

University of Central Florida

CGS 2545

Database Concepts

DEPARTMENT OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING & COMPUTER SCIENCE
COMPUTER SCIENCE DIVISION

LIKE Clause

- The SQL **LIKE** clause is used to compare a value to similar values using wildcard operators.
- There are two wildcards used in conjunction with the LIKE operator.
 - The percent sign (%)
 - represents zero, one or multiple characters
 - The underscore (_)
 - represents a single number or character
 - These symbols can be used in combinations

LIKE Clause

- Syntax
 - The basic syntax of % and _ is as shown
 - Can combine N number of conditions using AND or OR operators.
 - Here, XXXX could be any numeric or string value

```
SELECT FROM table_name  
WHERE column LIKE 'XXXX%'
```

or

```
SELECT FROM table_name  
WHERE column LIKE '%XXXX%'
```

or

```
SELECT FROM table_name  
WHERE column LIKE 'XXXX_'
```

or

```
SELECT FROM table_name  
WHERE column LIKE '_XXXX'
```

or

```
SELECT FROM table_name  
WHERE column LIKE '_XXXX_'
```

LIKE Clause

- Example
 - The following are a few examples showing the WHERE part having different LIKE clause with '%' and '_' operators

WHERE SALARY LIKE '200%'

Finds any values that start with 200.

WHERE SALARY LIKE '%200%'

Finds any values that have 200 in any position.

WHERE SALARY LIKE '_00%'

Finds any values that have 00 in the second and third positions.

LIKE Clause

- Example

WHERE SALARY LIKE '2_%_%'

Finds any values that start with 2 and are at least 3 characters in length.

WHERE SALARY LIKE '%2'

Finds any values that end with 2.

WHERE SALARY LIKE '_2%3'

Finds any values that have a 2 in the second position and end with a 3.

WHERE SALARY LIKE '2____3'

Finds any values in a five-digit number that start with 2 and end with 3.

LIKE Clause

- Consider the CUSTOMERS table having the records as shown below.

ID	NAME	AGE	ADDRESS	SALARY
1	Ramesh	32	Ahmedabad	2000.00
2	Khilan	25	Delhi	1500.00
3	kaushik	23	Kota	2000.00
4	Chaitali	25	Mumbai	6500.00
5	Hardik	27	Bhopal	8500.00
6	Komal	22	MP	4500.00
7	Muffy	24	Indore	10000.00

LIKE Clause

- Following is an example, which would display all the records from the CUSTOMERS table, where the SALARY starts with 200

```
SQL> SELECT * FROM CUSTOMERS  
WHERE SALARY LIKE '200%';
```

ID	NAME	AGE	ADDRESS	SALARY
1	Ramesh	32	Ahmedabad	2000.00
3	kaushik	23	Kota	2000.00