

# Net::OAI::Harvester

Ed Summers  
Follett Corporation



# the next 45 minutes

- need to write an application that uses OAI-PMH
- want a library to make it easy to harvest metadata using OAI-PMH
- don't have any Perl allergies
- enjoy looking at a bit of code

# What is OAI-PMH?

- Open Archives Initiative Protocol for Metadata Harvesting : Carl Lagoze and Herbert Van de Sompel
- Share any kind of XML metadata over HTTP
- Repository - the provider
- Harvester - the consumer

# Net::OAI::Harvester

- ⦿ A OAI-PMH harvester that's both easy to use and efficient (imho).
- ⦿ Object Oriented Perl
- ⦿ Available on Comprehensive Perl Archive Network (CPAN)
- ⦿ Other harvesting packages: OAIIHarvester2 (OCLC); my.OAI (FSConsulting); oai-perl (Univ of Southampton; Perl Harvester (Virginia Tech) ; 2 page OAI.

# OAI Harvesting Verbs

- Identify
- ListMetadataFormats
- ListSets
- ListIdentifiers
- GetRecord
- ListRecords

# Raw OAI

- HTTP GET request
- HTTP Response containing XML
- REST: an antidote for the SOAP blues

# Goals

- Easy to use package for executing the 6 verbs on a given repository.
- Built in mechanisms for easily and efficiently getting at the data you want in the XML.
- Becomes a component in a larger application.





# Identify

[http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2\\_0?verb=Identify](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0?verb=Identify)

```
#!/usr/bin/perl

use Net::OAI::Harvester;

my $harvester = Net::OAI::Harvester->new(
    baseURL => 'http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0'
);

my $identity = $harvester->identify();

print $identity->repositoryName(), "\n";
```

# ListMetadataFormats

[http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2\\_0?verb=ListMetadataFormats](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0?verb=ListMetadataFormats)

```
#!/usr/bin/perl

use Net::OAI::Harvester;

my $harvester = Net::OAI::Harvester->new(
    baseURL => 'http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0'
);

my $list = $harvester->listMetadataFormats();

foreach my $prefix ( $list->prefixes() ) {
    print "$prefix\n";
}
```

# ListSets

[http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2\\_0?verb=ListSets](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0?verb=ListSets)

```
#!/usr/bin/perl

use Net::OAI::Harvester;

my $harvester = Net::OAI::Harvester->new(
    baseURL => 'http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0'
);

my $list = $harvester->listSets();

foreach my $setSpec ( $list->setSpecs() ) {
    print $setSpec, ' => ', $list->setName( $setSpec ), "\n";
}
```

# ListIdentifiers

`http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0?  
verb=ListIdentifiers&metadataPrefix=oai_dc`

`http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0?  
verb=ListIdentifiers&metadataPrefix=oai_dc&from=2004-08-01`

```
#!/usr/bin/perl

use Net::OAI::Harvester;

my $harvester = Net::OAI::Harvester->new(
    baseURL => 'http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0'
);

my $list = $harvester->listIdentifiers(
    metadataPrefix => 'oai_dc',
    from           => '2004-08-01',
);

while ( my $header = $list->next() ) {
    print $header->identifier(), ': ',
        $header->datestamp(), "\n";
}
```

# GetRecord

Fetch record for identifier oai:lcoa1.loc.gov:loc.gdc/  
lhbtn.40796

[http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2\\_0?  
verb=GetRecord&identifier=oai%3Alcoa1.loc.gov%3Aloc.gdc%2Flhbt  
n.40796&metadataPrefix=oai\\_dc](http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0?verb=GetRecord&identifier=oai%3Alcoa1.loc.gov%3Aloc.gdc%2Flhbtn.40796&metadataPrefix=oai_dc)

```
#!/usr/bin/perl

use Net::OAI::Harvester;

my $harvester = Net::OAI::Harvester->new(
    baseURL => 'http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0'
);

my $record = $harvester->getRecord(
    metadataPrefix =>'oai_dc',
    identifier      =>'oai:lcoa1.loc.gov:loc.gdc/lhbtn.40796'
);

my $metadata = $record->metadata();
print "title: ", $metadata->title(), "\n";
```

# ListRecords

`http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0?  
verb=ListRecords&metadataPrefix=oai_dc`

`http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0?  
verb=ListRecords&metadataPrefix=oai_dc&from  
=2004-05-01`

```
#!/usr/bin/perl

use Net::OAI::Harvester;

my $harvester = Net::OAI::Harvester->new(
    baseURL => 'http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0'
);

my $list = $harvester->listRecords(
    metadataPrefix => 'oai_dc',
);

while ( my $record = $list->next() ) {
    my $metadata = $record->metadata();
    print "title: ", $metadata->title(), "\n";
    print "creator: ", $metadata->creator(), "\n";
    print "\n";
}
```

# Resumption Tokens

- ⌚ listAllRecords
- ⌚ listAllIdentifiers

# Only Dublin Core?

- ⌚ Creating new metadata handlers for non-DC metadata: MARCXML, MODS, EAD

```
#!/usr/bin/perl

use Net::OAI::Harvester;
use MODS;

my $harvester = Net::OAI::Harvester->new(
    baseURL => 'http://memory.loc.gov/cgi-bin/oai2_0'
);

my $record = $harvester->getRecord(
    metadataPrefix =>'mods',
    identifier      =>'oai:lcoa1.loc.gov:loc.gdc/lhbtn.40796',
    metadataHandler =>'MODS'
);

my $metadata = $record->metadata();
print "title: ", $metadata->title(), "\n";
```

# Internals

- SAX stream based parsing: no DOM bloat
- Object serialization : not in memory
- XML Filters: easy extensibility
- Net::OAI::Base inheritance: error(), xml(), file().

# Pros

- ⦿ Object oriented interface which matches the OAI-PMH request methods.
- ⦿ XML parsing for free.
- ⦿ Error handling
- ⦿ Resumption token handling

# Cons

- ⦿ Perl not Java, Python, etc...
- ⦿ XML parsing when maybe you don't need it.
- ⦿ Faulty XML

# Some Users

- ⦿ Max-Planck Institute. <http://www.mpg.de>
- ⦿ Ockham: <http://www.ockham.org>
- ⦿ OAster: <http://oaister.umdl.umich.edu>
- ⦿ Emory University: <http://www.emory.edu>
- ⦿ Journal of Chemical Education: <http://chem.wisc.edu>
- ⦿ [sdsc.edu](http://sdsc.edu), [aps.org](http://aps.org), [u-tokyo.ac.jp](http://u-tokyo.ac.jp), [nd.edu](http://nd.edu),  
[chem.indiana.edu](http://chem.indiana.edu), [isti.cnr.it](http://isti.cnr.it), [uq.edu.au](http://uq.edu.au), [kb.nl](http://kb.nl),  
[osuosl.org](http://osuosl.org), [yu.edu](http://yu.edu), [uv.es](http://uv.es), [agu.org](http://agu.org), [agrsci.dk](http://agrsci.dk)

# Installation

```
% cpan install Net::OAI::Harvester
```

```
C: ppm Net::OAI::Harvester
```

# Resources

- ⦿ Building OAI-PMH harvesters with Net::OAI::Harvester. <http://www.ariadne.ac.uk/issue38/summers/>
- ⦿ Open Archives Initiative: <http://www.openarchives.org>
- ⦿ Experimental OAI Registry at UIUC: <http://gita.grainger.uiuc.edu/registry>
- ⦿ Perl: <http://www.perl.org>