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Module 3: Models and EF Core

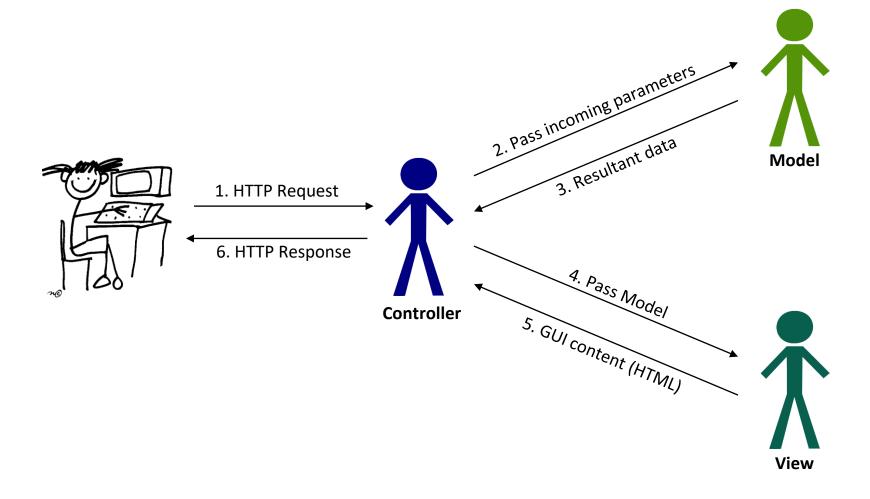
Module Overview

Module 3: Models

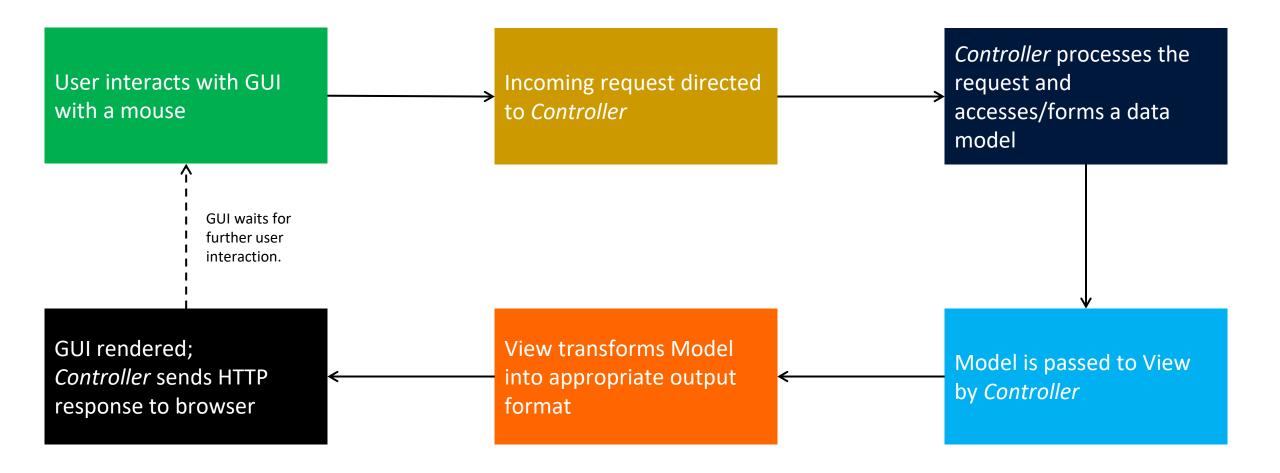
Section 1: MVC Design Pattern

Lesson: Overview

Model View Controller (MVC) Design Pattern



MVC Control Flow



Module 3: Models

Section 2: Model Fundamentals

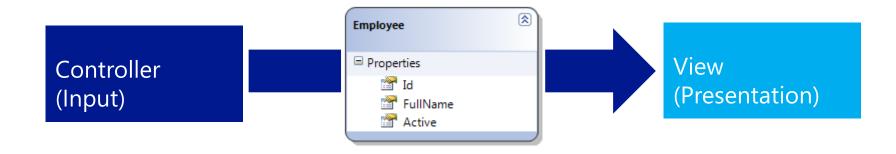
Lesson: Role of Models

Model

- A set of .NET classes that:
 - o Describe data that the application is working with
 - o Implement the **rules** or **logic** for how the data can be changed/manipulated
- Model state can be retrieved and stored in any form:
 - Relational databases
 - Comma-separated text files
 - RESTful web services
- It can use any data access technology for accessing and manipulating data
 - Object Relational Mapping frameworks like Entity Framework (EF)

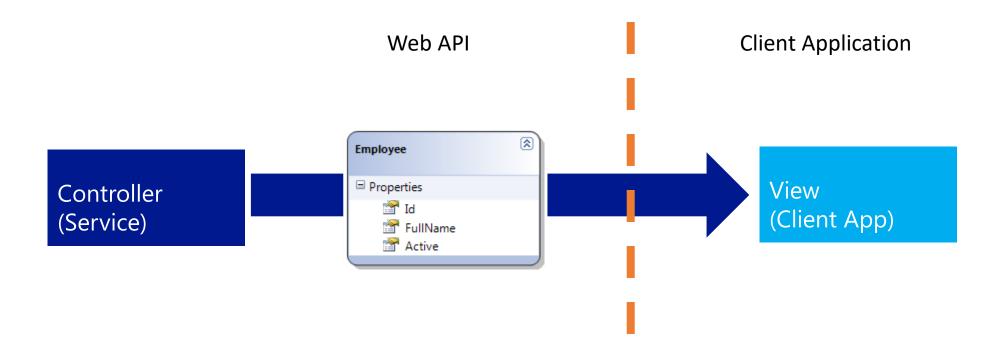
Role of a Model

- The "Model" is the medium of communication between Controllers and Views
- It responds to requests for information about its state (usually from view)
- It changes states in the data source as per the request of controller



Role of a Model

• Building a RESTful service or WebAPI? The pattern still applies!



