# Duality in Logic, Games and Categories 

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Duality Theory

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## Logic



What are the symmetries of logic?

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## A logical space-time



Emerges in the semantics of low level languages

## The basic symmetry of logic

The logical discourse is symmetric between Player and Opponent

Claim: this symmetry is the foundation of logic

So, what can we learn from this basic symmetry?

## De Morgan duality

The duality relates the conjunction and the disjunction of classical logic:


## De Morgan duality in a constructive scenario

Can we make sense of this involutive negation

in a constructive logic like intuitionistic logic?

In particular, can we decompose the intuitionistic implication as


## Guideline: game semantics

Every proof of formula $A$ initiates a dialogue where

> Proponent tries to convince Opponent

Opponent tries to refute Proponent

An interactive approach to logic and programming languages

## The formal proof of the drinker's formula

## Duality



Negation permutes the rôles of Proponent and Opponent

## Duality



Negation permutes the rôles of Opponent and Proponent

## Classical duality in a boolean algebra

Negation defines a bijection

between the boolean algebra $B$ and its opposite boolean algebra $B^{o p}$.

## Intuitionistic negation in a Heyting algebra

Every object $\perp$ defines a Galois connection

between the Heyting algebra $H$ and its opposite algebra $H^{o p}$.

$$
a \leqslant_{H} \perp \circ b \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad b \leqslant_{H} a \multimap \perp \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad a \multimap \perp \leqslant_{H^{o p}} b
$$

## Double negation translation

Every object $\perp$ defines a Galois connection

between the Heyting algebra $H$ and its opposite algebra $H^{o p}$.

The negated elements of a Heyting algebra form a Boolean algebra.

# The functorial approach to proof invariants 

Cartesian closed categories

## Cartesian closed categories

A cartesian category $\mathscr{C}$ is closed when there exists a functor

$$
\Rightarrow: \mathscr{C}^{o p} \times \mathscr{C} \longrightarrow \mathscr{C}
$$

and a natural bijection

$$
\varphi_{A, B, C}: \mathscr{C}(A \times B, C) \cong \mathscr{C}(B, A \Rightarrow C)
$$

## The free cartesian closed category

The objects of the category free-ccc( $\mathscr{C})$ are the formulas

$$
A, B \quad::=X \quad|A \times B \quad| \quad A \Rightarrow B \mid 1
$$

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

The morphisms are the simply-typed $\lambda$-terms, modulo $\beta \eta$-conversion.

In particular, the $\beta \eta$-normal forms provide a "basis" of the free ccc.

## The simply-typed $\lambda$-calculus

| Variable | $\frac{\Gamma: A \vdash x: A}{}$ |
| :--- | :---: |
| Abstraction | $\frac{\Gamma, x: A \vdash P: B}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda x \cdot P: A \Rightarrow B}$ |
| Application | $\frac{\Gamma \vdash P: A \Rightarrow B}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash P Q: B}$ |
| Weakening | $\frac{\Gamma \vdash P: B}{\Gamma, x: A \vdash P: B}$ |
| Contraction | $\frac{\Gamma, x: A, y: A \vdash P: B}{\Gamma, z: A \vdash P[x, y \leftarrow z] B}$ |
| Exchange | $\frac{\Gamma, x: A, y: B, \Delta \vdash P: C}{\Gamma, y: B, x: A, \Delta \vdash P: C}$ |

# The simply-typed $\lambda$-calculus [with products] 

$$
\frac{\Gamma \vdash P: A \quad \Gamma \vdash Q: B}{\Gamma \vdash\langle P, Q\rangle: A \times B}
$$

Left projection

$$
\frac{\Gamma \vdash P: A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \pi_{1} P: A}
$$

Right projection

$$
\frac{\Gamma \vdash P: A \times B}{\Gamma \vdash \pi_{2} P: B}
$$

Unit

$$
\overline{\Gamma \vdash *: 1}
$$

## Execution of $\lambda$-terms

In order to compute a $\lambda$-term, one applies the $\beta$-rule

$$
(\lambda x . P) Q \longrightarrow \beta P[x:=Q]
$$

which substitutes the argument $Q$ for every instance of the variable $x$ in the body $P$ of the function. One may also apply the $\eta$-rule:


## Proof invariants

Every ccc $\mathscr{D}$ induces a proof invariant [-] modulo execution


A purely syntactic and type-theoretic construction

# An apparent obstruction to duality 

Self-duality in cartesian closed categories

## Duality in a boolean algebra

Negation defines a bijection

between the boolean algebra $B$ and its opposite boolean algebra $B^{o p}$.

