

# Diagrams Lemmas in Extriangulated Categories

Chencheng Zhang

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## Abstract

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# 1 Preliminaries

## 1.1 Axiom of Extriangulated Categories

Extriangulated categories were introduced by Nakaoka and Palu in [11], which simultaneously generalise exact categories and triangulated categories. We recall the basic definitions from [11].

**Notation.** We fix an additive category  $\mathcal{C}$  and an additive bifunctor

$$\mathbb{E} : \mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Ab}, \quad (X, Y) \mapsto \mathbb{E}(Y, X). \quad (1.1.1)$$

We introduce some notations concerning  $\mathbb{E}$ .

- For any morphism  $f \in \text{Mor}(\mathcal{C})$ , we denote the natural transformation  $f^* := \mathbb{E}(f, -)$  and  $g_* := \mathbb{E}(-, g)$ . Note that the bifunctionality implies  $f_* g^* = g^* f_*$ .
- A morphism of extension elements  $\delta \rightarrow \delta'$  is a pair of morphisms  $(\alpha; \gamma)$  such that  $\alpha_* \delta = \gamma^* \delta'$ .
- For any  $\delta \in \mathbb{E}(Z, X)$  and  $\delta' \in \mathbb{E}(Z', X')$ , we denote  $\delta \oplus \delta' \in \mathbb{E}(Z \oplus Z', X \oplus X')$  as the image of  $(\delta, \delta') \in \mathbb{E}(Z, X) \oplus \mathbb{E}(Z', X')$  under the inclusion  $\mathbb{E}(Z, X) \oplus \mathbb{E}(Z', X') \hookrightarrow \mathbb{E}(Z \oplus Z', X \oplus X')$ .

We also fix  $\mathfrak{s}$  as a collection of “mappings” sending each  $\delta \in \mathbb{E}(Z, X)$  to an equivalence class of sequences  $[X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z]$ . Here two sequences  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$  and  $X \xrightarrow{f'} Y' \xrightarrow{g'} Z$  are equivalent if there exists an isomorphism  $\varphi : Y \rightarrow Y'$  such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \\ \parallel & & \cong \downarrow \varphi & & \parallel \\ X & \xrightarrow{f'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{g'} & Z \end{array}. \quad (1.1.2)$$

We begin with the axiom of extriangulated categories. An extriangulated category is characterised by a triple  $(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{E}, \mathfrak{s})$  satisfying a list of axioms, including ET1, ET2, ET3 ( $\text{ET3}^{op}$ ), ET4 ( $\text{ET4}^{op}$ ).

**Axiom (ET1).**  $\mathcal{C}$  is an additive category, and  $\mathbb{E} : \mathcal{C}^{op} \times \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \text{Ab}$  is an additive bifunctor.

**Axiom (ET2).**  $\mathfrak{s}$  is an additive realisation, which satisfies the following conditions.

- (Additive).  $\delta(0) = [X \xrightarrow{(1)} X \oplus Y \xrightarrow{(0,1)} Y]$ . For any  $\delta_1, \delta_2$ ,  $\mathfrak{s}(\delta_1 \oplus \delta_2) = \mathfrak{s}(\delta_1) \oplus \mathfrak{s}(\delta_2)$ , explicitly,

$$[X_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} Y_1 \xrightarrow{g_1} Z_1] \oplus [X_2 \xrightarrow{f_2} Y_2 \xrightarrow{g_2} Z_2] = [X_1 \oplus X_2 \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} f_1 & 0 \\ 0 & f_2 \end{smallmatrix}\right)} Y_1 \oplus Y_2 \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} g_1 & 0 \\ 0 & g_2 \end{smallmatrix}\right)} Z_1 \oplus Z_2]. \quad (1.1.3)$$

- (Realisation). For any morphism of extension elements  $(\alpha; \gamma) : \delta \rightarrow \delta'$ , we take arbitrary representatives  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$  of  $\mathfrak{s}(\delta)$  and  $X' \xrightarrow{f'} Y' \xrightarrow{g'} Z'$  of  $\mathfrak{s}(\delta')$ . Then there exists  $\beta : Y \rightarrow Y'$  such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \\ \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma \\ X' & \xrightarrow{f'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{g'} & Z' \end{array}. \quad (1.1.4)$$

**Notation.** For triple  $(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{E}, \mathfrak{s})$  satisfying ET1 and ET2, we denote an element of  $\mathfrak{s}(\delta)$  by  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \dashrightarrow^\delta$ . We call it an  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation,  $f$  an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, and  $g$  an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation. A morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations is a triple  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta)$  is a morphism of extension elements, and the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \dashrightarrow^\delta \\ \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma \\ X' & \xrightarrow{f'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{g'} & Z' \dashrightarrow^{\delta'} \end{array} \quad (\alpha_* \delta = \gamma^* \delta'). \quad (1.1.5)$$

**Axiom (ET3).** For  $\beta \circ f = f' \circ \alpha$  where  $f$  and  $f'$  are  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations, there exists  $\gamma$  making  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  a morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \dashrightarrow^\delta \\ \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma \\ X' & \xrightarrow{f'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{g'} & Z' \dashrightarrow^{\delta'} \end{array}. \quad (1.1.6)$$

**Axiom (ET3<sup>OP</sup>).** For  $\gamma \circ g = g' \circ \gamma$  where  $g$  and  $g'$  are  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations, there exists  $\alpha$  making  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  a morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \\ \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma \\ X' & \xrightarrow{f'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{g'} & Z' \end{array} \dashrightarrow . \quad (1.1.7)$$

**Axiom (ET4).** Let  $A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} D \dashrightarrow$  and  $B \xrightarrow{u} C \xrightarrow{v} E \dashrightarrow$  be  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. There exists a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & D & \dashrightarrow & \\ \parallel & & u \downarrow & & w \downarrow & & \\ A & \dashrightarrow_m & C & \dashrightarrow_h & F & \dashrightarrow_\theta & \\ v \downarrow & & q \downarrow & & & & \\ E & \equiv & E & & & & \\ \downarrow \varepsilon & & \downarrow \eta & & & & \end{array} \quad (1.1.8)$$

such that  $(1_A; u; w)$ ,  $(f; 1_C; q)$  and  $(g; h; 1_E)$  are morphisms of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

**Axiom (ET4<sup>OP</sup>).** Let  $A \xrightarrow{m} C \xrightarrow{h} F \dashrightarrow$  and  $F \xrightarrow{w} F \xrightarrow{q} E \dashrightarrow$  be  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. There exists a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A & \dashrightarrow_f & B & \dashrightarrow_g & D & \dashrightarrow & \\ \parallel & & u \downarrow & & w \downarrow & & \\ A & \xrightarrow{m} & C & \xrightarrow{h} & F & \dashrightarrow_\theta & \\ v \downarrow & & q \downarrow & & & & \\ E & \equiv & E & & & & \\ \downarrow \varepsilon & & \downarrow \eta & & & & \end{array} \quad (1.1.9)$$

such that  $(1_A; u; w)$ ,  $(f; 1_C; q)$  and  $(g; h; 1_E)$  are morphisms of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

## 1.2 Corollaries of Six-term Long Exact Sequences

**Lemma 1.1 (Corollary 3.12. [11]).** For any conflation  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \dashrightarrow$ , one has the following two exact sequences of functors:

$$\mathcal{C}(-, X) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(-, f)} \mathcal{C}(-, Y) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(-, g)} \mathcal{C}(-, Z) \xrightarrow{\delta^\sharp} \mathbb{E}(-, X) \xrightarrow{f_*} \mathbb{E}(-, Y) \xrightarrow{g_*} \mathbb{E}(-, Z), \quad (1.2.1)$$

$$\mathcal{C}(Z, -) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(g, -)} \mathcal{C}(Y, -) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}(f, -)} \mathcal{C}(X, -) \xrightarrow{\delta^\sharp} \mathbb{E}(Z, -) \xrightarrow{g^*} \mathbb{E}(Y, -) \xrightarrow{f^*} \mathbb{E}(X, -). \quad (1.2.2)$$

Here  $\delta^\sharp : \mathcal{C}(-, Z) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}(-, X)$  is a natural transformation sending  $T \xrightarrow{\varphi} Z$  to  $\varphi^* \delta$ , and  $\delta^\sharp : \mathcal{C}(X, -) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}(Z, -)$  is a natural transformation sending  $X \xrightarrow{\psi} T$  to  $\psi_* \delta$ .

**Corollary 1.2.** We show some corollaries of six-term long exact sequences.

1. (**Corollary 3.5. [11]**). Let  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \dashrightarrow$  be an  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation. Then  $f$  is a section if and only if  $g$  is a retraction if and only if  $\delta = 0$ .
2. A monic deflation is a section, and an epic inflation is a retraction.
3. (**Corollary 3.6. [11]**). Let  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  be a morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. If two of  $\alpha, \beta, \gamma$  are isomorphisms, so is the third one.
4. Any  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation ( $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation) fits into an  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation unique up to isomorphisms.

We only show the second statement here.

*Proof.* We consider an  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \dashrightarrow$  where  $g$  is monic. By eq. (1.2.1),  $\mathcal{C}(-, f)$  is zero. Hence,  $f = 0$ . By eq. (1.2.2),  $\mathcal{C}(g, -)$  is epic. Thus, for the identity morphism  $1_Y$ , there exists  $h : Y \rightarrow X$  such that  $hf = 1_Y$ . Therefore,  $f$  is a section. The dual argument is analogous.  $\square$

Thanks to 2. in corollary 1.2, we obtain two strict forms of ET4 axiom.

**Lemma 1.3.** Let  $A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} D \dashrightarrow^\delta$ ,  $B \xrightarrow{u} C \xrightarrow{v} E \dashrightarrow^\varepsilon$ , and  $A \xrightarrow{m} C \xrightarrow{h} F \dashrightarrow^\theta$  be conflations. Then there exists a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & D & \dashrightarrow^\delta \\
\parallel & & u \downarrow & & w \downarrow & & \\
A & \xrightarrow{m} & C & \xrightarrow{h} & F & \dashrightarrow^\theta \\
& & v \downarrow & & q \downarrow & & \\
E & \xlongequal{\quad} & E & & & & \\
& & \varepsilon \downarrow & & \eta \downarrow & &
\end{array} . \tag{1.2.3}$$

which satisfy the condition in ET4 axiom.

*Proof.* We apply ET4-axiom to conflations realising from  $\delta$  and  $\varepsilon$ . By 4. in [corollary 1.2](#),  $m = uf$  fits into a conflation of the form

$$A \xrightarrow{m} C \xrightarrow{\varphi^{-1}h} F' \dashrightarrow^{\varphi^*\theta} .$$

Here  $\varphi : F' \rightarrow F$  is an isomorphism.  $\square$

There is another strict form of ET4 axiom.

**Lemma 1.4.** Let  $A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} D \dashrightarrow^\delta$ ,  $D \xrightarrow{w} F \xrightarrow{q} E \dashrightarrow^\eta$ , and  $A \xrightarrow{m} C \xrightarrow{h} F \dashrightarrow^\theta$  be conflations. Then there exists a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & D & \dashrightarrow^\delta \\
\parallel & & u \downarrow & & w \downarrow & & \\
A & \xrightarrow{m} & C & \xrightarrow{h} & F & \dashrightarrow^\theta \\
& & v \downarrow & & q \downarrow & & \\
E & \xlongequal{\quad} & E & & & & \\
& & \varepsilon \downarrow & & \eta \downarrow & &
\end{array} . \tag{1.2.4}$$

*Proof.* Note that the deflation  $v = qh$  is uniquely determined. We take arbitrary realisation of  $\varepsilon$ . We apply [lemma 1.3](#) for realisations of  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\theta$  and  $\eta$ , there is an conflation  $A \xrightarrow{\varphi m} B' \xrightarrow{g\varepsilon^{-1}} D \dashrightarrow^\delta$ . Here  $\delta = w^*\theta$  is uniquely determined, and  $\varphi : B' \rightarrow B$  is an isomorphism.  $\square$

### 1.3 Pullbacks of Two $\mathbb{E}$ -Deflations

ET4 shows that pulling back (pushing out) an inflation along a deflation yields four merged conflations. There is also a result for pushing out (pulling back) two inflations (deflations) along each other.

**Proposition 1.5 (Proposition 3.15. [11]).** Let  $A_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} B_1 \xrightarrow{g_1} C \dashrightarrow^{\delta_1}$  and  $A_2 \xrightarrow{f_2} B_2 \xrightarrow{g_2} C \dashrightarrow^{\delta_2}$  be two conflations. Then there exists a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
A_2 & \xlongequal{\quad} & A_2 & & \\
\downarrow e_2 & & \downarrow f_2 & & \\
A_1 & \dashrightarrow^{e_1} & E & \dashrightarrow^{p_2} & B_2 \dashrightarrow^{(g_2)^*\delta_1} \\
\parallel & & \downarrow p_1 & & \downarrow g_2 \\
A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_1} & B_1 & \xrightarrow{g_1} & C \dashrightarrow^{\delta_1} \\
& & \downarrow (g_1)^*\delta_2 & & \downarrow \delta_2
\end{array} , \tag{1.3.1}$$

such that  $(1_{A_1}; p_2; g_2)$ ,  $(1_{A_2}; p_1; g_1)$  are morphisms of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations, and  $(e_1)_*\delta_1 + (e_2)_*\delta_2 = 0$ .

**Proposition 1.6.** We may choose  $A_1 \xrightarrow{e_1} E \xrightarrow{p_2} B_2 \dashrightarrow^{(g_2)^*\delta_1}$  in [proposition 1.5](#) to be any conflation realised from  $(g_2)^*\delta_1$ .

*Proof.* The proof is similar to that of [lemma 1.4](#), by 2. in [corollary 1.2](#).  $\square$

*Remark.* We denote  $e_1 : A_1 \rightarrow E$  and  $e_2 : A_2 \rightarrow E$  in a general diagram eq. (1.3.1) consisting of four conflations, three commutative squares. There is no  $e_{1*}\delta_1 + e_{2*}\delta_2 = 0$  in general. For instance, consider the following diagram in a triangulated category with shift functor  $\Sigma$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
X & \xlongequal{\quad} & X & \xlongequal{\quad} & \\
\downarrow \varphi & & \downarrow & & \\
X & \dashrightarrow^{\psi} & X & \dashrightarrow & 0 \dashrightarrow^0 \\
\parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
X & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & \Sigma X \dashrightarrow^{1_{\Sigma X}} \\
& & \downarrow 0 & & \downarrow 1_{\Sigma X}
\end{array} \tag{1.3.2}$$

$\varphi$  and  $\psi$  are chosen to be arbitrary isomorphisms. We do not have  $\varphi_*(1_{\Sigma X}) + \psi_*(1_{\Sigma X}) = 0$  in general.

**Proposition 1.7 (Proposition 3.17. [11]).** *Given three conflations (in solid arrows), there is a way to complete the diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
A_2 & \xlongequal{\quad} & A_2 & \xlongequal{\quad} & \\
\downarrow e_2 & & \downarrow f_2 & & \\
A_1 \xrightarrow{e_1} E \xrightarrow{p_2} B_2 \dashrightarrow^{\eta} & & & & \\
\parallel & \downarrow p_1 & \downarrow g_2 & & \\
A_1 \xrightarrow{f_1} B_1 \xrightarrow{g_1} C \dashrightarrow^{\delta_1} & & & & \\
& \downarrow \varepsilon & \downarrow \delta_2 & &
\end{array} \tag{1.3.3}$$

which satisfy the condition of proposition 1.8.

## 1.4 Pushouts of Two $\mathbb{E}$ -Inflations

We revisit the dual statements section 1.3.

