Group 4: Briscola

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Course Modelling Project

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Project Summary

The game **Briscola** has players play a card from their hand each round. Based on the suit of the card and the value of each card (Ace, King, etc.), a player wins a round if the card they played had the highest value and was the same suit as the first card played. In addition, at the start of the game a suit is chosen to be the "Briscola", which ignores the requirement of the highest card needing to be the same suit as the first card played in order to win the round, but still follows the rules regarding value. The game continues until all cards have been played, with each player drawing one card at the end of each round. In a regular game of Briscola, the player with the most points at the end of all the rounds wins – based on the card values. For this project, the player who wins the most rounds wins the game instead.

We will model if it is possible for Player-1 to win 4 of the 10 possible rounds in a game of four players. The model will be using the game configuration seen below, which shows the players' starting hands and the Briscola suit (swords). The rest of the deck is not predetermined, and players will draw right after they play their card instead of at the end of the round.



Propositions

The propositions will make use of the following variables:

Variable	Description
(p)	A specified player. Can have a value of (1-4) to represent Player-1, Player-2, and
	so on. Also acts as a dictionary to count the player wins for each player.
(t)	The current trick/round of the game. Can have a value of (1-10) to represent Trick-
	1, Trick-2, and so on.
(c)	The specified card out of the available 40 cards. Can have a value of (1-40) to
	represent Card-1, Card-2, and so on. Each card has its own Suit (ranging from
	"Swords", "Coins", "Cups", and "Clubs") and Value (ranging from 2-7, then A, J,
	H, and K) and is stored in a dictionary.
(s)	One of the four possible suits of the game. Can have a string value of ("Swords",
	"Coins", "Cups", or "Clubs")
(v)	One of the possible values that a card can be assigned. Can have a value of (2-7) or
. ,	(A, J, H, K), where (J, H, K) represents the face cards and (A) represents the ace.

Proposition	Description
starting_player(p, t)	Returns True if player (p) is starting the trick (t).
val_is_greater(v ₁ , v ₂)	Returns True if (v_1) is greater than (v_2) .
card_is_brisc(c, s)	Returns True if (c) is the same suit as (s), where (s) is the
	Briscola suit.
card_is_suit_of_round(c, s, t)	Returns True if (c) is the same suit as (s), where (s) is the suit
	currently leading the round (referred to as the "round suit"),
	on trick (t).
$card_is_same_suit(c_1, c_2)$	Returns True if (c_1) is the same suit as (c_2) .
$card_beats_card(c_1, c_2, t)$	Returns True if (c_1) beats (c_2) in terms of value and suit on
	trick (t).
player_has_card(c, p, t)	Returns True if player (p) has the card (c) during the trick (t).
player_wins_trick(c, p, t)	Returns True if the player (p) wins the trick (t) with a card (c).
suit_of_round(s, t)	Returns True if a suit (s) is the round suit of the trick (t).
player_plays_card(c, p, t)	Returns True if a player (p) played a card (c) on the trick (t)
starting_player_card(p, c, t)	Returns True if player (p) is the starting player and plays the
	card (c) on the trick (t).
player_draws_card(c, p, t)	Returns True if player (p) draws a new card (c) on a trick (t).

Constraints

There are three main types of constraints used for this model. They are constraints for **card comparisons**, constraints for **round flow**, and constraints that **limit** the number of times an action can occur.

Card Comparisons:

• For every unique pair of two cards (c₁) and (c₂), both cards can't have the same suit *and* the same value (they must be unique):

$$\neg (c_1 \leftrightarrow c_2)$$

• If a card's value (v_1) is greater than another card's value (v_2) , and if (v_2) is greater than another card's value (v_3) , then (v_1) is also greater than (v_3) :

```
(val is greater(v_1, v_2) \land val is greater(v_2, v_3)) \rightarrow val is greater(v_1, v_3)
```

- A card (c_1) beats another card (c_2) on trick (t) if and only if one of the following is true:
 - o (c_1) and (c_2) are the same suit and value (v_1) (of card (c_1)) is greater than value (v_2) (of card (c_2)):

```
{Condition 1} (card_is_same_suit(c_1, c_2) \land val_is_greater(v_1, v_2))
```

