

Working with Databases

Chapter 11

Objectives

- Database and Web Development
- Structured Query Language (SQL)
- Database APIs
- Managing a MySQL Database
- Accessing MySQL in PHP
- Case Study Schemas
- Sample Database Techniques

Databases and Web Development

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Databases and Web Development

This chapter covers the core principles of relational **Database Management Systems (DBMSs)**.

All database management systems are capable of

- managing large amounts of data,
- maintaining data integrity,
- responding to many queries,
- creating indexes and triggers, and more.

The term **database** can refer to both the software (i.e., to the DBMS) and to the data that is managed by the DBMS.

MySQL

There are many other open source and proprietary relational DBMS, including:

- PostgreSQL
- Oracle Database
- IBM DB2
- Microsoft SQL Server
- MySQL

The Role of Databases

In Web Development

Databases provide a way to implement one of the most important software design principles:

one should separate that which varies from that which stays the same

The figure consists of two screenshots of a web application titled "Share Your Travels". Both screenshots show a travel photo with associated details.

Screenshot 1: Brandenburg Gate, Berlin

- Image:** A photograph of the Brandenburg Gate in Berlin, Germany.
- Image Details:** Country: Germany, City: Berlin.
- User Details:** Michelle Brooks, Date Joined: 01/01/2012, Last Activity: 07/03/2013.

Screenshot 2: British Museum

- Image:** A photograph of the interior of the British Museum in London, United Kingdom.
- Image Details:** Country: United Kingdom, City: London.
- User Details:** Mark Taylor, Date Joined: 17/09/2012, Last Activity: 08/11/2012.

A vertical red line connects the two screenshots. Red arrows point from the text "Content (data) varies but the markup (design) stays the same." to the "Image Details" and "User Details" sections of both screenshots.

Content (data) varies but the markup (design) stays the same.

Separate that which varies

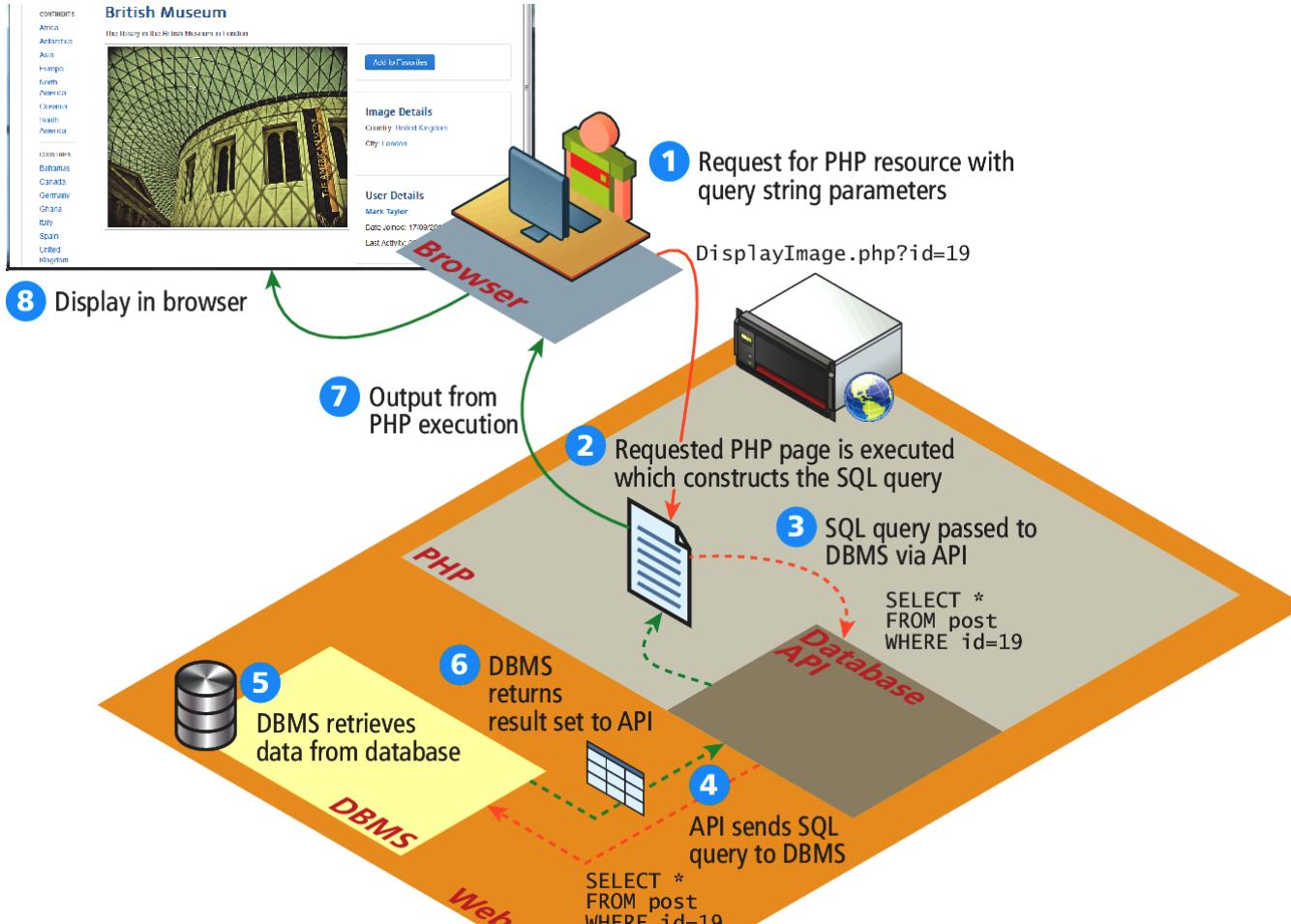
That is, use a DB to store the content of pages.

The program (PHP) determines which data to display, often from information in the GET or POST query string, and then uses a database API to interact with the database

Although the same separation could be achieved by storing content in files on the server, databases offer intuitive and optimized systems that do far more than a file based design that would require custom-built reading, parsing, and writing functions.

That Which Changes

Can be stored in the DB



Database Design

Tables

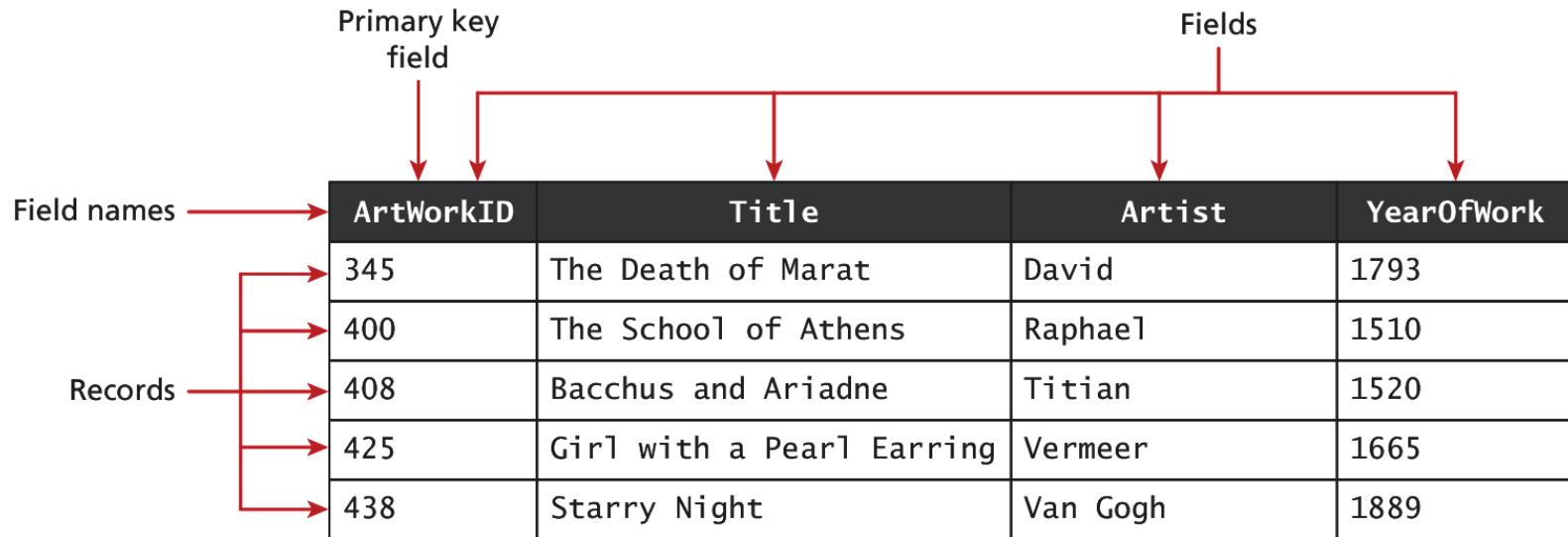
A database in a Relational DBMS is composed of one or more **tables**.

A **table** is a two-dimensional container for data that consists of **records** (rows);

Each **record** has the same number of columns, which are called **fields**, which contain the actual data.

Each table will have one special field called a **primary key** that is used to uniquely identify each record in a table.

Tables in a Database



Tables in a Database

As we discuss database tables and their design, it will be helpful to have a more condensed way to visually represent a table

ArtWorks			
	ArtWorkID	INT	
	Title	VARCHAR	
	Artist	VARCHAR	
	YearOfWork	INT	

ArtWorks	
PK	<u>ArtWorkID</u>
	Title
	Artist
	YearOfWork

ArtWorks	
<u>ArtWorkID</u>	
Title	
Artist	
YearOfWork	

Benefits of DBMS

A database can enforce rules about what can be stored.

This provides **data integrity** and potentially can reduce the amount of **data duplication**.

This is partly achieved through the use of **data types** that are akin to those in a programming language.

Data types

Type	Description
BIT	Represents a single bit for Boolean values. Also called BOOLEAN or BOOL.
BLOB	Represents a binary large object (which could, for example, be used to store an image).
CHAR(n)	A fixed number of characters (n = the number of characters) that are padded with spaces to fill the field.
DATE	Represents a date. There is also a TIME and DATETIME data types.
FLOAT	Represents a decimal number. There are also DOUBLE and DECIMAL data types.
INT	Represents a whole number. There is also a SMALLINT data type.
VARCHAR(n)	A variable number of characters (n = the maximum number of characters) with no space padding.

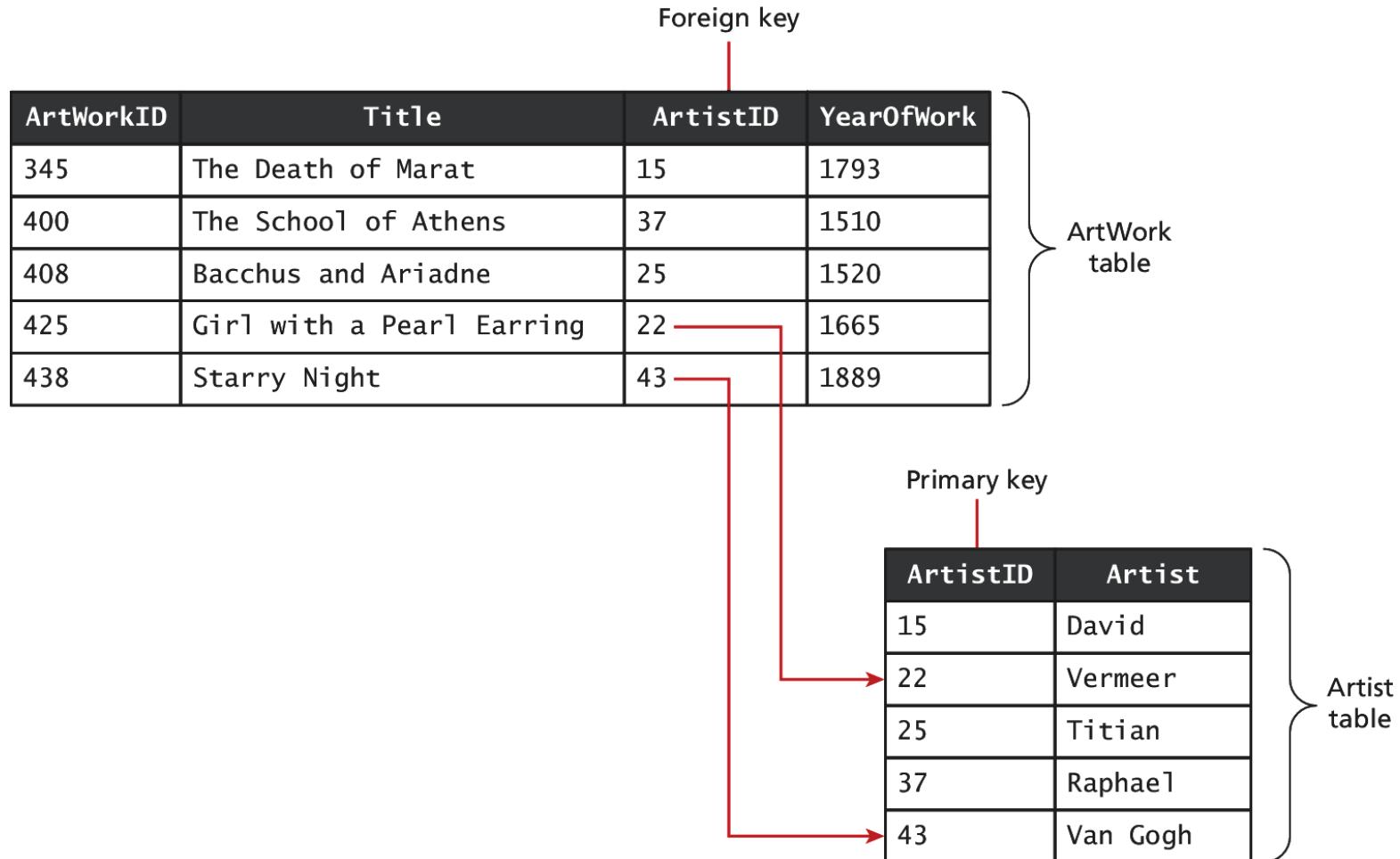
Benefits of DBMS

One of the most important ways that data integrity is achieved in a database is by separating information about different things into different tables.

