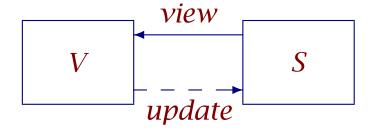


Notions of Bidirectional Computation and Entangled State Monads

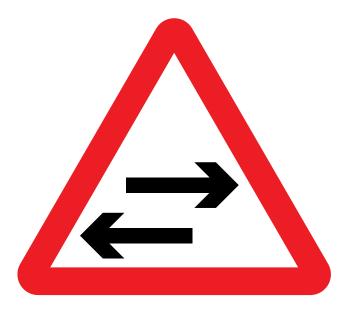
Faris Abou-Saleh, James Cheney, Jeremy Gibbons, James McKinna, Perdita Stevens
SSBX, Oxford, July 2016

1. Bidirectional transformations (BX)

• *view-update* problem in databases

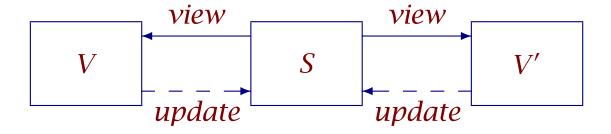


• round-tripping laws for consistency



1.1. Symmetrize

• *view-update* problem in databases

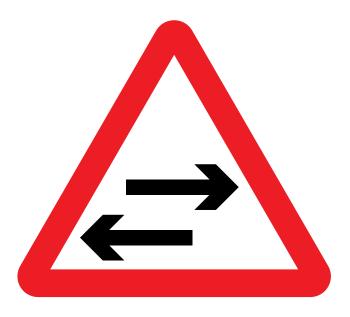


- round-tripping laws for consistency
- *symmetrize*—neither data source definitive
- *applications* in interactive programs, model-driven engineering...



1.2. Overview of talk

- lenses for BX
- BX is inherently stateful
- consistency maintenance implies entangled state
- combining with *other effects*, eg exceptions, non-determinism, I/O
- composing BX



2. Lenses for BX (Foster, Pierce, et al.)

An asymmetric *lens l*: $A \rightsquigarrow B$ from source A to view B is captured by

```
data Lens \alpha \beta = Lens { view :: \alpha \rightarrow \beta, update :: \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \alpha }
```

Round-tripping: say that *l* :: *Lens A B* is *well-behaved* if

```
l.view (l.update s v) = v
l.update s (l.view s) = s
```

and very well-behaved (rather a strong condition) if

```
l.update (l.update s v) v' = l.update s v'
```

2.1. Symmetric lenses (Hofmann, Pierce, Wagner)

More generally, neither data source need determine the other.

A *symmetric lens* $s: A \Leftrightarrow_C B$ between A and B, with *complements* of type C, is captured by

data SLens
$$\alpha \beta \gamma = SLens \{ putlr :: (\alpha, \gamma) \rightarrow (\beta, \gamma), putrl :: (\beta, \gamma) \rightarrow (\alpha, \gamma) \}$$

Say that s:: SLens A B C is well-behaved if

s.putlr
$$(a, c) = (b, c') \Rightarrow$$
 s.putrl $(b, c') = (a, c')$
s.putrl $(b, c) = (a, c') \Rightarrow$ s.putlr $(a, c') = (b, c')$

and in addition, very well-behaved ('strong') if

s.putlr
$$(a, c) = (b, c') \Rightarrow s.putlr (a', c') = s.putlr (a', c)$$

s.putrl $(b, c) = (a, c') \Rightarrow s.putrl (b', c') = s.putrl (b', c)$

3. BX is effectful

Lenses involve 'reading' and 'writing': *impure*, with *computational effects*. So let's look at the *state monad*:

```
data State \sigma \alpha = State \{ runState :: \sigma \rightarrow (\alpha, \sigma) \}

instance Monad (State \sigma) where

return \ a = State \ (\lambda s \rightarrow (a, s))

x \gg k = State \ (\lambda s \rightarrow let \ (a, s') = runState \ x \ s

in runState \ (k \ a) \ s')
```

with two additional operations, to *read* and *write* the state:

```
get :: State \sigma \sigma

get = State (\lambda s \rightarrow (s, s))

set :: \sigma \rightarrow State \sigma ()

set s' = State (\lambda s \rightarrow ((), s'))
```

3.1. Equational theory of state

The *get* and *set* operations of the state monad satisfy four laws:

```
\mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get; s' \leftarrow get; return (s, s')\} = \mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get; return (s, s)\} 
\mathbf{do} \{set s; get\} = \mathbf{do} \{set s; return s\} 
\mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get; set s\} = \mathbf{do} \{return ()\} 
\mathbf{do} \{set s; set s'\} = \mathbf{do} \{set s'\}
```

Indeed, the state monad is the *initial* model of this equational theory.

