

# Designing Dijkstra Monads

*arXiv: Dijkstra Monads For All*

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# Programming with side effects

Logging State  
Backtracking  
Continuations  
Non-determinism  
Probabilities  
Resumption  
Reading Input-Output

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We need a model to uniformly account for side-effects !

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A succinct syntactic presentation: a type constructor  $\mathcal{M}$

$$\text{ret}^{\mathcal{M}} : X \rightarrow \mathcal{M}X \quad \text{bind}^{\mathcal{M}} : \mathcal{M}X \rightarrow (X \rightarrow \mathcal{M}Y) \rightarrow \mathcal{M}Y$$

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+ 3 equations (monad laws)

## STATE

$$\text{St } X = \mathcal{S} \rightarrow X \times \mathcal{S}$$

## EXCEPTIONS

$$\text{Exc } X = X + \mathcal{E}$$

## NON-DETERMINISM

$$\text{NDet } X = \mathcal{P}_{\text{fin}}(X)$$

## INPUT-OUTPUT

$$\text{IO } X = \mu Z. X + (Z \times \mathcal{O}) + (\mathcal{I} \rightarrow Z)$$

## Starting point

Pick  $\mathcal{M}$  a computational monad  $\in$

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Consider the following monadic program

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let x = read () in
let y = read () in
if y = 0 then
  throw Div_by_zero
else
  x / y : M N
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How can we specify and verify such monadic programs ?



## Hoare logic Primer

$\{ pre \} code \{ post \}$

$$\{ \top \} v \{ x = v \} \quad \frac{\{ P \} c_1 \{ Q \} \quad \forall x, \{ Q(x) \} c_2 \{ R \}}{\{ P \} \text{let } x = c_1 \text{ in } c_2 \{ R \}}$$

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**Pure:**  $pre : \mathbb{P}$   $post : X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

**Stateful:**  $pre : S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$   $post : X \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

**With exceptions:**  $pre : \mathbb{P}$   $post : X + E \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

## Weakest precondition calculi

Dijkstra's insight: there is a **weakest** precondition that can be computed inductively from a program and a postcondition

$$\vdash \{P\} c \{Q\} \iff \vdash P \Rightarrow \text{wp}[c](Q)$$

$$\text{wp}[v](Q) = Q(v) \quad \text{wp}[\text{let } x = c_1 \text{ in } c_2](Q) = \text{wp}[c_1](\lambda x. \text{wp}[c_2](Q))$$

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**Pure:**  $\text{wp}[c](\cdot) : (X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

**Stateful:**  $\text{wp}[c](\cdot) : (X \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

**With exceptions:**  $\text{wp}[c](\cdot) : (X + E \rightarrow \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

Wait... That's a monad !

**Pure:**  $W^{\text{Id}}X = \text{Cont}_{\mathbb{P}}(X) = (X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

**Continuation monad** with answer type  $\mathbb{P}$ .

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$\text{ret}^{W^{\text{Id}}} x Q = Q(x)$      $\text{bind}^{W^{\text{Id}}} w_1 w_2 Q = w_1(\lambda x. w_2(x))(Q)$

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Also monads:

**Stateful:**  $\mathbb{W}^{\text{St}} X = (X \times S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow S \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

**With exceptions:**  $\mathbb{W}^{\text{Exc}} X = (X + E \rightarrow \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

## Specification monads

Key idea: **specifications** can also be uniformly captured by monads!

<b>Weakest precondition:</b>	$\text{Cont}_{\mathbb{P}} X = (X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$
<b>Strongest postcondition:</b>	$\text{StrPost } X = \mathbb{P} \rightarrow X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$
<b>Pre/Postconditions:</b>	$\text{PrePost } X = \mathbb{P} \times (X \rightarrow \mathbb{P})$



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What's in a specification monad  $W$  ?

▷ specifications can be compared by strength

$$w_1 \leq^{\text{Cont}_{\mathbb{P}} X} w_2 \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \forall p : X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}, w_2 p \implies w_1 p$$

▷  $\text{bind}^W$  is monotonic in both its arguments

↪ restriction to monotonic elements in  $\text{Cont}_{\mathbb{P}}, \text{StrPost}$

# Specification monads from monad transformers

Examples of **specification** monads:

**Pure:**  $W^{\text{Id}} : (X \rightarrow \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

**Stateful:**  $W^{\text{St}} : (X \times \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

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$$W^{\text{Id}} = \mathcal{T}^{\text{Id}}(\text{Cont}_{\mathbb{P}})$$

$$\mathcal{T}^{\text{Id}}(\mathcal{M}) = \mathcal{M}$$

$$W^{\text{St}} = \mathcal{T}^{\text{St}}(\text{Cont}_{\mathbb{P}})$$

$$\mathcal{T}^{\text{St}}(\mathcal{M}) = \mathcal{S} \rightarrow \mathcal{M}(- \times \mathcal{S})$$

$$W^{\text{Exc}} = \mathcal{T}^{\text{Exc}}(\text{Cont}_{\mathbb{P}})$$

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Monad transformer  $\mathcal{T} : \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{map a monad } \mathcal{M} \text{ to a monad } \mathcal{T}\mathcal{M} \\ \text{lift}^{\mathcal{T}} : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{T}\mathcal{M} \end{array} \right.$

## Bridging the gap

An effect observation  $\theta$  (Katsumata, 2014)

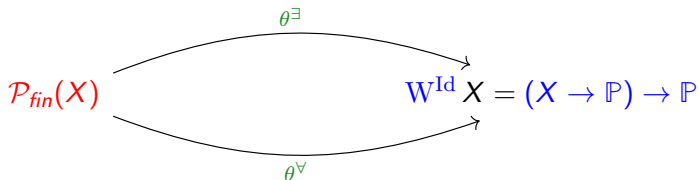
$$\mathcal{M} \xrightarrow{\theta} \mathcal{W}$$

is a **monad morphism**, that is

$$\theta(\text{ret}^{\mathcal{M}} v) = \text{ret}^{\mathcal{W}} v \quad \theta(\text{bind}^{\mathcal{M}} m f) = \text{bind}^{\mathcal{W}} (\theta m) (\theta \circ f)$$

Provides an **interpretation** of programs as predicate transformers.

## Specifying non-deterministic programs



$$\theta^{\exists}(\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}) = \lambda p. p v_1 \vee \dots \vee p v_n$$

$$\theta^{\forall}(\{v_1, \dots, v_n\}) = \lambda p. p v_1 \wedge \dots \wedge p v_n$$

**Angelic** non-determinism  $\theta^{\exists}$  vs **Demonic** non-determinism  $\theta^{\forall}$

## A second bridge between computations and specifications

$\mathcal{M}$   
**computational monad**

code  
 $c : \mathcal{M} \mathbb{N}$

$\mathcal{W}$   
**predicate transformer monad**

specification  
 $w_c : \mathcal{W} \mathbb{N}$

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Dijkstra monad  
 $c : \mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{M}} \mathbb{N} w_c$



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Dijkstra monad

$c : \mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{M}} \mathbb{N} w_c$

$\text{ret}^{\mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{M}}} : (x : A) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{M}} A (\text{ret}^{\mathcal{W}} x)$

$$\frac{m : \mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{M}} A w_1 \quad f : (x : A) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{M}} B w_2(x)}{\text{bind}^{\mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{M}}} m f : \mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{M}} B (\text{bind}^{\mathcal{W}} w_1 w_2)}$$

## Program verification with Dijkstra monads ( $F^*$ )

**PURE**  $A$   $w$       $w : (A \rightarrow \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

```
let rec fibonacci (n:ℕ)
  : PURE ℕ
    (λ p → ∀ r. r ≥ n ∧ r > 0 ⇒ p r)
  =
  if n ≤ 1
  then 1
  else fibonacci (n-1) + fibonacci (n-2)
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**Pure**  $A pre post$       $pre : \mathbb{P}$     $post : A \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$

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let rec fibonacci (n:ℕ)
  : Pure ℕ (requires T)
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## From effect observation to Dijkstra monad

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Extends to a (categorical) equivalence

$$\begin{array}{ccc} \text{Dijkstra monads} & \cong & \text{Effect observations} \\ (\mathcal{W}, \mathcal{D}) & & \theta : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathcal{W} \end{array}$$

## A Dijkstra monad for demonic non-determinism

Recall that there is an effect observation

$$\theta^\forall : \text{NDet } A \longrightarrow \text{W}^{\text{Id}} A = (A \rightarrow \mathbb{P}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P}$$

$$\theta^\forall(m) = \lambda p. \forall v \in m, p \ v$$

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We obtain a Dijkstra monad

$$\begin{aligned} \text{ND} &: (A : \text{Type}) \rightarrow (w : W^{\text{Id}} A) \rightarrow \text{Type} \\ \text{choose} &: (u : \mathbb{1}) \rightarrow \text{ND } \mathbb{B} (\lambda p. p \text{ true} \wedge p \text{ false}) \\ \text{fail} &: (u : \mathbb{1}) \rightarrow \text{ND } \mathbb{B} (\lambda p. \top) \end{aligned}$$



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```
let rec pick #a (l : list a)
  : ND a (λ p → ∀ x. List.memP x l ⇒ p x)
  =
  match l with
  | [] → fail ()
  | x::xs → if choose true false then x else pick xs
```

