Concurrent Monads for Shared State

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Abstract

In the monad-based approach to functional programming with effects, sequential composition, the primary high-level control structure for combining effectful functions, takes a special role. In this article, we advocate the idea that parallel composition should be recognized as a high-level control structure on an equal footing with sequential composition. We promote the concept of concurrent monad, which axiomatizes both sequential and parallel composition, and illustrate the approach by describing two concurrent monads for interleaving shared state concurrency: one of resumptions, the other of collections of traces.

CCS Concepts

• **Theory of computation** → **Categorical semantics**; *Control primitives*; • **Software and its engineering** → *Concurrent programming structures*.

Keywords

effectful computation, concurrency, parallel composition, concurrent monoids, concurrent monads, duoidal categories

1 Introduction

This paper is about *concurrency* in effectful functional computation and programming. We ask this question: Is concurrency, together with the associating primitives, among them *parallel composition* of two effectful functions, an *effect*? More precisely, are models of concurrency something that could be fully analyzed in terms of the operations of a suitable *monad* or an *algebraic theory* similarly to exceptions, interactive input-output or state manipulation, within the standard *Moggi and Plotkin–Power approach* [26, 29] to effectfulness? If it were, it could be treated exactly the same way as these example effects. It is not unnatural to dream that this be the case.

Our answer and message in this paper is: No. Parallel composition is fundamentally a *high-level control structure*, different in

nature from an instruction-like operation, such as an exception raise, or an input or output operation, or a read or write operation, that one can "prefix" to a computation to construct another. Parallel composition is analogous and comparable to *sequential composition* and also other familiar control structures from high-level programming, like *iteration*. This has significant consequences.

Consider this. We accept that sequential composition is something fundamentally different from an effect, namely, a high-level control structure for putting two effectful computations together into one bigger such. And monads provide an *axiomatization* of this control structure for the context of effectful functional computation. In fact, it is their only mission in the Moggi approach, they do nothing else. In particular, monads do not axiomatize parallel composition (and not iteration either, for example). Hence, if we want to talk about both sequential and parallel composition at the same time, we should need a different mathematical structure. This structure could be monads with additional structure, to also axiomatize parallel composition alongside sequential composition, which is already there in a monad, as well as the interaction of these two compositions.

This view was first proposed and worked out by Rivas and Jaskelioff [33]. They were the first to define a specialization of monads, called *concurrent monads*, that add to monads the axiomatization of parallel composition and the interaction of sequential and parallel compositions. Paquet and Saville [28] recently considerably elaborated the theory. This paper is devoted to promoting the same concept, taking a particular path.

In a nutshell, when a monad T on a category $\mathbb{C}$ provides an operation that takes maps $X \to TY$ and $Y \to TZ$, embodying effectful functions, into a map $X \to TZ$, their sequential composition, a concurrent monad goes further and also provides a parallel composition operation that takes maps $X \to TY$ and $U \to TV$ into a map $X \otimes U \to T(Y \otimes V)$ (where $\otimes$ could, for example, be the product $\times$). A price that we pay in this paper is that $\mathbb{C}$ and T have to be an *ordered* monoidal category and functor (i.e., **Poset**-enriched, meaning that there is an order on the set of maps $X \to Y$ for any two objects X, Y resp. that the action of T on maps is monotone).[1]

There is a clear analogy and inspiration here from *Kleene algebra*. Kleene algebras axiomatize sequential composition, nondeterminism and finite iteration. *Concurrent Kleene algebras* by Hoare et al. [19] add parallel composition very much in the same spirit as the move from monads to concurrent monads; the key ingredient of a concurrent Kleene algebra is a *concurrent monoid*. In fact, in this

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[1]In the original work of Rivas and Jaskelioff [33], the base category $\mathbb{C}$ was the ordinary category **Set**, but the Kleisli category was made ordered by requiring that the ordinary functor T comes with a factoring through $U : \textbf{Poset} \to \textbf{Set}$. Instead of **Poset**-enriched, one can also go *bicategorical*. This is finer, and it is what Paquet and Saville [28] have done, but also a lot more involved.

paper, we first generalize from concurrent monoids to what we call *concurrent categories* (by "typing" concurrent monoids) and then define concurrent monads so that the Kleisli construction yields a concurrent category. To use Kleene algebra as an inspiration for specializations of monads to capture high-level control structures is not a new idea. The major line of work of Goncharov [14, 16] on *Kleene monads* (which axiomatize Kleene-like finite iteration) and Elgot monads (which axiomatize possibly infinite Elgot iteration, controlled by decisions) is rooted in the Kleene algebra work in exactly this fashion.

We ground our message about concurrent monads as an important semantic structure in examples about *shared-state concurrency*. We consider two kinds. We first discuss a very naive type of shared-state concurrency where two effectful functions composed in parallel process their input values independently and upon completion their final states are merged. Then we proceed to standard preemptive *interleaving* shared-state concurrency. We consider two semantics, *resumptions* based and *collections-of-traces* based.

To demonstrate concurrent monoids and monads in action, we have implemented all examples of our development in Haskell. The code is imperfect since the ordered monoidal category **Poset** cannot be imitated well with Haskell's types and functions, but we deliberately opted for keeping the code simple and appealing to practicing functional programmers. The code is available from https://cs.ioc.ee/~tarmo/rivas-uustalu-ppdp24-code/.

While a very important objective of this paper is to popularize concurrent monads, it contains technical contributions that are novel as compared to [28, 33]: identification of a concept of concurrent category, development of two concurrent monads for interleaving shared-state concurrency, working in the setting of ordered category theory.

The paper has the following structure. First we recall concurrent monoids and look at some examples thereof. Then we generalize concurrent monoids to concurrent categories by "typing" them. We then define concurrent monads so that the Kleisli category of a concurrent monad is a concurrent category. By reorganizing the data of a concurrent monad we show that it is a concurrent monoid object in a suitable structure available on the ordered category of endofunctors. We then proceed to examples of concurrent monads for shared state. We first consider naive shared-state concurrency and then proceed to resumptions-based and collections-of-traces based semantics of preemptive interleaving shared-stated concurrency.

The paper uses some category theory that is not so much advanced as subtle. We have tried hard to make this paper and its message accessible to functional programmers and Kleene algebraists. Therefore we have suppressed some material (such as full lists of coherence conditions in some definitions), but we have unpacked the most critical definitions to the level of the most basic concepts to be able to pinpoint the fine details that make the setup work as we need. We have omitted all proofs, but point to the conceptual reasons that make the proofs work.

To better align with the common practice in effectful programming (imperative or functional, like in Haskell, with the do-notation for programming in Kleisli categories) and also Kleene algebra—and commutative diagrams of course—, we write the vertical composition (of maps and natural transformations) in the diagrammatic order, denoting it by $(;)$. The horizontal composition (of functors and natural transformations) is written in the usual applicative order and denoted by $(\cdot)$.

2 Concurrent monoids

Concurrent monoids are the key part of the structure of concurrent Kleene algebras by Hoare et al. [19], which, in addition to sequential and parallel composition, also axiomatize nondeterministic choice and finite iteration. But they go back to Gischer [13].

In a nutshell, a concurrent monoid is an ordered set (poset) with two ordered monoid (pomonoid) structures on it, one for sequential, the other for parallel composition, agreeing in a certain way.[2]

Precisely, a *concurrent monoid* is an ordered set $(M, \leq)$ with ordered monoid structures $(\mathsf{id}, (;))$ and $(\mathsf{jd}, \|)$ satisfying *inequational interchange*:

$$\mathsf{id} \leq \mathsf{jd} \qquad \text{(ich-1)}$$
$$\mathsf{jd} ; \mathsf{jd} \leq \mathsf{jd} \qquad \text{(ich-2)}$$
$$\mathsf{id} \leq \mathsf{id} \| \mathsf{id} \qquad \text{(ich-3)}$$
$$(k \| \ell) ; (m \| n) \leq (k ; m) \| (\ell ; n) \qquad \text{(ich-4)}$$

An important special and common case is when inequation (ich-1) holds as an equality, i.e., $\mathsf{id} = \mathsf{jd}$. In this case, the concurrent monoid is said to be *normal*.

The structure $(\mathsf{id}, (;))$ being an ordered monoid means that id is an element of M and $;$ is a function $M \times M \to M$ such that $;$ is monotone, unital wrt. id and associative:

$$\text{if } k \leq k' \text{ and } \ell \leq \ell', \text{ then } k; \ell \leq k'; \ell'$$
$$\mathsf{id}; k = k \quad k; \mathsf{id} = k \quad (k; \ell); m = k; (\ell; m)$$

Notice that it does not ask for id to be the top or bottom of the order, or even comparable with all other elements. Analogous conditions must hold about $(\mathsf{jd}, \|)$.

Intuitively, we should think of the elements of M as commands or effectful functions not transforming data, $(;)$ as sequential composition, $\|$ as parallel composition and id and jd as the units of these compositions (perhaps both "doing nothing"). The relationship $k \leq k'$ should be understood to mean that k accomplishes less than k' in some way.

The inequational axioms of a concurrent monoid are not entirely independent. From inequation (ich-4) (known as *middle four interchange*), inequation (ich-1) is derivable:

$$\mathsf{id} = \mathsf{id} ; \mathsf{id} = (\mathsf{jd} \| \mathsf{id}) ; (\mathsf{id} \| \mathsf{jd}) \leq (\mathsf{jd} ; \mathsf{id}) \| (\mathsf{id} ; \mathsf{jd}) = \mathsf{jd} \| \mathsf{jd} = \mathsf{jd}$$

By an obvious modification of this calculation, when (ich-4) holds as an equality for a concurrent monoid, then so does (ich-1).

