

Memory Safety Analysis for Rust GCC

Jakub Dupák

Supervisor: Ing. Pavel Píša PhD.
Project reviewer: MSc. Arthur Cohen

Faculty of Electrical Engineering
Department of Measurement

Borrow Checker Rules

- Move
- Lifetime subset relation
- Borrow must outlive borrowee
- One mutable borrow or multiple immutable borrows
- No modification of immutable borrow data

Borrow Checker Rules

- Move

```
let mut v1 = Vec::new();
v1.push(42)
let mut v2 = v1; // <- Move
println!(v1[0]); // <- Error
```

- Lifetime subset relation
- Borrow must outlive borrowee
- One mutable borrow or multiple immutable borrows
- No modification of immutable borrow data

Borrow Checker Rules

- Move
- Lifetime subset relation
- Borrow must outlive borrowee

```
fn f() -> &i32 {  
    &(1+1)  
} // <- Error
```

- One mutable borrow or multiple immutable borrows
- No modification of immutable borrow data

Borrow Checker Rules

- Move
- Lifetime subset relation
- Borrow must outlive borrowee
- One mutable borrow or multiple immutable borrows
- No modification of immutable borrow data

```
let mut counter = 0;
let ref1 = &mut counter;
// ...
let ref2 = &mut counter; // <- Error
```

Checking Functions

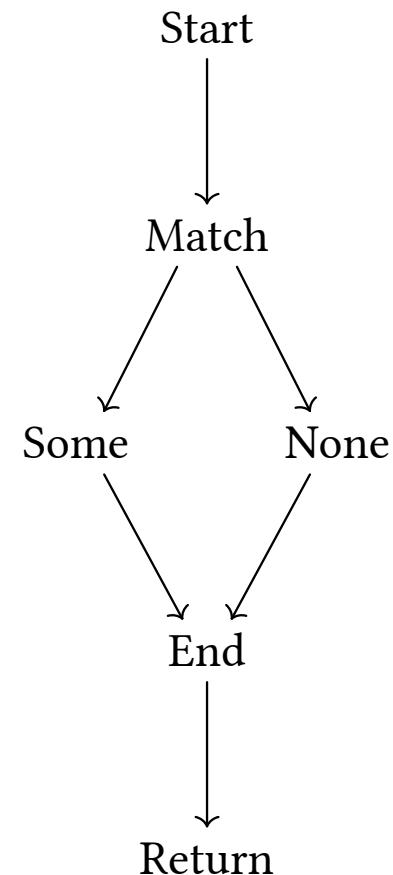
```
struct Vec<'a> { ... }

impl<'a> Vec<'a> {
    fn push<'b> where 'b: 'a (&mut self, x: &'b i32) {
        // ...
    }
}
```

Checking Functions

CFG Computation

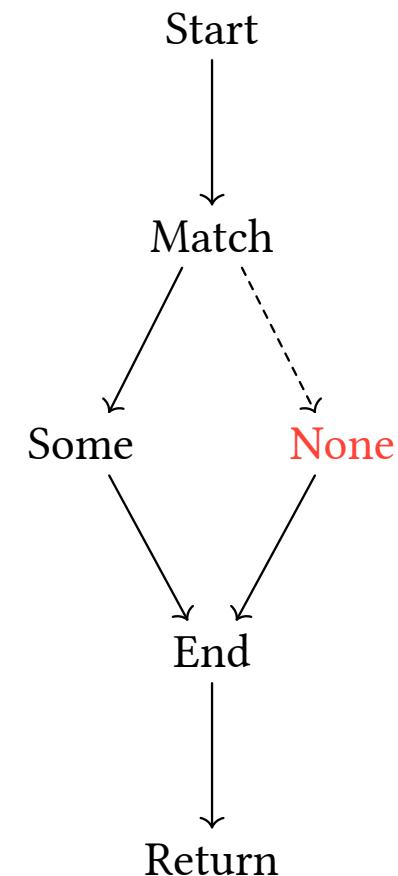
```
fn f<'a>(map: Map<K, V>) -> &'a V {  
    // Lookup key in map.  
    // Return reference to value.  
    match map.get_mut(&key) {  
        Some(value) => value, // Found one.  
        None => {  
            // Not found.  
            // New reference to map!  
            map.insert(key, V::default());  
        }  
    }  
}
```



CFG Computation

```

fn f<'a>(map: Map<K, V>) -> &'a V {
    // Lookup key in map.
    // Return reference to value.
    match map.get_mut(&key) {
        Some(value) => value, // Found one.
        None => {
            // Not found.
            // New reference to map!
            map.insert(key, V::default());
        }
    }
}
  
