

# Could AI Ever Match Gödel's Greatness?

(includes coverage of Gödel's "Either/Or" (*not* Kierkegaard's!))

Selmer Bringsjord

IFLAI 2020

4/23/20; 4/30/20

[Selmer.Bringjord@gmail.com](mailto:Selmer.Bringjord@gmail.com)



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Monographic Context ...

# *Gödel's Great Theorems* (OUP)

by Selmer Bringsjord

- Introduction (“The Wager”)
- Brief Preliminaries (e.g. the propositional calculus & FOL)
- The Completeness Theorem
- The First Incompleteness Theorem
- The Second Incompleteness Theorem
- The Speedup Theorem
- The Continuum-Hypothesis Theorem
- The Time-Travel Theorem
- Gödel’s “God Theorem”
- Could a Finite Machine Match Gödel’s Greatness?



STOP & REVIEW IF NEEDED!

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For later ... by far the greatest of GGT; analysis based Sherlock Holmes’ mystery “Silver Blaze.”

# Some Timeline Points

1978 Princeton NJ USA.



1940 Back to USA, for good.

1936 Schlick murdered; Austria annexed

1933 Hitler comes to power.

1930 Announces (First) *Incompleteness Theorem*

1929 Doctoral Dissertation: Proof of Completeness Theorem

Undergrad in seminar by Schlick

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# Gödel's Greatness & Games ...

# Logico-Mathematical Landscape that Has Gödel Turning in His Grave

*Super-Serious Human Cognitive Power*

*Serious Human Cognitive Power*

*Mere Calculative Cognitive Power*

***Entscheidungsproblem***

# Logico-Mathematical Landscape that Has Gödel Turning in His Grave

*Super-Serious Human Cognitive Power*

*Serious Human Cognitive Power*



Gödel

***Entscheidungsproblem***

*Mere Calculative Cognitive Power*

# Logico-Mathematical Landscape that Has Gödel Turning in His Grave

*Super-Serious Human Cognitive Power*

*Serious Human Cognitive Power*



Gödel



Turing

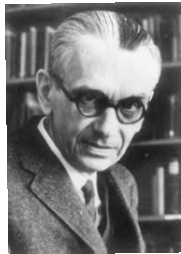
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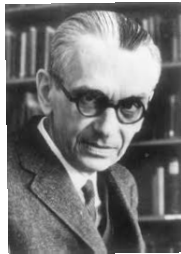
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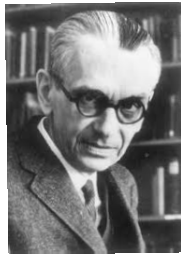
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Podcast: The Turing Test is Dead.  
Long Live the Lovelace Test.



Gödel



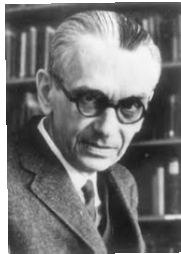
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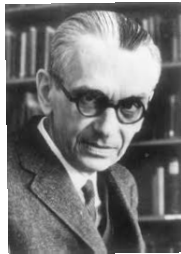
***Entscheidungsproblem***

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# Logico-Mathematical Landscape that Has Gödel Turning in His Grave

## Analytical Hierarchy

*Serious* Human Cognitive Power



Gödel



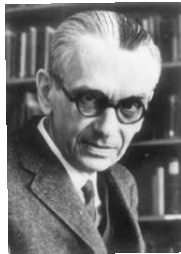
Mere Calculative Cognitive Power

***Entscheidungsproblem***

# Logico-Mathematical Landscape that Has Gödel Turning in His Grave

## Analytical Hierarchy

### Arithmetical Hierarchy



Gödel



**Entscheidungsproblem**

Mere Calculative Cognitive Power

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## Analytical Hierarchy

### Arithmetical Hierarchy



Gödel



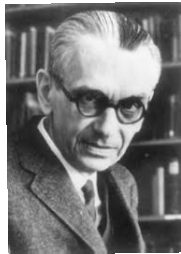
**Entscheidungsproblem**

### Polynomial Hierarchy

# Logico-Mathematical Landscape that Has Gödel Turning in His Grave

## Analytical Hierarchy

### Arithmetical Hierarchy



Gödel



**Entscheidungsproblem**

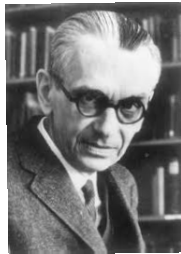
### Polynomial Hierarchy

$$\mathbf{P} \subseteq \mathbf{NP} \subseteq \mathbf{PSPACE} = \mathbf{NPSPACE} \subseteq \mathbf{EXPTIME} \subseteq \mathbf{NEXPTIME} \subseteq \mathbf{EXPSPACE}$$

