

Rust Quick Tutorial

Wenxuan Shi @ PingCAP



About Me

- Infrastructure Engineer @ PingCAP
- TiKV team



Rust

Wikipedia: "Rust is a systems programming language *sponsored by Mozilla* which describes it as a "safe, concurrent, practical language," supporting functional and imperative-procedural paradigms. Rust is syntactically similar to C++, but its designers intend it to provide better memory safety while still maintaining performance."



The Most Loved Language



Most Loved, Dreaded, and Wanted Languages



Most Loved, Dreaded, and Wanted Languages



II. Most Loved, Dreaded, and Wanted





Rust Applications

- A good replacement for C / C++
- Performance critical applications
- Suitable for system programming
 - Databases
 - Web Servers
 - $\circ \quad \text{Browsers} \to \text{Firefox Servo}$
 - Game Engines
 - Web Assembly 🖸
 - \circ Operating Systems \rightarrow CS140e
 - Compilers



Disadvantages

- Steep learning curve. Writing a A+B in Rust is much harder than in C++.
- Maybe too rigorous and too explicit for toy projects.
- Develop not fast as script languages.
- Community is not mature.
- Documentations and materials are limited.
-



Let's Getting Started

- 1. Use rustup to install Rust toolchains (compilers, docs, cargo, etc): https://rustup.rs/
- 2. Use cargo to manage your project:
 - Create project directory: cargo new my_fancy_project
 - Specify dependencies: Cargo.toml
 - Build: cargo build
 - Run tests: cargo test
 - Run application: cargo run



```
fn main() {
    let mut line = String::new();
    ::std::io::stdin().read_line(&mut line).unwrap();
    let sum: i32 = line
        .split_whitespace()
        .map(|x| x.parse::<i32>().unwrap())
        .sum();
    println!("{}", sum);
}
```





```
Immutable by default. Mutable variables needs explicit keyword.
fn main()
    let mut line = String::new();
    ::std::lo::stdin().read_line(&mut line).unwrap();
    let sum: i32 = line
        .split_whitespace()
        .map(|x| x.parse::<i32>().unwrap())
        .sum();
    println!("{}", sum);
}
```



```
Variable type can be inferred. Like auto in C++11.
fn main() {
    let mut line = String::new();
    ::std::io::stdin().read_line(&mut line).unwrap();
    let sum: i32 = line
        .split_whitespace()
        .map(|x| x.parse::<i32>().unwrap())
        .sum();
    println!("{}", sum);
}
```



```
There are references
                                          (immutable by default as well).
fn main() {
    let mut line = String::new();
    ::std::io::stdin().read_line(&mut line).unwrap();
    let sum: i32 = line
        .split_whitespace()
        .map(|x| x.parse::<i32>().unwrap())
        .sum();
    println!("{}", sum);
}
```



```
fn main() {
    let mut line = String::new();
    ::std::io::stdin().read_line(&mut line).unwrap();
    let sum: i32 = line
        split_whitespace()
        .map(lx| x.parse::<i32>().unwrap())
        .sum();
    println!("{}", sum); Functional programming style.
}
```



```
fn main() {
    let mut line = String::new();
    ::std::io::stdin().read_line(&mut line).unwrap();
    let sum: i32 = line
        .split_whitespace()
        .map(|x| x.parse::<i32>().unwrap())
        .sum();
    println!("{}", sum);
}
```



```
fn main() {
    let mut line = String::new();
    ::std::io::stdin().read_line(&mut line).unwrap();
```

```
let sum: i32 = line
   .split_whitespace()
   .map(|x| x.parse::<i32>().unwrap())
   .sum();
```

```
println!("{}", sum);
```

}

Generic trait: Parse to what type?

