
Subject: Re: Database vs. File Parsing

Posted by [Antonio Santiago](#) on Tue, 21 Mar 2006 16:58:48 GMT

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James Everton wrote:

- > Hello everybody,
- >
- > I'm at the point in a project where I need to start deciding on a
- > method for local storage, and I was wondering if anyone knew the pros
- > and cons of using a local database versus performing file parsing.
- >
- > In my situation, users will be performing specific queries to retrieve
- > data from our site, and when they download these specific files, I'll
- > need some way of storing the parameters of the queries so that they can
- > browse through their downloaded files later on.
- >
- > I was first thinking that I might want to do a local database where
- > each attribute in the database responds to a certain query parameter,
- > but I wasn't exactly sure what IDL can do alone with databases, or if I
- > would need each user to go out and download MySQL or something.
- >

You can use the Java bridge to do so with DB. I use it in some program and works very well.

- > My second idea was that I could create a 'Table of Contents' file in
- > which I would just store the information of each query by its file
- > name, then just parse through this file when the user performs a local
- > search. The problem I thought there might be with this idea is that the
- > user can potentially have thousands of files, and I'm not too sure
- > whether parsing a single file would take far too long compared to a
- > database scheme.

Parsing file must be quickly for long files (I think those less than 2Mb) but if you have a lot of information it will be better to use a DB.

- >
- > I hope I have explained this well enough that you can give me some
- > ideas of which solution to go with.
- >
- > Thanks very much for your help,
- >
- > - James
- >

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