Pattern Matching with MATCH_RECOGNIZE

Flink SQL Training

https://github.com/ververica/sql-training



How can I detect Patterns in SQL?

Find taxi rides with mid-stops





MATCH_RECOGNIZE

SQL:2016

Row Pattern Recognition in SQL

Flink comes with a complex event processing (CEP) library

MATCH_RECOGNIZE clause allows to consolidate CEP and SQL API

Initial support added in Flink 1.7, more important features in 1.8

Can be applied to append-only tables that define a time attribute



Common Use-Cases

- Stock market analysis
- Customer behavior
- Tracking money laundering
- Service quality
- Network intrusion detection
- •



Position in a SQL Query

SELECT ...

FROM ...

MATCH_RECOGNIZE (...)

WHERE ...

GROUP BY ...



```
partition the data by given field
SELECT *
FROM Rides
                            similar to GROUP BY or keyBy()
MATCH_RECOGNIZE (
   PARTITION BY taxiId
   ORDER BY rideTime
   MEASURES
      S.rideId as sRideId
                                    AFTER MATCH SKIP PAST LAST ROW
   PATTERN (S E)
   DEFINE
        S AS S.isStart = true,
      E AS E.isStart = true
```



```
SELECT *
                            specify order
FROM Rides
MATCH_RECOGNIZE (
                            primary order = Event or Processing time
   PARTITION BY taxiId
   ORDER BY rideTime
   MEASURES
       S.rideId as sRideId
   AFTER MATCH SKIP PAST LAST ROW
   PATTERN (S E)
   DEFINE
         S AS S.isStart = true,
       E AS E.isStart = true
```



```
SELECT *
FROM Rides
MATCH_RECOGNIZE (
   PARTITION BY taxiId
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   MEASURES
      S.rideId as sRideId
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   PATTERN (S E)
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        S AS S.isStart = true,
     E AS E.isStart = true
```



construct a pattern

with a regular expression-like syntax



```
SELECT *
FROM Rides
MATCH_RECOGNIZE (
   PARTITION BY taxiId
   ORDER BY rideTime
   MEASURES
       S.rideId as sRideId
```

extract measures from matched sequence

defines output of the clause; similar to a SELECT clause

```
AFTER MATCH SKIP PAST LAST ROW
PATTERN (S E)
DEFINE
 S AS S.isStart = true,
 E AS E.isStart = true
```





MATCH RECOGNIZE in detail

```
MATCH_RECOGNIZE (
  PARTITION BY ...
  ORDER BY ...
  MEASURES ...
  ONE ROW PER MATCH
  AFTER MATCH SKIP ...
  PATTERN ...
  DEFINE ...
```



PATTERN: Defining a Pattern

Constructed from basic building blocks, called *pattern variables*

Operators (quantifiers and other modifiers) can be applied

DEFINE assigns a meaning to pattern variables



PATTERN: Defining a Pattern

Concatenation:

- All rows of a pattern must be mapped to pattern variables
- A pattern like (A B) means that the contiguity is strict between A and B
- In other words: No rows between A and B

Quantifiers

Number of rows mapped to a pattern variable

*	0 or more rows
+	1 or more rows
?	0 or 1 rows
{ n }, { n, }, { n, m }, { , m }	Define intervals (inclusive)
B*?	Perform mapping reluctant instead of greedy (default behavior)



DEFINE/MEASURES: Define/Access Variables

MEASURES

- Defines what will be included in the output of a matching pattern
- Project columns and define expressions for evaluation
- Number of produced rows depends on the output mode. Currently, ONE ROW PER MATCH = one output summary row per match only
- Output schema: [partitioning columns] + [measures columns]

DEFINE

- Conditions that a row has to fulfill to be classified to the corresponding variable
- No condition for a variable evaluates to TRUE



DEFINE/MEASURES: Define/Access Variables

- Pattern Variable Referencing
 - Access to the set of rows mapped to a particular pattern variable (so far)
 - A.price = set of rows mapped so far to A plus the current row if we try to match the current row to A
 - If A is a set, the last row is selected for scalar operations.
 - If no pattern variable is specified (e.g. SUM(price)), the default pattern variable "*" is used. This set contains all rows matched for pattern + current row.

```
PATTERN (A B+)
DEFINE
  A AS A.price > 10,
  B AS B.price > A.price AND
    SUM(price) < 100 AND SUM(B.price) < 80
```



DEFINE/MEASURES: Define/Access Variables

- Pattern Variable Navigation
 - Logical offsets enable navigation within the events that were mapped to a particular pattern variable.
 - FIRST(variable.field, n) n starts from the beginning
 - LAST(variable.field, n) n starts from the end

```
PATTERN (A B+)
DEFINE
 A AS A.price > 10,
  B AS (LAST(B.price, 1) IS NULL OR B.price > LAST(B.price, 1)) AND
    (LAST(B.price, 2) IS NULL OR B.price > 2 * LAST(B.price, 2))
```

Expressions on same "list" are supported: LAST(A.price * A.tax)



AFTER MATCH SKIP: Continuation strategy

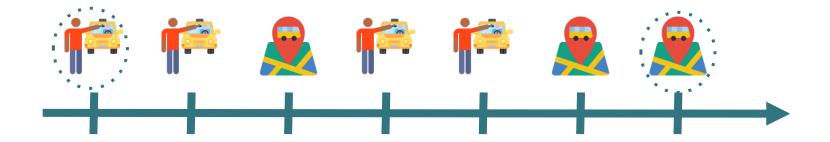
 Location where to start a new matching procedure after a complete match was found

SKIP PAST LAST ROW	next row after the last row of the current match
SKIP TO NEXT ROW	next row after the starting row of the match
SKIP TO LAST variable	last row that is mapped to the specified pattern variable
SKIP TO FIRST variable	first row that is mapped to the specified pattern variable