**Proposition 1.8** (Dual to proposition 1.5). *Let  $A \xrightarrow{f_1} B_1 \xrightarrow{g_1} C_1 \dashrightarrow^{\delta_1}$  and  $A \xrightarrow{f_2} B_2 \xrightarrow{g_2} C_2 \dashrightarrow^{\delta_2}$  be two conflations. Then there exists a commutative diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
A & \xrightarrow{f_2} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_2} & C_2 \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon_2} \\
\downarrow f_1 & & \downarrow e_2 & & \parallel \\
B_1 \dashrightarrow^{e_1} E \dashrightarrow^{p_2} C_2 \dashrightarrow^{(f_1)_*\varepsilon_2} & & & & \\
\downarrow g_1 & & \downarrow p_1 & & \\
C_1 & \xlongequal{\quad} & C_1 & \xlongequal{\quad} & \\
\downarrow \varepsilon_1 & & \downarrow (f_2)_*\varepsilon_1 & &
\end{array}, \tag{1.4.1}$$

such that  $(f_1; 1_{C_2}; p_2)$ ,  $(f_2; 1_{C_1}; p_1)$  are morphisms of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations, and  $(f_1)_*\varepsilon_2 + (f_2)_*\varepsilon_1 = 0$ .

**Proposition 1.9** (Dual to proposition 1.6). *We may choose  $B_1 \xrightarrow{e_1} E \xrightarrow{p_2} C_2 \dashrightarrow^{(f_1)_*\varepsilon_2}$  in proposition 1.8 to be any conflation realised from  $(f_1)_*\varepsilon_2$ .*

**Proposition 1.10** (Dual to proposition 1.7). *Given three conflations (in solid arrows), there is a way to complete the diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
A & \xrightarrow{f_2} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_2} & C_2 \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon_2} \\
\downarrow f_1 & & \downarrow e_2 & & \parallel \\
B_1 \xrightarrow{e_1} E \xrightarrow{p_2} C_2 \dashrightarrow^{\eta} & & & & \\
\downarrow g_1 & & \downarrow p_1 & & \\
C_1 & \xlongequal{\quad} & C_1 & \xlongequal{\quad} & \\
\downarrow \varepsilon_1 & & \downarrow \varepsilon & &
\end{array}, \tag{1.4.2}$$

which satisfy the condition of proposition 1.8.

## 2 Homotopic Square

### 2.1 Homotopic squares and morphisms

The concept of homotopic squares originated from triangulated categories ([1]), and was generalised to  $n$ -angulated ([9]) and extriangulated ([4]) cases. This concept is a generalisation of both pullback-and-pushout squares in exact categories, and homotopic bicartesian squares in triangulated categories.

**Definition 2.1 (Definition 3.1. [4]).** A *homotopic square* in an extriangulated category is a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{u} & B_1 \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow g \\ A_2 & \xrightarrow{v} & B_2 \end{array}, \quad (2.1.1)$$

such that  $A_1 \xrightarrow{(f,u)} B_1 \oplus A_2 \xrightarrow{(v,-g)} B_2 \dashrightarrow$  is a conflation.

*Remark.* There are various of names of homotopic squares in literature, e.g. homotopy bicartesian squares, homotopy pullback squares, Mayer-Vietoris squares, or distinguished weak squares. We use the name *homotopic square* for simplicity.

**Notation.** We use  $\boxed{\varepsilon}$  to denote the extension element associated with the homotopic square as in eq. (2.1.1).

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{u} & B_1 \\ \downarrow f & \boxed{\varepsilon} & \downarrow g \\ A_2 & \xrightarrow{v} & B_2 \end{array} \quad A_1 \xrightarrow{(-u)} B_1 \oplus A_2 \xrightarrow{(v,g)} B_2 \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon} . \quad (2.1.2)$$

The circled arrow indicates the morphism with a negative sign in the  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation. We omit the content in  $\square$  and the circled arrow when there is no confusion.

**Proposition 2.2.** *Homotopic squares are weak pullback and weak pushout squares.*

*Proof.* To show eq. (2.1.2) is a weak pullback square, it is equivalent to show that  $(-_u)$  is a weak kernel of  $(v,g)$ . This is clear by long exact sequences eq. (1.2.1). The dual statement is similar.  $\square$

**Definition 2.3.** Say a morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is *homotopic*, provided

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \dashrightarrow^{\kappa} \\ \alpha \downarrow & \boxed{t^* \kappa} & \downarrow \beta_1 & & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{s} & E & \xrightarrow{t} & Z \dashrightarrow \\ \parallel & & \beta_2 \downarrow & \boxed{s_* \varepsilon} & \downarrow \gamma \\ A & \xrightarrow{u} & B & \xrightarrow{v} & C \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon} \end{array} \quad (\beta = \beta_2 \circ \beta_1) . \quad (2.1.3)$$

We revisit some results in completing two morphisms into a homotopic square.

**Lemma 2.4 (Proposition 1.20. [10]).** Let  $(f; 1_Z)$  be a morphism of extensions. We can find a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{u} & Y & \xrightarrow{v} & Z \dashrightarrow^{\delta} \\ f \downarrow & \boxed{v'^* \delta} & \downarrow g & & \parallel \\ X' & \xrightarrow{u'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{v'} & Z \dashrightarrow^{f_* \delta} \end{array} , \quad (2.1.4)$$

such that  $(f; g; 1_Z)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

**Lemma 2.5 (Theorem 3.3. in [8]).** For any  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations  $v$  and  $v'$  with  $v'g = v$ , one can find a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{u} & Y & \xrightarrow{v} & Z \dashrightarrow^{\delta} \\ f \downarrow & \boxed{v'^* \delta} & \downarrow g & & \parallel \\ X' & \xrightarrow{u'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{v'} & Z \dashrightarrow^{f_* \delta} \end{array} , \quad (2.1.5)$$

such that  $(f; g; 1_Z)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

**Lemma 2.6** (Dual to lemma 2.4). Let  $(1_X; h)$  be a morphism of extensions. We can find a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{u} & Y & \xrightarrow{v} & Z \dashrightarrow^{h^* \varepsilon} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow g & & \downarrow h \\ X & \xrightarrow{u'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{v'} & Z' \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon} \end{array} , \quad (2.1.6)$$

such that  $(1_X; g; h)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

**Lemma 2.7** (Dual to lemma 2.5). *For any  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations  $u$  and  $u'$  with  $u'f = u$ , one can find a commutative diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{u} & Y & \xrightarrow{v} & Z \xrightarrow{\text{---}\delta\text{---}} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow g & \boxed{u_*\delta} & \downarrow h \\ X & \xrightarrow{u'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{v'} & Z' \xrightarrow{\text{---}\varepsilon\text{---}} \end{array}, \quad (2.1.7)$$

such that  $(1_X; g; h)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

The above lemmas demonstrate that the completion of morphisms of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations in ET2, ET3,  $\text{ET3}^{\text{op}}$  can be made homotopic.

**Theorem 2.8.** *Let  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  be a morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. Then there are modifications  $(\alpha'; \beta; \gamma)$ ,  $(\alpha; \beta'; \gamma)$ , and  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma')$  which are all homotopic morphisms of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \xrightarrow{\text{---}\delta\text{---}} \\ \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma \\ A & \xrightarrow{u} & B & \xrightarrow{v} & C \xrightarrow{\text{---}\varepsilon\text{---}} \end{array} \quad (\alpha_*\delta = \gamma^*\varepsilon). \quad (2.1.8)$$

*Proof.* We show the existence of  $\beta'$ . We realise  $\alpha_*\delta = \gamma^*\varepsilon$  by any  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation, and take  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  by lemma 2.4 and lemma 2.6 respectively.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \xrightarrow{\text{---}\delta\text{---}} \\ \downarrow \alpha & \square & \downarrow s & \beta & \parallel \\ A & \dashrightarrow a & M & \dashrightarrow b & Z \xrightarrow{\text{---}\alpha_*\delta=\gamma^*\varepsilon\text{---}} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow t & \square & \downarrow \gamma \\ A & \xrightarrow{u} & B & \xrightarrow{v} & C \xrightarrow{\text{---}\varepsilon\text{---}} \end{array} \quad (2.1.9)$$

Then  $\beta' = \beta_2 \circ \beta_1$  gives the desired modification.

We show the existence of  $\alpha'$ . By lemma 2.6, we can find a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \xrightarrow{\text{---}\delta\text{---}} \\ & \beta & \downarrow s & & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{a} & M & \xrightarrow{b} & Z \xrightarrow{\text{---}\gamma^*\varepsilon\text{---}} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow t & \square & \downarrow \gamma \\ A & \xrightarrow{u} & B & \xrightarrow{v} & C \xrightarrow{\text{---}\varepsilon\text{---}} \end{array} \quad (2.1.10)$$

Since  $\square$  is a weak pullback square (proposition 2.2), there is  $s$  such that  $ts = \beta$  and  $bs = g$ . We complete  $\alpha : X \rightarrow A$  by lemma 2.5. The existence of  $\gamma'$  is dual to that of  $\alpha'$ .  $\square$

## 2.2 Morphism of $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations $(f; g; 1)$ revisited

We examine how  $(f; g; 1)$  fails to be a homotopic morphism of conflations. Here we fix

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{u} & Y & \xrightarrow{v} & Z \xrightarrow{\text{---}\delta\text{---}} \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow g & & \parallel \\ X' & \xrightarrow{u'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{v'} & Z \xrightarrow{\text{---}f_*\delta\text{---}} \end{array}. \quad (2.2.1)$$

**Lemma 2.9.** *For mapping sequence  $X \xrightarrow{(u_f)} Y \oplus X' \xrightarrow{(g, -u')} Y' \xrightarrow{v'^*\delta}$  associated to eq. (2.2.1), we have  $(g, -u') \circ (u_f) = 0$ ,  $(g, -u')^*(v'^*\delta) = 0$  and  $(u_f)_*(v'^*\delta) = 0$ .*

*Proof.* The commutative diagram shows  $(g, -u') \circ (u_f) = 0$ . We can also check

$$(g, -u')^*(v'^*\delta) = (v' \circ (g, -u'))^*\delta = (v, 0)^*\delta = 0. \quad (2.2.2)$$

By lemma 2.4 and long exact sequence eq. (1.2.2), we have  $(u_f)_*(v'^*\delta) = 0$ .  $\square$

**Proposition 2.10.** *In comparison to eq. (1.2.2), we have the following 6-term chain complex*

$$\mathcal{C}(Y', -) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{C}((g, -u'), -)} \mathcal{C}(Y \oplus X', -) \xrightarrow[\triangle]{\mathcal{C}((u_f), -)} \mathcal{C}(X, -) \xrightarrow[\triangle]{((v')^*\delta)^\sharp} \mathbb{E}(Y', -) \xrightarrow[\triangle]{(g, -u')^*} \mathbb{E}(Y \oplus X', -) \xrightarrow[\triangle]{((u_f))^*} \mathbb{E}(X, -), \quad (2.2.3)$$

which is exact at  $\mathcal{C}(Y \oplus X', -)$ ,  $\mathcal{C}(X, -)$ , and  $\mathbb{E}(Y \oplus X, -)$  (labelled by  $\triangle$ ).

*Proof.* We show exactness at each position.

1. (Exactness at  $\mathcal{C}(Y \oplus X', -)$ ). By [lemma 2.9](#),  $\ker \mathcal{C}((\frac{u}{f}), -) \supseteq \text{im } \mathcal{C}((g, -u'), -)$ . For the converse, we take  $(a, b)$  such that  $(a, b)(\frac{u}{f}) = 0$ . Since  $b_*(f_*\delta) = (au)_*\delta = 0$ , we find  $s$  such that  $su' = b$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} X & \xrightarrow{u} & Y & \xrightarrow{v} & Z & \dashrightarrow \delta & \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow g & \searrow a & \parallel & & \\ X' & \xrightarrow{u'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{v'} & Z & \dashrightarrow f_*\delta & . \\ & & & \swarrow s & \searrow t & & \\ & & & b & \curvearrowright T & & \end{array} \quad (2.2.4)$$

Since  $(sg - a)u = (su'f - au) = 0$ , there is  $t$  such that  $tv = (sg - a)$ . We can verify that

$$(s - tv')u' = su' = b, \quad (s - tv')g = sg - tv'gsg - (sg - a) = a. \quad (2.2.5)$$

Hence,  $(a, b)$  is in the image of  $\mathcal{C}((g, -u'), -)$ . It also shows that the left square is a weak poshout.

2. (Exactness at  $\mathcal{C}(X, -)$ ). There exists a homotopic square  $X \xrightarrow{(\frac{u}{f})} Y \oplus X' \xrightarrow{(\bar{g}, -u')} Y' \xrightarrow{(v')^*\delta}$  for some  $\bar{g}$  ([lemma 2.4](#)). By [eq. \(1.2.2\)](#), the exactness holds.

3. (At  $\mathbb{E}(Y', -)$ ). We show  $\text{im}((v')^*\delta)^\sharp \subseteq \ker(g, -u')^*$ . For any  $X \xrightarrow{\varphi} \cdot$ , we have  $(g, -u')^*(v')^*\delta(\varphi) = \varphi_*(v, 0)^*\delta = 0$ .

4. (Exactness at  $\mathbb{E}(Y \oplus X', -)$ ).  $(\bar{g}, -u')(\frac{u}{f}) = 0$  is clear. Conversely, we take any  $\varphi \in \mathbb{E}(Y \oplus X', T)$  such that  $(\frac{u}{f})^*\varepsilon = 0$ .

Note that there is a conflation  $X \xrightarrow{(\frac{u}{f})} Y \oplus X' \xrightarrow{(\bar{g}, -u')} Y' \xrightarrow{(v')^*\delta}$ , hence  $\varepsilon = (\bar{g}, -u')^*\eta$  for some  $\eta \in \mathbb{E}(Y', T)$ . By weak pushout square, we obtain  $s$  such that  $s(g, -u') = (\bar{g}, -u')$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} & \begin{array}{c} \text{--- } X \\ \downarrow (\frac{u}{f}) \\ Y \oplus X' \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{u} Y \\ \downarrow f \\ X' \xrightarrow{u'} Y' \xrightarrow{\bar{g}} \end{array} \\ \begin{array}{c} T \xrightarrow{i} M \xrightarrow{p} Y \oplus X' \\ \parallel \\ T \longrightarrow N \longrightarrow Y' \xrightarrow{\eta} \end{array} & \downarrow & \begin{array}{c} \text{--- } Y \\ \downarrow g \\ Y' \xrightarrow{\bar{g}} \end{array} \\ & \begin{array}{c} \text{--- } X \\ \downarrow (\frac{u}{f}) \\ Y \oplus X' \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} X \xrightarrow{u} Y \\ \downarrow f \\ X' \xrightarrow{u'} Y' \xrightarrow{\bar{g}} \end{array} \\ & \begin{array}{c} \text{--- } Y \\ \downarrow g \\ Y' \xrightarrow{\bar{g}} \end{array} & \begin{array}{c} \text{--- } Y \\ \downarrow g \\ Y' \xrightarrow{\bar{g}} \end{array} \end{array} \quad (2.2.6)$$

Hence  $\varepsilon = (g, -u')^*(s^*\eta)$ .

□

We show that the sufficient criterion for in [3] is also valid in extriangulated categories.

**Condition (Condition C).** Say a unital ring  $R$  satisfies condition **C**, if it satisfies **C1** and **C2**.

**C1** For any  $r \in R$ , there exists  $a \in R$  such that  $1 + r + ar^2$  is a unit in  $R$ , and

**C2** For any  $r \in R$ , there exists  $b \in R$  such that  $1 + r + r^2b$  is a unit in  $R$ .

For instance, a finite dimensional algebra over a field satisfies **C**.

The next theorem is slightly different from [Proposition 2.1](#) in [3].

**Proposition 2.11.** If  $Y'$  in [eq. \(2.2.1\)](#) satisfies condition **C1**, then  $\square$  is a homotopic square:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{u} & Y & \xrightarrow{v} & Z \xrightarrow{\delta} \\ \downarrow f & \square & \downarrow g & & \parallel \\ X' & \xrightarrow{u'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{v'} & Z \xrightarrow{f_*\delta} \end{array} \quad (2.2.7)$$

The extension element associated to  $\square$  is  $\theta^*(v'^*\delta)$  for some automorphism  $\theta \in \text{Aut}(Y')$ .

