

A black and white photograph showing a close-up of a chessboard. In the foreground, several chess pieces are visible, including pawns, rooks, and a knight. A person's hands are positioned over the board, with fingers partially hidden by a dark cloth or sleeve. The background is slightly blurred, showing what appears to be a window or a bright outdoor area.

# Lecture 3

Jouko Väänänen

# Course plan

- **Monday:** Games, models
- **Tuesday:** Finite and infinite EF game.
- **Wednesday:** Semantic game.
- **Thursday:** Model existence game.
- **Friday:** Dependence logic.

# The infinite game

We call  $v_i$  and  $v'_i$  above corresponding elements. The **infinite** game  $\text{EF}_\omega(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}')$  is defined quite similarly, that is, it is the game  $G_\omega(M \cup M', W_\omega(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}'))$ , where  $W_\omega(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}')$  is the set of  $p = (x_0, y_0, x_1, y_1, \dots)$  such that for all  $n \in \mathbb{N}$  we have  $(x_0, y_0, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_{n-1}) \in W_n(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}')$ .

Note that the game  $\text{EF}_\omega$  is a closed game.

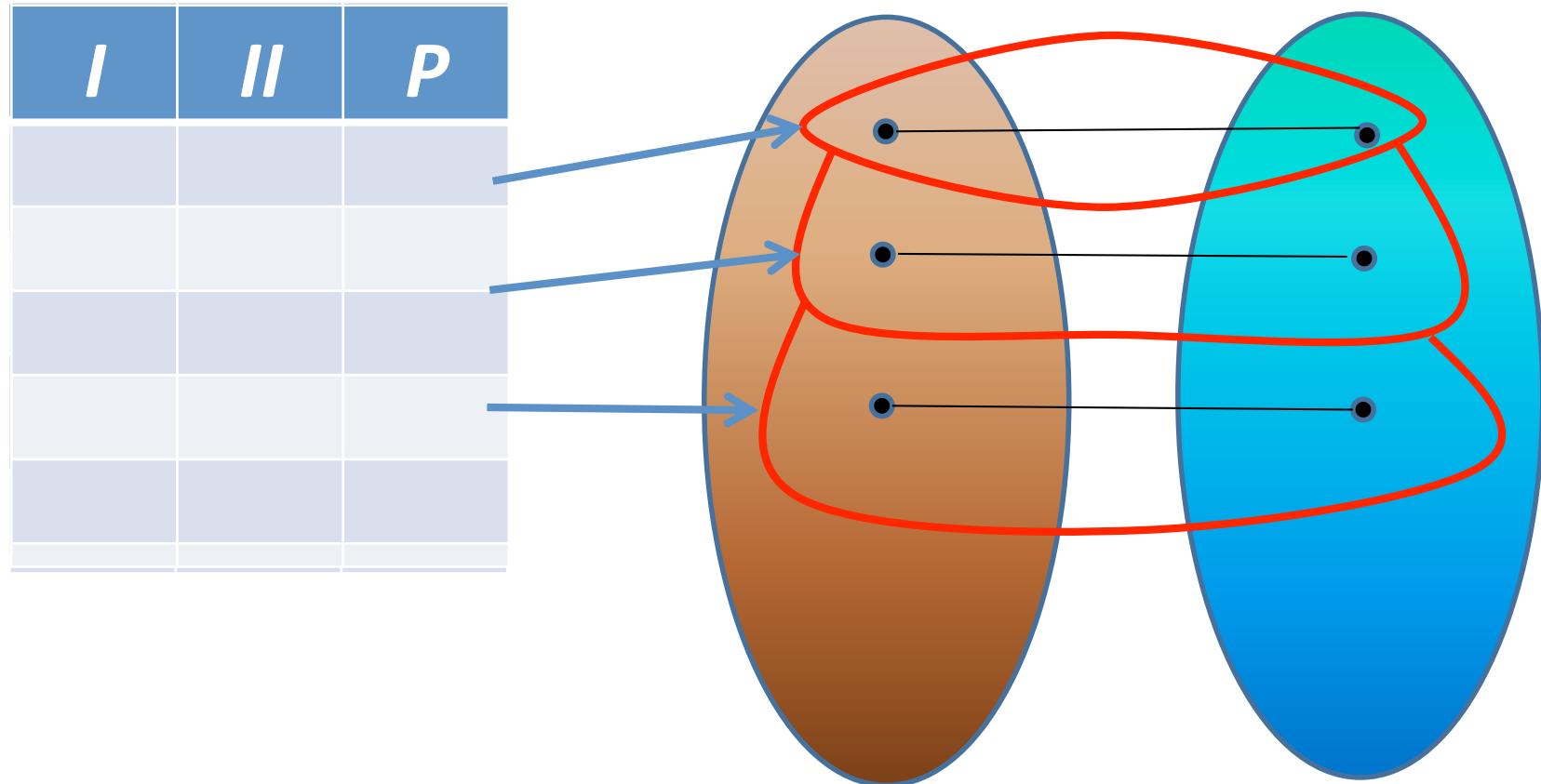
Back-and-forth set = winning strategy of II

**Proposition 4.4.1.** Suppose  $L$  is a vocabulary and  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  are two  $L$ -structures. The following conditions are equivalent:

1.  $\mathcal{A} \cong_p \mathcal{B}$
2. II has a winning strategy in  $\text{EF}_\omega(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B})$ .

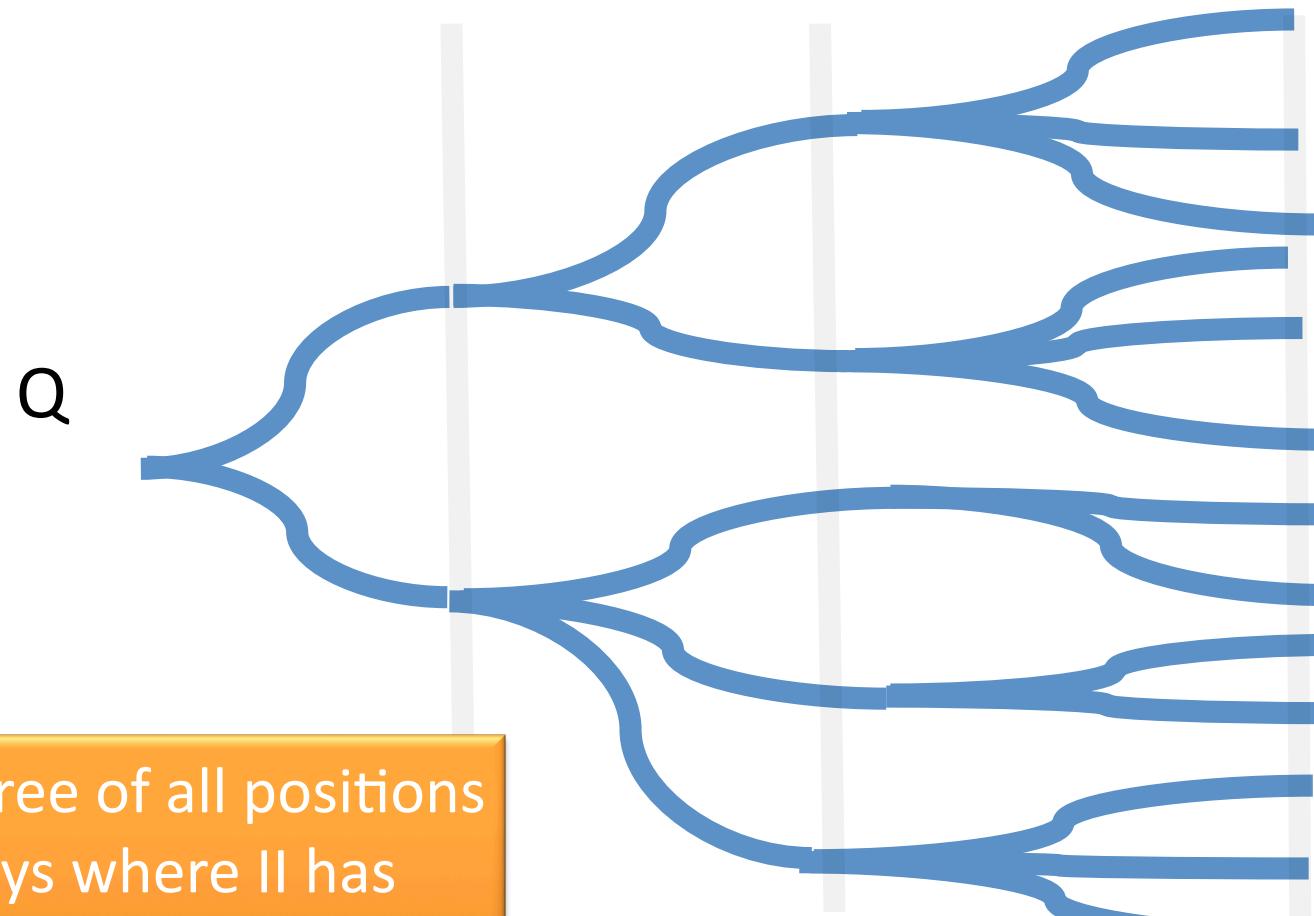
i.e. there is a back-and-forth set for A and B

