

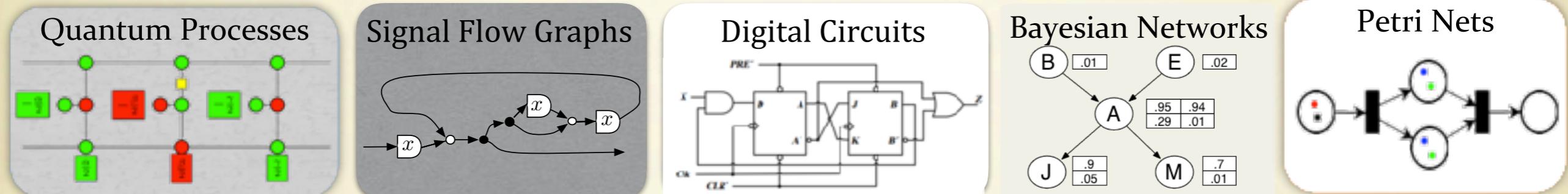
# A Universal Construction for (Co)relations

Brendan Fong  
University of Pennsylvania

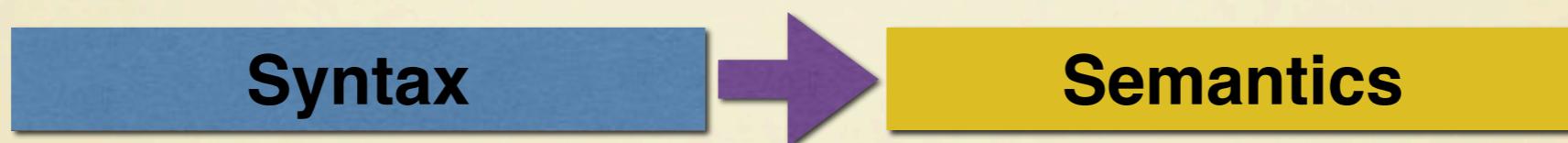
Fabio Zanasi  
University College London

# Context and Motivation

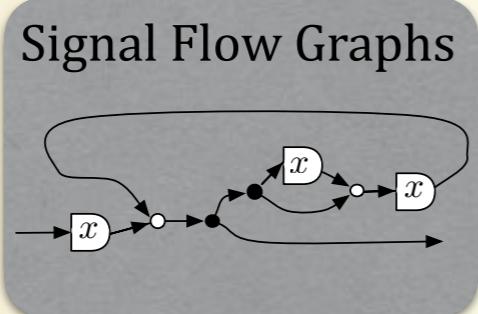
# The algebraic approach to network diagrams



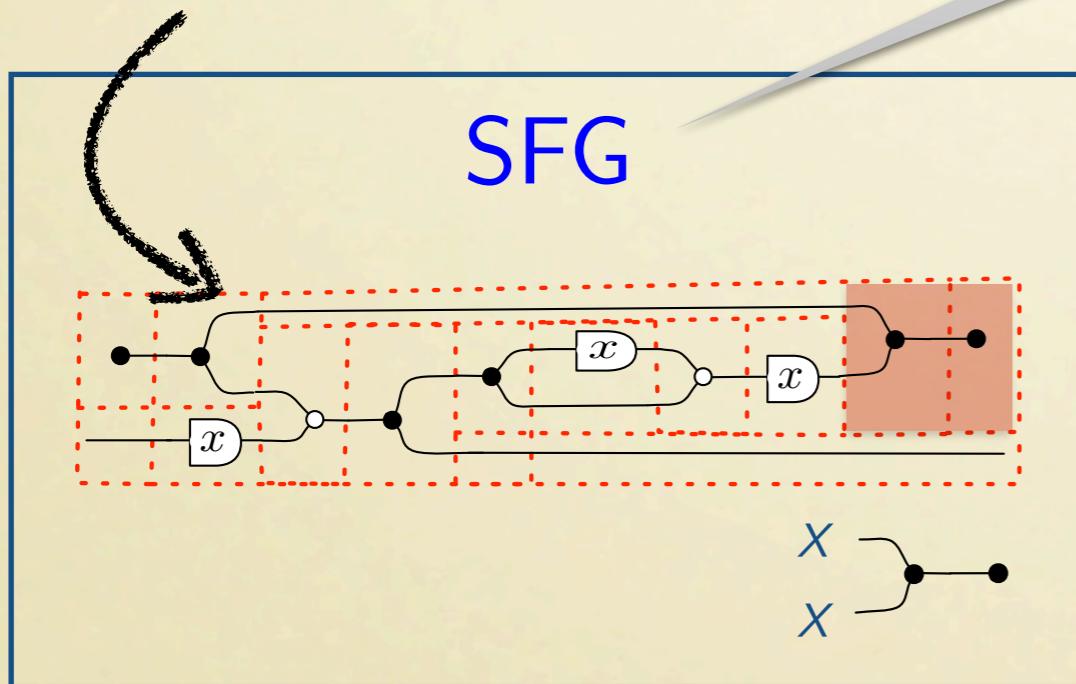
Diagrammatic languages studied using the compositional methods of programming language theory.



