

# Inductive Definitions, Imaginary Locales, Generalized Geometric Propositional Theories

Giovanni Curi

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## Outline of the talk

1. Background material on CZF. Inductive definitions.
2. Ordered structures in CZF.
3. Constructive point-free topology: some history, some terminology.
4. Constructive point-free topology: frame presentations/imaginary locales.
5. Formal definitions of FrmPr/ImLoc, FT/FSp, IFT/IFSp.
6. Imaginary locales and geometric propositional logic (work in progress).
7. Limits in ImLoc.
8. Applications: Johnstone-Tychonoff embedding theorem, small FSp-homsets in  $\text{CZF}_{exp} + \text{AC}_\omega$ ,  
...
9. Concluding remarks, open problems, possible developments.

## Constructive set theory: CZF

Working at the *intuitionistic generalized predicative* level it is important to be explicit on the adopted setting.

In this talk, we work in the framework of Aczel-Myhill's *constructive set theory*, CZF, and variants of it.

CZF is a subsystem of ZF (without AC); it uses intuitionistic logic in place of classical logic.

Among the modifications of the ZF axioms, two crucial ones are:

- The *Separation scheme* is weakened to the *Restricted Separation scheme*.

$\{x \in a : \varphi(x, \dots)\}$  is a set *whenever*  $\varphi$  is *bounded*.

$\varphi$  is *bounded* if quantifiers in  $\varphi$  appear in the form  $\forall x \in a, \exists x \in b$ .

- The *Powerset axiom* is weakened to the *Subset Collection scheme*.

Subset Collection is a strengthening of Myhill's *Exponentiation axiom*:

*Given any two sets  $A, B$  the class  $B^A$  of functions from  $A$  to  $B$  is a set.*

## Constructive set theory: CZF and $\text{CZF}_{exp}$

CZF with Subset Collection replaced by Exponentiation is indicated by  $\text{CZF}_{exp}$ .

*Intuitionistic set theory*  $\text{IZF} = \text{CZF} + \text{Sep} + \text{Pow}$ .

- $\text{CZF}_{exp} \subsetneq \text{CZF} \subsetneq \text{IZF} \subsetneq \text{ZF}$ .
- $\text{CZF}_{exp} + \text{EM} = \text{CZF} + \text{EM} = \text{IZF} + \text{EM} = \text{ZF}$ .

**Remark 1.** The Dedekind reals  $R_d$  form a *set* in CZF, and a *proper class* in  $\text{CZF}_{exp}$  (Lubarsky & Rathjen '08).

**Remark 2.** Although  $\text{Pow}(X)$  is not a set, it is a *class*, the class of *subsets* of  $X$ .

Class-sized objects often feature in a (generalized) predicative setting as CZF.

## The class inductive definition theorem

The following important theorem of constructive set theory will be exploited in this talk.

Recall that an *inductive definition* is a class  $\Phi$  of pairs  $(a, X)$ .

Given an inductive definition  $\Phi$ , one says that a class  $A$  is  $\Phi$ -closed if:

$$(a, X) \in \Phi, \text{ and } X \subseteq A \text{ implies } a \in A.$$

**Theorem.** [Class inductive definition theorem, Aczel '82]. *Given any class  $\Phi$ , there is in CZF the least  $\Phi$ -closed class  $I(\Phi)$ , the class inductively defined by  $\Phi$ .*

**Ex.**  $\mathbb{N}$  is  $I(\Phi)$  for  $\Phi = \{(\emptyset, \emptyset)\} \cup \{(x^+, \{x\}) : x \in V\}$ ,  $x^+ = x \cup \{x\}$ .

**Remark.** This result holds also for  $\text{CZF}_{exp}$ , and in fact even without Exponentiation.

## The set inductive definition theorem

Even when  $\Phi$  is a set,  $I(\Phi)$  need not be a set in CZF.

However, in CZF plus the *regular extension axiom* (REA):

**Theorem [Aczel '86] (CZF+REA)** *If  $\Phi$  is bounded, in particular if  $\Phi$  is a set, then  $I(\Phi)$  is a set.*

(REA: *every set is the subset of a regular set.*)

REA is a proof-theoretically powerful axiom; REA implies that very general (transfinitely) inductively defined classes are sets.

