

# K 1

## Conventions

### 1.1 Languages

The discussion of formal languages requires the use of several different languages simultaneously. The following is a list of the languages used in this work:

- **narrative (informal) language:** The top-level language used to narrate this work in an intuitive prose; English.
- **logical meta-language:** Formalized expressions that make no extra-logical assumptions. Contains expressions such as “The proposition  $A$  implies the proposition  $A$ .”
- **mathematical meta-language:** Mathematical expressions of generalized programs, where terms range more freely than in actual valid programs in the programming language. Relies on a mathematical context not explicit in this work. Contains expressions such as “ $f : \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \gamma$ .”
- **programming language:** Programs that are fully defined by the contents of this work, relying on no external context. Necessarily conforms to the given syntax, and its expressions have no meaning beyond the given rules that apply to them. Contains expressions such as “**term** `id  $\alpha$ (:Type) ( $\alpha$  a:) :  $\alpha$  := a..`”

### 1.2 Fonts

The use of many different languages simultaneously, as described by the previous section, has the unfortunate consequence of certain expressions seeming ambiguous to the reader. In order to mitigate this problem, each language and certain kinds of phrases are designated a font. The following fonts are designated in this way:

- **normal font:** narrative language.
- **italic font:** emphasis in narrative language.

2 › **bold font**: introductory use of new terms in narrative language, and by  $K$  and  $L$  Conventions  
tures in narrative language.

- › **small-caps font**: names in logical meta-language.
- › **sans-serif font**: mathematical meta-language.
- › **monospace font**: programming language.

## 1.3 Names

Naming conventions:

[**TODO**] Finalize

- › **terms**: lower-case english word/phrase.
- › **term variables**: lower-case english letter.
- › **types**: lower-case english word/phrase.
- › **types of higher order**: capitalized english word/phrase.
- › **type variables**: lower-case greek letter.
- › **type variables of higher order**: capital english letter.

# K 2

## Introduction

[**TODO**] change code to codem in most cases, and have to wrap in \$'s

[**TODO**] change declaration header 'term' and 'type' to just one keyword, say 'let'

[**TODO**] :

is this entire chapter, change concrete programs to be entirely monospace font

[**TODO**] change read and write to get and set

### 2.1 Introduction

[**TODO**] Introduce my thesis.

### 2.2 Language $\mathbb{A}$

lambda-calculus is a formal language for expressing computation. In this context, a **language** is defined to be a set of expression that are generated by syntactical rules. The lambda-calculus comes in many different variants, and here we will consider a basic variant of the **simply-typed lambda-calculus** in order to considering computation formally. Call our language  $\mathbb{A}$ .

#### 2.2.1 Syntax for $\mathbb{A}$

In  $\mathbb{A}$ , there are two forms used for constructing well-formed expressions: **terms** and **types**. They are expressed by the following syntax:

II 2.1: Syntax for  $\mathbb{A}$ 

metavariable	constructor	name
$\langle\langle \text{program} \rangle\rangle$	$[ \langle\langle \text{declaration} \rangle\rangle ]$	program
$\langle\langle \text{declaration} \rangle\rangle$	<b>primitive type</b> $\langle\langle \text{type-name} \rangle\rangle : \langle\langle \text{Type} \rangle\rangle .$ <b>type</b> $\langle\langle \text{type-name} \rangle\rangle : \langle\langle \text{Type} \rangle\rangle := \langle\langle \text{type} \rangle\rangle .$ <b>primitive term</b> $\langle\langle \text{term-name} \rangle\rangle : \langle\langle \text{type} \rangle\rangle .$ <b>term</b> $\langle\langle \text{term-name} \rangle\rangle : \langle\langle \text{type} \rangle\rangle := \langle\langle \text{term} \rangle\rangle .$	primitive type constructed type primitive term constructed term
$\langle\langle \text{Type} \rangle\rangle$	Type Type $\rightarrow \langle\langle \text{Type} \rangle\rangle$	atom arrow
$\langle\langle \text{type} \rangle\rangle$	$\langle\langle \text{type-name} \rangle\rangle$ $(\langle\langle \text{type-param} \rangle\rangle : \langle\langle \text{Type} \rangle\rangle) \Rightarrow \langle\langle \text{type} \rangle\rangle$ $\langle\langle \text{type} \rangle\rangle \langle\langle \text{type} \rangle\rangle$	atom function application
$\langle\langle \text{term} \rangle\rangle$	$\langle\langle \text{term-name} \rangle\rangle$ $(\langle\langle \text{term-param} \rangle\rangle : \langle\langle \text{type} \rangle\rangle) \Rightarrow \langle\langle \text{term} \rangle\rangle$ $\langle\langle \text{term} \rangle\rangle \langle\langle \text{term} \rangle\rangle$	atom function application

**Metavariables.** The metavariables  $\langle\langle \text{term-name} \rangle\rangle$ ,  $\langle\langle \text{type-name} \rangle\rangle$ , and  $\langle\langle \text{term-param} \rangle\rangle$  range over, for a given program, a fixed and collection of names. There are two kinds of names included in this collection:

- **primitive names:** Included a priori. Terms and types provided this way are provided along with their a priori type or Type respectively, and primitive terms along with a priori reduction rules (if any).
- **constructed names:** Require a definition written in the language.

This syntax schema is formatted as a *generative context-free grammar*, with

- *non-terminals*: The meta-variables  $\langle\langle \text{progam} \rangle\rangle$ ,  $\langle\langle \text{declaration} \rangle\rangle$ ,  $\langle\langle \text{Type} \rangle\rangle$ ,  $\langle\langle \text{type} \rangle\rangle$ ,  $\langle\langle \text{term} \rangle\rangle$ .
- *terminals*: Ranged over by the meta-variables  $\langle\langle \text{term-name} \rangle\rangle$ ,  $\langle\langle \text{type-name} \rangle\rangle$ .
- *repeated*: Expressions of the form  $[ \langle\langle \text{meta-var} \rangle\rangle ]$  indicate that any number of  $\langle\langle \text{meta-var} \rangle\rangle$  can be repeated in its place.

The following are some examples of the sorts of formal items that these meta-variables stand range over:

- $\langle\langle \text{term-name} \rangle\rangle$ : 1, 12309, true, false, "hello world", •.
- $\langle\langle \text{type-name} \rangle\rangle$ : natural, integer, boolean, string, void, unit.
- $\langle\langle \text{term-param} \rangle\rangle$ : x, y, this-is-a-parameter.

[**TODO**] include some function terms and (and maybe types?)

A given expression is well-formed with respect to  $\mathbb{A}$  if it is constructible by a series of applications of these rules. Note that this syntax does not specify any concrete terms or types. In this way,  $\mathbb{A}$ 's syntax is defined so abstractly in order to make the definitions for its typing and semantics as concise as possible. For example, we shall reference to the type `int`, some  $\langle\langle \text{term-name} \rangle\rangle$ s that have type `int` such as 0, 1, -1, 2, -2, 3, -3, and so on. Such types and terms as these are called **atoms** because they do not have any internal; they are simply posited as primitives in the language.

### 2.2.2 Notations for $\mathbb{A}$

Syntactical notations that translate definitional into their expansions before semantic processing are referred to as **syntactical sugar** in the programming community. In this way, they are *new* syntactical structures in  $\mathbb{A}$ , but immediately reduce to the core set of syntactical structures as defined by the previously-outlined syntax of  $\mathbb{A}$ . Since a few syntactical structures are used very commonly and are more intuitively read in a slightly different form, we shall adopt a few notations specified in the following few paragraphs.

**Parameters.** For parametrized terms and types, a convenient notation is to accumulate the parameters to the left side of a single  $\Rightarrow$  as follows:

When defining a term or type in a declaration it is convenient to write the names of parameters immediately to the right of the name being defined, resembling the syntax for applying the new term or type to its given arguments. The following notations implement this.

When two consecutive parameters have the same type or Type, the following notation allows a reduction in redundancy:

**Local bindings.** These are a core feature in all programming languages, and is expressed in  $\mathbb{A}$  with this notation:

$$[(\langle \text{term-param} \rangle_i : \langle \text{type} \rangle_i)] \langle \text{term} \rangle$$

$$::=$$

$$[(\langle \text{term-param} \rangle_i : \langle \text{type} \rangle_i) \Rightarrow] \langle \text{term} \rangle$$

```

term  $\langle \text{term-name} \rangle$   $[(\langle \text{type-param} \rangle : \langle \text{Type} \rangle)] [(\langle \text{term-param} \rangle : \langle \text{type} \rangle)]$ 
  :  $\langle \text{type} \rangle$ 
  :=  $\langle \text{term} \rangle$ .

::=

term  $\langle \text{term-name} \rangle$ 
  :  $[(\langle \text{type-param} \rangle : \langle \text{Type} \rangle)] \Rightarrow \langle \text{type} \rangle$ 
  :=  $[(\langle \text{term-param} \rangle : \langle \text{type} \rangle) \Rightarrow] \langle \text{term} \rangle$ .

```

**Omitted types.** The types of  $\langle \text{term-param} \rangle$ s may sometimes be omitted when they are unambiguous and obvious from their context. For example, in the types of `f`, `a`, and `a'` are obvious from the immediately-previous type of `twice`.