(ich-1) entails the converses of (ich-2) and (ich-3):

$$\mathsf{jd} = \mathsf{id}; \mathsf{jd} \leq \mathsf{jd}; \mathsf{jd} \qquad \mathsf{id} \| \mathsf{id} \leq \mathsf{jd} \| \mathsf{id} = \mathsf{id}$$

Therefore (ich-2) and (ich-3) entail their own equational variants

$$\mathsf{jd} ; \mathsf{jd} = \mathsf{jd} \qquad \mathsf{id} = \mathsf{id} \| \mathsf{id}$$

(But note that we only get equality here because we have assumed antisymmetry. The development in the next section shows that the equality here is even more "incidental".)

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[2]By 'ordered', we mean partially ordered. Preorders would work just as well, but here we ignore this opportunity for generality. The ordered monoid for parallel composition is typically required to be commutative, but in this work we find it generally unnecessarily restrictive to ask this.

When (ich-1) holds as an equality for a concurrent monoid, then (ich-4) has as consequences

$$k \,;\, \ell = (k \parallel \mathsf{jd}) \,;\, (\mathsf{jd} \parallel \ell) \leq (k \,;\, \mathsf{id}) \parallel (\mathsf{id} \,;\, \ell) = k \parallel \ell$$

and likewise

$$\ell \,;\, k = (\mathsf{jd} \parallel \ell) \,;\, (k \parallel \mathsf{jd}) \leq (\mathsf{id} \,;\, k) \parallel (\ell \,;\, \mathsf{id}) = k \parallel \ell$$

By the above observations, when (ich-4) holds as an equality for a concurrent monoid, then so do the other inequations. Moreover, then $k \,;\, \ell = k \parallel \ell = \ell \,;\, k$. Thereby the two ordered monoid structures have collapsed into one commutative ordered monoid. This fact with its proof is known as the Eckmann-Hilton argument.

If the order of a concurrent monoid is discrete (i.e., $\leq$ is $=$), then any inequation trivially becomes an equation. So concurrent monoids whose order is discrete are the same as commutative (discretely ordered) monoids.

We see that concurrent monoids are only interesting when the order is not discrete and (ich-4) and maybe also (ich-1) do not hold as equalities.

Concurrent monoids, especially normal concurrent monoids, are not uncommon in nature. Here are some examples.

Any idempotent semiring $(S, 0, +, 1, \times)$ is a concurrent monoid—for $\leq$ defined by $m \leq n$ iff $m + n = n$. In this example, $(;) = +$ is commutative as $+$ is so in any semiring.

The Boolean idempotent semiring $(\mathbb{B}, \mathsf{ff}, \vee, \mathsf{tt}, \wedge)$ is an example of a concurrent monoid like this. The order $\leq$ is $\supset$, which is generated by $\mathsf{ff} \supset \mathsf{tt}$. This concurrent monoid is non-normal and has both $(;) = \vee$ and $\parallel = \wedge$ commutative and idempotent.

With multivalued logics, one can build further examples of concurrent monoids. A three-valued logic using one (viz., the secondary one) of the two disjunction-conjunction pairs of the Łukasiewicz logic gives an example where $(;) = \vee$ and $\parallel = \wedge$ are both non-idempotent but still commutative. This concurrent monoid is $(\{\mathsf{ff}, \mathsf{u}, \mathsf{tt}\}, \supset, \mathsf{ff}, \vee, \mathsf{tt}, \wedge)$ where the order $\supset$ is generated by $\mathsf{ff} \supset m$, $m \supset \mathsf{tt}$ and the connectives $\vee$ and $\wedge$ are defined by the truth-tables

$\vee$	ff	u	tt		$\wedge$	ff	u	tt
ff	ff	u	tt		ff	ff	ff	ff
u	u	tt	tt		u	ff	ff	u
tt	tt	tt	tt		tt	ff	u	tt

Non-commutativity is not achievable with three truth-values. But a four-valued variation (where the disjunction and conjunction mix features of both disjunction-conjunction pairs of the Łukasiewicz logic) gives us an example where $(;) = \vee$ and $\parallel = \wedge$ are both non-idempotent and also non-commutative. We use $(\{\mathsf{ff}, \mathsf{u_L}, \mathsf{u_R}, \mathsf{tt}\}, \supset, \mathsf{ff}, \vee, \mathsf{tt}, \wedge)$ where $\supset$ is generated by $\mathsf{ff} \supset m$, $m \supset \mathsf{tt}$, $\mathsf{u_L} \supset \mathsf{u_R}$ and $\vee$ and $\wedge$ are defined by the truth-tables

$\vee$	ff	u_L	u_R	tt		$\wedge$	ff	u_L	u_R	tt
ff	ff	u_L	u_R	tt		ff	ff	ff	ff	ff
u_L	u_L	u_L	u_R	tt		u_L	ff	ff	u_L	u_L
u_R	u_R	tt	tt	tt		u_R	ff	ff	u_R	u_R
tt	tt	tt	tt	tt		tt	ff	u_L	u_R	tt

To conclude this section with a computationally motivated example, one of the main motivating examples for concurrent Kleene algebra, we switch from mathematics to Haskell. We thereby also start to introduce the code accompanying this paper.

In Haskell, we can use the following type-classes to define ordered sets and concurrent monoids:

```
class Ordered m where
  (=<) :: m → m → Bool
class Ordered m ⇒ ConcurMonoid m where
  idS :: m
  (>.>) :: m → m → m
  idP :: m
  (<||>) :: m → m → m
```

where idS and idP correspond to id and jd respectively and >.> and <||> correspond to $(;)$ and $\parallel$. For programming, we require orders to be decidable and represent them accordingly as Boolean-valued functions. Of course we cannot insist in Haskell that the data of a structure satisfy the required axioms.

Our programming example of a concurrent monoid is given by the set $\mathcal{M}_f(\text{List } A)$ of finite multisets of lists over a fixed set A, where A can be an alphabet of actions and lists over A can serve as traces. In Haskell, we represent finite multisets by lists, with a nonstandard equality relation that ignores the order of the elements. The order is multiset inclusion.

```
newtype Bag a = B [a] deriving Show
instance Eq a ⇒ Eq (Bag a) where
  B [] == B [] = True
  B [] == _    = False
  B (x:xs) == B ys = case remove x ys of
                       Nothing →False
                       Just ys' → B xs == B ys'
instance Eq a ⇒ Ordered (Bag a) where
  B [] =< _ = True
  B (x:xs) =< B ys = case remove x ys of
                       Nothing →False
                       Just ys' → B xs =< B ys'
```

The possible interleavings of two traces are given by their shuffle coded like this:

```
(<|>) :: [a] → [a] → [[a]]
[]   <|> ys = [ys]
xs   <|> [] = [xs]
(x:xs) <|> (y:ys) = map (x:) (xs <|> (y:ys))
                 ++ map (y:) ((x:xs) <|> ys)
```

The concurrent monoid instance results as follows:

```
type BoT a = Bag [a]
instance Eq a ⇒ ConcurMonoid (BoT a) where
  idS = B [[]]
  B xss >.> B yss = B [xs ++ ys | xs <− xss, ys <− yss]
  idP = B [[]]
  B xss <||> B yss = B (concat [xs <|> ys | xs <− xss, ys <− yss])
```

In this example, the units id and jd coincide, so the concurrent monoid is normal. We need to use $\mathcal{M}_f(\text{List } A)$ rather than $\text{List}(\text{List } A)$ in order to obtain the associativity of $\parallel$. To be a legitimate order on finite multisets, $\leq$ has to ignore the order of elements in the representing lists. (Also, (ich-4) does not actually hold for the finer order on lists given by order-preserving inclusion.) But of course $\mathcal{P}_f(\text{List } A)$ (the finite powerset) instead of $\mathcal{M}_f(\text{List } A)$ works too.

3 Concurrent monads

We proceed to concurrent monads à la Rivas and Jaskelioff [33]. We show that concurrent monoids can be generalized to concurrent categories. And then we specialize this generalization for computation with effects, arriving at concurrent monads.[3]

3.1 Concurrent categories

The generalization of concurrent monoids to concurrent categories goes by "typing" them. The idea is that effectful functions, differently from commands, do not just produce effects, but also take argument data to return data.

An ordered monoid $(M, \leq, \mathrm{id}, ;)$ is a one-object ordered category with elements of M as maps and $;$ as composition. We now switch from one object to many objects. But we must also take care of the $(\mathrm{jd}, \|)$ ingredients of a concurrent monoid. For that, we use the fact that a monoid can also be viewed as a discrete (necessarily strict) monoidal category. We will generalize this perspective, making sure to introduce enough generality to cover our intended applications.

In a nutshell, a concurrent category will be an *ordered* category with an ordered *monoidal-like* structure. But to formulate that structure, we need to assume a base, which will be an ordered monoidal category (of types and pure functions)[4], so the concurrent category (of effectful functions) will be parameterized in one such. Further, we require the concurrent category to come with an identity-on-objects ordered *monoidal-like* functor from its base. We will explain what 'monoidal-like' means in each case.

Like we said, we need to proceed from a *base*, which has to be an ordered (=**Poset**-enriched) monoidal category $\mathbb{C} = (\mathbb{C}, \leq, \mathrm{id}, (;), \mathsf{I}, \otimes)$ in the standard senses of these terms. Let us unpack this definition. It says that we have (i) an ordered category. Explicitly, that amounts to a set $|\mathbb{C}|$ of objects (types) and, for all $X, Y \in |\mathbb{C}|$, an ordered set $(\mathbb{C}(X, Y), \leq)$ of maps (pure functions) with

- maps $\mathrm{id}_X \in \mathbb{C}(X, X)$ and an operation on maps $(;) : \mathbb{C}(X, Y) \times \mathbb{C}(Y, Z) \to \mathbb{C}(X, Z)$, monotone and unital, associative.

