

Class 02: Ruby (1)

Held: Wednesday, 26 January 2011

Summary: We begin our exploration of the Ruby programming language.

Related Pages:

- EBoard.
- Lab: Ruby (1).
- Reading: Tate 2.1-2.2.

Notes:

- I'm still negotiating how to deal with the reading questions. Generally, I'll read them all to think about what to discuss, but won't cover everything.
- Disclaimer: I am not an expert in any of the languages we are discussing. I certainly don't know about the underlying implementation details (although I can hypothesize a bit).
- If you really care about how something is implemented, you could make it the topic for your presentation.
- Reading for Thursday: Tate 2.3.
- EC for Microsoft Presentation, Thursday, 4:15 @ CDO.
- EC for "Waiting for Superman", Thursday, 7:00 @ Harris Cinema.

Overview:

- Ruby Basics.
- Typing.
- Lab.

Ruby Basics

- What commands and such did you learn?

Typing

- Typing terms are often used casually.
- Static typing: Type checking done at compile time.
- Dynamic typing: Type checking done at run time.
- Strong typing: System does careful checks to see if an operation or function call is type safe. Typically only associated with static typing.
- Weak typing: System is more casual about type checking.
- Duck typing: Typically a form of dynamic typing: At the time we try to use the object, we figure out

whether it has the features we want:

- Does it provide a method we need?
- Can it be coerced into a type we need?

Lab

- Do the first lab on Ruby.
- Be prepared to reflect.