Point-free topology in constructive set theory has (mostly) been developed over CZF+REA.

## Large ordered structures

A *partially ordered class* (po-class) is a class together with a class relation on it satisfying the usual axioms for a partial order.

A *large  $\bigvee$ -semilattice* is a partially ordered class that has suprema for arbitrary *subsets*.

A *class-frame*, or *class-locale*,  $X$  is a  $\bigvee$ -semilattice that has a top element  $\top$ , binary meets, and that is such that meets distribute over suprema of arbitrary sets of elements of  $X$ .

(Aczel & Rathjen '01, Aczel, '06).

**Note:** considered in (I)ZF, these structures remain class-sized.

## Large ordered structures (cont.)

In CZF it has no use to ask that these structures are carried by sets, as this can never be the case when they are non-degenerate (Curi '10b).

A large  $\bigvee$ -semilattice, or a class-frame,  $L$  is *set-generated* if it has a generating set, i.e. a subset  $B$  of  $L$  such that, for all  $x \in L$ ,

*i.* the class  $D_x \equiv \{b \in B \mid b \leq x\}$  is a set,

*ii.*  $x = \bigvee D_x$

(Aczel & Rathjen '01, Aczel, '06).

In (I)ZF set-generated large  $\bigvee$ -semilattices are 'the same' as ordinary  $\bigvee$ -semilattices, and similarly for set-generated class-frames.

We shall then refer to these structures simply as  $\bigvee$ -*semilattices* and *frames*.



## Superlarge categories of large ordered structures

A homomorphism of large  $\bigvee$ -semilattices is a class function that respects set-indexed joins. With these homomorphisms (set-generated large)  $\bigvee$ -semilattices form the category  $\mathbf{JSLat}_{sg}$ .

Similarly one defines the category  $\mathbf{Frm}_{sg}$  of (set-generated class-) frames, and  $\mathbf{PFrm}_{sg}$  of (set-generated class-) preframes.

Then, in (I)ZF,

$$\mathbf{JSLat}_{sg} \equiv \mathbf{JSLat}, \quad \mathbf{Frm}_{sg} \equiv \mathbf{Frm}, \quad \mathbf{PFrm}_{sg} \equiv \mathbf{Frm}.$$

## Superlarge categories of large ordered structures (cont.)

In (I)ZF, **JSLat**, **Frm**, and **PFrm** are *locally small categories*.

In CZF, **JSLat**<sub>sg</sub> and **PFrm**<sub>sg</sub> fail badly to enjoy this property:

**Theorem 1** *In the categories **JSLat**<sub>sg</sub> of  $\bigvee$ -semilattices, and **PFrm**<sub>sg</sub> of preframes, no non-singleton  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  can be proved to be set-indexed in CZF.*

**Proof.** Ordered pointwise,  $\text{Hom}(X, Y)$  has, in the two cases, the structure of  $\bigvee$ -semilattice and of a preframe, respectively. Via a modification of the proof that no non-trivial large  $\bigvee$ -semilattice or class-preframe may be carried by a set in CZF (Curi '10b), one concludes.

**Remark.** This result holds also with respect to systems stronger than CZF, such as CZF+REA+PA+Sep.

One may be tempted to think that the same holds for frames.

*Fortunately*, this is *not* the case (more about this below).

## Constructive point-free topology: some history

**WARNING:** From now on, 'constructive' will stand for 'intuitionistic and predicative'.

As we have seen, the standard notion of locale (frame,  $\text{cHa}$ ) is not adequate to a constructive setting, as it *presupposes* the existence of powerobjects.

The category **FSp** of *formal spaces* (Martin-Löf-Sambin '87, Aczel '06) provides a presentation of the concept of locale suited for type theory, CZF:

In IZF,

$$\mathbf{FSp} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{Loc}.$$

(In CZF, **FSp** is dually equivalent to the category of set-generated class-frames).