We also have (ii) an ordered monoidal structure. This consists of two ordered functors $\mathsf{I} : \mathbf{1} \to \mathbb{C}$, $\otimes : \mathbb{C} \times \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}$ and three natural families of isomorphisms $\lambda_X \in \mathbb{C}(\mathsf{I} \otimes X, X)$, $\rho_X \in \mathbb{C}(X, X \otimes \mathsf{I})$ and $\alpha_{X,Y,Z} \in \mathbb{C}((X \otimes Y) \otimes Z, X \otimes (Y \otimes Z))$ satisfying certain coherence equations. Explicitly, this ordered monoidal structure adds to what we already unpacked

- an object $\mathsf{I} \in \mathbb{C}$ and an operation on objects $\otimes : |\mathbb{C}| \times |\mathbb{C}| \to |\mathbb{C}|$, unital, associative up to isomorphism (via maps λ_X, ρ_X, $\alpha_{X,Y,Z}$ that need to be there and must be required to be isomorphisms),
- a map $\mathsf{I} \in \mathbb{C}(\mathsf{I}, \mathsf{I})$ and operation on maps $\otimes : \mathbb{C}(X, Y) \times \mathbb{C}(U, V) \to \mathbb{C}(X \otimes U, Y \otimes V)$, monotone, unital and associative up to isomorphism (capturing that λ_X, ρ_X, $\alpha_{X,Y,Z}$ are natural)

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[3]For the reader that knows strong monads well, this story will appear very similar both by the spirit and the mathematical means employed to that connecting Freyd (a.k.a. effectful) categories and strong monads [23]. Paquet and Saville [27] have provided a bicategorical version of it in their account of strong pseudomonads.
[4]Here will start deviating from Rivas and Jaskelioff [33] for who the base was **Set** as an ordinary monoidal category. But the aim and the rest of the means we use are exactly the same.

satisfying *equational* interchange:

$$\mathrm{id}_\mathsf{I} = \mathsf{I}$$
$$\mathsf{I} ; \mathsf{I} = \mathsf{I}$$
$$\mathrm{id}_{X \otimes Y} = \mathrm{id}_X \otimes \mathrm{id}_Y$$
$$(f \otimes g) ; (h \otimes i) = (f ; h) \otimes (g ; i)$$

for $f \in \mathbb{C}(X, Y)$, $g \in \mathbb{C}(U, V)$, $h \in \mathbb{C}(Y, Z)$, $i \in \mathbb{C}(V, W)$ (capturing that $\mathsf{I}, \otimes$ are functorial).

Notice that the interchange axioms are exactly those of a concurrent monoid, but typed, and that here they are stipulated as equations. Notice also that, differently from the situation with concurrent monoids, although the analogue of (ich-4) is stipulated as an equation, there is no collapse here of the two "typed monoid" structures into one commutative such. This is made possibly by the two structures working in two different dimensions: while id is a family of maps, I is just one map and the analogue $\mathrm{id}_\mathsf{I} = \mathsf{I}$ of (ich-1) says nothing about id_X for $X \neq \mathsf{I}$; etc. Any ordinary monoidal category is trivially an ordered monoidal category with all homsets $\mathbb{C}(X, Y)$ discrete (i.e, $\leq$ is $=$).

A useful ordered (which in this case means self-enriched) category is $\mathbb{C} = \mathbf{Poset}$. It has as $|\mathbb{C}|$ the class of all ordered sets, as $\mathbb{C}(X, Y)$ the set of all monotone functions $X \to Y$. The order $\leq$ on monotone functions $X \to Y$ is obtained from the order on the codomain Y, pointwise, i.e., $f \leq g$ for monotone $f, g : X \to Y$ iff $f x \leq_Y g x$. As an ordered monoidal structure $(\mathsf{I}, \otimes)$, this ordered category has the finite-product structure $(1, \times)$, which is given by finite products on the underlying sets, with $(x, y) \leq_{X \times Y} (x', y')$ iff $x \leq_X x'$ and $y \leq_Y y'$.

The category **Set** carries a trivial ordered structure with every homset ordered discretely. As such, it is isomorphic (as an ordered category) to the full sub- ordered category of **Poset** given by discretely ordered sets (full because any function between discretely ordered sets is trivially monotone).

We are now prepared to proceed to concurrent categories.

We define a *concurrent category* as an ordered *monoidal-like* category $\mathbb{K} = (\mathbb{K}, \leq^\mathsf{K}, \mathrm{id}^\mathsf{K}, (;^\mathsf{K}), \mathsf{I}^\mathsf{K}, \otimes^\mathsf{K})$ together with an identity-on-objects ordered *monoidal-like* functor J from the presupposed base $(\mathbb{C}, \leq, (;), \mathsf{I}, \otimes)$. We spell out the data and also make it precise what we mean by 'monoidal-like' in each case.

$\mathbb{K}$ as (i) an ordered *category* must have the *same objects* as $\mathbb{C}$, i.e., $|\mathbb{K}| = |\mathbb{C}|$. In addition it has, for any $X, Y \in |\mathbb{K}| = |\mathbb{C}|$, an ordered set $(\mathbb{K}(X, Y), \leq^\mathsf{K})$ of maps and

- maps $\mathrm{id}^\mathsf{K} \in \mathbb{K}(X, X)$ and an operation on maps $(;^\mathsf{K}) : \mathbb{K}(X, Y) \times \mathbb{K}(Y, Z) \to \mathbb{K}(X, Z)$, monotone, unital and associative.

As (ii) an ordered *monoidal-like* structure, $\mathbb{K}$ must have the object $\mathsf{I}^\mathsf{K} \in \mathbb{K}$ and the operation on objects $\otimes^\mathsf{K} : |\mathbb{K}| \times |\mathbb{K}| \to |\mathbb{K}|$ the *same* as in $\mathbb{C}$, i.e., $\mathsf{I}^\mathsf{K} = \mathsf{I}$ and $\otimes^\mathsf{K} = \otimes$. The operation $\otimes^\mathsf{K}$ must be unital and associative (in $\mathbb{K}$!) up to isomorphism via $J\lambda$, $J\rho$, $J\alpha$. In addition, it has

- a map $\mathsf{I}^\mathsf{K} \in \mathbb{K}(\mathsf{I}, \mathsf{I})$, for which we write jd for brevity and emphasis, and an operation on maps $\otimes^\mathsf{K} : \mathbb{K}(X, Y) \times \mathbb{K}(U, V) \to \mathbb{K}(X \otimes U, Y \otimes V)$, for which we write $\|$, monotone and unital, associative up to isomorphism using $J\lambda$, $J\rho$, $J\alpha$ (this expresses naturality of $J\lambda_X$, $J\rho_X$, $J\alpha_{X,Y,Z}$)

satisfying *inequational* interchange:

$$\text{id}_I^K \leq^K \text{jd} \qquad \text{(ich-1)}$$
$$\text{jd} \mathbin{;}^K \text{jd} \leq^K \text{jd} \qquad \text{(ich-2)}$$
$$\text{id}_{X \otimes Y}^K \leq^K \text{id}_X^K \parallel \text{id}_Y^K \qquad \text{(ich-3)}$$
$$(k \parallel \ell) \mathbin{;}^K (m \parallel n) \leq^K (k \mathbin{;}^K m) \parallel (\ell \mathbin{;}^K n) \qquad \text{(ich-4)}$$

for $k \in \mathbb{K}(X, Y)$, $\ell \in \mathbb{K}(U, V)$, $m \in \mathbb{K}(Y, Z)$, $n \in \mathbb{K}(V, W)$ (stipulating that I^K, $\otimes^K$ are functorial laxly, i.e., preserve id^K and $\mathbin{;}^K$ only inequationally). The structure is monoidal-like in that I^K and $\otimes^K$ are *lax functors* rather than ordered functors.

J has to be (i) an *identity-on-objects* ordered *functor*: it must have $JX = X$ for all $X \in |\mathbb{C}|$ and be monotone and preserve id and (;) properly (that is, equationally), i.e., if $f \leq g$, then $Jf \leq^K Jg$ for $f, g \in \mathbb{C}(X, Y)$, $J\text{id}_X = \text{id}_X^K$, $J(f \mathbin{;} g) = Jf \mathbin{;}^K Jg$.

J must also be (ii) ordered *monoidal-like*. Here monoidal-likeness means that *J* must be strict monoidal on objects in the sense of having as its monoidality constraints id_I^K and $\text{id}_{-\otimes-}^K$, which is enabled by $JI = I$ and $J(X \otimes Y) = X \otimes Y = JX \otimes JY$. But on maps *J* can be *oplax monoidal* in the sense of preserving I and $\otimes$ only inequationally like this: $JI \leq^K \text{jd}$ and $J(f \otimes g) \leq^K Jf \parallel Jg$.[5]

In addition, it is reasonable to require the following special *equational* interchange axioms:

$$J(f \otimes g) \mathbin{;}^K (m \parallel n) = (Jf \mathbin{;}^K m) \parallel (Jg \mathbin{;}^K n) \qquad \text{(ich-4a)}$$
$$(k \parallel \ell) \mathbin{;}^K J(h \otimes i) = (k \mathbin{;}^K Jh) \parallel (\ell \mathbin{;}^K Ji) \qquad \text{(ich-4b)}$$

The inequations required of *J* are redundant as axioms since they follow from (ich-1), (ich-3) and (ich-4a): $JI = J\text{id}_I = \text{id}^K \leq^K \text{jd}$ and $J(f \otimes g) = J(f \otimes g) \mathbin{;}^K \text{id}_{X \otimes Y}^K \leq^K J(f \otimes g) \mathbin{;}^K (\text{id}_X^K \parallel \text{id}_Y^K) = (Jf \mathbin{;}^K \text{id}_X^K) \parallel (Jg \mathbin{;}^K \text{id}_Y^K) = Jf \parallel Jg$.

