

The Typestate Pattern

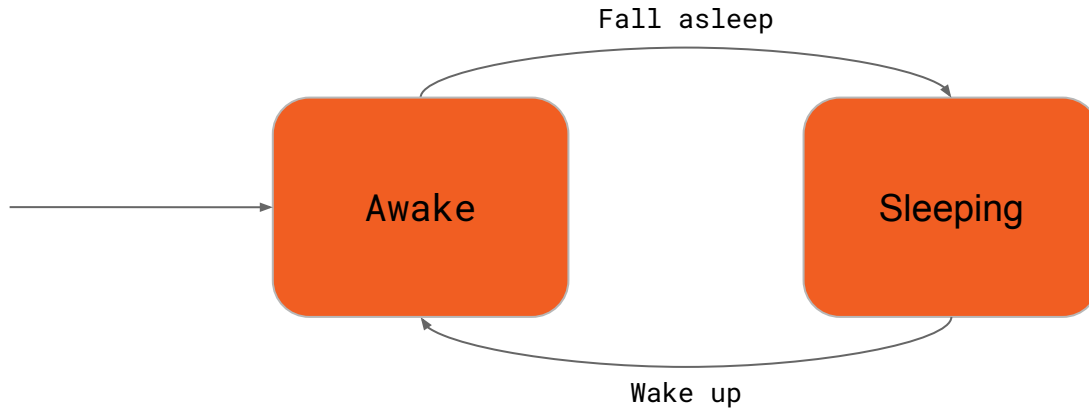
“Easy to use and hard to misuse”



Typestate? What?

- Express State Machines in code
 - Graph-like structures, think “Coffee Machine”
 - Structures must be known statically
 - State transitions can be I/O, communication, ...

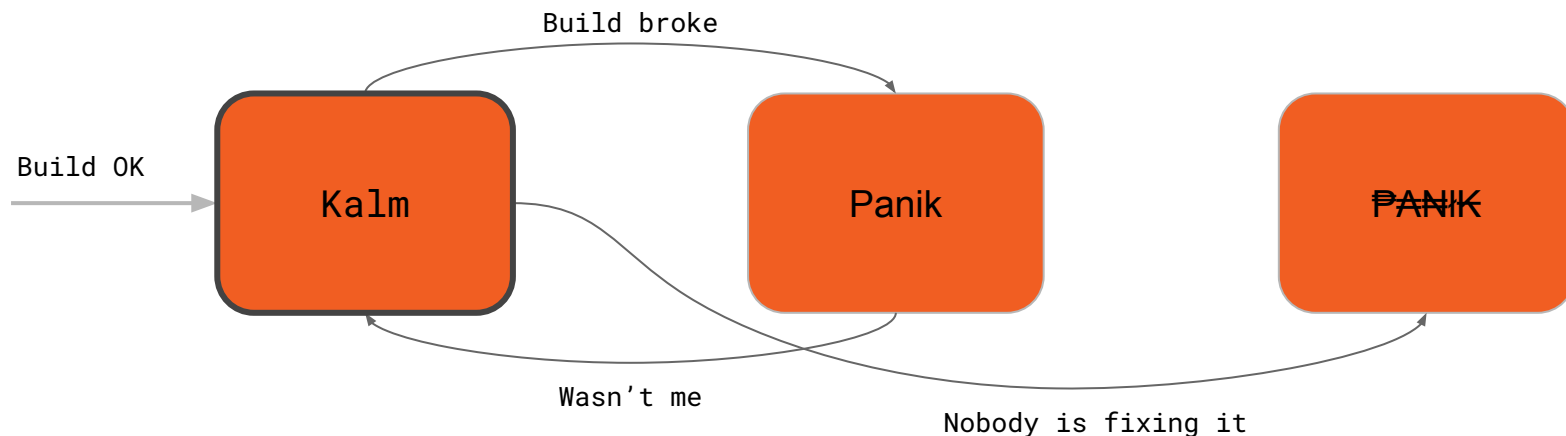
State Machine? What?



