

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7

Object-relational Mapping

Tobias Schreck, Benedikt Kantz

Code Examples

We will cover some code examples from last week(s) first!

Have you ever used a Database for an application?

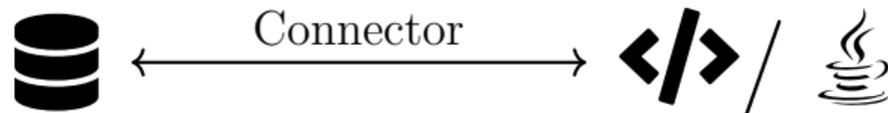
⇒ Noticed any problems?



- Ask students for their experiences, write down relevant answers on blackboard - goal would be to make students aware of DRY violations

Introduction to Database Connectors

- Database connectors enable applications to interact with databases.
- They provide APIs to execute
 - queries
 - retrieve data
 - manage transactions
- Essential for building data-driven applications.

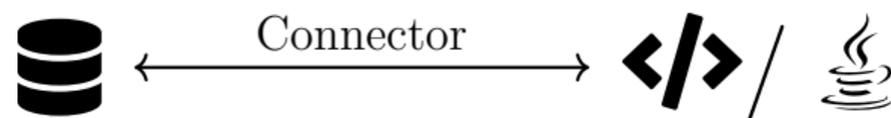


- Database connectors enable applications to interact with databases.
- They provide APIs to execute
 - queries
 - retrieve data
 - manage transactions
- Essential for building data-driven applications.



Introduction to Database Connectors

- Database connectors enable applications to interact with databases.
- They provide APIs to execute
 - queries
 - retrieve data
 - manage transactions
- Essential for building data-driven applications.

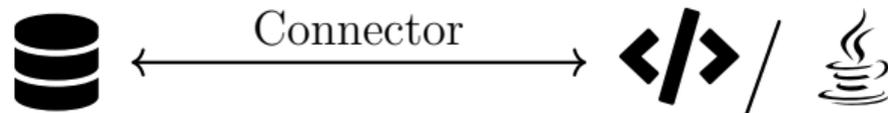


- Database connectors enable applications to interact with databases.
- They provide APIs to execute
 - queries
 - retrieve data
 - manage transactions
- Essential for building data-driven applications.



Introduction to Database Connectors

- Database connectors enable applications to interact with databases.
- They provide APIs to execute
 - queries
 - retrieve data
 - manage transactions
- Essential for building data-driven applications.



- Database connectors enable applications to interact with databases.
- They provide APIs to execute
 - queries
 - retrieve data
 - manage transactions
- Essential for building data-driven applications.



sqlite3

Python → SQLite

- Built-in Python module
- Lightweight, file-based database
- Great for prototyping and small apps

```
import sqlite3
conn = sqlite3.connect('example.db')
cur = conn.cursor()
cur.execute("SELECT * FROM users;")
for row in cur:
    print(row)
conn.close()
```

- Built-in Python module
- Lightweight, file-based database
- Great for prototyping and small apps

```
import sqlite3
conn = sqlite3.connect('example.db')
cur = conn.cursor()
cur.execute("SELECT * FROM users;")
for row in cur:
    print(row)
conn.close()
```

psycopg Python → PostgreSQL

- Popular PostgreSQL adapter for Python
- Used in Django, SQLAlchemy, etc.
- Supports advanced PostgreSQL features

```
import psycopg
conn = psycopg.connect(
    "dbname=test user=postgres
    ↪ password=secret")
cur = conn.cursor()
cur.execute("SELECT * FROM users;")
for row in cur:
    print(row)
conn.close()
```

- Popular PostgreSQL adapter for Python
- Used in Django, SQLAlchemy, etc.
- Supports advanced PostgreSQL features

```
import psycopg
conn = psycopg.connect(
    "dbname=test user=postgres
    ↪ password=secret")
cur = conn.cursor()
cur.execute("SELECT * FROM users;")
for row in cur:
    print(row)
conn.close()
```

JDBC

Java → Many Databases (PostgreSQL, MySQL, etc.)

- Java Database Connectivity API
- Works with many RDBMS via drivers
- Standard for Java database access

```
import java.sql.*;
Connection conn = DriverManager.getConnection(
    "jdbc:postgresql://localhost/test",
    "user", "password");
Statement stmt = conn.createStatement();
ResultSet rs = stmt.executeQuery(
    "SELECT * FROM users");
while (rs.next()) {
    System.out.println(
        rs.getString("name"));
}
conn.close();
```

- Java Database Connectivity API
- Works with many RDBMS via drivers
- Standard for Java database access

```
import java.sql.*;
Connection conn = DriverManager.getConnection(
    "jdbc:postgresql://localhost/test",
    "user", "password");
Statement stmt = conn.createStatement();
ResultSet rs = stmt.executeQuery(
    "SELECT * FROM users");
while (rs.next()) {
    System.out.println(
        rs.getString("name"));
}
conn.close();
```

JDBC: More Details I

Core Components:

- **DriverManager**: Manages database drivers.
- **Connection**: Represents a session with the database.
- **Statement and PreparedStatement**: Execute SQL queries.
- **ResultSet**: Holds data returned by queries.

- **DriverManager**: Manages database drivers.
- **Connection**: Represents a session with the database.
- **Statement and PreparedStatement**: Execute SQL queries.
- **ResultSet**: Holds data returned by queries.

JDBC: More Details II

- Similar principles in other languages' connectors:
 - Connection pooling
 - Transaction management
 - Query execution

JDBC/Connectors: Advantages vs. Limitations

Advantages

- Database-agnostic API (for Java applications).
- Supports transactions, batch updates, and metadata inspection.

