

# Double categories of relations relative to factorisation systems

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# Introduction

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$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} \text{Objects} & & \text{Morphisms} & & \text{Relations in } \mathcal{C} & & \\ \text{in } \mathcal{C} & + & \text{in } \mathcal{C} & + & R \twoheadrightarrow A \times B & + \dots & \\ & & & & \text{Spans in } \mathcal{C} & & \\ & & & & X \xrightarrow{\langle f, g \rangle} A \times B & & \end{array}$$

$\leadsto$  Double categories  $\text{Rel}(\mathcal{C})$ ,  $\text{Span}(\mathcal{C})$ .

What is a common generalization?

How can we characterize them?

## Structure

1. Double categories
2. How should double categories of relations be?
3. The correspondence between DCRs and SOFSs  
—— Cauchy double categories of relations
4. Conclusions and future work

This talk is based on

Double categories of relations relative to factorisation systems, ArXiv 2310.19428

1. Double categories
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# Double categories

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A double category  $\mathbb{D}$  consists of the following data :

- objects  $A, B, C, \dots$

- vertical arrows  $\begin{array}{c} A \\ \downarrow f \\ B \end{array}, \dots$

- horizontal arrows  $A \xrightarrow{R} B, \dots$

- cells  $\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{R} & C \\ f \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{S} & D \end{array}, \dots$

with compositions of vertical arrows / horizontal arrows / cells  
such that  $\dots$ .

# Examples

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## Rel (Set)

objects : sets , vertical arrows : functions

horizontal arrows : (binary) relations

composition of horizontal arrows :

$$A \xrightarrow{R} B \xrightarrow{S} C := A \xrightarrow{\{(a,c) \mid \exists b \in B \ a R b \wedge b S c\}} C$$

cells : In this case, at most one cell can exist for each frame.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{R} & C \\ f \downarrow & \wedge & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{S} & D \end{array} \iff \begin{array}{l} \forall a \in A \ \forall c \in C \\ a R c \implies f(a) S g(c) \end{array}$$

# Examples

$\text{Span}(\mathcal{C})$  for a finitely complete category  $\mathcal{C}$

objects : objects in  $\mathcal{C}$  , vertical arrows : arrows in  $\mathcal{C}$

horizontal arrows : spans

$$\frac{A \xrightarrow{R} B}{A \xleftarrow{l_R} R \xrightarrow{r_R} B \text{ in } \mathcal{C}}$$

composition of horizontal arrows :

$$A \xrightarrow{R} B \xrightarrow{S} C := \begin{array}{ccccc} & & P & & \\ & \swarrow & \downarrow & \searrow & \\ A \xleftarrow{l_R} R & & \checkmark & & S \xrightarrow{r_S} C \\ & \searrow & & \swarrow & \\ & B & & & \end{array}$$

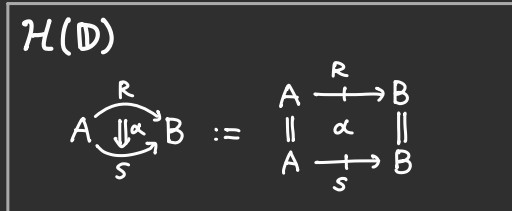
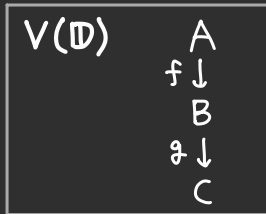
cells :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{R} & C \\ \downarrow f & \alpha & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{S} & D \end{array} \parallel \begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xleftarrow{l_R} & R & \xrightarrow{r_R} & C \\ \downarrow f & \wr & \downarrow \alpha & \wr & \downarrow g \\ B & \xleftarrow{l_S} & S & \xrightarrow{r_S} & D \end{array} \text{ in } \mathcal{C}$$

# Some Definitions

$\mathbb{D}$  : a double category

- the vertical category  $V(\mathbb{D})$  is a category consisting of objects and vertical arrows in  $\mathbb{D}$ .
- the horizontal bicategory  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  is a bicategory whose 0-cells are objects, 1-cells are horizontal arrows, and 2-cells are cells with the identity vertical arrows in  $\mathbb{D}$ .





