

# Algebraic Tools in Game Semantics

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## Game Semantics

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a formula is *provable*  
 $\Leftrightarrow$   
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$$\forall x. (x \neq 0 \Rightarrow (\exists y. x = y + 1))$$

## Proofs, programs and strategies

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should rather be: *what are the proofs of the formula?*

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So, the question: *is the following formula provable?*

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should rather be: *what are the proofs of the formula?*

**What are the winning strategies?**

## Denotational Semantics

Proofs (or programs) are naturally organized in **categories**

- objects: formulas  $A, B, \dots$
- morphisms:  $\pi : A \rightarrow B$  are proofs  $\pi : A \Rightarrow B$
- composition  $\rho \circ \pi : A \rightarrow C$  of  $\pi : A \rightarrow B$  and  $\rho : B \rightarrow C$ :

$$\frac{\frac{\pi}{A \vdash B} \quad \frac{\rho}{B \vdash C}}{A \vdash C} (\text{Cut})$$

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Similarly, one can often build categories whose objects are game and morphisms are strategies.

# Denotational Semantics

A *game semantics* is given by a functor

$$F : \mathbf{Proofs} \rightarrow \mathbf{Games}$$

i.e.

- a formula  $A$  is interpreted by a game  $F(A)$ ,
- a proof  $\pi : A \rightarrow B$  is interpreted as a strategy  $F(\pi) : F(A) \rightarrow F(B)$

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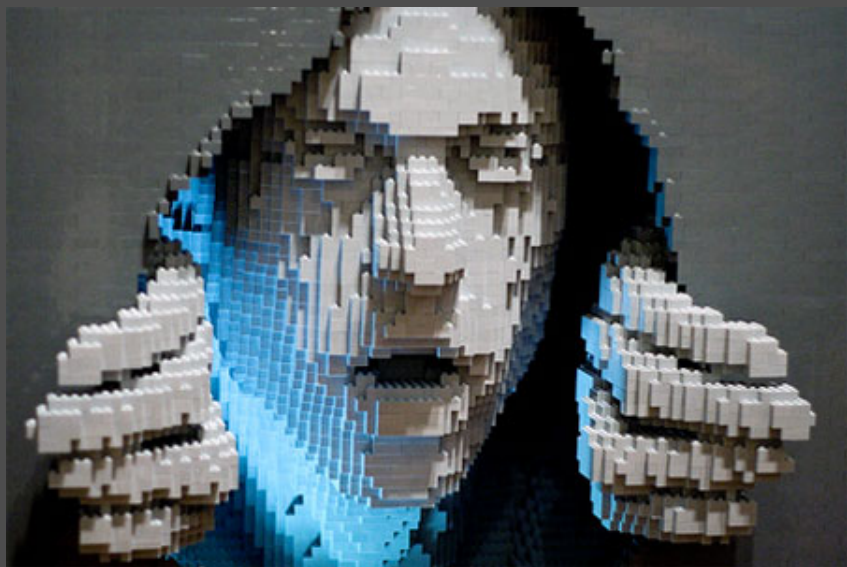
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A semantics is *fully complete* when the functor is surjective.

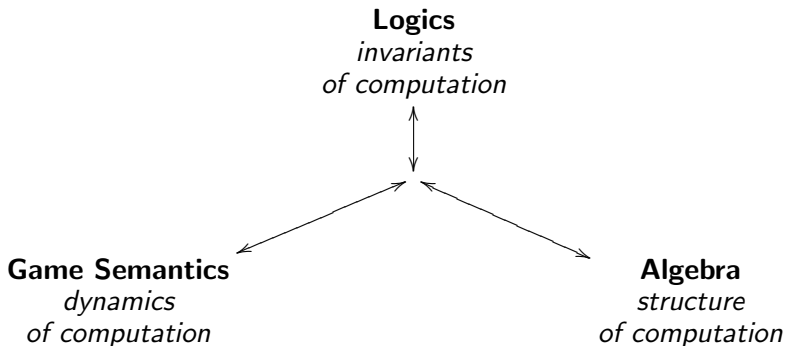
# The structure of logics

What is the **causality** induced by first-order connectives?

