

Digital Career Institute

Python Course - Databases - ORM



Model Relationships

Model Relationships

Models, like tables, can be related to each other using foreign keys.

Pseudo-code

```
class User(models.Model):
    """The User Model."""
    email = models.EmailField(max_length=255)
    password = models.CharField(max_length=32)

class Picture(models.Model):
    """The User Pictures Model."""
    user = Foreign Key references User
    file = models.FileField(...)
```

Defining Relationships

Two models can be related using the `ForeignKey` field available in the `models` module.

users/models.py

```
class User(models.Model):
    """The User Model."""
    email = models.EmailField(max_length=255)
    password = models.CharField(max_length=32)

class Picture(models.Model):
    """The User Pictures Model."""
    user = models.ForeignKey(
        User,
        on_delete=models.CASCADE
    )
    file = models.FileField()
```

Defining Relationships

DLI

Two models can be related using the `ForeignKey` field available in the `models` module.

users/models.py

```
class User(models.Model):
    """The User Model"""
    email = models.EmailField()
    password = models.CharField(max_length=128)

class Picture(models.Model):
    """The User Pictures Model."""
    user = models.ForeignKey(
        User,
        on_delete=models.CASCADE
    )
    file = models.FileField()
```

A positional argument with the related model (as a callable or string) is required.

Defining Relationships

DLI

Two models can be related using the `ForeignKey` field available in the `models` module.

users/models.py

```
class User(models.Model):
    """The User Model"""
    email = models.EmailField()
    password = models.CharField(max_length=128)

class Picture(models.Model):
    """The User Pictures Model"""
    user = models.ForeignKey(
        User,
        on_delete=models.CASCADE
    )
    file = models.FileField()
```

The keyword argument `on_delete` is also required.

`on_delete=models.CASCADE`

On Delete

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The `models` module offers named constants to reference the different options.

`models.CASCADE`

`models.PROTECT`

`models.SET_NULL`

`models.RESTRICT`

`models.SET_DEFAULT`

`models.DO_NOTHING`

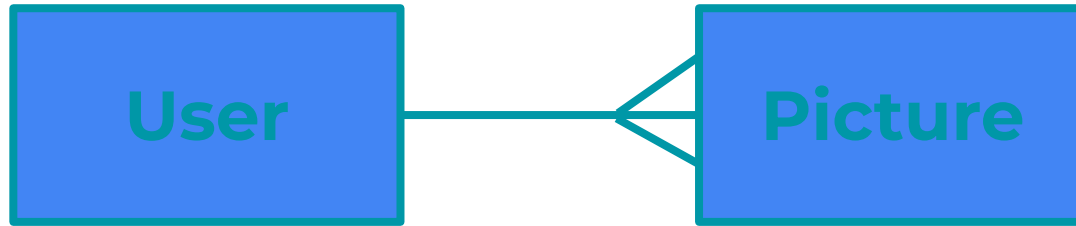
Requires a default value.

Model Relationships

One-to-Many

One-to-Many Relationships

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A user may have many pictures, but a picture can only belong to one user.

Defining Relationships

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A **ForeignKey** field defines a **1:M** relationship and by default references the primary key in the related table.

Main Table		
User Table		
id	email	password
1	mary@...	1234
2	lou@...	pass
3	john@...	4321

1 ←-----> M

"Child" Table		
Picture Table		
id	user_id	file
1	3	cutie.png
2	1	holidays.png
3	1	home.png

A **ForeignKey** model field will create a database field named **{related_model}_id**.

Defining Relationships

The `to_field` argument will make the relationship reference another **unique** field.

users/models.py

```
class User(models.Model):
    """The User Model."""
    email = models.EmailField(max_length=255,
                              unique=True)
    password = models.CharField(max_length=32)

class Picture(models.Model):
    """The User Pictures Model."""
    user = models.ForeignKey(
        User, on_delete=models.CASCADE,
        to_field="email"
    )
    file = models.FileField()
```

Defining Relationships

DLI

The **ForeignKey** field may reference any field with a unique constraint.

