

# Lax Colimits and Fibrations of Double Categories

---

Dorette Pronk

Dalhousie University

Virtual Double Categories Workshop, December 1, 2022

# Grothendieck Constructions for Double Categories

This talk is based on two papers:

- G.S.H. Cruttwell, M.J. Lambert, D.A. Pronk, M. Szyld, Double fibrations, *Theory and Applications of Categories*, Vol. 38, 2022, No. 35, pp 1326-1394.
- M. Bayeh, D.A. Pronk, M. Szyld, A Grothendieck construction for double categories, in progress.

# The Grothendieck Construction / Category of Elements

For a pseudofunctor  $F: \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ , the *Grothendieck category of elements*

$$\mathbf{El}F \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$$

can be characterized up to equivalence by either of the following two characterizations:

- A.**  $\mathbf{El}F$  is the lax colimit of  $F$  in  $\mathbf{Cat}$ .
- B1.**  $\mathbf{El}F$  is the value on objects of a 2-functor, which is an equivalence of 2-categories

$$\mathbf{El}: \text{Hom}_p(\mathbf{C}, \mathbf{Cat}) \longrightarrow \text{coFib}(\mathbf{C})$$

- B2.** For  $F: \mathbf{C}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ ,  $\mathbf{El}F$  is the value on objects of a 2-functor, which is an equivalence of 2-categories

$$\mathbf{El}: \text{Hom}_p(\mathbf{C}^{\text{op}}, \mathbf{Cat}) \longrightarrow \text{Fib}(\mathbf{C})$$

# Fibrations

Let  $P : \mathcal{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{B}$  be a functor between categories.

- An arrow  $f$  of  $\mathcal{E}$  is **Cartesian** if:
 
$$\begin{array}{ccc} Z & & \\ \downarrow \hat{h} & \searrow \forall g & \\ X & \xrightarrow{f} & Y \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} PZ & & \\ \downarrow \forall h & \searrow Pg & \\ PX & \xrightarrow{Pf} & PY \end{array}$$

- $P$  is a **fibration** when:

$$B^* \xrightarrow{u^*} E \leftarrow B \xrightarrow{u} PE$$

(**Cartesian lift**)

- A **cleavage** is a choice of a Cartesian lift for each arrow of  $\mathcal{B}$ .  
A **cloven fibration** is a fibration and a chosen cleavage.

-Any cloven fibration gives rise to an **Indexed category**  $F : \mathcal{B}^{op} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ .  
-Any indexed category gives rise to a cloven fibration by its **Grothendieck construction/category of elements**.

## Morphisms of Fibrations

Given cloven fibrations  $P : \mathcal{E} \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}$  and  $P' : \mathcal{E}' \longrightarrow \mathcal{B}'$ ,

• A **morphism**  $f$  between them is:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{E} & \xrightarrow{f^\top} & \mathcal{E}' \\ P \downarrow & & \downarrow P' \\ \mathcal{B} & \xrightarrow{f^\perp} & \mathcal{B}' \end{array}$$

where  $f^\top$  preserves the Cartesian arrows.

- $f$  is said to be **cleavage-preserving** when  $f^\top$  maps the arrows of the cleavage of  $P$  to arrows in the cleavage of  $P'$ .
- This defines 2-categories  $\mathbf{cFib} \subseteq \mathbf{Fib} \subseteq \mathbf{Arr}^s(\mathbf{Cat})$  (full on 2-cells, with objects the cloven fibrations).

The classical equivalence  $\mathbf{Fib} \simeq \mathbf{ICat}$  (with pseudo transformations) restricts to  $\mathbf{cFib} \simeq \mathbf{ICat}_t$  (with strict natural transformations.)

# Double Categories

- A **double category** is an internal category in **Cat**,

$$C_1 \times_{C_0} C_1 \xrightarrow{\otimes} C_1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{s} \\ \xleftarrow{y} \\ \xrightarrow{t} \end{array} C_0.$$

- It has
  - objects** (objects of  $C_0$ );
  - inner/horizontal arrows** (arrows of  $C_0$ ),  $d_0(f) \xrightarrow{f} d_1(f)$ ;
  - outer/vertical arrows** (objects of  $C_1$ ),  $s(v) \xrightarrow{v} t(v)$ ;
  - double cells** (arrows of  $C_1$ ), denoted

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ \downarrow v & \alpha & \downarrow w \\ A' & \xrightarrow{f'} & B' \end{array}$$

where  $d_0(\alpha) = v$ ,  $d_1(\alpha) = w$ ,  $s(\alpha) = f$ , and  $t(\alpha) = f'$ .

# Examples

- ① For any 2-category  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{Q}(\mathcal{C})$  is the double category of quintets in  $\mathcal{C}$ , with double cells

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xrightarrow{f} & \\
 u \bullet & \alpha & \bullet v \\
 & \xrightarrow{g} & \\
 & \downarrow & \\
 & & 
 \end{array}$$

for each  $\alpha: vf \Rightarrow gu$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

- ② For any 2-category  $\mathcal{C}$ ,  $\mathbb{H}(\mathcal{C})$  is the double category with double cells

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & \xrightarrow{f} & \\
 1_A \bullet & \alpha & \bullet 1_B \\
 & \xrightarrow{g} & \\
 & \downarrow & \\
 & & 
 \end{array}$$

for each  $\alpha: f \Rightarrow g$  in  $\mathcal{C}$ .

- ③ The double category  $\mathbb{V}(\mathcal{C})$  is defined analogously.

