

Handling Fibred Computational Effects

Effect Handlers in a Dependently Typed Setting

Danel Ahman

Prosecco Team at Inria Paris

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Outline

- Setting the scene
 - Algebraic effects and their handlers
 - A core dependently typed effectful calculus (FoSSaCS'16)
- Why handlers + dependent types?
 - Natural next step in extending the FoSSaCS'16 calculus
 - Useful for defining predicates/types depending on computations
- Extending the FoSSaCS'16 calculus with handlers
 - Take 1: The common term-level def. of handlers (unsound)
 - Take 2: A new type-level def. of handlers

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Algebraic effects and their handlers

- Moggi taught us to model comp. effects using **monads** $(T, \eta, (-)^\dagger)$

$$\eta_A : A \rightarrow TA \quad (f : A \rightarrow TB)_{A,B}^\dagger : TA \rightarrow TB$$

- Plotkin and Power showed that most of these monads arise from
 - **operations** - representing sources of effects

$$\text{raise} : \text{Exc} \longrightarrow 0 \quad \text{read} : \text{Loc} \longrightarrow \text{Val} \quad \text{write} : \text{Loc} \times \text{Val} \longrightarrow 1$$

- **equations** - describing the computational behaviour

$$\ell : \text{Loc} \mid w : 1 \vdash \text{read}_\ell(x.\text{write}_{\langle \ell, x \rangle}(w(\star))) = w(\star)$$

- The algebraic approach significantly simplifies
 - **choosing** a monad/adjunction to model a given language
 - modelling **combinations** of two or more comp. effects
 - **reasoning** about effects in terms of computation trees
 - **generic programming** with effects (via handlers)

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Algebraic effects and their handlers ctd.

- Plotkin and Pretnar's **handlers** of algebraic effects
 - generalise exception handlers
 - given by redefining the given operations (they denote **algebras**)
 - example uses - rollbacks, stream redirection, concurrency, ...
- Usually included in languages using the **handling** construct

M handled with $\{\text{op}_x(x') \mapsto N_{\text{op}}\}_{\text{op} \in S_{\text{eff}}}$ to $y:A$ in \underline{C} N_{ret}

denoting the **homomorphism** $FA \longrightarrow \{\text{op}_x(x') \mapsto N_{\text{op}}\}_{\text{op} \in S_{\text{eff}}}$

$(\text{op}_V(y.M))$ handled with $\{\dots\}_{\text{op} \in S_{\text{eff}}}$ to $y:A$ in \underline{C} N_{ret}

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$N_{\text{op}}[V/x][\lambda y:O.\text{thunk}(M \text{ handled with } \dots)/x']$

and

$(\text{return } V)$ handled with $\{\dots\}_{\text{op} \in S_{\text{eff}}}$ to $y:A$ in \underline{C} N_{ret} = $N_{\text{ret}}[V/y]$

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A core dependently typed effectful calculus

- (Model-theoretically) natural extension of MLTT
 - clear distinction between **values** and **computations** (CBPV, EEC)
- Value types $(\Gamma \vdash A)$ and computation types $(\Gamma \vdash \underline{C})$

$$A, B ::= \dots \mid \underline{U}\underline{C} \qquad \underline{C}, \underline{D} ::= FA \mid \Pi x:A. \underline{C} \mid \Sigma x:A. \underline{C}$$

- Value terms $(\Gamma \vdash V : A)$

$$V, W ::= x \mid \dots \mid \text{thunk } M$$

- Computation terms $(\Gamma \vdash M : \underline{C})$

$$M, N ::= \text{return } V \mid M \text{ to } x:A \text{ in}_{\underline{C}} N \mid \lambda x:A. M \mid M V \\ \mid \langle V, M \rangle \mid M \text{ to } (x:A, z:\underline{C}) \text{ in}_{\underline{D}} K \mid \text{force}_{\underline{C}} V$$

- Homomorphism terms $(\Gamma \mid z:\underline{C} \vdash K : \underline{D})$

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Defining predicates on effectful comps.