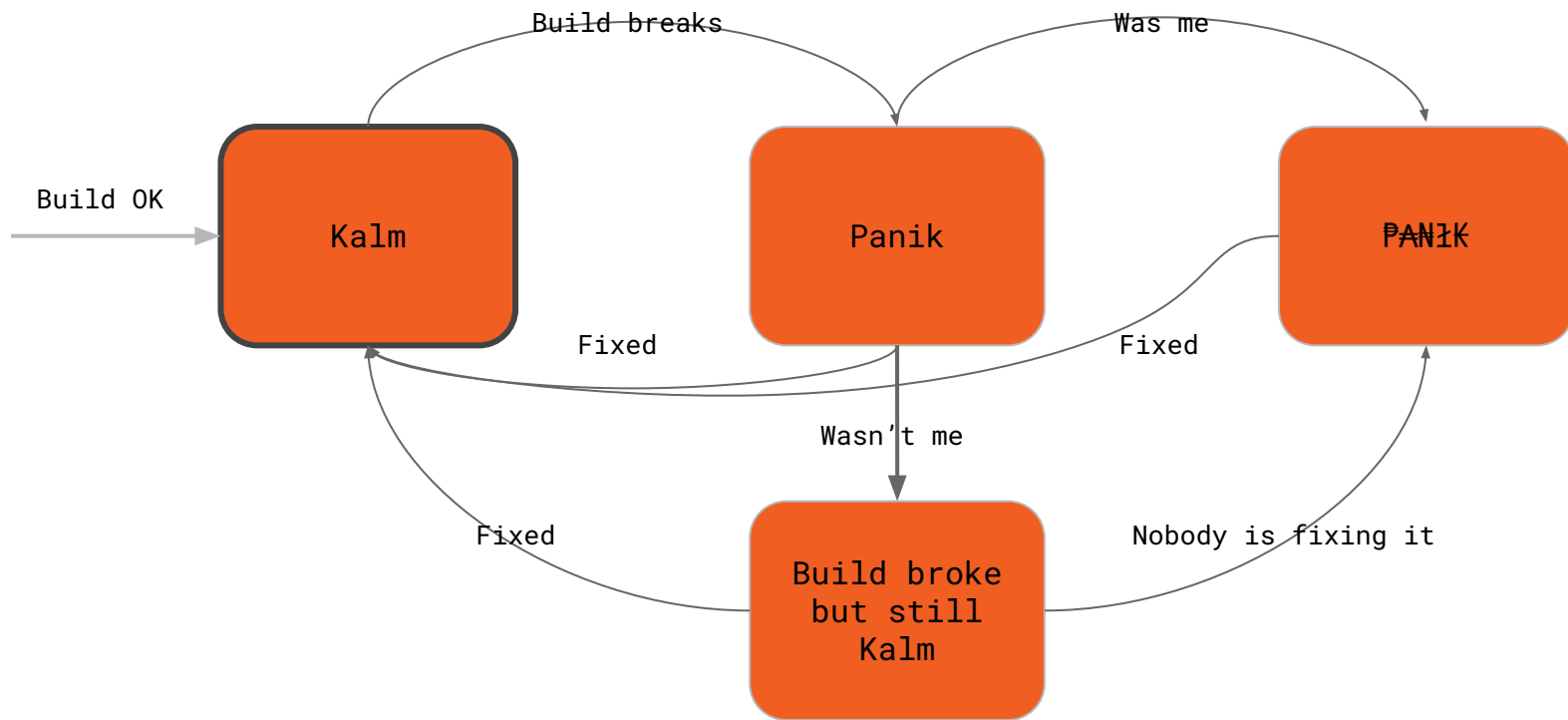
State Machine? What?

