

## VERIFIED VAMPIRE PROOFS IN λΠ -CALCULUS MODULO

(A MACHINE CHECKABLE PROOF OUTPUT MODE)

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EUROPROOFNET SYMPOSIUM: WORKSHOP ON AUTOMATED REASONING AND PROOF LOGGING, SEPTEMBER 2025

### TWO APPROACHES TO FORMAL PROOFS

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Automated theorem prover

(ATP)



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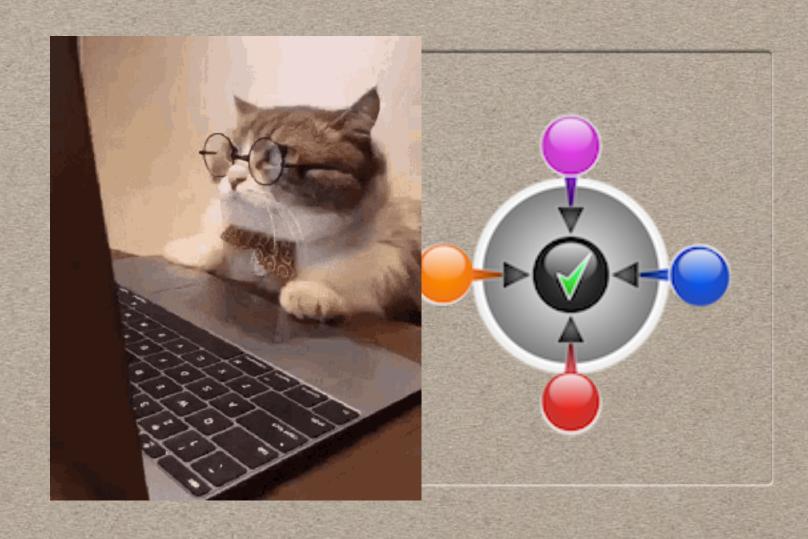
Automated theorem prover

(ATP)



Interactive theorem prover

(ITP)

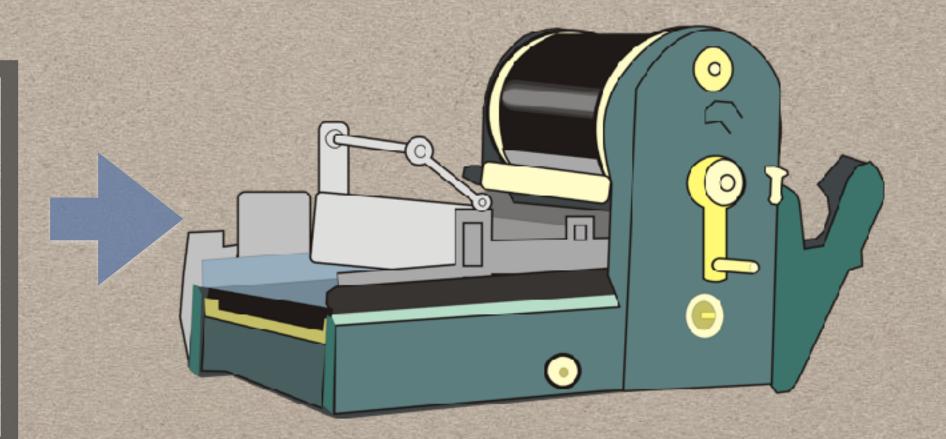


INPUT

- Axioms
- (negated) conjecture

INPUT ATP

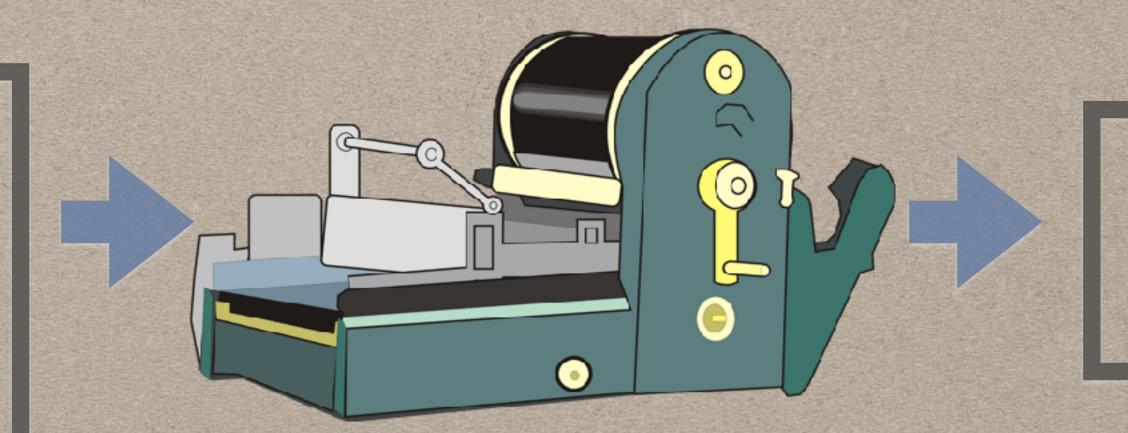
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INPUT ATP OUTPUT

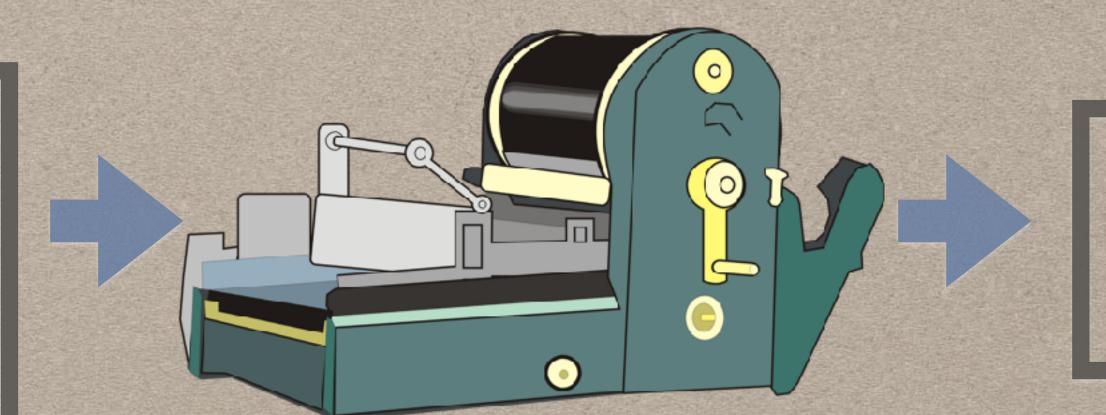
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INPUT ATP OUTPUT