Two tables can be related together via **foreign keys**, which is a field that is the same as the primary key of another table

Relationships between Tables

Primary and Foreign Keys

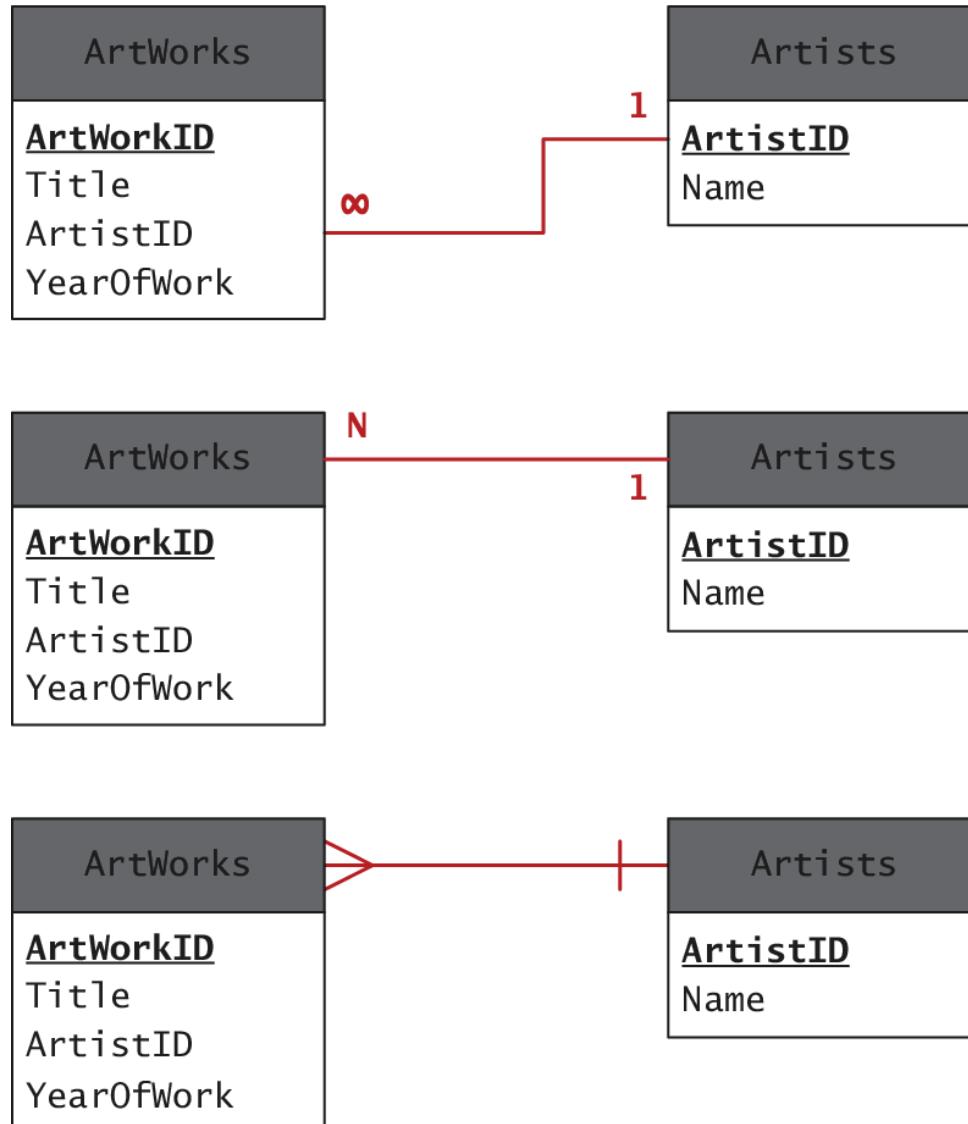


Relationships between Tables

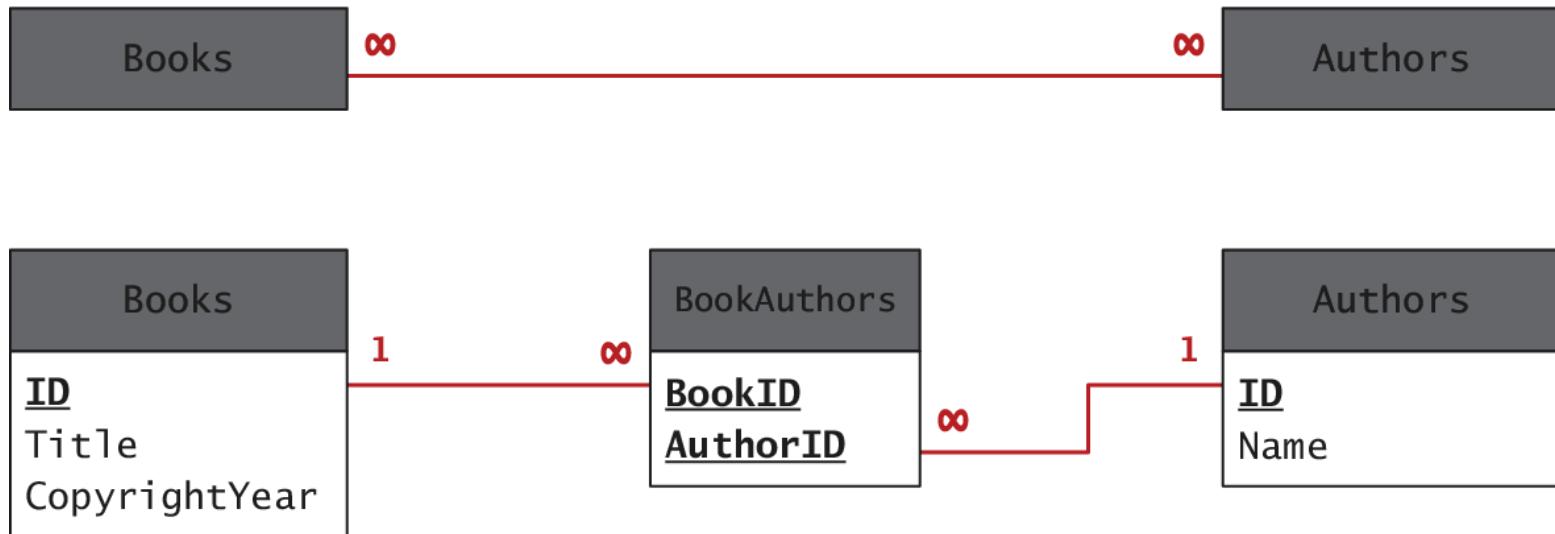
Tables that are linked via foreign keys are said to be in a relationship:

- **one-to-many relationship**
single record in Table A can have one or more matching records in Table B
- **many-to-many relationship**
Many-to-many relationships are usually implemented by using an intermediate table with two one-to-many relationships
- **One-to-one relationship**
Typically used for security or performance reasons.
(Could be 1 table)

One to Many



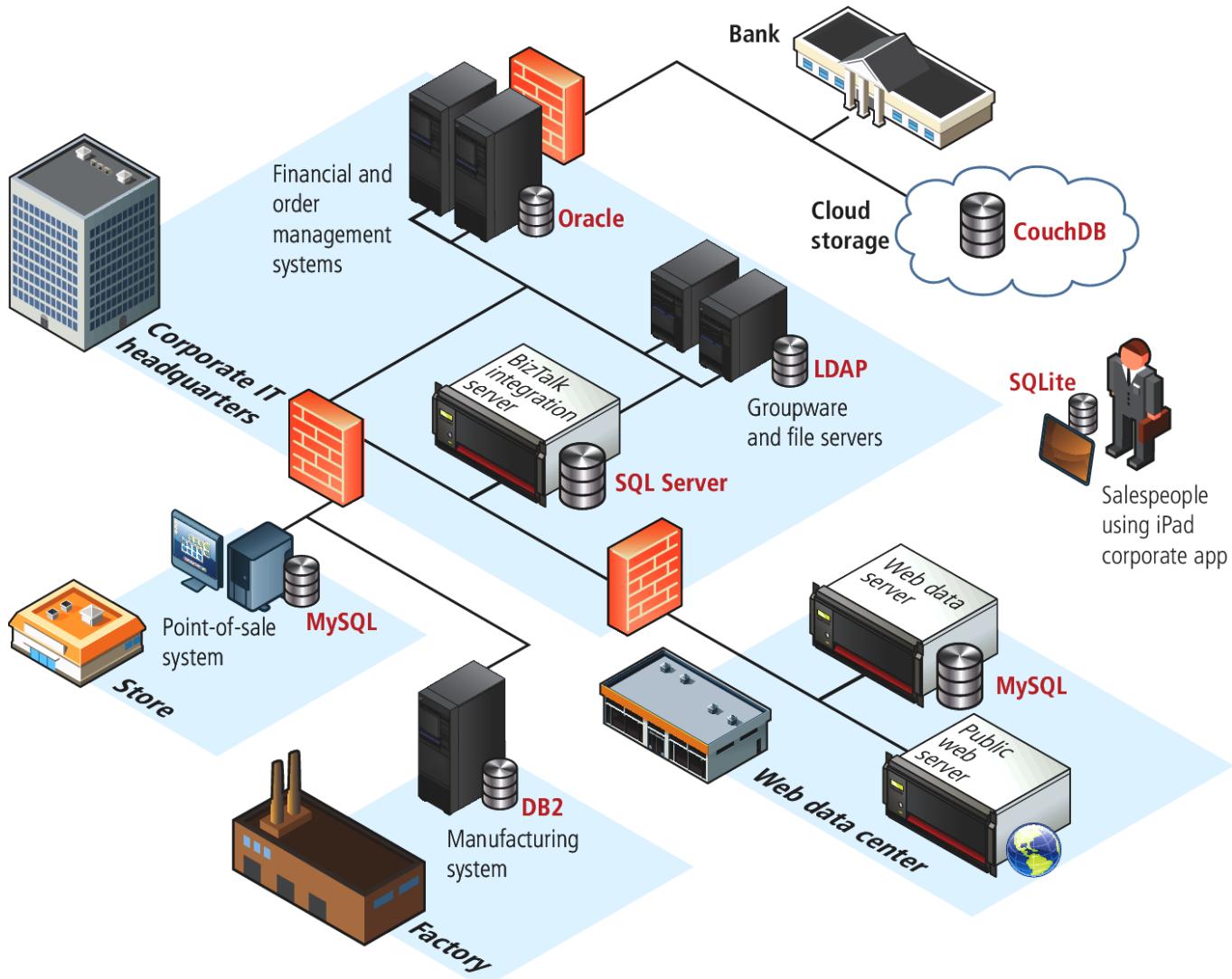
Many to Many



Note that in this example, the two foreign keys in the intermediate table are combined to create a **composite key**

Database Options

The range of DBMS Usage in an Enterprise



Database Options

Other ways of using databases

- **SQLite** a software library that typically is integrated directly within an application rather than running as a separate process like most DBMS.
- **No-SQL** databases do not make use of SQL, are not relational in how they store data, and are optimized to retrieve data using simple key-value syntax similar to that used with associative arrays in PHP.
 - CouchDB , mongoDB, Hypertable, Cassandra, ...

