# Game of Life - Polyglot FP Haskell - Scala - Unison

Follow along as the impure functions in the Game of Life are translated from Haskell into Scala,

deepening you understanding of the **IO monad** in the process

(Part 2)

through the work of





In part 1 we translated some of the **Game Of Life** functions from **Haskell** into **Scala**. The functions that we translated were the **pure functions**, and on the next slide you can see the resulting **Scala** functions.

**9** @philip\_schwarz

| <pre>type Pos = (Int, Int)   type Board = List[Pos]   val width = 20   val height = 20 </pre> def neighbs(p:   case (x,y) =>   (x - 1, y -   (x + 1, y -   (x + 1, y +   (x, y +   def wrap(p:Pos)   case (x, y) =  | <pre>bs): List[Pos] = p match {     def isAlive(b: Board)(p: Pos): Boolean =         b contains p         b contains p         b contains p         def isEmpty(b: Board)(p: Pos): Boolean =         l(isAlive(b)(p))     Pos = p match {         (((x - 1) % width) + 1,         ((y - 1) % height) + 1) }     def liveneighbs(b:Board)(p: Pos): Int =         neighbs(p).filter(isAlive(b)).length     RE FUNCTIONS </pre> |
|---|--|
| <pre>def survivors(b: Board): List[Pos] =   for {     p &lt;- b     if List(2,3) contains liveneighbs(b)(p)   } yield p  def births(b: Board): List[Pos] =   for {     p &lt;- rmdups(b flatMap neighbs)     if isEmpty(b)(p)     if liveneighbs(b)(p) == 3   } yield p  def rmdups[A](1: List[A]): List[A] = 1 match   case Nil =&gt; Nil   case x::xs =&gt; x::rmdups(xs filter(_ != x))  def nextgen(b: Board): Board =   survivors(b) ++ births(b) </pre> | <pre>val glider: Board = List((4,2),(2,3),(4,3),(3,4),(4,4))<br/>val gliderNext: Board = List((3,2),(4,3),(5,3),(3,4),(4,4))<br/>val pulsar: Board = List(<br/>(4, 2),(5, 2),(6, 2),(10, 2),(11, 2),(12, 2),</pre>   |



