Rust for Java Developers

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@simach

Toulouse JUG, 2019

"The most amazing achievement of the computer software industry is its continuing cancellation of the steady and staggering gains made by the computer hardware industry."

- Henry Petroski

	Energy		Time		Mb
(c) C	1.00	(c) C	1.00	(c) Pascal	1.00
(c) Rust	1.03	(c) Rust	1.04	(c) Go	1.05
(c) C++	1.34	(c) C++	1.56	(c) C	1.17
(c) Ada	1.70	(c) Ada	1.85	(c) Fortran	1.24
(v) Java	1.98	(v) Java	1.89	(c) C++	1.34
(c) Pascal	2.14	(c) Chapel	2.14	(c) Ada	1.47
(c) Chapel	2.18	(c) Go	2.83	(c) Rust	1.54
(v) Lisp	2.27	(c) Pascal	3.02	(v) Lisp	1.92
(c) Ocaml	2.40	(c) Ocaml	3.09	(c) Haskell	2.45
(c) Fortran	2.52	(v) C#	3.14	(i) PHP	2.57
(c) Swift	2.79	(v) Lisp	3.40	(c) Swift	2.71
(c) Haskell	3.10	(c) Haskell	3.55	(i) Python	2.80
(v) C#	3.14	(c) Swift	4.20	(c) Ocaml	2.82
(c) Go	3.23	(c) Fortran	4.20	(v) C#	2.85
(i) Dart	3.83	(v) F#	6.30	(i) Hack	3.34
(v) F#	4.13	(i) JavaScript	6.52	(v) Racket	3.52
(i) JavaScript	4.45	(i) Dart	6.67	(i) Ruby	3.97
(v) Racket	7.91	(v) Racket	11.27	(c) Chapel	4.00
(i) TypeScript	21.50	(i) Hack	26.99	(v) F#	4.25
(i) Hack	24.02	(i) PHP	27.64	(i) JavaScript	4.59
(i) PHP	29.30	(v) Erlang	36.71	(i) TypeScript	4.69
(v) Erlang	42.23	(i) Jruby	43.44	(v) Java	6.01

Energy Efficiency across Programming Languages: How does Energy, Time and Memory Relate?, SLE'17

Outline

- Data, Composition and Abstraction
 - Ownership and Borrowing
 - Data, Types and Composition
 - Abstraction Using Traits
- Multithreading and Concurrency
 - Multithreading
 - Concurrency
- Community, Ecosystem and Future
 - Community and Ecosystem
 - What's Next?

Hello World!

- 10 years on the JVM
 - Java, Scala, bits of Kotlin
 - Performance, middleware and architecture
- Before
 - C++, FP (OCaml)
 - Fundamental CS (PLT, proofs, etc)
- Now
 - 1+ year all-in on Rust; full-time Rust developer
 - Toulouse Rust Meetup co-organizer

Three Laws of Informatics Dimensions that matter

- Correction: spec-compliance, reliability, execution safety
- Maintainability: productivity, scalable design primitives, documentation
- Effiency: runtime speed, memory footprint, power consumption

• Corollary: Ecosystem + Community

Trade-offs

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 - C, C++

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- Execution safety (safe memory management)
 - Increases reuse, sharing and ecosystem
 - Managed industry languages (Java, C#, Go, JavaScript, . . .)
 - Typed FP languages: increased spec-compliance through types

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 - Managed industry languages (Java, C#, Go, JavaScript, . . .)
 - Typed FP languages: increased spec-compliance through types
- Fast, reliable, productive pick three
 - Execution safety without GC fostering code reuse and sharing
 - Design primitives inspired by typed FP languages
 - Zero-Cost Abstractions



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Implicit copying

```
// Java
public int getFoo() {
   int bar = 21;
   int foo = bar * 2;
   return foo; // bar is dropped, foo is copied
}

// Rust
pub fn get_foo() -> u32 {
   let bar = 21;
   let foo = bar * 2;
   foo // bar is dropped, foo is copied
}
```

