)}$ . In the former case, assume that  $m \geq n + 1$  and  $\neg(b_{n+1} \preceq b_m)$ . Then  $a_{n+1} \preceq b_m$ , and, since  $r'_{b_m} \leq r'_{a_{n+1}} < p_{2n+5} - 2^{-(2n+5)} \leq x$ , we have  $0 < 2^{-(m+1)} f_m(x) \leq f(x)$ , a contradiction. Therefore  $b_{n+1} \preceq b_m$  for each  $m \geq n + 1$ , and set  $c_{n+1} = b_{n+1}$ . In the latter case, assume that  $m \geq n + 1$  and  $\neg(a_{n+1} \preceq a_m)$ . Then  $b_{n+1} \preceq a_m$ , and, since  $r'_{a_{n+1}} + 3^{-(n+2)} \leq l'_{b_{n+1}}$ , we have  $x \leq p_{2n+5} + 2^{-(2n+5)} \leq r'_{a_{n+1}} + 2^{-2(n+2)} < l'_{b_{n+1}}$ . Therefore we have  $f(x) \leq 2^{-(m+1)} f_m(x) < 0$ , a contradiction. Thus  $b_{n+1} \preceq b_m$  for each  $m \geq n + 1$ , and set  $c_{n+1} = b_{n+1}$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 10.** IVT *implies* BE.

*Proof.* By Proposition 9, Theorem 6 and Proposition 8.  $\square$

**Lemma 11.** Let  $a, b \in \{0, 1\}^*$  be such that  $a \sqsubset b$ . Then there exist  $c, d \in \{0, 1\}^*$  such that  $|c| = |a|$ ,  $|d| = |b|$ ,  $a \sqsubset c \sqsubseteq b$ ,  $a \sqsubseteq d \sqsubset b$ ,  $l_c = r_a$  and  $r_d = l_b$ .

*Proof.* For  $u \in \{0, 1\}^*$  with  $|u| > 0$ , define  $\text{suc}(u)$  in  $\{0, 1\}^*$  inductively by

$$\begin{aligned}\text{suc}(\langle 0 \rangle) &= \langle 1 \rangle, & \text{suc}(\langle 1 \rangle) &= \langle 1 \rangle, \\ \text{suc}(u * \langle 0 \rangle) &= u * \langle 1 \rangle, & \text{suc}(u * \langle 1 \rangle) &= \text{suc}(u) * \langle 0 \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

It is straightforward to show, by induction on  $a$ , that  $|\text{suc}(a)| = |a|$ . We show, by induction on  $a$ , that if  $a \sqsubset b$ , then  $a \sqsubset \text{suc}(a) \sqsubseteq b$  and  $l_{\text{suc}(a)} = r_a$ . Suppose that  $a \sqsubset b$ . Then  $\neg(a = \langle 1 \rangle)$  and  $\neg(b = \langle 0 \rangle)$ . If  $a = \langle 0 \rangle$ , then  $\langle 1 \rangle \preceq b$ , and hence  $a \sqsubset \text{suc}(a) \sqsubseteq b$  and  $l_{\text{suc}(a)} = 1/2 = r_a$ . If  $a = u * \langle 0 \rangle$ , then either  $u \sqsubset b$  or  $u * \langle 1 \rangle \preceq b$ , by Lemma 2 (4), and, by Lemma 2 (5), in both cases, we have  $a \sqsubset \text{suc}(a) \sqsubseteq b$  and  $l_{\text{suc}(a)} = l_u + 2^{-(|u|+1)} = l_{u * \langle 0 \rangle} + 2^{-(|u|+1)} = r_a$ . Assume that  $a = u * \langle 1 \rangle$ . Then  $u \sqsubset b$ , by Lemma 2 (5), and hence  $u \sqsubset \text{suc}(u) \sqsubseteq b$  and  $l_{\text{suc}(u)} = r_u$  by induction hypothesis. Therefore  $a \sqsubset \text{suc}(a) \sqsubseteq b$ , by Lemma 2 (5) and (6), and Lemma 3 (3), and

$$\begin{aligned}l_{\text{suc}(a)} &= l_{\text{suc}(u)} + 2^{-(|u|+1)} = r_u + 2^{-(|u|+1)} \\ &= l_u + 2^{-(|u|+1)} + 2^{-(|u|+1)} = l_{u * \langle 1 \rangle} + 2^{-(|u|+1)} = r_a.\end{aligned}$$

