On the Expressive Power of Indexed Applicative and Monadic Structures

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https://oxij.org/thesis/PhD/

https://oxij.org/thesis/PhD/ 1/79

General Introduction

History of Computing Hardware Programs as linear sequences of instructions

- Colossus (1943-1945), early revisions of ENIAC (1945-1955): programmed using plugboards and mechanical switches.
- IBM 650 (1953-1969), the first mass-produced computer: each instruction's operation code (opcode) had to explicitly specify the address of the next instruction (similarly to how jump instructions of modern Assembly languages do).

(Fun fact: theoretically speaking, modern CPUs implicitly incrementally transform programs they execute into continuation passing style (CPS), IBM 650 does not.)

Recursive subroutines

PDP-11 (1970-1990): the first computer with proper hardware support for subroutine calls of non-fixed-level nesting depth (that is, supporting recursion and arbitrary modularity).

Together

Immediately after: UNIX, the C programming language, and the rest of modern computing.

The first two high-level programming languages:

- FORTRAN: initially developed by John Backus at IBM (for IBM 704) around 1956 (first compiler in 1957)
- LISP initially developed by John McCarthy at MIT around the same time (first specified in 1958, first universal interpreter implemented by Steve Russell for IBM 704 around 1960, first compiler written in LISP in 1962).

(Fun fact: car and cdr of LISP are names of IBM 704 assembly language macros that were used to implement those operations.)

These gave birth to two language families:

- Imperative compiled strictly-typed languages (FORTRAN, ALGOL, C, etc).
 - Straightforward attempts to make universal high-level "Assembly" languages.
 - Designed to be efficiently compiled into programs efficiently computable on real hardware.
- Functional interpreted dynamically-typed languages (LISP, Common LISP, Scheme, etc).
 - Adaptations of λ-calculus to practical programming and meta-programming.
 - Designed to have as much expressive power as possible, computational efficiency was a secondary concern.

Descendants of those "evolved" by mutation and exchange of ideas. Two very successful "cross-bred" new language families were produced as the result:

- Imperative (usually) interpreted dynamically-typed languages (Smalltalk, Python, Ruby, JavaScript, etc).
- Functional (usually) compiled statically-typed languages (ML, OCaml, SML, Haskell, Idris, Rust, etc).

The recent rise of popularity of the latter family of languages means that the theory, finally, gets adopted into mainstream practice.

Among those, the sequence LISP \rightarrow ML \rightarrow Miranda \rightarrow Haskell is rather interesting:

- ► LISP → ML replaced dynamic typing with a polymorphic type system and infix syntax at the cost of losing both special forms and reflection,
- ML → Miranda switched to lazy evaluation by default (~special forms),
- Miranda → Haskell added type classes (~dynamic types), reintroduced reflection, among many other things.

In other words, Haskell was designed to conveniently express things commonly discussed in Programming Languages Theory (PLT).

Summing It Up

- Programs represented using function calls and linear sequences of instructions gave birth to modern computing.
- It is well-known that first-class functions (functions are values) of functional programming produce a lot of useful expressive power.
- Generalizing those things even further might give even more expressive power.
- Haskell was designed to conveniently express such things. It makes sense to discuss those generalizations using Haskell.
- As we shall see below, Haskell already has those things generalized into Applicative and Monad type classes. Those are well-known among Haskell programmers, and programs in Haskell use these generalizations ubiquitously.

Short Abstract

Programmer in Haskell

It is conventionally argued that many commonly useful things can't be expressed using Applicative and Monad type classes and require special attention (e.g. throw/catch, tree transformations, generalized patter matching).

This work aims to show that many of those examples can, in fact, be expressed by reusing those well-known structures with minor (if any) modifications.

Researcher in PLT

This work aims to apply the

KISS (Keep It Stupid Simple)

principle to programming language design.

