

# Lifetimes, Function Types & More Ownership

**Cooper Pierce & Jack Duvall** 

**Carnegie Mellon University** 



#### Outline

#### 1 Lifetimes

2 Modules

**3** Function Types

4 Closures

#### **5** Function Traits

Every value has an "owner".

Every value has an "owner".

There can only be one owner.

- Every value has an "owner".
- There can only be one owner.
- When ownership of the value ends, the value will be "dropped".

- Every value has an "owner".
- There can only be one owner.
- When ownership of the value ends, the value will be "dropped".
- You can have as many shared borrows (&) as you want, all at the same time ...

- Every value has an "owner".
- There can only be one owner.
- When ownership of the value ends, the value will be "dropped".
- You can have as many shared borrows (&) as you want, all at the same time ...
- ... but, you can only have one exclusive borrow (&mut), and not at the same time as any shared borrow.

- Every value has an "owner".
- There can only be one owner.
- When ownership of the value ends, the value will be "dropped".
- You can have as many shared borrows (&) as you want, all at the same time ...
- ... but, you can only have one exclusive borrow (&mut), and not at the same time as any shared borrow.

Lifetime: "For a reference, the span of time that it can be used to accessed the underling value"

- Lifetime: "For a reference, the span of time that it can be used to accessed the underling value"
- Some subsection of the duration we can use the owning variable

- Lifetime: "For a reference, the span of time that it can be used to accessed the underling value"
- Some subsection of the duration we can use the owning variable
- Construct of Rust's borrow checker, not checked at runtime!

# Lifetimes Roughly Correspond To Scope

```
// Error: x isn't in scope
let x_ref1 = &x;
```

```
let x = String::from("hello");
```

```
let x_ref2 = &x;
take_ownership(x);
```

```
// Error: x was moved
let x_ref3 = &x;
```

Scope of s is the function body of make\_string, which is the same as its lifetime

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

- $\blacksquare$  Scope of s is the function body of <code>make\_string</code>, which is the same as its lifetime
- Compiler knows lifetime of make\_string will end once it returns, so reference won't be valid

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

- $\blacksquare$  Scope of s is the function body of <code>make\_string</code>, which is the same as its lifetime
- Compiler knows lifetime of make\_string will end once it returns, so reference won't be valid
- (but first we'd run into an issue about what lifetime the returned reference would have)

#### Fixing The Example

# Fixing The Example

Just don't return a reference! Move semantics already avoid copying things on the heap when not  ${\sf necessary}^1$ 

```
fn make_string() -> String {
    String::from("hello")
}
```

# Fixing The Example

Just don't return a reference! Move semantics already avoid copying things on the heap when not  ${\sf necessary}^1$ 

```
fn make_string() -> String {
    String::from("hello")
}
```

Cooper Pierce & Jack Duvall

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>and the compiler will *automatically* determine if it's faster to pass pointer to output struct or pass via registers

&'a Ty &'a **mut** Ty

The 'a is the lifetime name. The ' is required, and the identifier can be any contiguous word.

- The 'a is the lifetime name. The ' is required, and the identifier can be any contiguous word.
- The 'static lifetime is special: denotes "will be valid until the program terminates"

- The 'a is the lifetime name. The ' is required, and the identifier can be any contiguous word.
- The 'static lifetime is special: denotes "will be valid until the program terminates"
- Not super common to need to denote explicitly, but sometimes necessary for:

- The 'a is the lifetime name. The ' is required, and the identifier can be any contiguous word.
- The 'static lifetime is special: denotes "will be valid until the program terminates"
- Not super common to need to denote explicitly, but sometimes necessary for:
  - Structs/Enums with references inside them

- The 'a is the lifetime name. The ' is required, and the identifier can be any contiguous word.
- The 'static lifetime is special: denotes "will be valid until the program terminates"
- Not super common to need to denote explicitly, but sometimes necessary for:
  - Structs/Enums with references inside them
  - Functions taking in those structs/enums

- The 'a is the lifetime name. The ' is required, and the identifier can be any contiguous word.
- The 'static lifetime is special: denotes "will be valid until the program terminates"
- Not super common to need to denote explicitly, but sometimes necessary for:
  - Structs/Enums with references inside them
  - Functions taking in those structs/enums
  - Other, more funky functions

