

# Narrative Structure of Mathematical Texts

Krzysztof Retel

Joint work with

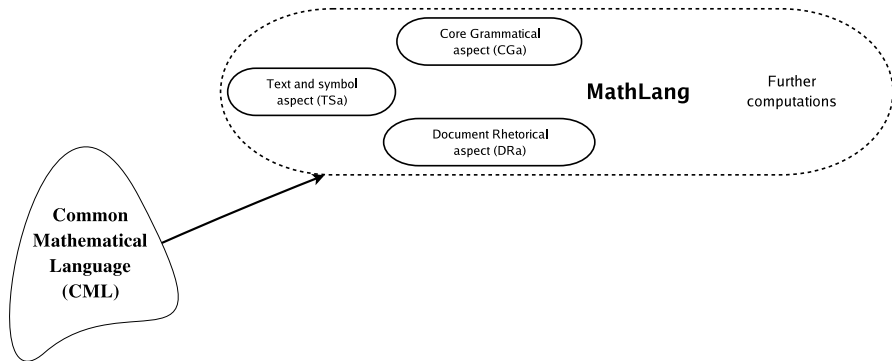
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# Motivations

- 1 *To handle the structure of a mathematical document as it appears on paper and at the same time allowing further computerisation and analysis.*
- 2 *To allow the presentation of a text with different layouts.*
- 3 *To allow further formalisation.*

## Different styles of writing mathematics

- Different font styles used to emphasize important parts of text.
- Naming sections with common mathematical labels, e.g. definition, theorem etc.
- Clear annotation of sections, definitions, theorems etc.
- Relations between mathematical labels and/or structural sections.

## Examples

- Waclaw Sierpiński  
*Elementary theory of numbers*  
Chapter V. Congruences  
§1. Congruences and their simplest properties
- The proof of Pythagoras theorem  
H. Barendregt's textual version of the original proof written by  
G. H. Hardy and E. M. Wright.  
It is said to be "*informal*" in contrast to the formal versions of  
theorem provers (see the book *The Seventeen Provers of the  
World* by F. Wiedijk).

We prove that *two congruences can be added or subtracted from each other provided both have the same modulus*.

Let

$$a \equiv b \pmod{m} \text{ and } c \equiv d \pmod{m}. \quad (2)$$

In order to prove that  $a + c \equiv b + d \pmod{m}$  and  $a - c \equiv b - d \pmod{m}$  it is sufficient to apply the identities

$$a + c - (b + d) = (a - b) + (c - d) \quad \text{and} \quad (a - c) - (b - d) = (a - b) - (c - d).$$

Similarly, using the identity

$$ac - bd = (a - b)c + (c - d)b,$$

we prove that congruences (2) imply the congruence

$$ac \equiv bd \pmod{m}.$$

Consequently, we see that *two congruences having the same modulus can be multiplied by each other*. [...]

W.Sierpiński

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**Lemma 1.** For  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  one has:  $m^2 = 2n^2 \implies m = n = 0$ .

**Proof.** Define on  $\mathbb{N}$  the predicate:

$$P(m) \iff \exists n. m^2 = 2n^2 \ \& \ m > 0.$$

*Claim.*  $P(m) \implies \exists m' < m. P(m')$ . Indeed suppose  $m^2 = 2n^2$  and  $m > 0$ . It follows that  $m^2$  is even, but then  $m$  must be even, as odds square to odds. So  $m = 2k$  and we have

$$2n^2 = m^2 = 4k^2 \implies n^2 = 2k^2$$

Since  $m > 0$ , it follows that  $m^2 > 0$ ,  $n^2 > 0$  and  $n > 0$ . Therefore  $P(n)$ . Moreover,  $m^2 = n^2 + n^2 > n^2$ , so  $m^2 > n^2$  and hence  $m > n$ . So we can take  $m' = n$ .

**By the claim**  $\forall m \in \mathbb{N}. \neg P(m)$ , since there are no infinite descending sequences of natural numbers.

