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# **djangorest***alchemy* Documentation

**Release 0.1.0**

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September 03, 2014



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## djangorest-alchemy

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A library to integrate the awesome frameworks Django REST Framework and SQLAlchemy

- Free software: MIT license
- Supports SQLAlchemy 0.7.8 and above

### 1.1 Features

- Provides GET verb implementation for SQLAlchemy models
- List, filter and paginate multiple rows
- Fetch single object with nested objects as complete URIs
- Supports multiple primary keys
- Provides ability to use ‘Manager’ like classes to work with SQLAlchemy models
- Supports both Declarative and Classical styles

### 1.2 Install dependencies

```
` pip install -r requirements.txt `
```

### 1.3 Run tests

```
` make test `
```

### 1.4 Usage

#### Getting Started

Assuming you have a SQLAlchemy model defined as below:

```
class DeclarativeModel(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'test_model'

    declarativemodel_id = Column(INTEGER, primary_key=True)
    field = Column(String)
    datetime = Column(DateTime, default=datetime.datetime.utcnow)
    floatfield = Column(Float)
    bigintfield = Column(BigInteger)
    child_model = relationship(ChildModel, uselist=False, primaryjoin=
        (declarativemodel_id == ChildModel.parent_id))
```

Define the ‘manager’ class to work on above model:

```
class DeclarativeModelManager(SessionMixin, AlchemyModelManager):
    model_class = DeclarativeModel
```

*SessionMixin just provides a convenient way to initialize the SQLAlchemy session. You can achieve the same by defining `__init__` and setting “`self.session`” instance*

Define the Django REST viewset and specify the manager class:

```
class DeclModelViewSet(AlchemyModelViewSet):
    manager_class = DeclarativeModelManager
```

Finally, register the routers as you would normally do using Django REST:

```
viewset_router = routers.SimpleRouter()
viewset_router.register(r'api/declmodels', DeclModelViewSet,
                       base_name='test-decl')
```

## Pagination

Pagination works exactly like Django REST Framework (and Django). Provided your viewset has the ‘paginate\_by’ field set, pass page number in querystring:

```
class ModelViewSet(AlchemyModelViewSet):
    paginate_by = 25

    • 5th page `curl -v http://server/api/declmodels/?page=5`
    • Last page `curl -v http://server/api/declmodels/?page=last`
    • First page `curl -v http://server/api/declmodels/`
```

## Filters

Filters work exactly like Django REST Framework. Pass the field value pair in querystring.

```
`curl -v http://server/api/declmodels/?field=value`
```

## 1.5 Advanced Usage

### Multiple primary keys

To use some sort of identifier in the URI, the library tries to use the following logic.

1. If a single primary key is found, use it! That was simple..
2. For multiple keys, try to find a field with convention ‘model\_id’
3. If not found, see if the model has ‘pk\_field’ class variable

4. If not found, raise KeyNotFoundException

In addition, to support multiple primary keys which cannot be accomodated in the URI, the viewset needs to override the `get\_other\_pk` method and return back dictionary of primary keys. Example:

```
class ModelViewSet(AlchemyModelViewSet):
    manager_class = ModelManager
    def get_other_pk(self, request):
        pk = {
            'pk1': request.META.get('PK1'),
            'pk2': request.META.get('PK2'),
        }
        return pk
```

### Manager factory

The base AlchemyModelViewSet viewset provides a way to override the instantiation of the manager. Example:

```
class ModelViewSet(AlchemyModelViewSet):
    def manager_factory(self, *args, **kwargs):
        return ModelManager()
```

### Nested Models

This library recommends using the drf-nested-routers for implementing nested child models. Example:

```
child_router = routers.NestedSimpleRouter(viewset_router, r'api/declmodels',
                                           lookup='declmodels')
```

For more details, refer to the drf-nested-routers documentation.

