

LAX DOUBLE FUNCTORS INTO Span-LIKE DOUBLE CATEGORIES

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OUTLINE OF THE TALK

- 0) The category of elements
- 1) Background on double categories
- 2) A generalised category of elements via lax double functors into \mathbf{Span}
- 3) Lax double functors into \mathbf{IRel} , \mathbf{IPar} , \mathbf{IMult}
- 4) Brief review of lenses
- 5) A certain construction on double categories
- 6) Lenses as lax double functors:
$$\mathbf{Lens}(B) \simeq [VB, s\mathbf{Mult}]_{\text{lax}}$$
- 7) Summary

BACKGROUND: THE CATEGORY OF ELEMENTS

Given a functor $F: B \rightarrow \text{Set}$, we may construct the following comma category:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \int F & \longrightarrow & 1 \\ \pi \downarrow & \swarrow & \downarrow * \\ B & \xrightarrow{F} & \text{Set} \end{array}$$

chooses a singleton set

The category of elements $\int F$ has:

- objects given by pairs $(b \in B, x \in F_b)$
- morphisms $(b, x) \rightarrow (b', x')$ given by $\beta: b \rightarrow b' \in B$ such that $x' = F_\beta(x)$.

The resulting projection functor,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \int F & \xrightarrow{\pi} & B \\ (b, x) & \longmapsto & b \end{array}$$

is a discrete opfibration.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow[e]{\exists!} & e' \\ f \downarrow & \vdots & \vdots \\ B & \xrightarrow[\beta]{fe} & b \end{array}$$

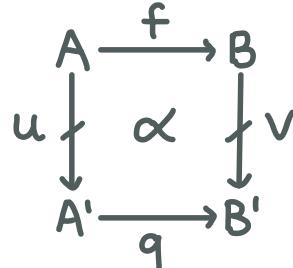
Conversely, every discrete opfibration yields a functor into Set .

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

DOUBLE CATEGORIES

A **double category** \mathbb{A} consists of:

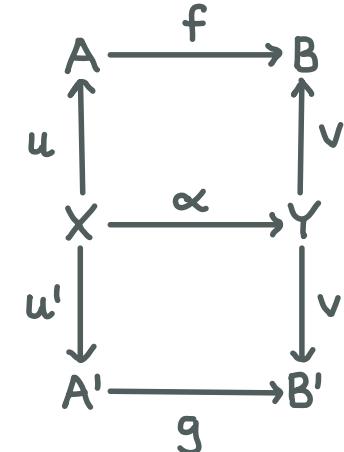
- a collection of objects A, B, \dots
- horizontal morphisms $f: A \rightarrow B, \dots$
- vertical morphisms $u: A \rightarrow A', \dots$
- cells given by diagrams:



Horizontal composition is strict, while vertical composition is associative up to comparison isocells.

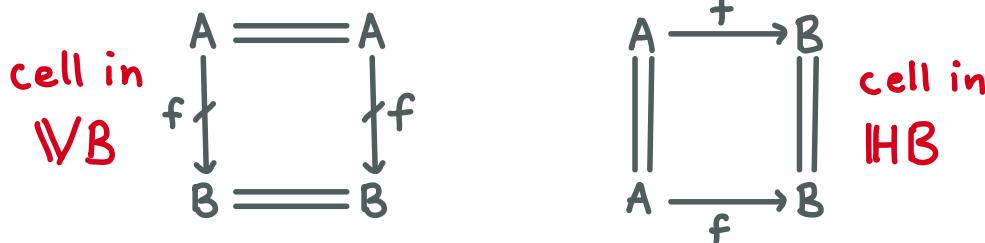
Main example: Span

- objects are sets;
- horizontal morphisms are functions;
- vertical morphisms are spans;
- cells are span morphisms:

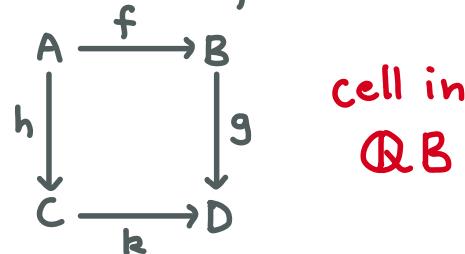


MORE EXAMPLES OF DOUBLE CATEGORIES

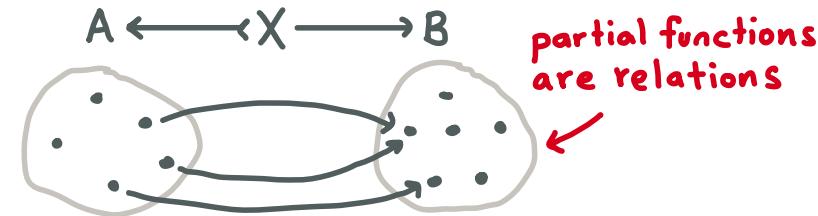
- The terminal double category $\mathbb{1}$.
- Every category B may be made into a double category $\mathbb{V}B$ which is horizontally discrete, and a double category $\mathbb{H}B$ which is vertically discrete.



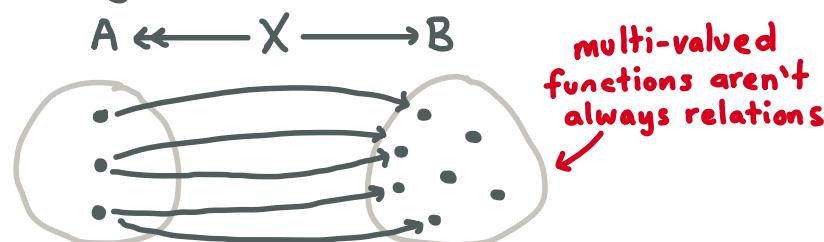
- For each category B , there is also the double category of squares $\mathbb{Q}B$, whose cells are commutative squares in B .



- \mathbf{Rel} : double category of sets, functions, and relations (jointly monic spans) with usual composition.
- \mathbf{Par} : double category of sets, functions, and partial functions (spans with monic left leg).



- \mathbf{Mult} : double category of sets, functions, and multi-valued functions (spans with epic left leg).



LAX DOUBLE FUNCTORS

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

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

which preserves horizontal direction strictly, vertical direction up to comparison cells:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA & = & FA \\ Fu \downarrow & & \downarrow F(u \otimes v) \\ FB & \xrightarrow{\phi(u,v)} & FC \\ Fv \downarrow & & \downarrow Fc \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA & = & FA \\ 1_{FA} \downarrow & \xrightarrow{\phi(A)} & \downarrow F(1_A) \\ FA & = & FA \end{array}$$

+ naturally 8 coherence conditions

- Also have colax, normal, strong, and strict double functors.

- Example:** A lax functor $\mathbb{1} \rightarrow \text{Span}$ is the same as a small category.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_0 & = & A_0 \\ s \uparrow & & \uparrow s \\ A_1 & & \\ \pi_0 \uparrow & & \uparrow t \\ A_2 & \xrightarrow{c} & A_1 \\ \pi_1 \downarrow & \xrightarrow{\text{composition}} & \downarrow t \\ A_1 & & \\ t \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ A_0 & = & A_0 \end{array}$$

domain

codomain

identities

- A lax functor $\mathbb{1} \rightarrow \text{Rel}$ is the same as a preorder.

