

The Folk Date Pattern

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Overview

- An intuitive way to store dates
- Imperfect human input
- Sortable and usable by the computer

Folk Date	Starting Datetime	Ending Datetime
throughout January	2011-01-01 00:00:00	2011-01-31 23:59:59
8 Aug to 12 Aug 2008	2008-08-08 00:00:00	2008-08-12 23:59:59
August through October	2010-08-01 00:00:00	2010-10-31 23:59:59
8 Aug 08 8:30pm	2008-08-08 08:30:00	2008-08-08 08:30:59

Folk Date Pattern - Compared

- Solely user input
- No Pop up calendar
- No forced formatting
- Parsing and computational interpretation

Date: 8/08/2008 8/08/2008

Figure 1.1: folk date widget with single date

Challenges to Implementation

- Middle endian vs. Little endian
- Intelligent Guessing of imprecise user input
- User specified confirmation

Date: from 8 Aug 08 to 10 Aug 08 8/08/2008 8/10/2008




Figure 1.3: users can manually change datetimes as needed

Other Uses

- Non date numerical values
 - ‘children ages 8-18’
 - ‘snowboards over 55 inches’
- Less direct possibilities
- The future

Conclusions

- Benefits of computing power and the intuitive user input
- Possibilities in the future
- Easier input of genealogical data

Questions

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Thank You.

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