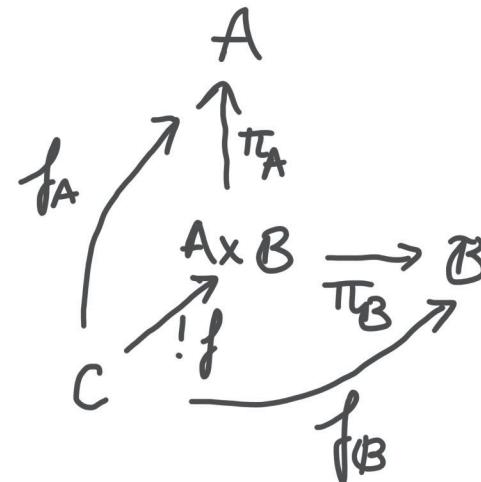


EAI Math Reading Group

# Category Theory

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{F} & F(A) & \xrightarrow{\eta} & G(A) \\ f \downarrow & & \downarrow F(f) & \xrightarrow{\eta} & \downarrow G(f) \\ B & \xrightarrow{F} & F(B) & \xrightarrow{\eta} & G(B) \end{array}$$



# (Why) Do you need Category Theory ?

Why do you need

- Type systems ?
- Functions ?
- Compilers ?

→ Algebraic Data Types  
→ Polymorphic types  
(generics)  
→ typeclasses

You don't need abstraction, but it is useful

## Outline

- 1) Category theory 101
- 2) Example : Gradient-based learning
- [ 3) Example : Automatic differentiation ]
- 4) "A Monad is a Monoid in the category of endofunctors "

# Categories

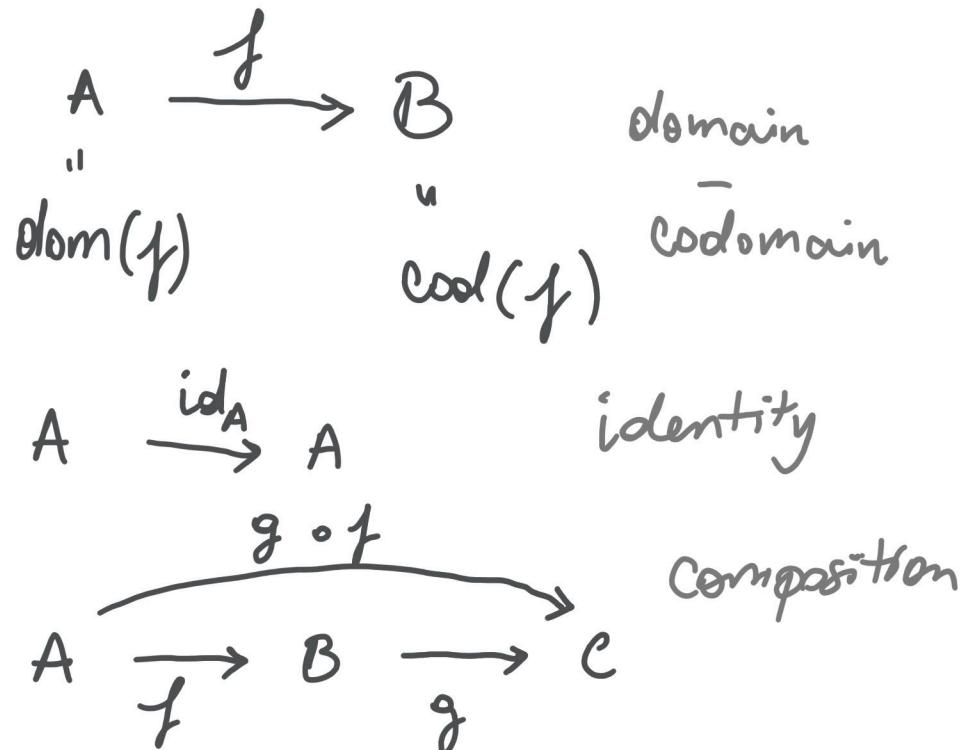
" $\mathcal{C} = (\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}), \text{Mor}(\mathcal{C}))$ "

objects  $\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$        $A, B, C, \dots$

morphisms  $\text{Mor}(\mathcal{C})$        $f, g, h, \dots$   
 (arrows)

$$\text{id}_B \circ f = f = f \circ \text{id}_A$$

$$f \circ (g \circ h) = (f \circ g) \circ h$$



# Examples

- Sets

objects: sets

arrows: functions

- $(\mathbb{R}, \leq)$

objects:  $x \in \mathbb{R}$

arrows: " $x \leq y$ "

