

Last time: GADTs

$a \equiv b$

This time: monads (etc.)



# What do monads give us?

A general approach to implementing custom effects

A reusable interface to computation

A way to structure effectful programs in a functional language

# Effects

## What's an effect?

An **effect** is anything a function does besides mapping inputs to outputs.

If an expression  $M$  evaluates to a value  $v$  and changing

`let x = M`  
`in N`                      to                      `let x = V`  
`in N`

changes the behaviour then  $M$  also performs effects.

## Example effects

**Effects available in OCaml**

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(An **effect** is anything other than mapping inputs to outputs.)

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**(higher-order) state**

```
r := f; !r ()
```

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**exceptions**

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raise Not_found
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escape x in e
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```
r := "one"; r := 2
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amb f g h
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#### first-class continuations

```
escape x in e
```

#### polymorphic state

```
r := "one"; r := 2
```

#### checked exceptions

```
int  $\xrightarrow{\text{IOError}}$  bool
```

(An **effect** is anything other than mapping inputs to outputs.)

## Capturing effects in the types

Some languages capture effects in the type system.

We might have two function arrows:

a **pure** arrow  $a \rightarrow b$   
an **effectful** arrow (or family of arrows)  $a \rightsquigarrow b$

and combinators for combining effectful functions

composeE :  $(a \rightsquigarrow b) \rightarrow (b \rightsquigarrow c) \rightarrow (a \rightsquigarrow c)$   
ignoreE :  $(a \rightsquigarrow b) \rightarrow (a \rightsquigarrow \text{unit})$   
pairE :  $(a \rightsquigarrow b) \rightarrow (c \rightsquigarrow d) \rightarrow (a \times c \rightsquigarrow b \times d)$   
liftPure :  $(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (a \rightsquigarrow b)$



# Separating application and performing effects

An alternative:

Decompose effectful arrows into functions and computations

$$a \rightsquigarrow b \quad \text{becomes} \quad a \rightarrow T b$$

# Monads

```
(let x = e in ...)
```

# Programming with monads

## An imperative program

```
let id = !counter in
let () = counter := id + 1 in
  string_of_int id
```

## A monadic program

```
get >>= fun id →
put (id + 1) >>= fun () →
  return (string_of_int id)
```

# Monads

```
module type MONAD =  
sig  
  type 'a t  
  val return : 'a → 'a t  
  val (≫=) : 'a t → ('a → 'b t) → 'b t  
end
```

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end
```

## Laws:

$$\begin{aligned} \text{return } v \gg k &\equiv k v \\ v \gg \text{return} &\equiv v \\ (m \gg f) \gg g &\equiv m \gg (\text{fun } x \rightarrow f x \gg g) \end{aligned}$$

## Monad laws: intuition

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`return v >>= k`  $\equiv$  `k v`

`let x = v in M`  $\equiv$  `M[x:=v]`

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$$\text{let } x = v \text{ in } M \equiv M[x:=v]$$

$$v \gg= \text{return} \equiv v$$

$$\text{let } x = M \text{ in } x \equiv M$$



## Monad laws: intuition

$$\text{return } v \gg= k \equiv k \ v$$

$$\text{let } x = v \text{ in } M \equiv M[x:=v]$$

$$v \gg= \text{return} \equiv v$$

$$\text{let } x = M \text{ in } x \equiv M$$

$$(m \gg= f) \gg= g \equiv m \gg= (\text{fun } x \rightarrow f \ x \gg= g)$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{let } x = (\text{let } y = L \text{ in } M) \\ \text{in } N \end{array} \equiv \begin{array}{l} \text{let } y = L \text{ in} \\ \text{let } x = M \text{ in} \\ N \end{array}$$

## Example: a state monad

```
module type STATE = sig
  type state
  include MONAD
  val get : state t
  val put : state → unit t
  val runState : 'a t → init:state → state * 'a
end
```

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```
type 'a t = state → state * 'a
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let return v s = (s, v)
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let get s = (s, s)
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let put s' _ = (s', ())
```

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let runState m ~init = m init
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```

```
module State (S : sig type t end)
  : STATE with type state = S.t = struct
  type state = S.t
  type 'a t = state → state * 'a
  let return v s = (s, v)
  let (>>=) m k s = let s', a = m s in k a s'
  let get s = (s, s)
  let put s' _ = (s', ())
  let runState m ~init = m init
end
```



