

Displaying external data on the fly with Views and CTools

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[http://balintk.github.com/](http://balintk.github.com/flyviews)
flyviews

Topics

- Custom Views query backend and handlers
- Custom CTools plugins

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The use case

Integration with a RESTful web service

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Write a handy class

```
$request = new DrupalConsAPIRequest();  
$result = $request  
    ->addArgument('year', 2005)  
    ->execute();
```

<http://example.com/api/drupalcon?year=2005>

Custom Views query backend

Let's introduce
Views and DrupalConsAPIRequest class
to each other!

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Views query plugin

- `hook_views_plugins()`
- `hook_views_data()`
- Extend `views_plugin_query` class
 - `init()`
 - `build()`
 - `execute()`

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Views handlers

- Field
- Filter
- Sort
- Argument (contextual filter)
- Relationship
- Area

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Views handlers

- Look around in the *views/handlers* folder
- Extend what you need
- `hook_views_data()`

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Custom CTools plugins

Tell Page Manager how to use
DrupalConsAPIRequest class!

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Custom CTools plugins

- `hook_ctools_plugin_directory()`

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Argument plugin

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Context plugin

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Content type plugin

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