Introduction to PHP

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What is PHP?

◆**P**HP **H**ypertext **P**reprocessor
  ◆ an open source, server-side, HTML embedded scripting language used to create Dynamic Web pages.

  ◆ From www.brontedesign.com/glossary.asp

WTF?

- Server-side:
    - code compiling and execution takes place on the server rather than the user's computer.

- HTML-embedded:
    - write it into an HTML page.

- Dynamic:
    - A web document that is created from a database in real-time or "on the fly" at the same time it is being viewed, providing a continuous flow of new information and giving visitors a new experience each time they visit the web site.
        - From www.vidoni.com.au/html/glossary.html

How to put PHP on a website

◆ Embed PHP tags in code:

◆ <?php
   #PHP code goes here.
?>

◆ Comments in PHP are prefaced by the # sign.
◆ Embed the PHP tags into the HTML code of a web page that you want to use it in.

PHP Basics

◆ Variables in PHP:
$myVariable

◆ Functions:
```
function myFunction($myVar){
    $myVar += 5;
    return $myVar;
}
```

PHP Basics

◆ How to use functions from an external PHP file:

◆
```php
<?php
include 'functions.php';

#userNum = a numeric value submitted from a user through a
form.

$needFive = $userNum;

$hasFive = myFunction($needFive);

echo 'The new number is ' . $hasFive;
?>
```

PHP String Basics

◆ Concatenate a string:

◆ ```php
<?php
$firstString = "John";

$secondString = "Smith";

$name = $firstString;
$name .= $secondString;

$name2 = $firstString . " " . $secondString;
echo $name . "<br>" . $name2;
?>
```

# *Read from an HTML form:*

◆ Add the link to the PHP page in the HTML form.

◆ &lt;form name="form1" method="post" action="submit_form.php"&gt;

# *Arrays in PHP*

- $colors = array('red', 'green', 'blue');
- To print out:
  echo $colors[1];
- <?php
  $fruit = array("orange", "banana");
  array_push($fruit, "apple", "raspberry");
  ?>

- for($i = 0;$i < sizeof($fruit); $i++) {
      echo "Fruit: " . $fruit[$i]. "<br>";
  }

# *Arrays in PHP*

- ◆ count($colors); #number of elements
- ◆ sort($colors); #sorts elements from least to greatest

# *Other Sources*

◆ http://us3.php.net/

◆ http://www.tizag.com/phpT/

◆ http://www.phpfreaks.com/tutorials.php

◆ http://www.devshed.com/c/b/PHP/

◆ http://www.zend.com/zend/tut/