

Re: Website Run By Offsets Query

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/PHP/comp.lang.php/2004-03/0916.html>

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Really an off topic answer, but who cares.

Mostly you would not use your method but use "LIMIT " in their SQL to show part or only one of the records. With for instance LIMIT 29, 1 you would have the thirtieth row. The next would be just incrementing 29 and you don't need any function to do that. It would be just one database query to get the next, which I suppose would be the same as retrieving through a key value. Most likely the response will take a bit longer that way.

Another way, more complicated, is having a field in your database that points to the next and former record. That way you would retrieve through a (indexed) key, which should speed up things. Of course you would need to change everything around inserting and deleting records, because these pointers would need to be updated and you would need to decide on what criteria you decide what is the next record, which would be something like a fixed sort order.

On my local Mysql server the query `SELECT * FROM `whatever` LIMIT 130 , 1,` to somewhere in the middle of a table took 0.0079 seconds, and `LIMIT 268 , 1` is to the end of this table and takes 0.0136 seconds. This is on a Athlon 600Mhz with one user; I am sure your situation could be faster.

When I do the query on a indexed key field value then the query to the middle of the table takes 0.0065 seconds.

Conclusion: it really depends on the size of your table. If your table is not extremely long, I would think the method with LIMIT is sufficiently fast and will not load your server.

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