Technical Introduction

Syntax

Math

$$f(a,b,n,m)\mapsto a\ sin(2\alpha)+b\ cos(\alpha)+mod(n,m)$$

$$(f\,\,.\,\,g)(x)\mapsto f(g(x))$$

Haskell Syntax: Types

(.) ::
$$(b \rightarrow c) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow c)$$

f . g = $x \rightarrow f (g x)$

Haskell Syntax: Data Types

```
type Const a b = a
```

```
data Struct a b c
```

- = NothingOfValue
- | SomeFields

```
{ firstField :: a
```

, secondField :: b

```
, thirdField :: c
```

}

```
newtype FunArrow a b
```

```
= FunArrow { runFunArrow :: a -> b }
```

Haskell Syntax: Type Classes

```
class Category cat where
  id :: cat a a
  (.) :: cat b c -> cat a b -> cat a c
data Category cat = Category
  { id :: cat a a
  , (.) :: cat b c -> cat a b -> cat a c
  }
```

Haskell Syntax: Type Class Instances

```
instance Category (->) where
id x = x
(.) f g x = f (g x)
```

```
arrCategory = Category
{ id = \x -> x
, (.) = \f g x -> f (g x)
}
comp3 :: Category cat => cat c d -> cat b c
        -> cat a b -> cat a d
comp3 f g h = f . g . h
```

Why are type classes useful?

Mathematician

They can describe common algebraic structures. They allow to reason about programs in terms of those structures.

```
class Monoid a where
```

```
mempty :: a
mappend :: a -> a -> a
```

```
instance Monoid Integer where
 mempty = 0
 mappend = (+)
```

Programmer

They are "interfaces" in OOP-speak. They allow one to write generic functions applicable to many different types. That is, they are a mechanism of ad-hoc polymorphism.

What is an Applicative? Monad?

A bit unconventionally defined hierarchy

-- Inject a pure value into computations over `f`
class Pointed f where
 pure :: a -> f a

-- Of no consequence for this work class Functor f where fmap :: (a -> b) -> f a -> f b

-- Generalized application
class (Pointed f, Functor f) => Applicative f where
 (<*>) :: f (a -> b) -> f a -> f b -- "apply"

-- Generalized semicolon operator class Applicative f => Monad f where (>>=) :: f a -> (a -> f b) -> f b -- "bind"

(<*>) is a generalized application operator

Take normal application and wrap everything with f
 (\$) :: (a -> b) -> a -> b
 f \$ x = f x

class (Pointed f, Functor f) => Applicative f where
 (<*>) :: f (a -> b) -> f a -> f b

(>>=) is a generalized semicolon operator

```
something_t main () {
  x = foo();
  y = bar(x);
  return baz(x, y);
}
```

Assume everything is pure (without side-effects).

Then, in Haskell/ML syntax this becomes

```
let x = foo in
let y = bar x in
baz x y
```

(>>=) is a generalized semicolon operator

```
Remember that, in general,
```

let x = f args in rest

 \triangleright can be encoded in pure λ -calculus as follows

 $(x \rightarrow rest)$ (f args)

(>>=) is a generalized semicolon operator

In other words,

x = foo(); y = bar(x); baz(x, y);

can be encoded as

 $(x \rightarrow (y \rightarrow baz x y) (bar x))$ foo

which can be encoded as

let andThenContinueTo x f = f x in

```
foo `andThenContinueTo` (\x ->
bar x `andThenContinueTo` (\y ->
baz x y))
```

What is the type of andThenContinueTo?

- foo `andThenContinueTo` (\x -> rest)
 - Obviously, this

andThenContinueTo :: a -> (a -> b) -> b andThenContinueTo x f = f x

Thus, (>>=) is just a generalization of this type!

class Applicative f => Monad f where
 (>>=) :: f a -> (a -> f b) -> f b

Note (a -> f b), not f (a -> b), the variable a plays a variable binding here, not an argument to a function over f.

Obviously

type Identity a = a
instance Monad Identity where
 (>>=) = andThenContinueTo

Consider this

main = foo >>= (\x -> bar x >>= $(y \rightarrow)$ baz x y)) For Identity instance Monad Identity where (>>=) :: a -> (a -> b) -> b (>>=) = andThenContinueTo foo :: a bar :: a -> b baz :: a -> b -> c Thus main :: c

But there are other options, e.g.

main = foo $>>= (\x ->$ bar x >>= $(y \rightarrow y)$ baz x y)) ► For (->) r instance Monad ((->) r) where (>>=) :: $(r \rightarrow a) \rightarrow (a \rightarrow r \rightarrow b) \rightarrow (r \rightarrow b)$ (>>=) ra f r = f (ra r) r $foo :: r \rightarrow a$ bar :: $a \rightarrow r \rightarrow b$ $baz :: a \rightarrow b \rightarrow r \rightarrow c$ Thus main :: r -> c

