
LightMVC Documentation

Release 3.0.0

Foreach Code Factory

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And, then, there was truly light!

[LightMVC Framework Home Page](#)

Easily create PHP applications by using any PHP library within this very modular, event-driven and Swoole-enabled framework!

CHAPTER 1

What's new in version 3.0.0 (2019-04-16)

- Adds controller-based Event Sourcing aggregates to the framework with a PSR-14 compliant Event Dispatcher (event bus).
- Adds the facilities to use CQRS.
- Updates the documentation.

CHAPTER 2

What's new in version 2.1.1 (2019-04-16)

- Fixes a few unit tests and a few minor issues concerning code comments.

CHAPTER 3

What's new in version 2.1.0 (2019-04-10)

- Adds asynchronous non-blocking PHP sessions (Swoole compatible).
- Adds a PSR-6 compliant interface and a corresponding proxy class to Doctrine\Common\Cache classes for session caching.
- Updates the documentation.

CHAPTER 4

What's new in version 2.0.4 (2019-04-16)

- Fixes a few unit tests and a few minor issues concerning code comments.

CHAPTER 5

What's new in version 2.0.3 (2019-04-10)

- Fixes an issue when requesting an unknown controller method.

CHAPTER 6

What's new in version 2.0.2 (2019-01-23)

- Fixes an issue when running in Swoole mode behind an NGINX HTTPS proxy server.
- Fixes an issue with the way the controller namespace was obtained from the file path.
- Updates the documentation.

What's new in version 2.0.1 (2019-01-20)

- Fixes an issue with the Bootstrap event on Windows.
- Modifies the Controller Manager in order to receive an instance from a Controller Factory directly.
- Updates the documentation.
- Updates the API documentation.

What's new in version 2.0.0 (2019-01-15)

- Adds support for running the framework on Swoole.
- Uses PSR-7 compliant HTTP messages (Zend Diactoros).
- Uses PSR-15 compliant middleware and pipelines (Zend Stratigility).
- Uses the nikic/fast-route routing library.
- Uses the Pimple Container as a service manager.
- Uses an event-driven architecture (Zend EventManager).
- Uses Plates as the default template manager.
- Adds Twig as a possible template manager.
- Updates the Smarty template manager.
- Adds TailwindCSS to the default templates.
- Updates Bootstrap CSS Framework in alternative templates.
- Updates the Doctrine Framework (domain logic).
- Adds the Atlas ORM Framework (persistence logic).

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Version 2.0, January 2004

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10.1 Prerequisites

- PHP 7.1

10.2 Installation using Composer

To add the **LightMVC Framework** package to your PHP project, you can simply run the following command on your computer's CLI:

```
$ composer require lightmvc/ascmvc
```

You can also use the **LightMVC Skeleton Application** by issuing these commands:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/lightmvc/lightmvcskel
$ cd lightmvcskel
$ composer install
```

Note: The LightMVC Skeleton Application can also be downloaded as an archive file from the [LightMVC Download Page](#).

Configuration

The framework's configuration is set within a configuration file named `config/config.php` inside the project's root directory. It is possible to override the configurations found within this file by creating a file named `config.local.php` within the same `config` directory.

All configuration options must be stored within an index of the `$baseConfig` array.

The main preconfigured indexes of this array are:

- `BASEDIR`, which contains the full path to the project's root directory,
- `URLBASEADDR`, which contains the Web URL of the project,
- `appFolder`, which contains the name of the project's root directory,
- `env`, which contains an environment setting ('production' or 'development'),
- `routes`, which contains an array of FastRouter routes to be used,
- `templateManager`, which contains the name of the Template Manager that is to be used ('Plates', 'Twig' or 'Smarty'),
- `templateDir` under the `templates` index, which contains the name of the folder where the templates are stored,
- `events`, which contains an array of parameters in order to configure the LightMVC Event Sourcing controller-based aggregates,
- `session`, which contains an array of parameters in order to configure the LightMVC asynchronous PHP session.

Note: The Twig and Smarty template managers require additional indexes under the `templates` index. These are: `compileDir`, `configDir` and `cacheDir`.

Also, there are four optional preconfigured indexes in the `$baseConfig` array:

- `middleware`, which contains an array of PSR-15 compliant middleware to be used,
- `eventlog`, which contains an array of parameters in order to configure the LightMVC Event Sourcing Logger,

- doctrine, which contains an array of parameters in order to configure one or more Doctrine connections.
- atlas, which contains an array of parameters in order to configure one or more Atlas connections.

Here is an example of a config/config.php file:

```
<?php

$baseConfig['env'] = 'production'; // 'development' or 'production'

$baseConfig['appName'] = 'The LightMVC Framework Skeleton Application';

// Required configuration
require 'events.config.php';

require 'routes.config.php';

require 'view.config.php';

// Optional configuration
include 'middleware.config.php';

include 'session.config.php';
```

11.1 Event Sourcing Configuration

For example, the config/events.config.php file might look like the following:

```
<?php

$baseConfig['events'] = [
    // PSR-14 compliant Event Bus.
    'psr14_event_dispatcher' => \Ascmvc\EventSourcing\EventDispatcher::class,
    // Different read and write connections allow for simplified (!) CQRS. :)
    'read_conn_name' => 'dem1',
    'write_conn_name' => 'dem1',
];

$baseConfig['eventlog'] = [
    'enabled' => true,
    'doctrine' => [
        'log_conn_name' => 'dem1',
        'entity_name' => \Application\Log\Entity\EventLog::class,
    ],
    // Leave empty to log everything, including the kitchen sink. :)
    // If you you start whitelisting events, it will blacklist everything else by_
    ↪default.
    'log_event_type' => [
        'whitelist' => [
            \Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Event\WriteAggregateCompletedEvent::class,
        ],
        'blacklist' => [
            //\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Event\AggregateEvent::class,
        ],
    ],
];
```

Note: For more information on configuring the application's event sourcing aggregates and the application's event log, please see the [Event Sourcing](#) section.

11.2 Routing Configuration

The `config/routes.config.php` file might look like the following:

```
$baseConfig['routes'] = [
    0 => [
        'GET',
        '/',
        'index',
    ],
];
```

Note: For more information on configuring the application's routes, please see the [Routing](#) section.

11.3 Session Configuration

And, the `config/session.config.php` file might look like this:

```
$baseConfig['session'] = [
    'enabled' => true,
    'psr6_cache_pool' => \Ascmvc\Session\Cache\DoctrineCacheItemPool::class,
    'doctrine_cache_driver' => \Doctrine\Common\Cache\FilesystemCache::class,
    //'doctrine_cache_driver' => \Doctrine\Common\Cache\XcacheCache::class,
    //'doctrine_cache_driver' => \Doctrine\Common\Cache\RedisCache::class,
    //'doctrine_cache_driver' => \Doctrine\Common\Cache\MemcachedCache::class,
    //'doctrine_cache_driver' => \Doctrine\Common\Cache\MemcacheCache::class,
    'doctrine_filesystem_cache_directory' => BASEDIR . DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR . 'cache' .
    DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR,
    'doctrine_cache_server_params' => [
        'host' => '127.0.0.1',
        'port' => 6379, // redis
        //'port' => 11211 // memcached/memcache
    ],
    'session_name' => 'PHPSESSION',
    'session_path' => '/',
    'session_id_length' => 32,
    'session_id_type' => 1,
    'session_storage_prefix' => 'ascmvc',
    'session_expire' => 60 * 30, // 30 minutes
];
```

It is possible to replace the value of the `psr6_cache_pool` index with any PSR-6 compliant class. Also, any of the given `Doctrine\Common\Cache` classes can be used in order to store the session data when using the `\Ascmvc\Session\Cache\DoctrineCacheItemPool` class.

For more information on sessions, please see the [Sessions](#) section.

11.4 View Configuration

Moreover, it might be useful to configure common view elements in the local configuration files in order to keep things simple and use these elements within the application's templates, as these configuration elements will be available to any of the application's controllers.

Here is an example of setting up common view elements within a `config/view.config.php` file:

```
$baseConfig['templateManager'] = 'Plates';

$baseConfig['templates'] = [
    'templateDir' => $baseConfig['BASEDIR'] . DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR . 'templates' .
    ↪ DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR . 'plates' . DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR,
    'compileDir' => $baseConfig['BASEDIR'] . DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR . 'templates_c' .
    ↪ DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR,
    'configDir' => $baseConfig['BASEDIR'] . DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR . 'config' .
    ↪ DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR,
    'cacheDir' => $baseConfig['BASEDIR'] . DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR . 'cache' . DIRECTORY_
    ↪ SEPARATOR,
];

$baseConfig['view'] = [
    'urlbaseaddr' => $baseConfig['URLBASEADDR'],
    'logo' => $baseConfig['URLBASEADDR'] . 'img/logo.png',
    'favicon' => $baseConfig['URLBASEADDR'] . 'favicon.ico',
    'appname' => $baseConfig['appName'],
    'title' => "Skeleton Application",
    'author' => 'Andrew Caya',
    'description' => 'Small CRUD application',
    'css' =>
        [
            $baseConfig['URLBASEADDR'] . 'css/bootstrap.min.css',
            $baseConfig['URLBASEADDR'] . 'css/dashboard.css',
            $baseConfig['URLBASEADDR'] . 'css/bootstrap.custom.css',
            $baseConfig['URLBASEADDR'] . 'css/dashboard.css',
        ],
    'js' =>
        [
            $baseConfig['URLBASEADDR'] . 'js/jquery-3.3.1.min.js',
            $baseConfig['URLBASEADDR'] . 'js/bootstrap.min.js',
        ],
    'bodyjs' => 0,
    'links' =>
        [
            'Home' => $baseConfig['URLBASEADDR'] . 'index',
        ],
    'navmenu' =>
        [
            'Home' => $baseConfig['URLBASEADDR'] . 'index',
        ],
];
```

For more information on configuring the application's view, please see the [Views](#) section.

11.5 Middleware Configuration

The `config/middleware.config.php` file might look like the following:

```
$baseConfig['middleware'] = [
    '/foo' => function ($req, $handler) {
        $response = new \Zend\Diactoros\Response();
        $response->getBody()->write('FOO!');

        return $response;
    },
    function ($req, $handler) {
        if (! in_array($req->getUri()->getPath(), ['/bar'], true)) {
            return $handler->handle($req);
        }

        $response = new \Zend\Diactoros\Response();
        $response->getBody()->write('Hello world!');

        return $response;
    },
    '/baz' => [
        \Application\Middleware\SessionMiddleware::class,
        \Application\Middleware\ExampleMiddleware::class,
    ],
];
```

Note: The [Middleware](#) section contains all the needed information in order to set up PSR-15 compliant middleware.

11.6 Model Configuration

Finally, you can configure Doctrine within a `config/config.local.php` file, as follows:

```
$baseConfig['doctrine']['DBAL']['dcm1'] = [
    'driver'    => 'pdo_mysql',
    'host'      => 'localhost',
    'user'      => 'USERNAME',
    'password'  => 'PASSWORD',
    'dbname'    => 'DATABASE',
];

// AND/OR

$baseConfig['doctrine']['ORM']['dem1'] = [
    'driver'    => 'pdo_mysql',
    'host'      => 'localhost',
    'user'      => 'USERNAME',
    'password'  => 'PASSWORD',
    'dbname'    => 'DATABASE',
];

$baseConfig['atlas']['ORM']['aem1'] = [
    'driver'    => 'mysql',
```

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```
'host'      => 'localhost',  
'user'      => 'USERNAME',  
'password' => 'PASSWORD',  
'dbname'   => 'DATABASE',  
];
```

Then, it would be possible to get the connection to the database by asking the Service Manager for it, from within a controller factory for example, in this way:

```
$dcm1 = $serviceManager['dcm1'];  
  
// AND/OR  
  
$dem1 = $serviceManager['dem1'];  
  
// AND/OR  
  
$aem1 = $serviceManager['aem1'];
```

Note: Atlas and Doctrine DBAL and ORM objects are lazy-loaded, which avoids creating instances of these classes if they remain unused.

