

# Predicative Stone Duality in Univalent Foundations

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**Ayberk Tosun** (j.w.w. Martín Escardó)

**University of Birmingham**

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## What is Stone duality?

Stone spaces

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Boolean algebras

Spectral spaces

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Distributive lattices

- Stone [Sto36] first discovered this duality in the context of **Boolean algebras**.
- He then generalized [Sto37] it to **distributive lattices**.

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# What is Stone duality?

Let  $X$  be a **Stone space**.

The **clopens** of  $X$  form a  
**Boolean algebra**.

Let  $L$  be a **Boolean algebra**.

The **ultrafilters** of  $L$  form a  
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In Stone spaces, the **clopens** coincide with the **compact opens**.  
It is really the *algebra of compact opens* that matters!

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We develop the Stone duality between **spectral spaces** and **distributive lattices** in the foundational setting of  
univalent type theory,  
which is  
**constructive** and **predicative**  
by default.

Stone duality is classical in a **point-set** setting.

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A **locale** is a notion of space defined solely by its **lattice of opens**.

In point-free topology, we do not *require* that a topology be a sublattice of the powerset lattice of *some set of points*.

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# Foundations

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### Definition ( $\mathcal{V}$ -smallness)

A type  $X : \mathcal{U}$  is called  **$\mathcal{V}$ -small** if it has a copy in universe  $\mathcal{V}$  i.e.

$$\Sigma_{(Y : \mathcal{V})} X \simeq Y.$$

### Definition (Local $\mathcal{V}$ -smallness)

A type  $X : \mathcal{U}$  is called **locally  $\mathcal{V}$ -small** if the identity type  $x = y$  is  $\mathcal{V}$ -small for every pair of inhabitants  $x, y : X$ .

### Definition ( $\Omega$ )

We denote by  $\Omega_{\mathcal{U}}$  the type of propositions in universe  $\mathcal{U}$ .

### Definition (Propositional resizing)

The **propositional**  $(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V})$ -**resizing axiom** says that every proposition  $P : \Omega_{\mathcal{U}}$  is  $\mathcal{V}$ -small.

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### Proposition

LEM implies  $\Omega$ - $(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V})$ -resizing for all universes.

### Proof sketch

- If LEM holds, all propositions are decidable i.e.  $\Omega \simeq \mathbf{2}$ .
- The type  $\mathbf{2}$  always has a copy in  $\mathcal{U}_0$ .
- Types in  $\mathcal{U}_0$  can always be lifted up to any universe.

Predicative mathematics is a branch of constructive mathematics.

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# Univalence and the propositionality of being small

## Definition (Univalence)

A universe  $\mathcal{U}$  is called **univalent** if, for every pair of types  $X, Y : \mathcal{U}$ , the map  $\text{idtoeqv} : X =_{\mathcal{U}} Y \rightarrow X \simeq Y$  is an equivalence.

## Definition (The univalence axiom)

The **univalence axiom** says that *every* universe is univalent.

## Generalization of Propositions 2.8 and 2.9 of [dJ13]

The following are equivalent:

- For every type  $A : \mathcal{U}$ , the type expressing that  $A$  is  $\mathcal{V}$ -small is a proposition (for every pair of universes  $\mathcal{U}$  and  $\mathcal{V}$ ).
- The univalence axiom holds.

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## **Basics of point-free topology**

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## Definition (Frame)

A  $(\mathcal{U}, \mathcal{V}, \mathcal{W})$ -**frame** consists of

- a type  $A : \mathcal{U}$ ,
- a partial order  $- \leq - : A \rightarrow A \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{V}}$ ,
- a top element  $\mathbf{1} : A$ ,
- a binary meet operation  $- \wedge - : A \rightarrow A \rightarrow A$ ,
- a join operation  $\bigvee \_ : \text{Fam}_{\mathcal{W}}(A) \rightarrow A$ ;
- satisfying distributivity i.e.  $x \wedge \bigvee_{i:1} y_i = \bigvee_{i:1} x \wedge y_i$  for every  $x : A$  and  $\mathcal{W}$ -family  $(y_i)_{i:1}$  in  $A$ .

Large, locally small, and small-complete frame:  $(\mathcal{U}^+, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{U})$ -frame.

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**Large, locally small, and small-complete frame:**  $(\mathcal{U}^+, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{U})$ -frame.

## No-go theorem for complete, small lattices

Curi [Curi0] previously showed:

*CZF cannot prove that certain classes of nontrivial complete lattices (including join-lattices, dcpos, and frames) are small.*

He achieves this by showing that CZF is consistent with an anti-classical principle called Generalized Uniformity Principle (GUP).

de Jong and Escardó gave an analogous result [dJE23] in the style of **reverse constructive mathematics** [Ish06].

They show **directly** that certain results cannot be obtained predicatively, by **deriving resizing axioms** from them.

### Theorem

If there exists a nontrivial small frame then  $\Omega$ -resizing holds.

