CLAIMS

1. A platform for creating serialised data objects from external data, the platform configured to generate code that

analyses a table, comprising the external data organised in cells, to identify type of data stored in each cell, wherein the data type is identified through reference to an index accompanying the table, the index defining properties of the data stored in each of the cells in the table, the table and the index being contained together in an external file;

determines if the identified data types are parsable;

generates, in response to the identified data types being parsable, further code comprising executable statements catered for the data in each of the cells, wherein the properties of the data defined in the index are referred to during the generation of the further code that when compiled outputs at least one serialised data object and wherein the data stored in each cell of the table is assigned to an attribute of the serialised data object; and

retrieves an export format for the serialised data object,

wherein the platform is further configured to compile the generated further code to output the serialised data object in the retrieved export format.

2. The platform of claim 1, wherein the index is analysed when producing the further code to create the serialised data object to determine a combination of different data types for use as the attributes for the serialised data object.

3. The platform of claim 1 or 2, wherein the properties comprise: a field name for each of the cells, the type of data stored in the cell, and whether the data in the cell is for use on a client or a server.

4. The platform of any one of the claims 1 to 3, wherein the generated code is configured to differentiate between the index providing data definitions and the table comprising the external data.

5. The platform of any one of the claims 1 to 4, wherein analysis of the table further comprises determining validity of the data in each cell against its respective properties.

6. The platform of any one of the preceding claims, wherein analysis of the table further comprises performing a nullity check for cells required to store data and generate an error message in response to detection of blankness.

7. The platform of any one of the preceding claims, wherein analysis of the table further comprises performing a check for duplicate field names.

8. The platform of any one of the preceding claims, further configured to generate an error message in response to the identified data types being determined to be imparsable.

9. The platform of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the data types that the generated code is designed to parse comprise basic data types and custom data types used by a software game engine.

10. The platform of claim 9, wherein the basic data types include any one or more of integer, string, float and Boolean; and the custom data types include any one or more of two and three dimensional vectors and are script specific.

11. The platform of any one or more of the preceding claims, wherein a name for each of the attributes for the serialised data object is obtained from a field name for the cell providing the data for that attribute.

12. The platform of any one or more of the preceding claims, wherein the attributes include a unique identifier for the serialised data object.

13. The platform of any one or more of the preceding claims, further configured to process a cell in the table containing multiple data sets to assign each of them to an attribute of the serialised data object.

14. The platform of any one of the preceding claims, further configured to locate the table for analysis from a plurality of tables through receipt of a search string comprising the name of the table.

15. The platform of any one or more of the preceding claims, further configured to adapt the output serialised data object for use in either a server or a client.

16. The platform of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the export format is one of JSON, scriptable object, CSV.

17. The platform of any one of the preceding claims, wherein the export format is retrieved from a configuration file.

18. A method for creating serialised data objects from external data, the method comprising the steps of:

generating code to analyse a table, comprising the external data organised in cells, to identify type of data stored in each cell to determine if the identified data types are parsable, wherein the data

type is identified through reference to an index accompanying the table, the index defining properties of the data stored in each of the cells in the table, the table and the index being contained together in an external file;

generating, in response to the identified data types being parsable, further code comprising executable statements catered for the data in each of the cells, wherein the properties of the data defined in the index are referred to during the generation of the further code that when compiled outputs at least one serialised data object and wherein the data stored in each cell of the table is assigned to an attribute of the serialised data object;

retrieving an export format for the serialised data object; and

compiling the generated further code to output the serialised data object in the retrieved export format.

19. The method of claim 18, further comprising;

organising the external data into the cells in accordance with an index accompanying the table, the index defining properties of the data stored in each of the cells in the table.