## Computing pythagorean triples

```
let guard (b:bool)
  : ND unit ( $\lambda p \rightarrow b \implies p$  ())
  =
  if b then () else fail ()

let pyths ()
  : ND ( $\mathbb{Z}$  &  $\mathbb{Z}$  &  $\mathbb{Z}$ )
  ( $\lambda p \rightarrow \forall x y z. x^2 + y^2 = z^2 \implies p(x,y,z)$ )
  =
  let l = [1;2;3;4;5;6;7;8;9;10] in
  let x = pick l in
  let y = pick l in
  let z = pick l in
  guard (x2 + y2 = z2);
  (x,y,z)
```

# Synthesis

- ▷ Start with a **computational monad**  $\mathcal{M}$
- ▷ Select a **specification monad**  $\mathbb{W}$
- ▷ Define an **effect observation**  $\theta : \mathcal{M} \rightarrow \mathbb{W}$
- ▷ Obtain a **Dijkstra monad**  $\mathcal{D}^{\mathcal{M}}$  indexed by  $\mathbb{W}$
- ↪ Convenient way to verify code in  $\mathcal{M}$

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Moreover combines nicely with **monad transformers**, e.g.

$$\frac{\text{Id} \xrightarrow{\text{ret}} \text{Cont}_{\mathbb{P}}}{\theta : \mathcal{T}(\text{Id}) \xrightarrow{\mathcal{T}(\text{ret})} \mathcal{T}(\text{Cont}_{\mathbb{P}})}$$

## Further directions

- ▷ Implementations: native in  $F^*$ , quite similar to Hoare Type Theory in Coq (experimental)
- ▷ Algebraic effects and handlers (catch for exceptions, general recursion using free monads à la McBride (2015))
- ▷ Relational reasoning (RHTT,  $RF^*$ )

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Thank you !

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## General recursion

Fix domain  $\text{Dom}$ ,  $\prec \subseteq \text{Dom} \times \text{Dom}$  well-founded, codomain  $\text{Cod}$ .

**GenRec** free monad on one operation

$$\text{call} : \text{Dom} \rightsquigarrow \text{Cod}$$

Given a recursion invariant  $(pre_d, post_d)_d : (d : \text{Dom}) \rightarrow \mathbb{P} \times (\text{Cod} \rightarrow \mathbb{P})$  and  $d_0 : \text{Dom}$ , define

$$\theta^{\text{GenRec}} : \text{GenRec} \longrightarrow \text{Cont}_{\mathbb{P}}$$

$$\theta^{\text{GenRec}}(\text{ret } v) = \lambda p. p v$$

$$\theta^{\text{GenRec}}(\text{call } d k) = \lambda p. pre_d \wedge d \prec d_0 \wedge$$

$$\forall c : \text{Cod}, post_d c \Rightarrow \theta^{\text{GenRec}}(k c) p$$



## General recursion in Dijkstra monad form

From  $\theta^{\text{GenRec}}$ , derive a dijkstra monad  $\mathcal{D}_{d_0}^{\text{GenRec}}$  with

▷ An operation

$$\text{call} \quad : \quad (d : \text{Dom}) \quad \longrightarrow \quad \mathcal{D}_{d_0}^{\text{GenRec}} \text{Cod } (pre_d \wedge d \prec d_0) \text{ post}_d$$

▷ A handler

$$\text{fix} \quad : \quad ((d : \text{Dom}) \rightarrow \mathcal{D}_d^{\text{GenRec}} \text{Cod } pre_d \text{ post}_d) \rightarrow \\ (d : \text{Dom}) \rightarrow \text{Pure} \text{Cod } pre_d \text{ post}_d$$

## Back to fibonacci

```
val fib0 : (n : ℕ) →  $\mathcal{D}_n^{\text{GenRec}}$  ℕ T (λr. r ≥ 1 ∧ r ≤ n)
let fib0 n =
    if n ≤ 1 then 1
    else
        let r1 = call (n - 1) in
        let r2 = call (n - 2) in r1 + r2

val fib : (n : ℕ) → Pure ℕ T (λr. r ≥ 1 ∧ r ≤ n)
let fib = fix fib0
```