

# Monad P1 : IO Actions (5A)

---

Copyright (c) 2016 - 2018 Young W. Lim.

Permission is granted to copy, distribute and/or modify this document under the terms of the GNU Free Documentation License, Version 1.2 or any later version published by the Free Software Foundation; with no Invariant Sections, no Front-Cover Texts, and no Back-Cover Texts. A copy of the license is included in the section entitled "GNU Free Documentation License".

Please send corrections (or suggestions) to [youngwlim@hotmail.com](mailto:youngwlim@hotmail.com).

This document was produced by using LibreOffice/OpenOffice.

# Based on

---

[Haskell in 5 steps](https://wiki.haskell.org/Haskell_in_5_steps)

[https://wiki.haskell.org/Haskell\\_in\\_5\\_steps](https://wiki.haskell.org/Haskell_in_5_steps)

# IO Monad

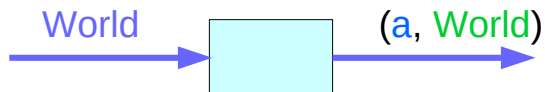
Haskell separates **pure functions** from **computations** where **side effects** must be considered by encoding those **side effects** as **values** of a particular type (**IO a**)

Specifically, a **value** of type (**IO a**) is an **action**, which *if executed* would produce a **result value** of type **a**.

Execution  $\rightarrow$  Value (result)

**IO a**

a type of an action



[https://wiki.haskell.org/Introduction\\_to\\_IO](https://wiki.haskell.org/Introduction_to_IO)

# Computations that result in values

Monads like IO

**map** types **t** to a new type **IO t**

that represent "computations that result in values"

a function type: **World -> (t, World)**

the result type : **t**

```
type IO t = World -> (t, World)
```

**RealWorld -> (a, RealWorld)**

<https://wiki.haskell.org/Maybe>

# Type Synonym **IO t**

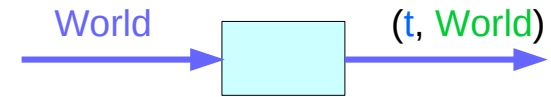
**IO t** is a **parameterized function type**

*input* : a **World**

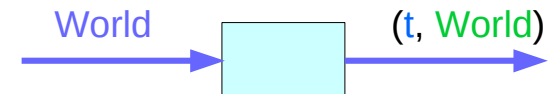
*output*: a **result value** of the type **t** and a new **updated World** are obtained by modifying the given **World** in the process of **computing** the result value of the type **t**.

```
type IO t = World -> (t, World)    type synonym
```

World -> (t, World)



**IO t**



cf) type application

<https://www.cs.hmc.edu/~adavidso/monads.pdf>

RealWorld

# A pure language

the **result** of any function **call** is  
fully determined by its **arguments**.

impossible to have functions like **rand()** or **getchar()** in **C**  
which return different results on each **call**

can't have **side effects**

they can't effect any changes to the real world,  
like changing files, writing to the screen, printing,

any **function call** can be replaced  
by the **result** of a **previous call**  
with the **same parameters**,

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# The problems of IO and side effects

1. repeated calls
2. the order of calls

Solution: use some **artificial parameter** `i0`, `i1`  
incur data dependencies

```
get2chars :: Int -> (String, Int)
get2chars i0 = ([a,b], i2) where (a,i1) = getchar i0
                               (b,i2) = getchar i1
```

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)



# main

```
main :: RealWorld -> (), RealWorld
```

**RealWorld** is an artificial parameter **type** used instead of our `Int`.  
like the **baton** passed in a relay race.

When **main** calls some **IO function**,  
it passes the **RealWorld type value** as a parameter. (**baton**)

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# IO a type synonym

```
main :: RealWorld -> (), RealWorld
```

```
type IO a = RealWorld -> (a, RealWorld)
```

```
main has type IO ()
```

```
getChar has type IO Char
```

think of the type `IO Char` as meaning

take the current `RealWorld`, do something to it,

and return a `Char` and a (possibly changed) `RealWorld`

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Baton values used for strict ordering

```
getChar :: RealWorld -> (Char, RealWorld)
```

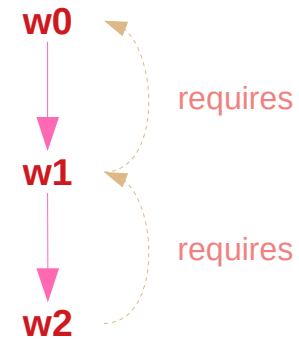
```
main :: RealWorld -> ((), RealWorld)
```

```
main w0 = let (a, w1) = getChar w0  
             (b, w2) = getChar w1  
           in ((), w2)
```

**main** calling **getChar** two times:

**RealWorld** values are used like a **baton** which gets passed between all routines called by '**main**' in **strict order**.

Inside each call **RealWorld** values are used in the same way.



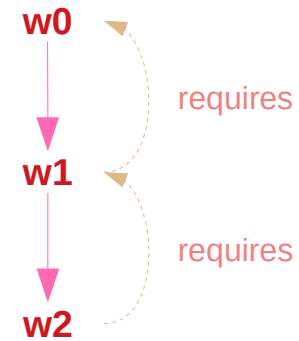
[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# RealWorld type values

to compute the **world** value to be returned from **main**,  
each **IO procedure** is to be performed  
that is called from **main** directly or indirectly.

each **procedure** in the **chain** will be performed in sequence  
just in a proper time (relative to the other **IO actions**)

**cost** of passing these **RealWorld** values is free!  
these fake values exist only for the **compiler**  
to analyze and optimize the code  
but when it gets to assembly code generation,  
all these parameters and result values can be removed  
from the final generated code.



[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# IO actions

Using **IO actions** guarantees that:

the **execution order** will be retained as written

each action will have to be **executed**

the **result** of the same **action** (such as "readVariable varA")  
will not be reused

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Do – syntax sugar

**do** notation eventually gets translated to statements passing **world** values around and is used to simplify the gluing of several **IO actions** together.

```
main = do putStr "What is your name?"  
         putStr "How old are you?"  
         putStr "Nice day!"
```

```
main = (putStr "What is your name?")  
      >> ( (putStr "How old are you?")  
          >> (putStr "Nice day!")  
        )
```

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Then operator ( $\gg$ ) – syntax sugar

```
 $\gg$  :: IO a -> IO b -> IO b
```

```
(action1  $\gg$  action2) w0 =
```

```
  let (a, w1) = action1 w0
```

```
      (b, w2) = action2 w1
```

```
  in (b, w2)
```

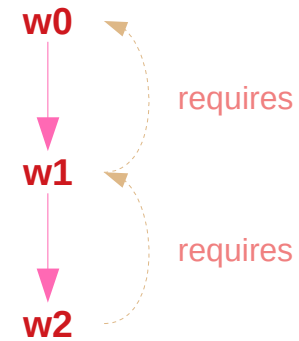
```
action1  $\gg$  action2 = action
```

```
  where
```

```
    action w0 = let (a, w1) = action1 w0
```

```
                (b, w2) = action2 w1
```

```
                in (b, w2)
```



[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Bind variable and operator ( $\gg=$ )

```
main = do a <- readLn  
        print a
```

```
main = readLn  
      >>= (\a -> print a)
```

$(\gg=) :: \text{IO } a \rightarrow (a \rightarrow \text{IO } b) \rightarrow \text{IO } b$

$(\text{action1 } \gg= \text{action2}) w0 =$

let  $(a, w1) = \text{action1 } w0$

$(b, w2) = \text{action2 } a w1$

in  $(b, w2)$

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)



# Binding variable and operator examples

```
action1 >>= (\x -> action2)
```

```
main = do putStr "What is your name?"
```

```
    a <- readLn
```

```
    putStr "How old are you?"
```

```
    b <- readLn
```

```
    print (a,b)
```

```
main =  putStr "What is your name?"
```

```
    >> readLn
```

```
    >>= \a -> putStr "How old are you?"
```

```
    >> readLn
```

```
    >>= \b -> print (a,b)
```