# Logico-Mathematical Landscape that Has Gödel Turning in His Grave

## Analytical Hierarchy

### Arithmetical Hierarchy



Gödel



$\vdots$   
 $\Pi_2$   
 $\Sigma_2$   
 $\Pi_1$   
 $\Sigma_1$   
 $\Sigma_0$

**Entscheidungsproblem**

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# Logico-Mathematical Landscape that Has Gödel Turning in His Grave

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Gödel



Go:AlphaGo



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Gödel



*Jeopardy!:*



Go:AlphaGo



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**Entscheidungsproblem**

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Gödel



*Jeopardy!:*

Chess: Deep Blue

Go: AlphaGo

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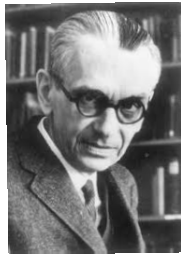
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# Logico-Mathematical Landscape that Has Gödel Turning in His Grave

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Gödel



*Jeopardy!:*

Checkers: Chinook



Chess: Deep Blue



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**Entscheidungsproblem**

### Polynomial Hierarchy

Jeopardy!:



Go: AlphaGo



Chess: Deep Blue



Checkers: Chinook



$P \subseteq NP \subseteq PSPACE = NPSPACE \subseteq EXPTIME \subseteq NEXPTIME \subseteq EXPSPACE$



1994

### Checkers: Tinsley vs. Chinook



Name: Marion Tinsley  
Profession: Teach mathematics  
Hobby: Checkers  
Record: Over 42 years  
loss only 2 games  
of checkers  
World champion for over 40  
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Mr. Tinsley suffered his 4th and 5th losses against Chinook

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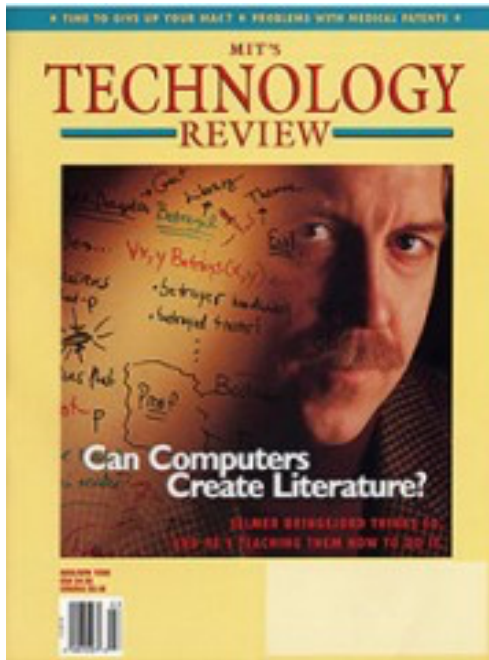
2011





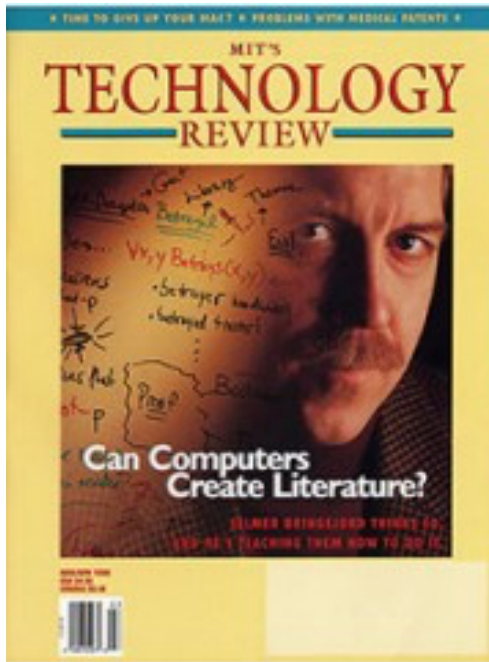
# 1998

# “Chess is Too Easy”



1998

# “Chess is Too Easy”





# 1998

Some of Gödel's great work is at the level of chess.

