EVL – Parquet Utils

version 2.8

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This manual is for **Parquet Utils** (version 2.8), an EVL Microservice which read, write and get information from Parquet files.

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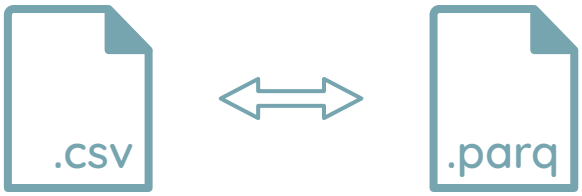
1 Introduction

Parquet Utils enables reading/writing Parquet files for EVL Tool. Used standalone (i.e. without EVL Tool) it provides scripts '`csv2parquet`' and '`parquet2csv`', and it provides metadata from Parquet files.

It is useful when you need to convert various sources directly to/from a Parquet file, especially on regular bases.

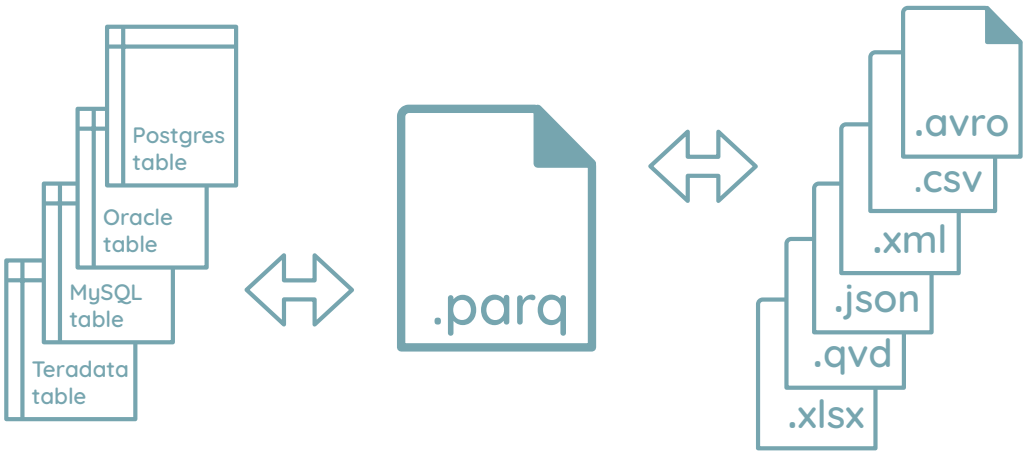
1.1 Parquet Utils used standalone



Having Parquet Utils without any other EVL Microservice contain these scripts:

- Section 4.1 [csv2evd], page 6, – generate EVL data definition file (EVD file) based on CSV
- Section 4.2 [csv2parquet], page 8, – convert CSV to Parquet
- Section 4.3 [parquet2csv], page 11, – convert Parquet to CSV

1.2 Parquet Utils in combination with other Microservices

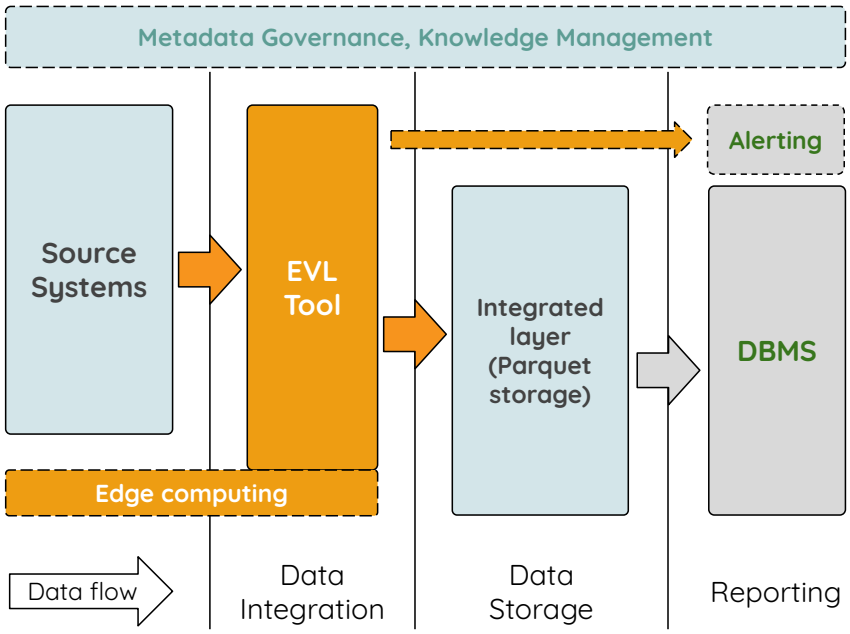


In join with other EVL Microservices, like *Avro Utils* or *EVL Data Anonymization* or *EVL Data Hub*, you can also read/write:

- various file formats: **Avro**, **json**, **QVD**, **xlsx**, and **xml**,
- database tables: **MySQL**, **PostgreSQL**, **Oracle**, **SQLite**, **Teradata**, or any other by ODBC.

1.3 Parquet Utils with EVL Tool

Together with **EVL Tool** (an ETL tool) it can be used for example in Parquet-based architecture:


Metadata Governance, Knowledge Management
Source Systems
EVL Tool
Alerting
Integrated layer (Parquet storage)
DBMS
Edge computing
Data flow
Data Integration
Data Storage
Reporting

2 Release Notes

Versions numbering: EVL – Parquet Utils $x.y.z$

Version numbers are synchronized with EVL Tool.

x – major release, i.e. big changes must happen to advance this number

y – minor releases, i.e. introduce new features

z – bugfixes

Overview

Version 2.8 (2022/10)

Initial version of Parquet Utils Microservice.
New features: read/write Parquet files.
New utils: `csv2evd`, `csv2parquet`, `parquet2csv`, `parquet2evd`, `parquet-header`.