pub fn parse<F>(&self) -> Result<F, <F as FromStr>::Err>
where
 F: FromStr,

impl FromStr for i8
 type Err = ParseIntError;

impl FromStr for char
type Err = ParseCharError;

impl FromStr for f32
type Err = ParseFloatError;

impl FromStr for i16
 type Err = ParseIntError;

impl FromStr for u16
 type Err = ParseIntError;

impl FromStr for isize
 type Err = ParseIntError;

impl FromStr for usize
 type Err = ParseIntError;

impl FromStr for f64
type Err = ParseFloatError;

impl FromStr for i32
type Err = ParseIntError;

impl FromStr for i128
type Err = ParseIntError;



```
fn main() {
    let mut line = String::new();
    ::std::io::stdin().read_line(&mut line).unwrap();
    let sum: i32 = line
        .split_whitespace()
        .map(lxl x.parse::<i32>().unwrap())
        .sum();
    println!("{}", sum);
    Output to stdout.
```



```
fn main() {
    let mut line = String::new();
    ::std::io::stdin().read_line(&mut line).unwrap();
    let sum: i32 = line
        .split_whitespace()
        .map(|x| x.parse::<i32>().unwrap())
        .sum();
    println!('{}", sum);
}
The macro enables string
    formatting at compile time.
```







Rust Features

- zero-cost abstractions
- move semantics
- guaranteed memory safety
- threads without data races
- trait-based generics
- pattern matching
- type inference
- minimal runtime
- efficient C bindings



Ownership

- Rust's most unique feature
- Achieve memory safe without GC
- Move semantics
- Rules:
- Each value in Rust has a variable that's called its *owner*.
- There can only be one owner at a time.
- When the owner goes out of scope, the value will be dropped.



Move Ownership

let v = vec![1, 2, 3];

let v2 = v;

println!("v[0] is: {}", v[0]);

```
fn take(v: Vec<i32>) {
    // What happens here isn't important.
}
let v = vec![1, 2, 3];
take(v);
println!("v[0] is: {}", v[0]);
```



Move Ownership

let s1 = String::from("hello"); let s2 = s1;







(1)



Typical C++ World Disaster (Double Free)



class String {
 char * ptr;
 int len;
 int capacity;
}

What if we..

free(s1);
free(s2);



This will not happen in Rust.

Protected by Rust Compiler ™.



Borrow

- Borrow by using reference operator.
- Rules:
 - At any given time, you can have *either* one mutable reference *or* any number of immutable references.
 - References must always be valid.



Typical C++ World Disaster: Data Race

Compile Error:

```
let mut s = String::from("hello");
let r1 = &mut s;
let r2 = &mut s;
```

let mut s = String::from("hello");

let r1 = &s; // no problem
let r2 = &s; // no problem
let r3 = &mut s; // BIG PROBLEM

This will not happen in Rust.

Protected by Rust Compiler ™.



Lifetime

- A variable's lifetime begins when it is created and ends when it is destroyed.
- Each reference is **bounded** to a lifetime.
- Ensures that all references are valid.
- Long lifetime references cannot be made from a shorter lifetime variable.
- Short lifetime references cannot be passed to a longer lifetime scope.

Typical C++ World Disaster: Dangling Pointer

Compile Error:

```
fn main() {
    let reference_to_nothing = dangle();
}
fn dangle() -> &String {
    let s = String::from("hello");
    &s
}
```

Life time too short!

This will not happen in Rust. Protected by Rust Compiler ™.

Typical C++ World Disaster: Dangling Pointer

Compile Error:

```
{
    let r;
    {
        let x = 5;
        r = &x;
    }
    println!("r: {}", r);
}
```

Life time too short!

This will not happen in Rust. Protected by Rust Compiler ™.



Specify Lifetime

```
fn longest(x: &str, y: &str) -> &str {
    if x.len() > y.len() {
        x
     } else {
        y
     }
}
```

← Cannot infer life time

```
fn longest<'a>(x: &'a str, y: &'a str) -> &'a str {
    if x.len() > y.len() {
        x
      } else {
        y
      }
}
```



Learn More

Follow the official Rust book:

https://doc.rust-lang.org/stable/book/second-edition/

Thank You !

We are hiring!

Contact me:

breezewish@pingcap.com



hire@pingcap.com