For more information on configuring the application's model, please see the [Models](#) section.

Autoloading

The framework's autoload is managed by **Composer**. By default, the LightMVC Framework uses PSR-4 compliant autoloading. To add new namespaces within a LightMVC application, it is necessary to declare these namespace mappings within the application's `composer.json` file. For example, here are the namespaces of the **LightMVC Skeleton Application**:

```
"autoload": {
    "psr-4": {
        "Application\\Models\\": "models/Application/Models",
        "Application\\Middleware\\": "middleware/Application/Middleware",
        "Application\\Controllers\\": "controllers/Application/Controllers",
        "Application\\Services\\": "controllers/Application/Services",
        "Specialmodule\\Controllers\\": "controllers/Specialmodule/Controllers"
    }
},
```

Therefore, adding new namespaces is simply a question of adding new entries in this part of the file and running the following command from a CLI:

```
$ composer update
```

Note: A PSR-4 autoloader class is available within the framework if you wish to use configuration files instead of Composer's autoloading capabilities.

CHAPTER 13

HTTP Messages

The LightMVC Framework's HTTP message objects are the `\Zend\Diactoros\ServerRequest` and the `\Zend\Diactoros\Response` objects. These are PSR-7 compliant classes and are compatible with PSR-15 compliant middleware.

13.1 ServerRequest Object

In order to get a better understanding of the `ServerRequest` object, please see the [ZF documentation on server-side applications](#).

13.2 Response Object

The `Response` object makes it possible to add headers and provide content to the application's final response to the client. Here is a simple example in order to do so:

```
$response = new Zend\Diactoros\Response();

// Write to the response body:
$response->getBody()->write("Hello");

// Multiple calls to write() append:
$response->getBody()->write(" World"); // now "Hello World"

// Add headers
// Note: headers can be added to the response after the data has been written to the
↳body
$response = $response
    ->withHeader('Content-Type', 'text/plain')
    ->withAddedHeader('X-Custom-Header', 'example');
```

For further reading on the `Response` object, please see the [ZF documentation](#).

This framework's main services are:

- Event Manager (`\Ascmvc\Mvc\AscmvcEventManager`),
- Service Manager (`\Pimple\Container`).

14.1 Event Manager

The `\Ascmvc\Mvc\AscmvcEventManager` event manager is an extension of the `\Zend\EventManager\EventManager`. It is available through the application object's `getEventManager()` method. It is configured **WITH** a `\Zend\EventManager\SharedEventManager`. It is possible to get the shared manager by calling the main event manager's `getSharedManager()` method. This same shared manager will also be readily available within each controller aggregate by getting it from the controller's PSR-14 event dispatcher (event bus) like so:

```
// From within a controller's action method for example.  
$sharedEventManager = $this->eventDispatcher->getSharedManager();
```

By doing so, it becomes possible to dispatch custom events not only to other parts of the current aggregate, but to also dispatch custom events to other aggregates outside of the current controller aggregate. Thus, Aspect-Oriented Programming becomes a clear possibility and allows for separation of concerns and code modularity.

Note: Each controller has access to a segregated event dispatcher (event bus), as the controller is considered to be the Root Aggregate of its Event Sourcing aggregate.

For more information on configuring the controller's event dispatcher, please see the [Event Sourcing Configuration](#) section.

The main `AscmvcEventManager` is designed to be able to trigger `\Ascmvc\Mvc\AscmvcEvent` events for the entire application. The `\Ascmvc\Mvc\AscmvcEvent` class is an extension of the `\Zend\EventManager\Event` class. Here is a list of the framework's main MVC events:

```
/**#@+
 * Mvc events triggered by the Event Manager
 */
const EVENT_BOOTSTRAP      = 'bootstrap';
const EVENT_ROUTE          = 'route';
const EVENT_DISPATCH       = 'dispatch';
const EVENT_RENDER         = 'render';
const EVENT_FINISH         = 'finish';
/**#@-*/
```

These events correspond to listener interfaces that are implemented by default in every controller. Thus, from within any controller, it is possible to tap into a specific MVC event, or to downright interrupt the application's flow by returning a `\Zend\Diactoros\Response`, from within these listener methods.

Here is a short description of each main event:

- **EVENT_BOOTSTRAP** (`onBootstrap`): this event is triggered right after the booting and initialization phases of the application. Using the `onBootstrap` method within a controller class makes it possible to run code immediately after the middleware pipeline. And, if you attach a listener to this event with a high priority, you can run code before the execution of any middleware, any controller or any service.
- **EVENT_ROUTE** (`onRoute`): this event is triggered after bootstrapping is done and the router class has been instantiated, but before the router actually tries to resolve the request URI to a handler.
- **EVENT_DISPATCH** (`onDispatch`): this event is triggered after the router has instantiated a controller manager with a requested handler, but before the controller manager actually hands control over to the requested controller.
- **EVENT_RENDER** (`onRender`): this event is triggered once the controller has returned its output, but before the output is parsed by the template managers.
- **EVENT_FINISH** (`onFinish`): this event is triggered once rendering is done and/or a response object is available (event short-circuit). This event allows to manipulate the response object before returning the response to the client.

Note: You should avoid as much as possible to use the `onBootstrap()` method within the controller classes, as this would not scale very well if there is a large number of controllers.

Note: If you run the framework using **Swoole**, you should avoid using a high priority `AscmvcEvent::EVENT_FINISH` listeners to manipulate the response, because this event will be ignored by Swoole. To achieve the same result, one should use a very low priority listener on the `AscmvcEvent::EVENT_RENDER` event instead.

