## What does Query Projection mean in Entity Framework?

Asked 8 years ago Active 8 months ago Viewed 9k times



I am looking at some EF examples and trying to decipher what 'Query Projection' *exactly* equates to when doing LINQ to Entities or EntitySQL. I believe it is when the query results are filtered and projected into an anonymous type but not 100% sure.

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Can someone please define this and maybe provide a small L2E query that uses an example of it?

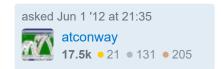


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## 1 Answer





Projection is when the result of a query is output to a different type than the one queried. <u>Another article</u> defined it as: *the process of transforming the results of a query* 

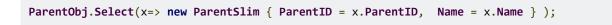
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Projection can be to an anonymous type, but could also be to a concrete type. If you come from a SQL world, it is akin to the columns listed in your SELECT clause.



Example selecting a sub-set of an object into an concrete type:







## Example merging to object into a 3rd anonymous type:

Note: the select new portion is the projection.

```
from P in ParentObj.AsQueryable()
join C in ChildObj.AsQueryable() on P.ParentID == C.ParentID
```

edited Jun 1 '12 at 22:07

answered Jun 1 '12 at 21:43



Agreed, I enjoy that guys writing. – EBarr Jun 2 '12 at 13:35

@EBarr: Query projection can improve indexing on sql server? how? - Amir Jan 15 '16 at 22:07

2 @Amir - where did I say that? I do see how it could result in faster executions under certain circumstances. If, however, you have distinct question it's best to post a question and allow people to fully respond. – EBarr Jan 16 '16 at 8:15