

# Proof Mining

## Lecture 3: Proof Interpretations

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# Plan

Lecture 1: Incomplete Statements

Lecture 2: Proof Translations

Lecture 3: **Proof Interpretations**

# Lecture 1 & 2 Recap

**Incomplete statements** can be strengthened by bounding or witnessing some of the quantifications

## Complete

Goldbach conjecture. Every even interger greather than 2 can be expressed as the sum of two primes

Fermat's last theorem. No three positive integers  $a, b, c$  satisfy  $a^n + b^n = c^n$ , for  $n > 2$

## Incomplete

There are  $a, b \in \mathbb{R}$  such that  $a, b \notin \mathbb{Q}$  but  $a^b \in \mathbb{Q}$

$\sqrt{2}$  is irrational

The set of primes is unbounded

Edelstein f.-point theorem. Any contractive  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  has at most one fixed point

Brouwer f.-point theorem. Any continuous  $f : [0, 1] \rightarrow [0, 1]$  has a fixed point

$$\boxed{\vdash A \vee \neg A}$$

$$\boxed{\vdash \neg\neg(A \vee \neg A)}$$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{[A]_\alpha}{A \vee \neg A} \quad [\neg(A \vee \neg A)]_\gamma}{\perp} \alpha}{\frac{A \vee \neg A \quad [\neg(A \vee \neg A)]_\gamma}{\perp} \text{PBC}, \gamma}$$

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{[A]_\alpha}{A \vee \neg A} \quad [\neg(A \vee \neg A)]_\gamma}{\perp} \alpha}{\frac{A \vee \neg A \quad [\neg(A \vee \neg A)]_\gamma}{\perp} \rightarrow I, \gamma} \neg\neg(A \vee \neg A)$$

## Intuitionistic Logic (ex falso quodlibet)

$$\frac{\vdots}{\perp} \text{EFQ}$$

## Classical Logic (proof by contraction)

$$\frac{\frac{[\neg A]_\alpha}{\vdots}}{\perp} \text{PBC, } \alpha$$

### Proposition (Gentzen 1933).

If CL proves  $\Gamma \vdash A$  then IL proves  $\Gamma^N \vdash A^N$  where

$$\begin{array}{ll} (A \wedge B)^N & \equiv A^N \wedge B^N & (P)^* & \equiv \neg\neg P \\ (A \vee B)^N & \equiv \neg\neg(A^N \vee B^N) & (\forall x A)^N & \equiv \forall x A^N \\ (A \rightarrow B)^N & \equiv A^N \rightarrow B^N & (\exists x A)^N & \equiv \neg\neg\exists x A^N \end{array}$$

## Comprehension

$$\exists f^{\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}} \forall n^{\mathbb{N}} (fn \leftrightarrow A(n))$$

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Let  $T(n,n,u)$  be the statement that Turing machine with code  $n$  on input  $n$  will halt with computation  $u$

The Halting problem (known to be undecidable) is

$$A(n) \equiv \exists u T(n,n,u)$$

So clearly, the following (true) statement cannot be witnessed by a computable function  $f$

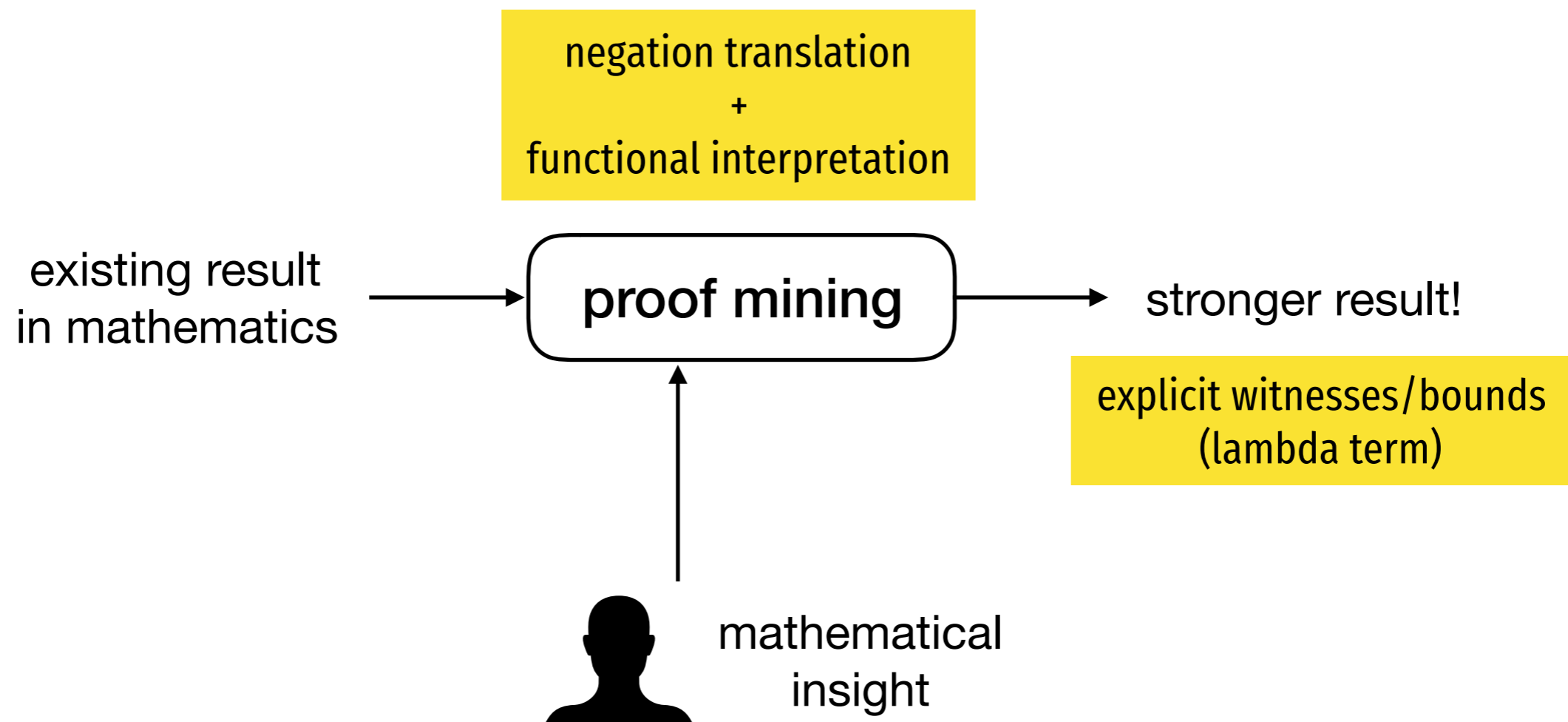
$$\exists f^{\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}} \forall n^{\mathbb{N}} (fn \leftrightarrow \exists u T(n,n,u))$$

