

MONADS, COMONADS, AND ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS

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MONADS

MONADS

are type constructors that *work well as outputs.*

MONADS

are representations of *effects*.

```
1 signature MONAD =
2   sig
3     type 'a m
4
5     val return : 'a -> 'a m
6     val bind : 'a m * ('a -> 'b m) -> 'b m
7
8     (* Invariants:
9      * bind (return a, f) = f a
10     * bind (e, return) = e
11     * bind (bind (e, f), g) = bind (e, fn a => bind (f a,
12       *)
13   end
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EXAMPLE: ERRORS

```
1 structure OptionMonad : MONAD =
2   struct
3     datatype 'a m
4       = SOME of 'a (* success *)
5       | NONE      (* failure *)
6
7     fun return (a : 'a) : 'a m = SOME a
8
9     fun bind (e : 'a m, f : 'a -> 'b m) : 'b m =
10       case e of
11         SOME a => f a    (* if e succeeds, run f on the result *)
12       | NONE      => NONE  (* otherwise, fail *)
13   end
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1 fun divide (x : int, y : int) : int m =
2   case y of
3     0 => NONE
4   | _ => SOME (Int.div (x, y))
5
6 val _ : string m =
7   bind (divide (10, 3), fn x =>
8     bind (Int.fromString "0", fn y =>
9       bind (divide (x, y), fn z =>
10      return (Int.toString (x + y + z))))))
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EXAMPLE: PRINTING

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1 structure WriterMonad : MONAD =
2   struct
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5     fun return (a : 'a) : 'a m = ("", a)
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7     fun bind (e : 'a m, f : 'a -> 'b m) : 'b m =
8       let
9         val (s1, a) = e      (* run e , which prints s1 *)
10        val (s2, b) = f a   (* run f a, which prints s2 *)
11        in
12          (s1 ^ s2, b)       (* concatenate printed strings *)
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```
1 fun print (s : string) : unit m = (s, ())
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3 fun add (x : int, y : int) : int m =
4   ("adding", x + y)
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6 val _ : int m =
7   bind (print "hi", fn () =>
8     bind (add (20, 22), fn n =>
9       ("done", n)))
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EXAMPLE: MUTABLE STATE

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6
7     fun bind (e : 'a m, f : 'a -> 'b m) : 'b m =
8       fn i => (* take in initial state *)
9         let
10           val (a, i') = e i (* using initial state *)
11           in
12             f a i' (* using new state *)
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EXAMPLE: MUTABLE STATE

```
1 val get : int m =
2   fn i => (i, i)
3
4 fun set (i' : int) : unit m =
5   fn i => (((), i'))
6
7 fun fact (i : int) : unit m =
8   case i of
9     0 => return ()
10    | _ =>
11      bind (get, fn state =>
12        bind (set (i * state), fn () =>
13          fact (i - 1)))
14
15 val   : string m =
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16   bind (set 1, fn () =>
17     bind (fact 5, fn () =>
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EXAMPLE: MUTABLE STATE

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5   m : unit -> (((), unit))
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14
15 val _ : string m =
16  bind (set 1, fn () =>
17    bind (fact 5, fn () =>
18      bind (get, fn result =>
19        return ("result is: " ^ Int.toString result))))
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MORE EXAMPLES

```
1 (* nondeterminism *)
2 type 'a m = 'a list
3
4 (* probabilistic sampling *)
5 type 'a m = (real * 'a) list
6
7 (* first-class continuations *)
8 type 'a m = ('a -> string) -> string
9
10 (* unbounded iteration *)
11 coinductive type 'a m = 'a + 'a m
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- Monads are an *abstraction* that represent effects
- Operations return and bind generalize imperative programming

ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS

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Effects specified via an *algebraic signature* consisting of:

- a set of *effect operations*, $\text{op} \sim A$
- a set of *equations* about sequences of effects

ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS

EXAMPLE: ERRORS

`error ~ void`

ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS

EXAMPLE: PRINTING

print[s] ~ unit

print[$""$]; $e \equiv e$

print[s_1]; **print**[s_2]; $e \equiv \text{print}[s_1 \wedge s_2]; e$

ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS

EXAMPLE: MUTABLE STATE

get ~ int

set[*i*] ~ unit

set[*i*₁]; **set**[*i*₂]; *e* ≡ **set**[*i*₂]; *e*

set[*i*]; *x* = **get**; *e*(*x*) ≡ **set**[*i*]; *e*(*i*)

x = **get**; *y* = **get**; *e*(*x*, *y*) ≡ *x* = **get**; *e*(*x*, *x*)

ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS VIA MONADS

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$$\mathbf{op}_1 \sim A_1$$

$$\mathbf{op}_2 \sim A_2$$

$$\mathbf{op}_3 \sim A_3$$

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Every algebraic signature induces a "free" monad.

```
1  structure AlgEffMonad : MONAD =
2    struct
3      datatype 'a m
4        = Return of 'a
5        | Op1 of a1 -> 'a m
6        | Op2 of a2 -> 'a m
7        | Op3 of a3 -> 'a m
8
9      fun return (a : 'a) : 'a m = Return a
10
11     fun bind (e : 'a m, f : 'a -> 'b m) : 'b m =
12       case e of
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14         | Op1 k     => Op1 (fn y => bind (k y, f))
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```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS VIA MONADS

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error ~ void

error ~ void

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1 structure FreeOptionMonad : MONAD =
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4       = Return of 'a
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11         Return a => f a
12         | Error      => Error
13   end
```

error ~ void

```
1 structure OptionMonad : MONAD =
2   struct
3     datatype 'a m
4       = SOME of 'a
5       | NONE
6
7     fun return (a : 'a) : 'a m = SOME a
8
9     fun bind (e : 'a m, f : 'a -> 'b m) : 'b m =
10       case e of
11         SOME a => f a
12       | NONE    => NONE
13   end
```

`print[s] ~ unit`

print[s] ~ unit

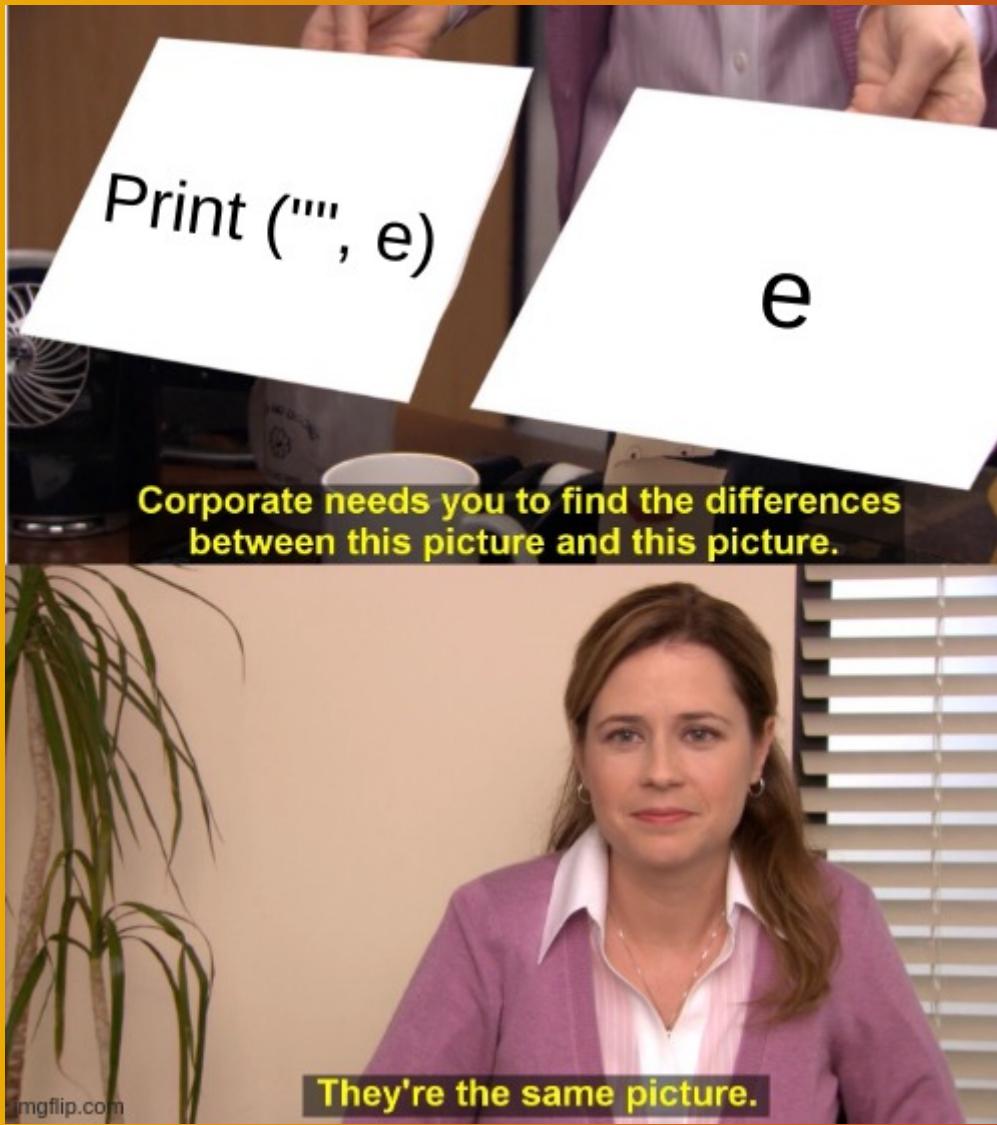
```
1 structure FreeWriterMonad : MONAD =
2   struct
3     datatype 'a m
4       = Return of 'a
5       | Print of string * 'a m
6
7     fun return (a : 'a) : 'a m = Return a
8
9     fun bind (e : 'a m, f : 'a -> 'b m) : 'b m =
10      case e of
11        Return a      => f a
12        | Print (s, k) => Print (s, bind (k, f))
13    end
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13   end
```