Copying

- Values everywhere
 - Held on the stack

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- Values everywhere
 - Held on the stack
- Automatic memory management
 - Values are dropped when they go out of scope
 - Copied otherwise (could get expensive)
- Poor for complex values
 - State management

Implicit sharing

```
public Library init() {
    Library library = new Library(); // (1)
    Book b = new Book("Hyperion"); // (2)
    library.add(b); // (3)
    // what is 'b' and I allowed to mutate it now?
    return library;
}

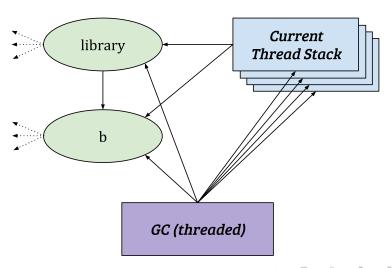
// Called later
public void removeBook(Library library, String bookName) {
    library.removeByName(bookName)
}
```

Implicit sharing

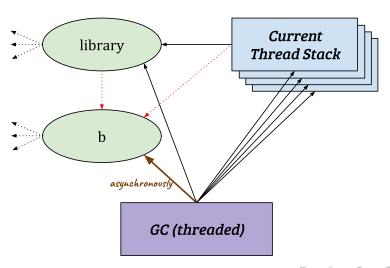
```
public Library init() {
    Library library = new Library(); // (1)
    Book b = new Book("Hyperion"); // (2)
    library.add(b); // (3)
    b.setName("Endymion"); // (4)
    // Did we just break something?
    // Does 'library' contain a book
    // named "Hyperion" or "Endymion"?
    return library;
}

// Called later
public void removeBook(Library library, String bookName) {
    library.removeByName(bookName)
}
```

Implicit sharing and GC



Implicit sharing and GC



Managed Runtimes

Refs everywhere

- All structured data ("objects") are only accessible through references (pointers)
- Allocated on the heap by default (possible escape analysis)

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- Accross threads as well

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Memory safety and quick ramp-up

• Hard perf tuning, insidious concurrency bugs

Data, Composition and Abstraction
Multithreading and Concurrency
Community, Ecosystem and Future

Ownership and Borrowing
Data, Types and Composition
Abstraction Using Traits



```
pub fn init() -> Library {
    let mut library = Library::new(); // (1)
    let b = Book::new("Hyperion"); // (2)
    library.insert(b); // (3)
    // what is 'b' and I allowed to mutate it now?
    library
}

// Called later
pub fn remove_book(library: &mut Library, book_name: &str) {
    library.remove_by_name(book_name)
}
```

Use after move

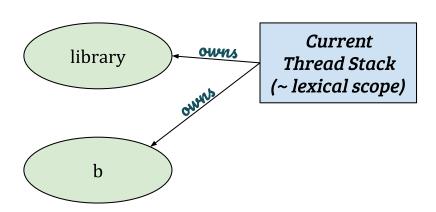
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   let b = Book::new("Hyperion"); // (2)
   library.insert(b); // (3)
   // what is 'b' and I allowed to mutate it' now?
   let name = b.name;
   library
}

