

# Nodes and Fields

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## Load a node and get a formatted text field

```
$nodeStorage = $this->entityTypeManager->getStorage('node');
$node = $nodeStorage->load(10706);
$body = $node->get('body')->value;
$body = $node->body->value;

//after text filters have done their magic!
$body = $node->body->processed;
```

## Load a numeric field value

When you load a numeric field, Drupal returns a number i.e. 0 even if that field was never initialized with a value.

```
$accepted_votes = $feedback_error_node->get('field_accepted_votes')->value;  
  
// Returns 0 if no value was entered into the field.
```

## Set field values

```
$node->set('field_tks_subchapter', $subchapterFullStatement);  
  
$node->set('field_tks_standard_type', "TEKS");  
  
$node->save();
```

## Get current page title

Use this in a controller, to return the current page title.

```
$request = \Drupal::request();  
if ($route = $request->attributes->get(\Symfony\Component\Routing\RouteObjectInterface::ROUTE_OBJECT)) {  
    $title = \Drupal::service('title_resolver')->getTitle($request, $route);}
```

## Test if variable is a node

```
// Is this variable a node?  
if ($ref instanceof EntityInterface && $ref->getEntityTypeId === 'node') {  
    // yep  
}
```

## Get the current nid, node type and title

Here are two ways to retrieve the current node – via the request or using the route

```
$node = \Drupal::request()->attributes->get('node');  
$nid = $node->id();
```

OR

```
$node = \Drupal::routeMatch()->getParameter('node');  
if ($node instanceof \Drupal\Node\NodeInterface) {  
    // You can get nid and anything else you need from the node object.  
    $nid = $node->id();  
    $nodeType = $node->bundle();  
    $nodeTitle = $node->getTitle();  
}
```

If you need to use the node object in `hook_preprocess_page()` on the preview page, you need to use the `node_preview` parameter, instead of the `node` parameter:

```
function mymodule_preprocess_page(&$vars) {  
  
    $route_name = \Drupal::routeMatch()->getRouteName();  
  
    if ($route_name == 'entity.node.canonical') {  
        $node = \Drupal::routeMatch()->getParameter('node');  
    }  
    elseif ($route_name == 'entity.node.preview') {  
        $node = \Drupal::routeMatch()->getParameter('node_preview');  
    }  
}
```

And from <https://drupal.stackexchange.com/questions/145823/how-do-i-get-the-current-node-id> when you are using or creating a custom block then you have to follow this code to get current node id. Not sure if it is correct

```

use Drupal\Core\Cache\Cache;

$node = \Drupal::routeMatch()->getParameter('node');
if ($node instanceof \Drupal\node\NodeInterface) {
    $nid = $node->id();
}

// for cache
public function getCacheTags() {
    //With this when your node changes your block will rebuild
    if ($node = \Drupal::routeMatch()->getParameter('node')) {
        //if there is node add its cachetag
        return Cache::mergeTags(parent::getCacheTags(), ['node:' . $node->id()]);
    }
    else {
        //Return default tags instead.
        return parent::getCacheTags();
    }
}

public function getCacheContexts() {
    //if you depend on \Drupal::routeMatch()
    //you must set context of this block with 'route' context tag.
    //Every new route this block will rebuild
    return Cache::mergeContexts(parent::getCacheContexts(), ['route']);
}

```

## Retrieve current node id (nid)

If the site is currently displaying node/123, this will return a path node/123.

```

$current_path = \Drupal::service('path.current')->getPath();

```

## Also

```

$node = \Drupal::routeMatch()->getParameter('node');
if ($node instanceof \Drupal\node\NodeInterface) {
    // You can get nid and anything else you need from the node object.
    $nid = $node->id();
    $nodeTitle = $node->getTitle();
    $nodeType = $node->bundle();
    if ($nodeType != 'unit') {
        return;
    }
}

```

## Retrieve node info from current path

You don't need to load the node

```

$node = \Drupal::routeMatch()->getParameter('node');
if ($node instanceof \Drupal\node\NodeInterface) {
    // You can get nid and anything else you need from the node object.
    $nid = $node->id();
    if ($node->getType() == 'unit') {
        $contract_id = $node->field_contract_id->value;
        $facebook = $node->field_facebook->value;
    }
}

```

## Load the current node and get it's node id (nid), field, type

To grab some information from the currently displayed node, use the `\Drupal object::routeMatch()`.

```
// Grab current node.

$node = \Drupal::routeMatch()->getParameter('node');
if ($node instanceof \Drupal\node\NodeInterface) {

    // You can get nid and anything else you need from the node object.

    $nid = $node->id();

    if ($node->getType() == 'unit') {

        $v = $node->get('field_footer_social_media_headin')->value;

        if (!empty($v)) {

            ...

        }

        $v = $node->get('field_facebook')->value;

        if (!empty($v)) {

            ...

        }

    }

}
```

Note you can also `$node->get('field_facebook')->getValue()` which returns an array of values. This is a good way to retrieve unlimited value fields i.e. fields that have more than 1 value.

## Load a node by nid and get its title, type and a field

From: <https://www.drupal.org/docs/8/api/entity-api/working-with-the-entity-api>

```
use Drupal\node\Entity\Node;

// Using the node id = 1.

$node = Node::load(1);
```

Or

```
$node = \Drupal::entityTypeManager()->getStorage('node')->load(1);
$headline = $node->getTitle();

// What type of node is that?
$type = $node->getType();

// Get the url field.
$url = $node->get('field_url')->value;
```

Or

```
$node_storage = \Drupal::entityTypeManager()->getStorage('node');
$node = $node_storage->load(1);
$url = $node->get('field_url')->value;
```

Or

```
$body = $node->field_srp_pc_change_type->value;
```

And multivalue fields are similar. They are loaded when you use `get` & `getValue` or the magic getter & `getValue`. You can then loop through the returned values:

```
$topics = $node->get('field_news_topics_for_listing')->getValue(); //get.
```

or

```
$topics = $node->field_news_topics_for_listing->getValue(); //magic getter.
```

```
foreach ($topics as $topic) {  
    // Do something.  
}
```

## Load the current node and get the nid, field, type

```
// For content type unit grab their facebook/instagram etc.  
$node = \Drupal::routeMatch()->getParameter('node');  
if ($node instanceof \Drupal\node\NodeInterface) {  
    // You can get nid and anything else you need from the node object.  
    $nid = $node->id();  
    if ($node->getType() == 'unit') {  
        $sm_heading = $node->get('field_footer_social_media_headin')->value;  
        if (!empty($sm_heading)) {  
            ...  
        }  
        $fb = $node->get('field_facebook')->value;  
        if (!empty($fb)) {  
            ...  
        }  
    }  
}
```

Note you can also

```
$node->get('field_facebook')->getValue();
```

Which returns an array of values.

## Load the user id (uid) for a node

```
$my_node->getOwnerId();
```

You can call `$node->uid` but that returns an `EntityReferenceFieldItemList` with all sorts of juicy information. The user id is in there but more challenging to extract.

## Test if a field is empty

```
$entity->get('field_name')->isEmpty()
```

For an entity field use:

```
$sf_contract_node = Node::load($sf_contract_nid);  
if ($sf_contract_node) {  
    if (!$sf_contract_node->get('field_vendor_url')->isEmpty()) {  
        $url = $sf_contract_node->field_vendor_url->first()->getUrl();  
        $url = $url->getUri();  
        $variables['vendor_url'] = $url;  
    }  
}
```

And more concisely, using a new feature of PHP 8 we can use the following:

```
$url = $sf_contract_node?->field_vendor_url?->first()?->getUrl();  
if (!is_null($url)) {  
    $uri = $url->getUri();  
}
```

## Load a node and update a field

```
$node = \Drupal::entityTypeManager()->getStorage('node')->load(1);  
$url = $node->set('field_url', 'the-blahblah');  
$node->save();
```

## Load values from a date range field

Start date and then end date

```
$node->get('field_cn_start_end_dates')->value  
$node->get('field_cn_start_end_dates')->end_value
```

## Load multivalue field

Multivalue fields can be loaded with `get('fieldname')` or using a magic field getter like `$node->field_my_field`. Adding `->getValue()` to the end of either of these calls returns a simple array.

For example, a multivalue text field, this will return an array of values like this:

```
$data = $node->get('field_condiment')->getValue();  
  
// returns:  
$data[0]['value'] = 'ketchup'  
$data[1]['value'] = 'mayo'  
$data[2]['value'] = 'reference'
```

However a multivalue entity reference field (including taxonomy) will return values with the `target_id` array key. e.g.

```
$data = $node->get('field_event_ref')->getValue();  
  
// returns:  
$data[0]['target_id'] = 1  
$data[1]['target_id'] = 2  
$data[2]['target_id'] = 14
```

## Iterate through results

Using `$node->field_condiment` or `$node->get('field_condiment')` returns a `Drupal\Core\Field\FieldItemList` which is iterable. You can loop through the results and retrieve the values like this:

```
$items = $node->field_condiment;  
foreach ($items as $item) {  
    $result = $item->value;  
  
    // For entity reference fields use  
    // $result_nid = $item->target_id;  
}
```

For entity reference fields, use `target_id` rather than `->value`.

