

# Formalization, Mechanization and Automation of Gödel's Proof of God's Existence

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## Formel von Kurt Gödel: Mathematiker bestätigen Gottesbeweis

Von Tobias Hürter



picture-alliance/ Imagno/ Wiener Stadt- und Landesbibliothek

Kurt Gödel (um das Jahr 1935): Der Mathematiker hielt seinen Gottesbeweis jahrzehntelang geheim

**Ein Wesen existiert, das alle positiven Eigenschaften in sich vereint. Das bewies der legendäre Mathematiker Kurt Gödel mit einem komplizierten Formelgebilde. Zwei Wissenschaftler haben diesen Gottesbeweis nun überprüft - und für gültig befunden.**

Jetzt sind die letzten Zweifel ausgeräumt: Gott existiert tatsächlich. Ein Computer hat es mit kalter Logik bewiesen - das MacBook des Computerwissenschaftlers Christoph Benznmüller von der Freien Universität Berlin.

Montag, 09.09.2013 - 12:03 Uhr  
Drucken | Versenden | Merken

## Germany

- Telepolis & Heise
- Spiegel Online
- FAZ
- Die Welt
- Berliner Morgenpost
- Hamburger Abendpost
- ...

## Austria

- myscience.at
- Wiener Zeitung
- ORF
- ...

## Italy

- Repubblica
- Today.it
- l'Espresso
- ...

## India

- DNA India
- Delhi Daily News
- India Today
- ...

## International

- Spiegel International
- Yahoo Finance
- CNET
- United Press Intl.
- ...

## Def: **Ontological Argument/Proof**

- \* deductive argument
- \* for the existence of god
- \* starting from premises, which are justified by pure reasoning, i.e. they do not depend on observation in the world.

## Existence of God: different types of arguments/proofs

- a posteriori (use experience/observation in the world)
  - teleological
  - cosmological
  - moral
  - ...
- a priori (based on pure reasoning, independent)
  - **ontological argument**
    - definitional
    - modal
    - ...
  - other a priori arguments

## Def: Ontological Argument/Proof

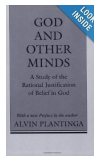
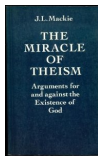
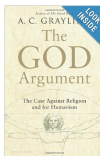
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## *Wohl eine jede Philosophie kreist um den ontologischen Gottesbeweis*

(Adorno, Th. W.: Negative Dialektik. Frankfurt a. M. 1966, p.378)



Rich history on ontological arguments (**pros** and **cons**)

..... Anselm v. C. Th. Aquinas Spinoza Leibniz Hume Kant Hegel Frege Hartshorne Malcolm Lewis Plantinga Gödel .....

Anselm's notion of God:

*"God is that, than which nothing greater can be conceived."*

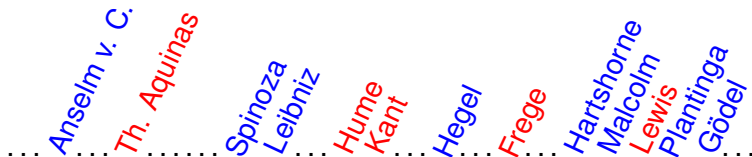
Gödel's notion of God:

*"A God-like being possesses all 'positive' properties."*

To show by logical reasoning:

*"(Necessarily) God exists."*

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## Different Interests in Ontological Arguments:

- **Philosophical:** Boundaries of Metaphysics & Epistemology
  - We talk about a metaphysical concept (God),
  - but we want to draw a conclusion for the real world.
- **Theistic:** Successful argument should convince atheists.
- **Our:** Can computers (theorem provers) be used
  - to formalize the definitions and axioms?
  - to verify the arguments step-by-step?
  - to fully automate (sub-)arguments?

*“Computer-assisted Theoretical Philosophy”*



Main Challenge: No theorem provers for *Second-order Modal Logic*

Our Idea: Exploit an embedding in *Classical Higher-order Logic*

[BenzmüllerPaulson, Logica Universalis, 2013]

What we did (rough outline for remaining presentation!):

A: pen and paper: detailed natural deduction proof

B: formalization: axioms, defs, thms in TPTP THF

C: consistency: automatic verification with NITPICK

D: proof automation: theorems provers Leo-II and SATALLAX

E: step-by-step verification: proof assistant Coq

F: automation & verification: proof assistant ISABELLE

Conclusion

Did we get anything new? . . . Probably yes — let's discuss afterwards!

