



# COMP721 Web Development



## Week 3: PHP Part 2

# Agenda

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- *Week 2 review*
- *More about arrays: multi-dimensional and Associative*
- *Array functions, searching and sorting*
- *PHP Superglobals*
- *HTML input types*
- *Strings*
- *PHP as an Object-Oriented Language*

# Key features of PHP

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- Code Embedded in HTML as a code block:  
<?php statements; ?>
- Dynamic typing: no type declaration is needed for variables; type of a variable is dynamic/changeable
- To strictly compare two variables, use “===”
- Statement names (such as “if”, “echo”) are case-insensitive but we should stick to lowercase for consistency
- Variables start with “\$”, names are **case-sensitive**
- Syntax of expression and control structures very similar to Java and C/C++

# PHP Multi-dimensional Arrays

# Creating an **indexed** array

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- The `array()` construct syntax is:

**`[$array_name = array(values) ;]`**

```
$provinces = array(
    "Newfoundland and Labrador",
    "Prince Edward Island",
    "Nova Scotia",
    "New Brunswick",
    "Quebec",
    "Ontario",
    "Manitoba",
    "Saskatchewan",
    "Alberta",
    "British Columbia"
);
```

# Multi-dimensional arrays

Name	Stock	Sold
Volvo	22	18
BMW	15	13
Saab	5	2
Land Rover	17	15

```
$cars = array  
(  
    array("Volvo",22,18),  
    array("BMW",15,13),  
    array("Saab",5,2),  
    array("Land Rover",17,15)  
);
```

What's the value  
of `$cars[1][2]`?

# Visualization of multi-dim arrays (tensors in data science)

## tensor

't'
'e'
'n'
's'
'o'
'r'

tensor of dimensions [6]  
(vector of dimension 6)

3	1	4	1
5	9	2	6
5	3	5	8
9	7	9	3
2	3	8	4
6	2	6	4

tensor of dimensions [6,4]  
(matrix 6 by 4)

2	1	8	2	8	1	8
2	8	4	5	0	4	5
2	3	5	3	6	0	2
7	4	7	1	3	5	2

tensor of dimensions [4,4,2]  
(matrix 4 by 4 by 2)

# PHP Associative Arrays



# Creating an **associative** array

- The `array()` construct syntax for creating assoc. array is:

```
[$array_name = array(key1 => value1,  
key2 => value2, ...);]
```

```
$age = array("Peter"=>"35", "Ben"=>"37", "Joe"=>"43");
```

- Example code:

```
<?php
```

```
$age = array("Peter"=>"35", "Ben"=>"37", "Joe"=>"43");
```

```
echo "Peter is " , $age["Peter"] , " years old.";
```

```
?>
```

<http://sandbox.onlinephpfunctions.com/>

# Loop Through an Associative Array

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## ■ Example:

```
<?php
$age = array("Peter"=>"35", "Ben"=>"37", "Joe"=>"43");
foreach($age as $x => $x_value){
    echo "Key=" , $x , ", Value=" , $x_value;
    echo "<br>";}
?>
```

# Array functions, searching and sorting

# Some useful array functions

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- The **array\_shift()** function removes the first element from the **beginning** of an array
- The **array\_unshift()** function adds one or more elements to the **beginning** of an array
- The **array\_pop()** function removes the last element from the **end** of an array
- The **array\_push()** function adds one or more elements to the **end** of an array
- The **array\_splice()** function adds or removes array elements

12      `array_splice(array_name, starting_element,  
elements_to_delete, values_to_insert);`

# Some useful array functions (cont'd)

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- The **in\_array()** function returns a Boolean value of *true* if a given value exists in an array
- The **array\_search(\$value, \$array)** function determines whether a given **value** exists in an array and
  - Returns the *index* or *key* of the first matching element if the value exists, or
  - Returns *false* if the value does not exist
- The **array\_key\_exists()** function determines whether a given index or key exists
- The **array\_slice()** function returns a portion of an array and assigns it to another array

# Binary search review

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## Task 2: Creating a simple “Guessing Game” (2 marks)

The overall task is to create a simple web application that generates and uses **sessions** to store a random number between 0 and 100.

### Step 1:

Create a file `guessinggame.php` that will be the main page for the game. In this page, a user inputs their guess; the page displays the number of times the user has guessed; whether their number is higher or lower than the generated number; and congratulates them when they guess correctly. (Checking always if the input data is “in-range” and is numeric). It also include a 'Give Up' link to `giveup.php`, and a 'Start Over' link to `startover.php`.

Question: what's the minimum number of guesses one needs to make in order to be successful for any random number between 0-100?

# Sorting Arrays

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## ■ **sort()** and **rsort()** for *indexed arrays*

