

Diagrams Lemmas in Extriangulated Categories

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December 1, 2025

Contents

1 Preliminaries	2
1.1 Axiom of Extriangulated Categories	2
1.2 Corollaries of Six-term Long Exact Sequences	3
1.3 Pullbacks of Two \mathbb{E} -Deflations	4
1.4 Pushouts of Two \mathbb{E} -Inflations	5
2 Homotopic Square	6
2.1 Homotopic squares and morphisms	6
2.2 Morphism of \mathbb{E} -conflations $(f; g; 1)$ revisited	7
2.3 More examples of homotopic morphisms	9
3 Diagram Lemmas	13
3.1 Composites of Morphisms	13
3.2 On Homotopic Squares	14
3.3 An Application: Happel's Theorem	17
3.4 Remarks on WIC Condition	20
4 Snake Lemmas	23
4.1 3×3 Lemmas	23
4.2 Morphisms that are both \mathbb{E} -inflations and \mathbb{E} -deflations	26
4.3 Snake lemmas	27

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 bifactoriality 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 (ET3^{op}), ET4 (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). $\delta(0) = [X \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} X \oplus Y \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} Y]$. For any δ_1, δ_2 , $\mathfrak{s}(\delta_1 \oplus \delta_2) = \mathfrak{s}(\delta_1) \oplus \mathfrak{s}(\delta_2)$, explicitly,

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

- (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 $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \xrightarrow{\delta}$. 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:

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

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

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

Axiom (ET3^{op}). For $\gamma \circ g = g' \circ \gamma$ where g and g' are \mathbb{E} -deflations, there exists α making $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$ a morphism of \mathbb{E} -conflations.

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

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & B & \xrightarrow{g} & D \dashrightarrow^{\delta} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow u & & \downarrow w \\ A & \dashrightarrow^m & C & \dashrightarrow^h & F \dashrightarrow^{\theta} \\ & & \downarrow v & & \downarrow q \\ & & E & \xlongequal{\quad} & E \\ & & \downarrow \varepsilon & & \downarrow \eta \end{array} \quad (1.1.8)$$

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

Axiom (ET4^{op}). Let $A \xrightarrow{m} C \xrightarrow{h} F \dashrightarrow^{\theta}$ and $F \xrightarrow{w} E \xrightarrow{q} E \dashrightarrow^{\eta}$ be \mathbb{E} -conflations. There exists a commutative diagram

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \dashrightarrow^f & B & \dashrightarrow^g & D \dashrightarrow^{\delta} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow u & & \downarrow w \\ A & \xrightarrow{m} & C & \xrightarrow{h} & F \dashrightarrow^{\theta} \\ & & \downarrow v & & \downarrow q \\ & & E & \xlongequal{\quad} & E \\ & & \downarrow \varepsilon & & \downarrow \eta \end{array} \quad (1.1.9)$$

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 $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \dashrightarrow^{\delta}$, one has the following two exact sequences of functors:

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

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

Here $\delta_{\#} : \mathcal{C}(-, Z) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}(-, X)$ is a natural transformation sending $T \xrightarrow{\varphi} Z$ to $\varphi^* \delta$, and $\delta^{\#} : \mathcal{C}(X, -) \rightarrow \mathbb{E}(Z, -)$ 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 $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \dashrightarrow^{\delta}$ 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 α, β, γ 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 $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \dashrightarrow^{\delta}$ 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

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

which satisfy the condition in ET4 axiom.

