

# COMBINATORICS OF PROOFS

LICS 2007

+

LOGIC COLLOQUIUM  
2007

Martin Hyland

# PLAN

Reflections on (extreme)  
abstraction

Game semantics

Combinatorics of innocent  
strategies

(Marginalia to LICS  
paper)

Work with Harmer + Mellies

# CATEGORY THEORY

An example of Abstract  
Mathematics ( also Model Theory,  
Graph Theory, ... )

NOT Abstract nonsense

NOT Just a language

MAYBE Useful level of generalization  
(eg: Abstract Homotopy Theory)

SURELY Code of combinatorial  
complexity

# TWO ASPECTS

Categories as worlds of  
structures

Categories as structures  
in themselves

# CATEGORIES OF STRUCTURES

- Sets, Boolean-valued sets, Toposes
- Models of theories
- Topological spaces, schemes, étale toposes  

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*categories of space*
- Domains  
Games

# CATEGORY - STRUCTURES

(Groups, Posets)

Free Structures

The free

- symmetric monoidal category on an object :  $\mathbb{P}$  (permutations)
- symmetric monoidal category on a Frobenius object (commutative) topological category of Riemann surfaces
- free tangle category on an object the category of ribbon tangles

THE ABSTRACT IS CONCRETE

# TQFT AND LOGIC

(an aside)

To give a 1-2 dimensional TQFT is to give a commutative Frobenius algebra.

(normal forms and 1-D algebraic topology)

But also interpreting proofs in propositional calculus in the same free category gives a notion of genus of proof (modern version of idea of Kriesel)

# GAME SEMANTICS

Developed in 1990s

- to model theories of proofs
- to give semantics of programming languages

(Berry-Curien Sequential Algorithms.)

Full Completeness for affine MLL  
(Abramsky-Jagadeesan)

Full Abstraction for PCF  
(AJM ; HON)

# FRAGMENT OF HISTORY

(many other contributors but...)

Laird

LICS 1997

Abramsky Honda  
McLurker

LICS 1998

Hammer McLurker

LICS 1999

Hyland Schalk

LICS 2002

Abramsky Ghica  
Murawski Ong Stark

LICS 2004

Ong

LICS 2006

Tzevelekos

LICS 2007

Mellis-Tabareau

LICS 2007

# SIMPLE GAMES

Given by trees (with a start node) so

$1 = A(0) \leftarrow A(1) \leftarrow A(2) \leftarrow A(3) \dots$

or just

$A(1) \leftarrow A(2) \leftarrow A(3) \dots$

Opponent starts and after that Player/Proponent and Opponent alternate.

So moves in  $A(2k+1)$  are for O

moves in  $A(2k+2)$  are for P.

