Creating helpers

There are a lot of built-in framework helpers such as stringHelper in the yii\helpers namespace.  
These contain sets of helpful static methods for manipulating strings, files, arrays, and other subjects.

In many cases, for additional behavior you can create a own helper and put any static function into one.  
For example, we implement the number helper in this recipe.

Getting ready

Create a new yii2 -app-basic application using the composer package manager as described in the  
official guide at [http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-start-insta]lation.html](http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-start-installation.html).

How to do it...

1. Create the helpers directory in your project and write the NumberHelper class:

<?php

namespace app\helpers;

class NumberHelper  
{

public static function format($value, $decimal = 2)

{

return number\_format($value, $decimal, '.', ',');

}

}

1. Add the actionNumbers method to SiteController:

<?php...

class SiteController extends Controller  
{

public function actionNumbers()

{

return $this->render('numbers', ['value' => 18878334526.3]);

}

}

1. Add the views/site/numbers. php view:

<?php

use app\helpers\NumberHelper;  
use yii\helpers\Html;

/\* @var $this yii\web\View \*/

/\* @var $value float \*/

$this->title = 'Numbers';

$this->params['breadcrumbs'][] = $this->title;

?>

<div class="site-numbers">

<h1><?= Html::encode($this->title) ?></h1>

<p>

Raw number:<br />

<b><?= $value ?></b>

</p>

<P>

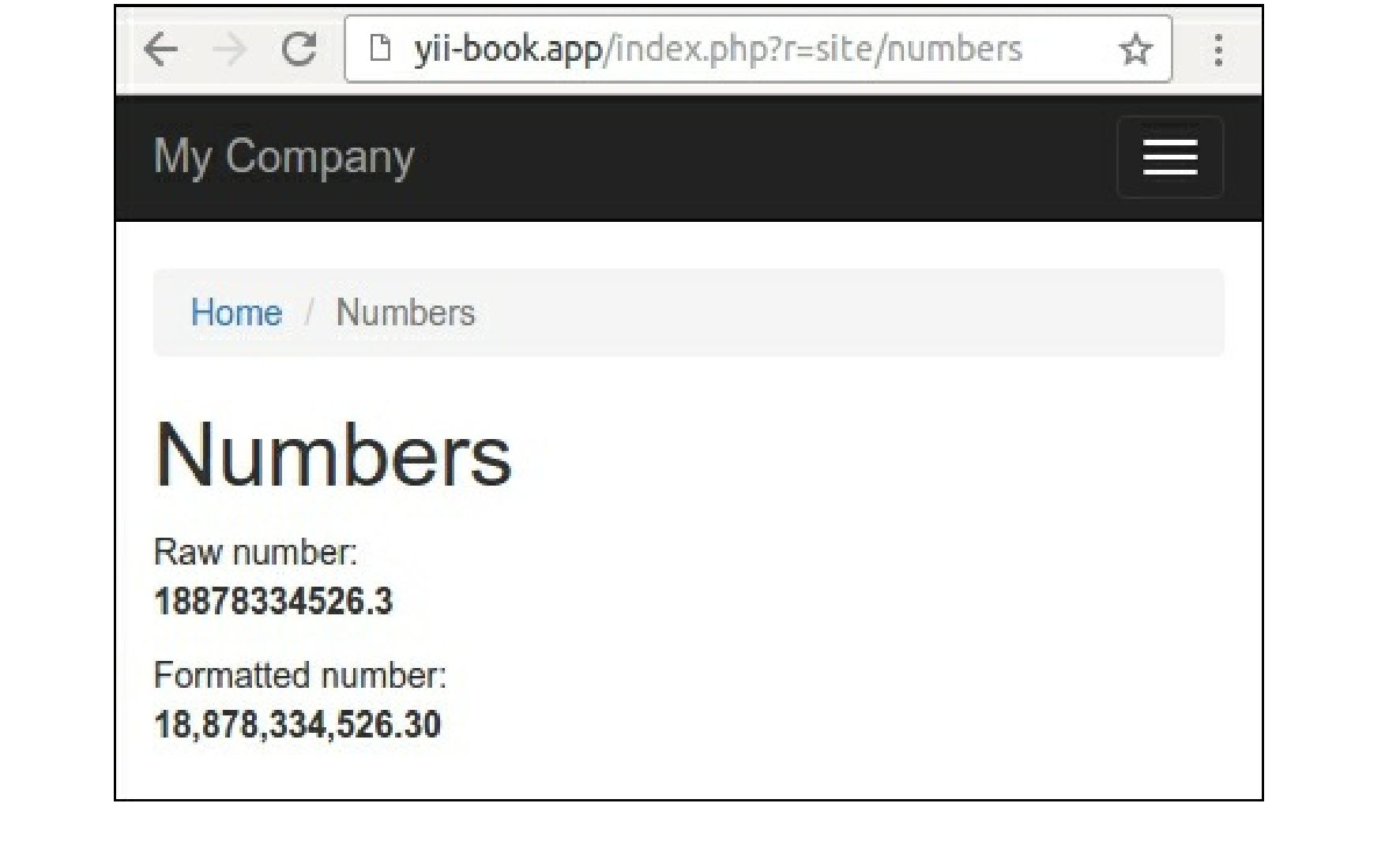
Formatted number:<br />

<b><?= NumberHelper::format($value) ?></b>

</p>

</div>

4. Open the action. You should see the following result:



In other cases, you can specify another count of decimal numbers. Observe the following example:  
NumberHelper::format($value, 3)

How it works...

Any helper in Yii2 is just a set of functions, implemented as static methods in the corresponding classes.

You can use a helper for implementing any different formats of output, for manipulations with values of  
any variables, and for other cases.

Note

Usually, static helpers are lightweight clean functions with a small count of arguments. Avoid putting your  
business logic and other complicated manipulations into helpers. Use widgets or other components instead  
of helpers in other cases.

See also

For more information about helpers, refer to:  
[http://www.yijframework.eom/doc-2.0/guide-helper-overview.html](http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-helper-overview.html).

For examples of built-in helpers, refer to sources in the helpers directory of framework. For the  
framework, refer to:

[https://github.rom/yiisoft/yii2/tree/mastpr/framework/helpers](https://github.com/yiisoft/yii2/tree/master/framework/helpers).