

# Towards the Compression of First-Order Resolution Proofs by Lowering Unit Clauses

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# Proof Compression Motivation

an accessible, good motivational example for proof compression



# (Propositional) Proofs

## Definition (Proof)

A directed acyclic graph  $\langle V, E, \Gamma \rangle$ , where

- $V$  is a set of nodes
- $E$  is a set of edges labeled by literals
- $\Gamma$  (the proof clause) is inductively constructible using *axiom* and *resolution* nodes

## Definition (Axiom)

A proof with a single node (so  $E = \emptyset$ )



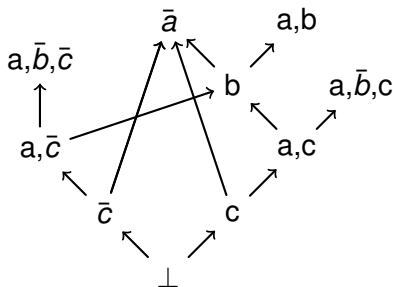
# (Propositional) Resolution

## Definition (Resolution)

Given two proofs  $\psi_L$  and  $\psi_R$  with conclusions  $\Gamma_L$  and  $\Gamma_R$  with some literal  $I$  such that  $\bar{I} \in \Gamma_L$  and  $I \in \Gamma_R$ , the resolution proof  $\psi$  of  $\psi_L$  and  $\psi_R$  on  $I$ , denoted  $\psi = \psi_L \psi_R$  is such that:

- $\psi$ 's nodes are the union of the nodes of  $\psi_L$  and  $\psi_R$ , and a new root node
- there is an edge from  $\rho(\psi)$  to  $\rho(\psi_L)$  labeled with  $\bar{I}$
- there is an edge from  $\rho(\psi)$  to  $\rho(\psi_R)$  labeled with  $I$
- $\psi$ 's conclusion is  $(\Gamma_L \setminus \{\bar{I}\}) \cup (\Gamma_R \setminus \{I\})$

# A Propositional Proof



# Deletion

how deleting subproofs or edges in proofs affect them



# Redundancy

types of redundancy we hope to remove, small examples (before/after proofs; not animated)



# First-Order Proofs

## Definition (First-Order Proof)

A directed acyclic graph  $\langle V, E, \Gamma \rangle$ , where

- $V$  is a set of nodes
- $E$  is a set of edges labeled by literals **and substitutions**
- $\Gamma$  (the proof clause) is inductively constructible using *axiom*, **(first order) resolution**, and **contraction** nodes

Axioms are unchanged





# Substitutions and Unifiers

## Definition (Substitution)

A mapping  $\{X_1 \mapsto t_1, X_2 \mapsto t_2, \dots\}$  from variables  $X_1, X_2, \dots$  to terms  $t_1, t_2, \dots$

## Definition (Unifier)

# First Order (Unifying) Resolution

## Definition (First Order Resolution)

Given two proofs  $\psi_L$  and  $\psi_R$  with conclusions  $\Gamma_L$  and  $\Gamma_R$  with some literal  $I$  such that  $I_L \in \Gamma_L$  and  $I_R \in \Gamma_R$ , and  $\sigma_L$  and  $\sigma_R$  are substitutions such that  $I_L\sigma_L = \overline{I_R\sigma_R}$ , and the variables in  $(\Gamma_L \setminus I_L)\sigma_L$  and  $(\Gamma_R \setminus I_R)\sigma_R$  are disjoint, then the resolution proof  $\psi$  of  $\psi_L$  and  $\psi_R$  on  $I$ , denoted  $\psi = \psi_L\psi_R$  is such that:

- $\psi$ 's nodes are the union of the nodes of  $\psi_L$  and  $\psi_R$ , and a new root node
- there is an edge from  $\rho(\psi)$  to  $\rho(\psi_L)$  labeled with  $I_L$  and  $\sigma_L$
- there is an edge from  $\rho(\psi)$  to  $\rho(\psi_R)$  labeled with  $I_R$  and  $\sigma_R$
- $\psi$ 's conclusion is  $(\Gamma_L \setminus I_L)\sigma_L \cup (\Gamma_R \setminus I_R)\sigma_R$

