

# Universal constructions: limits and colimits

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Consider an arbitrary but fixed category  $\mathbf{K}$  for a while.

## Initial and terminal objects

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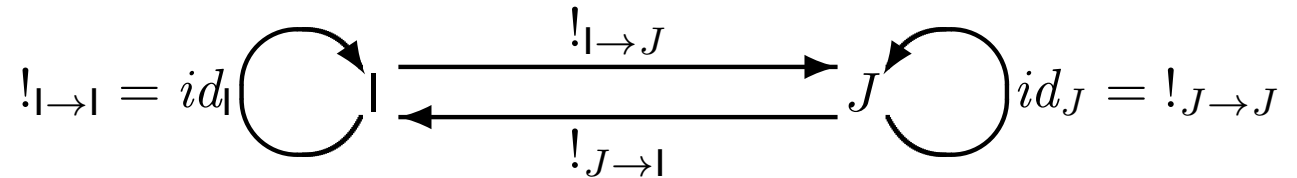
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Examples:

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 I' & \xleftarrow{i = !_{I \rightarrow I'}} & I & \xrightarrow{!_{I \rightarrow A}} & A \\
 & \xrightarrow{i^{-1}} & & & \uparrow \\
 & & & & !_{I' \rightarrow A} = i^{-1}; !_{I \rightarrow A}
 \end{array}$$

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### Exercises:

Dualise those for initial objects.

- Look for terminal objects in standard categories.
- Show that terminal objects are unique to within an isomorphism.
- Look for categories where there is an object which is both initial and terminal.

## Products

A *product* of two objects  $A, B \in |\mathbf{K}|$

$A$

$B$

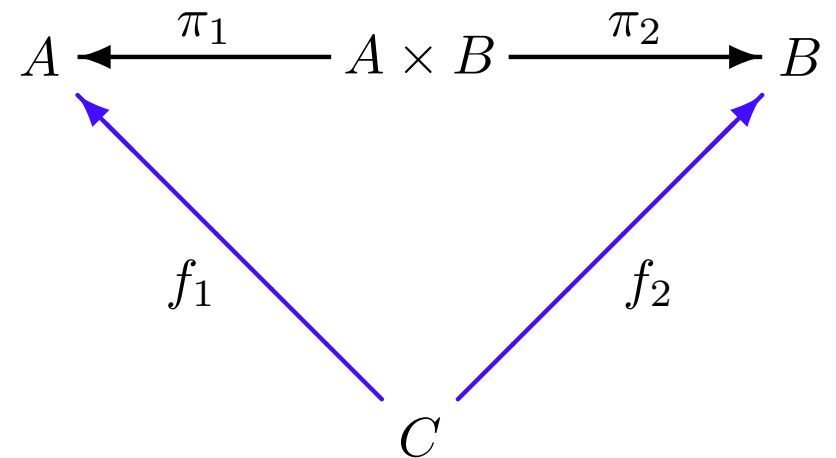
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A *product* of two objects  $A, B \in |\mathbf{K}|$  is any object  $A \times B \in |\mathbf{K}|$  with two morphisms (*product projections*)  $\pi_1: A \times B \rightarrow A$  and  $\pi_2: A \times B \rightarrow B$

$$A \xleftarrow{\pi_1} A \times B \xrightarrow{\pi_2} B$$

## Products

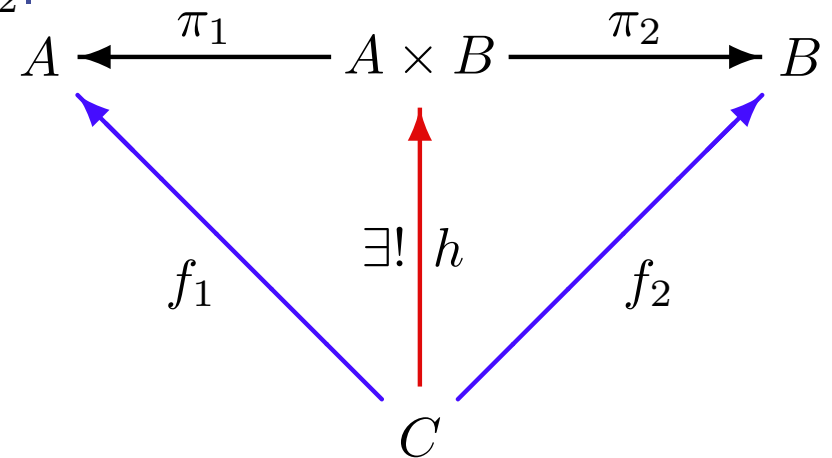
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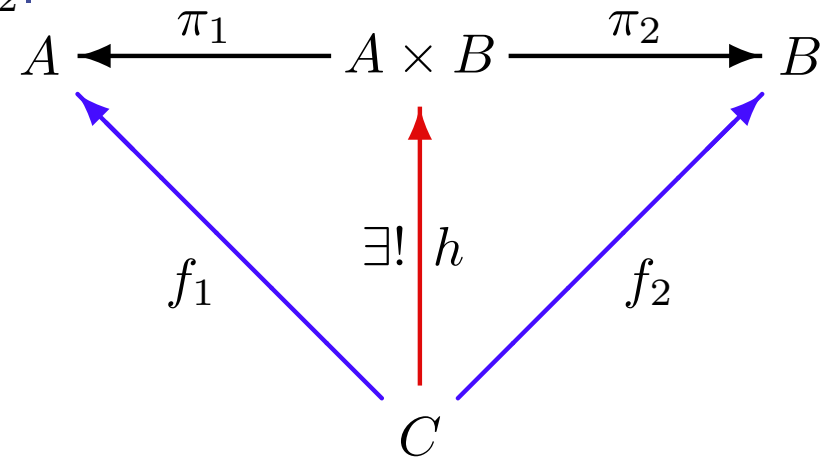
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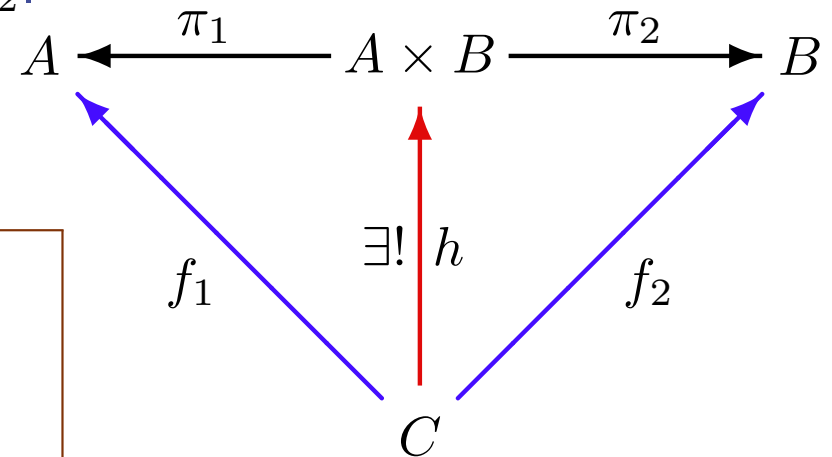


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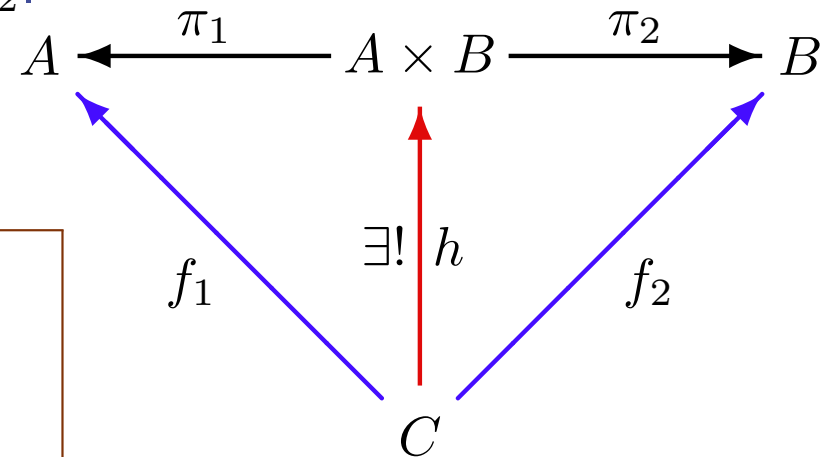


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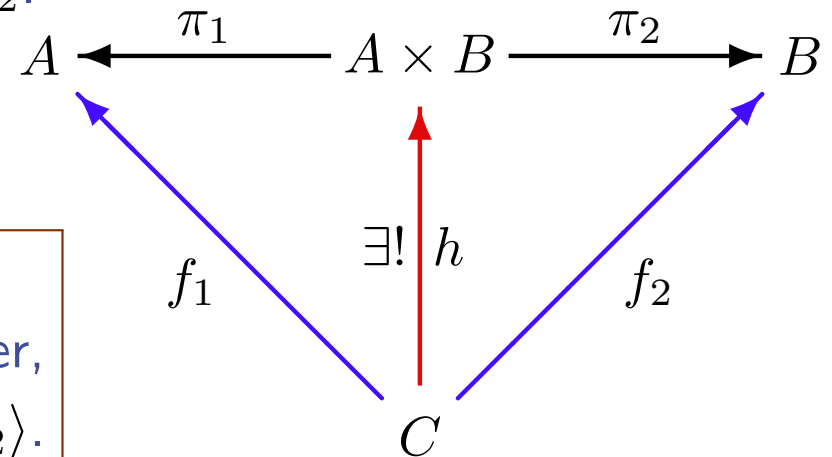


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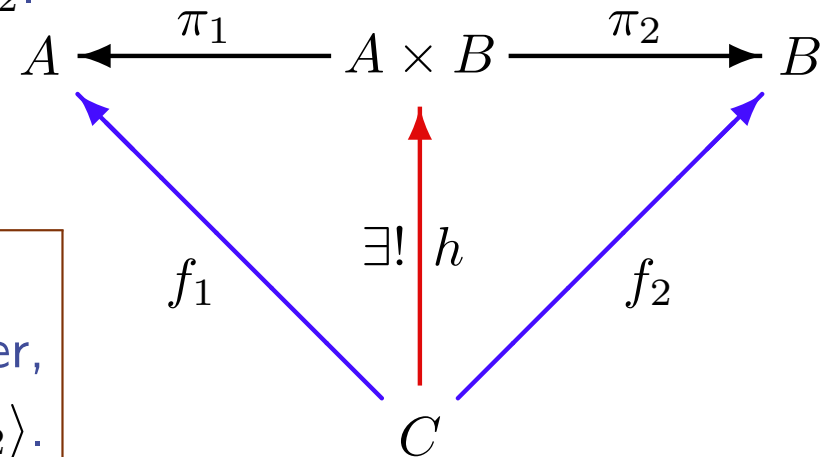
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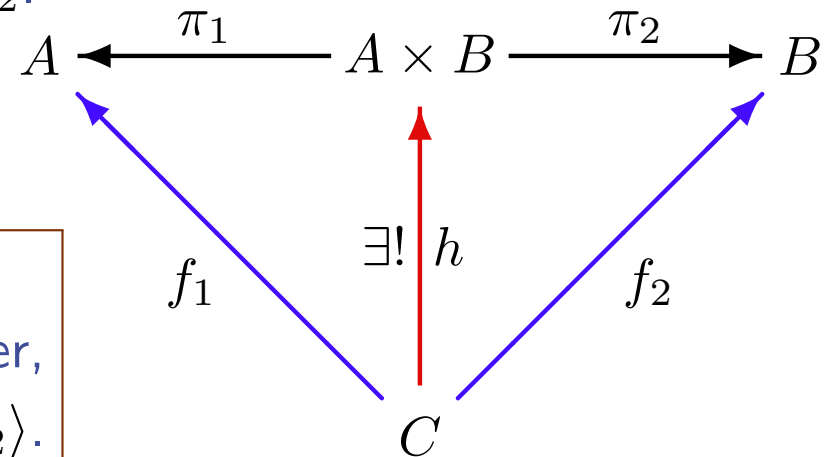
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**Theorem:** *Products are defined to within an isomorphism (which commutes with projections).*

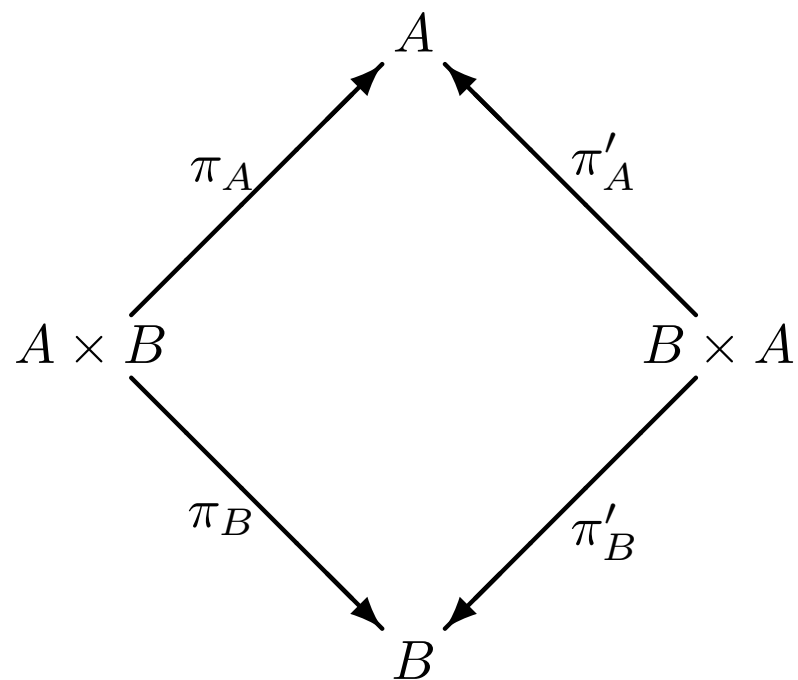
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- Product commutes (up to isomorphism):  $A \times B \cong B \times A$



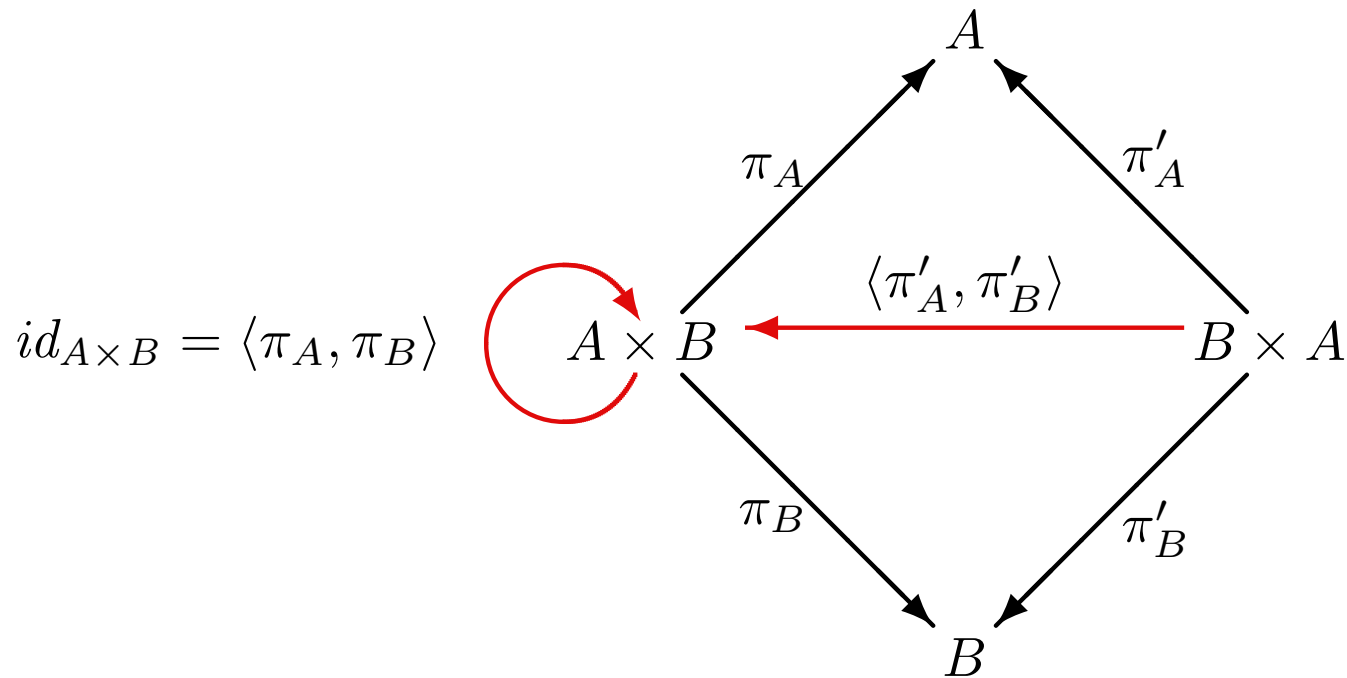
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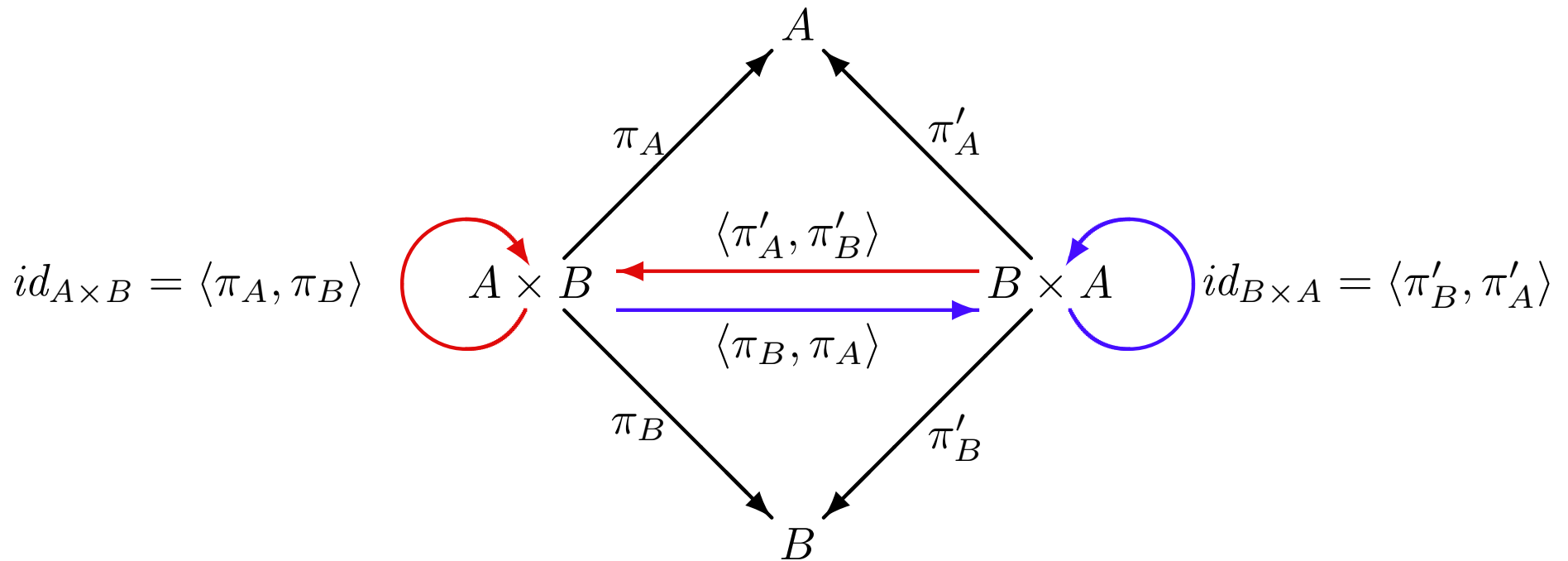
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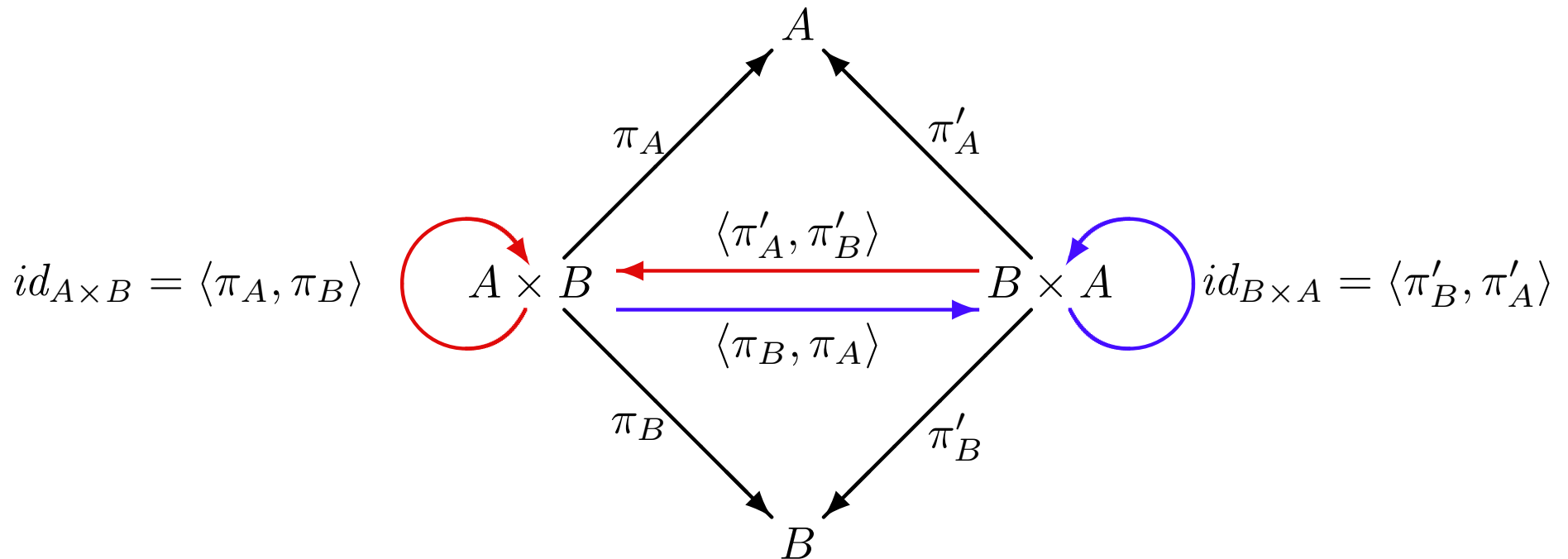
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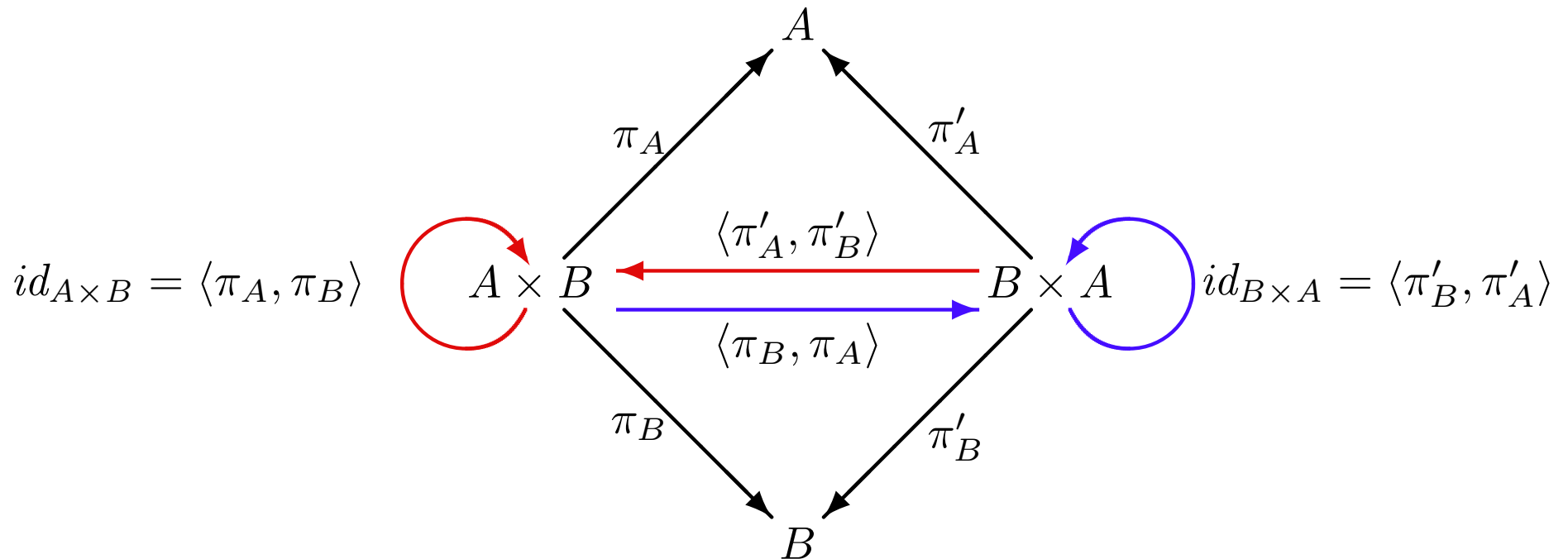
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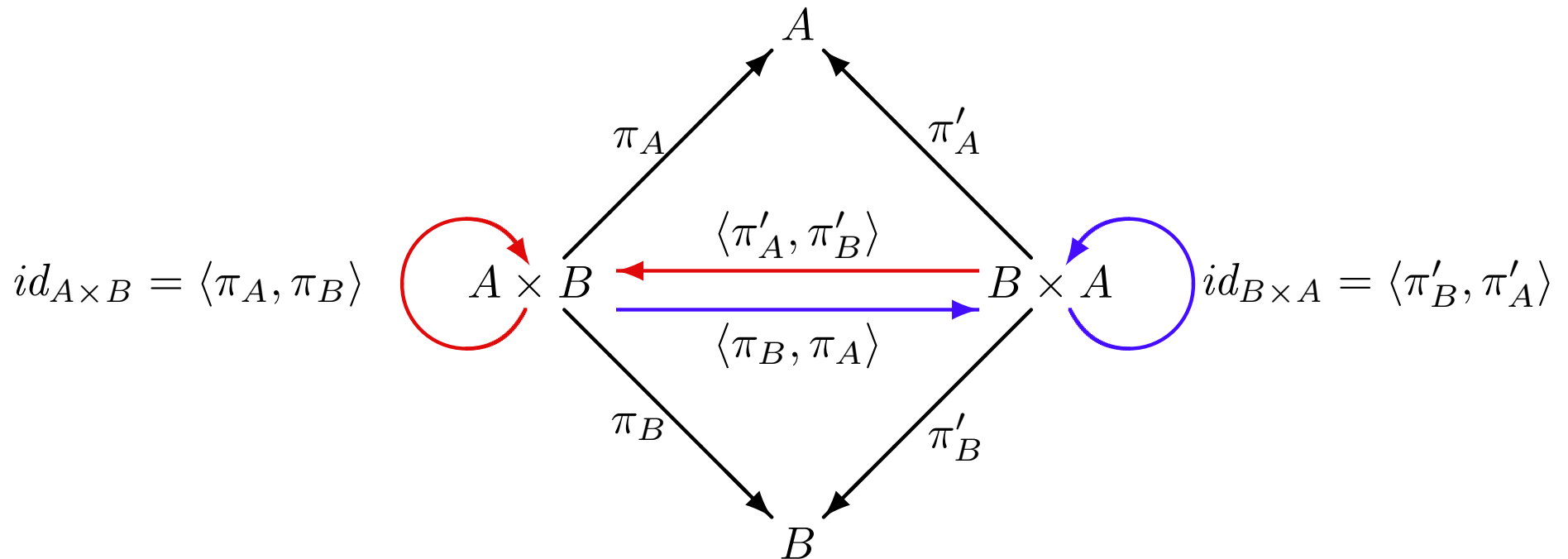
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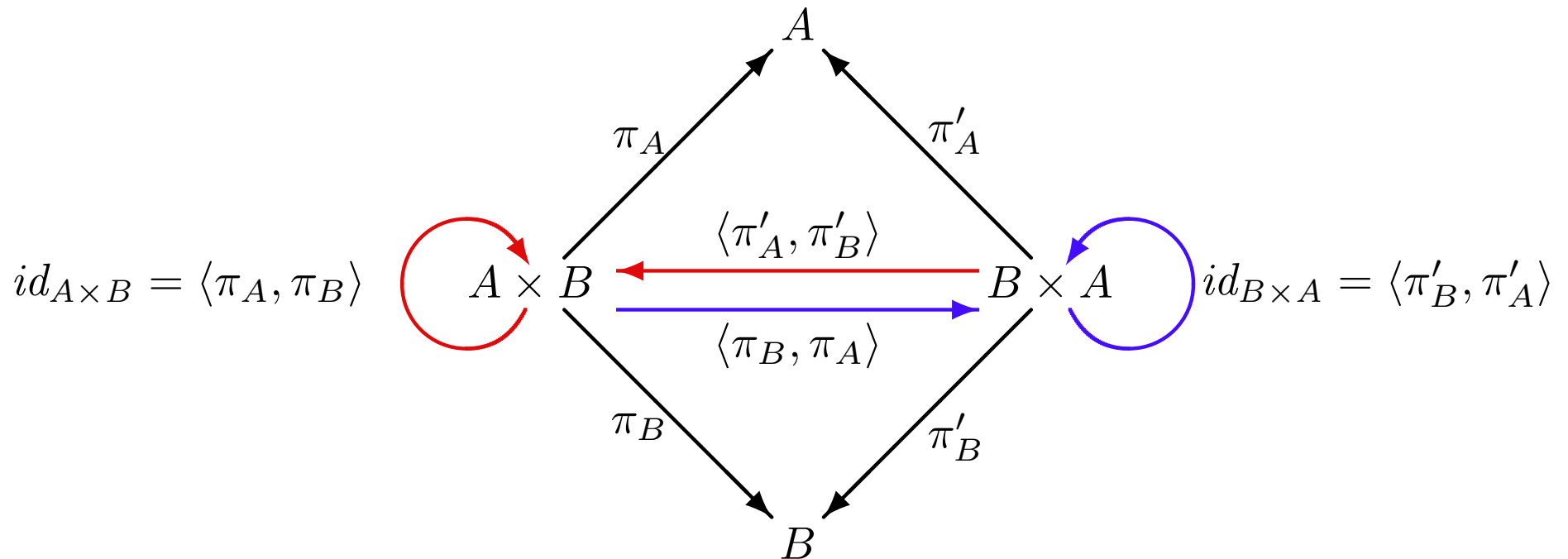
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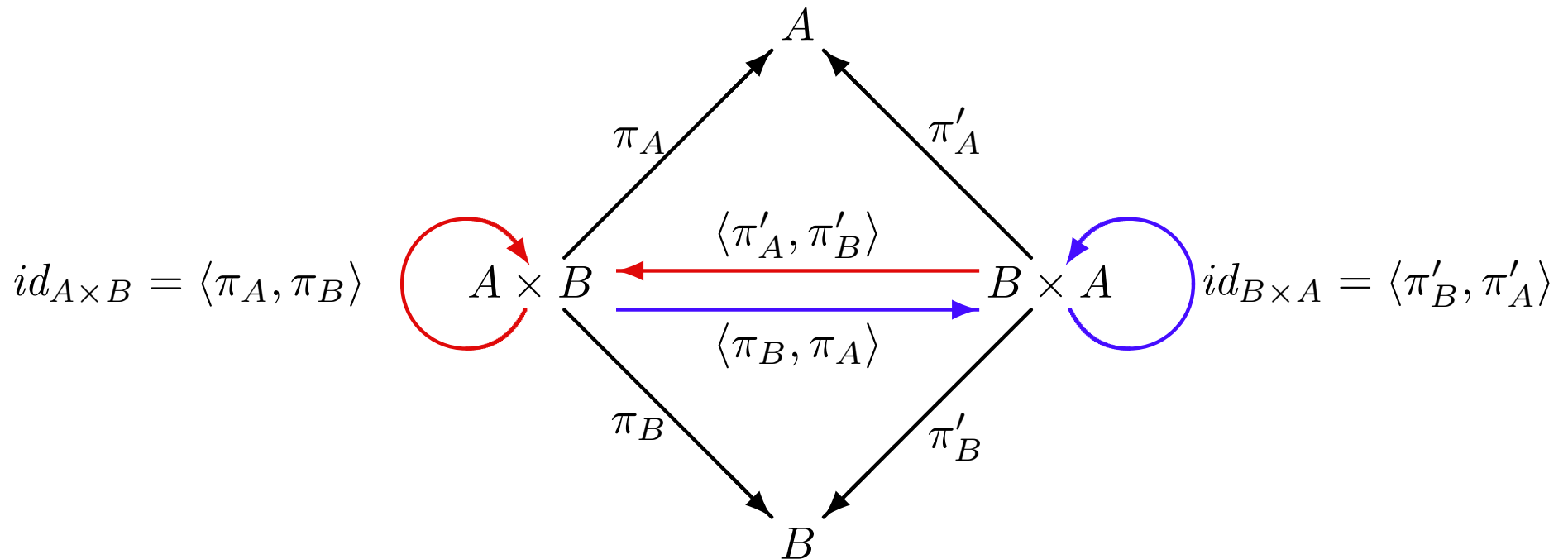
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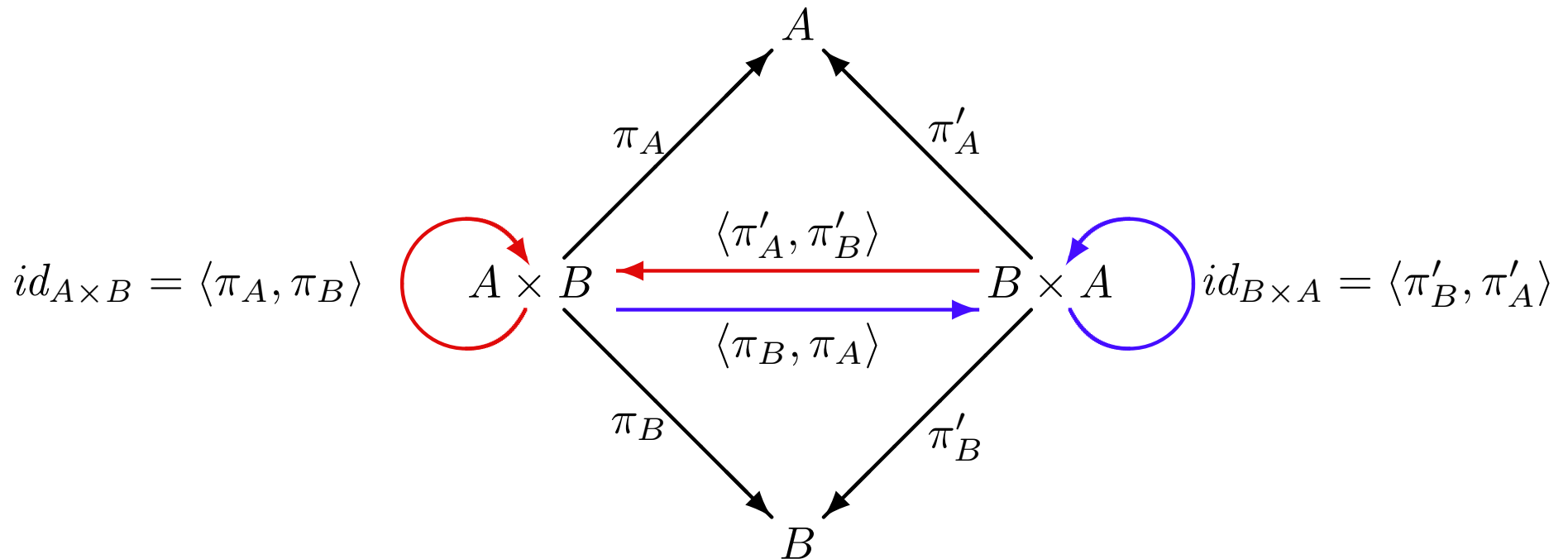