Structured Query Language (SQL)

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SQL

Pronounced *sequel* (or *sss queue elle*)

The Structured Query Language uses English Like Syntax to interact with the Database. Common SQL commands :

- SELECT
- INSERT
- UPDATE
- DELETE

SELECT

To retrieve data

The **SELECT statement** is used to retrieve data from the database.

The result of a SELECT statement is a block of data typically called a **result set**.

You must specify

- what fields to retrieve and
- what Table to retrieve from

SELECT

To retrieve data

SQL keyword that indicates
the type of query (in this case a
query to retrieve data)

SELECT ISBN10, Title FROM Books

Fields to retrieve

SQL keyword for specifying
the tables

FROM Books

Table to retrieve from

SELECT * FROM Books

Wildcard to select all fields

*Note: While the wildcard is convenient,
especially when testing, for production code it
is usually avoided; instead of selecting every
field, you should select just the fields you need.*

SELECT

Ordering results

To specify a certain order to the result set use the **ORDER** clause.

You Specify

- the field to Sort on (or several), and
- whether to sort in ascending or descending order.

SELECT

ORDER BY clause

```
select ISBN10, title  
FROM BOOKS  
ORDER BY title
```

SQL keyword Field to
to indicate sort on
sort order

Note: SQL doesn't care if a command is on a single line or multiple lines, nor does it care about the case of keywords or table and field names. Line breaks and keyword capitalization are often used to aid in readability.

```
SELECT ISBN10, Title FROM Books  
ORDER BY CopyrightYear DESC, Title ASC
```

Keywords indicating that
sorting should be in
descending or ascending
order (which is the default)

Several sort orders can be
specified: in this case the
data is sorted first on
year, then on title.

SELECT

WHERE Clause

The Simple SELECT queries used so far retrieve *all* the records in the specified table.

Often we are not interested in retrieving all the records in a table but only a subset of the records.

This is accomplished via the **WHERE** clause, which can be added to any SELECT statement

SELECT

WHERE Clause

```
SELECT isbn10, title FROM books  
WHERE copyrightYear > 2010
```

SQL keyword that indicates
to return only those records
whose data matches the
criteria expression

Expressions take form:
field *operator* value

```
SELECT isbn10, title FROM books  
WHERE category = 'Math' AND copyrightYear = 2014
```

Comparisons with strings require string
literals (single or double quote)

SELECT

Advanced (but essential) techniques

Often we want to retrieve data from multiple tables. While we could do one query, and then do a second query using the data from the 1st query, that would be inefficient. Instead we can use the **JOIN** clause (we will discuss **INNER JOIN**)

When you don't want every record in your table but instead want to perform some type of calculation on multiple records and then return the results. This requires using one or more **aggregate functions** such as SUM() or COUNT(); these are often used in conjunction with the **GROUP BY** keywords.

INNER JOIN

Still in a SELECT query

Because the field name
ArtistID is ambiguous,
need to preface it with
table name

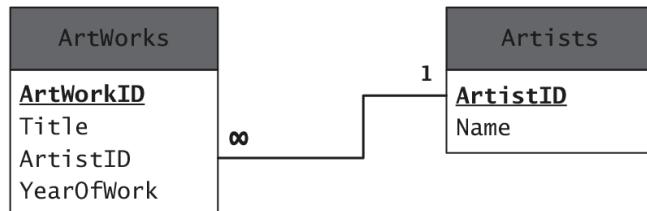
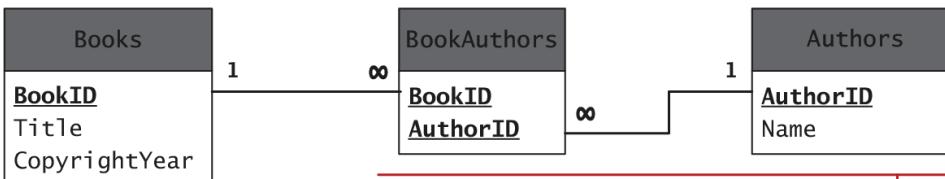


Table 1

```
SELECT Artists.ArtistID, Title, YearOfWork, Name FROM Artists
INNER JOIN ArtWorks ON Artists.ArtistID = ArtWorks.ArtistID
```

SQL keywords indicate the type of join
Table 2 Primary key in Table 1 Foreign key in Table 2



```
SELECT Books.BookID, Books.Title, Authors.Name, Books.CopyrightYear
FROM Books
INNER JOIN (Authors INNER JOIN BookAuthors ON Authors.AuthorID = BookAuthors.AuthorId)
ON Books.BookID = BookAuthors.BookId
```

INNER JOIN

Still in a SELECT query

Because the field name
ArtistID is ambiguous,
need to preface it with
table name

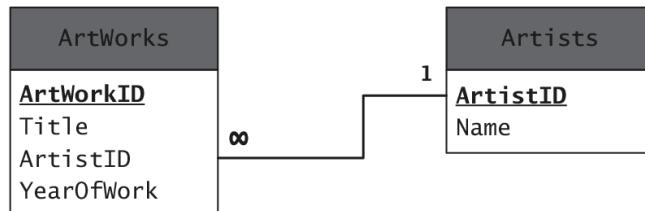
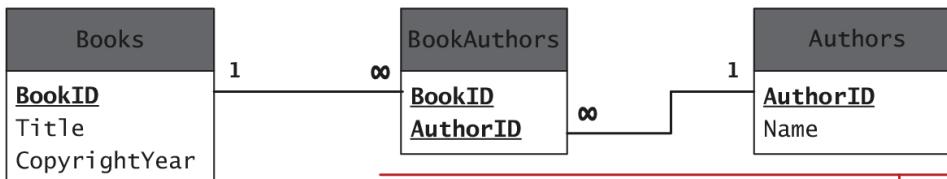


Table 1

```
SELECT Artists.ArtistID, Title, YearOfWork, Name FROM Artists
INNER JOIN ArtWorks ON Artists.ArtistID = ArtWorks.ArtistID
```

SQL keywords indicate the type of join
Table 2 Primary key in Table 1 Foreign key in Table 2



```
SELECT Books.BookID, Books.Title, Authors.Name, Books.CopyrightYear
FROM Books
INNER JOIN (Authors INNER JOIN BookAuthors ON Authors.AuthorID = BookAuthors.AuthorId)
ON Books.BookID = BookAuthors.BookId
```

GROUP BY

Still in a SELECT query

This aggregate function returns a count of the number of records.

Defines an alias for the calculated value

```
SELECT Count(ArtWorkID) AS NumPaintings  
FROM ArtWorks  
WHERE YearOfWork > 1900
```

Count number of paintings after year 1900

Note: This SQL statement returns a single record with a single value in it.

NumPaintings
745

```
SELECT Nationality, Count(ArtistID) AS NumArtists  
FROM Artists  
GROUP BY Nationality
```

SQL keywords to group output by specified fields

Note: This SQL statement returns as many records as there are unique values in the group-by field.

Nationality	NumArtists
Belgium	4
England	15
France	36
Germany	27
Italy	53

INSERT

Adding data in to the table

SQL keywords for inserting
(adding) a new record Table name Fields that will
receive the data values

```
INSERT INTO ArtWorks (Title, YearOfWork, ArtistID)
VALUES ('Night Watch', 1642, 105)
```

Values to be inserted. Note that string values must be within quotes (single or double).

Note: Primary key fields are often set to AUTO_INCREMENT, which means the DBMS will set it to a unique value when a new record is inserted.

Update

Modify data in the table

```
UPDATE ArtWorks
```

```
SET Title='Night Watch', YearOfWork=1642, ArtistID=105
```

```
WHERE ArtWorkID=54
```

It is essential to specify which record to update, otherwise it will update all the records!

Specify the values for each updated field.
Note: Primary key fields that are AUTO_INCREMENT cannot have their values updated.

Delete

Remove rows from the table

```
DELETE FROM ArtWorks  
WHERE ArtWorkID=54
```

It is essential to specify which record to delete, otherwise it will delete all the records!

Transactions

An Advanced Topic.

Anytime one of your PHP pages makes changes to the database via an UPDATE, INSERT, or DELETE statement , you also need to be concerned with the possibility of failure.

A **transaction** refers to a sequence of steps that are treated as a single unit, and provide a way to gracefully handle errors and keep your data properly consistent when errors do occur.

Transactions

An Example

Imagine how a purchase would work in a web storefront. After the user has verified the shipping address, entered a credit card, and selected a shipping option and clicks the final *Pay for Order* button? Imagine that the following steps need to happen.

1. Write order records to the website database.
2. Check credit card service to see if payment is accepted.
3. If payment is accepted, send message to legacy ordering system.
4. Remove purchased item from warehouse inventory table and add it to the order shipped table.
5. Send message to shipping provider.

Transactions

An Example

At any step in this process, errors could occur. For instance:

- The DBMS system could crash after writing the first order record but before the second order record could be written.
- The credit card service could be unresponsive, or the credit card payment declined.
- The legacy ordering system or inventory system or shipping provider system could be down.

Transactions

Multiple types

Local Transactions can be handled by the DBMS.

Distributed Transactions involve multiple hosts, several of which we may have no control over.

Distributed transactions are much more complicated than local transactions

Local Transactions

The easy transactions

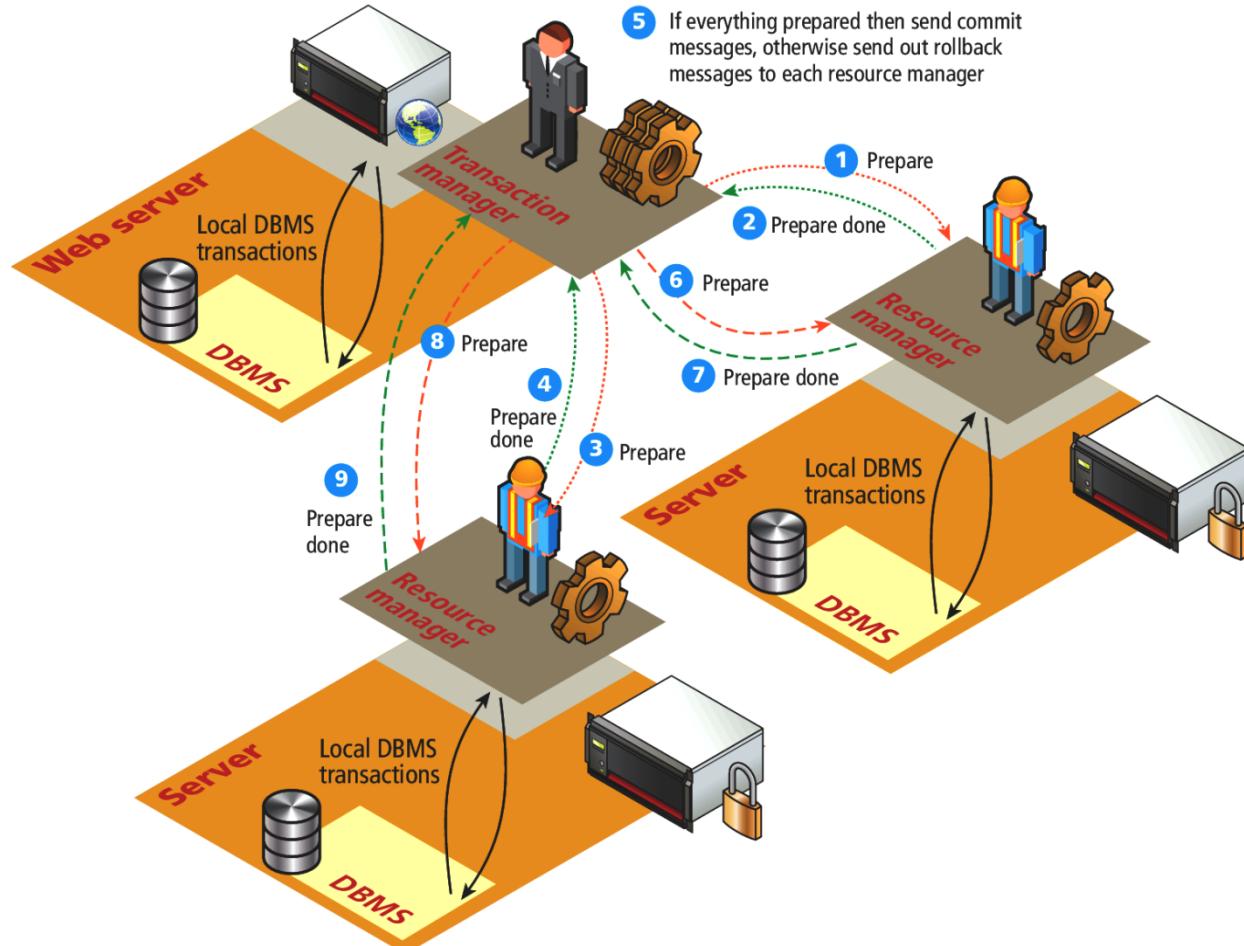
The SQL for transactions use the START TRANSACTION, COMMIT, and ROLLBACK commands

```
/* By starting the transaction, all database modifications within  
the transaction will only be permanently saved in the database  
if they all work */  
  
START TRANSACTION  
  
INSERT INTO orders ...  
INSERT INTO orderDetails ...  
UPDATE inventory ...  
  
/* if we have made it here everything has worked so commit changes */  
COMMIT  
  
/* if we replace COMMIT with ROLLBACK then the three database  
changes would be "undone" */
```

LISTING 11.1 SQL commands for transaction processing

Distributed Transactions

Depends on which external systems...



