

Exploring **MySQL 9.7**

JSON Duality Views & Hypergraph Optimizer

Mydbops MyWebinar 52

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Organization: Mydbops

Mydbops by the Numbers

Unmatched database engineering scale

10+ years

Of Expertise

10 B +

DB Transactions
Handled per Day

800 +

Happy Clients

3000 +

Tickets Handled
per Day

Your Trusted Database Management Partner

Our Services

Consulting models and technical expertise

Consulting Services

Targeted Engagement designing solutions, analyzing layout patterns, and removing barriers.

Managed Services

24×7 DBA Team providing production assurance, monitoring, security, and continuous updates.

Database Technologies

MySQL

MongoDB

PostgreSQL

MariaDB

TiDB

Cassandra

JSON Duality Views in MySQL 9.7

Agenda Outline

- Relational vs. Document Models
- What are JSON Duality Views?
- JSON Duality Views – Concurrency Control with ETAG
- The Challenge Before MySQL 9.7
- How JSON Duality Views Solve the Problem
- Test Cases
- Inspecting JSON Duality Views
- Limitations and Consideration

Relational VS Document Model

Comparing structural paradigms

Relational Model

```
club table:
  id INT PK
  name VARCHAR(60)

player table:
  id INT PK
  club_id INT FK → club
  name VARCHAR(60)
  position VARCHAR(40)
```

- Normalized Structure
- Referential Integrity enforced
- Querying nested data needs multi-table joins

Document Model

```
{
  "_id": 1,
  "name": "Gremio FC",
  "squad": [
    { "id": 9, "name": "Carlos Vinicius",
      "position": "Forward" },
    { "id": 5, "name": "Arthur",
      "position": "Midfielder" }
  ]
}
```

- Hierarchical Structure
- Read in one query — no joins needed
- No built-in referential checks

What are JSON Duality Views?

Unifying physical schemas and document trees

The same data exists as a normalized relational table AND as a hierarchical JSON document, at the same time. Read it as a document. Write it as a document. MySQL maps everything to the underlying rows automatically.

One Copy of Data

No duplication. No sync. One source of truth.

Full Read & Write

INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE through the JSON document.

Constraints Enforced

Foreign keys, data types and integrity are kept.

The challenge before MySQL 9.7

Traditional pain points in handling JSON data

1

JSON Assembled in App Code

The app fetched the data, then assembled the JSON itself, field by field.

2

JSON Views Were Read-Only

You could read data as JSON, but writing meant going back to separate updates on every table.

3

Same Data, Two Copies

A JSON copy was stored next to the real columns — now two copies to keep in sync by hand.

How JSON Duality Views Solve the Problem

Eliminating data-handling plumbing

1

No More App-Layer Assembly

MySQL builds and returns the JSON document directly from the view — joins and mapping logic live in one place, defined once.

2

Fully Writable Views

INSERT, UPDATE and DELETE work directly on the JSON document — MySQL translates each operation into the correct row-level changes.

3

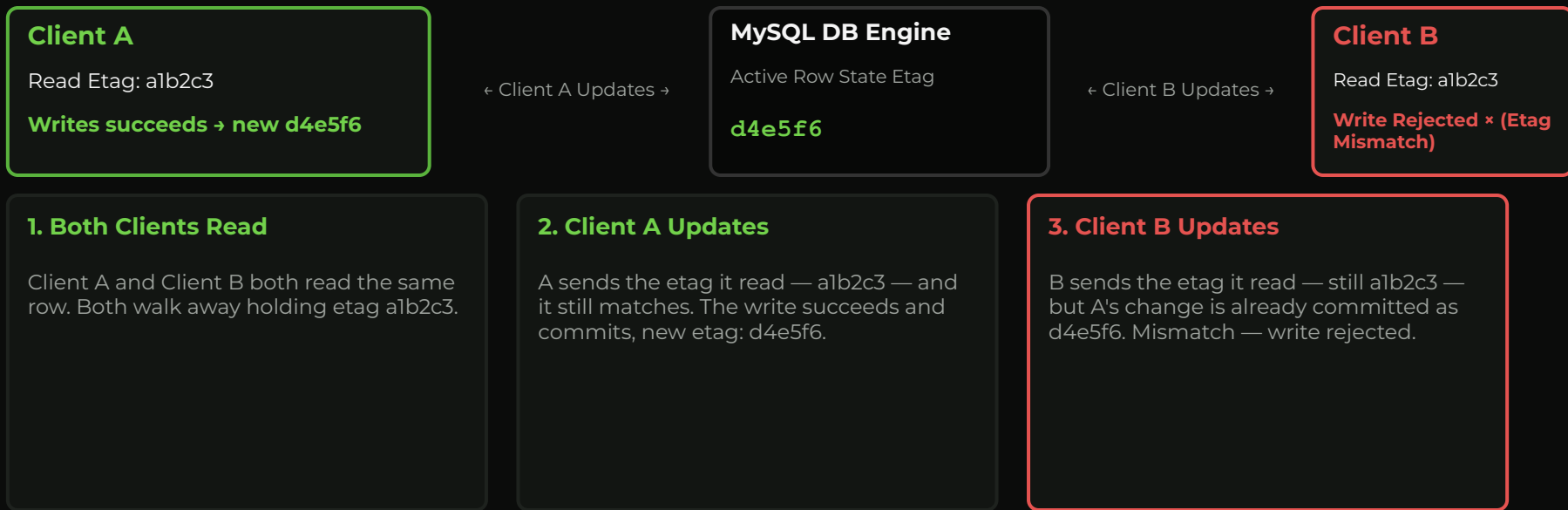
Single Source of Truth

Data is stored once, in normalized tables. The JSON view is generated on demand — no duplication, no sync, no drift.

