SqlAlchemy: A Python ORM

One of the top 5 reasons to use Python

- Rick Harding
- @mitechie
- blog.mitechie.com
- *Richard Harding* on Google+

Anyone using an ORM?

ORM

Object Relational Mapper

(Remember the mapper part)

So who da what?

Turn a relational datastore (SQL) into pretty Python code

Time to thin the crowd a bit

ORM != NOT KNOWING SQL

SqlAlchemy Bad Reputation

- Hard to setup
- Poor/Confusing Documentation
- More than I need

SqlAlchemy is like an onion...layers

- Raw Sql

```
session.execute('SELECT * FROM users;')
```

- Sql Expression Language (Level 1)

```
select([users]).all()
```

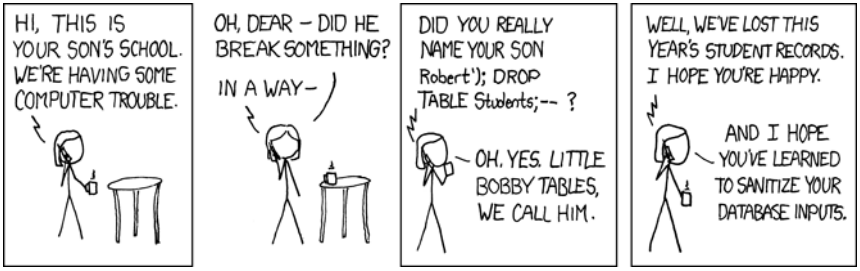
- ORM (Level 2)

```
Session.query(User).all()
```

When to use: Raw Sql

- one off scripts
- super performance
- No one in the office can figure out how to write query in ORM

Sql Injection, don't let it happen




```
session.execute(
    text("DELETE FROM students WHERE id = :id", {id: 3})
)
```

http://xkcd.com/327/

When to use: Sql Expression Language

- DB abstracted code
- Reusable Table models
- Simpler data types vs objects
- Basis for the higher level ORM, build your own!
- I use in migrations, db abstract, but don't depend on my ORM models

When to use: ORM

- Always!
- Start here, fall backwards
- You want pretty code

You say ORM I say declarative

Old style mapping (still works)

```
users_table = Table('users', metadata,
    Column('id', Integer, primary_key=True),
    Column('name', Unicode),
    Column('fullname', Unicode),
)

class User:
    pass

mapper(User, users_table)
```

Newer declarative style

- class extending Base
- table name (anything we want)
- columns, must have PK

```
class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = "users"

    id = Column(Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = Column(Unicode)
    fullname = Column(Unicode)
```

Advantages of the class

Add ons!

```
class User(base):
    ...

    username_min_length = 4

    def __init__(self, username, fullname):
        if len(username) < self.username_min_length:
            raise ValueError

        self.username = username
        self.fullname = fullname
```

Advantages Cont'd

Models are just Python, code at will

```
def has_fullname(self):
    if self.fullname:
        return True
    else:
        return False

rick = User.query.find(13)
if rick.has_fullname():
    print 'Yay!'
```

Python code works

```
filter_on = 'username'
filter_val = 'rick'
User.query.\
     filter(getattr(User, filter_on) == filter_val).\
     first()
```

You're convinced: back to basics

Connecting the powerful engine

engine == window to connection pool* and dialect* for your db

```
from sqlalchemy import create_engine
engine = create_engine('postgresql://rick:pwd@local/demo')

result = engine.execute("select username from users")
for row in result:
    print "username:", row['username']
```

Session: ever read Patterns?

Unit of Work?

> A Unit of Work keeps track of everything you do during a business transaction that can affect the database. When you're done, it figures out everything that needs to be done to alter the database as a result of your work.

http://martinfowler.com/eaaCatalog/unitOfWork.html

Everything in a transaction (or nested transactions)

Session: making Unit of Work cool

Let's pretend

```
rick = User.query.get(13)
rick.fullname = "Bob"

... elsewhere in the galaxy "Codebase"

logged_in = User.query.get(13)
print logged_in.fullname
>>> Bob
```

Session: let's make some

```
from sqlalchemy import create_engine
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker

engine = create_engine(...)

# create a configured "Session" class
Session = sessionmaker(bind=some_engine)

# create a Session
session = Session()

rick = User('rick', 'Rick Harding')
session.add(rick)
session.commit()
```

Session: Starting to put it together

```
Session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)
Base = declarative_base()
Base.metadata.bind = engine

# turns docs Session.query(User) into User.query
Base.query = Session.query_property(Query)

class User(Base):
    ...
```