# **Explicit Lifetimes In Structs**

```
struct Vertex<'a> {
    edges: Vec<&'a Edge<'a>>,
}
struct Edge<'a> {
    info: EdgeInfo,
    vertex: &'a Vertex<'a>,
}
```

# **Explicit Lifetimes In Function Signatures**

```
fn bfs<'a>(
    start_vertex: &'a Vertex<'a>,
    max_depth: usize,
) -> Vec<&'a Vertex<'a>> {
    ...
}
```

# **Returning An Invalid Reference Revisited**

```
fn make_string<'a>() -> &'a String {
    let s = String::from("hello");
    &s
}
```

The same underlying issue as before, made more obvious by the lifetime annotation.

(From https://doc.rust-lang.org/rust-by-example/scope/lifetime/fn.html) Function signatures follow these rules:

Any reference *must* have an annotated lifetime

- Any reference *must* have an annotated lifetime
- Any reference being returned *must* have the same lifetime as an input, or be 'static

- Any reference *must* have an annotated lifetime
- Any reference being returned *must* have the same lifetime as an input, or be 'static

```
fn f1<'a, 'b>(x: &'a i32, y: &'b i32) -> &'a i32 {
    // what goes here?
}
```

- Any reference *must* have an annotated lifetime
- Any reference being returned *must* have the same lifetime as an input, or be 'static

```
fn f1<'a, 'b>(x: &'a i32, y: &'b i32) -> &'a i32 {
    // what goes here?
}
```

```
fn f2<'a, 'b>(x: &'a i32) -> &'b i32 {
    // what goes here?
}
```

## Lifetime Elison

Certain patterns in Rust are very common:

// One input lifetime, return value is reference
fn f3<'a>(x: &'a i32) -> &'a i32 { ... }
// Multiple input lifetimes, return value is not reference
fn f4<'a, 'b, 'c>(x: &'a i32, y: &'b i32, z: &'c i32) -> i32 { ... }

## Lifetime Elison

Certain patterns in Rust are very common:

// One input lifetime, return value is reference
fn f3<'a>(x: &'a i32) -> &'a i32 { ... }
// Multiple input lifetimes, return value is not reference
fn f4<'a, 'b, 'c>(x: &'a i32, y: &'b i32, z: &'c i32) -> i32 { ... }

So if a function signature falls into one of these patterns, you don't have to explicitly write lifetimes for it!

fn g3(x: &i32) -> &i32 { ... }
fn g4(x: &i32, y: &i32, z: &i32) -> i32 { ... }

# Lifetime Elison Example

fn make\_string(allocator: &mut Vec<String>) -> &String {
 allocator.push(String::from("hello"));
 &allocator[allocator.len() - 1]

# Lifetime Elison Example

fn make\_string(allocator: &mut Vec<String>) -> &String {
 allocator.push(String::from("hello"));
 &allocator[allocator.len() - 1]

Input and output lifetimes elided to be the same

# Lifetime Elison Example

fn make\_string(allocator: &mut Vec<String>) -> &String {
 allocator.push(String::from("hello"));
 &allocator[allocator.len() - 1]

- Input and output lifetimes elided to be the same
- Valid reference returned via reference to original data

# Sidenote: Loop Labels

```
'outer: for y in 0..5 {
    'inner: for x in 0..5 {
        if arr1[y][x] { break 'outer; }
        if arr2[x][y] { break 'inner; }
    }
}
```

Loop labels are not lifetimes—same syntax as lifetimes, and same sort of scope idea, but you can't actually make references with these names and have it make sense

## Outline

**1** Lifetimes

### 2 Modules

**3** Function Types

#### 4 Closures

#### **5** Function Traits

"A bag of things that go together"

"A bag of things that go together"

Structs, Enums

- "A bag of things that go together"
  - Structs, Enums
  - Types, Traits

- "A bag of things that go together"
  - Structs, Enums
  - Types, Traits
  - Constants, Static members,

- "A bag of things that go together"
  - Structs, Enums
  - Types, Traits
  - Constants, Static members,
  - Other modules!

