

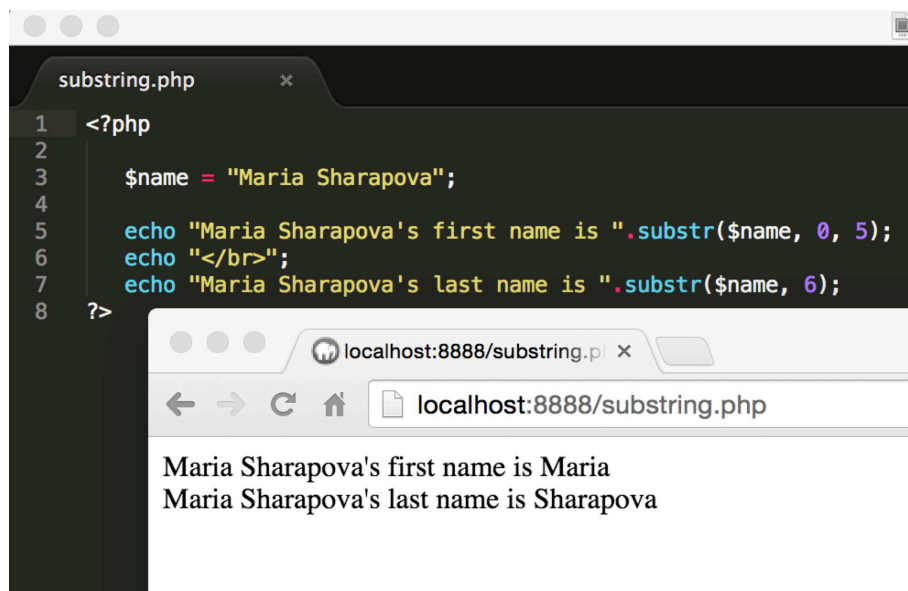
Introduction to PHP II:

2.1 More about string functions

There are lots of “string” built-in functions in PHP, all of them are very useful and powerful, especially in web application.

`substr(string, start, length)`

The first parameter is the original string you want to get sub-string from, the second parameter is the start position where your substring will start, and the third parameter is the length of your substring. Positions in string start with 0 not 1 and space takes a position in string. If we don't specify the third parameter, PHP will assume that you want to get the rest of the string.



The image shows a code editor window titled 'substring.php' with the following PHP code:

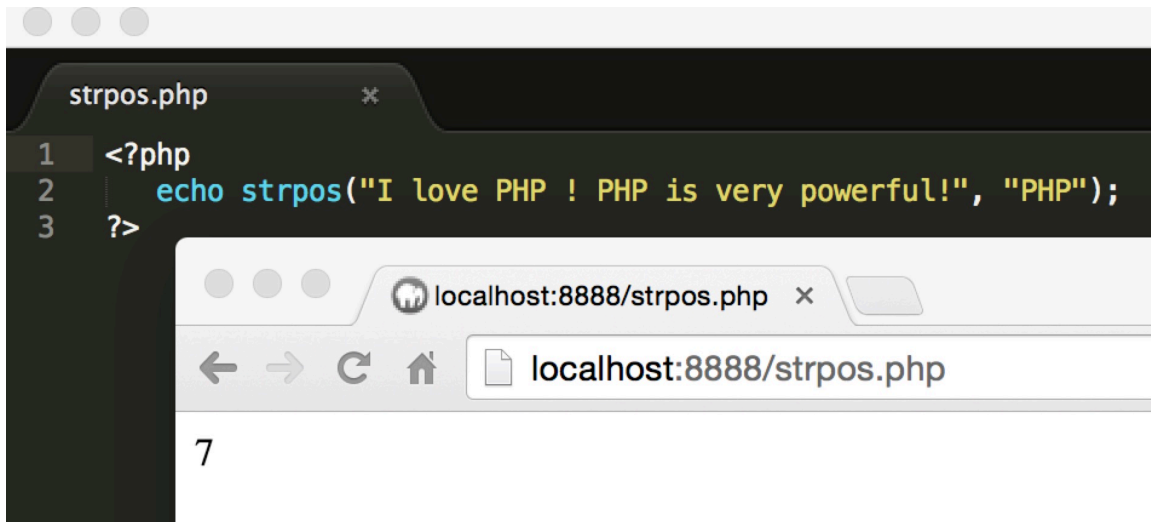
```
1 <?php
2
3     $name = "Maria Sharapova";
4
5     echo "Maria Sharapova's first name is ".substr($name, 0, 5);
6     echo "<br>";
7     echo "Maria Sharapova's last name is ".substr($name, 6);
8 ?>
```

Below the code editor is a web browser window showing the output of the script at the URL 'localhost:8888/substring.php'. The output is:

```
Maria Sharapova's first name is Maria
Maria Sharapova's last name is Sharapova
```

`strpos(string, find, start)`

The first parameter is required and it specifies the string to search. The second parameter specifies the parameter to find, which is also required. The third parameter tells where to start the search. If you don't specify the third parameter, PHP will search from the start.



`strrpos()` - Finds the position of the last occurrence of a string inside another string (case-sensitive)

`stripos()` - Finds the position of the first occurrence of a string inside another string (case-insensitive)

`strripos()` - Finds the position of the last occurrence of a string inside another string (case-insensitive)

`explode(separator, string, limit)`

This function will convert a string into array. The first parameter is required and it specifies where to break the string. The second parameter is the string to beak, which is required. The third element is optional, and it tells how many elements in the array to return. If it is greater than 0, PHP will return an array with a maximum of limit elements. If it is less than 0, PHP will return an array with except for the last. If it is 0, it will return an array with one element.

```
explode.php
1 <?php
2   $str = 'one,two,three,four';
3
4   // zero limit
5   print_r(explode(',', $str, 0));
6   echo "<br>";
7   // positive limit
8   print_r(explode(',', $str, 2));
9   echo "<br>";
10  // negative limit
11  print_r(explode(',', $str, -1));
12  ?>
```

localhost:8888/explode.php x
localhost:8888/explode.php

```
Array ( [0] => one,two,three,four )
Array ( [0] => one [1] => two,three,four )
Array ( [0] => one [1] => two [2] => three )
```

2.2 Functions in PHP

The format to declare a function in PHP is like below:

```
function functionName($parameter1, $parameter2) {  
    code to be executed;  
}
```

It's OK not to specify the parameter in the function, and we can also give the default value to the parameters. But the parameter with default value is always on the right. We can specify the return value of a function, which means that after executing the function, it will return a value.

```
add.php
1 <?php
2   function add($a, $b)
3   {
4       return $a+$b;
5   }
6   $c = add(4,8);
7   echo $c;
8   echo "<br>";
9   echo add(9,1);
10  echo "<br>";
11  echo add(add(1,2),4);
12  ?>
```

localhost:8888/add.php x
localhost:8888/add.php

```
12
10
7
```

In PHP, variables can be declared anywhere in the script. The scope of a variable is the part of the script where the variable can be referenced/used. PHP has three different variable scopes:

local

global

static

We don't use these features very often in Web Application, but you can find more information about type of variables at:

[http: //www.w3schools.com/php/php_variables.asp](http://www.w3schools.com/php/php_variables.asp)