

# A Tiny Tweak to Proof Generation in MiniSat-based SAT Solvers

Masterstudium:

Computational Logic

## & A Complete and Efficient DRAT Proof Checker

Johannes Altmanninger

Technische Universität Wien  
Institute of Logic and Computation  
Arbeitsbereich: Formal Methods in Systems Engineering  
Betreuer: Associate Prof. Dipl.-Ing. Georg  
Weissenbacher, D.Phil.

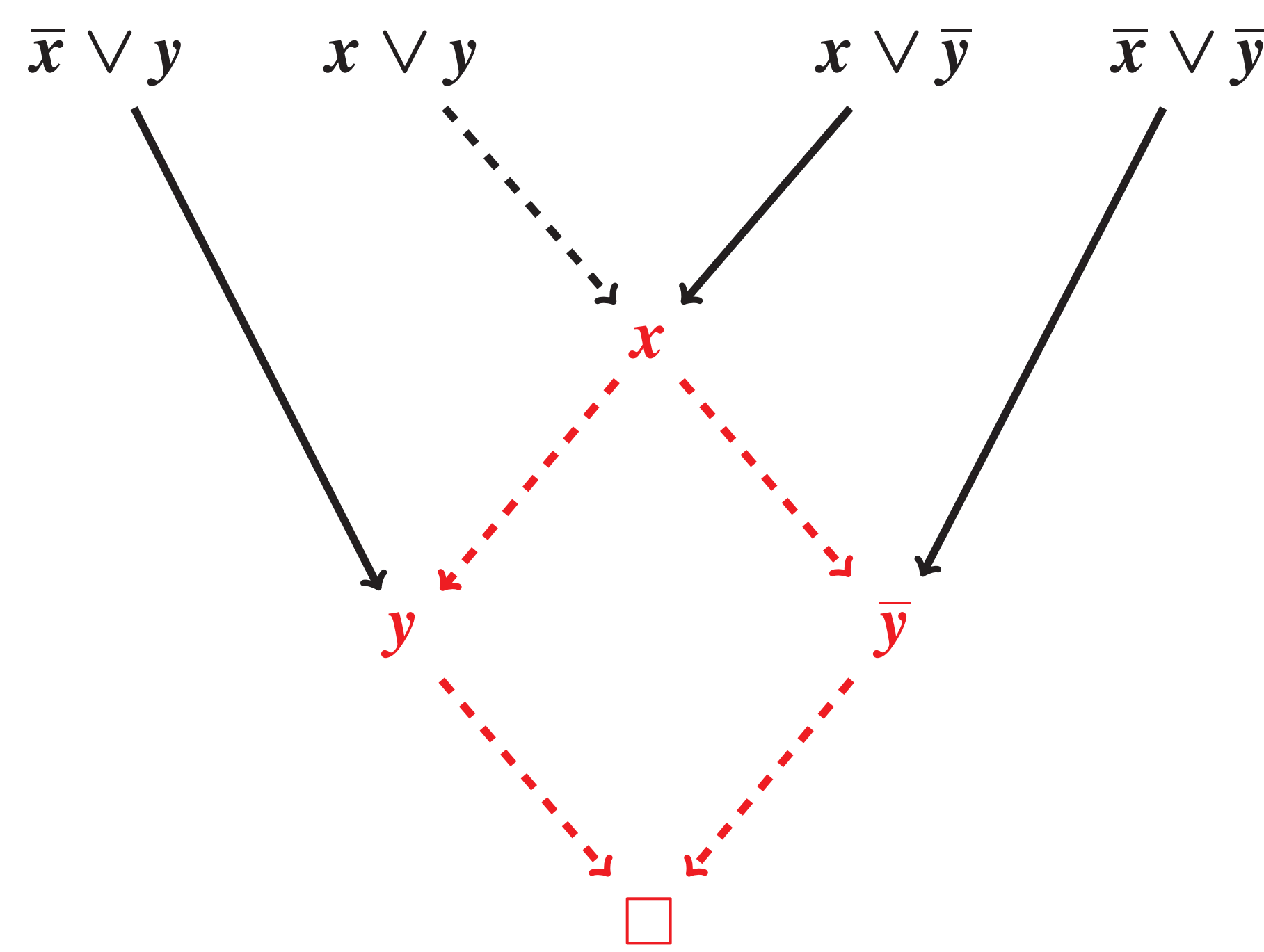
### Motivation

- ▶ SAT solvers produce DRAT proofs that are incorrect<sup>a</sup> due to spurious deletions of **unique reason clauses**
- ▶ proof checkers remedy this by ignoring unit deletions
- ▶ handling unique reason deletions requires a complicated algorithm

### Problem

- ▶ unsatisfiable propositional formula  
 $F = (x \vee y) \wedge (x \vee \bar{y}) \wedge (\bar{x} \vee y) \wedge (\bar{x} \vee \bar{y})$
- ▶ redundant clauses (according to criteria RUP or RAT) can be added without affecting satisfiability of the formula
- ▶ proof of unsatisfiability adds and deletes clause until deriving the empty (unsatisfiable) clause  $\square$ 
  - 1: add  $x$  addition of redundant clause
  - 2: del  $x \vee y$  deletion of subsumed clause (always fine)
  - 3: del  $x$  **deletion of unique reason clause**
  - 4: add  $\square$  addition of redundant conflict clause

- ▶ clause  $x$  is the **unique reason** for literal  $x$