```



Implementation

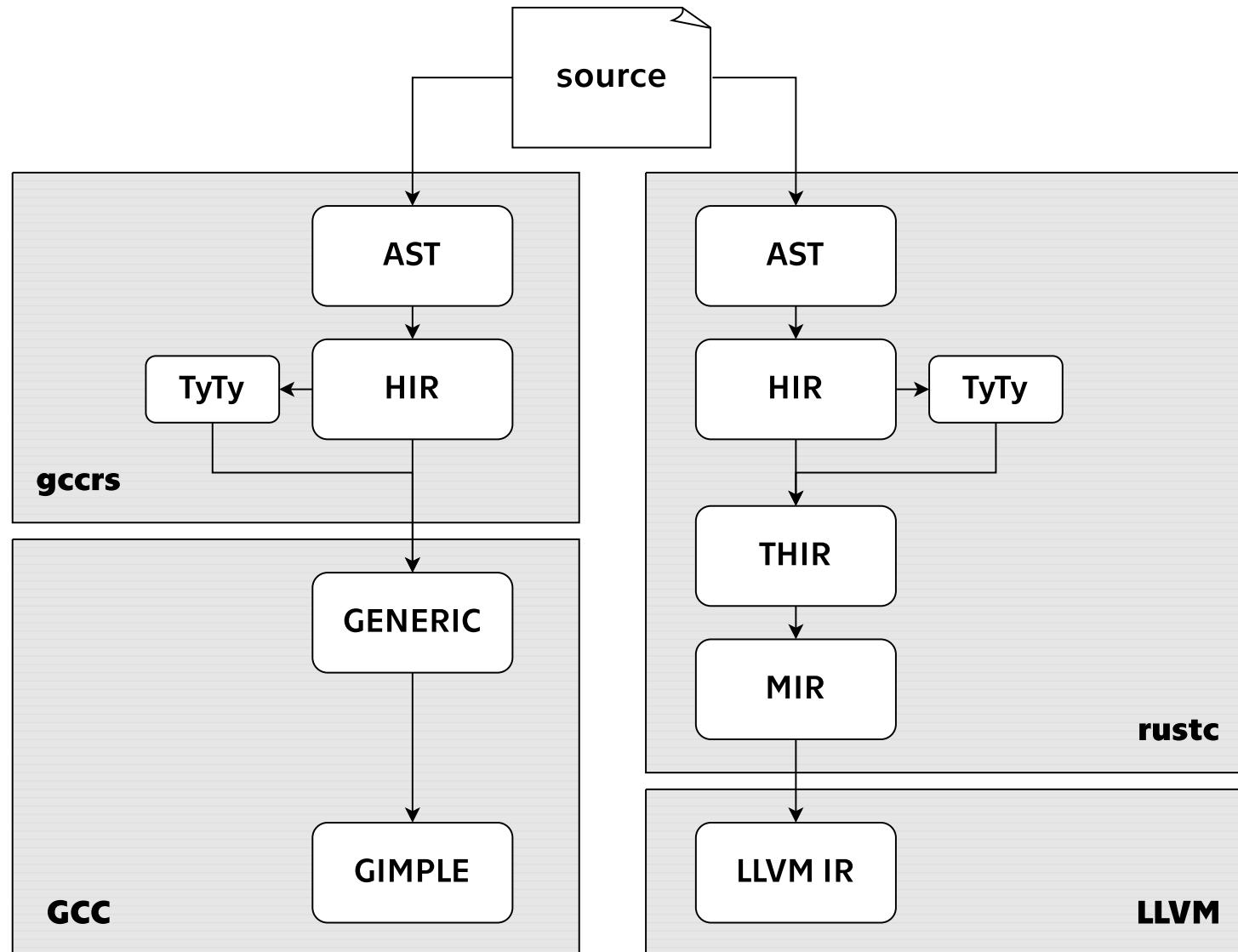
- **Parsing, AST, HIR**
- **Lifetime handling in the type checker**
- **Variance analysis**