Consider what we just did

We took an "imperative" program made of assignments main = foo >>= (\x -> bar x >>= (\y -> baz x y))

and made a constant environment r propagate into all sub-expressions

```
instance Monad ((->) r) where
  (>>=) :: (r -> a) -> (a -> r -> b) -> (r -> b)
  (>>=) ra f r = f (ra r) r
```

by simply requesting an instance of main of a different type. Thus, effectively, we changed semantics of main without actually changing a single line of code in main! Side-note: syntax sugar

For expressions like this main = foo >>= $(x \rightarrow$ bar x >>= $(y \rightarrow)$ baz x y)) Haskell has the following syntax sugar main = dox <- foo y <- bar x baz x y

Side-note: Pointed, Monad \mapsto Functor, Applicative

liftM :: Monad m => $(a \rightarrow b) \rightarrow m a \rightarrow m b$ liftM f ma = ma >>= pure . f

ap :: Monad m => m (a -> b) -> m a -> m b ap mf ma = mf >>= f -> liftM f ma

Also, Pointed, Applicative \rightarrow Functor apfmap :: Applicative f => (a -> b) -> m a -> m b apfmap f ma = pure f <*> ma Why are Applicative and Monad useful?

```
They can be used to express generic operators. E.g.
mapM :: Monad f => (a -> f b) -> [a] -> f [b]
mapM f [] = pure []
mapM f (a:as) = do
  b <- f a
  bs <- mapM f as
  pure (b:bs)
```

Using generic operators reduces boilerplate somewhat by allowing for generic combinators.

Why are Applicative and Monad useful?

More importantly, those structures provide a convenient level of abstraction that hides irrelevant details.

data Either a b = Left a | Right b

instance Pointed (Either e) where
 pure = Right

```
instance Monad (Either e) where
Left e >>= _ = Left e
Right a >>= f = f a
```

```
dossier name = do
  uid <- getUidByName name
  birth<- getDateOfBirthByUid uid
  addr <- getAddressByUid uid
  pure (name, birth, addr)
```

Why are Applicative and Monad useful?

In other words, they allow to define "functional" and "imperative" domain specific languages (DSLs) in Haskell.

Example: parser combinator libraries.

What are parsers combinators?

- Embedded domain specific languages (eDSLs) that allow one to describe parsers.
- That is, they are eDSLs to parse stuff without any special tools like Yacc, GNU Bison, etc.
- Usually they parse PEG [Ford, 2004].

Example: A Tiny Parser Combinator Library
newtype SParser s e a = SParser
{ runSParser :: s -> Either e (a, s) }

```
instance Pointed (SParser s e) where
  pure a = SParser $ \s -> Right (a, s)
```

```
instance Monad (SParser s e) where
p >>= f = SParser $ \s ->
   case runSParser p s of
   Left e -> Left e
   Right (a, s') -> runSParser (f a) s'
```

```
f <|> g = SParser $ \s -> case runSParser f s of
Right x -> Right x
Left e -> case runSParser g s of
Right x -> Right x
Left e' -> Left (e `mappend` e')
```

Example: A Tiny Parser Combinator Library

type Failures = [String]

type Parser a = SParser String Failures a

Example: A Tiny Parser Combinator Library

```
eof :: Parser ()
eof = SParser \$ \s \rightarrow case s of
  [] -> Right ((), s)
  -> Left ["expected eof"]
char :: Char -> Parser ()
char x = SParser \ \ s \rightarrow case s of
  [] -> Left ["unexpected eof"]
  (c:cs) \rightarrow if (c == x)
    then Right ((), cs)
    else Left ["expected `" ++ [x]
              ++ "' got `" ++ [c] ++ "'"]
```

```
string :: String -> Parser ()
string [] = pure ()
string (c:cs) = char c >>= \_ -> string cs
```

Example: A Tiny Parser Combinator Library

```
parseTest =
    runSParser (string "foo") "foo bar"
    == Right((), " bar")
    && runSParser (string "abb" <|> string "abc") "aba"
    == Left ["expected `b' got `a'"
        ,"expected `c' got `a'"]
```

Fun fact: This file was compiled from Org-Mode to TeX using Pandoc, which is implemented using a similar parser combinator library.

Exceptionally Monadic Error Handling

Exceptions

Python

try: expression1
except Type as e: expression2

C++/Java/etc
try { expression1 } catch (type_t e) { expression2 }
Haskell/etc

foo = expression1 `catch` (\e :: Type -> expression2)

Contribution #1

catch without dynamic dispatch is Monadic (>>=)!

