

New issue

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# VecDeque: length 0 underflow and bogus values from pop\_front(), triggered by a certain sequence of reserve(), push\_back(), make\_contiguous(), pop\_front() #79808

Closed ayourtch opened this issue on Dec 7, 2020 · 9 comments · Fixed by #79814

Assignees



Labels

A-collections C-bug I-unsound P-critical T-libs T-libs-api

ayourtch commented on Dec 7, 2020 • edited

This is my first bug report, so please correct me s if I miss anything :-)

I use VecDeque in a toy application (<https://github.com/ayourtch/flex-sftp-server>) which is handling external reads in a loop, and does possible partial handling of the input.

My pattern is I call reserve(N) before push\_back() N times, then make\_contiguous(), then doing some pop\_front(). I noticed the app was behaving badly, and was able to generate a stand-alone test case which shows the bug.

The code is pretty boring and repetitive, so I put it at <https://github.com/ayourtch/deq-bug/> to avoid spamming here.

Just issue "cargo run" after cloning out that code, and look for the word "BUG" within the terminal output.

According to the docs, pop\_front() on an empty VecDeque should return None.

Instead, this happens:

```
pop: Some(75)
pop: Some(6e)
pop: Some(74)
pop: Some(75)
deq len: 0
pop: Some(2f)
BUG ^^^
deq len: 31
pop: Some(75)
pop: Some(62)
pop: Some(75)
pop: Some(6e)
```

If I set the boolean "do\_reserve" to be false, thus getting rid of all the reserve() calls, I get the expected behavior:

```
pop: Some(75)
pop: Some(6e)
pop: Some(74)
pop: Some(75)
deq len: 0
pop: None
BUG ^^^
deq len: 0
pop: None
pop: None
pop: None
pop: None
pop: None
```

The same happens if I set "do\_make\_contiguous" to false as well - so calling both functions is a prerequisite to trigger the bug. The same thing happens in debug and release builds.

## Meta

The below is the version I found it in, but thanks a lot to Steve Klabnik for also testing it on nightly and getting the same buggy behavior.

```
rustc --version --verbose :

rustc 1.48.0 (7eac88abb 2020-11-16)
binary: rustc
commit-hash: 7eac88abb2e57e752f3302f02be5f3ce3d7adfb4
commit-date: 2020-11-16
host: x86_64-unknown-linux-gnu
release: 1.48.0
LLVM version: 11.0
```

ayourtch added the C-bug label on Dec 7, 2020

jonas-schievink added A-collections E-needs-mcve T-libs labels on Dec 7, 2020

naim94a commented on Dec 7, 2020

I created a minimal sample:

```
use std::collections::VecDeque;

fn ab(dq: &mut VecDeque<i32>, sz: usize) {
    for i in 0..sz {
        dq.push_back(i as _);
    }
    dq.make_contiguous();
    for _ in 0..sz {
        dq.pop_front();
    }
}

fn main() {
    let mut dq = VecDeque::with_capacity(2);
    ab(&mut dq, 2);
    ab(&mut dq, 3);

    dbg!(dq.len()); // this is zero

    dbg!(dq.pop_front()); // uaf+double frees
}
```



**jonas-schievink** added `I-unsound` and removed `E-needs-mcve` labels on Dec 7, 2020

**rustbot** added the `I-prioritize` label on Dec 7, 2020

**camelid** commented on Dec 7, 2020

Member

Hmm, if it double-frees then why does Miri not catch it?

**camelid** added `P-critical` and removed `I-prioritize` labels on Dec 7, 2020

**camelid** commented on Dec 7, 2020

Member

Assigning `P-critical` and removing `I-prioritize` as [discussed](#) in the prioritization working group.

**camelid** added the `T-libs-api` label on Dec 7, 2020

**leonardo-m** commented on Dec 7, 2020

Some time ago I've read somewhere that Rust stdlib VecDeque is cursed. I didn't believe them. I'm changing opinion... :-



**naim94a** commented on Dec 7, 2020

Hmm, if it double-frees then why does Miri not catch it?

This specific case doesn't double free (`i32::drop` is a noop), using a `Box` might have been a better example...

**camelid** commented on Dec 7, 2020

Member

Still, this is memory-unsafe, right?

**naim94a** commented on Dec 7, 2020

Yes, It's still a use-after-free regardless



*This comment has been minimized.*

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**lcnr** self-assigned this on Dec 7, 2020

**camelid** commented on Dec 7, 2020 • edited

Member

Yes, It's still a use-after-free regardless


@**naim94a** Based on my conversation with **lcnr**, **jonas-schievink**, and others [on Zulip](#), it seems that using `make_contiguous` with copy types is *not* UB (it still exhibits a bug though!) because copy types aren't freed. It is UB with non-copy types though (e.g. `Box`).

**lcnr** mentioned this issue on Dec 7, 2020

**fix soundness issue in `make_contiguous` #79814**

[↪ Merged](#)

 **bors** closed this as completed in [d32c320](#) on Dec 10, 2020

 **Qwaz** mentioned this issue on Dec 21, 2020

**Add advisories for standard library soundness bugs** rustsec/advisory-db#539



 **matled** mentioned this issue on Dec 22, 2020

**VecDeque iter+collect causes an infinite loop (1.48.0)** #80293



 **JohnTitor** added a commit to JohnTitor/rust that referenced this issue on Jan 10, 2021



39e1331

 **bors** added a commit to rust-lang-ci/rust that referenced this issue on Jan 11, 2021



cc4a086

 **JohnTitor** added a commit to JohnTitor/rust that referenced this issue on Jan 12, 2021



a9e3125

 **JohnTitor** mentioned this issue on Jan 12, 2021

**Rollup of 8 pull requests** #80939



 **bors** added a commit to rust-lang-ci/rust that referenced this issue on Jan 12, 2021



b6b4616

Assignees

 **lcnr**

Labels

**A-collections** **C-bug** **I-unsound** **P-critical** **T-libs** **T-libs-api**

Projects


None yet

Milestone

No milestone

Development

Successfully merging a pull request may close this issue.

 **fix soundness issue in make\_contiguous**  
lcnr/rust

7 participants