 \circ (c₁) is apart of the Briscola suit (s) and (c₂) is not the same suit as (c₁):

```
{Condition 2} (card is brisc(c_1, s) \land \neg card is same suit(c_1, c_2))
```

o (c_1) 's suit (s_1) is apart of the round suit on trick (t) and (c_2) is not apart of the Briscola suit (s) and is not the same suit as card (c_1) :

```
{Condition 3} (card is suit of round(c_1, s_1, t) \land \neg card is brisc(c_2, s) \land \neg card is same suit(c_1, c_2))
```

• These conditions can then be used in the final form of the constraint:

```
card beats card(c_1, c_2, t)) \leftrightarrow \{Condition 1\} \lor \{Condition 2\} \lor \{Condition 3\}
```

Round Flow:

• If a player (p) is not the starting player on trick (t), then the card (c) played by player (p) is not a starting card on trick (t):

```
\negstarting player(p, t) \rightarrow \negstarting player card(p, c, t)
```

• If a card (c) played by a player (p) is a starting card on trick (t), that implies player (p) played the card (c) on trick (t):

```
starting player card(p, c, t) \rightarrow player plays card(c, p, t)
```

• If a card (c) played by a player (p) is a starting card on trick (t), that implies that the suit of the player card (s) is the round suit on trick (t):

starting_player_card(p, c, t)
$$\rightarrow$$
 suit_of_round(s, t)

• If the suit (s) is the round suit of trick (t), then a card (c) that has the suit (s) is a round suit card on trick (t):

```
suit of round(s, t) \rightarrow card is suit of round(c, s, t)
```

• If the suit (s) is not the round suit of trick (t), then a card (c) that has the suit (s) is not a round suit card on trick (t):

```
\negsuit_of_round(s, t) \rightarrow \negcard_is_suit_of_round(c, s, t)
```

• If a player (p) does not play the card (c) on trick (t), then the player (p) does not win the trick (t) with the card (c):

```
\negplayer plays card(c, p, t) \rightarrow \negplayer wins trick(c, p, t)
```

• If a player (p) does not have a card (c) on trick (t), then player (p) does not play that card (c) on trick (t):

```
\negplayer has card(c, p, t) \rightarrow \negplayer plays card(c, p, t)
```

• If a player (p) wins the trick (t) (with a card (c)), then the player (p) is the starting player of the *next* trick (t + 1):

```
player wins trick(c, p, t) \rightarrow \text{starting player}(p, t + 1)
```

• If one player (p₁) plays a card (c₁) on the trick (t) and another player (p₂) plays a different card (c₂) on trick (t), then check if (c₁) beats (c₂) on trick (t). [NOTE: This constraint was added into an "And()" chain command using Bauhaus. The "And()" chain version of this constraint is referred to as "card_beats_all" going forward.]

(The logic with this constraint is that since this proposition is always in an "And()" chain, then if one (player_plays_card()) proposition is false, then the statement is vacuously true, meaning the "And()" chain can still hold. It is only ever false if two unique cards are played and if (c₁) does not beat (c₂).)

```
(player plays card(c_1, p_1, t) \land player plays <math>card(c_2, p_2, t)) \rightarrow card beats card(c_1, c_2, t)
```

• If a card (c) does *not* beat every other card played in a trick (t), and a player (p) played card (c) on trick (t), then player (p) does not with trick (t) with their card (c):

```
(\neg card\_beats\_all \land player\_plays\_card(c, p, t)) \rightarrow \neg player\_wins\_trick(c, p, t)
```

• If a card (c) *does* beat every other card played in a trick, and a player (p) played card (c) on trick (t), then player (p) wins the trick (t) with their card (c):

```
(card beats all \land player plays card(c, p, t)) \rightarrow player wins trick(c, p, t)
```

Limitations:

• For each player (p), they can only ever play *exactly one* card (c) on a given trick (t). This constraint uses the "exactly one" constraint from Bauhaus:

```
add_exactly_one(player_plays_card(c, p, t))
```

• For a player (p), they can only ever have *exactly one* card (c) that is the starting card of a given trick (t):

```
add exactly one(starting player card(p, c, t))
```

• For each trick (t), there is only *exactly one* suit (s) that is the round suit of the trick:

```
add exactly one(suit of round(s, t))
```

• For each player (p), only *exactly one* of them can be the starting player of a given trick (t):

```
add exactly one(starting player(p, t))
```

Model Exploration

Ensuring there are no Non-Unique Suit Comparisons:

After trying to make the code that is used for getting each card to beat each card working as intended, the program ran into a small problem. Despite cards needing to be unique, the solver would compare the suit of (c_1) to the suit of (c_1) , essentially comparing a single card (c_1) to itself.