*Proof.* By [lemma 2.4](#), there is  $\bar{g} : Y \rightarrow Y'$  such that  $X \xrightarrow{(\frac{u}{f})} Y \oplus X' \xrightarrow{(\bar{g}, -u')} Y' \xrightarrow{(v')^*\delta}$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation. Since  $(g - \bar{g}) \circ u = 0$ , there is  $\varphi : Z \rightarrow Y'$  such that  $\varphi \circ v = (\bar{g} - g)$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{u} & Y & \xrightarrow{v} & Z \xrightarrow{\delta} \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow \bar{g} & \searrow \varphi & \parallel \\ X' & \xrightarrow{u'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{v'} & Z \xrightarrow{f_*\delta} \end{array} \quad (2.2.8)$$

By assumption **C1**, there is some  $a$  such that  $1 + (\varphi v') + a(\varphi v')^2$  is a unit. We can verify

$$(1 + (\varphi v') + a(\varphi v')^2)u' = u' + (\varphi + a\varphi v'\varphi) \circ (v'u') = u', \quad (2.2.9)$$

and

$$(1 + (\varphi v') + a(\varphi v')^2)g = \bar{g} - \varphi \circ v + \varphi(v'g) + a\varphi v'\varphi v'g = \bar{g} + a\varphi v'(\bar{g} - g) = \bar{g}. \quad (2.2.10)$$

□

**Proposition 2.12.** *If  $Y$  in eq. (2.2.11) satisfies condition **C2**, then  $\square$  is a homotopic square:*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{u} & Y & \xrightarrow{v} & Z \\ \parallel & & \downarrow g & \square & \downarrow h \\ X & \xrightarrow{u'} & Y' & \xrightarrow{v'} & Z' \end{array} \dashrightarrow^{h^*\varepsilon} \quad . \quad (2.2.11)$$

The extension element associated to  $\square$  is  $\theta_*(h^*\varepsilon)$  for some automorphism  $\theta \in \text{Aut}(Y)$ .

**Proposition 2.13.** *The left square in eq. (2.2.1) is not always homotopic, see Section 3 in [3].*

## 2.3 More examples of homotopic morphisms

We show more examples of homotopic morphisms.

**Example 2.14.** Let  $(\mathcal{A}, \mathcal{E})$  be an Ext<sup>1</sup>-small exact category. It has a natural extriangulated structure (Example 2.13. [11]). In this case,

1. all  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations are exactly short exact sequences in  $\mathcal{E}$ ,
2. any homotopic square is both a pushout and a pullback square, and
3. any morphisms of conflations are homotopic.

**Lemma 2.15.** *Let  $(f; g; h)$  be a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. Suppose there is an isomorphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  such that  $(f \circ \alpha; g \circ \beta; h \circ \gamma)$  is composable. Then  $(f \circ \alpha; g \circ \beta; h \circ \gamma)$  is also a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.*

*Proof.* We consider the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} X' & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & X & \xrightarrow{f} & A & \xlongequal{\quad} & A \\ \downarrow u' & & \downarrow u & \boxed{t^*\kappa} & \downarrow s & & \downarrow m \\ Y' & \xrightarrow{\beta} & Y & \xrightarrow{g_1} & E & \xrightarrow{g_2} & B \\ \downarrow v' & & \downarrow v & & \downarrow t & \boxed{s_*\varepsilon} & \downarrow n \\ Z' & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & Z & \xlongequal{\quad} & Z & \xrightarrow{h} & C \\ \downarrow \kappa' & & \downarrow \kappa & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \varepsilon \end{array} \quad . \quad (2.3.1)$$

It suffices to show the following diagram is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} X' & \xrightarrow{f\alpha} & A & \xlongequal{\quad} & A & & \\ \downarrow u' & \boxed{(\gamma^{-1})t^*\kappa} & \downarrow s & & \downarrow m & & \\ Y' & \xrightarrow{g_1\beta} & E & \xrightarrow{g_2} & B & & \\ \downarrow v' & \gamma^{-1}t \circ & \downarrow & \boxed{s_*\varepsilon} & \downarrow n & & \\ Z' & \xlongequal{\quad} & Z' & \xrightarrow{h\gamma} & C & & \\ \downarrow \kappa' & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \varepsilon & & \end{array} \quad . \quad (2.3.2)$$

The verification of  $\boxed{s_*\varepsilon}$  is clear. Note that

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X' & \xrightarrow{(f\alpha)} & A \oplus Y' & \xrightarrow{(-s, g_1\beta)} & E \dashrightarrow^{(\gamma^{-1}t)^*\kappa} \\ \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow 1 \oplus \beta & & \parallel \\ X & \xrightarrow{(f)} & A \oplus Y & \xrightarrow{(-s, g_1)} & E \dashrightarrow^{t^*\kappa} \end{array} \quad . \quad (2.3.3)$$

The diagram is commutative and  $\alpha_*(\gamma^{-1}t)^*\kappa = (\gamma^*)^{-1}(\alpha_*)\kappa = t^*\kappa$ . Hence,  $\boxed{(\gamma^{-1})t^*\kappa}$  is verified. □

**Proposition 2.16.** *Homotopic morphisms are not closed under composition. Indeed, any morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations is a composition of two homotopic morphisms.*

*Proof.* Let  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  be a morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. We consider the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \dashrightarrow^{\delta} \\
\downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
X \oplus A & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} f & 0 \\ 0 & u \end{pmatrix}} & Y \oplus B & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} g & 0 \\ 0 & v \end{pmatrix}} & Z \oplus C \dashrightarrow^{\delta \oplus \varepsilon} \\
\simeq \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \alpha & 1 \end{pmatrix} & & \simeq \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \beta & 1 \end{pmatrix} & & \simeq \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \gamma & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\
X \oplus A & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} f & 0 \\ 0 & u \end{pmatrix}} & Y \oplus B & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} g & 0 \\ 0 & v \end{pmatrix}} & Z \oplus C \dashrightarrow^{\delta \oplus \varepsilon} \\
\downarrow (0,1) & & \downarrow (0,1) & & \downarrow (0,1) \\
A & \xrightarrow{u} & B & \xrightarrow{v} & C \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon} 
\end{array} \quad (2.3.4)$$

Here  $((\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}); (\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}); (\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}))$  and  $((0,1); (0,1); (0,1))$  are morphisms of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. We show  $((\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \alpha & 1 \end{smallmatrix}); (\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \beta & 1 \end{smallmatrix}); (\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \gamma & 1 \end{smallmatrix}))$  is an automorphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. The commutativity of the left square is due to

$$\begin{pmatrix} f & 0 \\ 0 & u \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \alpha & 1 \end{pmatrix} - \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \beta & 1 \end{pmatrix} \circ \begin{pmatrix} f & 0 \\ 0 & u \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 0 \\ u\alpha - \beta f & 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0. \quad (2.3.5)$$

The commutativity of the right square is dually verified. We show that the extension elements are equal:

$$\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \gamma & 1 \end{pmatrix}^* (\delta \oplus \varepsilon) - \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \alpha & 1 \end{pmatrix}_* (\delta \oplus \varepsilon) = (\delta, \gamma^* \varepsilon, 0, \varepsilon) - (\delta, \alpha_* \delta, 0, \varepsilon) = 0. \quad (2.3.6)$$

Here the elements are identified in  $\mathbb{E}(Z \oplus C, X \oplus A) \cong \mathbb{E}(Z, X) \oplus \mathbb{E}(Z, A) \oplus \mathbb{E}(C, X) \oplus \mathbb{E}(C, A)$ .

By [lemma 2.15](#), it remains to verify that both  $((\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}); (\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}); (\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}))$  and  $((0,1); (0,1); (0,1))$  are homotopic morphisms of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. We only verify  $((\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}); (\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}); (\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}))$ . Consider the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \dashrightarrow^{\delta} \\
\downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & \boxed{(g,0)^* \delta} & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & & \parallel \\
X \oplus A & \xrightarrow{\begin{matrix} \circ \\ f \oplus 1_A \end{matrix}} & Y \oplus A & \xrightarrow{\begin{matrix} \circ \\ (g,0) \end{matrix}} & Z \dashrightarrow^{\delta \oplus 0_{0A}} \\
\parallel & & 1_Y \oplus u \downarrow & \boxed{(f \oplus 1)_* (\delta \oplus \varepsilon)} & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} \\
X \oplus A & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} f & 0 \\ 0 & u \end{pmatrix}} & Y \oplus B & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} g & 0 \\ 0 & v \end{pmatrix}} & Z \oplus C \dashrightarrow^{\delta \oplus \varepsilon} 
\end{array} \quad (2.3.7)$$

We verify the homotopy element  $\boxed{(g,0)^* \delta}$ . Note that the following is a split  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation:

$$X \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} f \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} Y \oplus X \oplus A \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & f & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} Y \oplus A \dashrightarrow^{(g,0)^* \delta = 0}. \quad (2.3.8)$$

The extension element in the right bottom is  $(f_* \delta) \oplus \varepsilon$ . Note that

$$Y \oplus A \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} g & 0 \\ 1 & 0 \\ 0 & u \end{pmatrix}} Z \oplus Y \oplus B \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 1 & -g & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & -v \end{pmatrix}} Z \oplus C \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon \oplus 0} \quad (2.3.9)$$

is a direct sum of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations, which is again an  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation. We complete the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.17.** *In [lemma 1.3](#), we may choose  $w$  to be any morphism constructed from [lemma 2.7](#). Then there is  $q$  such that the following diagram satisfy the condition in ET4 axiom.*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & D \dashrightarrow^{\delta} \\
\parallel & & u \downarrow & \boxed{f_* \theta} & \downarrow w \\
A & \xrightarrow{m} & C & \xrightarrow{h} & F \dashrightarrow^{\theta} \\
& & v \downarrow & q \downarrow & \\
& & E & = & E \\
& & \downarrow \varepsilon & & \downarrow \eta 
\end{array} \quad (2.3.10)$$

*Proof.* We take  $w$  as in [lemma 2.5](#). By [proposition 1.7](#), we take the conflation realising  $\eta$  in the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 D & \xlongequal{\quad} & D & & \\
 \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & & \downarrow w & & \\
 B \xrightarrow{(-g)} D \oplus C & \xrightarrow{(w,h)} & F & \dashrightarrow f_*\theta & \\
 \parallel & \downarrow (0,1) & \downarrow q & & \\
 B \xrightarrow{u} C & \xrightarrow{v} & E & \dashrightarrow \varepsilon & \\
 \downarrow 0 & & \downarrow \eta & & \\
 \end{array} . \tag{2.3.11}$$

We verify such construction satisfies ET4 axiom. It is straightforward to obtain  $qh = v$  and  $q^*\varepsilon = f_*\theta$  from the above diagram. Moreover, since  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}_*\eta + (-g)_*\varepsilon = 0$ , we have  $g_*\varepsilon = \eta$ . This complete the verification.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.18.** *In [lemma 1.4](#), we may choose  $u$  to be any morphism constructed from [lemma 2.6](#). Then there is a way to complete the diagram which satisfies ET4 axiom.*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & D \dashrightarrow \delta \\
 \parallel & u \downarrow & \boxed{f_*\theta} & \downarrow w & \\
 A & \xrightarrow{m} & C & \xrightarrow{h} & F \dashrightarrow \theta \\
 \downarrow v & & \downarrow q & & \\
 E & \xlongequal{\quad} & E & & \\
 \downarrow \varepsilon & & \downarrow \eta & & \\
 \end{array} . \tag{2.3.12}$$

*Proof.* We take  $u$  as in [lemma 2.6](#). By [proposition 1.10](#), we take the conflation realising  $\epsilon$  in the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 D & \xlongequal{\quad} & D & & \\
 \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & & \downarrow w & & \\
 B \xrightarrow{(-g)} D \oplus C & \xrightarrow{(w,h)} & F & \dashrightarrow f_*\theta & \\
 \parallel & \downarrow (0,1) & \downarrow q & & \\
 B \dashrightarrow u & \dashrightarrow v & E \dashrightarrow \varepsilon & & \\
 \downarrow 0 & & \downarrow \eta & & \\
 \end{array} . \tag{2.3.13}$$

The verification of ET4 axiom is the same as in [proposition 2.17](#).  $\square$

**Proposition 2.19.** *In [proposition 1.9](#), we may choose  $e_2$  to be any morphism constructed from [lemma 2.4](#). Then there is a way to complete the diagram which satisfies the condition in [proposition 1.8](#).*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{f_2} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_2} & C_2 \dashrightarrow \varepsilon_2 \\
 f_1 \downarrow & \boxed{p_2^*\varepsilon_2} & \downarrow e_2 & & \parallel \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow{e_1} & E & \xrightarrow{p_2} & C_2 \dashrightarrow (f_1)_*\varepsilon_2 \\
 g_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow p_1 & & \\
 C_1 & \xlongequal{\quad} & C_1 & & \\
 \downarrow \varepsilon_1 & & \downarrow (f_2)_*\varepsilon_1 & & \\
 \end{array} . \tag{2.3.14}$$

*Proof.* We take  $e_2$  as in [lemma 2.4](#). By [proposition 1.10](#), we take the conflation realising  $-\kappa$  in the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 B_2 & \xlongequal{\quad} & B_2 & & \\
 \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} & & \downarrow e_2 & & \\
 A \xrightarrow{(f_1, f_2)} B_1 \oplus B_2 & \xrightarrow{(-e_1, e_2)} & E & \dashrightarrow p_2^*\varepsilon_2 & \\
 \parallel & \downarrow (1,0) & \downarrow -p_1 & & \\
 A \xrightarrow{f_1} B_1 & \xrightarrow{g_1} & C_1 & \dashrightarrow \varepsilon_1 & \\
 \downarrow 0 & & \downarrow -\kappa & & \\
 \end{array} . \tag{2.3.15}$$

The identity  $\binom{0}{1}_*(-\kappa) + \binom{f_1}{f_2}_*\varepsilon_1 = 0$  yields  $(f_2)_*\varepsilon_1 = \kappa$ . We show such construction satisfies the condition in [proposition 1.8](#). It is straightforward to obtain  $p_1e_1 = g_1$  and  $p_1^*\varepsilon_1 + p_2^*\varepsilon_2 = 0$  from the above diagram. This complete the verification.  $\square$

**Proposition 2.20.** *In [proposition 1.10](#), we may choose  $f_1$  to be any morphism constructed from [lemma 2.5](#). Then there is a way to complete the diagram which satisfies the condition in [proposition 1.8](#).*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{f_2} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_2} & C_2 \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon_2} \\
 f_1 \downarrow & \boxed{p_2^*\varepsilon_2} & \downarrow e_2 & & \parallel \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow[e_1]{\circ} & E & \xrightarrow{p_2} & C_2 \dashrightarrow^{\eta} \\
 g_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow p_1 & & \\
 C_1 & \xlongequal{\quad} & C_1 & & \\
 \downarrow \varepsilon_1 & & \downarrow \varepsilon & &
 \end{array} . \tag{2.3.16}$$

*Proof.* We take  $f_1$  as in [lemma 2.5](#). By [proposition 1.9](#), we take the conflation realising  $\varepsilon_1$  in the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & B_2 & \xlongequal{\quad} & B_2 \\
 & & \downarrow (0) & & \downarrow e_2 \\
 A & \xrightarrow{(f_1)} & B_1 \oplus B_2 & \xrightarrow{(-e_1, e_2)} & E \dashrightarrow^{p_2^*\varepsilon_2} \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow (1,0) & & \downarrow -p_1 \\
 A & \dashrightarrow^{f_1} & B_1 & \dashrightarrow^{g_1} & C_1 \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon_1} \\
 & & \downarrow 0 & & \downarrow -\kappa
 \end{array} . \tag{2.3.17}$$

The identity  $\binom{0}{1}_*(-\kappa) + \binom{f_1}{f_2}_*\varepsilon_2 = 0$  yields  $(f_2)_*\varepsilon_1 = \kappa$ . We show such construction satisfies the condition in [proposition 1.8](#). It is straightforward to obtain  $p_1e_1 = g_1$  and  $p_1^*\varepsilon_1 + p_2^*\varepsilon_2 = 0$  from the above diagram. This complete the verification.  $\square$

[Propositions 2.17](#) and [2.18](#) show the good completions for ET4, while [propositions 2.19](#) and [2.20](#) show the good completions for [proposition 1.8](#) (pushout of two  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations). There are dual results for  $\text{ET4}^{\text{op}}$  and the pullback of two  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations. We omit them here.

