

COFUNCTORS, LENSES,
& SPLIT OPFIBRATIONS

BRYCE CLARKE

Macquarie University

WORKSHOP ON POLYNOMIAL FUNCTORS

Topos Institute, March 2021

1

WHAT IS THIS TALK ABOUT?

PART 1

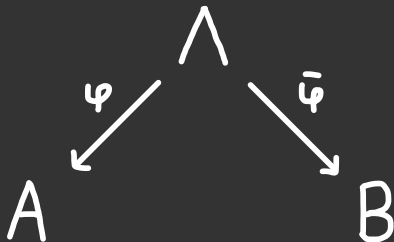
Polynomials

$$I \xleftarrow{s} E \xrightarrow{1} E \xrightarrow{t} J$$

\perp

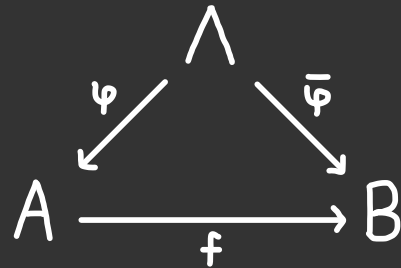
$$J \xleftarrow{t} E \xrightarrow{s} I \xrightarrow{1} I$$

Cofunctors

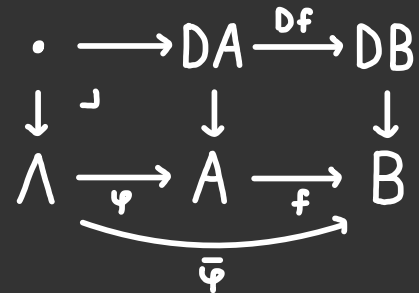


PART 2

Lenses



Split opfibrations



2

WHAT IS A FUNCTOR?

A **functor** $f: A \rightarrow B$ between categories consists of an assignment on objects,

$$f_o : \text{Obj}(A) \longrightarrow \text{Obj}(B)$$

and an assignment on morphisms,

$$f_i : \text{Mor}(A) \longrightarrow \text{Mor}(B)$$

which respects domains, codomains, identities, & composition.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & a & \xrightarrow{u} & a' \\
 \downarrow f & \vdots & & \vdots \\
 & \vdots & & \vdots \\
 B & f_o a & \xrightarrow{f_i u} & f_o a'
 \end{array}$$

3

WHAT IS A COFUNCTOR?

A **cofunctor** $\Psi: A \rightarrow B$ between categories consists of an assignment on objects,

$$\Psi_0: \text{Obj}(A) \longrightarrow \text{Obj}(B)$$

and a lifting on morphisms,

$$\Psi_1: \text{Obj}(A) \times_{\text{Obj}(B)} \text{Mor}(B) \longrightarrow \text{Mor}(A)$$

which respects domains, codomains, identities, & composition.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & a \xrightarrow{\Psi_1(a, u)} & a' \\ \Psi \downarrow & \vdots & \vdots \\ B & \Psi_0 a \xrightarrow{u} & b = \Psi_0 a' \end{array}$$

A BRIEF HISTORY OF COFUNCTORS

- 1993: Higgins & Mackenzie introduce **comorphisms** for vector bundles and Lie algebroids.
- 1997: Aguiar develops the notion of **internal cofunctor** as a dual to internal functor.
- 2016: Ahman & Uustalu prove that **morphisms of polynomial comonads** on Set are equivalent to cofunctors.
- 2020: Paré shows that comonad morphisms in the double category of spans and **retrocells** are cofunctors.

5

THE DOUBLE CATEGORY OF POLYNOMIALS

As shown by Gambino & Kock, for \mathcal{E} with pullbacks, there is a double category $\mathbb{P}\text{oly}(\mathcal{E})$ whose cells are diagrams in \mathcal{E} of the form,

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 I & \xleftarrow{s} & E & \xrightarrow{p} & B & \xrightarrow{t} & J \\
 \downarrow u & & \uparrow \beta & \nearrow \gamma & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow v \\
 & & \bullet & & & & \\
 I' & \xleftarrow{s'} & E' & \xrightarrow{p'} & B' & \xrightarrow{t'} & J' \\
 & & \downarrow \gamma & & & &
 \end{array}$$

where the morphisms p and p' are **exponentiable** / powerful.

6

ADJOINT POLYNOMIALS

Let $\text{HPoly}(\mathcal{E})$ be the underlying horizontal bicategory of $\text{IPoly}(\mathcal{E})$.

Up to isomorphism, the left adjoints in $\text{HPoly}(\mathcal{E})$ are given by,

$$\mathbb{I} \xleftarrow{s} E \xrightarrow{1} E \xrightarrow{t} \mathbb{J}$$

while the corresponding right adjoints are given by:

$$\mathbb{J} \xleftarrow{t} E \xrightarrow{s} \mathbb{I} \xrightarrow{1} \mathbb{I}$$

Note that composition of left/right adjoints only requires pullbacks.

7

THE USUAL DOUBLE CATEGORY OF SPANS

The full double subcategory of $\mathbb{P}\text{oly}(\mathcal{E})$ on the left adjoints is the usual double category of spans $\text{Span}(\mathcal{E})$ with cells given by:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 I & \xleftarrow{s} & E & \xrightarrow{1} & E & \xrightarrow{t} & J \\
 \downarrow u & & \downarrow \alpha & \downarrow \beta & \downarrow \alpha & & \downarrow v \\
 I' & \xleftarrow{s'} & E' & \xrightarrow{1} & E' & \xrightarrow{t'} & J'
 \end{array}$$

The category of horizontal monads and vertical monad morphisms in $\text{Span}(\mathcal{E})$ is equivalent to $\text{Cat}(\mathcal{E})$, the category of internal categories and functors in \mathcal{E} .

8

THE DOUBLE CATEGORY OF SPANS & RETROCELLS

The full double subcategory of $\mathbb{P}\text{oly}(\mathcal{E})$ on the right adjoints has cells given by:

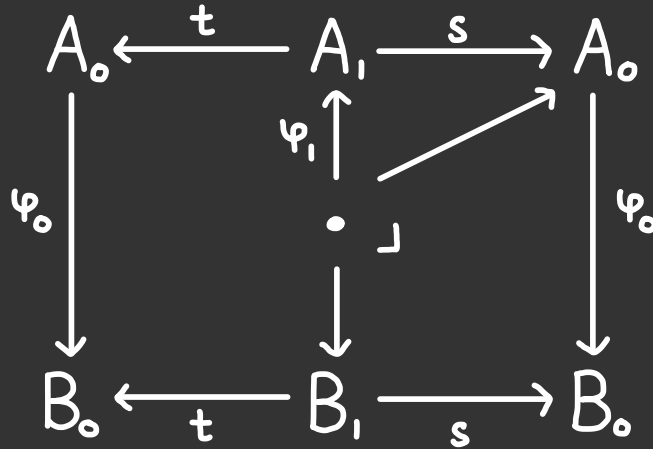
$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 J & \xleftarrow{t} & E & \xrightarrow{s} & I & \xrightarrow{1} & I \\
 \downarrow v & & \uparrow \beta & \nearrow & \downarrow u & & \downarrow u \\
 & & \bullet & & & & \\
 & & \downarrow \lrcorner & & & & \\
 J' & \xleftarrow{t} & E' & \xrightarrow{s'} & I' & \xrightarrow{1} & I'
 \end{array}$$

This double category is equivalent to the double category of spans and retrocells $\text{Span}(\mathcal{E})^{\text{ret}}$ introduced by Paré.

9

INTERNAL COFUNCTORS

Proposition (Paré): The category of horizontal comonads and vertical comonad morphisms in $\text{Span}(\mathcal{E})^{\text{ret}}$ is equivalent to $\text{Cof}(\mathcal{E})$, the category of internal categories and cofunctors in \mathcal{E} .