### Custom methods

DRF allows to add custom methods other than the default list, retrieve, create, update and destroy using the @action decorator. However, if you have managers, then you can simply provide action methods on the manager and specify the action methods using `action_methods` field. The methods have to return back appropriate status per below map.

```
STATUS_CODES = { 'created': status.HTTP_201_CREATED, 'updated': status.HTTP_200_OK, 'accepted': status.HTTP_202_ACCEPTED }

class MyManager(AlchemyModelManager):
    action_methods = { 'do_something': ['POST'] }

    def do_something(self, data, pk=None, **kwargs):
        # data is actual payload return { 'status': 'created' }

class ModelViewSet(AlchemyModelViewSet):
    manager_class = MyManager

    'curl -X POST http://server/api/declmodels/1/do_something/'
```

### Read-only API

If you need only the GET method, and do not wish to expose/support POST/PUT/DELETE then you can use the `djangorestalchemy.routers.ReadOnlyRouter` instead of the DefaultRouter

## 1.6 Examples

The examples folder demonstrates a real-world example using Cars and Parts as the object models.

Run the following command just as you would normally run a Django project:

```
` cd examples python manage.py runserver --settings=settings `
```

Then type the following in your favorite browser:

```
` http://localhost/api/cars/ `
```

### Installation

---

At the command line:

```
$ easy_install djangorest-alchemy
```

Or, if you have virtualenvwrapper installed:

```
$ mkvirtualenv djangorest-alchemy
$ pip install djangorest-alchemy
```



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## API Documentation

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### 3.1 djangorest\_alchemy package

#### 3.1.1 Submodules

#### 3.1.2 djangorest\_alchemy.fields module

Relationship field

```
class djangorest_alchemy.fields.AlchemyRelatedField(*args, **kwargs)
    Bases: rest_framework.relations.RelatedField

    to_native(obj)

class djangorest_alchemy.fields.AlchemyUriField(*args, **kwargs)
    Bases: rest_framework.relations.RelatedField

    to_native(obj)
```

#### 3.1.3 djangorest\_alchemy.inspector module

Functions to reflect over SQLAlchemy models

```
exception djangorest_alchemy.inspector.KeyNotFoundException
    Bases: exceptions.Exception
```

Primary key not found exception

```
djangorest_alchemy.inspector.class_keys(cls)
    This is a utility function to get the attribute names for the primary keys of a class
```

```
# >>> class_keys(Deal) # >>> ('dealer_code', 'deal_jacket_id', 'deal_id')
```

```
djangorest_alchemy.inspector.primary_key(cls)
    Utility function to get the primary key of the class. In case of multiple primary keys, use the <classname>_id
    convention
```

#### 3.1.4 djangorest\_alchemy.managers module

Base for interfacing with SQLAlchemy Provides the necessary plumbing for CRUD using SA session

```
class djangorest_alchemy.managers.AlchemyModelManager (*args, **kwargs)
    Bases: object

    list (other_pk=None, filters=None)
        List returns back list of URI In case of multiple pk's, We guess the pk by using '<modelname>_id' as the field convention

    retrieve (pk, other_pk=None)
        Retrieve fetches the object based on the following pk logic: if 'other' pk's are not found, just use the pk list (coming from URLs) assuming their order is already correct if 'other' pk's are found, then use the class keys to get the correct order of pk's, look them up
```

### 3.1.5 djangorestalchemy.mixins module

```
class djangorest_alchemy.mixins.ManagerMeta
    Bases: type

    Meta class to read action methods from manager and attach them to viewset This allows us to directly call manager methods without writing any action methods on viewsets
```

```
class djangorest_alchemy.mixins.ManagerMixin
    Bases: object

    Manager mixin allows to use a manager class to provide the actual CRUD implementation in addition to providing action methods
```

Example:

```
class MyManager(AlchemyModelManager):
    action_methods = {'my_method': ['POST']}

    def my_method(self, data, pk=None, **kwargs):
        # data is actual payload
        return {'status': 'created'}
```

  

```
class MyViewSet(viewset.Viewsets, ManagerMixin):
    manager_class = MyManager

    manager_factory(*args, **kwargs)
        Factory method for instantiating manager class Override to return back your instance
```

```
class djangorest_alchemy.mixins.MultipleObjectMixin
    Bases: object
```

SQLAlchemy analog to Django's MultipleObjectMixin.

