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Subject: About Serialization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Thu, 01 Nov 2018 10:41:09 GMT

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Hi Mirek,

A quick question here: Is Serialization guaranteed to retain binary compatibility over the years to come and across platforms? I.e. is it safe to store data in files created by `Serialize()` so that they can be read from those same files in the coming years with programs created with future versions of U++?

Best regards,

Tom

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Subject: Re: About Serialization

Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 02 Nov 2018 08:08:45 GMT

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Tom1 wrote on Thu, 01 November 2018 11:41Hi Mirek,

A quick question here: Is Serialization guaranteed to retain binary compatibility over the years to come and across platforms? I.e. is it safe to store data in files created by `Serialize()` so that they can be read from those same files in the coming years with programs created with future versions of U++?

Best regards,

Tom

Well, this one is interesting... Originally, it was not meant to be (like 15 years ago...), but now it definitely is. As long as you play right with `Serialize` (e.g. carefully version for the future), it is compatible across platforms and future proof.

Mirek

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Subject: Re: About Serialization

Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 02 Nov 2018 09:32:35 GMT

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Thanks Mirek!

Sounds promising. Is the following the correct and complete documentation to follow?

[https://www.ultimatepp.org/srcdoc\\$Core\\$Tutorial\\$en-us.html#Section\\_2\\_3](https://www.ultimatepp.org/srcdoc$Core$Tutorial$en-us.html#Section_2_3)

Best regards,

Tom

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Subject: Re: About Serialization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 02 Nov 2018 13:59:39 GMT  
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Well, that is rather tutorial than docs, but yes, it gives the general idea.

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Subject: Re: About Serialization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2018 10:34:58 GMT  
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Hi Mirek,

I would like to serialize 'Vector<Any> vec;', but Any does not have Serialize() available. How to proceed to accomplish this?

Best regards,

Tom

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Subject: Re: About Serialization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2018 11:58:06 GMT  
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Tom1 wrote on Fri, 14 December 2018 11:34Hi Mirek,

I would like to serialize 'Vector<Any> vec;', but Any does not have Serialize() available. How to proceed to accomplish this?

Best regards,

Tom

That is basically impossible for really generic case...

If the set of classes stored in Any is fixed, you can do that testing this fixed set of types, encoding

the type when being stored and storing using types's Serialize, then on loading creating proper class based on encoded type and again Serialize it back.

Mirek

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Subject: Re: About Serialization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2018 12:53:35 GMT  
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Hi,

This is exactly what I just did as a workaround while waiting for your input on the subject. (I thought there might be a nicer way.) Anyway, it works just fine!

Thanks and best regards,

Tom

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Subject: Re: About Serialization  
Posted by [mirek](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2018 12:55:30 GMT  
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Tom1 wrote on Fri, 14 December 2018 13:53Hi,

This is exactly what I just did as a workaround while waiting for your input on the subject. (I thought there might be a nicer way.) Anyway, it works just fine!

Thanks and best regards,

Tom

P.S.: Maybe you could rather put that data in Value? Value has full interfaces that allow to serialize any custom Value types..

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Subject: Re: About Serialization  
Posted by [Tom1](#) on Fri, 14 Dec 2018 13:04:08 GMT  
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That sounds interesting.. I need to dig a little deeper with that idea!

While Any has worked great for my mixed set of classes, it is a bit complex to code with those Is<>() / Get<>() interfaces. Value with my own classes might be a nicer way to deal with this.

Thanks,

Tom

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