We now want to translate from Haskell into Scala, the remaining Game of Life functions, which are impure functions, and which are shown on the next slide.

```
life :: Board -> IO ()
putStr :: String -> IO ()
putStr [] = return ()
                                                          life b = do cls
putStr (x:xs) = do putChar x
                                                                      showcells b
                                                                      wait 500000
                    putStr xs
                                        IMPURE FUNCTIONS
                                                                      life (nextgen b)
putStrLn :: String -> IO ()
                                                          showcells :: Board -> IO ()
putStrLn xs = do putStr xs
                  putChar '\n'
                                                          showcells b = sequence_ [writeat p "O" | p <- b]</pre>
cls :: IO ()
                                                         wait :: Int -> IO ()
cls = putStr "\ESC[2J"
                                                          wait n = sequence_ [return () | _ <- [1..n]]</pre>
writeat :: Pos -> String -> IO ()
                                                          main :: IO ()
writeat p xs = do goto p
                                                          main = life(pulsar)
                   putStr xs
goto :: Pos -> IO ()
                                                                                0
                                                                                    0
goto (x,y) =
                                                                                0
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  putStr ("\ESC[" ++ show y ++ ";"
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                                                                                                 0 0 0 0 0 0
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                                                                                                 000 00 00 000
                   ++ show x ++ "H")
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While I have also included **putsStr** and **putStrLn**, they are of course **Haskell** predefined (derived) **primitives**.



The difference between the **pure functions** and the **impure functions** is that while the former don't have any **side effects**, the latter do, which is indicated by the fact that their signatures contain the **IO type**. See below for how **Graham Hutton** puts it.

Most of the definitions used to implement the game of life are pure functions, with only a small number of top-level definitions involving input/output. Moreover, the definitions that do have such side-effects are clearly distinguishable from those that do not, through the presence of IO in their types.



Functions with the IO type in their signature are called IO actions. The first two Haskell functions on the previous slide are predefined primitives **putStr** and **putStrLn**, which are IO actions. See below for how Will Kurt puts the fact that IO actions are not really functions, i.e. they are not **pure**.

<u>IO actions</u> work much like functions except they violate at least one of the three rules of functions that make functional programming so predictable and safe

- All functions must take a value.
- All functions must return a value.

• Anytime the same argument is supplied, the same value must be returned (referential transparency). getLine <u>is an</u> IO action <u>because it violates our rule that functions must</u> <u>take an argument</u> putStrLn <u>is an</u> IO action <u>because it violates our rule that functions must</u> <u>return values</u>.



Also see below how Alejandro Mena puts it when discussing referential transparency and the randomRIO function

Haskell's solution is to mark those values for which purity does not hold with IO.



Alejandro Serrano Mena



Graham Hutton



Will Kurt



But while there is this clear distinction between **pure functions** and **impure functions**, between functions with **side effects** and functions without **side effects**, between **pure functions** and **IO actions**, there is also the notion that **an IO action** *can* **be viewed as a pure function** that takes the **current state of the world** as its argument, and produces a **modified world** as its result, in which the **modified world** reflects any **side-effects** that were performed by the program during its execution.

See the next slide for a recap of how Graham Hutton puts it.



Graham Hutton
@haskellhutt



In Haskell an interactive program is viewed as a pure function that takes the current state of the world as its argument, and produces a modified world as its result, in which the modified world reflects any side-effects that were performed by the program during its execution. Hence, given a suitable type World whose values represent states of the world, the notion of an interactive program can be represented by a function of type World -> World which we abbreviate as IO (short for input/output) using the following type declaration:

type IO = World -> World

In general, however, an interactive program may return a result value in addition to performing side-effects. For example, a program for reading a character from the keyboard may return the character that was read. For this reason, we generalise our type for interactive programs to also return a result value with the type of such values being a parameter of the IO type:

type IO a = World -> (a,World)

Expressions of type IO a are called actions. For example, IO Char is the type of actions that return a character, while IO () is the type of actions that return the empty tuple () as a dummy result value. Actions of the latter type can be thought of as purely side-effecting actions that return no result value and are often useful in interactive programming.

In addition to returning a <u>result value</u>, interactive programs may also require <u>argument values</u>. However, there is no need to generalise the IO type further to take account of this, because this behaviour can already be achieved by exploiting currying. For example, an interactive program that takes a character and returns an integer would have type Char -> IO Int, which abbreviates the curried function type Char -> World -> (Int, World).

At this point the reader may, quite reasonably, be concerned about the feasibility of passing around the entire state of the world when programming with actions! Of course, this isn't possible, and <u>in reality the type</u> IO a <u>is provided as a primitive in Haskell</u>, rather than being represented as a function type. However, the above explanation is useful for understanding how <u>actions can be viewed as pure functions</u>, and the implementation of actions in Haskell is consistent with this view. For the remainder of this chapter, we will consider IO a as a built-in type whose implementation details are hidden:



See the next slide for an illustrated recap of how viewing **IO actions** as **pure functions** solves the problem of modeling **interactive programs** as **pure functions**.

See the slide after that for a further illustration of how **IO actions** can be seen as **pure functions**.





#### Instead of viewing IO actions as impure functions that perform the side effects of an interactive program...

| Basic primitive to actions          |  |  |  |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| getChar :<br>putChar :<br>return :  | : <mark>IO Char</mark><br>: Char -> IO ()<br>: a -> IO a |  |  |  |
| <b>Derived</b> primitive IO actions |  |  |  |  |
| getLine :<br>putStr :               | IO String<br>String -> IO ()                             |  |  |  |
| pucsci Li .                         | $- 201 \pm 10 = 2 \pm 10 = 2$                            |  |  |  |

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getChar :: World (Char, World)
putChar :: Char -> World (), World)
return :: a -> World -> (a, World)
getLine :: World (), (), World)
putStr :: String -> World (), World)
putStrLn :: String -> World (), World)

...view them as **pure functions** of a **batch program** that take the **current world** and return a **modified world** that reflects any **side effects** performed.





The first two **Haskell** functions that we have to translate into **Scala** are **derived primitive IO actions putStr** and **putStrLn**.

Right after **Graham Hutton** introduced **Haskell's primitive IO actions**, he showed us a simple **strLen** program that made use of the **derived** ones (see below).



Graham Hutton

For example, using these **primitives** we can now define an **action** that prompts for a string to be entered from the **keyboard**, and displays its length:

For example

> strLen
Enter a string: Haskell
The string has 7 characters

**Basic** primitive IO actions

```
getChar :: IO Char
putChar :: Char -> IO ()
return :: a -> IO a
```

#### **Derived** primitive IO actions

getLine :: IO String
putStr :: String -> IO ()
putStrLn :: String -> IO ()

The next thing we are going to do is see if we can translate the Haskell derived primitive IO actions into Scala and then use them to write the Scala equivalent of the program on the left.



Haskell **primitive IO actions** have the **IO type** in their signature.

```
getLine :: IO String
putStr :: String -> IO ()
putStrLn :: String -> IO ()
```

@philip\_schwarz

While in Scala there are primitive functions for reading/writing from/to the console, their signature does not involve any IO type and there is no such predefined type in Scala.

While we can view the Haskell IO actions as pure functions, which take the current world and return a result together with a modified world, the same cannot be said of the corresponding Scala functions, which have side effects (they violate one or more of the rules for pure functions):

| getLine  | :: World -> (String, World)                        | <pre>def readLine()</pre>      | : String |
|----------|--|--------------------------------|----------|
| putStr   | :: String -> World -> ((), World)                  | <pre>def print(x: Any)</pre>   | : Unit   |
| putStrLn | <pre>:: String -&gt; World -&gt; ((), World)</pre> | <pre>def println(x: Any)</pre> | : Unit   |

It is, however, possible to define an IO type in Scala and we are now going to turn to Functional Programming in Scala (FPiS) to see how it is done and how such an IO type can be used to write pure Scala functions that mirror Haskell's derived primitive IO actions.



Paul Chiusano



Runar Bjarnason

13 External effects and I/O

In this chapter, we'll take what we've learned so far about **monads** and **algebraic data types** and extend it to handle **external effects** like **reading from databases** and **writing to files**.

We'll develop a monad for I/O, aptly called IO, that will allow us to handle such external effects in a purely functional way.

We'll make an **important distinction** in this chapter between **effects** and **side effects**.

<u>The IO monad provides a straightforward way of embedding imperative</u> programming with I/O effects in a pure program while preserving referential transparency. It clearly separates effectful code—code that needs to have some effect on the outside world—from the rest of our program.

This will also illustrate a key technique for dealing with external effects—using pure functions to compute a description of an effectful computation, which is then executed by a separate interpreter that actually performs those effects.

Essentially we're crafting an embedded domain-specific language (EDSL) for imperative programming. This is a powerful technique that we'll use throughout the rest of part 4. Our goal is to equip you with the skills needed to craft your own EDSLs for describing effectful programs.



Functional Programming in Scala

### 13.1 Factoring effects

We'll work our way up to the **IO** monad by first considering a simple example of a program with side effects.

case class Player(name: String, score: Int)