- 1 we introduce a game semantics  
(formula = game, proof = strategy)
- 2 we define a presentation of the category of games



# Unifying points of view



# First-order propositional logic

- Formulas:

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$$A ::= \exists x.A \mid \forall x.A \mid A \wedge A \mid A \vee A \mid \dots$$

- Rules:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash P, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \forall x.P, \Delta} (\forall)$$

(with  $x \notin FV(\Gamma, \Delta)$ )

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash P[t/x], \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \exists x.P, \Delta} (\exists)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A, \Delta \quad \Gamma \vdash B, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash A \wedge B, \Delta} (\wedge)$$

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash A, B, \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash A \vee B, \Delta} (\vee)$$

⋮



## Causality in proofs

$$\frac{\frac{\pi}{\Gamma \vdash A, B, \Delta}}{\Gamma \vdash A, \forall y. B, \Delta} (\forall)$$
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If  $x \notin \text{FV}(t)$ !

## Causality in proofs

Dependencies induced by proofs are of the form

$$\forall x \xrightarrow{\quad} \exists y$$

where the witness  $t$  given for  $y$  has  $x$  as free variable.

## Formulas

$$A = \exists x.A \mid \forall x.A \mid A \wedge A \mid A \vee A \mid \dots$$

will be interpreted as games  $(M, \lambda, \leq)$ :

- a set  $M$  of *moves*,
- a partial order  $\leq$  on  $M$  called *causality*,
- a function  $\lambda : M \rightarrow \{\forall, \exists\}$  indicating *polarity*  
( $\forall$ : Opponent,  $\exists$ : Player)



## Formulas

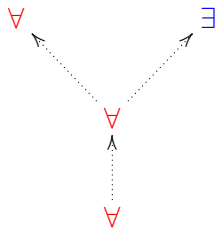
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$$\forall x.\forall y.(\forall z.P \vee \exists z'.Q)$$

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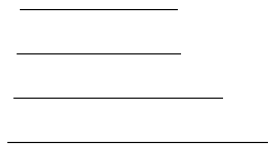
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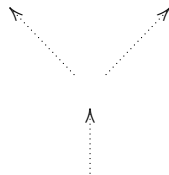
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# Strategies

strategy = dependency relation on the moves of the game



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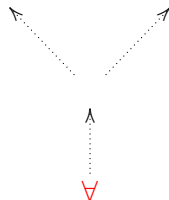
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$$\frac{\vdash \forall y. (\forall z. P \vee \exists z'. Q)}{\vdash \forall x. \forall y. (\forall z. P \vee \exists z'. Q)} (\forall)$$

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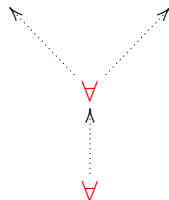


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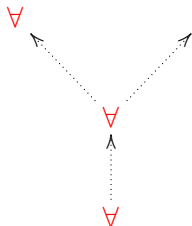


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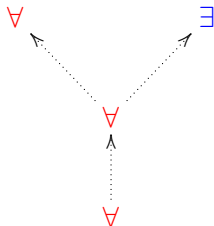


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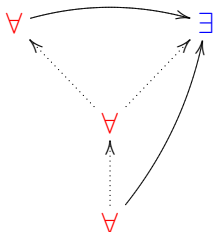


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Free variables of  $t$ :  $\{x, z\}$

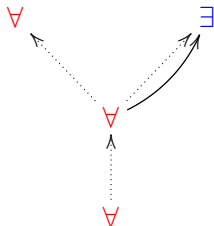


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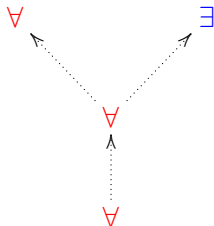
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Free variables of  $t$ :  $\emptyset$

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- 2 Acyclicity: the relation  $\leq_A \cup \sigma$  is **acyclic**

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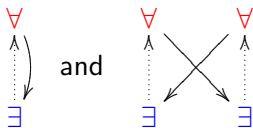
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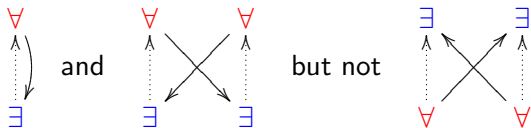
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## A first step

We handle the case where connectives in formulas occur in leaves:

$$\forall x_1. \forall x_2. \exists x_3. \forall x_4. \forall x_5. \dots P(x_{i_1}, \dots, x_{i_k})$$

so games will be filiform (= total orders)