3 Installation and Settings

Installation

Standard, Premium and Enterprise Installation

3.1 Trial – Linux RPM

I.e. RedHat, CentOS, Fedora, Oracle Linux.

For *CentOS 8* firstly install required packages from *powertools* repo:

```
sudo dnf -y install dnf-plugins-core parquet-lib
sudo dnf config-manager --set-enabled powertools
sudo dnf install --enablerepo=powertools snappy-devel
```

Get the package for your OS from `https://www.evltool.com/downloads` and

```
tar xvf evl-parquet-utils-trial.*.rpm.tar
sudo dnf install ./evl-utils-2.8*.noarch.rpm
sudo dnf install ./evl-tool-2.8*.x86_64.rpm
sudo dnf install ./evl-parquet-utils-2.8*.x86_64.rpm
```

Then to initiate the installation for current user by

```
/opt/evl/bin/evl --init
```

3.2 Trial – Linux DEB

I.e. Ubuntu, Debian, etc.

Get the package from `https://www.evltool.com/downloads` and

```
tar xvf evl-parquet-utils-trial.ubuntu.*.deb.tar
sudo apt install ./evl-utils_2.8*_all.deb
sudo apt install ./evl-tool_2.8*_amd64.deb
sudo apt install ./evl-parquet-utils_2.8*_amd64.deb
```

Then initiate the installation for current user by

```
/opt/evl/bin/evl --init
```

3.3 Trial – Windows

Get the zip package from `https://www.evltool.com/downloads` and unzip it into some folder.

For simple graphical user interface run `parquet-utils.ps1` in PowerShell.

There are also PowerShell scripts `csv2parquet.ps1` and `parquet2csv.ps1` to run conversions programatically from command line.

3.4 Standard, Premium and Enterprise Installation

After purchase appropriate version, a key file is available at https://www.evltool.com/downloads. Just place this key file:

- on Linux systems as

  ```
  /opt/evl/etc/evl_license_key
  ```

- on Windows system just (re)place the key file as

  ```
  Parquet-Utils-Windows/libexec/evl_license_key
  ```

  in the folder where the zip with Parquet Utils was unzipped.

There is also possibility to set up RPM repository to get the latest version by regular system updates:

```
sudo dnf update
```

just ask support@evltool.com for details.

4 Utils

4.1 csv2evd

Read `<file.csv>` or standard input, and guess:

- data types,
- field separator (unless option '`--separator=<char>`' is used),
- if strings are quoted (unless option '`--quote=<char>`' or '`--optional-quote=<char>`' is used),
- end-of-line character(s) (unless option '`--dos-eol`' or '`--lin-eol`' or '`--mac-eol`' is used)

and write EVD to standard output or to `<file.evd>`.

It uses header line for field names, spaces are replaced by underscores.

Separator is trying to be guessed in this order: '`,`' (comma), '`;`' (semi-colon), '`|`' (pipe), '`\t`' (tab), '`:`' (colon), '' (space).

Quotation character is guessed in this order: double quotes, single quotes.

EVD is EVL data definition file, for details see man 5 evd.

Synopsis

```
csv2evd
  [<file.csv>] [-o|--output=<file.evd>]
  [--inline]
  [-d|--date=<format>]
  [-h|--header=<field_name>,...]
  [-n|--no-header]
  [-l|--null=<string>]
  [-q|--quote=<char> | --optional-quote=<char>]
  [-s|--separator=<char>]
  [-t|--datetime=<format>]
  [--timestamp=<format>]
  [--dos-eol | --lin-eol | --mac-eol]
  [-v|--verbose]

csv2evd
  ( --help | --usage | --version )
```

Options

`-d, --date=<format>`
: by default it tries only '`%Y-%m-%d`', then '`%d.%m.%Y`'

`-h, --header=<field_name>,...`
: use comma separated list of field names instead of header line, for example when there is no header in csv file (option '`-n`' must be used) or when other field names would be used

`--inline`
: output EVD in the inline format (for example to use EVD by other component with '`-d`' option)

`--dos-eol`
: do not guess end-of-line character(s), but suppose the input is text with CRLF as end of line,

`--lin-eol`
: do not guess end-of-line character(s), but suppose the input is text with LF as end of line

`--mac-eol`
: do not guess end-of-line character(s), but suppose the input is text with CR as end of line

`-n, --no-header`
: with this option it suppose there is no header. Fields will be named '`field_001`', '`field_002`', etc.