- Database-agnostic API (for Java applications).
- Supports transactions, batch updates, and metadata inspection.

JDBC/Connectors: Advantages vs. Limitations

Advantages

- Database-agnostic API (for Java applications).
- Supports transactions, batch updates, and metadata inspection.

Limitations

- Manual resource management (connections, statements).
- Verbose compared to higher-level ORMs.

- Database-agnostic API (for Java applications).
- Supports transactions, batch updates, and metadata inspection.

- Manual resource management (connections, statements).
- Verbose compared to higher-level ORMs.

What is Object-Relational Mapping (ORM)? I

The Core Problem [1]

- **Paradigm:** Tables vs. OOP
- **Language/Representation:** SQL vs. Java
- **Schema:** DB vs. Application
- **Instance:** Row vs. Object

Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) uses objects, while most popular databases are Relational (RDBMS) and use tables. These two paradigms don't naturally align perfectly. This difference is often called the **Object-Relational Impedance Mismatch**.

- **Paradigm:** Tables vs. OOP
- **Language/Representation:** SQL vs. Java
- **Schema:** DB vs. Application
- **Instance:** Row vs. Object

What is Object-Relational Mapping (ORM)? I

The Core Problem [1]

- **Paradigm:** Tables vs. OOP
- **Language/Representation:** SQL vs. Java
- **Schema:** DB vs. Application
- **Instance:** Row vs. Object

Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) uses objects, while most popular databases are Relational (RDBMS) and use tables. These two paradigms don't naturally align perfectly. This difference is often called the **Object-Relational Impedance Mismatch**.

- **Paradigm:** Tables vs. OOP
- **Language/Representation:** SQL vs. Java
- **Schema:** DB vs. Application
- **Instance:** Row vs. Object

What is Object-Relational Mapping (ORM)? I

The Core Problem [1]

- **Paradigm:** Tables vs. OOP
- **Language/Representation:** SQL vs. Java
- **Schema:** DB vs. Application
- **Instance:** Row vs. Object

Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) uses objects, while most popular databases are Relational (RDBMS) and use tables. These two paradigms don't naturally align perfectly. This difference is often called the **Object-Relational Impedance Mismatch**.

- **Paradigm:** Tables vs. OOP
- **Language/Representation:** SQL vs. Java
- **Schema:** DB vs. Application
- **Instance:** Row vs. Object

What is Object-Relational Mapping (ORM)? I

The Core Problem [1]

- **Paradigm:** Tables vs. OOP
- **Language/Representation:** SQL vs. Java
- **Schema:** DB vs. Application
- **Instance:** Row vs. Object

Object-Oriented Programming (OOP) uses objects, while most popular databases are Relational (RDBMS) and use tables. These two paradigms don't naturally align perfectly. This difference is often called the **Object-Relational Impedance Mismatch**.

- **Paradigm:** Tables vs. OOP
- **Language/Representation:** SQL vs. Java
- **Schema:** DB vs. Application
- **Instance:** Row vs. Object

What is Object-Relational Mapping (ORM)? II

The Solution: Object-Relational Mapping (ORM)

→ solve these issue (semi-) automatically

- Interact with DB with the syntax of (most) OOP languages.
- Repetitive SQL boilerplate code abstracted (CRUD operations).

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

└ ORMS

└ What is Object-Relational Mapping (ORM)? II

CRUD - Create, Read, Update, Delete

→ solve these issue (semi-) automatically

- Interact with DB with the syntax of (most) OOP languages.
- Repetitive SQL boilerplate code abstracted (CRUD operations).

The Mapping

Object Model (OOP)

User
+ id : int (PK) + username : string + email : string
+ save() + delete()

User
+ id : int (PK) + username : string + email : string
+ save() + delete()

The Mapping

Object Model (OOP)

User
+ id : int (PK) + username : string + email : string
+ save() + delete()



Relational Model (DB)

users table	
id	INT (PK)
username	VARCHAR
email	VARCHAR

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

↳ ORMS

↳ The Mapping

The Mapping

Object Model (OOP)
User
+ id : int (PK) + username : string + email : string
+ save() + delete()



Relational Model (DB)	
users table	
id	INT (PK)
username	VARCHAR
email	VARCHAR

The Mapping

Object Model (OOP)

User
+ id : int (PK) + username : string + email : string
+ save() + delete()



Relational Model (DB)

users table

id	INT (PK)
username	VARCHAR
email	VARCHAR

⇒ The ORM handles the translation between these representations.

User
+ id : int (PK) + username : string + email : string
+ save() + delete()



users table
id INT (PK)
username VARCHAR
email VARCHAR

Jakarta Persistence (JPA)

Overview¹

Jakarta Persistence provides Java developers with an object/relational mapping facility for managing relational data in Java applications.

¹<https://jakarta.ee/>

Hibernate Example

Introduction

Description²

Hibernate makes relational data visible to a program written in Java, in a natural and type-safe form,

- making it easy to write complex queries and work with their results,
- letting the program easily synchronize changes made in memory with the database,
- respecting the ACID properties of transactions, ...

²<https://hibernate.org/orm/>

Hibernate Example

Mapping a Class to a Table

SQL Table:

```
CREATE TABLE users (  
  id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,  
  username VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,  
  email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL  
);
```

```
CREATE TABLE users (  
  id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,  
  username VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,  
  email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL  
);
```

Hibernate Example

Mapping a Class to a Table

SQL Table:

```
CREATE TABLE users (
  id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
  username VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
  email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL
);
```

Java Class:

```
@Entity
@Table(name = "users")
public class User {
  @Id
  @GeneratedValue(strategy =
    ↪ GenerationType.IDENTITY)
  private Long id;
  @Column(name = "username", nullable = false)
  private String username;
  @Column(name = "email", nullable = false)
  private String email;
}
```

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

ORMS

↳ Hibernate Example

Hibernate Example
Mapping a Class to a Table

SQL Table:
CREATE TABLE users (
 id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
 username VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
 email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL
);

Java Class:
@Entity
@Table(name = "users")
public class User {
 @Id
 @GeneratedValue(strategy =
 ↪ GenerationType.IDENTITY)
 private Long id;
 @Column(name = "username", nullable = false)
 private String username;
 @Column(name = "email", nullable = false)
 private String email;
}

Hibernate Example

Adding data

- Similar to JDBC:

- Session & transaction start
- Add the data
- Commit!