→ more generally,

any partially ordered set

- $\text{Vect}_{\mathbb{R}}$

objects: vector spaces over  $\mathbb{R}$

arrows: linear maps

$$\mathbb{R}^n \quad \mathbb{R}^d$$

- "Structured sets"

- groups

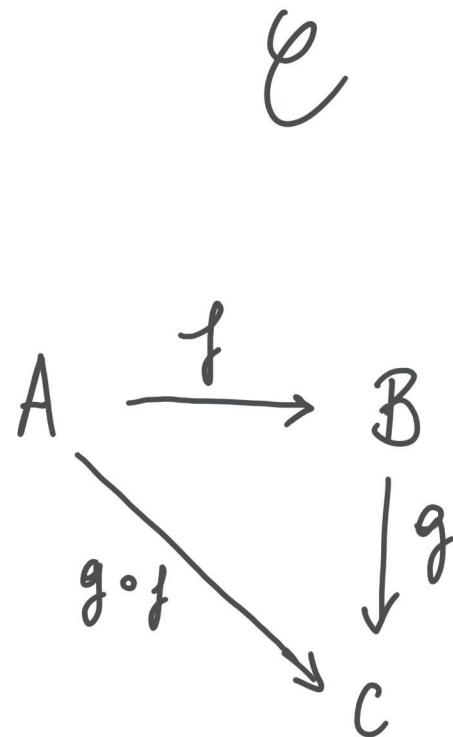
- topological spaces

- differential manifolds

...

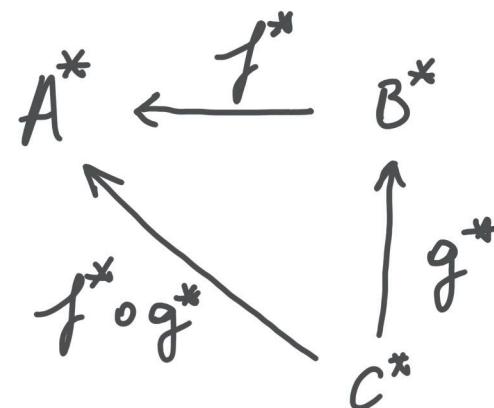
- (Haskell) types  $a :: A, b :: B$   
 $f :: A \rightarrow B$

Opposite category (aka "dual category")



$\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$

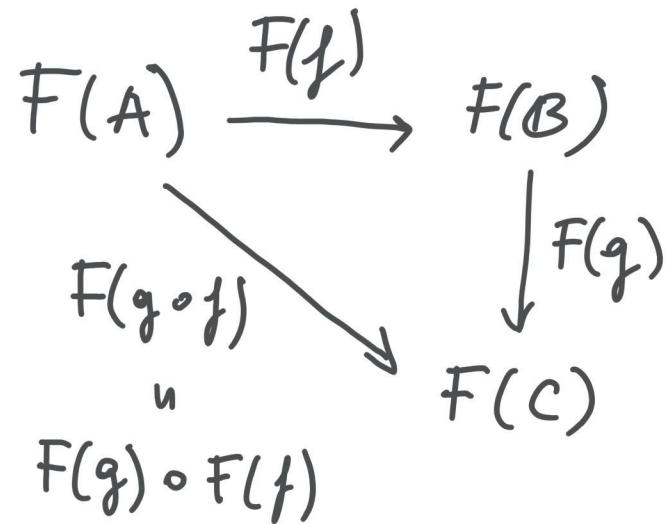
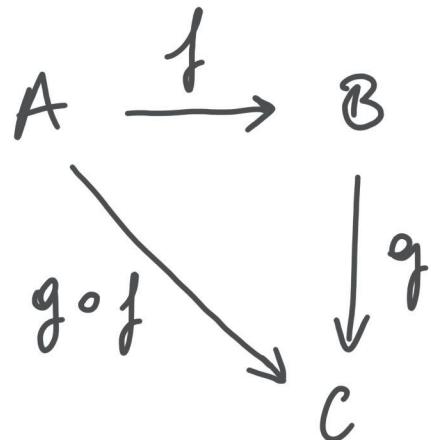
$$\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}) = \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$$