# Relational Semantics



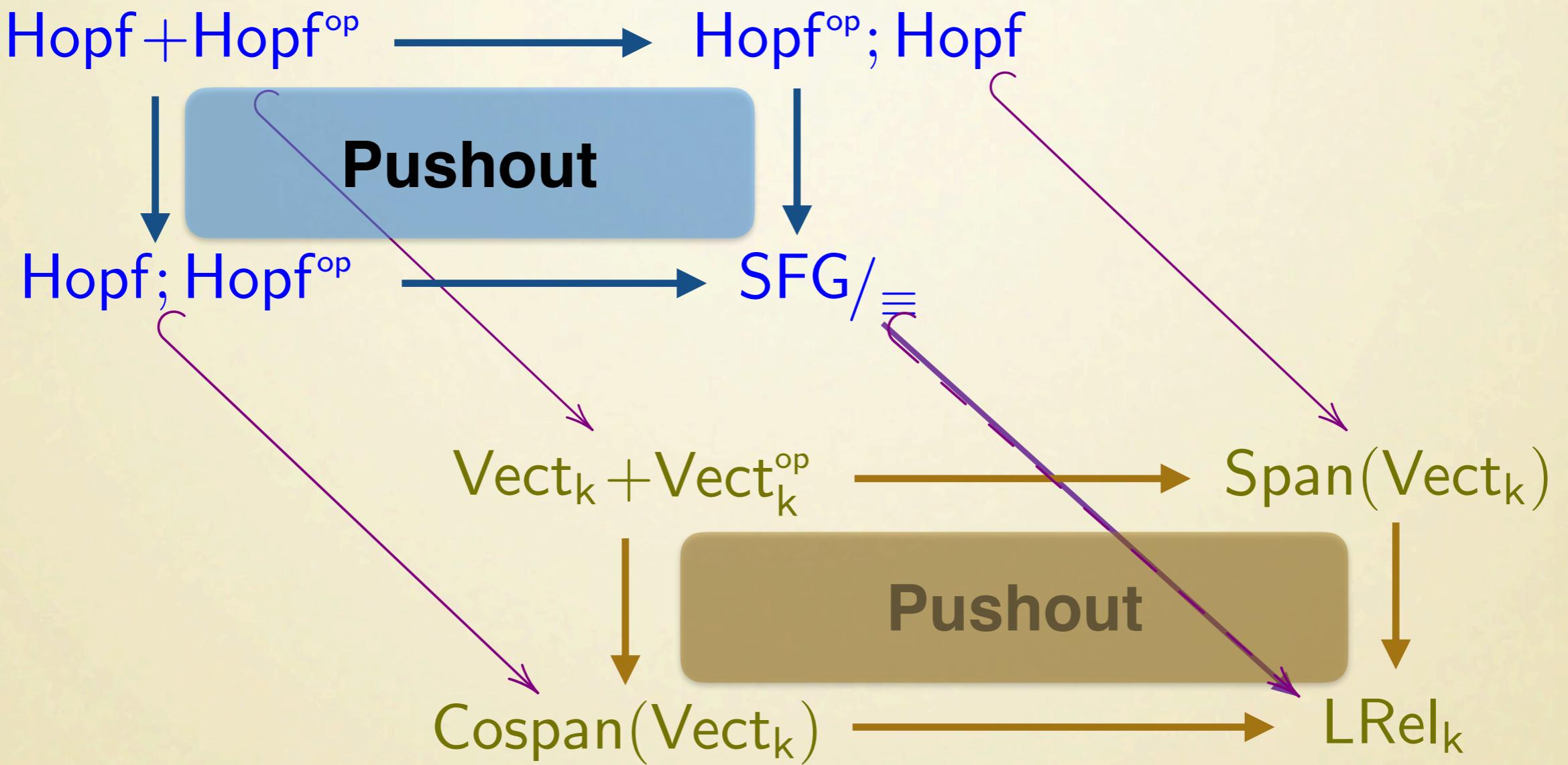
Props  
(SMCs with set of objects  
isomorphic to  $\mathbb{N}$ )



$LRel_k$   
Linear Relation  
(subspace of  $k \times k$ )

