



## Overview

- File I/O
- Subroutines
- Perl Modules and Libraries
  - CGI
  - DBMS
- Pattern Matching and Parsing Example

# File I/O

- Review
  - @var = <FILEHANDLE> reads an entire file
  - \$var = <FILEHANDLE> reads one line
  - \$var = <FH> -s <FH> reads entire file in one line
  - getc <FILEHANDLE> reads a single character
- Random access
  - seek <FILEHANDLE> offset position
  - offset is the offset from position – it can be negative
    - position is:
      - 0 == beginning
      - 1 == current position
      - 2 == end
  - Tell <FILEHANDLE> returns the current offset in a file

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3

# Formatted Output

- A format may be specified for a list of variables using the following form

```
format MYFORMAT
@<<<. < @| | | $@>>. >>
$var1, $var2, $var3
.
```
- The . terminates the format
- The “picture” defines the length and alignment of the variables. In the example above:
  - \$var1 is output flush left in 4.1 format
  - \$var2 is output centered as 5 chars
  - \$var3 is output flush right at 5.2 preceded by a dollarsign

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4

## Formats Continued

- Once a format is defined, the current values of the variables are used when the write command is given as follows:  

```
write MYFORMAT
```
- Headers and footers can be defined by creating formats with associated names
  - MYFORMAT\_TOP would define the page header for MYFORMAT writes
  - There are also special variables that can be consulted to define current print status, e.g. \$% is the current page number and \$- is the number of lines left

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5

## Subroutines

- Subroutines are most easily declared prior to being referenced
- The arguments to a subroutine call are:
  - Accessible through the array @\_
  - Each element can be accessed as \$\_[n] where n is the number of the array element
- A subroutine is normally invoked using an & preceding the name
- The next page shows a simple perl script that produces a directory list for a web server

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## A simple subroutine

```
#!/opt/bin/perl

sub print_element {
    chomp $_[0];
    $i=rindex "$_[0]","\ /";
    $filename=substr $_[0],$i+1;
    $href="http://www2.sis.pitt.edu/~spring/" .
        $filename;
    print "<LI>".
        "<A href=\"\$href\">$filename</A></LI>\n";
}
```

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7

## Main body invoking subroutine

```
print "Content-type: text/html\n\n";

print "<HTML><HEAD><TITLE>Directory
Listing</TITLE></HEAD>\n";
print "<BODY><H1>Directory Listing for Home
Directory</H1>\n<UL>\n";
foreach $file (`ls
/home/spring/public_html/*.html`)
{
    &print_element($file)
}
print "</UL></BODY></HTML>\n\n";
```

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# Libraries and Modules

- The PERL language is extended through the use of modules and libraries
- To include subroutines from a library – which has a default extension of pl:
  - `require library.pl`
- To include subroutines from a module – which has the default extension pm:
  - `use module.pm`
- You can use a module with the qw form to use standard function calls
  - `use CGI qw /:standard/;`

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9

# Some Libraries and Modules

- ActivePerl comes with more than a hundred libraries and modules which include code for debugging, system access, file control, etc.
- The website [www.cpan.org](http://www.cpan.org) contains hundreds of additional modules that allow, among other things:
  - Authentication, Security and Encryption
  - World Wide Web, HTML, HTTP, CGI, MIME
  - Images Manipulation, Drawing and Graphing
  - Mail and Usenet News
  - OS Interfaces
  - Database Interfaces
  - Networking
  - User Interfaces

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10

# CGI Module

- The CGI module provides tools for preparing web pages in response to form submissions
- This review only looks at the object oriented use
- The first step is to create a CGI object
  - `q= new CGI;`
- there are various forms which allow you to include a query object in the new CGI
  - `q = new CGI ( {'abc'=>'def'});`
  - nb, use curly braces for any routines taking names arguments

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11

# Creating Headers and Document

- Create the one needed header
  - `$q->header;`
  - `$q->header( {-type=>'image/gif',-expires=>' +3d' });`
- Create a simple normal html document
  - `$q->start_html('hello world');` # start the HTML
  - `$q->h1('hello world');` # level 1 header
  - `$q->end_html;` # end the HTML

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12

## Different forms of an h1 call;

- Code
  - Generated HTML
- `$q->h1()`
  - `<H1>`
- `$q->h1('some','contents');`
  - `<H1>some contents</H1>`
- `$q->h1({-align=>left});`
  - `<H1 ALIGN="LEFT">`
- `$q->h1({-align=>left},'contents');`
  - `<H1 ALIGN="LEFT">contents</H1>`

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13

## Parameters and Values

- To get the names of all the parameters
  - `@names = $q->param`
- To get all the values of a given parameter – note that the array is important for names that have multiple values
  - `@values = $q->param('foo');`
- To get just one value
  - `$value = $q->param('foo');`
- To set or append parameter values
  - `$q->param(-name=>'foo',-values=>['an','array','of','values']);`
  - `$q->append(-name=>'foo',-values=>['yet','more','values']);`
- To delete parameters and values
  - `$q->delete('foo');`
  - `$q->delete_all();`

