

CS 262 Advanced Concepts in Web Development

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Assignment I

Spread Operator in Array Expressions

With PHP 7.4, we are able to use argument unpacking (spread operator) with an array expression. Argument unpacking is a syntax for unpacking arrays and Traversable into argument lists. And, in order to do so, it only needs to be prepended by ... (3 dots.) That's it.

Let's look at the example in PHP code:

```
$animals = ['dog', 'cat'];  
$animalkingdom = ['lion', 'elephant', ...$animals, 'giraffe'];  
// ['lion', 'elephant', 'dog', 'cat', 'giraffe'];
```

The array \$animalkingdom will display // ['lion', 'elephant', 'dog', 'cat', 'giraffe'].

With this new feature, we can also use it in term of function as the following PHP code:

```
function letter() {  
    return ['a', 'b'];  
}  
$addletter = [...letter(), 'c']; // $addletter will display ['a', 'b', 'c']  
  
function arrGen() {  
    for($i = 11; $i < 15; $i++) {  
        yield $i;  
    }  
}  
$num = [...arrGen()]; // $num will display [11, 12, 13, 14]
```

With this new array expression, spread operators should have way better performance over the PHP 7.0 **array_merge**. This is because the spread operator is a language structure while **array_merge** is a function. Also because spread operator supports **objects** implementing traversable and **array_merge** only supports arrays. So it's time to say good bye to **array_merge**.

- Note that : **yield** keyword also the new thing that was released under PHP 7.4. As we see, the above function(arrGen()) instead of returning a value, arrGen() yield as many values as it need to.