get ~ int
set[*i*] ~ unit

$\text{get} \sim \text{int}$
 $\text{set}[i] \sim \text{unit}$

```
1 structure FreeStateMonad : MONAD =
2   struct
3     datatype 'a m
4       = Return of 'a
5       | Get of int -> 'a m
6       | Set of int * 'a m
7
8     fun return (a : 'a) : 'a m = Return a
9
10    fun bind (e : 'a m, f : 'a -> 'b m) : 'b m =
11      case e of
12        Return a => f a
13        | Get k => Get (fn y => bind (k y, f))
14        | Set (i, k) => Set (i, bind (k, f))
15    end
```

get ~ int

set[i] ~ unit

```
1  structure FreeStateMonad : MONAD =
2    struct
3      datatype 'a m
4        = Return of 'a
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15     end
```

$\text{get} \sim \text{int}$

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14        | Set (i, k) => Set (i, bind (k, f))
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```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
1 datatype 'a m1
2   = Return1 of 'a
3   | Read1 of string -> 'a m1
4   | Print1 of string * 'a m1
5
6 datatype 'a m2
7   = Return2 of 'a
8   | Print2 of string * 'a m2
9
10 fun handler (e : int m1) : int m2 =
11   case e of
12     Return1 x      => Print2 ("!", Return2 (x + 1))
13   | Read1 k       => handler (k "maps")
14   | Print1 (s, k) => Print2 (String.rev s, handler k)
15
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
1 datatype 'a m1
2   = Return1 of 'a
3   | Read1 of string -> 'a m1
4   | Print1 of string * 'a m1
5
6 datatype 'a m2
7   = Return2 of 'a
8   | Print2 of string * 'a m2
9
10 fun handler (e : int m1) : int m2 =
11   case e of
12     Return1 x      => Print2 ("!", Return2 (x + 1))
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ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

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2   = Return1 of 'a
3   | Read1 of string -> 'a m1
4   | Print1 of string * 'a m1
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6 datatype 'a m2
7   = Return2 of 'a
8   | Print2 of string * 'a m2
9
10 fun handler (e : int m1) : int m2 =
11   case e of
12     Return1 x      => Print2 ("!", Return2 (x + 1))
13   | Read1 k       => handler (k "maps")
14   | Print1 (s, k) => Print2 (String.rev s, handler k)
15
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
5
6 datatype 'a m2
7   = Return2 of 'a
8   | Print2 of string * 'a m2
9
10 fun handler (e : int m1) : int m2 =
11   case e of
12     Return1 x      => Print2 ("!", Return2 (x + 1))
13   | Read1 k       => handler (k "maps")
14   | Print1 (s, k) => Print2 (String.rev s, handler k)
15
16 val example : int m1 =
17   Print1 ("live",
18   Read1 (fn s =>
19     Print1 (s,
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
11  case e of
12    Return1 x      => Print2 ("!", Return2 (x + 1))
13  | Read1 k       => handler (k "maps")
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15
16 val example : int m1 =
17   Print1 ("live",
18   Read1 (fn s =>
19     Print1 (s,
20     Return1 41)))
21
22 val example' : int m2 =
23   handler example
24 (* Print2 ("evil",
25   Print2 ("spam",
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
13  | Read1 k      -> handler (k maps )
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16 val example : int m1 =
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19     Print1 (s,
20     Return1 41)))
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22 val example' : int m2 =
23   handler example
24 (* Print2 ("evil",
25   Print2 ("spam",
26   Print2 ("😈",
27   Return2 42))) *)
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
13  | Read1 k      -> handler (k maps )
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23   handler example
24 (* Print2 ("evil",
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26   Print2 ("😈",
27   Return2 42))) *)
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
1 datatype 'a m
2   = Return of 'a
3   | Error
4   | Flip of bool -> 'a m
5
6 val example : (bool * bool) m =
7   Flip (fn b1 =>
8     Flip (fn b2 =>
9       if b1 orelse b2
10      then Return (b1, b2)
11      else Error))
12
13 fun handlerOne (e : 'a m) : 'a option =
14   case e of
15     Return a      => SOME a
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