Now suppose  $m^2 = 2n^2$  with  $m \neq 0$ . Then  $m > 0$  and hence  $P(m)$ . Contradiction. Therefore  $m = 0$ . But then also  $n = 0$ . □

**Corollary 1.**  $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ .

**Proof.** Suppose  $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ , i.e.  $\sqrt{2} = p/q$  with  $p \in \mathbb{Z}, q \in \mathbb{Z} - \{0\}$ . Then  $\sqrt{2} = m/n$  with  $m = |p|, n = |q| \neq 0$ . It follows that  $m^2 = 2n^2$ . But then  $n = 0$  **by the lemma**. Contradiction shows that  $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ . □

H. Barendregt

# Document's components

- 1 Structural components** like *chapter, section, subsection, etc.*
- 2 Mathematical components** like *theorem, corollary, definition, proof, etc.*
- 3 Relations** between above components.

Why is it important?

- Enhance readability of a document.
- Makes the navigation of a document more enjoyable.
- Plays the narration role throughout the theory presented in a document.

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## Both components in DRa system

What is the difference between structural and mathematical components?

- Visible difference in the font styles, headings, indentation etc.
- Make boundaries of chunks of text explicit.
- There are other differences, e.g., *“chapter” might play the role of external library for the following “section”; “definition” introduce new concept within a theory.*
- All are instances of the same class – `STRUCTUREDUNIT`
- We differentiate these components by the role they play in mathematical texts:
  - 1 `STRUCTURALRHETORICALROLE` like *chapter* or *section*
  - 2 `MATHEMATICALRHETORICALROLE` like *lemma* or *proof*

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# Relations

- RELATESTO
- USES
- JUSTIFIES
- SUBPARTOF
- INCONSISTENTWITH
- EXEMPLIFIES

Description
<i>Instances of the</i> STRUCTURALRHETORICALROLE <i>class:</i> preamble, part, chapter, section, paragraph, etc.
<i>Instances of the</i> MATHEMATICALRHETORICALROLE <i>class:</i> lemma, corollary, theorem, conjecture, definition, axiom, claim, proposition, assertion, proof, exercise, example, problem, solution, etc.
Relation
<i>Types of relations:</i> RELATESTO, USES, JUSTIFIES, SUBPARTOF, INCONSISTENTWITH, EXEMPLIFIES

# Relations

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**Lemma 1.**

For  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  one has:  $m^2 = 2n^2 \implies m = n = 0$

**Proof.**

Define on  $\mathbb{N}$  the predicate:

$$P(m) \iff \exists n. m^2 = 2n^2 \ \& \ m > 0.$$

*Claim.*  $P(m) \implies \exists m' < m. P(m')$ .

Indeed suppose  $m^2 = 2n^2$  and  $m > 0$ . It follows that  $m^2$  is even, but then  $m$  must be even, as odds square to odds. So  $m = 2k$  and we have  $2n^2 = m^2 = 4k^2 \implies n^2 = 2k^2$ . Since  $m > 0$ , it follows that  $m^2 > 0$ ,  $n^2 > 0$  and  $n > 0$ . Therefore  $P(n)$ . Moreover,  $m^2 = n^2 + n^2 > n^2$ , so  $m^2 > n^2$  and hence  $m > n$ . So we can take  $m' = n$ .

By the claim  $\forall m \in \mathbb{N}. \neg P(m)$ , since there are no infinite descending sequences of natural numbers.

Now suppose  $m^2 = 2n^2$

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Therefore  $m = 0$ . But then also  $n = 0$ . □

**Corollary 1.**  $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$

**Proof.** Suppose  $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ , i.e.  $\sqrt{2} = p/q$  with  $p \in \mathbb{Z}, q \in \mathbb{Z} - \{0\}$ . Then  $\sqrt{2} = m/n$  with  $m = |p|, n = |q| \neq 0$ . It follows that  $m^2 = 2n^2$ . But then  $n = 0$  by the lemma. Contradiction shows that  $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ . □

Original view of Pythagoras proof  
written by H. Barendregt.

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## What does the mathematician have to do?