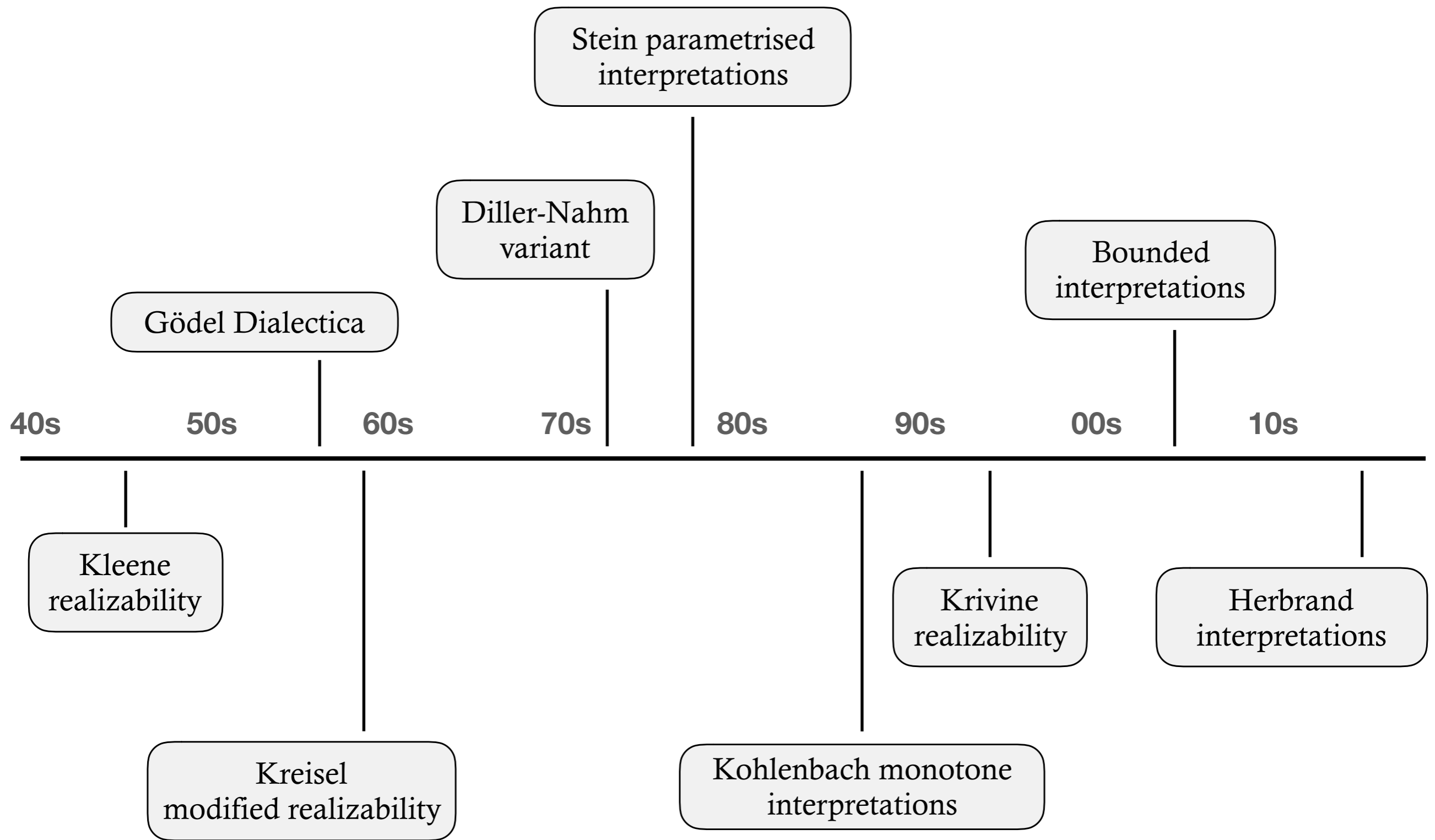
# Today

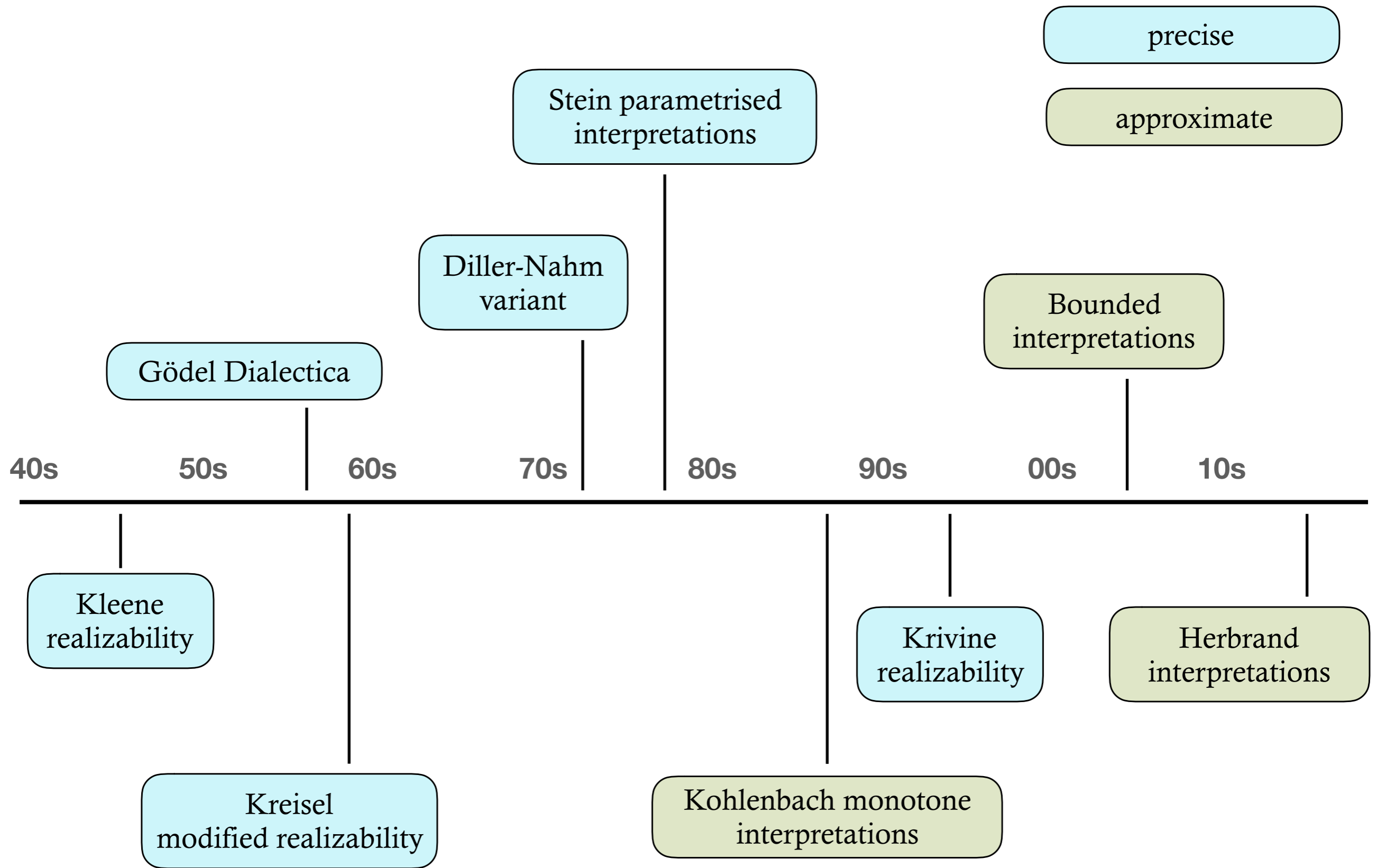
- Functional interpretations
- Lambda calculus, system T
- Interpreting induction
- Interpreting choice and comprehension



# Proof Mining







# Functional Interpretations

Lemma 1:  $\forall p, q > 0 (\neg \text{Even}(p) \vee \neg \text{Even}(q) \rightarrow p^2 \neq 2q^2)$

Lemma 2:  $\forall x, y (x^2 \neq y^2 \rightarrow x \neq y)$

Theorem:  $\forall p, q > 0 \left( \neg \text{Even}(p) \vee \neg \text{Even}(q) \rightarrow \frac{p}{q} \neq \sqrt{2} \right)$

Lemma 1\*:  $\forall p, q > 0 (\neg \text{Even}(p) \vee \neg \text{Even}(q) \rightarrow |p^2 - 2q^2| \geq 1)$