Main Table		
User Table		
id	email	password
1	mary@...	1234
2	lou@...	pass
3	john@...	4321


1 ←-----> M

"Child" Table		
Picture Table		
id	user_id	file
1	john@...	cutie.png
2	mary@...	holidays.png
3	mary@...	home.png

Defining Foreign Key Values

To create “child” objects, we can simply pass the parent objects as arguments of the foreign key field.

```
>>> # Create a new user
>>> mary = User.objects.create(email="mary@...", pass="1234")
>>> # Add pictures to mary
>>> Picture.objects.create(user=mary, file="home.png")
```



user is a **reference to the object** and requires an **object** to be assigned to it.

Defining Foreign Key Values

To create child objects, we can also use the identifiers.

```
>>> # Create a new user
>>> mary = User.objects.create(email="mary@...", pass="1234")
>>> # Add pictures to mary
>>> Picture.objects.create(user_id=mary.pk, file="home.png")
```



user_id is a **reference to the table field**
and requires an **integer** to be assigned to it.

Querying Foreign Keys

Foreign keys can also be queried (`get`, `filter`, `exclude`,...) using object arguments.

```
>>> # Create a new user
>>> mary = User.objects.get(email="mary@...", pass="1234")
>>> # Get Mary's picture named home.png
>>> Picture.objects.get(user=mary, file="home.png")
```



`user` is still a **reference to the object** and it still requires an **object**.

Querying Foreign Keys

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Query lookups can span to the related tables.

```
>>> # Getting all pictures from users whose  
>>> # email starts with mary@  
>>> Picture.object.filter(user__email__startswith="mary@")  
<QuerySet [<Picture: home.png>, <Picture: holidays.png>]>
```



A model can be filtered based on any field in any related table.

Querying Foreign Keys

Query lookups can span to any level of related tables.

```
>>> # Getting all postal addresses in Germany
>>> Address.object.filter(
...     street__city__country__name="Germany")
...
```

In this example, the table **address** has a field pointing to a **street** table, which has a field pointing to a **city** table, with a field pointing to a **country** table that has a **name** field.

Backwards Relation

DLI

Related **new objects** can also be **created** from the main object.

```
>>> # Create a new user
>>> mary = User.objects.create(email="mary@...", pass="1234")
>>> # Add pictures to mary using its picture_set model manager
>>> pic = mary.picture_set.create(file="home.png")
```



A one-to-many relationship will automatically define a property named **{model_name}_set** as a model manager.

The ORM will automatically use Mary's identifier as a foreign key of the table row.

Creating Related Objects

Related **existing objects** can also be **added** from the main object.

```
>>> # Create a new user
>>> mary = User.objects.create(email="mary@...", pass="1234")
>>> # Add pictures to mary
>>> pic1 = Picture.objects.create(file="home.png")
>>> pic2 = Picture.objects.create(file="holidays.png")
>>> mary.picture_set.add(pic1, pic2)
```

As opposed to **create**, the **add** method requires objects that need to be already created at the database level.

Removing Related Objects


Related objects can also be **removed** from the main object.

```
>>> # Create a new user
>>> mary = User.objects.create(email="mary@...", pass="1234")
>>> # Set Mary's pictures
>>> home = Picture.objects.create(file="home.png")
>>> mary.picture_set.remove(home)
```

Querying Related Objects

Related objects can also be **queried** using the related manager.

```
>>> # Create a new user
>>> mary = User.objects.get(email="mary@digitalcar...")
>>> # Getting Mary's pictures which name starts with h
>>> mary.picture_set.filter(file__startswith="h")
<QuerySet [<Picture: home.png>, <Picture: holidays.png>]>
```



As with the standard model manager, the **filter** method can be used to query the related objects.

