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## A CARTESIAN CLOSED SUBCATEGORY OF TOPOLOGICAL MOLECULAR LATTICES

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**ABSTRACT.** A category  $\mathbf{C}$  is called Cartesian closed provided that it has finite products and for each  $\mathbf{C}$ -object  $A$ , the functor  $(A \times -) : A \rightarrow A$  has a right adjoint. It is well known that the category  $\mathbf{TML}$  of topological molecular lattices with generalized order-homomorphisms in the sense of Wang is both complete and cocomplete, but it is not Cartesian closed. In this article, we introduce a Cartesian closed subcategory of this category.

### 1. INTRODUCTION

A completely distributive complete lattice is called a molecular lattice. In 1992 Wang [17] introduced his important theory called topological molecular lattice as a generalization of ordinary topological spaces, fuzzy topological spaces, and  $L$ -fuzzy topological spaces in terms of closed elements, molecules, remote neighborhoods, and generalized order-homomorphisms. Then many authors characterized some topological notion in such spaces, such as convergence theories of molecular nets or ideals [3, 4], separation axioms [5, 7], generalized topological molecular lattices [6, 13, 14], and so forth.

For two molecular lattices  $F$  and  $G$  with a mapping  $f : F \rightarrow G$  that preserves arbitrary joins, suppose that  $\hat{f}$  denotes the right adjoint of  $f$ . Then  $\hat{f} : G \rightarrow F$  is defined by  $\hat{f}(y) = \bigvee \{x \in F \mid f(x) \leq y\}$  for every  $y \in G$ . A mapping  $f : F \rightarrow G$  between molecular lattices is called a generalized order-homomorphism or an **ml**-map in this article if  $f$  and its right adjoint  $\hat{f}$  both preserve arbitrary joins.

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For a molecular lattice  $L$ , a subset  $\tau$  of  $L$  is called a cotopology on  $L$  if it is closed under arbitrary meets, finite joins, and  $0, 1 \in \tau$ , where  $0$  and  $1$  are the smallest and the greatest elements of  $L$ , respectively. Every element of a cotopology is called a closed element. If  $\tau$  is a cotopology on  $L$ , then  $(L, \tau)$  is called a topological molecular lattice (briefly, **tml**). An **ml**-map  $f : (L_1, \tau_1) \rightarrow (L_2, \tau_2)$  between **tmls** is said to be continuous if  $b \in \tau_2$  implies  $\hat{f}(b) \in \tau_1$ ; see [14–17]. The category of all topological molecular lattices and continuous **ml**-maps between them is denoted by **TML**, and the category of all molecular lattices and **ml**-maps between them is denoted by **MOL**. It is well known that these categories are both complete and cocomplete, and some categorical structures of them were introduced by many authors [2, 8, 10–12, 18, 19]. In the following, readers are suggested to refer to [1] for some categorical notions.

An object  $A$  of a category  $\mathbf{C}$  with finite products is called exponentiable if the functor  $A \times - : \mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{C}$  has a right adjoint, and it is called Cartesian closed provided that every object of  $\mathbf{C}$  is exponentiable. The category **TOP** of all topological spaces is a reflective and coreflective subcategory of **TML**; see [10]. Since **TOP** is not a Cartesian closed category, it follows that the category **TML** is not Cartesian closed. Thus, it is necessary to study the Cartesian closed subcategories of **TML** or the Cartesian closed super-categories of **TML**. The Cartesian closed super-categories of **TML** were studied in [12]. Some characterizations of exponentiable objects in some categories of topological molecular lattices were introduced in [2, 11]. This article studies the Cartesian closed subcategories of **TML**. It is shown that the category of locally compactly generated **tmls** is a Cartesian closed subcategory of **TML**. Some other interesting constructions are also presented.

## 2. PRELIMINARIES

In this section, we first recall the definition of extra-order introduced by Li [9]. Extra-orders are useful tools to construct molecular lattices and function spaces in topological molecular lattices.

**Definition 2.1.** Let  $P$  be a poset and let  $\prec$  be a binary relation on  $P$ .

- (a)  $\prec$  is called an extra-order, if it satisfies the following conditions:
  - (1)  $x \prec y \Rightarrow x \leq y$ ,
  - (2)  $u \leq x \prec y \leq v \Rightarrow u \prec v$ .
- (b)  $\prec$  satisfies the interpolation property (short by INT), if  $x \prec y$  implies that there exists  $z \in P$  such that  $x \prec z \prec y$ .

*Remark 2.2.* If  $\prec$  is an extra-order on a poset  $P$ , then there exists a largest extra-order  $\bar{\prec}$  over  $P$  contained in  $\prec$  satisfying INT, that is, for  $x, y \in P$ ,  $x \bar{\prec} y$  if and only if there exists a mapping  $\nu : \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, 1] \rightarrow P$  such that  $\nu(0) = x$ ,  $\nu(1) = y$  and for any pair  $r, s \in \mathbb{Q} \cap [0, 1]$ , if  $r < s$ , then  $\nu(r) \prec \nu(s)$ , where  $\mathbb{Q}$  denotes all the rational numbers.

**Definition 2.3** ([9]). Let  $\prec$  be an extra-order satisfying INT on a poset  $P$ . A subset  $I$  of  $P$  is called a lower-Dedekind  $\prec$ -cut, if it satisfies the following conditions:

- (1)  $I$  is a lower set, that is,  $\downarrow I = I$ .
- (2) If  $x \in I$ , then there exists  $y \in I$  such that  $x \prec y$ .

The set of all lower-Dedekind  $\prec$ -cuts in  $P$  ordered by subset inclusion is denoted by  $Low_{\prec}(P)$ . The following important result is a construction of molecular lattices using extra-order.

**Theorem 2.4** ([9]). *If  $\prec$  is an extra-order over  $P$  satisfying INT, then  $Low_{\prec}(P)$  is a molecular lattice.*

*Remark 2.5* ([11]). For a complete lattice  $L$ , an extra-order  $\triangleleft$  is defined by  $a \triangleleft b$  if, for every subset  $S \subseteq L$ ,  $b \leq \vee S$  implies  $a \leq s$  for some  $s \in S$ . If  $L$  is a molecular lattice, then  $\triangleleft$  satisfies the condition INT. Also, a complete lattice  $L$  is a molecular lattice if and only if  $b = \vee \triangleleft(b)$ , where  $\triangleleft(b) = \{a \in L \mid a \triangleleft b\}$ .

*Remark 2.6* ([11, 12]). The binary product of two topological molecular lattices  $(L_1, \tau_1)$  and  $(L_2, \tau_2)$  is  $(L_1 \otimes L_2, \tau)$ , where  $L_1 \otimes L_2 := \{D \subseteq L_1 \times L_2 \mid D = \bigcup_{(x,y) \in D} \triangleleft(x) \times \triangleleft(y)\}$ , and  $\tau$  is generated by the subbase  $\{\hat{\pi}_1(x) \mid x \in \tau_1\} \cup \{\hat{\pi}_2(y) \mid y \in \tau_2\}$ , such that the projection **ml**-maps  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  are defined by  $\pi_1(D) = \bigvee \{x \in L_1 \mid \exists y \in L_2, (x, y) \in D\}$  and  $\pi_2(D) = \bigvee \{y \in L_2 \mid \exists x \in L_1, (x, y) \in D\}$ .

**Theorem 2.7** ([10]). ***Top** is a reflective and coreflective full subcategory of **TML** via the embedding power functor  $\rho : \mathbf{Top} \rightarrow \mathbf{TML}$  defined by  $\rho(X, \tau) = (\rho(X), \tau^c)$ , where  $\rho(X)$  is the power set of  $X$  and  $\tau^c$  is the set of all closed subsets of  $X$ .*

Since the category **Top** is not Cartesian closed, by Theorem 2.7, it follows that **TML** is not a Cartesian closed category. Li [11] introduced the concept of Isbell cotopology on function spaces for the presentation of the exponentiable objects in **TML**.

For two **tmls**  $(L_1, \tau_1)$  and  $(L_2, \tau_2)$ , let  $[L_1 \rightarrow L_2]$  denote the set of all continuous sup-preserving maps. An extra-order  $\prec$  over  $[L_1 \rightarrow L_2]$  is defined by  $f \prec g$  if  $x \triangleleft y$  implies  $f(x) \triangleleft g(y)$ . Now, we put  $[L_2^{L_1}] := Low_{\prec}[L_1 \rightarrow L_2]$ , which is a molecular lattice.

**Definition 2.8** ([11]). A subset  $H$  of a **tml**  $(L, \tau)$  is called Scott open if it has the following properties:

- (1)  $H$  is a lower subset of  $\tau$ ,
- (2) If  $\bigwedge A \in H$  for a subset  $A$  of  $\tau$ , then there exist finite elements  $a_1, \dots, a_n$  in  $A$  such that  $a_1 \wedge \dots \wedge a_n \in H$ .

