

Perl Eye for the Ruby Guy

Ruby Eye for the Perl Guy

Ruby vs Perl

(the attitude of asshats)

~~Ruby vs Perl~~

more similar than different

open source

active communities

interpreted

dynamic

(if you don't like them
they're both "scripting"
or "toy" languages)

garbage collected

regexps

arrays / hashes / strings

closures

procedural or OO or
functional styles

CPAN

Gems

steal anything not
nailed down

responsible creators



TIMTOWTDI

(secret revelation to follow)

Other languages do this!

Common Lisp has (at least)
six ways to say “equals”

```
# write everything on  
# STDIN to STDOUT
```

```
# old school  
while gets  
    print  
end
```

```
# loop suffix  
print while gets
```

```
# ala SmallTalk  
STDIN.each { |line| print line }
```

```
# one liner
```

```
% ruby -ne 'print'
```

TIMTOWTDI = TTP

Trust The Programmer

Bring On The Noise

\$ % @ *

Perl

\$

@

%

*

Ruby

\$

@

@@

Perl: type

\$scalar

@array

%hash

*glob

Ruby: scope

\$global

@instance

@@class

Perl: type

\$scalar

@array

%hash

*glob

Ruby: scope

\$global

@instance

@@class

local

foo vs [%\$@*]foo

\$_ and friends

How many Ruby types?

One

Everything is an object

Ruby built in

Array, Bignum, Binding, Class, Comparable, Continuation,
Dir, Enumerable, Errno, Exception, FalseClass, File, File::Stat,
FileTest, Fixnum, Float, GC, Hash, Integer, IO, Kernel,
Marshal, MatchData, Math, Method, Module, NilClass,
Numeric, Object, ObjectSpace, Proc, Process, Process::GID,
Process::Status, Process::Sys, Process::UID, Range, Regexp,
Signal, String, Struct, Struct::Tms, Symbol, Thread,
ThreadGroup, Time, TrueClass, UnboundMethod

Ruby standard library

Abbrev, Base64, Benchmark, BigDecimal, CGI, CGI::Session, Complex, CSV, Curses, Date/DateTime, DBM, Delegator, Digest, DL, dRuby, English, Enumerator, erb, Etc, expect, Fcntl, FileUtils, Find, Forwardable, ftools, GDBM, Generator, GetoptLong, GServer, Iconv, IO/Wait, IPAddr, jcode, Logger, Mail, mathn, Matrix, Monitor, Mutex, Mutex_m, Net::FTP, Net::HTTP, Net::IMAP, Net::POP, Net::SMTP, Net::Telnet, NKF, Observable, open-uri, OPen3, OpenSSL, OpenStruct, OptionParser, ParseDate, Pathname, PP, PrettyPrint, Profile, Profiler, PStore, PTY, Rational, readbytes, Readline, Resolv, REXML, Rinda, RSS, Scanf, SDBM, Set, Shellwords, Singleton, SOAP, Socket, StringIO, StringScanner, Sync, Syslog, Tempfile, Test::Unit, thread, ThreadsWait, Time, Timeout, Tk, tmpdir, Tracer, TSort, un, URI, WeakRef, WEBrick, Win32API, WIN32OLE, XMLRPC, YAML, Zlib

Ruby gets “CPAN Lite”
as standard

But wait 10 years...

objects

Perl

Blessed references

Multiple inheritance

CPAN

Ruby

Objects all the way down

Existing class hierarchy

Mixins

Per-instance methods

Perl 5 needs CPAN

Moose

Ruby Objects = Perl 5 +
CPAN

Roles

We all



Unicode

not fully supported in ruby

mostly assumes
characters = bytes

regexes in 1.8 can do utf-8

some third party libraries
provided unicode string
classes that do more
(icu4r, utf8proc, unicode)