Proof: Pragmatic programmer's view

Let us say, we have data C e a let us assume, we know it is a Monad pure :: $a \rightarrow C e a$ (>>=) :: C e a \rightarrow (a \rightarrow C e b) \rightarrow C e b we want to add throw :: $e \rightarrow C e a$ catch :: $C e a \rightarrow (e \rightarrow ?) \rightarrow ?$ what should be the type of catch? Generally, catch :: $C = a \rightarrow (e \rightarrow C f b) \rightarrow C g c$

Proof: Unification

catch :: C e a \rightarrow (e \rightarrow C f b) \rightarrow C g c Unify the types in pure a `catch` f == pure a -> c == athrow e `catch` (_ -> pure a) == pure a -> c == b (== a)throw e `catch` (_ -> throw f) == throw f -> g == f Which gives catch :: $C e a \rightarrow (e \rightarrow C f a) \rightarrow C f a$

Proof: e == f?

catch :: $C e a \rightarrow (e \rightarrow C f a) \rightarrow C f a$

- No:
 - If computation throws then the type f in the handler "wins",
 - but if it does not throw then e is an empty type and it can be substituted for any other type, including f,
 - these two cases are mutually exclusive.
- Thus, catch has exactly the type of (>>=) in index e.

Monad laws

But having the same type is not enough to be a proper Monad. It needs to satisfy the Monadic laws.

-- `pure` is left identity for `(>>=)`
pure a >>= f == f a

-- `pure` is right identity for `(>>=)`
f >>= pure == f

-- `(>>=)` is associative (f >>= g) >>= h == f >>= (\x -> g x >>= h)

Definition: ConjoinedMonads

We shall say that a type m with two indexes is an instance of ConjoinedMonads iff it is a Monad separately in each index

class ConjoinedMonads m where
 pure :: a -> m e a
 (>>=) :: m e a -> (a -> m e b) -> m e b
 throw :: e -> m e a
 catch :: m e a -> (e -> m f a) -> m f a

it satisfies the Monadic laws in both, and the following additional equations hold

- pure x `catch` f == pure x,
- 2. throw e >>= f == throw e.

So, are there any instances?

Yes, lots.

Instance: Either

```
throwE' :: e -> Either e a
throwE' = Left
catchE' :: Either e a -> (e -> Either e' a)
         \rightarrow Either e' a
catchE' (Left e) h = h e
catchE' (Right a) = Right a
Proof
Since r = \langle a \rangle = Either e a is a Monad.
r = \langle e - \rangle Either e a is also a Monad. Either is \lor, which is
symmetric. Additional equations are easy to check.
```

Instances: All instances of MonadError

```
This one is easy to prove.

class (Monad m) => MonadError e m

| m -> e where

throwError :: e -> m a

catchError :: m a -> (e -> m a) -> m a
```

Proof

The above implies e is constant for each given m. Which means that if we substitute $r = e a \rightarrow m$ a into an instance of ConjoinedMonads we'll get an instance of MonadError. (Since it already requires Monad m.)

Instance: Parser combinators

```
The Monad in e
throwSP :: e \rightarrow SParser s e a
throwSP e = SParser  \  \  ->  Left e
catchSP :: SParser s e a
       -> (e -> SParser s f a) -> SParser s f a
case runSParser p s of
   Right x -> Right x
   Left e -> runSParser (f e) s
```

Instance: Parser combinators

```
-- one or more `p`
some :: ConjoinedMonads m => m e a -> m e [a]
some p = fmap (:) p <*> many p
```

Instance: More

- Other parser combinators, similarly (easy).
- All MonadThrow and MonadCatch instances without dynamic dispatch (somewhat involved).
- Exception emulation with continuations (somewhat involved).
- And many others.

See the thesis for details.

Contribution #2

ConjoinedMonads is not the only useful Cartesian product of type classes.

For instance (see the thesis for details)

- Monad × Applicative adds throw/catch error handling to Applicative expressions.
- Thus, throw/catch error handling × pure functions is an instance of Monad × Applicative.
- With some modifications to the language this can work even GHC's imprecise exceptions × pure functions.

Other parts of the work also make interesting Cartesian products.

Contribution #2.5

- Our results adhere to the general structure of the "marriage" framework of [Wadler and Thiemann, 2003].
- Therefore, all results applicable there are applicable here.
- For instance, one can take a Cartesian product with some graded Monad of [Katsumata, 2014], thus producing an "effect system".