### 2.2.3 Primitives for $\mathbb{A}$

[**TODO**] rewrite these with syntax sugar

The primitive names for a program are defined by its **primitive term** and **primitive type** declarations, and the constructed names for a program are defined by its **construct term** and **constructed type** declarations. There are two particularly useful primitive types, along with some accompanying primitive terms, to have defined as part of the core of  $\mathbb{A}$ . The first of these is the **sum** type, where  $\text{sum } \alpha \beta$  is the type of either  $\alpha$  or  $\beta$ . To reflect this, a term  $x : \text{sum } \alpha \beta$  is constructed with either a term of type  $\alpha$  or a term of type  $\beta$ . These properties are specified by the following declarations:

**Notation 2.2.1. Case of sum.**

[**TODO**] review this notation

We also introduce the following syntax sugar for `split` — the following **case** notation:

[**TODO**] Explain  $n$ -ary sums.

**type**  $\langle\text{type-name}\rangle [(\langle\text{type-param}\rangle : \langle\text{Type}\rangle)] : \langle\text{Type}\rangle := \langle\text{type}\rangle.$

$::=$

**term**  $\langle\text{term-name}\rangle : \langle\text{Type}\rangle := [(\langle\text{type-param}\rangle : \langle\text{Type}\rangle)] \Rightarrow \langle\text{type}\rangle.$

**type**  $\langle\text{type-name}\rangle [(\langle\text{type-param}\rangle : \langle\text{Type}\rangle)] : \langle\text{Type}\rangle := \langle\text{type}\rangle.$

$::=$

**term**  $\langle\text{term-name}\rangle : \langle\text{Type}\rangle := [(\langle\text{type-param}\rangle : \langle\text{Type}\rangle)] \Rightarrow \langle\text{type}\rangle.$

**Notation 2.2.2.** [TODO] Notation for constructing and destructing  $n$ -ary sums.

The next notable primitive type to define here is the **product** type, where **product**  $\alpha \beta$  is the type of both  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . To reflect this, a term  $x : \text{product } \alpha \beta$  is constructed with both a term of type  $\alpha$  and a term of type  $\beta$ . These properties are reflected by the following declarations:

[TODO] Explain  $n$ -ary products

**Notation 2.2.3.** [TODO] Notation for constructing and destructing  $n$ -ary products.

[TODO] mention other common primitives that will not be explicitly defined, based on the following:

- integer
- natural
- boolean
- unit

[TODO] note that primitive terms need to have reduction rules defined outside of  $\mathbb{A}$  (if they have any reductions), and that these are not guaranteed to not break the rest of  $\mathbb{A}$ . So separate proofs need to be provided for complicated primitive stuff.

Listing 2.1: Notation for multiple parameters.

$$[(\langle \textit{term-param} \rangle_i : \langle \textit{type} \rangle) \Rightarrow]$$

$$::=$$

$$([\langle \textit{term-param} \rangle_i] : \langle \textit{type} \rangle) \Rightarrow$$

Listing 2.2: Notation for consecutive shared-typed parameters.

$$[(\langle \textit{type-param} \rangle_i : \langle \textit{Type} \rangle) \Rightarrow]$$

$$::=$$

$$([\langle \textit{type-param} \rangle_i] : \langle \textit{Type} \rangle) \Rightarrow$$

**Notation 2.2.4. Infix arrow, sum, and product types.** The arrow, sum, and product types have a usual infix notation to enhance the readability as they are immensely common and intentionally intuitive. These notations are as follows:

Each of these infix notations are right-associative. So, the type  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \gamma$  implicitly expands to  $\alpha \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \gamma)$ , matching a Curry-oriented<sup>1</sup> intuition.

Additionally, having multiple infix notations for  $\langle \textit{type} \rangle$ s introduce inter-notational ambiguity. For example, the type  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \times \gamma + \delta$  could be associated in many different ways. We adopt the following precedence order of increasing tightness:

$$\rightarrow, +, \times.$$

According to this order, the type  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \times \gamma + \delta$  expands to the proper association  $\alpha \rightarrow ((\beta \times \gamma) + \delta)$ .

## 2.2.4 Type application.

The notation for  $\langle \textit{type-name} \rangle \langle \textit{type} \rangle \cdots \langle \textit{type} \rangle$  is read as  $\langle \textit{type-name} \rangle$  acting as a kind of function that takes some number of type parameters. So, **arrow** is a type-constructor with type type parameters, say  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ , and forms the type **arrow**  $\alpha \beta$ . Note that this is a different kind of function than the **function** syntactical construct, but the intuitive similarity will be addressed later in chapter ??.

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<sup>1</sup>TODO: Citation needed?



Listing 2.3: Notation for local binding.

```

let «term-param» : «type» := «term»1 in «term»2

::=

(«term-name» : «term»  $\Rightarrow$  «term»2) «term»1

```

```

term twice :  $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \alpha :=$ 
  f a  $\Rightarrow$ 
    let a' = f a in
      f a'.

```

### 2.2.5 Typing Rules for $\mathbb{A}$

[TODO] fix code in math mode

[TODO] write Typing rules for types

Terms and types are related by a **typing judgement**, by which a term is stated to have a type. The judgement that  $a$  has type  $\alpha$  is written as  $a : \alpha$ . In order to build typed terms using the constructors presented in ??, the types of complex terms are inferred from their sub-terms using inference rules making use of judgement contexts (i.e. collections of judgements). A statement of the form  $\Gamma \vdash a : \alpha$  asserts that the context  $\Gamma$  entails that  $a : \alpha$ . The notation  $\Gamma, J \vdash J'$  abbreviates  $\Gamma \cup \{J\} \vdash J'$ . Keep in mind that these propositions (e.g. judgements) and inferences are in an explicitly-defined language that has no implicit rules. The terms “inference” and “judgement” are called such in order to have an intuitive sense, but rules about judgement and inference in general (outside of this context) are not implied to also apply here.

With judgements, we now can state **typing inferences rules**. Such inference rules have the form which asserts that the premises  $P_1, \dots, P_n$  entail the conclusion  $Q$ . For example, could be a particularly uninteresting inference rule. Explicitly stating the domain of each variable as premises is cumbersome however, so the following are conventions for variable domains based on their name:

- $\Gamma, \Gamma_i, \dots$  each range over judgement contexts,
- $a, b, c, \dots$  each range over terms,
- $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dots$  each range over types.

Listing 2.4: Primitives for `sum`.

```

primitive type sum : Type → Type → Type.

// constructors
primitive term left  α( β : Type) : α → sum α b.
primitive term right α( β : Type) : β → sum α b.

// destructor
primitive term split α( β γ : Type)
  : sum α β → α( → γ) → β( → γ) → γ.

```

Listing 2.5: Notation for `case`.

```

case «term» to «type»
  { left («term-param»1:«type»1) ⇒ «term»1
    ; right («term-param»2:«type»2) ⇒ «term»2 }

::=

split «type»1 «type»2 «type»
  ((«term-param»1:«type»1) ⇒ «term»1)
  ((«term-param»2:«type»2) ⇒ «term»2)

```

The following typing rules are given for  $\mathbb{A}$ :

[**TODO**] describe Typing rules for Types (of types)

$$\begin{array}{lcl}
 \text{TODO} & & \frac{\Gamma, a:\alpha \vdash a:\alpha}{a:\alpha} \\
 \text{FUNCTION-ABSTRACTION} & & \frac{\Gamma, a:\alpha \vdash b:\beta}{\Gamma \vdash ((a:\alpha) \Rightarrow b):(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)} \\
 \text{FUNCTION-APPLICATION} & & \frac{\Gamma \vdash a:(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \quad \Gamma \vdash b:\alpha}{\Gamma \vdash (a \ b):\beta}
 \end{array}$$

Listing 2.6: Primitives for product.

```

primitive type product : Type → Type → Type.

// constructor
primitive term pair  $\alpha$ (  $\beta$  : Type) :  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow$  product  $\alpha$   $\beta$ .

// destructors
primitive term first  $\alpha$ (  $\beta$  : Type) : product  $\alpha$   $\beta \rightarrow \alpha$ .
primitive term second  $\alpha$ (  $\beta$  : Type) : product  $\alpha$   $\beta \rightarrow \beta$ .