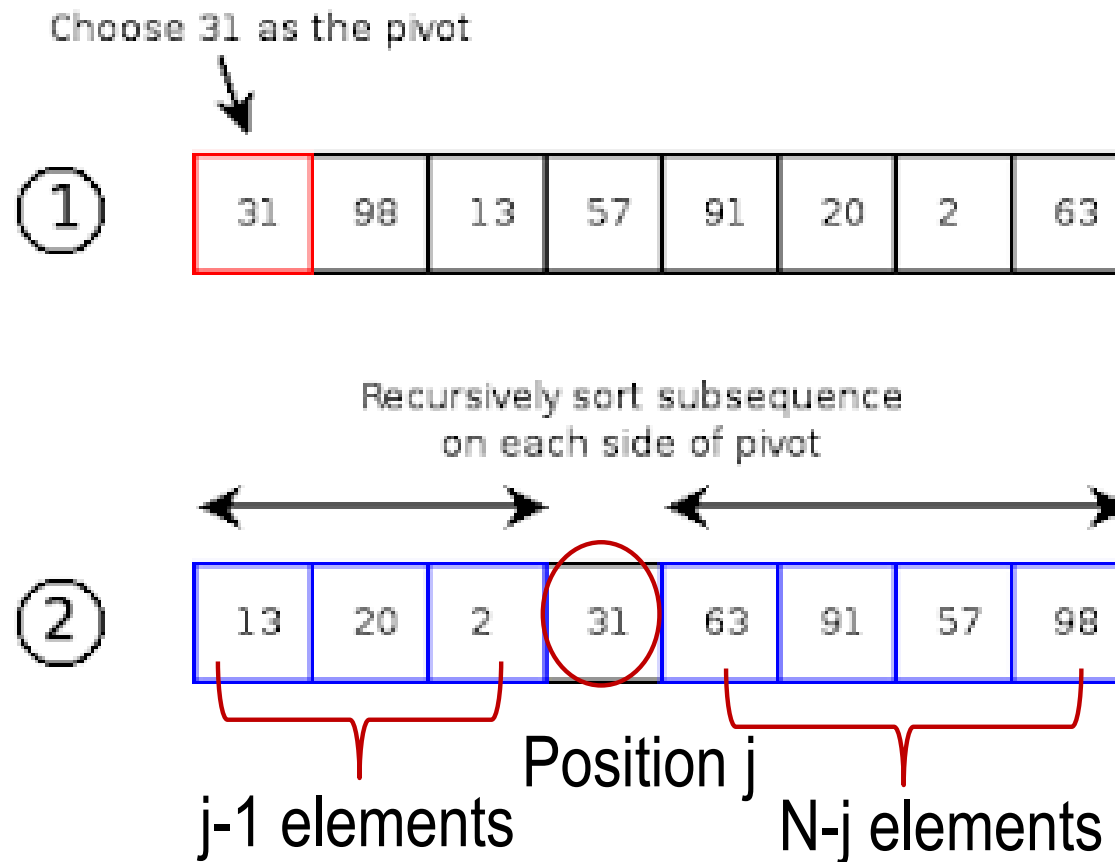
- `sort()` sorts an indexed array by value and renumbers the indexes
- `rsort()` performs a reverse sort

## ■ **ksort()** and **krsort()** for *associative arrays by key*

<http://www.php.net/manual/en/array.sorting.php>

# Special topic: complexity of quick-sort

- A recursive algorithm for sorting numbers
- One iteration needs  $N+1$  compares ( $N$  is the input array size)





# Time complexity of quick-sort

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- If we use  $C_N$  to represent the total compares of sorting  $N$  elements, then:

$$C_N = N + 1 + C_{j-1} + C_{N-j}, \text{ for } N > 1$$

- But  $j$  is a variable, it could be in position 1 to  $N$ , so we need to use the average of  $C_{j-1} + C_{N-j}$ :

$$C_N = N + 1 + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1..N} (C_{j-1} + C_{N-j}), \text{ for } N > 1$$

# Time complexity of quick sort

■ When  $j=N-k$ ,  $C_k = C_{N-k}$ , so it can be simplified:

$$\begin{aligned} \blacksquare C_N &= N + 1 + \frac{1}{N} \sum_{j=1..N} (C_{j-1} + C_{N-j}), \text{ for } N > 1 \\ &= N + 1 + \frac{2}{N} \sum_{j=1..N} C_{j-1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\blacksquare C_{N-1} = N + \frac{2}{N-1} \sum_{j=1..N-1} C_{j-1}$$

■ *To remove the denominator:*

$$NC_N - (N-1)C_{N-1} = 2N + 2C_{N-1}$$

■ Dividing both sides by  $N(N+1)$  to obtain

$$\frac{C_N}{N+1} = \frac{C_{N-1}}{N} + \frac{2}{N+1}$$

# Time complexity of quick-sort

■  $\frac{C_N}{N+1} = \frac{C_{N-1}}{N} + \frac{2}{N+1}$  : now we have the recurrence!

■ Expanding/telescoping  $\frac{C_{N-1}}{N}$ , we obtain:

$$\frac{C_N}{N+1} = \frac{C_1}{2} + 2 \sum_{k=3..N+1} 1/k$$

Where  $C_1$  is 0

■ Approximating  $\sum \frac{1}{k}$ , the harmonic series, to  $\ln N$

■ We obtain  $C_N = O(N \ln N)$

# Combining Indexed Arrays

- To merge two or more indexed arrays use the **array\_merge()** function

For example

```
$provinces = array("Newfoundland and Labrador",
    "Prince Edward Island", "Nova Scotia", "New
    Brunswick", "Quebec", "Ontario", "Manitoba",
    "Saskatchewan", "Alberta", "British Columbia");
$territories = array("Nunavut", "Northwest Territories",
    "Yukon Territory");
$canada = array_merge ($provinces, $territories);
print_r($canada);
//territories appended
```

Output:

```
Array ( [0] => Newfoundland and Labrador [1] => Prince
Edward Island [2] => Nova Scotia [3] => New Brunswick [4]
=> Quebec [5] => Ontario [6] => Manitoba [7] =>
Saskatchewan [8] => Alberta [9] => British Columbia [10]
=> Nunavut [11] => Northwest Territories [12] => Yukon
Territory )
```

# Combining Associative Arrays

- + and += works best on associative arrays, especially if the arrays involved do not have any common keys.

