

Standards-based programming interface for the eXtremeDB embedded database system.

“eXtremeSQL adds a familiar interface to technology that provides radically improved performance.”

-- SySoft Company

eXtremeDB, the real-time embedded database for devices that are eXtremely innovative

Overview

McObject's eXtremeSQL™ is a high-performance implementation of the SQL database programming language for the eXtremeDB embedded database system. eXtremeSQL targets real-time enterprise software development and strengthens eXtremeDB's appeal in fields such as banking and securities trading, where real-time responsiveness is a must and SQL is the dominant database language.

Built on the unsurpassed performance of eXtremeDB, and a RAM-based SQL optimizer, eXtremeSQL delivers blazingly fast processing of dynamic SQL queries.

Benefits of using eXtremeSQL include...

Co-exists with native eXtremeDB API. Use eXtremeSQL alongside the eXtremeDB native API in the same application—the native interface for speed, and eXtremeSQL when a higher level of access helps, as in retrieving data from multiple tables or performing aggregation.

Broad coverage of the SQL-89 standard. eXtremeSQL implements much of the ANSI SQL-89 specification.

Extensions to exploit eXtremeDB features and data types. eXtremeSQL implements eXtremeDB-specific extensions including support for structures, arrays and vectors, and query optimizations based on eXtremeDB capabilities.

Compatible with all eXtremeDB editions. eXtremeSQL is fully compatible with eXtremeDB Standard Edition, High Availability Edition, and Transaction Logging Edition, for simple migration within the eXtremeDB product family.

No client/server inter-process communications. Like eXtremeDB, eXtremeSQL is embedded in application code, not deployed as a separate process. This eliminates client/server inter-process communication round-trips from the execution path, resulting in breakthrough performance.

Interactive SQL utility. eXtremeSQL comes with an interactive SQL program, eXQL, that can be used to test SQL statements independently from application programs. Full source code for the utility is provided, making it a useful example of a full eXtremeSQL implementation.

In addition to executing SQL statements, eXQL also supports eXtremeDB-specific commands, such as "report" and "save <file>".

eXQL also serves as a batch processing utility that redirects input from a text file containing eXtremeSQL statements.

eXtremeSQL Query Optimization

Creating the optimal plan for execution of SQL statements is complex and challenging. Cost-based SQL optimizers analyze SQL queries and select the best search strategies to access the database. This process depends heavily on data distribution, with optimizers collecting their own samples, and using statistics provided by the database system, to calculate the performance “cost” of candidate execution plans. That makes their operation CPU-intensive and unpredictable: optimization time varies, and execution plans change from one invocation to another, as the data distribution changes.

For real-time systems that demand predictability, a rule-based optimizer, such as the one used by eXtremeSQL, is more appropriate. In addition, the eXtremeSQL optimizer makes it possible for applications to specify their own execution plans. For example, the optimizer never re-orders tables in the query; joins are performed in the sequence specified. Some other key rules used for query optimization include:

- If possible, an index is used
- Each table is assigned an index representing its position in the FROM list
- The search predicate is divided into the set of conjuncts and the conjuncts are sorted. Therefore the expressions accessing the tables with smaller indexes are checked first
- The execution of subqueries is optimized by checking the dependencies of the subquery expression. The results of the subquery are saved and recalculated only if the subquery expression refers to fields from the enclosing scope