HORIZONTAL TRANSFORMATIONS

A horizontal transformation $t: F \Rightarrow G$ between lax double functors $F, G: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$ consists of:

- for each object A in \mathcal{A} , a horizontal morphism $t_A: FA \rightarrow GA$ in \mathcal{B} ;
- for each vertical morphism $u: A \rightarrow B$ in \mathcal{A} , a cell in \mathcal{B} :

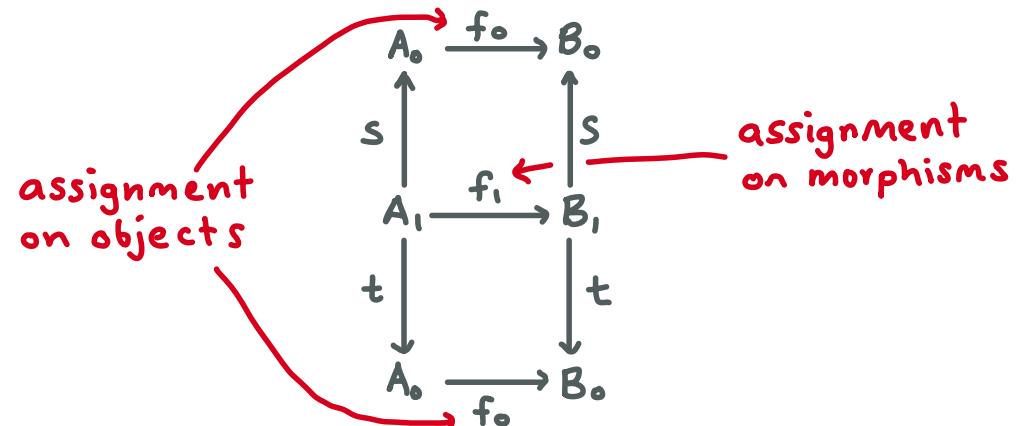
$$\begin{array}{ccc} FA & \xrightarrow{t_A} & GA \\ F u \downarrow & tu \quad \downarrow Gu & \downarrow \\ FB & \xrightarrow{t_B} & GB \end{array}$$

+ naturality & coherence conditions

Proposition: Given \mathcal{A} and \mathcal{B} , there is a category $[\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}]_{\text{lax}}$ whose objects are lax double functors and whose morphisms are horizontal transformations.

Corollary: There is a 2-category Dbl_{lax} of double categories with homs $[\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}]_{\text{lax}}$. (We could also consider stricter versions).

Example: $[\mathbb{1}, \text{Span}]_{\text{lax}} \simeq \text{Cat}$



CATEGORY OF ELEMENTS FOR LAX DOUBLE FUNCTORS ⑦

Consider a category B and a lax double functor $F: \mathbb{V}B \longrightarrow \text{Span}$.

- For each $b \in B$, we have a set F_b .
- For each morphism $\alpha: b \rightarrow b'$, we have a span $F_b \xleftarrow{F_\alpha} F_{b'} \xrightarrow{\quad}$.
- Together with morphisms of spans:

$$\begin{array}{c} \forall b \in B \\ F_b = \boxed{F_b} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \nearrow i(b) & \searrow s \\ F_b & \xrightarrow{\quad} & F_{1b} \\ & \downarrow 1 & \downarrow t \\ & \nearrow 1 & \searrow \\ F_b & \xrightarrow{\quad} & F_b \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} \forall b \xrightarrow{\alpha} b' \xrightarrow{\beta} b'' \in B \\ F_b = \boxed{F_b} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & \nearrow s\pi_0 & & \\ & & F_b & \xrightarrow{\quad} & F_b \\ & \nearrow F_\alpha & \times_{b'} \nearrow F_\beta & \xrightarrow{c(\alpha, \beta)} & \searrow F_{\beta\alpha} \\ & & & & \searrow s \\ & & \downarrow t\pi_1 & & \\ & & F_{b''} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & F_{b''} \end{array}$$

We may construct the following comma:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \int F & \longrightarrow & \boxed{1} \\ \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow * \\ \mathbb{V}B & \xrightarrow{F} & \text{Span} \end{array}$$

This is a functor!

strict double functor choosing a singleton

The category of elements $\int F$ has:

- objects given by pairs $(b \in B, x \in F_b)$
- morphisms $(b, x) \rightarrow (b', x')$ given by $\beta: b \rightarrow b' \in B$ and $u \in F_\beta$ such that $s(u) = x$ and $t(u) = x'$. ($u: x \rightarrow x'$)

FUNCTORS AS LAX DOUBLE FUNCTORS

⑧

Theorem: Given a category B ,

$$[\mathbb{W}B, \text{Span}]_{\text{lax}} \simeq \text{Cat}/B.$$

Proof (sketch): For each $F: \mathbb{W}B \rightarrow \text{Span}$ we obtain a functor,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \int F & \xrightarrow{\pi} & B \\ (b, x) & \downarrow & b \\ (\beta, u) & \longmapsto & \beta \\ (b', x') & \downarrow & b' \end{array}$$

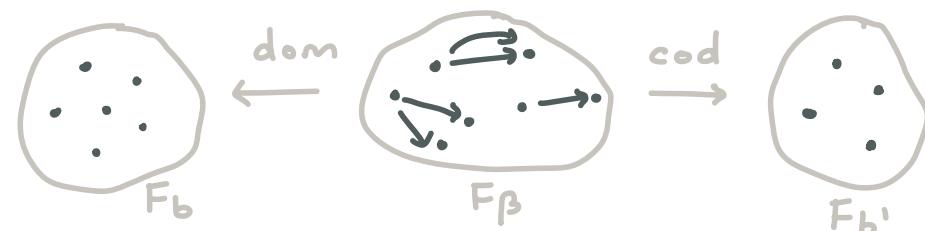
and by the universal property of the comma:

$$\mathbb{W}B \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{F} \\ \Downarrow \tau \\ \xrightarrow{G} \end{array} \text{Span} \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad \begin{array}{ccc} SF & \xrightarrow{\tau} & SG \\ \pi \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi \\ B & & \end{array}$$

Conversely, given a functor $f: A \rightarrow B$, define a lax double functor $\mathbb{W}B \xrightarrow{F} \text{Span}$ via the fibre sets:

$$F_b = f^{-1}(b) = \{a \in A \mid fa = b\}$$

$$F_\beta = \{u: a \rightarrow a' \in A \mid fu = \beta: b \rightarrow b'\}$$

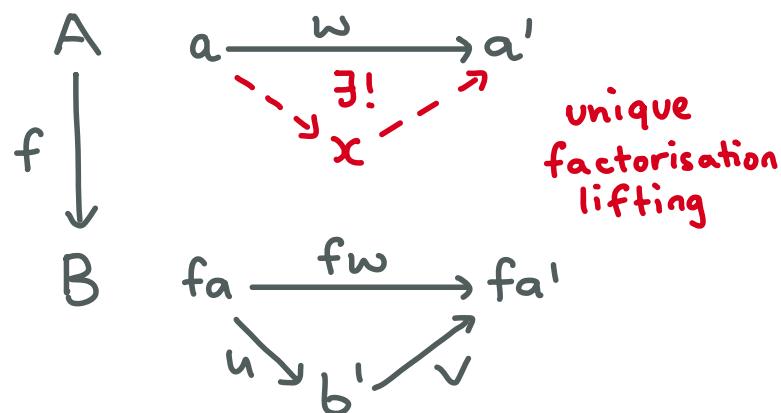


Functors $h: A \rightarrow C$ such that $f = gh$ yield horizontal transformations via restrictions to the fibres $h_b: f^{-1}(b) \rightarrow g^{-1}(b)$, etc. □