And you can check if there is a particular item in the array like this:

```
// get FieldItemList.

$condiments = $node->get('field_condiment');
$vote_number = 1;
if (isset($condiments[$vote_number])) {
    $result = $condiments[$vote_number]->value;
}

// $result is ketchup.

// Or the PHP 8 way:

$result = $node->field_condiment?->get($vote_number)?->value;

// OR
$result = $node->field_condiment[$vote_number]?->value;
```

## Read a specific instance

You can directly reference an item by specifying an array offset. The index key (0 or 1 below) can also be referred to as the delta.

```
$status = $node->get('field_voting_status')[0]->value;
$status = $node->get('field_voting_status')[1]->value;
```

Note. If the value for delta 1 is empty, Drupal will throw a warning message `*Warning*: Attempt to read property "value" on null in ...`

So rather than reading the `[1]->value` directly, you should check if there is a value using `isset()` and then, you can read the `->value`. Note. When you do the `isset()` test, you don't add the `->value` at the end e.g.

```
if(!is_null($node->get('field_voting_status')[$vote_number])) {
    $voting_status = $correlation_node->field_voting_status[$vote_number]->value;
}
```

## Update a multivalue field

This can be a little tricky especially if you want to preserve the existing values in the field.

Here I used the `getValue()` to load all the values. This returns an array of values like:

```
$data = $node->get('field_event_ref')->getValue();

$result0 = $data[0]['value'];
$result1 = $data[1]['value'];
```

So to update one of them, I want to do something like this: `$data[1]['value']='flour';`.

e.g. I load up the current values, fill in the 6th `[5]` item and save them. This preserves the existing values in positions `[0]` through `[4]`.

```
$values = $node->get('field_voting_status')->getValue();
$values[5]['value'] = 'incomplete';
$node->set('field_srp_voting_status', $values);
$node->save();
```

## Function to read and write multivalue fields

Here is a function which reads and writes multivalue fields safely. You pass it the `$node->field_name`, the index (vote\_number) etc. and then it builds and returns an array formatted for updating the field data. It can also update the array if you pass in a value.

It could probably be genericized further.



```

public static function getMultivalueFieldArrayOfValues($values_field_data, $vote_number = 0, $new_value = NULL, $field_type = 'value', $default_value = NULL) {
    $values_array = [];
    foreach($values_field_data as $data) {
        $values_array[] = [
            $field_type => $data->value,
        ];
    }
    if(!is_null($new_value)) {
        //CHECK FOR PREVIOUS VALUES. IF THEY DO NOT EXIST SET TO NEW VALUE
        for($i=0; $i<=$vote_number; $i++) {
            if(!isset($values_array[$i])) {
                if(!is_null($default_value)) {
                    $values_array[$i] = $default_value;
                }
                else {
                    $values_array[$i] = $new_value;
                }
            }
        }
        if(isset($values_array[$vote_number])) {
            $values_array[$vote_number] = [$field_type => $new_value];
        }
        else {
            $values_array[] = [$field_type => $new_value];
        }
    }
    return $values_array;
}

```

Example of using the above function for reading data and then writing the data without using it:

```

// Retrieve current field values for correlation narrative/activity status fields

$activity_status = 'accepted';
$activity_statuses = $node->field_activity_status;
$activity_status_values = self::getMultivalueFieldArrayOfValues($activity_statuses);
$activity_status_values[0]['value'] = $activity_status;

$narrative_status = 'accepted';
$narrative_statuses = $node->field_narrative_status;
$narrative_status_values = self::getMultivalueFieldArrayOfValues($narrative_statuses);
$narrative_status_values[0]['value'] = $narrative_status;

$node->set('field_narrative_status', $narrative_status_values);
$node->set('field_activity_status', $activity_status_values);
$node->save();

```

## Save multivalue field, entity reference field

When you really care which delta/index/offset, you can specify that offset. It's a bit confusing how exactly it works. For text or numeric fields, it works like you'd expect. You can just specify the offset. For entity reference fields, you have to do some fiddling. Don't use `$node->set()` as this overwrites everything in the field, rather use the magic field setter variable and specify the offset.

Here `$vote_number` represents the index so if `$vote_number = 0`, this write the first item in the multivalue field. If `$vote_number = 1`, then write the second item, and so on.

```

$citation_node->field_srp_voting_status[$vote_number] = 'incomplete';

```

Be cautions, you might think this would work but it *doesn't*

```
$program_node->set('field_srp_team_ref', [$vote_number => 1234;
```

If you are going to write index 2 and there is a possibility that there isn't an index 0 and 1, you need something like this (in `protected function correlationSanityCheckFix(Node $correlation_node)`):

```
$narrative_status = "";

if (!is_null($correlation_node->get('field_narrative_status')[$vote_number])) {
    $narrative_status = $correlation_node->get('field_narrative_status')[$vote_number]->value;
}

if (empty($narrative_status)) {
    // Grab all the statuses and add mine.
    $statuses = $correlation_node->get('field_narrative_status');
    $new_statuses = [];
    foreach ($statuses as $status) {
        $new_statuses[] = $status->value;
    }
    $new_statuses[$vote_number] = 'incomplete';
    $correlation_node->set('field_narrative_status', $new_statuses);
    $save_correlation = TRUE;
}
```

## Update a multivalue entity reference fields

When writing multivalue entity reference fields, you have to load up the previous values, build an array of `target_ids` (node ids) and then write them all in one pass with a `$node->set()` method.

```
$teams = $new_program_node->get('field_srp_team_ref');
$new_teams = [];
foreach ($teams as $team) {
    $new_teams[] = $team->target_id;
}

$new_teams[$new_program_vote_number] = $team_id;
$new_program_node->set('field_srp_team_ref', $new_teams);
```

## Generic Multivalue field writer

Here is a generic function that knows how to write values in a “sane” way.

```
/**
 * Smart multi value field setter.
 *
 * Example calls:
 *
 * Set the index 2 to incomplete, keep old values:
 * smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_srp_voting_status', 'incomplete', 2);
 *
 * Set the index 1 to incomplete, overwrite the old values to 'placeholder'
 * smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_srp_voting_status', 'incomplete', 1, 'placeholder', TRUE);
 *
 * @param \Drupal\node\Entity\Node $node
 *   Node.
 * @param string $field_name
 *   Field name.
 * @param string $value
 *   Value to be put in $node->field[$index]->value.
 * @param int $index
```

```

* The delta i.e. $node->field($index]
* @param string $default_value
* The default values that will be written into the previous indexes.
* @param bool $overwrite_old_values
* TRUE to ignore previous index values and overwrite them with $default_value.
*/

public static function smartMultiValueFieldSetter(Node $node, string $field_name, string $value, int $index, string $default_value="", bool $overwrite_old_values=FALSE) {
    $old_values = $node->get($field_name)->getValue();

    // Grab old values and put them into $new_values array.

    $field_type = $node->get($field_name)->getFieldDefinition()->getType();
    if ($field_type == 'entity_reference') {
        foreach ($old_values as $key=>$old_value) {
            $new_values[$key] = $old_values[$key];
        }
    }
    else {
        $new_values = [];
        foreach ($old_values as $old_value) {
            $new_values[["value"]] = $old_value["value"];
        }
    }

    // Ignore what was in the old values and put my new default value in.
    if ($overwrite_old_values) {
        for ($i = 0; $i < $index; $i++) {
            $new_values[$i] = $default_value;
        }
    }

    // Pad missing items.
    for ($i = 0; $i < $index; $i++) {
        if (!isset($new_values[$i])) {
            if ($field_type == 'entity_reference') {
                $new_values[$i] = $default_value;
            }
            else {
                $new_values[$i]["value"] = $default_value;
            }
        }
    }

    if ($field_type == 'entity_reference') {
        $new_values[$index]["target_id"] = $value;
    }
    else {
        $new_values[$index]["value"] = $value;
    }

    // Trim off extras from testing.
    // TODO: this isn't trimming correctly for entity ref fields.
    if (count($new_values) > ($index+1)) {
        $chunk = array_chunk($new_values, $index+1);
        $new_values = $chunk[0];
    }

    $node->set($field_name, $new_values);
}

```

Here is an example of using the above function to write values to the `field_condiment` which is a multivalue text field.

```
$node = Node::load(35);

// Write to index 0, 1, 2.
self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_condiment', 'ketchup', 0);
self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_condiment', 'mayo', 1);
self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_condiment', 'mustard', 2);
$node->save();

// Write into index position 2 and pad the previous values with "dummy".
self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_condiment', 'mustard', 2, 'dummy', TRUE);
$node->save();

// Write into index position 1 and pad position 0 with "dummy", and remove the contents of index 2.
self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_condiment', 'ketchup', 1, 'dummy', TRUE);
$node->save();
```

