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Lesson Objectives

After completing this lesson, participants will be able to understand:

- Java Persistence API
- Working with JPA
- Managing entities using EntityManager



This lesson is startup for setting up JPA in our application and explains how to perform basic operations on entities using JPA interfaces/classes.

JPAQL is covered in next chapter.

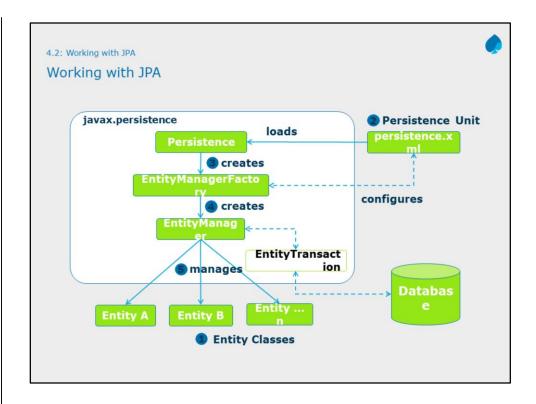
JPA Overview

Entity Classes
EntityManager
Persistence Context
EntityManagerFactory
EntityTransaction
Persistence Unit
persistence API

Java Persistence Cylint
Query

The shows important components of JPA that each application uses to communicate with the database.

This lesson gives an introduction about what are those components, their functionality and how to configure them in our application.



The slide shows typical JPA components interaction/working.

- 1. You normally start with a persistence strategy by identifying which classes need to be made entities.
- 2. Next step is to create configuration file (an XML document named persistence.xml) that contains the details about the relational database.
- 3. EntityManagerFactory is an factory based class responsible for creating EntityManager instance. It is obtained using Persistence class's createEntityManagerFactory static method.
- 4. EntityManagerFactory class designed to create EntityManager.
- 5. Once you have an EntityManager, you can start managing your entities. You can persist an entity, find one that matches a set of criteria, and so on. Each work of EntityManager with entities must be governed under EntityTransaction.

Let us discuss the each step in detail.

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4.2: Working with JPA

Creating Entity Classes

Java POJO classes can be made entity via either one of the following way:

• XML configuration (orm.xml)

• Annotations

A single xml file i.e. orm.xml is required to map entire set of entity classes within an application.

In case of Appatations it should be marked in individual classes.

@Entity
public class Student implements Serializable {

@Id
private int studentId;
private String name;
//getters and setters

Requirements for Entity Classes:

}

The class must be annotated with the javax.persistence.Entity annotation.

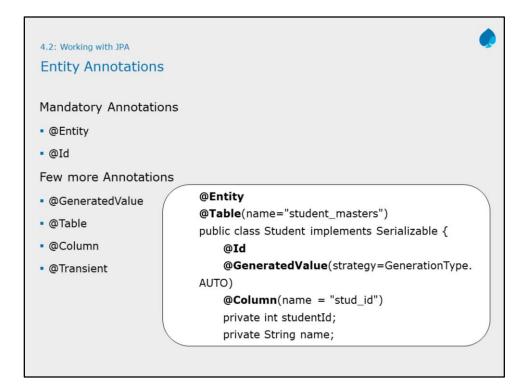
The class must have a public or protected, no-argument constructor. The class may have other constructors.

The class must not be declared final. No methods or persistent instance variables must be declared final.

Entities may extend both entity and non-entity classes, and non-entity classes may extend entity classes.

Persistent instance variables must be declared private, protected, or packageprivate and can be accessed directly only by the entity class's methods. Clients must access the entity's state through accessor or business methods.

Note: As there are two ways to configure entities, either in XML (orm.xml) or with annotations, to keep contents **simple and manageable**, this course focuses **only on annotations** to configure entity classes.



The **@Entity** annotation marks this class as an entity bean, so it must have a no-argument constructor that is visible with at least protected scope.

Each entity bean has to have a primary key, which you annotate on the class with the **@ld** annotation.

In some situation, few properties of an entity, do not need to be stored in the database. In this case, ORM do not take this property for all the Database operation. This can be done using **@Transient** annotation.

By default, the @Id annotation will automatically determine the most appropriate primary key generation strategy to use—you can override this by also applying the @GeneratedValue annotation. This takes a pair of attributes: strategy and generator

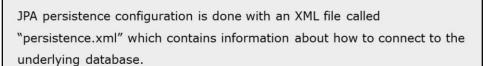
The **strategy** attribute must be a value from the **GeneratorType** enumeration, which defines four types of strategy constants.

- **1. AUTO: (Default)** JPA decides which generator type to use, based on the database's support for primary key generation.
- 2. **IDENTITY:** The database is responsible for determining and assigning the next primary key.
- **3. SEQUENCE:** Some databases support a SEQUENCE column type.
- **4. TABLE:** This type keeps a separate table with the primary key values.