- ▶ deleting  $x$  removes derived clauses  $y$ ,  $\bar{y}$  and  $\square$ , making the proof incorrect
- ▶ many SAT solvers produce such proofs  $\rightarrow$  proof checkers ignore unit deletions



### Contributions

- ▶ provide patches for SAT solvers to produce correct proofs
- ▶ extension of SICK incorrectness certificate, giving a counter-example for an incorrect proof
- ▶ implement efficient checker to measure performance impact of handling unique reason deletions

### Avoiding Unique Reason Deletions in Solvers

- ▶ DRUPMiniSat-based solvers delete reason clauses but do not undo corresponding assignments
- ▶ remedy: emit a unit clause before deleting a reason clause — yields correct proofs that match the solver's behavior
- ▶ we implemented this in DRUPMiniSat patch shown below (reason clauses are called *locked*)
- ▶ similar patch for the 2018 SAT competition winner

```
@@ -632,9 +632,13 @@ void Solver::removeSatisfied(vec<CRef>& cs)
+   Clause& c = ca[cs[i]];
+   if (output != NULL && locked(c)) {
+       Lit unit = c[0];
+       fprintf(output, "%i 0\n",
+               (var(unit) + 1) * (-2 * sign(unit) + 1));
+   }
+   removeClause(cs[i]);
```

### SICK Format

- ▶ *small* artifact to *efficiently* certify incorrectness of a proof
- ▶ can be verified with our tool `sick-check`

incorrect DRAT proof for  $F$ :

```
1: del  $x \vee y$ 
2: add  $x$ 
3: add  $\square$ 
```