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# return method

```
return :: a -> IO a  
return a world0 = (a, world0)
```

```
main = do a <- readLn  
        return (a*2)
```

in an **imperative** language,  
**return** immediately returns from the **IO procedure**

In Haskell, the only purpose of using **return** is  
to **lift** some **value** (of type **a**)  
into the **result** of a whole **action** (of type **IO a**)

used only as the last executed statement of some **IO sequence**.

```
type IO a = RealWorld -> (a, RealWorld)
```

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# return method examples

```
main = do a <- readLn
         when (a>=0) $ do
             return ()
         print "a is negative"
```

the 'print' statement is executed always

```
main = do a <- readLn
         if (a>=0)
             then return ()
             else print "a is negative"
```

the 'print' statement is executed only when the condition is met

```
main = do a <- readLn
         if (a>=0)
             then return ()
             else do
                 print "a is negative"
                 ...
```

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Haskell layout / indentation rule

```
do first thing  
  second thing  
  third thing
```

wrong

```
do first thing  
  second thing  
  third thing
```

wrong

```
do first thing  
  second thing  
  third thing
```

OK

```
do  
  first thing  
  second thing  
  third thing
```

OK

```
if foo  
  then do first thing  
    second thing  
    third thing  
  else do something_else
```

wrong

```
if foo  
  then do first thing  
    second thing  
    third thing  
  else do something_else
```

OK

```
if foo  
  then do  
    first thing  
    second thing  
    third thing  
  else do  
    something_else
```

OK

<https://en.wikibooks.org/wiki/Haskell/Indentation>

# liftM

```
liftM :: (a -> b) -> (IO a -> IO b)
```

```
liftM f action = do x <- action  
                  return (f x)
```

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# IO actions in **pure** procedures – no execution allowed

it's impossible to execute IO actions  
inside pure (non-IO) procedures.

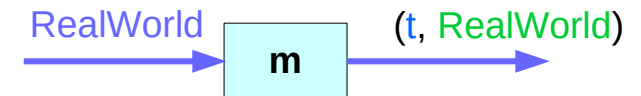
**pure procedures**

just don't get a **baton** ( $w_0$ )

don't know any **world value** to pass to an IO action.

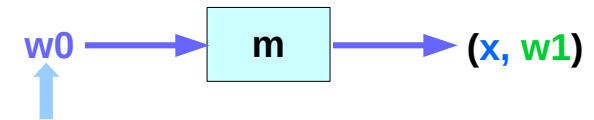
the **prohibition** of using IO actions inside pure procedures  
is just a type system trick (as it usually is in Haskell).

$m :: \text{RealWorld} \rightarrow (a, \text{RealWorld})$



**Executing an IO action**

$m w_0 = (x, w_1)$



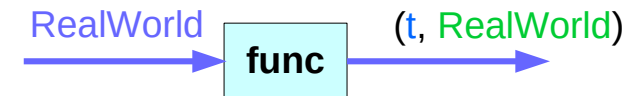
[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Abstract and strict type RealWorld

The **RealWorld** type is an **abstract** datatype,  
so **pure functions** also can't construct  
**RealWorld** values by themselves,

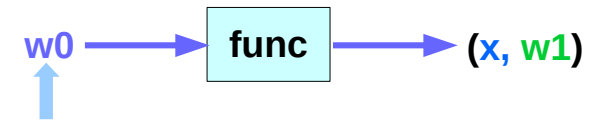
The **RealWorld** type is a **strict** type,  
so **undefined** also can't be used.

**func** :: RealWorld -> (a, RealWorld)



**Executing an IO action**

**func w0 = (x, w1)**



[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Abstract data types

s type with associated **operations**,  
but whose representation is **hidden**.

the built-in **primitive types**, Integer and Float.

**parametrized types** : as a kind of abstract type,  
because some parts of the data type is **undefined**, or **abstract**.

the **interface** is the **set of operations**  
that can be used to manipulate **values** of the data type.

does not manipulate the **part** of the data type that was left **abstract**.