# From a b-a-f set to a strategy



The strategy of II is to play so that after each move she knows, and remembers, a big enough function in P.

# From a strategy to a b-a-f set



The tree of all positions  
in plays where II has  
used her winning  
strategy

# From a strategy to a b-a-f set

Suppose II has a winning strategy  $\tau$ .

We form the back-and-forth set from all functions of the form

$$f_p = \{(v_0, v'_0), \dots, (v_{n-1}, v'_{n-1})\}$$

where

$$p = (x_0, y_0, \dots, x_{n-1}, y_{n-1})$$

is a position in a play where II has used her winning strategy  $\tau$ .

See slides 7,8

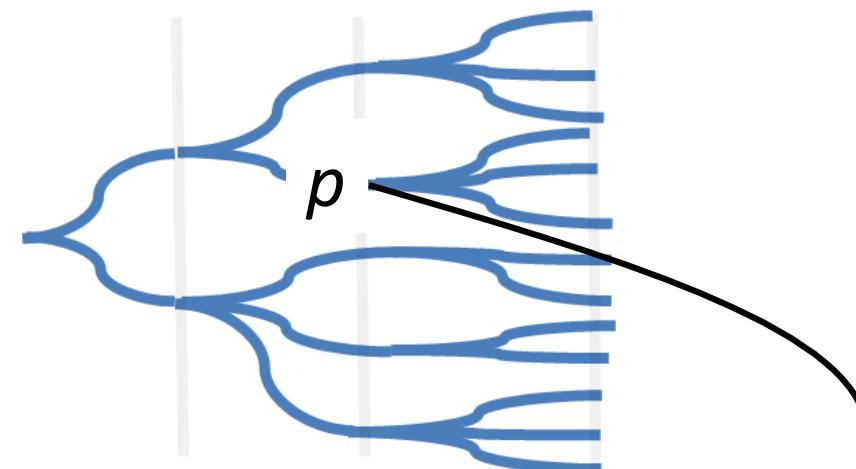
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Lecture 2

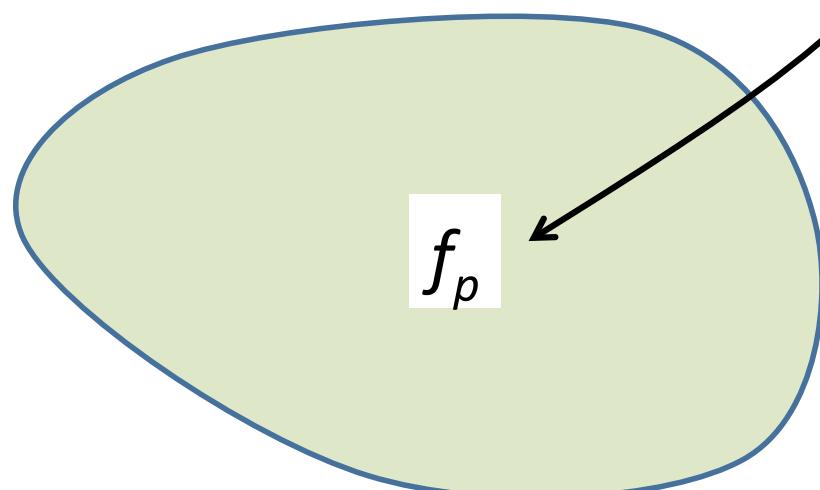
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# The back-and-forth set as a projection

From a tree



to a po set



# Semantic game: Is $\varphi$ true in $\mathcal{M}$ ?



Max



Susan

Players **hold** a formula, one player at a time. Each thinks that if he or she holds the formula, it is true.

To account for free variables, they actually hold a pair  $(\varphi, s)$ , where  $s$  is an assignment.

# Beginning of the game



Max



Susan

$(\varphi, s)$

In the beginning  $s$  is  
the empty assignment.