Note: only array elements with unique keys are appended.  
 duplicated indexes/keys are ignored

```
$arr1 = array ("one"=>"apple", "two"=>"banana");
$arr2 = array ("three"=>"cherry", "two"=>"grapes");
```

```
$arr3 = $arr1 + $arr2;
print_r($arr3);
```

```
Output: Array ( [one] => apple [two] => banana [three]
=> cherry )
```

Duplicate keys overwritten

```
$arr4 = array_merge ($arr1, $arr2);
print_r($arr3);
```

```
Output: Array ( [one] => apple [two] => grapes [three]
=>21 cherry )
```

# Comparing Arrays

- The **array\_diff()** function returns an array of elements that exist in one array but not in any other arrays to which it is compared

- The syntax for the `array_diff()` function is:

```
new_array = array_diff($array1, $array2,  
$array3, ...);
```

- The `array_intersect()` function returns an array of elements that exist in all of the arrays that are compared

- The syntax for the `array intersect()` function is:

```
new_array = array_intersect($array1,  
$array2, $array3, ...);
```

# PHP Superglobal arrays

# PHP Superglobals

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- PHP includes various predefined global arrays, called **superglobals** or autoglobals
- Superglobals contain client, server, and environment information that you can use in your scripts
- Superglobals are **associative arrays** – arrays whose elements are referred to with an alphanumeric key instead of an index number

Key-Value pairs



See ***Predefined Variables, Superglobals and examples:***

<http://php.net/manual/en/reserved.variables.php>



# Using superglobals (continued)

## PHP autoglobals

Array	Description
<code>\$_COOKIE</code>	An array of values passed to the current script as HTTP cookies
<code>\$_ENV</code>	An array of environment information
<code>\$_FILES</code>	An array of information about uploaded files
<code>\$_GET</code>	An array of values from a form submitted with the GET method
<code>\$_POST</code>	An array of values from a form submitted with the POST method
<code>\$_REQUEST</code>	An array of all the elements found in the <code>\$_COOKIE</code> , <code>\$_GET</code> , and <code>\$_POST</code> arrays
<code>\$_SERVER</code>	An array of information about the Web server that served the current script
<code>\$_SESSION</code>	An array of session variables that are available to the current script
<code>\$GLOBALS</code>	An array of references to all variables that are defined with global scope

# Demo: using \$\_POST

## ■ Client side html:

```
<form action="process.php" method="post">
  <label>User Name: <input type="text" name="name"> </label>
  <label><br>Password: <input type="text" name="pwd"></label>
  <input type="submit" value="Submit">
</form>
```

<http://jiyu.cmslamp14.aut.ac.nz/>

## ■ Server side php:

```
<?php
    // get name and password passed from client
    $name = $_POST["name"];
    $pwd = $_POST["pwd"];
    echo $name." : ".$pwd;
```

# Demo using \$\_GET

## ■ Two ways to send data through HTTP GET

- Using query string:

[processget.php?name=jianyu&pwd=123456](http://processget.php?name=jianyu&pwd=123456)

Query string: [?name=jianyu&pwd=123456](#)

- HTML forms using “get” method

```
<form action="process.php" method="get">
  <label>User Name: <input type="text" name="name"> </label>
  <label><br>Password: <input type="text" name="pwd"></label>
  <input type="submit" value="Submit">
</form>
```

# Discussion

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Compare HTTP GET & POST methods  
(details are in lecture 1 slides...)

	GET	POST
Restrictions on data length		
Restrictions on data type		
Security		
Data visibility		

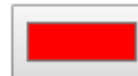
# HTML input types

- text, submit (submit button), reset (reset button), radio, checkbox, button

- HTML5 new types

- ☐ color (mind the spelling!)

Select your favorite color:



Submit

- ☐ date (with min/max attributes)

Birthday: dd/mm/yyyy

Submit

- ☐ time, week, month

- ☐ email, url

Enter a date after 2000-01-01:

```
<input type="date" name="bday" min="2000-01-02"><br>
```

# Form attributes

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- pattern: using regular expressions; will be discussed in Week 4

## □ Example

```
Country code: <input type="text"
name="country_code" pattern="[A-Za-z]{3}"
title="Three letter country code">
```

- autocomplete, autofocus, min, max, required...

# HTML5 datalist Element

- **datalist**: **similar to text input**, but has a drop-down list of the pre-defined options as the input data (e.g., google search input box)

```
<form action="/action_page.php">
  <input list="browsers" name="browser">
    <datalist id="browsers">
      <option value="Internet Explorer">
      <option value="Firefox">
      <option value="Chrome">
      <option value="Opera">
      <option value="Safari">
    </datalist>
  <input type="submit">
</form>
```

# PHP Strings

*PHP is a “hypertext processor”*



# Form data validation

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Use the `empty()` functions to ensure that a variable contains a value

- The `empty()` function determines whether a variable is empty
- Parameter of both functions is the name of the variable you want to check
- `isset()` function is another option

# Testing if Form Variables Contain Numeric Values

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Use the `is_numeric()` function to test whether a variable contains a numeric string

```
<?php
// get name and password passed from client
if (!empty($_GET['height']) && !empty($_GET['weight'])) {
    if (is_numeric($_GET['weight']) && is_numeric($_GET['height'])) {
        $BodyMass = $_GET['weight'] / ($_GET['height']
            * $_GET['height']) * 703;
        printf("<p>Your body mass index is %d.</p>",
            $BodyMass);
    }else
        echo "<p>You must enter numeric values!</p>";
} else
    echo "<p>please input both height and weight values!</p>";
?>
```

# MANIPULATE STRINGS

# Constructing Text Strings

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- A text string contains zero or more characters surrounded by double or single quotation marks
- Text strings can be used as literal values or assigned to a variable

```
echo "<p>Dr. Livingstone, I presume?</p>";
$explorer = "Henry M. Stanley";
echo $explorer;
```

- Text strings can also be surrounded with single quotation marks

Note: no data type for a single character in PHP

# Constructing Text Strings (continued)

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- To include a quoted string within a literal string surrounded by double quotation marks, you surround the quoted string with single quotation marks