However, some standard topological (and localic) constructions appear not to be possible for formal spaces:

given arbitrary (formal) spaces  $X_1, X_2$ , one does not even know how to define

$$X_1 \times X_2$$

in a constructive way. Similarly, no uniform method exists for constructing pullbacks, equalizers, ... (limits and colimits), method that exists, in IZF, for locales and topological spaces.

## Constructive point-free topology: some history (cont.)

The full subcategory **IFSp** of **FSp**, of *inductively generated formal spaces*, has been introduced in particular to fix this problem.

Cf. (Coquand, Sambin, Smith, Valentini '03), (Aczel '06).

In IZF, again,

$$\mathbf{IFSp} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{Loc}.$$

In CZF+REA, and in (a sufficiently strong version of) CTT:

- **IFSp** has limits, in particular arbitrary products.

In CZF+sREA+DC, CTT:

- **IFSp** has colimits

(Palmgren '06, Palmgren '05, Aczel 201?, ...).

However, **IFSp** does not contain important classes of formal spaces (Curi '10a).

In particular, given any  $X$  in **(I)FSp** there is a subspace  $Y$  of  $X$  that is not in **IFSp**.

Moreover, some strong principle for the existence of inductively defined sets, as REA, is *necessary* for guaranteeing the existence of (co/)limits.

## Frame presentations/Imaginary locales

In constructive set theory we shall consider an *extension* of the category of formal spaces:

the category **ImLoc** of *imaginary locales*.

In contrast with formal spaces and inductively generated formal spaces, *an imaginary locale does not have an associated (class-)frame of formal opens in CZF*. However, one still has:

in IZF,

$$\mathbf{ImLoc} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{Loc}.$$

In CZF (or  $\text{CZF}_{exp}$ ), *even without REA*,

- **ImLoc** has all limits.

**ImLoc** can be used to obtain results concerning **FSp**, **IFSp**.

Using imaginary locales it should be possible to systematically avoid applications of strong principles for the existence of inductively defined sets, as REA, in developing point-free topology in constructive set theory.

## The categories FrmPr, FT, and IFT

A *generalized covering system* on a preordered set  $(S, \leq)$  is an inductive definition on  $S$ , i.e. a class  $\Phi \subseteq S \times \text{Pow}(S)$  such that, for all  $(a, X)$  in  $\Phi$ ,

1.  $X \subseteq \downarrow \{a\}$ ;
2. If  $b \leq a$  there is  $(b, Y) \in \Phi$  with  $Y \subseteq \downarrow X$ .

A *frame presentation* is a structure of the form  $\mathcal{C} \equiv (S, \leq, \Phi)$ , with  $\Phi$  a generalized covering system on the preordered set  $(S, \leq)$ .

## The category of frame presentations/imaginary locales

Given a frame presentation  $\mathcal{C} \equiv (S, \leq, \Phi)$ , consider the class  $\Phi_{\leq} = \Phi \cup \{(b, \{a\}) \mid b \leq a\}$ .

As  $\Phi_{\leq}$  is an inductive definition, given any subclass  $U$  of  $S$  there exists in CZF the least class

$$A(U) \equiv I(\Phi_{\leq}, U)$$

inductively defined by  $\Phi_{\leq}$  and containing  $U$ .

**Theorem 2** *For every  $a, b \in S$ , and for every subclass  $U$  of  $S$ , the following holds:*

0.  $\downarrow \{a\} \subseteq A(\{a\})$ ,
1.  $U \subseteq A(U)$ ,
2.  $U \subseteq A(V)$  implies  $A(U) \subseteq A(V)$ ,
3.  $A(U) \cap A(V) \subseteq A(\downarrow U \cap \downarrow V)$ .