# Disjunction move



Max

$(v_i \varphi_i, s)$



Susan

$(v_i \varphi_i, s)$

$(\varphi_i, s)$

$(\varphi_i, s)$



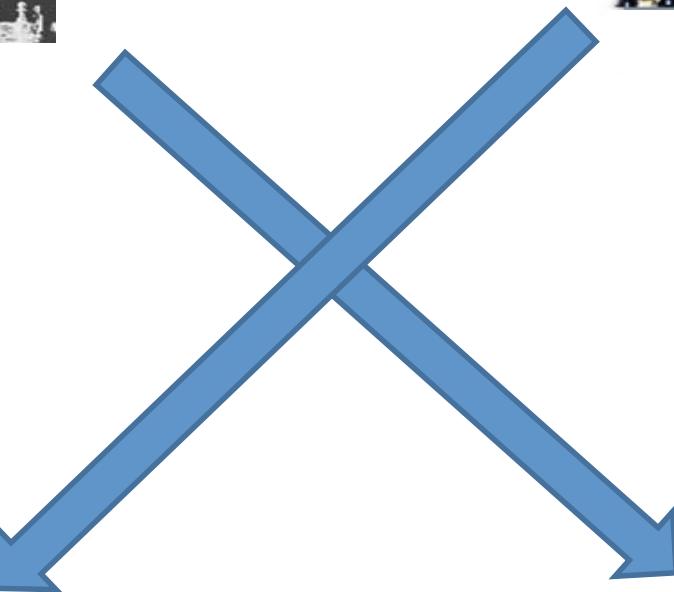
# Conjunction move



Max

$$(\wedge_i \varphi_i, s)$$


Susan

$$(\wedge_i \varphi_i, s)$$
$$(\varphi_i, s)$$


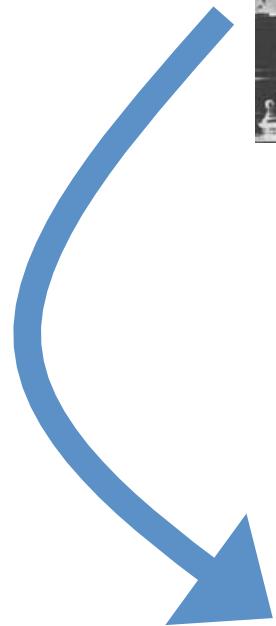
# Existential quantifier move



Max

$$(\exists x \varphi, s)$$


Susan

$$(\exists x \varphi, s)$$

$$(\varphi, s(a/x))$$

$$(\varphi, s(a/x))$$

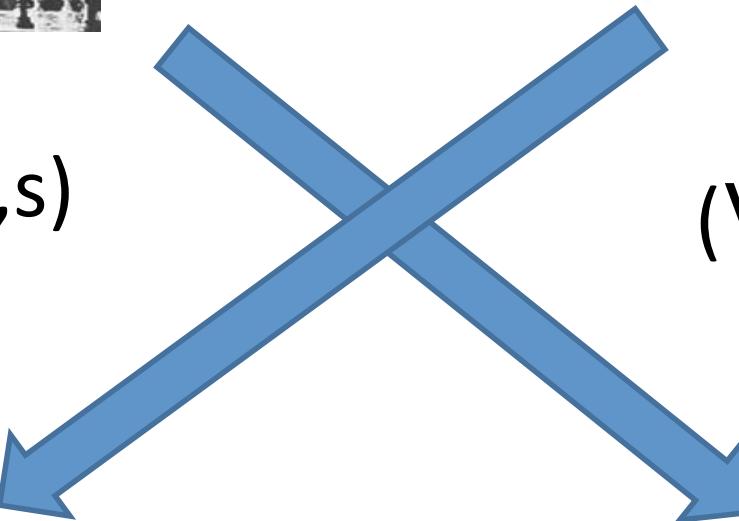
# Universal quantifier move



Max



Susan

$$(\forall x\varphi, s)$$
$$(\forall x\varphi, s)$$
$$(\varphi, s(a/x))$$
$$(\varphi, s(a/x))$$


# Negation move



Max



Susan

$$(\neg\varphi, s) \rightarrow (\varphi, s)$$

$$(\varphi, s) \leftrightarrow (\neg\varphi, s)$$

# End of the game, $\varphi$ atomic



Max



Susan

$(\varphi, s)$

true  
false

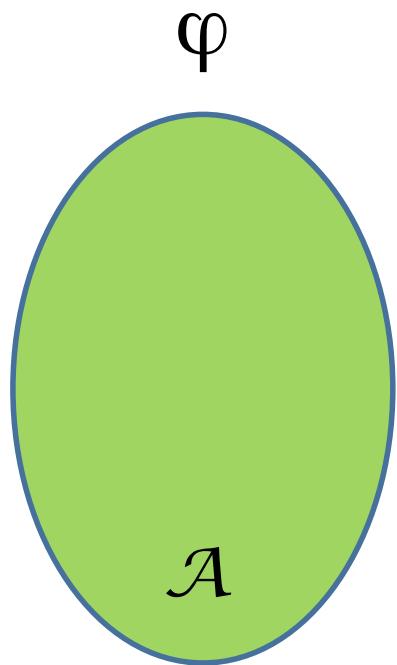


$(\varphi, s)$

true  
false



# Game theoretic semantics



If  $\varphi$  is **true** in  $\mathcal{M}$  then **Susan** has a **winning strategy**

- Susan holds only true formulas and makes sure Max gets to hold only false ones

If  $\varphi$  is **false** in  $\mathcal{M}$  then **Max** has a **winning strategy**

- Max makes sure Susan gets to hold only false ones, while he himself holds only true formulas

**Both implications are equivalences!**

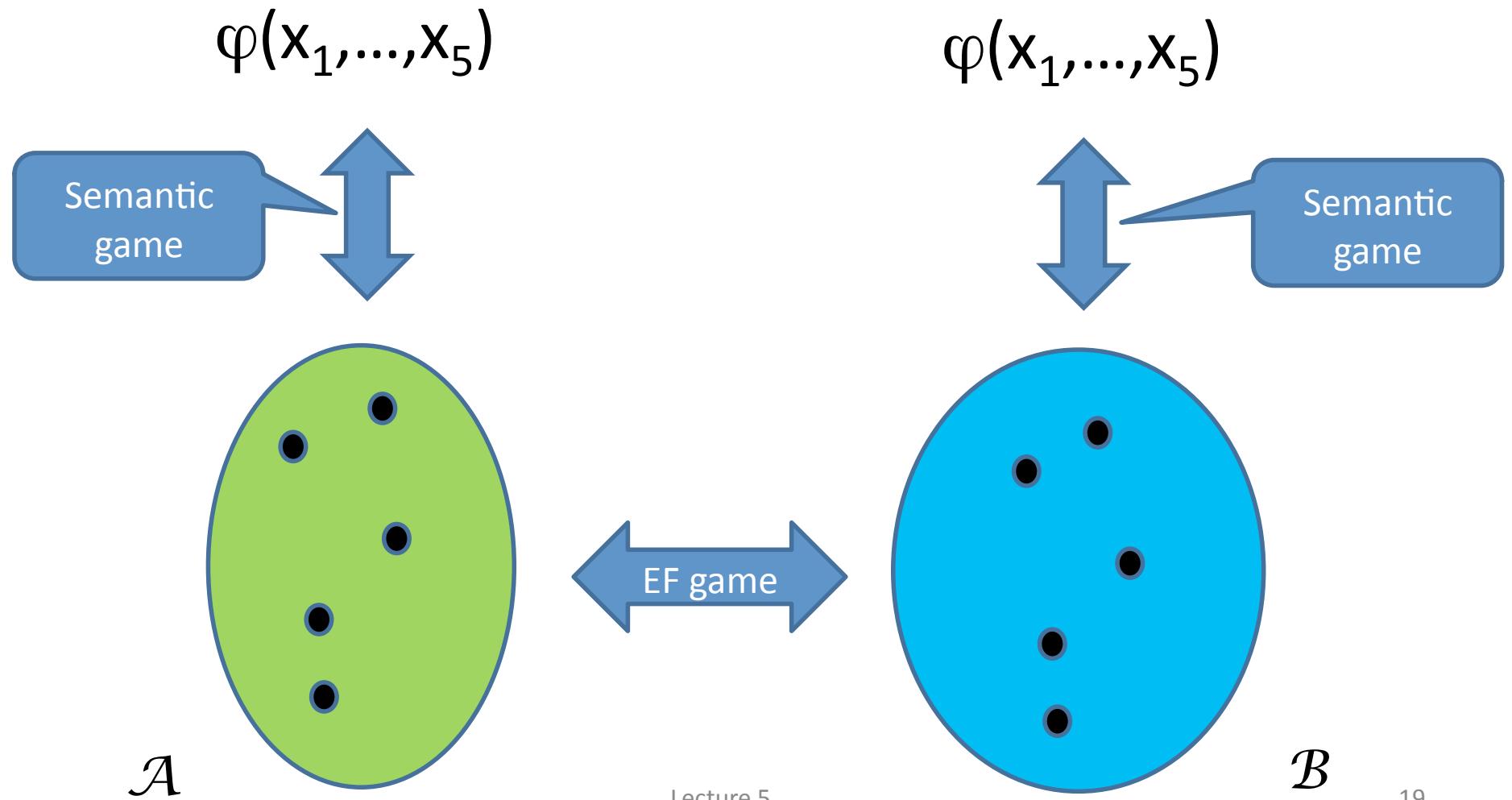
# Theorem

The following are equivalent:

1. Models  $A$  and  $B$  satisfy the same formulas of quantifier rank at most  $k$ .
2. Player II has a winning strategy in the  $k$ -move EF-game on  $A$  and  $B$ .

