

Formal Verification in Rust

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November 13 2020

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Why Rust?

- a low-level language that offers zero cost abstraction
- a multi-paradigm language
- guarantees memory safety at compile time

Rust memory safety (moves)

```
fn first<S,T>((s,_):(S,T)) -> S {  
    s  
}
```

...

```
let p: (S,T) = ...;
```

```
let s = first(p);
```

```
// let t = second(p); // error[E0382]: use of moved value: `p`
```

Rust memory safety (borrows I)

```
fn first<S,T>(&(ref s,_):&(S,T)) -> &S {  
    s  
}  
...  
  
let p: (S,T) = ...;  
let s = first(&p);  
let t = second(&p);
```

Rust memory safety (borrows II)

```
fn first<S,T>(&(ref s,_):&(S,T)) -> &S {  
    s  
}  
...  
  
let p: (S,T) = ...;  
let s = first(&p);    // immutable borrow occurs here  
let t = second(&mut p); // mutable borrow occurs here  
  
// immutable borrow ends here  
// will result in compiler error
```

Rust memory safety (lifetimes I)

```
fn first<S,T>(&(ref s,_):&(S,T)) -> &S {  
    s  
}  
...  
let s = {  
    let p: (S,T) = ...;  
  
    return first(&p);  
    // p is freed here, but we are trying to return a reference to it  
    // this will result in a compilation error  
}
```

Rust memory safety (lifetimes II)

```
fn first<'a, S, T>(&(ref s, _): &'a (S, T)) -> &'a S {  
    s  
}  
...  
let p: (S, T) + 'a = ...;  
let s: &'a S = first(&p);
```


Rust memory safety

- All references are guaranteed to point to valid memory
- Alias is allowed, but only for non mutable references

```
fn compute(input: &u32, output: &mut u32) {  
    if *input > 10 { *output = 1; }  
    if *input > 5 { *output *= 2;}  
}  
...  
compute(&x, &mut x); // this will result in a compiler error
```

- Eliminates data races

Rust vs. C

```
void client(list * a, list *b) {  
    int old_len = b->len;  
    append(a, 100);  
    assert(b->len == old_len);  
}
```

- Could have memory errors in `b->len`.
- Could have aliasing (eg. if `a = b`).
- Could have data races if another thread mutates `a` or `b`.

Rust vs. C

```
fn client(a: &mut List, b: &mut List) {  
    let old_len = b.len();  
    append(a, 100);  
    assert!(b->len == old_len);  
}
```

- Memory is always valid so `b.len()` will not result in a memory error.
- Mutable references cannot alias, so `a` and `b` are disjoint.
- Only one mutable reference is allowed at a time, so another thread cannot mutate `a` or `b`.

Formal Verification in Rust with Lean

What is Lean?

- Lean is a theorem prover and programming language developed at Microsoft Research
- Provides some automatic theorem proving, but focuses on the verification of theorem.
- Has been used to formalize abstract algebra, group theory, number theory, topology, computability, etc.
- Based on Dependent Type Theory

```
theorem halting_problem (n) : ¬ computable_pred ( c, (eval c  
  ↪ n).dom)  
| h := rice {f | (f n).dom} h nat.partrec.zero nat.partrec.none  
↪ trivial
```

Type Theory

What is Type Theory?

- A logical system that can server as a replacement for set theory
- Judgments are made through type checking. A proof of a theorem is considered valid if it has the same type as the theorem.
- Does not depend on implementation details.

Type Theory

Constructive vs. Classical Logic

- Constructive logic must provide an example for proposition of the form

$$\exists x \in \mathbb{N}, x > 1$$

where as, in classical logic, an example is not always known.

- Does not allow for statements such as $p \wedge \neg p$ or $\neg\neg p \implies p$.
 - ▶ This allows for type theory to handle undecidable problems
 - ▶ It's not always true that p is either true or false.

Lean Demo

Functional Purification

Since mutability is localized in Rust we perform functional rewrites

```
p.x += 1
```

```
let p = Point {x = p.x + 1, ..p}
```

```
// where f(&mut Point) -> A  
let x = f(&mut p)
```

```
// where f(Point) -> (A, Point)  
let (x,p) = f(p)
```

Specifications

```
theorem core.slice.binary_search.sem : {T : Type} [Ord' T]  
  (self : list T) (needle : T), sorted le self →  
  option.any binary_search_res (binary_search self needle)
```

Specifications

```
inductive binary_search_res : Result usize usize → Prop :=  
  -- if the value is found then Ok is returned, containing the index of  
  ↪ the matching element  
  | found      : ∀ i, nth self i = some needle → binary_search_res  
  ↪ (Result.Ok i)  
  -- if the value is not found then Err is returned, containing the  
  ↪ index where a matching  
  -- element could be inserted while maintaining sorted order.  
  | not_found : ∀ i, needle ∉ self → sorted le (insert_at self i  
  ↪ needle) →  
    binary_search_res (Result.Err i)
```