Given frame presentations  $\mathcal{C}_1, \mathcal{C}_2$ , we define a *homomorphism*  $f : \mathcal{C}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{C}_2$  to be a mapping

$$f : S_1 \rightarrow \text{Pow}(S_2)$$

such that, for every  $a, b \in S_1$ , and for every subset  $U$  of  $S_1$ ,

1.  $S_2 \subseteq A_2(f(S_1))$ ,
2.  $\downarrow f(a) \cap \downarrow f(b) \subseteq A_2(f(\downarrow \{a\} \cap \downarrow \{b\}))$ ,
3.  $a \in A_1(U)$  implies  $f(a) \subseteq A_2(f(U))$ ,

with, for  $V \in \text{Pow}(S_1)$ ,  $f(V) \equiv \bigcup_{a \in V} f(a)$ .

Two parallel homomorphisms  $f, g : S_1 \rightarrow S_2$  are *equal* if  $A_2(f(a)) = A_2(g(a))$ , for all  $a \in S_1$ .

With this notion of morphism, frame presentations define the category **FrmPr**.

**Remark 1** C. Fox, independently and for other purposes, considered in his thesis a similar (but not equivalent) category.



## Formal topologies and inductively generated formal topologies

Two subcategories of this category are equivalent to two already known categories:

let **FT** be the full subcategory of **FrmPr** given by those frame presentation  $\mathcal{C} \equiv (S, \leq, \Phi)$  which satisfy

(*A-smallness*)  $A(U)$  set, for every  $U \in \text{Pow}(S)$ ,

and let **IFT** be the full subcategory of **FrmPr** given by those  $\mathcal{C} \equiv (S, \leq, \Phi)$  which satisfy the *A-smallness condition*, and are such that

( *$\Phi$ -smallness*)  $\Phi$  set,

i.e., such that  $\Phi$  is an ordinary *covering system*.

**FT** and **IFT** are respectively (equivalent to) the categories of *formal topologies* and the category of *inductively generated formal topologies*.

## Frame presentations need not present, constructively

As any  $X \in \mathbf{FT}$  (in particular any  $X \in \mathbf{IFT}$ ) satisfies the A-smallness condition, one can consider the *class*

$$\text{Sat}(X) \equiv \{A(U) : U \in \text{Pow}(S)\}$$

of *saturated subsets* of  $X$ .

Theorem 2 implies that, endowed with the operations

$$U \wedge V \equiv U \downarrow V, \quad \bigvee_{i \in I} U_i \equiv A\left(\bigcup_{i \in I} U_i\right),$$

$\text{Sat}(X)$  is a (set-generated class-)frame.

Thus, a *formal topology* (i.g. or not) always defines (in fact presents) a frame.

On the other hand, since for a general frame presentation  $A(U)$  need not be a set for every  $U$ , a frame presentation need not present a frame!

## ImLoc, FSp, IFSp

In other words, given a frame presentation, one has an associated class of 'names' for the formal opens, the class  $\text{Pow}(S)$ , whereas with a formal space  $X$  one has a class of veritable 'opens', the class  $\text{Sat}(X)$ .

In particular, a homomorphism of frame presentations associates to a basic element of the domain only a *name* for an open of the codomain.

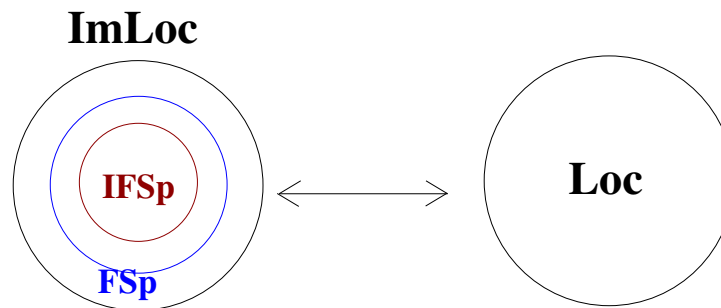
Define

- the category **ImLoc** of *imaginary locales* to be  $\mathbf{FrmPr}^{op}$
- the category **FSp** of *formal spaces* to be  $\mathbf{FT}^{op}$
- the category **IFSp** of *inductively generated formal spaces* to be  $\mathbf{IFT}^{op}$

Adding Full Separation  $\mathbf{FrmPr} = \mathbf{FT}$ , and adding also Powerset, i.e. in IZF,

$$\mathbf{FrmPr} = \mathbf{FT} = \mathbf{IFT} = \mathbf{Frm},$$

thus:



# Generalized geometric propositional theories, 1

Let  $P$  a set of atomic propositional symbols. A propositional geometric formula is one built from the atoms using finite conjunctions and set-indexed disjunctions.