Data Definition Statements

Data Manipulation Language features of SQL are what we typically describe in web development and include the SELECT, UPDATE, INSERT, and DELETE.

There is also a **Data Definition Language (DDL)** in SQL, which is used for creating tables, modifying the structure of a table, deleting tables, and creating and deleting databases. You may find yourself using them indirectly within something like the phpMyAdmin management tool, although a text syntax does exist for those interested.

Database Indexes

Efficiency

In large sets of data, searching for a particular record can take a long time.

Consider the worst-case scenario for searching where we compare our query against every single record. If there are n elements we say it takes $O(n)$ time to do a search (we would say “Order of n ”).

In comparison, a **balanced binary tree** data structure can be searched in $O(\log_2 n)$ time.

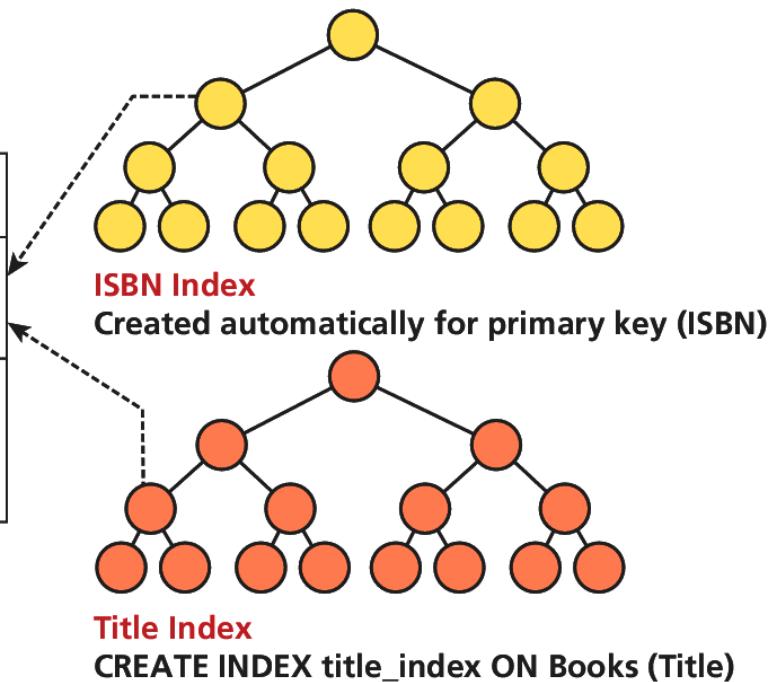
- $N = 1,000,000$
- $\log_2 (1000000) = 20 \leftarrow$ much faster

Database Indexes

Use balanced trees or other efficient structures

No matter which data structure is used, the application of that structure to ensure results are quickly accessible is called an **index**. Every node in the index has just that field, with a pointer to the full record (on disk)

ISBN	Title	Year
0132569035	Computer Science: An Overview, 11/E	2012
0132828936	Fluency with Information Technology: Skills, Concepts, and Capabilities	2013
⋮		



Database Indexes

Syntax exists if you're interested

Most database management tools allow for easy creation of indexes through the GUI without use of SQL commands.

The Index Creation Syntax is not normally used by web developers directly, and is not covered.

Database APIs

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API

Application Programming Interface

API stands for application programming interface and in general refers to the classes, methods, functions, and variables that your application uses to perform some task.

Some database APIs work only with a specific type of database; others are cross-platform and can work with multiple databases.

PHP MySQL APIs

There is more than 1

- **MySQL extension.** This was the original extension to PHP for working with MySQL and has been replaced with the newer mysqli extension. This procedural API should now only be used with versions of MySQL older than 4.1.3. (At the time of writing, the current version of MySQL was 5.7.3.)
- **mysqli extension.** The MySQL Improved extension takes advantage of features of versions of MySQL after 4.1.3. This extension provides **both** a procedural and an object-oriented approach. This extension also supports most of the latest features of MySQL.
- **PHP data objects (PDOs).** This object-oriented API has been available since PHP 5.1 and provides an **abstraction layer** (i.e., a set of classes that hide the implementation details for some set of functionality) that with the appropriate drivers can be used with *any* database, and not just MySQL databases. However, it is not able to make use of all the latest features of MySQL.

We will show how to do some of the most common database operations using the procedural mysqli extension as well as the object-oriented PDO.

As the chapter (and book) proceed, we will standardize on the object-oriented, database-independent PDO approach.

Managing a MySQL Database

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How do you access the DBMS

So, so many ways

Although you will eventually be able to manipulate the database from your PHP code, there are some routine maintenance operations that do not warrant custom code. Tools include:

- Command Line Interface
- phpMyAdmin
- MySQLWorkbench

Command Line Interface

Oldie but a goodie.

The MySQL command-line interface is the most difficult to master. The value of this particular management tool is its low bandwidth and near ubiquitous presence on Linux machines.

To launch an interactive MySQL command-line session, you must specify the host, username, and database name to connect to as shown below:

```
mysql -h 192.168.1.14 -u bookUser -p
```

Once inside of a session, you may enter any SQL query, terminated with a semicolon (;

Command Line Interface

Oldie but a goodie.

```
Database changed
mysql> SHOW TABLES;
+-----+
| Tables_in_book_database |
+-----+
| authors
| bindingtypes
| bookauthors
| books
| categories
| disciplines
| imprints
| productionstatuses
| subcategories
+-----+
9 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> SHOW COLUMNS IN authors;
+-----+
| Field      | Type       | Null | Key | Default | Extra           |
+-----+
| ID          | int(11)    | NO   | PRI  | NULL    | auto_increment |
| FirstName   | varchar(255)| YES  |      | NULL    |                 |
| LastName    | varchar(255)| YES  |      | NULL    |                 |
| Institution | varchar(255)| YES  |      | NULL    |                 |
+-----+
4 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> SELECT * FROM authors WHERE FirstName LIKE "A%";
+-----+
| ID      | FirstName | LastName | Institution          |
+-----+
| 2       | Andrew    | Abel     | Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania
| 25      | Allen     | Center   | NULL
| 37      | Allen     | Dooley   | Santa Ana College
| 40      | Andrew    | DuBrin   | Rochester Institute of Technology
| 56      | Allan     | Hambley  | NULL
| 57      | Arden     | Hamer    | Indiana University of Pennsylvania
| 82      | Arthur    | Keown    | Virginia Polytechnic Instit. and State University
| 102     | Annie     | McKee    | NULL
| 119     | Arthur    | O'Sullivan | NULL
| 172     | Allyn     | Washington | Dutchess Community College
| 194     | Anne Frances | Wysocki  | University of Wisconsin, Milwaukee
| 198     | Alice M.   | Gillam   | University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee
| 214     | Anthony P. | O'Brien  | Lehigh University
| 216     | Alvin C.   | Burns    | NULL
| 225     | Abbey      | Deitel   | NULL
| 252     | Alvin     | Arens    | Michigan State University
| 258     | Ali        | Ovlia    | NULL
| 270     | Anne      | Winkler  | NULL
| 275     | Alan      | Marks    | DeVry University
+-----+
19 rows in set (0.00 sec)

mysql> ■■■
```

Command Line Interface

I bet you'll use it oneday...

In addition to the interactive prompt, the command line can be used to import and export entire databases or run a batch of SQL commands from a file.

To import commands from a file called *commands.sql*, for example, we would use the < operation:

```
mysql -h 192.168.1.14 -u bookUser -p < commands.sql
```

Although GUI tools allow this as well, the CLI can be integrated into automated scripts to aid with mirroring, backup, and recovery.

phpMyAdmin

Will even generate PHP code

A popular web-based front-end (written in PHP) called **phpMyAdmin** allows developers to access management tools through a web portal.

MySQL has a number of predefined databases it uses for its own operation.

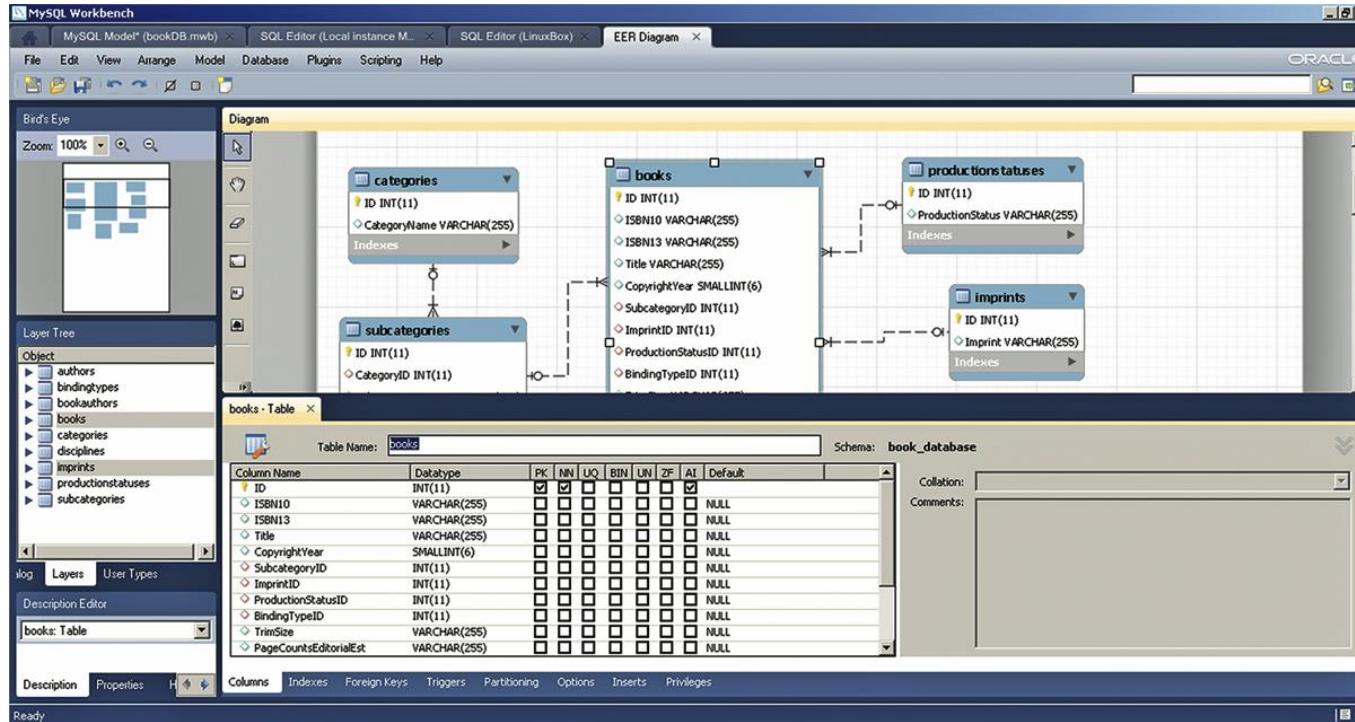
phpMyAdmin allows you to view and manipulate any table in a database.

The screenshot displays two windows of the phpMyAdmin web application. The top window shows the 'General Settings' and 'Database server' configuration panels. The 'General Settings' panel includes options for changing the password, setting the server connection collation to 'utf8_general_ci', and adjusting appearance settings like language ('English') and font size ('32px'). The 'Database server' panel lists MySQL server details such as version 5.5.27, protocol 10, and character set UTF-8 Unicode. The bottom window shows the 'bookorm' database structure, listing tables like authors, bindingtypes, books, categories, disciplines, imprints, productionstatuses, and subcategories. A specific table, 'authors', is selected, showing its structure with columns like id, name, and address. The table contains 16 rows.