# STRATEGIES

Obvious notion of strategy  $\sigma$

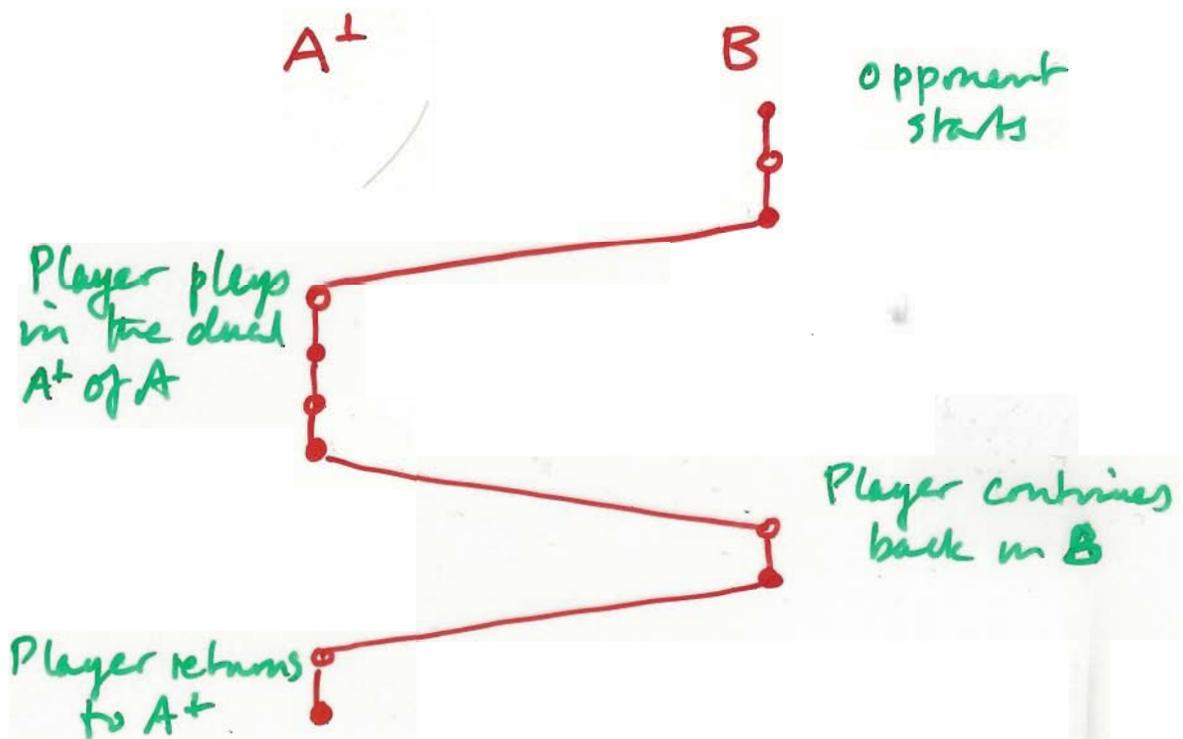
for P (Player, Proponent) in  
a game A.

Logic  $\sigma : A$  deterministic and  
winning.  $\sigma$  proof of A.

Computer  
Science  $\sigma : A$  partial, deterministic.  
 $\sigma$  a program of type A.

# FUNCTION SPACE

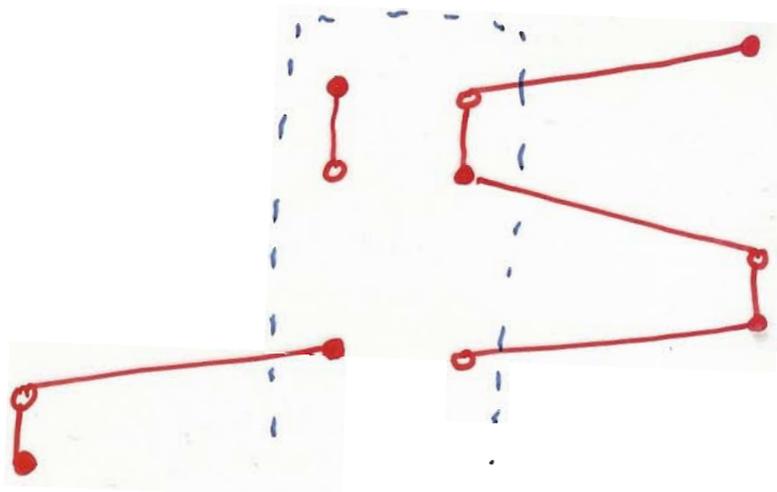
For games  $A, B$  we have a game  $A \rightarrow B$  (Linear Logic) with plays



Player can decide to change games.  
Opponent plays where he can: so  
after opening move he follows Player.

