

SOEN 287

WEB PROGRAMMING

PHP – 3

Form handling

File I/O



Form Handling

http://www.w3schools.com/tags/ref_httpmethods.asp

- The Hypertext Transfer Protocol (HTTP) is designed to enable communications between clients and servers.
- One way is through forms.



Form Handling - Steps

http://www.tutorialspoint.com/php/php_get_post.htm

- User enters information in a form and presses the `Submit` button
- Before the browser sends the information the information is encoded
- Encoded information transmitted to server
- Server uses a program to decode contents
- Performs what ever computation/checks required
- Produces output in the form of markup document
- Result returned to client

Form Handling

- Two ways the browser client can send information to the web server.
 - The GET Method
 - The POST Method
- What is difference????



GET Method

http://www.w3schools.com/tags/ref_httpmethods.asp



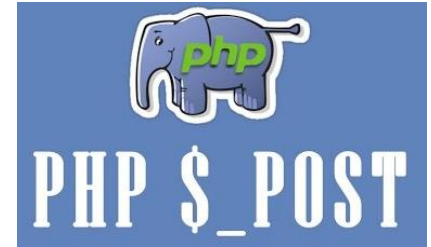
Query strings (name/value pairs) is sent in the URL of a GET request

- GET requests
 - can be cached
 - remain in the browser history
 - can be bookmarked
 - are visible to everyone
 - should never be used when dealing with sensitive data
 - have length restrictions (~ 2000 characters)
 - result in an implicit array `$_GET`

➔ Example: `php1_get.php`

POST Method

http://www.w3schools.com/tags/ref_httpmethods.asp



Query strings (name/value pairs) is sent in the HTTP message body of a POST request (so don't see it)

- POST requests
 - are never cached
 - do not remain in the browser history
 - cannot be bookmarked
 - have no restrictions on data length
 - result in an implicit array `$_POST`

➔ Example: `php1_post.php`

PHP commands

- **empty()**

`empty(variable)` returns false if the variable exists and has a non-empty, non-zero value otherwise returns true.

Following are considered *empty*:

"" (empty string), 0, 0.0, "0", NULL, False, a variable declared but without a value.

- **isset()**

`isset(variable1)` OR `isset(variable1, variable2...)`
Returns true if set to any value except NULL, false otherwise.

```
$var = 0;
```

`isset($var)` will return true (unlike `empty()`)

Processing a simple form

```
<body>
  <h1>Processing a Simple Form</h1>
  <form method="post" action="welcome.php">
    <label>Full Name: <input name="client_name"
      size="25" /></label>
    <br /><br />
    <label for="e">Email:</label>
    <input id="e" type="email" name="client_email"
      size="25" />
    <br /><br />
    <input type="reset" value="Clear Form" />
    <input type="submit" value="Send" />
  </form>
</body>
```



Processing a Simple Form

Full Name:

Email:

welcome.php (1/3)

```
<?php
    $title="A Warm Welcome";
    if (    empty($_POST['client_name']) ||
          empty($_POST['client_email']) )
    { $error=TRUE;
      $title="Please Go Back";
    }
?>

<!DOCTYPE html>
<html lang="en">
    <head><meta charset="utf-8"/>
    <title><?php echo $title; ?></title></head>

    . . . . .
```

welcome.php (2/3)

...

```
<body>
```

```
  <h1><?php echo $title; ?></h1>
```

```
  <?php if ( isset($error) ) {?
```

```
    <p>Sorry, the form is incomplete.</p>
```

```
    <p>Please go back and fill out all the  
      required entries.  Thank you.</p>
```

welcome.php (3/3)

...

```
<?php } else { ?>
    <p>Hello
    <?php echo $_POST['client_name']; ?>
    , it is our great pleasure to welcome you
to our site.</p>
    <p>We have your email address,
    <?php echo $_POST['client_email']; ?>,
        and we will contact you shortly.</p>
    <?php } ?>
</body></html>
```

Form Handling

- A more complex example (from your textbook)
- → `SHOW popcorn3.html & popcorn3.php`

File I/O in PHP

PHP provides a complete set of file and directory functions enabling you to easily access and manipulate files and folders on the local file system.

- **File tests:** `file_exists`, `is_dir`, `is_file`, `is_readable`, `is_writable`, `is_executable`, `filesize` (in bytes)

Syntax:

```
function_name($filename)
```

Demo: `file_io.php`

File I/O in PHP ...

Syntax:

```
function_name($filename)
```

- **File status:**

- `fileatime` (last access time of file),
- `filectime` (inode change time of file),
- `filegroup` (file group),
- `filemtime` (file modification time),
- `fileowner` (file owner),
- `fileperms` (file permissions),
- `filesize` (file size),
- `filetype` (file type)

Demo: `file_io2.php`

File I/O in PHP ...

- **File manipulation:**
 - `copy` (copies a file),
 - `unlink` (deletes a file),
 - `rename` (renames a file),

Demo: `file_io3.php`

File I/O in PHP ...

- **File I/O:**

- **fopen** (opens file for I/O, returns handle)
`$file = fopen("test.txt", "r");`
`$file = fopen("/SOEN287/slides/test.txt", "r");`
- **fclose** (closes handle) returns TRUE or FALSE
- **feof** (tests eof) returns TRUE or FALSE
- **fflush** (writes all buffered output to open file)
returns TRUE or FALSE

Complete: `file_io4.php`

File I/O in PHP ...

- **File I/O:**

- **fwrite(file, string)** (writes to handle)
`fwrite($file, "Hello World!")`
returns # of bytes written or FALSE if could not write
- **fread(file, length)** (reads from handle)
`fread($file, "50")` → read 50 bytes from \$file
`fread($file, filesize($file))` → read entire file
returns read string or FALSE
- **readfile(file)** (sends file to output buffer)
returns # of bytes read or FALSE if error

Complete : `file_io4.php`

File I/O in PHP ...

- `file(name)` : returns the lines of the given file into an array
- `file_get_contents(name)` : returns the file contents as a string.
- PHP file I/O work not only with file names, but also URLs to access remote files.

Complete : `file_io4.php`

File I/O in PHP ...

- **Directory handling :**
 - `mkdir` (creates dir)
 - `rmdir` (removes dir)
 - `chdir` (changes dir)
 - `opendir` (opens dir, returns handle)
 - `closedir` (closes dir handle)
 - ...

More File-Related Functions

To include other PHP files in a PHP script.

- `include(file) / require(file)`
- Difference in how errors handled. If an error occurs:
 - `include()` generates a warning, but the script will continue execution
 - `require()` generates a fatal error, and the script will stop.
- `include_once(file) / require_once(file)`
 - will only include file once – will check before including
 - important for files that have class or function definitions as can't define these twice.

Example of 2 include() stmts

- **test1.php**

```
<?php $var=1;
```

....

- **test2.php**

```
<?php
```

```
include('test1.php');
```

```
echo $var;    // "prints" 1
```

```
$var = 30;
```

```
include('test1.php');
```

```
echo $var;    // "prints" 1 again.
```

.....