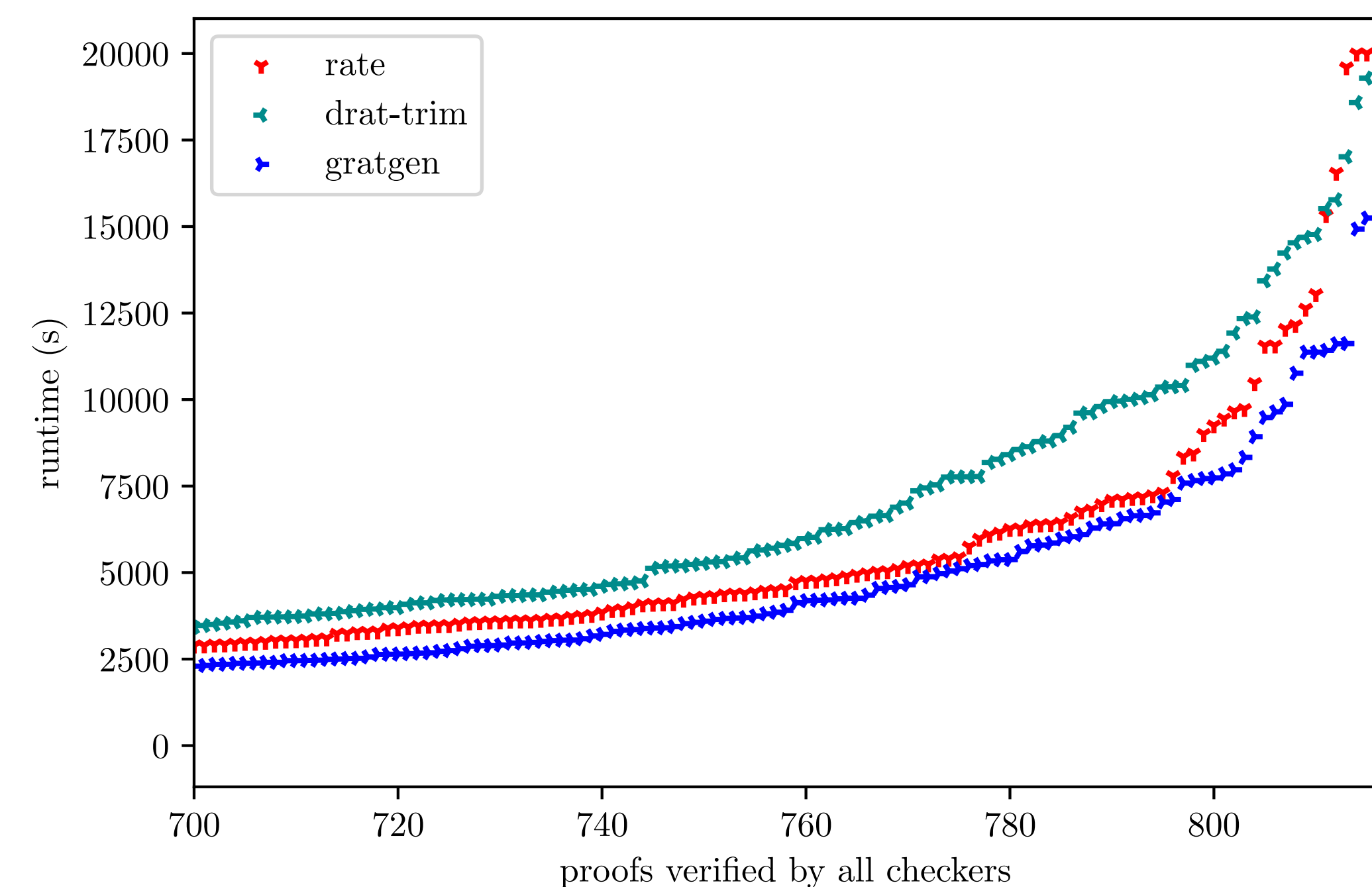
SICK certificate refuting RAT of clause  $x$ :

```
proof_format = DRAT-arbitrary-pivot
proof_step = 2 (Failed line in the proof)
natural_model =  $\{\bar{x}, y\}$ 
failing_clause =  $\bar{x} \vee y$ 
failing_model =  $\{\}$ 
pivot =  $x$ 
```