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
User newUser = new User();
newUser.setUsername("MrP01");
newUser.setEmail("hello@example.com");

session.beginTransaction();
session.save(newUser);
session.getTransaction().commit();
```

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

- └ ORMS

- └ Hibernate Example

Hibernate Example
Adding data

- Similar to JDBC:
 - Session & transaction start
 - Add the data
 - Commit!

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
User newUser = new User();
newUser.setUsername("MrP01");
newUser.setEmail("hello@example.com");

session.beginTransaction();
session.save(newUser);
session.getTransaction().commit();
```

Hibernate Example

Adding data

- Similar to JDBC:
 - Session & transaction start
 - Add the data
 - Commit!

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
User newUser = new User();
newUser.setUsername("MrP01");
newUser.setEmail("hello@example.com");

session.beginTransaction();
session.save(newUser);
session.getTransaction().commit();
```

Hibernate Example

Adding data

- Similar to JDBC:
 - Session & transaction start
 - Add the data
 - Commit!

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
User newUser = new User();
newUser.setUsername("MrP01");
newUser.setEmail("hello@example.com");

session.beginTransaction();
session.save(newUser);
session.getTransaction().commit();
```

Hibernate Example

Adding data

- Similar to JDBC:
 - Session & transaction start
 - Add the data
 - Commit!

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
User newUser = new User();
newUser.setUsername("MrP01");
newUser.setEmail("hello@example.com");

session.beginTransaction();
session.save(newUser);
session.getTransaction().commit();
```

- Similar to JDBC:
 - Session & transaction start
 - Add the data
 - Commit!

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
User newUser = new User();
newUser.setUsername("MrP01");
newUser.setEmail("hello@example.com");

session.beginTransaction();
session.save(newUser);
session.getTransaction().commit();
```

Hibernate Example

Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Start a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
session.beginTransaction();

List<User> users = session
    .createQuery("from User", User.class)
    .getResultList();

for (User user : users) {
    System.out.println(user.getUsername());
}

session.getTransaction().commit();
```

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

ORMS

└ Hibernate Example

Hibernate Example
Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Start a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
session.beginTransaction();

List<User> users = session
    .createQuery("from User", User.class)
    .getResultList();

for (User user : users) {
    System.out.println(user.getUsername());
}

session.getTransaction().commit();
```

Hibernate Example

Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Start a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
session.beginTransaction();

List<User> users = session
    .createQuery("from User", User.class)
    .getResultList();

for (User user : users) {
    System.out.println(user.getUsername());
}

session.getTransaction().commit();
```

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

ORMS

└ Hibernate Example

Hibernate Example
Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Start a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
session.beginTransaction();

List<User> users = session
    .createQuery("from User", User.class)
    .getResultList();

for (User user : users) {
    System.out.println(user.getUsername());
}

session.getTransaction().commit();
```

Hibernate Example

Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Start a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
session.beginTransaction();

List<User> users = session
    .createQuery("from User", User.class)
    .getResultList();

for (User user : users) {
    System.out.println(user.getUsername());
}

session.getTransaction().commit();
```

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

ORMS

└ Hibernate Example

Hibernate Example
Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Start a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
session.beginTransaction();

List<User> users = session
    .createQuery("from User", User.class)
    .getResultList();

for (User user : users) {
    System.out.println(user.getUsername());
}

session.getTransaction().commit();
```

Hibernate Example Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Start a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
session.beginTransaction();

List<User> users = session
    .createQuery("from User", User.class)
    .getResultList();

for (User user : users) {
    System.out.println(user.getUsername());
}

session.getTransaction().commit();
```

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping └ ORMS

└ Hibernate Example

Hibernate Example
Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Start a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
Session session = factory.getCurrentSession();
session.beginTransaction();

List<User> users = session
    .createQuery("from User", User.class)
    .getResultList();

for (User user : users) {
    System.out.println(user.getUsername());
}

session.getTransaction().commit();
```

SQLAlchemy Example

Introduction

Why SQLAlchemy? ³

SQLAlchemy is the Python SQL toolkit and Object Relational Mapper that gives application developers the full power and flexibility of SQL.

~

SQLAlchemy's overall approach to these problems is entirely different from that of most other SQL / ORM tools, rooted in a so-called complementarity-oriented approach; [...], all processes are fully exposed [...]!

~

The main goal of SQLAlchemy is to change the way you think about databases and SQL!

