



**Northumbria  
University**  
NEWCASTLE

KF6012 - Web Application Integration  
2020

# PHP Versions

# Lecture Overview

- History of PHP
- PHP version 5
- PHP version 7
- PHP version 8

# PHP Versions

- PHP has been around for about 25 years
  - It has gone through several different versions.
- PHP as a language is continuously updated
  - Minor updates get a new subversion number
    - E.g. PHP 7.3, PHP 7.4
  - Major 'breaking' changes get a new version number
    - E.g. PHP 7, PHP 8

# PHP 1 and 2

- PHP 1 (PHP Tools)
  - development was started in 1994 by Rasmus Lerdorf
  - Originally known as “Personal Home Page Tools” or “PHP Tools”
  - Briefly renamed as “Forms Interpreter” and then PHP/FI
  - Originally not intended to be a new programming language
- PHP 2 (PHP/FI 2)
  - Released in 1997
  - Many more features but still mainly a one-person project

# PHP 3 and 4

- PHP 3
  - Released 1998
  - Based on work by Zeev Suraski and Andi Gutmans who focused on underlying core of the language
  - Became known as “PHP: Hypertext Preprocessor”
  - Increasingly popular – 10% of all web servers had PHP
- PHP 4
  - Released 2000
  - PHP 4 was the first version powered by the Zend Engine
  - Object oriented programming functionality added
  - Sessions added

# PHP 5 and 6

- PHP 5
  - Released in 2004
  - Based on Zend Engine 2.0
  - Much larger developer team, many new features
  - Much larger ecosystem of frameworks, libraries, etc.
  - Estimated to be installed on 100s of millions of servers
- PHP 6
  - Abandoned
  - Features incorporated into later releases of PHP 5 (e.g. 5.6)

# PHP 7 (current)

- PHP 7 was released in 2015
  - Current release 7.4
  - Improved performance (based on new version of Zend Engine)
  - Possible to define return types
  - Improved error handling
  - Anonymous classes
  - New operators (e.g `<=>` )



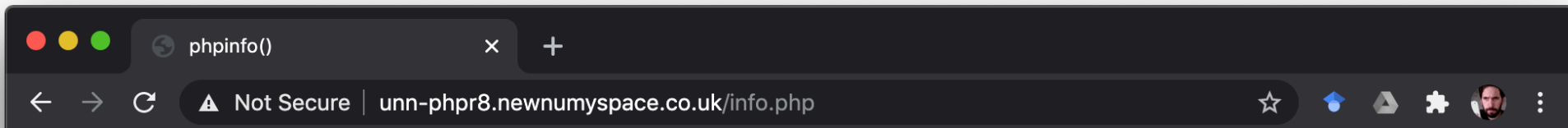
# PHP 8

- PHP 8 will be released on Nov 26 2020
- Currently the final features of this are not announced
- Likely features:
  - Performance improvements
  - More support for types
  - Match expressions
  - Constructor property promotion
  - Changes to exception handling
  - Updated datetime methods



# What version of PHP do I have?

```
<?php phpinfo() ?>
```



## PHP Version 5.6.31-1~dotdeb+7.1



System	Linux flintstone 3.2.0-4-amd64 #1 SMP Debian 3.2.93-1 x86_64
Build Date	Jul 10 2017 17:42:28
Server API	Apache 2.0 Handler
Virtual Directory Support	disabled
Configuration File (php.ini) Path	/etc/php5/apache2
Loaded Configuration File	/etc/php5/apache2/php.ini
Scan this dir for additional .ini files	/etc/php5/apache2/conf.d
Additional .ini files parsed	/etc/php5/apache2/conf.d/05-opcache.ini, /etc/php5/apache2/conf.d/10-mysqlnd.ini, /etc/php5/apache2/conf.d/10-pdo.ini, /etc/php5/apache2/conf.d/20-curl.ini, /etc/php5/apache2/conf.d/20-gd.ini, /etc/php5/apache2/conf.d/20-mysql.ini, /etc/php5/apache2/conf.d/20-mysqli.ini, /etc/php5/apache2/conf.d/20-pdo_mysql.ini, /etc/php5/apache2/conf.d/20-pdo_sqlite.ini, /etc/php5/apache2/conf.d/20-readline.ini, /etc/php5/apache2/conf.d/20-sqlite3.ini
PHP API	20131106
PHP Extension	20131226
Zend Extension	220131226
Zend Extension Build	API220131226,NTS
PHP Extension Build	API20131226,NTS
Debug Build	no
Thread Safety	disabled
Zend Signal Handling	disabled
Zend Memory Manager	enabled