**allow\_empty = True**

```
filter_query_object(query_object)
    Generic filtering.
```

This is a stub and has yet to be implemented.

**get\_allow\_empty()**

Returns True to display empty lists, False to 404.

**get\_page(queryset)**

Add the object list to the template context.

**get\_paginate\_by(query\_object)**

Get the number of items to paginate by. None for no pagination.

---

**get Paginator** (*query\_object*, *per\_page*, *orphans*=0, *allow\_empty\_first\_page*=True)  
Get a paginator instance.

The class used is overridable by setting the *paginator\_class* attribute.

**paginate\_by** = None

**paginate\_query\_object** (*query\_object*, *page\_size*)  
Paginate the query object.

**paginator\_class**  
alias of Paginator

**query\_object** = None

djangorest\_alchemy.mixins.**make\_action\_method** (*name*, *methods*, \*\**kwargs*)

### 3.1.6 djangorest\_alchemy.routers module

**class** djangorest\_alchemy.routers.**ReadOnlyRouter** (*trailing\_slash*=True)  
Bases: rest\_framework.routers.DefaultRouter

A router for read-only APIs, which USES trailing slashes.

**routes** = [Route(url='^{\{prefix\}}{\{trailing\_slash\}}\$', mapping={'get': 'list'}, name='{\{basename\}}-list', initkwargs={'suffix':

### 3.1.7 djangorest\_alchemy.serializers module

Base AlchemyModelSerializer which provides the mapping between SQLAlchemy and DRF fields to serialize/deserialize objects

**class** djangorest\_alchemy.serializers.**AlchemyListSerializer** (\**args*, \*\**kwargs*)  
Bases: djangorest\_alchemy.serializers.AlchemyModelSerializer

**base\_fields** = {}

**get\_default\_fields** ()

**class** djangorest\_alchemy.serializers.**AlchemyModelSerializer** (\**args*, \*\**kwargs*)  
Bases: rest\_framework.serializers.Serializer

Alchemy -> DRF field serializer

**base\_fields** = {}

**field\_mapping** = {<class 'sqlalchemy.types.INTEGER'>: <class 'rest\_framework.fields.IntegerField'>, <class 'sqlalch

**get\_default\_fields** ()

### 3.1.8 djangorest\_alchemy.settings module

### 3.1.9 djangorest\_alchemy.viewsets module

Base AlchemyViewSet which provides the necessary plumbing to interface with AlchemyModelSerializer and AlchemyModelManager

**class** djangorest\_alchemy.viewsets.**AlchemyModelViewSet** (\*\**kwargs*)  
Bases: djangorest\_alchemy.mixins.MultipleObjectMixin, djangorest\_alchemy.mixins.ManagerMixin, rest\_framework.viewsets.ViewSet

Generic SQLAlchemy viewset which calls methods over the specified manager\_class and uses specified serializer\_class

**create** (*request*)

**destroy** (*request*, *pk=None*)

**get\_other\_pk** (*request*)

Return default empty {} Override to return back your primary keys from other source (possibly from headers)

**Parameters** *request* – REST request object

**Returns** dict

**get\_pk** (*request*, \*\**kwargs*)

Return list of pk from the keyword args e.g. /models/pk1/childmodel/pk2 return back [pk1, pk2]

**Parameters** *request* – REST request object

**Kwargs** *kwargs* URI keyword args

**Returns** List e.g. [pk1, pk2]

**list** (*request*, \*\**kwargs*)

Returns back serialized list of objects URIs in the *results* key

**Returns**

```
json {  
    "results": [  
        { "href": "http://server/api/models/pk/"  
        }  
    ]  
}
```

Note:

- \* URI contains the same pk field
- \* Complete URI with server/port is returned back

**retrieve** (*request*, \*\**kwargs*)

Retrieve returns back serialized object.

