

Arrays and List Data Numbers

Podstawy programowania

Jolanta Bachan
2007-11-28

Arrays and List Data

Arrays and List Data

- A **list** is an ordered set of scalar data. An **array** is a variable which holds a list. Each *element* of the array is a separate scalar variable with an independent scalar value. These values are ordered – that is, they have a particular sequence from the lowest to the highest element.
- Arrays can have any number of elements. The smallest array has no elements.

Literal Representation

- *A list literal:*
 - is the way you represent the value of the list within your program;
 - consists of comma-separated values enclosed in parentheses. These values form the elements of the list.

(1,2,3) is an array of three values 1, 2, and 3

("fred",4.5) – two values, "fred" and 4.5

Literal Representation

- The elements of a list are not necessarily constants

$(\$a, 17)$ – two values: the current value of $\$a$,
and 17

$(\$a+\$b, \$d+\$e)$ – two values

Literal Representation

- The empty list (with no elements) is represented by an empty pair of parentheses.
() – the empty list with zero elements

List constructor function

- It is indicated by two scalar values separated by two consecutive periods.
- This function creates a list of values starting at the left scalar value and continuing up through the right scalar value, incrementing by one at each value.

(1..5) – same as (1,2,3,4,5)

(2..6,10,12) – same as (2,3,4,5,6,10,12)

(\$a..\$b) – range determined by the current values of \$a and \$b

Variables

- An array variable holds a single list value (zero or more scalar values).
- Array variable name starts with @

@fred – is the array variable @fred

@A_Very_Long_Variable_Name

Variables

- An array variable holds a single list value (zero or more scalar values).
- Array variable name starts with @

@fred – is the array variable @fred

@A_Very_Long_Variable_Name

- The array variable @fred is unrelated to the scalar variable \$fred.

Array Assignment Operator

```
@fred = (1,2,3) ;
```

```
@barney = @fred ;
```

Array Assignment Operator

```
@fred = (1,2,3) ;
```

```
@barney = @fred ;
```

If you assign a scalar value to an array variable, the scalar value becomes the single element of an array:

```
@huh = 1 ; 1 is promoted to the list  
(1) automatically that is, @huh now  
is (1)
```

Array Assignment Operator

@fred = (3,4,5) ;

@barney = (1,2,@fred,6) ; @barney
becomes (1,2,3,4,5,6)

@barney = (0,@barney) ; - puts 0 in
front of @barney

@barney = (@barney,7) ; - puts 7 at
the end of @barney

@barney is now (0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7)

Array Assignment Operator

- Note that the inserted array elements are at the same level as the rest of the literals: a list cannot contain another list as an element.

```
@barney = (1, 2, @fred, 6) ;
```

Array Assignment Operator

`($a, $b, $c) = (1, 2, 3) ;` - give 1 to \$a, 2 to \$b, 3 to \$c

`($a, $b) = ($b, $a) ;` - swap \$a and \$b

`($d, @fred) = ($a, $b, $c) ;` - give \$a to \$d and (\$b, \$c) to @fred

`($e, @fred) = @fred;` - remove the first element of @fred to \$e, this makes @fred = (\$c) and \$e = \$b

Length of the Array

- To get the length of the array you assign an array variable to a scalar variable

```
@fred = (1,2,3) ;
```

```
$a = @fred ; - $a gets 3, the  
current length of @fred
```

Length of the Array

- To get the length of the array you assign an array variable to a scalar variable

```
@fred = (1,2,3) ;
```

```
$a = @fred ; - $a gets 3, the  
current length of @fred
```

LEARN THIS!!!

Array Element Access

- The array elements are numbered using sequential integers, beginning at 0, and increasing by 1 for each element. The first element of the @fred array is accessed as \$fred[0].

Array Element Access

- The array elements are numbered using sequential integers, beginning at 0, and increasing by 1 for each element. The first element of the `@fred` array is accessed as `$fred[0]`.



Array Element Access

- The array elements are numbered using sequential integers, beginning at 0, and increasing by 1 for each element. The first element of the `@fred` array is accessed as `$fred[0]`.



Array variable

Scalar variable
(part of the array)

Array Element Access

```
@fred = (7,8,9) ;
```

```
$b = $fred[0] ; - give 7 to $b  
  (first element of @fred)
```

```
$fred[0] = 5 ; now @fred = (5,8,9)
```

Array Element Access

```
@fred = (5,8,9) ;
```

```
$c = $fred[1] ; - give 8 to $c
```

```
$fred[2]++ ; - increment the 3rd  
element of @fred
```

```
$fred[1] += 4 ; add 4 to the 2nd  
element
```

```
($fred[0], $fred[1]) = ($fred[1],  
$fred[0]) ; swap the first two
```

Array Element Access

```
@fred = (7,8,9) ;
```

```
@fred[0,1] ; - same as  
($fred[0],$fred[1])
```

```
@fred[0,1] = @fred[1,0] ; - swap the  
first two elements
```

```
@fred[0,1,2] = @fred[1,1,1] ; - make  
all 3 elements like the 2nd
```

```
@fred[1,2] = (9,10) ; - change the  
last two values to 9 and 10
```

Array Element Access

```
@fred = (7,8,9) ;
```

```
$a = 2 ;
```

```
$b = $fred[$a]; - like $fred[2] or 9
```

```
$c = $fred[$a-1]; - $c gets  
$fred[1], or 8
```

```
($c) = (7,8,9)[$a-1] ; ($c) gets 8
```

Array Element Access

```
@fred = (7,8,9) ;
```

```
@barney = (2,1,0) ;
```

```
@backfred = @fred[@barney] ; # same  
as @fred[2,1,0], or ($fred[2],  
$fred[1], $fred[0])
```


Array Element Access

`$#fred` is used to get the index value of the last element of `@fred`.

```
@fred = (7,8,9) ;  
$last_subscript = $#fred ;  
print "This is the last subscript:  
$last_subscript" ;
```

Array Element Access

A negative subscript on an array counts back from the end. So, another way to get the last element is with the subscript `-1`. The second to the last element would be `-2`, and so on.

```
@fred = (7,8,9) ;  
print $fred[-1] ; # prints 9  
print $#fred ; # prints 2  
print $fred[$#fred] ; # prints 9
```

push and pop Functions

- An array is commonly used as a stack of information, where new values are added to and removed from the right-hand side of the list.

push and pop Functions

```
@mylist = (1,2,3) ;  
$new_value = 4 ;  
push(@mylist, $new_value) ;  
  # like @mylist = (@mylist,  
  $new_value)  
$old_value = pop(@mylist) ; #  
  removes the last element of @mylist  
push (@mylist, 4,5,6) ; # @mylist =  
  (1,2,3,4,5,6)
```

shift and unshift Functions

- shift and unshift functions perform actions of the “left” side of a list (the portion with the lowest subscript).

shift and unshift Functions

- shift and unshift functions perform actions of the “left” side of a list (the portion with the lowest subscript).

```
unshift(@fred, $a) ;  
# like @fred = ($a, @fred)
```

```
unshift(@fred, $a, $b, $c) ;  
# like ($a, $b, $c, @fred)
```

```
$x = shift(@fred) ; # like  
($x, @fred) = @fred
```

shift and unshift Functions

- shift and unshift functions perform actions of the “left” side of a list (the portion with the lowest subscript).

```
@fred = (5,6,7) ;
```

```
unshift(@fred,2,3,4) ; # @fred is  
now (2,3,4,5,6,7)
```

```
$x = shift(@fred) ; # $x gets 2,  
@fred is now (3,4,5,6,7)
```

The reverse Function

- The reverse function reverses the order of the elements of its arguments, returning the resulting list.

```
@a = (7, 8, 9) ;
```

```
@b = reverse(@a) ; # gives @b the  
value of (9, 8, 7)
```

```
@b = reverse(7, 8, 9) ; # same thing
```


The reverse Function

- Note that the argument list is unaltered; the `reverse()` function works on a copy. To reverse an array “in place”, you'll need to assign it back into the same variable.

```
@b = reverse(@b) ; # give @b the  
reverse of itself
```

The sort Function

- The `sort` function takes its arguments, and sorts them as if they were single strings in ascending ASCII order. It returns the sorted list, without alternating the original list.

```
@x = (1, 2, 3, 6, 14, 25, 30) ;
```

```
@y = sort(@x) ; # @y gets  
(1, 14, 2, 25, 3, 30, 6)
```

See you next week!