

# 1 Fully Abstract Models of the Probabilistic 2 $\lambda$ -calculus

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## 9 — Abstract —

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10 We compare three models of the probabilistic  $\lambda$ -calculus: the *probabilistic Böhm trees* of Leventis,  
11 the *probabilistic concurrent games* of Winskel et al., and the *probabilistic relational model* of  
12 Ehrhard et al. Probabilistic Böhm trees and probabilistic strategies are shown to be related by  
13 a precise *correspondence theorem*, in the spirit of existing work for the pure  $\lambda$ -calculus. Using  
14 Leventis' theorem (probabilistic Böhm trees characterise observational equivalence), we derive  
15 a full abstraction result for the games model. Then, we relate probabilistic strategies to the  
16 weighted relational model, using an *interpretation-preserving functor* from the former to the  
17 latter. We obtain that the relational model is itself fully abstract.

18 **2012 ACM Subject Classification** Theory of computation  $\rightarrow$  Denotational semantics; Proba-  
19 bilistic Computation.

20 **Keywords and phrases** Game Semantics, Lambda-calculus, Probability, Relational model, Full  
21 abstraction.

22 **Digital Object Identifier** 10.4230/LIPIcs...

## 23 **1** Introduction

24 The interest in probabilistic programs in recent years, driven in particular by applications in  
25 machine learning and statistical modelling, has triggered the need for theoretical foundations,  
26 going beyond the pioneering work of Kozen [14] and Saheb-Djahromi [21]. Although a variety  
27 of approaches exist, we focus on the *probabilistic  $\lambda$ -calculus*  $\Lambda^+$ , which extends the pure  
28 (untyped)  $\lambda$ -calculus with a probabilistic choice operator. The extension is natural and  
29 applications are quick to arise — see for instance [3]. But in order for  $\Lambda^+$  to become a useful  
30 formal model for probabilistic computation, the extensive classical theory of the  $\lambda$ -calculus  
31 must be readapted.

32 Among the existing research in this direction, we are especially interested in the work  
33 of Ehrhard, Pagani and Tasson [11], and of Leventis [16, 17]. In [11], the authors define an  
34 operational semantics for  $\Lambda^+$  and study a model in the category of *probabilistic coherence*  
35 *spaces*, an existing model [9] of Probabilistic PCF. They prove an adequacy theorem for  $\Lambda^+$ ,  
36 and this result applies to the *weighted relational model*, of which probabilistic coherence  
37 spaces are a refinement.

38 More recently, the PhD thesis of Leventis [16] offers a thorough exploration of the  
39 syntactical aspects of the calculus. In particular the author defines a notion of *probabilistic*  
40 *Böhm tree*, and redevelops in a probabilistic setting the Böhm theory for the  $\lambda$ -calculus,  
41 including Böhm's separation theorem: probabilistic Böhm trees, in their *infinitely extensional*  
42 form, characterise precisely the observational equivalence of  $\Lambda^+$  terms.



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Leibniz International Proceedings in Informatics

LIPICs Schloss Dagstuhl – Leibniz-Zentrum für Informatik, Dagstuhl Publishing, Germany

43 In this paper, we propose an alternative model in the framework of concurrent games,  
 44 integrating ideas from our earlier work on a concurrent games model of probabilistic PCF [5]  
 45 and from Ker, Ong and Nickau’s fully abstract semantics of the pure untyped  $\lambda$ -calculus [13].

46 In [13], an exact correspondence is proved between strategies and infinitely extensional  
 47 Böhm trees. Drawing inspiration from that work, we relate probabilistic strategies and  
 48 probabilistic Böhm trees, but unlike [13], the correspondence is not bijective, because of the  
 49 additional branching information contained in probabilistic strategies. By quotienting out  
 50 this information, we derive from Leventis’ theorem a full abstraction result for the games  
 51 model.

52 Finally, we study a functor from the probabilistic games model to the weighted relational  
 53 model. This functor is a *time-forgetting* operation on strategies, in the spirit of [1] (note that  
 54 proving the functoriality of such operations is usually challenging even without probabilities,  
 55 see for example Melliès’ work [19] — here, we address this by leveraging a “deadlock-  
 56 free lemma” proved in concurrent games in [5]). We show that the functor preserves the  
 57 interpretation of  $\Lambda^+$ , with significant consequences: Ehrhard et al.’s adequacy result can be  
 58 lifted to strategies, and the full abstraction result obtained for games via probabilistic Böhm  
 59 trees can be shown to hold also for the weighted relational model, so far only known to be  
 60 adequate<sup>1</sup>.

61 In Section 2, we present  $\Lambda^+$  and its operational semantics; we also recall Leventis’ work  
 62 on probabilistic Böhm trees and define concurrent probabilistic strategies, hinting at the  
 63 correspondence between the two. In Section 3, we outline the construction of a category of  
 64 concurrent games and probabilistic strategies, and the reflexive object that it contains. We  
 65 then study, in Section 4, the correspondence between probabilistic strategies and probabilistic  
 66 Böhm trees, and prove full abstraction for the games model. Finally, in Section 5, we collapse  
 67 probabilistic strategies down to weighted relations, thus showing full abstraction for the  
 68 relational model.

## 69 2 The Probabilistic $\lambda$ -calculus

### 70 2.1 Syntax

The set  $\Lambda^+$  of terms of the probabilistic  $\lambda$ -calculus is defined by the following grammar,  
 where  $p$  ranges over the interval  $[0, 1]$  and  $x$  over an infinite set  $\text{Var}$ :

$$M, N ::= x \mid \lambda x.M \mid MN \mid M +_p N.$$

71 Write  $\Lambda_0^+$  for the set of **closed terms**, *i.e.* those with no free variables.

72 The operator  $+_p$  represents probabilistic choice, so that a term of the form  $M +_p N$   
 73 has two possible reduction steps: to  $M$ , with probability  $p$ , and to  $N$ , with probability  
 74  $1 - p$ . Accordingly, the reduction relation we consider is a Markov process over the set  $\Lambda^+$ ,  
 75 and corresponds to a probabilistic variant of the standard **head-reduction**. It is defined  
 76 inductively:

$$\begin{array}{c} \frac{}{(\lambda x.M)N \xrightarrow{1} M[N/x]} \quad \frac{}{M +_p N \xrightarrow{p} M} \quad \frac{}{M +_p N \xrightarrow{1-p} N} \\ \frac{M \xrightarrow{p} M'}{\lambda x.M \xrightarrow{p} \lambda x.M'} \quad \frac{M \xrightarrow{p} M' \quad M \neq \lambda x.P}{MN \xrightarrow{p} M'N} \end{array}$$

<sup>1</sup> Independently and using a different method, Leventis and Pagani have obtained an alternative proof of full abstraction, but this work is so far unpublished.

79 For  $M, N \in \Lambda^+$ , there may be many reduction paths from  $M$  to  $N$ . The **weight** of a  
 80 path  $\pi : M \xrightarrow{p_1} \dots \xrightarrow{p_n} N$  is the product of the transition probabilities:  $w(\pi) = \prod_{i=1}^n p_i$ . The  
 81 **probability of  $M$  reducing to  $N$**  is then defined as  $\Pr(M \rightarrow N) = \sum_{\pi: M \rightarrow^* N} w(\pi)$ .

82 The normal forms for this reduction are terms of the form  $\lambda x_0 \dots x_n. y M_0 \dots M_k$ , where  
 83  $n, k \in \mathbb{N}$  and  $M_i \in \Lambda^+$  for all  $i$ . Such terms are called **head-normal forms** (hnfs). A pure  
 84  $\lambda$ -term has at most one hnf called – if it exists – *its* hnf, though of course, that does not  
 85 hold in the presence of probabilities.

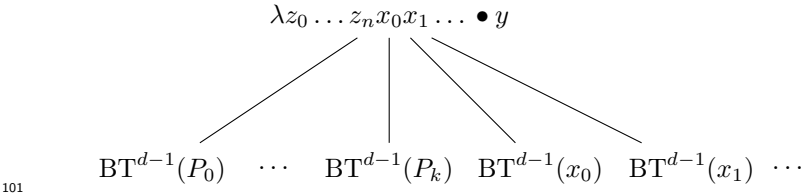
86 Given a set  $\mathcal{H}$  of hnfs, we set  $\Pr(M \rightarrow \mathcal{H}) = \sum_{H \in \mathcal{H}} \Pr(M \rightarrow H)$ . The **probability**  
 87 **of convergence** of a term  $M$ , denoted  $\Pr_{\downarrow}(M)$ , is the probability of  $M$  reducing to some  
 88 hnf:  $\Pr_{\downarrow}(M) = \Pr(M \rightarrow \{H \in \Lambda^+ \mid H \text{ hnf}\})$ . Finally we say that two terms  $M$  and  $N$   
 89 are **observationally equivalent**, written  $M =_{\text{obs}} N$ , if for all contexts  $C[\ ]$ ,  $\Pr_{\downarrow}(C[M]) =$   
 90  $\Pr_{\downarrow}(C[N])$ .

## 91 2.2 Probabilistic Böhm trees

### 92 Infinitely extensional Böhm trees for pure $\lambda$ -terms

93 There are several notions of infinite normal forms for pure  $\lambda$ -terms, including *e.g.* the **Böhm**  
 94 **trees** [2] and the **Lévy-Longo trees**, among others. The normal forms for the probabilistic  
 95  $\lambda$ -terms considered in this paper build on the **infinitely extensional Böhm trees** (also  
 96 called **Nakajima trees**), which provide a notion of infinitely  $\eta$ -expanded normal form.

