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SQLBuilder, a metadata language to SQL translator, an overview of its input language and internal structure

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(For the SAMGrid Team)

SQLBuilder's purpose is to translate selection criteria in a high-level form to SQL query statements. The internal design is intended to permit easy changes to the selection criteria available and to permit retargeting the specific dialect of SQL generated. The initial target language will be Oracle 9i SQL. The input language will be defined in a formal grammar and internal structure will use compiler construction technology. The initial queries will return sets of file identifiers.

The selection criteria high-level format is named, parameterized, possibly with multiple parameters tests on the metadata combined by boolean operators and intermediate sets may be combined by set operators. There will a capacity to include previous named criteria with a check for infinite inclusion recursion.

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