

REFLECTING ON LENSES & SPLIT OPFIBRATIONS

BRYCE CLARKE

Tallinn University of Technology, Estonia

bryceclarke.github.io

Edinburgh category theory seminar

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MOTIVATION

01

Split opfibrations over B

Functors $B \rightarrow \text{Cat}$

- **Delta lenses** capture the underlying structure of s. opfs.
- Lenses model **bidirectional transformations** — often want these are "least change".

Many similarities:

- Right class of AWFS
- Admit Grothendieck constructions
- Coalgebras for a comonad*

Goal for today:

$$\text{SOpf} \begin{array}{c} \longleftarrow \\ \perp \\ \longrightarrow \end{array} \text{Lens}$$

OUTLINE OF THE TALK

1. Warming up: Pointed categories & initial objects
2. Main characters: Delta lenses & split opfibrations
3. Free things: The complexity of computing coequalisers
4. Coming together: Split opfibrations are reflective in delta lenses

PART 1

Pointed categories & initial objects

POINTED CATEGORIES

A **pointed category** (\mathcal{C}, x) is a category \mathcal{C} with a chosen object x .

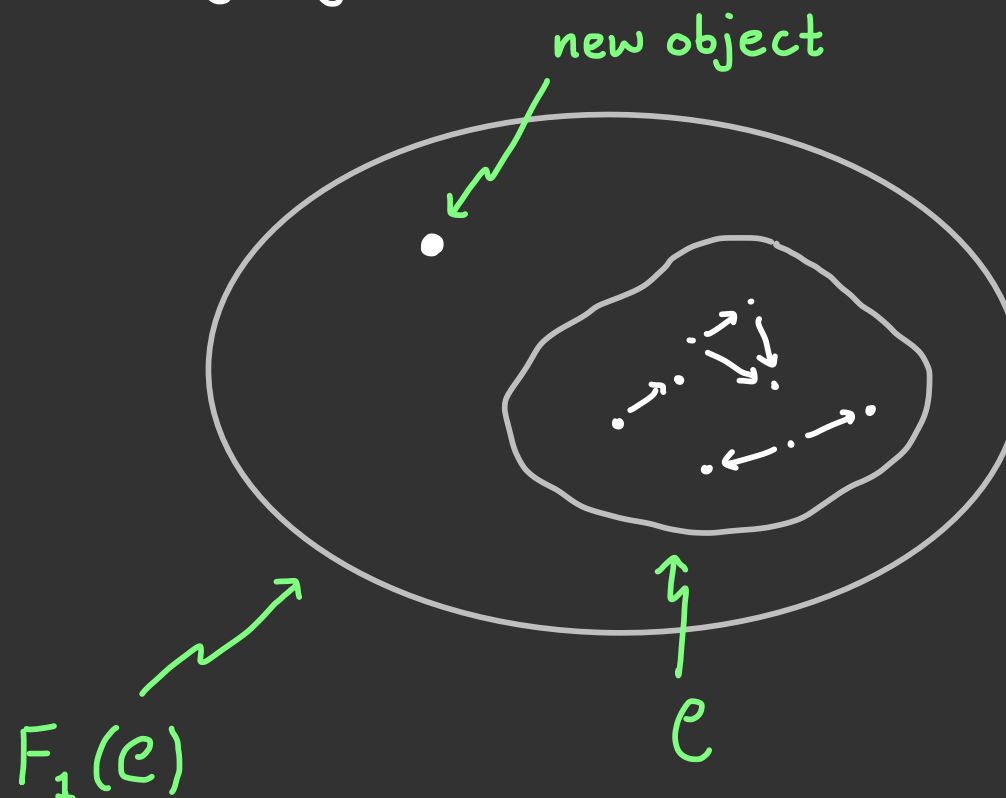
Let \mathbf{Cat}_* be the category of (small) pointed categories.

The forgetful functor

$$\mathbf{Cat}_* \xrightarrow{u_1} \mathbf{Cat}$$

is **monadic**.

The left adjoint $F_1: \mathbf{Cat} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}_*$ freely adds an object to each category.



CATEGORIES WITH (CHOSEN) INITIAL OBJECTS

03

Let Cat_{\perp} be the full subcategory

$$Cat_{\perp} \xrightarrow{\vee} Cat_*$$

of categories with chosen initial object.