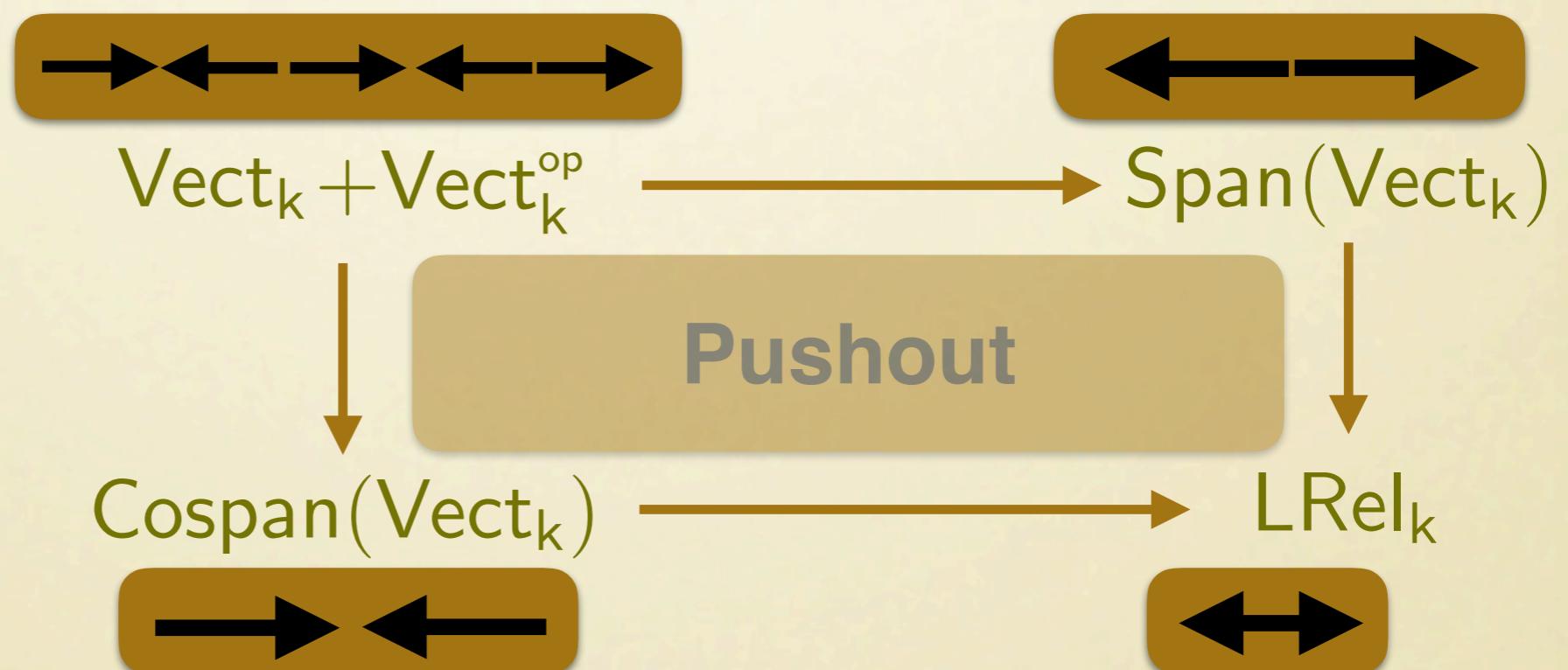
field of  
streams

# A Modular Recipe for Axioms

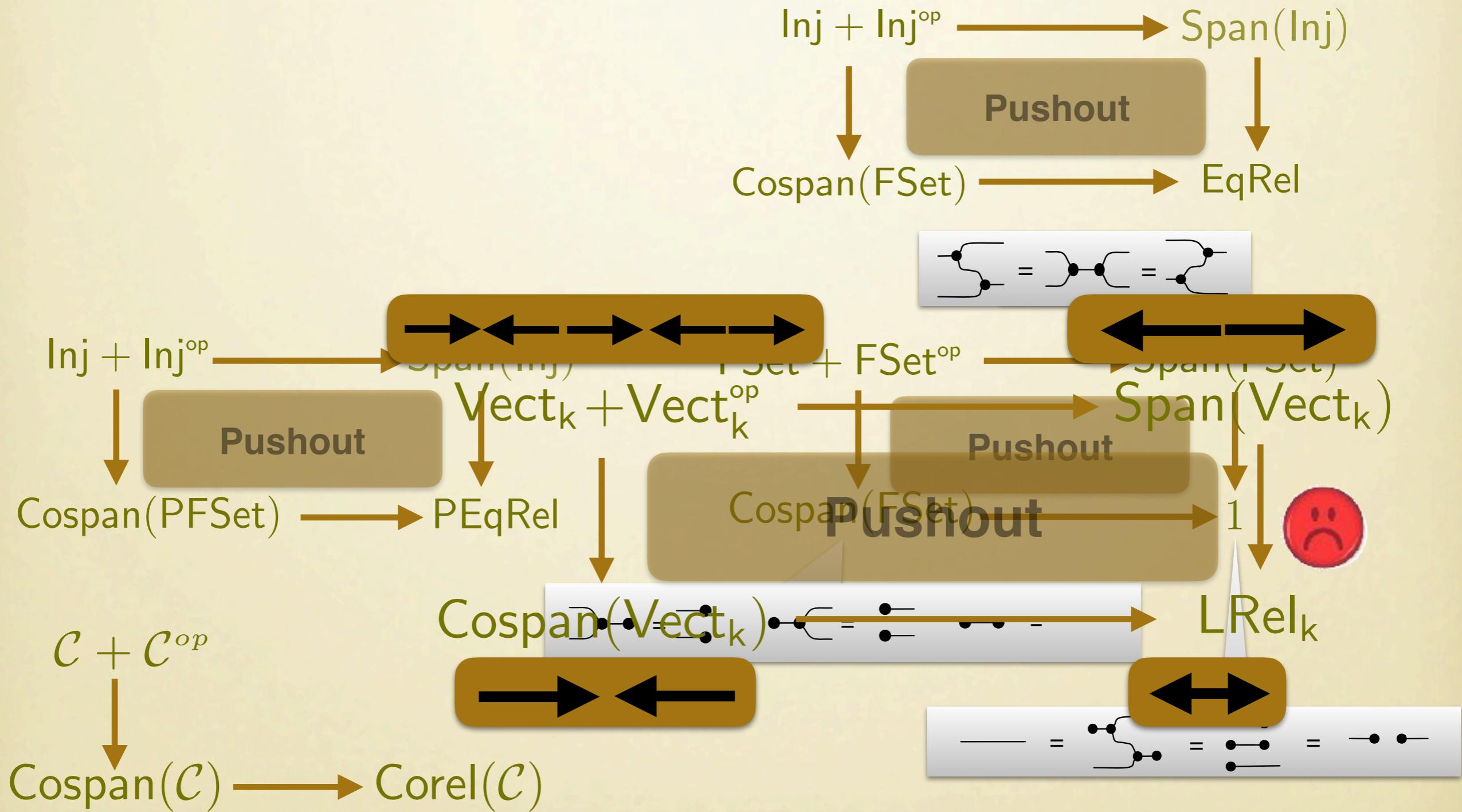


Soundness and Completeness  
 $c \equiv d \Leftrightarrow \llbracket c \rrbracket = \llbracket d \rrbracket$

# An Ubiquitous Construction



# An Ubiquitous Construction



# The General Pattern

# (Co)relations, categorically

Factorisation system  $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{M})$

relation on X and Y

jointly-in- $\mathcal{M}$  span

$$X \xleftarrow{\quad} R \xrightarrow{\quad} Y$$

