



### **Database Web Programming Overview**

Web applications consist of a client interface and a server component.

The client interface does not access the database directly. The server code accesses the database and provides data as needed to the client.

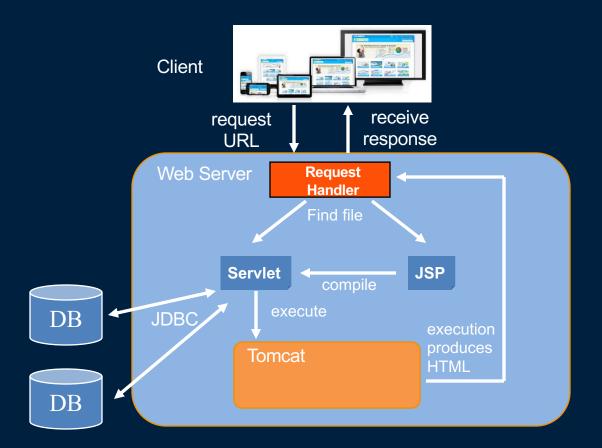
- The server code may be JSP/Servlets, PHP, Python, etc.
- The client code is HTML/JavaScript.

HTTP is a stateless protocol which requires special handling to remember client state.



## **Dynamic Web Server Architecture**

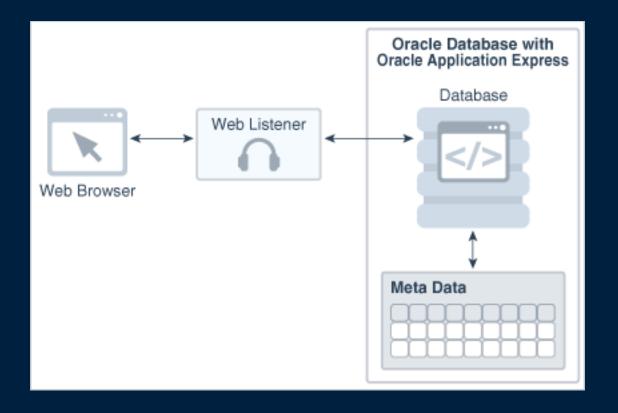






## **Dynamic Oracle APEX Server Architecture | more |**







### Hypertext Markup Language (HTML)

Hypertext Markup Language (HTML) describes the layout of a web page including structure, style, images, and links.

An HTML document has *tags* in angle brackets < and > as markup.

• In HTML 5, tags are not case-sensitive. We will use lower case as convention.

#### Example:

#### **Tables in HTML**



Data can be displayed in tables using the tags.

- Rows are enclosed in table row 
   tr>
   table data 
   tags. A header cell uses the 
   tags.
- A table may have a caption centered at the top of the table by using the <aption></caption> tags.





Dynamic HTML involves constructing HTML output dynamically on the server then sending it to the client.

By building the content dynamically, it can have different content for each user. Typically, this dynamic content is retrieved from databases and then inserted into the HTML.

The two standard ways for generating dynamic content using Java are Java Server Pages (JSPs) and Servlets. Since both use Java, they can use JDBC to retrieve dynamic, database content.





Question: True or False: Java JSP/Servlet code runs in the browser.

A) true

B) false





**Question:** True or False: JavaScript running in the browser can connect to a database directly using JDBC.

A) true

B) false





Java Server Pages (JSPs) provide a layer above Servlets that allow you to mix HTML and calls to Java code.

JSPs are converted into Servlets, and are easier to work with for those familiar with HTML.





#### How to create JSPs:

- 1) Create a file with a . j sp extension that contains HTML.
- 2) Include JSP Scripting Elements in the file such as:
  - Expressions <%= expression %>
    - Note that an expression returns a string into the HTML.
  - Scriptlets <% code %>
  - **Declarations** <%! Code %>
  - Directives <%@ variable directive %>
  - Comments <%-- JSP Comment -->
- 3) Can use pre-defined variables:
  - request HttpServletRequest
  - response
    HttpServletResponse
  - session HttpSession
  - out
    PrintWriter
    - Prints to HTML document.