Here is an example of a controller that is tapping into the `AscmvcEvent::EVENT_BOOTSTRAP` event in order to short-circuit the application's execution and return an early response:

```
<?php

namespace Application\Controllers;

use Ascmvc\Mvc\AscmvcEvent;
use Ascmvc\Mvc\Controller;
use Zend\Diactoros\Response;

class FakeController extends Controller
```

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```
{
    public static function onBootstrap(AscmvcEvent $event)
    {
        $response = new Response();
        $response->getBody()->write('Hello World!');
        return $response;
    }
}

// [...]
```

In order to attach a new listener to one of the main MVC events, you can simply do it this way:

```
$this->eventManager->attach(AscmvcEvent::EVENT_BOOTSTRAP, function ($event) use (
    ↪$serviceManager) {
    // do something here
}, 3);
```

Note: The last parameter is a priority indicator. The higher the indicator, the higher the priority of the listener. Any listener can be given a priority of three (3) or more in order to run **BEFORE** any of the preconfigured listeners.

To learn more about the LightMVC events and corresponding listeners, please see the [LightMVC Framework's API documentation](#).

For more information on available methods of the `\Zend\EventManager\EventManager`, please see the [ZF documentation](#), and the [ZF API documentation](#).

14.2 Service Manager

The LightMVC Service Manager is an instance of the `\Pimple\Container` class. It is a simple implementation of a Registry and allows for easy storage and retrieval of objects and data. The Pimple container object implements the `\ArrayAccess` interface and thus, can be accessed as if it was an array.

Storing a service is as easy as this:

```
// Store SomeService instance
$serviceManager['someService'] = function ($serviceManager) {
    return new SomeService();
};
```

And, retrieving the same service is just as easy as this:

```
// Retrieve SomeService instance
$someService = $serviceManager['someService'];
```

It is possible to store a service within the container as a lazy-loading one. To do so, you must use the container's `factory()` method:

```
// Store SomeService instance
$serviceManager['someService'] = $serviceManager->factory(function ($serviceManager) {
    // Retrieve the database connection and inject it within the SomeService_
    ↪constructor
    return new SomeService($serviceManager['em1']);
});
```

To learn more about **Pimple**, please visit the [Pimple Website](#).

The framework uses the nikic/fast-route library - `FastRoute` - as its main routing service.

All configuration must be given in the `$baseConfig` array, under the `routes` index.

Note: For more information on configuring the application's routes, please see the [Routing Configuration](#) section.

15.1 Routes

Defining a route is as simple as adding an integer-referenced array to the `routes` array contained within the `$baseConfig` array. This new integer-referenced array must contain three elements, in the following order: 1- an HTTP verb, 2- a URL, and 3- the name of the controller.

1. The HTTP verb can be one of `GET`, `POST`, `PUT`, `PATCH`, or `DELETE`. An array of multiple HTTP verbs can be given.

Note: If a page is requested with another HTTP verb than the ones that are defined in the corresponding route, the application will return a '405 - Method Not Allowed' header.

2. The URL can contain named placeholders. These are defined by using curly braces. By default, any placeholder named `action` will be mapped to the name of a controller's handler method. The default handler method of any controller is the `indexAction` action. By default, **LightMVC** is a 'single-action controller' framework.

The contents of any placeholder will be available within the `$vars` variable inside the controller's handler method, under an index with the name of the corresponding HTTP verb, and a sub-index with the name of the placeholder. Finally, any part of the URL can be defined as being optional by using square brackets.

Note: It is possible to use a regex in order to only allow some characters in the URL.

3. The name of the controller must be in lowercase and must map to an existing controller in order to avoid a runtime exception that will be thrown by the controller manager when it tries to get the requested handler (controller method).

Note: The controller name can contain a forward slash ('/') in order to reference to a module name. For example, `special/index` would map to the `IndexController` within the `Special\Controller\` namespace. When no forward slash is given, the default namespace is `Application\Controller\`.

Here is an example of a more advanced route configuration:

```
$baseConfig['routes'] = [
    2 => [
        ['GET', 'POST'],
        '/products/{action}/{id:[0-9]+}',
        'product',
    ],
];
```

In this example, only GET and POST requests will be allowed on any URL beginning with `/products`. The URL can also contain an `action` name, which will map to a request handler method within the controller, and an `id` parameter, which will contain at least one digit, ranging from 0 through 9. The contents of the `action` and `id` placeholders will be available in the `$vars` variable within the controller's request handler method: `$vars['get']['action']` and `$vars['get']['id']`.

For further reading on the `FastRoute` object, please see the [FastRoute Code Repository](#).

15.2 Caching Routes

When running a **LightMVC** application in `production` mode (please see the [Configuration](#) section for more details), routes will be cached. It is therefore important to delete the `cache/routes.cache` file in order to refresh the cache if need be.

CHAPTER 16

Controllers

The framework's controllers are extensions of the `Ascmvc\Mvc\Controller` class which implements the `Ascmvc\AscmvcEventManagerListenerInterface` interface. Within the LightMVC Framework, controllers are considered to be the Root Aggregate (main command) of the each and every Event Sourcing aggregate.

Note: For more information on configuring an application's event sourcing aggregates and the application's event log, please see the *Event Sourcing Configuration* section.

Note: For more information on the framework's event sourcing aggregates in general, please see the *Event Sourcing* section.

16.1 Controller Methods

Every controller has the following basic concrete definition:

```
class Controller extends AbstractController implements
↳ AscmvcEventManagerListenerInterface
{
    public function __construct(array $baseConfig)
    {
        $this->baseConfig = $baseConfig;

        $this->view = $this->baseConfig['view'];
    }

    public static function onBootstrap(AscmvcEvent $event)
    {
    }
}
```

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```
public function onDispatch(AscmvcEvent $event)
{
}

public function onRender(AscmvcEvent $event)
{
}

public function onFinish(AscmvcEvent $event)
{
}

public function indexAction($vars = null)
{
}
}
```

Thus, every controller has an `indexAction` request handler by default, and every controller has the ability to tap into any of the framework's major events, except the `AscmvcEvent::EVENT_ROUTE` event. Upon instantiation of the required controller by the controller manager (dispatcher), a minimal version of the application's `$baseConfig` array will be injected into the controller. Upon execution of the controller's request handler method, all the global server variables are injected into the handler through the `$vars` variable.