We say that a concurrent category is *normal* if (ich-1) holds as an equality, i.e., $\text{id}_I^K = \text{jd}$.

A concurrent category is necessarily normal when *J* is an honest strict monoidal functor, i.e., if $JI = \text{jd}$ and $J(f \otimes g) = Jf \parallel Jg$, because then $\text{id}_I^K = J\text{id}_I = JI = \text{jd}$.

Concurrent categories, as just defined, are a typed generalization of concurrent monoids. The stronger-structured base is somewhat auxiliary. Apart from just fixing a minimal pure core, the base provides, for example, the concurrent category with its unitors and associator, which must sensibly be pure.[6]

Like we already discussed concerning the base, there is much less redundancy and collapse in the axioms of a concurrent category than in those of a concurrent monoid, but some remains. (ich-1) remains a consequence (ich-4) and thus redundant as an axiom. (ich-1) itself entails that the converse of (ich-2), so the the latter is in fact valid as an equation

$$\text{jd} \mathbin{;}^K \text{jd} = \text{jd}$$

---

[5]There seems to be no established terminology, not to speak of good such, for this kind of monoidal-likeness. First of all, *J* is an honest ordered functor, <u>not</u> oplax. It is also <u>not</u> oplax monoidal in that we would have non-identity monoidality constraints $JI \to I$ and $J(X \otimes Y) \to JX \otimes JY$. Oplax monoidality here is in a different dimension, namely order, not maps, similarly to the laxity of I^K and $\otimes^K$, but for those the name 'lax functors' is correct standard terminology. Something similar happens in [10].

[6]Instead of two ordered categories $\mathbb{C}$ and $\mathbb{K}$ and an identity-on-objects ordered functor *J*, one could also work with just one ordered category $\mathbb{K}$ with a wide sub- ordered category, but this does not model the case when *J* is not faithful. In terms of the Kleisli construction of the next subsection, that happens when the unit η of the concurrent monad is not mono.
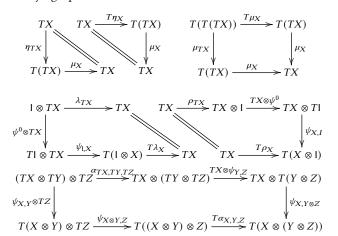
(ich-1) also entails the converse of (ich-3), but only for $X = I$ or $Y = I$, so we get as valid equations

$$\text{id}_{I \otimes Y}^K = \text{id}_I^K \parallel \text{id}_Y^K \qquad \text{id}_{X \otimes I}^K = \text{id}_X^K \parallel \text{id}_I^K$$

From (ich-4), it almost immediately follows that we have

$$(k \parallel \text{id}_U^K) \mathbin{;}^K (\text{id}_Y^K \parallel \ell) \leq^K k \parallel \ell \quad (\text{id}_X^K \parallel \ell) \mathbin{;}^K (k \parallel \text{id}_V^K) \leq^K k \parallel \ell$$

for $k \in \mathbb{K}(X, Y)$, $\ell \in \mathbb{K}(U, V)$.

We postpone examples of concurrent categories until we have defined concurrent monads and looked at their Kleisli construction. But the intuition is this: the Kleisli construction of a concurrent monad will give a concurrent category and this is a place where effectful functions live that can be composed both sequentially and in parallel exactly as promised in the introduction.

3.2 Concurrent monads

We now want a specialization of the concept of ordered monad such that its Kleisli category is a concurrent category.

The game is this. We proceed from an ordered monoidal category $\mathbb{C}$. We want that, if an ordered monad *T* on $\mathbb{C}$ is a concurrent monad, then its Kleisli ordered category $\mathbf{Kl}(T)$, with its associated ordered functor $J : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbf{Kl}(T)$, is a concurrent category with $\mathbb{C}$ as the base. Of course a concurrent monad should be an ordered monad with some additional structure that suffices for turning into $(\mathbf{Kl}(T), J)$ into a concurrent category.

We specifically want this because, if *T* is just an ordered monad, its Kleisli ordered category, which has $|\mathbf{Kl}(T)| = |\mathbb{C}|$, $\mathbf{Kl}(T)(X, Y) = \mathbb{C}(X, TY)$, $k \leq^K \ell$ in $\mathbf{Kl}(T)(X, Y)$ iff $k \leq \ell$, will come with the familiar Kleisli data

- a family of maps $\text{id}^K \in \mathbb{C}(X, TX)$ and an operation on maps $(\mathbin{;}^K) : \mathbb{C}(X, TY) \times \mathbb{C}(Y, TZ) \to \mathbb{C}(X, TZ)$, monotone, unital and associative

as we are used to for an ordered monad, giving us only sequential composition of effectful functions. If *T* is a concurrent monad like envisaged above, $\mathbf{Kl}(T)$ will also have further data

- a map $\text{jd} \in \mathbb{C}(I, TI)$ and an operation on maps $\parallel : \mathbb{C}(X, TY) \times \mathbb{C}(U, TV) \to \mathbb{C}(X \otimes U, T(Y \otimes V))$, monotone, unital and associative

satisfying the desired interchange axioms, giving us also parallel composition of effectful functions.

We will in a minute present the definition of concurrent monads that meets these criteria, but first some intuition. The intuition for why the definition will do the right thing is similar to the case of ordered monads. The datum μ (multiplication) and the derived datum $(-)^*$ (Kleisli extension) of an ordered monad are what they are very much because of the (natural in the free, i.e., the unmentioned, variables) bijections between homsets

$$\frac{\mathbb{C}(X, TY) \times \mathbb{C}(Y, TZ) \to \mathbb{C}(X, TZ) \text{ nat. in } X \text{ in } \mathbf{Poset}}{\mathbb{C}(Y, TZ) \to \mathbb{C}(TY, TZ) \text{ in } \mathbf{Poset}}$$

and

$$\frac{\mathbb{C}(Y, TZ) \to \mathbb{C}(TY, TZ) \text{ nat. in } Y \text{ in } \mathbf{Poset}}{T(TZ) \to TZ \text{ in } \mathbb{C}}$$

both of which are instances of the Yoneda lemma. Notice here that maps in $\mathbf{Poset}$ are monotone functions between ordered sets.

A concurrent monad will have the additional data of a lax monoidal functor.[7] The datum ψ below is motivated by the following similar natural bijection of homsets:

$$\frac{\mathbb{C}(X, TY) \times \mathbb{C}(U, TV) \to \mathbb{C}(X \otimes U, T(Y \otimes V)) \text{ nat. in } X, U \text{ in } \mathbf{Poset}}{TY \otimes TV \to T(Y \otimes V) \text{ in } \mathbb{C}}$$

We are ready to go. We define a *concurrent monad* on a base ordered monoidal category $(\mathbb{C}, \leq, \mathsf{I}, \otimes)$ to be an *ordered monad* (T, η, μ), that is, an ordered functor $T : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}$ with a monad structure (η, μ), together with a *lax monoidal functor* structure (ψ^0, ψ) on T that agree in a certain way. Explicitly, T must be an ordered functor coming equipped with

- families of maps $\eta_X : X \to TX$, $\mu_X : T(TX) \to TX$ natural in X,
- a map $\psi^0 : \mathsf{I} \to T\mathsf{I}$ and a family of maps $\psi_{X,Y} : TX \otimes TY \to T(X \otimes Y)$ natural in X, Y

satisfying equations

(these are the usual monad and lax monoidal functor data and equations) and also the interchange inequations

We define that a concurrent monad is *normal* if the first of these holds as an equality, i.e., $\eta_\mathsf{I} = \psi^0$.

---

[7]In Haskell, bistrong lax monoidal functors are known as 'applicative functors' and 'monads' (which are actually bistrong monads) are treated as a specialization of 'applicative functors'. This is justified because every bistrong monad gives two lax monoidal functors with same underlying bistrong functor, and if these two happen to be the same, then the monad is lax monoidal (commutative in the sense of Kock [22]). A lax monoidal functor need not be bistrong, but a lax monoidal monad is always a bistrong monad. But nothing like this is the case for general (= non-bistrong) monads, so Haskell's terminology is dangerous. See [24] for a discussion of the subtleties involved here.

A concurrent monad that validates all interchange inequations as equalities is the same as an ordered lax monoidal monad (= an ordered commutative monad).

Now, as we promised, a concurrent monad $(T, \eta, \mu, \psi^0, \psi)$ on $\mathbb{C}$ induces a concurrent category $(\mathbb{K}, J)$ with base $\mathbb{C}$ via its Kleisli construction. The construction is as an extension of the familiar Kleisli construction for the ordered monad (T, η, μ).

The definition of the ordered monoidal-like category $\mathbb{K} = (\mathbf{Kl}(T), \leq^\mathsf{K}, \mathsf{I}^\mathsf{K}, \otimes^\mathsf{K})$ is as follows:

- $|\mathbf{Kl}(T)| = |\mathbb{C}|$,
  $\mathbf{Kl}(T)(X, Y) = \mathbb{C}(X, TY)$,
- $k \leq^\mathsf{K} \ell$ in $\mathbf{Kl}(T)(X, Y)$ iff $k \leq \ell$ in $\mathbb{C}(X, TY)$,
- $\mathrm{id}^\mathsf{K}_X = \eta_X$,
  $k \mathbin{;^\mathsf{K}} \ell = k \mathbin{;} T\ell \mathbin{;} \mu_Z$ for $k \in \mathbf{Kl}(T)(X, Y)$, $\ell \in \mathbf{Kl}(T)(Y, Z)$,
- $\mathrm{jd} = \psi^0$,
  $k \parallel \ell = (k \otimes \ell) \mathbin{;} \psi_{Y,V}$ for $k \in \mathbf{Kl}(T)(X, Y)$, $\ell \in \mathbf{Kl}(T)(U, V)$.