PHP 7.4.4 - phpinfo()

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PHP Version 7.4.4

System	Linux debian 4.9.0-11-amd64 #1 SMP Debian 4.9.189-3+deb9u2 (2019-11-11) x86_64
Build Date	Mar 21 2020 09:57:11
Configure Command	./configure '--prefix=/opt/lampp' '--with-apxs2=/opt/lampp/bin/apxs' '--with-config-file-path=/opt/lampp/etc' '--with-mysql=mysqlnd' '--enable-inline-optimization' '--disable-debug' '--enable-bcmath' '--enable-calendar' '--enable-ctype' '--enable-ftp' '--enable-gd-native-ttf' '--enable-magic-quotes' '--enable-shmop' '--disable-sigchild' '--enable-sysvsem' '--enable-sysvshm' '--enable-wddx' '--with-gdbm=/opt/lampp' '--with-jpeg-dir=/opt/lampp' '--with-png-dir=/opt/lampp' '--with-freetype-dir=/opt/lampp' '--with-zlib=yes' '--with-zlib-dir=/opt/lampp' '--with-openssl=/opt/lampp' '--with-xsl=/opt/lampp' '--with-ldap=/opt/lampp' '--with-gd' '--with-imap=bitnami/xamppunixinstaller74stack-linux-x64/src/imap-2007e' '--with-imap-ssl' '--with-gettext=/opt/lampp' '--with-mssql=shared,/opt/lampp' '--with-pdo-dblib=shared,/opt/lampp' '--with-sybase-ct=/opt/lampp' '--with-mysql-sock=/opt/lampp/var/mysql/mysql.sock' '--with-mcrypt=/opt/lampp' '--with-mhash=/opt/lampp' '--enable-sockets' '--enable-mbstring=all' '--with-curl=/opt/lampp' '--enable-mbregex' '--enable-zend-multibyte' '--enable-exif' '--with-bz2=/opt/lampp' '--with-sqlite=shared,/opt/lampp' '--with-sqlite3=/opt/lampp' '--with-libxml-dir=/opt/lampp' '--enable-soap' '--with-xmlrpc' '--enable-pcntl' '--with-mysqli=mysqlnd' '--with-pgsql=shared,/opt/lampp/' '--with-iconv=/opt/lampp' '--with-pdo-mysql=mysqlnd' '--with-pdo-pgsql=/opt/lampp/postgresql' '--with-pdo_sqlite=/opt/lampp' '--with-icu-dir=/opt/lampp' '--enable-fileinfo' '--enable-phar' '--enable-zip' '--enable-mbstring' '--enable-intl' '--with-libzip' '--with-pear' '--enable-gd' '--with-jpeg' '--with-libwebp' '--with-freetype' '--with-zip' '--disable-huge-code-pages' 'PKG_CONFIG_PATH=/opt/lampp/lib/pkgconfig'
Server API	Apache 2.0 Handler
Virtual Directory Support	disabled
Configuration File (php.ini) Path	/opt/lampp/etc
Loaded Configuration File	/opt/lampp/etc/php.ini
Scan this dir for additional .ini files	(none)
Additional .ini files parsed	(none)
PHP API	20190902
PHP Extension	20190902

# Thanks

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