

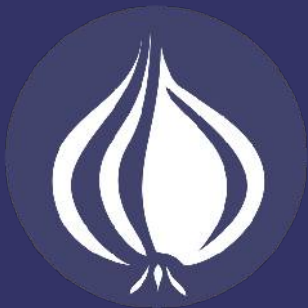


Perl

A Beginner's Guide to
Achieving The Impossible.

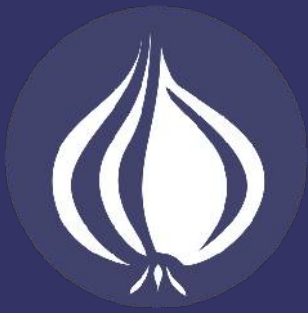
Adam John Trickett

www.iredale.net
adam.trickett@iredale.net
PGP Key: 0x166C4BF0



Or...

- Standing on the Shoulders of Giants
- Laziness is a Virtue in Perl
- Leveraging the power of CPAN



An Example...

- Write a command line script to show the current running times of trains between two stations in the UK.

National Rail Enquiries

Home | Train Times & Fares | Stations & Destinations | Service Bulletins | Passenger Services | Train Companies & Maps | Contact Us | Site Help

LIVE UPDATES: SITE SEARCH GO

TRAIN TIMES & FARES

Journey Planner
[Live Departures & Arrivals](#)
 Railcards
[PlusBus](#)
[Season Tickets](#)
[Special Offers](#)
[Purchasing Tickets](#)
[National Rail Timetable](#)
[Conditions of Carriage](#)
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[Mobiles and PDAs](#)
[Timetables you can Print](#)
[Journey Planner information](#)

RELATED LINKS

[Railcards](#)
 Buy your railcard on the...

LIVE DEPARTURES:
OVERTON (OVR) TO BASINGSTOKE (BSK)
 As of **Friday 7 December 2007 19:41:37**
 Your page will refresh automatically, please click here for a version that will refresh

[View Overton Arrivals](#)
[Overton Station Information](#)
[Service Bulletins affecting Overton](#)

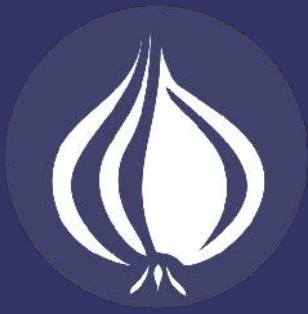
Train Departures

DESTINATION	TIMETABLE	EXPECTED	OPERATOR	TRAIN DETAILS
London Waterloo	19:58	On time	South West Trains	Details
London Waterloo	20:58	On time	South West Trains	Details

Delayed = This service is delayed
 No report = There is no report on the progress of this service yet
 On time = This service is on time
 Starts here = The service has not yet started the journey
 Cancelled = The service has been cancelled
 - = The expected report to this service is unknown
[Click here for further detail of these status notes](#)

[Call TrainTracker™ on 0871 200 49 50 or text OVR to 484350 to use TrainTracker™ Text](#)

[About Live Departure Boards >](#)
[Live Departure Boards Limitations >](#)



Here Is One I Prepared Earlier

```
Linux Console - Konsole
adam@wombat:~$ trains

Time Now: Fri Dec 7 19:45:01 2007

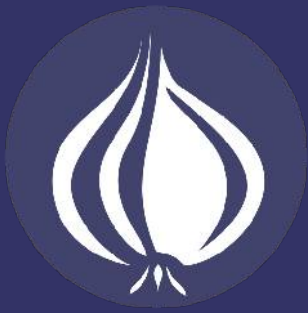
Starting at Basingstoke, going to Overton
Time      Status      Final Destination
20:07     On time     Bristol Temple Meads
20:37     No report   Salisbury
21:10     No report   Exeter St Davids

Starting at Overton, going to Basingstoke
Time      Status      Final Destination
19:58     On time     London Waterloo
20:58     On time     London Waterloo
adam@wombat:~$
```



CPAN Is Your Friend...

- Comprehensive Perl Archive Network
 - Globally distributed over 253 mirrors
 - On-line since 26 October 1995
 - 4247 MiB of data (more in archive)
 - 6303 Authors
 - 12652 Modules
- It's all FREE!