The set of all Scott open sets on  $\tau$  is written by  $\sigma(\tau)$ . Let  $(L_1, \tau_1)$  and  $(L_2, \tau_2)$  be two **tmls**, let  $H \in \sigma(\tau_1)$ , let  $x \in \tau_2$ , and let  $T(H, x) := \bigvee \{E \in [L_2^{L_1}] \mid \hat{f}(x) \notin H \text{ for every } f \in E\}$ . The cotopology on  $[L_2^{L_1}]$  generated by the set  $\{T(H, x) \mid H \in \sigma(\tau_1), x \in \tau_2\}$  is called the Isbell cotopology.

For a **tml**  $(L, \tau)$ , a binary relation  $\ll$  on  $L$  is defined by  $a \ll b$  if, for every subset  $A \subseteq \tau$ ,  $\bigwedge A \leq b$  implies that there exists a finite subset  $D$  of  $A$  such that  $\bigwedge D \leq a$ .

**Definition 2.9** ([11]). A **tml**  $(L, \tau)$  is called locally compact if  $b = \bigwedge \{a \in \tau \mid a \ll b\}$  for every  $b \in \tau$ .

**Theorem 2.10** ([11]). *Let  $(M, \tau)$  be a **tml**. Then the following conditions are equivalent:*

- (1)  $(M, \tau)$  is exponentiable in **TML** and for every **tml**  $L$ , the exponential cotopology on  $[L^M]$  is the Isbell cotopology.
- (2)  $(M, \tau)$  is locally compact.
- (3) The mapping  $ev : (L_1^M, \eta) \otimes (M, \tau) \rightarrow (L_1, \tau_1)$  defined by  $ev(D) = \vee \{f(x) \mid f \in A, (A, x) \in D\}$  is a continuous **ml**-map for every **tml**  $(L_1, \tau_1)$ .

### 3. $\mathcal{C}$ -GENERATED TOPOLOGICAL MOLECULAR LATTICES

For two **tmls**  $(L_1, \tau_1)$  and  $(L_2, \tau_2)$ , we denote by  $C(L_1, L_2)$  the set of all continuous **ml**-maps from  $L_1$  to  $L_2$ . The transpose  $\bar{f} : M \rightarrow [L_2^{L_1}]$  of an **ml**-map  $f : M \otimes L_1 \rightarrow L_2$  is defined by  $\bar{f}(a) = f_a$ , where  $f_a \in [L_2^{L_1}]$  is given by  $f_a(x) = f(\triangleleft(a) \times \triangleleft(x))$ .

By the definition of the exponentiable objects in terms of adjoint situations [1], we have a **tml**  $L_1$  is exponentiable if and only if, for every **tml**  $L_2$ , there exists a cotopology on  $[L_2^{L_1}]$  such that for any **tml**  $M$ , the association  $f \leftrightarrow \bar{f}$  is a bijection from  $C(M \otimes L_1, L_2)$  to  $C(M, [L_2^{L_1}])$ . If  $L_1$  is exponentiable, then  $[L_2^{L_1}]$  equipped with the exponential cotopology (that is, the Isbell cotopology) is denoted by  $L_2^{L_1}$ .

**Lemma 3.1.** *The product of two exponentiable **tmls** is exponentiable.*

*Proof.* Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be two exponentiable **tmls**. Then for arbitrary **tmls**  $M$  and  $N$ , the following bijections hold:  $C(M \otimes (L_1 \otimes L_2), N) \cong C((M \otimes L_1) \otimes L_2, N) \cong C(M \otimes L_1, N^{L_2}) \cong C(M, (N^{L_2})^{L_1})$ . Moreover,  $[(N^{L_2})^{L_1}] \cong [N^{L_1 \otimes L_2}]$ . Hence the exponential cotopology on  $[(N^{L_2})^{L_1}]$  induces an exponential cotopology on  $[N^{L_1 \otimes L_2}]$ .  $\square$

**Corollary 3.2.** *The product of two locally compact **tmls** is locally compact.*

**Lemma 3.3.** *The coproduct of a family of exponentiable **tmls** is exponentiable.*

*Proof.* Let  $\{L_i\}_{i \in I}$  be a family of exponentiable **tmls** and let  $M$  be an arbitrary **tml**. By the natural bijection  $\bigotimes_i [M^{L_i}] \cong [M^{\coprod_i L_i}]$ , it follows that  $\bigotimes_i [M^{L_i}]$  induces an exponential cotopology on  $[M^{\coprod_i L_i}]$ , where  $\coprod_i L_i$  is the coproduct of  $\{L_i\}_{i \in I}$ .  $\square$