But to *fully* “gamify” Gödel,  
we need a harder game! ...

# Rengo Kriegspiel



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+TEACH OTHERS  
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## American Go E-Journal

### US Go Congress Goes a Little Crazy

Wednesday August 13, 2014



"White plays capturing black, putting herself and black into atari," calls Crazy Go TD Terry Benson. He officiated several games of Rengo Kriegspiel on Tuesday evening – a pair go game in which all four players face away from the main board and play their stones on their own empty board in front of them; the only clues about where their opponents — and even their partner — have played comes when they make an illegal move, or play where their own team or their opponents already have stones. Rengo Kriegspiel is only one of dozens of variants on the game of go that were played by an enthusiastic crowd of around 100 players. Familiar games include Magnetic Go, 4 Color Go, Tessellation Go, 3D Go, Spiral Go, and Blind Go. "After all these years, it's still crazy," said TD and Crazy Go founder Terry Benson. New Crazy Go games, never before played at a Go Congress, were even invented on the spot. Four players donned sleeping masks to block their vision and transformed Blind Go into Rengo Blind Go, and a few other players added the fundamentals of Tiddlywinks to their go game. Spectators and players alike are enthusiastic about the creativity of the games and the fun of adding a little Crazy to Go; "Crazy Go is my favorite part of the Congress!" said Bob Crites.  
- report/photos by Karoline Li



CATEGORIES:

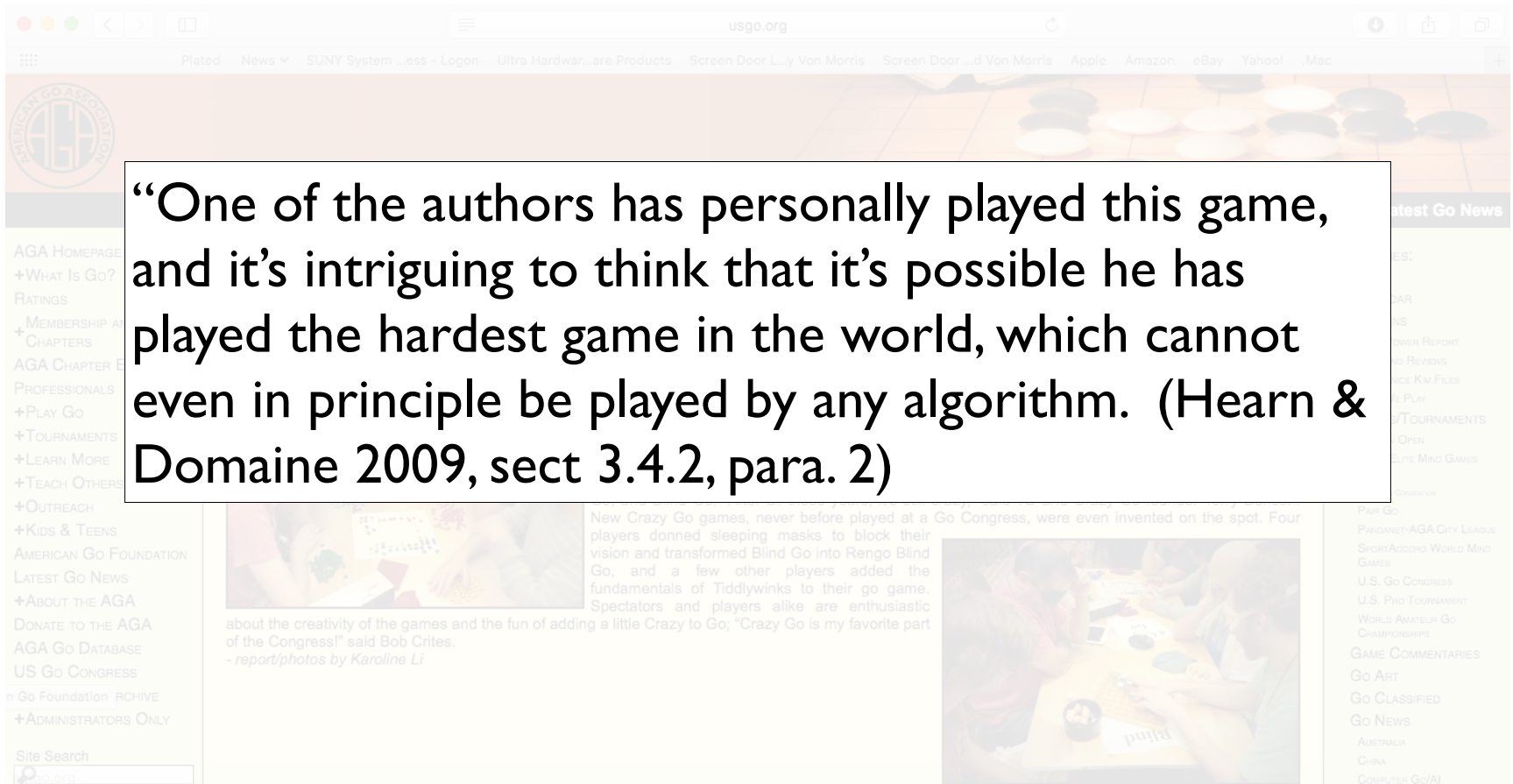
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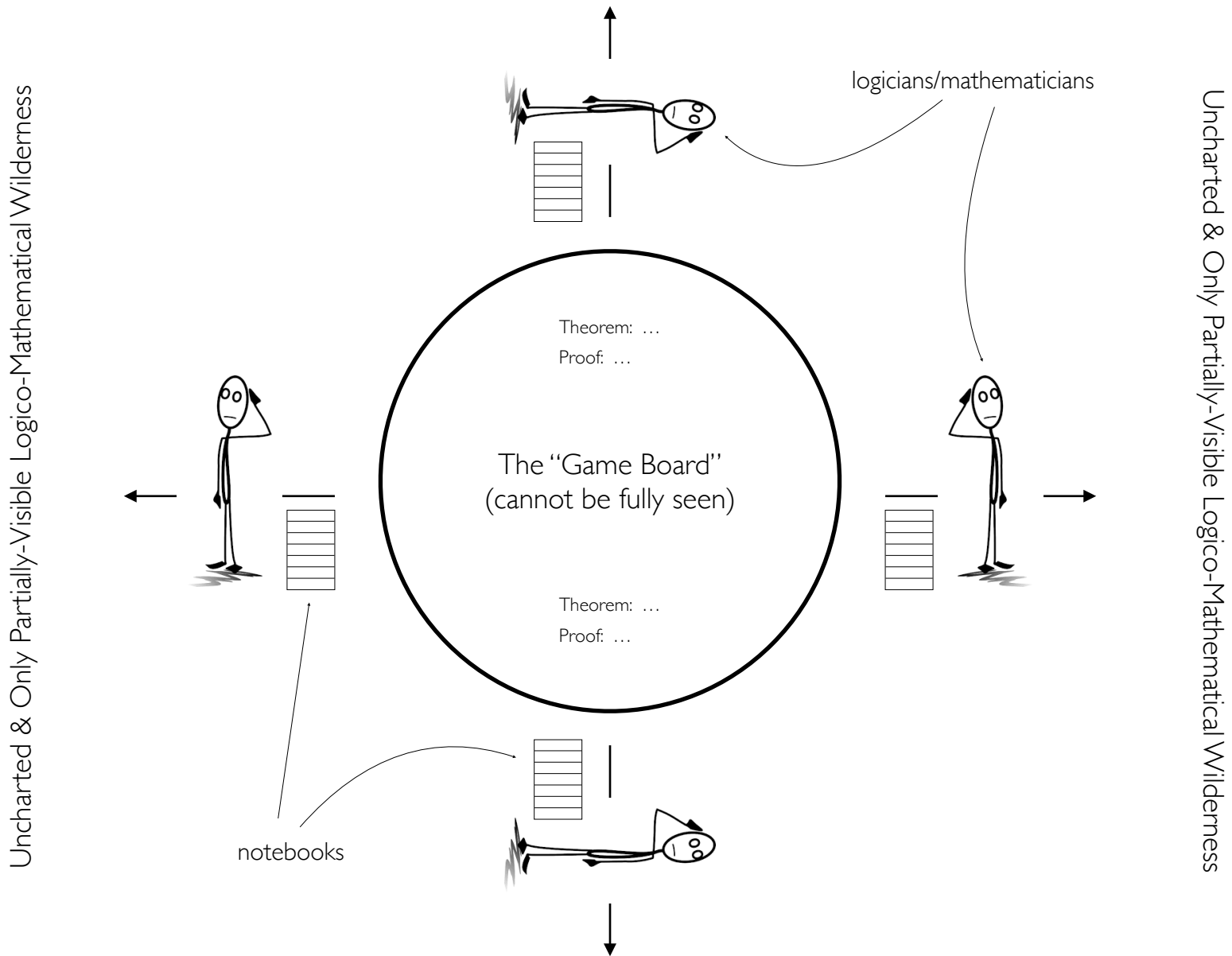
# Rengo Kriegspiel

