

# Functional Programming

## IO

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# Referential transparency and substitutivity

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- Every variable and expression has just one value  
**referential transparency**
- Every variable can be replaced by its definition  
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**substitutivity**

## Enables reasoning

```
1 -- sequence of function calls does not matter
2 f () + g () == g () + f ()
3 -- number of function calls does not matter
4 f () + f ( ) == 2 * f ()
```

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which reads two inputs!

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- VERY WRONG!!!



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A contradiction?

No!

- Instead of performing IO operations directly, there is an abstract type of **IO instructions**, which get executed lazily by the operating system
- Some instructions (e.g., read from a file) return values, so the abstract IO type is parameterized over their type
- Keep in mind: instructions are just values like any other

## The main function

Top-level result of a program is an IO “instruction”.

```
1 main :: IO ()  
2 main = undefined
```

- an instruction describes the **effect** of the program
- effect = IO action, imperative state change, ...

# Kinds of instructions

## Primitive instructions

```
1  -- defined in the Prelude
2  putChar :: Char -> IO ()
3  getChar :: IO Char
4  writeFile :: FileName -> String -> IO ()
5  readFile :: FileName -> IO String
```

and many more

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and many more

## No op instruction

```
1  return :: a -> IO a
```

The IO instruction `return 42` performs no IO, but yields the value 42.

# Combining two instructions

## The bind operator $\gg=$

Intuition: next instruction may depend on the output of the previous one

1  $(\gg=) :: IO\ a \rightarrow (a \rightarrow IO\ b) \rightarrow IO\ b$

The instruction  $m \gg= f$

- executes  $m :: IO\ a$  first
- gets its result  $x :: a$
- applies  $f :: a \rightarrow IO\ b$  to the result
- to obtain an instruction  $f\ x :: IO\ b$  that returns a  $b$
- and executes this instruction to return a  $b$

# Combining two instructions

## The bind operator $>>=$

Intuition: next instruction may depend on the output of the previous one

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

The instruction  $m >>= f$

- executes  $m :: IO\ a$  first
- gets its result  $x :: a$
- applies  $f :: a \rightarrow IO\ b$  to the result
- to obtain an instruction  $f\ x :: IO\ b$  that returns a  $b$
- and executes this instruction to return a  $b$

## Example

```
1 readFiles f1 f2 =  
2   readFile f1 >>= \xs1 -> readFile f2
```



## More convenient: do notation

```
1 copyFile source target =  
2   undefined  
3  
4 doTwice io =  
5   undefined  
6  
7 doNot io =  
8   undefined
```

# Translating do notation into >>= operations

- $\text{do } \textit{lastaction}$   
→  
 $\textit{lastaction}$
- $\text{do } \{ x \leftarrow \textit{action1}; \textit{instructions} \}$   
→  
 $\textit{action1} \gg= \backslash x \rightarrow \text{do } \{ \textit{instructions} \}$
- $\text{do } \{ \textit{action1}; \textit{instructions} \}$   
→  
 $\textit{action1} \gg \text{do } \{ \textit{instructions} \}$
- $\text{do } \{ \text{let } \textit{binding}; \textit{instructions} \}$   
→  
 $\text{let } \textit{binding} \text{ in } \text{do } \{ \textit{instructions} \}$

# Instructions vs functions

## Functions

behave the same each time they called

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behave the same each time they called

## Instructions

may be interpreted differently each time they are executed, depending on context

# Underlying concept: **Monad**

## What's a monad?

- abstract datatype for instructions that produce values
- built-in combination  $>>=$
- abstracts over different interpretations (computations)

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## IO is a special case of a monad

- one very useful application for monad
- built into Haskell
- but there's more to the concept
- many more instances to come!

# Hands-on task

## Define a function

```
1 sortFile :: FilePath -> FilePath -> IO ()
2
3 -- sortFile inFile outFile
4 -- reads inFile, sorts its lines, and writes the result to outFile
5
6 -- recall
7 -- sort :: Ord a => [a] -> [a]
8 -- lines :: String -> [String]
9 -- unlines :: [String] -> String
```

# Utilities

```
1 sequence :: [IO a] -> IO [a]
2 sequence_ :: [IO a] -> IO ()
```



# Another hands-on task

Define a function

```
1 printTable :: [String] -> IO ()
2
3 {-
4 printTable ["New York", "Rio", "Tokio"]
5 outputs
6 1: New York
7 2: Rio
8 3: Tokio
9 -}
```

## First meeting with monads

- abstract data type of instructions returning results
- next instruction can depend on previous result
- instructions are just values
- basis for Haskell's standard IO