Here is a complete function from the controller `GeneralController.php`. There are a wide variety of calls to `smartMultiValueFieldSetter()` showing it's use with multivalue text and entity-reference fields (including a taxonomy field):

```
public function multiTest() {

    $str = '<h2>Results</h2>';

    $node = Node::load(35);

    // Write to index 0, 1, 2.
    self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_condiment', 'ketchup', 0);
    self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_condiment', 'mayo', 1);
    self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_condiment', 'mustard', 2);
    //$node->save();

    $field_name = 'field_condiment';
    $field_type = $node->get($field_name)->getFieldDefinition()->getType();

    $contents = $node->get($field_name)->getValue();
    $str .= "<br/><strong>Field:</strong> " . $field_name;
    $str .= ", type: " . $field_type;
    $str .= "<br/><strong>Values: </strong>";
    foreach ($contents as $item) {
        $str .= $item['value'] . ', ';
    }

    self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_condiment', 'mustard', 2, 'dummy', TRUE);
    $contents = $node->get($field_name)->getValue();
    $str .= "<br/><strong>Values: </strong>";
    foreach ($contents as $item) {
        $str .= $item['value'] . ', ';
    }

    self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, 'field_condiment', 'ketchup', 1, 'dummy', TRUE);
    $contents = $node->get($field_name)->getValue();
    $str .= "<br/><strong>Values: </strong>";
    foreach ($contents as $item) {
        $str .= $item['value'] . ', ';
    }
}
```

```

$field_name = 'field_event';
$field_type = $node->get($field_name)->getFieldDefinition()->getType();
$content = $node->get($field_name)->getValue();
//kint($content);

$str .= "<br/><strong>Field:</strong> " . $field_name;
$str .= ", type: " . $field_type;
$str .= "<br/><strong>Values: </strong>";
foreach ($content as $item) {
    $str .= $item['target_id'] . ', ';
}

// 17, 18
//14, 18, 19
self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, $field_name, 14, 0);
self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, $field_name, 18, 1);
self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, $field_name, 19, 2);
$content = $node->get($field_name)->getValue();
$str .= "<br/><strong>Values: </strong>";
foreach ($content as $item) {
    $str .= $item['target_id'] . ', ';
}

$field_name = 'field_category';
$field_type = $node->get($field_name)->getFieldDefinition()->getType();
$content = $node->get($field_name)->getValue();
//kint($content);

$str .= "<br/><strong>Field:</strong> " . $field_name;
$str .= ", type: " . $field_type;
$str .= "<br/><strong>Values: </strong>";
foreach ($content as $item) {
    $str .= $item['target_id'] . ', ';
}

// 3, 2, 1
// 1, 2, 3.
self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, $field_name, 1, 0);
self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, $field_name, 2, 1);
self::smartMultiValueFieldSetter($node, $field_name, 3, 2);
$content = $node->get($field_name)->getValue();
//kint($content);

$str .= "<br/><strong>Values: </strong>";
foreach ($content as $item) {
    $str .= $item['target_id'] . ', ';
}

// Multivalue Text Field.
$field_name = 'field_condiment';
// Returns FieldItemList.
$data = $node->get($field_name);
$data = $node->field_condiment;
// Returns simple array.
$data = $node->get($field_name)->getValue();
$data = $node->field_condiment->getValue();

// Multivalue entity reference field.
$field_name = 'field_event';
$data = $node->get($field_name)->getValue();
$data = $node->field_event;

```

```

// Multivalue taxonomy entity reference field.

$field_name = 'field_category';

$data = $node->get($field_name)->getValue();

// Yes, you can use a variable for a magic field getter!

$data = $node->$field_name;

// Loop thru results.

$items = $node->field_condiment;

foreach ($items as $item) {

    $x = $item->value;

}

// get array of results.

$condiments = $node->get('field_condiment');

$vote_number = 1;

if (isset($condiments[$vote_number])) {

    $result = $condiments[$vote_number]->value;

}

$result = $node->get('field_condiment')[0]->value;
$result = $node->get('field_condiment')[5]->value;
if (isset($node->get('field_condiment')[2]->value)) {
    $result = $node->get('field_condiment')[2]->value;
}

$render_array['content'] = [

    '#type' => 'item',

    '#markup' => $str,

];

return $render_array;

}

```

## Does this field exist in my entity?

To check if a field exists in a node.

```

$entity->hasField('abc');

```

e.g. Here we load a field `field_library_media` from a node, grab it's target id (which we happen to know is a media entity.). We load the media entity and check if there is a field called `field_media_document`. This rather convoluted example is used to get the file size of the file in the media field.

```

use Drupal\media\Entity\Media;
use Drupal\file\Entity\File;

$media_id = $node->field_library_media->target_id;
if ($media_id) {
    $media_item = Media::load($media_id);
    // Get the file.
    if ($media_item->hasField('field_media_document')) {
        $file_id = $media_item->field_media_document->getValue()[0]['target_id'];
    }
    if (isset($file_id)) {
        $file = File::load($file_id);
        if ($file) {
            // Get file size.
            $file_size = format_size($file->getSize());
            // Set file size variable.
            $variables['file_size'] = $file_size;
        }
    }
}

```

## Get URL for an image or file in a media reference field

```

$node = Node::load($nid);
if ($node) {
    $id = $node->field_banner_image->target_id;
    $media = Media::load($id);
    //Not always correct
    //$fid = $media->field_media_image->target_id;
    //Better way:
    $fid = $media->getSource()->getSourceFieldValue($media);
    $file = File::load($fid);
    if ($file) {
        $uri = $file->getFileUri(); //uri e.g. public://2020-12/atom.jpg

        $media_url = file_create_url($uri); //Full URL of uploaded image.
        //E.g. https://dir.ddev.site/sites/default/files/2020-12/atom.jpg
    }
    \Drupal::messenger()->addMessage("field_banner image url is $media_url");
    $variables['program_area_banner_image_url'] = $media_url;
}

```

You can get relative or absolute paths using one of these

```

$file = File::load($fid);
if ($file) {
    $uri = $file->getFileUri(); //returns drupal filename e.g. public://2020-12/atom.jpg

    $file_url = file_create_url($uri); //returns absolute file url e.g. https://...file.jpg

    //also
    $absolute_file_url = $file->createFileUrl(FALSE); //returns absolute file path (url)

    $relative_file_url = $file->createFileUrl(TRUE); //returns relative file path (url)
}

```

## Retrieve info about a file field

Here we have a file field called `field_materials_file` that we loaded from a paragraph. Looking in `core/modules/file/src/Entity/File.php` we can see a series

of useful functions like `getFileName()`, `getFileUri()`, `getSize()`, `getCreateTime()`. To use these, we have to append `->entity` after the field as shown below

```
$file = $para->field_materials_file;
$filename = $file->entity->getFileName();
$uri = $file->entity->getFileUri();
```

Since `File` is an entity, we can also look in `EntityBase.php` to find more useful functions like `id()`, `label()`, `bundle()`.

## Retrieve a link field

Here we have a link field: `field_link` which we load and get a valid uri from it using:

```
$link = $para->field_link;
$link_uri = $para->field_link->uri;
```

Or

```
$current_url = $correction->get('field_link')->uri;
```

Or

In a `.module` file, `first()` returns a `Drupal\link\Plugin\Field\LinkItem`

```
if ($sf_contract) {
  $vendor_url = $sf_contract->field_vendor_url->first();
  if ($vendor_url) {
    // this works too: $vendor_url = $vendor_url->uri;
    $vendor_url = $vendor_url->getUrl(); // returns a Drupal\Core\Url.
    $vendor_url = $vendor_url->toString();
    _add_single_metatag("vendor_url", $vendor_url, $variables);
  }
}
```

Leaving off the `->first()` (like this) returns a `Drupal\Core\Field\FieldItemList` which is a list of fields so you then would have to pull out the first field and extract the uri out of that.

```
$vendor_url = $sf_contract->field_vendor_url;
```

## Does this field exist in my entity?

```
$entity->hasField('abc');
```

e.g. Here we load a field `field_library_media` from a node, grab it's target id (which we happen to know is a media entity.). We load the media entity and check if there is a field called `field_media_document`. This rather convoluted example is used to get the file size of the file in the media field.



```

$media_id = $node->field_library_media->target_id;
if ($media_id) {
    $media_item = Media::load($media_id);
    // Get the file.
    if ($media_item->hasField('field_media_document')) {
        $file_id = $media_item->field_media_document->getValue()[0]['target_id'];
    }
    if (isset($file_id)) {
        $file = File::load($file_id);
        if ($file) {
            // Get file size.
            $file_size = format_size($file->getSize());
            // Set file size variable.
            $variables['file_size'] = $file_size;
        }
    }
}