- "A bag of things that go together"
  - Structs, Enums
  - Types, Traits
  - Constants, Static members,
  - Other modules!
- Defines a namespace

## Modules Within a File

```
fn f() { ... }
mod foo {
    fn f() { ... }
}
```

## Directory Structure Is Module Structure

src/ lib.rs bar/ mod.rs (bar) baz.rs (bar::baz) qux.rs (bar::qux)

## Directory Structure Is Module Structure

src/ lib.rs bar/ mod.rs (bar) baz.rs (bar::baz) qux.rs (bar::qux)

Alternatively,

## **Declaring File Modules**

// In src/lib.rs: mod bar;

## **Declaring File Modules**

// In src/lib.rs:
mod bar;

// In the `bar` module: mod baz; mod qux;

## Visibility

# Visibility

By default, everything in a module is private to that module

# Visibility

By default, everything in a module is private to that module We need to explicitly declare items as public using the **pub** keyword:

```
pub struct Foo {
    x: usize,
    pub v: usize,
}
pub enum Bar {
    Bar1.
    Bar2.
}
pub fn calculate(f: Foo) -> Bar { ... }
pub mod baz;
mod qux;
```

# **Using Modules**

```
mod foo {
    fn f() { ... }
}
fn main() {
    foo::f();
}
```

# **Using Modules**

```
mod foo {
    fn f() { ... }
}
fn main() {
    foo::f();
}
```

### Alternatively,

```
use foo::f;
fn main() {
    f();
}
```

# Using Multiple Things At Once

use bar::{g, baz::h};

# Using Multiple Things At Once

```
use bar::{g, baz::h};
```



# **Using Multiple Things At Once**

```
use bar::{g, baz::h};
```

use qux::\*;

Useful for re-exports, collecting all useful includes into one "prelude":

```
pub use crate::{
    bar::{g, baz::h},
    qux::*,
};
```

## Outline

#### **1** Lifetimes

#### 2 Modules

### **3** Function Types

#### 4 Closures

#### **5** Function Traits

Every value has a type

Every value has a type

Functions are values! (sorry 15-122 stans)

- Every value has a type
- Functions are values! (sorry 15-122 stans)
- Allows us to pass in functions as arguments to other functions, which many other good languages do in some capacity

■ Function Pointers (sorry 15-150 stans): fn (Ty1, Ty2, ...) -> Ty

■ Function Pointers (sorry 15-150 stans): fn (Ty1, Ty2, ...) -> Ty

Types Implementing Function Traits:

■ Function Pointers (sorry 15-150 stans): fn (Ty1, Ty2, ...) -> Ty

Types Implementing Function Traits:

Fn

## **Rust's Function Types**

■ Function Pointers (sorry 15-150 stans): fn (Ty1, Ty2, ...) -> Ty

Types Implementing Function Traits:

- Fn
- FnOnce

## **Rust's Function Types**

■ Function Pointers (sorry 15-150 stans): fn (Ty1, Ty2, ...) -> Ty

Types Implementing Function Traits:

- Fn
- FnOnce
- FnMut

## What Is A Function Pointer?

Value of the function pointer type is either:

## What Is A Function Pointer?

Value of the function pointer type is either:

A "function item" (named function in the code), or

# What Is A Function Pointer?

Value of the function pointer type is either:

- A "function item" (named function in the code), or
- A closure that doesn't capture (which is effectively the same)

### **Example: Using A Function Pointer**

```
fn double(n: i32) -> i32 { 2 * n }
fn giveme_fnptr(f: fn(i32) -> i32) -> i32 {
    f(42)
}
fn test_fnptr() {
    assert_eq!(giveme_fnptr(double), 84);
}
```

### **Example: Using A Function Pointer**

```
fn double(n: i32) -> i32 { 2 * n }
fn giveme_fnptr(f: fn(i32) -> i32) -> i32 {
    f(42)
}
fn test_fnptr() {
    assert_eq!(giveme_fnptr(double), 84);
}
```