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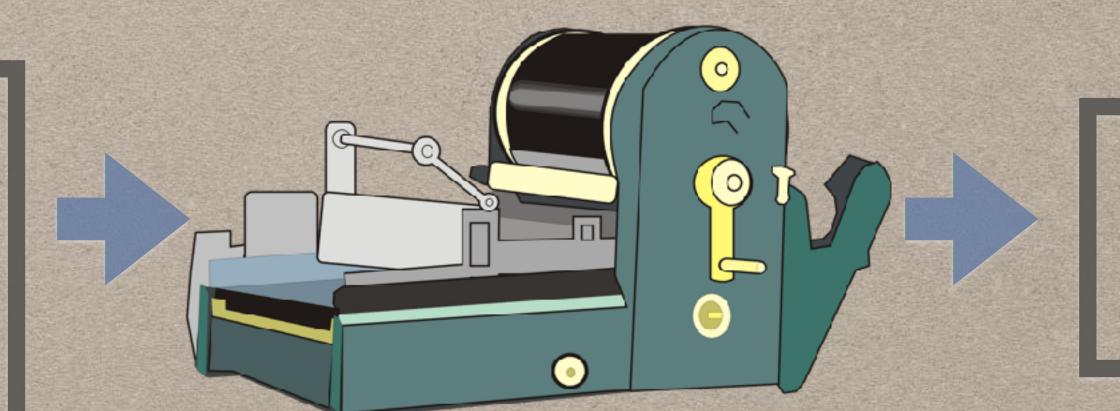
Proof trace

• Sequence / directed graph of (first-order) formulas



INPUT ATP OUTPUT

- Axioms
- (negated) conjecture



- Sequence / directed graph of (first-order) formulas
- Which premises and inference rules were used

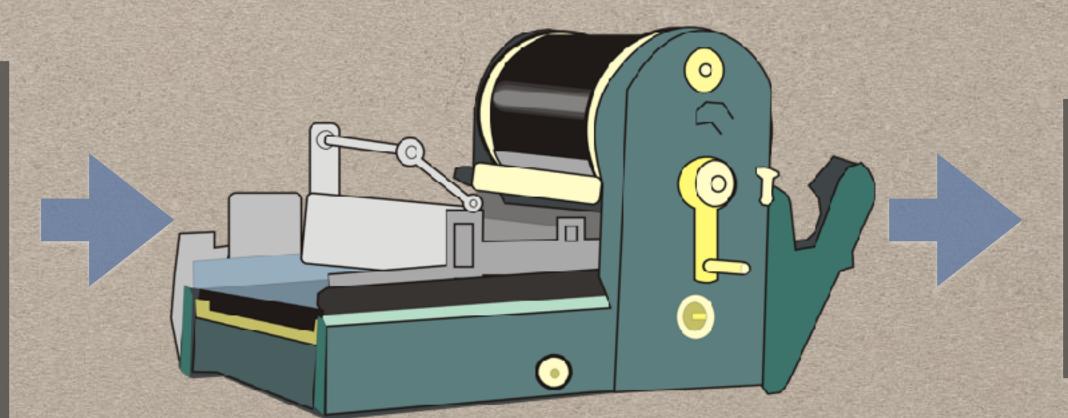


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- Sequence / directed graph of (first-order) formulas
- Which premises and inference rules were used
  - Should be enough to reconstruct the proof



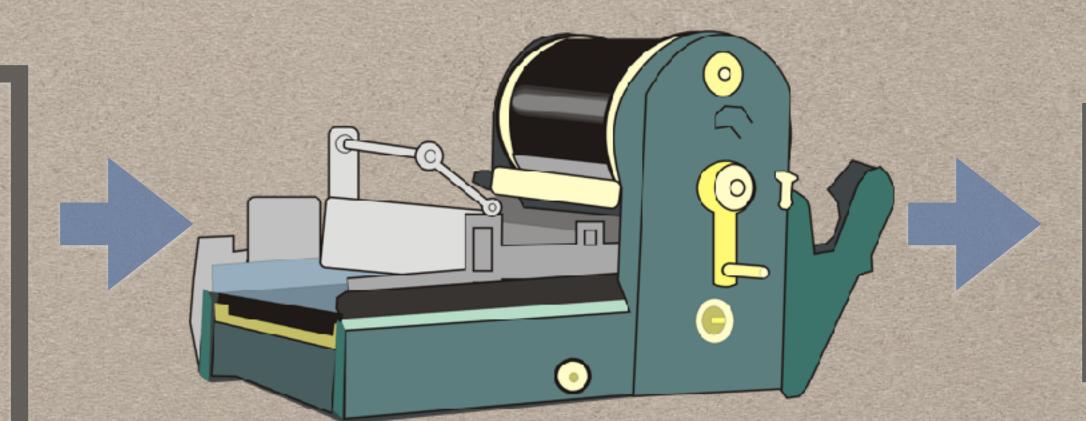
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**ATP** 

OUTPUT

- Axioms
- (negated) conjecture

Can be used as a
 "black box"

