

Apply filters to SQL queries

Project description

The scenario is to investigate security issues to help keep the system secure. Some potential security issues that involve login attempts and employee machines must be investigated. The following steps provide examples of how I used SQL with filters to perform security-related tasks.

Retrieve after hours failed login attempts

SELECT * to show all columns from the log_in_attempts table, where the filter condition is for login times after 18:00, which is outside of business hours, and for failed access attempts. AND is used to filter on two conditions. AND specifies that both conditions, after business hours and failed login attempts, must be met simultaneously. A value of 0 indicates failed login attempts. The first part of the screenshot is a query, and the second part is a portion of the output.

```
MariaDB [organization]> SELECT *  
-> FROM log_in_attempts  
-> WHERE login_time > '18:00' AND success = 0;
```

event_id	username	login_date	login_time	country	ip_address	success
2	apatel	2022-05-10	20:27:27	CAN	192.168.205.12	0
18	pwashing	2022-05-11	19:28:50	US	192.168.66.142	0
20	tshah	2022-05-12	18:56:36	MEXICO	192.168.109.50	0

Retrieve login attempts on specific dates

Query retrieves all columns from log_in_attempts table where login date either 2022-05-08 or the day after. The OR operator connects two conditions, but OR specifies that either condition can be met. It returns results where either the first condition (login date is 2022-05-08), the second condition (login date is 2022-05-09), or both are met.

```
MariaDB [organization]> SELECT *  
-> FROM log_in_attempts  
-> WHERE login_date = '2022-05-08' OR login_date = '2022-05-09';
```

event_id	username	login_date	login_time	country	ip_address	success
1	jrafael	2022-05-09	04:56:27	CAN	192.168.243.140	0
3	dkot	2022-05-09	06:47:41	USA	192.168.151.162	0
4	dkot	2022-05-08	02:00:39	USA	192.168.178.71	0
8	bisles	2022-05-08	01:30:17	US	192.168.119.173	0

Retrieve login attempts outside of Mexico

The query retrieves all columns from the log_in_attempts table where the country is not Mexico. The NOT operator filters output based on countries. The NOT operator negates a condition. This means that SQL returns all records that don't match the condition specified in the query. LIKE is used with WHERE to search for a pattern which is 'MEX' in a column.

```
MariaDB [organization]> SELECT *  
-> FROM log_in_attempts  
-> WHERE NOT country LIKE 'MEX%';
```

event_id	username	login_date	login_time	country	ip_address	success
1	jrafael	2022-05-09	04:56:27	CAN	192.168.243.140	0
2	apatel	2022-05-10	20:27:27	CAN	192.168.205.12	0
3	dkot	2022-05-09	06:47:41	USA	192.168.151.162	0

Retrieve employees in Marketing

The query retrieves all columns from the log_in_attempts table where all employees in the Marketing department for all offices in the East building. AND is used to filter on two conditions. This query returns all records with values in the office column that start with the pattern of 'east'. This means all employees in the East office are returned.

```
MariaDB [organization]> SELECT *  
-> FROM employees  
-> WHERE department = 'Marketing' AND office LIKE 'EAST%';
```

employee_id	device_id	username	department	office
1000	a320b137c219	elarson	Marketing	East-170
1052	a192b174c940	jdarosa	Marketing	East-195
1075	x573y883z772	fbautist	Marketing	East-267
1088	k865l965m233	rgosh	Marketing	East-157
1103	NULL	randerss	Marketing	East-460
1156	a184b775c707	dellery	Marketing	East-417
1163	h679i515j339	cwilliam	Marketing	East-216

7 rows in set (0.014 sec)

Retrieve employees in Finance or Sales

Now needed to perform a different security update on machines for employees in the Sales and Finance departments. First, selecting all data from the employees table. Then, used a WHERE clause with OR to filter for employees who are in the Finance and Sales departments. The OR operator displays employees from either the Sales or the Finance departments.

```
MariaDB [organization]> clear
MariaDB [organization]> SELECT *
    -> FROM employees
    -> WHERE department = 'Sales' OR department = 'Finance';
```

employee_id	device_id	username	department	office
1003	d394e816f943	sgilmore	Finance	South-153
1007	h174i497j413	wjaffrey	Finance	North-406
1008	i858j583k571	abernard	Finance	South-170

Retrieve all employees not in IT

One more update needed to employee machines. The employees who are in the Information Technology department already had this update, but employees in all other departments need it. The NOT operator is used in SQL to create a query that identifies all employees who are not in the IT department.

```
MariaDB [organization]> SELECT *
    -> FROM employees
    -> WHERE NOT department = 'Information Technology';
```

employee_id	device_id	username	department	office
1000	a320b137c219	elarson	Marketing	East-170
1001	b239c825d303	bmoreno	Marketing	Central-276
1002	c116d593e558	tshah	Human Resources	North-434

Summary

In this project, I applied filters to SQL queries to extract specific information about login attempts and employee machines. I examined the organization's data in their employees and log_in_attempts tables. I used the AND, OR, and NOT operators to filter for the specific information needed for each task. I also used LIKE and the percentage sign (%) wildcard to filter for patterns.