

# Monad Transformers



# Background: abstracting over effects

*works with any effect*

```
add :: Monad m => m Int -> m Int -> m Int
add mx my = do
  x <- mx
  y <- my
  return (x + y)
```

*IO*

```
>>> add readIO readIO
```

5

7

12

*Failure*

```
>>> add (Just 3) (Just 4)
Just 7
```

```
>>> add (Just 3) Nothing
Nothing
```

*Nondeterminism*

```
>>> add [10, 20] [1, 3, 5]
[11, 13, 15, 21, 23, 25]
```

*tracing, state, exceptions, ...*

# Monads and effects

**Monads** help us to **structure** effects:

- write effect logic once (in Monad instance)
- sequence effectful code (with bind/do-notation)
- abstract over a variety of effects

***What if we need more than one effect?***

**Monad transformers** help us to **combine** effects:

- write *interaction logic* once (in MonadTrans instance)
- use multiple effects by *layering* monad transformers

# Monad transformer

$m :: * \rightarrow *$   
 $t :: (* \rightarrow *) \rightarrow * \rightarrow *$

$\text{Monad } (t\ m) \Rightarrow$

```
class MonadTrans t where  
  lift :: Monad m => m a -> t m a
```

*return for m*

*return for t m*

```
lift . return <==> return
```

*lift distributes over bind*

```
lift (m >>= f) <==> lift m >>= (lift . f)
```

# Maybe monad transformer

`MaybeT :: (* -> *) -> * -> *`

```
data MaybeT m a = MaybeT { runMaybeT :: m (Maybe a) }
```

*Equivalent to:*

```
data MaybeT m a = MaybeT (m (Maybe a))  
runMaybeT :: MaybeT m a -> m (Maybe a)  
runMaybeT (MaybeT x) = x
```

# Maybe monad transformer

`MaybeT :: (* -> *) -> * -> *`

```
data MaybeT m a = MaybeT { runMaybeT :: m (Maybe a) }
```

```
instance Monad m => Monad (MaybeT m) where
```

```
    return = MaybeT . return . Just
```

```
    x >>= f = MaybeT $ do may <- runMaybeT x
```

```
                        case may of
```

```
                            Nothing -> return Nothing
```

```
                            Just a -> runMaybeT (f a)
```

*do-block in m!*



```
instance MonadTrans MaybeT where
```

```
    lift m = MaybeT (m >>= return . Just)
```

# Maybe monad transformer

`MaybeT :: (* -> *) -> * -> *`

```
data MaybeT m a = MaybeT { runMaybeT :: m (Maybe a) }
```

```
instance Monad m => MonadPlus (MaybeT m) where
  mzero      = MaybeT (return Nothing)
  mplus x y = MaybeT $ do may <- runMaybeT x
                          case may of
                            Just _   -> return may
                            Nothing -> runMaybeT y
```



# State monad transformer

```
StateT :: * -> (* -> *) -> * -> *
```

```
data StateT s m a = StateT (s -> m (a, s))
```

*Recall original state monad:*

```
data State s a = State (s -> (a, s))
```

```
instance Monad (State s) where  
  return x = State (\s -> (x, s))  
  State c >>= f = State $ \s ->  
    let (x, t) = c s  
        State d = f x  
    in d t
```



# State monad transformer

```
StateT :: * -> (* -> *) -> * -> *
```

```
data StateT s m a = StateT (s -> m (a, s))
```

*Recall original state monad:*

```
data State s a = State (s -> (a, s))
```

```
instance Monad m => Monad (StateT s m) where  
  return x = StateT (\s -> return (x, s))  
  StateT c >>= f = StateT $ \s -> do  
    (x, t) <- c s  
    let StateT d = f x  
    return (d t)
```

*do-block in m!*

# Other monad transformers

## Box-like monads:

`MaybeT (m (Maybe a))`

`ListT (m [a])`

`ExceptT (m (Either e a))`



## Computation-like monads:

	<i>Original</i>	<i>Transformer</i>
<i>Writer</i>	<code>Writer (a, w)</code>	<code>WriterT (m (a, w))</code>
<i>Reader</i>	<code>Reader (r -&gt; a)</code>	<code>ReaderT (r -&gt; m a)</code>
<i>State</i>	<code>State (s -&gt; (a, s))</code>	<code>StateT (s -&gt; m (a, s))</code>

# Identity monad

A trivial monad – useful base of a monad transformer stack

```
data Identity a = Identity { runIdentity :: a }
```

```
instance Monad Identity where  
  return = Identity  
  Identity x >>= f = f x
```

```
Maybe a <~> MaybeT Identity a  
Writer w a <~> WriterT w Identity a  
Reader w a <~> ReaderT w Identity a  
State s a <~> StateT s Identity a  
...
```

# Ordering monad transformers

The order that you layer effects matters!

`StateT s (MaybeT Identity) a`

*corresponds to:* `s -> Maybe (a, s)`

`MaybeT (StateT s Identity) a`

*corresponds to:* `s -> (Maybe a, s)`

 *new state even if  
computation fails!*

# (Semi-) automatic lifting

Some type classes to ease or automate lifting in deep stacks

*Lift an IO action through all monad transformers:*

```
class Monad m => MonadIO m where
  liftIO :: IO a -> m a
```

*“Primitives” that automate lifting:*

*check out the “mtl” library!*

```
class Monad m => MonadState s m | m -> s where
  get  :: m s
  put  :: s -> m ()
```

```
class Monad m => MonadError e m | m -> e where
  throwError :: e -> m a
  catchError :: m a -> (e -> m a) -> m a
```

(KitchenSink.hs)