#### JSP "Hello World!"



```
<html>
<head>
<title>Hello World in JSP</title>
</head>
<body>
</body>
</html>
```





#### Include another file:

```
<%@ include file="commontop.html" %>
```

#### Import from the Java library:

```
<%@ page import="java.util.*" %>
```

#### Declare and use a variable:

```
<%! private int accessCount = 0 %>
<h2>Accesses to page since server reboot:
<%= ++accessCount %></h2>
```

#### Access session and request information:

```
<h2>Current time: <%= new java.util.Date() %></h2>
<h2>Remote Host: <%= request.getRemoteHost()%></h2>
<h2>Session ID: <%= session.getID() %></h2>
```

#### JSP and JDBC



```
<%@ page import="java.sql.*" %>
<html><head><title>Query Results Using JSP</title></head><body>
<% // Note: Need to define url, uid, pw</pre>
 try
  ( Connection con = DriverManager.getConnection(url, uid, pw);
    Statement stmt = con.createStatement(); )
   String sql = "SELECT ename, salary FROM emp";
   ResultSet rst = stmt.executeQuery(sql);
   out.println("NameSalary");
   while (rst.next()) {
      out.println(""+rst.getString(1)+""
                 +""+rst.getDouble(2)+""); }
   out.println("");
  } catch (SQLException ex) { out.println(ex); }
%></body></html>
```



#### **Answering Queries using HTML Forms**

One of the common uses of dynamic web pages is to construct answers to user queries expressed using HTML forms.

The HTML code will contain a FORM and the FORM ACTION will indicate the server code to call to process the request.

In our example, the JSP or Servlet gets the HTML request (and parameters in the URL), queries the database, and returns the answers in a table.

#### HTTP GET and POST Methods



GET and POST are two ways a HTTP client can communicate with a web server. GET is used for getting data from the server, and POST is used for sending data there.

- GET appends the form data (called a query string) to an URL, in the form of key/value pairs, for example, name=John.
  - In the query string, key/value pairs are separated by & characters, spaces are converted to + characters, and special characters are converted to their hexadecimal equivalents.
  - Since the query string is in the URL, the page can be bookmarked. The query string is usually limited to a relatively small amount of data.
- POST passes data of unlimited length as an HTTP request body to the server. The
  user working in the client Web browser cannot see the data that is being sent, so
  POST requests are ideal for sending confidential or large amounts of data to the
  server.

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**Question:** Select a true statement.

- A) Data sent using POST is passed as part of the URL.
- B) A GET request with all parameters cannot be bookmarked.
- C) Your JSP/servlet can do the same action for both GET and POST requests.
- D) A GET request is used to send a large amount of data.

#### **HTML Form**



```
<html>
<head><title>Querying Using JSP and Forms</title></head>
<body>
<h1>Enter the name and/or department to search for:</h1>
<form method="get"
   action="https://cosc304.ok.ubc.ca/tomcat/EmpQuery.jsp">
Name:<input type="text" name="empname" size="25">
Dept:<input type="text" name="deptnum" size="5">
                                                        FORM action
<input type="submit" value="Submit">
                                                         and type
<input type="reset" value="Reset">
</form>
                                                    FORM buttons and
                                                      input fields
</body></html>
```





Parameters passed into the JSP are read using the request object:

```
String empName = request.getParameter("empname");
String deptNum = request.getParameter("deptnum");
```

# Reading Parameters Badly Building a Query – SQL Injection!



```
String empName = request.getParameter("empname");
String deptNum = request.getParameter("deptnum");
try
( Connection con = DriverManager.getConnection(url, uid, pw);
  Statement stmt = con.createStatement(); )
  String SQLSt="SELECT ename, salary, dno FROM emp WHERE 1=1";
  if (empName != null && !empName.equals(""))
    SQLSt = SQLSt + " and ename LIKE '%"+empName+"%'";
  if (deptNum != null && !deptNum.equals(""))
    SQLSt = SQLSt + " and dno = '"+deptNum+"'";
  ResultSet rst = stmt.executeQuery(SQLSt);
```