Translation

```
fn f(i: i32) -> i32 {  
  if i == 42 {  
    1  
  }  
  else {  
    0  
  }  
}
```

```
definition test.f (ia : i32) : sem  
  ↪ (i32) :=  
  let' «i$2» ← ia;  
  let' t4 ← «i$2»;  
  let' t3 ← t4 =b (42 : int);  
  if t3 = bool.tt then  
    let' ret ← (1 : int);  
    return (ret)  
  else  
    let' ret ← (1 : int);  
    return (ret)
```

Translation

```
struct Point {x: i32, y: i32}

fn main() {
  let p = Point {x: 10, y: 11};
  let px: i32 = p.x;
}
```

```
structure test.Point := mk {} ::
(x : i32)
(y : i32)

definition test.main : sem (unit)
  ↪ :=
let' «p$1» ← test.Point.mk (10 :
  ↪ int) (11 : int);
let' t3 ← (test.Point.x «p$1»);
let' «px$2» ← t3;
let' ret ← ;
return ( )
```

Electrolysis Demo

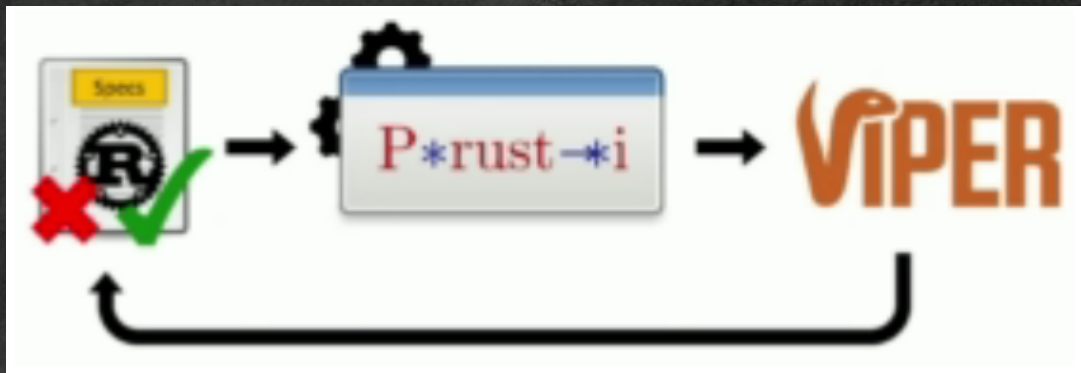
Formal Verification in Rust with Prusti

How is Prusti different?

- Relies on a SMT solver to verify program
- Embeds specification directly in source

```
#[ensures(result >= a && result >= b)]  
#[ensures(result == a || result == b)]  
fn max(a: i32, b: i32) -> i32 {  
    if a < b {  
        b  
    } else {  
        a  
    }  
}
```


Prusti Design



What is Viper?

- A language independent verification tool built on top of Z3
- Prusti transpiles the rust source to viper statements

Viper Translation

```
struct List {  
  val: i32;  
  next: Option<Box<List>>  
}
```

```
fn client(a:&mut List, b:&mut List)
```

```
predicate List(self: Ref) {  
  acc(self.val) *  
  acc(self.next) *  
  i32(self.val) *  
  OptionBoxList(self.next)  
}
```

```
method client(a : Ref, b: Ref)  
  requires List(a) * List(b)  
  ensures List(a) * List(b)
```

Prusti Demo

Further Reading I

- [1] Sebastian Ullrich, *A Formal Verification of Rust's Binary Search Implementation*, Blog. [Online]. Available:
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- [2] V. Astrauskas, P. Müller, F. Poli, and A. J. Summers, "Leveraging rust types for modular specification and verification," *Proceedings of the ACM on Programming Languages*, vol. 3, no. OOPSLA, 147:1–147:30, Oct. 2019. DOI: 10.1145/3360573. [Online]. Available:
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- [3] Sebastian Ullrich, "Simple Verification of Rust Programs via Functional Purification," English, Ph.D. dissertation, Karlsruhe Institute of Technology. [Online]. Available:
<https://raw.githubusercontent.com/Kha/masters-thesis/master/main.pdf>.

Further Reading II

- [4] L. de Moura, S. Kong, J. Avigad, F. van Doorn, and J. von Raumer, “The Lean Theorem Prover (System Description),” en, in *Automated Deduction - CADE-25*, A. P. Felty and A. Middeldorp, Eds., ser. Lecture Notes in Computer Science, Cham: Springer International Publishing, 2015, pp. 378–388, ISBN: 978-3-319-21401-6. DOI: 10.1007/978-3-319-21401-6_26.
- [5] T. Coquand and G. Huet, “The calculus of constructions,” en, *Information and Computation*, vol. 76, no. 2, pp. 95–120, Feb. 1988, ISSN: 0890-5401. DOI: 10.1016/0890-5401(88)90005-3. [Online]. Available: <http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/0890540188900053> (visited on 11/06/2020).
- [6] *Rust-Proof/rustproof*, original-date: 2016-05-03T02:23:56Z, Aug. 2020. [Online]. Available: <https://github.com/Rust-Proof/rustproof> (visited on 11/07/2020).
- [7] S. Thompson, *Type theory and functional programming*. Addison Wesley, 1991.