For  $u \in \{0, 1\}^*$  with  $|u| > 0$ , define  $\text{prd}(u)$  in  $\{0, 1\}^*$  inductively by

$$\begin{aligned}\text{prd}(\langle 0 \rangle) &= \langle 0 \rangle, & \text{prd}(\langle 1 \rangle) &= \langle 0 \rangle, \\ \text{prd}(u * \langle 0 \rangle) &= \text{prd}(u) * \langle 1 \rangle, & \text{prd}(u * \langle 1 \rangle) &= u * \langle 0 \rangle.\end{aligned}$$

Then, similarly, we see that  $|\text{prd}(b)| = |b|$ ,  $a \sqsubseteq \text{prd}(b) \sqsubset b$  and  $r_{\text{prd}(b)} = l_b$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 12.** *The following are equivalent.*

1. IVT,
2. WKL<sup>c</sup>.

*Proof.* (IVT  $\Rightarrow$  WKL<sup>c</sup>): Suppose IVT, and let  $T$  be an infinite convex tree. Then there exist sequences  $(a_n)_n$  and  $(b_n)_n$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  such that  $T_n = \{c \in \{0, 1\}^n \mid a_n \sqsubseteq c \sqsubseteq b_n\}$  for each  $n$ . For each  $n$ , define a uniformly continuous function  $f_n : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  by

$$f_n(x) = \min\{(l_{a_n} + 1)^{-1}(3x - l_{a_n} - 1), 0\} + \max\{(2 - r_{b_n})^{-1}(3x - r_{b_n} - 1), 0\}.$$

Note that if  $f_n(x) = 0$ , then  $l_{a_n} \leq 3x - 1 \leq r_{b_n}$ , if  $f_n(x) < 0$  for some  $n$ , then  $f_m(x) \leq 0$  for each  $m$ , and if  $0 < f_n(x)$  for some  $n$ , then  $0 \leq f_m(x)$  for each  $m$ . Let

$$f(x) = \sum_{n=0}^{\infty} 2^{-(n+1)} f_n(x).$$

Then  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  is a uniformly continuous function such that  $f(0) < 0 < f(1)$ , and hence there exists  $x \in [0, 1]$  such that  $f(x) = 0$ , by IVT. For each  $n$ , since  $f_n(x) = 0$ , we have  $l_{a_n} \leq 3x - 1 \leq r_{b_n}$ , and hence  $\exists a \in T_n (|(3x - 1) - l_a| < 2^{-n})$ . Therefore there exists an infinite convex subtree  $T'$  of  $T$  having at most two nodes at each level, by Proposition 7. By Proposition 9 and Theorem 6, there exists a branch in  $T'$ , and hence in  $T$ .

(WKL<sup>c</sup>  $\Rightarrow$  IVT): Suppose WKL<sup>c</sup>, and let  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  be a uniformly continuous function such that  $f(0) < 0 < f(1)$ . Then we define inductively sequences  $(a_n)_n$  and  $(b_n)_n$  of  $\{0, 1\}^*$  such that for each  $n$

1.  $|a_n| = |b_n| = n$  and  $a_n \sqsubseteq b_n$ ,
2.  $f(l_{a_n}) < 0 < f(r_{b_n})$ ,
3.  $\forall c \in \{0, 1\}^n (a_n \sqsubset c \sqsubseteq b_n \rightarrow |f(l_c)| < 2^{-n})$ .