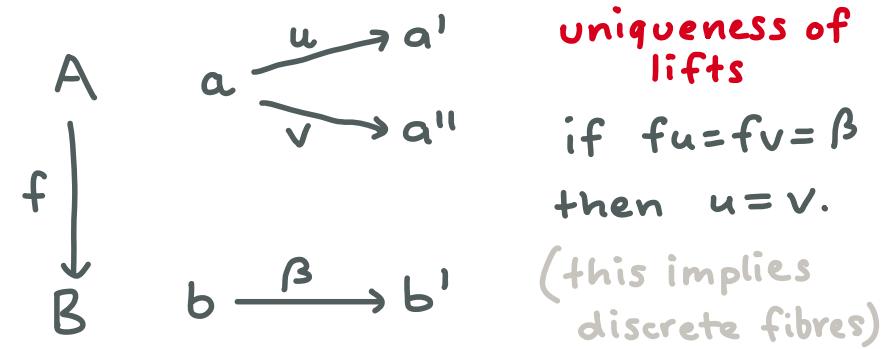
See "Yoneda theory for double categories" by Paré for stronger result.

SPECIAL KINDS OF FUNCTORS

- Normal lax functors $\text{VB} \rightarrow \text{Span}$ correspond to functors with **discrete fibres**.
- Strong/pseudo functors $\text{VB} \rightarrow \text{Span}$ correspond to **discrete Conduché fibrations**. That is, functors with a certain lifting property:



- Lax functors $\text{VB} \rightarrow \text{Rel}$ correspond to **faithful** functors.
- Lax functors $\text{VB} \rightarrow \text{Rel}$ assigning each morphism $\beta: b \rightarrow b'$ to the Span $F_b \xleftarrow{\pi_0} F_b \times F_{b'} \xrightarrow{\pi_1} F_{b'}$ are **fully faithful**.
- Lax functors $\text{VB} \rightarrow \text{Par}$ correspond to faithful functors which satisfy a certain property:



DELTA LENSES (COPY-PASTED FROM PREVIOUS TALK)

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A **(delta) lens** $(f, \varphi): A \rightleftarrows B$ between small categories consists of a functor $f: A \rightarrow B$ together with a function,

$$A_0 \times_{B_0} B_1 \xrightarrow{\varphi} A_1$$

$$(a, u: fa \rightarrow b) \mapsto \varphi(a, u): a \rightarrow p(a, u)$$

satisfying the axioms:

$$(1) f\varphi(a, u) = u$$

$$(2) \varphi(a, 1_{fa}) = 1_a$$

$$(3) \varphi(a, vu) = \varphi(p(a, u), v) \circ \varphi(a, u)$$

$$\text{where } p(a, u) := \text{cod}(\varphi(a, u))$$

Proposition: Every lens can be represented as a commutative diagram of functors,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \wedge & \\ \varphi \swarrow & & \searrow \bar{f} \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array}$$

where φ is bijective-on-objects and \bar{f} is a discrete opfibration.

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

existence
of chosen
lifts + axioms

LENSES AS LAX DOUBLE FUNCTORS ?

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For each small category B , there is a category $\text{Lens}(B)$ whose:

- objects are lenses with codomain B ;
- morphisms are functors which make the following diagram commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & \bar{h} & & \Omega \\ & \psi \downarrow & \swarrow \bar{f} & \searrow \bar{g} & \downarrow \gamma \\ A & \xrightarrow{h} & C & & \\ f \searrow & & g \swarrow & & \\ & B & & & \end{array}$$

i.e. functors h that preserve the chosen lifts:
 $h\psi(a,u) = \gamma(ha,u)$

Central question: Does there exist a double category ID such that :

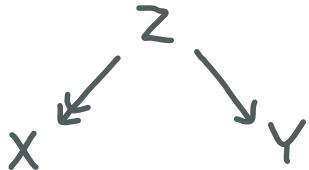
$$\text{Lens}(B) \simeq [\mathbb{V}B, \text{ID}]_{\text{lax}}$$

- ID should be closely related to both $\mathbb{Q}(\text{Set})$ and Span , since lenses involve both discrete opfibrations and functors.
- Not every functor admits a lens structure ; can we find necessary conditions?