```

Listing 2.7: Notations for infix arrow, sum, and product types

```

 $\langle\langle type \rangle\rangle_1 \rightarrow \langle\langle type \rangle\rangle_2 \quad ::= \quad \text{arrow } \langle\langle type \rangle\rangle_1 \langle\langle type \rangle\rangle_2$ 

 $\langle\langle type \rangle\rangle_1 + \langle\langle type \rangle\rangle_2 \quad ::= \quad \text{sum } \langle\langle type \rangle\rangle_1 \langle\langle type \rangle\rangle_2$ 

 $\langle\langle type \rangle\rangle_1 \times \langle\langle type \rangle\rangle_2 \quad ::= \quad \text{product } \langle\langle type \rangle\rangle \langle\langle type \rangle\rangle$ 

```

### 2.2.6 Reduction Rules for $\mathbb{A}$

Finally, the last step is to introduce **reduction rules**. So far we have outlined syntax and inference rules for building expressions in  $\mathbb{A}$ , but all these expressions are inert. Reduction rules describe how terms can be transformed, step by step, in a way that models computation. A series of these simple reductions may end in a term for which no reduction rule can apply. Call these terms **values**, and notate “ $v$  is a value” as “value  $v$ .” The following reduction rules are given for  $\mathbb{A}$ :

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 II 2.2: Reduction in  $\mathbb{A}$ 


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$$\text{SIMPLIFY-ARGUMENT} \quad \frac{b \rightarrow b'}{a \ b \rightarrow a \ b'}$$

$$\text{SIMPLIFY-APPLICATION} \quad \frac{a \rightarrow a' \quad \text{value } v}{a \ v \rightarrow a' \ v}$$

$$\text{APPLY} \quad \frac{\text{value } v}{((a:\alpha) \Rightarrow b) \ v \rightarrow [v/a] \ b}$$

$$\text{SPLIT-RIGHT} \quad \text{split } \alpha \ \beta \ \gamma \ (\text{left } a) \ f \ g \rightarrow f \ a$$

$$\text{SPLIT-LEFT} \quad \text{split } \alpha \ \beta \ \gamma \ (\text{right } a) \ f \ g \rightarrow f \ b$$

$$\text{PROJECT-FIRST} \quad \text{first } \alpha \ \beta \ (a, b) \rightarrow a$$

$$\text{PROJECT-SECOND} \quad \text{second } \alpha \ \beta \ (a, b) \rightarrow b$$

[**TODO**] note that APPLY is usually referred to as  $\beta$ -reduction.

The most fundamental of these rules is APPLY (also known as  $\beta$ -reduction), which is the way that function applications are resolved to the represented computation's output. The substitution notation  $[v/a]b$  indicates to “replace with  $v$  each appearance of  $a$  in  $b$ .” In this way, for a function  $((a:\alpha) \Rightarrow b) : \alpha \rightarrow \beta$  and an input  $v : \alpha$ ,  $\beta$ -Reduction **substitutes** the input  $v$  for the appearances of the function parameter  $a$  in the function body  $b$ .

For example, consider the following terms:

[**TODO**] enlightening example of a series of  $\beta$ -reductions for some simple computation.

### 2.2.7 Properties of $\mathbb{A}$

With the syntax, typing rules, and reduction rules for  $\mathbb{A}$ , we now have a completed definition of the language. However, some of the design decisions may seem arbitrary even if intuitive. This particular framework is good because it maintains a few nice properties that make reasoning about  $\mathbb{A}$  intuitive and extendable.

[**TODO**] define these properties in English; want to keep prog-language and meta-language separate.

---

**Theorem 2.2.1. (Type-Preserving Substitution in  $\mathbb{A}$ ).** If  $\Gamma, a:\alpha \vdash b:\beta$ ,  $\Gamma \vdash v:\alpha$ , and value  $v$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash ([v/a]b):\beta$ .

**Theorem 2.2.2. (Reduction Progress in  $\mathbb{A}$ ).** If  $\{\} \vdash a:\alpha$ , then either value  $a$  or there exists a term  $a'$  such that  $a \rightarrow a'$ .

**Theorem 2.2.3. (Type Preservation in  $\mathbb{A}$ ).** If  $\Gamma \vdash a:\alpha$  and  $a \rightarrow a'$ , then  $\Gamma \vdash a':\alpha$ .

**Theorem 2.2.4. (Type Soundness in  $\mathbb{A}$ ).** If  $\Gamma \vdash a:\alpha$  and  $a \rightarrow a'$ , then either value  $a'$  or there exists a term  $a''$  such that  $\Gamma \vdash a'':\alpha$  and  $a' \rightarrow a''$ .

**Theorem 2.2.5. (Strong Normalization in  $\mathbb{A}$ ).** For any term  $a$ , either value  $a$  or there is a sequence of reductions that ends in a term  $a'$  such that value  $a$ .



# A Simple Approach to Effects

[**TODO**] add captions to all listings

## 3.1 Computation with Effects

[**TODO**] describe actual state of programming with effects i.e. writing C code (imperative).

The definition of  $\mathbb{A}$  in section ?? embodies a good flavor for many similar functional programming languages. In terms of the such language's reductions from term to term, all the information relevant for deciding such reductions is explicit within the term itself and the explicit context built up during reduction. In other words, there is no **implicit activity** that influences what a term's reduction will look like. The path of reductions is exactly the computation a term corresponds to, so this yields that the computation has the same property of not having access to or being affected by any implicit activity.

However nice a formalization of computation this is, it is immediately unrealistic. Actual computers, for which programming languages are abstractions of their activities, host multitudes of implicit processes while running a program. Even if a programming language modelled all such processes and incorporated them into the language so that each activity was made perfectly explicit as a term (a task that is certainly infeasible and likely impossible), the result would be an unuseful and inefficient language. The point of having layers of abstraction, in the form of high-and-higher level programming language, is to avoid this situation in the first place. So there appears to be a dilemma:

### The Dilemma of Implicit Activities

- (1) Require fully explicit terms and reductions. This grants reasoning about programs is fully formalized and abstracted from the annoyances of hardware and lower-level-implementations, but restricts such programs from being applicable in almost all useful circumstances.

- 
- (2) Allow implicit activities that affect reductions. This grants many useful program applications and maintains some formal nature to the language's behavior, but reasoning about programs is now inescapably tainted by implicit activities.

A resolution to this apparent dilemma is to either choose one horn or to reject the dilemma. But first, let us consider what kinds of implicit activities are being considered here — in particular, what are computational **effects**.

### 3.1.1 Effects

The definition of an **effect** in the context of programming language is frequently debated, and there is no majority standard answer<sup>1</sup>. For the purposes of this thesis, the following definition is adopted.

**Definition 3.1.1.** A computational **effect** is a capability in a program that depends on factors outside of that capability's normal scope.

The definition of **normal scope** will be left to intuitive interpretation, with the intent that what is the normal scope of a capability depends on many theoretical, design, and implementation factors.

Now for example, suppose we have a program  $P$  that computes the sum of two integers given as input. If  $P$  is designed and implemented exactly to this specification, then  $P$  has no effects; none of  $P$ 's capabilities depend on factors outside of their usual scope. The only scope that  $P$ 's capabilities depend on is that of the two inputs. No other factors influence what the correctly computed sum of the two integers is. Such a program with no effects is called a **pure** program.

**Definition 3.1.2.** A program is **pure** if it has no effects.

But if  $P$  is run, as abstractly as it is defined, not much use comes from it.  $P$  does not display its results, write the results to some  $P$ -specified memory, or give you an error if there is an overflow. These capabilities depend on factors outside of  $P$ 's normal scope, per its specification, and so are examples of effects.

So as another example, let us consider a modified version of  $P$  that is effectual. Suppose that program  $P'$  takes as input two integers, computes the sum of the integers, throws an error if there is an overflow, writes the result into RAM, and prints the result to the console from which  $P'$  was run. These capabilities are examples of effects, since their behavior depends on factors outside of the normal scope of  $P'$  (the same scope as  $P$ ). Such a program with effects is called an **impure** program.

**Definition 3.1.3.** A program is **impure** if it has effects.

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<sup>1</sup>



There are a variety of common effects that are available in almost every programming language. These include:

- **input/output (IO)**, e.g. printing to the console, accepting input from user, interfacing with other peripherals.
- **mutable data**, e.g. mutable variables, in-place arrays.
- **exception**, e.g. division by 0, out-of-bounds index of array, head of empty list.
- **nondeterminism**, e.g.

[**TODO**] what would be good examples for this...

- **partiality**, e.g.

[**TODO**] examples

- **continuation**, e.g.

[**TODO**] examples

[**TODO**] go into detail here, or till after I've talked about comparing functional/imperative approaches to effects?

According to definition ??, there is an easy method for transforming an impure program into a pure program: add the factors depended upon by the program's effects to the program's scope. Using this intuition, we can reformulate the Dilemma of Implicit Activities with the new formal notion of computational effects:

### The Dilemma of Effectual Purity

- (1) Require only pure programs. This grants reasoning about programs to depend only on the normal scope of the program.
- (2) Allow impure as well as pure programs. This grants many useful programs, where the behavior of the programs depends on factors not entirely encapsulated by the program's normal scope.

The goal of resolving this dilemma is to make a choice about how programming languages should be designed. Are computational effects a feature to be avoided as much as possible? Or are they actually so necessary that it would be a mistake to restrict them? Unsurprisingly, no widely-adopted languages have chosen horn (1). But even in more generality, almost all languages have chosen horn (2), but with many varied approaches to incorporating effects. Overall, languages have clustered into two groups.

- **Functional** programming languages treat computation as the evaluation of mathematical functions. Such languages put varying degrees of emphasis on restricting effects, but in general much more emphasis than imperative languages. E.g. Scheme, Lisp, Standard ML, Clojure, Scala, Haskell, Agda, Gallina.
- **Imperative** programming languages treat computation as a sequence of commands. E.g. the C family, Bash, Java, Python. Such languages put very little (if any) emphasis on restricting effects.

The perspective on effects is not the only way in which these groups differ, but nevertheless it is an important one. Among functional programming languages, we shall consider two in particular: Standard ML and Haskell. Standard ML takes a very relaxed approach to effects, and Haskell takes a more restrictive approach.