Let  $a_0 = b_0 = \langle \rangle$ , and suppose that  $a_n$  and  $b_n$  have been defined. Then we divide the set

$$S = \{u \in \{0, 1\}^{n+1} \mid \exists v \in \{0, 1\}^n (a_n \sqsubseteq v \sqsubseteq b_n \wedge v \preceq u)\}$$

into disjoint detachable subsets  $S_-$ ,  $S_0$  and  $S_+$  such that

$$\begin{aligned} c \in S_- &\rightarrow (f(l_c))_{n+2} < -2^{-(n+2)}, \\ c \in S_0 &\rightarrow |(f(l_c))_{n+2}| \leq 2^{-(n+2)}, \\ c \in S_+ &\rightarrow 2^{-(n+2)} < (f(l_c))_{n+2}. \end{aligned}$$

If  $S_-$  is inhabited, then choose  $a_{n+1} \in S_-$  so that  $\neg \exists v \in S_- (a_{n+1} \sqsubset v)$ , and otherwise set  $a_{n+1} = a_n * \langle 0 \rangle$ . If  $\{u \in S_+ \mid a_{n+1} \sqsubset u\}$  is inhabited, then choose  $c \in S_+$  so that  $a_{n+1} \sqsubset c \wedge \neg \exists v \in S_+ (a_{n+1} \sqsubset v \sqsubset c)$  and choose  $b_{n+1} \in S$ , by Lemma 11, so that  $a_{n+1} \sqsubseteq b_{n+1} \sqsubset c$  and  $r_{b_{n+1}} = l_c$ , and otherwise set  $b_{n+1} = b_n * \langle 1 \rangle$ .

It is trivial that  $|a_{n+1}| = |b_{n+1}| = n + 1$  and  $a_{n+1} \sqsubseteq b_{n+1}$ . If  $S_-$  is inhabited, then, since  $a_{n+1} \in S_-$ , we have  $f(l_{a_{n+1}}) \leq (f(l_{a_{n+1}}))_{n+2} + 2^{-(n+2)} < 0$ , and otherwise, since  $l_{a_{n+1}} = l_{a_n}$ , we have  $f(l_{a_{n+1}}) < 0$ . If  $\{u \in S_+ \mid a_{n+1} \sqsubset u\}$  is inhabited, then, since there exists  $c \in S_+$  such that  $r_{b_{n+1}} = l_c$ , we have  $0 < (f(r_{b_{n+1}}))_{n+2} - 2^{-(n+2)} \leq f(r_{b_{n+1}})$ , and otherwise, since  $r_{b_{n+1}} = r_{b_n}$ , we have  $0 < f(r_{b_{n+1}})$ . Assume that  $a_{n+1} \sqsubset c \sqsubseteq b_{n+1}$  with  $c \in \{0, 1\}^{n+1}$ . If  $c \in S_-$ , then  $S_-$  is inhabited, and hence  $\neg \exists v \in S_- (a_{n+1} \sqsubset v)$ , a contradiction.

If  $c \in S_+$ , then, since  $\{u \in S_+ \mid a_{n+1} \sqsubset u\}$  is inhabited, there exists  $c' \in S_+$  such that  $\neg \exists v \in S_+(a_{n+1} \sqsubset v \sqsubset c')$  and  $a_{n+1} \sqsubseteq b_{n+1} \sqsubset c'$ , and hence  $a_{n+1} \sqsubset c \sqsubset c'$  by Lemma 3 (6), a contradiction. Therefore  $c \in S_0$ , and so  $|f(l_c)| \leq |(f(l_c))_{n+2}| + 2^{-(n+2)} < 2^{-n}$ .

Let  $T_n = \{u \in \{0, 1\}^n \mid a_n \sqsubseteq u \sqsubseteq b_n\}$  for each  $n$ , and let  $T = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} T_n$ . Then  $T$  is an infinite convex tree, and hence there exists a branch  $\alpha$  in  $T$  by WKL<sup>c</sup>. Let  $\mu : \mathbf{N} \rightarrow \mathbf{N}$  be a modulus of uniform continuity for  $f$  such that for each  $x, y \in [0, 1]$  and each  $n$

$$|x - y| < 2^{-\mu(n)} \rightarrow |f(x) - f(y)| < 2^{-n},$$

and let  $x = \sum_{i=0}^{\infty} \alpha(i) \cdot 2^{-(i+1)}$ . Suppose that  $|f(x)| > 0$ , choose  $m$  so that  $|f(x)| > 2^{-m+2}$ , and let  $n = \max\{m, \mu(m)\} + 1$ . Then, since  $|x - l_{\bar{\alpha}(n)}| \leq 2^{-n} < 2^{-\mu(m)}$ , we have