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## The right category of frames

A predicative investigation of locale theory in HoTT/UF **must** focus on **large** and **small-complete frames**.

For us, **frame** means  $(\mathcal{U}^+, \mathcal{U}, \mathcal{U})$ -frame  
(over some base universe  $\mathcal{U}$ ).

**Frm** $_{\mathcal{U}}$ : the category of such frames and frame homomorphisms.

**Loc** $_{\mathcal{U}}$ : the opposite of this category.

We denote by  $\mathcal{O}(X)$  the frame defining a locale  $X$ .

A continuous map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  of locales is given by a homomorphism  $f^* : \mathcal{O}(Y) \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(X)$ .

### Definition (Weak base)

A family  $(B_i)_{i:I}$  of opens forms a **weak base** for locale  $X$  if

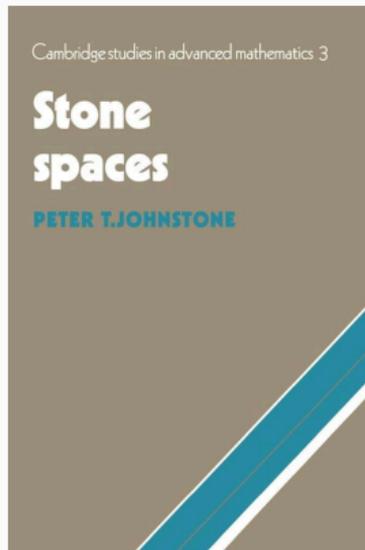
for every  $U : \mathcal{O}(X)$ , there is an **unspecified**, directed, small family  $(i_j)_{j:J}$  on the base index satisfying  $U = \bigvee_{j:J} B_{i_j}$ .

## **Compact and spectral locales**

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# What is a spectral locale?

To write the definition of **spectral locale** in HoTT/UF, we look it up in a standard textbook...



We define a locale  $A$  to be *coherent* if

- (i) Every element of  $A$  is expressible as a join of finite elements,  
and

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- (ii) The finite elements form a sublattice of  $A$  – equivalently (by the Lemma),  $1$  is finite, and the meet of two finite elements is finite.

## Definition (Compact open)

An open  $U : \mathcal{O}(X)$  is called **compact** if for every directed family  $(V_i)_{i:I}$  with  $U \leq \bigvee_{i:I} V_i$ , there is some  $k : I$  such that  $U \leq V_k$ .

Same as the “covers have finite subcovers” definition but with **Kuratowski finiteness**.

We define  $K^+(X) := \Sigma_{(U : \mathcal{O}(X))} \text{is-compact}(U)$ .

→ Observe that this type is **large** i.e. lives in  $\mathcal{U}^+$ .

## Definition (Compact locale)

A **compact locale** is one in which the **top open 1** is **compact**.

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A **compact locale** is one in which the **top open  $\mathbf{1}$**  is **compact**.

## Definition (Spectral locale) [Tos25; AET24]

A locale  $X$  is called **spectral** if it satisfies the following conditions:

- \* **(SP1)** It is compact (i.e. the empty meet is compact).
- \* **(SP2)** Compact opens are closed under binary meets.
- \* **(SP3)** The type  $K^+(X)$  forms a **weak base**.
- \* **(SP4)** The type  $K^+(X)$  is **small**.

→ A continuous map  $f : X \rightarrow Y$  is called **spectral** if  $f^*(K)$  is a compact open of  $X$  for every compact open  $K$  of  $Y$ .

$\text{Spec}_{\mathcal{U}}$ : the category of spectral locales and **spectral maps**.

## Lemma

Univalence implies that being spectral is a proposition.

**Univalence** seems to be required to write down  
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### Definition (Small distributive lattice)

A **distributive  $\mathcal{U}$ -lattice** consists of

- \* a set  $|L| : \mathcal{U}$ ,
- \* elements  $\mathbf{0}, \mathbf{1} : |L|$ ,
- \* operations  $- \wedge - : |L| \rightarrow |L| \rightarrow |L|$  and  $- \vee - : |L| \rightarrow |L| \rightarrow |L|$ ,
- \* satisfying the laws of **associativity**, **commutativity**, **unitality**, **idempotence**, and **absorption**.

$\mathbf{DLat}_{\mathcal{U}}$ : the category of distributive  $\mathcal{U}$ -lattices or **small distributive lattices**.

### Definition (Ideal)

A  **$\mathcal{U}$ -ideal** of a distributive lattice  $L$  is a subset  $I : L \rightarrow \Omega_{\mathcal{U}}$  satisfying the conditions:

- \* inhabitedness,
- \* downward closedness,
- \* closedness under binary joins.

### Lemma

For every distributive  $\mathcal{U}$ -lattice  $L$ , the type  $\mathbf{Idl}_{\mathcal{U}}(L)$  forms a frame i.e. a **large, locally small**, and **small-complete** frame.

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The **spectrum of  $L$**  is the locale defined by  $\mathbf{Idl}_{\mathcal{U}}(L)$ .