We define a *generalized* propositional geometric theory  $\mathbb{T}$  to be given by a possibly proper *class* of axioms of the form

$$\wedge \bar{p} \vdash \bigvee_{\bar{q} \in U} \wedge \bar{q},$$

for  $\bar{p} \in \text{Pow}_{fin}(P)$ ,  $U \in \text{Pow}(\text{Pow}_{fin}(P))$ . By letting

$$S_{\mathbb{T}} = \text{Pow}_{fin}(P), \quad \bar{p}_1 \leq_{\mathbb{T}} \bar{p}_2 \iff \bar{p}_2 \subseteq \bar{p}_1, \quad \text{and} \quad \Phi_{\mathbb{T}} = \{(\bar{l}, \downarrow U \cap \downarrow \bar{l}) : \bar{l} \leq \bar{p} \ \& \ [\wedge \bar{p} \vdash \bigvee_{\bar{q} \in U} \wedge \bar{q}] \in \mathbb{T}\},$$

one obtains a frame presentation  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}$ .

- If  $\mathbb{T}$  is such that, for every  $U \in \text{Pow}(S_{\mathbb{T}})$ , the class

$$\{\bar{p} \in S_{\mathbb{T}} : \wedge \bar{p} \vdash \bigvee_{\bar{q} \in U} \wedge \bar{q} \text{ is derivable in } \mathbb{T}\} \text{ is a set,}$$

then  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}$  is a formal topology.

- If, furthermore,  $\mathbb{T}$  is a set, then  $\mathcal{C}_{\mathbb{T}}$  is an inductively generated formal topology.

## Generalized geometric propositional theories, 2

In (Curi '10a) we proved that in particular the following classes of formal topologies cannot be proved to be inductively generated in CZF (+ REA + ...).

- (Non-trivial) Boolean formal topologies (see also (Gambino '06, Grayson '83));
- (Non-trivial) De Morgan (or extremally disconnected) formal topologies satisfying a weak decidability condition.

*Thus, the generalized propositional geometric theories  $\mathbb{T}$  corresponding to these formal topologies must have a proper class of axioms.*

In (Caramello '08) the syntactic Booleanization and DeMorganization of a geometric theory are described.

The recalled results then imply that the sequents (axioms) one adds in e.g. the Booleanization of a propositional geometric theory  $\mathbb{T}$ , must form a proper class (in CZF) for every consistent  $\mathbb{T}$ .

(So unless one argues in an essentially impredicative way, the class of these axioms will not be finite, or denumerable).

## Limits in ImLoc

Via minor modifications of constructions by Palmgren and Vickers for inductively generated formal spaces, one proves that **ImLoc** has all set-indexed limits.

However, while the constructions for formal spaces require REA, those for **ImLoc** can be derived in CZF, and even in  $\text{CZF}_{exp}$ . I.e., we have

- *in  $\text{CZF}_{exp}$ , **ImLoc** is a complete category.*

We discuss informally the construction of binary products, in particular of two *arbitrary* formal spaces.

## Products

A formal space is usually presented in the form  $X \equiv (S, \leq, \triangleleft)$ , obtained by the one considered before by letting  $a \triangleleft U \iff a \in A(U) \equiv I(\Phi_{\leq}, U)$ .

Given formal spaces  $X_1 \equiv (S_1, \leq_1, \triangleleft_1)$ ,  $X_2 \equiv (S_2, \leq_2, \triangleleft_2)$ , one would like to define

$$X_1 \times X_2$$

by letting  $X_1 \times X_2 \equiv (S_1 \times S_2, \leq, \triangleleft)$ , with  $\triangleleft$  the least covering containing the pairs:

$$\Phi \equiv \{((a, b), U \times \{b\}) : a \triangleleft_1 U, b \in S_2\} \cup \{((a, b), \{a\} \times V) : a \in S_1, b \triangleleft_2 V\}$$

Note that  $\Phi$  is proper class in general. In, e.g., IZF,  $\Phi$  is a set and one may obtain  $\triangleleft$  as the intersection of all cover relations containing  $\Phi$ .