How is this result related to the Ahman & Uustalu characterisation?

POLYNOMIALS ON THE TERMINAL OBJECT

Suppose \mathcal{E} has finite limits and let $\text{Poly}_1(\mathcal{E})$ be the full double subcategory of $\text{Poly}(\mathcal{E})$ on the terminal object of \mathcal{E} .

Proposition: The inclusion $\text{Poly}_1(\mathcal{E}) \hookrightarrow \text{Poly}(\mathcal{E})$ has a **colax left adjoint**. The counit is the identity while the unit has components given by:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 I & \xleftarrow{s} & E & \xrightarrow{p} & B & \xrightarrow{t} & J \\
 ! \downarrow & & \downarrow 1_E & \lrcorner & \downarrow 1_B & & \downarrow ! \\
 1 & \xleftarrow{!} & E & \xrightarrow{p} & B & \xrightarrow{!} & 1
 \end{array}$$

TWO VIEWS ON CATEGORIES & COFUNCTORS

There is a colax double functor given by the composite,

$$\mathbb{S}pan(\mathcal{E})^{ret} \xrightarrow{\text{pseudo}} \mathbb{P}oly(\mathcal{E}) \xrightarrow{\text{colax}} \mathbb{P}oly_1(\mathcal{E})$$

which induces a functor between the categories of comonads:

$$\mathbb{C}of(\mathcal{E}) = \mathbb{C}md(\mathbb{S}pan(\mathcal{E})^{ret}) \longrightarrow \mathbb{C}md(\mathbb{P}oly_1(\mathcal{E})) \quad (*)$$

Theorem (Ahman & Uustalu): The functor (*) is an isomorphism.

This remarkable result is unintuitive and difficult to prove, but tells us something hard is actually something easy!

A DOUBLE CATEGORY OF FUNCTORS & COFUNCTORS

There is a double category $\mathcal{Cof}(\mathcal{E})$ of internal categories, functors, and cofunctors with flat cells given by:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & B \\
 f \downarrow & \Downarrow & \downarrow g \\
 C & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & D
 \end{array} & \rightsquigarrow & \begin{array}{ccc}
 A_0 & \xrightarrow{\varphi_0} & B_0 \\
 f_0 \downarrow & \curvearrowright & \downarrow g_0 \\
 C_0 & \xrightarrow{\gamma_0} & D_0
 \end{array} \\
 & & \begin{array}{ccc}
 A_0 \times_{B_0} B_1 & \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} & A_1 \\
 f_0 \times g_1 \downarrow & \curvearrowright & \downarrow f_1 \\
 C_0 \times_{D_0} D_1 & \xrightarrow{\gamma_1} & C_1
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

Proposition: $\mathcal{Cof}(\mathcal{E})$ is span representable. Therefore $\mathcal{Cof}(\mathcal{E})$ has tabulators, and there is a vertically faithful double functor:

$$\mathcal{Cof}(\mathcal{E}) \longrightarrow \mathcal{Span}(\mathcal{Cat}(\mathcal{E}))$$

COFUNCTORS AS SPANS

Corollary (Higgins & Mackenzie): Every cofunctor $(\varphi_0, \varphi_1): A \longrightarrow B$ has a faithful representation as a span of functors,

$$A \xleftarrow{\varphi} \Lambda \xrightarrow{\bar{\varphi}} B$$

where φ is bijective-on-objects and $\bar{\varphi}$ is a discrete opfibration.