Query Time: Users

Reminder of our object

```
class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = "users"

    id = Column(Integer, primary_key=True)
    username = Column(Unicode(255))
    fullname = Column(Unicode)
    age = Column(Integer, default=10)
    bio = Column(UnicodeText)
    registered = Column(DateTime,
                        default=datetime.now)
```

Query Time: .get

Based on PK (one or more bwuhahaha)

```
rick = User.query.get(13)

# what if multiple, tuple it
name = "Staples"
branch_id = 13
store = Store.query.get((name, branch_id))
```

Query Time: .filter

Chainable clauses, printable

```
print User.id == 23
>>> users.id = :users_id_1

User.query.filter(User.username == 'rick')

User.query.filter(User.username != 'rick').\
           filter(User.age > someage)

User.query.filter(User.username.in_('rick', 'bob')).\
           filter(User.bio.contains('science'))

User.query.filter(or_(User.username == 'rick',
```

```
User.username == 'bob'))
```

Query Time: building queries

```
def get_students(since=None, order_col=None):
    qry = User.query

    if since:
        qry = qry.filter(User.registered >= since)

    if order_col:
        qry = qry.order_by(getattr(User, order_col))
    else:
        qry = qry.order_by(User.registered.desc())

    return qry.all()
```

Query Time: getting results

Firing off the query

- .one() - exception
- .first() - None
- .all() - empty list

Query Time: Other query accessories

```
.group_by()
.count()
.order_by()
.limit()
.having()
```

Relations: How many of what?

Remember: you need to know sql

- One -> One
- One -> Many
- Many -> Many

Relations: A related object

One -> Many

```
class Email(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'emails'

    id = Column(Integer, primary_key=True)
    user_id = Column(Integer, ForeignKey('users.id'))
    addr = Column(String, unique=True, nullable=False)
```

Relations: Tie them together

Let User know about Email

```
class User(Base):
    ...

    emails = relation(Email,
                      backref="user")


rick = User.query.get(13)
email.send(rick.emails[0])

first_mail = rick.emails[0]
print first_mail.user.username
```

Relations: Points of interest

- Only defined on one side, backref takes care of the rest
- defaults to lazy load, accessing rick.emails == another query

Lots of kwargs!

lazy, order_by, post_update, primaryjoin, secondaryjoin, uselist, viewonly, secondary, backref, back_populates, cascade, doc, foreign_keys, inner_join, join_depth,

Relations: One to One

Change it to one email per user

```
email = relation(Email,
                 uselist=False,
                 backref="user")

...

email.send(rick.email)
```

Relations: the mighty join

- left join
- inner join
- outer join

```
User.query.join(User.email).\
     filter(Email.addr.endswith('@google.com'))

SELECT * FROM users, emails
WHERE users.id = emails.user_id AND
      emails.addr LIKE "%@google.com"
```

Relations: lazy lazy bums

- just joining == still lazy, but we can filter
- eager is the opposite of lazy

```
.join(User.email).options(contains_eager(User.email))
```

Organizing

Prepare for Rick's opinion

Instance vs Non Instance

```
User.XXX == a user instance
UserMgr.xxx = None, or a list of user objects
```

Relations: Organizing

```
class UserMgr(object):
    """All non-instance helps for User class"""

    @staticmethod
    def get_students(since=None):

    @staticmethod
    def find(email=None):
        qry = User.query

        if email:
            qry = qry.join(User.email).\
                      options(contains_eager(User.email))
            qry = qry.filter(email)
```

```
        return qry.all()
```

Organizing

Building a model API. What do you want to write?

```
myuser = UserMgr.find(username="rick")
gone = UserMgr.delete(id=15)

user_list = UserMgr.get(age=21)

for u in user_list:
    print u.fullname
```

Relations: I can haz more?

```
class Phone(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'emails'

    id = Column(Integer, primary_key=True)
    user_id = Column(Integer, ForeignKey('users.id'))
    number = Column(String(10), unique=True,
                    nullable=False)

class User(Base):

    email = relation(Email...
    phone = relation(Phone...)
```

Relations: querying multiple

```
def find(email=None, phone=None):
    qry = User.query

    if email:
        qry = qry.join(User.email).\
                  options(contains_eager(User.email))
        qry = qry.filter(email)

    if phone:
        ...

# get me all users with a google email from the 248 area code
res = UserMgr.find(email=User.email.endswith('google.com'),
                   phone=User.phone.startswith('248'))
```

Relations: list by default, but dicts and sets rule

```
...
emails = relation(Email, column_mapped_collection('addr')
phones = relation(Phone, collection_class=set)

rick = User.get(13)

# a dict so you can use dict items to check for existance
assert('rharding@mitechie.com' in rick.emails)

test_phones = {Phone('2485555555')}
rick.phones = rick.phones.union(test_phones)
```

