

## APPENDIX A. 2-DIMENSIONAL SUPERNATURALITY.

We recall (see §1.2; see [EK66, ML98]) that given categories  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}$  and functors  $P: \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ ,  $Q: \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ , an *extranatural transformation*  $\alpha: P \rightrightarrows Q$  consist of a collection of arrows in  $\mathcal{D}$

$$\{\alpha_{abc}: P(a, b, b) \longrightarrow Q(a, c, c)\}$$

indexed by triples of object in  $\mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B} \times \mathcal{C}$  such that the following hexagonal diagram commutes for every morphism  $f: a \rightarrow a'$ ,  $g: b \rightarrow b'$ ,  $h: c \rightarrow c'$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} P(a, b', b) & \xrightarrow{P(f, b', g)} & P(a', b', b') & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{a'b'c}} & Q(a', c, c) \\ \downarrow P(a, g, b) & & & & \downarrow Q(a', c, h) \\ P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{\alpha_{abc'}} & Q(a, c', c') & \xrightarrow{Q(f, h, c')} & Q(a', c, c'); \end{array}$$

Notice how this commutative hexagon can be equivalently described as the juxtaposition of three distinguished commutative squares, depicted in [EK66]: the three can be obtained letting respectively  $f$  and  $h$ ,  $f$  and  $g$ , or  $g$  and  $h$  be identities in the former diagram, which collapses from time to time to

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{P(f, b, b)} & P(a', b, b) & & P(a, b', b) & \xrightarrow{P(a, b', g)} & P(a', b', b') & & P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{\theta_{abc}} & Q(a, c, c) \\ \theta_{abc} \downarrow & & \downarrow \theta_{a'bc} & & \downarrow \theta_{a'bc} & & \downarrow \theta_{ab'c} & & \theta_{abc'} \downarrow & & \downarrow Q(a, c, h) \\ Q(a, c, c) & \xrightarrow{Q(f, c, c)} & Q(a', c, c) & & P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{\theta_{abc}} & Q(a, c, c) & & Q(a, c', c') & \xrightarrow{Q(a, h, c')} & Q(a, c, c') \end{array}$$

Now we are interested in a 2-dimensional enhancement of this definition, for 2-categories  $\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{B}, \mathcal{C}, \mathcal{D}$  and 2-functors  $P: \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  and  $Q: \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$ .

A tentative definition of a 2-co/wedge was in fact given in [Boz77], and a particular case of the following definition, having  $P$  or  $Q$  a constant 2-functor, was given in [ ]; we've been unable to find additional relevant literature on the topic.

**Lemma A.1** [THE  $*_F$  NOTATION]: ...

**Definition A.2** : A *lax extranatural transformation* between *strict* 2-functors  $P: \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{B}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  and  $Q: \mathcal{A} \times \mathcal{C}^{\text{op}} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{D}$  consists of a family of 1-cells  $\theta_{abc}: P(a, b, b) \rightarrow Q(a, c, c)$  and 2-cells  $\theta_{fgh}$ , one for each  $f: a \rightarrow a'$ ,  $g: b \rightarrow b'$ ,  $h: c \rightarrow c'$ , filling the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} P(a, b', b) & \xrightarrow{P(f, b', g)} & P(a', b', b') & \xrightarrow{\theta_{a'b'c}} & Q(a', c, c) \\ \downarrow P(a, g, b) & & & & \downarrow Q(a', c, h) \\ P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{\theta_{abc'}} & Q(a, c', c') & \xrightarrow{Q(f, h, c')} & Q(a', c, c'); \end{array}$$

and such that the following coherence conditions are satisfied:

- (1) The diagram of 2-cells

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{ccc} P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{P(f, b, b)} & P(a', b, b) \\ \theta_{abc} \downarrow & \Downarrow P_\alpha & \downarrow \theta_{a'bc} \\ Q(a, c, c) & \xrightarrow{Q(f', c, c)} & Q(a', c, c) \end{array} & = & \begin{array}{ccc} P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{P(f, b, b)} & P(a', b, b) \\ \theta_{abc} \downarrow & \Downarrow \theta_{f11} & \downarrow \theta_{a'bc} \\ Q(a, c, c) & \xrightarrow{Q(f', c, c)} & Q(a', c, c) \end{array} \end{array}$$

commutes for each 2-cell  $\alpha: f \Rightarrow f'$ ;

(2) The diagram of 2-cells

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 P(a, b', b) & \xrightarrow{P(a, b, g)} & P(a, b', b') \\
 \downarrow P(a, b', g') & \Downarrow P_\beta & \downarrow \theta_{ab'c} \\
 P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{P(a, b, g')} & P(a, b, b') \\
 \downarrow \theta_{1g'1} & \searrow \theta_{1g'1} & \downarrow \theta_{ab'c} \\
 P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{\theta_{abc}} & Q(a, c, c)
 \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc}
 P(a, b', b) & \xrightarrow{P(a, b', g)} & P(a, b', b') \\
 \downarrow P(a, g', b) & \Downarrow \overline{P}_\beta & \downarrow \theta_{ab'c} \\
 P(a, g', b) & \xrightarrow{P(a, g, b)} & P(a, g, b) \\
 \downarrow \theta_{1g1} & \searrow \theta_{1g1} & \downarrow \theta_{ab'c} \\
 P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{\theta_{abc}} & Q(a, c, c)
 \end{array}$$

commutes for each 2-cell  $\beta: g \Rightarrow g'$ ;

(3) The diagram of 2-cells

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{\theta_{abc}} & Q(a, c, c) \\
 \downarrow \theta_{abc'} & \searrow \theta_{11h} & \downarrow Q(a, c, h) \\
 Q(a, c', c') & \xrightarrow{Q(a, h, c')} & Q(a, c, c') \\
 \downarrow Q_\gamma & \searrow Q_\gamma & \downarrow Q(a, h', c') \\
 Q(a, c', c') & \xrightarrow{Q(a, h', c')} & Q(a, c, c')
 \end{array} = \begin{array}{ccc}
 P(a, b, b) & \xrightarrow{\theta_{abc}} & Q(a, c, c) \\
 \downarrow \theta_{abc'} & \searrow \theta_{11h'} & \downarrow Q(a, c, h) \\
 Q(a, c', c') & \xrightarrow{Q(a, h', c')} & Q(a, c, c') \\
 \downarrow Q_\gamma & \searrow Q_\gamma & \downarrow Q(a, h', c') \\
 Q(a, c', c') & \xrightarrow{Q(a, h', c')} & Q(a, c, c')
 \end{array}$$

commutes for each 2-cell  $\gamma: h \Rightarrow h'$ ;

(4) The 2-cell  $\theta_{\text{id}, \text{id}, \text{id}}$  coincides with the identity 2-cell of  $\theta_{abc}: P(a, b, b) \rightarrow Q(a, c, c)$ ;

(5) There are compatibilities with the composition...

**F says :** Open questions:

- Are these conditions sufficient (guess: no, we miss coherence for composition, identities)?
- Is it necessary to take into account also  $A^{\text{co}}, B^{\text{co}}$ , etc.?
- Is it possible to package these three conditions in a single commutative diagram of 2-cells (hint: maybe, using the  $\beta *_P \alpha$  notation)?

## REFERENCES

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