Corollary: The cells of $\mathbb{C}of(\mathcal{E})$ have a faithful representation as commutative diagrams of internal functors:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xleftarrow{\varphi} & \Lambda & \xrightarrow{\bar{\varphi}} & B \\
 f \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\
 C & \xleftarrow{\gamma} & \Omega & \xrightarrow{\bar{\gamma}} & D
 \end{array}$$

SUMMARY OF THE FIRST PART

- Functors and cofunctors appear as dual notions in $\mathbb{P}\text{oly}(\mathcal{E})$.
- The category $\text{Cof}(\mathcal{E})$ arises as the category of comonads and comonad morphisms in both $\text{Span}(\mathcal{E})^{\text{ret}}$ and $\text{Poly}_1(\mathcal{E})$.
- There is a double category $\text{Cof}(\mathcal{E})$ whose cells are diagrams:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xleftarrow{\varphi} & \Lambda & \xrightarrow{\bar{\varphi}} & B \\
 f \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \downarrow g \\
 C & \xleftarrow{\gamma} & \Omega & \xrightarrow{\bar{\gamma}} & D
 \end{array}$$

φ, γ bijective-on-objects

$\bar{\varphi}, \bar{\gamma}$ discrete opfibration

WHAT IS A LENS?

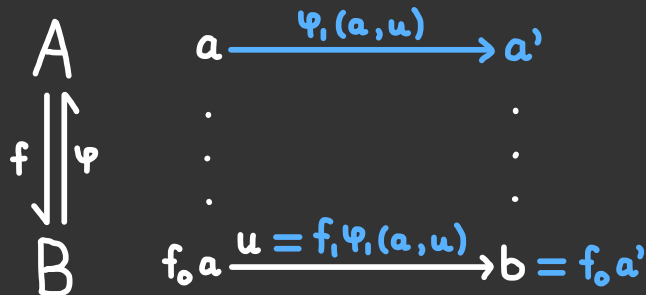
A (delta) lens $(f, \varphi): A \rightleftarrows B$ between categories consists of assignments on objects and morphisms,

$$f_o : \text{Obj}(A) \longrightarrow \text{Obj}(B) \qquad f_i : \text{Mor}(A) \longrightarrow \text{Mor}(B)$$

and a lifting on morphisms,

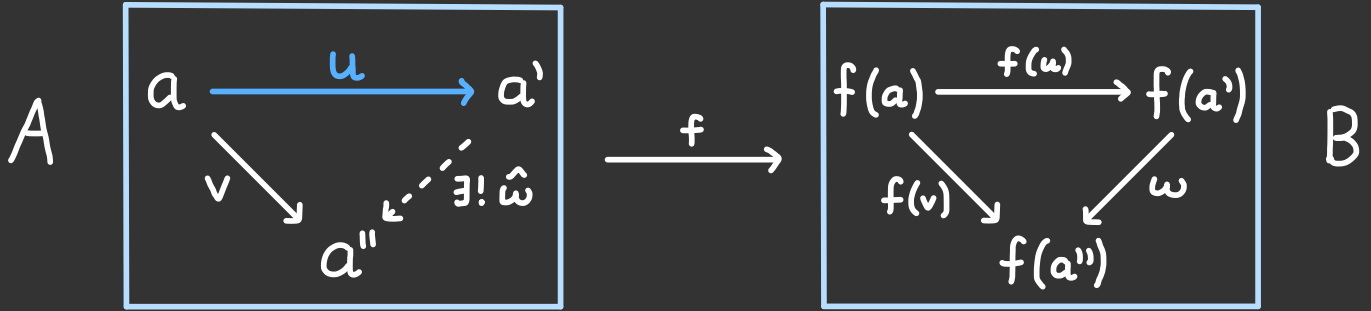
$$\varphi_i : \text{Obj}(A) \times_{\text{Obj}(B)} \text{Mor}(B) \longrightarrow \text{Mor}(A)$$

which respect domains, codomains, identities, & composition.



WHAT IS A SPLIT OPFIBRATION?

- A morphism $u: a \rightarrow a'$ in A is **opcartesian** with respect to a functor $f: A \rightarrow B$ if for all $v: a \rightarrow a''$ in A and for all $\omega: f(a') \rightarrow f(a'')$ in B such that $\omega \circ f(u) = f(v)$, there exists a unique $\hat{w}: a' \rightarrow a''$ in A such that $\hat{w} \circ u = v$ and $f(\hat{w}) = \omega$.