`-l, --null=<string>`
: to specify what string is used for NULL values in CSV, empty string is allowed

`-o, --output=<file.evd>`
: write output into file <file.evd> instead of standard output

`--optional-quote=<char>`
: suppose optional quote character `<char>`, must be used together with '`--separator`'

`-q, --quote=<char>`
: do not guess if fields are quoted, but suppose `<char>` as quotation character

`-s, --separator=<char>`
: do not guess the separator, but use <char> instead

`-t, --datetime=<format>`
: by default it tries only '`%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S`'

`--timestamp=<format>`
: by default it tries only '`%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S.%E*f`'

`-v, --verbose`
: print to STDERR info/debug messages

`--help`
: print this help and exit

`--usage`
: print short usage information and exit

`--version`
: print version and exit

Examples

1. Having table.csv:

```
id;started;value
1;2019-06-06;some string
```

   This command:

```
csv2evd table.csv
```

   will try to guess data types, field separator and if strings are quoted or not, and use header line for field names, to produce EVD to standard output:

```
id       int               null="" sep=";"
started  date("%Y-%m-%d") null="" sep=";"
value    string            null="" sep="\n"
```

2. Just an alternative invocation forwording output EVD to a file:
   ```
   csv2evd < table.csv > table.evd
   ```
3. To skip header and use different field names:
   ```
   csv2evd --header="first_field,other_field,last_one" \
     table.csv > table.evd
   ```
4. Case when there is no header in CSV file, but use specified field names:
   ```
   csv2evd --no-header --header="first_field,other_field,last_one" \
     table.csv > table.evd
   ```
5. No header in CSV and use generated field names '`field_001`', '`field_002`', etc.:
   ```
   csv2evd --no-header table.csv > table.evd
   ```
6. Consider specific date format, here day of year ('`001..366`'), and '`|`' as a field separator:
   ```
   csv2evd --date="%j" -s '|' table.csv > table.evd
   ```

4.2 csv2parquet

Read `<file.csv>`, guess data types or use `<evd>` file or `<inline_evd>` and write Parquet file to `<file.parquet>` or standard output. For guessing data types (EVD) it uses utility '`csv2evd`'.

EVD is EVL data definition file, for details see man 5 evd.

Synopsis

```
csv2parquet
  <file.csv>
  [-o|--output=<file.parquet>]
  [-d|--date=<format>]
  [-h|--header=<field_name>,...]
  [-n|--no-header]
  [-l|--null=<string>]
  [-q|--quote=<char> | --optional-quote=<char>]
  [-s|--separator=<char>]
  [-t|--datetime=<format>]
  [--timestamp=<format>]
  [-a|--dos-eol | -b|--mac-eol]
  [-v|--verbose]

csv2parquet
  <file.csv> (<evd>|-d <inline_evd>)
  [-o|--output=<file.parquet>]
  [-a|--dos-eol | -b|--mac-eol]
  [-v|--verbose]

csv2parquet
  ( --help | --usage | --version )
```

Options

Standard options:

`-d, --data-definition=<inline_evd>`
: either this option or the file `<evd>` must be presented to use already defined EVD

`-a, --dos-eol`
: suppose DOS end-of-line, i.e. replace CR+LF ('`\r\n`') by LF ('`\n`') on input

`-b, --mac-eol`
: suppose Mac end-of-line, i.e. replace CR (‘`\r`’) by LF (‘`\n`’) on input

`-o, --output=<file.parquet>`
: write output into `<file.parquet>` instead of standard output

`-v, --verbose`
: print to STDERR info/debug messages

`--help`
: print this help and exit

`--usage`
: print short usage information and exit

`--version`
: print version and exit

EVD options:

`--date=<format>`
: by default it tries only ‘`%Y-%m-%d`’, then ‘`%d.%m.%Y`’

`-h, --header=<field_name>,...`
: use comma separated list of field names instead of header line, for example when there is no header in csv file (option ‘`-n`’ must be used) or when other field names should be used

`-n, --no-header`
: with this option it suppose there is no header. Fields will be named ‘`field_001`’, ‘`field_002`’, etc.

`-l, --null=<string>`
: to specify what string is used for NULL values in CSV, empty string is allowed

`--optional-quote=<char>`
: suppose optional quote character `<char>`, must be used together with ‘`--separator`’

`-q, --quote=<char>`
: do not guess if fields are quoted, but suppose `<char>` as quotation character

`-s, --separator=<char>`
: do not guess the separator, but use `<char>` instead

`-t, --datetime=<format>`
: by default it tries only ‘`%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S`’

`--timestamp=<format>`
: by default it tries only ‘`%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S.%E*f`’

Examples

1. Having ‘`some.csv`’:

```
id;started;value
1;2019-06-06;some string
```

   The command:

```
csv2parquet --null="NULL" some.csv > some.parquet
```

   will produce some.parquet file with these field:

```
id       int                null="NULL"  sep=";"
started  date("%Y-%m-%d")   null="NULL"  sep=";"
value    string             null="NULL"  sep="\n"
```

2. Following invocation will guess data types, field separator and if strings are quoted or not, and use header line for field names:

```
csv2parquet table.csv > table.parquet
```

   With the '`--verbose`' option it will write to standard error the whole EVD file which was used:

```
csv2parquet --verbose table.csv > table.parquet
```

3. To skip header and use different field names:

```
csv2parquet --header="first_field,other_field,last_one"
  table.csv > table.parquet
```

4. Case when there is no header in CSV file, but use specified field names:

```
csv2parquet --no-header --header="first_field,other_field,last_one" \
  table.csv > table.parquet
```

5. No header in CSV and use generated field names '`field_001`', '`field_002`', etc.:

```
csv2parquet --no-header table.csv > table.parquet
```

6. Consider specific date format, here day of year ('`001..366`'), and '`|`' as a field separator:

```
csv2parquet --date="%j" -s '|' table.csv > table.parquet
```

7. To use own (specific or already generated) EVD file (i.e. data types definition):

```
csv2parquet table.csv table.evd > table.parquet
```

Another example

Let's have following `sample_1.csv` file with header and with semicolon as a field separator:

```
ID;Name;Code;Price;Created at
1;item_11;11;15,85;2016-05-04
2;item_12;12;21,25;2019-11-11
3;item_13;13;12,99;2019-05-05
```

Then by running:

```
csv2parquet -v < sample_1.csv > sample_1.parquet
```

will guess data types and use field names from the header and produce `sample_1.parquet` file. And it will also write to standard error EVL data types which were used:

```
Used EVD:
---------
ID         int           null="" sep=";"
Name       string        null="" sep=";"
Code       int           null="" sep=";"
Price      decimal(8,2)  null="" sep=";"
Created_at date          null="" sep="\n"
---------
```

More complex example

If guessed data types are not correct for some reason, for example the date format would be different or field which looks like an integer might be next time a string, then it is better to provide own EVD file with EVL data definition description.