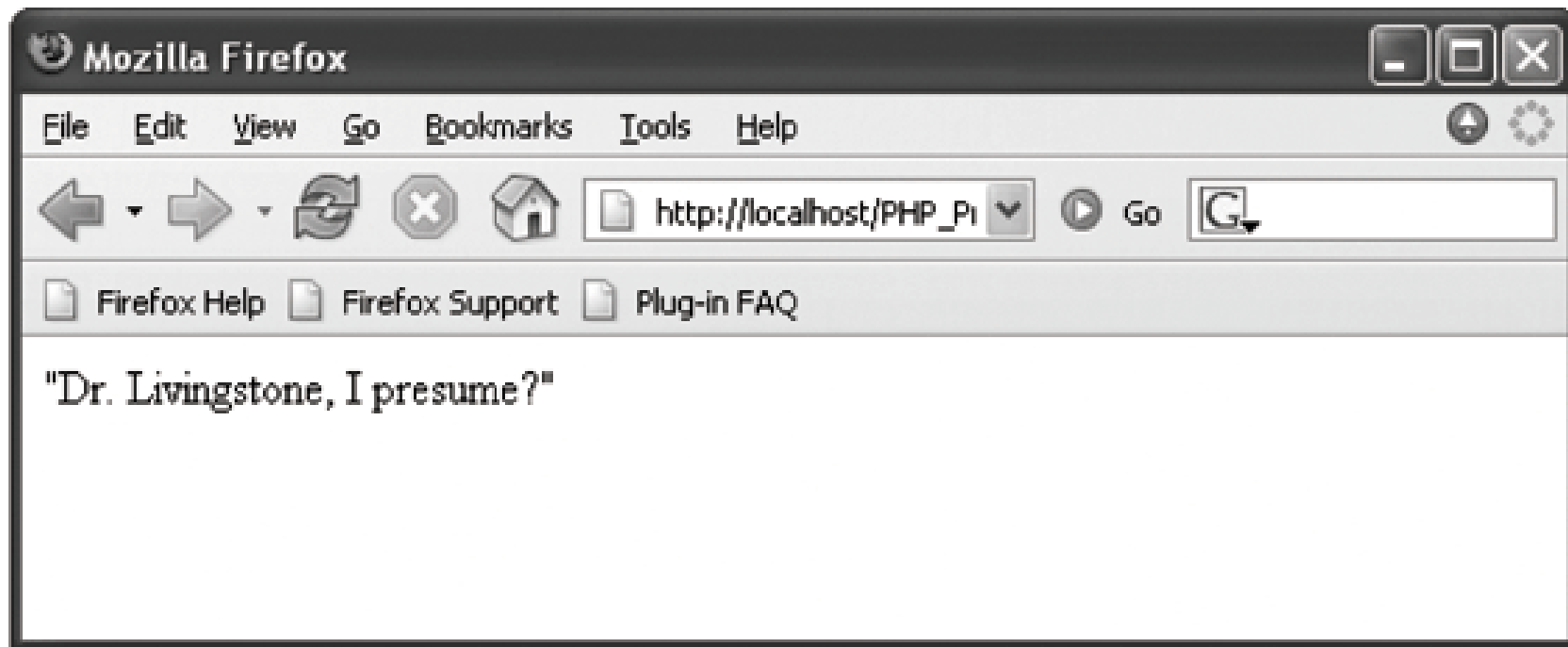
```
$explorerQuote = '<p>"Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"</p>';
```

- To include a quoted string within a literal string surrounded by single quotation marks, you surround the quoted string with double quotation marks

```
$explorerQuote = "<p>'Dr. Livingstone, I presume?'"</p>";
```

# Constructing Text Strings (continued)

```
$explorerQuote = '<p>"Dr. Livingstone, I presume?"</p>';  
echo $explorerQuote;
```



**Output of a text string containing double quotation marks**

# Working with String Operators

---

In PHP, you use two operators to combine strings

## ■ Concatenation operator .

```
$destination = "Paris";
$location = "France";
$destination = "<p>" . $destination . " is in "
                . $location . "</p>";
echo $destination;
```

## ■ Concatenation assignment operator .=

```
$destination = "<p>Paris";
$destination .= "is in France.</p>";
echo $destination;
```

# Adding Escape Characters and Sequences

---

- An escape character tells the compiler or interpreter that the character that follows it has a special purpose
- In PHP, the escape character is the backslash \

```
echo '<p>Marilyn Monroe\'s real name was Norma Jean  
Baker.</p>';
```

- Do not add a backslash before an apostrophe if you surround the text string with double quotation marks

```
echo "<p>Marilyn Monroe's real name was Norma Jean  
Baker.</p>";
```



# Adding Escape Characters and Sequences

(continued)

- The escape character combined with one or more other characters is called an escape sequence

