

# CS100: Software Tools & Technologies Lab I

## PHP Forms and Files

**Vishwesh Jatala**

Assistant Professor

Department of EECS

Indian Institute of Technology Bhilai

[vishwesh@iitbhilai.ac.in](mailto:vishwesh@iitbhilai.ac.in)



2022-23 W

# File Handling

- File Handling
  - Open and Close
  - Read and Modify
  - Directory operations



---

# Open/Close a File

- A file is opened with `fopen()` as a “stream”, and PHP returns a ‘handle’ to the file that can be used to reference the open file in other functions.
  - Each file is opened in a particular **mode**.
  - A file is closed with `fclose()` or when your script ends.
-

# File Open Modes

<code>'r'</code>	Open for reading only. Start at beginning of file.
<code>'r+'</code>	Open for reading and writing. Start at beginning of file.
<code>'w'</code>	Open for writing only. Remove all previous content, if file doesn't exist, create it.
<code>'a'</code>	Open writing, but start at END of current content.
<code>'a+'</code>	Open for reading and writing, start at END and create file if necessary.

# File Open/Close Example

```
<?php
// open file to read
$storead = fopen('some/file.ext','r');
// open (possibly new) file to write
$towrite = fopen('some/file.ext','w');
// close both files
fclose($storead);
fclose($towrite);
?>
```

---

# Now what..?

- If you open a file to read, you can use more in-built PHP functions to read data..
  - If you open the file to write, you can use more in-built PHP functions to write..
-

---

# Reading Data

- There are two main functions to read data:
  - **fgets (\$handle)**
    - function returns a line from an open file.
  - **fread (\$handle, \$bytes)**
    - Reads up to \$bytes of data, stops at EOF.
-

---

# Reading Data

- We need to be aware of the End Of File (EOF) point..
- **feof(\$handle)**
  - Whether the file has reached the EOF point. Returns true if have reached EOF.



# Data Reading Example

```
$handle = fopen('people.txt', 'r');
```

```
while (!feof($handle)) {  
    echo fgets($handle);  
    echo '<br />';  
}
```

```
fclose($handle);
```

# File Open shortcuts..

- There are two 'shortcut' functions that don't require a file to be opened:
- `$lines = file($filename)`
  - Reads entire file into an array with each line a separate entry in the array.
- `$str = file_get_contents($filename)`
  - Reads entire file into a single string.

# Writing Data

- To write data to a file use:
- **`fwrite`** (`$handle`, `$data`)
  - Write `$data` to the file.

# Data Writing Example

```
$handle = fopen('people.txt', 'a');
```

```
fwrite($handle, "\nFred:Male");
```

```
fclose($handle);
```

# Other File Operations

- Delete file
  - `unlink ( 'filename' ) ;`
- Rename (file or directory)
  - `rename ( 'old name' , 'new name' ) ;`
- Copy file
  - `copy ( 'source' , 'destination' ) ;`
- And many, many more!
  - [www.php.net/manual/en/ref.filesystem.php](http://www.php.net/manual/en/ref.filesystem.php)

# Dealing With Directories

- Open a directory
  - `$handle = opendir('dirname');`
    - `$handle` 'points' to the directory
- Read contents of directory
  - `readdir($handle)`
    - Returns name of next file in directory
    - Files are sorted as on filesystem
- Close a directory
  - `closedir($handle)`
    - Closes directory 'stream'

# Directory Example

```
$handle = opendir( './' );  
  
while( false != ( $file = readdir( $handle ) ) )  
{  
    echo "$file<br />";  
}  
  
closedir( $handle );
```

# Other Directory Operations

- Get current directory
  - `getcwd()`
- Change Directory
  - `chdir('dirname');`
- Create directory
  - `mkdir('dirname');`
- Delete directory (MUST be empty)
  - `rmdir('dirname');`
- And more!
  - [www.php.net/manual/en/ref.dir.php](http://www.php.net/manual/en/ref.dir.php)



# PHP Handling Forms

# Forms – User Input / Action

```
<p>Guessing game...</p>
```

```
<form>
```

```
  <p><label for="guess">Input Guess</label>
```

```
  <input type="text" name="guess" id="guess"/></p>
```

```
  <input type="submit"/>
```

```
</form>
```



---

# Forms GET vs. POST

Two ways the browser can send parameters to the web server

- **GET** - Parameters are placed on the URL which is retrieved.
  - **POST** - The URL is retrieved and parameters are appended to the request in the HTTP connection.
-