Suppose following `sample_2.csv` file with header and with semicolon as a field separator:

```
ID;Name;Code;Price;Created at
1;item_11;11;15,85;05/04/2016
2;item_12;12;21,25;11/11/2019
3;item_13;13;12,99;05/05/2019
```

Let's start by guessing EVD by `csv2evd` utility:

```
csv2evd sample_2.csv > sample_2.evd
```

It will result in `sample_2.evd`:

```
ID         int          null="" sep=";"
Name       string       null="" sep=";"
Code       int          null="" sep=";"
Price      decimal(8,2) null="" sep=";"
Created_at string       null="" sep="\n"
```

We can either use option `--date="%m/%d/%Y"` or simply edit `sample_2.evd` manually. Both will result in:

```
ID         int              null="" sep=";"
Name       string           null="" sep=";"
Code       int              null="" sep=";"
Price      decimal(8,2)     null="" sep=";"
Created_at date("%m/%d/%Y") null="" sep="\n"
```

4.3 parquet2csv *(since EVL 2.8)*

Read `<file.parquet>` and write CSV file to `<file.csv>` or standard output. It uses data types from Parquet header or from existing `<evd>` file or from `<inline_evd>`.

EVD is EVL data definition file, for details see man 5 evd.

Synopsis

```
parquet2csv
  <file.parquet>
  [-o|--output=<file.csv>]
  [--all-as-string | --real-as-decimal[=<precision>,<scale>]]
  [-d|--date=<format>]
  [-h|--header=<field_name>,...]
  [-n|--no-header]
  [-l|--null=<string>]
  [-q|--quote=<char>]
  [-s|--separator=<char>]
  [-t|--datetime=<format>]
  [-a|--dos-eol | -b|--mac-eol]
  [--filter=<condition>]
  [--first-record=<n>]
  [--guess-uniform-symbol-size]
  [--low-memory]
  [-v|--verbose]

parquet2csv
  <file.parquet> (<evd>|-d <inline_evd>)
  [-m|--match-fields]
  [-o|--output=<file.csv>]
  [-h|--header=<field_name>,...]
  [-n|--no-header]
  [-a|--dos-eol | -b|--mac-eol]
  [--filter=<condition>]
  [--first-record=<n>]
```

```
      [--guess-uniform-symbol-size]
      [--low-memory]
      [-v|--verbose]

    parquet2csv
      ( --help | --usage | --version )
```

Options

`--all-as-string`
: interpret all fields as strings. (Since EVL 2.5.)

`-d, --data-definition=<inline_evd>`
: either this option or the file `<evd>` must be presented to use already defined (custom) EVD

`-a, --dos-eol`
: output DOS end-of-line, i.e. CR+LF (‘`\r\n`’)

`-b, --mac-eol`
: output Mac end-of-line, i.e. CR (‘`\r`’)

`--date=<format>`
: to specify a `<format>` for date data type

`--filter=<condition>`
: read only records with given `<condition>`. (Since EVL 2.6.)

`--first-record=<n>`
: start to read from the record number `<n>`. (Since EVL 2.6.)

`--guess-uniform-symbol-size`
: might speed up indexing of dictionary, but it could not work in all cases. Use only in special cases when need really good performance. (Since EVL 2.6.)

`-h, --header=<field_name>,...`
: use comma separated list of field names instead of header line, for example when you don’t want to use field names from Parquet header.

`--low-memory`
: do not read dictionary into memory. This could save memory consumption, but slows down reading the source file. (Since EVL 2.6.)

`-l, --null=<string>`
: to specify what string is used for NULL values in CSV, empty string is allowed

`-m, --match-fields`
: to read only a subset of fields from Parquet file or to read them in different order

`-n, --no-header`
: with this option it produces no header line

`-o, --output=<file.csv>`
: write output into `<file.csv>` instead of standard output

`-q, --quote=<char>`
: to use quoted fields for the CSV output. When data contains such `<char>`, all of them are escaped by duplicating them. For example using ‘`--quote="\""`’ will serve data like ‘`some "text"`’ as ‘`"some ""text"""`’.

`--real-as-decimal[=<precision>,<scale>]`
: interpret '`real`' data types as '`decimal(<precision>,<scale>)`'. When no `<precision>` or `<scale>` is specified, use values from environment variables '`EVL_DEFAULT_DECIMAL_PRECISION`' and '`EVL_DEFAULT_DECIMAL_SCALE`', which are by default set to 18 and 2. (Since EVL 2.5.)