MySQL Workbench

Powerful design tools

The MySQL Workbench is a free tool from Oracle to work with MySQL databases.



Accessing MySQL in PHP

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Database Connection Algorithm

No matter what API you use, the basic database connection algorithm is the same:

1. Connect to the database.
2. Handle connection errors.
3. Execute the SQL query.
4. Process the results.
5. Free resources and close connection.

Database Connection Algorithm

An illustration through example

```
<?php

try {
    $connString = "mysql:host=localhost;dbname=bookcrm";
    $user = "testuser";
    $pass = "mypassword";

    $pdo = new PDO($connString,$user,$pass);
    $pdo->setAttribute(PDO::ATTR_ERRMODE, PDO::ERRMODE_EXCEPTION);

    $sql = "select * from Categories order by CategoryName";
    $result = $pdo->query($sql);

    while ($row = $result->fetch()) {
        echo $row['ID'] . " - " . $row['CategoryName'] . "<br/>";
    }
    $pdo = null;
}

catch (PDOException $e) {
    die( $e->getMessage() );
}

?>
```

Database Connection Algorithm

An illustration through example

```
// modify these variables for your installation
$host = "localhost";
$database = "bookcrm";
$user = "testuser";
$pass = "mypassword";

$connection = mysqli_connect($host, $user, $pass, $database);
```

LISTING 11.3 Connecting to a database with mysqli (procedural)

```
// modify these variables for your installation
$connectionString = "mysql:host=localhost;dbname=bookcrm";
$user = "testuser";
$pass = "mypassword";

$pdo = new PDO($connectionString, $user, $pass);
```

LISTING 11.4 Connecting to a database with PDO (object-oriented)

Storing Connection Details

Hard-coding the database connection details in your code is not ideal.

Connection details almost always change as a site moves from development, to testing, to production.

We should move these connection details out of our connection code and place it in some central location.

```
<?php  
define('DBHOST', 'localhost');  
define('DBNAME', 'bookcrm');  
define('DBUSER', 'testuser');  
define('DBPASS', 'mypassword');  
?>
```

LISTING 11.5 Defining connection details via constants in a separate file (config.php)

Handling Connection Errors

We need to handle potential connection errors in our code.

- Procedural **mysqli** techniques use conditional (if...else) statements on the returned object from the connection attempt.
- The **PDO** technique uses try-catch which relies on thrown exceptions when an error occurs.

Handling Connection Errors

Procedural Approach

```
$connection = mysqli_connect(DBHOST, DBUSER, DBPASS, DBNAME);

// mysqli_connect_error returns string description of the last
// connect error
$error = mysqli_connect_error();
if ($error != null) {
    $output = "<p>Unable to connect to database</p>" . $error;
// Outputs a message and terminates the current script
    exit($output);
}
```

LISTING 11.7 Handling connection errors with mysqli (version 1)

```
$connection = mysqli_connect(DBHOST, DBUSER, DBPASS, DBNAME);

// mysqli_connect_errno returns the last error code
if (mysqli_connect_errno()) {
    die(mysqli_connect_error()); // die() is equivalent to exit()
}
```

LISTING 11.8 Handling connection errors with mysqli (version 2)

Handling Connection Errors

Object-Oriented PDO with try-catch

```
try {
    $connString = "mysql:host=localhost;dbname=bookcrm";
    $user = "DBUSER";
    $pass = "DBPASS";

    $pdo = new PDO($connString,$user,$pass);
    ...
}
catch (PDOException $e) {
    die( $e->getMessage() );
}
```

LISTING 11.9 Handling connection errors with PDO

In addition PDO has 3 different error modes, that allow you to control when errors are thrown.

Execute the Query

Procedural and Object-Oriented

```
$sql = "SELECT * FROM Categories ORDER BY CategoryName";  
// returns a mysqli_result object  
$result = mysqli_query($connection, $sql);
```

LISTING 11.11 Executing a SELECT query (mysqli)

```
$sql = "SELECT * FROM Categories ORDER BY CategoryName";  
// returns a PDOStatement object  
$result = $pdo->query($sql);
```

LISTING 11.12 Executing a SELECT query (pdo)

Both return a **result set**, which is a type of cursor or pointer to the returned data

Queries that don't return data

Procedural and Object-Oriented

```
$sql = "UPDATE Categories SET CategoryName='Web' WHERE  
    CategoryName='Business'";  
  
if ( mysqli_query($connection, $sql) ) {  
    $count = mysqli_affected_rows($connection);  
    echo "<p>Updated " . $count . " rows</p>";  
}
```

LISTING 11.13 Executing a query that doesn't return data (mysqli)

```
$sql = "UPDATE Categories SET CategoryName='Web' WHERE  
    CategoryName='Business"';  
$count = $pdo->exec($sql);  
echo "<p>Updated " . $count . " rows</p>";
```

LISTING 11.14 Executing a query that doesn't return data (PDO)

Integrating User Data

Say, using an HTML form posted to the PHP script

Browser – Rename Category Form

Category to change: English

New category name: Communications

Save

```
<form method="post" action="rename.php">
  <input type="text" name="old" /><br/>
  <input type="text" name="new" /><br/>
  <input type="submit" />
</form>
```

`$_POST['old']`

English

`$_POST['new']`

Communications

UPDATE Categories SET CategoryName='English' WHERE CategoryName='Communications'

Integrating User Data

Not everyone is nice.

```
$from = $_POST['old'];
$to = $_POST['new'];
$sql = "UPDATE Categories SET CategoryName='$to' WHERE
        CategoryName='$from'";

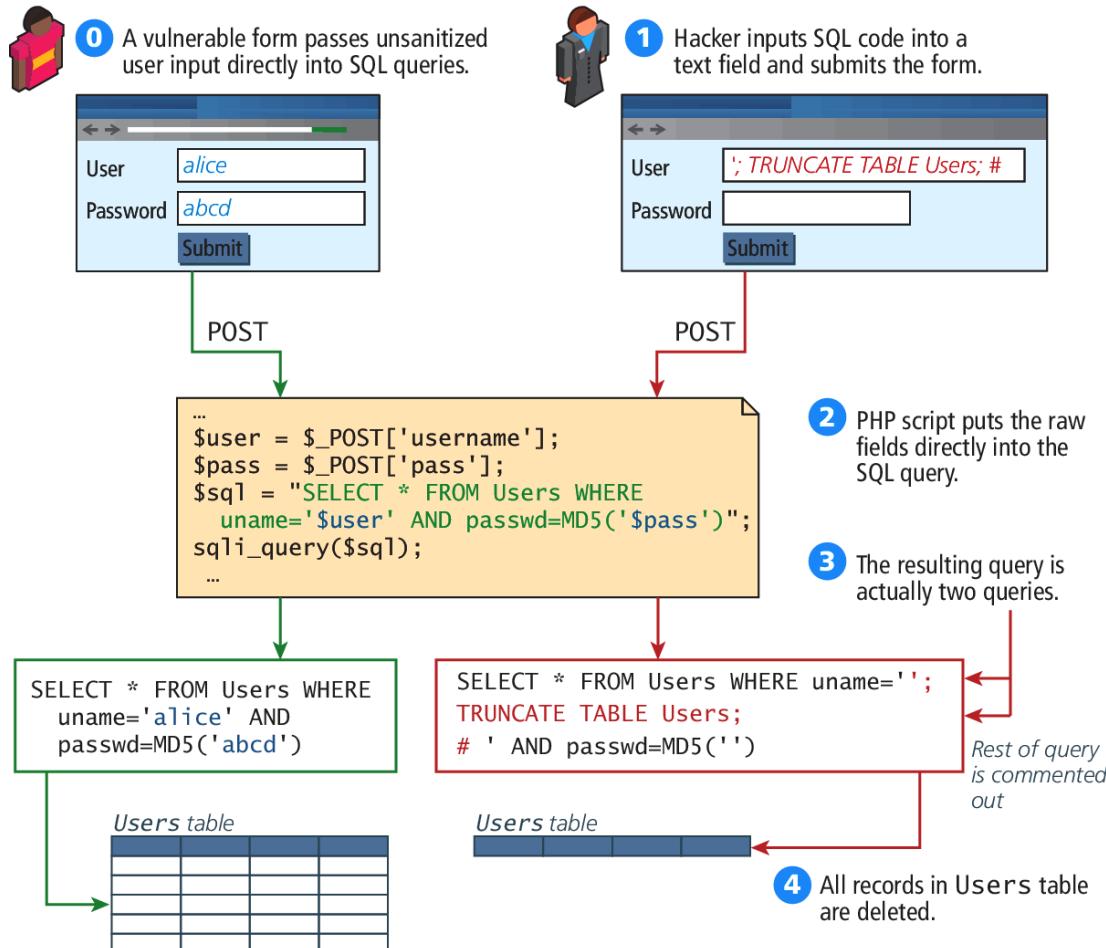
$count = $pdo->exec($sql);
```

LISTING 11.15 Integrating user input into a query (first attempt)

While this does work, it opens our site to one of the most common web security attacks, the **SQL injection attack**.

SQL Injection Illustration

From Chapter 16



Defend against attack

Distrust user input

The SQL injection class of attack can be protected against by

- **Sanitizing** user input
- Using **Prepared Statements**

Sanitize User Input

Quick and easy

Each database system has functions to remove any special characters from a desired piece of text. In MySQL, user inputs can be sanitized in PHP using the `mysqli_real_escape_string()` method or, if using PDO, the `quote()` method

```
$from = $pdo->quote($from);
$to = $pdo->quote($to);
$sql = "UPDATE Categories SET CategoryName=$to WHERE
        CategoryName=$from";

$count = $pdo->exec($sql);
```

LISTING 11.16 Sanitizing user input before use in an SQL query

Prepared Statements

Better in general

A **prepared statement** is actually a way to improve performance for queries that need to be executed multiple times. When MySQL creates a prepared statement, it does something akin to a compiler in that it optimizes it so that it has superior performance for multiple requests. It also integrates sanitization into each user input automatically, thereby protecting us from SQL injection.

Prepared Statements

mysqli

```
// retrieve parameter value from query string
$id = $_GET['id'];

// construct parameterized query - notice the ? parameter
$sql = "SELECT Title, CopyrightYear FROM Books WHERE ID=?";

// create a prepared statement

if ($statement = mysqli_prepare($connection, $sql)) {
    // Bind parameters s - string, b - blob, i - int, etc
    mysqli_stmt_bindm($statement, 'i', $id);

    // execute query
    mysqli_stmt_execute($statement);

    // learn in next section how to access the returned data
    ...
}
```

LISTING 11.17 Using a prepared statement (mysqli)

Prepared Statements

PDO

```
// retrieve parameter value from query string
$id = $_GET['id'];

/* method 1 */
$sql = "SELECT Title, CopyrightYear FROM Books WHERE ID = ?";
$statement = $pdo->prepare($sql);
$statement->bindValue(1, $id);
$statement->execute();

/* method 2 */
$sql = "SELECT Title, CopyrightYear FROM Books WHERE ID = :id";
$statement = $pdo->prepare($sql);
$statement->bindValue(':id', $id);
$statement->execute();
```

LISTING 11.18 Using a prepared statement (PDO)

Prepared Statements

Comparison of two techniques

```
/* technique 1 - question mark placeholders */
$sql = "INSERT INTO books (ISBN10, Title, CopyrightYear, ImprintId,
    ProductionStatusId, TrimSize, Description) VALUES
    (?,?,?,?,?, ?, ?)";
$statement = $pdo->prepare($sql);
$statement->bindValue(1, $_POST['isbn']);
$statement->bindValue(2, $_POST['title']);
$statement->bindValue(3, $_POST['year']);
$statement->bindValue(4, $_POST['imprint']);
$statement->bindValue(5, $_POST['status']);
$statement->bindValue(6, $_POST['size']);
$statement->bindValue(7, $_POST['desc']);
$statement->execute();

/* technique 2 - named parameters */
$sql = "INSERT INTO books (ISBN10, Title, CopyrightYear, ImprintId,
    ProductionStatusId, TrimSize, Description) VALUES (:isbn,
        :title, :year, :imprint, :status, :size, :desc) ";
$statement = $pdo->prepare($sql);
$statement->bindValue(':isbn', $_POST['isbn']);
$statement->bindValue(':title', $_POST['title']);
$statement->bindValue(':year', $_POST['year']);
$statement->bindValue(':imprint', $_POST['imprint']);
$statement->bindValue(':status', $_POST['status']);
$statement->bindValue(':size', $_POST['size']);
$statement->bindValue(':desc', $_POST['desc']);
$statement->execute();
```

