

ECS713: Functional Programming

week 10: More Monads

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Part 1: Do notation

Aims

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- To explain how the `do` notation can be used with general monads.
- To explain the link between it and `bind`.

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Learning Objectives

- Understand how to use the ~~do~~ notation with a general monad
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- Understand the systematic relation between it and bind.

do and IO

do

```
text <- readFile "myfile.txt"
let wordCount = length $ words text
print "Word Count is " ++ (show wordCount) ++ "\n"
```

IO action (Input)

Pure computation

IO action (output)

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translate to bind

```
do
  text <- readFile "myfile.txt"
  let wordCount = length $ words text
  print "Word Count is "++(show wordCount)++"\n"
```

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Start at the bottom: last line is IO action

translate to bind

```
do
  text <- readFile "myfile.txt"
  let wordCount = length $ words text
  print "Word Count is "++(show
wordCount)++"\n"
```

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```
let wordCount = length $ words text
in
  print "Word Count is "++(show
wordCount)++"\n"
```

Move up: next line is let

translate to bind

do

```
text <- readFileSync "myfile.txt"
let wordCount = length $ words text
print "Word Count is "++(show wordCount)++"\n"
```

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```
readFile "myfile.txt"
```

```
>>=
```

```
(\text ->
```

```
  let wordCount = length $ words text
  in
  print "Word Count is "++(show wordCount)++"\n")
```

Move up: next line is bind

translate to bind

do

```
text <- readFile "myfile.txt"
let wordCount = length $ words text
print "Word Count is "++(show wordCount)++"\n"
```

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```
readFile "myfile.txt"
>>=
(\text ->
  let wordCount = length $ words text
  in
  print "Word Count is "++(show wordCount)++"\n")
```

Done: next line is do

translate to do

```
do
  x ← e
  f x
```

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```
e >>= f
```

Translate right to left

Another example

```
tf <*> ta =  
do  
  f <- tf  
  a <- ta  
  return (f a)
```

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```
tf <*> ta =  
tf >>= (\f ->  
  ta >>= (\a ->  
    return (f a)))
```

Sequential application as an example: RHS is as given in video 3

do notation and arbitrary monads

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- The formal definition of the meaning of the do notation uses this transformation (that's why it's a notation)
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- It follows we can use it for arbitrary monads.

do notation and arbitrary monads (Either)

```
safeHead [] = Left "exception: head []"  
safeHead (x:xs) = Right x
```

```
safeLog x | x<=0 = Left "exception: log of negative"  
          | otherwise = Right $ log x
```

```
foo list =  
  do  
    x <- safeHead list  
    lg <- safeLog x  
    return lg
```

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```
foo []  
Left "exception: head []"
```

```
foo [2..4]  
Right 0.6931471805599453
```

```
foo [-1..3]  
Left "exception: log of negative"
```

do notation and arbitrary monads (Lists)

```
newMap f xs = do { x <- xs; return $ f x }
```

```
newMap (+1) [1..4]  
[2,3,4,5]
```

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```
do { c1 <- "abc"; c2 <- "xy"; return $ c1:c2:[] }  
[ "ax", "ay", "bx", "by", "cx", "cy" ]
```

```
do { c2 <- "xy"; c1 <- "abc"; return $ c1:c2:[] }  
[ "ax", "bx", "cx", "ay", "by", "cy" ]
```

Summary

- The do notation can be expressed using bind instead.
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- But the do notation can be used for arbitrary monads, not just IO
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- And it can be much clearer than a functional expression with bind.