Build broke	 Panik
Wasn't me	 Kalm
Nobody is fixing it	 Panik

State Machine? What? Bad Example

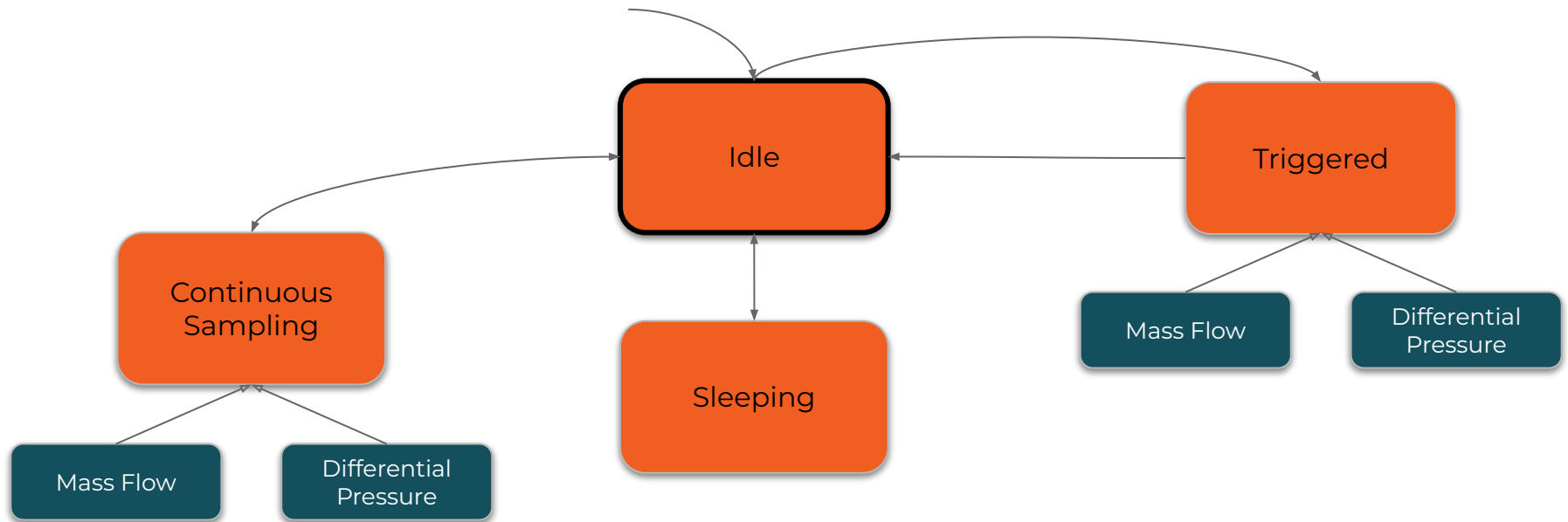


State Machine? What? Better Example



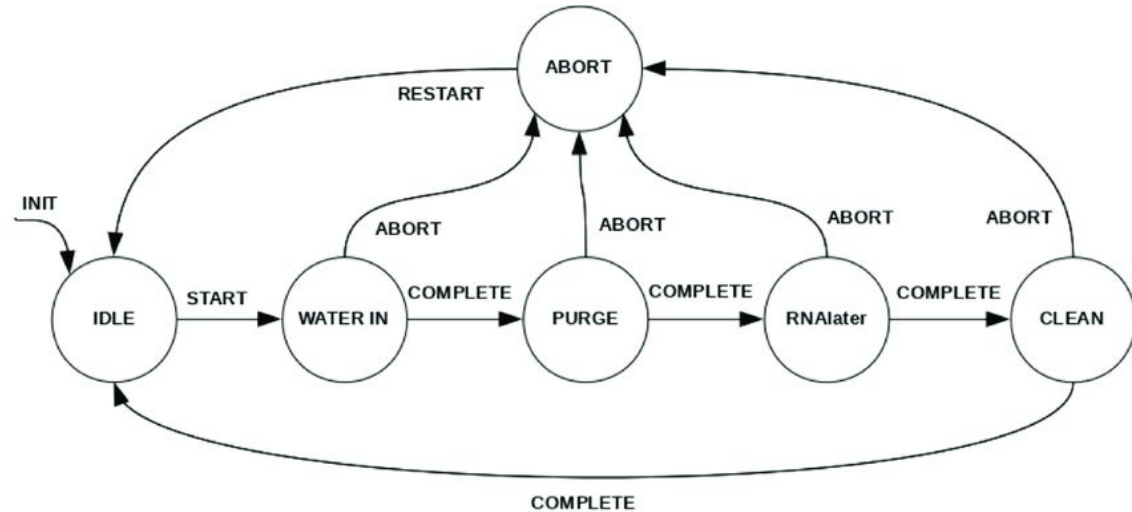
State Machine? What? Another Example

SDP8xx Sensor Datasheet lists **operation modes**



State Machines are EVERYWHERE

- Hardware drivers
- Protocol decoding
- Aspects of async/await
- Physical processes
- Model Checking