# Historical Remarks

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Rel Span

- |       |   |   |   |
|-------|---|---|---|
| 1984  | • | • | Carboni, Kasangian, and Street defined <b>bicategories</b> of spans and <b>bicategories</b> of relations on regular categories. |
| 1987  | • |   | Carboni and Walters characterized <b>bicategories</b> of relations on regular categories  |
| 2010  |   | • | Lack, Walters, and Wood characterized <b>bicategories</b> of spans.   |
| <hr/> |   |   |   |
| 2018  |   | • | Aleiferi characterized <sup>?</sup> <b>double categories</b> of spans <span style="float: right;">↓ DC</span>                   |
| 2022  | • |   | Lambert characterized <b>double categories</b> of relations on regular categories   |

# Historical Remarks continued & Motivations

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Kelly defined bicategories of relations relative to stable proper factorization systems  $(E, M)$ .

⌊ e.g.,  $(\text{Surj}, \text{Inj})$  in  $\text{Set}$

$$M\text{-relation } A \xrightarrow{R} B \quad \parallel \quad R \longrightarrow A \times B \in M$$

## Motivation

To characterize double categories of relations relative to **stable orthogonal** factorization systems.

This treatment includes DCs of spans / relations.

# Some Definitions

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## Definition

A **stable orthogonal factorization system (SOFS)** on a category  $\mathcal{C}$  is a pair of classes of morphisms  $(E, M)$  such that:

(i)  $E$  and  $M$  are closed under composition and contain iso's.

(ii)  $E$  and  $M$  are orthogonal :

$$E \ni \begin{array}{ccc} \bullet & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \bullet \\ \downarrow & \nearrow \scriptstyle{e} & \downarrow \\ \bullet & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \bullet \end{array} \in M$$

(iii) Every morphism in  $\mathcal{C}$  is factored as  $\bullet \xrightarrow{\quad} \bullet \xrightarrow{\quad} \bullet$ .

(iv)  $E$  is stable under pullback.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \bullet & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \bullet \\ \cap & & \cap \\ E & & M \end{array}$$

It is **proper** if  $M \subseteq \text{Mono}$ ,  $E \subseteq \text{Epi}$

$\text{Rel}_{(E, M)}(\mathcal{C})$  is the double category whose vertical arrows are arrows in  $\mathcal{C}$  and horizontal arrows are  $M$ -relations.

# Why double categories ?

A. They have potentials of rich structures and enable us to describe behaviours of relations effectively!

## Bicategories

$$A \xrightarrow{R} B$$

- have compositions
- ✗ have no 'functions'

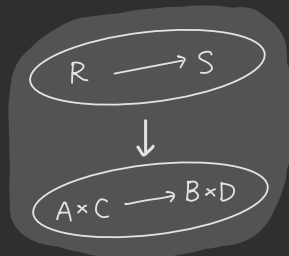
## Fibered Categories

- ✗ have no compositions
- have 'functions' on the base

## Double Categories

- have compositions
- have 'functions'

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{R} & C \\ f \downarrow & \wr & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{S} & D \end{array}$$



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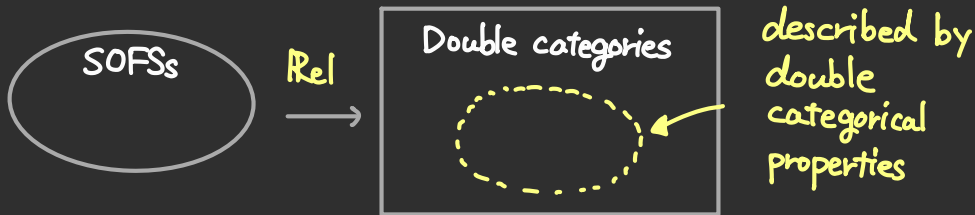
# Characterisation Theorem

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## Theorem [HN.]