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```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
1 type m = ...
2   = Return of 'a
3   | Error
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13 fun handlerOne (e : 'a m) : 'a option =
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15     Return a      => SOME a
16     | Error       => NONE
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
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11      else Error))
12
13 fun handlerOne (e : 'a m) : 'a option =
14   case e of
15     Return a      => SOME a
16   | Error         => NONE
17   | Flip k        =>
18     case handlerOne (k false) of
19       SOME a => SOME a
20       | NONE    => handlerOne (k true)
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
7   Flip (fn b1 =>
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21
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
7  type 'a m = ...
8  Flip (fn b2 =>
9    if b1 orelse b2
10   then Return (b1, b2)
11   else Error))
12
13 fun handlerOne (e : 'a m) : 'a option =
14  case e of
15    Return a      => SOME a
16  | Error         => NONE
17  | Flip k       =>
18    case handlerOne (k false) of
19      SOME a => SOME a
20    | NONE   => handlerOne (k true)
21
22 fun handlerAll (e : 'a m) : 'a list =
23  case e of
24    Return a      => [a]
25  | Error         => []
26  | Flip k       =>
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
10     then Return (b1, b2)
11   else Error))
12
13 fun handlerOne (e : 'a m) : 'a option =
14   case e of
15     Return a      => SOME a
16   | Error        => NONE
17   | Flip k       =>
18     case handlerOne (k false) of
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20     | NONE    => handlerOne (k true)
21
22 fun handlerAll (e : 'a m) : 'a list =
23   case e of
24     Return a      -> [a]
```

ALGEBRAIC EFFECT HANDLERS

```
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14   case e of
15     Return a      => SOME a
16     | Error        => NONE
17     | Flip k       =>
18       case handlerOne (k false) of
19         SOME a => SOME a
20         | NONE    => handlerOne (k true)
21
22 fun handlerAll (e : 'a m) : 'a list =
23   case e of
24     Return a      => [a]
25     | Error        => []
26     | Flip k       => handlerAll (k false) @ handlerAll (k tr
```

NOT ALL MONADS ARE ALGEBRAIC. !

(continuations, unbounded iteration, etc.)

Tl;DR

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- Algebraic effects are easy to *specify* and *compose*

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- Algebraic effects are easy to *specify* and *compose*
- An algebraic effect signature induces a "free" monad
- Not all monads are algebraic...
- ...but the ones that are support *handlers*

COMONADS

COMONADS

are type constructors that *work well as inputs.*

COMONADS

are representations of "*coeffects*"/*environments*.

```
1 signature COMONAD =
2   sig
3     type 'a w
4
5     val extract : 'a w -> 'a
6     val extend : 'a w * ('a w -> 'b) -> 'b w
7
8     (* Invariants:
9      * extract (extend (e, f)) = f e
10     * extend (e, extract) = e
11     * extend (extend (e, f), g) = extend (e, fn a => exten
12       *)
13   end
```

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13   end
```

EXAMPLE: ENVIRONMENT

```
1 structure EnvironmentComonad : COMONAD =
2   struct
3     type 'a w =
4       { extract      : 'a
5        , environment : string
6       }
7
8     fun extract (e : 'a w) : 'a = #extract e
9
10    fun extend (e : 'a w, f : 'a w -> 'b) : 'b w =
11      { extract      = f e
12       , environment = #environment e
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14  end
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2   struct
3     type 'a w =
4       { extract      : 'a
5        , environment : string
6       }
7
8     fun extract (e : 'a w) : 'a = #extract e
9
10    fun extend (e : 'a w, f : 'a w -> 'b) : 'b w =
11      { extract      = f e
12       , environment = #environment e
13      }
14  end
```

