

# THE GROTHENDIECK CONSTRUCTION FOR DELTA LENSES

BRYCE CLARKE

Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia  
[bryceclarke.github.io](https://bryceclarke.github.io)

Applied Category Theory conference  
University of Oxford, UK, 21 June 2024

# WHAT IS A LENS?

0 1

- Lenses are an abstraction of **product projections** (in Set / Cat)

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B \times A & (b, a) \xrightarrow{(u, 1_a)} & (b', a) \\ \downarrow & & \\ B & b \xrightarrow{u} & b' \end{array}$$

"a lens focuses on a view of a system"

- Has forwards/backwards components ↙ lifting
- Model **bidirectional transformations**

- Lenses are an abstraction of **coproducts** (add together systems).

$$B \times A \simeq \sum_{b \in B} A \longrightarrow B$$

"lifting is reindexing"

- How do we adapt this to **delta lenses**?
  - Index by a category ...
  - ... a collection of objects (sets?)
  - Reindex along what kind of morphism?
  - How strict is reindexing?

# GROTHENDIECK CONSTRUCTION(S)

0 2

Fibred vs. indexed perspectives:

Discrete opfibrations

$$\mathrm{DOpf}(B) \simeq [B, \mathrm{Set}]$$

Split opfibrations

$$\mathrm{SOpf}(B) \simeq [B, \mathrm{Cat}]$$

Functors

$$\mathrm{Cat}/B \simeq [\mathrm{Lo}(B), \mathrm{Span}]_{\mathrm{lax}}$$

Many variations of interest in ACT:

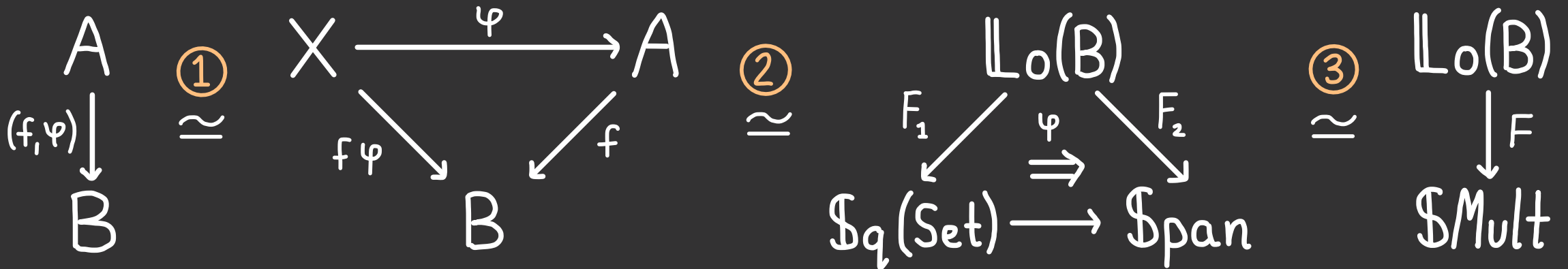
- **Monoidal Grothendieck Construction** – Moeller & Vasilakopoulou
- **Double categories of Open Dynamical Systems** – Myers
- **Structured and decorated cospans** from the viewpoint of double category theory – Patterson
- **Double fibrations** – Cruttwell, Lambert, Pronk, & Szylid

# OVERVIEW OF THE TALK

03

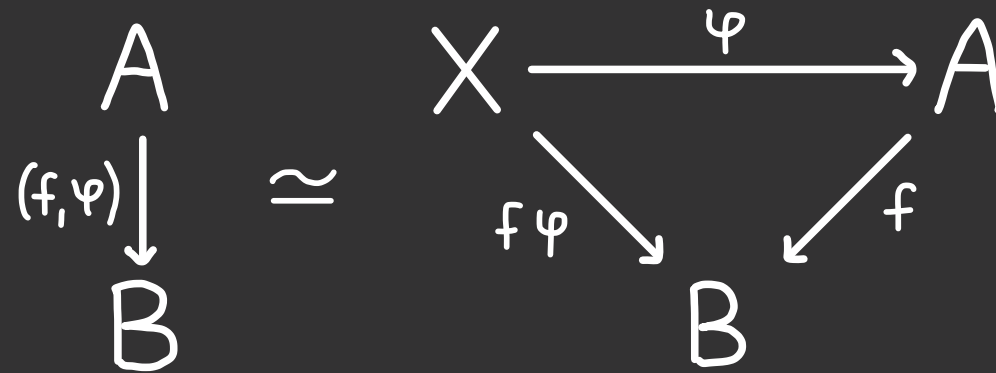
MAIN RESULT: Grothendieck construction for delta lenses

$$\mathcal{L}ens(B) \simeq [\mathcal{L}o(B), \mathcal{M}ult]_{\text{lax}}$$



④ Examples & concluding remarks

# PART 1



"Delta lenses are equivalent to certain commutative diagrams in  $\mathcal{Cat}$ "

# DELTA LENSES

04

A **delta lens**  $(f, \varphi)$  is a functor  $f: A \rightarrow B$  equipped with a lifting operation  $\varphi$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & & \\ f \downarrow & a \xrightarrow{\varphi(a, u)} & a' \\ B & f_a \xrightarrow{u} & b \end{array}$$

that satisfies three axioms.

1.  $f\varphi(a, u) = u$
2.  $\varphi(a, 1_{f_a}) = 1_a$
3.  $\varphi(a, v \circ u) = \varphi(a', v) \circ \varphi(a, u)$

For a category  $B$ , let **Lens**( $B$ ) be the category whose:

- objects are delta lenses into  $B$ ;
- morphisms are functors

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{h} & C \\ (f, \varphi) \searrow & & \swarrow (g, \psi) \\ & B & \end{array}$$

such that  $gh = f$  and  $\psi(ha, u) = h\varphi(a, u)$ .

"functors which preserve chosen lifts"

# BASIC EXAMPLES

05

- State-based lenses are delta lenses between **codiscrete categories**.

$$f: A \rightarrow B \quad p: A \times B \rightarrow A$$

- Discrete opfibrations are delta lenses such that  $\varphi(a, fw) = w$ .
- Split opfibrations are delta lenses such that the chosen lifts  $\varphi(a, u)$  are **opcartesian**.

- Bijective-on-objects functors with a **chosen section**.

- Each functor induces a **free** delta lens via a monadic adjunction:

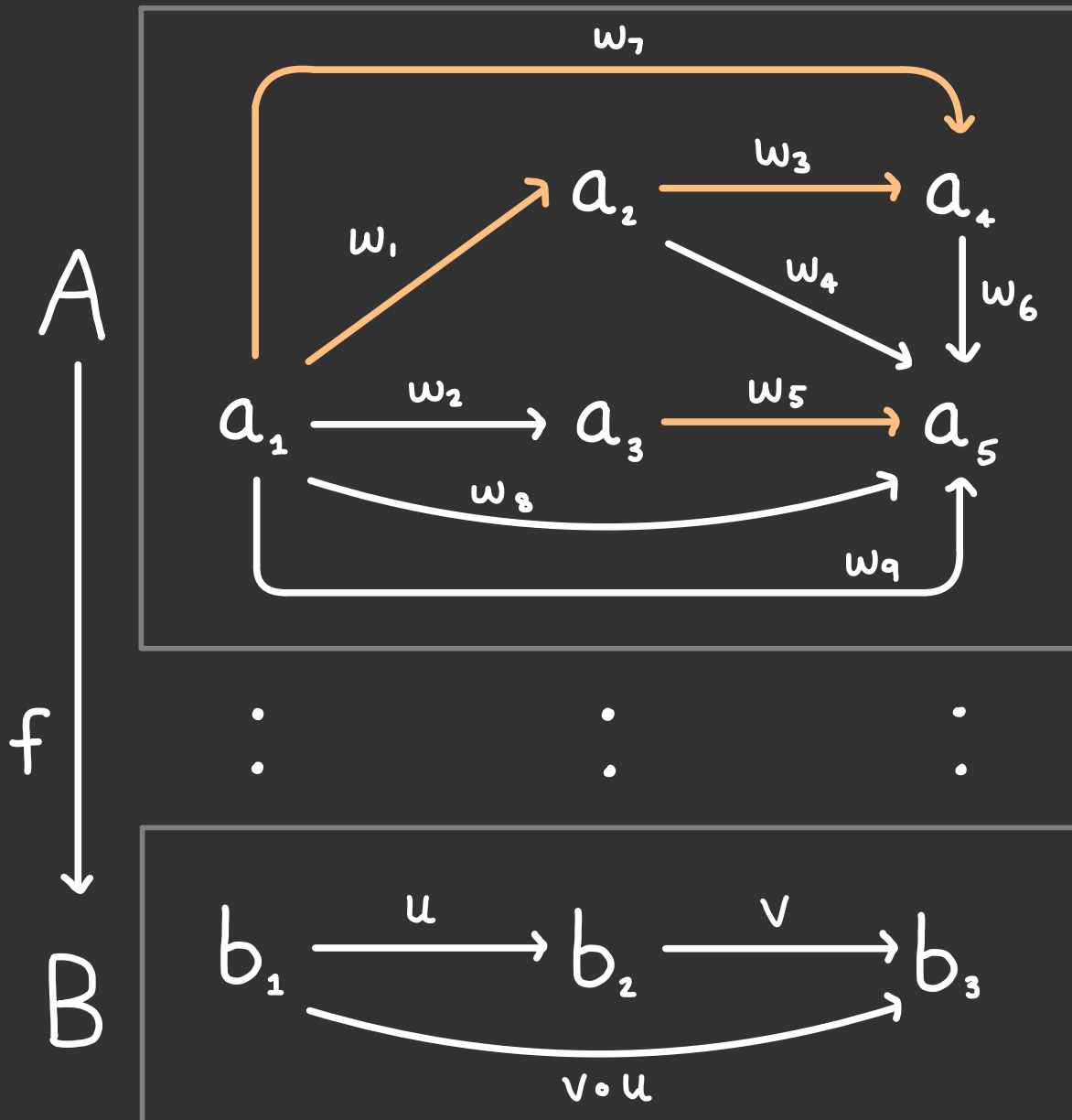
$$\mathbf{Lens}(B) \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\quad} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} \end{array} \mathbf{Cat}/B$$

- Each retrofunctor (i.e. cofunctor) induces a **cofree** delta lens:

$$\mathbf{Lens}(B) \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\quad} \\ \top \\ \xrightarrow{\quad} \end{array} \mathbf{Cat}^\#(B)$$

# RUNNING EXAMPLE

06



We require that:

$$w_4 = w_6 \circ w_3 \quad w_7 = w_3 \circ w_1 \quad w_8 = w_5 \circ w_2$$

Functor  $f: A \rightarrow B$  with

$$f a_1 = b_1 \quad f a_2 = f a_3 = b_2 \quad f a_4 = f a_5 = b_3$$

Lifting operation  $\varphi$  with:

$$\varphi(a_1, u) = w_1 \quad \varphi(a_2, v) = w_3$$

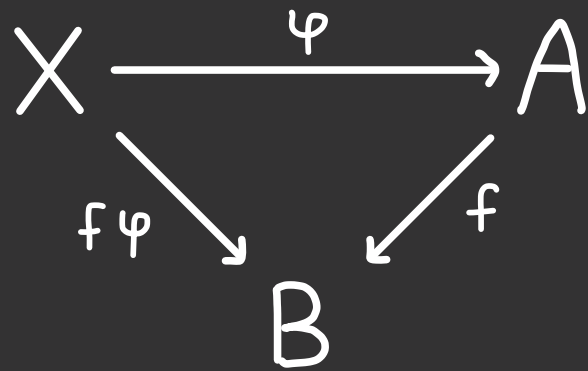
$$\varphi(a_3, v) = w_5 \quad \varphi(a_1, v \circ u) = w_7$$



# DIAGRAMMATIC DELTA LENSES

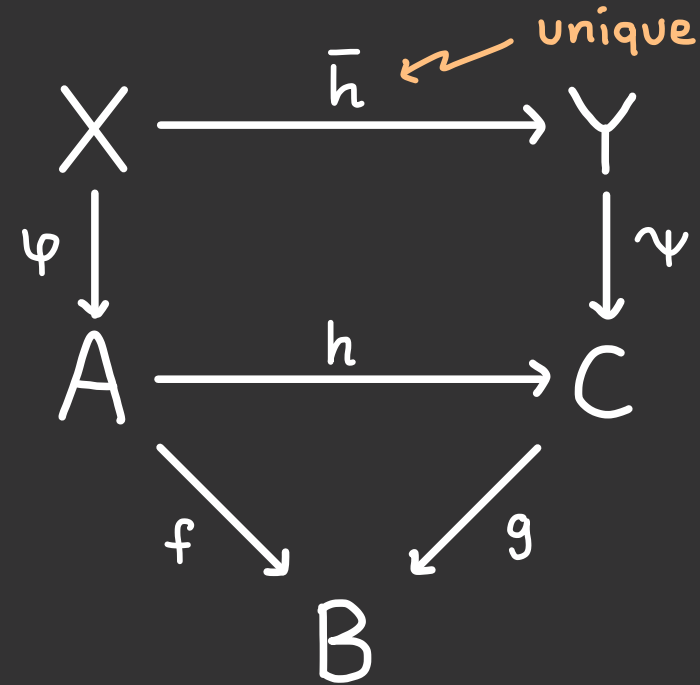
07

A **diagrammatic delta lens** is a commutative diagram in  $\mathcal{Cat}$



such that  $\varphi$  is **bijective-on-objects** and  $f\varphi$  is a **discrete opfibration**.

These are objects in **DiaLens(B)**.