`-s, --separator=<char>`
: to use `<char>` as field separator for the CSV output

`-t, --datetime=<format>`
: to specify a `<format>` for datetime data type

`-v, --verbose`
: print to standard error output info/debug messages

`--help`
: print this help and exit

`--usage`
: print short usage information and exit

`--version`
: print version and exit

Examples

1. Having '`some.parquet`', the command to produce CSV file with empty strings representing NULL values, dates in format '`DD.MM.YYYY`' and with Windows end-of-line (i.e. CRLF):

   ```
   parquet2csv --null="" --date="%d.%m.%Y" --dos-eol some.parquet > some.csv
   ```

2. To filter only particular records from '`large.parquet`', for example we would like to read only latest records represented by field '`invoice_id`':

   ```
   parquet2csv --filter="invoice_id>7654000" large.parquet > latest.csv
   ```

3. To cut only particular columns from '`large.parquet`', for example only column '`invoice_id`':

   ```
   parquet2csv --match-fields -d 'invoice_id int null=""' large.parquet > latest.csv
   ```

4. To read only after by some number of rows:

   ```
   parquet2csv --first-record=1234000 huge.parquet > latest.csv
   ```

   This could be quite useful when reading a huge Parquet file.

Appendix A EVD and Data Types

'EVD' stands for 'EVL Data Definition' and it is the way how to specify structure of data sets in EVL. It can be used either inline, as a component option, or in an *.evd file.

EVL uses mostly standard C++ data types, so most of them are well known.

A.1 EVD Structure

Example first: Let's have a CSV file:

```
1;Otto Wichterle;27.10.1913;12,345.78;2025-03-19 14:34:07
2;;1.1.1970;0.00;2025-03-19 14:35:44
```

then following evd file would describe its structure:[1]

```
ID           int                sep=";"
Name         string             sep=";"  null=""
"Birth Date" date("%-d.%-m.%Y") sep=";"  null="1.1.1970"
Amount       decimal(12,3)      sep=";"    thousands_sep=","
"Created At" datetime           sep="\n" null="0000-00-00 00:00:00"
```

In general each nonempty line of EVD file looks like this:

```
<indent> Field_Name <blank> Data_Type <blank> EVD_Options
```

where

'<indent>'
: might be empty, 2 spaces, 4 spaces, 6 spaces, etc., to define a substructure of compound data types, see Section A.8 [Compound Types], page 23, for details.

'Field_Name'
: is a sequence of any printable ASCII characters below 128. When a space is used, then whole field name must be quoted by double quotes. Special characters (also only ASCII ones under 128) must be escaped, e.g. '\n', '\r', '\t', '\v', '\b', '\f', '\a', '\"', '\\', or in hexa '\x??'. Characters other than letters, numbers and underscore are replaced by underscore in mappings. All these field names are valid:

```
                                // Name in mapping:
recommended_field_name          // recommended_field_name
"Field with a Space"            // Field_with_a_Space
'field-with-a-hyphen'           // _field_with_a_hyphen_
"$field_with_dollar"            // _field_with_dollar
'single_quoted'field'           // _single_quoted_field_
"with\nnewline"                 // with_newline
```

'Data_Type'
: is one of:

- string, ustring, see Section A.3 [String], page 17,
- char, uchar, short, ushort, int, uint, long, ulong, int128, uint128, see Section A.4 [Integral Types], page 18,
- decimal, see Section A.5 [Decimal], page 18,

[1] By setting environment variables EVL_DEFAULT_FIELD_SEPARATOR=";" and EVL_DEFAULT_RECORD_SEPARATOR=$'\n' one can avoid to use sep options.

- `float`, `double`, see Section A.6 [Float and Double], page 19,
- `date`, `time`, `time_ns`, `interval`, `interval_ns`, `datetime`, `timestamp`, see Section A.7 [Date and Time], page 19,

'`EVD_Options`'
: is `<blank>` separated list of options, see Section A.2 [EVD Options], page 15,

'`<blank>`' is one or more spaces and/or tabs.

A.1.1 Comments

Standard C-style comments can be used in `evd` file, for example:

```
street_id    int
street_name  string
street_code  string  null=""  // but NOT NULL in DB
/* COMBAK: street_code will be replaced by street_num later this year
street_num   long
*/
```

A.1.2 Inline EVD

For the most of the EVL Components an inline EVD can be specified as an option. In such case comments are not allowed and the format is simply the same as for EVD in a file, just instead of newlines, commas are used to separate each field definition.

The same structure, as in above EVD Example, but as a component option (a comma separated list of fields with data types and options):

```
--data-definition='id int sep=";",
    name string sep=";" null="",
    birth_date date sep=";" null="1970-01-01",
    amount decimal(12,3) sep=";" thousands_sep=",",
    created_at datetime sep="\n" null="0000-00-00 00:00:00"'
```

A.2 EVD Options

Structure of the data is described in an EVD file – an EVL data types definition file – with file extension `.evd`.

A.2.1 Separator Definition

Field separator is defined by '`sep="X"`', where '`X`' can be an empty string or an ascii character below 128 specified as normal string or special character '`\n`', '`\r`', '`\t`', '`\v`', '`\b`', '`\f`', '`\a`', '`\"`', '`\\`', or in hexa '`\x??`' (0-7E) (as it is always a single character, '`\x?`' is also possible).

Default separators can be defined:

`EVL_DEFAULT_FIELD_SEPARATOR`
: defines default field separator, when not set, `EVL_DEFAULT_FIELD_SEPARATOR='|'` is used,

`EVL_DEFAULT_RECORD_SEPARATOR`
: defines default record separator, i.e. the last field separator, when not set, `EVL_DEFAULT_RECORD_SEPARATOR='\n'` is used.

When these variables are set, then no '`sep=`' options are needed in the above `EVD` example and these defaults are used instead.

> **Note:** It is recommended to use these variables only for project-wide settings in `project.sh`. Try to avoid to set them in jobs. Better use '`sep=`' option in `evd` file.