If  $S_1, S_2$  are inductively generated by set-covering systems  $C_1, C_2$ , it suffices to consider the set of pairs

$$C \equiv \{((a, b), U \times \{b\}) : (a, U) \in C_1, b \in S_2\} \cup \{((a, b), \{a\} \times V) : a \in S_1, (b, V) \in C_2\}$$

$C$  is a set, and gives rise to a covering system, so that, by the set inductive definition theorem, *assuming REA*, there is the least covering  $\triangleleft$  containing  $C$ , defining the product of  $X_1, X_2$ , with obvious projections (CSSV '03).

## Imaginary Products

On the other hand, any two (non-necessarily inductively generated) formal spaces  $X_1, X_2$  are in particular imaginary locales (with, for  $i = 1, 2$ ,  $\Phi_i = \{(a, U) \mid a \triangleleft_i U \ \& \ U \subseteq \downarrow a\}$ );

then their product  $X_1 \times X_2$  must exist in **ImLoc**, *also without REA*, and is in fact given by  $(S_1 \times S_2, \leq, \Phi')$ , with  $\Phi'$  the expected modification of  $\Phi$ :

$$\Phi' \equiv \{((a, b), U \times \{b\}) : (a \triangleleft_1 U \ \& \ U \subseteq \downarrow a), b \in S_2\} \cup \{((a, b), \{a\} \times V) \mid a \in S_1, (b \triangleleft_2 V \ \& \ V \subseteq \downarrow b)\}.$$

For every  $W \in \text{Pow}(S_1 \times S_2)$  the class  $A(W) \equiv I(\Phi'_{\leq}, W)$  exists, but is not a set in general;

so although we do have some information on the opens of this 'imaginary' product, precisely the information given by the (generators, and the) relations  $\Phi'$ , this information is not enough to describe a whole (class-) frame.

We take the class  $\Phi'$  as our basic information: it says what should hold in the generated (class-)frame *if it existed*.

From that, *some* further concrete information can anyway be deduced, and a useful one, as will be shown below.



## Examples

Examples of imaginary locales that may not be formal spaces are:

- The product of any two formal spaces is an imaginary locale, that need not be a formal space in CZF, with or without REA.
- The function space  $X^X$  for  $X$  locally compact is an imaginary locale that need not be a formal space in CZF without REA (Note:  $N^N$  is formal Baire space).
- More generally, if  $\Phi$  is a covering system (i.e.  $\Phi$  is in particular a set), without REA it will only define an imaginary locale.

# Applications, 1

Basic applications of the concept of imaginary locales are of the following kind:

a locale  $X$  is *Hausdorff*, or  $T_2$ , iff the diagonal  $X \rightarrow X \times X$  is closed.

Using imaginary locales this notion can be formulated for arbitrary (imaginary locales and) formal spaces, rather than just for inductively generated formal spaces.

One can then prove e.g. that

*Every Boolean formal space is a Hausdorff formal space*

even if Boolean formal spaces are not inductively generated.

More generally, in a topos, one has that every regular locale is Hausdorff.

Also, one may try to prove for general formal spaces standard results such as Vermeulen's characterization of compactness:

*A locale  $X$  is compact iff the projection  $\pi : X \times Z \rightarrow Z$  is closed for every  $Z$ .*

## Applications, 2

Imaginary locales allows for the development of point-free topology in weaker settings (as CZF *without* REA).

Johnstone-Tychonoff embedding theorem states that

*$Y$  is completely regular iff it can be embedded in the product  $\prod_{h \in \text{Hom}(Y, [0,1])} [0, 1]_h$ .*

$\text{Hom}(Y, [0, 1])$  need not be a set in CZF, so that this product cannot be constructed in general.