97 The infinitely extensional Böhm tree of  $M$  is in general an infinite tree, which can be  
 98 defined as the limit of a sequence of finite-depth approximants. In fact those approximants  
 99 will suffice for the purposes of this paper: given a  $\lambda$ -term  $M$  and  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ , the tree  $\text{BT}^d(M)$  is  
 100  $\perp$  if  $d = 0$  or if  $M$  has no head-normal form, and



102 if  $d > 0$  and  $M$  has hnf  $\lambda z_0 \dots z_n. y P_1 \dots P_k$ .

103 In order to deal with issues of  $\alpha$ -renaming, we adopt the same convention as Leventis [16],  
 104 whereby the infinite sequence of abstracted variables at the root of a tree of depth  $d > 0$  is  
 105 labelled  $x_0^d, x_1^d, \dots$  so that any tree is determined by the pair  $(y, (T_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}})$  of its head variable  
 106 and sequence of subtrees.

### 107 Leventis' probabilistic trees

108 Infinitely extensional Böhm trees for the  $\lambda$ -calculus have striking properties: they characterise  
 109 observational equivalence of terms, and as a model they yield the *maximal consistent sensible*  
 110  $\lambda$ -theory (see [2] for details). In his PhD thesis, Leventis [16] proposes a notion of *probabilistic*  
 111 Böhm tree which plays the same role for  $\Lambda^+$ . Intuitively, because a term of the form  
 112  $\lambda x_0 \dots x_n. z P_0 \dots P_k +_p \lambda y_0 \dots y_m. w Q_0 \dots Q_l$  has two hnfs, it may be represented by a  
 113 probability distribution over trees of the form of that above. Accordingly, two different kinds  
 114 of trees are considered: **value trees**, representing head-normal forms (without probability  
 115 distribution at top-level), and **probabilistic Böhm trees**, representing general terms:

116 ► **Definition 1.** For each  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ , the sets  $\mathcal{PT}^d$  of **probabilistic Böhm trees of depth  $d$**   
 117 and  $\mathcal{VT}^d$  of **value trees of depth  $d$**  are defined as:

118

$$\begin{aligned}
 119 \quad & \mathcal{VT}^0 = \emptyset, \\
 120 \quad & \mathcal{VT}^{d+1} = \left\{ (y, (T_n)_{n \in \mathbb{N}}) \mid y \in \text{Var} \text{ and } \forall n \in \mathbb{N}, T_n \in \mathcal{PT}^d \right\} \text{ and} \\
 121 \quad & \mathcal{PT}^d = \left\{ T : \mathcal{VT}^d \rightarrow [0, 1] \mid \sum_{t \in \mathcal{VT}^d} T(t) \leq 1 \right\}. \\
 122
 \end{aligned}$$

123 We can then assign trees to individual terms:

124 ► **Definition 2.** Given  $M \in \Lambda^+$  and  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ , its **probabilistic Böhm tree of depth  $d$**  is  
 125 the tree  $\text{PT}^d(M) \in \mathcal{PT}^d$  defined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}
 126 \quad & \text{PT}^d(M) : \mathcal{VT}^d \longrightarrow [0, 1] \\
 127 \quad & t \longmapsto \Pr(M \rightarrow \{H \text{ hnf} \mid \text{VT}^d(H) = t\}) \\
 128
 \end{aligned}$$

129 where for any hnf  $H = \lambda z_0 \dots z_n. y P_0 \dots P_k$ , the **value tree of depth  $d$  of  $H$**  is defined as

$$\text{VT}^d(H) = \left( y, \left( \text{PT}^{d-1}(P_0), \dots, \text{PT}^{d-1}(P_k), \text{PT}^{d-1}(x_{n+1}^d), \dots \right) \right).$$

132 Consider for example the term  $M_1 = \lambda xy. x (y + \frac{1}{3} (\lambda z. z))$ , a head-normal form. Figure 1a  
 133 outlines the first steps in the construction of its value tree of depth  $d$ , for some fixed  $d \geq 2$ ;  
 134 note that we use the symbol  $\delta_t$  to denote the distribution in which  $t$  has probability 1, and  
 135 all other trees 0.

136 Infinitely extensional probabilistic Böhm trees precisely characterise observational equivalence  
 137 in  $\Lambda^+$ ; writing  $M =_{\text{PT}} N$  if for every  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\text{PT}^d(M) = \text{PT}^d(N)$ , we have:

138 ► **Theorem 3** (Leventis [16]). *For any  $M, N \in \Lambda^+$ ,  $M =_{\text{obs}} N$  if and only if  $M =_{\text{PT}} N$ .*

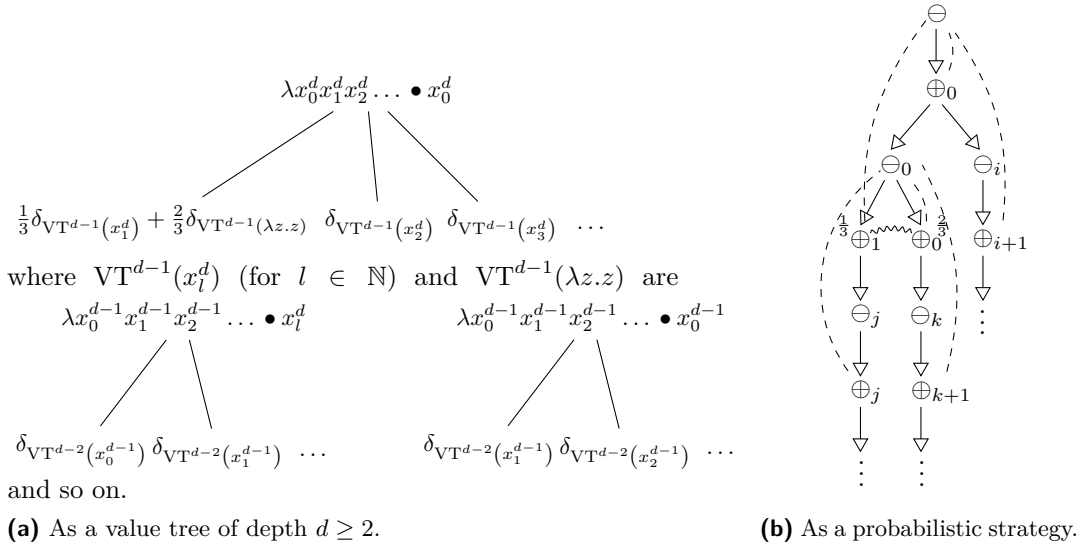
139 So infinitely extensional probabilistic Böhm trees provide a *fully abstract* interpretation of  
 140 the probabilistic  $\lambda$ -calculus. We will see now that similar trees arise as *probabilistic strategies*  
 141 when interpreting  $\lambda$ -terms in a denotational games model.

## 142 2.3 Strategies and event structures

143 Going towards our game semantics of  $\Lambda^+$ , we will first introduce our probabilistic strategies  
 144 as a more economical, syntax-free presentation of probabilistic Böhm trees. This extends  
 145 naturally, in the probabilistic and nondeterministic case, the usual correspondence between  
 146 Böhm trees and innocent strategies [12, 13].

147 First, we notice that the precise name given to variables in *e.g.* Figure 1a does not matter.  
 148 Techniques like De Bruijn levels or indices do not apply here since we abstract infinitely many  
 149 variables at each level – however, a variable occurrence is uniquely identified by a *pointer*  
 150 to the node where it was abstracted, along with a *number  $n$* , expressing that the variable  
 151 was the  $(n + 1)$ -th introduced at this node. For example, the variable  $x_0^d$  is expressed with a  
 152 pointed to the initial node, along with number 0. As a consequence of this representation,  
 153 we can omit the abstractions: at each node, there are always countably many variables being  
 154 introduced, and their name does not matter as they will be referred to differently.

155 Next, we split each node of the Böhm tree into two: first a node intuitively carrying the  
 156 abstractions (the target of pointers – we refer to these nodes as *negative*), and one carrying  
 157 the variable occurrence (the source of pointers – we refer to those as *positive*). Besides



■ **Figure 1** Two interpretations of the term  $M_1 = \lambda xy.x (y + \frac{1}{3} (\lambda z.z))$ .

158 bringing us closer to games, this allows us to easily distinguish the two kinds of branching  
 159 of probabilistic Böhm trees. The different arguments of a variable node form a *negative*  
 160 branching: each come with their own (implicit) distinct set of fresh variables, and a sub-tree  
 161 (by convention, we annotate by  $n$  the negative node corresponding to the  $n$ th argument).  
 162 In contrast, for a probabilistic choice such as  $\frac{1}{3} \delta_{VT^{d-1}}(x_1^d) + \frac{2}{3} \delta_{VT^{d-1}}(\lambda z.z)$  in Figure 1a, the  
 163 two subtrees start by defining the same variables – so instead we represent this by a *positive*  
 164 branching, where we further annotate the first node of each branch with its probability.

165 Altogether, and ignoring the wiggly line  $\sim\sim\sim$  for now, the reader may check that  
 166 the diagram of Figure 1b matches the Böhm tree of Figure 1a according to these conventions  
 167 (the correspondence will be made formal in Section 4). Read from top to bottom, these  
 168 diagrams have an interactive flavour: they describe the actions of a player  $\oplus$  depending on  
 169 those of its opponent  $\ominus$ . Our formalisation in terms of *strategies* will follow this intuition.

