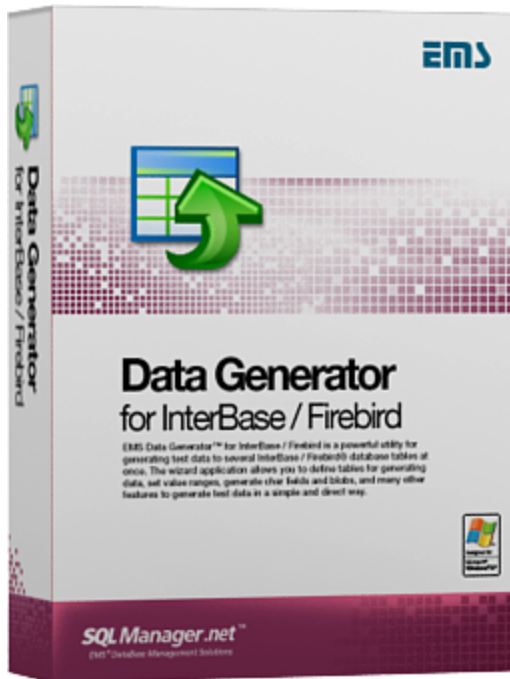


SQL Manager.net™

EMS® Software Development



Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird User's Manual

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Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird User's Manual

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Part



1 Welcome to EMS Data Generator!

EMS Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird is a powerful utility for generating test data into one or several Interbase/Firebird database tables simultaneously, with script saving and editing capabilities. The wizard application allows you to define tables and columns for generating data, set value ranges, generate string values by mask, load values for BLOB columns directly from files, set lists of values manually, get sets of values from SQL queries and perform other operations with test data in a simple and direct way. The distribution of the utility also provides you with the console application which allows you to generate data in one-touch by using data generation templates.

Visit our web-site: <https://www.sqlmanager.net> for details.

Key features

- Unicode support
- Localizable user-friendly wizard interface
- Ability to save and edit data generation script, without actual script execution
- Generating data into several tables
- Ability to select data insertion type: INSERT, UPDATE OR INSERT, MERGE
- Support for all Interbase/Firebird data types including BIGINT and BOOLEAN, support of domain-based types
- Various data generation modes for each data type including list, random, incremental data generation and more
- Ability to use SQL query results as the list of values for data generation
- Ability to get data from another column for data generation
- Ability to preview the data grid for each table
- Automatic control over referential integrity for data generation into linked tables
- Ability to disable triggers associated with the tables during data generation
- Wide variety of generation parameters for each data type
- Ability to set NULL values for a specified percent of cases
- Ability to empty tables before data generation
- Possibility of saving all the generation parameters specified within the current wizard session
- The command-line utility to generate data using the configuration file

Product information

Homepage: <https://www.sqlmanager.net/products/ibfb/datagenerator>

Support Ticket <https://www.sqlmanager.net/support>

System:

Register online at: <https://www.sqlmanager.net/products/ibfb/datagenerator/buy>

1.1 What's new

Version

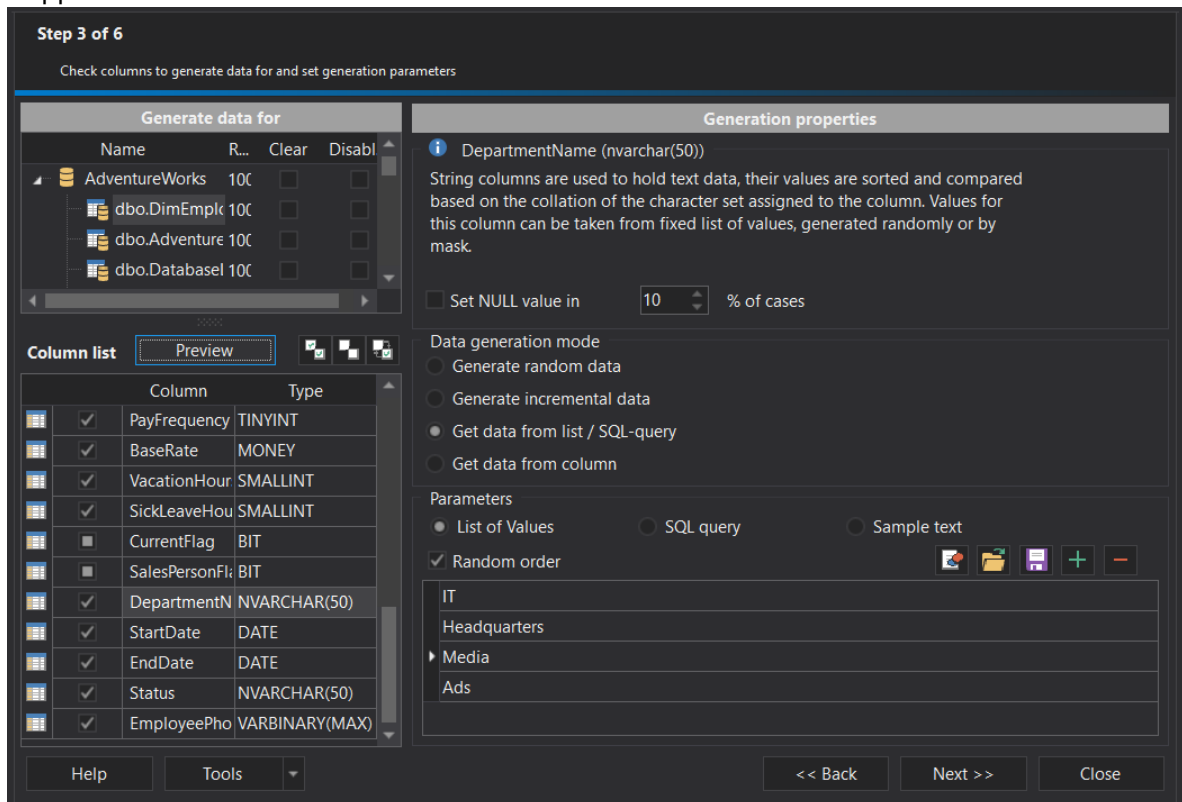
Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird 4.0

Release Date

November 21, 2023

What's new in EMS Data Generator 4.0?

- Support for dark visual theme added.



- Unicode names of objects are now supported.
- SSL implemented for InterBase server versions.
- Updated SSH library with ECDSA, Ed25519 keys and Keyboard-interactive authentication method support.
- Support for the Firebird 4 server version.
- Encoding option for script file has been added.
- Files with test data are now supplied with the program installation pack.
- Many other improvements and fixes.

1.2 System requirements

System requirements for Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird

- Microsoft Windows XP, Microsoft Windows Server 2003, Microsoft Windows Server 2008, Microsoft Windows Server 2008 R2, Microsoft Windows Server 2012, Microsoft Windows Server 2012 R2, Microsoft Windows Server 2016, Microsoft Windows Vista, Microsoft Windows 7, Microsoft Windows 8/8.1, Microsoft Windows 10, Microsoft Windows 11, Microsoft Windows 11 ARM
- 50MB of available HD space for program installation
- 32-bit Interbase/Firebird client
- Possibility to connect to any local or remote Interbase/Firebird server
- Supported InterBase and Firebird server versions: InterBase - up to 2020; Firebird - up to 4.0

1.3 Installation

If you are **installing Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird for the first time** on your PC:

- download the Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird distribution package from the [download page](#) available at our site;
- unzip the downloaded file to any local directory, e.g. *C:\unzipped*;
- run *IbDataGenSetup.exe* from the local directory and follow the instructions of the installation wizard;
- after the installation process is completed, find the Data Generator shortcut in the corresponding group of Windows Start menu.

If you want to **upgrade an installed copy of Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird** to the latest version:

- download the Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird distribution package from the [download page](#) available at our site;
- unzip the downloaded file to any local directory, e.g. *C:\unzipped*;
- close Data Generator application if it is running;
- run *IbDataGenSetup.exe* from the local directory and follow the instructions of the installation wizard.

See also:

[System requirements](#)

1.4 Registration

All purchases are provided by **Digital River** registration service. The **Digital River** order process is protected via a secure connection and makes on-line ordering by credit/debit card quick and safe.

Digital River is a global e-commerce provider for software and shareware sales via the Internet. It accepts payments in US Dollars, Euros, Pounds Sterling, Japanese Yen, Australian Dollars, Canadian Dollars or Swiss Franks by Credit Card (Visa, MasterCard/ EuroCard, American Express, Diners Club), Bank/Wire Transfer, Check or Cash.

If you want to review your order information, or you have questions about ordering or payments please visit our [Customer Care Center](#), provided by **Digital River**.

Please note that all of our products are delivered via ESD (Electronic Software Delivery) only. After purchase you will be able to immediately download the registration keys or passwords. Also you will receive a copy of registration keys or passwords by email. Please make sure to enter a valid email address in your order. If you have not received the keys within 2 hours, please, contact us at sales@sqlmanager.net.

To obtain **MORE INFORMATION** on this product, visit us at <https://www.sqlmanager.net/products/ibfb/datagenerator>

Product distribution	MyCommerce/Digital River
EMS Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird (Business license) + 1-Year Maintenance*	Register Now!
EMS Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird (Business license) + 2-Year Maintenance*	
EMS Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird (Business license) + 3-Year Maintenance*	
EMS Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird (Non-commercial license) + 1-Year Maintenance*	
EMS Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird (Non-commercial license) + 2-Year Maintenance*	
EMS Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird (Non-commercial license) + 3-Year Maintenance*	
EMS Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird (Trial version)	Download Now!

* **EMS Maintenance Program** provides the following benefits:

- Free software bug fixes, enhancements, updates and upgrades during the maintenance period
- Free unlimited communications with technical staff for the purpose of reporting Software failures
- Free reasonable number of communications for the purpose of consultation on operational aspects of the software

After your maintenance expires you will not be able to update your software or get technical support. To protect your investments and have your software up-to-date, you

need to renew your maintenance.

You can easily reinitiate/renew your maintenance with our on-line, speed-through Maintenance Reinstatement/Renewal Interface. After reinitiating/renewal you will receive a confirmation e-mail with all the necessary information.

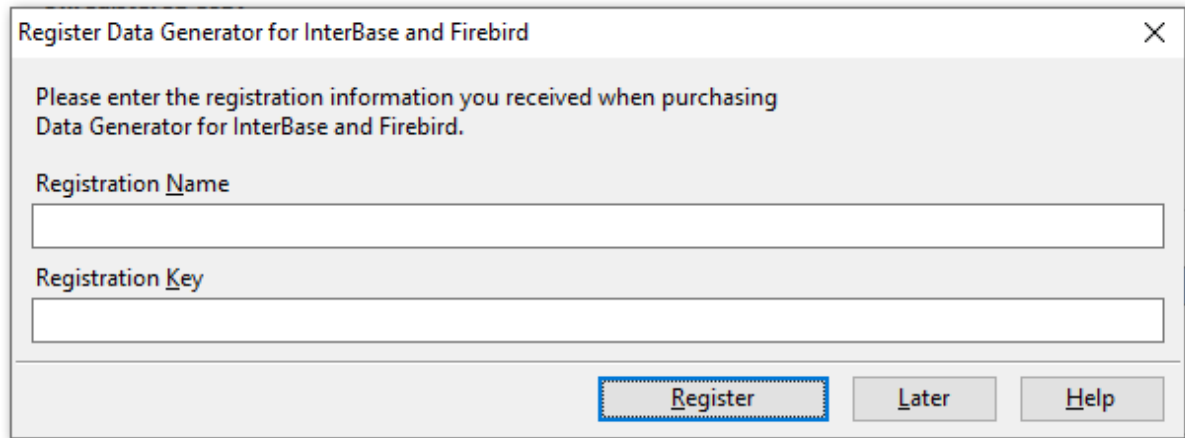
See also:

[How to register EMS Data Generator](#)

1.5 How to register Data Generator

To **register** your newly purchased copy of EMS **Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird**, perform the following:

- receive the notification letter from **Digital River** with the registration info;
- enter the **Registration Name** and the **Registration Key** from this letter;
- make sure that the registration process has been completed successfully – check the registration information at the [startup page](#).



Register Data Generator for InterBase and Firebird

Please enter the registration information you received when purchasing Data Generator for InterBase and Firebird.

Registration Name

Registration Key

Register Later Help

See also:

[Registration](#)

1.6 EMS Data Generator FAQ

Please read this page attentively if you have questions about EMS Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird.

Table of contents

- [What is Data Generator for InterBase/Firebird?](#)
- [What do I need to start working with EMS Data Generator for InterBase/Firebird?](#)
- [What is the easiest way to configure the template files for the console application of Data Generator?](#)
- [How can I register the product?](#)
- [Are there any limitations implied in the trial version as compared with the full one?](#)

Question/answer list

Q: What is Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird?

A: Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird is a powerful utility for generating test data to several Interbase/Firebird database tables at once. The wizard application allows you to define tables for generating data, set value ranges, generate char and BLOB values, and many other features to generate test data in a simple and direct way. The utility also provides you with the console application which allows you to generate data in one touch by using generation templates.

Q: What do I need to start working with EMS Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird?

A: First of all you must have a possibility to connect to some local or remote Interbase/Firebird server to work with Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird. You can use the following link to download the latest commercial version of InterBase server: <https://www.embarcadero.com/> or Firebird client/server: <https://www.firebirdsql.org>. Besides, you need your computer to satisfy the [system requirements](#) for Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird.

Q: What is the easiest way to configure the template files for the console application of Data Generator?

A: You can configure the template files for each table or export type visually using the Interbase/Firebird Data Generator wizard. Set the required generation options at [Step 4](#) of the wizard, click the 'Tools' button and select the 'Save Template' popup menu item. All the options will be saved to the template file which can be used later in the [console application](#).

Q: How can I register the product?

A: If you have already purchased Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird, you can register the product by entering the appropriate registration information. Please refer to [Registration](#) and [How to register EMS Data Generator](#) for details.

Q: Are there any limitations implied in the trial version as compared with the full one?

A: The trial version of the utility admits to the maximum of 100 records to be generated at a time. In all other respects it does not differ from the full version as far as the functionality is concerned. That is, you can test all the features implemented in Data

Generator for Interbase/Firebird within the 30-day trial period.

[Scroll to top](#)

If you have any additional questions, contact us at our [Support Center](#).

1.7 Other EMS Products

Quick navigation



[MySQL](#)



[Microsoft SQL Server](#)



[PostgreSQL](#)



[InterBase / FireBird](#)



[Oracle](#)



[IBM DB2](#)



[Tools & components](#)

MySQL



[SQL Management Studio for MySQL](#)

EMS SQL Management Studio for MySQL is a complete solution for database administration and development. SQL Studio unites the must-have tools in one powerful and easy-to-use environment that will make you more productive than ever before!



[SQL Manager for MySQL](#)

Simplify and automate your database development process, design, explore and maintain existing databases, build compound SQL query statements, manage database user rights and manipulate data in different ways.



[Data Export for MySQL](#)

Export your data to any of 20 most popular data formats, including MS Access, MS Excel, MS Word, PDF, HTML and more.



[Data Import for MySQL](#)

Import your data from MS Access, MS Excel and other popular formats to database tables via user-friendly wizard interface.



[Data Pump for MySQL](#)

Migrate from most popular databases (MySQL, PostgreSQL, Oracle, DB2, InterBase/Firebird, etc.) to MySQL.



[Data Generator for MySQL](#)

Generate test data for database testing purposes in a simple and direct way. Wide range of data generation parameters.



[DB Comparer for MySQL](#)

Compare and synchronize the structure of your databases. Move changes on your development database to production with ease.



[DB Extract for MySQL](#)

Create database backups in the form of SQL scripts, save your database structure and table data as a whole or partially.



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[Data Comparer for MySQL](#)

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PostgreSQL



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InterBase / Firebird



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Generate test data for database testing purposes in a simple and direct way. Wide range of data generation parameters.



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Compare and synchronize the structure of your databases. Move changes on your development database to production with ease.



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[DB Comparer for Oracle](#)

Compare and synchronize the structure of your databases. Move changes on your development database to production with ease.



[DB Extract for Oracle](#)

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[SQL Query for Oracle](#)

Analyze and retrieve your data, build your queries visually, work with query plans, build charts based on retrieved data quickly and more.



[Data Comparer for Oracle](#)

Compare and synchronize the contents of your databases. Automate your data migrations from development to production database.

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IBM DB2



[SQL Manager for DB2](#)

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[Data Export for DB2](#)

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[Data Import for DB2](#)

Import your data from MS Access, MS Excel and other popular formats to database tables via user-friendly wizard interface.



[Data Pump for DB2](#)

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[Data Generator for DB2](#)

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[SQL Query for DB2](#)

Analyze and retrieve your data, build your queries visually, work with query plans, build charts

based on retrieved data quickly and more.

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Tools & components



[Advanced Data Export for RAD Studio VCL](#)

Advanced Data Export for RAD Studio VCL allows you to save your data in the most popular office programs formats.