```
def contest(p1: Player, p2: Player): Unit =
    if (p1.score > p2.score)
        println(s"${p1.name} is the winner!")
    else if (p2.score > p1.score)
        println(s"${p2.name} is the winner!")
    else
        println("It's a draw.")
```

The contest function <u>couples</u> the I/O code for displaying the result to the pure logic for computing the winner. We can factor the logic into its own pure function, winner:

```
def contest(p1: Player, p2: Player): Unit = winner(p1, p2) match {
   case Some(Player(name, _)) => println(s"$name is the winner!")
   case None => println("It's a draw.")
}
def winner(p1: Player, p2: Player): Option[Player] =
   if (p1.score > p2.score) Some(p1)
   else if (p1.score < p2.score) Some(p2)</pre>
```

else None

Functional Programming in

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**Functional Programming in Scala** 

It is always possible to factor an impure procedure into a pure "core" function and two procedures with side effects: one that supplies the pure function's input and one that does something with the pure function's output. In listing 13.1, we factored the pure function winner out of contest. Conceptually, contest had two responsibilities—it was computing the result of the contest, and it was displaying the result that was computed. With the refactored code, winner has a single responsibility: to compute the winner. The contest method retains the responsibility of printing the result of winner to the console.





We can refactor this even further. The **contest** function still has **two responsibilities**: it's **computing** which message to display and then **printing** that message to the **console**. We could factor out a pure function here as well, which might be beneficial if we later decide to display the result in some sort of UI or write it to a file instead. Let's perform this refactoring now:

```
def contest(p1: Player, p2: Player): Unit =
    println(winnerMsg(winner(p1, p2)))
```

```
def winner(p1: Player, p2: Player): Option[Player] =
    if (p1.score > p2.score) Some(p1)
    else if (p1.score < p2.score) Some(p2)
    else None</pre>
```

```
def winnerMsg(p: Option[Player]): String = p map {
   case Player(name, _) => s"$name is the winner!"
} getOrElse "It's a draw."
```





🔰 @pchiusano

Functional Programming in Scala

Note how the side effect, println, is now only in the outermost layer of the program, and what's inside the call to println is a <u>pure expression</u>. This might seem like a simplistic example, but the same principle applies in larger, more complex programs, and we hope you can see how this sort of refactoring is quite natural. We aren't changing what our program does, just the internal details of how it's factored into smaller functions.

The insight here is that <u>inside every function with side effects is a pure function waiting to get out</u>. We can formalize this insight a bit. Given an **impure function** f of type  $A \Rightarrow B$ , we can split f into two functions:

- A **pure function** of type A => D, where D is some <u>description</u> of the result of f.
- An impure function of type D => B, which can be thought of as an interpreter of these descriptions.

We'll extend this to handle "input" effects shortly. For now, let's consider applying this strategy repeatedly to a program. Each time we apply it, we make more functions pure and push side effects to the outer layers. We could call these impure functions the "imperative shell" around the pure "core" of the program. Eventually, we reach functions that seem to necessitate side effects like the built-in println, which has type String => Unit. What do we do then?



💟 @runarorama

About the following section of the previous slide:

The insight here is that **inside every function with side effects is a pure function waiting to get out** 



Given an **impure function** f of type  $A \implies B$ , we can split f into two functions:

- A **pure function** of type A => D, where D is some <u>description</u> of the result of f.
- An impure function of type D => B which can be thought of as <u>an interpreter</u> of these <u>descriptions</u>.

When it come to relating the above to the **contest** function that we have just seen, I found it straightforward to relate function  $A \Rightarrow B$  to the original **contest** function, but I did not find it that straightforward to relate functions  $A \Rightarrow D$  and  $D \Rightarrow B$  to the **winner** and **winnerMsg** functions.

So on the next slide I show the code before and after the refactoring and in the slide after that I define type aliases A, B and D and show the code again but making use of the aliases.

On both slides, I have replaced methods with functions in order to help us identify the three functions  $A \Rightarrow B, A \Rightarrow D$  and  $D \Rightarrow B$ .

I also called the A => D function '**pure**' and the D => B function '**impure**'.



Here on the left is the original **contest** function, and on the right, the refactored version

```
def contest: ((Player, Player)) => Unit = {
  case (p1: Player, p2: Player) =>
    if (p1.score > p2.score)
      println(s"${p1.name} is the winner!")
    else if (p2.score > p1.score)
      println(s"${p2.name} is the winner!")
    else
      println("It's a draw.")
```

```
val contest: ((Player, Player)) => Unit = impure compose pure
val impure : String => Unit = println(_)
IMPURE FUNCTIONS
```

```
val pure: ((Player, Player)) => String = winnerMsg compose winner
val winnerMsg: Option[Player] => String = p => p map {
    case Player(name, _) => s"$name is the winner!"
    getOrElse "It's a draw."
val winner: ((Player, Player)) => Option[Player] = {
    case (p1: Player, p2: Player) =>
    if (p1.score > p2.score) Some(p1)
    else if (p1.score < p2.score) Some(p2)
    else None
}
PURE FUNCTIONS
```



