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ADVANCED TOPICS IN MODELS

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- ▶ Meta Options
- ▶ Raw SQL
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# Meta Options

- ▶ Give your model metadata by using an inner class Meta
- ▶ Model metadata is “anything that’s not a field”

```
from django.db import models

class Ox(models.Model):
    horn_length = models.IntegerField()

    class Meta:
        ordering = ["horn_length"]
        verbose_name_plural = "oxen"
```

# Meta Options – cont.

- ▶ **abstract** : used to make the model abstract
- ▶ **app\_label**: If a model is defined outside of an application in INSTALLED\_APPS
- ▶ **db\_table**: table name
- ▶ **ordering**: The default ordering
- ▶ **permissions**: Extra permissions to enter into the permissions table
- ▶ **indexes**: A list of indexes that you want to define on the model
- ▶ **unique\_together**
- ▶ **verbose\_name, verbose\_name\_plural**: singular and plural human-readable names

# Overriding predefined model methods

```
from django.db import models

class Blog(models.Model):
    name = models.CharField(max_length=100)
    tagline = models.TextField()

    def save(self, *args, **kwargs):
        do_something()
        super().save(*args, **kwargs)  # Call the "real" save()
        do_something_else()
```

*method.*

# Overriding predefined model methods – cont.

- ▶ You can also prevent saving:

```
from django.db import models

class Blog(models.Model):
    name = models.CharField(max_length=100)
    tagline = models.TextField()

    def save(self, *args, **kwargs):
        if self.name == "Yoko Ono's blog":
            return # Yoko shall never have her own blog!
        else:
            super().save(*args, **kwargs) # Call the "real"
            save() method.
```

# Performing raw SQL queries

- ▶ The Django **ORM** provides many tools to express queries without writing raw SQL such as `annotate` and `aggregate`
- ▶ But Django gives you the possibility of performing **raw SQL queries**
- ▶ You should be very careful whenever you write raw SQL. You should properly escape any parameters that the user can control to avoid **SQL injection**



# Performing raw queries

```
class Person(models.Model):  
    first_name = models.CharField(...)  
    last_name = models.CharField(...)  
    birth_date = models.DateField(...)
```

```
>>> for p in Person.objects.raw('SELECT * FROM myapp_person'):  
...     print(p)  
John Smith  
Jane Jones
```

# Index lookups

- ▶ `raw()` supports indexing

```
>>> first_person = Person.objects.raw('SELECT * FROM  
myapp_person')[0]
```

- ▶ However, the indexing and slicing are not performed at the database level. So it is more efficient to write:

```
>>> first_person = Person.objects.raw('SELECT * FROM myapp_person  
LIMIT 1')[0]
```

# Deferring model fields

```
>>> for p in Person.objects.raw('SELECT id, first_name FROM
myapp_person'):
...     print(p.first_name, # This will be retrieved by the
original query
...           p.last_name) # This will be retrieved on demand
...
John Smith
Jane Jones
```

- ▶ Only the primary key field cannot be left out

# Adding annotations

- ▶ For example, we could use PostgreSQL's `age()` function:

```
>>> people = Person.objects.raw('SELECT *, age(birth_date) AS age
FROM myapp_person')
>>> for p in people:
...     print("%s is %s." % (p.first_name, p.age))
John is 37.
Jane is 42.
...
```

# Passing parameters into raw()

- ▶ If you need to perform parameterized queries, you can use the `params` argument to `raw()`:

```
>>> lname = 'Doe'
>>> Person.objects.raw('SELECT * FROM myapp_person WHERE
last_name = %s', [lname])
```

- ▶ `params` is a list or dictionary of parameters
- ▶ Use `%(key)s` placeholders for a dictionary (where `key` is replaced by a dictionary key)

# SQL injection protection

- ▶ Do not use string formatting on raw queries or quote placeholders in your SQL strings!

```
>>> query = 'SELECT * FROM myapp_person WHERE last_name  
= %s' % lname  
>>> Person.objects.raw(query)
```

```
>>> query = "SELECT * FROM myapp_person WHERE last_name  
= '%s'"
```

mistakes!