**Definition 3.4.** Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a fixed collection of **tmls**, which are called generating **tmls**. A probe over **tml**  $(L, \tau)$  is a continuous **ml**-map from one of the generating **tmls** to  $L$ . The  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated cotopology  $\mathcal{C}L$  on a **tml**  $L$  is the final cotopology of the probes over  $L$ , that is, the finest cotopology making all probes continuous. We say that a **tml**  $(L, \tau)$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated, if  $L = \mathcal{C}L$ . The category of  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated **tmls** and continuous **ml**-maps between them is denoted by **TML** $_{\mathcal{C}}$ .

**Lemma 3.5.** *The following statements hold:*

- (1) Every generating **tml** is  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated.
- (2)  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated **tmls** are closed under the formation of quotients.
- (3)  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated **tmls** are closed under the formation of coproducts.
- (4) Every  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated **tml** is a quotient of a coproduct of generating **tmls**.

*Proof.* (1) Consider the identity probe; then the result follows.

(2) Let  $f : L_1 \rightarrow L_2$  be a quotient **ml**-map and let  $L_1$  be  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated. Then the composite probes  $f \circ p : C \rightarrow L_2$  suffice to generate cotopology of  $L_2$ , where  $p : C \rightarrow L_1$  varies over all probes of  $L_1$ .

(3) The proof is similar to (2).

(4) Let  $(L, \tau)$  be a  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated **tml** and let  $I$  be the set of nonclosed elements of  $L$ . Then for each  $i \in I$ , there exists a probe  $p_i : C_i \rightarrow L$ , which  $\hat{p}_i(i)$  is nonclosed. If we choose the probes, then an element  $a$  of  $L$  is closed if and only if  $\hat{p}_i(a)$  is closed for each  $i \in I$ , that is, the cotopology of  $L$  is just the final cotopology of the family  $\{p_i : C_i \rightarrow L\}_{i \in I}$ . We can enlarge this family, if necessary, by including all constant maps from some nonempty generating **tmls**, to get sure that all elements of  $L$  are covered by probes. Let  $(J_i : C_i \rightarrow S)_{i \in I}$  be the coproduct of the **tmls**  $\{C_i\}_{i \in I}$ . According to the universal property of coproducts, there exists a unique **ml**-map  $q : S \rightarrow L$  such that  $q \circ J_i = p_i$  for all  $i \in I$ . If we use the universal property again, then a function  $f : L \rightarrow M$  is continuous if and only if  $f \circ q : S \rightarrow M$  is continuous, which shows that  $q$  is a quotient **ml**-map.  $\square$

**Definition 3.6.** Let  $(L, \tau)$  be a **tml**. Then  $L$  is called locally compactly generated, if  $\mathcal{C}$  consists of locally compact **tmls**.

**Corollary 3.7.** A **tml** is locally compactly generated if and only if it is a quotient of a locally compact **tml**.

*Proof.* Since the class of locally compact **tmls** is closed under the coproducts and by Lemma 3.5, it follows directly.  $\square$

**Definition 3.8.** A class  $\mathcal{C}$  of generating **tmls** is called productive if each element of  $\mathcal{C}$  is exponentiable, and the product of any two generating spaces is  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated.

**Example 3.9.** The class of all locally compact **tmls** is productive.

**Definition 3.10.** A sup-preserving map  $f : L_1 \rightarrow L_2$  is called  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous if  $f \circ p : C \rightarrow L_2$  is continuous for each probe  $p : C \rightarrow L_1$ .

It is clear that every continuous **ml**-map is  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous, and for **ml**-maps defined on  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated **tmls**, the  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuity coincides with continuity. The **tmls** and  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous **ml**-maps between them form a category, which is denoted by  $\mathbf{Map}_{\mathcal{C}}$ . It is easy to show that the identity **ml**-map  $CL \rightarrow L$  is an isomorphism in  $\mathbf{Map}_{\mathcal{C}}$ .

**Lemma 3.11.** The functor  $C : \mathbf{Map}_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow \mathbf{TML}_{\mathcal{C}}$  that sends a **tml**  $L$  to  $CL$  and a  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous map to itself is an equivalence of categories.

