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Continues From [Part 9](#)

In the [previous post](#) I got the **IP** of the visitor and displayed it on the bottom of the contact page as a courtesy. I also put it inside the messages they might send for me. To keep the **IP** of any visitor who might send a message or just click on my page, I keep a record of **IP**'s of all the visitors. Allow me to advance further and add more elaborations to my contact form.

Remember that I am not addressing any security issue such as preventing **SQL** Injection or making **PHP** codes more accomplished by using advanced functions. Sometimes they are controversial even among the **PHP** experts. I have done many computer codes from Assembly and machine codes, Fortran, dos to Eifel. Now I only do assembly, C, and Java and sometimes Windows C++. I do not like to become engaged in **PHP**. See, it is advised to change `$Name = $_POST['Name']` to `$Name = filter_input(INPUT_POST, 'Name')`. This works. but a similar trick, `filter_input(INPUT_SERVER, "REMOTE_ADDR")` in place of `$_SERVER["REMOTE_ADDR"]` does not work, uniformly (might work intermittently; mostly dispatches *Server Error*). It is due to the fact that as you might notice, parameters and references are not uniform. Hence, the interested readers might like to study manuals deeper.

## How to make a simple basic database of visitors' IP's?

### How to collect (put) visitors' IP records in a text file?

It is usual that web servers use MySQL to gather information in a systematic manner. I make a simple text to keep records of visitors **IP**. Please remember line (217) of contact form in [previous post](#). This is where the visitors get their **IP**'s upon landing on the page and the best time to catch a record of the visit. Therefore, add the following snippet after this line and before line (218). Hence Line (218) will become Line (228)

```
$ip_file = 'save_ip.txt';
218 $date_ti = date('Y-m-d H:i:s');
219 if(file_exists($ip_file)){
220     $file_content = file_get_contents($ip_file);
221     file_put_contents($ip_file, $file_content . "\r\n" . $date_ti .
222 "\t|\t" . $visitor_ip);
223 }
224 else{//create text file and put header for the table
225     file_put_contents($ip_file, "Date and Time" . "\t|\t" . "Visitors
226 IPs"
227 . "\r\n" . $date_ti . "\t|\t" . $visitor_ip);
}
```

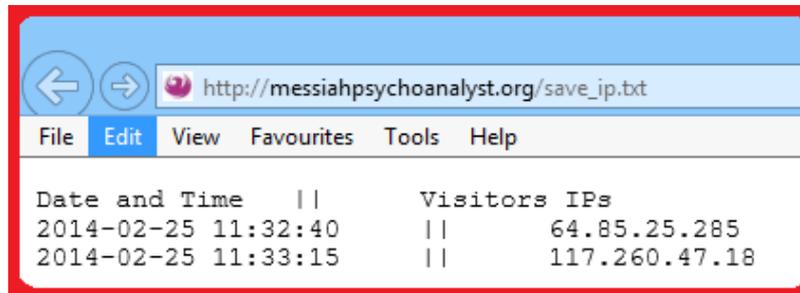
(Download **PHP** code in Zip format [here](#) or open the code in text format [here](#)). On each landing, the code snippet checks if the text file 'save\_ip.txt' is already created and exists. If it is the first ever reference to this file it creates the file and puts a simple header for its columns. Then goes to the next line and puts the date, time and IP of the first visitor in the second row. However, if the text file already exists code snippet gets contents of the text, rewrites it. Then goes to the next line and adds one new record to previous records. I tried to add some formatting and vertical bars to separate columns, nevertheless, readers might like to impose their own ways of doing that. Remember that, at the end, one needs to use MySQL to accumulate these information or to invoke third party tools and subscribed services.

Also, it is worth mentioning that one needs to become familiar with **PHP** tabs, new line, carriage-return, end-of-line and so on. I used the familiar "\t", "\r", "\n" for purposes of this article, but

frequently, they do not behave in such a simple way as they should.

You can learn about **PHP** date and time formats, too, from their wikis.

After two visits you can open the text file in your browser to watch records of visitors IP's or you can download and read them with a text editor, or other ways that your web server allows.



Please check permissions (three digits numbers such as **644**) for the created file not to be accessible to unwanted visitors. (In the last snap-shot **IP's** painted with wrong numbers for privacy of visitors.)

Please [click here](#) to open the contact form and then open the [saved text](#) to see that your own IP has been added (many times a day I renew the text to keep privacy of previous visitors).

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