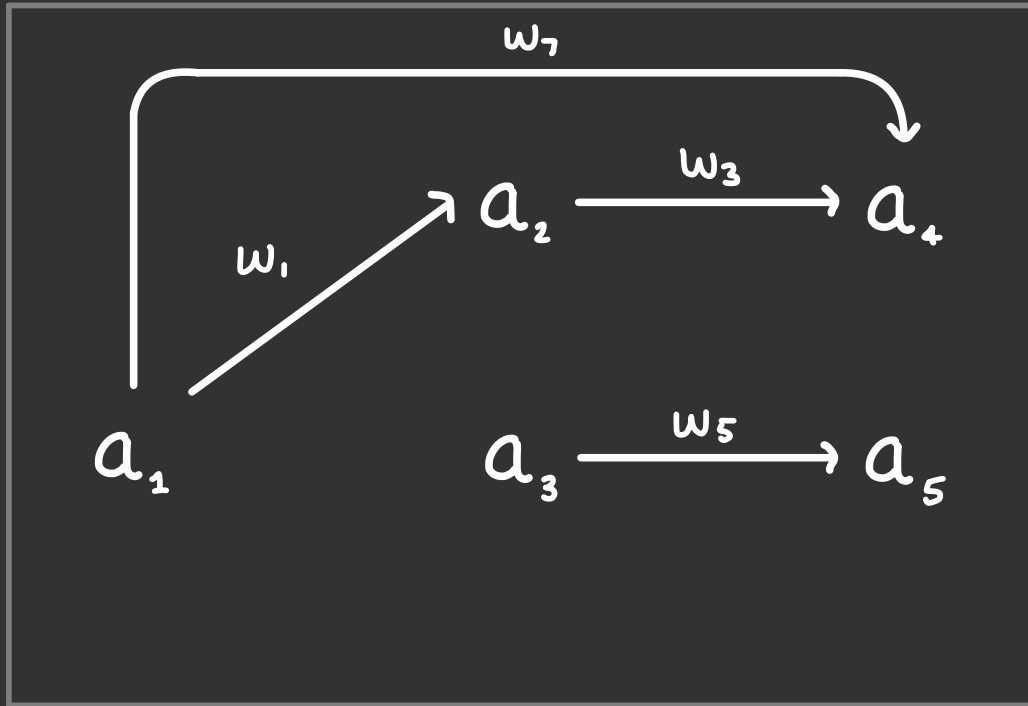
Morphisms in  $\text{DiaLens}(B)$  are pairs\*  $(h, \bar{h})$  such that the diagram commutes.

$$\boxed{\text{Lens}(B) \simeq \text{DiaLens}(B)}$$

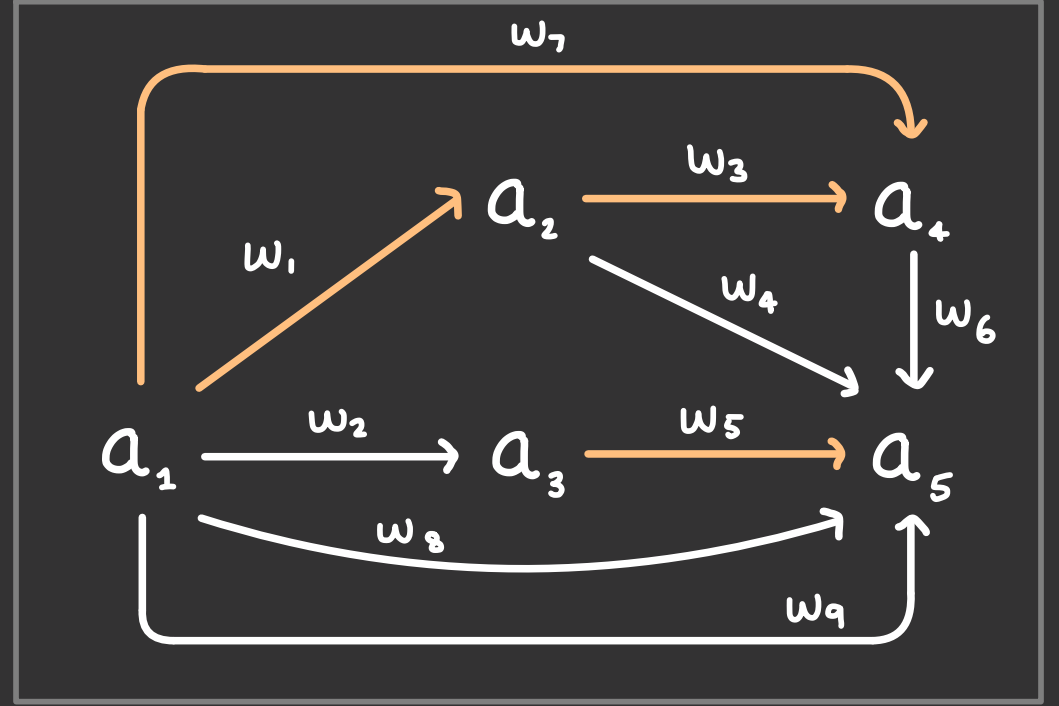
IDEA: Each delta lens  $(f, \varphi): A \rightarrow B$  admits a wide subcategory of chosen lifts  $\Lambda(f, \varphi) \rightarrow A$ .

# RUNNING EXAMPLE 2

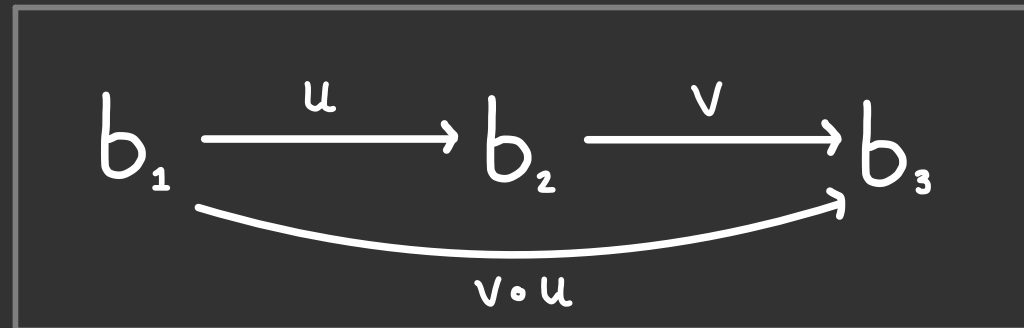
08



$\varphi$   
identity  
on objects



$f\varphi$   
discrete  
opfibration



$f$

## PART 2

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & A \\
 & \searrow f\varphi & \swarrow f \\
 & & B
 \end{array}
 \quad \simeq \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & \mathbb{L}_0(B) & \\
 F_1 \swarrow & \xRightarrow{\varphi} & \searrow F_2 \\
 \mathcal{S}_q(\text{Set}) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{S}\text{pan}
 \end{array}$$

"Delta lenses are equivalent to certain transformations  
between certain lax double functors into  $\mathcal{S}\text{pan}$ "

# DOUBLE CATEGORIES

09

A **double category**  $\mathcal{D}$  consists of:

- objects  $A, B, C, D, \dots$
- tight morphisms  $\bullet \longrightarrow \bullet$
- loose morphisms  $\bullet \multimap \bullet$
- cells

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\quad \text{+} \quad} & C \\ f \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{\quad \text{+} \quad} & D \end{array}$$

that compose horizontally & vertically.

**Span** - sets, functions, spans

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xleftarrow{h_1} & X & \xrightarrow{h_2} & C \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow g \\ B & \xleftarrow{k_1} & Y & \xrightarrow{k_2} & D \end{array}$$

For each category  $\mathcal{C}$ , we have  $\mathcal{S}_q(\mathcal{C})$  whose cells are commuting squares in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{h} & C \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{k} & D \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & C \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & C \end{array} \quad \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & C \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & C \end{array}} \right\}$$

$\mathcal{L}_o(\mathcal{C})$  - restrict  $\mathcal{S}_q(\mathcal{C})$  to identity tight mor.

# LAX DOUBLE FUNCTORS & TIGHT TRANSFORMATIONS 10

A lax double functor  $F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  is given by

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{u} & A' \\ f \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow f' \\ B & \xrightarrow{v} & B' \end{array} \rightsquigarrow \begin{array}{ccc} FA & \xrightarrow{Fu} & FA' \\ Ff \downarrow & F\alpha & \downarrow Ff' \\ FB & \xrightarrow{Fv} & FB' \end{array}$$

preserving tight direction strictly &  
loose direction up to specified comparison cells:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA & \xrightarrow{\text{id}_{FA}} & FA \\ \parallel & \eta_A & \parallel \\ FA & \xrightarrow{F(\text{id}_A)} & FA \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} FA & \xrightarrow{Fu} & FA' & \xrightarrow{Fv} & FA'' \\ \parallel & & & & \parallel \\ FA & \xrightarrow{F(u \cdot v)} & FA'' & & \end{array}$$

A tight transformation  $\mathcal{A} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{F} \\ \Downarrow \tau \\ \xrightarrow{G} \end{array} \mathcal{B}$  is

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{u} & A' \\ \tau_A \downarrow & \tau_u & \downarrow \tau_{A'} \\ GA & \xrightarrow{Gu} & GA' \end{array}$$

satisfying naturality & coherence conditions.