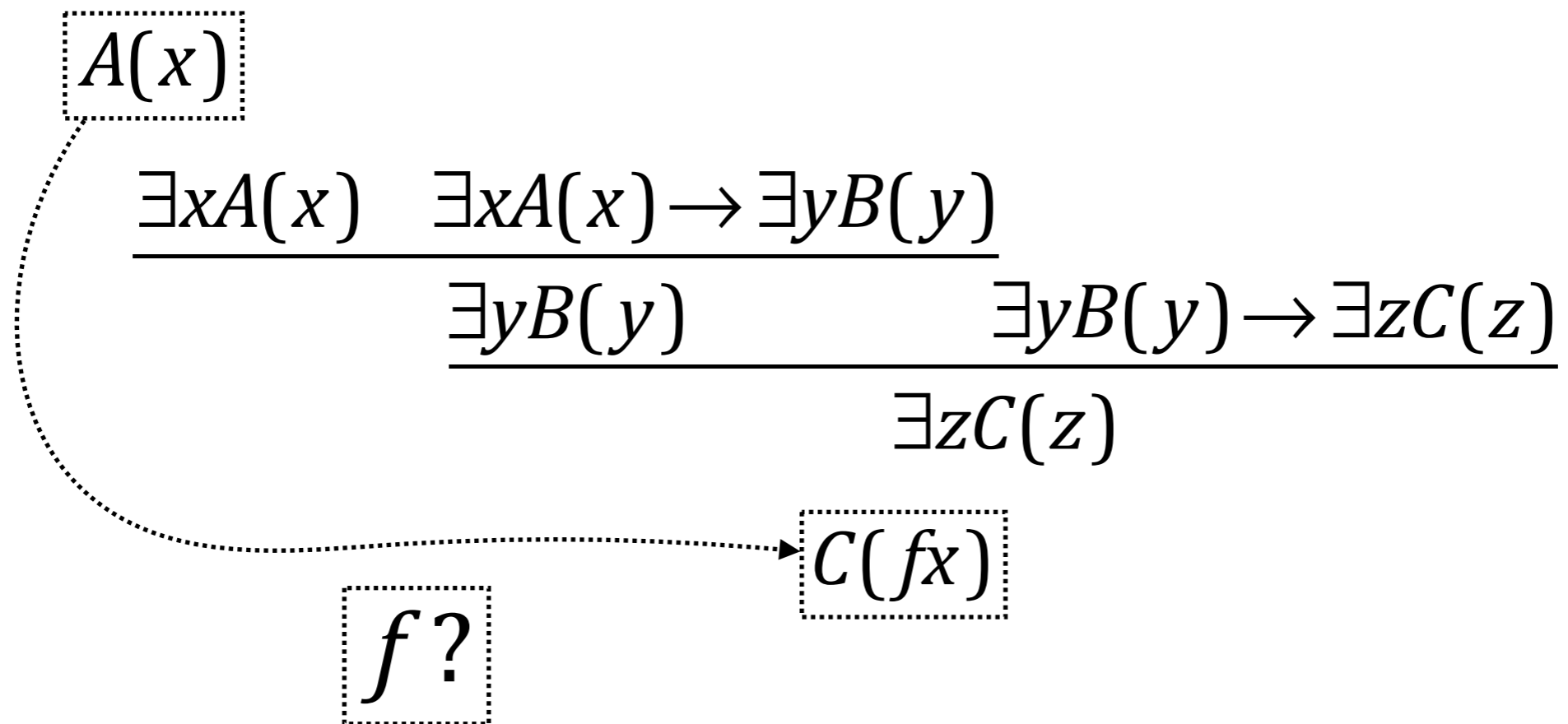
Lemma 2\*:  $\forall x, y, \delta (|x^2 - y^2| \geq \delta \rightarrow |x - y| \geq \frac{\delta}{x + y})$

Theorem\*:  $\forall p, q > 0 \left( \neg \text{Even}(p) \vee \neg \text{Even}(q) \rightarrow \left| \frac{p}{q} - \sqrt{2} \right| \geq \frac{1}{pq + 2q^2} \right)$

Lemma 1.  $\exists xA(x) \rightarrow \exists yB(y) \longrightarrow \forall x(A(x) \rightarrow B(gx))$

Lemma 2.  $\exists yB(y) \rightarrow \exists zC(z) \longrightarrow \forall y(B(y) \rightarrow C(hy))$

Theorem.  $\exists xA(x) \rightarrow \exists zC(z)$



$$\boxed{\text{Lemma 1. } \exists x A(x) \rightarrow \exists y B(y)} \longrightarrow \boxed{\forall x (A(x) \rightarrow B(gx))}$$

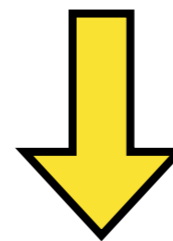
$$\boxed{\text{Lemma 2. } \exists y B(y) \rightarrow \exists z C(z)} \longrightarrow \boxed{\forall y (B(y) \rightarrow C(hy))}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Theorem. } \exists x A(x) \rightarrow \exists z C(z)} \longrightarrow \boxed{\forall x (A(x) \rightarrow C(h(gx)))}$$

$$\frac{[A(v)]_\alpha \quad \frac{\forall x (A(x) \rightarrow B(gx))}{A(v) \rightarrow B(gv)}}{B(gv)} \quad \frac{\forall y (B(y) \rightarrow C(hy))}{B(gv) \rightarrow C(h(gv))}}{\frac{C(h(gv))}{A(v) \rightarrow C(h(gv))} \quad \alpha}{\forall x (A(x) \rightarrow C(h(gx)))}}$$

