

# monad-embed: a toy functional language

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```
type Number = Double
data Term
    = Literal Number
    | Add Term Term
    | Compare Term Term
    | Cond Term Term Term

eval :: Term -> Number
eval = \ t -> case t of
    Literal d -> d
    Add a b -> eval a + eval b
    Compare a b ->
        if eval a == eval b then 1 else 0
    Cond a b c ->
        if eval a /= 0 then eval b else eval c
```

```
type Number = Double
data Term
  = Literal Number
  | Add Term Term
  | Compare Term Term
  | Cond Term Term Term
  | Alt Term Term
```

```
eval :: Term -> [Number]
eval = \ t -> case t of
    Literal d -> return d
    Add a b -> liftM2 (+) (eval a) (eval b)
    Compare a b -> do
        eq <- liftM2 (==) (eval a) (eval b)
        return (if eq then 1 else 0)
    Cond a b c -> do
        a' <- eval a
        if a' /= 0 then eval b else eval c
    Alt a b -> eval a ++ eval b
```

These two pieces of code are related.

```
if eval a == eval b then 1 else 0  
  
do  
  eq <- liftM2 (==) (eval a) (eval b)  
  return (if eq then 1 else 0)
```

monad-embed looks like pure code.

```
if eval a == eval b then 1 else 0
```

The monad-embed compiler transforms it into monadic code by inserting return and (>>=).

```
do
```

```
eq <- liftM2 (==) (eval a) (eval b)  
return (if eq then 1 else 0)
```

monad-embed looks like pure code.

```
case eval a `equal` eval b of {  
    True -> 1; False -> 0;  
}
```

The monad-embed compiler transforms it into monadic code by inserting return and ( $>>=$ ).

do

```
eq <- liftM2 (==) (eval a) (eval b)  
return (if eq then 1 else 0)
```

```
eval :: (g :: * -> *) =>
{ ZList / g } (Term -> { ZList / g } Number);

eval = \ t -> case t of {
    Literal d -> d;
    Add a b -> eval a `plus` eval b;
    Compare a b ->
        case (eval a `equal` eval b) of
            { True -> 1; False -> 0; };
    Cond a b c ->
        case (eval a `equal` 0) of
            { False -> eval b; True -> eval c; };
    Alt a b -> either [eval a] [eval b];
};
```

```
Int :: *
Maybe :: * -> *
Maybe Bool :: *
Either :: * -> (* -> *)
```

```
value :: Type
Type :: *
```

```
value :: {Flavor} Type;
Flavor :: * -> *   {- Flavor is a monad -}
Type :: *
```

```
value :: {Flavor} Type;  
Flavor :: * -> *   {- Flavor is a monad -}  
Type :: *
```

The flavor is the monad that provides the return and ( $>>=$ ) operations that the compiler will insert.

monad-embed expressions have side effects; the flavor determines what the side effects can be.

monad-embed

Haskell

monad-embed

Haskell

value :: {Flavor} Type;      value :: Flavor Type

## monad-embed

value :: {Flavor} Type;

$A \rightarrow \{F\} R$

$f x$

$\lambda a \rightarrow a$

## Haskell

value :: Flavor Type

$A \rightarrow F R$

**do**

$f' \leftarrow f$   
 $x' \leftarrow x$   
 $f' x'$

`return (\ a -> return a)`

Side effects are evaluated from left to right.

Function parameters are evaluated at the call site. Using the parameter within the function has no side effects. Defining a function has no side effects.

## monad-embed

True

Just

```
case x of {  
    True -> ...;  
}
```

## Haskell

```
return True
```

```
return $ \ a ->  
    return (Just a))
```

```
do  
    x' <- x  
    case x' of  
        True -> ...
```

Constructors have no side effects.

**case**-expressions first perform the side effects of their parameter.

## monad-embed

```
not :: (f :: * -> *) =>
  {f} (Bool ->
  {f} Bool);
```

```
not = \ x ->
  case x of {
    True ->
      False;
    False ->
      True;
  };
```

## Haskell

```
not :: f (Bool ->
           f Bool)
```

```
not = return $ \ x -> do
  x' <- return x
  case x' of
    True ->
      return False
    False ->
      return True
```

```
eval :: (g :: * -> *) =>
{ ZList / g } (Term -> { ZList / g } Number);

eval = \ t -> case t of {
    Literal d -> d;
    Add a b -> eval a `plus` eval b;
    Compare a b ->
        case (eval a `equal` eval b) of
            { True -> 1; False -> 0; };
    Cond a b c ->
        case (eval a `equal` 0) of
            { False -> eval b; True -> eval c; };
    Alt a b -> either [eval a] [eval b];
};
```



"ZList / g" means "The monad formed by composing the user-defined 'ZList' monad transformer with some monad, 'g'"

(monad-embed monad transformers aren't the same as Haskell monad transformer, but that's only important if you want to define your own.)

"ZList / g" means "The monad formed by composing the user-defined 'ZList' monad transformer with some monad, 'g'"

(monad-embed monad transformers aren't the same as Haskell monad transformer, but that's only important if you want to define your own.)

"eval :: (g :: \* -> \*) => {ZList / g} ..." means that eval works with any stack of monad transformers, as long as the top one is ZList.