JSON Duality Views – Concurrency & Transaction Control with ETAG

Asserting race conditions in real time

"_metadata.etag" — a hash on every document read from a Duality View, marking its current row state.



Test Case 1 - Read Only JSON Duality View - Underlying Tables

Defining parent structures

```
mysql> show create table department\G
***** 1. row *****
      Table: department
Create Table: CREATE TABLE `department` (
  `id` int NOT NULL,
  `name` varchar(100) NOT NULL,
  PRIMARY KEY (`id`)
) ENGINE=InnoDB DEFAULT CHARSET=utf8mb4 COLLATE=utf8mb4_0900_ai_ci
1 row in set (0.001 sec)
```

Test Case 1 - Read Only JSON Duality View - Underlying Tables

Defining child reference parameters

```
mysql> show create table employee\G
***** 1. row *****
      Table: employee
Create Table: CREATE TABLE `employee` (
  `id` int NOT NULL,
  `department_id` int NOT NULL,
  `name` varchar(100) NOT NULL,
  `role` varchar(60) NOT NULL,
  `salary` decimal(10,2) DEFAULT NULL,
  PRIMARY KEY (`id`),
  KEY `department_id` (`department_id`),
  CONSTRAINT `employee_ibfk_1` FOREIGN KEY (`department_id`)
    REFERENCES `department` (`id`)
) ENGINE=InnoDB DEFAULT CHARSET=utf8mb4 COLLATE=utf8mb4_0900_ai_ci
1 row in set (0.000 sec)
```

Test Case 1 - Read Only JSON Duality View

Creating basic relational trees

department_ro exposes department + employee data as a single JSON document, read-only.

```
mysql> CREATE JSON RELATIONAL DUALITY VIEW `department_ro` AS select
  json_duality_object('_id':`department`.`id`,`department':`department`.`name`,
  'employees':(select json_arrayagg(
    json_duality_object('id':`employee`.`id`,`name':`employee`.`name`,
    'role':`employee`.`role`))
  from `employee` where (`employee`.`department_id` = `department`.`id`)))
  AS `Name_exp_1` from `department`
```

JSON RELATIONAL DUALITY VIEW

The keyword that creates the view. It exposes tables as one JSON document, still linked to the original data.

json_duality_object()

Takes key-value pairs — each key gets its value from a column, or from related rows like 'employees'.

Test Case 2 - Writable JSON Duality View

Authorizing mutation routes

department_dv adds WITH (INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE) at each level to allow writes through the JSON document.

```
mysql> CREATE JSON RELATIONAL DUALITY VIEW `department_dv` AS select
  json_duality_object( WITH (INSERT,UPDATE,DELETE)
    '_id':`department`.`id`,`department':`department`.`name`,
    'employees': (select json_arrayagg(
      json_duality_object( WITH (INSERT,UPDATE,DELETE)
        'id':`employee`.`id`,`name':`employee`.`name`,
        'role':`employee`.`role`,`salary':`employee`.`salary`)
      from `employee` where (`employee`.`department_id` = `department`.`id`)))
    AS `Name_exp_1` from `department`
```

Keyword: WITH (INSERT, UPDATE, DELETE)

Placed inside json_duality_object(...) at a given nesting level, this clause grants write access for that level. It must be specified separately for the department object and again for each employee object — without it, that part of the document is read-only.

Test Case 3 - Insert via JSON duality view

Loading structural parameters

INSERT — Add a department with employees

```
mysql> INSERT INTO department_dv VALUES ('{
  "_id": 10,
  "department": "Engineering",
  "employees": [
    { "id": 101, "name": "Alice Menon", "role": "Backend Engineer", "salary": 95000 },
    { "id": 102, "name": "Ravi Sharma", "role": "Frontend Engineer", "salary": 88000 },
    { "id": 103, "name": "Priya Nair", "role": "DevOps Engineer", "salary": 91000 }
  ]
}');
Query OK, 4 rows affected (0.016 sec)
Rows affected: 4  Warnings: 0.
```

Test Case 3 - Insert via JSON duality view

Asserting physical updates

MySQL parsed the JSON document and inserted matching rows into BOTH tables in one statement.

```
mysql> select * from department;
+-----+-----+
| id | name      |
+-----+-----+
| 10 | Engineering |
+-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.000 sec)

mysql> select * from employee;
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| id | department_id | name      | role          | salary |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 101 | 10 | Alice Menon | Backend Engineer | 95000.00 |
| 102 | 10 | Ravi Sharma | Frontend Engineer | 88000.00 |
| 103 | 10 | Priya Nair  | DevOps Engineer  | 91000.00 |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
3 rows in set (0.001 sec)
```

