

# Ruby Explorations IX

Mark Keane...CSI...UCD



# Pausing for breath...

- A: step back...some OOP theory
- B: let's upgrade things
- C: Ruby dealing with databases
- D: more chips off the old...lambda
- D: look-back and questions...

# Part A:

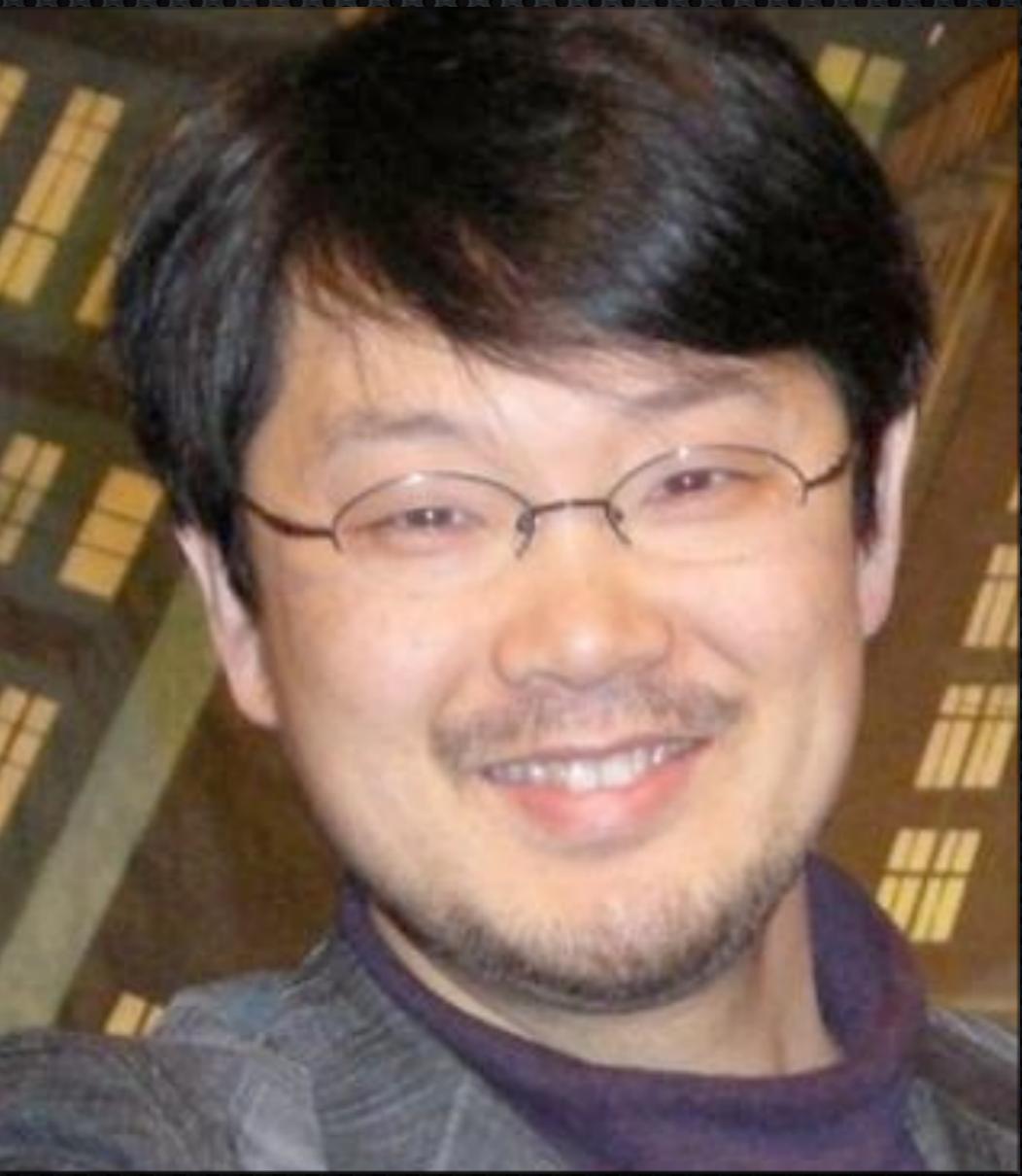
## Step back...some OOP theory

# OOP

- we have now seen a lot of OOP
- recall, the lost years...when we were young
- step back and consider some of the theoretical issues, now that we have some experience
- develop an appreciation for the raw beauty of Ruby...before muddying the waters with Rails

# REM: Ruby History

- created by Yukihiro Matsumoto in 1993
- a language balancing functional and imperative programming
- Tubular Bells of programming...