"Duality principle": Every definition, theorem, ... in  $\mathcal{C}$   
has a dual equivalent in  $\mathcal{C}^{\text{op}}$

# Functors

$$F: \mathcal{C} \longrightarrow \mathcal{D}$$

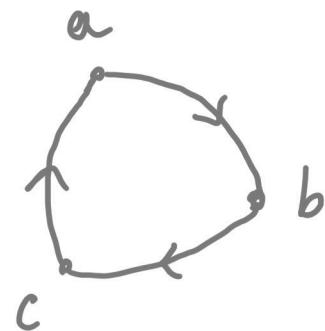
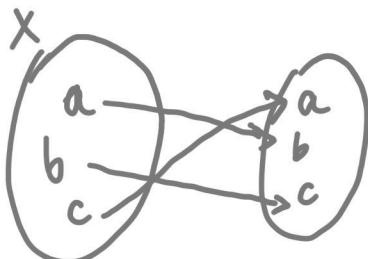


"Functors are just morphisms of categories"

## Examples

- discrete dynamical systems  $\rightarrow$  directed graphs

$$(X, f: X \rightarrow X) \longmapsto (X, \{(x, f(x)) \mid x \in X\})$$



- Polymorphic types

- List  $[a]$ , Maybe a

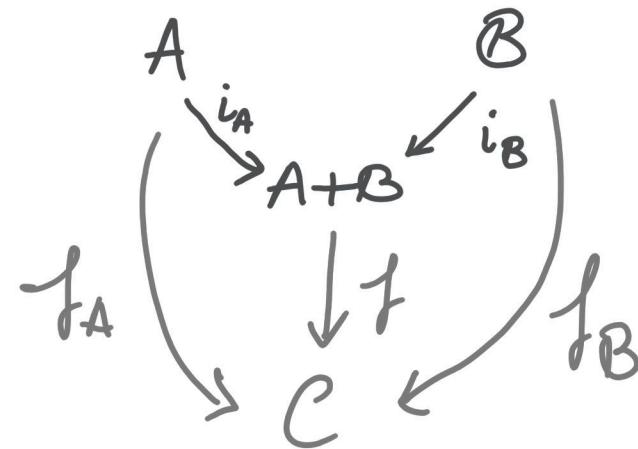
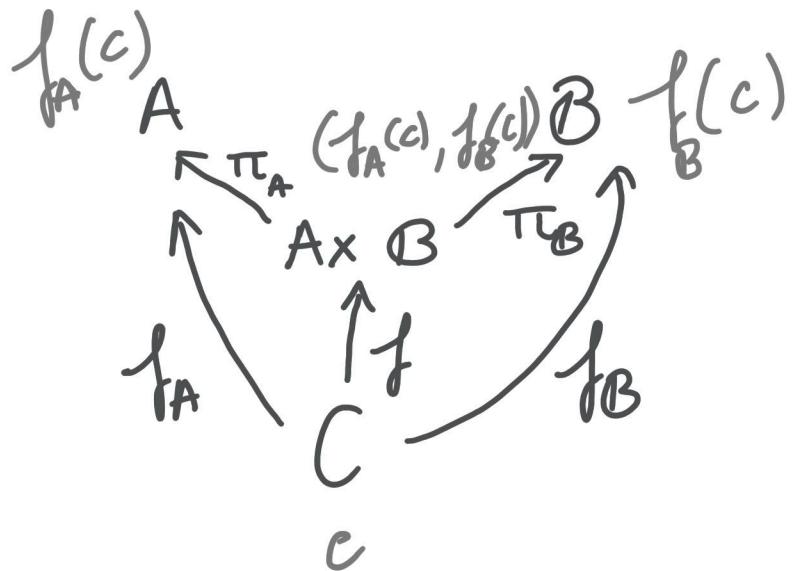
- dual vector space

$$\text{Vect}_{\mathbb{R}}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Vect}_{\mathbb{R}}$$

$$V \longmapsto V^* = \{g: V \rightarrow \mathbb{R}, g \text{ linear}\}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} V & \longrightarrow & V^* \\ f \downarrow & & \uparrow f^* \\ W & \longrightarrow & W^* \end{array} \quad [f^*(g)](v) = g(f(v))$$

