# CSE3026: Web Application Development PHP

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## 5.1: Server-Side Basics

- 5.1: Server-Side Basics
- 5.2: PHP Basic Syntax
- 5.3: Embedded PHP
- 5.4: Advanced PHP Syntax

#### **URLs** and web servers

#### http://server/path/file

- usually when you type a URL in your browser:
  - your computer looks up the server's IP address using DNS
  - o your browser connects to that IP address and requests the given file
  - the web server software (e.g. Apache) grabs that file from the server's local file system, and sends back its contents to you
- some URLs actually specify *programs* that the web server should run, and then send their output back to you as the result: http://selab.hanyang.ac.kr/courses/cse326/2017/.../quote.php
  - the above URL tells the server selab.hanyang.ac.kr to run the program quote.php and send back its output

# Server-Side web programming









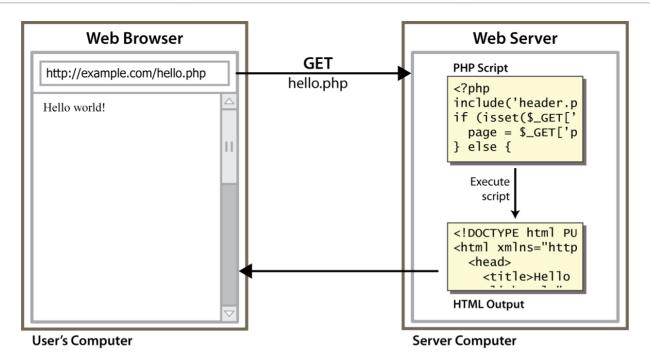
- server-side pages are programs written using one of many web programming languages/frameworks
  - examples: PHP, Java/JSP, Ruby on Rails, ASP.NET, Python, Perl
- the web server contains software that allows it to run those programs and send back their output
- each language/framework has its pros and cons
  - we use PHP for server-side programming in this textbook

# What is PHP?

- PHP stands for "PHP Hypertext Preprocessor"
- a server-side scripting language
- used to make web pages dynamic:
  - provide different content depending on context
  - interface with other services: database, e-mail, etc
  - authenticate users
  - process form information
- PHP code can be embedded in HTML code



# Lifecycle of a PHP web request



- browser requests a .html file (static content): server just sends that file
- browser requests a .php file (dynamic content): server reads it, runs any script code inside it, then sends result across the network
  - script produces output that becomes the response sent back

# Why PHP?

There are many other options for server-side languages: Ruby on Rails, JSP, ASP.NET, etc. Why choose PHP?

- free and open source: anyone can run a PHP-enabled server free of charge
- compatible: supported by most popular web servers
- simple: lots of built-in functionality; familiar syntax
- available: can easily be installed on your own computer and installed on most commercial web hosts
- well-documented: type php.net/functionName in browser Address bar to get docs for any function

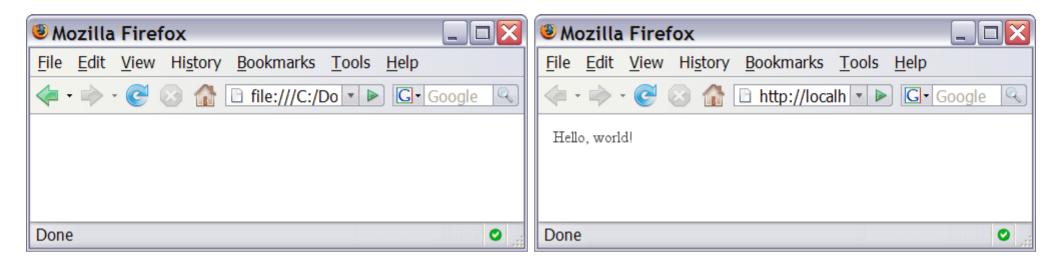
## Hello, World!