“One of the authors has personally played this game, and it’s intriguing to think that it’s possible he has played the hardest game in the world, which cannot even in principle be played by any algorithm. (Hearn & Domaine 2009, sect 3.4.2, para. 2)



# The Gödel Game

Uncharted & Only Partially-Visible Logico-Mathematical Wilderness



Uncharted & Only Partially-Visible Logico-Mathematical Wilderness

Gödel's Either/Or ...

# The Question

**Q\*** Is the human mind more powerful than the class of standard computing machines?

# Gödel's Either/Or

“[E]ither ... the human mind (even within the realm of pure mathematics) infinitely surpasses the power of any finite machine, or else there exist absolutely unsolvable diophantine problems.”  
— Gödel, 1951

# PT as a Diophantine Equation

Equations of this sort were introduced to you in middle-school, when you were asked to find the hypotenuse of a right triangle when you knew its sides; the familiar equation, the famous Pythagorean Theorem that most adults will remember at least echoes of into their old age, is:

$$(PT) \quad a^2 + b^2 = c^2,$$

and this is of course equivalent to

$$(PT') \quad a^2 + b^2 - c^2 = 0,$$

which is a Diophantine equation. Such equations have at least two unknowns (here, we of course have three:  $a, b, c$ , and the equation is solved when positive integers for the unknowns are found that render the equation true. Three positive integers that render (PT') true are

$$a = 4, b = 3, c = 5.$$

It is mathematically impossible that there is a finite computing machine capable of solving any Diophantine equation given to it as a challenge.

# Background

problem?<sup>7</sup> In his lecture, Gödel precisely defines diophantine problems, but we don't need to bother with all of the details here; we only need to appreciate the general structure of such a problem, and that can be achieved quickly as follows, given what was introduced in Chapter 2.

Each diophantine problem has at its core a polynomial  $\mathcal{P}$  whose variables are comprised by two lists,  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$  and  $y_1, y_2, \dots, y_m$ ; all variables must be integers, and the same for subscripts  $n$  and  $m$ . To represent a polynomial in a manner that announces its variables, we can write

$$\mathcal{P}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_j).$$

But Gödel was specifically interested in whether, for all integers that can be set to the variables  $x_i$ , there are integers that can be set to the  $y_j$ , such that the polynomial equals 0. To make this clearer, first, here are two particular, simple equations that employ polynomials that are both instances of the needed form:

$$\text{E1} \quad 3x - 2y = 0$$

$$\text{E2} \quad 2x^2 - y = 0$$

All we need to do now is prefix these equations with quantifiers in the pattern Gödel gave. This pattern is quite simple: universally quantify over each  $x_i$  variable (using the now-familiar  $\forall$ ), after which we existentially quantify over each  $y_i$  variable (using the also-now-familiar  $\exists$ ). Thus, here are the two diophantine problems that correspond to the pair E1 and E2 from just above:

$$\text{P1} \quad \text{Is it true that } \forall x \exists y (3x - 2y = 0)?$$

$$\text{P2} \quad \text{Is it true that } \forall x \exists y (2x^2 - y = 0)?$$

# The Crux

$\exists \mathcal{P}$  s.t. no human mind could ever decide  $\forall x_1 \forall x_2 \cdots \forall x_k \exists y_1 \exists y_2 \cdots \exists y_j (\mathcal{P}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_j))$ ?

# The Crux

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**Yes.**

# The Crux

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Yes.



The human mind is *not* infinitely more powerful than any standard computing machine.

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Yes.

No.