## More Examples

- For any 2-category  $\mathcal{C}$  with a distinguished family of arrows  $\Sigma$  that forms a sub-category, we can define  $\mathbb{Q}^\Sigma(\mathcal{C}) \subseteq \mathbb{Q}(\mathcal{C})$  by requiring the inner/horizontal arrows to be in  $\Sigma$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{m} & B \\
 \downarrow f & \alpha & \downarrow g \\
 C & \xrightarrow{n} & D
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{for each } \alpha: gm \Rightarrow nf \text{ in } \mathcal{C}; m, n \in \Sigma.$$

Many examples of double categories are not exactly like this but have this *flavor*:  $\mathbb{R}el$ : functions and relations;  $\mathbb{P}rof$ : functors and profunctors;  $\mathbb{S}pan(\mathbb{C}at)$ : functions and spans;  $\mathbb{R}ing$ : ring homomorphisms and bimodules; etc...

But note: except in  $\mathbb{R}el$ , vertical composition is no longer strict!



# (Pseudo) Double Categories

- A **(pseudo) double category** is an internal **pseudo** category in **Cat**,

$$C_1 \times_{C_0} C_1 \xrightarrow{\otimes} C_1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{s} \\ \xleftarrow{y} \\ \xrightarrow{t} \end{array} C_0 .$$

The pull-back is still the same 2-pull-back, but instead of associativity and unit axioms we have invertible 2-cells (natural transformations)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 C_1 \times_{C_0} \times C_1 \times_{C_0} C_1 & \xrightarrow{1 \times \otimes} & C_1 \times_{C_0} C_1 \\
 \otimes \times 1 \downarrow & \parallel \alpha & \downarrow \otimes \\
 C_1 \times_{C_0} C_1 & \xrightarrow{\otimes} & C_1
 \end{array}$$
  

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 C_1 & \xrightarrow{\langle y, 1 \rangle} & C_1 \times_{C_0} C_1 & \xleftarrow{\langle 1, y \rangle} & C_1 \\
 & \searrow & \downarrow \otimes & \swarrow & \\
 & & C_1 & & 
 \end{array}$$

$\parallel \tau$        $\parallel \tau$

# (Pseudo) Double Categories

- A **double category** (Grandis-Paré, 1999) is a **pseudo** category in **Cat**,

$$C_1 \times_{C_0} C_1 \xrightarrow{\otimes} C_1 \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{s} \\ \xleftarrow{y} \\ \xrightarrow{t} \end{array} C_0 .$$

- Informally, this means that inner (horizontal) composition remains strict, but external (vertical) composition is pseudo.
- There is a 2-category **DbICat** of pseudo (double=internal) categories, pseudo (double=internal) functors to be defined on the next slide, and (horizontal=internal) transformations.

We have now all the examples from before (and more!)

## Double Functors as Internal Functors

Internal pseudo categories can be considered in any 2-category  $\mathcal{K}$  with 2-pullbacks instead of **Cat** (Martins-Ferreira, 2006).

A **lax double functor**  $F: \mathbb{C} \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  consists then of two arrows  $F_0: C_0 \rightarrow D_0$  and  $F_1: C_1 \rightarrow D_1$  and comparison 2-cells (+ axioms)

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 C_1 \times_{C_0} C_1 & \xrightarrow{\otimes} & C_1 \\
 F_1 \times_{F_0} F_1 \downarrow & \Downarrow \phi & \downarrow F_1 \\
 D_1 \times_{D_0} D_1 & \xrightarrow{\otimes} & D_1
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 C_0 & \xrightarrow{y} & C_1 \\
 F_0 \downarrow & \Downarrow \iota & \downarrow F_1 \\
 D_0 & \xrightarrow{y} & D_1
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 C_1 & \xrightarrow{s} & C_0 \\
 \parallel & \Downarrow t & \parallel \\
 C_1 & \xrightarrow{s} & C_0 \\
 F_1 \downarrow & \Downarrow s & \downarrow F_0 \\
 C_1 & \xrightarrow{t} & C_0 \\
 \parallel & \Downarrow t & \parallel \\
 C_1 & \xrightarrow{t} & C_0
 \end{array}$$

If the comparison cells are invertible,  $F$  is a **pseudo double functor**.

Note that the interaction with  $s$  and  $t$  is required to be **stricter** than that with  $y$  and  $\otimes$ .

## The category **DbICat** - Definition

The category **DbICat** of double categories has:

- **objects:** double categories  $\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{D}, \dots$ ;
- **arrows:** double functors  $F, G, \dots$ ;
- **transformations:** these come in two *flavors*:
  - a **horizontal transformation**  $\gamma: F \Rightarrow G$  is given by

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 FA & \xrightarrow{\gamma_A} & GA \\
 \downarrow F_V & \gamma_v & \downarrow G_V \\
 FB & \xrightarrow{\gamma_B} & GB
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{for each } A \text{ in } \text{dom}(F)$$

pseudo functorial in the vertical direction and natural in the horizontal direction.

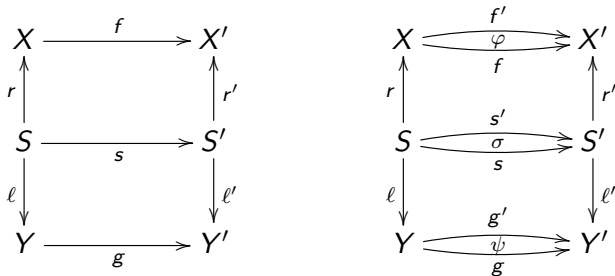
- **vertical transformations**  $\nu: F \rightrightarrows G$  are defined dually, pseudonatural in the vertical direction and functorial in the horizontal direction;
- **modifications** given by a family of double cells.

# The category **DbICat** - Properties

- **DbICat** is not a double category;
- a double category has two types of arrows, and **DbICat** has only one;
- a double category has one type of 2-cell, and **DbICat** has two;
- there are 2-categories **DbICat**<sub>h</sub> and **DbICat**<sub>v</sub>;
- **DbICat** is *enriched* in double categories: **DbICat**( $\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{D}$ ) is a double category for each pair of double categories  $\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{D}$ ;
- so we need to replace **DbICat** by a double category as codomain for the indexing functors.