```
def contest: A => B = {
  case (p1: Player, p2: Player) =>
    if (p1.score > p2.score)
      println(s"${p1.name} is the winner!")
    else if (p2.score > p1.score)
      println(s"${p2.name} is the winner!")
    else
      println("It's a draw.")
```

```
type A = (Player, Player)
type B = Unit
type D = String
```

val contest: A => B = impure compose pure **IMPURE FUNCTIONS** val impure : D => B = println( ) val pure: A => D = winnerMsg compose winner val winnerMsg: Option[Player] => D = p => p map { case Player(name, ) => s"\$name is the winner!" } getOrElse "It's a draw." val winner: A => Option[Player] = { case (p1: Player, p2: Player) => if (p1.score > p2.score) Some(p1) else if (p1.score < p2.score) Some(p2)</pre> else None **PURE FUNCTIONS** 



# 13.2 A simple IO type

It turns out that even procedures like **println** are doing more than one thing. And they can be factored in much the same way, by introducing a new data type that we'll call **IO**:

```
trait IO { def run: Unit }
```

```
def PrintLine(msg: String): IO =
  new IO { def run = println(msg) }
```

```
def contest(p1: Player, p2: Player): IO =
  PrintLine(winnerMsg(winner(p1, p2)))
```



**Functional Programming** in Scala

Our contest function is now pure – it returns an IO value, which simply describes an action that needs to take place, but doesn't actually execute it. We say that contest has (or produces) an effect or is effectful, but it's only the interpreter of IO (its run method) that actually has a side effect.

Now contest only has one responsibility, which is to compose the parts of the program together: winner to compute who the winner is, winnerMsg to compute what the resulting message should be, and PrintLine to indicate that the message should be printed to the console. But the responsibility of interpreting the effect and actually manipulating the console is held by the run method on IO.



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🔰 @pchiusano



**Runar Bjarnason** 💟 @runarorama



We'll make an **important distinction** in this chapter between **effects** and **side effects**.

a key technique for dealing with **external effects**—using **pure functions** to compute a **description** of an **effectful computation**, which is then **executed** by a separate **interpreter** that actually **performs** those **effects**.

Our **contest** function is now **pure** 

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def contest(p1: Player, p2: Player): IO =
 PrintLine(winnerMsg(winner(p1, p2)))

it returns an **IO** value, which simply <u>describes</u> an action that needs to take place, but doesn't actually execute it

**contest** has (or produces) an **effect** or is **effectful**, but it's only the <u>interpreter</u> of **IO** (its **run** method) that actually has a **side effect** 

```
trait IO { def run: Unit }
```

the responsibility of **interpreting the effect** and actually manipulating the console is held by the **run** method on **IO**.

| a <u>description</u> of the result of contest<br>}  |  | an <u>interpreter</u> of descriptions  |
|---|--|--|
| <pre>def PrintLine(msg: String): IO =     new IO { def run = println(msg) } case class Player(name: String, score: Int)</pre> |  | <pre>def winner(p1: Player, p2: Player): Option[Player] =   if (p1.score &gt; p2.score) Some(p1)   else if (p1.score &lt; p2.score) Some(p2)   else None</pre> |
| <pre>def contest(p1: Player, p2: Player): IO =     PrintLine(winnerMsg(winner(p1, p2)))</pre>                                 |  | <pre>def winnerMsg(p: Option[Player]): String = p map {    case Player(name, _) =&gt; s"\$name is the winner!" } getOrElse "It's a draw."</pre>                |



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Let's try out the program. We first execute the **contest** function, which returns an **IO action describing** an **effectful computation**. We then invoke the <u>description</u>'s **run** method, which <u>interprets</u> the <u>description</u> by executing the <u>effectful</u> **computation** that it describes, and which results in the <u>side effect</u> of <u>printing</u> a message to the <u>console</u>.



That's a personal value judgement. As with any other data type, we can assess the merits of **IO** by considering what sort of algebra it provides—is it something interesting, from which we can define a large number of useful operations and programs, with nice laws that give us the ability to reason about what these larger programs will do? Not really. Let's look at the operations we can define: trait IO { self => The **self** argument lets us refer to this object as **self** instead of **this**. def run: Unit def ++(io: IO): IO = new IO { def run = { self.run; io.run } self refers to the outer IO. object IO { **Functional Programming in Scala** def empty: IO = new IO { def run = () }

Other than technically satisfying the requirements of referential transparency, has the **IO** type actually bought us anything?



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The only thing we can perhaps say about IO as it stands right now is that it forms a Monoid (empty is the identity, and ++ is the associative operation). So if we have, for example, a List[IO], we can reduce that to a single IO, and the associativity of ++ means that we can do this either by folding left or folding right. On its own, this isn't very interesting. All it seems to have given us is the ability to delay when a side effect actually happens.

Now we'll let you in on a secret: you, as the programmer, get to invent whatever API you wish to represent your computations, including those that interact with the universe external to your program. This process of crafting pleasing, useful, and composable descriptions of what you want your programs to do is at its core language design.

You're crafting a little language, and an associated interpreter, that will allow you to express various programs. If you don't like something about this language you've created, change it! You should approach this like any other design task.



In the next slide we have a go at running multiple **IO actions**, first by executing each one individually, and then by **folding** them into a single **composite IO action** and executing that.



# **13.2.1 Handling input effects**

As you've seen before, sometimes when building up a little language you'll encounter a program that it can't express. So far our IO type can represent only "output" effects. There's no way to express IO computations that must, at various points, wait for input from some external source. Suppose we wanted to write a program that prompts the user for a temperature in degrees Fahrenheit, and then converts this value to Celsius and echoes it to the user. A typical imperative program might look something like this<sup>1</sup>.