- He wraps chunks of text with boxes and uniquely names each box.
- He assigns to each box the structural and/or mathematical rhetorical roles this box plays.
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*Lemma 1.*

For  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  one has:  $m^2 = 2n^2 \Rightarrow n = 0$  **A**

**Proof.**

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By the claim  $\forall m \in \mathbb{N}. \neg P(m)$ , since there are no infinite descending sequences of natural numbers.

Now suppose  $m^2 = 2n^2$  with  $m \neq 0$ . Then  $m > 0$  and hence **H**  $P(n)$ . Contradiction.

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*Corollary 1.*  $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$  **C**

**Proof.** Suppose  $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ , i.e.  $\sqrt{2} = p/q$  with  $p \in \mathbb{Z}, q \in \mathbb{Z} - \{0\}$ . Then  $\sqrt{2} = m/n$  with  $m = |p|, n = |q| \neq 0$ . **D** It follows that  $m^2 = 2n^2$ . But then  $n = 0$  by the lemma. Contradiction shows that  $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ . **I**

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For  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  one has:  $m^2 = 2n^2 \iff \boxed{A} n = 0$

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Define on  $\mathbb{N}$  the predicate:

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Claim.  $P(m) \implies \exists \boxed{F} < m. P(m')$ .

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(A, HASMATHEMATICALRHETORICALROLE, lemma)

(E, HASMATHEMATICALRHETORICALROLE, definition)

(F, HASMATHEMATICALRHETORICALROLE, claim)

(G, HASMATHEMATICALRHETORICALROLE, proof)

(B, HASMATHEMATICALRHETORICALROLE, proof)

(H, HASOTHERMATHEMATICALRHETORICALROLE, case)

(I, HASOTHERMATHEMATICALRHETORICALROLE, case)

(C, HASMATHEMATICALRHETORICALROLE, corollary)

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For  $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$  one has:  $m^2 = 2n^2$  A  $\Rightarrow n = 0$

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Define on  $\mathbb{N}$  the predicate:

$P(n)$  E  $\text{uses}$   $\exists n. m^2 = 2n^2 \ \& \ m > 0$  justifies

**Claim.**  $P(m) \Rightarrow$  F  $\langle m.P(m') \rangle$  uses

Indeed suppose  $m^2 = 2n^2$  and  $m > 0$ . It follows that  $m^2$  is even, but then  $m$  must be even, G  $\text{justifies}$   $\langle \text{odds} \rangle$ . So  $m = 2k$  and we have  $2n^2 = m^2 = 4k^2 \Rightarrow n^2 = 2k^2$ . Since  $m > 0$ , if B  $\text{uses}$   $\langle m^2 > 0, n^2 > 0 \rangle$  and  $n > 0$ , H  $\text{uses}$   $\langle m^2 = n^2 + n^2 > n^2 \rangle$ , so  $m^2 > n^2$  and hence  $m > n$ . So we can take  $m' = n$ .

By the claim  $\forall m \in \mathbb{N}. \neg P(m)$ , since there are I  $\text{subpartOf}$  descending sequences of natural numbers.

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$P(n)$  **uses**  $\exists n. m^2 = 2n^2 \ \& \ m > 0$ . **E** **justifies**

Claim.  $P(m) \Rightarrow \exists m'. m < m'. P(m')$ . **F** **uses**

Indeed suppose  $m^2 = 2n^2$  and  $m > 0$ . It follows that  $m^2$  is even, but then  $m$  must be even, **G** **justifies**  $m = 2k$  and we have  $2n^2 = m^2 = 4k^2 \Rightarrow n^2 = 2k^2$ . Since  $m > 0$ , it follows that  $m^2 > 0$ ,  $n^2 > 0$  and  $n > 0$ . Therefore  $P(n)$ . Moreover,  $m^2 = n^2 + n^2 > n^2$ , so  $m^2 > n^2$  and hence  $m > n$ . So we can take  $m' = n$ . **B** **uses**

By the claim  $\forall m \in \mathbb{N}. \neg P(m)$ , since there are **subpartOf** descending sequences of natural numbers. **H** **subpartOf**

Now suppose  $m^2 = 2n^2$  with  $m \neq 0$ . Then  $m > 0$  and hence **H**  $P(n)$ . Contradiction.