# Contraction

## Definition (Contraction)

If  $\psi'$  is a proof and  $\sigma$  is a unifier of  $\{l_1, \dots, l_n\} \subset \Gamma'$ , then a contraction  $\psi$  is a proof where

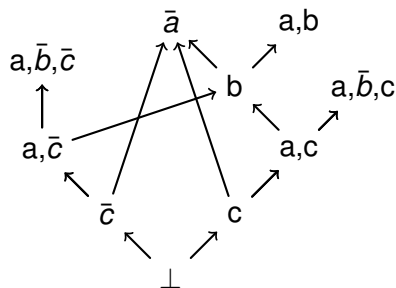
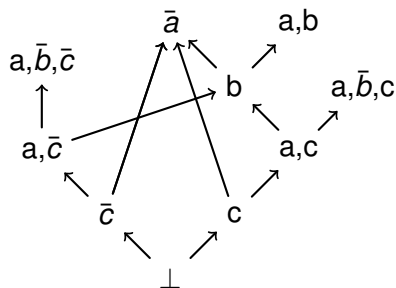
- $\psi$ 's nodes are the union of the nodes of  $\psi'$  and a new node  $v$
- There is an edge from  $\rho(\psi')$  to  $v$  labeled with  $\{l_1, \dots, l_n\}$  and  $\sigma$
- The conclusion is  $(\Gamma' \setminus \{l_1, \dots, l_n\})\sigma \cup \{l\}$ , where  $l = l_k\sigma$  for  $k \in \{1, \dots, n\}$

# LowerUnits

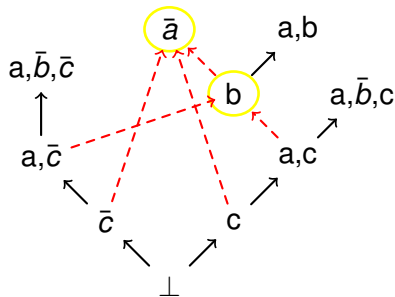
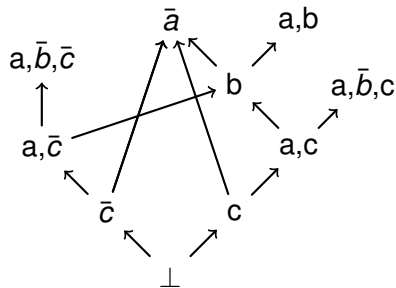
brief high level description; complexity  
probably not pseudo-code



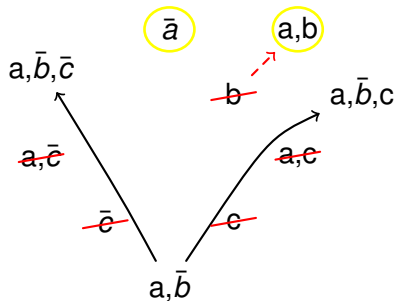
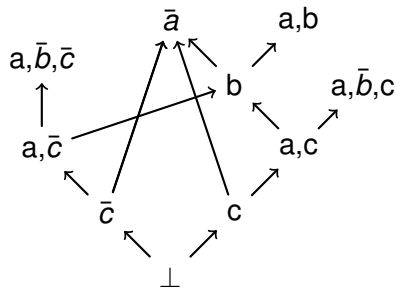
# Propositional Example



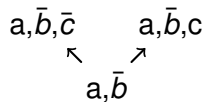
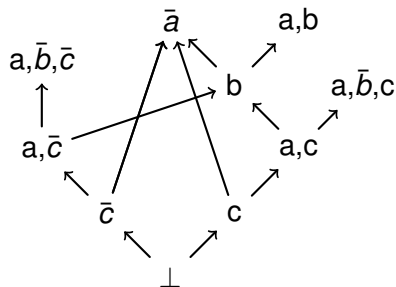
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# Propositional Example

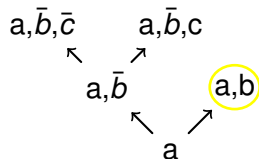
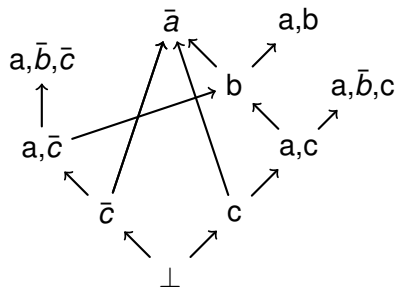