→ We denote this by  $\mathbf{Spec}(L)$ .

Observe the following:

- **Classically**: we work with the ideals  $L \rightarrow \mathbf{2}$ .
- **Constructively** but **impredicatively**: we work with the ideals  $L \rightarrow \Omega$ .
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## Small distributive lattice of compact opens: $\text{Spec}_{\mathcal{U}} \rightarrow \text{DLat}_{\mathcal{U}}$

Recall that the type  $K^+(X)$  is *a priori* large — it lives in  $\mathcal{U}^+$ .

→ In other words, it falls in the category  $\text{DLat}_{\mathcal{U}^+}$  and not  $\text{DLat}_{\mathcal{U}}$ .

Condition **(SP4)** gives us a specified, **small** type  $X_0$  such that

$$K^+(X) \simeq X_0.$$

### Lemma

For every  $\mathcal{V}$ -distributive lattice  $L$ , if the carrier set  $|L|$  is  $\mathcal{U}$ -small then  $L$  has a copy in  $\mathcal{U}$  i.e. is isomorphic to a specified  $\mathcal{U}$ -distributive lattice.

→ We just transport the lattice structure through the equivalence, which is always a lattice isomorphism.

### Lemma

For every spectral locale  $X$ , we have a specified, small distributive lattice  $K(X)$ .

We have thus constructed maps:

$$\mathbf{Spec}_{\mathcal{U}} \begin{array}{c} \xrightarrow{K} \\ \xleftarrow{\text{Spec}} \end{array} \mathbf{DLat}_{\mathcal{U}}$$

### Proposition

Assuming univalence (twice), the maps  $K$  and  $\text{Spec}$  form a type equivalence.

- We thus have an equivalence  $\mathbf{Spec}_{\mathcal{U}} \simeq \mathbf{DLat}_{\mathcal{U}}$ .
- Observe that  $\mathbf{Spec}_{\mathcal{U}} : \mathcal{U}^{++}$  and  $\mathbf{DLat}_{\mathcal{U}} : \mathcal{U}^+$ , but the result says  $\mathbf{Spec}_{\mathcal{U}}$  is  $\mathcal{U}^+$ -small.

## Predicative Stone duality — morphisms

Recall that a spectral map is a continuous function  $f: X \rightarrow Y$  such that

$$\Pi_{(V: \mathcal{O}(Y))} V \text{ is compact} \rightarrow f^*(K) \text{ is compact.}$$

This is a mapping  $K^+(Y) \rightarrow K^+(X)$ .

We define maps:

- $\rightarrow K: \text{Hom}(X, Y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(K(Y), K(X))$
- $\rightarrow \text{Spec}: \text{Hom}(K, L) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\text{Spec}(L), \text{Spec}(K))$

### Theorem

The above functors form a categorical equivalence.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}(Y) & \xrightarrow{f^*} & \mathcal{O}(X) \\ \text{pr}_Y \uparrow & & \uparrow \text{pr}_X \\ K^+(Y) & \xrightarrow{K^+(f)} & K^+(X) \\ r_Y \left( \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \downarrow \end{array} \right) s_Y & & r_X \left( \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \downarrow \end{array} \right) s_X \\ K(Y) & \xrightarrow{K(f)} & K(X) \end{array}$$

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This is a mapping  $K^+(Y) \rightarrow K^+(X)$ .

We define maps:

- $\rightarrow K: \text{Hom}(X, Y) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(K(Y), K(X))$
- $\rightarrow \text{Spec}: \text{Hom}(K, L) \rightarrow \text{Hom}(\text{Spec}(L), \text{Spec}(K))$

### Theorem

The above functors form a categorical equivalence.

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \mathcal{O}(Y) & \xrightarrow{f^*} & \mathcal{O}(X) \\ \text{pr}_1 \uparrow & & \uparrow \text{pr}_1 \\ K^+(Y) & \xrightarrow{K^+(f)} & K^+(X) \\ r_Y \left( \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \downarrow \end{array} \right) s_Y & & r_X \left( \begin{array}{c} \uparrow \\ \downarrow \end{array} \right) s_X \\ K(Y) & \xrightarrow{K(f)} & K(X) \end{array}$$

## Conclusion and further work

- We can obtain a predicative form of Stone duality by considering  $\Omega_{\mathcal{U}}$ -valued ideals on  $\mathcal{U}$ -small lattices.
- Alternative to formal topology.
- This fits well into our investigation of predicative locale theory in the category of **large, locally small**, and **small-complete** locales.
- Completely formalized in AGDA as part of `TYPETOPOLOGY`.
- TODO: **Patch** of a spectral locale should give the **free Boolean extension** of a distributive lattice.
  - Constructed in previous work [AET24].
- TODO: Constructive and predicative Priestley duality.
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- TODO: Further investigation of links with Tom de Jong's doctoral work on domain theory [dJon23].
  - Especially through the notion of **superspectral locale**.
- AGDA formalization in literate programming style:
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