Rust-Postgres An idiomatic, native Postgres driver

Steven Fackler - sfackler

July 31, 2014

Outline

Background

Overview

Usage

Design

Macros

Future

Background

PostgreSQL



"PostgreSQL is a powerful, open source object-relational database system. It has more than 15 years of active development and a proven architecture that has earned it a strong reputation for reliability, data integrity, and correctness."

Rust-Postgres

- Started just over a year ago as "rust-sql".
- libsqlite and libpq wrappers with an eye towards a common API.
- Quickly renamed to "rust-postgres" and shifted focus to a native Postgres driver.

Overview

Usage

Connecting

Connecting

Statement Preparation

Queries must first be *prepared* before they can be executed. They may be parameterized. Parameters are denoted by n, and are 1-indexed.

Execution

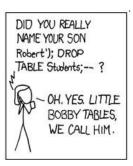
The execute method takes a slice of values to bind to the query parameters and returns the number of rows modified.

Querying

query is similar to execute but it returns an iterator over the rows returned by a query. Columns may be accessed by index or name.

Parameterization

Use it. Seriously.



Transactions

Transactions are managed by the PostgresTransaction object:

```
let trans = try!(conn.transaction());
let stmt = try!(trans.prepare(...));
....

if the_coast_is_clear {
    trans.set_commit();
}

try!(trans.finish()); // COMMIT / ROLLBACK here
```

Error Handling

```
CREATE TABLE foo (
    id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
    name VARCHAR,
    CONSTRAINT uk_foo_name UNIQUE (name))
let query = "INSERT INTO foo (name) VALUES ($1)";
match conn.execute(query, [&name]) {
    Err(PgDbError(PostgresDbError {
        code: UniqueViolation,
        constraint: Some(ref c),
    })) if c.as_slice() == "uk_foo_name" =>
        // Duplicate username
    _ => ...
```

Design

High Level

- Manage resources via RAII objects.
- Borrowed references ensure that resources are cleaned up in the right order without the need for reference counting or garbage collection.
- Avoid failure in most cases propogate errors via Result.
 - \blacktriangleright Removal of failure throughout the library cut the size of the rlib by $\sim 50\%!$

Strict Typing

Like Rust itself, Rust-Postgres won't perform implicit type conversions. A Postgres type is only convertable to an "equivalent" Rust type and vice versa.

```
CREATE TABLE foo (id INT PRIMARY KEY, bar BIGINT)
let stmt = try!conn.prepare("SELECT id FROM foo"));
for row in try!(stmt.query([])) {
    row.get::<i32>(0u); // ok
    row.get::<Option<i32>>(Ou); // ok
    row.get::<uint>(Ou); // not ok
}
let stmt = try!(
        conn.prepare("UPDATE foo SET bar = $1"));
try!(stmt.execute([&1i64])); // ok
try!(stmt.execute([&None::<i64>])); // ok
try!(stmt.execute([&"1"])); // not ok
```

Extensibility

Postgres allows for extensions which define new types and operations.

- PostGIS
- HStore
- ▶ etc

Rust-Postgres provides an extendible API for conversions to and from Postgres values.

Type Conversion

All conversions are done through two traits

```
pub trait ToSql {
    fn to_sql(&self, ty: &PostgresType)
              -> PostgresResult<(Format,
                                  Option<Vec<u8>>)>;
}
pub trait FromSql {
    fn from_sql(ty: &PostgresType,
                raw: &Option<Vec<u8>>)
                -> PostgresResult<Self>;
}
```

Macros

Compile Time Checks

Compile time checks are awesome, but SQL opens up a series of issues that won't be discovered until runtime.

Invalid syntax

```
SELECT * FORM foo
```

Schema mismatch

SELECT nmae FROM users

Syntax Extensions to the Rescue

Link against PostgreSQL's query parser and have it do the heavy lifting!

```
#[phase(plugin)]
extern crate postgres_macros;

let query = sql!("SELECT * FORM foo");

test.rs:8:18: 8:35 error: Invalid syntax at
   position 10: syntax error at or near "FORM"

test.rs:8     let query = sql!("SELECT * FORM foo");
```

Syntax Extensions to the Rescue

```
#[phase(plugin)]
extern crate postgres_macros;
try! (execute! (conn,
               "UPDATE foo SET a = $1
                 WHERE b = $2",
               &1i32));
test.rs:7:1: 10:23 error: Expected 2 query parameters
        but got 1
test.rs:7 try!(execute!(conn,
test.rs:8
                         "UPDATE foo SET a = $1
test.rs:9
                           WHERE b = $2",
                          &1i32));
test.rs:10
```

Future

What's Missing

Rust-Postgres defines the basics, but much of the infrastructure on top is still missing.

- Connection Pool There is a pool in Rust-Postgres but it's nowhere near sufficient. sfackler/rust-postgres#44
- ▶ ORM Syntax extensions could allow for an interesting ORM system. sfackler/rust-postgres#47

That's It!

Questions?

https://github.com/sfackler/rust-postgres