# Asynchronous parallel games

(Strategic Balance of Logic)



# Asynchronous parallel games

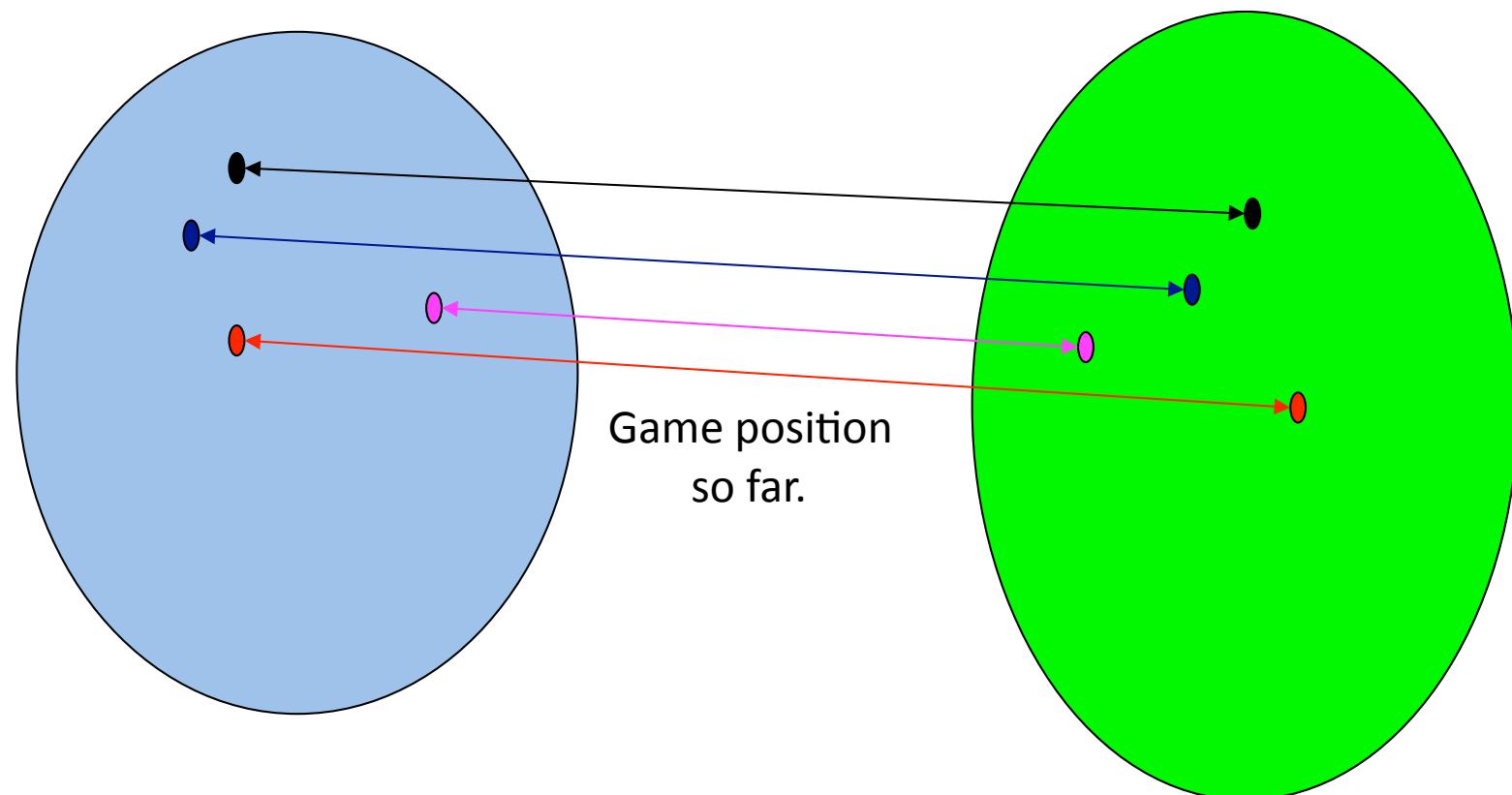
(Strategic Balance of Logic)

Susan:  $(\varphi \wedge \psi, s)$

Susan:  $(\varphi, s)$

Susan:  $(\varphi \wedge \psi, s')$

Susan:  $(\varphi, s')$



# Asynchronous parallel games

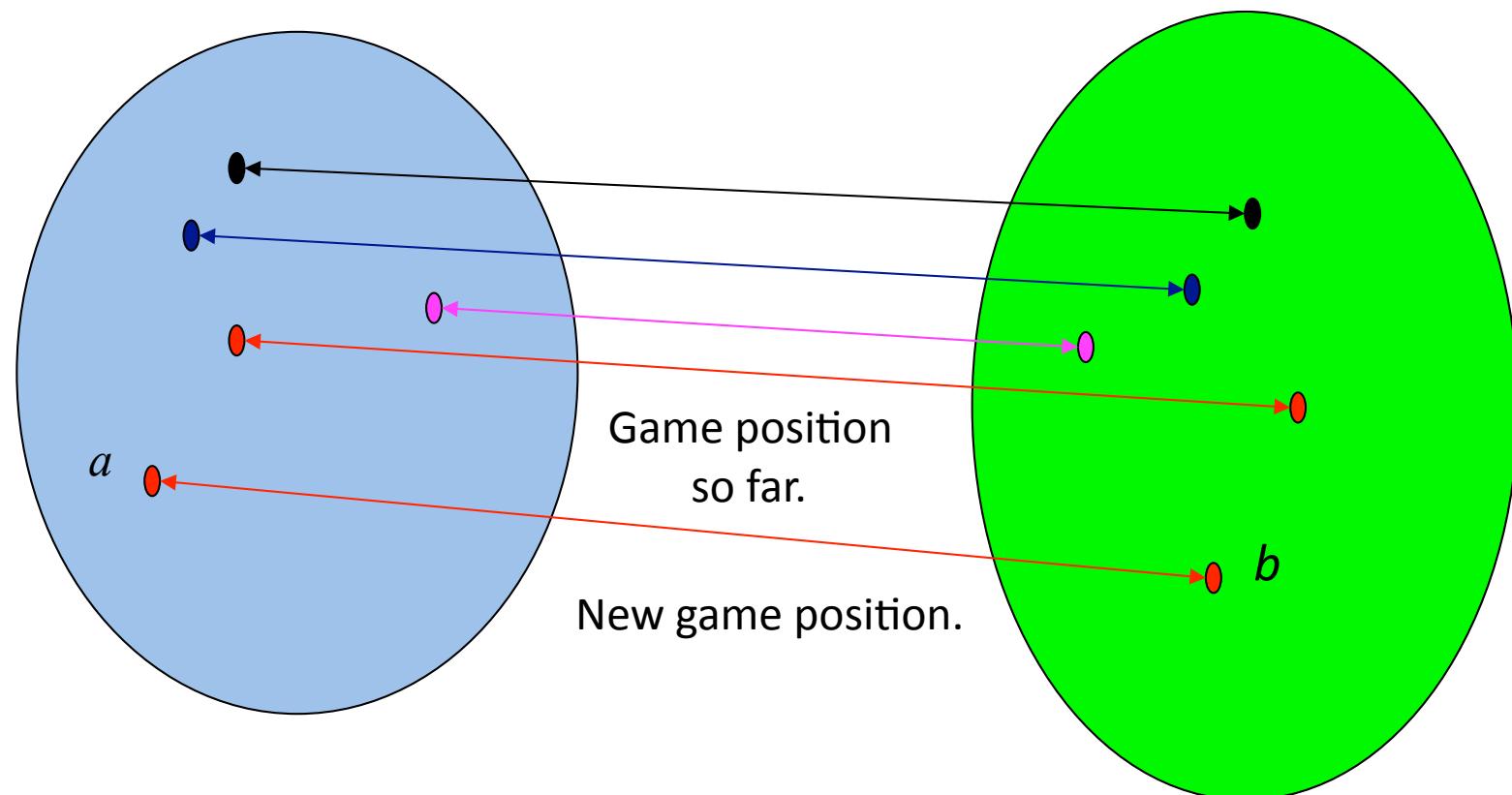
(Strategic Balance of Logic)