# Propositional Example

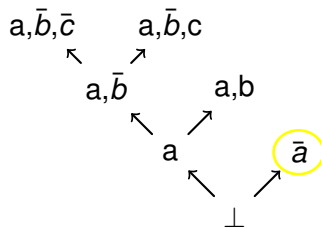
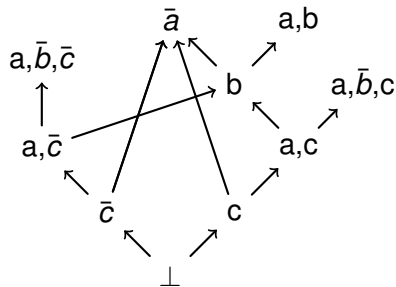




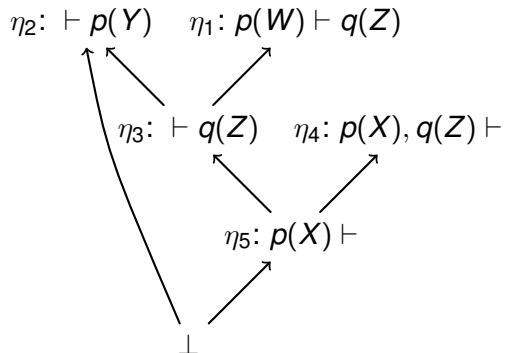
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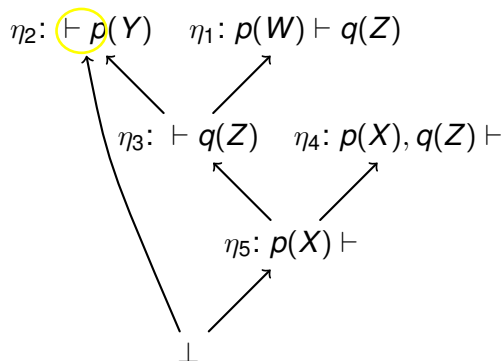
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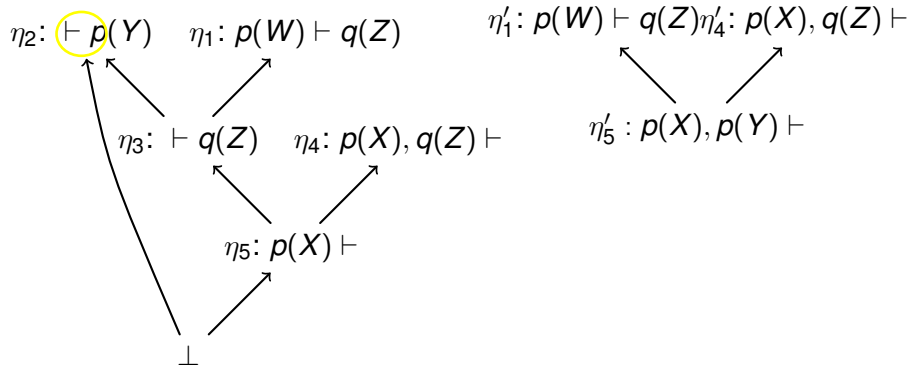
# First Order Change: Helpful Contractions