### 170 2.3.1 Probabilistic Böhm trees as probabilistic event structures.

171 Now, we formalise the representation introduced above as a *probabilistic strategy* in the sense  
 172 of [24], *i.e.* certain event structures with probabilities. In this section we only provide this  
 173 as a static representation, and leave the mechanism to *compose* those for Section 3.

174 Our strategies (such as the one of Figure 1b) involve a partial order: the *dependency*  
 175 *relation* (going from top to bottom); a relation  $\sim\sim\sim$  indicating conflict and generated  
 176 by probabilistic choice; and an annotation for probabilities. These are naturally formalised  
 177 as *probabilistic concurrent strategies* [24] (though for the purposes of this paper we will only  
 178 make use of *sequential* such strategies). We first recall the definition of event structures.

179 ► **Definition 4.** An **event structure** [22] is a tuple  $(E, \leq, \text{Con})$  where  $E$  is a set of **events**,  
 180  $\leq$  a partial order indicating **causal dependency**, and  $\text{Con}$  a non-empty set of **consistent**

181 finite subsets of  $E$ , such that

182  $[e] = \{e' \mid e' \leq e\}$  is finite for all  $e \in E$

183  $\{e\} \in \text{Con}$  for all  $e \in E$

184  $Y \subseteq X \in \text{Con} \implies Y \in \text{Con}$

185  $X \in \text{Con}$  and  $e \leq e' \in X \implies X \cup \{e\} \in \text{Con}$ .

187 The event structures we consider additionally have a polarity function  $\text{pol} : E \rightarrow \{+, -\}$   
 188 indicating for each event whether it is a move of Player (+) or Opponent (-). We call them  
 189 **event structures with polarity** (esps).

190 We fix some notation. Write  $e \rightarrow e'$  for **immediate causality**, *i.e.*  $e < e'$  with no events  
 191 in between. Write  $\mathcal{C}(E)$  for the set of finite **configurations** of  $E$ , *i.e.* those finite  $x \subseteq E$   
 192 such that  $x \in \text{Con}$  and  $x$  is down-closed: if  $e \leq e' \in x$  then  $e \in x$ . If  $E$  has polarity, we  
 193 sometimes annotate an event  $e$  to specify its polarity, as in  $e^+, e^-$ . If  $x, y \in \mathcal{C}(E)$ , write  
 194  $x \subseteq^+ y$  (resp.  $x \subseteq^- y$ ) if  $x \subseteq y$  and every event in  $y \setminus x$  has positive (resp. negative) polarity.

195 Ignoring probabilities and pointers, the diagram of Figure 1b is an esp:  $\leq$  is the transitive  
 196 reflexive closure of  $\rightarrow$ , and consistent sets are those finite sets whose down-closure do not  
 197 contain two events related by the *immediate conflict*  $\rightsquigarrow$ . We now equip esps with  
 198 probabilities, which comes in the form of a  $[0, 1]$ -valued function called a *valuation*.

199 For the forest-like event structures required to represent probabilistic  $\lambda$ -terms, it suffices to  
 200 fix, for each Opponent event, a probability distribution on the Player events that immediately  
 201 follow, as in Figure 1b. But to compose them we apply the more general machinery of [24],  
 202 where valuations assign a coefficient to each *configuration* and not simply to each event. For  
 203  $x \in \mathcal{C}(E)$ , the coefficient  $v(x)$  is the probability that the configuration  $x$  will be *reached* in  
 204 an execution, provided the Opponent moves in  $x$  occur. The following definition is from [24]:

205 **► Definition 5.** A **probabilistic event structure with polarity** consists of an esp  $(E, \leq,$   
 206  $\text{Con}, \text{pol})$  and a **valuation**, that is, a map  $v : \mathcal{C}(E) \rightarrow [0, 1]$  satisfying

- 207 ■  $v(\emptyset) = 1$ ;
- 208 ■ if  $x \subseteq^- y$ , then  $v(x) = v(y)$ ; and
- 209 ■ if  $y \subseteq^+ x_1, \dots, x_n$ , then

$$210 \quad v(y) \geq \sum_I (-1)^{|I|+1} v\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} x_i\right)$$

211 where  $I$  ranges over non-empty subsets of  $\{1, \dots, n\}$  such that  $\bigcup_{i \in I} x_i$  is a configuration.

212 Leaving aside pointers the diagram of Figure 1b represents a probabilistic esp, setting  
 213 the valuation of a configuration  $x$  to be  $\frac{1}{3}$  (resp.  $\frac{2}{3}$ ) if it contains the event annotated with  $\frac{1}{3}$   
 214 (resp.  $\frac{2}{3}$ ), and 1 otherwise – a configuration cannot contain both labelled events.

215 *Probabilistic strategies* are certain probabilistic esps, equipped with a *labelling map* into  
 216 the *game* they play on. Games are themselves esps, with the following particular shape:

217 **► Definition 6.** An **arena** is an esp  $A$  which is

- 218 ■ *forest-shaped*: if  $a, b, c \in A$  with  $a \leq b$  and  $c \leq b$  then  $a \leq c$  or  $c \leq a$ ; and
- 219 ■ *alternating*: if  $a \rightarrow b$  then  $\text{pol}(a) \neq \text{pol}(b)$ .
- 220 ■ *race-free*: if  $x \in \mathcal{C}(A)$  has  $x \subseteq^- y \in \mathcal{C}(A)$  and  $x \subseteq^+ z \in \mathcal{C}(A)$ , then  $y \cup z \in \mathcal{C}(A)$ .

221 Usually in game semantics, arenas represent *types*. For our untyped language, strategies  
 222 representing terms all play on a *universal arena*  $U$ , introduced soon. For now though, we  
 223 define a *probabilistic strategy* playing on arbitrary arena  $A$  as an esp, labelled by  $A$ .

224 ► **Definition 7.** A **probabilistic strategy** on  $A$  consists of a probabilistic esp  $S$ , and a  
 225 labelling map  $\sigma : S \rightarrow A$  preserving polarity, and such that:

- 226 (1)  $\sigma$  *preserves configurations*: for every  $x \in \mathcal{C}(S)$ ,  $\sigma x \in \mathcal{C}(A)$ ;
- 227 (2)  $\sigma$  *is locally injective*: if  $e, e' \in x \in \mathcal{C}(S)$  and  $\sigma e = \sigma e'$ , then  $e = e'$ ;
- 228 (3)  $\sigma$  is **receptive**: for  $x \in \mathcal{C}(S)$ , if  $\sigma x \subseteq^- y \in \mathcal{C}(A)$ , there is a unique  $x \subseteq x' \in \mathcal{C}(S)$  such  
 229 that  $\sigma x' = y$ ;
- 230 (4)  $\sigma$  is **courteous**: for  $s, s' \in S$ , if  $s \rightarrow_S s'$  and if  $\text{pol}(s) = +$  or  $\text{pol}(s') = -$ , then  
 231  $\sigma s \rightarrow_A \sigma s'$ .

232 Conditions (1) and (2) express that  $\sigma$  is a **map of event structures** from  $S$  to  $A$ . Conditions  
 233 (3) and (4) are there to restrict the behaviour of Player: they prevent any further constraints  
 234 from being put on Opponent events than those already specified by the game.

235 The diagram of Figure 1b presents a probabilistic strategy  $\sigma : S \rightarrow A$  – or more precisely  
 236 the diagram presents  $S$ , with the pointers being representations of the immediate dependency  
 237 in  $A$  of positive moves (though we do not display  $A$  for lack of space).

238 Winskel [24], building on previous work [20], showed how to *compose* probabilistic  
 239 strategies and organise them into a category. But his games are affine, and cannot deal with  
 240 the replication of resources. In recent work [5], we have extended probabilistic strategies  
 241 with *symmetry*, that augments the expressivity of esps by allowing interchangeable copies of  
 242 the same event. In the next section we introduce probabilistic strategies with symmetry, and  
 243 give the interpretation of  $\Lambda^+$ . Because of this replication of resources the interpretation of  
 244 the term  $M_1$  of Figure 1 will be an *expansion* of Figure 1b, taking into account Opponent's  
 245 replications – and in general, our correspondence theorem will associate a probabilistic Böhm  
 246 tree with its expansion in that sense, formulated as a probabilistic strategy.

### 247 3 Game semantics for $\Lambda^+$

248 In this section we construct our game semantics for  $\Lambda^+$ . The category of games we use is  
 249 close to our earlier concurrent games model of probabilistic PCF [5], in which we introduce a  
 250 universal arena inspired from [13].

#### 251 3.1 Games and strategies with symmetry

252 Symmetry in event structures [23] can be presented via *isomorphism families*:

253 ► **Definition 8.** An **isomorphism family** on an event structure  $E$  is a set  $\tilde{E}$  of bijections  
 254 between configurations of  $E$ , such that:

- 255 ■  $\tilde{E}$  contains all identity bijections, and is closed under composition and inverse of bijections.
- 256 ■ For every  $\theta : x \cong y \in \tilde{E}$  and  $x' \in \mathcal{C}(E)$  such that  $x' \subseteq x$ , then  $\theta|_{x'} \in \tilde{E}$ .
- 257 ■ For every  $\theta : x \cong y \in \tilde{E}$  and every extension  $x \subseteq x' \in \mathcal{C}(E)$ , there exists a (non-necessarily  
 258 unique)  $y \subseteq y' \in \mathcal{C}(E)$  and an extension  $\theta \subseteq \theta'$  such that  $\theta' : x' \cong y' \in \tilde{E}$ .