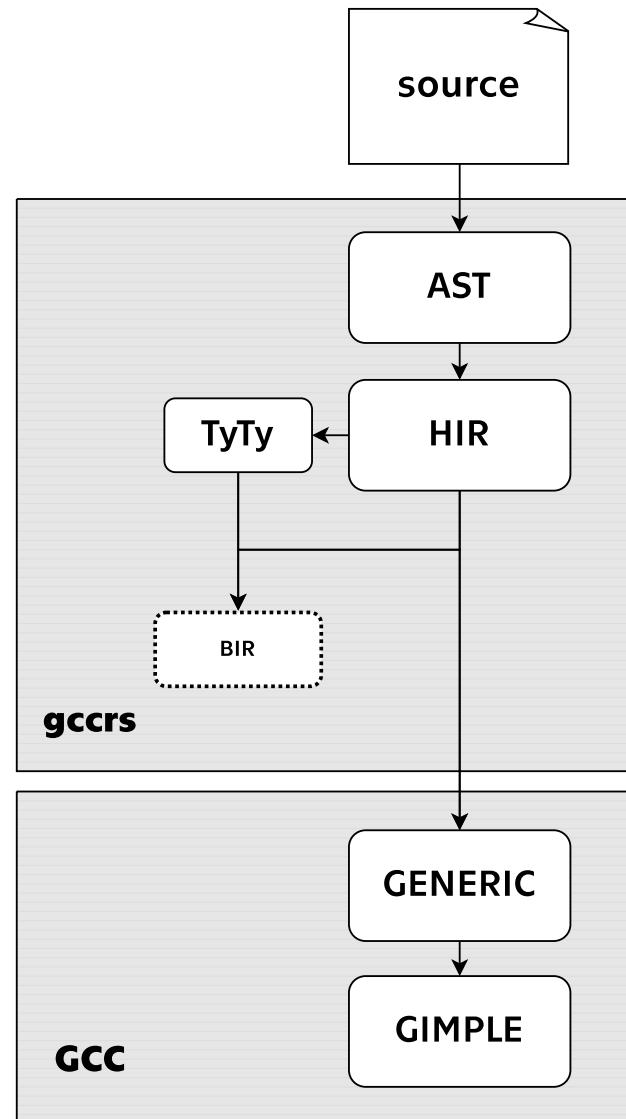
$$A('a, T) \leq B('b, F) \Rightarrow ('a \subseteq 'b) \wedge (T \leq F)$$



CTU

CZECH TECHNICAL
UNIVERSITY
IN PRAGUE





Implementation

- Parsing, AST, HIR
- Lifetime handling in the type checker
- Variance analysis
- BIR construction
- Fact collection
- Polonius FFI
- Error reporting

Implementation

- Parsing, AST, HIR
- Lifetime handling in the type checker
- Variance analysis
- BIR construction
- Fact collection
- Polonius FFI
- Error reporting
- **Changed +10174 –1374**
 - 48% GCC upstream
 - 11% Rust GCC
 - 9% PR in review

Results

- Limitations
- Move errors
- Subset errors
- Access rule errors

Borrow Rules

```
fn mutable_borrow_while_immutable_borrowed() {  
    let x = 0;  
    let y = &x;      // <---  
    let z = &mut x; // <---  
    let w = y;  
}
```

Error: Found loan errors in function
`mutable_borrow_while_immutable_borrowed`

Struct & Method

```
struct Reference<'a> {
    value: &'a i32,
}

impl<'a> Reference<'a> {
    fn new<'a>(value: &'a i32) -> Reference<'a> {
        Reference { value: value }
    }
}
```

Borrow Rules with Struct

```
fn mutable_borrow_while_immutable_borrowed_struct() {  
    let x = 0;  
    let y = Reference::new(&x);  
    let z = &mut x; //~ ERROR  
    let w = y;  
}
```

Error: Found loan errors in function
`mutable_borrow_while_immutable_borrowed`

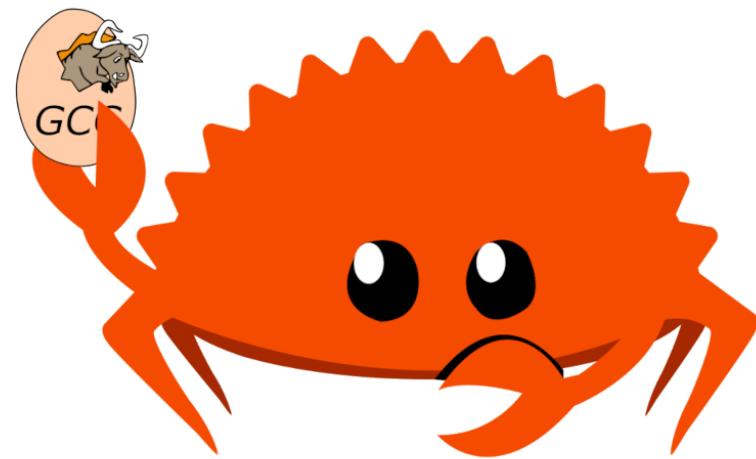
Subset Rules

```
fn complex_cfg_subset<'a, 'b>(b: bool, x: &'a u32, y:  
&'b u32) -> &'a u32 {  
    if b {  
        y //~ ERROR  
    } else {  
        x  
    }  
}
```

Error: Found subset errors in function
`complex_cfg_subset`

Future

- Open Source Security support
- GSoC 2024



**Thank You
for your attention**