# Products and Coproducts



Examples

Sets: Cartesian product

disjoint union

Types: "product" type (tuples)

"sum" types (unions, enums)

$(a, b)$

Either a b

# Monoidal Categories

A  $\downarrow$  monoidal category is a category  $\mathcal{C}$  with:  
(strict)

- a functor  $\otimes: \mathcal{C} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$
- a unit  $I \in \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$

s.t.

$$A \otimes (B \otimes C) \simeq (A \otimes B) \otimes C$$

$$(a, (b, c)) \simeq ((a, b), c)$$

$$A \otimes I \simeq A \simeq I \otimes A$$

$$(a, ()) \quad a \quad (((), a))$$

Categories with finite products are monoidal

## Application: Gradient Based learning

Goal : model Machine learning models  
trained by gradient descent  
→ programs

We need :

- Parameters
  - data
  - gradients (backprop)
  - parameter updates

→ programs that take parameters, data, ...  
and modify them

## Parameterized category

For a [strict] monoidal category  $(\mathcal{C}, \otimes, I)$

$\text{Para}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{parameterized over } \mathcal{C}$

objects :  $\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$

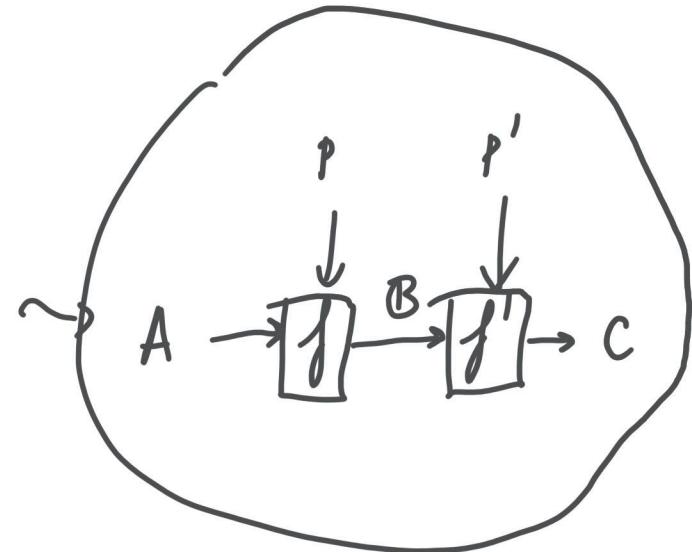
arrows  $(P, f)$   
 $\downarrow$   
 $\in \mathcal{C}$        $f: P \otimes A \rightarrow B$

$\text{id}_A = (I, \text{id}_A)$

$(P, f); (P', g) = (P' \otimes P, (1 \otimes f); g)$

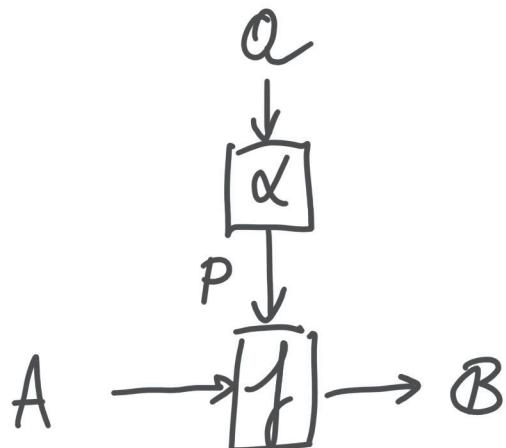
$(P', g) \circ (P, f)$

# String diagrams



• Reparameterization

$$(P, f) : A \rightarrow B \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} \\ \alpha : Q \rightarrow P \end{array} \right\} (Q, (\alpha \circ \gamma_A); f)$$



