LAB2 - The ORM Magic

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Introduction

In this lab, we are going to learn the object-relational mapper (ORM) provided by SQLAlchemy. With ORM, we can map a class to a database table, and map an object of that class to a row in the database table. With SQLAlchemy's ORM, we can avoid directly using any raw SQL statements. More important, we will be able to follow the principle of dependency inversion – let ORM depend on the domain model, but not the other way around.

We will create 3 files:

- model.py
- orm.py
- app.py

Here app.py imports the above two python modules and generates an SQLite database exactly like EnglishPalDatabase.db.

Materials and Methods

Work Flow

1. Review and analyze the requirements in lab2.pdf.
2. Learn about the relative knowledges in Chapter 2 of the course text book.
3. Start with the code.
4. Search for the coding techniques required online.
5. Finish the coding process.
6. Summarize and Write the document.

Source Codes

For this part, We implemented the incomplete function, class and used property to achieve the requirements. See the source codes and comments for detail.

1. orm.py

```
from sqlalchemy import Table, MetaData, Column, Integer, String, Date,
ForeignKey
from sqlalchemy.orm import mapper, relationship

import model

metadata = MetaData()

articles = Table(
    'articles',
    metadata,
    Column('article_id', Integer, primary_key=True, autoincrement=True),
    Column('text', String(10000)),
    Column('source', String(100)),
    Column('date', String(10)),
    Column('level', Integer, nullable=False),
    Column('question', String(1000)),
)

users = Table(
    'users',
    metadata,
    Column('username', String(100), primary_key=True),
    Column('password', String(64)),
    Column('start_date', String(10), nullable=False),
    Column('expiry_date', String(10), nullable=False),
)

newwords = Table(
    'newwords',
    metadata,
    Column('word_id', Integer, primary_key=True, autoincrement=True),
    Column('username', String(100), ForeignKey('users.username')),
    Column('word', String(20)),
    Column('date', String(10)),
)

# ADDITION: add the reading part
readings = Table(
    'readings',
    metadata,
    Column('id', Integer, primary_key=True, autoincrement=True),
    Column('username', String(100), ForeignKey('users.username')),
    Column('article_id', Integer, ForeignKey('articles.article_id')),
)
def start_mappers():
    # ADDITION: implement the start_mapper()
    lines_mapper = mapper(model.User, users)
    lines_mapper = mapper(model.NewWord, newwords)
    lines_mapper = mapper(model.Article, articles)
    lines_mapper = mapper(model.Reading, readings)
    # pass
```

2. model.py

```python
from dataclasses import dataclass
from sqlalchemy import create_engine
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker


# ADDITION: just for convenience
engine = create_engine(
    r'sqlite:///D:\newDesktop\大三下
courses\SADP\lab2\test\EnglishPalDatabase.db')
get_session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)
session = get_session()

@dataclass
class Article:
    article_id: int
    text: str
    source: str
    date: str
    level: int
    question: str


class NewWord:
    def __init__(self, username, word='', date='yyyy-mm-dd'):
        self.username = username
        self.word = word
        self.date = date


class User:
    def __init__(self, username, password='12345',
start_date='2021-05-19', expiry_date='2031-05-19'):
        self.username = username
        self.password = password
        self.start_date = start_date
        self.expiry_date = expiry_date
        self._read = []

    def read_article(self, article):
        # ADDITION: implement the action
        session.add(article)
        reading = Reading(self.username, article.article_id)
        session.add(reading)
        session.commit()
        # pass

    # ADDITION: use property to achieve list(user.newwords)
    @property
    def newwords(self):
        words = session.query(NewWord).filter(NewWord.username ==
self.username).all()
        # test code
        # for w in words:
        #     print(w.word)
        return words