The following contents could go into a file hello.php:

```
<?php
print "Hello, world!";
?>
Hello, world!
```

- a block or file of PHP code begins with <?php and ends with ?>
- PHP statements, function declarations, etc. appear between these endpoints

#### **Viewing PHP output**



- you can't view your .php page on your local hard drive; you'll either see nothing or see the PHP source code
- if you upload the file to a PHP-enabled web server, requesting the .php file will run the program and send you back its output

# 5.2: PHP Basic Syntax

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## PHP syntax template

- any contents of a .php file between <?php and ?> are executed as PHP code
- all other contents are output as pure HTML
- can switch back and forth between HTML and PHP "modes"

#### **Comments**

```
# single-line comment

// single-line comment

/*
multi-line comment

*/
```

- like Java, but # is also allowed
  - a lot of PHP code uses # comments instead of //
  - we recommend # and will use it in our examples

# Console output: print

```
print "text";

print "Hello, World!\n";

print "Escape \"chars\" are the SAME as in Java!\n";

print "You can have
line breaks in a string.";

print 'A string can use "single-quotes". It\'s cool!';

Hello, World! Escape "chars" are the SAME as in Java! You can have line breaks in a string. A string can use "single-quotes". It's cool! output
```

• some PHP programmers use the equivalent echo instead of print

## **Arithmetic operators**

```
• + - * / %

• ++ --

= += -= *= /= %= .=
```

• many operators auto-convert types: 5 + "7" is 12

# Math operations

```
$a = 3;
$b = 4;
$c = sqrt(pow($a, 2) + pow($b, 2));
PHP
```

abs	ceil	cos	floor	log	log10	max
min	pow	rand	round	sin	sqrt	tan

math functions

M_PI	M_E	M_LN2
------	-----	-------

math constants

• the syntax for method calls, parameters, returns is the same as Java

#### **Variables**

```
$name = expression;

$user_name = "PinkHeartLuvr78";
$age = 16;
$drinking_age = $age + 5;
$this_class_rocks = TRUE;
PHP
```

- names are case sensitive; separate multiple words with \_
- names always begin with \$, on both declaration and usage
- implicitly declared by assignment (type is not written; a "loosely typed" language)

#### **Types**

```
basic types: int, float, boolean, string, array, object, NULL

test what type a variable is with is_type functions, e.g. is_string
gettype function returns a variable's type as a string (not often needed)

PHP converts between types automatically in many cases:

string → int auto-conversion on + ("1" + 1 == 2)
int → float auto-conversion on / (3 / 2 == 1.5)

type-cast with (type):

$age = (int) "21";
```

#### int and float types

- int for integers and float for reals
- division between two int values can produce a float

# **String** type

print "Today is your {\$age}th birthday.\n";

```
$favorite food = "Ethiopian";
print $favorite food[2];
                                     # h
  • zero-based indexing using bracket notation
  • string concatenation operator is • (period), not +
      • 5 + "2 turtle doves" produces 7
      • 5 . "2 turtle doves" produces "52 turtle doves"
  • can be specified with "" or ''
Interpreted strings
$age = 16;
print "You are " . $age . " years old.\n";
                                                                                                                    PHP
print "You are $age years old.\n"; # You are 16 years old.
  • strings inside " " are interpreted
      • variables that appear inside them will have their values inserted into the string
  • strings inside ' ' are not interpreted:
    print 'You are $age years old.\n'; # You are $age years old.\n
  • if necessary to avoid ambiguity, can enclose variable in {}:
    print "Today is your $ageth birthday.\n";
                                                    # $ageth not found
```

# String functions

Name	Java Equivalent
strlen	length
strpos	indexOf
substr	substring
strtolower, strtoupper	toLowerCase, toUpperCase
trim	trim
explode, implode	split, join
strcmp	compareTo

# bool (Boolean) type

```
$feels_like_summer = FALSE;
$php_is_rad = TRUE;
$student_count = 217;
$nonzero = (bool) $student_count; # TRUE
```

- the following values are considered to be FALSE (all others are TRUE):
  - 0 and 0.0
  - "", "0", and NULL (includes unset variables)
  - arrays with 0 elements
- can cast to boolean using (bool)
- FALSE prints as an empty string (no output); TRUE prints as a 1
- TRUE and FALSE keywords are case insensitive

# for loop

```
for (initialization; condition; update) {
    statements;
}

for ($i = 0; $i < 10; $i++) {
    print "$i squared is " . $i * $i . ".\n";
}</pre>
```

#### if/else statement

```
if (condition) {
    statements;
} elseif (condition) {
    statements;
} else {
    statements;
}
```

• NOTE: although elseif keyword is much more common, else if is also supported

# while loop (same as Java)

while (condition) {

```
statements;
}

do {
    statements;
} while (condition);

PHP
```

• break and continue keywords also behave as in Java

# 5.3: Embedded PHP

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## Printing HTML tags in PHP = bad style

```
<?php
print "<!DOCTYPE html>\n";
print "<html>\n";
print " <head>\n";
print " <title>Geneva's web page</title>\n";
...
for ($i = 1; $i <= 10; $i++) {
    print "<p class=\"count\"> I can count to $i! \n";
}
?>
```

- printing HTML tags with print statements is bad style and error-prone:
  - must quote the HTML and escape special characters, e.g. \"
- but without print, how do we insert dynamic content into the page?

