

Enterprise Programming using JAVA

Chapter-4: Hibernate (ORM)

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Generator Class

- A **generator** class is used to generate an **ID** for an object, which is going to be inserted in the database as a primary key.
- The **ID** is a unique identifier for the objects of the persistent class.
- We can use any **generator** classes in our application as per our requirements.
- Hibernate provides a **<generator>** tag to represent the generator.
- However, it is a sub-element of **<id>**.
- There is a shortcut name for each predefined **generator** class so that the **<generator>** tag has to configure with this shortcut name.

Generator Class

Hibernate provides many predefined **generator** classes. Some of the important predefined generator classes in hibernate are:

1. assigned
2. foreign
3. hilo
4. identity
5. increment
6. native
7. sequence
8. uuid

Generator Class

1. assigned generator

The **assigned generator** is the default generator. By default hibernate consider **assigned** as a generator and **assigned** is a shortcut name given for the **Assigned class**.

This class returns the same id set by us to the hibernate which in turn store an object with that id in the database.

Generator Class

1. assigned generator

```
<hibernate-mapping>  
  <class ...>  
    <id name="studentId" column="sid">  
      <generator class="assigned"></generator>  
    </id>  
  </class>  
</hibernate-mapping>
```


Generator Class

2. foreign generator

foreign is a shortcut name given for the **ForeignGenerator** class.

The **ForeignGenerator** is only suitable for one-one relationships.

It returns the id of the **parent object** as the id for the **child object**.

Generator Class

2. foreign generator

```
<hibernate-mapping>  
  <class ...>  
    <id name="studentId" column="sid">  
      <generator class="foreign"></generator>  
    </id>  
  </class>  
</hibernate-mapping>
```


Generator Class

3. hilo generator

hilo is a shortcut name for the **TableHiloGenerator** class.

While configuring **hilo** generator class in the **hbm.xml** file, we pass “**table**”, “**column**”, and “**max_lo**” as parameters.

The default value of above three parameters given by **Hibernate** are:

table = **hibernate_unique_key**

column = **next_hi**

max_lo = **32767**

Generator Class

3. hilo generator

```
<hibernate-mapping>  
  <class ...>  
    <id name="studentId" column="sid">  
      <generator class="hilo">  
        <param  
          name="table">document</param>  
        <param name="column">column</param>  
        <param name="max_lo">13210</param>  
      </generator>  
    </id>  
  </class>  
</hibernate-mapping>
```


Generator Class

4. identity generator

identity is a shortcut name given for the **IdentityGenerator** class.

It reads an auto-incremented column algorithm of the database and takes that value and returns it as id to hibernate.

Identity generator supports databases like **Sybase**, **My SQL**, **MS SQL Server**, **DB2**, and **HypersonicSQL** but doesn't support **Oracle** database because there is no autoincrement functionality in **Oracle** database.

Hence identity generator can be considered as a database-dependent generator.

Generator Class

4. identity generator

```
<hibernate-mapping>  
  <class ...>  
    <id name="studentId" column="sid">  
      <generator class="identity"></generator>  
    </id>  
  </class>  
</hibernate-mapping>
```


Generator Class

5. increment generator

An **increment** is a shortcut name given for the **IncrementGenerator** class.

The **IncrementGenerator** class reads the max value of the existing ID in the database table and then increments it by one and returns the ID value to hibernate.

Generator Class

5. increment generator

```
<hibernate-mapping>  
  <class ...>  
    <id name="studentId" column="sid">  
      <generator class="increment"></generator>  
    </id>  
  </class>  
</hibernate-mapping>
```


Generator Class

6. native generator

native is the shortcut name given for the **NativeGenerator** class.

If the database supports an **identity** generator, then it acts as **identity** otherwise it will check for the database support of other generators.

It selects **identity**, **sequence**, or **hilo** depending upon the capabilities of the underlying database.

Generator Class

6. native generator

```
<hibernate-mapping>  
  <class ...>  
    <id name="studentId" column="sid">  
      <generator class="native"></generator>  
    </id>  
  </class>  
</hibernate-mapping>
```


Generator Class

7. sequence generator

sequence is a shortcut name given for the **SequenceGenerator** class.

It reads the next value of a database sequence and then returns that value as **id** to the hibernate.

Syntax to create a sequence in the database:

*create sequence <sequence_name> start with
<random_number> increment by <random_number>*

Generator Class

7. sequence generator

```
<hibernate-mapping>  
  <class ...>  
    <id name="studentId" column="sid">  
      <generator class="sequence">  
        <param  
name="sequence">sequential_datasource</param>  
      </generator>  
    </id>  
  </class>  
</hibernate-mapping>
```


Generator Class

8. uuid generator

uuid is a shortcut name given for the **AbstractUUIDGenerator** class.

It generates a unique string Identifier and returns to hibernate based on the **IP Address of the machine, Start-up time of JVM, System time, and Counter value in JVM.**

Generator Class

8. uuid generator

```
<hibernate-mapping>  
  <class ...>  
    <id name="studentId" column="sid">  
      <generator class="uuid">    </generator>  
    </id>  
  </class>  
</hibernate-mapping>
```


PPT Content Resources Reference Sample:

1. **Book Reference**

Jim Farley, William Crawford, David Flanagan. Java Enterprise in a Nutshell, O'Reilly

2. **Book Reference**

Rocha, R., Purificação, J. (2018). Java EE 8 Design Patterns and Best Practices: Build Enterprise-ready Scalable Applications with Architectural Design Patterns. Germany: Packt Publishing..

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