

Week 3 Assignment Solutions (Entity Framework Core 8.0)

EF Core 8.0 HOL

Lab 1: Understanding ORM with a Retail Inventory System

1. What is ORM (Object-Relational Mapping)?

ORM is a programming technique that lets developers interact with databases using object-oriented code instead of raw SQL. In .NET, libraries like Entity Framework (EF) Core serve as the ORM layer.

How ORM Works:

Maps C# classes to SQL database tables.

Maps class properties to columns.

Automatically translates LINQ queries into SQL under the hood.

2. Benefits of ORM:

Benefit	Description
Productivity	No need to write complex SQL queries for CRUD operations.
Maintainability	Easy to refactor C# models; changes propagate to DB via migrations.
Abstraction	Focus on business logic; ORM handles the SQL, connection, transactions.
Portability	EF Core supports multiple databases (SQL Server, PostgreSQL, SQLite).

3. EF Core vs EF Framework (EF6)

Feature	EF Core 8.0	EF Framework (EF6)
Cross-platform	Yes (Windows, Linux, macOS)	No (Windows only)
Performance	Lightweight, high-perf	Heavier runtime
Async LINQ support	Fully async/await support	Partial / complex setup
Modern APIs	LINQ, compiled queries, etc.	Legacy architecture
Migrations	Code-first migrations	Code-first and DB-first
Flexibility	More extensible, modular	Monolithic, limited hooks

Use EF Core for new, modern apps.

Use EF6 only when maintaining legacy systems.

4. Create a .NET Console App:

```
dotnet new console -n RetailInventory cd RetailInventory
```

5. Install EF Core Packages:

```
dotnet add package Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.SqlServer
dotnet add package Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore.Design
```

Lab 2: Setting Up the Database Context for a Retail Store

1. Models

```
public class Category {  
    public int Id { get; set; }  
    public string Name { get; set; }  
    public List<Product> Products { get; set; } = new();  
}  
public class Product {  
    public int Id { get; set; }  
    public string Name { get; set; }  
    public decimal Price { get; set; }  
    public int CategoryId { get; set; }  
    public Category Category { get; set; }  
}
```

2. ApplicationDbContext.cs

```
using Microsoft.EntityFrameworkCore;
```

```
public class ApplicationDbContext : DbContext {  
    public DbSet<Product> Products { get; set; }  
    public DbSet<Category> Categories { get; set; }  
  
    protected override void OnConfiguring(DbContextOptionsBuilder optionsBuilder){  
        optionsBuilder.UseSqlServer("Server=localhost\\SQLEXPRESS;Database=RetailInventory  
Db;Trusted_Connection=True;Encrypt=False;");  
    }  
}
```

Lab 3: Using EF Core CLI to Create and Apply Migrations

Step 1 and 2 output

```
C:\Users\KIIT\6363514 learning program solutions\Week 3\RetailInventory>dotnet tool install --global dotnet-ef  
You can invoke the tool using the following command: dotnet-ef  
Tool 'dotnet-ef' (version '9.0.6') was successfully installed.  
  
C:\Users\KIIT\6363514 learning program solutions\Week 3\RetailInventory>dotnet ef migrations add InitialCreate  
Build started...  
Build succeeded.  
Done. To undo this action, use 'ef migrations remove'
```

Step 3 output

```
C:\Users\KIIT\6363514 learning program solutions\Week 3\RetailInventory>dotnet ef database update  
Build started...  
Build succeeded.  
Acquiring an exclusive lock for migration application. See https://aka.ms/efcore-docs-migrations-lock for more information if this takes too long.  
Applying migration '20250706150654_InitialCreate'.  
Done.
```

Lab 4: Inserting Initial Data into the Database

Lab 5: Retrieving Data from the Database

Lab 6: Updating and Deleting Records

Lab 7: Writing Queries with LINQ

From the lab 4 to lab 7, I write the Product.cs for all fours with the output, run all of them once(first time), then comment out the data value in Database(for verification only)

Here's the output :

```
C:\Users\KIIT\6363514 learning program solutions\Week 3\RetailInventory>dotnet run
✅ Lab 4: Data inserted.

📦 Lab 5: All Products
Laptop - ₹75000
Rice Bag - ₹1200

🔍 Found by ID 1: Laptop
💰 First expensive product (> ₹50000): Laptop

🔧 Lab 6: Updating and Deleting...
✅ Updated 'Laptop' price to ₹70000
❌ Deleted 'Rice Bag'

📁 Lab 7: LINQ Queries

📋 Filtered & Sorted Products (Price > 1000):
Laptop - ₹70000

📦 Product DTOs:
Laptop - ₹70000.00
```