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14

## Options for start\_html

- The start function can be as simple as:
  - `$q->start_html();`
- Or more complex than:
  - `$q->start_html(-title=>'Secrets of the Pyramids',  
-author=>'fred@capricorn.org',  
-base=>'true',  
-target=>'_blank',  
-meta=>{'keywords'=>  
    'pharaoh secret mummy',  
    'copyright'=>'copyright 1996 King Tut'},  
-style=>{'src'=>'/styles/style1.css'},  
-BGCOLOR=>'blue');`

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15

## Obtaining the script's url

- There are several ways to get information about the URL of the script:
  - `$full_url = $q->url();`
  - `$full_url = $q->url(-full=>1);` #alternative syntax
  - `$relative_url = $q->url(-relative=>1);`
  - `$absolute_url = $q->url(-absolute=>1);`
  - `$url_with_path = $q->url(-path_info=>1);`
  - `$path&query = $q->url(-path_info=>1,-query=>1);`
  - `$netloc = $q->url(-base => 1);`

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16



## Creating embedded HTML Elements

- Elements can be embedded in the strings of a call

```
$q->blockquote(  
    "Many years ago on the island of",  
    $q->a({href=>"http://crete.org/"}, "Crete"),  
    "there lived a Minotaur named",  
    $q->strong("Fred.")),
```

- Some elements have start and end forms

```
$q->start_form(      -method=>$method,  
    -action=>$action,  
    -enctype=>$encoding);  
  
<... various form stuff ...>  
$q->endform;
```

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17

## The form elements

- All of the form elements have calls like:

- `$q->textfield(`     `-name=>'field_name',`  
    `-default=>'starting value',`  
    `-override=>1,`  
    `-size=>50,`  
    `-maxlength=>80);`
- `$q->textarea(`     `-name=>'foo',`  
    `-default=>'starting value',`  
    `-rows=>10,`  
    `-columns=>50);`

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18

## Some of the Others

- `$q->popup_menu( 'menu_name',  
                  ['eenie','meenie','minie'],  
                  'meenie');`
- `$q->scrolling_list( 'list_name',  
                     ['eenie','meenie','minie','moe'],  
                     ['eenie','moe'],5,'true');`
- `$q->checkbox_group(  
    -name=>'group_name',  
    -values=>['eenie','meenie','minie','moe'],  
    -default=>['eenie','moe'],  
    linebreak=>'true',  
    labels=>\"%labels');`

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## Buttons

- `$q->submit(      -name=>'button_name',  
              -value=>'value');`
- `$q->image_button(-name=>'button_name',  
                  -src=>'/source/URL',  
                  -align=>'MIDDLE');`
- `$q->button(      -name=>'button_name',  
                  -value=>'user visible label',  
                  -onClick=>"do_something()");`

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20

## A simple Script

- use CGI;
- #create a new CGI object
- \$q=new CGI;
- # write out our header
- print \$q->header;
- # now we can write out an HTML page
- # print \$q->starthtml("This is a form processor");

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21

## Continued

```
print $q->h1("Here are the parameters");
print $q->start_ul
foreach $key ($q->param)
{
    print "<LI>The Variable: ".$key.
        " had the value ". $q->param{$key}."</LI>";
}
print $q->end_ul;
print $q->end_html;
```

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22

## DBMS Access

```
use Win32::ODBC;

my ($db)=new Win32::ODBC('contacts');
$db->Sql("SELECT * from Contacts");
while ($db->FetchRow()){
    my (%data)= $db->DataHash();
    print "$data{FirstName}." " ".$data{LastName}."\n";
}

$db->Close();
```

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## Some parsing

```
#!/opt/bin/perl
$mainfile="raw.dat";
open DATA, $mainfile;
read DATA, $filestring, -s DATA; # read whole file
print $filestring;
@lines = split /\n/, $filestring; # split on newlines
foreach (@lines)
    { print $_."\n"; }
foreach (reverse @lines) # print lines in reverse order
    { print $_ . "\n"; }
```

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## Parsing (continued)

```
print "\nTotal lines in the file: ".$#lines."\n";
$i=0;
foreach (@lines)
    { if (/\/@image/i) # if line contains @image, print
      { print $_."\n"; $i++; }
    }
print "\nTotal lines with \/@image: ".$i."\n";
$i=0;
foreach (@lines)
    { if (/\/the/i) # if line contains characters the, print
      { print $_."\n"; $i++; }
    }
print "\nTotal lines with the characters 'the': ".$i."\n";
```

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25

## Parse (continued)

```
$i=0;
foreach (@lines)
    { if (/\/bthe\/b/i)
      { print $_."\n"; $i++; }
    }
print "\nTotal lines with the word 'the': ".$i."\n";
$i=0;
foreach (@lines)
    { if (/\/bthe\/b/i)
      {foreach (split / /, $_)
        { if (/\/bthe\/b/i)
          {# print $_."\n"; $i++; }
        }
      }
    }
print "\nTotal number of 'the's: ".$i."\n";
```

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26