

QGIS Application - Feature request #5606

Defining column types for CSV imports

2012-05-16 07:23 AM - Kenton Ngo

<b>Status:</b>	Open	<b>Resolution:</b> <b>Copied to github as #:</b> 15179
<b>Priority:</b>	Normal	
<b>Assignee:</b>		
<b>Category:</b>	Data Provider/Delimited Text	
<b>Pull Request or Patch supplied:</b>	No	
<b>Easy fix?:</b>	No	
<b>Description</b>		
<p>At work we use Mac OS X. Microsoft Office for Mac no longer supports DBF exports, and much of our data that we'd like mapped lives in Excel-compatible files.</p> <p>I'm currently exporting as CSV using this workaround, but it requires me to create a CSVT file, an annoying extra step.</p> <p><a href="http://underdark.wordpress.com/2011/03/07/how-to-specify-data-types-of-csv-columns-for-use-in-qgis/">http://underdark.wordpress.com/2011/03/07/how-to-specify-data-types-of-csv-columns-for-use-in-qgis/</a></p> <p>Is there any way to eliminate this extra step by allowing a user to define the column types at import?</p>		
<b>Related issues:</b>		
Duplicated by QGIS Application - Feature request # 13038: Add ability to choo...		Open 2015-06-26
Duplicates QGIS Application - Feature request # 4212: Data types for csv		Open 2011-08-23

History

#1 - 2012-09-04 12:09 PM - Paolo Cavallini

- Target version set to Version 2.0.0

#2 - 2012-10-06 02:19 AM - Pirmin Kalberer

- Target version changed from Version 2.0.0 to Future Release - Nice to have

#3 - 2015-03-09 03:26 AM - Karolina Alexiou

I will work on this. Longs getting casted to floats from csvs has been an inconvenience for a while. Plz somebody with permissions assign this to me, thanks.

#4 - 2015-03-09 03:37 AM - Matthias Kuhn

Can you add a short description about your plans. Which datatypes exactly do you want to support (Int/Long/Float/Double) and will there be auto-detection of some kind of these types or what is the workflow?

#5 - 2015-03-09 04:41 AM - Karolina Alexiou

The workflow would be to allow the user to force a data type for 1 or more columns. Basically I am thinking of adding another row to the UI when importing delimited text layer where the user would be able to select Int/Long/Float/Double/String or Autodetect(default). Right now there is autodetection, but it doesn't always work right. I could also see if there is some obvious improvement to be done in that.

#6 - 2015-03-09 06:17 AM - Giovanni Manghi

- OS version deleted (1.9)

- Operating System deleted (Mac OS X)

**#7 - 2015-03-09 06:31 AM - Jukka Rahkonen**

Perhaps you could use ODS format instead? GDAL and Excel both can read and write the format [http://www.gdal.org/drv\\_ods.html](http://www.gdal.org/drv_ods.html).

**#8 - 2015-03-09 06:40 AM - Karolina Alexiou**

Not really applicable to us, we just want more control over importing raw text files (unlike the original poster).

**#9 - 2015-03-18 11:06 PM - Karolina Alexiou**

<https://github.com/qgis/QGIS/pull/1957>

I made a pull request to QGIS upstream which improves the autodetection by also adding long types.

No work yet on forcing the type from the import menu.

**#10 - 2015-12-09 05:38 AM - Médéric RIBREUX**

- *Category set to Data Provider/Delimited Text*

Hello, bug triage...

the PR has been merged.

One good idea (on the GUI part) would be to try to make the delimited text provider act like LibreOffice Calc csv importer:

- there is a QComboBox with the list of each type.
- When you select a column, you can use the QComboBox to define the type of the selected column.

We just need a way to display the manually defined type of columns (upper or above the column name), but I am sure it's feasible.

**#11 - 2017-05-01 12:48 AM - Giovanni Manghi**

- *Easy fix? set to No*

**#12 - 2018-04-15 11:33 AM - Johannes Kroeger**

Ultimately this is a dupe of #4212

**#13 - 2018-04-15 01:23 PM - Jürgen Fischer**

- *Duplicated by Feature request #13038: Add ability to choose field type in CSV plugin provider import added*

**#14 - 2018-04-15 01:24 PM - Jürgen Fischer**

- *Duplicates Feature request #4212: Data types for csv added*