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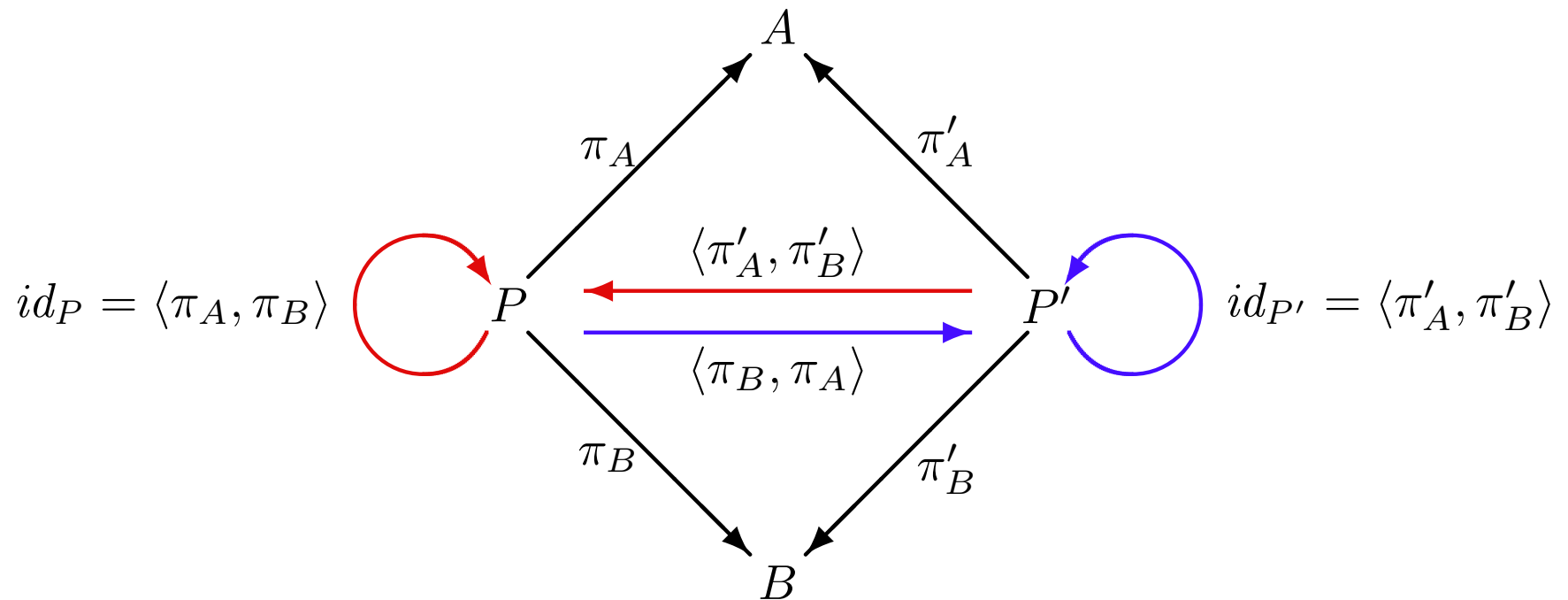
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- Thus:  $\langle \pi_B, \pi_A \rangle; \langle \pi'_A, \pi'_B \rangle = \langle \pi_A, \pi_B \rangle = id_{A \times B}$

## Exercises

- Product commutes (up to isomorphism):  $A \times B \cong B \times A$



- By much the same argument, any two products of  $A$  and  $B$  are isomorphic.

## Exercises

- Product commutes (up to isomorphism):  $A \times B \cong B \times A$
- Product is associative (up to isomorphism):  $(A \times B) \times C \cong A \times (B \times C)$

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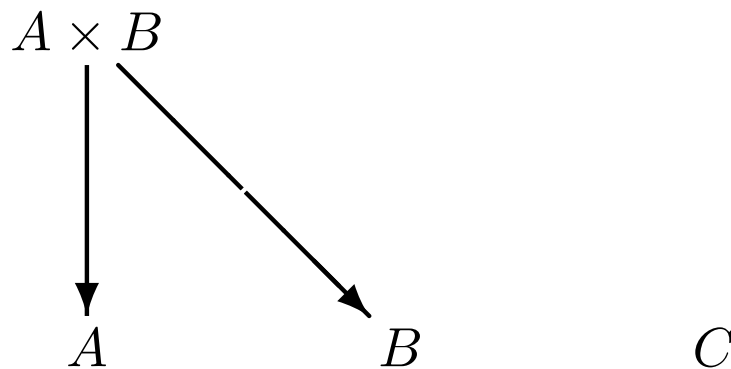
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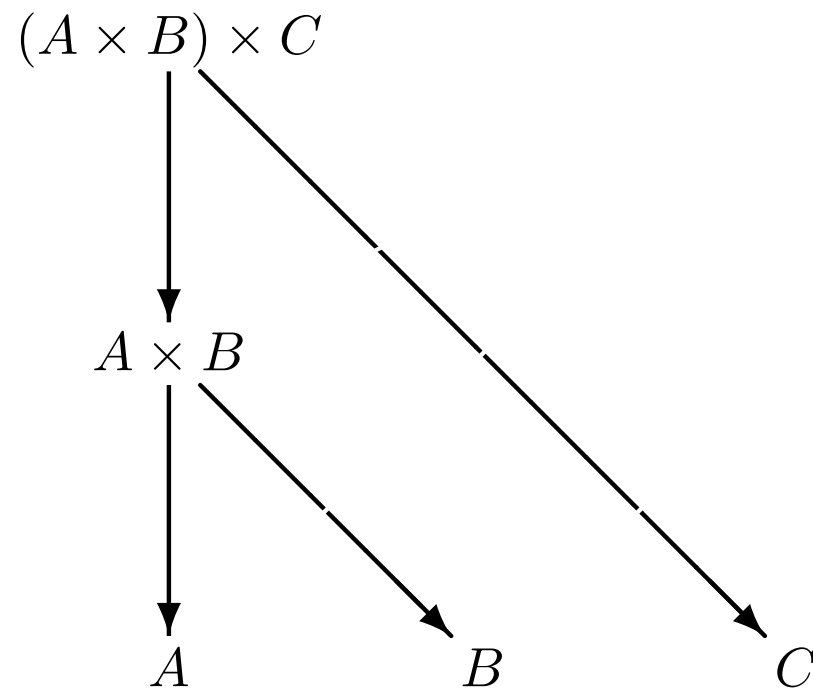
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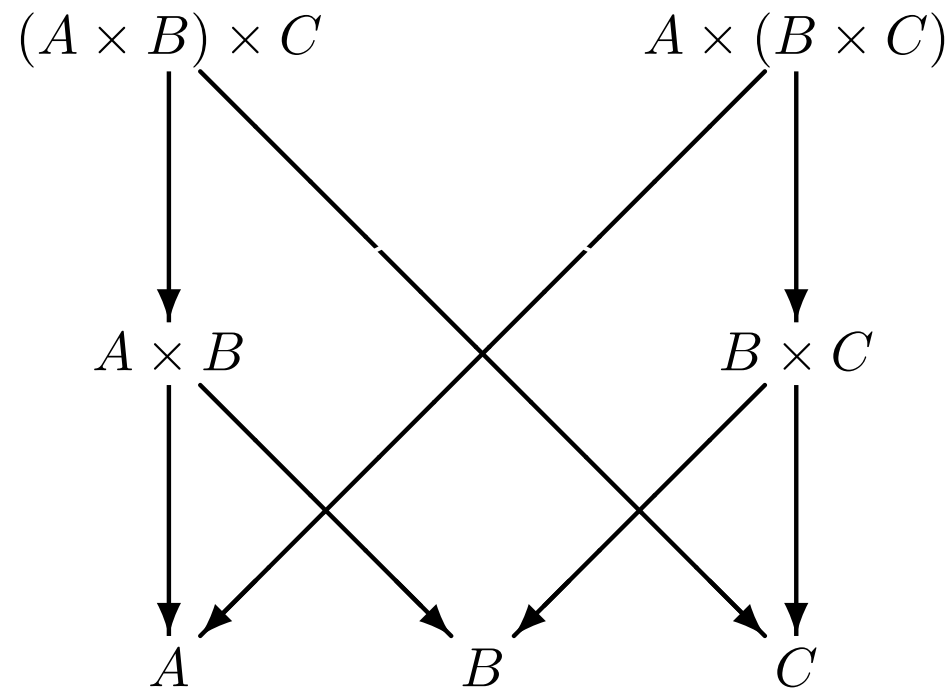
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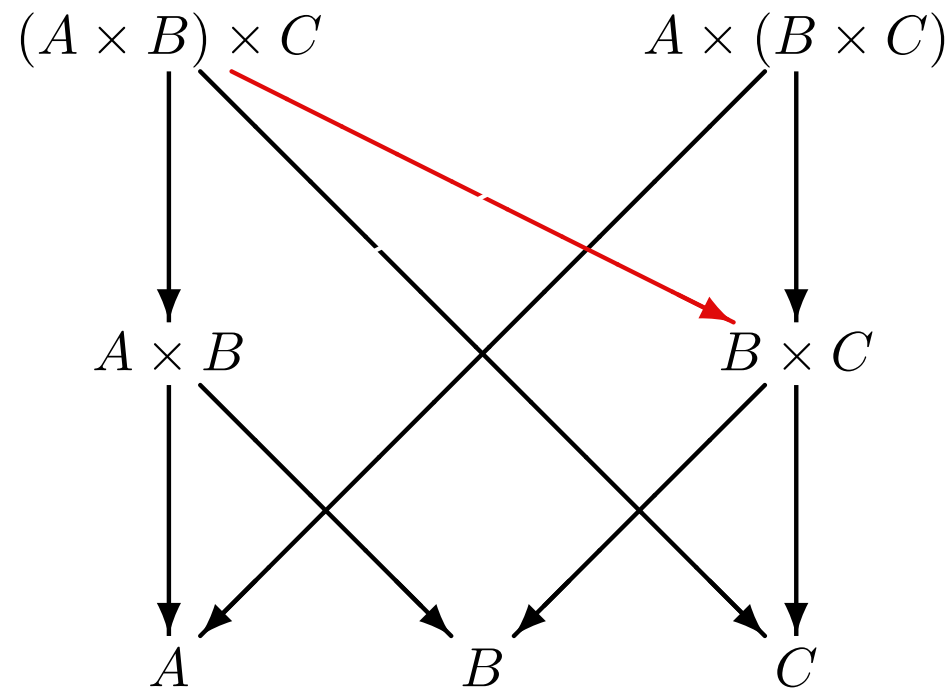
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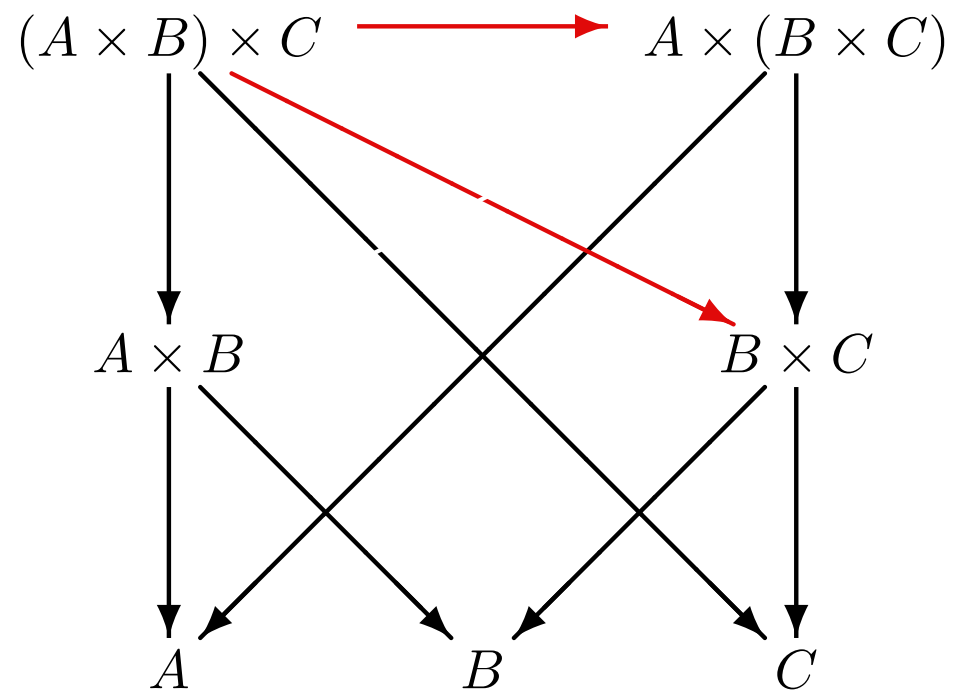
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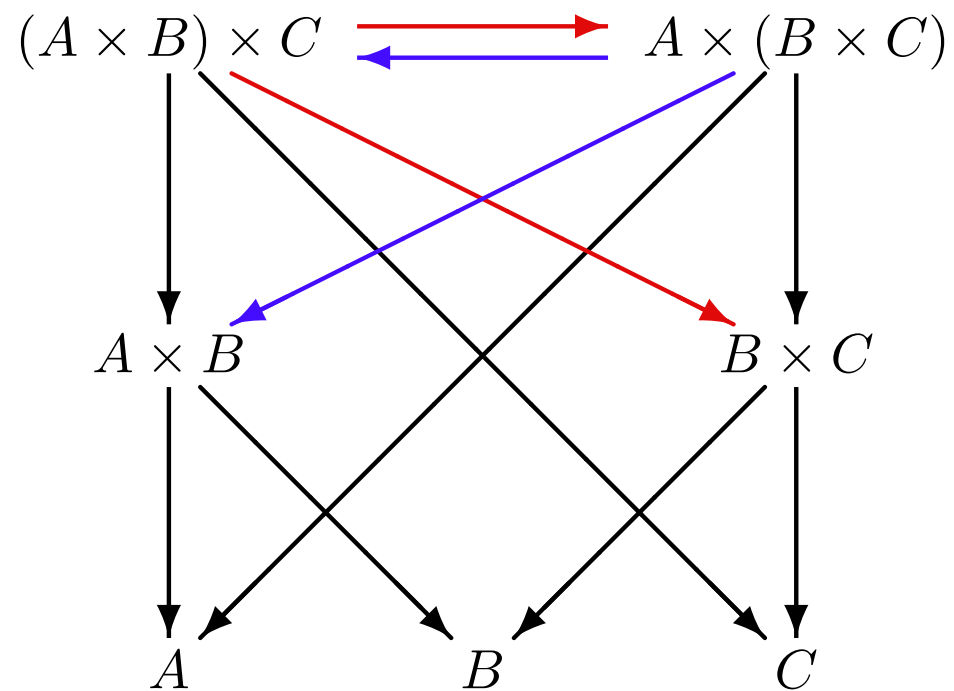
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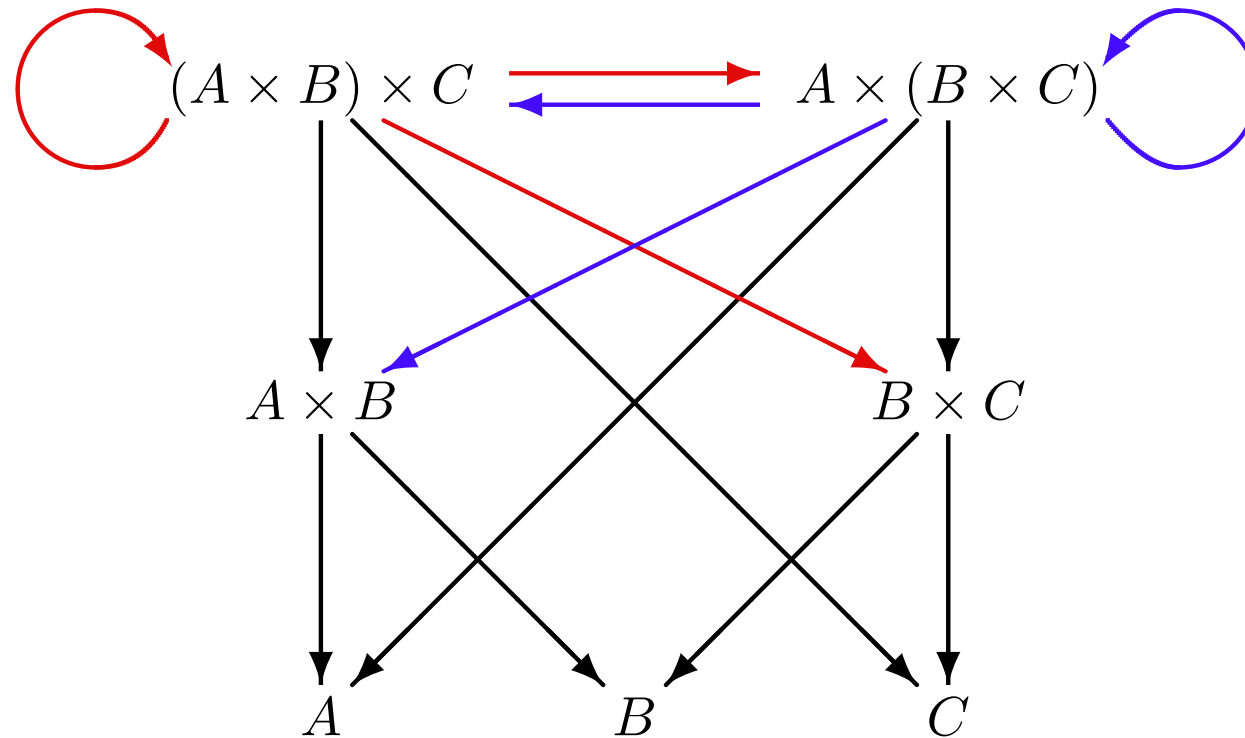
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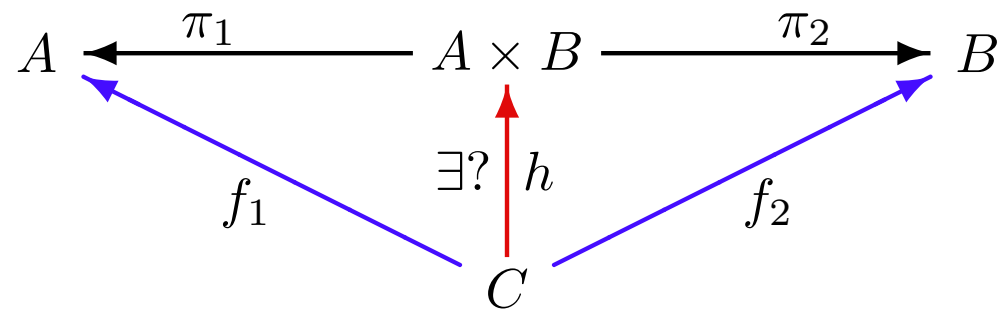
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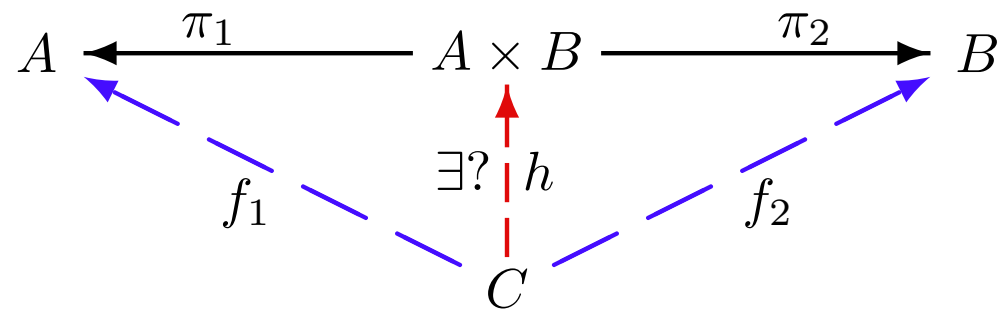
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$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 A & \xleftarrow{\pi_1} & A + (A \times B) + B & \xrightarrow{\pi_2} & B \\
 & \swarrow f_1 & \uparrow \exists! h & \searrow f_2 & \\
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 \end{array}$$

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  - **BTW:** What about products in  $\mathbf{Rel}^{op}$ ?

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coproduct = *co*-product

A *coproduct* of two objects  $A, B \in |\mathbf{K}|$

$A$

$B$

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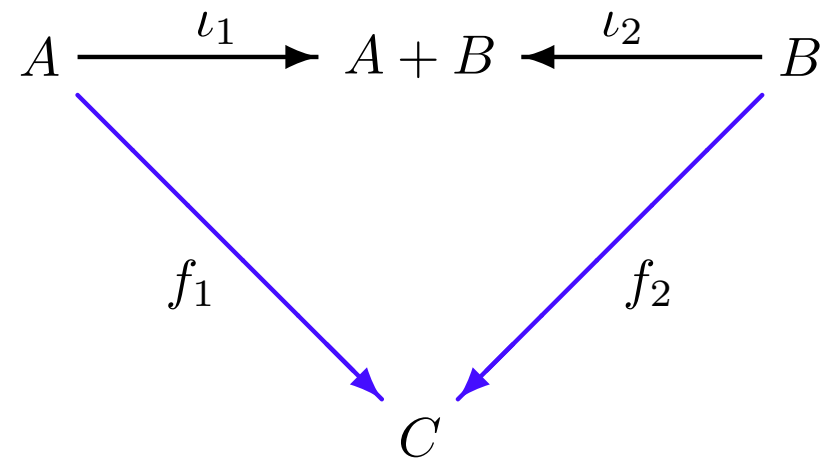
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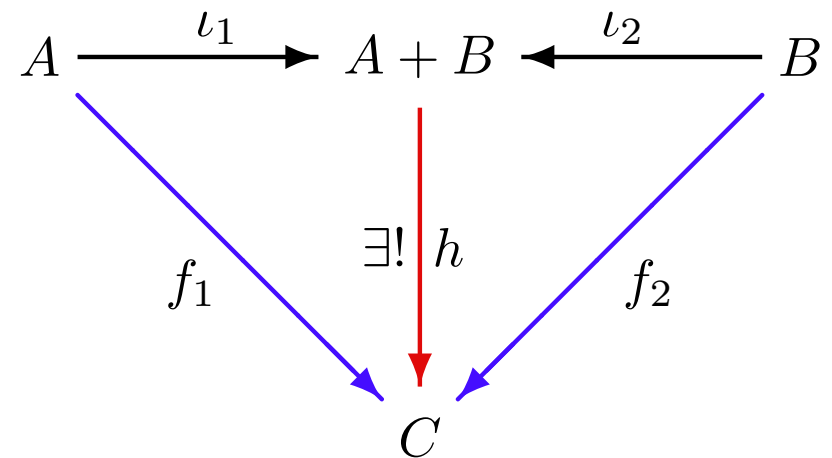
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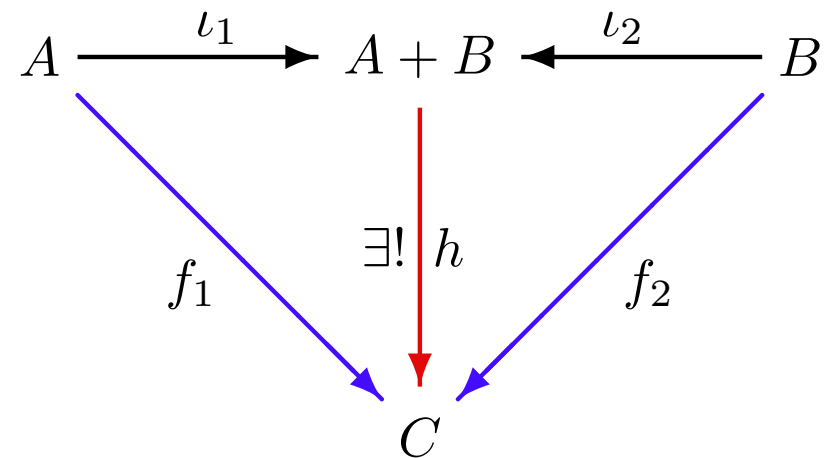


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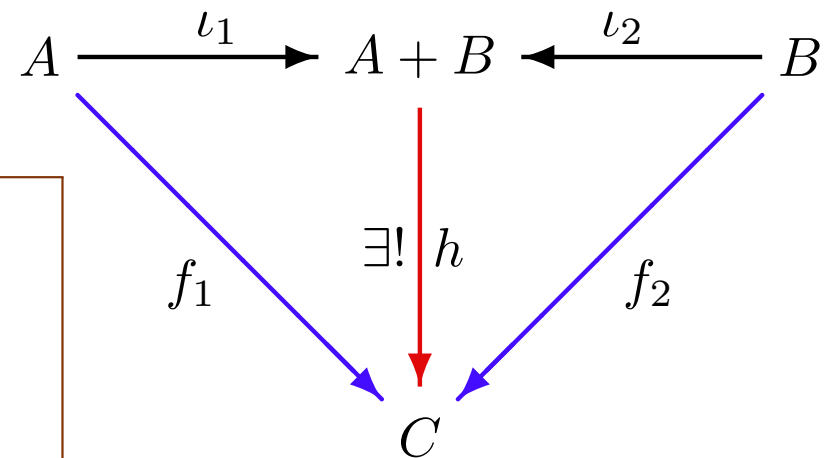
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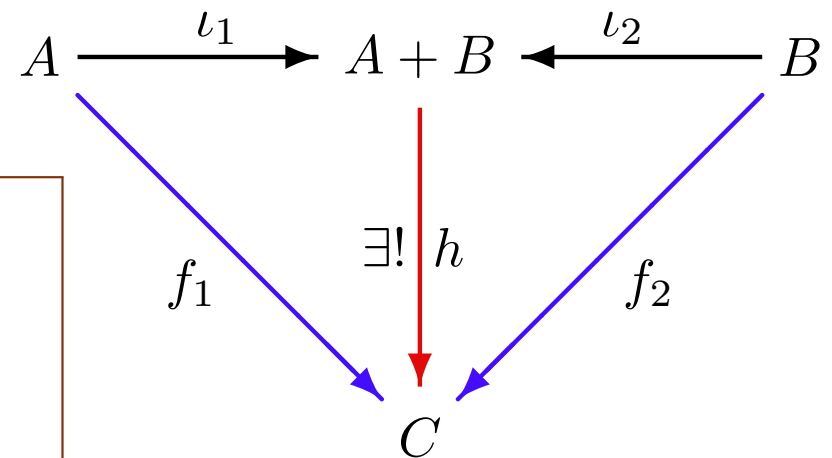
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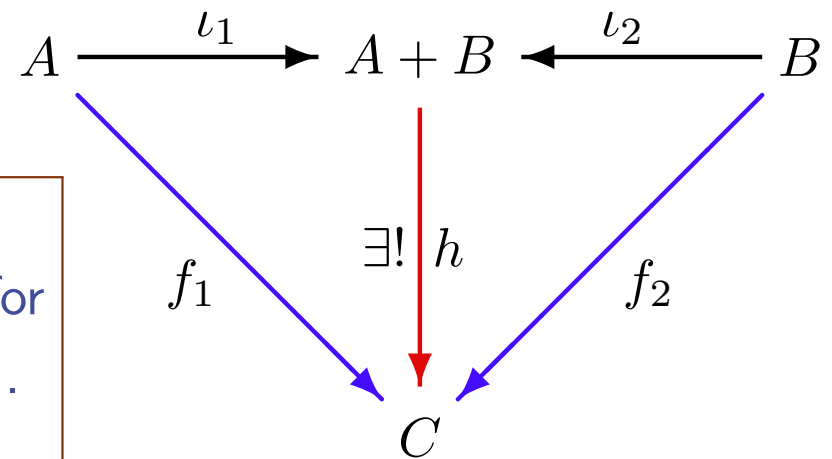
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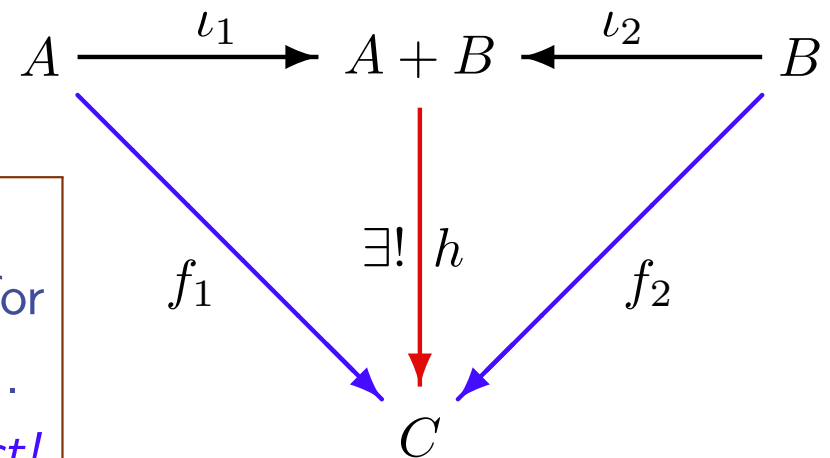
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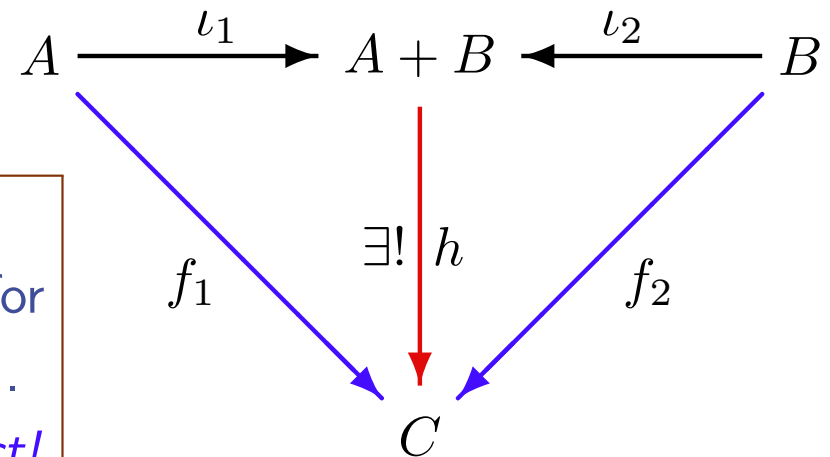
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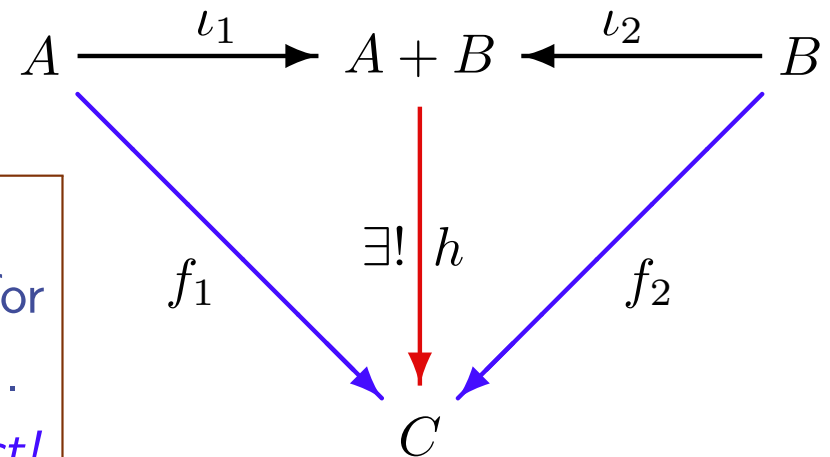
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*Exercises: Dualise!*