# PHP expression blocks

```
<?= expression ?>

<h2> The answer is <?= 6 * 7 ?> </h2>
The answer is 42

output
```

- PHP expression block: evaluates and embeds an expression's value into HTML
- <?= expr ?> is equivalent to <?php print expr; ?>

#### **Expression block example**

# Common errors: unclosed braces, missing = sign

- </body> and </html> above are inside the for loop, which is never closed
- if you forget to close your braces, you'll see an error about 'unexpected \$end'
- if you forget = in <?=, the expression does not produce any output

# **Complex expression blocks**

```
<body>
  <?php for ($i = 1; $i <= 3; $i++) { ?>
      <h<?= $i ?>>This is a level <?= $i ?> heading.</h<?= $i ?>>
      <?php } ?>
  </body>

PHP
```

# This is a level 1 heading.

This is a level 2 heading.

This is a level 3 heading.

output

• expression blocks can even go inside HTML tags and attributes

# 6.1: Parameterized Pages

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- 6.1: Parameterized Pages

#### **Query strings and parameters**

http://www.google.com/search?q=Obama

```
URL?name=value&name=value...
```

```
http://example.com/student_login.php?username=lee&id=1234567
```

- query string: a set of parameters passed from a browser to a web server
  - often passed by placing name/value pairs at the end of a URL
  - above, parameter username has value lee, and sid has value 1234567
- PHP code on the server can examine and utilize the value of parameters
- a way for PHP code to produce different output based on values passed by the user

# Query parameters: \$ GET

```
$user_name = $_GET["username"];
$id_number = (int) $_GET["id"];
$eats_meat = FALSE;
if (isset($_GET["meat"])) {
    $eats_meat = TRUE;
}
```

- \$\_GET["parameter name"] returns an HTTP GET parameter's value as a string
- parameters specified as http://...?name=value&name=value are GET parameters
- can test whether a given parameter was passed with isset

## **Example: Exponents**

```
$base = $_GET["base"];
$exp = $_GET["exponent"];
$result = pow($base, $exp);
print "$base ^ $exp = $result";

exponent.php?base=3&exponent=4

3 ^ 4 = 81

output
```

# **Example: Print all parameters**

• or call print\_r or var\_dump on \$\_GET for debugging

# 5.4: Advanced PHP Syntax

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\$name = array(value0, value1, ..., valueN);

• 6.1: Parameterized Pages

#### **Arrays**

name = array();

# create

- to append, use bracket notation without specifying an index
- element type is not specified; can mix types

# **Array functions**

function name(s)	description
count	number of elements in the array
print_r	print array's contents
<pre>array_pop, array_push, array_shift, array_unshift</pre>	using array as a stack/queue
<pre>in_array, array_search, array_reverse, sort, rsort, shuffle</pre>	searching and reordering
<pre>array_fill, array_merge, array_intersect, array_diff, array_slice, range</pre>	creating, filling, filtering
<pre>array_sum, array_product, array_unique, array_filter, array_reduce</pre>	processing elements

# Array function example

the array in PHP replaces many other collections in Java
list, stack, queue, set, map, ...

#### The foreach loop

```
foreach ($array as $variableName) {
    ...
}

$stooges = array("Larry", "Moe", "Curly", "Shemp");
for ($i = 0; $i < count($stooges); $i++) {
    print "Moe slaps {$stooges[$i]}\n";
}

foreach ($stooges as $stooge) {
    print "Moe slaps $stooge\n"; # even himself!
}</pre>
```

• a convenient way to loop over each element of an array without indexes

# Splitting/joining strings

\$array = explode(delimiter, string);

```
$string = implode(delimiter, array);

$s = "CSE 3026";
$a = explode(" ", $s);  # ("CSE", "3026")
$s2 = implode("...", $a);  # "CSE...3026"

PHP
```

- explode and implode convert between strings and arrays
- for more complex string splitting, you can use **regular expressions** (later)