EXAMPLE: ENVIRONMENT

```
1 structure EnvironmentComonad : COMONAD =
2   struct
3     type 'a w =
4       { extract      : 'a
5        , environment : string
6       }
7
8     fun extract (e : 'a w) : 'a = #extract e
9
10    fun extend (e : 'a w, f : 'a w -> 'b) : 'b w =
11      { extract      = f e
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13      }
14  end
```

EXAMPLE: ENVIRONMENT

```
1 fun getHOME (e : 'a w) : string = #environment e
2
3 fun makePath (e : string w) : string =
4   getHOME e ^ "/" ^ extract e
```

EXAMPLE: ENVIRONMENT

```
1 fun getHOME (e : 'a w) : string = #environment e
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EXAMPLE: HISTORY STREAM

```
1 structure TraceComonad : COMONAD =
2   struct
3     type 'a w = nat -> 'a
4
5     fun extract (e : 'a w) : 'a = e 0
6
7     fun extend (e : 'a w, f : 'a w -> 'b) : 'b w =
8       fn n1 => f (fn n2 => e (n1 + n2))
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```

EXAMPLE: HISTORY STREAM

```
1 fun prev (e : 'a w) (n : nat) : 'a = e n
2
3 fun recentAverage (e : real w) : real =
4   (prev e 0 + prev e 1 + prev e 2) / 3.0
5
6 fun movingAverage (e : real w) : real w =
7   extend (e, recentAverage)
```

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TL;DR

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- Comonads work well as inputs, $'a \ w \ -> \ 'b$

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- Comonads work well as inputs, ' $a \ w \ -> \ b$ '
- Comonads are an *abstraction* that represent environments ("having extra stuff"), with `extract` and `extend`

COMONADS AND ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS

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Every algebraic signature induces a "cofree" comonad.

COMONADS AND ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS

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$$\mathbf{op}_1 \sim A_1$$

$$\mathbf{op}_2 \sim A_2$$

$$\mathbf{op}_3 \sim A_3$$

COMONADS AND ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS

Every algebraic signature induces a "cofree" comonad.

```
1 structure AlgEffComonad : COMONAD =
2   struct
3     coinductive type 'a w =
4       { extract : 'a
5         , op1 : a1 * 'a w
6         , op2 : a2 * 'a w
7         , op3 : a3 * 'a w
8       }
9
10    fun extract (e : 'a w) : 'a = #extract e
11
12    fun extend (e : 'a w, f : 'a w -> 'b) : 'b w =
13      { extract = f e
14        , op1 = (fst (#op1 e), extend (snd (#op1 e), f))
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```

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16   , op3 = (fst (#op3 e), extend (snd (#op3 e), f))
17 }
```

COMONADS AND ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS

Every algebraic signature induces a "cofree" comonad.

```
4     let extract : α
5     , op1 : a1 * 'a w
6     , op2 : a2 * 'a w
7     , op3 : a3 * 'a w
8   }
9
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```

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```

`print[c] ~ unit`

$\text{print}[c] \sim \text{unit}$

```
1 structure CofreeWriterComonad : COMONAD =
2   struct
3     coinductive type 'a w =
4       { extract : 'a
5        , print : char -> 'a w
6       }
7
8     fun extract (e : 'a w) : 'a = #extract e
9
10    fun extend (e : 'a w, f : 'a w -> 'b) : 'b w =
11      { extract = f e
12       , print = fn c => extend (#print e c, f)
13      }
14  end
```

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1 structure CofreeWriterComonad : COMONAD =
2   struct
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13      }
14  end
```

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1 coinductive type 'a w =
2   { extract : 'a
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4 }
```

$$W(A) = A \times (\Sigma \rightarrow W(A))$$

print[c] ~ unit

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1 coinductive type 'a w =
2   { extract : 'a
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```

$$W(A) = A \times (\Sigma \rightarrow W(A))$$

```
1 fun parity_q (b : bool) : bool w =
2   { extract = b
3   , print = fn #q" => parity_q (not b) | _ => parity_q b
4   }
5
6 val even_q = parity_q true
```

print[c] ~ unit