```

## Create a node and write it to the database

```

use \Drupal\node\Entity\Node;
// Create node object.
$node = Node::create([
    'type'    => 'article',
    'title'   => 'Druplicon test',
]);
$node->save();

```

## Create a node with an image

```

use \Drupal\node\Entity\Node;
use \Drupal\file\Entity\File;

// Create file object from remote URL.
$data = file_get_contents('https://www.drupal.org/files/druplicon.small_.png');
$file = file_save_data($data, 'public://druplicon.png', FILE_EXISTS_REPLACE);

// Create node object with attached file.
$node = Node::create([
    'type'    => 'article',
    'title'   => 'Druplicon test',
    'field_image' => [
        'target_id' => $file->id(),
        'alt' => 'Hello world',
        'title' => 'Goodbye world'
    ],
]);
$node->save();

```

## Write a node with an attached file

```

use \Drupal\node\Entity\Node;
use \Drupal\file\Entity\File;

// Create file object from remote URL.
$data = file_get_contents('https://www.drupal.org/files/druplicon.small_.png');
$file = file_save_data($data, 'public://druplicon.png', FILE_EXISTS_REPLACE);

// Create node object with attached file.
$node = Node::create([
  'type'      => 'article',
  'title'     => 'Druplicon test',
  'field_image' => [
    'target_id' => $file->id(),
    'alt'       => 'Hello world',
    'title'     => 'Goodbye world'
  ],
]);
$node->save();

```

To populate the fields of an entity you can either use the `$entity->set($key, $value)` method on the entity object or pass a `key=>value` array to the entity constructor. As such:

```

$foo = new Foo([
  'name' => 'bar',
  'baz' => TRUE,
  'multi_value' => [
    'first',
    'second',
    'third',
  ]
]);

```

## Write a date or datetime to a node

note the `[]` array stuff is optional

```

//DateTime:
$dateTime = \DateTime::createFromFormat("Y-m-d", '2000-01-30');
$newDateTimeString = $dateTime->format("Y-m-d\TH:i:s");

// Create node object
$node = Node::create([
  'type'      => 'workshop',
  'title'     => 'selwyn test' . (string) random_int(1,200),
  'field_workshop_start_date' => ['2017-12-05'], //date only
  'field_workshop_end_date' => [$newDateTimeString], //DateTime
]);

```

## Or just a date (no time)

```

$dateTime = \DateTime::createFromFormat("Y-m-d", '2000-01-30');
$newDateString = $dateTime->format("Y-m-d");
...
'field_workshop_other_date' => [$newDateString],

```

## Set field values

```
$node->set('field_tks_subchapter', $subchapterFullStatement);  
$node->set('field_tks_standard_type', "TEKS");  
$node->save();
```

And the shortened version (from <https://gorannikolovski.com/blog/various-ways-updating-field-values-drupal-8-and-9> )

```
$node->field_tks_subchapter = $subchapterFullStatement;  
$node->field_tks_standard_type = "TEKS";  
$node->save();
```

Also

```
$node->field_tks_subchapter->value = $subchapterFullStatement;  
$node->field_tks_standard_type->value = "TEKS";  
$node->save();
```

## Set an entity reference field

```
//That is the node id.  
$node->field_name->target_id = 123;  
  
// You can assign an entity object.  
$entity->set('field_name', $another_entity);  
  
$node->field_tks_standard_type->value = "TEKS";  
$node->save();
```

## Set multivalue fields (regular and entity reference)

```
//The multivalue fields are no different. You just have to use arrays. So, instead of this:  
$entity->field_name_multi->value = ['foo', 'bar', 'baz'];  
$entity->field_name_multi->target_id = [1, 2, 3]  
$entity->field_name_multi->target_id = [$another_entity1, $another_entity2, $another_entity3]  
  
// You can use this:  
  
$entity->field_name_multi = ['foo', 'bar', 'baz'];  
$entity->field_name_multi = [1, 2, 3]  
$entity->field_name_multi = [$another_entity1, $another_entity2, $another_entity3]
```

Also if you just want to update a specific one, specify the delta like this

```
$expectation_node->set('field_name_multi', [0 => 'foo']);  
$expectation_node->set('field_name_multi', [1 => 'bar']);
```

Or with variables...

```
$expectation_node->set('field_srp_teacher_voting_status', [$current_vote_number => $voting_status]);
```

## Clear a text field

Single text field

```
$node->set('field_subtitle', NULL);
```

## Set or clear a body field

```
$node->set('body', [
  'summary' => $summary,
  'value' => $body,
  'format' => 'links_bullets_headings_and_images',
]);
```

To empty a body field, use this:

```
$this_node->body[$this_node->language] = [];
```

## Load a node and retrieve an entity reference node and nid (target\_id)

```
$node_storage = \Drupal::entityTypeManager()->getStorage('node');
$node = $node_storage->load($nid);
//Same
$ref_nid = $node->get('field_sf_contract_ref')->target_id;
//or
$ref_nid = $node->field_sf_contract_ref->target_id;
```

## Load a multivalue reference field.

Here node 35 has a field\_event (multivalue entity reference field) with several values. This code shows how to retrieve the first one, get it's nid and it's title:

```
$node = Node::load(35);
// Get an array of nodes.
$node_array = $node->get('field_event')->referencedEntities();
// Pop one off with reset.
$ref_node = reset($node_array);
$nid = $ref_node->id();
$title = $ref_node->getTitle();
```

As \$ref\_node is a node object, you retrieve any field value with get() e.g. \$val = \$ref\_node->get('field\_status')->value;

You can also loop thru the referenced entities with:

```
foreach ($node_array as $node) {
  $nid = $node->id();
}
```

## Entity reference nodes and their fields

You can look at the referenced node's fields but you have to be aware of how you set the display mode.

```
foreach ($node->field_my_entity_reference as $reference) {

  // if you chose "Entity ID" as the display mode for the entity reference field,
  // the target_id is the ONLY value you will have access to
  echo $reference->target_id; // 1 (a node's nid)

  // if you chose "Rendered Entity" as the display mode, you'll be able to
  // access the rest of the node's data.
  echo $reference->entity->title->value; // "Moby Dick"
}
```

Often, you've just loaded the node with Node::load() so you have a node object and refer to reference fields like:

```
$vendor_url = $node->field_sf_contract_ref->entity->field_vendor_url->value;
```

## Load the taxonomy terms from a term reference field

The `referencedEntities` returns an array of term objects, so no need to `load()` them separately.

```
if ($node) {  
    $topics = $node->get('field_ref_tax')->referencedEntities();  
    foreach ($topics as $topic) {  
        $term_name = $topic->getName();  
    }  
}
```

## Load a node and find the terms referenced in a paragraph in a term reference field

Here we loop thru all the instances of my paragraph reference and grab the term in the paragraph.

```
foreach ($node->get('field_my_para')->referencedEntities() as $ent){  
    $term = $ent->$field_in_paragraph->entity;  
    $name = $term->getName();  
    print_r($name);  
}
```

## Retrieve a URL field

### External links

You can get the URL (for external links) and then just the text part. Note this doesn't work for internal links. Note also this slightly convoluted example has a reference field `field_sf_contract_ref` which has a link to another entity and the `field_vendor_url->first()->getUrl()` is the important part. Also note, this is a single-value field (not a multivalue field – so the `first()` call is a little disturbing)

```
$vendor_url = $node->field_sf_contract_ref->entity->field_vendor_url->first()->getUrl();  
if ($vendor_url) {  
    $vendor_url = $vendor_url->getUri();  
    //OR  
    $vendor_url = $vendor_url->toString();  
}
```

A slightly simpler example from `modules/custom/tea_teks/modules/tea_teks_srp/src/Form/SrpAddEditCitationForm.php`

```
$citation_link = $citation->get('field_link');  
if (!$citation_link->isEmpty()) {  
    $citation_link = $citation->field_link->first()->getUrl()->toString();  
}
```

### Internal links

For internal links, use `getUrl()` for the URL and `->title` for the title.

```

$instructions_node = Node::load($order_type_instructions_nid);
if ($instructions_node) {
  $order_link = $instructions_node->field_link->first();
  if ($order_link) {
    $uri = $order_link->uri;
    $variables['order_link_title'] = $order_link->title;
    $order_url = $order_link->getUrl();
    if ($order_url) {
      $variables['order_type_link'] = $order_url;
    }
  }
}

```

## Load a node and retrieve a paragraph field

Because paragraphs and nodes are both entities, the pattern is the same. You load the entity (node or paragraph) and then simply reference the field name e.g. myentity->field\_blah

From /Users/selwyn/Sites/inside-mathematics/themes/custom/danaprime/danaprime.theme

These are a little different from regular fields. Generally you want to get their target\_id which will tell you the pid or paragraph id. Here are two different ways to load a video\_collection\_node and go to retrieve a field field\_related\_lessons which holds paragraphs of type related\_lessons

```

$video_collection_node = Node::load($video_collection_nid);

//This gives you a bunch of \Drupal\entity_reference_revisions\EntityReferenceRevisionsFieldItemList items
$lessons = $video_collection_node->field_related_lessons;

//or
$lessons = $video_collection_node->get('field_related_lessons');

foreach ($lessons as $lesson) {
  $paragraph_revision_ids[] = $lesson->target_revision_id;
}

```

Paragraphs use the contributed Entity Reference Revisions module to reference paragraphs and it is very important to use the `target\_revision\_id` property when referencing paragraphs. Alternatively, the `entity` computed property can be used to retrieve the paragraph entity itself.