Note: One should avoid as much as possible to use the `onBootstrap()` method within the controller classes, as this would not scale very well if there is a large number of controllers.

For more information on the event manager and the main MVC events, please see the [Event Manager](#) section.

16.2 Controller Factories

Any controller can implement the `Ascmvc\AscmvcControllerFactoryInterface` interface and become a factory that will store a factory of itself in the service manager (**Pimple** container) and/or return an instance of itself to the controller manager, after completing some specific logic.

This is useful if you need to set up some specific service or resource before injecting it into an instance of the controller.

Note: It is not recommended to inject the entire application object or the service manager into the controller, but to only inject the services that you actually need in order to respond to the request.

For a working example, please see the section on the [LightMVC Skeleton Application](#).

For information on how to deal with other types of factories, please see the [Service Manager](#) section.

CHAPTER 17

Event Sourcing

The framework's Event Sourcing library allows you to set up an Event Sourcing infrastructure, that uses CQRS or not, based on controllers as the aggregate root (main command and main event listener) of each and every aggregate. The principle of it is that all of the software's underlying commands and interactions with other systems (internal or external) will be called through the dispatching of events. These events are named 'aggregate events' and can be any custom event that the controller can dispatch through an event dispatcher, also known as the event bus. The event dispatcher will then notify any listener that is attached to this event.

Typically, an Event Sourcing aggregate will have Read Model and Policy listeners. These event listeners will then call aggregate commands by passing any values received through the aggregate event. In order to make things more simple, these values are normally wrapped inside an immutable value object that allows for a unified interface to deal with these values throughout the entire aggregate life cycle.

Since all of the aggregate's underlying commands are called through events, logging the aggregate's activities is made much more simple. Auditing and monitoring are added benefits that come with Event Sourcing.

To read further on Event Sourcing, please see the [Martin Fowler's definition and explanations on this subject](#).

Note: For more information on configuring an application's event sourcing aggregates and the application's event log, please see the [Event Sourcing Configuration](#) section.

17.1 Aggregates

An aggregate is defined as a collective of classes that work together in order to accomplish a specific task. When using aggregates with controllers as their aggregate root, this task, or common goal, is sending a response back for a specific request from the client.

Thus, the first step in defining an aggregate is to establish the aggregate root from within a controller's `factory()` method when implementing the `\Ascmvc\AscmvcControllerFactoryInterface` interface, like so:

```
public static function factory(array &$baseConfig, EventDispatcher &$eventDispatcher,
↳ Container &$serviceManager, &$viewObject)
{
    // Setting the identifiers of this Event Dispatcher (event bus).
    // Subscribing this controller (Aggregate Root) and the Event Sourcing Logger.
    $eventDispatcher->setIdentifiers(
        [
            SomeController::class,
        ]
    );

    // Do something else...

    $controller = new SomeController($baseConfig, $eventDispatcher);

    $sharedEventManager = $eventDispatcher->getSharedManager();

    // Attaching this controller's listener method to the shared event manager's
    // corresponding identifier (see above).
    $sharedEventManager->attach(
        SomeController::class,
        '*',
        [$controller, 'someMethodName']
    );

    return $controller;
}
```

By setting the event dispatcher's identifier to the controller class' fully-qualified class name (FQCN) and by attaching the controller's listener method ('someMethodName' in this example) with the controller's name as the aggregate root's name (first parameter of the event dispatcher's `attach()` method) and with a wildcard symbol as the event' name (second parameter of the same `attach()` method), we are, in fact, making this controller a listener to all of the aggregates events. This will allow the controller to determine what is left to be done, before a response can be considered to be completely finished. In an asynchronous environment like Swoole, this allows for simultaneous execution of multiple parts of the aggregate, without having to wait for one part to finish before another one can be executed.

Each part of the aggregate is then responsible of accomplishing its own subordinated task in order to fulfill the common goal. The way each part of the aggregate can interact with the other parts is by dispatching events through the event dispatcher.

17.2 Event Dispatcher

The default LightMVC event dispatcher is an instance of the `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\EventDispatcher` class. It is a PSR-14 compliant event dispatcher. Therefore, you can replace this event dispatcher with any other PSR-14 compliant event dispatcher. Since the LightMVC event dispatcher is an extension of the `\Zend\EventManager\EventManager`, it is possible to use any of the known Zend event manager facilities.

Note: For more information on configuring an application's event sourcing aggregates, please see the [Event Sourcing Configuration](#) section.

To dispatch aggregate events, it is a question of instantiating an aggregate value object and an aggregate event, and then using the event dispatcher's `dispatch()` method to dispatch it to the attached listeners.


```
// The value object can be empty.
$aggregateValueObject = new AggregateImmutableValueObject();

// The aggregate even must receive an aggregate value object,
// the name of aggregate root, and the name of the event.
$event = new AggregateEvent(
    $aggregateValueObject,
    ProductsController::class,
    ProductsController::READ_REQUESTED
);

$this->eventDispatcher->dispatch($event);
```

The event dispatcher contains an instance of the `\Zend\EventManager\SharedEventManager` by default. This allows for the dispatching of events to other parts of the application, or for listening to events dispatched by other parts of the application.

For more information on the shared event manager, please see the [Event Manager](#) section.