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)



# Strict data types

The **strictness annotation !** on **constructor** fields is used mainly to avoid space leaks

```
data T = T !Int !Int
```

neither component of the T constructor can harbour a space leak, because both components (Int, Int) must be fully evaluated to **Ints** when the constructor is built.

strictness annotations can make **performance worse**

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# IO actions in **pure** procedures – only as a function value

while **pure code** can't execute IO actions,

**pure procedure** can work with them

as with any other **functional values**

- they can be stored in data structures,
- passed as parameters,
- returned as results,
- collected in lists, and
- partially applied.

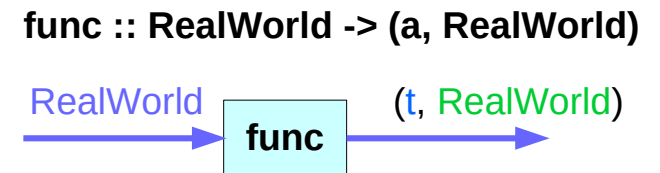
[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Executing IO actions in IO procedures

an **IO action** will remain just a **functional value**  
in partially evaluated form, like any function  
unless the **last argument** of type **RealWorld** is computed

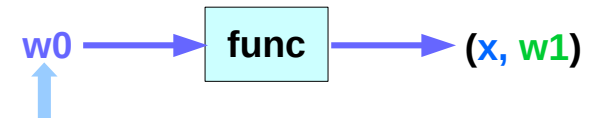
to execute the **IO action** means  
to compute a **value** of the type **(t, RealWorld)**

this can be done only inside some **IO procedure**,  
in its **actions chain**.



**Executing an IO action**

**func w0 = (x, w1)**



[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Executing IO Actions – main chain

**IO actions** like `get2chars` cannot be executed directly because they need a **RealWorld** argument

insert a **Realworld** value in the **main** chain, placing them in some **do** sequence executed from **main**

```
main world0 = let get2chars = getChar >> getChar
                in (((), world1) = putStr "Press two keys" world0
                    (answer, world2) = get2chars world1
                    in ((), world2))
```

either directly in the **main** function  
explicit sequencing

```
main = do let get2chars = getChar >> getChar
           putStr "Press two keys"
           get2chars
           return ()
```

or indirectly in an **IO** function  
Implicit sequencing

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Executing IO actions – trigger

real **execution** of this action will take place only when this **procedure** is called as part of the process of calculating the final value of world for main.

initial value



```
main world0 = let get2chars = getChar >> getChar
                (() , world1) = putStr "Press two keys" world0
                (answer, world2) = get2chars world1
            in (() , world2)
```

final value triggers

three **let** bindings  
**order** not matter

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Executing IO Actions – Order

```
main world0 = let get2chars = getChar >> getChar
                ((), world1) = putStr "Press two keys" world0
                (answer, world2) = get2chars world1
            in ((), world2)
```

three let bindings

## the execution order

- the **let bindings** do not constrain any **order**
- processing **world** values do constrain the **order**

arbitrary reorder the **let** binding statements  
does not affect the execution order.

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# Executing IO Actions – implicit passing the world value

```
main = do let get2chars = getChar >> getChar
          putStr "Press two keys"
          get2chars
          return ()
```

do notation  
sequential order

only one **let** bindings

the **non-let statements** are executed

in the exact order in which they're written,

they still pass the **world** value

from **statement** to **statement** as before

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# List of IO actions

```
ioActions :: [IO ()]
ioActions = [ (print "Hello!"),
              (putStr "just kidding"),
              (getChar >> return ()) ]
```

the real type of this list:

```
ioActions :: [RealWorld -> ((), RealWorld)]
```

insert them into the 'main' chain:

```
main = do head ioActions
          ioActions !! 1
          last ioActions
```

**do** notation  
**sequential order**

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)



# List of IO actions

any **IO action** in a **do** statement or the **>>** or **>>=** operators  
is an **expression** returning a result of type **IO a** for some type **a**

In a function of the type **x -> y -> ... -> IO a**  
with all parameters of the types of **x, y**