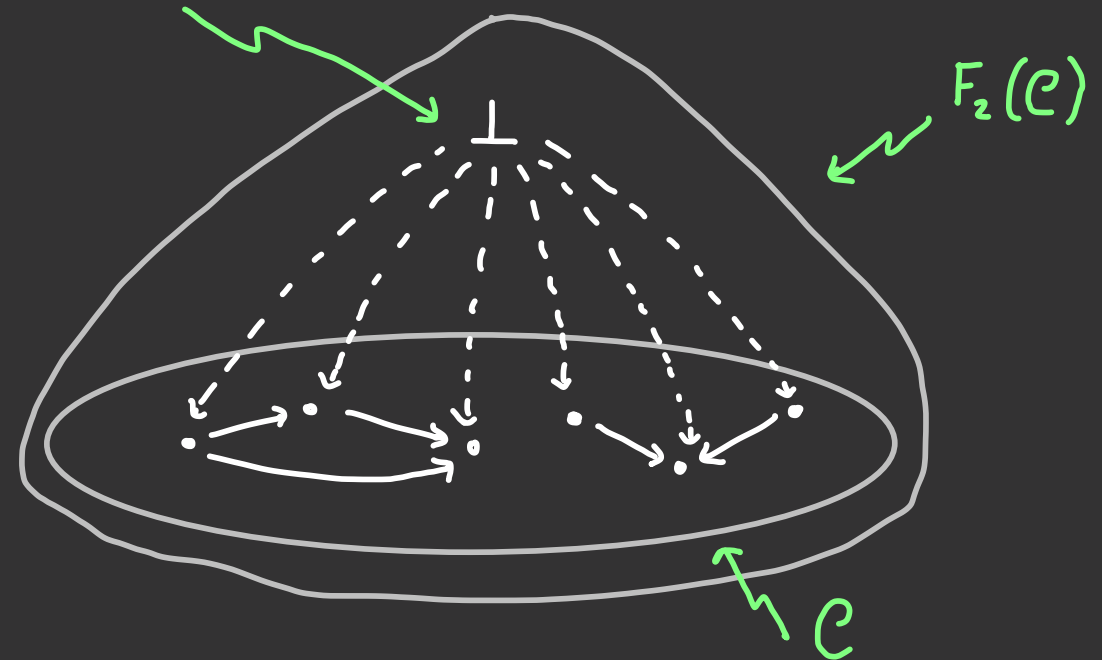
The forgetful functor

$$Cat_{\perp} \xrightarrow{u_2 = u_1 \vee} Cat$$

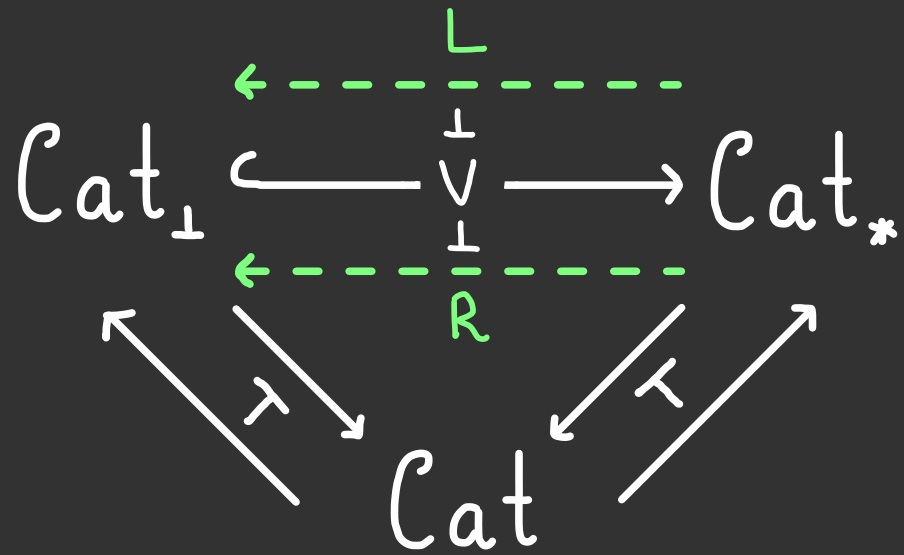
is monadic.

The left adjoint $F_2: Cat \rightarrow Cat_{\perp}$ freely adds an initial object to each category.

new initial object



TURNING A CHOSEN OBJECT INTO AN INITIAL OBJECT 04



The category $L(\mathcal{C}, x)$ has:

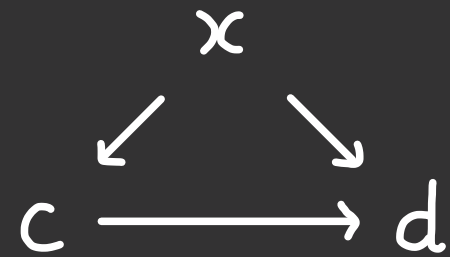
- same objects as \mathcal{C} & x chosen obj.

$$- \text{Hom}(c, d) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } c = x \\ \mathcal{C}(c, d) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

The category $R(\mathcal{C}, x) = \mathcal{C}/x$

In detail, it has:

- objects given by morphisms $x \rightarrow c$ in \mathcal{C} & id_x chosen
- morphisms given by commutative triangles in \mathcal{C} :



PART 2

Delta lenses & split opfibrations

DELTA LENSES

05

A **delta lens** $(f, \varphi): A \dashrightarrow B$ is a functor equipped with a **choice of lifts**

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & a & \xrightarrow{\varphi(a, u)} \bar{\varphi}(a, u) \\ f \downarrow & \vdots & \vdots \\ B & fa & \xrightarrow{u} b \end{array}$$

satisfying the axioms:

1. $f\varphi(a, u) = u$
2. $\varphi(a, \text{id}_{fa}) = \text{id}_a$
3. $\varphi(a, v \circ u) = \varphi(\bar{\varphi}(a, u), v) \circ \varphi(a, u)$

Let **Lens** be the category of delta lenses whose morphisms are pairs of functors

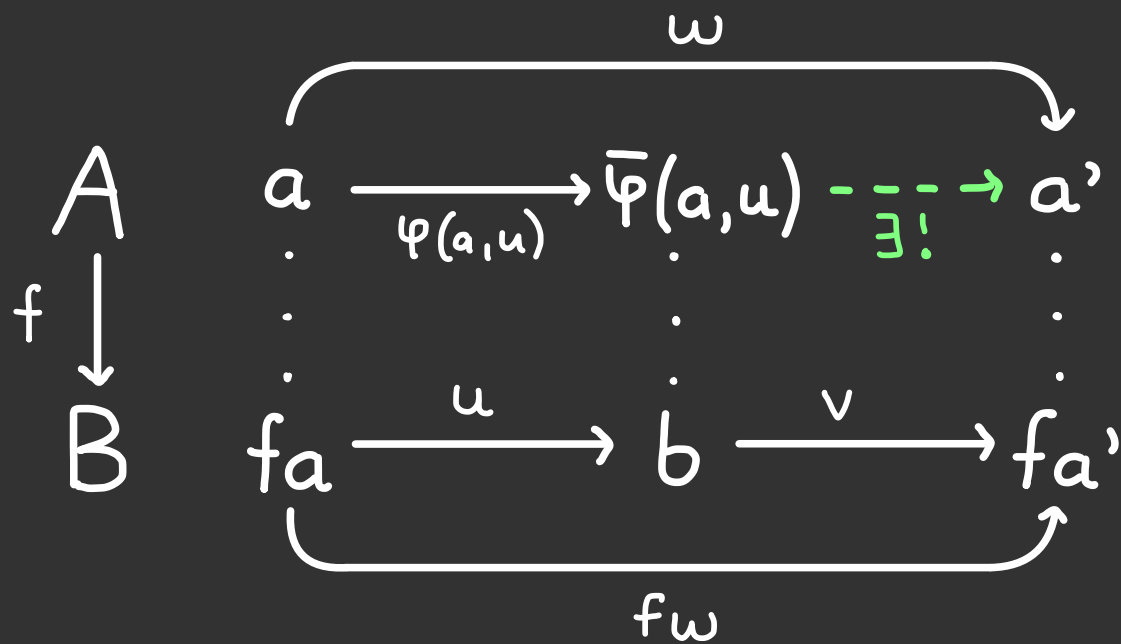
$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{h} & C \\ (f, \varphi) \downarrow & & \downarrow (g, \psi) \\ B & \xrightarrow{k} & D \end{array}$$

such that $kf = gh$ & $h\varphi(a, u) = \psi(ha, ku)$.

