

# DOUBLE CATEGORIES OF RELATIONS RELATIVE TO FACTORISATION SYSTEMS

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**ABSTRACT.** We relativise double categories of relations to stable orthogonal factorisation systems. Furthermore, we present the characterisation of the relative double categories of relations in two ways. The first utilises a generalised comprehension scheme, and the second focuses on a specific class of vertical arrows defined solely double-categorically. We organise diverse classes of double categories of relations and correlate them with significant classes of factorisation systems. Our framework embraces double categories of spans and double categories of relations on regular categories, which we meticulously compare to existing work on the characterisations of bicategories and double categories of spans and relations.

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Sets, functions, and relations are fundamental concepts in mathematics. The category **Set** of sets and functions has, on the one hand, been one of the most motivating prototypes of categories, and on the other hand, the bicategory  $\mathcal{Rel}$  of sets and binary relations has also been studied as a primary entity in category theory. Afterwards, relations were extended to any category with finite products by formulating relations between objects as subobjects of their product. Here, the category must be regular for the composition of relations to be associative and unital, as observed by Lawvere [Law72]. Subsequently, Carboni, Kasangian, and Street [CKS84] addressed the bicategory of relations on regular categories.

Relations were further generalised to any category  $\mathbf{C}$  with finite products and a proper stable factorisation system  $(E, M)$  on it by Klein [Kle70]. He defined the notion of  $M$ -relations to  $\mathbf{C}$  by replacing subobjects with  $M$ -subobjects. Here,  $M$ -subobjects of an object  $A$  are arrows in  $M$  into  $A$ . Later on, Kelly [Kel91] investigated the bicategories of  $M$ -relations  $\mathcal{Rel}_{E, M}(\mathbf{C})$  in this context. Going beyond the assumption of properness, our treatment of relations consistently encompasses many

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*Date:* October 17, 2023.

*2020 Mathematics Subject Classification.* 18B10, 18E08, 18N10, 18A32,

*Key words and phrases.* Double category of relations, stable factorisation system, cartesian double category.

The authors would like to express their gratitude to their supervisor, Prof. Masahito Hasegawa, for his guidance and support. They would like to extend their special thanks to Yuto Kawase, who provided valuable corrections and advice throughout the research process. They are also grateful for the feedback offered by Hisashi Aratake, Soichiro Fujii, and Kengo Hirata.

different situations. For instance, the non-proper stable orthogonal factorisation system (Iso, Mor) whose left class is the class of isomorphisms and whose right class is the class of all morphisms yields the bicategory of spans  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{C})$  on a finitely complete category  $\mathbf{C}$ . The bicategories of spans were initially introduced by Bénabou [Bén67] and have been inspected by several authors (see [CKS84, CW87, LWW10] and the references therein).

On the other hand, there are many cases in which one would like to deal with relations and the original category at the same time. Double categories, devised by Ehresmann [Ehr63], fulfil this desire by having vertical arrows as arrows in the original category and horizontal arrows as relations between objects. Besides, one can express the interplay between vertical and horizontal arrows by dint of various structures on double categories, such as companions and conjoints [GP04, Shu08], double limits [GP99], and cartesian structures [Ale18]. This remarkable abundance of structures has opened the possibility of studying relations in a double-categorical framework. Indeed, Lambert [Lam22] defined and characterised the double category of relations  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}(\mathbf{C})$  on a regular category  $\mathbf{C}$ , in which vertical arrows are morphisms in  $\mathbf{C}$ , and horizontal arrows are relations in  $\mathbf{C}$ . His method to construct an equivalence between an axiomatised double category of relations and one in the form of  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}(\mathbf{C})$  originated from the work of Niefield [Nie12]. She determined the condition for a double category to admit an oplax/lax adjoint to the double category of spans. Later, Aleiferi [Ale18] extended the result and characterised<sup>1</sup> double categories of spans.

The principal objective of this paper is to generalise these results [Ale18, Lam22] to the cases relative to stable orthogonal factorisation systems (SOFSs). We provide the characterisation of the double categories of relations (DCRs)  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}_{\mathbf{E},\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C})$  formed by relations defined using a general stable orthogonal factorisation system  $(\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{M})$  on a finitely complete category  $\mathbf{C}$ , as shown in the following theorem.

**Theorem (Theorem 3.3.16).** *The following are equivalent for a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ .*

- i)  $\mathbb{D}$  is equivalent to  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}_{\mathbf{E},\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C})$  for some category  $\mathbf{C}$  with finite limits and a stable orthogonal factorisation system  $(\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{M})$  on  $\mathbf{C}$ .
- ii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks and  $\mathbf{M}$ -comprehension scheme for some stable system  $\mathbf{M}$  on  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .
- iii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks and a left-sided  $\mathbf{M}$ -comprehension scheme for some stable system  $\mathbf{M}$  on  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .
- iv)  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  is closed under composition, and  $\mathbb{D}$  is a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks and strong tabulators.
- v)  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  is closed under composition, and  $\mathbb{D}$  is a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks and left-sided strong tabulators.

As we only consider the case of finitely complete categories, the double category  $\mathbb{D}$  is assumed to be a cartesian equipment, meaning it is a cartesian double category with companions and conjoints. Our goal is to characterise i). Condition ii) that follows involves the  $\mathbf{M}$ -comprehension scheme for a class of vertical arrows  $\mathbf{M}$ , a generalisation of the subobject comprehension scheme in [Lam22]. Through the  $\mathbf{M}$ -comprehension scheme, it is possible to relate the information of horizontal arrows to the vertical category. Condition iii) is a left-sided version of ii) and is the key to proving the theorem in our general setting. Here, a left-sided relation refers to one from some object  $A$  to the terminal object  $1$ . In the proof of the equivalence between ii) and iii), relations between  $A$  and  $B$  are transformed into relations between  $A \times B$  and  $1$ . This manipulation is only possible when the cartesian equipment is ‘discrete.’ Discreteness is a condition that classifies cartesian bicategories of relations in [CW87], but we will see that this follows in the existence of so-called Beck-Chevalley pullbacks. The remaining conditions iv) and v) are formulated with the properties and structures intrinsic to double categories. The class  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  of vertical arrows called fibrations in these conditions, and another class  $\text{Fin}(\mathbb{D})$  consisting of vertical arrows, called final arrows, are defined as candidates for the right and left classes of the factorisation system. Final arrows will turn out to be a double-categorical analogue of the class of extremal epimorphisms in a category. Besides their crucial role in the characterisation of double categories of relations, it is worth attention that fibrations and final arrows apprehend the structure of double categories in a broader context. For instance, these two classes in the double category of profunctors  $\mathbb{P}\text{rof}$  become the class of discrete fibrations and final functors, constituting a factorisation system on  $\mathcal{C}\text{at}$ .

<sup>1</sup>The characterisation in [Ale18] needs a slight modification as we will point out in Remark 4.3.20.

Our second aim is to delineate the correspondence between double categories of relations and stable orthogonal factorisation systems. As presented in Table 1, the desirable properties on the double categories of relations will be layered by the significant classes of factorisation systems. A property called unit-pureness was an indispensable assumption in the previous literature [Ale18, Lam22], but the correspondence explicitly explains its effect. Furthermore, there is a clear correspondence between the properness of factorisation systems and the posetality of double categories of relations.

SOFSs on finitely complete categories	Double categories of relations (DCRs)
<pre> graph TD     SOFS[SOFS] --&gt; left[<b>left-proper SOFS</b>]     SOFS --&gt; right[<b>right-proper SOFS</b>]     left --&gt; anti[<b>anti-right-proper SOFS</b>]     left --&gt; proper[<b>proper SOFS</b>]     anti --&gt; iso["(Iso, Mor)"]     proper --&gt; reg[<b>regular SOFS</b>] </pre>	<pre> graph TD     DCR["<b>Double category of relations (DCR)</b> 3.3.16"] --&gt; up["<b>unit-pure DCR</b> 4.1.6"]     DCR --&gt; lpo["<b>locally preordered DCR</b> 4.1.10"]     up --&gt; upc["<b>unit-pure Cauchy DCR</b> 4.2.5"]     up --&gt; lps["<b>locally posetal DCR</b> 4.1.11"]     upc --&gt; spans["<b>Double category of spans</b> 4.3.19 [LWW10, Ale18]"]     lps --&gt; reg["<b>DCR on regular categories</b> 4.2.6, 4.3.3 [Lam22, CW87]"] </pre>

TABLE 1. Correspondence between stable orthogonal factorisation systems (SOFSs) and double categories of relations (DCRs)

A noteworthy condition for unit-pure double categories is the Cauchy condition located in the third row of the table. It states that every adjoint in the horizontal bicategory comes from the vertical category as a companion/conjoint adjunction. The significance of the Cauchy condition lies in its connotation of the unique choice principle that every functional relation gives rise to a function, as pointed out by Rosolini [Ros99]. Classical accounts of the bicategories of relations or spans have defined ‘functions’ as ‘functional relations’, which obscured the Cauchy condition as a hidden assumption. However, by separating vertical arrows from horizontal ones, our framework makes the Cauchy condition explicit and establishes a correspondence between the Cauchy condition on double categories of relations and a condition on stable orthogonal factorisation systems called anti-right-properness. In addition, we implement the transformation process from the unit-pure double category of relations into a Cauchy one. It is the extension of the work by Kelly [Kel91] on converting a category with a proper factorisation system into a regular category.

We also contrast our results with prior work. Carboni and Walters defined a ‘bicategory of relations’ as a locally posetal cartesian bicategory with discrete objects in [CW87]. In this setting, they showed that a ‘bicategory of relations’ is equivalent to  $\mathbb{R}el_{\text{Regepi, Mono}}(\mathbf{C})$  for some regular category  $\mathbf{C}$ , if and only if it is ‘functionally complete.’ On the other hand, as already mentioned, much work has been done on the characterisation of spans. Lack, Walters, and Wood give a way to characterise the bicategory of spans as a cartesian bicategory in terms of ‘comonad’ and its ‘co-Eilenberg-Moore objects’ [LWW10], while the work by Aleiferi [Ale18], following Niefield [Nie12], captures spans as a double category using ‘copointed arrows.’ We explain how these concepts are interpreted in our settings and how their theorems are induced by narrowing down our general results.

**The outline of the paper.** Section 2 is devoted to the preliminaries of the theory of double categories and orthogonal factorisation systems.

Section 3 is the pivotal part of this paper. Section 3.1 illustrates how the Beck-Chevalley condition is used to bias relations to one side. Section 3.2 deals with comprehension schemes for stable orthogonal factorisation systems and its left-sided version. After the two classes of vertical arrows in double categories, called fibrations and final arrows, are formulated, the main theorem is proved in Section 3.3.

Section 4 comprises the discussions on different topics. Section 4.1 shows how the left and right properness of stable orthogonal factorisation systems are reflected in double categories. Section 4.2 discusses the Cauchy condition, especially the process of Cauchisation. Section 4.3 compares our results with the previous literature [CW87, LWW10, Ale18].

Section 5 is devoted to the future work.

**Notation.** As already appeared in the introduction, we use the following notation. We write categories in the bold font as  $\mathbf{C}$ ,  $\mathbf{D}$ , and  $\mathbf{Set}$ . For 2-categories and bicategories, we use the calligraphic letters such as  $\mathcal{B}$ ,  $\mathcal{C}$ , and  $\mathcal{CAT}$ . For double categories, we write the initial letter in the blackboard bold font as  $\mathbb{D}$ ,  $\mathbb{E}$ , and  $\mathbb{Prof}$ . A letter in the Roman font denotes a class of arrows in a category, or that of vertical arrows in a double category, such as  $\mathbf{M}$ ,  $\mathbf{Mono}$ , and  $\mathbf{Fib}$ .

We write composites of arrows in the diagrammatic order opposite to the classical convention. For instance,  $f \circ g$  denotes the composite  $\cdot \xrightarrow{f} \cdot \xrightarrow{g} \cdot$  in the vertical category of some double category.

## 2. BACKGROUNDS

This section reviews some notions and results that will be used in the remainder of the paper. In particular, we review the basics of the theory of double categories and factorisation systems.

**2.1. Double categories.** In this subsection, we take a look at several notions about double categories, including equipments, tabulators, and cartesian double categories. We use the notion of Grothendieck fibrations and simply call them fibrations.

By a *(pseudo-)double category*  $\mathbb{D}$ , we mean a pseudo-category in the 2-category  $\mathcal{CAT}$  of locally small categories. In other words, a double category consists of two (locally small) categories  $\mathbb{D}_0$ ,  $\mathbb{D}_1$  and functors

$$\mathbb{D}_1 \text{tgt} \times_{\text{src}} \mathbb{D}_1 \xrightarrow{\odot} \mathbb{D}_1 \xleftarrow[\text{tgt}]{\text{src}} \mathbb{D}_0 .$$

These data come equipped with isonatural transformations that stand for the associativity law and the unit laws.

Objects and arrows of  $\mathbb{D}_0$  are called **objects** and **vertical arrows** of the double category  $\mathbb{D}$ . We use the notation  $f \circ g$  for the composition of  $A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C$  in  $\mathbb{D}_0$ . An object  $p$  of  $\mathbb{D}_1$  whose values of  $\text{src}$  and  $\text{tgt}$  are  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively, is called a **horizontal arrow**<sup>2</sup> from  $A$  to  $B$ , and written as  $p: A \rightrightarrows B$ . We use the notation  $p \odot q$ , or simply  $pq$ , for the composite of  $p: A \rightrightarrows B$  and  $q: B \rightrightarrows C$  in  $\mathbb{D}_1$ . An arrow  $\alpha: p \rightarrow q$  in  $\mathbb{D}_1$  is called a **double cell** (or merely a **cell**) in the double category  $\mathbb{D}$ . This cell is drawn as below, where  $\text{src}(\alpha) = p$  and  $\text{tgt}(\alpha) = q$ .

$$(2.1.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{p} & B \\ f \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow g \\ C & \xrightarrow{q} & D \end{array}$$

Suppose moreover that  $p$  and  $q$  are obtained by composing paths of horizontal arrows  $\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle$  and  $\langle q_1, \dots, q_m \rangle$ , where we have  $p_i: A_{i-1} \rightrightarrows A_i$ ,  $q_i: C_{i-1} \rightrightarrows C_i$ ,  $A_0 = A$ ,  $A_n = B$ ,  $C_0 = C$ , and  $C_m = D$ . Then, we express  $\alpha$  as on the left below. This includes the case  $n = 0$  and/or  $m = 0$ , as is on the right below. As usual, by the composition of a 0-length path, we mean the horizontal identity.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A_0 & \xrightarrow{p_1} & A_1 & \xrightarrow{p_2} & \dots & \xrightarrow{p_n} & A_n \\ f \downarrow & & & & \alpha & & \downarrow g \\ C_0 & \xrightarrow{q_1} & C_1 & \xrightarrow{q_2} & \dots & \xrightarrow{q_m} & C_m \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} & & A_0 & & \\ f \swarrow & & \alpha & & \searrow g \\ C_0 & \xrightarrow{q_1} & C_1 & \xrightarrow{q_2} & C_2 \end{array}$$

The isonatural transformations that stand for the associativity law and the unit laws describe the associativity and the unitality of the horizontal composition of horizontal arrows and that of cells.

Interchanging the roles of  $\text{src}$  and  $\text{tgt}$  in a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ , we obtain another double category. We call it the **horizontal opposite** of  $\mathbb{D}$  and write it as  $\mathbb{D}^{\text{hop}}$ . Sending the data of  $\mathbb{D}$  by the 2-functor  $(-)^{\text{op}}: \mathcal{CAT}^{\text{co}} \rightarrow \mathcal{CAT}$ , we get another double category. We call it the **vertical opposite** of  $\mathbb{D}$  and write it as  $\mathbb{D}^{\text{vop}}$ .

The following is a way to construct a bicategory from a double category, which is fundamental and has been discussed in several contexts. See, for example, [Gra20] for more discussion.

<sup>2</sup>Note that in a significant portion of the literature, vertical arrows are referred to as what we designate as horizontal arrows, and vice versa. The difference cannot be dismissed since only one class of arrows requires strict associativity and unit laws.

**Definition 2.1.1.** For a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ , the *horizontal bicategory*  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  is a bicategory whose objects are objects in  $\mathbb{D}$ , 1-cells are horizontal maps, and 2-cells are cells in  $\mathbb{D}$  of the form on the left below, which are called *horizontal cells* in  $\mathbb{D}$ .

Similarly, the *vertical 2-category*  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  is a 2-category defined in the same way, in which the composition of 1-cells is strict and coincides with that of  $\mathbb{D}_0$ . We say a 2-cell  $\beta: f \Rightarrow g$  in this 2-category a *vertical cell* in  $\mathbb{D}$ , which is a cell in  $\mathbb{D}$  of the form shown on the right.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \cdot & \xrightarrow{p} & \cdot \\ \parallel & \alpha & \parallel \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{q} & \cdot \end{array} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \cdot & & \cdot \\ & f(\beta)g & \\ \cdot & & \cdot \end{array}$$

Note that  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(X, Y)$  is exactly the fibre above  $(X, Y) \in \mathbb{D}_0 \times \mathbb{D}_0$  of the functor  $\langle \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle: \mathbb{D}_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_0 \times \mathbb{D}_0$ .  $\blacksquare$

For consistency with this terminology, we write  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  for the category  $\mathbb{D}_0$ . In other words,  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  is the category underlying  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .

The above definition gives a way to form a bicategory of objects and horizontal arrows, while there also exists a slightly unfamiliar way to construct a bicategory from a double category, consisting of vertical arrows and cells.

**Definition 2.1.2.** For a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ , the *horizontal bicategory of cells*,  $\mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})$ , is a bicategory defined as follows. Objects are vertical arrows in  $\mathbb{D}$ , and a 1-cell  $g \rightarrow h$  is a triple  $(p, \alpha, q)$  that forms a cell in  $\mathbb{D}$  of the following form.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \cdot & \xrightarrow{p} & \cdot \\ g \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow h \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{q} & \cdot \end{array}$$

A 2-cell  $(p, \alpha, q) \Rightarrow (p', \alpha', q'): g \rightarrow h$  is a pair  $(\gamma, \delta)$  of horizontal cells in  $\mathbb{D}$  satisfying the following.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \cdot & \xrightarrow{p} & \cdot \\ g \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow h \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{q} & \cdot \\ \parallel & \delta & \parallel \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{q'} & \cdot \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} \cdot & \xrightarrow{p} & \cdot \\ \parallel & \gamma & \parallel \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{p'} & \cdot \\ g \downarrow & \alpha' & \downarrow h \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{q'} & \cdot \end{array}$$

The following are our first examples of *double categories of relations* defined in [Definition 3.2.1](#), the main objective of this paper.

**Example 2.1.3.** The double category  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}(\mathbf{Set})$  consists of the following data.

- The vertical category  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{R}\text{el}(\mathbf{Set}))$  is the category  $\mathbf{Set}$  of sets and functions.
- The horizontal arrows are binary relations between sets; i.e., a horizontal arrow  $p: A \rightarrowtail B$  is a subset of  $A \times B$ . A cell of the form (2.1.1) exists if and only if for any  $a \in A$  and  $b \in B$  such that  $(a, b) \in p$ , we have  $(f(a), g(b)) \in q$ . There is at most one cell framed by a pair of vertical arrows and a pair of horizontal arrows.
- The composite  $pq$  of relations  $p: A \rightarrowtail B$  and  $q: B \rightarrowtail C$  is defined as the following relation. For  $a \in A$  and  $c \in C$ , we have  $(a, c) \in pq$  if and only if there exists  $b \in B$  such that  $(a, b) \in p$  and  $(b, c) \in q$ . The unit horizontal arrow  $\text{Id}_A$  is defined by the diagonal  $\{(a, a) \mid a \in A\}$ .

This double category is generalised by replacing  $\mathbf{Set}$  with any regular category. Such double categories are discussed in [\[Lam22\]](#), and we characterise them in [Theorems 4.2.6](#) and [4.3.3](#).  $\blacksquare$

**Example 2.1.4.** Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a category with finite limits.<sup>3</sup> The double category  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{C})$  consists of the following data.

- The vertical category  $\mathbf{V}(\text{Span}(\mathbf{C})) = \text{Span}(\mathbf{C})_0$  is precisely the same as  $\mathbf{C}$ . Therefore, objects and vertical arrows in  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{C})$  are the same as objects and arrows in  $\mathbf{C}$ .

<sup>3</sup>For the definition of  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{C})$ , not all finite limits are necessary, in fact only pullbacks are sufficient. However, they are necessary for the double category to be an example of a *double category of relations* in our sense.

- $\langle \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle : \text{Span}(\mathbf{C})_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{C}$  is defined by the following pullback.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Span}(\mathbf{C})_1 & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{C}^{\rightarrow} \\ \langle \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \text{cod}^{\mathbf{C}} \\ \mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{C} & \xrightarrow{\times} & \mathbf{C} \end{array}$$

Unpacking this definition, a horizontal arrow  $R : A \rightrightarrows B$  is a *span* from objects  $A$  to  $B$ ; i.e., a pair  $(l_R, r_R)$  of arrows in  $\mathbf{C}$  with the same domain such that the codomains of  $f$  and  $g$  are  $A$  and  $B$ , respectively. A cell of the form on the left below is precisely an arrow  $\alpha : |R| \rightarrow |S|$  between the apexes of  $R$  and  $S$  that makes the diagram on the right below commute.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \\ f \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow g \\ C & \xrightarrow{S} & D \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xleftarrow{l_R} & |R| & \xrightarrow{r_R} & B \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow g \\ C & \xleftarrow{l_S} & |S| & \xrightarrow{r_S} & D \end{array}$$

- For a composable pair of spans  $R : A \rightrightarrows B$  and  $S : B \rightrightarrows C$ , the composite  $R \odot S$  is defined as the following pullback.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & |R \odot S| & & \\ & \swarrow^{l^{R \odot S}} & & \searrow_{r^{R \odot S}} & \\ & |R| & \checkmark & |S| & \\ & \swarrow_{l^R} & \searrow_{r^R} & \swarrow_{l^S} & \searrow_{r^S} \\ A & & B & & C \end{array}$$

The unit horizontal arrow  $\text{Id}_A$  is defined by the pair  $(\text{id}_A, \text{id}_A)$ , and the unit cell  $\text{Id}_f$  is defined by  $f$  itself. This composition is associative and unital up to isomorphism by the universal property of pullbacks. The composition of cells is defined by the universal property of pullbacks, which makes it associative and unital.

The double category  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{C})$  is introduced in [Par11] in the case  $\mathbf{C} = \mathbf{Set}$ , and general cases are discussed in [Nie12]. We call these *double categories of spans*. ■

Now we introduce morphisms between double categories called *lax double functors* [GP99, Gra20].<sup>4</sup> The definition is given in an ‘unbiased’ way compared to the usual definition of lax functors in the literature. Given two double categories  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $\mathbb{E}$ , a lax double functor  $F : \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$  consists of the following data.

- Two functors  $F_0 : \mathbb{D}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{E}_0$  and  $F_1 : \mathbb{D}_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{E}_1$  commuting with  $\text{src}$  and  $\text{tgt}$ . We often omit the subscripts 0, 1 for brevity.
- For any path of horizontal arrows  $\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle$ , a *coherence* horizontal cell

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} F(A_0) & \xrightarrow{F(p_1)} & F(A_1) & \xrightarrow{F(p_2)} & \dots & \xrightarrow{F(p_n)} & F(A_n) \\ \parallel & & & & \gamma_{\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle} & & \parallel \\ F(A_0) & \xrightarrow{\quad F(p_1 \odot p_2 \odot \dots \odot p_n) \quad} & & & & & F(A_n) \end{array}$$

satisfying the following two conditions.

- Suppose we are given a path  $\langle \alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n \rangle$  of cells, seen as arrows in  $\mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})$ , and let  $\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle$  and  $\langle q_1, \dots, q_n \rangle$  be paths of horizontal arrows that are on the above and the below of this sequence of cells, respectively. Then the pair  $(\gamma_{\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle}, \gamma_{\langle q_1, \dots, q_n \rangle})$  forms a 2-cell  $F(\alpha_1) \odot \dots \odot F(\alpha_n) \Rightarrow F(\alpha_1 \odot \dots \odot \alpha_n)$  in  $\mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})$ .
- The coherence horizontal cells are closed under composition; i.e., we have  $\gamma_{\langle p_1 \rangle} = \text{id}_{p_1}$  and the composite of the following cells is identified with  $\gamma_{\langle p_1^1, \dots, p_{m_1}^1, p_1^2, \dots, p_1^n, \dots, p_{m_n}^n \rangle}$  through the

<sup>4</sup>This type of definition is closely related to the observation in [CS10, Example 3.5] that a lax double functor is just a functor between *virtual double categories*, restricted to double categories.



image of the coherence between the composite of the path  $\langle p_1^1, \dots, p_{m_1}^1, p_1^2, \dots, p_1^n, \dots, p_{m_n}^n \rangle$  and that of  $\langle q_1, \dots, q_n \rangle$  under  $F$ . Here, we put  $q_i = p_1^1 \odot \dots \odot p_{m_1}^1$  for each  $i$ .

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{ccccccc}
 \cdot & \xrightarrow{F(p_1^1)} & \dots & \xrightarrow{F(p_{m_1}^1)} & \xrightarrow{F(p_1^2)} & \dots & \xrightarrow{F(p_{m_{n-1}}^{n-1})} & \xrightarrow{F(p_1^n)} & \dots & \xrightarrow{F(p_{m_n}^n)} & \cdot \\
 \parallel & & & \parallel & & & & \parallel & & & \parallel \\
 \cdot & \xrightarrow{\gamma_{p_1^1, \dots, p_{m_1}^1}} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\gamma_{p_1^2, \dots, p_{m_2}^2}} & \dots & \xrightarrow{\gamma_{p_1^{n-1}, \dots, p_{m_{n-1}}^{n-1}}} & \downarrow & \xrightarrow{\gamma_{p_1^n, \dots, p_{m_n}^n}} & \cdot \\
 \parallel & & & \parallel & & & & \parallel & & & \parallel \\
 \cdot & \xrightarrow{F(q_1)} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{F(q_2)} & \dots & \xrightarrow{F(q_{n-1})} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{F(q_n)} & \cdot \\
 \parallel & & & \parallel & & & & \parallel & & & \parallel \\
 \cdot & \xrightarrow{\gamma_{q_1, \dots, q_n}} & \cdot & & & & & & & & \cdot \\
 \parallel & & & \parallel & & & & \parallel & & & \parallel \\
 \cdot & \xrightarrow{F(q_1 \odot \dots \odot q_n)} & \cdot & & & & & & & & \cdot
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

The last condition for coherence cells ensures that to define a lax double functor, we only have to obtain  $\gamma_{\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle}$  for the case  $n = 2$  or  $n = 0$  and check suitable conditions, which results in the classical definition of lax functors in [GP99, Gra20].

An **oplax double functor**  $F: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$  is a lax double functor  $\mathbb{D}^{\text{vop}} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}^{\text{vop}}$ . A **pseudo-double functor** (or double functor) between two double categories is a lax functor whose coherence cell  $\gamma_{\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle}$  is invertible in  $\mathbb{E}_1$  for each path  $\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle$  of horizontal arrows. In other words, a double functor is just an internal pseudo-functor in  $\mathcal{CAT}$ .

Suppose we have parallel lax double functors  $F, G: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$ . A **vertical transformation**  $\theta: F \rightarrow G$  is a pair  $(\{\theta_A\}_{A \in \mathbb{D}_0}, \{\theta_p\}_{p \in \mathbb{D}_1})$  of natural transformations  $F_0 \Rightarrow G_0$  and  $F_1 \Rightarrow G_1$  compatible with  $\text{src}$  and  $\text{tgt}$  such that for each path  $\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle$  of horizontal arrows in  $\mathbb{D}$ , the following equation holds.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 F(A_0) \xrightarrow{F(p_1)} F(A_1) \xrightarrow{F(p_2)} \dots \xrightarrow{F(p_n)} F(A_n) & & F(A_0) \xrightarrow{F(p_1)} F(A_1) \xrightarrow{F(p_2)} \dots \xrightarrow{F(p_n)} F(A_n) \\
 \parallel & \gamma_{\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle} & \parallel \\
 F(A_0) \xrightarrow{F(p_1 \odot p_2 \odot \dots \odot p_n)} F(A_n) & = & G(A_0) \xrightarrow{G(p_1)} G(A_1) \xrightarrow{G(p_2)} \dots \xrightarrow{G(p_n)} G(A_n) \\
 \theta_{A_0} \downarrow & \theta_{p_1 \odot p_2 \odot \dots \odot p_n} & \downarrow \theta_{A_n} \\
 G(A_0) \xrightarrow{G(p_1 \odot p_2 \odot \dots \odot p_n)} G(A_n) & & G(A_0) \xrightarrow{G(p_1 \odot p_2 \odot \dots \odot p_n)} G(A_n) \\
 & & \parallel \\
 & & \gamma'_{\langle p_1, \dots, p_n \rangle} \\
 & & \parallel \\
 & & G(A_0) \xrightarrow{G(p_1 \odot p_2 \odot \dots \odot p_n)} G(A_n)
 \end{array}$$

We write  $\mathcal{DblCat}$  for the 2-category of double categories, pseudo-double functors, and vertical transformations.

For each 2-cell  $\alpha: f \Rightarrow g: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$ , we obtain another 2-cell  $F\alpha: Ff \Rightarrow Fg: FA \rightarrow FB$  in  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{E})$  as the following composite.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & FA & \\
 & \swarrow \gamma_{\langle \rangle} \searrow & \\
 FA & \xrightarrow{F(\text{Id}_A)} & FA \\
 Ff \downarrow & F\alpha & \downarrow Fg \\
 FB & \xrightarrow{F(\text{Id}_B)} & FB \\
 & \swarrow \gamma_{\langle \rangle}^{-1} \searrow & \\
 & FB &
 \end{array}$$

A straightforward discussion shows that this assignment extends to a 2-functor  $\mathcal{V}(F): \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D}) \rightarrow \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{E})$ . Moreover, a vertical natural transformation  $F \Rightarrow G$  also restricts to a 2-natural transformation  $\mathcal{V}(F) \Rightarrow \mathcal{V}(G)$  and they define a 2-functor  $\mathcal{V}: \mathcal{DblCat} \rightarrow 2\mathcal{CAT}$ .