Web Interface

- There are two front end web interfaces:
 - search.cpan.org
 - kobesearch.cpan.org
- An upload service for authors:
 - pause.perl.org
- Testing, quality, bug tracking and more:
 - cpantesters.perl.org
 - rt.cpan.org

CPAN - Iceweasel

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://www.cpan.org/

Local Remote News Computing Personal Various Stuff Basingstoke Weather

CPAN Browse and search CPAN The CPAN Search Site - search.c... PAUSE: menu

CPAN Comprehensive Perl Archive Network

2007-12-07 online since 1995-10-26
4247 MB 253 mirrors
6303 authors 12652 modules

Welcome to CPAN! Here you will find All Things Perl.

Browsing

- [Perl modules](#)
- [Perl scripts](#)
- [Perl binary distributions \("ports"\)](#)
- [Perl source code](#)
- [Perl recent arrivals](#)
- [recent](#) Perl modules
- [CPAN sites](#) list

Searching

- [Perl core documentation](#) (perldoc.perl.org; Jon Allen)
- [Perl core and CPAN modules documentation](#) (Randy Kobes)
- [CPAN modules, distributions, and authors](#) (search.cpan.org)

FAQ etc

- [CPAN Frequently Asked Questions](#)
- [Perl FAQ](#)
- [Perl Mailing Lists](#)

Done Apache/1.3.37 S YSlow 0.877s Adblock

Browse and search CPAN - Iceweasel

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http://kobesearch.cpan.org/

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CPAN Browse and search CPAN The CPAN Search Site - search.c... PAUSE: menu

Home Documentation Recent Preferences Modules Distributions Authors

CPAN 10

Find in Search

CPAN Categories

- [Perl Core Modules](#)
- [Development Support](#)
- [Operating System Interfaces](#)
- [Networking Devices IPC](#)
- [Data Type Utilities](#)
- [Database Interfaces](#)
- [User Interfaces](#)
- [Language Interfaces](#)
- [File Names Systems Locking](#)
- [String Lang Text Proc](#)
- [Opt Arg Param Proc](#)
- [Internationalization Locale](#)
- [Security and Encryption](#)
- [World Wide Web HTML HTTP CGI](#)
- [Server and Daemon Utilities](#)
- [Archiving and Compression](#)
- [Images Pixmaps Bitmaps](#)
- [Mail and Usenet News](#)
- [Control Flow Utilities](#)
- [File Handle Input Output](#)
- [Microsoft Windows Modules](#)
- [Miscellaneous Modules](#)
- [Commercial Software Interfaces](#)
- [Bundles](#)

Browse and search CPAN

Perl

- [CPAN search](#)
- [Perl documentation \[search \]](#)
- [Perl FAQs](#)
- ActivePerl [8xx](#) and [6xx](#) repositories
- [mod_perl](#)
- [Win32 Perl/Apache binaries](#)
- [Introductory programming](#)
- [Introduction to Perl/Tk](#)

CPAN uploads on Fri, 07 Dec 2007

- [AI-NaiveBayes1-1.3](#) [download] - Bayesian prediction of categories
- [Catalyst-Authentication-Store-FromSub-Hash-0.01](#) [download] - A storage class for Catalyst Authentication using one Catalyst Model class (hash returned)
- [Catalyst-Model-SVN-0.09](#) [download] - Catalyst Model to browse Subversion repositories
- [Catalyst-Plugin-FormValidator-Lazy-0.05](#) [download] - Catalyst FormValidator Plugin in Lazy way
- [Class-Accessor-FactoryTyped-0.03](#) [download] - accessors whose values come from a factory
- [Config-Options-0.03](#) [download] - Module to provide a configuration hash with option to read from file.
- [Convert-Binary-C-0.69](#) [download] - Binary Data Conversion using C Types
- [Geo-GoogleEarth-Document-0.09](#) [download] - Creates a GoogleEarth KML Document
- [Google-Chart-0.01](#) [download] - Draw a chart with Google Chart
- [HTML_SimpleLinkExtractor-1.1.0](#) [download] - Extract links from

