Introduction to PDO (PHP Data Objects Layer)

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What is PDO

Common interface to any number of database systems.

Written in C, so you know it's FAST

Designed to make use of all the PHP 5.1 features to simplify usage.

Why is it needed? Current state of affairs:

Many native database extensions that are similar but do not provide the same interface.

In most cases, very old code that does not even scratch the surface of what PHP can offer.

In many instances does not account for all the capabilities offered by the database.

Ex. SQLite, MySQL extensions

Database Support

At this time PDO offers the following drivers: MySQL 3,4,5 (depends on client libs) PostgreSQL ✓ SQLite 2 & 3 ODBC **Informix** Oracle 🗹 Firebird FreeTDS/Sybase/MSSQL

Installing PDO

PDO is divided into two components
 CORE (provides the interface)

DRIVERS (access to particular database)
 Ex. pdo_mysql

The CORE is enabled by default, drivers with the exception of pdo_sqlite are not.

Actual Install Steps

PECL Way

- ø pecl install pdo_[driver_name]
- Opdate php.ini and add extension=pdo [driver name].so (or .dll on win32)
- Built into PHP
- ./configure -with-pdo-[driver_name]
 For Win32 dlls for each driver are available.

Using PDO: Connecting

As is the case with all database interfaces, the 1st step involves establishing a connection.

// MySQL connection
new PDO(`mysql:host=localhost;dbname=testdb',
\$login, \$passwd);

// PostgreSQL
new PDO(`pgsql:host=localhost port=5432
dbname=testdb user=john password=mypass');

// SQLite new PDO(`sqlite:/path/to/database file');

Connection Failure Handling

As is the case with most native PHP objects, instantiation failure lead to an exception being thrown.

try {
 \$db = new PDO(...);
} catch (PDOException \$e) {
 echo \$e->getMessage();
}

Persistent Connections

Connecting to complex databases like Oracle is a slow process, it would be nice to re-use a previously opened connection.

\$opt = array(PDO::ATTR_PERSISTENT => TRUE);
try {
 \$db = new PDO("dsn", \$1, \$p, \$opt);
} catch (PDOException \$e) {
 echo \$e->getMessage();
}

DSN INI Tricks

The DSN string can be an INI setting and you can "name" as many DSNs are you like.

ini_set("pdo.dsn.ilia", "sqlite::memory");
try {
 \$db = new PDO("ilia");
} catch (PDOException \$e) {
 echo \$e->getMessage();
}

Let's Run Some Queries

Query execution in PDO can be done in two ways

 Prepared Statements (recommended for speed & security)

Direct Execution

Direct Query Execution

Queries that modify information need to be run via exec() method.

db = new PDO("DSN");

\$db->exec("INSERT INTO foo (id)
VALUES('bar')");

\$db->exec("UPDATE foo SET id=`bar'");

The return value is the number of rows affected by the operation or FALSE on error.

Direct Query Execution Cont.

In some cases "change" queries may not affect any rows and will return 0, so typesensitive compare is essential in avoiding false positives!

\$qry = "UPDATE foo SET id='bar'"; \$res = \$db->exec(\$qry) or die(); // Wrong

if (!\$res) // Wrong

if (\$res !== FALSE) // Correct

Error Info Retrieval

PDO Provides 2 methods of getting error information:

errorCode() - SQLSTATE error code
Ex. 42000 == Syntax Error
errorInfo() - Detailed error information
Ex. array(

[0] => 42000,
[1] => 1064
[2] => Syntax Error

Better Error Handling

It stands to reason that being an OO extension PDO would allow error handling via Exceptions.

\$db->setAttribute(
 PDO::ATTR_ERRMODE,
 PDO::ERRMODE_EXCEPTION
);

Now any query failure will throw an Exception.

Back to Query Execution

When executing queries that retrieve information the query() method needs to be used.

\$res = \$db->query("SELECT * FROM foo");
// \$res == PDOStatement Object

On error FALSE is returned

Fetch Query Results

Perhaps one of the biggest features of PDO is its flexibility when it comes to how data is to be fetched.

Array (Numeric or Associated Indexes)
Strings (for single column result sets)
Objects
Callback function
Lazy fetching
Iterators

And there is more!!!!

Array Fetching

\$res = \$db->query("SELECT * FROM foo");
while (\$row = \$res->fetch(PDO::FETCH_NUM)){
 // \$row == array with numeric keys
}

\$res = \$db->query("SELECT * FROM foo");
while (\$row = \$res->fetch(PDO::FETCH_ASSOC)){
 // \$row == array with associated (string) keys
}

\$res = \$db->query("SELECT * FROM foo");
while (\$row = \$res->fetch(PDO::FETCH_BOTH)){
 // \$row == array with associated & numeric keys
}

Fetch as String

Many applications need to fetch data contained within just a single column.