# Equalisers



## Equalisers

An *equaliser* of two “parallel” morphisms  $f, g: A \rightarrow B$

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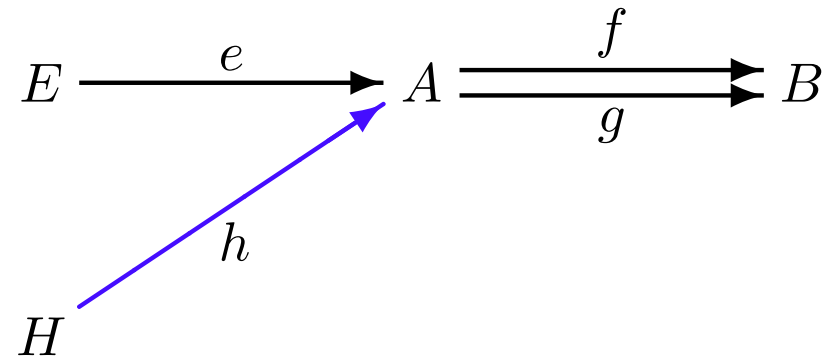
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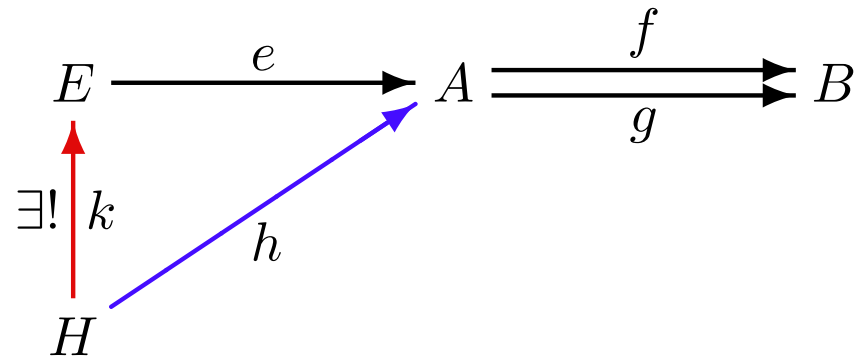
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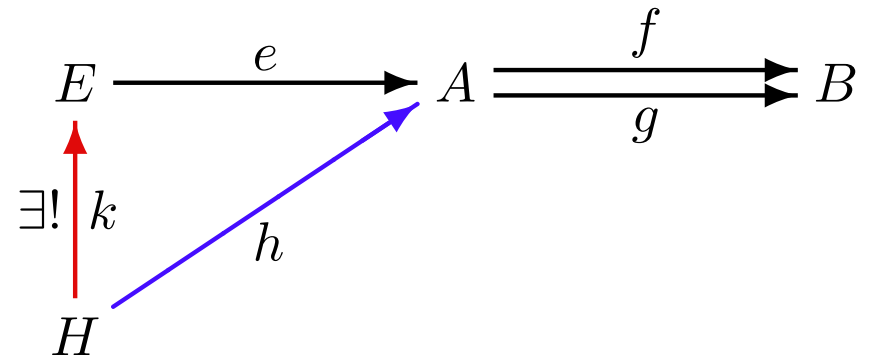
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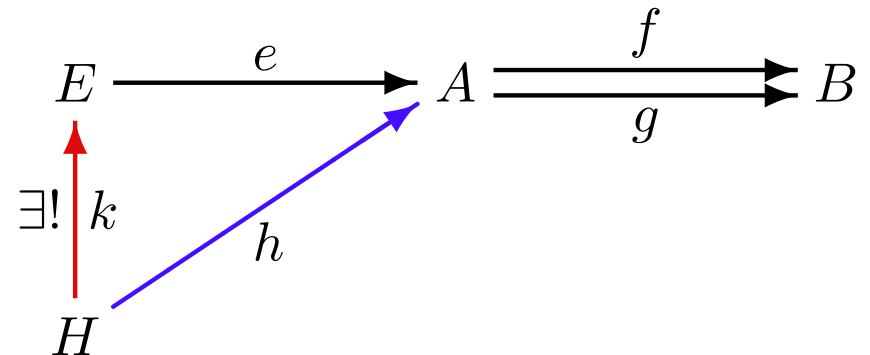


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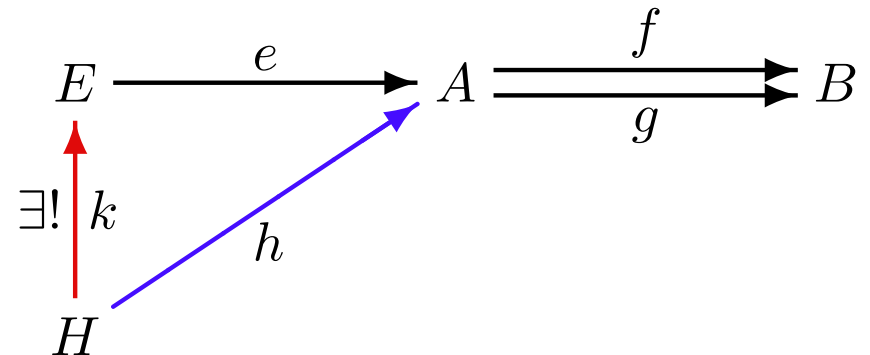


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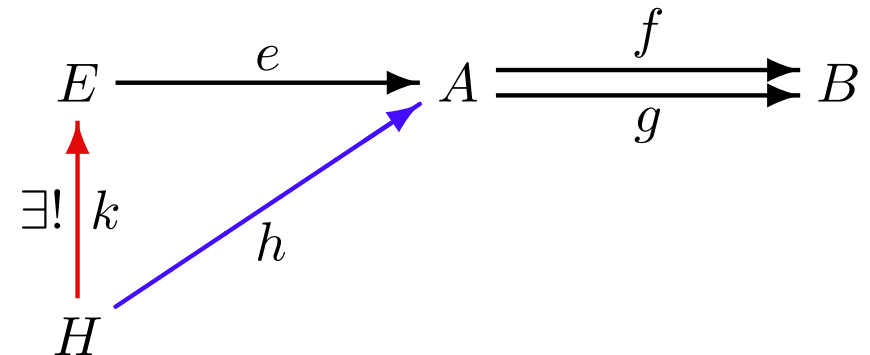
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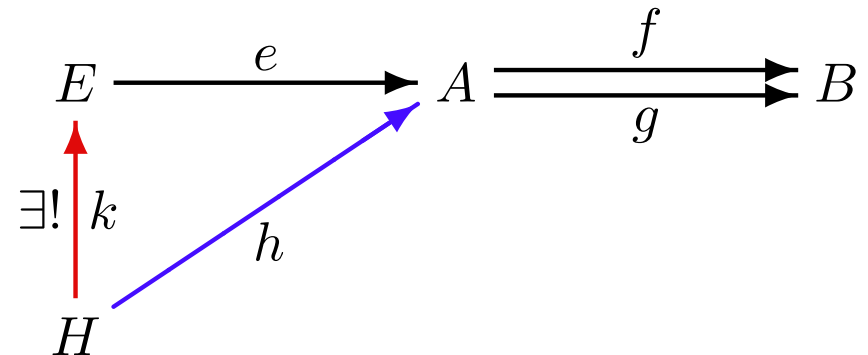
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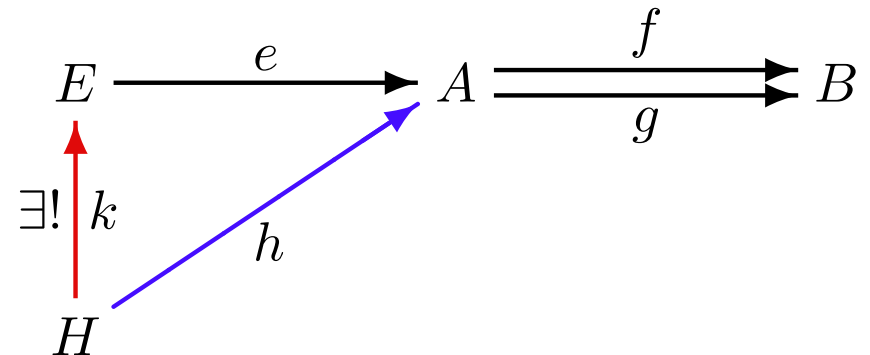
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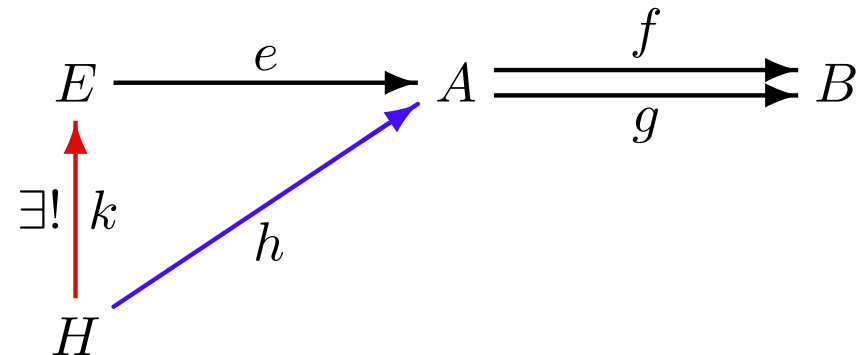
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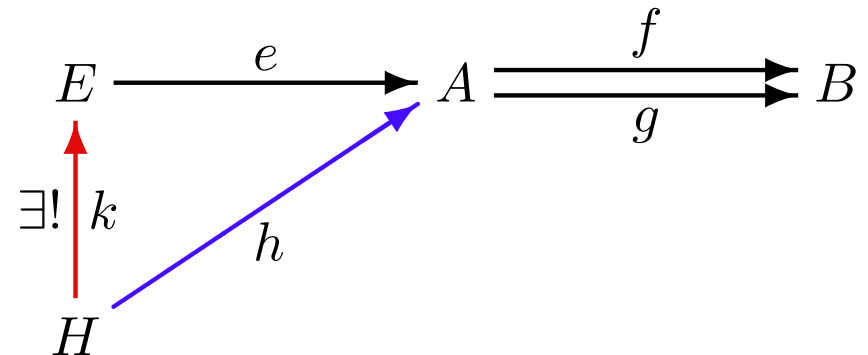
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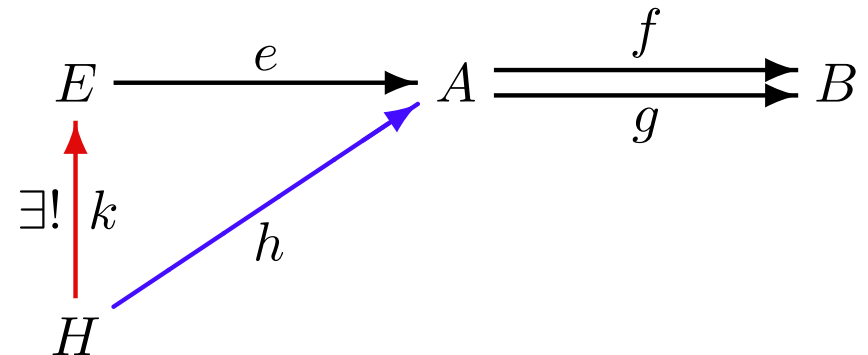
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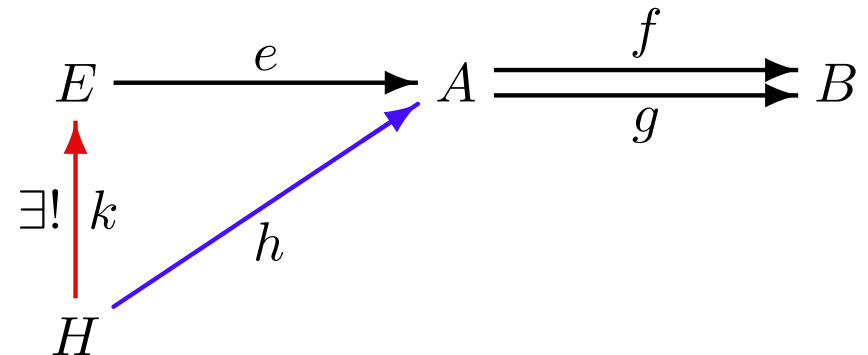
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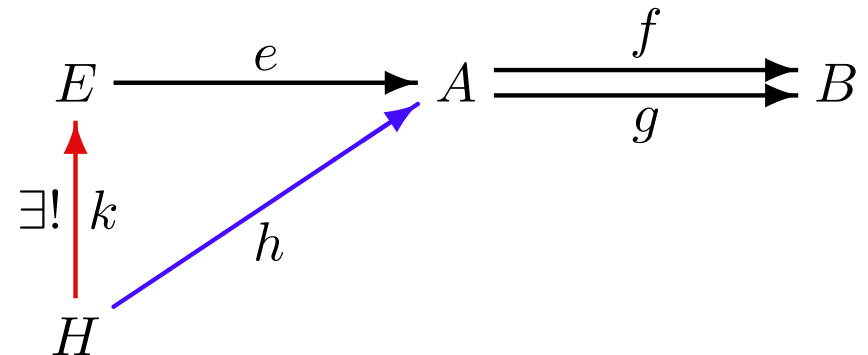
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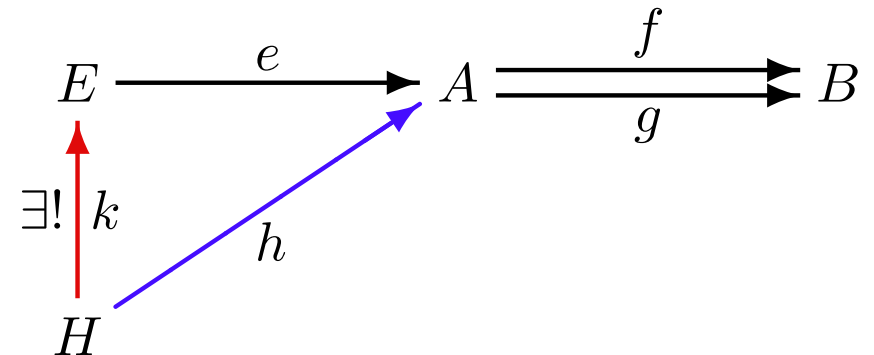
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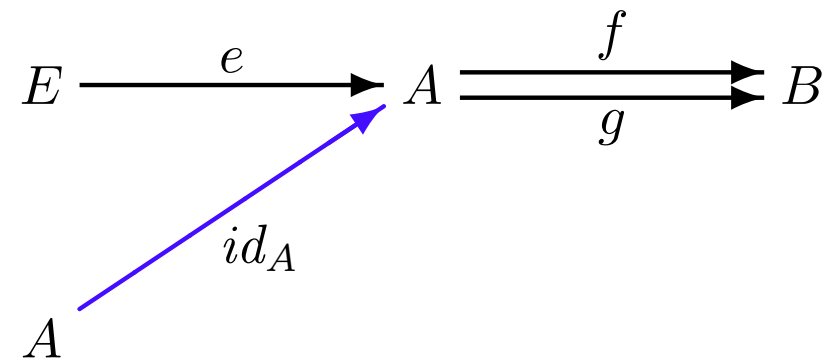
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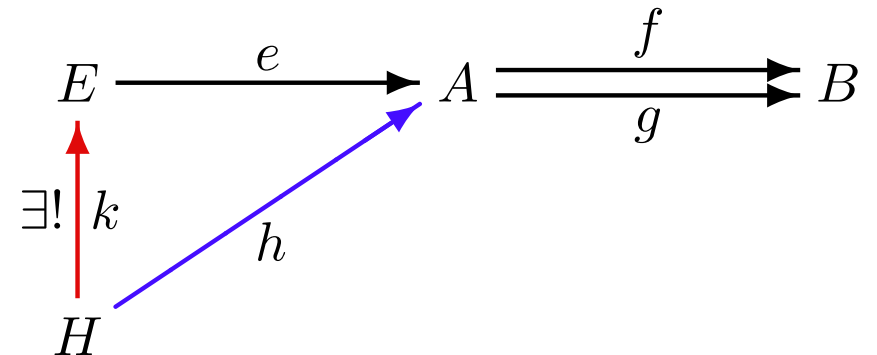




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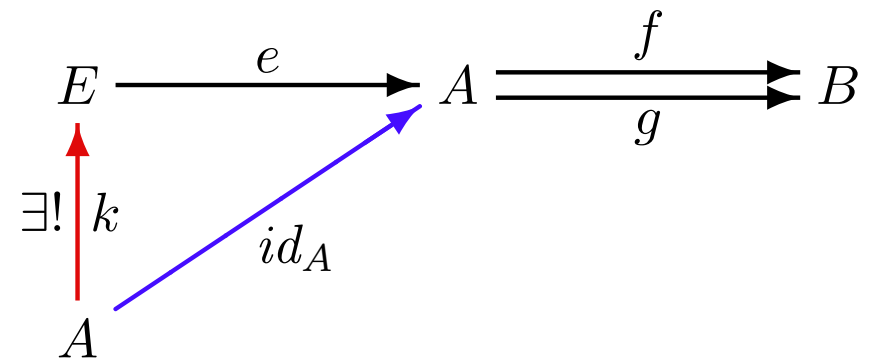


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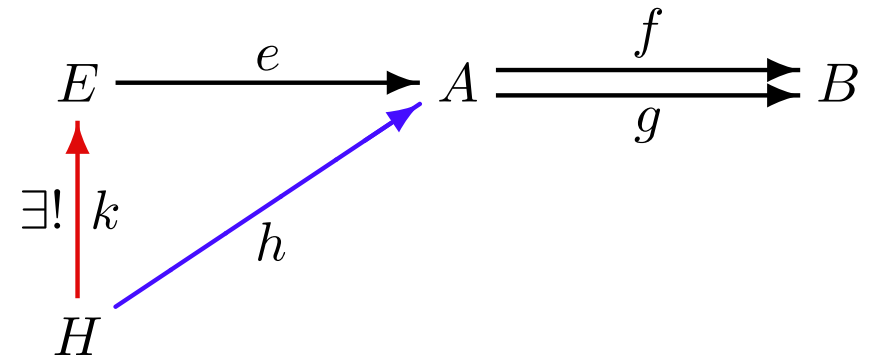
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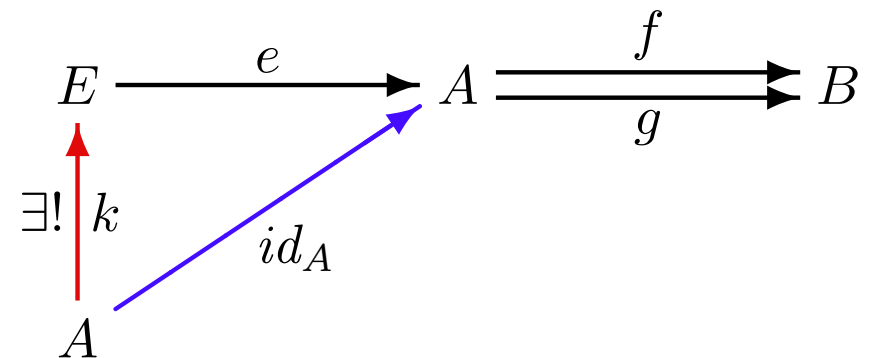
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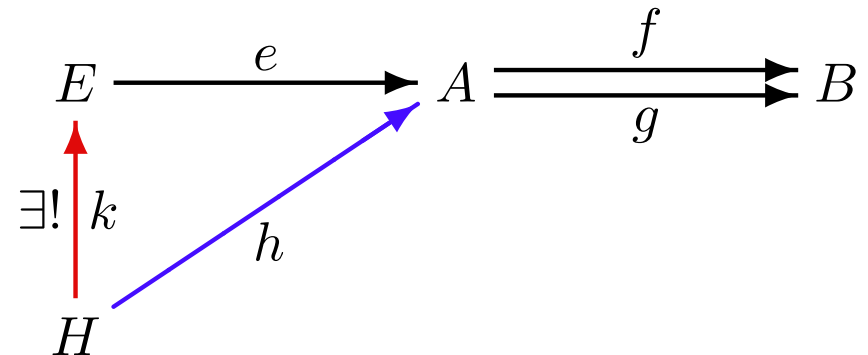
Thus,  $e$  is a retraction, and is mono  
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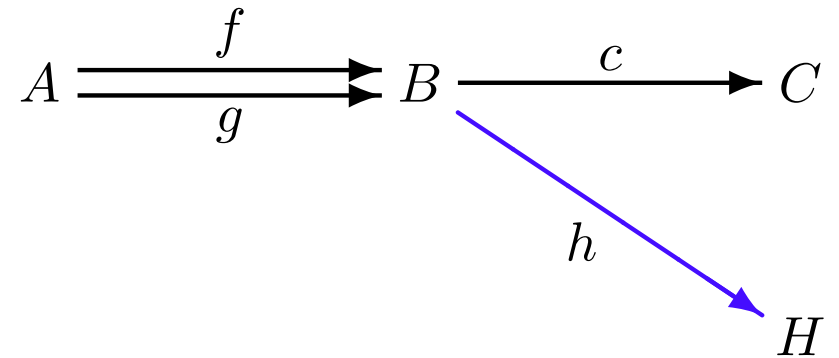
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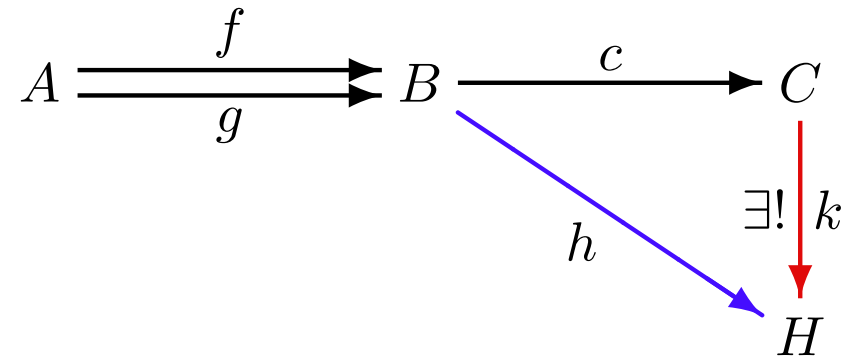
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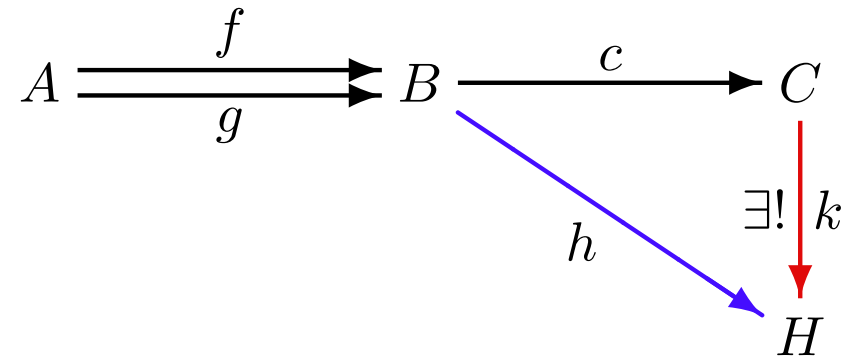




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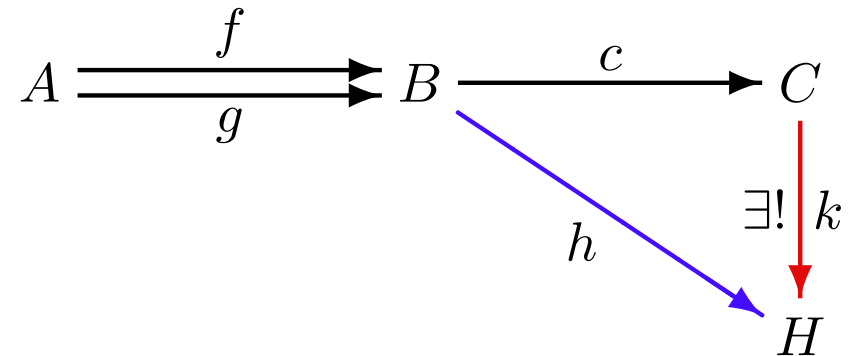
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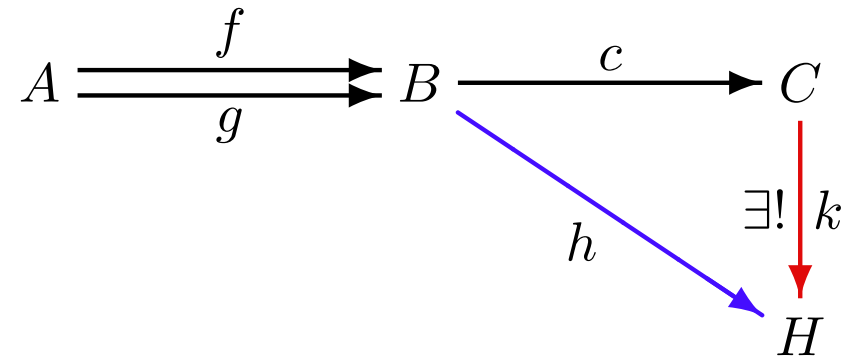


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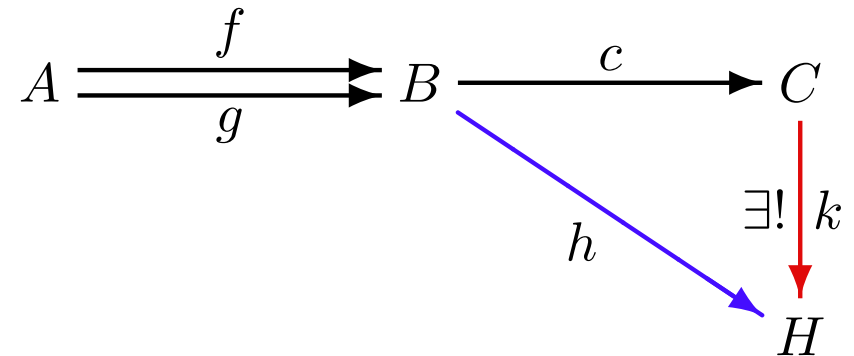


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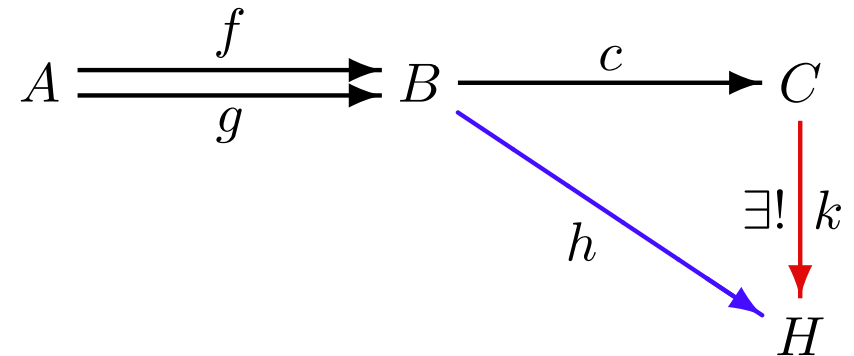
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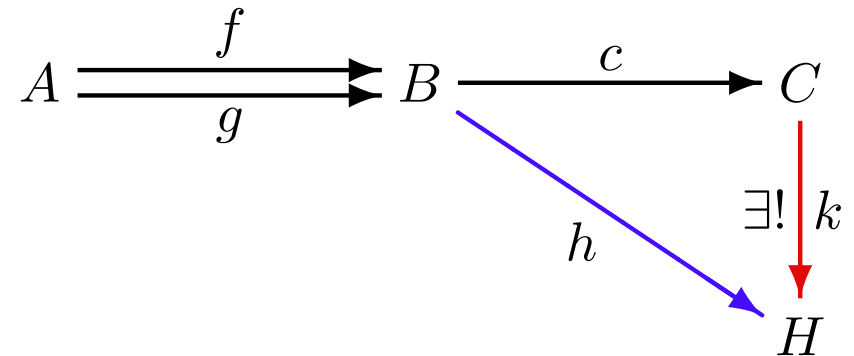
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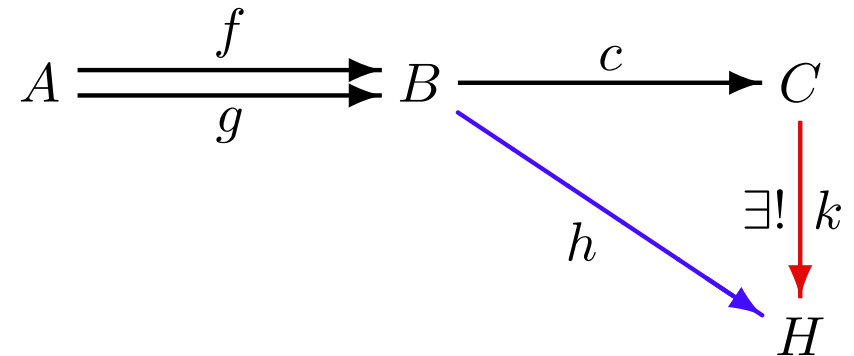
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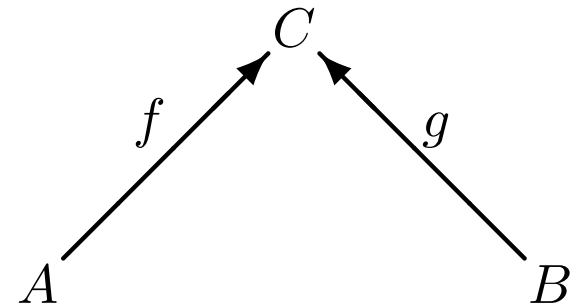
Most general unifiers are coequalisers in **Subst** <sub>$\Sigma$</sub>