eq. class of spans

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xleftarrow{\quad} & R & \xrightarrow{\quad} & Y \\ & \searrow & \uparrow_{\in \mathcal{E}} & \nearrow & \\ & & R' & & \end{array}$$

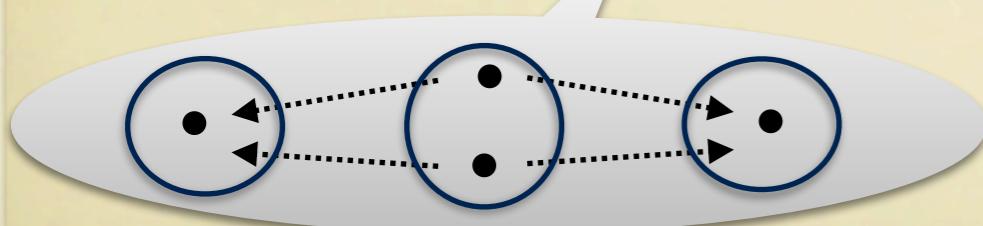
corelation on X and Y

jointly-in- $\mathcal{E}$  cospan

$$X \longrightarrow C \longleftarrow Y$$

eq. class of cospans

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \longrightarrow & C & \longleftarrow & Y \\ & \searrow & \downarrow_{\in \mathcal{M}} & \nearrow & \\ & & C' & & \end{array}$$



