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# SQLAlchemy-Utills Documentation

*Release 0.33.3*

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SQLAlchemy-Utills provides custom data types and various utility functions for SQLAlchemy.





This part of the documentation covers the installation of SQLAlchemy-Utils.

### 1.1 Supported platforms

SQLAlchemy-Utils has been tested against the following Python platforms.

- cPython 2.6 (unsupported since 0.32)
- cPython 2.7
- cPython 3.3
- cPython 3.4
- cPython 3.5
- cPython 3.6

### 1.2 Installing an official release

You can install the most recent official SQLAlchemy-Utils version using pip:

```
pip install sqlalchemy-utils    # Use `pip3` instead of `pip` for Python 3.x
```

### 1.3 Installing the development version

To install the latest version of SQLAlchemy-Utils, you need first obtain a copy of the source. You can do that by cloning the [git repository](#):

```
git clone git://github.com/kvesteri/sqlalchemy-utils.git
```

Then you can install the source distribution using pip:

```
cd sqlalchemy-utils
pip install -e .      # Use `pip3` instead of `pip` for Python 3.x
```

## 1.4 Checking the installation

To check that SQLAlchemy-Utils has been properly installed, type `python` from your shell. Then at the Python prompt, try to import SQLAlchemy-Utils, and check the installed version:

```
>>> import sqlalchemy_utils
>>> sqlalchemy_utils.__version__
0.33.3
```

## 2.1 Automatic data coercion

`sqlalchemy_utils.listeners.force_auto_coercion` (*mapper=None*)

Function that assigns automatic data type coercion for all classes which are of type of given mapper. The coercion is applied to all coercion capable properties. By default coercion is applied to all SQLAlchemy mappers.

Before initializing your models you need to call `force_auto_coercion`.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import force_auto_coercion

force_auto_coercion()
```

Then define your models the usual way:

```
class Document(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'document'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(50))
    background_color = sa.Column(ColorType)
```

Now scalar values for coercion capable data types will convert to appropriate value objects:

```
document = Document()
document.background_color = 'F5F5F5'
document.background_color # Color object
session.commit()
```

A useful side-effect of this is that additional validation of data will be done on the moment it is being assigned to model objects. For example without auto coercion set, an invalid `sqlalchemy_utils.types.IPAddressType` (eg. 10.0.0 255.255) would get through without an exception being raised. The database wouldn't notice this (as most databases don't have a native type for an IP address, so they're usually just stored as a string), and the `ipaddress/ipaddr` package uses a string field as well.

**Parameters** `mapper` – The mapper which the automatic data type coercion should be applied to

## 2.2 Instant defaults

`sqlalchemy_utils.listeners.force_instant_defaults` (*mapper=None*)

Function that assigns object column defaults on object initialization time. By default calling this function applies instant defaults to all your models.

Setting up instant defaults:

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import force_instant_defaults

force_instant_defaults()
```

Example usage:

```
class Document(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'document'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(50))
    created_at = sa.Column(sa.DateTime, default=datetime.now)

document = Document()
document.created_at # datetime object
```

**Parameters** `mapper` – The mapper which the automatic instant defaults forcing should be applied to

## 2.3 Many-to-many orphan deletion

`sqlalchemy_utils.listeners.auto_delete_orphans` (*attr*)

Delete orphans for given SQLAlchemy model attribute. This function can be used for deleting many-to-many associated orphans easily. For more information see <https://bitbucket.org/zzeek/sqlalchemy/wiki/UsageRecipes/ManyToManyOrphan>.

Consider the following model definition:

```
from sqlalchemy.ext.associationproxy import association_proxy
from sqlalchemy import *
from sqlalchemy.orm import *
from sqlalchemy.ext.declarative import declarative_base
from sqlalchemy import event

Base = declarative_base()

tagging = Table(
    'tagging',
    Base.metadata,
    Column(
        'tag_id',
        Integer,
```

```

        ForeignKey('tag.id', ondelete='CASCADE'),
        primary_key=True
    ),
    Column(
        'entry_id',
        Integer,
        ForeignKey('entry.id', ondelete='CASCADE'),
        primary_key=True
    )
)

class Tag(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'tag'
    id = Column(Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = Column(String(100), unique=True, nullable=False)

    def __init__(self, name=None):
        self.name = name

class Entry(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'entry'

    id = Column(Integer, primary_key=True)

    tags = relationship(
        'Tag',
        secondary=tagging,
        backref='entries'
    )

```

Now lets say we want to delete the tags if all their parents get deleted ( all Entry objects get deleted). This can be achieved as follows:

```

from sqlalchemy_utils import auto_delete_orphans

auto_delete_orphans(Entry.tags)

```

After we've set up this listener we can see it in action.

```

e = create_engine('sqlite://')

Base.metadata.create_all(e)

s = Session(e)

r1 = Entry()
r2 = Entry()
r3 = Entry()
t1, t2, t3, t4 = Tag('t1'), Tag('t2'), Tag('t3'), Tag('t4')

r1.tags.extend([t1, t2])
r2.tags.extend([t2, t3])
r3.tags.extend([t4])
s.add_all([r1, r2, r3])

assert s.query(Tag).count() == 4

```

```
r2.tags.remove(t2)

assert s.query(Tag).count() == 4

r1.tags.remove(t2)

assert s.query(Tag).count() == 3

r1.tags.remove(t1)

assert s.query(Tag).count() == 2
```

**Parameters** `attr` – Association relationship attribute to auto delete orphans from

SQLAlchemy-Utills provides various new data types for SQLAlchemy. In order to gain full advantage of these datatypes you should use automatic data coercion. See `force_auto_coercion()` for how to set up this feature.

### 3.1 ArrowType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.arrow.**ArrowType**(\*args, \*\*kwargs)

ArrowType provides way of saving `Arrow` objects into database. It automatically changes `Arrow` objects to datetime objects on the way in and datetime objects back to `Arrow` objects on the way out (when querying database). ArrowType needs `Arrow` library installed.

```
from datetime import datetime
from sqlalchemy_utils import ArrowType
import arrow

class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'article'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    created_at = sa.Column(ArrowType)
```

```
article = Article(created_at=arrow.utcnow())
```

As you may expect all the arrow goodies come available:

```
article.created_at = article.created_at.replace(hours=-1)

article.created_at.humanize()
# 'an hour ago'
```

## 3.2 ChoiceType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.choice.**ChoiceType** (*choices, impl=None*)

ChoiceType offers way of having fixed set of choices for given column. It could work with a list of tuple (a collection of key-value pairs), or integrate with `enum` in the standard library of Python 3.4+ (the `enum34` backported package on PyPI is compatible too for < 3.4).

Columns with ChoiceTypes are automatically coerced to Choice objects while a list of tuple been passed to the constructor. If a subclass of `enum.Enum` is passed, columns will be coerced to `enum.Enum` objects instead.

```
class User(Base):
    TYPES = [
        (u'admin', u'Admin'),
        (u'regular-user', u'Regular user')
    ]

    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    type = sa.Column(ChoiceType(TYPES))

user = User(type=u'admin')
user.type # Choice(type='admin', value=u'Admin')
```

Or:

```
import enum

class UserType(enum.Enum):
    admin = 1
    regular = 2

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    type = sa.Column(ChoiceType(UserType, impl=sa.Integer()))

user = User(type=1)
user.type # <UserType.admin: 1>
```

ChoiceType is very useful when the rendered values change based on user's locale:

```
from babel import lazy_gettext as _

class User(Base):
    TYPES = [
        (u'admin', _(u'Admin')),
        (u'regular-user', _(u'Regular user'))
    ]

    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
```



```

name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
type = sa.Column(ChoiceType(TYPES))

user = User(type=u'admin')
user.type # Choice(type='admin', value=u'Admin')

print user.type # u'Admin'

```

Or:

```

from enum import Enum
from babel import lazy_gettext as _

class UserType(Enum):
    admin = 1
    regular = 2

UserType.admin.label = _(u'Admin')
UserType.regular.label = _(u'Regular user')

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    type = sa.Column(ChoiceType(UserType, impl=sa.Integer()))

user = User(type=UserType.admin)
user.type # <UserType.admin: 1>

print user.type.label # u'Admin'

```

### 3.3 ColorType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.color.ColorType(max\_length=20, \*args, \*\*kwargs)

ColorType provides a way for saving Color (from `colour` package) objects into database. ColorType saves Color objects as strings on the way in and converts them back to objects when querying the database.

```

from colour import Color
from sqlalchemy_utils import ColorType

class Document(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'document'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(50))
    background_color = sa.Column(ColorType)

document = Document()
document.background_color = Color('#F5F5F5')

```

```
session.commit()
```

Querying the database returns Color objects:

```
document = session.query(Document).first()

document.background_color.hex
# '#f5f5f5'
```

## 3.4 CompositeType

CompositeType provides means to interact with PostgreSQL composite types. Currently this type features:

- Easy attribute access to composite type fields
- Supports SQLAlchemy TypeDecorator types
- Ability to include composite types as part of PostgreSQL arrays
- Type creation and dropping

### 3.4.1 Installation

CompositeType automatically attaches *before\_create* and *after\_drop* DDL listeners. These listeners create and drop the composite type in the database. This means it works out of the box in your test environment where you create the tables on each test run.