# Forms Submit Data

```
<p>Guessing game...</p>
```

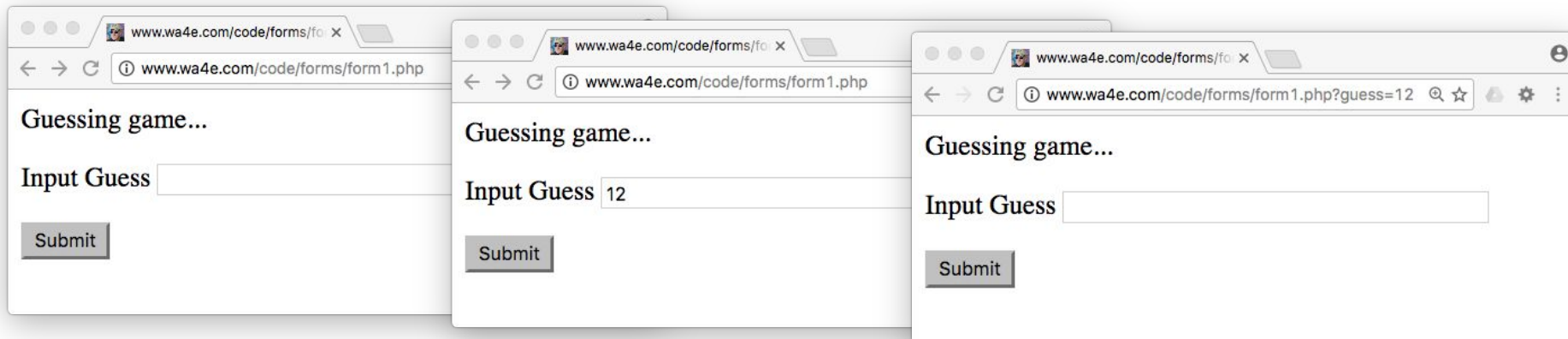
```
<form>
```

```
  <p><label for="guess">Input Guess</label>
```

```
    <input type="text" name="guess"
id="guess" /></p>
```

```
    <input type="submit" />
```

```
</form>
```



```
<p>Guessing game...</p>
```

```
<form>
```

```
    <p><label for="guess">Input Guess</label>
```

```
    <input type="text" name="guess" id="guess"/></p>
```

```
    <input type="submit"/>
```

```
</form>
```

```
<pre>
```

