What is test/index exactly? In the Yii application, each controller and its actions have corresponding internal routes. A format for an internal route is moduleiD/controlleriD/actioniD. For example, the actionPage method of Testcontroller corresponds to the test/page route. So, in order to get the controller ID, you should take its name without the Controller postfix and make its first letter lowercase. To get an action ID, you should take the action method name without the action prefix, and again, make its first letter lowercase.

Now, what is home? To understand it in a better way, we need to know, at least superficially, what’s happening when we access our application using different URLs.

When we use /home, the URL router checks our rules one by one starting from the top, trying to match the URL entered with the rule. If a match is found, then the router gets the controller and its action from an internal route assigned to the rule and executes it. So, /home is the URL pattern that defines which URLs will be processed by the rule it belongs to.

There’s more...

You can also create parameterized rules using a special syntax. Let’s review the third rule: 'page/<alias>' => test/page',

Here, we are defining an alias parameter that should be specified in the URL after /page/. It can be virtually anything and it will be passed as the $alias parameter to the following:

TestController::actionPage($alias) .

You can define a pattern for such a parameter. We did it for the second rule, as follows:

'<alias:about>' => test/page',

The alias here should match about, otherwise, the rule will not be applied.

See also

Refer to the following links for further reading:

• <http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-runtime-routing.html>

• [http://www.viiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-runtime-url-handling.html](http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-runtime-url-handling.html)

• <http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/yii-web-urlmanager.html>

• The Using regular expressions in URL rules recipe