



Universidade do Minho
Escola de Engenharia

SHELVE - Persistent storage of arbitrary Python objects

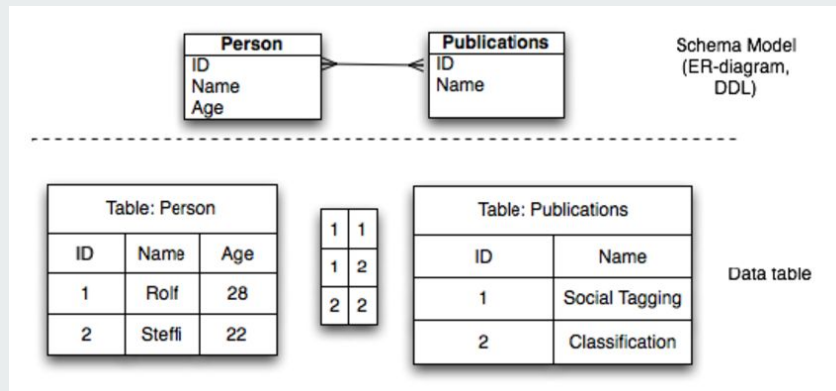
By Duarte Freitas, Rafael Silva, Ricardo Pereira

Scripting o Processamento de Linguagem Natural

Universidade do Minho, Mestrado Integrado em Engenharia Informática,
4º Ano, 2º Semestre, Abril 2020

Overview

One of the primitive forms of a database is a collection of values where each value is identified by a key, stored in disk and physical memory - called a DBM database or in a nutshell, a persistent dictionary.



Schema for relational database



What is SHELVE?

- Shelf is a python module used to store objects in a file.
- The shelf module implements persistent storage for arbitrary Python objects which can be pickled, using a dictionary-like API.
- The shelf module can be used as a simple persistent storage option for Python objects when a relational database is overkill.
- The shelf is accessed by keys, just as with a dictionary.
- The values are pickled and written to a database created and managed by anydbm.
- Python objects — anything that the pickle module can handle.
- This includes most class instances, recursive data types, and objects containing lots of shared sub-objects.
- The keys are ordinary strings.
- The shelf module in Python's standard library is a simple yet effective tool for persistent data storage when using a relational database solution is not required.

IMPORTANT

When a program has a shelf open for writing, no other program should have it open for reading or writing.

Pickle vs Shelve

pickle: is for serializing some object (or objects) as a single byte stream in a file.

```
import pickle

integers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

with open('pickle-example.p', 'wb') as pfile:
    pickle.dump(integers, pfile)
```

This will dump the *integers* list to a binary file called *pickle-example.p*

Now try reading the pickled file back

output [1, 2, 3, 4, 5].

```
import pickle

with open('pickle-example.p', 'rb') as pfile:
    integers = pickle.load(pfile)
    print integers
```

Pickle vs Shelf

shelve: builds on top of pickle and implements a serialization dictionary where objects are pickled, but associated with a key (some string), so you can load your shelved data file and access your pickled objects via keys. This could be more convenient were you to be serializing many objects.

```
import shelve

integers = [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]

# If you're using Python 2.7, import contextlib and use
# the line:
# with contextlib.closing(shelve.open('shelf-example', 'c')) as shelf:
with shelve.open('shelf-example', 'c') as shelf:
    shelf['ints'] = integers
```

Notice how you add objects to the shelf via dictionary-like access.

Read the object back in with code like the following

```
import shelve

# If you're using Python 2.7, import contextlib and use
# the line:
# with contextlib.closing(shelve.open('shelf-example', 'r')) as shelf:
with shelve.open('shelf-example', 'r') as shelf:
    for key in shelf.keys():
        print(repr(key), repr(shelf[key]))
```

'ints', [1, 2, 3, 4, 5]



Example

Shelf implementation(dbm) :

```
import shelve
```

```
s = shelve.open("students_DB")
```


```
s['63129'] = {"Nome": "D", "Numero": "A63129", "Curso": "MiEI"}
```

```
s['74264'] = {"Nome": "R", "Numero": "A74264", "Curso": "MiEI"}
```

```
s['77045'] = {"Nome": "R", "Numero": "A77045", "Curso": "MiEI"}
```

```
print(list(s.items()))
```

```
s.close()
```



```
[('63129', {'Nome': 'D', 'Numero': 'A63129', 'Curso': 'MiEI'}),  
( '74264', {'Nome': 'R', 'Numero': 'A74264', 'Curso': 'MiEI'}),  
( '77045', {'Nome': 'R', 'Numero': 'A77045', 'Curso': 'MiEI'})]
```