Transforming Trees with Generalized Applicative Expressions

The Observation

Applicative parsers are cute!

```
data Device = Device
  { block :: Bool
  , major :: Int
  . minor :: Int }
exampleDevice :: Device
exampleDevice = Device False 19 1
class Parsable a where
  parse :: Parser a
instance Parsable Device where
  parse = pure Device <*> parse <*> parse <*> parse
```

The Idea

Why can't we do the same for other kinds transformations?

parseDevice

= pure Device <*> parse <*> parse <*> parse

-- pretty-printing

showDevice

= depure unDevice <**> show <**> show <**> show

-- "mapping" between values

mapDevice

= depure unDevice <**> not <**> (+ 100) <**> (+ 200)

The Idea Formalized: Applicative-like

The Applicative operator (<*>) :: f (a -> b) -> f a -> f b follows the following pattern plug :: f full -> g piece -> f fullWithoutThePiece contrast to the usual composition compose :: f fullWithoutThePiece -> g piece -> f full -- or compose' :: g piece -> f fullWithoutThePiece -> f full

- The main point is to decide on all data types and the way to assemble results *first* and then delegate handing of parts to subcomputations.
- Such operators we shall call "Applicative-like".

Can we use the same idea for other kinds of transformations?

Yes, we can!

"Destruct" the data type
unDeviceLISP :: Device -> (Bool, (Int, (Int, ())))
unDeviceLISP (Device b x y) = (b, (x, (y, ())))

Invent a plug
chop :: (s, (a, b)) -> (s -> a -> t) -> (t, b)
chop (s, (a, b)) f = (f s a, b)

Pretty-printer: Done!

depureShow :: $(r \rightarrow b) \rightarrow r \rightarrow ([String], b)$ depureShow f r = ([], f r)

```
showa :: (r -> ([String], (a, b)))
         -> (a -> String)
         -> (r -> ([String], b))
showa st f = chopR st (\s a -> (f a):s)
```

testShowDevice :: String
testShowDevice = runShow \$ showDevice exampleDevice
 -- == "False 19 1"

Then, this can be trivially extended to

```
maps between data types
mapDevice :: Device -> (Device, ())
mapDevice = depureMap Device unDeviceLISP
  `mapa` not
  `mapa` (+ 100)
  `mapa` (+ 200)
testMapDevice :: Device
testMapDevice = runMap $ mapDevice exampleDevice
  -- == Device True 119 201
```

Then, this can be trivially extended to

```
zips between data types
zipDevice :: Device -> Device -> (Device, (), ())
zipDevice = depureZip Device unDeviceLISP unDeviceLISP
  `zipa` (&&)
  `zipa` (+)
  `zipa` (+)
testZipDevice :: Device
testZipDevice = runZip
  $ zipDevice exampleDevice testMapDevice
  -- == Device False 138 202
```

and similarly for more structures

Then, this can be trivially extended to

```
    Generalized "stack"-machine computations (with arbitrary
data types for "stacks")
```

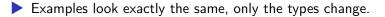
```
remapDevice :: Device -> (Device, ())
remapDevice = depureMap Device unDeviceLISP
   `andThen` pop
   `push` True
   `mapa` id
   `andThen` pop
   `andThen` dup
   `mapa` id
   `mapa` id
```

```
testRemapDevice :: Device
testRemapDevice = runMap $ remapDevice exampleDevice
  -- == Device True 1 1
```

Scott-encoding

 "Destruction" to LISP is not the only possible way, this also works with Scott-encoding

unDeviceScott :: Device -> (Bool -> Int -> Int -> c) -> c unDeviceScott (Device b x y) f = f b x y



But chops that fold more than one type at the same time are a bit involved. See the thesis.

Formal Account

• Applicative is generalized λ -application.

Our structures are instances of generalized dependently typed λ-application!

```
class ApplicativeLike f where
type C f a b :: * -- type of arrow under `f`
type G f a :: * -- type of argument dependent on `f`
type F f b :: * -- type of result dependent on `f`
(<**>) :: f (C f a b) -> G f a -> F f b
```

Contributions

#3

Applicative can be naturally generalized into a dependently typed structure we call ApplicativeLike. (Which happens to be both simpler and more general than superapplicatives of [Bracker and Nilsson, 2018].)

#4

It has a bunch of practically useful instances: pretty-printing, mapping, zipping, etc for simple data types of a single constructor.