The ordered monoidal-like functor J is defined as follows:

- $JX = X$
  $Jf = f \mathbin{;} \eta_Y$ for $f \in \mathbb{C}(X, Y)$.

The requirements that the definition of concurrent categories poses on $(\mathbb{K}, J)$ are easily verified.

The ordered functor J of this construction has an ordered right adjoint $K : \mathbf{Kl}(T) \to \mathbb{C}$. It is defined as follows:

- $KX = TX$,
  $Kk = Tk \mathbin{;} \mu_Y$ for $k \in \mathbf{Kl}(T)(X, Y)$

K is monoidal-like in that it comes with *lax* monoidality constraints $\psi^0 : \mathsf{I} \to K\mathsf{I}$, $\psi_{X,Y} : KX \otimes KY \to K(X \otimes Y)$ and then modulo the constraints it preserves jd and $\parallel$ *oplaxly* in that $\psi^0 \mathbin{;} K\mathrm{jd} \leq \mathsf{I} \mathbin{;} \psi^0$ and $\psi_{X,U} \mathbin{;} K(k \parallel \ell) \leq (Kk \otimes K\ell) \mathbin{;} \psi_{Y,V}$ for $k \in \mathbf{Kl}(T)(X, Y)$ and $\ell \in \mathbf{Kl}(T)(U, V)$.

Conversely to the Kleisli construction, given a concurrent category $(\mathbb{K}, J)$ with base $\mathbb{C}$ such that J has an ordered right adjoint K, then the ordered functor $T = K \cdot J$ carries the structure of a concurrent monad on $\mathbb{C}$ and $(\mathbb{K}, J)$ is isomorphic to the Kleisli concurrent category of T. This uses the special equational interchange axioms (ich-4a) and (ich-4b).

We go to concurrent monads on the ordered finite-product category $\mathbf{Poset} = (\mathbf{Poset}, \leq, 1, \times)$ in Haskell, together with the first example thereof. Unfortunately, Haskell's types and functions are more like the ordinary category $\mathbf{Set}$ rather than the ordered category $\mathbf{Poset}$—we can equip types with an order, but only in ad hoc ways. Hence our formalization will necessarily be quite imperfect.

We use three type-classes to define concurrent monads: the $\mathbf{OrderedFunctor}$, $\mathbf{Mnd}$ and $\mathbf{Lmf}$ type-classes.

An ordered endofunctor on $\mathbf{Poset}$ is by definition a functor sending ordered sets to ordered sets, monotone functions to monotone functions, preserving their pointwise order. In Haskell, we subclass the type-class $\mathbf{OrderedFunctor}$ for ordered endofunctors from $\mathbf{Functor}$. This gives us an operation fmap sending arbitrary functions (not only monotone ones) to functions. We will add to it an operation ford that will send arbitrary decidable relations (not only decidable orders) to decidable relations.

```
class Functor f ⇒ OrderedFunctor f where
  ford :: (x → x → Bool) → (f x → f x → Bool)
```

The type-class **Mnd** is our type-class for monads, equivalent (but only because every functor in Haskell is bistrong) to the more standard **Monad** type-class found in the **Prelude**. It directly encodes the categorical definition of monad that we have referred to above:

```
class  Functor t ⇒ Mnd t where
   η  ::  x → t x
   μ  ::  t (t x) → t x
```

Finally, the third type-class is for lax monoidal functors:

```
class  Functor t ⇒ Lmf t where
   ψ⁰  ::  t ()
   ψ   ::  t x → t y → t (x, y)
```

The type-class for concurrent monads just subclasses from all three:

```
class  (OrderedFunctor t, Mnd t, Lmf t) ⇒ ConcurMnd t
```

Remember again that we cannot enforce in Haskell any axioms (equations or inequations) about the operations of a concurrent monad. Neither can use or enforce properties like that an argument to or the result from fmap is monotone.

The operations of the Kleisli concurrent category are defined through those of the concurrent monad.

```
(>>>)  ::  Mnd t ⇒ (x → t y) → (y → t z) → x → t z
k >>> l  =  μ . fmap l . k
jd  ::  Lmf t ⇒ () → t ()
jd ()  =  ψ⁰
(|||)  ::  Lmf t ⇒ (x → t y) → (u → t v) → (x, u) → t (y, v)
(k ||| l) (x, u)  =  k x `ψ` l u
```

We now look at a few examples of concurrent monads.

Writing. Any fixed concurrent monoid $M = (M, \leq_M, \text{id}, (;), \text{jd}, \|)$ (which is an object of **Poset** with additional structure) induces a concurrent monad on **Poset**, extending the ordered *writer* monad on **Poset** for the ordered monoid $(M, \leq_M, \text{id}, (;))$ to a concurrent monad.

The underlying ordinary functor is given on objects by

$$TX = M \times X$$

where the order on $M \times X$ is induced from the orders on M and X pointwisely. The action of T on maps is $Tf = M \times f$, i.e., $Tf(m, x) = (m, fx)$. This is well-defined since, if f is monotone, then Tf is also monotone. T qualifies as an ordered functor because, for any monotone functions $f, g : X \to Y$ such that $fx \leq gx$ for all x, we also have $Tf(m, x) \leq Tg(m, x)$ for all x. In Haskell, we define

```
type Writer m = (,) m
instance Functor (Writer m) where
   fmap f (m, x) = (m, f x)
instance ConcurMonoid m ⇒ OrderedFunctor (Writer m) where
   ford (=<.) (m, x) (m', x')  = m =< m' && x =<. x'
```

The concurrent monad operations of T apply the concurrent monoid operations of M to the first components of pairs as in this Haskell code:

```
instance ConcurMonoid m ⇒ Mnd (Writer m) where
   η x = (idS, x)
   μ (m, (m', x))  = (m >.> m', x)
instance ConcurMonoid m ⇒ Lmf (Writer m) where
```

```
   ψ⁰ = (idP,  ())
   (m₀, x) `ψ` (m₁, y) = (m₀ <||> m₁, (x, y))
instance ConcurMonoid m ⇒ ConcurMnd (Writer m)
```

The inequations of T hold thanks to the inequations of M. If inequations of a particular M hold as equalities, then M is a commutative monoid and the corresponding T is a commutative monad.

The programming motivation is the same as that for the writer monad on **Set**. We should think of M as a set of updates. An element of $(m, x) \in TX$ is a computation that performs update m and returns x. The concurrent monoid data specify how updates combine together when performed sequentially or in parallel.

Reading. We can similarly extend the familiar *reader* ordered monad on **Poset** to a concurrent monad. Given an ordered set $(S, \leq_S)$ (where the order may very well be discrete), this concurrent monad has the underlying ordinary functor given on objects by

$$TX = S \Rightarrow X$$

and the order on TX, given pointwisely, only depends on the order on X. Notice that the set $S \Rightarrow X$ consists of monotone functions only (but if $\leq_S$ is discrete, all functions are monotone). Nothing else in the concurrent monad structure depends on the order of S. Here is the Haskell code for the concurrent monad structure, where, in order to have the pointwise order on $S \Rightarrow X$ decidable, we assume that S can be enumerated:

```
class Listable a where
   list  ::  [a]
```

```
type Reader s = (→) s
instance Functor (Reader s)  where
   fmap f g = \ s → f (g s)
instance Listable s ⇒  OrderedFunctor (Reader s) where
   ford (=<.)  g g'  = and [ g s =<. g' s | s <- list  ]
instance Mnd (Reader s) where
   η x = \ _ → x
   μ g = \ s → g s s
instance Lmf (Reader s)  where
   ψ⁰ = \ _ → ()
   g₀ `ψ` g₁ = \ s → (g₀ s, g₁ s)
instance Listable s ⇒ ConcurMnd (Reader s)
```

This concurrent monad is normal, moreover it is just an ordered commutative monad.

State. As a final example for now, we consider an extension to a concurrent monad of the *state* ordered monad on **Poset**. We require that the state set S carries the structure of a lower semilattice. In Haskell, we define this structure as follows.

```
class Semilattice s where
   ⊤  ::  s
   ∧  ::  s → s → s
instance (Eq s, Semilattice s) ⇒ Ordered s where
   s =< s'  = s == s ∧ s'
```

The object mapping of the underlying ordinary functor of the concurrent monad is

$$TX = S \Rightarrow S \times X$$

The order on TX is pointwise. Recall again that the set $S \Rightarrow S \times X$ consists of monotone functions only (but here $\leq_S$ can only be discrete if S is a singleton, else it cannot be a semilattice). Here is the Haskell code of the concurrent monad structure:

```haskell
newtype State s x = S (s → (s, x))
instance Functor (State s) where
  fmap f (S g) = S (\ s → let (s', x) = g s in (s', f x))
instance (Eq s, Listable s, Semilattice s) ⇒
                              OrderedFunctor (State s) where
  ford (=<.) (S g) (S g') = and [helper s | s <- list ]
    where helper s = let (s,  x ) = g  s in
                     let (s', x') = g' s in
                     s =< s' && x =<. x'
instance Mnd (State s) where
  η x = S (\ s → (s, x))
  μ (S g) = S (\ s → let (s', S g') = g s in f s')
instance Semilattice s ⇒ Lmf (State s) where
  ψ⁰ = S (\ _ → (⊤, ()))
  S g₀ `ψ` S g₁ = S (\ s → let (s₀, x) = g₀ s in
                           let (s₁, y) = g₁ s in
                           (s₀ ∧ s₁, (x, y)))
instance (Eq s, Listable s, Semilattice s) ⇒ ConcurMnd (State s)
```

The most interesting operation is ψ where the final states are reconciled using the meet operation of the semilattice. This concurrent monad is not normal—we have $\eta_1 \neq \psi^0$.