# COMPOSITION OF STRATEGIES

$$A \xrightarrow{\sigma} B \quad B \xrightarrow{\tau} C$$



(Parallel composition plus  
hiding : Abramsky)

In Logic

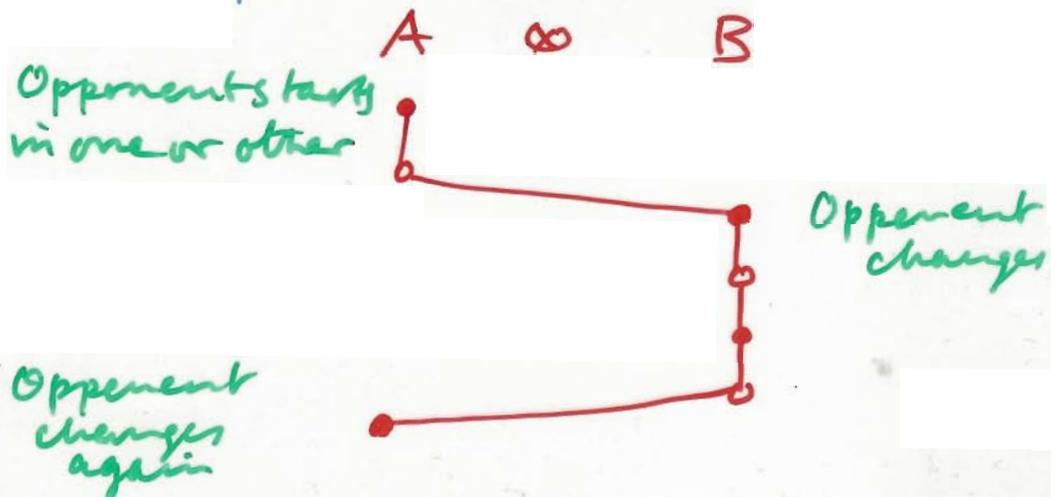
$$\frac{A \vdash B \quad B \vdash C}{A \vdash C}$$

In Programming

$$\frac{b : B \quad g : B \rightarrow C}{g.b : C}$$

# CATEGORICAL STRUCTURE

Tensor product



(Player has to follow in whichever game opponent plays us.)

Categorical product

$A \times B$

Opponent starts in one of  $A, B$  and play is then restricted to that game. (No switching.)

# FACT

Games and strategies form a category which is symmetric monoidal closed with products.

This is a model for multiplicative-additive intuitionistic Linear Logic.

Write  $\mathbb{L}$  for this category.

# NON-LINEAR GAMES

Allow repetition or backtracking.

Linear exponential comonad

$(!, \varepsilon, \delta)$

$$\varepsilon_A : !A \longrightarrow A$$

natural

$$\delta_A : !A \longrightarrow !!A$$

in  $A$

with coherent isomorphism

$$!A \otimes !B \cong !(A \times B)$$

# KLEISLI CATEGORY

$$K(A, B) = \mathbb{L}(!A, B)$$

with composition

$$\begin{array}{c} !A \xrightarrow{f} B \quad !B \xrightarrow{g} C \\ \hline !A \xrightarrow{\delta_A} !!A \xrightarrow{!f} !B \xrightarrow{g} C \end{array}$$

is cartesian closed

$$K(A \times B, C) \cong \mathbb{L}(!A \times B, C)$$

$$\cong \mathbb{L}(!A \otimes !B, C)$$

$$\cong \mathbb{L}(!A, !B \multimap C) = K(A, !B \multimap C)$$

Thus the function space is

$$B \Rightarrow C = !B \multimap C$$

(Girard translation)

# TAKING STOCK

Simple game models give  
sound interpretations of

- proofs
- programs

but far from

fully complete  
abstract

(Too much wild behaviour.)

Innocent strategies is one  
successful approach to  
control behaviour.

# ARENA GAMES

An arena  $A$  is itself a (little) game. It generates a game tree of plays from itself with arbitrary backtracking.

(This is the most general situation which will not be analyzed here.)