Module 3: Models

Section 3: Model Development

Lesson: Development with Entity Framework

Entity Framework

- Object-relational mapping framework by Microsoft
 - It understands how to store .NET objects in a <u>relational</u> database.
 - It retrieves and manipulates data as strongly typed objects using LINQ query
- It provides:
 - Change tracking
 - Identity resolution
 - Dev-time tooling
 - Query translation
 - More!
- Open-source and Cross-platform!
- Both Entity Framework and Entity Framework Core will continue to develop separately

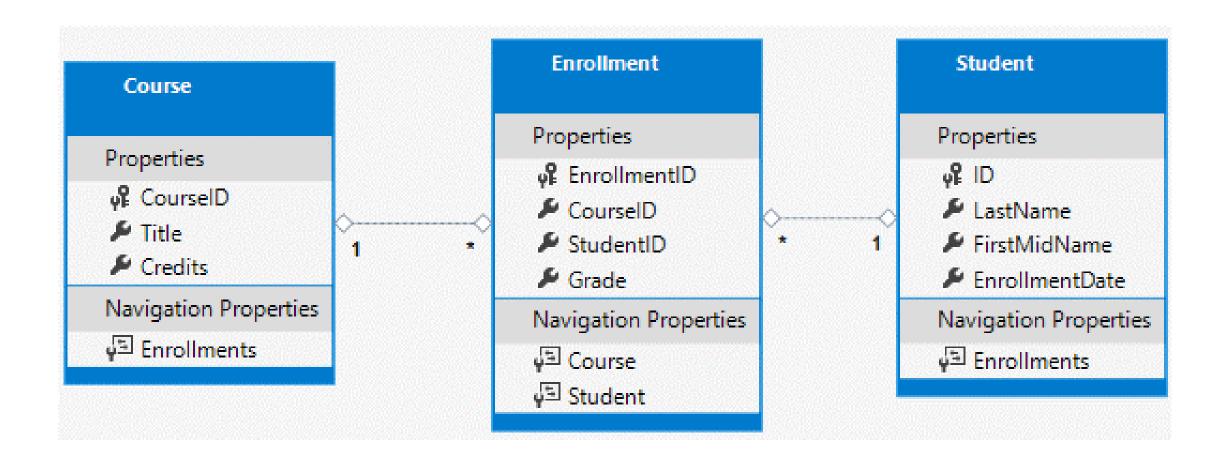


EF Architecture

EF.SqlServerCompa ct40 EF.MicrosoftSqlSer EF.Commands EF.Npgsql **EF.Relational EF.InMemory**

EntityFramework.Core

Our Data Domain – Contoso University



Model Development

- A model can be created with a .NET class
- Primary key, foreign key, and navigation properties are defined in the class
- Class (Enrollment) will be converted into a database table
- Class properties (*EnrollmentID*, *CourseID*, etc.) will be converted into table attributes

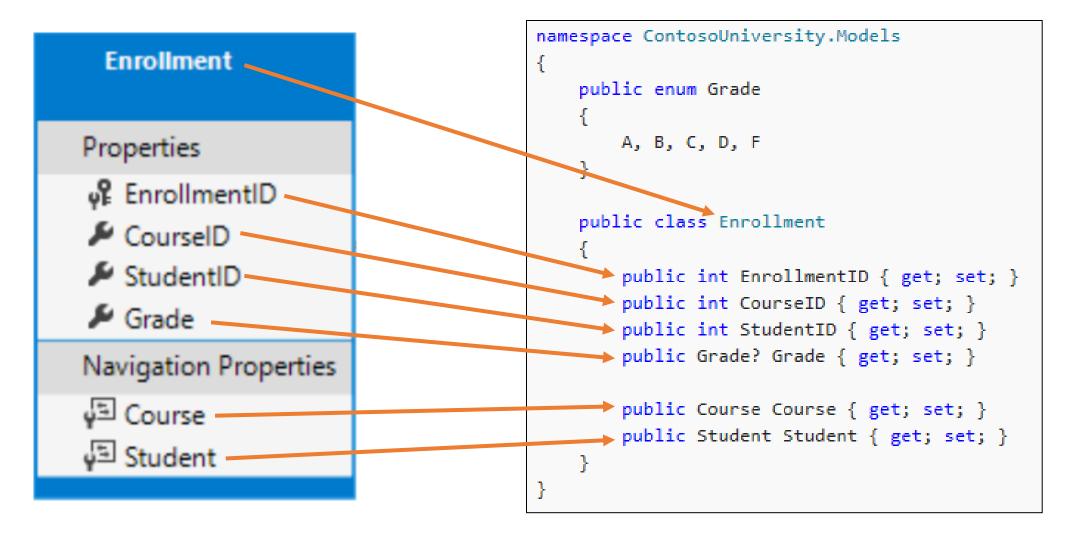
```
namespace ContosoUniversity.Models
    public enum Grade
       A, B, C, D, F
    public class Enrollment
        public int EnrollmentID { get; set; }
        public int CourseID { get; set; }
        public int StudentID { get; set; }
        public Grade? Grade { get; set; }
        public Course Course { get; set; }
        public Student Student { get; set; }
```