$$|f(l_{\bar{\alpha}(n)})| \geq |f(x)| - 2^{-m} > 2^{-m+2} - 2^{-m} > 2^{-m+1} > 2^{-n},$$

and hence  $\bar{\alpha}(n) = a_n$  and  $f(l_{a_n}) < -2^{-m+1}$ . If  $a_n \sqsubset b_n$ , then, by Lemma 11, there exists  $c \in \{0, 1\}^n$  such that  $a_n \sqsubset c \sqsubseteq b_n$  and  $|l_{a_n} - l_c| = |l_{a_n} - r_{a_n}| = 2^{-n} < 2^{-\mu(m)}$ , and hence

$$-2^{-n} < f(l_c) \leq f(l_{a_n}) + 2^{-m} < -2^{-m+1} + 2^{-m} = -2^{-m} < -2^{-n},$$

a contradiction. Therefore  $a_n = b_n$ , and, since  $|l_{a_n} - r_{b_n}| = 2^{-n} < 2^{-\mu(m)}$ , we have

$$0 \leq f(r_{b_n}) \leq f(l_{a_n}) + 2^{-m} < -2^{-m+1} + 2^{-m} = -2^{-m},$$

a contradiction. Thus  $f(x) = 0$ . □

## 6 Concluding remarks

Some mathematical theorems, such as the Heine-Borel theorem for  $[0, 1]$  (HBT) [14, IV.1.2], equivalent to WKL over  $\mathbf{RCA}_0$  are equivalent, over  $\mathbf{BISH}$ , to the *fan theorem* for detachable bars:

$$\text{FAN}_{\mathbf{D}}: \forall \alpha \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbf{N}} \exists n B(\bar{\alpha}n) \rightarrow \exists n \forall \alpha \in \{0, 1\}^{\mathbf{N}} \exists k \leq n B(\bar{\alpha}k),$$

where  $B$  is quantifier-free. The axiom  $\text{FAN}_{\mathbf{D}}$  is a classical contraposition of and constructively weaker than WKL; see [18, 4.7] and [9], and also [1] for

a version of WKL which is equivalent to  $\text{FAN}_D$  over **BISH**. The following diagram shows what is provable in **BISH** and  $\text{RCA}_0$ .

$$\mathbf{BISH} \vdash \text{LLPO} \leftrightarrow \text{BE} \leftrightarrow \text{IVT} \leftrightarrow \text{WKL} \leftrightarrow \text{CIT}, \quad \text{FAN}_D \leftrightarrow \text{HBT}$$

$$\mathbf{RCA}_0 \vdash \text{LLPO}, \quad \text{BE}, \quad \text{IVT}, \quad \text{WKL} \leftrightarrow \text{CIT} \leftrightarrow \text{FAN}_D \leftrightarrow \text{HBT}$$

Since  $\text{FAN}_D$  is classically equivalent to WKL, we have  $\mathbf{RCA}_0 \not\vdash \text{FAN}_D$ , and therefore, since  $\mathbf{RCA}_0 \vdash \text{IVT}$ , we have

$$\mathbf{EL}_0 + \text{PEM} + \text{IVT} \not\vdash \text{FAN}_D,$$

where PEM denotes the principle of excluded middle. Since  $\text{BE} \vdash \text{LLPO}$  and the *weak continuity* for numbers (WC-N) refutes LLPO (see [18, 4.6.3 and 4.6.4]), we have  $\text{WC-N} + \text{BE} \vdash \perp$ , and therefore, since  $\text{WC-N} + \text{FAN}_D$  is consistent (see [16, 3.3.11 Theorem (ii)]), we have

$$\mathbf{EL}_0 + \text{WC-N} + \text{FAN}_D \not\vdash \text{BE}.$$

Although  $\text{FAN}_D$  is incompatible with *Church's thesis* (CT) (see [18, 4.3.1 and 4.7.6]), since  $\mathbf{RCA}_0 \vdash \text{IVT}$ , we have  $\text{REC} \models \text{IVT}$ , that is, IVT is valid in the model REC of  $\mathbf{RCA}_0$  consisting of all recursive sets, and therefore, since  $\text{REC} \models \text{CT}$ , we have

$$\mathbf{EL}_0 + \text{PEM} + \text{IVT} + \text{CT} \not\vdash \perp.$$

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