### 3 Diagram Lemmas

#### 3.1 Composites of Morphisms

We summarise some useful diagram lemmas involving morphism compositions and homotopic squares.

**Definition 3.1.** A morphism  $\varphi$  called a *section* if there exists a morphism  $\psi$  such that  $\psi \circ \varphi = \text{id}$ , and called a *retraction* if there exists a morphism  $\theta$  such that  $\varphi \circ \theta = \text{id}$ . Say  $f'$  is a retract of  $f$  if there exists a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & 1_{A'} & & \\ & A' & \xrightarrow{i} & A & \xrightarrow{p} A' \\ & \downarrow f' & & \downarrow f & \downarrow f' \\ B' & \xrightarrow{j} & B & \xrightarrow{q} B' & \\ & & 1_{B'} & & \end{array} \quad (3.1.1)$$

**Proposition 3.2.** Let  $g \circ f : X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z$  be a composition of morphisms in an extriangulated category.

1. If  $f$  and  $g$  are  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations, then so is  $g \circ f$ .
2. If  $gf$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and  $g$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation, then  $f$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation.
3. If  $gf$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, then  $f$  is a retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation.
4. If  $gf$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and  $f$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation, then  $g$  is a retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation.

*Proof.* 1. By ET4.

2. We apply [proposition 2.17](#) to  $gf$  and  $g$ , and obtain

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & K & \xlongequal{\quad} & K & \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ X & \xrightarrow{s} & S & \xrightarrow{h} & Y \xrightarrow{\quad} C \\ & \searrow 1 & \downarrow p & \square & \downarrow g \\ & X & \xrightarrow{gf} & Z & \longrightarrow C \end{array} \quad (3.1.2)$$

The homotopic square  $\square$  is a weak pullback ([proposition 2.2](#)). Hence, there is  $s$  such that  $ps = 1_X$  and  $hs = f$ . Since  $p$  is both an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation and a retraction, it has a kernel  $K$ . Therefore,  $s$  is a split  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation.  $f = hs$  is again an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation.

3. Since  $gf = (1, 0) \circ \binom{gf}{f}$  is an inflation,  $\binom{gf}{f}$  is also an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation by 2. The composition  $\binom{0}{f} = \binom{1 g}{0 1}^{-1} \circ \binom{gf}{f}$  is again an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation. Note that  $f$  is a retract of the inflation  $\binom{0}{f}$ .

4. We apply [proposition 2.17](#) to  $gf$  and  $f$ , and obtain

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & K & \xlongequal{\quad} & K & \\ & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\ X & \xrightarrow{gf} & Z & \longrightarrow C \\ & \downarrow f & \square & \downarrow h & \parallel \\ Y & \xrightarrow{i} & E & \dashrightarrow C \\ & \searrow g & \downarrow s & \curvearrowleft 1_Z & \\ & Z & & & \end{array} \quad (3.1.3)$$

The homotopic square  $\square$  is a weak pushout ([proposition 2.2](#)). Hence, there is  $s$  such that  $sh = 1_Z$  and  $si = g$ . We see  $g$  is a retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation.  $\square$

The next lemma shows structure of retract of  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations ( $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations).

**Lemma 3.3.** Any retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation take the form  $p \circ u$ , where  $u$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and  $p$  is a retraction. Dually, any retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation take the form  $v \circ i$ , where  $v$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation and  $i$  is a section.

*Proof.* We show the first statement only. Let  $f' : A' \rightarrow B'$  be a retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation  $f : A \rightarrow B$ . We fix an  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation  $A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \dashrightarrow$  and a realisation of  $p_*\delta$  as  $A' \xrightarrow{\bar{f}} E \xrightarrow{v} C \dashrightarrow$ . By [lemma 2.4](#), there is a homotopic morphism

of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations  $(p; m; 1_C)$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
A' & \xrightarrow{i} & A & \xrightarrow{p} & A' & \xlongequal{\quad} & A' \\
\downarrow f' & & \downarrow f & \square & \downarrow \bar{f} & & \downarrow f' \\
B' & \xrightarrow{j} & B & \xrightarrow{m} & E & \dashrightarrow^s & B' \\
& & \downarrow g & \curvearrowright & \downarrow \bar{g} & & \\
C & \xlongequal{\quad} & C & & & & \\
& \downarrow \delta & & & \downarrow p_* \delta & &
\end{array} \tag{3.1.4}$$

$\square$  is a weak pushout by [proposition 2.2](#). There is  $s$  such that  $q = sm$  and  $f' = s\bar{f}$ . Since  $smj = 1_{b'}$ ,  $s$  is a retraction.  $\square$

### 3.2 On Homotopic Squares

We examine the properties traversing parallel edges of homotopic squares. Furthermore, we discuss the composition and cancellation properties of homotopic squares.

**Proposition 3.4.** *If  $u$  is an inflation in the following homotopic square*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
A_1 & \xrightarrow{u} & B_1 \\
\downarrow f & \square & \downarrow g , \\
A_2 & \xrightarrow{v} & B_2
\end{array} \tag{3.2.1}$$

*then  $v$  is also an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation. Conversely, if  $v$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, then so is  $u$ . In this case,  $(f; g; 1)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.*

*Proof.* We assume  $u$  to be an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation. Let  $A_1 \xrightarrow{u} B_1 \xrightarrow{p} C \dashrightarrow^{\delta_1}$  be an  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation. We complete the following commutative diagram by [proposition 1.7](#)

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
A_2 & \xlongequal{\quad} & A_2 & & \\
\downarrow \binom{0}{1} & & \downarrow v & & \\
A_1 & \xrightarrow{(f)} & B_1 \oplus A_2 & \xrightarrow{(-g, v)} & B_2 \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon} \\
\parallel & & \downarrow (1, 0) & & \downarrow -q \\
A_1 & \xrightarrow{u} & B_1 & \xrightarrow{p} & C \dashrightarrow^{\delta_1} \\
& & \downarrow 0 & & \downarrow -\delta_2
\end{array} \tag{3.2.2}$$

This diagram gives a conflation  $A_2 \xrightarrow{v} B_2 \xrightarrow{q} C \dashrightarrow^{\delta_2}$ , showing that  $v$  is an inflation. Since  $\binom{0}{1}_*(-\delta_2) + \binom{u}{f}_*\delta_1 = 0$ , we see  $f_*\delta_1 = \delta_2$ . Hence, we have  $qg = p$  and  $f_*\delta_1 = \delta_2$ , yielding that  $(f; g; 1)$  is a homotopic morphism of conflations.

Conversely, when  $u$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation in  $A_2 \xrightarrow{u} B_2 \xrightarrow{q} C \dashrightarrow^{\delta_2}$ . We complete the following commutative diagram by [proposition 1.10](#):

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
A_2 & \xlongequal{\quad} & A_2 & & \\
\downarrow \binom{0}{1} & & \downarrow v & & \\
A_1 & \xrightarrow{(f)} & B_1 \oplus A_2 & \xrightarrow{(-g, v)} & B_2 \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon} \\
\parallel & & \downarrow (1, 0) & & \downarrow -q \\
A_1 & \dashrightarrow^u & B_1 & \dashrightarrow^p & C \dashrightarrow^{\delta_1} \\
& & \downarrow 0 & & \downarrow -\delta_2
\end{array} \tag{3.2.3}$$

Hence,  $u$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation. The rest of the verification is the same as the previous case.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.5.** *We consider the following homotopic square:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
A_1 & \xrightarrow{u} & B_1 \\
\downarrow f & \square & \downarrow g \\
A_2 & \xrightarrow{v} & B_2
\end{array} \tag{3.2.4}$$

*Then  $u$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation (resp.  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation) if and only if  $v$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation (resp.  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation).*

*Proof.* The  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation case follows from [proposition 3.4](#). The  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation case is dual.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.6.** *We take arbitrary homotopic square:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{u} & B_1 \\ \downarrow f & \square & \downarrow g \\ A_2 & \xrightarrow{v} & B_2 \end{array} . \quad (3.2.5)$$

When  $v$  is a retraction, then so is  $u$ . Dually, when  $u$  is a section, then so is  $v$ .

*Proof.* We show the first statement only. Assume  $v$  is a retraction with right inverse  $i$ . By [proposition 2.2](#), there is  $s$  such that the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} B_1 & \xleftarrow{1_{B_1}} & & & \\ \swarrow s & & & & \\ & A_1 & \xrightarrow{u} & B_1 & \\ \downarrow ig & & \downarrow f & \square & \downarrow g \\ & A_2 & \xrightarrow{v} & B_2 & \end{array} . \quad (3.2.6)$$

Hence, we have  $su = 1_{B_1}$ , showing that  $u$  is a retraction.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.7 (Theorem 3.2., [5]).** *Homotopic squares are closed under horizontal and vertical compositions.*

*Proof.* We consider horizontal compositions only. Let  $\square$  be homotopic:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & C \\ \downarrow \alpha & \boxed{\kappa} & \downarrow \beta & \boxed{\epsilon} & \downarrow \gamma \\ D & \xrightarrow{u} & E & \xrightarrow{v} & F \end{array} . \quad (3.2.7)$$

We take the direct sum of the  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation realising the left square and  $0 \rightarrow C \xrightarrow{1} C \xrightarrow{0_{C0}}$ , and obtain

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} -f \\ \alpha \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} & B \oplus D \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \beta & u & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} & E \oplus C \xrightarrow{\kappa \oplus 0_{C0}} \\ \parallel & \simeq \uparrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ g & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & & & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} -f \\ \alpha \\ gf \end{pmatrix}} & B \oplus D \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \beta & u & 0 \\ g & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} & E \oplus C \xrightarrow{\kappa \oplus 0_{C0}} \end{array} . \quad (3.2.8)$$

By [proposition 1.7](#), there exists a completion of the following diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} B & \xlongequal{\quad} & B & & \\ \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} \beta \\ g \end{pmatrix} & & \\ A & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} -f \\ \alpha \\ gf \end{pmatrix}} & B \oplus D \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \beta & u & 0 \\ g & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} & E \oplus C \xrightarrow{\kappa \oplus 0_{C0}} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} v & -\gamma \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \\ A & \dashrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ gf \end{pmatrix} & D \oplus C & \dashrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} vu & -\gamma \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & F \dashrightarrow \delta \\ \downarrow 0 & & & & \downarrow \varepsilon \end{array} . \quad (3.2.9)$$

Such completion is unique, as the bottom conflation is solved to be unique.  $\square$

**Corollary 3.8.** *Following eq. (3.2.9), we see  $(v, -\gamma)^* \delta = (\delta \oplus 0_{C0})$ . Hence  $v^* \delta = \kappa$ . The identity  $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}_* \varepsilon + \begin{pmatrix} -f \\ \alpha \\ gf \end{pmatrix}_* \delta$  yields  $f_* \delta = \varepsilon$ .*

**Theorem 3.9.** *Let  $\boxed{\kappa}$  be a homotopic square. If  $\begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ gf \end{pmatrix}$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, then so is  $\begin{pmatrix} g \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}$ . Consequently, the diagram completes to a composition of homotopic squares.*

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & C \\ \downarrow \alpha & \boxed{\kappa} & \downarrow \beta & \boxed{\varepsilon} & \downarrow \gamma \\ D & \xrightarrow{u} & E & \dashrightarrow \begin{pmatrix} v \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & F \end{array} . \quad (3.2.10)$$

*Proof.* We take the direct sum of the  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation realising the left square and  $0 \rightarrow C \xrightarrow{1} C \xrightarrow{0_{C_0}}$ , and obtain

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} -f \\ \alpha \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & B \oplus D \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \beta & u & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & E \oplus C \xrightarrow{\kappa \oplus 0_{C_0}} \\ \parallel & \parallel & \simeq \uparrow \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right) \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \beta & u & 0 \\ g & 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & \parallel & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} -f \\ \alpha \\ gf \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & B \oplus D \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \beta & u & 0 \\ g & 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & E \oplus C \xrightarrow{\kappa \oplus 0_{C_0}} \end{array} . \quad (3.2.11)$$

Let  $A \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \alpha \\ gf \end{smallmatrix}\right)} D \oplus C \xrightarrow{(p, -\gamma)} F \xrightarrow{\delta}$  be any  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation. By [proposition 1.7](#), we obtain:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & B & \xlongequal{\hspace{1cm}} & B & \\ & \downarrow \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{smallmatrix}\right) & & \downarrow \left(\begin{smallmatrix} \beta \\ g \end{smallmatrix}\right) & \\ A & \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} -f \\ \alpha \\ gf \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & B \oplus D \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \beta & u & 0 \\ g & 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & E \oplus C \xrightarrow{\kappa \oplus 0} \\ \parallel & \parallel & \downarrow \left(\begin{smallmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right) & \downarrow \left(\begin{smallmatrix} v, -\gamma \\ \delta \end{smallmatrix}\right) & \parallel \\ A & \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \alpha \\ gf \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & D \oplus C & \xrightarrow{(p, -\gamma)} & F \xrightarrow{\delta} \\ \downarrow 0 & & & & \downarrow \varepsilon \end{array} .$$

Hence,  $\left(\begin{smallmatrix} g \\ \beta \end{smallmatrix}\right)$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.10.** Let  $\boxed{\varepsilon}$  be a homotopic square. If  $(\gamma, vu)$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, then so is  $(\gamma, v)$ . Consequently, the diagram completes to a composition of homotopic squares.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} f \hspace{0.5cm} \dashrightarrow} & B & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} g \hspace{0.5cm} \dashrightarrow} & C \\ \downarrow \alpha & \boxed{\kappa} & \downarrow \beta & \boxed{\varepsilon} & \downarrow \gamma \\ D & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} u \hspace{0.5cm} \circ \hspace{-0.5cm}} & E & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} v \hspace{0.5cm} \circ \hspace{-0.5cm}} & F \end{array} . \quad (3.2.12)$$

*Proof.* Dual to [theorem 3.9](#).  $\square$

**Corollary 3.11.** [Equation \(3.2.10\)](#) completes to a composition of homotopic squares if one of  $\alpha, \beta, g$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation.

*Proof.* When  $g$  or  $\beta$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, then so is  $\left(\begin{smallmatrix} g \\ \beta \end{smallmatrix}\right)$ .  $\alpha$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation if and only if  $\beta$  is so, by [theorem 3.5](#).  $\square$

**Proposition 3.12** (Splitting condition). Suppose the left commutative diagram is a homotopic square. If one of the following conditions holds: (1).  $u$  is an inflation, (2).  $v$  is a deflation, (3).  $\gamma$  is a deflation. Then there is a way to write  $h$  as  $gf$  such that the right commutative diagram is a composite of homotopic squares.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} h \hspace{0.5cm} \dashrightarrow} & C \\ \downarrow \alpha & \square & \downarrow \gamma \\ D & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} u \hspace{0.5cm} \rightarrow \hspace{-0.5cm}} & E \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} v \hspace{0.5cm} \rightarrow \hspace{-0.5cm}} F & \quad & \begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} f \hspace{0.5cm} \dashrightarrow} & B & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} g \hspace{0.5cm} \dashrightarrow} & C \\ \downarrow \alpha & \square & \downarrow \beta & \square & \downarrow \gamma \\ D & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} u \hspace{0.5cm} \rightarrow \hspace{-0.5cm}} & E & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} v \hspace{0.5cm} \rightarrow \hspace{-0.5cm}} & F \end{array} \\ & & & & \end{array} . \quad (3.2.13)$$

*Proof.* It suffices to show that  $(v, \gamma)$  is a deflation in each of the three cases.

(Case 1). Since  $(v, -\gamma)\left(\begin{smallmatrix} u & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right) = (vu, -\gamma)$  is a deflation and  $\left(\begin{smallmatrix} u & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{smallmatrix}\right)$  is an inflation, we see  $(v, -\gamma)$  is also a deflation by [proposition 3.2](#). (Case 2 and 3). By [proposition 3.2](#),  $(v, \gamma)$  is a deflation.