# REM: My Puppy

- this is my puppy
- her name is Ruby



# REM: Aside on Programming

- imperative pg: computation is statements that change a program state; an algorithm with explicit steps or procedures (e.g. C, BASIC)
- declarative pg: logic of computation without flow of control, what the program should achieve not how it achieves (e.g. Prolog)
- functional pg: computation as the evaluation of mathematical functions avoiding state and mutable data (e.g. Scheme, Lisp)

# OOP: Main concepts

OOP is a programming paradigm that uses “objects” -- data structures consisting of data fields and method and their interactions -- to design apps and program, has six key features:

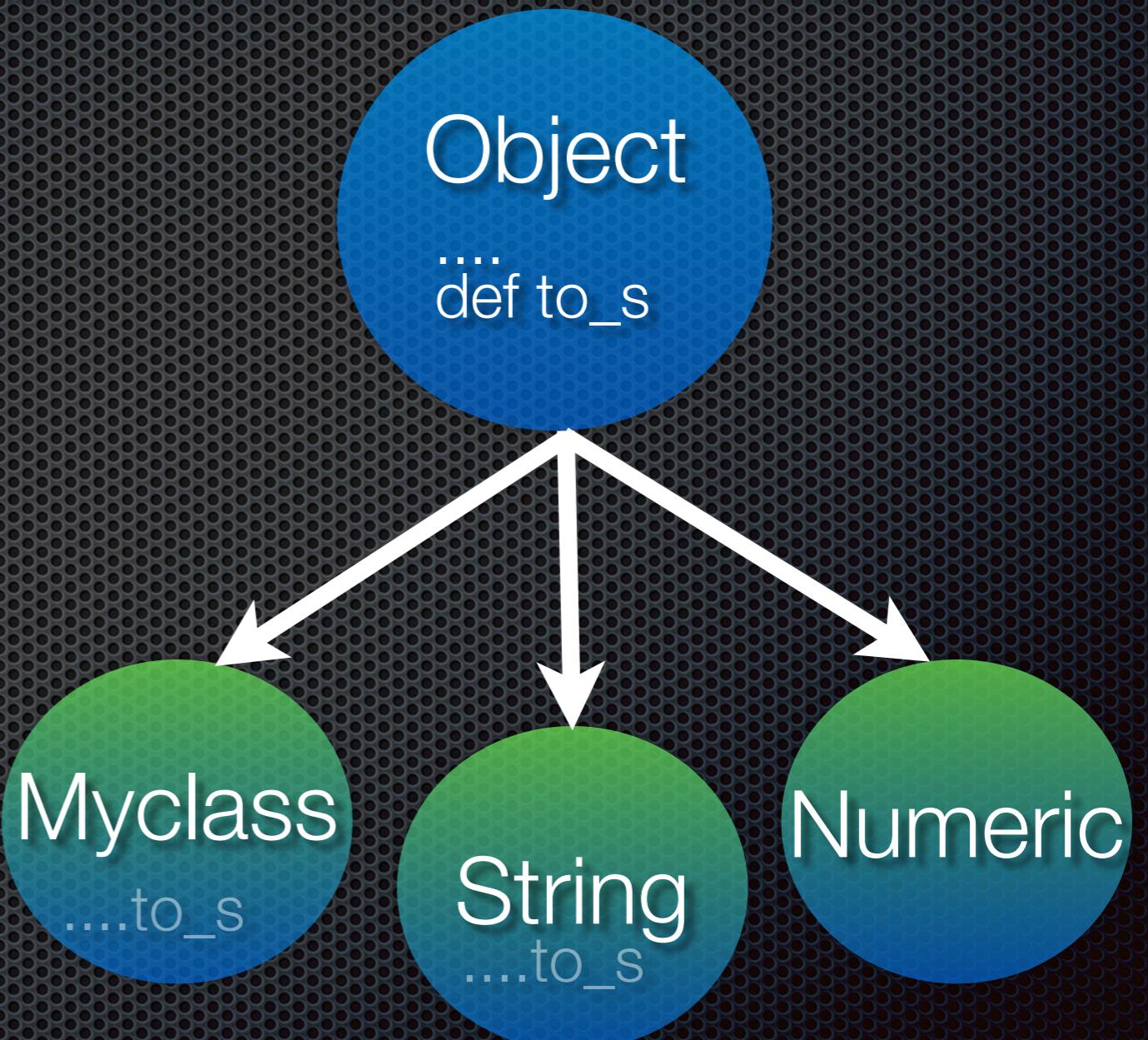
- data abstraction
- polymorphism
- inheritance
- encapsulation
- modularity
- duck typing

# Data Abstraction: Definition

- wiki def: simplifying reality by modelling classes of object appropriate to the problem and working at the appropriate level of inheritance for a given aspect of the problem
- forces us to see groups of things, an error is not an individual thing, but one of a class of things
- so, animal-methods are dealt with at the animal-object level, and dog-methods are dealt with at the dog-object level

# Data Abstraction: Eg

- at the object level,  
Ruby defines all the  
things you might want  
to do to Object per se
- at the number level,  
you define the specific  
things you want to do  
with Numbers
- at the string level, you  
define the specific...



