



Models and Databases



Recap

- Laravel is a PHP framework which implements the MVC design pattern
- HTTP requests enter a Laravel application and are passed through the middleware pipeline
- One of the first middlewares it reaches is a routing engine, the routing engine inspects the path and decides what PHP function to call based on that
- We can pass data in a way that the routing system can recognize



Where to start?

- For some of you this is the first time you'll be developing a full application, front and back end
- One of the hardest things is to figure out where to start – there are lots of arguments for lots of different places
- My suggestion (actually Liam suggested this) is to start with your data and data relationships.
- Get the database working correctly then build a front end around that.

Database config – The .env file

Laravel stores configuration data in many places.

Username, password, keys and data that may change between development and production servers are typically stored in the **.env** file.

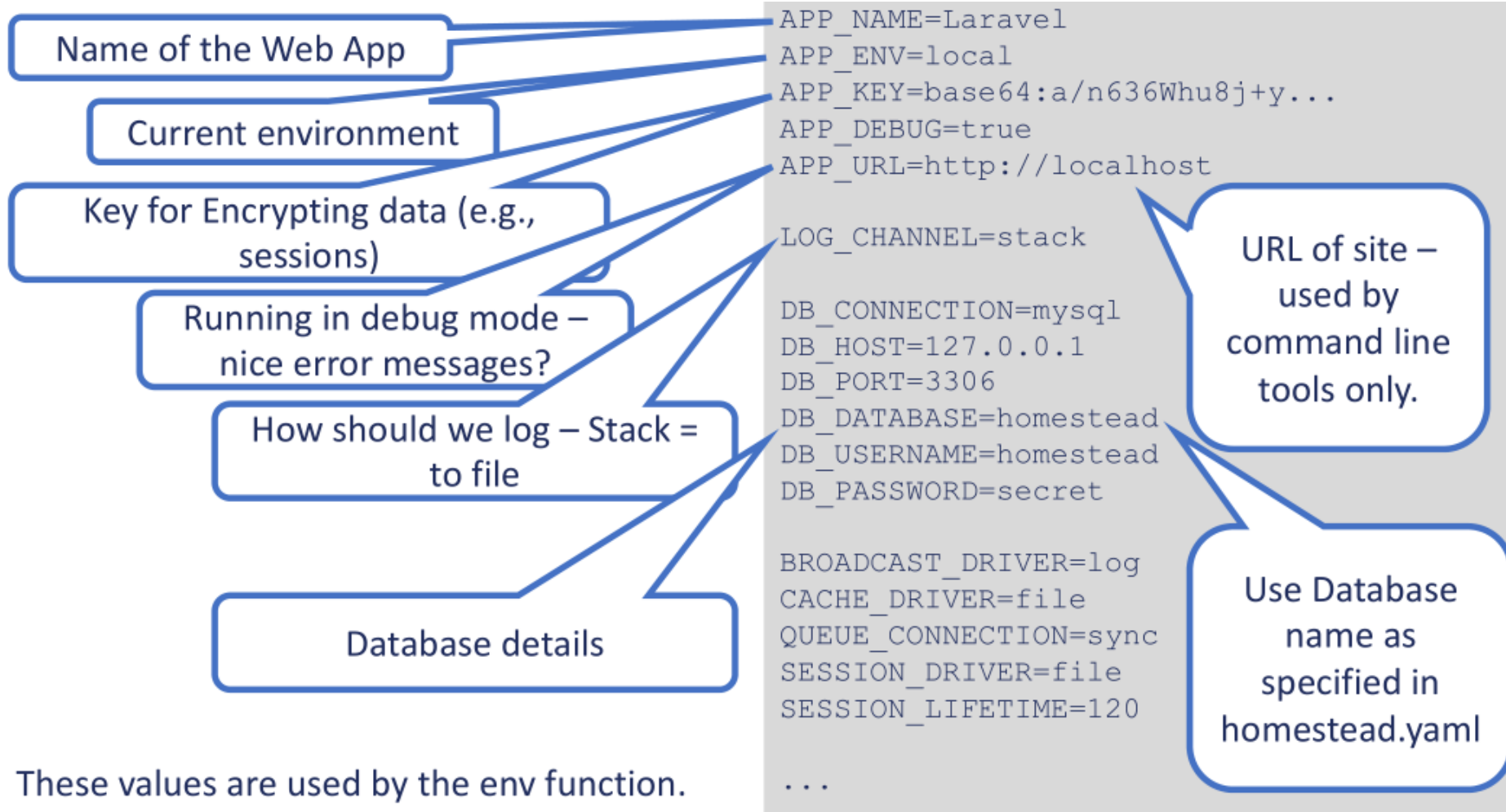
```
APP_NAME=Laravel
APP_ENV=local
APP_KEY=base64:a/n636Whu8j+y...
APP_DEBUG=true
APP_URL=http://localhost

LOG_CHANNEL=stack

DB_CONNECTION=mysql
DB_HOST=127.0.0.1
DB_PORT=3306
DB_DATABASE=homestead
DB_USERNAME=homestead
DB_PASSWORD=secret

BROADCAST_DRIVER=log
CACHE_DRIVER=file
QUEUE_CONNECTION=sync
SESSION_DRIVER=file
SESSION_LIFETIME=120

...
```



These values are used by the env function.
Example:

```
env('DB_DATABASE', 'forge')
```

will return the value in `.env` file for `DB_DATABASE` or the string 'forge' if key is not found.

