

Reading Log Files

Finding Unique IP Addresses

Counting Website Visits

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Review

Counting Visits per Visitor

Introduction

Have a question? Discuss this lecture in the week forums.



Interactive Transcript

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Now it's time for you to solve a new problem with web server logs. For this problem you'll be writing a program to determine how many times each user visited the website. This information can be quite useful for understanding how people use your website. Do the same people visit your site repeatedly? [For example this person keeps coming back to the site again and again.](#) Her IP appears many times in the log file. Seeing the same visitor repeatedly coming to your site might indicate that they find the website useful because they keep coming back. By contrast, this person visited the site once, but never came back. Maybe it wasn't what he was looking for, or maybe he found the site hard to use. If most users only visit your site once, it might suggest that there are some issues you would want to look into. Of course, as with all problems, the techniques you are going to learn are useful in a wide variety of other problems, not just those dealing with web server log analysis. So, let's dive right in.

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