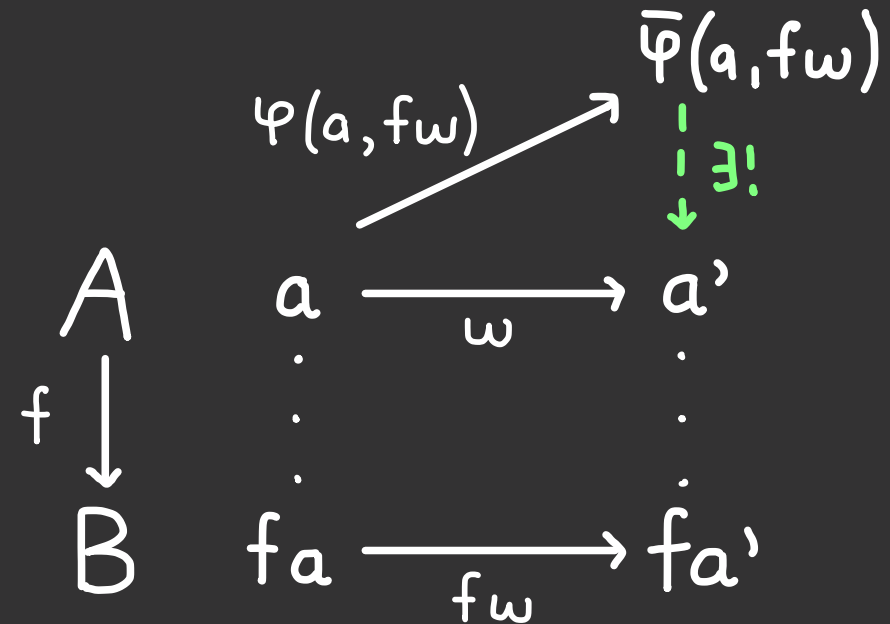
SPLIT OPFIBRATIONS VIA PROPERTY

A delta lens $(f, \varphi): A \rightleftarrows B$ is a *split opfibration* if each $\varphi(a, u)$ is:

opcartesian



weakly opcartesian



Let $SO_{pf} \hookrightarrow \text{Lens}$ denote the full subcategory of split opfibrations.

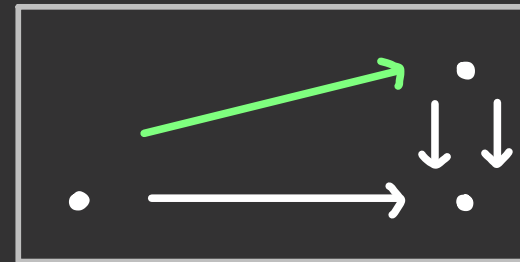
BASIC EXAMPLES

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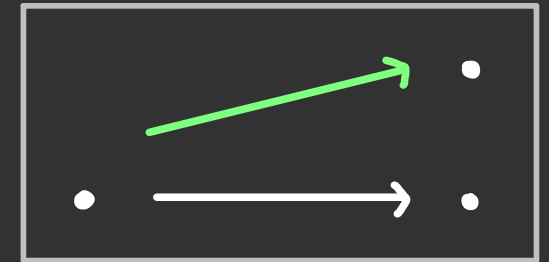
- A **discrete opfibration** is a functor with a unique choice of lifts.
- A **split epimorphism of monoids** is same as a **delta lens / Schreier split epimorphism** \simeq split opfibration
- Construct $F_2(\mathcal{C}) \xrightarrow{F_2(!)} F_2(\underline{1})$
Pointed category \simeq delta lens
chosen initial object \simeq split opfibration

Delta lenses but not split opfibrations

Failure of uniqueness



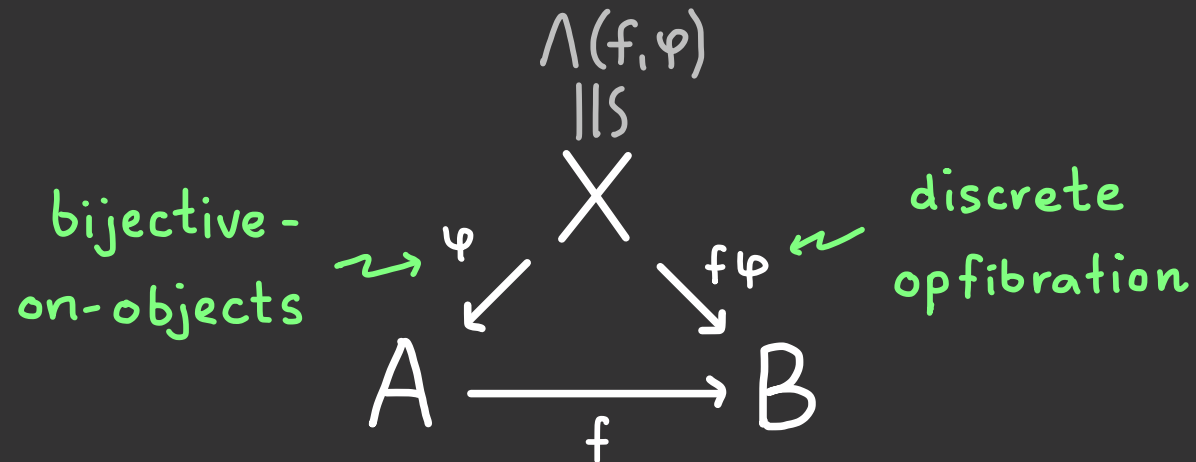
Failure of existence



DIAGRAMMATIC APPROACH

A delta lens $(f, \varphi): A \dashrightarrow B$ determines a wide subcategory $\Lambda(f, \varphi) \dashrightarrow A$ whose morphisms are the chosen lifts $\varphi(a, u)$.