Other Configuration

Other configuration is stored in config folder, e.g.,

- config/database.php

List (array) of possible database connections

MySQL connection specified details. Uses env function to pull values from .env file

```
...  
'default' => env('DB_CONNECTION', 'mysql'),  
...  
'connections' => [  
    'sqlite' => [  
        'driver' => 'sqlite',  
        ...  
    ],  
    'mysql' => [  
        'driver' => 'mysql',  
        'host' => env('DB_HOST', '127.0.0.1'),  
        'port' => env('DB_PORT', '3306'),  
        'database' => env('DB_DATABASE', 'forge'),  
        'username' => env('DB_USERNAME', 'forge'),  
        'password' => env('DB_PASSWORD', ''),  
        ...  
    ],  
    ...  
]
```

Default database connection also pulled from .env



Configuration Files Best Practice

- The .env file contains machine specific configuration for your application – for example database username and password
- If you share your source code other developers will change this file for their development environment
- ...or it will change when the application is deployed
- Therefore you don't want to put the .env into your version control!

Default Homestead Database Configuration

```
DB_CONNECTION=mysql
DB_HOST=127.0.0.1
DB_PORT=3306
DB_DATABASE=homestead
DB_USERNAME=homestead
DB_PASSWORD=secret
```


Models and Databases in Laravel

- Lots of concepts heading your way – you'll need to play with this in practice to understand
- Models (in MVC) are responsible for managing the data
- In Laravel a model is a PHP class – for example an `Animal`
- These models are stored in tables in your database – for example the `Animal` model is stored in the `Animals` table
- In your code you'll be working with classes that construct query statements for you behind the scenes – for example `Animal::get()` will get a PHP collection of all the animals in the `animals` table

Creating Models

- To create a new model we use artisan

```
vagrant@homestead:~/Laravel/homestead1$ php artisan make:model Animal -m  
Model created successfully.  
Created Migration: 2019_06_06_085134_create_animals_table
```

This creates two files...

app\Animal.php
(The model class)

```
1  <?php
2
3  namespace App;
4
5  use Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Model;
6
7  class Animal extends Model
8  {
9      //
10 }
11
```

database\Migrations\<datetime>_create_animals_table.php
(the database migration)

```
1  <?php
2
3  use Illuminate\Support\Facades\Schema;
4  use Illuminate\Database\Schema\Blueprint;
5  use Illuminate\Database\Migrations\Migration;
6
7  class CreateAnimalsTable extends Migration
8  {
9      /**
10       * Run the migrations.
11       *
12       * @return void
13       */
14     public function up()
15     {
16         Schema::create('animals', function (Blueprint $table) {
17             $table->bigIncrements('id');
18             $table->timestamps();
19         });
20     }
21
22     /**
23      * Reverse the migrations.
24      *
25      * @return void
26      */
27     public function down()
28     {
29         Schema::dropIfExists('animals');
30     }
31 }
32
```

Database Migrations

- You might consider creating the database for your application using SQL commands
- That is a BAD idea!
- It could lock you into your initial design
- The way your database is setup won't be in your version control
- You can't easily wipe the database and start over (which you will need to do a lot)
- You can't easily pass the project to other people, if you ever find yourself emailing someone a database file you should feel bad

Database Migrations in Laravel

- Migrations are the files which live in the database/migrations folder
- They each contain two functions
 - up() which contains instructions for applying the change
 - down() which contains instructions for reverting the change
- These are run in the order of date time in the filenames
 - You might need to manually change the order, do this by editing the filename

```
1  <?php
2
3  use Illuminate\Support\Facades\Schema;
4  use Illuminate\Database\Schema\Blueprint;
5  use Illuminate\Database\Migrations\Migration;
6
7  class CreateAnimalsTable extends Migration
8  {
9      /**
10       * Run the migrations.
11       *
12       * @return void
13       */
14     public function up()
15     {
16         Schema::create('animals', function (Blueprint $table) {
17             $table->bigIncrements('id');
18             $table->timestamps();
19         });
20     }
21
22     /**
23      * Reverse the migrations.
24      *
25      * @return void
26      */
27     public function down()
28     {
29         Schema::dropIfExists('animals');
30     }
31 }
32
```