Selecting Related Data

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When data from multiple tables is selected the `select_related` method is sometimes used to optimize the SQL query.

```
>>> # Get a picture. Hits the database
>>> pic = Picture.objects.get(pk=1)
>>> # Getting its user. Hits the database again.
>>> pic.user.name
Mary
>>> # Get the picture and the user. Hits the database.
>>> pic = Picture.objects.select_related("user").get(pk=1)
>>> # Showing its user. Does NOT hit the database again.
>>> pic.user.name
Mary
```

Related Managers

DLI

The related manager can be renamed using the argument `related_name`.

users/models.py

```
class User(models.Model):
    """The User Model."""
    email = models.EmailField(max_length=255)
    password = models.CharField(max_length=32)

class Picture(models.Model):
    """The User Pictures Model."""
    user = models.ForeignKey(
        User,
        on_delete=models.CASCADE,
        related_name="pictures"
    )
    file = models.FileField()
```

Related Manager Name

The related manager can be renamed using the argument `related_name`.

users/models.py

```
>>> # Create a new user
>>> mary = User.objects.get(email="mary@digitalcar...")
>>> # Getting Mary's pictures which name starts with h
>>> mary.pictures.filter(file__startswith="h")
<QuerySet [<Picture: home.png>, <Picture: holidays.png>]>
```

```
user = models.ForeignKey(
    User,
    on_delete=models.CASCADE,
    related_name="pictures"
)
file = models.FileField()
```


Related Managers

DLI

The parent object can also be filtered based on fields in the child table.

users/models.py

```
class User(models.Model):
    """The User Model."""
    email = models.EmailField(max_length=255)
    password = models.CharField(max_length=32)

class Picture(models.Model):
    """The User Pictures Model."""
    user = models.ForeignKey(
        User,
        on_delete=models.CASCADE,
        related_name="pictures"
    )
    file = models.FileField()
```

Reverse Filters

DLI

The parent object can also be filtered based on fields in the child table.

users/models.py

```
>>> # Getting users who have pictures which name starts with h
>>> User.objects.filter(pictures__name__startswith="h")
<QuerySet [ <User: Mary>, <User: Louise> ]>
```

```
user = models.ForeignKey(
    User,
    on_delete=models.CASCADE,
    related_name="pictures"
)
file = models.FileField()
```

Model Relationships

One-to-One

One-to-One Relationships

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A user may have only one profile, and a profile can only belong to a user.

Defining Relationships

DLI

One-to-one relationships can be implemented with standard foreign keys and a unique constraint.

users/models.py

```
class User(models.Model):
    """The User Model."""
    email = models.EmailField(max_length=255)
    password = models.CharField(max_length=32)

class Profile(models.Model):
    """The User Profile Model."""
    user = models.ForeignKey(
        User,
        on_delete=models.CASCADE,
        unique=True
    )
    data = models.JSONField()
```

A foreign key that has a unique constraint is limited to only one-to-one relationships between rows of the two tables.

Defining Relationships

A **ForeignKey** field with a **unique** constraint defines a **1:1** relationship.

User Table		
id	email	password
1	mary@...	1234
2	lou@...	pass
3	john@...	4321

1 ←-----> 1

Profile Table		
id	user_id	data
1	3	{"heading":...
2	1	{"heading":...
3	2	{"heading":...

Defining Relationships

DLI

One-to

straint.

```
(env)$ python manage.py makemigrations
```

WARNINGS:

shop.Picture.user: (fields.W342) Setting unique=True on a ForeignKey has the same effect as using a OneToOneField.

HINT: ForeignKey(unique=True) is usually better served by a OneToOneField.

```
class Profile(models.Model):  
    """The User Profile Model."""  
    user = models.ForeignKey(  
        User,  
        on_delete=models.CASCADE,  
        unique=True  
    )  
    data = models.JSONField()
```

between rows of the
two tables.

Defining Relationships

DLI

Django's ORM provides a specific field for these relationships.

users/models.py

```
class User(models.Model):
    """The User Model."""
    email = models.EmailField(max_length=255)
    password = models.CharField(max_length=32)

class Profile(models.Model):
    """The User Profile Model."""
    user = models.OneToOneField(
        User,
        on_delete=models.CASCADE,
        primary_key=True
    )
    data = models.JSONField()
```

A **OneToOneField** is the recommended way of defining one-to-one relationships.