OR

```

//This gives you an array of arrays [['target_id' => '348','target_revision_id' => '348'],['target_id' => '349','target_revision_id' => '349'] ]
$lessons = $video_collection_node->get('field_related_lessons')->getValue();
foreach ($lessons as $lesson) {
  $paragraph_revision_ids[] = $lesson['target_revision_id'];
}

```

Collecting them like this is only an example, while the `loadMultiple` method exists on entity storage objects, there is no `loadMultipleRevisions` method.

EH!

```

// This gives you null! - don't do this.
$lessons = $video_collection_node->get('field_related_lessons')->value;

```

Note. getValue() here will get you the nid buried in a result array of arrays like result[0]['target\_revision\_id'] - quicker to just grab ->target\_revision\_id

```
## Load a node and grab a paragraph field to find the nid in an entity reference field
```

From

/Users/selwyn/Sites/inside-mathematics/themes/custom/danaprime/danaprime.theme -

Continuing from above, I load a node, grab it's field

`field\_related\_lessons` which holds paragraphs of type `related\_lessons`

and grab it's field `field\_lesson.` That field has a target\_id which is

the nid for the entity reference field. Phew!

```
```php
```

```
//Grab the related lessons from the collection.
```

```
$video_collection_node = Node::load($video_collection_nid);
```

```
$lessons = $video_collection_node->field_related_lessons;
```

```
$storage = \Drupal::entityTypeManager()->getStorage('paragraph');
```

```
foreach ($lessons as $lesson) {
```

```
    //Load each paragraph and get the nids from them.
```

```
    $paragraph = $lesson->entity;
```

```
    $related_lessons_nid = $paragraph->field_lesson->target_id;
```

```
    $related_lessons_nids[] = $related_lessons_nid;
```

```
}
```

```
//This should have an array of nids for video_details.
```

```
$variables['related_lessons_pids'] = $pids;
```

```
$variables['related_lessons_nids'] = $related_lessons_nids;
```

## How to get Node URL alias or Taxonomy Alias by Node id or Term ID

Drupal 8 uses `url` objects to easily generate and manipulate paths. The easiest way is to load the entity and convert it to a URL object:

```
$node = Node::load(1234)
```

```
$url_object = $node->toUrl();
```

This now can be converted to a string

```
$href = $url_object->toString();
```

If an absolute URL is needed, that's easy too:

```
$href = $url_object->setAbsolute()->toString();
```

This will return a path in the form `node/123`

```
$current_path = \Drupal::service('path.current')->getPath();
```

## How to set a URL Alias

Since Drupal 9, url aliases are entities so:

From: /Users/selwyn/Sites/dir/web/modules/custom/dir/dir.module

```

$node_path = "/node/$nid";

$new_url = $parent_url_alias . $url_alias;

/** @var \Drupal\path_alias\PathAliasInterface $path_alias */
$path_alias = \Drupal::entityTypeManager()->getStorage('path_alias')->create([
  'path' => $node_path,
  'alias' => $new_url,
  'langcode' => 'en',
]);

$path_alias->save();

```

## Get a node's menu item and more

Here we get the current route's menu item using it's nid, reset the link off the array and we can extract the URL and other exciting things. Mostly you want to check its children, parents etc. Here we grab it's URL..

```

/** @var \Drupal\Core\Menu\MenuLinkManagerInterface $menu_link_manager */
$menu_link_manager = \Drupal::service('plugin.manager.menu.link');

$links = $menu_link_manager->loadLinksByRoute('entity.node.canonical', ['node' => $nid]);

$link = reset($links);

$url_object = $link->getUrlObject();

$url_string = $url_object->toString();

$x = $link->getParent(); //get the parent menu item GUID.

$y = $link->getTitle(); // get the title of the menu item.

$menu_name = $link->getMenuName(); // get the menu name e.g. "main"

```

## Find a node using it's uuid

```

/**
 * Tries to get node for given uuid if it exists.
 *
 * @param string $uuid
 *   UUID to search for existing node.
 *
 * @return \Drupal\Core\Entity\EntityInterface[]|null
 *   Node object or NULL.
 *
 * @throws \Drupal\Component\Plugin\Exception\InvalidPluginDefinitionException
 * @throws \Drupal\Component\Plugin\Exception\PluginNotFoundException
 */
public function getExistingUpdateNode(string $uuid) {
  try {
    $existing_node = \Drupal::entityTypeManager()
      ->getStorage('node')
      ->loadByProperties(['uuid' => $uuid]);
    return $existing_node;
  } catch (RequestException $e) {
    watchdog_exception('ncs_infoconnect', $e);
    return NULL;
  }
}

```

## Retrieve Node ID(NID) or Taxonomy term ID from a Drupal alias or path

If alias-path does not exist, it will return the same argumented string.

The first example will work for the node, second for the taxonomy and third for the users. For Drupal 8.8.0 and later use



## path\_alias.manager

```
//Node
$path = \Drupal::service('path.alias.manager')->getPathByAlias('/alias-path');
if (preg_match('/node\/(d+)/', $path, $matches))
    $nodeID = $matches[1];

//Taxonomy term
$path = \Drupal::service('path.alias.manager')->getPathByAlias('/alias-path');
if (preg_match('/taxonomy\/term\/(d+)/', $path, $matches))
{
    $termID = $matches[1];
}

//User
$path = \Drupal::service('path.alias.manager')->getPathByAlias('/alias-path');
if (preg_match('/user\/(d+)/', $path, $matches))
{
    $userID = $matches[1];
}
```

## Retrieve all nodes with a matching taxonomy term

```
$nodes = \Drupal::entityTypeManager()->getStorage('node')->loadByProperties([
    'field_tags' => $term_id,
]);
```

*## Load first 5 nodes that have a matching taxonomy term*

```
`` php
protected function loadFirstOpinion($term_id) {
    $storage = \Drupal::entityTypeManager()->getStorage('node');
    $query = \Drupal::entityQuery('node')
        ->condition('status', 1)
        ->condition('type', 'opinion')
        ->condition('field_category', $term_id, '=')
        ->range(0, 5);
    $nids = $query->execute();
    $nodes = $storage->loadMultiple($nids);

    $ra = [];
    foreach ($nodes as $node) {
        $ra[] = [
            '#type' => 'markup',
            '#markup' => '<p>' . $node->getTitle(),
        ];
    }
    return $ra;
}
```

## How to uncache a particular page or node

This will cause Drupal to rebuild the page internally, but won't stop browsers or CDN's from caching.

```
\Drupal::service('page_cache_kill_switch')->trigger();
```

You can use this statement in `node_preprocess`, controller, etc.

You will need a custom module to implement setting max-age to 0 like this. In a `.module` file:

```

use Drupal\Core\Entity\EntityInterface;
use Drupal\Core\Entity\Display\EntityViewDisplayInterface;

function drt_node_view_alter(array &$build, EntityInterface $entity, EntityViewDisplayInterface $display) {
  $bundle = $entity->bundle();
  if ($bundle == 'search_home') {
    $build['#cache']['max-age'] = 0;
    \Drupal::service('page_cache_kill_switch')->trigger();
  }
}

```

Note. The above custom module is called drt. You would use your own module name instead of drt when naming the function.

## Get boolean Field

Boolean fields show up as 0 or 1 so a simple test using if \$val will return true for yes/on and false for no/off.

```

$val = $contract_node->field_erate_certification->value;
if ($val) {
  $erate_certification = "Yes";
}

```

## Date Field

Date fields in Drupal are stored in UTC date strings. When you load them, you have some options. Probably grabbing the field->date is the best so you can use all the goodness of the DrupalDateTime class. If you need to do calculations involving unix timestamps, then ->getTimestamp() is useful although DrupalDateTime can do all kinds of calculations too.