```
def fahrenheitToCelsius(f: Double): Double =
  (f - 32) * 5.0/9.0
```

```
def converter: Unit = {
 println("Enter a temperature in degrees Fahrenheit: ")
 val d = readLine.toDouble
  println(fahrenheitToCelsius(d))
```

Unfortunately, we run into problems if we want to make **converter** into a **pure function** that returns an **IO**:

```
def fahrenheitToCelsius(f: Double): Double =
  (f - 32) * 5.0/9.0
```

```
def converter: IO = {
 val prompt: IO = PrintLine("Enter a temperature in degrees Fahrenheit: ")
  // now what ???
```

In Scala, readLine is a def with the side effect of capturing a line of input from the console. It returns a String. We could wrap a call to readLine in IO, but we have nowhere to put the result! We don't yet have a way of representing this sort of effect. The problem is that our current IO type can't express computations that yield a value of some meaningful type—our interpreter of IO just produces Unit as its output. trait IO {

trait IO { def run: Unit }

def PrintLine(msg: String): IO = new IO { def run = println(msg) }

1. We're not doing any sort of error handling here. This is just meant to be an illustrative example.



**Functional Programming** 

in Scala

def run: Unit



```
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```



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Should we give up on our **10** type and resort to using side effects? Of course not! We extend our **10** type to allow input, by adding a type parameter:

```
sealed trait IO[A] { self =>
  def run: A
  def map[B](f: A => B): IO[B] =
    new IO[B] { def run = f(self.run) }
  def flatMap[B](f: A => IO[B]): IO[B] =
    new IO[B] { def run = f(self.run).run }
}
```



```
object IO extends Monad[IO] {
  def unit[A](a: => A): IO[A] =
    new IO[A] { def run = a }
  def flatMap[A,B](fa: IO[A])(f: A => IO[B]) =
    fa flatMap f
  def apply[A](a: => A): IO[A] =
    unit(a)
}
```

We can now write our converter example:

```
d <- ReadLine.map(_.toDouble)</pre>
```

```
_ <- PrintLine(fahrenheitToCelsius(d).toString)
} yield ()</pre>
```



Functional Programming in Scala



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Our converter definition no longer has side effects — it's a referentially transparent description of a computation with effects, and converter.run is the interpreter that will actually execute those effects. And because IO forms a Monad, we can use all the monadic combinators we wrote previously.



The previous slide included the following statements:

- map and flatMap functions were added to IO so that it can be used in for-comprehensions
- **IO** now forms a **Monad**

But

- what does it mean for **IO** to be a **monad**?
- what is a **for comprehension**?
- why does IO need map and flatMap in order to be used in a for comprehension?
- how do the particular Scala idioms used to implement the IO monad compare with alternative idioms?

The following ten slides have a quick go at answering these questions. If you are already familiar with **monads** in **Scala** you can safely skip them.

One way to define a **monad** is to say that it is an implementation of the **Monad interface** on the right, such that its **unit** and **flatMap** functions obey the **monad laws** (the three monadic laws are outside the scope of this slide deck. See the following for an introduction: <u>https://www.slideshare.net/pjschwarz/monad-laws-must-be-checked-107011209</u>)

E.g. here we take **Foo**, a class that simply wraps a value of some type A, and we instantiate the **Monad interface** for **Foo** by supplying implementations of **unit** and **flatMap**.

We implement **unit** and **flatMap** in a trivial way, which results in the simplest possible **monad**, one that does nothing (the **identity monad**). We do this so that in this and the next few slides we are not distracted by the details of any particular **monad** and can concentrate on things that apply to all **monads**.

We then show how invocations of the **flatMap** function of the **Foo monad** can be **chained**, allowing us to get hold of the wrapped values and use them to compute a result which then gets wrapped.



In the next slide we turn to a different way of defining a monad.

trait Monad[F[\_]] {
 def flatMap[A,B](ma: F[A])(f: A => F[B]): F[B]
 def unit[A](a: => A): F[A]

case class Foo[A](value:A)

val fooMonad: Monad[Foo] = new Monad[Foo] {
 def unit[A](a: => A): Foo[A] =
 Foo(a)
 def flatMap[A, B](ma: Foo[A])(f: A => Foo[B]): Foo[B] =
 f(ma.value)

```
val fooTwo = Foo(2)
val fooThree = Foo(3)
val fooFour = Foo(4)
val fooNine = Foo(9)
```

```
val fooResult =
fooMonad.flatMap(fooTwo) { x =>
fooMonad.flatMap(fooThree) { y =>
fooMonad.flatMap(fooFour) { z =>
fooMonad.unit(x + y + z)
}
}
assert(fooResult.value == 9)
```



```
trait Monad[F[_]] {
    def flatMap[A,B](ma: F[A])(f: A => F[B]): F[B]
    def unit[A](a: => A): F[A]
}
```

```
case class Foo[A](value:A) {
  def map[B](f: A => B): Foo[B] = Foo(f(value))
  def flatMap[B](f: A => Foo[B]): Foo[B] = f(value)
}
```

```
val fooTwo = Foo(2)
val fooThree = Foo(3)
val fooFour = Foo(4)
val fooNine = Foo(9)
```

```
val fooMonad: Monad[Foo] = new Monad[Foo] {
  def unit[A](a: => A): Foo[A] =
    Foo(a)
  def flatMap[A, B](ma: Foo[A])(f: A => Foo[B]): Foo[B] =
    f(ma.value)
```

```
val fooResult =
fooMonad.flatMap(fooTwo) { x =>
fooMonad.flatMap(fooThree) { y =>
fooMonad.flatMap(fooFour) { z =>
fooMonad.unit(x + y + z)
}
}
assert(fooResult.value == 9)
```













