

Arrays (Lists)

An *array* is a sequence of scalars, indexed by position (0,1,2,...)

The whole array is denoted by `@array`

Individual array elements are denoted by `$array[index]`

`$#array` gives the *index of the last element*.

Example: `a[0] = "firststring"; a[1] = "2nd string"; a[2] = 123;`

or, equivalently,

```
@a = ("first string", "2nd string", 123);
```

```
print "Index of last element is a"; print "Number of elements is", a+1,  
"";
```

Arrays (Lists)

```
@a = ("abc", 123, 'x');
```

numeric context ... gives list length $n = @a$; $n == 3$

string context ... gives space-separated elems $s = "@a"$; s eq "abc
123 x"

scalar context ... gives list length $t = @a$; t eq "3"

print context ... gives joined elems `print @a`; displays "abc123x"

In Perl, interpretation is context-dependent.

Arrays (Lists)

Arrays do not need to be declared, and they grow and shrink as needed.

"Missing" elements are interpolated, e.g. `abc[0] = "abc"; abc[2] = "xyz";` reference to `abc[1]` returns ""

Can assign *to* a whole array; can assign *from* a whole array, e.g.

`@numbers = (4, 12, 5, 7, 2, 9); (a,b, c,d) = @numbers;`

Since assignment of list elements happens in parallel ... `(x,y) = (y,x);` swaps values of `x,y`

Arrays (Lists)

Array *slices*, e.g. `@list = (1, 3, 5, 7, 9); print "@list[0,2]";`
displays "1 5" `print "@list[0..2]";` displays "1 3 5" `print`
`"@list[4,2,3]";` displays "9 5 7" `print "@list[0..9]";` displays "1 3 5
7 9"

Array values interpolated into array literals: `@a = (3, 5, 7); @b =`
`@a; @b = (3,5,7); @c = (1, @a, 9); @c = (1,3,5,7,9); @a ==`
`((@a)) == ((@a)) ...`

Arrays (Lists)

Arrays can be accessed element-at-a-time using the for loop:

```
@nums = (23, 95, 33, 42, 17, 87); sum = 0; for(i = 0;  
i < @nums;i++) @nums gives length sum+ =nums[i];sum = 0;  
foreach num(@nums)sum+ =num;
```

push and pop act on the "right-hand" end of an array: Value of

```
@a @a = (1,3,5); (1,3,5) push @a, 7; (1,3,5,7)
```

```
x = pop@a; (1,3,5,7),x == 7 y = pop@a; (1,3,5),y == 5
```

Arrays (Lists)

Other useful operations on arrays:

<code>@b = sort(@a)</code>	returns sorted version of @a
<code>@b = reverse(@a)</code>	returns reversed version of @a
<code>shift(@a)</code>	like <code>pop(@a)</code> , but from left-hand end
<code>unshift(@a,x)</code>	like <code>push(@a,x)</code> , but at left-hand end

Lists as Strings

Recall the marks example from earlier on; we used "54,67,88" to effectively hold a list of marks.

Could we turn this into a real list if e.g. we wanted to compute an average?

The *split* operation allows us to do this:

Syntax: `split(/pattern/, string)` returns a list

The *join* operation allows us to convert from list to string:

Syntax: `join(string, list)` returns a string

(Don't confuse this with the `join` filter in the shell. Perl's `join` acts more like `paste`.)

Lists as Strings

Examples: `marks = "99, 67, 85, 48, 77, 84";`
`@listOfMarks = split(/,/ ,`
`marks); assigns(99, 67, 85, 48, 77, 84) to @listOfMarks`
`sum = 0; foreachm (@listOfMarks) sum += m;`
`newMarks = join(':', @listOfMarks); assigns "99 : 67 : 85 : 48 : 77 :`
`84" to newMarks`

Lists as Strings

Complex splits can be achieved by using a full regular expression rather than a single delimiter character.

If part of the regexp is parenthesised, the corresponding part of each delimiter is retained in the resulting list.

```
split(/[@]+/, 'ab@cd@@e'); gives (ab,c,d,e)
```

```
split(/[([@]+)/, 'ab@cd@@e'); gives (ab,@,c,,d,@@,e)
```

```
split(/[([@])+/, 'ab@cd@@e'); gives (ab,,c,,d,@,e)
```

And as a specially useful case, the empty regexp is treated as if it matched between every character, splitting the string into a list of single characters:

```
split(/, 'hello'); gives (h, e, l, l, o)
```

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

As well as arrays indexed by numbers, Perl supports arrays indexed by strings: *hashes*.

Conceptually, as hash is a set (not list) of (*key*, *value*) pairs.

We can deal with an entire hash at a time via *%hashName*, e.g.

Key Value

```
"Mon" =_ "Monday", "Tue" =_ "Tuesday", "Wed" =_  
"Wednesday", "Thu" =_ "Thursday", "Fri" =_ "Friday", "Sat"  
=_ "Saturday" );
```

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

Individual components of a hash are accessed via

`$hashName{keyString}`

Examples: `days"Sun"` returns `"Sunday"` `days"Fri"` returns `"Friday"`

`days"dog"` is undefined (interpreted as `""`) `days0` is undefined

(interpreted as `""`)

inserts a new (key,value)

`daysdog = "DogDayAfternoon"`; `barewordOKaskey`

replaces value for key `"Sun"`

`days"Sun" = Soonday`; `barewordOKasvalue`

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

Consider the following two assignments: `@f = ("John", "blue", "Anne", "red", "Tim", "pink");`

The first produces an array of strings that can be accessed via position, such as `$f[0]`

The second produces a lookup table of names and colours, e.g. `$g{"Tim"}`.

(In fact the symbols `=>` and comma have identical meaning in a list, so either right-hand side could have been used. However, always use the arrow form exclusively for hashes.)

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

Consider iterating over each of these data structures:

<pre>foreach <i>x</i> (@<i>f</i>) <i>print</i> "<i>x</i>";</pre>	<pre>foreach <i>x</i> (<i>keys</i>) <i>print</i> "<i>x</i> = <i>g</i><i>x</i>";</pre>
John blue Anne red Tim	Anne = red Tim = pink John = blue
pink	

The data comes out of the hash in a fixed but arbitrary order (due to the hash function).

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

There are several ways to examine the (*key*, *value*) pairs in a hash:

`foreach key(keysprint"(key, myHashkey)";`

or, if you just want the values without the keys `foreach`

`val(valuesprint"(? ,val)";`

or, if you want them both together `while ((key,val) = each print`
`"(key,val)";`

Note that each method produces the keys/values in the same order. It's illegal to change the hash within these loops.

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

Example (collecting marks for each student):

- a data file of (*name*, *mark*) pairs, space-separated, one per line
- out should be (*name*, *marksList*), with comma-separated marks

```
while (jl) chomp; remove newline (name,mark) = split; separate  
data fields marksname .= ",mark"; accumulatemarksforeachname  
(keys marksname = s/,//; remove comma prefix print  
" namemarksname";
```

Associative Arrays (Hashes)

The `delete` function removes an entry (or entries) from an associative array.

To remove a single pair: `delete $days{"Mon"}; "I don't like Mondays"`

To remove multiple pairs: `delete @days ("Sat", "Sun");` Oh noes
- no weekend!

To clean out the entire hash: `foreach $d (keys %d, %d) { delete $d[$d[$d]] }`