```

$end_date = $contract_node->field_contract_end_date->value;
$end_date = $contract_node->field_contract_end_date->date->getTimestamp();
$end_date = $contract_node->field_contract_end_date->date;
$formatted_date = $end_date->format('m/d/y');

field_contract_end_date ->value; //returns whatever the string is e.g. 2024-08-31
field_contract_end_date->date->getTimestamp(); // returns unix timestamp e.g. 1725105600
field_contract_end_date->date; // returns a DrupalDateTime object with all it's goodness

$formatted_date = $end_date->format('m/d/y'); //Format the date nicely for output

```

From <https://drupal.stackexchange.com/questions/252333/how-to-get-formatted-date-string-from-a-datetimeitem-object>

A date field has two properties,

- value to store the date in UTC and
- date, a computed field returning a DrupalDateTime object, on which you can use the methods getTimestamp() or format():

```

// get unix timestamp
$timestamp = $node->field_date->date->getTimestamp();

// get a formatted date
$date_formatted = $node->field_date->date->format("Y-m-d H:i:s");

```

## Date Fields

See also Queries: “Query the creation date (among other things) using entityQuery”

These are stored in the Drupal database as varchar 20 strings.

```

$d = date("m/d/Y",$timestamp);

```

printing this date will return: 08/16/2018

From <https://www.drupal.org/node/1834108>

There is a `DrupalDateTime` object which is used like this:

```
$date = DrupalDateTime::createFromDateTime($datetime);
$date = DrupalDateTime::createFromArray($array);
$date = DrupalDateTime::createFromTimestamp($timestamp);
$date = DrupalDateTime::createFromFormat($format, $time);
```

e.g. to create a `DrupalDateTime`

```
$format = 'Y-m-d H:i';
$start_date = DrupalDateTime::createFromFormat($format, '2019-01-01 00:00');
```

In the database the created and changed fields use a unix timestamp. e.g look in `node_field_revision`

This is an int 11 field in the db with a value like 1525302749 (Note. Negative values are dates before 1970 or epoch which require some slightly special magic)

If you add a Date field to a content type, it's data looks like 2019-05-15T21:32:00 (varchar 20)

See the next item below for how to query the created and changed fields and also the fun you have to go through to query date fields.

When writing Drupal dates to the database, you need to go thru some machinations. Here are some details explain the timezone.

```
$date_string = "2020-08-24T15:28:04+00:00";
$tz = \Drupal::currentUser()->getTimezone();
// specify timezone as "America/Chicago"
$given = new \Drupal\Core\DateTime\DrupalDateTime($date_string, $tz);
// specify timezone as "UTC"
$given = new \Drupal\Core\DateTime\DrupalDateTime($date_string, "UTC");
// specify UTC as the timezone
$given->setTimezone(new \DateTimeZone("UTC"));
// The date string appears adjusted to UTC
$newstring = $given->format("Y-m-d\Th:i:s");
```

## Date Range Field doesn't display correct timezone

If you use a date range field in your content type and try to display the time part in a template, Drupal will cleverly display the UTC version (*not* your current timezone version) so the time will be off by potentially ~6 hours.

Using the field `field_event_date`, here is the twig template code to display the date. You'd expect it to show the correct timezone

```
{{ node.field_event_date.0.value|date('g:ia') }} - {{ node.field_event_date.0.end_value|date('g:ia') }}
```

If you simply used `{{ content }}` all fields are displayed correctly – timezone is correct.

If you use `{{ content.field_date_start }}` – timezone show correctly also

But I want to grab the time only to display separately from the date and put this in the twig template:

```
{{ node.field_date_start.value|date("g:ia") }}
```

It fails.

From

The solution is to create a variable in the `template_preprocess_node`. Append 'UTC' to the datetime string and make a timestamp so you get the UTC time (which matches what is in the Drupal DB.). Grab the user's timezone for conversion purposes. Use the `Drupal.date.formatter` service to format a timestamp (using the timezone) and you are good to go.

```

function txglobal_preprocess_node(&$variables) {
  ..

  if ( ($node_type == 'event') ) {

    $node = $variables['node'];
    $timezone = drupal_get_user_timezone();
    $formatter = \Drupal::service('date.formatter');

    $dates = $node->get('field_event_date')->getValue();

    $date_start = $dates[0]['value'];
    $time = strtotime($date_start.' UTC');
    $start_time = $formatter->format($time, 'custom', 'g:ia', $timezone);
    //   $start_time = date("g:ia", $time);

    $date_end = $dates[0]['end_value'];
    $time = strtotime($date_end.' UTC');
    $end_time = $formatter->format($time, 'custom', 'g:ia', $timezone);

    //   $date_start = new DateTime($date_start);
    //   $timestamp_start = $date_start->getTimestamp();
    //   $start_time = $formatter->format($timestamp_start, 'custom', 'g:ia', $timezone);
    //   $end_time = $formatter->format($date_end, 'custom', 'g:ia', $timezone);

    $variables['start_time'] = $start_time;
    $variables['end_time'] = $end_time;
  }
}

```

and then in the template, use

```
`_`
```

Interestingly, if you use the [smart\\_date module](#), you might use this version. Notice that dates are already stored as timestamps so you don't have to first convert them.

```

if ( $node_type == 'event' && $view_mode == 'default' ) {
  $timezone = drupal_get_user_timezone();
  $formatter = \Drupal::service('date.formatter');

  $d = $node->get('field_smart_event_date')->getValue();
  $d0s = $d[0]['value']; //first date start time
  $d0e = $d[0]['end_value']; //first date end time
  $start_time = $formatter->format($d0s, 'custom', 'g:ia');
  $end_time = $formatter->format($d0e, 'custom', 'g:ia', $timezone);
  $variables['start_time'] = $start_time;
  $variables['end_time'] = $end_time;
}

```

## Date Range

```

// formatted start date
$start_date_formatted = $node->field_date->start_date->format("Y-m-d H:i:s");

// formatted end date
$end_date_formatted = $node->field_date->end_date->format("Y-m-d H:i:s");

```

## Date Range fields: Load start and end values

Start date and end date.

```
$node->get('field_cn_start_end_dates')->value
$node->get('field_cn_start_end_dates')->end_value
```

## Date Fields: Load or save them

Because date fields in Drupal are stored in strings, when you use `get()` or `set()`, they are still strings.

```
$node->get('field_cn_start_end_dates')->value

$node->set('field_cn_end_date', $end_date);
```

If you want to manipulate them, convert them to `DrupalDateTime` objects, then convert them back to strings

Creating a new `DrupalDateTime` object is done like this:

```
use Drupal\Core\Datetime\DrupalDateTime;

$date = DrupalDateTime::createFromFormat('j-M-Y', '20-Jul-2019');

$date = new DrupalDateTime('now'); // grab current dateTime using NON static
$date->format('l, F j, Y - H:i'); // format it
// prints out nicely formatted version: Tue, Jul 16, 2019 - 11:34:am

$date = new DrupalDateTime('now'); // grab current dateTime
// Or print $date->format('d-m-Y: H:i A');
// prints out: 16-07-2019: 11:43 AM
```

How about with timezones?

```
$date = new DrupalDateTime();
$date->setTimezone(new \DateTimeZone('America/Chicago'));
print $date->format('m/d/Y g:i a');
// The above prints current time for given Timezone
// prints : 07/16/2019 10:59 am

// Another variations of the above except it takes specific date and UTC zone
$date = new DrupalDateTime('2019-07-31 11:30:00', 'UTC');
$date->setTimezone(new \DateTimeZone('America/Chicago'));
print $date->format('m/d/Y g:i a');
// prints 07/31/2019 6:30 am
```

The code below shows adding \$days (an integer) to the date value retrieved from the field: `field_cn_start_date`.

Don't forget to add the use statement.

```
use Drupal\Core\Datetime\DrupalDateTime;

$start_date_val = $node->get('field_cn_start_date')->value;
$days = intval($node->get('field_cn_suspension_length')->value) - 1;

// $end_date = DrupalDateTime::createFromFormat('Y-m-d H:i:s', $start_date_val . " 00:00:00");
$end_date = DrupalDateTime::createFromFormat('Y-m-d', $start_date_val );
$end_date->modify("+$days days");
$end_date = $end_date->format("Y-m-d");

$node->set('field_cn_end_date', $end_date);
```

## Comparing DrupalDateTime values

DrupalDateTimes are derived from DateTimePlus which are wrappers for PHP `DateTime` class. So you can use that functionality to do comparisons

```
date_default_timezone_set('Europe/London');

$d1 = new DateTime('2008-08-03 14:52:10');
$d2 = new DateTime('2008-01-03 11:11:10');
var_dump($d1 == $d2);
var_dump($d1 > $d2);
var_dump($d1 < $d2);
```

outputs:

```
bool(false)
bool(true)
bool(false)
```

## Date with embedded timezone

Here you have a date string with an embedded timezone so you can make it into a `DrupalDateTime` and then format it into a usable string you can store in the db.

```
use Drupal\Core\Datetime\DrupalDateTime;

$date_string = "2020-08-24T15:28:04+00:00";
$given = new DrupalDateTime($date_string);
$newstring = $given->format("Y-m-d\Th:i:s");
```

## Has something expired?

Checking to see if the expiration\_date has passed. The `field_expiration_date` is a standard Drupal date field in the `sf_resellers` content type.

