MySQL Information Schema

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Abstract

This is the MySQL Replication extract from the MySQL 5.1 Reference Manual.

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INFORMATION_SCHEMA Tables

INFORMATION_SCHEMA provides access to database metadata.

Metadata is data about the data, such as the name of a database or table, the data type of a column, or access privileges. Other terms that sometimes are used for this information are *data dictionary* and *system catalog*.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA is the information database, the place that stores information about all the other databases that the MySQL server maintains. Inside INFORMATION_SCHEMA there are several read-only tables. They are actually views, not base tables, so there are no files associated with them.

In effect, we have a database named INFORMATION_SCHEMA, although the server does not create a database directory with that name. It is possible to select INFORMATION_SCHEMA as the default database with a USE statement, but it is possible only to read the contents of tables. You cannot insert into them, update them, or delete from them.

Here is an example of a statement that retrieves information from INFORMATION_SCHEMA:

```
mysql> SELECT table_name, table_type, engine
    -> FROM information_schema.tables
    -> WHERE table_schema = 'db5'
    -> ORDER BY table_name DESC;
+------------+------------+--------+
| table_name | table_type | engine |
+------------+------------+--------+
| v56        | VIEW       | NULL   |
| v3         | VIEW       | NULL   |
| v2         | VIEW       | NULL   |
| v          | VIEW       | NULL   |
| tables     | BASE TABLE | MyISAM |
| t7         | BASE TABLE | MyISAM |
| t3         | BASE TABLE | MyISAM |
| t2         | BASE TABLE | MyISAM |
| t          | BASE TABLE | MyISAM |
| pk         | BASE TABLE | InnoDB |
| loop       | BASE TABLE | MyISAM |
| kurs       | BASE TABLE | MyISAM |
| k          | BASE TABLE | MyISAM |
| into       | BASE TABLE | MyISAM |
| goto       | BASE TABLE | MyISAM |
| fk2        | BASE TABLE | InnoDB |
| fk         | BASE TABLE | InnoDB |
+------------+------------+--------+
17 rows in set (0.01 sec)
```

Explanation: The statement requests a list of all the tables in database db5, in reverse alphabetical order, showing just three pieces of information: the name of the table, its type, and its storage engine.

Each MySQL user has the right to access these tables, but can see only the rows in the tables that correspond to objects for which the user has the proper access privileges. In some cases (for example, the ROUTINE_DEFINITION column in the INFORMATION_SCHEMA.ROUTINES table), users who have insufficient privileges will see NULL.

The SELECT ... FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA statement is intended as a more consistent way to provide access to the information provided by the various SHOW statements that MySQL supports (SHOW DATABASES, SHOW TABLES, and so forth). Using SELECT has these advantages, compared to SHOW:

- It conforms to Codd's rules. That is, all access is done on tables.
- Nobody needs to learn a new statement syntax. Because they already know how SELECT works, they only need to learn the object names.
- The implementor need not worry about adding keywords.
- There are millions of possible output variations, instead of just one. This provides more flexibility for applications that have varying requirements about what metadata they need.
- Migration is easier because every other DBMS does it this way.

However, because SHOW is popular with MySQL employees and users, and because it might be confusing were it to disappear, the advantages of conventional syntax are not a sufficient reason to eliminate SHOW. In fact, along with the implementation of INFORMATION_SCHEMA, there are enhancements to SHOW as well. These are described in Chapter 27, *Extensions to SHOW Statements*.

There is no difference between the privileges required for SHOW statements and those required to select information from INFORMATION_SCHEMA. In either case, you have to have some privilege on an object in order to see information about it.

The implementation for the INFORMATION_SCHEMA table structures in MySQL follows the ANSI/ISO SQL:2003 standard Part 11 *Schemata*. Our intent is approximate compliance with SQL:2003 core feature F021 *Basic information schema*.

Users of SQL Server 2000 (which also follows the standard) may notice a strong similarity. However, MySQL has omitted many columns that are not relevant for our implementation, and added columns that are MySQL-specific. One such column is the ENGINE column in the INFORMATION_SCHEMA.TABLES table.

Although other DBMSs use a variety of names, like syscat or system, the standard name is INFORMATION_SCHEMA.

The following sections describe each of the tables and columns that are in INFORMATION_SCHEMA. For each column, there are three pieces of information:

- "INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name" indicates the name for the column in the INFORMATION_SCHEMA table. This corresponds to the standard SQL name unless the "Remarks" field says "MySQL extension."
- "SHOW Name" indicates the equivalent field name in the closest SHOW statement, if there is one.
- "Remarks" provides additional information where applicable. If this field is NULL, it means that the value of the column is always NULL. If this field says "MySQL extension," the column is a MySQL extension to standard SQL.

To avoid using any name that is reserved in the standard or in DB2, SQL Server, or Oracle, we changed the names of some columns marked "MySQL extension". (For example, we changed COLLATION to TABLE_COLLATION in the TABLES table.) See the list of reserved words near the end of this article: http://web.archive.org/web/20070409075643rn_1/www.dbazine.com/db2/db2-disarticles/gulutzan5.

The definition for character columns (for example, TABLES.TABLE_NAME) is generally VARCHAR(*N*) CHARACTER SET utf8 where *N* is at least 64. MySQL uses the default collation for this character set (utf8_general_ci) for all searches, sorts, comparisons, and other string operations on such columns. If the default collation is not correct for your needs, you can force a suitable collation with a COLLATE clause (Using COLLATE in SQL Statements).

Each section indicates what SHOW statement is equivalent to a SELECT that retrieves information from INFORMATION_SCHEMA, if there is such a statement. For SHOW statements that display information for the current database if you omit a FROM *db_name* clause, you can often select information for the current database by adding an AND TABLE_SCHEMA = CURRENT_SCHEMA() condition to the WHERE clause of a query that retrieves information from an INFORMATION_SCHEMA table.

> **Note**
>
> At present, there are some missing columns and some columns out of order. We are working on this and updating the documentation as changes are made.

For answers to questions that are often asked concerning the INFORMATION_SCHEMA database, see Chapter 28, *MySQL 5.0 FAQ — INFORMATION_SCHEMA*.

Chapter 1. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA SCHEMATA Table

A schema is a database, so the SCHEMATA table provides information about databases.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
CATALOG_NAME		NULL
SCHEMA_NAME		Database
DEFAULT_CHARACTER_SET_NAME		
DEFAULT_COLLATION_NAME		
SQL_PATH		NULL

The following statements are equivalent:

```
SELECT SCHEMA_NAME AS `Database`
  FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.SCHEMATA
  [WHERE SCHEMA_NAME LIKE 'wild']
SHOW DATABASES
  [LIKE 'wild']
```

Chapter 2. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA TABLES Table

The TABLES table provides information about tables in databases.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
TABLE_CATALOG		NULL
TABLE_SCHEMA	Table_...	
TABLE_NAME	Table_...	
TABLE_TYPE		
ENGINE	Engine	MySQL extension
VERSION	Version	The version number of the table's .frm file, MySQL extension
ROW_FORMAT	Row_format	MySQL extension
TABLE_ROWS	Rows	MySQL extension
AVG_ROW_LENGTH	Avg_row_length	MySQL extension
DATA_LENGTH	Data_length	MySQL extension
MAX_DATA_LENGTH	Max_data_length	MySQL extension
INDEX_LENGTH	Index_length	MySQL extension
DATA_FREE	Data_free	MySQL extension
AUTO_INCREMENT	Auto_increment	MySQL extension
CREATE_TIME	Create_time	MySQL extension
UPDATE_TIME	Update_time	MySQL extension
CHECK_TIME	Check_time	MySQL extension
TABLE_COLLATION	Collation	MySQL extension
CHECKSUM	Checksum	MySQL extension
CREATE_OPTIONS	Create_options	MySQL extension
TABLE_COMMENT	Comment	MySQL extension

Notes:

- TABLE_SCHEMA and TABLE_NAME are a single field in a SHOW display, for example Table_in_db1.
- TABLE_TYPE should be BASE TABLE or VIEW. Currently, the TABLES table does not list TEMPORARY tables.
- For partitioned tables, beginning with MySQL 5.1.9, the ENGINE column shows the name of the storage engine used by all partitions. (Previously, this column showed PARTITION for such tables.)
- The TABLE_ROWS column is NULL if the table is in the INFORMATION_SCHEMA database.

  For InnoDB tables, the row count is only a rough estimate used in SQL optimization. (This is also true if the InnoDB table is partitioned.)
- For tables using the NDBCLUSTER storage engine, beginning with MySQL 5.1.12, the DATA_LENGTH column reflects the true amount of storage for variable-width columns. (See Bug#18413.)