[Advanced Data Export .NET](#)

Advanced Data Export .NET is a component for Microsoft Visual Studio .NET that will allow you to save your data in the most popular data formats for the future viewing, modification, printing or web publication. You can export data into MS Access, MS Excel, MS Word (RTF), PDF, TXT, DBF, CSV and more! There will be no need to waste your time on tiresome data conversion - Advanced Data Export will do the task quickly and will give the result in the desired format.



[Advanced Data Import for RAD Studio VCL](#)

Advanced Data Import for RAD Studio VCL will allow you to import your data to the database from files in the most popular data formats.



[Advanced PDF Generator for RAD Studio](#)

Advanced PDF Generator for RAD Studio gives you an opportunity to create PDF documents with your applications written on Delphi or C++ Builder.



[Advanced Query Builder for RAD Studio VCL](#)

Advanced Query Builder for RAD Studio VCL is a powerful component for Delphi and C++ Builder intended for visual building SQL statements for the SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE and DELETE clauses.



[Advanced Excel Report for RAD Studio](#)

Advanced Excel Report for RAD Studio is a powerful band-oriented generator of template-based reports in MS Excel.



[Advanced Localizer for RAD Studio VCL](#)

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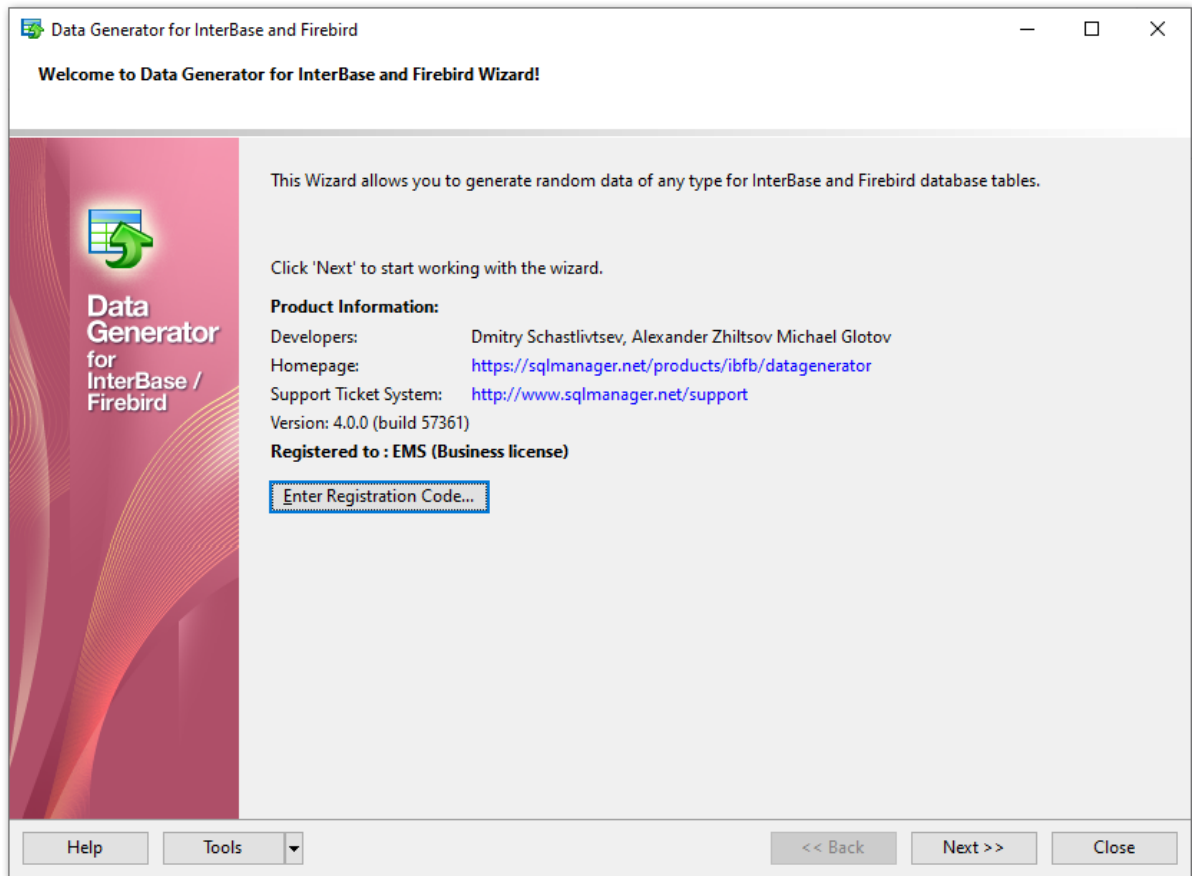
Part



2 Wizard Application

Data Generator for InterBase/Firebird wizard application provides easy-to-use wizard interface to set all data generation parameters visually.

- [Using wizard application](#)
- [Using configuration files](#)
- [Setting program preferences](#)



See also:

[Console Application](#)

2.1 Using wizard application

Go through the steps of the wizard and follow the wizard instructions to generate test data for your needs.

- [Getting started](#)
- [Step 1 - Setting connection properties](#)
- [Step 2 - Selecting databases and tables](#)
- [Step 3 - Specifying generation parameters](#)
- [Step 4 - Setting generation options](#)
- [Step 5 - Start of data generation process](#)
- [Step 6 - Editing generation script](#)

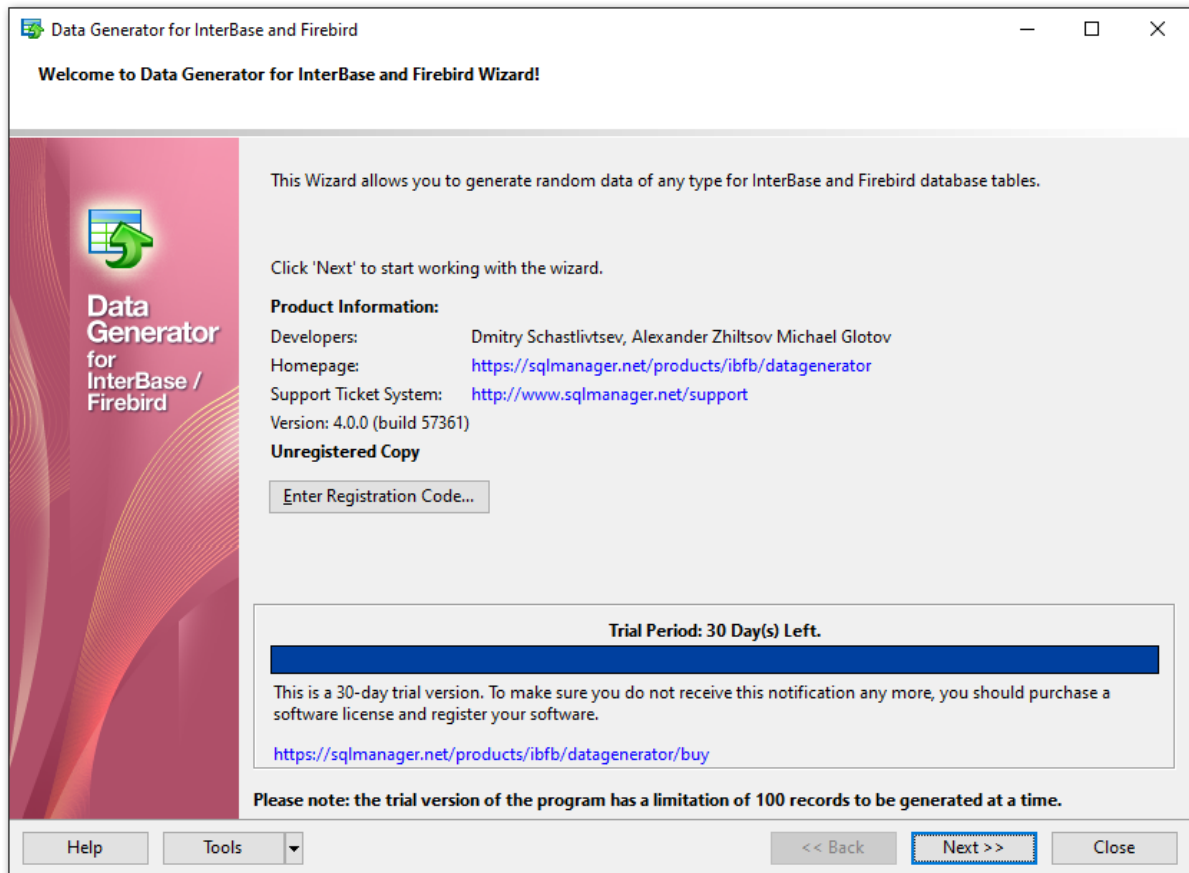
See also:

[Using console application](#)

2.1.1 Getting started

This is how Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird wizard application looks when you first start it.

This page allows you to view registration information. If you have not registered Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird yet, you can do it by pressing the **Enter Registration Code...** button and specifying your registration information.



When you are done, press the **Next** button to proceed to [Step 1](#).

See also:
[Registration](#)

2.1.2 Step 1 - Setting connection properties

At this step you should enter the necessary settings to establish connection to Interbase/Firebird server.

The screenshot shows the 'Data Generator for InterBase and Firebird' dialog box, Step 1 of 6: Set InterBase and Firebird server connection properties. The dialog is divided into two main sections: a left sidebar with the product logo and a main configuration area. The configuration area contains the following fields and options:

- Host:** aschel
- Port:** 3052
- Role:** (empty)
- Protocol:** TCP/IP
- Client library:** C:\gds32.dll
- Client certificate:** (empty)
- Passphrase file:** C:\Store\passphrase.key
- Passphrase:** (empty)
- Authentication:** Server
- Login:** SYSDBA
- Password:** (masked with dots)
- Database file:** C:\Program Files\Firebird\Firebird\firebird.conf
- Embedded root:** (empty)
- CA file:** C:\Store\ibservercafile.pem
- CA path:** (empty)
- Don't use tunneling:**
- Connect through the Secure SHell (SSH) tunnel:**
- SSH host:** vadsrv
- SSH port:** 22
- SSH login:** tester
- SSH password:** (empty)
- Use Private Key for authentication:**
- SSH key file:** C:\SSHKeys\dsa+key.ppk

At the bottom of the dialog, there are buttons for 'Help', 'Tools', '<< Back', 'Next >>', and 'Close'.

For connection you should also enter Interbase/Firebird host name in the **Host** field, specify the preferable **Network protocol** (*TCP/IP, NetBEUI, Novell SPX, Local, Embedded*) and enter Interbase/Firebird port (or service name) to connect through in the **Port** field.

Afterwards you should specify *authorization* settings: **Login** and **Password**. The default superuser name is 'SYSDBA' and the default password is 'masterkey'.

Authentication

This group is only available in case you connect to Firebird 2.1. Specify the preferable type of server authentication to be used for the connection:

- Normal
- Win32 NTLM authentication
- Mixed

You also need to specify the path to the **Client library** and the path to the **Database file** (**.gdb* for InterBase or **.fdb* for Firebird) in the corresponding fields. For successful connection to the server it is crucial to use the appropriate client library - the one that is compatible with the server you are using: *gds32.dll* for InterBase and *fbclient.dll* for

Firebird. Please note that the client library file must be located on your local machine (e.g. in the directory where the utility is installed). Bear in mind that the path to the database file should be set relatively to the Interbase/Firebird server file system.

Embedded root

In Firebird 2.1 (and lower) the embedded server root is a directory where the executable file *fbguard.exe* is stored.

In Firebird 2.5 it is a directory that contains *fbembed.dll* file.

In the latest version of the server *fbclient.dll* library can be used as a client library for the embedded server.

An embedded server locks a database file for its own exclusive use after successful connection. This means that you cannot access the same database from multiple embedded server processes simultaneously (or from any other servers, once an embedded server has locked the file).

If necessary, specify the preferable **Role** to be used by the application.

Please note that you should have sufficient privileges to write to the destination database on Interbase/Firebird server.

If you are using the EMS SQL Management Studio for Interbase/Firebird version of Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird then the **Select registered database** button is available. Click this button to pick a database already registered in the EMS SQL Management Studio in the [Select Host or Database](#) dialog.

SSL parameters

SSL preferences allows you to connect to the server via encrypted channel for increased security.

- **Client certificate** - set the full path to the SSL certificate on the client machine.
- **Passphrase file** - set the full path to the file containing the key passphrase.
- **Passphrase** - input passphrase password.
- **CA file** - specify the name of the certificate authority file.
- **CA path** - set the path for the location of the certificate authority file.

Tunneling settings

To setup the connection via **SSH tunnel**, input the following values in the corresponding fields:

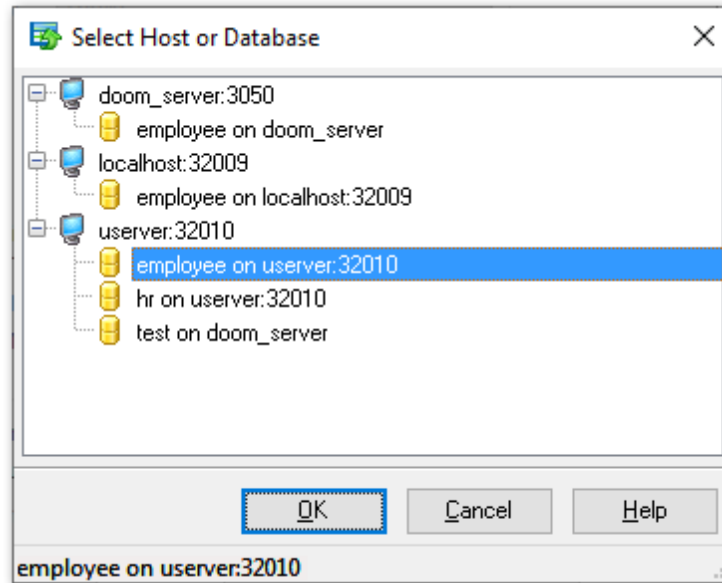
- **SSH host name** is the name of the host where SSH server is running
- **SSH port** indicates the port where SSH server is activated
- **SSH user name** stands for the user on the machine where SSH server is running (**Note:** it is a Linux/Windows user, not a user of Interbase/Firebird server)
- **SSH password** is the Linux/Windows user password

For details see [SSH tunneling options](#).

When you are done, press the **Next** button to proceed to the [next step](#).

2.1.2.1 Selecting registered database

Use this dialog to select a database for data generation. This dialog is available only in EMS SQL Management Studio version of Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird.




All databases registered in EMS SQL Management Studio for Interbase/Firebird are displayed in the list.

Select the necessary database and click the **OK** button.

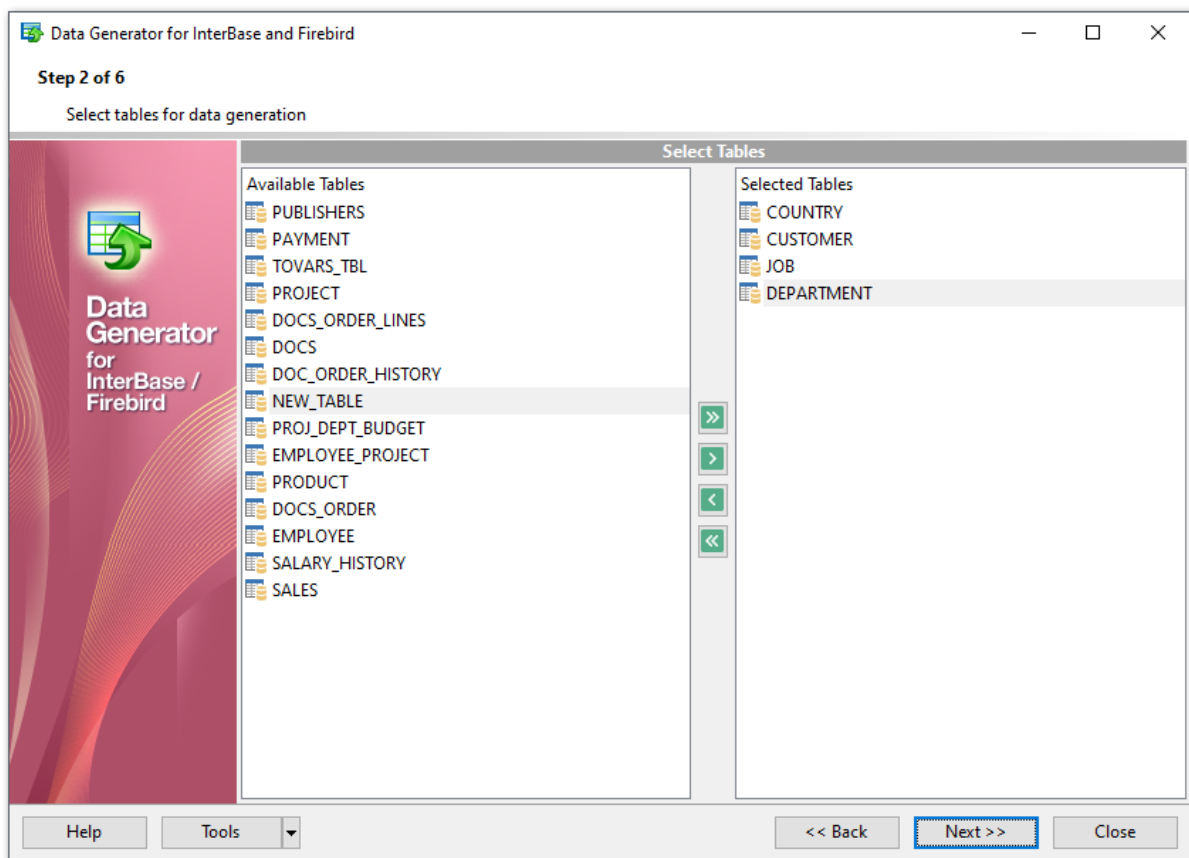
Database registration information will be filled on the [first step](#) automatically.

