

20CYS312 - Principles of Programing Languages - Lab Exercise 11

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Custom Iterator: EvenNumbers in Rust

Objective

The objective of this lab exercise is to learn how to **implement a custom iterator** in Rust by defining a struct (`EvenNumbers`), implementing the **Iterator** trait, and using the **next()** method to generate even numbers. You will also practice using this iterator to print the first **10 even numbers** in the `main()` function.

Code

Define a Custom Iterator for Even Numbers

```
// Define a custom iterator for even numbers
struct EvenNumbers {
    current: u32,
    limit: u32,
}

// Implement the Iterator trait for EvenNumbers
impl Iterator for EvenNumbers {
    type Item = u32;
```

```

fn next(&mut self) → Option<Self::Item> {
    if self.current > self.limit {
        return None; // Stop when the limit is reached
    }

    let next_even = self.current;
    self.current += 2; // Move to the next even number

    Some(next_even)
}

// Function to create a new EvenNumbers iterator
fn even_numbers(limit: u32) → EvenNumbers {
    EvenNumbers { current: 2, limit }
}

fn main() {
    println!("First 10 even numbers:");

    // Create an EvenNumbers iterator
    let even_iter = even_numbers(30);

    // Print the first 10 even numbers
    for num in even_iter.take(10) {
        println!("{}", num);
    }
}

```

Output

```
First 10 even numbers:  
2  
4  
6  
8  
10  
12  
14  
16  
18  
20
```

First 10 even numbers:

2
4
6
8
10
12
14
16
18
20

Explanation

1. Define the EvenNumbers Struct:

- This struct holds two fields:
 - `current`: Tracks the current even number.
 - `limit`: Specifies the maximum value the iterator will produce.

2. Implement the Iterator Trait:

- `type Item = u32;` defines the type of values the iterator yields.
- `next()` method:
 - If `current` exceeds `limit`, return `None` (stopping condition).
 - Otherwise:
 - Store the current value.
 - Increment by `2` to get the next even number.
 - Return `Some(next_even)`.

3. Create the `even_numbers()` Function:

- This function initializes and returns an `EvenNumbers` iterator.

4. Demonstrate the Iterator in `main()`:

- Create an iterator that generates even numbers up to `30`.
- Use `.take(10)` to limit the output to the **first 10 even numbers**.
- Print each value using a `for` loop.

Conclusion

This program successfully implements a **custom iterator** in Rust. You learned how to:

1. Define a **struct** to track iterator state.
2. Implement the **Iterator** trait and its `next()` method.
3. Use the `.take()` method to **limit** the output from the iterator.
4. Generate and print the **first 10 even numbers** sequentially.

This knowledge is crucial for designing efficient and reusable iterators in Rust.