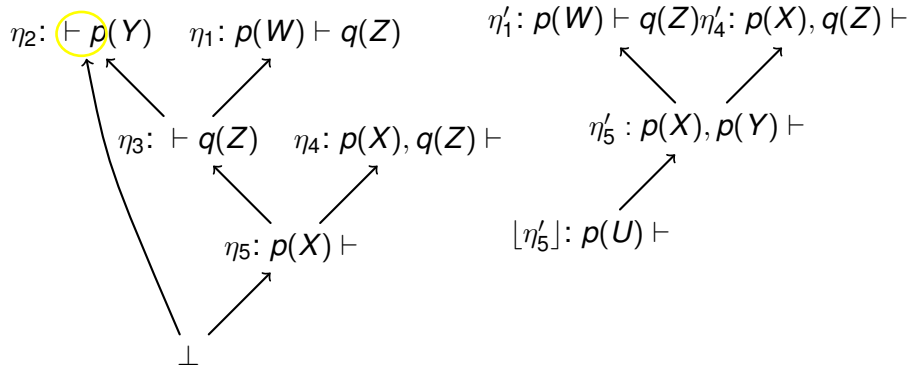
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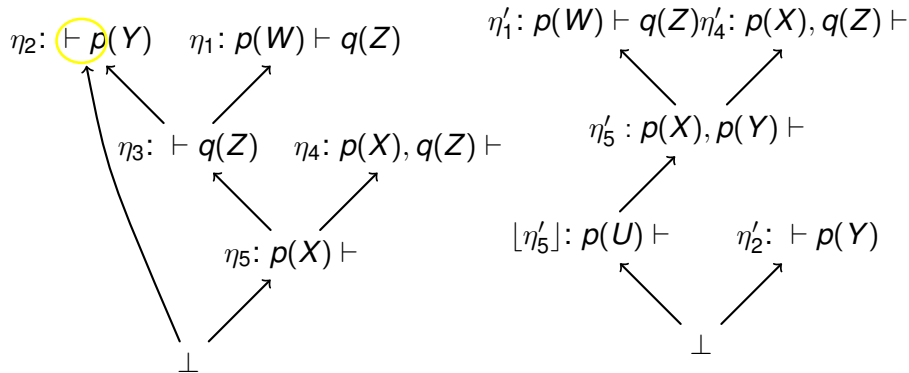
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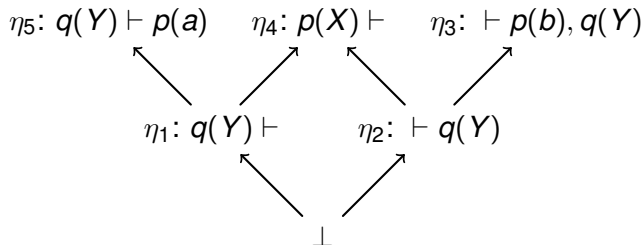
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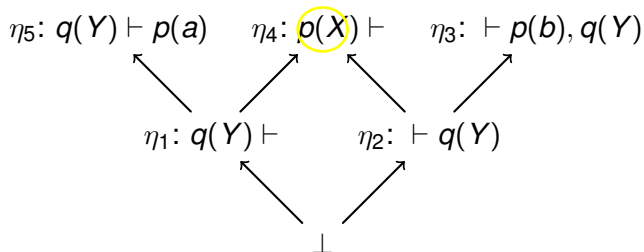