# Lenses ( $\rightsquigarrow$ parameter updates)

For a Cartesian category  $\mathcal{C}$

$\text{Lens}(\mathcal{C})$

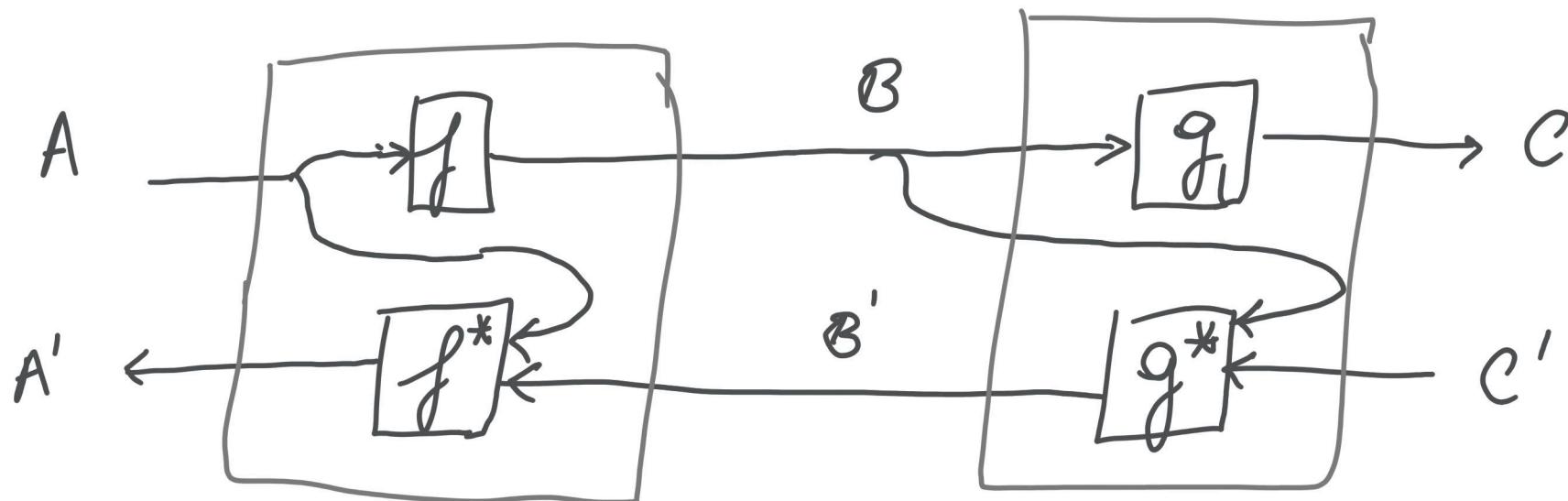
objects  $(A, A')$   $(A, A' \in \mathcal{C})$   
↓      ↓  
state    update

arrows  $(f, f^*): (A, A') \rightarrow (B, B')$   
 $f: A \rightarrow B$   
 $f^*: A \times B' \rightarrow A'$