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## Building a Query using a PreparedStatement

```
String empName = request.getParameter("empname");
String deptNum = request.getParameter("deptnum");
trv
 Connection con = DriverManager.getConnection(url, uid, pw);)
  String sql = "SELECT ename, salary, dno FROM emp";
 boolean hasEmp = empName != null && !empName.equals("");
 boolean hasDept= deptNum != null && !deptNum.equals("");
  PreparedStatement pstmt=null;
 ResultSet rst = null;
  if (!hasEmp && !hasDept)
    pstmt = con.prepareStatement(sql);
    rst = pstmt.executeQuery();
```



## Building a Query using a PreparedStatement

```
else if (hasEmp)
{ empName = "%"+empName+"%";
  sql += " WHERE ename LIKE ?";
  if (hasDept) sql += " AND dno = ?";
  pstmt = con.prepareStatement(sql);
  pstmt.setString(1, empName);
  if (hasDept) pstmt.setString(2, deptNum);
  rst = pstmt.executeQuery();
else if (hasDept)
\{ \text{ sql } += \text{" WHERE } \text{dno } = ?\text{"};
  pstmt = con.prepareStatement(sql);
  pstmt.setString(1, deptNum);
  rst = pstmt.executeQuery();
```

## JSP Examples Implementing Login and Security



How do you password protect files in your web site?

#### The basic idea is to:

- Create a login page like login.jsp.
- Create a page to validate the user login (often by connecting to the database to determine if given valid user id/password).
- Create a file containing JSP code that is included in every one of your protected pages. This code:
  - Examines if a session variable flag is set indicating if logged in.
  - If user is logged in, show page. Otherwise redirect to login page.



### login.jsp

```
<html>
<head><title>Login Screen</title></head>
<body>
<center>
<h3>Please Login to System</h3>
<%
  Print prior error login message if present
    (session.getAttribute("loginMessage") != null)
   out.println(""+
      session.getAttribute("loginMessage").toString()+"");
응>
<br>
```



#### login.jsp (2)

```
<form name="MyForm" method=post action="validateLogin.jsp">
<div align="right">Username:</div>
<input type="text" name="username" size=8 maxlength=8>
<div align="right">Password:</div>
<input type="password" name="password" size=8
maxlength=8">
<input class="submit" type="submit" name="Sub" value="Log In">
</form>
```

#### validateLogin.jsp



```
<%@ page language="java" import="java.io.*" %>
<%
   String authenticatedUser = null;
   session = request.getSession(true);// May create new session
   try
      authenticatedUser = validateLogin(out,request,session);
   catch(IOException e) { out.println(e); }
   if (authenticatedUser != null)
      response.sendRedirect("protectedPage.jsp"); // Success
   else
      response.sendRedirect("login.jsp"); // Failed login
      // Redirect back to login page with a message
```

## **DBC**

#### validateLogin.jsp (2)

```
< %!
String validateLogin(JspWriter out, HttpServletRequest request,
                        HttpSession session) throws IOException
   String username = request.getParameter("username");
   String password = request.getParameter("password");
   String retStr = null;
   if(username == null || password == null)
       return null;
   if((username.length() == 0) || (password.length() == 0))
       return null;
   // Should make a database connection here and check password
   // Here just hard-coding password
   if (username.equals("test") && password.equals("test"))
      retStr = username;
```



```
validateLogin.jsp (3)
```

```
if(retStr != null)
{    session.removeAttribute("loginMessage");
    session.setAttribute("authenticatedUser", username);
}
else
    session.setAttribute("loginMessage", "Failed login.");
return retStr;
}
```