# Replacements for **DbICat**, Option 1: $\mathbb{S}\text{pan}(\mathbf{Cat})$

- A **double 2-category** is a pseudo category in the 2-category of 2-categories, 2-functors and 2-natural transformations.
- There is a double 2-category  $\mathbb{S}\text{pan}(\mathcal{K})$  for any 2-category  $\mathcal{K}$  with double cells and 2-cells between them:



A lax double functor from the terminal double category to  $\mathbb{S}\text{pan}(\mathbf{Cat})$  is precisely a double category.

## Replacements for **DbICat**, Option 2: $\mathbb{Q}\mathbf{DbICat}_v$

When considering colimits of double categories we would like to have a double category that has double categories as objects. There are six double categories

- $\mathbb{V}\mathbf{DbICat}_{h/v}$ ,
- $\mathbb{H}\mathbf{DbICat}_{h/v}$
- $\mathbb{Q}\mathbf{DbICat}_{h/v}$ .

We will work with  $\mathbb{Q}\mathbf{DbICat}_v$ .

## Diagrams Indexed by a Double Category

These observations lead us to two types of “double indexing functors”:

- **When aiming for double fibrations:** A double indexing functor is a *contravariant lax pseudo double functor*,

$$\mathbb{D}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Span}(\mathbf{Cat})$$

where  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{Cat})$  is a double 2-category (as we are considering  $\mathbf{Cat}$  here as a 2-category).

- **When aiming for doubly lax colimits:** An indexing double functor is a double functor

$$\mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{DbICat}_V),$$

also referred to as a *vertical double functor*

$$\mathbb{D} \dashv\rightarrow \mathbf{DbICat}.$$



## Grothendieck for $F: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \text{Span}(\mathbf{Cat})$

A lax double pseudo functor  $F: \mathbb{D}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Span}(\mathbf{Cat})$  gives rise to pseudo functors

$$F_0: \mathbb{D}_0^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Span}(\mathbf{Cat})_0 = \mathbf{Cat} \quad \text{and} \quad F_1: \mathbb{D}_1^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \text{Span}(\mathbf{Cat})_1 \xrightarrow{\text{apx}} \mathbf{Cat}$$

The Grothendieck category of elements gives us cloven fibrations

$$\mathbb{E}l(F)_0 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_0 \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbb{E}l(F)_1 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}_1.$$

Now,  $\mathbb{E}l(F)_0$  and  $\mathbb{E}l(F)_1$  form the category of objects and arrows respectively of the double category  $\mathbb{E}l(F)$  with a *double fibration*

$$\mathbb{E}l(F) \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$$

# The Double Fibration $\mathbb{E}l(F) \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$

## Notation

For  $F: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{S}pan(\mathbf{Cat})$ , and an outer arrow  $m: A \dashrightarrow B$  of  $\mathbb{D}$ , we denote its image by

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 & Fm & \\
 L_m \swarrow & & \searrow R_m \\
 FA & & FB
 \end{array}$$

Then  $\mathbb{E}l(F)$  has

- *Inner arrows*  $(A, X) \xrightarrow{(f, \bar{f})} (C, Z)$  with  $f: A \rightarrow C$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $\bar{f}: X \rightarrow f^*Z$  in  $FA$ ;
- *Outer arrows*  $(m, \bar{m}): (A, X) \dashrightarrow (B, Y)$  with  $m: A \dashrightarrow B$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $\bar{m} \in Fm$  such that  $L_m \bar{m} = X$  and  $R_m \bar{m} = Y$

# The Double Fibration $\mathbb{E}l(F) \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$

- $\mathbb{E}l(F)$  has squares of the form

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 (A, X) & \xrightarrow{(f, \bar{f})} & (C, Z) \\
 \downarrow (m, \bar{m}) \bullet & (\theta, \bar{\theta}) & \downarrow \bullet (n, \bar{n}) \\
 (B, Y) & \xrightarrow{(g, \bar{g})} & (D, W)
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{for} \quad
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 A & \xrightarrow{f} & C \\
 \downarrow m \bullet & \theta & \downarrow \bullet n \\
 B & \xrightarrow{g} & D
 \end{array}
 \quad \text{in } \mathbb{D}$$

and  $\bar{\theta}: \bar{m} \rightarrow \theta^* \bar{n}$  in  $Fm$  such that  $L_m \bar{\theta} = \bar{f}$  and  $R_m \bar{\theta} = \bar{g}$ .

- The projection double functor  $\mathbb{E}l(F) \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  is a double fibration.

# What is a Double Fibration?

## Suggestion

Take an internal category in **Fib**.

## Problem

**Fib** doesn't have all the 2-pullbacks we would need.

Also, the *fibrational strictness* of  $s$  and  $t$  would be the same as that of  $y$  and  $\otimes$ , which is not in line with what we know about pseudo double functors.

## The solution

A **double fibration** is a pseudo category in **Fib** such that  $s$  and  $t$  are in **cFib** (that is, they preserve the chosen cleavages).