3.2. State with multiple components

One can generalise to several components; say, 'left' and 'right':

```
get_L :: State (\alpha, \beta) \alpha

get_R :: State (\alpha, \beta) \beta

set_L :: \alpha \rightarrow State (\alpha, \beta) ()

set_R :: \beta \rightarrow State (\alpha, \beta) ()
```

3.2. State with multiple components

One can generalise to several components; say, 'left' and 'right'...

The corresponding equational theory has four state laws on left:

```
\mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get_L; s' \leftarrow get_L; return (s, s')\} = \mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get_L; return (s, s)\} 
\mathbf{do} \{set_L s; get_L\} = \mathbf{do} \{set_L s; return s\} 
\mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get_L; set_L s\} = \mathbf{do} \{return ()\} 
\mathbf{do} \{set_L s; set_L s'\} = \mathbf{do} \{set_L s'\}
```

another four on right:

```
\mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get_R; s' \leftarrow get_R; return (s, s')\} = \mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get_R; return (s, s)\} 
\mathbf{do} \{set_R s; get_R\} = \mathbf{do} \{set_R s; return s\} 
\mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get_R; set_R s\} = \mathbf{do} \{return ()\} 
\mathbf{do} \{set_R s; set_R s'\} = \mathbf{do} \{set_R s'\}
```

and...

3.2. State with multiple components

One can generalise to several components; say, 'left' and 'right'...

The corresponding equational theory has four state laws on left:

```
\mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get_L; s' \leftarrow get_L; return (s, s')\} = \mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get_L; return (s, s)\} 
\mathbf{do} \{set_L s; get_L\} = \mathbf{do} \{set_L s; return s\} 
\mathbf{do} \{s \leftarrow get_L; set_L s\} = \mathbf{do} \{return ()\} 
\mathbf{do} \{set_L s; set_L s'\} = \mathbf{do} \{set_L s'\}
```

another four on right, and four stating that left and right are independent:

```
\mathbf{do} \ \{ a \leftarrow get_L; b \leftarrow get_R; return \ (a, b) \} \\ = \mathbf{do} \ \{ b \leftarrow get_R; a \leftarrow get_L; return \ (a, b) \} \\ \mathbf{do} \ \{ set_L \ a; b \leftarrow get_R; return \ b \} = \mathbf{do} \ \{ b \leftarrow get_R; set_L \ a; return \ b \} \\ \mathbf{do} \ \{ set_R \ b; a \leftarrow get_L; return \ a \} = \mathbf{do} \ \{ a \leftarrow get_L; set_R \ b; return \ a \} \\ \mathbf{do} \ \{ set_L \ a; set_R \ b \} = \mathbf{do} \ \{ set_R \ b; set_L \ a \}
```

3.3. Equational theory of entangled state

Those pair-state laws are too strong for interesting BX:

- *set-set* laws on either side imply very well-behavedness
- left-right independence precludes any interaction

We want a weaker theory. Say that BX is well-behaved if

```
\mathbf{do} \{ a \leftarrow get_L; a' \leftarrow get_L; return (a, a') \} = \mathbf{do} \{ a \leftarrow get_L; return (a, a) \}
\mathbf{do} \{ set_L \ a; a' \leftarrow get_L; return \ a' \} = \mathbf{do} \{ set_L \ a; return \ a \}
\mathbf{do} \{ a \leftarrow get_L; set_L \ a \} = \mathbf{do} \{ return () \}
\mathbf{do} \{ b \leftarrow get_R; b' \leftarrow get_R; return \ (b, b') \} = \mathbf{do} \{ b \leftarrow get_R; return \ (b, b) \}
\mathbf{do} \{ set_R \ b; b' \leftarrow get_R; return \ b' \} = \mathbf{do} \{ set_R \ b; return \ b \}
\mathbf{do} \{ b \leftarrow get_R; set_R \ b \} = \mathbf{do} \{ return () \}
\mathbf{do} \{ a \leftarrow get_L; b \leftarrow get_R; return \ (a, b) \} = \mathbf{do} \{ b \leftarrow get_R; a \leftarrow get_L; return \ (a, b) \}
```

(and *very well-behaved* if in addition set–set holds on each side).

