

# Verifying and Invalidating Textbook Proofs using Scunak

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# Scunak

- Assistant System for Formal Mathematics
- Implemented and Distributed
- Dependently Typed Set Theory

Untyped Set Theory encoded in a

LF-like Dependent Type Theory with

Proof Irrelevance

and some  $\Sigma$ -types so that  $Sets \subseteq Classes \subseteq Types$ .

# A Textbook Proof

First (Sample) Proof in Bartle and Sherbert's *Introduction to Real Analysis*:

Distributivity:  $A \cap (B \cup C) = ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C))$

In order to give a sample proof, we shall prove the first equation in (d). Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$ , then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B \cup C$ . This means that  $x \in A$ , and either  $x \in B$  or  $x \in C$ . Hence we either have (i)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ , or we have (ii)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in C$ . Therefore, either  $x \in A \cap B$  or  $x \in A \cap C$ , so  $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ . This shows that  $A \cap (B \cup C)$  is a subset of  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ .

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Distributivity:  $A \cap (B \cup C) = ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C))$

Conversely, let  $y$  be an element of  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ . Then, either (iii)  $y \in A \cap B$ , or (iv)  $y \in A \cap C$ . It follows that  $y \in A$ , and either  $y \in B$  or  $y \in C$ . Therefore,  $y \in A$  and  $y \in B \cup C$  so that  $y \in A \cap (B \cup C)$ . Hence  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$  is a subset of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$ .

# A Textbook Proof

First (Sample) Proof in Bartle and Sherbert's *Introduction to Real Analysis*:

Distributivity:  $A \cap (B \cup C) = ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C))$

In view of Definition 1.1.1, we conclude that the sets  $A \cap (B \cup C)$  and  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$  are equal.

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Distributivity:  $A \cap (B \cup C) = ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C))$

In view of Definition 1.1.1, we conclude that the sets  $A \cap (B \cup C)$  and  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$  are equal.

**Claim: This is a Human Readable Natural Deduction Proof.**

**Approach: Verify by Interpreting the Text as Instructions for Constructing a Natural Deduction Proof (Proof Term)**

# Scunak

Can Verify the Textbook Proof

Can Reject Mutilated Versions of the Textbook Proof

# Mutilated Proofs

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$ , then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B \cup C$ . This means that  $x \in A$ , and either  $x \in B$  or  $x \in C$ . Hence we either have (i)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ , or we have (ii)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in C$ . Therefore, either  $x \in A \cap B$  or  $x \in A \cap C$ , so  $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ . This shows that  $A \cap (B \cup C)$  is a subset of  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ .

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Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cup (B \cap C)$ , then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B \cup C$ . This means that  $x \in A$ , and either  $x \in B$  or  $x \in C$ . Hence we either have (i)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ , or we have (ii)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in C$ . Therefore, either  $x \in A \cap B$  or  $x \in A \cap C$ , so  $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ . This shows that  $A \cap (B \cup C)$  is a subset of  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ .

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Scunak Diagnosis:

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cup (B \cap C)$

The type you gave for  $x$  does not seem to be correct.

# Mutilated Proofs

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$ , then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B \cup C$ . This means that  $x \in A$ , and either  $x \in B$  or  $x \in C$ . Hence we either have (i)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ , or we have (ii)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in C$ . Therefore, either  $x \in A \cap B$  or  $x \in A \cap C$ , so  $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ . This shows that  $A \cap (B \cup C)$  is a subset of  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ .

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Scunak Diagnosis:

then  $x \in B$  and  $x \in B \cup C$

I am not sure that statement follows, Chad.

# Mutilated Proofs

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$ , then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B \cup C$ . This means that  $x \in A$ , and either  $x \in B$  or  $x \in C$ . Hence we either have (i)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ , or we have (ii)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in C$ . Therefore, either  $x \in A \cap B$  or  $x \in A \cap C$ , so  $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ . This shows that  $A \cap (B \cup C)$  is a subset of  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ .

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Scunak Diagnosis:

**so**  $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$

I am not sure that statement follows, Chad.

# Mutilated Proofs

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$ , then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B \cup C$ . This means that  $x \in A$ , and either  $x \in B$  or  $x \in C$ . Hence we either have (i)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B$ , or we have (ii)  $x \in A$  and  $x \in C$ . Therefore, either  $x \in A \cap B$  or  $x \in A \cap C$ , so  $x \in (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ . This shows that  $A \cap (B \cup C)$  is a subset of  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$ .

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Scunak Diagnosis:

This shows that  $A \cap (B \cup C)$  is a subset of  $(A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)$

We have not shown that.

# Extracting Logical Content

In order to give a sample proof, we shall prove the first equation in (d). Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$ , then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B \cup C$ .