LISTING 11.19 Using named parameters (PDO)

Process Query Results

mysqli

```
$sql = "SELECT * FROM Categories ORDER BY CategoryName";
// run the query
if ($result = mysqli_query($connection, $sql)) {
    // fetch a record from result set into an associative array
    while($row = mysqli_fetch_assoc($result))
    {
        // the keys match the field names from the table
        echo $row['ID'] . " - " . $row['CategoryName'] ;
        echo "<br/>";
    }
}
```

LISTING 11.20 Looping through the result set (mysqli—not prepared statements)

```
$sql = "SELECT * FROM Categories ORDER BY CategoryName";
$result = $pdo->query($sql);

while ( $row = $result->fetch() ) {
    echo $row['ID'] . " - " . $row['CategoryName'] . "<br/>";
}
```

LISTING 11.22 Looping through the result set (PDO)

Process Query Results

Mysqli – using prepared statements

```
$sql = "SELECT Title, CopyrightYear FROM Books WHERE ID=?";
if ($statement = mysqli_prepare($connection, $sql)) {

    mysqli_stmt_bindm($statement, 'i', $id);
    mysqli_stmt_execute($statement);

    // bind result variables
    mysqli_stmt_bind_result($statement, $title, $year);

    // loop through the data
    while (mysqli_stmt_fetch($statement)) {
        echo $title . '-' . $year . '<br/>';
    }
}
```

LISTING 11.21 Looping through the result set (mysqli—using prepared statements)

Fetch into an object

Instead of an array

Consider the following (very simplified) class:

```
class Book {  
  
    public $id;  
    public $title;  
    public $copyrightYear;  
    public $description;  
}
```

Fetch into an object

Instead of an array

```
$id = $_GET['id'];
$sql = "SELECT id, title, copyrightYear, description FROM Books
        WHERE id= ?";
$statement = $pdo->prepare($sql);
$statement->bindValue(1, $id);
$statement->execute();

$b = $statement->fetchObject('Book');
echo 'ID: ' . $b->id . '<br/>';
echo 'Title: ' . $b->title . '<br/>';
echo 'Year: ' . $b->copyrightYear . '<br/>';
echo 'Description: ' . $b->description . '<br/>';
```

LISTING 11.23 Populating an object from a result set (PDO)

The property names must match exactly (including the case) the field names in the table(s) in the query

Fetch into an object

A more flexible example, where class names needn't match DB fields

```
class Book {
    public $id;
    public $title;
    public $copyrightYear;
    public $description;

    function __construct($record)
    {
        // the references to the field names in associative array must
        // match the case in the table
        $this->id = $record['ID'];
        $this->title = $record['Title'];
        $this->copyrightYear = $record['CopyrightYear'];
        $this->description = $record['Description'];
    }
}

...
// in some other page or class
$statement->execute();

// using the Book class
$b = new Book($statement->fetch());
echo 'ID: ' . $b->id . '<br/>';
echo 'Title: ' . $b->title . '<br/>';
echo 'Copyright Year: ' . $b->copyrightYear . '<br/>';
echo 'Description: ' . $b->description . '<br/>';
```

LISTING 11.24 Letting an object populate itself from a result set

Freeing Resources

And closing the connection

```
// mysqli approach
$connection = mysqli_connect($host, $user, $pass, $database);
...
// release the memory used by the result set. This is necessary if
// you are going to run another query on this connection
mysqli_free_result($result);
...
// close the database connection
mysqli_close($connection);
// PDO approach
$pdo = new PDO($connString,$user,$pass);
...
// closes connection and frees the resources used by the PDO object
$pdo = null;
```

LISTING 11.25 Closing the connection

Using Transactions

mysqli

```
$connection = mysqli_connect($host, $user, $pass, $database);
...
/* set autocommit to off. If autocommit is on, then mysql will
commit (i.e., make the data change permanent) each command after
it is executed */
mysqli_autocommit($connection, FALSE);

/* insert some values */
$result1 = mysqli_query($connection,
    "INSERT INTO Categories (CategoryName) VALUES ('Philosophy')");
$result2 = mysqli_query($connection,
    "INSERT INTO Categories (CategoryName) VALUES ('Art')");

if ($result1 && $result2) {
    /* commit transaction */
    mysqli_commit($connection);
}
else {
    /* rollback transaction */
    mysqli_rollback($connection);
}
```

LISTING 11.26 Using transactions (mysqli extension)

Using Transactions

PDO

```
$pdo = new PDO($connString,$user,$pass);
// turn on exceptions so that exception is thrown if error occurs
$pdo->setAttribute(PDO::ATTR_ERRMODE, PDO::ERRMODE_EXCEPTION);
...
try {
    // begin a transaction
    $pdo->beginTransaction();

    // a set of queries: if one fails, an exception will be thrown
    $pdo->query("INSERT INTO Categories (CategoryName) VALUES
        ('Philosophy')");
    $pdo->query("INSERT INTO Categories (CategoryName) VALUES
        ('Art')");

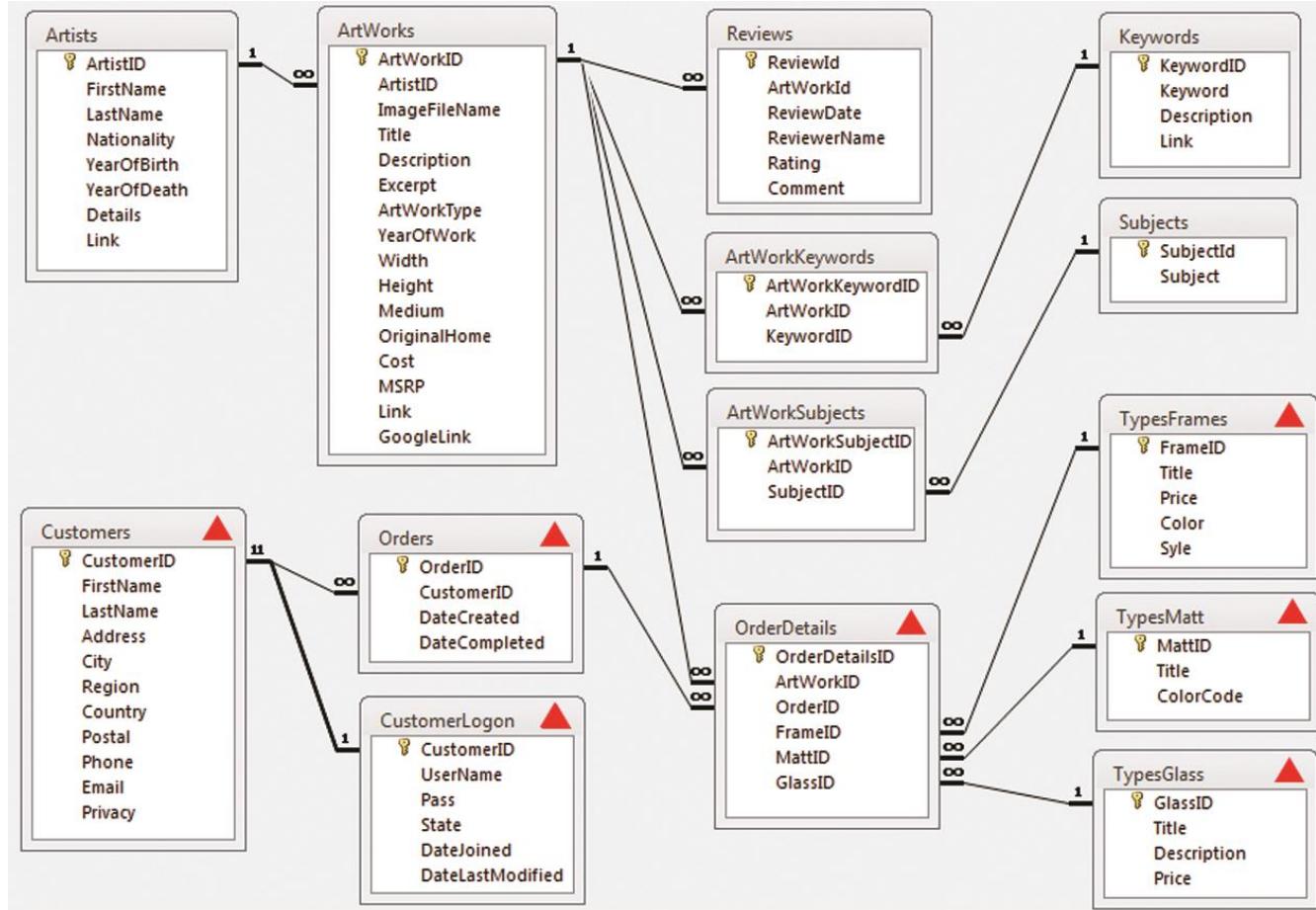
    // if we arrive here, it means that no exception was thrown
    // which means no query has failed, so we can commit the
    // transaction
    $pdo->commit();
} catch (Exception $e) {
    // we must rollback the transaction since an error occurred
    // with insert
    $pdo->rollback();
}
```

LISTING 11.27 Using transactions (PDO)