For a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ , the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $\mathbb{D} \simeq \mathbf{Rel}_{(E,M)}(\mathcal{C})$  for some SOFS  $(E,M)$  on some finitely complete category  $\mathcal{C}$ .
- (ii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a cartesian equipment, has Beck-Chevalley pullbacks, and admits an  $M$ -comprehension scheme for some  $M$ .



# Cartesian double categories

Since  $M$ -relations  $A \multimap B$  are defined as  $M$ -subobjects of  $A \times B$ , we assume double categories to be **cartesian**.

A double category  $\mathbb{D}$  is **cartesian** iff (if it is an equipment)

- $V(\mathbb{D})$  has finite products
- $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  has local finite products, i.e.,  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(A, B)$  has finite products for any  $A, B \in \mathbb{D}$
- these products 'respect' horizontal composition

More precisely, it is a cartesian object in the 2-cat  $\mathbf{DblCat}$ .

# Functions $\rightarrow$ Relations

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In  $\mathbf{Rel}(\mathbf{Set})$ , every function  $f: A \rightarrow B$  defines binary relations called the **graphs** of  $f$ :

$$A \xrightarrow{f_*} B := \{(a, b) \mid f(a) = b\}.$$

$$B \xrightarrow{f^*} A := \{(b, a) \mid b = f(a)\}.$$

**Remark** the identity horizontal arrow in  $\mathbf{Rel}(\mathbf{Set})$  is defined by the equality relation  $=$ .

We have two cells

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f_*} & B \\ f \downarrow & \lrcorner & \parallel \\ B & \xlongequal{\quad} & B \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xlongequal{\quad} & A \\ \parallel & \lrcorner & \downarrow f \\ A & \xrightarrow{f_*} & B \end{array}.$$



# Functions $\rightarrow$ Relations

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$f_*$  is the largest relation among those  $R$ 's with

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \\ f \searrow & \lrcorner & \parallel \\ & B & \end{array}$$

and also the smallest one among those  $S$ 's with

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ \parallel & \lrcorner & \searrow f \\ A & \xrightarrow{S} & B \end{array}$$

A double category  $\mathbb{D}$  is called an **equipment** iff

for  $\begin{array}{ccc} A & & \\ \downarrow f & & \\ B & & \end{array}$ , there exist two universal cells

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f_*} & B \\ f \searrow & \alpha & \parallel \\ & B & \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ \parallel & \beta & \searrow f \\ A & \xrightarrow{f_*} & B \end{array}$$

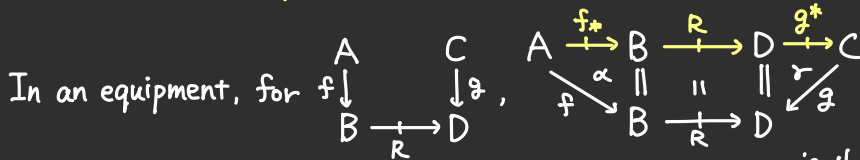
s.t.  $\begin{array}{ccc} C & \xrightarrow{R} & D \\ s \downarrow & \zeta & \downarrow t \\ A & & B \\ f \searrow & & \parallel \\ & B & \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} C & \xrightarrow{R} & D \\ s \downarrow & \exists! & \downarrow t \\ A & \xrightarrow{f_*} & B \\ & \searrow \alpha & \parallel \\ & B & \end{array}$

and  $\dots$ , and there exist

$$f^*: B \rightarrowtail A \dots$$

# Restrictions / extensions

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This is called **restriction** of  $R$  along  $f$  and  $g$ .

A cell with such a universal property is called **cartesian**.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{s} & F \\ s \downarrow & & \downarrow t \\ A & \xrightarrow{z} & C \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{R} & D \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} E & \xrightarrow{s} & F \\ s \downarrow & \exists! & \downarrow t \\ A & \xrightarrow{f_* R g^*} & C \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{R} & D \end{array}$$

**Example**

In  $\mathbf{Rel}(\mathbf{Set})$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\text{cart}} & C \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{R} & D \end{array}$$

$$\{(a, c) \mid f(a) R g(c)\}$$

# Restrictions / extensions

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Dually, for  $\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{a} & C \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ B & & D \end{array}$ , an **extension**  $\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{a} & C \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{f^* a g_*} & D \end{array}$  is the universal

cell for downward composition. Such a cell is called **opcartesian**.