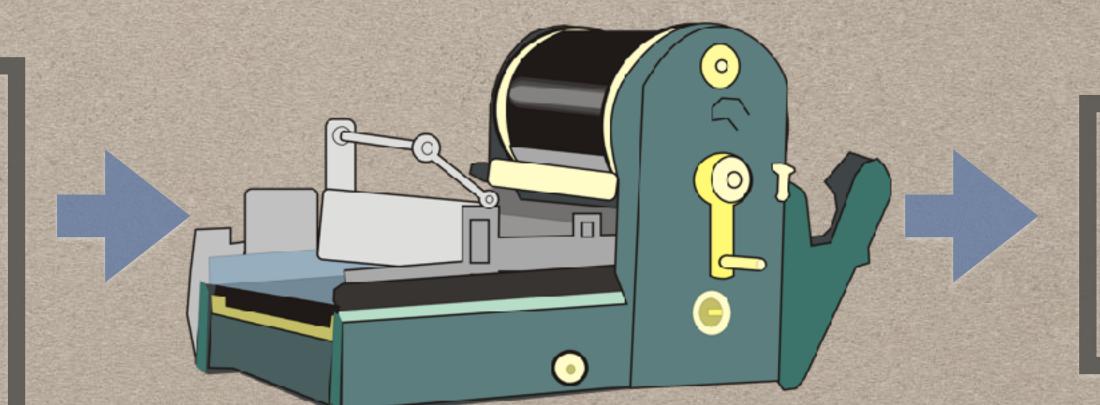


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INPUT ATP OUTPUT

- Axioms
- (negated) conjecture

- Can be used as a
   "black box"
- · Complex piece of software



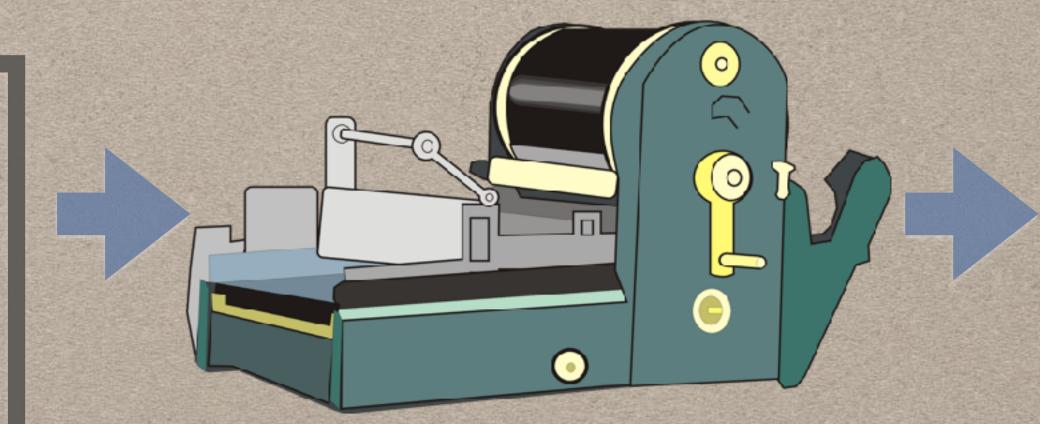
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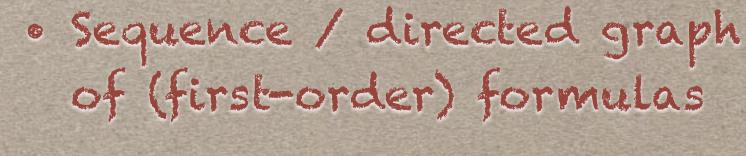
ATP

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- Axioms
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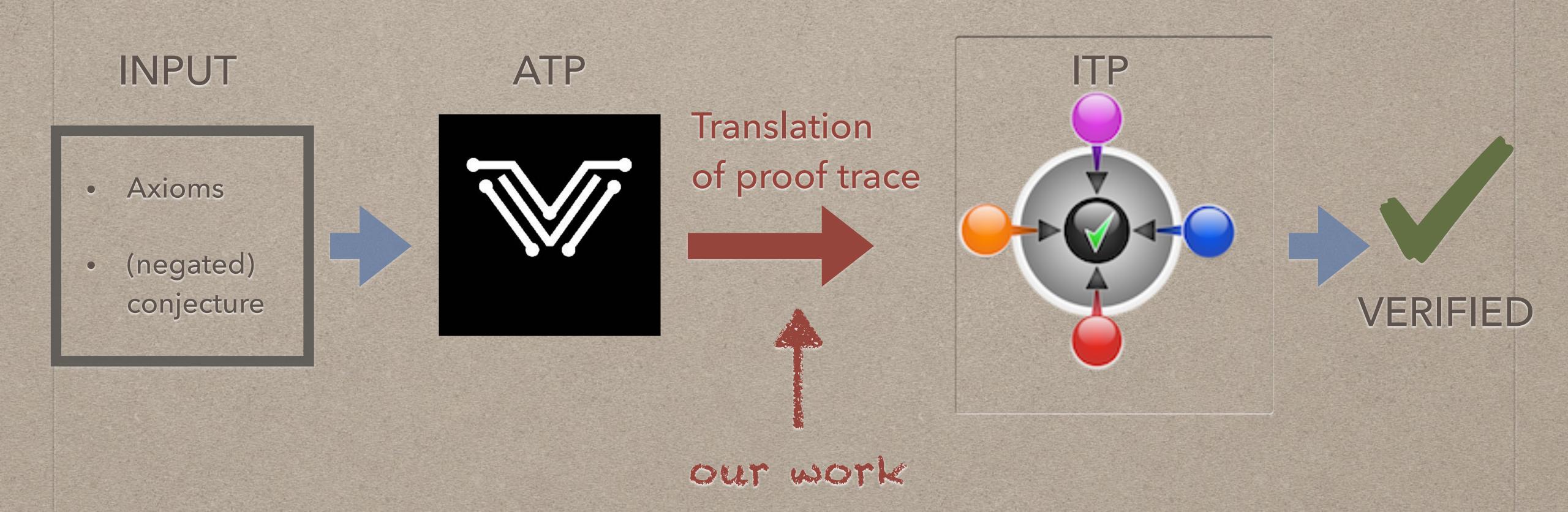


- Can be used as a
   "black box"
- · Complex piece of software
- Big trusted code base



- Which premises and inference rules were used
- Should be enough to reconstruct the proof

## FROM VAMPIRE TO DEDUKTI



Find unsoundness bugs

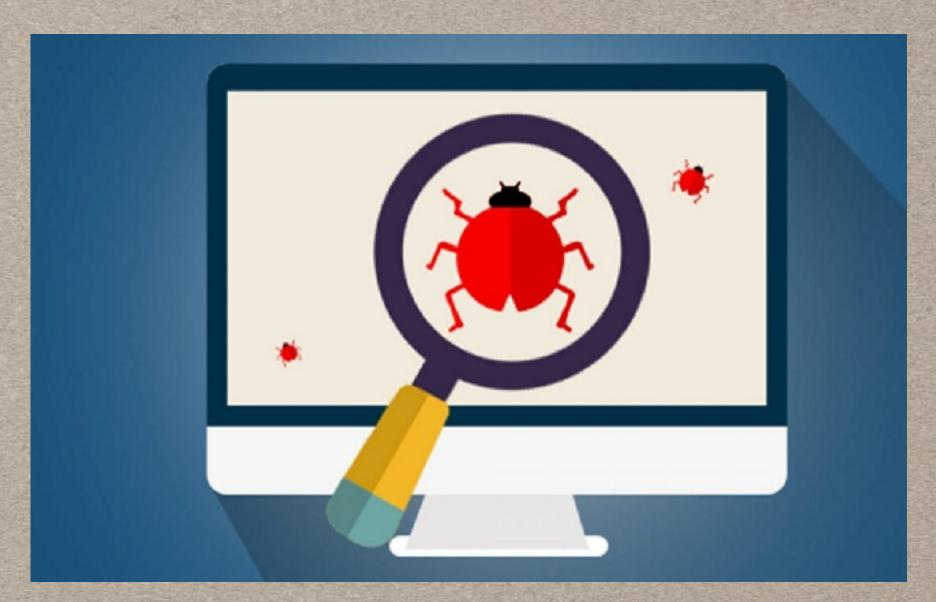


Find unsoundness bugs



Bugs have been found and some are likely still there.

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- Most recent unsoundess Vampire bug: January 2nd 2025, UWA + HO

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- Have high degree of confidence



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- Interoperability of proofs



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- Find unsoundness bugs
- Have high degree of confidence
- Interoperability of proofs
- Potential for hammers





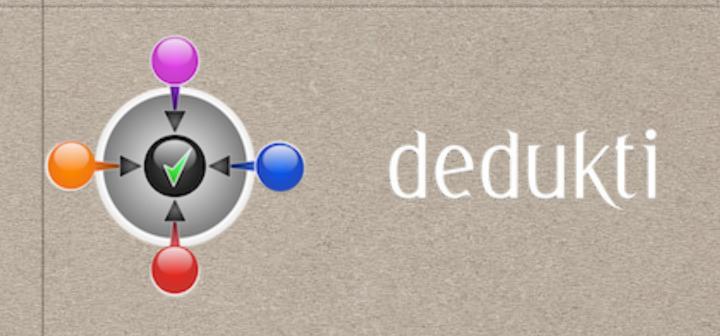
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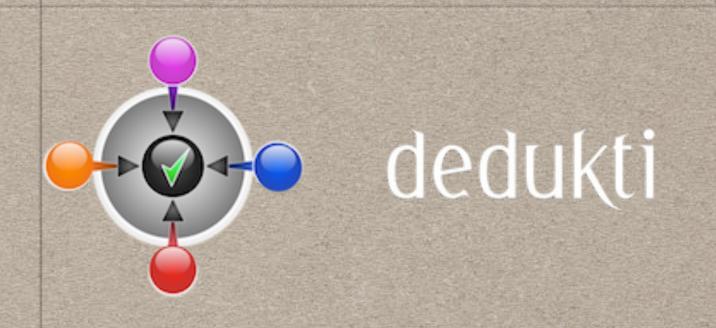
#### VAMPIRE