**Globular** if  $\tau_A$  is identity for each object  $A$ .

Obtain a category  $[\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}]_{\text{lax}}$  of lax double functors and tight transformations.

# TWO FUNDAMENTAL RESULTS

1 1

$$\text{Dopf}(B) \simeq [\mathbb{L}_0(B), \mathcal{S}q(\text{Set})]$$

$$\text{Cat}/B \simeq [\mathbb{L}_0(B), \mathcal{S}pan]_{\text{lax}}$$

Thus each globular transformation

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathbb{L}_0(B) & \\ F_1 \swarrow & & \searrow F_2 \\ \mathcal{S}q(\text{Set}) & \xRightarrow{\varphi} & \mathcal{S}pan \end{array}$$

inclusion

is equivalent to a diagrammatic delta lens!

$\text{GlobCone}(B, \mathcal{S}q(\text{Set}) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}pan)$  has morphisms:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} F_1 \curvearrowright & \mathbb{L}_0(B) & \curvearrowleft G_2 \\ \swarrow & \searrow & \\ \mathcal{S}q(\text{Set}) & \xRightarrow{\gamma} & \mathcal{S}pan \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} F_1 \swarrow & \mathbb{L}_0(B) & \searrow G_2 \\ & \searrow \varphi & \nearrow \\ \mathcal{S}q(\text{Set}) & \xRightarrow{\varphi} & \mathcal{S}pan \end{array}$$

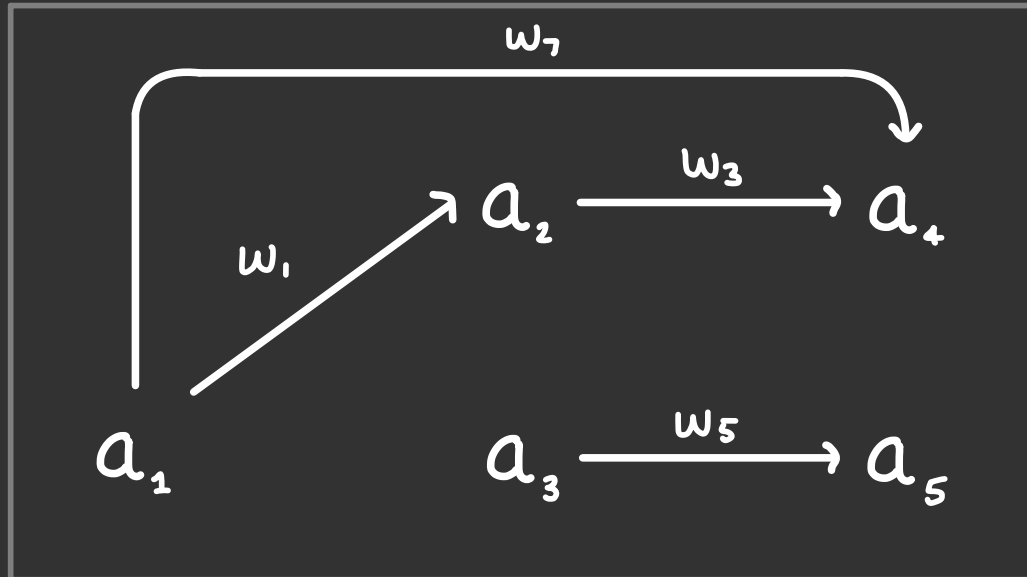
We obtain an equivalence:

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{DiaLens}(B) \simeq \\ \text{GlobCone}(B, \mathcal{S}q(\text{Set}) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}pan) \end{array}$$

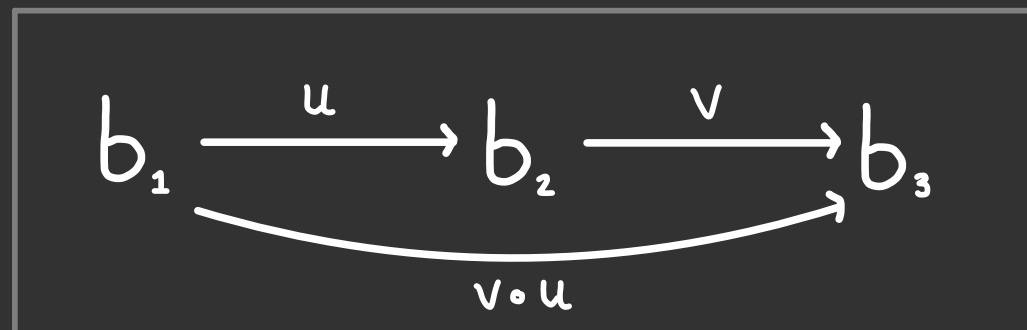
# RUNNING EXAMPLE 3.1

1 2

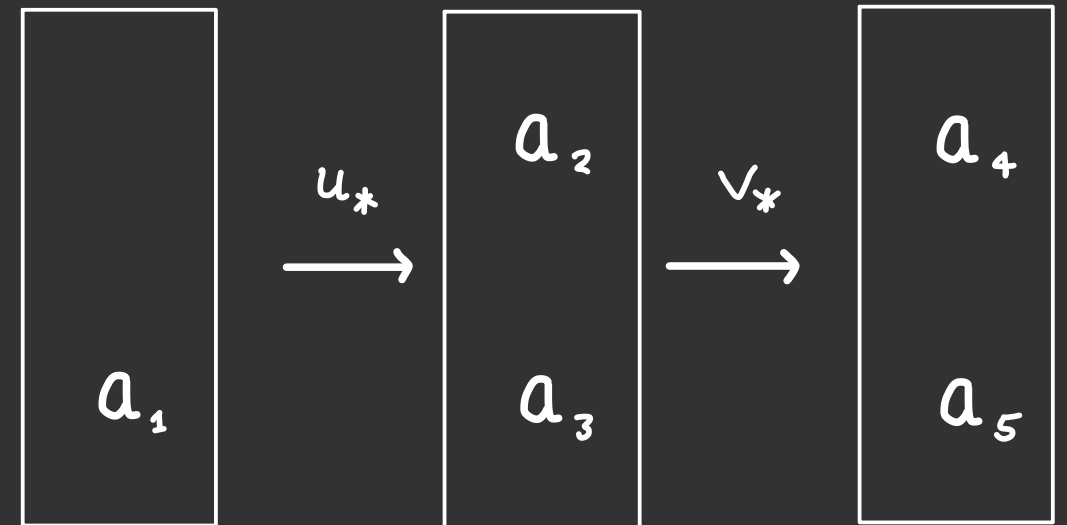
discrete opfibration  $f': X \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$



