Introduction to fulltext search

FUNCTIONS FOR MANIPULATING DATA IN POSTGRESQL



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Topics

- Full Text search
- Extending PostgreSQL
- Improving full text search with extensions

The LIKE operator

_ wildcard: Used to match exactly one character.

% wildcard: Used to match zero or more characters.

```
SELECT title
FROM film
WHERE title LIKE 'ELF%';
```

The LIKE operator

```
SELECT title
FROM film
WHERE title LIKE '%ELF';
```

The LIKE operator

```
SELECT title
FROM film
WHERE title LIKE '%elf%';
```

LIKE versus full-text search

```
SELECT title, description
FROM film
WHERE to_tsvector(title) @@ to_tsquery('elf');
```

What is full-text search?

Full text search provides a means for performing natural language queries of text data in your database.

- Stemming
- Spelling mistakes
- Ranking

Full-text search syntax explained

```
SELECT title, description
FROM film
WHERE to_tsvector(title) @@ to_tsquery('elf');
```



Let's practice!

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Extending PostgreSQL

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User-defined data types

Enumerated data types

```
CREATE TYPE dayofweek AS ENUM (
      'Monday',
      'Tuesday',
      'Wednesday',
      'Thursday',
      'Friday',
      'Saturday',
      'Sunday'
);
```

Getting information about user-defined data types

```
SELECT typname, typcategory
FROM pg_type
WHERE typname='dayofweek';
```

```
+-----+
| typname | typcategory |
|-----|-----|
| dayofweek | E |
|------
```

Getting information about user-defined data types

```
SELECT column_name, data_type, udt_name
FROM INFORMATION_SCHEMA.COLUMNS
WHERE table_name ='film';
```

User-defined functions

```
CREATE FUNCTION squared(i integer) RETURNS integer AS $$
    BEGIN
        RETURN i * i;
    END;
$$ LANGUAGE plpgsql;
SELECT squared(10);
 squared
 100
```

User-defined functions in the Sakila database

- get_customer_balance(customer_id, effective_data): calculates the current outstanding balance for a given customer.
- inventory_held_by_customer(inventory_id): returns the customer_id that is currently renting an inventory item or null if it's currently available.
- inventory_in_stock(inventory_id): returns a boolean value of whether an inventory item is currently in stock.

Let's practice!

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Intro to PostreSQL extensions

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Intro to PostgreSQL extensions Commonly used extensions

- PostGIS
- PostPic
- fuzzystrmatch
- pg_trgm

Querying extension meta data

Available Extensions

```
SELECT name
FROM pg_available_extensions;
```

Installed Extensions

```
SELECT extname
FROM pg_extension;
```

```
--Enable the fuzzystrmatch extension

CREATE EXTENSION IF NOT EXISTS fuzzystrmatch;
--Confirm that fuzzstrmatch has been enabled

SELECT extname FROM pg_extension;
```

Using fuzzystrmatch or fuzzy searching

```
SELECT levenshtein('GUMBO', 'GAMBOL');
```

```
+-----+
| levenshtein |
|-----|
| 2 |
+-----+
```

Compare two strings with pg_trgm

```
SELECT similarity('GUMBO', 'GAMBOL');
```

```
+----+
| similarity |
|-----|
| 0.18181818 |
+----+
```



Let's practice!

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Putting it All Together

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Functions for manipulating data recap and review

- Common data types in PostgreSQL
- Date/time functions and operators
- Parsing and manipulating text
- PostgreSQL Extensions and full-text search

Thank you!

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