Ribeiro, H., Martins, A., Goncalves, M., Guedes, M., Tomasino, M., Dias, N., Dias, A., Mucha, A., Carvalho, M., Almeida, C., Ramos, S., Almeida, J., Silva, E., & Magalhães, C. (2019). Development of an autonomous biosampler to capture in situ aquatic microbiomes. *PLOS ONE*, 14, e0216882.

How to implement? YOLO Approach

```
readBuffer == "AT+C001";  
digitalWrite(setPin, LOW);           // Set HC-12 into AT Command mode  
delay(100);                           // Wait for the HC-12 to enter AT Command mode  
HC12.print(readBuffer);               // Send AT Command to HC-12 ("AT+C001")  
delay(200);  
while (HC12.available()) {           // If HC-12 has data (the AT Command response)  
    Serial.write(HC12.read());        // Send the data to Serial monitor  
}  
Serial.println("Channel successfully changed");  
digitalWrite(setPin, HIGH);          // Exit AT Command mode  
readBuffer = "";
```

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```

What are the (many) drawbacks here?

How to implement? Enum Approach

Javadoc path: [com.google.gdata.data.projecthosting.Enum.State.Value](#)

An issue can be:

Enum Constant Summary	
CLOSED	Closed state.
OPEN	Open state.

Issue state needs to be checked for each operation.

An issue can be closed more than once.

State-local data “validity” depends on values of other variables.

com.google.gdata.data.projecthosting
Enum State.Value

java.lang.Object
└ java.lang.Enum<[State.Value](#)>
 └ [com.google.gdata.data.projecthosting.State.Value](#)

All Implemented Interfaces:

java.io.Serializable, java.lang.Comparable<[State.Value](#)>

Enclosing class:

[State](#)

```
public static enum State.Value  
extends java.lang.Enum<State.Value>
```

Value.

```

function process(state, event) {
  switch (state) {
    case 'start':
      if (event === 'SUBMIT') {
        return 'loading';
      }
      break;
    case 'loading':
      if (event === 'RESOLVE') {
        return 'success';
      } else if (event === 'REJECT') {
        return 'error';
      }
      break;
    case 'success':
      // Accept no further events
      break;
    case 'error':
      if (event === 'SUBMIT') {
        return 'loading';
      }
      break;
    default:
      // This should never occur
      return undefined;
  }
}

```

- Easy
- Runtime state management
- Illegal states/events/transitions must be handled
- May require Union/Option/... for state-local data

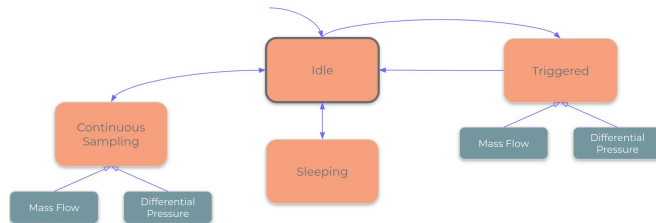
Type System Approach

- **States** are types (with optional data)
- **Transitions** are functions
 - Signatures state transitions from type to type
 - Pass-by-move
 - Perform necessary I/O, communication, etc.

Type System Approach

State the **operation modes** as types

```
pub struct IdleState;  
pub struct TriggeredState;  
pub struct SleepState;  
  
pub struct ContinuousSamplingState<MeasurementType> {  
    meas_type: PhantomData<MeasurementType>,  
}  
  
pub struct DifferentialPressure;  
pub struct MassFlow;
```



Type System Approach

Define the possible **state transitions** as types

```
/// Transition from Idle to Sleep state
pub type IdleToSleep<I2C, D> = Sdp8xx<I2C, D, SleepState>;

/// Transition from Sleep to Idle state
pub type SleepToIdle<I2C, D> = Result<Sdp8xx<I2C, D, IdleState>, Error<I2C>>;
```

Why use `Result<T, E>`?: Some **transitions** are fallible.