This translates into:

## Definition of a Double Fibration

A **double fibration** as defined on the previous slide is the same as a (strict) double functor  $P : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$  between (pseudo) double categories

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 \mathbb{E}_1 \times_{\mathbb{E}_0} \mathbb{E}_1 & \xrightarrow{\otimes_{\mathbb{E}}} & \mathbb{E}_1 & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{s_{\mathbb{E}}} \\ \xleftarrow{y_{\mathbb{E}}} \\ \xrightarrow{t_{\mathbb{E}}} \end{array} & \mathbb{E}_0 \\
 \downarrow P_1 \times_{P_0} P_1 & & \downarrow P_1 & & \downarrow P_0 \\
 \mathbb{B}_1 \times_{\mathbb{B}_0} \mathbb{B}_1 & \xrightarrow{\otimes_{\mathbb{B}}} & \mathbb{B}_1 & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{s_{\mathbb{B}}} \\ \xleftarrow{y_{\mathbb{B}}} \\ \xrightarrow{t_{\mathbb{B}}} \end{array} & \mathbb{B}_0
 \end{array}$$

such that

- 1  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  are fibrations,
- 2 they admit a cleavage such that  $s_{\mathbb{E}}$  and  $t_{\mathbb{E}}$  are cleavage-preserving, and
- 3  $y_{\mathbb{E}}$  and  $\otimes_{\mathbb{E}}$  are Cartesian-morphism preserving.

## Some Examples

- When  $\mathbb{E}_0 = \mathbb{B}_0 = 1$ , we recover monoidal fibrations [1];
- For any 2-functor  $P : E \rightarrow B$ , we have that  $P$  is a 2-fibration [2] if and only if  $\mathbb{Q}P : \mathbb{Q}E \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}B$  is a double fibration;
- When  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  are discrete fibrations, we recover discrete double fibrations [3];
- The double Grothendieck construction in Definition 5.3 of [4] is also a double fibration.

[1] Framed Bicategories and Monoidal Fibrations, Shulman (2008).

[2] Fibred 2-Categories and Bicategories, Buckley (2014).

[3] Discrete Double Fibrations, Lambert (2021).

[4] Double Categories of Open Dynamical Systems, Myers (2021).

## More Examples

- The domain fibration:  $\text{dom}: \mathbb{D}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$ ,

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{D}_1^2 & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{t} \\ \xrightarrow{s} \end{array} & \mathbb{D}_0^2 \\
 \text{dom} \downarrow & & \downarrow \text{dom} \\
 \mathbb{D}_1 & \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{t} \\ \xrightarrow{s} \end{array} & \mathbb{D}_0
 \end{array}$$

- $Im: \text{Span} \rightarrow \text{Rel}$  is a double opfibration.
- There is a split double fibration  $\Pi: \text{Fam}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Span}$ .
- There is a codomain fibration  $\text{cod}: \mathbb{D}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$  if
  - $\mathbb{D}_1$  and  $\mathbb{D}_0$  have chosen finite limits,
  - these limits are preserved on the nose by  $s$  and  $t$
  - and up to iso by  $y$  and  $\otimes$ .

## Double Fibrations are Internal Fibrations

The notion of *internal fibration* for a 2-category was given by Street in 1974. Let **DbICat** be the 2-category of pseudo double categories, pseudo functors and horizontal/inner transformations.

Theorem [Cruttwell, Lambert, P., Szyld]

A *strict* double functor  $P : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$  is an internal fibration in **DbICat** if and only if it is a double fibration



## Double Fibrations are Internal Fibrations

The notion of *internal fibration* for a 2-category was given by Street in 1974. Let **DbICat** be the 2-category of pseudo double categories, pseudo functors and horizontal/inner transformations.

Theorem [Cruttwell, Lambert, P., Szyld]

A *strict* double functor  $P : \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$  is an internal fibration in **DbICat** if and only if it is a double fibration

In addition,

- A *pseudo* double functor  $P$  is an internal fibration in **DbICat**<sub>ℓ</sub> iff  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  are fibrations that admit cleavages preserved by  $s_{\mathbb{E}}$  and  $t_{\mathbb{E}}$
- It is an internal fibration in **DbICat** iff in addition,  $y_{\mathbb{E}}$  and  $\otimes_{\mathbb{E}}$  are Cartesian-morphism preserving.
- a strict double functor  $P$  is an internal fibration in **DbICat**<sub>s</sub> iff  $P_0$  and  $P_1$  are fibrations that admit cleavages preserved by  $s_{\mathbb{E}}$ ,  $t_{\mathbb{E}}$ ,  $y_{\mathbb{E}}$  and  $\otimes_{\mathbb{E}}$ .

# The $\{\text{Fibrations}\} \xleftarrow{\simeq} \{\text{Indexed}\}$ Theorem

Let  $\mathbf{ISpan}(\mathbf{Cat})$  be the category of contravariant lax pseudo double functors valued in the double 2-category  $\mathbb{S}pan(\mathbf{Cat})$ .

Theorem [Cruttwell, Lambert, P., Szyld]

There is an equivalence of categories  $\mathbf{DbIFib} \simeq \mathbf{ISpan}(\mathbf{Cat})$

Idea for the proof: use pseudo monoids in double 2-categories.

$\mathbf{Fib} \simeq \mathbf{ICat}$  restricts to  $\mathbf{cFib} \simeq \mathbf{ICat}_t$ , so  $\mathbb{S}pan_c(\mathbf{Fib}) \simeq \mathbb{S}pan_t(\mathbf{ICat})$ .

Now we lift:

$\mathbf{DbIFib} := \mathbf{PsMon}(\mathbb{S}pan_c(\mathbf{Fib})) \simeq \mathbf{PsMon}(\mathbb{S}pan_t(\mathbf{ICat})) \simeq \mathbf{ISpan}(\mathbf{Cat})$   $\square$

Restricting to monoidal or to discrete fibrations, we recover the results in (Moeller-Vasilakopoulou, 2020) and (Lambert, 2021). The right-to-left functor restricts to the construction spelled out in (Paré, 2011).

## Option 2: Vertical Indexing Functors $F: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}\mathbf{DbICat}_v$

We have so far only worked out the strict case, where both  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $F$  are assumed to be strict, and are working on the pseudo case.