## protectedPage.jsp

```
<html>
<head><title>Password Protected Page</title></head>
<body>
<%@ include file="auth.jsp"%>
<%
String user = (String)session.getAttribute("authenticatedUser");
out.println("<h1>You have access to this page: "+user+"</h1>");
%>
</body>
</html>
```



```
auth.jsp
```

```
<%
   Object authUser = session.getAttribute("authenticatedUser");
   boolean authenticated = authUser == null ? false : true;
   if (!authenticated)
      String loginMessage = "You are not authorized to "+
          "access the URL "+request.getRequestURL().toString();
       session.setAttribute("loginMessage", loginMessage);
       response.sendRedirect("login.jsp");
       return;
응>
```

## JSP Examples Passing Objects Between Pages



How do you pass information between pages?

One way is to encode that information in the URL as parameters. These parameters can be extracted from the request object.

If you have a lot of information, it is better to use the session object. The session object allows you to store any number of objects that are later looked up by name. Since they remain on the server, performance/security is improved.

## Passing Objects Between Pages



## sendingPage.jsp

```
<%@ page import="java.util.ArrayList, java.util.Random" %>
<html><head><title>Sending Data Page</title></head><body>
<%
   // Generate and print array
   ArrayList<Integer> ar = new ArrayList<Integer>(20);
   Random generator = new Random();
   out.println("<h2>Created the following array:</h2>");
   for (int i = 0; i < 20; i++)
      ar.add(new Integer(generator.nextInt(10)));
      out.println(ar.get(i)+"<br>");
   // Store arraylist in a session variable
   session.setAttribute("arraydata", ar);
응>
</body></html>
```

#### **Passing Objects Between Pages**



### receivingPage.jsp

</html>

```
<%@ page import="java.util.ArrayList" %>
<html><head><title>Receiving Data Page</title> </head><body>
<%
   ArrayList ar = (ArrayList)session.getAttribute("arraydata");
   if (ar == null)
      out.println("<h2>No data sent to page.</h2>");
   else
      out.println("<h2>Received the following array:</h2>");
       for (int i = 0; i < 20; i++)
          out.println(ar.get(i)+"<br>");
응>
</body>
```





**Question:** True or False: Data associated with a session remains on the server.

A) true

B) false

#### **Servlets**



Servlets are Java programs that run inside a web server that can perform server-side processing such as interacting with a database or another application. Servlets can generate dynamic html and return this to the client.

#### How to create a Servlet:

- 1) create an HTML file that invokes a Servlet (usually through the FORM ACTION=...).
- 2) create a Java program that does the following:
  - import javax.servlet.\*;
  - import javax.servlet.http.\*;
  - inherit from HttpServlet
  - override the doGet and doPost methods
  - write the response HTML file using java.io.Printwriter





There is one instance of Servlet for each Servlet name, and the same instance serves all requests to that name.

Instance members persist across all requests to that name.

Local variables in doPost and doGet are unique to each request.