³<https://www.sqlalchemy.org/philosophy.html>

SQLAlchemy Example

Mapping a Class to a Table

SQL Table:

```
CREATE TABLE users (  
  id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,  
  username VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,  
  email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL  
);
```

SQL Table:

```
CREATE TABLE users (  
  id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,  
  username VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,  
  email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL  
);
```

SQLAlchemy Example

Mapping a Class to a Table

SQL Table:

```
CREATE TABLE users (
  id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
  username VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
  email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL
);
```

Python Class:

```
from sqlalchemy import Column, Integer, String
from sqlalchemy.orm import DeclarativeBase,
↳ mapped_column, Mapped
class Base(DeclarativeBase):
    pass
class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'users'
    id: Mapped[int] =
    ↳ mapped_column(primary_key=True)
    username: Mapped[str] = mapped_column()
    email: Mapped[str] = mapped_column()
```

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

↳ ORMS

↳ SQLAlchemy Example

SQLAlchemy Example
Mapping a Class to a Table

SQL Table:

```
CREATE TABLE users (
  id SERIAL PRIMARY KEY,
  username VARCHAR(50) NOT NULL,
  email VARCHAR(100) NOT NULL
);
```

Python Class:

```
from sqlalchemy import Column, Integer, String
from sqlalchemy.orm import DeclarativeBase,
↳ mapped_column, Mapped
class Base(DeclarativeBase):
    pass
class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'users'
    id: Mapped[int] =
    ↳ mapped_column(primary_key=True)
    username: Mapped[str] = mapped_column()
    email: Mapped[str] = mapped_column()
```

SQLAlchemy Example

Adding data

- Steps:
 - Create a session
 - Add the data
 - Commit the transaction

```
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker
Session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)
session = Session()
```

```
new_user = User(username="Mrp01",
    ↪ email="derpeter@tugraz.at")
session.add(new_user)
session.commit()
```

- Steps:
 - Create a session
 - Add the data
 - Commit the transaction

```
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker
Session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)
session = Session()

new_user = User(username="Mrp01",
    ↪ email="derpeter@tugraz.at")
session.add(new_user)
session.commit()
```

SQLAlchemy Example

Adding data

- Steps:
 - Create a session
 - Add the data
 - Commit the transaction

```
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker
Session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)
session = Session()
```

```
new_user = User(username="Mrp01",
    ↪ email="derpeter@tugraz.at")
session.add(new_user)
session.commit()
```

- Steps:
 - Create a session
 - Add the data
 - Commit the transaction

```
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker
Session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)
session = Session()

new_user = User(username="Mrp01",
    ↪ email="derpeter@tugraz.at")
session.add(new_user)
session.commit()
```

SQLAlchemy Example

Adding data

- Steps:
 - Create a session
 - Add the data
 - Commit the transaction

```
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker
Session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)
session = Session()
```

```
new_user = User(username="Mrp01",
    ↪ email="derpeter@tugraz.at")
session.add(new_user)
session.commit()
```

- Steps:
 - Create a session
 - Add the data
 - Commit the transaction

```
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker
Session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)
session = Session()
new_user = User(username="Mrp01",
    ↪ email="derpeter@tugraz.at")
session.add(new_user)
session.commit()
```

SQLAlchemy Example

Adding data

- Steps:
 - Create a session
 - Add the data
 - Commit the transaction

```
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker
Session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)
session = Session()

new_user = User(username="Mrp01",
    ↪ email="derpeter@tugraz.at")
session.add(new_user)
session.commit()
```

- Steps:
 - Create a session
 - Add the data
 - Commit the transaction

```
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker
Session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)
session = Session()

new_user = User(username="Mrp01",
    ↪ email="derpeter@tugraz.at")
session.add(new_user)
session.commit()
```

SQLAlchemy Example Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Create a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
session = Session()

users = session.query(User).all()

for user in users:
    print(user.username)
```

- Querying data:
 - Create a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
session = Session()

users = session.query(User).all()

for user in users:
    print(user.username)
```

SQLAlchemy Example Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Create a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
session = Session()
users = session.query(User).all()

for user in users:
    print(user.username)
```

- Querying data:
 - Create a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
session = Session()
users = session.query(User).all()

for user in users:
    print(user.username)
```

SQLAlchemy Example

Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Create a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
session = Session()
users = session.query(User).all()

for user in users:
    print(user.username)
```

- Querying data:
 - Create a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
session = Session()
users = session.query(User).all()

for user in users:
    print(user.username)
```

SQLAlchemy Example Writing Queries

- Querying data:
 - Create a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
session = Session()
users = session.query(User).all()

for user in users:
    print(user.username)
```

- Querying data:
 - Create a session
 - Write the query
 - Fetch results

```
session = Session()
users = session.query(User).all()

