Unit-IV
String Manipulation and Regular Expression
Lecture 3: Joining & Splitting Strings

Joining and Splitting Strings with String Functions:

There might be cases when we want to look at parts of a string individually e.g. say we want to look at words in a sentence or split a domain name or email address into component parts. PHP provides several string functions that allow us to do this.

- **Using explode() and implode():**
  - **Implode/ implode():** joins array elements with a string.
    - The implode() function returns a string from elements of an array. It takes an array of strings and joins them together into one string using a delimiter (string to be used between the pieces) of your choice.
    - **Syntax: implode(separator, array)**

e.g. you have an array like : $arr = Array(“A”, “E”, “I”, “O”, “U”);
and you wish to combine it into a string, by putting the separator ‘-’ between each element of the array, then:

$str = implode (“-”, $arr);

➔ **output will be:**
A-E-I-O-U

  - **Explode/ explode():** split a string by a specified string into pieces i.e. it breaks a string into an array.
    - The explode function in PHP allows us to break a string into smaller text with each break occurring at the same symbol. This symbol is known as delimiter.
    - **Syntax:**

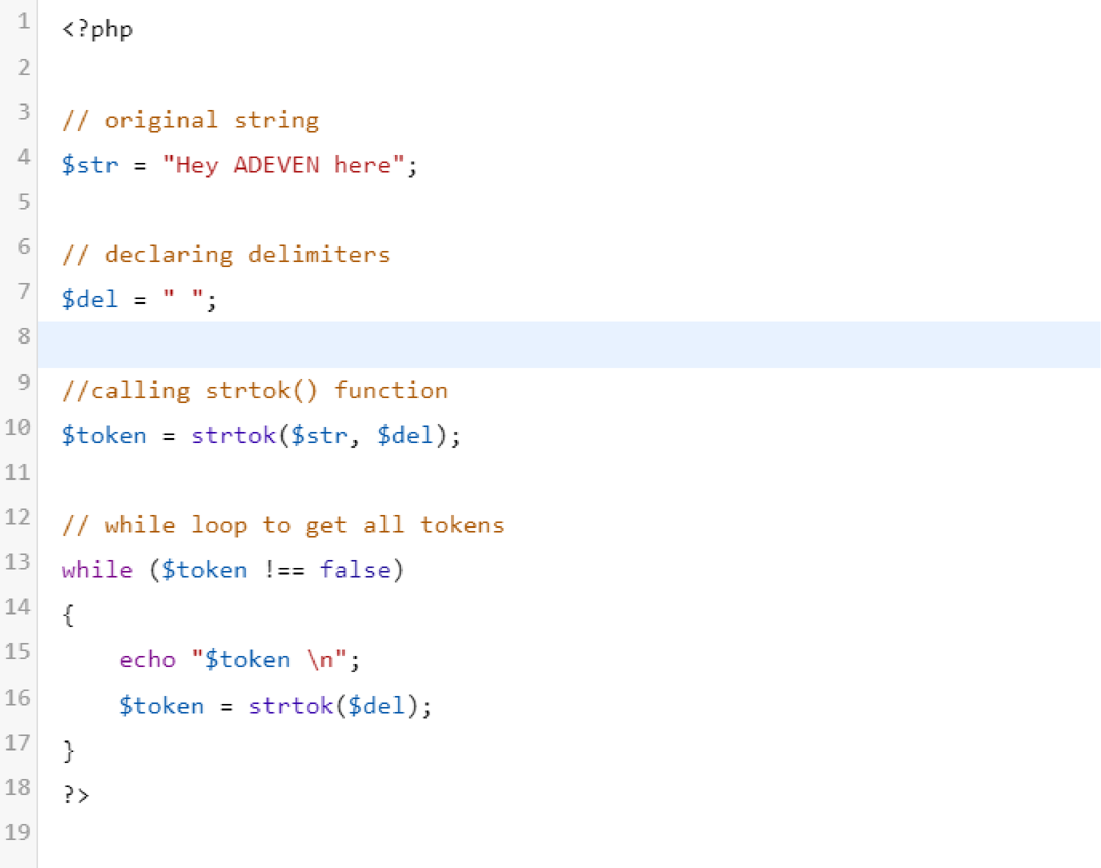
explode(separator, string, limit)

e.g. you have a string: $str = “A E I O U”;
now you want to make each name as an element of an array and access it individually then:
$arr = explode(“,”,$str);
➔ we have made pieces of string $text based on separator ‘,’ and put the resulting array in variable $arr.

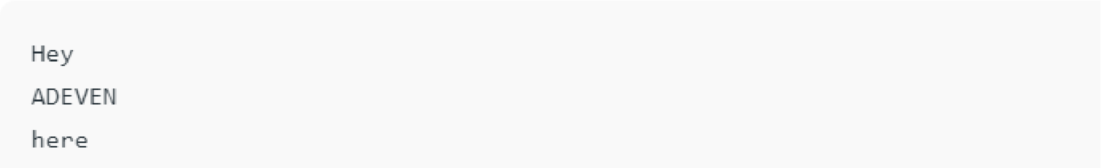
- **Using strtok():** The strtok() function splits a string into smaller strings (tokens).
    - *Unlike explode(), which breaks a string into all its pieces at one time, strtok() gets pieces (called tokens) from a string one at a time.*
    - strtok() is a useful alternative to using explode() for processing words from a string one at a time.
    - **Syntax:**

      string strtok(string input, string separator);

Example:



```php
<?php

// original string
$str = "Hey ADEVEN here";

// declaring delimiters
$del = " ";

//calling strtok() function
$token = strtok($str, $del);

// while loop to get all tokens
while ($token !== false)
{
    echo "$token \n";
    $token = strtok($del);
}
?>

```



```
Hey
ADEVEN
here
```

- **Using substr():** The substr() function enables you to access a substring between given start and end points of a string.

    - **Syntax:**

      string substr(string string, int start[,int length]);

    - This function returns a substring copied from within string.

  Example:

  $test = “Your customer service is excellent”;
  If you call it with a positive number for start, you will get the string from the start position to the end of the string.
  $subsr($test, 1);

  will return our customer service is excellent.

The string position starts from 0, as with arrays.

If you call substr() with a negative start, you will get the string from the end of the string minus start characters to the end of the string.

e.g. substr($test, -9);

returns excellent.