Proof. We apply ET4-axiom to conflations realising from δ and ε . 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. □

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

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

Proof. Note that the deflation $v = qh$ is uniquely determined. We take arbitrary realisation of ε . We apply [lemma 1.3](#) for realisations of ε , θ and η , 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. □

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](#). □

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 Σ :

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

φ and ψ 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*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & A_2 & \xlongequal{\quad} & A_2 & & \\
 & & \downarrow e_2 & & \downarrow f_2 & & \\
 A_1 & \xrightarrow{e_1} & E & \xrightarrow{p_2} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{\eta} & 0 \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow p_1 & & \downarrow g_2 & & \\
 A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_1} & B_1 & \xrightarrow{g_1} & C & \xrightarrow{\delta_1} & 0 \\
 & & \downarrow \varepsilon & & \downarrow \delta_2 & &
 \end{array} . \tag{1.3.3}$$

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 $A \xrightarrow{f_1} B_1 \xrightarrow{g_1} C_1 \xrightarrow{\delta_1} 0$ and $A \xrightarrow{f_2} B_2 \xrightarrow{g_2} C_2 \xrightarrow{\delta_2} 0$ be two conflations. Then there exists a commutative diagram*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{f_2} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_2} & C_2 & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_2} & 0 \\
 \downarrow f_1 & & \downarrow e_2 & & \parallel & & \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow{e_1} & E & \xrightarrow{p_2} & C_2 & \xrightarrow{(f_1)_*\varepsilon_2} & 0 \\
 \downarrow g_1 & & \downarrow p_1 & & & & \\
 C_1 & \xlongequal{\quad} & C_1 & & & & \\
 \downarrow \varepsilon_1 & & \downarrow (f_2)_*\varepsilon_1 & & & &
 \end{array} , \tag{1.4.1}$$

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 $B_1 \xrightarrow{e_1} E \xrightarrow{p_2} C_2 \xrightarrow{(f_1)_*\varepsilon_2} 0$ 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*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{f_2} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_2} & C_2 & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_2} & 0 \\
 \downarrow f_1 & & \downarrow e_2 & & \parallel & & \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow{e_1} & E & \xrightarrow{p_2} & C_2 & \xrightarrow{\eta} & 0 \\
 \downarrow g_1 & & \downarrow p_1 & & & & \\
 C_1 & \xlongequal{\quad} & C_1 & & & & \\
 \downarrow \varepsilon_1 & & \downarrow \varepsilon & & & &
 \end{array} , \tag{1.4.2}$$

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 $A_1 \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} f \\ u \end{pmatrix}} B_1 \oplus A_2 \xrightarrow{(v, -g)} B_2 \dashrightarrow$ 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).

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

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 $\begin{pmatrix} f \\ -u \end{pmatrix}$ 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*

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

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

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

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, ET3^{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.

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

Proof. We show the existence of β' . We realise $\alpha_*\delta = \gamma^*\varepsilon$ by any \mathbb{E} -conflation, and take β_1 and β_2 by lemma 2.4 and lemma 2.6 respectively.

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

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

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

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

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 γ' is dual to that of α' . \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

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

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

Proof. The commutative diagram shows $(g, -u') \circ \binom{u}{f} = 0$. 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 $\binom{u}{f}_*(v'^*\delta) = 0$. \square

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

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

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

Proof. We show exactness at each position.

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

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

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 pushout.

2. (Exactness at $\mathcal{C}(X, -)$). There exists a homotopic square $X \xrightarrow{\binom{u}{f}} Y \oplus X' \xrightarrow{(\bar{g}, -u')} Y' \dashrightarrow^{(v')^*\delta}$ for some \bar{g} ([lemma 2.4](#)). By [eq. \(1.2.2\)](#), the exactness holds.
3. (At $\mathbb{E}(Y', -)$). We show $\text{im}((v')^*\delta)^\# \subseteq \ker(g, -u')^*$. For any $X \xrightarrow{\varphi} \cdot$, we have $(g, -u')^*(v')^*\delta(\varphi) = \varphi_*(v, 0)^*\delta = 0$.
4. (Exactness at $\mathbb{E}(Y \oplus X', -)$). $(\bar{g}, -u')\binom{u}{f} = 0$ is clear. Conversely, we take any $\varphi \in \mathbb{E}(Y \oplus X', T)$ such that $\binom{u}{f}^*\varepsilon = 0$.