Note: Identity strategy depends upon database, for example, if database (MySQL) support AUTO INCREMENT column, then we can use IDENTITY to support this feature. For SEQUENCE and TABLE generator, see further notes.

4.2: Working with JPA

Persistence Configuration



To connect with database, you need to set various properties regarding driver class, user name and password. This configuration is done with an XML file named persistence.xml.

Elements in persistence.xml:

The **<persistence>** is the root element of persistence.xml file. A persistence unit defines all the entity classes that need to be managed and the JDBC details to connect to an underlying relational database.

- a. **RESOURCE_LOCAL**: Application will handle transaction management. i.e. creating, starting and closing of transactions.
 - b. JTA: JEE server Container will take care for transaction management.
- **2. <provider>:** Specifies the fully-qualified name of the JMS provider class. E.g. hibernate.
- **3. <property>:** Minimum four properties must be nested using <property> element . needed. These properties specify the JDBC URL, JDBC username, JDBC password, and driver.
- **4. <class> :** Each class element specifies a fully-qualified name of an entity class. This approach is used to inform which classes needs to be managed by JPA. i.e. Entity classes. There may be more than one class elements.

Note: This configuration file must be stored under **META-INF** directory of your application project.

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4.2: Working with JPA

Obtaining Entity Manager

An EntityManager is responsible for managing entities.

Below are the steps to create instance of EntityManager.

- Create EntityManagerFactory by using the Persistence class
- Call createEntityManager() on an EntityManagerFactory.

EntityManagerFactory emf =

Persistence.createEntityManagerFactory(name);

EntityManager em = emf.createEntityManager();

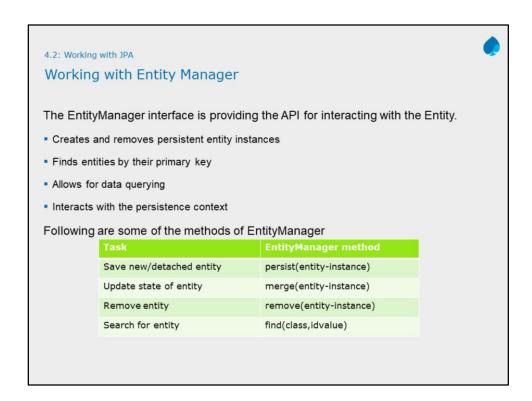
An EntityManager is responsible for managing entities. It is one of the most important types in the API.

You can get an EntityManagerFactory easily by using the Persistence class's createEntityManagerFactory() static method. It accept string parameter which is name of persistence unit defined in persistence.xml file.

Using the EntityManagerFactory class factory, you can create EntityManager instances using createEntityManager() method.

Note: In your application when there is no use of **EntityManagerFactory** or application shuts down then it is necessary to close the instance of **EntityManagerFactory**. Once the **EntityManagerFactory** is closed, all its EntityManagers are also closed.

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The EntityManager interface defines the methods that are used to interact with the persistence context. The EntityManager API is used to create and remove persistent entity instances, to find persistent entities by primary key, and to query over persistent entities.

EntityManager important methods:

- 1. persist(object): Persists the entity object
- 2. find(class,primarykey): Retrieves a specific entity object
- 3. remove(object): Removes an entity object
- refresh: Refreshes the entity instances in the persistence context from the database
- **5. contains**: Returns true if the entity instance is in the persistence context. This signifies that the entity instance is managed
- **6. flush**: forces the synchronization of the database with entities in the persistence context
- 7. **clear**: Clears the entities from the persistence context
- 8. evict(object): Detaches an entity from the persistence context
- close(): Flush entity instances first, clears persistence context and nullify the entity manager