Test Case 3 - Read back from the JSON duality view

Evaluating output document trees

Querying the read-only duality view returns one JSON document combining both tables, plus `_metadata.etag`.

```
mysql> select * from department_ro;
+-----+
| data                                     |
+-----+
| {"_id": 10, "_metadata": {"etag": "ca920f01c1d7f6005ef7d0e977b55598"}, |
|   "employees": [{"id": 101, "name": "Alice Menon", "role": "Backend Engineer"}, |
|                 {"id": 102, "name": "Ravi Sharma", "role": "Frontend Engineer"}, |
|                 {"id": 103, "name": "Priya Nair", "role": "DevOps Engineer"}], |
|   "department": "Engineering"} |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.003 sec)
```

What is `_metadata.etag`? A hash that fingerprints the current state of this document — returned on every read. (Reference - Use case 4)

Test Case 4 - Update via JSON duality view

Mutations with absent locking tokens

Sending an update WITHOUT `_metadata.etag` renames the department and adds a 4th employee — MySQL allows it, but warns about the missing ETAG.

```
mysql> UPDATE department_dv
-> SET data = '{
->   "_id": 10,
->   "department": "Engineering-new",
->   "employees": [
->     { "id": 101, "name": "Alice Menon", "role": "Backend Engineer", "salary": 95000 },
->     { "id": 102, "name": "Ravi Sharma", "role": "Frontend Engineer", "salary": 88000 },
->     { "id": 103, "name": "Priya Nair", "role": "DevOps Engineer", "salary": 91000 },
->     { "id": 104, "name": "Karan Mehta", "role": "QA Engineer", "salary": 78000 }
->   ]
-> }'
-> WHERE data->>'$. _id' = '10';
Query OK, 2 rows affected, 1 warning (0.006 sec)
Rows affected: 2  Warnings: 1.
```

Test Case 4 - Update via JSON duality view

Confirming database state shifts

Verifying the change: the missing-ETAG warning, the renamed department, and the new 4th employee row.

```
mysql> show warnings;
+-----+-----+-----+
| Level | Code | Message |
+-----+-----+-----+
| Warning | 6493 | ETAG missing for updated value |
+-----+-----+-----+
1 row in set (0.000 sec)

mysql> select * from department;
+-----+-----+
| id | name |
+-----+-----+
| 10 | Engineering-new |
+-----+-----+

mysql> select * from employee;
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 101 | 10 | Alice Menon | Backend Engineer | 95000.00 |
| 102 | 10 | Ravi Sharma | Frontend Engineer | 88000.00 |
| 103 | 10 | Priya Nair | DevOps Engineer | 91000.00 |
| 104 | 10 | Karan Mehta | QA Engineer | 78000.00 |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
4 rows in set (0.000 sec)
```

Test Case 4 - Update via JSON duality view using etag

Enforcing concurrency tokens

Now we fetch and pass `_metadata.etag` with update and it succeeds with 0 warnings and renames the department.

```
mysql> SELECT data->>'$_metadata.etag' FROM department_dv WHERE data->>'$_id' = '10';
+-----+
| 9b89c243c7376bellac6a04c76cfda9 |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.001 sec)

mysql> UPDATE department_dv SET data = '{
  "id": 10, "department": "Engineering - Platform",
  "_metadata": { "etag": "9b89c243c7376bellac6a04c76cfda9" },
  "employees": [
    { "id": 101, "name": "Alice Menon", "role": "Backend Engineer", "salary": 95000 },
    { "id": 102, "name": "Ravi Sharma", "role": "Frontend Engineer", "salary": 88000 },
    { "id": 103, "name": "Priya Nair", "role": "DevOps Engineer", "salary": 91000 },
    { "id": 104, "name": "Karan Mehta", "role": "QA Engineer", "salary": 78000 }
  ]
}' WHERE data->>'$_id' = '10';
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.008 sec)
Rows affected: 1 Warnings: 0.
```

Test Case 4 - Update via JSON duality view using etag

Tracing state tracking identifiers

The department row is renamed. After every successful write, the document gets a NEW etag — fetch it for the next update.

```
mysql> select * from department;
+----+-----+
| id | name                |
+----+-----+
| 10 | Engineering - Platform |
+----+-----+
1 row in set (0.001 sec)

mysql> SELECT data->'$_metadata.etag' FROM department_dv WHERE data->>'$_id' = '10';
+-----+
| "16b832b69352e5b859541a3567b5062f" |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.002 sec)
```

Test Case 4 - Update via JSON duality view - Stale etag rejected

Resolving logical merge conflicts

Now we try to update again, but pass the OLD etag (9b89c2...) instead of the latest one (16b832...).

```
mysql> UPDATE department_dv SET data = '{
  "_id": 10,
  "department": "Engineering - Stale",
  "_metadata": { "etag": "9b89c243c7376be11ac6a04c76cfda9" },
  "employees": [
    { "id": 101, "name": "Alice Menon", "role": "Backend Engineer", "salary": 95000 },
    { "id": 102, "name": "Ravi Sharma", "role": "Frontend Engineer", "salary": 88000 },
    { "id": 103, "name": "Priya Nair", "role": "DevOps Engineer", "salary": 91000 },
    { "id": 104, "name": "Karan Mehta", "role": "QA Engineer", "salary": 78000 }
  ]
}' WHERE data->>'$_id' = '10';
```

ERROR 6494 (HY000): Cannot update JSON duality view. The ETAG of the document in the database did not match the ETAG "9b89c243c7376be11ac6a04c76cfda9" passed in.