## Interpreting proofs

A formula

$A$

is interpreted by a game

$\llbracket A \rrbracket$

### Example

*The formula*

$\forall x. \forall y. P$

*is interpreted by the game*



## Interpreting proofs

A sequent

$$A \vdash B$$

is interpreted by a game

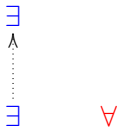
$$[[A]]^* \wp [[B]]$$

### Example

*The sequent*

$$\forall x. \forall y. P \vdash \forall z. P$$

*is interpreted by the game*



## Interpreting proofs

A proof

$$\frac{\vdots}{A \vdash B}$$

is interpreted by a strategy  $\sigma$  on the game

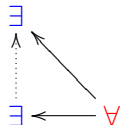
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Example

*The proof*

$$\frac{\frac{\frac{\frac{\overline{z = z \vdash z = z}}{\forall y. z = y \vdash z = z}}{\forall x. \forall y. x = y \vdash z = z}}{\forall x. \forall y. x = y \vdash \forall z. z = z}}$$

*is interpreted by the strategy*



## A monoidal category of games

We thus build a monoidal category **Games** whose

- objects  $A$  are filiform games
- morphisms  $\sigma : A \rightarrow B$  are strategies on  $A^* \wp B$

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### Remark

*It is not obvious that the acyclicity condition of strategies is preserved by composition.*

## So what?

This semantics is nice but

- why do strategies compose?
- what does it tell us about the structure of dependencies?
- are all the strategies definable (i.e. come from proofs)?

We need algebraic tools!

## Presenting monoids

A finite description of a monoid can be given using a *presentation*:

$$M \cong \langle G \mid R \rangle$$

with

- $G$ : *generators*
- $R \subseteq G^* \times G^*$ : *relations*

meaning that

$$M \cong G^* / \equiv$$

### Example

$$\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \cong \langle a, b \mid ba = ab \rangle$$

## Presenting monoidal categories

Similarly, we can give presentations of monoidal categories using **polygraphs** [Street76, Power90, Burroni93].

We construct a polygraph presenting the category **Games**.



## The simplicial category

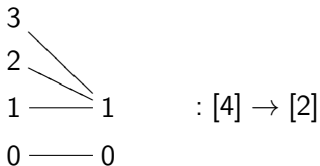
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- objects are sets  $[n] = \{0, 1, \dots, n - 1\}$  with  $n \in \mathbb{N}$ ,
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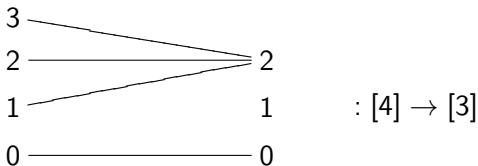
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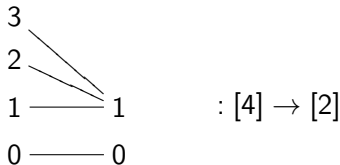


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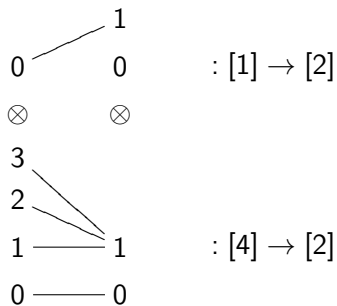


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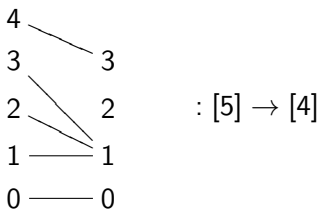


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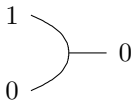
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## A theory of monoids

The category  $\Delta$  contains two generating morphisms:

$$\mu : [2] \rightarrow [1] \quad \text{and} \quad \eta : [0] \rightarrow [1]$$





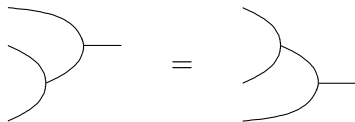
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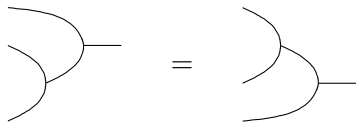
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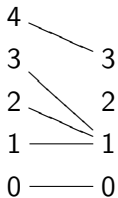
$$\mu \circ (\text{id}_{[1]} \otimes \mu) = \mu \circ (\mu \otimes \text{id}_{[1]})$$

and

$$\mu \circ (\eta \otimes \text{id}_{[1]}) = \text{id}_{[1]} = \mu \circ (\text{id}_{[1]} \otimes \eta)$$