17.3 Aggregate Events

The LightMVC `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Event\AggregateEvent` class is, ultimately, an extension of the `\Zend\EventManager\Event` class. The added facilities allow the dispatching code to define the name of the aggregate root, and to inject an aggregate value object to be shared with listeners. The framework defines two child event classes: `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Event\ReadAggregateCompletedEvent` and `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Event\WriteAggregateCompletedEvent`. These two classes are designed to make logging easier and to allow for dispatching to the Read Model and Policy listeners more convenient.

17.4 Aggregate Value Objects

An `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\AggregateImmutableValueObject` object is an immutable value object that is designed to allow all parts of an aggregate to easily share any data through a common interface. An aggregate value object can be empty. Since this class implements the `Serializable` interface, it is possible to serialize its data into a string format. Finally, it allows its data to be hydrated into an array with its `hydrateToArray()` method.

17.5 Aggregate Event Listeners

All LightMVC listeners implement the `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\EventListenerInterface` interface. This interface defines one single listener method named `onEvent()`. This being said, one can define any custom listener method, but the LightMVC Event Sourcing implementation recommends using the default `onEvent()` listener method for all event listeners.

There are two main types of listeners in the LightMVC Event Sourcing implementation. The `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\ReadModel` class and the `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Policy` class.

17.6 Aggregate Read Models

The `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\ReadModel` class is to be used to call a command that will read data from a given source. The Read Model is responsible of determining what is this data source and how to access it. The Read

Model is therefore the class that is responsible of implementing CQRS, if need be.

Here is an example of a Read Model that calls a read command by passing to it all the necessary data and the needed database entity manager in order for the command to successfully execute itself and retrieve data from a 'products' table in a database:

```
<?php

namespace Application\ReadModels;

use Application\Commands\ReadProductsCommand;
use Application\Models\Entity\Products;
use Application\Models\Traits\DoctrineTrait;
use Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Event\Event;
use Ascmvc\EventSourcing\EventDispatcher;
use Ascmvc\EventSourcing\ReadModel;

class ProductsReadModel extends ReadModel
{
    use DoctrineTrait;

    protected $id;

    protected $products;

    protected $productsRepository;

    protected function __construct(EventDispatcher $eventDispatcher, Products
    ↪$products)
    {
        parent::__construct($eventDispatcher);

        $this->products = $products;
    }

    public static function getInstance(EventDispatcher $eventDispatcher)
    {
        $productsEntity = new Products();

        return new self($eventDispatcher, $productsEntity);
    }

    public function onEvent(Event $event)
    {
        // The read connection can be different from the write connection if
    ↪implementing full CQRS.
        $connName = $event->getApplication()->getBaseConfig()['events']['read_conn_
    ↪name'];

        $entityManager = $event->getApplication()->getServiceManager()[$connName];

        $productsCommand = new ReadProductsCommand(
            $event->getAggregateValueObject(),
            $entityManager,
            $this->eventDispatcher
        );

        if (!is_null($productsCommand)) {
```

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```

        $productsCommand->execute();
    }

    return;
}
}

```

Then, from within the controller's `factory()` method (or any other main `AscmvcEvent` method), the Read Model can then be attached to the aggregate's event bus (event dispatcher) in this way:

```

// Controller's factory() method

$productsReadModel = ProductsReadModel::getInstance($eventDispatcher);

$eventDispatcher->attach(
    ProductsController::READ_REQUESTED,
    [$productsReadModel, 'onEvent']
);

```

Thus, the Read Model will listen for any event with the name `ProductsController::READ_REQUESTED` from within this aggregate.

17.7 Aggregate Policies

The `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Policy` class is to be used to call a command that will write data to a given source. The Policy is responsible of determining what data to write, where to store it and how to access the storage. The Policy is therefore the class that is responsible of implementing CQRS, if need be.

Here is an example of a Policy that calls a write command by passing to it all the necessary data and the needed database entity manager in order for the command to successfully execute itself and store the data to a 'products' table in a database:

```

<?php

namespace Application\Policies;

use Application\Commands\WriteProductsCommand;
use Application\Models\Traits\DoctrineTrait;
use Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Event\Event;
use Ascmvc\EventSourcing\EventDispatcher;
use Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Policy;

class ProductsPolicy extends Policy
{
    use DoctrineTrait;

    protected $properties;

    protected $products;

    protected $productsRepository;

    public static function getInstance(EventDispatcher $eventDispatcher)
    {

```

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```
        return new self($eventDispatcher);
    }

    public function onEvent(Event $event)
    {
        $connName = $event->getApplication()->getBaseConfig()['events']['write_conn_
↳name'];

        $entityManager = $event->getApplication()->getServiceManager()[$connName];

        $argv['name'] = $event->getName();

        $productsCommand = new WriteProductsCommand(
            $event->getAggregateValueObject(),
            $entityManager,
            $this->eventDispatcher,
            $argv
        );

        $productsCommand->execute();

        return;
    }
}
```

Then, from within the controller's `factory()` method (or any other main `AscmvcEvent` method), the Policy can then be attached to the aggregate's event bus (event dispatcher) in this way:

```
// Controller's factory() method

$productsPolicy = ProductsPolicy::getInstance($eventDispatcher);

// If there are many listeners to attach, one may use a
// Listener Aggregate that implements the
↳\Zend\EventManager\ListenerAggregateInterface
// instead of attaching them one by one.
$eventDispatcher->attach(
    ProductsController::CREATE_REQUESTED,
    [$productsPolicy, 'onEvent']
);

$eventDispatcher->attach(
    ProductsController::UPDATE_REQUESTED,
    [$productsPolicy, 'onEvent']
);

$eventDispatcher->attach(
    ProductsController::DELETE_REQUESTED,
    [$productsPolicy, 'onEvent']
);
```

Note: To learn more about the `\Zend\EventManager\ListenerAggregateInterface` interface, please see the [ZF documentation on Aggregate Listeners](#).

Thus, the Policy will listen for any of the above mentioned events from within this aggregate.

17.8 Aggregate Commands

The `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Command` is a very simple blueprint that defines common functionality to be used by all commands. Command classes should extend this base class and should represent an imperative that takes place within an aggregate. If one is to say “write this data about our products to the database”, one should extend the `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Command` class and name the class `WriteProductsCommand` within the namespace of the aggregate. Once the command has finished executing itself, it should dispatch a new aggregate event in order to notify listeners that the command is finished. Here is an example of what a `WriteProductsCommand` class could look like:

```
<?php

namespace Application\Commands;

use Application\Controllers\ProductsController;
use Application\Events\WriteProductsCompleted;
use Application\Models\Entity\Products;
use Application\Models\Repository\ProductsRepository;
use Ascmvc\EventSourcing\AggregateImmutableValueObject;
use Doctrine\ORM\Mapping\ClassMetadata;

class WriteProductsCommand extends ProductsCommand
{
    public function execute()
    {
        $name = $this->argv['name'];

        $args = $this->aggregateValueObject->getProperties();

        $productsRepository = new ProductsRepository(
            $this->entityManager,
            new ClassMetadata(Products::class)
        );

        $values = [];

        try {
            if ($name === ProductsController::CREATE_REQUESTED) {
                $productsRepository->save($args);
            } elseif ($name === ProductsController::UPDATE_REQUESTED) {
                $products = $this->entityManager->find(Products::class, $args['id']);

                $values['pre'] = [
                    'id' => $products->getId(),
                    'name' => $products->getName(),
                    'price' => $products->getPrice(),
                    'description' => $products->getDescription(),
                    'image' => $products->getImage(),
                ];

                $productsRepository->save($args, $products);
            } elseif ($name === ProductsController::DELETE_REQUESTED) {
                if (isset($args['id'])) {
                    $products = $this->entityManager->find(Products::class, $args['id
→']);

                    $productsRepository->delete($products);
                }
            }
        }
    }
}
```

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```

    }

    $params = ['saved' => 1];

    $values['post'] = $args;

    $aggregateValueObject = new AggregateImmutableValueObject($values);

    if ($name === ProductsController::CREATE_REQUESTED) {
        $event = new WriteProductsCompleted(
            $aggregateValueObject,
            ProductsController::class,
            ProductsController::CREATE_COMPLETED
        );
    } elseif ($name === ProductsController::UPDATE_REQUESTED) {
        $event = new WriteProductsCompleted(
            $aggregateValueObject,
            ProductsController::class,
            ProductsController::UPDATE_COMPLETED
        );
    } elseif ($name === ProductsController::DELETE_REQUESTED) {
        $event = new WriteProductsCompleted(
            $aggregateValueObject,
            ProductsController::class,
            ProductsController::DELETE_COMPLETED
        );
    }

    $event->setParams($params);
} catch (\Exception $e) {
    $event->setParam('error', 1);
}

$this->eventDispatcher->dispatch($event);
}
}

```

This new class will then be ready to be called by a `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\Policy` listener once the corresponding event will be dispatched by a command, whether it is the main command (controller action method) or a subordinate command.

17.9 Event Logger

LightMVC Framework's Event Sourcing implementation comes with `\Ascmvc\EventSourcing\EventLogger` that will log any event based on two criteria: 1- any aggregate that has added the `EventLogger` class name to its event bus identifiers, and 2- any whitelisted (or not blacklisted) event class type. Concerning this second criterium, the logger will log all events if no classes were whitelisted or blacklisted. If one class is whitelisted or blacklisted, the logger will blacklist by default.

Also, it is possible to log events to a different database if a Doctrine ORM connection name is defined for it in the application's configuration.

Note: For more information on configuring an application's event log, please see the [Event Sourcing Configuration](#)

section.

For a working example of Event Sourcing and CQRS with LightMVC, please use our skeleton application as it is explained in the section on the [*LightMVC Skeleton Application*](#).

By default, the framework uses the **Plates** template manager. **Twig** and **Smarty** are also available. In order to change the template manager, one only has to change the parameters in the `config/view.config.php` file.

For more information on configuring the template managers and view elements, please see the [View Configuration](#) section.

By default, a LightMVC application should hold two folders for the view scripts: a `templates` folder and a `templates_c` folder.

The `templates_c` folder is used by the **Twig** and **Smarty** template managers in order to store compiled versions of the templates. This template cache will only be active if the application is in `production` mode (see the [Configuration](#)). **Plates** does not use a cache by default.

For more information on **Plates**, please see the [Plates website](#).

For more information on **Twig**, please see the [Twig website](#).

For more information on **Smarty**, please see the [Smarty website](#).

CHAPTER 19

Models

The framework offers two backend frameworks by default: **Doctrine** and **Atlas**. **Doctrine** is very useful when dealing with Domain Logic, and **Atlas** is very useful when dealing with Persistence Logic.

To learn how to configure these backend services in the LightMVC Framework, please see the *Model Configuration* section.

For more information on **Doctrine**, please see the [Doctrine website](#).

For more information on **Atlas**, please see the [Atlas website](#).

Code examples of how to use these backend frameworks are given in the *LightMVC Skeleton Application* application section of this documentation.

CHAPTER 20

Middleware

The LightMVC Framework uses **Zend Stratigility** for its middleware implementation. This implementation is therefore PSR-15 compliant.

Configuring middleware is very straightforward in the LightMVC Framework. In a `config/middleware.config.php` file, one might configure some middleware as per the following:

```
$baseConfig['middleware'] = [
    '/foo' => function ($req, $handler) {
        $response = new \Zend\Diactoros\Response();
        $response->getBody()->write('FOO!');

        return $response;
    },
    function ($req, $handler) {
        if (! in_array($req->getUri()->getPath(), ['/bar'], true)) {
            return $handler->handle($req);
        }

        $response = new \Zend\Diactoros\Response();
        $response->getBody()->write('Hello world!');

        return $response;
    },
    '/baz' => [
        \Application\Middleware\SessionMiddleware::class,
        \Application\Middleware\ExampleMiddleware::class,
    ],
];
```

Any callable or any class that implements the `\Psr\Http\Server\MiddlewareInterface` interface can be used as valid middleware.