## Duality in a category

One would like to think that negation defines an equivalence

between a cartesian closed category $\mathscr{C}$ and its opposite category $\mathscr{C}$ op.

## However, in a cartesian closed category...

Suppose that the category $\mathscr{C}$ has an initial object 0 . Then,

Every object $A \times 0$ is also initial.

The reason is that

$$
\mathscr{C}(A \times 0, B) \cong \mathscr{C}(0, A \Rightarrow B) \cong \text { singleton }
$$

for every object $B$ of the category $\mathscr{C}$.

## However, in a cartesian closed category...

Suppose that the category $\mathscr{C}$ has an initial object 0 . Then,

Every object $A \times 0$ is initial... and thus isomorphic to 0 .

The reason is that

$$
\mathscr{C}(A \times 0, B) \cong \mathscr{C}(0, A \Rightarrow B) \cong \text { singleton }
$$

for every object $B$ of the category $\mathscr{C}$.

## However, in a cartesian closed category...

$$
\text { Every morphism } f: A \longrightarrow 0 \text { is an isomorphism. }
$$

Given such a morphism $f: A \rightarrow 0$, consider the morphism $h: A \rightarrow A \times 0$ making the diagram commute:


## In a self-dual cartesian closed category...

$$
\begin{aligned}
\operatorname{Hom}(A, B) & \cong \quad \operatorname{Hom}(A \times 1, B) \\
& \cong \quad \operatorname{Hom}(1, A \Rightarrow B) \\
& \cong \quad \operatorname{Hom}(\neg(A \Rightarrow B), \neg 1) \\
& \cong \quad \operatorname{Hom}(\neg(A \Rightarrow B), 0) \\
& \cong \quad \text { empty or singleton }
\end{aligned}
$$

Hence, every such self-dual category $\mathscr{C}$ is a preorder!

## The microcosm principle

An idea coming from higher-dimensional algebra

## The microcosm principle



No contradiction (thus no formal logic) can emerge in a tyranny...

## A microcosm principle in algebra [Baez \& Dolan 1997]

The definition of a monoid

$$
M \times M \quad \longrightarrow \quad M
$$

requires the ability to define a cartesian product of sets

$$
A, B \quad \mapsto \quad A \times B
$$

Structure at dimension 0 requires structure at dimension 1

## A microcosm principle in algebra [Baez \& Dolan 1997]

The definition of a cartesian category

requires the ability to define a cartesian product of categories

$$
\mathscr{A}, \mathscr{B} \quad \mapsto \quad \mathscr{A} \times \mathscr{B}
$$

Structure at dimension 1 requires structure at dimension 2

## A similar microcosm principle in logic

The definition of a cartesian closed category

$$
\mathscr{C}^{o p} \times \mathscr{C} \longrightarrow \mathscr{C}
$$

requires the ability to define the opposite of a category

$$
\mathscr{A} \mapsto \mathscr{A}^{o p}
$$

Hence, the "implication" at level 1 requires a "negation" at level 2

## An automorphism in Cat

The 2-functor

$$
o p: \underline{\text { Cat }} \longrightarrow \text { Cat }^{o p(2)}
$$

transports every natural transformation

to a natural transformation in the opposite direction:

$\longrightarrow \quad$ requires a braiding on $\mathscr{V}$ in the case of $\mathscr{V}$-enriched categories

## Chiralities

A bilateral account of categories

## From categories to chiralities

This leads to a slightly bizarre idea:

$$
\text { decorrelate the category } \mathscr{C} \text { from its opposite category } \mathscr{C} \circ p
$$