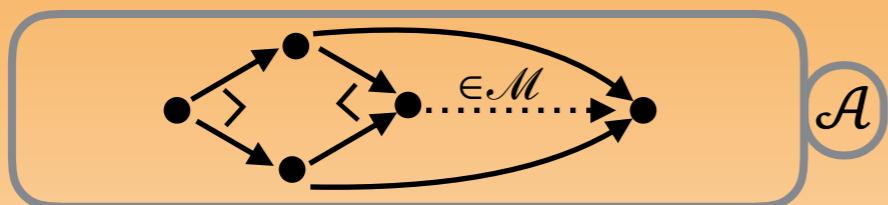
# The Universal Characterisation

## Assumptions

A prop  $\mathcal{C}$  with pullbacks and pushouts

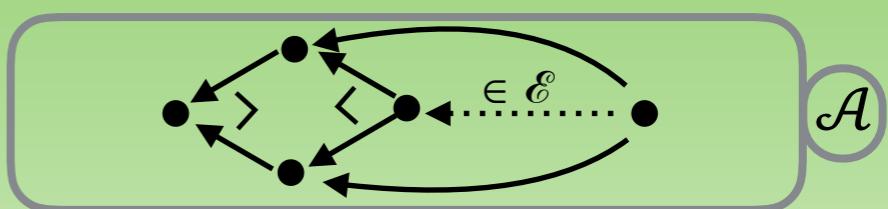
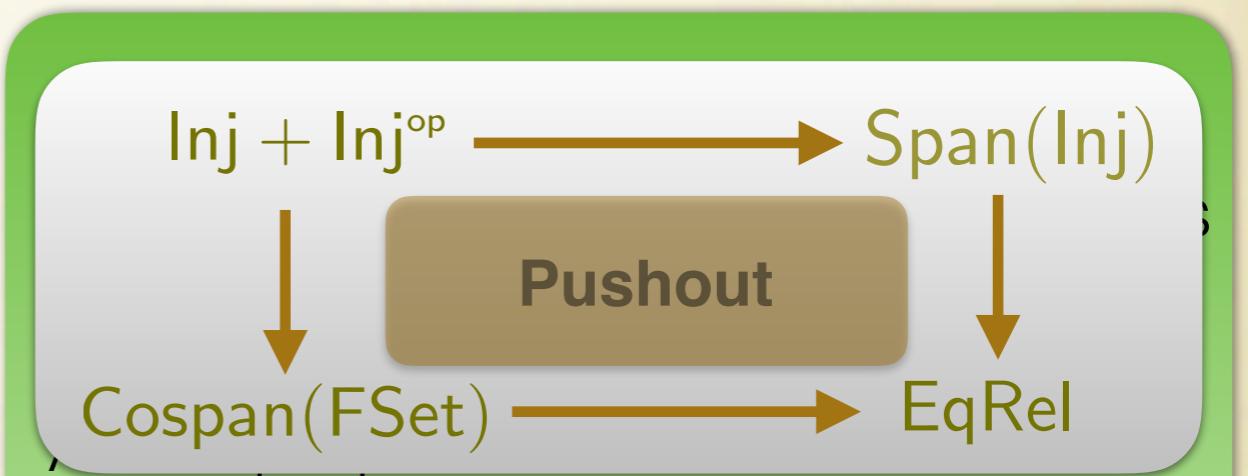
A fact. system  $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{M})$  s.t.  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \text{Monos}(\mathcal{C})$

A sub-prop  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$



**Then**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{A} + \mathcal{A}^{op} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{Span}(\mathcal{A}) \\ \downarrow & \text{Pushout} & \downarrow \\ \text{Cospan}(\mathcal{C}) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{Corel}(\mathcal{C}) \end{array}$$



