

Enough Perl to make you want more

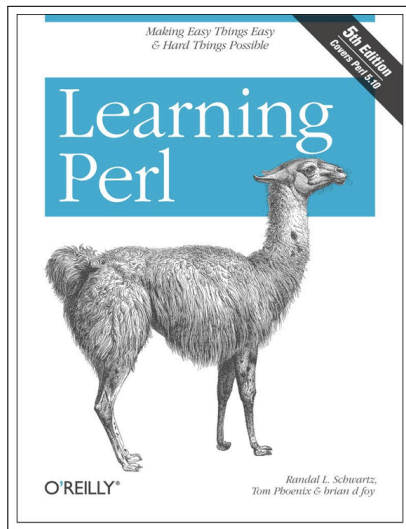
CMSC 331

UMBC

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What is Perl good for?

- ▶ Practical Extraction and Reporting Language
- ▶ Quick and Dirty
- ▶ Very good for file and string processing
- ▶ Much (but not all) of this lecture based on the “Llama Book”



Why is Perl Popular?

- ▶ Seems a natural outgrowth of UNIX utilities like awk
- ▶ Combines benefits of interpreted and compiled code (How?)
- ▶ Lots of add-on packages available, via CPAN



Welcome to CPAN

The Comprehensive Perl Archive Network (CPAN) currently has [91,703 Perl modules](#) in [22,282 distributions](#), written by [8,853 authors](#), [mirrored](#) on 256 servers.

The archive has been online since October 1995 and is constantly growing.

Search

- [CPAN search](#)
- [MetaCPAN search](#)

Recent Uploads

- [App-gist-0.02](#)
- [Pg-Explain-0.51](#)
- [WWW-GitHub-Gist-0.08](#)
- [CAM-PDF-1.54](#)
- [Net-Frame-Device-1.06](#)
- [Data-Header-Fields-0.01](#)
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Getting Started

- [Installing Perl Modules](#)
- [Learn Perl](#)

Perl Resources

- [The Perl Programming language](#)
- [Perl Documentation](#)
- [Mailing Lists](#)
- [Perl FAQ](#)
- [Scripts Repository](#)

In many ways, Perl is like other languages

```
#!/usr/bin/perl  
print "Hello, world!\n"; # a short Perl example
```

- ▶ Usual arithmetic operations, although almost everything is floating point; there's no integer data type
- ▶ Much of the syntax is borrowed from C