

## Re: Application Scope variables ?

**Source:** <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/PHP/alt.php/2004-09/0551.html>

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Date: Thu, 23 Sep 2004 18:49:53 +0100

"aa" <[aa@virgin.net](mailto:aa@virgin.net)> wrote in message  
news:4152a0a2\$0\$17948\$ed2619ec@ptn-nntp-reader02.plus.net...  
> *In ASP an application is an object created when a first request is made to*  
> *a*  
> *website. This object seats in the memory and contains methods and*  
> *properties*  
> *some of the properties can be created and modified from ASP code.*  
> *As a webserver can serve more them one website and some websites might be*  
> *visited just several times a day, there is little point to keep all these*  
> *website objects in the memory all the time. For that purpose, if a website*  
> *does not receive requests for certain time (which can be preset on the*  
> *websrver), the Application object is destroyed and memory reclaimed. Not*  
> *to*  
> *loose data stored in the Object, it allows to write this data onto disk*  
> *before being destroyed.*  
> *If I understand correctly, PHP does not maintain such an object and the*  
> *variables relevant to the whole website need to be written onto disk*  
> *before*  
> *a relevant session expires.*

Correct. PHP does not understand the concept of "application" as you describe it.

>*From your description it seems to be more of a function of the web server as only the web server can create the object on the first request, and destroy the object if there have not been any requests for a period of time.*

If you want to emulate this with PHP you must read in the variables with every request and write out any changes before the script dies. You can use session files or database tables. It may be possible to use data in shared memory, but you would have to write your own routines for loading it and destroying it. Personally I wouldn't bother as the overhead of reading in data with every request is so small that it's not worth the effort to replace it with something more flashy.

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