Although this would be technically true, this wouldn't make sense in logic, since all cards are unique. The code that was causing this issue is seen below:

In order to fix this issue, a new_constraint, (card_is_same_suit(c_1 , c_1)), was added. When initializing the suits to tell the model that a card cannot be the same suit as itself. This update can be seen in the below image of the code:

```
# Initalize all cards with the same suit (this method will automatically make cards suits symmetric as well)
for card1 in CARDS:
    # Constraint: Cards cannot be the same suit as themselves, as that wouldn't make sense
    E.add_constraint(-card_is_same_suit(card1, card1))
    for card2 in CARDS:
        if card1 == card2:
            continue
        if CARDS[card1]["suit"] == CARDS[card2]["suit"]:
        # If the suits of the cards match, they are the same suit.
        E.add_constraint(card_is_same_suit(card1, card2))
        else:
        # Otherwise, they are not the same suit.
        E.add_constraint(-card_is_same_suit(card1, card2))
```

Ensuring the Correct Card was Played in a Trick:

Based on the starting hands defined in the summary of this report, the goal was to have the model play four specific cards – one card from each player's hand – and then use what was originally a (check_trick()) function to check those four cards, instead of the twelve total cards across the four players' hands. This function was originally implemented with the below code:

It would then output the model below. The issue with this model was that, despite player 3 playing the "J of Clubs" card, the model would still think that they win the trick. This is because since player 3 had the "A of Swords" card in their hand (the strongest card amongst each player's starting hands), which made the model think player 3 won the trick, even though it wasn't the card they played.

```
Satisfiable: True
P1's '7 of Cups' is the starting card on trick #1
P1 is the starting player on trick #1
P4 plays the card '3 of Coins' on trick #1
P3 plays the card 'J of Clubs' on trick #1
P2 plays the card 'H of Swords' on trick #1
P1 plays the card '7 of Cups' on trick #1
P3, with their card 'A of Swords', wins the trick #1
```

In order to fix this, the constraints regarding the proposition (card_beats_card()) needed to be changed. As the proposition was initially used to compare the cards played in the trick — including if there was only one card played in the round — this caused the problem described above. Thus, the proposition was updated to only be applied when there were at least two played cards in the trick. The implementation of this is seen below, along with an image of the new output that returned the correct winner of the trick:

```
## Determines if a player plays a card to win a trick or not.

card win_prop-[]

for prop1 in PLAYS_CARD_PROP:

card1 = prop1.card

for prop2 in PLAYS_CARD_PROP:

card2 = prop2.card

if card1 = card2:

continue

card_win_prop.append((player_plays_card(card1, prop1.player, trick_number) % player_plays_card(card2, prop2.player, trick_number)) >> card_beats_card(card1, card2, trick_number))

for player in PLAYES.keys():

## MODE: I had to seperate these constraints to get them to work properly

## Constaint: if a player doesn't have a card, they can't win the trick with that card

## E.add_constraint((player_plays_card(card1, player, trick_number)) >> -player_wins_trick_(CARDS_IM_PLAY, card1, player, trick_number))

## Constaint: if a player doesn't have a card, they can't play that card

## E.add_constraint((player_plays_card(card1, player, trick_number)) >> -player_plays_card(card1, player, trick_number))

## Constraint: if a player doesn't have a card, they can't play that card

## E.add_constraint((player_plays_card(card1, player, trick_number)) >> -player_plays_card(card1, player, trick_number))

## Constraint: if a player doesn't have a card, they can't player_plays_card(card1, player, trick_number))

## E.add_constraint((And(card_win_prop) & player_plays_card(card1, player, trick_number)) >> player_plays_card(card1, player, trick_number))

## E.add_constraint((And(card_win_prop) & player_plays_card(card1, player, trick_number))

## Reset card_propositions for each player

card_win_prop-[]
```

```
Satisfiable: True
P1 is the starting player on trick #1
P1's '2 of Swords' is the starting card on trick #1
P4 plays the card '5 of Cups' on trick #1
P1 plays the card '2 of Swords' on trick #1
P2 plays the card 'A of Coins' on trick #1
P3 plays the card 'J of Clubs' on trick #1
P1, with their card '2 of Swords', wins the trick #1
```