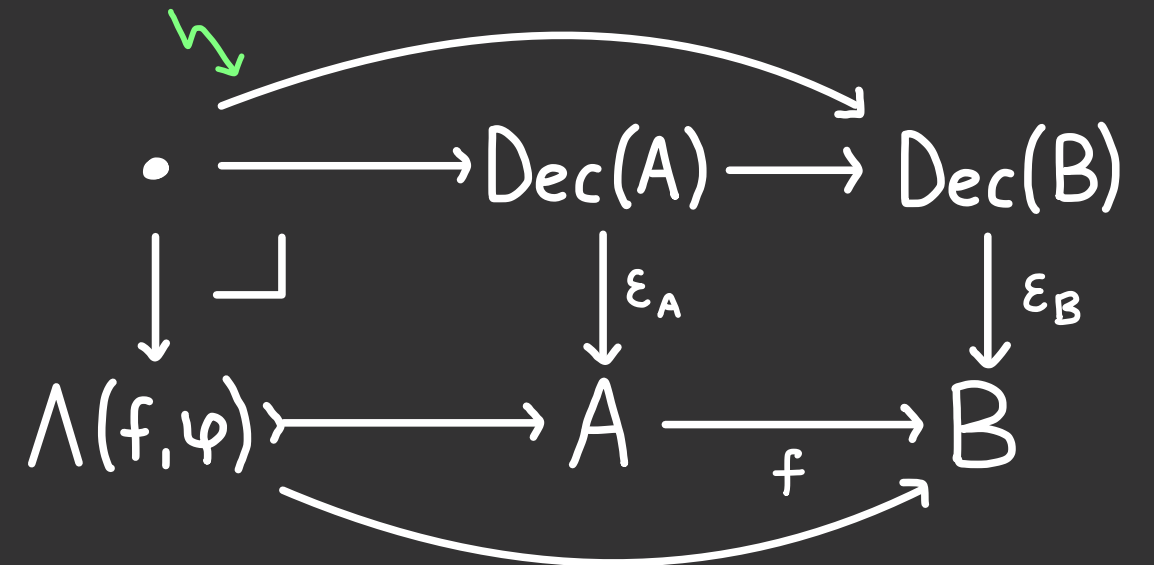
A delta lens is equivalent to a commutative diagram in \mathcal{Cat} s.t.



Decalage is a comonad on \mathcal{Cat}

$$c \longmapsto \text{Dec}(c) = \sum_{x \in c} c/x$$

Split opfibration is delta lens s.t. **discrete opfibration**



PART 3

Free things: The complexity of computing coequalisers

DELTA LENSES AS ALGEBRAS FOR A MONAD

09

The forgetful functor

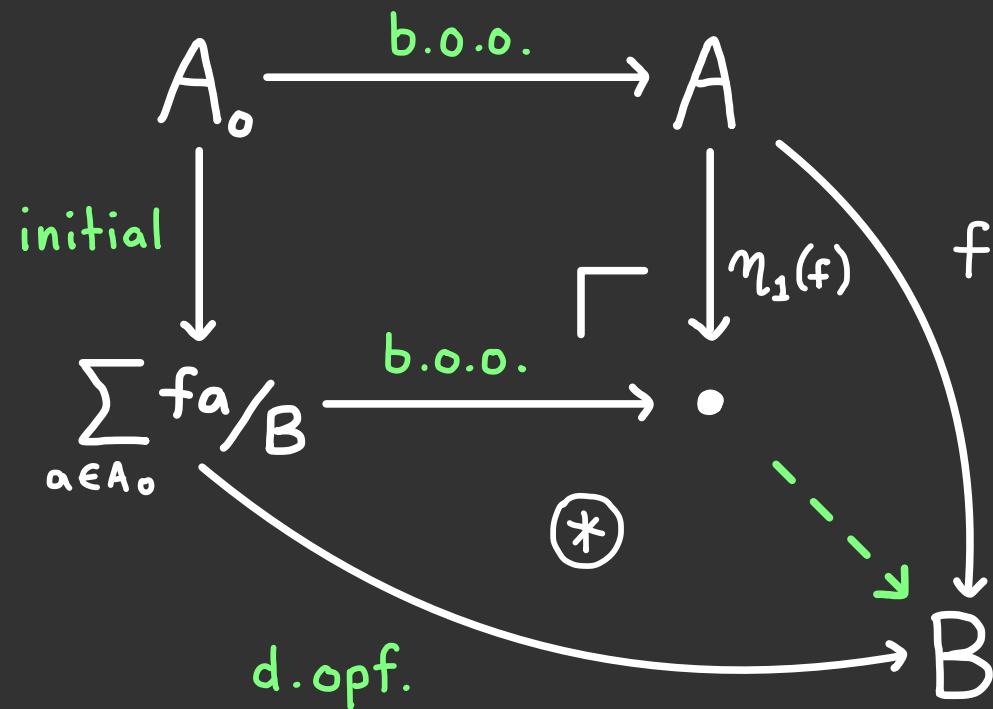
$$\text{Lens} \xrightarrow{u_1} \text{Cat}^2$$

is monadic.

The left adjoint $F_1: \text{Cat}^2 \rightarrow \text{Lens}$

is constructed using:

- discrete category comonad
- comprehensive factorisation system
- pushouts



FREE DELTA LENSES

The **free delta lens** $\underline{\text{cod}}: F_1 f \rightarrow B$ on a functor $f: A \rightarrow B$ has domain whose:

- objects are pairs $(a \in A, u: fa \rightarrow b \in B)$
- morphisms are generated by the following:



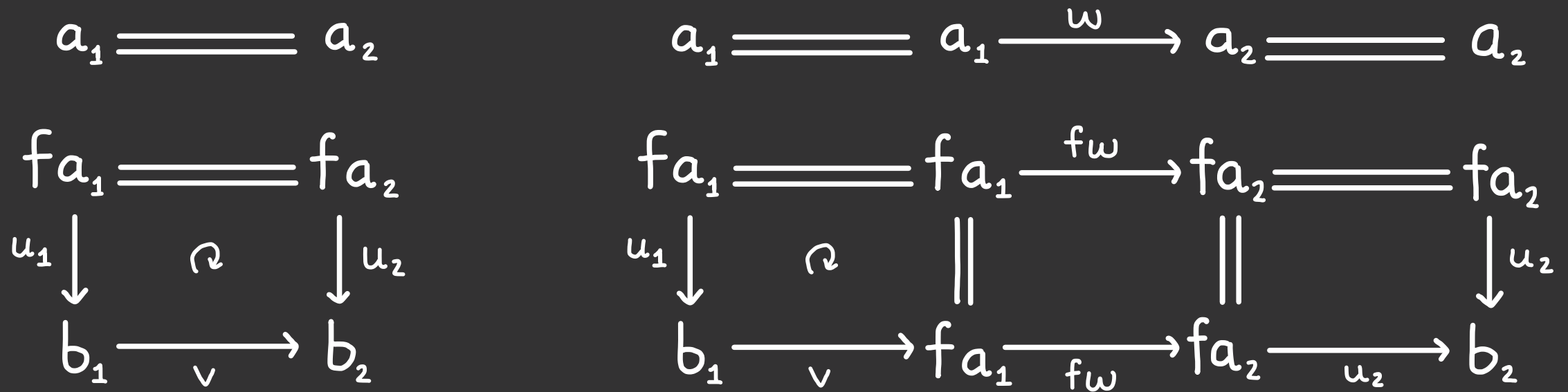
The functor $\underline{\text{cod}}$ sends these to $v: b_1 \rightarrow b_2$ and $fw: fa_1 \rightarrow fa_2$, respectively.