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4.2: Working with JPA
Persisting entity with Entity Manager
      public static void main(String[] args) {
           EntityManagerFactory factory =
                    Persistence.createEntityManagerFactory("JPA-PU");
           EntityManager em = factory.createEntityManager();
           em.getTransaction().begin();
           Student student = new Student();
           student.setName("John");
                                               @Entity
           em.persist(student);
                                               public class Student implements
           em.getTransaction().commit(
           em.close();
                                               Serializable {
           factory.close();
                                                    @Id
      }
                                                    private int studentId;
                                                    private String name;
                                               }
```

The above example shows how to persist entity instance using EntityManager.

void persist(java.lang.Object entity)

Persists an entity. The method throws an EntityExistsException if the entity already exists and a java.lang.lllegalArgumentException if the passed in object is not an entity.

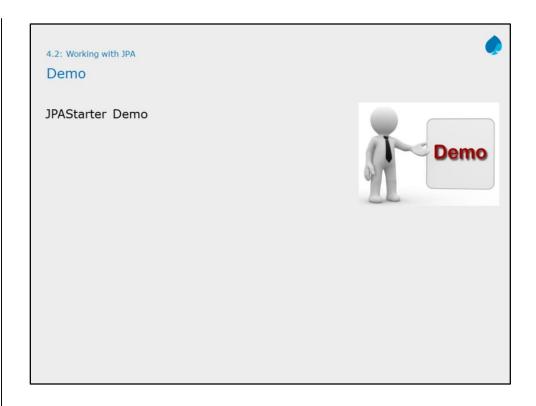
Important: While managing instances of entities using EntityManager like saving, updating or removing, it is very much required to work in transaction. Therefore you need work with

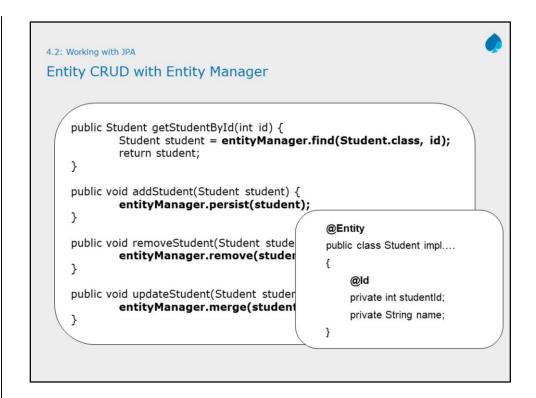
EntityTransaction getTransaction()

method that returns resource-level EntityTransaction which can be used to **begin**, **commit** or **rollback** transactions.

Note: You do not need an EntityTransaction for read-only operations. For example, finding entity with EntityManager.find() method.

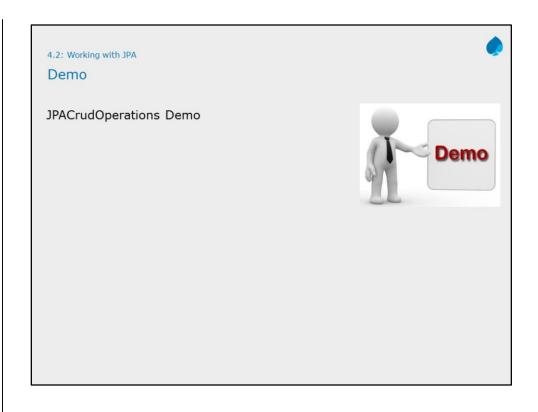
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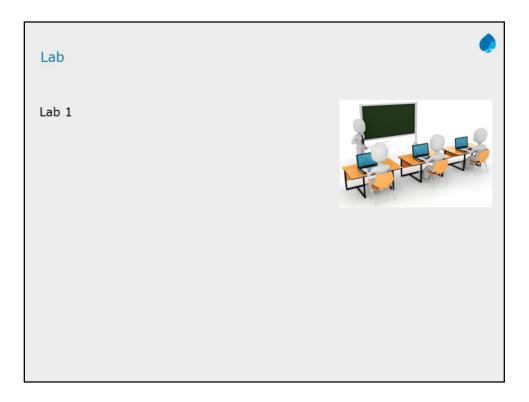


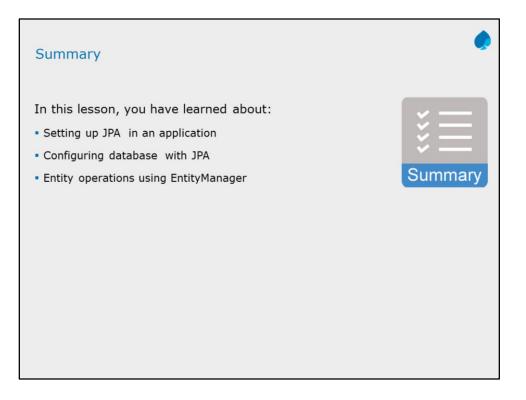
The above example shows how to perform CRUD (create-read-update-delete) operations on entity instance using EntityManager.

Please debug the demo, don't run it. While debugging the Client class, ensure to display state of table for each breakpoint.



The above demos shows how to perform CRUD operations on entity in an layered architecture.





Answers:

- 1. Option 2 and 3
- 2. True

Review Question



Question 1: Which of the following method/s is/are used to complete the transaction?

- Option 1: EntityManager.commit()
- Option 2: EntityManager.getTransaction().commit()
- Option 3: EntityManager.getTransaction().rollback()
- Option 4: All of above



Question 2: Persistence configuration file "persistence.xml" must be saved under META-INF folder.

True/False