However, it was now found through additional explorations that the model sometimes wouldn't return a trick winner at all, despite these changes. Luckily, this output helped to identity the issue that was located in what was originally a function named (update_round_suit()). To test the

output of this function, a test function originally named (test_round_suits()) (which was later renamed to be (test_player_hands())) was created to ensure there were no "Briscola" cards in the trick. Through looking at the tested output, it was eventually found that the round suits were not being set properly to the starting card the model made the player play. This helped to identify a problem with the method used for setting the round suit.

It was found that the program was only setting the suits of a **predetermined** value, which meant that only **one** round suit was being passed in as a value, in essence making it a constant variable when it should be changing every trick. To fix this, a revamp of the (update_round_suit()) function was required, which led to the new implementation seen below:

```
def update_round_suit(round_suit):
    start_card_prop.[]
    for prop in MAS_CAND_PROP:
        if (prop.player == start_player.player):
            start_card_starting_player_card(start_player.player, prop.card, trick_number)
            start_card_starting_player_card(start_player, prop.card, trick_number)
            start_card_prop.append(start_card)
            # constraint: If a starting player plays a certain card, that card is their starting card
            E.add_constraint(start_player & player_player_player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.player.play
```

In addition, a constraint was added into (update_round_suit()) to ensure that a suit that is not the round suit implies that a card of that suit is **not** a round-suit card, which fixed the model and provided the correct output seen below:

```
Satisfiable: True
P1's '2 of Coins' is the starting card on trick #1
P1 is the starting player on trick #1
P2 plays the card 'H of Cups' on trick #1
P3 plays the card '2 of Coins' on trick #1
P4 plays the card '3 of Coins' on trick #1
P3 plays the card '3 of Coins' on trick #1
P4, with their card '3 of Coins', wins the trick #1
P4, with their card '3 of Coins', wins the trick #1
P6 coins', the current round suit of trick #1.
```

Testing Deck Size, Drawing, and Transitivity:

For the model, it needed to be ensured that the implementation could work if there was a restricted deck size, and that value transitivity worked properly. To test this, a game was run where only cards of the Clubs and Coins suits were present in the deck, with the first half of the deck being each Club card in ascending value order, followed by each Coin card in ascending value order. As the deck was cut in half, this game would consist of 5 tricks instead of the usual 10 tricks. Below is an image of the modified deck.

With this modified deck, it was expected that player-1 should win one trick, player-3 should win one trick, and player-4 should win the remaining three tricks. This is because, with our implementation of Briscola, players should draw cards right after they play a card. Based on this rule, it should lead to the above outcomes with the above deck.

Throughout each trick, the output determined that the player with the highest value card was the one that won the trick – proving that the value transitivity was working properly. However, the model determined that player-4 was the winner of all 5 tricks when it should have only won 3 tricks.

```
Players are out of cards, so the game is over.

Final Results:
P1 wins: 0
P2 wins: 0
P3 wins: 0
P4 wins: 5

The winner of this game is P4!
```

This output revealed that the proper deck drawing rule had not been implemented correctly, as it turned out that player-1 was drawing first every time. To fix this, the part of the implementation that draws the cards for each player was adjusted, as seen below. Where the top image is the implementation before it was adjusted, and the bottom image is the implementation after it was adjusted:

Re-running the model with the same test cases as before now gave the expected output for who won, as seen below:

```
Players are out of cards, so the game is over.
Final Results:
P1 wins: 1
P2 wins: 0
P3 wins: 1
P4 wins: 3
```

Jape Proof Ideas

The Briscola Suit is the Highest Priority Suit:

In a trick where the first three players played non-Briscola Suit cards, and the last player plays a Briscola Suit card, then the last player wins the trick, regardless of any of the cards' values.