[**TODO**] summarize a small history lesson of how there were two camps in the approach to effects: C code (systems-level programming) and PL people (type theory e.g. ML). For most of history, C code has won out, but more recently the advantages of structures in the lambda-calculus and type theory have started making their way into industry languages (e.g. Java has generics and lambdas, Haskell is getting more industry use).

## 3.2 Examples of Effects

The Standard ML (Standard Meta Language) language is most commonly used in academic settings for teaching about programming languages. However here, I shall avoid introducing an entire new syntax and language semantics. Instead, the Standard ML effect design strategy will be demonstrated using  $\mathbb{B}$ .  $\mathbb{B}$  extends  $\mathbb{A}$  with the following new features:

- **Sequence.** A collection of terms is arranged in the sequence of desired resolution. Reducing the sequence term will reduce the terms in order.
- **Mutable.** A new type that indicates mutable data. It must be explicitly read from and wrote to, rather than handled like the normal (immutable) value.
- **Exception.** A collection of new term constructs, allowing for programs to **throw** and **catch** exceptions that interrupt usual reduction.
- **Input/Output (IO)** A collection of new primitive terms that, when evaluated, yield effects in the evaluation context not reflected in their types.

## 3.3 Definition of $\mathbb{B}$

### 3.3.1 Primitives for $\mathbb{B}$

[**TODO**] write English to encompass this

**Sequencing**

[**TODO**] describe

```
primitive term sequence  $\alpha$ (  $\beta$  : Type) :  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \beta$ .
```

**Notation 3.3.1. Infix sequence.**

$$(\langle term \rangle_1 : \langle type \rangle_1) ; (\langle term \rangle_2 : \langle type \rangle_2)$$

$$::=$$

$$\text{sequence } \langle type \rangle_1 \ \langle type \rangle_2 \ \langle term \rangle_1 \ \langle term \rangle_2$$
**Mutable**

[**TODO**] describe

```
primitive type mutable : Type  $\rightarrow$  Type.
```

```
primitive term initialize  $\alpha$ ( : Type) :  $\alpha \rightarrow \text{unit}$ .
```

```
primitive term read  $\alpha$ ( : Type) : mutable  $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha$ .
```

```
primitive term write  $\alpha$ ( : Type) : mutable  $\alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \text{unit}$ .
```

**Notation 3.3.2. Infix and prefix mutable operations.****Exceptions**

[**TODO**] describe

**Notation 3.3.3.****Input/Output (IO)**

[**TODO**] describe

```

*(«term» : «type»)

\syneq

initialize «type» «term»

```

```

!(«term» : «type»)

::=

read «type» «term»

```

```

«term»1 <- («term»2 : «type»)

::=

write «type» «term»1 «term»2

```

```

primitive type exceptional : Type → Type.

primitive term throw α( β : Type) : exceptional α → α → β.
primitive term catching α( β : Type)
  : (exceptional α → α → β) → β → β.

```

```

catch { «term» («term-param»1:«type»1) ⇒ («term»2:«type»2) }
in «term»3

::=

catching «type»1 «type»2 ((«term-param»1:«type»1) ⇒ «term»2) «term»3

```

```
primitive term input : unit → string.  
primitive term output : string → unit.
```

### 3.3.2 Reduction Rules for $\mathbb{B}$

[**TODO**] formally explain how evaluation contexts work ( $\mathcal{S}, \dots \parallel a$ ). Should that go in this section, or the definition of  $\mathbb{A}$ ? If I put it in  $\mathbb{A}$ , that would make defining let expressions much easier.

[**TODO**] explain how  $S$  and  $E$  are handled when not included in inference rule (stay same)

#### Reduction Rules for Sequences

leftoff

[**TODO**] Define what  $\mathcal{S}$  looks like mathematically (a mapping, where indices form a set that can be looked at).

[**TODO**] Define

#### Reduction Rules for Exceptions

[**TODO**] Note there must be a priority order to these reduction rules, because it matters which are applied in what order (as opposed to other rules).

[**TODO**] use append operation for adding things to top of stack

#### II 3.1: Reduction in $\mathbb{B}$ : Exceptions

THROW	$\frac{e : \text{exceptional } \alpha \quad v : \alpha \quad \text{value } v}{\mathcal{E} \parallel \text{throw } e \ v \rightarrow \text{throw } e \ v :: \mathcal{E} \parallel \text{throw } e \ v}$
RAISE	$\frac{e : \text{exceptional } \alpha \quad \text{value } v}{\text{throw } e \ v :: \mathcal{E} \parallel e \rightarrow \text{throw } e \ v :: \mathcal{E} \parallel \text{throw } e \ v}$
CATCH	$\frac{e : \text{exceptional } \alpha \quad \text{value } v}{\text{throw } e \ v :: \mathcal{E} \parallel \text{catch } \{ e \ a \Rightarrow b \} \text{ in } v}$

TODO: more

## Reduction Rules for IO

II 3.2: Reduction in  $\mathbb{B}$ : IO

INPUT	$\frac{\text{value } v}{\mathcal{O} \parallel \text{input } \bullet \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{input } \bullet) \parallel \mathcal{O}(\text{input } \bullet)}$
OUTPUT	$\frac{\text{value } v}{\mathcal{O} \parallel \text{output } v \rightarrow \mathcal{O}(\text{output } v) \parallel \bullet}$

These rules interact with the IO context,  $\mathcal{O}$ , by using it as an interface to an external IO-environment that handles the IO effects. This organization makes semantically explicit the division between  $\mathbb{B}$ 's model and an external world of effectual computations. For example, which  $\mathcal{O}$  may be thought of as stateful, this is not expressed in the reduction rules as showing any stateful update of  $\mathcal{O}$  to  $\mathcal{O}'$  when its capabilities are used. An external implementation of  $\mathcal{O}$  that could be compatible with  $\mathbb{B}$  must satisfy the following specifications:

Specification of  $\mathcal{O}$ 

[**TODO**] should  $\mathcal{O}(\text{output } )$  be specified as anything?

- $\mathcal{O}(\text{input } \bullet)$  returns a `string`.
- $\mathcal{O}(\text{output } s)$  returns nothing, and resolves to  $\mathcal{O}$ .

[**TODO**] come up with running IO example

At this point, we can express the familiar Hello World program. But as far as the

## Listing 3.1: Hello World

```
output "hello world"
```

definition of  $\mathbb{B}$  is concerned, this term is treated just like any other term that evaluates to  $\bullet$ . The implementation for  $\mathcal{O}$  used for running this program decides its effectual behavior (within the constraints of the specification of  $\mathcal{O}$  of course). An informal but satisfactory implementation is the following:

**Implementation 1 of  $\mathcal{O}$ :**

►  $\mathcal{O}(\text{input } \bullet)$ :

1. Prompt the console for user text input.
2. Interpret the user text input as a string, then return the string.

►  $\mathcal{O}(\text{output } s)$ :

1. Write  $s$  to the console.
2. Resolve to  $\mathcal{O}$ .

As intended by  $\mathbb{B}$ 's design, this implementation will facilitate Hello World appropriately: the text “hello world” is displayed on the console. Beyond the requirements enumerated by the specification of  $\mathcal{O}$  however,  $\mathbb{B}$  does not guarantee anything about how  $\mathcal{O}$  behaves. Consider, for example, this alternative implementation:

**Implementation 2 of  $\mathcal{O}$ :**

►  $\mathcal{O}(\text{input } \bullet)$ :

1. Set the toaster periphery's mode to **currently toasting**.

►  $\mathcal{O}(\text{output } s)$ :

1. Interpret  $s$  as a ABH routing number, and route \$1000 from the user's bank account to 123456789.
2. Set the toaster periphery's mode to **done toasting**.
3. Resolve to  $\mathcal{O}$ .

This implementation does not seem to reflect the design of  $\mathbb{B}$ , though unfortunately it is still compatible. In the way that  $\mathbb{B}$  is defined, it is difficult to formally specify any more detail about the behavior of IO-like effects, since its semantics all but ignore the workings of  $\mathcal{O}$ .

## 3.4 Motivations

This chapter has introduced the concept of effects in programming languages, and presented  $\mathbb{B}$  as a simple approach to extending a simple lambda calculus,  $\mathbb{A}$ , with a sample of effects (mutable data, exceptions, IO). But such a simple approach leaves a lot to be desired.

Each effect is implemented by pushing effectual computation to the reduction context:

- Mutable data is managed by a mutable mapping between identifiers and values.
- Exceptions are thrown to and caught from an exception stack.



- 
- IO is performed through an interface to an external IO implementation.

[**TODO**] describe problem with this kind of approach

- mutable data is global and stored outside language objects
- exceptions bypass type checking; exceptionable programs aren't reflected in types
- IO is a black-box which is not reflected in types, so cannot be modularly reasoned about in programs (similar to exceptions)



# K 4

## Monadic Effects

[**TODO**] add captions to all listings

[**TODO**] change read and write to get and set

### 4.1 Introduction to Monads

[**TODO**] introduce in programmer-friendly way first, mention category only for like a sentence if at all. give examples of writing code in Java/C/etc. and how we want to be able to do something similar but in a functional way

The concept of *monad* originates in the branch of mathematics by the name of Category Theory. As highly abstract as monads are, they turn out to be a very convenient structure for formalizing implicit contexts within functional programming languages. Though a background in the Categorical approach to monads and monad-related structures probably cannot hurt one's understanding of computational monads, this section will follow a more programmer-friendly path.