2.1.3 Step 2 - Selecting databases and tables

At this step you should select tables for test data generation.

In the **Available Tables** list you can see all the tables belonging to the selected database. To select a table, you need to move it from the **Available Tables** list to the **Selected Tables** list. To cancel table selection, just remove it from the **Selected Tables** list. Use the  buttons or drag-and-drop operations to move the tables from one list to another.

Hint: To select multiple tables, hold down the *Shift* or *Ctrl* key while selecting the table names.



Please note that the order of data generation for tables depends on their position in the **Selected Tables** list. This might be critical in case of generating data for linked tables. You can change their order by dragging tables across the list.

When you press the **Next** button at this step, Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird analyzes the order of data generation to avoid referential integrity conflicts and advises you to set a new order for data generation.

When you are done, press the **Next** button to proceed to the [next step](#).

2.1.4 Step 3 - Specifying generation parameters

At this step you can select columns for generating data and set various data generation parameters.

Selected tables are displayed in the **Generate data for** tree at the top-left side of the window. Table columns and their types are listed in the grid of the **Columns list** area below.

Records count

Set the number of data records to be generated for each table.

Clear

Set this flag for a table to empty the table before data generation.

Disable triggers

This column is visible if there are active triggers on one or more tables selected for data generation. Set a flag for a table to disable triggers associated with the table during data generation (available only for Firebird 2.x).

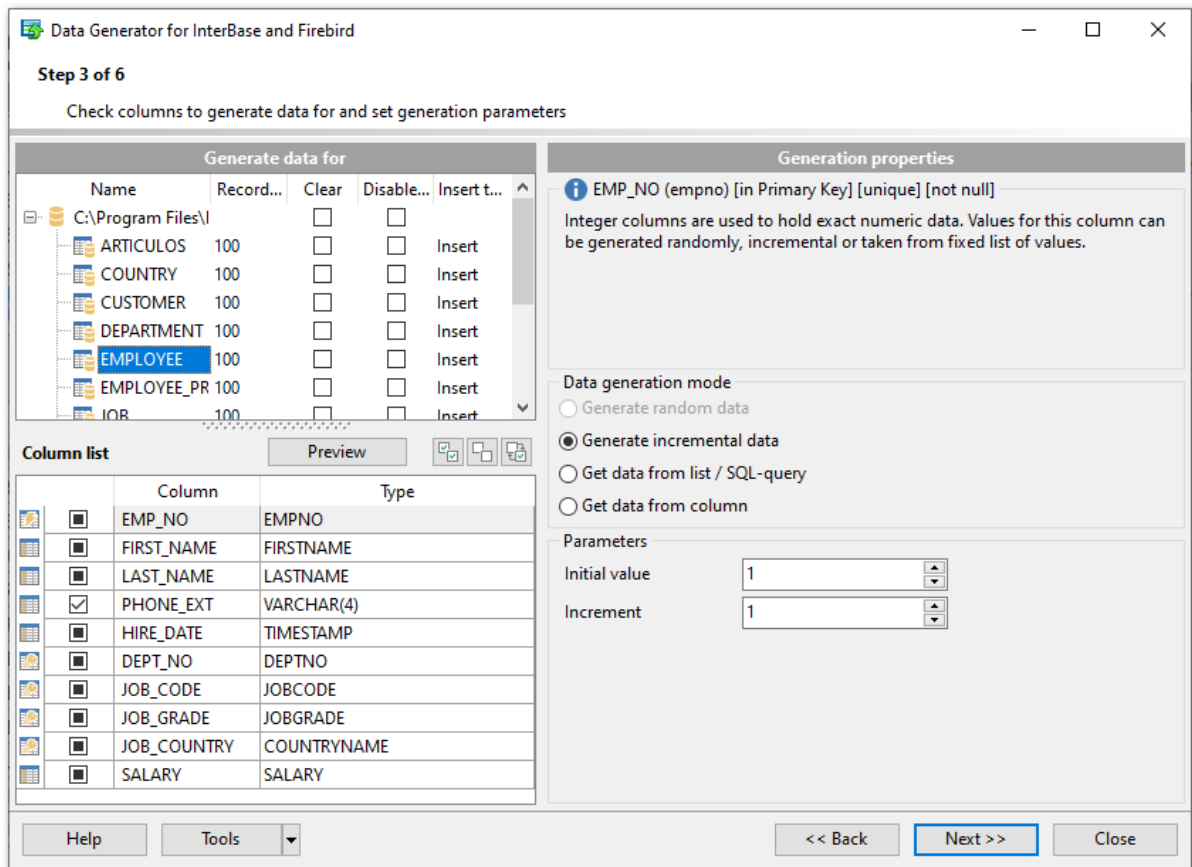
Insert type

Use the drop-down list to select the data insertion type:

- *insert*: common data insertion type
- *update or insert*: data generation is performed with the native *UPDATE OR INSERT* statement used; if a record exists, it will be updated, otherwise a new record will be inserted (applied to Firebird 2.1 or above)
- *merge*: data are read from the source and *INSERT* or *UPDATE* operation is performed in the target table depending on a condition (note that for this generation type you will need to select a key column; if the table has a key column, this column will be automatically selected as the key column for the merge operation)

Preview

Click the **Preview** button to browse the selected table data in the [preview mode](#).



When you select a table in the **Generate data for** tree, you can set data generation parameters for each of its columns within the **Generation properties** area at the right side of the window. Use the and the buttons to manage columns within the **Columns list** area. For each column you can set the following:

Set NULL value in ... % of cases

Check this option and specify the percentage of NULL values for the column data, if necessary.

Other generation parameters vary according to the data type of the selected column:

- [FLOAT type parameters](#)
- [INTEGER type parameters](#)
- [DATE type parameters](#)
- [TIME type parameters](#)
- [STRING type parameters](#)
- [BLOB type parameters](#)
- [BOOLEAN type parameters](#)

If a column is part of a foreign key, you can select one of the following options for this column:

Generate data from the dependent column

Values for the column will be taken from the corresponding column(s) of the foreign table (s).

Generate data from list / SQL-query

Ratio 1:N

If this option is selected you should specify the *N* value using the spin-edit box below. Data will be generated into the column related as 1:N, i.e. *n* records will be generated into the foreign table for each record of the primary table.

Data generation mode

Generate data from the dependent column

Generate incremental data

Get data from list / SQL-query

Get data from column

Parameters

List of Values SQL query Ratio 1:N

For each record of the primary table n records will be generated into the foreign table.(NOTE: Changing this value will result in changing record count of the current table)

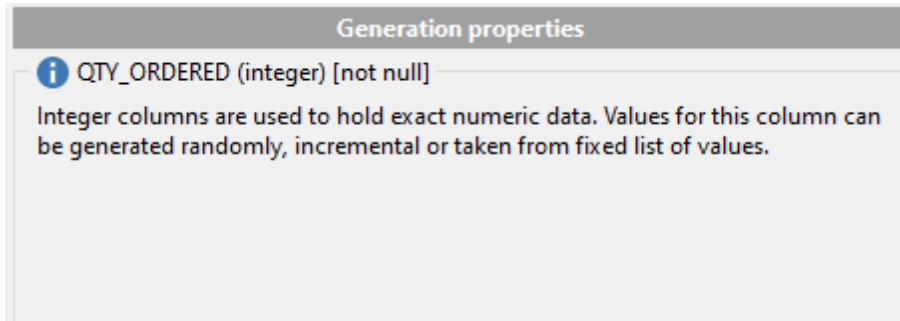
When you are done, press the **Next** button to proceed to the [next step](#) of the Wizard.

2.1.4.1 Setting type-specific properties

2.1.4.1.1 INTEGER column parameters

Integer data types are used for exact numeric data storage. Values for this column can be generated *randomly*, *incrementally*, or they can be taken from a fixed *list* of values or *SQL query*, or from an existing table column of the same data type.

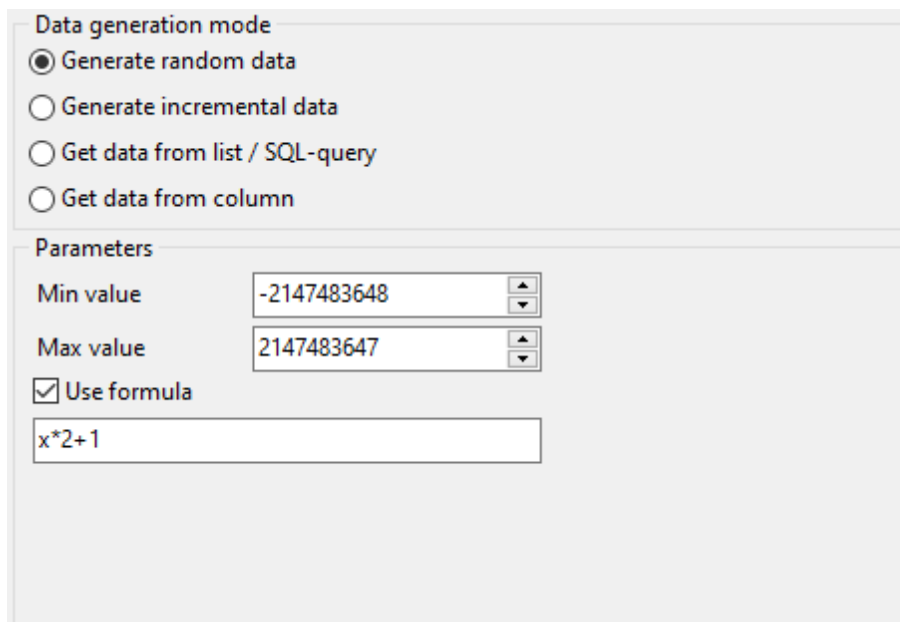
The **Generation properties** panel allows you to define preferences for generating values for integer types.



Select [Data generation mode](#) as follows:

Generate random data

The value is generated randomly within the defined interval (the minimum and the maximum values).



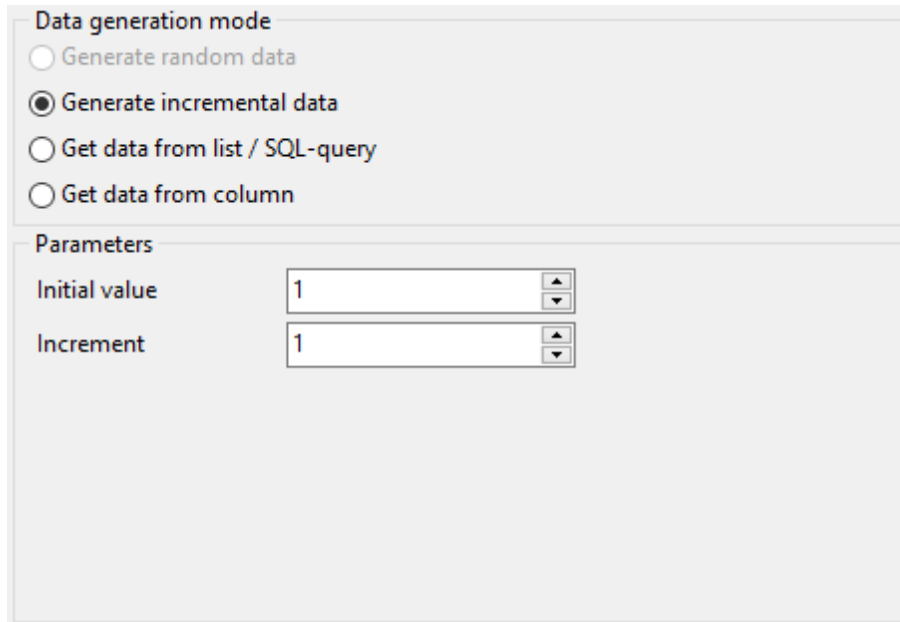
Use formula

This option allows you to correct your data according to a formula; x is a randomly generated value here. Addition, subtraction, multiplication, dividing and exponentiation

operations (+, -, *, /, ^) can be used.

● **Generate incremental data**


Specify the **Initial value** and the **Increment** properties to generate an ordered incremented sequence of values.




The screenshot shows a dialog box with two sections. The top section, titled "Data generation mode", contains four radio buttons: "Generate random data", "Generate incremental data" (which is selected), "Get data from list / SQL-query", and "Get data from column". The bottom section, titled "Parameters", contains two spin boxes: "Initial value" and "Increment", both of which are set to the number "1".


● **Get Data from List / SQL query**

This panel allows you to define the list of values to generate integer data from. You can enter these values directly into the editor by selecting the **List of Values** option.

To add a single value, use the  **Add Value** button.

To load a list of values from an existing external file, use the  **Load from file** button.

To save the list to an external file, use the  **Save to file** button.

To remove a single value, use the  **Delete Value** button.

To remove all items from the list, use the  **Clear** button.

You can also specify whether the values are to be taken in **random order** or in the order they have been inputted.

Alternatively, you can set the **SQL Query** option and input an SQL query into the editor, and the resulting dataset will be used as the list for data generation.

The screenshot shows a software window with two main sections. The top section, titled 'Data generation mode', contains four radio buttons: 'Generate random data', 'Generate incremental data', 'Get data from list / SQL-query' (which is selected), and 'Get data from column'. The bottom section, titled 'Parameters', contains two radio buttons: 'List of Values' (selected) and 'SQL query'. Below these is a checked checkbox for 'Random order' and a set of five icons (a folder, a document, a save icon, a plus sign, and a minus sign). At the bottom is a list box containing the numbers 1 through 6, with the number 3 selected and highlighted.

● **Get data from column**

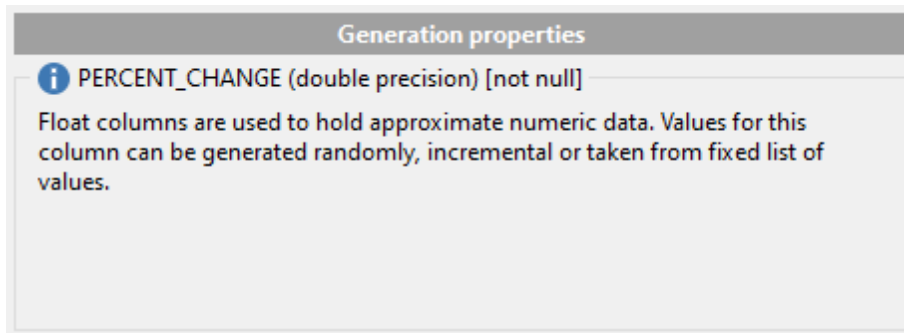
This option allows you to specify a column to generate data from: use the **Table** and **Column** drop-down lists to select the source table and column that will be used to take data for generation.

The screenshot shows the same software window as above, but with 'Get data from column' selected in the 'Data generation mode' section. In the 'Parameters' section, the 'List of Values' radio button is unselected, and the 'SQL query' radio button is selected. Below the radio buttons are two drop-down menus. The first is labeled 'Table' and has 'characters' selected. The second is labeled 'Column' and has 'base_class' selected.

2.1.4.1.2 FLOAT column parameters

Float data are used for approximate numeric data storage. Values for this column can be generated *randomly*, *incrementally*, or they can be taken from a fixed *list* of values or *SQL query*, or from an existing table column of the same data type.

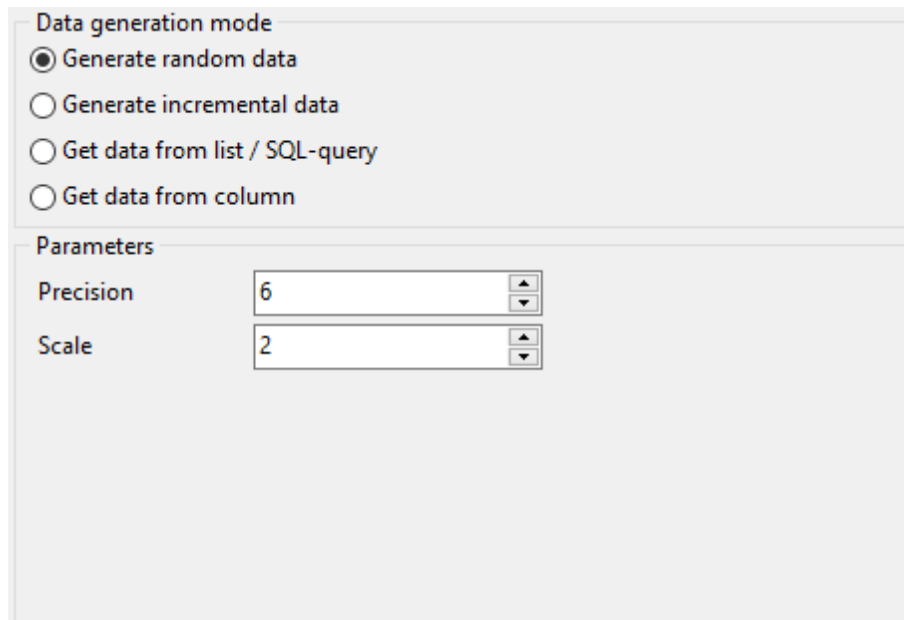
The **Generation properties** panel allows you to define preferences for generating values for floating point numeric types.