The 2-category  $\mathcal{DblCat}$  has finite products, whose data (objects, vertical arrows, horizontal arrows, and cells) are pairs of data for each component. The terminal double category is denoted as  $\mathbb{1}$ , and the product double category of  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $\mathbb{E}$  is denoted as  $\mathbb{D} \times \mathbb{E}$ .

We move on to the illustration of several structures on double categories.

**Proposition 2.1.5.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a double category,  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  be a vertical arrow in  $\mathbb{D}$ , and  $p: X \rightarrowtail Y$  and  $q: Y \rightarrowtail X$  be horizontal arrows. Then, the (structural) 2-out-of-3 condition holds for the following three data; i.e., given any two of the three pieces of data, the other is uniquely determined under a suitable ternary relation.*

i) Companion. A pair  $(\alpha, \beta)$  satisfying the following.

$$(2.1.2) \quad \begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{p} Y \\ \parallel \beta \quad \downarrow f \quad \parallel \alpha \\ X \xrightarrow{p} Y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{p} Y \\ \parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel \\ X \xrightarrow{p} Y \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{f} Y \\ \parallel \beta \quad \downarrow p \quad \parallel \alpha \\ X \xrightarrow{f} Y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{f} Y \\ \parallel \text{Id}_f \quad \parallel \\ Y \xrightarrow{f} Y \end{array}$$

If  $f$  and  $p$  come equipped with these structures, we say that  $p$  is a **companion** of  $f$ .

ii) Conjoint. A pair  $(\gamma, \delta)$  satisfying the following.

$$(2.1.3) \quad \begin{array}{c} Y \xrightarrow{q} X \\ \parallel \gamma \quad \downarrow f \quad \parallel \delta \\ Y \xrightarrow{q} X \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} Y \xrightarrow{q} X \\ \parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel \\ Y \xrightarrow{q} X \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{f} Y \\ \parallel \delta \quad \downarrow q \quad \parallel \gamma \\ X \xrightarrow{f} Y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{f} Y \\ \parallel \text{Id}_f \quad \parallel \\ Y \xrightarrow{f} Y \end{array}$$

If  $f$  and  $q$  come equipped with these structures, we say that  $q$  is a **conjoint** of  $f$ .

iii) Adjoint in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ . A pair  $(\eta, \varepsilon)$  satisfying the following.

$$(2.1.4) \quad \begin{array}{c} Y \xrightarrow{q} X \\ \parallel \eta \quad \downarrow p \quad \parallel \varepsilon \\ Y \xrightarrow{q} X \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} Y \xrightarrow{q} X \\ \parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel \\ Y \xrightarrow{q} X \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{p} Y \\ \parallel \varepsilon \quad \downarrow q \quad \parallel \eta \\ X \xrightarrow{p} Y \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{p} Y \\ \parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel \\ X \xrightarrow{p} Y \end{array}$$

In particular, a vertical arrow with companion and conjoint produces an adjoint in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ . We call such an adjoint a **representable** adjoint.

**Definition 2.1.6.** A double category  $\mathbb{D}$  is an **equipment** if the functor  $\langle \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle: \mathbb{D}_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_0 \times \mathbb{D}_0$  is a fibration.  $\blacksquare$

Equipments are also known as ‘framed bicategories’ [Shu08] and ‘fibrant double categories’ [Ale18].

**Remark 2.1.7.** A double category  $\mathbb{D}$  is an equipment if and only if  $\langle \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle$  is an opfibration, hence a bifibration. Also, being an equipment is equivalent to the condition that for every vertical arrow  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ , there are horizontal arrows  $p: X \rightarrowtail Y$  and  $q: Y \rightarrowtail X$ , equipped with two (hence all) of the data listed in Proposition 2.1.5. Under this correspondence,  $\alpha$  in (2.1.2) is the cartesian lifting of  $(f: X \rightarrow Y, \text{id}: Y \rightarrow Y)$ , and likewise for other cells. The companion and conjoint of  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  are written as  $f_!$  and  $f^*$ . Note that the vertical composition of two cartesian cells is cartesian, and the vertical composition of two opcartesian cells is opcartesian.

By a **cartesian (resp. opcartesian) cell**, we mean a cartesian (resp. opcartesian) morphism of this bifibration. From a horizontal arrow  $p: X \rightarrowtail Y$  and vertical arrows  $f: W \rightarrow X$  and  $g: Z \rightarrow Y$ , the cartesian lift of  $(f, g)$  to  $p$  in the bifibration gives the cartesian cell as the cell on the left below.

$$\begin{array}{c} W \xrightarrow{p(f,g)} X \\ f \downarrow \text{cart} \downarrow g \\ Y \xrightarrow{p} Z \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} W \xrightarrow{q} X \\ f \downarrow \text{opcart} \downarrow g \\ Y \xrightarrow{\text{Ext}(q;f,g)} Z \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} W \xrightarrow{Z(f,g)} X \\ f \downarrow \text{cart} \downarrow g \\ Z \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c} X \\ f \downarrow \text{opcart} \downarrow g \\ Y \xrightarrow{\text{Ext}(X;f,g)} Z \end{array}$$

Here the cartesian cell is unique up to invertible horizontal cells, so we just write **cart** for the cartesian cell and call the horizontal arrow  $p(f, g)$  the **restriction** of  $p$  along  $f$  and  $g$ . Taking the horizontal dual, the opcartesian cell is unique up to invertible horizontal cells, so we just write **opcart** for the opcartesian cell and call the horizontal arrow  $\text{Ext}(q; f, g)$  the **extension** of  $q$  along  $f$  and  $g$ . In particular, as presented in the right half of the above diagrams, the restriction of  $\text{Id}_Z$  through  $f$  and  $g$  is written as  $Z(f, g)$ , and the extension of  $\text{Id}_X$  through  $f$  and  $g$  is written as  $\text{Ext}(X; f, g)$  for brevity.



The restriction  $p(f, g)$  and the extension  $\text{Ext}(q; f, g)$  are realized as  $f_!pg^*$  and  $f^*qg_!$ , respectively, using the companion and conjoint, and the cartesian cell and the opcartesian cell are realized as below.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} W & \xrightarrow{f_!} & Y & \xrightarrow{p} & Z & \xrightarrow{g^*} & X \\ & \searrow f & \parallel & & \parallel & \swarrow g & \\ & & Y & \xrightarrow{p} & Z & & \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} W & \xrightarrow{q} & X \\ \swarrow f & \parallel & \parallel & \parallel & \searrow g \\ Y & \xrightarrow{f^*} & W & \xrightarrow{q} & X & \xrightarrow{g_!} & Z \\ & \swarrow \delta & & & \swarrow \beta & & \end{array}$$

Put it another way, if we are given a cartesian cell  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  as above, then the above cell is the restriction of  $p$  through  $f$  and  $g$ . Since the  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  are cartesian cells and the  $\beta$  and  $\delta$  are opcartesian cells, we just write **cart** and **opcart** for them as well. For a comprehensive treatment on equipments, see [Shu08, §4]. ■

Here, we introduce a valuable lemma that we shall refer to as the ‘sandwich lemma’ throughout this paper.

**Lemma 2.1.8.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be an equipment. Given a sequence of horizontally composable cells*

$$(2.1.5) \quad \begin{array}{ccccccc} \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot \\ \downarrow & \text{cart} & \downarrow & \text{opcart} & \downarrow & \text{cart} & \downarrow \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot \end{array}$$

with the opcartesian cell sandwiched between two cartesian cells, the composition of these cells is cartesian. The same thing holds when swapping the roles of ‘cartesian’ and ‘opcartesian’.

*Proof.* By Remark 2.1.7, we can rewrite the diagram (2.1.5) as follows, in which the names of the cells correspond to that in Proposition 2.1.5.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccc} \cdot & \xrightarrow{f_!} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{k^*} & \cdot \\ & \searrow \alpha & \parallel & & \parallel & \swarrow \gamma & \parallel & & \parallel & \searrow \alpha & \parallel & \parallel & \swarrow \gamma \\ & f & & & & \delta & & & & \beta & & & k \end{array}$$

Because of the equalities described in Proposition 2.1.5, the middle sequence of square cells are all identities. Again by Proposition 2.1.5, this implies that the composition of the cells in the diagram is cartesian. Considering the same statement for the vertical opposite of  $\mathbb{D}$ , we obtain the dual. □

Now we define cartesian double categories as a cartesian object in the 2-category  $\mathcal{DblCat}$

**Definition 2.1.9** ([Ale18, Definition 4.2.1]). A double category  $\mathbb{D}$  is **cartesian** if  $\Delta: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{D} \times \mathbb{D}$  and  $!: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{1}$  have the right adjoints  $\times: \mathbb{D} \times \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  and  $1: \mathbb{1} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  in  $\mathcal{DblCat}$ . We say  $1$  is the (vertical) terminal object in  $\mathbb{D}$ . ■

**Remark 2.1.10.** If  $\mathbb{D}$  has the terminal object  $1$ , it serves as the terminal object in  $\mathbb{D}_0$ , and the horizontal identity  $\text{Id}_1$  is the terminal object in  $\mathbb{D}_1$ . In particular, for each horizontal arrow  $p: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ , there exists a unique cell of the following form.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{p} & B \\ & \searrow ! & \swarrow ! \\ & 1 & \end{array}$$

**Remark 2.1.11.** Let us write  $\mathcal{Equip}$  for the full sub-2-category of  $\mathcal{DblCat}$  consisting of equipments and  $\mathcal{Fib}$  for the 2-category of fibrations and morphisms of fibrations. Since we have the forgetful 2-functors  $\mathbf{V}(-): \mathcal{Equip} \rightarrow \mathcal{Cat}$  and  $\mathcal{Equip} \rightarrow \mathcal{Fib}$  that assigns  $\langle \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle$  in Definition 2.1.6 to each equipment,  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  has finite products and  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  locally has finite products, if  $\mathbb{D}$  is cartesian. Conversely, for an equipment  $\mathbb{D}$ , if  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  has finite products and  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  locally has finite products, then the functors above have lax right adjoints, but not pseudo in general. In [Ale18], there are more extensive discussions of cartesian double categories, including the proof of these results. ■

**Remark 2.1.12.** Suppose we are given parallel horizontal arrows  $p, q: A \rightrightarrows B$ . Then the product  $p \wedge q: A \rightrightarrows B$  and the terminal object  $\top: A \rightrightarrows B$  in the hom-category are defined by the following restrictions in  $\mathbb{D}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{p \wedge q} & B \\ \Delta \downarrow & \text{cart} & \downarrow \Delta \\ A \times A & \xrightarrow{p \times q} & B \times B \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\top} & B \\ \swarrow \text{!} & \text{cart} & \searrow \text{!} \\ & 1 & \end{array}$$

Moreover, we have already constructed another 2-functor  $\mathcal{V}: \mathcal{DblCat} \rightarrow 2\mathcal{Cat}$  that preserves finite products. Therefore, for each cartesian double category  $\mathbb{D}$ , the vertical 2-category  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  has finite products. ■

**Remark 2.1.13.** A cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  is naturally seen as a pseudo-monoid object in  $\mathcal{DblCat}$ . Since every invertible vertical transformation between equipments gives rise to a *horizontal transformation* (in the sense of [GP99]<sup>5</sup>) through taking companions for each component,  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  and  $\mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})$  have structures like those for monoidal bicategories. We believe that they indeed form a monoidal bicategory (=a one-object tricategory), even though no verification has been carried out on our part. ■

**Definition 2.1.14** (cf. [GP99]). Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a double category. A **tabulator** of a horizontal arrow  $p: X \rightrightarrows Y$  is the representing object of the functor  $\mathbb{D}_1(\text{Id}(-), p): \mathbb{D}_0^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$  equipped with the universal cell as follows.

$$(2.1.6) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & \top p & \\ l \swarrow & \tau & \searrow r \\ X & \xrightarrow{p} & Y \end{array}$$

In this case, we say that  $\tau$  is a **tabulating cell** of  $p$ . Therefore,  $\mathbb{D}$  **has tabulators** if  $\text{Id}: \mathbb{D}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_1$  has a right adjoint  $\top: \mathbb{D}_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_0$ . A tabulator (2.1.6) is **strong** if  $\tau$  is an opcartesian cell in  $\mathbb{D}$ . A tabulator (2.1.6) is **left-sided** if  $Y$  is the terminal object, and  $\mathbb{D}$  **has left-sided tabulators** if every horizontal arrow to the terminal object has a tabulator, which is left-sided. ■

By a ‘tabulator’ of a horizontal arrow  $p$  in the definition, we occasionally mean the span  $(l, r)$  or the vertical arrow  $\langle l, r \rangle: \top p \rightarrow X \times Y$  instead of their domain  $\top p$ .

**Remark 2.1.15.** A tabulator defined in this way only has the one-dimensional universality. This is an example of one-dimensional limits in terms of [GP99]. To modify this, we extend  $\text{Id}: \mathbb{D}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_1$  to a pseudo-functor  $\mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{H}(\mathbb{D})$ , where  $\mathbb{H}(\mathbb{D})$  is the double category of horizontal arrows in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Important though this kind of universality, it is not necessary to consider it for our aim. See [GP99, 5.3] for more details. ■

**Example 2.1.16.** Let  $\mathbb{P}rof$  be the double category of small categories, functors, and profunctors. Here, we define a profunctor  $p: A \rightrightarrows B$  as a functor  $A^{\text{op}} \times B \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ . The tabulator of a profunctor  $p: A \rightrightarrows B$  is called the ‘category of elements’ in [GP99] and ‘two-sided discrete fibration’ in [LR20]. One can readily check that this tabulator is strong. ■

**Example 2.1.17.** Two-sided split fibrations give an ‘augmented virtual double category’  $\text{spFib}$  (see [Kou22, Example 2.11]). The notion of (strong) tabulator is defined similarly in this generalised setting, and a tabulator of a horizontal arrow (=two-sided split fibration) is itself seen as a pair of functors. They are not strong in general. ■

**2.2. Orthogonal factorisation systems.** In this subsection, we review some basic notations surrounding *orthogonal factorisation systems*.

**Definition 2.2.1.** An orthogonal factorisation system (OFS) on a category  $\mathbf{C}$  consists of a pair  $(E, M)$  of classes of arrows in  $\mathbf{C}$  that satisfies the following conditions:

- i)  $E$  and  $M$  are closed under composition and contain isomorphisms.

<sup>5</sup>This horizontal transformation is weaker than what we obtain through merely rephrasing vertical to horizontal. Indeed, our definition of vertical transformation needs to be natural when restricted to the vertical category, while the horizontal transformation here shall be pseudo-natural when restricted to the horizontal bicategory. For more description of weaker versions of the notions for double categories, see [Ver11].

- ii) Every arrow  $e: X \rightarrow Y$  in  $\mathbf{E}$  is left orthogonal to every arrow  $m: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathbf{M}$ ; that is, every commutative square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\quad} & A \\ e \downarrow & \nearrow f & \downarrow m \\ Y & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B \end{array}$$

has a unique diagonal filler  $f: Y \rightarrow A$  that makes two triangles commute.

- iii) Every arrow  $f$  in  $\mathbf{C}$  factors as  $f = e \circ m$  where  $e$  belongs to  $\mathbf{E}$  and  $m$  belongs to  $\mathbf{M}$ .

$\mathbf{E}$  and  $\mathbf{M}$  are called *the left class* and *the right class* of the OFS, respectively. For a factorisation of  $f$  as  $f = e \circ m$ , we say  $m$  is the *M-image* of  $f$  if  $e \in \mathbf{E}$  and  $m \in \mathbf{M}$ .

An OFS  $(\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{M})$  is a **stable orthogonal factorisation system (SOFS)** if  $\mathbf{E}$  is stable under pullback. We also say it is **right-proper** if  $\mathbf{M}$  is a subclass of the class of all monomorphisms, **left-proper** if  $\mathbf{E}$  is a subclass of the class of all epimorphisms, and **proper** if it is both right-proper and left-proper. Furthermore, we call it **anti-right-proper** if the class of monomorphisms is a subclass of  $\mathbf{M}$ . We only treat orthogonal factorisation systems, and so we omit the adjective ‘orthogonal’ in the sequel. ■

An inspiring example of an orthogonal factorisation system is  $(\text{Regepi}, \text{Mono})$  in a regular category, where  $\text{Mono}$  is the class of monomorphisms and  $\text{Regepi}$  is the class of regular epimorphisms. It is well known that a category is regular if and only if it has a stable orthogonal factorisation system  $(\text{Regepi}, \text{Mono})$ , see [Joh02, Scholium 1.3.5] for example. We call this type of orthogonal factorisation systems **regular**.

We often draw an arrow in the left class as  $\twoheadrightarrow$ , and an arrow in the right class as  $\rightarrowtail$ . For a class  $S$  of arrows, we write  ${}^\perp S$  for the class of arrows left orthogonal to all members in  $S$ , and  $S^\perp$  for the class of arrows right orthogonal to all members in  $S$ . Note that if a category  $\mathbf{C}$  has equalisers, then anti-right-properness implies left-properness.

**Definition 2.2.2** ([HNT20]). Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a category. A *stable system* on  $\mathbf{C}$  is a class  $\mathbf{M}$  of arrows in  $\mathbf{C}$  that is stable under composition and *pullback*, that is,  $\mathbf{M}$  satisfies the following.

- i) Every isomorphism is in  $\mathbf{M}$ .
- ii) Given a composable pair of arrows  $\cdot \xrightarrow{f} \cdot \xrightarrow{g} \cdot$ , the composite  $f \circ g$  is in  $\mathbf{M}$  whenever so are both  $f$  and  $g$ .
- iii) Given a pullback square below in  $\mathbf{C}$ , if  $f$  is in  $\mathbf{M}$  then so is  $f'$ .

$$(2.2.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot \\ f' \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow f \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \cdot \end{array}$$

■

**Proposition 2.2.3.** Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a category with pullbacks and a stable system  $\mathbf{M}$ . By  $\mathbf{M}$ , we mean the full subcategory of  $\mathbf{C}^\rightarrow$  consisting of arrows in  $\mathbf{M}$ . Note that  $\mathbf{M} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{C}^\rightarrow \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  is a subfibration of the codomain fibration  $\text{cod}^\mathbf{C}: \mathbf{C}^\rightarrow \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ , for which we also write  $\mathbf{M}$ . The following are equivalent.

- i)  $({}^\perp \mathbf{M}, \mathbf{M})$  is an orthogonal factorisation system on  $\mathbf{C}$ .
- ii)  $\mathbf{M} \hookrightarrow \text{cod}^\mathbf{C}$  has a left adjoint in  $\text{Cat}/\mathbf{C}$ .

*Proof.* (This proposition is essentially the same as [CJKP97, 2.12] and also a special case of [BG16, Theorem 9].)

i)  $\Rightarrow$  ii). Let  $C$  be an object in  $\mathbf{C}$ . We show that, for each  $f \in \mathbf{C}/C$ , there exists  $\text{im}(f)$  in the fibre  $\mathbf{M}_C$  of  $\mathbf{M} \rightarrow \text{cod}^\mathbf{C}$  over  $C$  and an arrow  $\eta_f: f \rightarrow \text{im}(f)$  in  $\mathbf{C}/C$  such that, for each  $m \in \mathbf{M}$  and  $(u, v): f \rightarrow m$  in  $\mathbf{C}^\rightarrow$ , there exists a unique  $\bar{u}$  that satisfies the following condition.

$(\bar{u}, v): f \rightarrow m$  is an arrow in  $\mathbf{C}^\rightarrow$ , and the following diagram commutes in  $\mathbf{C}^\rightarrow$ :

$$(2.2.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} f & \xrightarrow{\eta_f} & \text{im}(f) \\ & \searrow (u,v) & \downarrow (\bar{u},v) \\ & & m \end{array}$$

Let  $f \in \mathbf{C}/\mathbf{C}$  be an arrow. Take a factorisation  $f = \eta_f \circ \text{im}(f)$  with  $\eta_f \in {}^\perp(\mathbf{M})$  and  $\text{im}(f) \in \mathbf{M}$ . For each  $m \in \mathbf{M}$  and an arrow  $(u, v): f \rightarrow m$  in  $\mathbf{C}^\rightarrow$ , the square below commutes, and since  $\eta_f \in {}^\perp(\mathbf{M})$ , there exists a unique diagonal filler  $\bar{u}$ .

$$(2.2.3) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} \cdot & \xrightarrow{u} & \cdot \\ \eta_f \downarrow & \nearrow \bar{u} & \downarrow m \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{\text{im}(f)} & \cdot \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \cdot \\ \downarrow \\ \cdot \end{array} \xrightarrow{v} \cdot$$

But this is precisely the same as (2.2.2).  $\square$

ii)  $\Rightarrow$  i). Let  $\text{im}: \mathbf{C}^\rightarrow \rightarrow \mathbf{M}$  be the left adjoint of the inclusion  $i: \mathbf{M} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{C}^\rightarrow$  in  $\mathcal{Cat}/\mathbf{C}$ . We write  $\eta: \text{id}_{\mathbf{C}^\rightarrow} \rightarrow \text{im} \circ i$  for the unit of this adjoint. It suffices to show the following.

$$(2.2.4) \quad \{\eta_f \mid f \in \mathbf{C}^\rightarrow\}^\perp = \mathbf{M}$$

Indeed, if this holds, we obtain an orthogonal factorisation system  $({}^\perp\mathbf{M}, \mathbf{M})$  since  $f = \eta_f \circ \text{im}_f$  gives the factorisation of each map  $f \in \mathbf{C}^\rightarrow$ .

Firstly, we show  $\mathbf{M} \subseteq \{\eta_f \mid f \in \mathbf{C}^\rightarrow\}^\perp$ . Fix  $m: X \rightarrow Y \in \mathbf{M}$  and  $f: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathbf{C}$ , and we show  $m$  is right orthogonal to  $\eta_f$ . In other words, it suffices to show that, for each  $(u, v): \eta_f \rightarrow m$ , there exists a unique diagonal filler  $k: \text{dom}(\text{im}(f)) \rightarrow X$ , satisfying  $\eta_f \circ k = u$  and  $k \circ m = v$ . However, we need only to verify this for the case when we have  $\text{dom}(\text{im}(f)) = Y$  and  $v = \text{id}$  since  $\mathbf{M}$  is stable under pullback. To put it another way, we need only to show that the function  $\mathbf{C}/Y(\text{id}_Y, m) \rightarrow \mathbf{C}/Y(\eta_f, m)$  obtained by precomposing the unique map  $\eta_f \rightarrow \text{id}_Y$  in  $\mathbf{C}/Y$  is a bijection. We observe that this bijection is obtained as the following composite of bijections.

$$\begin{aligned} \mathbf{C}/Y(\text{id}_Y, m) &\cong (\mathbf{C}/B)/\text{im}(f) \begin{pmatrix} \text{im}(f) & m \circ \text{im}(f) \\ \text{id} \downarrow & m \downarrow \\ \text{im}(f) & \text{im}(f) \end{pmatrix} \cong \mathbf{M}_B/\text{im}(f) \begin{pmatrix} \text{im}(f) & m \circ \text{im}(f) \\ \text{id} \downarrow & m \downarrow \\ \text{im}(f) & \text{im}(f) \end{pmatrix} \\ &\xrightarrow{\sim} (\mathbf{C}/B)/\text{im}(f) \begin{pmatrix} f & m \circ \text{im}(f) \\ \eta_f \downarrow & m \downarrow \\ \text{im}(f) & \text{im}(f) \end{pmatrix} \cong \mathbf{C}/Y(\eta_f, m) \end{aligned}$$

The first and the last bijections follow from the canonical equivalence  $\mathbf{C}/Y \cong (\mathbf{C}/B)/\text{im}(f)$ . The second bijection follows from the fully-faithful inclusion  $\mathbf{M}_B \hookrightarrow \mathbf{C}/B$ . The third is the transport for the sliced adjunction (see, for example, [nLa23])  $\mathbf{M}_B/\text{im}(f) \xrightarrow{\sim} (\mathbf{C}/B)/\text{im}(f)$  induced from the adjunction  $i: \mathbf{M}_B \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathbf{C}/B: \text{im}$ , which sends a map  $u: \langle \text{im}(f), \text{id} \rangle \rightarrow \langle m \circ \text{im}(f), m \rangle$  to  $\eta_f \circ u$ .

Secondly, we show the converse  $\{\eta_f \mid f \in \mathbf{C}^\rightarrow\}^\perp \subseteq \mathbf{M}$ . Let  $g$  be an arrow right orthogonal to units. In particular, there is a unique diagonal filler  $k: \text{dom}(\text{im}(g)) \rightarrow \text{dom}(g)$  for the map  $(\text{id}, \text{im}(g)): \eta_g \rightarrow g$  in  $\mathbf{C}^\rightarrow$ , which gives a retraction of  $\eta_g$ . On the other hand,  $k \circ \eta_g$  is a diagonal filler for the map  $(\eta_g, \text{im}(g)): \eta_g \rightarrow \text{im}(g)$ , as shown below:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \cdot & \xrightarrow{\eta_g} & \cdot \\ \eta_g \downarrow & \nearrow k & \downarrow \text{im}(g) \\ \cdot & \xrightarrow{\text{im}(g)} & \cdot \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \cdot \\ \downarrow \\ \cdot \end{array} \xrightarrow{g} \cdot$$

Therefore,  $k \circ \eta_g$  coincides with  $\text{id}$  for the uniqueness of diagonal filler.  $\square$

We obtain a characterisation of an OFS as a subfibration of the codomain fibration through the proposition above. Moreover, the stability conditions for an OFS can be specified using the terminology from the theory of fibrations.

**Fact 2.2.4** ([CJKP97, 2.12], [HJ03, Corollary 3.9]). *Let  $(\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{M})$  be an orthogonal factorisation system and write  $\mathbf{M}$  and  $\text{im}$  for the corresponding subfibration and the reflection discussed in the above proposition. The following are equivalent.*

- i)  $(\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{M})$  is a stable orthogonal factorisation system.
- ii) The reflection  $\text{im}: \text{cod}^{\mathbf{C}} \rightarrow \mathbf{M}$  is a fibred functor.
- iii)  $\mathbf{M}$  is strongly BC as a bifibration in the sense of [Shu08].

Here, a bifibration is defined to be *strongly BC* if the Beck-Chevalley condition holds for all pullback squares in the base category as a bifibration, according to [Shu08, Definition 13.21]. The paper distinguishes the notion of strongly BC bifibrations from a weaker notion of BC bifibrations called *weakly BC* bifibrations, in which the Beck-Chevalley condition holds only for pullback squares one of whose legs is a product projection.

### 3. AXIOMATISING DOUBLE CATEGORIES OF RELATIONS

**3.1. Beck-Chevalley pullbacks.** To begin with, we recall from [WW08] the notion of the *Beck-Chevalley condition*, interpreted in terms of double categories.

**Definition 3.1.1** (cf. [WW08, 2.4]). Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a double category, and consider a square of vertical arrows filled with a vertical cell  $\alpha$  of the form on the left below. We say this square with a cell satisfies the *Beck-Chevalley condition* if there exists a horizontal arrow  $p: B \rightarrow C$  and  $\alpha$  factors as an opcartesian cell followed by a cartesian cell as shown in the right below:

$$(3.1.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ g \swarrow & & \searrow f \\ B & \alpha & C \\ h \searrow & & \swarrow k \\ & D & \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ g \swarrow & & \searrow f \\ B & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & C \\ h \searrow & \xrightarrow{\text{cart}} & \swarrow k \\ & D & \end{array}$$

Although this condition is defined for a square filled with a vertical cell, we often abuse the terminology and say that a cell  $\alpha$  satisfies the Beck-Chevalley condition when the square is evidently recognised from the context.

Suppose we have a commutative square  $g \circ h = f \circ k$  in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ . Note that there exist two squares,  $\text{Id}: g \circ h \Rightarrow f \circ k$  and  $\text{Id}: f \circ k \Rightarrow g \circ h$ , corresponding to this square. When we say such a commutative square satisfies the Beck-Chevalley condition, we mean that both of the horizontal identity squares in  $\mathbb{D}$  corresponding to the commutative square satisfies the Beck-Chevalley condition. ■

We explain how this concept coincides with that in [WW08, LWW10]. Take a cartesian bicategory  $\mathcal{B}$  whose subcategory of maps  $\mathcal{M} \subset \mathcal{B}$  is a 2-category, and we can construct an equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  satisfying  $\mathcal{B} = \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  and  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  (see [Ver11, Ale18] for more details). Then the notion of the Beck-Chevalley condition for this equipment is the same as what is defined in [WW08], and further investigated in [LWW10].

However, the following definitions for *pullback squares* slightly differ from those in the literature. This is because they deal with *bipullbacks* in the bicategory  $\mathcal{M} = \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$ , while we consider pullbacks in the category  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .

**Definition 3.1.2.** A *Beck-Chevalley pullback square* in  $\mathbb{D}$  is a pullback square in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  as presented on the left below for which the identity cells placed in both directions as in the diagrams in the middle and on the right satisfy the Beck-Chevalley condition.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} P & \xrightarrow{s} & A \\ t \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow f \\ B & \xrightarrow{g} & C \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & P & \\ s \swarrow & & \searrow t \\ A & \text{Id} & C \\ f \searrow & & \swarrow g \\ & B & \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & P & \\ t \swarrow & & \searrow s \\ C & \text{Id} & A \\ g \searrow & & \swarrow f \\ & B & \end{array}$$

We say a double category  $\mathbb{D}$  *has the Beck-Chevalley pullbacks* if the vertical category  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  has pullbacks and their pullback squares are all Beck-Chevalley pullback squares. ■

**Definition 3.1.3.** We say a vertical arrow  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a *cover* if the commutative square on the left satisfies the Beck-Chevalley condition. Dually,  $f$  is an *inclusion* if the commutative square on

the right satisfies the Beck-Chevalley condition.

$$(3.1.2) \quad \begin{array}{c} A \\ \swarrow f \quad \searrow f \\ B \quad = \quad B \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ B \end{array} , \quad \begin{array}{c} A \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ A \quad = \quad A \\ \swarrow f \quad \searrow f \\ B \end{array}$$

We let  $\text{Cov}(\mathbb{D})$  and  $\text{Inc}(\mathbb{D})$  denote the class of covers and inclusions in  $\mathbb{D}$ , respectively. ■

**Remark 3.1.4.** In other words,  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is an inclusion if the restriction  $B(f, f)$  is isomorphic to the horizontal identity  $\text{Id}_A$ , and  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is a cover if the extension  $\text{Ext}(A; f, f)$  is isomorphic to the horizontal identity  $\text{Id}_B$ . With inclusions and covers, we gain a better command of the diagrammatic calculation of cartesian and opcartesian cells via the sandwich lemma [Lemma 2.1.8](#). For example, the following cells are all cartesian, where  $\hookrightarrow$  and  $\twoheadrightarrow$  denote an inclusion and a cover, respectively.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot & , & \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \\ \downarrow \text{opcart} \quad \downarrow \text{cart} & , & \downarrow \text{cart} \quad \downarrow \text{cart} \\ \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot & , & \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \end{array} , \quad \begin{array}{c} \cdot \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \\ \downarrow \text{opcart} \quad \downarrow \text{opcart} \\ \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \xrightarrow{\quad} \cdot \end{array}$$

**Lemma 3.1.5.** *In a double category with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks, every monomorphism in its vertical category is an inclusion.*

*Proof.* The commutative square on the right in (3.1.2) is a pullback square if  $f$  is a monomorphism. □

As a special case of Beck-Chevalley pullbacks, we shall introduce the following notion, which is of interest in the context.

**Definition 3.1.6** (cf. [\[LWW10, Definition 3.10\]](#), [\[CW87, Definition 2.1\]](#), [\[WW08, Definition 3.1\]](#)). Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a cartesian double category, and  $X \in \mathbb{D}$  be an object. Then we say  $X$  is **discrete** if the following three pullback squares in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  satisfy the Beck-Chevalley condition.

(3.1.3)

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ \swarrow \quad \searrow \\ X \quad \quad X \\ \swarrow \Delta \quad \searrow \Delta \\ X \times X \end{array} , \quad \begin{array}{c} X \\ \swarrow \Delta \quad \searrow \Delta \\ X \times X \quad X \times X \\ \swarrow \text{id}_X \times \Delta \quad \searrow \Delta \times \text{id}_X \\ X \times X \times X \end{array} , \quad \begin{array}{c} X \\ \swarrow \Delta \quad \searrow \Delta \\ X \times X \quad X \times X \\ \swarrow \Delta \times \text{id}_X \quad \searrow \text{id}_X \times \Delta \\ X \times X \times X \end{array}$$

Equivalently, we say  $X$  is discrete if  $\Delta$  is an inclusion and the pullback square formed by pulling back  $\Delta \times \text{id}_X$  along  $\text{id}_X \times \Delta$  is a Beck-Chevalley pullback square.

We say a cartesian equipment is **discrete** if every object is discrete. ■

Since all the three identity cells in (3.1.3) are made of pullbacks squares, a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks is discrete.

**Remark 3.1.7.** In [\[WW08\]](#), a *Frobenius object* is defined as an object  $X$  such that the latter two cells in (3.1.3) satisfy the Beck-Chevalley condition, while in [\[LWW10\]](#), an object satisfying the Beck-Chevalley for the first cell in (3.1.3) is called a *separable object*. In other words, a separable object is an object  $A$  whose diagonal  $\Delta: A \rightarrow A \times A$  is an inclusion. Moreover, since the horizontal identity  $\text{Id}_{A \times A}$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Id}_A \times \text{Id}_A$ ,  $A$  is separable if and only if the projection for the local product  $\text{Id}_A \wedge \text{Id}_A \rightarrow \text{Id}_A$  is invertible. ■

Allegories were defined in [\[FS90, Joh02\]](#) to construct an abstract framework of the category of relations. The definition involves a condition called the *modular law*, which states that for any morphisms  $\varphi: A \rightarrow B, \psi: B \rightarrow C$  and  $\chi: A \rightarrow C$ , the following inequality holds:

$$\varphi\psi \wedge \chi \leq \varphi(\psi \wedge \varphi\chi)$$



where  $\varphi^\circ$  is the involution of  $\varphi$ . If  $\varphi$  is of the form  $f^*$  for some map  $f$ , then the opposite inequality follows from the counit of the adjunction  $(f^*)^\circ \dashv f^*$ . The equality for this case is sometimes called the *Frobenius condition* as an instance of Frobenius reciprocity for adjoint functors.

**Definition 3.1.8.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a cartesian equipment. We say  $\mathbb{D}$  satisfies the **modular law for vertical arrows** if, for any vertical arrow  $f$  and any two horizontal arrows  $R, S$  of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \\ f \downarrow & & \\ X & \xrightarrow{S} & B \end{array},$$

the cell on the left below factors as an opcartesian cell followed by a cartesian cell as in the right below.

$$(3.1.4) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B \\ \langle \text{id}, f \rangle \downarrow & \text{cart} & \downarrow \Delta \\ A \times X & \xrightarrow{R \times S} & B \times B \\ f \times \text{id} \downarrow & \text{opcart} & \parallel \\ X \times X & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B \times B \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B \\ f \downarrow & \text{opcart} & \parallel \\ X & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B \\ \Delta \downarrow & \text{cart} & \downarrow \Delta \\ X \times X & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B \times B \end{array}$$

Since the local product  $\wedge$  in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(A, B)$  is given by the restriction along the diagonals, the top horizontal arrow of the cartesian cell on the right is  $f^*R \wedge S$ . On the other hand, the bottom horizontal arrow of the opcartesian cell on the left is  $f^*(R \wedge f_!S)$ . The modular law for vertical arrows, therefore, states the existence of an isomorphism  $f^*R \wedge S \cong f^*(R \wedge f_!S)$  for any  $f$ ,  $R$ , and  $S$ , which deserves its name.

**Proposition 3.1.9.** A cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  satisfies the modular law for vertical arrows if  $\mathbb{D}$  has Beck-Chevalley pullbacks.

*Proof.* Since a square  $f \circ \Delta = \langle \text{id}, f \rangle \circ (f \times \text{id})$  is a pullback, the right-hand composition in (3.1.4) is achieved as follows.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & A & & B & \\ & \swarrow f & & \searrow \Delta & \\ X & \xrightarrow{\quad} & A \times X & \xrightarrow{R \times S} & B \times B & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B \\ & \searrow \Delta & \swarrow f \times \text{id} & \searrow \Delta^* & \swarrow \Delta & \\ & X \times X & & B \times B & \end{array}$$

(Note: The diagram above is a simplified representation of the complex commutative diagram in the image, showing the factorization of the right-hand composition in (3.1.4).)

This diagram gives the desired factorisation by Lemma 2.1.8. □

**Definition 3.1.10.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a cartesian equipment, and  $X$  be an object of  $\mathbb{D}$ . We say  $X$  is **self-dual** if there exist horizontal arrows  $\eta_X: 1 \rightarrow X \times X$  and  $\varepsilon_X: X \times X \rightarrow 1$  equipped with horizontal isomorphisms  $(\eta_X \times \text{Id}_X)(\text{Id}_X \times \varepsilon_X) \cong \text{Id}_X$  and  $(\text{Id}_X \times \eta_X)(\varepsilon_X \times \text{Id}_X) \cong \text{Id}_X$ .

Given a vertical arrow  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ , we say  $f$  is **self-dual** if both  $X$  and  $Y$  are self-dual and two cells

$$\begin{array}{ccc} 1 & \xrightarrow{\eta_X} & X \times X \\ \parallel & \eta_f & \downarrow f \times f \\ 1 & \xrightarrow{\eta_Y} & Y \times Y \end{array} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{ccc} X \times X & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_X} & 1 \\ f \times f \downarrow & \varepsilon_f & \parallel \\ Y \times Y & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_Y} & 1 \end{array}$$

exist and satisfy the following equalities.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_X \times \eta_X} & X \times X \times X \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_X \times \text{Id}_X} X \\ f \downarrow & \text{Id}_f \times \eta_f & f \times f \times f \downarrow \varepsilon_f \times \text{Id}_f \\ Y & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_Y \times \eta_Y} & Y \times Y \times Y \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_Y \times \text{Id}_Y} Y \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ Y & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_Y} & Y \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_X \times \eta_X} & X \times X \times X \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_X \times \text{Id}_X} X \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ X & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_X} & X \\ f \downarrow & \text{Id}_f & \downarrow f \\ Y & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_Y} & Y \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\begin{array}{c} X \\ \downarrow f \\ Y \\ \parallel \\ Y \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\eta_X \times \text{Id}_X} X \times X \times X \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_X \times \varepsilon_X} X \\ \eta_f \times \text{Id}_f \quad f \times f \times f \quad \text{Id}_f \times \varepsilon_f \\ \xrightarrow{\eta_Y \times \text{Id}_Y} Y \times Y \times Y \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_Y \times \varepsilon_Y} Y \\ \parallel \\ Y \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} X \\ \downarrow f \\ Y \end{array} \\
& \parallel & \\
& \text{Id}_Y &
\end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc}
\begin{array}{c} X \\ \parallel \\ X \\ \downarrow f \\ Y \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{\eta_X \times \text{Id}_X} X \times X \times X \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_X \times \varepsilon_X} X \\ \parallel \\ \text{Id}_X \\ \parallel \\ \text{Id}_f \\ \parallel \\ \text{Id}_Y \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} X \\ \parallel \\ X \\ \downarrow f \\ Y \end{array}
\end{array}$$

In other words, there exist invertible 2-cells  $(\text{Id}_f \times \eta_f)(\varepsilon_f \times \text{Id}_f) \cong \text{Id}_f$  and  $(\eta_f \times \text{Id}_f)(\text{Id}_f \times \varepsilon_f) \cong \text{Id}_f$  in  $\mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})$  that are compatible with those for  $X$  and  $Y$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Remark 3.1.11.** For each triple of self-dual objects  $X, Y, Z$ , the mapping  $p \mapsto (\text{Id}_Z \times p)(\varepsilon_Z \times \text{Id}_Y)$  defines an equivalence  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(X, Z \times Y) \simeq \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(Z \times X, Y)$ . The pseudo-inverse of this equivalence is given by the mapping  $q \mapsto (\eta_Z \times \text{Id}_X)(\text{Id}_Z \times q)$ . Dually, the mapping  $p \mapsto (\text{Id}_X \times \eta_Z)(p \times \text{Id}_Z)$  defines another equivalence  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(X \times Z, Y) \simeq \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(X, Y \times Z)$ .

The composition of these two equivalences in particular cases gives an equivalence  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(X, Y) \simeq \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(Y, X)$ , which we write  $p \mapsto p^\dagger = (\text{Id}_Y \times \eta_X)(\text{Id}_Y \times p \times \text{Id}_X)(\varepsilon_Y \times \text{Id}_X)$ .

In the same way, for self-dual vertical arrows  $f, g, h$ , we obtain the following three kinds of equivalences for cells, which are compatible with those equivalences for horizontal arrows.

$$\begin{aligned}
\alpha &\mapsto \alpha^\kappa := (\text{Id}_h \times \alpha)(\varepsilon_h \times \text{Id}_g): \mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})(f, h \times g) \simeq \mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})(h \times f, g) \\
\alpha &\mapsto \alpha^\lambda := (\text{Id}_f \times \eta_h)(\alpha \times \text{Id}_h): \mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})(f \times h, g) \simeq \mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})(f, g \times h) \\
\alpha &\mapsto \alpha^\dagger := (\text{Id}_g \times \eta_f)(\text{Id}_g \times \alpha \times \text{Id}_f)(\varepsilon_g \times \text{Id}_f): \mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})(f, g) \simeq \mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})(g, f)
\end{aligned}$$

**Proposition 3.1.12.** *In a discrete cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$ , every object and every vertical arrow are self-dual.*

*Proof.* Let  $X \in \mathbb{D}$  be an object. Define  $\eta_X: 1 \rightarrow X \times X$  and  $\varepsilon_X: X \times X \rightarrow 1$  as the following extensions.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
& X & \\
! \swarrow & & \searrow \Delta \\
1 & \xrightarrow{\eta_X} & X \times X
\end{array}
\quad
\begin{array}{ccc}
& X & \\
\Delta \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\
X \times X & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_X} & 1
\end{array}$$

We now show that these horizontal arrows give the self-dual of  $X$ . Consider the following cells.

$$(3.1.5) \quad \begin{array}{c}
\text{id} \quad \quad \quad \text{id} \\
\curvearrowright \quad \quad \quad \curvearrowleft \\
\begin{array}{ccccc}
& X & & X & \\
& \Delta \swarrow & & \searrow \Delta & \\
& \text{opcart} & & & \\
X \times X & \xrightarrow{\quad} & X \times X & & \\
\text{id} \times ! \swarrow & & \searrow ! \times \text{id} & & \\
X & \xrightarrow{\text{Id} \times \eta_X} & X \times X \times X & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_X \times \text{Id}} & X
\end{array}
\end{array}$$

The left and right cells are opcartesian because  $X \times -$  and  $- \times X$  define pseudo-functors. The Beck-Chevalley condition for the pullback square in the middle follows from the discreteness of  $X$ . Lemma 2.1.8 implies that this establishes an extension of the identity vertical arrows on  $X$ , thereby inducing the horizontal isomorphism  $(\text{Id}_X \times \eta_X)(\varepsilon_X \times \text{Id}_X) \cong \text{Id}_X$ . The other isomorphism for them to be the data of the self-dual is verified similarly.

Given a vertical arrow  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ , one can obtain  $\eta_f$  through the following equality, and  $\varepsilon_f$  can be determined likewise.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
\begin{array}{c} X \\ ! \swarrow \quad \searrow \Delta \\ 1 \xrightarrow{\eta_X} X \times X \\ \parallel \quad \quad \downarrow f \times f \\ 1 \xrightarrow{\eta_Y} Y \times Y \end{array} & = & \begin{array}{c} X \\ ! \swarrow \quad \searrow \Delta \\ Y \xrightarrow{\eta_Y} Y \times Y \\ \parallel \quad \quad \downarrow f \times f \\ 1 \xrightarrow{\eta_Y} Y \times Y \end{array}
\end{array}$$

Composing vertically the opcartesian cell (3.1.5) with the horizontal composite of  $\text{Id}_f \times \eta_f$  and  $\varepsilon_f \times \text{Id}_f$ , one can check the desired equality for the self-duality of  $f$  by a diagrammatic calculation.  $\square$

In a discrete cartesian equipment,  $\eta$  and  $\varepsilon$  are defined by the universal properties of opcartesian cells, ensuring their compatibility with vertical compositions as below.

**Lemma 3.1.13.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a discrete cartesian equipment, and consider the structure  $(\eta, \varepsilon)$  of self-duals established in Proposition 3.1.12. We have the following.*

- i)  $\eta_{\text{Id}_X} = \text{Id}_{\eta_X}$  and  $\varepsilon_{\text{Id}_X} = \text{Id}_{\varepsilon_X}$  are valid for each object  $X$ .
- ii) Given a compatible pair of vertical arrows  $f: A \rightarrow B$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$ , the following hold.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 1 & \xrightarrow{\eta_A} & A \times A & & 1 & \xrightarrow{\eta_A} & A \times A & & A \times A & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_A} & 1 & & A \times A & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_A} & 1 \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow f \times f & & \parallel & & \downarrow f \times f & & f \times f \downarrow & & \parallel & & f \times f \downarrow & & \varepsilon_f \downarrow & & \parallel \\
 1 & \xrightarrow{\eta_{f \circ g}} & B \times B & = & 1 & \xrightarrow{\eta_B} & B \times B & , & B \times B & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_{f \circ g}} & 1 & = & B \times B & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_B} & 1 \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow g \times g & & \parallel & & \downarrow g \times g & & g \times g \downarrow & & \parallel & & g \times g \downarrow & & \varepsilon_g \downarrow & & \parallel \\
 1 & \xrightarrow{\eta_C} & C \times C & & 1 & \xrightarrow{\eta_C} & C \times C & & C \times C & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_C} & 1 & & C \times C & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_C} & 1
 \end{array}$$

**Proposition 3.1.14.** *In a discrete cartesian equipment, the equivalence  $(-)^{\dagger}$  described in Remark 3.1.11 extends to an equivalence  $\dagger: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^{\text{hop}}$  in  $\mathcal{DblCat}$ .*

*Proof.* We only show  $(-)^{\dagger}$  extends to a pseudo-functor  $\dagger: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}^{\text{hop}}$ . This is because one can similarly verify that the assignment  $p \mapsto (\eta \times \text{Id})(\text{Id} \times p \times \text{Id})(\text{Id} \times \varepsilon)$  also extends to a pseudo-functor, and it gives the pseudo-inverse of  $\dagger$ .

$\dagger$  is the identity on the vertical category  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ . Firstly, considering i) and ii) of Lemma 3.1.13, we obtain the vertical functoriality of  $\dagger$ . It remains to show the horizontal functoriality.

For each  $f$ , the cell  $\text{Id}_f^{\dagger}$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Id}_f$  through the canonical isomorphism for the self-duality of  $f$ . Let  $\alpha: f \rightarrow g$  and  $\beta: g \rightarrow h$  be 1-cells in  $\mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})$ . Consider the following invertible 2-cells in this bicategory.

$$\begin{aligned}
 (3.1.6) \quad & h \xrightarrow{\beta^{\dagger} \odot \alpha^{\dagger}} f \\
 \cong & h \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_h \times \eta_g} hgg \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_h \times \beta \times \text{Id}_g} hhg \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_h \times \text{Id}_g} g \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_g \times \eta_f} gff \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_g \times \alpha \times \text{Id}_f} ggf \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_g \times \text{Id}_f} f \\
 \cong & h \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_h \times \eta_f} hff \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_h \times \alpha \times \text{Id}_f} hgf \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_h \times \eta_g \times \text{Id}_g \times \text{Id}_f} hgggf \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_h \times \text{Id}_g \times \varepsilon_g \times \text{Id}_f} hgf \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_h \times \beta \times \text{Id}_f} hhf \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_h \times \text{Id}_f} f \\
 \cong & h \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_h \times \eta_f} hff \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_h \times (\alpha \odot \beta) \times \text{Id}_f} hhf \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_h \times \text{Id}_f} f = h \xrightarrow{(\alpha \odot \beta)^{\dagger}} f
 \end{aligned}$$

The first 2-cell is given by definition, and the third one is through the canonical isomorphism for the self-duality of  $g$ . The second arises from the pseudo-functoriality of  $- \times - \times - \times - \times - : \mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})^5 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})$  by considering cells obtained from the coherence of the pseudo-monoid structure of  $\mathbb{D}$  in  $\mathcal{DblCat}$ . We omit the coherence condition for this isomorphism indeed gives the structure of pseudo-functor.  $\square$

In particular,  $\dagger$  induces an equivalence of categories  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})(A, B) \simeq \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})(B, A)$  for each pair of objects  $A$  and  $B$ . Moreover, this 2-category  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  is essentially a 1-category;

**Lemma 3.1.15** (cf. [LWW10, Proposition 3.13]). *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a discrete cartesian equipment. Then the vertical 2-category  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  is locally essentially discrete; i.e., for each pair of objects  $A, B$ , the hom-category  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})(A, B)$  is equivalent to a discrete category.*

*Proof.* It suffices to show  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  is locally preordered. For each pair of parallel 2-cells  $\alpha, \beta: g \Rightarrow f: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$ , consider the following vertical cell shown on the left below. The vertical arrow  $\Delta$

being an inclusion assures that this uniquely factors through  $\Delta$  as follows.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & A & \\
 g \swarrow & \downarrow \Delta & \searrow f \\
 B & = A \times A = & B \\
 \Delta \searrow & \downarrow g \times g \quad (\alpha \times \beta) \quad \downarrow f \times f & \swarrow \Delta \\
 & B \times B & 
 \end{array} \\
 = \\
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & A & \\
 g \swarrow & \downarrow \theta & \searrow f \\
 & B & \\
 & \downarrow \Delta & \\
 & B \times B & 
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Here, the vertical cell  $\alpha \times \beta$  is the image of the pair  $(\alpha, \beta)$  under the 2-functor  $\mathcal{V}(- \times -): \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D}) \times \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D}) \rightarrow \mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$ . By postcomposing the projections, we obtain  $\alpha = \theta = \beta$ . This follows from the fact that  $\mathcal{V}$  preserves cartesian objects, as we observed in [Remark 2.1.12](#).  $\square$

Due to the preservation of companions by any pseudo-functor, the following corollary is deduced.

**Corollary 3.1.16.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a discrete cartesian equipment, and  $f: A \rightarrow X$  be a vertical arrow. Then, the conjoint  $f^*$  is isomorphic to  $(f!)^\dagger$ .*

Using this pseudo-functor, we can deal with cells and horizontal arrows symmetrically. On the other hand, the other equivalences  $(-)^{\lambda}$  and  $(-)^{\kappa}$  described in [Remark 3.1.11](#) enable us to ‘tilt’ cells and horizontal arrows to the left and right:

**Lemma 3.1.17.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a discrete cartesian equipment and fix two vertical arrows  $f: A \rightarrow A'$  and  $g: B \rightarrow B'$ . Let  $(p: A \rightarrow B, q: A \times B \rightarrow 1, r: B \rightarrow A)$  and  $(p': A' \rightarrow B', q': A' \times B' \rightarrow 1, r': B' \rightarrow A')$  be triples of corresponding horizontal arrows under the equivalence in [Remark 3.1.11](#). Then, there are bijective correspondences among cells of the following forms.*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A \xrightarrow{p} B & \parallel & A \times B \xrightarrow{q} 1 \\
 f \downarrow \quad \alpha \quad \downarrow g & & f \times g \downarrow \quad \beta \quad \parallel \\
 A' \xrightarrow{p'} B' & \parallel & A' \times B' \xrightarrow{q'} 1
 \end{array}
 \quad \parallel \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 B \xrightarrow{r} A & & \\
 g \downarrow \quad \gamma \quad \downarrow f & & \\
 B' \xrightarrow{r'} A' & & 
 \end{array}$$

Moreover, they are vertically functorial. This means that for additional vertical arrows  $f': A' \rightarrow A''$  and  $g': B' \rightarrow B''$ , and a triple  $(p'': A'' \rightarrow B'', q'': A'' \times B'' \rightarrow 1, r'': B'' \rightarrow A'')$ , the correspondences are compatible with the vertical composition of cells. In particular,  $\alpha$  is (op)cartesian if and only if  $\gamma$  is as well.

*Proof.* We see the correspondence between  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , and the other correspondences is similarly verified. We have the adjoint equivalence  $(-)^{\kappa}: \mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})(f, g) \xrightarrow{\sim} \mathcal{C}_h(\mathbb{D})(f \times g, \text{id}_1) : (-)_{\kappa}$ , where  $(-)^{\kappa}$  is the pseudo-inverse of  $(-)^{\kappa}$  defined in [Remark 3.1.11](#). Let  $\varphi: \text{id} \cong (-^{\kappa})_{\kappa}$  and  $\psi: (-^{\kappa})^{\kappa} \cong \text{id}$  be the invertible unit and counit.

For pairs  $(p, q)$  and  $(p', q')$  of corresponding horizontal arrows, fix invertible horizontal cells  $\zeta: q \cong p^{\kappa}$  and  $\zeta': q' \cong p'^{\kappa}$ . Consider the following assignments.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 A \times B \xrightarrow{q} 1 \\
 \parallel \quad \zeta \quad \parallel \\
 A \xrightarrow{p} B & \xrightarrow{p^{\kappa}} & A \times B \xrightarrow{q} 1 \\
 f \downarrow \quad \alpha \quad \downarrow g & \mapsto & f \times g \downarrow \quad \alpha^{\kappa} \quad \downarrow \\
 A' \xrightarrow{p'} B' & \xrightarrow{p'^{\kappa}} & A' \times B' \xrightarrow{q'} 1 \\
 \parallel \quad \zeta'^{-1} \quad \parallel \\
 A' \times B' \xrightarrow{q'} 1
 \end{array} & , & \begin{array}{ccc}
 A \times B \xrightarrow{q} 1 & \xrightarrow{q^{\kappa}} & A \times B \xrightarrow{q} 1 \\
 f \times g \downarrow \quad \beta \quad \parallel & \mapsto & g \downarrow \quad \beta_{\kappa} \quad \downarrow f \\
 A' \times B' \xrightarrow{q'} 1 & \xrightarrow{q'^{\kappa}} & A' \times B' \xrightarrow{q'} 1 \\
 \parallel \quad \zeta'_{\kappa} \circ \varphi_{p'}^{-1} \quad \parallel \\
 A' \xrightarrow{p'} B'
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Both assignments are vertically functorial by the vertical functoriality of  $(-)^{\kappa}$  and  $(-)^{\kappa}$  in [Lemma 3.1.13](#). To show that they are mutually inverse, consider the following equations in the category  $\mathbb{D}_1$  consisting

of horizontal arrows and cells in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Starting from  $\alpha$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} p &\xrightarrow{\varphi_p} (p^\kappa)_\kappa \xrightarrow{\zeta_\kappa^{-1}} q_\kappa \xrightarrow{(\zeta_\kappa \alpha^\kappa \zeta')^{-1}_\kappa} q'_\kappa \xrightarrow{(\zeta'_\kappa)^{-1}} (p'^\kappa)_\kappa \xrightarrow{(\varphi_{p'})^{-1}} p' \\ &= p \xrightarrow{\varphi_p} (p^\kappa)_\kappa \xrightarrow{(\alpha^\kappa)_\kappa} (p'^\kappa)_\kappa \xrightarrow{(\varphi_{p'})^{-1}} p' = p \xrightarrow{\alpha} p'. \end{aligned}$$

The last equality follows from the naturality of  $\varphi$ .

On the other hand, starting from  $\beta$ , we have

$$\begin{aligned} q &\xrightarrow{\zeta} p^\kappa \xrightarrow{(\varphi_p \zeta_\kappa^{-1} \beta_\kappa \zeta'_\kappa \varphi_{p'}^{-1})^\kappa} p'^\kappa \xrightarrow{\zeta'^{-1}} q' \\ &= q \xrightarrow{\zeta} p^\kappa \xrightarrow{(\psi_{p^\kappa})^{-1}} ((p^\kappa)_\kappa)^\kappa \xrightarrow{((\zeta^{-1} \beta \zeta')_\kappa)^\kappa} ((p'^\kappa)_\kappa)^\kappa \xrightarrow{(\psi_{p'^\kappa})^\kappa} p'^\kappa \xrightarrow{\zeta'^{-1}} q' \\ &= q \xrightarrow{\zeta} p^\kappa \xrightarrow{\zeta^{-1}} q \xrightarrow{\beta} q' \xrightarrow{\zeta'} p'^\kappa \xrightarrow{\zeta'^{-1}} q' = q \xrightarrow{\beta} q'. \end{aligned}$$

In the first equality, we turn to the triangle identity for  $\varphi$  and  $\psi$ , yielding  $(\varphi_p)^\kappa = (\psi_{p^\kappa})^{-1}$ . The second equality follows from the naturality of  $\psi$ .  $\square$

Composing the opcartesian cell defining  $\varepsilon$  in [Proposition 3.1.12](#), we obtain;

**Lemma 3.1.18.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a discrete cartesian equipment, and  $f, g: A \rightarrow X$  be parallel vertical arrows. Suppose that  $p: X \rightarrow Y$  and  $\bar{p}: X \times Y \rightarrow 1$  correspond to each other as described in [Remark 3.1.11](#). Then, cells of the form on the left bijectively correspond to cells of the form on the right*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow g \\ X & \xrightarrow{\bar{p}} & Y \end{array} \quad \Bigg\| \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ \langle f, g \rangle \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ X \times Y & \xrightarrow{\bar{p}} & 1 \end{array},$$

through the following function.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow g \\ X & \xrightarrow{\bar{p}} & Y \end{array} \quad \mapsto \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} & & A & & \\ & & \Delta \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ & & \text{opcart} & & \\ & A \times A & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_X} & & 1 \\ f \times g \swarrow & & \searrow g \times g & & \varepsilon_g \\ X \times Y & \xrightarrow{p \times \text{Id}} & Y \times Y & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_Y} & 1 \end{array}$$

In particular,  $\alpha$  is tabulating / opcartesian if and only if  $\bar{\alpha}$  is as well.

*Proof.* The bijective correspondence follows from [Lemma 3.1.17](#) and the universal property of the opcartesian cell, and by tracking the bijective correspondence, one can also check that  $\alpha$  is tabulating if and only if  $\bar{\alpha}$  is as well.