# Polymorphism: Definition

- wiki def: is the ability of objects belonging to different data types to respond to calls of methods of the same name according to the appropriate type-specific behaviour
- allows us to do the same thing with different objects, because we often want to do this...
- we may want an **isa?** or **+**, but recognise that it may do very different things internally for different objects

# Polymorphism: Eg

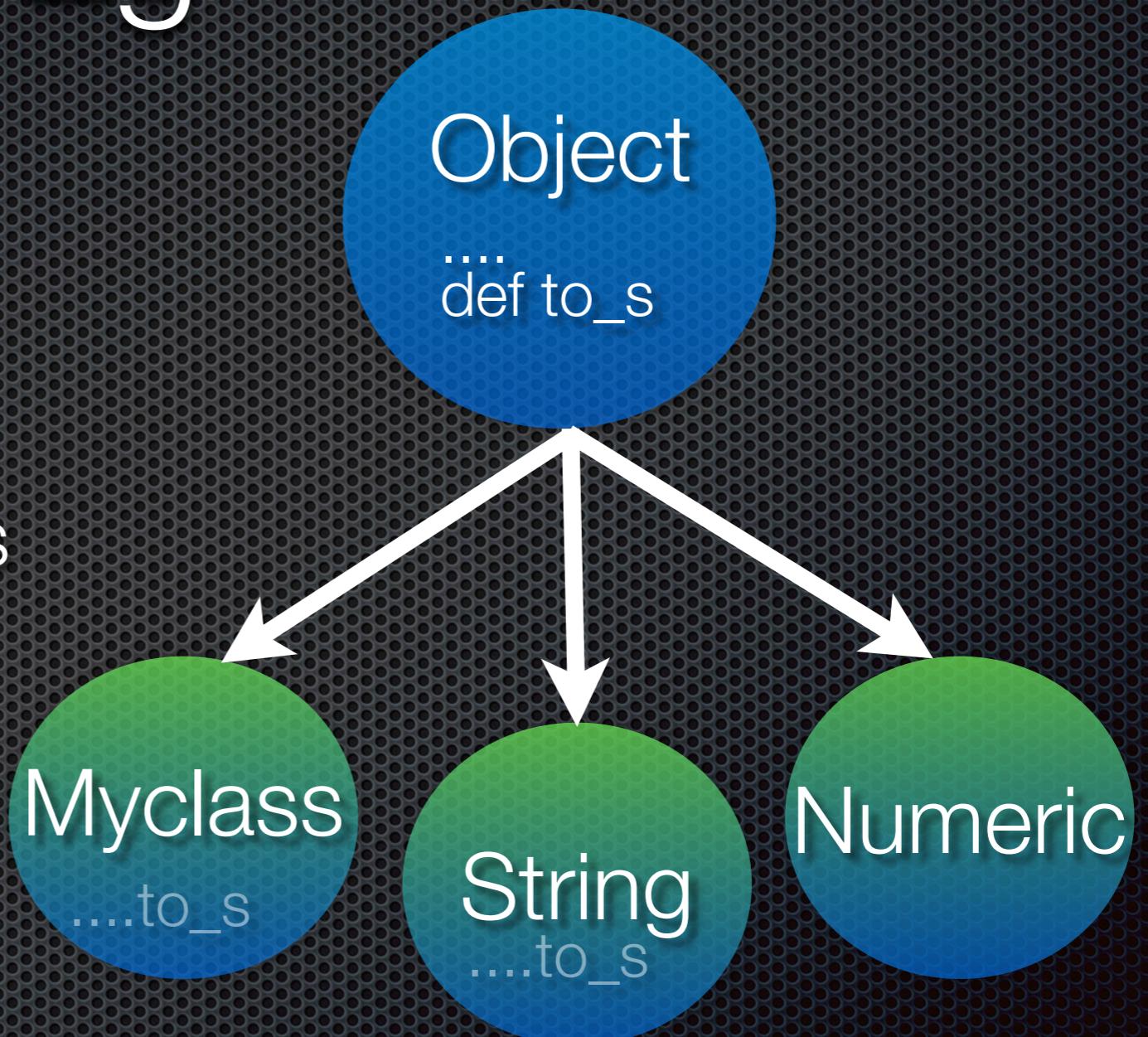
- **+** adds things together, we all know this
- $3 + 4$  gives us 7
- “foo” + “bar” gives us “foobar”
- $[:a, :b] + [:c, :d]$  gives us  $[:a,:b,:c,:d]$
- and it doesn’t work for hash tables...why ?
- the local meaning of **+** is resolved by the objects in the specific context in which they are called
- we retain our intuition about how **+** works

# Inheritance: Definition

- wiki def: inheritance is a process in which a class inherits all the state and behaviour of another class; sub-classes or children are more specialised versions of the parent class
- allows us to be very economic about writing code
- allows us to retain what is common to two objects and yet use what is different; we can define a bunch of methods for birds and then a few specific ones for kiwis

# Inheritance: Eg

- classic case is **to\_s**
- but, we will see nice cases in Rails where objects are created as subclasses of say ActiveController, ActiveRecord
- slick way to import a huge amount of functionality



# Encapsulation: Definition

- wki def: encapsulation conceals the details of a class from the objects that sends messages to it
- allows us to pass messages between objects without worrying about what goes on inside the object
- the methods add\_vat may add 21% vat to an item we buy, but I don't need to see this detail ( $\text{cost} * .21$ ) and the programmer can change the internals without affecting my request to add\_vat