By [theorem 3.10](#), we obtain two homotopic squares:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} h \hspace{0.5cm} \dashrightarrow} & C & & \\ \downarrow \alpha & \varphi \searrow & \downarrow \gamma & & \\ \overline{A} & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} f \hspace{0.5cm} \dashrightarrow} & B & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} g \hspace{0.5cm} \dashrightarrow} & C \\ \downarrow \overline{\alpha} & \square & \downarrow \beta & \square & \downarrow \gamma \\ D & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} u \hspace{0.5cm} \rightarrow \hspace{-0.5cm}} & E & \xrightarrow{\hspace{-0.5cm} v \hspace{0.5cm} \rightarrow \hspace{-0.5cm}} & F \end{array} . \quad (3.2.14)$$

The morphism  $f$  is constructed by [proposition 2.2](#). The composition of the two homotopic squares is also homotopic ([theorem 3.7](#)), and  $\varphi$  is constructed by applying ET3<sup>OP</sup> to the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} h \\ \alpha \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & B \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \gamma, -vu \\ \gamma, -vu \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & F \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \\ \downarrow \varphi & \parallel & \parallel & \parallel & \parallel \\ \overline{A} & \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} g\bar{f} \\ \overline{\alpha} \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & B \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\left(\begin{smallmatrix} \gamma, -vu \\ \gamma, -vu \end{smallmatrix}\right)} & F \xrightarrow{\hspace{1cm}} \end{array} . \quad (3.2.15)$$

$\varphi$  is an isomorphism by [corollary 1.2](#). This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.13.** *We take arbitrary homotopic square:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{u} & B_1 \\ \downarrow f & \square & \downarrow g \\ A_2 & \xrightarrow{v} & B_2 \end{array} . \quad (3.2.16)$$

When  $v$  is a retract of some  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, then so is  $u$ .

*Proof.* By lemma 3.3,  $v$  takes the form  $pw$  for some inflation  $w$  and retraction  $p$ . Consider the following diagram. By theorem 3.10, the diagram splits into two homotopic squares. It yields that  $u$  is a composition of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and a retraction. Hence,  $u$  a retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation.  $\square$

**Lemma 3.14.** *We take arbitrary homotopic square:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{u} & B_1 \\ \downarrow f & \square & \downarrow g \\ A_2 & \xrightarrow{v} & B_2 \end{array} . \quad (3.2.17)$$

When  $u$  is a retract of some  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, then so is  $v$ .

*Proof.* We take  $u = ri$  such that  $i$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and  $r$  is a retraction. We construct the left homotopic square by lemma 2.4. Since  $(r_f)$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation by theorem 3.9, we complete the right homotopic square. The composite of the two homotopic squares is again homotopic by theorem 3.7.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{i} & E & \xrightarrow{r} & B_1 \\ \downarrow f & \square & \downarrow f' & \square & \downarrow g' \\ A_2 & \xrightarrow{i'} & F & \dashrightarrow & B'_2 \end{array} . \quad (3.2.18)$$

By corollary 1.2, there is an isomorphism  $\varphi$  such that the following diagram is a morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{(r_f)} & B_1 \oplus A_2 & \xrightarrow{(g', -i')} & B'_2 \dashrightarrow \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \downarrow \varphi \\ A & \xrightarrow{(u_f)} & B_1 \oplus A_2 & \xrightarrow{(g, -v)} & B_2 \dashrightarrow \end{array} . \quad (3.2.19)$$

$\square$

**Theorem 3.15.** *We consider the following homotopic square:*

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{u} & B_1 \\ \downarrow f & \square & \downarrow g \\ A_2 & \xrightarrow{v} & B_2 \end{array} . \quad (3.2.20)$$

Then  $u$  is a retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation (resp. retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation) if and only if  $v$  is a retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation (resp. retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation).

*Proof.* By lemmas 3.13 and 3.14 and their duals.  $\square$

### 3.3 An Application: Happel's Theorem

**Definition 3.16** ( $S$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$ , and  $\mathcal{R}$ ). We define the following classes of morphisms and objects in an extriangulated category  $(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{E}, \mathfrak{s})$ :

- $S$  is the class of morphisms which are both  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations and  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations.
- $\mathcal{L}$  is the class of objects  $L$  such that  $L \rightarrow 0$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation.
- $\mathcal{R}$  is the class of objects  $R$  such that  $0 \rightarrow R$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation.

Note that  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{R}$  are additive full subcategories.

**Proposition 3.17.** *Either one of  $S$ ,  $\mathcal{L}$ , and  $\mathcal{R}$  determines the other two.*

*Proof.* It suffices to show  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $S$  are mutually determined. The dual argument works for  $\mathcal{R}$  and  $S$  ( $S$  determines  $\mathcal{L}$ ). Any  $f \in S$  admits two  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations:

$$K \xrightarrow{k} A \xrightarrow{f} B \dashrightarrow, \quad A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{c} C \dashrightarrow. \quad (3.3.1)$$

In homotopic squares, we have

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} K & \xrightarrow{k} & A & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow & \boxed{\kappa} & \downarrow f & \boxed{\varepsilon} & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & B & \xrightarrow{c} & C \end{array} \quad (3.3.2)$$

By [theorem 3.7](#), we see  $K \in \mathcal{L}$ . Indeed, any  $L \in \mathcal{L}$  is determined in this way. We take the conflation  $L \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow R \dashrightarrow$  and find that  $(0 \rightarrow R) \in S$ . We do the same construction for  $0 \rightarrow R$  and complete the proof.

( $\mathcal{L}$  determines  $S$ ). We claim that  $f \in S$  iff there is a  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation  $K \rightarrow X \xrightarrow{f} Y \dashrightarrow$  for some  $K \in \mathcal{L}$ . The “only if ( $\rightarrow$ )” part is clear. For the “if ( $\leftarrow$ )” part, we consider the homotopic square

$$\begin{array}{ccc} K & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array} \quad (3.3.3)$$

By [theorem 3.5](#),  $f$  is both an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation since  $(K \rightarrow 0)$  is so. This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Proposition 3.18.**  *$S$  is closed under composition and contains all isomorphisms. Moreover, it satisfies the 2-out-of-3 property when  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations and  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations are closed under retracts.*

*Proof.* Isomorphisms are both  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations and  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations. By ET4 and ET4<sup>op</sup>,  $S$  is closed under composition. Now we suppose  $g \circ f$  and  $g$  are in  $S$ . By [proposition 3.2](#),  $f$  is both an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and a retract of an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation. Hence,  $f \in S$  by assumption.  $\square$

We then show a direct connection of  $\mathcal{L}$  and  $\mathcal{R}$ .

**Theorem 3.19.** *For each  $X \in \mathcal{L}$ , we fix  $X \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow FX \dashrightarrow^{\delta_X}$ . Then the assignment of objects  $X \mapsto FX$  induces an equivalence of categories. Moreover, there is a collection of natural isomorphisms functorial in  $X$ :*

$$\ell_{-,X} : \mathbb{E}(-, X) \cong \mathcal{C}(-, FX) \quad (X \in \mathcal{L}). \quad (3.3.4)$$

*Proof.* We show functoriality of  $F$ . For any morphism  $f$  in the category  $\mathcal{L}$ , there is  $g$  such that  $(f; 0; g)$  is a morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & FX \dashrightarrow^{\delta_X} \\ \downarrow f & & \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\ Y & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & FY \dashrightarrow^{\delta_Y} \end{array} \quad (3.3.5)$$

We claim  $g$  is unique. If not, then there is another  $g'$  such that  $g'^*\delta_Y = f_*\delta_X = g^*\delta_Y$ . Since  $(g - g')^*\delta_Y = 0$ ,  $(g - g')$  passes through  $0 \rightarrow FY$  by [eq. \(1.2.1\)](#). Thus,  $g = g'$ .

It remains to show  $F$  is an equivalence. The above analysis (and its dual) shows the isomorphism  $\mathcal{C}(X, Y) \cong \mathcal{C}(FX, FY)$ . To see that  $F$  is dense, for any  $R \in \mathcal{R}$ , we take the conflation  $K \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow R \dashrightarrow$ . Note that  $K \in \mathcal{L}$  and  $FK \cong R$  by [corollary 1.2](#). This completes the proof.

Finally we define  $\ell$  by ET3 as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \ell_{Z,X}(\varepsilon) \\ X & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & FX \dashrightarrow^{\delta_X} \end{array} \quad (3.3.6)$$

This assignment is unique; otherwise, the minus of two candidate morphism  $(g - g') : Z \rightarrow FX$  factors through  $0 \rightarrow FX$ , which implies  $g = g'$ . Conversely, any  $\gamma : Z \rightarrow FX$  determines  $\gamma^*\delta_X \in \mathbb{E}(Z, X)$ . Since  $\ell(\gamma^*\delta_X) = \gamma$ , and  $\ell(\varepsilon)^*\delta_X = \varepsilon$ , we find the inverse map of  $\ell$ . To see the naturality, it suffices to show  $\ell(a_*c^*\varepsilon) = (Fa) \circ \ell(\varepsilon) \circ c$ . Consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccccccc} X & \xlongequal{\quad} & X & \xlongequal{\quad} & X & \xrightarrow{a} & X' & \xlongequal{\quad} & X' & \xleftarrow{a} & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longleftarrow & Y & \longleftarrow & E & \longrightarrow & M & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longleftarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow g & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ FX & \dashleftarrow^{\ell(\varepsilon)} & Z & \xleftarrow{c} & Z' & \xlongequal{\quad} & Z' & \xrightarrow{\ell(a_*c^*\varepsilon)} & FX' & \xleftarrow{Fa} & FX \\ \downarrow \delta_X & & \downarrow \varepsilon & & \downarrow c^*\varepsilon & & \downarrow a_*c^*\varepsilon & & \downarrow \delta_{X'} & & \downarrow \delta_X \end{array} \quad (3.3.7)$$

We see  $\ell(a_*c^*\varepsilon)^*\delta_{X'} = a_*c^*\ell(\varepsilon)^*\delta_X = c^*\ell(\varepsilon)^*(Fa)^*\delta_{X'}$ . Hence,  $(\ell(a_*c^*\varepsilon) - (Fa)\ell(\varepsilon)c)^*\delta_{X'} = 0$ . The above analysis shows  $\varphi^*\delta_{X'} = 0$  iff  $\varphi = 0$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

**Theorem 3.20.** In theorem 3.19, there is a collection of natural isomorphisms functorial in  $X$ :

$$\rho_{-,X} : \mathbb{E}(FX, -) \cong \mathcal{C}(X, -) \quad (X \in \mathcal{L}). \quad (3.3.8)$$

*Proof.* We define  $\rho$  by  $\text{ET3}^{\text{op}}$  as follows:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} X & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & FX & \xrightarrow{\delta_X} & \\ \downarrow \rho(\varepsilon) & & \downarrow & & \parallel & & \\ Y & \longrightarrow & Z & \longrightarrow & FX & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & \end{array} \quad (3.3.9)$$

Such completion by  $\text{ET3}^{\text{op}}$  is unique. If there is another  $\alpha$  such that  $(\alpha; 0_{Z0}; 1_{FX})$  and  $(\rho(\varepsilon); 0_{Y0}; 1_{FX})$  are both morphisms of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations, then  $(\alpha - \rho(\varepsilon))_* \delta_X = 0$ . Hence  $(\alpha - \rho(\varepsilon))$  factors through  $X \rightarrow 0$ , which yields that  $\alpha = \rho(\varepsilon)$ .

We show  $\rho$  is an isomorphism by finding its inverse.  $f \mapsto f_* \delta_X$ . Note that  $\rho(f_* \delta_X) = f$  by unique completion of  $\text{ET3}^{\text{op}}$ .  $\rho(\varepsilon)_* \delta_X = \varepsilon$  is clearly shown in eq. (3.3.9).

We finally show the naturality. It suffices to show  $\rho((F\gamma)^* \alpha_* \varepsilon) = \alpha \circ \rho(\varepsilon) \circ \gamma$  for any  $\gamma : X' \rightarrow X$  and  $\alpha : Y \rightarrow Y'$ . Consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccccccc} X & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & X & \xrightarrow{\rho(\alpha_*(F\gamma)^* \varepsilon)} & Y' & \xleftarrow{\alpha} & Y & \xlongequal{\rho(\varepsilon)} & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ 0 & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & F & \longleftarrow & E & \longrightarrow & Z \longleftarrow 0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\ FX & \xrightarrow{F\gamma} & FX' & = & FX' & = & FX' & \xrightarrow{F\gamma} & FX = FX \\ \downarrow \delta_X & & \downarrow \delta_{X'} & & \downarrow \alpha_*(F\gamma)^* \varepsilon & & \downarrow (F\gamma)^* \varepsilon & & \downarrow \varepsilon & & \downarrow \delta_X \end{array} \quad (3.3.10)$$

We see  $\rho(\alpha_*(F\gamma)^* \varepsilon)_* \delta_{X'} = \alpha_*(F\gamma)^* \rho(\varepsilon)_* \delta_X = \alpha_* \rho(\varepsilon)_* \gamma_* \delta_{X'}$ . Hence,  $(\rho(\alpha_*(F\gamma)^* \varepsilon) - \alpha \circ \rho(\varepsilon) \circ \gamma)_* \delta_{X'} = 0$ . The above analysis shows  $\varphi_* \delta_{X'} = 0$  iff  $\varphi = 0$ . This completes the proof.  $\square$

We then examine some conditions for any extriangulated category to be (right) triangulated.

**Definition 3.21.** Let  $(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{E}, \mathfrak{s})$  be an extriangulated category. Say such extriangulated category admits a (right) triangulated structure, if there is an auto-equivalence  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  and a natural isomorphism  $\ell : \mathbb{E}(\cdot, -) \cong \mathcal{C}(\cdot, F(-))$  such that

$$\Delta := \{(X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \xrightarrow{\ell(\delta)} FX) \mid (X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \xrightarrow{\delta}) \text{ is an } \mathbb{E}\text{-conflation}\} \quad (3.3.11)$$

is a (right) triangulated structure on  $\mathcal{C}$ . That is,  $(\mathcal{C}, F, \Delta)$  is a (right) triangulated category.

**Theorem 3.22.** An extriangulated category  $(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{E}, \mathfrak{s})$  admits a right triangulated structure iff the following equivalent conditions are satisfied.

1. (**Theorem 3.12**, [12]).  $\{0\}$  provides enough injective objects.
2. All  $X \rightarrow 0$  are  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations, in other words,  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{C}$ .
3. All morphisms are  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations.
4. All  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations are  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations, in other words,  $S$  is the class of all  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations.

*Proof.* We show the equivalence of the above four conditions. (1  $\rightarrow$  2). Clear. (2  $\rightarrow$  3). Since  $X \rightarrow 0$  an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, any  $[X \xrightarrow{f} Y] = [X \xrightarrow{(f)} Y \oplus 0 \cong Y]$  is also an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation by proposition 3.2. (3  $\rightarrow$  4). Clear. (4  $\rightarrow$  1). For any object  $X$ , the  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation  $X \rightarrow 0$  is also an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation by assumption. Hence,  $\{0\}$  provides enough injective objects.

We then show that  $\mathcal{C}$  admits an extriangulated structure if at least one of the following equivalent conditions is satisfied. When  $\mathcal{C}$  admits a right triangulated structure, all morphisms are  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations. Conversely, if  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{C}$ , then there is an natural isomorphism  $\ell : \mathbb{E}(-, X) \cong \mathcal{C}(-, FX)$  and a equivalence  $F : \mathcal{C} \simeq \mathcal{R}$  by theorem 3.19. We show that  $(\mathcal{C}, F, \Delta)$  is a right triangulated category by verifying the SP-axioms in [6].

