Rust

for JS/TS developers



Miguel Palhas (@naps62) / Subvisual



September 7, 2023

Open source hooliganism and the TypeScript meltdown

Types in the past

```
int main() {
  int x = 0;
  long int y = (long) x;
  println("%d", y);
}
```

- 1. slow to compile
- 2. type inference wasn't a thing
- 3. tooling

```
unresolved external symbol "void cdecl
importStoredClients(class
std::basic fstream<char,struct std::char traits<char> > const
&, class
std::vector<class Client,class std::allocator<class Client> >
&)"(?
importStoredClients@@YAXABV?$basic fstream@DU?
$char traits@D@std@@astd@@AAV?
$vector@VClient@@V?$allocator@VClient@@@std@@@2@@Z)
referenced in function
main DataTracker
```

1 + "2" == "12"

Undefined is not a function

2. Types of Typings

Structural Typing (Typescript, OCaml, ...)

```
type Foo = { x: number, y: string };
type Bar = { x: number };
let x: Foo = { x: 1, y: "hello" };
// works
let y: Bar = x;
console.log(y)
// => { x: 1, y: "hello" }
```

Nominal Typing (Rust, C/C++, ...)

```
struct Foo { x: i32, y: String };
struct Bar { x: i32 };
fn main() {
 let x: Foo = Foo { x: 1, y: "hello".to_string() };
 // this would not compile
 // let y: Bar = x;
 // works (explicit conversion needs to be defined)
 let y: Bar = x.into();
```

What makes Rust good?

```
let list: Vec<u32> =
  vec![1u32, 2u32, 3u32]
    .iter()
    .map(|v: u32| v + 1)
    .collect::<Vec<u32>>()
```

```
let list: Vec<u32> =
  vec![1u32, 2u32, 3u32]
    .iter()
    .map(|v: u32| v + 1)
    .collect::<Vec<u32>>()
```

```
let list: Vec<u32> =
   vec![1, 2, 3]
    .iter()
   .map(|v: u32| v + 1)
    .collect::<Vec<u32>>()
integer types are easily inferred
(u8, 16, u32, ...)
```

```
let list: Vec<u32> =
  vec![1u32, 2u32, 3u32]
    .iter()
    .map(|v: u32| v + 1)
    .collect::<Vec<u32>>()
```

```
let list: Vec<u32> =
  vec![1, 2, 3]
    .iter()
    .map(|v| v + 1)
    .collect::<Vec<u32>>()
```

closure arguments are inferred 99% of the time

```
let list: Vec<u32> =
  vec![1u32, 2u32, 3u32]
    .iter()
    .map(|v: u32| v + 1)
    .collect::<Vec<u32>>()
```

```
let list: Vec<u32> =
  vec![1, 2, 3]
    .iter()
    .map(|v| v + 1)
    .collect::<Vec<_>>()
```

elements in collections are inferred 99% of the time

```
let list: Vec<u32> =
  vec![1u32, 2u32, 3u32]
    .iter()
    .map(|v: u32| v + 1)
    .collect::<Vec<u32>>()
```

```
let list: Vec<u32> =
  vec![1, 2, 3]
    .iter()
    .map(|v| v + 1)
    .collect()
```

actually, the entire collect type and list type are redundant

```
let list: Vec<u32> =
  vec![1u32, 2u32, 3u32]
    .iter()
    .map(|v: u32| v + 1)
    .collect::<Vec<u32>>()
```

```
let list: Vec<_> =
  vec![1, 2, 3]
    .iter()
    .map(|v| v + 1)
    .collect()
```

and the Vec element itself is inferred from numbers

Type inference eliminates most noise.

Exceptions: function headers; ambiguity.

```
fn increment_and_dedup(v: Vec<u32>) -> HashSet<u32> {
   v.iter().map(|v| v + 1).collect()
}
```

2. Borrow checker

Ownership and References

```
type Foo = { x: number };

function add(foo: Foo) {
  foo.x += 1;
}

error[E0594]: cannot assign to foo.x, as
  foo is not declared as mutable
```

Ownership and References

```
type Foo = { x: number };

function add(foo: Foo) {
  foo.x += 1;
}

error[E0594]: cannot assign to foo.x,
  which is behind a & reference
```

Ownership and References

```
type Foo = { x: number };

function add(foo: Foo) {
  foo.x += 1;
}

struct Foo { x: &mut u32 }

fn add(foo: mut Foo) {
  foo.x += 1;
}
```

3. Algebraic types

Product types

when you have one thing AND another thing

```
struct Rectangle {
  width: u32,
  height: u32
}
```

Sum types

when you have one thing OR another thing

```
enum Option<T> {
    None,
    Some(T)
}
enum Result<T, E> {
    Ok(T),
    Err(E)
}
```

4. Zero cost abstractions

4. Zero cost abstractions

The ability to use higher-level features without incurring additional runtime cost.

The trade-off: compile-time complexity

"If it compiles, it works"

not to be taken literally

it's how strongly typed programming **feels**

"Making illegal states unrepresentable"

Aim for compile-time enforcements instead of runtime validations

- Type-drive development;
- Abuse Option, Result, and enum;
- Typestate pattern.