# Executing custom SQL directly

- ▶ Very similar to psycopg2 and mysql. Use fetchone() or fetchall() :

```
from django.db import connection

def my_custom_sql(self):
    with connection.cursor() as cursor:
        cursor.execute("UPDATE bar SET foo = 1 WHERE baz = %s",
            [self.baz])
        cursor.execute("SELECT foo FROM bar WHERE baz = %s",
            [self.baz])
        row = cursor.fetchone()

    return row
```

- ▶ If you are using more than one database, you can use `django.db.connections` to obtain the connection (and cursor) for a specific database:

```
from django.db import connections
with connections['my_db_alias'].cursor() as cursor:
    # Your code here...
```



# Model Inheritance

# 3 Styles of Inheritance

1

**The abstract parent class:** when we don't want the parent model have any tables

2

**Multi-table inheritance:** when we want to both parent and child have their own tables

3

**Proxy models:** if you only want to modify the Python-level behavior of a model, without changing the models fields in any way

# 1: Abstract Base Classes

- ▶ The **Student** model will have three fields: **name**, **age** and **home\_group**
- ▶ **CommonInfo** will then not be used to create any database table

```
from django.db import models

class CommonInfo(models.Model):
    name = models.CharField(max_length=100)
    age = models.PositiveIntegerField()

    class Meta:
        abstract = True

class Student(CommonInfo):
    home_group = models.CharField(max_length=5)
```

# Abstract and Meta

- ▶ The Meta class is inherited (but the child is abstract=false by default)
- ▶ Also you can subclass it in the child model:

```
from django.db import models

class CommonInfo(models.Model):
    # ...
    class Meta:
        abstract = True
        ordering = ['name']

class Student(CommonInfo):
    # ...
    class Meta(CommonInfo.Meta):
        db_table = 'student_info'
```

# Multiple Inheritance of Abstract Models

```
from django.db import models

class CommonInfo(models.Model):
    name = models.CharField(max_length=100)
    age = models.PositiveIntegerField()

    class Meta:
        abstract = True
        ordering = ['name']

class Unmanaged(models.Model):
    class Meta:
        abstract = True
        managed = False

class Student(CommonInfo, Unmanaged):
    home_group = models.CharField(max_length=5)

    class Meta(CommonInfo.Meta, Unmanaged.Meta):
        pass
```

Must be inherited explicitly ←

# related\_name on Abstract Model

- ▶ If you are using `related_name` or `related_query_name` on a `ForeignKey` or `ManyToManyField`, you must always specify a unique reverse name and query name for the field.
- ▶ Use `%(app_label)s` and `%(class)s`
- ▶ Then the reverse name of the `common.ChildA.m2m` field will be `common_childa_related`

```
from django.db import models

class Base(models.Model):
    m2m = models.ManyToManyField(
        OtherModel,
        related_name="%(app_label)s_%(class)s_related",
        related_query_name="%(app_label)s_%(class)s",
    )

    class Meta:
        abstract = True

class ChildA(Base):
    pass

class ChildB(Base):
    pass
```

## 2: Multi-table inheritance

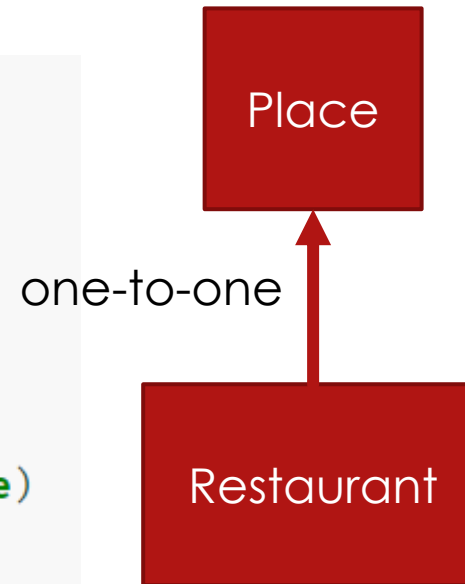
- ▶ The second type of model inheritance supported by Django is when each model in the hierarchy is **a model all by itself**
- ▶ An automatically-created **OneToOneField** established between the child model and each of its parents