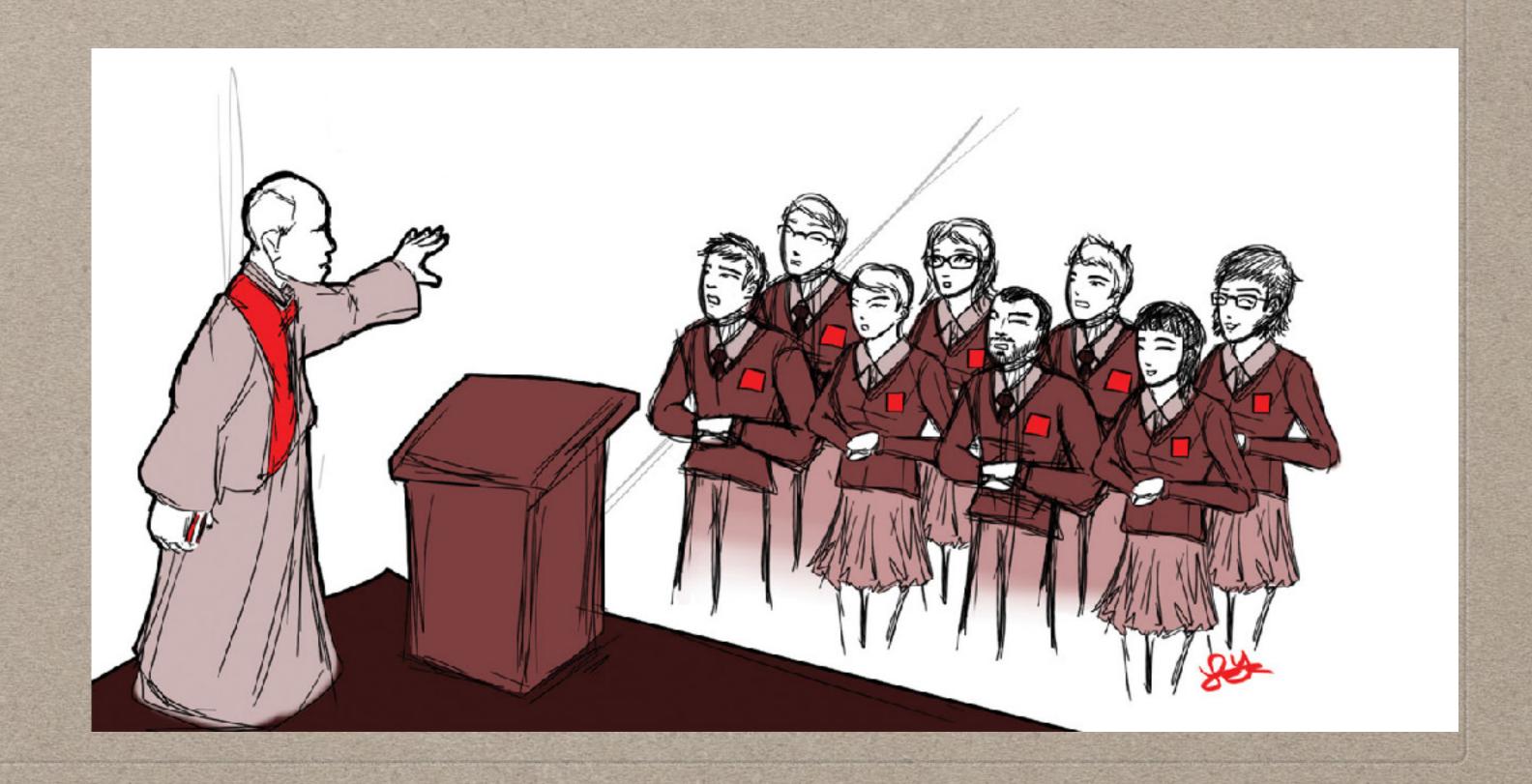
- First-order system, extended with:
  - ★ reasoning with theories
  - **★** induction
  - ★ higher-order logic
- Saturation based theorem prover
- Employs a number of techniques: indexing, scheduling, ordered rewriting, AVATAR, heuristics, etc.