**Example** In  $\mathbf{Rel}(\mathbf{Set})$ ,  $\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{a} & C \\ f \downarrow \text{opcart} \downarrow g & & \\ B & \xrightarrow{\quad} & D \end{array} \quad \{(f(a), g(c)) \mid a Q c\}$

In particular,

$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow g \\ B & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & D \end{array} \quad \{(f(a), g(a)) \mid a \in A\}$

# Relations $\rightarrow$ Functions

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In Set, a relation  $A \xrightarrow{R} B$  is expressed by two projections from  $|R| = \{(a, b) \mid a R b\}$ :  $A \xleftarrow{\pi_1} |R| \xrightarrow{\pi_2} B$ .

These two morphisms have the following property:

$$\{(f(x), g(x))\} \cap R = \{ (f(x), g(x)) \mid (x, (f(x), g(x))) \in |R| \}$$

Moreover,  $A \xrightarrow{R} B$  is recoverable from  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & |R| & \\ \pi_1 \swarrow & \Delta & \searrow \pi_2 \\ A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \end{array}$$

is opcartesian.

$$R = \{(\pi_1(x), \pi_2(x))\}$$

# Relations $\rightarrow$ Functions

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A **tabulator** of a horizontal arrow  $A \xrightarrow{R} B$  is an object  $|R|$

with  $A \xleftarrow{\ell} |R| \xrightarrow{r} B$  satisfying the following universal property:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow g \\ A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} X & & \\ f \swarrow & \downarrow \exists! & \searrow g \\ A & \xleftarrow{\ell} |R| \xrightarrow{r} B & \end{array}$$

The tabulator is called **strong** if  $\tau$  is opcartesian.

Plus, a relation  $A \xrightarrow{R} B$  is a subset  $R$  of  $A \times B$ .

In general, we expect a relation  $A \xrightarrow{R} B$  to be a "**sub**" of  $A \times B$ .

# Relations $\rightarrow$ Functions

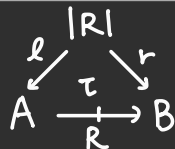
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A class  $M$  of morphisms in a category is called a **stable system** if it contains all iso's, is closed under composition, and stable under pullback.

For a stable system  $M$ , an  **$M$ -relation**  $R: A \rightarrow B$  is a morphism  $R \rightarrow A \times B$  in  $M$ .

In  $\text{Rel}(\text{Set})$ ,  $\begin{array}{ccc} & |R| & \\ \swarrow \ell & & \searrow r \\ A & \xrightarrow[\tau]{R} & B \end{array} : \text{tabulator} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{ccc} & |R| & \\ \downarrow \langle \ell, r \rangle & & \\ A \times B & & \end{array} \in \text{Mono}.$

For a horizontal arrow  $R$ , its tabulator  $\begin{array}{ccc} & |R| & \\ \swarrow \ell & & \searrow r \\ A & \xrightarrow[\tau]{R} & B \end{array}$  is called an  **$M$ -tabulator** if  $\langle \ell, r \rangle \in M$ .



# M-comprehension scheme

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If  $\mathbb{D}$  has M-tabulators for every horizontal arrow for a stable system  $M$  in  $V(\mathbb{D})$ ,

$$H(\mathbb{D})(A, B) \xrightarrow[\text{tab}]{\text{ext} \perp} M/A \times B \overset{\text{full}}{\subset} V(\mathbb{D})/A \times B$$

$$\begin{array}{c} A \xrightarrow{f^* g^*} B \\ \parallel \quad \tilde{\alpha} \quad \parallel \\ A \xrightarrow{R} B \end{array} \quad \parallel \quad \begin{array}{c} X \\ f \swarrow \quad \searrow g \\ A \xrightarrow{R} B \end{array} \quad \parallel \quad \begin{array}{c} X \\ f \swarrow \quad \searrow g \\ A \xrightarrow{R} B \end{array}$$