# Pullbacks



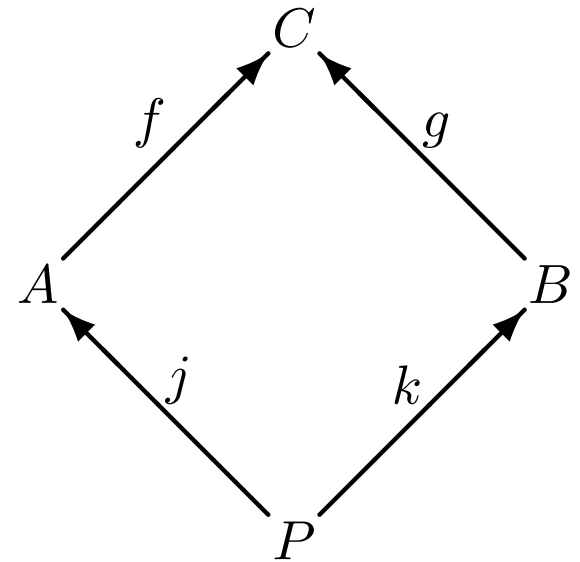
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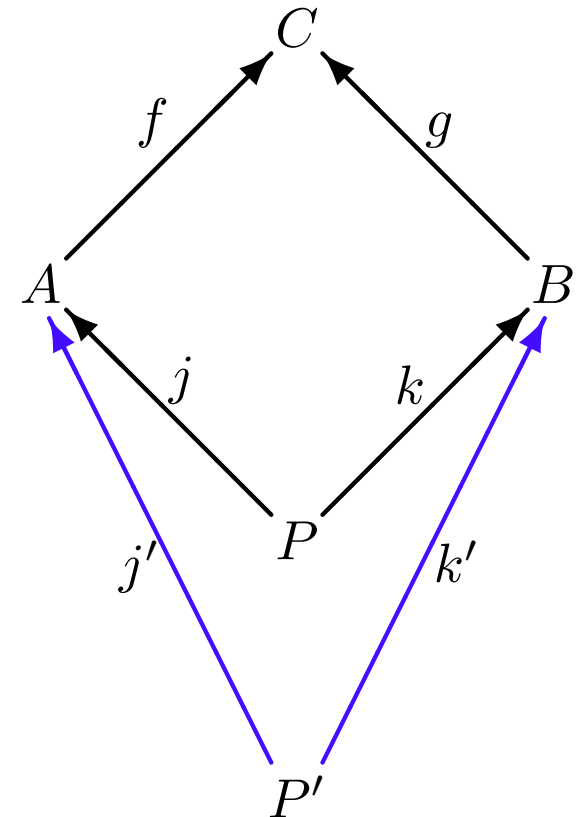
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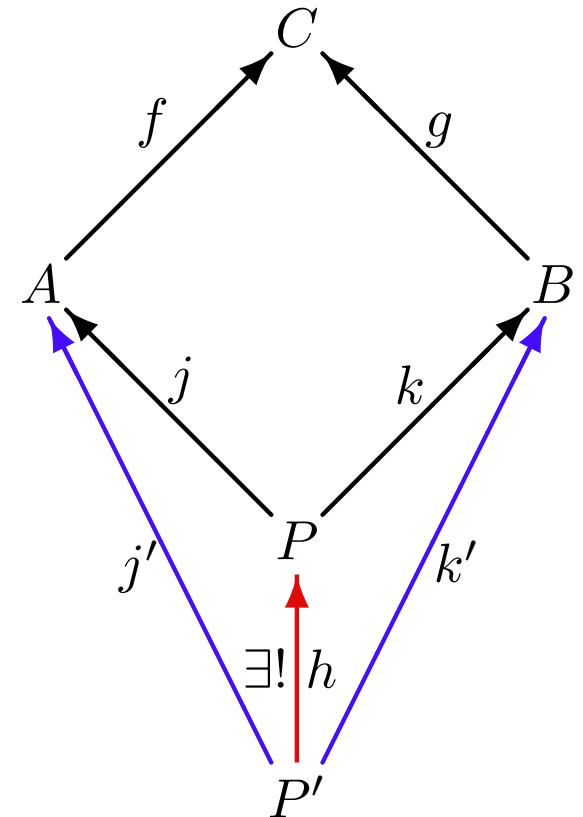
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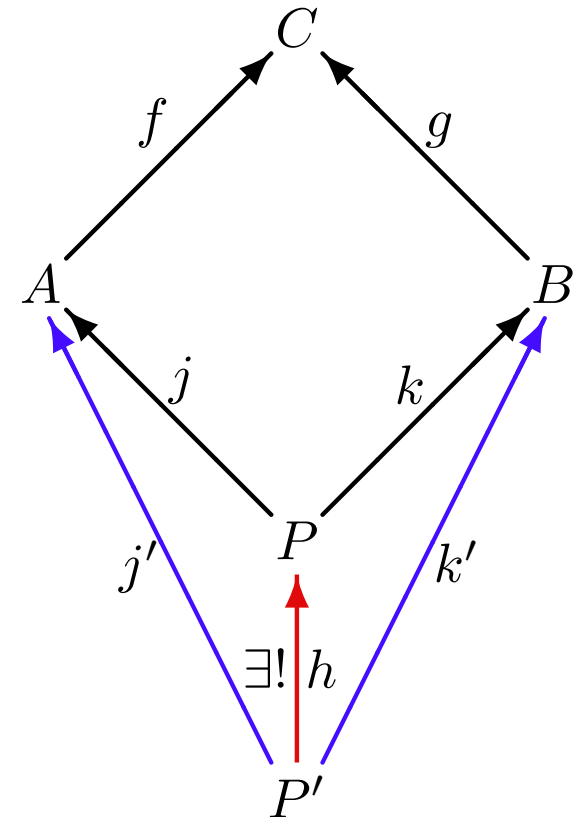
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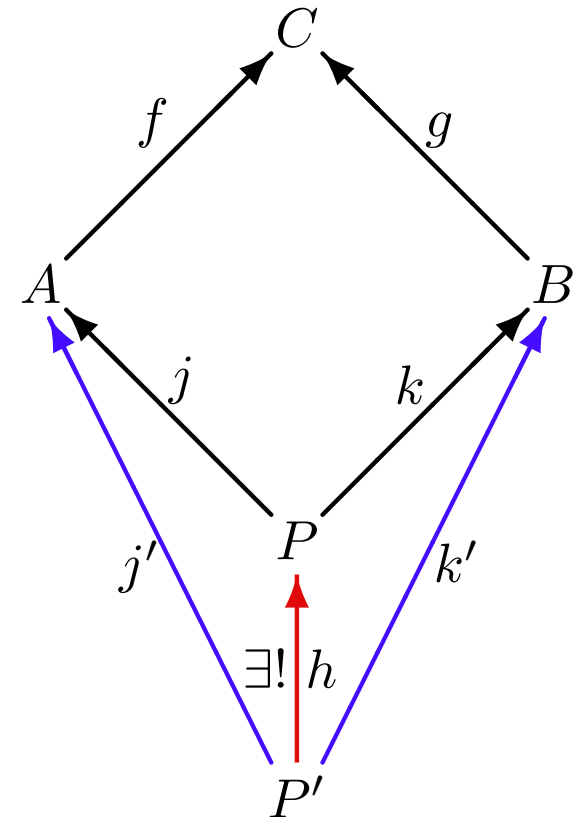
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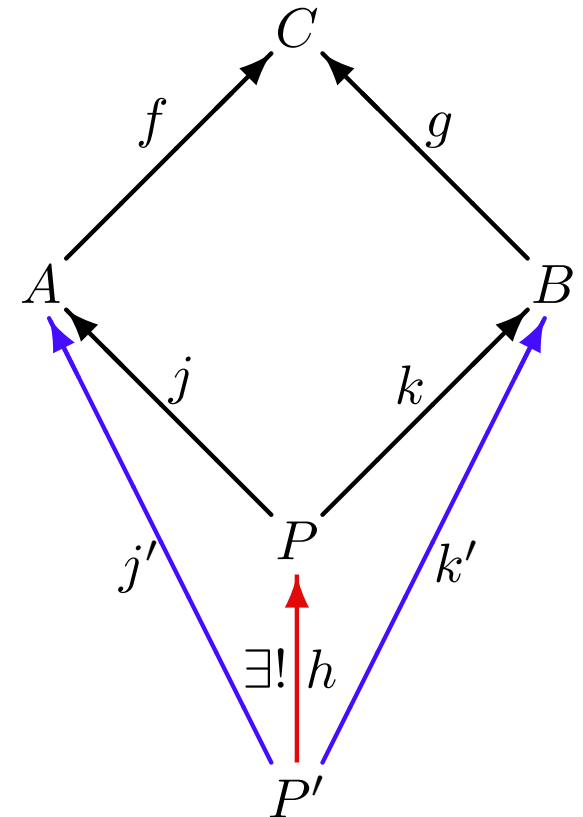


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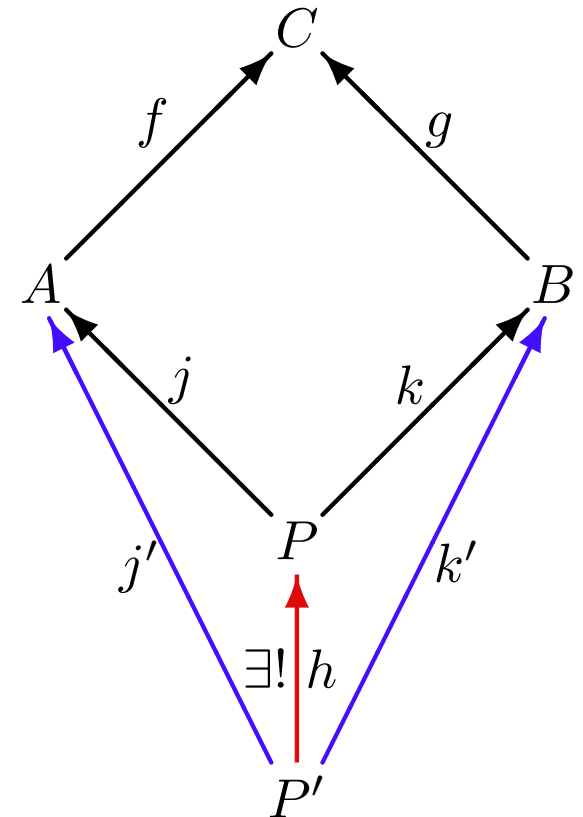
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A *pullback* of two morphisms with common target  $f: A \rightarrow C$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$  is an object  $P \in |\mathbf{K}|$  with morphisms  $j: P \rightarrow A$  and  $k: P \rightarrow B$  such that  $j;f = k;g$ , and such that for all  $P' \in |\mathbf{K}|$  with morphisms  $j': P' \rightarrow A$  and  $k': P' \rightarrow B$ , if  $j';f = k';g$  then for a unique morphism  $h: P' \rightarrow P$ ,  $h;j = j'$  and  $h;k = k'$ .

In **Set**, given functions  $f: A \rightarrow C$  and  $g: B \rightarrow C$ ,  
define  $P = \{\langle a, b \rangle \in A \times B \mid f(a) = g(b)\}$

Then  $P$  with obvious projections on  $A$  and  $B$ ,  
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Define pullbacks in  $\mathbf{Alg}(\Sigma)$ .





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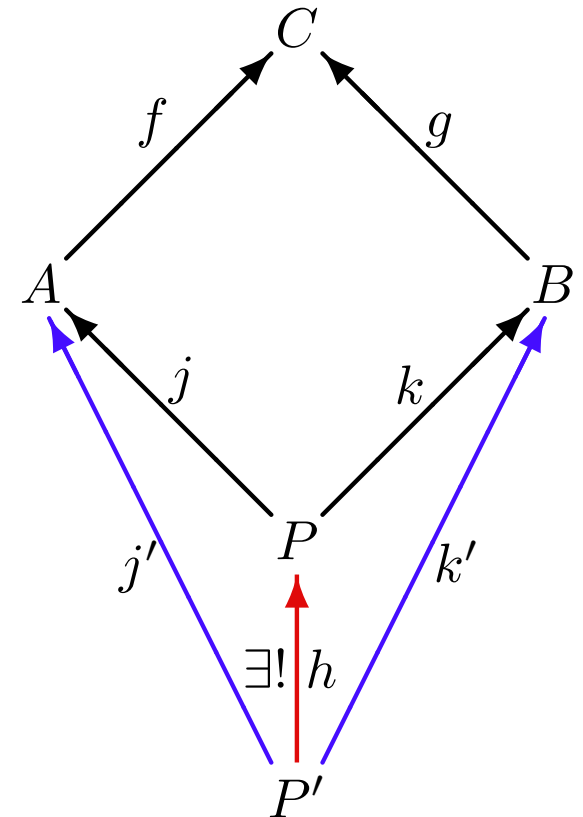
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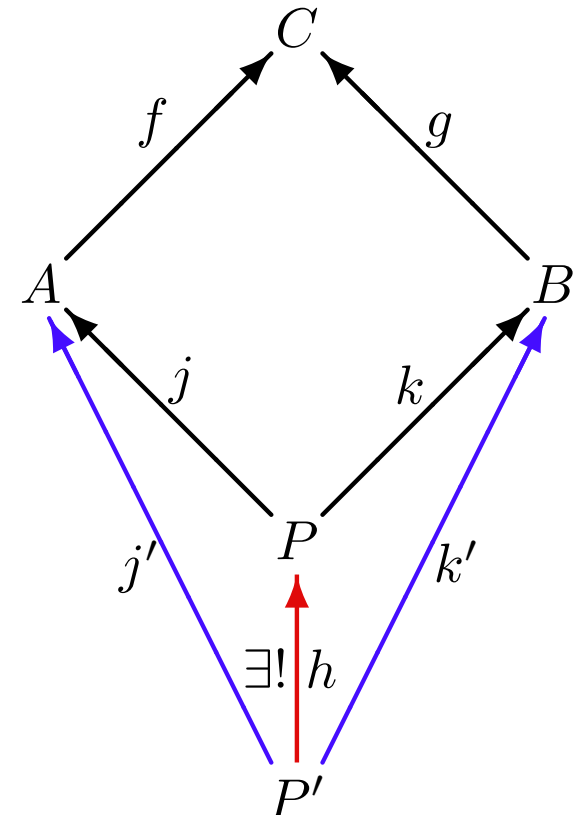
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Wait for a hint to come...



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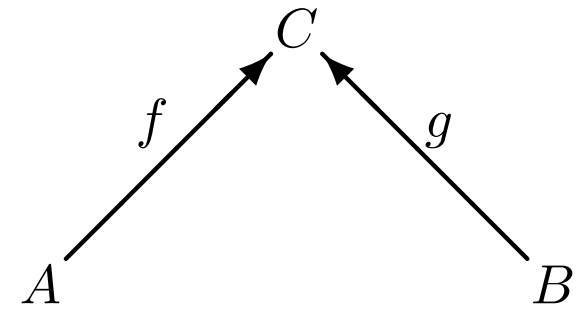
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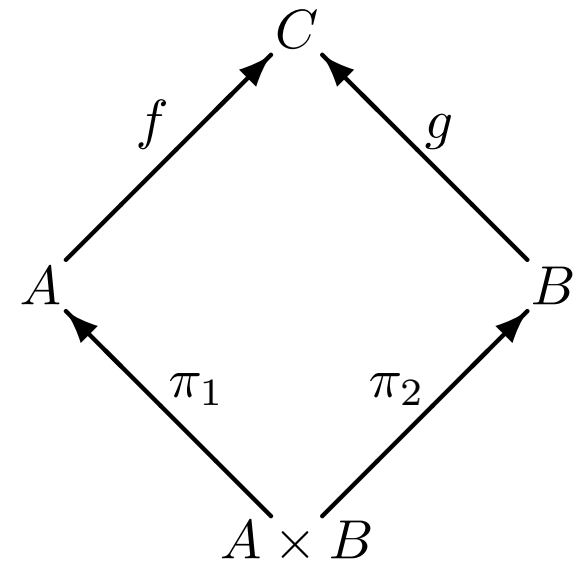
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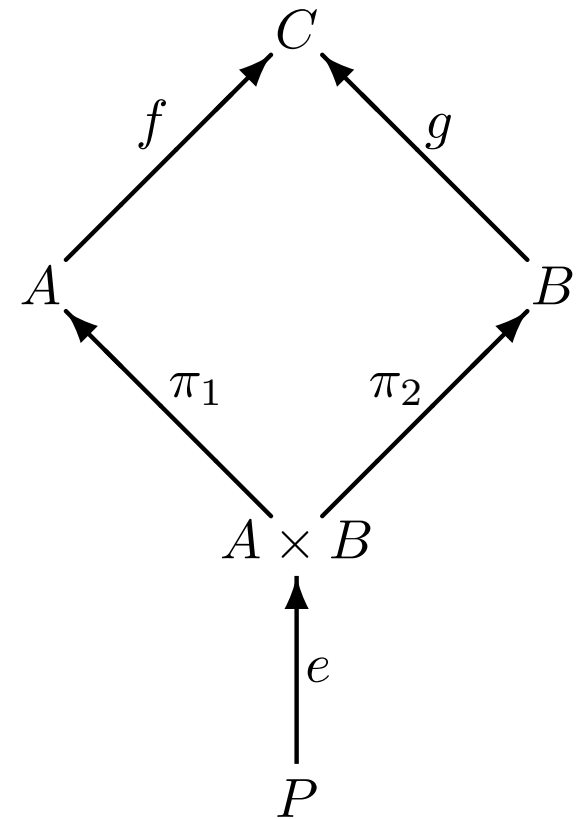
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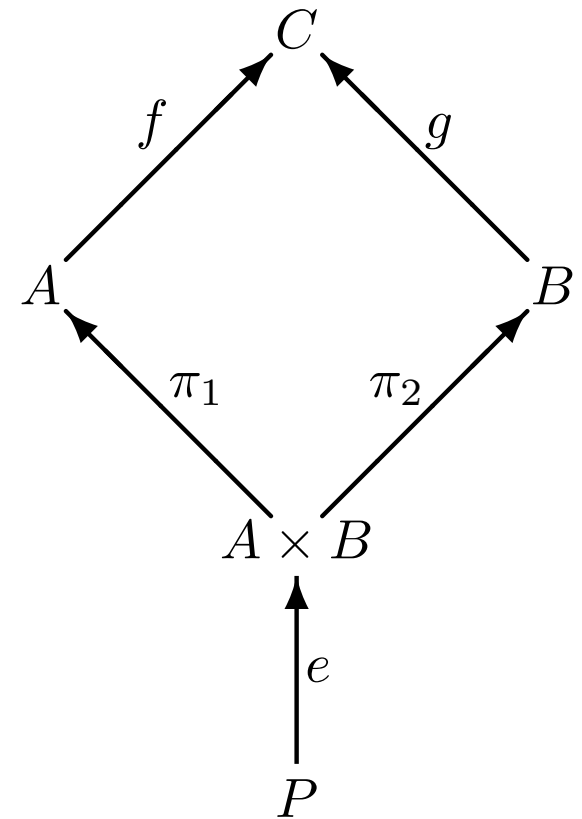


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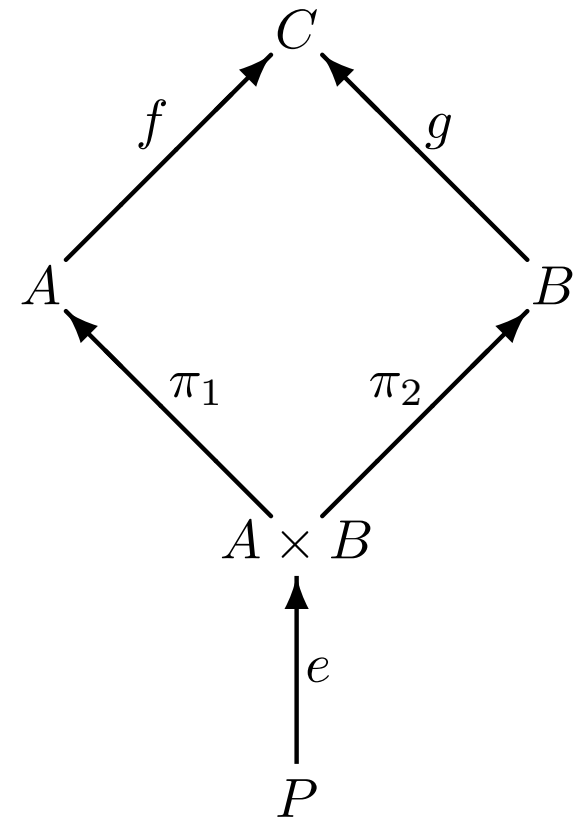
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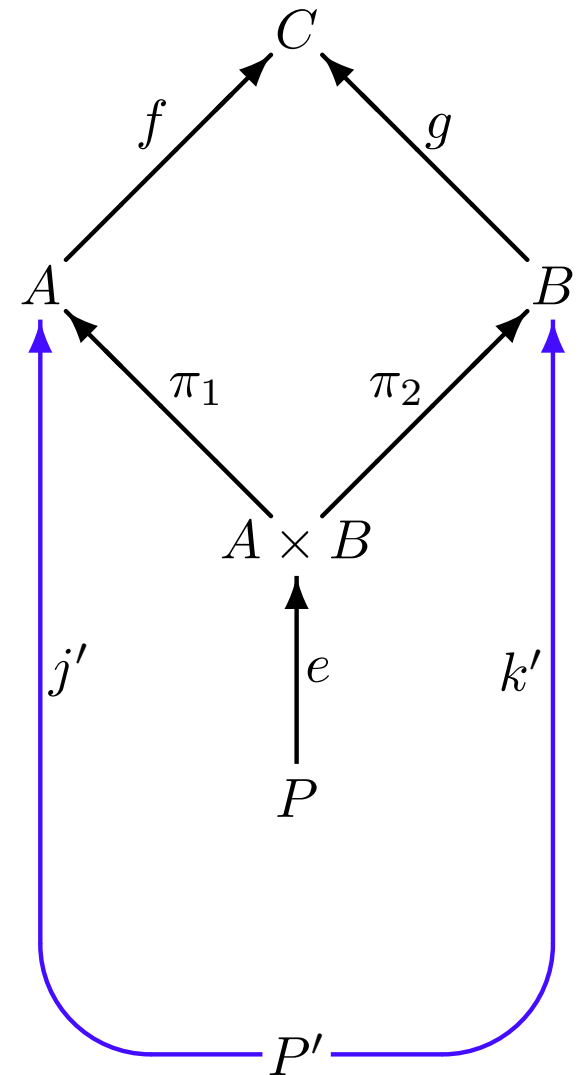
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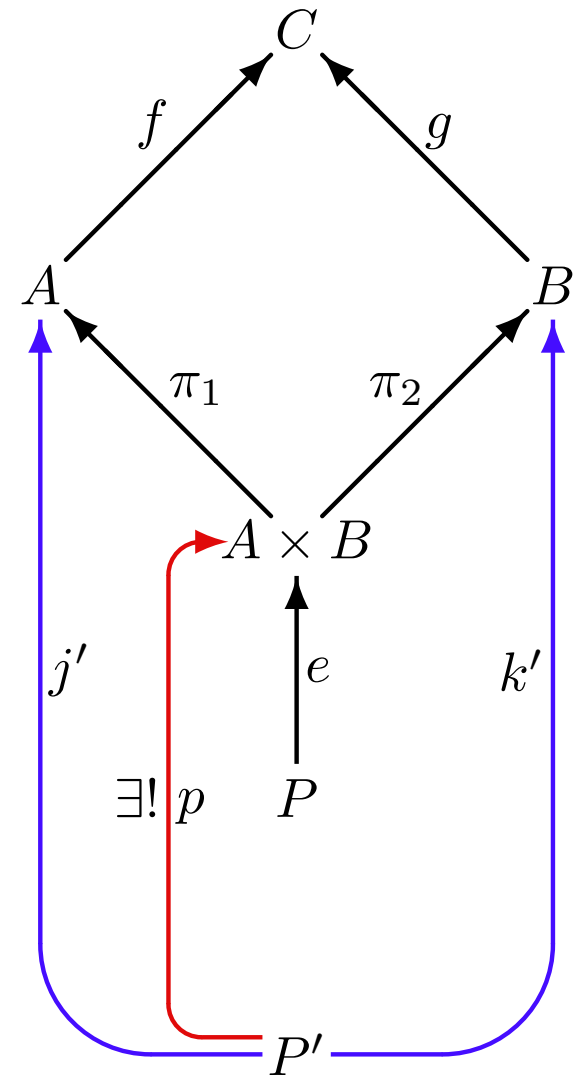
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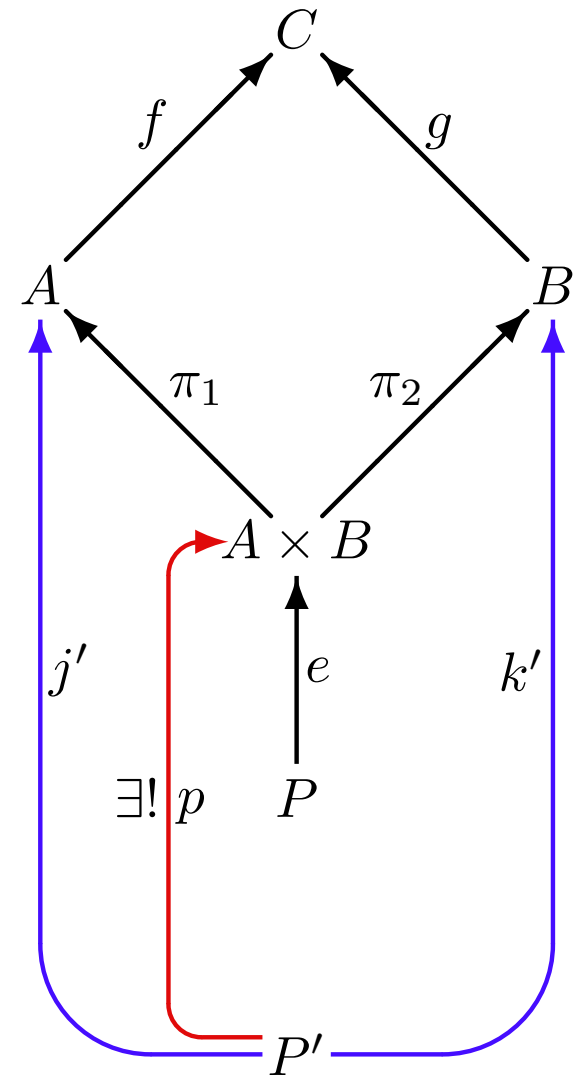
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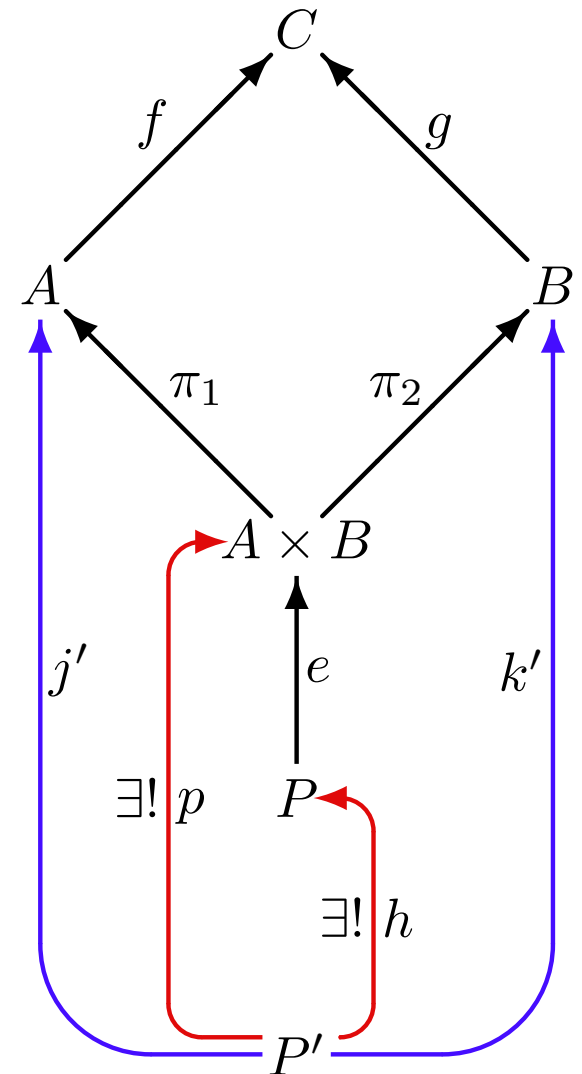
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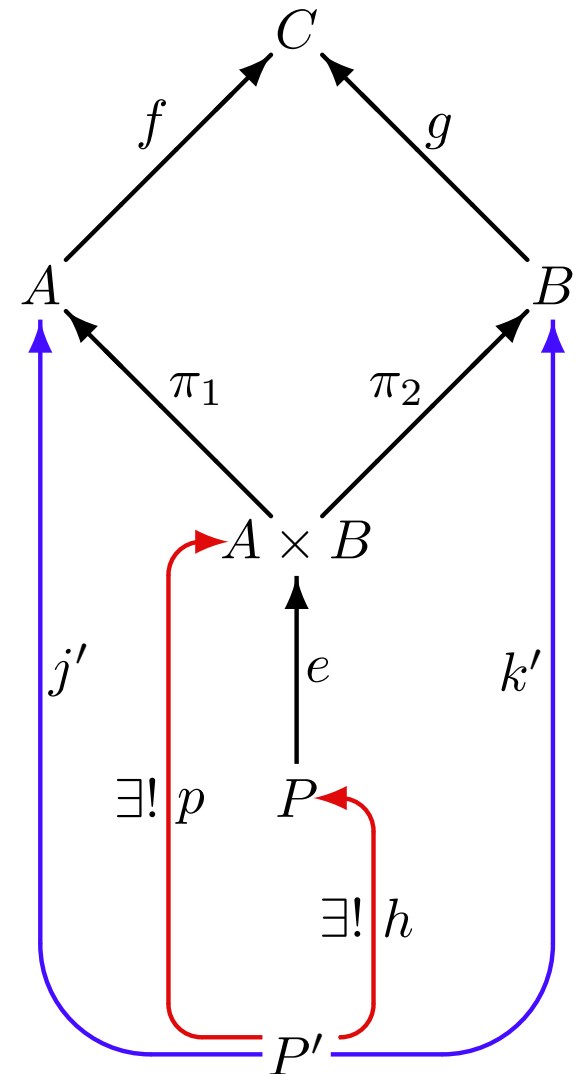
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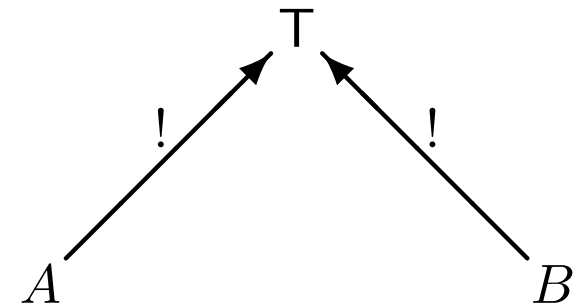
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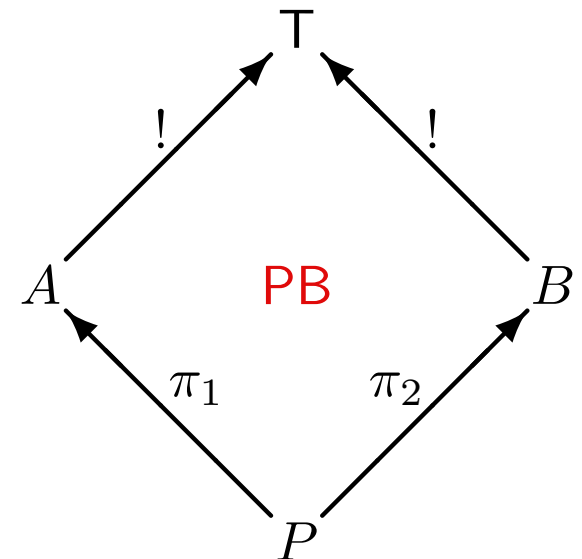
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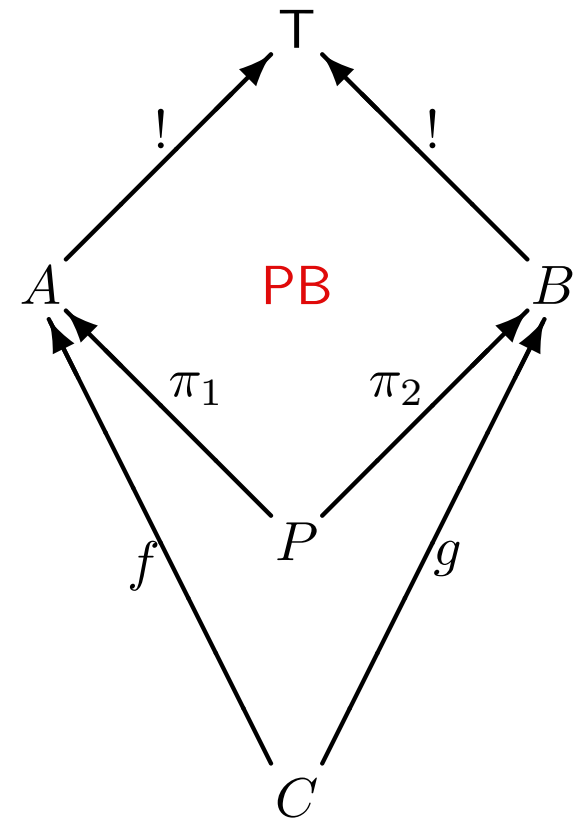
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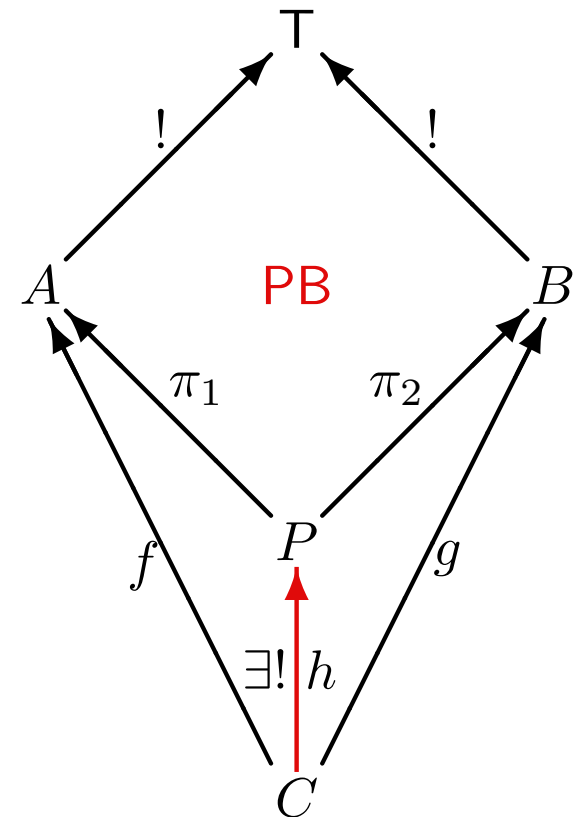
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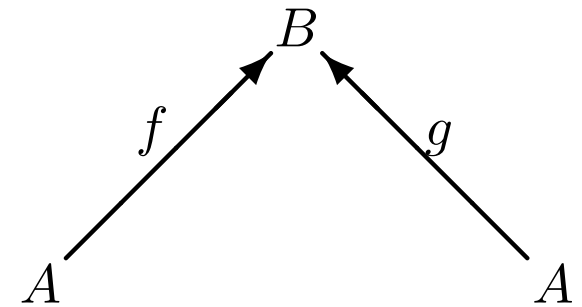
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$$\begin{array}{c} B \\ \uparrow f \quad \uparrow g \\ A \end{array}$$