## Example: a state monad

```
type 'a tree =
  Empty : 'a tree
  | Tree : 'a tree * 'a * 'a tree → 'a tree

module IState = State (struct type t = int end)

let fresh_name : string IState.t =
  get          >>= fun i →
  put (i + 1) >>= fun () →
  return (Printf.sprintf "x%d" i)

let rec label_tree : 'a tree → string tree IState.t =
  function
  | Empty → return Empty
  | Tree (l, v, r) →
    label_tree l >>= fun l →
    fresh_name   >>= fun name →
    label_tree r >>= fun r →
    return (Tree (l, name, r))
```

## State satisfies the monad laws

return v  $\gg=$  k

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 $\equiv$  (definition of return,  $\gg=$ )  
 $\text{fun } s \rightarrow \text{let } s', a = (\text{fun } s \rightarrow (s, v)) \text{ s in } k \ a \ s'$

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## Example: exception

```
module type ERROR = sig
  type error
  include MONAD
  val raise : error → 'a t
  val _try_ : 'a t → catch:(error → 'a) → 'a
end

let rec find : 'a. ('a → bool) → 'a list → 'a t =
  fun p l → match l with
    [] → raise "Not found!"
  | x :: _ when p x → return x
  | _ :: xs → find p xs

_try_ (
  find (greater ~than:3) l >>= fun v →
  return (string_of_int v)
) ~catch:(fun error → error)
```

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  val raise : error → 'a t
  val _try_ : 'a t → catch:(error → 'a) → 'a
end

type 'a t =
  Val : 'a → 'a t
  | Exn : error → 'a t

let return v = Val v
```



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```
let (≫=) m k = match m with
  Val v → k v | Exn e → Exn e
```

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type 'a t =
  Val : 'a → 'a t
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let raise e = Exn e
```

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module Error (E: sig type t end)
: ERROR with type error = E.t = struct
  type error = E.t
  type 'a t =
    Val : 'a → 'a t
  | Exn : error → 'a t
  let return v = Val v
  let (>>=) m k = match m with
    Val v → k v | Exn e → Exn e
  let raise e = Exn e
  let _try_ m ~catch = match m with
    Val v → v | Exn e → catch e
end
```

## Example: exception

```
let rec mapMTree f = function
  Empty → return Empty
| Tree (l, v, r) →
  mapMTree f l >>= fun l →
  f v          >>= fun v →
  mapMTree f r >>= fun r →
  return (Tree (l, v, r))

let check_nonzero =
  mapMTree
    (fun v →
      if v = 0 then raise Zero
      else return v)
```

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$v \gg= \text{return}$

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$\equiv$  (definition of return,  $\gg=$ )

match  $v$  with Val  $v \rightarrow \text{Val } v$  | Exn  $e \rightarrow \text{Exn } e$

## Exception satisfies the monad laws

$v \gg= \text{return}$

$\equiv$  (definition of return,  $\gg=$ )

match  $v$  with  $\text{Val } v \rightarrow \text{Val } v \mid \text{Exn } e \rightarrow \text{Exn } e$

$\equiv$  ( $\eta$  for sums)

$v$



# *Parameterised* monads

$(\{P\} C \{Q\})$

## Parameterised monads and Hoare Logic

A computation of type  $(\text{'p}, \text{'q}, \text{'a})\text{t}$   
has *precondition*  $\text{'p}$   
has *postcondition*  $\text{'q}$   
*produces a result* of type  $\text{'a}$ .

i.e.  $(\text{'p}, \text{'q}, \text{'a})\text{t}$  is a kind of Hoare triple  $\{P\} M \{Q\}$ .

## Strengthening the interface: parameterised monads

```
module type PARAMETERISED_MONAD =  
sig  
  type ('s,'t,'a) t  
  val return : 'a → ('s,'s,'a) t  
  val (>>=) : ('r,'s,'a) t →  
              ('a → ('s,'t,'b) t) →  
              ('r,'t,'b) t  
end
```

(Laws: as for monads.)

