# From asynchronous games to coherence spaces

Paul-André Melliès

#### CNRS, Université Paris Denis Diderot

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#### An anomaly of the Geometry of Interaction



#### Very much studied in the field of game semantics

#### **Game semantics**

Every proof of formula A initiates a dialogue where

Proponent tries to convince Opponent

**Opponent** tries to refute **Proponent** 

An interactive approach to logic and programming languages

### Four basic operations on logical games

the negation	$\neg A$
the sum	$A\oplus B$
the tensor	$A\otimes B$
the exponential	! A

Algebraic structure similar to linear algebra !

# Negation

Proponent Program plays the game A



Opponent Environment

plays the game

 $\neg A$ 

Negation permutes the rôles of Proponent and Opponent

# Negation

Opponent Environment plays the game

 $\neg A$ 



Proponent Program

plays the game

A

Negation permutes the rôles of Opponent and Proponent

#### Sum



#### Proponent selects one component

## **Tensor product**



#### Opponent plays the two games in parallel

# **Exponentials**



Opponent opens as many copies as necessary to beat Proponent

# Policy of the talk

In order to clarify game semantics, compare it to relational semantics...

Key idea: the strategy  $\sigma$  associated to a proof  $\pi$  should contain its clique.

# Part I

# Additives in sequential games

Sequential strategies at the leaves

# **Sequential games**

A proof  $\pi$ 

alternating sequences of moves

A proof  $\pi$ 

## **Sequential games**

A sequential game  $(M, P, \lambda)$  consists of

 $\begin{array}{ll} M & \text{a set of moves,} \\ P \subseteq M^* & \text{a set of plays,} \\ \lambda: M \to \{-1, +1\} & \text{a polarity function on moves} \end{array}$ 

such that every play is alternating and starts by Opponent.

Alternatively, a sequential game is an alternating decision tree.

## **Sequential games**

The boolean game  $\mathbb{B}$ :





#### **Strategies**

A strategy  $\sigma$  is a set of alternating plays of even-length

 $s = m_1 \cdots m_{2k}$ 

such that:

—  $\sigma$  contains the empty play,

—  $\sigma$  is closed by even-length prefix:

 $\forall s, \forall m, n \in M, \qquad s \cdot m \cdot n \in \sigma \implies s \in \sigma$ 

 $-\sigma$  is deterministic:

 $\forall s \in \sigma, \forall m, n_1, n_2 \in M, \qquad s \cdot m \cdot n_1 \in \sigma \text{ and } s \cdot m \cdot n_2 \in \sigma \implies n_1 = n_2.$ 

#### Three strategies on the boolean game $\mathbb B$





## **Total strategies**

A strategy  $\sigma$  is **total** when

— for every play s of the strategy  $\sigma$ ,

— for every Opponent move m such that  $s \cdot m$  is a play,

there exists a Proponent move *n* such that  $s \cdot m \cdot n$  is a play of  $\sigma$ .

#### Two total strategies on the boolean game ${\mathbb B}$





#### From sequential games to coherence spaces

The diagram commutes



for every proof of a purely additive formula.

#### From sequential games to coherence spaces

Let  $\mathscr{G}$  denote the category

- with families of sequential games as objects,

— with families of sequential strategies as morphisms.

**Proposition.** The category  $\mathscr{G}$  is the **free category** with sums, equipped with a contravariant functor

$$\neg \quad : \quad \mathscr{G} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathscr{G}^{op}$$

and a bijection

$$\varphi_{x,y}$$
 :  $\mathscr{G}(x,\neg y)$   $\cong$   $\mathscr{G}(y,\neg x)$ 

natural in x and y.

#### A theorem for free

There exists a functor

#### *leaves* : $\mathscr{G} \longrightarrow \operatorname{Coh}$

which preserves the sum, and transports the non-involutive negation of the category  $\mathscr{G}$  into the involutive negation of the category Coh.

This functor collapses the dynamic semantics into a static one

# Part II (a)

# Multiplicatives in asynchronous games

From trajectories to positions

### Sequential games: an interleaving semantics

The tensor product of two boolean games  $\mathbb{B}_1$  et  $\mathbb{B}_2$ :



## A step towards true concurrency: bend the branches!



#### True concurrency: tile the diagram!



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#### **Asynchronous game semantics**



The phenomenon refined: a truly concurrent semantics of proofs.

#### **Asynchronous games**

An **asynchronous game** is an event structure equipped with a **polarity** function

 $\lambda$  :  $M \longrightarrow \{-1, +1\}$ 

indicating whether a move is Player (+1) or Opponent (-1).

