Intro To Rust

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Coredump Rapperswil



Outline

- 1. What is Rust?
- 2. Getting Started
- 3. Reading Rust
- 4. What is Type Safety?
- 5. Memory Safety in Rust
- 6. Multithreaded Programming
- 7. Rust Community



What is Rust?

What is Rust?

«Rust is a systems programming language that runs blazingly fast, prevents nearly all segfaults, and guarantees thread safety.»

— www.rust-lang.org

What's wrong with systems languages?

- It's difficult to write secure code.
- It's very difficult to write multithreaded code.

These are the problems Rust was made to address.

Quick Facts about Rust

(As of June 2016)

- · Started by Mozilla employee Graydon Hoare
- First announced by Mozilla in 2010
- · Community driven development
- First stable release: 1.0 in May 2015
- · Latest stable release: 1.9
- · More than 54'000 commits on Github
- · Largest well-known project written in Rust: Servo¹

https://servo.org/

Features

- Zero-cost abstractions
- Move semantics
- Guaranteed memory safety
- · Threads without data races
- Trait based generics
- Pattern matching
- Type inference
- · Minimal runtime, no GC
- Efficient C bindings

Getting Started

Getting Started

Installing Rust

«rustup is an installer for the systems programming language Rust»

— www.rustup.rs

- Makes it easy to install different Rust versions
- Successor of multirust
- Written in Rust itself

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- · Makes it easy to install different Rust versions
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- Installing is easy:
 - \$ curl https://sh.rustup.rs -sSf | sh
 Obviously you shouldn't do that;)
- Alternatively you can use https://play.rust-lang.org/

Getting Started

Cargo, Rust's Package Manager

Cargo

- Project and package manager
- · Fetches and builds your project's dependencies
- Invokes rustc or another build tool with the correct parameters to build your project

Cargo – Create a New Project

1 directory, 2 files

Cargo – Compile and Run

```
$ cargo build
   Compiling hello_world v0.1.0 (file:///path/to/project/hello_wo
```

- \$./target/debug/hello world Hello, world!
- \$ cargo run Compiling hello_world v0.1.0 (file:///path/to/project/hello_wo Running `target/debug/hello world`

Hello, world!

Cargo – Dependencies

· Cargo generated a manifest for us:

```
[package]
name = "hello_world"
version = "0.1.0"
authors = ["Your Name <you@example.com>"]
```

 To add a dependency (from https://crates.io or github) we add it to the manifest:

```
[dependencies]
time = "0.1"
```

• Cargo uses semantic versioning $^2 o$ we get the latest 0.1.x version

²http://semver.org/

Cargo – Dependencies

\$ cargo build

Compiling time v0.1.35

```
Updating registry `https://github.com/rust-lang/crates.io-ind
Downloading winapi v0.2.7
Compiling winapi v0.2.7
Compiling winapi-build v0.1.1
Compiling libc v0.2.11
Compiling kernel32-sys v0.2.2
```

Compiling hello world v0.1.0 (file:///path/to/project/hello wo

Cargo – Testing

Rust has integrated unit testing 3

```
#[test]
fn it_works() {
    assert_eq!(1, 1);
}

#[test]
fn it_fails() {
    assert_eq!(1, 2);
}
```

³https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/testing.html

Cargo – Testing

\$ cargo test

running 2 tests

```
test it_fails ... FAILED
test it_works ... ok
...
test result: FAILED. 1 passed; 1 failed; 0 ignored; 0 measured
```

Reading Rust

```
fn gcd(mut n: u64, mut m: u64) -> u64 {
    assert!(n != 0 && m != 0);
   while m != 0 {
        if m < n {
           let t = m; m = n; n = t;
        m = m \% n;
```

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```

Structs

Structs

```
pub struct Point {
   x: f64,
   y: f64,
}
```

```
pub struct Point {
 x: f64,
 v: f64.
impl Point {
 /// static method ("constructor" per convention)
 pub fn new() -> Point {
   Point { x: 0.0, y: 0.0 }
 pub fn distance from zero(δself) -> f64 {
   (self.x*self.x + self.y*self.y).sqrt()
```