\$u = \$db->query("SELECT id FROM users WHERE
login=`login' AND password=`password'");

// fetch(PDO:::FETCH_COLUMN)
if (\$u->fetchColumn()) { // returns a string
 // login OK
} else {
 // authentication failure
}

Fetch as a Standard Object

You can fetch a row as an instance of stdClass where column name == property name.

\$res = \$db->query("SELECT * FROM foo");

while (\$obj = \$res->fetch(PDO::FETCH_OBJ)) {
 // \$obj == instance of stdClass
}

Fetch Into a Class

PDO allows the result to be fetched into a class type of your choice.

\$res = \$db->query("SELECT * FROM foo"); \$res->setFetchMode(PDO::FETCH_CLASS, "className", array('optional'='Constructor Params')); while (\$obj = \$res->fetch()) { // \$obj == instance of className }

Fetch Into a Class Cont.

PDO allows the query result to be used to determine the destination class.

```
$res = $db->query("SELECT * FROM foo");
$res->setFetchMode(
    PDO::FETCH_CLASS |
    PDO::FETCH_CLASSTYPE
);
while ($obj = $res->fetch()) {
    // $obj == instance of class who's name is
    // found in the value of the 1<sup>st</sup> column
}
```

Fetch Into an Object

PDO even allows retrieval of data into an existing object.

\$u = new userObject;

\$res = \$db->query("SELECT * FROM users");
\$res->setFetchMode(PDO::FETCH INTO, \$u);

while (\$res->fetch()) {
 // will re-populate \$u with row values
}

Result Iteration

PDOStatement implements Iterator interface, which allows for a method-less result iteration.

\$res = \$db->query(
 "SELECT * FROM users",
 PDO::FETCH_ASSOC
);
foreach (\$res as \$row) {
 // \$row == associated array
 // representing the row's values.

Lazy Fetching

Lazy fetches returns a result in a form object, but holds of populating properties until they are actually used.

fetchAll()

The fetchAll() allows retrieval of all results from a query right away. (handy for templates)

\$qry = "SELECT * FROM users"; \$res = \$db->query(\$qry)->fetchAll(PDO::FETCH ASSOC

);
// \$res == array of all result rows, where each row
// is an associated array.

Can be quite memory intensive for large results sets!

Callback Function

PDO also provides a fetch mode where each result is processed via a callback function.

function draw_message(\$subject,\$email) { ... }
\$res = \$db->query("SELECT * FROM msg");
\$res->fetchAll(
 PDO::FETCH_FUNC,
 "draw_message"
);

Direct Query Problems

Query needs to be interpreted on each execution can be quite waste for frequently repeated queries.

Security issues, un-escaped user input can contain special elements leading to SQL injection.

Escaping in PDO

Second Escaping of special characters in PDO is handled via the quote() method.

\$qry = "SELECT * FROM users WHERE login=".\$db->quote(\$_POST['login'])." AND passwd=".\$db->quote(\$_POST['pass']);

Prepared Statements

Compile once, execute as many times as you want.

Clear separation between structure and input, which prevents SQL injection.

Often faster then query()/exec() even for single runs.

Prepared Statements in Action

\$stmt->execute(array(\$_GET[`id']));
\$stmt->fetch(PDO::FETCH_ASSOC);

Bound Parameters

Prepared statements parameters can be given names and bound to variables.

\$stmt = \$db->prepare(
"INSERT INTO users VALUES(:name,:pass,:mail)");

foreach (array(`name','pass','mail') as \$v)
 { \$stmt->bindParam(`:'.\$v,\$\$v); }

\$fp = fopen("./users.csv", "r");
while (list(\$name,\$pass,\$mail) = fgetcsv(\$fp,4096))
{

\$stmt->execute();

Bound Result Columns

Result columns can be bound to variables as well.

\$qry = ``SELECT :type, :data FROM images LIMIT 1"; \$stmt = \$db->prepare(\$qry);

\$fp = fopen(tempname("/tmp", "LOB"), "w");
\$stmt->bindColumn(':type',\$type);
\$stmt->bindColumn(':type',\$fp, PDO::PARAM_LOB);
\$stmt->execute(PDO::FETCH_BOUND);

header("Content-Type: ".\$type);
fflush(\$fp);
fseek(\$fp, 0, SEEK_SET);
fpassthru(\$fp);
fclose(\$fp);

Partial Data Retrieval

In some instances you only want part of the data on the cursor. To properly end the cursor use the closeCursor() method.

\$res = \$db->query("SELECT * FROM users");
foreach (\$res as \$v) {
 if (\$res['name'] == 'end') {
 \$res->closeCursor();
 break;

Transactions

Nearly all PDO drivers talk with transactional DBs, so PDO provides handy methods for this purpose.

\$db->beginTransaction();
if (\$db->exec(\$qry) === FALSE) {
 \$db->rollback();
}
\$db->commit();

Extending PDO

class DB extends PDO

}

function query(\$qry, \$mode=NULL){
 \$res = parent::query(\$qry, \$mode);
 if (!\$res) {
 var_dump(\$qry, \$this->errorInfo());
 return null;
 } else {
 return \$res;

Questions