*Proof.* Since a **tml**  $L$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated if and only if the continuity of a function defined on  $L$  is equivalent to  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuity, it follows that  $\mathbf{TML}_{\mathcal{C}}$  is a full subcategory of  $\mathbf{Map}_{\mathcal{C}}$ . On the other hand, every **tml** is isomorphic in  $\mathbf{TML}_{\mathcal{C}}$  to an object of  $\mathbf{Map}_{\mathcal{C}}$ .  $\square$

**Lemma 3.12.**  $\mathbf{Map}_{\mathcal{C}}$  has finite products and they are the same as in  $\mathbf{TML}_{\mathcal{C}}$ .

*Proof.* It is enough to show that  $L_1 \otimes L_2$  has the universal property, where  $(L_1, \tau_1)$  and  $(L_2, \tau_2)$  are **tmls**. Since the projection **ml**-maps  $\pi_1$  and  $\pi_2$  are continuous,

they are  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous. Let  $f_i : M \rightarrow L_i$  be an arbitrary  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous **ml**-map for  $i = 1, 2$ . Then there exists a unique **ml**-map  $f : M \rightarrow L_1 \otimes L_2$  such that  $f_i = \pi \circ f$ . It remains to show that  $f$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous. It is enough to prove that  $\pi_i \circ f \circ p$  is continuous for each probe  $p : C \rightarrow M$ . However,  $\pi_i \circ f \circ p = f_i \circ p$ , which is continuous.  $\square$

Recall that an element  $a$  of a lattice  $L$  is called coprime, if  $a \leq b \vee c$  implies  $a \leq b$  or  $a \leq c$ , for every  $b, c \in L$ . We denote by  $CP(L)$  the set of all nonzero coprime elements of  $L$ . Nonzero coprime elements are also called molecules. It is well known that if  $L$  is a molecular lattice, then  $CP(L)$  is a join generating base for  $L$ , that is, every element of  $L$  is a join of some elements of  $CP(L)$ ; see [17].

**Lemma 3.13.** *Let  $f : M \otimes L_1 \rightarrow L_2$  be a  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous **ml**-map. Then for each  $p \in CP(M)$ , the **ml**-map  $f_p : L_1 \rightarrow L_2$  defined by  $f_p(a) = f(\triangleleft(p) \times \triangleleft(a))$ , is  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous.*

*Proof.* For each  $p \in CP(M)$ , the **ml**-map  $g_p : L_1 \rightarrow M \otimes L_1$  defined by  $g_p(a) = \triangleleft(p) \times \triangleleft(a)$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous, because it is continuous. Since  $f \circ g_p = f_p$ , the result follows directly.  $\square$

For two **tmls**  $(L_1, \tau_1)$  and  $(L_2, \tau_2)$ , and a class  $\mathcal{C}$  of generating **tmls**, let  $[L_1 \rightarrow_{\mathcal{C}} L_2]$  denote the set of all  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous sup-preserving maps from  $L_1$  to  $L_2$ . Define an extra-order  $\prec_{\mathcal{C}}$  over  $[L_1 \rightarrow_{\mathcal{C}} L_2]$  by  $f \prec_{\mathcal{C}} g$  if whenever  $x \triangleleft y$ , then  $f(x) \triangleleft g(y)$ . Now, we put  $[L_2^{L_1}]_{\mathcal{C}} := Low_{\prec_{\mathcal{C}}}[L_1 \rightarrow_{\mathcal{C}} L_2]$ , which is a molecular lattice.

Let  $f : M \otimes L_1 \rightarrow L_2$  be a  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous **ml**-map. Then we have a function  $\bar{f} : M \rightarrow [L_2^{L_1}]_{\mathcal{C}}$  such that  $\bar{f}(x) = f_x$ . Suppose that any element of  $\mathcal{C}$  is exponentiable. Now, we define a cotopology on  $[L_2^{L_1}]_{\mathcal{C}}$ . Each probe  $p : C \rightarrow L_1$  induces a function  $T_p : [L_2^{L_1}]_{\mathcal{C}} \rightarrow L_2^C$  defined by  $T_p(g) = g \circ p$ . We endow  $[L_2^{L_1}]_{\mathcal{C}}$  with initial cotopology of the family of functions that arise in this way, obtaining a **tml**  $(L_2^{L_1})_{\mathcal{C}}$ . Thus, for any **tml**  $L$ , a function  $h : L \rightarrow (L_2^{L_1})_{\mathcal{C}}$  is continuous if and only if  $T_p \circ h : L \rightarrow L_2^C$  is continuous for each probe  $p : C \rightarrow L_1$ .