Relations: many to many action

- Need a central table to tie ids together

```
user_address = Table('user_addresses', Base.metadata,
    Column('user_id', Integer,
           ForeignKey('users.id'),
           primary_key=True),
    Column('address_id', Integer,
           ForeignKey('addresses.id'),
           primary_key=True)
)
```

Relations: many->many cont'd

- Now add the seconday kwarg to the relation

```
class User(Base):
    ...
    addresses = relation(Address,
                         backref="user",
                         seconday=user_address)
```

Relations: many->many queries

```
User.query.filter(
    User.addresses.any(city='Columbus')).\
    all()

rick = User.query.get(13)
rick.addresses.filter(
    User.addresses.any(location='work')).\
    all()
```

Other tricks: autoload

- Great for existing dbs, quick scripts, ipython sessions

```
# does a query against the database at load time to
# load the columns
users_table = Table('users', meta, autoload=True)

class User(object):
    pass

mapper...
```

Other tricks: autoload declarative

- DON'T FOR THE LOVE OF !!!!!!

```
class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'users'
    __table_args__ = (
                UniqueConstraint('fullname'),
                {'autoload':True}
            )
```

Other tricks: fitting to an existing db

```
create table Users (
    UserID INTEGER,
    UserFirstName CHAR(20),
    UserLastName CHAR(40)
)

class User(Base):
    ...
    id = Column('UserID', Integer, primary_key=True)
    fname = Column('UserFirstName', Unicode(20))
    lname = Column('UserLastName', Unicode(40)
```

Other tricks: Events!

- Who needs triggers
- Works cross db
- log items, update things
- I use for updating sqlite fulltext indexes on bookmarks

```
from sqlalchemy import event

def my_before_insert_listener(mapper, connection, target):
    # before we insert our record, let's say what server did
    # this insert to the db
    target.inserted_from = gethostname()
```

```
event.listen(User, 'before_insert', my_before_insert_listener)
```

Other tricks: Events Cont'd

- after (delete, update, insert)
- before (delete, update, insert)
- (create, populate) instance
- ...

Other tricks: Python properties

```
class User(Base):
    _password = Column('password', Unicode(60))

    def _set_password(self, password):
        salt = bcrypt.gensalt(10)
        hashed_password = bcrypt.hashpw(password, salt)
        self._password = hashed_password

    def _get_password(self):
        return self._password

    password = synonym('_password',
                       descriptor=property(_get_password,
                                           _set_password))
```

Let's show off something complicated

- Completion list for bookmarks
- Given selected tags "vagrant", "tips"
- Complete tag starting with "ub"

```
SELECT DISTINCT(tag_id), tags.name
FROM bmark_tags
JOIN tags ON bmark_tags.tag_id = tags.tid
WHERE bmark_id IN (
    SELECT bmark_id FROM bmark_tags WHERE tag_id IN (
        SELECT DISTINCT(t.tid)
            FROM tags t
            WHERE t.name in ('vagrant', 'tips')
    )
```

```
)
AND tags.name LIKE ('ub%');
```

Show Off: cont'd

```
current_tags = Session.query(Tag.tid).\
                              filter(Tag.name.in_(current)).\
                              group_by(Tag.tid)

good_bmarks = select([bmarks_tags.c.bmark_id],
                bmarks_tags.c.tag_id.in_(current_tags)).\
                group_by(bmarks_tags.c.bmark_id).\
                having('COUNT(bmark_id) >= ' + str(len(current)))

query = Session.query(Tag.name.distinct().label('name')).\
          join((bmarks_tags, bmarks_tags.c.tag_id == Tag.tid))
query = query.filter(bmarks_tags.c.bmark_id.in_(good_bmarks))
query = query.filter(Tag.name.startswith(prefix))
```

```
return Session.execute(query)
```

Homework! Demo directory

- sample database movies.db (sqlite)
- sakila-schema.sql - schema def (stolen from MySQL thanks!)
- models.py - all the SqlAlchemy definitions
- homework.py - comment blocks, each with an assignment
- test.py (ignore, no answers within)

Homework! Git repository

https://github.com/mitechie/sqlalchemy_pyohio2011

Reading Notes/Material

Philosophy: object relational impedance mismatch

http://paste.ofcode.org/StxVZ8hfdhPhbbLAvq53rb

great reply from Mike Bayer on SqlAlchemy

https://plus.google.com/109591387819364984777/posts/DNHcVxyP8Gs

SqlAlchemy for Django users

Thanks Armin! http://lucumr.pocoo.org/2011/7/19/sqlachemy-and-you/