MULTI-VALUED FUNCTIONS

(12)

- Recall that a multi-valued function is given by a span of functions:



- A lax double functor $\mathbf{VB} \longrightarrow \mathbf{IMult}$ corresponds to functors with a certain lifting property:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\exists w} & A' \\ f \downarrow & & \text{existence of lifts} \\ B & \xrightarrow{u} & B' \end{array}$$

$\exists w$ s.t. $fw = u$.

- If there exists an opcartesian lift for each $(a, u : fa \rightarrow b)$, then f is an **op fibration**.

- This property is necessary for a functor to have a lens structure, but not sufficient!

- Example:** Consider a functor

$$\begin{array}{ccc} h \circ A & \xrightleftharpoons[f]{\hspace{-1cm}} & B \otimes k \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 1_X \circ X & \xrightleftharpoons[u]{\hspace{-1cm}} & Y \otimes \omega \end{array}$$

$gf = h = h^2$
 $fg = k = k^2$

$v u = 1_X$
 $u v = \omega$

$$\begin{aligned} \text{By (3), } \varphi(A, vu) &= \varphi(B, v) \circ \varphi(A, u) \\ &= g \circ f = h \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{By (2), } \varphi(A, vu) = \varphi(A, 1_X) = 1_A \neq h.$$

DIGRESSION: A CONSTRUCTION ON DOUBLE CATEGORIES (13)

Let \mathcal{IA} be a (unital) double category.

There is a double category $\tilde{\mathcal{A}}$ with:

- same objects and horizontal morphisms
- vertical morphisms given by cells:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xlongequal{\quad\quad} & A \\ 1 \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow u \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array} \quad \in \mathcal{IA}$$

- Vertical composition and identities:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xlongequal{\quad\quad} & A & \xlongequal{\quad\quad} & A \\ 1 \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow u & \downarrow u & \downarrow u \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xlongequal{\quad\quad} & B \\ 1 \downarrow & 1 \downarrow & \alpha' & \downarrow v & \downarrow v \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{\circ} & C \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} A = A \\ 1 \downarrow \quad 1 \downarrow \\ A = A \end{array}$$

- cells with boundary $h: A \rightarrow C, k: B \rightarrow D$,
 $\alpha: (A \xlongequal{f} u)$ and $\beta: (C \xlongequal{g} v)$ given by

$$\text{cells, } \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{h} & C \\ u \downarrow & \psi & \downarrow v \\ B & \xrightarrow{k} & D \end{array} \quad \in \mathcal{IA}$$

such that

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A & \xlongequal{\quad\quad} & A & \xrightarrow{h} & C \\ 1 \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow u & \downarrow \psi & \downarrow v \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{k} & D \\ 1 \downarrow & 1 \downarrow & 1_h & 1 \downarrow & \beta & \downarrow v \\ A & \xrightarrow{h} & C & \xlongequal{\quad\quad} & C \\ & & & \beta & \downarrow v \\ & & & g & \downarrow v \\ A & \xrightarrow{h} & C & \xrightarrow{g} & D \end{array}$$

CONSTRUCTION (CONTINUED)

(14)

- There is a strong double functor $\widetilde{\mathcal{A}} \rightarrow \mathcal{I}/\mathcal{A}$ which is the identity on objects/horizontal morphisms:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xlongequal{\quad} & A \\ \downarrow 1 & \alpha & \downarrow u \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} A \\ \downarrow u \\ B \end{array}$$

- There is also a strong double functor $\widetilde{\mathcal{A}} \xrightarrow{\mathcal{U}} \mathcal{Q}(\text{Hor}/\mathcal{A})$ given on vertical morphisms by:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xlongequal{\quad} & A \\ \downarrow 1 & \alpha & \downarrow u \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array} \quad \longrightarrow \quad \begin{array}{c} A \\ \downarrow f \\ B \end{array}$$