## Composition of morphisms in $\text{Lens}(\mathcal{C})$

$$(g, g^*) \circ (f, f^*) = (g \circ f,$$

$$\langle \pi_0, \langle \pi_0; f, \pi_1 \rangle; g^* \rangle; f^*$$



$$(a, c') \mapsto f^*(a, g^*(f(a), c'))$$

# Parametric lenses

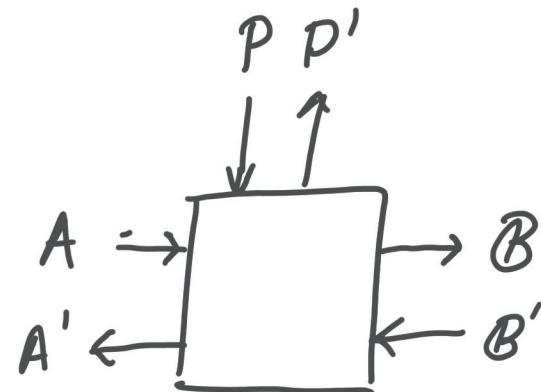
$\text{Para}(\text{Lens}(\ell))$

objects :  $(A, A')$

arrows :  $(f, f^*) : (A, A') \times (P, P') \rightarrow (B, B')$

$f : P \times A \rightarrow B$

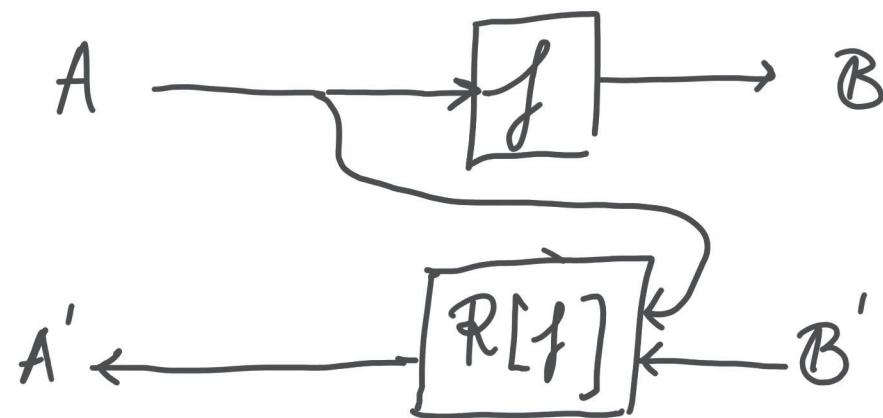
$f^* : P \times A \times B' \rightarrow P' \times A'$



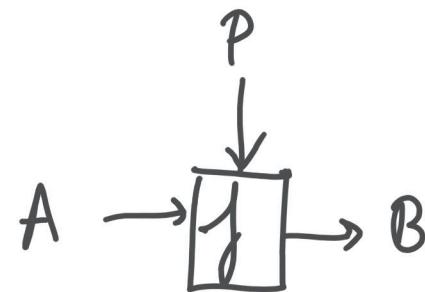
# Cartesian Reverse Differential category

to each map  $f: A \rightarrow B$ , we have

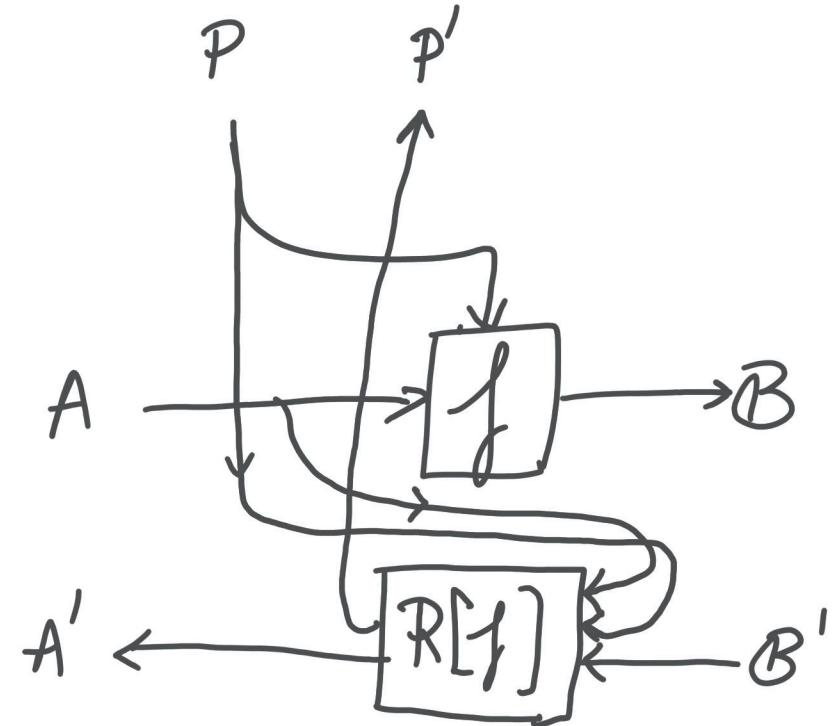
$$R[f]: A \times B' \rightarrow A' \quad (\text{backpropagation})$$