Links

perl.org	perl.com
CPAN	search.cpan
perldoc	perlmonks
use Perl	Perl Mongers
Planet Perl	ActiveState
Win32 Perl	CPAN::Forum
AnnoCPAN	rt.cpan.org
CPAN ratings	CPAN testers
CPANTS	Perl Foundation



Search input field and 'CPAN Search' button

- Archiving Compression Conversion File Name Systems Locking Option Parameter Config Processing
Bundles (and SDKs) Graphics Perl6
Commercial Software Interfaces Internationalization Locale Pragmas
Control Flow Utilities Language Extensions Security
Data and Data Types Language Interfaces Server Daemon Utilities
Database Interfaces Mail and Usenet News String Language Text Processing
Development Support Miscellaneous User Interfaces
Documentation Networking Devices IPC World Wide Web
File Handle Input/Output Operating System Interfaces

PAUSE: menu - Iceweasel

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

https://pause.perl.org/pause/authenquery

Local Remote News Computing Personal Various Stuff Basingstoke Weather

CPAN Browse and search CPAN The CPAN Search Site - search.c... PAUSE: menu

The Perl Authors Upload Server

ATRICKETT <adam@iredale.net>
encrypted session

Public menu

- Request PAUSE account
- About PAUSE
- Imprint/Impressum
- PAUSE News
- PAUSE History
- Who is Who (long)

User menu

- Files
- Upload a file to CPAN
- Show my files
- Repair a Pending
- Upload
- Delete Files
- Modules
- Register Namespace
- Edit Module Metadata
- Permissions
- View Permissions
- Change Permissions
- Utils
- Force Reindexing

**Hi Adam John Trickett,
please choose an action from the menu.**

The usermenu to the left shows all menus available to you, the table below shows descriptions for all menus available to anybody on PAUSE.

Action	Group	Description
Request PAUSE account	public	Apply for a PAUSE account.
Forgot Password?	public	A passwordmailer that sends you a password that enables you to set a new password.
About PAUSE	public	Same as modules/04pause.html on any CPAN server
Imprint/Impressum	public	N/A
PAUSE News	public	What's going on on PAUSE
PAUSE History	public	Old News
Who is Who (long)	public	A database query. Output is very similar to CPAN/authors/00whois.html
Upload a file to CPAN	user	This is the heart of the Upload Server , the page most heavily used on PAUSE.

Done pause.perl.org Apache S YSlow Adblock

CPAN Testers: Reports for Config-Trivial - Iceweasel

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://cpantesters.perl.org/show/Config-Trivial.html



Google



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CPAN

CPAN Testers: Reports for C...

CPANTS - CPAN Testing Service

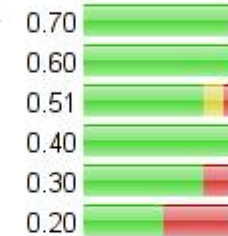
RT at a glance

CPAN Testers: Reports for Config-TrivialThese are the test reports that we have for the CPAN distribution [Config-Trivial](#).

Version summary:

Config-Trivial 0.70 (17 PASSES)

PASS [675640](#) 5.9.5 on Solaris 2.9 (sun4-solaris)
 PASS [589709](#) 5.9.5 on Netbsd 2.1.0_stable (alpha-netbsd)
 PASS [568891](#) 5.8.8 on Openbsd 3.5 (OpenBSD.i386-openbsd)
 PASS [568455](#) 5.6.2 on Linux 2.4.27-3-686 (i686-linux)
 PASS [501759](#) 5.8.7 on Solaris 2.11 (i386-pc-solaris2.11-thread-multi)
 PASS [499461](#) 5.9.5 patch 31315 on Netbsd 3.1 (i386-netbsd-thread-multi-64int)
 PASS [499036](#) 5.8.7 on Solaris 2.11 (i386-pc-solaris2.11-thread-multi)
 PASS [498507](#) 5.8.8 on Cygwin 1.5.23(0.15642) (cygwin-thread-multi-64int)
 PASS [498448](#) 5.8.8 on Linux 2.6.20.12 (x86_64-linux-thread-multi-ld)
 PASS [498044](#) 5.8.8 on Linux 2.6.16.19 (alpha-linux-thread-multi)
 PASS [497984](#) 5.8.8 on Openbsd 4.1 (OpenBSD.i386-openbsd-thread-multi)
 PASS [497210](#) 5.8.8 on Linux 2.6.16.38 (i686-linux-thread-multi-64int-ld)
 PASS [496702](#) 5.8.8 on Solaris 2.9 (sun4-solaris-thread-multi)
 PASS [496589](#) 5.9.5 patch 31297 on Netbsd 3.1 (i386-netbsd-thread-multi-64int)
 PASS [496498](#) 5.8.8 on FreeBSD 5.3-release (i386-freebsd-thread-multi-64int)
 PASS [496493](#) 5.8.8 on Linux 2.4.26 (i686-linux-thread-multi-64int-ld)
 PASS [496484](#) 5.8.8 on Netbsd 3.1 (i386-netbsd-thread-multi-64int)