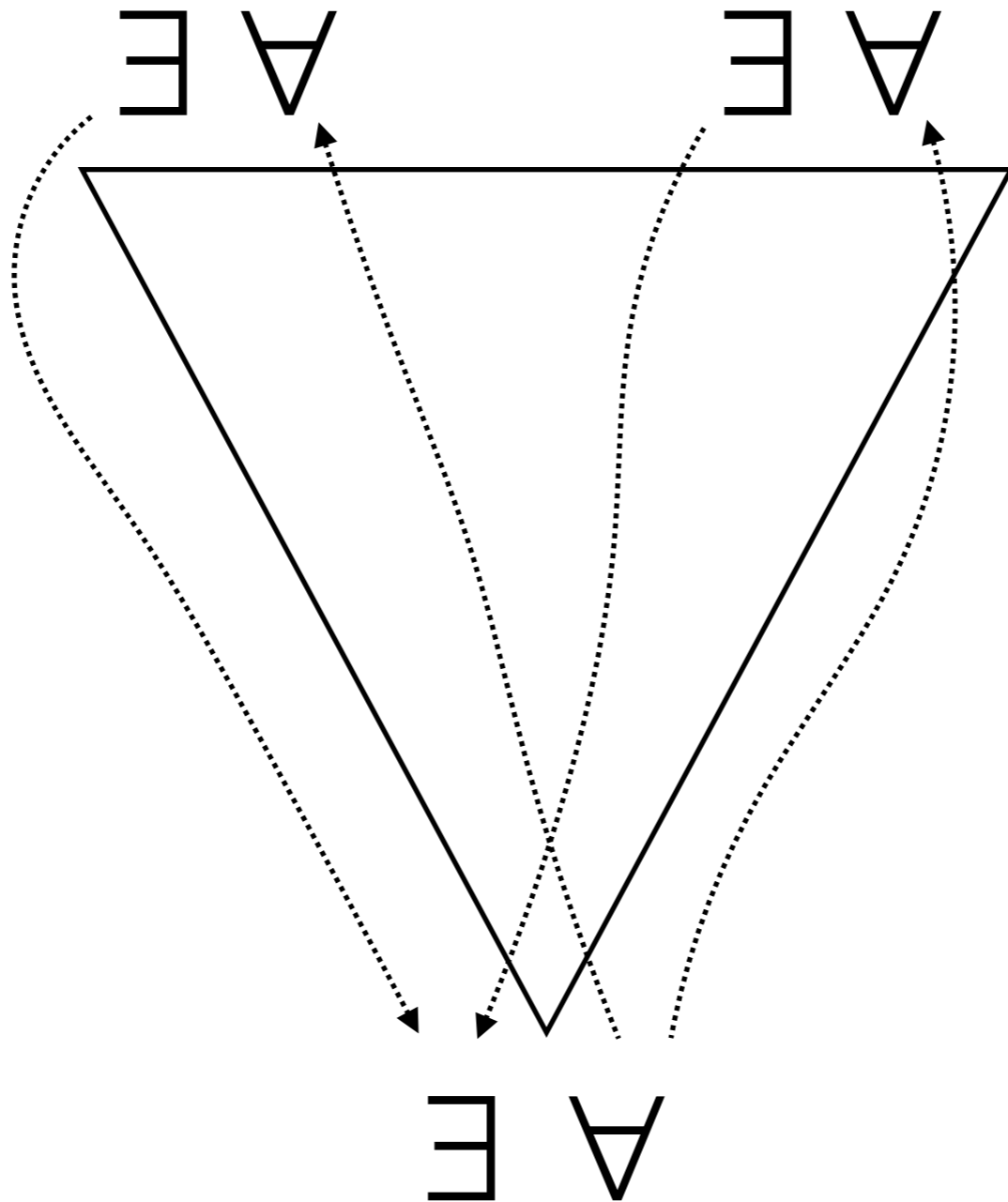
$$\frac{\frac{\exists x A(x) \quad \exists x A(x) \rightarrow \exists y B(y)}{\exists y B(y)} \quad \exists y B(y) \rightarrow \exists z C(z)}{\exists z C(z)}$$

functional interpretations perform such proof transformations



$$\frac{\frac{[A(v)]_\alpha \quad \frac{\forall x(A(x) \rightarrow B(gx))}{A(v) \rightarrow B(gv)}}{B(gv)} \quad \frac{\forall y(B(y) \rightarrow C(hy))}{B(gv) \rightarrow C(h(gv))}}{\frac{C(h(gv))}{A(v) \rightarrow C(h(gv))} \quad \alpha} \forall x(A(x) \rightarrow C(h(gx)))$$

