PHP Session and Cookie



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Dept. of Computer Science Faculty of Science and Technology

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Lecture Outline



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 - I. Example of session
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Learning outcome



 In this lecture, we will learn temporary storage like Session & Cookie and their usage using PHP.

What is a Cookie?



- A cookie is often used to identify a user. A cookie is a small file that the server embeds on the user's computer.
- Each time the same computer requests a page with a browser, it will send the cookie too.
- With PHP, you can both create and retrieve cookie values.
- setcookie(name, value, expire, path, domain, secure, httponly);



Example of Cookie

```
<?php
$cookie_name = "user";
$cookie_value = "Alex Porter";
setcookie($cookie_name, $cookie_value, time() + (86400 * 30), "/");
?>
<html>
<body>
<?php
if(!isset($ COOKIE[$cookie name])) {
    echo "Cookie named '" . $cookie name . "' is not set!";
} else {
    echo "Cookie '" . $cookie_name . "' is set!<br>";
   echo "Value is: " . $ COOKIE[$cookie name];
</body>
</html>
```



Delete a Cookie

```
<?php
// set the expiration date to one hour ago
setcookie("user", "", time() - 3600);
?>
```

Check if Cookies are Enabled

```
<?php
if(count($_COOKIE) > 0) {
    echo "Cookies are enabled.";
} else {
    echo "Cookies are disabled.";
}
```

PHP Session



- A session is a way to store information (in variables) to be used across multiple pages.
- Unlike a cookie, the information is not stored on the users computer.
- Session variables hold information about one single user, and are available to all pages in one application.
- A session is started with the session_start() function.
- Session variables are set with the PHP global variable: \$_SESSION.
- The session_start() function must be the very first thing in your document. Before any HTML tags.



Example of session

```
<?php
session_start();
?>
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>
<?php
// to change a session variable, just overwrite it
$ SESSION["favcolor"] = "yellow";
print_r($_SESSION);
?>
</body>
</html>
To remove or destroy session.
<?php
// remove all session variables
session_unset();
?>
```

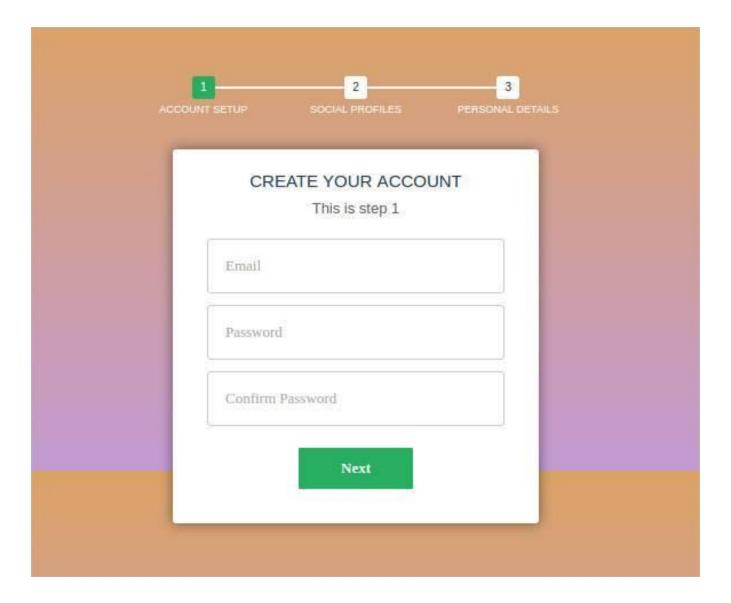
Uses of session



- PHP Login Form with Sessions
- Creating a multi-page registration form using PHP and session.
- Creating a multi-page order form using PHP and Sessions.
- More details, we will see in the lab class.



Uses of session





Uses of session

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Step 1: Create your account

Email address Email Password Password

Books



- W3Schools Online Web Tutorials; URL: http://www.w3schools.com
- PHP Documentation; URL: http://www.php.net/docs.php
- Sams Teach Yourself Ajax JavaScript and PHP All in One; Phil Ballard and Michael Moncur; Sams Publishing; 2010
- JavaScript Phrasebook; Christian Wenz; Sams Publishing; 2007
- PHP and MySQL Web Development, 4/E; Luke Welling and Laura Thomson; Addison-Wesley Professional; 2009
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- Beginning PHP5, Apache, and MySQL Web Development; Elizabeth Naramore, Jason Gerner, Yann Le Scouarnec, Jeremy Stolz and Michael K. Glass; Wiley Publishing; 2005
- XML in a Nutshell, 3/E; Elliotte Rusty Harold and W. Scott Means;
 O'Reilly Media; 2004

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