- A **split opfibration** is a lens whose chosen lifts are opcartesian.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF LENSES

- 2005: Foster, Greenwald, Moore, Pierce, & Schmitt introduce **lenses between sets** ($g: A \rightarrow B, p: A \times B \rightarrow A$) for computer science.
- 2011: Diskin, Czarnecki, & Xiong develop the notion of **delta lens** between categories.
- 2013: Johnson & Rosebrugh prove that every split opfibration is a lens.
- 2017: Ahman & Uustalu show that lenses may be understood in terms of **compatible functor and cofunctor pairs**.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF SPLIT OPFIBRATIONS

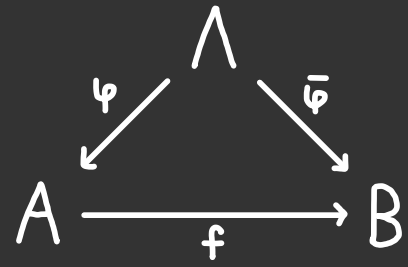
- 1966: Gray reviews Grothendieck fibrations and introduces several equivalent characterisations.
- 1974: Street develops the theory of fibrations in a 2-category and characterises split opfibrations as algebras for a monad.
- 1977: Johnstone defines internal split opfibrations as internal categories in $\mathbf{DOpf}(\mathcal{E})/\mathcal{B}$.
- 2017: Ahman & Uustalu show that split opfibrations can be defined as lenses with additional structure.

LENSES VIA FUNCTORS & COFUNCTORS

Proposition (Ahman & Uustalu): A lens $(f, \varphi): A \rightleftarrows B$ is equivalent to a functor $f: A \rightarrow B$ and a cofunctor $\varphi: A \rightarrow B$ such that $f_0 = \varphi_0$ and

$$\text{Obj}(A) \times_{\text{Obj}(B)} \text{Mor}(B) \xrightarrow{\varphi_1} \text{Mor}(A) \xrightarrow{f_1} \text{Mor}(B)$$

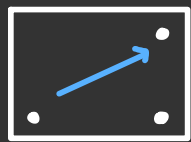
Corollary: Every lens $(f, \varphi): A \rightleftarrows B$ has a faithful representation as a diagram of functors:



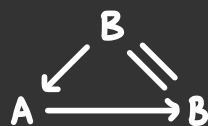
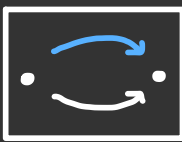
- φ bijective-on-objects
- $\bar{\varphi}$ discrete opfibration