```
eval = \ t -> case t of {  
    ...  
    Add a b -> eval a `plus` eval b  
    ...  
};
```

```
plus :: (f :: * -> *) =>  
    {f} (Number ->  
        {f} (Number ->  
            {f} Number));
```

" plus" is parameterized on an arbitrary flavor. In the " eval" function, type inference determines that " f" is " ZList / g".

Almost all functions in monad-embed are parameterized on a monad.

Side-effect-free functions, like "plus", can have any flavor at all. This allows them to be used in any context.

```
eval :: (g :: * -> *) =>
{ ZList / g } (Term -> { ZList / g } Number);

eval = \ t -> case t of {
    Literal d -> d;
    Add a b -> eval a `plus` eval b;
    Compare a b ->
        case (eval a `equal` eval b) of
            { True -> 1; False -> 0; };
    Cond a b c ->
        case (eval a `equal` 0) of
            { False -> eval b; True -> eval c; };
    Alt a b -> either [eval a] [eval b];
};
```

```
either :: (f :: * -> *, a :: *) =>
  {ZList / f} ([a] ->
    {ZList / f} [a] ->
      {ZList / f} a);

either = \ [x] [y] -> wrap [
  zcat
    (unwrap [x])
    [unwrap [y]]
];
```

```
unwrap :: (
    a :: *,
    f :: * -> *,
    t :: (* -> *) -> * -> *
) =>
{f} [ {t / f} a ] -> {f} t f a;

x :: {ZList / f} Number;
unwrap [x] :: {f} ZList f Number;
```

"**unwrap**" lets us explicitly see side effects.

```
wrap :: (
    a :: *,
    f :: * -> *,
    t :: (* -> *) -> * -> *
) =>
{t / f} [{f} t f a] -> {t / f} a;

zcat ... :: {f} ZList f Number;
wrap [zcat ...] :: {ZList / f} Number;
```

"wrap" lets us explicitly create side effects.

```
either :: (f :: * -> *, a :: *) =>
  {ZList / f} ([a] ->
    {ZList / f} [a] ->
      {ZList / f} a);

either = \ [x] [y] -> wrap [
  zcat
    (unwrap [x])
    [unwrap [y]]
];
```

**"wrap"** and **"unwrap"** are used to explicitly access the implicit monad.

```

eval :: (g :: * -> *) =>
{ ZList / g } (Term -> { ZList / g } Number);

eval = \ t -> case t of {
  Literal d -> d;
  Add a b -> eval a `plus` eval b;
  Compare a b ->
    case (eval a `equal` eval b) of
      { True -> 1; False -> 0; };
  Cond a b c ->
    case (eval a `equal` 0) of
      { False -> eval b; True -> eval c; };
  Alt a b -> either [eval a] [eval b];
};

```

```
main :: {IO} Unit;  
main = output "Hello ,_World!" ;
```

monad-embed lets us create impure "mini-dialects" of Haskell.

```
data ErrorT (m :: *) (f :: * -> *) (a :: *) = {
    Success a;
    Failure m;
};

transformer ErrorT (m :: *) where {
    return = Success;
    bind = \ a f -> case a of {
        Success x -> f x;
        Failure m -> Failure m;
    };
};

fail :: (m :: *, f :: * -> *, a :: *) =>
    {ErrorT m / f} m -> a;
fail = \ m -> wrap [Failure m];
```

```
divide' :: (g :: * -> *) => {ErrorT String / g}
    Number -> Number -> Number;

divide' = \ x y -> case y `equal` 0 of {
    True -> fail "Zero division.";
    False -> x `divide` y;
};

main = do {
    x = strToNum input;
    y = strToNum input;
    res = unwrap [divide' x y];
} then case res of {
    Success d -> output (numToStr d);
    Failure m -> output m;
};
```

Input: 2

Input: 5

Output: 0.4

Input: 2

Input: 0

Output: Zero division.

monad-embed makes it easier to reuse higher-order functions.

```
main = do {
    numbers = 1 `Cons` 2 `Cons` 3 `Cons` Nil;
    numbers' = filter askUser numbers;
} then outputNumbers numbers';

askUser :: () => {IO} (Number -> {IO} Bool);
askUser = \ question -> do {
    output ("Classify " `strCat`
            numToStr question `strCat`
            "(y/n)");
    answer = input;
} then (answer `strEqual` "y");
```

```
filter = \ f l -> case l of {
    Nil -> Nil;
    Cons x xs -> case f x of {
        True -> x `Cons` filter f xs;
        False -> filter f xs;
    };
};
```

Output: Classify 1.0 (y/n)

Input: y

Output: Classify 2.0 (y/n)

Input: n

Output: Classify 3.0 (y/n)

Input: y

Output: 1.0

Output: 3.0

```
main = do {
    numbers = 1 `Cons` 2 `Cons` 3 `Cons` Nil;
    numbers' = filter askUser numbers;
} then outputNumbers numbers';

askUser :: () => {IO} (Number -> {IO} Bool);
askUser = \ question -> do {
    output ("Classify " `strCat`
            numToStr question `strCat`
            "(y/n)");
    answer = input;
} then (answer `strEqual` "y");
```

filter 's author didn't have to know we would use filter like this.

This doesn't illustrate a point; I just think it's cool.

```
plusOrMinus = either [ plus ] [ minus ];  
  
quadraticFormula = \ a b c ->  
  (negate b `plusOrMinus` sqrt (  
    (b `times` b) `minus`  
    (4 `times` a `times` c)  
  ))  
  `divide` (2 `times` a);
```

The End.

<http://timmaxwell.org/pages/monad-embed/>