# INNOCENT STRATEGIES

Given a play with backtracking the P-view is obtained by starting at the end and discarding moves between O-pointers as one works back



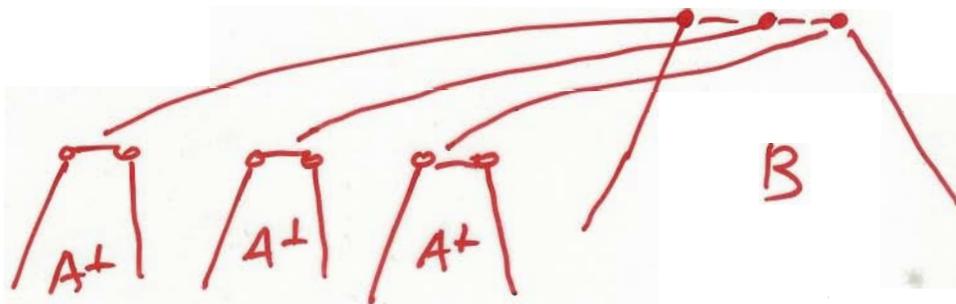
Now only P-pointers give information



An innocent strategy is one in which the next move for Player depends only on the view

# FUNCTION SPACE ARENA

$A \boxplus B$



As a game, start in  $B$ ;  
Player then either continues in  $B$   
or switches to  $A^+$   
(irrevocable choice)

Additive  
construction

# COMPOSITION ISSUE

Innocent strategies  
in the arena games for

$A \dashv\vdash B$  and  $B \dashv\vdash C$

give

innocent strategies in the  
arena game for

$A \dashv\vdash C$

# FACT

Innocent strategies are the basis for a range of full completeness full abstraction results.

BUT why do such strategies compose. It is not trivial and looks like a hack.

# OBSERVATION

Innocent strategies in the arena game for  $A$  are just strategies in  $?A$ .

But  $?(A \multimap B)$

$$\cong !A \multimap ?B$$

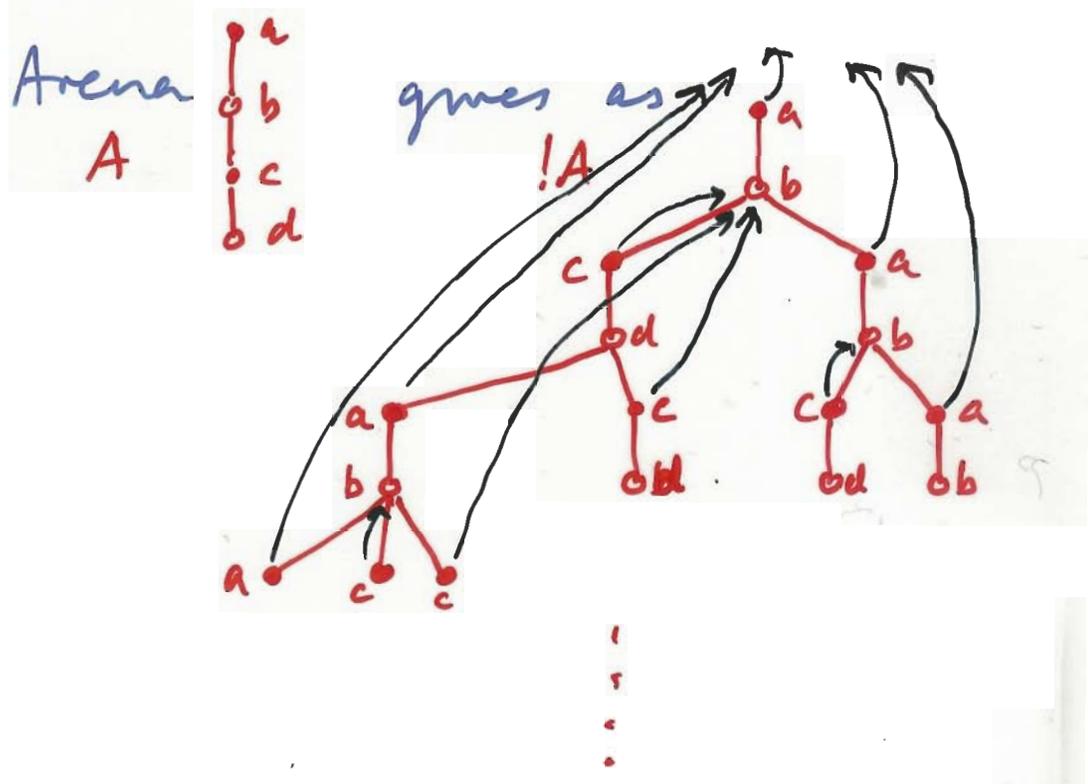
How to compose

$!A \xrightarrow{\sigma} ?B$  and  $!B \xrightarrow{\tau} ?C$ ?