When you already have your database set up you should call `register_composites()` after you've set up all models.

```
register_composites(conn)
```

### 3.4.2 Usage

```
from collections import OrderedDict

import sqlalchemy as sa
from sqlalchemy_utils import CompositeType, CurrencyType

class Account(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'account'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    balance = sa.Column(
        CompositeType(
            'money_type',
            [
                sa.Column('currency', CurrencyType),
                sa.Column('amount', sa.Integer)
            ]
        )
    )
```

### 3.4.3 Accessing fields

`CompositeType` provides attribute access to underlying fields. In the following example we find all accounts with balance amount more than 5000.

```
session.query(Account).filter(Account.balance.amount > 5000)
```

### 3.4.4 Arrays of composites

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import CompositeArray

class Account(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'account'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    balances = sa.Column(
        CompositeArray(
            CompositeType(
                'money_type',
                [
                    sa.Column('currency', CurrencyType),
                    sa.Column('amount', sa.Integer)
                ]
            )
        )
    )
```

Related links:

<http://schinckel.net/2014/09/24/using-postgres-composite-types-in-django/>

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.pg\_composite.**CompositeType**(*name, columns*)  
Represents a PostgreSQL composite type.

#### Parameters

- **name** – Name of the composite type.
- **columns** – List of columns that this composite type consists of

## 3.5 CountryType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.country.**CountryType**(\*args, \*\*kwargs)

Changes `Country` objects to a string representation on the way in and changes them back to `:class:'.Country` objects on the way out.

In order to use `CountryType` you need to install `Babel` first.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import CountryType, Country

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    country = sa.Column(CountryType)
```

```

user = User()
user.country = Country('FI')
session.add(user)
session.commit()

user.country # Country('FI')
user.country.name # Finland

print user.country # Finland

```

CountryType is scalar coercible:

```

user.country = 'US'
user.country # Country('US')

```

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.primitives.country.**Country**(code\_or\_country)

Country class wraps a 2 to 3 letter country code. It provides various convenience properties and methods.

```

from babel import Locale
from sqlalchemy_utils import Country, i18n

# First lets add a locale getter for testing purposes
i18n.get_locale = lambda: Locale('en')

Country('FI').name # Finland
Country('FI').code # FI

Country(Country('FI')).code # 'FI'

```

Country always validates the given code.

```

Country(None) # raises TypeError

Country('UnknownCode') # raises ValueError

```

Country supports equality operators.

```

Country('FI') == Country('FI')
Country('FI') != Country('US')

```

Country objects are hashable.

```

assert hash(Country('FI')) == hash('FI')

```

## 3.6 CurrencyType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.currency.**CurrencyType**(\*args, \*\*kwargs)

Changes *Currency* objects to a string representation on the way in and changes them back to *Currency* objects on the way out.

In order to use CurrencyType you need to install [Babel](#) first.

```

from sqlalchemy_utils import CurrencyType, Currency

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    currency = sa.Column(CurrencyType)

user = User()
user.currency = Currency('USD')
session.add(user)
session.commit()

user.currency # Currency('USD')
user.currency.name # US Dollar

str(user.currency) # US Dollar
user.currency.symbol # $

```

CurrencyType is scalar coercible:

```

user.currency = 'US'
user.currency # Currency('US')

```

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.primitives.currency.**Currency**(code)  
 Currency class wraps a 3-letter currency code. It provides various convenience properties and methods.

```

from babel import Locale
from sqlalchemy_utils import Currency, i18n

# First lets add a locale getter for testing purposes
i18n.get_locale = lambda: Locale('en')

Currency('USD').name # US Dollar
Currency('USD').symbol # $

Currency(Currency('USD')).code # 'USD'

```

Currency always validates the given code.

```

Currency(None) # raises TypeError

Currency('UnknownCode') # raises ValueError

```

Currency supports equality operators.

```

Currency('USD') == Currency('USD')
Currency('USD') != Currency('EUR')

```

Currencies are hashable.

```

len(set([Currency('USD'), Currency('USD')])) # 1

```

## 3.7 EmailType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.email.**EmailType** (*length=255, \*args, \*\*kwargs*)  
Provides a way for storing emails in a lower case.

Example:

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import EmailType

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    email = sa.Column(EmailType)

user = User()
user.email = 'John.Smith@foo.com'
user.name = 'John Smith'
session.add(user)
session.commit()
# Notice - email in filter() is lowercase.
user = (session.query(User)
        .filter(User.email == 'john.smith@foo.com')
        .one())
assert user.name == 'John Smith'
```

## 3.8 EncryptedType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.encrypted.encrypted\_type.**EncryptedType** (*type\_in=None, key=None, engine=None, padding=None, \*\*kwargs*)

EncryptedType provides a way to encrypt and decrypt values, to and from databases, that their type is a basic SQLAlchemy type. For example Unicode, String or even Boolean. On the way in, the value is encrypted and on the way out the stored value is decrypted.

EncryptedType needs [Cryptography](#) library in order to work.

When declaring a column which will be of type EncryptedType it is better to be as precise as possible and follow the pattern below.

```
a_column = sa.Column(EncryptedType(sa.Unicode,
                                   secret_key,
                                   FernetEngine))

another_column = sa.Column(EncryptedType(sa.Unicode,
                                          secret_key,
                                          AesEngine,
                                          'pkcs5'))
```

A more complete example is given below.

```

import sqlalchemy as sa
from sqlalchemy import create_engine
from sqlalchemy.ext.declarative import declarative_base
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker

from sqlalchemy_utils import EncryptedType
from sqlalchemy_utils.types.encrypted.encrypted_type import AesEngine

secret_key = 'secretkey1234'
# setup
engine = create_engine('sqlite:///memory:')
connection = engine.connect()
Base = declarative_base()

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = "user"
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    username = sa.Column(EncryptedType(sa.Unicode,
                                      secret_key,
                                      AesEngine,
                                      'pkcs5'))
    access_token = sa.Column(EncryptedType(sa.String,
                                           secret_key,
                                           AesEngine,
                                           'pkcs5'))
    is_active = sa.Column(EncryptedType(sa.Boolean,
                                        secret_key,
                                        AesEngine,
                                        'zeroes'))
    number_of_accounts = sa.Column(EncryptedType(sa.Integer,
                                                  secret_key,
                                                  AesEngine,
                                                  'oneandzeroes'))

sa.orm.configure_mappers()
Base.metadata.create_all(connection)

# create a configured "Session" class
Session = sessionmaker(bind=connection)

# create a Session
session = Session()

# example
user_name = u'secret_user'
test_token = 'atesttoken'
active = True
num_of_accounts = 2

user = User(username=user_name, access_token=test_token,
            is_active=active, number_of_accounts=num_of_accounts)
session.add(user)
session.commit()

user_id = user.id

```

```
session.expunge_all()

user_instance = session.query(User).get(user_id)

print('id: {}'.format(user_instance.id))
print('username: {}'.format(user_instance.username))
print('token: {}'.format(user_instance.access_token))
print('active: {}'.format(user_instance.is_active))
print('accounts: {}'.format(user_instance.number_of_accounts))

# teardown
session.close_all()
Base.metadata.drop_all(connection)
connection.close()
engine.dispose()
```

The key parameter accepts a callable to allow for the key to change per-row instead of being fixed for the whole table.

```
def get_key():
    return 'dynamic-key'

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    username = sa.Column(EncryptedType(
        sa.Unicode, get_key))
```

## 3.9 JSONType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.json.JSONType(\*args, \*\*kwargs)

JSONType offers way of saving JSON data structures to database. On PostgreSQL the underlying implementation of this data type is 'json' while on other databases its simply 'text'.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import JSONType

class Product(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'product'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(50))
    details = sa.Column(JSONType)

product = Product()
product.details = {
    'color': 'red',
    'type': 'car',
    'max-speed': '400 mph'
}
session.commit()
```



## 3.10 LocaleType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.locale.LocaleType

LocaleType saves Babel Locale objects into database. The Locale objects are converted to string on the way in and back to object on the way out.

In order to use LocaleType you need to install Babel first.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import LocaleType
from babel import Locale

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(50))
    locale = sa.Column(LocaleType)

user = User()
user.locale = Locale('en_US')
session.add(user)
session.commit()
```

Like many other types this type also supports scalar coercion:

```
user.locale = 'de_DE'
user.locale # Locale('de', territory='DE')
```

## 3.11 LtreeType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.ltree.LtreeType

Postgresql LtreeType type.

The LtreeType datatype can be used for representing labels of data stored in hierarchial tree-like structure. For more detailed information please refer to <http://www.postgresql.org/docs/current/static/ltree.html>

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import LtreeType

class DocumentSection(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'document_section'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    path = sa.Column(LtreeType)

section = DocumentSection(name='Countries.Finland')
session.add(section)
session.commit()

section.path # Ltree('Countries.Finland')
```

**Note:** Using *LtreeType*, LQUERY and LTXTQUERY types may require installation of Postgresql ltree extension on the server side. Please visit <http://www.postgres.org> for details.

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.primitives.ltree.Ltree(*path\_or\_ltree*)

Ltree class wraps a valid string label path. It provides various convenience properties and methods.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import Ltree

Ltree('1.2.3').path # '1.2.3'
```

Ltree always validates the given path.

```
Ltree(None) # raises TypeError

Ltree('.') # raises ValueError
```

Validator is also available as class method.

```
Ltree.validate('1.2.3')
Ltree.validate(None) # raises ValueError
```

Ltree supports equality operators.

```
Ltree('Countries.Finland') == Ltree('Countries.Finland')
Ltree('Countries.Germany') != Ltree('Countries.Finland')
```

Ltree objects are hashable.

```
assert hash(Ltree('Finland')) == hash('Finland')
```

Ltree objects have length.

```
assert len(Ltree('1.2')) == 2
assert len(Ltree('some.one.some.where')) == 4
```

You can easily find subpath indexes.

```
assert Ltree('1.2.3').index('2.3') == 1
assert Ltree('1.2.3.4.5').index('3.4') == 2
```

Ltree objects can be sliced.

```
assert Ltree('1.2.3')[0:2] == Ltree('1.2')
assert Ltree('1.2.3')[1:] == Ltree('2.3')
```

Finding longest common ancestor.

```
assert Ltree('1.2.3.4.5').lca('1.2.3', '1.2.3.4', '1.2.3') == '1.2'
assert Ltree('1.2.3.4.5').lca('1.2', '1.2.3') == '1'
```

Ltree objects can be concatenated.

