
Subject: Re: Create a .dbd file

Posted by [Vince Hradil](#) on Thu, 10 Apr 2008 16:51:52 GMT

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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,

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> 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 <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:

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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 <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:

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

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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 [jeffnetles4870](#) on Thu, 10 Apr 2008 21:22:35 GMT
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On Apr 10, 1:14 pm, vino <astrocr...@gmail.com> wrote:
> On Apr 10, 9:52 pm, Vince Hradil <hrad...@yahoo.com> wrote:
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> 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

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On Apr 11, 2:22 am, jeffnetles4...@gmail.com wrote:

> On Apr 10, 1:14 pm, vino <astrocr...@gmail.com> wrote:

>

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

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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

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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