  > **Note**
  >
  > Because MySQL Cluster allocates storage for variable-width columns in 10-page extents of 32 kilobytes each, space usage for such columns is reported in increments of 320 KB.
- Beginning with MySQL 5.1.28, the DATA_FREE column shows the free space in bytes for InnoDB tables.
- We have nothing for the table's default character set. TABLE_COLLATION is close, because collation names begin with a character set name.
- Beginning with MySQL 5.1.9, the CREATE_OPTIONS column shows partitioned if the table is partitioned.

The following statements are equivalent:

```
SELECT table_name FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.TABLES
  WHERE table_schema = 'db_name'
  [AND table_name LIKE 'wild']
SHOW TABLES
  FROM db_name
  [LIKE 'wild']
```

Chapter 3. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA COLUMNS Table

The COLUMNS table provides information about columns in tables.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
TABLE_CATALOG		NULL
TABLE_SCHEMA		
TABLE_NAME		
COLUMN_NAME	Field	
ORDINAL_POSITION		see notes
COLUMN_DEFAULT	Default	
IS_NULLABLE	Null	
DATA_TYPE	Type	
CHARACTER_MAXIMUM_LENGTH	Type	
CHARACTER_OCTET_LENGTH		
NUMERIC_PRECISION	Type	
NUMERIC_SCALE	Type	
CHARACTER_SET_NAME		
COLLATION_NAME	Collation	
COLUMN_TYPE	Type	MySQL extension
COLUMN_KEY	Key	MySQL extension
EXTRA	Extra	MySQL extension
PRIVILEGES	Privileges	MySQL extension
COLUMN_COMMENT	Comment	MySQL extension

Notes:

- In SHOW, the Type display includes values from several different COLUMNS columns.
- ORDINAL_POSITION is necessary because you might want to say ORDER BY ORDINAL_POSITION. Unlike SHOW, SELECT does not have automatic ordering.
- CHARACTER_OCTET_LENGTH should be the same as CHARACTER_MAXIMUM_LENGTH, except for multi-byte character sets.
- CHARACTER_SET_NAME can be derived from Collation. For example, if you say SHOW FULL COLUMNS FROM t, and you see in the Collation column a value of latin1_swedish_ci, the character set is what is before the first underscore: latin1.

The following statements are nearly equivalent:

```
SELECT COLUMN_NAME, DATA_TYPE, IS_NULLABLE, COLUMN_DEFAULT
  FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.COLUMNS
  WHERE table_name = 'tbl_name'
  [AND table_schema = 'db_name']
  [AND column_name LIKE 'wild']
SHOW COLUMNS
  FROM tbl_name
  [FROM db_name]
  [LIKE 'wild']
```

Chapter 4. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA STATISTICS Table

The STATISTICS table provides information about table indexes.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
TABLE_CATALOG		NULL
TABLE_SCHEMA		= Database
TABLE_NAME	Table	
NON_UNIQUE	Non_unique	
INDEX_SCHEMA		= Database
INDEX_NAME	Key_name	
SEQ_IN_INDEX	Seq_in_index	
COLUMN_NAME	Column_name	
COLLATION	Collation	
CARDINALITY	Cardinality	
SUB_PART	Sub_part	MySQL extension
PACKED	Packed	MySQL extension
NULLABLE	Null	MySQL extension
INDEX_TYPE	Index_type	MySQL extension
COMMENT	Comment	MySQL extension

Notes:

- There is no standard table for indexes. The preceding list is similar to what SQL Server 2000 returns for sp_statistics, except that we replaced the name QUALIFIER with CATALOG and we replaced the name OWNER with SCHEMA.

  Clearly, the preceding table and the output from SHOW INDEX are derived from the same parent. So the correlation is already close.

The following statements are equivalent:

```
SELECT * FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.STATISTICS
  WHERE table_name = 'tbl_name'
  AND table_schema = 'db_name'
SHOW INDEX
  FROM tbl_name
  FROM db_name
```

Chapter 5. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA USER_PRIVILEGES Table

The USER_PRIVILEGES table provides information about global privileges. This information comes from the mysql.user grant table.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
GRANTEE		*'user_name'@'host_name'* value, MySQL extension
TABLE_CATALOG		NULL, MySQL extension
PRIVILEGE_TYPE		MySQL extension
IS_GRANTABLE		MySQL extension

Notes:

- This is a non-standard table. It takes its values from the mysql.user table.

Chapter 6. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA SCHEMA_PRIVILEGES Table

The SCHEMA_PRIVILEGES table provides information about schema (database) privileges. This information comes from the mysql.db grant table.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
GRANTEE		*'user_name'@'host_name'* value, MySQL extension
TABLE_CATALOG		NULL, MySQL extension
TABLE_SCHEMA		MySQL extension
PRIVILEGE_TYPE		MySQL extension
IS_GRANTABLE		MySQL extension

Notes:

- This is a non-standard table. It takes its values from the mysql.db table.

Chapter 7. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA TABLE_PRIVILEGES Table

The TABLE_PRIVILEGES table provides information about table privileges. This information comes from the mysql.tables_priv grant table.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
GRANTEE		*'user_name'@'host_name'* value
TABLE_CATALOG		NULL
TABLE_SCHEMA		
TABLE_NAME		
PRIVILEGE_TYPE		
IS_GRANTABLE		

Notes:

- PRIVILEGE_TYPE can contain one (and only one) of these values: SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, REFERENCES, ALTER, INDEX, DROP, CREATE VIEW.

The following statements are *not* equivalent:

```
SELECT ... FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.TABLE_PRIVILEGES
SHOW GRANTS ...
```

Chapter 8. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA COLUMN_PRIVILEGES Table

The COLUMN_PRIVILEGES table provides information about column privileges. This information comes from the mysql.columns_priv grant table.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
GRANTEE		*'user_name'@'host_name'* value
TABLE_CATALOG		NULL
TABLE_SCHEMA		
TABLE_NAME		
COLUMN_NAME		
PRIVILEGE_TYPE		
IS_GRANTABLE		

Notes:

- In the output from SHOW FULL COLUMNS, the privileges are all in one field and in lowercase, for example, select,insert,update,references. In COLUMN_PRIVILEGES, there is one privilege per row, in uppercase.
- PRIVILEGE_TYPE can contain one (and only one) of these values: SELECT, INSERT, UPDATE, REFERENCES.
- If the user has GRANT OPTION privilege, IS_GRANTABLE should be YES. Otherwise, IS_GRANTABLE should be NO. The output does not list GRANT OPTION as a separate privilege.

The following statements are *not* equivalent:

```
SELECT ... FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.COLUMN_PRIVILEGES
SHOW GRANTS ...
```

Chapter 9. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA CHARACTER_SETS Table

The CHARACTER_SETS table provides information about available character sets.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
CHARACTER_SET_NAME	Charset	
DEFAULT_COLLATE_NAME	Default collation	
DESCRIPION	Description	MySQL extension
MAXLEN	Maxlen	MySQL extension

The following statements are equivalent:

```
SELECT * FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.CHARACTER_SETS
  [WHERE name LIKE 'wild']
SHOW CHARACTER SET
  [LIKE 'wild']
```

Chapter 10. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA COLLATIONS Table

The COLLATIONS table provides information about collations for each character set.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
COLLATION_NAME	Collation	
CHARACTER_SET_NAME	Charset	MySQL extension
ID	Id	MySQL extension
IS_DEFAULT	Default	MySQL extension
IS_COMPILED	Compiled	MySQL extension
SORTLEN	Sortlen	MySQL extension

The following statements are equivalent:

```
SELECT COLLATION_NAME FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.COLLATIONS
  [WHERE collation_name LIKE 'wild']
SHOW COLLATION
  [LIKE 'wild']
```

Chapter 11. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA COLLATION_CHARACTER_SET_APPLICABILITY Table

The COLLATION_CHARACTER_SET_APPLICABILITY table indicates what character set is applicable for what collation. The columns are equivalent to the first two display fields that we get from SHOW COLLATION.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
COLLATION_NAME	Collation	
CHARACTER_SET_NAME	Charset	

Chapter 12. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA TABLE_CONSTRAINTS Table

The TABLE_CONSTRAINTS table describes which tables have constraints.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
CONSTRAINT_CATALOG		NULL
CONSTRAINT_SCHEMA		
CONSTRAINT_NAME		
TABLE_SCHEMA		
TABLE_NAME		
CONSTRAINT_TYPE		

Notes:

- The CONSTRAINT_TYPE value can be UNIQUE, PRIMARY KEY, or FOREIGN KEY.
- The UNIQUE and PRIMARY KEY information is about the same as what you get from the Key_name field in the output from SHOW INDEX when the Non_unique field is 0.
- The CONSTRAINT_TYPE column can contain one of these values: UNIQUE, PRIMARY KEY, FOREIGN KEY, CHECK. This is a CHAR (not ENUM) column. The CHECK value is not available until we support CHECK.