```
assert Ltree('1.2') + Ltree('1.2') == Ltree('1.2.1.2')
```

## 3.12 IPAddressType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.ip\_address.IPAddressType(*max\_length=50*, *\*args*, *\*\*kwargs*)

Changes IPAddress objects to a string representation on the way in and changes them back to IPAddress objects

on the way out.

`IPAddressType` uses `ipaddress` package on Python  $\geq 3$  and `ipaddr` package on Python 2. In order to use `IPAddressType` with python you need to install `ipaddr` first.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import IPAddressType

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    ip_address = sa.Column(IPAddressType)

user = User()
user.ip_address = '123.123.123.123'
session.add(user)
session.commit()

user.ip_address # IPAddress object
```

### 3.13 PasswordType

**class** `sqlalchemy_utils.types.password.PasswordType` (*max\_length=None, \*\*kwargs*)

`PasswordType` hashes passwords as they come into the database and allows verifying them using a Pythonic interface. This Pythonic interface relies on setting up automatic data type coercion using the `force_auto_coercion()` function.

All keyword arguments (aside from `max_length`) are forwarded to the construction of a `passlib.context.LazyCryptContext` object, which also supports deferred configuration via the `onload` callback.

The following usage will create a password column that will automatically hash new passwords as `pbkdf2_sha512` but still compare passwords against pre-existing `md5_crypt` hashes. As passwords are compared; the password hash in the database will be updated to be `pbkdf2_sha512`.

```
class Model(Base):
    password = sa.Column>PasswordType(
        schemes=[
            'pbkdf2_sha512',
            'md5_crypt'
        ],
        deprecated=['md5_crypt']
    )
```

Verifying password is as easy as:

```
target = Model()
target.password = 'b'
# '$5$rounds=80000$H.....'

target.password == 'b'
# True
```

Lazy configuration of the type with Flask config:

```
import flask
from sqlalchemy_utils import PasswordType, force_auto_coercion

force_auto_coercion()

class User(db.Model):
    __tablename__ = 'user'

    password = db.Column(
        PasswordType(
            # The returned dictionary is forwarded to the CryptContext
            onload=lambda **kwargs: dict(
                schemes=flask.current_app.config['PASSWORD_SCHEMES'],
                **kwargs
            ),
        ),
        unique=False,
        nullable=False,
    )
```

### 3.14 PhoneNumberType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.phone\_number.PhoneNumber(*raw\_number*, *region=None*)

Extends a PhoneNumber class from [Python phonenumbers library](#). Adds different phone number formats to attributes, so they can be easily used in templates. Phone number validation method is also implemented.

Takes the raw phone number and country code as params and parses them into a PhoneNumber object.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import PhoneNumber

class User(self.Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    _phone_number = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(20))
    country_code = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(8))

    phonenumber = sa.orm.composite(
        PhoneNumber,
        _phone_number,
        country_code
    )

user = User(phone_number=PhoneNumber('0401234567', 'FI'))

user.phone_number.e164 # u'+358401234567'
user.phone_number.international # u'+358 40 1234567'
user.phone_number.national # u'040 1234567'
user.country_code # 'FI'
```

#### Parameters

- **raw\_number** – String representation of the phone number.
- **region** – Region of the phone number.

```
class sqlalchemy_utils.types.phone_number.PhoneNumberType (region='US',
                                                            max_length=20, *args,
                                                            **kwargs)
```

Changes PhoneNumber objects to a string representation on the way in and changes them back to PhoneNumber objects on the way out. If E164 is used as storing format, no country code is needed for parsing the database value to PhoneNumber object.

```
class User (self.Base) :
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    phone_number = sa.Column(PhoneNumberType())

user = User(phone_number='+358401234567')

user.phone_number.e164 # u'+358401234567'
user.phone_number.international # u'+358 40 1234567'
user.phone_number.national # u'040 1234567'
```

## 3.15 ScalarListType

```
class sqlalchemy_utils.types.scalar_list.ScalarListType (coerce_func=<type 'uni-
                                                         code'>, separator='u',
                                                         )
```

ScalarListType type provides convenient way for saving multiple scalar values in one column. ScalarListType works like list on python side and saves the result as comma-separated list in the database (custom separators can also be used).

Example

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import ScalarListType

class User (Base) :
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    hobbies = sa.Column(ScalarListType())

user = User()
user.hobbies = [u'football', u'ice_hockey']
session.commit()
```

You can easily set up integer lists too:

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import ScalarListType

class Player (Base) :
    __tablename__ = 'player'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
```

```
points = sa.Column(ScalarListType(int))

player = Player()
player.points = [11, 12, 8, 80]
session.commit()
```

## 3.16 TimezoneType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.timezone.**TimezoneType** (*backend='dateutil'*)

TimezoneType provides a way for saving timezones (from either the pytz or the dateutil package) objects into database. TimezoneType saves timezone objects as strings on the way in and converts them back to objects when querying the database.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import TimezoneType

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'

    # Pass backend='pytz' to change it to use pytz (dateutil by
    # default)
    timezone = sa.Column(TimezoneType(backend='pytz'))
```

## 3.17 TSVectorType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.ts\_vector.**TSVectorType** (*\*args, \*\*kwargs*)

---

**Note:** This type is PostgreSQL specific and is not supported by other dialects.

---

Provides additional functionality for SQLAlchemy PostgreSQL dialect's `TSVECTOR` type. This additional functionality includes:

- Vector concatenation
- `regconfig` constructor parameter which is applied to match function if no `postgresql_regconfig` parameter is given
- Provides extensible base for extensions such as [SQLAlchemy-Searchable](#)

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import TSVectorType

class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String(100))
    search_vector = sa.Column(TSVectorType)

# Find all articles whose name matches 'finland'
session.query(Article).filter(Article.search_vector.match('finland'))
```

TSVectorType also supports vector concatenation.

```
class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String(100))
    name_vector = sa.Column(TSVectorType)
    content = sa.Column(sa.String)
    content_vector = sa.Column(TSVectorType)

# Find all articles whose name or content matches 'finland'
session.query(Article).filter(
    (Article.name_vector | Article.content_vector).match('finland')
)
```

You can configure TSVectorType to use a specific regconfig.

```
class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String(100))
    search_vector = sa.Column(
        TSVectorType(regconfig='pg_catalog.simple')
    )
```

Now expression such as:

```
Article.search_vector.match('finland')
```

Would be equivalent to SQL:

```
search_vector @@ to_tsquery('pg_catalog.simgle', 'finland')
```

## 3.18 URLType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.url.URLType(\*args, \*\*kwargs)  
URLType stores furl objects into database.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import URLType
from furl import furl

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'

    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    website = sa.Column(URLType)

user = User(website=u'www.example.com')

# website is coerced to furl object, hence all nice furl operations
# come available
user.website.args['some_argument'] = '12'
```

```
print user.website
# www.example.com?some_argument=12
```

## 3.19 UUIDType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.uuid.**UUIDType** (*binary=True, native=True*)

Stores a UUID in the database natively when it can and falls back to a BINARY(16) or a CHAR(32) when it can't.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import UUIDType
import uuid

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'

    # Pass `binary=False` to fallback to CHAR instead of BINARY
    id = sa.Column(UUIDType(binary=False), primary_key=True)
```

## 3.20 WeekDaysType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.weekdays.**WeekDaysType** (*\*args, \*\*kwargs*)

WeekDaysType offers way of saving WeekDays objects into database. The WeekDays objects are converted to bit strings on the way in and back to WeekDays objects on the way out.

In order to use WeekDaysType you need to install [Babel](#) first.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import WeekDaysType, WeekDays
from babel import Locale

class Schedule(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'schedule'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    working_days = sa.Column(WeekDaysType)

schedule = Schedule()
schedule.working_days = WeekDays('0001111')
session.add(schedule)
session.commit()

print schedule.working_days # Thursday, Friday, Saturday, Sunday
```

WeekDaysType also supports scalar coercion:

```
schedule.working_days = '1110000'
schedule.working_days # WeekDays object
```



---

## Range data types

---

SQLAlchemy-Utills provides wide variety of range data types. All range data types return Interval objects of `intervals` package. In order to use range data types you need to install `intervals` with:

```
pip install intervals
```

Intervals package provides good chunk of additional interval operators that for example `psycopg2` range objects do not support.

Some good reading for practical interval implementations:

<http://wiki.postgresql.org/images/f/f0/Range-types.pdf>

### 4.1 Range type initialization

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import IntRangeType

class Event(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    estimated_number_of_persons = sa.Column(IntRangeType)
```

You can also set a step parameter for range type. The values that are not multipliers of given step will be rounded up to nearest step multiplier.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import IntRangeType

class Event(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
```

```
estimated_number_of_persons = sa.Column(IntRangeType(step=1000))

event = Event(estimated_number_of_persons=[100, 1200])
event.estimated_number_of_persons.lower # 0
event.estimated_number_of_persons.upper # 1000
```

## 4.2 Range type operators

SQLAlchemy-Utils supports many range type operators. These operators follow the *intervals* package interval coercion rules.

So for example when we make a query such as:

```
session.query(Car).filter(Car.price_range == 300)
```

It is essentially the same as:

```
session.query(Car).filter(Car.price_range == DecimalInterval([300, 300]))
```

### 4.2.1 Comparison operators

All range types support all comparison operators (>, >=, ==, !=, <=, <).

```
Car.price_range < [12, 300]
Car.price_range == [12, 300]
Car.price_range < 300
Car.price_range > (300, 500)

# Whether or not range is strictly left of another range
Car.price_range << [300, 500]

# Whether or not range is strictly right of another range
Car.price_range >> [300, 500]
```

### 4.2.2 Membership operators

```
Car.price_range.contains([300, 500])
Car.price_range.contained_by([300, 500])
Car.price_range.in_([[300, 500], [800, 900]])
~ Car.price_range.in_([[300, 400], [700, 800]])
```

### 4.2.3 Length

SQLAlchemy-Utils provides length property for all range types. The implementation of this property varies on different range types.