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & X & & \\
 & \swarrow \text{dashed} & \downarrow \binom{u}{f} & & \\
 T & \xrightarrow{i} & M & \xrightarrow{p} & Y \oplus X' \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon} \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow & & \downarrow (\bar{g}, -u') \\
 T & \longrightarrow & N & \longrightarrow & Y' \dashrightarrow^{\eta} \\
 & & & & \downarrow
 \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccc}
 X & \xrightarrow{u} & Y \\
 \downarrow f & & \downarrow g \\
 X' & \xrightarrow{u'} & Y' \\
 & \searrow u' & \dashrightarrow s \\
 & & Y'
 \end{array} \quad (2.2.6)$$

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:

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

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 $X \xrightarrow{\binom{u}{f}} Y \oplus X' \xrightarrow{(\bar{g}, -u')} Y' \dashrightarrow^{(v')^*\delta}$ is an \mathbb{E} -conflation. Since $(g - \bar{g}) \circ u = 0$, there is $\varphi : Z \rightarrow Y'$ such that $\varphi \circ v = (g - \bar{g})$:

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

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:*

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

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^1 -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:

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

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

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

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

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

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:

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

Here $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $((0,1); (0,1); (0,1))$ are morphisms of \mathbb{E} -conflations. We show $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \alpha & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \beta & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ \gamma & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ 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 $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$ and $((0,1); (0,1); (0,1))$ are homotopic morphisms of \mathbb{E} -conflations. We only verify $\begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}; \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$. Consider the following diagram:

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

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

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

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 ET_4 axiom.*

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

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

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

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 $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}_*\eta + \begin{pmatrix} -g \\ u \end{pmatrix}_*\varepsilon = 0$, 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.

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

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

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

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](#).

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

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:

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

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](#).*

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

Proof. We take f_1 as in [lemma 2.5](#). By [proposition 1.9](#), we take the conflation realising ε_1 in the following commutative diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
& & B_2 & \xlongequal{\quad} & B_2 & & \\
& & \downarrow \binom{0}{1} & & \downarrow e_2 & & \\
A & \xrightarrow{\binom{f_1}{f_2}} & B_1 \oplus B_2 & \xrightarrow{(-e_1, e_2)} & E & \xrightarrow{p_2^*\varepsilon_2} & \\
\parallel & & \downarrow (1,0) & & \downarrow -p_1 & & \\
A & \xrightarrow{f_1} & B_1 & \xrightarrow{g_1} & C_1 & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon_1} & \\
& & \downarrow 0 & & \downarrow -\kappa & &
\end{array} . \tag{2.3.17}$$

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 ET4^{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 φ called a *section* if there exists a morphism ψ such that $\psi \circ \varphi = \text{id}$, and called a *retraction* if there exists a morphism θ such that $\varphi \circ \theta = \text{id}$. Say f' is a retract of f if there exists a commutative diagram

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 $A \xrightarrow{f} B \xrightarrow{g} C \xrightarrow{\delta} \rightarrow$ and a realisation of $p_*\delta$ as $A' \xrightarrow{\bar{f}} E \xrightarrow{v} C \xrightarrow{p_*\delta} \rightarrow$. By [lemma 2.4](#), there is a homotopic morphism

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

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

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

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

This diagram gives a conflation $A_2 \xrightarrow{v} B_2 \xrightarrow{q} C \xrightarrow{\delta_2}$, 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 $A_2 \xrightarrow{u} B_2 \xrightarrow{q} C \xrightarrow{\delta_2}$. We complete the following commutative diagram by [proposition 1.10](#):

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

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:

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

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:

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

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

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

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

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

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 $\begin{pmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}_* \varepsilon + \begin{pmatrix} -f \\ \alpha \\ gf \end{pmatrix}_* \delta$ yields $f_* \delta = \varepsilon$.*

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

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

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} -f \\ \alpha \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} & B \oplus D \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \beta & u & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} & E \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\kappa \oplus 0_{C0}} 0 \\ \parallel & & \simeq \uparrow \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 & 0 \\ 0 & 1 & 0 \\ g & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix} & & \parallel & \\ A & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} -f \\ \alpha \\ gf \end{pmatrix}} & B \oplus D \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \beta & u & 0 \\ g & 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}} & E \oplus C & \xrightarrow{\kappa \oplus 0_{C0}} 0 \end{array} \quad (3.2.11)$$