# Relation of Parents and Children

```
from django.db import models

class Place(models.Model):
    name = models.CharField(max_length=50)
    address = models.CharField(max_length=80)

class Restaurant(Place):
    serves_hot_dogs = models.BooleanField(default=False)
    serves_pizza = models.BooleanField(default=False)
```



id	name	address

id	place_ptr_id	serves_hot_dogs	serves_pizza



# The OneToOneField

- ▶ This is the implicit OneToOneField which you can override it:

```
place_ptr = models.OneToOneField(
    Place, on_delete=models.CASCADE,
    parent_link=True,
    primary_key=True,
)
```

# Parents and Children Fields

- ▶ All of the fields of Place will also be available in Restaurant, although the data will reside in a different database table

```
>>> Place.objects.filter(name="Bob's Cafe")  
>>> Restaurant.objects.filter(name="Bob's Cafe")
```

- ▶ If you have a Place that is also a Restaurant, you can get from the Place object to the Restaurant:

```
>>> p = Place.objects.get(id=12)  
# If p is a Restaurant object, this will give the child class:  
>>> p.restaurant  
<Restaurant: ...>
```

# Inheritance and Reverse Relations

```
class Supplier(Place):  
    customers = models.ManyToManyField(Place)
```

Reverse query name **for** 'Supplier.customers' clashes **with** reverse query name **for** 'Supplier.place\_ptr'.

HINT: Add **or** change a `related_name` argument to the definition **for** 'Supplier.customers' **or** 'Supplier.place\_ptr'.

```
models.ManyToManyField(Place, related_name='provider')
```

Will raise error

Solution

# Meta and Multi-table Inheritance

- ▶ In contrast with the abstract base class, a child model **does not have access** to its parent's Meta class
- ▶ Except a few limited cases such as **ordering** or **get\_latest\_by**

## 3: Proxy models

- ▶ If you only want to modify the Python-level behavior of a model, without changing the models fields in any way
- ▶ You can create, delete and update instances of the proxy model and all the data will be saved as if you were using the original (non-proxied) model
- ▶ The difference is that you can change things like the default model ordering or the default manager in the proxy, without having to alter the original

# Adding Python-level Functionality

- ▶ For example, suppose you want to add a method to the Person model. You can do it like this

```
from django.db import models

class Person(models.Model):
    first_name = models.CharField(max_length=30)
    last_name = models.CharField(max_length=30)

class MyPerson(Person):
    class Meta:
        proxy = True

    def do_something(self):
        # ...
        pass
```

# Using in Querying

- ▶ The MyPerson class operates on the same database table as its parent Person class. In particular, any new instances of Person will also be accessible through MyPerson, and vice-versa:

```
>>> p = Person.objects.create(first_name="foobar")  
>>> MyPerson.objects.get(first_name="foobar")  
<MyPerson: foobar>
```

# Customizing Ordering

- ▶ You could also use a proxy model to define a different default ordering on a model:

```
class OrderedPerson(Person):  
    class Meta:  
        ordering = ["last_name"]  
        proxy = True
```

- ▶ Now normal Person queries will be unordered and OrderedPerson queries will be ordered by last\_name
- ▶ Proxy models inherit Meta attributes in the same way as regular models



# References

- ▶ <https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/3.1/topics/db/models/>
- ▶ <https://docs.djangoproject.com/en/3.1/topics/db/sql/>

# Any Question?