Select [Data generation mode](#) as follows:

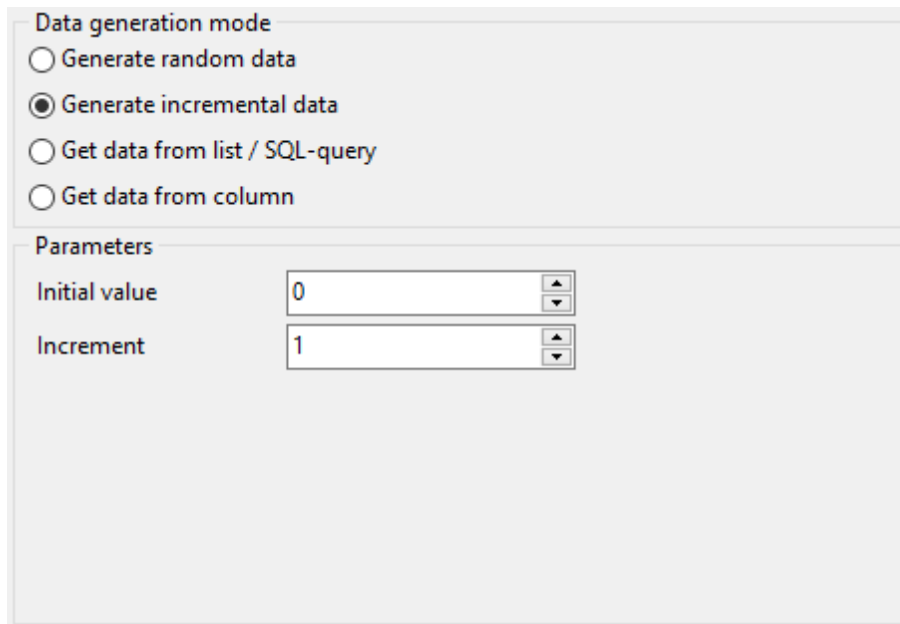
Generate random data

Here you can define the number of precision and the scale for the result randomly generated values.



Generate incremental data

Specify the **Initial value** and the **Increment** properties to generate an ordered incremented sequence of values.



Data generation mode

Generate random data

Generate incremental data

Get data from list / SQL-query

Get data from column


Parameters

Initial value


Increment


Get data from List / SQL query


This panel allows you to define the list of values to generate floating point numeric data from. You can enter these values directly into the editor by selecting the **List of Values** option.

To add a single value, use the  **Add Value** button.

To load a list of values from an existing external file, use the  **Load from file** button.

To save the list to an external file, use the  **Save to file** button.

To remove a single value, use the  **Delete Value** button.

To remove all items from the list, use the  **Clear** button.

You can also specify whether the values are to be taken in **random order** or in the order they have been inputted.

Alternatively, you can set the **SQL Query** option and input an SQL query into the editor, and the resulting dataset will be used as the list for data generation.

Data generation mode

Generate random data
 Generate incremental data
 Get data from list / SQL-query
 Get data from column

Parameters

List of Values SQL query

Random order

-0,001
▶ -0,01
-0,1
0,001
0,01
0,1

Get data from column

This option allows you to specify a column to generate data from: use the **Table** and **Column** drop-down lists to select the source table and column that will be used to take data for generation.

Data generation mode

Generate random data
 Generate incremental data
 Get data from list / SQL-query
 Get data from column

Parameters

Table publishing ▼

Column subbrand ▼

2.1.4.1.3 DATE column parameters

Date are used for temporal values storage. Values for this type can be generated *randomly*, *incrementally*, or they can be taken from a fixed *list* of values or *SQL query*, or from an existing table column of the same data type.

The **Generation properties** panel allows you to define preferences for generating date values for date types.

The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Generation properties" for a column named "DOC_DATE (date)". It contains an information icon and a text box stating: "The date columns are used for holding temporal values. Values for this column can be generated randomly or taken from list of values." Below this, there is a checkbox labeled "Set NULL value in" followed by a spinner control set to "10" and the text "% of cases".

Select [Data generation mode](#) as follows:

Generate random data

Set the date range by defining the minimum and the maximum values.

The screenshot shows a dialog box with two sections. The first section, "Data generation mode", has four radio buttons: "Generate random data" (selected), "Generate incremental data", "Get data from list / SQL-query", and "Get data from column". The second section, "Parameters", has a "Date" header and two rows: "Min" with a date picker set to "8/1/2012" and "Max" with a date picker set to "9/30/2012".


Generate incremental data

Specify the **Start** and the **Increment** properties to generate an ordered incremented sequence of dates. The incremented value is day.


The screenshot shows a software interface for data generation. It is divided into two main sections: 'Data generation mode' and 'Parameters'. In the 'Data generation mode' section, there are four radio button options: 'Generate random data', 'Generate incremental data' (which is selected and highlighted with a dashed border), 'Get data from list / SQL-query', and 'Get data from column'. The 'Parameters' section contains two fields: 'Start', which is a date dropdown menu currently showing '12/4/2012', and 'Increment', which is a numeric spinner box currently showing '1'.


● **Get data from list / SQL query**

This panel allows you to define the list of values to generate temporal data from. You can enter these values directly into the editor by selecting the **List of Values** option.

To add a single value, use the  **Add Value** button.

To load a list of values from an existing external file, use the  **Load from file** button.

To save the list to an external file, use the  **Save to file** button.

To remove a single value, use the  **Delete Value** button.

To remove all items from the list, use the  **Clear** button.

You can also specify whether the values are to be taken in **random order** or in the order they have been inputted.

Alternatively, you can set the **SQL Query** option and input an SQL query into the editor, and the resulting dataset will be used as the list for data generation.

Data generation mode

Generate random data

Generate incremental data

Get data from list / SQL-query

Get data from column

Parameters

List of Values SQL query

Random order

11/1/2012
▶ 11/2/2012
11/3/2012
11/4/2012
11/5/2012
11/6/2012

Get data from column

This option allows you to specify a column to generate data from: use the **Table** and **Column** drop-down lists to select the source table and column that will be used to take data for generation.

Data generation mode

Generate random data

Generate incremental data

Get data from list / SQL-query

Get data from column

Parameters

Table orders

Column ShipDate

2.1.4.1.4 TIME column parameters

Time data are used for temporal values storage. Values for this type can be generated *randomly*, *incrementally*, or they can be taken from a fixed *list* of values or *SQL query*, or from an existing table column of the same data type.

The **Generation properties** panel allows you to define preferences for generating time values for time types.

Generation properties

i TIME (time)

The time columns are used for holding temporal values. Values for this column can be generated randomly or taken from list of values.

Set NULL value in % of cases

Select [Data generation mode](#) as follows:

Generate random data

Set the time range by defining the minimum and the maximum values.

Data generation mode

Generate random data

Generate incremental data

Get data from list / SQL-query

Get data from column

Parameters

	Time	Precision
Min	<input type="text" value="00:00:00"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>
Max	<input type="text" value="23:59:59"/>	<input type="text" value="9999"/>

Generate incremental data

Specify the **Start** value and the **Increment** properties to generate an ordered incremented sequence of values.

Data generation mode

Generate random data

Generate incremental data

Get data from list / SQL-query


Get data from column


Parameters


	Time	Precision
Start	10:53:24 <input type="button" value="▲"/> <input type="button" value="▼"/>	3140 <input type="button" value="▲"/> <input type="button" value="▼"/>
Increment	00:00:01 <input type="button" value="▲"/> <input type="button" value="▼"/>	1234 <input type="button" value="▲"/> <input type="button" value="▼"/>


Get data from List / SQL query

This panel allows you to define the list of values to generate temporal data from. You can enter these values directly into the editor by selecting the **List of Values** option.

To add a single value, use the  **Add Value** button.

To load a list of values from an existing external file, use the  **Load from file** button.

To save the list to an external file, use the  **Save to file** button.

To remove a single value, use the  **Delete Value** button.

To remove all items from the list, use the  **Clear** button.

You can also specify whether the values are to be taken in **random order** or in the order they have been inputted.

Alternatively, you can set the **SQL Query** option and input an SQL query into the editor, and the resulting dataset will be used as the list for data generation.

Data generation mode

Generate random data

Generate incremental data

Get data from list / SQL-query

Get data from column

Parameters

List of Values SQL query

Random order

01:00:00
02:00:00
03:00:00
04:00:00
▶ 05:00:00
06:00:00

Get data from column

This option allows you to specify a column to generate data from: use the **Table** and **Column** drop-down lists to select the source table and column that will be used to take data for generation.

Data generation mode

Generate random data

Generate incremental data

Get data from list / SQL-query

Get data from column

Parameters

Table SALES

Column DATE_NEEDED

2.1.4.1.5 STRING column parameters

Strings are used for text data storage. The values are sorted and compared on the basis of the collation of the character set assigned to the column. Values for this column can be generated *randomly* (with *constraints* or *mask* used), *incrementally*, or they can be taken from a fixed *list* of values or *SQL query*, or from an existing table column of the same data type.

The **Generation properties** panel allows you to define preferences for generating string values for string-based types.

Generation properties

i CITY (varchar(25))

String columns are used to hold text data, their values are sorted and compared based on the collation of the character set assigned to the column. Values for this column can be taken from fixed list of values, generated randomly or by mask.

Set NULL value in % of cases

Select [Data generation mode](#) as follows:

Generate random data

String random data can be generated in two ways - by using constraints or by typing the mask.

• **Using constraints**

Set the **Min length**, **Max length** values to define the minimum and the maximum length for generated values. You can also specify the **Start char** and the **End char** segments to be used for string values generation.

Data generation mode

Generate random data
 Generate incremental data
 Get data from list / SQL-query
 Get data from column

Parameters

Using constraints Using mask

Charset:

Min length: Start char:

Max length: End char:

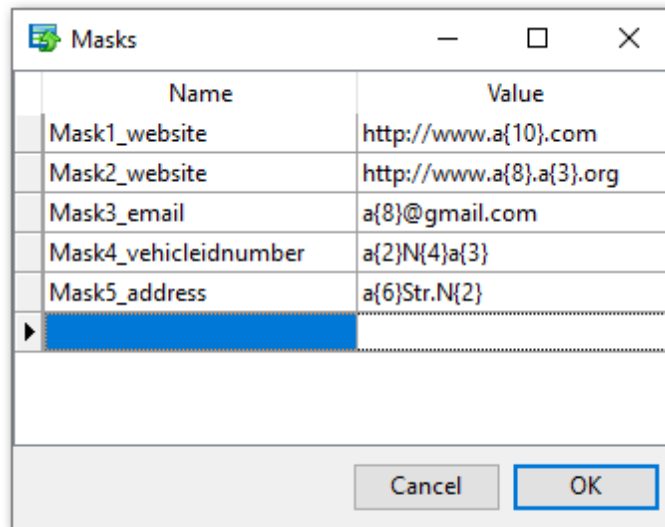
Include new line
 Windows new line

- **Using mask**

Check the option to generate values by mask. Use the **Masks** window to create and edit various masks for string data generation:






- the 'A' and the 'a' characters are replaced with a random letter (from 'A' to 'Z' and from 'a' to 'z');
- the 'N' character is replaced with a random digit;
- '{n}' results in iteration of the last sign n times;
- the character after the '\' symbol is interpreted as a common character.

All the rest of the mask characters will be moved to the result value without changes.




- **Generate incremental data**

Specify the **Initial value** and the **Increment** properties to generate an ordered incremented sequence of values.


Data generation mode	
<input type="radio"/>	Generate random data
<input checked="" type="radio"/>	Generate incremental data
<input type="radio"/>	Get data from list / SQL-query
<input type="radio"/>	Get data from column
Parameters	
Initial value	<input type="text" value="A"/>
Increment	<input type="text" value="1"/>  
Start char	<input type="text" value="A (65)"/> 
End char	<input type="text" value="Z (90)"/> 
Charset	<input type="text" value="ascii (ASCII)"/> 


Get data from list / SQL query


This panel allows you to define the list of values to generate string data from. You can enter these values directly into the editor by selecting the **List of Values** option.

To add a single value, use the  **Add Value** button.

To load a list of values from an existing external file, use the  **Load from file** button.

To save the list to an external file, use the  **Save to file** button.

To remove a single value, use the  **Delete Value** button.

To remove all items from the list, use the  **Clear** button.

You can also specify whether the values are to be taken in **random order** or in the order they have been inputted.

Alternatively, you can set the **SQL Query** option and input an SQL query into the editor, and the resulting dataset will be used as the list for data generation.

Use of the **Sample text** option allows you to generate fragments of previously defined text into the string type column. To define sample text used by default, see the [Default constraints](#) section of the [Preferences](#) dialog.

Data generation mode

Generate random data
 Generate incremental data
 Get data from list / SQL-query
 Get data from column

Parameters

List of Values SQL query Sample text
 Random order

Alabama
Alaska
Arizona
Arkansas
California
Colorado

Get data from column

This option allows you to specify a column to generate data from: use the **Table** and **Column** drop-down lists to select the source table and column that will be used to take data for generation.

Data generation mode

Generate random data
 Generate incremental data
 Get data from list / SQL-query
 Get data from column

Parameters

Table department ▼

Column GroupName ▼

2.1.4.1.6 BLOB column parameters

A BLOB is a binary large object that can store a variable amount of data. You can generate values for this column *randomly* or choose to take them from a specified *list* of files or *SQL query*, or from an existing table column of the same data type.

The **Generation properties** panel allows you to define preferences for generating values for BLOB column type.

The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Generation properties" for a column named "PROJ_DESC (blob sub_type 1 segment size 800)". It contains an information icon and a text box explaining that a BLOB is a binary large object that can hold a variable amount of data. Below this, there is a checkbox labeled "Set NULL value in" followed by a numeric spinner set to "10" and the text "% of cases".

Select [Data generation mode](#) as follows:

Generate random data


Set the **Min length**, **Max length** values to define the minimum and the maximum length for generated values.


The screenshot shows a dialog box titled "Data generation mode" with four radio button options: "Generate random data" (selected), "Generate incremental data", "Get data from files / SQL-query", and "Get data from column". Below the options is a section titled "Parameters" containing two numeric spinner controls: "Min length" set to "0" and "Max length" set to "8".


Get data from files / SQL query


This panel allows you to define the list of files to generate BLOB data from. You can specify the list of files to use their content as values for the BLOB column by selecting the **List of Files** option.

To add a file, use the  **Add Value** button.

To load a list of file paths from an existing external file, use the  **Load from file** button.

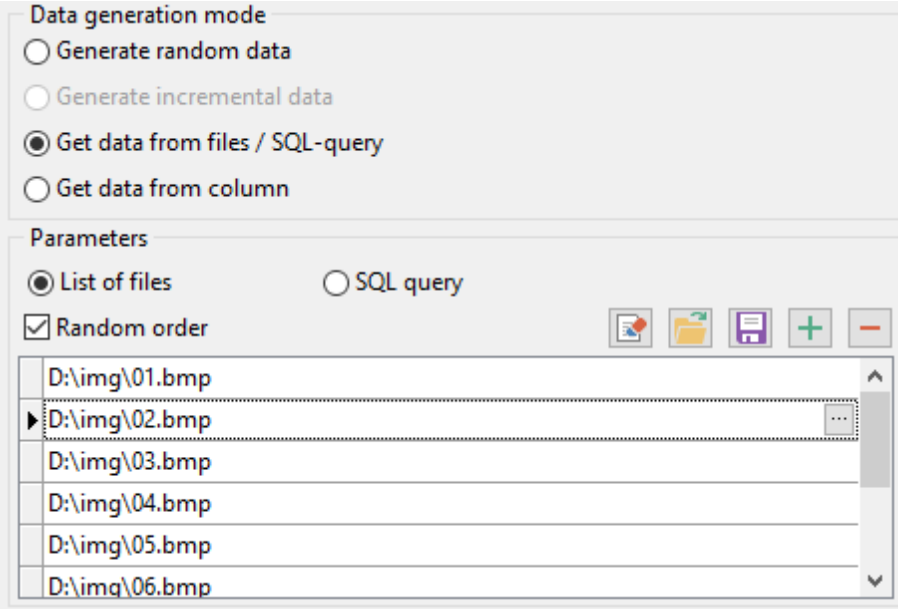
To save the list to an external file, use the  **Save to file** button.

To remove a single file, use the  **Delete Value** button.

To remove all items from the list, use the  **Clear** button.

You can also specify whether the files are to be taken in **random order** or in the order they have been inputted.

Alternatively, you can set the **SQL query** option and input an SQL query into the editor, and the resulting dataset will be used as the list for data generation.



