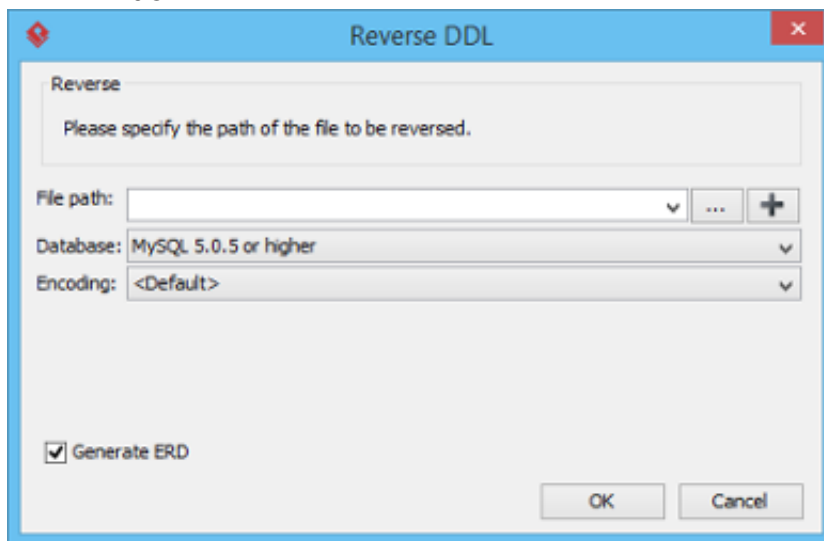

How to reverse engineer ERD from DDL

Visual Paradigm supports reverse engineering [ERD](#) from .ddl and .sql. It forms nice Entity Relationship Diagram out of the create and alter statements written in DDL (Data Definition Language). With an ERD, you can produce a data dictionary, or to revise the design and generate a database, etc.

To reverse engineering ERD from DDL:

1. Select **Tools > DB > Reverse DDL...** from the toolbar. This opens the **Reverse DDL** window.



2. In the **Reverse DDL** window, enter the file path of the .sql or .ddl file to reverse.
3. Select the kind of database that supports your DDL file.
4. Select the encoding of the .sql or .ddl file. Leave it if you are uncertain.
5. If you want to form an Entity Relationship Diagram automatically after reversal, keep **Generate ERD** reversed. If you uncheck it, entity elements will be formed without creating any diagrams. No matter what, you can visualize entities later on if you want to.