Model Relationships

- Navigation property
 - Navigational property holds other entities that are related to this entity
 - Student and Course are navigation properties.
- Foreign key property
 - It is not required in a model object
 - It is used for convenience
 - CourseID and StudentID are foreign key properties

```
namespace ContosoUniversity.Models
    public enum Grade
       A, B, C, D, F
    public class Enrollment
        public int EnrollmentID { get; set; }
        public int CourseID { get; set; }
        public int StudentID { get; set; }
        public Grade? Grade { get; set; }
        public Course Course { get; set; }
        public Student Student { get; set; }
```

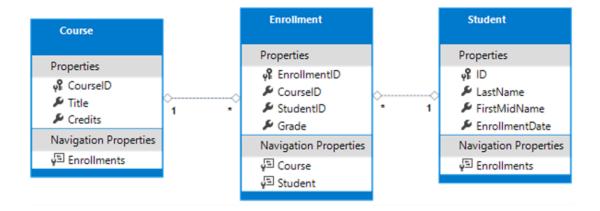
Model Relationships



Model Relationships - DbContext

- The DbContext is how we expose our classes to EF
- Inherits from
 Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.DbContext
- It is also our gateway into the database in code
- DbSet<T> Where T is Class
 - How we tell EF which models to track relationships between
- Here we have told EF to track Course, Enrollment, and Student entities and their relationships

```
public class SchoolContext
{
    public SchoolContext(DbContextOptions<SchoolContext> options) : base(options)
    {
        }
        public DbSet<Course> Courses { get; set; }
        public DbSet<Enrollment> Enrollments { get; set; }
        public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
}
```



View Specific Models (DTOs)

- Data Transfer Objects (DTOs) or ViewModels can be used to create versions of your Entities that can be sent over the internet
- Prevents exposing schema information like relationships
- Creates more specific models for an application, like a flattened search result model

• Can be manually mapped or use a library like AutoMapper to move from entity to DTO and

back

```
public class Enrollment
{

5 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions public int EnrollmentID { get; set; }

12 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions public int CourseID { get; set; }

12 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions public int StudentID { get; set; }

9 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions public Grade? Grade { get; set; }

2 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions public Course Course { get; set; }

2 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions public Student Student { get; set; }

}
```

View Specific Models (DTOs)

```
public class Enrollment
     5 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public int EnrollmentID { get; set; }
     12 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public int CourseID { get; set; }
     12 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public int StudentID { get; set; }
     9 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public Grade? Grade { get; set; }
     2 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public Course Course { get; set; } 
     2 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public Student Student { get; set; }
```

```
public class EnrollmentDTO
    O references | O changes | O authors, O changes | O exceptions
     public int EnrollmentID { get; set; }
    0 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public int StudentID { get; set; }
    0 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public string StudentLastName { get; set; }
    0 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public string StudentFirstName { get; set; }
    0 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public DateTime StudentEnrollmentDate { get; set; }
    O references | O changes | O authors, O changes | O exceptions
     public int CourseID { get; set; }
    0 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public string CourseTitle { get; set; }
     0 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
     public int CourseCredits { get; set; }
    O references | O changes | O authors, O changes | O exceptions
     public Grade? Grade { get; set; }
```

Entity Framework and ADO.NET

- EF build on top of ADO.NET since first EF version.
- EF generation T-SQL and than passing it to SQL Server via ADO.NET
- Code on ADO.NET is faster in a runtime, because you don't need to generate t-sql
- Entity Framework code will take less time from developer
- To use ADO.NET you need to add NuGet package
 - System.Data.SqlClient

Demo: ADO.NET

What is Entity Framework Core?

- Light-weight and extensible version of Entity Framework
- Open Source
- New platforms
 - o ASP.NET Core, Windows Store, etc.
 - Linux
 - Mac
- Edmx is discontinued

Out of Band | Release History

Entity Framework Core 3.x

Entity Framework Core 1 & 2

Entity Framework 6.x

Entity Framework 6.1

Entity Framework 6.0.2

Entity Framework 6.0.1

Entity Framework 6

Entity Framework 5

Entity Framework 4.3

Entity Framework 4.2

Entity Framework 4.1

Entity Framework 4

Entity Framework 3.5 SP1

- Runtime out-of-band (NuGet)
- Tooling out-of-band
- Latest version "chained in" to new Microsoft Visual Studio releases and through SDK CLI
- Runtime
 - Core components in .NET
 - DbContext Application Programming Interface (API) and Code First out-of-band (NuGet)
 - Latest version "chained in" to new Visual Studio releases
- Tooling in Visual Studio
- Runtime in .NET Framework
- Tooling in Visual Studio