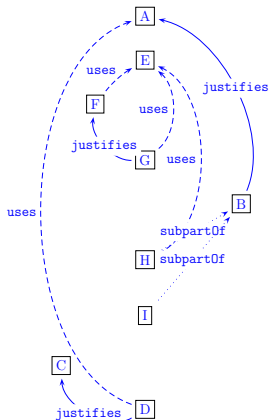
Therefore  $m = 0$ . But then also  $n = 0$ . **I**

Corollary 1.  $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$  **C**

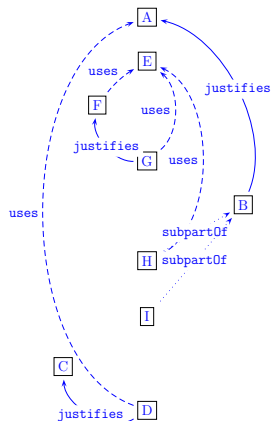
Proof. Suppose  $\sqrt{2} \in \mathbb{Q}$ , i.e.  $\sqrt{2} = m/n$  with  $p \in \mathbb{Z}, q \in \mathbb{Z} - \{0\}$ . Then  $\sqrt{2} = m/n$  with  $m \neq 0$ . **D** **justifies** It follows that  $m^2 = 2n^2$ . But then  $n = 0$  by the lemma. Contradiction shows that  $\sqrt{2} \notin \mathbb{Q}$ .  $\square$

- (B, JUSTIFIES, A)
- (D, JUSTIFIES, C)
- (D, USES, A)
- (G, USES, E)
- (F, USES, E)
- (H, USES, E)
- (H, SUBPARTOF, B)
- (H, SUBPARTOF, I)

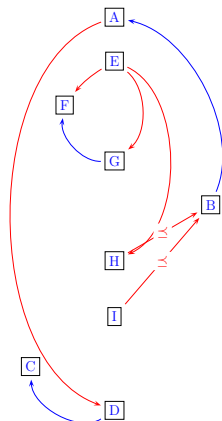
## Dependency Graph (DG)



## Dependency Graph (DG)



## Graph of Logical Precedences (GoLP)



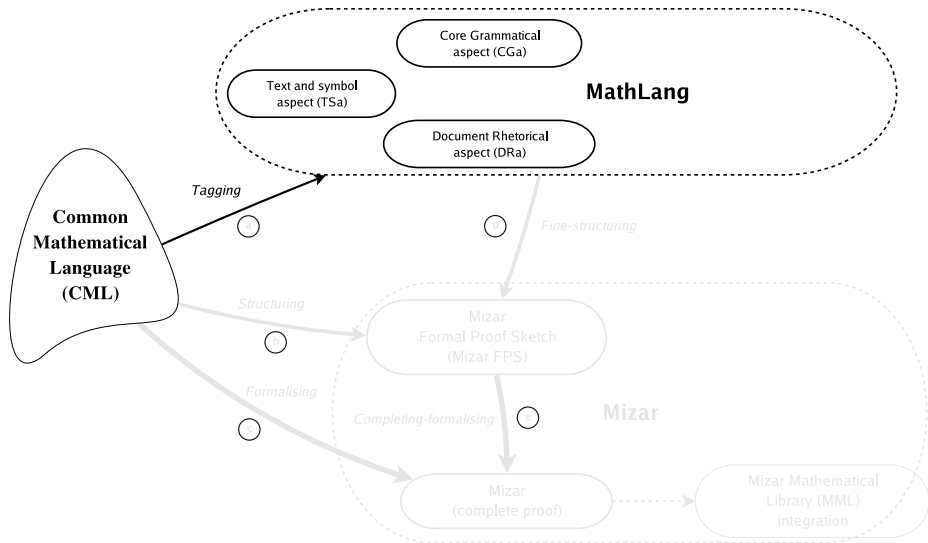
# What can we check?