Example 2

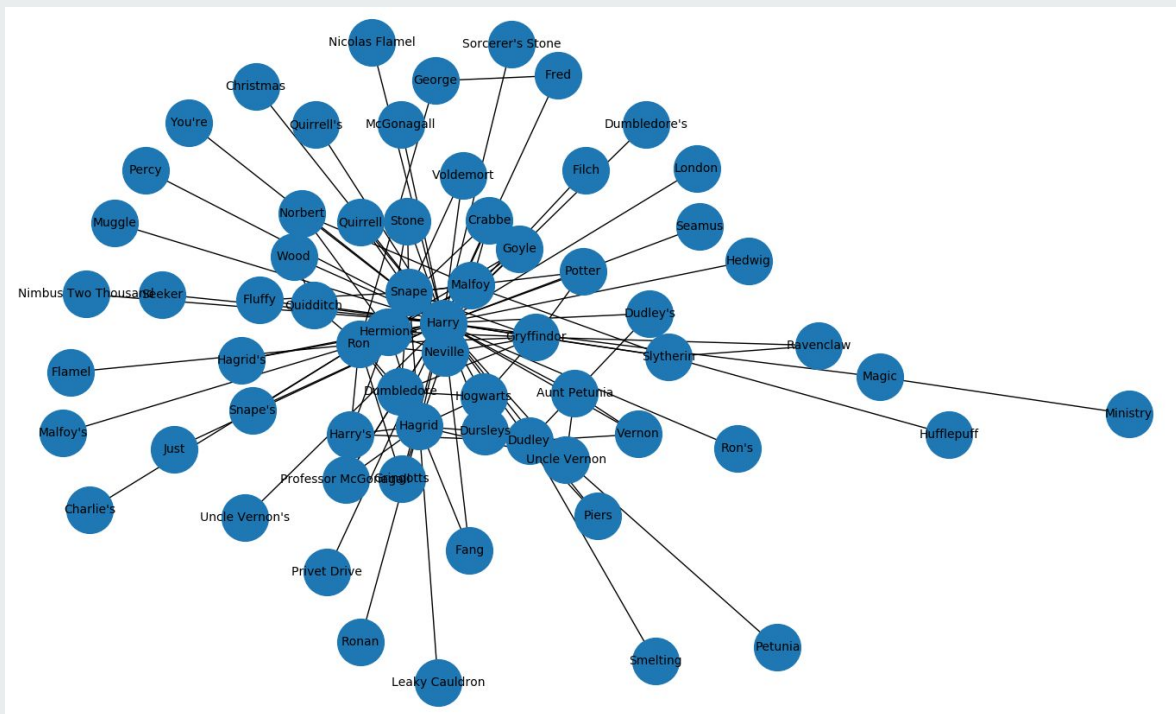
Shelf implementation (dbm):


```
import shelve
s = shelve.open("students_DB")
s['63129'] = {"Nome": "D", "Numero": "A63129", "Curso": "MiEI"}
s['74264'] = {"Nome": "R", "Numero": "A74264", "Curso": "MiEI"}
s['77045'] = {"Nome": "R", "Numero": "A77045", "Curso": "MiEI"}
print(list(s.items()))
s.close()
```

```
[('63129', {'Nome': 'D', 'Numero': 'A63129', 'Curso': 'MiEI'}),
 ('74264', {'Nome': 'R', 'Numero': 'A74264', 'Curso': 'MiEI'}),
 ('77045', {'Nome': 'R', 'Numero': 'A77045', 'Curso': 'MiEI'})]
```

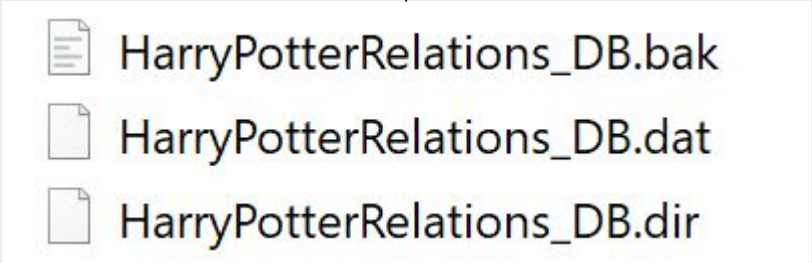
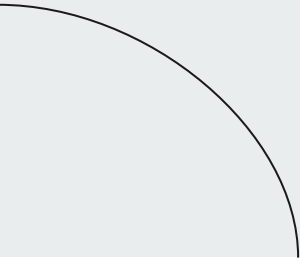
```
s = shelve.open("students_DB")
s['63129'] = {"Nome": "D", "Numero": "X", "Curso": "MiEI"}
s.close()
s=shelve.open("students_DB")
print(list(s.items()))
s.close()
```