**Then**

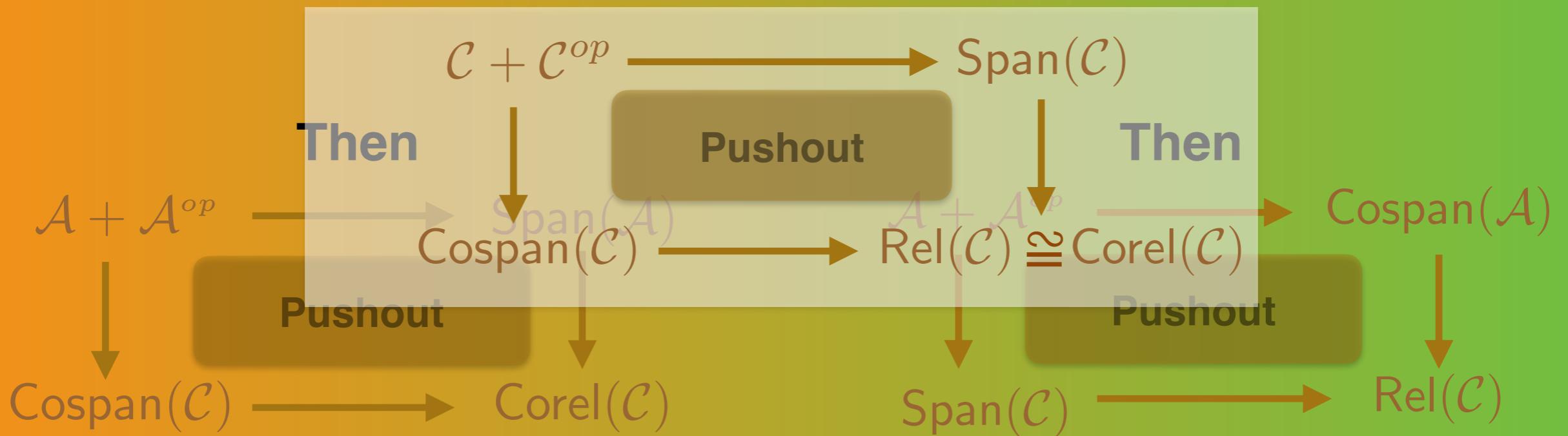
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{A} + \mathcal{A}^{op} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{Cospan}(\mathcal{A}) \\ \downarrow & \text{Pushout} & \downarrow \\ \text{Span}(\mathcal{C}) & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \text{Rel}(\mathcal{C}) \end{array}$$

# The Abelian Case

## Assumptions

An abelian prop  $\mathcal{C}$   
(pick  $\mathcal{C}$  itself as subcategory  $\mathcal{A}$ )

## Then



# A Modular Recipe for Axioms

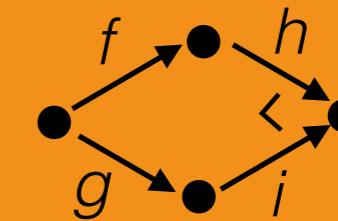
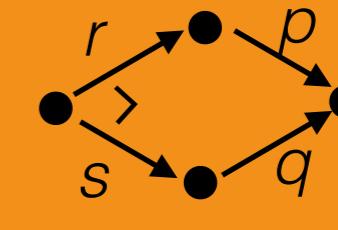
Corel( $\mathcal{C}$ ) is presented by generators

$$\xrightarrow{\in \mathcal{C}} \quad \xleftarrow{\in \mathcal{C}}$$

and equations

$$\xrightarrow{} \quad \xleftarrow{} = \quad \xleftarrow{} \quad \xrightarrow{} \quad \xleftarrow{}$$

$$\xleftarrow{} \quad \xrightarrow{} = \quad \xrightarrow{} \quad \xleftarrow{} \quad \xleftarrow{}$$



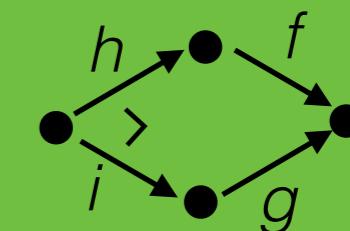
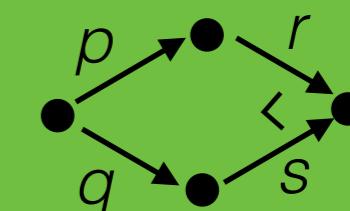
Rel( $\mathcal{C}$ ) is presented by generators

$$\xrightarrow{\in \mathcal{C}} \quad \xleftarrow{\in \mathcal{C}}$$

and equations

$$\xleftarrow{} \quad \xrightarrow{} = \quad \xrightarrow{} \quad \xleftarrow{} \quad \xleftarrow{}$$

$$\xrightarrow{} \quad \xleftarrow{} = \quad \xleftarrow{} \quad \xrightarrow{} \quad \xleftarrow{}$$



# Examples

# Equivalence Relations

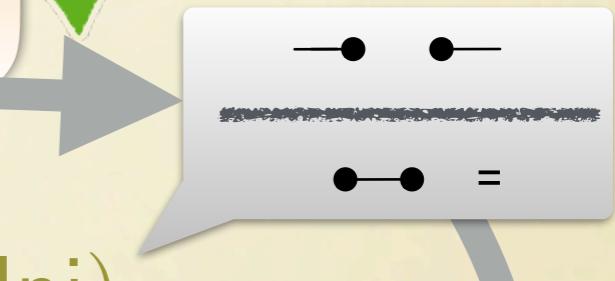
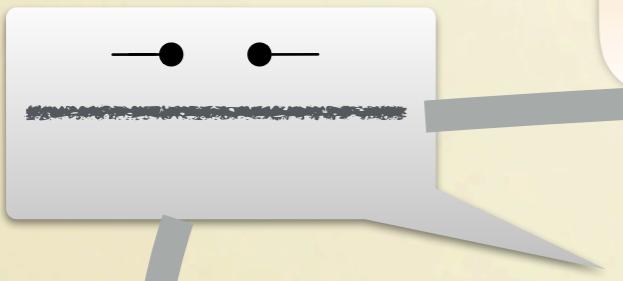
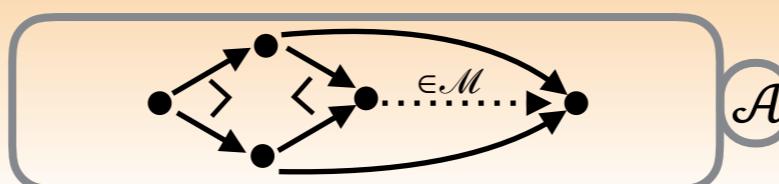
## Assumptions

