“PHP is a very loosely typed language and that was one of the reasons I loved it so much because there weren’t as must restrictions as other strongly typed languages such as JAVA and C++. The issue with that though is that sometimes somebody who is looking at your code might have to do a lot more work to find out and make sure that they are setting the right variables and returning the right type of variable. I see this though as a good request to help structure and make code collaboration easier.”

Hi Adrian,

Thank you for bringing up this topic. When I first learned Perl 15+ years ago, I have to admit that I first hated it, and this was a big reason, coming from a C background. However, I eventually learned to like it because I could write code very fast and its handling of regular expressions was perfect for dealing with genomic data. Nevertheless, even though I am not experienced in PHP, I fully agree with you that implementation of this feature would make programs much easier to understand. I have been given the task of maintaining a lot of obfuscated scripts where I work, and something like this would make my job much easier. Another problem that I have encountered with software implementing the features of weakly typed languages is that they are vulnerable to “type errors”. Many times, I would not know that there was a problem until a program finished executing. Strongly typed languages would prevent this by reporting the error at compile time.

I noticed that you have a space between “get Average”. Is there any particular reason you did this instead of “getAverage” or “get\_Average”?

Regards,

Emanuel