
Subject: Opening SDF file with Datawarrior from command line

Posted by [abc123](#) on Tue, 30 Oct 2018 16:26:28 GMT

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I often have to open Datawarrior with an SDF file buried deep inside folders. It would be nice to have Datawarrior operate from the command line with an SDF file argument.

Subject: Re: Opening SDF file with Datawarrior from command line

Posted by [thomas](#) on Tue, 30 Oct 2018 21:23:37 GMT

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This you can do. I just tried on Linux:

```
/opt/datawarrior/datawarrior some_path/some_file.sdf
```

On Windows I didn't try, but it should work the same way.

On the Mac it is different. The command line argument is evidently not passed to the jar file. As a workaround you may launch the jar the classical way: `java -cp datawarrior.jar:lib1.jar:lib2.jar...libn.jar pathAndFile.sdf` (in the jar list you include all jar files from the `/Applications/DataWarrior.App/DataWarrior/Contents/Java` folder)

The same way you may pass a macro file instead of an sd-file. The macro may contain tasks to load an sd-file, to do some other processing and to finally end DataWarrior itself. This way you could add some more stuff in a bash script.

Thomas

Subject: Re: Opening SDF file with Datawarrior from command line

Posted by [abc123](#) on Tue, 30 Oct 2018 23:32:18 GMT

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I use a mac, is there some way to simplify this long command.

Even if we could have the File->Open dialog show the folder where DataWarrior was launched from, that would work too.

Subject: Re: Opening SDF file with Datawarrior from command line

Posted by [thomas](#) on Sat, 03 Nov 2018 23:33:48 GMT

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I have another suggestion. You may add directories, which contain frequently used dwar-, txt- or sd-files, to DataWarrior's file menu. On the Macintosh you achieve that by adding one additional text line to the 'Info.plist':

- In a Finder window move to the Application folder
- On 'DataWarrior' make a right mouse click (or Ctrl-mouse) and select 'Show Package Contents'

- Open the file 'Info.plist' from the 'Contents' folder with TextEdit
- Scroll down almost to the end of the file
- You notice some lines starting with '<string>-D'
- Add to these lines the following line and adapt the paths according to your needs.
<string> -Ddatapath=/Users/thomas/Documents/data/datawarrior:/Users/thomas/Documents/data/sdf </string>
- The next time you start DataWarrior after this change you will have two additional items in the file menu
that let you directly open any file in one of the two directories from the menu.
Of course, you may define more directories within the text line, if you separate them with a colon.

Hope this helps, Thopmas

Subject: Re: Opening SDF file with Datawarrior from command line
Posted by [nbehrnd](#) on Thu, 20 Jun 2019 10:46:51 GMT

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Facing a similar situation to call DataWarrior either from the terminal of Linux, or within a Python script within a loop, I created an alias for the bash.

There are at least two options to provide the necessary information to the operating system. Either a) create / edit file '.bashrc' in your home directory which typically includes many more instructions how bash shall work. If however this file contains a block

```
if [ -f ~/.bash_aliases ]; then
. ~/.bash_aliases
fi
```

then you may b) create and edit file '.bash_aliases' in your home directory which then is only about these user-defined shorthands. In either case, add

```
alias datawarrior="/opt/datawarrior/datawarrior"
```

as new instruction. Omit the "%F" you may see in the program launcher. More importantly though, do not use spaces prior, nor after the equal sign. Save the edit and restart the terminal. Now all you have to enter is 'datawarrior' as keyword. This is working fine on an installation of Xubuntu LTS 18.04.2.