BASIC EXAMPLES OF LENSES

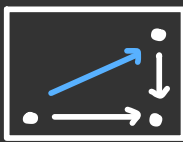
discrete
opfibration



bijective-
on-objects

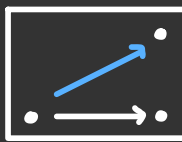


split
opfibration

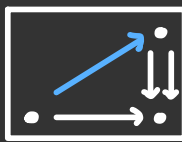


chosen
lifts are
opcartesian

without opcartesian lifts



existence
of fillers
fails

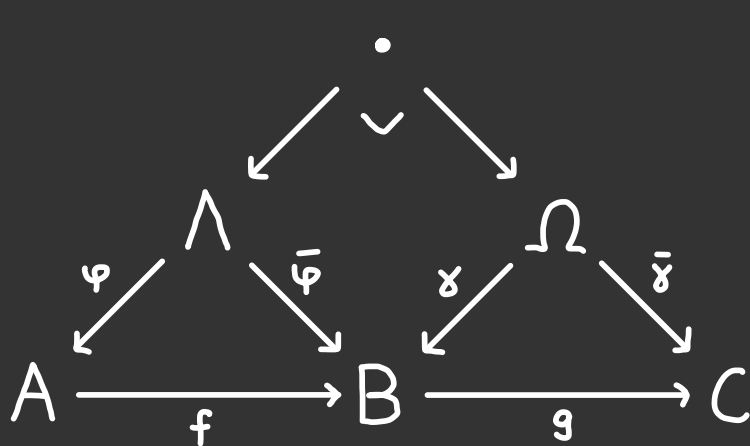


uniqueness
of fillers
fails

THE CATEGORY OF LENSES

There is a category **Lens** whose objects are categories and whose morphisms are lenses, with composition given by:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & a \xrightarrow{\varphi(a, \delta(fa, u))} & a' \\
 \varphi \uparrow \downarrow f & : & : \\
 B & fa \xrightarrow{\delta(fa, u)} & b \\
 \delta \uparrow \downarrow g & : & : \\
 C & gfa \xrightarrow{u} & c
 \end{array}$$



How can we view lenses arising from cofunctors? Internalise in \mathcal{E} ?

THE DOUBLE CATEGORY OF LENSES

Given the double category $\mathbb{C}of(\mathcal{E})$, we may construct a double category with the same objects and vertical morphisms as $\mathbb{C}of(\mathcal{E})$, with horizontal morphisms $A \dashrightarrow B$ given by cells of the form,

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & B \\
 f \downarrow & \Downarrow & \parallel \\
 B & \xlongequal{\quad} & B
 \end{array}
 \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xleftarrow{\varphi} & \wedge & \xrightarrow{\bar{\varphi}} & B \\
 f \downarrow & & \downarrow \bar{\varphi} & & \parallel \\
 B & \xlongequal{\quad} & B & \xlongequal{\quad} & B
 \end{array}$$

and with cells given by cells in $\mathbb{C}of(\mathcal{E})$ satisfying a pasting law.

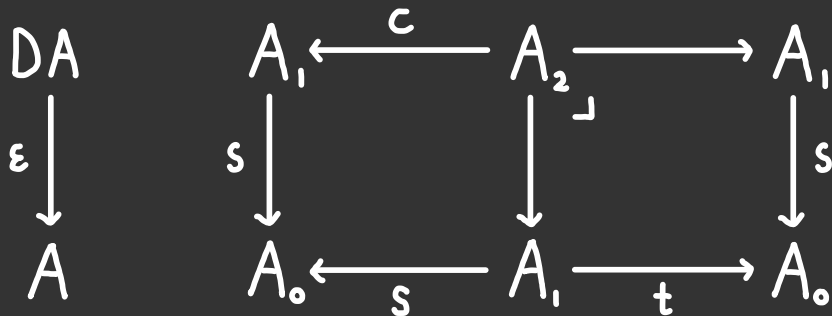
Proposition: This construction yields the double category $\mathbb{L}ens(\mathcal{E})$ of internal categories, functors, and lenses. Let $\mathcal{L}ens(\mathcal{E}) := \mathbb{H}\mathbb{L}ens(\mathcal{E})$.

THE DÉCALAGE CONSTRUCTION

- Given a category A , the *décalage* of A is the sum of its slice categories:

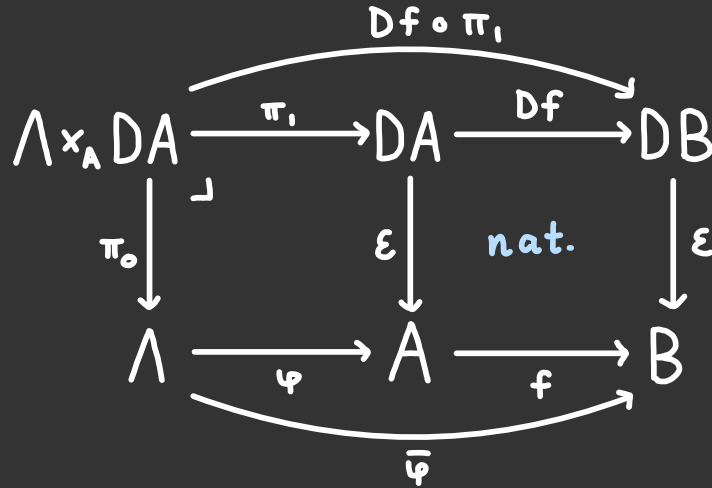
$$\text{Dec}(A) = \sum_{a \in A} A/a$$

- Décalage generalises to a *comonad* $D: \text{Cat}(\mathcal{E}) \rightarrow \text{Cat}(\mathcal{E})$ whose counit is a discrete fibration:



SPLIT OPFIBRATIONS VIA DÉCALAGE

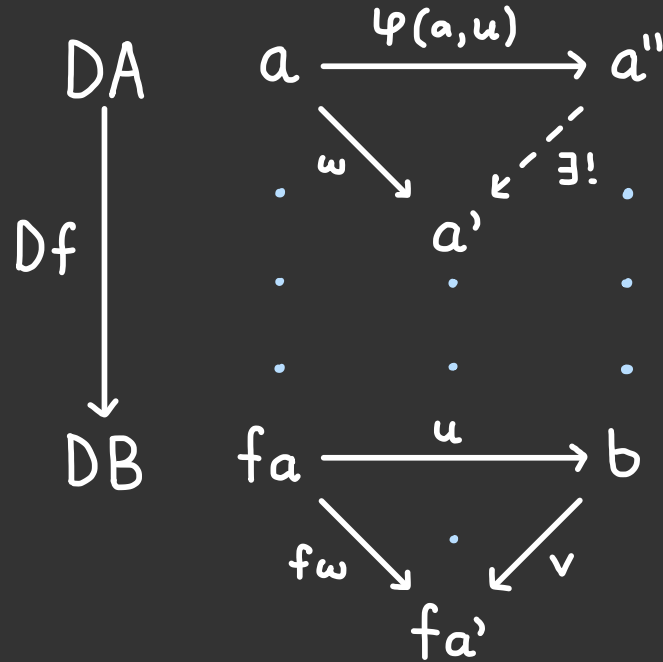
Theorem: A lens $(f, \varphi): A \rightleftarrows B$ between internal categories is a split opfibration if and only if the functor $Df \circ \pi_1$, given by,



is a discrete opfibration, where D is the décalage comonad.

CONSEQUENCES & FUTURE WORK

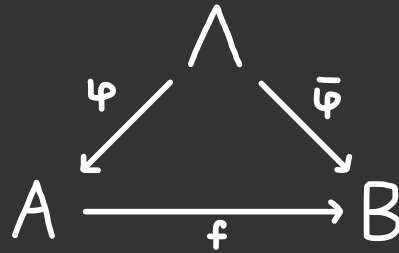
- When $(f, \varphi): A \rightleftarrows B$ is a split opfibration, the functor Df has a lens structure.
- The characterisation is compact, and directly generalises the $\mathcal{E} = \text{Set}$ case.
- Suggests a way of defining split opfibrations internally without using 2-categories



26

SUMMARY OF THE TALK

- Functors and **cofunctors** arise dually within the double category $\mathbb{P}\text{Poly}(\mathcal{E})$ of polynomials.
- **Lenses** are morphisms between categories which are **both functors and cofunctors** in a compatible way.



φ bijective-on-objects

$\bar{\varphi}$ discrete opfibration

- **Split opfibrations** are lenses which satisfy a property with respect to **décalage**.

LIST OF REFERENCES

- Clarke (2020). Internal split opfibrations and cofunctors.
- Higgins & Mackenzie (1993). Duality for base-changing morphisms of vector bundles, modules, Lie algebroids and Poisson structures.
- Aguiar (1997). Internal categories and quantum groups.
- Ahman & Uustalu (2016). Directed containers as categories.
- Paré (2020). Retrocells Redux. MIT Categories Seminar, 2020-10-08.
- Gambino & Kock (2013). Polynomial functors and polynomial monads.

LIST OF REFERENCES

- Foster, Greenwald, Moore, Pierce, & Schmitt (2005). Combinators for bidirectional tree transformations: A linguistic approach to the view-update problem.
- Diskin, Czarnecki, & Xiong (2011). From state- to delta-based bidirectional model transformations: the asymmetric case.
- Johnson & Rosebrugh (2013). Delta lenses and opfibrations.
- Ahman & Uustalu (2017). Taking updates seriously.

