How to install PHP 5.3 next to 5.2.x or 4.x?

There are certain ways to achieve this, since the main reason for me doing that is testing, I choose the way with the least effort and added PHP 5.3 via CGI to Apache, next to the already installed PHP 5.2.x modul.
So here are the steps to get you started:

```
aptitude install subversion build-essentials
cd /usr/src
svn co http://svn.php.net/repository/pear/ci/phpfarm/trunk/ phpfarm
cd phpfarm/src
```

Now you might want to edit config options in options.sh according to your needs, I added mysql and pdo_mysql:

```
#gcov='--enable-gcov'
configoptions="\
--enable-bcmath \
--with-mysql \
--with-curl \
--with-png \
--with-gd \
--enable-gd-native-ttf \
--with-ttf \
--enable-calendar \
--enable-exif \
--enable-ftp \
--enable-mbstring \
--enable-pcntl \
--enable-soap \
--with-pdo-mysql \
--enable-sockets \
--enable-sqlite-utf8 \
--enable-wddx \
--enable-zip \
--with-zlib \
--with-jpeg-dir=/usr/lib \
--with-xpm-dir=/usr/lib \
--with-freetype-dir=/usr/lib \
--with-gettext \
$gcov"
```

After you have done this, you can start with the compilation:

```
./compile.sh 5.3.2
```

As you already guessed this compiles PHP version 5.3.2, if you need a different version, you just change the line accordingly. Once the compilation completes we now need to tell Apache a few things:

```
a2enmod actions
```


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This enables the actions module, which we need for our purposes. Next we need to edit a few config files, we start with /etc/apache2/mods-enabled/actions.conf, open it with your favorite editor and add the following lines:

```
    Options ExecCGI
    AllowOverride None


ScriptAlias /cgi-php532/   /usr/src/phpfarm/inst/bin/
Action php532-cgi /cgi-php532/php532-cgi
```

Now we need to create a wrapper file for php-cgi, so open/created /usr/src/phpfarm/inst/bin/php532-cgi and put that into the file:

```
#!/bin/sh
/usr/src/phpfarm/inst/php-5.3.2/bin/php-cgi "${PATH_TRANSLATED}"
```

The wrapper script needs to be made executeable:

```
chmod +x /usr/src/phpfarm/inst/bin/php532-cgi
```

That´s already most of the job. As you most certainly already realized you could add more version of PHP next to each other, just by following this steps, e.g. you could also add 5.2.x or any other version you might need.

To activate PHP 5.3.2 for a specific vhost you can either add this to a .htaccess file or the vhost in question:

```
AddHandler php532-cgi .php
```

done.

So what would you need to do to get another PHP version into the same setup?

```
cd /usr/src/phpfarm/src
./compile 5.2.13
```

Add the according values into /etc/apache2/mods-enabled/actions.conf:

```
ScriptAlias /cgi-php5213/   /usr/src/phpfarm/inst/bin/
Action php532-cgi /cgi-php5213/php5213-cgi
```


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Create the file /usr/src/phpfarm/inst/bin/php5213-cgi:

```
#!/bin/sh
/usr/src/phpfarm/inst/php-5.2.13/bin/php-cgi "${PATH_TRANSLATED}"
```

Now make that file executable:

```
chmod +x /usr/src/phpfarm/inst/bin/php5213-cgi
```

And from here you can now enable PHP 5.2.13 on a vhost just as before via .htaccess or the Apache config like:

```
AddHandler php5213-cgi .php
```

Enjoy!

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