Practical Programming

Rust: Introduction



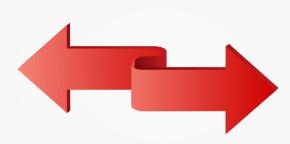
David Bouchet

david.bouchet.epita@gmail.com

Low-Level

High-Level

Less safe
More Control
Faster



Safer Less control Slower

Assembly

C++

Go

Java

Python Ruby

C#

PHP JavaScript

Usually Compiled

Usually Interpreted

Why are C and C++ unsafe?

- Buffer Overflows
- Uncontrolled Format Strings
- Memory Leaks
- Null Dereferencing
- Dangling Pointers
- Race Conditions
- Array Index out of Bounds

Why are high-level languages slower?

Because they use an *interpreter* and/or a *garbage collector*.

These mechanisms make the execution of a program safer and prevent memory leaks.

They also provide strong abstraction from the hardware. It is then easier and faster to develop a program.

But unfortunately, this comes with a runtime cost.

What is Rust?

"Rust is a systems programming language that runs blazingly fast, prevents segfaults, and guarantees thread safety." (1)

"Its design lets you create programs that have the performance and control of a low-level language, but with the powerful abstractions of a high-level language." (2)

"Rust is a programming language that's focused on safety, speed, and concurrency." (2)

- (1) https://www.rust-lang.org/en-US/index.html
- (2) https://doc.rust-lang.org/book/second-edition/ch01-00-introduction.html

Featuring (1)

- Zero-Cost Abstraction
- Move Semantics
- Guaranteed Memory Safety
- Threads Without Data Races
- Trait-Based Generics
- Pattern Matching
- Type Inference
- Minimal Runtime
- Efficient C Bindings

Resources

Official Website:

https://www.rust-lang.org/

Rust Playground:

https://play.rust-lang.org/

The Rust community's crate registry:

https://crates.io/

MDN web docs (Mozilla)

https://developer.mozilla.org/en-US/docs/Mozilla/Rust