JPA Many to Many Mapping

JPA

JPA (Java Persistence API) is a specification of Java. It is used to persist data between object and relational databases. It acts as a path between database and the object oriented domain models.

Being a specification, it doesn’t perform any operations by itself though it requires an implementation. So object relational mapping tools are required to implement JPA specifications for data persistence.

JPA ORM

ORM (Object Relational Mapping) is used to create & maintain a relationship between object and database by mapping an object to database column. It can be use to handle various database operations like inserting, updating, deleting etc.

Mapping Directions

* Unidirectional Mapping: In this only one domain object will be related to the other domain object . It has only one owing side.
* Bidirectional Mapping: This type of relationship contains an owing side as well as inverse side. In this every object domain has a relationship field.

Types of Mapping:

* One to one Mapping
* One to Many Mapping
* Many to One Mapping
* Many to Many Mapping

Many to Many Mapping

This is represented by @manyToMany annotation. In this multiple object domain can have a relationship to multiple object domains. Here any side can be owing side. In the relational database number of rows of one object domain can be related to rows of another.