The screenshot shows the 'Data generation mode' section with four radio buttons: 'Generate random data', 'Generate incremental data', 'Get data from files / SQL-query' (selected), and 'Get data from column'. Below this is the 'Parameters' section with two radio buttons: 'List of files' (selected) and 'SQL query'. A checkbox for 'Random order' is checked. To the right of the checkbox are five icons: a red arrow pointing to a document, a folder, a document with a checkmark, a plus sign, and a minus sign. Below these is a list box containing six file paths: 'D:\img\01.bmp', 'D:\img\02.bmp' (selected), 'D:\img\03.bmp', 'D:\img\04.bmp', 'D:\img\05.bmp', and 'D:\img\06.bmp'. The list box has a scrollbar on the right.

Get data from column

This option allows you to specify a column to generate data from: use the **Table** and **Column** drop-down lists to select the source table and column that will be used to take data for generation.

Data generation mode

Generate random data

Generate incremental data

Get data from files / SQL-query

Get data from column

Parameters

Table

Column

2.1.4.1.7 BOOLEAN column parameters

Interbase/Firebird Boolean columns can store either TRUE or FALSE values. You can generate values for this column *randomly* or choose to take them from a specified *list* of values or *SQL query*, or from an existing table column of the same data type.

The **Generation properties** panel allows you to define preferences for generating values for Boolean column type.

Generation properties

i IS_ACTIVE (boolean)

Boolean(bit) columns store either "1" or "0" values. This type of column is used for representing TRUE or FALSE, or YES or NO meanings. Values for this columns can be generated randomly or taken from list of values.

Set NULL value in % of cases

Select [Data generation mode](#) as follows:

Generate random data

Specify the ratio between True and False values in randomly generated data.

Data generation mode

Generate random data

Generate incremental data

Get data from list / SQL-query


Get data from column


Parameters


Count	False (25%)	True (75%)	Count
<input type="text" value="25"/>	<input type="range" value="75"/>		<input type="text" value="75"/>


Get data from List / SQL query


This panel allows you to define the list of values to generate boolean data from. You can enter these values directly into the editor by selecting the **List of Values** option.

To add a single value, use the  **Add Value** button.

To load a list of values from an existing external file, use the  **Load from file** button.

To save the list to an external file, use the  **Save to file** button.

To remove a single value, use the  **Delete Value** button.

To remove all items from the list, use the  **Clear** button.

You can also specify whether the values are to be taken in **random order** or in the order they have been inputted.

Alternatively, you can set the **SQL Query** option and input an SQL query into the editor, and the resulting dataset will be used as the list for data generation.






Data generation mode

Generate random data
 Generate incremental data
 Get data from list / SQL-query
 Get data from column

Parameters

List of Values SQL query

Random order

		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
		<input type="checkbox"/>
		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
▶		<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Get data from column

This option allows you to specify a column to generate data from: use the **Table** and Column drop-down lists to select the source table and column that will be used to take data for generation.

Data generation mode

Generate random data

Generate incremental data

Get data from list / SQL-query

Get data from column

Parameters

Table ▼

Column ▼

2.1.4.2 Viewing table DDL

When you select a database in the **Generate data for** tree, you can select a table belonging to the database and view its DDL structure within the **Table Definition** area at the right side of the window.

Hint: If more convenient, you can see the DDL of the tables in the hint that popup when the mouse cursor is positioned over the table names within the **Generate Data for** area.

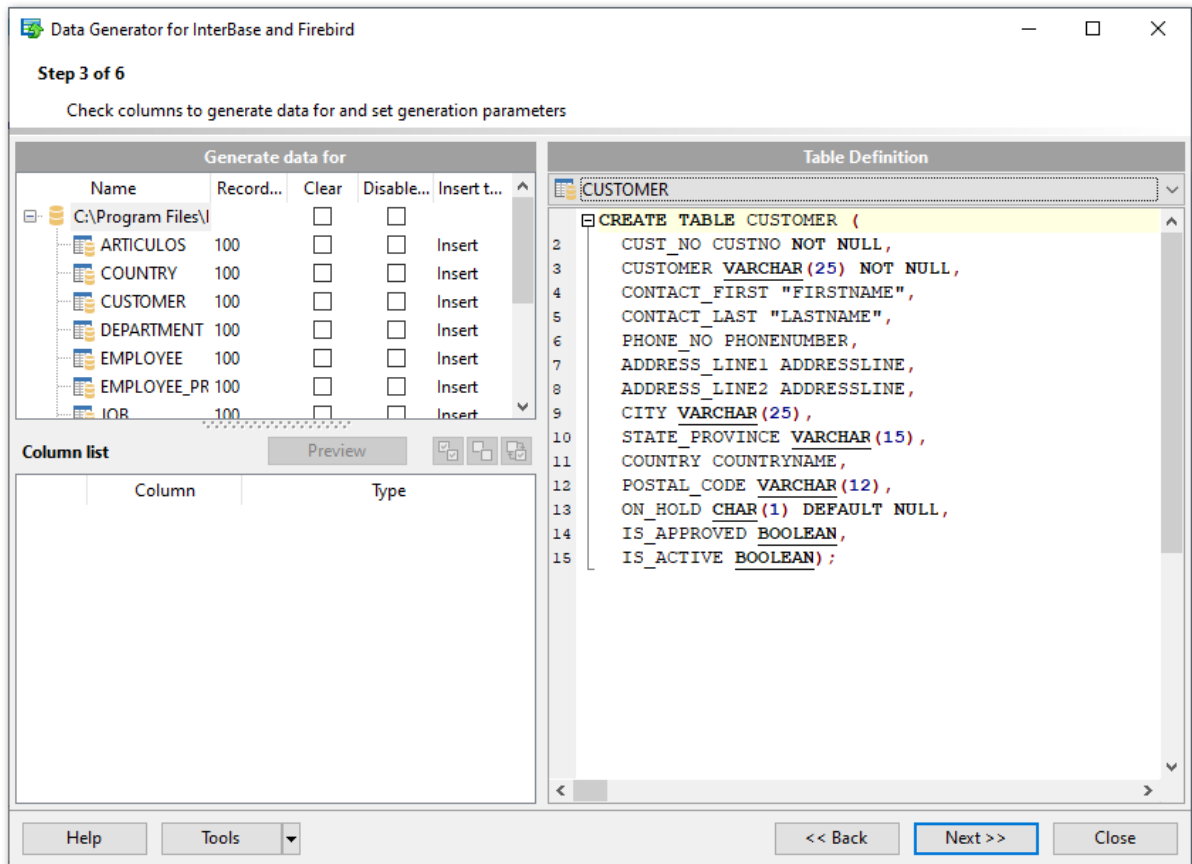


Table Definition

The drop-down list at the top contains the tables that were selected for data generation at [Step 2](#). Select a table to view its DDL.

Right-click within the **Table Definition** area to call the **popup menu** allowing you to *copy* the DDL of the table to Windows clipboard.

2.1.4.3 Data Preview

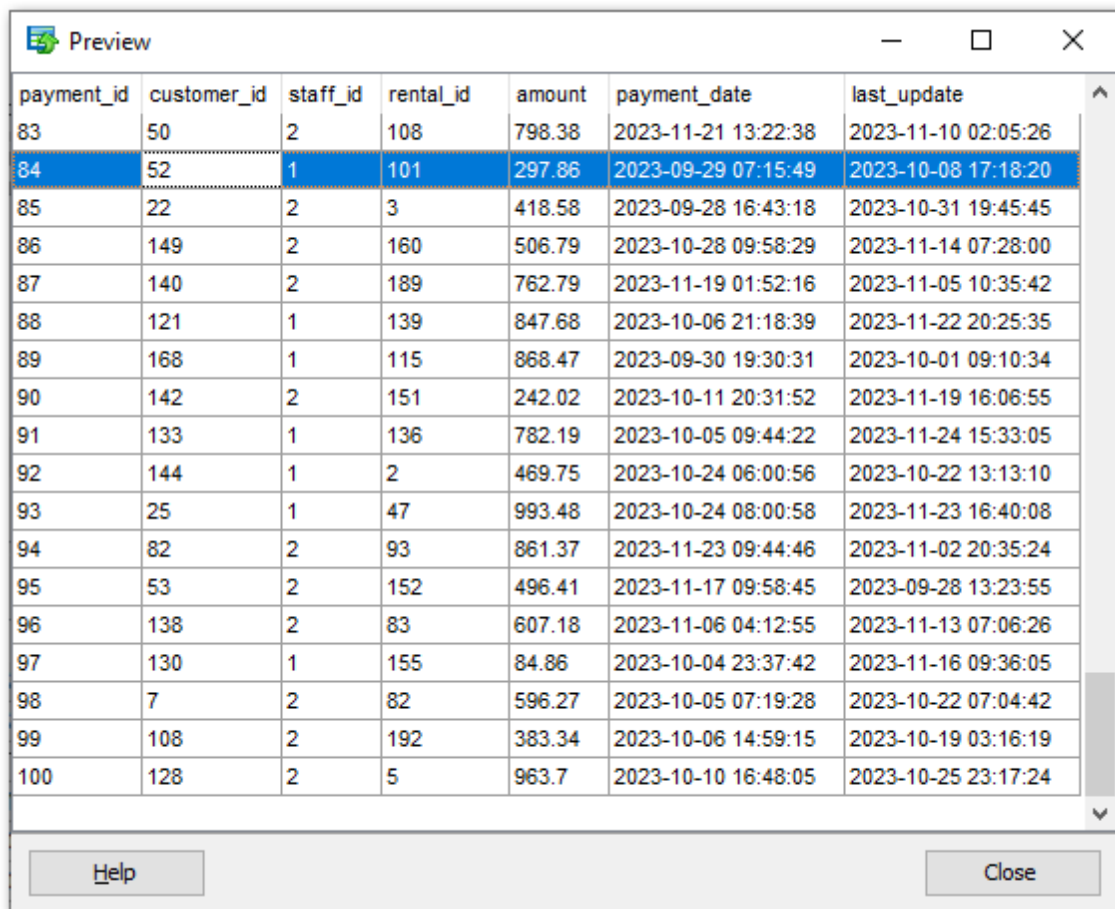
The **Preview** window allows you to browse the selected table data in the preview mode.

Note: The data in preview are selected randomly according to specified parameters and are not actually inserted into the table, i.e. a different set of values will be [generated](#) into the table.

To open the window, click the **Preview** button available at [Step 3](#).

The grid contains all selected columns with data that will be generated according to the parameters you have specified at [Step 3](#). If more convenient, you can **change the order** of the columns by dragging their headers horizontally.

Click a column caption to **sort** items by values of this column in the ascending or the descending mode.

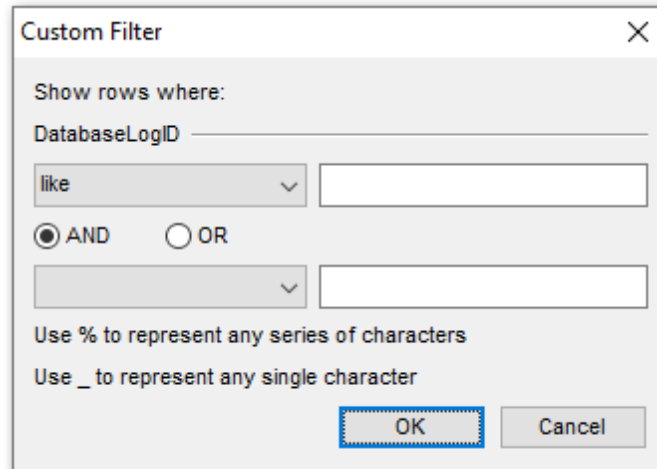


payment_id	customer_id	staff_id	rental_id	amount	payment_date	last_update
83	50	2	108	798.38	2023-11-21 13:22:38	2023-11-10 02:05:26
84	52	1	101	297.86	2023-09-29 07:15:49	2023-10-08 17:18:20
85	22	2	3	418.58	2023-09-28 16:43:18	2023-10-31 19:45:45
86	149	2	160	506.79	2023-10-28 09:58:29	2023-11-14 07:28:00
87	140	2	189	762.79	2023-11-19 01:52:16	2023-11-05 10:35:42
88	121	1	139	847.68	2023-10-06 21:18:39	2023-11-22 20:25:35
89	168	1	115	868.47	2023-09-30 19:30:31	2023-10-01 09:10:34
90	142	2	151	242.02	2023-10-11 20:31:52	2023-11-19 16:06:55
91	133	1	136	782.19	2023-10-05 09:44:22	2023-11-24 15:33:05
92	144	1	2	469.75	2023-10-24 06:00:56	2023-10-22 13:13:10
93	25	1	47	993.48	2023-10-24 08:00:58	2023-11-23 16:40:08
94	82	2	93	861.37	2023-11-23 09:44:46	2023-11-02 20:35:24
95	53	2	152	496.41	2023-11-17 09:58:45	2023-09-28 13:23:55
96	138	2	83	607.18	2023-11-06 04:12:55	2023-11-13 07:06:26
97	130	1	155	84.86	2023-10-04 23:37:42	2023-11-16 09:36:05
98	7	2	82	596.27	2023-10-05 07:19:28	2023-10-22 07:04:42
99	108	2	192	383.34	2023-10-06 14:59:15	2023-10-19 03:16:19
100	128	2	5	963.7	2023-10-10 16:48:05	2023-10-25 23:17:24

If necessary, you can filter records in the grid in either of the following ways:

- click the Arrow-Down button next to the column caption to display the drop-down list and select any of the column values to filter records by this value of the selected column;
- click the Arrow-Down button next to the column caption to display the drop-down list, then select the **Custom** item and build a simple filter using the **Custom Filter** dialog.

Select a logical operator for checking the column values (*like, is less than, is greater than, etc.*) and set a value to be checked by this operator in the corresponding box on the right.



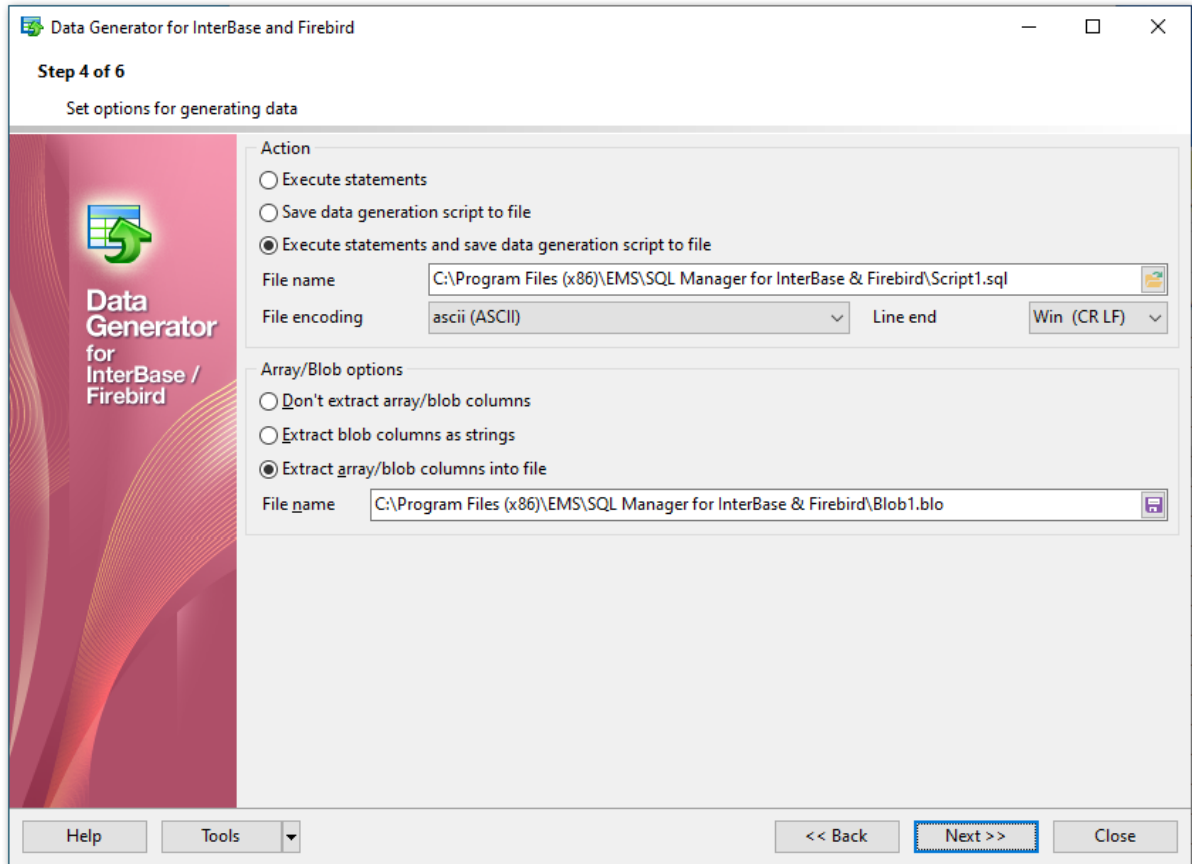
The image shows a dialog box titled "Custom Filter" with a close button (X) in the top right corner. The dialog contains the following elements:

- A label "Show rows where:" followed by a text input field containing "DatabaseLogID".
- A dropdown menu currently showing "like" and an empty text input field to its right.
- Two radio buttons: "AND" (which is selected) and "OR".
- A second dropdown menu (currently empty) and a second empty text input field to its right.
- Two lines of instructional text: "Use % to represent any series of characters" and "Use _ to represent any single character".
- Two buttons at the bottom right: "OK" (highlighted with a blue dashed border) and "Cancel".