So, let us define a chirality as a pair of categories $(\mathscr{A}, \mathscr{B})$ such that

$$
\mathscr{A} \cong \mathscr{C} \quad \mathscr{B} \cong \mathscr{C}^{o p}
$$

for some category $\mathscr{C}$.
Here $\cong$ means equivalence of category

## Chirality

More formally:

## Definition:

A chirality is a pair of categories $(\mathscr{A}, \mathscr{B})$ equipped with an equivalence:


## A 2-categorical justification

Let Chir denote the 2-category with
$\triangleright$ chiralities as objects
$\triangleright \quad$ chirality homomorphism as 1-dimensional cells
$\triangleright \quad$ chirality transformations as 2 -dimensional cells

Proposition. The 2-category Chir is biequivalent to the 2-category Cat.

## Cartesian closed chiralities

A 2-sided account of cartesian closed categories

## Cartesian chiralities

Definition. A cartesian chirality is a chirality
$\triangleright \quad$ whose category $\mathscr{A}$ has finite products noted

$$
a_{1} \wedge a_{2} \quad \text { true }
$$

$\triangleright \quad$ whose category $\mathscr{B}$ has finite sums noted

$$
b_{1} \vee b_{2} \quad \text { false }
$$

## Cartesian closed chiralities

Definition. A cartesian closed chirality is a cartesian chirality

$$
(\mathscr{A}, \wedge, \text { true }) \quad(\mathscr{B}, \vee, \text { false })
$$

equipped with a pseudo-action

$$
v: \mathscr{B} \times \mathscr{A} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathscr{A}
$$

and a bijection

$$
\mathscr{A}\left(a_{1} \wedge a_{2}, a_{3}\right) \cong \mathscr{A}\left(a_{1}, a_{2}^{*} \vee a_{3}\right)
$$

natural in $a_{1}, a_{2}$ and $a_{3}$.

## Dictionary

The pseudo-action

$$
\vee: \mathscr{B} \times \mathscr{A} \quad \longrightarrow \mathscr{A}
$$

reflects the implication

$$
\text { implies }: \mathscr{C}^{o p} \times \mathscr{C} \longrightarrow \mathscr{C}
$$

## Dictionary

The isomorphism of the pseudo-action

$$
\left(b_{1} \vee b_{2}\right) \vee a \cong b_{1} \vee\left(b_{2} \vee a\right)
$$

reflects the familiar isomorphism

$$
\left(x_{1} \text { and } x_{2}\right) \text { implies } y \cong x_{1} \text { implies }\left(x_{2} \text { implies } y\right)
$$

of cartesian closed categories.

## Dictionary continued

The isomorphism

$$
\mathscr{A}\left(a_{1} \wedge a_{2}, a_{3}\right) \cong \mathscr{A}\left(a_{2}, a_{1}^{*} \vee a_{3}\right)
$$

reflects the familiar isomorphism

$$
\mathscr{A}(x \text { and } y, z) \cong \mathscr{A}(y, x \text { implies } z)
$$

of cartesian closed categories.

## Key observation

The isomorphism

deserves the name of

> «classical decomposition of the implication»
although we work here in a cartesian closed category...

## Key observation

This means that the decomposition

is a principle of logic which comes from the 2-dimensional duality

$$
\mathscr{C} \mapsto \mathscr{C}^{o p}
$$

rather than from the 1-dimensional duality

$$
A \mapsto A^{*}
$$

specific to classical logic or to linear logic.

# Isbell duality compared to <br> Dedekind-MacNeille completion 

A comparison between orders and categories

## Ideal completion

Every partial order $A$ generates a free complete $\bigvee$-lattice $\hat{A}$

$$
A \longrightarrow \hat{A}
$$

whose elements are the downward closed subsets of $A$, with

$$
\varphi \leqslant \hat{A} \quad \psi \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \varphi \subseteq \psi
$$



## Free colimit completions of categories

Every small category $\mathscr{C}$ generates a free cocomplete category $\mathscr{P} \mathscr{C}$

$$
\mathscr{C} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathscr{P} \mathscr{C}
$$

whose elements are the presheaves over $\mathscr{C}$, with

$$
\varphi \quad \longrightarrow \mathscr{P C} \quad \psi \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \varphi \stackrel{\text { natural }}{\longrightarrow} \psi .
$$