// Called later
pub fn remove_book(library: &mut Library, book_name: &str) {
   library.remove_by_name(book_name)
}
```

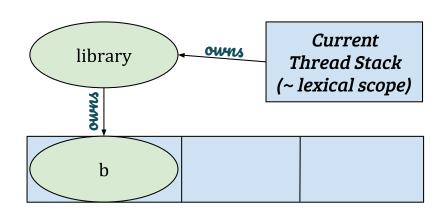
Use after move

Ownership, not magic

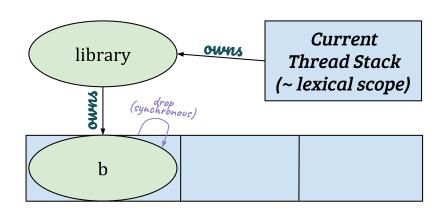
```
#[derive(Debug, Default, Eq, PartialEq)]
pub struct Library {
    books: Vec < Book >,
}
impl Library {
    pub fn new() -> Self { Default::default() }
    pub fn insert(&mut self, book: Book) { self.books.push(book); }
    // parameters: mutable borrow ('self'), shared borrow ('book name')
    pub fn remove by name (&mut self, book name: &str) {
        // No 'ConcurrentModificationException' possible!
        self.books.retain(|b| b.name != book name);
#[derive(Debug, Eq, PartialEq)]
pub struct Book {
    name: String,
impl Book {
    pub fn new(name: impl Into<String>) -> Self { Book { name: name.into() } }
}
```



Moving ownership



Dropping



- Always exactly one owner
 - Matches the lexical scope, spot owner easily
 - Memory is freed when the owner drops the value
 - Stack by default (as long as the data is Sized), can be refs

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 - Generally very fast (on stack)
 - Large values can be costly (allocate and move the smart pointer)

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 - Large values can be costly (allocate and move the smart pointer)
- Memory safe and natural to reason with
 - Deterministic behavior, stronger invariants

Borrowing

Values can be borrowed

- Borrowing gives a safe reference that is cheap to pass around
- Loose-coupling because sharing is explicit
- Shared vs Exclusive access (Readers / Writers)
- Borrow can only live as long as the owner

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- Shared borrowing
 - Several readers, immutable by default
- Mutable / exclusive borrowing
 - Always exactly one reader/writer, no exceptions

Borrowing (live coding)

```
impl Library {
    pub fn get_book_by_name(&self, book_name: &str) -> Option <&Book> {
        self.books.iter().find(|b| b.name == book_name)
    }
    pub fn get_book_mut_by_name(&mut self, book_name: &str) -> Option <&mut Book> {
        self.books.iter_mut().find(|b| b.name == book_name)
    }
}
```

Borrowing limitations

- Borrows can only live as long as their owner
 - That's the *lifetime* of a borrow
 - Known statically and proven by the compiler
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 - Shared ownership similar to GC through reference counting (library constructs, Rc and Arc)
- When reference counting isn't enough?
 - 1% use cases: cyclic data, high-allocation patterns, . . .
 - Other approaches, often packaged libs, e.g for graphs, arenas,

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- Safer and more expressive
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 - A physical take on data
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Enabler for more

- Data race freedom, resource management, . . .
- Native performance



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Enums and Generics

```
Example

// No null!
pub enum Option<T> {
    None,
    Some(T),
}

// No exceptions!
pub enum Result<T, E> {
    Ok(T),
    Err(E),
}
```

Error-handling + RAII

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

pub fn file_to_upper() -> Result<String, std::io::Error> {
    let mut file = File::open("foo.txt")?; // (1)
    let mut contents = String::new(); // (2)
    file.read_to_string(&mut contents)?; // (3)
    Ok(contents.to_uppercase()) // (4)
}
```

Types

- struct and enum
 - Accurate modelling and built-in pattern matching
- Generics
 - Monomorphized at compile time (no boxing!)
- A bit more
 - References, lifetimes, trait objects

Composition Over Inheritance

```
pub enum Origin {
    Gift(Gifter),
    Bought(Shop)
}

pub struct Dated<T> {
    pub date: Date<Utc>,
    pub item: T,
}

pub type DatedLibrary = Vec<Dated<(Book, Origin)>>;
```

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```
// Java
public interface Named {
    String getName();
}

// Rust
pub trait GetName {
    fn get_name(&self) -> &str;
}
```

```
// Java
public class Book implements Named {
    public String getName() { return this.name; }
7
// Rust
impl GetName for Book {
    fn get_name(&self) -> &str { &self.name }
}
// Because why not?
impl GetName for String {
    fn get_name(&self) -> &str { &self }
}
impl <T: GetName > GetName for Option <T> {
    fn get_name(&self) -> &str {
        match self {
            Some(s) => s.get_name(),
            None => "<none>",
```