It remains to show that  $\alpha$  is opcartesian if and only if  $\bar{\alpha}$  is as well. Suppose that  $\bar{\alpha}$  is opcartesian. We can observe the following bijective correspondences. Specifically, the leftmost correspondence arises from the above function, while the rightmost one stems from the one we have observed in [Lemma 3.1.17](#). The one in the middle results from the opcartesian cell  $\bar{\alpha}$ . Therefore,  $\zeta_1$  bijectively corresponds to  $\zeta_2$ , which arises from the precomposition of  $\alpha$  because of the vertical functoriality of the correspondences in [Lemma 3.1.17](#). It follows that  $\alpha$  is opcartesian.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow g \\ X & & Y \\ h \downarrow & \zeta_1 & \downarrow k \\ C & \xrightarrow{\bar{q}} & D \end{array} \quad \Bigg\| \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ \langle f, g \rangle \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ X \times Y & & 1 \\ h \times k \downarrow & \bar{\zeta}_1 & \downarrow \\ C \times D & \xrightarrow{\bar{q}} & 1 \end{array} \quad \Bigg\| \quad \begin{array}{ccc} X \times Y & \xrightarrow{\bar{p}} & 1 \\ h \times k \downarrow & \bar{\zeta}_2 & \downarrow \\ C \times D & \xrightarrow{\bar{q}} & 1 \end{array} \quad \Bigg\| \quad \begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{p} & Y \\ h \downarrow & \zeta_2 & \downarrow k \\ C & \xrightarrow{\bar{q}} & D \end{array}$$

To establish the converse, suppose that  $\alpha$  is opcartesian. Consider  $\beta$  and  $q$  as the following extensions, and assume they are mapped from  $\tilde{\beta}$  and  $\tilde{q}$  by the previously mentioned function.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow g \\ X & \xrightarrow[\tilde{q}]{} & Y \end{array} \quad \parallel \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ \langle f, g \rangle \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ X \times Y & \xrightarrow[q]{} & 1 \end{array},$$

Since  $\beta$  is opcartesian,  $\tilde{\beta}$  is as well by the argument above. Therefore,  $\alpha$  and  $\tilde{\beta}$  are isomorphic through the unique cell  $\gamma: \tilde{q} \Rightarrow p$  obtained by the universal property of the opcartesian cell  $\tilde{\beta}$ . In light of the vertical functoriality of the correspondence discussed in [Lemma 3.1.17](#),  $\gamma$  corresponds to a horizontal invertible cell  $\bar{\gamma}: q \Rightarrow \bar{p}$ , which gives rise to a factorisation of  $\bar{\alpha}$  through  $\beta$ . This shows  $\bar{\alpha}$  is also opcartesian.  $\square$

**3.2. M-comprehension schemes.** We shall initiate our discourse by drawing an archetype of the double category of relations.

**Definition 3.2.1.** Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a category with finite limits and  $(E, M)$  be a stable orthogonal factorisation system in  $\mathbf{C}$ . The double category  $\mathbf{Rel}_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})$  is defined as follows.

- The vertical category  $\mathbf{Rel}_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})_0$  is precisely the same as  $\mathbf{C}$ . Therefore, objects and vertical arrows in  $\mathbf{Rel}_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})$  are the same as objects and arrows in  $\mathbf{C}$ .
- $\langle \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle: \mathbf{Rel}_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{C}$  is defined by the following pullback.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbf{Rel}_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})_1 & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{M} \\ \langle \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow \\ \mathbf{C} \times \mathbf{C} & \xrightarrow[\times]{} & \mathbf{C} \end{array},$$

where the functor  $\mathbf{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  on the right is the reflective subfibration of the codomain fibration  $\mathbf{C}^{\rightarrow} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  defined in [Proposition 2.2.3](#). The concrete description is given as follows. Horizontal arrows are M-relations in  $\mathbf{C}$ , where a M-relation  $R: A \rightrightarrows B$  is a morphism  $\langle l, r \rangle: R \rightarrow A \times B$  in  $\mathbf{M}$ . A cell of the form on the left below is an arrow  $\alpha: R \rightarrow S$  that makes the diagram on the right below commute.

$$(3.2.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \\ f \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow g \\ C & \xrightarrow{S} & D \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} R & \xrightarrow{\langle l, r \rangle} & A \times B \\ \alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow f \times g \\ S & \xrightarrow{\langle l', r' \rangle} & C \times D \end{array}$$

- The horizontal composition of  $R: A \rightrightarrows B$  and  $S: B \rightrightarrows C$  is given by the M-image of the arrow  $P \rightarrow A \times C$ , where  $P$  is the pullback of  $R$  and  $S$  over  $B$  and the arrow  $P \rightarrow A \times C$  is induced by the arrows  $P \rightarrow A$  and  $P \rightarrow C$  in the following diagram.

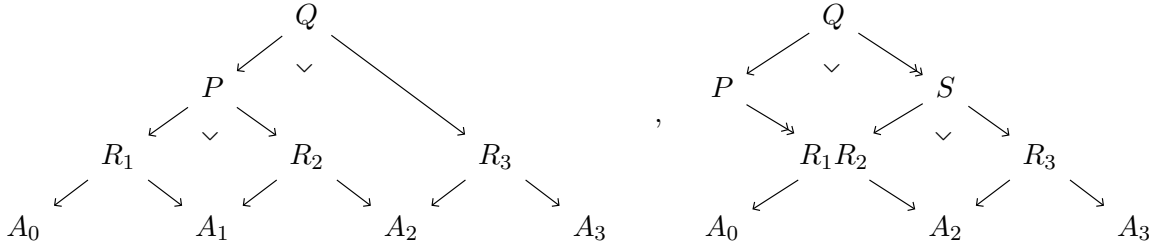
$$(3.2.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} & & P & & \\ & \swarrow & \downarrow \vee & \searrow & \\ & R & & S & \\ \swarrow & & & & \searrow \\ A & & B & & C \end{array}$$

The unit on  $A$  is the  $\mathbf{M}$ -image of the diagonal  $\Delta_A = \langle \text{id}_A, \text{id}_A \rangle: A \rightarrow A \times A$ . The composition of cells is defined using the universal property of pullbacks and the orthogonality of the factorisation system.  $\blacksquare$

**Remark 3.2.2.** The stability of a factorisation system  $(E, M)$  ensures the associativity and unitality of the horizontal composition of M-relations. To see this, observe that for any composable sequence of horizontal arrows whose data are given by  $\langle l_i, r_i \rangle: A_{i-1} \rightrightarrows A_i$  ( $i = 1, \dots, n$ ), the composite is given by the M-image of the arrow  $Q \rightarrow A_0 \times A_n$  in  $\mathbf{C}$ , where  $Q$  is the multiple pullback of  $R_1, \dots, R_n$  over  $A_1, \dots, A_{n-1}$ , (or equivalently, the composition in the double category of spans  $\mathbf{Span}(\mathbf{C})$ ), not



depending on the order of composition. For instance, take the case  $n = 3$ . In the following diagrams, every square is a pullback square in  $\mathbf{C}$ .



The composite of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  is the M-image of  $P \rightarrow A_0 \times A_2$ , where  $P$  is the pullback of  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  over  $A_1$ , and the composite  $(R_1 R_2) R_3$  is given by the M-image of the arrow  $S \rightarrow A_0 \times A_3$ , where  $S$  is the pullback of  $R_1 R_2$  and  $R_3$  over  $A_2$ . By the pullback lemma,  $Q$  exhibits itself as a pullback of  $P$  and  $S$  over  $R_1 R_2$ , and hence the arrow  $Q \rightarrow S$  is in  $\mathbf{E}$  by the stability of the factorisation system. By the uniqueness of factorisation, the composite  $(R_1 R_2) R_3$  is the same, up to isomorphism, as the M-image of the arrow  $Q \rightarrow A_0 \times A_3$  is defined from the diagrams. The unitality of the horizontal composition is also proved in a similar way. For the horizontal composition of cells, the associativity and the unitality are easily verified from the uniqueness part of the orthogonality of the factorisation system. ■

**Remark 3.2.3.** These double categories should be better understood through the  $\mathbb{F}\mathbf{r}$ -construction established in [Shu08, Theorem 14.4]. The theorem states as follows. Let  $\mathbf{B}$  be a category with finite limits and  $F: \mathbf{E} \rightarrow \mathbf{B}$  be a bifibration with fibred products satisfying the strong Beck-Chevalley condition. Then, there is an equipment  $\mathbb{F}\mathbf{r}(F)$  whose accompanying fibration is given by the base change

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{F}\mathbf{r}(F)_1 & \longrightarrow & \mathbf{E} \\ \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow F \\ \mathbf{B} \times \mathbf{B} & \xrightarrow{\times} & \mathbf{B} \end{array},$$

and its horizontal units and compositions are given in the following way, where  $\Sigma_{\perp}$  denotes the opcartesian lift.

- The horizontal unit on  $A$  is  $\Sigma_{\Delta_A}(!_A)^* \top \in \mathbf{E}_{A \times A}$ , where  $\top \in \mathbf{E}$  is the terminal object in the fibre on the terminal object in  $\mathbf{B}$ ,  $!_A: A \rightarrow 1$  is the unique arrow to the terminal object in  $\mathbf{B}$ , and  $\Delta_A: A \rightarrow A \times A$  is the diagonal arrow.
- The horizontal composition of  $R: A \rightarrow B$  and  $S: B \rightarrow C$  is given by  $\Sigma_{\pi_{A,C}}(\pi_{\text{id}_A \times \Delta_B \times \text{id}_C})^*(R \times S)$ , where  $R \times S$  is the product of  $R$  and  $S$  in  $\mathbf{E}$  over  $A \times B \times B \times C$ , and  $\pi_{A,C}: A \times B \times C \rightarrow A \times C$  is the projection.

We can apply this theorem to the fibration  $\mathbf{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  in Definition 3.2.1, where the strong Beck-Chevalley condition defined in the paper is satisfied because  $\mathbf{M}$  is a reflective subfibration. Then, we obtain the equipment  $\mathbb{F}\mathbf{r}(\mathbf{M} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}) = \mathbb{R}\mathbf{el}_{\mathbf{E},\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C})$ . ■

**Proposition 3.2.4.** *Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a category with finite limits and  $(\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{M})$  be a stable factorisation system in  $\mathbf{C}$ . Then,  $\mathbb{R}\mathbf{el}_{\mathbf{E},\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C})$  is a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks.*

*Proof.* Firstly, we show that  $\mathbb{R}\mathbf{el}_{\mathbf{E},\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C})$  is a cartesian double category, where finite products are given by the product in  $\mathbf{C}$ . The product functor  $\times: \mathbb{R}\mathbf{el}_{\mathbf{E},\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C}) \times \mathbb{R}\mathbf{el}_{\mathbf{E},\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C}) \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\mathbf{el}_{\mathbf{E},\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C})$  and the terminal object functor  $1: \mathbb{1} \rightarrow \mathbb{R}\mathbf{el}_{\mathbf{E},\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C})$  are pseudo functors because the products in  $\mathbf{C}$  are compatible with the factorisations of arrows in  $\mathbf{C}$ .

Secondly,  $\mathbb{R}\mathbf{el}_{\mathbf{E},\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C})$  is an equipment. Indeed, it is constructed by the  $\mathbb{F}\mathbf{r}$ -construction, which is proven to create an equipment in [Shu08, Theorem 14.4]. The explicit description is given as follows. The companion  $f_!$  of a vertical arrow  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is given by the M-image of the graph of  $f$ , i.e., an arrow  $\langle \text{id}_A, f \rangle: A \rightarrow A \times B$ , and the conjoint  $f^*$  is given by the M-image of the graph  $\langle f, \text{id}_A \rangle: A \rightarrow B \times A$ . More generally, the restriction of a M-relation  $R: A \rightarrow B$  along a vertical arrow  $f: C \rightarrow A$  and  $g: D \rightarrow B$  is given by the M-image of the pullback of  $R \rightarrow A \times B$  through  $f \times g: C \times D \rightarrow A \times B$ . On the other hand, the extension of  $R$  along  $h: A \rightarrow X$  and  $k: B \rightarrow Y$  is given by the M-image of the composite of  $R \rightarrow A \times B$  with  $h \times k: A \times B \rightarrow X \times Y$ .

Finally, we show that  $\mathbb{R}\mathbf{el}_{\mathbf{E},\mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C})$  has Beck-Chevalley pullbacks. To show pullback squares are Beck-Chevalley, take a cospan composed of  $f: A \rightarrow D$  and  $g: B \rightarrow D$  in  $\mathbf{C}$ , and consider the following

diagram, where every square is a pullback square in  $\mathbf{C}$ .

$$(3.2.3) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} & & \langle h, k \rangle & & \\ & \nearrow & & \searrow & \\ C & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & R & \xrightarrow{\langle l_R, r_R \rangle} & A \times B \\ \downarrow \lrcorner & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow f \times g \\ D & \xrightarrow{e} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\quad} & D \times D \\ & \searrow & & \nearrow & \\ & & \Delta & & \end{array}$$

Here, we factorise  $\Delta$  at the bottom of the diagram with respect to  $(E, M)$ . Then,  $h$  and  $k$  become a pair of legs of a pullback square of the cospan in  $\mathbf{C}$ . Moreover,  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  define cells of the following form.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & C & \\ h \swarrow & & \searrow k \\ & \alpha & \\ A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow g \\ & \beta & \\ & D & \end{array}$$

Recall the conditions for cells to be cartesian and opcartesian in  $\mathbb{R}el_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})$  described above. Since  $E$  is stable under pullback,  $\alpha$  is in  $E$  as an arrow in  $\mathbf{C}$  and hence opcartesian as a cell.  $\beta$  is cartesian because the right-hand square in (3.2.3) is a pullback square. Therefore, the two cells  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  constitute a Beck-Chevalley pullback square in  $\mathbb{R}el_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})$ .  $\square$

**Example 3.2.5.** Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a category with finite limits. We have a trivial stable factorisation  $(Iso, Mor)$  in  $\mathbf{C}$  where  $Iso$  is the class of all isomorphisms in  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $Mor$  is the class of all arrows in  $\mathbf{C}$ . Then,  $Mor$ -relations are just spans in  $\mathbf{C}$  and  $\mathbb{R}el_{Iso, Mor}(\mathbf{C})$  is nothing but the double category of spans  $Span(\mathbf{C})$  in  $\mathbf{C}$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Example 3.2.6.** Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a regular category. We have a stable factorisation  $(Regepi, Mono)$  in  $\mathbf{C}$ . The double category  $\mathbb{R}el_{Regepi, Mono}(\mathbf{C})$  is the double category of relations  $\mathbb{R}el(\mathbf{C})$  in the sense of [Lam22].  $\blacksquare$

We now formulate the desirable properties for cartesian equipments to make them look like  $\mathbb{R}el_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})$ .

**Definition 3.2.7.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a cartesian double category and  $M$  be a class of vertical arrows in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Suppose that the following cell exhibits a tabulator  $\top R$  of a horizontal arrow  $R: A \rightrightarrows B$ :

$$(3.2.4) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & \top R & \\ l \swarrow & & \searrow r \\ A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \\ & \tau & \end{array}$$

We say this tabulator is an **M-tabulator** if  $\top R \xrightarrow{\langle l, r \rangle} A \times B$  is in  $M$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Lemma 3.2.8.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a cartesian equipment with tabulators. Then,  $\mathbb{D}$  has  $Cov(\mathbb{D})^\perp$ -tabulators.

*Proof.* Let  $\langle l, r \rangle: \top R \rightarrow A \times B$  exhibit  $\top R$  as a tabulator of  $R: A \rightrightarrows B$ . Given an arbitrary commutative diagram in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$

$$(3.2.5) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{h} & \top R \\ e \downarrow & & \downarrow \langle l, r \rangle \\ Y & \xrightarrow{\langle f, g \rangle} & A \times B \end{array}$$

where  $e$  is a cover. Then, we gain a cell  $\alpha$ , as in the diagram below.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & & X \\ \downarrow h & & \downarrow e \\ \top R & & Y \\ \swarrow l \quad \searrow r & = & \swarrow f \quad \searrow g \\ A \xrightarrow[R]{\text{tab}} B & & A \xrightarrow[R]{\alpha} B \end{array},$$

The universality of the tabulator  $\top R$  implies the existence of an arrow  $k: Y \rightarrow \top R$ , which satisfies  $\langle f, g \rangle = k \circ \langle l, r \rangle$ , and also  $e \circ k = h$  again by the uniqueness part of the universality of the tabulator. This  $k$  is a filler of (3.2.5), and one can show by a similar argument that a filler is unique.  $\square$

**Definition 3.2.9** ([Lam22, §8]). Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a cartesian equipment and  $M$  be a class of vertical arrows in  $\mathbb{D}$ .  $\mathbb{D}$  admits an **M-comprehension scheme** if  $\mathbb{D}$  has strong  $M$ -tabulators and, for any morphism of type  $\langle l, r \rangle: X \rightarrow A \times B$  in  $M$ , the extension

$$(3.2.6) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} X & & \\ \swarrow l \quad \searrow r & & \\ A \xrightarrow[l^*r_!]{\text{opcart}} B & & \end{array}$$

exhibits  $X$  as a tabulator of  $l^*r_!$ . An equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a **left-sided M-comprehension scheme** for a class of arrows  $M$  in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  if  $\mathbb{D}$  has left-sided strong  $M$ -tabulators and the same condition as above holds for these tabulators; i.e., for any morphism  $f: X \rightarrow A$  in  $M$ , the opcartesian cell

$$(3.2.7) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} X & & \\ \swarrow f \quad \searrow ! & & \\ A \xrightarrow[f^*!]{\text{opcart}} 1 & & \end{array}$$

exhibits  $X$  as a tabulator of  $f^*!$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Proposition 3.2.10.** *Let  $\mathbf{C}$  be a category with finite limits and  $(E, M)$  be a stable factorisation system in  $\mathbf{C}$ . Then,  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})$  admits an  $M$ -comprehension scheme.*

*Proof.*  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})$  has tabulators in an obvious way; for a  $M$ -relation  $R: A \rightarrow B$ , we write  $\langle l_R, r_R \rangle$  for the span defining  $R$ , which is in  $M$  by definition. In  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})$ , a cell of the following form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & & \\ \swarrow f \quad \searrow g & & \\ A \xrightarrow[R]{\alpha} B & & \end{array}$$

is defined by an arrow  $\alpha: C \rightarrow R$  satisfying  $\alpha \circ l_R = f$  and  $\alpha \circ r_R = g$ , or equivalently,  $\alpha \circ \langle l_R, r_R \rangle = \langle f, g \rangle$ . Therefore, the span  $\langle l_R, r_R \rangle$  gives a tabulator of  $R$ . Furthermore,  $\alpha$  is opcartesian if and only if  $\alpha$  is in  $E$  as an arrow in  $\mathbf{C}$ , since the extension  $f^*g_!$  is given by the  $M$ -image of  $\langle f, g \rangle$ . Hence,  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})$  has strong tabulators.

On the other hand, any span  $\langle l, r \rangle$  in  $\mathbf{C}$  with  $\langle l, r \rangle: X \rightarrow A \times B$  in  $M$  defines an  $M$ -relation  $A \rightarrow B$ , and the canonical triangle cell exhibits  $X$  as its tabulator. This concludes that  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})$  has an  $M$ -comprehension scheme.  $\square$

**Notation 3.2.11.** For a double category  $\mathbb{D}$  and a class of vertical arrows  $M$ , we write  $\mathbf{M}$  for the full subcategory of  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})^\rightarrow$  consisting of all vertical arrows in  $M$ , similarly in Proposition 2.2.3. For an object  $X \in \mathbb{D}$ , by  $\mathbf{M} \downarrow X$ , we mean the full subcategory of the slice category  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})/X$  consisting of vertical arrows in  $M$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Lemma 3.2.12.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a cartesian equipment and  $M$  be a stable system. Suppose that  $\mathbb{D}$  has strong  $M$ -tabulators. Then,  $\mathbb{D}$  admits an  $M$ -comprehension scheme, if and only if the functor*

$$(3.2.8) \quad \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(A, B) \rightarrow \mathbf{M} \downarrow A \times B,$$

*sending a horizontal arrow to its tabulator is an adjoint equivalence, whose pseudo-inverse sends a span to its extension.*

*Proof.* The adjunction exists when  $\mathbb{D}$  has M-tabulators. The condition for the unit and the counit to be isomorphism is equivalent to the condition of the existence of strong tabulators and that every M-relation  $\langle l, r \rangle: X \rightarrow A \times B$  exhibits  $X$  as a tabulator of its extension  $l^*r_!$ .  $\square$

**Remark 3.2.13.** Even if  $\mathbb{D}$  does not admit an M-comprehension scheme but has M-tabulators, we can still define an adjunction between the two categories above, as shown in the proof. Alternatively, an M-comprehension scheme is a minimum structure that makes the adjunction an equivalence.  $\blacksquare$

**Proposition 3.2.14.** *The following are equivalent for a discrete cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  and a stable system  $M$ .*

- i)  $\mathbb{D}$  has strong M-tabulators.
- ii)  $\mathbb{D}$  has left-sided strong M-tabulators.

*Also, the following are equivalent.*

- i)  $\mathbb{D}$  admits an M-comprehension scheme.
- ii)  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a left-sided M-comprehension scheme.

*Proof.* The statement is a direct consequence of [Lemma 3.1.18](#).  $\square$

### 3.3. The characterisation theorem for double categories of relations.

**Lemma 3.3.1.** *We have the following tabulator in any equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  with the vertical terminal 1.*

$$(3.3.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ \parallel & \searrow & ! \\ A & \xrightarrow{\text{tab}} & 1 \\ & \downarrow & \\ & ! & \end{array}$$

*Proof.* There is a unique cell of the form on the left below because it corresponds to a cell of the form on the right, which is unique since 1 is the vertical terminal.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ A & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & 1 \\ & \downarrow & \\ & ! & \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ A & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_!} & 1 \\ & \downarrow & \\ & ! & \end{array}$$

Additionally,  $f$  is the only vertical arrow that is composed with the cell [Lemma 3.3.1](#) to give the unique cell  $\alpha$ . This proves the cell in question to be the tabulator.  $\square$

**Definition 3.3.2.** In a double category  $\mathbb{D}$  with the vertical terminal 1, we say a vertical morphism  $f: A \rightarrow X$  is a **fibration** if there exists a horizontal arrow  $p: X \rightarrow 1$  and a tabulating cell

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ X & \xrightarrow[p]{} & 1 \\ & \text{tab} & \end{array}.$$

We write  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  for the class of fibrations in  $\mathbb{D}$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Remark 3.3.3.** If  $\mathbb{D}$  has strong tabulators, then, for a fibration  $f: A \rightarrow X$  in the definition above,  $p$  is uniquely determined as  $f^*!$  up to isomorphism. Therefore, a cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a left-sided M-comprehension scheme for a stable system  $M$  if it has strong M-tabulators and  $M \subset \text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  holds.

We see this class as a candidate for the right class of an orthogonal factorisation system, but it is not closed under composition in general.  $\blacksquare$

**Example 3.3.4.** In  $\mathbb{P}\text{rof}$ , fibrations are precisely discrete fibrations, while in  $\text{spFib}$ , fibrations are defined similarly and coincide with split fibrations in the ordinary sense.  $\blacksquare$

**Lemma 3.3.5.** *In any equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  with the vertical terminal object,  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  is stable under pullbacks.*

*Proof.* Suppose there is a pullback in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  of the following form, and  $f$  exhibits  $A$  as a tabulator of  $p: X \rightarrow 1$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B & \xrightarrow{h} & A \\ f' \downarrow & \lrcorner & \downarrow f \\ Y & \xrightarrow{g} & X \end{array} , \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ X & \xrightarrow[p]{\text{tab}} & 1 \end{array}$$

Define a cell  $\bar{h}$  by the following equality. We show that  $\bar{h}$  exhibits  $B$  as the tabulator of  $g!p$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} B & & \\ \downarrow h & & \\ A & & \\ f \swarrow & \text{tab} & \searrow ! \\ X & \xrightarrow[p]{\quad} & 1 \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} B & & \\ f' \swarrow & \bar{h} & \searrow ! \\ Y & \xrightarrow[g!p]{\quad} & 1 \\ g \downarrow & \text{cart} & \\ X & \xrightarrow[p]{\quad} & 1 \end{array} \parallel$$

Fix a vertical arrow  $y: Z \rightarrow Y$ . Firstly, the cartesian cell defining  $g!p$  assures that a cell  $\alpha_1$  of the form on the left below corresponds to a cell  $\alpha_2$ . Secondly, such a cell corresponds to a vertical arrow  $\alpha_3$  below, making the diagram commute through postcomposing the tabulator of  $p$ . Finally, by the pullback assumed at the beginning,  $\alpha_3$  corresponds to another vertical arrow  $\alpha_4$  under the equality  $\alpha_3 = \alpha_4 \circ h$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Z & \\ y \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ Y & \xrightarrow[g!p]{\quad} & 1 \end{array} \parallel \begin{array}{ccc} & Z & \\ y \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ Y & \xrightarrow[g]{\quad} & 1 \\ g \downarrow & & \\ X & \xrightarrow[p]{\quad} & 1 \end{array} \parallel \begin{array}{ccc} & Z & \\ y \swarrow & \alpha_3 & \searrow ! \\ Y & \xrightarrow[g]{\quad} & 1 \\ g \downarrow & & \\ X & \xrightarrow[p]{\quad} & 1 \end{array} \parallel \begin{array}{ccc} & Z & \\ y \swarrow & \alpha_4 & \searrow ! \\ Y & \xrightarrow[f']{\quad} & 1 \\ f' \downarrow & & \\ X & \xrightarrow[p]{\quad} & 1 \end{array}$$

Tracing back the sequence of correspondences, we see that the bijective correspondence  $\alpha_4 \mapsto \alpha_1$  is obtained by postcomposing  $\bar{h}$ .  $\square$

In search of an orthogonal factorisation system whose right class is  $\mathbf{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ , we should recall the final-functors/discrete-fibrations factorisation in the category of categories, also known as the comprehensive factorisation. As we shall see afterwards, final functors are characterised in  $\mathbb{P}\mathbf{rof}$  solely by its double categorical structure. This observation incites us to consider the following definition.

**Definition 3.3.6.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be an equipment with the vertical terminal object  $1$ , and  $f: A \rightarrow X$  be a vertical arrow. We say  $f$  is **final** if the identity cell of the form below, which is the unique cell of this form because of the universality of the terminal  $1$ , satisfies the Beck-Chevalley condition.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ X & \xrightarrow[\quad]{=} & 1 \\ ! \downarrow & & \parallel \\ & 1 & \end{array}$$

We write  $\mathbf{Fin}(\mathbb{D})$  for the class of final morphisms.  $\blacksquare$

**Example 3.3.7.** In  $\mathbb{P}\mathbf{rof}$ , a functor  $f: A \rightarrow X$  is final in the above sense if and only if the colimit  $\text{colim}_{a \in A} X(x, f(a))$  is terminal in  $\mathbf{Set}$  for each  $x \in X$ , which means that the comma category  $x \downarrow f$  is connected. This is equivalent to the condition that  $f$  is a final functor in the ordinary sense.  $\blacksquare$

**Lemma 3.3.8.** *Covers are final in any equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  with the vertical terminal object  $1$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $e: A \rightarrow X$  be a cover. We have the following opcartesian and cartesian cells, which proves that  $e$  is final.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & A & \\
 e \swarrow & & \searrow e \\
 X & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & X \\
 \parallel \downarrow & \text{opcart} & \downarrow ! \\
 X & \xrightarrow{\text{cart}} & 1 \\
 ! \downarrow & & \parallel \\
 & 1 & 
 \end{array}$$

□

**Lemma 3.3.9.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be an equipment with the vertical terminal 1. Suppose that there exists a cell  $\alpha$  of the following form satisfying the Beck-Chevalley condition.*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \cdot & \\
 e \swarrow & & \searrow h \\
 \cdot & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \cdot \\
 g \swarrow & & \searrow f \\
 & \cdot & 
 \end{array}$$

*Then, if  $f$  is final,  $e$  is as well. In particular, the class of final arrows  $\text{Fin}(\mathbb{D})$  are stable under pullbacks if  $\mathbb{D}$  has Beck-Chevalley pullbacks.*

*Proof.* Utilising Lemma 2.1.8, we achieve an opcartesian cell exhibiting the extension of  $e$  and  $!$  as follows.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & \cdot & & & \\
 & e \swarrow & & \searrow h & \\
 & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & \cdot & \\
 \parallel \swarrow & & \downarrow g & \downarrow f & \downarrow ! \\
 \cdot & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\text{cart}} & \cdot & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & 1 \\
 & g! \downarrow & & & ! \downarrow & 
 \end{array}$$

Since  $g! \cong !$ , this shows  $e$  is final.

□

**Lemma 3.3.10.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a discrete cartesian equipment. Then  $\text{Fin}(\mathbb{D})$  coincides with  $\text{Cov}(\mathbb{D})$ .*

*Proof.* Since we have already shown  $\text{Cov}(\mathbb{D}) \subseteq \text{Fin}(\mathbb{D})$  in Lemma 3.3.8, we show the converse. Suppose  $f: A \rightarrow X$  is a final and consider the following cells, in which the horizontal arrow  $\varepsilon$  is the same as the one in Proposition 3.1.12. Then we obtain the whole opcartesian cell below showing that  $\varepsilon$  is presented by  $\langle f, f \rangle$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & A & \\
 f \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\
 X & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & 1 \\
 \Delta \downarrow & \text{cart} & \parallel \\
 X \times X & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & 1 \\
 & \varepsilon & 
 \end{array}$$

Recalling the definition of  $\varepsilon_f$ , we know that this cell is exactly the cell corresponding to the following vertical identity cell by Lemma 3.1.18.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & A & \\
 f \swarrow & & \searrow f \\
 X & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_f} & X
 \end{array}$$

Therefore, Lemma 3.1.18 shows that this cell is opcartesian, which means that  $f$  is a cover.

□

The following theorem generalises the *comprehensive factorisation* observed in [SW73].



**Theorem 3.3.11.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be an equipment with a terminal object such that  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  has pullbacks and  $\mathbf{M}$  be a stable system on  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ . Suppose that  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a left-sided  $\mathbf{M}$ -comprehension scheme. Then  $\mathbf{M}$  equals  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ , and  $(\text{Fin}(\mathbb{D}), \mathbf{M})$  is an orthogonal factorisation system on  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ . Moreover, if  $\mathbb{D}$  has Beck-Chevalley pullbacks, then the factorisation system is stable.*

*Proof.* Owing to Proposition 2.2.3, it suffices to show that  $\mathbf{M} \hookrightarrow \text{cod}^{\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})}$  has the left adjoint and the class of all vertical arrows left orthogonal to all arrows in  $\mathbf{M}$  is exactly  $\text{Fin}(\mathbb{D})$ .

Note that  $\mathbf{M} \hookrightarrow \text{cod}^{\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})}$  is a fibred functor since  $\mathbf{M}$  is a stable system. [Vas14, Theorem 5.3.7] shows that such an adjunction between fibrations is checked fibrewise. Therefore, to establish this, we need to show that for each object  $B \in \mathbb{D}$ , the inclusion  $\mathbf{M} \downarrow B \hookrightarrow \mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})/B$  has a left adjoint.