However, using the (Strong) Collection scheme of CZF, one can select a subset  $I$  of  $\text{Hom}(Y, [0, 1])$  that suffices to carry out the proof:

**Tychonoff embedding theorem (CZF<sub>exp</sub>).** *A formal space  $Y$  is completely regular iff there is a set  $I \subseteq \text{Hom}(Y, [0, 1])$  such that*

$$Y \hookrightarrow \prod_{h \in I} [0, 1]_h.$$

**Remark.** Note that  $\prod_{h \in I} [0, 1]_h$  is only an imaginary locale in CZF and CZF<sub>exp</sub>; it is a (inductively generated) formal space in CZF+REA.

## Applications, 3

Imaginary locales can furthermore be used to obtain results concerning **FSp**, **IFSp**.

Using imaginary locales in a very natural way, one proves that

**Theorem 3** *For every compact regular formal space  $X_1$ , and completely regular and i.g.  $X_2$ ,*

$$\text{Hom}(X_1, X_2) \text{ is a set}^*$$

*in  $\text{CZF}_{exp} + \text{AC}_\omega$ , and in the choice-free system  $\text{CZF}_{exp} + (\forall a) \text{SubColl}(\mathbb{N}, a)$ .*

**Corollary 1** **KCRegIFSp** *is locally small in  $\text{CZF}_{exp} + \text{AC}_\omega$  and in  $\text{CZF}_{exp} + (\forall a) \text{SubColl}(\mathbb{N}, a)$ .*

In  $\text{ZF} + \text{AC}$

$$\mathbf{KCRegIFSp} \leftrightarrow \mathbf{KHausSp}.$$

**Corollary 2** *The class of points of a completely regular and i.g. formal topology is a set in  $\text{CZF}_{exp} + \text{AC}_\omega$ , and in  $\text{CZF}_{exp} + (\forall a) \text{SubColl}(\mathbb{N}, a)$ .*

Note that these results must fail in  $\text{CZF}_{exp}$ , by (Lubarsky & Rathjen '08).

\* $\text{Hom}(X_1, X_2)$  denotes the class of saturated continuous functions from  $X_1$  to  $X_2$ .

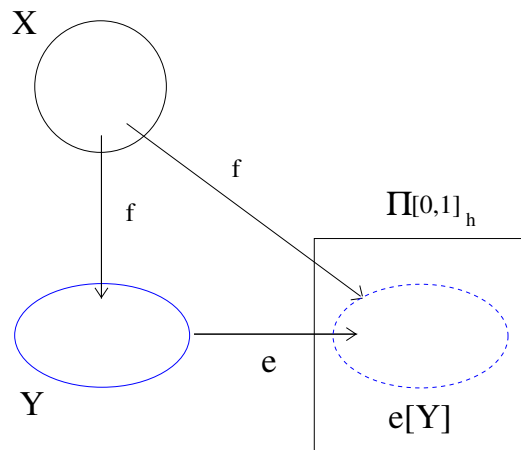
## Idea of the proof

Given a compact regular space  $X$ , and an i.g. completely regular space  $Y$ , one proves that  $Hom(X, Y)$  is a set by first showing that, in **ImLoc**,

$$Hom(X, \prod_{h \in I} [0, 1]_h)$$

is a set, for every set  $I$ .

By the Johnstone-Tychonoff embedding theorem, one may then regard a completely regular space  $Y$  as a subspace of an imaginary locale  $\prod_{h \in I} [0, 1]_h$ :



so we may think of the class of mappings  $Hom(X, Y)$  as a subclass of  $Hom(X, \prod_{h \in I} [0, 1]_h)$ .

Then, using the fact that  $Y$  is inductively generated, it is possible to separate a subset that indexes the class  $Hom(X, Y)$ .

## Concluding remarks, open problems, possible developments

- Colimits in **ImLoc** (in particular coequalizers).
- The 'structure' associated with a frame presentation.
- A predicative version of Caramello's DeMorganization of a locale.
- 'Stability theorems' using imaginary locales.
- Imaginary locales and Grothendieck sites; relation with Gambino's version of Grothendieck site.