

Lecture 4

Generics and Traits

Enum sizing

```
struct Node {  
    value: u32,  
    next: Box<Node>,  
}
```

Size of Node? Sum of members.

```
std::mem::size_of::<Node>() == 4 + 8;
```

```
enum Option<u32> {  
    Some(u32),  
    None,  
}
```

Size of Option? Size of largest member, plus up to 8 bytes for tracking which variant is active

```
size_of<Option<u32>>() == 4 + max(4,  
    ^`  
    Some(9): 0x00000001 0x00000009  
    None:    0x00000000 0x00000000
```

Enum sizing Optimization

```
enum Option<&u32> {  
    Some (&u32),  
    None,  
}
```

```
Some (0x32ab0012) : 0x00000001 0x32ab0012  
None :           0x00000000 0x00000000
```

But wait! References are guaranteed to never be null, so we can optimize.

```
Some (0x32ab0012) : 0x32ab0012  
None :           0x00000000
```

```
enum Option<u32> {  
    Some (u32),  
    None,  
}
```

Size of Option? Size of largest member, plus up to 8 bytes for tracking which variant is active

```
sizeof<Option<u32>>() == 4 + max(4,  
    ^  
    Some (9) : 0x00000001 0x00000009  
    None :     0x00000000 0x00000000
```

Automatic referencing in method calls

```
struct Point(i32, i32);  
impl Point {  
    fn takes_ref(&self) {}  
    fn takes_ownership(self) {}  
}
```

```
fn main() {  
    let as_owned = Point(1, 2);  
    let as_ref = &as_owned;  
    // auto reference  
    as_owned.takes_ref();  
    // auto dereference  
    as_ref.takes_ownership();  
}
```

`self` parameter will be automatically **referenced** and **dereferenced** to match method call

- Only happens to `self` parameter, not other parameters

Today: Generics

Generics: Motivating Example

```
enum NumOption {  
    Some(u32),  
    None  
}
```

```
enum Option<T> {  
    Some(T),  
    None  
}
```

Boo! Bad!

- Need to duplicate code for every option type you want
- Need to duplicate functions that take `Option` to work on every option type

Yes! Better!

- Template for declaring any kind of `Option` you need
- Lets you define functionality for an `Option` of any type

Generics

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

Structs or enums can be generic over one or more types

```
fn first<T,U>(x: T, y: U) -> T {  
    x  
}
```

Correspondingly, functions can be generic over one or more types

Using Generic Types

```
enum Opt<T> {  
    Some(T),  
    None  
}
```

```
fn main() {  
    // type is inferred, annotation is optional  
    let x: Opt<bool> = Opt::Some(true);  
}
```

Struct generic types are often inferred

Calling generic functions

```
fn first<T,U>(x: T, y: U) -> T {  
    x  
}
```

```
fn main() {  
    // automatically infers the type of T and U  
    first(1, "hello");  
    // Manually specify type of T and U  
    first::u32, &str>(1, "hello");  
}
```

turbofish ::<>



Funky syntax to manually specify function generics. Helps resolve a parsing ambiguity that's present in C++

How do `impl` and Generics Interact?

```
enum Opt<T> {
    Some (T),
    None
}

impl Opt<T> {
    fn unwrap(self) -> T {
        match self {
            Opt::Some(v) => v,
            Opt::None => panic!()
        }
    }
}
```

What's wrong with this?

```
error[E0412]: cannot find type `T` in this scope
--> scratch.rs:337:10
   |
337 | impl Opt<T> {
   |           ^ not found in this scope
   |
```

How do `impl` and Generics Interact?

```
enum Opt<T> {  
    Some (T),  
    None  
}
```

```
impl<T> Opt<T> {  
    fn unwrap(self) -> T {  
        match self {  
            Opt::Some(v) => v,  
            Opt::None => panic!()  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Generic impl block

“For all `T`, there is an impl for the type `Opt<T>`”

Why would you ever not `impl<T>`?

```
impl Opt<u32> {  
    fn unwrap(self) -> u32 {  
        match self {  
            Opt::Some(v) => v,  
            Opt::None => panic!()  
        }  
    }  
}
```

How do `impl` and Generics Interact?