Some concerns you may have:

- Have we lost our ability to use horizontal transformations and modifications?
- Have we lost our ability to distinguish between horizontal and vertical arrows in the indexing double category  $\mathbb{D}$ ?

No, they will show up in the notion of **doubly lax transformation**. Our lax colimits are lax with respect to a new notion of transformation.

# Intro to Doubly Lax Transformations

- We will introduce a **cylinder double category**  $\text{Cyl}_v(\mathbf{DbICat})$ .
- There are vertical double functors

$$\text{Cyl}_v(\mathbf{DbICat}) \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{d_0} \\ \xrightarrow{v} \\ \xrightarrow{d_1} \end{array} \mathbf{DbICat}$$

- A **doubly lax transformation**  $\alpha: F \Rightarrow G: \mathbb{D} \dashrightarrow \mathbf{DbICat}$  is given by a double functor

$$\alpha: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \text{Cyl}_v(\mathbf{DbICat})$$

such that  $d_0\alpha = F$  and  $d_1\alpha = G$ .

# The Double Category of (Vertical) Cylinders

The double category  $\text{Cyl}_v(\mathbf{DbICat})$  of **vertical cylinders** is defined by:

- **Objects** are double functors, denoted by  $\downarrow f$ .
- **Vertical arrows**  $f \xrightarrow{(u, \mu, v)} \bar{f}$  are given by vertical transformations,

- **Horizontal arrows**  $f \xrightarrow{(h, \kappa, k)} f'$  are given by horizontal transformations,



# Cylinders and Transformations

- There are vertical double functors  $d_0, d_1: \text{Cyl}_V(\mathbf{DbICat}) \dashv\vdash \mathbf{DbICat}$ , sending a cylinder to its top and bottom respectively;
- A **doubly lax transformation**  $\theta: F \rightrightarrows G$  between vertical double functors  $F, G: \mathbb{D} \dashv\vdash \mathbf{DbICat}$  is given by a double functor

$$\theta: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \text{Cyl}_V(\mathbf{DbICat}),$$

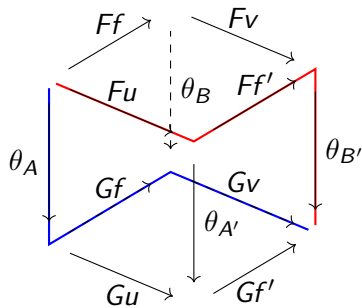
such that  $d_0\theta = F$  and  $d_1\theta = G$ .

Doubly Lax Transformations  $\theta: F \Rightarrow G$ 

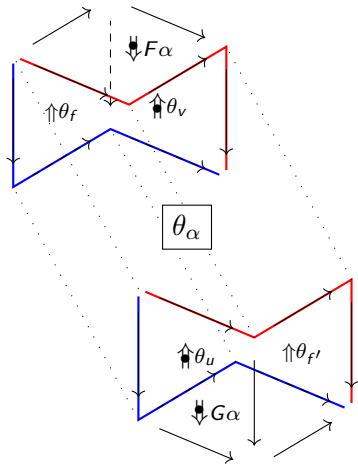
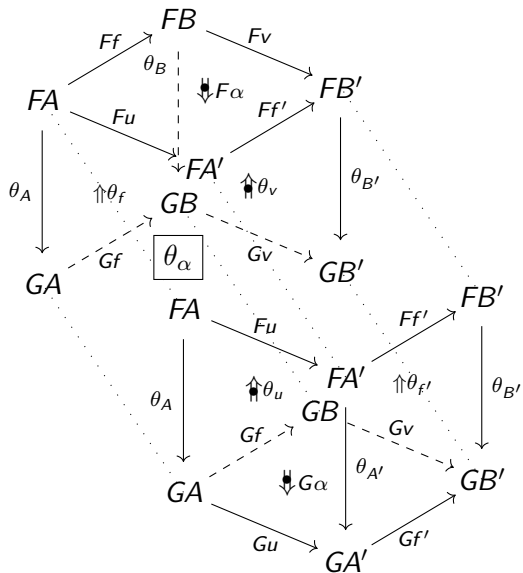
For each double cell

$$\begin{array}{ccc} A & \xrightarrow{f} & B \\ u \downarrow & \alpha & \downarrow v \\ A' & \xrightarrow{f'} & B' \end{array},$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} GvGf\theta_A & \xrightarrow{Gv\theta_f} & Gv\theta_B Ff \\ \Downarrow G\alpha\theta_A & & \Downarrow \theta_v Ff \\ Gf'Gu\theta_A & \xrightarrow{\theta_\alpha} & \theta_{B'} FvFf \\ \Downarrow Gf'\theta_u & & \Downarrow \theta_{B'} F\alpha \\ Gf'\theta_{A'}Fu & \xrightarrow{\theta_{f'}Fu} & \theta_{B'} Ff'Fu \end{array}$$







# Doubly Lax Transformations

- Let  $F, G: \mathbb{D} \dashrightarrow \mathbf{DbICat}$  be vertical double functors.
- Since doubly lax transformations  $F \Rightarrow G$  are represented by double functors,

$$\mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathrm{Cyl}_V(\mathbf{DbICat})$$

they are the objects of a hom double category

$$\mathbb{H}\mathrm{om}_{d\ell}(F, G) \subset \mathbf{DbICat}(\mathbb{D}, \mathrm{Cyl}_V(\mathbf{DbICat})).$$

# Lax Transformations Between 2-Functors

- By applying  $\mathbb{Q}$  to the hom-categories of a 2-category  $\mathcal{B}$ , we can make it into a **DbICat**-enriched category  $\widehat{\mathcal{Q}}(\mathcal{B})$ .
- This allows us to view lax transformations between 2-functors as a special case of the new doubly lax transformations.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathcal{A} & \xrightarrow{F} & \mathcal{B} \\
 & \downarrow \alpha & \\
 & \xrightarrow{G} & 
 \end{array}
 \rightsquigarrow
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{Q}\mathcal{A} & \xrightarrow{\mathbb{Q}F} & \widehat{\mathcal{Q}}(\mathcal{B}) \\
 & \downarrow \alpha & \\
 & \xrightarrow{\mathbb{Q}G} & 
 \end{array}$$

- By taking a restricted  $\mathbb{Q}$  on the codomain, taking only a particular class  $\Omega$  of 2-cells of  $\mathcal{B}$  for the local horizontal arrows, we obtain  $\Omega$ -transformations.
- By taking a restricted  $\mathbb{Q}$  on the domain, we get  $\Sigma$ -transformations.