Susan:  $(\exists x_5 \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_5), s)$

Susan:  $(\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_5), s(a/x_5))$

Susan:  $(\exists x_5 \varphi(x_1, \dots, x_5), s')$

Susan:  $(\varphi(x_1, \dots, x_5), s'(b/x_5))$



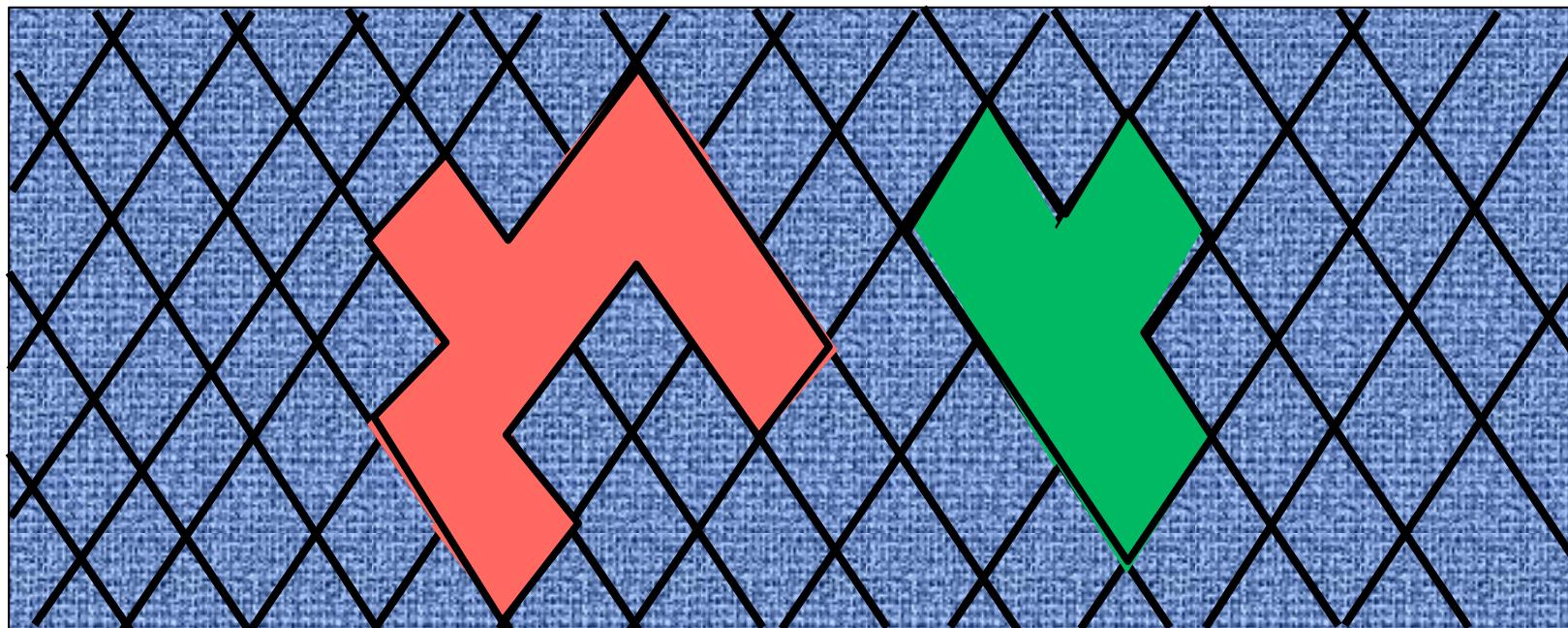
# Application

$$\langle Z, \langle \rangle \rangle \equiv \langle Z + Z, \langle \rangle \rangle$$

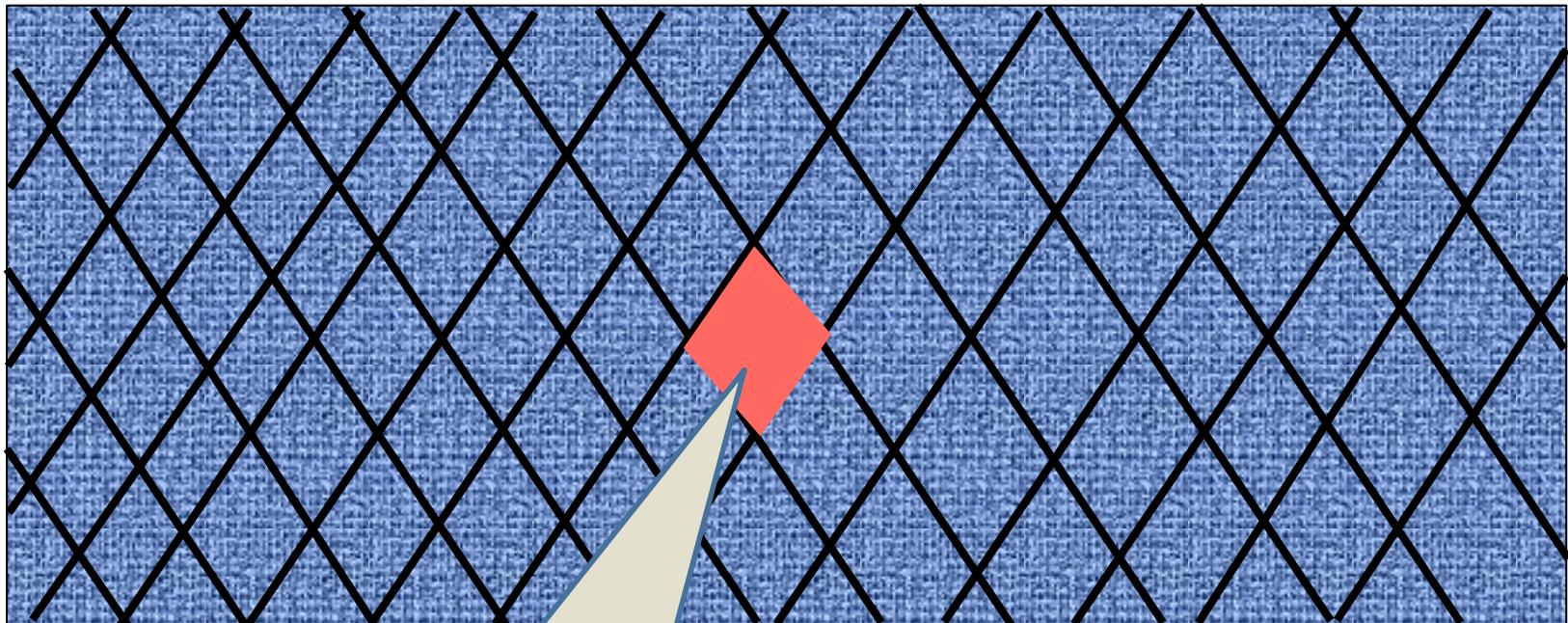
# Definable model class

- A model class  $K$  is **defined** by the sentence  $\varphi$  if  $K$  is the class of models of  $\varphi$ .
- A model class is **(first order) definable** if it is defined by some first order sentence  $\varphi$ .