# Encapsulation: Eg

- *virtual attributes*: when you create an object with an attribute, it looks like a fixed aspect of the object
- but, they could be virtual and use encapsulation

```
markkean% ! ruby bookprice.rb
Book called: echoes bones
25
bookprice.rb:23: protected method
`real_price'
called for #<Book:0x27b8c
@real_price=15, @name="echoes bones">
(NoMethodError)
```

```
class Book
  attr_accessor :name, :real_price

  def initialize(pl, per)
    @name = pl
    @real_price = per
  end

  def to_s
    "Book called: #{@name}"
  end

  def price
    self.real_price + 10
  end

  protected :real_price
end

bones = Book.new("echoes bones", 15)
puts bones
puts bones.price
puts bones.real_price
```

*bookprice.rb*

# Modularity: Definition

- wiki def: a design technique that separates software into separate parts/modules
- a module represents a separation of concerns
- modules are incorporated into a program via interfaces
- a module interface expresses the elements that are provided and required by the module
- the elements defined in the interface are detectable by other modules

# Duck Typing

- in most of our prog, typing is checked at the door of the class, to a degree (e.g., in **obj.method** calls)
- above is implicit but can be explicit with **is\_a?** ;  
**“stringoaaaah”.is\_a?**  
**(String) => true**
- Ruby-style supports duck-typing, v.flexible typing



# Duck-typing

- **responds\_to?** allows you check whether any given **obj** can be called with any **method**
- looks like cross-class usage and seems a bit lax; but makes sense when you consider the flexibility in Ruby including methods via modules/inheritance

```
1. class Duck
2.   def quack
3.     'Quack!'
4.   end
5.   def swim
6.     'Paddle paddle paddle...'
7.   end
8. end
9.
10.class Goose
11.  def honk
12.    'Honk!'
13.  end
14.  def swim
15.    'Splash splash splash...'
16.  end
17.end
18.
19.class DuckRecord
20.  def quack
21.    play
22.  end
23.
24.  def play
25.    'Quaaaack!'
26.  end
27.end
28.
29.def make_it_quack(duck)
30.  duck.quack
31.end
32.
33.def make_it_swim(duck)
34.  duck.swim
35.end
```

```
$ puts make_it_quack(Duck.new)
'Quack!'

$ puts make_it_quack(DuckRecord.new)
'Quaaaack!'

$ puts make_it_swim(Duck.new)
'Paddle paddle paddle...'

$ puts make_it_swim(Goose.new)
'Splash splash splash...'
```

*duck.rb*

# Duck Typing

- in strongly-typed languages you could not apply **quack** to all sorts of objects
- Ruby is more promiscious
- if it walks like a duck and quacks like a duck then the object is, a **duck**
- an object is more defined by what you can do with it than by its class-type *per se*



# Duck Typing

## SIMPLY EXPLAINED - PART 34: DUCK TYPING

In Ruby, we rely less on the type (or class) of an object and more on its capabilities. Hence, Duck Typing means an object type is defined by what it can do, not by what it is. Duck Typing refers to the tendency of Ruby to be less concerned with the class of an object and more concerned with what methods can be called on it and what operations can be performed on it. In Ruby, we would use `respond_to?` or might simply pass an object to a method and know that an exception will be raised if it is used inappropriately.



# Part B:

let's upgrade things...for Rails

This is a bit historical...

# Installing Rails...

- Macs now ship with a ruby, rails etc (in which case a **gem update** or **gem update --system** may be sufficient...macports is a good way to go)
- Also, do not forget the very useful **gem pristine --all**

# PC-Upgrade: Ruby Gems

- *Type: gem -v It will return you the gem version.*
- Then type: *gem list* to see list of installed gems.
- Now to update type: *gem update --system*
- This should update to latest version of gems.
- If any issues go to [www.rubygems.org](http://www.rubygems.org) and get one click installer for latest version

this may be wrong...fo PC

# PC-Upgrade: Using Rails 4.0

## Installing Rails:

Type: *gem install rails* (Once installed type: *rails -v*)

To get SQLite installed go to [www.sqlite.org/download](http://www.sqlite.org/download)

From [Precompiled Binaries for Windows](#) section download  
sqlite-dll-win32-x86.zip

Unzip it and copy all files into ruby/bin directory.

Now type: *gem install sqlite3-ruby*

This will install sqlite3 gem to be used by rails applications.

NB PC issues over 32/64 bit versions

# PC-Upgrade: Using Rails 4.0

there were two pc errors...

(1) error in installing devkit may arise because of going back to 32-bit version of Ruby 2.0; this may mean re-installing 64-bit version to move on. Means nokogiri will no longer work

(2) second error was with downloading the rails gem; got this SSL error which arose from the wrong source being used; not sure how this arises.