### Servlets "Hello World!"



```
import javax.servlet.*;
                                        Import Servlet API
import javax.servlet.http.*;
public class HelloServlet extends HttpServlet {
     public void init(ServletConfig cfg) throws ServletException {
                                                                            Get & Post
          super.init(cfq); // First time Servlet is invoked
     public void doGet(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response)
               throws ServletException, java.io.IOException {
        doHello(request, response);
     public void doPost(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response)
     private void doHello (HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response)
               throws ServletException, java.io.IOException {
          response.setContentType("text/html");
                                                                                 Write out HTML
          out.println("<body><h1>Hello World</h1></body></html>");
                                                                                    for client
```





```
import javax.servlet.*;
import javax.servlet.http.*;
import java.sql.*;
public class JdbcServlet extends HttpServlet {
    private Connection con;
    public void init(ServletConfig cfg) throws ServletException {
        super.init(cfq);
        String url = "<fill-in>";
        con = null;
         try
             con = DriverManager.getConnection(url);
         catch (SQLException e)
             throw new ServletException("SQLException: "+e); }
```





```
public void destroy() {
    try {
        if (con != null)
             con.close();
    catch (SQLException e)
        System.err.println("SQLException: "+e); }
public void doGet(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response)
        throws ServletException, java.io.IOException {
   doTable(request, response);
public void doPost(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response)
        throws ServletException, java.io.IOException {
   doTable(request, response);
```





```
private void doTable(HttpServletRequest request, HttpServletResponse response)
        throws ServletException, java.io.IOException {
    response.setContentType("text/html");
    java.io.PrintWriter out = response.getWriter();
    out.println("<html><head><title></title></head>");
    if (con == null)
       out.println("<body><h1>Unable to connect to DB</h1></body></html>");
    else
       try {
         Statement stmt = con.createStatement();
         ResultSet rst = stmt.executeQuery("SELECT ename, salary FROM emp");
         out.print("NameSalary");
         while (rst.next())
          { out.println(""+rst.getString(1)+""
                           +""+rst.getDouble(2)+"");
         out.println("</body></html>");
         out.close();
        } catch (SQLException ex) { out.println(ex); }
```





Java Server Pages (JSPs) are HTML files with embedded Java code. They are easier to produce because the HTML file is the main product and the Java code is secondary.

When a JSP file is actually used, it is converted to a Servlet and run. Apache Tomcat handles the conversion and execution of the Servlet.

The advantage of JSP over Servlets is that the HTML page can be edited by users not familiar with the Java language using standard HTML editors and the Java code added separately by programmers.

### **JavaScript**



JavaScript is a *scripting* language used primarily for web pages.

• JavaScript was developed in 1995 and released in the Netscape web browser (since renamed to Mozilla Firefox).

Despite the name, JavaScript is not related to Java, although its syntax is similar to other languages like C, C++, and Java.

There are some major differences between JavaScript and Java.

From the database perspective, JavaScript is used to make HTML forms more interactive and to validate input client-side before sending it to the server.

### Hello World Example - JavaScript Code



### helloWorld.html

```
<html>
<head><title>HelloWorld using JavaScript</title></head>
<body>
                                    <script> tag
<h1>
                                    indicating code
   <script type="text/javascript">
      </script>
</h1>
                       document is HTML document
                       document.write() puts that text into the document
</body>
                       at this location
</html>
```

### JavaScript and JSP



### Your JSP code can either include JavaScript code:

- 1) Directly in the HTML code
- 2) By outputting it using out.println()
  - With servlets, you only have option #2.

Remember, the JSP/Servlet code is run on the server, and the JavaScript code is run on the client.

- The JavaScript code cannot access the database directly.
- The JSP/Servlet code cannot interact with the user (unless you use AJAX or some other method to send server requests).

### Hello World written by JSP Code



### helloWorld\_JS.jsp

```
<html>
<head><title>HelloWorld using JavaScript</title></head>
<body>
< h1>
   <%
       out.println("<script>");
       out.println("document.write(\"Hello, world!\")");
       out.println("</script>");
   응>
</h1>
</body>
</html>
```



### JavaScript for Data Validation

JavaScript is commonly used to validate form input on the client-side without sending it to the server. This reduces the load on the server, and more importantly, improves the browsing experience for the user.

### **JavaScript Data Validation Example**

#### validateNum.html

```
<html><head><title>Number Field Validation</title></head><body>
<script>
function validate(num) {
    if (parseInt(num))
        alert("You entered number: " + parseInt(num));
    else
        alert("Invalid number entered: " + num);
                                    Validation code
</script>
Enter a number:
<form name="input"> <input type="text" name="numField"</pre>
                                 onchange="validate(this.value)">
                                    Validate when field is changed. Can also use:
- onblur - triggered when field loses focus
</form>
</body></html>
                                       - onsubmit - triggered when form is submitted
```





AJAX allows client-side JavaScript to request and receive data from the server without refreshing the page.