```
$source_node = $node_storage->load($nid);

$expiration_date = $source_node->field_expiration_date->value;

// Use expiration date to un-publish expired resellers to hide them.
$status = 1;
if ($expiration_date) {
    $expirationDate = DrupalDateTime::createFromFormat("Y-m-d", $expiration_date);
    $now = new DrupalDateTime();
    if ($expiration_date < $now) {
        $status = 0;
    }
}
```

TODO: date fields are stored in UTC. Need to factor in timezone.

## Load or save Drupal Date fields

Date fields in Drupal are stored in strings

If you want to load them, just `get()`, as below and to save them, use `set`.

```
$node->get('field_cn_start_end_dates')->value

$node->set('field_cn_end_date', $end_date);
```

If you want to manipulate them, convert them to `DrupalDateTime` objects, then convert them back to strings like this. `$days` here is an int and we are adding that to the date value. Don't forget to add the use statement.

```
use Drupal\Core\Datetime\DrupalDateTime;

$start_date_val = $node->get('field_cn_start_date')->value;
$days = intval($node->get('field_cn_suspension_length')->value) - 1;

// $end_date = DrupalDateTime::createFromFormat('Y-m-d H:i:s', $start_date_val . " 00:00:00");
$end_date = DrupalDateTime::createFromFormat('Y-m-d', $start_date_val );
$end_date->modify("+$days days");
$end_date = $end_date->format("Y-m-d");

$node->set('field_cn_end_date', $end_date);
```

Here you have a slightly funny date string, you make it into a `DrupalDateTime` and then format it into a usable string you can store in the database.

```
use Drupal\Core\Datetime\DrupalDateTime;

$date_string = "2020-08-24T15:28:04+00:00";
$given = new \Drupal\Core\Datetime\DrupalDateTime($date_string);
$newstring = $given->format("Y-m-d\Th:i:s");
```

## Retrieve node creation date and format it

Here I query the database for a node and return a string version of the date. It probably makes more sense to return the date and do the formatting at the theme level. Note. This will handle epoch dates before 1970.

```
use Drupal\Core\Datetime\DrupalDateTime;

protected function loadFirstOpinionYear($term_id) {
  $storage = \Drupal::entityTypeManager()->getStorage('node');
  $query = \Drupal::entityQuery('node')
    ->condition('status', 1)
    ->condition('type', 'opinion')
    ->condition('field_category', $term_id, '=')
    ->sort('title', 'ASC') //DESC
    ->range(0, 1);
  $nids = $query->execute();
  if ($nids) {
    $node = $storage->load(reset($nids));
  }
  $time = $node->get('created')->value;

  $d = new DrupalDateTime("@$time"); //can use either this
  $d = new \DateTime("@$time");    // or this..

  $str = $d->format("Y-m-d H:i:s");
  return $str;
}
```

## Retrieve node creation or changed date and format it

Both created and changed are stored as Unix epoch timestamps the `node_field_data` table. Here I query the database for a node and return a string version of the date. Note. This will handle epoch dates before 1970.

```

use Drupal\Core\DateTime\DrupalDateTime;

protected function loadFirstOpinionYear($term_id) {
  $storage = \Drupal::entityTypeManager()->getStorage('node');
  $query = \Drupal::entityQuery('node')
    ->condition('status', 1)
    ->condition('type', 'opinion')
    ->condition('field_category', $term_id, '=')
    ->sort('title', 'ASC') //DESC

    ->range(0, 1);
  $nids = $query->execute();
  if ($nids) {
    $node = $storage->load(reset($nids));
  }
  $time = $node->get('created')->value;

  $d = new DrupalDateTime("@$time"); //can use either this
  $d = new \DateTime("@$time"); // or this..

  $str = $d->format("Y-m-d H:i:s");
  return $str;
}

```

## Date Field and Date with no time (remove time)

Use the setTime() function to remove the time part of a datetime so we can make comparisons of just the date.

```

function ogg_mods_cn_form_validate($form, FormStateInterface $form_state) {
  $start_date = $form_state->getValue('field_cn_start_date');
  if ($start_date) {
    $start_date = $start_date[0]['value'];
    $start_date->setTime(0, 0, 0);
    $now = new Drupal\Core\DateTime\DrupalDateTime();
    $now->modify("-2 days");
    $now->setTime(0, 0, 0);

    \Drupal::messenger()->addMessage("Start date = $start_date");
    \Drupal::messenger()->addMessage("Now date - 2 days = $now");

    if ($start_date < $now) {
      $form_state->setErrorByName('edit-field-cn-start-date-0-value-date', t('The starting date is more than 2 days in the past. Please select a later date'));
    }
  }
}

```

## Smart date (smart\_date) load and format

Load the smart date field and use the drupal date formatting service. Smart date fields are always stored as unix timestamp values e.g. 1608566400 which need conversion for human consumption.



```
$start = $node->field_when->value;
$formatter = \Drupal::service('date.formatter');
$start_time = $formatter->format($start, 'custom', 'm/d/Y g:ia'); //12/21/2020 10:00 am
```

Alternatively, you could load it, create a `DrupalDateTime` and then format it

```
```php
$start = $node->field_when->value;
$dt = DrupalDateTime::createFromTimestamp($start);
$start_date = $dt->format('m/d/y'); //returns 12/21/20
$start_time = $dt->format('g:ia'); // returns 10:00am
```

## Smart date (smart\_date) all-day

To check if a smart date is set to all day, check the duration. If it is 1439, that means all day.

```
$start_ts = $node->field_when->value;
$start_dt = DrupalDateTime::createFromTimestamp($start_ts);
$start_date = $start_dt->format('m/d/Y');
$duration = $node->field_when->duration; //1439 = all day
if ($duration == 1439) {
    $start_time = "all day";
}
else {
    $start_time = $start_dt->format('g:ia');
}
```

## Smart date (smart\_date) range of values

```
//Event start date.
$whens = $node->get('field_when'); //produces SmartDateFieldItemList

// Each $when is a \Drupal\smart_date\Plugin\Field\FieldType\SmartDateItem
foreach ($whens as $when) {
    $start = $when->value;
    $end = $when->end_value;
    $duration = $when->duration; //1439 = all day
    $tz = $when->timezone; //"" means default. Uses America/Chicago type format.
}
```

You can also peek into the repeating rule and repeating rule index. These are in the `smart_date_rule` table and I believe the index identifies which item is in the `instances` column.

```
$rrule = $when->rrule;
$rrule_index = $when->rrule_index;
```

## hook\_node\_presave or hook\_entity\_type\_presave

When you want to fiddle with a node as it is being saved, use `hook_node_presave()`

Note there is some good date arithmetic here

```

/**
 * Implements hook_ENTITY_TYPE_presave().
 */

function ogg_mods_node_presave(NodeInterface $node) {
  switch ($node->getType()) {
    case 'catastrophe_notice':
      $end_date = NULL != $node->get('field_cn_start_end_dates')->end_value ? $node->get('field_cn_start_end_dates')->end_value : 'n/a';
      $govt_body = NULL != $node->field_cn_governmental_body->value ? $node->field_cn_governmental_body->value : 'Unnamed Government Body';
      $start_date_val = $node->get('field_cn_start_date')->value;

      $accountProxy = \Drupal::currentUser();
      $account = $accountProxy->getAccount();
      // Anonymous users automatically fill out the end_date.
      if (!$account->hasPermission('administer catastrophe notice')) {
        $days = intval($node->get('field_cn_suspension_length')->value) - 1;

        $end_date = DrupalDateTime::createFromFormat('Y-m-d', $start_date_val);
        $end_date->modify("+$days days");
        $end_date = $end_date->format("Y-m-d");
        $node->set('field_cn_end_date', $end_date);
      }

      // Always reset the title.
      $title = substr($govt_body, 0, 200) . " - $start_date_val";
      $node->setTitle($title);

      /**
       * Fill in Initial start and end dates if this is an extension of
       * a previously submitted notice.
       */
      $extension = $node->get('field_cn_extension')->value;
      if ($extension) {
        $previous_notice_nid = $node->get('field_cn_original_notice')->target_id;
        $previous_notice = Node::load($previous_notice_nid);
        if ($previous_notice) {
          $initial_start = $previous_notice->get('field_cn_start_date')->value;
          $initial_end = $previous_notice->get('field_cn_end_date')->value;
          $node->set('field_cn_initial_start_date', $initial_start);
          $node->set('field_cn_initial_end_date', $initial_end);
        }
      }

      break;
    }
  }
}

```

## Disable caching for a content type

If someone tries to view a node of content type `search_home` (entity of bundle `search_home`) caching is disabled and Drupal and the browser will always re-render the page. This is necessary for a page that is retrieving data from a third party source and you almost always expect it to be different. It wouldn't work for a search page to show results from a previous search.

```

use Drupal\Core\Entity\EntityInterface;
use Drupal\Core\Entity\Display\EntityViewDisplayInterface;

use Drupal\Core\Entity\EntityInterface;
use Drupal\Core\Entity\Display\EntityViewDisplayInterface;

/**
 * Implements hook_ENTITY_TYPE_view_alter().
 */
function dir_node_view_alter(array &$build, EntityInterface $entity, EntityViewDisplayInterface $display) {
  $bundle = $entity->bundle();
  if ($bundle == 'search_home') {
    $build['#cache']['max-age'] = 0;
    \Drupal::service('page_cache_kill_switch')->trigger();
  }
}

