MYSQL STRING FUNCTIONS

http://www.tutorialspoint.com/mysql/mysql-string-functions.htm

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Name	Description
ASCII()	Returns numeric value of left-most character
BIN()	Returns a string representation of the argument
BIT LENGTH()	Returns length of argument in bits
CHAR LENGTH()	Returns number of characters in argument
CHAR()	Returns the character for each integer passed
CHARACTER LENGTH()	A synonym for CHAR_LENGTH()
CONCAT WS()	Returns concatenate with separator
CONCAT()	Returns concatenated string
CONV()	Converts numbers between different number bases
ELT()	Returns string at index number
EXPORT SET()	Returns a string such that for every bit set in the value bits, you get an on string and for every unset bit, you get an off string
FIELD()	Returns the index (position) of the first argument in the subsequent arguments
FIND IN SET()	Returns the index position of the first argument within the second argument
FORMAT()	Returns a number formatted to specified number of decimal places
HEX()	Returns a string representation of a hex value
INSERT()	Inserts a substring at the specified position up to the specified number of characters
INSTR()	Returns the index of the first occurrence of substring
LCASE()	Synonym for LOWER()
LEFT()	Returns the leftmost number of characters as specified
LENGTH()	Returns the length of a string in bytes
LOAD FILE()	Loads the named file
LOCATE()	Returns the position of the first occurrence of substring
LOWER()	Returns the argument in lowercase
LPAD()	Returns the string argument, left-padded with the specified string
LTRIM()	Removes leading spaces
MAKE SET()	Returns a set of comma-separated strings that have the corresponding bit in bits set
MID()	Returns a substring starting from the specified position

OCT()	Returns a string representation of the octal argument
OCTET LENGTH()	A synonym for LENGTH()
ORD()	If the leftmost character of the argument is a multi-byte character, returns the code for that character
POSITION()	A synonym for LOCATE()
QUOTE()	Escapes the argument for use in an SQL statement
REGEXP	Pattern matching using regular expressions
REPEAT()	Repeats a string the specified number of times
REPLACE()	Replaces occurrences of a specified string
REVERSE()	Reverses the characters in a string
RIGHT()	Returns the specified rightmost number of characters
RPAD()	Appends string the specified number of times
RTRIM()	Removes trailing spaces
SOUNDEX()	Returns a soundex string
SOUNDS LIKE	Compares sounds
SPACE()	Returns a string of the specified number of spaces
STRCMP()	Compares two strings
SUBSTRING INDEX()	Returns a substring from a string before the specified number of occurrences of the delimiter
SUBSTRING(), SUBSTR()	Returns the substring as specified
TRIM()	Removes leading and trailing spaces
UCASE()	Synonym for UPPER()
UNHEX()	Converts each pair of hexadecimal digits to a character
<u>UPPER()</u>	Converts to uppercase

ASCII(str)

Returns the numeric value of the leftmost character of the string str. Returns o if str is the empty string. Returns NULL if str is NULL. ASCII() works for characters with numeric values from 0 to 255.

BIN(N)

Returns a string representation of the binary value of N, where N is a long long (BIGINT) number. This is equivalent to CONV(N,10,2). Returns NULL if N is NULL.

BIT_LENGTH(str)

Returns the length of the string str in bits.

CHAR(N,... [USING charset_name])

CHAR() interprets each argument N as an integer and returns a string consisting of the characters given by the code values of those integers. NULL values are skipped.

CHAR_LENGTH(str)

Returns the length of the string str, measured in characters. A multi-byte character counts as a single character. This means that for a string containing five two-byte characters, LENGTH() returns 10, whereas CHAR_LENGTH() returns 5.

CHARACTER_LENGTH(str)

CHARACTER_LENGTH() is a synonym for CHAR_LENGTH().

CONCAT(str1,str2,...)

Returns the string that results from concate nating the arguments. May have one or more arguments. If all arguments are non-binary strings, the result is a non-binary string. If the arguments include any binary strings, the result is a binary string. A numeric argument is converted to its equivalent binary string form; if you want to

avoid that, you can use an explicit type cast, as in this example:

CONCAT_WS(separator,str1,str2,...)

CONCAT_WS() stands for Concatenate With Separator and is a special form of CONCAT(). The first argument is the separator for the rest of the arguments. The separator is added between the strings to be concatenated. The separator can be a string, as can the rest of the arguments. If the separator is NULL, the result is NULL.