1. (Verificaiton of SP0 and SP1).  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations are closed under isomorphisms and contain all  $[0 \rightarrow X \xrightarrow{1_X} X \dashrightarrow]$  by definition. By 3., any morphism  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation.
2. (Verificaiton of SP2). For any  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \dashrightarrow$ , we show  $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \xrightarrow{\ell(\delta)} FX$  is closed under clockwise rotation. Consider

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & \\ \parallel & & \downarrow & \boxed{f_* \delta_X} & \downarrow \ell(\varepsilon) & & \\ X & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & FX & \xrightarrow{\delta_X} & \end{array} \quad (3.3.12)$$

Hence,  $Y \xrightarrow{-g} Z \xrightarrow{\ell(\varepsilon)} FX \xrightarrow{\ell(f_* \delta_X)} FY$  is also a right triangle. Note that  $\ell(f_* \delta_X) = (Ff) \circ \ell(\delta_X) = Ff$  by naturality of  $\ell$ . This completes the verification.

3. (Verificaiton of SP3 and SP4). It follows from ET3 and ET4 directly.

□

*Remark.* Not all right triangulated categories are obtained in this way. For example, we choose Ab as our ambient category, and  $\{X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{\pi} \text{cok } f \rightarrow 0 \mid f \in \text{Mor}(\text{Ab})\}$  as the class of right triangles. This gives a right triangulated structure on Ab, but it does not arise from an extriangulated category since the suspension functor is not an equivalence.

**Theorem 3.23.** *We show some equivalent conditions for an extriangulated category to be triangulated.*

1. (**Proposition 3.2**, [11]). *There is an auto-equivalence  $F : \mathcal{C} \rightarrow \mathcal{C}$  and a natural isomorphism  $\ell : \mathbb{E}(\cdot, -) \cong \mathcal{C}(\cdot, F(-))$ .*
2.  $\mathcal{L} = \mathcal{R} = \mathcal{C}$ , that is,  $0 \rightarrow X$  and  $X \rightarrow 0$  are both  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations and  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations for any  $X$ .
3.  $S = \text{Mor}(\mathcal{C})$ , that is, all morphisms are both  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations and  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations.

*Proof.* If 1. holds, then  $(\mathcal{C}, F, \Delta)$  is triangulated. The verification is similar to that of [theorem 3.22](#). A triangulated satisfies both 2. and 3.. The equivalence of 2. and 3. is clear by [proposition 3.17](#). If 3. holds, then we have 1. by [theorem 3.19](#). □

**Corollary 3.24** (Happel's theorem and its converse). *Let  $(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{E}, \mathfrak{s})$  be extriangulated. If any only if  $\mathcal{C}$  is Frobenius exact, there exists an additive full subcategory  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq (\text{Proj} \cap \text{Inj})$  such that the ideal quotient (**Proposition 3.30.**, [11])  $\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{B}$  is triangulated. In this case, the class of projective-injective objects are precisely the summands of objects in  $\mathcal{B}$ .*

*Proof.* ( $\leftarrow$ ). If  $\mathcal{C}$  is Frobenius exact, then we take  $\mathcal{B}$  are the class of projective-injective objects. Any  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  admits two types of conflations

$$K \rightarrow P \rightarrow X \dashrightarrow, \quad X \rightarrow I \rightarrow Q \dashrightarrow \quad P, I \in \mathcal{B}. \quad (3.3.13)$$

Hence, any  $X \rightarrow 0$  and  $0 \rightarrow X$  are both  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations and  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations in  $\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{B}$ . By [theorem 3.23](#),  $\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{B}$  is triangulated. ( $\rightarrow$ ). If there is  $\mathcal{B} \subseteq \text{Proj} \cap \text{Inj}$  such that  $\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{B}$  is triangulated, then any  $X \rightarrow 0$  and  $0 \rightarrow X$  are both  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations and  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations in  $\mathcal{C}/\mathcal{B}$  (by [theorem 3.23](#)). Hence, any  $X \in \mathcal{C}$  admits two types of conflations as described in [eq. \(3.3.13\)](#). This shows that  $\mathcal{B}$  provides enough projective-injective objects. We embed all projective (injective) objects in  $\mathcal{C}$  into [eq. \(3.3.13\)](#), and find that all projective (injection) objects in  $\mathcal{C}$  are a summands of objects in  $\mathcal{B}$ . □

**Corollary 3.25.** *Let  $(\mathcal{C}', \mathbb{E}', \mathfrak{s}') \subseteq (\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{E}, \mathfrak{s})$  be an extriangulated subcategory with  $\text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}) = \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}')$ . If  $(\mathcal{C}', \mathbb{E}', \mathfrak{s}')$  admits a (right) triangulated structure, then so is  $(\mathcal{C}, \mathbb{E}, \mathfrak{s})$ .*

*Proof.* Note that an extriangulated category admits a right triangulated structure iff all  $X \rightarrow 0$  are  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations ([theorem 3.22](#)). If  $(\mathcal{C}', \mathbb{E}', \mathfrak{s}')$  admits a (right) triangulated structure, then all  $X \rightarrow 0$  are  $\mathbb{E}'$ -inflations, which are also  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations. This completes the proof. The proof for triangulated case is similar by [theorem 3.23](#). □

### 3.4 Remarks on WIC Condition

Anaglous to exact categories (**Proposition 7.6.**, [2]), [11] introduced a WIC condition for extriangulated categories, serving as a strong version of being weakly idempotent completeness.

1. (Weakly idempotent complete) every section has a cokernel;
2. (**Condition 5.8.**, [11] WIC) if  $gf$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, then so is  $f$ .

The equivalency of these two conditions are shown in [7]. We propose a simple proof and another equivalent condition inspired by Heller's axiom (**Appendix B.**, [2]).

**Lemma 3.26.** *An additive category  $\mathcal{C}$  is weakly idempotent complete, if and only if the following condition holds: 1. any section has a cokernel; 2. any retraction has a kernel.*

*Proof.* We show 1. implies 2. only. Let  $X \xrightarrow{q} C$  be a retraction, with section  $C \xrightarrow{i} X$  as its right inverse. We denote by  $X \xrightarrow{p} K$  the cokernel of  $i$ . Since  $(1 - iq)i = 0$ , we find  $j$  such that  $jp = (1 - iq)$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} & & i & & \\ & C & \xrightarrow{\quad q \quad} & X & \xrightarrow{\quad p \quad} K \\ & \swarrow & & \downarrow 1-iq & \searrow \\ & & X & \dashrightarrow & \end{array} \quad (3.4.1)$$

We see  $pj = 1_K$  as  $pjp = p(1 - iq) = p$ , and  $qj = 0$  as  $qjp = q(1 - iq) = 0$ . We find structure maps of this direct sum. □

*Remark.* Triangulated categories are automatically WIC. For exact categories, see [2].

**Definition 3.27.** A  $3 \times 3$  diagram consists of 6 conflations arranged in a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 \dashrightarrow^{\delta_A} \\
\downarrow i_1 & & \downarrow i_2 & & \downarrow i_3 \\
B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 \dashrightarrow^{\delta_B} \\
\downarrow p_1 & & \downarrow p_2 & & \downarrow p_3 \\
C_1 & \xrightarrow{f_C} & C_2 & \xrightarrow{g_C} & C_3 \dashrightarrow^{\delta_C} \\
\downarrow \varepsilon_1 & & \downarrow \varepsilon_2 & & \downarrow \varepsilon_3
\end{array}, \quad (3.4.2)$$

such that  $(i_1; i_2; i_3)$ ,  $(p_1; p_2; p_3)$ ,  $(f_A; f_B; f_C)$  and  $(g_A; g_B; g_C)$  are morphisms of conflations.

**Theorem 3.28.** An extriangulated category is weakly idempotent complete, if and only if the following equivalent statements holds.

1. (The definition). Any section has a cokernel.
2. When there is an inflation takes the form  $\begin{pmatrix} i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $i$  is an inflation.
3. When there is an inflation takes the form  $\begin{pmatrix} i & 0 \\ 0 & j \end{pmatrix}$ , then  $i$  and  $j$  are inflations.
4. (WIC condition). When there is an inflation takes the form  $f_i$ , then  $i$  is an inflation.
5. Inflations are closed under retracts.
6. Let  $g_A, g_B$  be  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations and  $i_2, i_3$  be  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations, such that  $g_B \circ i_2 = i_3 \circ g_A$ . One can complete this commutative square into a  $3 \times 3$  diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 \dashrightarrow^{\delta_A} \\
\downarrow i_1 & & \downarrow i_2 & & \downarrow i_3 \\
B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 \dashrightarrow^{\delta_B} \\
\downarrow p_1 & & \downarrow p_2 & & \downarrow p_3 \\
C_1 & \dashrightarrow^{f_C} & C_2 & \dashrightarrow^{g_C} & C_3 \dashrightarrow^{\delta_C} \\
\downarrow \varepsilon_1 & & \downarrow \varepsilon_2 & & \downarrow \varepsilon_3
\end{array}. \quad (3.4.3)$$

We omit the dual statements for 1. to 5..

*Proof.* (1.  $\rightarrow$  2.). Let  $X \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} Y \oplus W \xrightarrow{(s,t)} Z \dashrightarrow$  be a conflation. Note that  $\begin{pmatrix} s & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = 0$ . By eq. (1.2.2), we can find  $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}$  such that  $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix}(s,t) = \begin{pmatrix} s & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
X & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} & Y \oplus W & \xrightarrow{(s,t)} & Z \dashrightarrow \\
& \searrow 0 & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} s & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & & \nearrow \begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} \\
& & Z \oplus W & &
\end{array}. \quad (3.4.4)$$

This shows that  $t$  a section. By assumption,  $Z \simeq Q \oplus W$ . Hence  $X \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} Y \oplus W \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} s_1 & 0 \\ s_2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} Q \oplus W \dashrightarrow$  is a conflation. By proposition 1.7, there is a way to complete the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
& W & \xlongequal{\quad} & W & \\
& \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} & & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} & \\
X & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} & Y \oplus W & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} s_1 & 0 \\ s_2 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} & Q \oplus W \dashrightarrow^{\delta} \\
\parallel & & \downarrow (1,0) & & \downarrow (1,0) \\
X & \dashrightarrow^i & Y & \dashrightarrow^{s_1} & Q \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon} \\
& \downarrow 0 & & \downarrow 0 &
\end{array}. \quad (3.4.5)$$

The morphism  $i$  and  $s_1$  at the bottom row is uniquely determined by a straightforward calculation. Hence,  $i$  is an inflation.

(2.  $\rightarrow$  4.). When  $fi$  is an inflation, then so is  $\begin{pmatrix} i \\ fi \end{pmatrix}$  by proposition 3.2. Here  $\begin{pmatrix} i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ f & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \circ \begin{pmatrix} i \\ fi \end{pmatrix}$  is again an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation. By assumption,  $i$  is an inflation.

(4.  $\rightarrow$  1.). Since isomorphisms are inflations, sections are inflations. Thus they have cokernels.

(5.  $\rightarrow$  3.  $\rightarrow$  2.). This is straightforward.

(1. and 4. implies 5.). Let  $f'$  be a retract of some inflation  $f$ , i.e.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X' & \xrightarrow{i} & X & \xrightarrow{p} & X' \\ \downarrow f' & & \downarrow f & & \downarrow f' \\ Y' & \xrightarrow{j} & Y & \xrightarrow{q} & Y' \end{array} . \quad (3.4.6)$$

By 1.,  $fi$  is a composite of inflations. By 4.,  $f'$  is an inflation.

(4.  $\rightarrow$  6.). This is **Lemma 5.9.** in [11].

(6.  $\rightarrow$  1.). For sake of contradiction, we prove the contrapositive statement. Let  $X \xrightarrow{i} Y$  be a section which does not have a cokernel. We denote  $q$  as its right inverse. Consider

$$\begin{pmatrix} 0 & q \\ i & 1-iq \end{pmatrix} \begin{pmatrix} 0 & q \\ i & 1-iq \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} . \quad (3.4.7)$$

We obtain isomorphic split  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} Y & \xrightarrow{(0)} & X \oplus Y & \xrightarrow{(1,0)} & X \dashrightarrow^0 \\ \parallel & & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0 & q \\ i & 1-iq \end{pmatrix} & & \parallel \\ Y & \xrightarrow{(1-iq)} & X \oplus Y & \xrightarrow{(0,q)} & X \dashrightarrow^0 \end{array} . \quad (3.4.8)$$

It remains to show the following diagram fails to be completed to a  $3 \times 3$ -diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} X & \xlongequal{\quad} & X & \longrightarrow & 0 \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & & \downarrow \\ Y & \xrightarrow{(1-iq)} & X \oplus Y & \xrightarrow{(0,q)} & X \\ \downarrow & & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 0,1 \end{pmatrix} & & \parallel \\ Z & \dashrightarrow^0 & Y & \dashrightarrow^q & X \end{array} . \quad (3.4.9)$$

If such completion exists, then  $q$  is both an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation and a retraction, thus it has a kernel. This contradicts our assumption.  $\square$

## 4 Snake Lemmas

### 4.1 $3 \times 3$ Lemmas

Our  $3 \times 3$ -lemmas begin with two conflations with either two of the morphisms in  $(i_1, i_2, i_3)$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 \xrightarrow{\delta_A} \\ \downarrow i_1 & & \downarrow i_2 & & \downarrow i_3 \\ B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 \xrightarrow{\delta_B} \end{array} . \quad (4.1.1)$$

**Example 4.1.** Let  $f$  be any morphism in the category. Let  $i_1 = 0$  and  $i_2 = \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ f \end{pmatrix}$  be  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations in the following diagram.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} 0 & \longrightarrow & X & \xrightarrow{1_X} & X \xrightarrow{0} \\ \downarrow 0 & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ f \end{pmatrix} & \downarrow f & & \downarrow 0 \\ X & \xrightarrow{(1_0)} & X \oplus Y & \xrightarrow{(0,1)} & Y \xrightarrow{0} \end{array} . \quad (4.1.2)$$

One must have  $i_3 = f$ . This diagram fails to be a  $3 \times 3$ -diagram.

**Theorem 4.2.** Suppose we have conflations realising  $\delta_A$ ,  $\delta_B$ ,  $\varepsilon_1$  and  $\varepsilon_3$  in the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 \xrightarrow{\delta_A} \\ \downarrow i_1 & & \downarrow i_2 & & \downarrow i_3 \\ B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 \xrightarrow{\delta_B} \\ \downarrow p_1 & & \downarrow p_2 & & \downarrow p_3 \\ C_1 & \dashrightarrow & C_2 & \dashrightarrow & C_3 \dashrightarrow \\ \downarrow \varepsilon_1 & & \downarrow \varepsilon_2 & & \downarrow \varepsilon_3 \end{array} , \quad (4.1.3)$$

such that  $(i_3)^*\delta_B = (i_1)_*\delta_A$ . Then there is a way to complete the diagram to a  $3 \times 3$ -diagram.

*Proof.* By theorem 2.8, we take  $i_2$  such that  $(i_1; i_2; i_3)$  is homotopic:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 \xrightarrow{\delta_A} \\ \downarrow i_1 & \square & \downarrow j_1 & & \parallel \\ B_1 & \xrightarrow{s} & E & \xrightarrow{t} & A_3 \xrightarrow{\kappa} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow j_2 & \square & \downarrow i_3 \\ B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 \xrightarrow{\delta_B} \end{array} , \quad (4.1.4)$$

We denote  $\kappa = (i_1)_*\delta_A = (i_3)^*\delta_B$ . The construction of  $j_1$  and  $j_2$  are due to propositions 2.18 and 2.19:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \begin{array}{ccccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 \xrightarrow{\delta_A} \\ \downarrow i_1 & \square & \downarrow j_1 & & \parallel \\ B_1 & \xrightarrow{s} & E & \xrightarrow{t} & A_3 \xrightarrow{\kappa} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow j_2 & \square & \downarrow i_3 \\ B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 \xrightarrow{\delta_B} \end{array} & & \begin{array}{ccccc} B_1 & \xrightarrow{s} & E & \xrightarrow{t} & A_3 \xrightarrow{\kappa} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow j_2 & \square & \downarrow i_3 \\ B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 \xrightarrow{\delta_B} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow p_3 g_B & & \downarrow p_3 \\ C_3 & \equiv & C_3 & & \end{array} \\ C_1 \equiv C_1 & & \end{array} . \quad (4.1.5)$$

We construct  $\varepsilon_2$  and  $\delta_C$  by ET4,

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A_2 & \equiv & A_2 & & \\ \downarrow j_1 & & \downarrow i_2 & & \\ E & \xrightarrow{j_2} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{p_3 g_B} & C_3 \xrightarrow{\theta} \\ \downarrow q & & \downarrow p_2 & & \parallel \\ C_1 & \dashrightarrow & C_2 & \dashrightarrow & C_3 \dashrightarrow \\ \downarrow (f_A)_*\varepsilon_1 & & \downarrow \varepsilon_2 & & \downarrow \varepsilon_3 \end{array} . \quad (4.1.6)$$

It remains to verify eq. (4.1.3) is a  $3 \times 3$ -diagram under the above construction.