ToDo: Show Goedel's Manuscript

$$\mathbf{D1: } G(x) \equiv \forall \varphi. [P(\varphi) \rightarrow \varphi(x)]$$

$$\mathbf{D2: } \varphi \text{ ess } x \equiv \varphi(x) \wedge \forall \psi. (\psi(x) \rightarrow \Box \forall x. (\varphi(x) \rightarrow \psi(x)))$$

$$\mathbf{D3: } E(x) \equiv \forall \varphi. [\varphi \text{ ess } x \rightarrow \Box \exists y. \varphi(y)]$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{A3} \\ \hline P(G) \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{A2} \\ \hline \forall \varphi. \forall \psi. [(P(\varphi) \wedge \Box \forall x. [\varphi(x) \rightarrow \psi(x)]) \rightarrow P(\psi)] \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{A1a} \\ \hline \forall \varphi. [P(\neg \varphi) \rightarrow \neg P(\varphi)] \end{array} \\
 \hline \hline \mathbf{T1: } \forall \varphi. [P(\varphi) \rightarrow \Diamond \exists x. \varphi(x)] \\
 \hline \hline \mathbf{C1: } \Diamond \exists x. G(x) \\
 \\
 \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{A1b} \\ \hline \forall \varphi. [\neg P(\varphi) \rightarrow P(\neg \varphi)] \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{A4} \\ \hline \forall \varphi. [P(\varphi) \rightarrow \Box P(\varphi)] \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{A5} \\ \hline P(E) \end{array} \\
 \hline \hline \mathbf{T2: } \forall y. [G(y) \rightarrow G \text{ ess } y] \\
 \hline \hline \mathbf{L1: } \exists z. G(z) \rightarrow \Box \exists x. G(x) \\
 \hline \hline \Diamond \exists z. G(z) \rightarrow \Diamond \Box \exists x. G(x) \quad \begin{array}{c} \mathbf{S5} \\ \hline \forall \xi. [\Diamond \Box \xi \rightarrow \Box \xi] \end{array} \\
 \hline \hline \mathbf{L2: } \Diamond \exists z. G(z) \rightarrow \Box \exists x. G(x) \\
 \\
 \mathbf{C1: } \Diamond \exists x. G(x) \quad \mathbf{L2: } \Diamond \exists z. G(z) \rightarrow \Box \exists x. G(x) \\
 \hline \hline \mathbf{T3: }
 \end{array}$$

$$\frac{A \vee B \quad \begin{array}{c} \overline{A} \\ \vdots \\ C \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \overline{B} \\ \vdots \\ C \end{array}}{C} \vee_E$$

$$\frac{A \quad B}{A \wedge B} \wedge_I$$

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \overline{A} \\ \vdots \\ B \end{array}}{A \rightarrow B} \rightarrow_I^n$$

$$\frac{A}{A \vee B} \vee_{I_1}$$

$$\frac{A \wedge B}{A} \wedge_{E_1}$$

$$\frac{B}{A \rightarrow B} \rightarrow_I$$

$$\frac{B}{A \vee B} \vee_{I_2}$$

$$\frac{A \wedge B}{B} \wedge_{E_2}$$

$$\frac{A \quad A \rightarrow B}{B} \rightarrow_E$$

$$\frac{A[\alpha]}{\forall x.A[x]} \forall_I$$

$$\frac{\forall x.A[x]}{A[t]} \forall_E$$

$$\frac{A[t]}{\exists x.A[x]} \exists_I$$

$$\frac{\exists x.A[x]}{A[\beta]} \exists_E$$

$$\neg A \equiv A \rightarrow \perp$$

$$\frac{\neg\neg A}{A} \neg\neg E$$



# Natural Deduction Calculus

## Rules for Modalities

$$\frac{\alpha : \boxed{\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ A \end{array}}}{\Box A} \Box_I$$

$$\frac{\Box A}{t : \boxed{\begin{array}{c} A \\ \vdots \end{array}}} \Box_E$$

$$\frac{t : \boxed{\begin{array}{c} \vdots \\ A \end{array}}}{\Diamond A} \Diamond_I$$

$$\frac{\Diamond A}{\beta : \boxed{\begin{array}{c} A \\ \vdots \end{array}}} \Diamond_E$$

$$\Diamond A \equiv \neg \Box \neg A$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\psi(x)^6}{\frac{\psi(x) \rightarrow \Box P(\psi)}{\Box P(\psi)} \rightarrow_E} \quad \frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\Box P(\psi)^7}{P(\psi)} \Box_E \quad \frac{\frac{\Pi_3}{P(\psi) \rightarrow \forall x.(G(x) \rightarrow \psi(x))} \rightarrow_E}{\forall x.(G(x) \rightarrow \psi(x))} \Box_I}{\Box \forall x.(G(x) \rightarrow \psi(x))} \rightarrow_I^7}{\Box P(\psi) \rightarrow \Box \forall x.(G(x) \rightarrow \psi(x))} \rightarrow_E \\
 \frac{\Box \forall x.(G(x) \rightarrow \psi(x))}{\psi(x) \rightarrow \Box \forall x.(G(x) \rightarrow \psi(x))} \rightarrow_I^6
 \end{array}$$

todo



todo

todo









todo

