AITP: How Do We Combine Our Forces?

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Two Obstacles to Strong Computer Support for Math

- Low reasoning power of automated reasoning methods, particularly over large complex theories (our ATPs are weak)
- 2. Lack of computer understanding of current human-level (math and exact science) knowledge (our NLP is weak)

The Two Obstacles are related

(... and that's why we are all here, trying to understand each other ...)

- parsing human-level math may require nontrivial reasoning with over a lot of background knowledge
- strong automated reasoning support over large corpora may require machine learning and reinforcement loops over vast math repositories
- but we don't really have vast computer-understandable math repositories yet

How Do We Solve This Chicken And Egg Problem?

I don't know, but here are some ideas:

- By organizing AITP and bringing the experts in these fields together!
- By building systems with feedback (learning, reinforcement, etc.) loops that span the whole NLP-ITP-ATP toolchain, and deduce and learn over large formal and informal corpora
- But also by making all of our component systems smarter by using both reasoning and learning

Some Examples

- A reasonable success: large-theory ATPs (hammers) get better if we learn from many related proofs – but we can likely still improve the precision a lot
- Totally open problem yet: we are just starting to build systems that could do (learn?) good conjecturing over math
- Shall we need bigger (informal) corpora for that? Can we use e.g. the GloVe analogies on arXiv as shown by Deyan Ginev to transfer concepts between (formal) math domains?
- Not sure: Current ATP systems is the given clause loop something that should not be replaced by much more parallel (Monte-Carlo) heuristic exploration?
- Quite likely future success: Improve methods like hints and clause selection guidance by learning from thousands of long proofs