for user in users:
    print(user.username)
```



2025-12-14 Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational
Mapping
└ ORMS



The Object-Relational Impedance Mismatch

Aspect	OOP Concept	DB Concept
--------	-------------	------------

The Object-Relational Impedance Mismatch

Aspect	OOP Concept	DB Concept
<i>Granularity</i>	Small/large composites	Flat rows

The Object-Relational Impedance Mismatch

Aspect	OOP Concept	DB Concept
<i>Granularity</i>	Small/large composites	Flat rows
<i>Identity</i>	Objects have identity (obj1 == obj2)	Rows rely on primary keys

The Object-Relational Impedance Mismatch

Aspect	OOP Concept	DB Concept
<i>Granularity</i>	Small/large composites	Flat rows
<i>Identity</i>	Objects have identity (obj1 == obj2)	Rows rely on primary keys
<i>Relationships</i>	References/pointers	Foreign keys and join tables

The Object-Relational Impedance Mismatch

Aspect	OOP Concept	DB Concept
<i>Granularity</i>	Small/large composites	Flat rows
<i>Identity</i>	Objects have identity (<code>obj1 == obj2</code>)	Rows rely on primary keys
<i>Relationships</i>	References/pointers	Foreign keys and join tables
<i>Inheritance</i>	Natural support for inheritance	Requires specific table strategies

Aspect	OOP Concept	DB Concept
<i>Granularity</i>	Small/large composites	Flat rows
<i>Identity</i>	Objects have identity (<code>obj1 == obj2</code>)	Rows rely on primary keys
<i>Relationships</i>	References/pointers	Foreign keys and join tables
<i>Inheritance</i>	Natural support for inheritance	Requires specific table strategies

The Object-Relational Impedance Mismatch

Aspect	OOP Concept	DB Concept
<i>Granularity</i>	Small/large composites	Flat rows
<i>Identity</i>	Objects have identity (obj1 == obj2)	Rows rely on primary keys
<i>Relationships</i>	References/pointers	Foreign keys and join tables
<i>Inheritance</i>	Natural support for inheritance	Requires specific table strategies
<i>Data Types</i>	Language types (e.g., 'DateTime')	SQL types (e.g., 'TIMESTAMP')

Aspect	OOP Concept	DB Concept
<i>Granularity</i>	Small/large composites	Flat rows
<i>Identity</i>	Objects have identity (obj1 == obj2)	Rows rely on primary keys
<i>Relationships</i>	References/pointers	Foreign keys and join tables
<i>Inheritance</i>	Natural support for inheritance	Requires specific table strategies
<i>Data Types</i>	Language types (e.g., 'DateTime')	SQL types (e.g., 'TIMESTAMP')

The Object-Relational Impedance Mismatch

Aspect	OOP Concept	DB Concept
<i>Granularity</i>	Small/large composites	Flat rows
<i>Identity</i>	Objects have identity (obj1 == obj2)	Rows rely on primary keys
<i>Relationships</i>	References/pointers	Foreign keys and join tables
<i>Inheritance</i>	Natural support for inheritance	Requires specific table strategies
<i>Data Types</i>	Language types (e.g., 'DateTime')	SQL types (e.g., 'TIMESTAMP')
<i>Navigation</i>	Direct access to related objects	Requires JOINS

Aspect	OOP Concept	DB Concept
<i>Granularity</i>	Small/large composites	Flat rows
<i>Identity</i>	Objects have identity (obj1 == obj2)	Rows rely on primary keys
<i>Relationships</i>	References/pointers	Foreign keys and join tables
<i>Inheritance</i>	Natural support for inheritance	Requires specific table strategies
<i>Data Types</i>	Language types (e.g., 'DateTime')	SQL types (e.g., 'TIMESTAMP')
<i>Navigation</i>	Direct access to related objects	Requires JOINS

How ORM Works: Core Concepts [2] I

Mapping

- Define mappings between classes and tables.
- Map object attributes to table columns - datatypes!
- Define relationships (one-to-one, one-to-many, many-to-many)
- Often done via:
 - Decorators/Annotations (e.g., JPA, EF Core)
 - Configuration files (e.g., XML in older Hibernate)
 - Code-based configuration (e.g., SQLAlchemy mapping)

- Mapping
 - Define mappings between classes and tables.
 - Map object attributes to table columns - datatypes!
 - Define relationships (one-to-one, one-to-many, many-to-many)
 - Often done via:
 - Decorators/Annotations (e.g., JPA, EF Core)
 - Configuration files (e.g., XML in older Hibernate)
 - Code-based configuration (e.g., SQLAlchemy mapping)

How ORM Works: Core Concepts [2] II

Querying

- Provide an API to query data using object-oriented concepts.
- Examples: LINQ (C#), JPQL/Criteria API (Java), SQLAlchemy's query syntax (Python).
- ORM translates these object queries into SQL.

- Provide an API to query data using object-oriented concepts.
- Examples: LINQ (C#), JPQL/Criteria API (Java), SQLAlchemy's query syntax (Python).
- ORM translates these object queries into SQL.

How ORM Works: Core Concepts [2] III

Identity Map

- Ensures that each database row maps to exactly one object instance within a given session/context.
- Prevents inconsistencies if the same data is loaded multiple times.

- Ensures that each database row maps to exactly one object instance within a given session/context.