Table of PHP escape sequences within double quotation marks

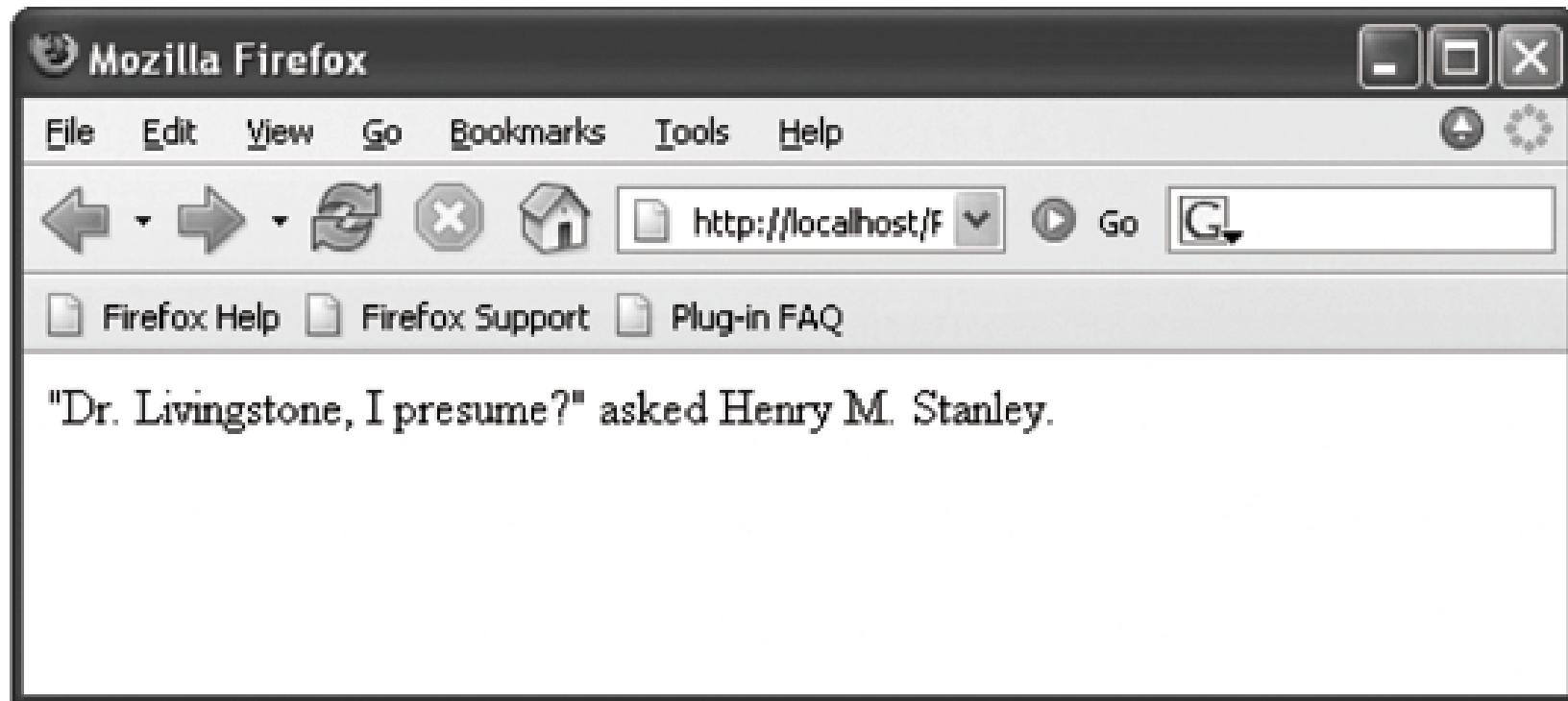
Escape Sequence	Description
<code>\\</code>	Inserts a backslash
<code>\\$</code>	Inserts a dollar sign
<code>\r</code>	Inserts a carriage return
<code>\"</code>	Inserts a double quotation mark
<code>\t</code>	Inserts a horizontal tab
<code>\n</code>	Inserts a new line
<code>\regular expression</code>	Inserts a character in hexadecimal notation that matches the regular expression

# Adding Escape Characters and Sequences

(continued)

```
$explorer = "Henry M. Stanley";
```

```
echo "<p>\\"Dr. Livingstone, I presume?\" asked  
$explorer.</p>";
```



**Output of literal text containing double quotation escape sequences**

# Simple and Complex String Syntax

- **Simple string syntax** uses the value of a variable within a string by including the variable name inside a text string with double quotation marks

```
$vegetable = "broccoli";  
echo "<p>Do you have any $vegetable?</p>";
```

How about: `echo "<p>Do you have any $vegetables?</p>";`  
`//causes an error, variable not declared.`

- When variables are placed within curly braces inside of a string, it is called **complex string syntax**

```
$vegetable = "carrot";  
echo "<p>Do you have any {$vegetable}s?</p>";
```

How about: `echo "<p>Do you have any {$vegetable}s?</p>";`  
`//output is: Do you have any carrots?`

# COMPARE STRINGS

# Comparing Strings

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## Using Comparison Operator

```
$loc01 = "Miami is in Florida.";
$loc02 = "Havana is in Cuba.";
if ($loc01 == $loc02)
    echo "<p>Same location.</p>";
else
    echo "<p>Different location.</p>";
```

# Comparing Strings (continued)

---

```
$firstLetter = "A";  
$secondLetter = "B";  
If ($secondLetter > $firstLetter)  
    echo "<p>The second letter is higher in the  
        alphabet than the first letter.</p>";  
else  
    echo "<p>The second letter is lower in the  
        alphabet than The first letter.</p>";
```

- Numeric representations of English characters
- ASCII values range from 0 to 255
- Lowercase letters are represented by the values 97 (“a”) to 122 (“z”)
- Uppercase letters are represented by the values 65 (“A”) to 90 (“Z”)
- Since lowercase letters have higher values than uppercase letters, they are evaluated as being “greater” than the uppercase letters

*Note: UTF-8 is a strict superset of ASCII with the same physical encoding for ASCII characters*

# String Comparison Functions

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- The `strcasecmp()` function performs a case-insensitive comparison of strings
- The `strcmp()` function performs a case-sensitive comparison of strings
- Both functions accept two parameters representing the strings you want to compare
- Most string comparison functions compare strings based on their ASCII values – returns  $<0$  (if smaller);  $>0$  (if larger);  $=0$  (if same)



# Using Similarity Functions to Compare

---

- The `similar_text()` and `levenshtein()` functions are used to determine the similarity between two strings
- The `similar_text()` function returns the number of characters that two strings have in common
- The `levenshtein()` function returns the number of characters you need to change for two strings to be the same

# Using Similarity Functions to Compare

(continued)

- Both functions accept two string arguments representing the values you want to compare

```
$firstName = "Don";
```

