

## Refutation of superposition as glue in Matita theorem prover

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**Abstract:** We evaluate the substitution lemma for the successor function, smart application of inductive hypotheses, and proof traces of a complex example in the Matita standard library. Results are *not* tautologous, hence refuting superposition.

We assume the method and apparatus of Meth8/VL4 with Tautology as the designated *proof* value, **F** as contradiction, **N** as truthity (non-contingency), and **C** as falsity (contingency). Results are a 16-valued truth table in row-major and horizontal, or repeating fragments of 128-tables for more variables. (See ersatz-systems.com.)

From: Asperti, A.; Tassi, E. (2009). Superposition as a logical glue. [arxiv.org/pdf/1103.3319.pdf](http://arxiv.org/pdf/1103.3319.pdf)  
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LET  $p, q, r, s, t, u, v, w: A, B, C, S, i, j, k, M;$   
 $\sim$  Not;  $+$  Or;  $-$  Not Or;  $\&$  And;  $\setminus$  Not And,  $/;$  = Equivalent;  
 $>$  Imply, greater than;  $<$  Not Imply, lesser than.

The substitution lemma says that (where S is the successor function)

$$\text{for all } k; i \ A[B=i][C=i+k] = A[C=S(k+i)][B[C=k]=i] \quad (4.2.1)$$

$$(p \& ((q \# t) \& (r \# (t \# v)))) = (p \& ((r \# (s \& (\# v \# t))) \& (q \& ((r \# v) \# t)))) ; \quad (4.2.2)$$

TFTT TTTT TFTT TTTT, TNTC TTTC TNTT TTTC,  
 TNTC TCTT TNTT TCTT, TNTT TTTC TNTT TTTT

**Remark 4.2.2:** Eq. 4.2.2 is not tautologous, hence refuting the substitution lemma for the successor function.

[T]he inductive hypothesis

$$\text{Hind} : \forall j. M[B/i][C/k+j] = M[C/S(k+j)][B[C/k]/j] \quad (4.3.1)$$

$$(w \& ((q \setminus t) \& (r \setminus (\# v \# u)))) = (s \& ((r \setminus (s \& (\# v \# u))) \& (q \& ((r \setminus v) \setminus \# u)))) ; \quad (4.3.2)$$

TTTT TTTT TTFE TTFE, TTTT TTTT TTNN TTNN,  
 TTTT TTTT TTFE TTNN, TTTT TTTT TTNN TTNN,  
**FFFF FFFF FFFT FFFT, FFNN FFNN FFCC FFCC,**  
**FFNN NNNN FFFT NNTT, FFFF NNNN FFFT NNTT,**  
**FFNN NNNN FFCC NNTT, FFFF NNNN FFCC NNTT**

It is evident that it is enough to instantiate  $j$  with  $i+1$  but in order to unify  $(k+i)+1$  with  $k+j$  we have to use the associativity law for the sum! Hence the smart application of Hind succeeds where the normal application would fail.

**Remark 4.3.2:** Eq. 4.3.2 is *not* tautologous, hence refuting the smart application of inductive hypotheses.

LET p, q, r: j, k, n;  
 # necessity, for all or every; % possibility, for one or some.  
 (%s>#s) ordinal 1;  $\sim(y < x) (x \leq y)$ .

Proof traces: Since most of the time is spent in searching the right theorems composing the proof, a natural idea is to let the automation tactic return a trace of the proof consisting of all library results used to build the proof. ... Using these simple proof traces automation becomes extremely fast, and almost comparable to a fully expanded proof script.

This is a relatively complex example borrowed from the Matita standard library.

The goal to prove is  $k \leq n-1$  under the assumption  $H : j + k < n$ . (5.1.1)

$$((p+q) < r) > \sim((r - (%s > #s)) < q) ; \quad \text{TNTT TTTT TNTT TTTT} \quad (5.1.2)$$

**Remark 5.1.2:** Eq. 5.1.2 is *not* tautologous, hence refuting the goal and use of proof traces. The proof table diverges from tautology by two values for truthity.