```
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```

This is an *automaton!*

get ~ int
set[*i*] ~ unit

$\text{get} \sim \text{int}$
 $\text{set}[i] \sim \text{unit}$

```
1 structure CofreeStateComonad : COMONAD =
2   struct
3     coinductive type 'a w =
4       { extract : 'a
5         , get : int * 'a w
6         , set : int -> 'a w
7       }
8
9     fun extract (e : 'a w) : 'a = #extract e
10
11    fun extend (e : 'a w, f : 'a w -> 'b) : 'b w =
12      { extract = f e
13        , get = (fst (#get e), extend (snd (#get e), f))
14        , set = fn i => extend (#set e i, f)
15      }
```

get ~ int
set[*i*] ~ unit

```
1 coinductive type 'a w =
2   { extract : 'a
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```
1 coinductive type 'a w =
2   { extract : 'a
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5 }
```

```
1 fun machine (state : int) : string w =
2   { extract = "final: " ^ Int.toString state
3   , get = (state, machine state)
4   , set = fn state' => machine state'
5 }
6
7 val example = machine 42
```

get ~ int
set[*i*] ~ unit

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1 coinductive type 'a w =
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Tl;DR

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- An algebraic effect signature induces a "cofree" comonad

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- An algebraic effect signature induces a "cofree" comonad
- The elements of this comonad behave like machines

FREE MONADS AND COFREE COMONADS FOR ALGEBRAIC EFFECTS

(Software  Hardware)

```
1 datatype 'a m
2   = Return of 'a
3   | Print of char * 'a m
4
5 coinductive type 'b w =
6   { extract : 'b
7   , print : char -> 'b w
8 }
```

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1 datatype 'a m
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8 }
```

```
1 fun execute (software : 'a m, hardware : 'b w) : 'a * 'b =
2 case software of
3   Return a                      =>
4     (a, extract hardware)
5   | Print (c, software') =>
6     execute (software', #print hardware c)
```

```
1 datatype 'a m
2   = Return of 'a
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4
5 coinductive type 'b w =
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3   Return a           =>
4     (a, extract hardware)
5   | Print (c, software') =>
6     execute (software', #print hardware c)
```

```
1 val software : unit m =
2   Print (#"q", Print (#"r", Print (#"q", Return ())))
3
4 val hardware : bool w = even_q
5
6 val (( ), true) = execute (software, hardware)
```

```
1 datatype 'a m
2   = Return of 'a
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4
5 coinductive type 'b w =
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```

USE CASE: DATA STRUCTURES

add[k, v] \sim unit

remove[k] \sim unit

find[k] $\sim V + 1$

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```
1 datatype 'a m
2   = Return of 'a
3   | Add of key * value * 'a m
4   | Remove of key * 'a m
5   | Find of key * (value option -> 'a m)
6
7 coinductive type 'b w =
8   { extract : 'b
9   , add : key * value -> 'b w
10  , remove : key -> 'b w
11  , find : key -> (value option * 'b w)
12 }
```

USE CASE: DATA STRUCTURES

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USE CASE: DATA STRUCTURES

add[k, v] \sim unit

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find[k] $\sim V + 1$

```
1 datatype 'a m
2   = Return of 'a
3   | Add of key * value * 'a m
4   | Remove of key * 'a m
5   | Find of key * (value option -> 'a m)
6
7 coinductive type 'b w =
8   { extract : 'b
9   , add : key * value -> 'b w
10  , remove : key -> 'b w
11  , find : key -> (value option * 'b w)
12 }
```

USE CASE: DATA STRUCTURES

```
1 type key    = int
2 and value = string
3
4 val software : bool m =
5   Add (3, "cow",
6   Find (8, fn opt =>
7     case opt of
8       NONE  => Return false
9     | SOME k => Remove (8, Return true)))
10
11 (* using red-black trees *)
12 fun hardwareRBT (t : RBT.t) : int w =
13   { extract = RBT.size t
14   , add = fn (k, v) => hardwareRBT (RBT.insert t (k, v))
15   , remove = fn k => hardwareRBT (RBT.remove t k)}
```

USE CASE: DATA STRUCTURES

```
1  (* Case 1 *)
2
3  8    | NONE   => Return false
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5
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12 , find = fn k => (RBT.find t k, hardwareRBT t)
13 }
14
15 18 val hardware = hardwareRBT RBT.empty
16
17
18 20 fun execute (software : 'a m, hardware : 'b w) : 'a * 'b =
19
20
21 22 val (false, 1) = execute (software, hardware)
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You can  code with these abstractions and/or use them for  semantics!

REFERENCES

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