- Prevents inconsistencies if the same data is loaded multiple times.

How ORM Works: Core Concepts [2] IV

Unit of Work

- Tracks changes made to objects during a transaction.
- When the transaction commits, the ORM generates the necessary INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE SQL statements.
- Simplifies transaction management.

- Tracks changes made to objects during a transaction.
- When the transaction commits, the ORM generates the necessary INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE SQL statements.
- Simplifies transaction management.

How ORM Works: Core Concepts [2] V

Lazy/Eager Loading

- Control when related data is loaded from the database (on-demand vs. upfront).

- Control when related data is loaded from the database (on-demand vs. upfront).

Advantages of Using an ORM

- **Increased Productivity:** Reduces boilerplate code (CRUD)
- **Database Independence:** Easier switch between different database systems (in theory).
- **Improved Maintainability:** Data access logic is more encapsulated.
- **Built-in Features:**
 - caching
 - transaction management
 - security

Problem: specific features/limits, e.g. pgvector, postgis, text limits

- **Increased Productivity:** Reduces boilerplate code (CRUD)
- **Database Independence:** Easier switch between different database systems (in theory).
- **Improved Maintainability:** Data access logic is more encapsulated.
- **Built-in Features:**
 - caching
 - transaction management
 - security

Advantages of Using an ORM

- **Increased Productivity:** Reduces boilerplate code (CRUD)
- **Database Independence:** Easier switch between different database systems (in theory).
- **Improved Maintainability:** Data access logic is more encapsulated.
- **Built-in Features:**
 - caching
 - transaction management
 - security

Problem: specific features/limits, e.g. pgvector, postgis, text limits

- **Increased Productivity:** Reduces boilerplate code (CRUD)
- **Database Independence:** Easier switch between different database systems (in theory).
- **Improved Maintainability:** Data access logic is more encapsulated.
- **Built-in Features:**
 - caching
 - transaction management
 - security

Advantages of Using an ORM

- **Increased Productivity:** Reduces boilerplate code (CRUD)
- **Database Independence:** Easier switch between different database systems (in theory).
- **Improved Maintainability:** Data access logic is more encapsulated.
- **Built-in Features:**
 - caching
 - transaction management
 - security

Problem: specific features/limits, e.g. pgvector, postgis, text limits

- **Increased Productivity:** Reduces boilerplate code (CRUD)
- **Database Independence:** Easier switch between different database systems (in theory).
- **Improved Maintainability:** Data access logic is more encapsulated.
 - Built-in Features:
 - caching
 - transaction management
 - security

Advantages of Using an ORM

- **Increased Productivity:** Reduces boilerplate code (CRUD)
- **Database Independence:** Easier switch between different database systems (in theory).
- **Improved Maintainability:** Data access logic is more encapsulated.
- **Built-in Features:**
 - caching
 - transaction management
 - security

Problem: specific features/limits, e.g. pgvector, postgis, text limits

- **Increased Productivity:** Reduces boilerplate code (CRUD)
- **Database Independence:** Easier switch between different database systems (in theory).
- **Improved Maintainability:** Data access logic is more encapsulated.
 - Built-in Features:
 - caching
 - transaction management
 - security

Advantages of Using an ORM

- **Increased Productivity:** Reduces boilerplate code (CRUD)
- **Database Independence:** Easier switch between different database systems (in theory).
- **Improved Maintainability:** Data access logic is more encapsulated.
- **Built-in Features:**
 - caching
 - transaction management
 - **security**

Problem: specific features/limits, e.g. pgvector, postgis, text limits

- **Increased Productivity:** Reduces boilerplate code (CRUD)
- **Database Independence:** Easier switch between different database systems (in theory).
- **Improved Maintainability:** Data access logic is more encapsulated.
- **Built-in Features:**
 - caching
 - transaction management
 - **security**

Disadvantages of Using an ORM

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. "N+1 selects problem"

└ Disadvantages of Using an ORM

N+1: execute an additional query for each instance - slow!!

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. "N+1 selects problem"

Disadvantages of Using an ORM

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. "N+1 selects problem"

└ Disadvantages of Using an ORM

N+1: execute an additional query for each instance - slow!!