[Ruby Programming \(2013\)](#) » [Forums](#) » [Class Chat](#) » [Changing gem source \(removes SSL error\)](#)



Changing gem source (removes SSL error)

by [Gaspar Liliana](#) - Thursday, 7 November 2013, 2:11 PM

Hello,

Here is how to change the gem source:

=====

```
C:\Users\ngaspar>gem sources --list  
*** CURRENT SOURCES ***
```

<https://rubygems.org/>

```
C:\Users\ngaspar>gem sources --remove https://rubygems.org/  
https://rubygems.org/ removed from sources
```

```
C:\Users\ngaspar>gem sources --add http://rubygems.org/  
http://rubygems.org/ is recommended for security over http://rubygems.org/
```

```
Do you want to add this insecure source? [yn] y  
http://rubygems.org/ added to sources
```

[Ruby Programming \(2013\)](#) » [Forums](#) » [Class Chat](#) » [SSL error as requested](#)



SSL error as requested

by [Mulholland John](#) - Thursday, 7 November 2013, 12:55 PM

```
D:\Ruby200\bin>gem install rails  
ERROR: While executing gem ... (Gem::RemoteFetcher::FetchError)  
SSL_connect returned=1 errno=0 state=SSLv3 read server certificate B: certif  
icate verify failed (https://rubygems.global.ssl.fastly.net/quick/Marshal.4.8/ac  
tivesupport-4.0.1.gemspec.rz)
```

The same error comes up with install activerecord.

The latest version of gems is installed...

ruby v-

ruby 2.0.0p247 (2013-06-27) [i386-mingw32]

[Reply](#)

[See this post in context](#)

I checked all sites on Windows, and encountered three issues as followed. I struggled with how to make sqlite3 work for RoR on Windows, and the only solution worked for me is the answer 1 for question 1, which involves installing ruby devkit and a special version of sqlite3. For all sites I tested, you will have problem 3, but the solution is very simple.

### 1. How do I install sqlite3 for Ruby on Windows?

\*\*\*\*\* <https://www.ruby-forum.com/topic/4413168>  
<http://stackoverflow.com/questions/15480381/how-do-i-install-sqlite3-for-ruby-on-windows>

### 2. Cannot load such file — sqlite3/sqlite3\_native (LoadError) on ruby on rails:

Find your sqlite3 gemspec file. One example is /usr/local/share/gem/specifications/sqlite3-1.3.7.gemspec or 'C:\Ruby21\lib\ruby\gems\2.1.0\specifications'.

Change s.require\_paths=["lib"] to:  
s.require\_paths= ["lib/sqlite3\_native"]

### 3. TZInfo::DataSourceNotFound error starting Rails v4.1.0 server on Windows:

In Gemfile, add:  
gem 'tzinfo-data', platforms: [:mingw, :mswin, :x64\_mingw]  
then update bundle

Regards,  
Claire

# MacUpgrade I: Safe (Macports)

Check what macport has installed already...

```
$ port installed ruby19 (or ruby19)
```

The following ports are currently installed:

ruby20 @2.0.0-p247\_1 (active)

```
$ sudo port uninstall ruby19
```

```
$ sudo port clean ruby19
```

you may need to  
track down and destroy  
old versions  
in bin , lib and gems

Then, make sure gems dirs are gone..

```
$ rm -rf /opt/local/lib/ruby
```

```
$ rm -rf /opt/local/lib/ruby19
```

# MacUpgrade II:

Then start installation....

```
$ sudo port install ruby20 +nosuffix
```

```
$ ruby -v => 2.0.0
```

```
$ sudo port install sqlite3
```

```
$ sudo gem install rack
```

```
$ sudo gem install rake
```

```
$ sudo gem install rails
```

```
$ sudo gem install sqlite3
```

```
$ gem list (to check they are all there)
```

...

rack (1.5.2)

rack-test (0.6.2)

rails (4.0.0)

railties (4.0.0)

rake (10.1.0, 0.9.6)

rdoc (4.0.1, 4.0.0)

sprockets (2.10.0)

sprockets-rails

(2.0.0)

sqlite3 (1.3.8)

sqlite3-ruby (1.3.3))

...

sqlite3 (1.3.8)  
sqlite3-ruby (1.3.3)  
...

# The Horror....

None of last year's programs worked...said I needed  
sqlite3 (1.3.5) but when I tried to **gem install sqlite3** it  
threw an error saying could not compile it...

- Problem lay in gcc in Xcode 4.5 (now 7.1)

need to install the latest version of Xcode

need to install gcc-4.2 from Apple site

need to install it via Xcode

Preferences>Downloads>Command Line Tools

then fix the links...gcc was pointing to llvm-gcc-4.2

```
$ sudo ln -s /usr/bin/llvm-gcc-4.2 /usr/bin/gcc-4.2
```

# Part C:

## Ruby dealing with databases

# Active Record Gem...

- part of Ruby's attraction, esp with Rails, is that it works seamlessly with databases
- **sqlite** is bundled from Ruby1.9 onwards and operates off it via the **ActiveRecord** Library
- we can put **ActiveRecord**, alongside **Nokogiri** as another useful gem
- rem: **gem list** and **gem install activerecord**; or maybe just do **gem install rails**

# What ActiveRecord does...

- this library allows you to set up a database, define its fields etc
- create, destroy and edit its records
- query the database
- all using ruby-like methods
- we will hide the database part

# Countries: Open db

```
require 'active_record'

ActiveRecord::Base.establish_connection(
  :adapter => "sqlite3",
  :database  => "memory")
...
```

*neatdb.rb*

- require the libraries
- open a connection to sqlite
- send user-name and password



# Countries: Define tables

```
ActiveRecord::Schema.define do
  create_table :countries do |table|
    table.column :name, :string
    table.column :continent, :string
    table.column :size, :integer
  end

  create_table :regions do |table|
    table.column :country_id, :integer
    table.column :region_size, :integer
    table.column :name, :string
  end
end
...
```

*neatdb.rb*



- two tables
- region references the country it is part of

# Countries: Create associations

```
class Country < ActiveRecord::Base  
  has_many :regions  
end  
  
class Region < ActiveRecord::Base  
  belongs_to :country  
end  
...
```

*neatdb.rb*

- **Country** and **Region** are subclasses of ActiveRecord
- describes relationships between models (tables)
- here, **has\_many** and **belongs\_to** define a 1:n



# Countries: Create records

```
country = Country.create(:name => 'Ireland',
                         :continent => 'Europe',
                         :size => 84421)
country.regions.create(:region_size => 20000, :name => 'Leinster')
country.regions.create(:region_size => 22000, :name => 'Munster')
country.regions.create(:region_size => 12421, :name => 'Connaght')
country.regions.create(:region_size => 30000, :name => 'Ulster')

country = Country.create(:name => 'Belgium',
                         :continent => 'Europe',
                         :size => 30528)
country.regions.create(:region_size => 21000, :name => 'Walloon')
country.regions.create(:region_size => 9000, :name => 'Flemish')
country.regions.create(:region_size => 528, :name => 'Brussels')
```

*neatdb.rb*

# Countries: Create records

throwaway  
local var

```
country = Country.create(:name => 'Ireland',  
                         :continent => 'Europe',  
                         :size => 84421) :symbol => val  
gets country id  
  
country.regions.create(:region_size => 20000, :name => 'Leinster')  
country.regions.create(:region_size => 22000, :name => 'Munster')  
country.regions.create(:region_size => 12421, :name => 'Connaght')  
country.regions.create(:region_size => 30000, :name => 'Ulster')  
  
country = Country.create(:name => 'Belgium',  
                         :continent => 'Europe',  
                         :size => 30528)  
throwaway  
local var  
country.regions.create(:region_size => 21000, :name => 'Walloon')  
country.regions.create(:region_size => 9000, :name => 'Flemish')  
country.regions.create(:region_size => 528, :name => 'Brussels')
```

key/id created for all

neatdb.rb

# Query-ing I

```
markkean% ruby neatdb.rb  
-- create_table(:countries)  
-> 0.1219s
```

db creating table

```
-- create_table(:regions)  
-> 0.0021s
```

db creating table

```
p Country.all
```

country id

```
#<ActiveRecord::Relation [#<Country id: 1, name: "Ireland",  
continent: "Europe", size: 84421>, #<Country id: 2, name:  
"Belgium", continent: "Europe", size: 30528>]>
```

```
p Region.find(7)
```

```
#<Region id: 7, country_id: 2, region_size: 528, name:  
"Brussels">
```

country record

# Query-ing II

```
markkean% ruby neatdb.rb
```

```
p Region.find(:all)
```

country id

```
#<ActiveRecord::Relation [#<Region id: 1, country_id: 1,  
region_size: 20000, name: "Leinster">, #<Region id: 2,  
country_id: 1, region_size: 22000, name: "Munster">,  
#<Region id: 3, country_id: 1, region_size: 12421, name:  
"Connnaught">, #<Region id: 4, country_id: 1, region_size:  
30000, name: "Ulster">, #<Region id: 5, country_id: 2,  
region_size: 21000, name: "Walloon">, #<Region id: 6,  
country_id: 2, region_size: 9000, name: "Flemish">, #<Region  
id: 7, country_id: 2, region_size: 528, name: "Brussels">]>
```

```
p Region.first
```

```
#<Region id: 1, country_id: 1, region_size: 20000, name:  
"Leinster">
```

region record

# Query-ing III

```
markkean% ruby neatdb.rb
```

```
out = Country.all  
out.each { |place| p place.name}
```

field accessor

```
"Ireland"
```

```
"Belgium"
```

ready-made find accessors

```
p Region.find_by_name("Walloon")
```

```
#<Region id: 5, country_id: 2, region_size: 21000, name:  
"Walloon">
```

ready-made find accessors

```
p Region.find_by_region_size(9000)
```

```
#<Region id: 6, country_id: 2, region_size: 9000, name:  
"Flemish">
```

region record

# Query-ing IV

```
markkean% ruby neatdb.rb
```

search for these attributes

```
p Country.where("continent = 'Europe'")
```

```
<ActiveRecord::Relation [#<Country id: 1, name: "Ireland",  
continent: "Europe", size: 84421>, #<Country id: 2, name:  
"Belgium", continent: "Europe", size: 30528>]>
```

search, using diff syntax

```
#
```

```
p Country.where("continent = 'Europe' AND size = 30528")
```

```
#<ActiveRecord::Relation [#<Country id: 2, name: "Belgium",  
continent: "Europe", size: 30528>]>
```

```
p Region.where("name like '%ster'")
```

```
#<ActiveRecord::Relation [#<Region id: 1, country_id: 1,  
region_size: 20000, name: "Leinster">,  
#<Region id: 2, country_id: 1, region_size: 22000, name:  
"Munster">,  
#<Region id: 4, country_id: 1, region_size: 30000, name:  
"Ulster">]>
```

# What if I do it again...

- you may have noticed that if you try to run **neatdb.rb** a second time, it will throw an error about the tables already existing
- if you want to clear tables and re-set them you need something slightly different

# Several things can be done...

- Quick fix is just to test for whether the tables exist...
- But, note this will keep creating new records on each iteration into your DB (unless you explicitly destroy all records and start anew each time..)
- An alternative is to explicitly drop tables and then rebuild them...