(Type mismatch)

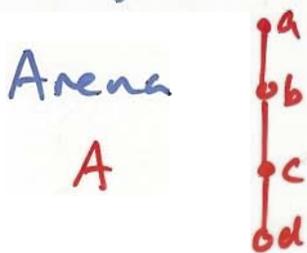
# EXPONENTIAL COMMONAD

!A is the game in which only Opponent can back track.

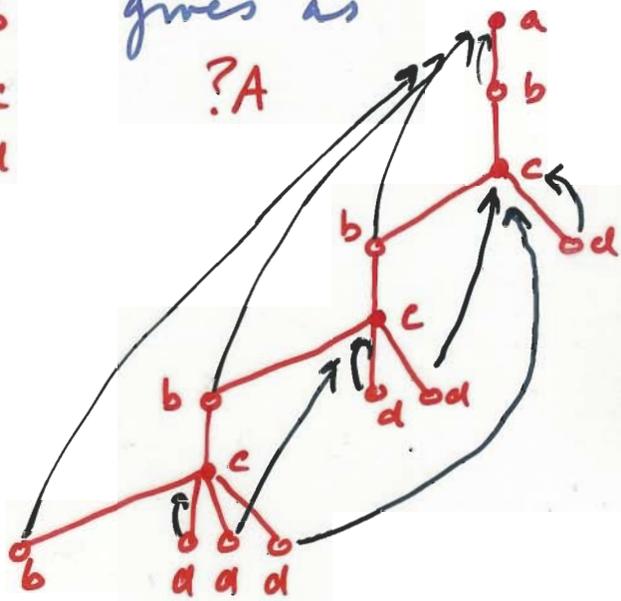


# EXPONENTIAL MONAD

?A is the game in which only Player can backtrack



gives as  
?A



(Strategies for  $\lambda F. F(\lambda x. x)$   
 $\lambda F. F(\lambda x. F(\lambda y. x))$   
 $\lambda F. F(\lambda x. F(\lambda y. y))$  etc  
 in  $((A \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A$ )

# DISTRIBUTIVE LAW

(comonad - monad case)

We have a natural transformation

$$\lambda_A : !?A \rightarrow ?!A$$

into good properties.

Then from

$$!A \xrightarrow{f} ?B \quad !B \xrightarrow{g} ?C$$

---

get

$$!A \xrightarrow{\delta_A} !!A \xrightarrow{!f} !?B \xrightarrow{\lambda_B} ?!B \xrightarrow{?g} ???C \xrightarrow{\mu_C} ?C$$

# RESULT

A cartesian closed category  
of games and innocent strategies  
(plus other structure).