On this slide we compare the **joint first two approaches**, with the **third approach** and show only the code in which the **third approach** differs from the **joint first two approaches** in that it uses different idioms, but ultimately results in code with the same capabilities.

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- In the past five slides, we had a go at answering the following questions, but concentrating on the <u>how</u> rather than the <u>what</u> or the <u>why</u>:
- what is a monad
- what is a for comprehension?
- why does IO need map and flatMap in order to be used in a for comprehension?
- how do the particular idioms used to implement the IO monad compare with alternative idioms?

We looked at the **mechanics** of what a **monad** is and how it can be implemented, including some of the idioms that can be used. We did that by looking at the simplest possible **monad**, the **identity monad**, which does nothing.

In the next four slides we turn more to the <u>what</u> and the <u>why</u> and go through a very brief recap of what a **monad** is from a **particular point of view** that is useful for our purposes in this slide deck.

If you already familiar with the concept of a **monad**, then feel free to skip the next five slides.

We can see that <u>a chain of flatMap</u> calls (or an equivalent for-comprehension) is like an imperative program with statements that assign to variables, and the monad specifies what occurs at statement\_boundaries.

For example, with Id, nothing at all occurs except unwrapping and rewrapping in the Id constructor.

With the **Option** monad, <u>a statement may</u> return **None** and <u>terminate the program</u>.

. . .

With the List monad, a statement may return many results, which causes statements that follow it to potentially run multiple times, once for each result.

The Monad contract doesn't specify what is happening between the lines, only that whatever is happening satisfies the laws of associativity and identity.











After that recap on **monads** in general, let's go back to our **IO monad**.

```
def converter: Unit = {
    println("Enter a temperature in degrees Fahrenheit: ")
    val d = readLine.toDouble
    println(fahrenheitToCelsius(d))
}
```



Here on the left hand side is the initial **converter** program, which has **side effects** because when it runs, it calls **readLine**, which is an **impure function**, since it doesn't take any arguments, and **println**, which is an **impure function** because it doesn't have a return value.

```
def fahrenheitToCelsius(f: Double): Double =
  (f - 32) * 5.0/9.0
```

def flatMap[A,B](fa: F[A])(f: A => F[B]): F[B]



And below is the new **converter** program, which instead of having **side effects**, is an **effectful** program in that when it runs, instead of calling **impure functions** like **println** and **readLine**, which result in **side effects**, simply produces a description of a computation with **side effects**. The result of running the **converter** is an **IO action**, i.e. a **pure value**. Once in possession of an **IO action**, it is possible to **interpret** the **IO action**, i.e. to **execute** the **side-effect** producing **computation** that it describes, which is done by invoking the **run** method of the **IO action**.

```
sealed trait IO[A] { self =>
    def run: A
    def map[B](f: A => B): IO[B] =
        new IO[B] { def run = f(self.run) }
    def flatMap[B](f: A => IO[B]): IO[B] =
        new IO[B] { def run = f(self.run).run }
```

```
object IO extends Monad[IO] {
  def unit[A](a: => A): IO[A] =
    new IO[A] { def run = a }
  def flatMap[A,B](fa: IO[A])(f: A => IO[B]) =
    fa flatMap f
  def apply[A](a: => A): IO[A] =
    unit(a)
```



```
The run function is
the only impure
function in the
whole program. It is
polymorphic in A.
When A is Unit
then run is an
impure function
because it doesn't
return anything.
When A is anything
else then run is an
impure function
because it doesn't
take any
arguments.
```



Remember when in part 1 we saw that Haskell's IO values are not executed on the spot, that only expressions that have IO as their outer constructor are executed, and that in order to get nested IO values to be executed we have to use functions like sequence\_?



One thing is instantiating an **IO value**, so that it wraps some **side-effecting** code, and another is having the wrapped **side-effecting** code executed, which is done by invoking the **IO value**'s **run** function.

Invoking the **converter** function results in the instantiation of two **IO values**, one nested inside another. When we invoke the **run** function of the outer of those **IO values**, it results in the following:

- invocation of the run function of the inner IO value
- instantiation of five further IO values
- Invocation of the run function of the above five IO values

} yield ()

d <- ReadLine.map( .toDouble)</pre>

\_ <- PrintLine(fahrenheitToCelsius(d).toString)</pre>



On the next slide I have a go at visualising the seven IO values that are created when we first call converter and then invoke the **run** function of the outer IO value that the latter returns.