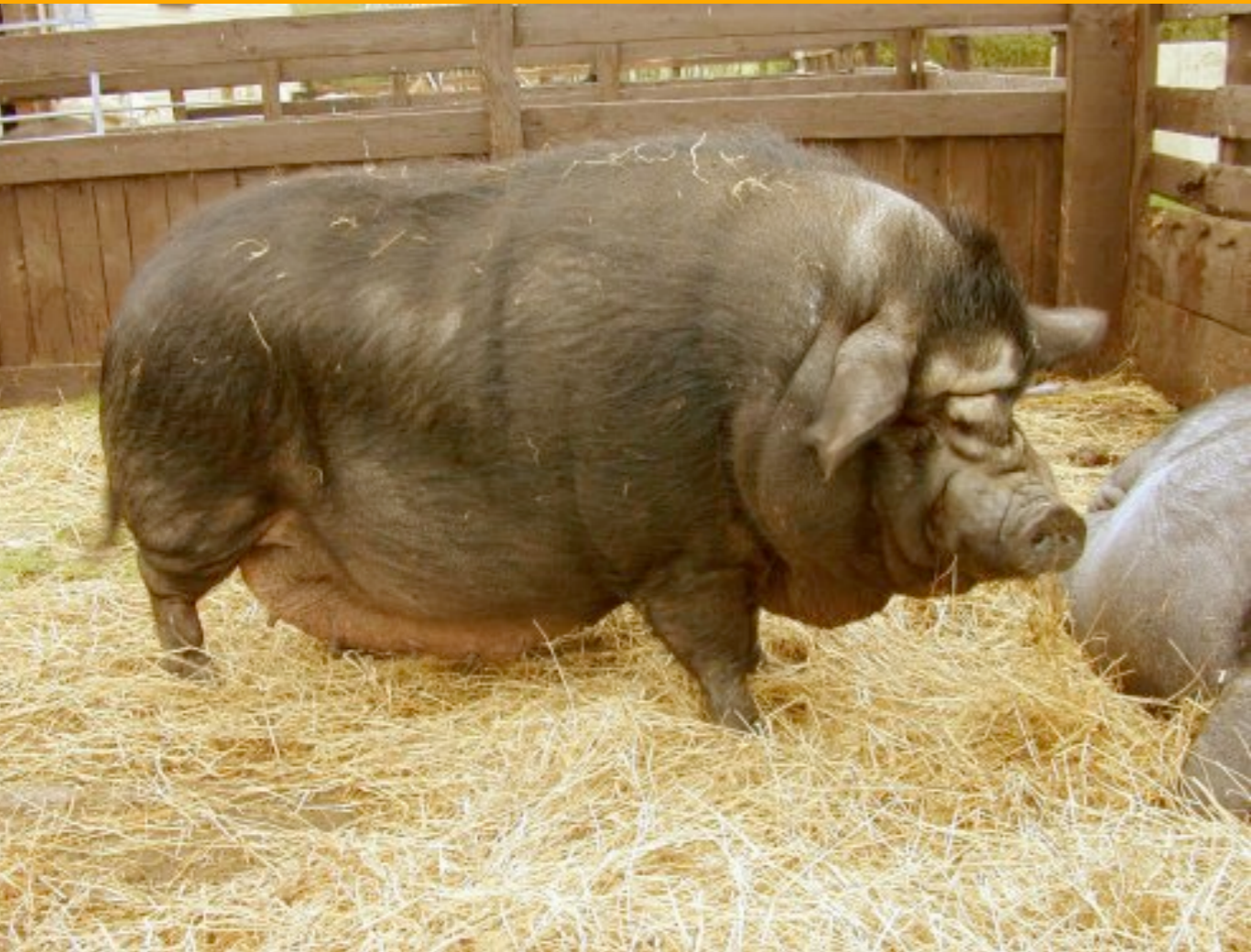
full support planned for 2.0

No, there is
too much. Let
me sum up



Perl rules for Unicode

Weigh In



`perl-5.8.8.tar.gz`

12 Meg

`ruby-1.8.5.tar.gz`

4.2 Meg



Perl

Bloated

Comprehensive

Legacy

Proved

Ruby

Minimal

Underpowered

Current

New

web based frameworks

Ruby

Rails

erm...

Perl

Catalyst

Jifty

Maypole

Mason

Axkit[2]

etc. etc. etc.

Why is Rails “winning”?

Marketing ne bad

Marketing ne hype

Marketing eq communication

Documentation

There's More Than One Way To Do It

3rd Edition
Revised & Updated



Programming

Perl

O'REILLY®

Larry Wall, Tom Christiansen & Jon Orwant

The Pragmatic
Programmers

Programming Ruby

The Pragmatic Programmers' Guide



Dave Thomas
with Chad Fowler and Andy Hunt

Second Edition,
Includes Ruby
1.8

perldoc

ri

ruby-doc.org

doc.perl.org

gems.rubyforge.org

www.cpan.org

ruby-forum.com

perlmonks.org

Questions?