### Outline

#### **1** Lifetimes

#### 2 Modules

**3** Function Types

#### 4 Closures

#### **5** Function Traits

# **Closure Syntax**

From https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/ch13-01-closures.html

fn	add_one_v1		(x:	i32)	->	i32	{	Χ	+	1	}
let	add_one_v2	=	x:	i32	->	i32	{	X	+	1	};
let	add_one_v3	=	x				{	X	+	1	};
let	add_one_v4	=	$ \mathbf{x} $					X	+	1	;

If variable typed inside closure came from outside the closure, it is captured by reference

If variable typed inside closure came from outside the closure, it is captured by reference

Immutable if possible, mutable if necessary

If variable typed inside closure came from outside the closure, it is captured by reference

Immutable if possible, mutable if necessary

let z = 5; let closure = |x| z == x;

If variable typed inside closure came from outside the closure, it is captured by reference

Immutable if possible, mutable if necessary

let z = 5; let closure = |x| z == x;

This can't be done with functions! Will fail to compile:

**fn** f(x: i32) -> bool { z == x }

# **Consuming State With Closures**

Sometimes, we do want to move a value into a closure:

```
let message = String::from("hello");
thread::spawn(move || {
    println!("{}", message);
});
```

# **Consuming State With Closures**

Sometimes, we do want to move a value into a closure:

```
let message = String::from("hello");
thread::spawn(move || {
    println!("{}", message);
});
```

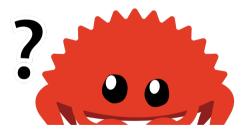
 $\tt move$  keyword: anything that would be captured by reference is now captured by value (moved)

# Things Closures Can't Be

- Recursive
- Generic
- In most cases, function pointers
  - If a closure doesn't capture anything from its environment, it can be coerced to a function pointer:

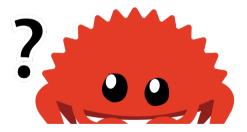
let x: fn(i32, i32) -> i32 = |x, y| x + y;

## Type Of A Closure



# Type Of A Closure

You can't write down their type!



# Type Of A Closure

You can't write down their type!

Wait, so how can we take them as arguments??



### Outline

#### **1** Lifetimes

#### 2 Modules

**3** Function Types

#### 4 Closures

#### **5** Function Traits

### Traits Aren't Types

### **Traits Aren't Types**

Types: correspond to the compiler's representation of data

## **Traits Aren't Types**

Types: correspond to the compiler's representation of data

Traits: describe what a type can do

**let** fn\_closure = |x| 2 \* x;

```
let fn_closure = |x| 2 * x;
```

```
■ We say: fn_closure implements Fn(i32) -> i32
```

```
let fn_closure = |x| + 2 + x;
```

- We say: fn\_closure implements Fn(i32) -> i32
- Can be called by shared reference

```
let fn_closure = |x| + 2 + x;
```

- We say: fn\_closure implements Fn(i32) -> i32
- Can be called by shared reference
- Closure must:

```
let fn_closure = |x| 2 * x;
```

- We say: fn\_closure implements Fn(i32) -> i32
- Can be called by shared reference
- Closure must:
  - Not mutate any captured state

```
let fn_closure = |x| 2 * x;
```

- We say: fn\_closure implements Fn(i32) -> i32
- Can be called by shared reference
- Closure must:
  - Not mutate any captured state
  - Not move any captured state out

```
let fn_closure = |x| 2 * x;
```

- We say: fn\_closure implements Fn(i32) -> i32
- Can be called by shared reference
- Closure must:
  - Not mutate any captured state
  - Not move any captured state out
- All (safe) function pointers also implement Fn

```
fn giveme fn1(f: impl Fn(i32) -> i32) -> i32 {
    f(42)
// Or, verbosely:
fn giveme fn2<T: Fn(i32) -> i32>(f: T) -> i32 {
    f(42)
// Or, even more verbosely:
fn giveme fn3<T>(f: T) -> i32
    where T: Fn(i32) \rightarrow i32
    f(42)
```

```
fn giveme fn1(f: impl Fn(i32) -> i32) -> i32 {
    f(42)
// Or, verbosely:
fn giveme fn2<T: Fn(i32) -> i32>(f: T) -> i32 {
    f(42)
// Or, even more verbosely:
fn giveme fn3<T>(f: T) -> i32
    where T: Fn(i32) \rightarrow i32
    f(42)
```

```
fn giveme fn1(f: impl Fn(i32) -> i32) -> i32 {
    f(42)
// Or, verbosely:
fn giveme fn2<T: Fn(i32) -> i32>(f: T) -> i32 {
    f(42)
// Or, even more verbosely:
fn giveme fn3<T>(f: T) -> i32
    where T: Fn(i32) \rightarrow i32
    f(42)
```

```
fn giveme fn1(f: impl Fn(i32) -> i32) -> i32 {
    f(42)
// Or, verbosely:
fn giveme fn2<T: Fn(i32) -> i32>(f: T) -> i32 {
    f(42)
// Or, even more verbosely:
fn giveme fn3 < T > (f: T) \rightarrow i32
    where T: Fn(i32) -> i32
    f(42)
```