In case we want to have an empty separator, for example after fixed length field, we can use '`sep=""`'.

A.2.2 Null Option

A null string by '`null="X"`' or list of strings '`null=["X","Y",...]`' can be specified. Then such string(s) will be read as '`null`' values when '`--text-input`' is used by the component.

When writing the '`null`' value by the output component with '`--text-output`' option, such string will be used instead.

When the list of null values is specified, then the first one will be used to write.

To type a special character, like newline or '`TAB`', standard hexadecimal notation can be used: '`\x??`', or also special notation for often used special characters: '`\n`', '`\r`', '`\t`', '`\v`', '`\b`', '`\f`', '`\a`', '`\"`', '`\\`'. So then to interpret a tabulator as NULL value use '`null="\t"`'.

A.2.3 Quote Option

When reading `csv` files, fields might be quoted by some character, usually by double quotes: '`"`'.

Proper parsing of such field is done by specifying attributes '`quote=`' or '`optional_quote=`'.

Specified string might be any ascii character below 128 specified as normal string or special character '`\n`', '`\r`', '`\t`', '`\v`', '`\b`', '`\f`', '`\a`', '`\"`', '`\\`', or in hexa '`\x??`' (0-7E) (as it is always a single character, '`\x?`' is also possible).

`quote="<quote_char>"`
: Use this attribute when the field is always quoted.

`optional_quote="<quote_char>"`
: Using this attribute, the field doesn't need to be quoted.

A.2.4 Encoding and Locale *(since EVL 2.5)*

`enc="<encoding>"`
: To specify an encoding of given field, string functions then behaves according to that.

`locale="<locale>"`
: To specify a locale of given field, components (like sort) then behaves according to that.

Examples

```
czech_string_in_utf8  string  enc="utf8" locale="cs_CZ"
en_string_in_utf8     string  enc="utf8" locale="en_GB"
```

When there is no encoding or locale specified in an EVD, then following environment variables can be used:

`EVL_DEFAULT_STRING_ENC=""`
: defines default encoding, when not set, empty encoding is used,

`EVL_DEFAULT_STRING_LOCALE="C"`
: defines default locale, when not set, generic '`C`' locale is used.

A.2.5 Max string length *(since EVL 2.5)*

Attributes which are used to specify maximal length of given string field. So far used only in case of load/unload tables.

`max_bytes="<number>"`
: To specify maximum Bytes of given string field. Is populated when generated based on table definition, e.g. '`VARCHAR(100 BYTES)`'.

`max_chars="<number>"`
: To specify maximum characters of given string field. Is populated when generated based on table definition, e.g. '`VARCHAR(100 CHARS)`'.

Examples:

```
string_20_bytes  string  enc="utf8" max_bytes="20"  // VARCHAR(20 BYTES)
string_20_chars  string  enc="utf8" max_chars="20"  // VARCHAR(20 CHARS)
```

Both attributes are currently used in '`Writeora`' component to know the maximal length of a string field.

A.2.6 QVD options *(since EVL 2.4)*

`qvd:format="<format_string>"`
: To specify a format string for '`timestamp`', '`datetime`', and '`date`' data types when read/write Qlik's QVD files. Example:

```
request_dt  timestamp   qvd:format="%d/%m/%Y %H:%M:%S"
some_date   date        qvd:format="%d.%m.%Y"
```

`qvd:interval`
`qvd:time`
: To be used as an attribute for '`timestamp`' and '`datetime`' data types to get an interval or time data type in Qlik's QVD files. Example:

```
request_time1  timestamp  qvd:time
request_time2  timestamp  qvd:interval
```

Compared to Qlik's time data type, interval can be larger than 24 hours. For example input timestamp '`1970-01-02 03:05:30`' would be '`03:05:30`' as time, but '`27:05:30`' as interval.

A.3 String

Standard C++ library '`std::basic_string`' is used for strings. For details see

http://en.cppreference.com/w/cpp/string/basic_string

`string`
: size: up to 2^{64} Bytes (i.e. limited only by memory)

An EVD file Example:

```
field_name1  string(10)
field_name2  string(10) sep=""
field_name3  string     sep=";" null="NULL"
field_name4  string             null=""              quote="\""
field_name5  string             null=["","N/A","NA"]
last_field   string
```

where

'`field_name1`'
: cannot be NULL and has fixed length 10 bytes, followed by the value of `$EVL_DEFAULT_FIELD_SEPARATOR` environment variable.

'`field_name2`'
: cannot be NULL and has fixed length 10 bytes, with no separator.

'`field_name3`'
: is nullable and string '`NULL`' is interpreted as NULL value. End of the field is represented by character '`;`'.

'field_name4'
: is nullable and empty string is interpreted as NULL value. Field is quoted by '"', but for an empty string, quotes are not needed. The end of the field is represented by $EVL_DEFAULT_FIELD_SEPARATOR.

'field_name5'
: is nullable and empty string, 'N/A' and 'NA' are interpreted as NULL value when reading, but when writing into text file, NULL is represented by the first one, i.e. an empty string. The end of the field is represented by $EVL_DEFAULT_FIELD_SEPARATOR.

'last_field'
: cannot be NULL and the end of the field is represented by $EVL_DEFAULT_RECORD_SEPARATOR.