This concurrent monad implements a very simplistic type of shared state concurrency. There is no interleaving. In parallel composition, both effectful functions are passed a copy of the initial state. They work independently, manipulating their version of the state. When both have terminated, they yield their final states, which are merged. Intuitively, the middle four interchange inequation holds because the more often two parallel effectful computations synchronize, the smaller according to the respective orders the final state and the return values get.

We will get to interesting interleaving shared state concurrency in section 4.

3.3 Duoidal categories, concurrent monoid objects

This section is for the categorically minded reader.

Monoids are sets with structure. Monads on a category $\mathbb{C}$ are endofunctors on $\mathbb{C}$ with structure, but they are also *monoid objects*, that is, monoids not in **Set**, but in the category $[\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}]$ of endofunctors on $\mathbb{C}$. But this is possible only because **Set** and $[\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}]$ are not just categories, but categories with sufficient structure making it possible to define what is means to be a monoid object in it. The important structure here is monoidality. We implicitly rely on **Set** carrying the $(1, \times)$ (=finite-product) monoidal structure and $[\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}]$ carrying the $(\mathsf{Id}, \cdot)$ (=functor composition) monoidal structure.

Concurrent monoids are ordered sets with structure. It would therefore be very nice if concurrent monads on an ordered category $\mathbb{C}$, similarly to monads, were concurrent monoids in the category $[\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}]$ wrt. some sufficient structure readily available there. We should at least need that $[\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}]$ is ordered, the monoidal structure of functor composition is relevant, and then we should likely need more. This calls for identifying the structure that is needed on

a general ordered category $\mathbb{D}$ (other than **Poset**) in order for it to support a concept of concurrent monoid object. We will now develop this.

It turns out that $\mathbb{D}$ has to be ordered *duoidal* [3, 11]. The duoidal structure will allow us to define what it means for an object to carry two monoid structures, possibly not of the same nature, while the ordered structure (ordered homsets) is necessary to state the interchange inequations.

An *ordered duoidal category* is an ordered category $(\mathbb{D}, \leq)$ with two ordered monoidal structures $(I, \odot)$ and $(J, \circledast)$ (so $\odot$ and $\circledast$ in particular are ordered functors) and with maps

$$\iota : J \to I$$
$$\nabla : J \to J \odot J$$
$$\Delta : I \circledast I \to I$$
$$\xi : (X \odot Y) \circledast (Z \odot W) \to (X \circledast Z) \odot (Y \circledast W) \text{ nat. in } X, Y, Z, W$$
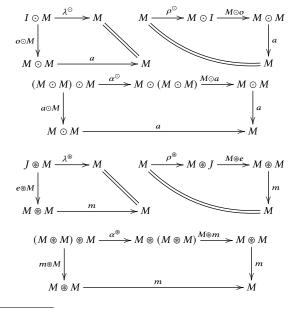
satisfying certain coherence equations which require that I and $\odot$ (as functors $\mathbf{1} \to \mathbb{D}$ and $\mathbb{D} \times \mathbb{D} \to \mathbb{D}$) are lax monoidal with respect to $(J, \circledast)$. In particular, we have that (I, ι, Δ) is a monoid wrt. $(J, \circledast)$ and (J, ι, ∇) is a comonoid wrt. $(I, \odot)$.

Notice that $\iota, \nabla, \Delta, \xi$, differently from the unitors and associators of $(I, \odot)$ and $(J, \circledast)$, are just maps/natural transformations here, not isomorphisms/natural isomorphisms.

A *concurrent monoid object* in an ordered duoidal category $\mathbb{D} = (\mathbb{D}, \leq, I, \odot, J, \circledast)$ is an object M with two monoid structures (o, a), wrt. the $(I, \odot)$ monoidal structure, and (e, m), wrt. the $(J, \circledast)$ monoidal structure,[8] satisfying *inequational interchange*:
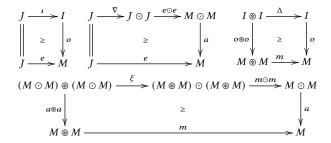
$$\iota; o \leq e$$
$$\nabla; (e \odot e); a \leq e$$
$$\Delta; o \leq (o \circledast o); m$$
$$\xi; (m \odot m); a \leq (a \circledast a); m$$

Fully explicitly and as commutative diagrams, the unitality and associativity equations for the two monoid structures are

---

[8]We use o, a as mnemonic for zero and addition, e, m for one and multiplication.

The inequations are

A concurrent monoid object that validates all interchange inequations as equalities is an ordered duoid object.

Concurrent monoids in the sense of section 2, which are ordered sets with structure, are concurrent monoid objects in the ordered duoidal category $(\mathbf{Poset}, \leq, 1, \times, 1, \times)$.

3.4 Concurrent monads as concurrent monoids

We can now show that concurrent monads are concurrent monoids.

If $\mathbb{C} = (\mathbb{C}, \leq, \mathsf{I}, \otimes)$ is an ordered category, then the category $[\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}]$ of ordered functors is ordered with $\leq$ on the homsets of $[\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}]$ the pointwise lifting of $\leq$ on the homsets of $\mathbb{C}$. In the presence of enough ordered colimits, this ordered category carries an ordered duoidal structure $(\mathsf{Id}, \cdot, \mathsf{Jd}, \star)$ where $(\mathsf{Id}, \cdot)$ is the composition ordered strict monoidal structure and $(\mathsf{Jd}, \star)$ the Day convolution ordered monoidal structure

$$\mathsf{Jd}Z = \mathbb{C}(\mathsf{I}, Z) \bullet \mathsf{I}$$
$$(F \star G)Z = \int^{X,Y} \mathbb{C}(X \otimes Y, Z) \bullet (FX \otimes GY)$$

(If $\mathbb{C}$ is ordered locally finitely presentable, then the full suborderer category of $[\mathbb{C}, \mathbb{C}]$ given by ordered finitary functors has the Day convolution monoidal structure existing. If $\mathbb{C}$ is ordered locally presentable, then one can restrict to ordered accessible functors.)

A concurrent monad turns out to be the same as a concurrent monoid object in this ordered duoidal category.

Unpacked, this means that a concurrent monad can be given by an ordered functor $T : \mathbb{C} \to \mathbb{C}$ with

- natural transformations $\eta : \mathsf{Id} \to T, \mu : T \cdot T \to T$,
- natural transformations $\mathsf{e} : \mathsf{Jd} \to T, \mathsf{m} : T \star T \to T$

satisfying the (in)equations of a concurrent monoid from the previous section.

We refrain from trying to show any calculations here. However, the intuitive reason why this can work is given by these natural bijections between homsets:

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} \mathsf{I} \to T\mathsf{I} \text{ in } \mathbb{C} \\ \hline \mathbb{C}(\mathsf{I}, Z) \to \mathbb{C}(\mathsf{I}, TZ) \text{ nat. in } Z \text{ in } \mathbf{Poset} \\ \hline \underbrace{\mathbb{C}(\mathsf{I}, Z) \bullet \mathsf{I}}_{\mathsf{Jd}Z} \to TZ \text{ nat. in } Z \text{ in } \mathbb{C} \end{array}}{}$$

and

$$\frac{\begin{array}{c} TX \otimes TY \to T(X \otimes Y) \text{ nat. in } X, Y \text{ in } \mathbb{C} \\ \hline \mathbb{C}(X \otimes Y, Z) \to \mathbb{C}(TX \otimes TY, TZ) \text{ nat. in } X, Y, Z \text{ in } \mathbf{Poset} \\ \hline \mathbb{C}(X \otimes Y, Z) \bullet (TX \otimes TY) \to TZ \text{ nat. in } X, Y, Z \text{ in } \mathbb{C} \\ \hline \underbrace{\int^{X,Y} \mathbb{C}(X \otimes Y, Z) \bullet (TX \otimes TY)}_{(T \star T)Z} \to TZ \text{ nat. in } Z \text{ in } \mathbb{C} \end{array}}{}$$

4 Concurrent monads for shared state

We saw a concurrent monad on $\mathbf{Poset} = (\mathbf{Poset}, \leq, 1, \times)$ for very simplistic shared state concurrency in section 3.2, extending the classical ordered monad for state manipulation.

We will now proceed to concurrent monads for familiar (preemptive) interleaving shared state concurrency. We will consider two such concurrent monads, one based on resumptions, the other on collections of traces.

Resumptions. Assume given an ordered set S, which we restrict to be discrete for simplicity (it is not necessary). We consider the ordinary functor T on $\mathbf{Poset}$ whose object mapping is defined as follows using initial algebras

$$TX = \mu Z. \underbrace{X}_{ret} \underbrace{+}_{or} (\underbrace{S \Rightarrow}_{grab} \underbrace{\mathsf{List}}_{branch} (\underbrace{S \times}_{yield} \underbrace{Z}_{repeat}))$$

with the order on TX induced by the order on X and the natural order on $\mathsf{List}Y$ for any ordered set Y given by order-preserving inclusion between lists (all elements of one list must occur in the other, in the same order). Because S is discrete, one can construct the underlying set of TX as an initial algebra in $\mathbf{Set}$ and then assign it an order according to the order of X. The functorial action of T is obvious. T is ordered because, if $f, g : X \to Y$ satisfy $f \leq g$, then $Tf \leq Tg$.