Let $A \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \alpha \\ gf \end{pmatrix}} D \oplus C \xrightarrow{(p, -\gamma)} F \xrightarrow{\delta} 0$ be any \mathbb{E} -conflation. By [proposition 1.7](#), we obtain:

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

Hence, $\begin{pmatrix} g \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}$ is an \mathbb{E} -inflation. □

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

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

Proof. Dual to [theorem 3.9](#). □

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

Proof. When g or β is an \mathbb{E} -inflation, then so is $\begin{pmatrix} g \\ \beta \end{pmatrix}$. α is an \mathbb{E} -inflation if and only if β is so, by [theorem 3.5](#). □

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). γ 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.

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

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

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

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & & & & C \\ & \searrow \varphi & & \searrow f & \\ & \bar{A} & \xrightarrow{\bar{f}} & B & \xrightarrow{g} C \\ & \downarrow \bar{\alpha} & \square & \downarrow \beta & \square \\ & D & \xrightarrow{u} E & \xrightarrow{v} F \end{array} \quad (3.2.14)$$

The morphism f is constructed by [proposition 2.2](#). The composition of the two homotopic squares is also homotopic ([theorem 3.7](#)), and φ is constructed by applying ET3^{op} to the following diagram:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} h \\ \alpha \end{pmatrix}} & B \oplus C & \xrightarrow{(\gamma, -vu)} & F & \xrightarrow{\quad} 0 \\ \downarrow \varphi & & \parallel & & \parallel & \\ \bar{A} & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} gf \\ \bar{\alpha} \end{pmatrix}} & B \oplus C & \xrightarrow{(\gamma, -vu)} & F & \xrightarrow{\quad} 0 \end{array} \quad (3.2.15)$$

φ is an isomorphism by [corollary 1.2](#). This completes the proof. □

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 $\begin{pmatrix} r \\ f \end{pmatrix}$ 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.

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

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} A & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} r \\ f \end{pmatrix}} & B_1 \oplus A_2 & \xrightarrow{(g', -i')} & B'_2 & \dashrightarrow & \\ \parallel & & \parallel & & \downarrow \varphi & & \\ A & \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} u \\ f \end{pmatrix}} & B_1 \oplus A_2 & \xrightarrow{(g, -v)} & B_2 & \dashrightarrow & \end{array} . \quad (3.2.19)$$

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

- \mathcal{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 \mathcal{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 homotopis squares, we have

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

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^{op}, 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 ℓ by ET3 as follows:

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

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 ℓ . To see the naturality, it suffices to show $\ell(a_*c^*\varepsilon) = (Fa) \circ \ell(\varepsilon) \circ c$. Consider

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

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 ρ by ET3^{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 ET3^{op} is unique. If there is another α 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 ρ is an isomorphism by finding its inverse. $f \mapsto f_* \delta_X$. Note that $\rho(f_* \delta_X) = f$ by unique completion of ET3^{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

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

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

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

is a (right) triangulated structure on \mathcal{C} . That is, (\mathcal{C}, F, Δ) 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 $[X \xrightarrow{f} Y] = [X \xrightarrow{\binom{f}{0}} Y \oplus 0 \cong Y]$ 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 a natural isomorphism $\ell : \mathbb{E}(-, X) \cong \mathcal{C}(-, FX)$ and an equivalence $F : \mathcal{C} \simeq \mathcal{R}$ by [theorem 3.19](#). We show that (\mathcal{C}, F, Δ) 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 $X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{g} Z \xrightarrow{\delta} \cdot$, 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 ℓ . This completes the verification.