Chapter 13. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA KEY_COLUMN_USAGE Table

The KEY_COLUMN_USAGE table describes which key columns have constraints.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
CONSTRAINT_CATALOG		NULL
CONSTRAINT_SCHEMA		
CONSTRAINT_NAME		
TABLE_CATALOG		
TABLE_SCHEMA		
TABLE_NAME		
COLUMN_NAME		
ORDINAL_POSITION		
POSITION_IN_UNIQUE_CONSTRAINT		
REFERENCED_TABLE_SCHEMA		
REFERENCED_TABLE_NAME		
REFERENCED_COLUMN_NAME		

Notes:

- If the constraint is a foreign key, then this is the column of the foreign key, not the column that the foreign key references.
- The value of ORDINAL_POSITION is the column's position within the constraint, not the column's position within the table. Column positions are numbered beginning with 1.
- The value of POSITION_IN_UNIQUE_CONSTRAINT is NULL for unique and primary-key constraints. For foreign-key constraints, it is the ordinal position in key of the table that is being referenced.

  For example, suppose that there are two tables name t1 and t3 that have the following definitions:

```
CREATE TABLE t1
(
    s1 INT,
    s2 INT,
    s3 INT,
    PRIMARY KEY(s3)
) ENGINE=InnoDB;
CREATE TABLE t3
(
    s1 INT,
    s2 INT,
    s3 INT,
    KEY(s1),
    CONSTRAINT CO FOREIGN KEY (s2) REFERENCES t1(s3)
) ENGINE=InnoDB;
```

  For those two tables, the KEY_COLUMN_USAGE table has two rows:

  - One row with CONSTRAINT_NAME = 'PRIMARY', TABLE_NAME = 't1', COLUMN_NAME = 's3', ORDINAL_POSITION = 1, POSITION_IN_UNIQUE_CONSTRAINT = NULL.
  - One row with CONSTRAINT_NAME = 'CO', TABLE_NAME = 't3', COLUMN_NAME = 's2', ORDINAL_POSITION = 1, POSITION_IN_UNIQUE_CONSTRAINT = 1.

Chapter 14. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA ROUTINES Table

The ROUTINES table provides information about stored routines (both procedures and functions). The ROUTINES table does not include user-defined functions (UDFs) at this time.

The column named "mysql.proc name" indicates the mysql.proc table column that corresponds to the INFORMATION_SCHEMA.ROUTINES table column, if any.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	mysql.proc Name	Remarks
SPECIFIC_NAME	specific_name	
ROUTINE_CATALOG		NULL
ROUTINE_SCHEMA	db	
ROUTINE_NAME	name	
ROUTINE_TYPE	type	{PROCEDURE|FUNCTION}
DTD_IDENTIFIER		data type descriptor
ROUTINE_BODY		SQL
ROUTINE_DEFINITION	body	
EXTERNAL_NAME		NULL
EXTERNAL_LANGUAGE	language	NULL
PARAMETER_STYLE		SQL
IS_DETERMINISTIC	is_deterministic	
SQL_DATA_ACCESS	sql_data_access	
SQL_PATH		NULL
SECURITY_TYPE	security_type	
CREATED	created	
LAST_ALTERED	modified	
SQL_MODE	sql_mode	MySQL extension
ROUTINE_COMMENT	comment	MySQL extension
DEFINER	definer	MySQL extension
CHARACTER_SET_CLIENT		MySQL extension
COLLATION_CONNECTION		MySQL extension
DATABASE_COLLATION		MySQL extension

Notes:

- MySQL calculates EXTERNAL_LANGUAGE thus:
  - If mysql.proc.language='SQL', EXTERNAL_LANGUAGE is NULL
  - Otherwise, EXTERNAL_LANGUAGE is what is in mysql.proc.language. However, we do not have external languages yet, so it is always NULL.
- CHARACTER_SET_CLIENT is the session value of the character_set_client system variable when the routine was created. COLLATION_CONNECTION is the session value of the collation_connection system variable when the routine was created. DATABASE_COLLATION is the collation of the database with which the routine is associated. These columns were added in MySQL 5.1.21.

Chapter 15. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA VIEWS Table

The VIEWS table provides information about views in databases. You must have the SHOW VIEW privilege to access this table.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
TABLE_CATALOG		NULL
TABLE_SCHEMA		
TABLE_NAME		
VIEW_DEFINITION		
CHECK_OPTION		
IS_UPDATABLE		
DEFINER		
SECURITY_TYPE		
CHARACTER_SET_CLIENT		MySQL extension
COLLATION_CONNECTION		MySQL extension

Notes:

- The VIEW_DEFINITION column has most of what you see in the Create Table field that SHOW CREATE VIEW produces. Skip the words before SELECT and skip the words WITH CHECK OPTION. Suppose that the original statement was:

```
CREATE VIEW v AS
  SELECT s2,s1 FROM t
  WHERE s1 > 5
  ORDER BY s1
  WITH CHECK OPTION;
```

  Then the view definition looks like this:

```
SELECT s2,s1 FROM t WHERE s1 > 5 ORDER BY s1
```

- The CHECK_OPTION column has a value of NONE, CASCADE, or LOCAL.
- MySQL sets a flag, called the view updatability flag, at CREATE VIEW time. The flag is set to YES (true) if UPDATE and DELETE (and similar operations) are legal for the view. Otherwise, the flag is set to NO (false). The IS_UPDATABLE column in the VIEWS table displays the status of this flag. It means that the server always knows whether a view is updatable. If the view is not updatable, statements such UPDATE, DELETE, and INSERT are illegal and will be rejected. (Note that even if a view is updatable, it might not be possible to insert into it; for details, refer to CREATE VIEW Syntax.)
- The DEFINER column indicates who defined the view. SECURITY_TYPE has a value of DEFINER or INVOKER.
- CHARACTER_SET_CLIENT is the session value of the character_set_client system variable when the view was created. COLLATION_CONNECTION is the session value of the collation_connection system variable when the view was created. These columns were added in MySQL 5.1.21.

MySQL lets you use different sql_mode settings to tell the server the type of SQL syntax to support. For example, you might use the ANSI SQL mode to ensure MySQL correctly interprets the standard SQL concatenation operator, the double bar (||), in your queries. If you then create a view that concatenates items, you might worry that changing the sql_mode setting to a value different from ANSI could cause the view to become invalid. But this is not the case. No matter how you write out a view definition, MySQL always stores it the same way, in a canonical form. Here is an example that shows how the server changes a double bar concatenation operator to a CONCAT() function:

```
mysql> SET sql_mode = 'ANSI';
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.00 sec)
mysql> CREATE VIEW test.v AS SELECT 'a' || 'b' as col1;
Query OK, 0 rows affected (0.00 sec)
mysql> SELECT VIEW_DEFINITION FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.VIEWS
    -> WHERE TABLE_SCHEMA = 'test' AND TABLE_NAME = 'v';
+--------------------------------+
| VIEW_DEFINITION                |
+--------------------------------+
| select concat('a','b') AS `col1` |
+--------------------------------+
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```

The advantage of storing a view definition in canonical form is that changes made later to the value of sql_mode will not affect the results from the view. However an additional consequence is that comments prior to SELECT are stripped from the definition by the server.

Chapter 16. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA TRIGGERS Table

The TRIGGERS table provides information about triggers. You must have the TRIGGER privilege to access this table (prior to MySQL 5.1.22, you must have the SUPER privilege).

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
TRIGGER_CATALOG		NULL
TRIGGER_SCHEMA		
TRIGGER_NAME	Trigger	
EVENT_MANIPULATION	Event	
EVENT_OBJECT_CATALOG		NULL
EVENT_OBJECT_SCHEMA		
EVENT_OBJECT_TABLE	Table	
ACTION_ORDER		0
ACTION_CONDITION		NULL
ACTION_STATEMENT	Statement	
ACTION_ORIENTATION		ROW
ACTION_TIMING	Timing	
ACTION_REFERENCE_OLD_TABLE		NULL
ACTION_REFERENCE_NEW_TABLE		NULL
ACTION_REFERENCE_OLD_ROW		OLD
ACTION_REFERENCE_NEW_ROW		NEW
CREATED		NULL (0)
SQL_MODE		MySQL extension
DEFINER		MySQL extension
CHARACTER_SET_CLIENT		MySQL extension
COLLATION_CONNECTION		MySQL extension
DATABASE_COLLATION		MySQL extension

Notes:

- The TRIGGER_SCHEMA and TRIGGER_NAME columns contain the name of the database in which the trigger occurs and the trigger name, respectively.
- The EVENT_MANIPULATION column contains one of the values 'INSERT', 'DELETE', or 'UPDATE'.
- As noted in Using Triggers, every trigger is associated with exactly one table. The EVENT_OBJECT_SCHEMA and EVENT_OBJECT_TABLE columns contain the database in which this table occurs, and the table's name.
- The ACTION_ORDER statement contains the ordinal position of the trigger's action within the list of all similar triggers on the same table. Currently, this value is always 0, because it is not possible to have more than one trigger with the same EVENT_MANIPULATION and ACTION_TIMING on the same table.
- The ACTION_STATEMENT column contains the statement to be executed when the trigger is invoked. This is the same as the text displayed in the Statement column of the output from SHOW TRIGGERS. Note that this text uses UTF-8 encoding.
- The ACTION_ORIENTATION column always contains the value 'ROW'.
- The ACTION_TIMING column contains one of the two values 'BEFORE' or 'AFTER'.
- The columns ACTION_REFERENCE_OLD_ROW and ACTION_REFERENCE_NEW_ROW contain the old and new column identifiers, respectively. This means that ACTION_REFERENCE_OLD_ROW always contains the value 'OLD' and ACTION_REFERENCE_NEW_ROW always contains the value 'NEW'.
- The SQL_MODE column shows the server SQL mode that was in effect at the time when the trigger was created (and thus which remains in effect for this trigger whenever it is invoked, *regardless of the current server SQL mode*). The possible range of values for this column is the same as that of the sql_mode system variable. See Server SQL Modes.

- The DEFINER column was added in MySQL 5.1.2. DEFINER indicates who defined the trigger.
- CHARACTER_SET_CLIENT is the session value of the character_set_client system variable when the trigger was created. COLLATION_CONNECTION is the session value of the collation_connection system variable when the trigger was created. DATABASE_COLLATION is the collation of the database with which the trigger is associated. These columns were added in MySQL 5.1.21.
- The following columns currently always contain NULL: TRIGGER_CATALOG, EVENT_OBJECT_CATALOG, ACTION_CONDITION, ACTION_REFERENCE_OLD_TABLE, ACTION_REFERENCE_NEW_TABLE, and CREATED.

Example, using the ins_sum trigger defined in Using Triggers:

```
mysql> SELECT * FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.TRIGGERS\G
*************************** 1. row ***************************
           TRIGGER_CATALOG: NULL
            TRIGGER_SCHEMA: test
              TRIGGER_NAME: ins_sum
        EVENT_MANIPULATION: INSERT
      EVENT_OBJECT_CATALOG: NULL
       EVENT_OBJECT_SCHEMA: test
         EVENT_OBJECT_TABLE: account
               ACTION_ORDER: 0
          ACTION_CONDITION: NULL
          ACTION_STATEMENT: SET @sum = @sum + NEW.amount
        ACTION_ORIENTATION: ROW
             ACTION_TIMING: BEFORE
ACTION_REFERENCE_OLD_TABLE: NULL
ACTION_REFERENCE_NEW_TABLE: NULL
  ACTION_REFERENCE_OLD_ROW: OLD
  ACTION_REFERENCE_NEW_ROW: NEW
                   CREATED: NULL
                 SQL_MODE:
                  DEFINER: me@localhost
```

See also SHOW TRIGGERS Syntax.

Chapter 17. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA PLUGINS Table

The PLUGINS table provides information about server plugins.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
PLUGIN_NAME	Name	MySQL extension
PLUGIN_VERSION		MySQL extension
PLUGIN_STATUS	Status	MySQL extension
PLUGIN_TYPE	Type	MySQL extension
PLUGIN_TYPE_VERSION		MySQL extension
PLUGIN_LIBRARY	Library	MySQL extension
PLUGIN_LIBRARY_VERSION		MySQL extension
PLUGIN_AUTHOR		MySQL extension
PLUGIN_DESCRIPTION		MySQL extension
PLUGIN_LICENSE		MySQL extension

Notes:

- The PLUGINS table is a non-standard table. It was added in MySQL 5.1.5.
- The PLUGIN_LICENSE column was added in MySQL 5.1.12.

See also SHOW PLUGINS Syntax.

Chapter 18. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA ENGINES Table

The PLUGINS table provides information about storage engines.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
ENGINE	Engine	MySQL extension
SUPPORT	Support	MySQL extension
COMMENT	Comment	MySQL extension
TRANSACTIONS	Transactions	MySQL extension
XA	XA	MySQL extension
SAVEPOINTS	Savepoints	MySQL extension

Notes:

- The ENGINES table is a non-standard table. It was added in MySQL 5.1.5.

See also SHOW ENGINES Syntax.

Chapter 19. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA PARTITIONS Table

The PARTITIONS table provides information about table partitions. See Partitioning, for more information about partitioning tables.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
TABLE_CATALOG		MySQL extension
TABLE_SCHEMA		MySQL extension
TABLE_NAME		MySQL extension
PARTITION_NAME		MySQL extension
SUBPARTITION_NAME		MySQL extension
PARTITION_ORDINAL_POSITION		MySQL extension
SUBPARTITION_ORDINAL_POSITION		MySQL extension
PARTITION_METHOD		MySQL extension
SUBPARTITION_METHOD		MySQL extension
PARTITION_EXPRESSION		MySQL extension
SUBPARTITION_EXPRESSION		MySQL extension
PARTITION_DESCRIPTION		MySQL extension
TABLE_ROWS		MySQL extension
AVG_ROW_LENGTH		MySQL extension
DATA_LENGTH		MySQL extension
MAX_DATA_LENGTH		MySQL extension
INDEX_LENGTH		MySQL extension
DATA_FREE		MySQL extension
CREATE_TIME		MySQL extension
UPDATE_TIME		MySQL extension
CHECK_TIME		MySQL extension
CHECKSUM		MySQL extension
PARTITION_COMMENT		MySQL extension
NODEGROUP		MySQL extension
TABLESPACE_NAME		MySQL extension

Notes:

- The PARTITIONS table is a non-standard table. It was added in MySQL 5.1.6.

  Each record in this table corresponds to an individual partition or subpartition of a partitioned table.

- TABLE_CATALOG: This column is always NULL.
- TABLE_SCHEMA: This column contains the name of the database to which the table belongs.
- TABLE_NAME: This column contains the name of the table containing the partition.
- PARTITION_NAME: The name of the partition.
- SUBPARTITION_NAME: If the PARTITIONS table record represents a subpartition, then this column contains the name of subpartition; otherwise it is NULL.
- PARTITION_ORDINAL_POSITION: All partitions are indexed in the same order as they are defined, with 1 being the number assigned to the first partition. The indexing can change as partitions are added, dropped, and reorganized; the number shown is this column reflects the current order, taking into account any indexing changes.
- SUBPARTITION_ORDINAL_POSITION: Subpartitions within a given partition are also indexed and reindexed in the same manner as partitions are indexed within a table.

- PARTITION_METHOD: One of the values RANGE, LIST, HASH, LINEAR HASH, KEY, or LINEAR KEY; that is, one of the available partitioning types as discussed in Partition Types.
- SUBPARTITION_METHOD: One of the values HASH, LINEAR HASH, KEY, or LINEAR KEY; that is, one of the available subpartitioning types as discussed in Subpartitioning.
- PARTITION_EXPRESSION: This is the expression for the partitioning function used in the CREATE TABLE or ALTER TABLE statement that created the table's current partitioning scheme.

  For example, consider a partitioned table created in the test database using this statement:

  ```
  CREATE TABLE tp (
      c1 INT,
      c2 INT,
      c3 VARCHAR(25)
  )
  PARTITION BY HASH(c1 + c2)
  PARTITIONS 4;
  ```

  The PARTITION_EXPRESSION column in a PARTITIONS table record for a partition from this table displays c1 + c2, as shown here:

  ```
  mysql> SELECT DISTINCT PARTITION_EXPRESSION
       >     FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.PARTITIONS
       >     WHERE TABLE_NAME='tp' AND TABLE_SCHEMA='test';
  +----------------------+
  | PARTITION_EXPRESSION |
  +----------------------+
  | c1 + c2              |
  +----------------------+
  1 row in set (0.09 sec)
  ```

- SUBPARTITION_EXPRESSION: This works in the same fashion for the subpartitioning expression that defines the subpartitioning for a table as PARTITION_EXPRESSION does for the partitioning expression used to define a table's partitioning.

  If the table has no subpartitions, then this column is NULL.
- PARTITION_DESCRIPTION: This column is used for RANGE and LIST partitions. For a RANGE partition, it contains the value set in the partition's VALUES LESS THAN clause, which can be either an integer or MAXVALUE. For a LIST partition, this column contains the values defined in the partition's VALUES IN clause, which is a comma-separated list of integer values.

  For partitions whose PARTITION_METHOD is other than RANGE or LIST, this column is always NULL.
- TABLE_ROWS: The number of table rows in the partition.

  For partitioned InnoDB tables, the row count given in the TABLE_ROWS column is only an estimated value used in SQL optimization, and may not always be exact.
- AVG_ROW_LENGTH: The average length of the rows stored in this partition or subpartition, in bytes.

  This is the same as DATA_LENGTH divided by TABLE_ROWS.
- DATA_LENGTH: The total length of all rows stored in this partition or subpartition, in bytes — that is, the total number of bytes stored in the partition or subpartition.
- MAX_DATA_LENGTH: The maximum number of bytes that can be stored in this partition or subpartition.
- INDEX_LENGTH: The length of the index file for this partition or subpartition, in bytes.
- DATA_FREE: The number of bytes allocated to the partition or subpartition but not used.
- CREATE_TIME: The time of the partition's or subpartition's creation.
- UPDATE_TIME: The time that the partition or subpartition was last modified.
- CHECK_TIME: The last time that the table to which this partition or subpartition belongs was checked.

  > **Note**
  >
  > Some storage engines do not update this time; for tables using these storage engines, this value is always NULL.

- CHECKSUM: The checksum value, if any; otherwise, this column is NULL.

- PARTITION_COMMENT: This column contains the text of any comment made for the partition.

  The default value for this column is an empty string.

- NODEGROUP: This is the nodegroup to which the partition belongs. This is relevant only to MySQL Cluster tables; otherwise the value of this column is always 0.

- TABLESPACE_NAME: This column contains the name of tablespace to which the partition belongs. In MySQL 5.1, the value of this column is always DEFAULT.

- **Important**

  If any partitioned tables created in a MySQL version prior to MySQL 5.1.6 are present following an upgrade to MySQL 5.1.6 or later, it is not possible to SELECT from, SHOW, or DESCRIBE the PARTITIONS table. See Changes in MySQL 5.1.6 *before* upgrading from MySQL 5.1.5 or earlier to MySQL 5.1.6 or later.

- A non-partitioned table has one record in INFORMATION_SCHEMA.PARTITIONS; however, the values of the PARTITION_NAME, SUBPARTITION_NAME, PARTITION_ORDINAL_POSITION, SUBPARTITION_ORDINAL_POSITION, PARTITION_METHOD, SUBPARTITION_METHOD, PARTITION_EXPRESSION, SUBPARTITION_EXPRESSION, and PARTITION_DESCRIPTION columns are all NULL. (The PARTITION_COMMENT column in this case is blank.)

  In MySQL 5.1, there is also only one record in the PARTITIONS table for a table using the NDBCLUSTER storage engine. The same columns are also NULL (or empty) as for a non-partitioned table.

Chapter 20. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA EVENTS Table

The EVENTS table provides information about scheduled events, which are discussed in Using the Event Scheduler.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
EVENT_CATALOG		NULL, MySQL extension
EVENT_SCHEMA	Db	MySQL extension
EVENT_NAME	Name	MySQL extension
DEFINER	Definer	MySQL extension
TIME_ZONE	Time zone	MySQL extension
EVENT_BODY		MySQL extension
EVENT_DEFINITION		MySQL extension
EVENT_TYPE	Type	MySQL extension
EXECUTE_AT	Execute at	MySQL extension
INTERVAL_VALUE	Interval value	MySQL extension
INTERVAL_FIELD	Interval field	MySQL extension
SQL_MODE		MySQL extension
STARTS	Starts	MySQL extension
ENDS	Ends	MySQL extension
STATUS	Status	MySQL extension
ON_COMPLETION		MySQL extension
CREATED		MySQL extension
LAST_ALTERED		MySQL extension
LAST_EXECUTED		MySQL extension
EVENT_COMMENT		MySQL extension
ORIGINATOR	Originator	MySQL extension
CHARACTER_SET_CLIENT		MySQL extension
COLLATION_CONNECTION		MySQL extension
DATABASE_COLLATION		MySQL extension

Notes:

- The EVENTS table is a non-standard table. It was added in MySQL 5.1.6.
- EVENT_CATALOG: The value of this column is always NULL.
- EVENT_SCHEMA: The name of the schema (database) to which this event belongs.
- EVENT_NAME: The name of the event.
- DEFINER: The user who created the event. Always displayed in *'user_name'@'host_name'* format.
- TIME_ZONE: The time zone in effect when schedule for the event was last modified. If the event's schedule has not been modified since the event was created, then this is the time zone that was in effect at the event's creation. The default value is SYSTEM.

  This column was added in MySQL 5.1.17. See Changes in MySQL 5.1.17, for important information if you are using the Event Scheduler and are upgrading from MySQL 5.1.16 (or earlier) to MySQL 5.1.17 (or later).
- EVENT_BODY: The language used for the statements in the event's DO clause; in MySQL 5.1, this is always SQL.

  This column was added in MySQL 5.1.12. It is not to be confused with the column of the same name (now named EVENT_DEFINITION) that existed in earlier MySQL versions.
- EVENT_DEFINITION: The text of the SQL statement making up the event's DO clause; in other words, the statement executed by this event.

> **Note**
>
> Prior to MySQL 5.1.12, this column was named EVENT_BODY.

- EVENT_TYPE: One of the two values ONE TIME or RECURRING.
- EXECUTE_AT: For a one-time event, this is the DATETIME value specified in the AT clause of the CREATE EVENT statement used to create the event, or of the last ALTER EVENT statement that modified the event. The value shown in this column reflects the addition or subtraction of any INTERVAL value included in the event's AT clause. For example, if an event is created using ON SCHEDULE AT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP + '1:6' DAY_HOUR, and the event was created at 2006-02-09 14:05:30, the value shown in this column would be '2006-02-10 20:05:30'.

  If the event's timing is determined by an EVERY clause instead of an AT clause (that is, if the event is recurring), the value of this column is NULL.
- INTERVAL_VALUE: For recurring events, this column contains the numeric portion of the event's EVERY clause.

  For a one-time event (that is, an event whose timing is determined by an AT clause), this column's value is NULL.
- INTERVAL_FIELD: For recurring events, this column contains the units portion of the EVERY clause governing the timing of the event. Thus, this column contains a value such as 'YEAR', 'QUARTER', 'DAY', and so on.

  > **Note**
  >
  > In early MySQL 5.1 releases, this value was prefixed with 'INTERVAL_', and was displayed as 'INTERVAL_YEAR', 'INTERVAL_QUARTER', 'INTERVAL_DAY', and so on.

  For a one-time event (that is, an event whose timing is determined by an AT clause), this column's value is NULL.
- SQL_MODE: The SQL mode in effect at the time the event was created or altered.
- STARTS: For a recurring event whose definition includes a STARTS clause, this column contains the corresponding DATETIME value. As with the EXECUTE_AT column, this value resolves any expressions used.

  If there is no STARTS clause affecting the timing of the event, this column is empty. (Prior to MySQL 5.1.8, it contained NULL in such cases.)
- ENDS: For a recurring event whose definition includes a ENDS clause, this column contains the corresponding DATETIME value. As with the EXECUTE_AT column (see previous example), this value resolves any expressions used.

  If there is no ENDS clause affecting the timing of the event, this column contains NULL.
- STATUS: One of the three values ENABLED, DISABLED, or SLAVESIDE_DISABLED.

  SLAVESIDE_DISABLED was added to the list of possible values for this column in MySQL 5.1.18. This value indicates that the creation of the event occurred on another MySQL server acting as a replication master and was replicated to the current MySQL server which is acting as a slave, but the event is not presently being executed on the slave. See Replication of Invoked Features, for more information.
- ON_COMPLETION: One of the two values PRESERVE or NOT PRESERVE.
- CREATED: The date and time when the event was created. This is a DATETIME value.
- LAST_ALTERED: The date and time when the event was last modified. This is a DATETIME value. If the event has not been modified since its creation, this column holds the same value as the CREATED column.
- LAST_EXECUTED: The date and time when the event last executed. A DATETIME value. If the event has never executed, this column's value is NULL.

  Before MySQL 5.1.23, LAST_EXECUTED indicates when event finished executing. As of 5.1.23, LAST_EXECUTED instead indicates when the event started. As a result, the ENDS column is never less than LAST_EXECUTED.
- EVENT_COMMENT: The text of a comment, if the event has one. If there is no comment, the value of this column is an empty string.
- ORIGINATOR: The server ID of the MySQL server on which the event was created; used in replication. The default value is 0. This column was added in MySQL 5.1.18.
- CHARACTER_SET_CLIENT is the session value of the character_set_client system variable when the event was created. COLLATION_CONNECTION is the session value of the collation_connection system variable when the event

was created. DATABASE_COLLATION is the collation of the database with which the event is associated. These columns were added in MySQL 5.1.21.

Example: Suppose the user jon@ghidora creates an event named e_daily, and then modifies it a few minutes later using an ALTER EVENT statement, as shown here:

```
DELIMITER |
CREATE EVENT e_daily
    ON SCHEDULE
      EVERY 1 DAY
    COMMENT 'Saves total number of sessions then clears the table each day'
    DO
      BEGIN
        INSERT INTO site_activity.totals (time, total)
          SELECT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP, COUNT(*)
            FROM site_activity.sessions;
        DELETE FROM site_activity.sessions;
      END |
DELIMITER ;
ALTER EVENT e_daily
    ENABLED;
```

(Note that comments can span multiple lines.)

This user can then run the following SELECT statement, and obtain the output shown:

```
mysql> SELECT * FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.EVENTS
     > WHERE EVENT_NAME = 'e_daily'
     > AND EVENT_SCHEMA = 'myschema'\G
*************************** 1. row ***************************
       EVENT_CATALOG: NULL
        EVENT_SCHEMA: test
          EVENT_NAME: e_daily
             DEFINER: paul@localhost
           TIME_ZONE: SYSTEM
          EVENT_BODY: SQL
    EVENT_DEFINITION: BEGIN
        INSERT INTO site_activity.totals (time, total)
          SELECT CURRENT_TIMESTAMP, COUNT(*)
            FROM site_activity.sessions;
        DELETE FROM site_activity.sessions;
      END
          EVENT_TYPE: RECURRING
          EXECUTE_AT: NULL
      INTERVAL_VALUE: 1
      INTERVAL_FIELD: DAY
            SQL_MODE:
              STARTS: 2008-09-03 12:13:39
                ENDS: NULL
              STATUS: ENABLED
       ON_COMPLETION: NOT PRESERVE
             CREATED: 2008-09-03 12:13:39
        LAST_ALTERED: 2008-09-03 12:13:39
       LAST_EXECUTED: NULL
       EVENT_COMMENT: Saves total number of sessions then clears the
                      table each day
          ORIGINATOR: 1
CHARACTER_SET_CLIENT: latin1
COLLATION_CONNECTION: latin1_swedish_ci
  DATABASE_COLLATION: latin1_swedish_ci
```

Prior to MySQL 5.1.17, the times displayed in the STARTS, ENDS, and LAST_EXECUTED columns were given in terms of Universal Time (GMT or UTC), regardless of the server's time zone setting (Bug#16420). Beginning with MySQL 5.1.17, these times are all given in terms of local time as determined by the MySQL server's time_zone setting. (The same was true of the starts, ends, and last_executed columns of the mysql.event table as well as the Starts and Ends columns in the output of SHOW [FULL] EVENTS.)

The CREATED and LAST_ALTERED columns use the server time zone (as do the created and last_altered columns of the mysql.event table).

See also SHOW EVENTS Syntax.

Chapter 21. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA FILES Table

The FILES table provides information about the files in which MySQL NDB Disk Data tables are stored.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
FILE_ID		MySQL extension
FILE_NAME		MySQL extension
FILE_TYPE		MySQL extension
TABLESPACE_NAME		MySQL extension
TABLE_CATALOG		MySQL extension
TABLE_SCHEMA		MySQL extension
TABLE_NAME		MySQL extension
LOGFILE_GROUP_NAME		MySQL extension
LOGFILE_GROUP_NUMBER		MySQL extension
ENGINE		MySQL extension
FULLTEXT_KEYS		MySQL extension
DELETED_ROWS		MySQL extension
UPDATE_COUNT		MySQL extension
FREE_EXTENTS		MySQL extension
TOTAL_EXTENTS		MySQL extension
EXTENT_SIZE		MySQL extension
INITIAL_SIZE		MySQL extension
MAXIMUM_SIZE		MySQL extension
AUTOEXTEND_SIZE		MySQL extension
CREATION_TIME		MySQL extension
LAST_UPDATE_TIME		MySQL extension
LAST_ACCESS_TIME		MySQL extension
RECOVER_TIME		MySQL extension
TRANSACTION_COUNTER		MySQL extension
VERSION		MySQL extension
ROW_FORMAT		MySQL extension
TABLE_ROWS		MySQL extension
AVG_ROW_LENGTH		MySQL extension
DATA_LENGTH		MySQL extension
MAX_DATA_LENGTH		MySQL extension
INDEX_LENGTH		MySQL extension
DATA_FREE		MySQL extension
CREATE_TIME		MySQL extension
UPDATE_TIME		MySQL extension
CHECK_TIME		MySQL extension
CHECKSUM		MySQL extension
STATUS		MySQL extension
EXTRA		MySQL extension

Notes:

- FILE_ID column values are auto-generated.
- FILE_NAME is the name of an UNDO log file created by CREATE LOGFILE GROUP or ALTER LOGFILE GROUP, or of a data file created by CREATE TABLESPACE or ALTER TABLESPACE.

- FILE_TYPE is one of the values UNDOFILE or DATAFILE.
- TABLESPACE_NAME is the name of the tablespace with which the file is associated.
- Currently, the value of the TABLESPACE_CATALOG column is always NULL.
- TABLE_NAME is the name of the Disk Data table with which the file is associated, if any.
- The LOGFILE_GROUP_NAME column gives the name of the log file group to which the log file or data file belongs.
- For an UNDO log file, the LOGFILE_GROUP_NUMBER contains the auto-generated ID number of the log file group to which the log file belongs.
- For a MySQL Cluster Disk Data log file or data file, the value of the ENGINE column is always NDB or NDBCLUSTER.
- For a MySQL Cluster Disk Data log file or data file, the value of the FULLTEXT_KEYS column is always empty.
- The FREE EXTENTS column displays the number of extents which have not yet been used by the file. The TOTAL EXTENTS column show the total number of extents allocated to the file.

  The difference between these two columns is the number of extents currently in use by the file:

```
SELECT TOTAL_EXTENTS - FREE_EXTENTS AS extents_used
    FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.FILES
    WHERE FILE_NAME = 'myfile.dat';
```

  You can approximate the amount of disk space in use by the file by multiplying this difference by the value of the EXTENT_SIZE column, which gives the size of an extent for the file in bytes:

```
SELECT (TOTAL_EXTENTS - FREE_EXTENTS) * EXTENT_SIZE AS bytes_used
    FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.FILES
    WHERE FILE_NAME = 'myfile.dat';
```

  Similarly, you can estimate the amount of space that remains available in a given file by multiplying FREE_EXTENTS by EXTENT_SIZE:

```
SELECT FREE_EXTENTS * EXTENT_SIZE AS bytes_free
    FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.FILES
    WHERE FILE_NAME = 'myfile.dat';
```

  Important

  The byte values produced by the preceding queries are approximations only, and their precision is inversely proportional to the value of EXTENT_SIZE. That is, the larger EXTENT_SIZE becomes, the less accurate the approximations are.

  It is also important to remember that once an extent is used, it cannot be freed again without dropping the data file of which it is a part. This means that deletes from a Disk Data table do *not* release disk space.

  The extent size can be set in a CREATE TABLESPACE statement. See CREATE TABLESPACE Syntax, for more information.

- The INITIAL_SIZE column shows the size in bytes of the file. This is the same value that was used in the INITIAL_SIZE clause of the CREATE LOGFILE GROUP, ALTER LOGFILE GROUP, CREATE TABLESPACE, or ALTER TABLESPACE statement used to create the file.

  For MySQL Cluster Disk Data files, the value of the MAXIMUM_SIZE column is always the same as INITIAL_SIZE, and the AUTOEXTEND_SIZE column is always empty.

- The CREATION_TIME column shows the date and time when the file was created. The LAST_UPDATE_TIME column displays the date and time when the file was last modified. The LAST_ACCESSED column provides the date and time when the file was last accessed by the server.

  Currently, the values of these columns are as reported by the operating system, and are not supplied by the NDB storage engine. Where no value is provided by the operating system, these columns display 0000-00-00 00:00:00.

- For MySQL Cluster Disk Data files, the value of the RECOVER_TIME and TRANSACTION_COUNTER columns is always 0.
- For MySQL Cluster Disk Data files, the following columns are always NULL:
  - VERSION
  - ROW_FORMAT

  - TABLE_ROWS
  - AVG_ROW_LENGTH
  - DATA_LENGTH
  - MAX_DATA_LENGTH
  - INDEX_LENGTH
  - DATA_FREE
  - CREATE_TIME
  - UPDATE_TIME
  - CHECK_TIME
  - CHECKSUM
- For MySQL Cluster Disk Data files, the value of the STATUS column is always NORMAL.
- For MySQL Cluster Disk Data files, the EXTRA column shows which data node the file belongs to, as each data node has its own copy of the file. For example, suppose you use this statement on a MySQL Cluster with four data nodes:

```
CREATE LOGFILE GROUP mygroup
    ADD UNDOFILE 'new_undo.dat'
    INITIAL_SIZE 2G
    ENGINE NDB;
```

  After running the CREATE LOGFILE GROUP statement successfully, you should see a result similar to the one shown here for this query against the FILES table:

```
mysql> SELECT LOGFILE_GROUP_NAME, FILE_TYPE, EXTRA
    ->     FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.FILES
    ->     WHERE FILE_NAME = 'new_undo.dat';
+--------------------+-------------+----------------+
| LOGFILE_GROUP_NAME | FILE_TYPE   | EXTRA          |
+--------------------+-------------+----------------+
| mygroup            | UNDO FILE   | CLUSTER_NODE=3 |
| mygroup            | UNDO FILE   | CLUSTER_NODE=4 |
| mygroup            | UNDO FILE   | CLUSTER_NODE=5 |
| mygroup            | UNDO FILE   | CLUSTER_NODE=6 |
+--------------------+-------------+----------------+
4 rows in set (0.01 sec)
```

- The FILES table is a non-standard table. It was added in MySQL 5.1.6.
- Beginning with MySQL 5.1.14, an additional row is present in the FILES table following the creation of a logfile group. This row has NULL for the value of the FILE_NAME column. For this row, the value of the FILE_ID column is always 0, that of the FILE_TYPE column is always UNDO FILE, and that of the STATUS column is always NORMAL. Currently, the value of the ENGINE column is always NDBCLUSTER.

  The FREE_EXTENTS column in this row shows the total number of free extents available to all undo files belonging to a given log file group whose name and number are shown in the LOGFILE_GROUP_NAME and LOGFILE_GROUP_NUMBER columns, respectively.

  Suppose there are no existing log file groups on your MySQL Cluster, and you create one using the following statement:

```
mysql> CREATE LOGFILE GROUP lg1
    ->   ADD UNDOFILE 'undofile.dat'
    ->   INITIAL_SIZE = 16M
    ->   UNDO_BUFFER_SIZE = 1M
    ->   ENGINE = NDB;
Query OK, 0 rows affected (3.81 sec)
```

  You can now see this NULL row when you query the FILES table:

```
mysql> SELECT DISTINCT
    ->   FILE_NAME AS File,
    ->   FREE_EXTENTS AS Free,
    ->   TOTAL_EXTENTS AS Total,
    ->   EXTENT_SIZE AS Size,
    ->   INITIAL_SIZE AS Initial
    ->   FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.FILES;
+-------------+---------+---------+------+----------+
| File        | Free    | Total   | Size | Initial  |
```

```
+--------------+---------+---------+------+----------+
| undofile.dat |    NULL | 4194304 |    4 | 16777216 |
| NULL         | 4184068 |    NULL |    4 |     NULL |
+--------------+---------+---------+------+----------+
2 rows in set (0.01 sec)
```

The total number of free extents available for undo logging is always somewhat less than the sum of the TOTAL_EXTENTS column values for all undo files in the log file group due to overhead required for maintaining the undo files. This can be seen by adding a second undo file to the log file group, then repeating the previous query against the FILES table:

```
mysql> ALTER LOGFILE GROUP lg1
    ->   ADD UNDOFILE 'undofile02.dat'
    ->   INITIAL_SIZE = 4M
    ->   ENGINE = NDB;
Query OK, 0 rows affected (1.02 sec)
mysql> SELECT DISTINCT
    ->   FILE_NAME AS File,
    ->   FREE_EXTENTS AS Free,
    ->   TOTAL_EXTENTS AS Total,
    ->   EXTENT_SIZE AS Size,
    ->   INITIAL_SIZE AS Initial
    ->   FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.FILES;
+---------------+---------+---------+------+----------+
| File          | Free    | Total   | Size | Initial  |
+---------------+---------+---------+------+----------+
| undofile.dat  |    NULL | 4194304 |    4 | 16777216 |
| undofile02.dat |    NULL | 1048576 |    4 |  4194304 |
| NULL          | 5223944 |    NULL |    4 |     NULL |
+---------------+---------+---------+------+----------+
3 rows in set (0.01 sec)
```

The amount of free space in bytes which is available for undo logging by Disk Data tables using this log file group can be approximated by multiplying the number of free extents by the initial size:

```
mysql> SELECT
    ->   FREE_EXTENTS AS 'Free Extents',
    ->   FREE_EXTENTS * EXTENT_SIZE AS 'Free Bytes'
    ->   FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.FILES
    ->   WHERE LOGFILE_GROUP_NAME = 'lg1'
    ->   AND FILE_NAME IS NULL;
+--------------+------------+
| Free Extents | Free Bytes |
+--------------+------------+
|      5223944 |   20895776 |
+--------------+------------+
1 row in set (0.02 sec)
```

If you create a MySQL Cluster Disk Data table and then insert some rows into it, you can see approximately how much space remains for undo logging afterwards, for example:

```
mysql> CREATE TABLESPACE ts1
    ->   ADD DATAFILE 'data1.dat'
    ->   USE LOGFILE GROUP lg1
    ->   INITIAL_SIZE 512M
    ->   ENGINE = NDB;
Query OK, 0 rows affected (8.71 sec)
mysql> CREATE TABLE dd (
    ->   c1 INT NOT NULL PRIMARY KEY,
    ->   c2 INT,
    ->   c3 DATE
    ->   )
    ->   TABLESPACE ts1 STORAGE DISK
    ->   ENGINE = NDB;
Query OK, 0 rows affected (2.11 sec)
mysql> INSERT INTO dd VALUES
    ->   (NULL, 1234567890, '2007-02-02'),
    ->   (NULL, 1126789005, '2007-02-03'),
    ->   (NULL, 1357924680, '2007-02-04'),
    ->   (NULL, 1642097531, '2007-02-05');
Query OK, 4 rows affected (0.01 sec)
mysql> SELECT
    ->   FREE_EXTENTS AS 'Free Extents',
    ->   FREE_EXTENTS * EXTENT_SIZE AS 'Free Bytes'
    ->   FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.FILES
    ->   WHERE LOGFILE_GROUP_NAME = 'lg1'
    ->   AND FILE_NAME IS NULL;
+--------------+------------+
| Free Extents | Free Bytes |
+--------------+------------+
|      5207565 |   20830260 |
+--------------+------------+
1 row in set (0.01 sec)
```

- There are no SHOW commands associated with the FILES table.
- For additional information, and examples of creating and dropping MySQL Cluster Disk Data objects, see MySQL Cluster Disk

Data Tables.

Chapter 22. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA PROCESSLIST Table

The PROCESSLIST table provides information about which threads are running.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
ID	Id	MySQL extension
USER	User	MySQL extension
HOST	Host	MySQL extension
DB	db	MySQL extension
COMMAND	Command	MySQL extension
TIME	Time	MySQL extension
STATE	State	MySQL extension
INFO	Info	MySQL extension

For an extensive description of the table columns, see SHOW PROCESSLIST Syntax.

Notes:

- The PROCESSLIST table is a non-standard table. It was added in MySQL 5.1.7.
- Like the output from the corresponding SHOW statement, the PROCESSLIST table will only show information about your own threads, unless you have the PROCESS privilege, in which case you will see information about other threads, too. As an anonymous user, you cannot see any rows at all.
- If an SQL statement refers to INFORMATION_SCHEMA.PROCESSLIST, then MySQL will populate the entire table once, when statement execution begins, so there is read consistency during the statement. There is no read consistency for a multi-statement transaction, though.

The following statements are equivalent:

```
SELECT * FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.PROCESSLIST
SHOW FULL PROCESSLIST
```

Chapter 23. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA REFERENTIAL_CONSTRAINTS Table

The REFERENTIAL_CONSTRAINTS table provides information about foreign keys.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
CONSTRAINT_CATALOG		NULL
CONSTRAINT_SCHEMA		
CONSTRAINT_NAME		
UNIQUE_CONSTRAINT_CATALOG		NULL
UNIQUE_CONSTRAINT_SCHEMA		
UNIQUE_CONSTRAINT_NAME		
MATCH_OPTION		
UPDATE_RULE		
DELETE_RULE		
TABLE_NAME		
REFERENCED_TABLE_NAME		

Notes:

- The REFERENTIAL_CONSTRAINTS table was added in MySQL 5.1.10. The REFERENCED_TABLE_NAME column was added in MySQL 5.1.16.
- TABLE_NAME has the same value as TABLE_NAME in INFORMATION_SCHEMA.TABLE_CONSTRAINTS.
- CONSTRAINT_SCHEMA and CONSTRAINT_NAME identify the foreign key.
- UNIQUE_CONSTRAINT_SCHEMA, UNIQUE_CONSTRAINT_NAME, and REFERENCED_TABLE_NAME identify the referenced key. (Note: Before MySQL 5.1.16, UNIQUE_CONSTRAINT_NAME incorrectly named the referenced table, not the constraint.)
- The only valid value at this time for MATCH_OPTION is NONE.
- The possible values for UPDATE_RULE or DELETE_RULE are CASCADE, SET NULL, SET DEFAULT, RESTRICT, NO ACTION.

Chapter 24. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA GLOBAL_STATUS and SESSION_STATUS Tables

The GLOBAL_STATUS and SESSION_STATUS tables provide information about server status variables. Their contents correspond to the information produced by the SHOW GLOBAL STATUS and SHOW SESSION STATUS statements (see SHOW STATUS Syntax).

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
VARIABLE_NAME	Variable_name	
VARIABLE_VALUE	Value	

Notes:

- The GLOBAL_STATUS and SESSION_STATUS tables were added in MySQL 5.1.12.
- Beginning with MySQL 5.1.19, the VARIABLE_VALUE column for each of these tables is defined as VARCHAR(20480). Previously, this column had the data type DECIMAL(22,7), but was changed to avoid loss of data when working with status variables whose values were strings (Bug#26994).

Chapter 25. The INFORMATION_SCHEMA GLOBAL_VARIABLES and SESSION_VARIABLES Tables

The GLOBAL_VARIABLES and SESSION_VARIABLES tables provide information about server status variables. Their contents correspond to the information produced by the SHOW GLOBAL VARIABLES and SHOW SESSION VARIABLES statements (see SHOW VARIABLES Syntax).

INFORMATION_SCHEMA Name	SHOW Name	Remarks
VARIABLE_NAME	Variable_name	
VARIABLE_VALUE	Value	

Notes:

- The GLOBAL_VARIABLES and SESSION_VARIABLES tables were added in MySQL 5.1.12.
- Beginning with MySQL 5.1.19, the VARIABLE_VALUE column for each of these tables is defined as VARCHAR(20480). Previously, this column had the data type LONGTEXT; this was changed in order to make these tables consistent with the GLOBAL_STATUS and SESSION_STATUS tables, whose definitions had been changed in that version (see Chapter 24, *The INFORMATION_SCHEMA GLOBAL_STATUS and SESSION_STATUS Tables*).

Chapter 26. Other INFORMATION_SCHEMA Tables

We intend to implement additional INFORMATION_SCHEMA tables. In particular, we acknowledge the need for the PARAMETERS table. (PARAMETERS is implemented in MySQL 6.0.)

Chapter 27. Extensions to SHOW Statements

Some extensions to SHOW statements accompany the implementation of INFORMATION_SCHEMA:

- SHOW can be used to get information about the structure of INFORMATION_SCHEMA itself.
- Several SHOW statements accept a WHERE clause that provides more flexibility in specifying which rows to display.

INFORMATION_SCHEMA is an information database, so its name is included in the output from SHOW DATABASES. Similarly, SHOW TABLES can be used with INFORMATION_SCHEMA to obtain a list of its tables:

```
mysql> SHOW TABLES FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA;
+---------------------------------------+
| Tables_in_INFORMATION_SCHEMA          |
+---------------------------------------+
| CHARACTER_SETS                        |
| COLLATIONS                            |
| COLLATION_CHARACTER_SET_APPLICABILITY |
| COLUMNS                               |
| COLUMN_PRIVILEGES                     |
| ENGINES                               |
| EVENTS                                |
| FILES                                 |
| GLOBAL_STATUS                         |
| GLOBAL_VARIABLES                      |
| KEY_COLUMN_USAGE                      |
| PARTITIONS                            |
| PLUGINS                               |
| PROCESSLIST                           |
| REFERENTIAL_CONSTRAINTS               |
| ROUTINES                              |
| SCHEMATA                              |
| SCHEMA_PRIVILEGES                     |
| SESSION_STATUS                        |
| SESSION_VARIABLES                     |
| STATISTICS                            |
| TABLES                                |
| TABLE_CONSTRAINTS                     |
| TABLE_PRIVILEGES                      |
| TRIGGERS                              |
| USER_PRIVILEGES                       |
| VIEWS                                 |
+---------------------------------------+
27 rows in set (0.00 sec)
```

SHOW COLUMNS and DESCRIBE can display information about the columns in individual INFORMATION_SCHEMA tables.

SHOW statements that accept a LIKE clause to limit the rows displayed also allow a WHERE clause that enables specification of more general conditions that selected rows must satisfy:

```
SHOW CHARACTER SET
SHOW COLLATION
SHOW COLUMNS
SHOW DATABASES
SHOW FUNCTION STATUS
SHOW INDEX
SHOW OPEN TABLES
SHOW PROCEDURE STATUS
SHOW STATUS
SHOW TABLE STATUS
SHOW TABLES
SHOW TRIGGERS
SHOW VARIABLES
```

The WHERE clause, if present, is evaluated against the column names displayed by the SHOW statement. For example, the SHOW CHARACTER SET statement produces these output columns:

```
mysql> SHOW CHARACTER SET;
+----------+-----------------------------+---------------------+--------+
| Charset  | Description                 | Default collation   | Maxlen |
+----------+-----------------------------+---------------------+--------+
| big5     | Big5 Traditional Chinese    | big5_chinese_ci     |      2 |
| dec8     | DEC West European           | dec8_swedish_ci     |      1 |
| cp850    | DOS West European           | cp850_general_ci    |      1 |
| hp8      | HP West European            | hp8_english_ci      |      1 |
| koi8r    | KOI8-R Relcom Russian       | koi8r_general_ci    |      1 |
| latin1   | cp1252 West European        | latin1_swedish_ci   |      1 |
| latin2   | ISO 8859-2 Central European | latin2_general_ci   |      1 |
...
```

To use a WHERE clause with SHOW CHARACTER SET, you would refer to those column names. As an example, the following

statement displays information about character sets for which the default collation contains the string `'japanese'`:

```
mysql> SHOW CHARACTER SET WHERE `Default collation` LIKE '%japanese%';
+---------+---------------------------+--------------------+--------+
| Charset | Description               | Default collation  | Maxlen |
+---------+---------------------------+--------------------+--------+
| ujis    | EUC-JP Japanese           | ujis_japanese_ci   |      3 |
| sjis    | Shift-JIS Japanese        | sjis_japanese_ci   |      2 |
| cp932   | SJIS for Windows Japanese | cp932_japanese_ci  |      2 |
| eucjpms | UJIS for Windows Japanese | eucjpms_japanese_ci|      3 |
+---------+---------------------------+--------------------+--------+
```

This statement displays the multi-byte character sets:

```
mysql> SHOW CHARACTER SET WHERE Maxlen > 1;
+---------+---------------------------+--------------------+--------+
| Charset | Description               | Default collation  | Maxlen |
+---------+---------------------------+--------------------+--------+
| big5    | Big5 Traditional Chinese  | big5_chinese_ci    |      2 |
| ujis    | EUC-JP Japanese           | ujis_japanese_ci   |      3 |
| sjis    | Shift-JIS Japanese        | sjis_japanese_ci   |      2 |
| euckr   | EUC-KR Korean             | euckr_korean_ci    |      2 |
| gb2312  | GB2312 Simplified Chinese | gb2312_chinese_ci  |      2 |
| gbk     | GBK Simplified Chinese    | gbk_chinese_ci     |      2 |
| utf8    | UTF-8 Unicode             | utf8_general_ci    |      3 |
| ucs2    | UCS-2 Unicode             | ucs2_general_ci    |      2 |
| cp932   | SJIS for Windows Japanese | cp932_japanese_ci  |      2 |
| eucjpms | UJIS for Windows Japanese | eucjpms_japanese_ci|      3 |
+---------+---------------------------+--------------------+--------+
```

Chapter 28. MySQL 5.0 FAQ — INFORMATION_SCHEMA

Questions

Questions and Answers

28.1: Where can I find documentation for the MySQL INFORMATION_SCHEMA database?

See INFORMATION_SCHEMA Tables

28.2: Is there a discussion forum for INFORMATION_SCHEMA?

See http://forums.mysql.com/list.php?101.

28.3: Where can I find the ANSI SQL 2003 specification for INFORMATION_SCHEMA?

Unfortunately, the official specifications are not freely available. (ANSI makes them available for purchase.) However, there are books available — such as *SQL-99 Complete, Really* by Peter Gulutzan and Trudy Pelzer — which give a comprehensive overview of the standard, including INFORMATION_SCHEMA.

28.4: What is the difference between the Oracle Data Dictionary and MySQL's INFORMATION_SCHEMA?

Both Oracle and MySQL provide metadata in tables. However, Oracle and MySQL use different table names and column names. MySQL's implementation is more similar to those found in DB2 and SQL Server, which also support INFORMATION_SCHEMA as defined in the SQL standard.

28.5: Can I add to or otherwise modify the tables found in the INFORMATION_SCHEMA database?

No. Since applications may rely on a certain standard structure, this should not be modified. For this reason, *we cannot support bugs or other issues which result from modifying INFORMATION_SCHEMA tables or data*.