CONV(N,from_base,to_base)

Converts numbers between different number bases. Returns a string representation of the number N, converted from base from_base to base to_base. Returns NULL if any argument is NULL. The argument N is interpreted as an integer, but may be specified as an integer or a string. The minimum base is 2 and the maximum base is 36. If to_base is a negative number, N is regarded as a signed number. Otherwise, N is treated as unsigned. CONV() works with 64-bit precision.

ELT(N,str1,str2,str3,...)

Returns str1 if N = 1, str2 if N = 2, and so on. Returns NULL if N is less than 1 or greater than the number of arguments. ELT() is the complement of FIELD().

EXPORT_SET(bits,on,off[,separator[,number_of_bits]])

Returns a string such that for every bit set in the value bits, you get an on string and for every bit not set in the value, you get an off string. Bits in bits are examined from right to left (from low-order to high-order bits). Strings are added to the result from left to right, separated by the separator string (the default being the comma character...). The number of bits examined is given by number_of_bits (defaults to 64).

```
1 row in set (0.00 sec)
```

FIELD(str,str1,str2,str3,...)

Returns the index (position starting with 1) of str in the str1, str2, str3, ... list. Returns o if str is not found.

FIND_IN_SET(str,strlist)

Returns a value in the range of 1 to N if the string str is in the string list strlist consisting of N substring s.

FORMAT(X,D)

Formats the number X to a format like '#,###,###.##', rounded to D decimal places, and returns the result as a string. If D is 0, the result has no decimal point or fractional part.

HEX(N_or_S)

If N_or_S is a number, returns a string representation of the hexadecimal value of N, where N is a long long (BIGINT) number. This is equivalent to CONV(N,10,16).

If N_or_S is a string, returns a hexadecimal string representation of N_or_S where each character in N_or_S is converted to two hexadecimal digits.

INSERT(str,pos,len,newstr)

Returns the string str, with the substring beginning at position pos and len characters long replaced by the string

newstr. Returns the original string if pos is not within the length of the string. Replaces the rest of the string from position pos if len is not within the length of the rest of the string. Returns NULL if any argument is NULL.

INSTR(str,substr)

Returns the position of the first occurrence of substring substring str. This is the same as the two-argument form of LOCATE(), except that the order of the arguments is reversed.

LCASE(str)

LCASE() is a synonym for LOWER().

LEFT(str,len)

Returns the leftmost len characters from the string str, or NULL if any argument is NULL.

LENGTH(str)

Returns the length of the string str, measured in bytes. A multi-byte character counts as multiple bytes. This means that for a string containing five two-byte characters, LENGTH() returns 10, whereas CHAR_LENGTH() returns 5.

LOAD_FILE(file_name)

Reads the file and returns the file contents as a string. To use this function, the file must be located on the server host, you must specify the full pathname to the file, and you must have the FILE privilege. The file must be readable by all and its size less than max_allowed_packet bytes.

If the file does not exist or cannot be read because one of the preceding conditions is not satisfied, the function returns NULL.

As of MySQL 5.0.19, the character_set_filesystem system variable controls interpretation of filenames that are given as literal strings.

```
mysql> UPDATE table_test
    -> SET blob_col=LOAD_FILE('/tmp/picture')
    -> WHERE id=1;
```

LOCATE(substr,str), LOCATE(substr,str,pos)

The first syntax returns the position of the first occurrence of substring substring substring str. The second syntax returns the position of the first occurrence of substring substring str, starting at position pos. Returns o if substring substring str.

LOWER(str)

Returns the string str with all characters changed to lowercase according to the current character set mapping.

LPAD(str,len,padstr)

Returns the string str, left-padded with the string padstr to a length of len characters. If str is longer than len, the return value is shortened to len characters.

LTRIM(str)

Returns the string str with leading space characters removed.

MAKE_SET(bits,str1,str2,...)

Returns a set value (a string containing substrings separated by .,. characters) consisting of the strings that have the corresponding bit in bits set. str1 corresponds to bit 0, str2 to bit 1, and so on. NULL values in str1, str2, ... are not appended to the result.

```
mysql> SELECT MAKE_SET(1,'a','b','c');
+-----+
| MAKE SET(1,'a','b','c')
```

MID(str,pos,len)

MID(str,pos,len) is a synonym for SUBSTRING(str,pos,len).

OCT(N)

Returns a string representation of the octal value of N, where N is a long long (BIGINT) number. This is equivalent to CONV(N,10,8). Returns NULL if N is NULL.

OCTET_LENGTH(str)

OCTET_LENGTH() is a synonym for LENGTH().

ORD(str)

If the leftmost character of the string str is a multi-byte character, returns the code for that character, calculated from the numeric values of its constituent bytes using this formula:

```
(1st byte code)
+ (2nd byte code □ 256)
+ (3rd byte code □ 2562) ...
```

If the leftmost character is not a multi-byte character, ORD() returns the same value as the ASCII() function.

POSITION(substr IN str)

POSITION(substr IN str) is a synonym for LOCATE(substr,str).

QUOTE(str)

Quotes a string to produce a result that can be used as a properly escaped data value in an SQL statement. The string is returned enclosed by single quotes and with each instance of single quote (','), backslash ('\'), ASCII NUL, and Control-Z preceded by a backslash. If the argument is NULL, the return value is the word 'NULL' without enclosing single quotes.

NOTE: Please check if your installation has any bug with this function, then don't use this function.

expr REGEXP pattern

This function performs a pattern match of expr against pattern. Returns 1 if expr matches pat; otherwise it returns 0. If either expr or pat is NULL, the result is NULL. REGEXP is not case sensitive, except when used with binary strings.

Another example is:

Let's see one more example:

REPEAT(str,count)

Returns a string consisting of the string str repeated count times. If count is less than 1, returns an empty string. Returns NULL if str or count are NULL.

REPLACE(str,from_str,to_str)

Returns the string str with all occurrences of the string from_str replaced by the string to_str. REPLACE() performs a case-sensitive match when searching for from_str.

REVERSE(str)

Returns the string str with the order of the characters reversed.

```
mysql> SELECT REVERSE('abcd');
```

RIGHT(str,len)

Returns the rightmost len characters from the string str, or NULL if any argument is NULL.

RPAD(str,len,padstr)

Returns the string str, right-padded with the string padstr to a length of len characters. If str is longer than len, the return value is shortened to len characters.

RTRIM(str)

Returns the string str with trailing space characters removed.

SOUNDEX(str)

Returns a soundex string from str. Two strings that sound almost the same should have identical soundex strings. A standard soundex string is four characters long, but the SOUNDEX() function returns an arbitrarily long string. You can use SUBSTRING() on the result to get a standard soundex string. All non-alphabetic characters in str are ignored. All international alphabetic characters outside the A-Z range are treated as vowels.

expr1 SOUNDS LIKE expr2

This is the same as SOUNDEX(expr1) = SOUNDEX(expr2).

SPACE(N)

STRCMP(str1, str2)

Compares two strings and returns 0 if both strings are equal, it returns -1 if the first argument is smaller than the second according to the current sort order otherwise it returns 1.

Another example is:

Let's see one more example:

SUBSTRING(str,pos)

SUBSTRING(str FROM pos)

SUBSTRING(str,pos,len)

SUBSTRING(str FROM pos FOR len)

The forms without a len argument return a substring from string str starting at position pos. The forms with a len argument return a substring len characters long from string str, starting at position pos. The forms that use FROM are standard SQL syntax. It is also possible to use a negative value for pos. In this case, the beginning of the substring is pos characters from the end of the string, rather than the beginning. A negative value may be used for pos in any of the forms of this function.

SUBSTRING_INDEX(str,delim,count)

Returns the substring from string str before count occurrences of the delimiter delim. If count is positive, everything to the left of the final delimiter (counting from the left) is returned. If count is negative, everything to the right of the final delimiter (counting from the right) is returned. SUBSTRING_INDEX() performs a case-sensitive match when searching for delim.

TRIM([{BOTH | LEADING | TRAILING} [remstr] FROM] str)

TRIM([remstr FROM] str)

Returns the string str with all remstr prefixes or suffixes removed. If none of the specifiers BOTH, LEADING, or TRAILING is given, BOTH is assumed. remstr is optional and, if not specified, spaces are removed.

UCASE() is a synonym for UPPER().

UNHEX(str)

Performs the inverse operation of HEX(str). That is, it interprets each pair of hexadecimal digits in the argument as a number and converts it to the character represented by the number. The resulting characters are returned as a binary string.

The characters in the argument string must be legal hexadecimal digits: 'o' ... '9', 'A' ... 'F', 'a' ... 'f'. If UNHEX() encounters any non-hexadecimal digits in the argument, it returns NULL.

UPPER(str)

Returns the string str with all characters changed to uppercase according to the current character set mapping.

For more information, check MySQL Official Website - String Functions