

# A non-pointfree approach to pointfree topology

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# Outline

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Tutorial I: basics of pointfree topology

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Tutorial II: basics of Priestley and Esakia dualities

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Tutorial III: the study of frames through their spectra of prime filters

# Tutorial I

## Basics of pointfree topology

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Starting from **Isbell's** 1972 paper **Atomless parts of spaces** pointfree topology became an independent branch of topology with its own internal problems.

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Some other closely related books are [A compendium of continuous lattices](#) (1980) and its new edition [Continuous lattices and domains](#) (2003), as well as a more recent [Non-Hausdorff topology and domain theory](#) (2013) by Goubault-Larrecq.

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Thus, the infinite distributive law  $U \cap \bigcup_i V_i = \bigcup_i (U \cap V_i)$  holds

while the other infinite distributive law  $U \cup \bigwedge_i V_i = \bigwedge_i (U \cup V_i)$  may fail.

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This defines a contravariant functor  $\mathcal{O}$  from the category **Top** of topological spaces and continuous maps to **Frm**.



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**Definition:** A **point** of a frame  $L$  is a frame homomorphism  $p : L \rightarrow \mathbf{2}$ .

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Thus, **points**  $\Leftrightarrow$  **completely prime filters**  $\Leftrightarrow$  **meet prime elements**

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Let  $pt(L)$  be the set of all points of  $L$ . For  $a \in L$ , set  $\mathcal{O}(a) = \{p \mid p(a) = 1\}$ . Let  $\mathcal{T} = \{\mathcal{O}(a) \mid a \in L\}$ .

**Theorem.**  $\mathcal{T}$  is a topology on  $pt(L)$ , and  $\mathcal{O} : L \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(pt(L))$  is a frame homomorphism.

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**Note.**  $\varepsilon$  is continuous because  $\varepsilon^{-1}\mathcal{O}(U) = U$  for all  $U \in \Omega X$ .

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$\varepsilon : X \rightarrow pt \mathcal{O}X$  is usually referred to as the soberification of  $X$ .

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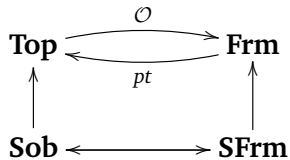
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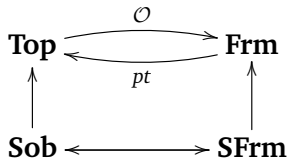
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The category **Loc**

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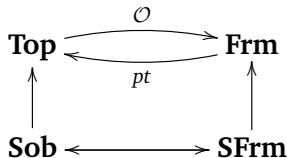


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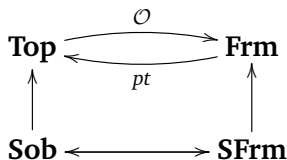
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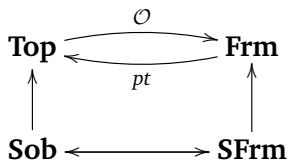


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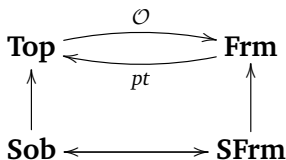
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It is customary in pointfree topology to replace **Top** with **Loc** and study **Loc** as the category of **generalized spaces**.

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**Monteiro** (1950s). A frame  $L$  is **normal** if for each  $a, b \in L$ , from  $a \vee b = 1$  it follows that there are  $u, v \in L$  such that  $u \wedge v = 0$  and  $a \vee u = 1 = b \vee v$ .

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$U \prec A$  iff  $\bar{U} \subseteq A$  iff  $\bar{U}^c \cup A = X$  iff  $\text{int}(U^c) \cup A = X$ .

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A  $T_1$ -space  $X$  is **regular** if for each  $x \in X$  and closed  $F$ , from  $x \notin F$  it follows that there is a pair of disjoint open sets  $U, V$  such that  $x \in U$  and  $F \subseteq V$ .

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Using the same idea as in the proof of **Urysohn's lemma**, we have:

**Lemma.** A  $T_1$ -space  $X$  is completely regular iff the frame  $\mathcal{O}X$  is completely regular.

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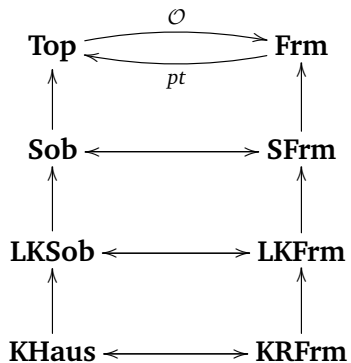
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Thus, **KHaus** is a subcategory of **Sob**. In fact, **KHaus** is a subcategory of **LKSob**.

**Theorem.** The dual equivalence of **Sob** and **SFrm** restricts to the dual equivalence of **KHaus** and **KRFrm**.

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We will discuss a different possibility.



**End of Tutorial 1**

# Homomorphisms and nuclei

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Such functions on  $L$  are called **nuclei**.

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**Theorem.** Frame homomorphisms are characterized by nuclei.

Thus, sublocales are characterized by nuclei.