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

Remark. Not all right triangulated categories are obtained in this way. For example, we choose \mathbf{Ab} as our ambient category, and $\{X \xrightarrow{f} Y \xrightarrow{\pi} \text{cok } f \rightarrow 0 \mid f \in \mathbf{Mor}(\mathbf{Ab})\}$ as the class of right triangles. This gives a right triangulated structure on \mathbf{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. $S = \mathbf{Mor}(\mathcal{C})$, *that is, all morphisms are both \mathbb{E} -inflations and \mathbb{E} -deflations.*

Proof. If 1. holds, then (\mathcal{C}, F, Δ) 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**. \square

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} . \square

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**. \square

3.4 Remarks on WIC Condition

Anaglou 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 $jp = (1 - iq)$.

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

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. \square

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

Definition 3.27. A 3×3 diagram consists of 6 conflations arranged in a commutative diagram

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

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 fi , 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 3×3 diagram:

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

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

Proof. (1. \rightarrow 2.). Let $X \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix}} Y \oplus W \xrightarrow{(s,t)} Z \xrightarrow{\delta} \rightarrow$ 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 $\begin{pmatrix} a \\ b \end{pmatrix} (s, t) = \begin{pmatrix} s & 0 \\ 0 & 1 \end{pmatrix}$:

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

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

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

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 $\begin{pmatrix} i \\ f_i \end{pmatrix}$ by proposition 3.2. Here $\begin{pmatrix} i \\ 0 \end{pmatrix} = \begin{pmatrix} 1 & 0 \\ f & 1 \end{pmatrix}^{-1} \circ \begin{pmatrix} i \\ f_i \end{pmatrix}$ 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:

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

It remains to show the following diagram fails to be completed to a 3×3 -diagram:

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

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 3×3 Lemmas

Our 3×3 -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.

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

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

Theorem 4.2. Suppose we have conflations realising $\delta_A, \delta_B, \varepsilon_1$ and ε_3 in the following diagram:

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

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 & \xrightarrow{\delta_A} \\ \downarrow i_1 & \square & \downarrow j_1 & & \parallel & \\ B_1 & \xrightarrow{s} & E & \xrightarrow{t} & A_3 & \xrightarrow{\kappa} \\ \downarrow p_1 & & \downarrow q & & & \\ C_1 & = & C_1 & & & \\ \downarrow \varepsilon_1 & & \downarrow (f_A)_*\varepsilon_1 & & & \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} B_1 & \xrightarrow{s} & E & \xrightarrow{t} & A_3 & \xrightarrow{\kappa} \\ \parallel & & \downarrow j_2 & \square & \downarrow i_3 & \\ B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 & \xrightarrow{\delta_B} \\ \downarrow p_3 g_B & & \downarrow p_3 & & & \\ C_3 & = & C_3 & & & \\ \downarrow \theta & & \downarrow \varepsilon_3 & & & \end{array} . \quad (4.1.5)$$

We construct ε_2 and δ_C by ET4,

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

It remains to verify [eq. \(4.1.3\)](#) is a 3×3 -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 α, β and γ be all inflations (or dually, all deflations) such that $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$ is a homotopic morphism of conflations. Then it extends to a 3×3 -diagram.*

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

Corollary 4.4. *Let α, β and γ 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 3×3 diagram.*

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

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

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

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.

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 & \xrightarrow{\delta_A} & \rightarrow \\
 \downarrow i_1 & \square & \downarrow j_1 & & \parallel & & \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & E & \xrightarrow{\quad} & A_3 & \xrightarrow{(i_3)^* \delta_B} & \rightarrow \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow i_2 & \square & \downarrow i_3 & & \\
 B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 & \xrightarrow{\delta_B} & \rightarrow
 \end{array} . \tag{4.1.8}$$

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 3×3 -diagram.