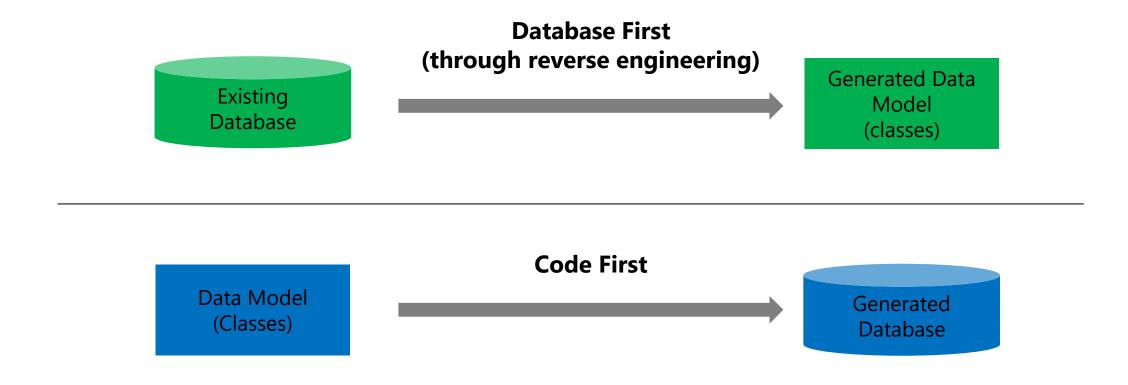
Module 3: Models

Section 3: Model Development

Lesson: Code-based Modeling

Entity Framework Core only supports Code-based Modeling (that is, Code First approach)

Entity Framework Development Approaches



Code-based modeling is the only approach supported in Entity Framework Core

Code-First Development

- Model code is written in .NET classes; model and database are created from the code
 - .NET Classes correspond to database tables
 - Properties correspond to database table columns
 - Classes can be used with or without EF!
- Relationships can be customized via the fluent API in the OnModelCreating override
- Code First can also work with existing database
 - o Code is used for mapping instead of visual designer and XML

Code-First Approach: Pros and Cons

Pros

- o Can realize complicated domain requirements
- Can have a very clean and elegant domain model that is represented with Plain Old CLR Object (POCO)
- Not tied with Entity Framework

Cons

- Needs more effort in creating domain classes
- Needs to map the domain model to data model (with Data Annotations)

Tooling

Entity Framework Core dotnet CLI – Our dev/design-time tooling

```
.NET Core CLI

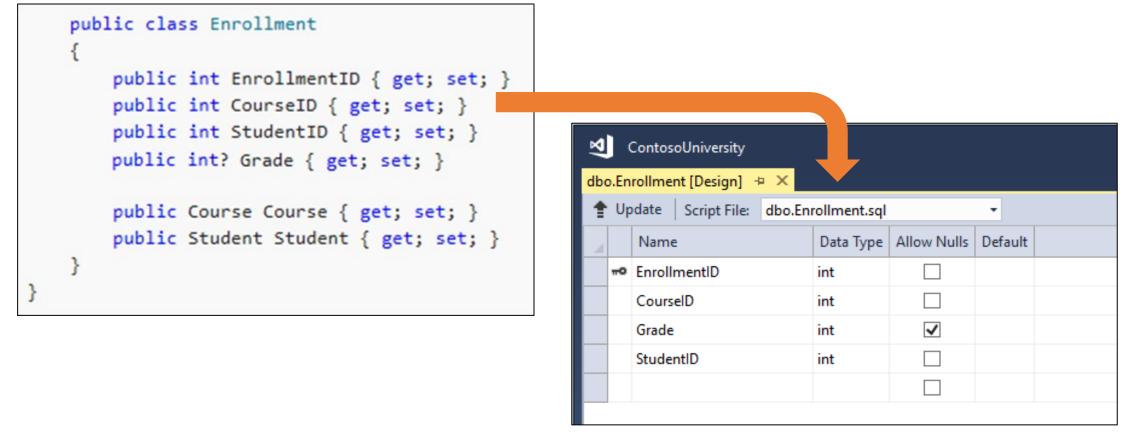
dotnet tool install --global dotnet-ef
```

- Enables dotnet ef * commands at the command line in the project directory, e.g.,
 - o dotnet ef migrations add Initial
 - o dotnet ef database update Initial
 - o dotnet ef dbcontext scaffold ...

Note: version above may not be current, check docs when adding

Database Creation Using Entity Framework - I

- Model is created using .NET classes
- Executed using dotnet ef CLI tooling



Database Creation Using Entity Framework - II

- Tooling scans project for Microsoft. EntityFrameworkCore. DbContext based classes
- Contexts are used as the entry point into your code base
- We can override or reinforce how EF interprets relationships via the fluent API

```
public class SchoolContext : DbContext
{
    public SchoolContext(DbContextOptions<SchoolContext> options) : base(options)
    {
        }
        public DbSet<Course> Courses { get; set; }
        public DbSet<Enrollment> Enrollments { get; set; }
        public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
}
```

For example, EF will create Students, Enrollments and Courses tables in the database