**IO a** is really a function type

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# List of IO actions

a function that executes all the **IO actions** in the list:

```
sequence_ :: [IO a] -> IO ()
```

```
sequence_ [] = return ()
```

```
sequence_ (x:xs) = do x
```

```
                sequence_ xs
```

extract IO actions from the list and

insert them into a chain of IO operations

to be executed one after another

to "compute the final world value" of the entire 'sequence\_' call.

```
main = sequence_ ioActions
```

[https://wiki.haskell.org/IO\\_inside#IO\\_actions\\_as\\_values](https://wiki.haskell.org/IO_inside#IO_actions_as_values)

# List methods

<b>length xs</b>	Get the size of the list.
<b>reverse xs</b>	Turn a list backwards.
<b>xs !! n</b>	Get the Nth element out of a list.
<b>head xs</b>	the first element of the list
<b>last xs</b>	the last element of the list
<b>filter my_test xs</b>	Get a list of all elements that match some condition. Returns everything that passes the test
<b>minimum xs</b>	the highest element of a list
<b>maximum x</b>	the lowest element of a list

[https://wiki.haskell.org/How\\_to\\_work\\_on\\_lists](https://wiki.haskell.org/How_to_work_on_lists)

# Implementation of IO t

It is impossible

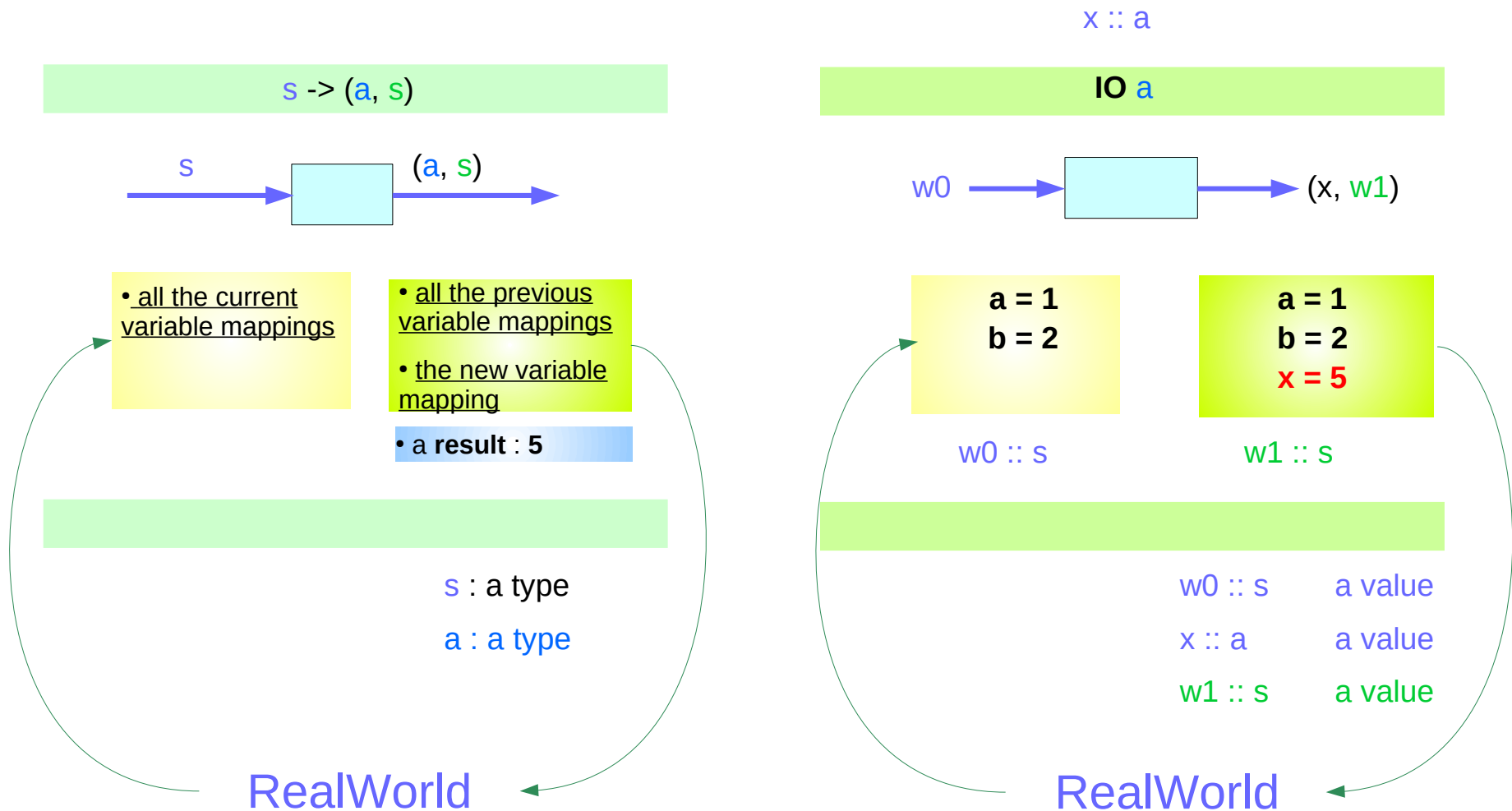
to store the extra copies of the contents of your hard drive  
that each of the Worlds contains