In other words, we need to prove that for each vertical arrow  $f: A \rightarrow B$ , there exists an arrow  $m: C \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathbf{M}$  equipped with a *unit*  $e: f \rightarrow m$  in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})/B$  that is universal. Specifically, we show that, for each  $n \in \mathbf{M} \downarrow B$ , the function  $(\mathbf{M} \downarrow B)(m, n) \rightarrow (\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})/B)(f, n)$  obtained by precomposing  $e$  is a bijection.

Let  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be an arrow in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ . We take the extension of the span  $(f, !): B \leftarrow A \rightarrow 1$  and then obtain the tabulator  $C$  of the extension, as shown below.

$$(3.3.2) \quad \begin{array}{c} A \\ \swarrow f \quad \downarrow e \quad \searrow ! \\ C \\ \swarrow m \quad \searrow ! \\ B \xrightarrow{f^*!_!} 1 \end{array} \quad \text{tab}$$

Since  $\mathbb{D}$  has left-sided strong  $\mathbf{M}$ -tabulators,  $m$  is in  $\mathbf{M}$ .

Let  $n: D \rightarrow B$  be a vertical arrow in  $\mathbf{M}$ . By the left-sided  $\mathbf{M}$ -comprehension scheme, we obtain the following tabulator.

$$(3.3.3) \quad \begin{array}{c} D \\ \swarrow n \quad \searrow ! \\ B \xrightarrow{n^*!_!} 1 \end{array} \quad \text{tab}$$

Therefore, an arrow  $\bar{u}: m \rightarrow n$  in  $\mathbf{M} \downarrow B$  bijectively corresponds to a cell of the form on the left below. Furthermore, such a cell corresponds to a horizontal cell of the form in the middle below by considering the strong tabulator in (3.3.2). The opcartesian cell defining the extension  $f^*!_!$  ensures that this bijectively corresponds to a cell of the form on the right.

$$\begin{array}{c} C \\ \swarrow m \quad \searrow ! \\ B \xrightarrow{n^*!_!} 1 \end{array} \quad \gamma_1 \quad \left\| \begin{array}{c} B \xrightarrow{f^*!_!} 1 \\ \parallel \gamma_2 \parallel \\ B \xrightarrow{n^*!_!} 1 \end{array} \right\| \quad \begin{array}{c} A \\ \swarrow f \quad \searrow ! \\ B \xrightarrow{n^*!_!} 1 \end{array} \quad \gamma_3$$

Finally, by considering the tabulator (3.3.3) again, this corresponds to a vertical arrow  $u: A \rightarrow D$ . It remains to show the bijection  $\bar{u} \mapsto u$  is obtained by precomposing  $e$  to  $\bar{u}$ . By tracing the above correspondence, we obtain the following equations.

$$\begin{array}{c} C \\ \downarrow \bar{u} \\ D \\ \swarrow n \quad \searrow ! \\ B \xrightarrow{n^*!_!} 1 \end{array} \quad = \quad \begin{array}{c} C \\ \swarrow m \quad \searrow ! \\ B \xrightarrow{n^*!_!} 1 \end{array} \quad \gamma_1 \quad = \quad \begin{array}{c} C \\ \swarrow m \quad \searrow ! \\ B \xrightarrow{n^*!_!} 1 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \text{tab} \\ \parallel \gamma_2 \parallel \\ B \xrightarrow{n^*!_!} 1 \end{array}$$

By precomposing  $e$  to these diagrams, we obtain the following equations, hence verifying  $e \circ \bar{u} = u$ .

$$\begin{array}{c}
 A \\
 \downarrow e \circ \bar{u} \\
 D \\
 \swarrow n \quad \searrow ! \\
 B \xrightarrow{n^*!} 1
 \end{array}
 \quad = \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 A \\
 \downarrow e \\
 C \\
 \swarrow m \quad \searrow ! \\
 B \xrightarrow{\gamma_2} 1 \\
 \parallel \\
 B \xrightarrow{n^*!} 1
 \end{array}
 \quad = \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 A \\
 \swarrow f \quad \searrow ! \\
 B \xrightarrow{n^*!} 1
 \end{array}$$

Here, the last equation follows from the definition of the tabulator in (3.3.2).

Now, we show the left class precisely consists of final arrows. The vertical arrows  $e$  and  $m$  in (3.3.2) give the factorisation for each vertical arrow  $f: A \rightarrow B$  as seen in the proof of Proposition 2.2.3. Vertical arrows in the left class of the resulting orthogonal factorisation system are characterised as those arrows mapped to an isomorphism by the reflection of the inclusion  $\mathbf{M} \hookrightarrow \mathbf{cod}^{\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})}$ . Therefore, it suffices to show that, for each  $f$ ,  $f$  is final if and only if  $m$  in (3.3.2) is an isomorphism.

If  $f$  is final, then  $m$  is an isomorphism due to  $f^*!_!$  being isomorphic to  $!_!$ , and its tabulator must be isomorphic to the identity by Lemma 3.3.1. For the converse, suppose  $m$  is an isomorphism. Then,  $f^*!_! \cong m^*!_!$  is isomorphic to  $!_!$ , and  $f$  is final.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.3.12.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be an equipment with a vertical terminal object and left-sided strong tabulators such that  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  has pullbacks. Suppose, moreover, that  $\mathbf{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  is closed under composition. Then,  $(\mathbf{Fin}(\mathbb{D}), \mathbf{Fib}(\mathbb{D}))$  is an orthogonal factorisation system on  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .*

*Proof.*  $\mathbf{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  is a stable system by Lemma 3.3.5, and it follows from Theorem 3.3.11 where  $\mathbf{M}$  is defined as  $\mathbf{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.3.13.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks and assume that  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a left-sided  $\mathbf{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ -comprehension scheme. If we have two opcartesian triangles*

$$(3.3.4) \quad \begin{array}{c} C \\ f \swarrow \quad \searrow g \\ A \xrightarrow[p]{} B \end{array} \quad \text{opcart}, \quad \begin{array}{c} \top p \\ l \swarrow \quad \searrow r \\ A \xrightarrow[p]{} B \end{array} \quad \text{tab},$$

then the unique canonical vertical arrow  $e: C \rightarrow \top p$  that satisfies  $e \circ l = f$ ,  $e \circ r = g$  is final.

*Proof.* Let  $\bar{p}: A \times B \rightarrow 1$  be the horizontal arrow that corresponds to  $p$  in the way described in Remark 3.1.11. By Lemma 3.1.18, we obtain the following cells whose composite is opcartesian, in which, by the proof of Theorem 3.3.11, we observe that  $e \circ \langle l, r \rangle$  gives the factorisation of  $\langle f, g \rangle$ , and hence  $e$  is final.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 C \\
 \swarrow \langle f, g \rangle \quad \searrow ! \\
 \top p \\
 \swarrow \langle l, r \rangle \quad \searrow ! \\
 A \times B \xrightarrow[\bar{p}]{} 1
 \end{array}$$

$\square$

**Lemma 3.3.14.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be an cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks and  $\mathbf{M}$  be a stable system on  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ . Suppose that  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a left-sided  $\mathbf{M}$ -comprehension scheme. Then, there is an equivalence  $\mathbb{D} \simeq \mathbf{Rel}_{\mathbf{Fin}(\mathbb{D}), \mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D}))$ .*

*Proof.* By Theorem 3.3.11,  $\mathbf{M}$  is identical to  $\mathbf{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ . We write  $\mathbb{R}$  for  $\mathbf{Rel}_{\mathbf{Fin}(\mathbb{D}), \mathbf{Fib}(\mathbb{D})}(\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D}))$  for brevity. For any horizontal arrow  $R: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , we write  $\langle l_R, r_R \rangle: |R| \rightarrow A \times B$  for the span defining  $R$ , and we mean by  $F(R)$  the extension  $l_R^* r_R!$  of the span.

By Proposition 3.2.14, we see that  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a  $\mathbf{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ -comprehension scheme, not only the left-sided one. Therefore, we have the equivalence considered in Lemma 3.2.12 below.

$$G: \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(A, B) \rightarrow \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{R})(A, B)$$

Then,  $F$  is the pseudo-inverse of  $G$ . Note that they define a fibrewise adjoint equivalence between the bifibrations defining the equipments  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $\mathbb{R}$ .

Recall again from [Vas14, Theorem 5.3.7] that a fibrewise adjoint extends to an adjoint in the slice 2-category  $\mathcal{CAT}/\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D}) \times \mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  if it is stable under reindexing functors. In this case, to show that  $F$  extends to an adjoint equivalence in  $\mathcal{CAT}/\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D}) \times \mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ , it suffices to check that  $F$  is stable under extensions; that is, for each pair of vertical arrows  $u: A \rightarrow X$  and  $v: B \rightarrow Y$  and any M-relation  $\langle l_R, r_R \rangle: |R| \rightarrow A \times B$ , the extension of  $F(R)$  along  $(u, v)$  is naturally isomorphic to  $F(\langle l', r' \rangle)$ , where  $\langle l', r' \rangle$  is the image of  $\langle l_R \circ u, r_R \circ v \rangle$  with respect to  $(\text{Fin}(\mathbb{D}), \text{Fib}(\mathbb{D}))$ . Lemma 3.3.13 shows that such a factorisation  $\langle l_R \circ u, r_R \circ v \rangle = e \circ \langle l', r' \rangle$  is obtained by considering the following tabulator.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & |R| & \\
 l_R \swarrow & \downarrow e & \searrow r_R \\
 A & \cdot & B \\
 u \downarrow & l' \swarrow \quad \searrow r' & \downarrow v \\
 X & \xrightarrow{\text{tab}} & Y \\
 & u^*F(R)v_! &
 \end{array}
 =
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & |R| & \\
 l_R \swarrow & \downarrow \text{opcart} & \searrow r_R \\
 A & \xrightarrow{F(R)} & B \\
 u \downarrow & \text{opcart} & \downarrow v \\
 X & \xrightarrow{u^*F(R)v_!} & Y
 \end{array}$$

Since tabulators are strong and  $e$  is a cover by Lemma 3.3.10, we have the canonical isomorphism  $u^*F(R)v_! \cong F(\langle l', r' \rangle)$ .

Now that we obtain an adjoint equivalence  $G: \mathbb{D}_1 \rightleftarrows \mathbb{R}_1 : F$  in  $\mathcal{CAT}/\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D}) \times \mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ , it suffices to show that they are compatible with horizontal compositions.

Recall that, for two horizontal arrows  $R: A \rightarrow B$  and  $S: B \rightarrow C$  in  $\mathbb{R}$ , the composite  $RS$  is the  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ -image of the legs of the composite of the spans defining  $R$  and  $S$ . Since  $\mathbb{D}$  has Beck-Chevalley pullbacks, we obtain the following opcartesian and cartesian cells in  $\mathbb{D}$ , where the square in the middle is a pullback square.

$$(3.3.5) \quad
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \cdot & & \\
 & \swarrow f & & \searrow g & \\
 & & |R| & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & |S| \\
 & \swarrow l_R & & \searrow r_S & \\
 A & \xrightarrow{F(R)} & B & \xrightarrow{F(S)} & C \\
 & \swarrow r_R & \text{cart} & \swarrow l_S & \\
 & & |R| & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & |S|
 \end{array}$$

Thanks to Lemma 2.1.8, the whole cell is opcartesian. The composite  $RS$  is the  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ -image of  $\langle f, g \rangle$ , and by Lemma 3.3.13, it is realised by taking the tabulator of the composite  $F(R)F(S)$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ . This means that  $F(R)F(S)$  and  $F(RS)$  are isomorphic to each other.

On the other hand, for two horizontal arrows  $p: A \rightarrow B$  and  $q: B \rightarrow C$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ , consider the cells in  $\mathbb{D}$  presented below, with  $l_p$  and  $r_p$  denoting  $l_{G(p)}$  and  $r_{G(p)}$  and similarly for  $l_q$  and  $r_q$ .

$$(3.3.6) \quad
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & \cdot & & \\
 & \swarrow f & & \searrow g & \\
 & & |G(p)| & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & |G(q)| \\
 & \swarrow l_p & & \searrow r_q & \\
 A & \xrightarrow{p} & B & \xrightarrow{q} & C \\
 & \swarrow r_p & \text{cart} & \swarrow l_q & \\
 & & |G(p)| & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & |G(q)|
 \end{array}$$

Here, the square in the middle is a pullback square. Since tabulators are strong, a similar discussion concludes that the composite  $G(p)G(q)$  in  $\mathbb{R}$  is obtained through the factorisation of  $\langle f, g \rangle$ , which is achieved by taking the tabulator of the composite  $pq$ . Therefore, we conclude  $G(pq)$  and  $G(p)G(q)$  are naturally isomorphic.  $\square$

**Remark 3.3.15.** Even if we drop the assumption that  $\mathbb{D}$  admits an M-comprehension scheme, then we can still show that there is the oplax/lax adjunction by the same construction. This is because we still have the adjunction mentioned above between  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(A, B)$  and  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{R})(A, B)$  for each pair of objects  $A$  and  $B$ , as in Remark 3.2.13. This method to construct the oplax/lax adjunction dates back to [Nie12, §5] and has further been developed in [Ale18, Lam22].  $\blacksquare$

Finally, we have:

**Theorem 3.3.16.** *The following are equivalent for a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ .*

- i)  $\mathbb{D}$  is equivalent to  $\mathbb{R}el_{E,M}(\mathbf{C})$  for some category  $\mathbf{C}$  with finite limits and a stable factorisation system  $(E, M)$  on  $\mathbf{C}$ .
- ii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks and an  $M$ -comprehension scheme for some stable system  $M$  on  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .
- iii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks and a left-sided  $M$ -comprehension scheme for some stable system  $M$  on  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .
- iv)  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  is closed under composition, and  $\mathbb{D}$  is a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks and strong tabulators.
- v)  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  is closed under composition, and  $\mathbb{D}$  is a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks and left-sided strong tabulators.

By **double category of relations (DCR)**, we mean the double categories with the conditions proven to be equivalent in this theorem from now on.

*Proof.*  $i) \Rightarrow ii)$  is proved in [Propositions 3.2.4](#) and [3.2.10](#).  $ii) \Rightarrow iii)$  is trivial and  $iii) \Rightarrow i)$  follows from [Lemma 3.3.14](#). From the same lemma,  $iii) \Rightarrow v)$  follows. To show  $v) \Rightarrow iii)$ , we can take  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  as  $M$ .  $iii) \Rightarrow v)$  and  $iii) \Rightarrow i)$  follow from [Lemma 3.3.14](#).  $iv) \Rightarrow v)$  is trivial, and  $ii)$  and  $v)$  imply  $iv)$ .  $\square$

#### 4. SEVERAL CLASSES OF DOUBLE CATEGORIES OF RELATIONS

**4.1. Local properties — proper factorisation systems.** The first local property we consider is called unit-pureness. The unit-pure condition for double categories is introduced in [\[Ale18\]](#), and Lambert develops the theory of double categories of relations based on this condition in [\[Lam22\]](#). We shall see how this condition works in the context of double categories of relations in our framework.

**Definition 4.1.1** ([\[Ale18, Definition 4.3.7\]](#)). A double category  $\mathbb{D}$  is called **unit-pure** if  $\text{Id}: \mathbb{D}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_1$  is fully faithful. In more concrete terms,  $\mathbb{D}$  is unit-pure if every cell of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_X} & X \\ f \downarrow & \cdot & \downarrow g \\ Y & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_Y} & Y \end{array}$$

is an identity cell involving  $f$  and  $g$  equal. ■

Another way to express the unit-pureness is the following: for every object  $X$ , the identity cell

$$(4.1.1) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ \text{id}_X \swarrow & & \searrow \text{id}_X \\ X & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_X} & X \end{array}$$

exhibits  $X$  as a tabulator of  $\text{Id}_X$ . What is more, the unit-pureness of  $\mathbb{D}$  is equivalent to the vertical 2-category  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  being locally discrete.

**Lemma 4.1.2.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a double category. Suppose that we are given a cartesian cell  $\alpha$  and a tabulating cell  $\tau$  of the form below.*

$$(4.1.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} & & \top C(f, g) & & \\ & \swarrow l & \tau & \searrow r & \\ A & & C(f, g) & & B \\ & \swarrow f & \alpha & \searrow g & \\ & & C & & \end{array}$$

*Then, the composite of  $\tau$  and  $\alpha$  exhibits  $\top C(f, g)$  as a comma object  $f \downarrow g$  in  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .*

*Proof.* Let  $s: Z \rightarrow A$  and  $t: Z \rightarrow B$  be vertical arrows and  $\beta$  be a cell of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Z & \\ s \swarrow & & \searrow t \\ A & \beta & B \\ f \searrow & & \swarrow g \\ & C & \end{array} .$$

Since  $\alpha$  is cartesian,  $\beta$  factors uniquely through  $\alpha$ , and  $\tau$ , in turn, gives a unique vertical arrow  $u: Z \rightarrow \top C(f, g)$ . It is the only vertical arrow that is composed with  $\tau$  and  $\alpha$  to give  $\beta$ . This is verified by consecutively applying the universal property of  $\alpha$  and  $\tau$ . Thus, the composition of  $\tau$  and  $\alpha$  exhibits  $\top C(f, g)$  as a comma object.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.1.3.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be an equipment with tabulators. Then, its vertical 2-category  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  has comma objects. In particular, if  $\mathbb{D}$  is also unit-pure, then  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  has pullbacks. Moreover, if  $\mathbb{D}$  is unit-pure and has strong tabulators,  $\mathbb{D}$  has Beck-Chevalley pullbacks.*

**Lemma 4.1.4.** *For a unit-pure double category  $\mathbb{D}$ , any cover is epic in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ , and any inclusion is monic in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .*

*Proof.* We show covers are epic, and the other is the vertical dual. Let  $e: A \rightarrow B$  be a cover in  $\mathbb{D}$ . To show  $e$  is epic, take parallel vertical arrows  $f, g: B \rightarrow C$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  with  $e \circ f = e \circ g$ . The identity vertical cell  $e \circ f \Rightarrow e \circ g$  factors through the cover  $e$ , whence we obtain a vertical cell  $\alpha: f \Rightarrow g: B \rightarrow C$  and hence  $f = g$  holds because  $\mathbb{D}$  is unit-pure.  $\square$

**Corollary 4.1.5** ([Lam22, Lemma 4.6]). *In a unit-pure double category  $\mathbb{D}$  with strong tabulators, the class of inclusions coincides with the class of monomorphisms.*

*Proof.* It follows from Lemmas 3.1.5 and 4.1.4 and Corollary 4.1.3.  $\square$

Thus, we have the characterisation of unit-pure double categories of relations described more concisely than Theorem 3.3.16.

**Theorem 4.1.6.** *For a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ , the following are equivalent:*

- i)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a unit-pure double category of relations.
- ii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is equivalent to  $\mathbf{Rel}_{E, M}(\mathbf{C})$  for some category  $\mathbf{C}$  with finite limits and a left-proper stable factorisation system  $(E, M)$  on  $\mathbf{C}$ .
- iii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a unit-pure cartesian equipment with an  $M$ -comprehension scheme for some stable system  $M$  on  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .
- iv)  $\mathbf{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  is closed under composition, and  $\mathbb{D}$  is a unit-pure cartesian equipment with strong tabulators.
- v)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a unit-pure discrete cartesian equipment with a left-sided  $M$ -comprehension scheme for some stable system  $M$  on  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .

*In particular, if ii), iii), or v) holds, then  $M$  is the same class as  $\mathbf{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ .*

*Proof.* For the equivalence of i) and ii), it suffices to show that,  $\mathbf{Rel}_{E, M}(\mathbf{C})$  is unit-pure if and only if  $(E, M)$  is left-proper. The left class of the double category of relations is the class of final morphisms, hence the class of covers by Lemma 3.3.10. If  $\mathbf{Rel}_{E, M}(\mathbf{C})$  is unit-pure, then by Lemma 4.1.4, every arrow in  $E$  is epic. Thus,  $(E, M)$  is left-proper. Conversely, if  $(E, M)$  is left-proper, then every diagonal arrow  $\Delta_X: X \rightarrow X \times X$  is in  $M$ . By the  $M$ -comprehension scheme, every cell of the form (4.1.1) exhibits  $X$  as a tabulator of  $\Delta_X$ , which shows that  $\mathbf{Rel}_{E, M}(\mathbf{C})$  is unit-pure.

By Corollary 4.1.3, the existence of strong tabulators and the unit-pureness of  $\mathbb{D}$  leads to the existence of Beck-Chevalley pullbacks. Therefore, the conditions i), iii) and iv) are equivalent by Theorem 3.3.16. In particular, this implies that  $\mathbb{D}$  is discrete if  $\mathbb{D}$  is unit-pure and has strong tabulators, and hence iii) implies v). Conversely, v) implies iii) by Proposition 3.2.14.  $\square$

We proceed to the characterisation of locally posetal double categories of relations.

**Definition 4.1.7.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a double category. We say that  $\mathbb{D}$  is **locally preordered** if there must be at most one cell framed by a pair of vertical arrows and a pair of horizontal arrows. We say that  $\mathbb{D}$  is **locally posetal** if it is locally preordered and the vertical 2-category  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  is locally posetal.  $\blacksquare$

In some papers [GP99, Ště23], a locally preordered double category is called a **flat double category**.

**Remark 4.1.8.** There are two things to note here.

Firstly, observe that given a cell in  $\mathbb{D}$ , we can take the restriction of the bottom horizontal arrow and consider it as a 2-cell in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ , and hence an equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  is locally preordered if and only if the horizontal bicategory  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  is locally preordered,

Secondly, the definition of local posetality might seem inappropriate for its name at first, but this is grounded on the fact that an equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  is locally posetal if and only if it is equivalent in  $\mathcal{DblCat}$  to one with stricter conditions: not only the vertical 2-category  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  is locally posetal, but the horizontal bicategory  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  is locally posetal. This is because equivalences in  $\mathcal{DblCat}$  loosens how skeletal the horizontal bicategory of a double category is, whereas it leaves 2-cells of its vertical 2-category essentially unchanged. ■

**Lemma 4.1.9.** *A discrete cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  is locally posetal if and only if it is locally preordered and unit-pure.*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mathbb{D}$  is locally preordered. Unit-pureness means that the vertical 2-category  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  is locally discrete. Hence,  $\mathbb{D}$  is locally posetal if it is unit-pure.

From [Proposition 3.1.14](#), it follows that  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  is 2-equivalent to its 2-cell dual  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})^{\text{co}}$  through a 2-functor that is the identity on underlying categories, and hence 2-cells in  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  are all invertible. Therefore,  $\mathbb{D}$  is locally posetal if and only if  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  is locally discrete, or equivalently,  $\mathbb{D}$  is unit-pure. □

**Theorem 4.1.10.** *A double category of relations is locally preordered if and only if the accompanying factorisation system is right-proper.*

*Proof.* Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a double category of relations and  $(E, M)$  be the accompanying factorisation system. We have  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(X, Y) \simeq \mathbf{M} \downarrow X \times Y$  for any objects  $X$  and  $Y$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ . If the factorisation system is right-proper,  $\mathbf{M} \downarrow X \times Y$  is a preordered set, making  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  locally preordered. Conversely, if  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  is locally preordered, then  $\mathbf{M} \downarrow X$  is a preorder for every object  $X$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ . In general, binary products are idempotent in a preordered set, which, for this preordered set, means that any object is monic as an arrow in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ , and this concludes  $M \subset \text{Mono}$ . □

As a corollary of the above two statements, we can cut out the intersection of the two classes already determined.

**Corollary 4.1.11.** *A double category of relations is locally posetal if and only if the accompanying factorisation system is proper.*

**4.2. Cauchy double categories of relations.** The relations between two objects in the usual sense, or Mono-relations in our terminology, are typical examples of the notion of relations. However, we need to require the category to be regular if we want to have a double category of Mono-relations as mentioned in [Example 3.2.6](#). The aim of this subsection is to determine the conditions crucial for these particular double categories of relations. To do so, we use the notion of Cauchy double categories which was introduced by Paré .

**Definition 4.2.1** ([\[Par21, Definition 19\]](#)). A double category  $\mathbb{D}$  is **Cauchy** if any adjoint  $p: X \rightleftarrows Y : q$  in the bicategory  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  is representable, namely, of the form  $f_!: X \rightleftarrows Y : f^*$  for some  $f: X \rightarrow Y$ . ■

The name comes from an observation in [\[BD86, Theorem 2\]](#) that for a small category  $\mathbf{C}$ , it is Cauchy complete if and only if every profunctor with a right adjoint profunctor from every small category to  $\mathbf{C}$  is a representable profunctor. In terms of double categories, this means that Cauchy complete categories are precisely the ones such that every horizontal arrow to it is representable in the double category  $\mathbf{Prof}$ . If we define Cauchy completeness for an object in a double category by the same condition, then Cauchy double categories are double categories in which every object is Cauchy complete.

The critical property of Cauchy double categories emerges in the following lemma.

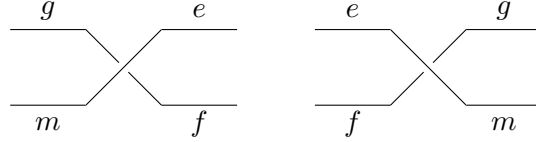
**Lemma 4.2.2.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a unit-pure Cauchy equipment. Then, every cover is left orthogonal to every inclusion in  $\mathbb{D}$ .*



*Proof.* Let  $m: A \rightarrow B$  be an inclusion and  $e: C \rightarrow D$  be a cover and suppose we are given the following diagram in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} C & \xrightarrow{g} & A \\ e \downarrow & & \downarrow m \\ D & \xrightarrow{f} & B \end{array}$$

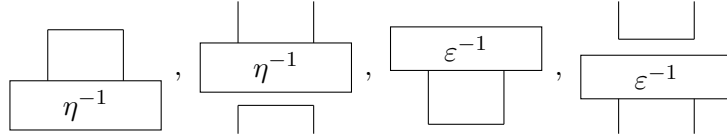
The first step is to show that  $e^*g_!$  is left adjoint to  $m_!f^*$ . We employ string diagrams for equipments which were introduced in [Mye18]. The two horizontal identity cells corresponding to this commutative square are displayed as follows:



Here we use the convention of crossing one string over another to indicate the direction of equality of vertical arrows. The unit and the counit of  $e^*g_! \dashv m_!f^*$  are given as below:

$$(4.2.1) \quad \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\varepsilon^{-1}} \\ \begin{array}{c} e^* \downarrow \quad \downarrow g_! \\ \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ m_! \quad f^* \end{array} \end{array} \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{c} \begin{array}{c} \downarrow f^* \quad \downarrow e^* \\ \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ m_! \quad g_! \end{array} \end{array} \\ \boxed{\eta^{-1}} \end{array}$$

Here,  $\eta^{-1}$  and  $\varepsilon^{-1}$  are the inverses of the unit and the counit for the representable adjunctions for  $m$  and  $e$ , respectively. They exist because  $m$  is an inclusion and  $e$  is a cover, respectively. By definition, the following diagrams all amount to vacancy or just two strings as string diagrams:



The diagrammatic argument allows us to verify the triangle identity as follows:

$$(4.2.2) \quad \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\varepsilon^{-1}} \\ \begin{array}{c} \downarrow e^* \quad \downarrow g_! \\ \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ m_! \quad f^* \end{array} \end{array} \\ \boxed{\eta^{-1}} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\varepsilon^{-1}} \\ \begin{array}{c} \downarrow e^* \quad \downarrow g_! \\ \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ m_! \quad f^* \end{array} \end{array} \\ \boxed{\eta^{-1}} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\varepsilon^{-1}} \\ \begin{array}{c} \downarrow e^* \quad \downarrow g_! \\ \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ m_! \quad f^* \end{array} \end{array} \\ \boxed{\eta^{-1}} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\varepsilon^{-1}} \\ \begin{array}{c} \downarrow e^* \quad \downarrow g_! \\ \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ m_! \quad f^* \end{array} \end{array} \\ \boxed{\eta^{-1}} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} \boxed{\varepsilon^{-1}} \\ \begin{array}{c} \downarrow e^* \quad \downarrow g_! \\ \begin{array}{c} \diagup \quad \diagdown \\ m_! \quad f^* \end{array} \end{array} \\ \boxed{\eta^{-1}} \end{array}$$

The other triangle identity is verified dually. Therefore, we have  $e^*g_! \dashv m_!f^*$ .

Since  $\mathbb{D}$  is Cauchy,  $e^*g_!$  is representable, i.e., of the form  $h_!: D \rightarrow A$  for some  $h: D \rightarrow A$ . Then,  $h$  is a filler of the square by the following argument. The isomorphism  $h_! \cong e^*g_!$  gives a cell whose vertical arrows are  $e \circ h$  and  $g$  and whose horizontal arrows are both identities, which leads to the equality  $e \circ h = g$  by the unit-pure property. The same argument shows that  $h \circ m = f$ . The uniqueness follows since  $m$  is monic and  $e$  is epic by Lemma 4.1.4.  $\square$

The Cauchyness of double categories of relations gains significance in the context of double categories of relations in its capacity to express the unique choice principle, where a unit and a counit of an adjunction  $p: A \rightleftarrows B:q$  are the double-categorical counterparts of the existence and the uniqueness of an element of  $B$  relating to each element of  $A$ . This point of view was taken by Rosolini in [Ros99], for instance. The following theorem measures the extent to which a double category of relations is capable of ‘unique choice’.