259 As usual [23], it follows from these axioms that any  $\theta \in \tilde{E}$  is an order-isomorphism, *i.e.*  
 260 preserves and reflects the order. An **event structure with symmetry** is a pair  $(E, \tilde{E})$ ,  
 261 with  $\tilde{E}$  an isomorphism family on  $E$ . If  $E$  has polarity, then we ask that every  $\theta \in \tilde{E}$   
 262 preserves it, and call  $(E, \tilde{E})$  an **event structure with symmetry and polarity** (essp).

263 We illustrate this definition by presenting as an esp the *universal arena* — the game  
 264 that  $\Lambda^+$  strategies will play on. It is an infinitely deep tree, with at every level,  $\omega$  available  
 265 moves, corresponding to calls from one of the players to a variable in context. There are  $\omega$   
 266 ‘symmetric’ copies of each move. Formally:

267 ► **Definition 9.** The esp  $(U, \leq, \text{Con}, \text{pol})$  is defined as having:

- 268 ■ *events*:  $U = (\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N})^*$ , finite sequences of ordered pairs;
- 269 ■ *causality*:  $s \leq t$  if  $s$  is a prefix of  $t$ ;
- 270 ■ *consistency*: no conflicts,  $\text{Con} = \mathcal{P}_{\text{fin}}(U)$ ;
- 271 ■ *polarity*:  $\text{pol}(s) = -$  if  $|s|$  is even,  $+$  if it is odd.

272 In a pair  $(m, n) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ ,  $m$  represents the variable address (the subscript in Figure 1b) and  
 273  $n$  is the copy index of the move (not displayed in Figure 1b).

274 We now add symmetry on  $U$ , following the intuition that different copies of the same  
 275 move should be interchangeable. The isomorphism family  $\tilde{U}$  is generated by an equivalence  
 276 relation  $\sim$  on events, defined as the smallest equivalence relation satisfying  $s \sim s' \implies$   
 277  $s \cdot (m, n) \sim s' \cdot (m, n')$  for any  $s, s' \in U$  and  $m, n, n' \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then, a bijection  $\theta : x \cong y$  between  
 278 configurations of  $U$  is in  $\tilde{U}$  whenever for all  $e \in x$ ,  $e \sim \theta(e)$ .

279 The elements of  $\tilde{U}$  are *reindexing bijections*, which may update the copy indices of moves  
 280 in a configuration. In the sequel, we will identify strategies differing only by the choice of  
 281 positive copy indices, hence we need to formally identify the bijections in  $\tilde{U}$  which do not  
 282 affect Opponent's copy indices. Because of the dual nature of games we must do the same for  
 283 Player; thus we define  $\sim^+$  and  $\sim^-$  to be the smallest equivalence relations on  $U$  satisfying:

$$\begin{aligned}
 284 \quad & s \sim^p s' \implies s \cdot (m, n) \sim^p s' \cdot (m, n) \quad (\text{for } p \in \{+, -\}) \\
 285 \quad & s \sim^+ s' \text{ and } |s| \text{ is even} \implies s \cdot (m, n) \sim^+ s' \cdot (m, n') \\
 286 \quad & s \sim^- s' \text{ and } |s| \text{ is odd} \implies s \cdot (m, n) \sim^- s' \cdot (m, n')
 \end{aligned}$$

288 for any  $s, s', m, n, n'$ . Just like  $\sim$  generates  $\tilde{U}$ , the relations  $\sim^+$  and  $\sim^-$  generate isomorphism  
 289 families  $\tilde{U}_+$  and  $\tilde{U}_-$ , respectively.

290 In general, the compositional mechanism will require all arenas to come with similar data:

291 ► **Definition 10.** A  $\sim$ -arena is a tuple  $\mathcal{A} = (A, \tilde{A}, \tilde{A}_-, \tilde{A}_+)$  with  $A$  an arena, and  $\tilde{A}$ ,  $\tilde{A}_-$ ,  
 292 and  $\tilde{A}_+$  isomorphism families on  $A$ , such that

- 293 ■  $\tilde{A}_-$  and  $\tilde{A}_+$  are subsets of  $\tilde{A}$ ;
- 294 ■ if  $\theta \in \tilde{A}_- \cap \tilde{A}_+$  then  $\theta$  is an identity bijection;
- 295 ■ if  $\theta \in \tilde{A}_-$  and  $\theta \subseteq^- \theta' \in \tilde{A}$  then  $\theta' \in \tilde{A}_-$  (where the notation  $\subseteq^-$  makes sense since  
 296 bijections preserve polarity);
- 297 ■ if  $\theta \in \tilde{A}_+$  and  $\theta \subseteq^+ \theta' \in \tilde{A}$  then  $\theta' \in \tilde{A}_+$ .

298 In particular,  $\sim$ -arenas are certain *thin concurrent games*, in the terminology of [8, 6].

299 ► **Lemma 11.**  $\mathcal{U} = (U, \tilde{U}, \tilde{U}_-, \tilde{U}_+)$  is a  $\sim$ -arena.

300 Strategies are in turn equipped with symmetry:

301 ► **Definition 12.** A **probabilistic essp** is an essp  $\mathcal{S}$  with a valuation  $v : \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{S}) \rightarrow [0, 1]$ , such  
 302 that for every  $\theta : x \cong y$  in  $\tilde{\mathcal{S}}$ ,  $v(x) = v(y)$ . A **probabilistic  $\sim$ -strategy** on a  $\sim$ -arena  $\mathcal{A}$   
 303 consists of a probabilistic essp  $\mathcal{S}$ , and a labelling  $\sigma : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$ , such that:

- 304 (1) the underlying map  $\sigma : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is a strategy;
- 305 (2)  $\sigma$  preserves symmetry: if  $\theta : x \cong y \in \tilde{\mathcal{S}}$  then  $\sigma\theta : \sigma x \cong \sigma y$  defined as  $\{(\sigma s, \sigma s') \mid (s, s') \in$   
 306  $\theta\}$ , is in  $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$  (that is, it is a **map of essps**  $(\mathcal{S}, \tilde{\mathcal{S}}) \rightarrow (\mathcal{A}, \tilde{\mathcal{A}})$ );
- 307 (3)  $\sigma$  is  **$\sim$ -receptive**: if  $\theta \in \tilde{\mathcal{S}}$  and  $\sigma\theta \subseteq^- \psi \in \tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ , there is a unique  $\theta \subseteq \theta' \in \tilde{\mathcal{S}}$  s.t.  $\sigma\theta' = \psi$ .
- 308 (4)  $\mathcal{S}$  is **thin**: for  $\theta : x \cong y$  in  $\tilde{\mathcal{S}}$  with  $x \subseteq^+ x \cup \{s\}$ , there is a *unique*  $t \in \mathcal{S}$  s.t.  $\theta \cup \{(s, t)\} \in \tilde{\mathcal{S}}$ .



309 Finally, before we define our category of games and strategies with symmetry, let us say  
310 what it means for strategies to be the same *up to Player copy indices*:

► **Definition 13.** Probabilistic  $\sim$ -strategies  $\sigma : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  and  $\tau : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  are **weakly isomorphic** if there is an isomorphism of essps  $\varphi : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}$ , such that for any  $x \in \mathcal{C}(S)$ ,  $v_S(x) = v_T(\varphi x)$ , and moreover the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{S} & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & \mathcal{T} \\ \sigma \downarrow & \swarrow \tau & \\ \mathcal{A} & & \end{array}$$

311 commutes *up to positive symmetry*, in the sense that for any  $x \in \mathcal{C}(S)$ , the set  $\{(\sigma e, \tau(\varphi e)) \mid$   
312  $e \in x\}$  is (the graph of) a bijection in  $\tilde{A}_+$ .

### 313 3.2 The category PG

314 We now define a category with objects the  $\sim$ -arenas, and morphisms probabilistic  $\sim$ -strategies.

315 Let us first define some constructions on games: if  $\mathcal{A}$  is a  $\sim$ -arena, its **dual**  $\mathcal{A}^\perp$  is  
316 the  $\sim$ -arena obtained by reversing the polarity of events in  $\mathcal{A}$ , and swapping the positive  
317 and negative isomorphism families. If  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are  $\sim$ -arenas, their **parallel composition**  
318  $\mathcal{A} \parallel \mathcal{B}$  is the tuple  $(A \parallel B, \tilde{A} \parallel \tilde{B}, \tilde{A}_- \parallel \tilde{B}_-, \tilde{A}_+ \parallel \tilde{B}_+)$ , where  $A \parallel B$  is the esp with events  
319  $A + B$  (the tagged disjoint union), componentwise causal dependency and polarity, and  
320 consistent sets those of the form  $X_A \parallel X_B$  for  $X_A \in \text{Con}_A$  and  $X_B \in \text{Con}_B$ ; and where the  
321 parallel composition  $\tilde{A} \parallel \tilde{B}$  of isomorphism families  $\tilde{A}$  and  $\tilde{B}$  comprises bijections of the  
322 form  $\theta : x_A \parallel x_B \cong y_A \parallel y_B$ , defined as  $\theta(1, a) = (1, \theta_A(a))$  and  $\theta(2, b) = (2, \theta_B(b))$  for some  
323  $\theta_A : x_A \cong y_A$  and  $\theta_B : x_B \cong y_B$  in the component iso families. Note that we will often make  
324 use of the parallel composition  $\|_{i \in I} \mathcal{A}_i$  of a family of  $\sim$ -arenas; it is defined analogously.