![](_page_43_Figure_0.jpeg)

![](_page_44_Picture_0.jpeg)

That's quite a milestone. We are now able to write programs which instead of having **side effects**, produce an **IO action** describing a **computation with side effects**, and then at a time of our choosing, by invoking the **run** method of the **IO action**, we can **interpret** the **description**, i.e. execute the **computation**, which results in **side effects**.

Rather than showing you a sample execution of the temperature converter, let's go back to our current objective, which is to write the strLen program in Scala.

![](_page_44_Picture_3.jpeg)

To write the **strLen** program in **Scala** we need the **Scala** equivalent of the following **Haskell IO actions**:

```
getLine :: IO String
putStr :: String -> IO ()
putStrLn :: String -> IO ()
```

We noticed that while the Haskell IO actions can be seen as pure functions, the corresponding Scala functions are impure because they have side effects (they violate one or more of the rules for pure functions):

```
getLine :: World -> (String, World)
putStr :: String -> World -> (() World)
putStrLn :: String -> World -> (() World)
def readLine() :: String
def print(x: Any) : Unit
def println(x: Any) :: Unit
```

We have now seen how it is possible to define a Scala IO type using which we can then implement pure functions that are analogous to the Haskell IO actions:

```
getLine :: World -> (String, World)
putStr :: String -> World -> ((), World)
putStrLn :: String -> World -> ((), World)
```

def ReadLine: IO[String]
def Print(msg: String): IO[Unit] (I added this, since we are going to need it)
def PrintLine(msg: String): IO[Unit]

Conversely, we can think of the Haskell IO actions as being pure, in that instead of having side effects, they return IO values, i.e. descriptions of computations that produce side effects but only at the time when the descriptions are interpreted:

```
getLine :: IO String
putStr :: String -> IO ()
putStrLn :: String -> IO ()
```

def ReadLine: IO[String]
def Print(msg: String): IO[Unit]
def PrintLine(msg: String): IO[Unit]

![](_page_45_Picture_10.jpeg)

![](_page_46_Picture_0.jpeg)

Here is how we are now able to implement the Haskell strLen program in Scala.

![](_page_46_Figure_2.jpeg)

def readLine(): String

def print(x: Any): Unit

def println(x: Any): Unit

![](_page_46_Picture_3.jpeg)

When we get the REPL to evaluate the Haskell program, the result is an IO value that the REPL then executes, which results in side effects. When we execute the Scala program, it produces an IO value whose run function we then invoke, which results in side effects.

> strLen
Enter a string: Haskell
The string has 7 characters

scala> val strLenDescription: IO[Unit] = strLen
strLenDescription: IO[Unit] = StrLen \$IO\$\$anon\$12@591e1a98

Scala predefined functions

```
scala> strLenDescription.run
Enter a string: Haskell
The string has 7 characters
```

scala>

![](_page_47_Picture_0.jpeg)

Now that we have successfully translated the Haskell strLen program into Scala, let's return to the task of translating into Scala the impure Haskell functions of the Game of Life.

Now that we have a Scala IO monad, translating the first three functions is straightforward.

```
putStr :: String -> IO () =
    ... (predefined)
```

def putStr(s: String): IO[Unit] =
 IO { scala.Predef.print(s) }

```
def cls: IO[Unit] =
    putStr("\u001B[2J")

def goto(p: Pos): IO[Unit] = p match {
    case (x,y) => putStr(s"\u001B[${y};${x}H")
}

def writeAt(p: Pos, s: String): IO[Unit] =
    for {
        _ <- goto(p)
        _ <- putStr(s)
    } yield ()
</pre>
```

![](_page_48_Picture_0.jpeg)

In order to translate the next two Haskell functions, we need the Scala equivalent of the Haskell sequence\_ function, which takes a foldable structure containing monadic actions, and executes them from left to right, ignoring their result.

Earlier in FPiS we came across this statement: "because IO forms a Monad, we can use all the monadic combinators we wrote previously."

In the code accompanying FPiS, the Monad type class contains many combinators, and among them are two combinators both called sequence\_.

![](_page_48_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_49_Picture_0.jpeg)

So if we change the parameter type of **Monad**'s **sequence** function from F[A]\* to List[F[A]]

```
def sequence_[A](fs: List[F[A]]): F[Unit] = sequence_(fs.toStream)
```

then we can translate from Haskell into Scala the two functions that use the sequence\_ function

![](_page_49_Figure_4.jpeg)

![](_page_50_Picture_0.jpeg)