#### Legal plays

A legal play is a path

$$* \xrightarrow{m_1} x_1 \xrightarrow{m_2} x_2 \xrightarrow{m_3} \cdots x_{k-1} \xrightarrow{m_k} x_k$$

starting from the empty position \* of the transition space, and satisfying:

$$\forall i \in [1, ..., k], \qquad \lambda(m_i) = (-1)^i.$$

So, a legal play is **alternated** and starts by an **Opponent move.** 

# **Strategies**

A strategy is a set of legal plays of even length, such that:

- $-\sigma$  contains the empty play,
- $\sigma$  is closed under even-length prefix

 $s \cdot m \cdot n \in \sigma \implies s \in \sigma,$ 

 $-\sigma$  is deterministic

 $s \cdot m \cdot n_1 \in \sigma$  and  $s \cdot m \cdot n_2 \in \sigma \Rightarrow n_1 = n_2$ .

A strategy plays according to the current play.

## Innocence: strategies with partial information

Full abstraction result [Martin Hyland, Luke Ong, Hanno Nickau, 1994]

Innocence characterizes the interactive behaviour of  $\lambda$ -terms.

An innocent strategy plays according to the current view.

#### Where are the pointers in asynchronous games?

 $m \stackrel{*}{\leftarrow} n \stackrel{\cdot}{\cdot} p \stackrel{\cdot}{\cdot} n \stackrel{\cdot}{\cdot} p \stackrel{\cdot}{\cdot} n \stackrel{\cdot}{\cdot} p \cdot m \stackrel{\cdot}{\cdot} p \stackrel{\cdot}{\cdot} n \stackrel{\cdot}{\cdot} p$ 

Play = sequence of moves with pointers





## From this follows a reformulation of innocence...



## **Forward innocence**



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#### Innocent strategies are positional

**Definition.** A strategy  $\sigma$  is **positional** when for every two plays  $s_1$  and  $s_2$  with same target x:

 $s_1 \in \sigma$  and  $s_2 \in \sigma$  and  $s_1 \cdot t \in \sigma \implies s_2 \cdot t \in \sigma$ 

#### **Theorem** (by an easy diagrammatic proof) Every innocent strategy $\sigma$ is positional

More: An innocent strategy is characterized by the positions it reaches.

#### An illustration: the strategy (true $\otimes$ false)



Strategies become closure operators on complete lattices as in Abramsky-M. concurrent games.

#### From asynchronous games to coherence spaces

The diagram commutes



for every proof of a multiplicative additive formula.

# Part II (b)

# Multiplicatives in asynchronous games

The free dialogue category

#### **Dialogue categories**

A symmetric monoidal category % equipped with a functor

$$\neg \quad : \quad \mathscr{C}^{op} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathscr{C}$$

and a natural bijection

 $\varphi_{A,B,C}$  :  $\mathscr{C}(A \otimes B, \neg C) \cong \mathscr{C}(A, \neg (B \otimes C))$ 



## The free dialogue category

The objects of the category **free-dialogue**(%) are families of **dialogue games** 

constructed by the grammar

 $A,B \quad ::= \quad X \quad | \quad A \oplus B \quad | \quad A \otimes B \quad | \quad \neg A \quad | \quad \mathbf{1}$ 

where X is an object of the category  $\mathscr{C}$ .

The morphisms are total and innocent strategies on dialogue games.

As we will see: proofs are 3-dimensional variants of knots...

#### A theorem for free

There exists a functor

*leaves* : free-dialogue( $\mathscr{C}$ )  $\longrightarrow$  Coh

which preserves the sum, the tensor, and transports the non-involutive negation of the category  $\mathscr{G}$  into the involutive negation of the category Coh.

This functor collapses the dynamic semantics into a static one

# **Tensor logic**

- tensor logic = a logic of tensor and negation
  - = linear logic without  $A \cong \neg \neg A$
  - = the very essence of polarization

Offers a synthesis of linear logic, games and continuations

Research program: recast every aspect of linear logic in this setting

# Part III

# Exponentials in orbital games

Uniformity formulated as interactive group invariance

# **Exponentials**



#### Justification vs. copy indexing

In the presence of repetition, the backtracking policy of arena games



may be alternatively formulated by indexing threads



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#### Justification vs. copy indexing

The justified play with copy indexing



may be then seen as a play in an asynchronous game

 $(m,0) \cdot (n,00) \cdot (p,000) \cdot (n,01) \cdot (p,010) \cdots$  $\cdots (n,02) \cdot (p,001) \cdot (m,1) \cdot (n,10) \cdot (p,011)$ 

#### An associativity problem

The following diagram does not commute



Hence, comultiplication is not associative.