Database Seeding

- Database Initializers are deprecated in EF Core
 - Use DI to write and inject your own
- This code should be executed in Main, outside your app

```
public static class DbInitializer
    public static void Initialize(SchoolContext context)
        context.Database.EnsureCreated();
        // Look for any students.
        if (context.Students.Any())
            return: // DB has been seeded
        var students = new Student[]
        new Student{FirstMidName="Carson", LastName="Alexander", EnrollmentDate=DateTime.Parse("2005-09-01")},
        new Student{FirstMidName="Meredith", LastName="Alonso", EnrollmentDate=DateTime.Parse("2002-09-01")},
        new Student{FirstMidName="Arturo",LastName="Anand",EnrollmentDate=DateTime.Parse("2003-09-01")},
        new Student{FirstMidName="Gytis",LastName="Barzdukas",EnrollmentDate=DateTime.Parse("2002-09-01")},
        new Student{FirstMidName="Yan", LastName="Li", EnrollmentDate=DateTime.Parse("2002-09-01")},
        new Student{FirstMidName="Peggy",LastName="Justice",EnrollmentDate=DateTime.Parse("2001-09-01")},
        new Student{FirstMidName="Laura", LastName="Norman", EnrollmentDate=DateTime.Parse("2003-09-01")},
        new Student{FirstMidName="Nino", LastName="Olivetto", EnrollmentDate=DateTime.Parse("2005-09-01")}
        };
        foreach (Student s in students)
            context.Students.Add(s);
        context.SaveChanges();
```

Database Seeding

- Database Initializers are deprecated in EF Core
 - Use DI to write and inject your own
- This code should be executed in Main, outside your app

```
public static void Main(string[] args)
                                                                    Program.cs
    var host = BuildWebHost(args);
    using (var scope = host.Services.CreateScope())
        var services = scope.ServiceProvider;
        try
            var context = services.GetRequiredService<SchoolContext>();
            DbInitializer.Initialize(context);
        catch (Exception ex)
            var logger = services.GetRequiredService<ILogger<Program>>();
            logger.LogError(ex, "An error occurred while seeding the database.");
    host.Run();
```

Configuring Connections with Entity Framework

Database connection string is typically stored in configuration (often appsettings.json)

```
{
    "ConnectionStrings": {
        "DefaultConnection": "Server=(localdb)\\mssqllocaldb;Database=ContosoUniversity1;Trusted_Connection=True;MultipleActiveResultSets=
    },
    "Logging": {
        "IncludeScopes": false,
        "LogLevel": {
            "Default": "Warning"
        }
    }
    appsettings.json
```

Code First Migrations

- Enables changing the data model and deploying the change in production without dropping and re-creating the database
- Effective strategy for real-world production databases
- **Up** method used for creating/updating database schema
- Down method used for rollback logic
- Maintains version of each change
- Not required, but are very helpful if your schema changes

Migration Methods

Up Method

```
protected override void Up(MigrationBuilder migrationBuilder)
    migrationBuilder.CreateTable(
        name: "Course",
        columns: table => new
            CourseID = table.Column<int>(type: "int", nullable: false),
            Credits = table.Column<int>(type: "int", nullable: false),
           Title = table.Column<string>(type: "nvarchar(max)", nullable: true)
        constraints: table =>
           table.PrimaryKey("PK_Course", x => x.CourseID);
        });
    migrationBuilder.CreateTable(
        name: "Student",
        columns: table => new
            StudentID = table.Column<int>(type: "int", nullable: false)
                .Annotation("SqlServer:ValueGenerationStrategy", SqlServerValueGeneration
            EnrollmentDate = table.Column<DateTime>(type: "datetime2", nullable: false),
            FirstName = table.Column<string>(type: "nvarchar(max)", nullable: true),
            LastName = table.Column<string>(type: "nvarchar(max)", nullable: true)
        constraints: table =>
```

Down Method

```
protected override void Down(MigrationBuilder migrationBuilder)
{
    migrationBuilder.DropTable(
        name: "Enrollment");

    migrationBuilder.DropTable(
        name: "Course");

    migrationBuilder.DropTable(
        name: "Student");
}
```

Creating and Applying Migrations

\$ dotnet ef migrations add Initial

\$ dotnet ef database update Initial

```
info: Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Migrations[200402]
     Applying migration '20170823182321_Initial'.
Applying migration '20170823182321_Initial'.
info: Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Database.Command[200101]
     Executed DbCommand (1ms) [Parameters=[], CommandType='Text', CommandTimeout='30']
     CREATE TABLE [Course]
          [CourseID] int NOT NULL,
          [Credits] int NOT NULL,
          [Title] nvarchar(max) NULL,
          CONSTRAINT [PK_Course] PRIMARY KEY ([CourseID])
info: Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Database.Command[200101]
     Executed DbCommand (1ms) [Parameters=[], CommandType='Text', CommandTimeout='30']
     CREATE TABLE [Student] (
          [StudentID] int NOT NULL IDENTITY,
          [EnrollmentDate] datetime2 NOT NULL,
          [FirstName] nvarchar(max) NULL,
          [LastName] nvarchar(max) NULL,
          CONSTRAINT [PK_Student] PRIMARY KEY ([StudentID])
info: Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Database.Command[200101]
     Executed DbCommand (2ms) [Parameters=[], CommandType='Text', CommandTimeout='30']
     CREATE TABLE [Enrollment] (
          [EnrollmentID] int NOT NULL IDENTITY,
          [CourseID] int NOT NULL,
          [Grade] int NULL,
          [StudentID] int NOT NULL,
          CONSTRAINT [PK_Enrollment] PRIMARY KEY ([EnrollmentID]).
         CONSTRAINT [FK_Enrollment_Course_CourseID] FOREIGN KEY ([CourseID]) REFERENCES [Course] ([CourseID]) ON DELETE CASCADE,
          CONSTRAINT FK Enrollment Student StudentID FOREIGN KEY ([StudentID]) REFERENCES [Student] ([StudentID]) ON DELETE CASCADE
```