#### The Stateful Monad

One particularly general effect is the **stateful** effect, where an implicit, mutable state is accessible within a stateful computation. This effect was implemented by **IB** by the introduction of a globally-accessible, mutable table of variables. This impl required, however, several new syntactical structures and reduction rules. Is there a way to implement something similar in just **A**?

It turns out there is — with a certain tradeoff. Since **A** is pure, such an impl cannot provide true mutability. However, we can model mutability in **A** as a function from the initial state to the modified state. Call a  $\sigma$ -computation of  $\alpha$  to be a stateful computation where the state is of type  $\sigma$  and the result is of type  $\alpha$ . To describe the type of such computations purely, consider the following: Relating to the description of the stateful effect, **stateful**  $\sigma$   $\alpha$  is the type of functions from an initial  $\sigma$ -state to a pair of the affected  $\sigma$ -state and the

```
type stateful  $\sigma$ (  $a : \text{Type}$ ) :  $\text{Type} := \sigma \rightarrow \sigma \times \alpha$ .
```

$\alpha$ -result. So if given a term  $m : \text{stateful } \sigma \ \alpha$ , one can purely compute the affected state and result by providing  $m$  with an initial state.

For `stateful` to truly be an effect, it needs to implicitly facilitate the stateful effect to some sort of internal context. So let us see how we can construct terms that work with `stateful`. In  $\mathbb{B}$ 's impl of this effect, it posited two primitive terms: `read` and `write`. Using `stateful` we can define these terms in  $\mathbb{A}$  as: Observe that `read` is a  $\sigma$ -computation that

```
term read  $\sigma\{ : \text{Type}\}$ 
  :  $\text{stateful } \sigma \ \sigma$ 
  :=  $(s : \sigma) \Rightarrow (s, s)$ .

term write  $\sigma\{ : \text{Type}\}$  ( $s' : \sigma$ )
  :  $\text{stateful } \sigma \ \sigma$ 
  :=  $(s : \sigma) \Rightarrow (s', \bullet)$ .
```

does not modify the state and returns the state, `write` is a  $\sigma$ -computation that replaces the state with a given  $s' : \sigma$  and returns  $\bullet$ . In this way, using `read` and `write` in  $\mathbb{A}$  fills exactly the same role as a simple  $\mathbb{B}$  stateful effect of one mutable variable.

[**TODO**] expand on this, show example of using  $\mathbb{A}$  and  $\mathbb{B}$  side-by-side (or maybe do this after the next part about sequencing etc.)

Since the stateful effect is in fact an effect, we should also be able to *sequence* stateful computations to produce one big stateful computation that does performs the computations in sequence. It is sufficient to define the sequencing of just two effects, since any number of effects can be sequenced one step at a time. So, given two  $\sigma$ -computations  $m : \text{stateful } \sigma \ \alpha$  and  $m' : \text{stateful } \sigma \ \beta$  the sequenced  $\sigma$ -computation should first compute the  $m$ -affected state and then pass it to  $m'$ .

However, in this form it becomes clear that `sequence` throws away some information — the  $\alpha$ -result of the first stateful computation. To avoid this amounts to allowing  $m'$  to reference  $m$ 's result, and can be modeled by typing  $m'$  instead as  $\alpha \rightarrow \text{stateful } \sigma \ \beta$ . A sequence that allows this is called a *binding-sequence*, since it sequences  $m, m'$  and also *binds* the first parameter of  $m'$  to the result of  $m$ .

Additionally, one may notice that one of `stateful-sequence` and `stateful-bind` is superfluous i.e. can be defined in terms of the other. Consider the following re-definition of `sequence`: This construction demonstrates how `sequence` can be thought of as a trivial

```

term stateful-sequence
   $\sigma$ (  $\alpha$  : Type)
  (m : stateful  $\sigma$   $\alpha$ ) (m' : stateful  $\sigma$   $\beta$ ) :
  : stateful  $\sigma$   $\beta$ 
:= (s :  $\sigma$ )  $\Rightarrow$ 
  let (s', a) :  $\sigma \times \alpha$  := m s in
  m' s'.

```

```

term stateful-bind
  (m : stateful  $\sigma$   $\alpha$ )
  (fm :  $\alpha \rightarrow$  stateful  $\sigma$   $\beta$ )
  : stateful  $\sigma$   $\beta$ 
:= (s :  $\sigma$ )  $\Rightarrow$ 
  let (s', a) :  $\sigma \times \alpha$  := m s in
  fm a s'.

```

binding-sequence, where the bound result of  $m$  is ignored by  $m'$ .

So far, we have defined all of the *special* operations that  $\mathbb{B}$  provides for stateful computations. The key difference between  $\mathbb{B}$  and our new  $\mathbb{A}$  impl of the stateful effect is that  $\mathbb{B}$  treats stateful computations just like any other kind of pure computation, whereas  $\mathbb{A}$  “wraps”  $\sigma$ -stateful computations of  $\alpha$  using the `stateful  $\sigma$   $\alpha$`  type rather than just pure  $\alpha$ . What is still missing in our  $\mathbb{A}$  impl is the ability to use non-stateful computations within or on stateful computations. In other words, we should be able to *lift* non-stateful computations to stateful computations that internally don’t actually end up having stateful effects. There are two such computations to consider:

**[TODO]** describe these a little more intuitively with more detail

- **return**: The non-stateful computation, with parameter  $a : \alpha$ , that results in the same  $a : \alpha$ . In other words, the computation that does nothing and results in  $a$ .
- **lift**: The computation, with parameter non-stateful computation  $f : \alpha \rightarrow \beta$  and stateful computation  $m : \text{state } \sigma \alpha$ , that results in  $f$  applied to the result of  $m$ . In other words, the function that lifts  $f : \alpha \rightarrow \beta$  to a function `stateful  $\sigma$   $\beta \rightarrow$  stateful  $\sigma$   $\beta$` .

These computations are implemented in  $\mathbb{A}$  as follows:

```

term stateful-sequence
  σ( α β : Type)
  (m : stateful σ α) (m' : stateful σ β)
  : stateful σ β
  := stateful-bind m ((a : α) ⇒ m')

```

```

term stateful-return (a : α)
  : stateful σ α
  := (s : σ) ⇒ (s, a)

```

### 4.1.1 Definition of Monad

Now we have implemented a concrete approach to the stateful effect using pure terms in  $\mathbb{A}$ . However, only the `read` and `write` terms were meant for exclusive use with `stateful`. The other necessary terms, as they correspond to use the impure `impl` in  $\mathbb{B}$ , are intended to interoperate with all effects and interchangeably. To summarize, the capabilities the terms implement are

- `lift`
- `return`
- `binding-sequence`

With these in mind, the definition of monad is as follows:

**Definition 4.1.1.** A type  $M : Type \rightarrow Type$  is a **monad** if there exist terms of the following types:

- `lift : α( → β) → M α → M β`
- `return : α → M α`
- `bind : M α → α( → M β) → M β`

However, within  $\mathbb{A}$  we currently have no type-oriented way to assert that a type  $M$  is associated with the expected constructions for qualifying as a monad. In order to formally and generally reference monads in  $\mathbb{A}$ , we first need to introduce the concept type-classes.

```

term stateful-lift
  (f :  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ ) (m : stateful  $\sigma \alpha$ )
  : stateful  $\sigma \beta$ 
:= (s :  $\sigma$ )  $\Rightarrow$ 
  let (s', a) :  $\sigma \times \alpha := m\ s$  in
    (s', f a)

```

## 4.2 Type-classes

### 4.2.1 Concept of Classes

The concept of a *class* is used in many different forms among many different programming languages. In object-oriented programming languages, classes define “blueprints” for creating objects that are instances of the class. Such a class defines an *interface* that each instance object of the class must implement. For example, the following Java code defines the abstract `Animal` class as the class of objects that have a `name` and implement the `eat` and `sleep` functions:

```

abstract class Animal {

  public String name;
  public Animal(String name) {
    this.name = name
  }

  abstract public void eat();
  abstract public void sleep();

}

```

The motivation for the classes is to allow a parameter to range over a collection of different types of structures given that all of these structures meet some requirements. Then the parameter can be assumed to meet those requirements, regardless of the specific argument structure ends up being provided.