## Contravariant presheaves



Replace downward closed sets

## Filter completion

Every partial order $A$ generates a free complete $\wedge$-lattice $\check{A}$

$$
A \longrightarrow \check{A}
$$

whose elements are the upward closed subsets of $A$, with

$$
\varphi \leqslant \check{A} \psi \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \varphi \quad \psi
$$



## Free limit completions of categories

Every small category $\mathscr{C}$ generates a free complete category $\mathscr{Q} \mathscr{C}$

$$
\mathscr{C} \longrightarrow \mathscr{Q} \mathscr{C}
$$

whose elements are the covariant presheaves over $\mathscr{C}$, with


## Covariant presheaves



Replaces upward closed sets

## The Dedekind-MacNeille completion

A Galois connection


$$
\begin{aligned}
L(\varphi) & =\left\{y \mid \forall x \in \varphi, x \leqslant_{A} y\right\} \\
R(\psi) & =\left\{x \mid \forall y \in \psi, x \leqslant_{A} y\right\}
\end{aligned}
$$

$$
\varphi \subseteq R(\psi) \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad \forall x \in \varphi, y \in \psi, x \leqslant_{A} y \quad \Longleftrightarrow \quad L(\varphi) \supseteq \psi
$$

The completion keeps the pairs $(\varphi, \psi)$ such that $\psi=L(\varphi)$ and $\varphi=R(\psi)$

## The Isbell conjugation

One obtains the adjunction


$$
\begin{aligned}
& L(\varphi): Y \mapsto \mathscr{P} \mathscr{C}(\varphi, Y)=\int_{X \in \mathscr{C}} \varphi(X) \Rightarrow \operatorname{hom}(X, Y) \\
& R(\psi): X \mapsto \mathscr{Q} \mathscr{C}(X, \psi)=\int_{Y \in \mathscr{C}} \psi(Y) \Rightarrow \operatorname{hom}(X, Y)
\end{aligned}
$$

## The Isbell conjugation

The adjunction

comes from the natural bijections

$$
\mathscr{P} \mathscr{C}(\varphi, R(\psi)) \cong \int_{X, Y \in \mathscr{C}} \varphi(X) \times \psi(Y) \Rightarrow \operatorname{hom}(X, Y) \cong \mathscr{Q} \mathscr{C}(L(\varphi), \psi)
$$

## The Isbell conjugation

Proposition. Suppose given a contravariant presheaf

$$
\varphi: \mathscr{C}^{\circ p} \longrightarrow \text { Set }
$$

which defines a small colimit in the original category $\mathscr{C}$.

In that case, $L(\varphi)$ is representable and

$$
R \circ L(\varphi) \cong \operatorname{colim} \varphi .
$$

Unfortunately, the Isbell envelope does not have limit nor colimits...

## Back to the fundamental symmetry



What does the chirality tell us about games?

## Duality



Negation permutes the rôles of Proponent and Opponent

## Duality



Negation permutes the rôles of Opponent and Proponent

## Tensor product



Player and Opponent play the two games in parallel

## Sum



Proponent selects one component

## Product




Opponent selects one component

## Exponentials



Opponent opens as many copies as necessary to beat Proponent

## The category of simple games

An idea dating back to André Joyal in 1977

## Simple games

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

$$
\begin{gathered}
M \\
P \subseteq M^{*} \\
\lambda: M \rightarrow\{-1,+1\}
\end{gathered}
$$

a finite set of moves, a set of plays,
a polarity function on moves
such that every play is alternating and starts by Opponent.

Alternatively, a simple game is an alternating decision tree.

## Simple games

The boolean game $\mathbb{B}$ :


Player in red
Opponent in blue

## Deterministic strategies

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

$$
s=m_{1} \cdots m_{2 k}
$$

such that:

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

$$
\forall s, \forall m, n \in M, \quad s \cdot m \cdot n \in \sigma \Rightarrow s \in \sigma
$$

- $\sigma$ is deterministic:

$$
\forall s \in \sigma, \forall m, n_{1}, n_{2} \in M, \quad s \cdot m \cdot n_{1} \in \sigma \text { and } s \cdot m \cdot n_{2} \in \sigma \Rightarrow n_{1}=n_{2} .
$$

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



## Total strategies

A strategy $\sigma$ is total when

- for every play $s$ of the strategy $\sigma$
- for every Opponent move $m$ such that $s \cdot m$ is a play there exists a Proponent move $n$ such that $s \cdot m \cdot n$ is a play of $\sigma$.