If necessary, you can set the second condition and specify the relation between the two conditions: whether both of them should be satisfied (*AND*) or just any of them (*OR*). Use the '_' character to represent any single symbol, and use the '%' character to represent any series of symbols in the condition string.

2.1.5 Step 4 - Setting generation options

At this step you can specify data generation options.



Action

Specify the action to be taken at the [next step](#) of the wizard:

Execute statements

Select this option to execute the script for data generation.


Save data generation script to file

Select this option if you only need to save the script for data generation to a file, without the script execution.

Execute statements and save data generation script to file

Select this option to execute the script for data generation and save it to a file.

File name

This box is enabled if the *Save data generation script to file* or *Execute statements and save data generation script to file* option is selected. Type in or use the  **Explorer** button to specify the path to the *.sql file to store the SQL script.

File encoding

Select target encoding for the file.

Line end

Select the required line end symbol for the file: CR LF for Windows OS, LF for Unix or CR for MacOS.

Array/BLOB options

This group allows you to specify the way arrays/BLOBs will be processed.

 Don't extract array/BLOBs

Select this option if you do not need to extract array/BLOB data.

 Extract BLOBs as strings


Select this option if you need to store BLOB values as strings.

 Extract array/BLOB s into file

Select this option to dump BLOBs and arrays to a separate file.

Note: The utility generates the statement, that can be recognized only by **SQL Manager for InterBase/Firebird**.

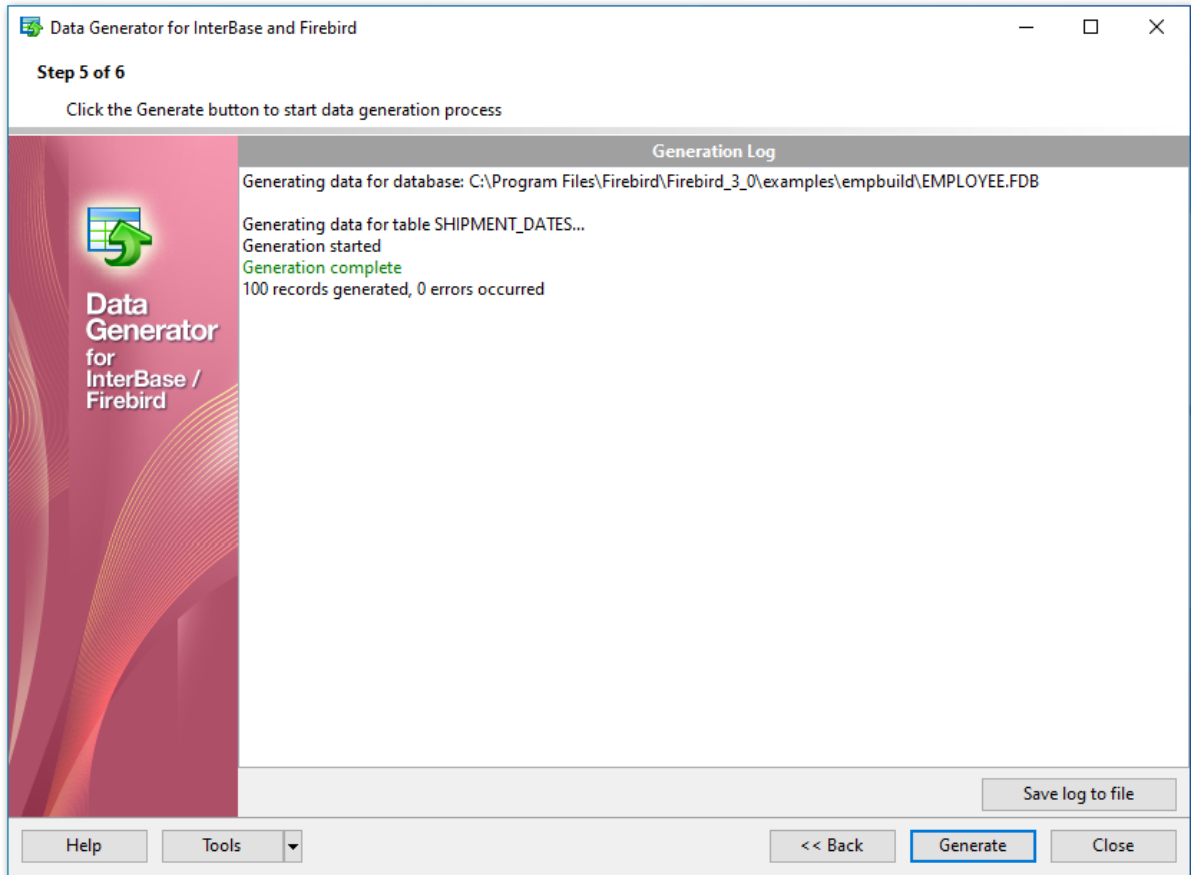
File name

This box is enabled if the *Extract array/BLOBs into file* option is selected. Type in or use the  **Save as** button to specify the path to the *.blo file to store the data of array/BLOBs.

When you are done, press the **Next** button to proceed to the [next step](#) of the Wizard.

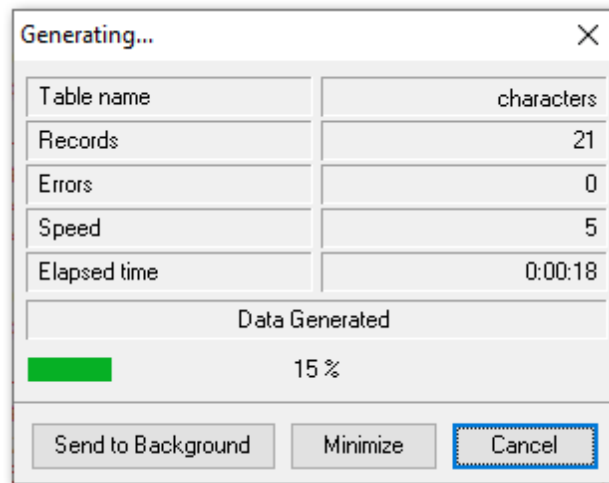
2.1.6 Step 5 - Start of data generation process

This step informs you that all data generation parameters are set, and you can start the generation process.



If everything is correct, press the **Generate** button to start the process. If you want to change something, you can return to any of the wizard steps using the **Back** button.

The **Generating...** dialog indicates the amount of generated *records*, elapsed *time*, the number of *errors* (if any) and visually represents the percentage of *data generated*.



Use the **Send to background** button to run the process in the background mode, the **Minimize** button to minimize the application to Windows Task bar, or the **Cancel** button to stop the generation process.

During data generation the **Generation Log** area displays the log of performed operations and errors (if any).

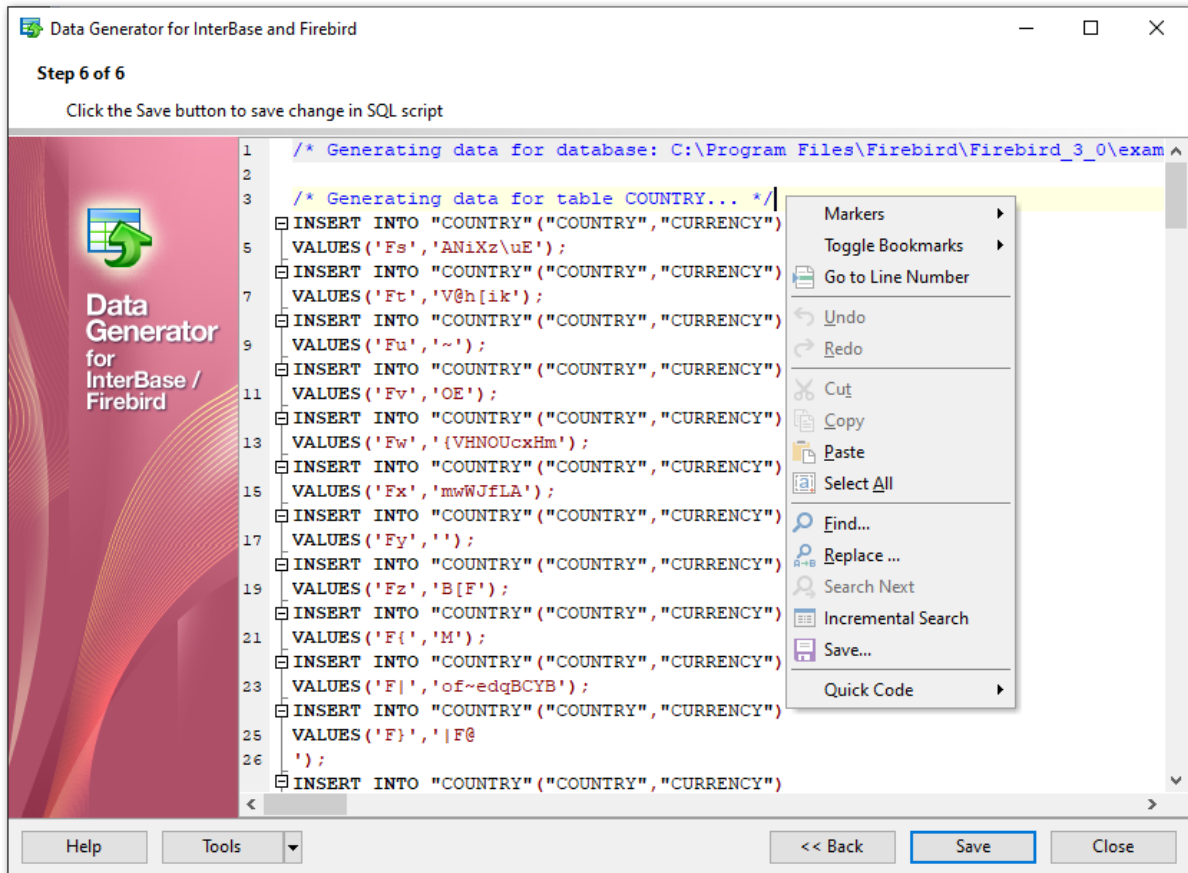
When the process is completed, you can use the **View SQL file in editor** and the **Save log to file** buttons to edit the data generation script at [Step 6](#) of the wizard and save the generation log content to an external text file respectively.

Do not forget to [save data generation options](#) if you need to repeat the generation process with the same (or similar) settings later.

2.1.7 Step 6 - Editing generation script

This step of the wizard allows you to edit the result script for data generation.

For your convenience the **code folding**, **syntax highlight** and a number of other features for efficient SQL editing are implemented.



The **context menu** of the editor area contains most of the standard text-processing functions (*Cut*, *Copy*, *Paste*, *Select All*) and functions for working with the script as a whole, e.g. you can *move the cursor to a particular line*, *set markers*, *toggle bookmarks*, etc.

Implementation of the [Find Text](#) and the [Replace Text](#) dialogs contributes to more efficient work with the SQL code.

Find the complete list of the context menu items below. The context menu allows you to:

- manage markers: *Drop Marker*, *Collect Marker*, *Swap Marker*;
- toggle bookmarks allowing you to navigate through the query text and jump to a line with a particular number;
- go to a line with specified number;
- perform editing operations: *Undo/Redo*, *Cut*, *Copy*, *Paste*, *Select all*;
- perform [search](#) and [replace](#) operations;
- save the script to an external *.sql file;
- format the selected code using *SQL Formatter* to make the code easier to read;

- use the Quick Code features: select a character, toggle a comment for a code fragment, toggle case of the selected text, indent/unindent lines in the script.

Press the **Back** button to return to any of the previous steps (the content of the editor area will not be lost).

If you press the **Save** button, the script will be saved to an external file.

Pressing the **Close** button will result in closing the application (before closing Data Generator will prompt for saving changes).

2.2 Using configuration files

Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird allows you to store its settings in external **.gtm* files if you need to repeat data generation process several times.

You can load previously saved configuration settings to the application wizard if you need to make some changes before data generation, or you can run it with the [console application](#) for quicker generation.

- [Saving configuration file](#)
- [Loading configuration file](#)

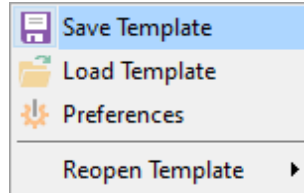
See also:

[Using wizard application](#)

[Setting program preferences](#)

2.2.1 Saving configuration file

Data Generator templates are saved within the **Save template options** dialog. To open this dialog, press the **Tools** button and select the **Save Template** popup menu item.




Please note that you can save data generation options at the steps from [Specifying generation parameters](#) to the [last step](#) of Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird wizard.

- [Save Template options](#)
- [Loading configuration file](#)

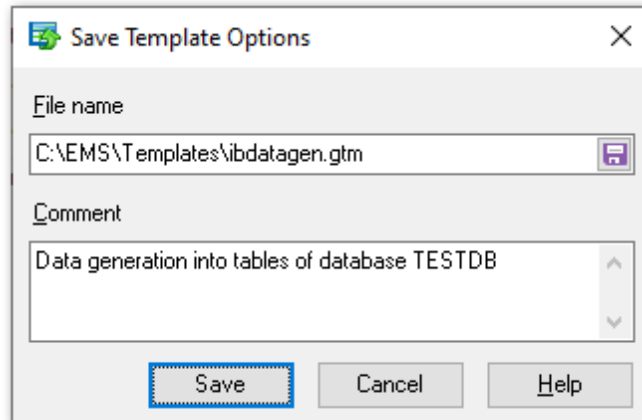
2.2.1.1 Save Template options

File name

Specify the template file name and select its location using the  button to open the **Save As...** dialog.

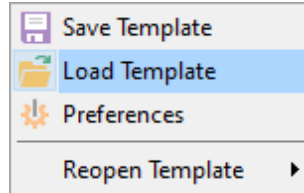
Comment

If necessary, set a comment for your template file in this field.



2.2.2 Loading configuration file

Data Generator templates are loaded within the **Open template** dialog. To open this dialog, press the **Tools** button and select the **Load template** popup menu item.



Please note that you can **reopen a template** at the steps from [starting](#) to [Specifying generation parameters](#) of the wizard using the corresponding popup menu item of the **Tools** menu.

- [Saving configuration file](#)
- [Save Template options](#)

2.3 Setting program preferences

Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird provides full customization of the program interface by setting various options within the **Preferences** dialog. This chapter is intended to inform you how to use these options.

General

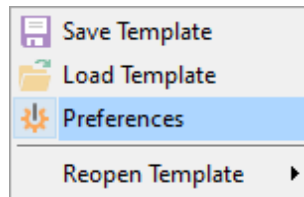
These options define general behavior of Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird

Defaults

This page allows you to set the constraints for data values used by default in the generation process.

Language

This page allows you to select a language to be applied for your copy of Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird.



See also:

[Using wizard application](#)

[Using configuration files](#)

2.3.1 Setting general options

This page allows you to define general options of the application.

Theme

Select the main color theme for the application: Light or Dark.

Number of records to generate

Sets the quantity of records generated by default.

