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Subject: Re: Create a .dbd file

Posted by [vino](#) on Thu, 17 Apr 2008 15:40:45 GMT

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On Apr 12, 3:57 am, wlandsman <wlands...@gmail.com> wrote:

>>>> > > On Apr 10, 11:38 am, vino <astrocr...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

>> i am sure i am talking about a .dbd (database definition) file rather

>> than a .dbf file. Only if .dbd file exists can i create a .dbf file..:(

>> thanks and regards,

>> vino

>

> You are almost certainly referring to the IDL database format designed

> by Don Lindler more than 20 years ago, mainly for astronomy. This is

> a simple, flat database format but I still find it useful for small

> (< 3 million entries) databases, when one does not need to often add

> new columns or perform exotic searches. The main advantage is that

> the database entries map easily into IDL vectors and arrays, so it is

> easy to plot or process the data. The procedures and a README file

> located at <http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/pro/database/> and a

> LaTeX file database.tex located at <http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/text>. The LaTeX file gives a

> description of how to create the .dbd file, which is an ASCII file

> made with an ordinary editor, which describes the data type and other

> information about the database columns. It would probably be

> useful to examine one of the .dbd files for some of the astronomy

> databases stored at <http://idlastro.gsfc.nasa.gov/ftp/zdbase>.

>

> For a completely different approach, you might look at Marc Buie's IDL

> interface to a MYSQL database at <http://www.lowell.edu/users/buie/idl/#categ9>

>

> --Wayne

Hello Wayne,

I found your manual on using UIT database system. It is very helpful to me. Thanks again.

regards,

vino

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