The unit $\eta(f): A \rightarrow F_1 f$ sends $w: a_1 \rightarrow a_2$ to the 2nd generator.

FREE DELTA LENSES

The **free delta lens** $\underline{\text{cod}}: F_1 f \rightarrow B$ on a functor $f: A \rightarrow B$ has domain whose:

- objects are pairs $(a \in A, u: fa \rightarrow b \in B)$
- morphisms $(a_1, u_1) \rightarrow (a_2, u_2)$ are given by the following two sorts:



The functor $\underline{\text{cod}}$ sends these to $v: b_1 \rightarrow b_2$ and $u_2 \circ fw \circ v: b_1 \rightarrow b_2$, respectively.

The chosen lifts are morphisms of the first sort.

SPLIT OPFIBRATIONS AS ALGEBRAS FOR A MONAD

1 1

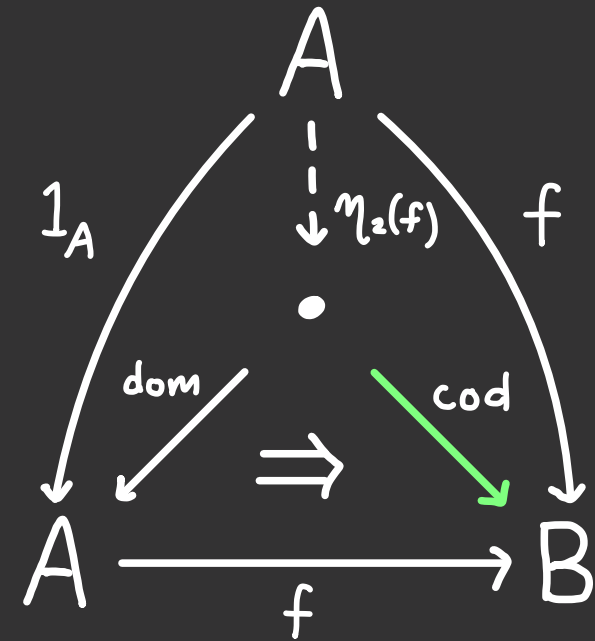
The forgetful functor

$$SOpf \xrightarrow{U_2} \text{Cat}^2$$

is **monadic**.

The left adjoint $F_2: \text{Cat}^2 \rightarrow SOpf$

is constructed using comma categories.



The forgetful functor is also **comonadic** – see "A comonad for Grothendieck fibrations", 2024. Emmenegger, Et al.

FREE SPLIT OPFIBRATIONS

1 2

The free split opfibration $\underline{\text{cod}}: F_2 f \rightarrow B$ on a functor $f: A \rightarrow B$ has domain with:

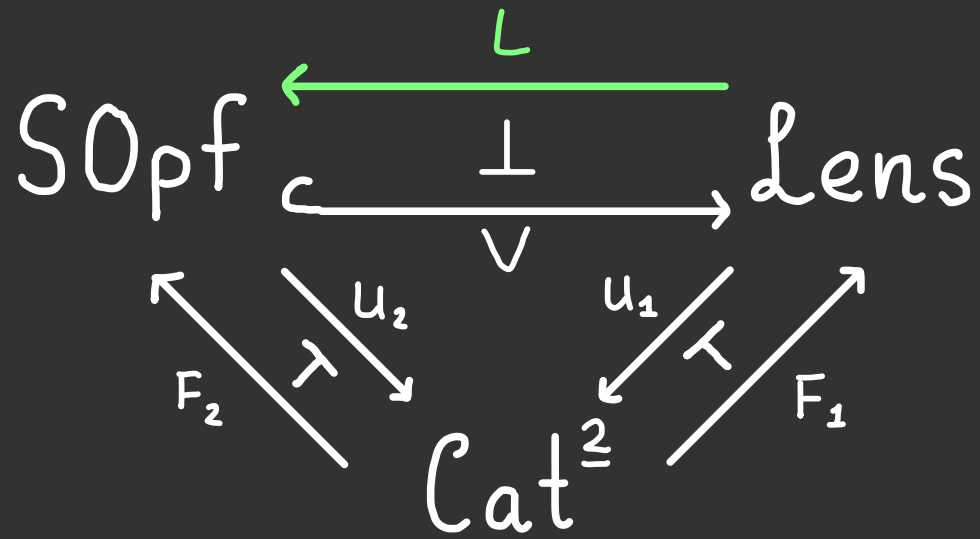
- objects are pairs $(a \in A, u: fa \rightarrow b \in B)$
- morphisms $(a_1, u_1) \rightarrow (a_2, u_2)$ are given by pairs $\langle \omega, v \rangle$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} a_1 & \xrightarrow{\omega} & a_2 \\ & & \\ fa_1 & \xrightarrow{f\omega} & fa_2 \\ u_1 \downarrow & \curvearrowright & \downarrow u_2 \\ b_1 & \xrightarrow{v} & b_2 \end{array}$$