## Checking *DG*

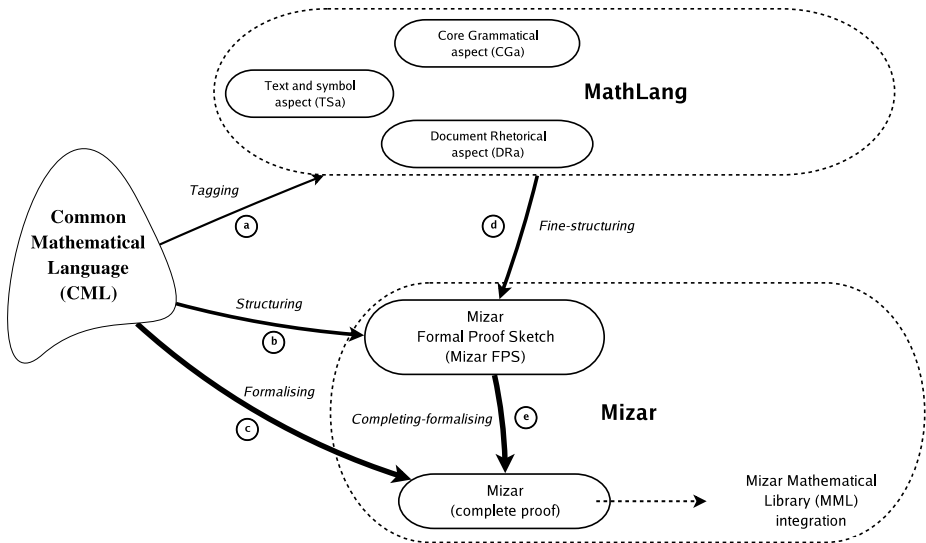
- Checking good-usage of labels and relations (e.g., that a “proof” justifies a “theorem” but cannot justify an “axiom”).

## Checking *GoLP*

- Checking that the *GoLP* is consistent.







## MathLang document structure

Document preamble

(*A*, HASSTRUCTURALRHETORICALROLE, *preamble*)

Document body

(*B*, HASSTRUCTURALRHETORICALROLE, *body*)

`environ`

*Environment*

`begin`

*Text-Propser*

## MathLang document structure

Document preamble

(*A*, HASSTRUCTURALRHETORICALROLE, *preamble*)

Document body

(*B*, HASSTRUCTURALRHETORICALROLE, *body*)

environ

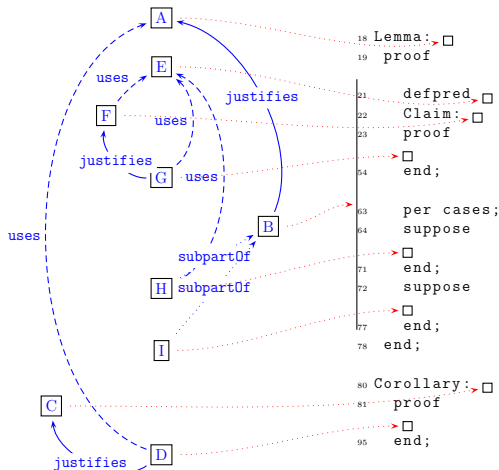
*Environment*

begin

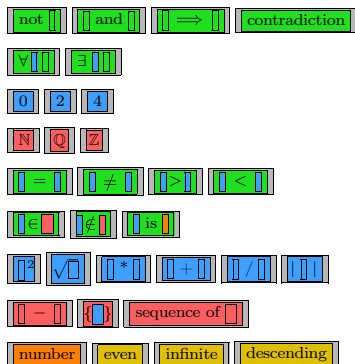
*Text-Propser*

<p><u>Hint 1</u></p> <p>theorem <math>E_1</math> proof <math>D_1</math> end;</p>	<p><u>Hint 2</u></p> <p>label: <math>E_2</math> proof per cases; suppose case_1: <math>D'_1</math> end; ... suppose case_n: <math>D'_n</math> end; end; Where <math>D_2</math> is transformed into box between proof and end;</p>
<p><u>Hint 3</u></p> <p><math>E_1</math> uses/justifies <math>E_1</math> by label; label: <math>E_2</math></p>	<p><u>Hint 4</u></p> <p>label: <math>E_3</math> proof ... ... by label ; end; Where <math>D_5</math> is transformed into box between proof and end;</p>