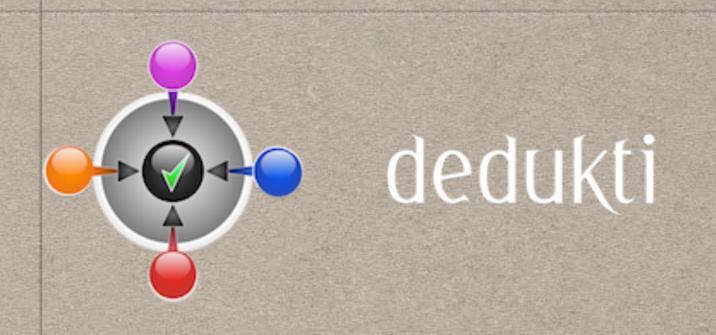


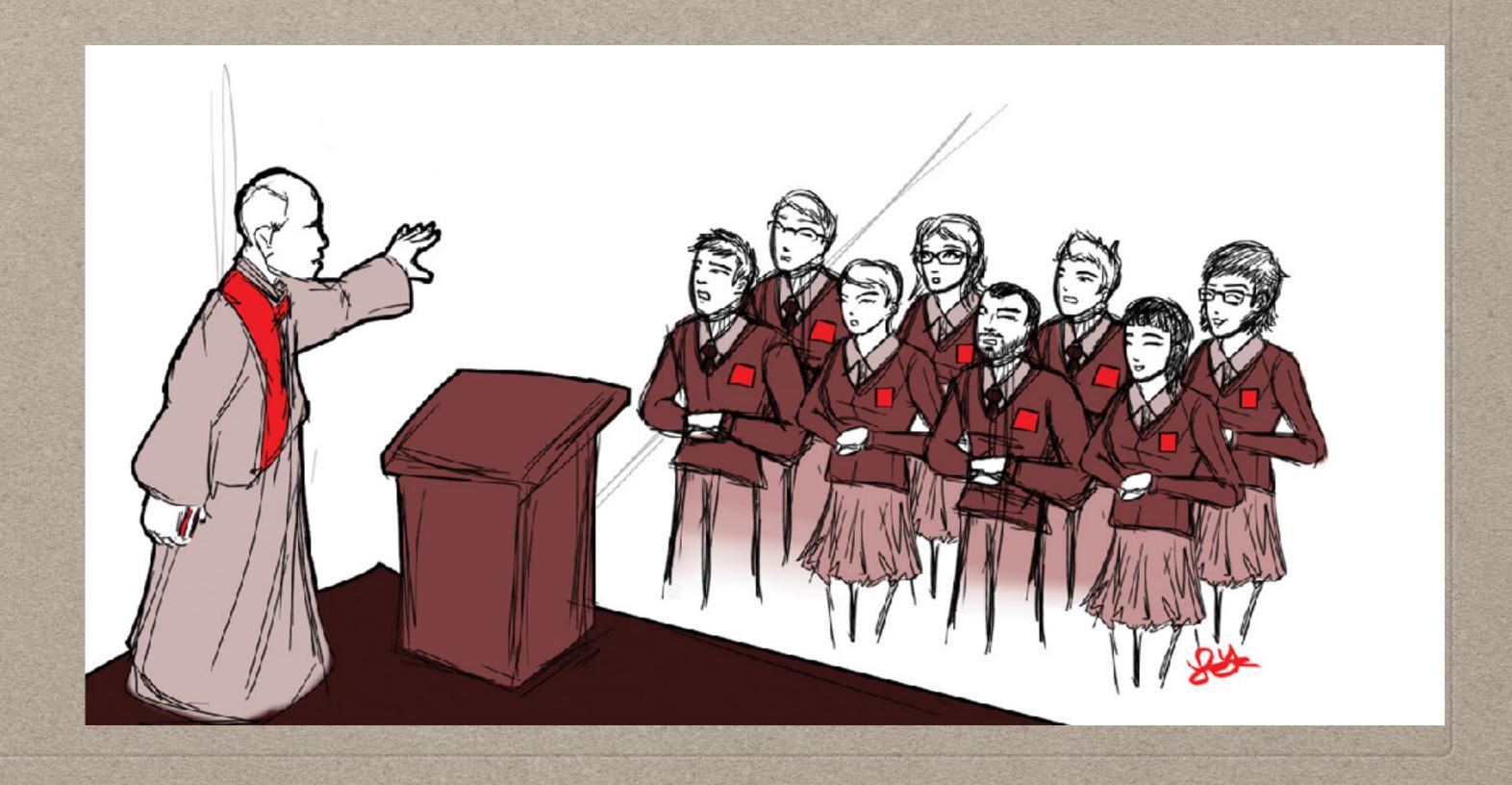




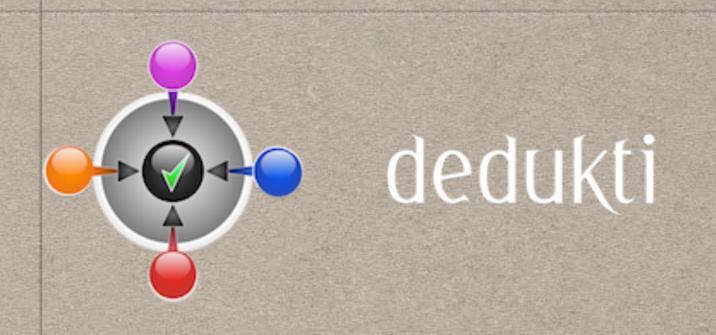


 Choir: Interoperability, has a small trusted kernel, powerful enough to express our language





- Choir: Interoperability, has a small trusted kernel, powerful enough to express our language
- Scales reasonably well:
   designed to machine check
   large proofs
   (unlike lambdapi?)





• Proof format "-p dedukti" (on vampire branch dedukti)

vampire \$problem -p dedukti - - proof\_extra full | dk check

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vampire \$problem -p dedukti - - proof\_extra full | dk check

- Using standard Dedukti encoding of FOL and Dedukti semantics encode concrete instances of Vampire inferences
- Sometimes need to store extra information in the proof:
   "-proof\_extra full"