Test Case 4 - Update via JSON duality view - Latest etag

Securing database states

Same update, but now passing the LATEST etag (16b832...) returned by the previous read. The update succeeds.

```
mysql> UPDATE department_dv SET data = '{
  "_id": 10,
  "department": "Engineering - Stale",
  "_metadata": { "etag": "16b832b69352e5b859541a3567b5062f" },
  "employees": [
    { "id": 101, "name": "Alice Menon", "role": "Backend Engineer", "salary": 95000 },
    { "id": 102, "name": "Ravi Sharma", "role": "Frontend Engineer", "salary": 88000 },
    { "id": 103, "name": "Priya Nair", "role": "DevOps Engineer", "salary": 91000 },
    { "id": 104, "name": "Karan Mehta", "role": "QA Engineer", "salary": 78000 }
  ]
}' WHERE data->>'$_id' = '10';
Query OK, 1 row affected (0.007 sec)
Rows affected: 1  Warnings: 0.
```

Test Case 4 - The ETAG Optimistic control flow

Validating physical record modifications

The department table now reflects the update — the name was changed only after the correct ETAG was supplied.

```
mysql> select * from department;
+----+-----+
| id | name                |
+----+-----+
| 10 | Engineering - Stale |
+----+-----+
1 row in set (0.001 sec)
```

Summary of the ETAG flow:

- (1) update without etag → succeeds but Warning 6493
- (2) update with current etag → succeeds, 0 warnings, returns a NEW etag
- (3) update with a STALE etag → rejected with ERROR 6494
- (4) update with the LATEST etag → succeeds.

This is MySQL's optimistic concurrency control.

Test Case 5 - Deletes via JSON Duality View

Tracking state structures before deletions

Before deleting, let's confirm the current rows in both tables and the full JSON document

```
mysql> select * from department;
+-----+-----+
| id | name                |
+-----+-----+
| 10 | Engineering - Stale |
+-----+-----+

mysql> select * from employee;
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| id | department_id | name      | role           | salary |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| 101 | 10            | Alice Menon | Backend Engineer | 95000.00 |
| 102 | 10            | Ravi Sharma  | Frontend Engineer | 88000.00 |
| 103 | 10            | Priya Nair   | DevOps Engineer  | 91000.00 |
| 104 | 10            | Karan Mehta  | QA Engineer      | 78000.00 |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
4 rows in set (0.001 sec)
```


Test Case 5 - Deletes via JSON Duality View

Asserting transactional states

Reading view department_dv returns the full nested JSON document, including the latest _metadata.etag.

```
mysql> select * from department_dv;
+-----+
| data                                     |
+-----+
| {"_id": 10, "_metadata": {"etag": "2f28bf14cf2d019eceedf9c0ed506213c"}, |
|   "employees": [                      |
|     {"id": 101, "name": "Alice Menon", "role": "Backend Engineer", "salary": 95000}, |
|     {"id": 102, "name": "Ravi Sharma", "role": "Frontend Engineer", "salary": 88000}, |
|     {"id": 103, "name": "Priya Nair", "role": "DevOps Engineer", "salary": 91000}, |
|     {"id": 104, "name": "Karan Mehta", "role": "QA Engineer", "salary": 78000} |
|   ], "department": "Engineering - Stale"} |
+-----+
1 row in set (0.001 sec)
```

Test Case 5 - Deletes via JSON Duality View

Asserting cascade behaviors

A single DELETE on the duality view removes the matching rows from BOTH department and employee tables.

```
mysql> DELETE FROM department_dv WHERE data->>'$_id' = '10';  
Query OK, 5 rows affected (0.009 sec)
```

```
mysql> select * from department;  
Empty set (0.000 sec)
```

```
mysql> select * from employee;  
Empty set (0.000 sec)
```

5 rows affected = 1 department row + 4 employee rows.

Deleting the document deletes data from both tables that matched the condition, in one statement — relational integrity is maintained automatically.