Type System Approach

Implement the possible **state transitions** as **owning** methods

```
/// Transition from Idle to Sleep state
pub fn go_to_sleep(mut self) -> IdleToSleep<I2C, D>;

/// Transition from Sleep to Idle state
pub fn wake_up(mut self) -> SleepToIdle<I2C, D>;
```


Type System Approach

Construction of **initial state** requires **ownership** of resources!

```
impl<I2C, D, E> Sdp8xx<I2C, D, IdleState>
  where /* snip */ {
  pub fn new(i2c: I2C, address: u8, delay: D) -> Self {
    Sdp8xx {
      i2c,
      address,
      delay,
      state: PhantomData::<IdleState>,
    }
  }
}
```

Type System Approach

Transition from **Sleep** state to **Idle** state:

```
impl<I2C, D, E> Sdp8xx<I2C, D, SleepState>
  where /* snip */ {
  pub fn wake_up(mut self) -> SleepToIdle<I2C, D> {
    self.send_command(Command::WakeUp)?;
    // some more work here ...
    Ok(Sdp8xx {
      i2c: self.i2c,
      address: self.address,
      delay: self.delay,
      state: PhantomData::<IdleState>,
    })
  }
}
```

<https://github.com/barafael/sdp8xx-rs/blob/0590f5801ce2d915399e6a2f4e505bf83d0f626a/sdp8xx/src/lib.rs#L301>

Ingredients of Rust Typestate

- Move Semantics:
- Modularity:
- Visibility Rules:
- Zero-Sized Types:

State transitions

Hide boilerplate

Prevent invalid use

Make it cheap

Advantages

The state transitions are **by-move**.

The new state **consumes** the previous one.

Memory cost:

```
core::mem::size_of::<ContinuousSamplingState<MassFlow>>() == 0
```

(ignoring runtime state, of course)

Advantages

- Operations and data are available only in “their” state
- “Function call ordering” is enforced
- Impossible to misuse
- Autocomplete goodness
- Nice compiler errors

```
mismatched types  
expected struct `SwitchMonitor<switch_monitor::Active>`  
   found struct `SwitchMonitor<switch_monitor::Passive>`
```

Example: Sensirion Pressure Sensor

```
#[test]
fn go_to_sleep() {
    let bytes: [u8; 2] = Command::EnterSleepMode.into();
    let expectations = [
        Transaction::write(0x25, bytes.into()),
        /* dummy data */ Transaction::write(0x25, vec![]),
        Transaction::write(0x25, vec![]).with_error(MockError::Io(ErrorKind::Other)),
        Transaction::write(0x25, vec![]),
    ];
    let mock = I2cMock::new(&expectations);
    let sdp = Sdp8xx::new(mock, 0x25, DelayMock);
    let sleeping = sdp.go_to_sleep().unwrap();
    let sdp = sleeping.wake_up().unwrap();
    sdp.release().done();
}
```