**Config-Trivial 0.60 (1 FAIL, 15 PASSES)**

PASS [411861](#) 5.8.8 on MSWin32 4.0 (MSWin32-x86-multi-thread)
 PASS [411509](#) 5.8.8 on Cygwin 1.5.23(0.15642) (cygwin-thread-multi-64int)
 PASS [411502](#) 5.8.8 on Netbsd 3.1 (i386-netbsd-thread-multi-64int)
 PASS [411213](#) 5.8.8 on FreeBSD 6.2-rc1 (i386-freebsd-thread-multi-64int)
 PASS [410662](#) 5.8.7 on Solaris 2.11 (i386-pc-solaris2.11-thread-multi)
 PASS [410339](#) 5.8.8 on FreeBSD 5.4-release (i386-freebsd-thread-multi-64int)

Done

Apache/2.0.55



YSlow 1.269s

Adblock

CPANTS - The CPAN Testing Service

Home | News | Kwalitee | The CPANTS game | Graphs || Distributions | Authors || ALPHA VERSION - Hic sunt dracones!

Author: Adam John Trickett (ATRICKETT)

Email atrickett@cpan.org
 Average Kwalitee 94.2307692307693
 Liga less than 5
 Rank 40

4 Dists:

Dist	Kwalitee	#####
Config-Trivial	103.846153846154	#####
Config-Trivial-Storable	103.846153846154	#####
Log-Trivial	103.846153846154	#####
XML-RSS-Tools	107.692307692308	#####

Number of Dists for ATRICKETT

Average Kwalitee for ATRICKETT

RT at a glance - Iceweasel

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

https://rt.cpan.org/index.html

Local Remote News Computing Personal Various Stuff Basingstoke Weather

CPAN CPAN Testers: Reports for Config... CPANTS - CPAN Testing Service RT at a glance

Logged in as ATRICKETT | [Preferences](#) | [Logout](#)

CPAN
RT for rt.cpan.org

Please report any issues with rt.cpan.org to rt-cpan-admin@bestpractical.com.

[Home](#) · [Distributions](#) · [Search Tickets](#) · [Preferences](#)

RT at a glance

^ 10 highest priority tickets I own

#	Subject	Priority	Queue	Status
19049	Test Failure with Perl 5.6.1	0	Config-Trivial	(pending other Collection)

^ 10 newest unowned tickets

#	Subject	Queue	Status	Created
---	---------	-------	--------	---------

^ Quick ticket creation

Subject: Queue: Owner:

^ Reminders

Apache2 bug fix

#31102:
Apache2-Pod-HTML bug
Nobody • 2 days

^ Quick search

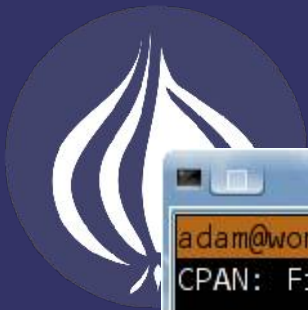
Queue	new open stalled		
Config-Trivial	0	1	0
Config-Trivial-Storable	0	0	0
Log-Trivial	0	0	0
XML-RSS-Tools	0	0	0

Done rt.cpan.org Apache/1.3.34 YSlow 12.186s Adblock



Command Line

- CPAN comes with it's own installation tool suite called cpan
 - Search for modules
 - Download modules
 - Install modules
 - Resolve dependencies
 - Update modules