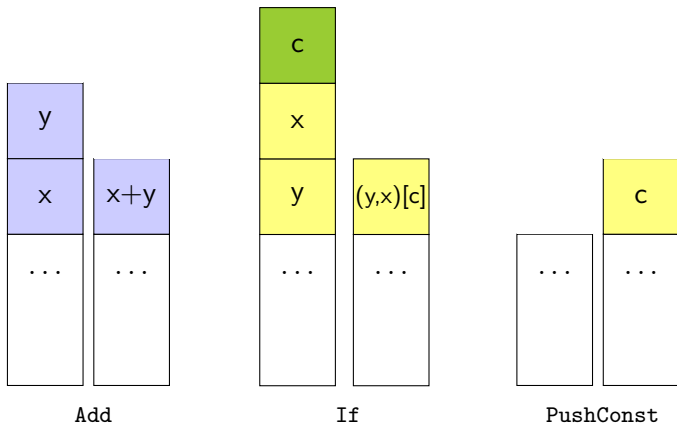
## A parameterised monad for state

```
module type PSTATE =  
sig  
  include PARAMETERISED_MONAD  
  val get : ('s,'s,'s) t  
  val put : 's → (_, 's, unit) t  
  val runState : ('s,'t,'a) t → init:'s → 't * 'a  
end
```

## A parameterised monad for state

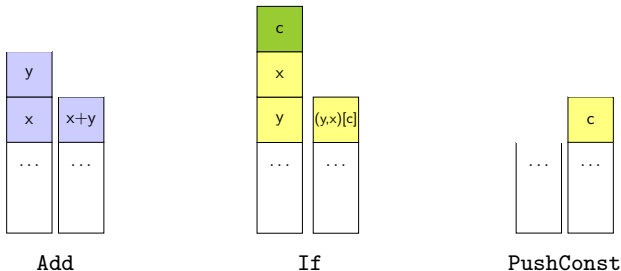
```
module PState : PSTATE =  
struct  
  type ('s, 't, 'a) t = 's → 't * 'a  
  let return v s = (s, v)  
  let (≫) m k s = let t, a = m s in k a t  
  let put s _ = (s, ())  
  let get s = (s, s)  
  let runState m ~init = m init  
end
```

# Programming with polymorphic state: a stack machine



# Programming with polymorphic state: a stack machine

```
module type STACK_OPS =  
sig  
  type ('s,'t,'a) t  
  val add : (int * (int * 's),  
            int * 's, unit) t  
  val _if_ : (bool * ('a * ('a * 's)),  
            'a * 's, unit) t  
  val push_const : 'a → ('s,  
                        'a * 's, unit) t  
end
```



## Programming with polymorphic state

```
module type STACKM = sig
  include PARAMETERISED_MONAD
  include STACK_OPS
  with type ('s,'t,'a) t := ('s,'t,'a) t
  val execute : ('s,'t,'a) t → 's → 't * 'a
end
```

```
module StackM : STACKM = struct
  include PState

  let add = get >>= fun (x,(y,s)) → put (x+y,s)
  let _if_ = get >>= fun (c,(t,(e,s))) →
    put (if c then t else e, s)
  let push_const k = get >>= fun s → put (k, s)
  let execute = runState
end
```



# Higher-order effectful programs

## Monadic effects are higher-order

composeE :  $(a \rightsquigarrow b) \rightarrow (b \rightsquigarrow c) \rightarrow (a \rightsquigarrow c)$

pairE :  $(a \rightsquigarrow b) \rightarrow (c \rightsquigarrow d) \rightarrow (a \times c \rightsquigarrow b \times d)$

uncurryE :  $(a \rightsquigarrow b \rightsquigarrow c) \rightarrow (a \times b \rightsquigarrow c)$

liftPure :  $(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (a \rightsquigarrow b)$

## Higher-order effects with monads

```
val composeM :  
  ('a → 'b t) → ('b → 'c t) → ('a → 'c t)
```

```
let composeM f g x =  
  f x >>= fun y →  
  g y
```

```
val uncurryM :  
  ('a → ('b → 'c t) t) → (('a * 'b) → 'c t)
```

```
let uncurryM f (x,y) =  
  f x >>= fun g →  
  g y
```

Next time: arrows, applicatives (etc.)

$\ggg$

$\langle * \rangle$