Subject: Re: Create a .dbd file Posted by Vince Hradil on Thu, 10 Apr 2008 16:51:52 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

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

- > Hi!
- > I want to create a database for my stellar photometry data. Can
- > someone please help me in creating a .dbd file?

>

> Thanks for your help,

>

> vino

Are you using DataMiner? Otherwise - maybe a different tool, like PERL?

Subject: Re: Create a .dbd file

Posted by Vince Hradil on Thu, 10 Apr 2008 16:52:32 GMT

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On Apr 10, 11:51 am, Vince Hradil hradil hrad...@yahoo.com>

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

>

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- > Are you using DataMiner? Otherwise maybe a different tool, like
- > PERL?

Can you be more specific in your request?

Subject: Re: Create a .dbd file

Posted by vino on Thu, 10 Apr 2008 17:14:26 GMT

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On Apr 10, 9:52 pm, Vince Hradil hradil hrad...@yahoo.com>

- > On Apr 10, 11:51 am, Vince Hradil hradil hrad...@yahoo.com>
- >> On Apr 10, 11:38 am, vino <astrocr...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

```
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Can you be more specific in your request?
```

hi!

i am completely new to IDL and i am not aware of this dataminer tool. What i was trying to do now is to store all my stellar photometry values in an easily accessible database. I found reference to different commands regarding database access and modification which requires the presence of a .dbd file and hence my question to this forum where i have learnt most of my basics of IDL.

So i am a complete kid here...

vino

Subject: Re: Create a .dbd file
Posted by jeffnettles4870 on Thu, 10 Apr 2008 21:22:35 GMT
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```
>> Can you be more specific in your request? >
```

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- > commands regarding database access and modification which requires the
- > presence of a .dbd file and hence my question to this forum where i
- > have learnt most of my basics of IDL.
- > So i am a complete kid here...
- > vino

Could you be talking about a .dbf file, rather than .dbd? If so, I think you can use the IDLffShape object to work with .dbf files, but you'll probably want to confirm that.

Jeff

Subject: Re: Create a .dbd file Posted by vino on Fri, 11 Apr 2008 09:40:45 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

```
On Apr 11, 2:22 am, jeffnettles4...@gmail.com wrote:
> On Apr 10, 1:14 pm, vino <astrocr...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>
>> On Apr 10, 9:52 pm, Vince Hradil <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:
>>> On Apr 10, 11:51 am, Vince Hradil <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:
>>> On Apr 10, 11:38 am, vino <astrocr...@gmail.com> wrote:
>
>>>> > Hi!
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```

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- > think you can use the IDLffShape object to work with .dbf files, but
- > you'll probably want to confirm that.

>

> Jeff

hi jeff,

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

Subject: Re: Create a .dbd file Posted by wlandsman on Sat, 12 Apr 2008 02:57:02 GMT View Forum Message <> Reply to Message

>>> > 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