# Countries: Define tables

```
if (Country.table_exists? || Region.table_exists?)  
  puts "table exists"  
else  
  ActiveRecord::Schema.define do  
    create_table :countries do |table|  
      table.column :name, :string  
      table.column :continent, :string  
      table.column :size, :integer  
    end  
    create_table :regions do |table|  
      table.column :country_id, :integer  
      table.column :region_size, :integer  
      table.column :name, :string  
    end  
  end  
end
```

*neatdb.rb*

# Several things can be done...

- Quick fix is just to test for whether the tables exist...
- But, note this will keep creating new records on each iteration into your DB (unless you explicitly destroy all records and start anew each time..)
- An alternative is to explicitly drop tables and then rebuild them...

```
require 'active_record'

ActiveRecord::Base.establish_connection(
  :adapter => "sqlite3",
  :database  => "memory")

class Clean < ActiveRecord::Migration
  def self.up
    create_table :towns do |table|
      table.column :name, :string
      table.column :continent, :string
      table.column :size, :integer
    end
  end

  def self.down
    drop_table :towns
  end
end

class Town < ActiveRecord::Base
end

#Clean.down
Clean.up
```

*cleandb.rb*

```
p Town.create(:name => "ff", :continent => "fa", :size => 333)
```

```
$ ruby cleandb.rb
-- create_table(:towns)
-> 0.0138s
#<Town id: 1, name: "ff", continent: "fa", size: 333>
```

# after you comment out Clean.down after 1st run

```
$ ruby cleandb.rb
-- drop_table(:towns)
-> 0.0088s
-- create_table(:towns)
-> 0.0027s
#<Town id: 1, name: "ff", continent: "fa", size: 333>
```

Part D:  
more chips off the old...

# Blocks, Anon Fns and Yield

- we have seen how blocks are important in Ruby
- with **each**, **collect** and **inject** we pass in blocks to do various tasks on a given object (e.g., arrays)
- coming from Lisp, you would say blocks look a bit like spaghetti-western fns
- so they can be passed around assigned to variables as anonymous fns and closures

# REM: Yield

- Anything in curly brackets or between **do...end** is a block
- A block of code to be bandied around
- like Lisp's anon-fns
- but, can be more

```
def block_eg
  puts "this is the first message"
  yield
  puts "this is the middle message"
  yield
  puts "this is the last\n\n"
end
```

the block

```
block_eg {puts "-----CUT HERE-----"}
```

```
def block_with_args
  puts "First we say this"
  yield("CUT", "HERE")
  puts "this is the bit we cut out"
  yield("CUT", "AGAIN HERE")
  puts "this is the last bit"
end
```

the block  
with args

```
block_with_args {|a, b| puts "---#{a} #{b}---"}
```

block.rb

there is something too scary & magical about **yield**

# Blocks & Lambda I

- so, as you would expect, a block is an object
- of what type? of type **Proc**
- so, this works...

```
ablock = Proc.new { |x| puts x}
```

- but, preferred way to create blocks is using  
**Kernel#lambda** method

```
ablock = lambda { |x| puts x}
```

let's make them a bit more comprehensible...

# Blocks & Lambda II

- remember, I said blocks sort-of allow you to swap arbitrary methods into the body of an existing method
- if you think of blocks as objects that can be assigned to variables
- then, it is a short step to start passing them as arguments to methods (reducing the magic of **yield**)
- Ruby, can do this...using **&arg** and **call**
- consider examples...

# Eg1a

```
def block_eg1(cutblock)
  puts "this is the first message"
  cutblock.call
  puts "this is the middle message"
  cutblock.call
  puts "this is the last\n\n"
end

ablock = lambda {puts "-----CUT HERE-----"}
block_eg1(ablock)
```

*cutblock.rb*

```
ruby cutblock.rb
this is the first message
-----CUT HERE-----
this is the middle message
-----CUT HERE-----
this is the last
```

# Eg1a

block called

block bound  
to cutblock

```
def block_eg1(cutblock)
  puts "this is the first message"
  cutblock.call
  puts "this is the middle message"
  cutblock.call
  puts "this is the last\n\n"
end

ablock = lambda {puts "-----CUT HERE-----"}
block_eg1(ablock)
```

*cutblock.rb*

the block

```
ruby cutblock.rb
this is the first message
-----CUT HERE-----
this is the middle message
-----CUT HERE-----
this is the last
```

# Eg 1b

```
def block_eg1(&cutblock)
  puts "this is the first message"
  cutblock.call
  puts "this is the middle message"
  cutblock.call
  puts "this is the last\n\n"
end

block_eg1() {puts "-----CUT HERE-----"}
```