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



## Tensor product

Given two simple games $A$ and $B$, define

$$
A \otimes B
$$

as the simple game

$$
\begin{aligned}
M_{A \otimes B} & =M_{A}+M_{B} \\
\lambda_{A \otimes B} & =\left[\lambda_{A}, \lambda_{B}\right] \\
P_{A \otimes B} & =P_{A} \otimes P_{B}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $P_{A} \otimes P_{B}$ denotes the set of alternating plays in $M_{A \otimes B}^{*}$ obtained by interleaving a play $s \in P_{A}$ and a play $t \in P_{B}$.

## Linear implication

Given two simple games $A$ and $B$, define

$$
A \quad \multimap \quad B
$$

as the simple game

$$
\begin{aligned}
M_{A \multimap B} & =M_{A}+M_{B} \\
\lambda_{A \multimap B} & =\left[-\lambda_{A}, \lambda_{B}\right] \\
P_{A \multimap B} & =P_{A} \multimap P_{B}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $P_{A} \multimap P_{B}$ denotes the set of alternating plays in $M_{A \rightarrow B}^{*}$ obtained by interleaving a play $s \in P_{A}$ and a play $t \in P_{B}$.

## A category of simple games

The category Games has

- the simple games as objects
- the total strategies of the simple game

$$
\sigma \in A \quad \multimap \quad B
$$

as maps

$$
\sigma: A \longrightarrow B
$$

## The copycat strategy

The identity map

$$
i d_{A}: A \longrightarrow A
$$

is the copycat strategy

$$
i d_{A}: A \quad \multimap \quad A
$$

defined as

$$
i d_{A}=\left\{s \in P_{A \rightarrow A} \mid s=m_{1} \cdot m_{1} \cdot m_{2} \cdot m_{2} \cdots m_{k} \cdot m_{k}\right\}
$$

## The copycat strategy

$$
\begin{aligned}
& A \xrightarrow{i d} \quad A \\
& m_{1} \\
& m_{1} \\
& m_{2} \\
& m_{2} \\
& m_{3} \\
& m_{3} \\
& m_{k} \\
& m_{k}
\end{aligned}
$$

## Composition

Given two strategies

$$
A \quad \xrightarrow{\sigma} \quad B \quad \xrightarrow{\tau} \quad C
$$

the composite strategy

$$
A \quad \xrightarrow{\sigma ; \tau} C
$$

is defined as

$$
\sigma ; \tau=\left\{u \in P_{A \rightarrow C} \quad \mid \exists s \in \sigma, \exists t \in \tau \quad \begin{array}{l}
u_{\uparrow A}=s_{\uparrow A} \\
s_{\uparrow B}=t_{\uparrow B} \\
u_{\uparrow C}=t_{\uparrow C}
\end{array}\right\}
$$

The definition of composition is associative.

## Illustration

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
1 \xrightarrow{\text { true }} & \mathbb{B} & \xrightarrow{i d} \\
& & \mathbb{B} \\
& \\
& & \\
\text { true } & & \\
& & \\
& & \text { true }
\end{array}
$$

## Illustration

$$
\begin{array}{ccc}
1 \xrightarrow{\text { false }} & \mathbb{B} & \xrightarrow{i d}
\end{array} \begin{gathered}
\mathbb{B} \\
\\
\\
\\
\\
\text { false }
\end{gathered} \quad \begin{gathered}
\mathrm{q} \\
\end{gathered}
$$

## Illustration

$1 \xrightarrow{\text { true }} \mathbb{B} \xrightarrow{\text { negation }} \mathbb{B}$
q
true
false

## An important isomorphism

The simple game

$$
(A \otimes B) \not \subset C
$$

is isomorphic to the simple game

$$
A \quad \multimap \quad\left(\begin{array}{lll}
B & \multimap & C
\end{array}\right.
$$

for all simple games $A, B, C$.

