

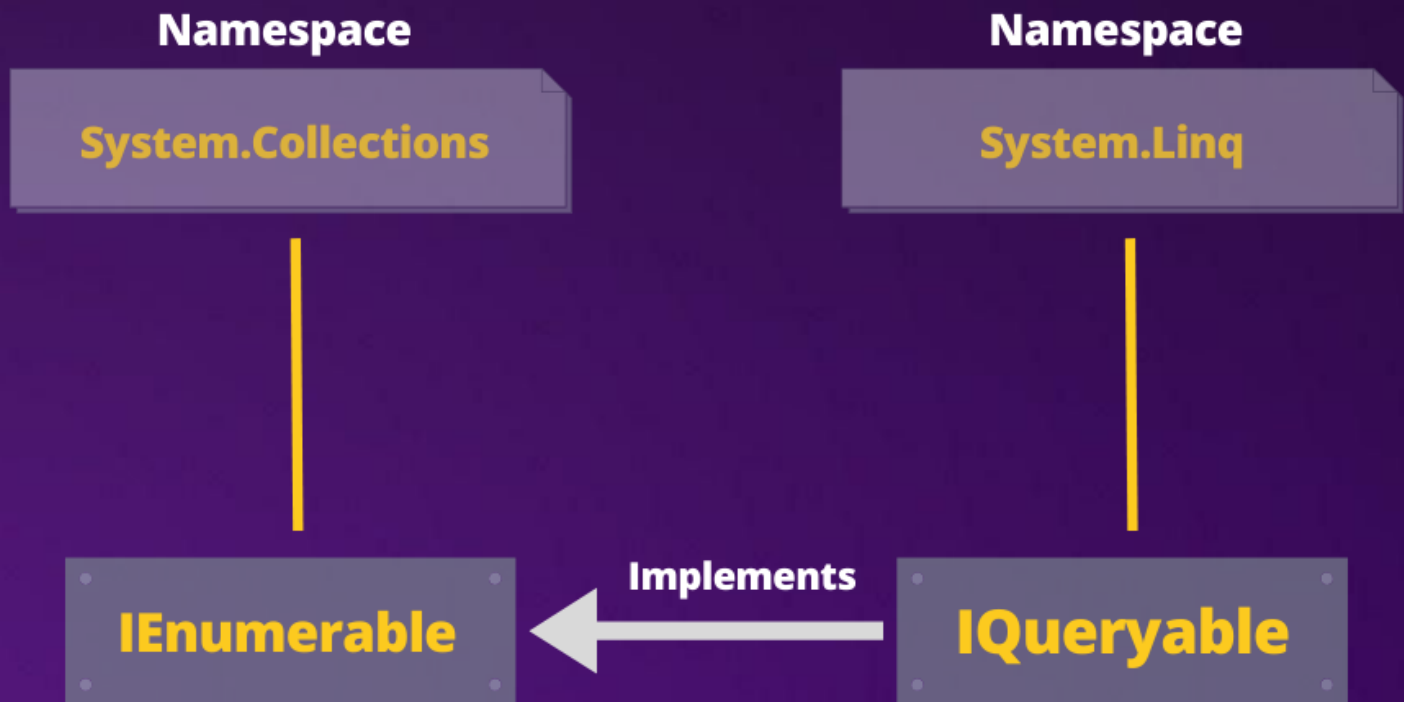
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IEnumerable

vs

IQueryable





IEnumerable is inherited by **IQueryable**, Hence IQueryable has all the features of IEnumerable and except this, it has its own features. Both have its own importance to query data and data manipulation.

IEnumerable

LINQ



```
IEnumerable<User> users = context.Users  
    .Where(p => p.Active);
```

Generated SQL



```
SELECT * FROM [Users] AS [u]
```

Querying data from a database, **IEnumerable** execute a **select query on the server side**, load data in-memory on a client-side and then filter data.

IEnumerable doesn't support **lazy loading**.

IEnumerable is best to query data from **in-memory collections** like List, Array, etc.

IEnumerable doesn't support **custom query**.



Querying data from a database, **IQueryable** execute the **select query on the server side** with all filters.

IQueryable support **lazy loading**.

IQueryable is best to query data from **out-memory** (like **remote database, service**) collections.

IQueryable supports **custom query** using **CreateQuery** and **Execute** methods.

IQueryable is suitable for **LINQ to SQL** queries.



The principle difference is that `IEnumerable` will enumerate all of its elements all the time, while `IQueryable` will enumerate elements, or even do other things, based on a query.



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