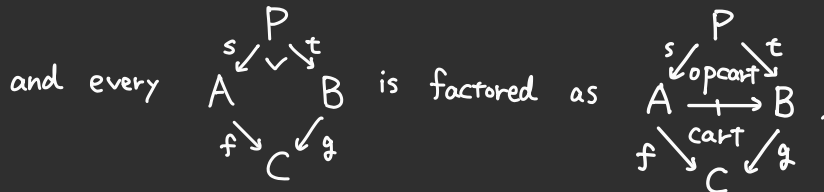
$\langle f, g \rangle \in M$

$\mathbb{D}$  is said to admit an M-comprehension scheme if the adjoints are equivalences.

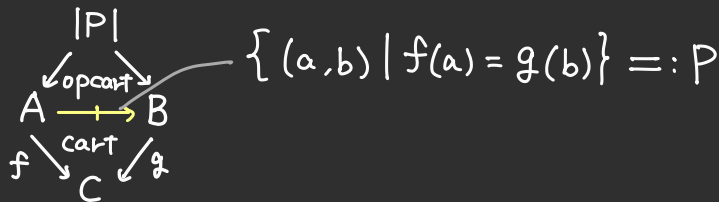
# Beck-Chevalley pullbacks

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$\mathbb{D}$  has Beck-Chevalley pullbacks if  $V(\mathbb{D})$  has all pullbacks



**Example**  $\mathbf{Rel}(\mathbf{Set})$  has Beck-Chevalley pullbacks:





# Characterisation Theorem

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## Theorem [HN.]

For a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ , the following are equivalent:

- (i)  $\mathbb{D} \simeq \mathbf{Rel}_{(E,M)}(\mathcal{C})$  for some SOFS  $(E,M)$  on some finitely complete category  $\mathcal{C}$ .
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Remark Another equivalent condition is given in the paper without "the variable  $M$ ", and purely double categorically.

SOFS $(E, M)$	M-relations	$\text{Rel}_{(E, M)}$
$(\text{Regepi}, \text{Mono})$ in a regular category	(usual) relations	$\text{Rel}(\mathcal{C})$ [Lam21]
$(\text{Iso}, \text{Mor})$ in a finitely complete category	spans	$\text{Span}(\mathcal{C})$
$(\text{Epi}, \text{Regmono})$ in a quasi-topos	strong relations	

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# Correspondence of SOFSs and DCRs

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Properties of SOFSs are translated to those of DCRs

The correspondence of SOFSs and DCRs (TABLE1 in HN.)

SOFSs	DCRs
<p>SOFS</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>left-proper<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>anti-right-proper<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>(Iso, Mor)</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>right-proper<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>proper<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>regular SOFS</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>	<p>DCR</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>unit-pure<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>unit-pure Cauchy<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><math>\text{Span}(\mathcal{C})</math> (<math>\mathcal{C} : \text{fin-complete}</math>)</li></ul></li></ul></li><li>locally preordered<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>locally posetal<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li><math>\text{Rel}(\mathcal{C})</math> (<math>\mathcal{C} : \text{regular}</math>)</li></ul></li></ul></li></ul>

# Cauchy equipments

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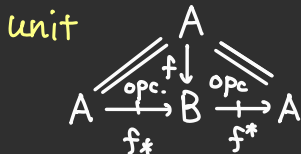
$\mathcal{C}$  is **Cauchy complete** (idempotent complete) iff

for any adjunction of profunctors  $\mathcal{D} \xrightleftharpoons[\mathcal{Q}]{\mathcal{P}} \mathcal{C}$  from a small category,

there exists a functor  $F: \mathcal{D} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  with  $\mathcal{P} \cong \mathcal{C}(F-, -)$ .

(cf. Prof : DC of categories, functors, and profunctors)

In an equipment  $\mathbb{D}$ ,  $\begin{array}{c} A \\ f \downarrow \\ B \end{array} \rightsquigarrow \begin{array}{ccc} & f_* & \\ A & \begin{array}{c} \downarrow \\ \vdash \\ \downarrow \end{array} & B \\ & f^* & \end{array} \text{ in } \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$



This kind of adjunctions is called **representable**.