In the following example we find all cars whose price range's length is more than 500.

```
session.query(Car).filter(
    Car.price_range.length > 500
)
```

## 4.3 DateRangeType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.range.DateRangeType (\*args, \*\*kwargs)

DateRangeType provides way for saving ranges of dates into database. On PostgreSQL this type maps to native DATERANGE type while on other drivers this maps to simple string column.

Example:

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import DateRangeType

class Reservation(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    room_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer)
    during = sa.Column(DateRangeType)
```

## 4.4 DateTimeRangeType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.range.DateTimeRangeType (\*args, \*\*kwargs)

## 4.5 IntRangeType

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.types.range.IntRangeType (\*args, \*\*kwargs)

IntRangeType provides way for saving ranges of integers into database. On PostgreSQL this type maps to native INT4RANGE type while on other drivers this maps to simple string column.

Example:

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import IntRangeType

class Event(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    estimated_number_of_persons = sa.Column(IntRangeType)

party = Event(name=u'party')
```

```
# we estimate the party to contain minium of 10 persons and at max
# 100 persons
party.estimated_number_of_persons = [10, 100]

print party.estimated_number_of_persons
# '10-100'
```

`IntRangeType` returns the values as `IntInterval` objects. These objects support many arithmetic operators:

```
meeting = Event(name=u'meeting')

meeting.estimated_number_of_persons = [20, 40]

total = (
    meeting.estimated_number_of_persons +
    party.estimated_number_of_persons
)
print total
# '30-140'
```

## 4.6 NumericRangeType

**class** `sqlalchemy_utils.types.range.NumericRangeType` (*\*args, \*\*kwargs*)

`NumericRangeType` provides way for saving ranges of decimals into database. On PostgreSQL this type maps to native `NUMRANGE` type while on other drivers this maps to simple string column.

Example:

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import NumericRangeType

class Car(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'car'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, autoincrement=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    price_range = sa.Column(NumericRangeType)
```

## 4.7 RangeComparator

**class** `sqlalchemy_utils.types.range.RangeComparator` (*expr*)

---

## Aggregated attributes

---

SQLAlchemy-Utills provides way of automatically calculating aggregate values of related models and saving them to parent model.

This solution is inspired by RoR counter cache, [counter\\_culture](#) and [stackoverflow reply by Michael Bayer](#).

### 5.1 Why?

Many times you may have situations where you need to calculate dynamically some aggregate value for given model. Some simple examples include:

- Number of products in a catalog
- Average rating for movie
- Latest forum post
- Total price of orders for given customer

Now all these aggregates can be elegantly implemented with SQLAlchemy [column\\_property](#) function. However when your data grows calculating these values on the fly might start to hurt the performance of your application. The more aggregates you are using the more performance penalty you get.

This module provides way of calculating these values automatically and efficiently at the time of modification rather than on the fly.

### 5.2 Features

- Automatically updates aggregate columns when aggregated values change
- Supports aggregate values through arbitrary number levels of relations
- Highly optimized: uses single query per transaction per aggregate column
- Aggregated columns can be of any data type and use any selectable scalar expression

## 5.3 Simple aggregates

```

from sqlalchemy_utils import aggregated

class Thread(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'thread'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

    @aggregated('comments', sa.Column(sa.Integer))
    def comment_count(self):
        return sa.func.count('1')

    comments = sa.orm.relationship(
        'Comment',
        backref='thread'
    )

class Comment(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'comment'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    content = sa.Column(sa.UnicodeText)
    thread_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey(Thread.id))

thread = Thread(name=u'SQLAlchemy development')
thread.comments.append(Comment(u'Going good!'))
thread.comments.append(Comment(u'Great new features!'))

session.add(thread)
session.commit()

thread.comment_count # 2

```

## 5.4 Custom aggregate expressions

Aggregate expression can be virtually any SQL expression not just a simple function taking one parameter. You can try things such as subqueries and different kinds of functions.

In the following example we have a Catalog of products where each catalog knows the net worth of its products.

```

from sqlalchemy_utils import aggregated

class Catalog(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'catalog'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

    @aggregated('products', sa.Column(sa.Integer))
    def net_worth(self):
        return sa.func.sum(Product.price)

```

```

products = sa.orm.relationship('Product')

class Product(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'product'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    price = sa.Column(sa.Numeric)

    catalog_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey(Catalog.id))

```

Now the `net_worth` column of `Catalog` model will be automatically whenever:

- A new product is added to the catalog
- A product is deleted from the catalog
- The price of catalog product is changed

```

from decimal import Decimal

product1 = Product(name='Some product', price=Decimal(1000))
product2 = Product(name='Some other product', price=Decimal(500))

catalog = Catalog(
    name=u'My first catalog',
    products=[
        product1,
        product2
    ]
)
session.add(catalog)
session.commit()

session.refresh(catalog)
catalog.net_worth # 1500

session.delete(product2)
session.commit()
session.refresh(catalog)

catalog.net_worth # 1000

product1.price = 2000
session.commit()
session.refresh(catalog)

catalog.net_worth # 2000

```

## 5.5 Multiple aggregates per class

Sometimes you may need to define multiple aggregate values for same class. If you need to define lots of relationships pointing to same class, remember to define the relationships as viewonly when possible.

```

from sqlalchemy_utils import aggregated

class Customer(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'customer'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

    @aggregated('orders', sa.Column(sa.Integer))
    def orders_sum(self):
        return sa.func.sum(Order.price)

    @aggregated('invoiced_orders', sa.Column(sa.Integer))
    def invoiced_orders_sum(self):
        return sa.func.sum(Order.price)

    orders = sa.orm.relationship('Order')

    invoiced_orders = sa.orm.relationship(
        'Order',
        primaryjoin=
            'sa.and_(Order.customer_id == Customer.id, Order.invoiced)',
        viewonly=True
    )

class Order(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'order'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    price = sa.Column(sa.Numeric)
    invoiced = sa.Column(sa.Boolean, default=False)
    customer_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey(Customer.id))

```

## 5.6 Many-to-Many aggregates

Aggregate expressions also support many-to-many relationships. The usual use scenarios includes things such as:

1. Friend count of a user
2. Group count where given user belongs to

```

user_group = sa.Table('user_group', Base.metadata,
    sa.Column('user_id', sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey('user.id')),
    sa.Column('group_id', sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey('group.id'))
)

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

    @aggregated('groups', sa.Column(sa.Integer, default=0))
    def group_count(self):
        return sa.func.count('1')

```



```

groups = sa.orm.relationship(
    'Group',
    backref='users',
    secondary=user_group
)

class Group(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'group'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

user = User(name=u'John Matrix')
user.groups = [Group(name=u'Group A'), Group(name=u'Group B')]

session.add(user)
session.commit()

session.refresh(user)
user.group_count # 2

```

## 5.7 Multi-level aggregates

Aggregates can span across multiple relationships. In the following example each Catalog has a `net_worth` which is the sum of all products in all categories.

```

from sqlalchemy_utils import aggregated

class Catalog(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'catalog'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

    @aggregated('categories.products', sa.Column(sa.Integer))
    def net_worth(self):
        return sa.func.sum(Product.price)

    categories = sa.orm.relationship('Category')

class Category(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'category'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

    catalog_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey(Catalog.id))

    products = sa.orm.relationship('Product')

class Product(Base):

```

```
__tablename__ = 'product'
id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
price = sa.Column(sa.Numeric)

category_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey(Category.id))
```

## 5.8 Examples

### 5.8.1 Average movie rating

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import aggregated

class Movie(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'movie'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

    @aggregated('ratings', sa.Column(sa.Numeric))
    def avg_rating(self):
        return sa.func.avg(Rating.stars)

    ratings = sa.orm.relationship('Rating')

class Rating(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'rating'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    stars = sa.Column(sa.Integer)

    movie_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey(Movie.id))

movie = Movie('Terminator 2')
movie.ratings.append(Rating(stars=5))
movie.ratings.append(Rating(stars=4))
movie.ratings.append(Rating(stars=3))
session.add(movie)
session.commit()

movie.avg_rating # 4
```

## 5.9 TODO

- Special consideration should be given to [deadlocks](#).

`sqlalchemy_utils.aggregates.aggregated` (*relationship, column*)

Decorator that generates an aggregated attribute. The decorated function should return an aggregate select expression.

#### Parameters

- **relationship** – Defines the relationship of which the aggregate is calculated from. The class needs to have given relationship in order to calculate the aggregate.
- **column** – SQLAlchemy Column object. The column definition of this aggregate attribute.



This module provides a decorator function for observing changes in a given property. Internally the decorator is implemented using SQLAlchemy event listeners. Both column properties and relationship properties can be observed. Property observers can be used for pre-calculating aggregates and automatic real-time data denormalization.

## 6.1 Simple observers

At the heart of the observer extension is the `observes()` decorator. You mark some property path as being observed and the marked method will get notified when any changes are made to given path.

Consider the following model structure:

```
class Director(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'director'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String)
    date_of_birth = sa.Column(sa.Date)

class Movie(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'movie'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String)
    director_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey(Director.id))
    director = sa.orm.relationship(Director, backref='movies')
```

Now consider we want to show movies in some listing ordered by director id first and movie id secondly. If we have many movies then using joins and ordering by `Director.name` will be very slow. Here is where denormalization and `observes()` comes to rescue the day. Let's add a new column called `director_name` to `Movie` which will get automatically copied from associated `Director`.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import observes
```

```
class Movie(Base):
    # same as before..
    director_name = sa.Column(sa.String)

    @observes('director')
    def director_observer(self, director):
        self.director_name = director.name
```

---

**Note:** This example could be done much more efficiently using a compound foreign key from `director_name`, `director_id` to `Director.name`, `Director.id` but for the sake of simplicity we added this as an example.

---

## 6.2 Observes vs aggregated

`observes()` and `aggregates.aggregated()` can be used for similar things. However performance wise you should take the following things into consideration:

- `observes()` works always inside transaction and deals with objects. If the relationship observer is observing has a large number of objects it's better to use `aggregates.aggregated()`.
- `aggregates.aggregated()` always executes one additional query per aggregate so in scenarios where the observed relationship has only a handful of objects it's better to use `observes()` instead.

Example 1. Movie with many ratings

Let's say we have a `Movie` object with potentially thousands of ratings. In this case we should always use `aggregates.aggregated()` since iterating through thousands of objects is slow and very memory consuming.

Example 2. Product with denormalized catalog name

Each product belongs to one catalog. Here it is natural to use `observes()` for data denormalization.

## 6.3 Deeply nested observing

Consider the following model structure where `Catalog` has many `Categories` and `Category` has many `Products`.

```
class Catalog(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'catalog'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    product_count = sa.Column(sa.Integer, default=0)

    @observes('categories.products')
    def product_observer(self, products):
        self.product_count = len(products)

    categories = sa.orm.relationship('Category', backref='catalog')

class Category(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'category'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    catalog_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey('catalog.id'))

    products = sa.orm.relationship('Product', backref='category')
```

```
class Product(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'product'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    price = sa.Column(sa.Numeric)

    category_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey('category.id'))
```

`observes()` is smart enough to:

- Notify catalog objects of any changes in associated Product objects
- Notify catalog objects of any changes in Category objects that affect products (for example if Category gets deleted, or a new Category is added to Catalog with any number of Products)

```
category = Category(
    products=[Product(), Product()]
)
category2 = Category(
    product=[Product()]
)

catalog = Catalog(
    categories=[category, category2]
)
session.add(catalog)
session.commit()
catalog.product_count # 2

session.delete(category)
session.commit()
catalog.product_count # 1
```

## 6.4 Observing multiple columns

You can also observe multiple columns by specifying all the observable columns in the decorator.

```
class Order(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'order'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    unit_price = sa.Column(sa.Integer)
    amount = sa.Column(sa.Integer)
    total_price = sa.Column(sa.Integer)

    @observes('amount', 'unit_price')
    def total_price_observer(self, amount, unit_price):
        self.total_price = amount * unit_price
```

`sqlalchemy_utils.observer.observes(*paths, **observer_kw)`

Mark method as property observer for the given property path. Inside transaction observer gathers all changes made in given property path and feeds the changed objects to observer-marked method at the before flush phase.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import observes

class Catalog(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'catalog'
```

```
id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
category_count = sa.Column(sa.Integer, default=0)

@observes('categories')
def category_observer(self, categories):
    self.category_count = len(categories)

class Category(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'category'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    catalog_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey('catalog.id'))

catalog = Catalog(categories=[Category(), Category()])
session.add(catalog)
session.commit()

catalog.category_count # 2
```

### Parameters

- **\*paths** – One or more dot-notated property paths, eg. 'categories.products.price'
- **\*\*observer** – A dictionary where value for key 'observer' contains PropertyObserver() object



---

## Internationalization

---

SQLAlchemy-Utills provides a way for modeling translatable models. Model is translatable if one or more of its columns can be displayed in various languages.

---

**Note:** The implementation is currently highly PostgreSQL specific since it needs a dict-compatible column type (PostgreSQL HSTORE and JSON are such types). If you want database-agnostic way of modeling i18n see [SQLAlchemy-i18n](#).

---

### 7.1 TranslationHybrid vs SQLAlchemy-i18n

Compared to SQLAlchemy-i18n the TranslationHybrid has the following pros and cons:

- Usually faster since no joins are needed for fetching the data
- Less magic
- Easier to understand data model
- Only PostgreSQL supported for now

### 7.2 Quickstart

Let's say we have an Article model with translatable name and content. First we need to define the TranslationHybrid.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import TranslationHybrid

# For testing purposes we define this as simple function which returns
# locale 'fi'. Usually you would define this function as something that
# returns the user's current locale.
def get_locale():
```

```

    return 'fi'

translation_hybrid = TranslationHybrid(
    current_locale=get_locale,
    default_locale='en'
)

```

Then we can define the model.:

```

from sqlalchemy import *
from sqlalchemy.dialects.postgresql import HSTORE

class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'article'

    id = Column(Integer, primary_key=True)
    name_translations = Column(HSTORE)
    content_translations = Column(HSTORE)

    name = translation_hybrid(name_translations)
    content = translation_hybrid(content_translations)

```

Now we can start using our translatable model. By assigning things to translatable hybrids you are assigning them to the locale returned by the *current\_locale*.

```

article = Article(name='Joku artikkeli')
article.name_translations['fi'] # Joku artikkeli
article.name # Joku artikkeli

```

If you access the hybrid with a locale that doesn't exist the hybrid tries to fetch a the locale returned by *default\_locale*.

```

article = Article(name_translations={'en': 'Some article'})
article.name # Some article
article.name_translations['fi'] = 'Joku artikkeli'
article.name # Joku artikkeli

```

Translation hybrids can also be used as expressions.

```

session.query(Article).filter(Article.name['en'] == 'Some article')

```

By default if no value is found for either current or default locale the translation hybrid returns *None*. You can customize this value with *default\_value* parameter of *translation\_hybrid*. In the following example we make translation hybrid fallback to empty string instead of *None*.

```

translation_hybrid = TranslationHybrid(
    current_locale=get_locale,
    default_locale='en',
    default_value=''
)

class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'article'

    id = Column(Integer, primary_key=True)
    name_translations = Column(HSTORE)

```

```
name = translation_hybrid(name_translations, default)
```

```
Article().name # ''
```

## 7.3 Dynamic locales

Sometimes locales need to be dynamic. The following example illustrates how to setup dynamic locales.

```
translation_hybrid = TranslationHybrid(
    current_locale=get_locale,
    default_locale=lambda obj: obj.locale,
)

class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'article'

    id = Column(Integer, primary_key=True)
    name_translations = Column(HSTORE)

    name = translation_hybrid(name_translations, default)
    locale = Column(String)

article = Article(name_translations={'en': 'Some article'})
session.add(article)
session.commit()

article.name # Some article (even if current locale is other than 'en')
```



---

## Generic relationships

---

Generic relationship is a form of relationship that supports creating a 1 to many relationship to any target model.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import generic_relationship

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)

class Customer(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'customer'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)

class Event(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'event'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)

    # This is used to discriminate between the linked tables.
    object_type = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

    # This is used to point to the primary key of the linked row.
    object_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer)

    object = generic_relationship(object_type, object_id)

# Some general usage to attach an event to a user.
user = User()
customer = Customer()

session.add_all([user, customer])
session.commit()

ev = Event()
ev.object = user
```

```
session.add(ev)
session.commit()

# Find the event we just made.
session.query(Event).filter_by(object=user).first()

# Find any events that are bound to users.
session.query(Event).filter(Event.object.is_type(User)).all()
```

## 8.1 Inheritance

```
class Employee(self.Base):
    __tablename__ = 'employee'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String(50))
    type = sa.Column(sa.String(20))

    __mapper_args__ = {
        'polymorphic_on': type,
        'polymorphic_identity': 'employee'
    }

class Manager(Employee):
    __mapper_args__ = {
        'polymorphic_identity': 'manager'
    }

class Engineer(Employee):
    __mapper_args__ = {
        'polymorphic_identity': 'engineer'
    }

class Activity(self.Base):
    __tablename__ = 'event'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)

    object_type = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    object_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, nullable=False)

    object = generic_relationship(object_type, object_id)
```

Now same as before we can add some objects:

```
manager = Manager()

session.add(manager)
session.commit()

activity = Activity()
activity.object = manager

session.add(activity)
session.commit()

# Find the activity we just made.
```

```
session.query(Event).filter_by(object=manager).first()
```

We can even test super types:

```
session.query(Activity).filter(Event.object.is_type(Employee)).all()
```

## 8.2 Abstract base classes

Generic relationships also allows using string arguments. When using `generic_relationship` with abstract base classes you need to set up the relationship using `declared_attr` decorator and string arguments.

```
class Building(self.Base):
    __tablename__ = 'building'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)

class User(self.Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)

class EventBase(self.Base):
    __abstract__ = True

    object_type = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    object_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, nullable=False)

    @declared_attr
    def object(cls):
        return generic_relationship('object_type', 'object_id')

class Event(EventBase):
    __tablename__ = 'event'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
```

## 8.3 Composite keys

For some very rare cases you may need to use `generic_relationships` with composite primary keys. There is a limitation here though: you can only set up `generic_relationship` for similar composite primary key types. In other words you can't mix `generic_relationship` to both composite keyed objects and single keyed objects.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import generic_relationship

class Customer(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'customer'
    code1 = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    code2 = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)

class Event(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'event'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
```

```
# This is used to discriminate between the linked tables.
object_type = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

object_code1 = sa.Column(sa.Integer)

object_code2 = sa.Column(sa.Integer)

object = generic_relationship(
    object_type, (object_code1, object_code2)
)
```



## 9.1 analyze

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.analyze(conn, query)`

Analyze query using given connection and return `QueryAnalysis` object. Analysis is performed using database specific EXPLAIN ANALYZE construct and then examining the results into structured format. Currently only PostgreSQL is supported.

Getting query runtime (in database level)

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import analyze

analysis = analyze(conn, 'SELECT * FROM article')
analysis.runtime # runtime as milliseconds
```

Analyze can be very useful when testing that query doesn't issue a sequential scan (scanning all rows in table). You can for example write simple performance tests this way.:

```
query = (
    session.query(Article.name)
    .order_by(Article.name)
    .limit(10)
)
analysis = analyze(self.connection, query)
analysis.node_types # [u'Limit', u'Index Only Scan']

assert 'Seq Scan' not in analysis.node_types
```

### Parameters

- **conn** – SQLAlchemy Connection object
- **query** – SQLAlchemy Query object or query as a string

## 9.2 database\_exists

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.database_exists(url)`

Check if a database exists.