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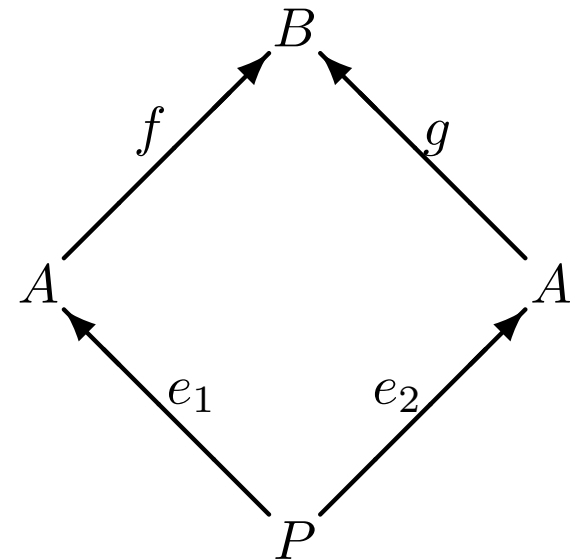
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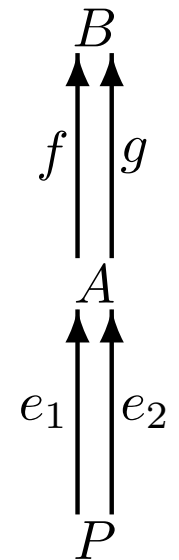
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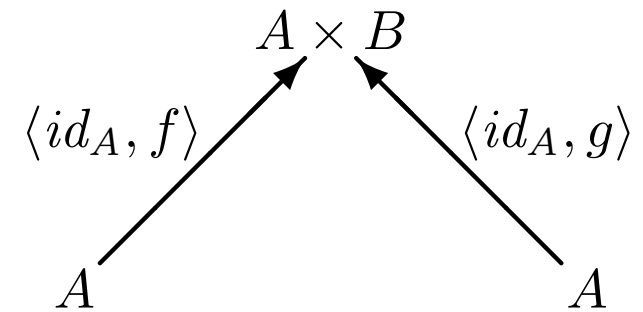
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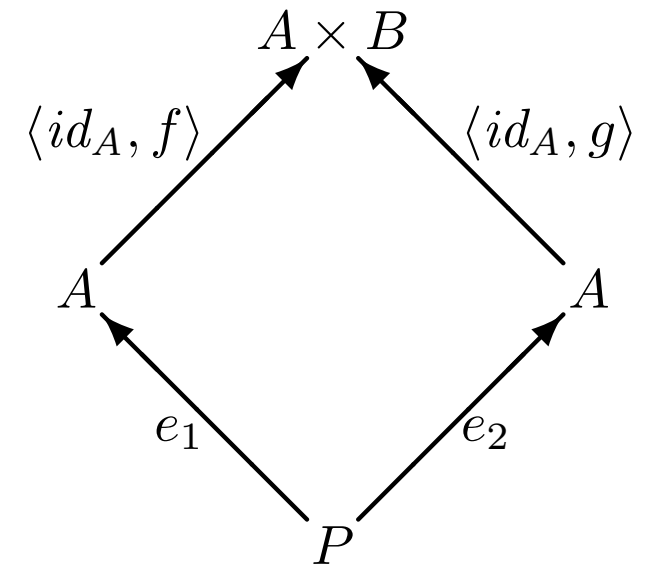
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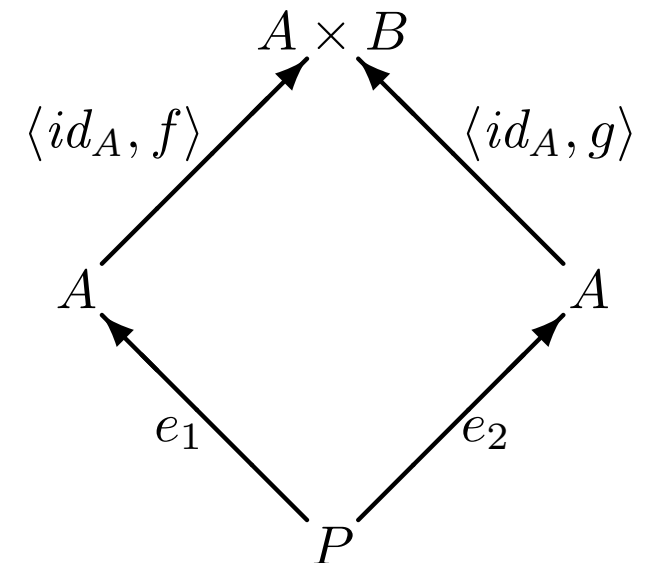
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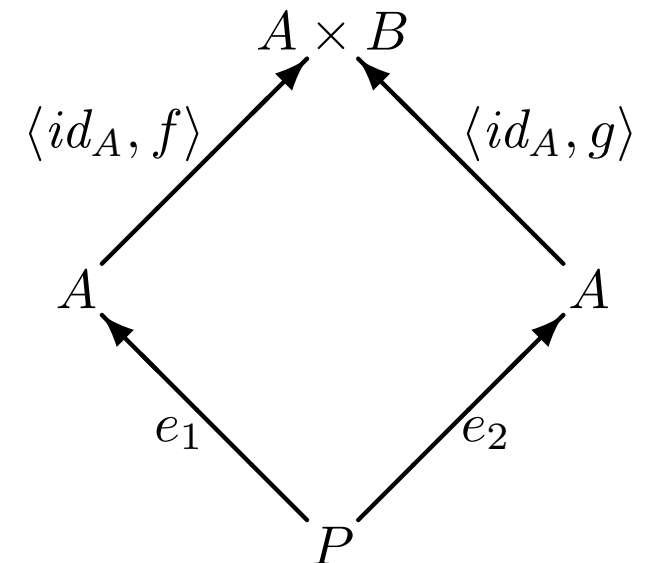
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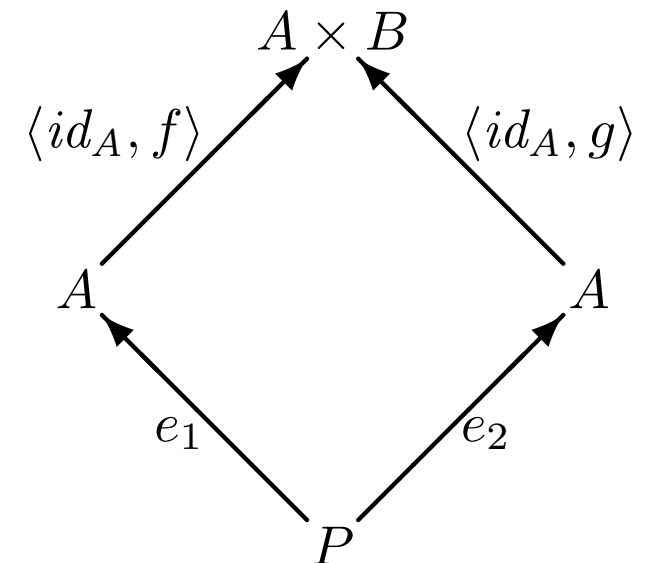
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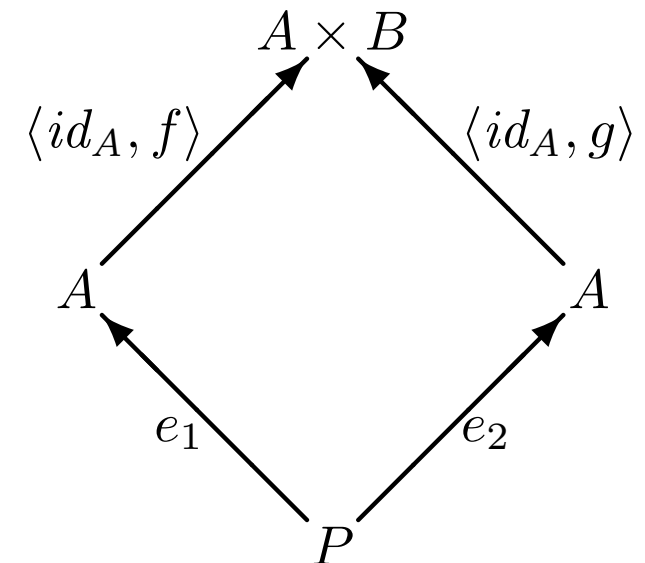
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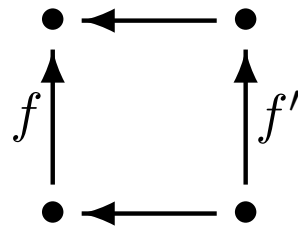
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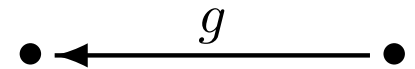
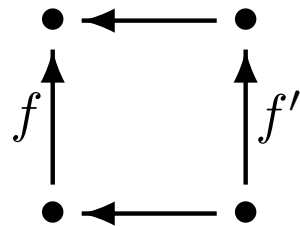
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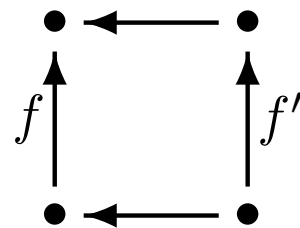
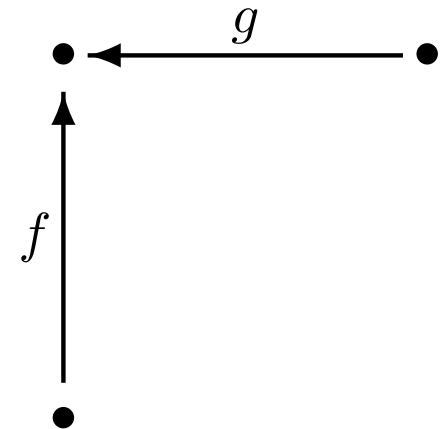
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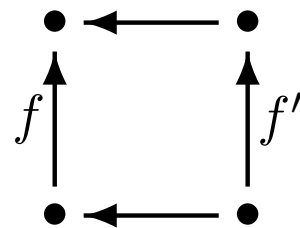
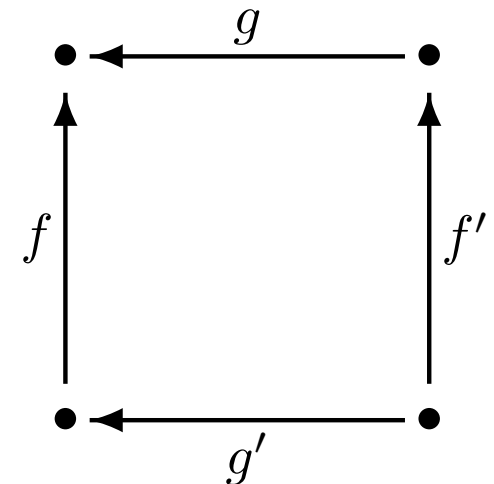
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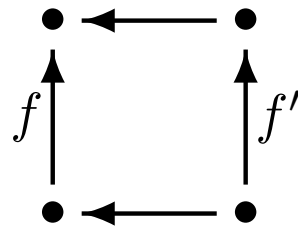
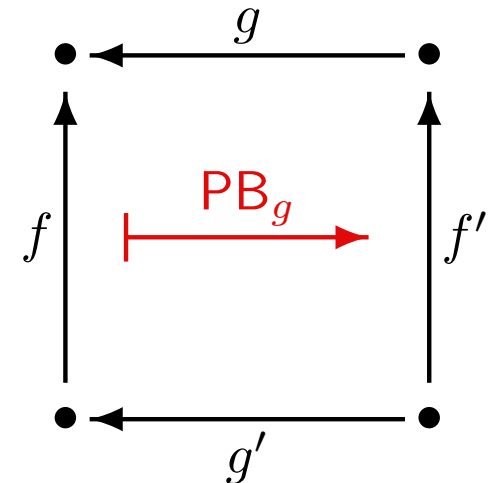
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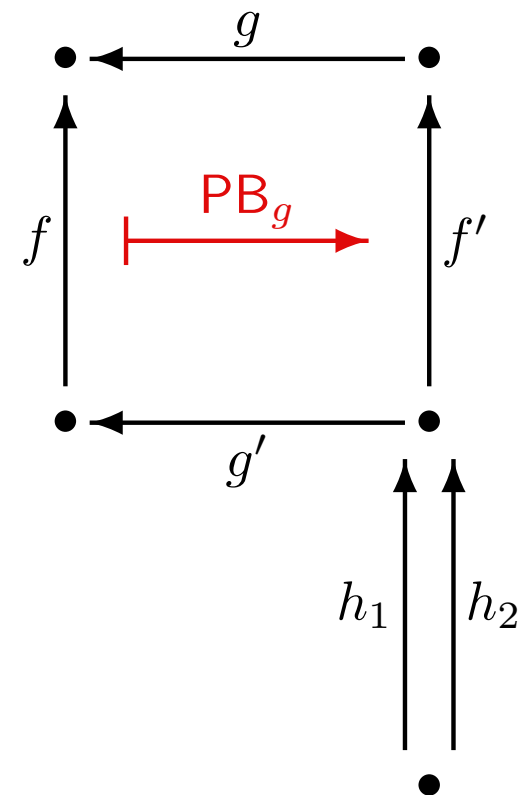
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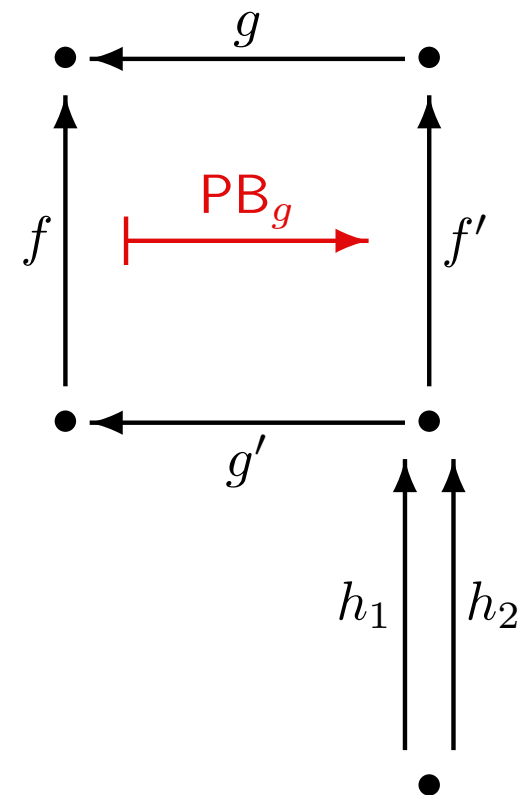
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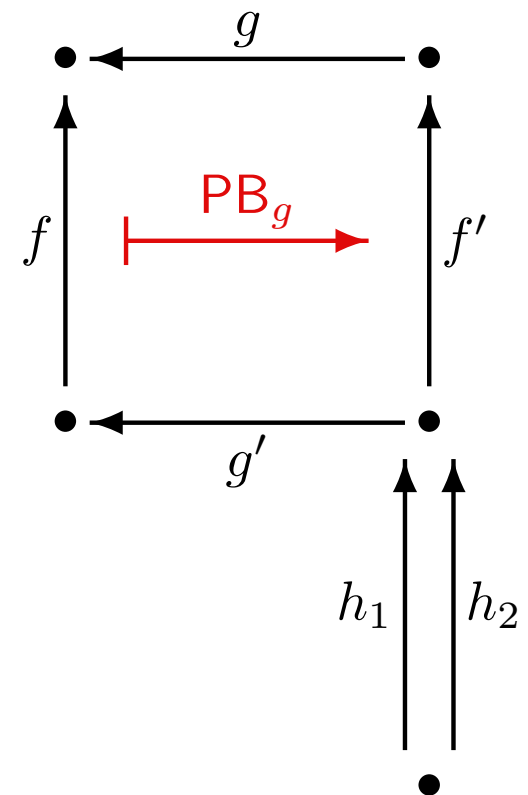
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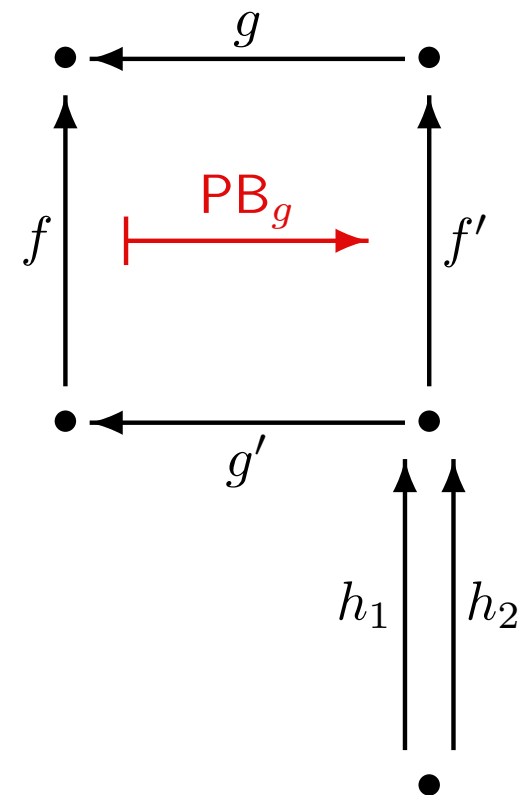
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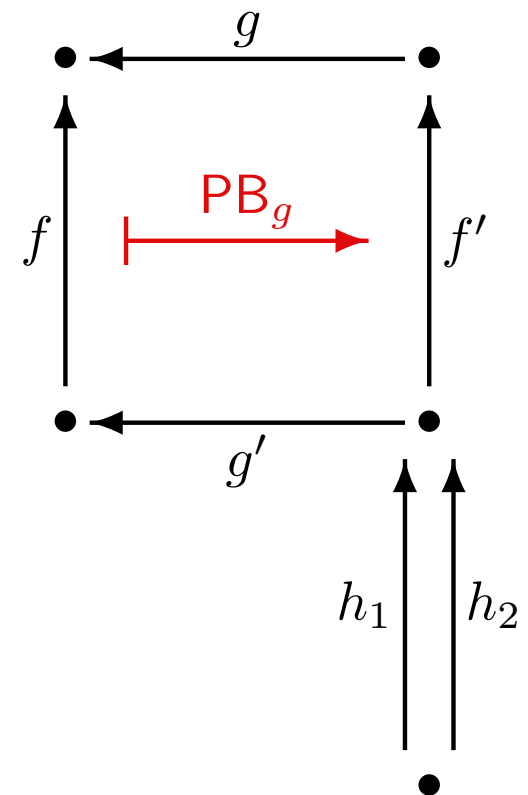
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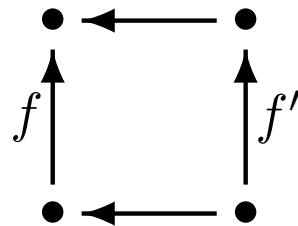
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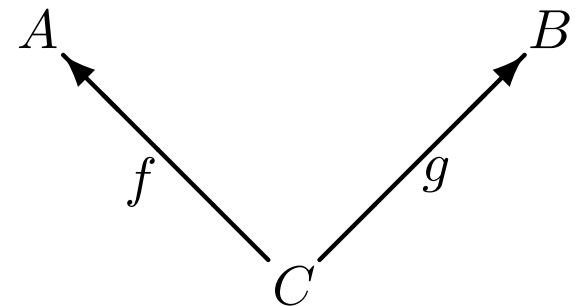
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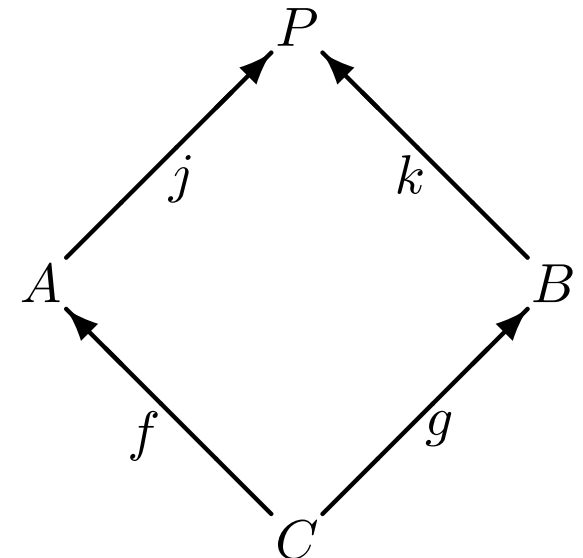
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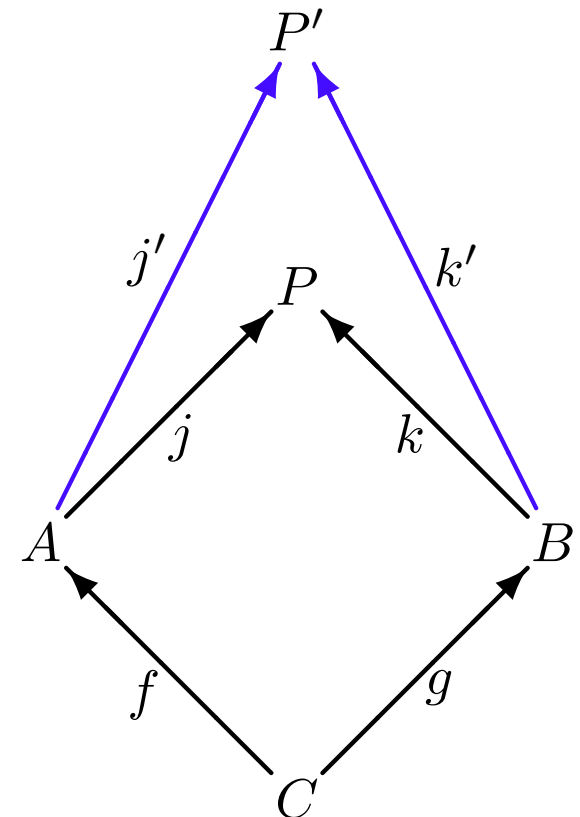




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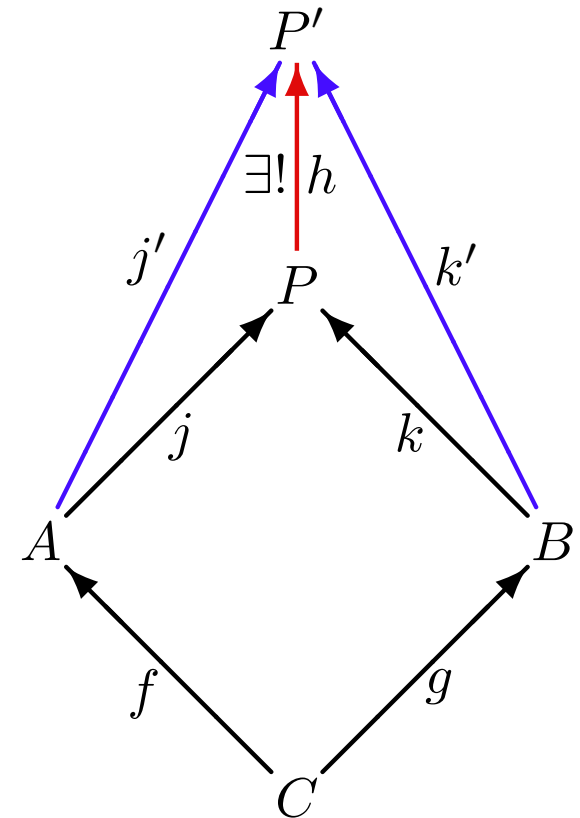
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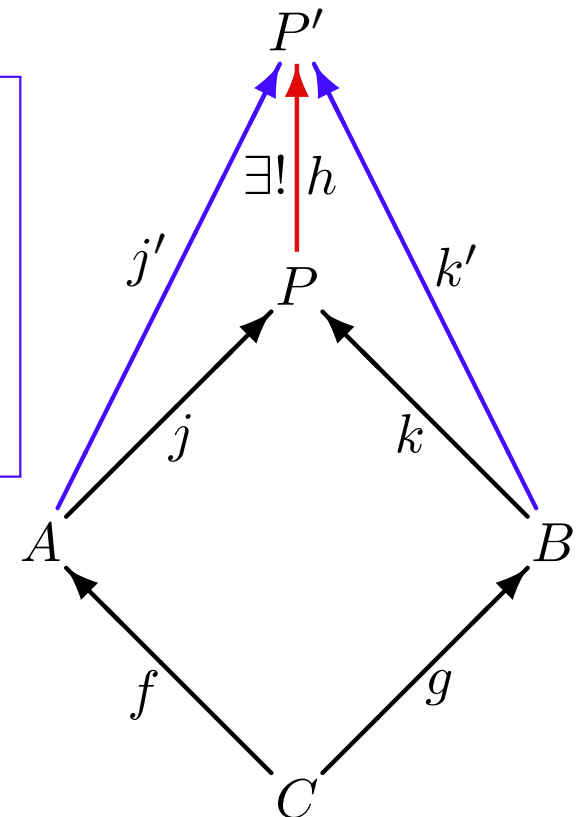


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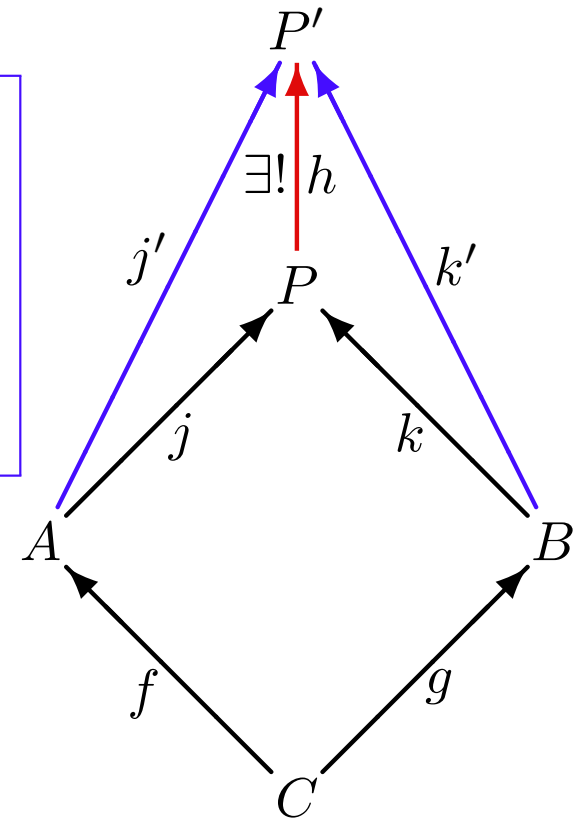