Inspecting Duality Views — Querying INFORMATION_SCHEMA

Reviewing metadata parameters

View Permissions — Insert, Update, or Delete — JSON_DUALITY_VIEWS

```
mysql> SELECT TABLE_NAME, ROOT_TABLE_NAME, ALLOW_INSERT, ALLOW_UPDATE, ALLOW_DELETE
-> FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.JSON_DUALITY_VIEWS WHERE TABLE_SCHEMA = 'json';
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| TABLE_NAME | ROOT_TABLE_NAME | ALLOW_INSERT | ALLOW_UPDATE | ALLOW_DELETE |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
| department_dv | department      | 1           | 1           | 1           |
| department_ro | department      | 0           | 0           | 0           |
+-----+-----+-----+-----+-----+
2 rows in set (0.002 sec)
```

Inspecting Duality Views — Querying INFORMATION_SCHEMA

Asserting column mappings and child relationships

```
-- Mapping JSON Keys to Table Columns - JSON_DUALITY_VIEW_COLUMNS
mysql> SELECT REFERENCED_TABLE_NAME AS tbl, REFERENCED_COLUMN_NAME AS col, JSON_KEY_NAME AS json_key
      -> FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.JSON_DUALITY_VIEW_COLUMNS WHERE TABLE_NAME = 'department_dv';
```

tbl	col	json_key
department	id	_id
department	name	department
employee	id	id
employee	name	name
employee	role	role
employee	salary	salary

```
-- How Tables Are Linked - JSON_DUALITY_VIEW_LINKS
mysql> SELECT PARENT_TABLE_NAME, CHILD_TABLE_NAME, PARENT_COLUMN_NAME, CHILD_COLUMN_NAME
      -> FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.JSON_DUALITY_VIEW_LINKS WHERE TABLE_NAME = 'department_dv';
```

PARENT_TABLE_NAME	CHILD_TABLE_NAME	PARENT_COLUMN_NAME	CHILD_COLUMN_NAME
department	employee	id	department_id

1 row in set (0.002 sec)

Limitations

Restrictions in using JSON duality views

Permissions Are Per Nesting Level

Each level of the JSON document needs its own write access — skip one, and that level becomes read-only.

Locking Isn't Automatic

Leave out the etag, and the last write simply wins — there's no concurrency protection unless you send it back explicitly.

Every Key Needs a Real Column

No computed or virtual fields — each key has to come from an actual column.

No Caching for the View

Every read of the duality view re-runs its underlying query, live — test it at scale before relying on it.

Exploring MySQL 9.7

Hypergraph Optimizer

Part 2: Smarter Query Planner

Evaluating query plan paths at scale

Hypergraph Optimizer - A Smarter Query Planner

Agenda Outline

- Query Processing - A Quick Primer
- Why a New Optimizer?
- What is the Hypergraph Optimizer?
- Classic VS Hypergraph
- Benchmarks
- How to Enable It?
- When to Use It - and When to Skip It

Query Processing — A Quick Primer

The stages of execution

1

Parse

Is the SQL valid? Syntax parse trees.

2

Resolve

Check tables, columns and accesses.

3

Rewrite

Simplify structures and subqueries.

4

Optimize

Select cheapest plan order.

5

Execute

Run the plan and stream rows.

Hypergraph lives here

Why a New Optimizer? — Shortcomings of Classic

Analyzing limits in legacy algorithms

Left-deep chains only

Always builds a single chain: $t1 \rightarrow t2 \rightarrow t3 \rightarrow t4$.
Cannot run two independent sub-joins and merge results.

```
t1 → t2 → t3 → t4  (one long chain)
```

Nested-loop bias

Defaults to nested loops whenever an index exists — even when a hash table + single scan would be far faster.

```
for each row in A: lookup B[index]
→ millions of times
```

ORDER BY is an afterthought

Plans join first, sorts at the end — even when index pre-sorts rows and lets LIMIT short-circuit.

```
JOIN all rows → SORT → LIMIT 10
```

Greedy search on 8+ tables

Exhaustive search is abandoned; classic falls back to heuristics and may miss the best plan.

```
Too many combos → give up → guess
```

No cost caching

Recalculates same sub-join cost multiple times during plan selection — wasted CPU during planning.

```
cost(A+B) computed → then again → then again
```

What is the Hypergraph Optimizer?

A query with 4 tables — as a graph

Tables = Nodes

Every table in your SQL query becomes a node in the graph. It could be orders, customers, products — each is a node.

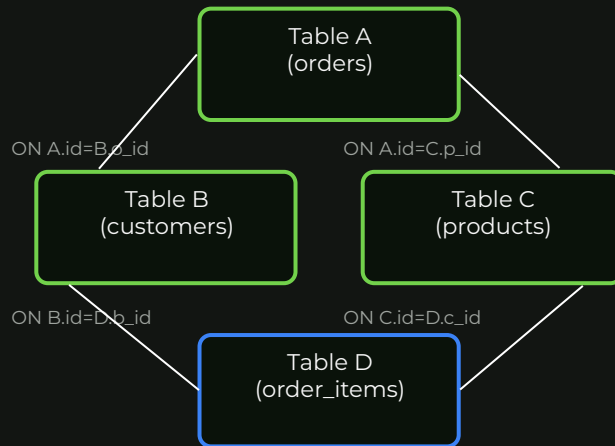
JOIN Conditions = Edges

Every ON clause connecting two tables becomes an edge. The edge carries the join predicate that links them.

Hyperedges

When a predicate spans 3+ tables, it becomes a hyperedge — this is what makes it a hypergraph, not just a graph.

A query with 4 tables — as a graph



Classic vs Hypergraph — A Real-World Analogy

Contrasting path-finding behaviors

Classic Optimizer

"Visits stops in a fixed order, without checking the full map"

Warehouse

Stop A

8 km

Stop B

12 km

Stop C

15 km

Stop D

10 km

Total: 45 km ← Not the shortest!