**Parameters** `url` – A SQLAlchemy engine URL.

Performs backend-specific testing to quickly determine if a database exists on the server.

```
database_exists('postgres://postgres@localhost/name') #=> False
create_database('postgres://postgres@localhost/name')
database_exists('postgres://postgres@localhost/name') #=> True
```

Supports checking against a constructed URL as well.

```
engine = create_engine('postgres://postgres@localhost/name')
database_exists(engine.url) #=> False
create_database(engine.url)
database_exists(engine.url) #=> True
```

## 9.3 create\_database

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.create_database(url, encoding='utf8', template=None)`

Issue the appropriate CREATE DATABASE statement.

**Parameters**

- **url** – A SQLAlchemy engine URL.
- **encoding** – The encoding to create the database as.
- **template** – The name of the template from which to create the new database. At the moment only supported by PostgreSQL driver.

To create a database, you can pass a simple URL that would have been passed to `create_engine`.

```
create_database('postgres://postgres@localhost/name')
```

You may also pass the url from an existing engine.

```
create_database(engine.url)
```

Has full support for mysql, postgres, and sqlite. In theory, other database engines should be supported.

## 9.4 drop\_database

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.drop_database(url)`

Issue the appropriate DROP DATABASE statement.

**Parameters** `url` – A SQLAlchemy engine URL.

Works similar to the `create_database` method in that both url text and a constructed url are accepted.

```
drop_database('postgres://postgres@localhost/name')
drop_database(engine.url)
```

## 9.5 has\_index

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.has_index` (*column\_or\_constraint*)

Return whether or not given column or the columns of given foreign key constraint have an index. A column has an index if it has a single column index or it is the first column in compound column index.

A foreign key constraint has an index if the constraint columns are the first columns in compound column index.

**Parameters** `column_or_constraint` – SQLAlchemy Column object or SA ForeignKeyConstraint object

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import has_index

class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'article'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    title = sa.Column(sa.String(100))
    is_published = sa.Column(sa.Boolean, index=True)
    is_deleted = sa.Column(sa.Boolean)
    is_archived = sa.Column(sa.Boolean)

    __table_args__ = (
        sa.Index('my_index', is_deleted, is_archived),
    )

table = Article.__table__

has_index(table.c.is_published) # True
has_index(table.c.is_deleted)  # True
has_index(table.c.is_archived) # False
```

Also supports primary key indexes

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import has_index

class ArticleTranslation(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'article_translation'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    locale = sa.Column(sa.String(10), primary_key=True)
    title = sa.Column(sa.String(100))

table = ArticleTranslation.__table__

has_index(table.c.locale) # False
has_index(table.c.id)    # True
```

This function supports foreign key constraints as well

```
class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    first_name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255), primary_key=True)
    last_name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255), primary_key=True)

class Article(Base):
```

```

__tablename__ = 'article'
id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
author_first_name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
author_last_name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
__table_args__ = (
    sa.ForeignKeyConstraint(
        [author_first_name, author_last_name],
        [User.first_name, User.last_name]
    ),
    sa.Index(
        'my_index',
        author_first_name,
        author_last_name
    )
)

table = Article.__table__
constraint = list(table.foreign_keys)[0].constraint

has_index(constraint) # True

```

## 9.6 has\_unique\_index

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.has_unique_index(column_or_constraint)`

Return whether or not given column or given foreign key constraint has a unique index.

A column has a unique index if it has a single column primary key index or it has a single column UniqueConstraint.

A foreign key constraint has a unique index if the columns of the constraint are the same as the columns of table primary key or the columns of any unique index or any unique constraint of the given table.

**Parameters** `column` – SQLAlchemy Column object

```

from sqlalchemy_utils import has_unique_index

class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'article'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    title = sa.Column(sa.String(100))
    is_published = sa.Column(sa.Boolean, unique=True)
    is_deleted = sa.Column(sa.Boolean)
    is_archived = sa.Column(sa.Boolean)

table = Article.__table__

has_unique_index(table.c.is_published) # True
has_unique_index(table.c.is_deleted) # False
has_unique_index(table.c.id) # True

```

This function supports foreign key constraints as well

```

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'

```

```

first_name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255), primary_key=True)
last_name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255), primary_key=True)

class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'article'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    author_first_name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    author_last_name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    __table_args__ = (
        sa.ForeignKeyConstraint(
            [author_first_name, author_last_name],
            [User.first_name, User.last_name]
        ),
        sa.Index(
            'my_index',
            author_first_name,
            author_last_name,
            unique=True
        )
    )

table = Article.__table__
constraint = list(table.foreign_keys)[0].constraint

has_unique_index(constraint) # True

```

Raises **TypeError** – if given column does not belong to a Table object

## 9.7 json\_sql

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.json_sql(value, scalars_to_json=True)`

Convert python data structures to PostgreSQL specific SQLAlchemy JSON constructs. This function is extremely useful if you need to build PostgreSQL JSON on python side.

---

**Note:** This function needs PostgreSQL >= 9.4

---

Scalars are converted to `to_json` SQLAlchemy function objects

```

json_sql(1)      # Equals SQL: to_json(1)
json_sql('a')   # to_json('a')

```

Mappings are converted to `json_build_object` constructs

```

json_sql({'a': 'c', '2': 5}) # json_build_object('a', 'c', '2', 5)

```

Sequences (other than strings) are converted to `json_build_array` constructs

```

json_sql([1, 2, 3]) # json_build_array(1, 2, 3)

```

You can also nest these data structures

```
json_sql({'a': [1, 2, 3]})  
# json_build_object('a', json_build_array[1, 2, 3])
```

**Parameters** **value** – value to be converted to SQLAlchemy PostgreSQL function constructs

## 9.8 render\_expression

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.render_expression` (*expression*, *bind*, *stream=None*)

Generate a SQL expression from the passed python expression.

Only the global variable, *engine*, is available for use in the expression. Additional local variables may be passed in the context parameter.

Note this function is meant for convenience and protected usage. Do NOT blindly pass user input to this function as it uses `exec`.

### Parameters

- **bind** – A SQLAlchemy engine or bind URL.
- **stream** – Render all DDL operations to the stream.

## 9.9 render\_statement

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.render_statement` (*statement*, *bind=None*)

Generate an SQL expression string with bound parameters rendered inline for the given SQLAlchemy statement.

### Parameters

- **statement** – SQLAlchemy Query object.
- **bind** – Optional SQLAlchemy bind, if None uses the bind of the given query object.

## 10.1 dependent\_objects

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.dependent_objects` (*obj*, *foreign\_keys=None*)

Return a *QueryChain* that iterates through all dependent objects for given SQLAlchemy object.

Consider a User object is referenced in various articles and also in various orders. Getting all these dependent objects is as easy as:

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import dependent_objects

dependent_objects(user)
```

If you expect an object to have lots of `dependent_objects` it might be good to limit the results:

```
dependent_objects(user).limit(5)
```

The common use case is checking for all restrict dependent objects before deleting parent object and inform the user if there are dependent objects with `ondelete='RESTRICT'` foreign keys. If this kind of checking is not used it will lead to nasty `IntegrityErrors` being raised.

In the following example we delete given user if it doesn't have any foreign key restricted dependent objects:

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import get_referencing_foreign_keys

user = session.query(User).get(some_user_id)

deps = list(
    dependent_objects(
        user,
        (
            fk for fk in get_referencing_foreign_keys(User)
```

```
        # On most databases RESTRICT is the default mode hence we
        # check for None values also
        if fk.ondelete == 'RESTRICT' or fk.ondelete is None
    )
    ).limit(5)
)

if deps:
    # Do something to inform the user
    pass
else:
    session.delete(user)
```

### Parameters

- **obj** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object
- **foreign\_keys** – A sequence of foreign keys to use for searching the dependent\_objects for given object. By default this is None, indicating that all foreign keys referencing the object will be used.

---

**Note:** This function does not support exotic mappers that use multiple tables

---

### See also:

`get_referencing_foreign_keys()`

### See also:

`merge_references()`

## 10.2 get\_referencing\_foreign\_keys

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_referencing_foreign_keys` (*mixed*)

Returns referencing foreign keys for given Table object or declarative class.

**Parameters** *mixed* – SA Table object or SA declarative class

```
get_referencing_foreign_keys(User) # set([ForeignKey('user.id')])

get_referencing_foreign_keys(User.__table__)
```

This function also understands inheritance. This means it returns all foreign keys that reference any table in the class inheritance tree.

Let's say you have three classes which use joined table inheritance, namely TextItem, Article and BlogPost with Article and BlogPost inheriting TextItem.

```
# This will check all foreign keys that reference either article table
# or textitem table.
get_referencing_foreign_keys(Article)
```

### See also:

`get_tables()`



## 10.3 group\_foreign\_keys

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.group_foreign_keys` (*foreign\_keys*)

Return a groupby iterator that groups given foreign keys by table.

**Parameters** `foreign_keys` – a sequence of foreign keys

```
foreign_keys = get_referencing_foreign_keys(User)

for table, fks in group_foreign_keys(foreign_keys):
    # do something
    pass
```

**See also:**

`get_referencing_foreign_keys()`

## 10.4 is\_indexed\_foreign\_key

## 10.5 merge\_references

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.merge_references` (*from\_, to, foreign\_keys=None*)

Merge the references of an entity into another entity.