AJAX (Asynchronous JavaScript+XML) was named by Jesse Garret in 2005. However, XML is not required for data communication between client and server (JSON is more common).

AJAX uses the XMLHttpRequest Object to communicate requests and receive results from the server.

Communication can either be synchronous or asynchronous.

### **AJAX Validate Form Fields Example**

## UBC

### validateUserEmail.html

```
<html><head><title>Validate User Name and Email</title></head><body>
<script>
function checkUserName() {
    var name = document.getElementById("username").value;
    var xmlhttp = new XMLHttpRequest();
    xmlhttp.open("GET","validateUserEmail.jsp?name="+name,false);
    xmlhttp.send(null); // Synchronous version, no additional payload
     if (xmlhttp.responseText != "VALID")
          alert(xmlhttp.responseText);
function checkEmail(){
     var email = document.getElementById("email").value;
    var xmlhttp = new XMLHttpRequest();
     xmlhttp.open("GET", "validateUserEmail.jsp?email="+email,false);
     xmlhttp.send(null); // Synchronous version, no additional payload
     if (xmlhttp.responseText != "VALID")
          alert(xmlhttp.responseText);
</script>
<form name="input">
    Name: <input type="text" id="username">
          <a href="javascript: checkUserName()">Check</a> <br>
     Email: <input type="text" id="email">
          <a href="javascript: checkEmail()">Check</a>
</form></body></html>
```

### **AJAX Validate Form Fields Example**

## **DBC**

### validateUserEmail.jsp

```
String name = request.getParameter("name");
if (name != null)
    // This is simple validation code.
    if (name.length() < 4)
         out.println("Name too short. Must be at least 4 chars.");
    else
         out.println("VALID");
else
    String email = request.getParameter("email");
    if (email != null)
        if (!email.contains("@"))
             out.println("INVALID");
         else
             out.println("VALID");
    else
         out.println("INVALID INPUT");
```

## AJAX Example - Province/State provinceState.html



```
Canada Version
                                  US Version
            Country: Canada
                                  Country: United States 🔻
            Province:
                                  State:
            AB ▼
                                  AL 🔽
<html><head><title>Province/State</title></head>
<body bqcolor="white">
<form name="input">
  Country: <select id="country" onchange="changeCountry()">
       <option value="CA">Canada</option>
       <option value="US">United States
   </select><br>
State:<select id="state"></select>
</form>
```

### **Province/State for Canada/US**

## UBC W

### provinceState.html (2)

```
<script>var xmlhttp = new XMLHttpRequest();
function changeCountry callBack()
    if (xmlhttp.readyState == 4 && xmlhttp.status == 200)
        var text = xmlhttp.responseText;
        if (text != "INVALID")
           var stateList = document.getElementById("state");
             // Remove all current items in list
             for (var i = stateList.length-1; i >= 0; i--)
               stateList.remove(i);
             // Add elements to list
             var values = text.split(',');
             for (var i=0; i < values.length; i++)
             { var stateCode = values[i];
               var newOpt = document.createElement('option');
               newOpt.text = stateCode;
               newOpt.value = stateCode;
               stateList.add(newOpt, null);
```

### **Province/State for Canada/US**

### UBC W

provinceState.html (3)

```
function changeCountry() {
    var countryList = document.getElementById("country");
    var stateText = document.getElementById("stateText");
    if (countryList.selectedIndex == 1)
        stateText.innerHTML = "State: ";
    else
        stateText.innerHTML = "Province:";
    xmlhttp.open("GET", "provinceState.jsp?country="+countryList.value, true);
    xmlhttp.onreadystatechange = changeCountry callBack;
    xmlhttp.send(null); // Asynchronous version
changeCountry();
                     // Initialize list with default as Canada
</script>
</body>
</html>
```