# Cauchy equipments

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An equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  is called **Cauchy** if any adjunction in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  is representable. (Paré 21)

## Example

$\mathbf{Prof}_{cc}$  : double categories of small Cauchy complete categories, functors, and profunctors

Q. How does this condition behave in a DCR?

# What is Cauchy DCR?

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If we think of horizontal arrows as binary predicates

$$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{P} \\ \perp \\ \xleftarrow{Q} \end{array} B \rightsquigarrow \begin{cases} (\text{unit}) \quad \forall a:A \quad \exists b:B \quad P(a,b) \wedge Q(b,a) \\ (\text{counit}) \quad \forall b,b':B, \forall a:A \quad Q(b,a) \wedge P(a,b') \rightarrow b=b' \end{cases}$$
$$\Rightarrow \forall a:A \quad \exists! b:B \quad P(a,b)$$

Cauchy condition behaves as the unique choice principle :

$$\forall a:A \quad \exists! b:B \quad P(a,b) \implies \exists f:A \rightarrow B \quad P = f_*$$

# Classical results

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**Proposition** [Kelly '91]

For a proper SOFS  $(E, M)$ ,

a left adjoint  $M$ -relation is of the form  $A \xleftarrow{e} X \xrightarrow{f} B$

where  $e \in E \cap \text{Mono}$ .

In particular, for a regular category  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\text{Rel}(\mathcal{C})$  is Cauchy.

**Proposition** [Carboni, Kasangian, Street '84 (in terms of PC)]

$\text{Span}(\mathcal{C})$  is Cauchy.



# Cauchy unit-pure DCR

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A double category is called **unit-pure** if

a cell of the form 
$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \multimap & A \\ f \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow g \\ B & \multimap & B \end{array}$$
 must be 
$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \multimap & A \\ f \downarrow & \neq & \downarrow g \\ B & \multimap & B \end{array}.$$

## Theorem [HN.]

In a unit-pure DCR  $\text{Rel}_{(E,M)}(\mathcal{C})$ , a horizontal left adjoint is of the form 
$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ e \swarrow & & \searrow f \\ A & & B \end{array}$$
 where  $e \in E \cap \text{Mono}$ .

# Cauchy unit-pure DCR

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We have

$$\text{Cauchy unit-pure DCRs} = \text{DCRs with } \text{Mono} \subseteq M$$

because a unit-pure DCR is Cauchy iff

$$E \cap \text{Mono} = \text{Iso} \iff \text{Mono} \subseteq M.$$

There is also a "Cauchization" 2-functor

$$\text{CauchyUnitpureDCR} \xrightleftharpoons[\perp]{\text{Caul}(-)} \text{UnitpureDCR}$$

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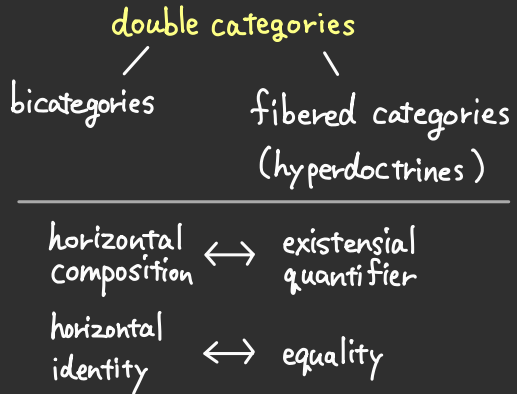
## Conclusions

- We defined **double categories of relations** and characterized them using **comprehension schemes** which involve some **double-categorical universal properties**.
- **Cauchy DCRs** are those admitting "**unique choice**" and correspond to **SOFs**  $(E, M)$  with **Mono CM**.
- Other significant classes of **SOFs** correspond to those of **DCRs**.

## Future Work

**Extending the correspondences** to non-stable OFSs, AWFs, etc.

**Developing logic in double categories**



# Thank you!

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References are

[Ale18], [CKS84], [Kel91], [Kie70],  
[Lam22], [LWW10], [Par21], [Shu08],

and others in the reference list of

ArXiv 2310.19428.