

Procedural Macros in Rust

Felix Kohlgrüber | Rust Meetup Karlsruhe | 2019/11/6

Macros

- Executed at compile time
- Produce source code
- In Rust:
 - Declarative Macros
 - Procedural Macros

Declarative Macros

- a.k.a. `macro_rules!` macros, „macros by example“
- Usage examples:
 - `vec!(...), println!(...), assert!(...), ...`
- Definition example:

```
macro_rules! vec {  
    ( $( $x:expr ),* ) => {  
        { let mut temp_vec = Vec::new();  
          $( temp_vec.push($x); )*  
          temp_vec  
        }  
    };  
}
```

Procedural Macros | Usage

- Function-like `html!{ <div>“Hello World”</div> }`
- Custom Derive `#[derive(Serialize)]
struct Foo { ... }`
- Attribute `#[get("/")]
fn index() → &'static str { ... }`

Procedural Macros | Definition

- proc-macro crates:
 - in Cargo.toml: `[lib]`
`proc-macro = true`
 - May only export procedural macros
- Procedural macro:
 $\text{Fn}(\text{TokenStream}) \rightarrow \text{TokenStream}$

TokenStream

- `TokenStream` \cong `Vec<TokenTree>`
- `Token` \cong „word of code“ (e.g. identifier, string, number, ...)
- `TokenTree`: Hierarchy formed by parens, brackets and braces

```
pub enum TokenTree {  
    Token(Token),  
    Delimited(  
        ... , DelimToken, TokenStream  
    ),  
}
```

```
pub enum DelimToken {  
    Paren,  
    Bracket,  
    Brace,  
    NoDelim,  
}
```

Function-like Procedural Macro

- Definition:

```
#[proc_macro]  
pub fn function_macro(input: TokenStream) → TokenStream {  
    ...  
}
```

- Usage:

```
function_macro!{ "Hello World" + 123 }
```

Custom Derive Procedural Macro

- Definition:

```
#[proc_macro_derive(DeriveMacro)]  
pub fn derive_macro(input: TokenStream) → TokenStream {  
    ...  
}
```

- Usage:

```
#[derive(DeriveMacro)]  
struct Foo { ... }
```


Attribute Procedural Macro

- Definition:

```
#[proc_macro_attribute]  
pub fn foo(attr: TokenStream, item: TokenStream) → TokenStream {  
    ...  
}
```

- Usage:

```
#[foo(„Parameter“ 23 bar)]  
struct Baz { ... }
```

DEMO

Summary

- Three kinds of procedural macros
- Procedural macros need to be in separate crate
- `cargo expand` is useful for debugging proc macros

Part 2 - A „real“ project

Motivation

- Advent of Code 2018
- Text input -> Rust data structures
- Example (Day 3):

```
#1 @ 565,109: 14x24
#2 @ 413,723: 16x28
#3 @ 136,229: 27x11
#4 @ 640,187: 10x17
#5 @ 666,879: 15x23
...
```

->

```
#[derive(Debug)]
struct Patch {
    id: usize,
    left: usize,
    top: usize,
    width: usize,
    height: usize,
}
```

Motivation

```
impl Patch {  
    pub fn from_str(s: &str) → Option<Self> {  
        lazy_static! {  
            static ref RE: Regex =  
                Regex::new(r"#(\d+) @ (\d+),(\d+): (\d+)x(\d+)").unwrap();  
        }  
  
        RE.captures(s).map(|cap| Self {  
            id: cap[1].parse().unwrap(),  
            left: cap[2].parse().unwrap(),  
            top: cap[3].parse().unwrap(),  
            width: cap[4].parse().unwrap(),  
            height: cap[5].parse().unwrap(),  
        })  
    }  
}
```

Goal

- Generate `from_str` from a simple pattern:

```
#[parse(r"#{} @ {},{}: {}x{}")]
#[derive(Debug)]
struct Patch {
    id: usize,
    left: usize,
    top: usize,
    width: usize,
    height: usize,
}
```

Approach

- Attribute procedural macro
- Main steps:
 - Parse input (syn crate)
 - Process
 - Generate code (quote crate)

Parse input

- Parse TokenStreams into Rust AST nodes

```
#[proc_macro_attribute]
pub fn parse(attr: TokenStream, item: TokenStream) → TokenStream {
    let strukt =
        syn::parse_macro_input!(item as syn::ItemStruct);
    let pattern: String =
        syn::parse_macro_input!(attr as syn::LitStr).value();
    ...
}
```

Process information

- For the struct:
 - Name
 - Name and type for each member
- For the list:
 - List of regex strings

```
#[parse(r"#{} @ {},{}: {}x{}")]
#[derive(Debug)]
struct Patch {
    id: usize,
    left: usize,
    top: usize,
    width: usize,
    height: usize,
}
```

Process information

```
// extract struct name + name and type for each struct element
let name = &strukt.ident;
let mut items = vec!();
if let syn::Fields::Named(nf) = &strukt.fields {
    for field in &nf.named {
        items.push(
            (field.ident.as_ref().unwrap(),
             field.ty.to_token_stream().to_string())
        )
    }
}

// extract regex strings from pattern
let parts = pattern.split("{}").collect::<Vec<_>>();
```

Process information

„Error handing“

```
// panic if number of brace pairs in pattern doesn't  
// match number of struct elements  
assert!(parts.len() == items.len()+1);
```

Process information

"foo{}bar" → "foo(\\d+)bar"

```
// generate the regex pattern string
let mut regex_str = String::new();
for (pattern_prefix, item) in parts.iter().zip(items.iter()) {
    let regex_for_type = get_regex_for_type(&item.1);
    regex_str.push_str(&format!("{}", pattern_prefix, regex_for_type));
}
regex_str.push_str(parts.last().unwrap());

fn get_regex_for_type(ty: &str) → &'static str {
    match ty {
        "usize" ⇒ r"\\d+",
        "f64" ⇒ r"[0-9]*\\.?[0-9]*",
        "char" ⇒ r".",
        "bool" ⇒ r"true|false",
        t ⇒ panic!( ... )
    }
}
```

Code generation

```
quote!(  
    #strukt  
  
    impl #name {  
  
        pub fn from_str(s: &str) → Option<Self> {  
            lazy_static! {  
                static ref RE: Regex = Regex::new(#regex_str).unwrap();  
            }  
  
            Self::get_regex().captures(s).map(|cap| Self {  
                #(#inits),*  
            })  
        }  
    }.into()  
)
```

Code generation

```
// generate initializers for each struct element
let mut inits = vec!();
for (idx, item) in items.iter().enumerate() {
    let name = &item.0;
    inits.push(quote!( #name: cap[#idx+1].parse().unwrap()));
}
```

Usage

```
#[parse(r"#{} @ {},{}: {}x{}")]
#[derive(Debug)]
struct Patch {
    id: usize,
    left: usize,
    top: usize,
    width: usize,
    height: usize,
}

fn main(){
    println!("{}", Patch::from_str("#1 @ 2,3: 4x5"));
    // Output:
    // Some(Patch { id: 1, left: 2, top: 3, width: 4, height: 5 })
}
```


Usage

```
#[parse(r"{}\n{}",+{}\nFlag: {}")]
#[derive(Debug)]
struct Types {
    name: char,
    int: usize,
    float: f64,
    flag: bool
}

fn main(){
    println!("{}", Patch::from_str("X\n2,,,123.456\nFlag: true"));
    // Output:
    // Some(Types { name: 'X', int: 2, float: 123.456, flag: true })
}
```

Conclusion

- Procedural macros <3

End