

1 Monads and Comonads

1.1 Definition of Monads and Comonads

A central notion in algebra is that of a *monoid*, that is, a set M equipped with a map $\mu: M \times M \rightarrow M$; $(a, b) \mapsto a \cdot b$ (often called *multiplication*) and an element $e \in M$ such that the following two axioms hold:

$$\begin{aligned} (a \cdot b) \cdot c &= a \cdot (b \cdot c) && \text{for all } a, b, c \in M. && \text{(associativity)} \\ e \cdot a &= a \cdot e = a && \text{for all } a \in M && \text{(identity element)} \end{aligned}$$

We can give an equivalent definition in terms of maps and commuting diagrams as follows: A *monoid* is a set M together with two functions

$$\mu: M \times M \rightarrow M, \quad e: \{*\} \rightarrow M$$

such that the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} M \times M \times M & \xrightarrow{\text{id} \times \mu} & M \times M \\ \downarrow \mu \times \text{id} & & \downarrow \mu \\ M \times M & \xrightarrow{\mu} & M \end{array} \quad \text{and} \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} \{*\} \times M & \xrightarrow{e \times \text{id}} & M \times M & \xleftarrow{\text{id} \times e} & M \times \{*\} \\ & \searrow l & \downarrow \mu & \swarrow r & \\ & & M & & \end{array}$$

where id is the identity on m , and l and r are the canonical bijections

$$\begin{aligned} l: \{*\} \times M &\rightarrow M; \quad l(*, m) = m \\ r: M \times \{*\} &\rightarrow M; \quad r(m, *) = m. \end{aligned}$$

Explicitly, the first diagram means that for all $a, b, c \in M$:

$$(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c) \quad \text{for all } a, b, c \in M.$$

which is verbatim the associativity axiom, the second diagram means that for all $m \in M$:

$$e(*) \cdot m = l(*, m) = m = r(m, *) = m \cdot e(*)$$

which is clearly the identity element axiom for the element $e(*)$. This motivates the following definition:

Definition 1.1 (Monad). A *Monad* (T, μ, η) in a category \mathcal{X} consists of

- an endofunctor $T: \mathcal{X} \rightarrow \mathcal{X}$
- a natural transformation $\eta: \text{id}_{\mathcal{X}} \Rightarrow T$
- a natural transformation $\mu: T^2 \Rightarrow T$

such that the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T^3 & \xrightarrow{T\mu} & T^2 \\ \mu T \downarrow & & \downarrow \mu \\ T^2 & \xrightarrow{\mu} & T \end{array} \quad \begin{array}{ccccc} T & \xrightarrow{\eta T} & T^2 & \xleftarrow{T\eta} & T \\ & \searrow \text{id}_T & \downarrow \mu & \swarrow \text{id}_T & \\ & & T & & \end{array} \quad (1.1)$$

monoid/monad/
monoid object

In terms of components, this means that for every object x of \mathcal{X} the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 T(T(Tx)) & \xrightarrow{T(\mu_x)} & T(Tx) \\
 \mu_{Tx} \downarrow & & \downarrow \mu_x \\
 T(Tx) & \xrightarrow{\mu_x} & Tx
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 Tx & \xrightarrow{\eta_{Tx}} & T(Tx) & \xleftarrow{T(\eta_x)} & Tx \\
 & \searrow \text{id}_{Tx} & \downarrow \mu_x & \swarrow \text{id}_{Tx} & \\
 & & Tx & &
 \end{array}
 \quad (1.2)$$

Example 1 (preorder). Recall: A *preorder* (\mathcal{P}, \leq) is a category with \mathcal{P} as objects and a morphism between X and Y iff $X \leq Y$. A functor $T: \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$ is thus a monotonic function $\mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$ ($x \leq y \implies Tx \leq Ty$). The existence of the natural transformations η is equivalent to

$$x \leq Tx \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{P}$$

and the existence of μ is equivalent to

$$T(Tx) \leq Tx \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{P}$$

because there is at most one morphism $x \rightarrow y$, so the necessary diagrams commute trivially.

