
Subject: Enum MySQL datatype

Posted by [johandewit](#) on Thu, 11 May 2006 08:04:27 GMT

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Hi,

There is support for this datatype, but looking at the examples, it isn't used anywhere. Instead the enum type is replaced by a dropdown list generated by the function `getLanguageArray()`;

I'm using the enum type in those cases where processing depends on the value.

Eg. An employee database. People can have different states like
These states are assigned to some action type, like active or inactive. Depending on the action type, there will be a different processing of the record.

state	action
working	active
retired	inactive
ill	inactive
resigned	inactive

Eg. Inactive people cannot get a pay raise while active do.

The states will be defined in `<syssystem>text/en/language_array.inc`, while the different actions are defined in the database using the enum type.

My common sense tells me for both the state and action, one should use a dropdown list. The state optionlist is retrieved from the text file using the `getLanguageArray()` function, while the action option list is retrieved from the database using the `getEnum()` method.

Only problem I encountered is that when using the enum type, the `validateField()` function always returned an error which makes the Insert/Update impossible.

Following diff solved this problem, but I don't know if this is the desired enum type validation. The index value as retrieved from the dropdown is replaced with the value. No real validation is done, but since dropdown lists are used, I don't think this is really needed.

Is it a good thing if we encounter an enum type, the optionlist and dropdown input type should be used by default? In the `<specific>.table.class`, we should not repeat this for every enum type. If the enum field is required (not NULL), and has a default value, this should be selected with the 'insert' mode. Otherwise the value from the database should be selected. Only if the enum field is optional, an empty line should be added to the optionlist.

Right now, I have always two empty lines in the 'new' screen. Even if I remove the empty line from the optionlist.

I'm willing to give it a try to implement the enum type behaviour as described above if this is the desired behaviour.

Greetings

Johan