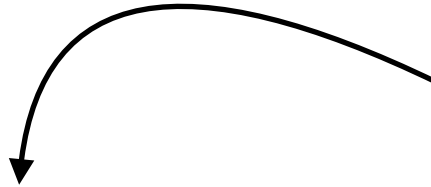
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# The Crux

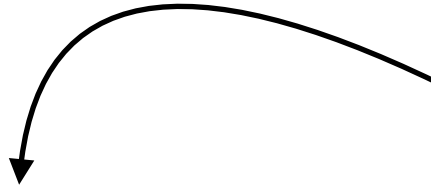
$\exists \mathcal{P}$  s.t. no human mind could ever decide  $\forall x_1 \forall x_2 \cdots \forall x_k \exists y_1 \exists y_2 \cdots \exists y_j (\mathcal{P}(x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k, y_1, y_2, \dots, y_j))$ ?

Yes.



The human mind is *not* infinitely more powerful than any standard computing machine.

No.



The human mind *is* infinitely more powerful than any standard computing machine.

# Earlier Gödelian Argument for the “No.”

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## Outline

### Abstract

1. Introduction
2. Clarifying computationalism, the view to be overthro...
3. The essence of hypercomputation: harnessing the in...
4. Gödel on minds exceeding (Turing) machines by “co...
5. Setting the context: the busy beaver problem
6. The new Gödelian argument
7. Objections
8. Conclusion

### References

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## Figures (1)



## Tables (1)

Table 1



Applied Mathematics and Computation

Volume 176, Issue 2, 15 May 2006, Pages 516–530



## A new Gödelian argument for hypercomputing minds based on the busy beaver problem ☆

Selmer Bringsjord , Owen Kellett, Andrew Shilliday, Joshua Taylor, Bram van Heuveln, Yingrui Yang, Jeffrey Baumes, Kyle Ross

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<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.amc.2005.09.071>

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## Abstract

Do human persons hypercompute? Or, as the doctrine of *computationalism* holds, are they information processors at or below the Turing Limit? If the former, given the essence of hypercomputation, persons must in some real way be capable of infinitary information processing. Using as a springboard Gödel's little-known assertion that the human mind has a power “converging to infinity”, and as an anchoring problem Rado's [T. Rado, On non-computable functions, Bell System Technical Journal 41 (1963) 877–884] Turing-uncomputable “busy beaver” (or  $\Sigma$ ) function, we present in this short paper a new argument that, in fact, human persons can hypercompute. The argument is intended to be formidable, not conclusive: it brings Gödel's intuition to a greater level of precision, and places it within a sensible case against computationalism.

A New One Coming! — in ...

A New One Coming! — in ...

*Will AI Succeed?*

# A New One Coming! — in ...

*Will AI Succeed?*



# A New One Coming! — in ...

*Will AI Succeed?*



# A New One Coming! — in ...

*Will AI Succeed?*



Yes.

# A New One Coming! — in ...

*Will AI Succeed?*



No.

Yes.

# Gödel v. AI “Scorecard”

The Particular Work	Nutshell Diagnosis	Beyond AI?

# Gödel v. AI “Scorecard”

The Particular Work	Nutshell Diagnosis	Beyond AI?
Completeness Thm. (Ch. 3)	Reduction lemma impressive.	Likely Not

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# Gödel v. AI “Scorecard”

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Second Incomp. Thm. (Ch. 5)	Easy with G1 in hand.	Not

# Gödel v. AI “Scorecard”

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Second Incomp. Thm. (Ch. 5)	Easy with G1 in hand.	Not
Speedup Thm. (Ch. 6)	<i>Some</i> versions quick w/ G1 in hand.	Not

# Gödel v. AI “Scorecard”

The Particular Work	Nutshell Diagnosis	Beyond AI?
Completeness Thm. (Ch. 3)	Reduction lemma impressive.	Likely Not
First Incomp. Thm. (Ch. 4)	Arithmetization seminal.	Likely Not
Second Incomp. Thm. (Ch. 5)	Easy with G1 in hand.	Not
Speedup Thm. (Ch. 6)	<i>Some</i> versions quick w/ G1 in hand.	Not
Continuum Hyp. Thm. (Ch. 7)	Stunning <i>tour de force</i> ; fully <i>ab initio</i> .	Yes

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“God Theorem” (Ch. 9)	An ancient trajectory from Anselm.	Yes

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*On Intuitionistic Logic	Beyond our scope.	Likely Not
*Philosophical Reasoning	Undeniably beyond foreseeable AI.	Yes



*Og på den glade  
merknaden for Selmer  
(men ikke for Bill), er  
forelesningene våre  
fullstendige.*