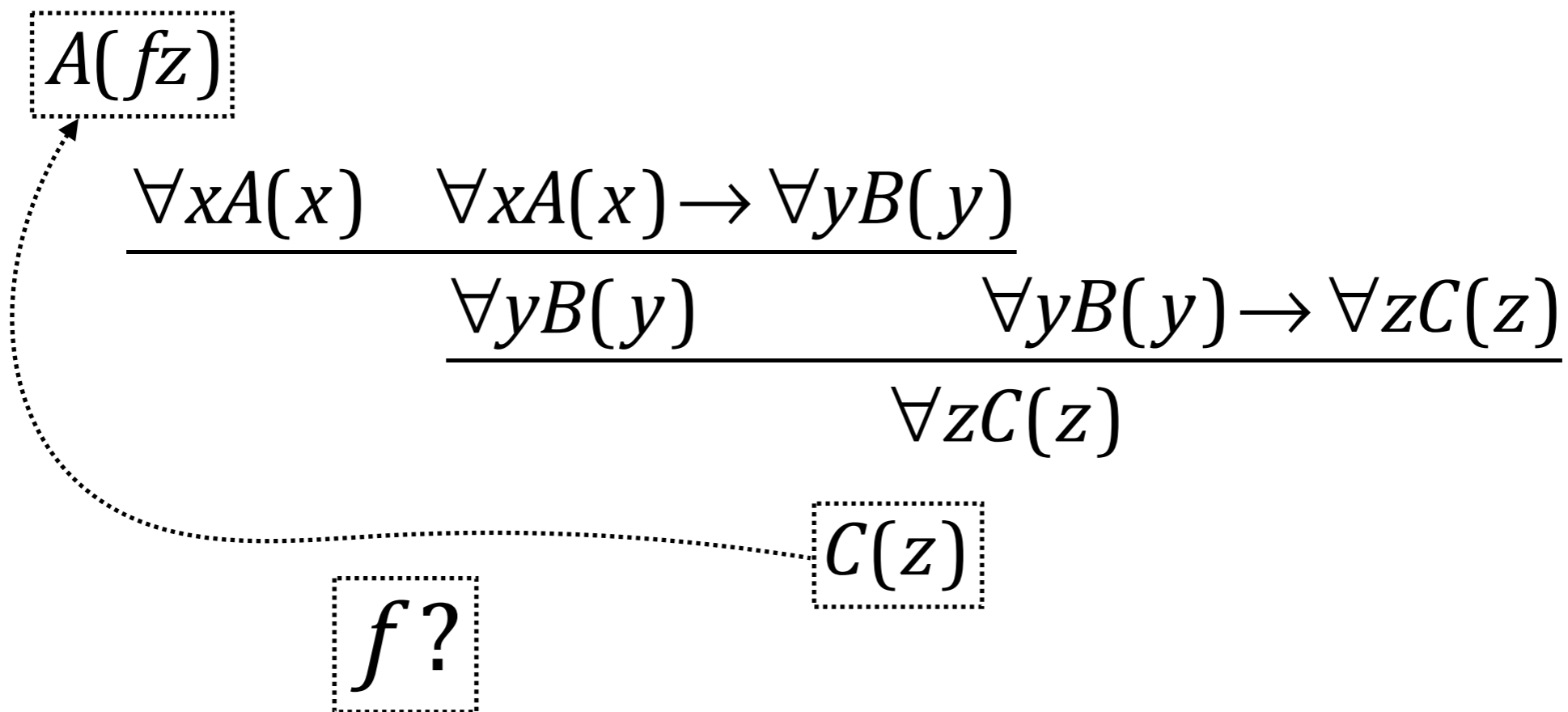




Lemma 1.  $\forall xA(x) \rightarrow \forall yB(y) \longrightarrow \forall y(A(gy) \rightarrow B(y))$

Lemma 2.  $\forall yB(y) \rightarrow \forall zC(z) \longrightarrow \forall z(B(hz) \rightarrow C(z))$

Theorem.  $\forall xA(x) \rightarrow \forall zC(z)$



$$\boxed{\text{Lemma 1. } \forall x A(x) \rightarrow \forall y B(y)} \longrightarrow \boxed{\forall y (A(gy) \rightarrow B(y))}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Lemma 2. } \forall y B(y) \rightarrow \forall z C(z)} \longrightarrow \boxed{\forall z (B(hz) \rightarrow C(z))}$$

$$\boxed{\text{Theorem. } \forall x A(x) \rightarrow \forall z C(z)} \longrightarrow \boxed{\forall z (A(g(hz)) \rightarrow C(z))}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 [A(g(hz))]_{\alpha} \quad \frac{\forall y (A(gy) \rightarrow B(y))}{A(g(hz)) \rightarrow B(hz)} \quad \frac{\forall z (B(hz) \rightarrow C(z))}{B(hz) \rightarrow C(z)} \\
 \hline
 B(hz) \quad \hline
 C(z) \quad \alpha \\
 \hline
 A(g(hz)) \rightarrow C(z) \\
 \hline
 \forall z (A(g(hz)) \rightarrow C(z))
 \end{array}$$

# Gödel's Dialectica Interpretation

# ÜBER EINE BISHER NOCH NICHT BENÜTZTE ERWEITERUNG DES FINITEN STANDPUNKTES

von Kurt GÖDEL, Princeton

Dialectica, vol. 12, 1958

$$|A \wedge B|_{y,w}^{x,v} \equiv |A|_y^x \wedge |B|_w^v$$

$$|A \vee B|_{y,w}^{x,v,b} \equiv (b=0 \wedge |A|_y^x) \vee (b \neq 0 \wedge |B|_w^v)$$

$$|A \rightarrow B|_{x,w}^{f,g} \equiv |A|_{g(x,w)}^x \rightarrow |B|_w^{f(x)}$$

$$|\forall z A(z)|_{y,z}^f \equiv |A(\mathbf{z})|_y^{f(\mathbf{z})}$$

$$|\exists z A(z)|_y^{x,z} \equiv |A(\mathbf{z})|_y^x$$

Theorem (Gödel'58). If  $\text{HA} \vdash A$  then there exists a term  $t$  of system T such that  $\text{T} \vdash |A|_y^t$

$$\begin{aligned}
|A \wedge B|_{y,w}^{x,v} &\equiv |A|_y^x \wedge |B|_w^v \\
|A \vee B|_{y,w}^{x,v,b} &\equiv (b=0 \wedge |A|_y^x) \vee (b \neq 0 \wedge |B|_w^v) \\
|A \rightarrow B|_{x,w}^{f,g} &\equiv |A|_{g(x,w)}^x \rightarrow |B|_w^{f(x)} \\
|\forall z A(z)|_{y,z}^f &\equiv |A(z)|_y^{f(z)} \\
|\exists z A(z)|_y^{x,z} &\equiv |A(z)|_y^x
\end{aligned}$$

$$A = \sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q} \quad |A|_{p,q}^f \equiv \left| \frac{p}{q} - \sqrt{2} \right| > f(p,q)$$

$$A = \forall n \exists p \in \mathbb{P} (p > n) \quad |A|_n^f \equiv fn \in \mathbb{P} \wedge fn \geq n$$

$$\boxed{\forall n(A(n) \rightarrow A(n+1)) \vdash A(0) \rightarrow A(2)}$$

assumption used twice (contraction)

$$\frac{[A(0)]_{\alpha} \quad \frac{\forall n(A(n) \rightarrow A(n+1))}{A(0) \rightarrow A(1)}}{A(1)} \quad \frac{\forall n(A(n) \rightarrow A(n+1))}{A(1) \rightarrow A(2)}}{A(2)}$$