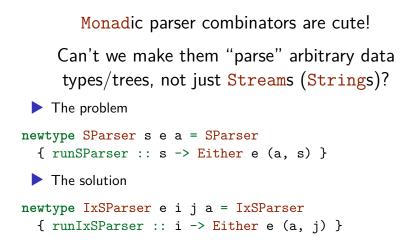
Contribution #5

We can make instances of Cartesian products of Monad and ApplicativeLike.

```
chopE :: Either e (s, (a, b))
        -> (s -> a -> Either e t)
        -> Either e (t, b)
chopE i f = do
     (s, (a, b)) <- i
     fsa <- f s a
     pure (fsa, b)</pre>
```

Transforming Trees with Indexed Monads

The Idea



Indexed Monads

class IxPointed m where ipure :: a -> m i i a

class IxFunctor f where ifmap :: (a -> b) -> f i j a -> f i j b

class (IxPointed m, IxFunctor m) => IxApplicative m where (<*+>) :: m i j (a -> b) -> m j k a -> m i k b

class IxApplicative m => IxMonad m where (>>=+) :: m i j a -> (a -> m j k b) -> m i k b Yes, we can!

```
For instance
```

newtype IxSParser e i j a = IxSParser
{ runIxSParser :: i -> Either e (a, j) }

```
instance IxPointed (IxSParser e) where
ipure a = IxSParser $ \i -> Right (a, i)
```

```
instance IxMonad (IxSParser e) where
p >>=+ f = IxSParser $ \i ->
case runIxSParser p i of
Left x -> Left x
Right (a, j) -> runIxSParser (f a) j
```

Yes, we can!

The other index

throwIxSP :: e -> IxSParser e i j a
throwIxSP e = IxSParser \$ _ -> Left e

```
-- Note that this keeps indices as is,
-- since it is a `Monad`,
-- not `IxMonad` in `e`
catchIxSP :: IxSParser e i j a
            -> (e -> IxSParser f i j a)
            -> IxSParser f i j a
catchIxSP m f = IxSParser f i j a
case runIxSParser m i of
Right x -> Right x
Left e -> runIxSParser (f e) i
```

Cartesian Product

class MonadXIxMonad m where icpure :: a -> m e i i a icbind :: m e i j a -> (a -> m e j k b) -> m e i k b icthrow :: e -> m e i j a iccatch :: m e i j a -> (e -> m f i j a) -> m f i j a

Interesting Parts

It can actually "parse" arbitrary data types/trees. (See the thesis.)

Combinators many and some are as interesting as before.

```
But now also
```

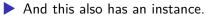
```
-- zero of more `p` separated by `sep`
sepBy :: MonadXIxMonad m
      => meiia -> meiib -> mfii[a]
sepBy p sep = _
-- one or more `p` separated by `sep`, that is
-- `p` followed by zero or more `sep >> p`
sepBy1 :: MonadXIxMonad m
       => meija -> mejib -> meij [a]
sepBy1 p sep = _
```

exampleSepBy1 = sepBy1 integer comma

But there is more!

class IxMonadXIxMonad m where iicpure :: a -> m e i u i a iicbind :: m e i u j a -> (a -> m e j u k b) -> m e i u k b iicthrow :: e -> m e i i u a iiccatch :: m e i j u a

-> (e -> m f j k u a) -> m f i k u a



Contributions

#6

Monadic parser combinators can be generalized into indexed Monadic "parser" combinators for arbitrary data types/trees.

#7

They are instances of MonadXIxMonad and IxMonadXIxMonad Cartesian products.

Conclusions

In Terms of Related Works

The first part, essentially, extends the work of [Wadler, 1992] by showing that Monads can also be used for proper error handling (and not just "hiding errors from the higher-level interpreter"), the observation which we formalized into ConjoinedMonads structure.

Similarly to how Wadler's Monad instances influenced the design of modern Haskell, our instances also hint at new language design opportunities.

- The second part extends the work of [McBride and Paterson, 2008] on Applicatives by showing other interesting structures that follow the same general form of expressions but allow for more sophisticated transformations, a structure which we formalized into the ApplicativeLike type class.
- The third part, essentially, extends works on parser combinators, most notably the work of [Leijen and Meijer, 2001], to "parsing" arbitrary data types/trees.

The Main Points

- catch without dynamic dispatch is Monadic (>>=). Lots of instances. (But mostly informative, hard to apply to practice at the moment.)
- Applicative can be generalized into dependent types to produce ApplicativeLike. Lots of immediately practically useful instances.
- Monads when generalized into indexed Monads have "parser" combinators that can "parse" data types/trees as instances.
- Many interesting structures can be represented as Cartesian products of type classes where one part represents error handling, while the other represents normal computation.

Questions?

Publications

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