# Example with explode

output

## **Functions**

author: Kirst, Victoria

```
function name(parameterName, ..., parameterName) {
    statements;
}

function bmi($weight, $height) {
    $result = 703 * $weight / $height;
    return $result;
}
```

- parameter types and return types are not written
- a function with no return statements is implicitly "void"
- can be declared in any PHP block, at start/end/middle of code

# **Calling functions**

name(expression, ..., expression);

```
$w = 163;  # pounds
$h = 70;  # inches
$my_bmi = bmi($w, $h);
PHP
```

PHP

• if the wrong number of parameters are passed, it's an error

# Variable scope: global and local vars

```
$school = "HYU";  # global
...

function downgrade() {
   global $school;
   $suffix = "(Wisconsin)";  # local

   $school = "$school $suffix";
   print "$school\n";
}
```

- variables declared in a function are local to that function; others are global
- if a function wants to use a global variable, it must have a global statement
  - but don't abuse this; mostly you should use parameters

#### Default parameter values

```
function name(parameterName = value, ..., parameterName = value) {
    statements;
}

function print_separated($str, $separator = ", ") {
    if (strlen($str) > 0) {
        print $str[0];
        for ($i = 1; $i < strlen($str); $i++) {
            print $separator . $str[$i];
        }
    }
}</pre>
```

• if no value is passed, the default will be used (defaults must come last)

#### NULL

```
$name = "Victoria";
$name = NULL;
if (isset($name)) {
  print "This line isn't going to be reached.\n";
}
```

- a variable is NULL if
  - it has not been set to any value (undefined variables)
  - it has been assigned the constant NULL
  - it has been deleted using the unset function
- can test if a variable is NULL using the isset function
- NULL prints as an empty string (no output)

# 5.4: PHP File Input

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# PHP file I/O functions

function name(s)	category
<pre>file, file_get_contents, file_put_contents</pre>	reading/writing entire files
<pre>basename, file_exists, filesize, fileperms, filemtime, is_dir, is_readable, is_writable, disk_free_space</pre>	asking for information
copy, rename, unlink, chmod, chgrp, chown, mkdir, rmdir	manipulating files and directories
glob, scandir	reading directories

# Reading/writing files

contents of foo.txt	ents of foo.txt file("foo.txt")		file_get_contents("foo.txt")		
Hello how r u? I'm fine	•	# 1	"Hello\n how r u?\n \n I'm fine\n"	# a single # string	

- file function returns lines of a file as an array (\n at end of each)
- file\_get\_contents returns entire contents of a file as a single string
  - file\_put\_contents writes a string into a file

## Reading/writing an entire file

```
# reverse a file
$text = file_get_contents("poem.txt");
$text = strrev($text);
file_put_contents("poem.txt", $text);
PHP
```

- file\_get\_contents returns entire contents of a file as a string
  - o if the file doesn't exist, you will get a warning and an empty return string
- file put contents writes a string into a file, replacing its old contents
  - if the file doesn't exist, it will be created

# Appending to a file

```
# add a line to a file
$new_text = "P.S. ILY, GTG TTYL!~";
file_put_contents("poem.txt", $new_text, FILE_APPEND);
PHP
```

old contents	new contents		
Roses are red, Violets are blue. All my base, Are belong to you.	Roses are red, Violets are blue. All my base, Are belong to you. P.S. ILY, GTG TTYL!~		

• file\_put\_contents can be called with an optional third parameter to append (add to the end) rather than overwrite

#### The file function

```
# display lines of file as a bulleted list
$lines = file("todolist.txt");
foreach ($lines as $line) {  # for ($i = 0; $i < count($lines); $i++)
  print "<li>$line\n";
}
```

- file returns the lines of a file as an array of strings
- each ends with \n; to strip it, use an optional second parameter:

```
$lines = file("todolist.txt", FILE_IGNORE_NEW_LINES);
```

• common idiom: foreach or for loop over lines of file

# Unpacking an array: list

```
      list($var1, ..., $varN) = array;

      Marty Stepp
      contents of input file personal.txt

      (206) 685-2181

      570-86-7326
```

```
list($name, $phone, $ssn) = file("personal.txt");
...
list($area_code, $prefix, $suffix) = explode(" ", $phone);
PHP
```

- the odd list function "unpacks" an array into a set of variables you declare
- when you know a file's exact length/format, use file and list to unpack it

# **Reading directories**

function	description
glob	returns an array of all file names that match a given pattern (returns a file path and name, such as "foo/bar/myfile.txt")
scandir	returns an array of all file names in a given directory (returns just the file names, such as "myfile.txt")