Example of four records which can be parsed by above EVD file definition.

```
             |          NULL;"second string field"|NA|last field
  0123456789|0123456789first string field;""|N/A|last field
  ----------|----------;"  ;  second field  |  "|third string field|last field
  abcdefghij|abcdefghij       ;||last field
```

Neither EVL_DEFAULT_FIELD_SEPARATOR nor EVL_DEFAULT_RECORD_SEPARATOR is set, so default values are used, i.e. '|' and '\n'.

A.4 Integral Types

All integral data types are standard C++ ones.

`char` size: 1 Byte, min: −128, max: 127

`uchar` size: 1 Byte, min: 0, max: 255

`short` size: 2 Bytes, min: −32 768, max: 32 767

`ushort` size: 2 Bytes, min: 0, max: 65 535

`int` size: 4 Bytes, min: −2 147 483 648, max: 2 147 483 647

`uint` size: 4 Bytes, min: 0, max: 4 294 967 295

`long` size: 8 Bytes, min: -2^{63} (approx. -9×10^{18}), max: $2^{63}-1$ (approx. 9×10^{18})

`ulong` size: 8 Bytes, min: 0, max: $2^{64}-1$ (approx. 18×10^{18})

`int128` size: 16 Bytes, min: -2^{127} (approx. -1.7×10^{38}), max: $2^{127}-1$ (approx. 1.7×10^{38})

`uint128` size: 16 Bytes, min: 0, max: $2^{128}-1$ (approx. 3.4×10^{38})

Except 'sep=', 'null=', 'quote=', 'optional_quote=', no other options are possible for these data types.

A.5 Decimal

Decimal data type is defined by 'decimal(m,n)', where 'm' is number of all digits and 'n' is the number of decimal places. Decimal is EVL custom data type.

`decimal(m,n)`
: when 'n' is missing, zero is supposed
size: 8 Bytes for 'm' up to 18 digits
size: 16 Bytes for 'm' from 19 to 38 digits

Next to standard EVD options (i.e. '`sep=`', '`null=`', '`quote=`', '`optional_quote=`') decimal and thousands separator can be specified:

`decimal_sep="."`
: to specify a decimal separator, which can be any single ascii character below 128; by default it is a decimal point

`thousands_sep=""`
: defines how to separate thousands, it can be any single ascii character below 128; by default there is no thousands separator.

An EVD file example:

```
revenues  decimal(9,4)  decimal_sep="," thousands_sep="."  // e.g. 12.345,6789
expenses  decimal(18)                          // e.g. 123456789012345678
taxes     decimal(18,6) thousands_sep=" "      // e.g. 123 456 789 012.345678
latitude  decimal(10,6)                        // e.g. 49.8197203
longitude decimal(10,6) decimal_sep=","        // e.g. 18,1673552
```

A.6 Float and Double

Float and double are standard C++ data types.

`float` size: 4 Bytes, range: $\pm\ 3.4 \times 10^{\pm 38}$ (about 7 digits)

`double` size: 8 Bytes, range: $\pm\ 1.7 \times 10^{\pm 308}$ (about 15 digits)

Except '`sep=`', '`null=`', '`quote=`', '`optional_quote=`', no other options are possible for these data types.

> **Note:** Compared to `decimal(m,n)` data type, operating with floats and doubles (doing summations for example), usually leads to approximated values. So it is usually good idea to avoid using these data types for money and such.

Example

With EVD file

```
sent_mb      float  sep="|"  null=""
received_mb  float  sep="\n" null=""
```

you can read source `csv` file like this:

```
0.321e12|1.234E-02
12.78E11|3.798
```

A.7 Date and Time

Date, time, time_ns, interval, interval_ns and datetime are data types based on standard C++ library '`std::time`'. Timestamp is built upon Google's '`cctz`' library.

`date` *(since EVL 1.0)*
: to store a date, i.e. day, month and year
size: 4 Bytes, range: 1970-01-01 $\pm$ approx. 6×10^{11} years
first 2 Bytes keeps a year, then 1 Byte for month and 1 Byte for day
example: `2008-04-20`

`time` *(since EVL 2.8)*
: to store a day time, i.e. hour, minute and second

size: 4 Bytes, range: 00:00:00 – 23:59:59
example: `13:35:00`

`time_ns` *(since EVL 2.8)*
: to store a day time with nanoseconds
size: 8 Bytes, range: 00:00:00.000000000 – 23:59:59.999999999
example: `13:37:00.350000000`

`interval` *(since EVL 2.8)*
: to store a time interval in hours, minutes and seconds
size: 4 Bytes, min: 00:00:00
example: `165:35:00`

`interval_ns` *(since EVL 2.8)*
: to store a time interval with nanoseconds
size: 8 Bytes, min: 00:00:00.000000000
example: `165:35:00.123456789`

`datetime` *(since EVL 1.0 as timestamp, since EVL 2.4 as datetime)*
: to store a date and time, i.e. year, month, day, hour, minute and second
size: 8 Bytes, range: 1970-01-01 00:00:00 ± approx. 6×10^{11} years
example: `2010-07-01 09:02:00`

`timestamp` *(since EVL 2.4)*
: to store a date and time with nanoseconds and with a time zone, i.e. year, month, day, hour, minute, second, nanoseconds and possibly a time zone
size: 12 Bytes, range: 1970-01-01 00:00:00 ± approx. 6×10^{11} years
example: `2015-05-09 13:37:00.000 +02:00`

A.7.1 Format string

As an argument (in curly brackets) formatting pattern can be specified. Standard C notation is used.

