Pliant-Perl Binding

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September 11, 2004

Abstract

The goal of the Pliant-Perl binding is to allow Pliant programmers to use existing CPAN modules, of which there are a vast amount (http://search.cpan.org). As well, Perl programmers who would like to switch to Pliant can migrate smoothly.

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We would like to allow to use existing CPAN perl modules from Pliant without too much overhead. In order to do this we need to be able to manipulate the return values from those modules' API and also to pass Pliant variable as parameters to those modules. This is solved by implementing proxy objects that implement perl hashes and array in pliant, but look like native pliant objects.

In addition to wrapping datatypes extra care must be taken when calling perl functions and also when passing Pliant callbacks to them.