```
enum Opt<T> {
    Some (T),
    None
}

impl<T> Opt<T> {
    fn swap<U>(&self, value: U) -> Opt<U> {
        ...
    }
}
```

Different levels of generics

- `T` is in scope for the entire `impl` block
- `U` is local to the function scope

More Advanced `impls`

```
impl<T> Opt<Opt<T>> {  
    fn flatten(self) -> Opt<T> {  
        match self {  
            Opt::Some (Opt::Some (x)) => Opt::Some (x),  
            Opt::Some (Opt::None) => Opt::None,  
            Opt::None => Opt::None  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Impl blocks can be for arbitrarily complex types, not just simple structs or enums

How are Generics Implemented?

```
enum Opt<T> {  
    Some (T),  
    None  
}  
  
fn main() {  
    let x: Opt<bool> = Opt::Some(true);  
}
```

Q: What is a generic type?

A: Instructions for how to generate code for a specific `Opt` like `Opt<u32>`. No code generated

Code generated only for case `Opt<bool>`.
Exact same code as if you had written `BoolOpt` manually

- No runtime cost
- Some compile time cost
- Some binary size cost
- Same as C++
- “Monomorphization”

Comparing Options

How to write a function that takes two **Options** and

1. If both are **Some**, returns true if the first is greater than the second
2. Otherwise, returns **None**

Comparing `Opt`s

```
fn opt_gr<T>(a: Opt<T>, b: Opt<T>) -> Opt<bool> {  
    match (a, b) {  
        (Opt::Some(x), Opt::Some(y)) => Opt::Some(x > y),  
        _ => Opt::None  
    }  
}
```


Comparing `Opt`s

```
fn opt_gr<T>(a: Opt<T>, b: Opt<T>) -> Opt<bool> {  
    match (a, b) {  
        (Opt::Some(x), Opt::Some(y)) => Opt::Some(x > y),  
        _ => Opt::None  
    }  
}
```

```
error[E0369]: binary operation `>` cannot be applied to type `T`  
--> scratch.rs:3:53  
   |  
3  |             (Opt::Some(x), Opt::Some(y)) => Opt::Some(x > y),  
   |                                                     - ^ - T  
   |                                                     |  
   |                                                     T
```

Comparing Opts

```
fn opt_gr<T>(a: Opt<T>, b: Opt<T>) -> Opt<bool> {  
    match (a, b) {  
        (Opt::Some(x), Opt::Some(y)) => Opt::Some(x > y),  
        _ => Opt::None  
    }  
}
```

```
error[E0369]: binary operation `>` cannot be applied to type `T`  
--> scratch.rs:3:53  
3 |         (Opt::Some(x), Opt::Some(y)) => Opt::Some(x > y),  
  |                                                     - ^ - T  
  |                                                     |  
  |                                                     T
```

Takeaway

`impl<T>` and `fn foo<T>` aren't very useful :(

You can't do much with `T`:

1. Return it
2. Wrap it in a struct/enum
3. Pass it to another function
4. Not much else

What might we want to do with `T`?

- Addition/subtraction
- Printing
- Copying
- Checking equality
- Dereference

Bringing Order

```
fn opt_gr<T: Ord>(a: Opt<T>, b: Opt<T>) -> Opt<bool> {  
    match (a, b) {  
        (Opt::Some(x), Opt::Some(y)) => Opt::Some(x > y),  
        _ => Opt::None  
    }  
}
```

Can't call `opt_gr` with just any `T`

- `T` has to have an order

`Ord` is a “trait”

Traits

```
trait ToInt {
    fn to_int(&self) -> u32;
}

impl ToInt for f32 {
    fn to_int(&self) -> u32 {
        self.to_bits()
    }
}

fn add<T: ToInt>(a: T, b: T) -> u32 {
    a.to_int() + b.to_int()
}
```

Traits define a set of methods without implementations

Types can provide implementations to “implement” that trait

“f32 implements ToInt”

Generic functions can restrict inputs to only types that implement a certain trait

Yes, they're similar to interfaces

Traits

```
fn foo<T: ToInt + Ord>(a: T, b: T) -> u32 {  
    if a > b {  
        a.to_int()  
    } else {  
        b.to_int()  
    }  
}
```