Consider the following models:

```
class User(self.Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String(255))

    def __repr__(self):
        return 'User(name=%r)' % self.name

class BlogPost(self.Base):
    __tablename__ = 'blog_post'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    title = sa.Column(sa.String(255))
    author_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey('user.id'))

    author = sa.orm.relationship(User)
```

Now lets add some data:

```
john = self.User(name='John')
jack = self.User(name='Jack')
post = self.BlogPost(title='Some title', author=john)
post2 = self.BlogPost(title='Other title', author=jack)
self.session.add_all([
    john,
    jack,
    post,
    post2
])
self.session.commit()
```

If we wanted to merge all John's references to Jack it would be as easy as

```
merge_references(john, jack)
self.session.commit()

post.author      # User(name='Jack')
post2.author     # User(name='Jack')
```

#### Parameters

- **from** – an entity to merge into another entity
- **to** – an entity to merge another entity into
- **foreign\_keys** – A sequence of foreign keys. By default this is None indicating all referencing foreign keys should be used.

## 10.6 non\_indexed\_foreign\_keys

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.non_indexed_foreign_keys(metadata, engine=None)`

Finds all non indexed foreign keys from all tables of given MetaData.

Very useful for optimizing postgresql database and finding out which foreign keys need indexes.

**Parameters** `metadata` – MetaData object to inspect tables from

## 11.1 cast\_if

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.cast_if(expression, type_)`

Produce a CAST expression but only if given expression is not of given type already.

Assume we have a model with two fields `id` (Integer) and `name` (String).

```
import sqlalchemy as sa
from sqlalchemy_utils import cast_if

cast_if(User.id, sa.Integer)      # "user".id
cast_if(User.name, sa.String)    # "user".name
cast_if(User.id, sa.String)      # CAST("user".id AS TEXT)
```

This function supports scalar values as well.

```
cast_if(1, sa.Integer)           # 1
cast_if('text', sa.String)      # 'text'
cast_if(1, sa.String)            # CAST(1 AS TEXT)
```

### Parameters

- **expression** – A SQL expression, such as a `ColumnElement` expression or a Python string which will be coerced into a bound literal value.
- **type** – A `TypeEngine` class or instance indicating the type to which the CAST should apply.

## 11.2 escape\_like

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.escape_like(string, escape_char='*')`

Escape the string parameter used in SQL LIKE expressions.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import escape_like

query = session.query(User).filter(
    User.name.ilike(escape_like('John'))
)
```

#### Parameters

- **string** – a string to escape
- **escape\_char** – escape character

## 11.3 get\_bind

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_bind(obj)`

Return the bind for given SQLAlchemy Engine / Connection / declarative model object.

**Parameters** `obj` – SQLAlchemy Engine / Connection / declarative model object

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import get_bind

get_bind(session) # Connection object

get_bind(user)
```

## 11.4 get\_class\_by\_table

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_class_by_table(base, table, data=None)`

Return declarative class associated with given table. If no class is found this function returns *None*. If multiple classes were found (polymorphic cases) additional *data* parameter can be given to hint which class to return.

```
class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'entity'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String)

get_class_by_table(Base, User.__tablename__) # User class
```

This function also supports models using single table inheritance. Additional data parameter should be provided in these case.

```
class Entity(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'entity'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String)
    type = sa.Column(sa.String)
    __mapper_args__ = {
        'polymorphic_on': type,
        'polymorphic_identity': 'entity'
    }
```

```

class User(Entity):
    __mapper_args__ = {
        'polymorphic_identity': 'user'
    }

# Entity class
get_class_by_table(Base, Entity.__table__, {'type': 'entity'})

# User class
get_class_by_table(Base, Entity.__table__, {'type': 'user'})

```

**Parameters**

- **base** – Declarative model base
- **table** – SQLAlchemy Table object
- **data** – Data row to determine the class in polymorphic scenarios

**Returns** Declarative class or None.

## 11.5 get\_column\_key

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_column_key(model, column)`

Return the key for given column in given model.

**Parameters** **model** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object

```

class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column('_name', sa.String)

get_column_key(User, User.__table__.c.name) # 'name'

```

## 11.6 get\_columns

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_columns(mixed)`

Return a collection of all Column objects for given SQLAlchemy object.

The type of the collection depends on the type of the object to return the columns from.

```

get_columns(User)

get_columns(User())

get_columns(User.__table__)

get_columns(User.__mapper__)

get_columns(sa.orm.aliased(User))

```

```
get_columns(sa.orm.aliased(User.__table__))
```

**Parameters** **mixed** – SA Table object, SA Mapper, SA declarative class, SA declarative class instance or an alias of any of these objects

## 11.7 get\_declarative\_base

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_declarative_base(model)`

Returns the declarative base for given model class.

**Parameters** **model** – SQLAlchemy declarative model

## 11.8 get\_hybrid\_properties

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_hybrid_properties(model)`

Returns a dictionary of hybrid property keys and hybrid properties for given SQLAlchemy declarative model / mapper.

Consider the following model

```
from sqlalchemy.ext.hybrid import hybrid_property

class Category(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'category'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

    @hybrid_property
    def lowercase_name(self):
        return self.name.lower()

    @lowercase_name.expression
    def lowercase_name(cls):
        return sa.func.lower(cls.name)
```

You can now easily get a list of all hybrid property names

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import get_hybrid_properties

get_hybrid_properties(Category).keys() # ['lowercase_name']
```

This function also supports aliased classes

```
get_hybrid_properties(
    sa.orm.aliased(Category)
).keys() # ['lowercase_name']
```

**Parameters** **model** – SQLAlchemy declarative model or mapper

## 11.9 get\_mapper

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_mapper` (*mixed*)

Return related SQLAlchemy Mapper for given SQLAlchemy object.

**Parameters** *mixed* – SQLAlchemy Table / Alias / Mapper / declarative model object

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import get_mapper

get_mapper(User)

get_mapper(User())

get_mapper(User.__table__)

get_mapper(User.__mapper__)

get_mapper(sa.orm.aliased(User))

get_mapper(sa.orm.aliased(User.__table__))
```

**Raises:** ValueError: if multiple mappers were found for given argument

## 11.10 get\_query\_entities

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_query_entities` (*query*)

Return a list of all entities present in given SQLAlchemy query object.

Examples:

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import get_query_entities

query = session.query(Category)

get_query_entities(query) # [<Category>]

query = session.query(Category.id)

get_query_entities(query) # [<Category>]
```

This function also supports queries with joins.

```
query = session.query(Category).join(Article)

get_query_entities(query) # [<Category>, <Article>]
```

**Parameters** *query* – SQLAlchemy Query object

## 11.11 get\_primary\_keys

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_primary_keys` (*mixed*)

Return an OrderedDict of all primary keys for given Table object, declarative class or declarative class instance.

**Parameters mixed** – SA Table object, SA declarative class or SA declarative class instance

```
get_primary_keys(User)

get_primary_keys(User())

get_primary_keys(User.__table__)

get_primary_keys(User.__mapper__)

get_primary_keys(sa.orm.aliased(User))

get_primary_keys(sa.orm.aliased(User.__table__))
```

**See also:**

`get_columns()`

## 11.12 get\_tables

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_tables` (*mixed*)

Return a set of tables associated with given SQLAlchemy object.

Let's say we have three classes which use joined table inheritance TextItem, Article and BlogPost. Article and BlogPost inherit TextItem.

```
get_tables(Article) # set([Table('article', ...), Table('text_item')])

get_tables(Article())

get_tables(Article.__mapper__)
```

If the TextItem entity is using `with_polymorphic='*`' then this function returns all child tables (article and blog\_post) as well.

```
get_tables(TextItem) # set([Table('text_item', ...)], ...])
```

**Parameters mixed** – SQLAlchemy Mapper, Declarative class, Column, InstrumentedAttribute or a SA Alias object wrapping any of these objects.

## 11.13 get\_type

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.get_type` (*expr*)

Return the associated type with given Column, InstrumentedAttribute, ColumnProperty, RelationshipProperty or other similar SQLAlchemy construct.

For constructs wrapping columns this is the column type. For relationships this function returns the relationship mapper class.



**Parameters** `expr` – SQLAlchemy Column, InstrumentedAttribute, ColumnProperty or other similar SA construct.

```
class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String)

class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'article'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    author_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey(User.id))
    author = sa.orm.relationship(User)

get_type(User.__table__.c.name) # sa.String()
get_type(User.name) # sa.String()
get_type(User.name.property) # sa.String()

get_type(Article.author) # User
```

## 11.14 has\_changes

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.has_changes(obj, attrs=None, exclude=None)`

Simple shortcut function for checking if given attributes of given declarative model object have changed during the session. Without parameters this checks if given object has any modifications. Additionally `exclude` parameter can be given to check if given object has any changes in any attributes other than the ones given in `exclude`.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import has_changes

user = User()

has_changes(user, 'name') # False

user.name = u'someone'

has_changes(user, 'name') # True

has_changes(user) # True
```

You can check multiple attributes as well.

```
has_changes(user, ['age']) # True

has_changes(user, ['name', 'age']) # True
```

This function also supports excluding certain attributes.

```
has_changes(user, exclude=['name']) # False

has_changes(user, exclude=['age']) # True
```

**Parameters**

- **obj** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object
- **attrs** – Names of the attributes
- **exclude** – Names of the attributes to exclude

## 11.15 identity

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.identity(obj_or_class)`

Return the identity of given sqlalchemy declarative model class or instance as a tuple. This differs from `obj.sa_instance_state.identity` in a way that it always returns the identity even if object is still in transient state ( new object that is not yet persisted into database). Also for classes it returns the identity attributes.

```
from sqlalchemy import inspect
from sqlalchemy_utils import identity

user = User(name=u'John Matrix')
session.add(user)
identity(user) # None
inspect(user).identity # None

session.flush() # User now has id but is still in transient state

identity(user) # (1,)
inspect(user).identity # None

session.commit()

identity(user) # (1,)
inspect(user).identity # (1, )
```

You can also use `identity` for classes:

```
identity(User) # (User.id, )
```

**Parameters** **obj** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object

## 11.16 is\_loaded

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.is_loaded(obj, prop)`

Return whether or not given property of given object has been loaded.

```
class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'article'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String)
    content = sa.orm.deferred(sa.Column(sa.String))

article = session.query(Article).get(5)
```

```
# name gets loaded since its not a deferred property
assert is_loaded(article, 'name')

# content has not yet been loaded since its a deferred property
assert not is_loaded(article, 'content')
```

### Parameters

- **obj** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object
- **prop** – Name of the property or InstrumentedAttribute

## 11.17 make\_order\_by\_deterministic

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.make_order_by_deterministic(query)`

Make query order by deterministic (if it isn't already). Order by is considered deterministic if it contains column that is unique index ( either it is a primary key or has a unique index). Many times it is design flaw to order by queries in nondeterministic manner.