With that in place, a **probabilistic  $\sim$ -strategy from  $\mathcal{A}$  to  $\mathcal{B}$**  is a probabilistic  $\sim$ -  
strategy on the  $\sim$ -arena  $\mathcal{A}^\perp \parallel \mathcal{B}$ . Given  $\sigma : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^\perp \parallel \mathcal{B}$  and  $\tau : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}^\perp \parallel \mathcal{C}$ , we can form  
their **interaction** as the pullback

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathcal{T} \otimes \mathcal{S} & \\ \Pi_1 \swarrow & \downarrow & \searrow \Pi_2 \\ \mathcal{S} \parallel \mathcal{C} & & \mathcal{A} \parallel \mathcal{T} \\ \sigma \parallel \mathcal{C} \searrow & & \swarrow \mathcal{A} \parallel \tau \\ & \mathcal{A} \parallel \mathcal{B} \parallel \mathcal{C} & \end{array}$$

325 in the category of event structures with symmetry (and *without* polarity). The interaction is  
326 *probabilistic*: for any configuration  $x \in \mathcal{C}(T \otimes S)$ , we set  $v_{T \otimes S}(x) = v_S((\Pi_1 x)_S) \times v_T((\Pi_2 x)_T)$ ,  
327 where  $(\Pi_1 x)_S$  is the  $S$ -component of  $\Pi_1 x \in \mathcal{C}(S \parallel C)$ , and likewise for  $(\Pi_2 x)_T$ . The resulting  
328 map  $\tau \otimes \sigma : \mathcal{T} \otimes \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \parallel \mathcal{B} \parallel \mathcal{C}$  is not quite a probabilistic  $\sim$ -strategy, because  $\sigma$  and  $\tau$  play  
329 on dual versions of  $\mathcal{B}$ , making ambiguous the polarity of some events.

330 So as in [20, 7], the **composition** of  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  is obtained after *hiding* those moves  
331 of the interaction which act as *synchronisation events* — the moves  $e \in T \otimes S$  such that  
332  $(\tau \otimes \sigma)e = (2, b)$  for some  $b \in B$ . The remaining set of events (so-called *visible*) induces  
333 an event structure  $T \odot S$  with all structure inherited from  $T \otimes S$ , and polarity induced  
334 from  $\mathcal{A}^\perp \parallel \mathcal{C}$ . Any configuration  $x \in \mathcal{C}(T \odot S)$  has a **unique witness**  $[x] \in \mathcal{C}(T \otimes S)$ . The  
335 isomorphism family  $\widetilde{T \odot S}$  comprises bijections  $\theta : x \cong y$  such that there is  $\theta' : [x] \cong [y]$  in  
336  $\widetilde{T \otimes S}$  with  $\theta \subseteq \theta'$ . We get a map  $\tau \odot \sigma : T \odot S \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^\perp \parallel \mathcal{C}$  which satisfies all the conditions  
337 for a probabilistic  $\sim$ -strategy, with  $v_{T \odot S}(x) = v_{T \otimes S}([x])$  for every  $x \in \mathcal{C}(T \odot S)$ .

338 **Copycat.**

339 As usual in game semantics, the identity morphism on a  $\sim$ -arena  $\mathcal{A}$  will be a probabilistic  
 340  $\sim$ -strategy  $\mathbb{C}_{\mathcal{A}} : \mathbb{C}_{\mathcal{A}} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^{\perp} \parallel \mathcal{A}$  called **copycat**, in which Player deterministically copies the  
 341 behaviour of Opponent — so any Opponent move immediately triggers the corresponding  
 342 Player move in the dual game, with probability 1. Formally,  $\mathbb{C}_{\mathcal{A}}$  has the same events,  
 343 polarity, and consistent subsets as  $\mathcal{A}^{\perp} \parallel \mathcal{A}$  and the extra immediate causal dependencies  
 344  $\{((1, a), (2, a)) \mid a \in A, \text{pol}_{\mathcal{A}^{\perp}}(a) = -\}$  and  $\{((2, a), (1, a)) \mid a \in A, \text{pol}_{\mathcal{A}}(a) = -\}$  (from this  
 345  $\leq_{\mathbb{C}_{\mathcal{A}}}$  is obtained by transitive closure). Copycat has an isomorphism family  $\mathbb{C}_{\tilde{\mathcal{A}}}$  which we  
 346 do not define here for lack of space (it can be found *e.g.* in [6]). Together with the valuation  
 347  $v_{\mathbb{C}_{\mathcal{A}}}(x) = 1$  for all  $x \in \mathcal{C}(\mathbb{C}_{\mathcal{A}})$ , this turns copycat into a probabilistic  $\sim$ -strategy.

348 Recall that strategies are considered up to *weak isomorphism* (Definition 13). Doing so  
 349 crucially relies on the thinness axiom on strategies, which implies [6] that weak isomorphism  
 350 is stable under composition, so that we may perform a quotient and retain a well-defined  
 351 notion of composition. Though identity and associativity laws for strategies only hold up to  
 352 isomorphism, the quotient will turn them into strict equalities. So as in [5], we have:

353 ► **Lemma 14.** *There is a category  $\mathbf{PG}$  having*

- 354 ■ *objects:  $\sim$ -arenas*
- 355 ■ *morphisms  $\mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ : weak isomorphism classes of probabilistic  $\sim$ -strategies on  $\mathcal{A}^{\perp} \parallel \mathcal{B}$ .*

356 **Categorical structure.**

357  $\mathbf{PG}$  itself is a *compact closed category*, but we are interested in the subcategory  $\mathbf{PG}^{-}$ , where  
 358  $\sim$ -arenas and strategies are **negative** (that is, all initial moves are negative), and strategies  
 359 are moreover **well-threaded** (meaning that events in  $\mathcal{S}$  depend on a *unique* initial move).

360 Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be objects of  $\mathbf{PG}^{-}$ . Their **tensor product**  $\mathcal{A} \otimes \mathcal{B}$  is simply defined as  
 361  $\mathcal{A} \parallel \mathcal{B}$ . The tensorial unit is the empty  $\sim$ -arena, and moreover the tensor is *closed*: the  
 362 **function space**  $\mathcal{A} \multimap \mathcal{B}$  has events those of  $(\parallel_{\min(B)} \mathcal{A}^{\perp}) \parallel \mathcal{B}$  with same polarity. The  
 363 causal dependency is induced, with extra causal links  $\{((2, b), (1, (b, a))) \mid b \in \min(B), a \in A\}$ .  
 364 The function  $\chi : (\mathcal{A} \multimap \mathcal{B}) \rightarrow \mathcal{A}^{\perp} \parallel \mathcal{B}$  defined as  $(1, (b, a)) \mapsto (1, a)$  and  $(2, b) \mapsto (2, b)$  allows  
 365 us to characterise consistent sets and iso families concisely:  $\text{Con}_{\mathcal{A} \multimap \mathcal{B}}$  is defined as the largest  
 366 set making  $\widetilde{\chi}$  a map of *esps*, and an order-isomorphism  $\theta$  between configurations of  $\mathcal{A} \multimap \mathcal{B}$   
 367 is in  $\mathcal{A} \multimap \mathcal{B}$  iff  $\chi\theta \in \mathcal{A}^{\perp} \parallel \mathcal{B}$ .  $\mathbf{PG}^{-}$  also has **cartesian products**, with  $\mathcal{A} \& \mathcal{B}$  defined as  
 368  $\mathcal{A} \parallel \mathcal{B}$ , only with consistent sets restricted to those of  $\mathcal{A} \parallel \emptyset$  and  $\emptyset \parallel \mathcal{B}$ . The rest of the  
 369 structure, including symmetry, is induced from  $\mathcal{A} \parallel \mathcal{B}$  by restriction.

370 Finally there is a **linear exponential comonad** [18]  $!$  on  $\mathbf{PG}^{-}$ . Given  $\mathcal{A} \in \mathbf{PG}^{-}$ ,  
 371 the  $\sim$ -arena  $!\mathcal{A}$  is an expanded version of  $\mathcal{A}$  with countably many copies of every move.  
 372 Accordingly, the *esp*  $!\mathcal{A}$  is simply  $\parallel_{i \in \omega} \mathcal{A}$ , and the bijections in  $!\mathcal{A}$  are those  $\theta : \parallel_{i \in I} x_i \cong \parallel_{j \in J} y_j$   
 373 such that there exists a permutation  $\pi : I \cong J$  and bijections  $\theta_i \in \widetilde{\mathcal{A}}$  with  $\theta((i, a)) = (\pi i, \theta_i a)$   
 374 for all  $(i, a) \in \parallel_{i \in I} x_i$ . Recall that  $\mathcal{A}$  is negative, so the set  $!\widetilde{\mathcal{A}}_+$  of *positive* bijections (those  
 375 in which only Player moves are reindexed) comprises those  $\theta \in !\widetilde{\mathcal{A}}$  for which  $I = J$  and  
 376  $\pi : I \rightarrow J$  is the identity function, and such that each  $\theta_i \in \widetilde{\mathcal{A}}_+$ . On the other hand, bijections  
 377 in  $!\widetilde{\mathcal{A}}_-$  can consist of any  $\pi : I \cong J$ , so long as  $\theta_i \in \widetilde{\mathcal{A}}_-$  for all  $i$ .