Case Study Schemas

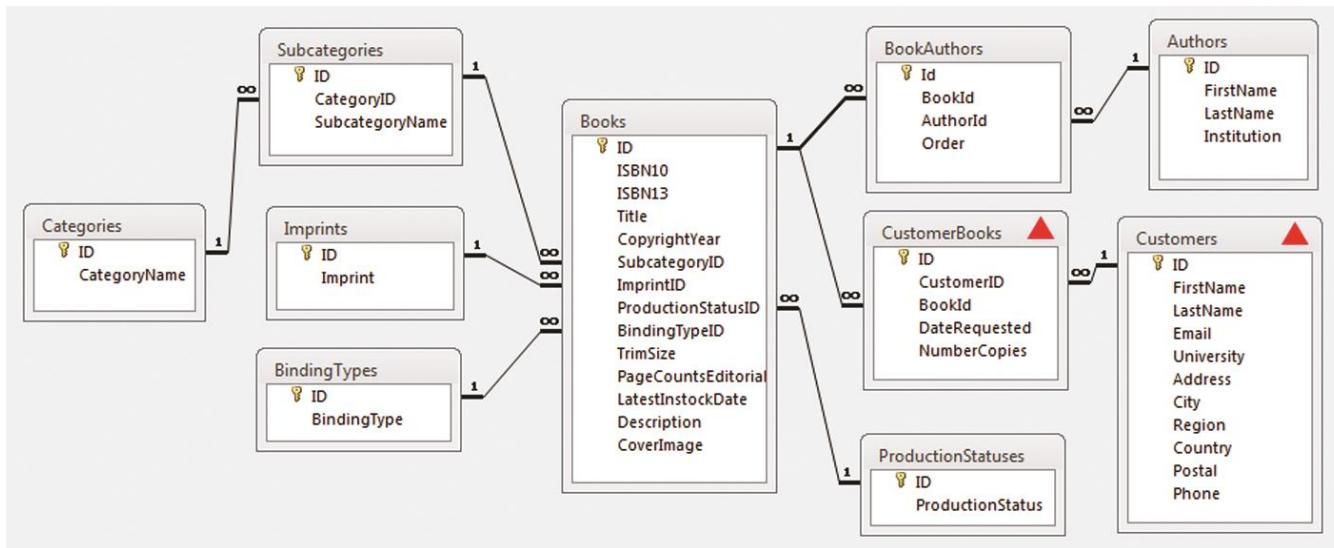
Section [6](#) of 7

Art Database

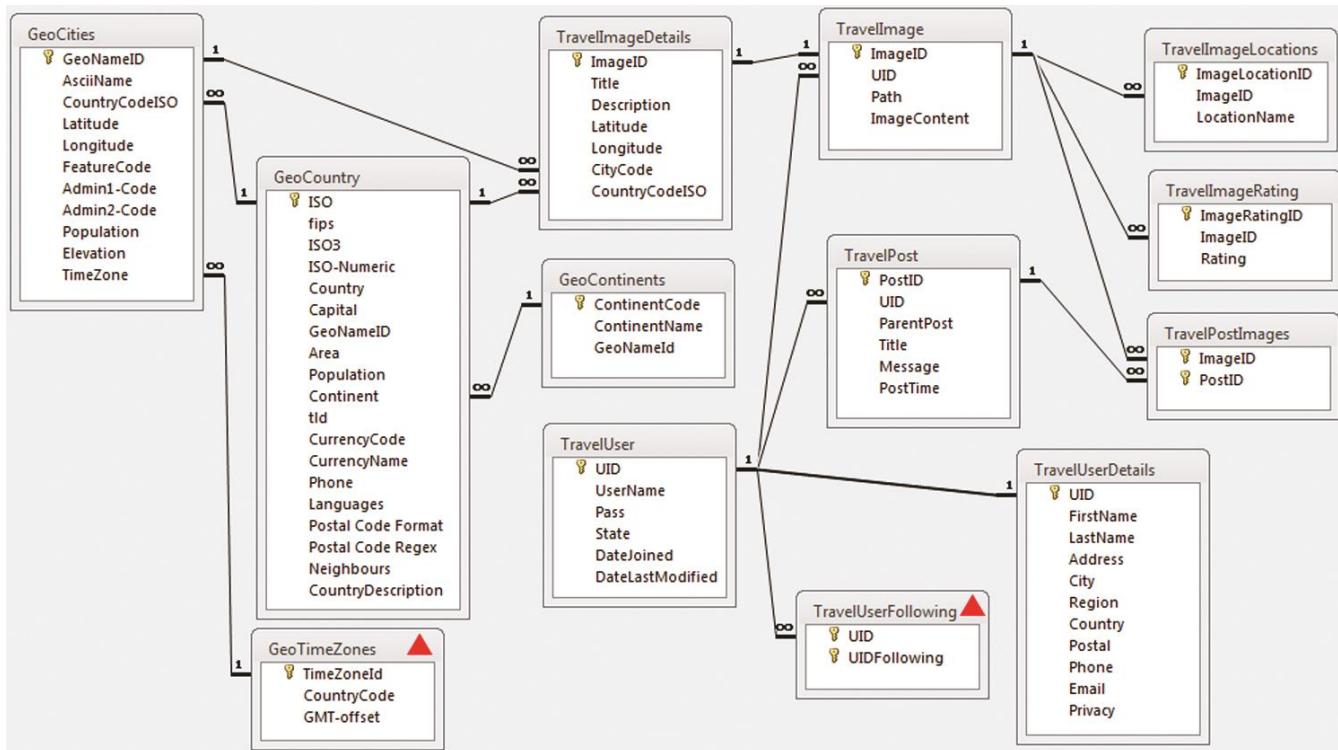


Book CRM Database

Customer Relationship Management



Travel Photo Sharing Database



Sample Database Techniques

Section [7](#) of 7

Display a list of Links

One of the most common database tasks in PHP is to display a list of links (i.e., a series of `` elements within a ``).

```
<ul>
    <li><a href="list.php?category=7">Business</a></li>
    <li><a href="list.php?category=2">Computer Science</a></li>
    <li><a href="list.php?category=3">Economics</a></li>
    <li><a href="list.php?category=9">Engineering</a></li>
    <li><a href="list.php?category=4">English</a></li>
    <li><a href="list.php?category=6">Mathematics</a></li>
    <li><a href="list.php?category=8">Statistics</a></li>
    <li><a href="list.php?category=5">Student Success</a></li>
</ul>
```

Display a list of Links

At its simplest, the code would look something like the following:

```
$sql = "SELECT * FROM Categories ORDER BY CategoryName";
$result = $pdo->query($sql);
while ($row = $result->fetch()) {
    echo '<li>';
    echo '<a href="list.php?category=' . $row['ID']
. '">';
    echo $row['CategoryName'];
    echo '</a>';
    echo '</li>';
}
```

Display a list of Links

More maintainable version

```
<ul>
<?php
$result = getResults(); // some function that returns the result set
while ($row = $result->fetch()) {
?>
    <li>
        <a href="list.php?category=<?php echo $row['ID']; ?>">
            <?php echo $row['CategoryName']; ?>
        </a>
    </li>
<?php } ?>
</ul>
```

LISTING 11.28 Alternate list of links example

Search and Results Page

Visual of search box, results page, and no results page

The figure consists of three screenshots of a web browser window. The top screenshot shows a search form with a placeholder 'Enter search string'. The middle screenshot shows the same form with 'business' typed into it, and a table of search results below. The bottom screenshot shows the same form with 'zxcz' typed into it, resulting in an empty table.

1 What is displayed when the page is first requested

Display the user's search term in the text box

2 Search results displayed in simple HTML table

To aid in debugging, we will use HTTP GET.

3 If there are no matches, won't display anything (later we can add error messages)

ID	Title	Year
0321838696	Business Statistics: A First Course	2014
0321836510	Statistics for Business: Decision Making and Analysis	2014
032182623X	Statistics for Business and Economics	2014
0132898357	Mathematics for Business	2014
0133011208	Business Math	2014
0133140423	Business Math Brief	2014
0132666790	Essentials of Entrepreneurship and Small Business Management	2014
013261930X	English for Careers: Business, Professional, and Technical	2014
0132971275	Intercultural Business Communication	2014
0133059049	Better Business	2014
0133063003	International Business	2014
0132971321	Business Communication Essentials	2014
0132846918	Digital Business Networks	2014
0133059510	Business Communication	2014
013610066X	Business Intelligence	2011

Search and Results Page

In this example, we will assume that there is a text box with the name txtSearch in which the user enters a search string along with a Submit button.

The data that we will filter is the Book table; we will display any book records that contain the user-entered text in the Title field.

```
// add SQL wildcard characters to search term
$searchFor = '%' . $_GET['txtSearch'] . '%';
$sql = "SELECT * FROM Books WHERE Title Like ?";
$statement = $pdo->prepare($sql);
$statement->bindValue(1, $searchFor);
$statement->execute();
```

Search and Results Page

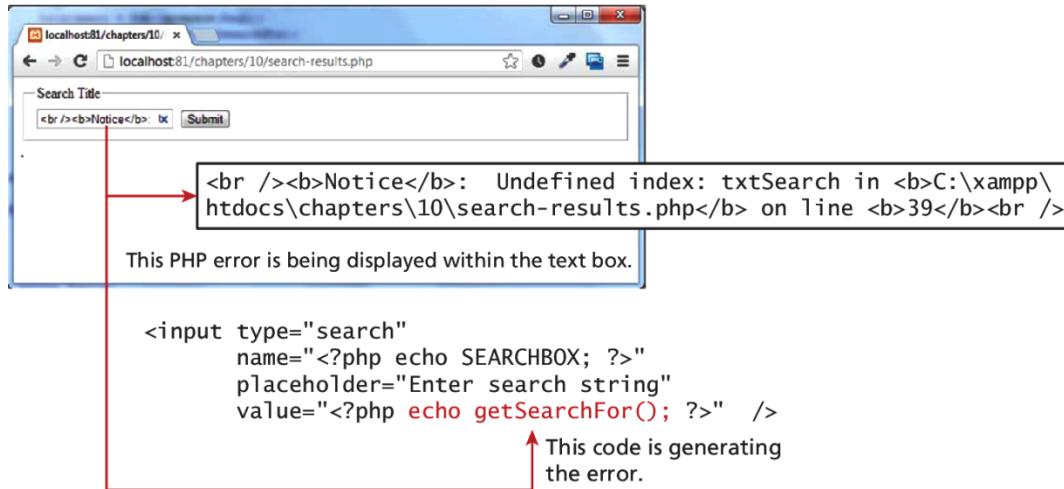
To redisplay the search term we will add code like:

```
<input  
    type="search"  
    name="txtSearch"  
    placeholder="Enter search string"  
    value=<?php echo $_GET['txtSearch']; ?> />
```

To where we generate the form. Unfortunately...

Search and Results Page

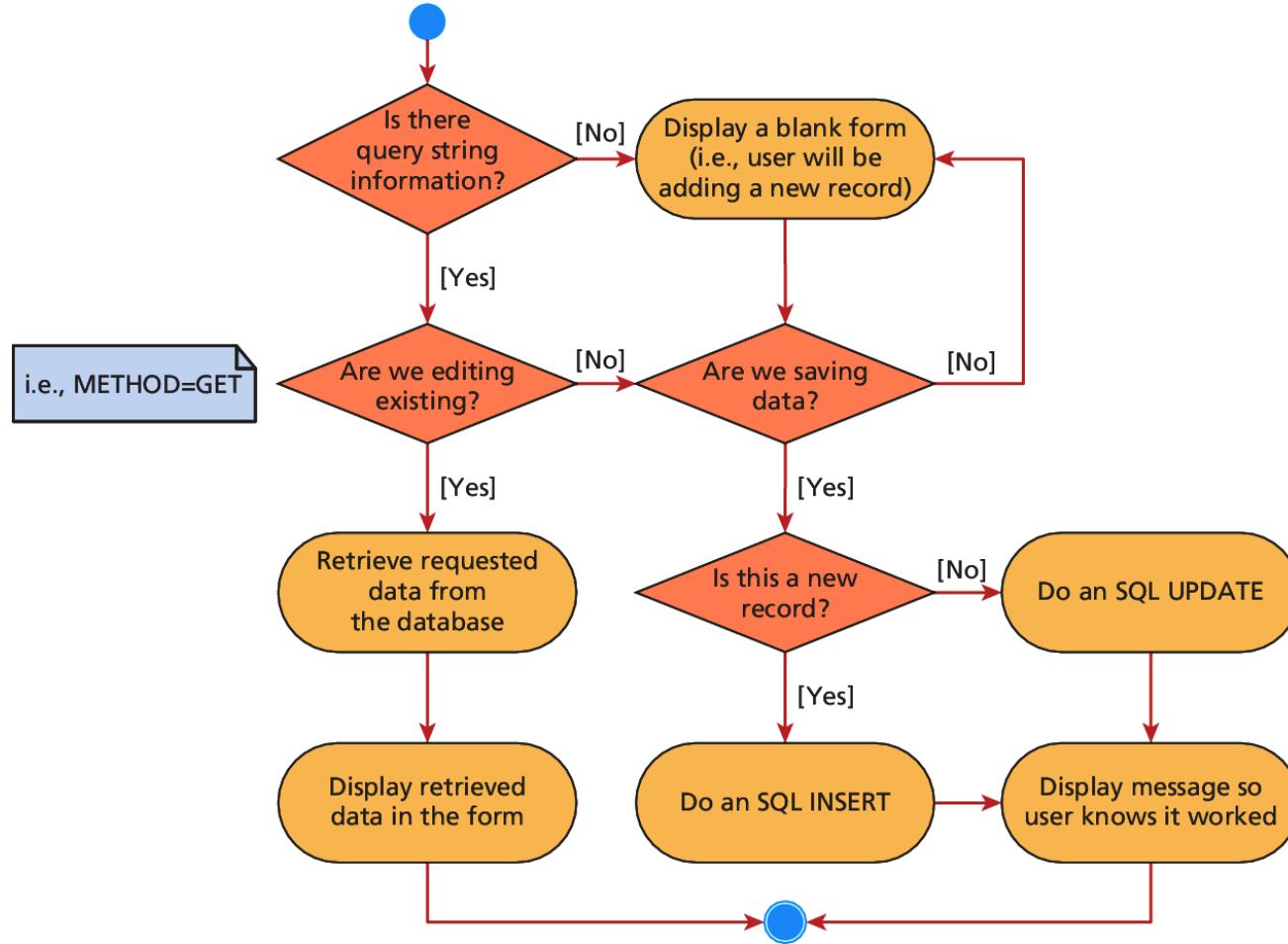
Problem to be solved



```
function getSearchFor()
{
    $value = "";
    if (isset($_GET[SEARCHBOX])) {
        $value = $_GET[SEARCHBOX];
    }
    return $value;
}
```