Structs: Usage

```
let p = Point::new();
assert eq!(p.x, 0.0);
assert_eq!(p.y, 0.0);
let p = Point \{ x: 1.0, y: 2.0 \};
assert eq!(p.x, 1.0);
assert eq!(p.y, 2.0);
let p = Point \{ x: 3.0, y: 4.0 \};
assert eq!(p.distance from zero(), 5.0);
```

Enumerations

- In its simplest form similar to C/C++ (but type safe)
- · Data that is one of several possible variants

Enumerations

- In its simplest form similar to C/C++ (but type safe)
- · Data that is one of several possible variants
- We can match (switch) on enums
- · We must match all variants

Enums with data

```
pub enum Shape {
  Circle{radius: f64},
  Rectangle{width: f64, height: f64},
}
```

 A Shape is Either a Circle with radius or a Rectangle with width and height

Traits

```
trait HasArea {
  fn area(&self) -> f64;
}
```

- · Like interfaces
- Defines functionality a type must provide

Trait Implementation

```
struct Circle {
 x: f64,
 y: f64,
 radius: f64,
impl HasArea for Circle {
 fn area(&self) -> f64 {
    consts::PI * (self.radius * self.radius)
```

Trait Based Generics

```
fn min<T: Ord>(a: T, b: T) -> T {
  if a <= b { a } else { b }
}</pre>
```

Trait Based Generics

```
fn min<T: Ord>(a: T, b: T) -> T {
 if a <= b { a } else { b }
min(10i8, 20) == 10; // T is i8
min(10, 20u32) == 10; // T is u32
min("abc", "xyz") == "abc"; // Strings are Ord
min(10i32, "xyz"); // error: mismatched types
```

Generic Types

```
struct Range<Idx> {
   start: Idx,
   end: Idx,
}
```

Generic Types

```
struct Range<Idx> {
    start: Idx,
    end: Idx,
}
...
Range { start: 200, end: 800 } // OK
Range { start: 1.3, end: 4.7 } // Also OK
```

Generic Enumerations

```
enum Option<T> {
   Some(T),
   None
}
```

Application of Option<T>

```
fn safe_div(n: i32, d: i32) -> Option<i32> {
   if d == 0 {
      return None;
   }
   Some(n / d)
}
```

Matching an Option

```
match safe_div(num, denom) {
  None => println!("No quotient."),
  Some(v) => println!("Quotient is {}.", v)
}
```

What is Type Safety?

A C Program

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    unsigned long a[1];
    a[3] = 0x7fffff7b36cebUL;
    return 0;
}
```

A C Program

```
int main(int argc, char **argv) {
    unsigned long a[1];
    a[3] = 0x7ffff7b36cebUL;
    return 0;
According to C99, undefined behavior. Output:
undef: Error: .netrc file is readable by others.
undef: Remove password or make file unreadable by others.
```

Definitions

- If a program has been written so that no possible execution can exhibit undefined behavior, we say that program is **well defined**.
- If a language's type system ensures that every program is well defined, we say that language is **type safe**.

Type Safe Languages

- C and C++ are not type safe.
- Python is type safe:

```
>>> a = [0]
>>> a[3] = 0x7ffff7b36ceb
Traceback (most recent call last):
File "", line 1, in <module>
IndexError: list assignment index out of range
>>>
```

· Java, JavaScript, Ruby, and Haskell are also type safe.

It's Ironic.

- C and C++ are not type safe.
- Yet they are being used to implement the foundations of a system.
- · Rust tries to resolve that tension

Memory Safety in Rust

To guarantee memory safety, Rust gives us three key promises:

• No null pointer dereferences

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 - There are no null pointers in safe Rust
 - For error handling and control flow, Option and Result types are used.

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 - For error handling and control flow, Option and Result types are used.
- No dangling pointers
 - The concepts of "ownership", "borrowing" and "lifetimes" prevent the use of uninitialized or freed pointers
- · No buffer overruns
 - · There's no pointer arithmetic in safe Rust
 - Arrays in Rust are not just pointers
 - There are runtime bounds checks for indexing
 - · But most stdlib functions use iterators, which are checked at compile time

Memory Safety in Rust

Promise 1: No null pointer dereferences

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But they can introduce severe bugs.

Rust separates the concept of a pointer from the concept of an optional or error value.

Optional values are handled by **Option<T>**.

Error values are handled by **Result<T**, **E>**.

Many helpful tools to do error handling.

You already saw Option<T>

```
fn safe_div(n: i32, d: i32) -> Option<i32> {
    if d == 0 {
        return None;
    }
    Some(n / d)
}
```

You already saw Option<T>

```
fn safe_div(n: i32, d: i32) -> Option<i32> {
    if d == 0 {
        return None;
    }
    Some(n / d)
}
```

But what if you want to return an error, not just **None**?

There's also Result<T, E>

```
enum Result<T, E> {
    Ok(T),
    Err(E)
}
```

How to use Results:

```
enum Error {
    DivisionByZero,
fn safe_div(n: i32, d: i32) -> Result<i32, Error> {
    if d == 0 {
        return Err(Error::DivisionByZero);
   0k(n / d)
```

How to use Results:

```
enum Error {
    DivisionByZero,
fn safe div(n: i32, d: i32) -> Result<i32, Error> {
    if d == 0 {
        return Err(Error::DivisionByZero);
   0k(n / d)
```

It's good practice to define your own error types instead of using strings.

But Result can get tedious...

```
fn do calc() -> Result<i32, String> {
   let a = match do subcalc1() {
        Ok(val) => val,
        Err(msg) => return Err(msg),
   let b = match do subcalc2() {
        Ok(val) => val,
        Err(msg) => return Err(msg),
   0k(a + b)
```

Ergonomic error handling with the try! macro

```
fn do_calc() -> Result<i32, String> {
    let a = try!(do_subcalc1());
    let b = try!(do_subcalc2());
    Ok(a + b)
}
```

Ergonomic error handling with the try! macro

```
fn do_calc() -> Result<i32, String> {
    let a = try!(do_subcalc1());
    let b = try!(do_subcalc2());
    Ok(a + b)
}
```

Note: Error signature must match!

Mapping Errors

What if the signature does not match?

Mapping Errors

```
What if the signature does not match? Then we can use map_err():
fn do subcalc() -> Result<i32, String> { ... }
fn do calc() -> Result<i32, Error> {
    let res = do subcalc();
    let mapped = res.map err(|msg| {
        println!("Error: {}", msg);
        Error::CalcFailed
    });
    let val = try!(mapped);
    0k(val + 1)
```

Mapping Errors: A closer look

```
let mapped = res.map_err(|msg| Error::CalcFailed);
...is the same as...
let mapped = match res {
    Ok(val) => Ok(val),
    Err(msg) => Err(Error::CalcFailed),
}
```

Memory Safety in Rust

Promise 2: No dangling pointers

Promise 2: No dangling pointers

- Rust programs never try to access a heap-allocated value after it has been freed.
- By default, no garbage collection or reference counting involved!
- Everything is enforced at compile-time.

Three Rules

Rule 1

Every value has a single owner at any given time.

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You can borrow a reference to a value, so long as the reference doesn't outlive the value.

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You can borrow a reference to a value, so long as the reference doesn't outlive the value.

Rule 3

You can only modify a value when you have exclusive access to it.

Ownership

- Variable bindings own their values
- · A struct owns its fields
- · An enum owns its values
- Every heap-allocated value has a single pointer that owns it
- · All values are dropped when their owner is dropped

Ownership: Scoping

If a value goes out of scope, the corresponding memory is automatically freed.