5. Tooling

```
cargo build
cargo run --package serve
cargo +nightly clippy
cargo fmt
cargo test
cargo build --target wasm32-unknown-unknown
cargo audit
bacon
```

Clippy is awesome

suspicious_arithmetic_impl

What it does

Lints for suspicious operations in impls of arithmetic operators, e.g. subtracting elements in an Add impl.

Why is this bad?

This is probably a typo or copy-and-paste error and not intended.

Example

```
impl Add for Foo {
   type Output = Foo;

fn add(self, other: Foo) -> Foo {
     Foo(self.0 - other.0)
  }
}
```



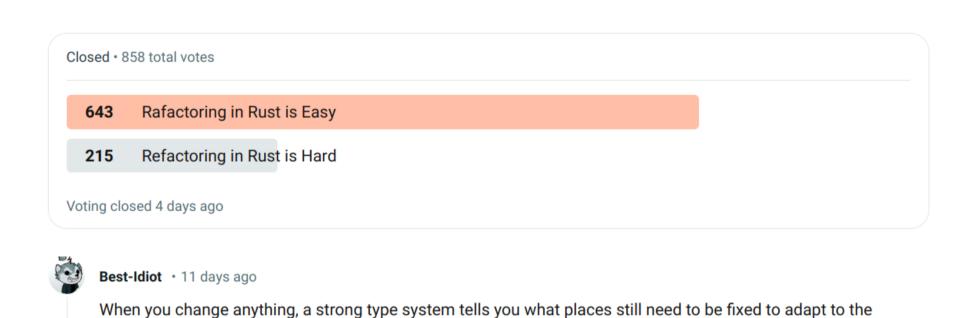
Why NOT Rust?

Compilation times?

Half-true

- Incremental compilation is great(ish)
- Not quite instant-reload, but rather close
- Release builds are more painful
- You should cargo check instead of cargo build

Refactoring is a slog?







Compare this to something like python, where you won't know that you missed changing something until you get a runtime exception for it, which sometimes might be missed until it's live in production.



Not suitable for quick prototyping?

Only true if you haven't been fully indoctrinated yet

What's "built with Rust"?

just

```
alias b := build
host := `uname -a`

# build main
build:
    cc *.c -o main

# test everything
test-all: build
    ./test --all

# run a specific test
test TEST: build
    ./test --test {{TEST}}

: just -l

Available recipes:
    build # build main
    b # alias for `build`
    test TEST # run a specific test
test-all # test everything

: 

# run a specific test
test TEST: build
    ./test --test {{TEST}}
```

delta

```
<u>redis-cli.c</u>
static sds cliReadLine(int fd) {
              while(1) {
                  char c;
     138
                  ssize_t ret;
                  if (read(fd,&c,1) == -1) {
                  ret = read(fd, &c, 1);
    : 140
    141
                  if (ret == -1) {
                      sdsfree(line);
                      return NULL;
                  } else if (c == '\n') {
                  } else if ((ret == 0) || (c == '\n')) {
    : 144
                      break;
                  } else {
                      line = sdscatlen(line,&c,1);
```



A post-modern **text editor**.

```
movement::move_horizontally(text, range, Direction::Forward, count, Movement::Move)
    fn move_line_up(cxt: &mut Context) {
374 let count = cxt.count();

375 let (view, doc) = current!(cxt.editor);
```

Typst

```
#set page(width: 10cm, height: auto)
#set heading(numbering: "1.")
= Fibonacci sequence
The Fibonacci sequence is defined through the
recurrence relation F_n = F_{n-1} + F_{n-2}.
It can also be expressed in _closed form:_
$ F_n = round(1 / sqrt(5) phi.alt^n), quad
 phi.alt = (1 + sqrt(5)) / 2 $
#let count = 8
#let nums = range(1, count + 1)
\#let fib(n) = (
 if n <= 2 { 1 }
 else { fib(n - 1) + fib(n - 2) }
The first #count numbers of the sequence are:
#align(center, table(
  columns: count,
  ..nums.map(n => F_{ms}),
  ..nums.map(n \Rightarrow str(fib(n))),
))
```

1. Fibonacci sequence

The Fibonacci sequence is defined through the recurrence relation $F_n=F_{n-1}+F_{n-2}.$ It can also be expressed in closed form:

$$F_n = \left\lfloor \frac{1}{\sqrt{5}} \phi^n \right\rceil, \quad \phi = \frac{1 + \sqrt{5}}{2}$$

The first 8 numbers of the sequence are:

F_1	F_2	F_3	F_4	F_5	F_6	F_7	F_8
1	1	2	3	5	8	13	21



Build an optimized, secure, and frontend-independent application for multi-platform deployment.

Bash PowerShell Cargo npm Yarn pnpm

\$ sh <(curl https://create.tauri.app/sh)</pre>

Quick Start

Rust for JS/TS developers

Miguel Palhas / @naps62