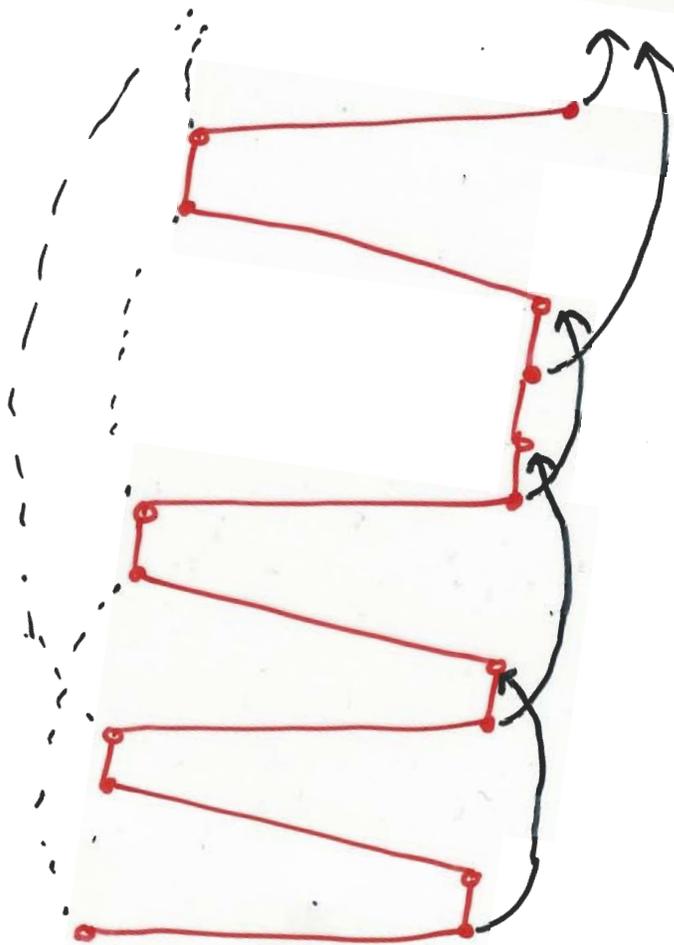
**BUT** where do the  
comonad  $(!, \varepsilon, \delta)$   
monad  $(?, \eta, \mu)$   
distributive law  $\lambda$   
come from?

**ANSWER** From the combinatorics  
of pointers

What's the mathematics  
of that?

# BASIC TOOL

Pulling back O-pointers



Dually pushing forward P-pointers

# SCHEDULES

Patterns of play in  $A \rightarrow B$



What is this combinatorial information?

(And how does it induce composition via parallel composition and hiding.)

# PARITY CONDITION

If the length of the play  
in  $A$  is odd, then so is that  
in  $B$

That is we can have

$A$	$B$
even	even

even	odd
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odd	odd
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BUT NOT

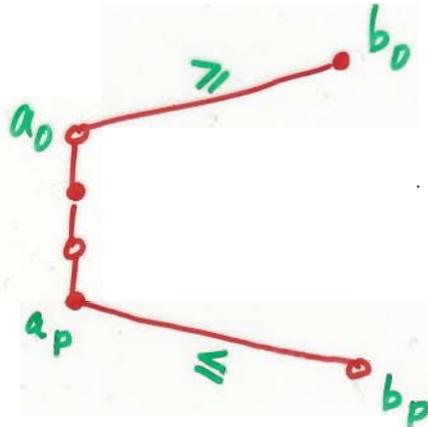
odd	even
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# MERGES

(H-S) Schedules can be given as merges by the information

$$a_0 \geq b_0$$

$$b_p \geq a_p$$



Composition of strategies comes from composition of relations.

# THE CATEGORY $\Delta_+$

(Drop the + and) write  $\Delta$  for the natural (to category theorists) category of

- finite ordinals and
- order preserving maps

$\Delta$  is the free monoidal category generated by a monoid

$[\Delta^{\text{op}}, \text{Set}]$  is the category of (augmented) simplicial sets