**Theorem 4.2.3.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a unit-pure double category of relations. If  $x_1: X \rightarrow A$  and  $x_2: X \rightarrow B$  give the tabulator of a horizontal arrow  $P: A \rightarrow B$  with a right adjoint, then  $x_1: X \rightarrow A$  is a cover and a monomorphism simultaneously.*

In the case of double categories of spans,  $x_1$  becomes an isomorphism. The result for this case is proven in [CKS84, Proposition 2.2] by constructing the inverse of  $x_1$  from the triangle identity of this adjunction. In the case of double categories of relations for proper factorisation systems, the same result as ours is proven in [Kel91, Theorem 3.3]. In the proof, Kelly shows that  $x_1$  is precomposed by another arrow and becomes a cover because of the existence of the unit of adjunction. Then, he uses the fact that every cover is an epimorphism to conclude that  $x_1$  is a cover. Neither of these arguments works in our case, but we amalgamate the two arguments to show that  $x_1$  is a cover, and then, we show that  $x_1$  is a mono in the same way as Kelly's argument.

*Proof of Theorem 4.2.3.* Let  $P: A \rightleftarrows B: Q$  be an adjoint pair in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ . Take the tabulators of  $P$ ,  $Q$ ,  $PQ$ ,  $QP$  and  $PQP$  as below.

$$\begin{array}{c} X \\ \swarrow x_1 \quad \searrow x_2 \\ A \xrightarrow{P} B \end{array} \quad \text{tab} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{c} Y \\ \swarrow y_1 \quad \searrow y_2 \\ B \xrightarrow{Q} A \end{array} \quad \text{tab} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{c} C \\ \swarrow c_1 \quad \searrow c_2 \\ A \xrightarrow{P} B \xrightarrow{Q} A \end{array} \quad \text{tab} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{c} D \\ \swarrow d_1 \quad \searrow d_2 \\ B \xrightarrow{Q} A \xrightarrow{P} B \end{array} \quad \text{tab} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{c} G \\ \swarrow g_1 \quad \searrow g_2 \\ A \xrightarrow{P} B \xrightarrow{Q} A \xrightarrow{P} B \end{array} \quad \text{tab}$$

The aim for now is to show that  $x_1$  is a cover. The unit of the adjunction corresponds to a vertical arrow  $\eta: A \rightarrow C$  such that  $\eta \circ c_1 = \eta \circ c_2 = \text{id}_A$ , and the counit of the adjunction ensures that  $d_1$  and  $d_2$  are the same, so we let  $\varepsilon: D \rightarrow B$  denote this arrow.

We form the following diagrams using pullbacks and the universality of tabulators.

$$\begin{array}{c} Z \\ \swarrow z_1 \quad \searrow z_2 \\ U \quad \vee \quad V \\ \swarrow u_1 \quad \searrow u_2 \quad \swarrow v_1 \quad \searrow v_2 \\ X \quad \vee \quad Y \quad \vee \quad X \\ \swarrow x_1 \quad \searrow x_2 \quad \swarrow y_1 \quad \searrow y_2 \quad \swarrow x_1 \quad \searrow x_2 \\ A \xrightarrow{P} B \xrightarrow{Q} A \xrightarrow{P} B \end{array} \quad \text{tab} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{c} U \\ \swarrow u_1 \quad \searrow u_2 \\ X = C = Y \\ \swarrow x_1 \quad \searrow c_1 \quad \searrow c_2 \quad \searrow y_2 \\ A \xrightarrow{P} B \xrightarrow{Q} A \end{array} \quad \text{tab} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{c} V \\ \swarrow v_1 \quad \searrow v_2 \\ Y = D = X \\ \swarrow y_1 \quad \searrow \varepsilon \quad \searrow \varepsilon \quad \searrow x_2 \\ B \xrightarrow{Q} A \xrightarrow{P} B \end{array} \quad \text{tab}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Z \\ \swarrow z_1 \quad \searrow \chi \\ U \quad \vee \quad W \\ \swarrow u_1 \quad \searrow \varphi \quad \swarrow w_1 \quad \searrow w_2 \\ X = C \quad \vee \quad X \\ \swarrow x_1 \quad \searrow c_1 \quad \searrow c_2 \quad \searrow x_1 \quad \searrow x_2 \\ A \xrightarrow{P} B \xrightarrow{Q} A \xrightarrow{P} B \end{array} \quad \text{tab} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{c} W \\ \swarrow w_1 \quad \searrow w_2 \\ C \quad \vee \quad G \quad \vee \quad X \\ \swarrow c_1 \quad \searrow g_1 \quad \searrow g_2 \quad \searrow x_2 \\ A \xrightarrow{P} B \xrightarrow{Q} A \xrightarrow{P} B \end{array} \quad \text{tab}$$

$$\begin{array}{c} Z \\ \swarrow \zeta \quad \searrow z_2 \\ T \quad \vee \quad V \\ \swarrow t_1 \quad \searrow t_2 \quad \swarrow \theta \quad \searrow v_2 \\ X \quad \vee \quad D = X \\ \swarrow x_1 \quad \searrow x_2 \quad \swarrow \varepsilon \quad \searrow \varepsilon \quad \searrow x_2 \\ A \xrightarrow{P} B \xrightarrow{Q} A \xrightarrow{P} B \end{array} \quad \text{tab} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{c} T \\ \swarrow t_1 \quad \searrow t_2 \\ X \quad \vee \quad G \quad \vee \quad D \\ \swarrow x_1 \quad \searrow g_1 \quad \searrow g_2 \quad \searrow \varepsilon \\ A \xrightarrow{P} B \xrightarrow{Q} A \xrightarrow{P} B \end{array} \quad \text{tab}$$

By Lemma 3.3.13 and Lemma 3.3.9,  $\varphi$ ,  $\psi$ ,  $\chi$ ,  $\theta$ ,  $\zeta$ , and  $\lambda$  are all covers. We would like to see how the triangle identities of this adjoint behave. In the left diagram below, the unit cell is composited with  $P$  horizontally, and the whole cell yields the corresponding arrow  $\iota \circ \psi$  from  $X$  to  $G$  since  $X$  and  $G$  are exhibited as the tabulators of  $P$  and  $PQP$ , respectively. Similarly, from the counit, we get the

corresponding arrow from  $G$  to  $X$  as shown on the right below.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c}
 X \\
 \swarrow^{x_1} \searrow^{\iota} \\
 A \quad W \\
 \swarrow^{\eta} \searrow^{w_1} \quad \swarrow^{w_2} \\
 C \quad X \\
 \swarrow^{c_1} \searrow^{c_2} \quad \swarrow^{x_1} \searrow^{x_2} \\
 A \xrightarrow{P} B \xrightarrow{Q} A \xrightarrow{P} B
 \end{array}
 \end{array}
 , \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 G \\
 \swarrow^{g_1} \searrow^{g_2} \\
 A \xrightarrow{PQP} B \\
 \parallel^{P\text{counit}} \\
 A \xrightarrow{P} B
 \end{array}
 =
 \begin{array}{c}
 G \\
 \downarrow^{\tau} \\
 X \\
 \swarrow^{x_1} \searrow^{x_2} \\
 A \xrightarrow{P} B
 \end{array}$$

One of the triangle identities amounts to the equality of  $\iota \circ \psi \circ \tau$  and  $\text{id}_X$ .

One observes that  $z_1 \circ u_1$  and  $\chi \circ \psi \circ \tau$  are the same arrows from  $Z$  to  $X$ . To verify this equality, we compose the tabulator of  $P$  to have the following equality.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 Z \\
 \downarrow^{\chi \circ \psi \circ \tau} \\
 X \\
 \swarrow^{x_1} \searrow^{x_2} \\
 A \xrightarrow{P} B
 \end{array}
 =
 \begin{array}{c}
 Z \\
 \downarrow^{\chi \circ \psi} \\
 G \\
 \swarrow^{g_1} \searrow^{g_2} \\
 A \xrightarrow{PQP} B \\
 \parallel^{P\text{counit}} \\
 A \xrightarrow{P} B
 \end{array}
 =
 \begin{array}{c}
 Z \\
 \swarrow^{z_3} \searrow^{z_4} \\
 A \xrightarrow{PQP} B \\
 \parallel^{P\text{counit}} \\
 A \xrightarrow{P} B
 \end{array}
 =
 \begin{array}{c}
 Z \\
 \swarrow^{\zeta} \searrow^{z_2} \\
 T \quad V \\
 \swarrow^{t_1} \searrow^{t_2} \quad \swarrow^{\theta} \searrow^{v_2} \\
 X \quad D = X \\
 \swarrow^{x_1} \searrow^{x_2} \quad \swarrow^{\varepsilon} \searrow^{\varepsilon} \\
 A \xrightarrow{P} B \xrightarrow{QP} B \\
 \parallel^P \quad \parallel^{Q\text{counit}} \\
 A \xrightarrow{P} B
 \end{array}
 =
 \begin{array}{c}
 Z \\
 \downarrow^{z_1 \circ u_1} \\
 X \\
 \swarrow^{x_1} \searrow^{x_2} \\
 A \xrightarrow{P} B
 \end{array}$$

We present one more diagram in which all faces of the cube on the top are pullback squares.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 E \xrightarrow{e_1} X \\
 \swarrow^{e_3} \searrow^{x_1} \\
 F \xrightarrow{f_1} A \\
 \downarrow^{\iota} \quad \downarrow^{\eta} \\
 Z \xrightarrow{f_2} W \xrightarrow{\chi} C \\
 \swarrow^{z_1} \searrow^{w_1} \\
 U \xrightarrow{\varphi} C \\
 \downarrow^{u_1} \quad \downarrow^{c_1} \\
 X \xrightarrow{x_1} A
 \end{array}$$

We have the following equalities.

$$\begin{aligned}
 E &\xrightarrow{e_3} F \xrightarrow{f_2} U \xrightarrow{u_1} X = E \xrightarrow{e_2} Z \xrightarrow{z_1} U \xrightarrow{u_1} X \\
 &= E \xrightarrow{e_2} Z \xrightarrow{\chi} W \xrightarrow{\psi} G \xrightarrow{\tau} X && \text{(From the argument above)} \\
 &= E \xrightarrow{e_1} X \xrightarrow{\iota} W \xrightarrow{\psi} G \xrightarrow{\tau} X \\
 &= E \xrightarrow{e_1} X && \text{(The consequence of the triangle identity)}
 \end{aligned}$$

Since a cover is an epimorphism,  $e_1$  is an epimorphism, and so is  $F \xrightarrow{f_2 \circ u_1} X$ . We know that  $F \xrightarrow{f_1} A = F \xrightarrow{f_2 \circ u_1} X \xrightarrow{x_1} A$  is a cover, and hence, we conclude that  $x_1$  is a cover as well since, by the general theory of orthogonal factorisation systems, the property of being a cover is left-cancellable by epimorphisms.

By the same argument using the other part of the triangle identity, we can show that  $y_2$  is a cover. The stability of covers leads  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  to be covers. We have the following two opcartesian cells.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 V \\
 \downarrow^{v_1} \\
 Y \\
 \swarrow^{y_1} \searrow^{y_2} \\
 B \xrightarrow{Q} A
 \end{array}
 , \quad
 \begin{array}{c}
 V \\
 \downarrow^{v_2} \\
 X \\
 \swarrow^{x_1} \searrow^{x_2} \\
 A \xrightarrow{P} B
 \end{array}$$

Here,  $v_1 \circ y_2 = v_2 \circ x_1$ , by definition, and  $v_1 \circ y_1 = \theta \circ \varepsilon = v_2 \circ x_2$ . This means that  $Q = P^\dagger$  by [Proposition 3.1.14](#) and [Corollary 3.1.16](#). By [Lemma 3.1.18](#), we suppose without loss of generality that  $X = Y$ ,  $x_1 = y_2$  and  $x_2 = y_1$  and also  $v_1 = v_2$  by the universal property of the tabulator. However, the pair of  $v_1$  and  $v_2$  can be seen as a kernel pair of  $x_1$ . Therefore,  $x_1$  is monic.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.2.4.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a unit-pure double category of relations. Then  $\mathbb{D}$  is Cauchy if and only if the accompanying factorisation system is anti-right-proper.*

*Proof.* Suppose  $\mathbb{D} = \text{Rel}_{\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C})$  is Cauchy. Observe that  $\mathbf{M}$  is the class of all vertical arrows right orthogonal to all arrows in  $\mathbf{E}$ , and  $\mathbf{E}$  is equal to  $\text{Cov}(\mathbb{D})$ . So  $\mathbf{M}$  contains all monomorphisms by [Lemma 4.2.2](#) and [Corollary 4.1.5](#).

Conversely, assume the right class of the accompanying factorisation system  $\mathbf{M}$  contains all monomorphisms. Then, monic covers are all isomorphisms. Therefore, every map is representable by [Theorem 4.2.3](#).  $\square$

**Theorem 4.2.5.** *The following are equivalent for a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ .*

- i)  $\mathbb{D}$  is equivalent to  $\text{Rel}_{\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{M}}(\mathbf{C})$  for some category  $\mathbf{C}$  with finite limits and an anti-right-proper stable factorisation system  $(\mathbf{E}, \mathbf{M})$ .
- ii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a unit-pure, Cauchy double category of relations.

*Proof.* The direction  $ii) \Rightarrow i)$  is a consequence of [Theorem 3.3.16](#) and [Lemma 4.2.4](#). We prove the other direction  $i) \Rightarrow ii)$ . If  $\mathbf{M}$  contains every monomorphism, then every vertical arrow in  $\mathbf{E}$  is a strong epimorphism, hence an epimorphism. Thus, the factorisation system is left-proper, and the double category is unit-pure by [Theorem 4.1.6](#). By [Lemma 4.2.4](#), the double category is Cauchy.  $\square$

Consequently, we have the following characterisation of double categories of relations on regular categories. Here, we recapture the result in [\[Lam22\]](#) as the equivalence of  $i)$  and  $iv)$ .

**Theorem 4.2.6** ([\[Lam22, Theorem 10.2\]](#)). *The following are equivalent for a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ .*

- i)  $\mathbb{D}$  is equivalent to  $\text{Rel}_{\text{RegEpi}, \text{Mono}}(\mathbf{C})$  for some regular category  $\mathbf{C}$ .
- ii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a locally posetal, Cauchy double category of relations.
- iii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a unit-pure, locally preordered, Cauchy double category of relations.
- iv)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a locally posetal discrete cartesian equipment with a Mono-comprehension scheme.
- v)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a locally posetal discrete cartesian equipment with a left-sided Mono-comprehension scheme.

*Proof.* The equivalence between  $ii)$  and  $iii)$  is a direct consequence of [Lemma 4.1.9](#). One can deduce the equivalence of  $i)$  and  $ii)$  by combining [Corollary 4.1.11](#) and [Theorem 4.2.5](#) since they show the equality of  $\text{Mono}$  and  $\mathbf{M}$ . Note that regular categories are precisely those categories with stable factorisation systems whose right class is the class of monomorphisms. The implication from  $i)$  to  $iv)$  and  $v)$  is a consequence of [Theorem 3.3.16](#), and the opposite directions follow from [Lemma 4.1.9](#) and [Theorem 4.1.6](#).  $\square$

In light of this theorem, unit-pure Cauchy double categories of relations can be considered as a persuasive generalisation of the double categories of relations on regular categories. As observed in [\[CKS84\]](#), the span double category on a finitely complete category is also an example of Cauchy double categories of relations.

In the paper [\[Sch15\]](#), the concept of *regular double categories* is defined differently from the definition of Cauchy double categories of relations. A regular double category is defined in the paper using what the author called *normal collapses*. The difference between the two double categorical generalisations for regular categories is rooted in the difference between the two definitions of regular categories. One definition regards a regular category as a category with finite limits and coequalisers of kernel pairs in which regular epimorphisms are stable under pullbacks, and the other definition regards it as a category with finite limits and stable images. As a classical result, these two definitions for a category with finite limits are known to be equivalent. The concept of normal collapses is a translation of the concept of coequalisers of kernel pairs into the language of (virtual) equipments, and hence the work in [\[Sch15\]](#) can be seen as a generalisation of the former definition in terms of regular double categories. On the other hand, the latter definition is closely related to our generalisation, since we can readily rephrase the definition in terms of factorisation systems: a regular category is a category with a stable factorisation system whose morphisms in the right class are monomorphisms. How these two ways of generalisation are related is a natural question, but is not discussed in this paper.

In the rest of this subsection, we would like to discuss a process to obtain a Cauchy double category of relations from a general double category of relations. To that end, we restrict the double categories in question to be unit-pure. The work by Kelly [Kel91] can be understood as this process in the case of proper factorisation systems, although the approach was taken in the ordinary category theory. The following discussion extends it to unit-pure double categories of relations.

Note that when an equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  is Cauchy and unit-pure, vertical arrows are in one-to-one correspondence with isomorphism classes of adjoint pairs in the horizontal bicategory  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ . This is because if two vertical arrows define the isomorphic adjoint pairs, then they are isomorphic as 1-cells in  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$  and unit-pureness implies that they are equal. This observation leads us to the following definitions.

**Definition 4.2.7.** Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a bicategory, and  $\mathbb{D}$  be a double category. We say  $\mathbb{D}$  is a *map double category* of  $\mathcal{B}$  if  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D}) = \mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathbb{D}$  is a Cauchy equipment. ■

**Remark 4.2.8.** In the literature, the map bicategory  $\mathcal{Map}(\mathcal{B})$  of a bicategory  $\mathcal{B}$  is defined as the locally full sub-bicategory of  $\mathcal{B}$  whose objects are the objects of  $\mathcal{B}$  and whose 1-cells are the 1-cells with right adjoints in  $\mathcal{B}$ . See, for example, [Ale18] for the relation between these two concepts. ■

Since vertical arrows in Cauchy equipments are ‘almost the same’ as left adjoints in the horizontal bicategory, map double categories are almost identical for fixed bicategory  $\mathcal{B}$ . However, the equivalences in  $\mathcal{DblCat}$  do not conceive this ‘sameness’ since the 2-functoriality of  $\mathcal{V}$  implies that equivalences in  $\mathcal{DblCat}$  restrict to equivalences in  $2\mathcal{Cat}$ ; i.e., 2-equivalences rather than *biequivalences*. But if we restrict map double categories to sufficiently simple ones, the 2-category  $\mathcal{DblCat}$  gives a sufficient framework to understand the map double category of a bicategory.

**Proposition 4.2.9.** Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a bicategory. Then its map double category that is unit-pure is unique in  $\mathcal{DblCat}$ , if exists. In other words, if  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $\mathbb{D}'$  are map double categories of  $\mathcal{B}$  that are unit-pure, then  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $\mathbb{D}'$  are isomorphic in  $\mathcal{DblCat}$ .

*Proof.* In general, observe that for each left adjoint  $p: A \multimap B$ , up to an invertible vertical cell, there is at most one vertical arrow  $f: A \rightarrow B$  such that  $p$  is a companion of  $f$ . In particular, if  $\mathbb{D}$  is unit-pure, such a vertical arrow is actually unique if exists. Moreover, when we fix such a pair  $(p, f)$ , the canonical cartesian and opcartesian cells  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  as shown in Proposition 2.1.5, exhibiting  $p$  as a companion of  $f$ , are also unique. To check this, suppose two such pairs  $(\alpha, \beta)$  and  $(\alpha', \beta')$  are given. Since  $\mathbb{D}$  is unit-pure, two vertical cells obtained by postcomposing  $\alpha$  to  $\beta$  and  $\beta'$  are the same. Therefore, we have  $\beta = \beta'$  for  $\alpha$  is cartesian. Similar arguments hold for conjoints considering the horizontal opposite. Therefore, utilising Proposition 2.1.5, we observe that the unit and counit of the horizontal adjoint are also unique if we fix a companion  $f_!$  and a conjoint  $f^*$ .

Suppose we have two unit-pure map double categories  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $\mathbb{D}'$  of  $\mathcal{B}$ . Choose adjoints  $f_! \dashv f^*$  in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  for each  $f$ , and define a pseudo-functor  $F: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}'$  as follows.

- $F$  is the identity on the horizontal bicategory.
- For each vertical arrow  $f: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ ,  $F(f): A \rightarrow B$  is defined as the unique vertical arrow in  $\mathbb{D}'$  whose companion is  $f_!$ . Note that  $F(f)$  is also the unique vertical arrow whose conjoint is  $f^*$ .
- Observe that any cell in  $\mathbb{D}$  is uniquely decomposed as the following composite.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 W & \xrightarrow{\quad q \quad} & & & X \\
 \parallel & & v & & \parallel \\
 W & \xrightarrow{f_!} Y & \xrightarrow{p} Z & \xrightarrow{g^*} & X \\
 & \searrow \alpha & \parallel & \parallel & \nearrow \gamma \\
 & & Y & \xrightarrow{p} & Z \\
 & & & & \nwarrow g
 \end{array}$$

The discussion above asserts that  $F(\alpha)$  and  $F(\gamma)$  are uniquely determined, and this defines how  $F$  assigns cells.

- A tedious but straightforward discussion shows that this indeed defines a pseudo-functor. For example, to show the horizontal functoriality, it suffices to check  $F$  sends counits of the adjoint induced from selected pairs of companions and conjoints to those induced from  $F(\alpha)$  and  $F(\gamma)$ , which follows from what we discussed above.

$F$  is invertible because of the uniqueness appearing in the construction, and this completes the proof.  $\square$

**Definition 4.2.10.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be an equipment. An equipment  $\mathbb{E}$  is a **Cauchisation** of  $\mathbb{D}$  if  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{E}) = \mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  holds and  $\mathbb{E}$  is Cauchy and unit-pure, and denoted by  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ . In terms of Definition 4.2.7,  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  is a unit-pure map double category of  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ .  $\blacksquare$

We sometimes use the word ‘map’ to refer to an isomorphism class of adjoint pairs in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ , or equivalently, a vertical arrow in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ .

We move on to the construction of  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  for a unit-pure double category of relations  $\mathbb{D}$ . For a monic cover  $m$ , we see that  $(m_!, m^*)$  is an adjoint equivalence in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ . Therefore,  $m^*$  gives a vertical isomorphism in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ . Recall from Theorem 4.2.3 that every map in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  is of the form  $m^*f_!$  for some monic cover  $m$  and some vertical arrow  $f$ . Before we construct  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ , we probe into the properties of monic covers.

**Remark 4.2.11.** As shown in Lemma 3.3.10, a class of covers  $\text{Cov}(\mathbb{D})$  and a class of final arrows  $\text{Fin}(\mathbb{D})$  are the same in a discrete cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$ , and hence  $\text{Cov}(\mathbb{D})^\perp$  is the same as  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  in a double category of relations  $\mathbb{D}$ . When we address the left class of the accompanying factorisation system of a double category of relations, we focus on the aspect as the class of covers, so we use the notation  $\text{Cov}(\mathbb{D})$ . Although we write  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  for the right class of the accompanying factorisation system, an important property of the class of fibrations in a double category of relations for the sequel is that it is the class of vertical arrows right orthogonal to all covers.  $\blacksquare$

**Lemma 4.2.12.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a unit-pure double category of relations. The class of monic covers is closed under composition and right-cancelable, that is, if  $m \circ n$  and  $n$  are monic covers, then  $m$  is also a monic cover.*

*Proof.* It is straightforward to check that the class of monic covers is closed under composition. Take composable arrows  $m: A \rightarrow B$  and  $n: B \rightarrow C$ ; suppose  $m \circ n$  and  $n$  are monic covers. Then,  $m$  is a monic cover, being a pullback of  $m \circ n$  through  $n$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 4.2.13.** *A unit-pure double category of relations  $\mathbb{D}$  has a Cauchisation  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ . It comprises the following data.*

- An object is an object of  $\mathbb{D}$ .
- A vertical arrow from  $A$  to  $B$  is an isomorphism class of  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ -relations  $\langle m, f \rangle$  where  $m: X \rightarrow A$  is a monic cover and  $f: X \rightarrow B$  is a vertical arrow. We write it just as  $(m, f)$ .
- A horizontal arrow from  $A$  to  $B$  is a horizontal arrow from  $A$  to  $B$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ .
- A cell of the form on the left below is a cell in  $\mathbb{D}$  of the form on the right below:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \\ (m,f) \downarrow & & \downarrow (n,g) \\ C & \xrightarrow{S} & D \end{array} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \xrightarrow{n^*g_!} D \\ \parallel & & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{m^*f_!} & C \xrightarrow{S} D \end{array}$$

*Proof.* Restricting the adjoint equivalence (3.2.8) in the case of  $\text{M} = \text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ , we obtain the one to one correspondence between vertical arrows defined above and isomorphism classes of adjoint pairs in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ . Cells are defined above in a unique way to make  $m^*f_!$  a companion of  $(m, f)$  for every vertical arrow  $(m, f)$ . Since  $m^*f_!$  has a right adjoint  $f^*m_!$ , it is an equipment. Therefore, the data above constitute a Cauchy equipment.

To see that it is unit-pure, suppose there is a vertical cell of the following form on the left; then, we have the cell in  $\mathbb{D}$  on the right.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xlongequal{\quad} & A \\ (m,f) \downarrow & k & \downarrow (n,g) \\ B & \xlongequal{\quad} & B \end{array} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{n^*g_!} & B \\ \parallel & k & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{m^*f_!} & B \end{array}$$

where  $(m: X \rightarrow A, f: X \rightarrow B)$ ,  $(n: Y \rightarrow A, g: Y \rightarrow B)$  are  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ -relations, and  $k: X \rightarrow Y$  is a vertical arrow corresponding to the cell. By the equality  $k \circ n = m$ , we know that  $k$  is a monic cover by Lemma 4.2.12. Furthermore, it follows from  $k \circ \langle n, g \rangle = \langle m, f \rangle$  that  $k$  belongs to  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  by its

cancellability. Therefore,  $k: X \rightarrow Y$  is an isomorphism, meaning that  $(m, f)$  and  $(n, g)$  are the same as a vertical arrow in  $\mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ .  $\square$

According to the proof, the composition of maps can be manifestly presented as follows. Given two vertical arrows  $(m, f): A \rightarrow B$  and  $(n, g): B \rightarrow C$  in  $\mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ , and take the pullback of  $f$  and  $n$  as below.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & Z & & \\ & k \swarrow & \downarrow & \searrow t & \\ & X & & Y & \\ m \swarrow & & \downarrow f & & \nwarrow n \\ A & & B & & C \end{array}$$

Since  $m$  and  $n$  are monic covers, so is  $k \circ m$ . However, we do not know whether  $\langle k \circ m, t \circ g \rangle$  belongs to  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ . All we can say is that the composite of  $(m, f)$  and  $(n, g)$  corresponds to  $(k \circ m)^*(t \circ g)_!$ . In this way, it is sometimes useful to write vertical arrows as the form of a map  $m^* f_!$  for some monic cover  $m$  and some vertical arrow  $f$ , even when  $\langle m, f \rangle$  is not in  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ . Note that, as a vertical arrow in  $\mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ ,  $m^* f_!$  is the composite of  $m^*$  and  $f_!$ ; this can be checked by the previous observation on the composition of maps.

**Remark 4.2.14.** A canonical pseudo-functor  $\mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  exists and is the identity on the horizontal part and sends each vertical arrow to its companion. This pseudo functor is faithful as a functor  $\mathbb{D}_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})_0$  since the original double category  $\mathbb{D}$  is unit-pure. The functor  $\mathbb{D}_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})_1$  obtained by the above pseudo-functor is faithful as well. This is verified by using the cells defining the companions of vertical arrows.  $\blacksquare$

**Remark 4.2.15.** In  $\mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ , every vertical arrow is of the form  $m^* f_!$  for some monic cover  $m$  and some vertical arrow  $f$ , which means that it is in the image of the canonical pseudo-functor  $\mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  up to a precomposition of isomorphism since  $m^*$  has an inverse  $m_!$  in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D}))$ . Furthermore, if we have two vertical arrows  $p = (m, t): A \rightarrow B$  and  $q = (n, s): A \rightarrow C$  in  $\mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  with the same domain, we can take a monic cover  $m: X \rightarrow A$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $R$  and  $S$  are presented as  $k^* f_!$  and  $k^* g_!$  respectively for some vertical arrows  $f: X \rightarrow B$  and  $g: X \rightarrow C$ , even though  $\langle k, f \rangle$  and  $\langle k, g \rangle$  are not necessarily in  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ . This is achieved by taking the pullback of  $m$  and  $n$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Lemma 4.2.16.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a unit-pure double category of relations.  $\mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  is a cartesian equipment with strong tabulators.

*Proof.* Firstly, we prove that the canonical pseudo-functor  $\mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  preserves strong tabulators.

Let  $A \xrightarrow{R} B$  be a horizontal arrow and  $\langle l, r \rangle: \top R \rightarrow A \times B$  exhibit  $X$  as a tabulator of  $R$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Take an arbitrary cell of the following form in  $\mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ m^* f_! \swarrow & & \searrow n^* g_! \\ A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \end{array}$$

Then, we can assume  $m$  and  $n$  are the same vertical arrows from some object  $Y$  to  $X$  by Remark 4.2.15. Moreover, by precomposing the isomorphism  $m_!$  on the top of the triangle cell, we obtain the cell in the image of the canonical faithful pseudo-functor  $\mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ . Let  $k: Y \rightarrow X$  be the unique vertical arrow in  $\mathbb{D}$  such that  $k \circ l = f$  and  $k \circ r = g$ . Then, we have the following decomposition of the cell in  $\mathbb{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & Y & \\ f_! \swarrow & & \searrow g_! \\ A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} & Y & \\ k_! \downarrow & & \\ & \top R & \\ l_! \swarrow & & \searrow r_! \\ A & \xrightarrow{R} & B \end{array}$$

On the right-hand side,  $\tau$  is the cell corresponding to the tabulating cell. Suppose there is another map  $s^* t_!: Y \rightarrow \top R$  such that  $s: Z \rightarrow Y$  is a monic cover in  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $s^* t_! \circ l_! = f_!$  and  $s^* t_! \circ r_! = g_!$ . Then,



we have the following equality of cells in  $\mathbb{D}$ .

