

MS SQL server Meata data question

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I need to use php's native mssql api in order to read the meta data from an entire DBMS ... I have sql server 2000 up and running and using the provided browsing tools poked around and found that the databases in the system were listed under a database named "master" in a table named "sysdatabases" ... there is a "syscolumns" table there too but it looks like i need specific info about the architecture of sql server's inner workings to use it.

the native php support for sql server doesn't have meta data functions like are provided for things like mysql and odbc. I can't use adodb or pear for alot of reasons ...

can anyone help me or point me to a souce for how to get:

databases -- I have done this one in a round about way
tables in those databases
attributes in those tables
and attribute types

I need to do this for Oracle too but I think the native support for Oracle is better and the tools built in ... I think Oracle supports something they call show commands that just do what I want.

Thanks
Tom