LIST OF REFERENCES

- Gray (1966). Fibred and cofibred categories.
- Street (1974). Fibrations and Yoneda's lemma in a 2-category.
- Johnstone (1977). Topos Theory.

BONUS. COFUNCTORS OVER A BASE

In the double category $\mathcal{Cof}(\mathcal{E})$ we may consider cells of the form:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & B \\
 f \downarrow & \Downarrow & \parallel \\
 C & \xrightarrow{\gamma} & B
 \end{array}
 \rightsquigarrow
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xleftarrow{\varphi} & \Lambda & \xrightarrow{\bar{\varphi}} & B \\
 f \downarrow & & \downarrow & & \parallel \\
 C & \xleftarrow{\gamma} & \Omega & \xrightarrow{\bar{\gamma}} & B
 \end{array}
 \quad (*)$$

Then for each internal category B , let $\mathcal{Cof}_B(\mathcal{E})$ denote the category of **cofunctors over a base B** whose:

- objects are cofunctors with codomain B ;
- whose morphisms are cells in $\mathcal{Cof}(\mathcal{E})$ of the form $(*)$.

BONUS. LENSES OVER A BASE

For each internal category B , let $\text{Lens}_B(\mathcal{E})$ denote the category of lenses over a base B whose:

- objects are lenses with codomain B ;
- whose morphisms are cells in $\mathbb{L}\text{ens}(\mathcal{E})$ of the form:

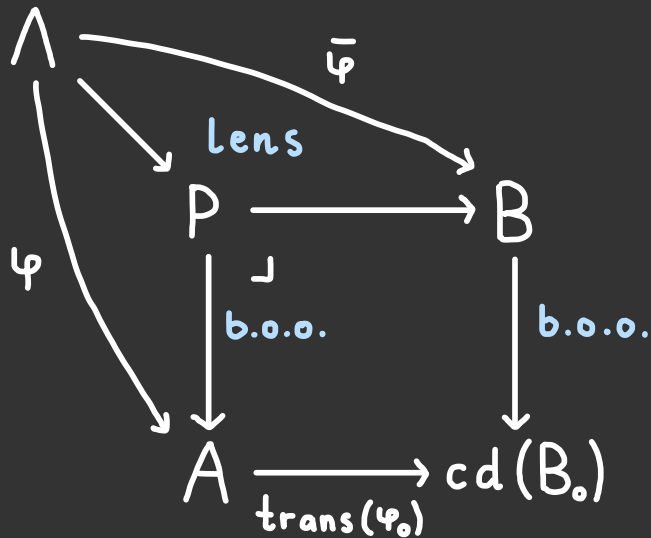
$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{(f, \varphi)} & B \\
 h \downarrow & \Downarrow & \parallel \\
 C & \xrightarrow{(g, \delta)} & B
 \end{array}
 \quad \rightsquigarrow \quad
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 \Lambda & \xrightarrow{\varphi} & A & & \\
 \downarrow & \searrow & \downarrow & \searrow & \\
 \Omega & \xrightarrow{\delta} & C & & B \\
 & \nearrow & \nearrow & \nearrow & \\
 & \alpha & \beta & \gamma &
 \end{array}$$

Proposition: There is an isomorphism $\text{Lens}_B(\mathcal{E}) \cong \text{Cof}_B(\mathcal{E}) / 1_B$

BONUS. LENSES AS COALGEBRAS FOR A COMONAD

Theorem: The functor $\text{lens}_B(\mathcal{E}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{U}} \text{Cof}_B(\mathcal{E})$ is comonadic.

Proof (sketch): Given a cofunctor $\varphi: A \dashrightarrow B$, there is a lens $P \rightrightarrows B$.



This defines a right adjoint $R \vdash \mathcal{U}$, and the coalgebras for the comonad $R\mathcal{U}$ are:

