
NSManagedObjectID Class Reference

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NSManagedObjectID Class Reference

Inherits from	NSObject
Conforms to	NSCopying NSObject (NSObject)
Framework	/System/Library/Frameworks/CoreData.framework
Availability	Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.
Companion guide	Core Data Programming Guide
Declared in	NSManagedObjectID.h
Related sample code	Core Data HTML Store CoreRecipes CustomAtomicStoreSubclass

Overview

An `NSManagedObjectID` object is a compact, universal, identifier for a managed object. This forms the basis for unquing in the Core Data Framework. A managed object ID uniquely identifies the same managed object both between managed object contexts in a single application, and in multiple applications (as in distributed systems). Identifiers contain the information needed to exactly describe an object in a persistent store (like the primary key in the database), although the detailed information is not exposed. The framework completely encapsulates the “external” information and presents a clean object oriented interface.

Object IDs can be transformed into a URI representation which can be archived and recreated later to refer back to a given object (using `managedObjectIDForURIRepresentation:` (`NSPersistentStoreCoordinator`) and `objectWithID:` (`NSManagedObjectContext`)). For example, the last selected group in an application could be stored in the user defaults through the group object’s ID. You can also use object ID URI representations to store “weak” relationships across persistent stores (where no hard join is possible).

Tasks

Information About a Managed Object ID

- [entity](#) (page 6)

Returns the entity description associated with the receiver.

- [isTemporaryID](#) (page 6)
Returns a Boolean value that indicates whether the receiver is temporary.
- [persistentStore](#) (page 7)
Returns the persistent store that contains the object whose ID is the receiver.
- [URIRepresentation](#) (page 7)
Returns a URI that provides an archiveable reference to the object which the receiver represents.

Instance Methods

entity

Returns the entity description associated with the receiver.

- (NSEntityDescription *)entity

Return Value

The entity description object associated with the receiver

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also

entity (NSManagedObject)

Related Sample Code

Core Data HTML Store

Declared In

NSManagedObjectID.h

isTemporaryID

Returns a Boolean value that indicates whether the receiver is temporary.

- (BOOL)isTemporaryID

Return Value

YES if the receiver is temporary, otherwise NO.

Discussion

Most object IDs return NO. New objects inserted into a managed object context are assigned a temporary ID which is replaced with a permanent one once the object gets saved to a persistent store.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

Declared In

NSManagedObjectID.h

persistentStore

Returns the persistent store that contains the object whose ID is the receiver.

- (NSPersistentStore *)persistentStore

Return Value

The persistent store that contains the object whose ID is the receiver, or `nil` if the ID is for a newly-inserted object that has not yet been saved to a persistent store.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

Declared In

NSManagedObjectID.h

URIRepresentation

Returns a URI that provides an archiveable reference to the object which the receiver represents.

- (NSURL *)URIRepresentation

Return Value

An `NSURL` object containing a URI that provides an archiveable reference to the object which the receiver represents.

Discussion

If the corresponding managed object has not yet been saved, the object ID (and hence URI) is a temporary value that will change when the corresponding managed object is saved.

Availability

Available in Mac OS X v10.4 and later.

See Also

`managedObjectIDForURIRepresentation:` (NSPersistentStoreCoordinator)
`objectWithID::` (NSManagedObjectContext)

Related Sample Code

CoreRecipes

Declared In

NSManagedObjectID.h

Document Revision History

This table describes the changes to *NSManagedObjectID Class Reference*.

Date	Notes
2006-10-09	Updated for Mac OS X v10.5.
2006-05-23	First publication of this content as a separate document.

REVISION HISTORY

Document Revision History

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