As is commonly known, both cats and dogs are examples of animals, so we can create respective objects that are instances of the `Animal` class:

Finally, and most importantly, we can write functions that take `Animal` parameters and

```
class Animal {  
  
    public void eat() {  
        System.out.println(this.name + " eats.");  
    }  
  
    public void sleep() {  
        System.out.println(this.name + " sleeps.");  
    }  
  
}
```

only assume of these parameters what is specified by the `Animal` class — even though `Cat` and `Dog` are different structures.



```
class Cat extends Animal {

    public Cat() {
        super("Cat");
    }

    @Override
    public void eat() {
        System.out.println(this.name + " eats kibble.");
    }

    @Override
    public void sleep() {
        System.out.println(this.name + " naps.");
    }

    public void hunt() {
        System.out.println(this.name + " hunts for some mice and birds.");
    }

}

class Dog extends Animal {

    public Dog() {
        super("Dog");
    }

    @Override
    public void eat() {
        System.out.println(this.name + " eats steak.");
    }

    @Override
    public void sleep() {
        System.out.println(this.name + " sleeps wrestlessly.");
    }

    public void walk() {
        System.out.println(this.name + " goes on a walk with its owner.");
    }

}
```

```
void simple_simulate_animal(Animal a, int steps) {  
    for (int i = 0; i < steps; i++) {  
        a.eat();  
        a.sleep();  
    }  
}
```

### 4.2.2 Definition of type-classes

Now back to the realm of strictly-typed functional programming languages. Our motivation at the moment is to devise a structure, describable in  $\mathbb{A}$ , that allows for the formal specification of the monad and other type-class.

It turns out that we can model the monad type-class as a parametrized type, with the type `Monad (M : Type) : Type` of terms that implement the monad requirements for  $M$ . In other words, a term of type `Monad M` “contains” in some way (i.e. *implements*) terms with the types of `lift`, `return`, and `bind` as defined in section ???. The simplest way to represent such an *implementation* of a type-class instance in this way is to represent the implementation as a type-product of the types of the required terms. Concretely, for the `Monad` type-class, we specify the `Monad` type as

```
type Monad (M : Type → Type) : Type
  := ( α( β : Type) ⇒ α( → β) → M α → M β)      // lift
    × α( : Type) ⇒ α( → M α)                      // return
    × α( β : Type) ⇒ (M α → α( → M β) → M β ). // bind
```

the following intuition: given a term of type `Monad M`, the terms required to be constructed in order for  $M$  to be a monad are available by projecting the from `Monad M` as the product of those types. Thus we can define `lift`, `return`, and `bind` for monads in general as follows:

```
term lift (M : Type → Type) α( β : Type) (impl : Monad M)
  : α( β : Type) ⇒ α( → β) → M α → M β
  := first impl

term return (M : Type → Type) α( : Type) (impl : Monad M)
  : α( : Type) ⇒ α → M α;
  := second impl

term bind (M : Type → Type) α(, β : Type) (impl : Monad M)
  : α(, β : Type) ⇒ M α → α( → M β) → M β
  := third impl
```

Finally, in order to use these functions with `Stateful σ`, we need to construct a term of type `Monad (Stateful σ)`. This term is the `Monad` type-class *implementation* for `Stateful σ`. This term can be passed as the first term argument to `lift`, `return`, and `bind` to yield terms that are concretely compatible with the `Stateful σ` instance of the `Monad` type-class.

```

term Monad-Stateful
  :  $\sigma$  ( : Type)  $\Rightarrow$  Monad (Stateful  $\sigma$ )
:= ( // lift
     $\alpha$ (  $\beta$  : Type) (f :  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ ) (m : M  $\alpha$ )  $\Rightarrow$ 
      (s :  $\sigma$ )  $\Rightarrow$ 
        let (s', a) := m s in
          (s', f a)
    // return
  ,  $\alpha$ ( : Type) (a :  $\alpha$ )  $\Rightarrow$ 
    (s :  $\sigma$ )  $\Rightarrow$  (s, a)
  // bind
  ,  $\alpha$ (  $\beta$  : Type) (m : M  $\alpha$ ) (fm :  $\alpha \rightarrow$  M  $\beta$ )  $\Rightarrow$ 
    (s :  $\sigma$ )  $\Rightarrow$ 
      let (s', a) := m s in
        a s' ).

```

### Notations for type-classes

So far, the code that we have ended up writing to define a type-class and implement an instance of that type-class has contained a lot of boilerplate and is hard to follow on its own. For example, the types of `lift`, `return`, and `bind` had to be specified twice: once in the specification of `Monad`, and once again in their `Monad`-general constructions. To make the definition and instantiation of type-classes easier to read and write, we introduce the following notations.

**Notation 4.2.1. Type-class definition.** Defining a type-class requires specifying the terms that must be implemented for each instance of the type-class. The following notation allows concise specification, as well as additionally generating the terms, generalized to all instances of the type-class, that are specified.

Using this notation, the definition of the `Monad` type-class is written more aesthetically as:

**Notation 4.2.2. Type-class instantiation.** Instantiating the a type  $A$  as an instance of a type-class  $C$  requires implementing the terms specified by  $C$  where  $A$  is supplied as the argument to  $C$ 's first type parameter. The following notation conveniently names this implementation and makes explicit  $C$ 's intended names for each component.

[**TODO**] explain how the way this notation works is a little tricky, since «*type*» may not be in a valid term-name format.

Using this notation, the implementation for the `Monad` instance of  $(\sigma : \text{Type}) \Rightarrow \text{State}$   $\sigma$  is written more cleanly as:

Listing 4.1: Notation for type-class definition

```

class «class-name» («type-param»:«Type») : «Type»
  { [«term-name»i : «type» ; ] }.

::=

type «class-name» («type-param»:«Type») : «Type» := [«type»i ×].
[term «term-name»i («type-param»:«Type») (impl : «class-name» «type-param»)
  : «type»i
  := i-th impl. ]

```

```

class Monad (M : Type) : Type
  { lift    : α(, β : Type) ⇒ α( → β) → M α → M β
  ; return : α( : Type)    ⇒ α → M α
  ; bind    : α(, β : Type) ⇒ M α → α( → M β) → M β }.

```

**Notation 4.2.3. Type-class passive status.**

[**TODO**] checking passively for type-class instances, providing them implicitly when necessary? This is kind of a larger change though.

[**TODO**] Justify how monads are a good model for thinking about computation being pushed into an implicit context (cite Notions by Moggi).

[**TODO**] Give definitions of other monads that implement other effects, such as exception and IO (and maybe others?)

[**TODO**] explain problem of composable effects, and how monads have trouble with this

Listing 4.2: Notation for type-class instantiation

```

instance [(«type-param»i : «Type»i) ⇒] «class-name» «type» \
  { [«term-name»j : «type»j := «term»j ;] }.

::=

[term «class-name»-«type»
  : [(«type-param»i : «Type»i) ⇒] «class-name» «type»
  := [«term»j × ]. ]

```

Listing 4.3: Instance of the stateful monad

```

instance σ( : Type) ⇒ Monad (Stateful σ)
{ lift α(, β : Type) (f : α → β) (m : M α) : M β :=
  (s : σ) ⇒
    let (s', a) := m s in
    (s', f a)
; return α( : Type) (a : α) : M α :=
  (s : σ) ⇒ (s, a)
; bind α(, β : Type) (m : M α) (fm : α → M β) : M β :=
  (s : σ) ⇒
    let (s', a) := m s in
    fm a s' }.

```

# Algebraic Effect Handlers

## 5.1 Introduction to Algebraic Effect Handlers

In chapter ??, we considered  $\mathbb{B}$ , an extension of  $\mathbb{A}$ , that implemented effects by introducing specific language features for each kind of effect. While this allows simple reasoning about the behavior of those effects in  $\mathbb{B}$ , it establishes no common reasoning about effects in general. If  $\mathbb{B}$  were extended to implement another effect using a new language feature, none of what is defined in  $\mathbb{B}$  explains how it should be implemented how it might behave.

What we desire is an extension to  $\mathbb{A}$  that provides a language feature for generally defining effects. In order to allow for the full scope of effects we are interested in, such an extension should implement two features:

- Effects may be defined as “black boxes” with implicit behavior defined outside the language. For example, the *IO* effect must appeal to an *IP* interface at some point, just like in  $\mathbb{B}$ .
- Effects may be defined completely within the language. For example, the *state* and *exception* effects can be completely modeled within the language (e.g. chapter ??).

In addition, we endeavor to achieve the following improvement over  $\mathbb{A}$ ’s monadic effects:

- Effects are type-relevant.
- Effects are composable.

**Algebraic effect handlers** are such an extension to  $\mathbb{A}$  that meets all of these expectations. Its approach breaks the structure of effects into two parts:

- **Performances:** The code that corresponds to the *performing* of an effect. Performances are sensitive to the whole program context.
- **Handlers:** The code that corresponds to the result of an effect performance, parametrized by the *handler*’s clauses. The handler is not sensitive to the whole program context, and in its definition abstracts the context relevant to handling the performances (in the same way that a function abstracts its parameter).

Additionally, this setup requires an interface to the effects that are to be performed and handled.

- **Resources:** The code that corresponds to an instantiation of a specification of effects that are available to be performed and handled. The primitive effects it provides are called *actions*.

## 5.2 Language $\mathbb{C}$

Language  $\mathbb{C}$  implements algebraic effect handlers similarly to the scheme presented in ?.