Without **types**, function **arguments** could be anything. **Types** restrict the domain of **arguments**

Without **traits**, function **generics** could be anything. **Traits** restrict the domain of **generics**

In an alternate universe...

```
fn opt_gr<T>(a: Opt<T>, b: Opt<T>) -> Opt<bool> {  
    match (a, b) {  
        (Opt::Some(x), Opt::Some(y)) => Opt::Some(x > y),  
        _ => Opt::None  
    }  
}
```

```
fn main() {  
    opt_gr(  
        Opt::Some(1),  
        Opt::Some(2));  
}
```

What if this compiled?

```
fn main() {  
    opt_gr(  
        Opt::Some(HashMap::new()),  
        Opt::Some(HashMap::new()));  
}
```

And this didn't?

Is this better or worse than the way Rust does things?

Common Trait Speedrun!

Traits are great for abstracting your own code by organizing shared behavior, but there's also many useful traits built in to the standard library that the language treats specially.

Let's explore some...

Common Trait Speedrun: Default

```
trait Default {  
    fn default() -> Self;  
}  
  
fn main() {  
    let x: String = Default::default();  
}
```

```
fn main() {  
    let x: u32 = Default::default();  
    let o: Option<String> =  
    Default::default();  
}
```

Almost like overloading!

Default is implemented by types that have a default value

- Requires a zero-argument function that returns the type.

What's this?

Self refers to the type that the current impl block is for

Common Trait Speedrun: Clone

```
trait Clone {  
    fn clone(&self) -> Self;  
}  
  
fn main() {  
    let s1 = String::new("Hello");  
    let s2 = s1.clone()  
}
```

Clone is implemented by types that can be deep-copied

Common Trait Speedrun: `Display/Debug`

```
trait Display {
    fn fmt(&self, f: &mut Formatter)
        -> Result<(), Error>;
}

trait Debug {
    fn fmt(&self, f: &mut Formatter)
        -> Result<(), Error>;
}

fn main() {
    let s = String::new("Test\n");
    // Uses Display
    println!("{}", s);
    // Uses Debug
    println!("{:?}", s);
}
```

`Display` and `Debug` define how a value can be converted to a string for printing

- `Display` for a user-facing representation
- `Debug` for a developer-facing representation

Instead of returning a string directly, work with a `Formatter` object to allow additional configuration (e.g. padding)

Quiz Time

```
fn f<T: /* ??? */>(t: &T) {  
    let t2 = t.clone();  
    println!("{t2}");  
}
```

What is the smallest set of trait bounds on **T** needed to make this function type-check?

A: Clone

B: Clone + Display

C: Clone + Display + Debug

D: <none>

Common Trait Speedrun: `PartialEq`

```
trait PartialEq {  
    fn eq(&self, other: &Self) -> bool;
```

`PartialEq` is for types that can be compared for equality

symmetric: $a == b \rightarrow b == a$

transitive: $a == b \ \&\& \ b == c \rightarrow a == c$

```
}
```

```
impl PartialEq for u32 { ... }
```

```
fn main() {
```

```
    let x: u32 = 1;
```

```
    let y: u32 = 2;
```

```
    x == y;
```

```
}
```

Compiler uses `PartialEq` impl for `==` operator

Common Trait Speedrun: `PartialEq`

```
trait PartialEq {  
    fn eq(&self, other: &Self) -> bool;  
  
    fn ne(&self, other: &Self) -> bool {  
        !self.eq(other)  
    }  
}  
  
impl PartialEq for u32 { ... }  
  
fn main() {  
    let x: u32 = 1;  
    let y: u32 = 2;  
    x == y;  
    x != y;  
}
```

`PartialEq` is for types that can be compared for equality

symmetric: $a == b \rightarrow b == a$

transitive: $a == b \ \&\& \ b == c \rightarrow a == c$

What's this?

“Provided method”—implemented for free once you implement the required methods

Compiler uses `PartialEq` impl for `==` operator

Ok, but where's plain old `Eq`?

Common Trait Speedrun: `PartialEq`

```
trait PartialEq {  
    fn eq(&self, other: &Self) -> bool;  
  
    fn ne(&self, other: &Self) -> bool {  
        !self.eq(other)  
    }  
}  
  
impl PartialEq for u32 { ... }  
  
fn main() {  
    let x: u32 = 1;  
    let y: u32 = 2;  
    x == y;  
    x != y;  
}
```

`PartialEq` is for types that can be compared for equality

symmetric: `a == b -> b == a`

transitive: `a == b && b == c -> a == c`

What's missing here?

What's this?

“Provided method”—implemented for free once you implement the required methods

Compiler uses `PartialEq` impl for `==` operator 31

Common Trait Speedrun: `Eq`

```
trait Eq: PartialEq { }
```

```
impl Eq for u32 { }
```

`Eq` is for equality relations

symmetric: $a == b \rightarrow b == a$

transitive: $a == b \ \&\& \ b == c \rightarrow a == c$

reflexive: $a == a$

What's this?

“Trait inheritance”—a type can only be `Eq` if it is also `PartialEq`.

What's this?

“Marker trait”—note to the compiler that says this type has the properties associated with `Eq`

Common Trait Speedrun: Copy

```
trait Copy: Clone { }
```

Copy is for types that can be trivially copied

```
impl Copy for u32 {}
```

```
fn main() {  
    let x: u32 = 1;  
    let y = x;  
    println!("{}", x and y);  
}
```

Common Trait Speedrun: ToString

```
trait ToString {  
    fn to_string(&self) -> String;  
}
```

ToString types can be converted to a string

```
impl<T: fmt::Display> ToString for T {  
    fn to_string(&self) -> String {  
        ...  
    }  
}
```



What's this?

“Blanket Implementation”—if *T* implements *Display* then *T* implements *ToString*

Takeaways so far

We can use built-in operators on custom types by implementing certain built-in traits

Next up: using built-in arithmetic operators

Case Study: Multiplication

```
struct Vec3(f32, f32, f32);
```

```
fn main() {  
    let a = Vec3(1.0, 2.0, 3.0);  
    let b = Vec3(4.0, 5.0, 6.0);  
    let c = a * b;  
}
```

Goal: use `*` operator on custom `Vec3` type for element-wise product.

Challenge: how to define `Mul` trait?

```
trait Mul {  
    fn mul(self, other: &Self) -> Self;  
}  
  
impl Mul for Vec3 {  
  
    fn mul(self, other: &Self) -> Self {  
        Vec3(self.0 * other.0,  
            self.1 * other.1,  
            self.2 * other.2)  
    }  
}
```

Case Study: Multiplication

```
struct Vec3(f32, f32, f32);
struct Scalar(f32);
fn main() {
    let a = Scalar(2.0);
    let b = Vec3(4.0, 5.0, 6.0);
    let c = a * b;
}
```

Goal: use `*` operator on `Scalar` and `Vec3`.

Challenge: how to define `Mul` trait?

```
trait Mul {
    fn mul(self, other: &Self) -> Self;
}
impl Mul for Vec3 {
    fn mul(self, other: &Self) -> Self {
        Vec3(self.0 * other.0,
            self.1 * other.1,
            self.2 * other.2)
    }
}
```

Case Study: Multiplication

```
struct Vec3(f32, f32, f32);
struct Scalar(f32);
fn main() {
    let a = Scalar(2.0);
    let b = Vec3(4.0, 5.0, 6.0);
    let c = a * b;
}
```

Goal: use `*` operator on `Scalar` and `Vec3`.

Challenge: how to define `Mul` trait?

```
trait Mul {
    fn mul(self, other: &Self) -> Self;
}
impl Mul for Scalar {
    fn mul(self, other: &Vec3) -> Self {
        Vec3(self * other.0,
            self * other.1,
            self * other.2)
    }
}
```

Case Study: Multiplication

```
error[E0053]: method `mul` has an incompatible  
type for trait
```

```
--> scratch.rs:24:25
```

```
24 |         fn mul(self, other: &Vec3) -> Self {  
    |                                     ^^^^^ expected  
    |                                     `Scalar`, found `Vec3`
```

```
}
```

Goal: use `*` operator on `Scalar` and `Vec3`.

Challenge: how to define `Mul` trait?

```
trait Mul {
```

```
    fn mul(self, other: &Self) -> Self;
```

```
}
```

```
impl Mul for Scalar {
```

```
    fn mul(self, other: &Vec3) -> Self {
```

```
        Vec3(self * other.0,
```

```
             self * other.1,
```

```
             self * other.2)
```

```
}
```

```
}
```

! Not generic enough! !