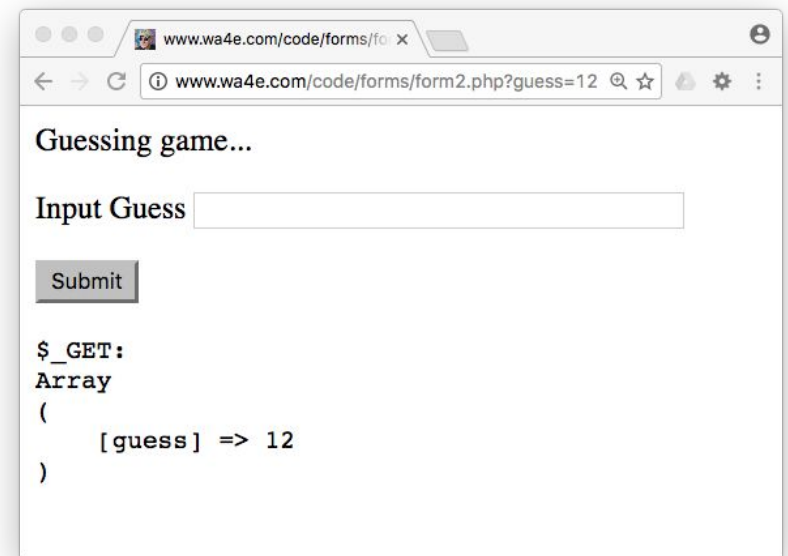
```
$_GET:
```

```
<?php
```

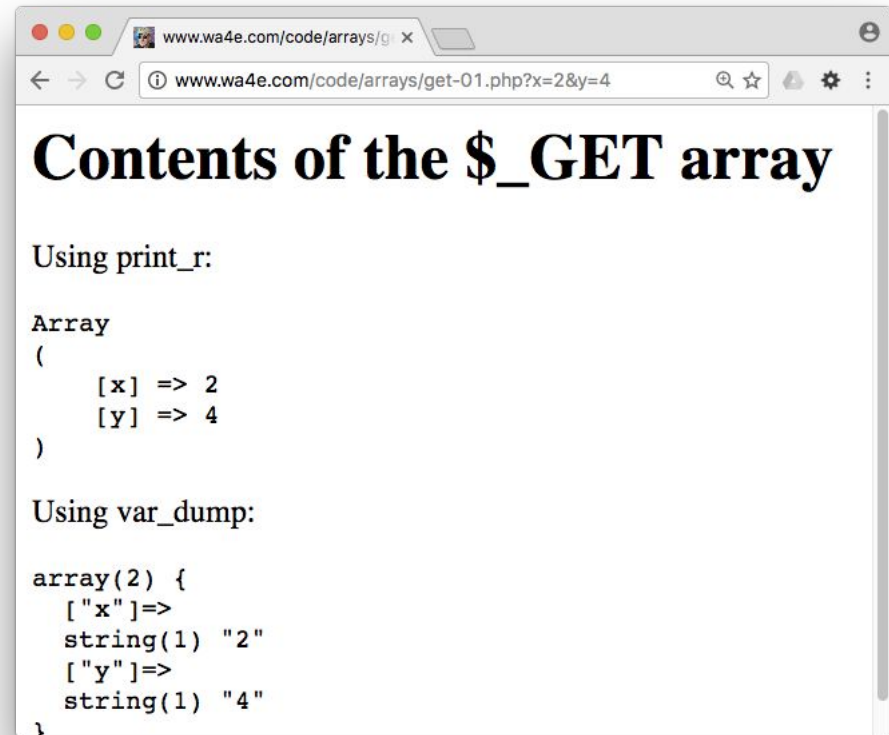
```
    print_r($_GET);
```

```
?>
```

```
</pre>
```



```
<h1>Contents of the $_GET array</h1>
<p>Using print_r:</p>
<pre>
<?php
    print_r($_GET);
?>
</pre>
<p>Using var_dump:</p>
<pre>
<?php
    var_dump($_GET);
?>
</pre>
```



```
<html>
<head>
<title>Guessing Game for Charles Severance</title>
</head>
<body>
<h1>Welcome to my guessing game</h1>
<p>
<?php
    if ( ! isset($_GET['guess']) ) {
        echo("Missing guess parameter");
    } else if ( strlen($_GET['guess']) < 1 ) {
        echo("Your guess is too short");
    } else if ( ! is_numeric($_GET['guess']) ) {
        echo("Your guess is not a number");
    } else if ( $_GET['guess'] < 42 ) {
        echo("Your guess is too low");
    } else if ( $_GET['guess'] > 42 ) {
        echo("Your guess is too high");
    } else {
        echo("Congratulations – You are right");
    }
?>
</p>
</body>
</html>
```



# Forms Post Method

```
<p>Guessing game...</p>
<form method="post">
    <p><label for="guess">Input Guess</label>
    <input type="text" name="guess" size="40" id="guess"/></p>
    <input type="submit"/>
</form>
<pre>
$_POST:
<?php
    print_r($_POST);
?>
$_GET:
<?php
    print_r($_GET);
?>
</pre>
```





# Transfer Data to Another Page

```
<html>
```

```
<body>
```

```
<form action="welcome.php" method="post">
```

```
Name: <input type="text" name="name"><br>
```

```
E-mail: <input type="text" name="email"><br>
```

```
<input type="submit">
```

```
</form>
```

```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```

# Transfer Data to Another Page

Name:

E-mail:

---

# Transfer Data to Another Page