A prop  $\mathcal{C}$  with pullbacks and pushouts

A fact. system  $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{M})$  s.t.  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \text{Monos}(\mathcal{C})$

A sub-prop  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$

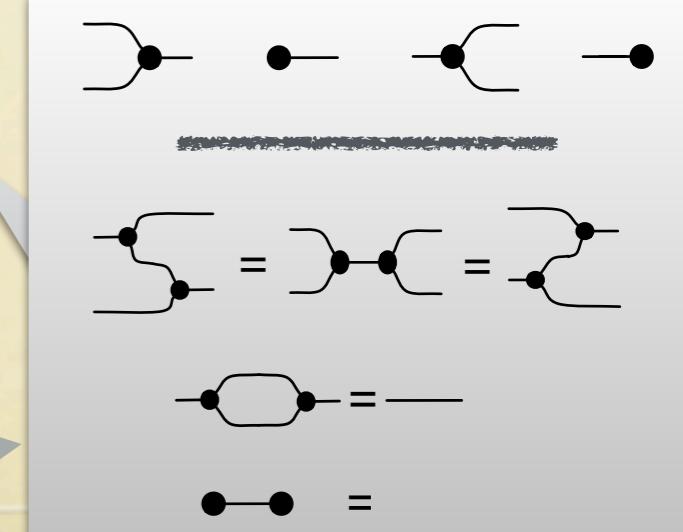
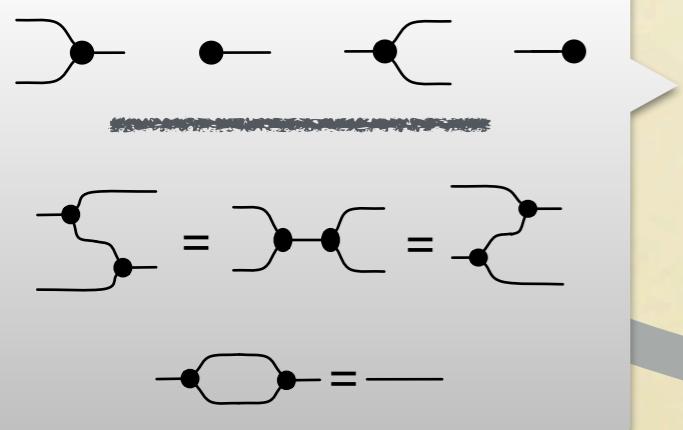
- FSet**
- (Surj, Inj)**
- Inj**



$\text{Inj} + \text{Inj}^{\text{op}} \longrightarrow \text{Span}(\text{Inj})$

Pushout

$\text{Cospan}(\text{FSet}) \longrightarrow \text{EqRel}$



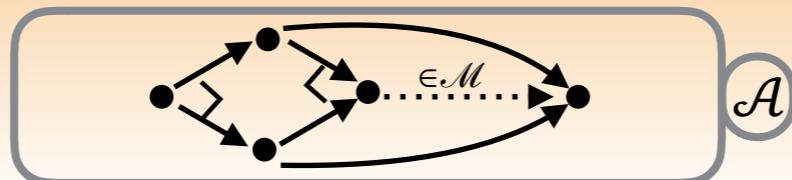
# A non-example

## Assumptions

A prop  $\mathcal{C}$  with pullbacks and pushouts

A fact. system  $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{M})$  s.t.  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \text{Monos}(\mathcal{C})$

A sub-prop  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$



**FSet**



**(Surj, Inj)**



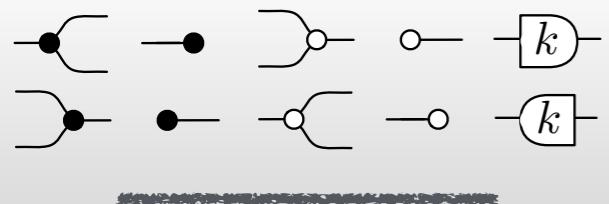
**FSet**



$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{FSet} + \text{FSet}^{\text{op}} & \xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}} & \text{Span(FSet)} \\ \downarrow & \text{Pushout} & \downarrow \\ \text{Cospan(FSet)} & \xrightarrow{\hspace{2cm}} & 1 \end{array}$$

