

Re: Unable to load JdbcOdbc library

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/Java/comp.lang.java.databases/2004-10/0097.html>

From: SteveE (steveedw_at_yahoo.com)

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Excellent reply, exactly what I needed. Thanks so much for your help, Daniel.

Daniel Dittmar <daniel@dittmar.net> wrote in message news:<2t3392F1q8kqcU1@uni-berlin.de>...

> *SteveE wrote:*

> > *Actually, there is a solaris ODBC driver, as I mentioned in my
> > previous post. Also, I'm very familiar with the native JDBC method of
> > doing things, the problem is as I mentioned that our database doesn't
> > expose a JDBC interface, only an ODBC interface... hence the problem.
> > Using ODBCTEST program that comes with the Solaris ODBC driver, I can
> > connect to the DSN without problems.*

>

> *You must distinguish between a ODBC driver (which you've got) and the
> ODBC driver manager (which you haven't).*

>

> *On Windows, a program accesses the ODBC driver manager. Depending on the
> DSN, the driver manager loads the DLL for the matching driver and routes
> all calls to this driver.*

>

> *Although driver managers exist for Unix (UnixODBC, iODBC), there are not
> standard, so there is few commercial software written to access them.
> Instead, you get a library and header files that conform to the ODBC
> spec. You can now write programs that use ODBC to connect to a specific
> database, in your case Informix. But without a driver manager, you
> cannot write a program that accesses arbitrary databases for which a
> driver is installed. And the JdbcOdbc bridge would be such a program.
> That's why SUN hasn't included the bridge in Unix versions of Java.*

>

> *As about 'exposing a ODBC interface': technically speaking, databases
> expose network protocols. ODBC is then just a C library that makes the
> network protocol accessible.*

>

> *As IBM advertises the JDBC driver as type 4
> (<http://java.sun.com/products/jdbc/driverdesc.html>), there are several
> possibilities:*

>

> *- the JDBC driver uses the same network protocol as the ODBC driver, in
> which case it is usable for your problem
> - the JDBC driver uses a newer version of the network protocol, you're*

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- > *out of luck unless you can upgrade*
- > *– the JDBC driver uses a different protocol that was easier to implement*
- > *in Java. You have to start a daemon on the server side, this daemon*
- > *translates the request to the native format. In this case you are right*
- > *that the database doesn't expose a JDBC interface.*
- >
- > *Then there is the possibility that you can actually connect using 100%*
- > *JDBC, but you want to use a 'native' driver because it has additional*
- > *features like using your Solaris user as the database login. In that*
- > *case you can ignore anything I said about network protocols.*
- >
- > *Daniel*