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

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

3. If β and γ are \mathbb{E} -inflations, then there is a way to find some retract of \mathbb{E} -inflation α such that $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$ is a homotopic morphism of \mathbb{E} -conflations.
4. If α is an \mathbb{E} -inflation and β is an \mathbb{E} -deflation, then there is a way to find some \mathbb{E} -deflation γ such that $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$ is a homotopic morphism of \mathbb{E} -conflations.
5. For any morphism β , there is a way to find some \mathbb{E} -inflation α and some \mathbb{E} -deflation γ such that $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$ is a homotopic morphism of \mathbb{E} -conflations.
6. If β is an \mathbb{E} -inflation and γ is an \mathbb{E} -deflation, then there is a way to find some \mathbb{E} -inflation α such that $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$ is a homotopic morphism of \mathbb{E} -conflations.
7. If α is an \mathbb{E} -deflation and β is an \mathbb{E} -inflation, then there is a way to find some retract of \mathbb{E} -inflation γ such that $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$ is a homotopic morphism of \mathbb{E} -conflations.
8. If β is an \mathbb{E} -deflation and γ is an \mathbb{E} -inflation, then there is a way to find some retract of \mathbb{E} -deflation γ such that $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$ is a homotopic morphism of \mathbb{E} -conflations.
9. If α and γ are \mathbb{E} -deflations, then there is a way to find some retract of \mathbb{E} -deflation γ such that $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$ is a homotopic morphism of \mathbb{E} -conflations.
10. If α and γ are \mathbb{E} -deflations, then there is a way to find some \mathbb{E} -deflation β such that $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$ is a homotopic morphism of \mathbb{E} -conflations.
11. For any morphism α , there are \mathbb{E} -deflations β and γ 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 γ by [lemma 2.7](#), which is an \mathbb{E} -deflation by [theorem 3.5](#).

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

This complete the proof.

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

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 0 & \longrightarrow & M & \xrightarrow{1_M} & M & \xrightarrow{0} & \rightarrow \\
 \downarrow & \square & \downarrow \binom{1}{0} & & \parallel & & \\
 N & \xrightarrow{\quad} & M \oplus N & \xrightarrow{(1,0)} & M & \xrightarrow{0} & \rightarrow \\
 \parallel & \binom{0}{1} & \downarrow (\beta,1) & \square & \downarrow & & \\
 N & \xrightarrow{1_N} & N & \longrightarrow & 0 & \xrightarrow{0} & \rightarrow
 \end{array} \quad . \quad (4.1.10)$$

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 α by [lemma 2.5](#), which is an \mathbb{E} -inflation by [theorem 3.5](#).

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

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 γ by [lemma 2.5](#), which is a retract of some \mathbb{E} -inflation by [theorem 3.15](#).

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 & \xrightarrow{\delta_A} & \\
\downarrow \alpha & \square & \downarrow \bar{\alpha} & \beta & \parallel & & \\
B_1 & \longrightarrow & E & \longrightarrow & A_3 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \\
\parallel & & \downarrow \bar{\gamma} & \square & \downarrow \gamma & & \\
B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 & \xrightarrow{\delta_B} &
\end{array} \quad (4.1.12)$$

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 α by [lemma 2.5](#), which is a retract of some \mathbb{E} -deflation by [theorem 3.15](#).

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
A_1 & \xrightarrow{f_A} & A_2 & \xrightarrow{g_A} & A_3 & \xrightarrow{\delta_A} & \\
\downarrow \alpha & \square & \downarrow \bar{\alpha} & \beta & \parallel & & \\
B_1 & \longrightarrow & E & \longrightarrow & A_3 & \xrightarrow{\quad} & \\
\parallel & & \downarrow \bar{\gamma} & \square & \downarrow \gamma & & \\
B_1 & \xrightarrow{f_B} & B_2 & \xrightarrow{g_B} & B_3 & \xrightarrow{\delta_B} &
\end{array} \quad (4.1.13)$$

This complete the proof.

9., 10. and 11. are dual to 1., 2. and 3. respectively. □

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 ≥ 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:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
K & \xrightarrow{i} & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \\
\parallel & & \downarrow u & \boxed{i_*\varepsilon} & \downarrow v & & \\
K & \xrightarrow{j} & A & \xrightarrow{g} & B & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} &
\end{array} \quad (4.2.1)$$

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 $(u; v; 1_C)$

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
K & \xrightarrow{i} & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{p} & C \xrightarrow{\eta} \\
\parallel & & \downarrow u & \boxed{q^*\eta} & \downarrow v & \parallel & \\
K & \xrightarrow{j} & A & \xrightarrow{g} & B & \xrightarrow{q} & C \xrightarrow{\kappa}
\end{array}, \quad (4.2.2)$$