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. "N+1 selects problem"

Disadvantages of Using an ORM

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. "N+1 selects problem"

N+1: execute an additional query for each instance - slow!!

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. "N+1 selects problem"

Disadvantages of Using an ORM

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. "N+1 selects problem"

└ Disadvantages of Using an ORM

N+1: execute an additional query for each instance - slow!!

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. "N+1 selects problem"

Disadvantages of Using an ORM

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. "N+1 selects problem"

N+1: execute an additional query for each instance - slow!!

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. "N+1 selects problem"

Disadvantages of Using an ORM

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. "N+1 selects problem"

N+1: execute an additional query for each instance - slow!!

- **Complexity / Learning Curve:** steep learning curve
- **Performance Overhead:** sometimes (for highly specialized code) slower, but usually well-optimised
- **Leaky Abstraction:** mapping not perfect, SQL still needed - debugging!
- **Impedance Mismatch:** OOP concepts (like complex inheritance) not mappable
- **Potential for Inefficient Queries:** e.g. 'N+1 selects problem'

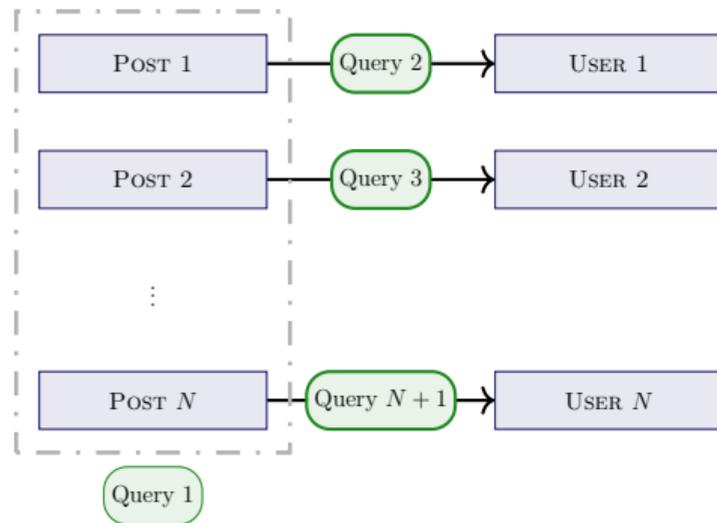
The $N + 1$ Problem

- ORM executes one query to fetch the parent objects
- ... then N additional queries to fetch related objects.

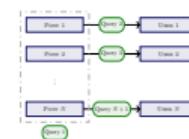
- ORM executes one query to fetch the parent objects
- ... then N additional queries to fetch related objects.

The $N + 1$ Problem

- ORM executes one query to fetch the parent objects
- ... then N additional queries to fetch related objects.

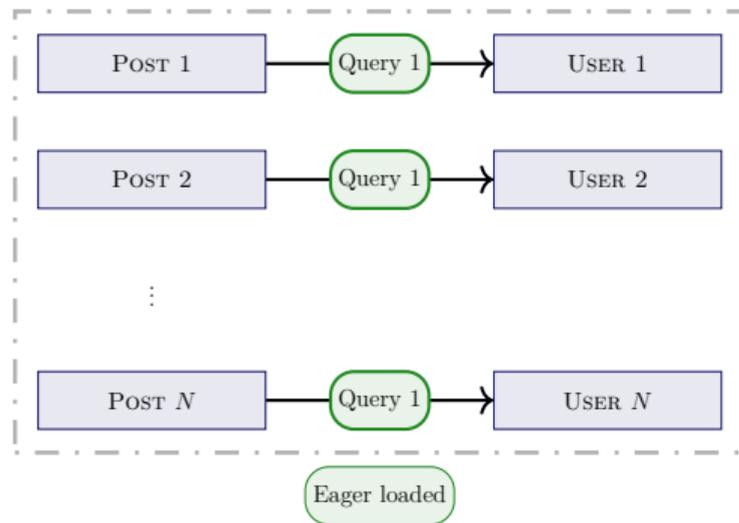


- ORM executes one query to fetch the parent objects
- ... then N additional queries to fetch related objects.



The N+1 Problem (Potential) Solution

- Eager loading!
- Load all elements at once.
- ORM detects and executes JOIN directly!



2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

└─ORMS

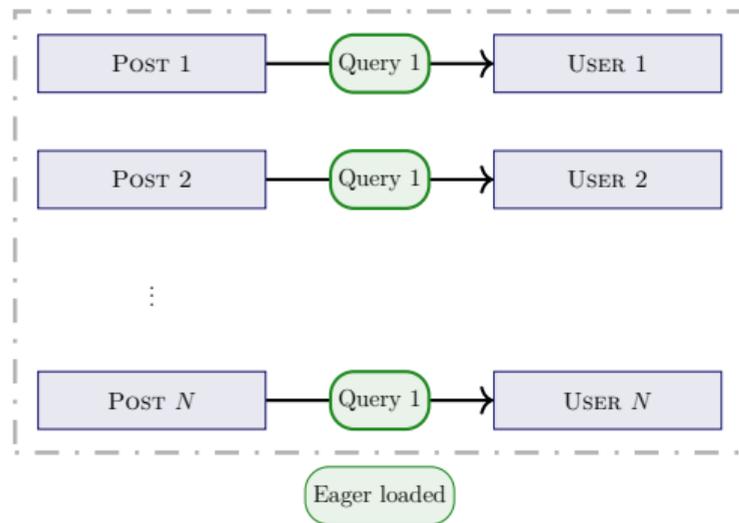
The N+1 Problem (Potential) Solution

- Eager loading!
- Load all elements at once.
- ORM detects and executes JOIN directly!



The N+1 Problem (Potential) Solution

- Eager loading!
- Load all elements at once.
- ORM detects and executes JOIN directly!



2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

└ ORMS

└ The N+1 Problem

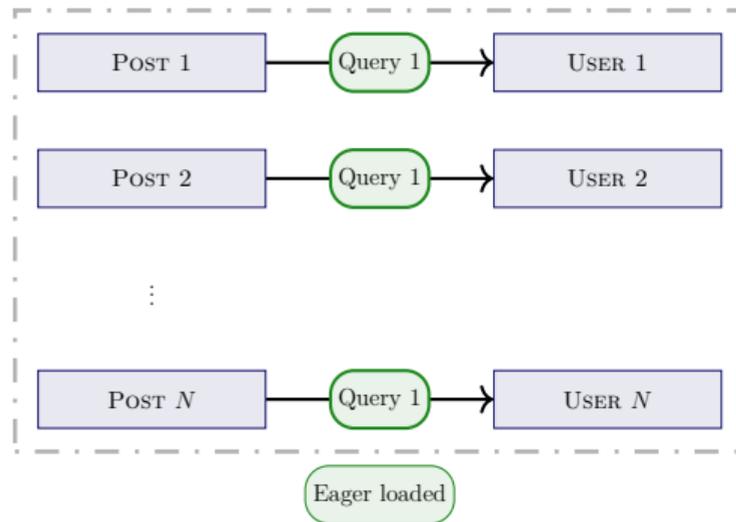
The N+1 Problem (Potential) Solution

- Eager loading!
- Load all elements at once.
- ORM detects and executes JOIN directly!



The N+1 Problem (Potential) Solution

- Eager loading!
- Load all elements at once.
- ORM detects and executes JOIN directly!



- Eager loading!
- Load all elements at once.
- ORM detects and executes JOIN directly!



Popular ORM Tools / Frameworks I

ORMs exist for almost every major programming language:

■ Python:

- SQLAlchemy (very powerful and flexible)
- Django ORM (integrated into the Django web framework)
- Peewee (lightweight)

■ Java:

- Hibernate (very mature and widely used)
- JPA (Java Persistence API - a specification, Hibernate is an implementation)

- Python:
 - SQLAlchemy (very powerful and flexible)
 - Django ORM (integrated into the Django web framework)
 - Peewee (lightweight)
- Java:
 - Hibernate (very mature and widely used)
 - JPA (Java Persistence API - a specification, Hibernate is an implementation)

Popular ORM Tools / Frameworks II

- **C# / .NET:**
 - Entity Framework Core (Microsoft's primary ORM)
 - NHibernate (port of Java's Hibernate)
 - Dapper (micro-ORM, focus on performance and SQL control)
- **Ruby:** ActiveRecord (part of Ruby on Rails)
- **PHP:** Doctrine, Eloquent (part of Laravel)
- **Node.js:** Sequelize, TypeORM, Prisma

- **C# / .NET:**
 - Entity Framework Core (Microsoft's primary ORM)
 - NHibernate (port of Java's Hibernate)
 - Dapper (micro-ORM, focus on performance and SQL control)
- **Ruby:** ActiveRecord (part of Ruby on Rails)
- **PHP:** Doctrine, Eloquent (part of Laravel)
- **Node.js:** Sequelize, TypeORM, Prisma

Task Time! I

- Your Task: try out an ORM (on the object hierarchy)
- Use either:
 - SQLAlchemy
 - Hibernate
 - ?? (Language + ORM of choice - be creative!)

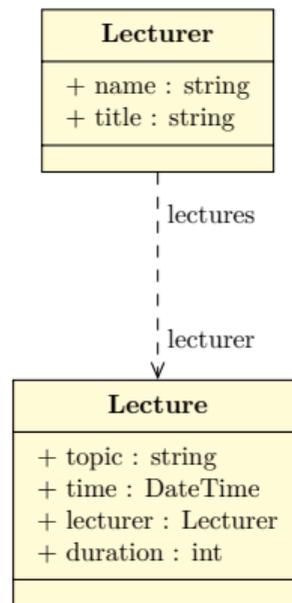


Figure: UML Diagram of a Lecturer and a Lecture

- 1.
2. Difficulties?
3. Setup/Installation?
4. How to specify mapping?
5. How can you map inheritance?
6. Is it possible to easily retrieve all lectures of a lecturer?

- Your Task: try out an ORM (on the object hierarchy)
- Use either:
 - SQLAlchemy
 - Hibernate
 - ?? (Language + ORM of choice - be creative!)

