



PHP – part 3

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Simple String Functions

- `echo nl2br($var);`
 - Replaces all newlines with `
` tag
 - eg user entered several paragraphs of data
 - `strlen($var)`
 - returns the length in characters of a string
- ```
if (strlen($email) < 6)
 echo "Invalid email address";
```
- `strtoupper($var)` // Converts string to uppercase
  - `strtolower($var)` // Converts string to lowercase
  - `ucfirst($var)` // Capitalizes first letter of string
  - `ucwords($var)` // Capitalizes first letter of each word

# Includes

- Very often in a site parts of the data is repeated
- Includes allow us to 'include' data which is stored elsewhere
- Visual it like 'cut and paste' of your data
- Makes updating information much easier and more efficient
  
- `include "data.inc";`
  - 'data.inc' is just a text file containing the data to insert
  - \*.inc extension is purely a convention
  - can cause problems with people being able to view your code

- **top.inc**

```
<?php
echo "<html>";
echo "<head>";
echo "<title>This is the top</title>";
echo "</head>";
echo "<body>";
?>
```

- **bottom.inc**

```
<p align='center'>Page created by Internet Society</p>
</body>
</html>
```

- page.php

```
<?php
```

```
include "top.inc";
```

```
echo "<p>This is the middle</p>\n";
```

```
include "bottom.inc";
```

```
?>
```

- Will insert the two previous bits of text stored in the two text files 'top.inc' and 'bottom.inc'.

```
<html>
 <head>
 <title>This is the top</title>
 </head>
 <body>
 <p>This is the middle</p>
 <p align='center'>Page created by Internet Society</p>
 </body>
</html>
```

# Header re-directs

- We can send a direct instruction for the browser to load a new page
- Only works if there has been **no** instructions sent to the user
- `header("Location: ./page.php");`
- `header("Location: ./page.php?login=$iclogin");`
- `header("Location: ./docs/page.php");`

```
<?php
if ($loggedon)
 header("Location: ./page.php");
else
 echo "You are not logged in";
?>
```

# Sessions

- Web pages are individual items
  - transferring data between pages is difficult
- Sessions allow you to create variables that are accessible to all pages while the session exists
- Starting a session
  - `session_start()`;
  - If sessions already exists, loads all session variables into page
- Ending a session
  - `session_destroy()`;

# Variables in sessions

- `session_register("myvar");`
  - `$myvar` is now accessible to all pages with sessions
  - no '\$' when registering
  - value of `$myvar` is tracked automatically
  - posted data and URL appended data cannot change session variable for security reasons
- `session_unregister("myvar");`
  - `$myvar` is no longer a session variable
- `$result = session_is_registered("myvar");`
  - `$result` will be either true or false

```
<?php
if (($password)&&($username)) {
 if ($password=="password") {
 session_start();
 session_register("username");
 header("Location: ./page.php");
 }
 else {
 echo "Incorrect password. Please try again";
 }
}
else {
 echo "You did not enter all details. Please try
 again";
}
?>
```

```
<?php
session_start();

if (session_is_registered("username")==true) {

 $db = mysql_pconnect("localhost","username","password");
 mysql_select_db("dbname",$db);

 $result = mysql_query("select * from people where
 username='$username'", $db);

 echo "Welcome back ".mysql_result($result,0,"name");

}

else
 echo "Please login to view this page";
?>
```

# Cookies

- Store data in small files on the user's computer
- Can exist for as long as you want
- Some browsers/users do not allow them to be set
- `setcookie("name", "value", "expiry");`
  - `time()` is the current time, then seconds to live after that
- Creates variable '`$name`' with value '`value`' when any page on **this** site is accessed
- `setcookie("username", "jbloggs");`
- `setcookie("username", "jbloggs", time() + 600);`

```
<?php
 if (($savepref) && ($bgcolor))
 setcookie("background", "$bgcolor", time() + 600);
?>
```

```
<?php
echo "<html>\n<head>\n<title>Variable background</title>\n</head>";
if ($background)
 echo "<body bgcolor='".$background.'">\n";
else
 echo "<body>\n";
echo "Text for the page";
echo "</body>\n</html>";
?>
```

# Sending mail from PHP

- Depends on server – abuse is possible so some services will disable it
- PHP has to know where the mail-sending program resides
- `mail('to', 'subject', 'body', additional);`
  - ‘additional’ is not required
- `mail('j.bloggs@ic.ac.uk', 'News', 'Blah blah blah');`
- `mail('$to', '$subject', '$body');`
- `mail('$to', '$subject', '$body', 'From:web@site.com');`

```
<form action='mailprocess.php' method='post'>
To: <input type='text' name='to'>

Subject: <input type='text' name='subject'>

Body: <textarea name='body'></textarea>

<input type='submit'>
</form>
```

---

```
<?php
if (($to)&&($subject)&&($body)) {
 mail('$to', '$subject', '$body');
}
else {
 echo "You have not entered all data";
}
?>
```