## Doubly Lax Colimits

- A **doubly lax cocone** for a vertical double functor  $F : \mathbb{D} \dashrightarrow \mathbf{DbICat}$  with vertex  $\mathbb{E} \in \mathbf{DbICat}$  is a doubly lax transformation  $F \xRightarrow{\theta} \Delta\mathbb{E}$ .
- There is a double category,

$$\mathbb{LC}(F, \mathbb{E}) := \mathbb{H}om_{dl}(F, \Delta\mathbb{E})$$

of doubly lax cocones with vertex  $\mathbb{E}$ .

- A doubly lax cocone  $F \xRightarrow{\lambda} \Delta\mathbb{L}$  is the **doubly lax colimit** of  $F$  if, for every  $\mathbb{E} \in \mathbf{DbICat}$ ,

$$\mathbf{DbICat}(\mathbb{L}, \mathbb{E}) \xrightarrow{\lambda^*} \mathbb{LC}(F, \mathbb{E})$$

is an isomorphism of double categories.

- The doubly lax colimit can be obtained by a **double Grothendieck construction**, denoted by  $\mathbb{G}r F = \int_{\mathbb{D}} F$ .

# The Double Grothendieck Construction: Objects and Arrows

Let  $\mathbb{D} \xrightarrow{F} \mathbf{DbICat}$  be a vertical double functor. The **double category of elements**,  $\mathbb{G}r F = \int_{\mathbb{D}} F$ , is defined by:

- **Objects:**  $(C, x)$  with  $C$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $x$  in  $FC$ ,
- **Vertical arrows:**

$$(C, x) \xrightarrow{\bullet} (C', x'),$$

where  $C \xrightarrow{u} C'$  in  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $Fux \xrightarrow{\rho} x'$  in  $FC'$ .

- **Horizontal arrows:**

$$(C, x) \xrightarrow{\longrightarrow} (D, y),$$

where  $C \xrightarrow{f} D$  in  $\mathbb{D}$ , and  $Ffx \xrightarrow{\varphi} y$  in  $FD$ .

# The Double Grothendieck Construction: Double Cells

- Double cells:  $(C, x) \xrightarrow{(f, \varphi)} (D, y)$   
 $(u, \rho) \bullet \quad (\alpha, \Phi) \quad \bullet (v, \lambda)$ , where  $\alpha: (u \xrightarrow{f'} v)$  is a double  
 $(C', x') \xrightarrow{(f', \varphi')} (D', y')$   
 cell in  $\mathbb{D}$  and  $\Phi$  is a double cell in  $FD'$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 FvFfx & \xrightarrow{Fv\varphi} & Fvy \\
 (F\alpha)_x \bullet \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 Ff'Fux & \Phi & \bullet \lambda \\
 Ff'\rho \bullet \downarrow & & \downarrow \\
 Ff'x' & \xrightarrow{\varphi'} & y'
 \end{array}$$

# Factorization

- Any horizontal arrow  $(f, \varphi)$  can be factored as  $(A, x) \xrightarrow{(f, 1_{Ffx})} (B, Ffx) \xrightarrow{(1_B, \varphi)} (B, y)$ .
- Any vertical arrow  $(u, \rho)$  can be factored as  $(A, x) \xrightarrow{(u, 1_{Fux}^\bullet)} (A', Fux) \xrightarrow{(1_{A'}^\bullet, \rho)} (A', x')$ .
- And any double cell  $(\alpha, \Phi)$  can be factored as

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 (A, x) & \xrightarrow{(f, 1_{Ffx})} & (B, Ffx) & \xrightarrow{(1_B, \varphi)} & (B, y) \\
 \downarrow (u, 1_{Fux}^\bullet) & & \downarrow (v, 1_{F(vf)x}^\bullet) & & \downarrow (v, 1_{Fvy}^\bullet) \\
 & & (\alpha, 1_{(F\alpha)_x}) & \xrightarrow{(1_{B'}, Fv\varphi)} & (B', Fvy) \\
 & & \downarrow (1_{B'}^\bullet, (F\alpha)_x) & & \downarrow (1_{B'}^\bullet, \lambda) \\
 (A', Fux) & \xrightarrow{(f', 1_{F(f'u)_x})} & (B', Ff'Fux) & \xrightarrow{(1_{B'}^\square, \Phi)} & \\
 \downarrow (1_{A'}^\bullet, \rho) & & \downarrow (1_{f'}^\bullet, 1_{Ff'\rho}) & & \downarrow (1_{B'}^\bullet, \lambda) \\
 (A', x') & \xrightarrow{(f', 1_{Ff'x'})} & (B', Ff'x') & \xrightarrow{(1_{B'}^\bullet, \varphi')} & (B', y')
 \end{array}$$

# The Main Theorem

- There is a doubly lax cocone  $F \xrightarrow{\lambda} \Delta \text{Gr } F$  with the required universal property:

$$\lambda^*: \mathbf{DbICat} \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}} F, \mathbb{E} \right) \rightarrow \mathbb{L}C \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}} F, \mathbb{E} \right)$$

is an iso of double categories for all  $\mathbb{E} \in \mathbf{DbICat}$ .

- Furthermore,  $\int_{\mathbb{D}}$  extends to a functor of  $\mathbf{DbICat}$ -categories

$$\text{Hom}_v(\mathbb{D}, \mathbf{DbICat})_{d\ell} \rightarrow \mathbf{DbICat}/\mathbb{D}$$

which is locally an isomorphism of double categories

$$\mathbb{H}om_{d\ell}(F, G) \cong (\mathbf{DbICat}/\mathbb{D}) \left( \int_{\mathbb{D}} F \rightarrow \mathbb{D}, \int_{\mathbb{D}} G \rightarrow \mathbb{D} \right).$$



## Application I: Tricolimits in **2-Cat**

- For a 2-category  $\mathcal{A}$  and a 2-functor  $F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{2-Cat}$ , we construct a double index functor as follows. First take

$$\mathcal{A} \xrightarrow{F} \mathbf{2-Cat} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{V}} \mathbf{DbICat}_v$$

and then apply  $\mathbb{V}$  to obtain:

$$\mathbb{V}(\mathcal{A}) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{V}(\mathbb{V} \circ F)} \mathbb{V}(\mathbf{DbICat}_v) \xrightarrow{\text{incl}} \mathbb{Q}(\mathbf{DbICat}_v).$$

- Applying the double Grothendieck construction gives us

$$\int_{\mathbb{V}\mathcal{A}} \mathbb{V}(\mathbb{V} \circ F) = \mathbb{V} \int_{\mathcal{A}} F$$

(as defined by Bakovic and Buckley)

- The functor  $\mathbb{V}: \mathbf{2-Cat} \rightarrow \mathbf{DbICat}_v$  induces an isomorphism of 3-categories between  $\mathbf{2-Cat}$  and its image in  $\mathbf{DbICat}_v$ .
- It follows that  $\int_{\mathcal{A}} F$  is the **lax tricolimit** of  $F$  in  $\mathbf{2-Cat}$ .

## Application II: Categories of Elements

- For a functor  $F: A \rightarrow \mathbf{Set}$ ,

$$\operatorname{colim} F = \pi_0 \mathbf{El}(dF),$$

where

$$A \xrightarrow{F} \mathbf{Set} \xrightarrow{d} \mathbf{Cat}$$

and  $\mathbf{El}(dF)$  has objects  $(A, x)$  with  $x \in F(A)$  and arrows  $f: (A, x) \rightarrow (A', x')$  where  $f: A \rightarrow A'$  with  $F(f)(x) = x'$ .

- This follows from the universal property of the elements construction as lax colimit by applying it to cones with discrete categories as vertex and using the adjunction  $\pi_0 \dashv d$ .

- We can apply the same paradigm to a functor  $F: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$  and use

$$\mathbf{Cat} \begin{array}{c} \xleftarrow{\pi_0} \\ \perp \\ \xrightarrow{\mathbb{V}} \end{array} \mathbf{DbICat}_V$$

where the  $\pi_0$  is taken with respect to horizontal arrows and cells to obtain a quotient of the vertical category of a double category.

- It follows from our Main Theorem that  $\pi_0 \int_{\mathbb{H}\mathcal{A}} \mathbb{Q}(\mathbb{V} \circ F)$  gives the **strict 2-categorical colimit** of  $F$ .
- $\int_{\mathbb{H}\mathcal{A}} \mathbb{Q}(\mathbb{V} \circ F)$  is actually  $\mathbb{E}\ell(F)$ , introduced by Paré (1989): its double cells “ $(\alpha, \Phi)$ ” are in this case given by 2-cells  $\alpha: f \implies f'$  in  $\mathcal{A}$ :

$$\begin{array}{ccc} (C, x) & \xrightarrow{(f, id)} & (D, y) \\ (id, \rho) \bullet \downarrow & (\alpha, id) & \bullet \downarrow (id, \lambda) \\ (C, x') & \xrightarrow{(f', id)} & (D, y') \end{array} \qquad \begin{array}{ccc} Ff_x & \xrightarrow{id} & Ff_x \\ (F\alpha)_x \downarrow & id & \downarrow \lambda \\ Ff'_x & \xrightarrow{Ff'_\rho} & Ff'_x \end{array} .$$

# Application III: The double categorical wreath product

For a functor  $F: \mathcal{A}^{\text{op}} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cat}$ , we consider:

$$\mathcal{A}^{\text{op}} \xrightarrow{F} \mathbf{Cat} \xrightarrow{\mathbb{Q}} \mathbf{DbICat}_v \xrightarrow{(\ )^\wedge} \mathbf{DbICat}_v$$

where  $\mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{E}^\wedge$  is the horizontal flip functor, and apply  $\mathbb{Q}$  to all of this:

$$\int_{\mathbb{Q}\mathcal{A}} \mathbb{Q}((\mathbb{Q} \circ F)^\wedge) = F \wr F^{\text{op}}$$

as introduced by Myers (2020). In this case our  $\Phi$  in  $(\alpha, \Phi)$  matches the basic diagram in his definition

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 FvFfx & \xrightarrow{Fv\varphi} & Fvy \\
 \downarrow (F\alpha)_x & & \downarrow \\
 Ff'Fux & \xrightarrow{\Phi} & \bullet \lambda \\
 \downarrow Ff'\rho & & \downarrow \\
 Ff'x' & \xrightarrow{\varphi'} & y'
 \end{array} & \iff & 
 \begin{array}{ccc}
 f_1^* E_3 & \xrightarrow{f_1^\sharp} & E_1 \\
 \downarrow f_1^* g_{2\sharp} & & \downarrow g_{1\sharp} \\
 f_1^* g_2^* E_4 & & \\
 \parallel & & \\
 g_1^* f_2^* E_4 & \xrightarrow{g_1^* f_2^\sharp} & g_1^* E_2
 \end{array}
 \end{array}$$

## $\text{Gr } F \rightarrow \mathbb{D}$ is also a fibration

A double functor  $P: \mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$  is an **hv-split coop-fibration** if the following four induced functors are opfibrations of categories that admit cleavages that are suitably **compatible** and **hv-split**.