Scan Until a Context-Free Grammar Rule Matches

First Sentence Matches No Rule  $\Rightarrow$  Ignore

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Rule:

*LET \$MATHVARIABLE\$ be A ATTRIBUTION*

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Representation as Scunak Command:

```
let x:(in (A \cap (B \cup C))) .
```

# Extracting Logical Content

In order to give a sample proof, we shall prove the first equation in (d). Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$ ,  
then  $x \in A$  and  $x \in B \cup C$ .

Representation as Scunak Command:

hence  $((x :: A) \ \& \ (x :: (B \ \cup \ C)))$ .

# Representation as Scunak Commands

1. let  $x:(in (A \cap (B \cup C)))$ .
2. hence  $((x::A) \ \& \ (x::(B \cup C)))$ .
3. hence  $((x::A) \ \& \ ((x::B) \ | \ (x::C)))$ .
4. clearly  $(( (x::A) \ \& \ (x::B) ) \ | \ ( (x::A) \ \& \ (x::C) ))$ .
5. hence  $((x::(A \cap B)) \ | \ (x::(A \cap C)))$ .
6. hence  $(x::((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)))$ .
7. hence  $((A \cap (B \cup C)) \leq ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)))$ .

# Representation as Scunak Commands

8. let  $y : (in ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)))$ .
9. clearly  $((y :: (A \cap B)) \mid (y :: (A \cap C)))$ .
10. hence  $((y :: A) \ \& \ ((y :: B) \mid (y :: C)))$ .
11. hence  $((y :: A) \ \& \ (y :: (B \cup C)))$ .
12. hence  $(y :: (A \cap (B \cup C)))$ .
13. hence  $((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)) \leq (A \cap (B \cup C))$ .
14. clearly  $((A \cap (B \cup C)) == ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)))$

# Alternative Proof States

**Proof State** = Open Proof Term + Stack of **Tasks**

**Task** = either

**Open Task**  $\langle X, \Gamma, G \rangle$  ( $X$  Proof Variable, want instantiation with  $\Gamma \vdash X : G$ )

or **Closed Task**  $\langle \Gamma, G \rangle$  (bookkeeping)

Initial Proof State:  $X$  with Task  $\langle X, \Gamma, G \rangle$

$\Gamma = A : \text{set}, B : \text{set}, C : \text{set}$

$G = \text{pf } ((A \cap (B \cup C)) == (A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C))$

# Two Sets of Rules

**Eager Rules** Introduce Alternative Proof States to **Predict**

**Usable Rules** Are Used to **Justify Gaps**

Search for Filling Gaps is Very Limited

Rough Idea: Break Down And's and Or's, then apply a Usable Rule

**Example of an Eager Rule:** Set Extensionality

# Using an Eager Rule

Using **Eager Rule** of Set Extensionality, obtain Open Proof Term using

$$X \mapsto (\text{setextsub...}YZ)$$

where  $Y$  and  $Z$  are Variables

$$Y : \text{pf } (A \cap (B \cup C)) \subseteq ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C))$$

$$Z : \text{pf } (((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)) \subseteq (A \cap (B \cup C)))$$

# Five Initial Proof States

Let  $\Gamma$  be  $A : \text{obj}, B : \text{obj}, C : \text{obj}$ .

Let  $G$  be  $\text{pf } ((A \cap (B \cup C)) = ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)))$ .

Let  $G1$  be  $\text{pf } ((A \cap (B \cup C)) \subseteq ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)))$ .

Let  $G2$  be  $\text{pf } (((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)) \subseteq (A \cap (B \cup C)))$ .

			$\langle Y, \Gamma, G1 \rangle$	$\langle Z, \Gamma, G2 \rangle$
	$\langle Y, \Gamma, G1 \rangle$	$\langle Z, \Gamma, G2 \rangle$	$\langle Z, \Gamma, G2 \rangle$	$\langle Y, \Gamma, G1 \rangle$
$\langle X, \Gamma, G \rangle$	$\langle Z, \Gamma, G2 \rangle$	$\langle Y, \Gamma, G1 \rangle$	$\langle \Gamma, G \rangle$	$\langle \Gamma, G \rangle$
①	②	③	④	⑤

# Five Initial Proof States

$$LHS ::= (A \cap (B \cup C))$$

$$RHS ::= ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C))$$

$$\vdash^? LHS = RHS$$

①

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

②

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

③

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

④

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

⑤

# Analyzing the First Step

Textbook Version: Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

Scunak Version: **let  $x:(in (A \ \text{cap} (B \ \text{cup} C)))$ .**

Idea: Try to perform a step corresponding to this **let** in each alternative proof state.