• glob can accept a general path with the \* wildcard character (more powerful)

# glob example

```
# reverse all poems in the poetry directory
$poems = glob("poetry/poem*.dat");
foreach ($poems as $poemfile) {
    $text = file_get_contents($poemfile);
    file_put_contents($poemfile, strrev($text));
    print "I just reversed " . basename($poemfile) . "\n";
}
```

- glob can match a "wildcard" path with the \* character
  - glob("foo/bar/\*.doc") returns all .doc files in the foo/bar subdirectory
  - glob("food\*") returns all files whose names begin with "food"
- the basename function strips any leading directory from a file path
  - basename("foo/bar/baz.txt") returns "baz.txt"

#### scandir example

- scandir includes current directory (".") and parent ("..") in the array
- don't need basename with scandir; returns file names only without directory

# Why use classes and objects?

- PHP is a primarily procedural language
- small programs are easily written without adding any classes or objects
- larger programs, however, become cluttered with so many disorganized functions
- grouping related data and behavior into objects helps manage size and complexity

#### **Constructing and using objects**

\$name = new ClassName(parameters);

```
# access an object's field (if the field is public)
$name->fieldName

# call an object's method
$name->methodName(parameters);

PHP

$zip = new ZipArchive();
$zip->open("moviefiles.zip");
$zip->extractTo("images/");
$zip->close();

PHP
```

• the above code unzips a file

# construct an object

• test whether a class is installed with class exists

# Object example: Fetch file from web

```
# create an HTTP request to fetch student.php
$req = new HttpRequest("student.php", HttpRequest::METH_GET);
$params = array("first_name" => $fname, "last_name" => $lname);
$req->addPostFields($params);

# send request and examine result
$req->send();
$http_result_code = $req->getResponseCode(); # 200 means OK
print "$http_result_code\n";
print $req->getResponseBody();
PHP
```

• PHP's HttpRequest object can fetch a document from the web

# Class declaration syntax

• inside a constructor or method, refer to the current object as \$this

# Class example

```
<?php
class Point {
  public $x;
  public $y;
  # equivalent of a Java constructor
  public function construct($x, $y) {
    \frac{\pi}{x} = x;
    this->y = y;
  public function distance($p) {
    dx = \frac{p-x}{y}
    dy = \frac{p-y}{y}
    return sqrt($dx * $dx + $dy * $dy);
  # equivalent of Java's toString method
  public function toString() {
    return "(" . $\overline{\text{this}}-\text{-x} . ", " . $\text{this}-\text{-y} . ")";
?>
```

# Class usage example

```
<?php
# this code could go into a file named use_point.php
include("Point.php");

$pl = new Point(0, 0);
$p2 = new Point(4, 3);
print "Distance between $pl and $p2 is " . $pl->distance($p2) . "\n\n";

var_dump($p2); # var_dump prints detailed state of an object
?>

Distance between (0, 0) and (4, 3) is 5

object(Point)[2]
   public 'x' => int 4
   public 'y' => int 3
PHP
```

• \$p1 and \$p2 are references to Point objects

#### **Basic inheritance**

```
class ClassName extends ClassName {
    ...
}

class Point3D extends Point {
    public $z;

    public function __construct($x, $y, $z) {
        parent::_construct($x, $y);
        $this->z = $z;
    }
    ...
}
```

• the given class will inherit all data and behavior from ClassName

# Static methods, fields, and constants

```
static $name = value;  # declaring a static field
const $name = value;  # declaring a static constant

# declaring a static method
public static function name(parameters) {
    statements;
}

ClassName::methodName(parameters);  # calling a static method (outside class)
self::methodName(parameters);  # calling a static method (within class)
PHP
```

• static fields/methods are shared throughout a class rather than replicated in every object

#### **Abstract classes and interfaces**

```
interface InterfaceName {
  public function name(parameters);
  public function name(parameters);
  ...
}
class ClassName implements InterfaceName { ...

abstract class ClassName {
  abstract public function name(parameters);
  ...
}
```

- interfaces are supertypes that specify method headers without implementations
  - cannot be instantiated; cannot contain function bodies or fields
  - enables polymorphism between subtypes without sharing implementation code
- abstract classes are like interfaces, but you can specify fields, constructors, methods
  - also cannot be instantiated; enables polymorphism with sharing of implementation code