Hypergraph Optimizer

"Sees ALL stops on the map, picks the shortest route"

Warehouse

Stop B (9 km)

Direct to D (28 km)

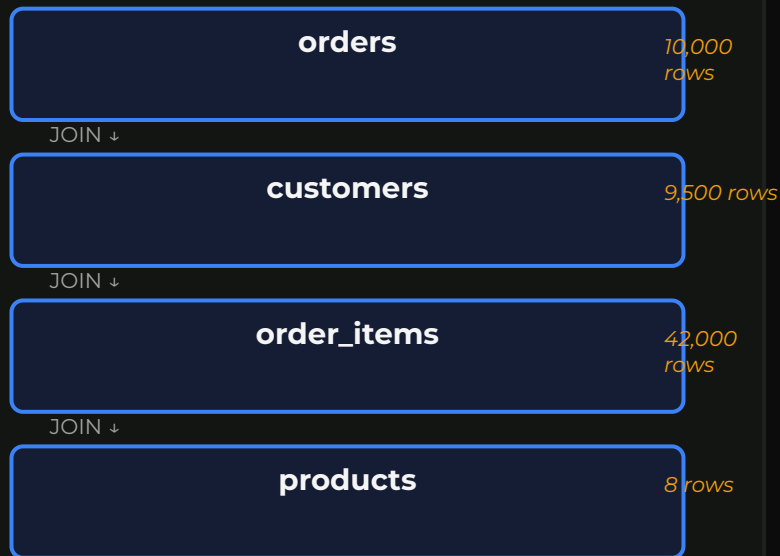
Stop D (7 km)

Via Stop B: 16 km — Shortest!

Classic vs Hypergraph — Plan Shape

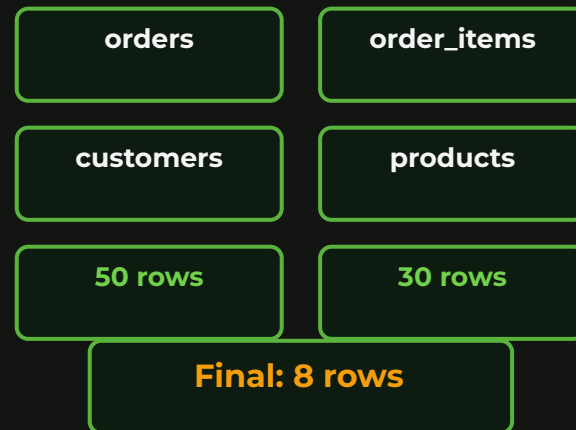
Asserting left-deep chains and bushy configurations

Classic — Left-Deep Chain



Large intermediate results are carried through every join.

Hypergraph — Bushy Plan



Reduces data early before combining results.

Plan Shape: Classic = always left deep | Hypergraph = bushy plans allowed

Classic vs Hypergraph — Join Algorithm

Evaluating default biases and metric evaluations

Classic — Nested-Loop Join

- Choose nested loop join
- Execution cost grows with more rows
- Classic always prefer nested loop join, even if hash join would be faster.

Join Algorithm: Classic = nested-loop bias

Hypergraph — Hash Join

- Evaluates multiple join strategy
- Prefers hash join instead of nested loop when it reduces cost
- Hypergraph compares both plans and picks the cheaper one.

Join Algorithm: Hypergraph = Real cost comparison

Classic vs Hypergraph — ORDER BY Handling

Filesorts vs early-sort indices

Classic — Process First, Order Later

- 1 Read the data
- 2 Process more rows
- 3 **Sort a target result set**
- 4 Return required rows

More data sorted than necessary.

ORDER BY: Classic = Sort last

Hypergraph — Order Aware Planning

- 1 **Consider ordering early**
- 2 Choose more efficient plan
- 3 Process fewer rows
- 4 Return required rows

Hypergraph chooses the plan with ORDER BY in mind from the start.

ORDER BY: Hypergraph = Consider ordering early

Classic vs Hypergraph — Cost Caching

Resolving repetitive planning overheads

Classic — No Cost Caching

3 candidate plans for $A \times B \times C \times D$ — all start with $A \times B$

- $((A \times B) \times C) \times D \rightarrow \text{cost}(A \times B)$ computed
- $(A \times B) \times (D \times C) \rightarrow \text{cost}(A \times B)$ computed again
- $(A \times B) \times (C \times D) \rightarrow \text{cost}(A \times B)$ computed again

$\text{cost}(A \times B)$ computed 3x: same answer, worked out 3 separate times. Every plan that starts with $A \times B$ re-resolves it from scratch.

Cost Caching: Classic = recalculates repeatedly

Hypergraph — Caches Sub-Plan Costs

Same 3 candidate plans for $A \times B \times C \times D$

- $((A \times B) \times C) \times D \rightarrow \text{cost}(A \times B)$ computed and cached
- $(A \times B) \times (D \times C) \rightarrow \text{cost}(A \times B)$ from cache
- $(A \times B) \times (C \times D) \rightarrow \text{cost}(A \times B)$ from cache

$\text{cost}(A \times B)$ computed 1x: worked out once, looked up twice. The first plan computes $A \times B$ once; the rest just look it up.

