Matt Sievers

CST-126

07/22/2019

Prof. Anthony Tsetse

The differences between MySQLi and PDO

There are three ways to communicate to a data base using PHP. The first is MySQL. It is the oldest version and has since been deprecated. It is only supported by PHP products of version 5 and below and therefore is not recommended for new projects. MySQLi is the newer version of MySQL, the “I” standing for improved. It improves on an already robust suite of tools found in MySQL but is available for versions past 5 but cannot support versions past version 7.

PDO or PHP Data Objects are the third way in which a PHP project can communicate with data bases. The main advantage of using PDO is that is supports a uniform method to interact with 11 different data base types including, MySQL, SQLite, Oracle and more (geeksforgeeks.org 2019). There are some limitations to PDO however and not all features of these databases are available for PDO to use.

So with this, you can see that PDO has some flexibility when it comes to working with data bases and you as a developer are not locked into only using MySQL. MySQL(and MySQLi) are only available to be used on MySQL data bases. Using PDO also allows for portability at a later point should you decide to migrate a project from MySQL over to a different format of data base allowing for future growth as needed.

While both definitely have their differences, they also share some commonalities between the two. Both are object oriented, by MySQLi offers more of a procedural flow (PHPLUDHIANA.com 2019), and both offer the ability to used prepared statements which help protect from sql injection security risks.

References:

Sanchit496. Geeksforgeeks.org. <https://www.geeksforgeeks.org/what-is-the-difference-between-mysql-mysqli-and-pdo/> July 22, 2019

Phpludhiana.com. <https://phpludhiana.com/whats-the-difference-between-using-mysql_-functions-and-pdo/>. May 23, 2017. Accessed July 22, 2019,