```
{
    let s = "Chuchichästli".to_string();
} // s goes out of scope, memory is freed
```

Ownership: Move Semantics

Ownership is moved by default.

```
let s = "Chuchichästli".to_string();

// t1 takes ownership from s
let t1 = s;

// compile-time error: use of moved value s
let t2 = s;
```

Ownership: Opt-in Implicit Copy Semantics

Types that implement the **Copy** marker trait (more about traits later) are copied instead of moved. The stdlib implements **Copy** for all primitive types.

```
let pi = 3.1415926f32;
let foo = pi;
let bar = pi; // This is fine!
```

Ownership: Opt-in Explicit Copy Semantics

If you prefer copies to be explicit, you can implement the **Clone** trait instead.

```
let s = "Chuchichästli".to_string();
let t1 = s.clone();
let t2 = s.clone();
```

Ownership: Deriving Copy / Clone

The compiler can automatically derive implementations of **Copy** and **Clone** for us.

```
#[derive(Copy, Clone)]
struct Color {
    r: u8,
    g: u8,
    b: u8
}
```

Ownership: Function Parameters

But what about this?

fn print_loud(text: String) { println!("{}!!!!", text); }
let s = "Hello, Mozillians".to_string();
print_loud(s);
println!("{}", s);

Ownership: Function Parameters

But what about this?

fn print_loud(text: String) { println!("{}!!!!!", text); }
let s = "Hello, Mozillians".to_string();
print_loud(s);
println!("{}", s);

Borrowing

Instead of moving a value, it can also be borrowed.

```
fn print_loud(text: &String) { println!("{}!!!!", text); }
let s = "Hello, Mozillians".to_string();
print_loud(&s);
println!("Original value was {}", s);
```

Many functions can borrow at the same time, because they cannot modify.

Mutable Borrowing

If you need exclusive (=write) access, you can use mutable borrows.

```
fn make_loud(text: &mut String) { text.push_str("!!!!!"); };
let mut s = "Hello, Mozillians".to_string();
make_loud(&mut s);
println!("New value is {}", s);
```

While borrow a mutable reference to a value, that refrence is the only way to access that value at all.

Borrowing prevents moving

While borrowed, a move must be prevented. Otherwise you might end up with a dangling pointer.

```
let x = String::new();
let borrow = &x;
let y = x;
```

Lifetimes

What's the problem here?

```
let borrow;
let x = String::new();
borrow = &x;
```

```
error: `x` does not live long enough
   borrow = &x;
   ^
```

Lifetimes

The lifetime of the borrow is longer than the lifetime of 'x'.

```
let borrow;
let x = String::new();
borrow = \delta x;
This can also be visualized differently:
    let borrow;
         let x = String::new();
         borrow = \delta x;
```

Using lifetime checking, the compiler guarantees that there are no dangling pointers.

Memory Safety in Rust

Promise 3: No buffer overruns

No buffer overruns: Recap

- There's no pointer arithmetic in safe Rust
- Arrays in Rust are not just pointers
- There are runtime bounds checks for indexing
- But most stdlib functions use iterators, which are checked at compile time

Multithreaded Programming

We'll make this short

- The Rust compiler does not know about concurrency
- Everything works based on the three rules⁴
- · We'll step through an example

⁴Slide 47

Threads

```
let t1 = std::thread::spawn(|| { return 23; });
let t2 = std::thread::spawn(|| { return 19; });

let v1 = t1.join().unwrap();
let v2 = t2.join().unwrap();

println!("{} + {} = {}", v1, v2, v1 + v2);
```

Shared Data

let mut data = vec![0];

```
let t1 = thread::spawn(|| { data.push(19); });
error: closure may outlive the current function, but it borrows `data`,
which is owned by the current function [E0373]
    let t1 = thread::spawn(|| {
        data.push(19);
    }):
note: `data` is borrowed here
    data.push(19);
    ^~~~
help: to force the closure to take ownership of `data` (and any other
referenced variables), use the `move` keyword, as shown:
     let t1 = thread::spawn(move || {
         data.push(19);
     });
```

Shared Data (2) – Move data

Let's move the data into the Thread.