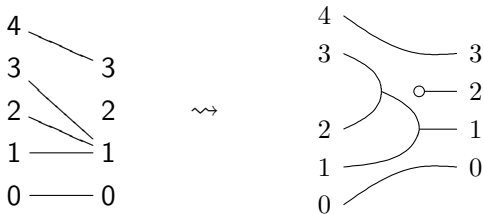
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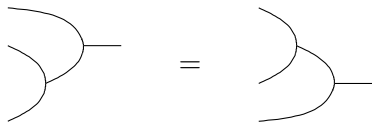
## A presentation of the category $\Delta$

The category  $\Delta$  is monoidally isomorphic to the free monoidal category on the two generators

$$\mu : [2] \rightarrow [1] \quad \text{and} \quad \eta : [0] \rightarrow [1]$$



quotiented by the relations



and



## The game theory

strict monoidal functor  $\Delta \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$   
=  
monoid in  $\mathcal{C}$

$$\mathbf{Mon}(\mathcal{C}) \cong \mathbf{StrMonCat}(\Delta, \mathcal{C})$$

# The game theory

strict monoidal functor **Games**  $\rightarrow \mathcal{C}$   
=  
?????

## The game theory

strict monoidal functor **Games**  $\rightarrow \mathcal{C}$   
=  
?????

The corresponding theory is a polarized variant of  
*bicommutative bialgebras*

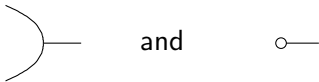


# Presentations

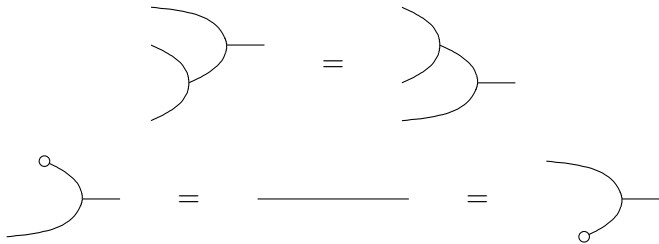
The theory of monoids

The simplicial category  $\Delta$ : increasing functions.

- Generators:



- Relations:

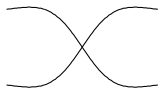


# Presentations

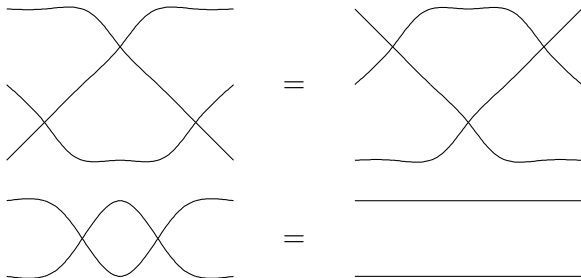
The theory of symmetries

The category **Bij**: bijections.

- Generators:



- Relations:

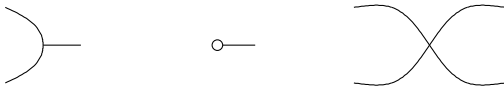


# Presentations

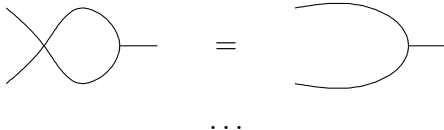
The theory of commutative monoids

The category **F**: functions.

- Generators:



- Relations: monoid + symmetry +

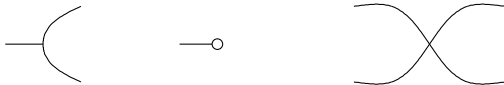


# Presentations

The theory of commutative comonoids

The category  $\mathbf{F}^{\text{op}}$ : “cofunctions”.

- Generators:



- Relations:

...

# Presentations

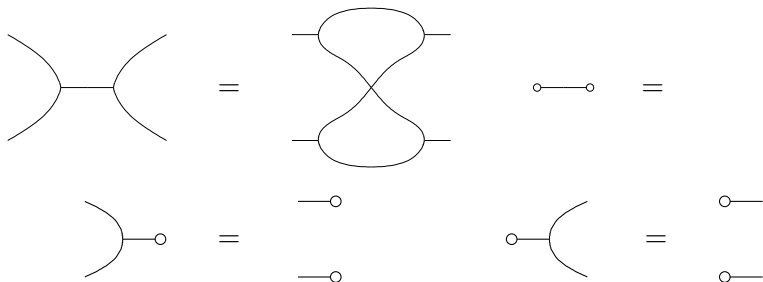
The theory of bicommutative bialgebras

The category  $\mathbf{Mat}(\mathbb{N})$ :  $\mathbb{N}$ -valued matrices.

