Supplementary documentation on Relationship Manager constraints and Count() methods.

class RelationshipManagerConstrained:

0.00

The Constrained relationship manager is the recommended interface to relationship manager.

You don't need to call EnforceRelationship() if you don't want to.

The cardinality options are ("onetoone", "onetomany"). The default is no enforcement of cardinality. The result of breaking these rules is simple overwrite behaviour (no exceptions are raised). In other words, if you have a "onetotone" enforcement then try to break it by trying to create a one to many, then the new relationship will simply replace the old one, thus maintaining the constraint of one to one.

The directionality options are ("directional", "bidirectional"). The default is "directional". "bidirectional" automatically adds a second relationship of the same relId in the reverse direction. Thus you get two relationships for every call to AddRelationship(). Similarly, when removing relationships, two relationships are removed for every call to RemoveRelationship().

Note that the ability to use the backpointer feature of relationship manager i.e. calling FindObjectsPointingToMe() is not affected by the directionality setting. You can always get the backpointer, no matter what what the direction of the relationship is. Why bother with 'bidirectional' then? Well you may prefer to formalise you relationships and make things explicit, rather than relying on the magic powers of the relationship manager engine. Thus in a bidirectional situation you would not need to call for the backpointer, you would instead ask for the appropriate official forward pointer (two official forward pointers exist, remember).

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def CountRelationships(relId):

. . .

Returns a count of all the relationships matching the given relId in the relationship manager.

Warning: There will be double the amount of relationships if you are using a "bidirectional" relationship i.e. For each AddRelationship() two relationships are added (both with the same relId). One is [from, to] and the other is [to, from].

If you want to avoid this, then use a "directional" relationship. You can still get backpointers using the usual FindObjectsPointingToMe() method, even with simple "directional" relationships. See the main doco on why you would use "directional" relationships when simple "directional" give you all the facilities you want...

def Count():

. . .

Returns a count of all the relationship entries in the relationship manager.

Warning: There will be double the amount of relationships if you are using a "bidirectional" relationship i.e. For each AddRelationship() two relationships are added (both with the same relId). One is [from, to] and the other is [to, from].

If you want to avoid this, then use a "directional" relationship. You can still get backpointers using the usual FindObjectsPointingToMe() method, even with simple "directional" relationships. See the main doco on why you would use "directional" relationships when simple "directional" give you all the facilities you want...

Test Cases proving you can use backpointer functionality with both directional and bidirectional relationships.

```
[TestFixture]
class TestCaseBidirectionality01:
    The ability to use the backpointer feature of relationship manager
    i.e. calling FindObjectsPointingToMe() is not affected by the directionality
    setting. You can always get the backpointer, no matter what what the direction
    of the relationship is. Why bother with 'bidirectional' then? Well you may
    prefer to formalise you relationships and make things explicit, rather than
    relying on the magic powers of the relationship manager engine. Thus in a
    bidirectional situation you would not need to call for the backpointer,
    you would instead ask for the appropriate official forward pointer
    (two official forward pointers exist, remember).
    private _rm as RelationshipManagerConstrained
    [SetUp]
    def SetUp():
         self._rm = RelationshipManagerConstrained()
    def check CanGetBackpointerOnDirectional():
         _rm.EnforceRelationship('r1', 'onetoone', 'directional')
         _rm.AddRelationship('a', 'b', 'r1')
         assert _rm.FindObjectPointingToMe('b', 'r1') == 'a'
    [Test]
    def check_CanGetBackpointerOnBiDirectional():
         _rm.EnforceRelationship('r1', 'onetoone', 'bidirectional')
         _rm.AddRelationship('a', 'b', 'r1')
         \ensuremath{//} Use magic backpointer abilities of RM
         assert _rm.FindObjectPointingToMe('b', 'r1') == 'a'
         // Or use the official backward pointer, generated by the 'bidirectional' option
         // (since it is a really just a normal forward pointer, we use ...PointedToByMe not
         // the backpointer magic of ...PointingToMe)
         assert _rm.FindObjectPointedToByMe('b', 'r1') == 'a'
```