```
let mut data = vec![0];
let t1 = thread::spawn(move || { data.push(19); });
```

Shared Data (3) – Outside Access

```
But now we can't access it anymore..
```

```
let mut data = vec![0];
let t1 = thread::spawn(move || { data.push(19); });
t1.join().unwrap();
println!("Data: {:?}", data);
```

65/73

Shared Data (4) - Arcs

Atomic reference counting to the rescue! let data = Arc::new(vec![0]); let data2 = data.clone(); let t1 = thread::spawn(move | | { println!("Data2: {:?}", data2); }); t1.join().unwrap(); println!("Data: {:?}", data);

```
Data2: [0]
Data: [0]
```

Shared Data (5) – Mutate?

```
let data = Arc::new(vec![0]);
let mut data2 = data.clone();
let t1 = thread::spawn(move | | {
    data2.push(1);
});
t1.join().unwrap();
println!("Data: {:?}", data);
```

```
error: cannot borrow immutable borrowed content as mutable
  data2.push(1);
```

^~~~~

Shared Data (6) - Arc + Mutex

```
let data = Arc::new(Mutex::new(vec![0]));
let data2 = data.clone();
let t1 = thread::spawn(move || {
    let mut guard = data2.lock().unwrap();
    guard.push(1);
});
t1.join().unwrap();
println!("Data: {:?}", *data.lock().unwrap());
```

Data: [0, 1]

Shared Data (7) – Multiple Threads

Now we can also create multiple threads.

```
let data2 = data.clone();
let t1 = thread::spawn(move || {
    let mut guard = data2.lock().unwrap();
    guard.push(1);
});
let data3 = data.clone();
let t2 = thread::spawn(move || {
    let mut guard = data3.lock().unwrap();
    guard.push(2);
}):
```

Channels

Besides threading, you can also use channels:

```
use std::sync::mpsc::channel;
```

Signature:

```
fn channel<T>() -> (Sender<T>, Receiver<T>)
```

Rust Community

Projects Using Rust⁶

- Rust / Cargo itself :)
- Servo, the Parallel Browser Engine https://servo.org
- Dropbox⁵
- Maidsafe The New Decentralized Internet http://maidsafe.net
- Parity Next Generation Ethereum Client https://ethcore.io/parity.html

⁵https://www.reddit.com/r/rust/comments/4adabk/the_epic_story_of_dropboxs_exodus_from_the_amazon/

⁶https://www.rust-lang.org/friends.html

Rust Community Considered Helpful⁸

- The Rust Community is really friendly and welcoming
- You can get help on:
 - Reddit https://www.reddit.com/r/rust/
 - IRC⁷
 - User Forum https://users.rust-lang.org/
 - Stackoverflow http://stackoverflow.com/questions/tagged/rust
- Discussions about the language
 - Forum https://internals.rust-lang.org/
 - GitHub RFCs https://github.com/rust-lang/rfcs/

Thttps://client00.chat.mibbit.com/?server=irc.mozilla.org&channel=%23rust

⁸https://www.rust-lang.org/community.html

Rust Projects — Looking for a side project?

• SpaceAPI⁹ implementation: https://github.com/coredump-ch/spaceapi-rs https://github.com/coredump-ch/spaceapi-server-rs https://github.com/coredump-ch/status

rpsrtsrs: https://github.com/coredump-ch/rpsrtsrs

⁹http://spaceapi.net/

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• rpsrtsrs: https://github.com/coredump-ch/rpsrtsrs

• Easy issues: https://github.com/servo/servo/labels/E-easy https://this-week-in-rust.org/

⁹http://spaceapi.net/

Thank you!

www.coredump.ch

Slides: https://github.com/coredump-ch/intro-to-rust

Examples: https://github.com/coredump-ch/intro-to-rust/tree/master/examples

