

Data-modeling clipf

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May 15, 2016

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2 Mission

I want to get better at data modeling in software testing. I am using the command-line personal finance manager clipf. I will try to test it with respect to the data it processes.

3 Session

I installed clipf via Debian repositories (version 0.4). I have not looked to see if this is the latest version.

I read the man page which told me that it takes one argument which is the directory of the configuration files. If this is not passed it uses `~/.clipf/` which is will create if there is not one already.

I called clipf from Emacs' ansi-term, and saw that `~/.clipf/` is created with 3 empty files and one file which contains its version number. Apparently,

there is a "default configuration" but clipf.conf is empty, so perhaps stored in the program itself or elsewhere. EDIT: default appears to be stored in /etc/clipf.conf, but is all commented out.

From reading man and config files, I can:

- Change default account
- Control max lines of output (over this output in 'less')
- Change encoding of terminal
- Change encoding of db files
- Change colour output options
- Set aliases for commands

According to the manual, I can also set default date and "reporting period". Options can be set in config files or while using the program.

4 Entity-Relationships

Objects include:

- Accounts
- Items
 - Has property "income" or "expense"
 - Is either an item or an item group
 - Item groups can have subitems (how deeply nested?)
 - Item codes are supposed to be unique
- Item Groups (treated differently to Items?)
- Operations
 - Has a date
 - Is associated with an account
 - Is categorised by an item (how many?)
 - Can have Tags (how many?)
 - Can have a note (how large?)

5 Bugs

1. item code does not have to be unique (but program appears to only use most recently created item with particular code.)
2. When deleting items, `prod rm <code>` will delete all items whose item code begins `<code>`. Don't appear to be able to not do this. This is how it is described as working in the manual, but doesn't seem very desirable.