# First Order Challenge: Pre-Deletion Check

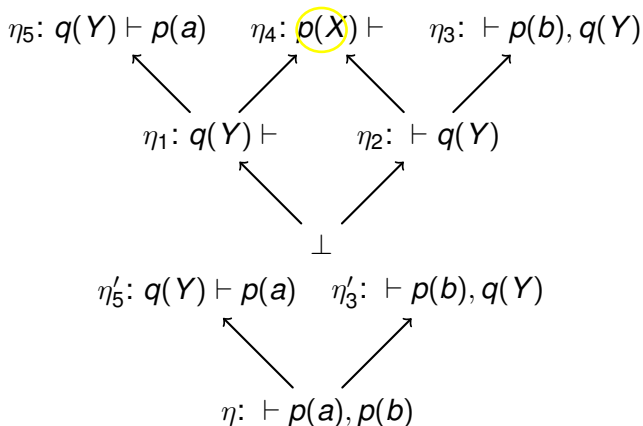




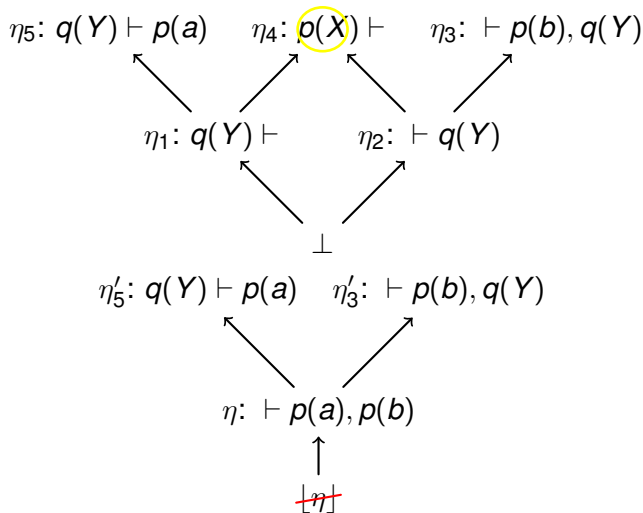
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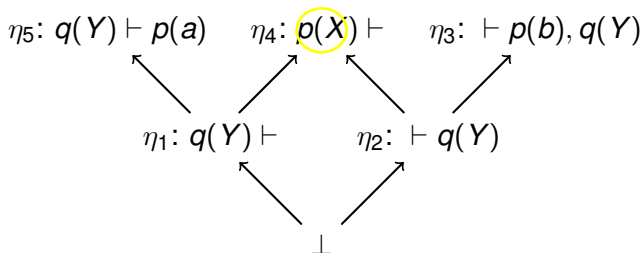
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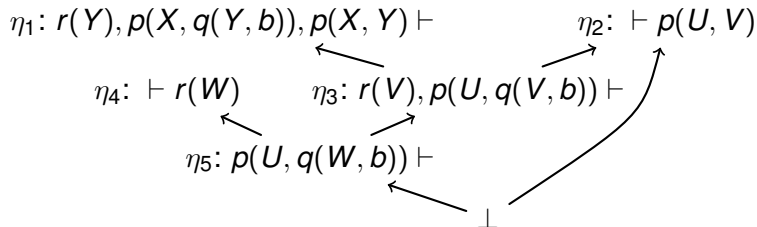
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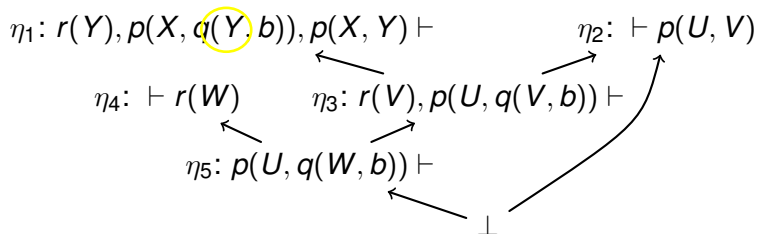
## Definition (Pre-Deletion Property)

$\eta$  unit,  $l \in \eta$ , such that  $l$  is resolved with literals  $l_1, \dots, l_n$  in a proof  $\psi$ .  $\eta$  satisfies the *pre-deletion unifiability* property in  $\psi$  if  $l_1, \dots, l_n$  and  $\bar{l}$  are unifiable.

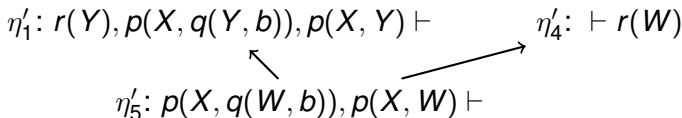
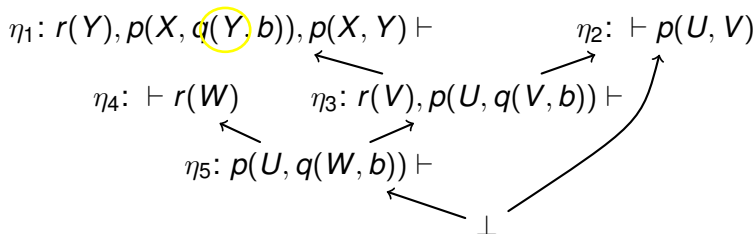
# First Order Challenge: Post-Deletion Check