Find a Usable Rule which can Conclude the Goal with a Premiss Parametric in  $x \in A \cap (B \cup C)$ .

In Alternative (1) the top task is to instantiate  $X$ , i.e., prove  $((A \cap (B \cup C)) = ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)))$

No Usable Rule introduces an  $x \in A \cap (B \cup C)$ .

# Analyzing the First Step

Textbook Version: Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

Scunak Version: **let  $x:(in (A \ \text{cap} (B \ \text{cup} C)))$ .**

Idea: Try to perform a step corresponding to this **let** in each alternative proof state.

Find a Usable Rule which can Conclude the Goal with a Premiss Parametric in  $x \in A \cap (B \cup C)$ .

In Alternatives (2) and (4) the top task is to instantiate  $Y$ ,  
i.e., prove  $((A \cap (B \cup C)) \subseteq ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)))$

Subset Introduction Rule Proves This with Premiss  $x \in ((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C))$  Parametric in  $x \in A \cap (B \cup C)$ .

# Analyzing the First Step

Textbook Version: Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

Scunak Version: **let  $x:(in (A \ \text{cap} (B \ \text{cup} C)))$ .**

Idea: Try to perform a step corresponding to this **let** in each alternative proof state.

Find a Usable Rule which can Conclude the Goal with a Premiss Parametric in  $x \in A \cap (B \cup C)$ .

For Alternatives (3), and (5), assuming we have some  $x \in A \cap (B \cup C)$  in order to prove  $((A \cap B) \cup (A \cap C)) \subseteq (A \cap (B \cup C))$  is pointless.

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$$\vdash^? LHS = RHS$$

①

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

②

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

③

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

④

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

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⑤

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$$\vdash^? LHS = RHS$$

①

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$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

③

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

④

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

⑤

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

②

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

③

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

④

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

⑤

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

②

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

③

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

④

$$\vdash^? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash^? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

⑤

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$   
 $\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$

2a

$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$

$\vdash LHS \subseteq RHS$

$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$

2b

$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$

$\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$

3

$\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$

$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$

$\vdash LHS = RHS$

4

$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$

$\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$

$\vdash LHS = RHS$

5

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$$

$$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

2a

$$\vdash LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

2b

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

3

$$\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

4

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

5

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$	$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$	$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$ $\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$ <b>3</b>
$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$	$\vdash LHS \subseteq RHS$	
<b>2a</b>	<b>2b</b>	

$$\begin{aligned} &\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS \\ &\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS \\ &\vdash LHS = RHS \\ &\textbf{4} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS \\ &\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS \\ &\vdash LHS = RHS \\ &\textbf{5} \end{aligned}$$

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$$

$$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS \quad \vdash LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS \quad \vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

2a

2b

$$\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

4

5

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$$

$$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

2a

2b

$$\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

4

5

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$$

$$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

2a

2b

$$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$$

$$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS \subseteq RHS \quad \vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$$

$$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS \quad \vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS$$

$$\vdash LHS = RHS \quad \vdash LHS = RHS$$

4a

4b

5

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$   
 $\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$

2a

$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$   
 $\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$   
 $\vdash LHS = RHS$

4a

$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$

$\vdash LHS \subseteq RHS$

$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$

2b

$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$

$\vdash LHS \subseteq$

$\vdash? RHS \subseteq$

$\vdash LHS =$

4b

$\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$

$\vdash? LHS \subseteq RHS$

$\vdash LHS = RHS$

5

# Updating Proof States

Let  $x$  be an element of  $A \cap (B \cup C)$

$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$   
 $\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$

2a

$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$   
 $\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$   
 $\vdash LHS = RHS$

4a

$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$

$\vdash LHS \subseteq RHS$   
 $\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$

2b

$x \in LHS \vdash? x \in RHS$

$\vdash LHS \subseteq RHS$   
 $\vdash? RHS \subseteq LHS$

$\vdash LHS = RHS$

4b

# Results

- Indicating Only the 8 Needed Rules as “Usable,” Scunak Checks The Proof in 2 Seconds
- Including All 79 Known Rules (Including “Lemmas”) Concerning Union, Intersection and Subset as “Usable,” Scunak Checks Proof in 62 Seconds
- Including 435 Rules, Scunak Checks Proof in 457 Seconds

# Conclusions

To Verify Textbook Proofs a Lightweight Approach May Be Sufficient:

- CFG Covering Basic Linguistic and Math Constructions
- Keep Up With Alternative Stacks of Tasks
- Fill Gaps with Extremely Restricted Search

To Verify Textbook Proofs:

- Full Natural Language Processing Is Not Necessary (?)
- Intermediate Representations (Annotated Text) Is Not Necessary (?)
- Automated Theorem Proving Is Not Necessary (?)