Commit every ... records

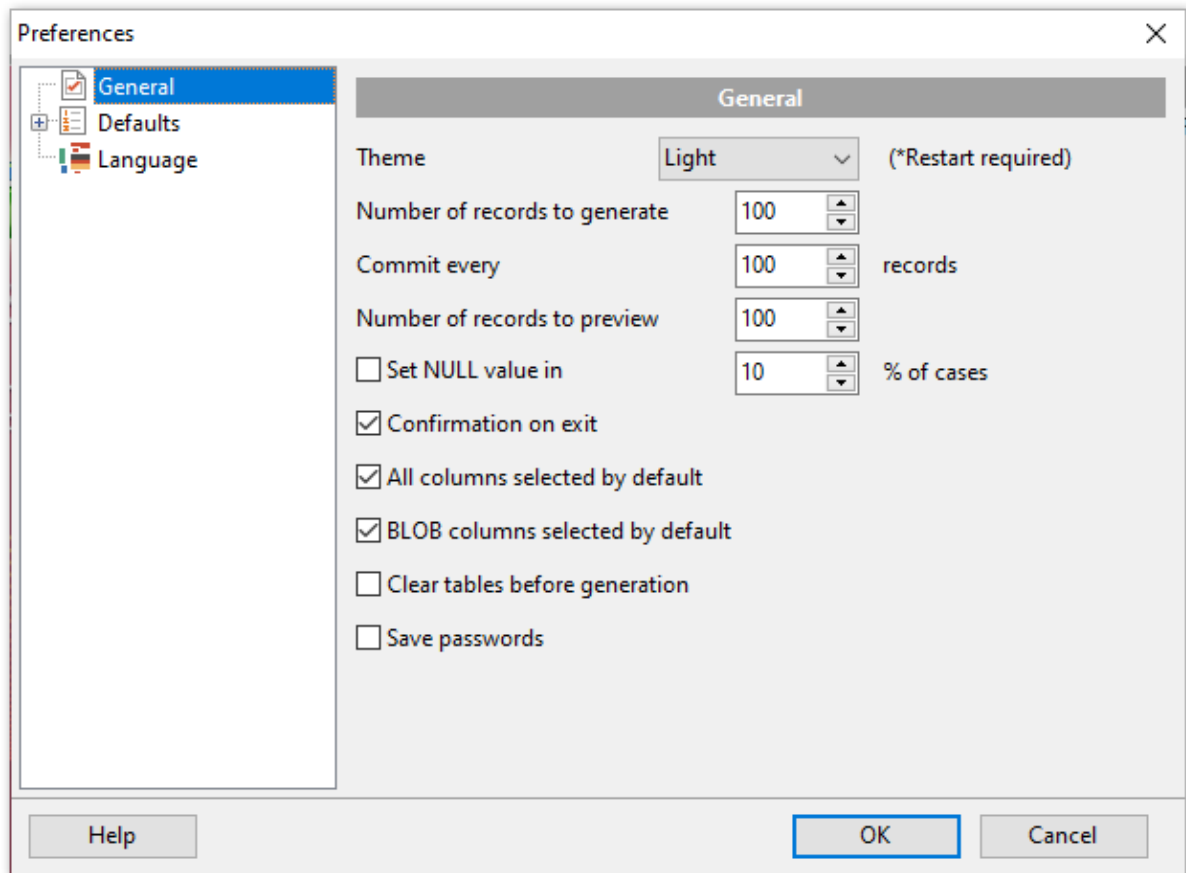
Specifies the number of records in each block of the generation script to be supplemented with the COMMIT statement.

Number of records to preview

Sets the quantity of records used in the [Data Preview](#) window by default.

Set NULL value in ... % of cases

This option allows you to specify the percentage of records that will remain *NULL* by default.



Confirmation on exit

Enables/disables confirmation upon exiting the program.

All columns selected by default

Check this option to include all columns into the data generation process by default.

 BLOB columns selected by default

Uncheck this option if you need to exclude BLOB columns from the generation process by default.

 Clear tables before generation

Set this option to empty tables before data generation.

 Save passwords

Setting this option allows you to save passwords used for access to the databases automatically upon closing the application. Please note that checking this option saves the latest password used for connection to the database (including the SSH server password).

See also:

[Setting default constraints](#)

[Setting program language](#)

2.3.2 Setting default constraints

In this section you can define default constraints for all supported data types:

[Numeric types](#)

[Character types](#)

[Date/Time types](#)

Default values are used as initially set values for data range and can be modified at [Step 3](#).

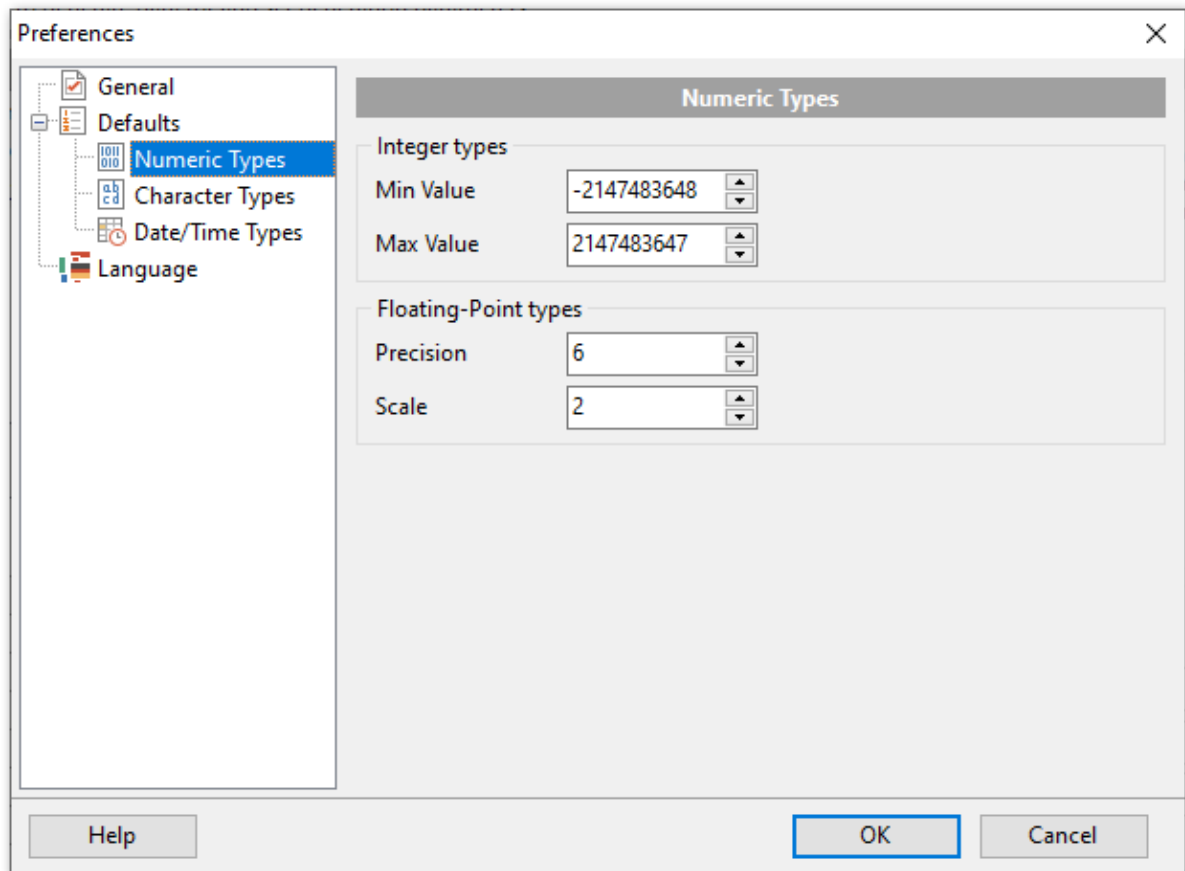
See also:

[Setting general options](#)

[Setting program language](#)

2.3.2.1 Numeric types

On this tab you can define default constraints for numeric types.



Integers types

Set the target minimum and maximum values set by default for integer types.

Floating-point types

Set the precision and scale values set by default for floating-point types.

2.3.2.2 Character types

On this tab you can define default constraints for character types.

Min Length

Set the minimum length of the generated value.

Max Length

Set the maximum length of the generated value.

Start Char

Select the start char for the range to be used for generation.

End Char

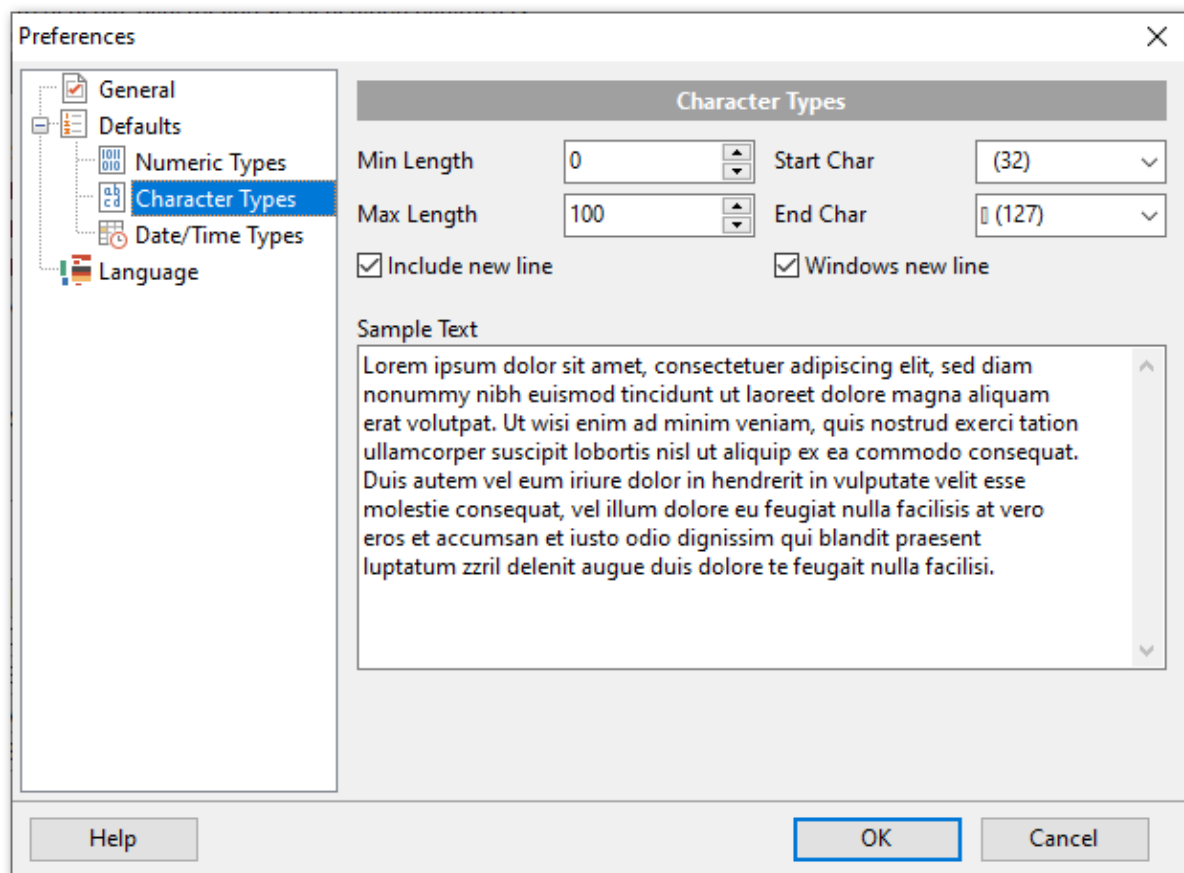
Select the end char for the range to be used for generation.

Include new line

Select this option to allow line feeds in generated string values.

Windows new line

Select this option to specify Windows-style line feeds.



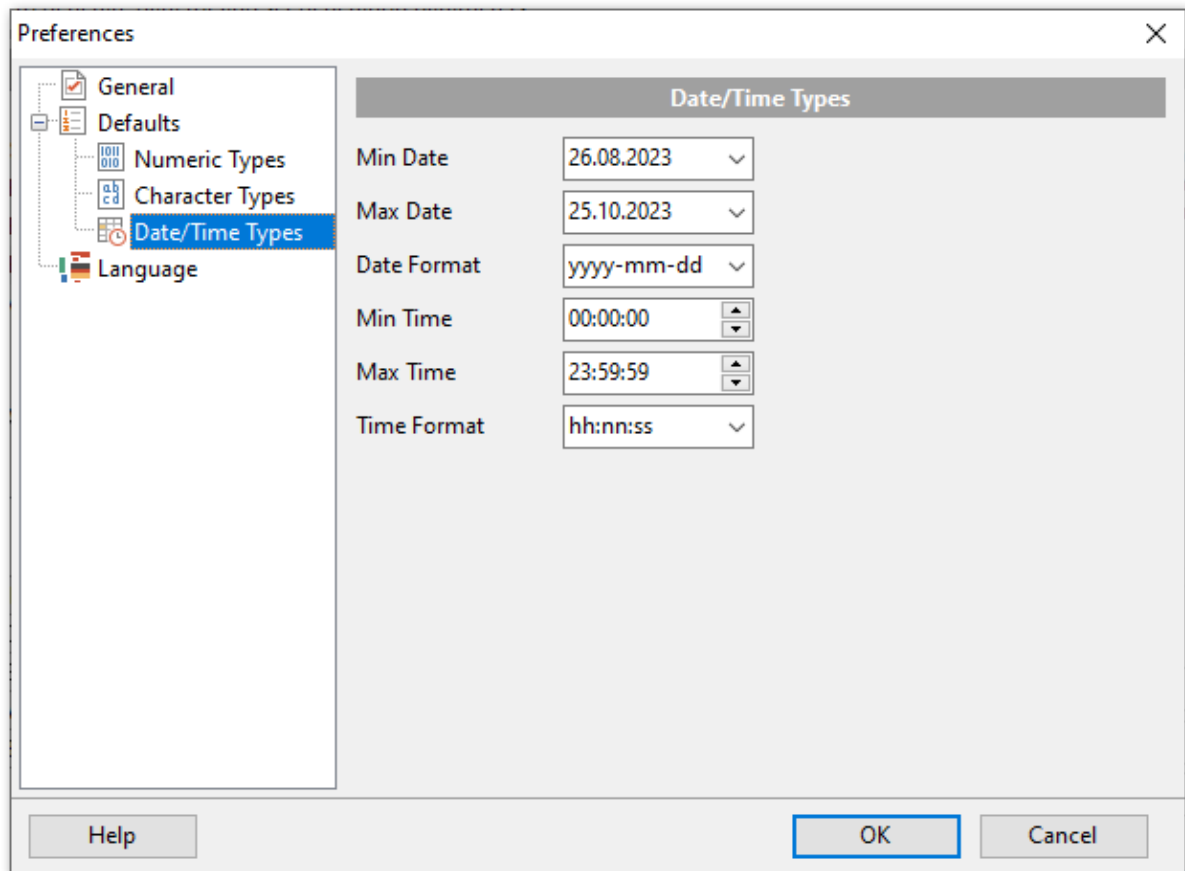
Sample Text

If more convenient, you can input any string that will be used as sample text. You can

choose to generate sample text when setting generation parameters for [strings](#).

2.3.2.3 Date/Time types

On this tab you can define default constraints for date and time types.

**Min Date**

Select the start date for generating date values.

Max Date

Select the end date for generating date values.

Date format

Type in or use the drop-down list to specify the preferable date format.

Min Time

Select the start range time for generating time values.

Max Time

Select the end range time for generating time values.

Time format

Type in or use the drop-down list to specify the preferable time format.

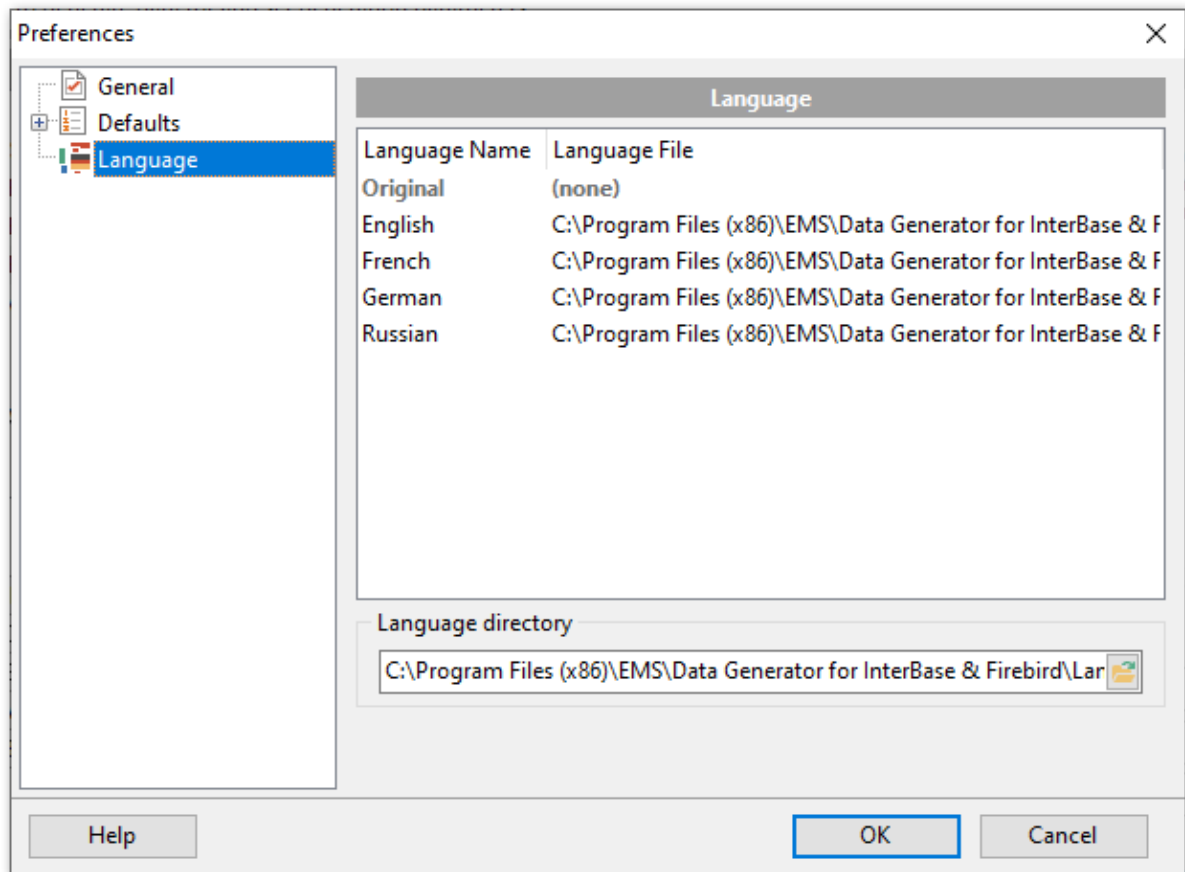
2.3.3 Setting program language

The **Language** page is provided for managing Data Generator localization files.