```
<html>
```

```
<body>
```

```
Welcome <?php echo $_POST["name"]; ?><br>
```

```
Your email address is: <?php echo $_POST["email"]; ?>
```

```
</body>
```

```
</html>
```

---

---

# Transfer Data to Another Page

Welcome vishweshjatala

Your email address is: vishweshjatala@gmail.com

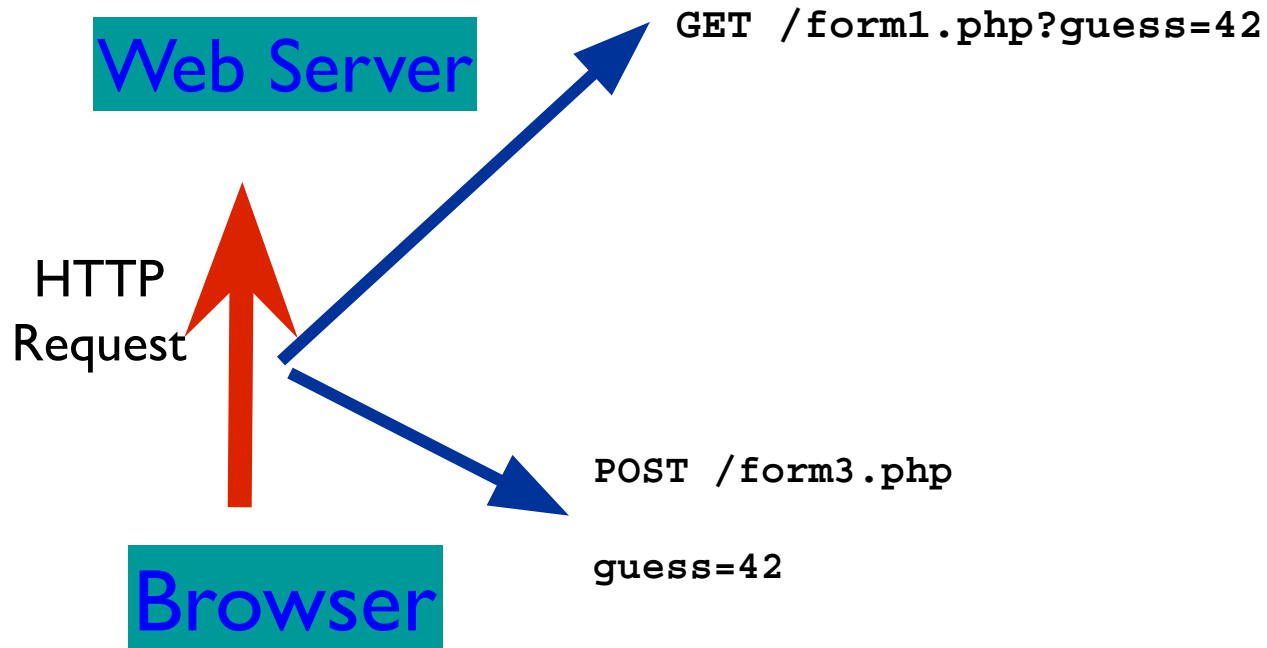
---

# PHP Get and Post

```
<p>Guessing game...</p>
<form method="post">
    <p><label for="guess">Input Guess</label>
    <input type="text" name="guess" size="40" id="guess"/></p>
    <input type="submit"/>
</form>
<pre>
$_POST:
<?php
    print_r($_POST);
?>
$_GET:
<?php
    print_r($_GET);
?>
</pre>
```



# Passing Parameters to The Server



```
<input type="text" name="guess" id="yourid" />
```

---

# Rules of the POST/GET Choice

- POST is used when data needs to be hidden -- sensitive information
  - GET is used when you are reading or searching things.
  - Web search spiders will follow GET URLs but generally not POST URLs.
  - GET has an upper limit of the number of bytes of parameters and values (think about 2K).
-

---

# Form Input Types

---



# Other Input Types

- **Text**
- **Password**
- **Radio Button**
- **Check Box**
- **Select / Drop-Down**
- **Textarea**

The screenshot shows a web browser window with the URL `www.wa4e.com/code/forms/more.php`. The page contains a form with the following elements:

- Account:** A text input field.
- Password:** A password input field.
- Nick Name:** A text input field.
- Preferred Time:** Two radio buttons labeled **AM** and **PM**, with **PM** selected.
- Classes taken:** Three checkboxes labeled **SI502 - Networked Tech** (checked), **SI539 - App Engine**, and **SI543 - Java**.
- Which soda:** A dropdown menu showing **-- Please Select --**.
- Which snack:** A dropdown menu showing **Peanuts**.
- Tell us about yourself:** A large text area containing the text **I love building web sites in PHP and MySQL.**
- Which are awesome?:** A list box with the options **Python**, **CSS**, **HTML**, and **PHP**, where **Python** is selected.
- Submit** and **Escape** buttons.

Below the form, the PHP `$_POST` array is displayed as an empty array:

```
$_POST:  
Array  
(  
)
```

# Input as Text

```
<p>Many field types...</p>
<form method="post" action="more.php">
  <p><label for="inp01">Account:</label>
  <input type="text" name="account" id="inp01" size="40" ></p>
  <p><label for="inp02">Password:</label>
  <input type="password" name="pw" id="inp02" size="40" ></p>
  <p><label for="inp03">Nick Name:</label>
  <input type="text" name="nick" id="inp03" size="40" ></p>
```

Account:

Password:

Nick Name:

```
$_POST:
Array
(
    [account] => Beth
    [pw] => 12345
    [nick] => BK
    [when] => pm
    ...
)
```

# Input as Radio Button

```
<p>Preferred Time:<br/>
```

```
<input type="radio" name="when" value="am">AM<br>
```

```
<input type="radio" name="when" value="pm" checked>PM
```

```
</p>
```

Nick Name:

Preferred Time:

☐ AM

☒ PM

Classes taken:

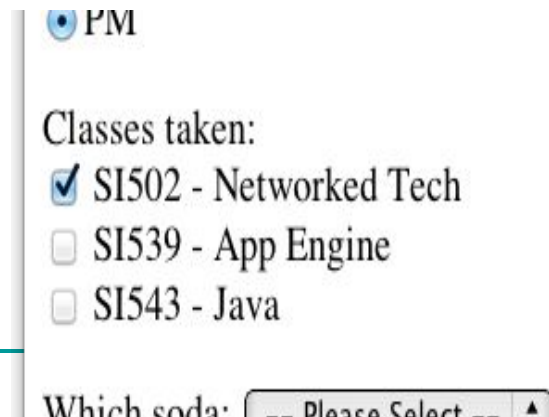
☒ SI502 Networked Tech

```
$_POST:
Array(
    ...
    [nick] => BK
    [when] => pm
    [class] => si502
    ...
)
```

# Input as Checkbox

```
<p>Classes taken:<br/>
  <input type="checkbox" name="class1" value="si502"
checked>
    SI502 - Networked Tech<br>
  <input type="checkbox" name="class2" value="si539">
    SI539 - App Engine<br>
  <input type="checkbox" name="class3">
    SI543 - Java<br>
</p>
```

```
$_POST:
Array(
    ...
    [when] => pm
    [class1] => si502
    [soda] => 0
    ...
)
```



PM

Classes taken:

- ☒ SI502 - Networked Tech
- ☐ SI539 - App Engine
- ☐ SI543 - Java

Which soda: --- Please Select ---

```
$_POST:
Array(
    ...
    [when] => pm
    [class3] => on
    [soda] => 0
    ...
)
```

```
<p><label for="inp06">Which soda:
  <select name="soda" id="inp06">
    <option value="0">-- Please Select --</option>
    <option value="1">Coke</option>
    <option value="2">Pepsi</option>
    <option value="3">Mountain Dew</option>
    <option value="4">Orange Juice</option>
    <option value="5">Lemonade</option>
  </select>
</p>
```

☐ SI543 - Java

Which soda:

Which snack:

Tell us about yourself:

```
$_POST:
Array(
    ...
    [class] => si502
    [soda] => 0
    [snack] => peanuts
    ...
)
```

The values can be any string, but numbers are used quite often.

# Input as Dropbox

```
<p><label for="inp07">Which snack:  
  <select name="snack" id="inp07">  
    <option value="">-- Please Select --</option>  
    <option value="chips">Chips</option>  
    <option value="peanuts" selected>Peanuts</option>  
    <option value="cookie">Cookie</option>  
  </select>  
</p>
```

☐ SI543 - Java

Which soda:

Which snack:

Tell us about yourself:

```
$_POST:  
Array(  
    ...  
    [class] => si502  
    [soda] => 0  
    [snack] => peanuts  
    ...  
)
```

# Input as Textarea

```
<p><label for="inp08">Tell us about yourself:<br/>
  <textarea rows="10" cols="40" id="inp08" name="about">
    I love building web sites in PHP and MySQL.
  </textarea>
</p>
```

A screenshot of a web form. At the top, there is a label 'WHICH SNACK:' followed by a dropdown menu showing 'Peanuts'. Below this is a text area with the label 'Tell us about yourself:'. The text area contains the text 'I love building web sites in PHP and MySQL.'. At the bottom of the form, there are two buttons: 'Submit' and 'Escape'.