More on that later

### STANDARD ENCODING OF FOLIN DEDUKTI

```
(; Prop ;)
Prop : Type.
def Prf : (Prop -> Type).
true : Prop.
[] Prf true --> (r : Prop -> ((Prf r) -> (Prf r))).
false : Prop.
[] Prf false --> (r : Prop -> (Prf r)).
not : (Prop -> Prop).
[p] Prf (not p) --> ((Prf p) -> (r : Prop -> (Prf r))).
and : (Prop -> (Prop -> Prop)).
[p, q] Prf (and p q) --> (r : Prop -> (((Prf p) -> ((Prf q) -> (Prf r))) -> (Prf r))).
or : (Prop -> (Prop -> Prop)).
[p, q] Prf (or p q) --> (((Prf p) -> (Prf false)) -> (((Prf q) -> (Prf false)) -> (Prf false))).
imp : (Prop -> (Prop -> Prop)).
[p, q] Prf (imp p q) --> ((Prf p) -> (Prf q)).
iff : Prop -> Prop -> Prop.
[p, q] Prf (iff p q) --> (Prf (and (imp p q) (imp q p))).
(; Set ;)
Set : Type.
injective El : (Set -> Type).
iota : Set.
inhabit : A : Set -> El A.
(; Equality ;)
def eq : a : Set -> El a -> El a -> Prop.
[a, x, y] Prf(eq a x y) --> p : (El a -> Prop) -> Prf(p x) -> Prf(p y).
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General or instantiated with false.

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## Polymorphic Leibniz encoding of equality.

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imp : (Prop -> (Prop -> Prop)).
[p, q] Prf (imp p q) --> ((Prf p) -> (Prf q)).
                                                          (; Quant ;)
iff : Prop -> Prop -> Prop.
                                                          forall : (a : Set -> (((El a) -> Prop) -> Prop)).
[p, q] Prf (iff p q) --> (Prf (and (imp p q) (imp q p))).
                                                          [a, p] Prf (forall a p) --> (x : (El a) -> (Prf (p x))).
                                                          exists : (a : Set -> (((El a) -> Prop) -> Prop)).
(; Set ;)
                                                          [a, p] Prf (exists a p) --> (r : Prop -> ((x : (El a) -> ((Prf (p x)) -> (Prf r))) -> (Prf r))).
Set : Type.
injective El : (Set -> Type).
                                                          (; polymorphic quantifier ;)
iota : Set.
                                                          forall_poly : (Set -> Prop) -> Prop.
inhabit : A : Set -> El A.
                                                          [p] Prf (forall_poly p) --> a : Set -> Prf (p a).
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## Polymorphic Leibniz encoding of equality.

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def prop_clause : Type.
def ec : prop_clause.
def cons : (Prop -> (prop_clause -> prop_clause)).
def clause : Type.
def cl : (prop_clause -> clause).
def bind : (A : Set \rightarrow ((El A) \rightarrow clause) \rightarrow clause)).
def bind_poly : (Set -> clause) -> clause.
def Prf_prop_clause : (prop_clause -> Type).
[] Prf_prop_clause ec --> (Prf false).
[p, c] Prf_prop_clause (cons p c) --> ((Prf p -> Prf false) -> (Prf_prop_clause c)).
def Prf_clause : (clause -> Type).
[c] Prf_clause (cl c) --> (Prf_prop_clause c).
[A, f] Prf_{clause} (bind A f) --> (x : (El A) -> (Prf_{clause} (f x))).
[f] Prf_clause (bind_poly f) --> (alpha : Set -> (Prf_clause (f alpha))).
def av_clause : Type.
def acl : clause -> av_clause.
def if : Prop -> av_clause -> av_clause.
def Prf_av_clause : av_clause -> Type.
[c] Prf_av_clause (acl c) --> Prf_clause c.
[sp, c] Prf_av_clause (if sp c) --> (Prf (not sp) -> Prf false) -> Prf_av_clause c.
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                                       Encoding of disjunction in clauses.
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def if : Prop -> av_clause -> av_clause.