You can create your own *.Ing files similar to those available in the %program_directory%\Languages folder, add them to the list of available languages and set the new language as the program interface language.

Available languages

Lists all the languages available for localization and the corresponding *.Ing files. Double-click a language in the list to edit its name or the *.Ing file.



Language directory

Use the  button to specify the directory where the *.Ing files are stored by default.

See also:

[Setting general options](#)

[Setting default constraints](#)

Part



3 Console Application

Additionally to **the GUI version** which is implemented in the form of a wizard application, the installation package of Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird includes **the console version** which is intended for being run from Windows command line with a template file name used as the execution parameter.

```
C:\Program Files\EMS\Data Generator for InterBase & Firebird>IbDataGenC.exe_
```

Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird command line utility is intended for quick and powerful data generation to Interbase/Firebird tables.

- [Using console application](#)

See also:

[Wizard Application](#)

3.1 Using console application

All the generation options are set in **template** (*.gtm) files. A template can be also used in the **Console version** of Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird .

To create a template file, follow the instructions below:

- start Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird [Wizard Application](#);
- set all the required options in all steps of the wizard;
- test the generation process at the last step;
- [save all generation options in the template file](#).

The easiest way to start Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird console application is to double-click the generated *.gtm template file. The other way is to enter the command line and type the appropriate command.

Usage:

```
<path to Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird console application>\IbDataGenC.exe  
TemplateFile [-L] [-B]
```

TemplateFile

Stands for the *.gtm template file to be used as the console version execution parameter

[-L]

Applies the current [localization](#) selected in [Wizard Application](#) (GUI)

[-B]

Use this parameter in the command line to run the console version of **Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird** in background mode

Example:

```
"C:\Program Files\EMS\Data Generator for InterBase & Firebird\IbDataGenC.exe" "C:  
\EMS\Templates\DataGenerator\Example.gtm" -L
```

Note: The following exit codes can be returned by Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird to the operating system after performing the latest task:

- 0 - successful completion;
- 1 - error(s) occurred during task performing;
- 2 - fatal error occurred. The task was not performed.

See also:

[Using wizard application](#)

[Configuration file format](#)

Part



IV

4 Appendix

4.1 SSH tunneling options

To setup the connection via **SSH tunnel**, input the following values in the corresponding fields:

- **SSH host** is the name of the host where SSH server is running
- **SSH port** indicates the port where SSH server is activated
- **SSH login** stands for the user on the machine where SSH server is running (**Note:** it is a Linux/Windows user, not a user of Interbase/Firebird server)
- **SSH password** is the Linux/Windows user password

Please note that Interbase/Firebird **host name** should be set relatively to the SSH server in this case. For example, if both Interbase/Firebird and SSH servers are located on the same computer, you should specify *localhost* as **host name** instead of the server external host name or IP address.

Use Private Key for authentication

If the SSH encryption is enabled on the SSH server, a user can generate a pair of cryptographic keys (the **Private key** and the **Public key**). The **Public key** is placed on the SSH server, and the **Private key** is the part you keep secret inside a secure box that can only be opened with the correct passphrase (or an empty string as the passphrase). When you wish to access the remote system, you open the secure box with your passphrase (if any), and use the private key to authenticate yourself with the Public key on the remote Linux computer.

SSH Key file

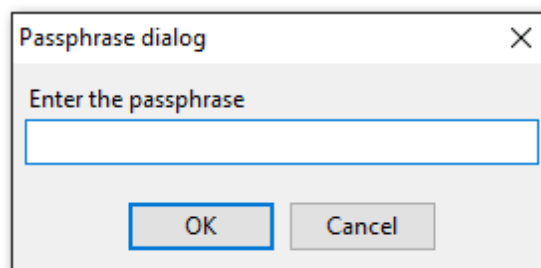
Specify the location (the secure box) of the **Private key** file on your local machine. Supported Private Key file formats are:

OpenSSH

Putty

SSH.com

Note that you need to trust your local machine not to scrape your passphrase or a copy of your Private key file while it is out of its secure box.



4.2 Data generation mode

This option defines data generation mode - *random data generation*, *incremented values generation* or getting data from *list or SQL query*, or getting data from an existing table column.

Select the **Generate random data** option to generate random data within the defined range.

Another mode - **Generate incremental data** - allows one to set the initial value and the increment for generated values.

Select the **Get Data from List / SQL query** option to generate data by getting values from the user-defined list randomly or in the fixed order. This can be:

- a *list of values* (for numeric, string, date/time, boolean data types);
- a *list of files* (for BLOB data type);
- an *SQL query*;
- previously defined *sample text* (for string data types).

Select the **Get data from column** option to specify a column to generate data from: use the *Table* and *Column* drop-down lists to select the source table and column that will be used to take data for generation.

4.3 Configuration file format

The **configuration (template) file** used by Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird is divided into several sections, each corresponding to a particular group of settings specified at different steps of the [GUI application](#) wizard.

[#General#]

This section stores general information about the utility:

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Description</i>
Product	internal product name
Version	major version

[#Comment#]

This section stores the template file comment as specified optionally in the [Save template options](#) dialog:

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Description</i>
Line<N>	comment text

where *N* stands for the comment line identifier

Example:

Line0=Data Generator for Interbase/Firebird
Line1=Template file
Line2=Data generation #1

[CONNECTION]

This section stores connection parameters to Interbase/Firebird. The parameters correspond to the values entered at [Step 1](#) of the [Wizard application](#) and are obligatory.

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Description</i>
ClientLibrary	path to the Interbase/Firebird client library
Role	Interbase/Firebird role
Host	host where the database resides (if Remote = 1)
Port	the port on which Interbase/Firebird is listening
Remote	0 = local connection 1 = remote connection
DBFile	path to the database file
Login	Interbase/Firebird login
Password	password to identify the login (encrypted)
Charset	client character set specified for the connection
Major	major version used to encrypt the passwords (the value must not be changed)
Minor	minor version used to encrypt the passwords (the value must not be changed)
SSLCert	path to SSL certificate file
SSLKey	path to SSL private key file
SSLCA	name of the Certificate Authority file
SSLCAPath	path to the Certificate Authority file
SSLPassphrase	SSL passphrase

[TUNNELING]

The section contains parameters required for connection with SSH tunneling used; the values correspond to the settings for connection via [SSH Tunnel](#) (if used).

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Description</i>
TunnelType	indicates whether SSH tunneling is used for connection or not (TunnelType = <i>ttNotUse</i>)
SSHHostName	name of the host where SSH server is running
SSHPort	port on which SSH server is activated
SSHUserName	user on the machine where SSH server is running
SSHPassword	password to identify SSH server user (encrypted)
SSHKeyFile	path to the Private key used for the SSH connection (if SSHUseKeyFile = <i>True</i>)
SSHUseKeyFile	<i>True</i> = SSH Private key is used <i>False</i> = SSH Private key is not used
PassPhrase	passphrase for Private key (if SSHUseKeyFile = <i>True</i>)

[ADDITIONAL]

The section contains additional settings specified at [Step 2](#) and [Step 4](#) of the [Wizard application](#).

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Description</i>
TablesCount	number of tables selected for data generation
SqlExecute	corresponds to the <i>Execute statements</i> option of the Action radio group available at Step 4 : <i>1</i> = enabled <i>0</i> = disabled
SqlSave	corresponds to the <i>Save data generation script to file</i> option of the Action radio group available at Step 4 : <i>1</i> = enabled <i>0</i> = disabled
SaveFile	path to the script file (if SqlSave = <i>1</i>)
BlobFile	path to the file where the array fields will be stored (if ExportBlobType = <i>2</i>)
ExportBlobType	corresponds to the Array/BLOB options radio group available at Step 4 : <i>0</i> = array/BLOB fields are not processed <i>1</i> = array/BLOB fields are extracted as strings <i>2</i> = array/BLOB fields are extracted to file (BlobFile)

[TABLE_XX]

The section is repeated for all tables; the settings are specified at [Step 3](#) of the [Wizard application](#).

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Description</i>
Database	indicates the name of the database where the table is located
TableName	indicates the name of the table to generate data into
RecordCount	number of records to be generated
ClearBeforeGeneration	<i>1</i> leads to emptying table

0 leaves the table as it was before data generation

[TABLE_XX_FIELD_YY]

The section is created for each field of each table.

<i>Parameter</i>	<i>Description</i>
DoGenerate	0 indicates that the field is excluded 1 indicates that the field is included
IncludeNulls	1 specifies that the NULL values are set for certain percent of cases 0 disables this option
NumNulls	the percentage of field values to be set to NULL
GenMethod	defines Data generation mode : 0 stands for incremental data generation 1 = random data generation 2 refers to Get data from list / SQL query option 3 = from another field
GenFromSQL	0 = the direct list of values is taken for data generation 1 = SQL query is used
SQL	text of the SQL query from which a list of values is taken for generation (as the result of the SQL query execution)
UsingMask	0 = no mask is used for string field values 1 = generation of string field values by mask
Mask	mask for string field values generation
MinInt	minimal value for integer fields
MaxInt	maximal value for integer fields
UseFormula	0 = no formula 1 = a formula is applied for data generation
Formula	formula for data generation, e.g. $x*2+1$
Digits	digits quantity for float fields
Precision	precision value for float fields
MinDate	minimum value for date fields
MaxDate	maximum value for date fields
IncludeTime	indicates whether time is added (for <i>DATETIME</i> fields)
MinTime	minimum value for time fields
MaxTime	maximum value for time fields
MinLength	minimum length for string fields
MaxLength	maximum length for string fields
StartChar	first char code for generating strings
EndChar	last char code for generating strings
Charset	field character set
InitialValue	the initial value for data generation into the field
IncrementStep	specifies the step to increment values (for GenMethod = 0)
UseNewLine	1 = a line feed is used for a new line 0 = no line feeds used
WinNewLineStyle	style to be applied to line feeds: 1 = Windows style 0 = Unix style
SampleText	sample text to be generated for a string field

4.4 Find Text dialog

The **Find Text** dialog is provided for quick and flexible searching for specified text within the working area of the script editor.

Text to find

Enter a search string in this box. The Arrow-Down button which can be found next to the input box allows you to select any of the previously entered search strings.

Options

Case sensitive

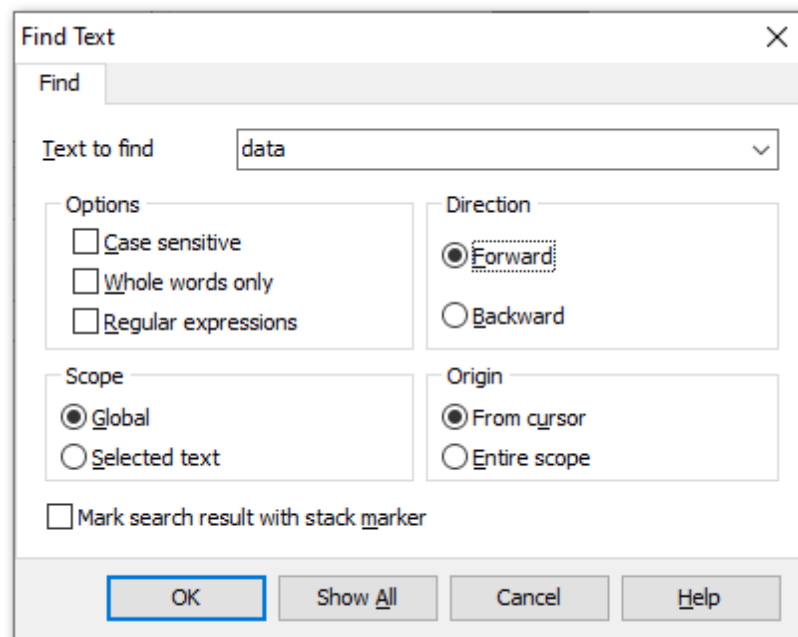
This option can be used to differentiate uppercase characters from lowercase ones during the search process.

Whole words only

Use this option to search for words only (with this option off, the search string might be found within longer words.)

Regular expressions

Recognizes regular expressions in the search string.



Direction

Forward

Searches from the current position to the end of the working area.

Backward

Searches from the current position to the beginning of the working area.

Scope

Global

Searches within the entire working area, in the direction specified by the *Direction*

setting.

Selected text

Searches only within the currently selected text, in the direction specified by the *Direction* setting. You can use the mouse or block commands to select a block of text.

Origin

From cursor

The search starts at the cursor's current position, and then proceeds either forward to the end of the scope, or backward to the beginning of the scope depending on the *Direction* setting.

Entire scope

The search covers either the entire block of selected text or the entire script (no matter where the cursor is in the Editor area) depending upon the *Scope* options.

Mark search result with stack marker

The option toggles marking search results. If this option is selected, stack markers are set at all search positions - this makes it possible to jump from one marker (search result) to another within the text.

Click the **Show All** button to highlight every occurrence of the search string.

4.5 Replace Text dialog

The **Replace Text** dialog is provided for searching and replacing text within the working area of the script editor.

Text to find

Enter a search string in this box. The Arrow-Down button which can be found next to the input box allows you to select any of the previously entered search strings.

Text to replace

This box allows you to enter a string to replace the search string. The Arrow-Down button which can be found next to the input box allows you to select any of the previously entered strings. To replace the search string with an empty string, leave this input box blank.

Options

Case sensitive

This option can be used to differentiate uppercase characters from lowercase ones during the search process.

Whole words only

Use this option to search for words only (with this option off, the search string might be found within longer words.)

Regular expressions

Recognizes regular expressions in the search string.

Replace with template

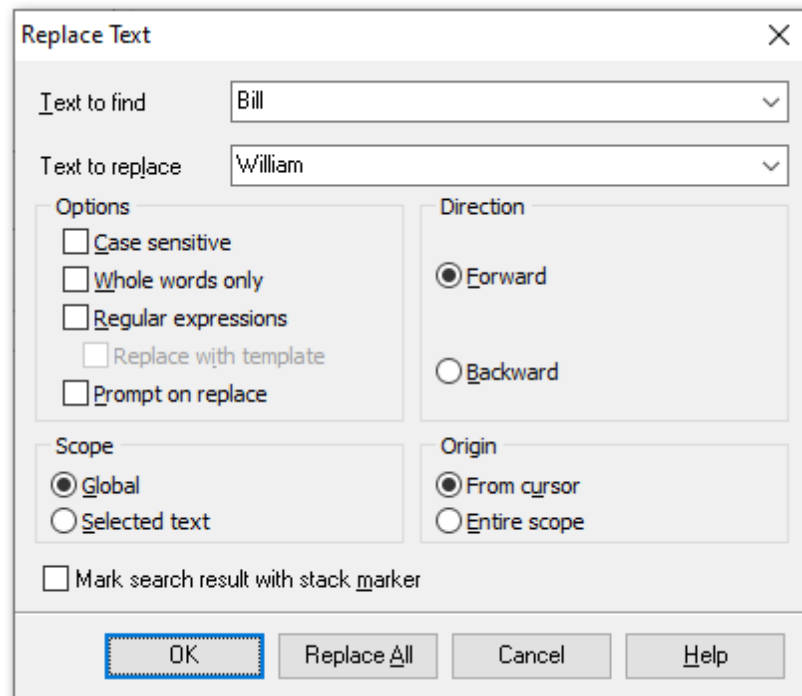
This option requires the **Regular expressions** option selection.

Enable this option to use regular expressions in the **Text to replace** field. Expression used in this field will be applied to each string that matches the **Text to find** expression.

Note: The syntax of regular expressions that can be used in the Text to find and the Text to replace fields is similar to that used in Perl regular expressions. Comprehensive information about it can be found at <http://perldoc.perl.org/perlre.html#Regular-Expressions>.

Prompt on replace

Check this option if you wish to be prompted before replacing upon each occurrence of the search string. When this option is off, the search string is replaced automatically.



Direction

Forward

Searches and replaces from the current position to the end of the working area.

Backward

Searches and replaces from the current position to the beginning of the working area.

Scope

Global

Searches and replaces within the entire working area, in the direction specified by the *Direction* setting.

Selected text

Searches and replaces only within the currently selected text, in the direction specified by the *Direction* setting. You can use the mouse or block commands to select a block of text.

Origin

From cursor

The search and replace process starts at the cursor's current position, and then proceeds either forward to the end of the scope, or backward to the beginning of the scope depending on the *Direction* setting.

Entire scope

The search and replace process covers either the entire block of selected text or the entire script (no matter where the cursor is in the Editor area) depending upon the *Scope* options.

Mark search result with stack marker

The option toggles marking search results. If this option is selected, stack markers are set at all search positions - this makes it possible to jump from one marker (search result) to another within the text.

Click the **Replace All** button to replace every occurrence of the search string. If you have checked the **Prompt on replace** option, the confirmation dialog box appears upon each occurrence of the search string.

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