*cutblock.rb*

```
ruby cutblock.rb
this is the first message
-----CUT HERE-----
this is the middle message
-----CUT HERE-----
this is the last
```

# Eg 1b

block called

nb. 0 arg  
method

proc's what  
is passed

throws error  
without &

```
def block_eg1(&cutblock)
  puts "this is the first message"
  cutblock.call
  puts "this is the middle message"
  cutblock.call
  puts "this is the last\n\n"
end

block_eg1() {puts "-----CUT HERE-----"}
```

*cutblock.rb*

```
ruby cutblock.rb
this is the first message
-----CUT HERE-----
this is the middle message
-----CUT HERE-----
this is the last
```

# Eg 2

```
low_vat_rate = 10
high_vat_rate = 21

blocktest = lambda do |x|
  if x > 100 then p(x * low_vat_rate)
  elsif x < 100 then p(x * high_vat_rate)
  elsif x = 100 then
    puts "not sure what to do"
  end

blocktest.call(20)
blocktest.call(100)
blocktest.call(500)
```

*blocko.rb*

```
# ruby blocko.rb
# 420
# not sure what to do
# 5000
```

# Eg 2

block made

block  
called

```
low_vat_rate = 10
high_vat_rate = 21

blocktest = lambda do |x|
  if x > 100 then p(x * low_vat_rate)
  elsif x < 100 then p(x * high_vat_rate)
  elsif x == 100 then
    puts "not sure what to do"
  end
end
```

```
blocktest.call(20)
blocktest.call(100)
blocktest.call(500)
```

```
# ruby blocko.rb
# 420
# not sure what to do
# 5000
```

block  
uses vars

blocko.rb

block  
has arg

# Blocks, Lambda & Closures

- Closure (lexical closure, function closure or function value) is a function together with a referencing environment for the non-local variables of that function
- A closure allows a function to access variables outside its typical scope. Such a function is said to be "closed over" its free variables.
- The referencing environment binds the nonlocal names to the corresponding variables in scope at the time the closure is created, additionally extending their lifetime to at least as long as the lifetime of the closure itself.
- When the closure is entered at a later time, possibly from a different scope, the function is executed with its non-local variables referring to the ones captured by the closure.

# Example 1

```
no = 0
closures = []
(0..7).each { |n| closures << lambda { n + no } }
p closures
p closures.map { |c| c.call }
no = 3
p closures.map { |c| c.call }
```

*closure0.rb*

```
$ ruby closure0.rb
[ #<Proc:0x007fa81904e430@closure0.rb:18 (lambda)>,
#<Proc:0x007fa81904e3e0@closure0.rb:18 (lambda)>,
#<Proc:0x007fa81904e390@closure0.rb:18 (lambda)>,
#<Proc:0x007fa81904e340@closure0.rb:18 (lambda)>,
#<Proc:0x007fa81904e2f0@closure0.rb:18 (lambda)>,
#<Proc:0x007fa81904e2a0@closure0.rb:18 (lambda)>,
#<Proc:0x007fa81904e250@closure0.rb:18 (lambda)>,
#<Proc:0x007fa81904e200@closure0.rb:18 (lambda)>]
[ 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 ]
[ 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10 ]
$
```

# Can Closures be Smoked?

- Closures remind us that functional programming can pass blocks/functions/methods as arguments to other method/functions
- Closures are handy for returning to early stages of processing in a program (callbacks) but only if you pass the values to local variables established in the scope of the closure
- Closures have different properties to blocks, though they look like them

# Passing closures as objs

```
def complement(fn)
  lambda {|arg| not fn.call(arg) }
end

is_even = lambda {|n| n % 2 == 0 }
is_odd = complement(is_even)

p is_even.call(1)
p is_even.call(4)

p is_odd.call(1)
p is_odd.call(4)
```

*passing.rb*

```
# false
# true
# true
# false
```

# Passing closures as objs

```
def complement(fn)
  lambda {|arg| not fn.call(arg) }
end

puts "\nAnd then the string one..."

is_string = lambda {|n| n.instance_of?(String) }
is_not_string = complement(is_string)

p is_string.call("hello")
p is_string.call(:hello)
p is_not_string.call("hello")
p is_not_string.call(:hello)
```

*passing.rb*

```
# true
# false
# false
# true
```

# Creating new methods dynamically

```
def compose (f, g)
  lambda {|args| f.call(g.call(args)) }
end

mult2 = lambda { |n| n*2 }
add1 = lambda { |n| n+1 }
mult2_add1 = compose(add1, mult2)

p mult2_add1.call(3)
```

*composure.rb*

# 7

## Part D:

Half way through look back...and questions

# Covered...

- main Ruby types: strings, symbols, arrays, hashes
- defining classes, modules and use of inheritance/mixins
- looked at flow of control, iterative and logic constructs; variables and I/O
- how to access the web to scrape info from pages (using Nokogiri and Regexp)
- how to set-up and interface with a database
- seen a number of largish programs: iTunes, SixDegrees
- next...move on to Ruby on Rails