

PHP Form Validation

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Dept. of Computer Science
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Lecture Outline



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- 2. PHP Form Handling**
- 3. PHP Form Validation**
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Learning Objectives



- In this lecture , we will learn more details about HTML form elements i.e. different type of form, designing different type of HTML form.
- We will also learn HTTP GET and POST.
- Handling form data using \$_GET or \$_POST methods and validations form data using PHP.

PHP Form Handling



- The PHP superglobals **\$_GET** and **\$_POST** are used to collect form-data.
- The example displays a simple HTML form with two input fields and a submit button using “get” and “post”
- And See the difference.

- ```
<html>
<body>
<form action="welcome.php" method="post">
Name: <input type="text" name="name">

E-mail: <input type="text" name="ema:
<input type="submit">
</form>
</body>
</html>
```

A screenshot of a web form rendered from the PHP code. It shows two text input fields, one for "Name:" and one for "E-mail:". Below the "E-mail:" field is a "Submit" button. The form is styled with a light gray background and a white border.

# PHP Form Handling

HTTP GET



- The same result could also be achieved using the HTTP GET/POST method:
- Welcome\_get.php file
- ```
<html>
<body>
Welcome <?php echo $_GET["name"]; ?><br>
Your email address is: <?php echo $_GET["email"]; ?>
</body>
</html>
```

PHP Form Validation



- Proper validation of form data is important to protect your form from hackers and spammers!
- Lets consider the example.

PHP Form Validation Example

* required field

Name: *

E-mail: *

Website:

Comment:

Gender: ☐ Female ☐ Male ☐ Other *

PHP Form Validation



- The validation rules for the form above are as follows:

Field	Validation Rules
Name	Required. + Must only contain letters and whitespace
E-mail	Required. + Must contain a valid email address (with @ and .)
Website	Optional. If present, it must contain a valid URL
Comment	Optional. Multi-line input field (textarea)
Gender	Required. Must select one

- `$_SERVER["PHP_SELF"]` is a super global variable that returns the filename of the currently executing script and sends the submitted form data to the page itself, instead of jumping to a different page.
- `<form method="post" action="<?php echo htmlspecialchars($_SERVER["PHP_SELF"]);?>">`



PHP Form Validation

- When your validation is passed, the hold the data in object.
- Now write a class for student using name, email, etc. attributes(See the form).
- Use this student object to hold the student data.



Books

- W3Schools Online Web Tutorials; URL: <http://www.w3schools.com>
- PHP Documentation; URL: <http://www.php.net/docs.php>
- Sams Teach Yourself Ajax JavaScript and PHP All in One; Phil Ballard and Michael Moncur; Sams Publishing; 2010
- JavaScript Phrasebook; Christian Wenz; Sams Publishing; 2007
- PHP and MySQL Web Development, 4/E; Luke Welling and Laura Thomson; Addison-Wesley Professional; 2009
- JavaScript for Programmers Paul J. Deitel and Harvey M. Deitel; Prentice Hall; 2009
- Beginning PHP5, Apache, and MySQL Web Development; Elizabeth Naramore, Jason Gerner, Yann Le Scouarnec, Jeremy Stolz and Michael K. Glass; Wiley Publishing; 2005
- XML in a Nutshell, 3/E; Elliotte Rusty Harold and W. Scott Means; O'Reilly Media; 2004



References

1. https://www.w3schools.com/php/php_forms.asp