given World → updated World

**type IO a = RealWorld -> (a, RealWorld)**

<https://www.cs.hmc.edu/~adavidso/monads.pdf>

# Variable Mappings : Context



<http://learnyouahaskell.com/for-a-few-monads-more>

# IO Monad in GHC

Which World was given initially?

Which World was updated?

In **GHC**, a **main** must be defined somewhere with type **IO ()**

a program execution starts from the **main**

the **initial World** is contained in the **main** to start everything off

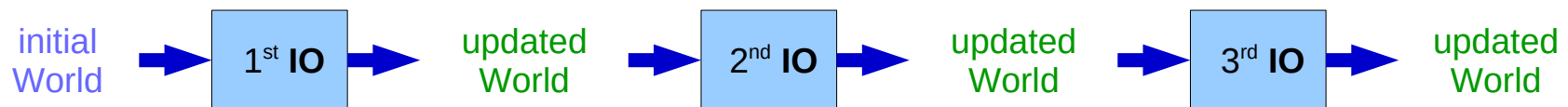
the **main** passes the **updated World** from each **IO**

to the next **IO** as its **initial World**

an **IO** that is not reachable from **main** will never be executed

an **initial / updated World** is not passed to such an **IO**

## The modification of the World



<https://www.cs.hmc.edu/~adavidso/monads.pdf>

# IO Monad in GHC

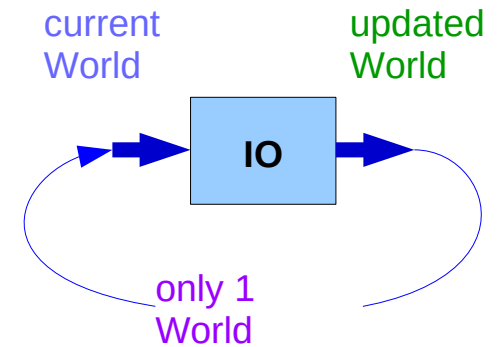
when using **GHC**,  
everything is wrapped in **an implicit IO**,  
since the results get printed out to the screen.

there's **only 1 World** in existence at any given moment.

each **IO** takes that **one and only World**, consumes it,  
and gives back a single **new updated World**.

consequently, there's no way to accidentally run out of Worlds,  
or have multiple ones running around.

the implementation of bind



<https://www.cs.hmc.edu/~adavidso/monads.pdf>

Every time a new **command** is given to **GHCI**,  
**GHCI** passes *the current World* to **IO**,  
**GHCI** gets the *result* of the command back,  
**GHCI** request to display the *result* (**executing actions**)

(which *updates the World* by modifying

- the contents of the screen or
- the list of defined variables or
- the list of loaded modules or whatever),

**GHCI** saves *the new World* to process the next command.

**the implementation of bind**

<https://www.cs.hmc.edu/~adavidso/monads.pdf>



---

## References

- [1] <ftp://ftp.geoinfo.tuwien.ac.at/navratil/HaskellTutorial.pdf>
- [2] <https://www.umiacs.umd.edu/~hal/docs/daume02yaht.pdf>