# Linear Subspaces

## Assumptions



two Hopf Algebras

An abelian prop

Distr. Law adds

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet\bullet &= \bullet\bullet & \circ\circ &= \circ\circ \\ \bullet\bullet &= \bullet\bullet & \circ\circ &= \circ\circ \\ \square k \square k &= \text{---} & \circ\circ &= \text{---} \end{aligned}$$

$\text{Vect}_k + \text{Vect}_k^{\text{op}}$

$\text{Span}(\text{Vect}_k)$

Pushout

$\text{Cospan}(\text{Vect}_k)$

$\text{LRel}_k$

Distr. Law adds

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet\bullet &= \bullet\bullet & \circ\circ &= \circ\circ \\ \square k \square k &= \text{---} & \bullet\bullet &= \text{---} \end{aligned}$$

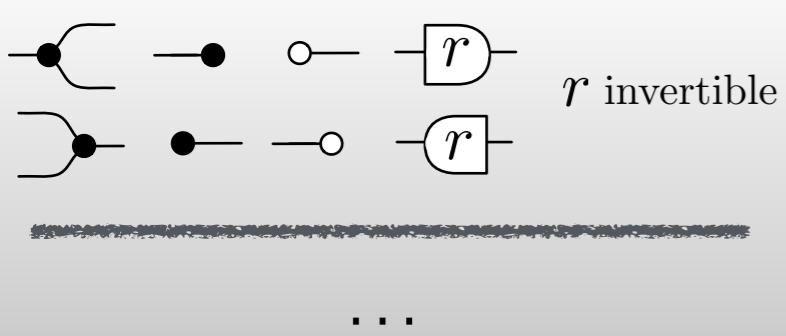
axiomatisation of signal flow graphs  
(Bonchi, Sobociński, Zanasi CONCUR'14)

# Corelations of Free Ring Modules

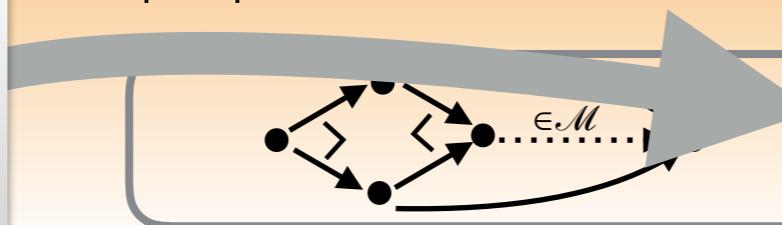
## Assumptions

A prop  $\mathcal{C}$  with pullbacks and pushouts

A fact. system  $(\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{M})$  s.t.  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \text{Monos}(\mathcal{C})$



sub-prop  $\mathcal{A}$  such that  $\mathcal{M} \subseteq \mathcal{A}$



**Free R-modules**  
**(Epi, Split monos)**

Distr. Law adds

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \bullet &= \bullet \bullet \bullet = \bullet \bullet \\ [r] [r] &= \text{---} \quad \circ \circ = \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{MFMod}_R + \text{MFMod}_R^{op} \longrightarrow \text{Span}(\text{MFMod}_R)$$

**Pushout**

$$\text{Cospan}(\text{FMod}_R)$$

$$\longrightarrow \text{Corel}(\text{FMod}_R)$$

Distr. Law adds

$$\begin{aligned} \bullet \bullet &= \bullet \bullet \bullet = \bullet \bullet \quad \circ \circ = \circ \circ \circ = \circ \circ \\ [r] [r] &= \text{---} \quad \bullet \bullet = \end{aligned}$$

Quotient  $\text{Cospan}(\text{FMod}_R)$  by  $\circ \circ =$   
axiomatisation of LTI dynamical systems  
(Fong, Rapisarda, Sobociński LICS'16)

# Concluding Remarks

- Universal characterisation of **Rel(C)** and **Corel(C)**
  - main insight: a certain subcategory  $\mathcal{A}$  is the crux of the matter
  - modular recipe for axiomatisation
  - relevant for program semantics, control theory and quantum theory
- Results hold in **Cat** and **SymMonCat**, not just **Prop**
- More examples are to be found in the paper...
  - Partial equivalence relations
  - Relations of Eilenberg-Moore algebras
- ....but others aren't.
  - Hypergraph categories?
  - More categories of relations?
  - Higher-categorical extension? (Bicategories of relations)