### 5.2.1 Syntax for $\mathbb{C}$

II 5.1: Syntax for  $\mathbb{C}$

metavariable	constructor	name
$\langle\langle Type \rangle\rangle$	Resource	resource
$\langle\langle type \rangle\rangle$	<pre>resource{ [ <math>\langle\langle action-name \rangle\rangle</math> : <math>\langle\langle type \rangle\rangle \nearrow \langle\langle type \rangle\rangle</math> ;] }  handler   { [ <math>\langle\langle term \rangle\rangle \# \langle\langle action-name \rangle\rangle</math> <math>\langle\langle term-param \rangle\rangle</math> <math>\langle\langle term-param \rangle\rangle</math>       <math>\Rightarrow \langle\langle term \rangle\rangle</math> ;]     ; value <math>\langle\langle term-param \rangle\rangle</math> <math>\langle\langle term-param \rangle\rangle \Rightarrow \langle\langle term \rangle\rangle</math>     ; finally <math>\langle\langle term-param \rangle\rangle \Rightarrow \langle\langle term \rangle\rangle</math> }</pre>	resource  handler

Note that the `value` and `finally` clauses of the `handler` term-construct are optional. Their default implementations are given by the following notation:

### 5.2.2 Primitives for $\mathbb{C}$

#### Resource

[**TODO**] description

#### Action

[**TODO**] description



Listing 5.1: Notation for minimal handlers.

```

handler{ [ «term»#«action-name» «term-param» «term-param»  $\Rightarrow$  «term» ;] }

::=

handler
  { [ «term»#«action-name» «term-param» «term-param»  $\Rightarrow$  «term» ;]
    ; value a k  $\Rightarrow$  k a
    ; finally b  $\Rightarrow$  b }

```

Listing 5.2: Primitives for resources.

```

primitive term new p( : Resource) : p.

```

**Performance**

[**TODO**] description

**Handling**

[**TODO**] description

**Sequencing**

[**TODO**] description

Listing 5.3: Primitives for actions.

```
primitive type action : Type → Type → Type.
```

Listing 5.4: Notation for action.

$$\langle\!\langle type \rangle\!\rangle_1 \nearrow \langle\!\langle type \rangle\!\rangle_2 \quad ::= \quad \text{action } \langle\!\langle type \rangle\!\rangle_1 \ \langle\!\langle type \rangle\!\rangle_2$$

Listing 5.5: Primitives for performance.

```
primitive term perform p( : Resource)
  : p → action α β → α → performance β.
```

Listing 5.6: Notation for performance.

$$\langle\!\langle term \rangle\!\rangle_1 \# \langle\!\langle term \rangle\!\rangle_2 \quad ::= \quad \text{perform } \langle\!\langle term \rangle\!\rangle_1 \ \langle\!\langle term \rangle\!\rangle_2$$

Listing 5.7: Primitives for handling.

```
primitive type handling : Type → Type → Type.

primitive term handle α( β : Type) : handling α β → α → β.
```

Listing 5.8: Notation for handling.

$$\langle\!\langle type \rangle\!\rangle_1 \searrow \langle\!\langle type \rangle\!\rangle_2 \quad ::= \quad \text{handling } \langle\!\langle type \rangle\!\rangle_1 \ \langle\!\langle type \rangle\!\rangle_2$$

Listing 5.9: Notations for handling.

```

with «term»1 do «term»2 ::= handle «term»1 «term»2
do «term»1 with «term»2 ::= handle «term»2 «term»1

```

Listing 5.10: Primitives for sequencing

```

primitive term sequence :  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \beta$ .

```

Listing 5.11: Notation for sequencing.

```

«term»1 >> «term»2 ::= sequence «term»1 «term»2
do { [ «term»i ; ] } ::= [ «term»i >> ]

```

### 5.2.3 Typing Rules in $\mathbb{C}$

II 5.2: Typing in  $\mathbb{C}$

RESOURCE	$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \rho := \text{resource}\{ [ e_i : (\alpha_i \nearrow \beta_i) ; ] \} \\ \Gamma \vdash \alpha_i : \text{Type} \quad (\forall i) \\ \Gamma \vdash \beta_i : \text{Type} \quad (\forall i) \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash (\text{resource}\{ [ e_i : (\alpha_i \nearrow \beta_i) ; ] \}) : \text{Resource}}$
PERFORM	$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \rho := \text{resource}\{\dots e_i : \alpha_i \nearrow \beta_i \dots\} \\ \Gamma \vdash r : \rho \\ \Gamma \vdash e_i : (\alpha_i \nearrow \beta_i) \\ \Gamma \vdash a : \alpha_i \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash (r \# e_i \ a) : \beta}$
HANDLER	$\frac{\begin{array}{l} \rho := \text{resource}\{ [ e_i : (\alpha_i \nearrow \beta_i) ; ] \} \\ \Gamma \vdash \rho : \text{Resource} \\ \Gamma \vdash r : \rho \\ \Gamma, a_i : \alpha_i, k_i : (\beta_i \rightarrow \beta) \vdash b : \beta \quad (\forall i) \\ \Gamma, a_v : \alpha \vdash b_v : \beta \\ \Gamma, b_f : \beta \vdash c_f : \gamma \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash (\text{handler}\{ [ r \# e_i \ a_i \ k_i \Rightarrow b_i ; ] \\ \quad ; \text{value } a_v \Rightarrow b_v \\ \quad ; \text{finally } b_f \Rightarrow c_f \}) : \alpha \searrow \gamma}$

### 5.2.4 Reduction Rules for $\mathbb{C}$

[**TODO**] Since HANDLE-EFFECT only works on statements that aren't the *last* effect, there's a notation that appends a trivial ending to anything of that form.

[**TODO**] need to rephrase these in terms of pushing the handlers onto a stack since can have nested handlers

The evaluation context notation  $h, \mathcal{H}$  indicates that  $h$  is the top-most handler in the handler stack that handles the effect at hand. This breaks into two cases:

- For performances of actions from resource  $r$ ,  $h$  is the top-most handler for  $r$ .
- For values,  $h$  is just the top-most handler.

#### $\Pi$ 5.3: Reduction in $\mathbb{C}$

Do  $\mathcal{H} \parallel \text{do } a \text{ with } h \rightarrow h, \mathcal{H} \parallel a$

SEQUENCE 
$$\frac{\text{value } v}{\mathcal{H} \parallel v \gg k \rightarrow \mathcal{H} \parallel k}$$

HANDLE-EFFECT 
$$\frac{h := \text{handler}\{\dots r\#e_i \ a_i \ k_i \Rightarrow b_i \ \dots\} \quad \text{value } v}{h, \mathcal{H} \parallel \text{let } x := r\#e_i \ v \text{ in } k \rightarrow h, \mathcal{H} \parallel (a_i \ k_i \Rightarrow b_i) \ v \ (x \Rightarrow k)}$$

HANDLE-VALUE 
$$\frac{h := \text{handler}\{\dots \text{value } a_v \Rightarrow b_v \ \dots\} \quad \text{value } v}{h, \mathcal{H} \parallel \text{let } x := v \text{ in } k \rightarrow h, \mathcal{H} \parallel (a_v \ k_v \Rightarrow k_v \ b_v) \ v \ (x \Rightarrow k)}$$

HANDLE-FINALLY 
$$\frac{h := \text{handler}\{\dots \text{finally } b_f \Rightarrow c_f \ \dots\} \quad \text{value } v}{h, \mathcal{H} \parallel v \rightarrow \mathcal{H} \parallel (b_f \Rightarrow c_f) \ v}$$

## 5.3 Examples

### 5.3.1 Example: Nondeterminism

#### Resource

[**TODO**] describe

Listing 5.12: Resource for nondeterministic coin-flipping.

```
// specify a resource for coin-flipping effect
// flip returns true if heads and false if tails
type Coin : Resource
  := new resource{ flip : unit ↗ boolean }.

// create a new resource instance of the coin-flipping effect
term coin : Coin := new Coin.
```

#### Experiment

A term that counts the number of heads resulting from to `coin#flip`'s.

Listing 5.13: Experiment with nondeterministic coin-flipping.

```
term count (b : boolean) := if b then 1 else 0.

term experiment : integer
  := count (coin#flip •) + count (coin#flip •)
```

#### Handling all possible flips

A handler that accumulates all possible results of the experiment where each flip yields either heads or tails

[**TODO**] figure out better way to represent this, looks disgusting like this

Listing 5.14: Handler for either heads or tails.

```

term heads_and_tails : integer  $\searrow$  tree integer
:= handler
  { coin#flip _ k  $\Rightarrow$  k true  $\diamond$  k false
    ; value x  $\Rightarrow$  [x] }.

```

Listing 5.15: Do experiment with either heads or tails.

```

term h := heads_and_tails.

do experiment with either_heads_or_tails
(Do)
 $\rightarrow$  h || count (coin#flip •) + count (coin#flip •)
(HANDLE-EFFECT)
 $\rightarrow$  h || (_ k  $\Rightarrow$  k true  $\diamond$  k false) • (x  $\Rightarrow$  count x + count (coin#flip •))
 $\rightarrow$  h || (1 + count (coin#flip •))  $\diamond$  (0 + count (coin#flip •))
(HANDLE-EFFECT)
 $\rightarrow$  h || (_ k  $\Rightarrow$  k true  $\diamond$  k false) • (x  $\Rightarrow$  1 + count x)  $\diamond$ 
      (_ k  $\Rightarrow$  k true  $\diamond$  k false) • (x  $\Rightarrow$  0 + count x)
 $\rightarrow$  h || ((1 + 1)  $\diamond$  (1 + 0))  $\diamond$  ((0 + 1)  $\diamond$  (0 + 0))
 $\rightarrow$  h || [2, 1, 1, 0]
(HANDLE-FINALLY)
 $\rightarrow$  {} || [2, 1, 1, 0]

```

### Handling singular flips

A handler that computes result of experiment where each flip yields heads.