```

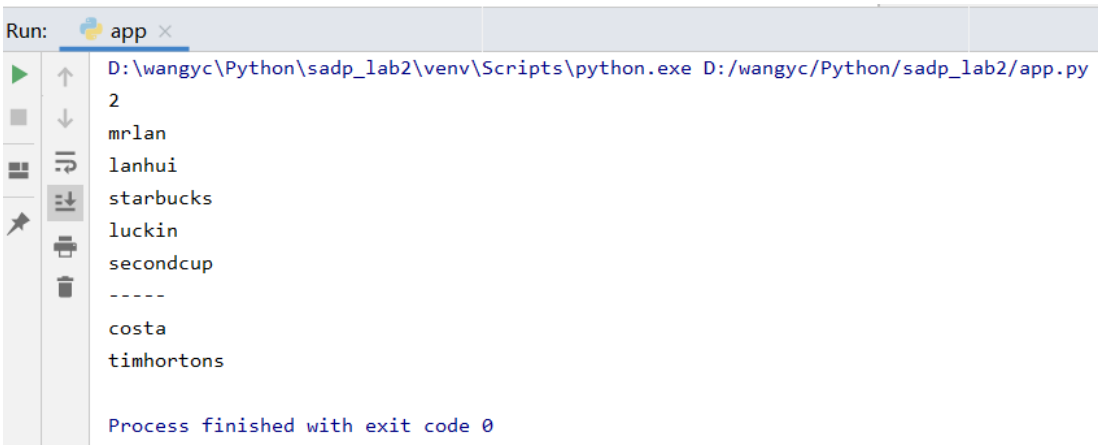
3. app.py

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

import model
import orm

orm.start_mappers()
engine = create_engine(
    r'sqlite:///D:\newDesktop\大三下
courses\SADP\lab2\test\EnglishPalDatabase.db') # modify the path
orm.metadata.drop_all(engine)
orm.metadata.create_all(engine)
get_session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)

# add two users

session = get_session()

try:
    session.add(model.User(username='mrlan', password='12345',
start_date='2021-05-14'))
    session.add(model.User(username='lanhui', password='Hard2Guess!',
start_date='2021-05-15'))
    session.commit()
except:
    print('Duplicate insertions.')

print(session.query(model.User).count())

for u in session.query(model.User).all():
    print(u.username)

session.close()

# add a few new words

session = get_session()
session.add(model.NewWord(username='lanhui', word='starbucks',
date='2021-05-15'))
session.add(model.NewWord(username='lanhui', word='luckin',
date='2021-05-15'))
session.add(model.NewWord(username='lanhui', word='secondcup',
date='2021-05-15'))
session.add(model.NewWord(username='mrlan', word='costa',
date='2021-05-15'))
session.add(model.NewWord(username='mrlan', word='timhortons',
date='2021-05-15'))
session.commit()
session.close()

# add a few articles

session = get_session()
article = model.Article(article_id=1,
                        text='THE ORIGIN OF SPECIES BY MEANS OF NATURAL
SELECTION, OR THE PRESERVATION OF FAVOURED RACES IN THE STRUGGLE FOR
LIFE',
```

Results

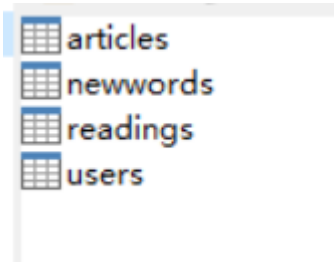
For this part we make **screenshots** to illustrate the results.

1. After running **app.py**:



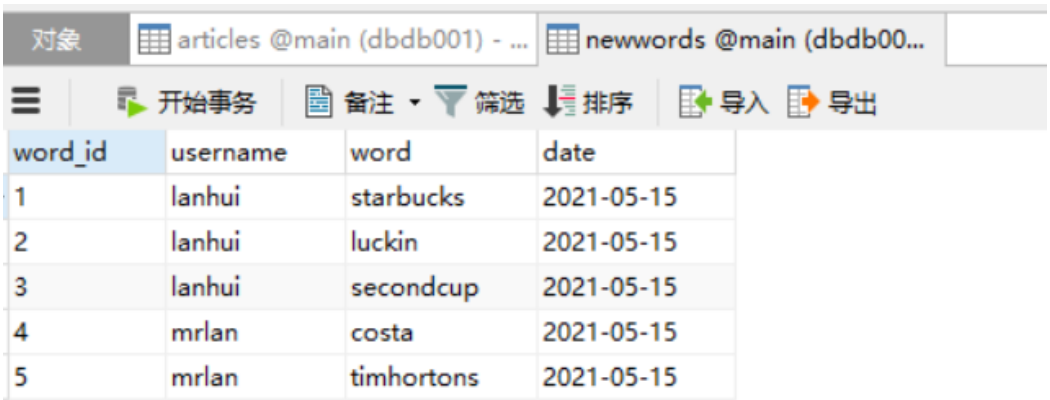
2. Inside **EnglishPalDatabase.db(Open with Navicat Premium)**:

   a. list of tables:



   b. articles: ./imgs/db_articles.png

   c. newwords:



word_id	username	word	date
1	lanhui	starbucks	2021-05-15
2	lanhui	luckin	2021-05-15
3	lanhui	secondcup	2021-05-15
4	mrlan	costa	2021-05-15
5	mrlan	timhortons	2021-05-15

   d. readings: ./imgs/db_readings.png

   e. users: ./imgs/db_users.png

Discussions

- For this lab we learnt about the way to manipulate database with SQLAlchemy's ORM (object-relational mapper) instead of raw SQL statement in web application, which will bring convenience while making the architecture more clear.
- We tried to understand dependency inversion.
- Also, we learnt to use Read the Docs combining with Sphinx to manage our lab report.