Now suppose \mathcal{P} is a *partial order*, i.e. $x \leq y \leq x \implies x = y \quad \forall x, y \in \mathcal{P}$.

Then:

$$\begin{aligned}
 x \leq Tx &\implies Tx \leq T(Tx) \\
 T(Tx) \leq Tx &\implies Tx = T(Tx)
 \end{aligned}$$

so a Monad T in a partial order \mathcal{P} is a *closure operation* in \mathcal{P} , i.e. a monotonic function $T: \mathcal{P} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}$ with $x \leq Tx$ and $T(Tx) = Tx \quad \forall x \in \mathcal{P}$.

Now every topological space X induces a partial order $\mathcal{P} = (\mathcal{P}(X), \subseteq)$. Here an example for a closure operation is taking the topological closure $A \mapsto \bar{A}$, since it holds for all $A \subseteq X$ that $A \subseteq \bar{A}$ and $\overline{\bar{A}} = \bar{A}$.

Definition 1.2 (Comonad). A *Comonad* (L, ε, ω) in a Category \mathcal{A} consists of

- an endofunctor $L: \mathcal{A} \rightarrow \mathcal{A}$
- a natural transformation $\varepsilon: L \Rightarrow \text{id}_{\mathcal{A}}$
- a natural transformation $\omega: L \Rightarrow L^2$

such that the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 L & \xrightarrow{L\omega} & L^2 \\
 \omega L \downarrow & & \downarrow L\omega \\
 L^2 & \xrightarrow{\omega L} & L^3
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & L & & \\
 \text{id}_L \swarrow & & \downarrow \omega & & \searrow \text{id}_L \\
 L & \xleftarrow{\varepsilon L} & L^2 & \xrightarrow{L\varepsilon} & L
 \end{array}
 \quad (1.3)$$

In terms of components, this means that for every object x of \mathcal{A} the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Lx & \xrightarrow{L(\omega_x)} & L(Lx) \\
 \omega_{Lx} \downarrow & & \downarrow L(\omega_x) \\
 L(Lx) & \xrightarrow{\omega_{Lx}} & L(L(Lx))
 \end{array}
 \qquad
 \begin{array}{ccccc}
 & & Lx & & \\
 \text{id}_{Lx} \swarrow & & \downarrow \omega_x & & \searrow \text{id}_{Lx} \\
 Lx & \xleftarrow{\varepsilon_{Lx}} & L(Lx) & \xrightarrow{L(\varepsilon_x)} & Lx
 \end{array}
 \quad (1.4)$$

Lemma 1.3 For every object x in \mathcal{X} , the following diagram commutes:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T(Tx) & \xrightarrow{T(\delta_x)} & T(T'x) \\ \downarrow \delta_{Tx} & & \downarrow \delta_{T'x} \\ T(T'x) & \xrightarrow{T'(\delta_x)} & T'(T'x) \end{array}$$

this means

$$\delta T' \circ T\delta = T'\delta \circ \delta T: T^2 \Rightarrow (T')^2.$$

PROOF: $\delta: T \Rightarrow T'$ is natural. □

Definition 1.4 (Morphism of monads). Let \mathcal{X} be a category, let (T, η, μ) and (T', η', μ') be monads in \mathcal{X} . We say that a natural transformation $\delta: T \Rightarrow T'$ is a *morphism of monads* if it preserves the unit and the multiplication, i.e. the following diagrams commute:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{id}_x & \xrightarrow{\eta_x} & Tx \\ & \searrow \eta'_x & \downarrow \delta_x \\ & & T'x \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} T^2x & \xrightarrow{\mu_x} & Tx \\ \delta T' \circ T\delta \downarrow & & \downarrow \delta_x \\ T'^2x & \xrightarrow{\mu'_x} & T'x \end{array}$$

Definition 1.5 (Morphism of comonads).

show that the other composition is the same (siehe iPad)

definition