Case Study: Multiplication

```
struct Vec3(f32, f32, f32);
struct Scalar(f32);
fn main() {
    let a = Scalar(2.0);
    let b = Vec3(4.0, 5.0, 6.0);
    let c = a * b;
}
```

Goal: use `*` operator on `Scalar` and `Vec3`.

Challenge: how to define `Mul` trait?

```
trait Mul {
    fn mul(self, other: &Self) -> Self;
}
impl Mul for Scalar {
    fn mul(self, other: &Vec3) -> Self {
        Vec3(self * other.0,
             self * other.1,
             self * other.2)
    }
}
```


Case Study: Multiplication

```
struct Vec3(f32, f32, f32);
struct Scalar(f32);
fn main() {
    let a = Scalar(2.0);
    let b = Vec3(4.0, 5.0, 6.0);
    let c = a * b;
}
```

Goal: use `*` operator on `Scalar` and `Vec3`.

Challenge: how to define `Mul` trait?

```
trait Mul<Rhs> {
    fn mul(self, other: &Rhs) -> Self;
}
impl Mul<Vec3> for Scalar {
    fn mul(self, other: &Vec3) -> Self {
        Vec3(self * other.0,
             self * other.1,
             self * other.2)
    }
}
```

Case Study: Multiplication

⚠ Not always true! ⚠

```
struct Vec3(f32, f32, f32);
struct Scalar(f32);
fn main() {
    let a = Scalar(2.0);
    let b = Vec3(4.0, 5.0, 6.0);
    let c = a * b;
}
```

```
trait Mul<Rhs> {
    fn mul(self, other: &Rhs) -> Self;
}

impl Mul<Vec3> for Scalar {
    fn mul(self, other: &Vec3) -> Self {
        * other.0,
        * other.1,
        * other.2)
    }
}
```

```
error[E0308]: mismatched types
--> scratch.rs:3:9
   |
 2 |         fn mul(self, other: &Vec3) -> Self {
   |         |                                     ----- expected `Scalar`
 3 |         /         Vec3(self    * other.0,
 4 |         |         self      * other.1,
 5 |         |         self      * other.2)
   |         |_____ ^ expected `Scalar`, found `Vec3`
```

Case Study: Multiplication

```
struct Vec3(f32, f32, f32);
```

```
struct Scalar(f32);
```

“Associated Type”—type associated with a specific trait impl

```
}
```

Goal: use `*` operator on `Scalar` and `Vec3`.

Challenge: how to define `Mul` trait?

```
trait Mul<Rhs> {
```

```
    type Output;
```

```
    fn mul(self, other: &Rhs) -> Output;
```

```
}
```

```
impl Mul<Vec3> for Scalar {
```

```
    type Output = Vec3;
```

```
    fn mul(self, other: &Vec3) -> Output {
```

```
        Vec3(self * other.0,
```

```
              self * other.1,
```

```
              self * other.2)
```

```
    }
```

```
}
```

Case Study: Multiplication

Final Implementation—fully generic

- Arbitrary left type, right type, and output type

```
trait Mul<Rhs> {  
    type Output;  
    fn mul(self, other: &Rhs) -> Output;  
}  
  
impl Mul<Vec3> for Scalar {  
    type Output = Vec3;  
    fn mul(self, other: &Vec3) -> Output {  
        Vec3(self * other.0,  
            self * other.1,  
            self * other.2)  
    }  
}
```

Common Trait Speedrun: **From**

```
trait From<T> {  
    fn from(value: T) -> Self;  
}
```

```
impl From<A> for B {  
    ...  
}
```

```
impl From<&String> for String {  
    fn from(value: &String) -> String {  
        ...  
    }  
}
```

From is for type to type conversions

If you see an impl like this, read it as “B can be made from A”

An example implementation. How can we make a **String** given an **&String**?

