

Monads in Javascript

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Netcetera, Skopje

What makes apps messy?

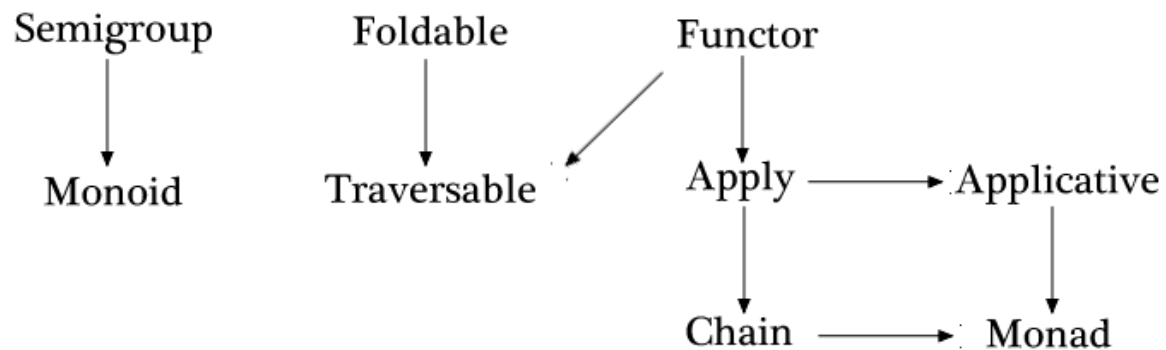
- Impurity
 - Nulls
 - Callbacks
 - Errors
 - Side effects

Stay pure

- Separate the pure from the impure
 - Date, random
 - DOM manipulation
 - Handling user input

What are monads?

- Category theory
 - You don't need to know category theory to use monads
- Functional programming
 - Haskell – loophole to introduce the illusion of impurity



Today's example

Cats & dogs lovers forum

I love my dog. It is the smartest and prettiest dog in the world.

No, cats are the smartest.

Oh yes, I love cats too! <3 <3 <3

We all know dogs are more clever than cats.

You guys are all freaks

Cats & dogs lovers forum

Results: 2

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Our goal for today

```
function search() {  
  var searchWord = $("#searchWord").val();  
  var allCommentElements = getAllCommentElements();  
  var resultsNumber = 0;  
  
  allCommentElements.each(function (index, el) {  
    if (matchText($(el).text(), searchWord)) {  
      applyResultStyle($(el).parent());  
      resultsNumber++;  
    }  
  });  
  
  var resultsNumberElement = $('#resultsNumber');  
  resultsNumberElement.text('Results: ' + resultsNumber);  
}
```

```
// get the search word from the search input field  
function getSearchWord(elName) {  
  return $(elName).val();  
}  
  
// find all comment p elements  
function getAllCommentElements() {  
  return $("p").toArray();  
}  
  
// get comment text from p element  
function getCommentFromElement(el) {  
  return $(el).text();  
}  
  
// text matching  
function matchText(searchWord, comment) {  
  return comment.split(searchWord).length - 1;  
}  
  
// apply style to mark search results  
function applyResultStyle(element) {  
  $(element).parent().css({'border-style': 'dashed', 'border-color' : 'pink'});  
}
```

```
var matchElement = function(searchWord) {  
  return compose(_.curry(matchText)(searchWord), getCommentFromElement);  
}
```

```
var doSearch = function(searchWord) {  
  return _.filter(matchElement(searchWord))(getAllCommentElements());  
}
```

```
var getResults = compose(mjoin, map(_.forEach(applyResultStyle)), map(doSearch), Maybe, getSearchWord);
```

```
function search() {  
  var results = getResults("#searchWord")  
  var resultsNumberElement = $('#resultsNumber');  
  resultsNumberElement.text('Results: ' + results.length);  
}
```

```
// get the search word from the search input field  
function getSearchWord(elName) {  
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Example – imperative programming

```
function search() {  
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  allCommentElements.each(function (index, el) {  
    if (matchText($(el).text(), searchWord)) {  
      applyResultStyle($(el).parent());  
      resultsNumber++;  
    }  
  });  
  
  var resultsNumberElement = $('#resultsNumber');  
  resultsNumberElement.text('Results: ' + resultsNumber);  
}
```

map - compose

Functors – any object or data structure that you can map over

```
var _Container = function (val) {  
  this.val = val;  
}
```

```
var Container = function(x) { return new _Container(x); }
```

```
Container(1);  
// > _Container { val:1 }
```

```
_Container.prototype.map = function(f) {  
  return Container(f(this.val));  
}
```

```
Container("jana").map(capitalize)  
// > Container("Jana")
```

```
var map = _.curry(function(f,obj) {  
  return obj.map(f);  
})
```

```
map(capitalize, Container("jana");  
map(compose(first, reverse), Container("jana"));
```

Maybe

```
_Maybe.prototype.map = function(f) {  
  return this.val ? Maybe(f(this.val)) : Maybe(null);  
}
```

```
map(capitalize, Maybe("jana");  
// > Maybe("Jana")
```

```
var name = null;  
map(capitalize, Maybe(name);  
// > Maybe(null)
```

```
map(compose(first, reverse), Container("jana"));
```

Either

IO

Future

EventStream

Monads

- Nested computations
 - mjoin
 - chain

```
// nested mappings
var renderPage = compose(map(map(ourRenderFunction), ourPrepareFunction);
var renderPage = compose(mjoin, map(ourRenderFunction), ourPrepareFunction);
```

We can implement mjoin, chain or both

```
var chain = function(f) {
  return compose(mjoin, map(f));
}

var mjoin = chain(id);
```

Example – with monads

```
var matchElement = function(searchWord) {
  return compose(_.curry(matchText)(searchWord), getCommentFromElement);
}

var doSearch = function(searchWord) {
  return _.filter(matchElement(searchWord))(getAllCommentElements());
}

var getResults = compose(mjoin, map(_.forEach(applyResultStyle)), map(doSearch), Maybe, getSearchWord);

function search() {
  var results = getResults("#searchWord")
  var resultsNumberElement = $('#resultsNumber');
  resultsNumberElement.text('Results: ' + results.length);
}
```

Where do we use monads?

- Ajax libraries
- Promise implementations
- JQuery is a monad

We are used to seeing custom names:

- `Promise(x).then(f)`

While in terms of algebraic functors they are defined generally

- `map(f, Promise(x))`

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- JQuery is a monad

We are used to seeing custom names:

- `Promise(x).then(f)`

While in terms of algebraic functors they are defined generally

- `map(f, Promise(x))`

References

- ramdajs
 - <http://ramdajs.com/repl/?v=0.18.0>
 - auto curried functions
 - arguments arranged suitable for currying
- fantasy-land
 - Algebraic JavaScript Specification
 - Lots of modules and libs
 - pointless-fantasy: a point-free implementation
- <https://github.com/douglascrockford/monad>