$_SERVER

FIRST OFF, WHAT IS A SUPERGLOBAL???

- A super global is always available to the PHP code for a page.

- They are built-in variables.

- Examples: $_GET & $_POST (look familiar??)

WHAT IS $_SERVER?

- $_SERVER is a Superglobal array that holds headers, paths, and script locations.

- In other words it holds the information that you could find in a header, the url, and secure web server type things (https).

- The information is provided by the Web Server so sometimes you won't get what you are looking for.

- There are many elements you can find in $_SERVER, for example the IP address, or what revision of CGI the server is using.
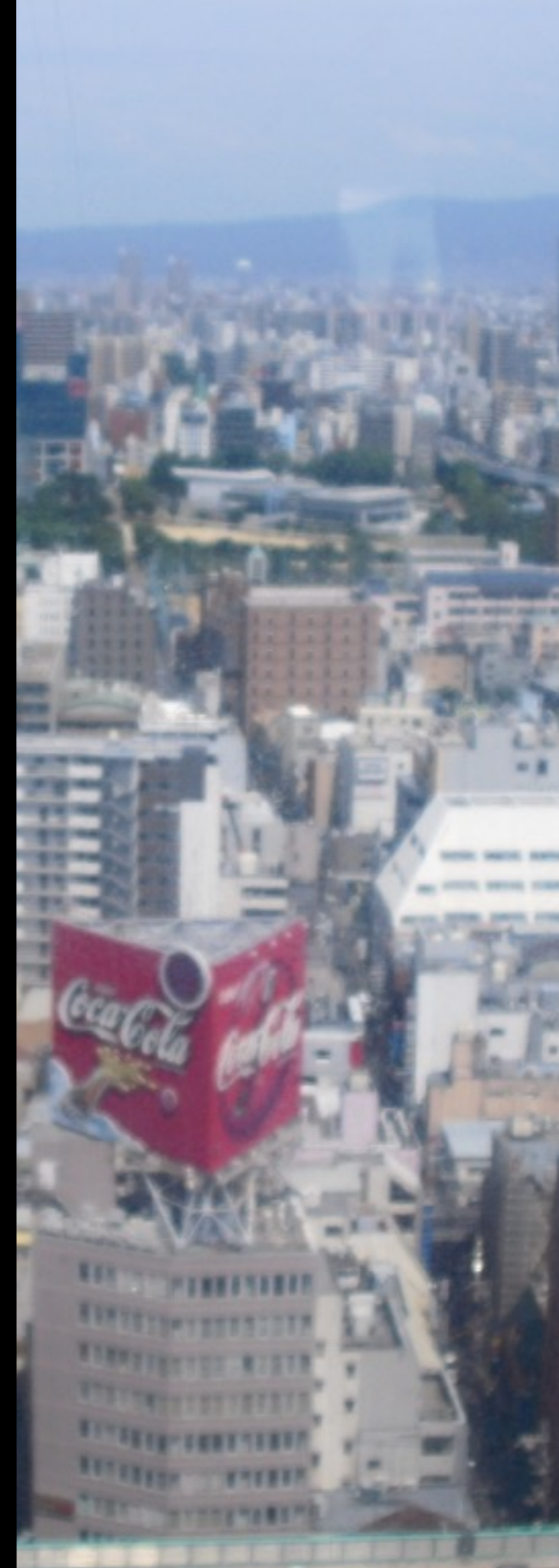
EXAMPLE #1

Code:

```
<!DOCTYPE html>
<html>
<body>

<?php
echo $_SERVER['PHP_SELF'];
echo "<br>";
echo $_SERVER['SERVER_NAME'];
echo "<br>";
echo $_SERVER['HTTP_HOST'];
echo "<br>";
echo $_SERVER['HTTP_REFERER'];
echo "<br>";
echo $_SERVER['HTTP_USER_AGENT'];
echo "<br>";
echo $_SERVER['SCRIPT_NAME'];
?>

</body>
</html>
```

Result:

/php/demo_global_server.php
www.w3schools.com
www.w3schools.com
http://www.w3schools.com/php/
showphp.asp?
filename=demo_global_server
Mozilla/5.0 (Macintosh; Intel Mac OS X
10_10_3) AppleWebKit/537.36 (KHTML,
like Gecko) Chrome/42.0.2311.90 Safari/
537.36
/php/demo_global_server.php

WHEN DO WE USE IT? WHY?

- We can use it to gather and display needed data about the website and server.

- We can use it to check for, and then create a secure connection.

- We can use it to create better security and fix bugs.

SYNTAX…

To assign it to a Variable:
$variable = $_SERVER ['ELEMENT']

To use it with filter input:
$variable = filter_input(INPUT_SERVER, 'ELEMENT');

SOME ELEMENTS OF $_SERVER…

YOU CAN FIND ALL OF THEM ON THE PHP.NET WEBSITE.

- 'REQUEST_TIME': The timestamp of the start of the request. Available since PHP 5.1.0.

- 'REQUEST_TIME_FLOAT': The timestamp of the start of the request, with microsecond precision. Available since PHP 5.4.0.

- 'QUERY_STRING': The query string, if any, via which the page was accessed.

- 'DOCUMENT_ROOT': The document root directory under which the current script is executing, as defined in the server's configuration file.

- 'HTTP_ACCEPT': Contents of the Accept: header from the current request, if there is one.

- 'HTTP_ACCEPT_CHARSET': Contents of the Accept-Charset: header from the current request, if there is one. Example: 'iso-8859-1,*,utf-8'.

- 'HTTP_ACCEPT_ENCODING': Contents of the Accept-Encoding: header from the current request, if there is one. Example: 'gzip'.

- 'HTTP_ACCEPT_LANGUAGE': Contents of the Accept-Language: header from the current request, if there is one. Example: 'en'.

EXAMPLE #2 - REDIRECTING TO SECURE CONNECTION

Code:

```php
1    <?php
2
3    $https = filter_input (INPUT_SERVER, 'HTTPS');
4
5    if (!$https) {
6    $host = filter_input (INPUT_SERVER, 'HTTP_HOST');
7    $uri = filter_input (INPUT_SERVER, 'REQUEST_URI');
8    $url = 'https://' . $host . $uri;
9    header ("Location: " . $url);
10   exit();
11   }
12
13   ?>
14
15
```

http://origamianddesign.katelynpettit.com/

https://origamianddesign.katelynpettit.com

From Murach's PHP and MySQL 2nd Edition pg. 691