# Definable model classes



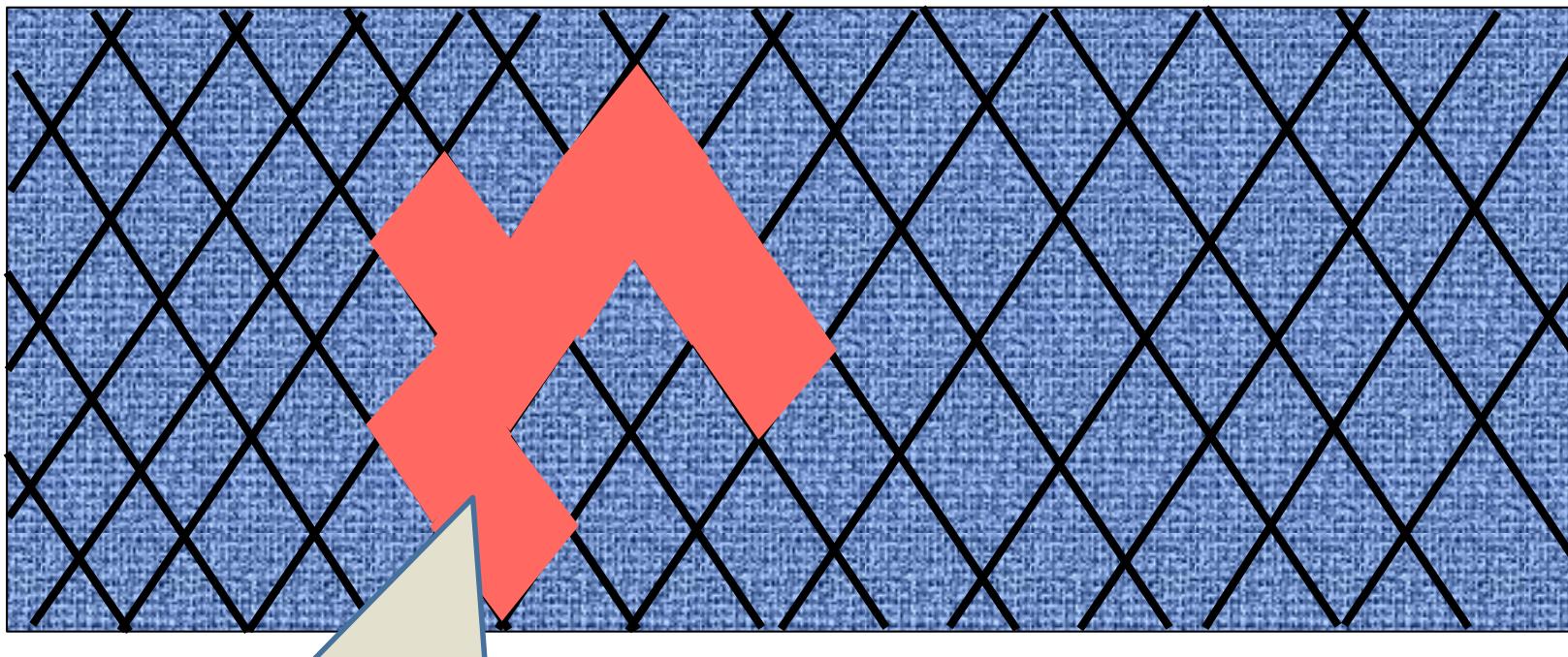
# $\equiv_n$ - classes



Each equivalence class is  
definable by a sentence of  
quantifier rank  $\leq n$

$$C_i^n$$

# $\equiv_n$ - classes



Every model class which is definable by a sentence of quantifier rank  $\leq n$ , is a union of equivalence classes

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Lecture 2

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A model class is definable in  
first order logic

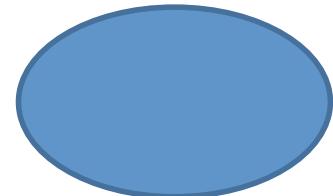
if and only if

For some  $n$ : if  $A$  is in the class and  
 $B$  is not in the class, then I has a winning  
strategy in  $EF_n(A,B)$ .

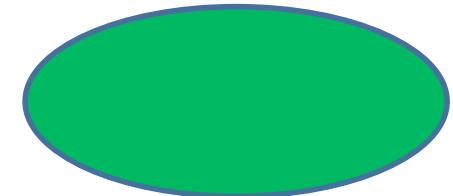
# Not first order definable

$L = \emptyset$

$M$  is infinite.



$M$  is finite and even.



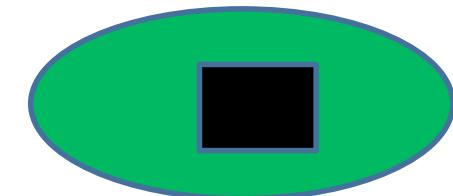
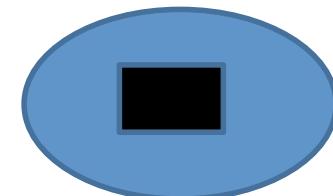
$L = \{P\}$

$(M, A)$

$|A| = |M|$ .

$|A| = |M \setminus A|$ .

$|A| \leq |M \setminus A|$ .



$L = \{<\}$

$\mathcal{M} \cong (\mathbb{Z}, <)$ .

All closed intervals of  $\mathcal{M}$  are finite.

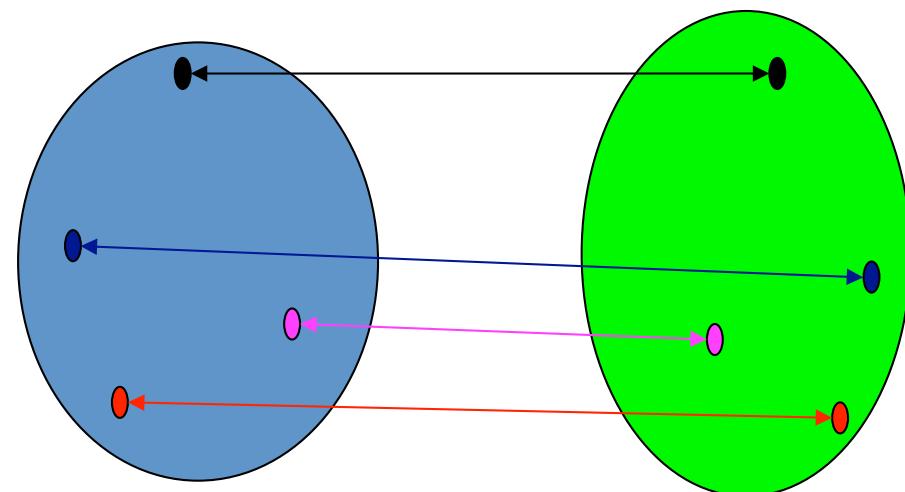
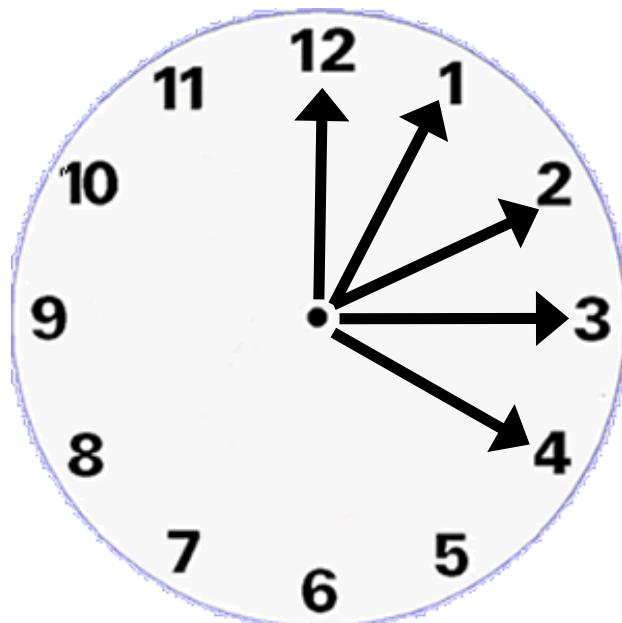
Every bounded subset of  $\mathcal{M}$  has a supremum.