- For time being, assume that we have handlers in the calculus
- In particular, assume that we can **handle into values**

M handled with $\{\text{op}_x(x') \mapsto V_{\text{op}}\}_{\text{op} \in \mathcal{S}_{\text{eff}}}$ to $y:A \text{ in}_B V_{\text{ret}}$

- Also assume that we have a Tarski-style **value universe** \mathcal{U}
- Then we can define **predicates** $V : \text{UFA} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ by
 - equipping \mathcal{U} with an **algebra** structure
 - **handling** the given computation using that algebra
 - essentially, each such V computes a **proof obligation**
- Examples
 - **lifting predicates** from return values to computations
 - Dijkstra's **weakest precondition** semantics of state
 - specifying **allowed patterns** of (I/O)-effects

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Lifting predicates to effectful comps.

- Given a predicate $V_P : A \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ on **return values**,

we define a predicate $V_{\hat{P}} : UFA \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$ on **I/O-comps.** by

$\lambda y : UFA. (\text{force } y) \text{ handled with } \{\dots\}_{\text{op} \in \mathcal{S}_{\text{IO}}} \text{ to } y' : A \text{ in } \mathcal{U} \quad V_P y'$

using the **handler** given by

$$V_{\text{read}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lambda y : (\Sigma x : 1. \text{Chr} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}). \text{v-pi-code}(\text{chr-code}, y'. (\text{snd } y) y')$$

$$V_{\text{write}} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \lambda y : (\Sigma x : \text{Chr}. 1 \rightarrow \mathcal{U}). (\text{snd } y) \star$$

- $V_{\hat{P}}$ is similar to the **necessity modality** from Evaluation Logic

$$\Gamma \vdash \text{El}(V_{\hat{P}} (\text{think}(\text{read}^{FA}(x.\text{return } W)))) = \Pi x : \text{Chr}. V_P W$$

- To get **possibility mod.**, replace **v-pi-code** with **v-sigma-code**

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Dijkstra's weakest precondition semantics

- Given a postcondition on **return values** and **final states**

$$V_Q : A \rightarrow \text{St} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$$

we define a precondition for **stateful comps.** on **initial states**

$$V_{\hat{Q}} : UFA \rightarrow \text{St} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$$

by handling the given term using

$$V_{\text{get}}, V_{\text{put}} \quad \text{on} \quad \text{St} \rightarrow (\mathcal{U} \times \text{St})$$

- We then have the following equations

$$\Gamma \vdash V_{\hat{Q}} (\text{think}(\text{return } V)) = \lambda x_S : \text{St}. V_Q \ V \ x_S$$

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Specifying allowed patterns of I/O-effects

- We assume an **inductive type** Protocol, given by

$$e : \text{Protocol} \quad r : (\text{Chr} \rightarrow \text{Protocol}) \rightarrow \text{Protocol}$$

$$w : (\text{Chr} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}) \times \text{Protocol} \rightarrow \text{Protocol}$$

- Given a **protocol** $V_{pr} : \text{Protocol}$, we define

$$V_{\widehat{pr}} : \text{UFA} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$$

by handling a given term using

$$V_{\text{read}}, V_{\text{write}} \quad \text{on} \quad \text{Protocol} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$$

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$$V_{\text{read}} \langle V, V_{rk} \rangle (r V'_{pr}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{v-pi-code}(\text{chr-code}, y. (V_{rk} y) (V'_{pr} y))$$

$$V_{\text{write}} \langle V, V_{wk} \rangle (w \langle V_P, V'_{pr} \rangle) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{v-sigma-code}(V_P V, y. V_{wk} \star V'_{pr})$$

$$\text{—} \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{empty-code}$$

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$$\mathbf{e} : \text{Protocol} \quad \mathbf{r} : (\text{Chr} \rightarrow \text{Protocol}) \rightarrow \text{Protocol}$$