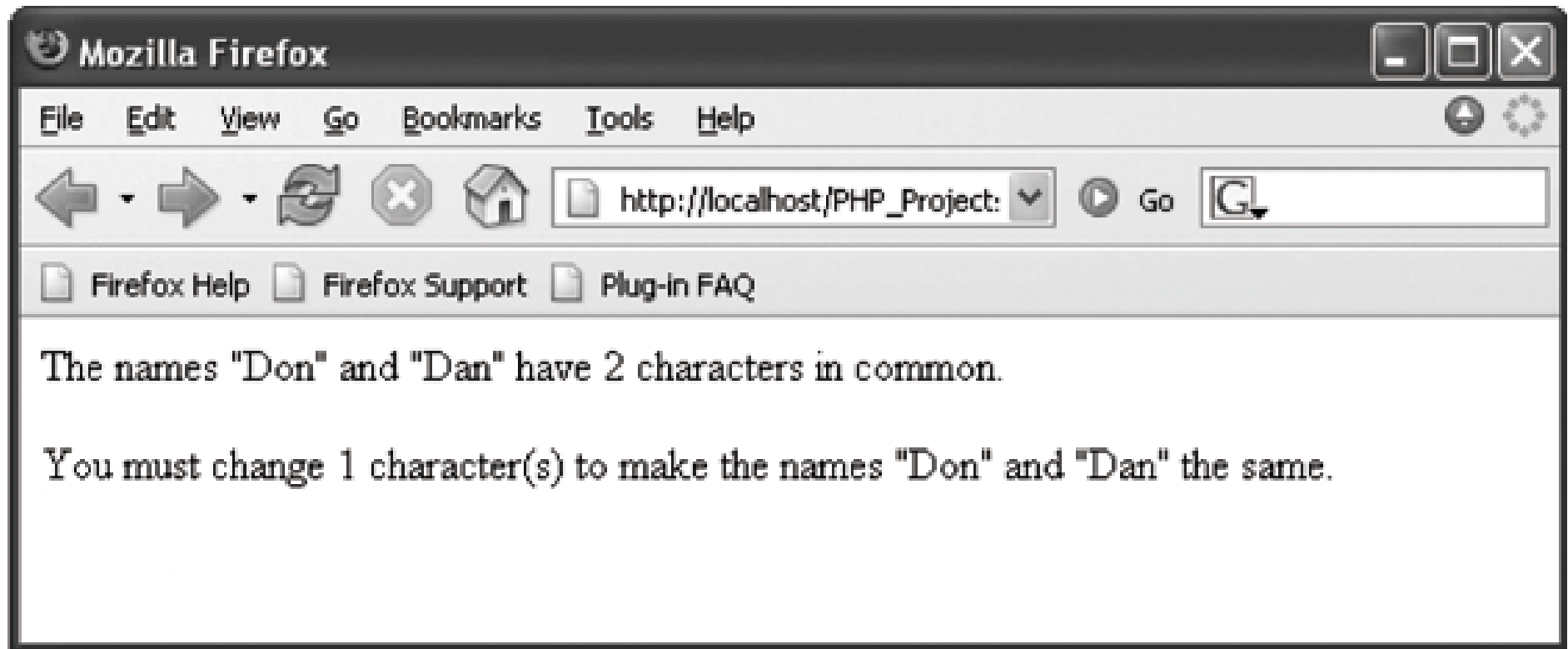
```
$secondName = "Dan";
```

```
echo "<p>The names \"$firstName\" and  
    \"$secondName\" have "  
    . similar_text($firstName, $secondName)  
    . " characters in common.</p>";
```

```
echo "<p>You must change "  
    . levenshtein($firstName, $secondName)  
    . " character(s) to make the names \"$firstName\"  
    and \"$secondName\" the same.</p>";
```

# Using Similarity Functions to Compare

(continued)



**Output of a script with the `similar_text()`  
and `levenshtein()` functions**

# PARSE STRINGS

# Parsing Strings

---

- **Parsing** is the act of extracting characters or substrings from a larger string
- When programming, parsing refers to the extraction of information from string literals and variables

# Counting Characters and Words in a String

- The most commonly used string counting function is the `strlen()` function, which returns the total number of characters in a string

```
$myStr = ' ab cd ' ;  
echo strlen($myStr) ; // 7
```
- The `str_word_count()` function returns the number of words inside a string
- Parameter of the `str_word_count()` function can be a literal string or the name of a string variable

```
$bookTitle = "The Cask of Amontillado";  
echo "<p>The book title contains " .  
    str_word_count($bookTitle) . " words.</p>";
```

# Finding and Extracting Characters and Substrings

---

- There are two types of string search and extraction functions:
- Functions that return a numeric position in a text string
- Functions that return a character or substring

# strpos ( ) Function

---

- Performs a case-sensitive search and returns the position of the first occurrence of one string in another string  
 Note: begins with a value of 0 // at the first character
- Two parameters for the `strpos ( )` function:
  - ☐ The first is the string you want to search
  - ☐ The second contains the characters for which you want to search
- If the search string is not found, the `strpos ( )` function returns a Boolean value of `false`



# strpos ( ) Function (Continued)

---

```
$email = "president@whitehouse.gov";  
echo strpos($email, '@'); //returns 9  
echo strpos($email, 'p'); //returns 0
```

# `strchr ( )` and `strrchr ( )` Functions

---

- Parameters of both functions are the string and the character for which you want to search
- Both functions return a substring from the specified characters to the end of the string, *i.e. last portion*
- `strchr ( )` function starts searching at the beginning of a string
- `strrchr ( )` function starts searching at the end of a string      *Note: Extra 'r' means reverse*

# substr ( ) Function

---

- To extract characters from the beginning or middle of a string, combine the `substr ( )` function with other functions
- Parameters of the `substr ( )` function: a text string, the starting position and **length of the substring** you want to extract

```
$email = "president@whitehouse.gov";
$nameEnd = strpos ($email, "@");
echo "<p>The name portion of the e-mail address
is '" . substr ($email, 0, $nameEnd) . "'.</p>";
```

# Replacing Characters and Substrings

## PHP string replacement functions

Function	Description
<code>str_ireplace(<i>search_string</i>, <i>replacement_string</i>, <i>string</i>)</code>	Performs a case-insensitive replacement of all occurrences of specified characters in a string
<code>str_replace(<i>search_string</i>, <i>replacement_string</i>, <i>string</i>)</code>	Performs a case-sensitive replacement of all occurrences of specified characters in a string
<code>substr_replace(<i>string</i>, <i>replacement_string</i>, <i>start_position</i>[, <i>length</i>])</code>	Replaces characters within a specified portion of a string