Cost Caching: Hypergraph = computes once, reuses everywhere

How to Enable the Hypergraph Optimizer

Applying session, global, and query-level controls

Not enabled by default in MySQL 9.7 — must be explicitly activated at session, global or per query level.

1. Enable at Session Level

```
SET optimizer_switch='hypergraph_optimizer=on';
```

2. Enable at Global Level

```
SET global optimizer_switch='hypergraph_optimizer=on';
```

3. Enable at Statement / Query Level (Safest Approach)

```
SELECT /*+ SET_VAR(optimizer_switch='hypergraph_optimizer=on') */  
column1, column2 FROM table1 JOIN table2 ON table1.id = table2.id  
WHERE condition = 'value';
```


Putting Theory to the Test

Now let's look at the actual benchmark numbers.

For every benchmark, we used the exact same dataset and the exact same query — the only thing that changed was the optimizer switch.

We tested three scenarios, each stressing a specific weakness of the classic optimizer:

1

Benchmark 1

Stresses join algorithm choice

2

Benchmark 2

Stresses ORDER BY handling

3

Benchmark 3

Stresses plan shape — a larger six-table join, left-deep chains vs bushy plans

Benchmark 1 — Nested Loop vs Hash Join (4 tables)

customers (100,000 rows) → orders (1,000,000 rows) → order_items (5,000,000 rows) → products (100,000 rows)

```
SELECT c.city, p.product_name, COUNT(*) AS cnt
FROM customers c JOIN orders o ON c.customer_id=o.customer_id
JOIN order_items oi ON o.order_id=oi.order_id JOIN products p ON oi.product_id=p.product_id
GROUP BY c.city, p.product_name;
```

CLASSIC PLAN • 38.13s

```
-> Nested loop inner join (cost=3.73e+6 rows=5.14e+6)
    (actual time=0.165..29885 rows=5e+6 loops=1)
    -> Covering index scan on c using idx_city
        (actual time=0.0776..81 rows=100000 loops=1)
    -> Covering index lookup on o using idx_customer
        (actual time=0.00726..0.0101 rows=10 loops=100000)
    -> Index lookup on oi using idx_order
        (actual time=0.0221..0.0241 rows=5 loops=1e+6)
    -> Single-row index lookup on p using PRIMARY
        (actual time=313e-6..354e-6 rows=1 loops=5e+6)
-> Aggregate using temporary table
    (actual time=38005..38005 rows=100000 loops=1)
```

- Uses Nested Loop join as its strategy
- Re-searches the other table, row by row
- Cost grows with every row — repetition is expensive

HYPERGRAPH PLAN • 22.16s

```
-> Inner hash join (oi.product_id = p.product_id)
    (actual time=724..14734 rows=5e+6 loops=1)
    -> Inner hash join (c.customer_id = o.customer_id)
        (actual time=654..10436 rows=5e+6 loops=1)
    -> Inner hash join (o.order_id = oi.order_id)
        (actual time=594..6782 rows=5e+6 loops=1)
    -> Index scan on oi using PRIMARY
        (actual time=1.49..2221 rows=5e+6 loops=1)
    -> Hash -> idx_customer scan on o (1M rows)
    -> Hash -> idx_city scan on c (100,000 rows)
    -> Hash -> PRIMARY scan on p (100,000 rows)
-> Aggregate using temporary table
    (actual time=21946..21946)
```

- Uses Hash Join instead of Nested Loop
- Scans each table once
- No repeated loops — matched in memory

SUMMARY: Hash Join scans each table once and matches in memory, instead of repeating lookups row by row like Nested Loop.

42% faster

Benchmark 2 — Late Sort vs Early Sort (Sort + Limit)

customers (100,000 rows) → orders (1,000,000 rows) → order_items (5,000,000 rows)

```
SELECT c.customer_name, o.order_id, o.order_date, SUM(oi.quantity) qty
FROM customers c JOIN orders o ON c.customer_id=o.customer_id
JOIN order_items oi ON oi.order_id=o.order_id
GROUP BY c.customer name, o.order id, o.order date ORDER BY o.order_date DESC LIMIT 50;
```

CLASSIC PLAN • 144.4s (2 min 24s)

```
-> Limit: 50 row(s)
(actual time=144380..144380 rows=50 loops=1)
-> Sort: o.order_date DESC, limit input to 50 row(s)
(actual time=144380..144380 rows=50 loops=1)
-> Table scan on <temporary> (rows=1e+6)
-> Aggregate using temporary table
(actual time=140706..140706 rows=1e+6 loops=1)
-> Nested loop inner join
-> Table scan on o (1,000,000 rows)
(actual time=2.4..775 rows=1e+6 loops=1)
-> Single-row PK lookup on c (1M loops)
-> idx_order lookup on oi (rows=5 loops=1e+6)
```

- Finishes the full join first
- Sorts and limits last
- Wastes work on rows it later discards