Entity Framework Tools & CLI

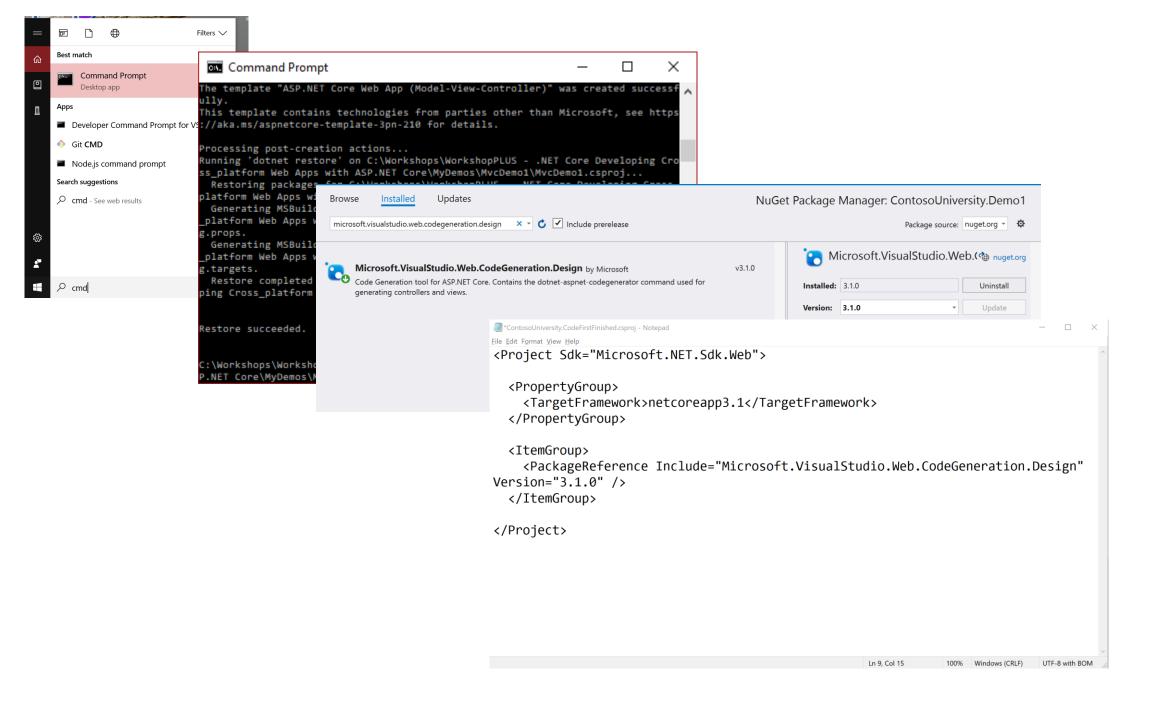
- Since .NET Core 3.0 the **dotnet ef** command line tool is no longer included in .NET Core SDK
- You must install it as a global or local tool using ollowing command installs tool globally

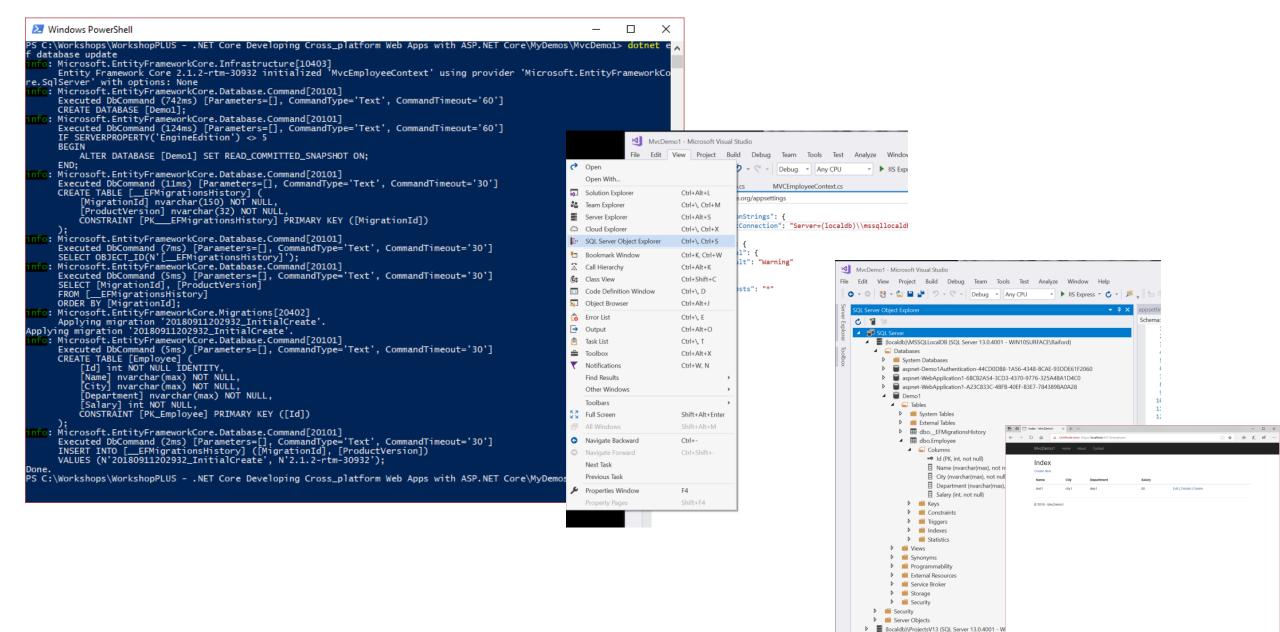
```
dotnet tool install --global dotnet-ef --version 3.1.0-*
```