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

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

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

We claim that $qv = p$. Note that

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

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

$$q^*\eta = q^*(-i_*\delta_K) = -i_*(q^*\delta_K) = -i_*\varepsilon. \quad (4.2.5)$$

We take $FK = C$. □

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*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 K & \xrightarrow{i} & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{p} & C \dashrightarrow^{r_f} \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow u & \square & \downarrow v & \swarrow l_f & \parallel \\
 K & \xrightarrow{j} & A & \xrightarrow{g} & B & \xrightarrow{q} & C \dashrightarrow^{r_g}
 \end{array}, \quad (4.2.6)$$

$\boxed{i_* l_g} = \boxed{-q^* r_f}$

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](#):

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

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

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

(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 $K_\alpha \xrightarrow{f'} K_\beta \xrightarrow{g'} K_\gamma \xrightarrow{\ell^{-1}(z)} C_\alpha \xrightarrow{-\ell^{-1}(u')} C_\beta \xrightarrow{\ell^{-1}(v')} C_\gamma$ are \mathbb{E} -conflations.

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{ccccccc}
 K_\alpha & \xrightarrow{f} & X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z \dashrightarrow^{\delta} \\
 \downarrow i_\alpha & & \downarrow f i_\alpha & & & & \\
 X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z & \dashrightarrow^{\delta} & \\
 \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow (i_\alpha)_* \eta_1 & & \downarrow \beta_1 & & \\
 L & \xrightarrow{s} & E & \xrightarrow{t} & Z & \dashrightarrow^{\kappa} & \\
 \downarrow l_\alpha & & \downarrow \eta_1 & & & &
 \end{array} & &
 \begin{array}{ccccccc}
 L & \xrightarrow{s} & E & \xrightarrow{t} & Z & \dashrightarrow^{\kappa} & \\
 \parallel & & \downarrow \beta_2 & & \downarrow (p_\gamma)^* \eta_2 & & \\
 L & \xrightarrow{u} & M & \xrightarrow{v} & N & \dashrightarrow^{\varepsilon} & \\
 \downarrow p_\gamma v & & \downarrow p_\gamma & & \downarrow p_\gamma & & \\
 C_\gamma & \xrightarrow{u'} & C_\gamma & \xrightarrow{v'} & C_\gamma & & \\
 \downarrow \eta_2 & & \downarrow \eta_2 & & \downarrow r_\gamma & &
 \end{array}
 \end{array}. \quad (4.3.3)$$

Then β_1 and β_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):

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
K_\alpha \xrightarrow{i_\alpha} X \xrightarrow{\alpha} L \xrightarrow{p_\alpha} C_\alpha \xrightarrow{r_\alpha} & & K_\gamma \xrightarrow{x} E \xrightarrow{\beta_2} M \xrightarrow{p_\gamma v} C_\gamma \xrightarrow{\eta_2} \\
\parallel & \downarrow f & \downarrow t & \downarrow v & \parallel \\
K_\alpha \xrightarrow{fi_\alpha} Y \xrightarrow{\beta_1} E \xrightarrow{y} C_\alpha \xrightarrow{\mu_1} & & K_\gamma \xrightarrow{i_\gamma} Z \xrightarrow{\gamma} N \xrightarrow{p_\gamma} C_\gamma \xrightarrow{r_\gamma} \\
& \swarrow \beta_1 & \searrow \gamma & \searrow l_\gamma \\
& \square & \square & \square \\
& \downarrow \eta_1 & & \\
\boxed{(i_\alpha)_* \eta_1} & \xlongequal{\quad} & \boxed{-y^* r_\alpha} & & \boxed{x_* l_\gamma} & \xlongequal{\quad} & \boxed{(p_\gamma)^* \eta_2}
\end{array} \quad (4.3.4)$$