Common Trait Speedrun: **Into**

```
trait Into<T> {
    fn into(self) -> T;
}

impl Into<String> for &String {
    fn into(self) -> String {
        ...
    }
}

// In standard library:
impl<T, U: From<T>> Into<U> for T {
    fn into(self) -> U {
        U::from(self)
    }
}
```

Into is the opposite of **From**

Can implement very similarly to **From**

- Seems sort of redundant...

Never need to implement **Into**, just implement **From** and **Into** will be implemented automatically.

Common Trait Speedrun: Using **Into**

```
trait Into<T> {  
    fn into(self) -> T;  
}
```

Into is the opposite of **From**

Sometimes type mismatches can be frustrating

```
fn write_to_file(data: Vec<u8>) {  
    ...  
}  
  
fn main() {  
    write_to_file("Hello");  
}
```

```
error[E0308]: mismatched types  
--> scratch.rs:6:19  
|  
6 | write_to_file("Hello").into();  
| ----- ^^^^^^^ expected `Vec<u8>`, found `&str`  
| |  
| arguments to this function are incorrect
```

Common Trait Speedrun: Using `Into`

```
trait Into<T> {  
    fn into(self) -> T;  
}
```

```
fn write_to_file(data: Vec<u8>) {  
    ...  
}  
  
fn main() {  
    write_to_file("Hello".into());  
}
```

`Into` is the opposite of `From`

Sometimes type mismatches can be frustrating



Common Trait Speedrun: Fn

```
pub fn map<T, U, F: Fn(T) -> U>(list: &[T], f: F) -> &[U];
```

Fn: trait and special syntax for declaring function types

Common Trait Reference

Default types have a default value

Clone types can be deep copied

Copy types can be cloned by a bit-wise copy

PartialEq (**PartialOrd**) types can be compared with a partial equality (order) relation

Eq (**Ord**) types can be compared with an equality (total order) relation

ToString types can be converted to a string

Debug types can be converted to a developer-facing string representation

Display types can be converted to a user-facing string representation

Add<T>, **Mul<T>**, **Sub<T>**, **Div<T>** types can be summed/producted/differenced/divided with a value of type **T**

From<T> types can be created from a value of type **T**

Into<T> types can be converted to a value of type **T**

Fn(T, U, ...) \rightarrow **V** types can be called with the corresponding parameters and return type

Deriving Traits

```
#[derive(Debug)]  
struct Id {  
    id: u32  
}  
  
fn main() {  
    let id = Id { id: 1905 };  
    println!("{:?}", id);  
}
```

Recall from last time... but now we understand!

`#[derive(...)]` syntax invokes a *macro*, a function that takes the code for your struct (or enum) as input and produces more code as output. In this case, a trait implementation.

Deriving Traits

```
#[derive(Debug, Clone, Copy,
PartialEq)]
struct Id {
    id: u32
}

fn main() {
    let id = Id { id: 1905 };
    println!("{:?}", id);
}
```

Recall from last time... but now we understand!

`#[derive(...)]` syntax invokes a *macro*, a function that takes the code for your struct (or enum) as input and produces more code as output. In this case, a trait implementation.

How are Traits Implemented?

```
fn write_to_file(data: Vec<u8>) {  
    ...  
}  
  
fn main() {  
    write_to_file("Hello".into());  
}
```

Just like generics, no runtime cost

- compiler statically determines which function to call based on type inference

Dowsides of traits: hard to read docs?

Function `std::fs::write` 

1.26.0 · [source](#) · [\[-\]](#)

```
pub fn write<P: AsRef<Path>, C: AsRef<[u8]>>(path: P, contents: C) -> Result<()>
```

Upside of traits: high level reasoning

```
pub fn sort_by_key<K, F>(&mut self, f: F)
where
    F: FnMut (&T) -> K,
    K: Ord,
```

Determine the types before writing the implementation

Overview of traits

Functions, structs, and enums can be generic.

To restrict the types that the generic can be instantiated with, use traits

Traits define a set of methods a type must implement

Trait Inheritance: some traits can only be implemented if another trait is implemented as well

Marker traits: traits with no methods

Provided methods: methods that are automatically defined in terms of other trait methods

Generic traits: makes a trait generic over a type

Associated types: types that implement this trait must also specify what the associated type is

Further reading

[Common Rust Traits](#)

[The Rust Book](#) 10.2

[Rust By Example](#)

[CS242 Notes](#)