Configuring components

Yii is a very customizable framework. Moreover, as in all customizable code, there should be a convenient way to set up different application parts. In Yii, this is provided through configuration files located at config.

Getting ready

Create a new application by using the Composer package manager as described in the official guide at <http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-startinstallation.html>.

How to do it...

If you have worked with Yii before, then you have probably configured a database connection: return [

'components' => [

'db' => [

'class' => 'system.db.CDbConnection',

'dsn' => 'mysql:host=localhost;dbname=database\_name',

'username' => 'root',

' password' => '',

' charset' => ' utf8',

],

],

];

This way of configuring components is used when you want to use a component across all application parts. With the preceding configuration, you can access a component by its name, such as Yii: :$app->db.

How it works.

When you are using the Yii:: $app->db component for the first time directly or through an Active Record model, Yii creates a component and initializes its public properties with the corresponding values provided in db array under the components section of the application configuration file. In the preceding code, dsn value will be assigned to yii\db\Connection : :dsn, username will be assigned to Connection: : username, and so on.

If you want to find out what charset stands for or want to know what else you can configure in the db component, then you need to know its class. In the case of the db component, the class is yii\db\Connection. You can just open the class and look for its public properties, which you can set from config.

In the preceding code, the class property is a bit special because it is used to specify the component class name. It does not exist in the yii\db\Connection class. Therefore, it can be used to override a class as follows: