

LABSHEET – PHP and MySQL

Objective:

- To gain experience with accessing data stored in a MySQL database using HTML forms and PHP scripts.

Instructions:

You will be creating HTML files and PHP script files which need to be accessible over the Web. To ensure this, these files must be located in your “web space” which means in the `public_www` directory (folder) of your home directory on the H: drive. If you create a file named `ex.html` directly in `public_www`, then it will be accessible over the Web using the URL <http://titan.dcs.bbk.ac.uk/~uuu/ex.html>, where `uuu` is your user name. You can choose to store files in a subdirectory, but then this subdirectory name must be included in the URL path. For more details, see the [Student Web Page](#). To access your H: drive remotely, you will need to connect to the Department’s [VPN](#) and then connect to your [H: drive](#).

1. Create an HTML file for testing your PHP scripts. This can be modelled on the page at <https://www.dcs.bbk.ac.uk/~ptw/teaching/DBM/php/db.html>. You can save the page in your own web space and then edit with Textpad or some other text editor (by right-clicking and opening the file with the application you want to use). Make sure that you change all the values of hyperlink references (`href` attributes) and `action` attributes in forms to URLs corresponding to your scripts.
2. By accessing the parts-and-suppliers database used in previous lab sessions, create a PHP script which returns the total quantity of parts supplied to all projects by supplier S2. The script must be in a file ending with `.php`. It should be embedded in appropriate HTML tags so that it displays properly as an HTML page. The answer to the query should be presented as an HTML paragraph. (This is similar to the `db1.php` script in lectures, which is reproduced here as [db1.txt](#) so that you can see and save the source code, rather than the server executing it as PHP). You will need to add your database schema, username and password.) Create a link to the PHP page in the HTML file you created in (2) above, so that the PHP file is executed when a user clicks on the link.
3. In your HTML file, create a form where the user can enter a value for the city where a part is located. Clicking the submit button on the form will execute a PHP script (which you need to write) which will return a table containing the part numbers, names and colours of all parts located in the city the user entered. You can simply construct the query as a string directly from the value provided by the user – there is no need to use placeholders. (This is similar to the `db3.php` script in lectures.)

4. Modify your script from (4) so that it does now use placeholders, as well as the `prepare` and `execute` methods. You might first try using anonymous placeholders (see `db4.php`), and then named placeholders (see `db5.php`).