```

In the API docs (

[https://api.drupal.org/api/drupal/core%21lib%21Drupal%21Core%21Entity%21entity.api.php/function/hook\\_ENTITY\\_TYPE\\_view\\_alter/9.2.x](https://api.drupal.org/api/drupal/core%21lib%21Drupal%21Core%21Entity%21entity.api.php/function/hook_ENTITY_TYPE_view_alter/9.2.x)

) They have an example where they check the view mode and dynamically add a field to the node. There is also a post\_render callback function added to do some more magic. To implement, you'd have to replace ENTITY\_TYPE with your entity type such as node. See below:

```

function hook_ENTITY_TYPE_view_alter(array &$build, Drupal\Core\Entity\EntityInterface $entity, \Drupal\Core\Entity\Display\EntityViewDisplayInterface $display) {
  if ($build['#view_mode'] == 'full' && isset($build['an_additional_field'])) {

    // Change its weight.
    $build['an_additional_field']['#weight'] = -10;

    // Add a #post_render callback to act on the rendered HTML of the entity.
    $build['#post_render'][] = 'my_module_node_post_render';
  }
}

```

## Writing some JSON data into a long text field

It is sometimes useful to store JSON data into a long text field. I've used it for storing formatted status information about a complex process.


```

$aggregate_values = [
  'citation_status' => $citation_status,
  'accepted_votes' => $accepted_votes,
  'rejected_votes' => $rejected_votes,
];
$aggregate_data = Json::encode($aggregate_values);
$citation_node->field_srp_agg_data_json[$vote_number] = $aggregate_data;
$citation_node->save();


```

The JSON data is written into a multivalue long text field using the \$vote\_number index. So if \$vote\_number is 0, this will be the first value. If it is 1, then this will be written into the second value. This is what it looks like in Drupal on a node edit screen.

## SRP: AGGREGATED DATA



{"citation\_status":"incomplete","accepted\_votes":0,"rejected\_votes":"1"}



Stores aggregated data for this content type, for quick historical retrieval. JSON encoded array data. Index of field should match srp\_vote\_number. citation\_status: [status] accepted\_votes: [number] rejected\_votes: [number] revision\_note: [text]

Add another item

## Create a node with an image

```
use \Drupal\node\Entity\Node;
use \Drupal\file\Entity\File;

// Create file object from remote URL.
$data = file_get_contents('https://www.drupal.org/files/druplicon.small_.png');
$file = file_save_data($data, 'public://druplicon.png', FILE_EXISTS_REPLACE);

// Create node object with attached file.
$node = Node::create([
  'type'    => 'article',
  'title'   => 'Druplicon test',
  'field_image' => [
    'target_id' => $file->id(),
    'alt' => 'Hello world',
    'title' => 'Goodbye world'
  ],
]);
$node->save();
```

## Paragraphs

Paragraphs are those special things that allow you to blend a couple of field together e.g. count and unit of measure so you can store values like 5 kilograms or 7 years etc. Often they are used like nodes where you define the fields and fill them with data that get displayed on the screen for things like carousels or events.

## Load a node and find the terms referenced in a paragraph in a term reference field

Here we loop thru all the instances of my paragraph reference and grab the term in the paragraph.

```
use Drupal\taxonomy\Entity\Term;

foreach ($node->get('field_my_para')->referencedEntities() as $sent){
  $term = Term::load($sent->field_in_paragraph->target_id);
  $name = $term->getName();
  print_r($name);
}
```

## Custom Field Formatter

Custom field formatters can be used in display modes or in views. These are very powerful.

Some basic info is available at <https://www.drupal.org/docs/8/creating-custom-modules/create-a-custom-field-formatter>

This example is a custom formatter that takes a value from a field (in this case a uuid) and builds a url which essentially retrieves an image (via an API call.) It looks for some config info (in the node display mode for the node, or in the views setup for the usage in a view.).

For the node called infofeed, the config data is stored in an entity called core.entity\_view\_display.node.infofeed.default

For a view called infofeeds, the config data is stored in a config entity called views.view.infofeeds.

(You can find them by browsing thru the config table and looking for your info in the data field i.e. in sequel pro, look for data like %image\_width% )

It is pretty reasonable that the custom field formatter will require some configuration, so this means we will need a module/config/schema/module.schema.yml file

So at /Users/selwyn/Sites/ncs/docroot/modules/custom/ncs\_infoconnect/config/schema/ncs\_infoconnect.schema.yml we have the following file which defines a config\_entity called NCS Thumbnail settings and specifically two integer values for image\_width and image height. I use these to specify the size of the thumbnail I generate:

```
# Schema for configuring NCS thumbnail formatter.
```

```
field.formatter.settings.ncs_thumbnail:
  type: config_entity
  label: 'NCS thumbnail settings'
  mapping:
    image_width:
      label: 'Image width'
      type: integer
    image_height:
      label: 'Image Height'
      type: integer
```

I create the fieldformatter as a fairly unexciting plugin at

/Users/selwyn/Sites/ncs/docroot/modules/custom/ncs\_infoconnect/src/Plugin/Field/FieldFormatter/NcsThumbnailFormatter.php

The annotation shows what will be seen in Drupal when configuring the formatter.

```
<?php

namespace Drupal\ncs_infoconnect\Plugin\Field\FieldFormatter;

use Drupal\Core\Field\FormatterBase;
use Drupal\Core\Field\FieldItemListInterface;
use Drupal\Core\Form\FormStateInterface;
use Drupal\Core\Site\Settings;

/**
 * Plugin implementation of the 'ncs_thumbnail' formatter.
 *
 * @FieldFormatter(
 *   id = "ncs_thumbnail",
 *   label = @Translation("NCS Thumbnail"),
 *   field_types = {
 *     "string"
 *   }
 * )
 */
class NcsThumbnailFormatter extends FormatterBase {
```

I override the settingsSummary() which is mostly informative, and viewElements() which has the meat of the plugin. In viewElements(), we loop thru the

items (i.e. the values coming in from the field) and build an `image_uri`, jam each one into a render element and return the bunch.

```
/**
 * {@inheritdoc}
 */

public function settingsSummary() {
    $summary = [];

    $summary[] = $this->{"Specify size of the thumbnail to display."};

    return $summary;
}

/**
 * {@inheritdoc}
 */

public function viewElements(FieldItemListInterface $items, $langcode) {
    $elements = [];
    $markup = "";

    $width = $this->getSetting('image_width');
    $height = $this->getSetting('image_height');
    $ncs_auth_settings = Settings::get('ncs_api_auth', []);
    $base_url = $ncs_auth_settings['default']['imageserver'];

    foreach ($items as $delta => $item) {
        $image_uri = $base_url . "/?uuid=" . $item->value . "&function=original&type=thumbnail";
        $markup = '';

        // Render each element as markup.
        $elements[$delta] = [
            '#markup' => $markup,
        ];
    }

    return $elements;
}
```

Note. Retrieving the config settings for a particular situation happens with a call to `getSetting()` as in:

```
$width = $this->getSetting('image_width');
$height = $this->getSetting('image_height');
```

To use this we need to edit the display for the `infofeed` content type, make sure we have the `image_uuid` field displayed (i.e. not disabled) for Format, select NCS Thumbnail, click the gear to the right to specify the thumbnail size and save. Displaying nodes will then include the thumbnails.

You can do the same with a view: Add the field, specify the formatter (and dimensions) and the thumbnail will appear.

## Puzzles

What can I do with a call to `first()` on an entity reference field?

After loading a node, I want to see the value in an entity reference field. I can call `referencedEntities` to pull out it's values and loop thru them – I get Nodes in that instance.

```
$refs = $node_to_update->get('field_sf_account_ref')->referencedEntities();
if ($refs) {
    $ref = reset($refs);
    $node_to_update_sf_account_nid = $ref->id();
}
```

However, if I call `->first()`, I get an `EntityReferenceItem`. I'm curious how I could use this – would I want to?

```
$refs = $node->get('field_sf_dir_contact_ref')->first(); //returns an EntityReferenceItem.
```

## Great Cheat sheets

Various ways of updating field values in Drupal 8 and 9

<https://gorannikolovski.com/blog/various-ways-updating-field-values-drupal-8-and-9>

Entity query cheat sheet:



<https://www.metaload.com/blog/drupal-8-entity-api-cheat-sheet>

Drupal entity API cheat sheet

<https://drupalsun.com/zhilevan/2018/07/21/drupal-entity-api-cheat-sheet>

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