

# Gödel's God in Isabelle/HOL

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A1	Either a property or its negation is positive, but not both:	$\forall\phi[P(\neg\phi) \leftrightarrow \neg P(\phi)]$
A2	A property necessarily implied by a positive property is positive:	$\forall\phi\forall\psi[(P(\phi) \wedge \Box\forall x[\phi(x) \rightarrow \psi(x)]) \rightarrow P(\psi)]$
T1	Positive properties are possibly exemplified:	$\forall\phi[P(\phi) \rightarrow \Diamond\exists x\phi(x)]$
D1	A <i>God-like</i> being possesses all positive properties:	$G(x) \leftrightarrow \forall\phi[P(\phi) \rightarrow \phi(x)]$
A3	The property of being God-like is positive:	$P(G)$
C	Possibly, God exists:	$\Diamond\exists xG(x)$
A4	Positive properties are necessarily positive:	$\forall\phi[P(\phi) \rightarrow \Box P(\phi)]$
D2	An <i>essence</i> of an individual is a property possessed by it and necessarily implying any of its properties:	$\phi \text{ ess. } x \leftrightarrow \phi(x) \wedge \forall\psi(\psi(x) \rightarrow \Box\forall y(\phi(y) \rightarrow \psi(y)))$
T2	Being God-like is an essence of any God-like being:	$\forall x[G(x) \rightarrow G \text{ ess. } x]$
D3	<i>Necessary existence</i> of an individual is the necessary exemplification of all its essences:	$NE(x) \leftrightarrow \forall\phi[\phi \text{ ess. } x \rightarrow \Box\exists y\phi(y)]$
A5	Necessary existence is a positive property:	$P(NE)$
T3	Necessarily, God exists:	$\Box\exists xG(x)$

Figure 1: Scott's version of Gödel's ontological argument [11].

## 1 Introduction

Dana Scott's version [11] of Gödel's ontological argument [8] is formalized in quantified modal logic KB (QML KB) within the proof assistant Isabelle/HOL. QML KB is modeled as a fragment of classical higher-order logic (HOL); thus, the formalization is essentially a formalization in HOL. The employed embedding of QML KB in HOL is adapting the work of Benz Müller and Paulson [2, 1]. Note that the QML KB formalization employs quantification over individuals and quantification over sets of individuals (properties).

The gaps in Scott's proof have been automated with Sledgehammer [5], performing remote calls to the higher-order automated theorem prover LEO-II [3]. Sledgehammer then suggests the Metis [9] calls. The Metis proofs are verified by Isabelle/HOL. For consistency checking, the model finder Nitpick [6] has been employed. The successful calls to Sledgehammer (normally, they are automatically eliminated by Isabelle/HOL) are deliberately kept in the file for demonstration purposes.

Isabelle is described in the textbook by Nipkow, Paulson, and Wenzel [10] and in tutorials available at: <http://isabelle.in.tum.de>.

## 1.1 Related Work

The formalization presented here is related to the THF [13] and Coq [4] formalizations at <https://github.com/FormalTheology/GoedelGod/tree/master/Formalizations/>.

An older ontological argument by Anselm was formalized in PVS by John Rushby [14].

## 2 An Embedding of QML KB in HOL

The types  $i$  for possible worlds and  $\mu$  for individuals are introduced.

**typeddecl**  $i$  — the type for possible worlds  
**typeddecl**  $\mu$  — the type for individuals

Possible worlds are connected by an accessibility relation  $r$ .

**consts**  $r :: i \Rightarrow i \Rightarrow bool$  (**infixr**  $r$  70) — accessibility relation  $r$

QML formulas are translated as HOL terms of type  $i \Rightarrow bool$ . This type is abbreviated as  $\sigma$ .

**type-synonym**  $\sigma = (i \Rightarrow bool)$

The classical connectives  $\neg, \wedge, \rightarrow$ , and  $\forall$  (over individuals and over sets of individuals) and  $\exists$  (over individuals) are lifted to type  $\sigma$ . The lifted connectives are  $m\neg$ ,  $m\wedge$ ,  $m\rightarrow$ ,  $m\forall$ , and  $m\exists$  (the latter two are modeled as constant symbols). Other connectives can be introduced analogously. We exemplarily do this for  $m\vee$ ,  $m\leftrightarrow$ , and  $m=$ . Moreover, the modal operators  $\Box$  and  $\Diamond$  are introduced. Definitions could be used instead of abbreviations.