1.  $(f_B i_1 = i_2 f_A) \cdot i_2 f_A \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.6)}} j_2 j_1 f_A \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.4)}} f_B i_1.$
2.  $(g_B i_2 = i_3 g_A) \cdot g_B i_2 \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.6)}} g_B j_2 j_1 \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.5)}} i_3 t j_1 \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.4)}} i_3 g_A.$
3.  $(f_C p_1 = p_2 f_B) \cdot f_C p_1 \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.5)}} f_C q s \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.6)}} p_2 j_2 s \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.4)}} p_2 f_B.$
4.  $(g_C p_2 = p_3 g_B) \cdot g_C p_2 \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.6)}} p_3 g_B.$
5.  $((i_1)_* \delta_A = (i_3)^* \delta_B)$ . We presuppose this identity.
6.  $((p_1)_* \delta_B = (p_3)^* \delta_C) \cdot (p_1)_* \delta_B \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.5)}} q_* s_* \delta_B \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.6)}} q_*(p_3)^* \theta = (p_3)^* q_* \theta \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.6)}} (p_3)^* \delta_C.$
7.  $((f_A)_* \varepsilon_1 = (f_C)^* \varepsilon_2) \cdot (f_A)_* \varepsilon_1 \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.6)}} (f_C)^* \varepsilon_2.$
8.  $((g_A)_* \varepsilon_2 = (g_C)^* \varepsilon_3) \cdot (g_A)_* \varepsilon_2 \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.4)}} t_*(j_1)_* \varepsilon_2 \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.6)}} t_*(g_C)^* \theta = (g_C)^* t_* \theta \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.1.5)}} (g_C)^* \varepsilon_3.$

□

**Corollary 4.3.** Let  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  be all inflations (or dually, all deflations) such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of conflations. Then it extends to a  $3 \times 3$ -diagram.

*Proof.* There is a way to construct eq. (4.1.4). Now theorem 4.2 completes the proof. □

**Corollary 4.4.** Let  $\alpha, \beta$  and  $\gamma$  be all inflations (or dually, all deflations) such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a morphism of conflations. There is a way to find  $(\alpha'; \beta; \gamma)$ ,  $(\alpha; \beta'; \gamma)$  and  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma')$  which completes to  $3 \times 3$  diagram.

*Proof.* By theorem 2.8 and corollary 4.3, we are done. □

**Proposition 4.5.** Suppose we have the commutative diagram of conflations:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 \dashrightarrow \delta_A \\
 \downarrow i_1 & & \downarrow i_2 & & \downarrow i_3 \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 \dashrightarrow \delta_B \\
 \downarrow p_2 & & \downarrow p_3 & & \\
 C_2 & \dashrightarrow \xrightarrow{g_C} & C_3 & & \\
 \downarrow \varepsilon_2 & & \downarrow \varepsilon_3 & &
 \end{array} \quad (4.1.7)$$

Then there exists  $i_1$  and  $p_3$  such that the above diagram commutes, and

1.  $i_1$  is a retract of some inflation,  $p_3$  is a retract of some deflation,
2.  $(i_1; i_2; i_3)$  and  $(g_A; g_B; g_C)$  are homotopic morphisms of conflations.

*Proof.* We construct  $i_1$  as follows. By lemma 2.7, we can find an inflation  $j_2$  such that  $(1_{B_1}; j_2; i_3)$  is a homotopy morphism of conflations. We then construct  $j_1$  by proposition 2.2, and  $i_1$  by lemma 2.5.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 \dashrightarrow \delta_A \\
 \downarrow i_1 & \square & \downarrow j_1 & & \parallel \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & E & \xrightarrow{\quad} & A_3 \xrightarrow{(i_3)^* \delta_B} \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow j_2 & \square & \downarrow i_3 \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 \dashrightarrow \delta_B
 \end{array} \quad (4.1.8)$$

Here  $j_1$  is a retract of some inflation by proposition 3.2, and  $i_1$  is also a retract of some inflation by lemma 3.13. Dually, we can construct  $p_3$  which is a retract of some deflation. The rest is clear. □

*Remark.* Under WIC condition, proposition 4.5 completes to a  $3 \times 3$ -diagram.

**Theorem 4.6.** We use  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  to denote a morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

1. For any morphism  $\gamma$ , there are  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.
2. If  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  are  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations, then there is a way to find some  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation  $\beta$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

3. If  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  are  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations, then there is a way to find some retract of  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation  $\alpha$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.
4. If  $\alpha$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and  $\beta$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation, then there is a way to find some  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation  $\gamma$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.
5. For any morphism  $\beta$ , there is a way to find some  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation  $\alpha$  and some  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation  $\gamma$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.
6. If  $\beta$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and  $\gamma$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation, then there is a way to find some  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation  $\alpha$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.
7. If  $\alpha$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation and  $\beta$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, then there is a way to find some retract of  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation  $\gamma$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.
8. If  $\beta$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation and  $\gamma$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation, then there is a way to find some retract of  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation  $\gamma$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.
9. If  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  are  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations, then there is a way to find some retract of  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation  $\gamma$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.
10. If  $\alpha$  and  $\gamma$  are  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations, then there is a way to find some  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation  $\beta$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.
11. For any morphism  $\alpha$ , there are  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

Note that the final three statements are duals of the first three statements.

*Proof.* 1. See [example 4.1](#). 2. See [theorem 4.2](#). 3. See [proposition 4.5](#).

4. We construct  $\bar{\alpha}$  by [lemma 2.4](#), and  $\bar{\gamma}$  by [proposition 2.2](#). Here  $\bar{\gamma}$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation by [proposition 3.2](#). We then construct  $\gamma$  by [lemma 2.7](#), which is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation by [theorem 3.5](#).

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 & \dashrightarrow^{\delta_A} & \\
 \downarrow \alpha & \square & \bar{\alpha} \downarrow & \beta \curvearrowright & \parallel & & \\
 B_1 & \longrightarrow & E & \longrightarrow & A_3 & \dashrightarrow & . \\
 \parallel & & \bar{\gamma} \downarrow & \square & \downarrow \gamma & & \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 & \dashrightarrow^{\delta_B} & 
 \end{array} \tag{4.1.9}$$

This complete the proof.

5. For any  $\beta : M \rightarrow N$ , we can find a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & M & \xrightarrow{1_M} & M & \dashrightarrow^0 & \\
 \downarrow & \square & \downarrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} & & \parallel & & \\
 N & \xrightarrow{(0)} & M \oplus N & \xrightarrow{(1,0)} & M & \dashrightarrow^0 & . \\
 \parallel & \begin{pmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{pmatrix} & (\beta, 1) \downarrow & \square & \downarrow & & \\
 N & \xrightarrow{1_N} & N & \longrightarrow & 0 & \dashrightarrow^0 & 
 \end{array} \tag{4.1.10}$$

Note that all  $\square$  correspond to extension element 0.

6. We construct  $\bar{\gamma}$  by [lemma 2.6](#), and  $\bar{\alpha}$  by [proposition 2.2](#). Here  $\bar{\alpha}$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation by [proposition 3.2](#). We then construct  $\alpha$  by [lemma 2.5](#), which is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation by [theorem 3.5](#).

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 & \dashrightarrow^{\delta_A} & \\
 \downarrow \alpha & \square & \bar{\alpha} \downarrow & \beta \curvearrowright & \parallel & & \\
 B_1 & \longrightarrow & E & \longrightarrow & A_3 & \dashrightarrow & . \\
 \parallel & & \bar{\gamma} \downarrow & \square & \downarrow \gamma & & \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 & \dashrightarrow^{\delta_B} & 
 \end{array} \tag{4.1.11}$$

This complete the proof.

7. We construct  $\bar{\alpha}$  by [lemma 2.6](#), and  $\bar{\gamma}$  by [proposition 2.2](#). Here  $\bar{\gamma}$  is a retract of some  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation by [proposition 3.2](#). We then construct  $\gamma$  by [lemma 2.5](#), which is a retract of some  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation by [theorem 3.15](#).

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 & \dashrightarrow & \\
\downarrow \alpha & \square & \bar{\alpha} \downarrow & \beta & & \parallel & \\
B_1 & \longrightarrow & E & \longrightarrow & A_3 & \dashrightarrow & . \\
\parallel & & \bar{\gamma} \downarrow & & \square & \downarrow \gamma & \\
B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 & \dashrightarrow &
\end{array} \tag{4.1.12}$$

This complete the proof.

8. We construct  $\bar{\gamma}$  by [lemma 2.6](#), and  $\bar{\alpha}$  by [proposition 2.2](#). Here  $\bar{\alpha}$  is a retract of some  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation by [proposition 3.2](#). We then construct  $\alpha$  by [lemma 2.5](#), which is a retract of some  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation by [theorem 3.15](#).

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 & \dashrightarrow & \\
\downarrow \alpha & \square & \bar{\alpha} \downarrow & \beta & & \parallel & \\
B_1 & \longrightarrow & E & \longrightarrow & A_3 & \dashrightarrow & . \\
\parallel & & \bar{\gamma} \downarrow & & \square & \downarrow \gamma & \\
B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 & \dashrightarrow &
\end{array} \tag{4.1.13}$$

This complete the proof.

9., 10. and 11. are dual to 1., 2. and 3. respectively.  $\square$

## 4.2 Morphisms that are both $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations and $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations

We construct various of snake lemmas in the forthcoming sections. The main obstacle is to extend  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations to  $\geq 3$  terms. Unlike admissible morphisms in exact categories ([Definition 8.1.](#), [2]), it is somehow difficult to decompose a morphism into an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation followed by an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation in extriangulated categories in a unique way. Thus we focus on morphisms that are both inflations and deflations ([definition 3.16](#)).

**Notation.** Let  $S$  be the collection of morphisms that are both  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations and  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflations.

*Remark.* In an exact category,  $S$  is the collection of isomorphisms. In a triangulated category,  $S$  is the collection of all morphisms. By [proposition 3.18](#),  $S$  contains all isomorphisms and closed under compositions.

**Proposition 4.7.** Suppose we have a homotopic square between two  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
K & \xrightarrow{i} & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \dashrightarrow \\
\parallel & & \downarrow u & \boxed{i_* \varepsilon} & \downarrow v \\
K & \xrightarrow{j} & A & \xrightarrow{g} & B \dashrightarrow
\end{array} \tag{4.2.1}$$

If and only  $f$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation ( $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation), then is  $g$ .

If  $f$  is both an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation, there is some  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation  $(u; v; 1_C)$

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
K & \dashrightarrow & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \xrightarrow{p} C \dashrightarrow \\
\begin{smallmatrix} \text{u} \\ \text{u} \\ \text{u} \\ \text{u} \end{smallmatrix} & & \downarrow u & \boxed{q^* \eta} & \downarrow v \\
K & \dashrightarrow & A & \xrightarrow{g} & B \xrightarrow{q} C \dashrightarrow
\end{array}, \tag{4.2.2}$$

such that  $i_* \varepsilon = -q^* \eta$ .

*Proof.* By [theorem 3.5](#), if and only  $f$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation ( $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation), then is  $g$ . When  $f$  and  $g$  are  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflations, we take an  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation  $K \rightarrow 0 \rightarrow FK \xrightarrow{\delta_K}$  as in [theorem 3.19](#) and obtain

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
K & \xrightarrow{i} & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \dashrightarrow \\
\parallel & & \downarrow & \boxed{-i_* \delta_K} & \downarrow p \\
K & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & FK \dashrightarrow
\end{array} \quad
\begin{array}{ccc}
K & \xrightarrow{j} & A & \xrightarrow{g} & B \dashrightarrow \\
\parallel & & \downarrow & \boxed{-j_* \delta_K} & \downarrow q \\
K & \longrightarrow & 0 & \longrightarrow & FK \dashrightarrow
\end{array} \tag{4.2.3}$$

Here the natural isomorphism  $\ell : \mathbb{E}(-, K) \simeq (-, FK)$  sends  $\delta$  and  $\varepsilon$  to  $p$  and  $q$  respectively. We show eq. (4.2.2).

We claim that  $qv = p$ . Note that

$$(qv)^* \delta_K = v^* (q^* \delta_K) = v^* \varepsilon = \delta = p^* \delta_K. \tag{4.2.4}$$

Hence,  $(qv - p)^* \delta_K = 0$ . By [theorem 3.19](#), we see  $(qv - p) = 0$ .

We then show that  $q^* \eta = -i_* \varepsilon$ . Here  $\eta = i_* \delta_K$ . A straightforward computation shows

$$q^* \eta = q^* (-i_* \delta_K) = -i_* (q^* \delta_K) = -i_* \varepsilon. \tag{4.2.5}$$

We take  $FK = C$ .  $\square$

**Theorem 4.8.** Given a homotopic square with a pair of parallel edges  $(f, g)$  in  $S$ , there is a way to complete the diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 K & \xrightarrow{i} & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{p} & C \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow u & \square & \downarrow v & l_f & \parallel \\
 K & \xrightarrow{j} & A & \xrightarrow{g} & B & \xrightarrow{q} & C \\
 & & \searrow & & & l_g & \\
 & & \boxed{i_* l_g} & = & \boxed{-q^* r_f} & &
 \end{array}, \quad (4.2.6)$$

such that  $(1_K; u; v)$  and  $(u; v; 1_C)$  are homotopic morphisms of conflations. Moreover, we can choose  $F : \mathcal{L} \simeq \mathcal{R}$  as in theorems 3.19 and 3.20 so that

$$\ell(l_f) = p, \quad \ell(l_g) = q, \quad \rho(r_f) = -i, \quad \rho(r_g) = -j. \quad (4.2.7)$$

*Proof.* We complete the following diagram such that  $(1_K; u; v)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations by proposition 4.7:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 K & \xrightarrow{i} & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{l_f} & \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow u & \boxed{i_* l_g} & v \downarrow & & \\
 K & \xrightarrow{j} & A & \xrightarrow{g} & B & \xrightarrow{l_g} & \\
 & & & & & & 
 \end{array}. \quad (4.2.8)$$

We define  $p := \ell^{-1}(l_f)$  and  $q := \ell^{-1}(l_g)$ . Since  $v^* l_g = l_f$ , we see  $qv = p$  by theorem 3.19. By construction,  $r_f = -i_* \delta_K$  and  $r_g = -j_* \delta_K$ . Hence  $\rho(r_f) = -i$  and  $\rho(r_g) = -j$ . Finally, we see

$$i_* l_g = i_* q^* \delta_K = q^* i_* \delta_K = -q^* r_f. \quad (4.2.9)$$

□

### 4.3 Snake lemmas

**Theorem 4.9.** Let  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ , and  $\gamma$  be both inflations and deflations, and  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  be a homotopic morphism of conflations. Then there is a commutative diagram with dashed z

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 K_\alpha & \xrightarrow{f'} & K_\beta & \xrightarrow{g'} & K_\gamma & \dashrightarrow & \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 \boxed{z} & & \boxed{\alpha} & \boxed{\beta} & \boxed{\gamma} & & \\
 L & \xrightarrow{u} & M & \xrightarrow{v} & N & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 C_\alpha & \xrightarrow{u'} & C_\beta & \xrightarrow{v'} & C_\gamma & & \\
 \dashrightarrow & & & & & & 
 \end{array} \quad (4.3.1)$$

such that any three terms in the mapping sequence

$$K_\alpha \xrightarrow{f'} K_\beta \xrightarrow{g'} K_\gamma \xrightarrow{z} C_\alpha \xrightarrow{u'} C_\beta \xrightarrow{v'} C_\gamma \quad (4.3.2)$$

is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation. Moreover, there is a way to take morphisms such that  $K_\alpha \xrightarrow{f'} K_\beta \xrightarrow{g'} K_\gamma \xrightarrow{\ell^{-1}(z)}$ ,  $K_\beta \xrightarrow{g'} K_\gamma \xrightarrow{\ell^{-1}(z)}$ ,  $K_\alpha \xrightarrow{-\ell^{-1}(u')} C_\alpha \xrightarrow{\ell^{-1}(v')}$ , and  $K_\gamma \xrightarrow{z} C_\alpha \xrightarrow{u'} C_\beta \xrightarrow{v'} C_\gamma$  are  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations.

