How it works...

We need to generate URLs pointing to the controller actions (RssFeed, Article, List, HiTech) of BlogController.

Depending on where we need it, there are different ways of doing it, but the basics are the same. Let’s list some methods that generate URLs.

What is an internal route? Each controller and its actions have corresponding routes. A format for a route is moduleID/controllerID/actionID. For example, the actionHiTech method of BlogController corresponds to the blog/hi-tech route.

To get a 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 make the first letter in each word lowercase, and separate them with a dash (-) sign (for example, actionHiTech will be hi-tech).

The $\_get variables are the parameters that will be passed to an action with an internal route specified. For example, if we want to create a URL to a BlogController: :action article that passes the $\_get[ ' name' ] parameter to it, it can be done as follows:

<?= Html::a('Link Name', ['blog/article', 'alias' => 'someAlias']); ?>

Relative URLs can be used inside your application, while absolute ones should be used for pointing to locations outside your website (such as other websites) or for linking to resources meant to be accessed from outside (RSS feeds, e-mails, and so on).

You can do it easily with the URL manager. The URL manager is a built-in application component named urlManager. You have to use this component, which is accessible from both web and console applications via Yii::$app->urlManager.

When you cannot get a controller instance, for example, when you implement a console application, you can use the two following urlManager creation methods:

<?=Yii::$app->urlManager->createUrl(['blog/rss-feed', 'param' => 'someParam'])?> <?=Yii::$app->urlManager->createAbsoluteUrl(['blog/rss-feed', 'param' => 'someParam'])?>

There’s more.

For further information, refer to the following URLs:

* [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canonical link element](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canonical_link_element)
* <http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-structure-controllers.html>
* <http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-runtime-routing.html>
* [http://www.viiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-helper-url.html](http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/guide-helper-url.html)
* <http://www.yiiframework.com/doc-2.0/yii-web-urlmanager.html>