**abbreviation**  $mnot :: \sigma \Rightarrow \sigma$  (**where**  $m\neg \varphi \equiv (\lambda w. \neg \varphi w)$ )  
**abbreviation**  $mand :: \sigma \Rightarrow \sigma \Rightarrow \sigma$  (**infixr**  $m\wedge$  65) **where**  $\varphi m\wedge \psi \equiv (\lambda w. \varphi w \wedge \psi w)$   
**abbreviation**  $mor :: \sigma \Rightarrow \sigma \Rightarrow \sigma$  (**infixr**  $m\vee$  70) **where**  $\varphi m\vee \psi \equiv (\lambda w. \varphi w \vee \psi w)$   
**abbreviation**  $mimplies :: \sigma \Rightarrow \sigma \Rightarrow \sigma$  (**infixr**  $m\rightarrow$  74) **where**  $\varphi m\rightarrow \psi \equiv (\lambda w. \varphi w \longrightarrow \psi w)$   
**abbreviation**  $mequiv :: \sigma \Rightarrow \sigma \Rightarrow \sigma$  (**infixr**  $m\equiv$  76) **where**  $\varphi m\equiv \psi \equiv (\lambda w. (\varphi w \longleftrightarrow \psi w))$   
**abbreviation**  $meq :: 'a \Rightarrow 'a \Rightarrow \sigma$  (**infixr**  $m=$  50) **where**  $x m= y \equiv (\lambda w. x = y)$   
**abbreviation**  $mforall :: ('a \Rightarrow \sigma) \Rightarrow \sigma$  ( $\forall$ ) **where**  $\forall \Phi \equiv (\lambda w. \forall x. \Phi x w)$   
**abbreviation**  $mexists :: ('a \Rightarrow \sigma) \Rightarrow \sigma$  ( $\exists$ ) **where**  $\exists \Phi \equiv (\lambda w. \exists x. \Phi x w)$   
**abbreviation**  $mbox :: \sigma \Rightarrow \sigma$  ( $\Box$ ) **where**  $\Box \varphi \equiv (\lambda w. \forall v. w r v \longrightarrow \varphi v)$   
**abbreviation**  $mdia :: \sigma \Rightarrow \sigma$  ( $\Diamond$ ) **where**  $\Diamond \varphi \equiv (\lambda w. \exists v. w r v \wedge \varphi v)$

For grounding lifted formulas, the meta-predicate *valid* is introduced.

**abbreviation**  $valid :: \sigma \Rightarrow bool$  ( $[p]$ ) **where**  $[p] \equiv \forall w. p w$

## 3 Gödel's Ontological Argument

Constant symbol  $P$  (Gödel's 'Positive') is declared.

**consts**  $P :: (\mu \Rightarrow \sigma) \Rightarrow \sigma$

The meaning of  $P$  is restricted by axioms  $A1(a/b): \forall \varphi [P(\neg \varphi) \leftrightarrow \neg P(\varphi)]$  (Either a property or its negation is positive, but not both.) and  $A2: \forall \varphi \forall \psi [(P(\varphi) \wedge \Box \forall x [\varphi(x) \rightarrow \psi(x)]) \rightarrow P(\psi)]$  (A property necessarily implied by a positive property is positive).

**axiomatization where**

*A1a*:  $[\forall (\lambda\varphi. P (\lambda x. m \neg (\varphi x)) m \rightarrow m \neg (P \varphi))]$  **and**  
*A1b*:  $[\forall (\lambda\varphi. m \neg (P \varphi) m \rightarrow P (\lambda x. m \neg (\varphi x)))]$  **and**  
*A2*:  $[\forall (\lambda\varphi. \forall (\lambda\psi. (P \varphi m \wedge \Box (\forall (\lambda x. \varphi x m \rightarrow \psi x))) m \rightarrow P \psi))]$

We prove theorem *T1*:  $\forall\varphi[P(\varphi) \rightarrow \Diamond\exists x\varphi(x)]$  (Positive properties are possibly exemplified). *T1* is proved directly by Sledgehammer with command *sledgehammer* [*provers* = *remote-leo2*]. Sledgehammer suggests to call Metis with axioms *A1a* and *A2*. Metis sucesfully generates a proof object that is verified in Isabelle/HOL's kernel.

**theorem** *T1*:  $[\forall (\lambda\varphi. P \varphi m \rightarrow \Diamond (\exists \varphi))]$   
**sledgehammer** [*provers* = *remote-leo2*]  
**by** (*metis A1a A2*)

Next, the symbol *G* for ‘God-like’ is introduced and defined as  $G(x) \leftrightarrow \forall\varphi[P(\varphi) \rightarrow \varphi(x)]$  (A God-like being possesses all positive properties).

**definition** *G* ::  $\mu \Rightarrow \sigma$  **where**  $G = (\lambda x. \forall (\lambda\varphi. P \varphi m \rightarrow \varphi x))$

Axiom *A3* is added:  $P(G)$  (The property of being God-like is positive). Sledgehammer and Metis then prove corollary *C*:  $\Diamond\exists xG(x)$  (Possibly, God exists).