- If \mathcal{I}/\mathcal{A} has **companions**, then \mathcal{U} has a left adjoint \mathcal{F} which assigns each vertical arrow to its companion:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & & A \\ \downarrow f & \longrightarrow & \downarrow 1 \\ B & & \Theta \\ & & \downarrow f^* \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array}$$

- The unit for the adjunction is the identity, and the counit is given by the universal property of the companion cell:

$$\forall \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xlongequal{\quad} & A \\ \downarrow 1 & \alpha & \downarrow u \\ A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array} \quad \exists! \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xlongequal{\quad} & A \\ \downarrow f_* & \varepsilon & \downarrow u \\ B & \xlongequal{\quad} & B \end{array}$$

such that $\Theta/\varepsilon = \alpha$.

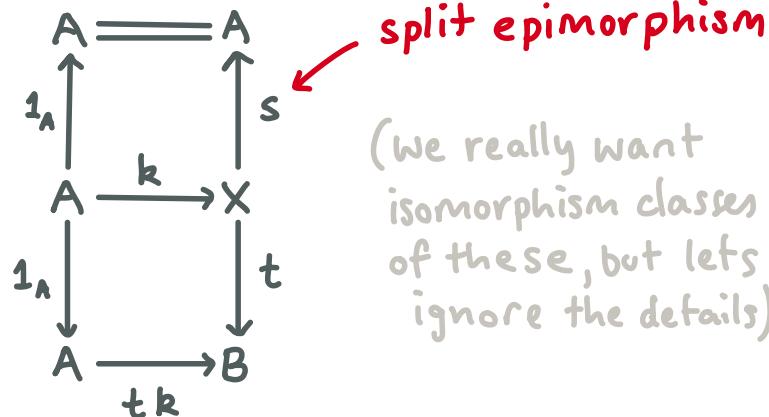
THE DOUBLE CATEGORY OF SPLIT MULTI-VALUED FUNCTIONS

(15)

We may apply our construct to $\mathbf{I}/\mathbf{A} = \mathbf{Span}$.

The double category of **split multi-valued functions** $s\mathbf{Mult}$ has:

- objects are sets;
- horizontal morphisms are functions;
- vertical morphisms are cells in \mathbf{Span} :



i.e. split multi-valued functions

- Vertical composition is given by pullback:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & X \times_B Y & & \\ & \pi_0 & \swarrow & \searrow \pi_1 & \\ A & \xrightarrow{s} & X & \xrightarrow{t} & B \\ & k & & & \\ & & & & s' \xrightarrow{k'} Y \xrightarrow{t'} C \end{array}$$

- A cell is a commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & f & & & \\ A & \xrightarrow{k} & X & \xrightarrow{g} & X' \\ & s & \uparrow & \downarrow & s' \\ & & t & & t' \\ & & B & \xrightarrow{h} & B' \end{array}$$

$t'g = ht$
 $s'g = fs$
 $gk = k'f$

forget structure forget property

$s\mathbf{Mult} \longrightarrow \mathbf{IMult} \longrightarrow \mathbf{Span}$

since $\mathbb{Q}(\text{Set})$
has companions
↓

AN ADJUNCTION OF DOUBLE CATEGORIES

(16)

We have an adjunction of double categories (in the 2-category Dbl):

$$\mathbb{Q}(\text{Set}) \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\quad L \quad} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{\quad R \quad} \end{array} s/\text{Mult}$$

The right adjoint has action on cells:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{f} & A' & & \\
 k \downarrow & & \downarrow k' & & \\
 X & \xrightarrow{g} & X' & & \\
 t \downarrow & & \downarrow t' & & \\
 B & \xrightarrow{h} & B' & &
 \end{array} & \xrightarrow{\quad \quad} &
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{f} & A' \\
 \downarrow t k & & \downarrow t' k' \\
 B & \xrightarrow{h} & B'
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

The counit for the adjunction takes a split multi-valued function to the cell:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xlongequal{\quad} & A & \xlongequal{\quad} & A \\
 \uparrow 1_A & & \downarrow k & & \uparrow s \\
 A & \xrightarrow{\quad k \quad} & X' & & \\
 \downarrow t k & & \downarrow t & & \\
 B & \xlongequal{\quad} & B & \xlongequal{\quad} & B
 \end{array}$$

Notice the horizontal components are identities.

