Closure-Free Functional Programming in a Two-Level Type Theory

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Input:

```
f :: Reader Bool Int
f = do
    b <- ask
    if b then return 10
        else return 20</pre>
```

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-00 output:

```
dict1 :: Monad (Reader Int)
dict1 = MkMonad ...
dict2 :: MonadReader (Reader Int)
dict2 = MkMonadReader ...
f : Reader Bool Int
f = (>>=) dict1 (ask dict2) (\b ->
  case b of
    True -> return dict1 10
    False -> return dict1 20)
```

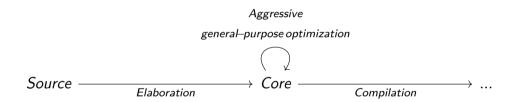
-01 output:

```
f :: Bool -> Int
f b = case b of
  True -> 10
  False -> 20
```

Optimization is hard!

Example: mapM is third-order & rank-2 polymorphic, but almost all use cases should compile to first-order monomorphic code.

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



Proposal



Proposal

Input in WIP language:

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```

- Looks similar to Haskell.
- Desugaring & elaboration does slightly more work.
- Compilation to efficient code is formally guaranteed.

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Setup

- Two-level type theory (2LTT):
 - Metalanguage (compile time): dependently typed.
 - Object language (runtime): simpler.
 - The two are smoothly integrated.
- Monadic programs are *metaprograms* which generate efficient runtime code.
- Most optimizations are implemented in libraries instead of compiler internals.

Closure-freedom

Many abstractions are usually implemented with closures:

- Higher-order functions
- Type classes
- ML functors

A big part of GHC's **-01** work is to get rid of closures.

Closure-freedom is a good indicator of *low-cost* abstraction.

Essential usage of closures is surprising rare in FP!

The 2LTT

- MetaTy: universe of meta-level types. Supports Π , Σ , inductive families.
- Ty: universe of object-level types. Only simple types. Polarized to computation and value types. Closure-based and statically known functions are distinguished in types.

A meta-level program:

```
id : {A : MetaTy} -> A -> A
id x = x
```

An object-level program:

```
data List (A : ValTy) := Nil | Cons A (List A)

myMap : List Int -> List Int

myMap ns := case xs of

Nil -> Nil

Cons n ns -> Cons (n + 10) (myMap ns)
```

The 2LTT - interaction between stages

- Lifting: for A : Ty, we have ↑A : MetaTy, as the type of metaprograms that produce A-typed object programs.
- Quoting: for t: A and A: Ty, we have <t> as the metaprogram which immediately returns t.
- **Splicing**: for **t** : **A**, we have **t** : **A** which runs the metaprogram **t** and inserts its output in some object-level code.
- Definitional equalities: ~<t> ≡ t and <~t> ≡ t.

Staged example

Staged example - with stage inference

Type classes (and monads) only exist in the metalanguage.

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

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return : a -> m a
       (>>=) : m a -> (a -> m b) -> m b
Gen is a Monad whose effect is generating object code:
    newtype Gen A = Gen {unGen : \{R : Ty\} \rightarrow (A \rightarrow \uparrow R) \rightarrow \uparrow R\}
    instance Monad Gen where ...
    runGen : Gen (↑A) → ↑A
    runGen (Gen f) = f id
```

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```

```
runGen (Gen f) = f id
Generating an object-level let-definition:
```

runGen : Gen (↑A) → ↑A

```
gen : {A : Ty} → ↑A → Gen ↑A
gen {A} a = Gen $ λ k. <let x : A := ~a in ~(k <x>)>
```

Staged input:

```
myAction x = do
   y ← gen <~x + ~x>
   z ← gen <~y * ~y>
   return <~y * ~z>

foo : Int
foo := ~(runGen $ myAction <10>)
```

myAction : fint → Gen fint

Output:

```
foo : Int
foo := let y := 10 + 10 in
    let z := y * y in
    y * z
```

Staging monads

We only program in meta-level monads, but also have back-and-forth translations between object-level types and metamonads.

```
down : ReaderT (↑R) Gen (↑A) → ↑ (ReaderT。R Identity。A)
     : ↑(ReaderT。R Identity。A) → ReaderT (↑R) Gen (↑A)
up
f : ReaderTo Bool Identityo Int
f := \sim (down \$ do
  b ← ask
  b' ← split b
  case b' of
    MetaTrue → return <10>
    MetaFalse → return <20>)
```

In general: up/down is defined by recursion on a transformer stack. **Identity** is related to **Gen**.

Case splitting on object values

```
split : MonadGen m => ↑Bool → m MetaBool
split b = liftGen \$ Gen \$ \lambda k. <case \simb of
 True → ~(k MetaTrue)
 False → ~(k MetaFalse)>
f : ReaderTo Bool Identityo Int
f := \sim (down \$ do
 h ← ask
 b' ← split b
 case b' of
    MetaTrue → return <10>
    MetaFalse → return <20>)
```

Polarization & Closure-Freedom

Computation and value types are tracked in the object language.

```
_→_ : ValTy → Ty → CompTy
Closure : CompTy → ValTy
```

List : ValTy → ValTy

. . .

Closures only appear at runtime if we use Closure!

We have to use **Closure** ($A \rightarrow B$) to store functions in ADTs or pass them as function arguments.

(It's rare that closures are really needed in programming!)

Polarization & Closure-Freedom

How to compile this?

```
f : Bool \rightarrow Int \rightarrow Int f b = case b of True \rightarrow \lambda x. x + 10 False \rightarrow \lambda x. x * 10
```

And this?

```
f : Int → Int
f x :=
  let g y := x + y;
  g x + 10
```

More things

- Conditionally accepted at ICFP 24: Closure-Free Functional Programming in a Two-Level Type Theory.
- More things in paper: join points, stream fusion, semantics, more about polarized types.
- Implementations:
 - In Agda and typed Template Haskell with some limitations.
 - Standalone implementation early WIP.

Thank you!