**axiomatization where** *A3*:  $[P G]$

**corollary** *C*:  $[\Diamond (\exists G)]$   
**sledgehammer** [*provers* = *remote-leo2*]  
**by** (*metis A3 T1*)

Axiom *A4* is added:  $\forall\phi[P(\phi) \rightarrow \Box P(\phi)]$  (Positive properties are necessarily positive).

**axiomatization where** *A4*:  $[\forall (\lambda\varphi. P \varphi m \rightarrow \Box (P \varphi))]$

Symbol *ess* for ‘Essence’ is introduced and defined as

$$\varphi \text{ ess. } x \leftrightarrow \varphi(x) \wedge \forall\psi(\psi(x) \rightarrow \Box\forall y(\varphi(y) \rightarrow \psi(y)))$$

(An *essence* of an individual is a property possessed by it and necessarily implying any of its properties).

**definition** *ess* ::  $(\mu \Rightarrow \sigma) \Rightarrow \mu \Rightarrow \sigma$  (**infixr** *ess* 85) **where**  
 $\varphi \text{ ess } x = \varphi x m \wedge \forall (\lambda\psi. \psi x m \rightarrow \Box (\forall (\lambda y. \varphi y m \rightarrow \psi y)))$

Next, Sledgehammer and Metis prove theorem *T2*:  $\forall x[G(x) \rightarrow G \text{ ess. } x]$  (Being God-like is an essence of any God-like being).

**theorem** *T2*:  $[\forall (\lambda x. G x m \rightarrow G \text{ ess } x)]$   
**sledgehammer** [*provers* = *remote-leo2*]  
**by** (*metis A1b A4 G-def ess-def*)

Symbol *NE*, for ‘Necessary Existence’, is introduced and defined as

$$NE(x) \leftrightarrow \forall\varphi[\varphi \text{ ess. } x \rightarrow \Box\exists y\varphi(y)]$$

(Necessary existence of an individual is the necessary exemplification of all its essences).

**definition** *NE* ::  $\mu \Rightarrow \sigma$  **where**  $NE = (\lambda x. \forall (\lambda\varphi. \varphi \text{ ess } x m \rightarrow \Box (\exists \varphi)))$

Moreover, axiom *A5* is added:  $P(NE)$  (Necessary existence is a positive property).

**axiomatization where** *A5*:  $[P\ NE]$

The *B* axiom (symmetry) for relation *r* is stated. *B* is needed only for proving theorem *T3* and for corollary *C2*.

**axiomatization where** *sym*:  $x\ r\ y \longrightarrow y\ r\ x$

Finally, Sledgehammer and Metis prove the main theorem *T3*:  $\Box\exists xG(x)$  (Necessarily, God exists).

**theorem** *T3*:  $[\Box\ (\exists\ G)]$

**sledgehammer** [*provers* = *remote-leo2*]

**by** (*metis A5 C T2 sym G-def NE-def*)

Surprisingly, the following corollary can be derived even without the *T* axiom (reflexivity).

**corollary** *C2*:  $[\exists\ G]$

**sledgehammer** [*provers* = *remote-leo2*](*T1 T3 G-def sym*)

**by** (*metis T1 T3 G-def sym*)

The consistency of the entire theory is checked with Nitpick.

**lemma** *True nitpick* [*satisfy, user-axioms, expect* = *genuine*] **oops**

## 4 Additional Results on Gödel's God.

Gödel's God is flawless: (s)he does not have a non-positive property.

**theorem** *Flawlessness*:  $[\forall(\lambda\varphi. \forall(\lambda x. (G\ x\ m \rightarrow (m \neg (P\ \varphi)\ m \rightarrow m \neg (\varphi\ x)))))]$

**sledgehammer** [*provers* = *remote-leo2*]

**by** (*metis A1b G-def*)

There is only one God: any two God-like beings are equal.

**theorem** *Monotheism*:  $[\forall(\lambda x. \forall(\lambda y. (G\ x\ m \rightarrow (G\ y\ m \rightarrow (x\ m = y)))))]$

**sledgehammer** [*provers* = *remote-satallax remote-leo2*]

**oops**

## 5 Modal Collapse

Gödel's axioms have been criticized for entailing the so-called modal collapse. The prover Satallax [7] confirms this. However, sledgehammer does not seem to be able to determine which axioms, definitions and previous theorems are used by Satallax; hence it suggests to call Metis using everything, but this (unsurprisingly) fails. Attempting to use "Sledgehammer min" to minimize Sledgehammer's suggestion does not work. Nevertheless, calling Metis with *T2*, *T3* and *ess\_def\_doeswork*.

**lemma** *MC*:  $[\forall(\lambda\varphi. (\varphi\ m \rightarrow (\Box\ \varphi)))]$

**using** *T2 T3 ess-def sym* **sledgehammer** [*provers* = *remote-satallax*]

**oops**

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