Is there an a single  $a$  such that:

$$\boxed{A(a) \rightarrow A(a+1) \vdash A(0) \rightarrow A(2)}$$

Is there an a single  $a$  such that:

$$\boxed{A(a) \rightarrow A(a+1) \vdash A(0) \rightarrow A(2)}$$

In fact there is, when the formulas are “decidable”

$$a := \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & \text{if } \neg(A(0) \rightarrow A(1)) \\ 1 & \text{otherwise} \end{array} \right\}$$

Works, but... a bit of a hack



# Diller-Nahm Variant

# Diller-Nahm Interpretation

$$\begin{aligned}
 |A \wedge B|_{y,w}^{x,v} &\equiv |A|_y^x \wedge |B|_w^v \\
 |A \vee B|_{y,w}^{x,v,b} &\equiv (b=0 \wedge |A|_y^x) \vee (b \neq 0 \wedge |B|_w^v) \\
 |A \rightarrow B|_{x,w}^{f,g} &\equiv \forall y \in g(x,w) |A|_y^x \rightarrow |B|_w^{f(x)} \\
 |\forall z A(z)|_{y,z}^f &\equiv |A(z)|_y^{f(z)} \\
 |\exists z A(z)|_y^{x,z} &\equiv |A(z)|_y^x
 \end{aligned}$$

precise witnesses for positive existential,  
approximating set for negative universals

Is there an a finite set  $S$  such that:

$$\boxed{\forall a \in S (A(a) \rightarrow A(a+1)) \vdash A(0) \rightarrow A(2)}$$

Yes!

$$\boxed{S := \{0,1\}}$$

Indeed:

$$\boxed{\forall a \in \{0,1\} (A(a) \rightarrow A(a+1)) \vdash A(0) \rightarrow A(2)}$$

# Interpreting Induction

$$\frac{\exists k A(0, k) \quad \forall n^{\mathbb{N}} (\exists k A(n, k) \rightarrow \exists k A(n+1, k))}{\forall n^{\mathbb{N}} \exists k A(n, k)}$$

By induction hypothesis we have:

$$A(0, k_0) \quad \text{and} \quad \forall n^{\mathbb{N}} (A(n, k) \rightarrow A(n+1, fnk))$$

So witness for conclusion is:

$$k := fn(f(n-1)(\dots(f 0 k_0))) = \text{Rec } n k_0 f$$

$$\text{Rec } 0 k_0 f = k_0$$

$$\text{Rec } (n+1) k_0 f = fn(\text{Rec } n k_0 f)$$

Gödel system T  
= lambda calculus + Rec

Choice, Compactness, etc...

## Comprehension

$$\exists f^{\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}} \forall n^{\mathbb{N}} (fn \leftrightarrow A(n))$$

---

Let  $T(n,n,u)$  be the statement that Turing machine with code  $n$  on input  $n$  will halt with computation  $u$

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So clearly, the following (true) statement cannot be witnessed by a computable function  $f$

$$\exists f^{\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}} \forall n^{\mathbb{N}} (fn \leftrightarrow \exists u T(n,n,u))$$

# Comprehension

$$\exists f^{\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}} \forall n^{\mathbb{N}} (fn \leftrightarrow A(n))$$

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## Approach I

1. Apply double negation translation

$$\neg\neg \exists f^{\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}} \forall n^{\mathbb{N}} (fn \leftrightarrow A^N(n))$$

2. Extend system T so as to be able to witness this  
E.g. system T + recursion on well-founded trees  
(bar recursion)



*“Life offers a cruel choice: you can be right or happy. Not both.”*

- Albert J. Bernstein

**Precise**

$$f(x) = \left\{ \begin{array}{ll} 0 & \text{if } \exists u. T(x, x, u) \\ 1 & \text{if } \forall u. \neg T(x, x, u) \end{array} \right\}$$

precise

but

non-computable

**Approximate**

$$f(x) = \{0, 1\}$$

approximate

but

computable

# Comprehension

$$\exists f^{\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}} \forall n^{\mathbb{N}} (fn \leftrightarrow A(n))$$