#### Abramsky, Jagadeesan, Malacaria games (1994)

However, this diagram does commute... up to thread indexing !



So, the game !A defines a pseudo-comonoid instead of a comonoid...

## A main difficulty

The dereliction strategies  $\varepsilon_i$  are equal up to reindexing



#### A non uniform taster

The strategy taster defined as

tastes the difference between  $\varepsilon_i$  and  $\varepsilon_j$  in the sense that

$$\varepsilon_i \circ \texttt{taster} \neq \varepsilon_j \circ \texttt{taster}.$$

#### **Orbital games**

An asynchronous game equipped with

- two groups  $G_A$  and  $H_A$ ,
- a left group action on moves  $G_A \times M_A \longrightarrow M_A$
- a right group action on moves  $M_A \times H_A \longrightarrow M_A$

preserving the asynchronous structure, and such that the left and right actions commute:

 $\forall m \in M_A, \forall g \in G_A, \forall h \in H_A, \qquad (g \cdot m) \cdot h = g \cdot (m \cdot h).$ 

#### Alternatively

An orbital game is an asynchronous game A equipped with

- a class  $G_A$  of automorphisms of A closed under composition,

- a class  $H_A$  of automorphisms of A closed under composition,

such that

$$A \xrightarrow{g} A \xrightarrow{h} A \longrightarrow = A \xrightarrow{h} A \xrightarrow{g} A$$

The two definitions are essentially the same...

## An equivalence relation on plays

Two plays s and t are equal up to reindexing

 $s \approx t$ 

when there exists  $g \in G_A$  and  $H_A$  such that

 $t = g \cdot s \cdot h.$ 

#### A simulation preorder between strategies (AJM)

A strategy  $\sigma$  is simulated by a strategy  $\tau$  when for every pair of plays

$$s \approx s'$$

and for all moves m, n, m' such that

$$s \cdot m \cdot n \in \sigma$$
 and  $s' \in \tau$  and  $s \cdot m pprox_A s' \cdot m'$ 

there exists a move n' such that

$$s \cdot m \cdot n \approx_A s' \cdot m' \cdot n'$$
 and  $s' \cdot m' \cdot n' \in \tau$ .

$$\sigma \stackrel{\prec}{\approx} \overset{sim}{\sim} au$$

#### Interactive invariance

A strategy  $\sigma$  is covered by a strategy  $\tau$  when

$$\forall s \in \sigma, \quad \forall h \in H_T, \quad \exists g \in G_T, \qquad g \, . \, s \, . \, h \in \tau.$$

$$\sigma \stackrel{\prec}{\approx} \operatorname{inv} \tau$$

#### **Proposition**

Suppose that  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  are strategies of an orbital game. Then,

$$\sigma \stackrel{\scriptstyle \prec}{\underset{\scriptstyle \sim}{\underset{\scriptstyle \sim}{\overset{\scriptstyle \min}}} } \tau \iff \sigma \stackrel{\scriptstyle \prec}{\underset{\scriptstyle \sim}{\underset{\scriptstyle \sim}{\overset{\scriptstyle \min}}} } \tau$$

This leads to a 2-category of orbital games and uniform strategies, where !A is a pseudo-comonoid.

#### **Projection to coherence spaces**

The functor

 $\mathbf{Orbital} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathbf{Rel}$ 

projects a position to its orbit in the orbital game.

In particular, an indexed family of positions in the game

 $!A = \bigotimes_{n \in \mathbb{N}} A$ 

is transported to a multiset of positions.

The locative information is lost on the way...

### Interactive invariance on the syntax

Exponential boxes are replaced by «mille-feuilles» whose uniformity is captured by interactive reindexing.

$$(\lambda x.x(i))\vec{P} \mapsto P_i$$

Innocence precedes uniformity...

# A link to complexity

Construct the free dialogue category with pseudo-comonoids.

# Part IV

# A bialgebraic definition of traces

Towards a 2-dimensional approach to the Geometry of Interaction

#### **Traced monoidal categories**

A trace in a balanced category  ${\mathscr C}$  is an operator

$$\mathbf{Tr}_{A,B}^U \qquad \frac{A \otimes U \longrightarrow B \otimes U}{A \longrightarrow B}$$

depicted as feedback in string diagrams:



# Sliding (naturality in U)



Tightening (naturality in A, B)



Vanishing (monoidality in U)



# Superposing