Arguments are essentially the same as the **ForeignKey**.

Defining Relationships

DLI

Two models can be related using a `OneToOneField`.

users/models.py

```
class User(models.Model):
    """The User Profile Model."""
    email = models.EmailField()
    password = models.CharField(max_length=128)

class Profile(models.Model):
    """The User Profile Model."""
    user = models.OneToOneField(
        User,
        on_delete=models.CASCADE,
        primary_key=True
    )
    data = models.JSONField()
```

The foreign key, in a 1:1 relationship, is a natural primary key, but it is not required.

Using the One-to-One Field

DLI

The one-to-one field can be used like the foreign key field.

```
>>> # Create a new user
>>> mary = User.objects.create(email="mary@...", pass="1234")
>>> # Create Mary's profile
>>> profile = Profile.objects.create(user=mary,
...                                  data={"empty": True})
...
>>> # Or create the profile using the identifiers
>>> profile = Profile.objects.create(user_id=mary.pk, ...)
```

Backwards Relation

The `OneToOneField` also provides backwards relation.

```
>>> # Create a new user
>>> mary = User.objects.create(email="mary@...", pass="1234")
>>> # Create Mary's profile
>>> Profile.objects.create(user=mary, data={"empty": True})
>>> # Get Mary's profile data
>>> print(mary.profile.data)
{'empty': True}
```

The related name can also be changed in a `OneToOneField`.

users/models.py

```
class User(models.Model):
    """The User Model."""
    email = models.EmailField(max_length=255)
    password = models.CharField(max_length=32)

class Profile(models.Model):
    """The User Profile Model."""
    user = models.OneToOneField(
        User,
        on_delete=models.CASCADE,
        related_name="data"
    )
    company = models.CharField(max_length=100)
```

A `OneToOneField` is the recommended way of defining one-to-one relationships.

Arguments are essentially the same as the `ForeignKey`.

Related Name

DLI

The related name can also be changed in a `OneToOneField`.

```
>>> # Get Mary's profile company
>>> print(mary.data.company)
Digital Career Institute
```

```
class Profile(models.Model):
    """The User Profile Model."""
    user = models.OneToOneField(
        User,
        on_delete=models.CASCADE,
        related_name="data"
    )
    company = models.CharField(max_length=100)
```

A `OneToOneField` is the recommended way of defining one-to-one relationships.

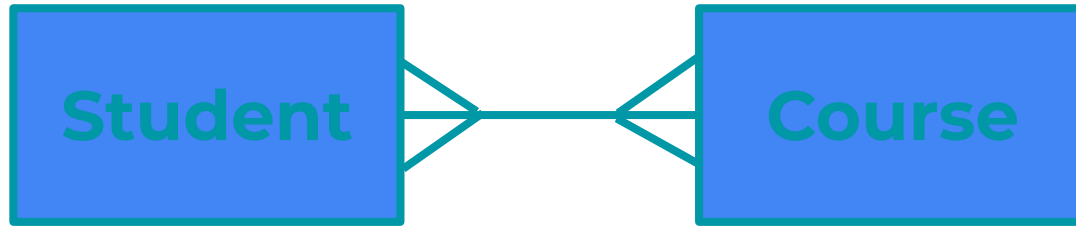
Arguments are essentially the same as the `ForeignKey`.

Model Relationships

Many-to-Many

Many-to-Many Relationships

DLI



Each student may attend many courses, and each course can be attended by many students.

Defining Relationships

Two **ForeignKey** fields define a **M:N** relationship.

Student Table		
id	email	password
1	mary@...	1234
2	lou@...	pass
3	john@...	4321

1 ↔ M

Intermediate Table	
student_id	course_id
1	1
1	2
3	1

M ↔ 1

Course Table	
id	title
1	Computer Basics
2	Intro to Programming
3	Django Framework

The combination of the two **ForeignKey** fields is the natural primary key of the intermediate table.

