Storing and Retrieving Data

**Processing Files**

1. Open - create

2. Write - Read

3. Close

**Opening Files: fopen()**

**Choosing File Modes**

$fp = fopen("$document\_root/../orders/orders.txt", 'w');

$document\_root = $\_SERVER['DOCUMENT\_ROOT']: root folder

**First parameter:**

* **Relative path**: /../orders/orders.txt 🡪 outside of root folder
* Should use **forward**(/) for every enviroment
* Backslashes (\): only on Windows ("$document\_root\\..\\orders\\orders.txt")
* If no path is specified, the file will be created or looked  
  for in the same directory as the script itself.

**Second parameter:**

* This string specifies what you want to do with the file

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| r, r+ | Read |
| w, w+ | Write (replace) |
| x, x+ | Write (cautions if exist) |
| a, a+ | Append |
| b | Binary (default,always use) |
| t | Text (Windows only) |

**Third parameter:**

* Optional, to search the include\_path for a file
  + $fp = fopen('orders.txt', 'ab', true);

**Fourth parameter:**

* Optional, local, ftp:// or http://

**Problems Opening Files:**

* don’t have permission to read from or write to.
* **@**$fp = fopen

if(!$fp) {//handle false return}

**Writing to file**

* fwrite($fp, $outputstring);
* *int* file\_put\_contents ( *string* **filename**,

*mixed* **data** [, *int* **flags** [, *resource* **context**]])

* + *Don’t need fopen(), fclose()*
  + *Flags and context: for remote files*

**Parameters for fwrite()**

* 3 parameter
  + int fwrite ( resource handle, string [, int length])
  + VD: fwrite($fp, $outputstring, strlen($outputstring));

\* tab, endline: need to be inside double quote: “\t”, “\n”

**Closing a File:**

* Fclose($fp);

**Reading from a File**