# Models as parametric lenses

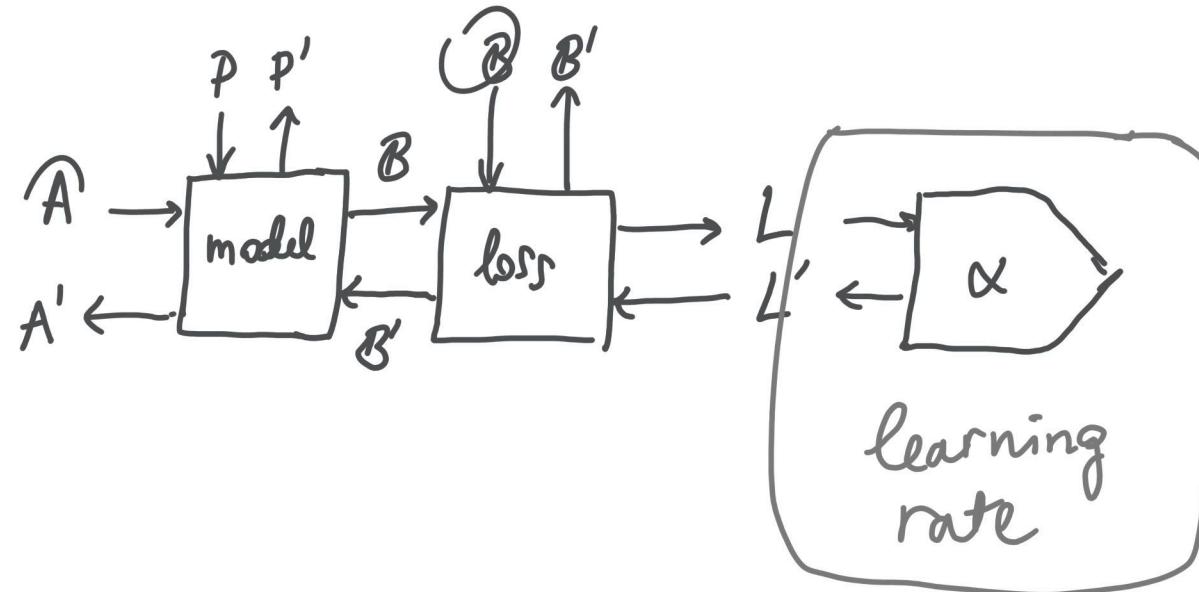


Para( $\mathcal{R}$ )  
↓



## Components :

Loss map



# Optimizers as Reparameterizations

- gradient update

$$(G, G^*): (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}') \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}')$$

$$G(\varphi) = \varphi$$

$$G^*(\varphi, \varphi') = \varphi + \varphi'$$

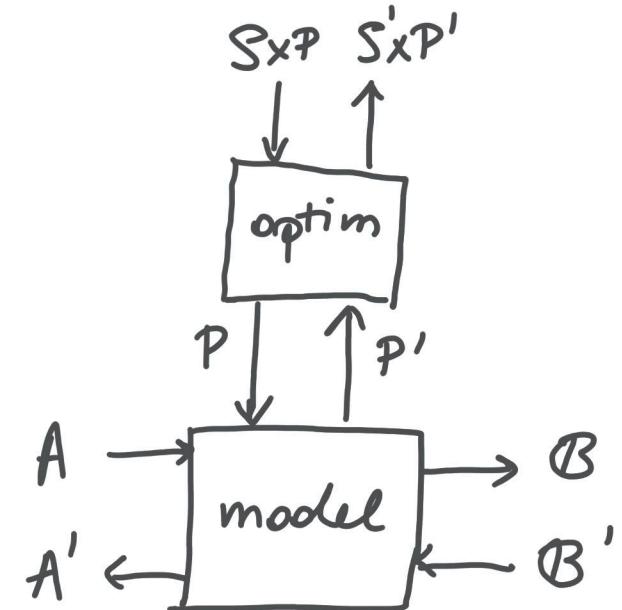
- Stateful parameter update

$$U: (\mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{S} \times \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}')$$