Example: Hc-12 Wireless Module

```
let serial = serial::Mock::new(&transactions);
let hc12 = Hc12::new(serial, set_pin, delay);
let mut hc12 = hc12.into_configuration_mode().unwrap();

assert!(hc12.is_ok());

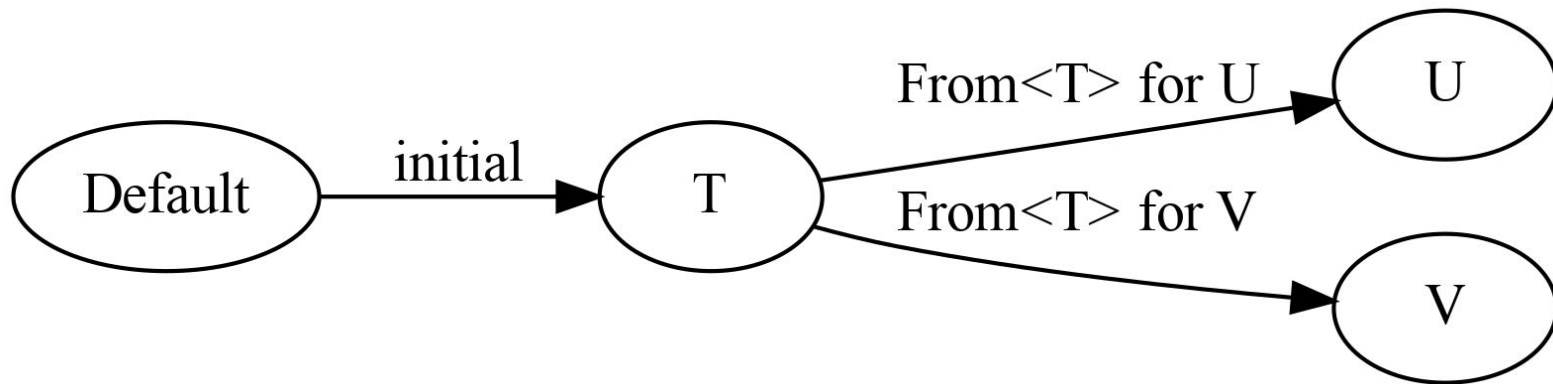
assert_eq!(hc12.get_version(), b"VERSION-42\r\n");

let params = hc12.get_parameters().unwrap();
assert_eq!(...);

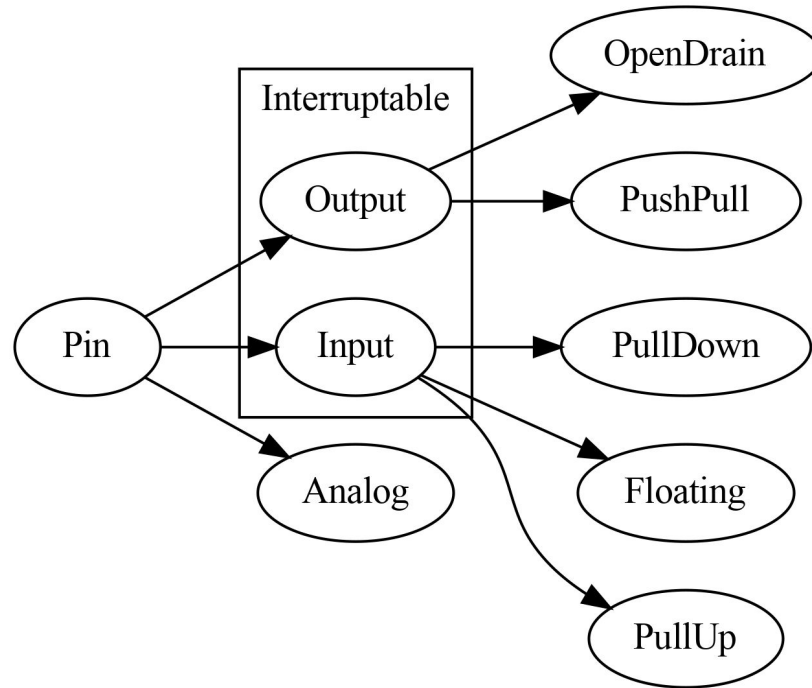
let mut hc12 = hc12.into_normal_mode().unwrap();

hc12.write_buffer(b"some data bla bla\r\n").unwrap();
```

Example: Default and From Traits



Example: GPIO Pins in stm32f4 HAL



However: Deep Type State

```
let tx: TxMode<
  embedded_nrf24l01::NRF24L01<
    Infallible,
    gpio::gpioa::PA8<Output<PushPull>>,
    stm32f0xx_hal::gpio::gpioa::PA10<Output<PushPull>>,
    Spi<
      stm32::SPI1,
      gpio::gpioa::PA5<Alternate<gpio::AF0>>,
      gpio::gpioa::PA6<Alternate<gpio::AF0>>,
      gpio::gpioa::PA7<Alternate<gpio::AF0>>,
    >,
  >,
> = nrf24.tx().unwrap();
```