378 We leave out all further details of the categorical structure of  $\mathbf{PG}^{-}$ , including the various  
 379 constructions on morphisms. It can be shown that  $\mathbf{PG}^{-}$ , together with the data above, is a  
 380 model of Intuitionistic Linear Logic. From here it is standard that the Kleisli category for  $!$   
 381 is a ccc:

382 ► **Lemma 15.** *There is a cartesian closed category  $\mathbf{PG}_!^{-}$  having*

- 383 ■ *objects: negative  $\sim$ -arenas*  
 384 ■ *morphisms  $\mathcal{A} \mapsto \mathcal{B}$ : (weak isomorphism classes of) negative and well-threaded probabilistic*  
 385  *$\sim$ -strategies on  $!\mathcal{A}^\perp \parallel \mathcal{B}$ .*

386 With a slight abuse of notation, we shall keep using  $\odot$  for composition in the Kleisli category  
 387  $\mathbf{PG}_1^-$ . We use the following notations for the cartesian closed structure:  $\mathcal{A} \Rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is the  
 388 function space  $!\mathcal{A} \multimap \mathcal{B}$ ,  $\text{cur}$  is the bijection  $\mathbf{PG}_1^-(\mathcal{A} \& \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}) \cong \mathbf{PG}_1^-(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B} \Rightarrow \mathcal{C})$ , and  
 389  $\text{ev}_{\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}} : (\mathcal{A} \Rightarrow \mathcal{B}) \& \mathcal{A} \mapsto \mathcal{B}$  is the evaluation morphism.

### 390 3.3 Interpretation of $\Lambda^+$

391 We finally come to our interpretation of  $\Lambda^+$  terms as probabilistic strategies. We start by  
 392 imposing one key new condition on strategies: *sequential innocence*. The cut-down model  
 393 will be closer to the language, allowing us to prove a correspondence result in Section 4. We  
 394 assume from now on that all strategies are negative and well-threaded:

395 ► **Definition 16.** A probabilistic  $\sim$ -strategy  $\sigma : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  is **sequential innocent** if

- 396 ■ a subset  $X \subseteq \mathcal{S}$  is a configuration *if and only if* it is an Opponent-branching tree (that is,  
 397 causality is tree-shaped and if  $a \rightarrow b$  and  $a \rightarrow c$  in  $X$  then  $\text{pol}(a) = +$ ) and  $\sigma X \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{A})$ ;  
 398 ■ for every  $x, y, z \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{S})$  such that  $x = y \cap z$  and  $y \cup z \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{S})$ , either  $v(x) = 0$  or

$$\frac{v(y \cup z)}{v(x)} = \frac{v(y)}{v(x)} \frac{v(z)}{v(x)}.$$

398 Less formally, innocence forces the independence (causal and probabilistic) of Opponent-  
 399 forking branches of the strategy. Sequential innocent probabilistic  $\sim$ -strategies are closed  
 400 under composition, stable under weak isomorphism, and copycat verifies all conditions, so we  
 401 can consider the subcategory  $\mathbf{PG}_1^{\text{si}}$  of  $\mathbf{PG}_1$  consisting of those strategies. It is easy to check  
 402 that  $\mathbf{PG}_1^{\text{si}}$  is still a ccc; it is the category we will use to interpret  $\Lambda^+$ , and in what follows we  
 403 refer to  $\mathbf{PG}_1^{\text{si}}$ -strategies simply as  $\Lambda^+$ -strategies.

#### 404 A reflexive object.

405 Recall the  $\sim$ -arena  $\mathcal{U}$  defined in 3.1. It is a **reflexive object**, meaning that there are maps  
 406  $\lambda \in \mathbf{PG}_1^{\text{si}}(\mathcal{U} \Rightarrow \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{U})$  and  $\text{app} \in \mathbf{PG}_1^{\text{si}}(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{U} \Rightarrow \mathcal{U})$  such that  $\text{app} \odot \lambda = \text{id}_{\mathcal{U} \Rightarrow \mathcal{U}}$ . It is easy to  
 407 see that there is an isomorphism of essps  $\rho : \mathcal{U} \cong \mathcal{U} \Rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ . To turn this into an isomorphism  
 408 in  $\mathbf{PG}_1^{\text{si}}$ , we can lift it to a copycat-like strategy which “plays following  $\rho$ ”. Details of this  
 409 lifting are omitted but can be found in [6].

410 Closed terms of the probabilistic  $\lambda$ -calculus are interpreted as probabilistic strategies on  
 411  $\mathcal{U}$ . Open terms  $M$  with free variables in  $\Gamma$  are interpreted as  $\Lambda^+$ -strategies  $\llbracket M \rrbracket^\Gamma : \mathcal{U}^\Gamma \mapsto \mathcal{U}$ ,  
 412 where  $\mathcal{U}^\Gamma = \&_{x \in \Gamma} \mathcal{U}$ . The interpretation of the  $\lambda$ -calculus constructions is standard, using  
 413 that  $\mathcal{U}$  is a reflexive object in a ccc:

$$\begin{aligned} 414 \quad \llbracket x \rrbracket^\Gamma &= \pi_x, \text{ the } x^{\text{th}} \text{ projection} \\ 415 \quad \llbracket \lambda x.M \rrbracket^\Gamma &= \lambda \odot \text{cur}(\llbracket M \rrbracket^{\Gamma, x}) \\ 416 \quad \llbracket MN \rrbracket^\Gamma &= \text{ev}_{\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{U}} \odot \langle \text{app} \odot \llbracket M \rrbracket^\Gamma, \llbracket N \rrbracket^\Gamma \rangle \end{aligned}$$

418 In order to give an interpretation to the probabilistic choice operator, we must define the  
 419 sum of two strategies. Let  $\sigma : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow (\mathcal{U}^\Gamma)^\perp \parallel \mathcal{U}$  and  $\tau : \mathcal{T} \rightarrow (\mathcal{U}^\Gamma)^\perp \parallel \mathcal{U}$  be  $\Lambda^+$ -strategies, and  
 420 let  $p \in [0, 1]$ . The essp  $\mathcal{S} +_p \mathcal{T}$  has a unique initial Opponent move (as do  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{T}$  — *wlog*

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421 call this move  $\varepsilon$ ), and continues as either  $\mathcal{S}$  or  $\mathcal{T}$  non-deterministically. That is, it has events  
 422  $\{\varepsilon\} \uplus (\mathcal{S} \setminus \{\varepsilon\}) \uplus (\mathcal{T} \setminus \{\varepsilon\})$ , and all structure induced from  $\mathcal{S}$  and  $\mathcal{T}$ , with  $X \in \text{Con}_{\mathcal{S}+_p\mathcal{T}}$  iff  
 423  $X \in \text{Con}_{\mathcal{S}}$  or  $X \in \text{Con}_{\mathcal{T}}$ . We define  $v_{\mathcal{S}+_p\mathcal{T}}(x)$  to be 1 if  $x = \emptyset, \{\varepsilon\}$ ,  $pv_{\mathcal{S}}(x)$  if  $x \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{S})$ , and  
 424  $(1-p)v_{\mathcal{T}}(x)$  if  $x \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{T})$ . The obvious map  $\sigma +_p \tau : \mathcal{S} +_p \mathcal{T} \rightarrow (\mathcal{U}^\Gamma)^\perp \parallel \mathcal{U}$  is a  $\Lambda^+$ -strategy,  
 425 and the interpretation of the syntactic  $+_p$  is simply  $\llbracket M +_p N \rrbracket^\Gamma = \llbracket M \rrbracket^\Gamma +_p \llbracket N \rrbracket^\Gamma$ . We have:

426 ► **Theorem 17 (Adequacy).** *For any  $M \in \Lambda_0^+$ , writing  $\sigma : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  for  $\llbracket M \rrbracket$ , we have*

$$427 \quad \text{Pr}_{\downarrow}(M) = \sum_{\substack{x \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{S}) \\ |x^+|=1}} v_{\mathcal{S}}(x),$$

428 where  $x^+$  is the set of positive events of  $x$ .

429 We only state the result at this point; it will follow directly from the interpretation-preserving  
 430 functor of Section 5 and the adequacy of the weighted relational model for  $\Lambda^+$ . A direct  
 431 corollary of Theorem 17 is the following soundness result:

432 ► **Lemma 18 (Soundness).** *For any  $M, N \in \Lambda^+$  with free variables in  $\Gamma$ , if  $\llbracket M \rrbracket^\Gamma = \llbracket N \rrbracket^\Gamma$   
 433 then  $M =_{\text{obs}} N$ .*

434 In fact we will prove in Section 5 that the converse, *full abstraction*, also holds modulo  
 435 a mild (effective) quotient. It will also follow that the weighted relational model itself is  
 436 also fully abstract, which was open. These facts rely on Leventis' result [16] along with the  
 437 formal correspondence between strategies and Böhm trees, to which we now move on.