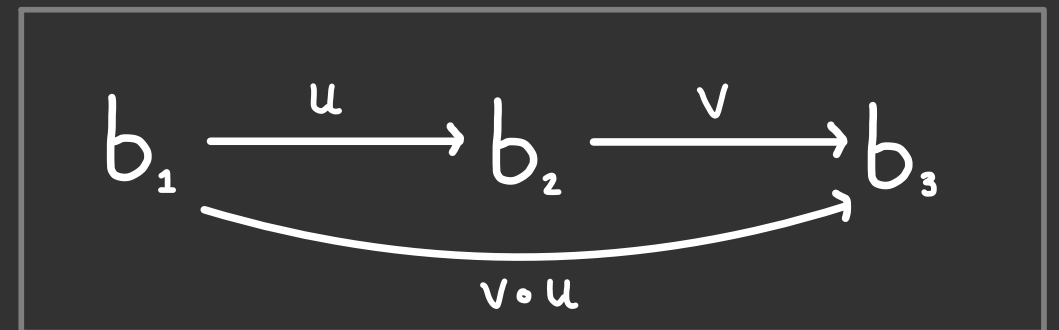
$\vdots$   $\vdots$   $\vdots$



double functor  $\mathbb{L}_0(\mathcal{B}) \longrightarrow \mathcal{S}_q(\text{Set})$



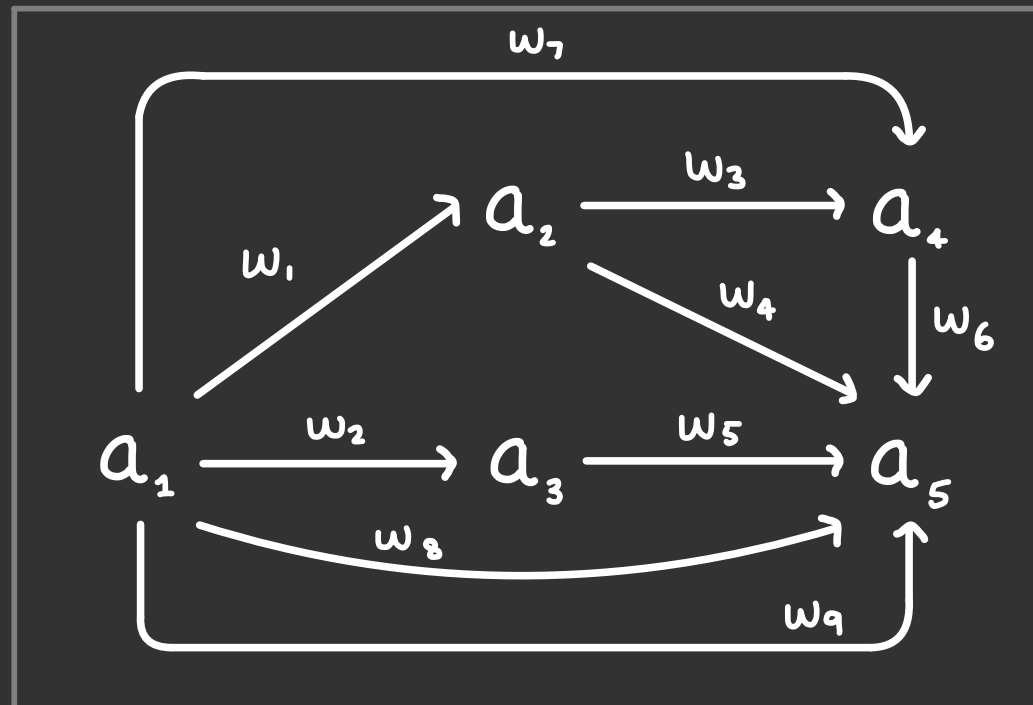
$\uparrow$   $\uparrow$   $\uparrow$



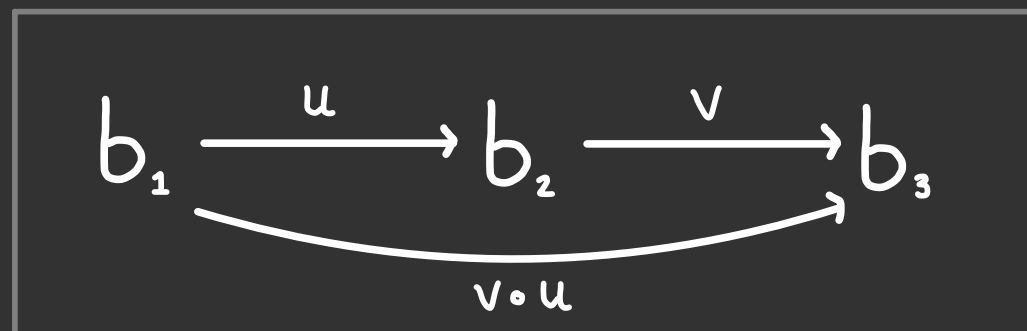
# RUNNING EXAMPLE 3 2

1 3

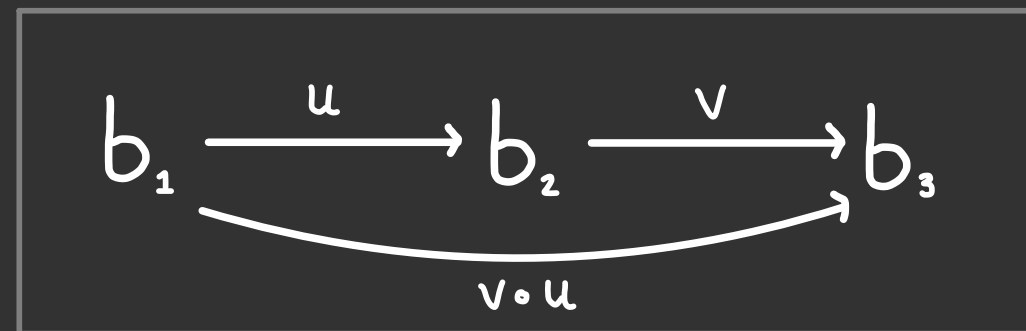
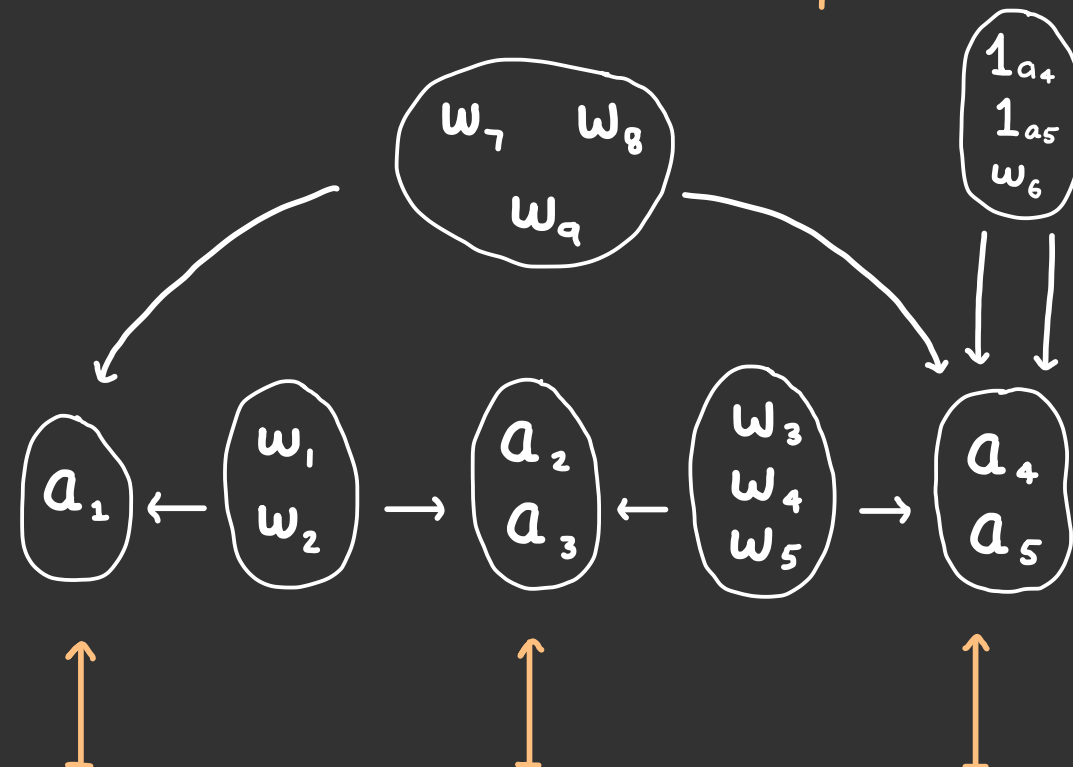
functor  $f:A \rightarrow B$