**Lemma 3.14.** *Let  $\mathcal{C}$  be a class of productive **tmls**.*

- (1) *An **ml**-map  $h : L \rightarrow (L_2^{L_1})_{\mathcal{C}}$  is continuous if and only if the **ml**-map  $g : L \otimes C \rightarrow L_2$  defined by  $g(\triangleleft(l) \times \triangleleft(c)) = (h(l))(p(c))$  is continuous, for each probe  $p : C \rightarrow L_1$ .*
- (2) *The transpose  $\bar{f} : M \rightarrow (L_2^{L_1})_{\mathcal{C}}$  of a function  $f : M \otimes L_1 \rightarrow L_2$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous if and only if the function  $f \circ (p \otimes q) : C_1 \otimes C_2 \rightarrow L_2$  is continuous, for all probes  $p : C_1 \rightarrow M$  and  $q : C_2 \rightarrow L_1$ .*
- (3) *A function  $f : M \otimes L_1 \rightarrow L_2$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous if and only if the function  $f \circ (p \otimes q) : C_1 \otimes C_2 \rightarrow L_2$  is continuous, for all probes  $p : C_1 \rightarrow M$  and  $q : C_2 \rightarrow L_1$ .*

*Proof.* (1) For each probe  $p : C \rightarrow L_1$ , a function  $h : L \rightarrow (L_2^{L_1})_{\mathcal{C}}$  is continuous if and only if  $T_p \circ h : L \rightarrow L_2^C$  is continuous. Since  $T_p \circ h$  is the transpose of  $g : L \otimes C \rightarrow L_2$  and  $C$  is exponentiable in **TML**, we have  $T_p \circ h$  is continuous if and only if  $g$  is continuous.

(2) The function  $\bar{f}$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous if and only if  $\bar{f} \circ p : C_1 \rightarrow (L_2^{L_1})_{\mathcal{C}}$  is continuous for each probe  $p : C_1 \rightarrow M$ . According to the previous part,  $\bar{f} \circ p$



is continuous if and only if  $g : C_1 \otimes C_2 \rightarrow L_2$  is continuous, for each probe  $q : C_2 \rightarrow L_1$ , where  $g(\triangleleft(x) \times \triangleleft(y)) = ((\bar{f} \circ p)(x))(q(y))$ . Since  $((\bar{f} \circ p)(x))(q(y)) = f(\triangleleft(p(x)) \times \triangleleft(q(y))) = f \circ (p \otimes q)(\triangleleft(x) \times \triangleleft(y))$ , the result follows.

(3) Since  $\mathcal{C}$  is productive,  $C_1 \otimes C_2$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -generated. Therefore,  $f \circ (p \otimes q)$  is continuous if and only if it is  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous. However,  $f \circ (p \otimes q)$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous, so it is continuous.

For converse, let  $r : C \rightarrow M \otimes L_1$  be an arbitrary probe over  $M \otimes L_1$ . We will show that  $f \circ r$  is continuous. The probes  $p : C \rightarrow M$  and  $q : C \rightarrow L_1$  are obtained by composing  $r$  with the projections. Since  $d : C \rightarrow C \otimes C$  is continuous, then  $f \circ (p \otimes q) \circ d = f \circ r : C \rightarrow L_2$  is continuous. Thus  $f$  is  $\mathcal{C}$ -continuous.  $\square$

Now, by Lemmas 3.11 and 3.14, we have the following main results.

**Theorem 3.15.** *If  $\mathcal{C}$  is productive, then  $\mathbf{Map}_{\mathcal{C}}$  is Cartesian closed and so is  $\mathbf{TML}_{\mathcal{C}}$ .*

**Corollary 3.16.** *The category of locally compactly generated  $\mathbf{tmls}$  is a Cartesian closed subcategory of  $\mathbf{TML}$ .*

*Remark 3.17.* Let 1 be the one point  $\mathbf{tml}$ . Since discreet molecular lattices are 1-generated, it follows that they form a Cartesian closed category. This of course amounts to the familiar fact that the category  $\mathbf{MOL}$  is Cartesian closed.

#### 4. CONCLUSION

Since the category  $\mathbf{TOP}$  of all topological spaces is a reflective and coreflective subcategory of the category  $\mathbf{TML}$  of all topological molecular lattices, it follows that  $\mathbf{TML}$  is not Cartesian closed. In this article, we presented a Cartesian closed subcategory of  $\mathbf{TML}$ . We defined the concept of a locally compactly generated topological molecular lattice, and it was shown that the category of locally compactly generated topological molecular lattices is a Cartesian closed subcategory of  $\mathbf{TML}$ .

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