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Linktally: Ranking popular pages in a CMS

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Linktally works around typical CMS roadblocks like high-read, low-write databases, clustering and extensive caching to provide a approximation to page popularity.

Summary

In order to allow a CMS-based website to scale, developers need to avoid making writes to the backend-database on every request. But what if you need to provide at least a ranking of the most visited pages on your site? Add a squid cache and your CMS may never see the majority of the visits as the cache serves up the pages instead, which makes even a increment-counter-on-every-request solution unworkable.

Linktally aims to solve this problem. By periodically analysing front-end server logfiles (Apache, Squid), a running tally can be kept for specific CMS-managed pages. With a CMS-specific plugin, developers can add current rankings, split out by page type and period, to a website.

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