

Monads

Samuel Mimram

1 Monads in Haskell

Here is an excerpt of <http://www.haskell.org/haskellwiki/Monad>:

Monads can be viewed as a standard programming interface to various data or control structures, which is captured by the Monad class. All common monads are members of it:

```
class Monad m where
  (>>=) :: m a -> (a -> m b) -> m b
  return :: a -> m a
```

In addition to implementing the class functions, all instances of Monad should obey the following equations:

```
return a >>= k = k a
m >>= return = m
m >>= (\x -> k x >>= h) = (m >>= k) >>= h
```

1. What does the Maybe monad defined below do?

```
data Maybe a = Nothing | Just a
```

```
instance Monad Maybe where
  return = Just
  Nothing >>= f = Nothing
  (Just x) >>= f = f x
```

2. What does the List monad defined below do?

```
instance Monad [] where
  m >>= f = concatMap f m
  return x = [x]
```

3. A *Kleisli triple* $(T, \eta, (-)^*)$ on a category \mathcal{C} consists of

- a function $T : \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C}) \rightarrow \text{Ob}(\mathcal{C})$,
- a function $\eta_A : A \rightarrow TA$ for every object A of \mathcal{C} ,
- a morphism $f^* : TA \rightarrow TB$ for every morphism $f : A \rightarrow TB$,

such that for every objects A, B, C and morphisms $f : A \rightarrow TB$ and $g : B \rightarrow TC$,

$$\eta_A^* = \text{id}_{TA} \quad f^* \circ \eta_A = f \quad g^* \circ f^* = (g^* \circ f)^*$$

Show that Kleisli triples are in bijection with monads on \mathcal{C} .

4. Construct the Kleisli category associated to a Kleisli triple.

2 Usual monads

Recall that in a cartesian closed category \mathcal{C} we have a bijection $\mathcal{C}(S \times A, B) \simeq \mathcal{C}(A, S \Rightarrow B)$. You can use the fact that λ -calculus is an internal language for cartesian closed categories.

1. Describe the adjoint functors and the bijection.
2. Describe the unit and the counit of the associated adjunction, the resulting *state monad*, and the Kleisli triple.
3. Describe the Kleisli category.
4. Implement the *read* and *write* operations.

Let us study some other monads. For each of those, provide the Kleisli triple, as well as the implementation of the expected operations.

1. Define the *reader monad* such that TA is a value of type A depending on a state in S .
2. The *stream monad* is such that $TA = A^{\mathbb{N}}$. Complete the description.
3. Define the *log monad* which models a situation where each command might write some lines in a log file.
4. Define the *flag monad* where a program might set a flag during its execution (and can never unset).
5. How can you unify the two previous monads. What is an algebra for the resulting monad?
6. The *continuation monad* is such that $TA = (A \Rightarrow S) \Rightarrow S$. Complete the description.

3 Monads in Rel

We define **Rel** as the 2-category whose 0-cells are sets, 1-cells $R : A \rightarrow B$ are relations $R \subseteq A \times B$, there is a unique 2-cell $\alpha : R \Rightarrow R' : A \rightarrow B$ whenever $R \subseteq R'$.

1. Recall both horizontal and vertical compositions in **Rel**.
2. Show that a left adjoint in **Rel** is a function.
3. What is a monad in **Rel**?

4 Monads in Span

The 2-category of **Span** is the category where

- a 0-cell is a set
- a 1-cell from A to B is a *span*: $A \xleftarrow{s} I \xrightarrow{t} B$
- a 2-cell $f : (s, t) \rightarrow (s', t')$ is a function making the following diagram commute

$$\begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & I & & \\
 & s \swarrow & | & \searrow t & \\
 A & & & & B \\
 & \swarrow s' & \downarrow f & \searrow t' & \\
 & & I' & &
 \end{array}$$

Horizontal composition of 1-cells is given by pullback.

1. What is an endomorphism $A \rightarrow A$? A 2-cell between such endomorphisms?
2. Detail the structure of 2-category.
3. Is it really a 2-category?
4. What is a monad in this “2-category”?