

Alogger

One ring to rule them all

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Nov 03, 2011



A bit of history



Good old days

```
-ifdef(DEBUG).  
-define(LOG, ...).  
-endif.
```

It's like 80s in your code. Michael Jackson, anyone?



Mockering

Some attempts were made

- log4erl
- fastlog
- elog
- lager **this one is younger than alogger**



What's the point?

All logging frameworks looks like brothers.

Nothing like «killing feature».



Rule them all



**“One Ring to rule them
all, One Ring to find
them,
One Ring to bring
them all and in the
darkness bind them”**

– J. R. R. Tolkien



Spawnfest

During spawnfest the ring was forged.

- Modularity
- OTP compliance
- Pluggable backends
- Full runtime control
- Concept of «flows»
- Almost zero overhead
- SASL errors are handled
- Syntactic convenience
- Production usage



Modularity

You can choose any logging backend, even in runtime

- tty
- disk log
- syslog
- scribe

Just implement `gen_alog` behaviour



Log levels

- emergency
- alert
- critical
- error
- warning
- notice
- info
- debug



Flows

Flow is... flow.

flow = filters + direction + metadata

filters: on module, tag, error level

direction: any logging backend

metadata: priority



Fighting with overhead



Almost zero overhead

?LOG is translated to alog_if:log

alog_if:log is generated, compiled and reloaded in runtime automatically

Look ma, no overhead (when logging is disabled)



Making overhead even lower

Sometimes gathering log data is expensive

You can do it lazily — just pass fun to logger



Syntactic magic



Boring one

```
FooValue = foo(),
```

```
?DBG("FooValue: ~s", [FooValue]),
```

```
FooValue
```



Funnier one

```
FooValue = foo(),  
?DBG({FooValue}),  
FooValue.
```



Returning right from the macro

```
FooValue = foo(),  
?DBG({FooValue}).
```



Using arbitrary expression inside of a macro

```
?DBG(["FooValue", foo()]).
```



Measuring time of execution

```
?DBG_TC(["FooValue", foo()]).
```



Obtaining debug info

```
?DBG({FooValue, {lazy, "BarValue", fun() -> ...  
end}).
```



Wrapping up



Present status

Authors use it in production



Future

- more testing
- more backends
- nif-based `io_lib_format` version with size limits
- time tracking using `splot`
- formatters



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Thank you!