Dynamic game

=

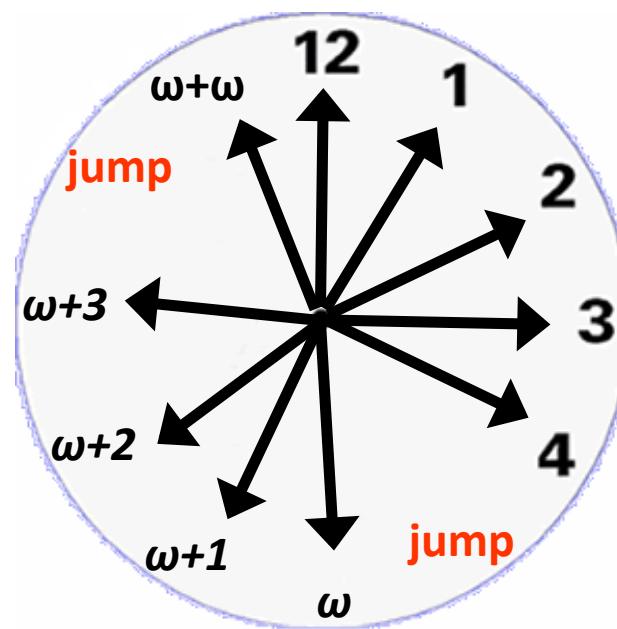
Player I has a clock and controls  
the length of the game

## Clock for $EF_4(A, B)$



Game clock is a way of making sense of  
**finite but potentially infinite games**

# A finite but potentially infinite game



$$\text{"Midnight"} = \omega + \omega + 1$$

The decision pattern of Player I can be quite complicated

$$\omega^{\omega^3} + \omega \cdot 5 + 1$$

Still the game is always **finite!**

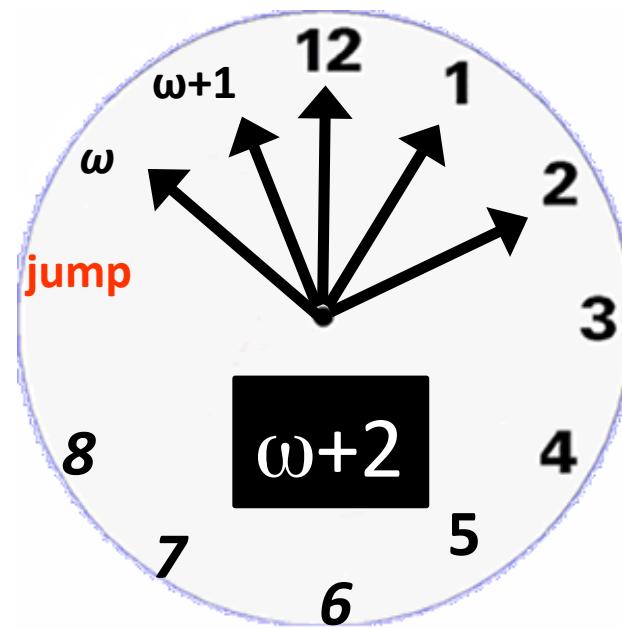
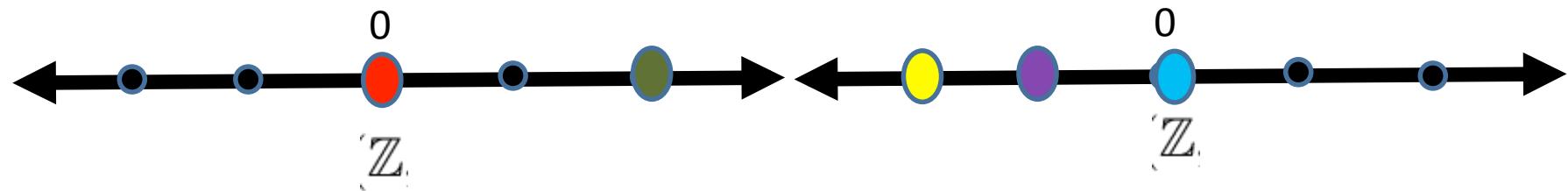
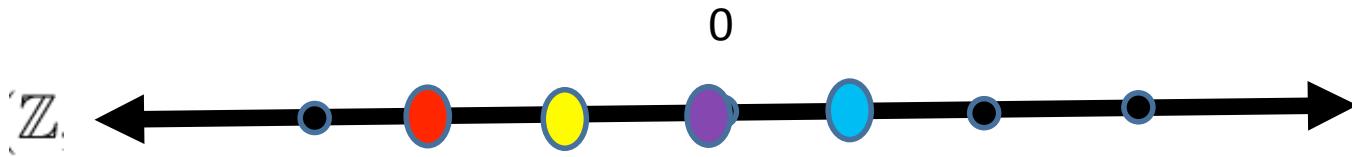
# The Dynamic Ehrenfeucht-Fraïssé game