### 438 4 The Correspondence Theorem

439 In [13], the authors prove an *exact correspondence theorem* for the pure  $\lambda$ -calculus: infinitely  
 440 extensional Böhm trees precisely correspond to deterministic innocent strategies on a universal  
 441 arena. They work in a different games framework, but the analogous phenomenon occurs  
 442 in ours (the main technical difference, if we were to conduct the proof in the deterministic  
 443 case, would be the explicit duplication of moves: our strategies are *expanded*, in order to  
 444 accommodate Opponent's choice of copy index for every move).

445 For  $\Lambda^+$  however, the correspondence is not so exact: although terms  $M$  and  $M +_p M$   
 446 have the same probabilistic Böhm tree, they have different interpretations in  $\mathbf{PG}_1^{\text{si}}$ , where  
 447 each probabilistic choice is recorded as an explicit branching point.<sup>2</sup> In what follows, we  
 448 identify a class of *Böhm tree-like* probabilistic strategies for which the exact correspondence  
 449 does hold, and we show that any strategy can be reduced to a Böhm tree-like one. Two  
 450 strategies can then be considered equivalent if they reduce to the same.

451 First, given a  $\Lambda^+$ -strategy  $\sigma : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ , define a relation  $\approx$  on the events of  $\mathcal{S}$  as the smallest  
 452 equivalence relation such that if  $s_1 \approx s'_1$ ,  $s_1 \rightarrow s_2$ ,  $s'_1 \rightarrow s'_2$  and there is an order-isomorphism  
 453  $\varphi : \{s \in \mathcal{S} \mid s_2 \leq s\} \cong \{s' \in \mathcal{S} \mid s'_2 \leq s'\}$  such that  $\sigma s \sim^+ (\sigma \circ \varphi) s$  for all  $s \geq s_2$ , then  
 454  $s_2 \approx s'_2$ . Informally,  $\approx$  identifies events coming from the same syntactic construct in two  
 455 copies of a term in an idempotent probabilistic sum, as in  $M +_p M$  (where Opponent has  
 456 played the same copy indices).

457 ► **Definition 19.** We say  $\sigma$  is **Böhm tree-like** if it satisfies

458 (1) for every  $x \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{S})$ ,  $v_{\mathcal{S}}(x) > 0$ ; and

<sup>2</sup> In particular,  $\mathbf{PG}_1^{\text{si}}$  does not yield a *probabilistic  $\lambda$ -theory* in the sense of Leventis [16].

459 (2) for every  $s, s' \in S$ , if  $s \approx s'$  then  $s = s'$ .

460 In other words, a Böhm tree-like strategy is one with no redundant branches. Many  
461  $\Lambda^+$ -strategies do not satisfy this property, but all can be reduced to one that does:

462 ► **Definition 20.** Given a  $\Lambda^+$ -strategy  $\sigma : S \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ , let  $S_{bt}$  be the set of  $\approx$ -equivalence classes  
463 containing at least one event  $s$  such that  $v_S([s]) > 0$  (where  $[s]$  is the down-closure of  $s$ ).

464 It is direct to turn  $S_{bt}$  into an essp  $\mathcal{S}_{bt}$  with structure induced by  $S$ . The (partial) quotient  
465 map  $f : S \rightarrow \mathcal{S}_{bt}$  is then used to *push-forward* the valuation, *i.e.*

$$466 \quad v_{\mathcal{S}_{bt}}(x) = \sum_{\substack{y \in \mathcal{C}(S) \\ f y = x}} v_S(y).$$

467 Then,  $\sigma_{bt} : \mathcal{S}_{bt} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$  is a Böhm tree-like  $\Lambda^+$ -strategy. Write  $\sigma =_{bt} \tau$  when  $\sigma_{bt} = \tau_{bt}$ .

468 We can now make formal the connection between  $\Lambda^+$ -strategies and probabilistic Böhm  
469 trees. To do so we define a bijective map from the set of Böhm tree-like  $\Lambda^+$ -strategies of  
470 depth  $d$  on  $(\mathcal{U}^\Gamma)^\perp \parallel \mathcal{U}$ , to the set  $\mathcal{PT}_d^\Gamma$  of probabilistic Böhm trees of depth  $d$  with free  
471 variables in  $\Gamma$ . Let us say first what we mean by the *depth* of a strategy:

472 ► **Definition 21.** The **depth** of a  $\Lambda^+$ -strategy  $\sigma : S \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ ,  $\text{depth}(\sigma)$ , is the maximum number  
473 of Player moves in a chain  $s_0 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow s_n$  in  $S$ , and  $\infty$  if such chains have unbounded length.

474 We can show by induction on  $d$ :

475 ► **Lemma 22.** *For every  $d \in \mathbb{N}$  and every  $\Gamma \subseteq_{fin} \text{Var}$  there is a bijection*

$$476 \quad \Psi_\Gamma^d : \{\sigma_{bt} \mid \sigma \in \mathbf{PG}_\Gamma^{si}(\mathcal{U}^\Gamma, \mathcal{U}) \text{ and } \text{depth } \sigma \leq d\} \xrightarrow{\cong} \mathcal{PT}_\Gamma^d.$$

477 **Proof (sketch).** In Section 2.3, we motivated the definition of probabilistic strategies via  
478 a geometric correspondence with probabilistic Böhm trees, to be expected in the light of  
479 standard definability results in game semantics.

480 However, probabilistic strategies differ from the picture of Section 2.3 due to the necessity  
481 for Player to acknowledge Opponent's replications, spawning countably many symmetric  
482 copies of branches starting with an Opponent move. It follows however from the axioms of  
483 symmetry that events differing only by Opponent's choice of copy indices have isomorphic  
484 futures. One can, with no loss of information, focus on a sub-strategy where Opponent  
485 performs no duplication, and apply the correspondence explained in Section 2.3. ◀

486 We now show that this bijection preserves the interpretation of  $\Lambda^+$ .

487 ► **Theorem 23 (Correspondence theorem).** *For any  $M \in \Lambda^+$  and  $d \in \mathbb{N}$ ,  $\Psi_\Gamma^d(\llbracket M \rrbracket^d)_{bt} =$   
488  $PT^d(M)$ , where  $\llbracket M \rrbracket^d$  is the maximal sub-strategy of  $\llbracket M \rrbracket$  with depth  $\leq d$ .*

489 **Proof (sketch).** The proof is by induction on  $d$ , and follows a similar argument as in the  
490 non-probabilistic case [13], with the additional difficulty of dealing with *infinite width*: a  
491 probabilistic Böhm tree may be a probability distribution with infinite support, and the first  
492 level of Player moves in a probabilistic strategy may be infinite. One must therefore consider  
493 finite-width approximations.

494 Probabilistic strategies are traditionally ordered using a probabilistic version of the prefix  
495 order: given  $\sigma : S \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  and  $\tau : T \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$  we say  $\sigma \sqsubseteq \tau$  if  $S \subseteq T$  (*i.e.*  $S \subseteq T$  and all data  
496 is inherited), and for all  $x \in \mathcal{C}(S)$ ,  $v_S(x) \leq v_T(x)$ . However the naive restriction of this  
497 order to the set of Böhm tree-like strategies is not sensible, because  $\sigma \sqsubseteq \tau$  does not imply

498  $\sigma_{\text{bt}} \sqsubseteq \tau_{\text{bt}}$ . An alternative is given by Leventis [16, p. 111], who defines an order  $\preceq$  on the set  
 499  $\mathcal{PT}_{\Gamma}^d$ , characterised in this setting as follows:  $t \preceq t'$  iff there exists a strategy  $\sigma$  such that  
 500  $(\Psi_{\Gamma}^d)^{-1}(t) =_{\text{bt}} \sigma$  and  $\sigma \sqsubseteq (\Psi_{\Gamma}^d)^{-1}(t')$ . Intuitively, the branches of  $\sigma$  are those of  $(\Psi_{\Gamma}^d)^{-1}(t)$ ,  
 501 duplicated and assigned probability in such a way that they can be extended to those of  
 502  $(\Psi_{\Gamma}^d)^{-1}(t')$  using the prefix order  $\sqsubseteq$ .

503 Under  $\preceq$  the set  $\mathcal{PT}_{\Gamma}^d$  is a cpo, and we also call  $\preceq$  the corresponding order on the set of  
 504 Böhm tree-like strategies (this automatically makes  $\Psi_{\Gamma}^d$  a continuous bijection).

