

CTA: CERN Tape Archive

Adding front-ends and back-ends

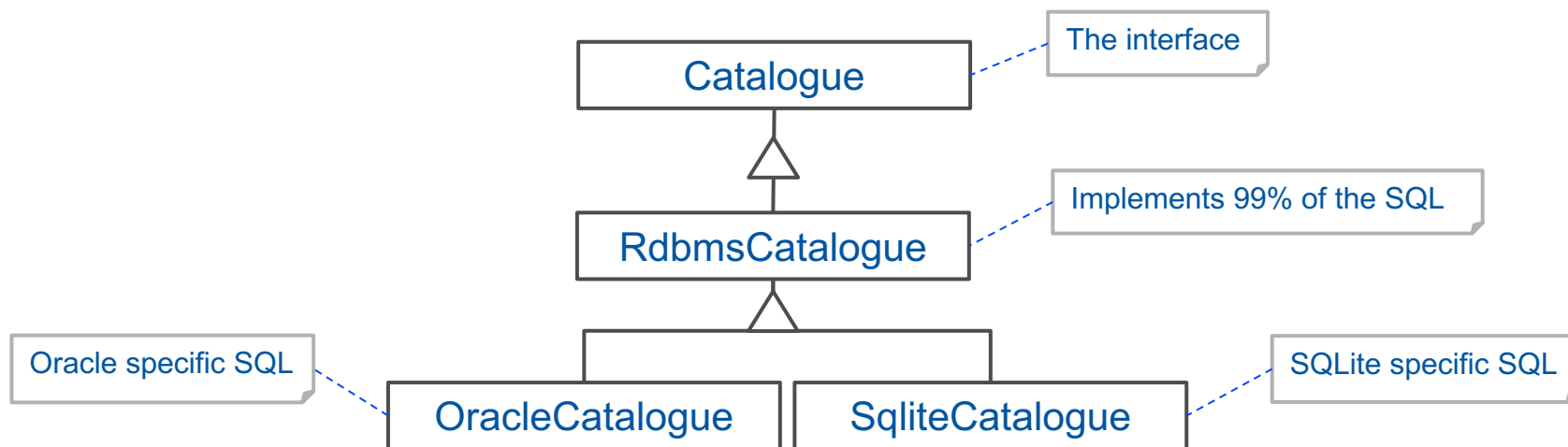
Status report

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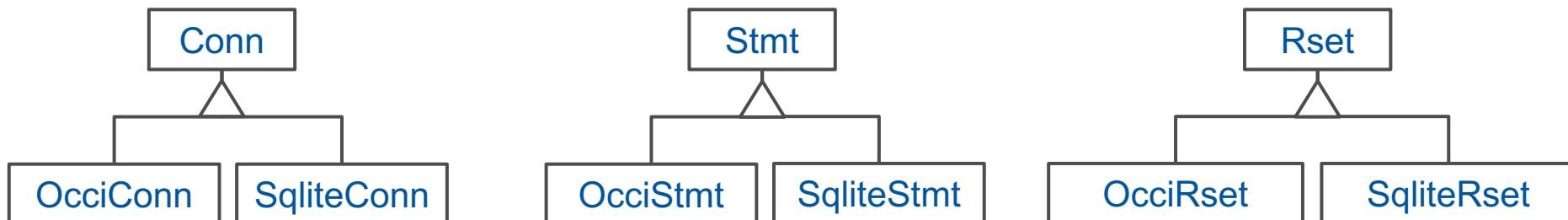
- The disk front-end must:
 - Allow users to tag directories with tape storage classes
 - Allow users to asynchronously request files be brought on-line (retrieved) from tape
 - Allow users to query if a file is on tape (The “m bit” of CASTOR)
 - Automatically send requests to CTA to archive files, retrieve files, delete files and update file metadata
 - Allow CTA to callback when a file is safely stored on tape
 - Distinguish the difference between a user creating a new file and a tape server retrieving an existing file
 - Automatically garbage collect disk files that are safely stored on tape
 - Allow CTA to scan the disk namespace without negatively impacting user operations

- CTA catalogue avoids vendor lock in
 - No PL/SQL
 - No advanced queuing
- Two differences in RDBMS technologies influenced the design of the CTA catalogue
 - Differences in SQL syntax
 - Differences in programming APIs
- CTA currently uses two RDBMS technologies
 - Oracle for production
 - SQLite for “in memory” unit-tests

Design of the CTA catalogue and RDBMS library



RDBMS library



- **Cristina**
 - Recommended Access Order for CASTOR and CTA
 - Low-level tape developments
- **Michael**
 - The EOS/CTA interface
 - The CTA front-end
- **Julien**
 - Continuous Integration system
 - System test infrastructure
- **Eric**
 - Main architect
 - Tape server developments
- **Steve**
 - Project leader
 - CTA catalogue developments
- **Anastasia – Joins in September 2017**
 - Tape library control software

- Archive additional copies of AFS backups
- Vlado is in charge of the EOS/CTA installation
- Performance requirements
 - Average archival rate = 0.3 Hz
 - Average data throughput = 780 MB/s
 - Peak archival rate = 2.4 Hz
 - Peak data throughput = 2.4 GB/s
- Planned to start by 1st June 2017

- Using the CI features of CERN GitLab service
 - Automatic builds, unit-tests and a system test
- Automated system test infrastructure
 - Kubernetes based
 - Can be extended to use real tape hardware
- Currently adding planned performance improvements to CTA
- Currently smoothing some rough edges to help in the deployment of CTA
- Developing RAO for CASTOR and CTA