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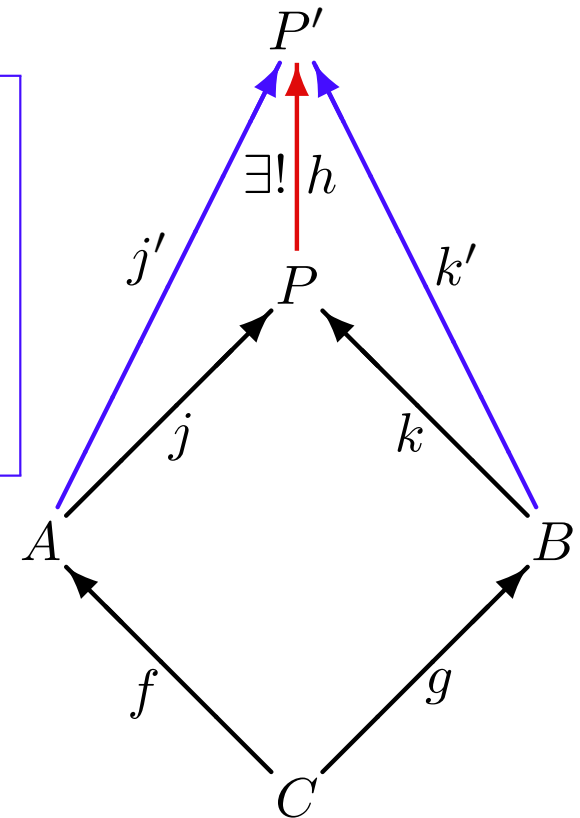


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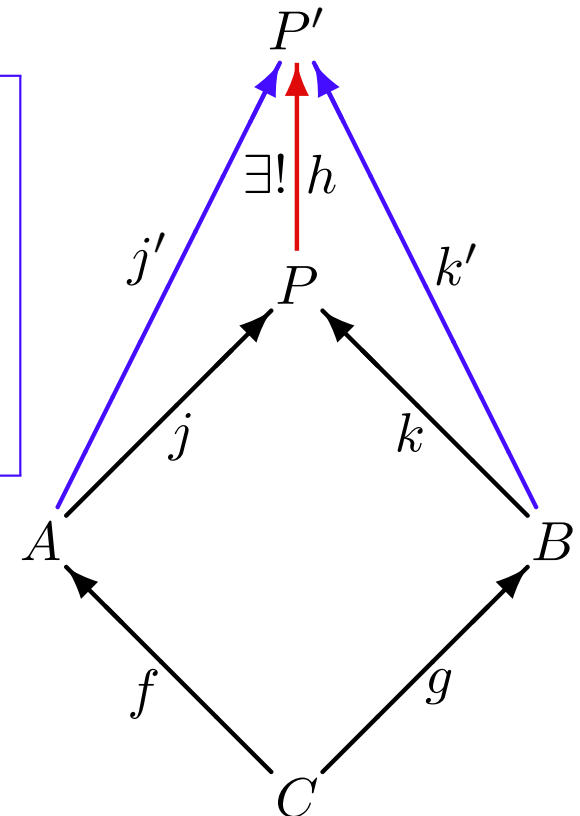
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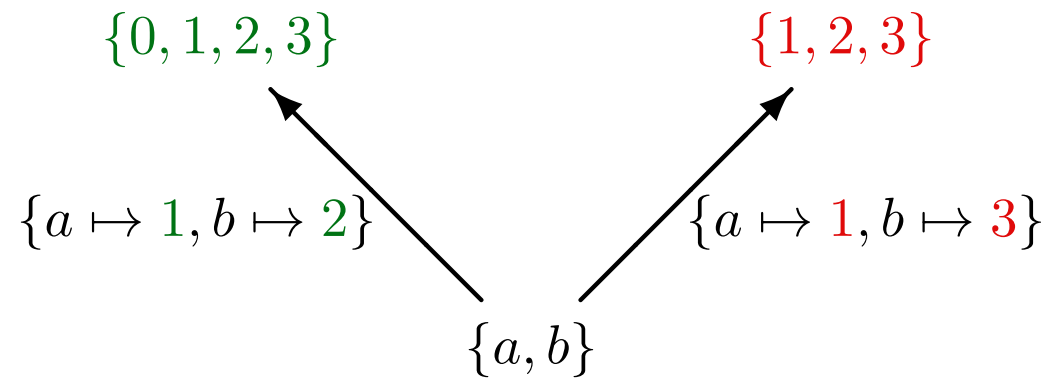
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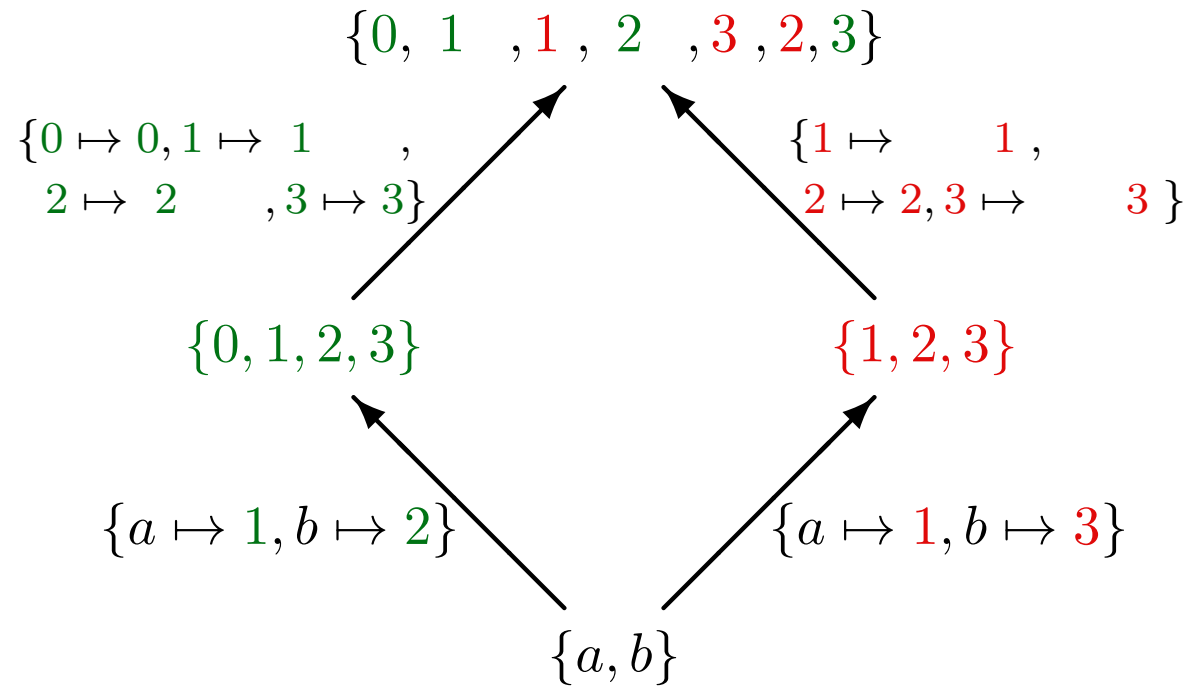
Dualise facts for pullbacks!



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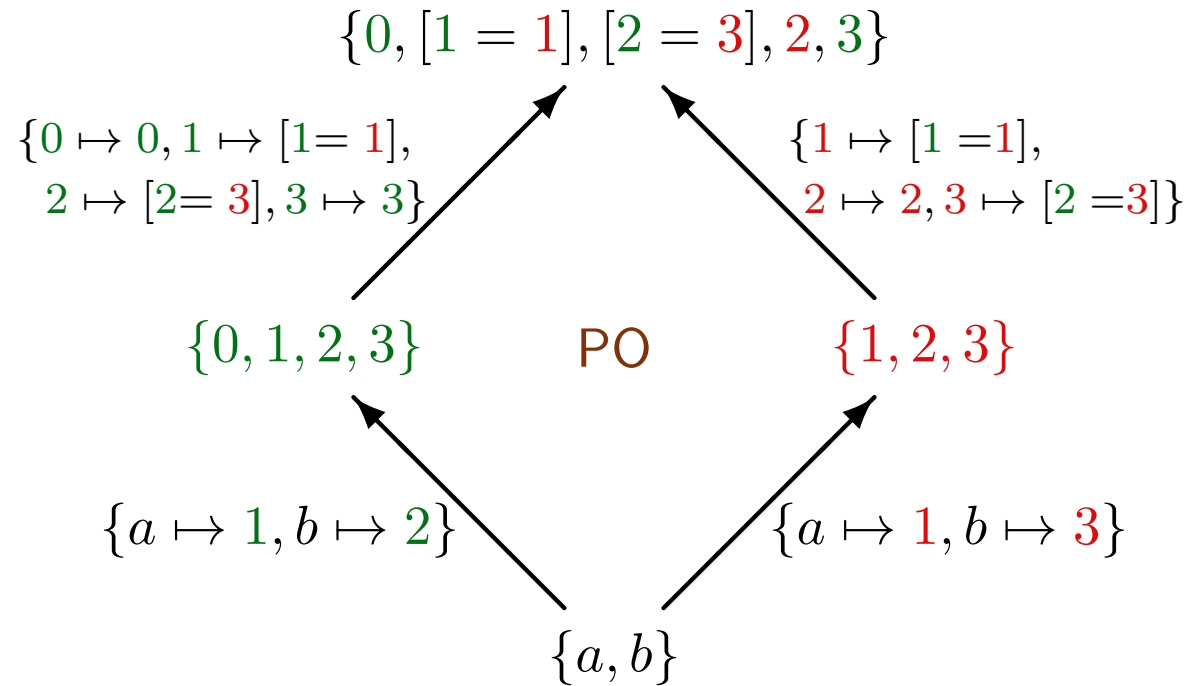


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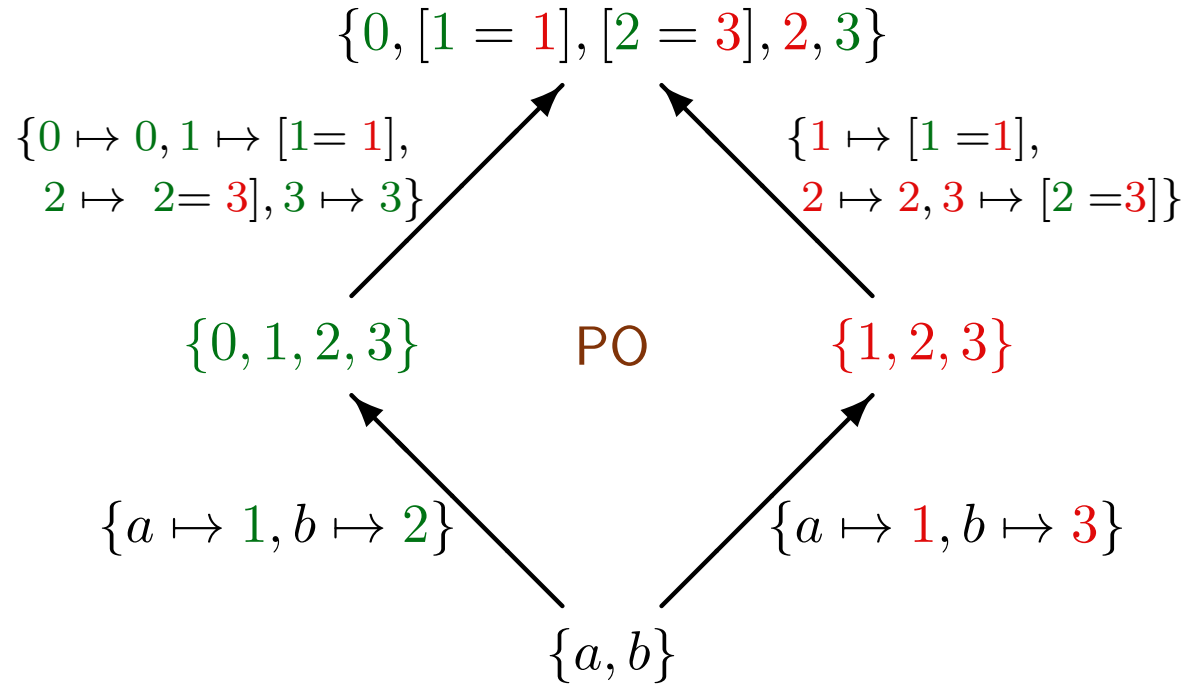




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*Pushouts put objects together taking account of the indicated sharing.*

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**sort** *Elem*

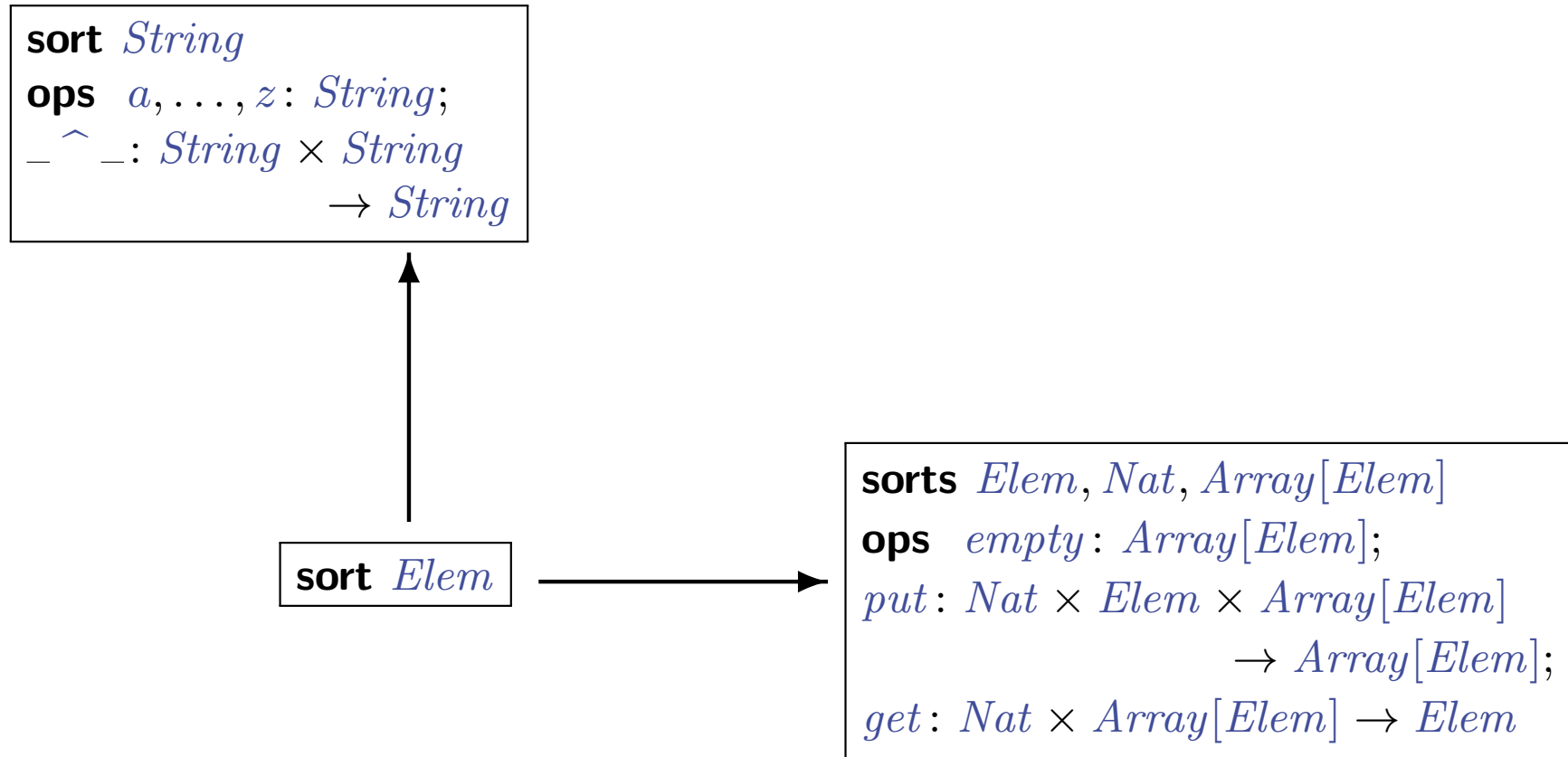
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```
sort String  
ops a, ..., z: String;  
  _ ^ _: String × String  
        → String
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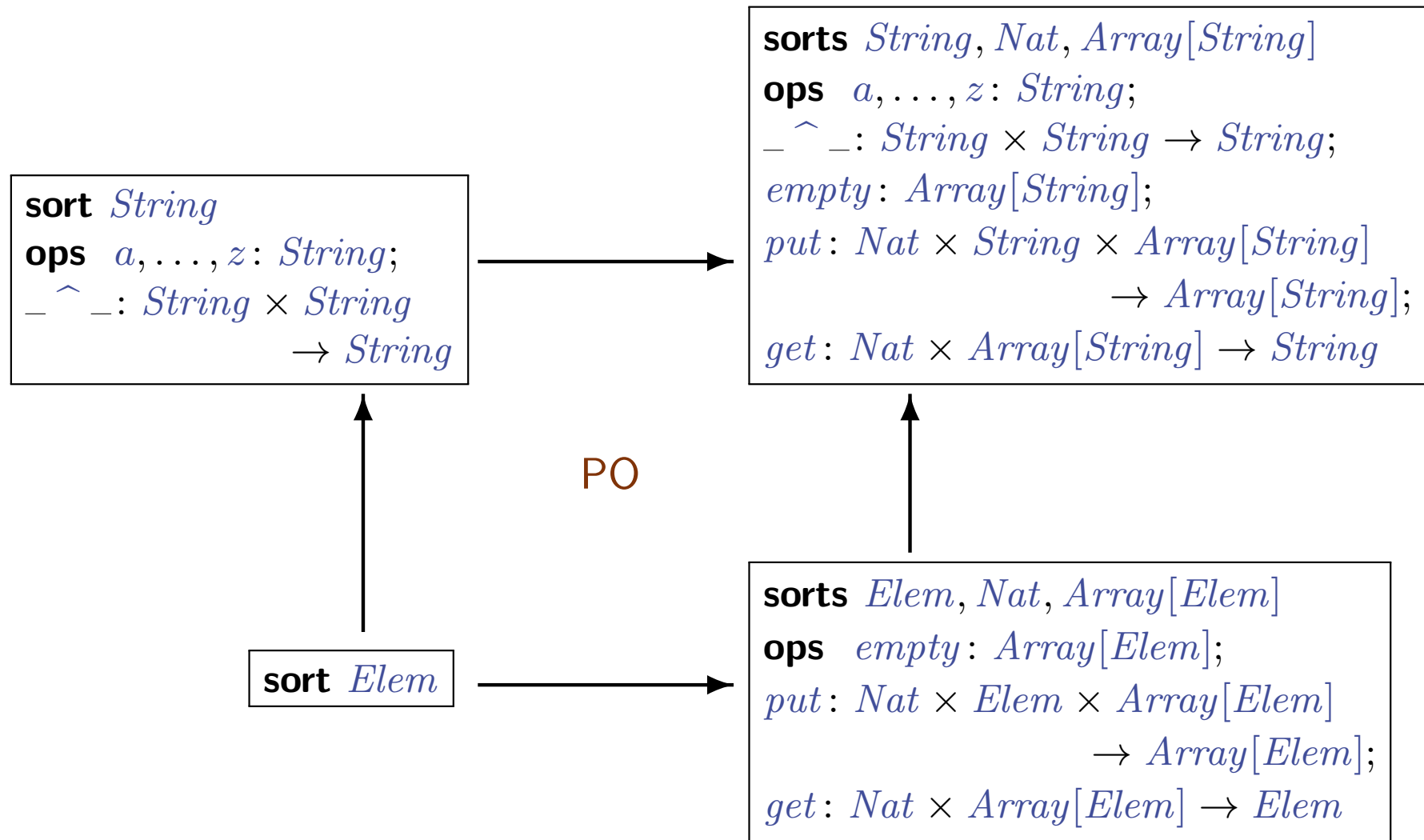
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# Diagrams

*A **diagram** in  $\mathbf{K}$  is a graph with nodes labelled with  $\mathbf{K}$ -objects and edges labelled with  $\mathbf{K}$ -morphisms with appropriate sources and targets.*

A **diagram**  $D$  consists of:

- a graph  $\mathcal{G}(D)$ ,
- an object  $D_n \in |\mathbf{K}|$  for each node  $n \in |\mathcal{G}(D)|_{nodes}$ ,
- a morphism  $D_e: D_{source(e)} \rightarrow D_{target(e)}$  for each edge  $e \in |\mathcal{G}(D)|_{edges}$ .

For any small category  $\mathbf{K}$ , define its **diagram**,  $D(\mathbf{K})$ , with graph  $\mathcal{G}(D(\mathbf{K})) = \mathcal{G}(\mathbf{K})$

**BTW:** A diagram  $D$  **commutes** (or is **commutative**) if for any two paths in  $\mathcal{G}(D)$  with common source and target, the compositions of morphisms that label the edges of each of them coincide.

# Diagram categories



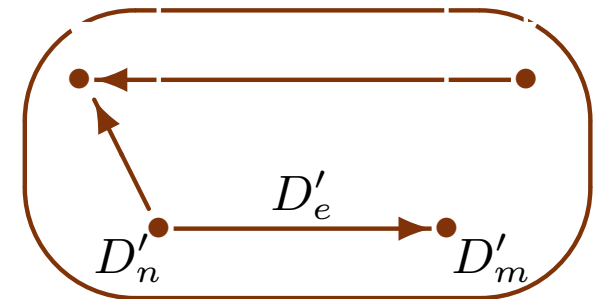
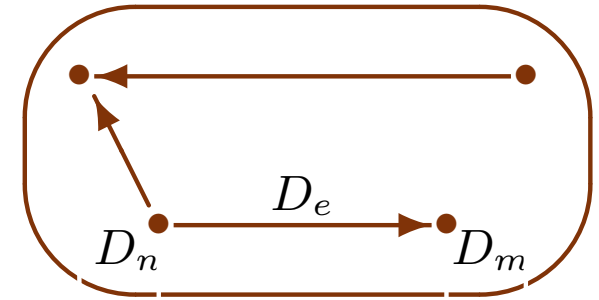
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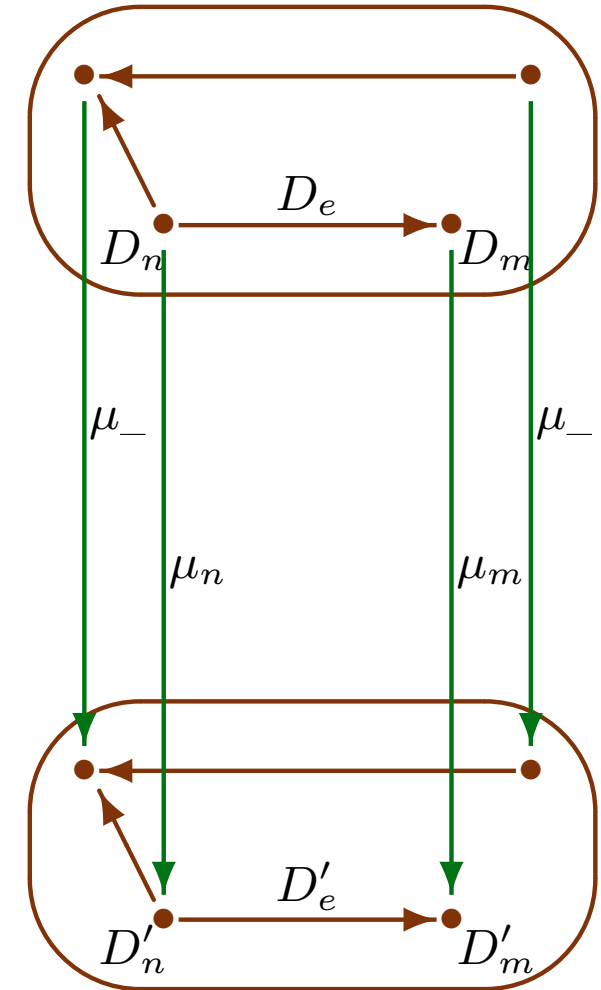
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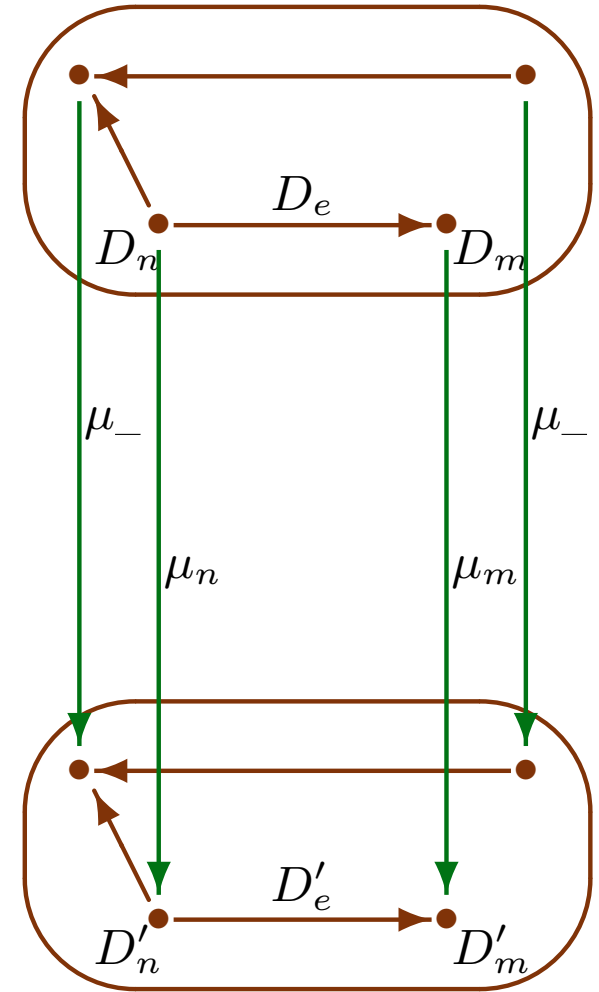
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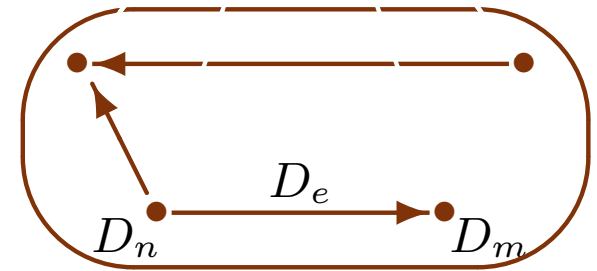
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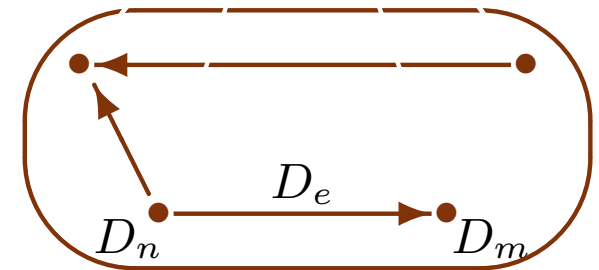


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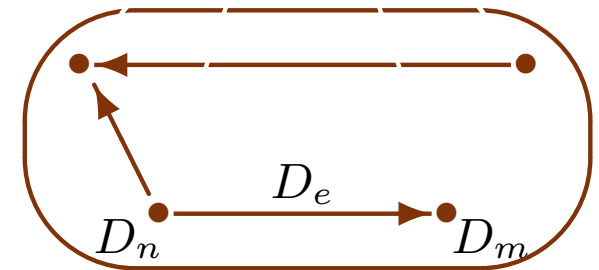
## Cones and cocones



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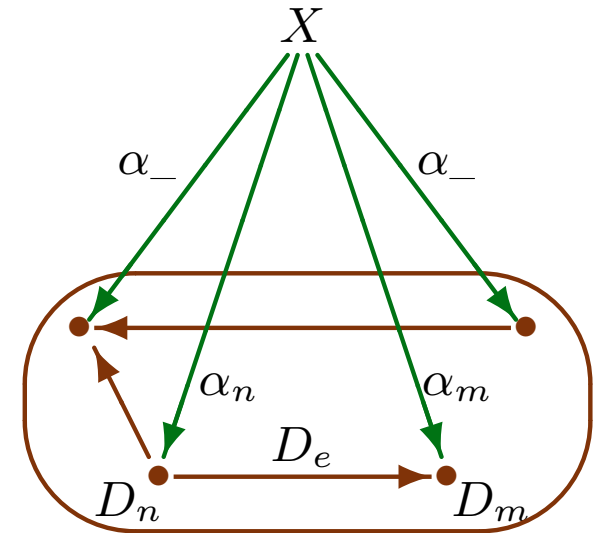
A *cone* on  $D$  (in  $\mathbf{K}$ )



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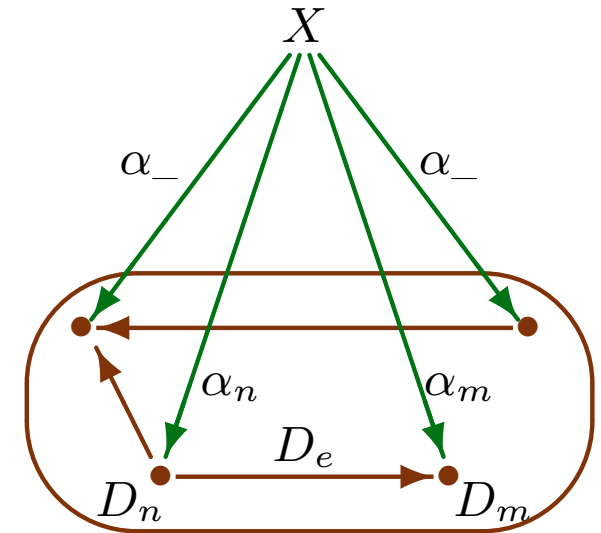




