

1163-03-1045

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Preservation properties are a tool for separating the reverse mathematical strength of various statements. As an example, if I is a Turing ideal and X is a set outside I , then there is an ideal J containing I but omitting X and which models WKL_0 . The same holds with RT_2^2 in place of WKL_0 , but this fails for RT_2^3 , thus showing that WKL_0 and RT_2^2 do not prove RT_2^3 .

In fact, for both WKL_0 and RT_2^2 , the above holds not just for a single set X , but for countably many sets simultaneously. In both cases, the proofs for one set and for countably many sets are more or less the same. It turns out there's a reason for this: any reverse mathematical principle (of the appropriate form) which can be satisfied while avoiding a single set can be satisfied while avoiding countably many.

This is an example of a relationship between preservation properties. We investigate similar relationships between various preservation properties. (Received September 14, 2020)