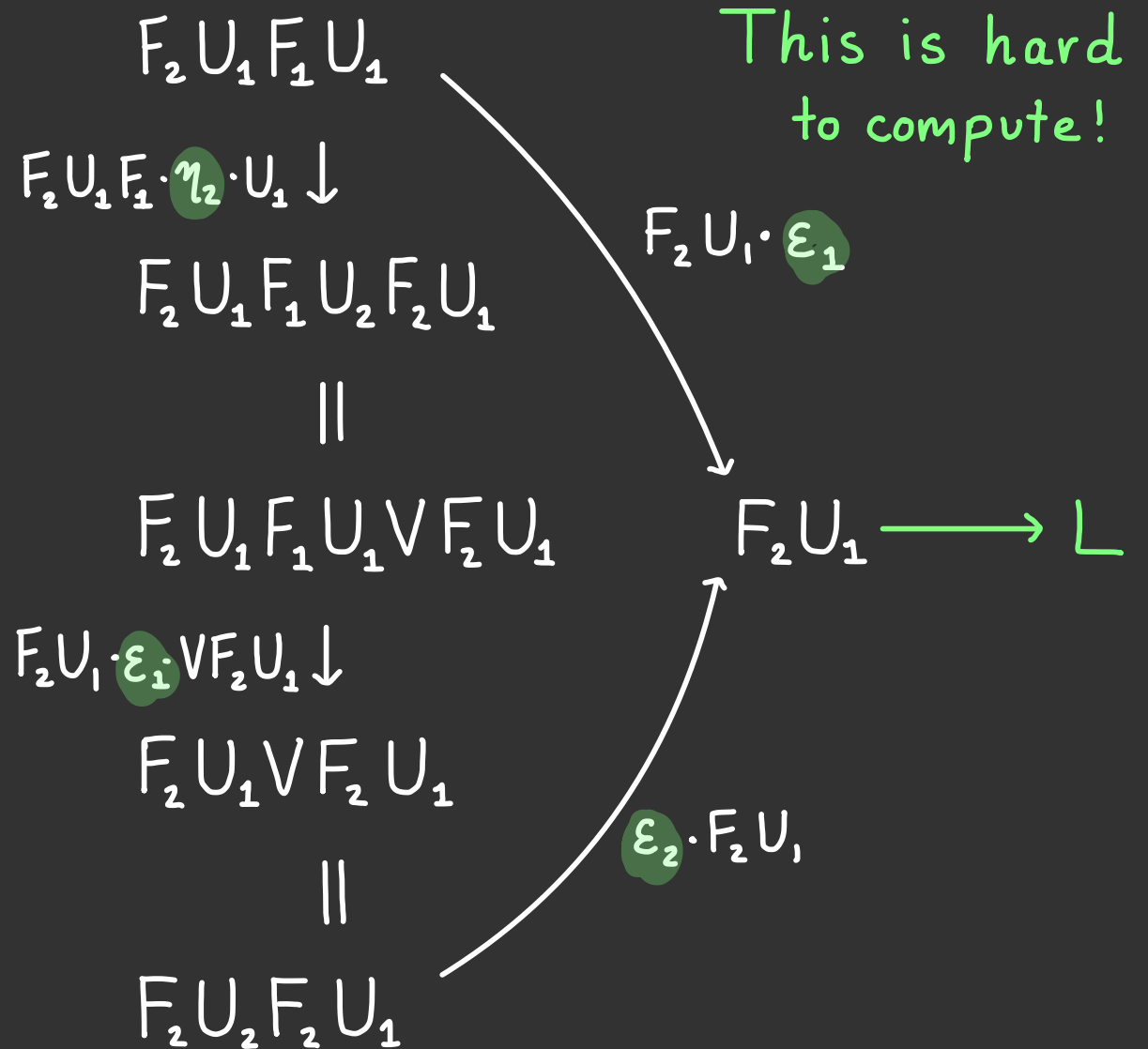
The underlying functor $\underline{\text{cod}}$ sends these to $v: b_1 \rightarrow b_2$.

The chosen lifts are morphisms $\langle \text{id}, v \rangle$.

APPLYING THE ADJOINT TRIANGLE THEOREM



Since U_1 is monadic & SO_{pf} has reflexive coequalisers, we may construct L via the **adjoint triangle theorem** as a pointwise coequaliser:



PART 4

Split opfibrations are reflective in delta lenses

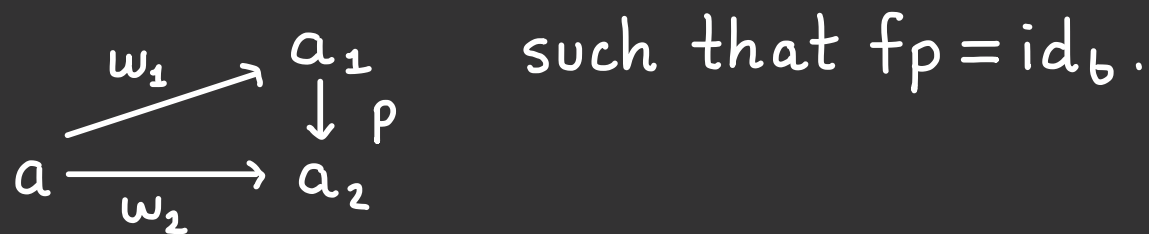
DELTA LENSES & POINTED CATEGORIES

Let $(f, \varphi): A \dashrightarrow B$ be a delta lens.

For each $a \in A$ and $u: fa \rightarrow b$ in B , we

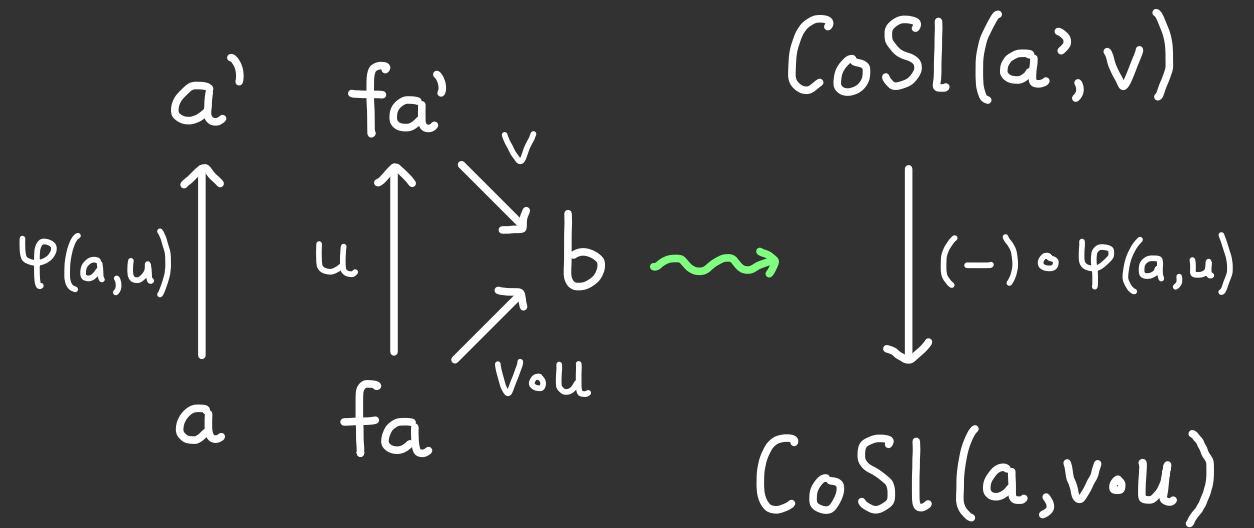
have a category $\text{CoSl}(a, u)$ whose:

- objects are morphisms $w: a \rightarrow a'$ in A such that $fw = u$.
- morphisms are comm. diagrams



- A chosen object $\varphi(a, u)$ which is **initial** $\iff \varphi(a, u)$ is **w. opcartesian**.

If $\varphi(a, u): a \rightarrow a'$ is a chosen lift, we obtain a functor of pointed categories by precomposition:

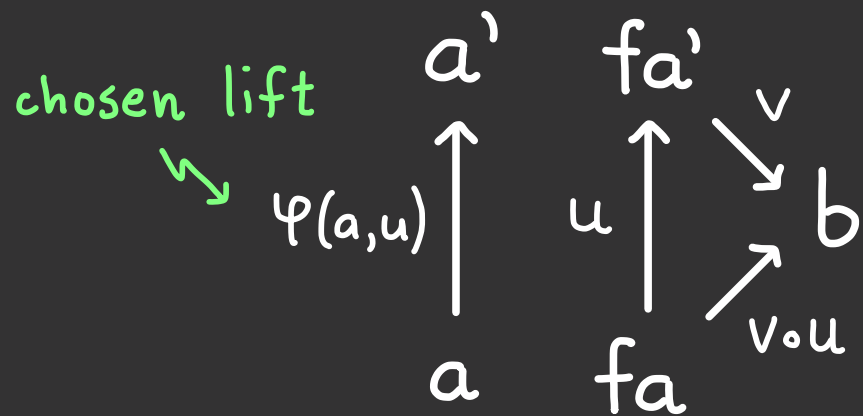


$\varphi(a, u)$ is **opcartesian** \iff this functor is **invertible**.

INDUCING FUNCTORS INTO Cat_*

Let $(f, \varphi): A \rightrightarrows B$ be a delta lens, and let $\Lambda(f, \varphi)/b$ be the category with:

- objects are pairs $(a \in A, u: fa \rightarrow b \in B)$
- morphisms are comm. diagrams



PROP: A delta lens (f, φ) gives a functor

$$\sum_{b \in B} \Lambda(f, \varphi)/b \xrightarrow{\text{CoSl}} \text{Cat}_*^{\text{op}}$$

- (f, φ) is a split opfibration \iff CoSl factors through Cat_1^{op}

- A morphism $(f, \varphi) \xrightarrow{\langle h, k \rangle} (g, \psi)$ yields

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \sum_{b \in B} \Lambda(f, \varphi)/b & \xrightarrow{\text{CoSl}} & \text{Cat}_*^{\text{op}} \\ \downarrow & \Downarrow & \uparrow \\ \sum_{d \in D} \Lambda(g, \psi)/d & \xrightarrow{\text{CoSl}} & \text{Cat}_*^{\text{op}} \end{array}$$

TWO CONJECTURES

$$\text{SOpf} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{L} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{V} \end{array} \text{Lens}$$

The left adjoint L is induced by postcomposing

$$\sum_{b \in B} \Lambda(f, \varphi)/b \xrightarrow{\text{Cosl}} \text{Cat}_*^{\text{op}}$$

by the left adjoint

$$\text{Cat}_\perp \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\text{---}} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{\text{---}} \end{array} \text{Cat}_*$$

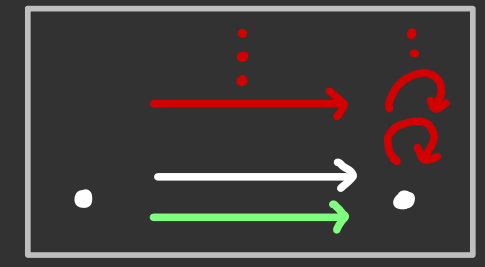
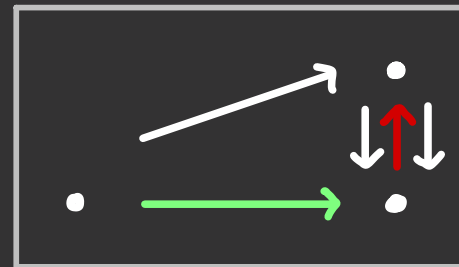
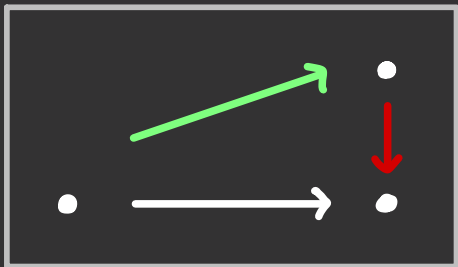
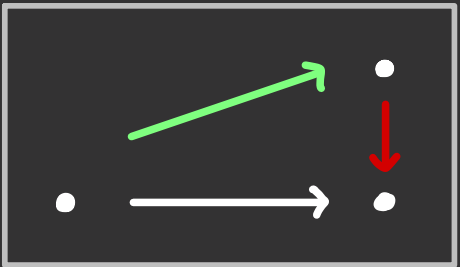
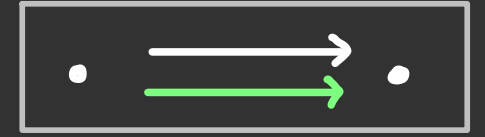
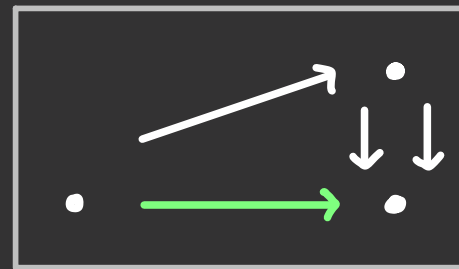
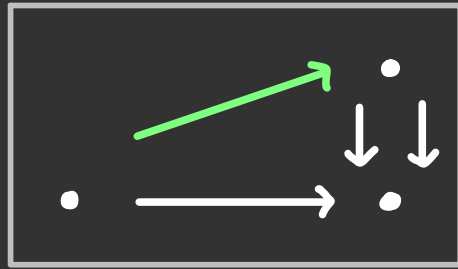
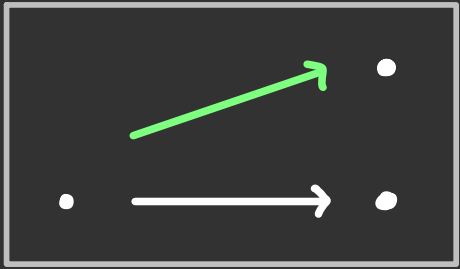
$$\text{SOpf} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{V} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{R} \end{array} \text{Lens}$$