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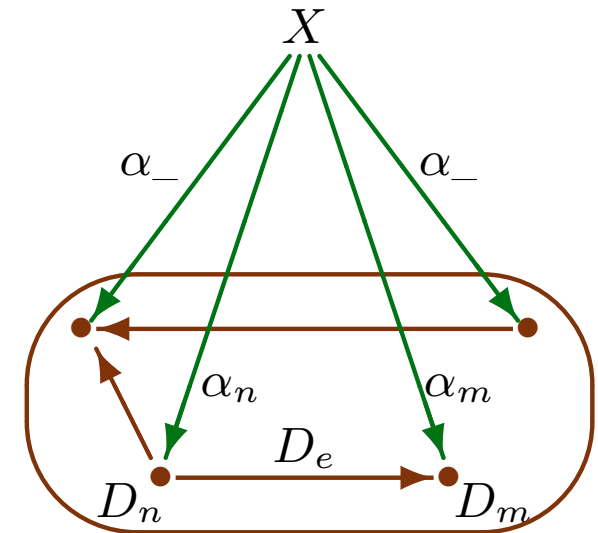
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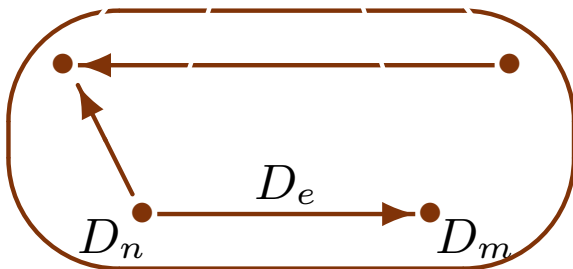
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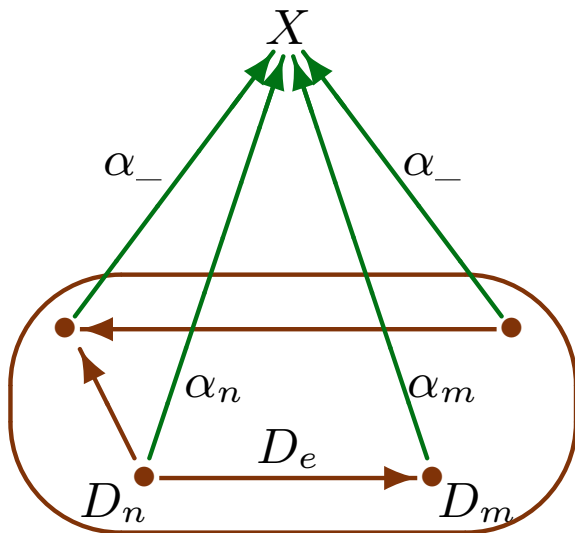
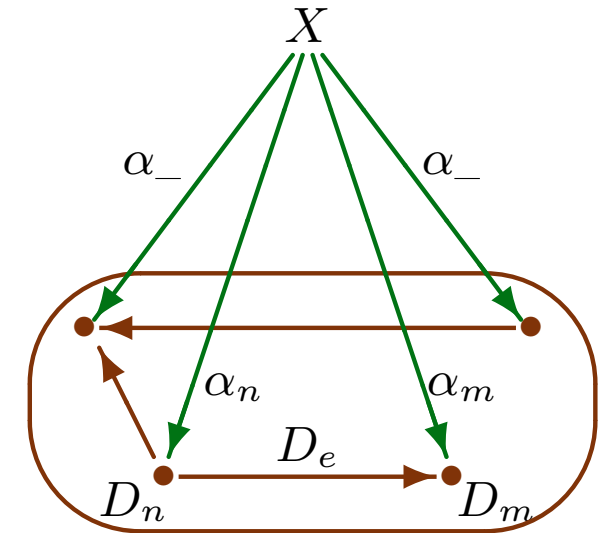
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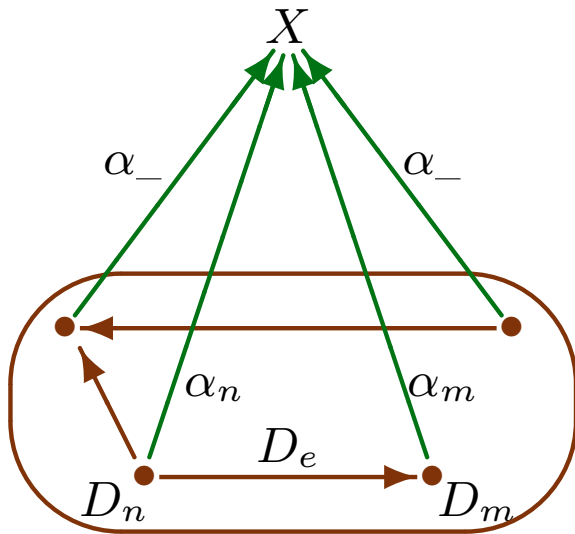
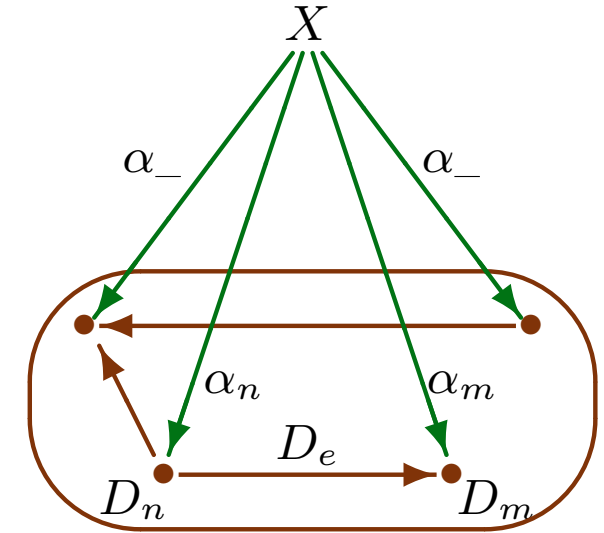


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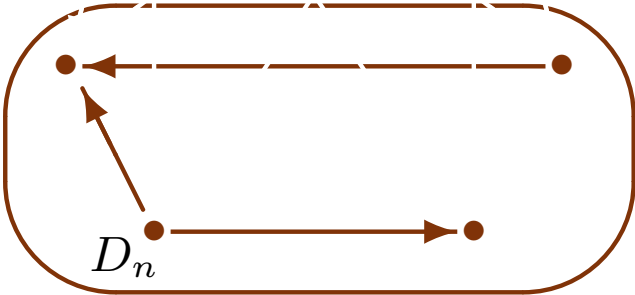
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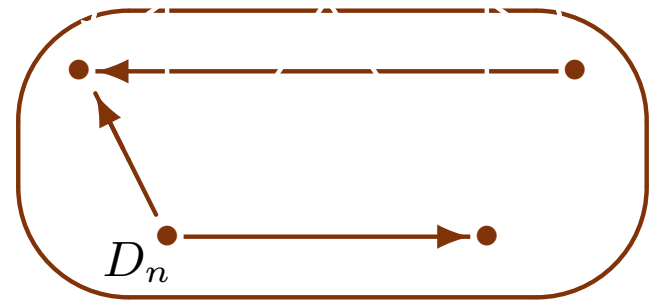
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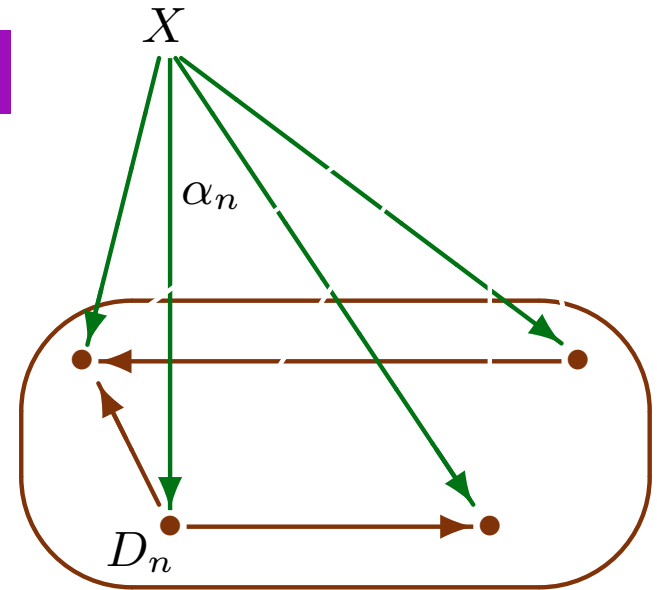
## Limits and colimits

A *limit* of  $D$  (in  $\mathbf{K}$ )



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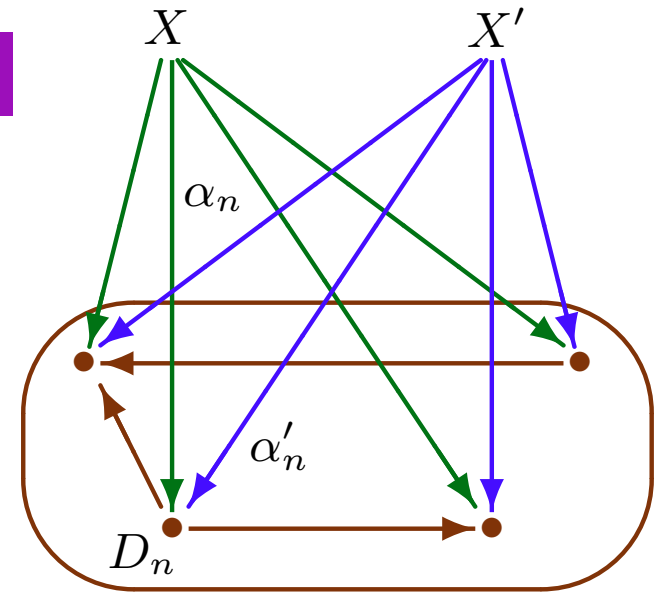
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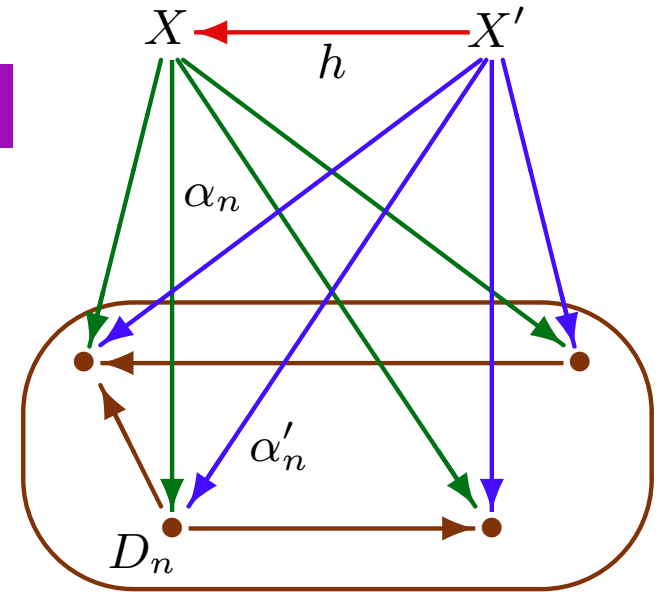
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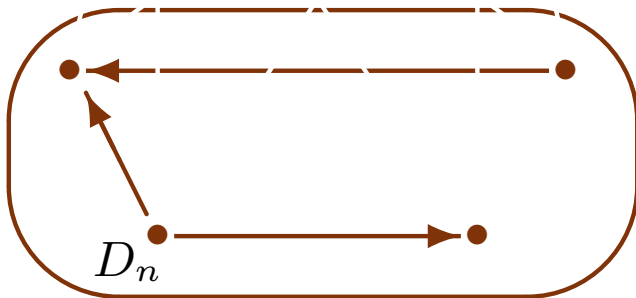
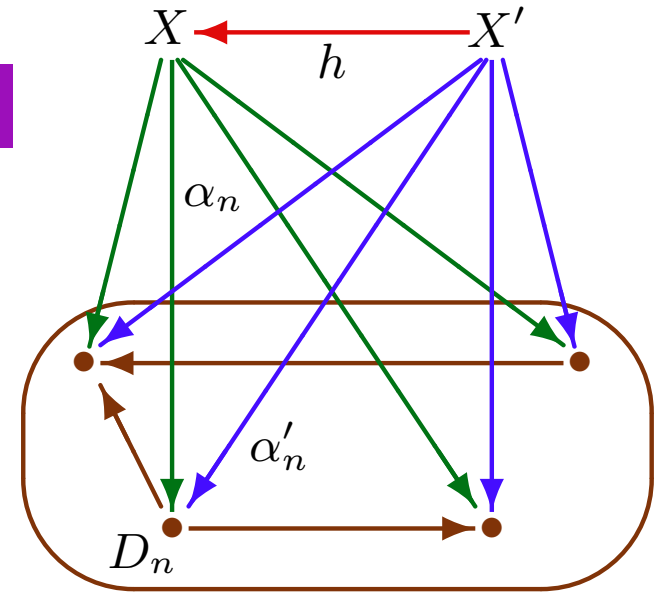
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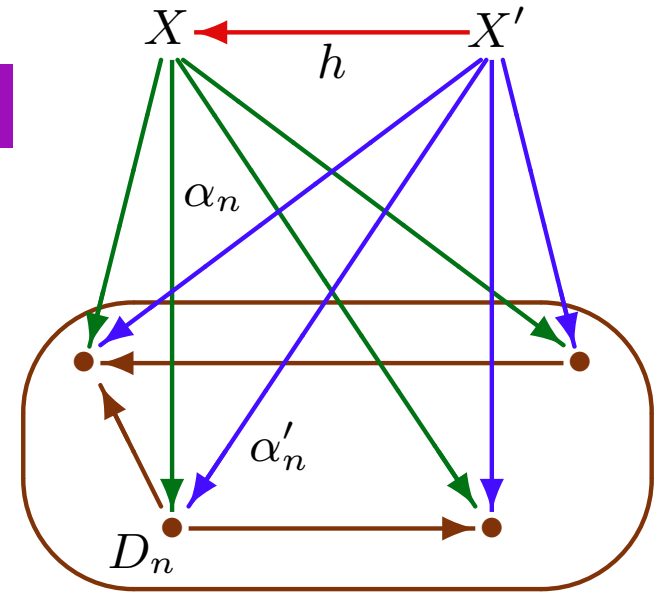
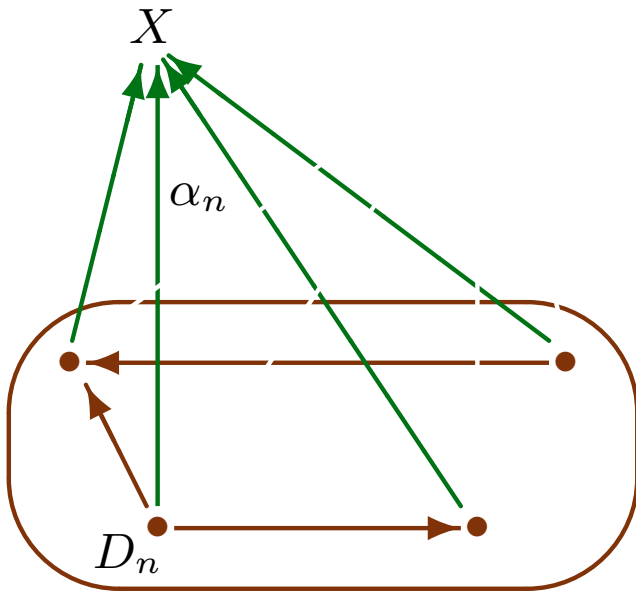
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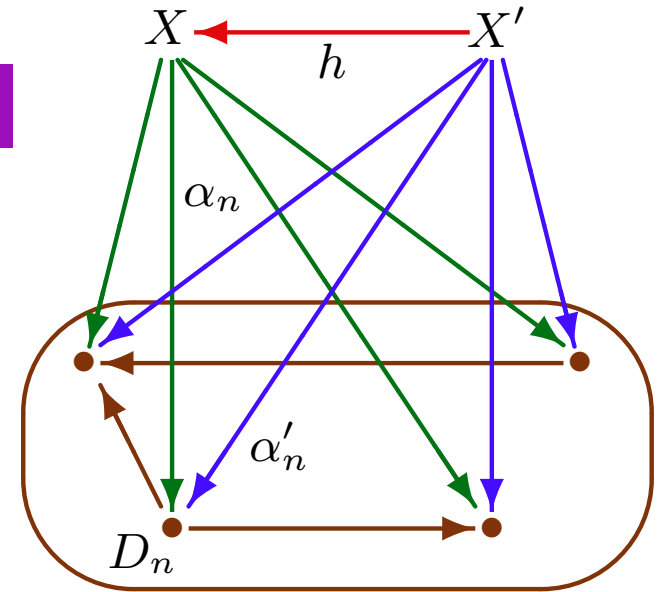
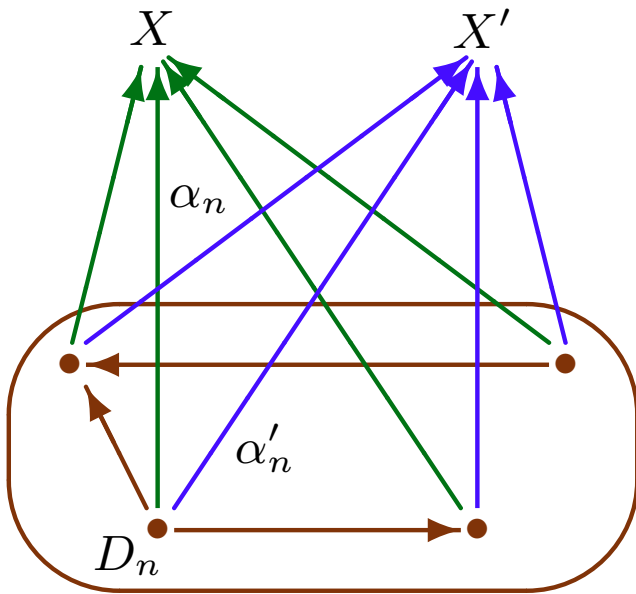
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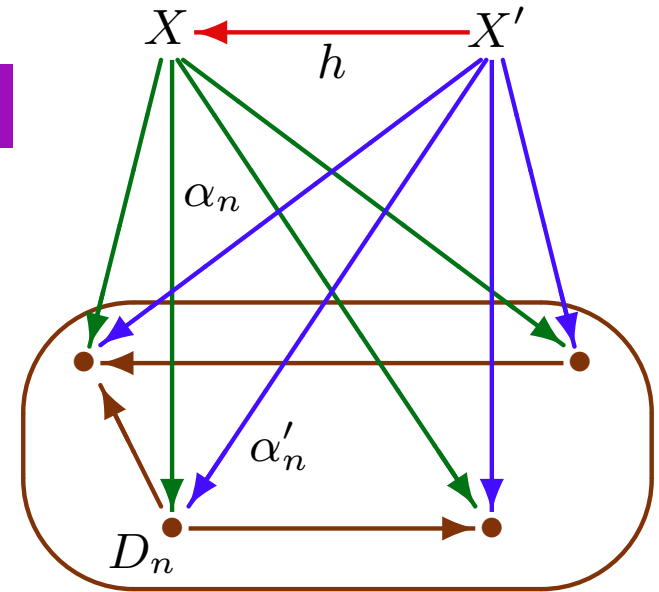
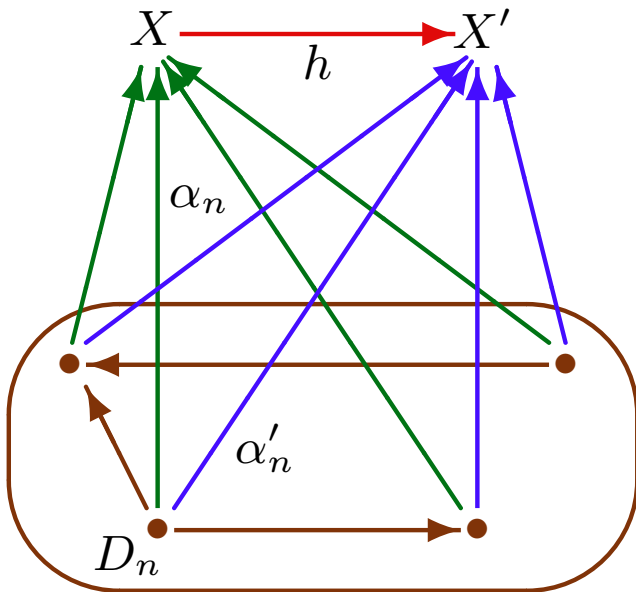
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diagram	limit	in Set

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**Cones**  $X \xrightarrow{\alpha_A} A \begin{matrix} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{matrix} B$  where  $\alpha_A;f = \alpha_B$  and  $\alpha_A;g = \alpha_B$

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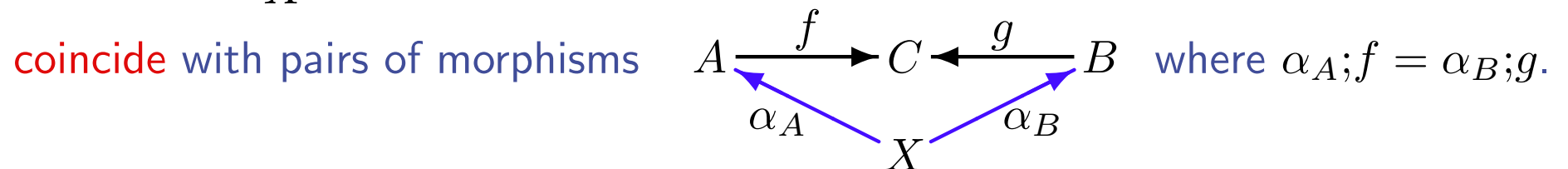
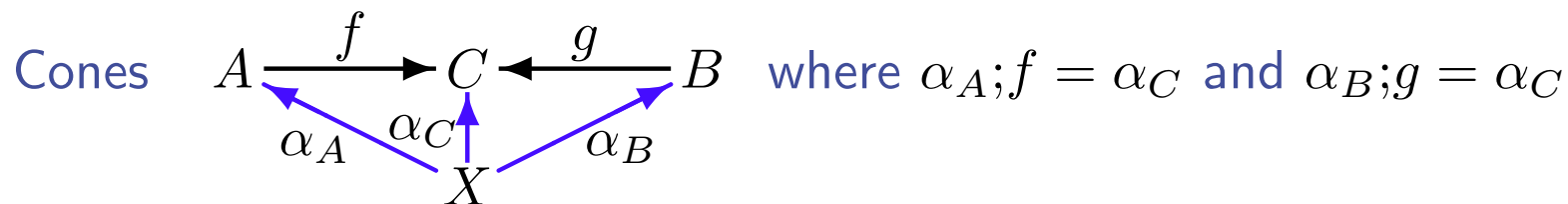
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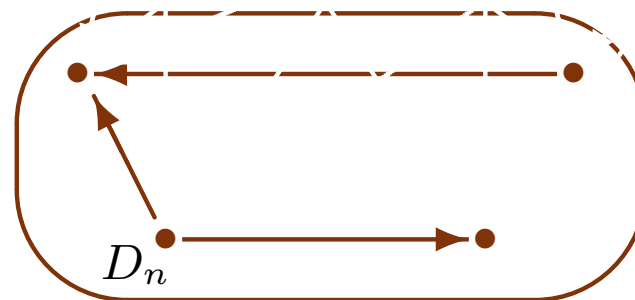
## ... & colimits

diagram	colimit	in Set
(empty)	<i>initial object</i>	$\emptyset$
$A \quad B$	<i>coproduct</i>	$A \uplus B$
$A \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{f} \\ \xrightarrow{g} \end{array} B$	<i>coequaliser</i>	$B \longrightarrow B/\equiv$ where $f(a) \equiv g(a)$ for all $a \in A$
$A \xleftarrow{f} C \xrightarrow{g} B$	<i>pushout</i>	$(A \uplus B)/\equiv$ where $f(c) \equiv g(c)$ for all $c \in C$

# Exercises

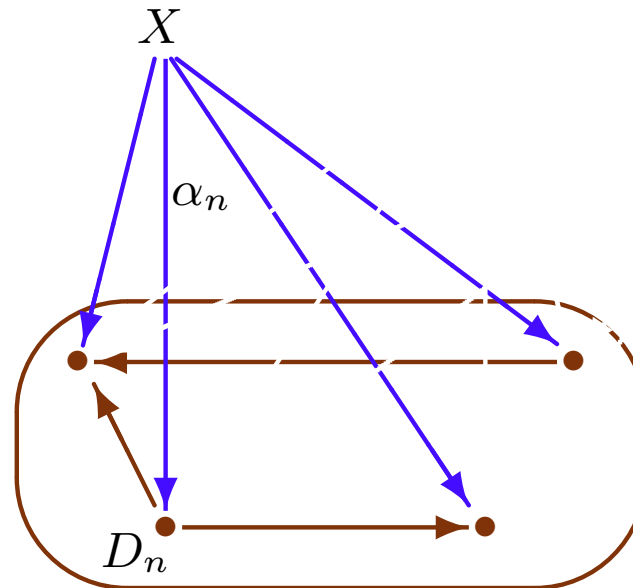
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- For any diagram  $D$ , define the *category of cones over  $D$* ,  $\mathbf{Cone}(D)$ :



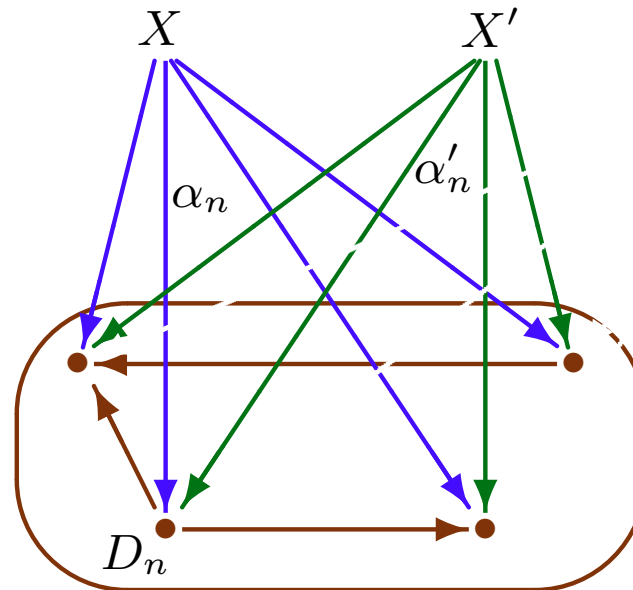
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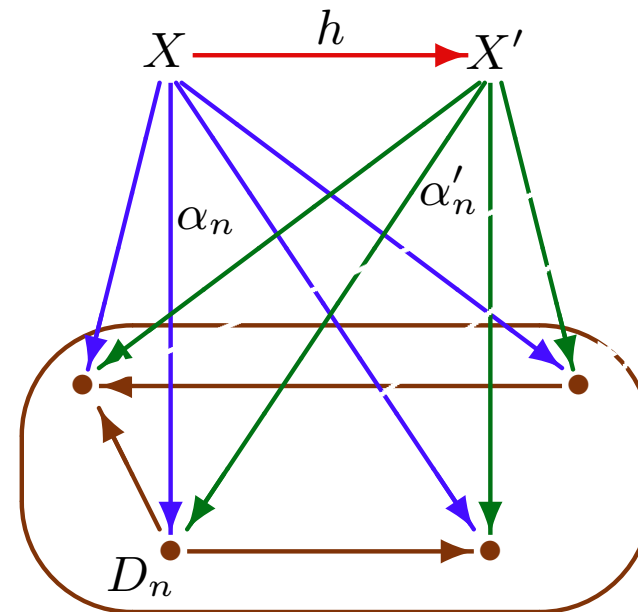
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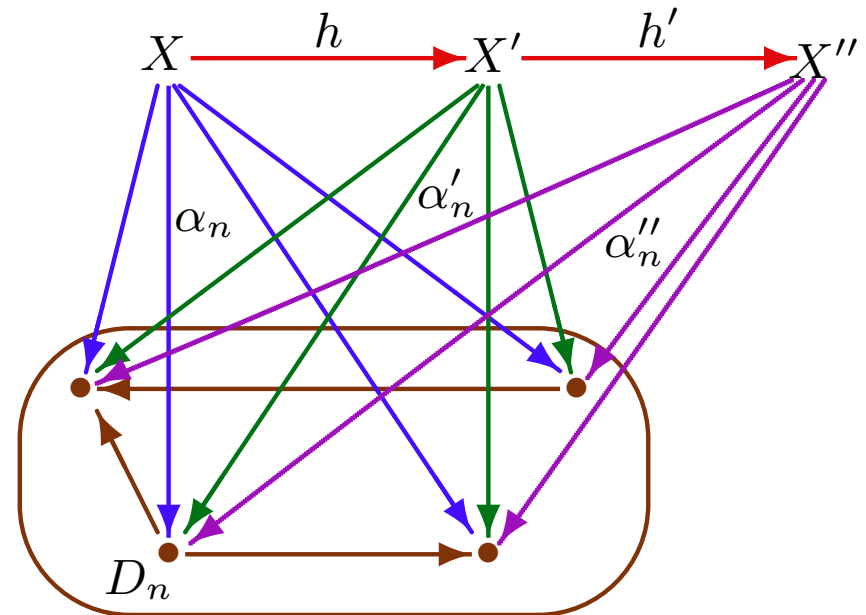
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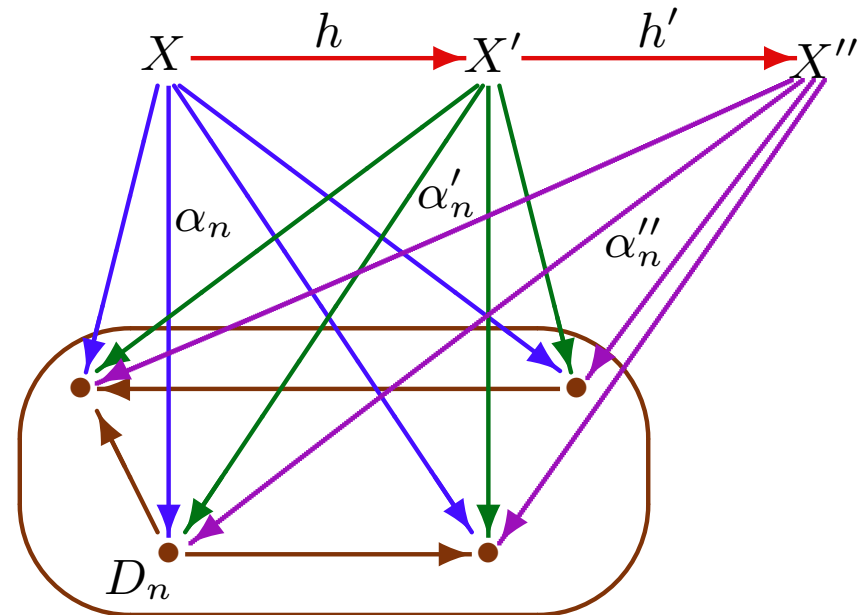




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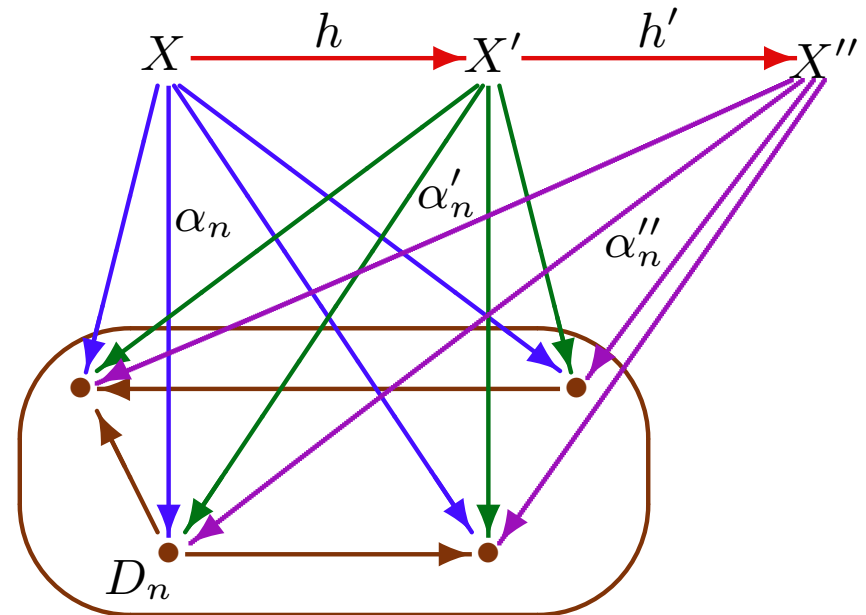


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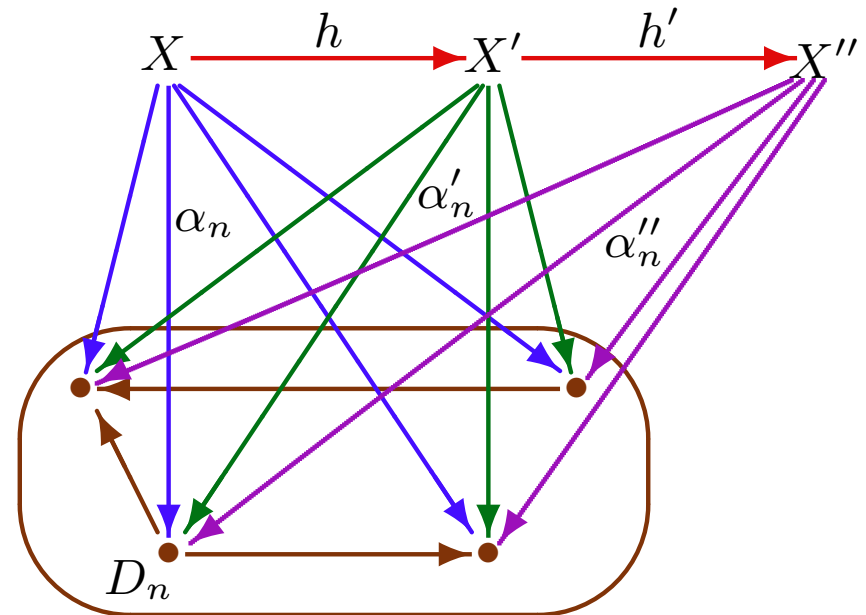