### Handling alternating possibilities

A more sophisticated handler.

Listing 5.16: Handler for just heads.

```

term just_heads : integer  $\searrow$  integer
  := handler{ coin#flip _ k  $\Rightarrow$  k true }.

```

Listing 5.17: Do experiment with just heads.

```

term h := just_heads.

{} || do experiment with just_heads
(Do)
 $\rightarrow$  h || count (coin#flip •) + count (coin#flip •)
= h || let x := coin#flip • in count x + count (coin#flip •)
(HANDLE-EFFECT)
 $\rightarrow$  h || (_ k  $\Rightarrow$  k true) • (x  $\Rightarrow$  count x + count (coin#flip •))
 $\rightarrow$  h || (1 + count (coin#flip •))
 $\rightarrow$  h || (let x := coin#flip • in 1 + count x)
(HANDLE-EFFECT)
 $\rightarrow$  h || (_ k  $\Rightarrow$  k true) • (x  $\Rightarrow$  1 + count x)
 $\rightarrow$  h || 2
(HANDLE-FINALLY)
 $\rightarrow$  {} || 2

```

Listing 5.18: Handler for alternating between heads and tails

```

term alternate_heads : integer  $\searrow$  integer
  := handler{ coin#flip _ k  $\Rightarrow$  do k true with alternate_tails }.

term alternate_tails : integer  $\searrow$  integer
  := handler{ coin#flip _ k  $\Rightarrow$  do k false with alternate_heads }.

```



Listing 5.19: Do experiment with just heads.

```
term h0 := alternate_tails.  
term h1 := alternate_heads.  
  
{ } || do experiment with h0  
(Do)  
→ h0 || count (coin#flip •) + count (coin#flip •)  
(HANDLE-EFFECT)  
→ h1, h0 || 0 + count (count#flip •)  
(HANDLE-EFFECT)  
→ h0, h1, h0 || 0 + 1  
(HANDLE-FINALLY)  
→ h1, h0 || 1  
(HANDLE-FINALLY)  
→ h0 || 1  
(HANDLE-FINALLY)  
→ { } || 1  
// TODO
```

### 5.3.2 Example: Exception

#### Resource

Listing 5.20: Resource for exception.

```
type Exceptional  $\alpha$ ( : Type) : Resource
  := resource{ throw : unit  $\rightarrow$   $\alpha$  }.

term exception  $\alpha$ ( : Type) : Exceptional  $\alpha$ .
  := new (Exceptional  $\alpha$ ).
```

#### Experiment

[**TODO**] think of some experiment

Listing 5.21: Experiments with exceptions.

```
term divide-safely (x y : int) : int
  := if y != 0 then x/y else throw •.

term head-safely  $\alpha$ ( : Type) (ls : list  $\alpha$ ) :  $\alpha$ 
  := case ls
    { []       $\Rightarrow$  throw •
    ; a :: _  $\Rightarrow$  a }.
```

#### Handling exceptions as optionals

Listing 5.22: Handler of exceptions as optionals.

```

term optionalization  $\alpha$ ( : Type) :  $\alpha \searrow \text{optional } \alpha$ 
:= handler
  { exception#throw • _  $\Rightarrow$  none
    ; value a  $\Rightarrow$  some a }.

```

Listing 5.23: Do division safely with optionalization

```

h := optionalization
|| do divide-safely 5 0 with optionalization
(Do)
 $\rightarrow$  h || divide-safely 5 0
 $\rightarrow$  h || if 0 != 0 then 5/0 else throw •
 $\rightarrow$  h || throw •
(HANDLE-EFFECT)
 $\rightarrow$  h || none
(HANDLE-FINALLY)
 $\rightarrow$  none

```

### 5.3.3 Example: Mutability

Implementing the mutable effect using algebraic effect handlers.

#### Resource

Listing 5.24: Resource for mutability.

```
type Mutable  $\alpha$ ( : Type) : Resource
  := resource
    { get : unit  $\nearrow$   $\alpha$ 
    ; set :  $\alpha$   $\nearrow$  unit }.

term total   := new (Mutable int).
term switch  := new (Mutable boolean).
term message := new (Mutable string).
```

#### Experiment

Listing 5.25: Experiment with mutability.

```
term tally • : unit
  := total#set (1 + (total#get •))

term flipped • : boolean
  := switch#set (negate (switch#get •)) >>
    switch#get •.

term say (s : string) : unit
  := message#set s.
```

#### Handling

[**TODO**] I should introduce CPS in the introduction to AEHs actually

Handler for a new mutable, given an initial value. The mutable value is handled in `initialize` using another layer of continuation-passing style (CPS). The current continuation `k` has two parameters: the current mutable value and the result of the effect.

Listing 5.26: Handler of mutability.

```
term initialize  $\alpha$ ( : Type) (a :  $\alpha$ ) :  $\alpha \searrow \alpha$ 
:= handler
  { m#get _ k  $\Rightarrow$  (a'  $\Rightarrow$  k a' a')
  ; m#set a' k  $\Rightarrow$  (_  $\Rightarrow$  k • a')
  ; value a'  $\Rightarrow$  (s  $\Rightarrow$  a')
  ; finally f  $\Rightarrow$  f a }.
```

To handle the `get` action: the current mutable value is unchanged, and the result is the current mutable value. To handle the `set` action: the current mutable value is updated to a new value, and the result is `•`. To handle a value: the current mutable value is ignored, and the result is the given value. To handle a finally fully-reduced term, which is the form of a function of a current mutable value: the initial mutable value is passed to the term.

## 5.4 Considerations for Algebraic Effect Handlers

[**TODO**] Advantages:

1. unwrapped effect performances
2. easily nested effects
3. convenient separation of effects and handlers
4. TODO: look in algebraic effect handling papers for points

[**TODO**] Disadvantages:

1. loses type-checking effect handling
2. unhandled effects cause errors
3. certain kinds of co-recursive effects can cause issues
4. TODO: look in algebraic effect handling papers for points



# K 6

## Monad Transformers

### 6.1 Outline

1. Definition and context for monad transformers

- ( ) provides a framework for sequencing different monadic effects

- ( ) introduces a higher-order monad that acts as an effect for sequencing lower monadic effects

2. Brief explanation of monad transformers implementation in Haskell

3. Discussion of advantages and disadvantages of monad transformers

- ( ) facilitates general sequencing of different effects at the same level

- ( ) rigorously typed

- ( ) does not facilitate general composition of different effects; effects still must be handled at the level they are introduced

- ( ) are clunky to program with





# K 7

## Freer-Monadic Effects

code here based on code in `~/Documents/Prototypes/haskell/freer-monads/src`

### 7.1 The Problem of Composing Monads

Consideration of the problem of *composing monads*; no systems so far have facilitated this while maintaining type-checking

### 7.2 Freer Monad

[**TODO**] describe goals:

1. preserve typing rules
2. don't require redundant implementations of same effect-style for each instance
3. separate performances and handlers

#### 7.2.1 Functor

[**TODO**] definition of functor type-class.

#### 7.2.2 Free Monad

#### 7.2.3 Freer Monad

#### Left Kan Extension

[**TODO**] Intuition for freer monad using left Kan extension.

Listing 7.1: free monad

```

primitive type Free : (Type -> Type) -> Type.

primitive term pure  $\phi$ (  $\alpha$  : Type) :  $\alpha$  -> Free  $\phi$   $\alpha$ .
primitive term impure  $\phi$ (  $\alpha$  : Type) :  $\phi$  (free  $\phi$   $\alpha$ ) -> free  $\phi$ (  $\alpha$ ).

// TODO: standardize notation for type-class instances
// using functor map here, but implicitly is the same as
term lift-freer  $\phi$ (  $\alpha$  : Type)
  : ((Functor  $\phi$ )) ->  $\phi$   $\alpha$  -> Free  $\phi$   $\alpha$ 
  := impure  $\circ$  map pure.

```

```

instance Functor  $\phi$  => Monad (Free  $\phi$ )
{ map f fm := ...
; return a := ...
; bind fm k := ... }

```

### Definition of Freer Monad

[**TODO**] Define freer monads.

[**TODO**] Explanation of how freer monads can model effects

1. left Kan extension (Lan)
2. act as a sort of monadic implementation of algebraic effect handlers

## 7.3 Poly-Freer Monad

[**TODO**] Explanation of adding a stack of freer monadic effects to large container, which yields another freer monad.

[**TODO**] Basically what Haskell' polysemy implements, but here will do it more simply

[**TODO**] Need to introduce dependent types?

---

## 7.4 Freer-Monadic Effects

[**TODO**] Demonstration of stateful freer monad, paralleling monadic example from chapter ??.

## 7.5 Discussion

[**TODO**] Discussion of advantages and disadvantages of freer monadic effects

1. fully-typed system for algebraic effect handlers; all the advantages of algebraic effect handlers
2. facilitates generally composable effects
3. not implementable in non-dependently typed languages like Haskell, OCaml, SML, etc. since it requires extensive type-level manipulation
4. potentially very user-unfriendly, incurring many of the original problems with monadic effects