Thus we have a horizontal transformation between strict double functors:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xrightarrow{\quad L \quad} & \mathbb{Q}(\text{Set}) \\
 s/\text{Mult} & \xrightarrow{\quad \downarrow \varepsilon \quad} & \xrightarrow{\quad L \quad} s/\text{Mult}
 \end{array}$$

Note that $\text{DOpf}(B) \simeq [\mathbb{N}B, \mathbb{Q}\text{Set}]$

LENSES AS LAX DOUBLE FUNCTORS INTO s/Mult

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Theorem: Given a category B ,

$$\text{Lens}(B) \simeq [\mathbb{V}B, s/\text{Mult}]_{\text{lax}}$$

Proof (sketch): Given a lens $(f, \varphi): A \rightleftarrows B$, for each $u: b \rightarrow b' \in B$, we have a span from the functor f :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & s & \\ F_b & \swarrow & \searrow F_{b'} \\ & F_u & t \end{array}$$

But from the cofunctor part of the lens, for each $a \in F_b$ and $u: b \rightarrow b'$, there exists $\varphi(a, u): a \rightarrow a' \in F_u$, giving the following:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & s & \\ F_b & \swarrow & \searrow F_u \\ & \varphi & \\ & \uparrow & \\ & F_{b'} & t \end{array}$$

The axioms of a lens ensure these split multi-valued functions behave well with identities and composition, to give a lax double functor $\mathcal{F}: \mathbb{V}B \rightarrow s/\text{Mult}$.

Conversely, given $\mathcal{F}: \mathbb{V}B \rightarrow s/\text{Mult}$, we get a lens via the comma construction and the counit for the previous adjunction:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} \int \mathcal{L}\mathcal{R}\mathcal{F} & \xrightarrow{\text{bijective-on-objects}} & \int \mathcal{F} & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{1} \\ \downarrow \pi' & & \downarrow \pi & & \downarrow * \\ \mathbb{V}B & \xrightarrow{\mathcal{L}\mathcal{R}\mathcal{F}} & s/\text{Mult} & & \square \end{array}$$

discrete opfibration

SUMMARY & FURTHER QUESTIONS

- Discrete opfibrations are special kinds of lenses, so we were motivated to generalise the category of elements:

$$D\text{Opf}(B) \simeq [B, \text{Set}]$$

- We examined a generalised version involving lax double functors:

$$\text{Cat}/B \simeq [\text{VB}, \text{Span}]_{\text{lax}}$$

- We saw how special kinds of functors could be obtained by restricting this result.
- The main result was to show:

$$\text{Lens}(B) \simeq [\text{VB}, \text{sIMult}]_{\text{lax}}$$

- What is the category theory underlying the construction of $\widetilde{\mathcal{A}}$?
- Can we see lenses as lax normal double functors $\text{VB} \rightarrow \text{Mod}(\text{sIMult})$?
- What are the exponentiable objects in $\text{Lens}(B)$? For which B ?
- Can we characterise which lax double functors $\text{VB} \rightarrow \text{sIMult}$ yield split opfibrations?
- Previously we saw that $\text{Lens}(B)$ is monadic over Cat/B ; can we gain a clearer perspective via the adjunction:

$$[\text{VB}, \text{sIMult}]_{\text{lax}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{T} \\ \xleftarrow{F} \end{array} [\text{VB}, \text{Span}]_{\text{lax}}$$

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$$[\text{VB}, \text{sIMult}]_{\text{lax}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{T} \\ \xleftarrow{F} \end{array} [\text{VB}, \text{Span}]_{\text{lax}}$$