def Prf_av_clause: av_clause -> Type. "empty" AVATAR clause is regular clause.
[c] Prf_av_clause (acl c) --> Prf_clause c.
[sp, c] Prf_av_clause (if sp c) --> (Prf (not sp) -> Prf false) -> Prf_av_clause c.
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def prop_clause : Type.
def ec : prop_clause.
def cons : (Prop -> (prop_clause -> prop_clause)).
def clause : Type.
def cl : (prop_clause -> clause).
 All this rewrites/normalizes to encoding of FOL.
def bind : (A : Set \rightarrow ((El A) \rightarrow clause) \rightarrow clause)).
def bind_poly : (Set -> clause) -> clause.
def Prf_prop_clause : (prop_clause -> Type).
  We did not introduce any new axioms.
[] Prf_prop_clause ec --> (Prf false
[p, c] Prf_prop_clause____
def Prf_clau
[f]
def
def acl : clause -> av_clause.
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- Run vampire in default mode and fully check reasoning steps:
  - Resolution
  - Forward/backward demodulation
  - Superposition
  - Subsumption resolution
  - Equality resolution
  - AVATAR

- Trivial equality removal
- Factoring
- Remove duplicate literals
- Some pre-processing steps
  - ★ Equality resolution with deletion
  - ★ Definition unfolding

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  - Equality resolution
  - · AVATAR Presented Later

- Trivial equality removal
- Factoring
- Remove duplicate literals
- Some pre-processing steps
  - ★ Equality resolution with deletion
  - ★ Definition unfolding
- Many sorted logic and polymorphism are supported

Full first-order formulas (FOF) can be parsed, but clausification steps are not checked.

• Limited pre-processing: clausification is not checked

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- No higher-order reasoning and no theories yet
- Turn off all the fun bits (only inferences on the previous slide)
  - ★ But inferences are done incrementally:)
  - \* Unsupported inferences are handled by "sorry".

    We emit a warning during type-checking when there is a sorry.

• Equality is symmetric:

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  - Vampire will switch LHS and RHS when convenient.
  - Manually insert commutativity lemmas during proof-printing.
- Numbering deduction steps accordingly: we give the deduction steps in Deduct script the same number as appears in the "default" Vampire proof trace, to ease uncovering bugs (if the elaborated proofs do not type check).

• Technique that greatly improves the efficiency of first-order reasoning

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- Splitting clauses and offloading the disjunctive structure to a SAT solver

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- Splitting clauses and offloading the disjunctive structure to a SAT solver
- For proof logging: introducing propositional labels



Definition: propositional label

to a sub-clause

$$sp_1 \equiv \forall xy. \ P(x, f(y)) \lor \neg Q(y)$$

$$\mathsf{sp}_2 \equiv \forall z. \ c = z$$

**Definition**: propositional label to a sub-clause

$$\begin{aligned} &\operatorname{sp}_1 \equiv \forall xy.\ P(x,f(y)) \vee \neg Q(y) \\ &\operatorname{sp}_2 \equiv \forall z.\ c=z \end{aligned}$$

**Split**: clauses split into variable-disjoint components, deriving SAT clause

$$\frac{\neg Q(z) \lor c = y \lor P(x, f(z))}{\operatorname{sp}_1 \lor \operatorname{sp}_2}$$

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Component: injected into the search space, conditionally on the split label

$$P(x,f(y)) \vee \neg Q(y) \leftarrow \operatorname{sp}_1$$
 
$$c = z \leftarrow \operatorname{sp}_2$$