```
pub fn print_names(names: &[impl GetName]) {
    for (i, named) in names.iter().enumerate() {
        println!("{}. {}", i, named.get_name());
7
// (2)
let books = vec![Book::new("Hyperion"), Book::new("Dune")];
print_names(&books);
// (3)
let v_str = vec!["Foo", "Bar"];
print_names(&v_str);
// (4)
// let v_mixed = vec!["Foo", Book::new("Hyperion")];
// expected &str. found struct 'Book'
// (5)
let v mixed: Vec<Box<dvn GetName>> = vec![Box::new("Foo").
                                           Box::new(Book::new("Hyperion"))];
print_names(&v_mixed);
```

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 - Similar to Haskell's type classes
 - Implement trait on existing types, including quantified types

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A bit more

 Associated types, trait constants, automatic derivation using macros, . . .

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Multithreading in Java

```
class Server {
   public Library library = new Library();

   // Coming from a multithreaded REST server...
   public void newBookRequest(Book book) {
        this.library.add(book);
   }
}

public class Library {
   private List<Book> books = new ArrayList<>(); // /!\
   public void add(Book b) { this.books.add(b); }
}
```

Multithreading in Rust, from naive

```
Example

let mut library = init();

for i in 0..5 {
    let b = Book::new(format!("Book_{{}}", i));
    library.insert(b);
}
```

Multithreading in Rust, first try

let mut library = init(); for i in 0..5 { // cannot borrow 'library' as mutable more than once at a time thread::spawn(|| { let b = Book::new(format!("Book_{{}}", i)); library.insert(b); }); }

Multithreading in Rust, no loop?

let mut library = init(); // closure may outlive the current function, but it borrows 'library', // which is owned by the current function thread::spawn(|| { let b = Book::new(format!("Book")); library.insert(b); });

Multithreading in Rust, almost

library.insert(b);

});

Example // Arc<Library> let library = Arc::new(init()); for i in 0..5 { let library = Arc::clone(&library); thread::spawn(move || { let b = Book::new(format!("Book_{{}}", i)); // error: cannot borrow data in an 'Arc' as mutable

Multithreading in Rust, working

```
// Arc<Mutex<Library>>
let library = Arc::new(Mutex::new(init()));

for i in 0..5 {
    let library = Arc::clone(&library);
    thread::spawn(move || {
        let b = Book::new(format!("Book_{}", i));
        library.lock().insert(b);
    });
}
```

Multithreading in Rust, ergonomics

let library = SyncLibrary::from(init()); for i in 0..5 { let library = library.clone(); thread::spawn(move || { let b = Book::new(format!("Book_{}", i)); library.insert(b); }); }

Multithreading in Rust, ergonomics

```
#[derive(Default, Debug, Clone)]
pub struct SyncLibrary {
    inner: Arc<Mutex<Library>>,
}

impl SyncLibrary {
    pub fn insert(&self, book: Book) {
        self.inner.lock().insert(book);
    }
}

impl From<Library> for SyncLibrary {
    fn from(library: Library) -> SyncLibrary {
        SyncLibrary {
            inner: Arc::new(Mutex::new(library)),
        }
    }
}
```

Multithreading in Rust

- Compile time guarantees
 - Sharing, Mutation and No Ordering: pick two!
 - Data-race freedom through the type and ownership system

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Multithreading in Rust

- Compile time guarantees
 - Sharing, Mutation and No Ordering: pick two!
 - Data-race freedom through the type and ownership system
- High ergonomics through composition and RAII
 - Mutex + MutexGuard, Channels, . . .
- A bit more
 - Send and Sync traits
 - Similar to ownership and borrowing

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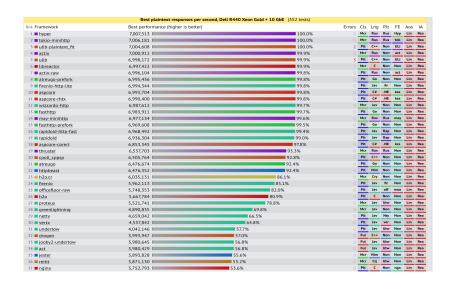
Concurrency in Rust

- Back-pressure aware, non-blocking concurrency
 - Using async / await in Rust
 - Concurrency on single thread or threadpool
- Sequential code ergonomics
 - Same strong guarantees as before
 - No mutation + async problem anymore (Actors?)
- Zero-Cost Futures and Streams
 - Compiled-down to a state machine, allocated once
 - Poll+Waker model

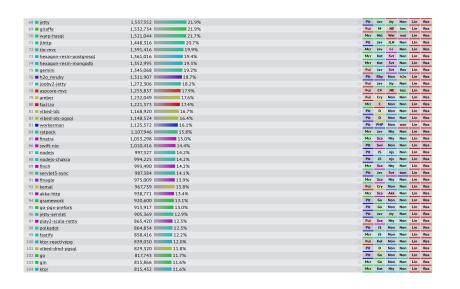
An echo HTTP handler in Rust

