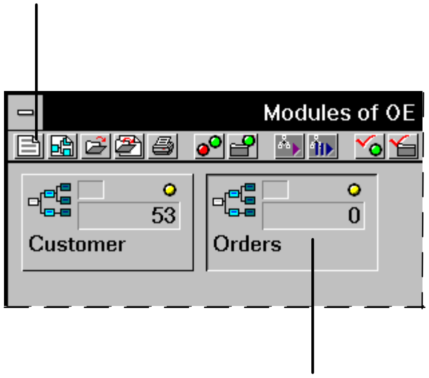
2. In the Enter Module Name prompt, type **Orders** and choose OK.

   A new button is added to the Module Browser, and it is now the currently selected module in the Module Browser.

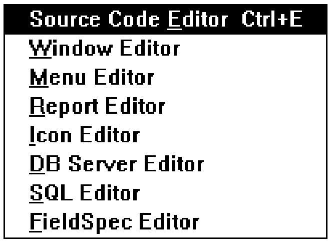
3. Click on the New Entity toolbar button:

   New Entity button



   New module selected

   A local pop-up menu appears:



4. Choose the DB Server Editor command from the local pop-up menu.

   This launches the DB Server Editor that you used previously to look at the Customer data server; however, this time it is empty.

5. Maximize the DB Server Editor window.

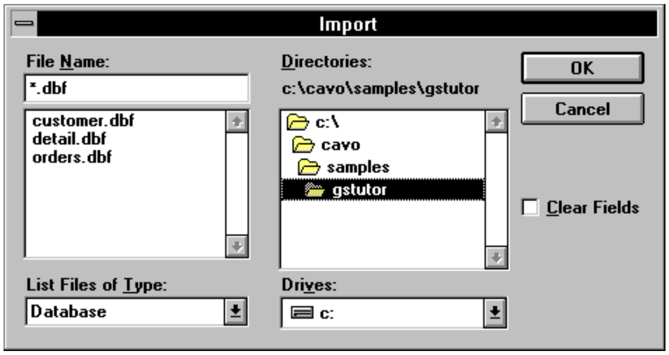
Importing the Database File

The DB Server Editor provides an easy way for you to get a quick start on defining a data server. If you have an existing database file to work with, you can simply import it into the editor.

To import a .DBF file:

1. Click on the Find button to the right of the File Name edit control.

   A standard Import dialog box for .DBF files appears:



File Name: *.dbf

customer.dbf
detail.dbf
orders.dbf

Directories: c:\cavo\samples\gstutor

c:\
cavo
samples
gstutor

List Files of Type: Database

Drives: c:

□ Clear Fields

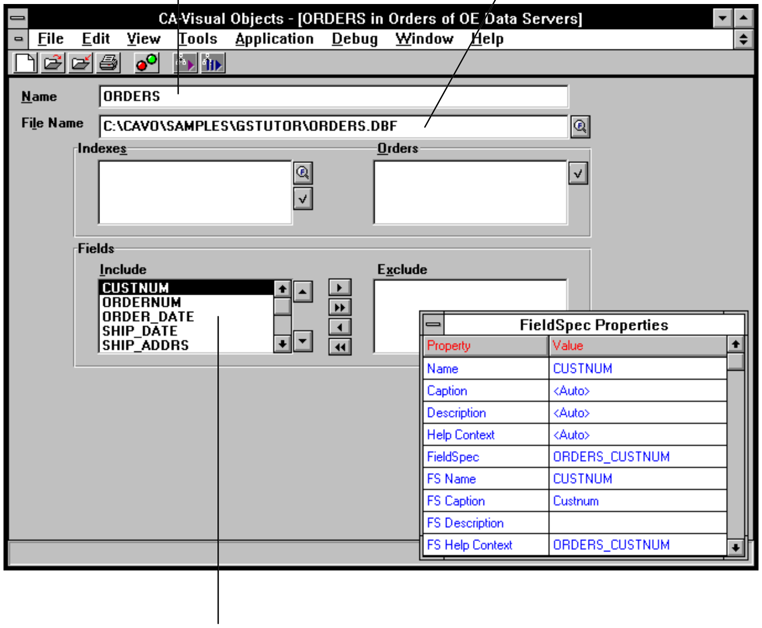
2. Choose ORDERS.DBF from your CA-Visual Objects \SAMPLES\GSTUTOR directory and click OK.

   Information about the selected file is immediately imported into the editor.