$$EFD_\alpha(A, B)$$

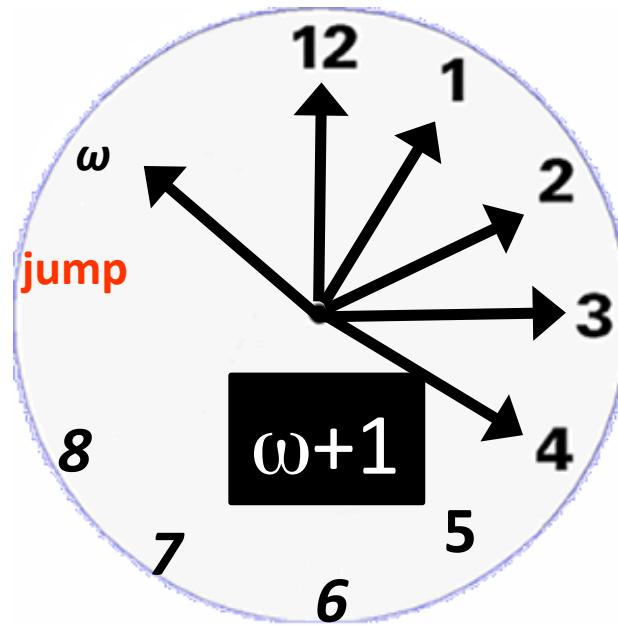
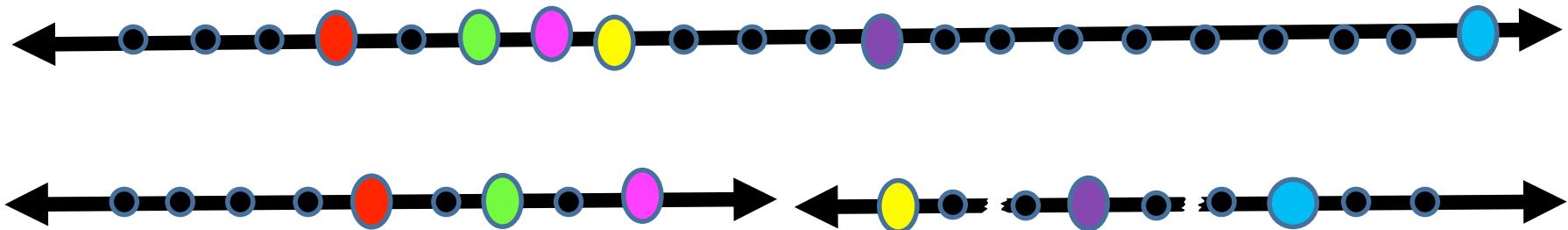
=  $EF_\omega(A, B)$  with game clock  $\alpha$

$$A \simeq_p^\alpha B$$

if II has a winning strategy  
in  $EFD_\alpha(A, B)$

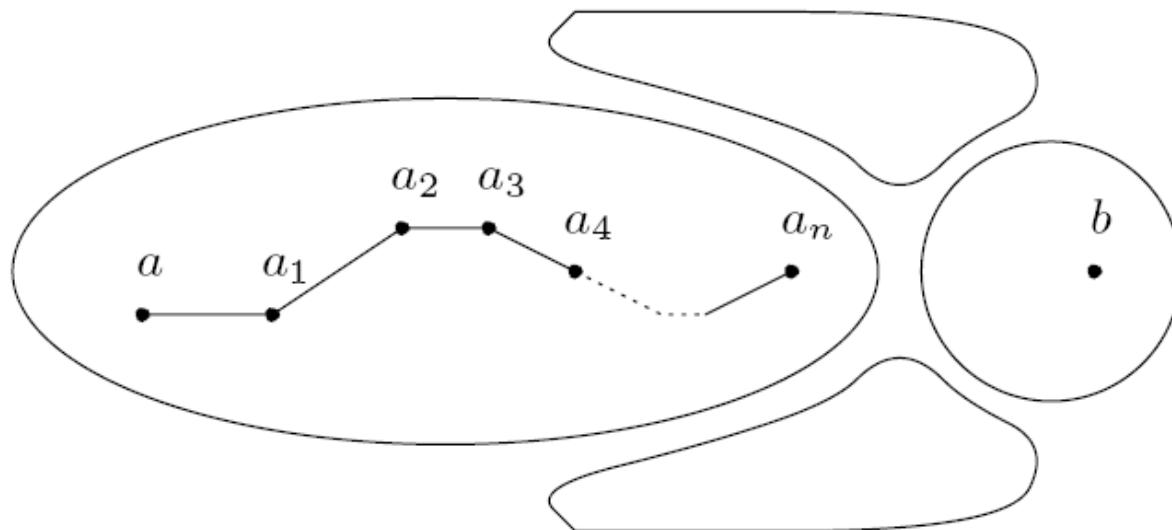
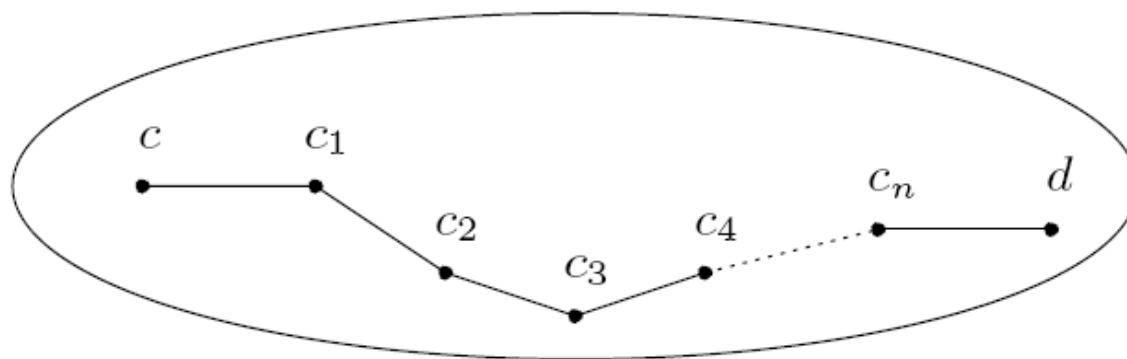


Player I wins

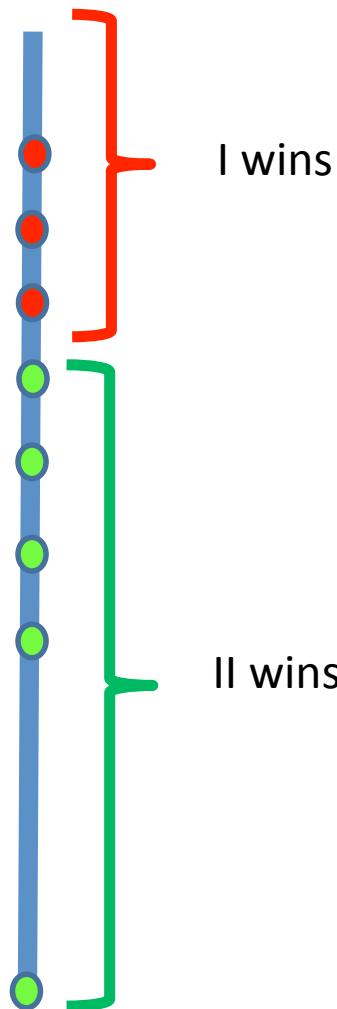


Player II wins

# Connectedness, $\omega+2$ in the clock



# Scott watershed



# Examples

The Scott watershed of

$(\mathbb{Z}, <)$  and  $(\mathbb{Z} + \mathbb{Z}, <)$  is  $\omega+1$ .

$(\omega, <)$  and  $(\omega + \omega, <)$  is  $\omega$ .

$(\mathbb{Q}, <)$  and  $(\mathbb{R}, <)$  does not exist.

# Scott watershed of countable models is countable

- T

**Proposition 6.1.3.** *If II has a winning strategy in  $\text{EFD}_\alpha(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}')$  for all  $\alpha < (|\mathcal{M}| + |\mathcal{M}'|)^+$  then II has a winning strategy in  $\text{EF}_\omega(\mathcal{M}, \mathcal{M}')$ .*

Thus the Scott watershed of  $\mathcal{M}$  and  $\mathcal{M}'$  is always an ordinal  $< (|\mathcal{M}| + |\mathcal{M}'|)^+$ .

Scott height of a countable model is countable

**Corollary 6.1.1.** (*Scott's Theorem I*) *If  $\mathcal{M}$  is countable, then for any other countable  $\mathcal{M}'$  we have*

$$\mathcal{M} \simeq_p^{\text{SH}(\mathcal{M})+\omega} \mathcal{M}' \iff \mathcal{M} \cong \mathcal{M}'.$$

# Hierarchy of countable models