Defining Relationships in Django

DLI

Many-to-many relationships can be implemented with the **ManyToManyField**.

courses/models.py

```
class Student(models.Model):
    email = models.EmailField(max_length=255)
    password = models.CharField(max_length=32)

class Course(models.Model):
    students = models.ManyToManyField(
        Student,
        related_name="attends"
    )
    data = models.JSONField()
```

The name of the backwards relation can also be customized with **related_name**.

Using Many-to-Many Relationships

Many-to-many relationships always work with related managers.

```
>>> # Create a new student
>>> mary = Student.objects.create(email="mary@...", pass=...)
>>> # Create a new course
>>> django = Course.objects.create(title="Django")
>>> # Assign student to the course
>>> django.students.add(mary)
>>> # Assign course to the student
>>> mary.attends.add(django)
```

Using Many-to-Many Relationships

Many-to-many relationships always work with related managers.

```
>>> # Get a student
>>> mary = Student.objects.get(email="mary@...", pass=...)
>>> # Get a course
>>> django = Course.objects.get(title="Django")
>>> # Get mary's courses
>>> mary.attends.all()
>>> # Get course's students
>>> django.students.all()
```

Custom Intermediate Tables

DLI

Intermediate tables can be explicitly defined.

`courses/models.py`

```
class Course(models.Model):
    students = models.ManyToManyField(
        Student, through="Registration"
    )

class Registration(models.Model):
    student = models.ForeignKey(Student, ...)
    course = models.ForeignKey(Course, ...)
    enrolled_on = models.DateTimeField()
    passed_on = models.DateTimeField()
    score = models.PositiveSmallIntegerField()
```

This is often done when the intermediate table must hold additional details related to the relationship.

Using Many-to-Many Relationships

To store the information on the additional fields, the query can be done directly on the intermediate model.

```
>>> # Create a new student
>>> mary = Student.objects.create(email="mary@...", pass=...)
>>> # Create a new course
>>> django = Course.objects.create(title="Django")
>>> # Register mary to the Django course
>>> Registration.objects.create(student=mary, course=django,
...                             start=1997, end=1998)
...
```

Using Many-to-Many Relationships

It can also be done from one model, using `through_defaults`.

```
>>> # Create a new student
>>> mary = Student.objects.create(email="mary@...", pass=...)
>>> # Create a new course
>>> django = Course.objects.create(title="Django")
>>> # Register mary to the Django course
>>> django.students.add(mary,
...     through_defaults={"start": 1997, "end": 1998}
... )
...
```

Recursive Many-to-Many Relationships

DLI

A `ManyToManyField` can reference its own table.

`courses/models.py`

```
class Student(models.Model):  
    email = models.EmailField(max_length=255)  
    password = models.CharField(max_length=32)  
    friends = models.ManyToManyField(  
        Student,  
        symmetrical=False  
    )
```

A self-reference can be symmetrical or asymmetrical.

By default, they are created as symmetrical.

Recursive Many-to-Many Relationships

A symmetrical relation will define the relationship in both directions.

```
>>> # Get two students
>>> mary = Student.objects.get(email="mary@...", pass=...)
>>> lou = Student.objects.get(email="lou@...", pass=...)
>>> # Add lou as mary's friend
>>> mary.friends.add(lou)
>>> # Get lou's friends
>>> lou.friends.all()
<QuerySet [{mary}]>
```


Recursive Many-to-Many Relationships

An asymmetrical relation will define the relationship in only one direction.

```
>>> # Get two students
>>> mary = Student.objects.get(email="mary@...", pass=...)
>>> lou = Student.objects.get(email="lou@...", pass=...)
>>> # Add lou to the following list of mary
>>> mary.follows.add(lou)
>>> # Get lou's following list
>>> lou.follows.all()
<QuerySet []>
```

A large group of people, mostly young adults, are posing for a group photo in a room with a projector screen in the background. They are arranged in several rows, with some people sitting on the floor in the front. Many are making peace signs or other celebratory gestures. The text "THANK YOU" is overlaid in large white letters in the center of the image.

THANK YOU

Contact Details
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