For example, a default name is defined for the data server entity, based on the name of the file you selected; the path and name of the selected .DBF file are displayed in the File Name control; and all the fields defined in the structure of the .DBF file are listed in the Include list box:

Default data server name

Path and file name of underlying .DBF file



Name: ORDERS

File Name: C:\CAVO\SAMPLES\GSTUTOR\ORDERS.DBF

Include:
CUSTNUM
ORDERNUM
ORDER_DATE
SHIP_DATE
SHIP_ADDRS

Property	Value
Name	CUSTNUM
Caption	<Auto>
Description	<Auto>
Help Context	<Auto>
FieldSpec	ORDERS_CUSTNUM
FS Name	CUSTNUM
FS Caption	Custnum
FS Description	
FS Help Context	ORDERS_CUSTNUM

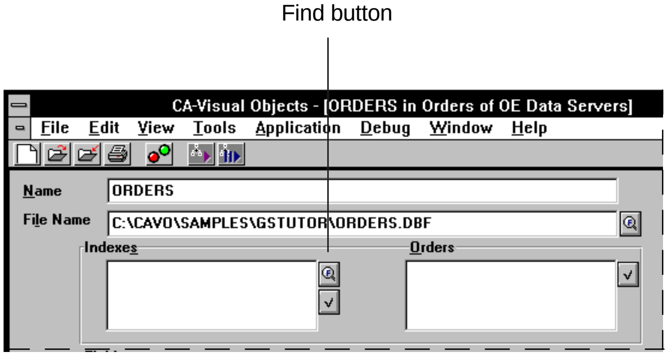
All fields in ORDERS.DBF are listed here

Note: By default, when you first import a .DBF file into this editor, *all* fields in the .DBF file are placed in the Include list box. The fields are presented in the Include list box in the same order as they appear in the database file header.

Importing the Index Files

You can just as easily import the two index files associated with ORDERS.DBF.

1. Click on the Find button to the right of the Indexes list box:



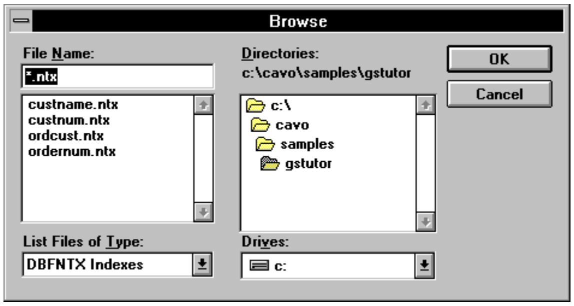
Find button

CA-Visual Objects - [ORDERS in Orders of OE Data Servers]

Name: ORDERS

File Name: C:\CAVO\SAMPLES\GSTUTOR\ORDERS.DBF

This presents you with a standard Browse dialog box for index files—in this instance .NTX files:



Browse

File Name: *.ntx

custname.ntx
custnum.ntx
ordcust.ntx
ordernum.ntx

Directories: c:\cavo\samples\gstutor

c:\
cavo
samples
gstutor

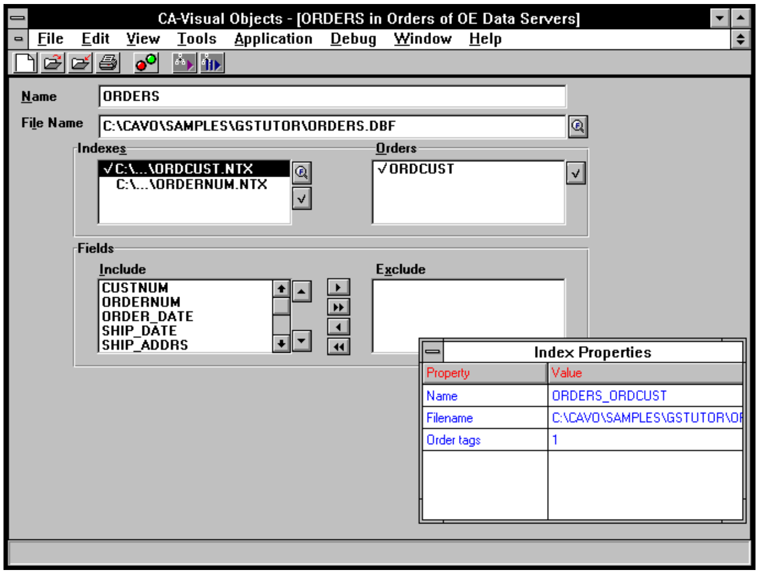
List Files of Type: DBFNTX Indexes

Drives: c:

2. Choose ORDCUST.NTX and ORDERNUM.NTX from the list by pressing Shift and clicking on each file.

3. Choose OK.

The selected index files are imported and now appear in the Indexes list box:



Name ORDERS

File Name C:\CAVO\SAMPLES\GSTUTOR\ORDERS.DBF

Indexes:
√C:\...\ORDCUST.NTX
C:\...\ORDERNUM.NTX

Orders:
√ORDCUST

Include:
CUSTNUM
ORDERNUM
ORDER_DATE
SHIP_DATE
SHIP_ADDRS

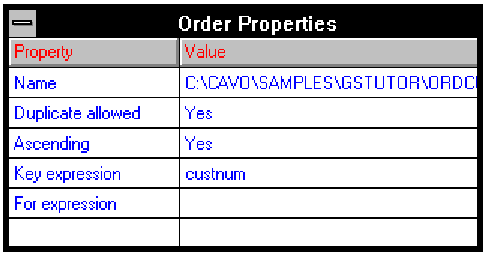
Property	Value
Name	ORDERS_ORDCUST
Filename	C:\CAVO\SAMPLES\GSTUTOR\OI
Order tags	1

Controlling Order

Make sure that ORDCUST.NTX is checked in the Indexes list box, indicating that this file contains the controlling order. If not, highlight it in the Indexes list box and click on the check mark button to the right.

