



11-7-2005





Opening Discussion

- What did we talk about last class?
- What did you find interesting in the reading for today?





Simple Databases

- The contents of this chapter don't really count as databases, but they are simple ways of storing information and how to modify it.
- What are DBM files and how do you interact with them?
- How do you do random access files in Perl? Compare this to how you would do it in other languages?
- What are some of the issue of dealing with “text databases”? What tools does Perl give you to make this easier?



Advanced Techniques

- `eval` – This is how you do error handling in Perl.
- `grep` and `map` – These remarkably functional like functions perform standard operations on lists.
- Non-greedy Qualifiers – Normally the quantifiers try to match as much of the string as they can and still make a complete match. By putting a `?` after them you change their behavior so they match as little as they can while still doing a complete match.
- Slices – You can pull multiple items from a list, array, or hash in Perl much the same as you could in Matlab. The method isn't quite as powerful and the syntax is worth noting.



Reminders

- Remember to turn in assignment #8 tonight.