When no argument to date and time data types are provided, defaults are used:

`EVL_DEFAULT_DATE_PATTERN`
: to specify default formatting string for '`date`' data type,
by default it is `"%Y-%m-%d"`

`EVL_DEFAULT_TIME_PATTERN`
: to specify default formatting string for '`time`' data type,
by default it is `"%H:%M:%S"`

`EVL_DEFAULT_DATETIME_PATTERN`
: to specify default formatting string for '`datetime`' data type,
by default it is `"%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S"`

`EVL_DEFAULT_TIMESTAMP_PATTERN`
: to specify default formatting string for '`timestamp`' data type,
by default it is `"%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%E*S"`

All possible format strings:

`%%` a literal '%'

`%a` locale's abbreviated weekday name (e.g. '`Sun`')

`%A` locale's full weekday name (e.g. '`Sunday`')

`%b` locale's abbreviated month name (e.g. '`Jan`')

%B	locale's full month name (e.g. 'January')
%c	locale's date and time (e.g. 'Thu Mar 3 23:05:25 2005')
%C	century; like '%Y', except omit last two digits (e.g. '20')
%d	day of month (e.g. '01')
%D	date; same as '%m/%d/%y'
%e	day of month, space padded; same as '%_d'
%Ez	RFC3339-compatible numeric UTC offset (+hh:mm or -hh:mm)
%E*z	full-resolution numeric UTC offset (+hh:mm:ss or -hh:mm:ss)
%E#S	seconds with # digits of fractional precision
%E*S	seconds with full fractional precision (a literal '*')
%E#f	fractional seconds with # digits of precision
%E*f	fractional seconds with full precision (a literal '*')
%E4Y	four-character years (-999 ... -001, 0000, 0001 ... 9999)
%ET	the RFC3339 "date-time" separator "T"
%F	full date; same as '%Y-%m-%d'
%g	last two digits of year of ISO week number (see '%G')
%G	year of ISO week number (see '%V'); normally useful only with '%V'
%h	same as '%b'
%H	hour ('00'..'23')
%I	hour ('01'..'12')
%j	day of year ('001'..'366')
%k	hour, space padded (' 0'..'23'); same as '%_H'
%l	hour, space padded (' 1'..'12'); same as '%_I'
%m	month ('01'..'12')
%M	minute ('00'..'59')
%n	a newline
%p	locale's equivalent of either 'AM' or 'PM'; blank if not known
%P	like '%p', but lower case
%r	locale's 12-hour clock time (e.g. '11:11:04 PM')
%R	24-hour hour and minute; same as '%H:%M'
%s	seconds since '1970-01-01 00:00:00 UTC'
%S	second ('00'..'60')
%t	a tab
%T	time; same as '%H:%M:%S'
%u	day of week ('1'..'7'); '1' is Monday
%U	week number of year, with Sunday as first day of week ('00'..'53')

`%V` ISO week number, with Monday as first day of week (‘`01`’..‘`53`’)

`%w` day of week (‘`0`’..‘`6`’); ‘`0`’ is Sunday

`%W` week number of year, with Monday as first day of week (‘`00`’..‘`53`’)

`%x` locale’s date representation (e.g. ‘`12/31/99`’)

`%X` locale’s time representation (e.g. ‘`23:13:48`’)

`%y` last two digits of year (‘`00`’..‘`99`’)

`%Y` year

`%z` +hhmm numeric time zone (e.g., -0400)

`%Z` alphabetic time zone abbreviation (e.g., EDT)

By default, date pads numeric fields with zeroes. The following optional flags may follow ‘`%`’.

`-` (hyphen) do not pad the field

`_` (underscore) pad with spaces

`0` (zero) pad with zeros

`^` use upper case if possible

`#` use opposite case if possible

A.7.2 EVD Example

Following dates definition are equivalent.

```
valid_from  date
valid_from  date("%F")
valid_from  date("%Y-%m-%d")
```

Following datetimes are all the same.

```
request_dt  datetime
request_dt  datetime("%F %T")
request_dt  datetime("%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S")
```

Following timestamps are all the same.

```
request_dt  timestamp
request_dt  timestamp("%F %T.%E9f")
request_dt  timestamp("%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S.%E9f")
```

QVD’s format string can be specified:

```
request_dt  timestamp  qvd:format="%d/%m/%Y %H:%M:%S"
some_date   date       qvd:format="%d.%m.%Y"
```

A.7.3 Qlik’s time

When time need to be specified in QVD file, then standard timestamp need to be provided, just with ‘`qvd:time`’ option. Then the date is simply cut off from the timestamp to be stored in QVD:

```
request_time  timestamp("%H:%M:%S")  qvd:time
```

A.7.4 Qlik’s interval

When interval data type need to be specified in QVD file, then standard timestamp need to be provided, just with ‘`qvd:interval`’ option. Then the time is taken since ‘`1970-01-01`’:

```
request_time  timestamp("%Y-%m-%d %H:%M:%S")  qvd:interval
```

Note: Compared to Qlik’s time data type, interval can be larger than 24 hours. For example input timestamp ‘`1970-01-02 03:05:30`’ would be ‘`03:05:30`’ as time, but ‘`27:05:30`’ as interval.

A.8 Compound Types

Appendix B Software License, Support and Service Terms

Last modified: January 15, 2021

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b. severity 2 – EVL Parquet Utils functionality differs to documentation, but EVL Parquet Utils runs at least with workaround; and
c. severity 3 – minor difference of functionality comparing to documentation which does not prevent EVL Parquet Utils usage.

Response time differs according to the incident severity and shall be as follows:

- severity 1 – response time 4 business hours
- severity 2 – response time 12 business hours
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b. `support@evltool.com`.

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