In my project, state is maintained using sessions and session variables. Every page has session\_start(), so it either creates a session or finds an existing session. The session ID is stored as a cookie on the user’s machine. I have a session variable that keeps track of if you are logged in and another session variable to keep track of the id of the user that is logged in. The only way for logged in to be set to true is if the user types in a correct username and password combination. The only way to make “logged in” not true is if you hit the logout button. The session variables are used across pages to determine which tweets to load and even if you are going to display the page. When you log out, this will destroy all session variables and destroy your session.