3.4. Entanglement

Having introduced the state effect, it is natural to generalise, to allow other effects too.

We define a BX $A \neq_T B$ in monad T between A and B by

```
data BX \tau \alpha \beta = BX \{ get_L :: \tau \alpha, get_R :: \tau \beta, set_L :: \alpha \rightarrow \tau (), set_R :: \beta \rightarrow \tau () \}
```

Say that BX is *well-behaved* if it satisfies the seven laws above.

Our earlier definitions were a special case, with $T = State(\alpha, \beta)$.

3.5. Really a generalization

Asymmetric lenses as entangled state:

```
lens2bx :: Lens \alpha \beta \rightarrow BX (State \alpha) \alpha \beta
lens2bx l = BX get get_V set set_V where
get_V = \mathbf{do} \{ s \leftarrow get; return (l.view s) \}
set_V v' = \mathbf{do} \{ s \leftarrow get; set (l.update s v') \}
```

Symmetric lenses as entangled state:

```
slens2bx :: SLens \alpha \beta \gamma \rightarrow BX (State (\alpha, \beta, \gamma)) \alpha \beta

slens2bx l = BX get_L get_R set_L set_R where

get_L = \mathbf{do} \{(a, b, c) \leftarrow get; return \ a\}

get_R = \mathbf{do} \{(a, b, c) \leftarrow get; return \ b\}

set_L a' = \mathbf{do} \{(a, b, c) \leftarrow get; \mathbf{let} \ (b', c') = l.putlr \ (a', c); set \ (a', b', c')\}

set_R b' = \mathbf{do} \{(a, b, c) \leftarrow get; \mathbf{let} \ (a', c') = l.putrl \ (b', c); set \ (a', b', c')\}
```

4. Combining effects

Now BX can use *other effects* in addition to state:

```
newtype StateT \sigma \tau \alpha = StateT {runStateT :: \sigma \rightarrow \tau (\alpha, \sigma)}

instance Monad \tau \Rightarrow Monad (StateT \sigma \tau) where

return a = StateT (\lambda s \rightarrow return (a, s))

m \gg k = StateT (\lambda s \rightarrow do {(a, s') \leftarrow runStateT m s; runStateT (k a) s'})
```

This too provides get and set operations (satisfying the same four laws):

```
get :: Monad \tau \Rightarrow StateT \ \sigma \ \tau \ \sigma

get = StateT (\lambda s \rightarrow return \ (s,s))

set :: Monad \tau \Rightarrow \sigma \rightarrow StateT \ \sigma \ \tau \ ()

set s' = StateT \ (\lambda s \rightarrow return \ ((),s'))
```

but also supports *lifting* computations from the underlying monad:

```
lift :: Monad \tau \Rightarrow \tau \alpha \rightarrow StateT \ \sigma \ \tau \alpha
lift m = StateT \ (\lambda s \rightarrow \mathbf{do} \ \{a \leftarrow m; return \ (a, s)\})
```

4.1. Example: environment

BX may be parametrised by some configuration data (eg Voigtländer's *bias*).

```
switch:: (y \rightarrow BX \ (State \ \sigma) \ \alpha \ \beta) \rightarrow BX \ (StateT \ \sigma \ (Reader \ y)) \ \alpha \ \beta

switch bx = BX \ gl \ gr \ sl \ sr \ where

gl = do \{c \leftarrow lift \ ask; inject \ ((bx \ c).get_L)\}

gr = do \{c \leftarrow lift \ ask; inject \ ((bx \ c).set_R)\}

sl \ a = do \{c \leftarrow lift \ ask; inject \ ((bx \ c).set_R \ b)\}
```

where

```
inject :: Monad \tau \Rightarrow State \sigma \alpha \rightarrow State T \sigma \tau \alpha
inject m = State T (\lambda s \rightarrow return (runState m s))
```

4.2. Example: nondeterminism

 $qets f = do \{s \leftarrow qet; return (f s)\}$

When setting a new a', if it's not already consistent with existing b then nondeterministically select a new b' amongst those consistent with a'.

```
nondetBX :: (\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow Bool) \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \lceil \beta \rceil) \rightarrow (\beta \rightarrow \lceil \alpha \rceil) \rightarrow
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           BX (StateT (\alpha, \beta) []) \alpha \beta
                                                                                                                          nondetBX \ ok \ bs \ as = BX \ (gets \ fst) \ (gets \ snd) \ set_L \ set_R \ where
                                                                                                                                                                         set_L a' = \mathbf{do} \{ (a, b) \leftarrow get;
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               if ok a' b then set (a', b) else
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  do \{b' \leftarrow lift (bs \ a'); set (a', b')\}\}
                                                                                                                                                                       set_R b' = \mathbf{do} \{ (a, b) \leftarrow get; \}
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 if ok a b' then set (a, b') else
                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  do \{a' \leftarrow lift (as b'); set (a', b')\}\}
where
                                                                                                                          gets :: Monad \tau \Rightarrow (\sigma \rightarrow \alpha) \rightarrow StateT \ \sigma \ \tau \ \alpha
```