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- Given a **protocol** $V_{\text{pr}} : \text{Protocol}$, we define

$$V_{\widehat{\text{pr}}} : \text{UFA} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$$

by handling a given term using

$$V_{\text{read}}, V_{\text{write}} \quad \text{on} \quad \text{Protocol} \rightarrow \mathcal{U}$$

where

$$V_{\text{read}} \langle V, V_{\text{rk}} \rangle (\mathbf{r} V'_{\text{pr}}) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \text{v-pi-code}(\text{chr-code}, y. (V_{\text{rk}} y) (V'_{\text{pr}} y))$$

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Outline

- Setting the scene
 - Algebraic effects and their handlers
 - A core dependently typed effectful calculus (FoSSaCS'16)
- Why handlers + dependent types?
 - Natural next step in extending the FoSSaCS'16 calculus
 - Useful for defining predicates/types depending on computations
- Extending the FoSSaCS'16 calculus with handlers
 - Take 1: The common term-level def. of handlers (unsound)
 - Take 2: A new type-level def. of handlers

Fibred algebraic effects

- To include fib. alg. effects $(\mathcal{S}_{\text{eff}}, \mathcal{E}_{\text{eff}})$ in our calculus, we
 - extend its computation terms with **algebraic operations**

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash V : I \quad \Gamma \vdash \underline{C} \quad \Gamma, y : O[V/x] \vdash M : \underline{C}}{\Gamma \vdash \text{op}_V^{\underline{C}}(y : O[V/x].M) : \underline{C}}$$

- include **equations** $\Gamma \mid \Delta \vdash T_1 = T_2$ in \mathcal{E}_{eff} as

$$\Gamma' \vdash (\Gamma \mid \Delta \vdash T_1)_{A; \vec{V}_i; \vec{V}_j'; \vec{W}_{\text{op}}} = (\Gamma \mid \Delta \vdash T_2)_{A; \vec{V}_i; \vec{V}_j'; \vec{W}_{\text{op}}} : A$$

- include a general **algebraicity equation**

$$\frac{\Gamma \mid z : \underline{C} \vdash K : \underline{D} \quad \Gamma \vdash V : I \quad \Gamma, y : O[V/x] \vdash M : \underline{C}}{\Gamma \vdash K[\text{op}_V^{\underline{C}}(y : O[V/x].M)/z] = \text{op}_V^{\underline{D}}(y : O[V/x].K[M/z]) : \underline{D}}$$

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Handlers for fibred algebraic effects

- **Take 1:** Let's use their conventional term-level definition

- include the handling construct for **computation terms**

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by **handling**

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and exploiting a non-convergent **critical pair** in the eq. theory

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Handlers for fibred algebraic effects ctd.

- Possible ways to solve this unsoundness problem
 - **Option 1:** Change the FoSSaCS'16 calculus
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 - hom. terms wouldn't denote homomorphisms any more
 - investigated for exceptions in CBPV with stacks in [Levy'06]
 - **Option 2:** Keep the FoSSaCS'16 calculus unchanged
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$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \Gamma \vdash A \quad \{\Gamma \vdash V_{\text{op}} : (\sum x:I. O \rightarrow A) \rightarrow A\}_{\text{op} \in \mathcal{S}_{\text{eff}}} \\ V_{\text{op}} \text{ satisfy the equations in } \mathcal{E}_{\text{eff}} \end{array}}{\Gamma \vdash \langle A, \{V_{\text{op}}\}_{\text{op} \in \mathcal{S}_{\text{eff}}} \rangle}$$

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(what about the corresponding η -equation for comp. types?)

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Handlers for fibred algebraic effects ctd.

- **Take 2:** A type-based treatment of handlers
 - we can then routinely derive the **handling construct**

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using sequential composition, thunking, and forcing

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Handlers for fibred algebraic effects ctd.

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Conclusion

- In this talk, we saw
 - using (value) handlers to define predicates on computations
 - unsoundness problems when accommodating handlers
 - a principled type-based treatment of the handlers
- Future work
 - general account of defining predicates on alg. effects
 - operational semantics (complex values + eq. for ops.)
 - presentations of the calculus without hom. terms (eq. proof obl.)

Thank you!

Questions?