- 1v. *Opfibration on vertical arrows*:  $P: \mathcal{V}\mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{V}\mathbb{B}$  between the categories of objects and vertical arrows,
- 1h. *Opfibration on horizontal arrows*:  $P: \mathcal{H}\mathbb{E} \rightarrow \mathcal{H}\mathbb{B}$  between the categories of objects and horizontal arrows,
- 2h. *Opfibration on double cells with horizontal composition*:  $P: \mathbb{E}_1^h \rightarrow \mathbb{B}_1^h$  between the categories which have vertical arrows as objects and double cells as arrows with horizontal composition, and, let  $(\mathbb{E}_1^v)_f$  be the *fiber category* which has horizontal arrows  $C \rightarrow D$  over  $PC \xrightarrow{1_{PC}} PC$  as objects and double cells  $\alpha: (u \xrightarrow{g'} v)$  over  $1_{Pu}: (Pu \xrightarrow{1} Pu)$  as arrows, composed vertically,
- 2v.1 *Opfibration on the 2h-fibers with vertical composition*:  $P_f: (\mathbb{E}_1^v)_f \rightarrow \mathcal{V}\mathbb{B}$ ; where  $P_f$  maps  $C \rightarrow D$  as above to  $PC$  and  $\alpha$  as above to  $Pu$ .

# The connection with 2-fibrations

## Proposition (Bayeh, P., Szyld)

*Let  $P: \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$  be a 2-functor between 2-categories. Then  $P$  is a split-2-coop-fibration as in (Buckley, 2014) if and only if  $\forall P: \forall \mathcal{B} \rightarrow \forall \mathcal{E}$  is an hv-split coop-fibration.*

# The Correspondence

Theorem (Bayeh, P., Szyld)

The double Grothendieck construction  $\mathbb{G}r$  is the value on objects of a **Dblcat**-functor

$$\mathcal{H}om_{\mathbf{v}}(\mathbb{D}, \mathbf{DblCat})_s \xrightarrow{\mathbb{G}r} \mathbf{coopFib}_{h\mathbf{v}-s}(\mathbb{D}),$$

which is an equivalence of **Dblcat**-categories; that is, it is essentially surjective and locally an isomorphism of double categories

$$\mathbb{H}om_s(F, G) \xrightarrow{\mathbb{G}r} (\mathbf{coopFib}_{h\mathbf{v}-s}(\mathbb{D}))(\mathbb{G}rF, \mathbb{G}rG) \quad (5.2)$$

# The double functor $S: \mathbb{Q}\mathbf{DbICat}_v \rightarrow \mathbb{S}\mathbf{pan}(\mathbf{Cat})$

There is a double functor connecting the two codomain options we have explored:

$$S: \mathbb{Q}\mathbf{DbICat}_v \rightarrow \mathbb{S}\mathbf{pan}(\mathbf{Cat})$$

defined as follows:

- *On objects:*  $\mathbb{X} \mapsto \mathbb{X}_0$ ;
- *On inner arrows:*  $(\mathbb{X} \xrightarrow{f} \mathbb{Y}) \mapsto (\mathbb{X}_0 \xrightarrow{f_0} \mathbb{Y}_0)$ ;
- *On outer arrows:*  $\mathbb{X} \xrightarrow{\chi} \mathbb{Y} \mapsto \begin{array}{ccc} \mathbb{X}_0 & & \mathbb{Y}_1 \\ \uparrow \pi_0 & & \\ \mathbb{X}_0 \times_{\mathbb{Y}_0} & & \mathbb{Y}_1 \\ \downarrow t\pi_1 & & \\ & & \mathbb{Y}_0 \end{array}$  where the pullback is taken

with respect to  $\chi_0$  and  $s$ .



# The double functor $S: \mathbb{Q}\text{DblCat}_v \rightarrow \text{Span}(\mathbf{Cat})$

- On double cells:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{X} & \xrightarrow{f} & \mathbb{X}' \\
 \chi \downarrow & \theta & \downarrow \chi' \\
 \mathbb{Y} & \xrightarrow{g} & \mathbb{Y}'
 \end{array} \mapsto$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 \mathbb{X}_0 & \xrightarrow{f_0} & \mathbb{X}'_0 \\
 \uparrow s\pi_0 & & \uparrow s\pi_0 \\
 \mathbb{X}_0 \times_{\mathbb{Y}_0} \mathbb{Y}_1 & \xrightarrow{(f_1\pi_0, g_1\pi_1 \otimes \theta t\pi_0)} & \mathbb{X}'_0 \times_{\mathbb{Y}'_0} \mathbb{Y}'_1 \\
 t\pi_1 \downarrow & & \downarrow t\pi_1 \\
 \mathbb{Y}_0 & \xrightarrow{g_0} & \mathbb{Y}'_0
 \end{array}$$

- $\mathbb{E}\mathbb{I}(S \circ F) = \mathbb{G}r(F)$  for any indexing functor  $F: \mathbb{D} \rightarrow \mathbb{Q}\text{DblCat}_v$ .
- Work in progress: can we view  $\mathbb{E}\mathbb{I}(F)$  as a double colimit for more general indexing functors into  $\text{Span}(\mathbf{Cat})$ ?