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & Z & & \\
 & s \swarrow & t \downarrow & \searrow s & \\
 Y & & \top R & & Y \\
 f \downarrow & l \swarrow & \text{tab} & \searrow r & \downarrow g \\
 A & \xrightarrow{R} & & & B
 \end{array} \\
 = \\
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & Z & \\
 & s \downarrow & \\
 & Y & \\
 f \swarrow & \alpha & \searrow g \\
 A & \xrightarrow{R} & B
 \end{array} \\
 = \\
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & Z & \\
 & s \circ k \downarrow & \\
 & \top R & \\
 l \swarrow & \text{tab} & \searrow r \\
 A & \xrightarrow{R} & B
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Therefore, we have  $t = s \circ k$ , and hence  $s^*t_! = k_!$  as a vertical arrow in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ . This leads the cell  $\tau$  in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  to be a tabulating cell of  $R$ .

Secondly, we prove that  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  is cartesian. Recall from [Ale18, Proposition 4.2.3] that an equipment  $\mathbb{E}$  is cartesian if and only if its vertical category has finite products, its horizontal bicategory has finite products locally, and the lax-functors  $1: \mathbb{1} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$  and  $\times: \mathbb{E} \times \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}$  induced by the two kinds of the finite products are pseudo-functors. In this case, however, it suffices to show only the first condition. This is because  $\mathbb{D}$  is cartesian and nothing changes on the horizontal bicategory when we take the Cauchisation. Note that the definition for a lax functor to be a pseudo-functor only requires properties describable in the horizontal bicategory.

In general, given an equipment whose horizontal bicategory has finite products locally, the tabulator of a local terminal  $\top: A \rightarrow B$  gives the product of  $A$  and  $B$  in the vertical category. In the case of  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ , the local terminals and tabulators are the same as those for  $\mathbb{D}$ , and hence we conclude that the vertical category  $\mathbf{V}(\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D}))$  has binary products which are the same as those for  $\mathbb{D}$ . It remains to show that it has  $1$  as its terminal object, but for each object  $A$ , all the maps from  $A$  to the terminal object  $1$  are displayed as  $m^*!$  for some monic cover  $m$ , and they are all isomorphic to  $!$  since  $m_!^*! = !$ . This means that  $!$  is the unique isomorphic class of maps from  $A$  to  $1$ , and  $1$  is the terminal object in the vertical category.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.2.17.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a unit-pure double category of relations and  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  be its Cauchisation.*

- i) *Let  $m$  be a monic cover and  $f$  be a vertical arrow in  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then  $m^*f_!$  is an inclusion (resp. a cover) in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  if and only if  $f$  is an inclusion (resp. a cover) in  $\mathbb{D}$ .*
- ii) *A vertical arrow  $p: A \rightarrow B$  in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  is right orthogonal to all covers if and only if there are a vertical arrow  $f': C \rightarrow B$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  that is right orthogonal to all covers in  $\mathbb{D}$  and an isomorphism  $s: A \rightarrow C$  in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  such that  $p = s \circ f'_!$ .*

The reader should be aware that even if  $m^*f_!$  is right orthogonal to all covers in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ ,  $f$  is not necessarily right orthogonal to all covers in  $\mathbb{D}$ . The key to the proof of this lemma is that every vertical arrow in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  is written as  $f_!$  for some vertical arrow  $f$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  up to isomorphism.

*Proof.* Above all, observe that for each monic cover  $m: A \rightarrow B$ , a map  $m_!$  is an isomorphism,  $m^*$  being the inverse. Therefore, to see if  $B \xrightarrow{m^*} A \xrightarrow{f_!} Y$  satisfies one of the conditions in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ , we only need to check whether  $f_!$  does so.

Firstly, we give a proof for the case of inclusions and covers. Note that the canonical fibred functor  $\left( \begin{array}{c} \mathbb{D}_1 \\ \langle \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle \downarrow \\ \mathbb{D}_0 \times \mathbb{D}_0 \end{array} \right) \rightarrow \left( \begin{array}{c} \text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})_1 \\ \langle \text{src}, \text{tgt} \rangle \downarrow \\ \text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})_0 \times \text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})_0 \end{array} \right)$  given by the pseudo-functor  $\mathbb{D} \rightarrow \text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  is a base change. Since the condition to be an inclusion or a cover is described merely by the canonical fibred category and the horizontal identity arrow, the statement follows.

Secondly, we move on to the case of arrows right orthogonal to all covers. Observe that in a unit-pure equipment, two vertical arrows,  $f, g: A \rightarrow B$ , are identical if and only if  $f_!$  and  $g_!$  are identical. On one hand, we will show that if  $f$  is right orthogonal to all covers, then  $f_!$  is right orthogonal to all covers in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ . Take a commutative square in  $\mathbf{V}(\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D}))$  as below, where  $r$  is a cover in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{p} & A \\
 r \downarrow & & \downarrow f_! \\
 Y & \xrightarrow{q} & B
 \end{array}$$

Since orthogonality is invariant under isomorphisms, we assume without loss of generality that  $r$  is of form  $e_!$  where  $e$  is a cover. Using composition and pullback, we further assume that  $p$  and  $q$  are also

representable, as below.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{h_!} & A \\ e_! \downarrow & & \downarrow f_! \\ Y & \xrightarrow{g_!} & B \end{array}$$

Then, the orthogonality in  $\mathbb{D}$  of  $f$  and  $e$  leads to a vertical arrow  $k$  with  $e \circ k = h$  and  $k \circ f = g$  to exist. So we have the filler  $k_!$ . Suppose we have another filler  $n^*k'_! : Y \rightarrow A$  where  $n$  is a monic cover. Then, we have the following commutative square in  $\mathbb{D}$  by the unit-pure property of  $\mathbb{D}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} X & \xrightarrow{k'} & A \\ n \downarrow & \nearrow d & \downarrow f \\ Y & \xrightarrow{g} & B \end{array}$$

Then, we have a vertical arrow  $d$  as in the diagram.  $d_!$  is the same as  $n^*k'_!$  as a vertical arrow in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ , and  $d$  is equal to the unique map  $k$ . Thus, the filler in  $\mathbf{V}(\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D}))$  is unique.

On the other hand, we would like to prove that if  $f_!$  is right orthogonal to all covers in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ , then  $f_!$  has a presentation  $n^*f'_!$  where  $n$  is a monic cover, and  $f'$  is right orthogonal to all covers. Take the  $(\text{Cov}(\mathbb{D}), \text{Fib}(\mathbb{D}))$ -factorisation of  $f$  as  $e \circ m$ . By the assumption, we have the unique filler  $n^*g_!$  of the following square.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{=} & A \\ e_! \downarrow & \nearrow n^*g_! & \downarrow f_! \\ Y & \xrightarrow{m_!} & B \end{array}$$

From the bottom right triangle, we have  $n \circ m = g \circ f$  since  $n^*$  is the inverse of  $n_!$ . Since  $m$  is monic, it follows that  $n = g \circ e$ . Combining this with the commutativity of the top left triangle, we deduce that  $g_!$  is the inverse of  $e_!n^*$ ,  $f_!$  is equal to  $g^*n_!m_!$ , and  $g^*n_!$  is an isomorphism.  $\square$

**Theorem 4.2.18.** *If  $\mathbb{D}$  is a unit-pure double category of relations, so is  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$ .*

*Proof.* We have already done with the most part, including Lemma 3.2.8. What remains to be proved is that  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  admits a  $\text{Cov}(\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D}))^\perp$ -comprehension scheme. By Lemma 4.2.17, every map from  $C$  to  $A \times B$  in  $\text{Cov}(\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D}))^\perp$  is identified with a map  $\langle f, g \rangle_!$  up to precomposition of isomorphisms where  $\langle f, g \rangle : C' \rightarrow A \times B$  is an arrow in  $\text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$ . The pair  $f, g$  exhibits  $C'$  as the tabulator of  $f^*g_!$  by the comprehension scheme of  $\mathbb{D}$ . Then, the pair of  $f_!$  and  $g_!$  exhibits  $C'$  as the tabulator of  $f^*g_!$  in  $\text{Cau}(\mathbb{D})$  by a similar argument as in the proof of Lemma 4.2.17.  $\square$

**Example 4.2.19.** Let  $\mathbf{E}$  be a quasi-topos and  $\text{Rel}_{\text{Epi}, \text{Regmono}}(\mathbf{E})$  be the double category of relations defined by the stable factorisation system  $(\text{Epi}, \text{Regmono})$  on  $\mathbf{E}$ . Horizontal arrows in  $\text{Rel}_{\text{Epi}, \text{Regmono}}(\mathbf{E})$  are strong relations, meaning they are subobjects of the product of two objects, which are characterised by the weak subobject classifier  $\Omega$ . The Cauchisation of this equipment is equivalent to the double category of relations defined by the topos  $\mathbf{Cs}(\mathbf{E})$  of coarse objects. See [Joh02, A.2.6] for the definition of coarse objects and the discussion on them.  $\blacksquare$

**4.3. Contrasting the literature — relations on regular categories and spans.** In this section, we contrast our work with some characterisation theorems in the literature; one of the bicategories of relations on regular categories [CW87], one of the bicategories of spans [LWW10], and one of the double categories of spans [Ale18].

Before we begin the discussion, we recall the notion of *cartesian bicategories*. In short, a cartesian bicategory is a bicategory  $\mathcal{B}$  satisfying the following. See [CKWW07] for more detail.

- The subcategory  $\mathcal{M}$  of maps has finite products.
- Each its hom-category has finite products.
- A certain derived tensor product on  $\mathcal{B}$ , extending the product structure of  $\mathcal{M}$ , is functorial.

The definition of cartesian double categories Definition 2.1.9 is a double-categorical analogue of this notion introduced in [Ale18]. Note that, when we construct a cartesian double category from a cartesian bicategory through  $\text{Map}$ , the resulting double category is inevitably Cauchy.

First, we reconstruct the classical characterisation theorem [CW87, Theorem 3.5] for relations on regular categories. Let us introduce the concept central to their characterisation, rephrased in terms of double categories.

**Definition 4.3.1** ([CW87, Definition 3.1]). A cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  is **functionally complete** if, for each horizontal arrow of the form  $r: X \twoheadrightarrow 1$ , there exist an object  $X_r$ , an inclusion  $i: X_r \rightarrow X$ , and an opcartesian cell of the following form.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & X_r & \\ i \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ X & \xrightarrow[r]{} & 1 \\ & \text{opcart} & \end{array}$$

**Remark 4.3.2.** This definition differs considerably from the one defined in [Lam22, Definition 4.8]. Therein, the term ‘functionally complete’ is used as having strong Mono-tabulators in our terminology. ■

In [CW87], it is shown that the bicategory of relations arising from a regular category is characterised as a locally posetal cartesian bicategory such that objects are discrete and functionally complete. Therefore, we obtain the following characterisation of  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}_{\text{Regpi}, \text{Mono}}(\mathbf{C})$ . Note that a locally posetal cartesian bicategory is essentially the same as a locally posetal and Cauchy cartesian equipment

**Theorem 4.3.3** ([CW87, Theorem 3.5]). *The following are equivalent for a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ .*

- i)  $\mathbb{D}$  is equivalent to  $\mathbb{R}\text{el}_{\text{Regpi}, \text{Mono}}(\mathbf{C})$  for some regular category  $\mathbf{C}$ .
- ii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a locally posetal, discrete Cauchy cartesian equipment that is functionally complete.

However, now that we have more general characterisation theorems for double categories of relations, the essential part of the argument in [CW87] can be extracted as the following lemma.

**Lemma 4.3.4.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a locally posetal, discrete, Cauchy cartesian equipment and  $\alpha$  be a cell of the following form. Suppose, moreover, that  $l$  is an inclusion.*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ l \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ X & \xrightarrow[p]{} & 1 \\ & \alpha & \end{array}$$

*Then  $\alpha$  is tabulating if it is opcartesian.*

*Proof.* Note that by Lemma 4.1.9, a locally posetal discrete cartesian equipment is unit-pure. Take another triangle  $\beta$  of the following form, and we show there exists a unique  $k: B \rightarrow A$  that, composited with  $\alpha$ , gives  $\beta$ . Since  $l$  is monic by Lemma 4.1.4, the uniqueness part is trivial, and all we have to check is  $k \circ l = f$  since  $\mathbb{D}$  is locally posetal.

Define  $u: B \twoheadrightarrow A$  and  $v: A \twoheadrightarrow B$  as the following restrictions.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & B & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ X & \xrightarrow[p]{} & 1 \\ & \beta & \end{array} \quad , \quad \begin{array}{ccc} B & \xrightarrow{u} & A \\ f \searrow & \text{cart} & \swarrow l \\ & X & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{v} & B \\ l \searrow & \text{cart} & \swarrow f \\ & X & \end{array}$$

Take an opcartesian cell  $\omega$  of the form described below and define  $\bar{\alpha}'$  through the correspondence obtained in Lemma 3.1.18.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ l \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\ X & \xrightarrow[p]{} & 1 \\ \Delta \downarrow & \omega & \parallel \\ X \times X & \xrightarrow[p']{} & 1 \end{array} \quad \parallel \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ l \swarrow & & \searrow l \\ X & \xrightarrow[\bar{p}']{} & X \\ & \bar{\alpha}' & \end{array}$$

Since  $\alpha$  and  $\omega$  are opcartesian, Lemma 3.1.18 shows  $\bar{\alpha}'$  is also opcartesian.

Define, moreover, the following two horizontal cells  $\psi$  and  $\varphi$  as follows.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{c}
 B \\
 \swarrow v \quad \searrow u \\
 A \quad \text{cart} \quad f \quad \text{cart} \quad A \\
 \swarrow l \quad \searrow l \\
 X
 \end{array}
 & = &
 \begin{array}{c}
 B \\
 \swarrow v \quad \searrow u \\
 A \quad \xrightarrow{\psi} \quad A \\
 \swarrow l \quad \searrow l \\
 X
 \end{array} \\
 \\
 \begin{array}{c}
 B \\
 \swarrow f \quad \searrow ! \\
 X \quad \xrightarrow{p} \quad 1 \\
 \Delta \downarrow \quad \omega \\
 X \times X \quad \xrightarrow{p'} \quad 1
 \end{array}
 & \parallel &
 \begin{array}{c}
 B \\
 \swarrow \varphi \quad \searrow \varphi \\
 B \quad \xrightarrow{u} \quad A \quad \xrightarrow{v} \quad B \\
 \swarrow f \quad \searrow l \quad \swarrow \bar{\alpha}' \quad \searrow l \\
 X \quad \xrightarrow{\bar{p}'} \quad X
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Here, the last bijective correspondence is that observed in [Lemma 3.1.18](#), and the existence of  $\varphi$  follows from the fact that  $\bar{\alpha}'$  is opcartesian, considering [Lemma 2.1.8](#). This shows  $u$  is left adjoint to  $v$ ; hence,  $u$  is represented by a vertical arrow  $k$ , which satisfies  $k \circ l = f$  by the unit-pureness of  $\mathbb{D}$ .  $\square$

For an equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  satisfying the condition of the lemma above, inclusions in  $\mathbb{D}$  and monomorphisms in  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$  coincide by [Corollary 4.1.5](#) and [Lemma 4.1.9](#). Using [Corollary 4.1.5](#) and this lemma,  $\mathbb{D}$  admitting a left-sided Mono-comprehension scheme follows from discreteness and functionally completeness, and our main theorem narrows down to the classical result, providing an alternative proof of [Theorem 4.3.3](#).

Second, we adapt our characterisation theorem to the double category of spans in accordance with the previous work [\[LWW10, Ale18\]](#). To begin with, we introduce the double categorical analogue of the notions appeared in [\[LWW10\]](#). Our terminology is slightly different from that of [\[Ale18\]](#).

**Definition 4.3.5.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a double category. A **comonoid** in  $\mathbb{D}$  is a comonad in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ . In other words, a comonoid is a tuple  $G = (A, G, \delta_G, \alpha_G)$  such that  $A$  is an object in  $\mathbb{D}$ ,  $G$  is a horizontal endoarrow on  $A$ , and  $\delta_G$  and  $\alpha_G$  are cells in  $\mathbb{D}$  satisfying the following equalities.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c}
 A \xrightarrow{G} A \\
 \swarrow \delta_G \quad \searrow \delta_G \\
 A \xrightarrow{G} A \xrightarrow{G} A \\
 \swarrow \alpha_G \quad \searrow \alpha_G \\
 A \xrightarrow{G} A
 \end{array}
 = 
 \begin{array}{c}
 A \xrightarrow{G} A \\
 \parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel \\
 A \xrightarrow{G} A
 \end{array}
 = 
 \begin{array}{c}
 A \xrightarrow{G} A \\
 \swarrow \delta_G \quad \searrow \delta_G \\
 A \xrightarrow{G} A \xrightarrow{G} A \\
 \swarrow \alpha_G \quad \searrow \alpha_G \\
 A \xrightarrow{G} A
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

More formally, a comonoid is a strictly normal pseudo double functor from the ‘walking’ double category  $\mathbf{mnd}$  constructed from the monoidal category  $\Delta_a^{\text{op}}$  consisting of finite ordinals and monotone maps.

Note that if we have an adjoint  $P: A \rightleftarrows B: Q$  in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ , we obtain a comonoid  $QP$  on  $B$ . In particular, if  $\mathbb{D}$  is an equipment, we obtain a comonoid  $f^*f_!$  for each vertical arrow  $f: A \rightarrow B$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Definition 4.3.6.** Let  $G = (A, G, \delta_G, \alpha_G)$  be a comonoid. A **comodule**<sup>6</sup> of  $G$  is a pair  $(f, \nu)$  of a vertical arrow  $f$  and a cell  $\nu$  satisfying the following equalities.

$$(4.3.1) \quad \begin{array}{c}
 B \\
 \swarrow f \quad \searrow f \\
 A \xrightarrow{G} A \xrightarrow{G} A \\
 \swarrow \nu \quad \searrow \nu
 \end{array}
 = 
 \begin{array}{c}
 B \\
 \swarrow f \quad \searrow f \\
 A \xrightarrow{G} A \\
 \swarrow \delta_G \quad \searrow \delta_G \\
 A \xrightarrow{G} A \xrightarrow{G} A
 \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{c}
 B \\
 \swarrow f \quad \searrow f \\
 A \xrightarrow{G} A \\
 \swarrow \alpha_G \quad \searrow \alpha_G \\
 A
 \end{array}
 = f \left( \underset{A}{\text{Id}} \right)^f$$

<sup>6</sup>If we follow the terminology of [\[CS10\]](#), a comodule of  $G$  can be seen as an object  $X$  equipped with a *comonoid homomorphism* from  $\text{Id}_X$  to  $G$ , or vertical arrow in  $\mathbf{Mod}(\mathbb{D}^{\text{vop}})$  from  $G$  to  $\text{Id}_X$ , where  $\text{Id}_X$  is seen as the comonoid on  $X$  induced from the coherence cells for this horizontal identity.

**Definition 4.3.7.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a double category. For a comonoid  $G = (G, \delta_G, \alpha_G)$ , a **co-Eilenberg-Moore object**  $\text{coEM}(G) = (\text{coEM}(G), u, v)$  is the one-dimensional universal comodule of  $G$ ; i.e., there is a bijective correspondence between the following data, obtained through postcomposing  $(u, v)$  to  $h$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{a comodule of } G & \begin{array}{c} X \\ \swarrow g \quad \searrow g \\ A \xrightarrow[G]{} A \\ \mu \end{array} & \parallel \quad \text{a vertical arrow} \quad \begin{array}{c} X \\ \downarrow h \\ \text{coEM}(G) \end{array} \end{array}$$

In other words, a co-Eilenberg-Moore object for a comonoid  $(G, \delta_G, \alpha_G)$  is the one-dimensional double limit in the sense of [GP99] of the diagram (= functor from  $\mathbf{mnd}$ ) corresponding to  $G$ .

A double category  $\mathbb{D}$  has **co-Eilenberg-Moore objects for comonoids** if for each comonoid  $G$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ , there exists a co-Eilenberg-Moore object for  $G$ . A co-Eilenberg-Moore object  $(\text{coEM}(G), u, v)$  of a comonoid  $G$  is **strong** if  $v$  is an opcartesian cell, and it is an **M-co-Eilenberg-Moore object** for a class  $M$  of vertical arrows of  $\mathbb{D}$  if  $u$  belongs to  $M$ . We say  $\mathbb{D}$  has **(strong/M-) co-Eilenberg-Moore objects for comonoids** if every comonoid has a (strong/M-) co-Eilenberg-Moore object. ■

The notion of a co-Eilenberg-Moore object coincides with the notion of a *collapse* in the vertical opposite  $\mathbb{D}^{\text{vop}}$  seen as a virtual double category in the sense of [Sch15].

**Definition 4.3.8.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be an equipment and  $f: A \rightarrow B$  be a vertical arrow in  $\mathbb{D}$ . As mentioned in Definition 4.3.5,  $f^*f_!$  is a comonoid, and one can easily check that the canonical opcartesian cell

$$(4.3.2) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow f \\ & \text{opcart} & \\ B & \xrightarrow{f^*f_!} & B \end{array}$$

exhibits  $A$  as a comodule of this comonoid. We say  $f$  is **comonoidic** if this comodule is a co-Eilenberg-Moore object of the comonoid  $f^*f_!$ . ■

The paper [Ale18] puts more emphasis on *copointed endomorphisms* than comonoids (comonads in the paper) in the characterisation of double categories of spans on a finitely complete category. They are a loosened version of comonoids, lacking the comultiplications. The counterparts of Definitions 4.3.5 to 4.3.8 for this notion are defined as follows.

**Definition 4.3.9** (cf. [Ale18, §3]). Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a double category.

- i) A **copointal** of  $\mathbb{D}$  is a copointed endomorphism. In other words, a copointal is a triple  $p = (X, p, \alpha_p)$  consisting of an object  $X$  of  $\mathbb{D}$ , a horizontal arrow  $p: X \rightarrow X$  of  $\mathbb{D}$ , and a horizontal 2-cell  $\alpha_p: p \Rightarrow \text{Id}_X$  of  $\mathbb{D}$ .
- ii) A **comodule (for copointal)** of a copointal  $p$  is a pair  $(f, \nu)$  of a vertical arrow  $f$  and a cell  $\nu$  satisfying the second equality of (4.3.1) for  $\alpha_p$  instead of  $\alpha_G$ . every copointal has a (strong/M-) co-Eilenberg-Moore object.
- iii) For a copointal  $p$ , a **co-Eilenberg-Moore object**  $\text{coEM}^{\text{cp}}(p) = (\text{coEM}^{\text{cp}}(p), u, v)$  is the one-dimensional universal comodule of  $p$  in the same sense as Definition 4.3.7. A co-Eilenberg-Moore object of a copointal  $p$ ,  $(\text{coEM}^{\text{cp}}(p), u, v)$ , is **strong** if  $v$  is an opcartesian cell, and it is an **M-co-Eilenberg-Moore object** for a class  $M$  of vertical arrows of  $\mathbb{D}$  if  $u$  belongs to  $M$ . We say  $\mathbb{D}$  has **(strong/M-) co-Eilenberg-Moore objects for copointals** if every copointal has a (strong/M-) co-Eilenberg-Moore object.
- iv) A vertical arrow  $f$  is **copointallic** if the comodule (4.3.2) of  $f^*f_!$  seen as a copointal is a co-Eilenberg-Moore object for this copointal. Note that if every co-Eilenberg-Moore object is strong, then each leg of a co-Eilenberg-Moore object is copointallic. ■

In general, the two notions of co-Eilenberg-Moore objects are not equivalent. However, when  $\mathbb{D}$  is close enough to double categories of relations, they essentially coincide. This observation was made in [LWW10] in the context of cartesian bicategories, and we revisit it in the context of double categories.

**Remark 4.3.10.** If an object  $A$  in a cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  is discrete, then in particular, the diagonal  $\Delta: A \rightarrow A \times A$  is an inclusion. Since the horizontal identity on  $A \times A$  is isomorphic to  $\text{Id}_A \times \text{Id}_A$  in a canonical way, this shows  $\text{Id}_A \wedge \text{Id}_A \cong \text{Id}_A$  in the hom-category  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(A, A)$ , which means  $\text{Id}_A$  is a subterminal object in this cartesian category. Therefore, in a discrete cartesian equipment, there

exists at most one copoint for each horizontal endoarrow. Moreover, for each copointal  $p: A \twoheadrightarrow A$ , the projections  $p \wedge \text{Id}_A \rightarrow p$  and  $\text{Id}_A \wedge p \rightarrow p$  are invertible in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(A, A)$ . In other words, we have the following two cartesian cells.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{p} & A \\ \Delta \downarrow & \text{cart} & \downarrow \Delta \\ A \times A & \xrightarrow{p \times \text{Id}_A} & A \times A \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{p} & A \\ \Delta \downarrow & \text{cart} & \downarrow \Delta \\ A \times A & \xrightarrow{\text{Id}_A \times p} & A \times A \end{array}$$

**Proposition 4.3.11** (cf. [LWW10, Theorem 3.16]). *Given a discrete cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  and copointals  $p, q: A \twoheadrightarrow A$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ , the span  $p \leftarrow p \odot q \rightarrow q$  in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(A, A)$  induced by the copoints of  $p$  and  $q$  is the product diagram.*

*Proof.* Consider the following cartesian and opcartesian cells.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & \xrightarrow{p} & & \xrightarrow{q} & \\ \Delta \swarrow & \text{cart} & \Delta \text{opcart} \Delta & \text{cart} & \searrow \Delta \\ & \xrightarrow{p \times \text{Id}} & & \xrightarrow{\text{Id} \times q} & \\ \parallel & \text{opcart} & \text{cart} & \text{opcart} & \parallel \\ & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times \Delta} & & \xrightarrow{\Delta \times \text{id}} & \\ \text{id} \times \Delta \downarrow & \text{cart} & \parallel & \text{cart} & \Delta \times \text{id} \downarrow \\ & \xrightarrow{p \times \Delta_1} & & \xrightarrow{\Delta^* \times q} & \\ & \xrightarrow{p \times \text{Id} \times \text{Id}} & & \xrightarrow{\text{Id} \times \text{Id} \times q} & \end{array}$$

The two cartesian cells on the top row are the same as the cells in Remark 4.3.10. The opcartesian cells on the middle row and the cartesian cells on the bottom row are obtained by applying to the conjoint and companion of  $\Delta$  the pseudo-double functor  $- \times -$ . Lemma 2.1.8 shows  $p \wedge \text{Id} \wedge q \cong p \odot q$ . Since  $p$  is copointed, the projection  $p \wedge \text{Id} \wedge q \rightarrow p$  is invertible. Now it suffices to show that projections  $p \wedge \text{Id} \wedge q \rightarrow p$  and  $p \wedge \text{Id} \wedge q \rightarrow q$  are the same as  $p \odot q \rightarrow p$  and  $p \odot q \rightarrow q$  induced from copoints of  $p$  and  $q$ , through the above invertible horizontal cell.

We only check for  $p \wedge \text{Id} \wedge q \rightarrow p$ , while the other is shown similarly. Since the local projections for  $p \wedge \text{Id} \wedge q$  are obtained by postcomposing projection cells to the cartesian cell defining this product in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ , the naturality of the projection cells shows that the local projection  $p \wedge \text{Id} \wedge q \rightarrow p$  is obtained as the composite of the cells in the following diagram. Here, by  $\pi_1$ , we mean the first projection for the structure of the cartesian double category of  $\mathbb{D}$ , and by  $\Delta_3$ , we mean the ternary diagonal  $A \rightarrow A \times A \times A$ . The two cells  $\zeta$  and  $\xi$  are cartesian cells in the above diagram dividing the whole cartesian cell. Note that since  $\Delta$  is an inclusion,  $\Delta \times \text{id}$  and  $\text{id} \times \Delta$  are inclusions as well, and hence the opcartesian cells in the above diagram are all cartesian at the same time.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{p} & A & \xrightarrow{q} & A \\ \Delta_3 \downarrow & \xi & \Delta_3 \downarrow & \zeta & \downarrow \Delta_3 \\ A \times A \times A & \xrightarrow{p \times \text{Id} \times \text{Id}} & A \times A \times A & \xrightarrow{\text{Id} \times \text{Id} \times q} & A \times A \times A \\ & \searrow \pi_1 & \searrow \pi_1 & \searrow \pi_1 & \searrow \pi_1 \\ & A & \xrightarrow{p} & A & \end{array}$$

Since  $\xi$  is cartesian, it gives rise to the isomorphism  $p \cong p \wedge \text{Id} \wedge \text{Id}$ , hence  $\xi \circ \pi_1$  is the vertical identity. On the other hand,  $\zeta \circ \pi_1$  on the right of the above diagram gives the copoint. Therefore, this projection is the same as  $p \odot q \rightarrow p$  induced from the copoint of  $p$ , since copoints are unique as we mentioned in Remark 4.3.10.  $\square$

In other words, in a discrete cartesian equipment, the cartesian product  $\wedge$  and the monoidal product  $\odot$  on  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(A, A)$  coincide for copointals. Since every object has a unique comonoid structure in any cartesian monoidal structure, for each horizontal endoarrow  $p: A \twoheadrightarrow A$ , underlying a comonad is a property that is equivalent to being copointed; i.e.,

**Corollary 4.3.12.** *In a discrete cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$ , for each copointal  $p: A \twoheadrightarrow A$ , there exist unique  $\delta: p \Rightarrow p \odot p$  and  $\varepsilon: p \Rightarrow \text{Id}_A$  such that  $(p, \delta, \varepsilon)$  is a comonoid.*



**Corollary 4.3.13.** *In a discrete cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$ , for each comonoid  $p: A \multimap A$ , any pair  $(f, \nu)$  of a vertical arrow and a cell of the following form*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & B & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow f \\ A & \xrightarrow[p]{} & A \end{array}$$

*is a comodule for  $p$ . In particular, the two notions of a co-Eilenberg-Moore object for copointed arrows and comonoids coincide.*

*Proof.* Since horizontal identities are subterminal objects in hom-categories by Remark 4.3.10, the second equation in Definition 4.3.6 for  $(f, \nu)$  to be a comodule automatically holds. Observe that through the opcartesian cell defining the comonoid  $f^* f_!$ ,  $\nu$  corresponds to a horizontal cell  $\bar{\nu}: f^* f_! \Rightarrow p$ . The first equation in Definition 4.3.6 is equivalent to saying that  $\bar{\nu}$  respects the comultiplications in the monoidal category  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})(A, A)$ . However, by Proposition 4.3.11 and Corollary 4.3.12, this is equivalent to saying that  $\bar{\nu}$  respects the codiagonals, which is trivially true.  $\square$

Moving on to the characterisation theorem in terms of co-Eilenberg-Moore objects, we need the following notion.