- Generators:



- Relations: commutative monoid + commutative comonoid +

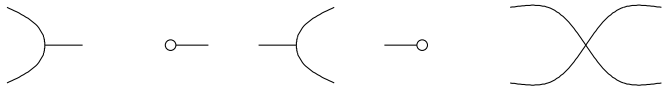


# Presentations

The theory of relations

The category **FRel**: relations

- Generators:



- Relations: bicommutative bialgebra which is *qualitative*:



## The category **Games**

The category **Games** is the category whose

- objects are integers

$$[n] = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, n - 1\}$$

together with a polarization function

$$\lambda : [n] \rightarrow \{\exists, \forall\}$$

3  
^  
⋮  
2  
^  
⋮  
1  
^  
⋮  
0

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$\forall$

$\exists$

$\forall$

$\exists$



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$\forall$	$\forall$
$\exists$	$\exists$
$\forall$	$\exists$
$\exists$	$\forall$

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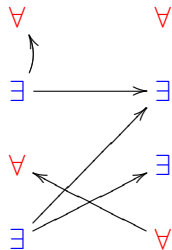
- objects are integers

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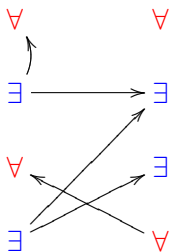
together with a polarization function

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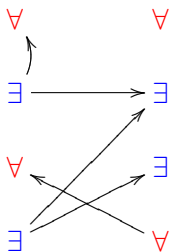
- morphisms are strategies.



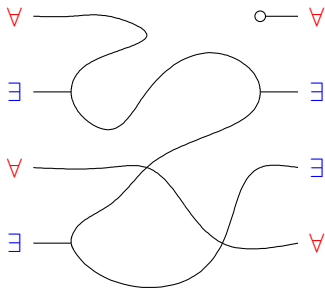
## The structure of wires



## The structure of wires



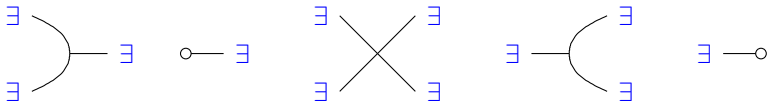
$\rightsquigarrow$



## The presentation of **Games**

Two objects  $\exists$  and  $\forall$  with

- five generators

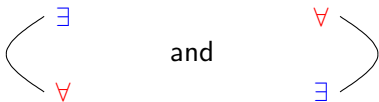


inducing a structure of *qualitative bicommutative bialgebra*,

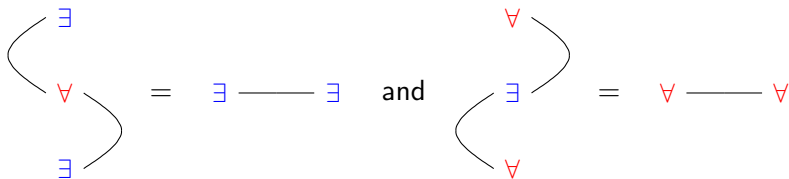
# The presentation of **Games**

Two objects  $\exists$  and  $\forall$  with

- five generators
- a duality  $\exists \dashv \forall$ :



such that



(the axioms for adjunctions)

# The theory **Games**

That's it!

strict monoidal functor **Games**  $\rightarrow \mathcal{C}$   
=  
dual pair of bicommutative qualitative bialgebras

$$\mathbf{Games}(\mathcal{C}) \cong \mathbf{StrMonCat}(\mathbf{Games}, \mathcal{C})$$

## Technical byproducts

From this presentation we deduce that

- strategies do **compose**  
(the acyclicity condition is preserved by composition)
- strategies are **definable**  
(i.e. are the interpretations of proofs)



## Abstract methodology

We have replaced an *external* definition of the category **Games**:

- category of relations which satisfy conditions (polarity + acyclicity)
- **restricting**
- global correctness

by an *internal* definition:

- presentation of the category
- **generating**
- local correctness

## Next steps

- extend to formulas with connectives
- links with synthesis of electric circuits
- tools for computer assisted semantic analysis of programs
- ...

# Thanks!

Any question?