## The DRa annotation into Mizar document skeleton



## MathLang preamble as subset of Mizar environment



```

7  vocabularies INT_1, SQUARE_1, MATRIX_2, IRRAT_1,
8     RAT_1, ARYTM_3, ABSVALUE, SEQM_3, FINSET_1;
9  notations INT_1, NAT_1, SQUARE_1, XXREAL_0,
10     ABIAN, RAT_1, IRRAT_1, XCMPLX_0, INT_2, SEQM_3,
11     FINSET_1, REAL_1, PEPIN;
12 constructors INT_1, NAT_1, SQUARE_1, XXREAL_0,
13     ABIAN, RAT_1, IRRAT_1, XCMPLX_0, INT_2, SEQM_3,
14     FINSET_1, PEPIN;
15 requirements SUBSET, NUMERALS, ARITHM, BOOLE, REAL;
16 registrations XREAL_0, REAL_1, NAT_1, INT_1;

```

```

20 Lemma: for m,n being Nat holds
21     m^2 = 2*n^2 implies m = 0 & n = 0
22 proof
23   let m,n being Nat;
24   defpred P[Nat] means
25     ex n being Nat st $1^2 = 2*n^2 & $1 > 0;
26   Claim: for m being Nat holds
27     P[m] implies ex m' being Nat st m' < m & P[m']
28   proof
29     let m being Nat;
30     assume P[m];
31     then consider n being Nat such that
32       m^2 = 2*n^2 & m > 0;
33     m^2 is even ;
34 ::> *4
35     m is even;
36 ::> *4
37     consider k being Nat such that m = 2*k;
38 ::> *4
39     2*n^2 = m^2
40 ::> *4
41     . = 4*k^2;
42 ::> *4
43     then n^2 = 2*k^2;
44     m > 0 implies m^2 > 0 & n^2 > 0 & n > 0;
45 ::> *4,4,4
46     then P[n];
47 ::> *4,4
48     m^2 = n^2 + n^2;
49 ::> *4
50     n^2 + n^2 > n^2;
51 ::> *4
52     then m^2 > n^2;
53 ::> *4
54     then m > n;
55 ::> *4
56     take m' = n;
57     thus thesis;
58 ::> *4,4
59   end;
67   A2: for k being Nat holds not P[k]
68   proof
69     not ex q being Seq_of_Nat
70       st q is infinite decreasing by Claim;
71 ::> *4
72     hence thesis;
73 ::> *4
74   end;
75   assume A0: m^2 = 2*n^2;
76   per cases by A0;
77   suppose B1: m <> 0;
78     then m > 0;
79 ::> *4
80     then P[m] by B1;
81 ::> *4
82     then contradiction by A2;
83     hence thesis;
84   end;
85   suppose S1: m = 0;
86     then n = 0;
87 ::> *4
88     thus thesis by S1;
89 ::> *4
90   end;
91 end;
92
93 Corollary: sqrt 2 is irrational
94 proof
95   assume sqrt 2 is rational;
96   then ex p,q being Integer st
97     q <> 0 & sqrt 2 = p/q;
98 ::> *4
99   then consider m,n being Integer such that
100     A0: sqrt 2 = m/n & m = abs m & n = abs n & n <> 0;
101 ::> *4
102     m^2 = 2*n^2;
103 ::> *4
104     n = 0 by Lemma;
105 ::> *4
106     hence contradiction;
107 ::> *4
108   end;
109
110 ::> 4: This inference is not accepted

```

## Future work

- Further development of DRa aspect:
  - Refine the DRa: to allow adding relation by the user.
  - Finish the implementation of DRa “analyser”.
- Integration into Mizar:
  - Build assistant supporting transformation into Mizar.
  - Research on using the Mizar library search engines.



Thank you for your attention.