Note: Extra 'i' means case-insensitive

# `str_replace()` and `str_ireplace()` Functions

---

- The `str_replace()` and `str_ireplace()` functions both accept three parameters:

- ☐ The string you want to search for
- ☐ A replacement string
- ☐ The string in which you want to replace characters

```
$email = "president@whitehouse.gov";  
$newEmail = str_replace("president", "vice.president",  
    $Email);  
echo $newEmail; // prints 'vice.president@whitehouse.gov'
```

# Dividing Strings into Smaller Pieces

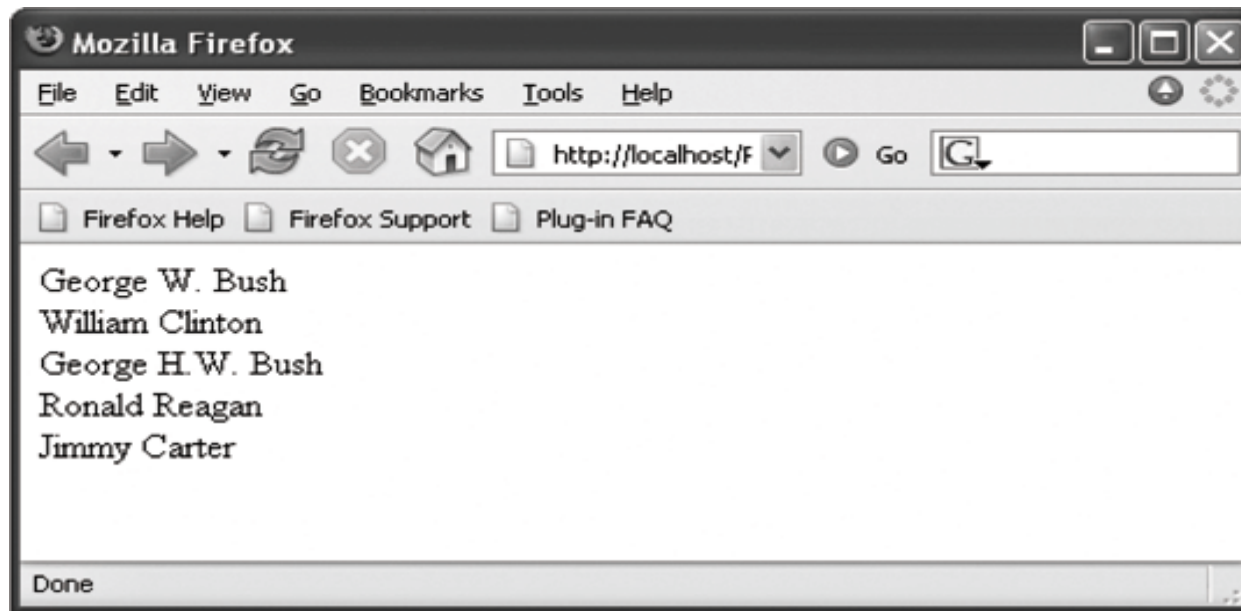
---

- Use the `strtok()` function to break a string into smaller strings, called **tokens** (one by one)
- The syntax for the **`strtok()`** function is:  

$$\textit{\texttt{\$variable}} = \textit{\texttt{strtok(string, separators)}};$$
- The `strtok()` function returns the entire string if:
  - An empty string is specified as the second argument of the `strtok()` function
  - The string does not contain any of the separators specified
- The `strtok()` function returns tokens one by one

# strtok ( ) Function

```
$presidents = "George W. Bush;William Clinton;
    George H.W. Bush;Ronald Reagan;Jimmy Carter";
$president = strtok($presidents, ";");
while ($president != NULL) {
    echo "$president<br/>";
    $president = strtok(";"); //only the separator ";"
    here. The PHP scripting engine keeps track of the
    current token and next token.
}
```



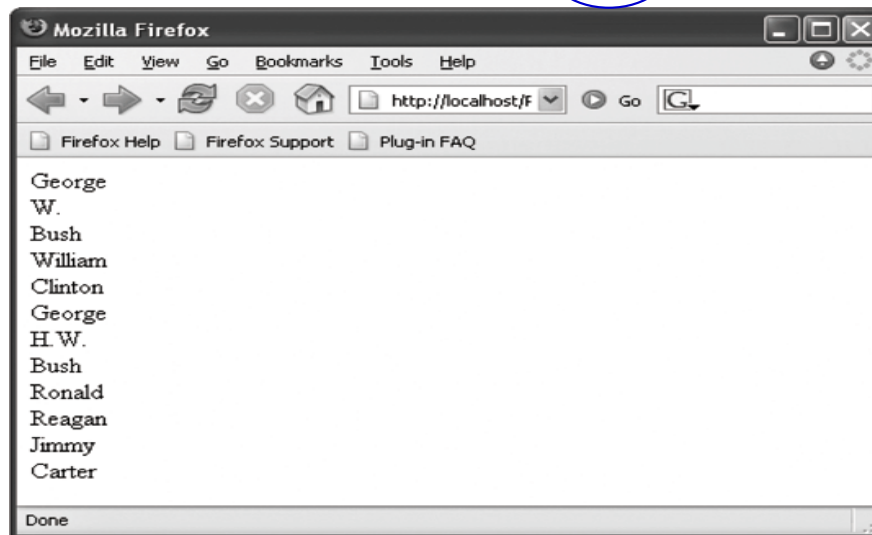
**Output of a script that uses strtok ( )**

# strtok () Function (continued)

- **strtok ()** divides a string into tokens using **any** of the characters that are passed

```
$presidents = "George W. Bush;William Clinton;
George H.W. Bush;Ronald Reagan;Jimmy Carter";
$president = strtok($presidents, "; ");
while ($president != NULL) {
    echo "$president<br />";
    $president = strtok("; ");
}
```