$\vdots$   $\vdots$   $\vdots$



double functor  $\mathbb{L}_0(B) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}pan$





## PART 3

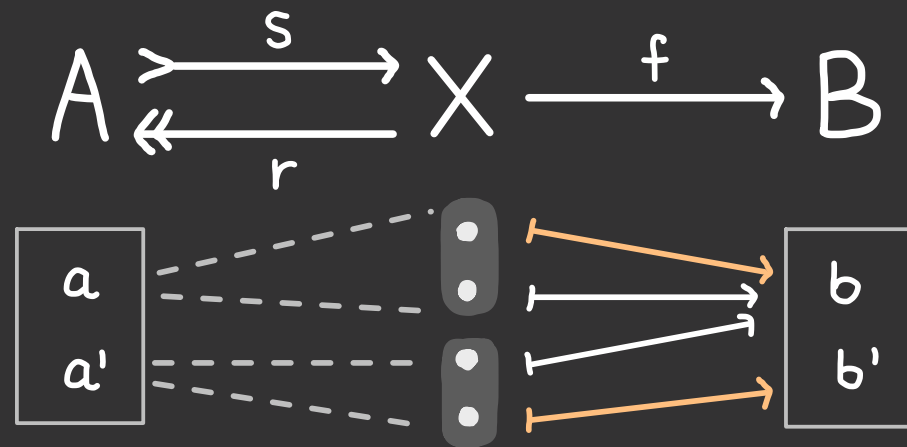
$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \mathbb{L}_0(B) & \\ F_1 \swarrow & \Downarrow \varphi & \searrow F_2 \\ \mathcal{S}_q(\text{Set}) & \longrightarrow & \mathcal{S}\text{pan} \end{array} \quad \simeq \quad \begin{array}{c} \mathbb{L}_0(B) \\ \downarrow F \\ \mathcal{S}\text{Mult} \end{array}$$

"Delta lenses are equivalent to lax double functors into  $\mathcal{S}\text{Mult}$ "

# SPLIT MULTI-VALUED FUNCTIONS

14

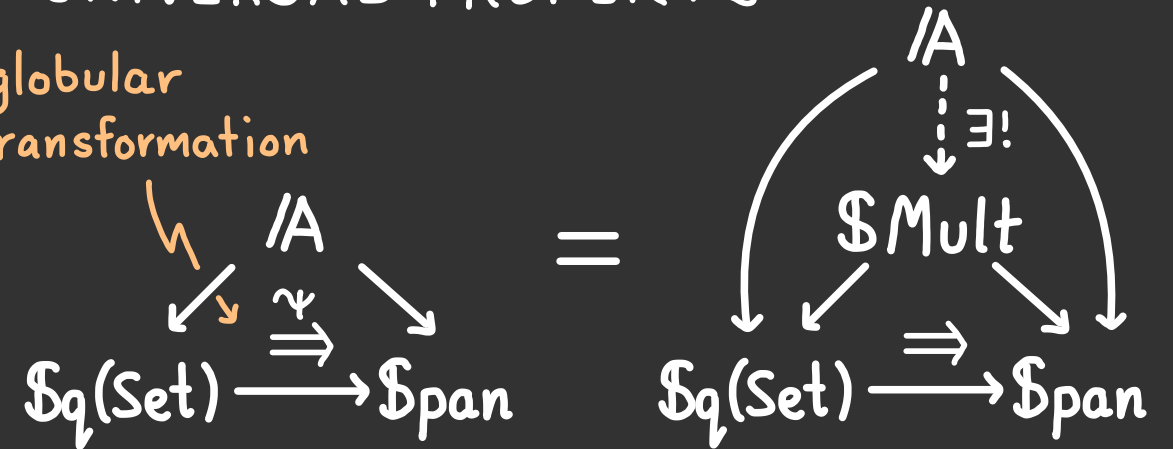
A **split multi-valued function** is a span whose source leg has a chosen section.



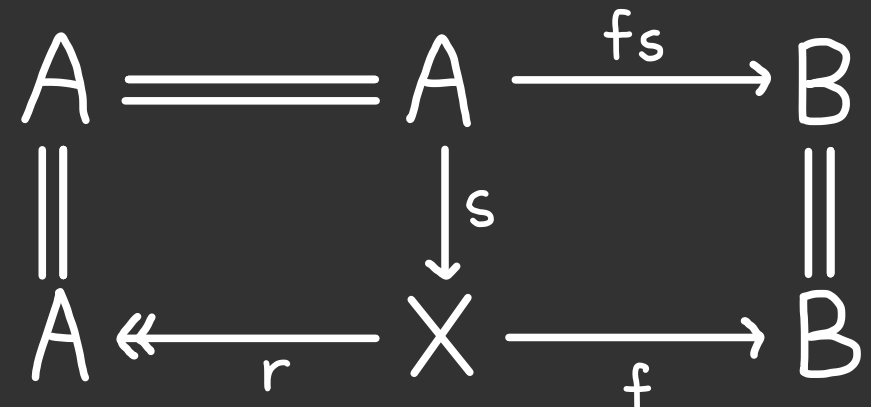
Let **\$Mult** be the double category of sets, functions, and split multi-valued functions.

## UNIVERSAL PROPERTY

globular transformation



Component of globular transformation:



# MAIN THEOREM

1 5

For each category  $B$ , there are  
equivalences of categories:

$$\begin{aligned} & \mathcal{L}ens(B) \\ & \simeq \mathcal{D}ia\mathcal{L}ens(B) \\ & \simeq \mathcal{G}lob\mathcal{C}one(B, \mathcal{S}q(\mathcal{S}et) \rightarrow \mathcal{S}pan) \\ & \simeq [\mathcal{L}o(B), \mathcal{S}Mult]_{lax} \end{aligned}$$

GROTHENDIECK CONSTRUCTION:

Lax double functor  $\mathcal{L}o(B) \xrightarrow{F} \mathcal{S}Mult$

where each  $u: b \rightarrow b'$  sent to:

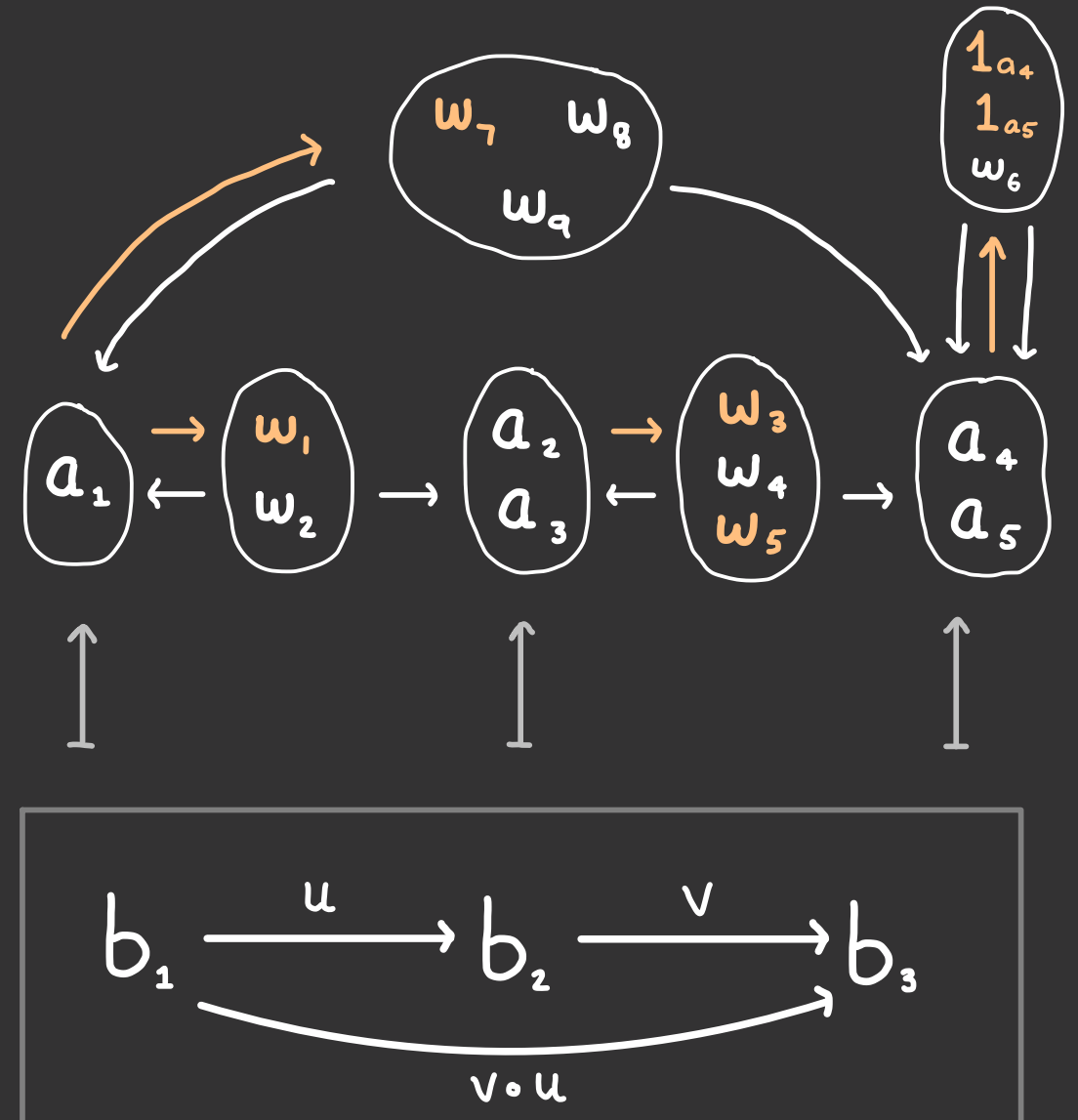
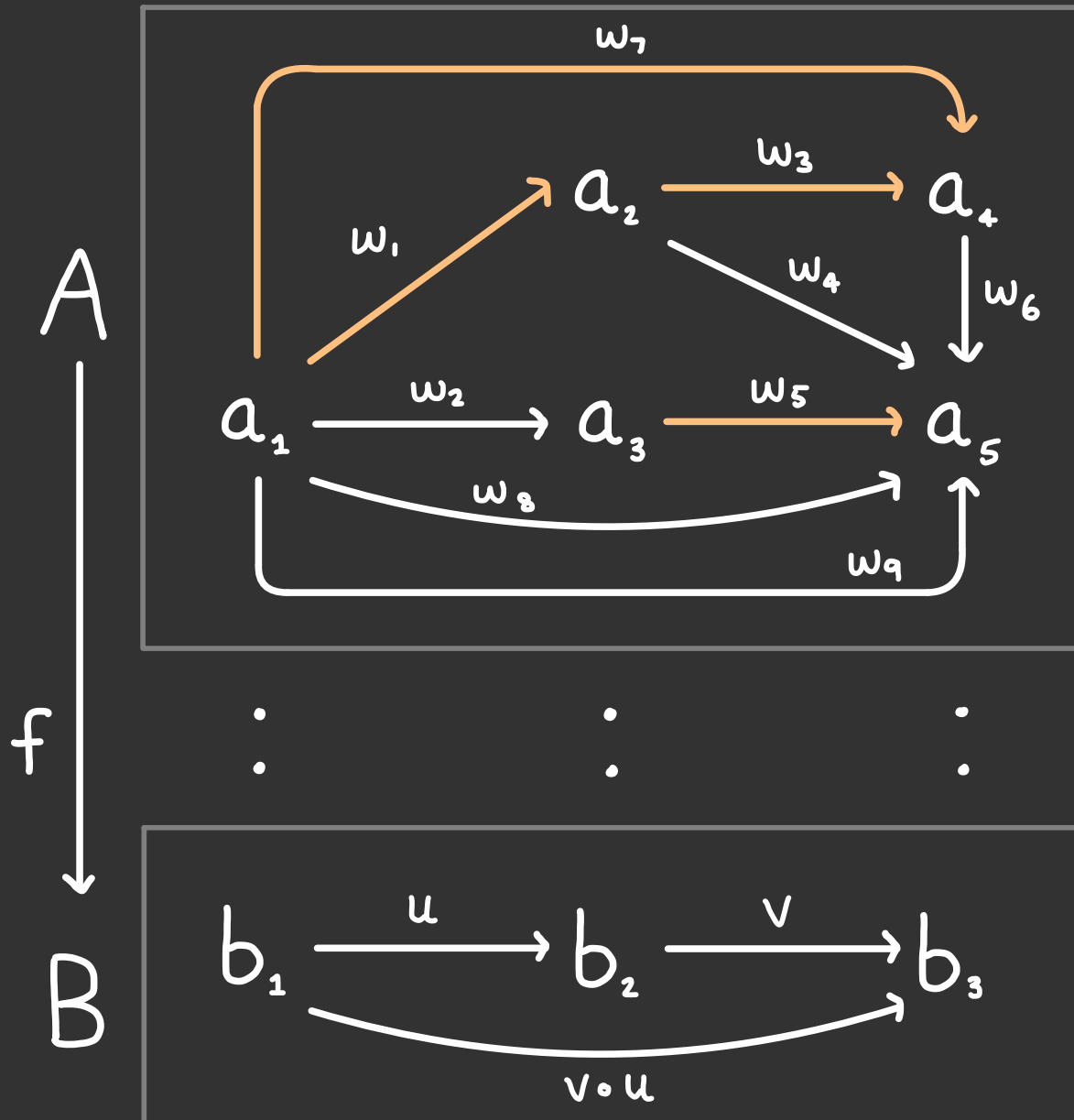
$$F(b) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\varphi_u} \\ \xleftarrow{s_u} \end{array} F[u] \xrightarrow{t_u} F(b')$$

Obtain delta lens  $\int F \xrightarrow{\pi} B$  with:

- $(b \in B, x \in F(b))$   $\leftarrow$  objects
- $(u: b \rightarrow b', w \in F[u])$  :  $(b, s_u(w)) \xrightarrow{\text{morphisms}} (b', t_u(w))$
- $(b \in B, x \in F(b), u: b \rightarrow b')$   $\searrow$  chosen lifts  
 $(u: b \rightarrow b', \varphi_u(x)) : (b, x) \rightarrow (b', t_u(\varphi_u(x)))$

# RUNNING EXAMPLE 4

1 6



## PART 4



"Delta lenses can be studied via the double category  $\mathcal{M}ult$ "

# EXAMPLES & MONOIDAL PRODUCTS

17

Restrict  $F: \mathbb{L}_0(B) \rightarrow \mathbb{M}ult$  to study different classes of delta lenses:

discrete opfibration

$$F(b) \xrightarrow{=} F(b) \longrightarrow F(b')$$

fully faithful

$$F(b) \xrightarrow{\hookrightarrow} F(b) \times F(b') \longrightarrow F(b')$$

bijective-on-objects

$$1 \xrightarrow{\hookrightarrow} F[u] \longrightarrow 1$$

discrete fibration\*

$$F(b) \xrightarrow{\hookrightarrow} F(b') \xrightarrow{=} F(b')$$

retrofunctors

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{L}_0(B) & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{S}_q(\text{Set}) \\ \downarrow & \text{globular} \Downarrow & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{L}_0(B_\infty) & \longrightarrow & \mathbb{S}_{\text{pan}} \end{array}$$

codiscrete ↘

Use monoidal products on  $\text{Cat}$  and  $\mathbb{M}ult$  to induce those on  $\text{Lens}(B)$ :

$$\mathbb{L}_0(B) \xrightarrow{\langle F, G \rangle} \mathbb{M}ult \times \mathbb{M}ult \xrightarrow{*} \mathbb{M}ult$$

$$\mathbb{L}_0(B+C) \xrightarrow{[F, G]} \mathbb{M}ult \times \mathbb{M}ult \xrightarrow{+} \mathbb{M}ult$$

# SPLIT OPFIBRATIONS AS LAX DOUBLE FUNCTORS

18

Classical Grothendieck construction:

$$\mathcal{S}Opf(B) \simeq [B, \mathcal{C}at]$$

But this is full subcategory of  $\mathcal{L}ens(B)$ !

What is the image?

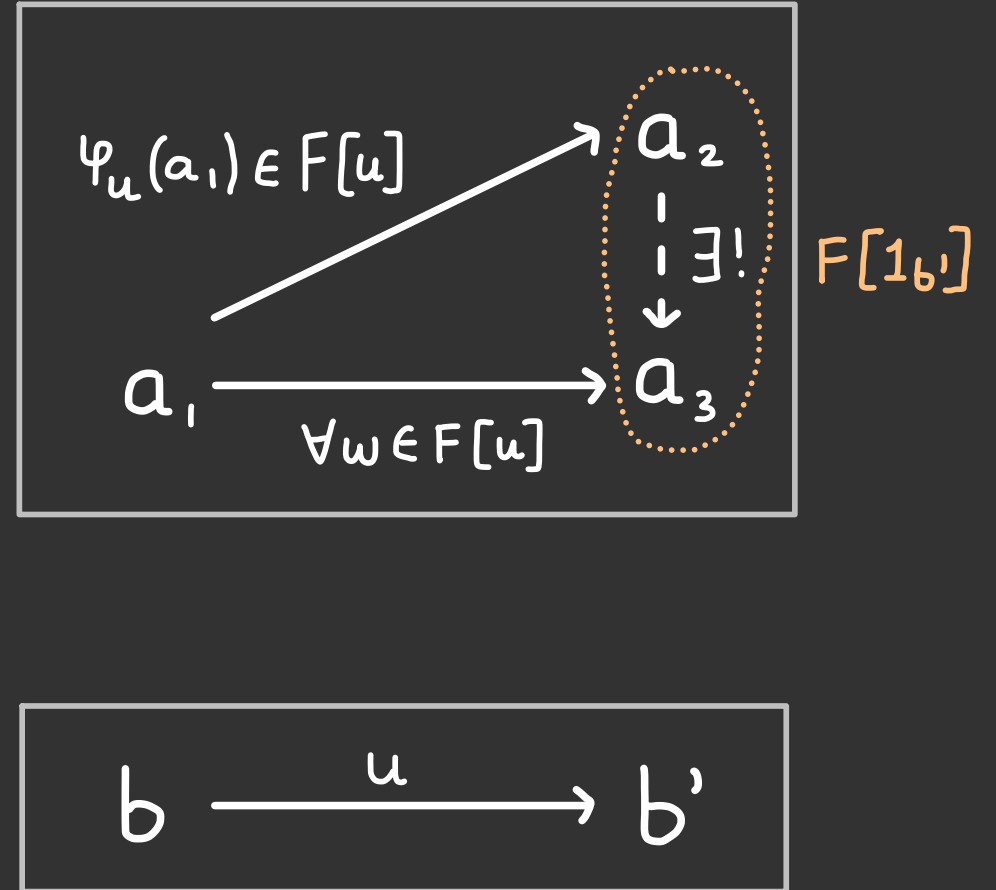
Split opfibration  $\simeq F: \mathcal{L}o(B) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}ult$

such that the function

$$F(b) \times_{F(b')} F[1_{b'}] \xrightarrow{\varphi_u \times id} F[u] \times_{F(b')} F[1_{b'}] \xrightarrow{\mu} F[u]$$

is invertible for each  $u: b \rightarrow b'$  in  $B$ .

$\int F$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $B$



# SUMMARY & FUTURE WORK

19

- Introduced split multi-valued functions

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{s} \\ \xleftarrow{r} \end{array} X \xrightarrow{f} B$$

- Showed that a delta lens over  $B$  is equivalent to an indexed collection of sets, with lax reindexing along split multi-valued functions.

$$\mathcal{L}ens(B) \simeq [\mathbb{L}_o(B), \$Mult]_{lax}$$

- Characterisation as oplax colimit?
- Link with type theory / displayed cats.?
- Explicit description of left Kan lift describing free delta lens?

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & & \$Mult \\ & \nearrow & \downarrow \\ \mathbb{L}_o(B) & \longrightarrow & \$Span \end{array}$$

Diagram illustrating a relationship between  $\mathbb{L}_o(B)$ ,  $\$Mult$ , and  $\$Span$ . A solid arrow points from  $\mathbb{L}_o(B)$  to  $\$Span$ . A dashed arrow points from  $\mathbb{L}_o(B)$  to  $\$Mult$ . A solid arrow points from  $\$Mult$  to  $\$Span$ .

- What about  $F: IB \longrightarrow \$Mult$ ?



## BONUS: FURTHER IDEAS

20

- $\mathcal{Lens}$  is a double category.

$$\mathcal{Lens} \xrightarrow{\text{cod}} \mathcal{Cat} \quad \leftarrow \text{bifibration}$$

$$\text{cod}^{-1}\{B\} = \mathcal{Lens}(B) \simeq [\mathcal{Lo}(B), \mathcal{Mult}]$$

- Can we easily enumerate finite examples of delta lenses?
- Are split multi-valued functions a kind of decorated span?

- What is the sense in which  $\mathcal{Mult}$  is a limit in the  $\mathbf{Dbl}$ -enriched category of double categories and lax double functors?
- Is  $\mathcal{Mult}$  a Kleisli double category?
- Link with double opfibrations & internal lenses in  $\mathcal{Cat}$ ?
- Link with A.W.F.S.?

1      2       $2^{op}$        $2_{disc}$