### FnMut Trait

```
let mut state = 0;
let fnmut_closure = |x| {
    state += x;
    state
};
```

### FnMut Trait

```
let mut state = 0;
let fnmut_closure = |x| {
    state += x;
    state
};
```

- Can be called by mutable reference

#### FnMut Trait

```
let mut state = 0;
let fnmut_closure = |x| {
    state += x;
    state
};
```

- Can be called by mutable reference
- Closure must not move any captured state out

## Example: Using FnMut

```
fn giveme_fnmut(mut f: impl FnMut(i32) -> i32) -> i32 {
    let x = f(42);
    f(x)
}
assert_eq!(giveme_fnmut(fnmut_closure), 84);
```

## Example: Using FnMut

```
fn giveme_fnmut(mut f: impl FnMut(i32) -> i32) -> i32 {
    let x = f(42);
    f(x)
}
assert_eq!(giveme_fnmut(fnmut_closure), 84);
```

#### **FnOnce Trait**

```
let state = Box::new(42);
let fnonce_closure = move |x| {
    let y = x + *state;
    drop(state);
    y
};
```

#### **FnOnce Trait**

```
let state = Box::new(42);
let fnonce_closure = move |x| {
    let y = x + *state;
    drop(state);
    y
};
```

Can be called by taking ownership of the closure

#### **FnOnce Trait**

```
let state = Box::new(42);
let fnonce_closure = move |x| {
    let y = x + *state;
    drop(state);
    y
};
```

Can be called by taking ownership of the closure

All closures implement this

#### Example: Using FnOnce

```
fn giveme_fnonce(f: impl FnOnce(i32) -> i32) -> i32 {
    let x = f(42);
    // let y = f(9 * 6); // Does not compile
    x
}
```

Need to distinguish between all the different ways we can capture state, interact with borrow/ownership system!

Need to distinguish between all the different ways we can capture state, interact with borrow/ownership system!

Fn: "This acts like a function pointer, doesn't modify any local state"

- Need to distinguish between all the different ways we can capture state, interact with borrow/ownership system!
  - Fn: "This acts like a function pointer, doesn't modify any local state"
  - FnMut: "This may modify local state, but doesn't result in any local state being dropped when called"

- Need to distinguish between all the different ways we can capture state, interact with borrow/ownership system!
  - Fn: "This acts like a function pointer, doesn't modify any local state"
  - FnMut: "This may modify local state, but doesn't result in any local state being dropped when called"
  - FnOnce: "This can only be called 0 or 1 times because it may drop local state when called."

- Need to distinguish between all the different ways we can capture state, interact with borrow/ownership system!
  - Fn: "This acts like a function pointer, doesn't modify any local state"
  - FnMut: "This may modify local state, but doesn't result in any local state being dropped when called"
  - FnOnce: "This can only be called 0 or 1 times because it may drop local state when called."
- Anything higher on the list can be used as anything lower on the list

# Manually Implementing Function Traits?

Unfortunately, only on nightly, a.k.a. "unstable" Rust. Only closures will implement these traits for now.



Livecoding!!

# Homework: What We Meant To Give You Last Time

Tarball: https://rust-stuco.github.io/handouts/TODO-handout.tgz Handout PDF: https://rust-stuco.github.io/handouts/TODO-writeup.pdf