The following assumptions are used to implement the premises and conclusion into the JAPE proof:

• For all played cards (x), the played card (PC(x)) is either apart of the Briscola suit (B(x)) or is not apart of the Briscola suit (\neg B(x)). These are represented by the following two conjunctions:

$$(\forall x.(PC(x) \land \neg B(x)))$$
 $(\forall x.(PC(x) \land B(x)))$

• The initial configuration of the four played cards is then established below:

• Then, the initial configuration of the game is established, where three of the four players played non-Briscola Suit cards, and the last player played a Briscola Suit card, which determines the winner using the predicate (PW(y)), where (y) is the player that won:

$$(\text{ (PC(i1)} \land \neg B(i1)) \land (\text{PC(i2)} \land \neg B(i2)) \land (\text{PC(i3)} \land \neg B(i3)) \land (\text{PC(i4)} \land B(i4)) \text{)} \rightarrow \text{PW(i4)}$$

• We then want to prove that the last player – player-4 – was the one that won the round. So, the conclusion is:

The full JAPE proof is seen below:

```
1: actual i1, actual i2, actual i3, actual i4
                                                                                  premises
 2: \forall x.(PC(x) \land \neg B(x)), \forall x.(PC(x) \land B(x))
                                                                                  premises
 _{3}: ((PC(i1) \land \negB(i1)) \land (PC(i2) \land \negB(i2)) \land (PC
                                                                                  premise
    (i3) \land \neg B(i3)) \land (PC(i4) \land B(i4)) \rightarrow PW(i4))
 4: PC(i4)∧B(i4)
                                                                                  ∀ elim 2.2,1.4
 5: PC(i3) ∧¬B(i3)
                                                                                  ∀ elim 2.1,1.3
 6: PC(i2) ∧¬B(i2)
                                                                                  ∀ elim 2.1,1.2
 7: PC(i1)∧¬B(i1)
                                                                                  ∀ elim 2.1,1.1
 8: (PC(i1) \land \neg B(i1)) \land (PC(i2) \land \neg B(i2))
                                                                                  ∧ intro 7.6
 9: (PC(i1) \land \neg B(i1)) \land (PC(i2) \land \neg B(i2)) \land (PC(i3) \land \neg B(i3)) \land intro 8,5
_{10:} (PC(i1) \land \negB(i1)) \land (PC(i2) \land \negB(i2))
                                                                                  ∧ intro 9.4
    \land (PC(i3) \land \neg B(i3)) \land (PC(i4) \land B(i4))
11: PW(i4)
                                                                                  → elim 3.10
```

Determining the Winner of a Trick:

If only **one** of the four players can win a trick, and three of those players lost, then the only other player must have won the trick.

The following assumptions are used to implement the premises and conclusion into the JAPE proof:

• The three players losing the trick are represented by the following conjunction:

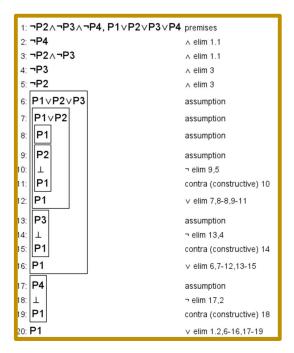
$$(\neg P2 \land \neg P3 \land \neg P4)$$

• Having one of the players win the trick is represented by the following disjunction:

• We want to prove that the only player that didn't lose was the one that won the round. This means we want to prove the below conclusion:

(P1)

The full JAPE proof is seen below:



Players only play their Strongest or Weakest Card:

In Briscola, players can play exactly one card in a trick. In order for a player (p) – who is finishing the trick – to win the trick, their card must be stronger than the current card winning the trick. If (p) can win the trick, they will play their strongest card (C1). If not, they will play their weakest card (C3). Thus, there is no situation where (p) plays their card (C2) that isn't the strongest or weakest card in their hand.

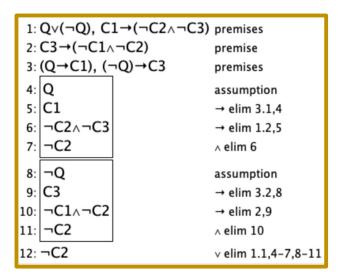
The following assumptions are used to implement the premises and conclusion into the JAPE proof:

- "If the player (p) has a card that can beat the card currently winning the trick" is represented by the proposition (Q).
- "If (Q) is true, then (p) will play their strongest card" is represented by $(Q \rightarrow C1)$.
- "If (Q) is false, then (p) will play their weakest card" is represented by ($\neg Q \rightarrow C3$).