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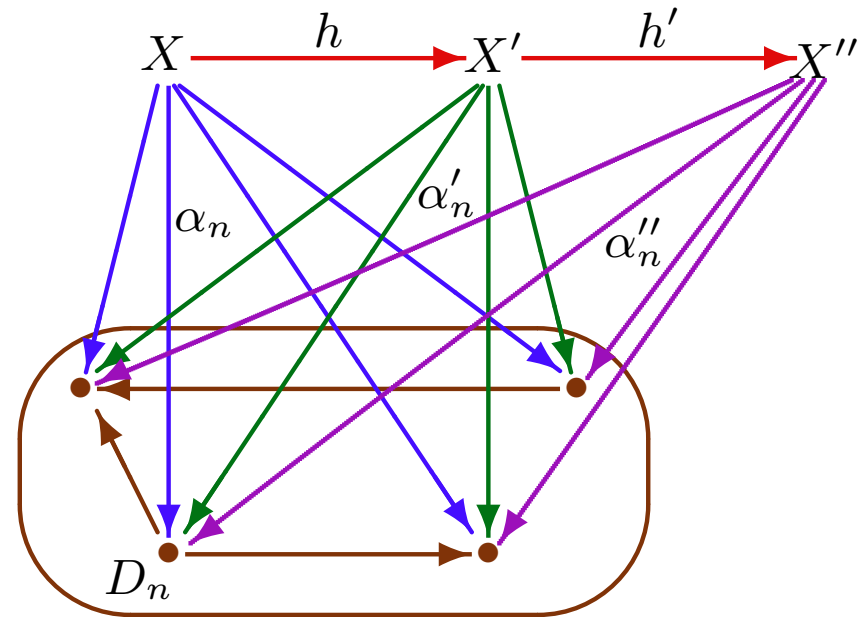


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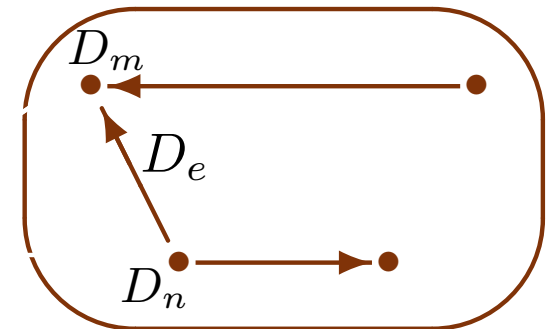
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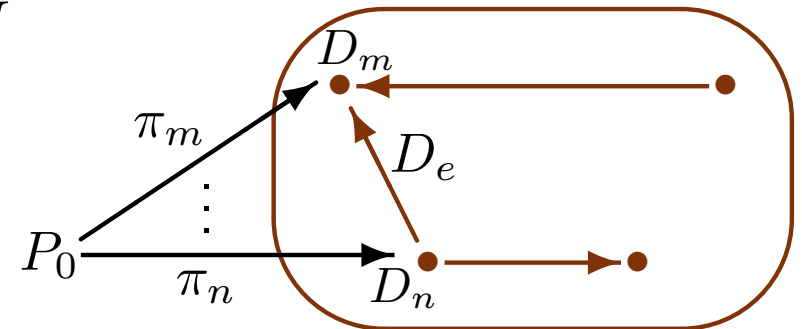
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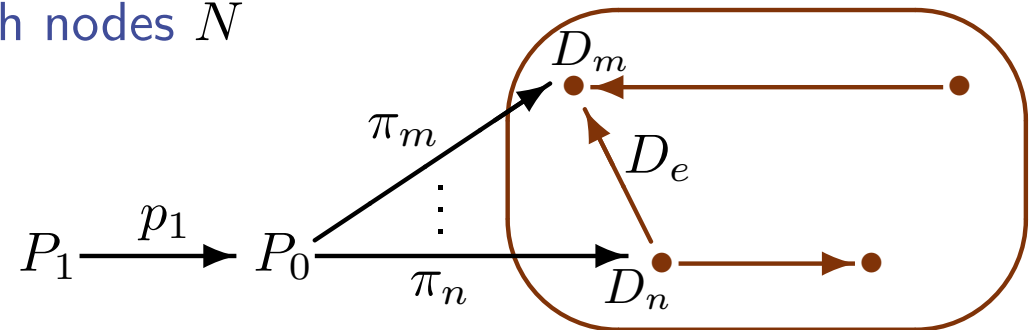
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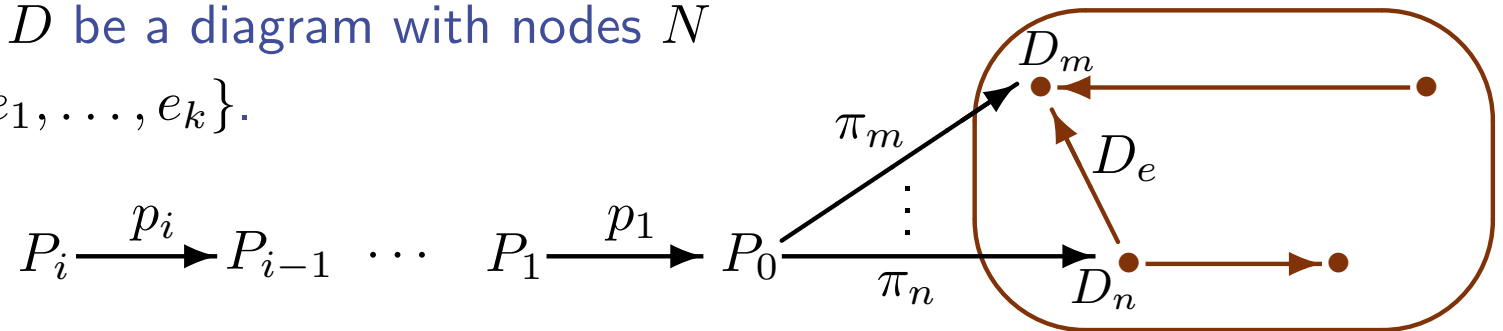
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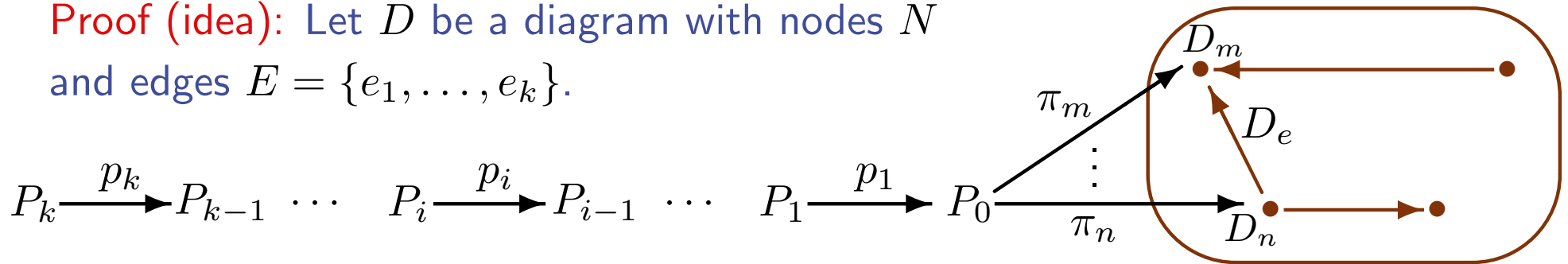
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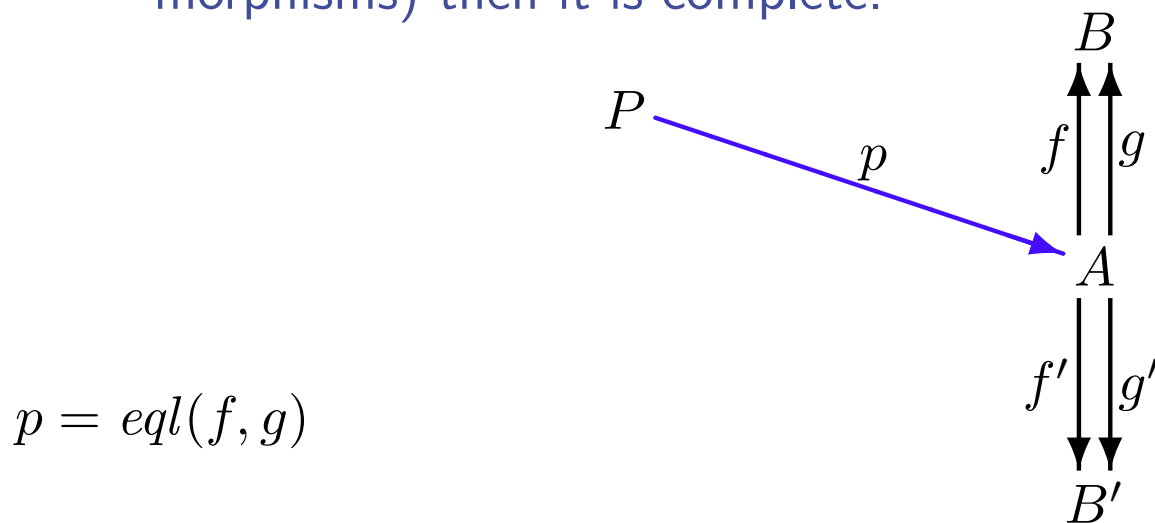


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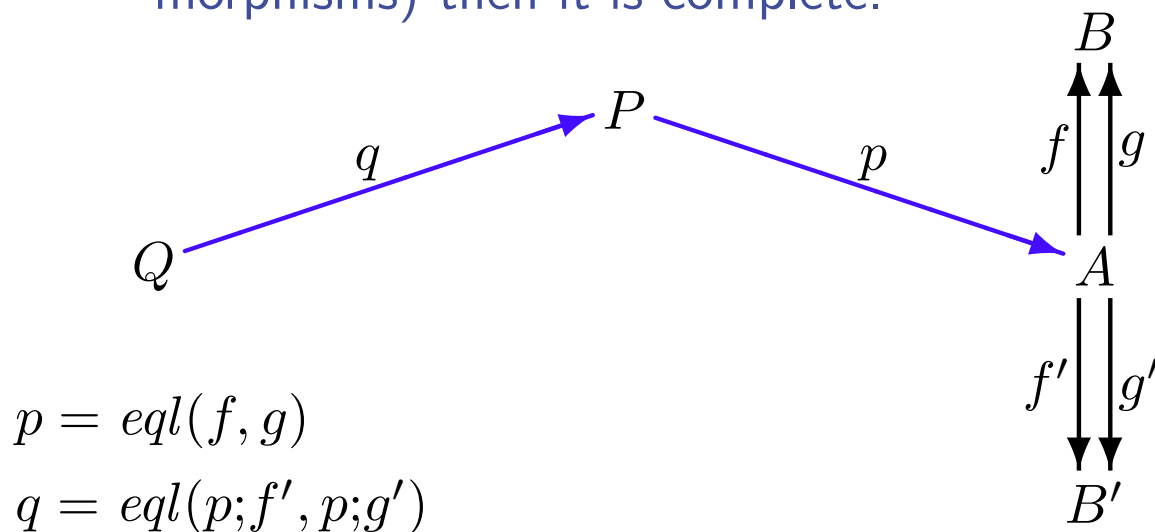


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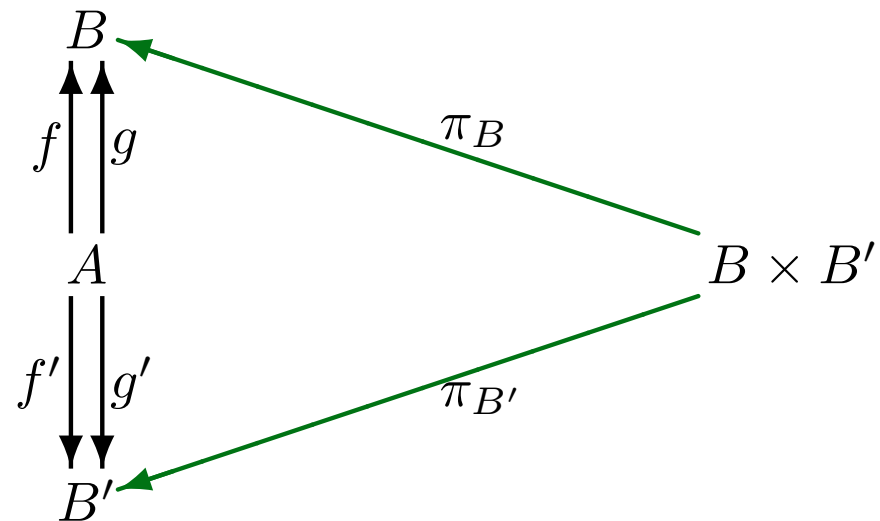


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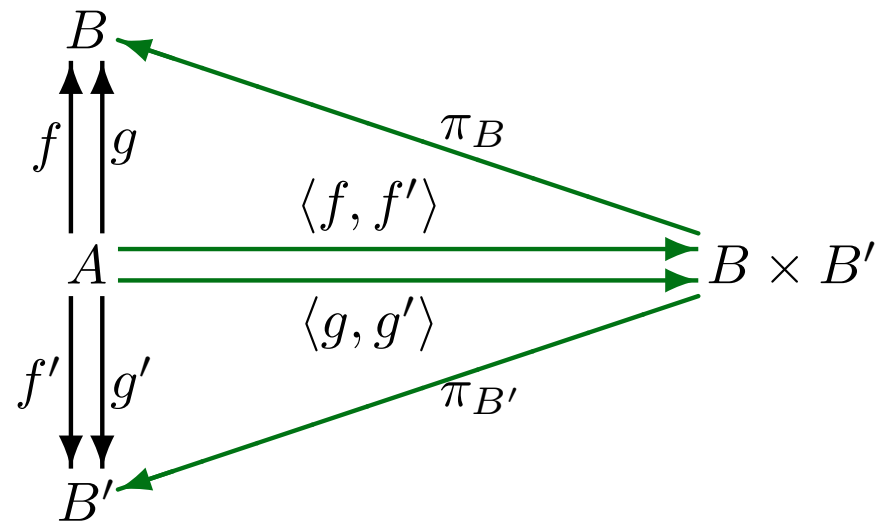


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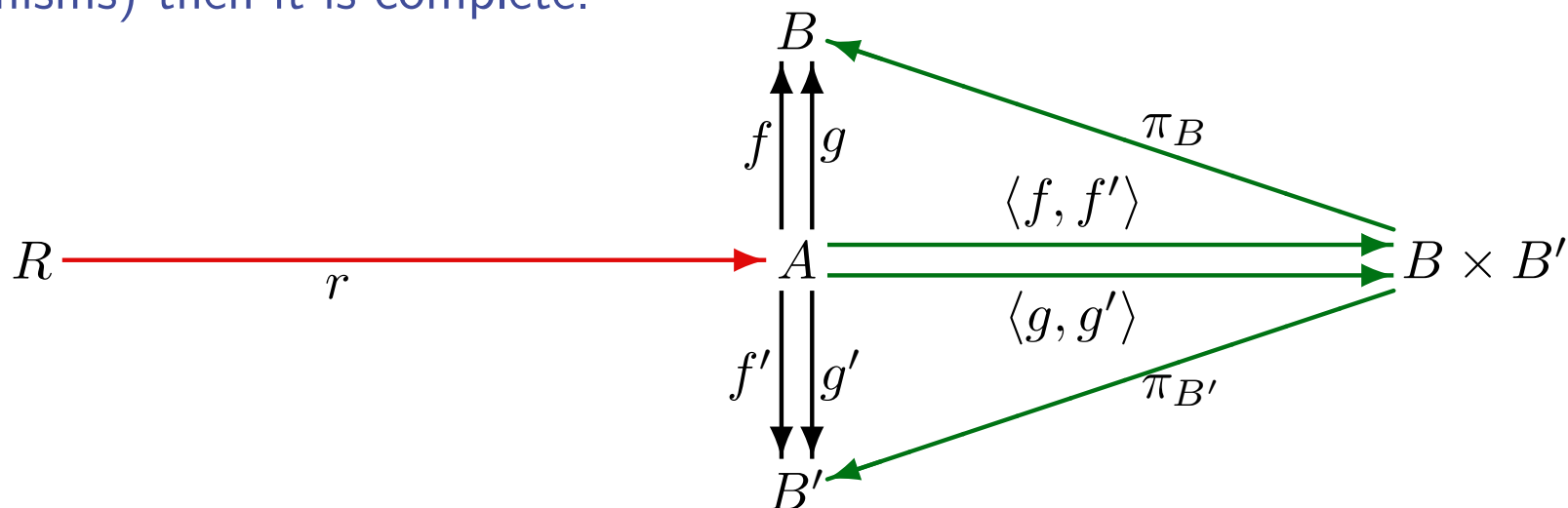


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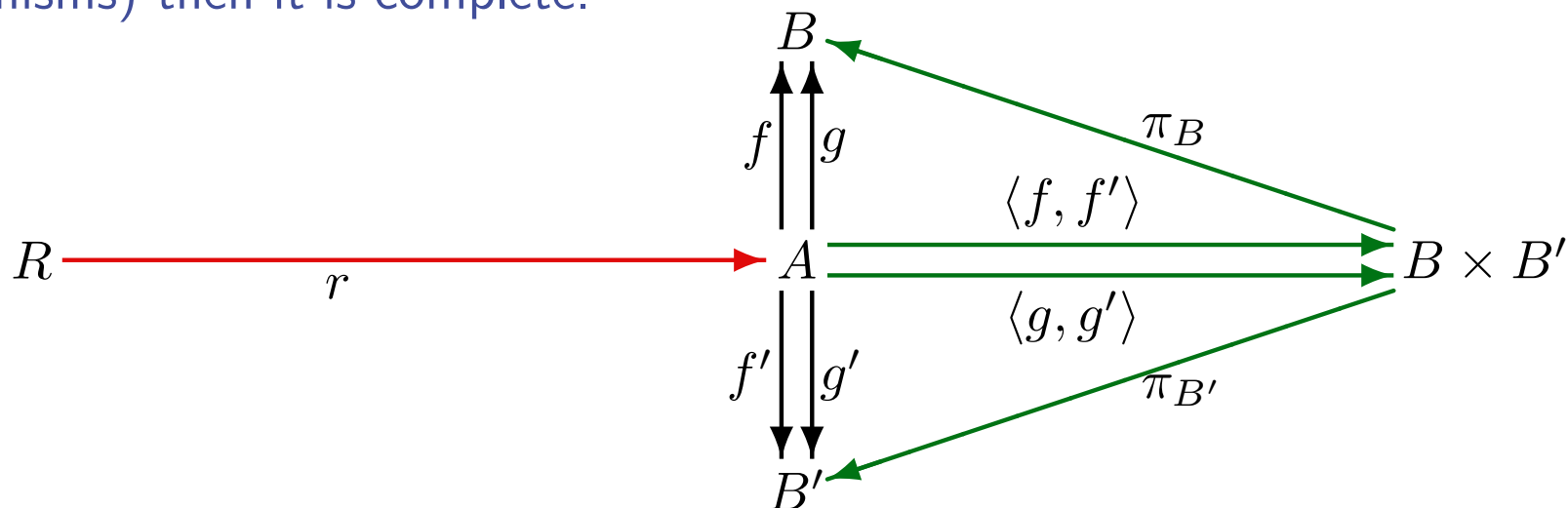
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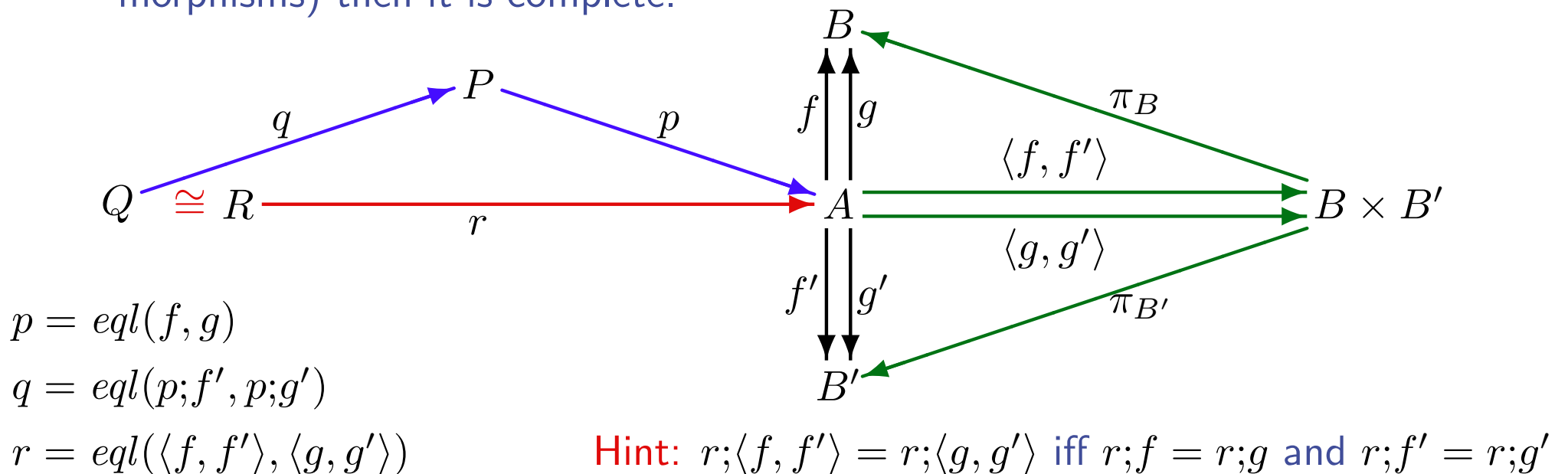
**Hint:**  $r; \langle f, f' \rangle = r; \langle g, g' \rangle$  iff  $r; f = r; g$  and  $r; f' = r; g'$

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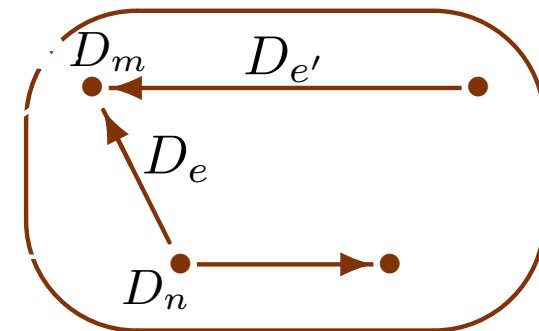
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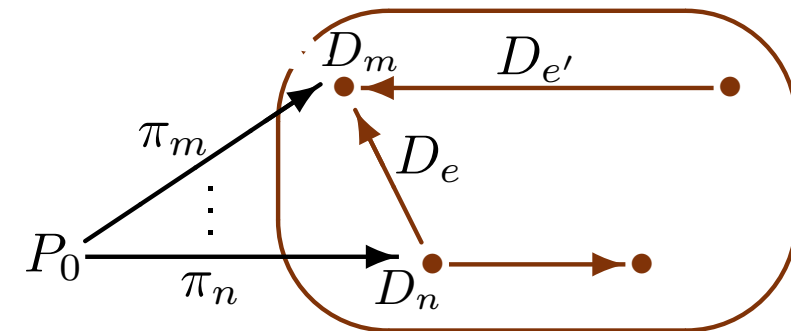
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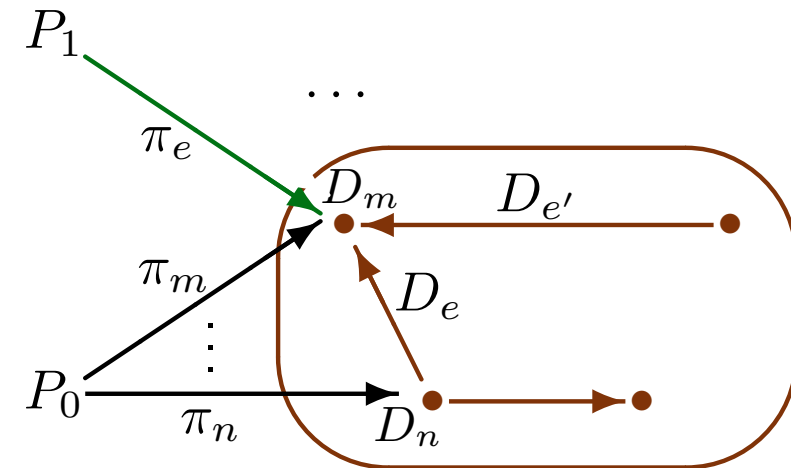
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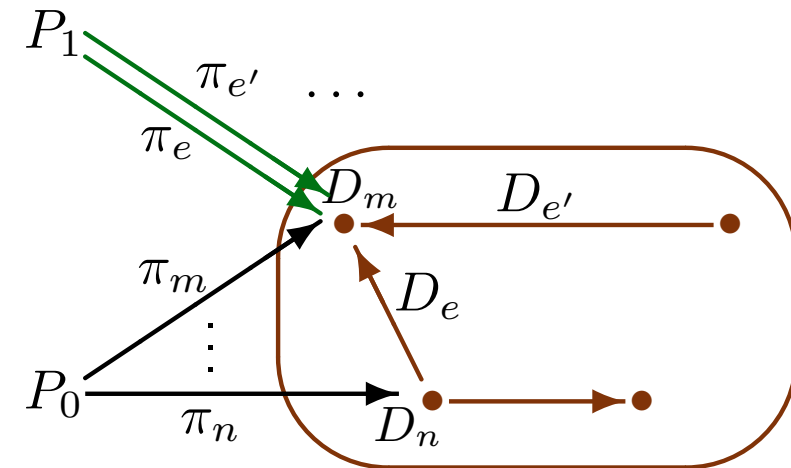
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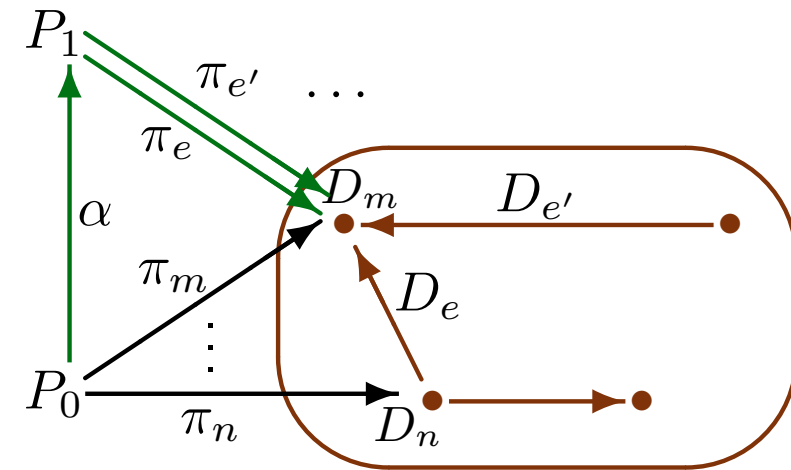
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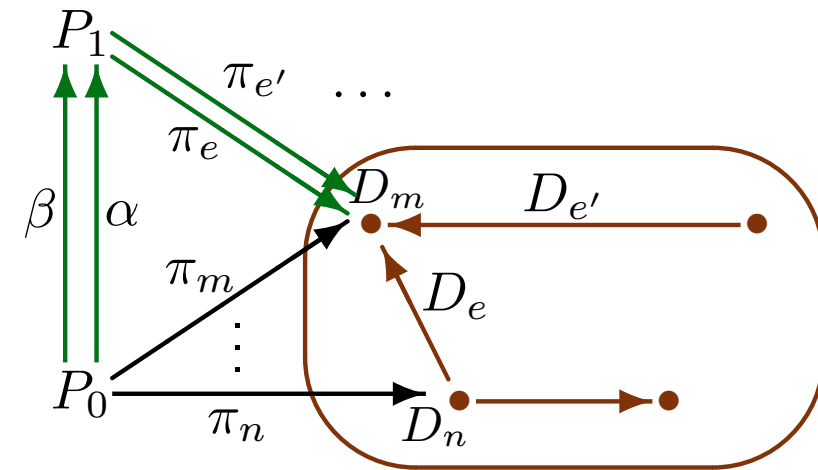
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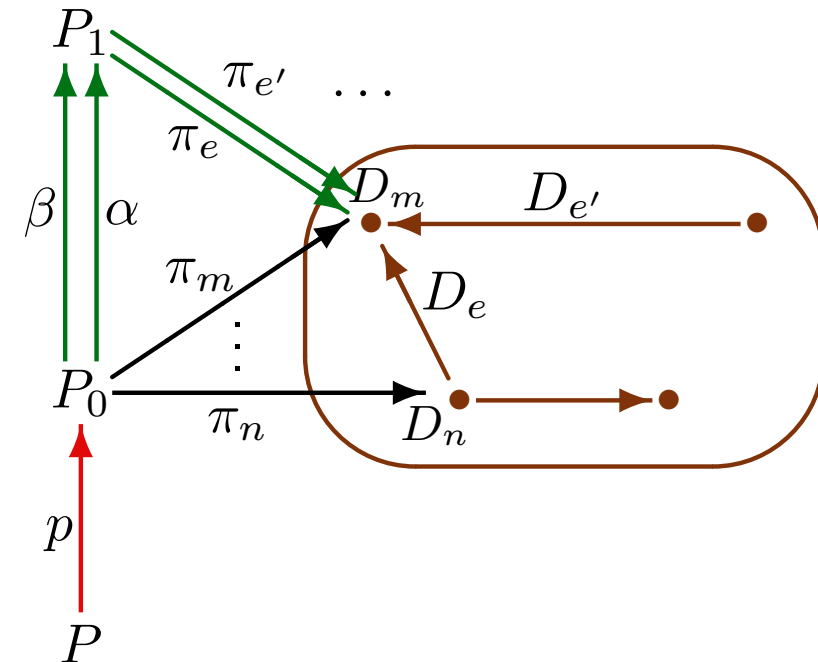
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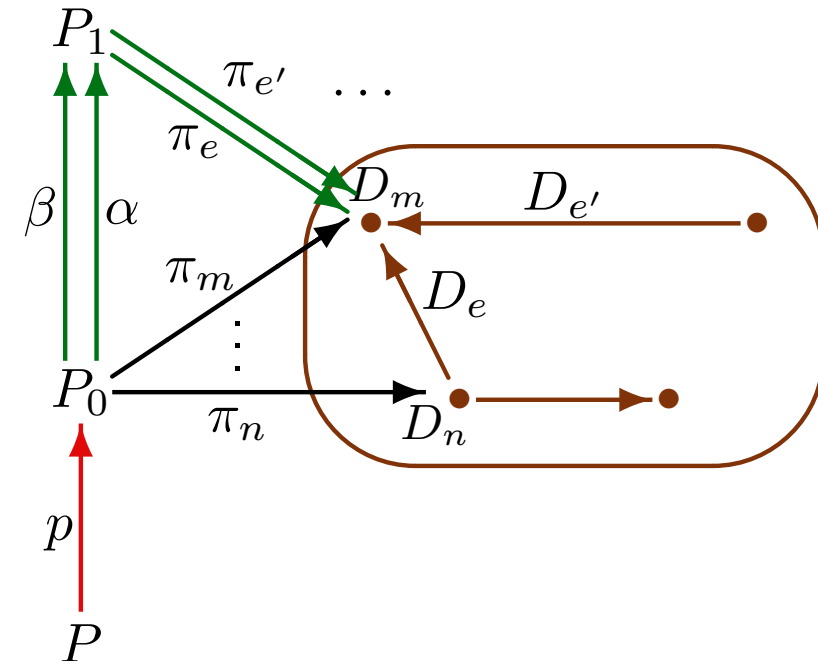
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- $P$  with projections  $\langle p; \pi_n \rangle_{n \in N}$  is the limit of  $D$ .



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