

Haskell exercise: Monads

Department of Mathematics and Computer Science
University of Southern Denmark

October 25, 2017

1. The *Maybe*-monad, and a monad for *Expr*

You are given a data type for expressions:

```
data Expr a = Var a | Add (Expr a) (Expr a) deriving Show
```

1. To turn *Expr* into a monad, we should give valid definitions for return and bind:

```
return :: a → Expr a  
(≫)   :: Expr a → (a → Expr b) → Expr b
```

Fill out the function bodies with appropriate definitions:

```
instance Monad Expr where  
  return x      = ⊥  
  (Var a) ≫ f   = ⊥  
  (Add x y) ≫ f = ⊥
```

2. We would like to define a function

```
replace :: Eq a ⇒ [(a, b)] → Expr a → Expr (Maybe b)
```

which replaces occurrences of type *a* with something of type *Maybe b*.
Example:

- `replace [] (Var 'a') = Var Nothing`
- `replace [('a', 3)] (Var 'a') = Var (Just 3)`

- $\text{replace } [(\text{'a'}, 3)] (\text{Add } (\text{Var } \text{'a'}) (\text{Var } \text{'b'})) = \text{Add } (\text{Var } (\text{Just } 3)) (\text{Var } \text{Nothing})$

You should use the functionality of the *Expr*-monad to implement *replace*. You can use

$$\text{lookup} :: \text{Eq } a \Rightarrow a \rightarrow [(a, b)] \rightarrow \text{Maybe } b$$

from the Prelude in your implementation of *replace*.

3. Now we would like to make a function

$$\text{convert} :: \text{Expr } (\text{Maybe } a) \rightarrow \text{Maybe } (\text{Expr } a)$$

which returns *Nothing* if there is an occurrence of *Nothing* inside the input expression *e*, otherwise it returns *Just e'*, where *e'* is a new expression where the internal values of type *a* are not wrapped in *Just*.

You should use the functionality of the *Maybe* monad to implement your *convert* function.

2. Random numbers and the State Monad

Functions involving randomness in Haskell take a seed $g :: \text{StdGen}$ as input, and returns an output and a new seed $g' :: \text{StdGen}$.

As an example, the built-in function

$$\text{randomR} :: (\text{Int}, \text{Int}) \rightarrow \text{StdGen} \rightarrow (\text{Int}, \text{StdGen})$$

on inputs $\text{randomR } (a, b) \ g$, returns (x, g') (an integer *x* and a new seed *g'*), where *x* is chosen uniformly, with the condition $a \leq x \leq b$.

To get a random seed, one needs the *IO* environment.

A complete program to simulate two die rolls and return the sum of the die-values is given below. Make sure that you understand how this works, before going on to the rest of the exercise.

```
import System.Random
die6 :: StdGen -> (Int, StdGen)
die6 g = randomR (1, 6) g
twoDie :: StdGen -> (Int, StdGen)
twoDie g = let (d1, g') = die6 g
              (d2, g'') = die6 g'
            in (d1 + d2, g'')
test :: IO (Int, StdGen)
```

```
test = do g ← newStdGen
      return (twoDie g)
```

We would like to give a nicer definition for *twoDie* which does not explicitly handle the random seed.

The *State*-monad library provides the following functions to wrap and unwrap functions in the state monad.

```
state :: (s → (a, s)) → State s a
runState :: State s a → s → (a, s)
```

You are provided the following stub of a program:

```
import Control.Monad.State
die6' :: State StdGen Int
die6' = ⊥
twoDie' :: State StdGen Int
twoDie' = ⊥
test' :: IO (Int, StdGen)
test' = do g ← newStdGen
        return (runState twoDie' g)
```

1. Using the function *state* and your definition *die6*, provide a definition of *die6'*.
2. Implement *twoDie'* only referring to *die6'* and the monadic functionality of State Monad.