*Proof.* We decompose the homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  into following diagrams:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 K_\alpha & \xlongequal{\quad} & K_\alpha \\
 i_\alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow f i_\alpha \\
 X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \xrightarrow{\delta} \\
 \alpha \circ \boxed{(i_\alpha)_* \eta_1} & \downarrow \beta_1 & \parallel \\
 L & \xrightarrow{s} & E \xrightarrow{t} Z \xrightarrow{\kappa} \\
 l_\alpha \downarrow & & \downarrow \eta_1 \\
 & & 
 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc}
 L & \xrightarrow{s} & E \xrightarrow{t} Z \xrightarrow{\kappa} \\
 \parallel & & \boxed{(p_\gamma)^* \eta_2} \downarrow \gamma \\
 L & \xrightarrow{u} & M \xrightarrow{v} N \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} \\
 p_{\gamma v} \downarrow & & \downarrow p_\gamma \\
 C_\gamma & \xlongequal{\quad} & C_\gamma \\
 \eta_2 \downarrow & & \downarrow r_\gamma \\
 & & 
 \end{array} \quad . \quad (4.3.3)$$

Then  $\beta_1$  and  $\beta_2$  are both inflations and deflations by [theorem 3.5](#). By [theorem 4.8](#), we homotopic morphisms of conflations  $(1; f; s)$ ,  $(f; s; 1)$ ,  $(1; t; v)$  and  $(t; v; 1)$  as follows (dashed arrows indicate extension elements):

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 K_\alpha & \xrightarrow{i_\alpha} & X & \xrightarrow{\alpha} & L \xrightarrow{p_\alpha} C_\alpha \dashrightarrow r_\alpha \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow f & \square & \downarrow s \quad \text{dashed} \\
 K_\alpha & \xrightarrow{f i_\alpha} & Y & \xrightarrow{\beta_1} & E \xrightarrow{y} C_\alpha \dashrightarrow \mu_1 \\
 & & \downarrow & \text{dotted} & \downarrow \eta_1 \\
 & & (i_\alpha)_* \eta_1 & = & -y^* r_\alpha
 \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccccc}
 K_\gamma & \xrightarrow{x} & E & \xrightarrow{\beta_2} & M \xrightarrow{p_\gamma v} C_\gamma \dashrightarrow \eta_2 \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow t & \square & \downarrow v \quad \text{dashed} \\
 K_\gamma & \xrightarrow{i_\gamma} & Z & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & N \xrightarrow{p_\gamma} C_\gamma \dashrightarrow l_\gamma \\
 & & \downarrow & \text{dotted} & \downarrow \\
 & & x_* l_\gamma & = & (p_\gamma)^* \eta_2
 \end{array} \quad . \quad (4.3.4)
 \end{array}$$

We obtain  $K_\alpha \xrightarrow{f'} K_\beta \xrightarrow{g'} K_\gamma \xrightarrow{x^* \eta_1} \dashrightarrow$  by [proposition 2.17](#)

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 K_\alpha & \dashrightarrow f' & K_\beta & \dashrightarrow g' & K_\gamma \xrightarrow{x^* \eta_1} \dashrightarrow \dots \dashrightarrow (f')_* \eta_1 \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow i_\beta & \square & \text{dotted} \\
 K_\alpha & \xrightarrow{f i_\alpha} & Y & \xrightarrow{\beta_1} & E \dashrightarrow \eta_1 \\
 & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \beta_2 \\
 M & = & M & & \downarrow \mu_2 \\
 & & \downarrow l_\beta & & \downarrow
 \end{array} \quad . \quad (4.3.5)$$

We then construct  $K_\beta \xrightarrow{\overline{g'}} K_\gamma \xrightarrow{z} C_\alpha \dashrightarrow$  by [proposition 2.20](#)

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 K_\beta & \dashrightarrow \overline{g'} & K_\gamma & \dashrightarrow yx & C_\alpha \dashrightarrow \theta \dashrightarrow \dots \dashrightarrow (\beta_2)^* l_\beta \\
 \downarrow i_\beta & \square & \text{dotted} & \downarrow x & \parallel \\
 Y & \xrightarrow{\beta_1} & E & \xrightarrow{y} & C_\alpha \dashrightarrow \mu_1 \\
 \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \beta_2 & & \downarrow \mu_2 \\
 M & = & M & & \downarrow \\
 & & \downarrow l_\beta & & \downarrow
 \end{array} \quad . \quad (4.3.6)$$

Recall that in our construction of [proposition 2.20](#),  $\overline{g'}$  can be any morphism such that  $\boxed{\beta_2^* l_\beta}$  is a homotopic square. Hence, we take  $\overline{g'} = g'$ . It remains to show  $\ell(x^* \eta_1) = z$  here. Note that the construction in [theorem 4.8](#) shows  $\ell(\eta_1) = y$ . Hence,

$$\ell(x^* \eta_1) = \ell(\eta_1)x = yx = z. \quad (4.3.7)$$

We next construct  $K_\gamma \xrightarrow{z} C_\alpha \xrightarrow{u'} C_\beta \dashrightarrow \xi$  by dual of [proposition 2.20](#):

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 Y & = & Y & & \\
 \downarrow \beta_1 & & \downarrow \beta & & \\
 K_\gamma & \xrightarrow{x} & E & \xrightarrow{\beta_2} & M \dashrightarrow \mu_2 \dashrightarrow \dots \dashrightarrow (\beta_1)_* r_\beta \\
 \parallel & & \text{dotted} & \downarrow p_\beta & \parallel \\
 K_\gamma & \dashrightarrow yx & C_\alpha & \dashrightarrow u' & C_\beta \dashrightarrow \xi \\
 & & \downarrow \mu_1 & & \downarrow r_\beta \\
 & & \downarrow & &
 \end{array} \quad . \quad (4.3.8)$$

Recall that in our construction of [proposition 2.20](#),  $u'$  can be any morphism such that  $\boxed{-x_* \xi}$  is a homotopic square. We take  $u' = \ell(\theta)$ . Note that

1.  $u'y = \ell(y^* \theta) \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.3.6)}} -\ell(\beta_2^* l_\beta) = -\ell(l_\beta)\beta_2 \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.3.4)}} p_\beta\beta_2$ .
2.  $\mu_1 \xrightarrow{\text{eq. (4.3.6)}} (i_\beta)_*\theta = (i_\beta)_*\ell^{-1}(u') = \ell(F(i_\beta)u') = \ell(\ell^{-1}(r_\beta)u') = \ell\ell^{-1}((u')^*r_\beta) = (u')^*r_\beta$ .

3. We claim that  $E \xrightarrow{(\beta_2)} M \oplus C_\alpha \xrightarrow{(p_\beta, u')} C_\beta \xrightarrow{(\beta_1)_* r_\beta} \dots$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation. Note that there are some  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation  $E \xrightarrow{(\beta_2)} M \oplus C_\alpha \rightarrow C_\beta \dashrightarrow$ , we see  $(\beta_2) \in S$  by [proposition 3.17](#). Hence,  $(\beta_2)$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation. By [proposition 2.20](#), there is a dashed  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
K_\beta & \xlongequal{\quad} & K_\beta & & & & \\
\downarrow ? & & \downarrow (\beta_{g'}) & & & & \\
K_\beta \oplus K_\beta & \xrightarrow{i_\beta \oplus g'} & Y \oplus K_\gamma & \xrightarrow{\beta \oplus yx} & M \oplus C_\alpha & \xrightarrow{l_\beta \oplus \theta} & \\
\downarrow ? & & \downarrow (\beta_1, -x) & & \parallel & & \\
? \xrightarrow{?} E \xrightarrow{(\beta_2)} M \oplus C_\alpha & \dashrightarrow ? & & & & & \\
\downarrow ? & & \downarrow (f')_* \eta_1 & & & & \\
& & & & & & 
\end{array} \tag{4.3.9}$$

Note that the top left morphism must be  $(1)$ , thus the left dashed  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation splits. Note that

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
K_\beta & \xlongequal{\quad} & K_\beta & \xlongequal{\quad} & K_\beta & & \\
\downarrow (1) & & \downarrow (1) & & \downarrow (\beta_{g'}) & & \\
K_\beta \oplus K_\beta & = & K_\beta \oplus K_\beta & \xrightarrow{i_\beta \oplus g'} & Y \oplus K_\gamma & \xrightarrow{\beta \oplus yx} & M \oplus C_\alpha \xrightarrow{l_\beta \oplus \theta} \\
\downarrow (1, -1) & & \downarrow ? & & \downarrow (\beta_1, -x) & & \parallel \\
K_\beta & \xrightarrow[\varphi]{} & \bar{K}_\beta & \xrightarrow{?} & E \xrightarrow{(\beta_2)} & M \oplus C_\alpha & \dashrightarrow ? \\
\downarrow 0 & & \downarrow 0 & & \downarrow (f')_* \eta_1 & & 
\end{array} \tag{4.3.10}$$

By [corollary 1.2](#), there is some isomorphism  $\varphi$  making  $(1_{K_\beta}; 1_{K_\beta \oplus K_\beta}; \varphi)$  an isomorphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. By diagram, the bottom row is the  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation  $K_\beta \xrightarrow{\beta_1 i_\beta} E \xrightarrow{(\beta_2)} M \oplus C_\alpha \xrightarrow{(1, -1)_*(l_\beta \oplus \theta)} \dots$ . Note that  $\ell((1, -1)_*(l_\beta \oplus \theta)) = (\ell(l_\beta), -\ell(\theta)) = (p_\beta, u')$ , and  $\ell(\beta_1 i_\beta) = (\beta_1)_* l_\beta = (\beta_1)_* r_\beta$ . This proves the claim.

We finally take the following diagram by [proposition 2.17](#)

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
Y & \xlongequal{\quad} & Y & & & & \\
\downarrow \beta_1 & & \downarrow \beta & & & & \\
E & \xrightarrow{\beta_2} & M & \xrightarrow{p_\gamma v} & C_\gamma & \xrightarrow{\eta_2} & (\beta_1)_* r_\beta \\
\circlearrowleft y & \square & \downarrow p_\beta & & \parallel & & \parallel \\
C_\alpha & \dashrightarrow \overline{u'} & C_\beta & \dashrightarrow v' & C_\gamma & \xrightarrow{y_* \eta_2} & (v')^* \eta_2 \\
\downarrow \mu_1 & & \downarrow r_\beta & & & & 
\end{array} \tag{4.3.11}$$

Recall that in our construction of [proposition 2.17](#),  $\overline{u'}$  can be any morphism such that  $(\beta_1)_* r_\beta$  is homotopic. Hence, we can take  $\overline{u'} = u'$ . A comparison of [eqs. \(4.3.8\)](#) and [\(4.3.11\)](#) show that  $v' = \ell(\xi)$ . This complete our verification.  $\square$

We show some degenerate cases of [theorem 4.9](#).

**Proposition 4.10 (Case: S-?-S).** *For  $\alpha, \gamma \in S$  such that  $(\alpha; \gamma)$  is a morphism of extensions, we can find  $\beta \in S$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. Moreover, we have the following commutative diagram with outer 6-term  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
& & K_\alpha & \dashrightarrow & K_\beta & \dashrightarrow & K_\gamma \dashrightarrow \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
& & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \xrightarrow{\delta} \\
& & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
& & L & \xrightarrow{u} & M & \xrightarrow{v} & N \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} \\
& z & \dashrightarrow & & \dashrightarrow & & \dashrightarrow \\
& & C_\alpha & \dashrightarrow & C_\beta & \dashrightarrow & C_\gamma
\end{array} \tag{4.3.12}$$

**Proposition 4.11 (Case: S-S-?).** For  $\alpha, \beta \in S$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; ?)$  is a morphism of some  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations, we can find  $\gamma$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. Moreover,

1. (Without WIC)  $\gamma$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation, and we have the following commutative diagram with outer 5-term  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation:
2. (Assume WIC)  $\gamma \in S$ , and we have the following commutative diagram with outer 6-term  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & K_\alpha & \xrightarrow{f'} & K_\beta & \xrightarrow{g'} & K_\gamma & \dashrightarrow \\
 \downarrow & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 & L & \xrightarrow{u} & M & \xrightarrow{v} & N & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} \\
 \downarrow \alpha & \downarrow \beta & \downarrow \gamma & & & & \\
 z & C_\alpha & \xrightarrow{u'} & C_\beta & \xrightarrow{v'} & C_\gamma & \\
 \dashrightarrow & & & & & &
 \end{array} \quad (4.3.13)$$

*Remark.* **I-?-I** and **D-?-D** cases can be shown without WIC condition. **?-I-I** and **D-D-?** cases can be shown assuming WIC condition (in fact, they are equivalent coditions of WIC, theorem 3.28).

**Proposition 4.12 (Case: I-S-?).** For  $\alpha$  an  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and  $\beta \in S$  such that such that  $(\alpha; \beta; ?)$  is a morphism of some  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations, we can find  $\gamma$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. Moreover,

1. (Without WIC)  $\gamma$  is an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation, and we have the following commutative diagram with outer 5-term  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation:
2. (Assume WIC)  $\gamma \in S$ , and we have the following commutative diagram with outer 5-term  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & K_\beta & \xrightarrow{g'} & K_\gamma & \dashrightarrow \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z & \xrightarrow{\delta} \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 & L & \xrightarrow{u} & M & \xrightarrow{v} & N & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} \\
 \downarrow \alpha & \downarrow \beta & \downarrow \gamma & & & & \\
 z & C_\alpha & \xrightarrow{u'} & C_\beta & \xrightarrow{v'} & C_\gamma & \\
 \dashrightarrow & & & & & &
 \end{array} \quad (4.3.14)$$

**Proposition 4.13 (Case: S-D-?).** For  $\alpha \in S$  and  $\beta$  an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation such that such that  $(\alpha; \beta; ?)$  is a morphism of some  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations, we can find some  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation  $\beta$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations. Moreover, we have the following commutative diagram with outer 4-term  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & K_\alpha & \xrightarrow{f'} & K_\beta & \xrightarrow{g'} & K_\gamma & \dashrightarrow \\
 \downarrow & & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & \\
 X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 & L & \xrightarrow{u} & M & \xrightarrow{v} & N & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} \\
 \downarrow \alpha & \downarrow \beta & \downarrow \gamma & & & & \\
 z & C_\alpha & \dashrightarrow & & & &
 \end{array} \quad (4.3.15)$$

There is also a twist case for  $3 \times 3$  lemma.

**Proposition 4.14 (Case: I-D-?).** For  $\alpha$  and  $\mathbb{E}$ -inflation and  $\beta$  an  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation such that such that  $(\alpha; \beta; ?)$  is a morphism of some  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflations, we can find retract of some  $\mathbb{E}$ -deflation  $\beta$  such that  $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$  is a homotopic morphism of  $\mathbb{E}$ -

conflations. Moreover, we have the following commutative diagram with outer  $\mathbb{E}$ -conflation:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & K_\beta & \xrightarrow{g'} & K_\gamma & \dashrightarrow & \\
 & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \\
 \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
 L & \xrightarrow{u} & M & \xrightarrow{v} & N & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & \\
 \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma & & \\
 z & \dashrightarrow & C_\alpha & & & & 
 \end{array} \tag{4.3.16}$$

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