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Avatar clause: all existing inferences work conditionally on avatar splits (conjunction of splits of parents)

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$$P(x,f(y)) \vee \neg Q(y) \leftarrow \operatorname{sp}_1$$
 
$$c = z \leftarrow \operatorname{sp}_2$$

Contradiction: false conditionally on split derives SAT clause (the split)

$$\frac{\bot \leftarrow \mathsf{sp}_3 \land \neg \mathsf{sp}_5}{\neg \mathsf{sp}_3 \lor \mathsf{sp}_5}$$

**Definition**: propositional label to a sub-clause

$$\begin{aligned} &\operatorname{sp}_1 \equiv \forall xy.\ P(x,f(y)) \vee \neg Q(y) \\ &\operatorname{sp}_2 \equiv \forall z.\ c=z \end{aligned}$$

**Split**: clauses split into variable-disjoint components, deriving SAT clause

$$\frac{\neg Q(z) \lor c = y \lor P(x, f(z))}{\operatorname{sp}_1 \lor \operatorname{sp}_2}$$

Avatar clause: all existing inferences work conditionally on avatar splits (conjunction of splits of parents)

Component: injected into the search space, conditionally on the split label

$$P(x,f(y)) \vee \neg Q(y) \leftarrow \operatorname{sp}_1$$
 
$$c = z \leftarrow \operatorname{sp}_2$$

Contradiction: false conditionally on split derives SAT clause (the split)

$$\frac{\bot \leftarrow \mathsf{sp}_3 \land \neg \mathsf{sp}_5}{\neg \mathsf{sp}_3 \lor \mathsf{sp}_5}$$

**Refutation:** last step of the proof, derives false, because SAT set is unsatisfiable.



Definition: just a Dedukti definition

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathrm{sp}_1: \mathrm{Prop} \\ \\ \mathrm{sp}_1 \hookrightarrow \forall x,y: \mathrm{El} \ \iota. \ |\neg P(x,f(y))| \implies |\neg \neg Q(y)| \implies \bot \end{array}$$

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**Split**: unpack with variable renaming, apply vars and literals to premise.

$$C: \Pi x, y, z: \mathsf{El}\ \iota.\ \llbracket \neg Q(z) \rrbracket \to \llbracket c = y \rrbracket \to \llbracket P(x, f(z)) \rrbracket \to \mathsf{Prf}\ \bot.$$

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#### AVATAR INFERENCES ENCODED

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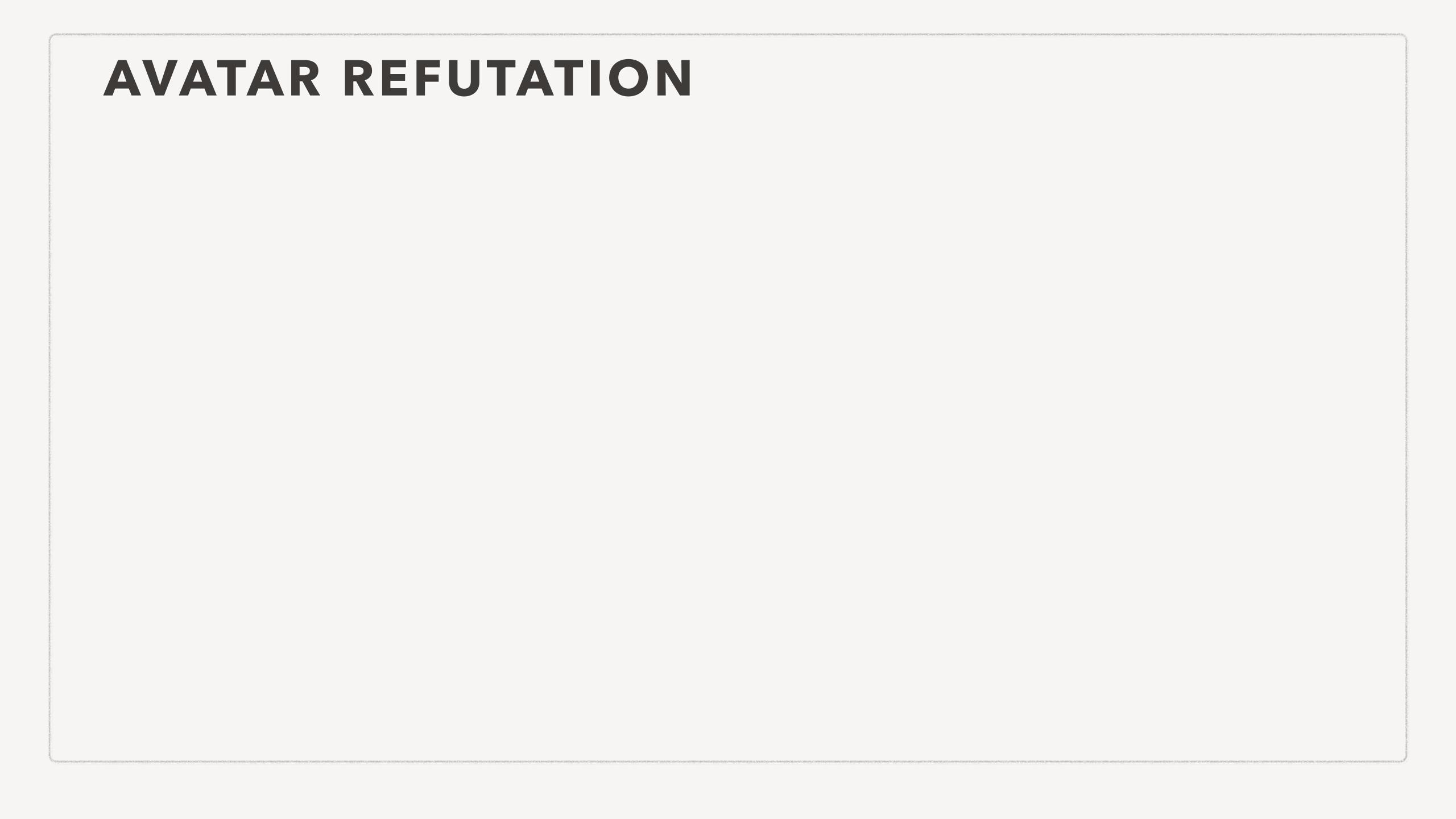
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Contradiction: just the premise Refutation: involved, see next slide.



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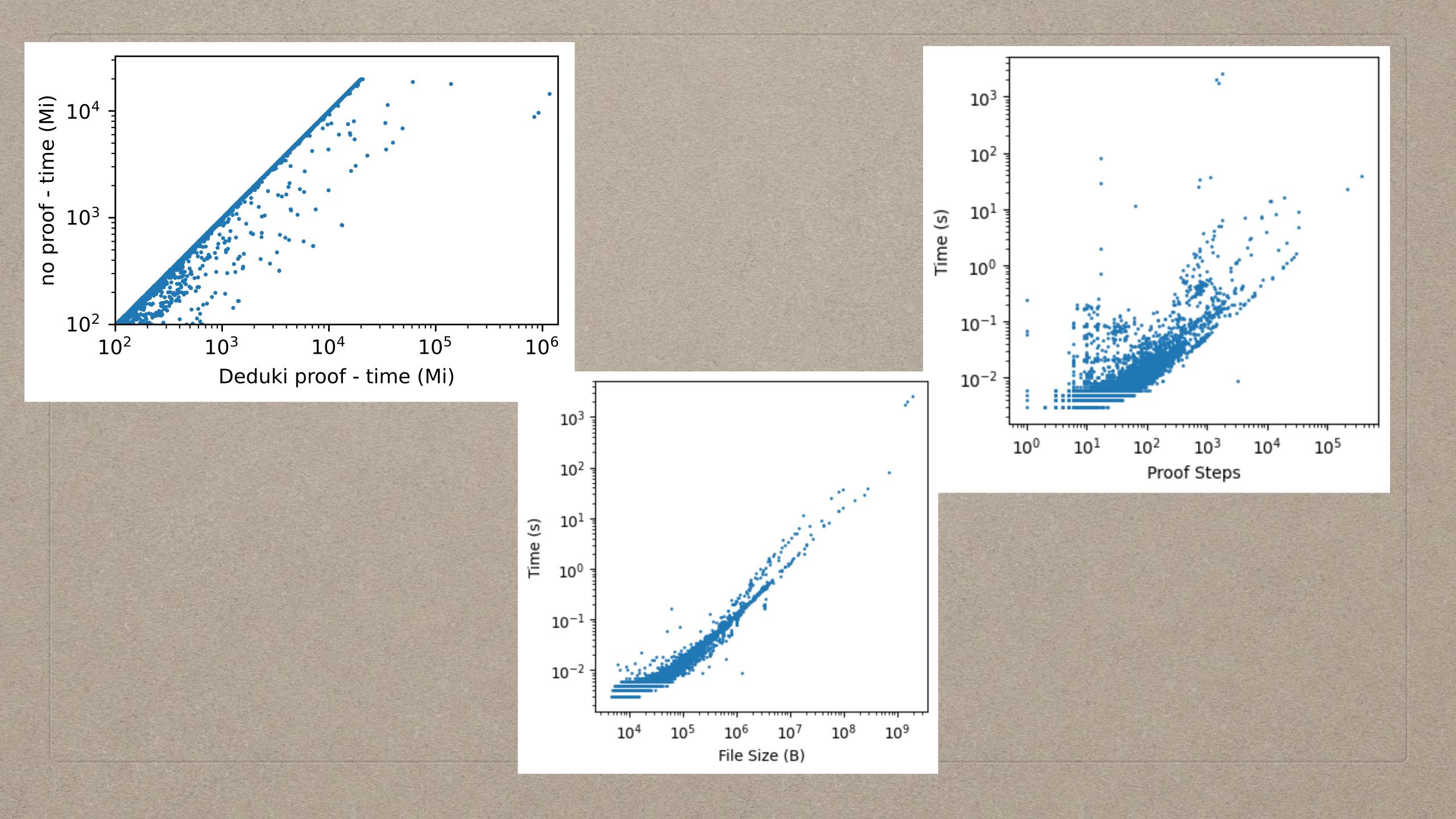
• Ran on **TPTP 9.0.0** in CNF, FOF, TF0 and TF1 fragments (no satisfiable problems or arithmetic).

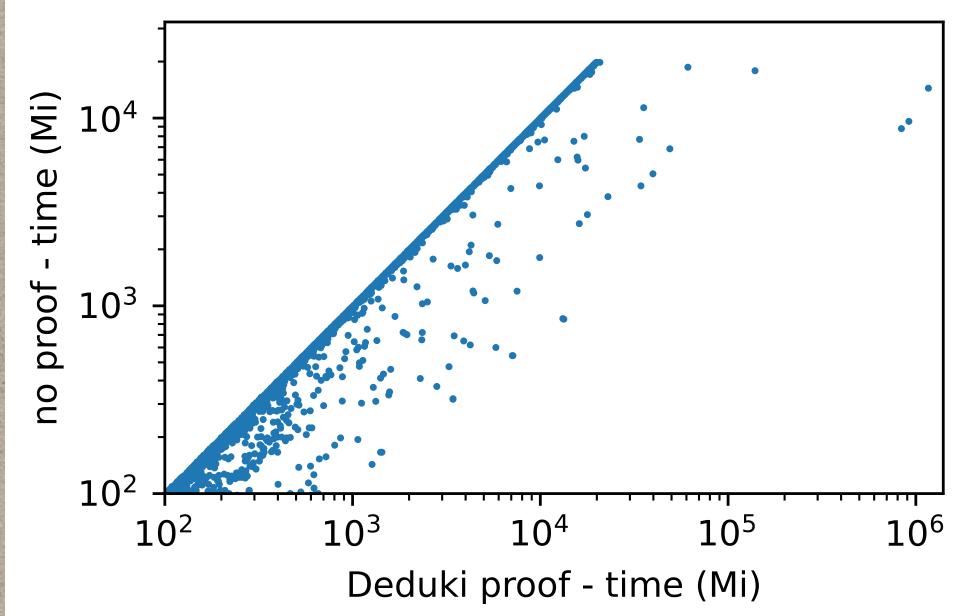
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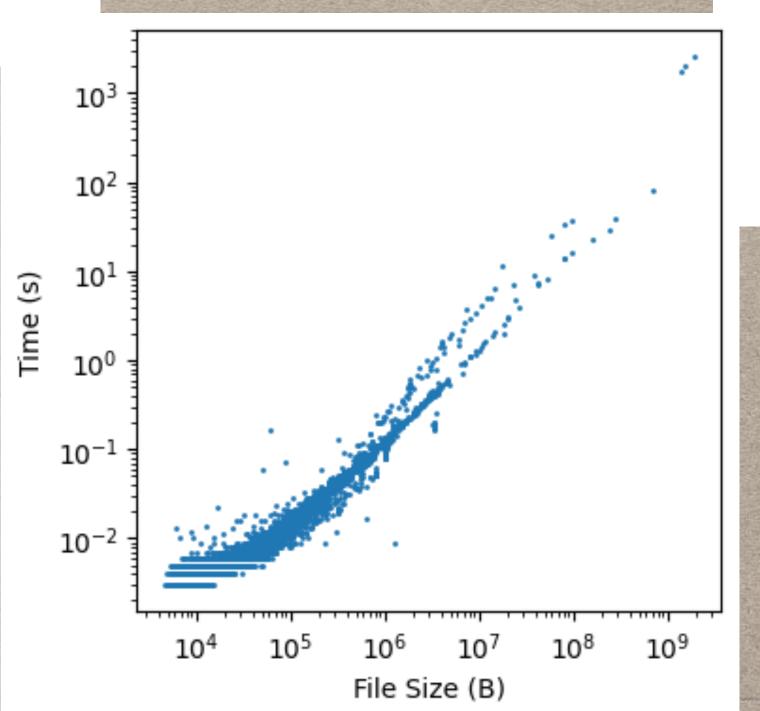


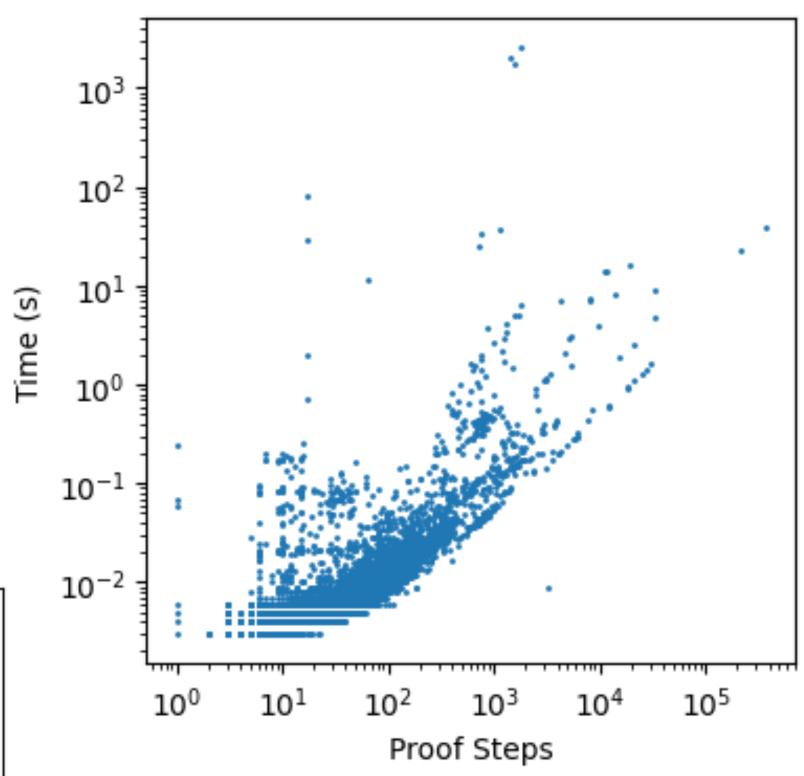
# Proof checking (dk check) time

Median time: 0.006s

Average time: 0.881s

Max time: 2567s (42min)





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- Vampire outputs the proof of double negation:
   negated conjecture -> false
- The last step to go from double negation to asserting conjecture is classical, but we actually do not explicitly do that.

  Note: Due to double-negation translation, it is always possible to have a classical proof, that is constructive all but for the one (last) step. This is an illustration of this fact.

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- Posing axioms that are instances choice needed for skolemization steps in the proof
- Polarity flip: exploiting Dedukti definitions
   def polarity\_flip (p : Prop -> Prop) := (not p) and proceeding with polarity\_flip(p).

#### QUESTIONS?

vampire \$problem -p dedukti - - proof\_extra full

egrep -v ^%

| dk check /dev/stdin