
Subject: Summary database interface discussion

Posted by [Johan Messchendorp](#) on Sun, 15 Jan 2012 15:55:51 GMT

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Dear all,

Please find below a few points that would summarize the database interface discussion and presentations from our last meeting. The slides of the presentations can be found at http://forum.gsi.de/index.php?t=tree&goto=12892&rid=981&S=8c9512d91ec2f07bf29cb9476c59f005#msg_12892

Fairroot Database Interface (Denis Bertini)

The GSI-IT (Denis Bertini) together with KVI (Mohammad Babai) are presently working on setting up a database interconnection integrated within the fairroot framework, which is the basis for pandaroot. It adds on to the existing runtime database interface.

The work is embedded in an EU project and focusses on various experiments such as R3B and Panda.

Their interface exploits the TSQLserver of ROOT which would allow to communicate with various database implementations such as MySQL, Oracle, PostGre, etc.

Key features are: 1) multiple connections; 2) version management; 3) IO using generic containers.

The work is still in progress. Updates are regularly submitted to svn and people are welcomed to start using it for debugging etc.

LibEnvDB: independent library developed at Bochum (Malte Albrecht)

The Bochum group (Malte Albrecht, Florian Feldbauer, Matthias Steinke) has started at the end of last year to implement a easy-to-use database interface to access archived environmental data.

Their focus was to provide a light-weighted interface for the ongoing beam test experiment for the EMC endcap with minimum dependencies.

The work focusses on the interface to the user part and less on the actual database implementation.

The software is provided as an external library which can be used using wrapper or adapter within pandaroot.

The outcome of the discussion

Both activities were very much appreciated by those involved in the discussion.

While the fairroot database interface is still in a development phase for SQL-related parts, the need for a light-weighted library for the short-term Panda activities is extremely important and essential to support the presently ongoing small-scale prototype experiments.

On the long term, the usage of a database interface within fairroot is considered as the standard to aim for.

The actual database choice (oracle, mysql?) is still not clear, however, we are convinced that the TSQLserver, continuously maintained by ROOT, will be able to do that job for Panda (and other FAIR experiments).

Eventually, we should try to get all the features, we like to see, embedded in fairroot framework. A migration of the work done in Bochum is, therefore, strongly encouraged.

Greetings,

Johan.