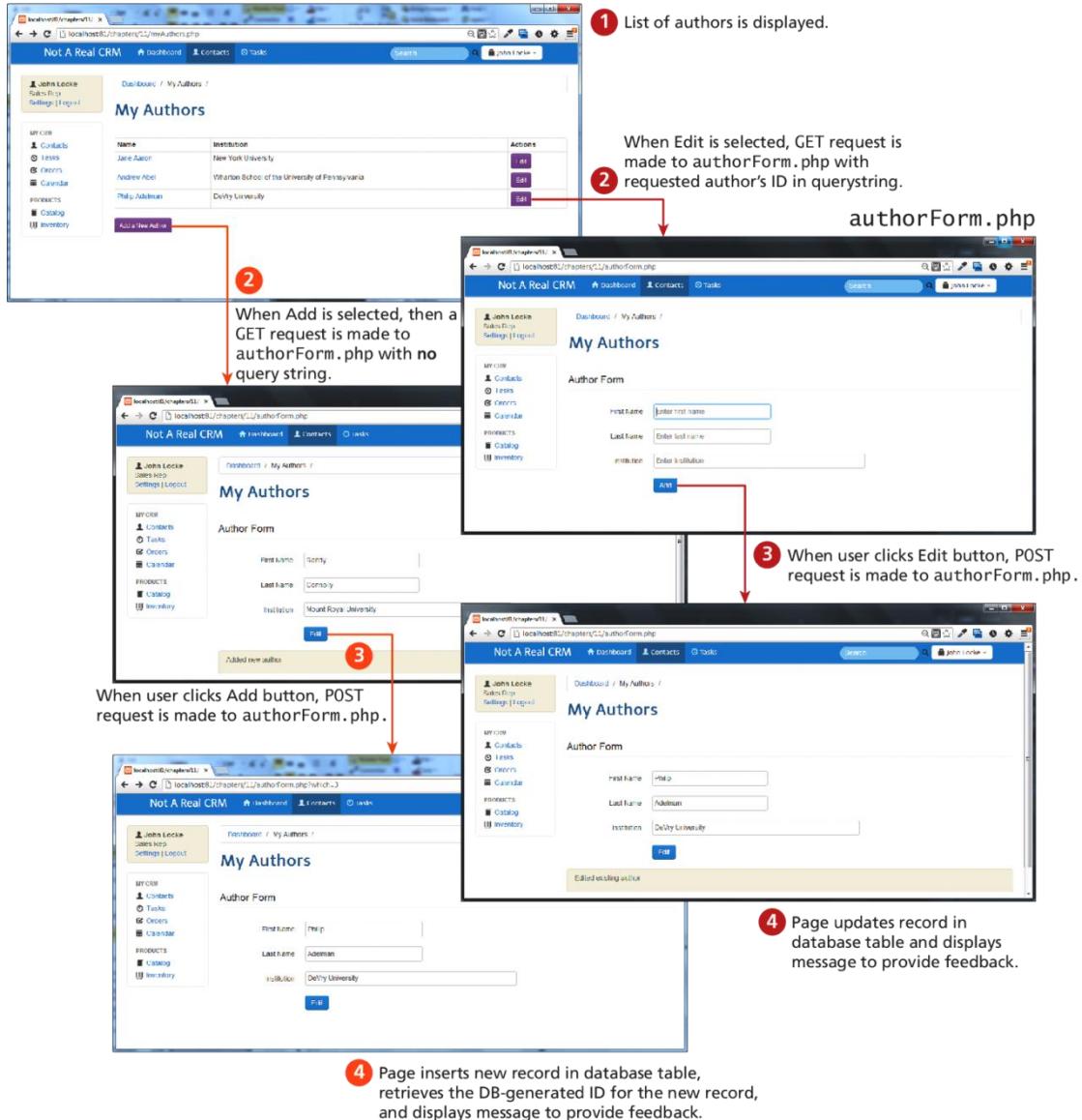
LISTING 11.30 Solution to search results page problem

Editing a Record



Editing a Record

myAuthors.php



Files in the Database

There are two ways of storing files in a database:

1. Storing file location in the database, and storing the file on the server's filesystem
2. Storing the file itself in the database in the form of a binary BLOB

Files in the Database

As a file Location

Some page in the browser



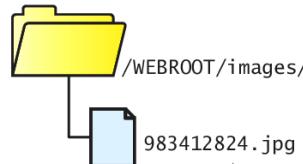
```
<form enctype='multipart/form-data' method='post' action='upFile.php'>
  <input type='file' name='file1'></input>
  <input type='submit'></input>
</form>
```

1 User uploads file

C:\Users\ricardo\Pictures\Sample1.png Browse... Submit Query

upFile.php

2 PHP script retrieves uploaded file from
\$_FILES array, gives it a unique file name,
and then moves it to special location.



ID	UID	Path	ImageContent
..
280	35	/images/983412824.jpg	...

3 PHP script then saves
this information in
database table.



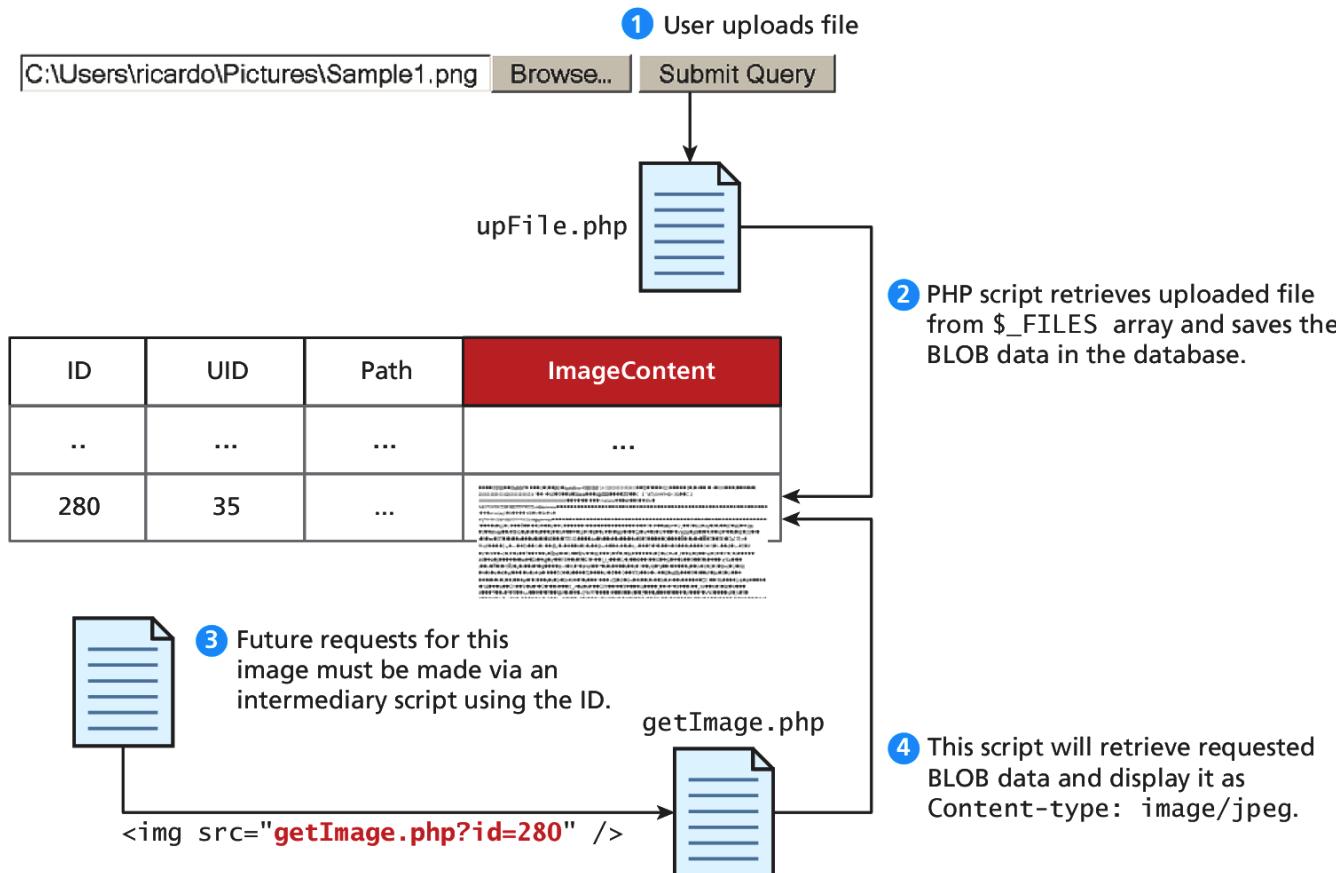
```

```

4 Future requests for this
image can be made by any
page by using the path of
the file.

Files in the Database

As a BLOB



Files in the Database

Storing and retrieving BLOBs

```
$fileContent = file_get_contents("someImage.jpg");
$sql = "INSERT INTO TravelImage (ImageContent) VALUES(:data)";

$statement = $pdo->prepare($sql);
$statement->bindParam(':data', $fileContent, PDO::PARAM_LOB);
$statement->execute();
```

LISTING 11.35 Code to save file contents in a BLOB field

```
// retrieve blob content from database
$sql = "SELECT * FROM TravelImage WHERE ImageID=:id";
$statement = $pdo->prepare($sql);
$statement->bindParam(':id', $_GET['id']);
$statement->execute();

$result = $statement->fetch(PDO::FETCH_ASSOC);
if ($result) {
    // Output the MIME header
    header("Content-type: image/jpeg");
    // Output the image
    echo ($result["ImageContent"]);
}
```

LISTING 11.36 Code to fetch and echo BLOB image

Files in the Database

Storing and retrieving BLOBs

Listing 11.36 can then be integrated into HTML image tags by pointing the src attribute to our script

```

```

Would now reference a dynamic PHP script like:

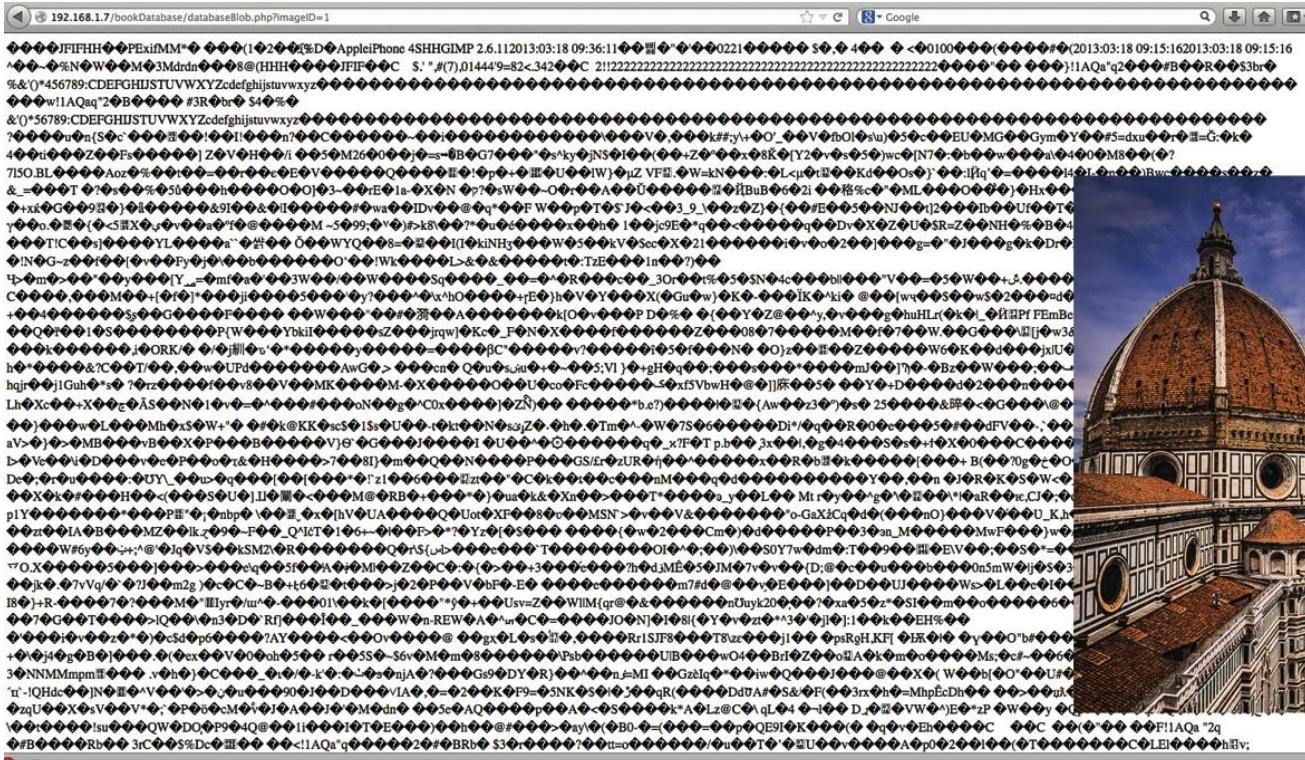
```

```

Files in the Database

HTTP headers matter

The same file output with correct and incorrect header
s is interpreted differently by the browser



What You've Learned

- Database and Web Development
- Structured Query Language (SQL)
- Database APIs
- Managing a MySQL Database
- Accessing MySQL in PHP
- Case Study Schemas
- Sample Database Techniques