# Information for our, locating books on our map app, app

So you make a catalog search form that fits on a phone it displays your search results it has links to clean formatted records made to look good on your phone the record has a link that shows you where on the book is on the map.

I suggest PHP and CURL to do this server side. When formatting your URLs never use HTTPS because CURL does not support the communications protocols needed to make a secure connection.

## Tasks to get started

### The Form

Make a web form that can format search URL and send them to Aleph so that you are seeing the search results on our catalog. Hint we have exactly that on the library home page (library.newpaltz.edu) somewhere around line 300.

But this form contains 2 types of searches "find" and "scan" for your purposes you can only use "find" type searches so clean up the code of this form to only use the search types that are prefixed with "find\_". Because of the two types of searches our home page aleph form needed a JavaScript you should be able to do without that. Make your form as short and as clean as you can.

Once you have a form that is successfully searching then instead of sending that search you want to just capture that whole URL of the search for your own purposes.

Here is a simple search URL example that does word in author WAU

<http://new.sunyconnect.suny.edu:4430/F?func=find-b&find_code=WAU&request=pratchett>

With a URL like this you will be able to use to grab the search results from the catalog in the background

### Parse a specific item record

At the same time some of you can start getting a PHP page together that can CURL & parse a single aleph record to get its location and call number title author. Kristy wanted to limit you to doing stacks books so either you could just pretend all books are in the stacks and use the raw call number to locate them where they would be or you could filter your search able results to only those in the main set of book stacks by checking to see if it's location code = Stacks.

Examples in action

Single record Parsed <http://library.newpaltz.edu/xaleph/?sys=000572960>

Single record not parsed much <http://library.newpaltz.edu/xaleph/alephpage.php?sys=000572960>

### Get the results of a search

Another group should start a PHP page set to get the results of a search. To get the complete set of search results in the past I have used the Saved Search feature up on our catalog to save the results on the catalog then formatted a URL to save file on the server then CURL that text file.

After you get the text file returning you need to use regular expressions searches to grab each field name and value. Then write each record out as a JSON.

You could choose to parse only the first page of the normal results if you want that would involve limiting to the 1st 10 matches to a search less parsing but one I have never done myself.

For displaying the search results you have to loop through them with a javascript. JSON is made for this

Each search result could have a link that sends a GET request to the actual MAP app to highlight a shelf or you could do a link to a custom full record display (the PHP you made to parse the record)

Example in action- getting every book published by faculty in the past 3 years.

<http://library.newpaltz.edu/xaleph/facpub.php>

Thank fully I wrote up getting aleph data parts of this up as a conference presentation paper that still exists online. <https://mybookdatapage.wordpress.com/>

Don't trust any code you see there it is old and buggy but a reasonable guide. You have to make cleaner shorter better code out of each part of this.

### Accessing Appmap/admin

If you need you should be able to log in to the crude appmap/admin editor on the library web page with your user ID below and your campus authentication password.

* chenl4
* lih1
* n02660178
* millerl2

### Good luck

Customizing the aleph search URL with field codes you might need help with, and other things. Work through as much as you can before contacting me. We can meet a couple times if you contact me and let me know when a head of time.