```
$_POST:
Array(
    ...
    [about] => I love
building web sites in PHP
and MySQL.
    [dopost] => Submit
    ...
)
```

# Input as Multiple Options

```
<p><label for="inp09">Which are awesome?<br/>
<select multiple="multiple" name="code[]" id="inp09">
  <option value="python">Python</option>
  <option value="css">CSS</option>
  <option value="html">HTML</option>
  <option value="php">PHP</option>
</select>
```

Which are awesome?

Python
CSS
HTML
PHP

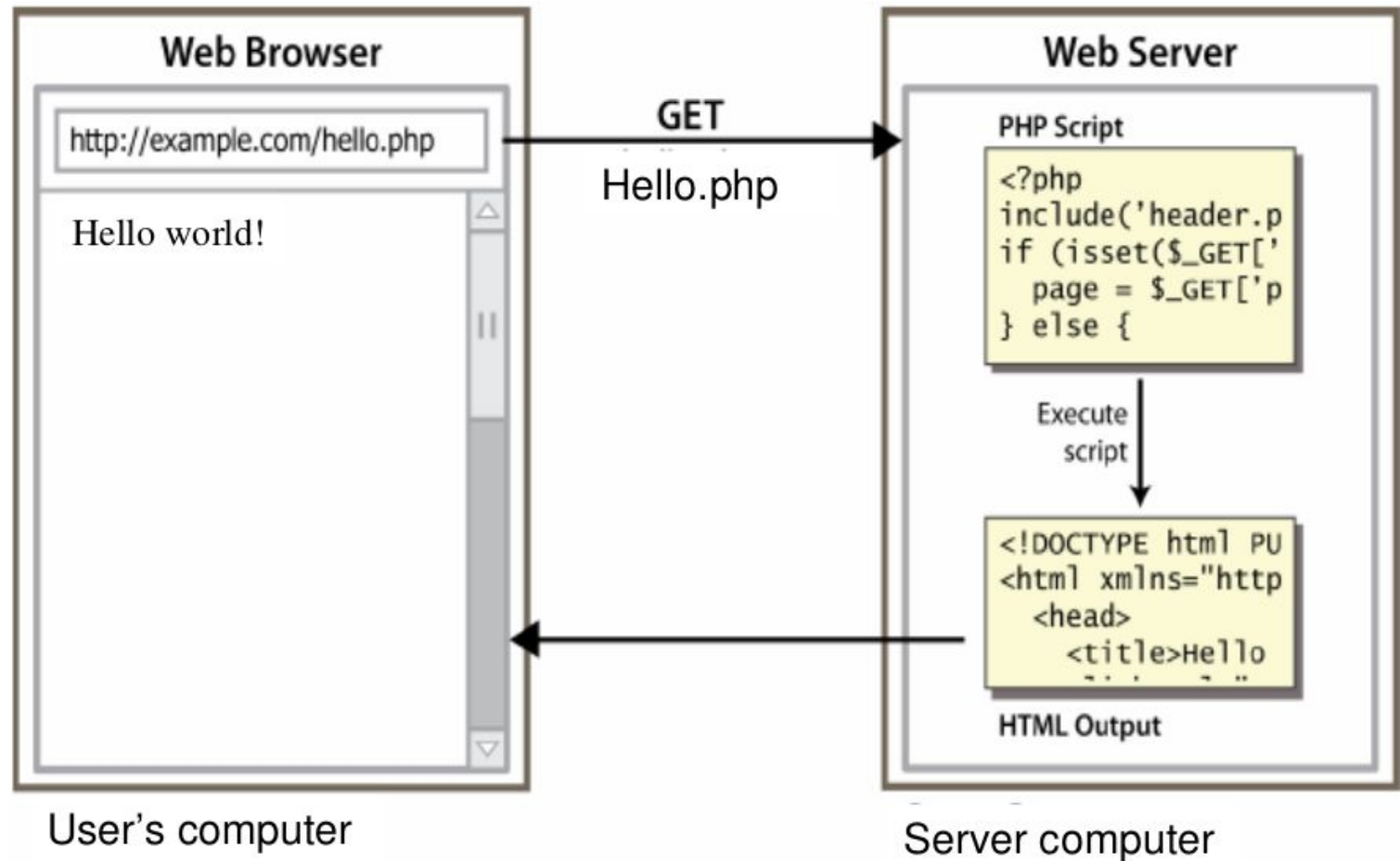
Submit

Escape

```
$_POST:
Array(
    ...
    [code] => Array
        (
            [0] => python
            [1] => html
        )
    [dopost] => Submit
    ...
)
```



# Client Server Model



---

# PHP More Features

- Form validation using regular expressions
  - Handling session management
  - Database Connection
-

---

# References

- Miscellaneous resource from internet



**Thank you!**