Two separators  
used: ";" and  
[space]



Output of a script with a **strtok ()** function  
that uses **two separators**



# Converting Between Strings and Arrays

---

Can also split a string into an array

- The `str_split()` and `explode()` functions split a string into an indexed array
- The `str_split()` function splits **each character** in a string into an array element using the syntax:

```
$array = str_split(string[, length]);
```

- The `length` argument represents the number of characters you want assigned to each array element

# Converting Between Strings and Arrays

(continued)

- The `explode()` function splits a string into an indexed array at a specified separator
- The syntax for the `explode()` function is:

```
$array = explode( separators, string );
```

- Note: The order of the arguments for the `explode()` function is the *reverse* of the arguments for the `strtok()` function
- If the string does not contain the specified separators, the entire string is assigned to the first element of the array

# Converting Between Strings and Arrays

(continued)

```
$presidents = "George W. Bush;William Clinton;  
    George H.W. Bush;Ronald Reagan;Jimmy Carter";  
  
$presidentArray = explode(";", $presidents);  
  
foreach ($presidentArray as $president) {  
    echo "$president<br />";  
}
```

- Does not separate a string at each character that is included in the separator argument
- Evaluates the characters in the separator argument as a substring
- If you pass to the `explode()` function an empty string as the separator argument, the function returns a value of `false`

# `implode ()` Function

---

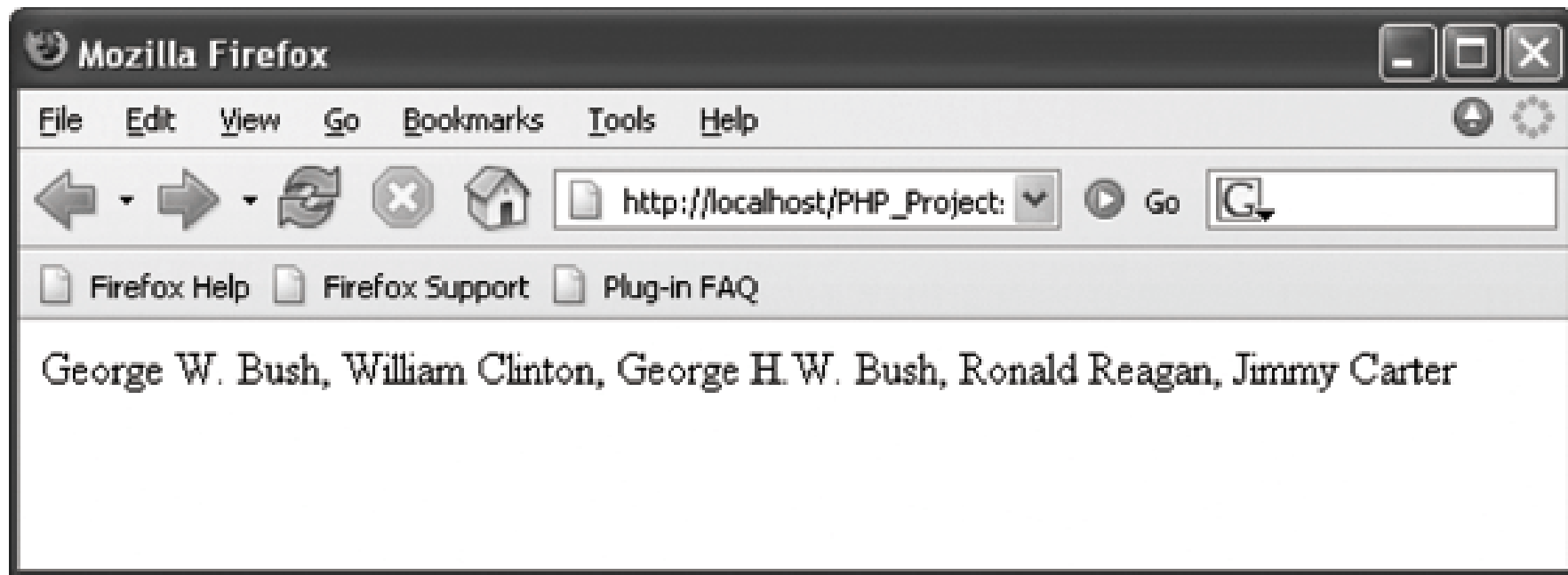
Opposite to `explode ()`

- Combines an array's elements into a single string, separated by specified characters
- The syntax is:

```
$variable = implode (separators, array);
```

# implode () Function (continued)

```
$presidentsArray = array("George W. Bush",  
    "William Clinton", "George H.W. Bush", "Ronald  
    Reagan", "Jimmy Carter");  
  
$presidents = implode(", ", $presidentsArray);  
  
echo $presidents;
```



**Output of a string created with  
the implode () function**

# Other String Functions

---

- There are many useful string functions – see <http://php.net/manual/en/ref.strings.php> for a full list.
- Just a few:
  - `trim()` Strip whitespace (or other characters) from the beginning and end of a string
  - `htmlspecialchars()` Some characters have a special meaning in HTML and have to be converted to **HTML Entities** if they appear in a HTML document.
    - '&' (ampersand) becomes '&amp;#039;'*
    - "" (double quote) becomes '&quot;'*
    - """ (single quote) becomes '&#039;'*
    - '<' (less than) becomes '&lt;'*
    - '>' (greater than) becomes '&gt;'*

# PHP as an Object-Oriented Language

---

```
class BankAccount {
    private $balance = 0;
    public function setBalance($newValue) {
        $this->balance = $newValue;
    }
    public function getBalance() {
        return $this->balance;
    }
}

if (class_exists("BankAccount")) {
    echo "<p>The BankAccount class is not available!</p>";
} else {
    $checking = new BankAccount();
    $checking->setBalance(100);
    echo "<p>Your checking account balance is "
        . $checking->getBalance() . "</p>";
}
```