$\Delta^{\text{T}}$  category of non-0 ordinals and top preserving

$\Delta_{\perp}$  

---

 and bottom preserving

$\Delta_{\perp}^{\text{T}}$  

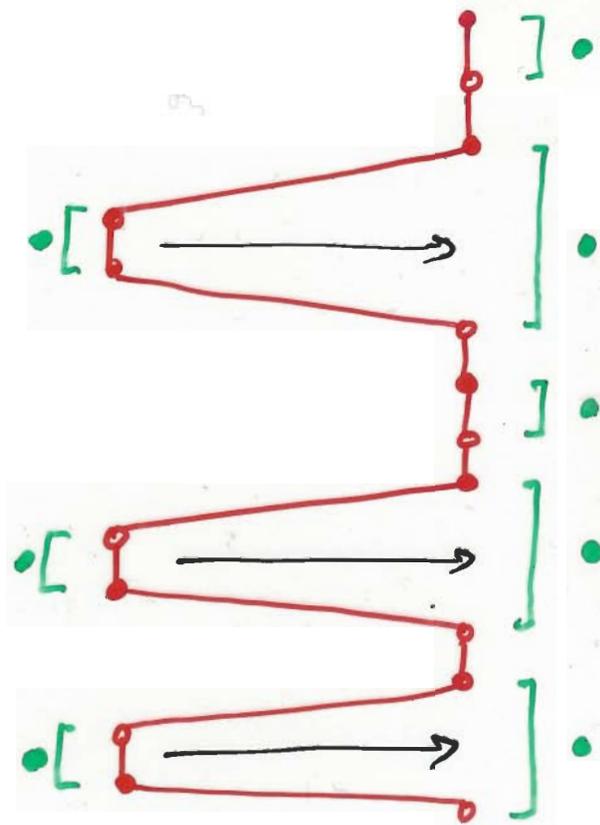
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 and end point preserving.