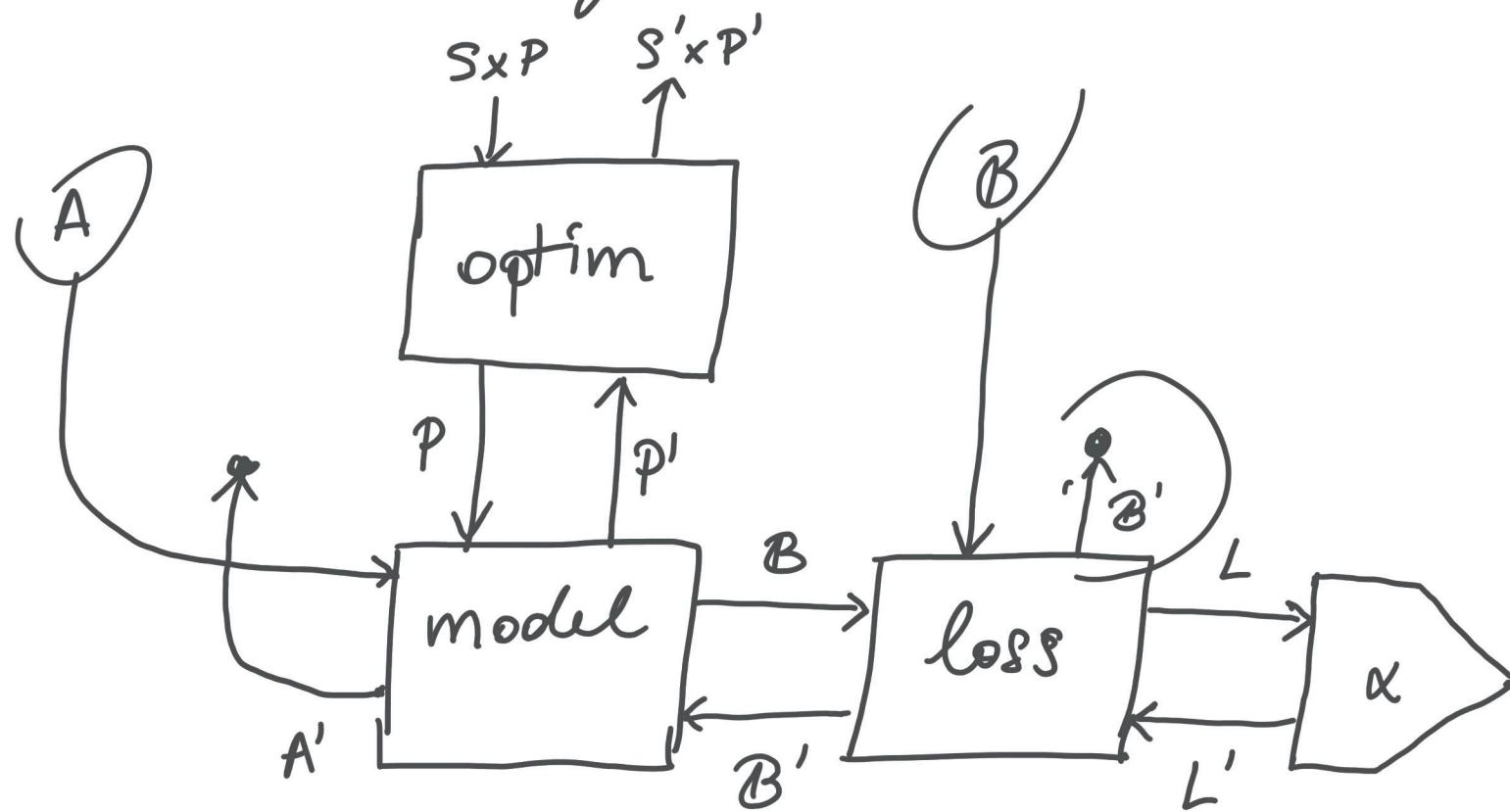
e.g. momentum  $(U, U^*): (\mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P} \times \mathcal{P}) \rightarrow (\mathcal{P}, \mathcal{P}')$

$$U(s, \varphi) = \varphi$$

$$U^*(s, \varphi, \varphi') = (s', \varphi + s') \xrightarrow{\text{L}} -\gamma s + \varphi'$$



# Supervised learning



Bonus : "A Monad is a Monoid in the category of endofunctors,"