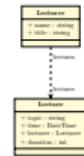


Figure: UML Diagram of a Lecturer and a Lecture

Task Time! II

- What are your findings?

Problems...

What was the main problem with
ORMs?



Alternative: Object Stores / Object Databases

→ Store Objects directly!

- (this is difficult...) - why?
- Solutions:
 - Store Binary representations
 - Serialize

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

- └ Object Stores

└ Alternative: Object Stores / Object Databases

1. Problem: Impedance Mismatch - inheritance, ...
2. Problem: Versioning, Migration, ...
3. Binary: Problem: versioning
4. Serialize: Works quite well, interoperable

→ Store Objects directly!

- (this is difficult...) - why?
- Solutions:
 - Store Binary representations
 - Serialize

Alternative: Object Stores / Object Databases

→ Store Objects directly!

- (this is difficult...) - why?
- Solutions:
 - Store Binary representations
 - Serialize

1. Problem: Impedance Mismatch - inheritance, ...
2. Problem: Versioning, Migration, ...
3. Binary: Problem: versioning
4. Serialize: Works quite well, interoperable

Alternative: Object Stores / Object Databases

→ Store Objects directly!

- (this is difficult...) - why?

- Solutions:

- Store Binary representations

- Serialize

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

- └ Object Stores

- └ Alternative: Object Stores / Object Databases

1. Problem: Impedance Mismatch - inheritance, ...
2. Problem: Versioning, Migration, ...
3. Binary: Problem: versioning
4. Serialize: Works quite well, interoperable

→ Store Objects directly!

- (this is difficult...) - why?

- Solutions:

- Store Binary representations

- Serialize

Alternative: Object Stores / Object Databases

→ Store Objects directly!

- (this is difficult...) - why?
- Solutions:
 - Store Binary representations
 - Serialize

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

- └ Object Stores

└ Alternative: Object Stores / Object Databases

1. Problem: Impedance Mismatch - inheritance, ...
2. Problem: Versioning, Migration, ...
3. Binary: Problem: versioning
4. Serialize: Works quite well, interoperable

→ Store Objects directly!

- (this is difficult...) - why?

■ Solutions:

- Store Binary representations

■ Serialize

Alternative: Object Stores / Object Databases

→ Store Objects directly!

- (this is difficult...) - why?
- Solutions:
 - Store Binary representations
 - Serialize

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping

- └ Object Stores

└ Alternative: Object Stores / Object Databases

1. Problem: Impedance Mismatch - inheritance, ...
2. Problem: Versioning, Migration, ...
3. Binary: Problem: versioning
4. Serialize: Works quite well, interoperable

→ Store Objects directly!

- (this is difficult...) - why?

■ Solutions:

- Store Binary representations
- Serialize

Object Databases

- Problem: kind of “Out of fashion”, only commercial options ...

Object Stores (Serialized)

Store	Features
MongoDB	A NoSQL database that stores data in flexible, JSON-like documents. Popular for its scalability and ease of use.
Couchbase	A distributed NoSQL database that supports JSON document storage and querying.
Redis	An in-memory data structure store that can be used for object storage with serialization (is Open Source <i>again</i>).
Postgres + JSONB	Extension for Postgres (SQL) to support serialized JSON data with querying, <i>Open Source!</i>

Store	Features
MongoDB	A NoSQL database that stores data in flexible, JSON-like documents. Popular for its scalability and ease of use.
Couchbase	A distributed NoSQL database that supports JSON document storage and querying.
Redis	An in-memory data structure store that can be used for object storage with serialization (is Open Source <i>again</i>).
Postgres + JSONB	Extension for Postgres (SQL) to support serialized JSON data with querying, <i>Open Source!</i>

Even more problems...

What problems do you still identify?



Feedback



└ Feedback

└ Feedback



STOP JAVA.COM

GARBAGE
COLLECTION
IS DATA
CRUELTY!



THINK! What's YOUR RAM footprint?



I'D RATHER
GO BAREMETAL
THAN VIRTUALIZE

2025-12-14

Object-Oriented Programming 2: Lecture 7 Object-relational Mapping
└ Feedback

STOP JAVA.COM

GARBAGE
COLLECTION
IS DATA
CRUELTY!



I'D RATHER
GO BAREMETAL
THAN VIRTUALIZE

Bibliography I

References

- [1] C. Ireland, D. Bowers, M. Newton, and K. Waugh, **A classification of object-relational impedance mismatch**, 2009 First International Conference on Advances in Databases, Knowledge, and Data Applications, 2009, pp. 36–43. DOI: [10.1109/DBKDA.2009.11](https://doi.org/10.1109/DBKDA.2009.11).
- [2] M. Nardone, L. Jungmann, M. Keith, and M. Schincariol, **Advanced object-relational mapping**, eng, *Pro Jakarta Persistence in Jakarta EE 10*, United States: Apress L. P, 2021, pp. 413–479, ISBN: 9781484274422.