

Why Mathematical Proof?

Dana Scott (Carnegie Mellon and UC Berkeley)

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Mathematicians (and school children) have been giving proofs for millennia. Why? Why are they needed? How formal should proofs be? Are there different systems/philosophies for organizing proofs? Are axioms always “self-evident”? Will new axioms for Mathematics be proposed? Will computers eventually take over the drudgery? Will this lecture make you worry?