Consider a User model with three fields: id (primary key), favorite color and email (unique):.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import make_order_by_deterministic

query = session.query(User).order_by(User.favorite_color)

query = make_order_by_deterministic(query)
print query # 'SELECT ... ORDER BY "user".favorite_color, "user".id'

query = session.query(User).order_by(User.email)

query = make_order_by_deterministic(query)
print query # 'SELECT ... ORDER BY "user".email'

query = session.query(User).order_by(User.id)

query = make_order_by_deterministic(query)
print query # 'SELECT ... ORDER BY "user".id'
```

## 11.18 naturally\_equivalent

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.naturally_equivalent(obj, obj2)`

Returns whether or not two given SQLAlchemy declarative instances are naturally equivalent (all their non primary key properties are equivalent).

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import naturally_equivalent

user = User(name=u'someone')
user2 = User(name=u'someone')
```

```
user == user2 # False

naturally_equivalent(user, user2) # True
```

### Parameters

- **obj** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object
- **obj2** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object to compare with *obj*

## 11.19 quote

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.quote` (*mixed, ident*)  
Conditionally quote an identifier.

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import quote

engine = create_engine('sqlite:///memory:')

quote(engine, 'order')
# "order"

quote(engine, 'some_other_identifier')
# 'some_other_identifier'
```

### Parameters

- **mixed** – SQLAlchemy Session / Connection / Engine / Dialect object.
- **ident** – identifier to conditionally quote

## 11.20 sort\_query

`sqlalchemy_utils.functions.sort_query` (*query, \*args, \*\*kwargs*)  
Applies an sql ORDER BY for given query. This function can be easily used with user-defined sorting.

The examples use the following model definition:

```
import sqlalchemy as sa
from sqlalchemy import create_engine
from sqlalchemy.orm import sessionmaker
from sqlalchemy.ext.declarative import declarative_base
from sqlalchemy_utils import sort_query

engine = create_engine(
    'sqlite:///')
)
Base = declarative_base()
Session = sessionmaker(bind=engine)
session = Session()

class Category(Base):
```

```

__tablename__ = 'category'
id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))

class Article(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'article'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.Unicode(255))
    category_id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, sa.ForeignKey(Category.id))

    category = sa.orm.relationship(
        Category, primaryjoin=category_id == Category.id
    )

```

### 1. Applying simple ascending sort

```

query = session.query(Article)
query = sort_query(query, 'name')

```

### 2. Applying descending sort

```

query = sort_query(query, '-name')

```

### 3. Applying sort to custom calculated label

```

query = session.query(
    Category, sa.func.count(Article.id).label('articles')
)
query = sort_query(query, 'articles')

```

### 4. Applying sort to joined table column

```

query = session.query(Article).join(Article.category)
query = sort_query(query, 'category-name')

```

#### Parameters

- **query** – query to be modified
- **sort** – string that defines the label or column to sort the query by
- **silent** – Whether or not to raise exceptions if unknown sort column is passed. By default this is *True* indicating that no errors should be raised for unknown columns.



### 12.1 QueryChain

QueryChain is a wrapper for sequence of queries.

Features:

- Easy iteration for sequence of queries
- Limit, offset and count which are applied to all queries in the chain
- Smart `__getitem__` support

#### 12.1.1 Initialization

QueryChain takes iterable of queries as first argument. Additionally limit and offset parameters can be given

```
chain = QueryChain([session.query(User), session.query(Article)])

chain = QueryChain(
    [session.query(User), session.query(Article)],
    limit=4
)
```

#### 12.1.2 Simple iteration

```
chain = QueryChain([session.query(User), session.query(Article)])

for obj in chain:
    print obj
```

### 12.1.3 Limit and offset

Lets say you have 5 blog posts, 5 articles and 5 news items in your database.

```
chain = QueryChain(
    [
        session.query(BlogPost),
        session.query(Article),
        session.query(NewsItem)
    ],
    limit=5
)

list(chain)  # all blog posts but not articles and news items

chain = chain.offset(4)
list(chain)  # last blog post, and first four articles
```

Just like with original query object the limit and offset can be chained to return a new QueryChain.

```
chain = chain.limit(5).offset(7)
```

### 12.1.4 Chain slicing

```
chain = QueryChain(
    [
        session.query(BlogPost),
        session.query(Article),
        session.query(NewsItem)
    ]
)

chain[3:6]  # New QueryChain with offset=3 and limit=6
```

### 12.1.5 Count

Let's assume that there are five blog posts, five articles and five news items in the database, and you have the following query chain:

```
chain = QueryChain(
    [
        session.query(BlogPost),
        session.query(Article),
        session.query(NewsItem)
    ]
)
```

You can then get the total number rows returned by the query chain with `count()`:

```
>>> chain.count()
15
```



## 12.2 API

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.query\_chain.**QueryChain** (*queries*, *limit=None*, *offset=None*)

QueryChain can be used as a wrapper for sequence of queries.

### Parameters

- **queries** – A sequence of SQLAlchemy Query objects
- **limit** – Similar to normal query limit this parameter can be used for limiting the number of results for the whole query chain.
- **offset** – Similar to normal query offset this parameter can be used for offsetting the query chain as a whole.

**count** ()

Return the total number of rows this QueryChain's queries would return.



## 13.1 Timestamp

**class** sqlalchemy\_utils.models.Timestamp

Adds *created* and *updated* columns to a derived declarative model.

The *created* column is handled through a default and the *updated* column is handled through a *before\_update* event that propagates for all derived declarative models.

```
import sqlalchemy as sa
from sqlalchemy_utils import Timestamp

class SomeModel(Base, Timestamp):
    __tablename__ = 'somemodel'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
```

## 13.2 generic\_repr

sqlalchemy\_utils.models.generic\_repr(\*fields)

Adds generic `__repr__()` method to a declarative SQLAlchemy model.

In case if some fields are not loaded from a database, it doesn't force their loading and instead represents them as `<not loaded>`.

In addition, user can provide field names as arguments to the decorator to specify what fields should present in the string representation and in what order.

Example:

```
import sqlalchemy as sa
from sqlalchemy_utils import generic_repr
```

```
@generic_repr
class MyModel(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'mymodel'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String)
    category = sa.Column(sa.String)

session.add(MyModel(name='Foo', category='Bar'))
session.commit()
foo = session.query(MyModel).options(sa.orm.defer('category')).one(s)

assert repr(foo) == 'MyModel(id=1, name='Foo', category=<not loaded>'
```

The functions in this module can be used for testing that the constraints of your models. Each assert function runs SQL UPDATES that check for the existence of given constraint. Consider the following model:

```
class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    name = sa.Column(sa.String(200), nullable=True)
    email = sa.Column(sa.String(255), nullable=False)

user = User(name='John Doe', email='john@example.com')
session.add(user)
session.commit()
```

We can easily test the constraints by `assert_*` functions:

```
from sqlalchemy_utils import (
    assert_nullable,
    assert_non_nullable,
    assert_max_length
)

assert_nullable(user, 'name')
assert_non_nullable(user, 'email')
assert_max_length(user, 'name', 200)

# raises AssertionError because the max length of email is 255
assert_max_length(user, 'email', 300)
```

## 14.1 assert\_min\_value

`sqlalchemy_utils.asserts.assert_min_value(obj, column, min_value)`

Assert that the given column must have a minimum value of *min\_value*.

### Parameters

- **obj** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object
- **column** – Name of the column
- **min\_value** – The minimum allowed value for given column

## 14.2 assert\_max\_length

`sqlalchemy_utils.asserts.assert_max_length(obj, column, max_length)`

Assert that the given column is of given max length. This function supports string typed columns as well as PostgreSQL array typed columns.

In the following example we add a check constraint that user can have a maximum of 5 favorite colors and then test this.:

```
class User(Base):
    __tablename__ = 'user'
    id = sa.Column(sa.Integer, primary_key=True)
    favorite_colors = sa.Column(ARRAY(sa.String), nullable=False)
    __table_args__ = (
        sa.CheckConstraint(
            sa.func.array_length(favorite_colors, 1) <= 5
        )
    )

user = User(name='John Doe', favorite_colors=['red', 'blue'])
session.add(user)
session.commit()

assert_max_length(user, 'favorite_colors', 5)
```

### Parameters

- **obj** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object
- **column** – Name of the column
- **max\_length** – Maximum length of given column

## 14.3 assert\_max\_value

`sqlalchemy_utils.asserts.assert_max_value(obj, column, min_value)`

Assert that the given column must have a minimum value of *max\_value*.

### Parameters

- **obj** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object

- **column** – Name of the column
- **max\_value** – The maximum allowed value for given column

## 14.4 assert\_nullable

`sqlalchemy_utils.asserts.assert_nullable(obj, column)`

Assert that given column is nullable. This is checked by running an SQL update that assigns given column as None.

### Parameters

- **obj** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object
- **column** – Name of the column

## 14.5 assert\_non\_nullable

`sqlalchemy_utils.asserts.assert_non_nullable(obj, column)`

Assert that given column is not nullable. This is checked by running an SQL update that assigns given column as None.

### Parameters

- **obj** – SQLAlchemy declarative model object
- **column** – Name of the column





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