Pentaho Metadata MQL Outer Join Scenarios

Below are a list of scenarios that the outer join algorithm will need to support.

Scenario 1: Two Tables are Outer Joined

Table2 is Outer Joined to Table1

Table1 Data

PrimaryKey	ForeignKey
1	1
2	2
3	3

Table2 Data

PrimaryKey	ForeignKey
1	1
2	2



Table 1 Table 2

SQL Expected:

FROM Table1 LEFT OUTER JOIN Table2 ON (Table1.PrimaryKey = Table2.ForeignKey)

Results:

Table1.PrimaryKey	Table2.PrimaryKey
1	1
2	2
3	NULL

Scenario 1a: Two Tables are Outer Joined with a constraint

MQL Selections: Table1.PrimaryKey, Table2.PrimaryKey

MQL Constraint: Table2.PrimaryKey > 1

SQL Expected:

FROM Table1 LEFT OUTER JOIN Table2 ON (Table1.PrimaryKey = Table2.ForeignKey AND Table2.PrimaryKey > 1)

Results:

Table1.PrimaryKey	Table2.PrimaryKey
1	NULL
2	2
3	NULL

Scenario 1b: Two Tables are Outer Joined with an aggregate

MQL Selections: Table1.PrimaryKey, SUM(Table2.PrimaryKey)

SQL Expected:

SELECT Table1.PrimaryKey, SUM(Table2.PrimaryKey) FROM Table1 LEFT OUTER JOIN Table2 ON (Table1.PrimaryKey = Table2.ForeignKey) GROUP BY Table1.PrimaryKey

Results:

Table1.PrimaryKey	Table2.PrimaryKey
1	1
2	2
3	NULL

Scenario 1c: Two Tables are Outer Joined with an aggregate constraint

MQL Selections: Table1.PrimaryKey, SUM(Table2.PrimaryKey)

MQL Constraint: SUM(Table2.PrimaryKey) > 1

SQL Expected:

SELECT Table1.PrimaryKey, SUM(Table2.PrimaryKey) FROM Table1 LEFT OUTER JOIN Table2 ON (Table1.PrimaryKey = Table2.ForeignKey) GROUP BY Table1.PrimaryKey HAVING SUM(Table2.PrimaryKey) > 1

Table1.PrimaryKey	Table2.PrimaryKey
2	2

^{*} Note that the outer join is no longer in effect due to the having constraint clause.

Scenario 2: Two Joined Tables are Outer Joined To a Single Table

Additional Table3 added as a regular join to Table2

Table3.PrimaryKey	Table3.ForeignKey
1	1
3	3



SQL Expected:

FROM Table1 LEFT OUTER JOIN (Table2 JOIN Table3 ON (Table2.PrimaryKey = Table3.ForeignKey)) ON (Table1.PrimaryKey = Table2.ForeignKey)

Results:

Table1.PrimaryKey	Table2.PrimaryKey	Table3.PrimaryKey
1	1	1
2	NULL	NULL
3	NULL	NULL

Scenario 3: Three Tables are Outer Joined

Additional Table3 added as an outer join to Table2



Table 1 Table 2 Table 3

SQL Expected:

FROM

(Table1 LEFT OUTER JOIN Table2 ON (Table1.PrimaryKey = Table2.ForeignKey))
LEFT OUTER JOIN Table3 ON (Table2.PrimaryKey = Table3.ForeignKey)

Equivalent algorithm generated SQL, starting at Table 1 (see below):

FROM

(Table3 RIGHT OUTER JOIN Table2 ON (Table2.PrimaryKey=Table3.ForeignKey))
RIGHT OUTER JOIN Table1 ON (Table1.PrimaryKey=Table2.ForeignKey)

Table1.PrimaryKey	Table2.PrimaryKey	Table3.PrimaryKey
1	1	1
2	2	NULL
3	NULL	NULL

Scenario 4: Two outer joins on a single Table

Additional Table3 added as outer join to Table1



Table 2 Table 1 Table 3

FROM

Table1 LEFT OUTER JOIN Table2 ON (Table2.PrimaryKey = Table1.PrimaryKey)
LEFT OUTER JOIN Table3 ON (Table3.PrimaryKey = Table1.ForeignKey)

Equivalent algorithm generated SQL, starting at Table 1 (see below):

(Table3 RIGHT OUTER JOIN (Table2 RIGHT OUTER JOIN Table1 ON (Table2.PrimaryKey = Table1.PrimaryKey)) ON (Table3.PrimaryKey = Table1.ForeignKey)

Table1.PrimaryKey	Table2.PrimaryKey	Table3.PrimaryKey
1	1	1
2	2	NULL
3	NULL	3

Scenario 5: Two outer joins in the opposite direction



Table 2 Table 1 Table 3

This scenario's results depend on the order of the joins. Most likely, a new field will be added to the defined Relations or Business Tables within the metadata model to dictate this order.

FROM

Table1 RIGHT OUTER JOIN Table2 ON (Table2.PrimaryKey = Table1.PrimaryKey)
RIGHT OUTER JOIN Table3 ON (Table3.PrimaryKey = Table1.ForeignKey)

Table1.PrimaryKey	Table2.PrimaryKey	Table3.PrimaryKey
1	1	1
NULL	NULL	3

OR

FROM

Table1 RIGHT OUTER JOIN Table3 ON (Table3.PrimaryKey = Table1.PrimaryKey)
RIGHT OUTER JOIN Table2 ON (Table2.PrimaryKey = Table1.ForeignKey)

Table1.PrimaryKey	Table2.PrimaryKey	Table3.PrimaryKey
1	1	1
NULL	2	NULL

^{*} Special Note: Some databases, including Hypersonic, do not support the nested join syntax used in these examples. The algorithm used will need to be dialect aware and generate valid SQL for the specified database.