However: Deep Type State

```
let tx: TxMode<
  embedded_nrf24l01::NRF24L01<
    Infallible,
    gpio::gpioa::PA8<Output<PushPull>>,
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      stm32::SPI1,
      gpio::gpioa::PA5<Alternate<gpio::AF0>>,
      gpio::gpioa::PA6<Alternate<gpio::AF0>>,
      gpio::gpioa::PA7<Alternate<gpio::AF0>>,
    >,
  >,
> = nrf24.tx().unwrap();
```

Type Inference helps a little

However: Deep Type State

```
let tx: NrfModuleTx<  
    Irq,  
    CsPin,  
    Spi6,  
> = nrf24.tx().unwrap();
```

Type aliases may help some more

Crate shoutout: typestate-rs

typestate-rs does all that behind the curtains:

```
#[typestate]
mod traffic_light {
    #[automaton]
    pub struct TrafficLight {
        pub cycles: u64,
    }

    #[state] pub struct Green;
    #[state] pub struct Yellow;
    #[state] pub struct Red;
}
```

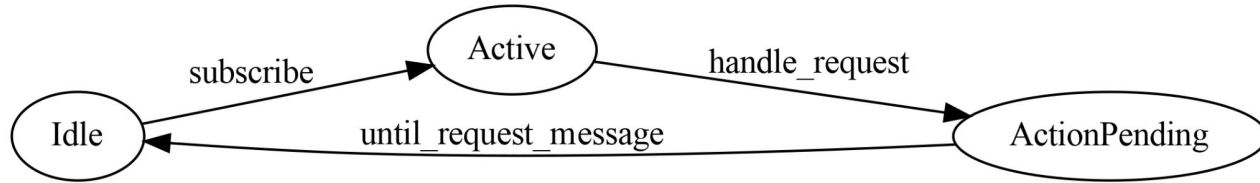
Now also generates dot files!

Typestate + Dot = ♥

generate/manually create .dot file describing your state machine:

```
digraph G {  
    rankdir="LR"  
  
    Idle -> Active [label = "subscribe"]  
    Active -> ActionPending [label = "handle_request"]  
    ActionPending -> Idle [label = "until_request_message"]  
}
```

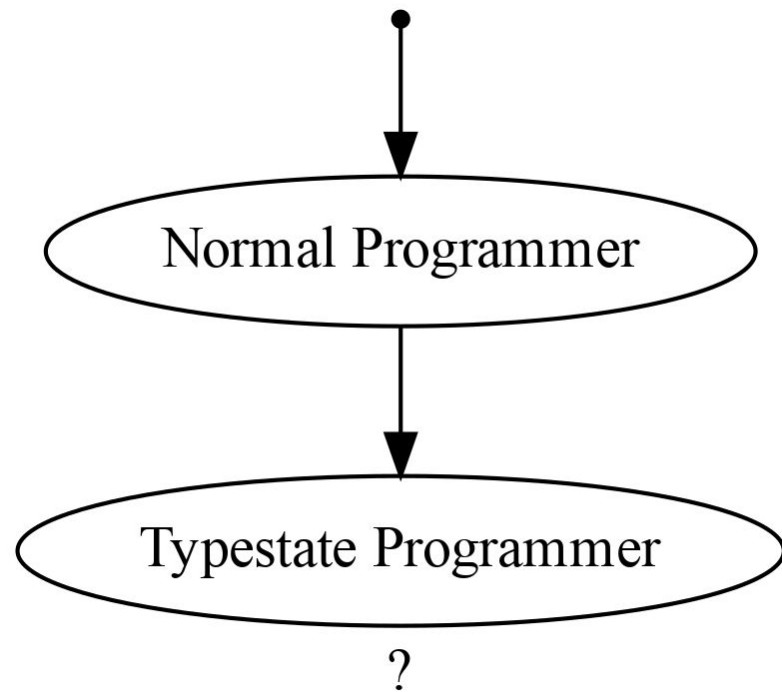
Typestate + Dot = ♥



Takeaway

When faced with finite state machine,
consider typing it out :)

“I know typestate programming so
to me everything is a state machine”



Thanks :)

