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Advanced Functional Programming

Week 5 – Monads in General, State Monads

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Last Week: Functors

- class definition

```
class Functor f where
  fmap :: (a -> b) -> f a -> f b
```

- structure preserving map-function, `fmap id = id`, `fmap (f . g) = fmap f . fmap g`
- instances: `Maybe`, `[]`, `Either a`, `(,) a`, `(,,) a b`, `Data.Map.Map k`, `Parse`
- not instances: `Data.Set.Set`

Last Week: Development of Parsers for PGM Raw Format

- explicit case-analysis for error-handling and explicit state
- implicit error handling and explicit state: `(>>?)` operation
- implicit error handling and implicit state: `Parse` type and `(==>)` operation

Monads

Parsing With Implicit Error Handling and Explicit State

```
parseP5_take2 :: L.ByteString -> Maybe (Greymap, L.ByteString)
parseP5_take2 s =
    matchHeader (L8.pack "P5") s      >>?
    skipSpace                         >>?
    getNat                            >>?
    \(width, s1) -> skipSpace s1      >>?
    getNat                            >>?
    \(height, s2) -> skipSpace s2     >>?
    getNat                            >>?
    \(maxGrey, s3) -> getBytes 1 s3   >>?
    (getBytes (width * height) . snd) >>?
    \(bitmap, s) -> Just (Greymap width height maxGrey bitmap, s)
```

observations

- `(>>?)` combines computations
- state `s` is explicitly updated and passed around
- `Just` is used to indicate final result

Parsing With Implicit Error Handling and Implicit State

```
parseRawPGM :: Parse Greymap
parseRawPGM =
    parseWhileWith w2c (not . isSpace) ==> \header -> skipSpaces ==>&
    assert (header == "P5") "invalid raw header" ==>&
    parseNat ==> \width -> skipSpaces ==>&
    parseNat ==> \height -> skipSpaces ==>&
    parseNat ==> \maxGrey ->
    parseByte ==>&
    parseBytes (width * height) ==> \bitmap ->
    identity (Greymap width height maxGrey bitmap)
```

observations

- `(==>)` combines computations
- `(==>&)` is restricted version of `(==>)`: `p1 ==>& p2 = p1 ==> \ _ -> p2`
- `identity` turns value into a parsing result

Similarities of Operations

- there is an operator to chain computations

```
(>>?) :: Maybe a -> (a -> Maybe b) -> Maybe b
(==>) :: Parse a -> (a -> Parse b) -> Parse b
```

  known operator to chain I/O actions

```
(>>=) :: IO a ->     (a -> IO b)     -> IO b
```

- abstract view: replace concrete type constructors by variable `m`, use `(>>=)` as name of op.

```
(>>=) :: m a ->      (a -> m b)      -> m b
```

- there is an operator to lift a plain value into the more complex type without requiring computation

```
Just     :: a -> Maybe a
identity :: a -> Parse a
return   :: a -> IO a
```

- abstract view: replace concrete type constructors by `m` again (use `return` as name)

```
return   :: a -> m a
```

Monads

- identified similarities
  - there is type constructor `m` of kind `* -> *`
  - there is an operation to chain two computations

    ```
    (>>=) :: m a -> (a -> m b) -> m b
    ```

    the latter computation may depend on the result of the former
  - there is an operator to lift an `a`-element into an `m a`-element

    ```
    return :: a -> m a
    ```
- the combination of `m`, `>>=` and `return` form a monad
  - `>>=` is called bind
  - the three monad-laws must be satisfied
    - `return x >>= f` = `f x` — `return` is left neutral
    - `mv >>= return` = `mv` — `return` is right neutral
    - `mv >>= (\x -> f x >>= g)` = `(mv >>= f) >>= g` — `bind` is associative
- examples: `Maybe`, `(>>?)`, `Just` is monad as well as `Parse`, `(==>)`, `identity`
- another example: `IO`, `(>>=)`, `return` is a monad

Monads in Haskell

- similar to functors, there is a type-class for monads

```
class Functor f => Applicative f where ... -- details omitted now
class Applicative m => Monad m where
  (>>=) :: m a -> (a -> m b) -> m b
  (>>) :: m a -> m b -> m b
  return :: a -> m a

  ma >> mb = ma >>= (\ _ -> mb)
```

- `IO` and `Maybe` are already instances of `Monad`
- for `Parse`, we will define the instance where
  - `(>>=) = (==>)`,
  - `(>>)  = (==>&)`, and
  - `return = identity`

Advantages of Abstract Monad Class

- same syntax for all monads: `(>>=)` and `(>>)` and `return` and do-notation
- write common functions which are available for all monads
  - example 1: `(>>)`
  - example 2: monadic version of `map`

```
mapM :: Monad m => (a -> m b) -> [a] -> m [b]
mapM f [] = return []
mapM f (x : xs) = f x >>= \ y -> mapM f xs >>= \ ys -> return $ y : ys
mapM f (x : xs) = do { y <- f x; ys <- mapM f xs; return $ y : ys }
```

  - example 3: monadic version of `map`, ignoring the resulting list

```
mapM_ :: Monad m => (a -> m b) -> [a] -> m ()
mapM_ f [] = return ()
mapM_ f (x : xs) = f x >> mapM_ f xs
mapM_ f (x : xs) = do { f x; mapM_ f xs }
```

  - example 4: monadic version of `foldl`

```
foldM :: Monad m => (b -> a -> m b) -> b -> [a] -> m b
```

- simplifies refactoring, e.g., change of monad

Example of Raw PGM Parser, No Do-Notation, Parse-Monad

```
parseRawPGM_noDoNotation :: Parse Greymap
parseRawPGM_noDoNotation =
  parseWhileWith w2c (not . isSpace) >>= \ header ->
  assert (header == "P5") "invalid raw header" >>
  skipSpaces >>
  parseNat >>= \ width ->
  skipSpaces >>
  parseNat >>= \ height ->
  skipSpaces >>
  parseNat >>= \ maxGrey ->
  parseByte >>
  parseBytes (width * height) >>= \ bitmap ->
  return (Greymap width height maxGrey bitmap)
```

Example of Raw PGM Parser, Using Do-Notation and Parse-Monad

```
parseRawPGM :: Parse Greymap
parseRawPGM = do
  header <- parseWhileWith w2c (not . isSpace)
  assert (header == "P5") "invalid raw header"
  skipSpaces
  width <- parseNat
  skipSpaces
  height <- parseNat
  skipSpaces
  maxGrey <- parseNat
  _ <- parseByte
  bitmap <- parseBytes (width * height)
  return (Greymap width height maxGrey bitmap)
```

Example of Raw PGM Parser, Using Do-Notation and Maybe-Monad

```haskell
parseP5_doNotation :: L.ByteString -> Maybe (Greymap, L.ByteString)
parseP5_doNotation s = do
  s <- matchHeader (L8.pack "P5") s
  -- no assert here, part of matchHeader
  s <- skipSpace s
  (width, s) <- getNat s
  s <- skipSpace s
  (height, s) <- getNat s
  s <- skipSpace s
  (maxGrey, s) <- getNat s
  (_, s) <- getBytes 1 s
  (bitmap, s) <- getBytes (width * height) s
  return (Greymap width height maxGrey bitmap, s)
```

Running the Monad

- consider monadic operations
  - chain computations `(>>=) :: m a -> (a -> m b) -> m b`
  - lift value `return :: a -> m a`
- operations provide means to enter the monad or stay in the monad `m`
- question: how to exit the monad, i.e., get return value of type without `m`
- for most monads, there are dedicated functions to execute or run the monad
  - `Parse` `parse :: Parse a -> L.ByteString -> Either String a`
  - `Maybe` `maybe :: b -> (a -> b) -> Maybe a -> b`
  - ...

  all these monads can be used to build pure functions
- major exception: `IO`
  - no way to get rid of the `IO` in the result type
  - it is not possible to use `IO`-functions within pure functions
- consequence: using a monad is no conflict to staying pure

The State Monad

Monads for Programs using State

- main aim
  - encapsulate some state that may easily be modified and read throughout the computation
  - states should not be explicitly passed around as argument
- idea of monadic computation with state
  - a computation that may read and write to a state of type `s`,
  - and returns a result of type `a`
- example applications
  - state stores set of visited nodes in graph traversal
  - state manages generation of fresh names
  - state manages generation of random numbers
  - write some computed result to the file system
- example monads
  - pure `State` monad
    - `newtype State s a = State { runState :: s -> (a, s) }`
    - simplified and more abstract version of `Parse`: no failure handling
  - `IO` and `ST` provide primitives for stateful computations

Running Example: Quicksort

- quicksort is fast sorting algorithm
- selection of pivot-element can improve or degrade performance
- useful strategy: random selection of pivot-elements yields $O(n \cdot log(n))$ expected runtime
- non-randomized implementation (includes counting comparisons)

```
qsortCount :: Ord a => [a] -> (Integer, [a])
qsortCount [] = (0,[])
qsortCount (x : xs) = let
  (low, high) = partition (< x) xs
  c0 = fromIntegral $ length xs
  (c1, qs1) = qsortCount low
  (c2, qs2) = qsortCount high
 in (c0 + c1 + c2, qs1 ++ [x] ++ qs2)
```

- here: pivot is always first element
- consequence: quadratic complexity on sorted input lists

Randomized Quicksort using Monads

- random number generator (rng) is passed as monadic function of type `Int -> m Int`
- required: `rng n` delivers number between 0 and `n`
- main function, without fixing the monad

```
qsortMonadic :: (Monad m, Ord a) => (Int -> m Int) -> [a] -> m (Integer,[a])
qsortMonadic rng = qsortMain where
  qsortMain [] = return $ (0, [])
  qsortMain xs = do
     pos <- rng $ n - 1
     let (xs1, x : xs2) = splitAt pos xs
     let (low, high) = partition (< x) (xs1 ++ xs2)
     let c0 = fromIntegral $ n - 1
     (c1,qs1) <- qsortMain low
     (c2,qs2) <- qsortMain high
     return $ (c0 + c1 + c2, qs1 ++ [x] ++ qs2)
   where n = length xs
```

Randomized Quicksort using IO-Monad

- random numbers can be accessed from the global state
  (IO can be seen as state monad with a special state: the world)
- implementation in Haskell with $O(n \cdot log(n))$ complexity, assuming perfect rng

```
-- random number between lower and upper bound
randomRIO :: (Int, Int) -> IO Int

getRandomIO :: Int -> IO Int
getRandomIO n = randomRIO (0, n)

qsortIO :: Ord a => [a] -> IO (Integer,[a])
qsortIO = qsortMonadic getRandomIO
```

The Pure State-Monad

```
newtype State s a = State { runState :: s -> (a, s) }

instance Monad (State s) where
  return a = State ( \ s -> (a, s) )
  st1 >>= aSt2 = State
     (\ s -> let (a, s1) = runState st1 s
             in runState (aSt2 a) s1)

get :: State s s
get = State ( \ s -> (s, s))

put :: s -> State s ()
put s = State ( \ _ -> ((), s))
```

- chaining via `(>>=)` very similar to `(==>)` in `Parse`
- two primitives to read and write state: `get` and `put`

Pseudo Random Number Generation

- a pseudo random number generator (rng) is a deterministic algorithm to
  - produce an infinite sequence of numbers
  - which look as if they where really randomly chosen numbers
- in Haskell: `StdGen` is the type of a pseudo rng
- `uniformR (a,b) rng` delivers a pair `(r,rng')`
  - `r` is the first random number in the sequence, `r` is between `a` and `b`,
  - `rng'` is the rng that produces the rest of the sequence
- encapsulate rng in `State`-monad

```
type RandomState = State StdGen

getRandomState :: Int -> RandomState Int
getRandomState n = do
  rng <- get
  let (r,rng') = uniformR (0,n) rng
  put rng'
  return r
```

Randomized Quicksort as Pure Function

```
qsortStateMain :: Ord a => [a] -> RandomState (Integer, [a])
qsortStateMain = qsortMonadic getRandomState

-- different versions to run the State monad
runState  :: State s a -> s -> (a, s)
evalState :: State s a -> s -> a
execState :: State s a -> s -> s

qsortState :: Ord a => Int -> [a] -> (Integer,[a])
qsortState seed xs = evalState (qsortStateMain xs) (mkStdGen seed)

-- mkStdGen generates a pseudo rng from a starting seed value
```

Store Pseudo-RNG via IO References

```
newIORef :: a -> IO (IORef a)            -- initial value
readIORef :: IORef a -> IO a             -- get
writeIORef :: IORef a -> a -> IO ()      -- put

-- deterministic pseudo-rng based quicksort using IO references
qsortIOSeed :: Ord a => Int -> [a] -> IO (Integer, [a])
qsortIOSeed seed xs = do
  rngRef <- newIORef (mkStdGen seed)
  let getRandIO n = do
       rng <- readIORef rngRef
       let (r, rng') = uniformR (0,n) rng
       writeIORef rngRef rng'
       return r
  qsortMonadic getRandIO xs

-- a bit faster than State, but cannot be used in pure functions
```

Store Pseudo-RNG via ST References

```
newSTRef :: a -> ST s (STRef s a)       -- initial value
readSTRef :: STRef s a -> ST s a        -- get
writeSTRef :: STRef s a -> a -> ST s () -- put

-- deterministic pseudo-rng based quicksort using ST monad and ST references
qsortMonadicST :: Ord a => Int -> [a] -> ST s (Integer, [a])
qsortMonadicST seed xs = do
  rngRef <- newSTRef (mkStdGen seed)
  let getRandST n = do
       rng <- readSTRef rngRef
       let (r, rng') = uniformR (0,n) rng
       writeSTRef rngRef rng'
       return r
  qsortMonadic getRandST xs

-- similar to previous slide, replace IO by ST s, and IORef by STRef s
```

The ST Monad

- ST: state threads
- `ST s a` is monadic value with state thread `s` and result `a`
- ST monad provides mutable state in module `Data.STRef` and mutable arrays in `Data.Array.ST`
- in comparison to IO, there is a way to escape the ST monad via

```
runST :: (forall s. ST s a) -> a
-- pure version of quicksort-ST-version
qsortSTSeed :: Ord a => Int -> [a] -> (Integer, [a])
qsortSTSeed seed xs = runST $ qsortMonadicST seed xs
```

- quantification of `s` prevents that result `a` depends on `s`, so `a` cannot be `STRef s b`

```
-- fortunately, does not type-check
bad = let ref = runST (do ref <- newSTRef True
                          writeSTRef ref False
                          return ref)
      in  runST (readSTRef ref)
```

- in total: ST permits us to write pure Haskell code using mutable state

Literature

- Real World Haskell, Chapter 14
- John Launchbury and Simon L. Peyton Jones. Lazy functional state threads. PLDI '94, pages 24 – 35, https://doi.org/10.1145/178243.178246