4.3. Example: interaction—"transformation by example"

Maintain a collection of known ways to restore consistency. Use these when you can; when you can't, ask, and remember the answer.

```
dynamicBX :: (Eq \ \alpha, Eq \ \beta, Monad \ \tau) \Rightarrow \\ (\alpha \rightarrow \alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \tau \ \beta) \rightarrow (\alpha \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \beta \rightarrow \tau \ \alpha) \rightarrow \\ BX \ (StateT \ ((\alpha, \beta), [((\alpha, \alpha, \beta), \beta)], [((\alpha, \beta, \beta), \alpha)]) \ \tau) \ \alpha \ \beta \\ dynamicBX \ f \ g = BX \ (gets \ (fst \circ fst3)) \ (gets \ (snd \circ fst3)) \ set_L \ set_R \ \textbf{where} \\ set_L \ a' = \textbf{do} \ \{((a, b), fs, bs) \leftarrow get; \\ \textbf{if} \ a \equiv a' \ \textbf{then} \ return \ () \ \textbf{else} \ \textbf{case} \ lookup \ (a, a', b) \ fs \ \textbf{of} \\ Just \ b' \rightarrow set \ ((a', b'), fs, bs) \\ Nothing \rightarrow \textbf{do} \ \{b' \leftarrow lift \ (f \ a \ a' \ b); \\ set_R \ b' = ... \ -- \ \textbf{dual}
```

Eg ask the user ($\tau = IO$), or search exhaustively ($\tau = [\]$).

5. Necessarily *StateT*?

All those examples instantiate the monad τ to *StateT S T* for some *S*, *T*.

It's *no* (great) loss of generality to stick to State T S T rather than some more general T.

Here's why — and why 'great'.

5.1. Consistency and stability

Evidently a bx :: BX T A B stores an (A, B) pair.

But not just any such pair: a *consistent* pair, ie one returnable via

```
do \{a \leftarrow bx.get_L; b \leftarrow bx.get_R; return (a, b)\}
```

This set of pairs is the consistency relation $A \bowtie B$ maintained by bx.

Note that this is not the same as a *stable* pair, an (a, b) such that

```
do { bx.set_L \ a; bx.set_R \ b; bx.get_L} = do { bx.set_L \ a; bx.set_R \ b; return \ a} do { bx.set_R \ b; bx.set_L \ a; bx.set_L \ a; return \ b}
```

Stable pairs are consistent (for a well-behaved BX), but consistent pairs are not necessarily stable.

Call a BX *stable* if all its consistent pairs are stable.

5.2. Data refinement

For stable bx, we have get and set operations on $A \bowtie B$ pairs:

```
get_{LR} = \mathbf{do} \{ a \leftarrow bx.get_L; b \leftarrow bx.get_R; return (a, b) \}
 set_{LR} (a', b') = \mathbf{do} \{ bx.set_L a'; bx.set_R b' \}
```

(but this is only well-behaved on $A \bowtie B!$).

From these, we can construct a data refinement $T \sqsubseteq StateT \ (A \bowtie B) \ T$:

```
abs \ m = \mathbf{do} \ \{ab \leftarrow get_{LR}; (c, ab') \leftarrow runStateT \ m \ ab; set_{LR} \ ab'; return \ c\}
```

So let's abbreviate

```
type StateTBX \tau \sigma \alpha \beta = BX (StateT \sigma \tau) \alpha \beta
```

6. Composition

It's crucial that BX should compose.

They do; but it's more delicate than you might expect—in particular, the interaction between well-behavedness and other effects.

We can't expect to compose arbitrary BX, because we can't compose arbitrary monads. So we consider only StateTBX T S, for different S but the same T.

6.1. Transparency

For many *StateTBX T S A B*, the get functions incur no additional effects: get_L is of the form $gets\ r$ for some $r::S\to A$ (and similarly for get_R).

Call such a function *T-pure*.