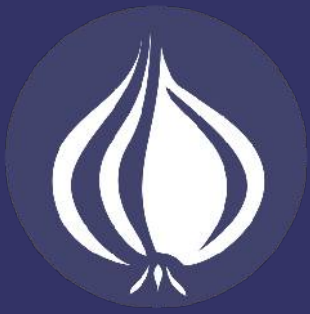


```
Linux Console - Konsole
adam@wombat:~$ sudo cpan
CPAN: File::HomeDir loaded ok (v0.65)

cpan shell -- CPAN exploration and modules installation (v1.9102)
ReadLine support enabled

cpan[1]> m Config::Trivial
CPAN: Storable loaded ok (v2.16)
Going to read /var/perl-5.6.2/cpan/Metadata
  Database was generated on Fri, 07 Dec 2007 16:37:43 GMT
Module id = Config::Trivial
  CPAN_USERID   ATRICKETT (Adam John Trickett <atrickett@cpan.org>)
  CPAN_VERSION  0.70
  CPAN_FILE     A/AT/ATRICKETT/Config-Trivial-0.70.tar.gz
  UPLOAD_DATE   2007-05-28
  INST_FILE     (not installed)

cpan[2]> █
```



Find your module

- Search using the web interface:
 - Read the documentation
 - Look at errors and problems
 - Check the rating
 - Check how fresh it is
- Download the tarball over the web, or
- Install with CPAN if you can – it automatically resolves dependencies
- Carefully study the manpage using perldoc

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://search.cpan.org/search?query=train&mode=all



Google

The CPAN Search Site - sear...


[Home](#) · [Authors](#) · [Recent](#) · [News](#) · [Mirrors](#) · [FAQ](#) · [Feedback](#)

train

in

All

CPAN Search

Results 1 - 10 of 61 Found

[1](#) · [2](#) · [3](#) · [4](#) · [5](#) · [6](#) · [Next >>](#)
Page Size: [10](#) [20](#) [50](#) [100](#)**[sa-learn](#)**

train SpamAssassin's Bayesian classifier

[Mail-SpamAssassin-3.2.3](#) ★★★★★ (3 Reviews) - 09 Aug 2007 - [Justin Mason](#)**[mindcal](#)**

Train calculating the day of the week of any given date

[Mindcal-0.01](#) - 25 Nov 2007 - [Michael Schilli](#)**[AI::NeuralNet::Simple](#)**

An easy to use backprop neural net.

[AI-NeuralNet-Simple-0.11](#) - 18 Nov 2006 - [Curtis "Ovid" Poe](#)**[Statistics::LTU](#)**

An implementation of Linear Threshold Units

[Statistics-LTU-2.8](#) - 27 Feb 1997 - [Tom Fawcett](#)**[pod/diagfr.src](#)**[diagnostics-1.2-alpha1](#) - 24 Jul 2002 - [Jean Forget](#)**[WWW:LiveDepartureBoards](#)**presents an OO interface to the National Rail Live Departure Boards (LDB's) Website (<http://www.livedepartureboards.co.uk>).[WWW-LiveDepartureBoards-0.03](#) - 07 May 2007 - [Greg McCarroll](#)

Done

Apache/1.3.33



YSlow

0.611s

Adblock

Greg McCarroll / WWW-LiveDepartureBoards-0.03 - search.cpan.org - Iceweasel

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://search.cpan.org/~gmccar/WWW-LiveDepartureBoards-0.03/

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Greg McCarroll / WWW-Live...

CPAN Home · Authors · Recent · News · Mirrors · FAQ · Feedback

in All CPAN Search

[Greg McCarroll](#) > [WWW-LiveDepartureBoards-0.03](#) [permlink](#)

WWW-LiveDepartureBoards-0.03

This Release	WWW-LiveDepartureBoards-0.03 [Download] [Browse] 07 May 2007	
Other Releases	WWW-LiveDepartureBoards-0.02 -- 07 May 2007 [Goto]	
Links	[CPAN Testers] [Discussion Forum] [View/Report Bugs (0)] [Tools]	
CPAN Testers	PASS (12) FAIL (5) [View]	
Rating	☆☆☆☆☆ (0 Reviews) [Rate this distribution]	
License	Unknown	
Special Files	Build.PL MANIFEST META.yml Makefile.PL	

Modules

WWW::LiveDepartureBoards	0.03
--------------------------	------

Documentation

[WWW::LiveDepartureBoards](#) presents an OO interface to the National Rail Live Departure Boards (LDB's) Website (<http://www.livedepartureboards.co.uk>).