### Checker Implementation: *rate*

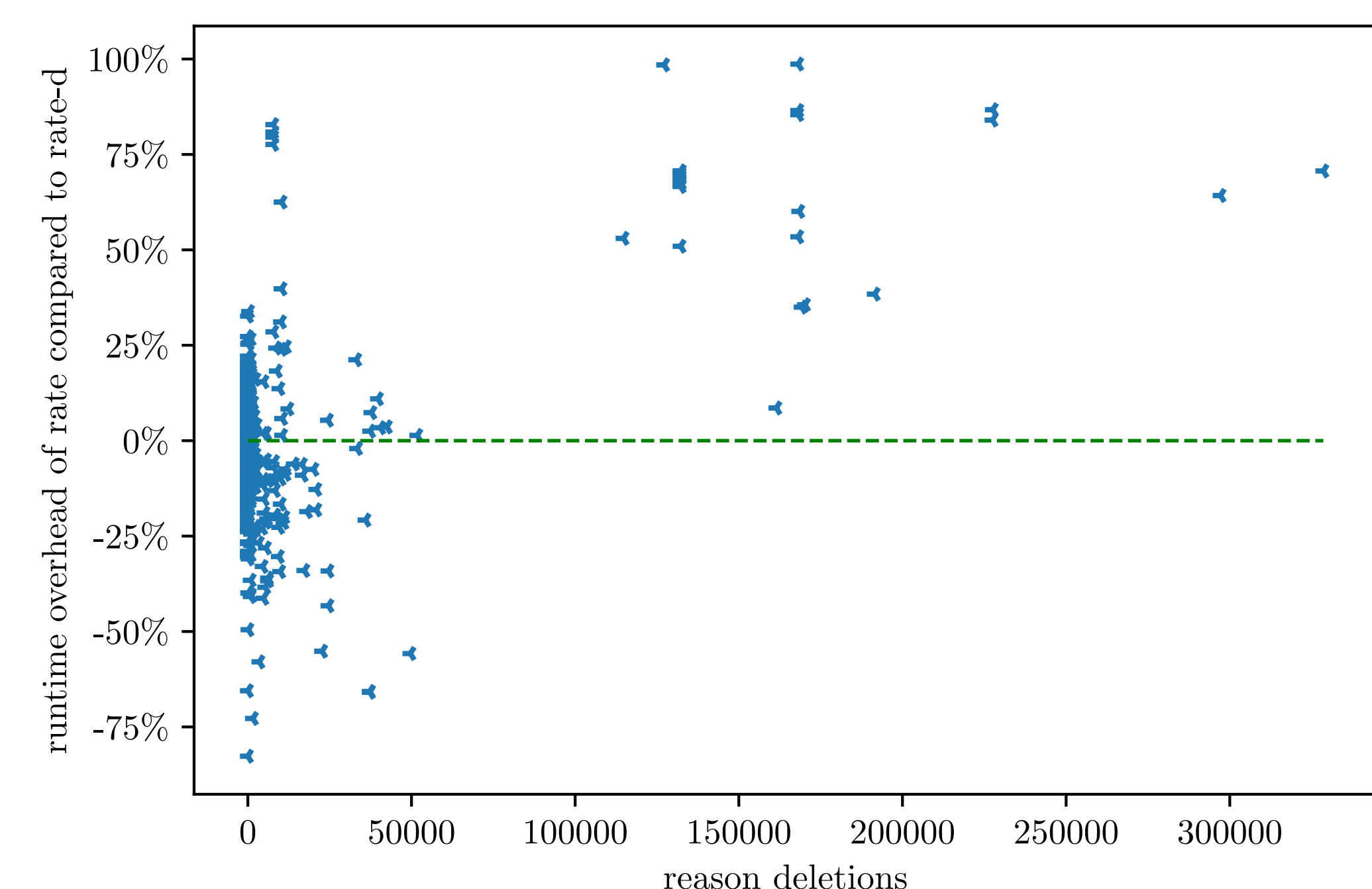
- ▶ efficiently handles reason deletions
- ▶ performance similar to best checkers (Figure 1)
- ▶ available at <https://github.com/krobelus/rate>
- ▶ written in Rust

Figure 1: Distribution of Proof Checkers' runtime



**Insight:** an excessive number of reason deletions may effect longer checking runtime (Figure 2). Find more details at <https://github.com/krobelus/rate-experiments>.

Figure 2: Overhead in seconds of handling reason deletions



<sup>a</sup> Due to space constraints, this poster assumes "correctness" of a DRAT proof to be defined in terms of *specified DRAT*, see A. Rebola-Pardo and A. Biere, "Two Flavors of DRAT", *Pragmatics of SAT*, vol. 2018.