• "If (p) plays their strongest card, they won't play their other two cards" is represented by $(C1 \rightarrow (\neg C2 \land \neg C3))$

- "If (p) plays their weakest card, they won't play their other two cards" is represented by $(C3 \rightarrow (\neg C1 \land \neg C2))$
- We want to prove that the player's card that isn't their strongest or weakest card will never be played. Thus, we want to prove (¬C2).

The full JAPE proof is seen below:



First-Order Extension

In a predicate logic setting we can easily convert each proposition into a predicate format:

- o startingPlayer(p, t) Player (p) starts trick (t).
- o $valIsGreater(v_1, v_2)$ Value (v_1) is greater than value (v_2) .
- o cardIsBrisc(c, s) Card (c) is the same suit as Briscola suit (s).
- o cardIsSuitOfRound(c, s, t) (c) is the same suit as (s), where (s) is the round suit on trick (t).
- o $cardIsSameSuit(c_1, c_2)$ Card (c_1) is the same suit as card (c_2) .
- o $cardBeatsCard(c_1, c_2, t)$ Card (c_1) beats card (c_2) in terms of value and suit on trick (t).
- o playerHasCard(c, p, t) Player(p) has the card(c) during the trick(t).
- o playerWinsTrick(p, t, c) Player (p) wins the trick (t) with a card (c).

- o suitOfRound(s, t) Checks if the suit (s) is the round suit of the trick (t).
- o playerPlaysCard(c, p, t) Player (p) played a card (c) on the trick (t)
- o startingPlayerCard(c, t) Card (c) is the starting card on the trick (t).

We can then implement some of the constraints into first-order logic using some of our predicates defined above with the appropriate quantifiers. Some examples of these first-order constraints are seen below:

Card Values are Transitive:

If a card's value (v_1) is greater than another card's value (v_2) . Then, if (v_2) is greater than another card's value (v_3) , then (v_1) is greater than (v_3) .

$$\exists v_1. \exists v_2. \exists v_3. ((vallsGreater(v_1, v_2) \land vallsGreater(v_2, v_3)) \rightarrow vallsGreater(v_1, v_3))$$

Conditions for Cards Beating Each Other:

A card (c_1) beats another card (c_2) on all tricks (t) if and only if **one** of three conditions are met. This constraint can then be broken down into these three conditions:

- (c₁) and (c₂) are the same suit and the value (v₁) (of card (c₁)) is greater than the value (v₂) (of card (c₂)):
 - $\{1\}$ $\exists c_1. \exists c_2. \exists v_1. \exists v_2. (cardIsSameSuit(c_1, c_2) \land valIsGreater(v_1, v_2))$
- (c_1) is apart of the Briscola suit (s) and (c_2) is not the same suit as (c_1) :
 - $\{2\}$ $\exists c_1. \exists c_2. \exists s. (cardIsBrisc(c_1, s) \land \neg cardIsSameSuit(c_1, c_2))$
- (c₁)'s suit (s₁) is apart of the round suit on trick (t) and (c₂) is not apart of the Briscola suit (s) and is not the same suit as card (c₁):
- $\exists c_1. \exists c_2. \, \forall t. \, \exists s. \, \exists s_1. \, \big(cardIsSuitOfRound(c_1, s_1, t) \, \land \, \neg cardIsBrisc(c_2, s) \, \land \, \neg cardIsSameSuit(c_1, c_2) \big)$

These three conditions can then be put into the final constraint seen below:

$$\exists c_1. \exists c_2. \forall t. cardBeatsCard(c_1, c_2, t) \leftrightarrow \{1\} \lor \{2\} \lor \{3\}$$

Players Can't Play a Card They Don't Have:

For all players (p), if the player doesn't have a card (c), then they can't play this card during any trick (t):

$$\forall t. \forall p. \forall c. (\neg playerHasCard(c, p, t) \rightarrow \neg playerPlaysCard(c, p, t))$$