**Definition 4.3.14.** Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be an equipment and  $M$  be a class of vertical arrows of  $\mathbb{D}$ . We say  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a **unary  $M$ -comprehension scheme w.r.t. copointals** if  $\mathbb{D}$  has strong  $M$ -co-Eilenberg-Moore objects for copointals, and every vertical arrow  $f: A \rightarrow B$  in  $M$  is copointalic. Similarly, we say  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a **unary  $M$ -comprehension scheme w.r.t. comonoids** if  $\mathbb{D}$  has strong  $M$ -co-Eilenberg-Moore objects for comonoids, and every vertical arrow  $f: A \rightarrow B$  in  $M$  is comonoidic.  $\blacksquare$

The next few pages will be devoted to examining the connection between tabulators and co-Eilenberg-Moore objects, following the discussions in [Ale18].

**Remark 4.3.15.** For a copointal  $p = (A, p, \alpha_p)$  in a unit-pure equipment  $\mathbb{D}$ , a cell in the following form

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & B & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow g \\ A & \xrightarrow[p]{} & A \end{array}$$

must be a comodule of  $p$  since postcomposing  $\nu$  to  $\alpha_p$  gives the identity cell by the unit-pureness. In particular, a co-Eilenberg-Moore object of  $p$  is the same as a tabulator of  $p$ .  $\blacksquare$

**Proposition 4.3.16** (cf. [Ale18, Corollary 5.1.9]). *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a unit-pure cartesian equipment. If  $\mathbb{D}$  has co-Eilenberg-Moore objects, then,  $\mathbb{D}$  has tabulators. If the co-Eilenberg-Moore objects are strong or  $M$ -co-Eilenberg-Moore objects, then, the tabulators are strong or  $M$ -tabulators, respectively.*

*Proof.* Take a horizontal arrow  $p: A \multimap B$  of  $\mathbb{D}$  and let  $\hat{p} = (A \times B, \hat{p}, \alpha_{\hat{p}})$  be a copointal defined by the restriction as follows.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A \times B & \xrightarrow{\hat{p}} & A \times B \\ \Delta \times \text{id}_B \downarrow & \text{cart} & \downarrow \text{id}_A \times \Delta \\ A \times A \times B & \xrightarrow{\text{id}_A \times p \times \text{id}_B} & A \times B \times B \\ \pi_{13} \swarrow & \text{id} \times ! \times \text{id} & \searrow \pi_{13} \\ & A \times B & \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} A \times B & \xrightarrow{\hat{p}} & A \times B \\ & \alpha_{\hat{p}} & \\ & A \times B & \end{array}$$

We have the following sequence of correspondences of cells.

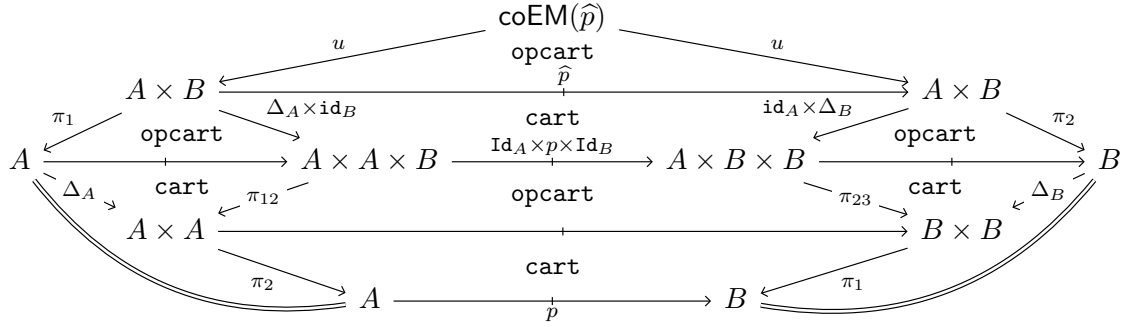
$$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ \langle f, g \rangle \swarrow & & \searrow \langle f, g \rangle \\ A \times B & \xrightarrow[\hat{p}]{} & A \times B \end{array} & \parallel & \begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ \langle f, f, g \rangle \swarrow & & \searrow \langle f, f, g \rangle \\ A \times A \times B & \xrightarrow[\text{id}_A \times p \times \text{id}_B]{} & A \times B \times B \end{array} \\ & & \parallel & \begin{array}{ccc} & X & \\ f \swarrow & & \searrow g \\ A & \xrightarrow[p]{} & B \end{array} \end{array}$$

The first correspondence is obtained by postcomposing the cartesian cell defining  $\hat{p}$ . For the second correspondence, we use the horizontal universal property of products and the unit-pureness of  $\mathbb{D}$ .



Therefore, the cell  $\xi_3$  exhibits  $X$  as a tabulator of  $p$  if and only if the cell  $\xi_1$  exhibits  $X$  as a co-Eilenberg-Moore object of  $\hat{p}$ . In particular, if  $\hat{p}$  has an M-co-Eilenberg-Moore object, an M-tabulator.

If  $\hat{p}$  has a strong co-Eilenberg-Moore object, we have the following diagram.



Here, the two squares on both sides satisfy the Beck-Chevalley condition since these are obtained by the products of other cells satisfying the Beck-Chevalley condition. The hexagon at the bottom is obtained by applying the product  $- \times -$  row by row to the following opcartesian and cartesian cells. The cells on the left are the vertical identities on  $p$  while those on the middle and the right are the canonical cells for the companion and conjoint of  $! : A \rightarrow 1$ .

$$\begin{array}{c} A \xrightarrow{p} B \\ \parallel \\ A \xrightarrow{p} B \\ \parallel \\ A \xrightarrow{p} B \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ \parallel & \searrow & ! \\ A & \xrightarrow{\quad} & 1 \\ ! & \swarrow & \parallel \\ & 1 & \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & B & \\ ! & \swarrow & \parallel \\ 1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B \\ \parallel & \searrow & ! \\ & 1 & \end{array}$$

Note that for these specific cells, the Beck-Chevalley condition holds without any assumption on the equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  except for the cartesian structure. Back to the diagram, the bottom half is a cartesian cell by [Lemma 2.1.8](#) and also a horizontal cell. Thus, it is the identity cell on  $p$ , which makes the whole diagram an opcartesian cell. Since it is the very cell corresponding to the canonical cell for the co-Eilenberg-Moore object  $\text{coEM}(\hat{p})$  through the aforementioned correspondence, every tabulator is strong.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.3.17.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a cartesian equipment with Beck-Chevalley pullbacks. If a vertical arrow  $f : A \rightarrow B$  is copointalic, then  $f$  is a fibration.*

*Proof.* Applying [Proposition 3.1.9](#) to  $R = !_!^*$  and  $S = \text{Id}_B$ , we have the following equality of cells on the left, where the top horizontal arrow is  $f_!$  since the cartesian cell defining  $f_!$  is decomposed to two cartesian cells as shown on the right.

$$(4.3.3) \quad \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f_!} & B \\ \langle \text{id}_A, f \rangle \downarrow & \text{cart} & \downarrow \Delta \\ A \times B & \xrightarrow{!_!^* \times \text{Id}_B} & B \times B \\ f \times \text{id}_B \downarrow & \text{opcart} & \parallel \\ B \times B & \xrightarrow{f^* !_!^* \times \text{Id}_B} & B \times B \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f_!} & B \\ f \downarrow & \text{opcart} & \parallel \\ B & \xrightarrow{f^* f_!} & B \\ \Delta \downarrow & \text{cart} & \downarrow \Delta \\ B \times B & \xrightarrow{f^* !_!^* \times \text{Id}_B} & B \times B \end{array}, \quad \begin{array}{ccc} & A & \\ \parallel & \searrow & f \\ A & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B \\ \text{opcart} & & \\ \langle \text{id}_A, f \rangle \downarrow & f_! & \downarrow \Delta \\ A \times B & \xrightarrow{\quad} & B \times B \\ !_!^* \times \text{Id}_B & \text{cart} & \downarrow \Delta \\ ! \times \text{id}_B & \searrow & ! \times \text{id}_B \\ & 1 \times B & \end{array}$$

Now let us observe the following sequence of bijective correspondences of cells and vertical arrows. The first correspondence is obtained by considering the cartesian cell exhibiting the horizontal composite  $f^* !_!^*$  as the restriction  $f^* !_!(\text{id}_B, !)$ , while the third one is given by the universal property of the cartesian cell at the bottom of the middle diagram above. The second correspondence follows from the universality of the product in the category  $\mathbb{D}_1$ . Here, note that since  $\mathbb{D}$  is unit-pure, the vertical arrow  $g$  comes with a unique arrow  $\text{Id}_X \rightarrow \text{Id}_A$  in  $\mathbb{D}_1$ . The last is precisely the universality of the (strong)

tabulator, obtained by the assumption on  $f$  considering [Remark 4.3.15](#).

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & X & \\
 g \swarrow & & \searrow ! \\
 B & \xrightarrow{f^*!_!} & 1
 \end{array}
 \parallel
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & X & \\
 g \swarrow & & \searrow g \\
 B & \xrightarrow{f^*!_!^*} & 1
 \end{array}
 \parallel
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & X & \\
 \langle g, g \rangle \swarrow & & \searrow \langle g, g \rangle \\
 B \times B & \xrightarrow{f^*!_!^* \times \text{Id}_B} & B \times B
 \end{array}
 \parallel
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & X & \\
 g \swarrow & & \searrow g \\
 B & \xrightarrow{f^*f_!} & B
 \end{array}
 \parallel
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & X & \\
 & \downarrow \alpha_5 & \\
 & A & \\
 & \downarrow f & \\
 B & & 
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Tracing back the correspondence, the correspondence  $\alpha_5 \mapsto \alpha_1$  is obtained by postcomposing the following cell, and hence this cell exhibits  $A$  as a tabulator of  $f^*!_!$  whose left leg is  $f$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & A & \\
 f \swarrow & & \searrow f \\
 B & \xrightarrow{\text{opcart}} & B \\
 \Delta \downarrow & & \downarrow \Delta \\
 B \times B & \xrightarrow{f^*!_!^* \times \text{Id}_B} & B \times B \\
 \pi_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow \pi_1 \\
 B & \xrightarrow{f^*!_!^*} & B \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow ! \\
 B & \xrightarrow{f^*!_!} & 1
 \end{array}$$

□

**Theorem 4.3.18.** *The following are equivalent for a unit-pure cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$  and a stable system  $\mathbf{M}$  on  $\mathbf{V}(\mathbb{D})$ . The following are equivalent.*

- i)  $\mathbb{D}$  admits an  $\mathbf{M}$ -comprehension scheme,
- ii)  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a unary  $\mathbf{M}$ -comprehension scheme w.r.t. copointals.

Moreover, if  $\mathbb{D}$  is discrete, they are also equivalent to;

- iii)  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a unary  $\mathbf{M}$ -comprehension scheme w.r.t. comonoids.

*Proof.*  $i) \Rightarrow ii)$  follows from [Remark 4.3.15](#) and the fact that if a vertical arrow  $f: A \rightarrow B$  is in  $\mathbf{M}$ , then so is  $f \circ \Delta_B$ . This is because  $\Delta_B$  belongs to  $\mathbf{M} = \text{Fib}(\mathbb{D})$  in a unit-pure double category of relations. For  $ii) \Rightarrow i)$ , suppose the second condition holds.  $\mathbb{D}$  has strong  $\mathbf{M}$ -tabulators by [Proposition 4.3.16](#), especially,  $\mathbb{D}$  has Beck-Chevalley pullbacks. By [Lemma 4.3.17](#), every vertical arrow in  $\mathbf{M}$  is a fibration. Thus,  $\mathbb{D}$  admits a left-sided  $\mathbf{M}$ -comprehension scheme by [Remark 3.3.3](#). The equivalence of  $ii)$  and  $iii)$  in the discrete case follows from [Proposition 4.3.11](#), [Corollary 4.3.12](#), and [Corollary 4.3.13](#). □

**Corollary 4.3.19** (cf. [LWW10, Theorem 5.2] and [Ale18, Theorem 5.3.2]). *The following are equivalent for a double category  $\mathbb{D}$ , where  $\text{Mor}$  denotes the class of all vertical arrows.*

- i)  $\mathbb{D}$  is equivalent to  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{C})$  for a category  $\mathbf{C}$  with finite limits.
- ii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a unit-pure cartesian equipment and admits a unary  $\text{Mor}$ -comprehension scheme w.r.t. copointals; i.e., it is a unit-pure cartesian equipment with strong co-Eilenberg-Moore objects for copointals and every vertical arrow is copointalic.
- iii)  $\mathbb{D}$  is a unit-pure discrete cartesian equipment and admits a unary  $\text{Mor}$ -comprehension scheme w.r.t. comonoids; i.e., it is a unit-pure cartesian equipment with strong co-Eilenberg-Moore objects for comonoids and every vertical arrow is comonoidic.

**Remark 4.3.20.** Aleiferi states in her PhD thesis [Ale18] that the double categories of spans are characterised by the same conditions as  $ii)$  in the above corollary except for the last condition: every vertical arrow is copointalic. However, without it, the double category of spans cannot be characterised. Indeed, every unit-pure double category of relations, say  $\text{Rel}(\mathbf{Set})$ , also has strong co-Eilenberg-Moore objects for copointals. ■

We explain how the characterisation [LWW10, Theorem 5.2] of spans as a cartesian bicategory is partially reconstructed through our characterisation. Firstly, let us admit the following fact obtained by assembling some results from [LWW10]. Note that, in a Cauchy unit-pure cartesian equipment  $\mathbb{D}$ ,

the notion of a discrete object in  $\mathbb{D}$  as defined in [Definition 3.1.6](#) and that in a cartesian bicategory  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  in the sense of [\[LWW10, Definition 3.10\]](#) coincide.

**Fact 4.3.21** ([\[LWW10, Proposition 2.3, Corollary 3.5, and Theorem 3.14\]](#)). *Suppose we are given a cartesian bicategory  $\mathcal{B}$ , and every map in  $\mathcal{B}$  is comonadic. Then, there exists the map double category  $\text{Map}(\mathcal{B})$  (see [Definition 4.2.7](#) and the proceeding discussion) that is unit-pure, cartesian, and discrete.*

Through this fact, [Corollary 4.3.19](#) results in the main theorem of [\[LWW10\]](#).

**Theorem 4.3.22** ([\[LWW10, Theorem 5.2\]](#)). *A cartesian bicategory  $\mathcal{B}$  is biequivalent to the bicategory of spans  $\mathcal{H}(\text{Span}(\mathbf{C}))$  for some finitely complete category  $\mathbf{C}$ , if and only if every comonad has a co-Eilenberg-Moore object and every map is comonadic.*

*Proof.* The *only if* part is easily checked; observe that a comonad in  $\mathcal{H}(\text{Span}(\mathbf{C}))$  is the same as a span whose two legs are the same. This is verified directly, but one can also check it by utilising [Corollary 4.3.19](#) and [Corollary 4.3.12](#) and observing a copointal is exactly a span whose legs are the same. See the introduction of [\[LWW10\]](#) for the remainder.

For the *if* part, suppose that every comonad has a co-Eilenberg-Moore object and every map is comonadic in  $\mathcal{B}$ . It suffices to show that the map double category  $\text{Map}(\mathcal{B})$  obtained in [Fact 4.3.21](#) is equivalent to  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{C})$  for some finitely complete category  $\mathbf{C}$ . The following lemma shows that  $\text{Map}(\mathcal{B})$  satisfies *iii)* of [Corollary 4.3.19](#), which completes the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 4.3.23.** *Let  $\mathbb{D}$  be a Cauchy and unit-pure cartesian equipment. Then every comonoid in  $\mathbb{D}$  has a strong co-Eilenberg-Moore object if the comonoid, as a comonad in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ , has a co-Eilenberg-Moore object in the bicategory  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ . Moreover, every vertical arrow  $f$  is comonoidic if the map  $f_!$  is comonadic in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ .*

*Proof.* Suppose  $G$  is a comonoid on an object  $A$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ , or equivalently, a comonad in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ . Suppose, moreover, that  $G$  has a co-Eilenberg-Moore object  $(X, u, \mu)$  as the following diagram. Since  $u$  is in particular a left adjoint in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ , we have the companion  $f$  of  $u$ . Utilising the unit-pureness of  $\mathbb{D}$ , it is observed that the triangle cell  $\bar{\mu}$  obtained by the following composite is a comodule for  $G$  in the sense of [Definition 4.3.6](#). As in [Proposition 2.1.5](#), for each companion, we write  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  for the canonical cartesian and opcartesian cells.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 & X & \\
 f \swarrow & & \searrow f \\
 A & \xrightarrow{G} & A
 \end{array} \\
 \bar{\mu}
 \end{array}
 =
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & X & & \\
 & & \parallel & & \\
 X & \xrightarrow{u} & A & \xrightarrow{G} & A \\
 & \mu & & & \\
 \parallel & & \parallel & & \parallel \\
 X & \xrightarrow{u} & A & \xrightarrow{G} & A \\
 f \downarrow & \alpha & \parallel & & \parallel \\
 A & \xrightarrow{G} & A & & A
 \end{array}$$

Note that  $\bar{\mu}$  is opcartesian because there is an invertible horizontal cell  $G \cong f^* f_!$  since  $f_! = u$  is comonadic. On the other hand, any comodule  $(Y, g, \nu)$  of  $G$  gives rise to a left comodule  $(Y, g_!, \nu_!)$  of the comonad  $G$  in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$  as follows.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Y & \xrightarrow{g_!} & A \\
 \parallel & \nu_! & \parallel \\
 Y & \xrightarrow{g_!} & A \xrightarrow{G} A
 \end{array}
 :=
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & Y & \xrightarrow{g_!} & A \\
 & & \parallel & & \\
 Y & \xrightarrow{g_!} & A & \xrightarrow{G} & A \\
 & \beta & \parallel & & \parallel \\
 Y & \xrightarrow{g_!} & A & \xrightarrow{G} & A \\
 & g & \downarrow \nu & & \\
 & & A & \xrightarrow{G} & A
 \end{array}$$

Therefore, given a comodule  $(Y, g, \nu)$  of  $G$ , there exists a map  $v: Y \rightarrow X$  equipped with the cartesian and opcartesian cells satisfying the first equation of the following. Such a map  $v$  is unique up to invertible horizontal cells. Moreover, since  $v$  is a map and  $\mathbb{D}$  is Cauchy and unit-pure, there exists a unique  $h: Y \rightarrow X$  representing  $v$  as its companion. Again by unit-pureness, we have  $h \circ f = g$  and the cartesian and opcartesian cells in the middle of the following equation are obtained by composing the

canonical cells  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  defining the companions of  $h$  and  $f$ . This shows that the last equation follows.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{c} Y \\ \swarrow g \quad \searrow g \\ A \xrightarrow{G} A \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} Y \xrightarrow{v} X \xrightarrow{u} A \xrightarrow{G} A \\ \parallel \quad \parallel \quad \parallel \\ Y \xrightarrow{v} X \xrightarrow{u} A \xrightarrow{G} A \\ \swarrow g \quad \searrow g \\ A \xrightarrow{G} A \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \text{opcart} \\ \mu \\ \text{cart} \end{array} = \begin{array}{c} Y \xrightarrow{g} A \\ \downarrow h \\ X \xrightarrow{\bar{\mu}} A \\ \swarrow f \quad \searrow f \\ A \xrightarrow{G} A \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Moreover, such a vertical arrow is unique since  $\mathbb{D}$  is unit-pure and  $v$  is unique up to horizontal invertible cells. This shows that  $(X, f, \bar{\mu})$  is a co-Eilenberg-Moore object of the comonoid  $G$ .

Let  $f$  be a vertical arrow whose companion  $f_!$  is comonadic in  $\mathcal{H}(\mathbb{D})$ . The same discussion shows that there is a strong co-Eilenberg-Moore object of  $f^*f_!$  whose leg is isomorphic to  $f$  in  $\mathcal{V}(\mathbb{D})$ , and the leg is precisely  $f$  because  $\mathbb{D}$  is unit-pure. This shows  $f$  is comonoidic.  $\square$

## 5. FUTURE WORK

**Virtual double category of algebraic relations.** Given an *algebraic weak factorisation system* (AWFS) [BG16]  $(L, R)$  on a finitely complete category  $\mathbf{C}$ , we can also consider *algebraic relations* as follows. Recall from [BG16, Theorem 9] that a pair  $(R\text{-Alg}, V)$  that satisfies the following conditions serves as the characterization of an AWFS on  $\mathbf{C}$ .

- $R\text{-Alg}$  is a strict double category, and  $V: R\text{-Alg} \rightarrow \text{Sq}(\mathbf{C})$  is a strict double functor. By  $\text{Sq}(\mathbf{C})$ , we mean the strict double category induced from the following cocategory object in  $\text{Cat}$  through taking the powers on  $\mathbf{C}$  when we write  $[n]$  for the chain of length  $n$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 [2] \leftarrow \partial_1 - [1] & \xleftarrow{\partial_1} & - \\
 & \xrightarrow{\sigma} & [0] \\
 & \xleftarrow{\partial_0} & -
 \end{array}$$

- $R\text{-Alg}_0 = \mathbf{C}$ ,  $V_0 = \text{id}_{\mathbf{C}}$ , and  $V_1: R\text{-Alg}_1 \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^{[1]}$  is faithful.
- $V_1$  is strictly monadic. We write  $R\text{-Alg}$  for  $R\text{-Alg}_1$ .
- $V_1$  is a discrete pullback-fibration; for every  $\mathbf{g} \in R\text{-Alg}$ ,  $f \in \mathbf{C}^{[1]}$ , and pullback square  $(k, h): f \rightarrow V(\mathbf{g})$ , there exists a unique pair  $(\mathbf{f}, \varphi: \mathbf{f} \rightarrow \mathbf{g})$  satisfying  $V_1(\varphi) = (k, h)$ , and this arrow  $\varphi$  is cartesian for  $\text{tgt}: R\text{-Alg} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$ .
- $\text{tgt}: R\text{-Alg} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  is a fibration and  $V_1: \text{tgt} \rightarrow \text{cod}^{\mathbf{C}}$  is a morphism of fibrations over  $\mathbf{C}$ .
- For each  $C \in \mathbf{C}$ ,  $V_1$  restricts to a strictly monadic functor  $R/C\text{-Alg} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}/C$  on fibres for  $\text{tgt}$  and  $\text{cod}^{\mathbf{C}}$ .

(The last two are redundant for the characterisation.)

We write  $g := V(\mathbf{g})$  for each  $\mathbf{g} \in R\text{-Alg}$  and call  $\mathbf{g}$  an algebra over  $g$ . Given an AWFS  $(R\text{-Alg}, V)$ , we define an *algebraic relation*  $\mathbf{p}: A \rightarrowtail B$  between two objects  $A, B \in \mathbf{C}$  as an algebra  $\mathbf{p}$  whose target  $\text{tgt}(\mathbf{p})$  is  $A \times B$ . Now, take a sequence of algebraic relations of the following form.

$$A_0 \xrightarrow{\mathbf{p}_1} A_1 \xrightarrow{\mathbf{p}_2} \cdots \xrightarrow{\mathbf{p}_n} A_n$$

Then, define an algebra  $\mathbf{p}_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \mathbf{p}_n$  as follows.

$$(\mathbf{p}_1 \times \text{id}_{A_2} \times \cdots \times \text{id}_{A_n}) \times (\text{id}_{A_0} \times \mathbf{p}_2 \times \cdots \times \text{id}_{A_n}) \times \cdots \times (\text{id}_{A_0} \times \text{id}_{A_1} \times \cdots \times \mathbf{p}_n)$$

Here, by  $\times$ , we mean the product in  $R\text{-Alg}$ , and by  $\times$ , we mean the product in  $R/(A_0 \times \cdots \times A_n)\text{-Alg}$ . Given two morphisms in  $\mathbf{C}$ ,  $f: A_0 \rightarrow B$  and  $g: A_n \rightarrow B'$ , and another algebraic relation  $p: A \rightarrowtail B$ , we define a cell of the form shown on the left below as an arrow  $(\alpha, \langle \pi_0, \pi_n \rangle \circ (f \times g)): \mathbf{p}_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \mathbf{p}_n \rightarrow \mathbf{q}$  in  $R\text{-Alg}$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A_0 \xrightarrow{\mathbf{p}_1} A_1 \xrightarrow{\mathbf{p}_2} \cdots \xrightarrow{\mathbf{p}_n} A_n & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & \cdot \\
 f \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow \mathbf{p}_1 \wedge \cdots \wedge \mathbf{p}_n \\
 B \xrightarrow{\mathbf{q}} C & & A_0 \times \cdots \times A_n \xrightarrow{\langle \pi_0, \pi_n \rangle} A_0 \times A_n \xrightarrow{f \times g} B \times C
 \end{array}$$

We expect that this defines a *virtual double category* (VDC). More precisely, we conjecture that there is some suitable generalisation of the  $\mathbb{F}r$  construction, mentioned in [Remark 3.2.3](#), that gives us a virtual double category from a monoidal fibration. In particular, we expect that the fibration  $\mathbf{tgt}: R\text{-Alg} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  is a suitable monoidal fibration and induces a virtual double category, and this leads us to consider the notion of virtual double category of algebraic relations (VDCAR) in [Table 2](#).

A VDCAR that corresponds to an orthogonal factorisation system should be called a virtual double category of relations (VDCR), and from this point of view, the term ‘double category of relations’ should be used for VDCRs such that they are double categories. Then the question arises here whether our definition of DCR is consistent with the double category of relations in this sense (written as DCR’ in the table).

Nevertheless, we can find a clue for this issue that supports the negative expectation. According to [\[Shu08, Theorem 14.4\]](#), the construction  $\mathbb{F}r$  is applicable not only for strong BC monoidal fibrations, but also for *internally closed weakly BC* monoidal fibrations. This implies that if there exists any orthogonal factorisation system whose accompanying fibration  $\mathbf{M}$ , as in [Proposition 2.2.3](#), is not strong BC but admits the construction  $\mathbb{F}r$ , then DCR’ and our DCR does not coincide.

On the other hand, one can define a *stable* AWFS as follows. An AWFS is called stable if, for its category of left coalgebras  $L\text{-Coalg}$ , the forgetful functor  $L\text{-Coalg} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}^{[2]}$  is pullback-discrete. We expect that a stable AWFS induces a double category of algebraic relations (DCAR).

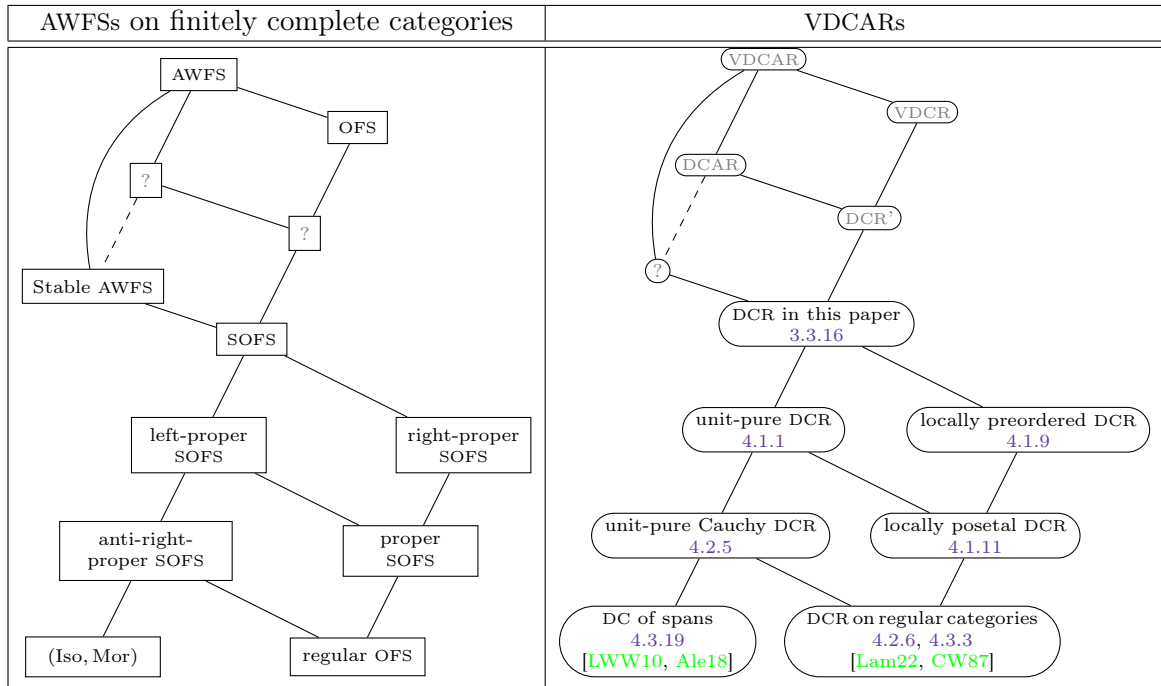


TABLE 2. Conjectural correspondence between algebraic weak factorisation systems (AWFSs) and virtual double categories of algebraic relations (VDCARs)

**Applications to categorical logic.** One of the leading motivations for studying double categories of relations is the desire to ground some logic upon them. The double category of relations can naturally be seen as a framework to take a model of regular theories. In the opposite direction, we desire to know the internal language of a suitable class of double categories. Considering such a language of double categories could bring us a new treatment of categorical logic that is more general than the one based on (ordinary) categories. We expect that there will be some advantages in translating several notions of logical completion of hyperdoctrines, including the ex/reg completion and tripos-to-topos construction, into the double-categorical setting. Indeed, the Cauchisation in [Section 4.2](#) is a logical completion corresponding to constructing the free Cauchy-complete doctrine in [\[Pas16\]](#). Other classes of hyperdoctrines and their logical completions would be translated into double categories similarly.

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