505 Leventis proves the crucial property that for every term  $M$  there is a chain  $t_0, t_1, \dots$   
 506 of finite-width trees satisfying  $\text{PT}^d(M) = \bigvee t_i$ . Replaying his argument in our game  
 507 semantics, we show that the chain  $(\Psi_{\Gamma}^d)^{-1}(t_i), i \in \mathbb{N}$  has lub  $(\llbracket M \rrbracket^d)_{\text{bt}}$ . We conclude, because  
 508  $(\Psi_{\Gamma}^d)^{-1}(\text{PT}_{\Gamma}^d(M)) = (\Psi_{\Gamma}^d)^{-1}(\bigvee_{i \in \mathbb{N}} t_i) = \bigvee_{i \in I} (\Psi_{\Gamma}^d)^{-1}(t_i) = (\llbracket M \rrbracket^d)_{\text{bt}}$ .  $\blacktriangleleft$

509 Using the correspondence it follows easily that:

510  $\blacktriangleright$  **Lemma 24.** *For any  $M, N \in \Lambda^+$ ,  $M =_{PT} N$  if and only if  $\llbracket M \rrbracket =_{\text{bt}} \llbracket N \rrbracket$ .*

511  $\blacktriangleright$  **Theorem 25 (Full abstraction).** *The model  $\mathbf{PG}_{\dagger}^{si} / =_{\text{bt}}$  is fully abstract, i.e.  $M =_{\text{obs}} N$  if  
 512 and only if  $\llbracket M \rrbracket =_{\text{bt}} \llbracket N \rrbracket$ .*

## 513 **5 Weighted Relational Semantics**

514 In this final section, we consider the weighted relational model of  $\Lambda^+$ . It lives in the  
 515 category  $\mathbf{PRel}_{\dagger}$  whose objects are sets and whose morphisms are certain matrices with  
 516 coefficients in the set  $\overline{\mathbb{R}}_+ = \mathbb{R}_+ \cup \{\infty\}$ . This interpretation of probabilistic  $\lambda$ -terms was first  
 517 suggested in [11], where authors consider the category  $\mathbf{PCoh}_{\dagger}$  of **probabilistic coherence**  
 518 **spaces**, a refinement (using *biorthogonality*) of the model  $\mathbf{PRel}_{\dagger}$  presented here.  $\mathbf{PCoh}_{\dagger}$   
 519 has desirable properties (notably, all coefficients are finite) but because there is a faithful  
 520 functor  $\mathbf{PCoh}_{\dagger} \rightarrow \mathbf{PRel}_{\dagger}$  preserving the interpretation of  $\Lambda^+$ , all the results of [11] hold for  
 521 the simpler model  $\mathbf{PRel}_{\dagger}$ , which we focus on in this paper and proceed to define.

### 522 **5.1 The weighted relational model of $\Lambda^+$**

523 We use the notation  $\mathbf{PRel}_{\dagger}$  to indicate that the model is obtained as the Kleisli category  
 524 for a comonad  $!$ , much like  $\mathbf{PG}_{\dagger}$ . The underlying category  $\mathbf{PRel}$  is a well-known model  
 525 of intuitionistic linear logic (see *e.g.* [15]), but we skip its construction and give a direct  
 526 presentation of  $\mathbf{PRel}_{\dagger}$ :

527  $\blacktriangleright$  **Definition 26.** The category  $\mathbf{PRel}_{\dagger}$  is defined as follows:

- 528  $\blacksquare$  *objects:* sets;
- 529  $\blacksquare$  *morphisms from  $X$  to  $Y$ :* maps  $\varphi : \mathcal{M}_f(X) \times Y \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}_+$ , where  $\mathcal{M}_f(X)$  is the set of  
 530 **finite multisets** of elements of  $X$ ;
- 531  $\blacksquare$  *composition:* for  $\varphi \in \mathbf{PRel}_{\dagger}(X, Y)$ ,  $\psi \in \mathbf{PRel}_{\dagger}(Y, Z)$ , define  $\psi \circ \varphi : \mathcal{M}_f(X) \times Z \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}_+$  as

$$532 \quad (\psi \circ \varphi)(m, c) = \sum_{p \in \mathcal{M}_f(Y)} \psi_{p,c} \sum_{\substack{(m_b)_{b \in p} \\ \text{s.t. } m = \uplus m_b}} \prod_{b \in p} \varphi_{(m_b, b)}$$

533 for every  $m \in \mathcal{M}_f(X)$  and  $c \in Z$ .

- 534  $\blacksquare$  *identity:* for any set  $X$ , and for any  $m \in \mathcal{M}_f(X)$  and  $a \in X$ , define

$$535 \quad \text{id}_X(m, a) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } m = [a] \\ 0 & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

536  $\mathbf{PRel}_!$  is cartesian closed, with  $X \& Y = X \uplus Y$  and  $X \Rightarrow Y = \mathcal{M}_f(X) \times Y$ . There is a  
 537 reflexive object  $\mathcal{D}$  in  $\mathbf{PRel}_!$ , supporting the interpretation of  $\Lambda^+$ , and defined as the least  
 538 fixed point of the operation  $X \mapsto \mathcal{M}_f(\&_{n \in \omega} X)$ , i.e. the lub of the chain  $D_0, D_1, \dots$  where  
 539  $D_0 = \emptyset$  and  $D_{i+1} = \mathcal{M}_f(\&_{n \in \omega} D_i)$  for all  $i$ . Terms of  $\Lambda^+$  are interpreted in the standard  
 540 way, with  $\llbracket M +_p N \rrbracket^\Gamma(d) = p \llbracket M \rrbracket^\Gamma(d) + (1-p) \llbracket N \rrbracket^\Gamma(d)$  for every  $d \in \mathcal{D}$ . We have:

541 ► **Theorem 27** (Adequacy [11]). *For any  $M \in \Lambda_0^+$ , the map  $\llbracket M \rrbracket_{\mathbf{PRel}_!} : \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}_+$  satisfies*

$$542 \quad \text{Pr}_{\downarrow}(M) = \sum_{d \in \mathcal{D}_2} \llbracket M \rrbracket_{\mathbf{PRel}_!}(d).$$

## 543 5.2 Relational collapse

544 We now connect the two models *via* a functor  $\downarrow : \mathbf{PG}_!^{\text{si}} \rightarrow \mathbf{PRel}_!$ , which intuitively *forgets* the  
 545 causal information in a strategy, only remembering the states reached during the execution.

546 If  $(E, \tilde{E})$  is an event structure with symmetry, write  $\cong$  for the equivalence relation on  
 547  $\mathcal{C}(E)$  defined as  $x \cong y$  if and only if there is  $\theta : x \cong y$  in  $\tilde{E}$ . For  $\mathcal{A}$  an arbitrary negative  
 548  $\sim$ -arena, the set  $\downarrow \mathcal{A}$  is then defined as the quotient  $\{x \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{A}) \mid x \text{ non-empty}\} / \cong$ .

549 For any  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}$ , there is a bijection  $\downarrow(\mathcal{A} \Rightarrow \mathcal{B}) \simeq \mathcal{M}_f(\downarrow \mathcal{A}) \times \downarrow \mathcal{B}$ , enabling morphisms of  $\mathbf{PG}_!^{\text{si}}$   
 550 to be mapped to those of  $\mathbf{PRel}_!$ : if  $\sigma : \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{A} \Rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is a  $\Lambda^+$ -strategy and  $\mathbf{x} \in \downarrow(\mathcal{A} \Rightarrow \mathcal{B})$   
 551 (so  $\mathbf{x}$  is an equivalence class of configurations), the set of **witnesses** of  $\mathbf{x}$  is defined as  
 552  $\text{wit}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x}) = \{z \in \mathcal{C}(\mathcal{S}) \mid \sigma z \in \mathbf{x} \text{ and the maximal moves of } z \text{ have polarity } +\} / \cong$ . Because  
 553  $v_{\mathcal{S}}$  is invariant under symmetry, we can transport  $\sigma$  to  $\downarrow \sigma : \downarrow(\mathcal{A} \Rightarrow \mathcal{B}) \rightarrow \overline{\mathbb{R}}_+$  *via*

$$554 \quad \downarrow \sigma(\mathbf{x}) = \sum_{\mathbf{z} \in \text{wit}_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{x})} v_{\mathcal{S}}(\mathbf{z})$$

555 for each  $\mathbf{x} \in \downarrow(\mathcal{A} \Rightarrow \mathcal{B})$ . One can then easily deduce from the *deadlock-free lemma* of [5]:

556 ► **Lemma 28.**  *$\downarrow$  is a functor  $\mathbf{PG}_!^{\text{si}} \rightarrow \mathbf{PRel}_!$ .*

557 Furthermore,  $\downarrow$  preserves the interpretation of  $\Lambda^+$  terms and is well-defined on the quotiented  
 558 model  $\mathbf{PG}_!^{\text{si}} / =_{\text{bt}}$ :

559 ► **Lemma 29.**  *$\downarrow U \cong \mathcal{D}$  and up to this iso, for any  $M \in \Lambda^+$  we have  $\downarrow \llbracket M \rrbracket_{\mathbf{PG}_!^{\text{si}}} = \llbracket M \rrbracket_{\mathbf{PRel}_!}$ .*

560 ► **Lemma 30.** *If  $\sigma =_{\text{bt}} \tau$  then  $\downarrow \sigma = \downarrow \tau$ .*

561 Combining the previous two lemmas and the soundness theorem, we finally get:

562 ► **Theorem 31** (Full abstraction). *For any  $M, N \in \Lambda^+$  with free variables in  $\Gamma$ ,  $M =_{\text{obs}} N$   
 563 if and only if  $\llbracket M \rrbracket_{\mathbf{PRel}_!} = \llbracket N \rrbracket_{\mathbf{PRel}_!}$ .*

## 564 6 Conclusion

565 Interestingly, the results of this paper should also entail that the interpretation of  $\Lambda^+$  in the  
 566 simpler model of Danos and Harmer [10] is also fully abstract, since one can in principle map  
 567 our strategies functorially to theirs. Note however that since it is not known how to state  
 568 a notion of probabilistic innocence in Danos and Harmer's model, definability fails in that  
 569 model and the present work could not have been carried out there.

570 So using probabilistic concurrent games, we obtain probabilistic analogues of well-  
 571 established results from the theory of the pure  $\lambda$ -calculus: the correspondence between  
 572 Böhm trees and innocent strategies [13], and the full abstraction property of the relational  
 573 model [4].

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