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## Approach II

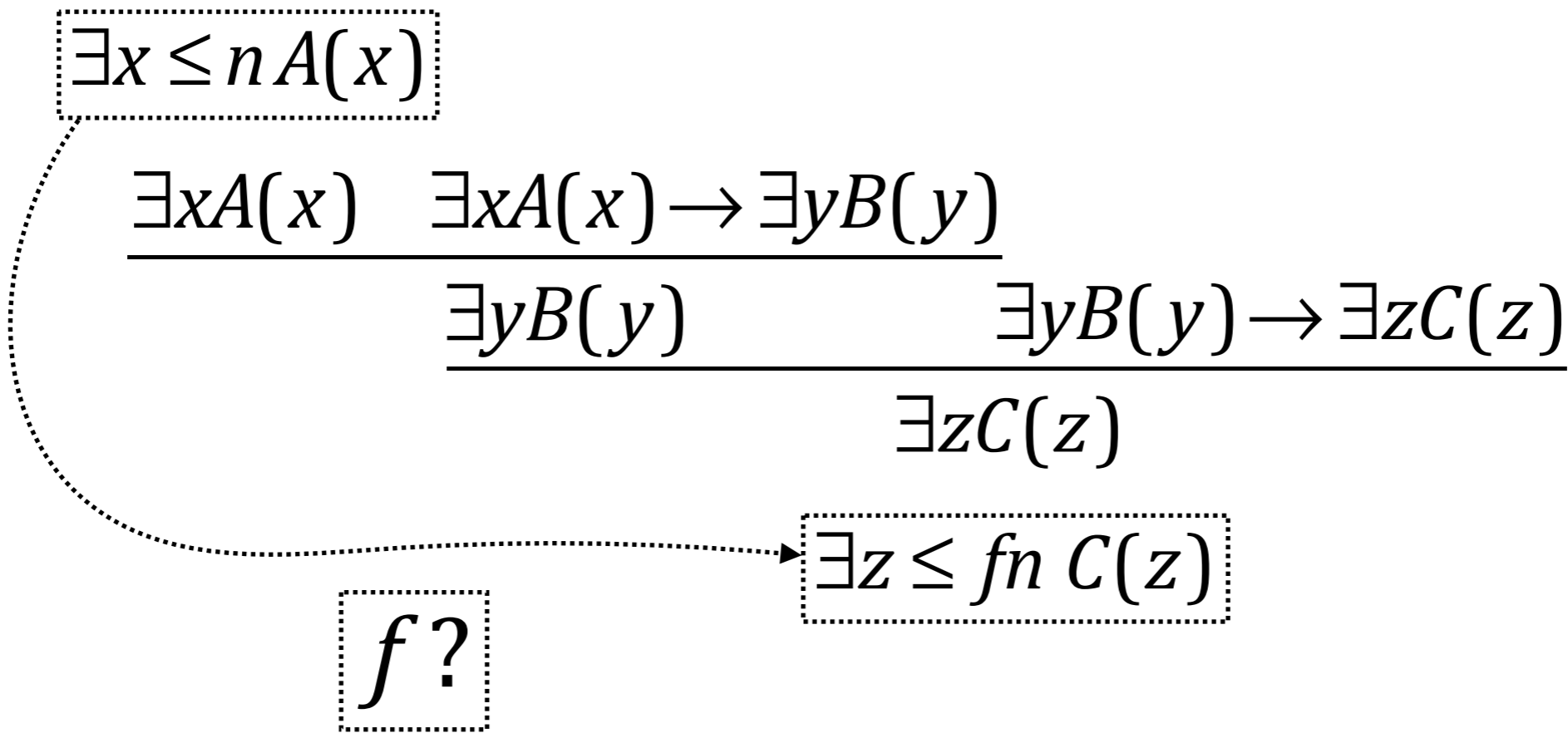
1. Notice that  $f$  can be easily "bounded"

$$\exists f^{\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}} \leq 1 \forall n^{\mathbb{N}} (fn \leftrightarrow A^N(n))$$

2. Work with "approximate" functional interpretations

E.g. Monotone, bounded, Herbrand, ... interpretations

Lemma 1. $\exists x A(x) \rightarrow \exists y B(y)$	$\longrightarrow$	$\exists x \leq n A(x) \rightarrow \exists y \leq gn B(y)$
Lemma 2. $\exists y B(y) \rightarrow \exists z C(z)$	$\longrightarrow$	$\exists y \leq n B(y) \rightarrow \exists z \leq hn C(z)$
Theorem. $\exists x A(x) \rightarrow \exists z C(z)$	$\longrightarrow$	$\exists x \leq n A(x) \rightarrow \exists z \leq h(gn) C(z)$



Lemma 1. $\exists x A(x) \rightarrow \exists y B(y)$	→	$\exists x \leq n A(x) \rightarrow \exists y \leq gn B(y)$
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$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{\exists x \leq n A(x) \quad \exists x \leq n A(x) \rightarrow \exists y \leq gn B(y)}{\exists y \leq gn B(y)} \qquad \frac{\exists y \leq n B(y) \rightarrow \exists z \leq hn C(z)}{\exists y \leq gn B(y) \rightarrow \exists z \leq h(gn) C(z)} \\
 \hline
 \exists z \leq h(gn) C(z)
 \end{array}$$

# Approximate Interpretation


$$\begin{aligned} |A \wedge B|_{y,w}^{x,v} &\equiv |A|_y^x \wedge |B|_w^v \\ |A \vee B|_{y,w}^{x,v} &\equiv |A|_y^x \vee |B|_w^v \\ |A \rightarrow B|_{x,w}^{f,g} &\equiv \forall y \in g(x,w) |A|_y^x \rightarrow |B|_w^{f(x)} \\ |\forall z^{\mathbb{N}} A(z)|_{y,a}^f &\equiv \forall z \leq a |A(z)|_y^{f(a)} \\ |\exists z^{\mathbb{N}} A(z)|_y^{x,a} &\equiv \exists z \leq a |A(z)|_y^x \end{aligned}$$

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