```
async fn echo(req: Request < Body >) -> Result < Response < Body >, hyper::Error > {
    match (reg.method(), reg.uri().path()) {
        // Simply echo the body back to the client.
        (&Method::POST, "/echo") => {
            Ok(Response::new(req.into_body()))
        (&Method::POST, "/echo/reversed") => {
            let whole_chunk = req.into_body().try_concat().await?;
            let reversed_chunk = whole_chunk.iter()
                                             .rev().cloned().collect::<Vec<u8>>();
            Ok(Response::new(Body::from(reversed_chunk)))
        }
        // Return the 404 Not Found for other routes.
        => {
            let mut not_found = Response::default();
            *not found.status mut() = StatusCode::NOT FOUND:
            Ok(not_found)
```

That HTTP server...



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Built For Reuse

Cargo

- Project and dependency management
- Semantic versioning, multiple versions supported
- crates.io

Precise semantics and strong invariants

- Hard to misuse libraries, usually get a compile error instead
- Hard to cut corners, well-designed crates

Very strong community

- A dynamic that reminds of Java's better days
- No "Us vs Them" split as in Core JVM vs Java devs

Crates We Love

- Serde
 - Serialization and deserialization done right
- Tokio
 - Future-based framework
- Macro crates
 - Clap (now with Structopts inside!)
 - Many more

Serialization and Deserialization (live demo)

Example

```
#[derive(Debug, Eq, PartialEq, Serialize, Deserialize)]
pub struct Book {
    name: String,
    author: Author
}

#[derive(Debug, Eq, PartialEq, Serialize, Deserialize)]
pub struct Author {
    first_name: String,
    last_name: String
}
```

Parsing Command-Line Arguments

Example

```
/// A basic example
#[derive(StructOpt, Debug)]
#[structopt(name = "basic")]
struct Opt {
    /// Activate debug mode
    #[structopt(short, long)]
    debug: bool,
    /// Verbose mode (-v, -vv, -vvv, etc.)
    #[structopt(short, long, parse(from_occurrences))]
    verbose: u8,
}
fn main() {
    let opt = Opt::from_args();
    println!("{:#?}", opt);
}
```

Parsing Command-Line Arguments

Notable Users

- Mozilla
 - Rust was born out of Firefox yak shaving
- Google Fuchsia
 - Google's Next-Gen OS
- AWS
 - Firecracker, the AWS Lambda runtime
- CloudFlare
 - 1.1.1.1 VPN, QUIC/HTTP3 services, ...

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WebAssembly

- #1 source language for WASM
 - Supported out-of-the box
 - Lack of runtime = small modules
- WebApps and Serverless
 - "Universal / Isomorphic" apps in Rust
 - Some React-like frameworks and serverless platforms
- Used for sandboxing code
 - Write Once, Run Everywhere!

Maturity

- Rust 2021
 - Implement last few missing pieces
 - Specialization, GATs, . . .
- Even better tooling
 - On-demand compiler infrastructure
 - Strong IDE support
- It's time to get involved! :-)

Conclusion

- Lower-level and higher-level than Java
 - Learned from C++, Java, Scala, Haskell, Ruby... to propose something new
 - Very robust solutions

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- Easy to write applications, harder to write libraries
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 - Practice makes perfect, very productive language
- Write Rust and...
 - Stop shipping bugs or insecure software
 - Save the planet! :-)

Questions

Questions?

Twitter: @simach

See you at the Toulouse Rust Meetup!