### **Province/State for Canada/US – JSP**

## UBC

### provinceState.jsp

```
<%@ page import="java.sql.*" %> <%</pre>
String country = request.getParameter("country");
if (country == null)
    out.println("INVALID");
else
    trv
      Connection con = DriverManager.getConnection(url, uid, pw); )
        String sql = "SELECT stateCode FROM states where countrycode=?";
         PreparedStatement pstmt = con.prepareStatement(sql);
        pstmt.setString(1, country);
        ResultSet rst = pstmt.executeQuery();
         StringBuffer buf = new StringBuffer();
        while (rst.next()) {
             buf.append(rst.getString(1));
             buf.append(',');
       if (buf.length() > 0)
          buf.setLength(buf.length()-1);
       out.println(buf.toString());
    catch (SQLException ex) { out.println("INVALID"); }
```





A *connection pool* is a group of database connections managed by a (web) server.

- All connections in the pool are open. Clients request a connection from the pool and return it when done.
- This results in improved performance as connections are shared across clients and do not pay an open/close penalty every time a connection is used.

#### Using a connection pool in Tomcat with JNDI:





**Question:** True or False: A connection pool will speed up the execution time of a query (not considering connection time).

A) true

B) false



### **Configuring your Web Application**

Each web application (webapp) has its own directory that stores HTML/JSP files and has a subdirectory WEB-INF that contains:

- classes directory stores all Java class files
- lib directory store all jars used by your Servlets
- web.xml is a *deployment descriptor* that provides mapping from URL path to Servlet class name. Example:

### **PHP**



**PHP** (www.php.net) is a general-purpose scripting language used extensively in web development.

PHP supports several different ways of connecting to databases including a custom MySQL connector as well as support for ODBC and PHP Data Objects (PDO).

Unlike JDBC, each database has its own database extension which has different features and methods.

## PHP MySQLi Example Procedural Version



```
<?php
// Connecting, selecting database
$mysqli = mysqli connect("cosc304.ok.ubc.ca", "rlawrenc",
                           "<pw>", "db rlawrenc")
          or die ("Could not connect: " . mysql error());
// Performing SQL query
$query = "SELECT * FROM emp";
$result = mysqli query($mysqli, $query);
if (mysqli connect errno($mysqli))
  echo "Failed to connect to MySQL: " . mysqli connect error();
```

# PHP MySQLi Example Procedural Version (2)



```
// Printing results in HTML
echo "\n";
while ($line = mysqli fetch assoc($result)) {
   echo "\t\n";
   foreach ($line as $col value) {
       echo "\t\t$col value\n";
   echo "\t\n";
echo "\n";
// Free resultset
mysqli free result ($result);
// Closing connection
mysqli close($mysqli);
?>
```

### PHP MySQLi Example **Object-Oriented Version**



```
<?php
$mysqli = new mysqli("cosc304.ok.ubc.ca", "<user>", "<pw>", "workson");
if ($mysqli->connect errno)
 echo "Failed to connect to MySQL: " . $mysqli->connect error;
$result = $mysqli->query($query);
echo "\n";
while ($line = $result->fetch assoc()) {
   echo "\t\n";
   foreach ($line as $col value) {
       echo "\t\t$col value\n";
   echo "\t\n";
echo "\n";
$result->free();
$mysqli->close();
?>
```

### Conclusion



JSP and Servlets can use JDBC for constructing dynamic web content and answering user queries via HTML.

JSP and Servlets are used with HTML forms to allows user to enter queries or information to the database.

• JSP/ Servlets can be run using Apache Tomcat which supports connection pooling.

JavaScript is used for browser-based validation and interactivity. AJAX supports requests to server for data.

Connecting and querying a database with PHP (and other languages) is very similar to using Java/JDBC.





- Write a simple JSP page that uses JDBC.
- Explain the relationship between JSP and Servlets and how dynamic web pages are created.
- Create client-side code in JavaScript for data validation.
- Explain the general idea with AJAX.
- Explain what a connection pool is and why it is beneficial.
- Write database access code using PHP.