(Not just 'pure': although it has no T-effects, it depends on the state.)

Call a BX transparent if its get_L and get_R are T-pure.

(Note that the *switch* example is not transparent, because the gets are not (*Reader y*)-pure.)

6.2. Embeddings of stateful computations

A lens between state spaces induces a monad morphism:

```
embed :: Monad \tau \Rightarrow Lens \ \alpha \ \beta \rightarrow StateT \ \beta \ \tau \ \gamma \rightarrow StateT \ \alpha \ \tau \ \gamma
embed l \ m = \mathbf{do} \ \{ a \leftarrow get; \mathbf{let} \ b = l.view \ a; (c, b') \leftarrow lift \ (runStateT \ m \ b);
\mathbf{let} \ a' = l.update \ a \ b'; set \ a'; return \ c \}
```

In particular, we can run stateful computations on compound states:

```
left :: Monad \tau \Rightarrow StateT \ \sigma_1 \ \tau \ \alpha \rightarrow StateT \ (\sigma_1, \sigma_2) \ \tau \ \alpha
left = embed (Lens view_L update_L) where

view_L (s_1, s_2) = s_1

update_L (s_1, s_2) \ s_1' = (s_1', s_2)

right :: Monad \tau \Rightarrow StateT \ \sigma_2 \ \tau \ \alpha \rightarrow StateT \ (\sigma_1, \sigma_2) \ \tau \ \alpha

right = embed (Lens view_R update_R) where

view_R (s_1, s_2) = s_2

update_R (s_1, s_2) \ s_2' = (s_1, s_2')
```

6.3. Chaining together

Using *left* and *right*, we can define composition by:

```
(§) :: Monad \tau \Rightarrow

StateTBX \tau \sigma_1 \alpha \beta \rightarrow StateTBX \tau \sigma_2 \beta \gamma \rightarrow StateTBX \tau (\sigma_1, \sigma_2) \alpha \gamma

x \circ y = BX \ gl \ gr \ sl \ sr \ where

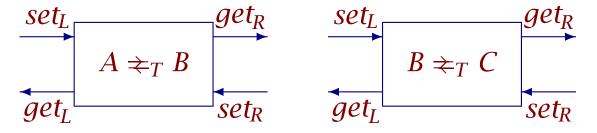
gl = \mathbf{do} \{ left \ (get_L \ x) \}

gr = \mathbf{do} \{ right \ (get_R \ y) \}

sl \ a = \mathbf{do} \{ left \ (set_L \ x \ a); b \leftarrow left \ (get_R \ x); right \ (set_L \ y \ b) \}

sr \ c = \mathbf{do} \{ right \ (set_R \ y \ c); b \leftarrow right \ (get_L \ y); left \ (set_R \ x \ b) \}
```

The set operations carry the middle value across the gap:



The compound state consists only of the *consistent* pairs (s_1, s_2) .

6.4. Equivalence

Here's an identity BX:

```
identity :: Monad \tau \Rightarrow StateTBX \tau \alpha \alpha \alpha
identity = BX get get set set
```

One might expect that *identity* ; x = x = x; identity for any x. But these don't even have the same types! We have to resort to equality 'up to'.

We say that $x :: BX \ T_1 \ A \ B$ and $y :: BX \ T_2 \ A \ B$ are *equivalent* (and write $x \equiv y$) if there exists an isomorphism $\varphi :: T_1 \ \alpha \to T_2 \ \alpha$ that preserves the operations (ie $\varphi \ (get_L \ x) = get_L \ y$ etc).

When $T_1 = StateT S_1 T$ and $T_2 = StateT S_2 T$, we can construct φ from an isomorphism between S_1 and S_2 .

6.5. Composition is monoidal

Composition of transparent BX is associative, with *identity* as unit, modulo \equiv .

```
identity ; x \equiv x \equiv x ; identity
x ; (y ; z) \equiv (x ; y) ; z
```

But note that transparency is important (or the underlying monad has to be commutative).

Note also that equivalence of state spaces is rather strong; bisimulation-based equivalences may be more appropriate.

7. Conclusions

- BX is inherently stateful
- in fact, that state is *entangled*
- having introduced state, we might as well introduce other effects too
- cleanly incorporates partiality, nondeterminism, I/O, . . .
- but the conditions for preserving well-behavedness are subtle
- supported by EPSRC grant *A Theory of Least Change for BX*
- scaffolding for a unified study
- joint work with Faris Abou-Saleh, James Cheney, James McKinna, Perdita Stevens