

## Re: Implementing SQL on files

**Source:** <http://linux.derkeiler.com/Mailing-Lists/Kernel/2004-02/3680.html>

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**Date:** 02/16/04

To: Hans Reiser <[reiser@namesys.com](mailto:reiser@namesys.com)>  
Date: Mon, 16 Feb 2004 10:27:09 +0600

On Sun, 2004-02-15 at 11:39, Hans Reiser wrote:

>

> *I hate SQL but I will cooperate with persons seeking to use our storage  
> layer to support it.*

Thanks Hans. I am not an SQL fan either. But more than SQL this is about database like storage semantics in the filesystem. I had this idea in my mind for some time, but the real motivation came after seeing the Reiserfs 4 page, notably this section:

[http://www.namesys.com/v4/v4.html#design\\_flaws\\_details](http://www.namesys.com/v4/v4.html#design_flaws_details)

and hopefully the plugin design will make life much easier.

By looking at the feedback I got off the list, I think there is a couple of points I need to clarify.

- o The plan is not to implement a fully fledged database inside the kernel. Only the storage (well, "only" may not be the most appropriate word here, because this involves a lot of work) and the relation operation primitives – or database operation primitives to be more general – are implemented in the kernel space.
- o Userspace tools are necessary to parse a query, optimize if necessary, and pass the result (which is a tree) to the kernel. And the nodes of the parsed tree will map to the primitives implemented in the kernel.

And most likely, I would be using an existing database to do the heavy userspace work (suggested by Peter Zaitsev of MySQL).

Thanks for all the suggestions and comments (mostly offline).

Anuradha

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<http://www.linux.lk/~anuradha/>

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