Here is the Scala translation of all the Haskell impure functions in the Game of Life, plus the IO monad that they all use. We have stopped calling them impure functions. We are now calling them pure IO functions. Note how the run function of IO is still highlighted with a red background because it is the only function that is impure, the only one that has side effects.

```
def putStr(s: String): IO[Unit] =
                                                                                    sealed trait IO[A] { self =>
                                           PURE IO FUNCTIONS
                                                                                                                                    IO MONAD
  IO { scala.Predef.print(s) }
                                                                                      def run: A —
                                                                                      def map[B](f: A => B): IO[B] =
def cls: IO[Unit] =
                                                                                        new IO[B] { def run = f(self.run) }
  putStr("\u001B[2J")
                                                                                      def flatMap[B](f: A => IO[B]): IO[B] =
                                                                                        new IO[B] { def run = f(self.run).run }
def goto(p: Pos): IO[Unit] =
  p match { case (x,y) \Rightarrow putStr(s'\setminus u001B[\$\{y\};\$\{x\}H'') }
                                                                                    object IO extends Monad[IO] {
def writeAt(p: Pos, s: String): IO[Unit] =
                                                                                      def unit[A](a: => A): IO[A] =
                                                                                        new IO[A] { def run = a }
 for {
    _ <- goto(p)</pre>
                                                                                      def flatMap[A,B](fa: IO[A])(f: A => IO[B]) =
                                                                                        fa flatMap f
    _ <- putStr(s)</pre>
                                                                                      def apply[A](a: => A): IO[A] =
 } yield ()
                                                                                        unit(a)
def showCells(b: Board): IO[Unit] =
  IO.sequence (b.map{ writeAt( , "O") })
                                                                                    The run function is the only impure function in the whole program. It is polymorphic in A.
def wait(n:Int): IO[Unit] =
                                                                                    When A is Unit then run is an impure function because it doesn't return anything. When A is
  IO.sequence (List.fill(n)(IO.unit(())))
                                                                                    anything else then run is an impure function because it doesn't take any arguments.
def life(b: Board): IO[Unit] =
                                                                                    trait Monad[F[_]] {
  for {
                                                                                      def unit[A](a: => A): F[A]
    _ <- cls
                                                                                      def flatMap[A,B](fa: F[A])(f: A => F[B]): F[B]
    <- showCells(b)
    _ <- goto(width+1, height+1) // move cursor out of the way</pre>
                                                                                      def sequence_[A](fs: List[F[A]]): F[Unit] =
    _ <- wait(1_000 000)</pre>
                                                                                        sequence (fs.toStream)
    <- life(nextgen(b))
                                                                                      def sequence_[A](fs: Stream[F[A]]): F[Unit] =
  } yield ()
                                                                                        foreachM(fs)(skip)
val main = life(pulsar)
```

![](_page_51_Figure_0.jpeg)

~/dev/scala/game-of-life--> sbt run

[info] running gameoflife.GameOfLife

000 000

```
0 0 0
0 0 0
0 0 0
000 000
```

000 000 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0

000 000

[error] (run-main-0) java.lang.StackOverflowError [error] java.lang.StackOverflowError [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$IO\$\$anon\$3.flatMap(GameOfLife.scala:162) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$IO\$.flatMap(GameOfLife.scala:164) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$IO\$.flatMap(GameOfLife.scala:160) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$Monad.map(GameOfLife.scala:137) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$Monad.map\$(GameOfLife.scala:137) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$IO\$.map(GameOfLife.scala:160) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$Monad.as(GameOfLife.scala:145) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$Monad.as\$(GameOfLife.scala:145) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$I0\$.as(GameOfLife.scala:160) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$Monad.skip(GameOfLife.scala:146) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$Monad.skip\$(GameOfLife.scala:146) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$IO\$.skip(GameOfLife.scala:160) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$Monad.\$anonfun\$sequence \$1(GameOfLife.scala:141) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$Monad.\$anonfun\$foreachM\$1(GameOfLife.scala:157) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$Monad.foldM(GameOfLife.scala:150) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$Monad.foldM\$(GameOfLife.scala:148) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$IO\$.foldM(GameOfLife.scala:160) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$Monad.\$anonfun\$foldM\$1(GameOfLife.scala:150) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$IO\$\$anon\$2.run(GameOfLife.scala:123) [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$IO\$\$anon\$2.run(GameOfLife.scala:123) ... hundreds of identical intervening lines [error] at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$IO\$\$anon\$2.run(GameOfLife.scala:123) [error] stack trace is suppressed; run last Compile / bgRun for the full output [error] Nonzero exit code: 1 [error] (Compile / run) Nonzero exit code: 1 [error] Total time: 4 s, completed 20-Jun-2020 16:36:01 ~/dev/scala/game-of-life-->

![](_page_52_Picture_7.jpeg)

Let's run the Scala Game Of Life program.

It prints the first generation and then fails with a **StackOverflowError**!!!

On the console, the following line is repeated hundreds of times:

[error]at gameoflife.GameOfLife\$IO\$\$anon\$2.run(GameOfLife.scala:123)

Line number **123** is the body of the **IO flatMap** function, highlighted below in grey.

```
sealed trait IO[A] { self =>
    def run: A
    def map[B](f: A => B): IO[B] =
        new IO[B] { def run = f(self.run) }
    def flatMap[B](f: A => IO[B]): IO[B] =
        new IO[B] { def run = f(self.run).run }
}
```

It turns out that if we decrease the parameter that we pass to the **wait** function from 1,000,000 (1M IO actions!!!) down to 10,000 then the generations are displayed on the screen at a very fast pace, but the program no longer encounters a **StackOverflowError**.

\_ <- wait(10\_000)</pre>

Alternatively, if we increase the **stack size** from the default of 1M up to 70M then the program also no longer crashes, and it displays a new generation every second or so.

~/dev/scala/game-of-life--> export SBT\_OPTS="-Xss70M"

Let's try a **Pentadecathlon**, which is a period-15 oscillator

#### @philip\_schwarz

![](_page_53_Figure_2.jpeg)

That's it for Part 2.

![](_page_54_Picture_1.jpeg)

The first thing we are going to do in part 3 is find out why the current Scala IO monad can result in programs that encounter a StackOverflowError, and how the IO monad can be improved so that the problem is avoided.

After fixing the problem, we are then going to switch to the **IO monad** provided by the **Cats Effect** library.

Translation of the Game of Life into Unison also slips to part 3.

See you there!