There exists a right adjoint R which is induced by the right adjoint

$$\text{Cat}_\perp \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\text{---}} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{\text{---}} \end{array} \text{Cat}_*$$

The previous approach fails, as domain of (f, φ) must change.

SIMPLE EXAMPLES



01

A POTENTIAL SYNTAX FOR L

18

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xleftarrow{L} & \\
 \text{SOpf} & \xrightarrow{\perp} & \text{Lens} \\
 & \underset{\vee}{\xrightarrow{\quad}} &
 \end{array}$$

For a delta lens $(f, \varphi): A \rightrightarrows B$,
 define $\pi: L(f, \varphi) \rightrightarrows B$ to have:

- same objects as A .
- morphisms generated by

$$\frac{w: a \rightarrow a' \in A}{w: a \rightarrow a' \in L(f, \varphi)} \quad \frac{m: x \rightarrow y \in L(f, \varphi)}{\chi(m): \bar{\varphi}(x, fm) \rightarrow y \in L(f, \varphi)}$$

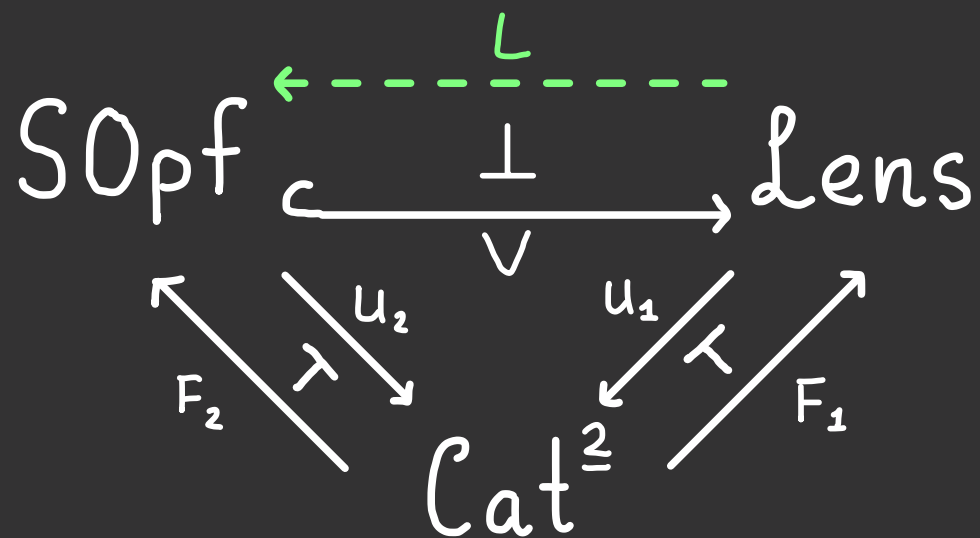
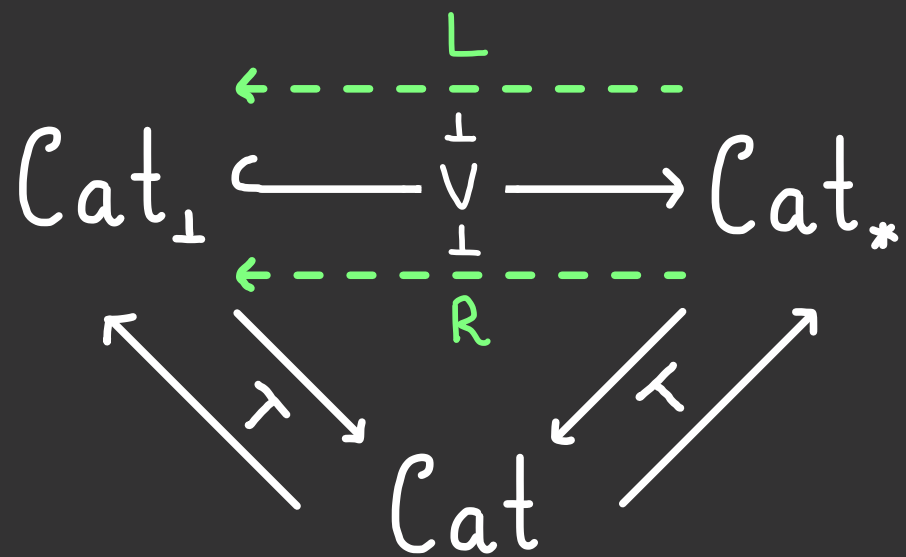
with chosen lifts same as A .

subject to the conditions

- (1) $\pi w = fw$ $\pi \chi(w) = \text{id}_{\text{cod}(w)}$
- (2) $\chi(w) \circ \varphi(a, fw) = w$
- (3) If $\pi m = \text{id}_b$ for $m \in L(f, \varphi)$,
 $\chi(m \circ \varphi(a, u)) = \chi(m)$

We obtain a **strict factorisation system** on $L(f, \varphi)$
 of chosen lifts followed
 by vertical morphisms.

SUMMARY & FUTURE WORK



- Find an **equivalence** between Lens and a category whose objects are Cat_* -valued functors.
- Can we prove that $\text{SOpf} \leftrightarrow \text{Lens}$ has a **right adjoint**, or find a counterexample?
- Apply our results to construct a left adjoint to $\text{SSEpi} \leftrightarrow \text{SEpi}(\text{Mon})$.