Following command scaffolds all schemas and tables and put the new files in Models folder

```
dotnet ef dbcontext scaffold
"Server=(localdb)\mssqllocaldb;Database=Blogging;Trusted_Connection=True;"
Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.SqlServer -o Models
```

Demo: CRUD using EF





Code First (Existing Database)

- Database schema reverse-engineered to Model classes
- Creates POCO classes
- POCO classes modified to customize database generation
- Corresponding partial classes used for customization
- Originally generated classes are replaced with each generation
- Indexes, functions, and stored procedures ignored

Module 3: Models

Section 4: Model Design

Lesson: Code First Development

Code-First Conventions - I

- Naming
 - Class Name or Object Type → Table Name
- Primary Key
 - Property named 'Id' or '<class name>Id' → Primary key value
 - Auto-increment is set for primary key values
- Relationship Inverses
 - o Both types define *only one* navigation property
 - Product.Category and Category.Products represents different ends of the same relationship

```
public class Product
{
    public int ProductId { get; set; }
    public string Name { get; set; }
    public Category Category { get; set; }
}

public class Category
{
    public int CategoryId { get; set; }
    public string Name { get; set; }
    public ICollection<Product> Products { get; set; }
}
```

Code-First Conventions - II

Type Discovery

Referenced object types are automatically included in the model without explicitly registering them

as object sets

Foreign Keys

Following conventions are used for foreign keys:

<navigation property name> <primary key property name>
that is, 'SubjectISBN';
<principal class name> <primary key property name>
that is, 'BookISBN';
<primary key property name> that is, 'ISBN';

```
public class BookReview
{
    public int Id { get; set; }
    public Book Subject { get; set; }
    public string SubjectISBN { get; set; }
}

public class Book
{
    [Key]
    public string ISBN { get; set; }
    public string Name { get; set; }
    public ICollection<BookReview> Reviews { get; set; }
}
```

Code-First conventions can be overridden using **Data** Annotations, which can in turn be overridden using Fluent API

View-Specific Model

- It is a model that exists just to supply information to a view
- It is mostly used for views that show accumulated data from different tables
- It is also used to prevent "over-posting" attack

```
public class Review
{
   public int ReviewID { get; set; } // Primary key
   public int ProductID { get; set; } // Foreign key
   public Product Product { get; set; } // Foreign entity
   public string Name { get; set; }
   public string Comment { get; set; }
   public bool Approved { get; set; }
}
```

Model created to exclude *Approved* status

```
public class ReviewViewModel
{
    public string Name { get; set; }
    public string Comment { get; set; }
}
```

EF Core Fluent API

- Used inside of the OnModelCreating override in your DbContext
 - o As of 2.0, can be defined in their own class and invoked inside OnModelCreating
- Can be used to override convention, explicitly define relationships, define custom conventions

EF Core Fluent API – Shadow Properties

- A Shadow Property is a property that is *not* defined on your code class, but *does* exist *logically* on the entity (and in the datastore)
 - Example: a class with a navigation property, but no foreign key, must logically have a foreign key defined for the navigation property
- They can only be accessed via the EF API
- EF can implicitly create them, or you can explicitly define them via the fluent API

```
protected override void OnModelCreating(ModelBuilder modelBuilder)
{
    modelBuilder.Entity<Course>().Property<DateTime>("LastUpdated");
}
```

Create a shadow property

```
var query = _context.Courses
.OrderBy(c => EF.Property<DateTime>(c, "LastUpdated"));
```

Use a shadow property in a LINQ query

```
_context.Entry(course).Property("LastUpdated").CurrentValue = DateTime.Now;
```

Get/Set the value of shadow property

EF Core Fluent API – Concurrency Token

- A Concurrency Token is the property on a model EF will use to determine if it has been modified since retrieved
- Timestamps are often used as concurrency tokens
- Can be marked via ConcurrencyCheckAnnotation or Fluent API
- Can be applied to Shadow Properties and regular properties

EF Core Fluent API – Relationships

Relationships can be explicitly defined using the fluent API

EF Core Fluent API – Conventions

Default conventions can be overridden using the Fluent API

```
protected override void OnModelCreating(ModelBuilder modelBuilder)
   foreach (var entity in modelBuilder.Model.GetEntityTypes())
       modelBuilder.Entity(entity.Name).ToTable($"tbl_{entity.ClrType.Name.ToLower()}");
       foreach (var property in entity.GetProperties().Where(p => p.ClrType == typeof(string)))
           property.Relational().ColumnName = $"{property.Name.ToLower()} str";
           property.SetMaxLength(200);
       foreach (var fk in entity.GetForeignKeys())
           fk.Relational().Name = fk.Relational().Name.ToLower();
```

EF Core Fluent API – Model-Level Query Filters

Create a filter at the model level that filters all queries on that entity type

```
public class SchoolContext : DbContext
    O references | O changes | O authors, O changes | O exceptions
    public SchoolContext(DbContextOptions<SchoolContext> options) : base(options) { }
    8 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
    public DbSet<Course> Courses { get; set; }
    7 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
    public DbSet<Enrollment> Enrollments { get; set; }
    2 references | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
    public DbSet<Student> Students { get; set; }
    private Guid TenantId;
    1 reference | 0 changes | 0 authors, 0 changes | 0 exceptions
    protected override void OnModelCreating(ModelBuilder modelBuilder)
         modelBuilder.Entity<Course>().HasQueryFilter(c => !c.IsDeleted && c.TenantId == this.TenantId);
```