Here, isomorphism means tree isomorphism.

## The category of simple games

## Theorem.

The category Games is symmetric monoidal closed.

As such, it defines a model of the linear $\lambda$-calculus.

## Illustration



## Illustration



## Illustration



## Currification

More generally, the transformation of the term

$$
\Gamma, x: A \vdash f: B
$$

into the term

$$
\Gamma \vdash \lambda x \cdot f: A \quad \multimap \quad B
$$

does not alter the associated strategy, simply reorganizes it.

## Cartesian product

Given two simple games $A$ and $B$, define

$$
A \quad \& \quad B
$$

as the simple game

$$
\begin{aligned}
M_{A \& B} & =M_{A}+M_{B} \\
\lambda_{A \& B} & =\lambda_{A}+\lambda_{B} \\
P_{A \& B} & =P_{A} \oplus P_{B}
\end{aligned}
$$

where $P_{A} \oplus P_{B}$ is the coalesced sum of the pointed sets $P_{A}$ and $P_{B}$.
This means that every nonempty play in $A \& B$ is either in $A$ or in $B$.

## The cartesian product

For every simple game $X$, there exists an isomorphism


This means that the game $A \& B$ is the cartesian product of $A$ and $B$.

## The cartesian product

For every game $X$, there exists a bijection between the strategies

$$
X \quad \longrightarrow \quad A \& B
$$

and the pair of strategies

$$
X \quad A \quad X \longrightarrow B .
$$

## The cartesian product

Guess the two strategies

$$
\pi_{1}: A \& B \multimap A \quad \pi_{2}: A \& B \multimap B
$$

such that for every pair

$$
f: X \multimap A \quad g: X \multimap B
$$

there exists a unique strategy

$$
h: X \multimap A \& B
$$

making the diagram commute:


## Categories of games as completions

A categorical reconstruction of simple games

## A categorical reconstruction

Definition. A duality functor on a category $\mathscr{C}$ is a functor

$$
D: \mathscr{C} \longrightarrow \mathscr{C}^{\text {op }}
$$

equipped with a natural bijection

$$
\varphi_{A, B}: \mathscr{C}(A, D B) \cong \mathscr{C}(B, D A) .
$$

Theorem.
The category Games is the free cartesian category $\mathscr{C}$ with a duality functor.

## A categorical reconstruction

Observation. Every duality functor $D$ induces an adjunction

witnessed by the series of bijection:

$$
\mathscr{C}(A, D B) \cong \mathscr{C}(B, D A) \cong \mathscr{C}^{\circ p}(D A, B)
$$

## A categorical reconstruction

So, the category Games coincides with the free adjunction

where
$\triangleright$ the category $\mathscr{A}$ has finite products noted \& and true,
$\triangleright$ the category $\mathscr{B}$ has finite sums noted $\oplus$ and false.

## A categorical reconstruction

Accordingly, the category $\Sigma$ Games coincides with the free adjunction

where
$\triangleright$ the category $\mathscr{A}$ has finite sums noted $\oplus$ and false,
$\triangleright$ the category $\mathscr{B}$ has finite products noted \& and true.
Here we note $\Sigma \mathscr{C}$ for the free category with finite sums generated by $\mathscr{C}$

## In particular...

$\triangleright$ The simple game for the booleans is defined as

$$
\mathbb{B}=R(L(\text { true }) \oplus L(\text { true }))
$$

$\triangleright$ The tensor product of two simple games

$$
A=R \bigoplus_{i} L A_{i} \quad B=R \bigoplus_{j} L B_{j}
$$

is defined as

$$
A \otimes B=A \otimes B \quad \& \quad A \otimes B
$$

where

$$
A \otimes B=R \bigoplus_{i} L\left(A_{i} \otimes B\right) \quad A \otimes B=R \bigoplus_{j} L\left(A \otimes B_{j}\right)
$$

## Work in progress

An adjunction

is called bicomplete when
$\triangleright \quad \mathscr{A}$ has small colimits
$\triangleright \quad \mathscr{B}$ has small limits

## Ongoing work:

Describe the bicompletion extending Whitman's construction to categories.