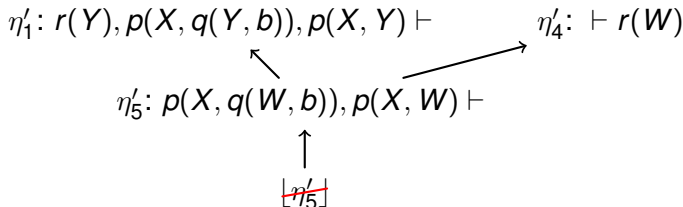
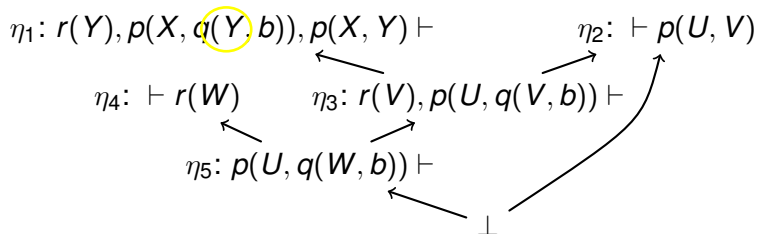
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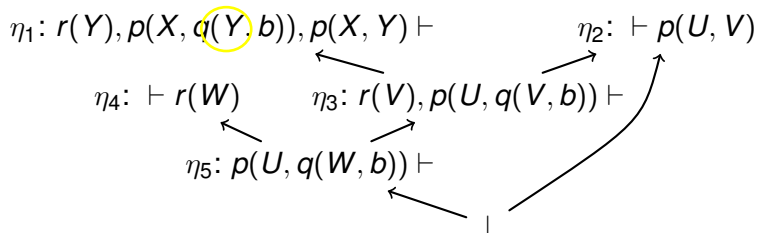


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# First Order Challenge: Post-Deletion Check



## Definition (Post-Deletion Property)

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# First Order Lower Units Ideas/Principles

briefly mention all ideas, e.g. quadratic time naive approach to deal with both properties



# Simple/Greedy First Order Lower Units

introduce simpler idea, make compromises explicit and list benefits  
high level description  
(probably not pseudo-code, but list # of traversals, complexity, etc)



# First Order Example

small, animated example



# Experiment Setup

- Simple First Order Lower units implemented as part of Skeptik (in Scala)
- 308 real first-order proofs generated by SPASS from problems from TPTP Problem Library
- proofs *generated* on cluster at the University of Victoria
- proofs *compressed* on *this laptop*

Time to generate proofs:  $\approx$  40 minutes

Time to compress proofs:  $\approx$  5 seconds



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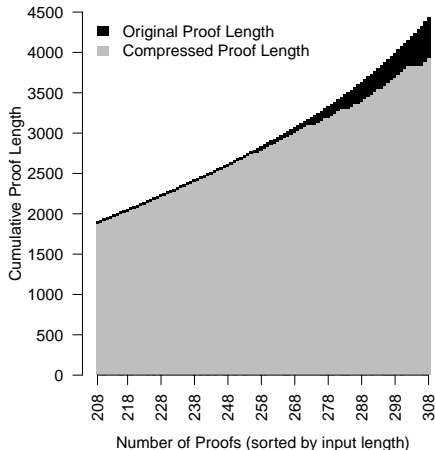
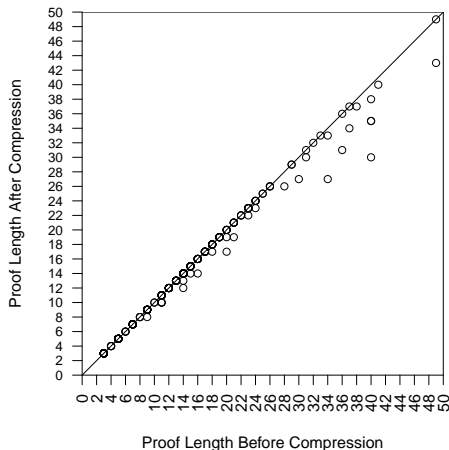
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# Results



# Results

Higher compression in longer proofs: 13/18 proofs with length  $\geq 30$  nodes successfully compressed.

Total compression ratio **11.3%**: 4429 vs. 3929 nodes.  
**18.4%** for 100 longest proofs.





# Conclusion

- Simple First Order Lower Units is a quick algorithm for first order proof compression
- Future work:
  - Explore other proof compression algorithms, e.g. Recycle Pivots with Intersection
  - Explore ways of dealing with the post-deletion property quickly

Thank you for your attention.  
Any questions?

- Source code: <https://github.com/jgorzny/Skeptik>
- Data: <http://www.math.uvic.ca/~jgorzny/data/>