**Returns**

```
json {  
    "href": "http://server/api/models/pk/", "field": "value" "childmodel":  
    "http://serv/api/parentmodels/pk/childmodels/pk"  
}
```

Note:

As of now, only SQLAlchemy mapper properties are returned  
No other fields or properties are serialized. You will need  
to override retrieve and provide your own implementation to  
query those additional properties for now.

**serializer\_factory** (*multiple*, *queryset*, *model\_class*, *context*)

Factory method to instantiate appropriate serializer class Override to return back your instance

**update** (*request*, *pk=None*)

### 3.1.10 Module contents



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## Contributing

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Contributions are welcome, and they are greatly appreciated! Every little bit helps, and credit will always be given. You can contribute in many ways:

### 4.1 Types of Contributions

#### 4.1.1 Report Bugs

Report bugs at <https://github.com/Dealertrack/djangorest-alchemy/issues>.

If you are reporting a bug, please include:

- Your operating system name and version.
- Any details about your local setup that might be helpful in troubleshooting.
- Detailed steps to reproduce the bug.

#### 4.1.2 Fix Bugs

Look through the GitHub issues for bugs. Anything tagged with “bug” is open to whoever wants to implement it.

#### 4.1.3 Implement Features

Look through the GitHub issues for features. Anything tagged with “feature” is open to whoever wants to implement it.

#### 4.1.4 Write Documentation

djangorest-alchemy could always use more documentation, whether as part of the official djangorest-alchemy docs, in docstrings, or even on the web in blog posts, articles, and such.

#### 4.1.5 Submit Feedback

The best way to send feedback is to file an issue at <https://github.com/Dealertrack/djangorest-alchemy/issues>.

If you are proposing a feature:

- Explain in detail how it would work.
- Keep the scope as narrow as possible, to make it easier to implement.
- Remember that this is a volunteer-driven project, and that contributions are welcome :)

## 4.2 Get Started!

Ready to contribute? Here's how to set up *djangorest-alchemy* for local development.

1. Fork the *djangorest-alchemy* repo on GitHub.
2. Clone your fork locally:

```
$ git clone git@github.com:your_name_here/djangorest-alchemy.git
```

3. Install your local copy into a virtualenv. Assuming you have `virtualenvwrapper` installed, this is how you set up your fork for local development:

```
$ mkvirtualenv djangorest-alchemy
$ cd djangorest-alchemy/
$ python setup.py develop
```

4. Create a branch for local development:

```
$ git checkout -b name-of-your-bugfix-or-feature
```

Now you can make your changes locally.

5. When you're done making changes, check that your changes pass flake8 and the tests, including testing other Python versions with tox:

```
$ flake8 djangorest-alchemy tests
$ python setup.py test
$ tox
```

To get flake8 and tox, just pip install them into your virtualenv.

6. Commit your changes and push your branch to GitHub:

```
$ git add .
$ git commit -m "Your detailed description of your changes."
$ git push origin name-of-your-bugfix-or-feature
```

7. Submit a pull request through the GitHub website.

## 4.3 Pull Request Guidelines

Before you submit a pull request, check that it meets these guidelines:

1. The pull request should include tests.
2. If the pull request adds functionality, the docs should be updated. Put your new functionality into a function with a docstring, and add the feature to the list in README.rst.

3. The pull request should work for Python 2.6, 2.7, and 3.3, and for PyPy. Check [https://travis-ci.org/iagore/djangorest-alchemy/pull\\_requests](https://travis-ci.org/iagore/djangorest-alchemy/pull_requests) and make sure that the tests pass for all supported Python versions.



## **Credits**

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### **5.1 Development Lead**

- Ashish Gore <[ashish.gore@dealertrack.com](mailto:ashish.gore@dealertrack.com)>

### **5.2 Contributors**

None yet. Why not be the first?



## **History**

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### **6.1 0.1.0 (2014-09-03)**

- First release



## Indices and tables

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