Module 3: Models

Section 3: Model Design

Lesson: Model Binding

Model Binding

- Model binder: Automatically maps posted form value to a .NET framework type based on naming conventions
- Default Model Binder is a default Model Binder implementation
 - Takes care of mundane property mapping and type conversion
 - Uses the name attribute of input elements
 - Automatically matches parameter names for simple data types
 - Complex objects are mapped by property name; use dotted notation

```
[HttpPost]
[AllowAnonymous]
                                                                                 public class RegisterViewModel
[ValidateAntiForgeryToken]
0 references
                                                                                     1 reference
public async Task<IActionResult> Register(RegisterViewModel model)
                                                                                     public string UserName { get; set; }
                                                                                      1 reference
    if (ModelState.IsValid)
                                                                                      public string Password { get; set; }
                                                                                      0 references
                                                                                      public string ConfirmPassword { get; set; }
        var user = new ApplicationUser { UserName = model.UserName };
        var result = await UserManager.CreateAsync(user, model.Password);
                                                                                 }
        if (result.Succeeded)
                                                       Microsoft Confidential
                                                                                                                            69
```

Async Query and Save

- What is it?
 - Task based async pattern for query and save
- Why did we build it?
 - Appropriate use of async can improve performance and scalability
- When should you use it?
 - Reduce server resource usage by freeing up blocked threads
 - o Improve client UI responsiveness by not blocking main thread
 - Parallelism but not on the same context instance

Model Development Strategies

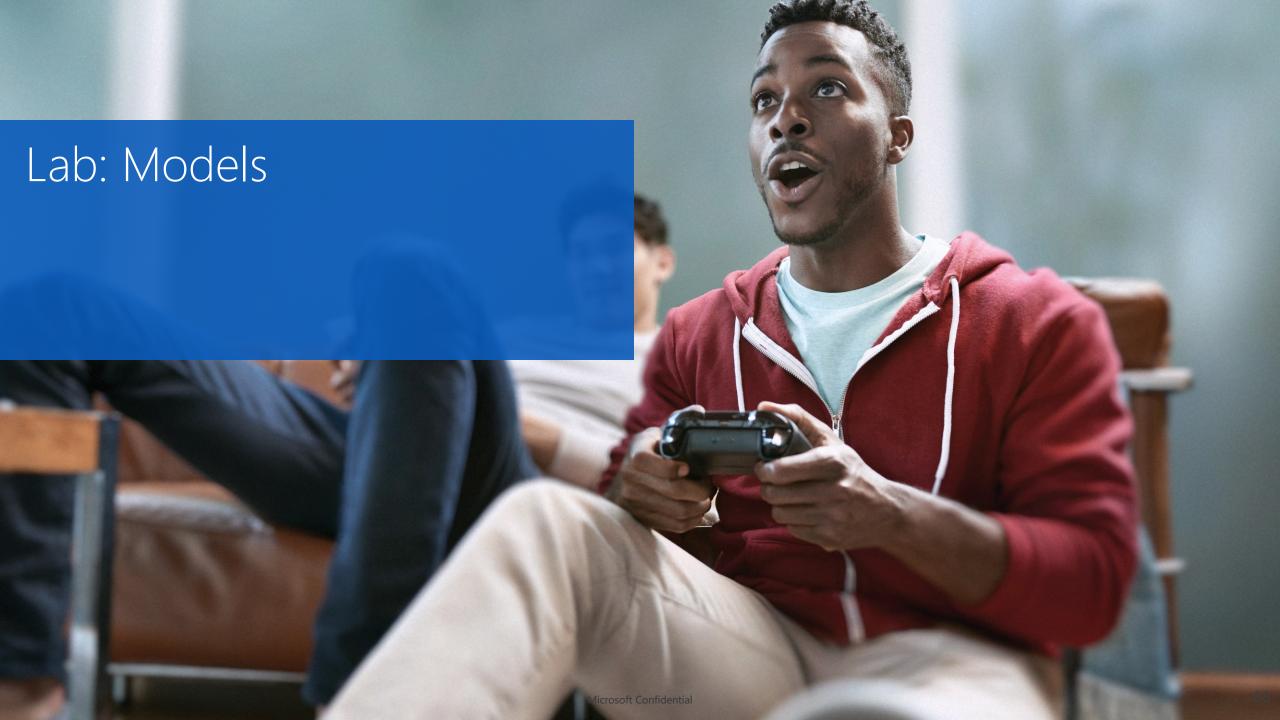
- Strive for fat models and skinny controllers
 - Encapsulate logic in services
 - Private methods on controllers are a code smell
- Be careful of looping references and N+1 queries
 - Bad LINQ queries make bad T-SQL queries
 - Leverage data contracts, serialization configuration, or ViewModels/Data Transfer Objects to avoid looping references

Demo: Model binding

Module Summary

- In this module, you learnt about:
 - Model and its role in MVC pattern
 - Model development
 - Entity Framework Core
 - Scaffolding and scaffolding templates
 - Entity Framework development approaches
 - Code-first development and conventions
 - View-specific Model
 - Model binding and security
 - Model development Strategies





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