Example 3





```
with shelve.open("HarryPotterRelations_DB") as hp:
    k = 0
    for i in listaPares:
        hp[str(k)] = { "Name": i[0], "Friend Name": i[1] }
        k += 1
```




- HarryPotterRelations_DB.bak
- HarryPotterRelations_DB.dat
- HarryPotterRelations_DB.dir

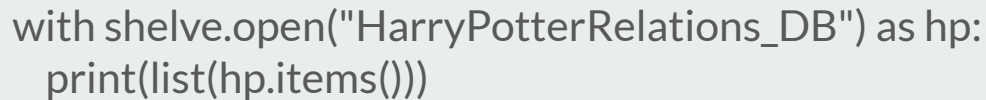


```
import shelve
```

```
with shelve.open("HarryPotterRelations_DB") as hp:  
    print(list(hp.items()))
```

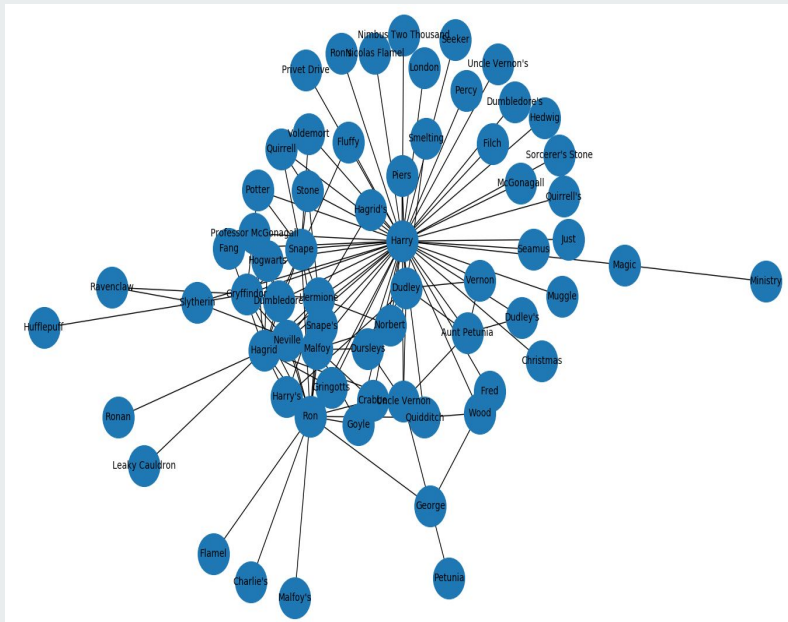


```
[('118', {'Name': 'Dumbledore', 'Friend Name': 'Snape'}), ('119', {'Name': 'Quirrell', 'Friend Name': 'Harry'}), ('120',  
{'Name': 'Snape', 'Friend Name': 'Fluffy'}), ('121', {'Name': 'Stone', 'Friend Name': 'Quirrell'}), ('122', {'Name': 'Harry',  
'Friend Name': 'Quirrell's'}), ('123', {'Name': 'Harry', 'Friend Name': 'Fluffy'}), ('124', {'Name': 'Stone', 'Friend Name':  
'Snape'}), ('125', {'Name': 'Harry', 'Friend Name': 'Norbert'}), ('126', {'Name': 'Norbert', 'Friend Name': 'Hermione'}),  
(('127', {'Name': 'Norbert', 'Friend Name': 'Malfoy'}), ('128', {'Name': 'Ronan', 'Friend Name': 'Hagrid'}), ('129',  
{'Name': 'Voldemort', 'Friend Name': 'Snape'})]
```



```
G = nx.Graph()
for x in list(hp.items()):
    G.add_edge(x[1]["Name"], x[1]["Friend Name"])
```

```
plt.figure(figsize = (15, 15))
nx.draw(G, with_labels = True, node_size = 1500,
        font_size = 10)
plt.show()
```





Bibliography

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- <https://docs.python.org/3/library/shelve.html>
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