Intuitively, elements of TX should be understood as resumptions. The idea of resumptions is that they are descriptions of computations in terms of small steps. A resumption is always either termination or a small step and then a resumption again. In our case, they are wellfounded trees of a certain type. A resumption $r \in TX$ is either of the form inl x, signifying termination with return value x, or of the form inr k where k is a function sending any state to a list of state-resumption pairs. The idea is that, in this case, the resumption consists in "grabbing" a state s from the environment (the current state), then branching nondeterministically and then "yielding" a state s' to the environment (the next state) together with a new resumption. The nondeterminism is there because a resumption may arise from combining two resumptions in parallel, which gives multiple outcomes corresponding to different interleavings. That we use List rather than $\mathcal{M}_{\mathsf{f}}$ or $\mathcal{P}_{\mathsf{f}}$ signifies that we have chosen to observe both the multiplicity and order of the outcomes of nondeterministic branching. Our resumptions are much like synchronization trees from concurrency theory, but they also carry return values.

Here is the Haskell code for T as an ordered functor:

```haskell
data Res s x = Ret x | Grab (s → [(s, Res s x)])
instance Functor (Res s) where
  fmap f (Ret x)  = Ret (f x)
  fmap f (Grab k) =
```

```
      Grab (\ s → [ (s ', fmap f r) | (s ',  r) <– k s ])
instance (Listable  s,  Eq s) ⇒ OrderedFunctor (Res s) where
  ford  (=<.)  (Ret x)  (Ret y)  = x =<. y
  ford _        (Ret _)  (Grab _)  = False
  ford _        (Grab _)  (Ret _)  = False
  ford  (=<.)  (Grab k)  (Grab l) =
    and [helper  (k s)  (l s) | s <– list ] where
      helper  []      _ = True
      helper  (_:_) [] = False
      helper  ((s,r): ps)  ((s ',r '): ps ')  = s == s' && ford  (=<.)  r  r'
                                                && helper ps  ps'
                                      || helper  ((s,r): ps)  ps'
```

A reader knowledgeable about monads will have noticed that we have constructed T like the underlying ordered functor of the free ordered monad on the ordered functor

$$FZ = X + (S \Rightarrow \text{List}(S \times Z))$$

Thus we readily have a canonical ordered monad structure on T. Its multiplication, for sequential composition of computations, is the customary grafting of trees onto a tree. In Haskell, we define

```
instance Mnd (Res s) where
  η x = Ret x
  μ (Ret  r)  = r
  μ (Grab k) = Grab (\ s → [ (s ',  μ r) | (s ',  r) <– k s ])
```

The lax monoidal functor structure on T is given by merging resumptions. Combining two resumptions of the forms inr k and inr ℓ in parallel involves a choice of who gets to make the first small step. All subsequent small steps remain to be made in the remainder, increasing the nondeterminism. The Haskell code is this:

```
merge :: Res s x → Res s y → Res s (x, y)
Ret x `merge` Ret y  = Ret (x, y)
Ret x `merge` Grab l =
    Grab (\ s → [ (s ',  Ret x `merge` r) | (s ',  r) <– l s ])
Grab k `merge` Ret y =
    Grab (\ s → [ (s ',  r `merge` Ret y) | (s ',  r) <– k s ])
Grab k `merge` Grab l =
    Grab (\ s → [ (s ',  r `merge` Grab l) | (s ',  r) <– k s ]
       ++ [ (s ',  Grab k `merge` r) | (s ',  r) <– l s ])
instance Lmf (Res s)  where
  ψ⁰ = Ret  ()
  r `ψ` r' = r `merge` r'
```

This completes the concurrent monad structure on T.

```
instance (Listable  s,  Eq s) ⇒ ConcurMnd (Res s)
```

All required equations and inequations hold, in particular associativity of ψ and the middle four interchange. That this works with List and does not need quotienting down to $\mathcal{M}_f$ or $\mathcal{P}_f$ is a small miracle.

The concurrent monad T is normal, we have $\eta_1 = \psi^0$.

The concurrent monad T supports interleaving shared state concurrency in the sense that it supports operations for reading and overwriting the state and it also supports the high-level control structure of atomizing a computation, satisfying suitable equations.

```
class  ConcurMnd t ⇒ SharedState s t | t → s where
  get :: t s
```

```
  put :: s → t ()
  stitch  :: t x → t x
atomic :: SharedState s t ⇒ (x → t y) → x → t y
atomic k = stitch  . k
```

The operations for reading and writing are unsurprising. Both produce resumptions consisting of exactly one small step that grabs and yields. Atomizing turns any resumption into such a single-small-step resumption. This is done by cancelling consecutive yield and grab pairs: any yielded state that is not final is passed directly to the next grab.

```
instance (Listable  s,  Eq s) ⇒ SharedState s (Res s) where
  get = Grab (\ s → [(s,  Ret s)])
  put s = Grab (\ _ → [(s,  Ret ())])
  stitch  r = Grab (\ s → stitchAcc  (s, r)) where
    stitchAcc  :: (s, Res s x) → [(s,  Res s x)]
    stitchAcc  (s,  Ret x)  = [(s,  Ret x)]
    stitchAcc  (s,  Grab k) = concat (map stitchAcc (k s))
```

The equations are not the standard ones for state manipulation. E.g., reading followed by writing the result is not identity, but it is if the sequence is atomized.

We illustrate these operations in action. We define

```
cat :: SharedState String t ⇒ String → () → t ()
cat w = atomic (const get >>> \ s → put (s ++ w))
   -- = \ () → Grab (\ s → [(s ++ w, Ret ())])  -- equivalently
a = cat "a"
b = cat "b"
c = cat "c"
d = cat "d"
r₁ = ((a  |||  b)  |||  c)  (((),  ()),  ())
r2 = (a  |||  (b  |||  c))  ((),  ((),  ()))
r3 = ((a  |||  b) >>> (c  |||  d))  ((),  ())
r4 = ((a >>> c)  |||  (b >>> d))  ((),  ())
```

Resumptions get very big to show (when we tabulate the functions involved in them), but we can run resumptions against an environment that just passes any state yielded to the next grab and collect what we can observe into a residual resumption that is easily showable. Residual resumptions are an ordered monad, but not a concurrent monad. Running here is in the mathematical sense of the stateful runners of Uustalu [36] and the monad-comonad interaction laws of Katsumata et al. [20].

```
data RRes x = RRet x | RGrab s [(s, RRes s x)] deriving Show
runIsolated  :: Res s x → s → RRes s x
runIsolated  (Ret x) s = RRet x
runIsolated  (Grab k) s =
        RGrab s  [ (s ',  runIsolated  r s ')  | (s ',  r) <– k s ]
```

Both runIsolated r_1 "" and runIsolated r2 "" produce the same result:

```
RGrab "" [
  ("a",  RGrab "a" [
    ("ab",  RGrab "ab" [("abc",RRet     (((),()),()))]),
    ("ac",  RGrab "ac" [("acb",RRet     (((),()),()))])]),
  ("b",  RGrab "b" [
    ("ba",  RGrab "ba" [("bac",RRet     (((),()),()))]),
    ("bc",  RGrab "bc" [("bca",RRet     (((),()),()))])]),
```

```
("c", RGrab "c" [
   ("ca",RGrab "ca" [("cab",RRet    ((),(),()))]),
   ("cb", RGrab "cb" [("cba",RRet    ((),(),()))])])])]
```

But runIsolated r3 "" gives

```
RGrab "" [
  ("a",RGrab "a" [
    (""ab",RGrab "ab" [
      ("abc",RGrab "abc" [("abcd",RRet    ((),()))]),
      ("abd",RGrab "abd" [("abdc",RRet    ((),()))])])]),
  ("b",RGrab "b" [
    ("ba",RGrab "ba" [
      ("bac",RGrab "bac" [("bacd",RRet    ((),()))]),
      ("bad",RGrab "bad" [("badc",RRet    ((),()))])])])]
```

while runIsolated r4 "" gives

```
RGrab "" [
  ("a",RGrab "a" [
    ("ac",RGrab "ac" [
      ("acb",RGrab "acb" [("acbd",RRet    ((),()))]),
    ("ab",RGrab "ab" [
      ("abc",RGrab "abc" [("abcd",RRet    ((),()))]),
      ("abd",RGrab "abd" [("abdc",RRet    ((),()))])])]),
  ("b",RGrab "b" [
    ("ba",RGrab "ba" [
      ("bac",RGrab "bac" [("bacd",RRet    ((),()))]),
      ("bad",RGrab "bad" [("badc",RRet    ((),()))])]),
    ("bd",RGrab "bd" [
      ("bda",RGrab "bda" [("bdac",RRet    ((),()))])])])]
```

adding two outcomes. One residual resumption is smaller than the other wrt. the order on residual resumptions induced by the order on lists.

Collections of traces. Resumptions are a compact and very intensional notion of computation manipulating shared state.

A different and more extensional notion, where branching points are not observable, is given by finite multisets of traces, turned from a concurrent monoid into a concurrent monad by having every trace end with a value. The object mapping of the underlying ordered functor here is

$$TX = \underbrace{\mathcal{M}_f}_{BRANCH} (T'X) \text{ where } T'X = \mu Z. \underbrace{X}_{ret} + \underbrace{S \times}_{or} \underbrace{S \times}_{grab} \underbrace{Z}_{yield \ repeat}$$

The order on TX is induced by the order on X and by the order on $\mathcal{M}_f Y$ that is induced by the multiset inclusion and the order on Y for any Y.

