The preceding technique relies on the fact that Yii configuration files are native PHP files with arrays:

<?php

return [...];

Let’s look at the require construct:

'rules' => require( DIR . '/urlRules.php'),

When we use this, it reads the file specified, and, if there is a return statement inside this file, it returns a value.

Therefore, moving a part out of the main configuration file into a separate file requires creating a separate file, moving the configuration part into it right after the return statement, and using require in the main configuration file.

If separate applications (in our example, these are web applications and console applications) require some common configuration parts, then we can use require to move them into a separate file.

See also

In order to learn more about PHP require and include statements, refer to the following URLs:

* <http://php.net/manual/en/function.require.php>
* <http://php.net/manual/en/function.include.php>