

Re: [PHP] ODBC and long text fields

Source: <http://coding.derkeiler.com/Archive/PHP/php.general/2007-01/msg00446.html>

- *From:* larry@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx (Larry Garfield)
 - *Date:* Sun, 7 Jan 2007 21:17:09 -0600
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On Sunday 07 January 2007 8:26 pm, Jochem Maas wrote:

Now I'll be honest and say I don't quite follow what they're talking about. I do not claim to be an ODBC guru, but SQLGetData is a lower-level operation, SQL level or C level I don't know, but not something that happens in PHP code as far as I am aware. Are they saying there's a bug in PHP's `odbc_fetch_row()`? Or is it a bug in their driver if it can't handle whatever it is `odbc_fetch_row()` does internally? Or should we be using `odbc_result()` instead of `odbc_fetch_row()` if we're dealing with a text field rather than a varchar or int?

the way I read it `odbc_result()` is just an alternative way of doing what you do with `odbc_fetch_row()` – I can't see any reason why doing it with `odbc_result()` would suddenly make it work – nonetheless it might be worth trying it just to rule it out.

with regard to wanting results returned in a 'named' fashion, does the new setup still not allow use of `odbc_fetch_array()` instead of `odbc_fetch_row()`? not that I see any logic in that solving the issue, again it might be worth trying to see if it does.

Honestly I've not tried. (I also don't have the wrapper code in front of me at the moment. <g>) That could be a nice thing to simplify for performance, but I suspect that if the problem is with `odbc_fetch_row()` then `odbc_fetch_array()` will have the same bug.

I don't know much about MSSQL, or whether 'text' is an actual field type, but maybe this function offers a way out?:

<http://php.net/manual/en/function.odbc-binmode.php>

No, that looks like it's for binary data. "Text" is a MS SQL field for

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huge-ass text fields, essentially similar to the MySQL field of the same name (at least at an API level). We also tried playing with `odbc_longreadlen()` and setting MS SQL's `TEXTSIZE` and `TEXTLENGTH` parameters to no avail.

are the php versions on the 2 systems you mention exactly the same? (you mention 5.1 and 5.1.6) this could be a clue to the problem.

It's either both 5.1.6 or 5.1.6 live and 5.1.4 devel. (I don't recall what our exact version is atm.) We're in the process of upgrading our server soon, and I'm not sure what it will have. Probably 5.2, just to keep life interesting. :-)

lastly I don't suppose that it possible for you to switch to using the MSSQL specific php extension? [<http://php.net/mssql>] it might offer a better/faster connection to the MSSQL server as well as making the issue go away.

I don't believe the client allows direct MSSQL connections. Besides, the MSSQL functions still require an ODBC driver underneath, so if the problem is with the ODBC driver then that won't change anything.

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"If nature has made any one thing less susceptible than all others of exclusive property, it is the action of the thinking power called an idea, which an individual may exclusively possess as long as he keeps it to himself; but the moment it is divulged, it forces itself into the possession of every one, and the receiver cannot dispossess himself of it." — Thomas Jefferson