Defining the Data in Your Model

- The migration files are where you define the properties of each model
- This is done using methods in the Blueprint class – see <https://laravel.com/docs/5.8/migrations>

```
public function up()
{
    Schema::create('animals', function (Blueprint $table) {
        $table->bigIncrements('id');
        $table->string('name');
        $table->double('weight', 8, 2);
        $table->dateTime('date_of_birth')->nullable();
        $table->timestamps();
    });
}
```

Running Migrations using Artisan

```
vagrant@homestead:~/Laravel/homestead1$ php artisan migrate
Migrating: 2014_10_12_000000_create_users_table
Migrated:  2014_10_12_000000_create_users_table
Migrating: 2014_10_12_100000_create_password_resets_table
Migrated:  2014_10_12_100000_create_password_resets_table
Migrating: 2019_06_06_085134_create_animals_table
Migrated:  2019_06_06_085134_create_animals_table
vagrant@homestead:~/Laravel/homestead1$
```

Special Migration Table

There is a special migration table:"

```
mysql> select * from migrations;
```

id	migration	batch
1	2014_10_12_000000_create_users_table	1
2	2014_10_12_100000_create_password_resets_table	1
3	2018_10_09_185751_create_animals_table	1

```
3 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

This records the current migration level for each table.

Laravel will only top up the migrations with new ones.

- Extremely useful if you add more migrations that alter table.
- Especially in production. Allows you to add tables, or alter tables, and preserve data.

Rolling Back and Resetting

You can roll back the last migration operation

```
php artisan migrate:rollback
```

You can also reset back to a blank database:

```
php artisan migrate:reset
```

The Model Class

- The Animal class created is an example of a model, it extends the Eloquent Model class
- Eloquent is Laravels ORM (Object-Relational Mapping) system implementing the Active Record design pattern
- Essentially this design pattern means that a model class is responsible for:
 - interacting with the table as a whole,
 - Representing an individual row in the table, and
 - managing its own persistence

The Model Class – Eloquent examples

- `$allAnimals = Animal::get()` will get all animals from the animals table
- `$cat = new Animal` will create a new row
- `$cat->save()` will save that row to our database
- `$cat->delete()` will delete that row from the database

Tinker

- One of the other awesome tools which comes with Laravel
- Gives you a REPL (Read-Eval-Print Loop) for PHP/Laravel
- Essentially a command line where you can interact with your application
- Specifically, instantiating models and playing with them
- Great for testing!!

```
vagrant@homestead:~/Laravel/homestead1$ php artisan tinker
Psy Shell v0.9.9 (PHP 7.3.5-1+ubuntu18.04.1+deb.sury.org+1 - cli) by Justin Hileman
>>> use App\Animal;
>>> Animal::get();
=> Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Collection {#3183
    all: [],
}
>>> █
```

Launching Tinker, importing the Animal class, and getting all Animals...

...empty as expected (make sure you perform the database migration first!)

Creating a model and saving it

```
vagrant@homestead:~/Laravel/homestead1$ php artisan tinker
Psy Shell v0.9.9 (PHP 7.3.5-1+ubuntu18.04.1+deb.sury.org+1 - cli) by Justin Hileman
>>> use App\Animal;
>>> $cat = new Animal;
=> App\Animal {#3176}
>>> $cat->name = "Garfield";
=> "Garfield"
>>> $cat->weight = 500.0;
=> 500.0
>>> $cat->save();
=> true
>>> █
```

```
vagrant@homestead:~/Laravel/homestead1$ php artisan tinker
Psy Shell v0.9.9 (PHP 7.3.5-1+ubuntu18.04.1+deb.sury.org+1 - cli) by Justin
>>> use App\Animal;
>>> Animal::get();
=> Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Collection {#3185
  all: [
    App\Animal {#3186
      id: 1,
      name: "Garfield",
      weight: 500.0,
      date_of_birth: null,
      created_at: "2019-06-06 10:41:41",
      updated_at: "2019-06-06 10:41:41",
    },
  ],
}
>>> 
```

The object
we get is a
collection
and we can
use it like an
array...

```
>>> $allAnimals = Animal::get();  
=> Illuminate\Database\Eloquent\Collection {#885  
    all: [  
        App\Animal {#3188  
            id: 1,  
            name: "Garfield",  
            weight: 500.0,  
            date_of_birth: null,  
            created_at: "2019-06-06 10:41:41",  
            updated_at: "2019-06-06 10:41:41",  
        },  
    ],  
}  
>>> $allAnimals[0]  
=> App\Animal {#3188  
    id: 1,  
    name: "Garfield",  
    weight: 500.0,  
    date_of_birth: null,  
    created_at: "2019-06-06 10:41:41",  
    updated_at: "2019-06-06 10:41:41",  
}
```


Next time we look at how to seed
lots of test data...

Tasks

1. Create a new Laravel project and add a model and a database table for that model.
2. Define some properties in that model, then add and perform a database migration to create the table.
3. Using tinker add 3 or 4 objects to the database table.
4. Using tinker get all the objects you added to the database in the form of an array.