Thus, also specifies how many matches a single event can belong to



Example: Multi-Stop





Rides with More Than One Mid-Stop

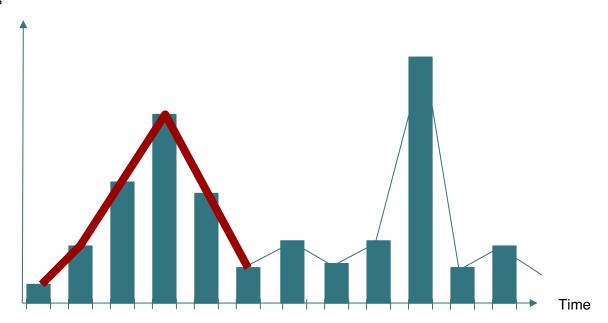
```
SELECT *
FROM Rides
MATCH_RECOGNIZE (
   PARTITION BY taxiId
   ORDER BY rideTime
   MEASURES
      S.rideId as sRideId
   AFTER MATCH SKIP PAST LAST ROW
   PATTERN (S E)
   DFFTNF
    S AS S.isStart = true,
    E AS E.isStart = true
```

```
SELECT *
FROM Rides
MATCH_RECOGNIZE (
   PARTITION BY taxiId
   ORDER BY rideTime
   MEASURES
       S.rideId as sRideId,
       COUNT(M.rideId) as countMidStops
   AFTER MATCH SKIP PAST LAST ROW
   PATTERN (S M\{2,\} E)
   DEETNE
    S AS S.isStart = true,
    M AS M.rideId <> S.rideId,
    E AS E.isStart = false AND
       E.rideId = S.rideId
```



Example: Rush (peak) hours - V shape

Number of rides





Statistics per Area

```
CREATE VIEW RidesInArea AS
SELECT
     toAreaId(lat, lon) as cellId,
     COUNT(distinct rideId) as rideCount,
     TUMBLE_ROWTIME(rideTime, INTERVAL '30' minute) AS rowTime,
     TUMBLE_START(rideTime, INTERVAL '30' minute) AS startTime,
     TUMBLE_END(rideTime, INTERVAL '30' minute) AS endTime
FROM
     Rides
GROUP BY
     toAreaId(lat, lon),
     TUMBLE(rideTime, INTERVAL '30' minute)
```



Rush (peak) hours

Number of rides

SELECT * FROM RidesInArea

Use previous view.

```
MATCH RECOGNIZE(
          PARTITION BY cellid
          ORDER BY rowTime
                                                          Apply match to result of the inner query.
          MEASURES
            FIRST(UP.startTime) as rushStart,
            LAST(DOWN.endTime) AS rushEnd,
            SUM(UP.rideCount) + SUM(DOWN.rideCount) AS rideSum
          AFTER MATCH SKTP PAST LAST ROW
          PATTERN (UP\{4,\} DOWN\{2,\} E)
          DFFTNF
            UP AS UP.rideCount > LAST(UP.rideCount, 1) OR
              LAST(UP.rideCount, 1) IS NULL,
            DOWN AS DOWN.rideCount < LAST(DOWN.rideCount, 1) OR
                   LAST(DOWN.rideCount, 1) IS NULL,
            E AS E.rideCount > LAST(DOWN.rideCount)
```

Rush (peak) hours

```
SELECT * FROM RidesInArea
MATCH_RECOGNIZE(
         PARTITION BY cellId
         ORDER BY rowTime
                                                 Access elements of looping pattern.
         MEASURES
           FIRST(UP.startTime) as rushStart,
           LAST(DOWN.endTime) AS rushEnd,
           SUM(UP.rideCount) + SUM(DOWN.rideCount) AS rideSum
         AFTER MATCH SKIP PAST LAST ROW
         PATTERN (UP\{4,\} DOWN\{2,\} E)
         DEFINE
           UP AS UP.rideCount > LAST(UP.rideCount, 1) OR
              LAST(UP.rideCount, 1) IS NULL,
           DOWN AS DOWN.rideCount < LAST(DOWN.rideCount, 1) OR
                   LAST(DOWN.rideCount, 1) IS NULL,
           E AS E.rideCount > LAST(DOWN.rideCount)
```

Number of rides



Rush (peak) hours

```
SELECT * FROM RidesInArea
MATCH_RECOGNIZE(
         PARTITION BY cellId
         ORDER BY rowTime
                                                 Aggregate values from looping patterns
         MEASURES
           FIRST(UP.startTime) as rushStart,
           LAST(DOWN.endTime) AS rushEnd,
           SUM(UP.rideCount) + SUM(DOWN.rideCount) AS rideSum
         AFTER MATCH SKIP PAST LAST ROW
         PATTERN (UP\{4,\} DOWN\{2,\} E)
         DEFINE
           UP AS UP.rideCount > LAST(UP.rideCount, 1) OR
              LAST(UP.rideCount, 1) IS NULL,
           DOWN AS DOWN.rideCount < LAST(DOWN.rideCount, 1) OR
                   LAST(DOWN.rideCount, 1) IS NULL,
           E AS E.rideCount > LAST(DOWN.rideCount)
```

Number of rides



Feature set of MATCH RECOGNIZE

- Quantifiers support
 - +, *, {x,y} , Greedy (default), ? (reluctant)
 - With some restrictions (not working for last pattern)
- After Match Skip
 - Skip to first/last, skip past last, skip to next
- Aggregates and UDFs (1.8)
- Allow time attribute extraction (1.8)
- Time constraints using the WITHIN clause (1.8)
- Not supported: alter(|), permute, exclude '{--}'





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