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
K_\alpha \xrightarrow{f'} K_\beta \xrightarrow{g'} K_\gamma \xrightarrow{x^* \eta_1} & & \boxed{(f')_* \eta_1} \\
\parallel & \downarrow i_\beta & \downarrow x & \downarrow \eta_1 \\
K_\alpha \xrightarrow{fi_\alpha} Y \xrightarrow{\beta_1} E \xrightarrow{\eta_1} & & \boxed{(\beta_2)^* l_\beta} \\
& \downarrow \beta & \downarrow \beta_2 \\
& M \xlongequal{\quad} M \\
& \downarrow l_\beta & \downarrow \mu_2
\end{array} \quad (4.3.5)$$

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
K_\beta \xrightarrow{\overline{g'}} K_\gamma \xrightarrow{yx} C_\alpha \xrightarrow{\theta} & & \boxed{(\beta_2)^* l_\beta} \\
\downarrow i_\beta & \downarrow x & \downarrow \eta_1 \\
Y \xrightarrow{\beta_1} E \xrightarrow{y} C_\alpha \xrightarrow{\mu_1} & & \boxed{-y^* \mu_1} \\
& \downarrow \beta & \downarrow \beta_2 \\
& M \xlongequal{\quad} M \\
& \downarrow l_\beta & \downarrow \mu_2
\end{array} \quad (4.3.6)$$

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

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
Y \xlongequal{\quad} Y & & \\
\downarrow \beta_1 & & \downarrow \beta \\
K_\gamma \xrightarrow{x} E \xrightarrow{\beta_2} M \xrightarrow{\mu_2} & & \boxed{(\beta_1)_* r_\beta} \\
\parallel & \downarrow y & \downarrow p_\beta \\
K_\gamma \xrightarrow{yx} C_\alpha \xrightarrow{u'} C_\beta \xrightarrow{\xi} & & \boxed{-x_* \xi} \\
& \downarrow \mu_1 & \downarrow r_\beta
\end{array} \quad (4.3.8)$$

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

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

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

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

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

By [corollary 1.2](#), there is some isomorphism φ 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 $K_\beta \xrightarrow{\beta_1 i_\beta} E \xrightarrow{\begin{pmatrix} \beta_2 \\ -y \end{pmatrix}} M \oplus C_\alpha \xrightarrow{(1, -1)_* (l_\beta \oplus \theta)} \text{---}$. Note that $\ell((1, -1)_* (l_\beta \oplus \theta)) = (\ell(l_\beta), -\ell(\theta)) = (p_\beta, u')$, and $\ell(\beta_1 i_\beta) = (\beta_1)_* \ell(i_\beta) = (\beta_1)_* r_\beta$. This proves the claim.

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

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

Recall that in our construction of [proposition 2.17](#), \bar{u}' can be any morphism such that $\boxed{(\beta_1)_* r_\beta}$ is homotopic. Hence, we can take $\bar{u}' = u'$. 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*

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
K_\alpha & \xrightarrow{f'} & K_\beta & \xrightarrow{g'} & K_\gamma & & \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y & \xrightarrow{g} & Z & \xrightarrow{\delta} & \text{---} \\
\downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow \beta & & \downarrow \gamma & & \\
L & \xrightarrow{u} & M & \xrightarrow{v} & N & \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} & \text{---} \\
\downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \\
C_\alpha & \xrightarrow{u'} & C_\beta & \xrightarrow{v'} & C_\gamma & &
\end{array} \quad (4.3.12)$$

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 γ such that $(\alpha; \beta; \gamma)$ is a homotopic morphism of \mathbb{E} -conflations. Moreover,

1. (Without WIC) γ 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:

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

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 conditions of WIC, [theorem 3.28](#)).

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

1. (Without WIC) γ 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:

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

Proposition 4.13 (Case: S-D-?). For $\alpha \in S$ and β an \mathbb{E} -deflation such that $(\alpha; \beta; ?)$ is a morphism of some \mathbb{E} -conflations, we can find some \mathbb{E} -deflation γ 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:

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

There is also a twist case for 3×3 lemma.

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

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

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