HYPERGRAPH PLAN • 3.01s

```
-> Limit: 50 row(s)
(actual time=2833..2997 rows=50 loops=1)
-> Group aggregate: sum(oi.quantity)
(actual time=2833..2997 rows=50 loops=1)
-> Nested loop inner join (rows=251)
-> Sort: o.order_date DESC, ... (rows=51)
(actual time=2821..2821 rows=51 loops=1)
-> Inner hash join (c.customer_id=o.customer_id)
(actual time=160..1435 rows=1e+6 loops=1)
-> Index scan on o using PRIMARY (1M rows)
(actual time=18.1..654 rows=1e+6 loops=1)
-> idx_order lookup on oi (rows=4.92 loops=51)
```

- Sorts and limits early
- Trims rows before the costly join
- Less work reaches the expensive part

SUMMARY: Hypergraph pushes Sort and Limit before the expensive join, so only a handful of rows reach the costly part of the plan.

48x faster

Benchmark 3 — Left-Deep Chain vs Bushy Plan

(6 tables)

customers(100K) → orders(1M) → order_items(5M) → products(100K) → suppliers(1K), and orders → shipments(1M)

```
SELECT c.city, p.product_name, s.supplier_name, sh.shipment_status, COUNT(*) AS cnt
FROM customers c JOIN orders o ON c.customer_id=o.customer_id JOIN order_items oi ON o.order_id=oi.order_id
JOIN products p ON oi.product_id=p.product_id JOIN suppliers s ON p.supplier_id=s.supplier_id
JOIN shipments sh ON sh.order_id=o.order_id GROUP BY c.city, p.product_name, s.supplier_name, sh.shipment_status;
```

CLASSIC PLAN • 139.5s (2m 19s)

```
-> Table scan on <temporary> (rows=300000 loops=1)
-> Aggregate using temporary table
(rows=299999 loops=1)
-> Nested loop inner join
(cost=5.89e+6, rows=5e+6 loops=1)
-> Nested loop inner join
(cost=4.09e+6, rows=5e+6 loops=1)
-> Nested loop inner join
(cost=2.29e+6, rows=5e+6 loops=1)
-> Nested loop inner join
(cost=492466, rows=1e+6 loops=1)
-> Nested loop inner join
-> idx_city(c)+idx_customer(o) (10 loops=1e5)
-> idx_order lookup on sh (rows=1 loops=1e6)
-> Filter -> idx_order lookup on oi (5 loops=1e6)
-> Filter -> PK lookup on p (rows=1 loops=5e6)
-> PK lookup on s (rows=1 loops=5e6)
```

- Chains all tables into one long path
- Same tables get re-probed repeatedly
- No way to split the work

HYPERGRAPH PLAN • 54.7s

```
-> Group aggregate: count(0) (rows=300000 loops=1)
-> Sort: city, product, supplier, status
(rows=5e+6 loops=1)
-> Inner hash join (oi.product_id=p.product_id)
(rows=5e+6 loops=1)
-> Inner hash join (o.order_id=oi.order_id)
(rows=5e+6 loops=1)
-> Inner hash join (c.customer_id=o.customer_id)
(rows=1e+6 loops=1)
-> Inner hash join (o.order_id=sh.order_id)
(rows=1e+6 loops=1)
-> Index scan on sh using PRIMARY (1e+6)
-> Hash -> idx_customer scan on o (1e+6)
-> Hash -> idx_city scan on c (100000)
-> Hash -> Index scan on oi PRIMARY (5e+6)
-> Hash -> hash join (p.supplier_id=s.supplier_id)
```

- Splits tables into independent branches
- Solves each branch separately
- Merges branches once at the end

SUMMARY: Hypergraph solves two smaller branches independently and merges them once, instead of forcing every table through one long chain like Classic.

61% faster

When to Use It — and When to Skip It

Suitability assessments

Use Hypergraph

Joining 4+ Tables: More tables means more possible join orders — it's built to search through all of them for the fastest one.

ORDER BY With LIMIT: It can read rows already in index order, skipping a full sort entirely.

Analytics & Reporting Queries: It builds smarter join plans that produce far fewer rows along the way.

Classic May Be Fine

Simple Lookups by Primary Key: Fetching one row is so fast that planning it can take longer than running it.

Queries on a Single Table: There's no join to optimize, so it has nothing extra to offer.

Switching Without Testing First: Some queries may get slower under the new optimizer — always confirm with EXPLAIN ANALYZE before you switch.

Key Takeaways

Summary review

JSON Duality Views

- Works as both relational rows and JSON documents
- Read & write JSON directly — no app-side assembly
- ETag provides concurrency control to prevent lost updates

Hypergraph Optimizer

- Smarter join ordering for queries with 4+ table joins
- Great fit for analytical and reporting queries
- Speeds up queries with heavy sorting (ORDER BY + LIMIT)

Your single takeaway — paste this, run your slowest query:

```
SET SESSION optimizer_switch='hypergraph_optimizer=on';  
EXPLAIN ANALYZE <your query here>;
```

Session-scoped — only affects your current connection, and resets when you disconnect.

Thank You

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Scaling Databases, Securing Workflows.