A trace $t \in T'X$ is either of the form inl x signifying termination with return value x or of the form inr (s, s', t') where s is a state grabbed, s' is a state yielded and t' is a trace again. A computation is a finite multiset of traces. A trace is deterministic, all nondeterministic branching happens at the beginning of the computation—it is the act of choosing one trace from the finite multiset.

Here is the Haskell code for T as an ordered functor.

```
data Trace s x = R x | G s s (Trace s x)
newtype BoT s x = BoT (Bag (Trace s x))
instance Functor (Trace s) where
  fmap f (R x) = R (f x)
```

```
  fmap f (G s s' t) = G s s' (fmap f t)
instance Eq s ⇒ OrderedFunctor (Trace s) where
  ford  (=<.)  (R x)  (R y)       = x =<. y
  ford  _      (R _)  (G _ _ _)   = False
  ford  _      (G _ _ _)  (R _)   = False
  ford  (=<.)  (G s₀  s  t)  (G s₀'  s'  t') =
                          s₀ == s₀' && s == s' && ford (=<.)  t  t'
instance Functor Bag where
  fmap f (B xs) = B (map f xs)
instance OrderedFunctor Bag where
  ford  (=<.)  (B xs)  (B ys) =
        or [ and (zipWith (=<.) xs zs) | zs <- combs (length xs) ys ]
instance Functor (BoT s) where
  fmap f (BoT ts) = BoT (fmap (fmap f) ts)
instance Eq s ⇒ OrderedFunctor (BoT s) where
  ford  (=<.)  (BoT ts)  (BoT ts') = ford (ford (=<.)) ts ts'
```

The ordered monad structure on T is a combination (from a distributive law) of the ordered monad structures on $\mathcal{M}_f$ and T' where the monad structure on T' is free. In Haskell,

```
instance Mnd (BoT s) where
  η x = BoT (B [R x])
  μ (BoT (B ts)) = BoT (B (concat (fmap μ' ts)))  where
    μ' (R (BoT (B ts))) = ts
    μ' (G s s' t) = fmap (G s s') (μ' t)
```

The ordered lax monoidal functor structure on T is defined by interleaving traces, in Haskell as follows, and the definition of the concurrent monad structure on T is thereby complete.

```
instance Lmf (BoT s) where
  ψ⁰ = BoT (B [R ()])
  BoT (B ts₀) `ψ` BoT (B ts₁) = BoT (B (concat
        [ t₀ `shuffle` t₁ | t₀ <- ts₀, t₁ <- ts₁ ]))  where
    R x `shuffle` R y = [R (x, y)]
    R x `shuffle` G s s' t = fmap (G s s') (R x `shuffle` t)
    G s s' t `shuffle` R y = fmap (G s s') (t `shuffle` R y)
    G s₀ s₀' t₀ `shuffle` G s₁ s₁' t₁
        = fmap (G s₀ s₀') (t₀ `shuffle` G s₁ s₁' t₁)
        ++ fmap (G s₁ s₁') (G s₀ s₀' t₀ `shuffle` t₁)
instance (Listable s, Eq s) ⇒ ConcurMnd (BoT s)
```

Here the associativity of ψ and the middle four interchange hold only because we have modelled nondeterminism with $\mathcal{M}_f$, they would fail for List. (But they are of course also satisfied for $\mathcal{P}_f$.)

The shared state operations are unproblematic to define similarly to the case of resumptions so that they satisfy the required equations. But they are extremely inefficient since the model of collections of traces as computations forces that functions from S get represented by their graphs.

```
instance (Listable s, Eq s) ⇒ SharedState s (BoT s) where
  get = BoT (B [ G s s (R s) | s <- list  ])
  put s' = BoT (B [ G s s' (R ()) | s <- list  ])
  stitch (BoT (B ts)) =
    BoT (B [ G s s' t' | s <- list ,
                         t <- ts,
                         (s', t') <- stitchAcc s t ])  where
      stitchAcc :: s → Trace s x → [(s, Trace s x)]
      stitchAcc s₀ (R x) = [(s₀, R x)]
```

```
    stitchAcc  s₀  (G s s'  t) =
                          if  s₀ == s  then stitchAcc  s'  t  else  []
```

A concurrent monad morphism. There is a morphism τ between the resumption-based and the collection-of-traces based concurrent monads. A morphism of concurrent monads preserves sequential composition properly but parallel composition only oplaxly in that $\psi_{X,Y}; \tau_{X \otimes Y} \leq \tau_X \otimes \tau_Y; \psi_{X,Y}$. We only show the Haskell code.

```
class  Nat  f  g  where
  tau  ::  f  x → g  x
instance Listable  s  ⇒ Nat  (Res  s)  (BoT s)  where
  tau  (Ret  x)  = BoT (B [R x])
  tau  (Grab k) = BoT (B [G s s'  t  |  s <− list , (s',  r) <− k s,
                                    let  BoT (B ts) = tau r, t <− ts ]
class  (Mnd t, Mnd r, Nat  t r )  ⇒ MndMap t r
class  (Lmf t, Lmf r, Nat  t r )  ⇒ LmfMap t r
class  (ConcurMnd t, ConcurMnd r, MndMap t r, LmfMap t r)
                                      ⇒ ConcurMndMap t r
instance Listable  s  ⇒ MndMap (Res  s) (BoT s)
instance Listable  s  ⇒ LmfMap (Res  s) (BoT s)
instance (Listable  s,  Eq s) ⇒ ConcurMndMap (Res  s) (BoT s)
```

5 Related Work

Concurrent monads are due to Rivas and Jaskelioff [33]. In that work, a concurrent monad was an ordered monad on **Set** in a different sense than **Poset**-enriched, devised so that the Kleisli construction was an ordered category. Paquet and Saville [27] generalized normal concurrent monads as considered in this paper to pseudomonads on bicategories.

The Freyd categories (a.k.a. effectful categories) of Levy, Power and Thielecke [23] are an axiomatization of aspects of the Kleisli categories of strong monads on a given base monoidal category. They relate to strong monads like concurrent categories relate to concurrent monads. The premonoidal categories of Power and Robinson [31, 32] are related concepts that avoid parametrization in a base and so are the abstract Kleisli categories of Führmann [8]. Heunen and Sigal's [18] duoidally enriched Freyd categories add interesting expressive power to classical Freyd categories. They bear some similarities to concurrent categories, but do not cover them (since they cannot simulate order and inequations). Here 'duoidal enrichment' refers to a generalization over the standard notion of enrichment in a (symmetric closed) monoidal category.

Duoidal categories originate from Balteanu et al. [3]; they have been used or studied specifically by Garner [11], Aguiar and Mahajan [1], Garner and López Franco [12]. They have also been called 'twofold monoidal', 'bimonoidal'. The name 'duoidal' is from Batanin and Markl [4].

Ordered monads as in the work of Rivas and Jaskelioff [33], i.e., in the sense of ordinary monads on **Set** with a factoring of the underlying functor through $U : \textbf{Poset} \to \textbf{Set}$ (or even $U : \textbf{SupLat} \to \textbf{Set}$), have been considered in programming semantics by, e.g., Goncharov and Schröder [15], Katsumata and Sato [21] and Hasuo [17]. They are prominent in monoidal topology, a generalization of topology initiated by Gähler [9] and Seal [34]. An ordered monad in this sense is in fact the same as a **Poset**-enriched relative monad on the **Poset**-enriched functor $D : \textbf{Set} \to \textbf{Poset}$, ordering every set

discretely. Enriched relative monads were considered by Arkor and McDermott [2].

Resumptions were invented by Milner [25] and used in domain theory by Plotkin [30]. They were introduced to the monad-based approach to effectful computation by Cenciarelli and Moggi [5]. Goncharov and Schröder [14] studied in great detail a coinductive generic resumption monad supporting interleaving parallel composition (enabled by the layered structure in that monad) and iteration of general effectful functions. They did not discuss the axioms of parallel composition. Uustalu's [35] semantics of preemptive and cooperative shared state concurrency had in the background a coinductive resumption monad similar to the (inductive) one that we presented here. Dvir et al. [6] described an algebraic theory for shared state concurrency (corresponding to the monad part of our bags of traces concurrent monad); they did not discuss the axioms of parallel composition. In the subsequent work [7], they treated the release/acquire weak memory model.

6 Conclusions

In this paper, we advocated the concurrent monads of Rivas and Jaskelioff [33] as a principled approach to the semantics of effectful concurrency. We proceeded from concurrent monoids as known from concurrent Kleene algebra and generalized those to concurrent categories by "typing" them. Then we defined concurrent monads so that the Kleisli category of a concurrent monad is a concurrent category. We showed that concurrent monads are concurrent monoid objects in an ordered duoidal category.

To work in ordered category theory, enabling the use lax/oplax functors, was crucial for this development. This made it possible to avoid degeneration of concurrent monads into commutative monads (= lax monoidal monads).

We do not currently know what a free concurrent monad on an ordered endofunctor would look like or how concurrent monads relate to ordered algebraic theories.

We demonstrated that concurrent monads are flexible enough to model resumptions- and collections-of-traces-based semantics of shared state remarkably smoothly, so smoothly, that one is, for example, not forced to switch from the effectively implementable lists-based semantics of nondeterminism to the multisets- or powerset-based semantics to validate the desirable (in)equational axioms in the case of resumptions.

We believe that the models of shared state concurrency demonstrated here can be adapted to handle variations such as transactional memory and relaxed memory. We intend to show that this is the case. Neat modelling of message passing and asynchronous communication is a more serious challenge that we would also like to take on. Cooperative concurrency does not fit into concurrent monads since the interchange inequations require that sequential composition can be preempted at the mid-point. It is not clear how to axiomatize cooperative concurrency usefully in a principled way; we would like to find this out.

Acknowledgments

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