3

# SCHEDULES AND $\Delta$

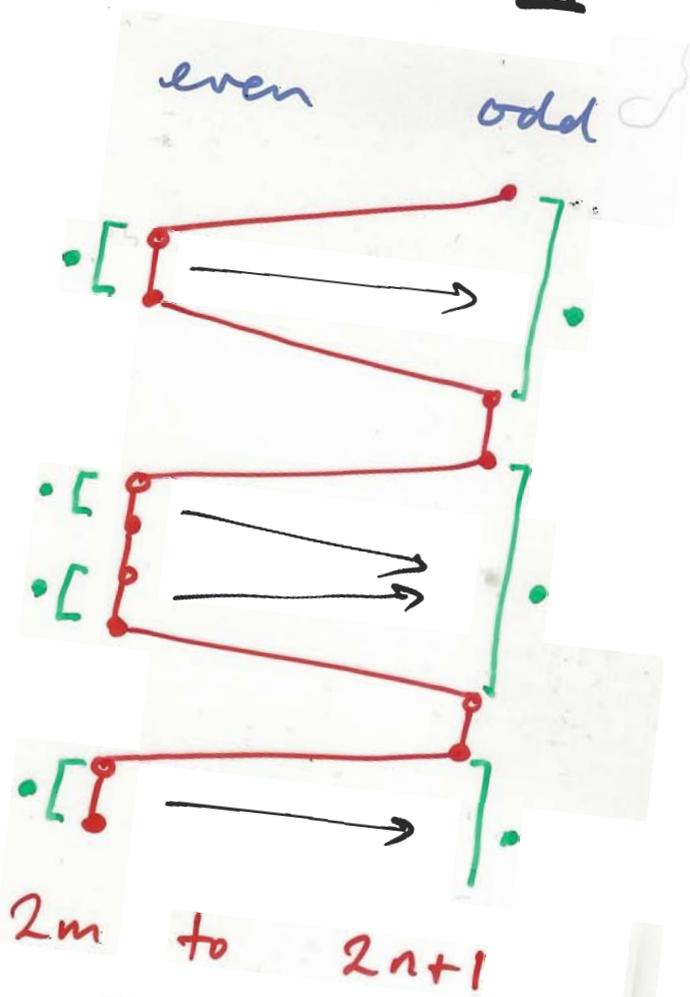
Case 1 even even



So  $2m$  to  $2n$   
is  $\Delta(m, n)$

# SCHEDULES AND $\Delta$

Case 2



$\Sigma_0$   
is

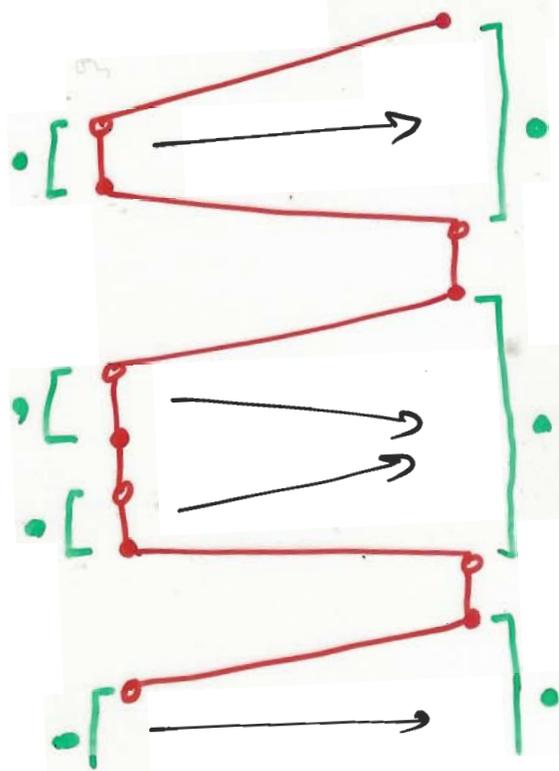
$$\Delta(m, n+1) \approx \Delta^T(m+1, n+1)$$

# SCHEDULES AND $\Delta$

Case 3

odd

odd



So  $2m+1$  to  $2n+1$   
is  $\Delta^T(m+1, n+1)$

# CATEGORY $\mathcal{Y}$

of schedules

Objects

$2m$

$m$

$2n+1$

$n^+$

Maps

$$\mathcal{Y}(m, n) = \Delta(m, n)$$

$$\begin{aligned}\mathcal{Y}(m, n^+) &= \Delta(m, n+1) \\ &= \Delta^{\#}(m+1, n+1)\end{aligned}$$

$$\mathcal{Y}(m^+, n^+) = \Delta^{\text{T}}(m+1, n+1)$$

$$\mathcal{Y}(m^+, n) = \emptyset$$

Composition 'obvious': this is  
the lax colimit of the profunctor  
 $F^{\#}: \Delta^{\text{T}} \dashrightarrow \Delta$  from the free  $F: \Delta \rightarrow \Delta^{\text{T}}$

(Another explanation of composition  
in games.)

# PULLING BACK 0-POINTERS

Evidently  $\Upsilon$  embeds in Posets  
0-pointers on a sequence of  
length

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 2n & \text{are} & H \rightarrow n \\ 2n+1 & & H \rightarrow n+1 \end{array}$$

identity on objects maps in  
Posets. (Heaps.) (Ha forest)

Take the pullback in Posets.

## DUALITY ON $\Delta$

$2 \in \Delta$  and  $\Delta(m, 2) = m+1$   
in the pointwise order.

'Hence'  $\Delta(m, n) \cong \Delta_1^T(n+1, m+1)$

Also  $\Delta^T(m, 2) = m$  in the  
pointwise order ( $m \geq 1$ ).

'Hence'  $\Delta^T(m, n) \cong \Delta^T(n, m)$

Dual view of  $\forall$

$$\forall(m, n) = \Delta_1^T(n+1, m+1)$$

$$\forall(m, n^+) = \Delta^T(n+1, m+1)$$

$$\forall(m^+, n^+) = \Delta^T(n+1, m+1)$$

# PUSHING FORWARD P-POINTERS

The dual view of  $\mathcal{V}$  gives an embedding  $\mathcal{V}^{op}$  in  $\text{Posets}$ .

P-pointers in a sequence of length

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 2n & \text{are} & H \rightarrow n+1 \\ 2n+1 & & H \rightarrow n+1 \end{array}$$

identity on objects maps in  $\text{Posets}$ . (Heaps) (Ha-forest)

Again take a pullback in  $\text{Posets}$

# CONCLUSIONS

Abstract methods come into the treatment of game semantics for proofs and programs at two levels:

- to construct categories of structures
- to handle inherent combinatorial structure.

Some think innocent strategies too close to proofs / programs.

The reconstruction demonstrates real content in the full completeness / abstraction results

I hope this style of approach will extend.