```
use \Psr\Http\Server\MiddlewareInterface;
```

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```
class ExampleMiddleware implements MiddlewareInterface
{
    public function process(ServerRequestInterface $request, RequestHandlerInterface
↪ $handler) : ResponseInterface
    {
    }
}
```

Middleware can be configured with or without paths. When indicating a path as the name of the array index of the middleware, the middleware will only run if the path matches the request URI. If the middleware's array index is an integer, the middleware will run on every request. Finally, it is possible to stack middleware within the same array index. In this latter case, the LightMVC Framework will lazy-load this FIFO stack of middleware and will run it in the given order.

Note: Normally, the middleware pipeline should always return a valid PSR-7 compliant response object. Otherwise, the pipeline would throw an exception. In the case of the LightMVC Framework, the pipeline can quietly fail in order to allow the MVC components to handle the request.

By default, the middleware pipeline is attached as a listener to the `AscmvcEvent::EVENT_BOOTSTRAP` event and can be overridden by a high priority listener on this event.

For more information on **Zend Stratigility**, please see the [Zend Stratigility website](#).

You can also see the [Middleware Configuration](#) section.

As mentioned in the *Session Configuration* section, setting up asynchronous PHP sessions with LightMVC is a matter of adding the appropriate configuration in the `config/session.config.php` file. But, one might need to use an asynchronous session in a customized way. To do so, it is necessary to instantiate a session `Config` object, constructor injecting into it any custom configuration array that might be deemed necessary, and obtaining an instance of the `SessionManager` object by requesting it through the `getSessionManager()` static method. Once this is done, it is a question of invoking the `SessionManager`'s `start()` method to get the session started. Here is a working example:

```
<?php

$config['session'] = [
    'enabled' => true,
    'psr6_cache_pool' => \Ascmvc\Session\Cache\DoctrineCacheItemPool::class,
    'doctrine_cache_driver' => \Doctrine\Common\Cache\FilesystemCache::class,
    'doctrine_filesystem_cache_directory' => __DIR__ . DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR . 'cache' .
    DIRECTORY_SEPARATOR,
    'session_name' => 'MYSESSION',
    'session_path' => '/',
    'session_id_length' => 32,
    'session_id_type' => 1,
    'session_storage_prefix' => 'myprefix',
    'session_expire' => 60 * 60, // 60 minutes
];

$config = new \Ascmvc\Session\Config($config['session']);
$sessionManager = \Ascmvc\Session\SessionManager::getSessionManager(null, null,
    $config);

try {
    $sessionManager->start();
} catch (\Throwable $e) {
    echo $e->getMessage();
}
```

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```
// Do something here! :)  
  
// Manually persist the session data.  
// This step is optional, as the session object will persist itself automatically  
// before the PHP script exits and falls out of scope of the PHP runtime.  
$sessionManager->persist();
```

LightMVC Skeleton Application

A **LightMVC Framework Skeleton Application** is available as a working example of the framework itself.

22.1 Installation

To start using the **Skeleton Application**, simply clone it from Github:

```
$ git clone https://github.com/lightmvc/lightmvcskel
```

Note: Please make sure that the `public` folder is accessible to the Web server and that the `cache`, `logs` and `templates_c` folders are writable.

Once cloned, enter the directory and install the dependencies using **Composer**:

```
$ cd lightmvcskel
$ composer install
```

In order to use all the included features, one must create and populate the database. A sample database is included in the `data` folder.

Furthermore, sample virtual host configuration files for the **Apache** and **nginx** Web servers are included in this same folder.

22.2 File Structure

The application's file structure is quite straightforward:

- `cache`: contains files created by the application while running in `production` mode.
- `config`: contains all of the application's configuration files.

- `controllers`: contains all of the application's controllers, grouped by module (namespace).
- `data`: contains any data file (database backups, configuration files for external services, etc.).
- `lib`: contains any libraries that are not available through Composer.
- `logs`: contains all of the application's log files.
- `middleware`: contains all of the application's middleware classes.
- `models`: contains all of the application's model classes (entities, repositories, backend traits, etc.).
- `public`: contains the front controller file, the Swoole front controller file, and all other static files (CSS, JS, images, fonts, favicons, etc.).
- `templates`: contains all of the application's template files, grouped by template manager.
- `templates_c`: contains all of the application's compiled template files when running in `production` mode (except when using `Plates`).
- `vendor`: contains all of the application's installed dependencies through **Composer**.

22.3 Running on Swoole

The **LightMVC Framework Skeleton Application** can run on Swoole in order to make it lightning fast. In order to do so, you must make sure to install Swoole. From the CLI, as the root user, type the following:

```
$ pecl install swoole
```

After answering a few questions, Swoole will be compiled and installed. Then, as the root user, run the following command (on Linux/Unix/Mac):

```
$ echo "extension=swoole.so" >> /etc/php.ini
```

Note: If running **Swoole** on **Windows**, please add the extension manually in **PHP's** `php.ini` file. The `php.ini` file might be located elsewhere on your system. For example, on **Ubuntu 18.04**, when running **PHP 7.2**, you will find this file in `/etc/php/7.2/apache2`. You can discover the location of this file by entering the command `php --ini` on the command line. It must also be mentioned that some systems have multiple INI files (CLI vs Web). Please modify all those that apply.

Then, from within the root directory of the project, you can run the following command:

```
$ COMPOSER_PROCESS_TIMEOUT=0 composer run-swoole
```

Note: By default, Swoole will listen on the `localhost` loopback, on port 9501. If you wish to change this, please modify the `run-swoole` command inside the `composer.json` file accordingly.

Have a lot of fun! :)

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