Notice that since an index file currently has focus, the Properties window displays index-related properties. The Order Tags property indicates the number of orders within an index, which is of interest if you are using multi-order index files. In this case, we are using .NTX files, which support only one order per file, so ORDCUST.NTX shows only one tag, ORDCUST, which appears in the Orders list box.

Now click on ORDCUST in the Orders list box. The Properties window changes, displaying order-related properties:



Order Properties

Property	Value
Name	C:\CAVO\SAMPLES\GSTUTOR\ORDC
Duplicate allowed	Yes
Ascending	Yes
Key expression	custnum
For expression	

As you can see, the key expression for ORDCUST is CustNum—we’ll use this fact in the next lesson, when we set up a master-detail relationship between the Customers and Orders data servers using a data window.

Sharing Field Specifications

The next step, after importing the database and index files, is to customize some of the default field properties automatically created by CA-Visual Objects for the fields in the new data server. For the most part, you’ll be changing the default field captions so that they are more descriptive, and you’ll be adding status bar descriptions.

Before we go on to these tasks, however, we’ll “pull in” some of the field specifications that are already defined in the Customer data server. We can do this because both the CUSTOMER and ORDERS files contain fields pertaining to customer number, state, and zip code.

The Customer data server was *predefined*: all required properties had been filled in for you, and the default field specifications for the CustNum, State, and Zip fields had already been customized.

Therefore, since the two .DBF files share common fields, we can reuse the field specifications already defined for the Customer data server in our new data server, instead of defining them over again.

Let’s start with the CustNum field:

1. Click on the CustNum field in the Include list box.

   This field is identical to the CustNum field in the other data server, so we can take advantage of work we’ve already done by using its CustNum field specification.

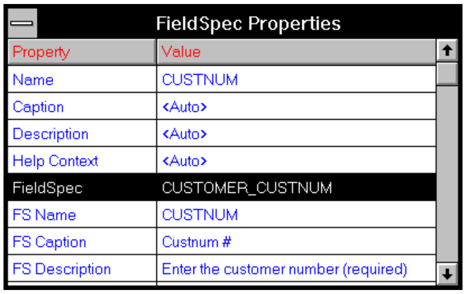
2. Scroll through the Properties window to see what the DB Server Editor defines for you automatically.

3. When you’re through browsing, click on the FieldSpec property in the Properties window.

4. Click on the down-arrow button, scroll through the list until you see Customer_CustNum, then click on it.

   In this step, you are taking properties from the field specification defined for the CustNum field in the *Customer* data server and simply reusing them in the *Orders* data server.

   For example, the FS Description property in this server is updated with the text defined in the other data server (this property was blank before).



Property	Value
Name	CUSTNUM
Caption	<Auto>
Description	<Auto>
Help Context	<Auto>
FieldSpec	CUSTOMER_CUSTNUM
FS Name	CUSTNUM
FS Caption	Custnum #
FS Description	Enter the customer number (required)

   Or, if you scroll down the list, you can see that the Required and Validation properties defined for the CustNum field in the Customer data server have been imported. (These properties were also blank before.)

   Pulling in the existing field specification does all this work for you—that’s all you need to do for this field.

5. Repeat the steps listed above to associate the Ship_State field with the Customer_State field specification and the Ship_Zip field with the Customer_Zip field specification.
6. Click on the Save button in the DB Server Editor toolbar to save your work so far.

You may be wondering why there appear to be two Caption and Description properties. This is because both of these properties have a hierarchical nature in CA-Visual Objects.

Briefly, the Caption and Description properties (at the top of the Properties window) are associated with a field via its *hyperlabel* (described in The Source Code section later in this lesson). However, each field also has FS Caption and FS Description properties that are associated with its *field specification*.

In both cases, the two caption-description pairs serve a common purpose: the *caption* is used in the data window you'll create later to label the field, and the *description* is displayed in the owner window's status bar when the field has focus.

By default, the system will first use the FS Caption and FS Description properties defined for a field; the Caption and Description properties are provided in case you want to override the corresponding "FS" properties.

Note: This hierarchy is described in greater detail in the "Using the Window Editor" chapter of the *IDE User Guide*.