Hosted by [craftsmen](#)
digital craftsmen

Done Apache/1.3.33 S YSlow 0.627s Adblock

The CPAN Search Site - search.cpan.org - Iceweasel

File Edit View History Bookmarks Tools Help

http://search.cpan.org/~gmccar/WWW-LiveDepartureBoards-0.03/lib/WWW/Li

Local Remote News Computing Personal Various Stuff Basingstoke Weather

The CPAN Search Site - sear... [Report a bug](#)

NAME

WWW:LiveDepartureBoards - presents an OO interface to the National Rail Live Departure Boards (LDB's) Website (<http://www.livedepartureboards.co.uk>).

DESCRIPTION

Queries and then screenscrapes the LDB's website, making a guess as to what day the given arrival or departure time is on and constructing a DateTime object as part of the details returned. Can also filter by the stations you are interested in.

METHODS

`new({station_code => 'XXX'})`

Takes a 3 letter station code such as PNE (Penge East) and returns the corresponding object. You can find out what your local station's code is by visiting the website mentioned above.

`arrivals(['Station Name'])`


Returns an array of hashes with arrival details as follows,

```

origin - the origin of the train
time   - time in the form of 'hh:mm'
datetime - a DateTime object that has been tied to the best guess of
          what day the train arrives/departs on
status - the status of the train

```

Also a reference to a list can be supplied that will act as a filter.

Done Apache/1.3.33 S  YSlow 0.451s [Adblock](#)

```
Linux Console - Konsole
WWW::LiveDepartureBoarUser)Contributed Perl DocumentWWW::LiveDepartureBoards(3)

NAME
WWW::LiveDepartureBoards - presents an OO interface to the National Rail Live Departure Boards (LDB's) Website (http://www.livedepartureboards.co.uk).

DESCRIPTION
Queries and then screenscrapes the LDB's website, making a guess as to what day the given arrival or departure time is on and constructing a DateTime object as part of the details returned. Can also filter by the stations you are interested in.

METHODS
new({station_code => 'XXX'})

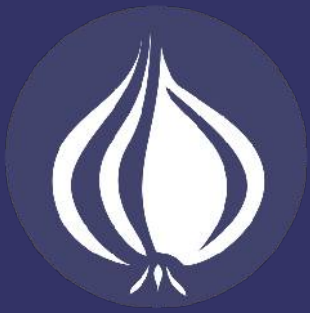
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arrivals(['Station Name'])

Returns an array of hashes with arrival details as follows,

    origin   - the origin of the train
    time     - time in the form of 'hh:mm'
    datetime - a DateTime object that has been tied to the best guess of
               what day the train arrives/departs on
    status   - the status of the train

/tmp/3M2K5L1JyA
```



The Code

```
#!/usr/bin/perl

use strict;
use WWW::LiveDepartureBoards;

my $basing = WWW::LiveDepartureBoards->new({station_code => 'BSK'});
my $overton = WWW::LiveDepartureBoards->new({station_code => 'OVR'});
my $time = localtime();

print "\nTime Now: $time\n\n";

my @details = $basing->destination('ovr');
print "Starting at Basingstoke, going to Overton\n";
print_details(\@details, 'OVR');

print "\n";
```



The Code, cont'

```
my @details = $overton->destination('bsk');
print "Starting at Overton, going to Basingstoke\n";
print_details(\@details, 'BSK');
```

```
sub print_details {
    my $details = shift;
    my $final    = shift;

    print "Time\tStatus\t\tFinal Destination\n";

    foreach my $detail (@$details) {
        print $detail->{time},    "\t",
              $detail->{status}, " \t",
              $detail->{$final}, "\n";
    }
}
```